

Minute of Meeting held in Council Chamber, Council Offices, Stornoway on Wednesday, 23 April 2025 at 2.00pm.

PRESENT

Dr. Frances Murray (Chair) Mr Kenneth J Maclean Mr Mustapha Hocine Mr Kenny M Macleod

Mr Ranald Fraser Mr Donald Macsween Mr Malcolm K Macdonald

**APOLOGIES** 

Mr Norman Macdonald Mr Calum Maclean Mr Finlay M Stewart

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Paul Steele Mr Robert Mackenzie Mr Angus Morrison

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Malcolm Burr Mr Colm Fraser Mr Calum Mackenzie Mr Donald A Macleod Mr Iain Smith Mrs Fiona MacInnes-Begg Mr Derek Mackay Mrs Elaine Mackenzie Mrs Fiona Maciver Mrs Katie Macaskill

### **GOVERNANCE**

Appointment of 1 Chair Following the resignation of Mr George Murray as Chair and a member of the Board the Governance and Elections Manager called for nominations for Chair of the Community Safety Board.

Mr Malcolm K Macdonald, seconded by Mr Kenny M Macleod moved the appointment of Dr Frances Murray.

There being no further nominations it was agreed to appoint Dr Frances Murray as Chair of the Community Safety Board.

### **MINUTES**

Minute of Meeting of 29 January 2025

The Minute of Meeting of 29 January 2025 was approved.

Declaration of 3 Interest There were no declarations of interest.

# **CIVIC GOVERNMENT LICENSING**

Taxi Licensing: Review of Fares With reference to item 11 of the Minute of Meeting of 21 June 2022 the Chief Executive submitted a Report reviewing the current level of fares for taxi and private hire car licensing (where appropriate) in the Western Isles. The Report stated that it was the duty of a licensing authority to set the scales and fares and other related charges for the hire of taxis, in terms of section 17 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982. Before the licensing authority carries out any review, it was required to consult with persons or organisations who were representative of the operators of taxis within their area, and to advertise its intentions with regard to the review, giving persons one month to make representations thereon, and further to consider any such representations duly made. An increase in the fares would necessitate a change to the meters which would then require to be tested. The cost of this would be borne by the taxi and private hire car operators.

The Licensing Officer had carried out the initial consultation required, and the responses were summarised in the Report.

### It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle:

- (1) agree to determine, in terms of section 17 of the Civic Government (Scotland)
  Act 1982 and in light of the initial consultation responses, to propose to keep the
  existing level of taxi fares; and
- (2) authorise the Chief Executive to implement the fares for taxi and private hire car licensing in the event that no relevant representations are received following advertisement.

#### **ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR**

Draft Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy Consultation 5

With reference to item 6 of the Minute of Meeting of 20 November 2024 the Chief Officer, Education and Children's Services submitted a Report providing an update on the draft Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy. The Report stated that the draft Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy and Action Plan went out for consultation during March and April 2025. The consultation sought to harness the views of Community Councils across Na Eileanan an Iar in the first instance. A similar but separate consultation was also created to seek the views of young people. A summary of responses from both consultations was provided in Appendices 1 and 2 to the Report.

The Report further stated that it was proposed to update the Strategy and Action Plan to reflect the comments received through the consultation and circulate the revised Strategy and Action Plan to partner agencies for their comments. A final draft of the Strategy and Action Plan would be presented to the Board in September 2025.

## It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle:

- (1) note the Report; and
- (2) agree that the draft Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy and Action Plan 2024-29 would be updated to reflect the comments received through the consultation following which the revised Strategy and Action Plan would be circulated to partner agencies for their comments.

#### PERFORMANCE MONITORING

Service Business Plans and Operational Risk Registers 6

The Chief Executive submitted a Report seeking approval of the Comhairle's Service Business Plans 2025/26. The Comhairle approved the five-year Operational Plan and associated Service Business Plans (SBPs) 2022-2027 in February 2022 that were prepared in accordance with the Corporate Strategy 2022-2027. The Report stated that SBPs were developed, reviewed, and monitored periodically in the Comhairle's electronic performance management system, Interplan. The organisational structure, as per Interplan March 2025, was provided at Appendix 1 to the Report. The Draft SPBs and Operational Risk Registers 2024/25 followed this structure and were provided in Appendices 2 and 3 respectively.

It was agreed to recommend, insofar as the Board's interests were concerned, that the Comhairle approve the Service Business Plans and Operational Risk Registers 2025/26 appended to the Report.

Business Continuity
Plans

The Chief Executive submitted a Report the Chief Executive submitted a Report providing an update on the status of Business Continuity Management across the Comhairle. The Report stated that risks that resulted in a disruption to service, required continuity strategies in place to allow the service to continue with minimum disruption to service users. Services were asked to prepare Business Continuity Plans (BCPs) for their most critical activities, therefore in the event of an incident causing service disruption, the BCP can be immediately actioned. The Report further stated that a Business Continuity Plan folder was available on SharePoint where Elected Members could view the most recent documents.

It was agreed to recommend, insofar as the Board's interests were concerned, that the Comhairle note the Report.

### PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

Reports Outstanding 8

There were no reports outstanding.