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Date: 30 April 2019

Dear Sir/Madam

You are invited to the following meeting:

Development Committee
Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lerwick
Tuesday 7 May 2019 at 10am

Apologies for absence should be notified to Louise Adamson at the above number.

Yours faithfully

Executive Manager – Governance and Law

Chair: Alastair Cooper
Vice-Chair: Stephen Leask

AGENDA

- (a) Hold the circular calling the meeting as read.
- (b) Apologies for absence, if any.
- (c) Declarations of Interest – Members are asked to consider whether they have an interest to declare in relation to any item on the agenda for this meeting. Any Member making a declaration of interest should indicate whether it is a financial or non-financial interest and include some information on the nature of the interest. Advice may be sought from Officers prior to the meeting taking place.
- (d) Confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 5 March 2019 (enclosed)

ITEM

1. Allocation Policy Annual Performance Review
DV-14-19
2. Aquaculture and Fisheries Research Funding 2019/20
DV-11-19

The following Item contains exempt Information

3. Shetland Investment Fund – Investment Activity 2018/19
DV-13-19



MINUTES

B - Public

**Development Committee
Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lerwick
Tuesday 5 March 2019 at 10am**

Present:

M Burgess	P Campbell
A Cooper	A Duncan
J Fraser	S Leask
A Manson	A Priest
T Smith	

Apologies

S Coutts

In Attendance (Officers):

N Grant, Director of Development Services
A Jamieson, Executive Manager – Housing
I McDiarmid, Executive Manager – Planning
V Simpson, Executive Manager – Community Planning and Development
R Sinclair, Executive Manager – Capital Programme
T Coutts, Team Leader – Business Development
S Shearer, Team Leader – Development Plans and Heritage
K Nicolson, Project Manager
J Macleod, Performance and Improvement Adviser
S Duncan, Management Accountant
M Hodgson, Solicitor
B Kerr, Communications Officer
L Adamson, Committee Officer

Also in Attendance

M Bell
E Macdonald
D Sandison
G Smith
R Thomson
E Anderson, 7N Architects

Chair:

Mr Cooper, Chair of the Committee, presided.

Circular:

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

The Chair ruled, in accordance with Section 43(2) of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003, the attendance of Councillor Burgess during the proceedings be permitted by telephone link.

The Chair said with the additional Members in attendance for the Knab Masterplan – Consultation, the report at Item 3 would be taken first.

Declarations of Interest

None

Minutes

The Committee approved the minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2018 on the motion of Mr Campbell, seconded by Mr Leask.

3/19 Knab Masterplan - Consultation

The Committee considered a joint report by the Director of Development Services and the Executive Manager – Capital Programme (CPS-04-19-F) that sought approval for an eight week period of public and stakeholder consultation on the draft Knab Masterplan.

The Chair commented on the development of the Knab site being one of the most significant projects the Committee will consider during the time of this Council.

In introducing the report, the Executive Manager – Capital Programme provided a brief history of the project and advised on the various consultations that have taken place to date. He said that should the Committee approve the period of consultation for the draft Masterplan as proposed, details on the timescales for feedback, the drop in sessions and public presentations would be reported in the local media later this week.

Mr E Anderson, 7N Architects, gave a detailed presentation which informed on the key issues of the project, the Policy and Development Brief and on the outcomes from the community workshops. The presentation illustrated the proposed landscape and mixed use of the site, housing typologies, access and movement through the site, vehicle and pedestrian connectivity and parking proposals. During the presentation, Mr Anderson advised on the purpose of the Masterplan to provide a framework on how the new developments at the Knab fits into the physical and social context of Lerwick. Mr Anderson also reported on the intention to re-purpose the existing buildings, he informed on the proposed phasing of the development, and on the next steps should Members agree to proceed to public consultation on the draft Masterplan.

The Chair thanked Mr Anderson for the presentation.

The Executive Manager – Housing advised the Committee on the proposed mixed housing types proposed as part of the development of the Knab site, and she confirmed that affordability and flexible options have been taken into account.

In response to a question, the Executive Manager – Capital Programme reported that no decision would be made on the existing buildings on site until such time as the Masterplan was approved. He advised on the work to be undertaken to ascertain whether there would be any

community/partnership interest in any of the existing buildings, where the future use of the listed buildings would depend on ideas coming from the community. He confirmed that any proposals on future use of the listed buildings would be presented to Members on 11 June 2019 as part of the new Asset Strategy. He also advised on the maintenance budget in place to repair the Listed Buildings, and in that regard he referred to the work required to stabilise the condition of the Bruce Hostel for future use.

During the discussion, a Member cautioned on the proposal to utilise sheet metal roofing, particularly in the Shetland climate. Assurance was however given on the advancements in sheet metal roofing, and it was also confirmed that the proposals at this time were not intended to be prescriptive on the design of the buildings. Comment was also made on the proposal to plant sycamore trees, being quite domineering and requiring ongoing maintenance. In responding, Mr Anderson advised that the sycamore was however durable in the Shetland climate, and it was his understanding the trees would be maintained by the Council. Comment was also made to the significant capital cost and liability relating to the proposed aspirational garden ground at the Bruce Hostel and former AHS. The Executive Manager – Capital Programme advised that the garden areas was an enabling part of the project, rather than being linked to the development of any particular building, and he stressed the importance for the proposals in the Masterplan to be considered as a guide at this time.

