



COMHAIRLE NAN EILEAN SIAR: 25 JUNE 2025

COMMITTEE DECISION REPORT

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE: 18 JUNE 2025

At its meeting on 18 June 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>Item Title</i>	<i>Agenda Number</i>	<i>Committee's Decision</i>
Minute of Meeting of 30 April 2025	1	The Minute of Meeting of 30 April 2025 was approved .
Declaration of Interest	2	Mr Iain M Macleod and Mr Kenneth M Macleod declared an interest and left the meeting during consideration of item 22 as they were Board Members of Tighean Innse Gall.
Minute of Meeting of the Local Government Employee Joint Consultative Committee of:	3	The Minutes of Meetings of the Local Government Employee Joint Consultative Committee of 20 March 2025 and 3 June 2025 were noted.
(a) 20 March 2025		
(b) 3 June 2025		
Minute of Meeting of Budget and Strategy Board of 6 June 2025	4	This item was withdrawn.
Minute of Meeting of Community Safety Board of 11 June 2025	5	The Minute of Meeting of the Community Safety Board of 11 June 2025 was noted and items 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 were recommended for approval.
Minute of Meeting of Human Resources Sub-Committee of 16 June 2025	6	The Minute of Meeting of Human Resources Sub-Committee of 16 June 2025 was noted.
Minute of Meeting of Comataidh na Gàidhlig of 17 June 2025	7	The Minute of Meeting of Comataidh na Gàidhlig of 17 June 2025 was noted and items 4, 5 and 6 were recommended for approval.

Outcome Delivery Reports	8	<p>It was agreed to recommend, insofar as the Committee's interests were concerned, that the Comhairle:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) note the Chief Executive's Department, Strategic Finance and Chief Officer, Partnership Services and Community Care Outcome Delivery Reports; (2) note that the Chief Officer, Partnership Services and Community Care would circulate the Report which had been circulated to the Integration Joint Board in relation to delayed discharges; and (3) agree that a Social Work and Social Care Seminar on health and social care services be arranged for all Members
Local Code of Corporate Governance 2025-25	9	<p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle approve the draft Local Code of Corporate Governance 2024-25 and Action Plan 2025/26 at appendices 1 and 3 to the Report.</p>
Capital Outturn 2024-25	10	<p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle note the capital expenditure as in the Appendix to the Report.</p>
Revenue Outturn 2024-25	11	<p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) note the financial performance for the year ended 31 March 2025 (2) agree the carry forward of budgets as detailed in Appendix C to the Report; (3) agree the specific carry forward for the Chief Executive's Department as detailed in Appendix C to the Report; (4) agree the specific carry forward for Education, Skills and Children's Services as detailed in Appendix C to the Report; (5) agree the Education, Skills and Children's Services carry forward as detailed in paragraph 7.22 of the Report; (6) agree the Economic and Community Regeneration specific carry forward as detailed in Appendix C to the Report; (7) agree the use of Economic and Community Regeneration previous years carry forward as detailed in paragraph 7.28 of the Report; (8) agree the Assets and Infrastructure carry forward as detailed Appendix C to the Report; and (9) agree the Assets and Infrastructure carry forward as detailed in paragraph 7.46 of the Report.
Medium Term Financial Plan	12	<p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle approve the Medium-Term Financial Plan, recognising that the figures therein are indicative and will be updated as part of the budget setting process.</p>
Community Care Services – Fees and Charges 2025/26 and 2026/27	13	<p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle approve the independent care home charges as detailed below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) for 2025/26 a rate of £1,263 per bed per week will be the charge for Comhairle commissioned Bethesda Nursing Home placements;

		<p>(2) for 2026/27 a rate of £1,391 per bed per week will be the charge for Comhairle commissioned Bethesda Nursing Home placements;</p> <p>(3) for 2025/26 a rate of £1,152 per bed per week be the charge for Comhairle commissioned Leverburgh Care Home placements; and</p> <p>(4) for 2026/27 a rate of £1,268 per bed per week will be the charge for Comhairle commissioned Leverburgh Care Home placements.</p>
Non-Domestic Rates Discretionary Relief – Policy Revision	14	<p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle approve:</p> <p>(1) the removal of Empty Property Relief except for properties subject to a winding up order under the Insolvency Act or where properties are the subject of a liquidation;</p> <p>(2) that the exemption for the first 6 months that an industrial property is empty be retained at 50%, and that the 10% discount thereafter be removed;</p> <p>(3) that the relief for other properties, not covered by the listed categories, be set at 50% for the first 6 months, and that the 10% discount thereafter be removed; and</p> <p>(4) that the Policy revision be effective from 1 September 2025.</p>
Respect at Work	15	<p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle:</p> <p>(1) note the legislative changes in relation to sexual harassment; and</p> <p>(2) approve the updated Respect at Work Policy.</p>
Community Wealth Building (Scotland) Bill Consultation	16	It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle homologate the response to the Scottish Government’s consultation on the Community Wealth Building (Scotland) Bill.
Digital Transformation	17	It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle note the Report.
British Sign Language Plan 2024-2030	18	<p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle:</p> <p>(1) note the British Sign Language Plan Progress Report, appended to the Report; and</p> <p>(2) agree that Chief Officer’s monitor the performance progress of their area of responsibility.</p>
Reports Outstanding	19	There were no reports outstanding.
Residential Placements for Children and Young People	20	It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle note the financial position for specialist residential provision for 2025-26.
Barra and Vatersay Community Campus – Update	21	It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle notes:

- (1) the welcome announcement in the Programme for Government for 2025/26 that the Barra and Vatersay Campus Project will go ahead; and
- (2) that a meeting with Scottish Government officials will take place in June 2025 to consider issues regarding delivery of the project, including project governance, scope and funding mechanisms.

Housing
Investment
Borrowing Request

22 It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle note that:

- (1) a request has been received from Tighean Innse Gall (TIG) requesting access to loan funding from the Comhairle to progress a number of strategic housing developments;
- (2) discussions are ongoing with TIG regarding the exploration of other potential sources of funding, legal issues including subsidy control, assessment of TIG's organisational capacity to deliver a project or projects at this scale and conditions around disposal of properties; and
- (3) a Special Meeting of Policy and Resources Committee and the Comhairle will be arranged once the Comhairle has obtained relevant financial and legal advice and the discussions with TIG have concluded, to allow assessment by the Comhairle of this request.