



COMHAIRLE NAN EILEAN SIAR: 25 FEBRUARY 2025

COMMITTEE DECISION REPORT

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE: 25 FEBRUARY 2025 at 3.00pm

At its meeting on 25 February 2025 at 3.00pm, 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>Item Title</i>	<i>Agenda Number</i>	<i>Committee's Decision</i>
Declaration of Interest	1	There were no declarations of interest.
Budget and Council Tax Setting 2025/26 Recommendations from Service Committees	2	<p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) agree to accept the 2025/26 Settlement from the Scottish Government as set out in the Finance Circular in Appendix A to the Report;(b) agree the Budget Strategy for 2025/26 as set out in Sections 5, 6 and 7 of the Report;(c) approve the draft Budgets for 2025/26 at Budget Item B of the Agenda;(d) agree the delegated Budget for Cùram is Slàinte nan Eilean Siar as detailed in Section 11 of the Report;(e) agree to a Council Tax increase of 8% (£1,394.01 for Band D properties);(f) note the capital allocation for 2025/26 and that progress with the Capital Programme will continue to be monitored quarterly through the Policy and Resources Committee;(g) note the financial risks in Appendix C to the Report and agree to maintain the level of uncommitted reserves at £3.5m;(h) agree that the Budget Board monitor progress with the implementation of Savings Plans;(i) note the preparation of a medium-term financial plan is currently being finalised;(j) agree that a Budget Strategy update be provided to the June 2025 meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee;(k) agree to a flat rate increase of 5.5% across all sections of the Harbours Rates and Dues;(l) agree to a 6.5% increase to harbour dues levied on CalMac Ferries Ltd; and(m) agree to the Municipal Services Fees and Charges as detailed in the Appendix to the Report.