In responding to a concern that there were no proposals for any private house sites, the Executive Manager – Housing explained that there were however a number of different options on house ownership, including low cost proposals.

In responding to a question, the Director of Development Services confirmed the dialogue undertaken with Living Lerwick, who are supportive of the proposals, and regard the proposed pedestrian links as contributing to the foot fall and being beneficial to the town centre.

In response to questions, Members were given an overview of the process and timescales for engagement on the draft Masterplan. The intention being to seek approval of the provisional budget for the demolition work to the meeting on 11 June 2019, with the main demolition works taking place during 2020. In terms of the Masterplan to be adopted as Supplementary Guidance to the Local Development Plan, the proposal would be to report before the summer recess, with a recommendation from Development Committee to Policy and Resources Committee and the Council.

In response to questions, reassurance was sought that the consultation would involve the whole of the Shetland community and not only Lerwick, and with the proposal to develop the site over 10 years, on the importance for engagement with younger generation. Comment was made on the integrated and innovative developments within the site, and in that regard, for the focus of the consultation to be on all the areas within the Knab site and not solely the aspirations for the existing buildings.

During the discussion, Members commented that they welcomed the inclusion of the student accommodation in the draft Masterplan, and it was queried whether an early decision could be taken to progress that opportunity. In response to a question, the Executive Manager – Capital Programme advised that the brief included residentially compatible business units, however these were not to be in conflict, but compatible, with the businesses on the street.

In responding to a question regarding any additional public transport provision, it was advised that there were proposals for a further bus stop near the coastguard station, however there would be a need to first understand the level of demand. It was confirmed that a process would be worked through separately for additional public transport provision, which would link with the pedestrian routes.

During the discussion, reference was made to the small car parking spaces as proposed, which it was advised would not be suitable for larger commercial vehicles. The Executive Manager – Capital Programme acknowledged that the Masterplan has been ambitious on the size and number of parking spaces. He said however that the proposal has been developed followed design guidance relative to the number and tenure of properties, and to promote the use of public transport and electric vehicles.

In responding to a comment regarding the proposed play area on the site, the Executive Manager – Capital Programme advised that insight could be sought from Children's Services on the proposed types of play equipment to be installed.

During debate, some concern was expressed whether the proposed traffic and parking provision would serve the needs of the community, and that it could be difficult to direct individuals to use public transport, rather than owning a car, or to buy a smaller vehicle or an electric vehicle. It was however suggested that young people would be more aware of the carbon reduction agenda, and could be supportive of a step change to make less use of cars and to reduce the carbon footprint. In that regard, the Chair advised on the importance to maintain the principles of the design brief at this time, and to ensure provision is in place so that people living close to all facilities in Lerwick do not necessarily need to own a car. Comment was made that the ambition of this initiative will only be realised if integration can happen and residents feel connected to the other services in Lerwick. In that regard, the key was the linkages with other areas, so this site was not seen as being in isolation, and to get young people on board to regard the Knab as an attractive place to live, work and study.

In commenting on the proposals in place for meaningful and robust consultation on the draft Masterplan, Mr Fraser moved that the Committee approve the recommendation in the report. Mr Leask seconded, and the Committee concurred.

The Chair thanked the additional Members for their attendance and contributions made.

Decision:

The Committee RESOLVED to approve an eight week period of public and stakeholder consultation on the draft Knab Masterplan

4/19

Development Services Directorate Performance Report - 9 Month/3rd Quarter 2018/19

The Committee considered a report by the Director of Development Services (DV-04-19-F) summarising the activity and performance of the Development Directorate for the third quarter of 2018/19.

In introducing the report, the Director of Development Services provided an update on progress on a number of the Directorate Projects and Actions as set out in Appendix A. In referring Appendix B, he highlighted Performance Indicator GD-03, where at Quarter 3 a total of £1,216,346 of external funding has been secured by community groups. He also referred to the new format of reports, which includes financial performance, and in that regard he advised on the outturn position of a balanced budget for the services within the remit of the Development Directorate and for the Housing Revenue Account.

There were no questions or debate, and the Committee noted the recommendation in the report.

Decision:

The Committee NOTED the contents of the report, and the requirement for an increased contribution to ZetTrans of up to £0.484m to fund the additional cost of running the public bus and air services; and consultancy costs to carry out the public transport network re-design.

5/19

Local Development Plan - Development Plans Scheme 2019

The Committee considered a report by the Team Leader - Development Plans and Heritage (DV-05-19-F) that presented the Development Plan Scheme 2019, for approval.

In introducing the report, the Team Leader – Development Plans and Heritage advised on the decision to extend the Call for Sites process to the end of June 2019, and on the proposed timescales for the next Local Development Plan with the proposed submission in 2020.

In response to questions, the Team Leader – Development Plans and Heritage advised that land owners have been engaging positively during the Call for Sites process and understand the value of more detailed submissions to be made. She added that sites have come forward from a variety of areas, and it was also being relayed that windfall sites were still an important part of the Plan.

In response to a question regarding any policy in place to deter new build developments on arable land, the Team Leader – Development Plans and Heritage advised that while the LDP does not include a policy to protect arable land, advice is sought from the Crofters Commission, being a consultee on the Call for Sites submissions.

During the discussion, reference was made to the detailed and user friendly set of on-line maps as part of the LDP Scheme, which illustrates proposed housing and other developments in each area. In that regard, it was advised that certain areas included in the Call for Sites would appear to be at odds with the outcome of the recent Recreate Scalloway consultation. The Team Leader – Development Plans and Heritage advised that the outcome from the Recreate Scalloway project would inform the LDP process to best reflect Scalloway when making planning principles.

