

Communities and Place Committee

Thursday 21 May 2026

Good News Items

Communities and Place Dingwall 800 Celebrations

This year (2026) marks the landmark 800th anniversary of Dingwall becoming a Royal Burgh and The Highland Council is working with Feis Rois, Dingwall Community Council, Dingwall Community Development Company and others to deliver a yearlong programme of celebrations.

Dingwall 800 captures stories from the whole community through fun, creative collaboration. A full year of events celebrating the rich history, present achievements, and future hopes of Dingwall.

Events to date have included the spectacular "Bright Burgh Trail," which featured large-scale, 5-hour light projections on the town hall which featured archive photos, many supplied by Dingwall Museum and local people of Dingwall and community portraits to mark 800 years of the Royal Burgh. During the Easer holidays a "Pollinator Puppets Parade" was held which featured hand-made puppets of bees and other insects. Vegetable seeds were also distributed to help encourage people to grow their own food.

The full programme can be viewed on [this link](#).

Nomination for APSE Award

Following the completion within Waste Services of the Highland wide service change the Council has been awarded a Silver Award by the Association for Public Service Excellence (APSE), Striving for Excellence Awards and has been shortlisted for the Gold Award which will be announced this event at the event in Aviemore, we wish the team all the best with this.

Inverness Crematorium Extension

The extension at Inverness crematorium is now wind and watertight, the first ATI cremator has been removed, and the first new FTIII cremator, along with a new stack, has been delivered and is currently being commissioned. It is expected to be fully operational by the beginning of June. There is great progress being made and photos can be seen in the Bereavement Services paper.

Registrar Qualifications

Kenna Burd and Caroline Hunt from our Portree Office, successfully passed their exam to become Qualified in the Law and Practice of Registration and were presented with their certificates at the annual AGM hosted by Highland on Wednesday 13th May at the Town House.

150th AGM of Association of Registrars for Scotland

Highland hosted the 150th AGM of the Association of Registrars for Scotland under the current presidency of Annemarie MacAlpine, Operations Manager and Registrar. The event was attended by over 50 Registrars from across Scotland.







