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communityplanningpartnership



Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership

Annual Report 2018 - 2019

Argyll and Bute Outcome Improvement Plan 2013 - 2023



Argyll and Bute's economic success is built on a growing population

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Foreword by Councillor Aileen Morton



Over the past year, Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partners have been working productively and positively together, as always, to deliver on the ambition we all share – a bright future for the communities we serve across Argyll and Bute. It's therefore my pleasure to introduce the Partnership's Annual Report for 2018-2019, where you can find out more about what's going on in your area.

The overarching purpose of our work as a Partnership is securing economic success through a growing population – reinforcing the clear message that Argyll and Bute is a great place to live, work, learn, visit, invest, do business and more. It's a message that Community Planning Partners quite simply live and breathe in practice, too – we all carry out our core business and deliver our essential services in Argyll and Bute, and we depend on its success as much as everyone else who lives and works here.

Our activity as a Partnership on contributing to this shared goal is focused around the six key outcomes which form the Argyll and Bute Local Outcome Improvement Plan. They set out our ambitions for a thriving, successful Argyll and Bute – a place with a diverse and buoyant economy, where active, healthy people of all ages can access great opportunities. In the pages of this report you'll find more details and case studies linked to the work we've been doing to progress each of those outcomes.

This year, as with previous Annual Reports, there is much to be proud of – many examples of success stories arising from positive partnership working.

Take for example a key outcome for everyone who wants Argyll and Bute to have a bright future – ensuring that our young people have the best possible start and can make the most of a range of education, skills, training and of course employment opportunities. In this report you'll find out about the exciting partnership between Argyll College and Mount Stuart on Bute, who are working together to deliver Modern Apprenticeships in Horticulture – helping local young people learn and earn while making the most of the outstanding natural environment on the island.

Be inspired when you hear about new investments across the area, signalling a renewed confidence and sincere belief that Argyll and Bute really is the place to be – including a prestigious new destination hotel development on Islay which helps showcase Argyll and Bute on a global stage. Don't forget to check out our new promotional website after you've read the online report – www.abplace2b.scot

Realise how resilient our communities are when you read about how Community Planning Partners work together to ensure that local people live in safer, stronger communities – from embedding strong community spirit and values in our young people through Citizenship Events to providing CPR training and fighting back against bogus callers.

Find out about the exciting initiatives that are happening in every corner of Argyll and Bute, all people working in partnership with and for other people, with dedicated local updates and focus



*Councillor Aileen Morton,
Leader,
Argyll and Bute Council*

from our Area Community Planning Groups included in this year's report for the first time.

Our Annual Report is an opportunity to tell our stories of success and to use them as spurs for even more growth and progress in the year ahead. This year is no different and, as we reflect on the past year and consider the next, we know that Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership is starting out from a very positive place, with exciting destinations ahead.



Who are we?

Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership



The Chair of the CPP Management Committee in 2018-2019 was Chief Superintendent Hazel Hendren of Police Scotland. The Vice Chair of the Management Committee was Paul Devlin of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.