Mr T Smith moved that the Committee approve the recommendation in the report. In seconding, Mr Cooper acknowledged that the LDP2 was behind schedule, however he said that following approval of the Knab Masterplan and with staff being in place in the Planning Service, the LDP should be kept on track for a 2020 delivery.

Decision:

The Committee RESOLVED to approve the Development Plan Scheme.

6/19

Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Manager - Housing (DV-08-19-F) that sought approval of the Housing Service inaugural Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan with effect from 1 April 2019.

In introducing the report, the Executive Manager - Housing advised on the background and concept to develop a Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan (RRTP). She advised that the Council's RRTP had been submitted to the Scottish Government prior to the deadline of the end of December 2018, and was currently being evaluated. In that regard, she advised that approval of the RRTP was being sought from Committee, with delegated authority to take account of comments from the Scottish Government.

In responding to a question, the Executive Manager – Housing explained that while rough sleeping was not an issue in Shetland, the statistical returns have to include any instances where individuals have spent a night outwith a home, for example, in a car or vehicle, before presenting as homeless the next day.

During the discussion, the Executive Manager – Housing reported that the focus on prevention of homelessness has proved very successful, including work on family mediation and to reduce repeated homelessness. The Chair advised on the importance for support to be in place for the most vulnerable people when they get a tenancy, and in that regard he referred to the level of joint working proposed with the Integration Joint Board. The Executive Manager – Housing advised on the statutory duty of the Council to support individuals who present as homeless to assist, empower, enable and sign post them to get the support needed, and on the focus to join up services with the Integration Joint Board.

On the motion of Mr Cooper, seconded by Mr Leask, the Committee approved the recommendation in the report.

Decision:

The Committee RESOLVED to:

- approve the Housing Service' inaugural Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan with effect from 1 April 2019; and
- grant delegated authority to the Executive Manager – Housing to update the plan to take account of any comments and feedback from the Scottish Government.

In order to avoid the disclosure of exempt information, Mr Cooper moved, Mr Leask seconded, and the Committee agreed to exclude the public in terms of the relevant legislation during consideration of the following items of business.

(Mr Burgess left the meeting).

7/19 SSQC Ltd - Funding 2019/20

The Committee considered a report by the Project Manager that presented information on an application from SSQC Ltd for core grant funding for the financial year 2019/20.

The Team Leader – Business Development summarised the main terms of the report, and responded to questions from Members.

During debate, Mr Leask moved that the Committee approve recommendation 1.1.1 and 1.1.3 only. Mr Duncan seconded.

Mr Campbell moved as an amendment that the Committee approve recommendations 1.1.1, 1.1.2 and 1.1.3 in the report. Mr Priest seconded.

Following summing up, voting took place by a show of hands, and the result was as follows:

Amendment (Mr Campbell)	4
Motion (Mr Leask)	2

Decision:

The Committee RESOLVED to approve the recommendations in the report.

8/19 Support for Inshore Fisheries Management - Shetland Islands Regulated Fishery (Scotland) Order 2019/20

The Committee considered a report by the Project Manager that presented information on an application for grant funding to ensure the collaborative operation of Shetland Islands Regulated Fishery (Scotland) Order (RO) through the Shetland Shellfish Management organisation Limited (SSMO) and research work conducted by NAFC Marine Centre.

The Team Leader – Business Development summarised the main terms of the report, and responded to questions from Members.

During debate, Mr T Smith moved that the Committee approve the recommendations in the report. Ms Manson seconded.

Decision:

The Committee RESOLVED to approve the recommendations in the report.

The meeting concluded at 12.40pm

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Chair

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Meeting(s):	Development Committee	7 May 2019
Report Title:	Allocation Policy Annual Performance Review	
Reference Number:	DV-14-19-F	
Author / Job Title:	Anita Jamieson, Executive Manager – Housing	

1.0 Decisions / Action Required:

- 1.1 That the Development Committee RESOLVES to approve:
- 1.1.1 the performance reporting targets for 2019/20 as identified at 4.13;
 - 1.1.2 the recommended amendments to the Allocation Policy as identified at 4.15 and in Appendix One

2.0 High Level Summary:

- 2.1 This report details annual performance review information on the housing allocation quota targets contained in the Shetland Islands Council's Allocation Policy for the year 2018/19 and recommendations for the year 2019/20. There is also an attached Appendix 1, summarising our recent Allocation Policy consultation results.

3.0 Corporate Priorities and Joint Working:

- 3.1 This report is delivering in line with the Single Outcome Agreement Local Indicator – 'Improve access to suitable housing options for those in housing need', and on the Corporate Plan statement section 'Helping build a healthy economy and strong communities'.

4.0 Key Issues:

- 4.1 During the period 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019, **623** new applications were received by the Housing Service.
- 4.2 The total number of applications on the Housing Register at the end of March 2019 was **601**, a very marginal increase since March 2018, as shown in Table One below. However, it is important to note the decrease in active homeless applications, which are continuing to decline through effective prevention work, combined with the current priorities on allocation of permanent tenancies.

