

TWWCC

**TINGWALL, WHITENESS & WEISDALE
COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

TWWCC
Uphouse, Setter
Walls
Shetland ZE2 9PE

24th September 2025

To whom it may concern,

I am writing on behalf of the Tingwall, Whiteness and Weisdale Community Council to express members' support for the Viking Genes Shetland Community Screening Project.

The University of Edinburgh's Viking Genes study has already demonstrated that Shetland residents are more likely than the wider UK population to carry certain genetic variants that increase the risk of serious health conditions, including cancers and heart rhythm disorders. Every community in Shetland is touched by these issues, so we welcome the opportunity for our residents to benefit from preventative screening. By identifying individuals at risk earlier, this project has the potential to save lives, reduce pressure on healthcare services, and improve health outcomes across the TWWCC community and beyond.

That the project is supported by a local voluntary committee, and aligned with Shetland's Partnership Plan, is particularly valued. The CC is encouraged by the existing community response, with fundraising already well underway, and we recognise the importance of Viking Genes being able to secure wider financial support to deliver this work.

On behalf of the TWWCC,



Paul Stevens, TWWCC Clerk