

# SFT OUTCOMES 2023

## Asset strategies supporting improved service delivery

PRIMARY OUTCOME

SECONDARY

OUR CORPORATE PRIORITIES

08

EFFECTIVE PUBLIC ASSETS  
DRIVING TRANSFORMATION  
OR RE-DEPLOYED

01

02

07

10



NET  
ZERO



SUSTAINABLE  
PLACES



INCLUSIVE  
GROWTH

It is widely recognised that by the public sector sharing their workspace, this will go a long way in making Scotland's public sector buildings as efficient and effective as possible. Co-location can help organisations improve service delivery whilst also acting as an enabler for wider positive social impact and outcomes.

Our Asset Strategy and Workplace team is supporting local authorities, Scottish Government organisations, and Scotland's emergency services to identify and consider opportunities where surplus space can be used by other like-minded public sector organisations.

To help support this thinking, our team developed a programme of work around promoting the benefits of sharing public sector office space. This focused on maximising hybrid working opportunities as part of a collaborative placed-based approach. We championed sharing and co-location through publishing guidance and facilitating discussion between public bodies, and by providing direct support to owners and operators considering or already running shared workspace.

The team's guidance is helping public bodies shape approaches to sharing buildings across Scotland.

In Benbecula, Highlands & Islands Enterprise (HIE) plans to create a public sector hub for use by local public sector partners seeking good quality office accommodation. The project will deliver joined up service delivery and financial benefits, and net zero, sustainable place, and inclusive growth outcomes including houses currently being used as office space released back to the residential market.

HIE purchased the building and intends to invest in its fabric and internal layout to accommodate a number of public sector partners and already hosts Skills

Development Scotland with discussions taking place with NatureScot, the NHS and Scottish Government.

Mark Wilcox, Head of Facilities Management at HIE, said: "SFT supported us to highlight in our business case the full spectrum of benefits co-location could bring as reasons to undertake the project. SFT also helped us consider different approaches to how we could recover cost from our new occupiers, and the potential construction interventions to start the building's journey to net zero."