Hazel Hendren, Chair



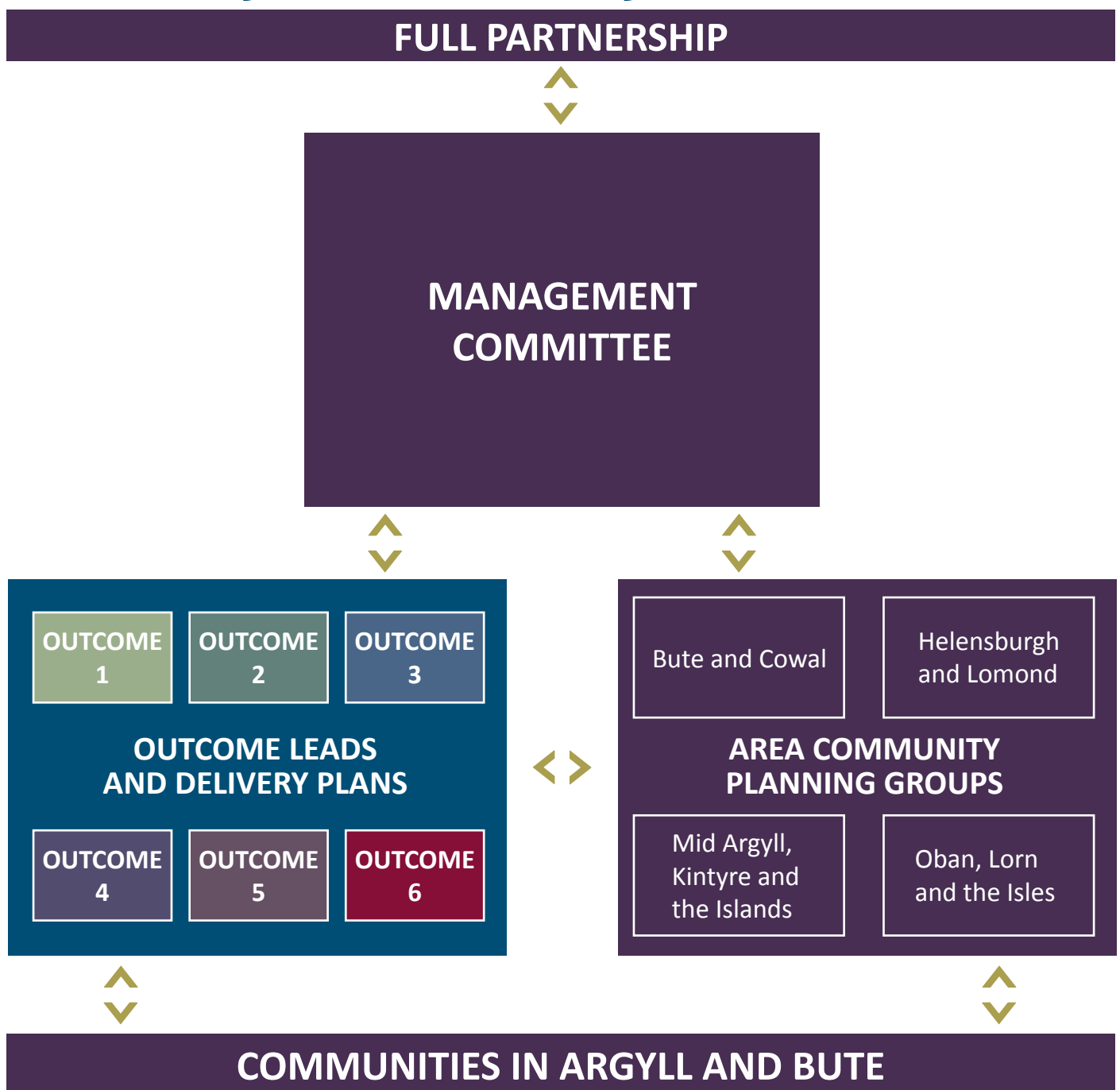
Paul Devlin, Vice Chair



Argyll and Bute Council	www.argyll-bute.gov.uk
Police Scotland	www.scotland.police.uk
Highlands and Islands Enterprise	www.hie.co.uk
NHS Highland	www.nhshighland.scot.nhs.uk
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service	www.firescotland.gov.uk
Argyll College UHI	www.argyll.uhi.ac.uk
Scottish Natural Heritage	www.snh.gov.uk
Skills Development Scotland	www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk
Scottish Enterprise	www.scottish-enterprise.com
Argyll and Bute TSI	www.argyllcommunities.org
Scottish Ambulance Service	www.scottishambulance.com
Loch Lomond & the Trossachs National Park	www.lochlomond-trossachs.org
Scottish Government	www.gov.scot
Department for Work and Pensions	www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-work-pensions

How do we work?

