



## **Shetland Charitable Trust and Shetland Islands Council appoint QC**

Shetland Charitable Trust and Shetland Islands Council have jointly appointed Mr Roy Martin QC to provide advice on options relating to the governance of the Charitable Trust.

This follows on from the Shetland Charitable Trust meeting of 8th September where trustees asked Charitable Trust General Manager Ann Black and Council Chief Executive Alistair Buchan to jointly identify the most relevant senior member of the Scottish legal system to:

- determine if the constitution of the Charitable Trust requires to be changed in light of current OSCR opinion and Trust regulations, and
- make recommendations as are necessary for the future governance of the Trust

As a separate issue, the Council is also to ask Mr Martin to provide his legal opinion on the issue of grouping the Charitable Trust and Council financial accounts. This matter has been highlighted by Audit Scotland and the Accounts Commission.

Commenting on the appointment, Alistair Buchan said “It was clear that trustees are keen to get high quality advice in an effort to clarify all the options available to them. Mr Martin is a very highly respected legal figure, so Ann and I are delighted we’ve been able to secure his services.”

Ann Black commented “The timescales and costs of getting legal opinion were raised by Trustees at the meeting on the 8th. Now that Mr Martin has been appointed, we are optimistic that we will receive his advice before Christmas. The full costs of the piece of work cannot be finalised at this stage, but we will report back to Trustees as soon as possible.”