Application Type	March 2019 No.	March 2019 %	March 2018 No.	March 2018 %
Waiting List	391	67	360	61%
Transfer	104	18	100	17%
Homeless	89	15	127	21%
Special Cases	3	1	6	1%
Total	587	100%	593	100%

Table 1

- 4.3 Housing areas are grouped into localities, as follows:

Locality	Community Council
Central	Scalloway; Burra & Trondra; Tingwall, Whiteness & Weisdale
Lerwick & Bressay	Lerwick; Bressay
North Mainland	Delting; Nesting & Lunnasting; Northmaven
South Mainland	Dunrossness; Gulberwick, Quarff & Cunningsburgh; Sandwick; Fair Isle
West Mainland	Sandness & Walls; Sandsting & Aithsting
North Isles	Yell; Fetlar; Unst; Whalsay; Skerries

Table 2

- 4.4 Table 3 summarises the number of lets within each locality, whilst providing a comparison of last year's data. There has been an overall increase in properties available for re-let, although as a percentage of total stock, this remains fairly stable, at 11.9%.
- 4.5 Demand for sheltered accommodation continues to decline. With Housing Support being offered to applicants in their existing home, applicants are empowered to remain where they are. With reducing demand for sheltered accommodation, 44% of sheltered properties let in 2018/19 were to mainstream housing applicants. This minimises voids and provides essential single person accommodation, predominantly in rural areas.

Total Number of Council Lets by Locality	Council General Needs Lets		Council Supported Housing Lets (inc Sheltered, Very Sheltered and SL&O)		Total Lets	
Locality	2018/19	2017/18	2018/19	2017/18	2018/19	2017/18
Central Area	11	7	10	3	21	10
Lerwick & Bressay	69	57	9	12	78	69
North Area	33	33	3	0	35	33
South Area	12	15	1	6	13	21
West Area	3	4	2	1	5	5
North Isles (inc W&S)	28	25	2	8	30	33
Total	156	141	27	30	183	171

Table 3

- 4.6 Table 4 details the allocation of General Need's properties against set targets (quotas). The targets are a guide to ensure the Service gives sufficient priority to the statutory homeless, whilst also preventing homelessness for others (waiting list), and allowing current tenants to move when in high housing need (transfer).
- 4.7 Please note that the quotas exclude lets made as sheltered, very sheltered, and all lets made in Unst, Whalsay, Yell, Fetlar, Skerries & Fair Isle. These areas are excluded due to insufficient levels of demand across all three quota groups.

Area	Quota Group	Apr-Mar 2018/19
Lerwick	Homeless (70% Target)	62%
	Transfer (15% Target)	19%
	Waiting List (15% Target)	19%
Landward	Homeless (30% Target)	19%
	Transfer (30% Target)	20%
	Waiting List (40% Target)	61%

Table 4

- 4.8 The following tables provide an insight into the relationship between levels of stock, the number of lets, and the overall demand for that particular area. For each locality, the level of demand for Bed-sit / One Bedroom accommodation is greater than each of all the other property sizes combined together.