Community Planning in Argyll and Bute



- Outcome 1** The economy is diverse and thriving
- Outcome 2** We have infrastructure which supports sustainable growth
- Outcome 3** Education, skills and training maximises opportunities for all
- Outcome 4** Children and young people have the best possible start
- Outcome 5** People live active, healthier and independent lives
- Outcome 6** People live in safer and stronger communities



Overarching aim:

Argyll and Bute's economic success is built on a growing population

The main purpose of the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) in Argyll and Bute is to address population decline and grow the economy. The National Records of Scotland figures show that the area's population fell by 550 (0.6%) people over the year to the end of June 2018 to 86,260.

The CPP is working together on a range of actions under six key outcome areas to attract people to live, work, visit, learn and do business in Argyll and Bute.



Outcome 1

The economy is diverse and thriving

Projects include...

Tourism Growth on Islay

Flexible working facilities at the Moorings

Key Statistics

- 74.3% of working age people were in employment in Argyll & Bute, compared to 74.5% in Scotland.*
- 77.2% in Argyll & Bute were economically active between April 2018 and March 2019 compared to 77.8% in Scotland.*
- The claimant count in Argyll & Bute of 3.1% was compared to 4.1% for Scotland.*
- The percentage of people who were self-employed in Argyll & Bute was 14.3% compared to 8.6% for Scotland.*

* Source: Nomis



Tourism Growth on Islay

The Argyll and Bute Economic Forum Report identified the tourism sector as a top priority in securing future sustainable economic growth. 'Tourism Scotland 2020' aim is 'Turning our Nation's assets into quality, authentic visitor experiences' with a focus on 'Nature Heritage and Activities, including golfing'. In this context the development of the Machrie Hotel and Golf Links on Islay is a major step forward, particularly in capturing significant numbers of international visitors interested in whisky distilleries, culture, heritage and golf.

The Machrie Hotel and Golf Links re-opened at the end of the summer 2018 after a multi-million pound renovation and expansion as a four star offering, including 47 bedrooms, suites and lodges. Since its opening, the hotel has already won awards at the Prestige Hotel Awards and the Scottish Hotel Awards for 2019. Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) provided financial assistance towards the hotel's transformation to provide top quality, year round accommodation, increasing the number of international visitors and offering well paid employment and career opportunities.

Another development on Islay which will boost the economy is the opening of the Ardnahoe Distillery which has created 25 full and part time jobs and is expected to attract 20,000 visitors a year.



