

Cnoc Soilleir Ltd Board Meeting — Key Outcomes 2 June 2026**1. Phase 2 Capital Project**

Phase 2 is due for handover this week. The £7m project is on time and within budget. Successful delivery has been supported by strong collaboration between the local Uist Main Contractor, Cnoc Soilleir Ltd client team and design team.

Next steps: secure the public entertainment licence, complete AV/user training next week, and continue converting summer and future demand into confirmed bookings; the first Ceòlas concert on 27 June is sold out.

Everyone across the team is working hard to maximise opportunity and bring new events and activity in to fill the building.

**2. Updating existing Operational Model**

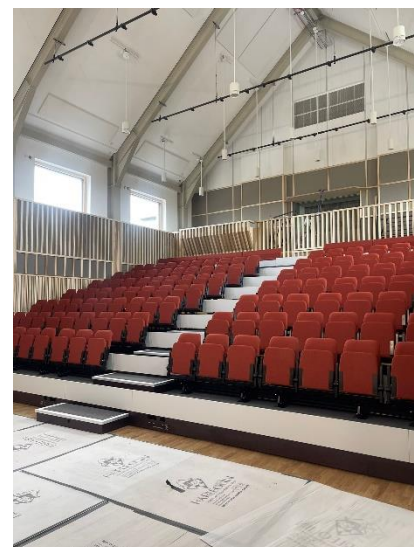
Funding is in place to appoint external support to work with staff across the three organisations over summer to update the existing operating model to reflect the additional scope and complexities that the new facilities bring.

3. Transition year planning

A transition-year strategy has been agreed by all three organisations and is awaiting final funder approval. Its priorities are third-party activity and income, a robust three-year business plan 2027-2030 and integrated promotion, marketing and booking support.

4. Cnoc Soilleir Ltd Operations Budget

At three quarters through the financial year, the operations budget remains on track to finish 2025/26 within budget.



5. Ceòlas activities

Ceòlas activity remains strong: Summer School bookings are 90% full, and this week's residential Gaelic immersion course has more than 30 students across post-beginner, intermediate and advanced levels.

Board Comments all round on how positive it was to see the building so full and active.

Uist Gàidhlig Plan Update: the Plana Gàidhlig website is now live, with launch events held across key community venues with social media and promotion in place to support local awareness and engagement.



6. UHI North, West and Hebrides

The Barra and Harris Unearthed project is progressing well, with the first Harris engagement and scoping event taking place on Monday 1st June. The Outer Hebrides Unearthed App was refreshed and relaunched ahead of the Easter break with new branding and navigation features. The App has now had circa 11,000 downloads.



The inaugural **UHI North, West and Hebrides Music Residency** proved to be a resounding success, drawing talented musicians for a weekend of artistic growth, cultural immersion, and community-driven music-making. The event, designed for experienced musicians, provided participants with a rare opportunity to deepen their musical skills while embracing Uist's cultural heritage. With positive media engagement and high social media reach, the event has set a high standard for future residencies and cultural events.





7. Grand opening

The grand opening is being planned for the final week of August or early September with date confirmation dependent on key personal availability; the First Minister is our first preference for VIP.

The proposed format is a three-part event covering an invited VIP ribbon-cutting and speeches event, an evening ticketed concert, and a community open day.

8. Tour of new facilities

We took advantage of having all the board on site together, with SROs and the CEO from UHI North, West and Hebrides to have a walk around the new part of the building:

Michael Foxley said: *"We are all are working hard to increase activities, from events to conferences, at the splendid 200 seat venue with the latest fantastic audio-visual equipment"*



Cnoc Soilleir Ltd Board and Exec Staff Tour of project June 2026