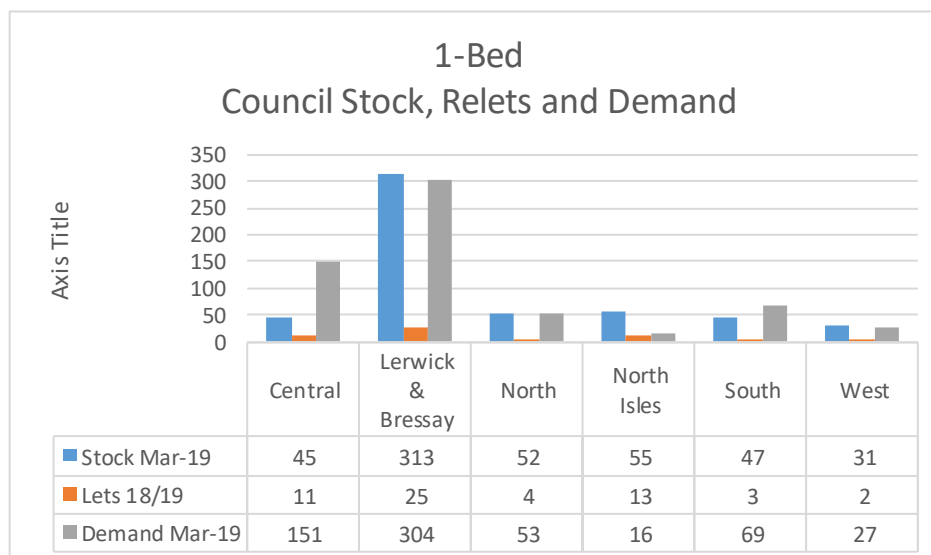


Table 5

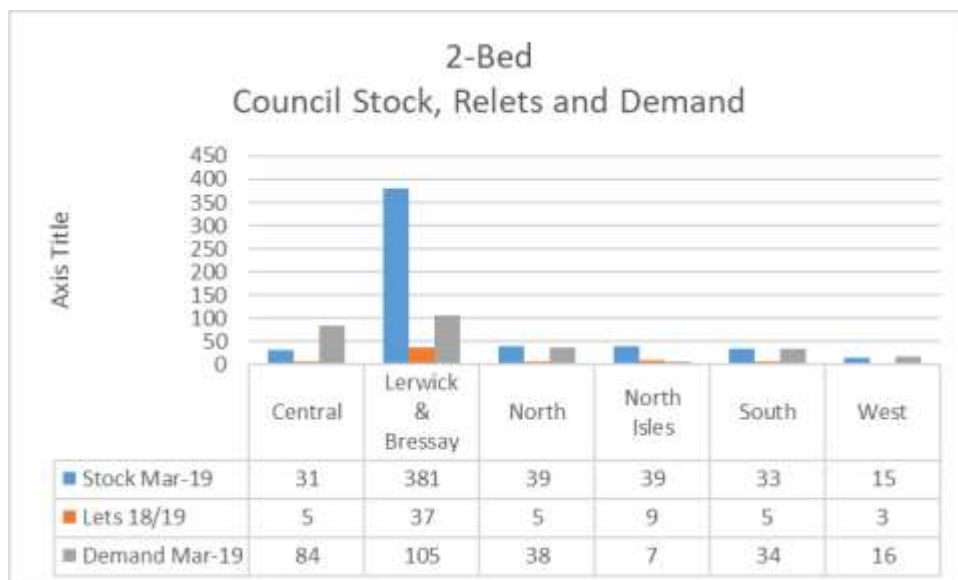


Table 6

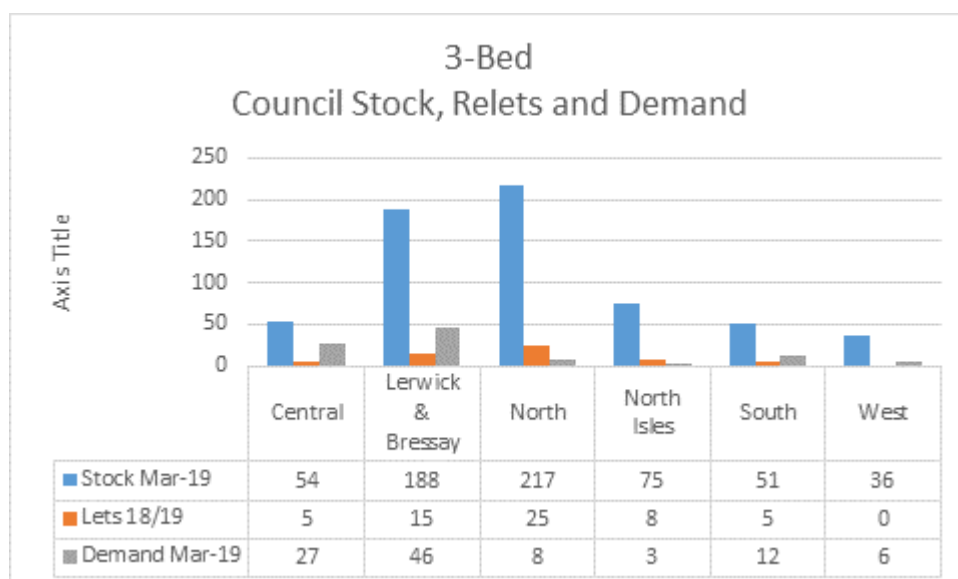


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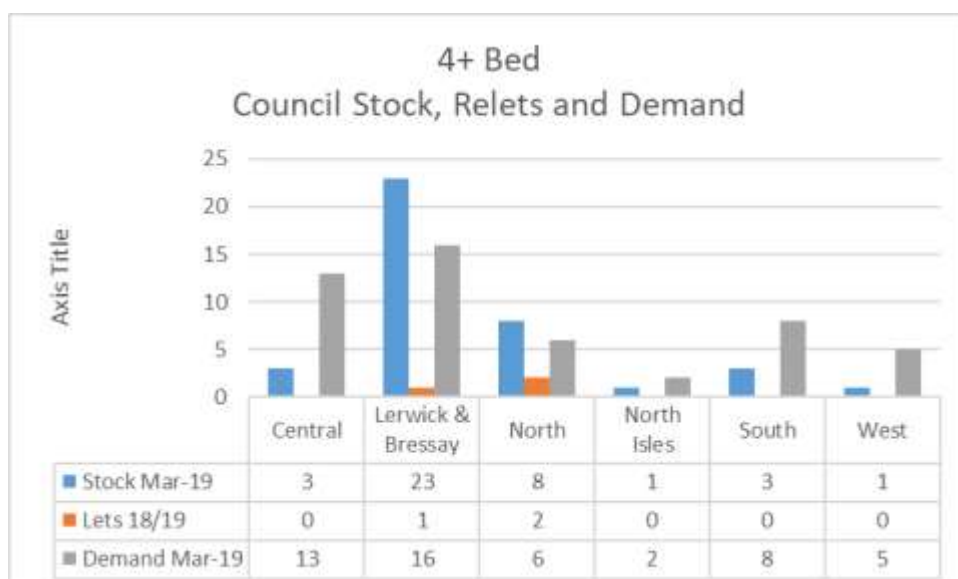


Table 8

- 4.9 Within 2018/19, there were 49 successful nominations to Hjaltsland Housing Association. Of these, 29 were to homeless applicants and 20 were to general needs applicants. The Council's Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan reinforces the importance of partnership working with the Association, to reduce the length of time applicants spend in temporary accommodation.
- 4.10 The following statistical information has been gathered to give an overview on performance during the 2018/19 year:

Ref	Allocation Performance Information	2018/19	2017/18
4.9.1	Number of live housing applications at 31 March	587	593
4.9.2	Number of new applications received in the year	623	601
4.9.3	Percentage of lettable housing stock that became available in the year	11.91%	11.93%
4.9.4	Number of allocations to homeless applicants	58	47
4.9.5	Number of allocations to waiting list applicants	89	76
4.9.6	Number of allocations to transfer applicants	36	48
4.9.7	Percentage of new tenancies sustained for more than a year	88%	88%
4.9.8	Average length of time taken to relet properties (days). There are context considerations with this figure as the majority of long term voids are due to low demand in the north isles.	49.7	45.5
	Average length of time taken to relet properties (days) – Not Low Demand	39.2	-
	Average length of time taken to relet properties (days) – Low Demand	88.6	-
4.9.9	Percentage of new tenants satisfied or very satisfied with the standard of their new home – permanent	76%	75%
4.9.10	Percentage of new tenants satisfied or very satisfied with the standard of their new home – temporary	92%	79%
4.9.11	Number of successful mutual exchanges	15	22
4.9.12	Number of homeless presentations	117	127
4.9.13	Number of temporary tenancies created	145	150 (13 B&B)

2019/20 quota proposals

- 4.11 The quota system must take account of the Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan, a strategic document setting out the measures required to minimise the length of time a homeless applicant spends in temporary accommodation, before transitioning into a permanent tenancy.

- 4.12 For Lerwick allocations, the quota should remain unchanged for 2019/20, where 70% of GN lets are awarded to homeless applicants.
- 4.13 For Landward allocations, the quota should reflect realistic demand, looking at statistics over the last few years. The increase in allocations to waiting list applicants should assist in the prevention of homelessness in rural areas.

Quota Proposals 2019/20	Homeless	Waiting List	Transfer
Lerwick	70%	15%	15%
Landward	20%	60%	20%
Isles (inc Unst, Yell, Fetlar, Whalsay, Skerries & Fair Isle)	No quota	No quota	No quota
Supported Lets (inc Sheltered, Very Sheltered and Supported Living & Outreach)	No quota	No quota	No quota

Table 9

Allocation Policy amendments following consultation

- 4.14 In line with the Applicant consultation report approved at Development Committee in December 2018 (Min Ref: 27/18), and in particular, section 4.27 of that report, a comprehensive consultation exercise was completed with over 150 applicants in March 2019. The Housing Service completed this consultation exercise with tenants and applicants, on proposed changes to the Allocation Policy, in line with The Housing (Scotland) Act 2014. A summary of this consultation is detailed in Appendix One.
- 4.15 The Housing Service proposes to incorporate changes to the Housing Allocation Policy, as outlined in Appendix 1.

5.0 Exempt and/or confidential information:

- 5.1 None

6.0 Implications

6.1 Service Users, Patients and Communities:	The Housing Service completed a consultation exercise with over 150 households in March 2019, reaching out to a broad range of applicants, including Homeless, Waiting list and Transfer applicants. This exercise ensured service users and the community were at the heart of the decision making, and directly involved in shaping the Housing Allocation Policy.
6.2 Human Resources and Organisational Development:	None.
6.3 Equality, Diversity and Human Rights:	The Council's Housing Allocation Policy meets the requirements of equalities and human rights legislation.
6.4 Legal:	None.
6.5 Finance:	None.

6.6 Assets and Property:	None.
6.7 ICT and New Technologies:	None.
6.8 Environmental:	None.
6.9 Risk Management:	In terms of risk, there is no direct financial risk associated with this report. However, there are political, economic, social, education and health risks associated with high levels of unmet housing need. The consequences of this unmet housing need will have financial implications for those Council services supporting housing, social, education and health.
6.10 Policy and Delegated Authority:	Under section 2.3.1 of the Scheme of Administration and Delegations the Development Committee has the remit for matters relating to housing, and has responsibility for monitoring and reviewing the achievement of key outcomes in the Service Plan, as part of its Planning and Performance Management Framework.
6.11 Previously Considered by:	n/a

Contact Details:

Anita Jamieson, Executive Manager – Housing

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01595 744 360

Date Cleared: 26 April 2019

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Allocation Policy Review Consultation

Background Documents:

Draft revised [Allocation Policy](#)

[Scottish Social Housing Charter](#)

[Report to Development Committee December 2018](#)

Surveys sent	151	Applicant	23%
Surveys returned	30	Tenant	60%
Consultation Response Rate%	20%	Both	17%

Current Point Categories	Proposal	Consultation outcome		Final recommendation
		Agree (%)	Disagree (%)	
Access to Children	Retain points	93	7	As proposed
Medical Needs	Retain points	97	3	As proposed
Sharing Amenities	Retain points	87	13	As proposed
Unreasonable to Remain	Retain points	93	7	As proposed
No Fixed Abode	Retain points	93	7	As proposed
Insecurity of Tenure	Increase points award to 150	97	3	As proposed
Lack of Amenities	Create 2 tier award of 50 & 100 points in line with 'Below Tolerable Standards' legislation	93	7	As proposed
Over-crowding	Increase points award - single bedroom 40 points and double bedroom 60 points	93	7	As proposed
Social Need	Reduce to 2 tier award of 50 & 100 points - include Harassment and Support within the criteria	90	10	As proposed
Under occupation	Increase points award to 50 points per bedroom	90	10	As proposed
Local Connection	Amend qualifying criteria to 'currently work or live' only. Remove points award but provide priority to applicants with LC when points are tied. Where the approach of using local connection may infringe applicable equality and diversity legislation (e.g. the Equality Act 2010), such tied applications will instead be considered and distinguished on a case-by-case basis by the Council having regard to all other relevant factors. Local Connection linked to Community Council Wards	67	33	As proposed
Bedsit	Remove points	87	13	As proposed
Fostering & Adoption	Remove points	87	13	As proposed
Harassment	Remove points but include within Social Need points criteria	67	33	As proposed
Mobile Homes	Remove points	89	11	As proposed
Service Tenancies/Tied Accommodation	Remove points	90	10	As proposed
Support Points	Remove points but include within Social Need points criteria	72	28	As proposed
Travel to Work	Remove points	61	39	As proposed
Special Case	Patients classed as 'delayed discharge' will be given 'special case' status to hasten the transition out of hospital	97	3	As proposed
Specific Areas for Consultation				
Home Ownership	Do not take home ownership into account	86	14	As proposed
Suspension	Retain current suspension policy criteria	89	11	As proposed