Machrie Hotel and Golf Links

Flexible working facilities at the Moorings

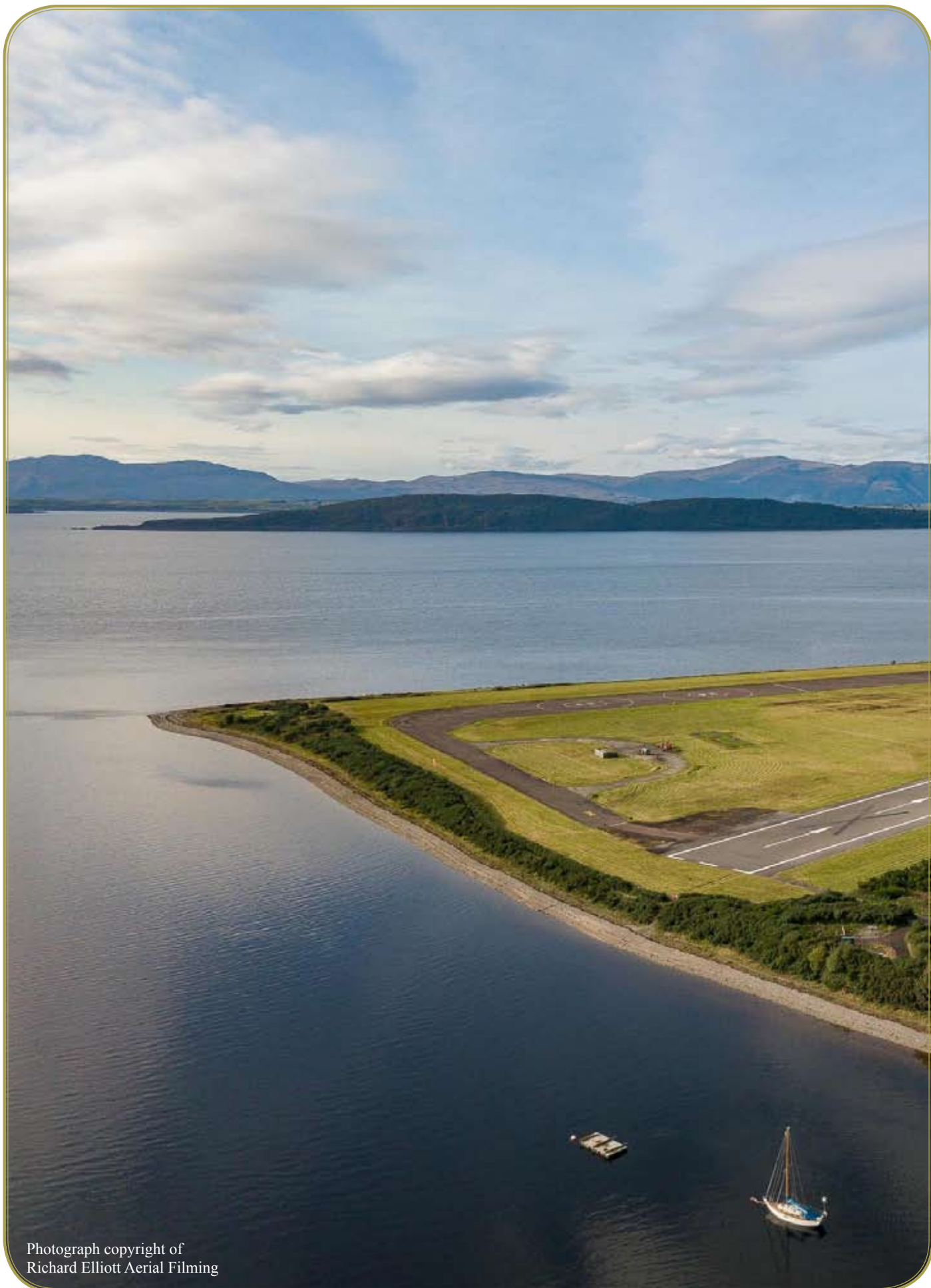
The co-working suite in Malin House at the European Marine Science Park (EMSP) opened in October 2018. Malin House is situated next to the Scottish Association of Marine Science (SAMS) and houses over 12 businesses working in aquaculture, marine biotechnology and marine energy. The Moorings is designed to encourage collaboration and idea-sharing and meet demand for accommodation from marine based businesses. It is one of three co-working spaces being rolled out across the region to strengthen business clusters and to encourage collaborative working between like-minded start-up businesses.

It provides a high-quality working environment and a quick and easy way of joining the marine based business cluster by offering the option of renting a desk or small office for a couple of months, knowing that there are simple terms and only one charge to cover all shared facilities and services. It gives these businesses the advantage of co-location with other businesses, access to all the resources and expertise of SAMS and the prestige of an impressive business address and use of first class shared facilities.

This type of office accommodation is a growing phenomenon in Scotland's business community. It allows people from different companies to rent physical office space and workspaces, according to a flexible schedule. It is expected that by 2030, 30% of commercial offices will be "flexible," with landlords moving away from leasing large offices towards short term leases on fully functional spaces.

To date, two businesses have taken space in the Moorings, one of which is an international company with this being their first UK office space.





Photograph copyright of
Richard Elliott Aerial Filming

Projects include...

Islay Logistics Study

Working in partnership to stimulate housing development

Key Achievements

- 82.3% of premises in Argyll and Bute have access to superfast broadband.
- 107 affordable social sector new builds completed.
- 78% of geographical space in Argyll and Bute has access to 4G mobile.



Islay Logistics Study

Background

At an economic summit on Islay in 2018, convened by Brendan O'Hara MP, transport infrastructure was highlighted as a major constraint for the island's economic future; specifically, the impact of the sustained growth and associated freight movements of Islay and Jura's 9 distilleries alongside the requirements of primary industries, energy suppliers, retail and tourism.

