



COMHAIRLE NAN EILEAN SIAR: 1 OCTOBER 2025

COMMITTEE DECISION REPORT

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: 23 SEPTEMBER 2025

At its meeting on 23 September 2025, the Sustainable Development Committee considered the business referred to below. The Committee has approved the recommendations detailed for approval by the Comhairle. Where the Committee has exercised delegated powers or used the conditional delegation provisions for any item, this is stated.

Items marked with an asterisk* were considered with the press and public excluded from the Meeting.

<i>Item Title</i>	<i>Agenda Number</i>	<i>Committee's Decision</i>
Minute of Meeting of 17 June 2025	1	The Minute of Meeting of 17 June 2025 was approved.
Declaration of Interest	2	<p>Mr Donald Crichton declared an interest in item 6 as a member of the Stornoway Trust and left the meeting during consideration of the item.</p> <p>Mr Angus Morrison wished to record, in respect of item 11, that he was involved in the North Harris Stalking Club and Deer Management. Mr Morrison did not consider this to be an interest that needed to be declared in terms of the code of conduct.</p>
Outer Hebrides Tourism – Visitor Data Project	3	It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle notes the presentation from Outer Hebrides Tourism on the findings of its visitor data project.
Development Plan Scheme 2025 Update – Participation Statement	4	<p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle:</p> <p>(1) approve the Participation Statement at Appendix 1; and</p> <p>(2) authorise the Chief Planning Officer to publish the Development Plan Scheme incorporating the Participation Statement</p>
Planning Enforcement	5	It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle note the steps being taken to address an increase in non-compliance with Planning controls as part of a wider, externally funded approach to effective Discharge of Planning Conditions.
Community Ownership in Renewables – Joint Venture	6	<p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle notes progress with the Community Ownership Joint Venture.</p> <p>The Committee agreed to defer a decision on the consideration of the Comhairle representation on the Board of Eilean Siar Energy Ltd. and adjourn to a reconvened meeting of the Committee, to allow further consideration of the level of Comhairle representation with the Joint Venture Steering Group.</p>
Housing Options and Homelessness Annual Report 2024/25	7	It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle note the contents of the Report.
Annual Assurance Statement 2025	8	It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle approve the Annual Assurance Statement at Appendix 1 for submission to the Scottish Housing Regulator by 31 October 2025.

Crofting Consultation – Proposals for Crofting and Scottish Land Court Bill	9	<p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle agrees:</p> <p>(1) to homologate its response to the Scottish Government Consultation, as appended to the Report; and</p> <p>(2) that the Chair, in consultation with the Chief Officer, Economic and Community Regeneration, write to the Scottish Government Minister for Crofting to reiterate the Comhairle’s view and concerns.</p>
Fisheries Management Proposals for Inshore Marine Protected Areas and Priority Marine Features	10	<p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle:</p> <p>(2) note the Scottish Government’s intention to consult on fisheries management measures for inshore Marine Protected Areas and Priority Marine Features;</p> <p>(2) agree that a response to the consultation on these proposals be developed in dialogue with the fisheries sector and shared with Members prior to formal submission; and</p> <p>(3) agree that the Chair, in consultation with the Chief Officer, Economic and Community Regeneration, write to the Scottish Government Minister for Fisheries to reiterate the Comhairle’s view and concerns.</p>
Scottish Government Nature Restoration Fund 2025/26	11	<p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle approve the allocation of £243,000 from the Nature Restoration Fund 2025/26 to support the six projects detailed in the Report.</p>
Reports Outstanding	12	<p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle note the Report.</p>
Spaceport 1 – Procurement of Operator*	13*	<p>It was agreed to recommend, insofar as the Committee’s interests were concerned, that the Comhairle:</p> <p>(1) approves procurement of the Spaceport 1 Operator in the terms set out in paragraph 6 of the Report; and</p> <p>(2) delegates authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chief Financial Officer and the Chief Officer, Law and Governance, to undertake a procurement process in accordance with those approved proposals and subsequently to conclude a contract with the successful tenderer on such terms and conditions as he considers appropriate.</p>