

ISLANDS GROWTH DEAL JOINT COMMITTEE

Minute of Meeting held through Microsoft Teams on Monday, 14 April 2025 at 9.00am.

PRESENT	Ms Emma Macdonald, Shetland Islands Council (Chair) Mr Paul Steele, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar Mr Kristopher Leask, Orkney Islands Council
APOLOGIES	Mr Donald Crichton, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar Ms Heather Woodbridge, Orkney Islands Council Mr Dennis Leask, Shetland Islands Council
OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE	Ms Kathlene Morrison, Islands Deal Programme Director Ms Anne Murray, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar Ms Charlene Macmillan, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar Ms Elaine Mackenzie, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar Mr Erik Knight, Orkney Islands Council Mr Gareth Waterson, Orkney Islands Council Mr Oliver Reid, Orkney Islands Council Mr Sweyn Johnston, Orkney Islands Council Ms Hazel Tait, Shetland Islands Council Mr Jan Riise, Shetland Islands Council Ms Louise Shearer, Shetland Islands Council Ms Maggie Sandison, Shetland Islands Council Mr Neil Grant, Shetland Islands Council

Welcome and Introductions The Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting and the above apologies were noted.

The Chair ruled item 5 as urgent.

CONSTITUTION

Appointment of Chair 1. With reference to the Island Growth Deal Joint Committee Constitution, the Chair called for nominations for the appointment of a new Chair for the Committee.

It was agreed to appoint Cllr Emma Macdonald, Shetland Islands Council as Chair of the Islands Growth Deal Joint Committee.

Appointment of Vice-Chair 2. With reference to the Island Growth Deal Joint Committee Constitution, the Chair called for nominations for the appointment of a new Vice-Chair for the Committee.

It was agreed to appoint a representative from Orkney Islands Council as Vice-Chair of the Islands Growth Deal Joint Committee – to be determined following discussion between Cllr Heather Woodbridge, Orkney Islands Council, and Cllr Kristopher Leask, Orkney Islands Council.

MINUTE

Minute of Meeting of 26 February 2025 3. The Minute of the Meeting of 26 February 2025 was approved.

Declaration of Interest 4. There were no declarations of interest.

It was agreed that the public, including the press, be excluded from the Meeting during consideration of item 5 on the grounds of the amount of any expenditure proposed to be incurred by the partners under any particular contract for the acquisition of property or the supply of goods or services. Any terms proposed or to be proposed by or to partners in the course of negotiations for a contract for the acquisition or disposal of property or the supply of goods or services.

Quarter 4 24/25
Overview Report

5. * With reference to item 5 of the Minute of the Meeting of 26 February 2025, Ms Kathlene Morrison, Islands Deal Programme Director submitted a Report which detailed the Quarter 4 Report from January to March 2025. The Report provided a summary overview of the quarterly financial spend forecast across projects, including current status and Grant Claim for the quarter.

Ms Morrison noted that representatives from the Programme Management Office (PMO) had met with partners from across IGD projects, and that enhanced support, including additional training in relation to grant claims to support the collation of required evidence and information would be delivered to partners where necessary. A review of all IGD Projects in relation to any required additional supports will be carried out. The deadline for claims submissions to the PMO will be brought forward to allow the Management Office greater scope to review submissions and request additional information where required.

It was noted that discussions are ongoing with partners from across projects to consider the timeframe for project start and spend draw down; it was noted that specific updates in relation to the Knab Redevelopment, and the Outer Hebrides Food and Drink Project (Vatersay aspect) would be considered at the next meeting of Joint Committee.

Ms Morrison noted that representatives from the PMO had visited IGD Projects in the Orkney Island and the Shetland Islands, and that each visit had been helpful in terms of understanding project progress and outcome delivery. Ms Morrison thanked members of the Joint Committee for facilitating each visit. It was noted what work is ongoing to deliver enhanced communication in relation to Islands Growth Deal projects to wider stakeholders, including communities. A quarterly newsletter will be produced promoting the work being delivered through the Deal. It was noted that as projects develop, there will be an increased representation from specific projects at future meetings of the Joint Committee to review and consider progress.

It was agreed:

- (1) to approve the Quarter 4 Overview Report;**
- (2) that the Islands Growth Deal Annual Report 2024-25, and the Programme Reset Report would be considered at the next meeting of the Islands Growth Deal Joint Committee; and**
- (3) that representatives from the Creative Islands and Wellbeing (Orkney Pier Arts) would be invited to provide an update in relation to project delivery and outcomes at the next meeting of the Island Growth Deal Joint Committee.**

Date of Next
Meeting

The Islands Growth Deal Joint Committee will next meet on Wednesday, 21 May 2025, at 9.00am. The meeting will be held through Microsoft Teams.