SCOTTISH FUTURES TRUST

SFT Outcomes Demonstrating progress with impact





Outcome 05



Programme and project procurement and delivery is effective, with highly skilled teams deployed where they are needed

Construction Industry & Delivery

Changing the status quo to deliver improved outcomes

On the small island of Barra, Western Isles Council was planning to build an education campus that would include an early years facility, a primary school and high school with the building open for the local community to use.

At the same time, NHS Western Isles had been working on the replacement of its St. Brendans's hospital.

Two distinct and separate projects were to be built on the island, approximately 500m apart.

Through the work of Scottish Futures Trust (SFT) in managing Scottish Government's new Learning Estate Investment Programme, which Western Isles Council was to use to deliver its new Castlebay Campus, SFT challenged the status quo, recognising the significant opportunity and benefits to the islanders of bringing both the council and the health board together to deliver one project.

Bernard Chisholm, Director of Education, Skills and Children's Services at Western Isles Council, said: "SFT collaborated with us effectively and empowered us in our engagement with others. The end design and the vision created would not have been possible unless we had worked in partnership with them to develop this integrated approach to a place-based delivery.

"The vision of place, which SFT brings to our discussions in terms of estate has enabled us to look at a much more joined up and integrated approach to estate development and use in addition to generating challenge and solutions to a more joined up and integrated model of public service provision."

While much is still to be done, the ideal outcome will be a single campus which provides all the health and education services (and potentially more as a result) whilst adopting a transformative approach to the provision of public services which acts a model for future investment in similar projects throughout Scotland.

The project is driving the transformation of the delivery of public services and SFT is aware that this project is being watched by others and could become a model for investment in other local communities.

