



COMHAIRLE NAN EILEAN SIAR

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Minute of Meeting held in Council Chamber,
Council Offices, Stornoway on Wednesday 29
November 2023 at 9.30am.

PRESENT

Mr Uisdean Robertson (Chair)	Mr Kenneth Macleod
Ms Susan Thomson (Vice-Chair)	Mr Donald F Crichton
Mr Kenneth J Maclean	Mr John A Maciver
Mr Iain A MacNeil	Mr Iain M Macaulay
Mr Iain M Macleod	Mr Malcolm K Macdonald
Mr Paul Steele	Mr Duncan MacInnes MBE
Mr Angus Morrison	Mr Gordon Murray
Mr Ranald Fraser	Mr Finlay M Stewart
Mr John Norman Macleod	

APOLOGIES

Mr George Murray

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Mustapha Hocine	Mr Rae Mackenzie
Mr Grant Fulton	Mr Angus McCormack
Mr Robert Mackenzie	Dr Frances Murray
Mr Norman Misty Macdonald	Mr Norman Macdonald
Mr Donald Macsween	

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Malcolm Burr	Mrs Anne MacDonald
Mr Calum Iain Maciver	Mrs Dolina Macleod
Mr Calum Mackenzie	Mrs Katie Macaskill
Mr David Macleod	Mrs Shona Hadwen
Mr Kenneth Morrison	Mr Derek Mackay
Mrs Elaine Mackenzie	Mrs Fiona Maciver

Prayer

The Meeting was preceded in prayer by Mr Angus Morrison.

MINUTES

Minute of Meeting of 20 September 2023	1	The Minute of Meeting of 20 September 2023 was approved .
Minute of Meeting of HITRANS of 15 September 2023	2	The Minute of Meeting of HITRANS of 15 September 2023 was noted .
Minute of Meeting of Western Isles Airport Consultative Committee of 28 September 2023	3	The Minute of Meeting of Western Isles Airport Consultative Committee of 28 September 2023 was noted .

Declaration of Interest 4 There were no declarations of interest.

PRESENTATION

Presentation by Highlands and Islands Airways 5 The Chair welcomed Ms Jayne Golding, Highlands and Islands Airways (HIAL), Mr Lukas Princ, HIAL and Mr David Holden, HITRANS to the meeting. A presentation was delivered to the Committee in respect of the Sustainable Aviation Test Environment (SATE) Project. The presentation detailed an overview of SATE 1 which ran from November 2020 to July 2023 and SATE 2 which would run from July 2022 to September 2024. An update was provided on the overall SATE project, including:

- SATE defining an increasing role for sustainable aviation as part of a regional transport system.
- Consumer vision 2021, how the future of aviation environment would benefit consumers in 2030.
- The five strands of sustainable aviation technology.
- Pathway to operational service, integration of new sustainable aviation technology to the regional transport strategy.
- SATE 1 flight routes and routes planned to take Windracers to new areas.

To date the most of SATE's work had been mainly focussed in Orkney with some work in Shetland and Wick. It was now time to broaden that range throughout the Highlands and Islands and there would be engagement locally to understand the needs of communities and local businesses to ensure that the technology worked for each communities' individual requirements.

Following the presentation Members were afforded the opportunity to ask questions. The Chair thanked the representatives from HIAL and HITRANS for their informative presentation and requested that the Comhairle be kept updated on progress of the development of sustainable aviation.

It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle note the Presentation.

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

Outcome Delivery Report 6 The Depute Chief Executive submitted a Report presenting the half-year progress of the 2023/24 Departmental Strategic Priorities for the Depute Chief Executive Directorate detailing an update on the departmental key areas of strategic risk, progress on the strategic outcomes and the resources identified to implement the Business Plan. The Report further detailed financial performance and progress on departmental workforce planning. Analysis showed that the departmental budgets were within tolerances.

The Report stated that the Business Plan was aligned to all four strategic priorities and four service areas within the departments contributed to the achievement of 15 strategic outcomes. The Report concluded that the Depute Chief Executive's Directorate had maintained good controls on business planning, governance, and budget management the first two quarters of 2023 / 24. In addition to its core functions and responsibilities, the Directorate's key tasks were working to review, update and implement the Comhairle's Corporate Strategies and political priorities while delivering a strong set of services on behalf of the community across a broad service portfolio and seeking to take best advantage of new and emerging economic opportunities.

It was agreed to recommend, insofar as the Committee's interests were concerned that the Comhairle notes the half-year progress of the 2023/24 Departmental Outcome Delivery Plans.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Waste Management Services Update 7 With reference to item 8 of the Minute of Meeting of 20 September 2023 the Head of Municipal Service submitted a Report providing an update on Waste Management Services. The Report stated that the three-weekly collections for waste and recycling implemented in Lewis and Harris on 29 May 2023, including the extension of kerbside recycling collection services to the remaining areas in Lewis and Harris, had now become established. There had been a significant decrease in the tonnage of residual waste collected which was mirrored by a corresponding increase in kerbside recycling and food and garden waste collection tonnages. This increase would be captured by the 2023 recycling figures but as the data was collected annually by the Scottish Environment Protective Agency(SEPA), it would be 2024 before the full effect would be known.

The Report further stated that SEPA had published a guidance document for the collection and disposal of Waste Upholstered Domestic Seating. This would prohibit the disposal of such items to landfill. Separate collection and storage arrangements were being put in place to achieve compliance and it was not clear if additional funding would be available. The Report intimated that the Deposit Return Scheme and Extended Producer Responsibility have been postponed until 2025.

It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle note the Report.

It was agreed that the public, including the press, be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following 2 items on the grounds that exempt information as defined in Paragraph 6 of Schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 namely, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (other than the Comhairle) would be disclosed.

HARBOUR BOARD

Cheesebay Harbour Facilities* 8* The Chief Officer, Assets and Infrastructure submitted a Report seeking approval to lease or sell an area of ground at Cheesebay, North Uist, to Mowi for the development of infrastructure. The Report provided background information on the use of the harbour facilities.

It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle agree to delegate authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chief Officer, Assets and Infrastructure, to agree terms of sale or lease of land at Cheesebay, North Uist with Mowi for the expansion of facilities, subject to agreement being reached with the local community for access to facilities.

ASSET MANAGEMENT

Disposal of Surplus Assets 9* With reference to item 10 of the Minute of Meeting of 14 June 2023 the Chief Officer, Assets and Infrastructure submitted a Report providing an update on progress with the disposal of surplus assets. An update with the current position in respect of each property declared as surplus was detailed in the Appendix to the Report.

It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle note the Report.

PERFORMANCE MONITORING

Reports Outstanding 10 The Chief Executive submitted a Report detailing those Reports outstanding arising from the decisions of the Committee.

It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle note the Report.