



**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE held on
Wednesday 1st November 2023 at 4.15 pm over Microsoft Teams**

Present	Shona MacDougall, Committee Chair Lydia Rohmer, Principal and Chief Executive Officer Chris Alliston, Independent Member
In attendance	Debbie Miller, Vice Principal – Operations Derek Bond, Director of Finance Fiona Sinclair, Board Secretary and Governance Professional Giles Huby, Programme Director, UHI

Meeting minutes

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Derek Lewis and Shannon MacCallum.

2. Declaration of interests or connections

Members were invited to declare an interest or a connection, as appropriate, in any item on the Agenda. There were no declarations.

2.1 Minutes of Previous Meetings of the Committee

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 23rd August were held as read and were approved.

3. CONFIDENTIAL ITEM

Withheld

4. Sustainability Strategy and Climate Change Policy

There had been circulated report FGP1123/04 by the Vice Principal Operations on the UHI Sustainability Strategy and the Sustainability and Climate Change Policy in line with the UHI single policy environment.

The Committee agreed to recommend that the Board of Management approve both the UHI Sustainability Strategy and the UHI Sustainability and Climate Change Policy, noting that it would

be for the UHI NWH Sustainability Group to prioritise the actions in the appendix to the Strategy and report appropriately.

Action – Governance Professional to arrange for Board to consider UHI Sustainability Strategy and UHI Sustainability and Climate Change Policy

5. Funding Approvals Process

There had been circulated report 1123/05 by the Vice principal Operations setting out some alterations to the Funding Approvals Process. The Committee agreed to approve the Funding Approvals Process on an interim basis, and that the matter would be considered by the Board at its February meeting.

Action – Governance Professional to arrange for the matter to be considered by the Board in February

6. Caithness Place Based Initiative

There had been circulated report FGP1123/06 by the Vice Principal Operations inviting the Committee to acknowledge the current status of the Caithness Place based initiative and the inclusion of the Arm's Length foundation funding previously provided to North Highland for the Thurso Campus.

The Committee noted and agreed the position.

7. Estates and Related Grants

There had been circulated report FGP1123/7 by the Vice Principal Operations recommending that the Committee agree to recommend that the Board of Management accept the offer of the SFC Energy Efficiency Grant as set out in the report. The Committee so agreed. The Committee noted the various stages of progress of the building projects detailed in the report and noted that professional advice was being sought in relation to a flat roof at the Dornoch Campus which had developed a leak and was currently being monitored.

Action – Governance Professional to arrange for Board to consider the offer of SFC Energy Efficiency Grant

8. Grants and Funding Update

There had been circulated report FGP1123/08 by the Vice Principal Operations providing the Committee with an update on grants and funds received or offered to date to support both research and curriculum growth opportunities across North West and Hebrides. The Committee agreed to recommend to the Board that the projects detailed in the report be approved.

Action – Governance Professional to arrange for Board to consider the projects detailed in the report.