The Scotch Whisky industry is in a period of growth with further growth expected in the next few years. A series of recent and ongoing investments is increasing significantly the flow of goods and materials on and off the island and is expected to do so into the future.

Following discussions with key distilleries HIE, in partnership with the Scotch Whisky Association and Argyll and Bute Council wish to procure consultancy services to analyse road freight requirements for industry use to and from Islay.

The outcome of the study will be to provide data to guide effective decision making within all industries (tourism, construction, whisky, agriculture and waste management etc.) using the ferry, the ferry operator, and public bodies that provide essential infrastructure such as roads and ferry terminals. The work will identify current and future bottlenecks and consider possible efficiency improvements.

Data has been collected, managed and will be reported in-line with Competition Law requirements. Furthermore, data collected will be treated in commercial confidence and any data shared will be sufficiently aggregated to ensure that individual businesses will not be able to identify data sources.

Outputs

The key output will be a detailed, anonymised report suitable for sharing with stakeholders. The report is designed to include forecasts of freight and other traffic, broken down by type for whisky industries using the Islay ferry (this will include businesses on Jura which also use the Islay ferry to access the mainland). Additional data tables indicating other ferry users will also be provided. Analysis of the data, including seasonal and 'one-off' factors, such as distillery construction needs, identification of bottlenecks and issues to address.

Potential high-level options to address logistical issues now and in the future with an outline cost benefit analysis will also be considered.

The identification of any benefits or negative impacts on existing supply chains will also be addressed.

The provision of a standalone executive summary of the final report with a future communication plan which will be agreed with the steering group.



Working In Partnership to Stimulate Housing Development

Reflecting the concern that a lack of housing contributes to population decline, over recent years the Council has worked hard to review its housing land supply in order to verify that it is fit for purpose and not acting as an impediment to the delivery of new housing building. Building on this work, the Council is now exploring innovative ways in which it can contribute to or facilitate the further delivery of a variety of housing types.

The Council, along with a wide range of stakeholders including landowners, stakeholders, housebuilders and communities has inputted to a recent Highlands and Islands Enterprise Report: Stimulating Housing and Development which was produced during 2017.

Some of the main issues which have emerged from the study are: a need for access to land for the right type in the right places; Infrastructure, site servicing and connecting to utilities is an impediment; Planning and Building Regulations are still perceived as an impediment; limited building sector capacity and labour supply; there is need for Innovations in funding; there is a need to Enable community led approaches.

Many of these issues mirror those we have been tackling within our Area and to consider and take forward the recommendations in more detail a Housing Innovation Working Group has been set up to include HIE, Planning and Housing Services of the Council, and stakeholders from the Local Housing Forum including RSLs and private builders.

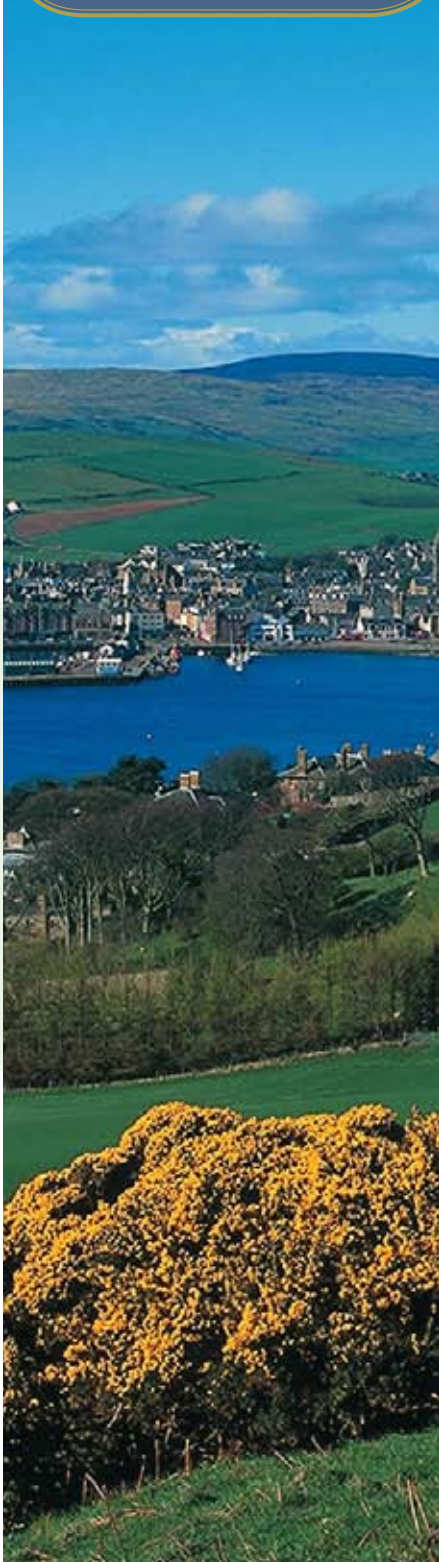
Amongst some of the actions being explored and/or taken forward are:

