

Urram AGM 24th January 2022



Chair's report

Urram SCIO was formally inaugurated in 2020, following a working group with delegates from all the community councils successfully campaigning to keep Dail Mhor open. It had wide support with over 2000 signatories on a petition and led to successful engagement with the NHS and support for capacity building allowing for the recruitment of Lara Van De Peer as development officer.

Urram has developed as a strategic group looking at the long term future of Dail Mhor as it became evident that it is not currently sustainable. Additionally in the year Urram has

1. Developed a new logo
2. Became a SCIO
3. Recruited members
4. Built a website and started a facebook page to increase online presence
5. Had strategic conversations with the Highland Council. Dail Mhor site is in the HC budget for 4 flexi homes to be incorporated on the DM site
6. Developed a partnership agreement with Highland Hospice which facilitated the befriending service and initiated recruitment for Sunflower home care, to supplement care at home currently delivered by NHS. Home care recruitment was hard in the middle of lockdown and is on hold for the moment.
7. Lara started the groundwork for the befriending service, and assisted the Sunart Community Council with fundraising for the local Helping Hands service that was a lifeline during lockdowns. This included providing Sunday lunches and to purchase tablets for those who were isolating and struggling with technology.
8. Lobbying the NHS and its Chief Exec to support recruitment and support for local staff in Dail Mhor.
9. Trustees helped practically at a grass roots level to fundraise for new benches and planters outside Dail Mhor. Thanks go to Joanne Matheson and Gill Calver for organising.
10. Strategic development led to a large community wide consultation with over 200 responses. Ideas were put forward for services across the areas not just the site in Strontian and a final report was produced at the end of March 2021. This has led to further capacity building support from NHS Highland allowing Louise and Natalie to be recruited. Urram wish to thank NHS Highland for their support so far.
11. Met with Highlands and Islands Enterprise and laid the ground work which led to funding towards the feasibility study in 2021/2022
12. Produced an image of what Dail Mhor could look like- different, bigger and more flexible than the current model. Which was useful throughout the consultation process.

It was a year of consolidation and moving forwards, particular thanks go to founding members David Ogg and Joanne Matheson, as well as Lara Van De Peer for all her hard work as project officer to keep things moving.

Thanks also go to Claire Cameron for supporting Urram and Dail Mhor within the NHS.

The following people were elected as trustees. James Hilder, Jenni Hodgson, John Jones, Ali Upton, Elizabeth Carmichael, Denise Anderson, Sally Semple and Gill Calver.