



**COMHAIRLE NAN EILEAN SIAR: 1 OCTOBER 2025**

**COMMITTEE DECISION REPORT**

**POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE: 24 SEPTEMBER 2025**

At its meeting on 24 September 2025, the Policy and Resources 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><b>Item Title</b></i>  | <i><b>Agenda Number</b></i> | <i><b>Committee's Decision</b></i>   |
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| Minute of Meeting of 18 June 2025   | 1                           | The Minute of Meeting of 18 June 2025 was approved.  |
| Declaration of Interest   | 2                           | There were no declarations of interest.  |
| Minute of Meeting of Outer Hebrides Community Planning Partnership of 26 March 2025           | 3                           | The Minute of Meeting of the Outer Hebrides Community Planning Partnership of 26 March 2025 was noted.   |
| Minute of Meeting of Local Government Employee Joint Consultative Committee of 21 August 2025 | 4                           | The Minute of Meeting of the Local Government Employee Joint Consultative Committee of 21 August 2025 was noted.   |
| Minute of Meeting of Budget and Strategy Board of:<br>(a) 6 June 2025<br>(b) 26 August 2025   | 5                           | The Minutes of Meeting of the Budget and Strategy Board of 6 June 2025 and 26 August 2025 were noted.  |
| Minute of Meeting of Community Safety Board of 17 September 2025                              | 6                           | The Minute of Meeting of the Community Safety Board of 17 September 2025 was noted and the recommendations at items 3, 4, 5 and 6 of the Minute were approved. |
| Minute of Meeting of Human Resources Sub-Committee of 18 September 2025                       | 7                           | The Minute of Meeting of Human Resources Sub-Committee of 18 September 2025 was noted.   |

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| Minute of Meeting of Comataidh na Gàidhlig of 23 September 2025                    | 8  | The Minute of Comataidh na Gàidhlig was rescheduled to 29 September 2025 and the Minute will be submitted to the Comhairle meeting on 1 October 2025.   |
| Performance Project – Transformation Plan  | 9  | It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle notes the work undertaken by the Performance Project to date.   |
| Corporate Strategy Update: Single Authority Model and Joint Islands Strategic Work | 10 | <p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) notes the progress of work with Scottish Government towards development and implementation of a single authority model of local governance in the Western Isles.</li> <li>(2) establishes a Reference Group of Members, with membership as set out in paragraph 8.2 of the Report.</li> <li>(3) delegates authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Members of the Reference Group referred to in paragraph (2) above, to submit a response to Scottish Ministers and Scottish Government in relation to preferred option(s) for a Single Authority Model for the Western Isles, in terms of paragraph 6.3 of the Report and the draft response would be circulated to Members prior to the formal submission being submitted to Scottish Ministers and Scottish Government, and</li> <li>(4) notes the joint work undertaken with Orkney and Shetland Islands Councils in support of shared policy objectives regarding renewable energy delivery, including specific issues such as mitigation of fuel poverty and the distribution of Crown Estate revenues; public service reform and financial sustainability of the islands' public sector; and infrastructure improvements.</li> </ul> <p>The Committee agreed to take powers to determine recommendations (2) and (3) above in terms of paragraph 17 of the Scheme of Administration as the response to the Scottish Government on options for a Single Authority Model for the Western Isles was due to be submitted prior to the Comhairle Meeting on 1 October 2025.</p> |
| Corporate Business Continuity Plan   | 11 | It was agreed to recommend, insofar as the interests of the Committee were concerned, that the Comhairle approve the Corporate Business Continuity Plan.  |
| Quarter 1 Capital Monitoring 2025/26   | 12 | It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle note the capital expenditure as to 30 June 2025 as detailed at Appendix 1 of the Report.  |
| First Quarter Revenue Monitoring 2025/26   | 13 | It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle note the financial performance to date.   |
| Quarter 1 Treasury Management Report 2025/26                                       | 14 | It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle note the Report.  |

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| Annual Treasury Management Report 2024/25                                   | 15   | It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle note the Report.   |
| Write-Off of Debts  | 16   | It was agreed to recommend that the debts listed in the Appendix to the Report, totalling £88,211.27, be written off.  |
| Strategic Risk  | 17   | It was agreed to recommend, insofar as the interests of the Committee were concerned, that the Comhairle approve the Strategic Risk Register at Appendix 2 to the Report.  |
| Outer Hebrides Community Planning Partnership Anti-Poverty Strategy 2024-26 | 18   | It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle approve the Outer Hebrides Community Planning Partnership Anti-Poverty Strategy 2024-26 and Local Child Poverty Action Report 2024.  |
| Barra and Vatersay Community Campus – Update                                | 19   | It was agreed to recommend, insofar as the interests of the Committee were concerned, that the Comhairle note the Report.  |
| Continuing Care Policy  | 20   | It was agreed to recommend, insofar as the interests of the Committee were concerned, that the Comhairle approve the Continuing Care Policy appended to the Report.  |
| Duty of Candour Annual Report 2024-25                                       | 21   | It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle approve the Duty of Candour Annual Report 2024-25 in terms of the draft appended to the Report.  |
| Elected Member Training and Development Strategy                            | 22   | It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle approve the Elected Member Training and Development Strategy.  |
| Reports Outstanding   | 23   | It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle note the Report.   |
| Residential Placements for Children and Young People                        | 24 * | It was agreed to recommend, insofar as the interests of the Committee were concerned, that the Comhairle note the financial position for specialist residential provision for 2025/26.   |
| Spaceport 1 – Procurement of Operator                                       | 25 * | <p>It was agreed to recommend, insofar as the interests of the Committee 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.</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> |