- Developing a Simplified Planning Zone for Lochgilphead and Salen which will deliver self-build plots to the local market.
- Disposal of public sector assets for housing development which is seeing significant numbers of affordable and private housing.
- Supporting community led housing schemes such as on Iona.
- Utilisation of Housing Investment Fund (HIF) funding to deliver strategic infrastructure unlocking housing and business sites.
- Exploring the options of pre-fabricated building thus reducing the cost of construction times in remote rural areas.
- Exploring the use of container units for accommodating construction staff in remote areas.
- Understanding and tackling additional island building costs.
- Exploring the potential to grant or loan funds for small site infrastructure.
- Providing self-build mortgages.
- Producing Local Area Housing Needs Studies.
- Employing an empty homes officer who has brought into use over 300 empty properties.
- Collaborating with Highlands Housing trust.



Projects include...

Alternative pathways for young people



Key Achievements

- 93% of care experienced young people achieved a positive destination.
- 94.2% of 16-19 year olds were in education, employment or training/ personal development 12 months after leaving school.
- 81.6% of children had no concerns at the 27-30 month assessment.
- 100% of people who completed a Modern Apprenticeship with Argyll & Bute Council went on to have a positive destination.

Alternative pathways for young people

Offering a range of apprenticeships to ensure staffing with the expansion of funded Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) hours

As we move towards 2020 and the expansion of funded ELC to 1140 hours, workforce planning has been a key focus. We recognise the need to attract a high calibre of committed staff into the sector, as a conscious career choice to help shape children's learning and development at a crucial period in their lives.

Foundation Apprenticeship (FA) in Social Services Children and Young People

In 2018-2019, Argyll and Bute Early Years Team worked in partnership with the Council's Training Centre to commence six FAs with 5th and 6th year pupils at Rothesay Joint Campus.



The FA comprises the National Progression Award (NPA) in S5 and SVQ2 units in S6. Five pupils successfully completed the NPA which was written and delivered by Early Years Team members and timetabled for one day a week. Working with our funded partner providers on Bute, placements have been secured for the SVQ2 component of the apprenticeship from August 2019.

One young person, who worked towards a short model delivery (doing both the NPA and the SVQ2 units in 6th year) is continuing the early years qualifications at college.

Modern Apprenticeship (MA) Early Learning and Childcare

Through joint work between the Early Years Team, the Council's Training Centre and schools, six MAs were recruited in January 2019 and are currently working towards their SVQ3 (SSCYP) while assisting with all ELC Practitioner duties in the following settings; Dalintober Primary, Campbeltown Nursery Centre, Colgrain Primary, John Logie Baird Primary, Park Primary and Clyde Cottage Nursery.

During the summer, the MAs undertook a week of intensive training with the Early Years Team to further enhance their skills in:

- Outdoor learning
- ELC environments, experiences and interactions
- Working with children, pre - birth to 3, and their families
- Practical Play

They also had the opportunity to train as Bookbug Session Leaders and can now lead Bookbug Sessions within their ELC settings and local communities.