Meeting(s):	Development Committee	7 May 2019
Report Title:	Aquaculture and Fisheries Research Funding 2019/20	
Reference Number:	DV-11-19-F	
Author / Job Title:	Thomas Coutts, Team Leader – Business Development	

1.0 Decisions / Action Required:

- 1.1 That the Development Committee RESOLVE to:
- 1.1.1 Approve the commission of NAFC Marine Centre to undertake ongoing maintenance and development of the Shetland Islands Marine Spatial Plan in 2019/20, at a total cost of £47,372.27.
 - 1.1.2 Approve a budget of £150,000 for the financial year 2019/20 to be used as match-funding for research projects in the aquaculture and fisheries sectors, to be considered by the Council's Economic Development Service on a case-by-case basis.

2.0 High Level Summary:

- 2.1 This report proposes that funding of £47,372.27 be approved for the commission of NAFC Marine Centre to provide ongoing development and maintenance of the Shetland Islands Marine Spatial Plan (SIMSP) in the financial year 2019/20.
- 2.2 It is further proposed that a budget of £150,000 for the coming financial year be set aside for the Council's Economic Development Service to provide match funding on a case-by-case basis for aquaculture and fisheries research projects that can demonstrate economic development impacts. Approved projects must be able to demonstrate their ability to deliver economic development outcomes as well as leveraging in external funding where possible.

3.0 Corporate Priorities and Joint Working:

- 3.1 Delivery on Corporate Priorities - Provision of support for aquaculture and fisheries research in Shetland helps meet the following goals stated in the Council Plan 2016-20:
- "We will have an economy that promotes enterprise and is based on making full use of local resources, skills and a desire to investigate new commercial ideas";
- "We will have a culture of helping new businesses to start up and businesses to grow...";
- "Will be investing development funds wisely to produce the maximum benefit for Shetland's economy".

4.0 Key Issues:

Shetland Islands Marine Spatial Plan

- 4.1 Shetland Islands Council has adopted the Shetland Islands' Marine Spatial Plan (SIMSP) as supplementary guidance to the Shetland Local Development Plan (LDP). The LDP sets out the policies and criteria against which planning applications and works licences submitted in Shetland will be considered.
- 4.2 The SIMSP aligns with the objectives set out in the LDP's policy for Coastal Development, and provides an overarching policy framework to guide marine development and activity out to 12 nautical miles. It incorporates authoritative spatial data on the marine environment, its various uses and assets, and is widely acknowledged as an international exemplar for the future of marine management.
- 4.3 The ongoing development of the SIMSP is guided by the Shetland Islands' Marine Regional Partnership, which ensures industry, community and public sector stakeholder involvement in marine planning. Development and maintenance of the SIMSP is undertaken by NAFC Marine Centre. In addition to writing policy documents and producing the local marine atlas, the Marine Spatial Planning team fulfil Shetland's legal requirements under the National Marine Plan by jointly forming with the Council one of the partners in the Marine Planning Partnership; and they help fulfil the ongoing legislative requirements of the local plan itself.
- 4.4 The Marine Spatial Planning team also lever in external funding to NAFC Marine Centre in order to produce specific project outputs – examples being Shetland's Regional Locational Guidelines for Marine Renewables, and the Council's Biosecurity Plan.
- 4.5 Activities undertaken by NAFC Marine Centre in the course of developing the SIMSP in 2018/19 included:
- Developing a new edition of the SIMSP – this has been submitted to Scottish Ministers and is expected to go to public consultation in mid-May 2019;
 - A series of public engagement events, including meetings with community councils and attendance at local agricultural shows, to gather community views on marine issues to inform development of the SIMSP;
 - Developing supporting assessments looking at the impacts of the SIMSP, including:
 - Equalities Impact Assessment
 - Children's Rights and Wellbeing Assessment
 - Habitats Regulation Appraisal
 - Business and Regulatory Impact Assessment
 - Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Report
 - Responding to Marine Scotland on behalf of the Marine Planning Partnership with regard to license applications;
 - Providing input into the development of a Council-led Crown Estate pilot.
- 4.6 The knowledge and expertise built up in the course of operating the SIMSP means that this service is not readily obtainable from more than one supplier, service provider or contractor – hence satisfying the Council's Contract Standing Orders (where the value of goods is between £10,000 and £50,000) insofar as competitive tendering is not required in this instance. Costs provided are based on planned

activity for 2019/20 and are broadly in line with previous contract awards to support this activity. Previous awards to support marine spatial planning activity have come in on budget.

