

HIGHLAND and ISLANDS FIRE BOARD

24 April 2009

Agenda Item	
Report No	

Site Acquisitions

Report by the Director of Housing and Property

Summary

This report summarises the current status of the acquisition of sites for future development.

1 Sites in the Process of being acquired for Future Development

1.1 Fair Isle

The Highland Council legal team drew up a draft lease for the NTS in January 2008. While an e-mail response was received on 4 February 2009 from a member of staff in NTS confirming they were happy with the draft lease, on 20 February 2009 a further e-mail was received from NTS with a revised lease.

The Highland Council legal team are currently reviewing this revised lease and will draft a response by the end of April 2009.

1.2 Foyers (Gorthleck)

A consultant has been appointed to undertake a contamination survey of the proposed site. The survey is due for completion on 4 May 2009 and will then be forwarded to HIFRS for consideration.

1.3 Kinlochewe

Verbal agreement has been received and we are now awaiting written confirmation.

1.4 Scalloway

Agreement has been reached with one of the two land owners, Legal are pressing the other party for a response to the offer sent to them on 22 January 2009.

1.5 St.Margaret's Hope, Orkney

A report has been received from the District Valuer providing a valuation of the property. This report has been passed to HIFRS to consider. Thereafter the solicitor can make arrangements to conclude the purchase.

1.6 **Torridon**

NTS are in agreement to lease a joint site between HIFRS and the Torridon Mountain Rescue Team. This is on hold until the mountain rescue team have a budget in place.

1.7 **Bayhead**

Instructions have been received from HIFRS to proceed with the purchase of the site at the existing industrial estate in Bayhead.

A feu plan has been completed by the Western Isles Council for the area in question and has been passed to the Clerk's office to arrange for the District Valuer to carry out a valuation and agree a purchase price.

1.8 **Uig**

Further investigation is required to find a design solution to problems raised by road access issues. The Civil Engineer is to revisit and look at possible solutions.

1.9 **Whalsay**

A valuation has been undertaken by the District Valuer and a copy of this will be sent to HIFRS to consider. Thereafter the solicitor can make arrangements to conclude the purchase.

1.10 **Flugga Boats, Baltasound**

A report has been received from the District Valuer providing a valuation of the property. This report has been passed to HIFRS to consider and it will form the basis for negotiations with the owner.

Recommendation

Members are asked to note the contents of this report and the current status of site acquisitions.

Signature:

Designation: Director of Housing and Property

Date: 8 April 2009

Author/Ref: Jason Kelman, Project Manager