The feedback from the young people themselves, their managers and their assessor has been extremely positive so far:

"A great opportunity to progress my career in ELC and to develop the knowledge, skills and practise required in this way"
MA Campbeltown

"It's great to see the candidates for the MA working holistically through their award with such enthusiasm and dedication"
Course assessor



Scaling up from August 2019

Foundation Apprenticeships

In 2019-2020 foundation apprenticeships will be delivered to 36 pupils in 5 secondary schools across Argyll and Bute.

Modern Apprenticeships

Five more modern apprentices have been recruited including 2 Gaelic MAs, where fluency in the language was a pre-requisite for the position and will assist greatly in the total immersion experience for our wee ones in Sgoil Àraich provision at both Sandbank and Rockfield. The other MA placements are in St. Joseph's Primary, Dunbeg Primary, and Lochgilphead Joint Campus with another soon to be recruited in Tobermory.

Graduate Apprenticeships

The EY Team has worked in partnership with UHI Inverness to recruit two GAs who will be employed in a practitioner role, over 3 years, as they work towards their BA in Early Learning and Childcare. This pilot is an innovative, new route into the sector which will enable the GAs to work within a local authority setting and attend university for 1 day per week. The 2 new recruits have recently undertaken a 3-day induction in Inverness and started their posts in Taynuilt Primary ELC and Aqualibrium ELC.

Projects include...

Child Poverty Action Plan

Life Changes Trust Champions Project Board

Key Achievements

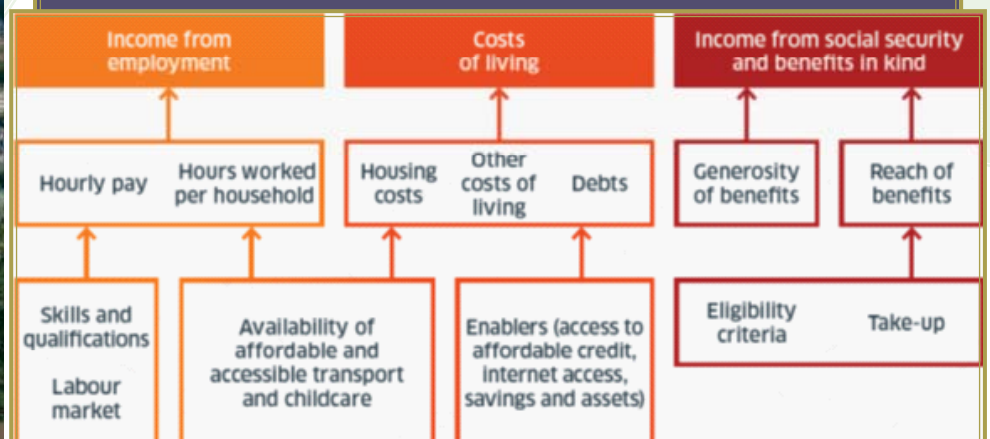
- 83.3% of Primary 1 children have a healthy weight.
- 13,866 children and young people live in Argyll and Bute.
- 81.1% of babies are born with a healthy birth weight.
- 75.3% of Primary 1 children have no obvious dental decay, compared to 71% for Scotland.
- 100% of care establishments are graded good or very good.

Child Poverty Action Plan

The Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 introduces a new requirement for local authorities and each relevant Health Board to jointly prepare a Local Child Poverty Action Report and to review it on an annual basis.

The Scottish Government's delivery plan:

"Every Child, Every Chance" recognises the importance of income as a factor in creating poverty. Hence they identify the main drivers of poverty as income from employment, income from Social Security and benefits in kind and cost of living.





The objectives of creating such plans locally is to ensure that the Council, Health Board and their partner agencies are working together to tackle the drivers of child poverty in a focused way. This is necessary because the Scottish Government has set income-based targets (all after housing costs), to be achieved by 2030:

- Less than 10% of children are in relative poverty
- Less than 5% of children are in absolute poverty
- Less than 5% of children are in combined low income and material deprivation
- Less than 5% of children are in persistent poverty

In Argyll and Bute we recognise the importance of consulting with children and young people and that all too often this does not happen and:

“The consequence of this is to confine children’s lives and experiences to an adult agenda, where the effects of early childhood, educational achievement and so on have been studied for the impact on the adult-to-be rather than on the child of the present.”