Fisheries and Aquaculture Research

- 4.7 A budget of £150,000 was reserved within the Economic Development Service for the financial years 2016/17, 2017/18 and 2018/19, to enable the provision of match-funding for aquaculture and fisheries research projects, where these could demonstrate potential economic development impacts. It was also expected that external match funding from industry and other funders would augment the Council's contribution.
- 4.8 In 2016/17 five diverse research projects were approved, to a total value of £142,010, supported by external contributions from industry, industry groups and academic institutions to a total value of £81,316. Research subjects included fish surveys and data reviews, effects and implications of the discard ban, and pelagic lifecycle assessments.
- 4.9 In 2017/18 three research projects were approved, to a total value of £126,077. These projects have been supported with contributions from industry and industry groups totalling £9,300. Research subjects were an expanded fish survey; investigation of foodweb biodiversity and trophic interaction; and work to improve production of quality mussel larvae and their algal feeds.
- 4.10 In 2018/19 a single project was approved, at a value of £72,066. This funding continued the Council's support of the Fish Survey, which was initiated in 2009 in response to industry reports of high numbers of juvenile cod. NAFC's ability to quickly initiate an independent survey and report the findings in a timely manner resulted in industry organisations being able to present evidence of that years' strong year class well ahead of when information was reported through the international surveying system. At the time, cod recovery and management measures were politically highly topical and at the forefront of issues concerning industry. It quickly became apparent that there were benefits in developing the survey to be undertaken annually and provide an annual index of abundance of fish of commercial interest in inshore waters around Shetland. With almost 10 years of data, the survey has become a valuable time series and has the capability of acting as an early warning of future fluctuations in key stocks. The survey was expanded in 2017 to include additional areas of shallower water where information on juvenile populations is lacking. The survey covers areas not included in the International Bottom Trawl Surveys, demonstrating the unique value our support can add to Shetland's fisheries.
- 4.11 While the most likely beneficiary of a ring-fenced fisheries and aquaculture research budget is NAFC Marine Centre, it should also be recognised that other local bodies undertake research projects in these sectors. This funding should be made accessible to other local bodies, where projects can demonstrate a fit with economic development priorities.

5.0 Exempt and/or Confidential Information:

- 5.1 None.

6.0 Implications :	
6.1 Service Users, Patients and Communities:	Aquaculture and fisheries research directly supports the local seafood sector, which is the largest individual economic sector in Shetland with an annual value in excess of £350m. Ancillary sectors (engineering, transportation, etc.) also rely on the seafood sector and would be adversely affected if the seafood sector were to experience problems.
6.2 Human Resources and Organisational Development:	None.
6.3 Equality, Diversity and Human Rights:	None.
6.4 Legal:	None.
6.5 Finance:	The proposals to commission NAFC Marine Centre to carry out maintenance and development of the Marine Spatial Plan, and to fund aquaculture and fisheries research, to the value of £197,372.27 will be met from within approved budgets.
6.6 Assets and Property:	None.
6.7 ICT and New Technologies:	None.
6.8 Environmental:	<p>Some research projects will have a beneficial impact on the marine environment such as the Marine Spatial Planning element, any improvement to fishing techniques that preserves stocks and, promoting the use of cleaner fish for removing sea lice in aquaculture systems.</p> <p>The SIMSP aligns with the objectives set out in the LDP's policy for Coastal Development, as detailed below:</p> <p>"Proposals for developments and infrastructure in the coastal zone (above Mean Low Water Mark of Ordinary Spring Tides) will only be permitted where the proposal can demonstrate that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It will not have a significant impact, either individually or cumulatively, on the natural, built environment and cultural heritage resources either in the sea or on land; • The location, scale and design are such that it will not have a significant adverse impact; • It does not result in any deterioration in ecological status or potential for any water body or prevent it from achieving good ecological status in the future ; • There is no significant adverse impact on other users of marine resources, and/ or neighbouring land.

	Proposals for marine aquaculture developments or amendments to existing fish farm developments will require to have regard to the Shetland Islands' Marine Spatial Plan."	
6.9 Risk Management:	There are no significant issues for the Council. The research projects are subject to project application and assessment procedures, and performance against specified deliverables will be assessed. There may be a financial risk for NAFC Marine Centre if fisheries and aquaculture research projects do not materialise to the expected level.	
6.10 Policy and Delegated Authority:	<p>This report has been prepared with regard to the following objective of the Council's Economic Development Strategy 2018-2022:</p> <p>"Link skills, research and development to economic need."</p> <p>The Economic Development Strategy 2018-2022 was approved by the Development Committee on 01 October 2018 [Min Ref: 24/18] and by the Council on 31 October 2018 [Min Ref: 50/18].</p> <p>The proposal delivers on the following actions and measures:</p> <p>Action: Support growth in key sectors through research and feasibility studies</p> <p>Measure: Ensure financial support to NAFC Marine Centre is appropriately targeted to meet industry needs</p> <p>Action: Support research and development projects which encourage innovation and growth in the private sector</p> <p>Measure: Provide support to research and development projects which introduce innovative new methods or processes to the private sector</p> <p>The Development Committee has delegated authority to implement decisions within its remit, in accordance with Section 2.3.1 of the Council's Scheme of Administration and Delegations.</p> <p>As the subject of this report is covered by existing policy the Development Committee has delegated authority to make a decision.</p>	
6.11 Previously Considered by:	n/a	

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Date Cleared: 30 April 2019

Appendices: None.

Background Documents: [Shetland Islands Marine Spatial Plan](#)

END