



## COMHAIRLE NAN EILEAN SIAR COMMUNITY SAFETY BOARD

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

### PRESENT

Dr Frances Murray (Chair)	Mr Ranald Fraser
Mr Kenny M Macleod (Vice-Chair)	Mr Norman Macdonald
Mr Kenneth J Maclean	Mr Malcolm K Macdonald
Mr Mustapha Hocine	

### APOLOGIES

Mr Robert Mackenzie	Mr Finlay M Stewart
Mr Donald Macsween	

### MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Iain A MacNeil	Mr Paul Finnegan
Mr Iain M Macleod	Mr Angus Morrison
Mr Paul Steele	Mr George Murray

### OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Colm Fraser	Mrs Anne MacDonald
Mr Tim Langley	Mrs Katie Macaskil
Mr Donald A Macleod	Mr James Mackinnon
Ms Fiona MacInnes	Mr Derek Mackay
Ms Anna Hulme	Mrs Fiona Maciver

### Chair's Update

The Chair provided the following update:

The Chair recently attended a meeting of the Western Isles Violence Against Women Partnership to discuss the White Ribbon Campaign which sought to end male violence against women and girls. The Partnership was engaging with White Ribbon Scotland and were proposing to hold a local launch event for the campaign in November. Members of the Board were encouraged to attend the event and consider becoming involved in the campaign.

In August the Chair attended a meeting of the Police Scrutiny Conveners Forum where Police Scotland presented their 2030 Vision for Policing. There were proposals within the Vision for community policing which aimed to improve visibility, communication and engagement and ensure that non-emergency calls were resolved quickly with fewer contact points via new Community Investigation Hubs.

The meeting included an update on Police Scotland, Scottish Police Authority and Scottish Biometrics Commissioner's National Conversation on live facial recognition. It was clear from the conversation that there was a diverse range of views on this matter and Police Scotland will have further discussions regarding the operational benefits, risks, issues and mitigations before developing options to be consulted on.

Operation Ford is a UK initiative aimed at enhancing the security of locally elected representatives, including Councillors. Police Scotland has two Force Elected-Official Advisors who will act as named Police contacts for raising concerns and who will be assisted by local officers in all Policing Divisions in Scotland. Elected Members were asked

to quote Operation Ford when calling to report an incident that relates to their position as a Councillor. Police Scotland would provide regular online security briefings, details of which would be highlighted in the COSLA Elected Member bulletin.

It was also apparent from the meeting that there were different approaches across the country in relation to scrutiny of Police performance. Some authorities, including the Comhairle, consider the performance Reports every six months while others have an update at each meeting. While six monthly reporting was consistent with the Comhairle's performance monitoring the Board could consider inviting the Chief Inspector to discuss specific topics outwith the scheduled performance reporting cycle.

Members would be able to consider these points when the Chief Inspector presents his performance report at the November meeting of the Board.

#### MINUTES

Minute of Meeting of 11 June 2025	1	The Minute of Meeting of 11 June 2025 was <b>approved</b> .
-----------------------------------	---	---

Declaration of Interest	2	There were no declarations of interest.
-------------------------	---	---

#### POLICE AND FIRE

Western Isles Licensing Report 2024-2025	3	Chief Constable Jo Farrell, Police Scotland, submitted a Report presenting the Western Isles Annual Licensing Report for 2024-25 in accordance with Section 12(A) of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005. The Report gave an overview of the Police Scotland Licensing Area; the operation of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005, Licensing Board Decisions, preventing the sale or supply of alcohol to children or young people, tackling serious and organised crime, and proposed activity for the year ahead.
--	---	---

Sgt Sarah Paterson, Police Scotland was in attendance at the meeting via MS Teams and provided an overview of the Report.

**It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle note the Western Isles Licensing Report 2024-2025.**

#### ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy and Action Plan	4	With reference to item 5 of the Minute of Meeting of 23 April 2025 the Chief Officer, Education and Children's Services submitted a Report providing an update and outlining the approach to wider consultation with partner agencies on the Draft Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy following receipt of feedback regarding a need for wider consultation.
--	---	--

The Report stated that the Strategy and Action Plan had been updated to reflect the comments received through the consultation and the revised Strategy and Action Plan would be circulated to partner agencies for comment. A final draft would be presented to the Board in November 2025.

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

**PREVENT DUTY**

Annual Prevent 5  
Duty Assurance  
Process 2024/25

The Chief Executive submitted a Report informing the Board on the Outcomes of the Comhairle's Annual Prevent Duty Assurance Process 2024/25. The Report stated that the Annual Prevent Duty Assurance Process, developed by the Home Office and Scottish Government, was designed to assure the local delivery of Prevent and identify areas of good practice and areas for improvement. The Assurance Process had identified the following strengths in the Comhairle's delivery of Prevent: Senior Oversight and Partnership; Training; and Referral Pathway. It was recognised that strong governance structures were in place and that the Comhairle's senior management was well-informed on Prevent. Training was also highlighted as a strength, with Prevent Training routinely delivered and available on the Comhairle's training portal. The Referral Pathway was determined to be well-established and widely shared, ensuring staff know where to report concerns.

The Report further stated that recommendations to strengthen the Comhairle's delivery of Prevent were also provided in the Assurance Process. These related to the development of a local Prevent risk assessment and accompanying action plan, and to reducing permissive environments through further embedding Prevent into existing processes. The Comhairle would work with the Home Office Prevent Advisor to implement these recommendations.

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

**PERFORMANCE MONITORING**

Reports 6  
Outstanding

The Chief Executive submitted a Report detailing those reports outstanding arising from the decisions of the Board.

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

