

Comhairle nan Eilean Siar – Western Isles Council

Why we are engaging with Comhairle nan Eilean Siar (Eilean Siar)

We are engaging with Eilean Siar about its **services for people who are homeless**.

During 2023/24, we reviewed and compared the data for all local authorities from the Scottish Government's national homelessness statistics. We also spoke to all local authorities to gather further information and assurance about their homelessness services. To assess the risks to people who are threatened with or experiencing homelessness we will engage with all local authorities during 2024/25 with a focus on the provision of appropriate temporary accommodation.

We will engage with Eilean Siar in particular about outcomes for people who are homeless.

What Eilean Siar must do

Eilean Siar must:

- send us the information we require in relation to its homelessness service; and
- tell us about any emerging issues preventing it from fulfilling its statutory duty to provide temporary accommodation when it should and comply with the Unsuitable Accommodation Order.

What we will do

We will:

- review the information Eilean Siar provides about its homelessness service;
- meet with Eilean Siar by 31 July 2024 to discuss its homelessness service and engage as necessary;
- meet with Eilean Siar to seek assurance if it does not provide temporary accommodation when it should, or if it breaches the Unsuitable Accommodation Order; and
- update our published engagement plan in the light of any material change to our planned engagement with Eilean Siar.

Regulatory returns

Eilean Siar must provide us with the following annual regulatory returns:

- Annual Assurance Statement; and
- Annual Return on the Charter.

It should also notify us of any material changes to its Annual Assurance Statement, and any tenant and resident safety matter which has been reported to or is being investigated by the Health and Safety Executive or reports from regulatory or statutory authorities or insurance providers, relating to safety concerns.



Our lead officer for Comhairle nan Eilean Siar is:

Name: Kelda McMichael, Regulation Manager

Telephone: 0141 242 5575

Email: kelda.mcmichael@shr.gov.scot