Hearaich give shape to their unique Local Place Plan

It was a long and intense process over the last year when we started the work on the Local Place Plan for Harris. Thanks to your help, the Plan was finalised and submitted to the Comhairle nan Eilean Siar's Local Development Department on 27 August 2025.

Thank you all for providing feedback!

All comments received from the wider community prior to submitting the Local Place Plan for Harris to the council have been incorporated into the final plan. The submission for Harris included the overall plan and its statement, as well as an overview of the whole process. All these documents can be found on the Harris Forum website.

https://www.harris-forum.co.uk/harrisplanmap

Below is a quick recap for anyone who might have joined the process later or doesn't know what we're talking about.

Local Place Plans (LPP) are a new way for local communities to become engaged in planning to help shape the places where they live, work, and play. The Plan also serves as a proposal for the development or use of land. It may identify land and buildings which are important to us as a community and are a key part of the local area. Communities can use the Plan to highlight issues, gather ideas for improvements, and identify their future needs.

The Harris Forum seized this opportunity to develop a united voice for Harris, with the support of the wider community. The process comprised three stages, during which people living in Harris were asked to engage in various ways. It began with a questionnaire in which people could tell us about topics important to them in relation to Harris and their life on the islands. They were also asked what they want for Harris, their community, themselves, and their families. Based on these responses, community consultations were held in person at eight different locations to address local issues and discuss potential improvements. The draft Local Place Plan was then produced and exhibited in five locations throughout Harris for people to review and comment on. All of these stages, along with the feedback received, helped shape the final document, which was submitted to the council on 27 August 2025.

We cannot thank the whole community enough for their support and the valuable feedback they provided. Without it, the creation of the plan would not have been possible.

The Harris Forum would like to thank you all sincerely for your help, comments and feedback throughout the process. Thank you!