Childhood poverty and Social exclusion; from a child’s perspective.
Tess Ridge; the Policy Press 2002.

A consultation about the Child Poverty Action Plan took place involving children and young people across Argyll and Bute, via School Councils in both primary and high schools. 25% of all School Councils responded and demonstrated a clear interest in the area of child poverty and a desire to be involved and consulted. The children and young people showed a high level of awareness of the issues and were able to make some insightful observations and suggestions; for example:

“The first thing we liked about the plan was the fact that it exists in the first place and recognises this important issue as being something to work on.”

“Showed us that poverty doesn’t mean you live on the streets.”

“It was good to hear that there are lots of different people working together to help children.”

“We would like to know more about why people need more help in different situations.”

“It should be easier for people living in poverty to get the help they need and for the shame to be removed. People should feel comfortable asking for help without others judging them. This could be in the plan – educate people who are lucky enough so that they don’t see poverty as the people’s fault. It could happen to anyone.”

“We think the home school link thing could be used to fund healthy eating and cooking classes not just in the high school but maybe in the smaller communities, if possible. We think looking at venues for things to take place in is important.”

“We would really like to see something about transport for pupils on the plan. Some pupils work because they have to earn money and cannot if we have to pay to use the service buses. Could we use our school bus transport entitlement even if it is in the evening, weekends or school holidays? The same goes for accessing the summer holiday sport activities for example, could this be looked on as a part of the school transport thing because we think people might sign up more?”

“We think something should be done to support families who access free school meals during the school holidays – vouchers? Boxes of food supplies?”

“Really cold in Argyll so free heating please.”

The Child Poverty Action Plan should shortly be published by the Council and it is intended that children and young people will be kept informed and involved in its progress through an annual reviewing process.



Life Changes Trust Champions Board Project

Champions Boards support young people with experience of care to work alongside those who make decisions about the care system. They provide a vehicle for care experienced young people, corporate parents and other professionals to come together with a shared goal to ensure that services are tailored and responsive to care experienced young people's needs and take into consideration the kinds of vulnerabilities that they may have due to their experience before, during and after care.

In Argyll and Bute, a three year project, match funded by Life Changes Trust has been established to enable our care experienced young people to be at the heart of decision making processes and provide opportunities for young people, politicians and professionals to learn together. We are now mid-way through the project and are making good progress in establishing our Champions Board.

In January 2019 our new Participation worker Paul Orr took up post. Since this time, Paul has developed links with young people and carers in foster care and kinship placements as well as in the residential houses across the authority and has offered a range of activities. Paul has also been introduced to a number of care leavers.

Paul has been engaging with the children and families service to raise awareness of the Champions Board across all four localities. He has attended a range of meetings and forums including the Corporate Parent Board, Throughcare and Aftercare forum, throughcare team meetings and has arranged Champions Board Support forums involving a range of young people's services from across the Council and Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP.)

Paul has also linked in with a small number of young people in Rothesay who attend the joint campus with a view to piloting future work in school via groups for care experienced young people. He is planning future training on Corporate Parenting for staff and young people in schools alongside Lena Carter, Principle Teacher for Looked After Children and Young People.

As part of the project we have appointed a care experienced Modern Apprentice to join Paul. The post started in May and has already contributed positively to a number of activities, the Corporate Parenting Board and our first chippie tea Champs Board. The post-holder is working towards an MA in Youth Work.

Over the past few months, a number of activities have taken place:

- Participation Groups running in Helensburgh, Dunoon and Oban with the assistance of Who Cares? Scotland,
- An Easter programme which included trips up the Hollow Mountain, a visit to Stirling Champs Board and a trip to Braehead.
- Awareness raising at the Foster Carer's event in Furnace.

All events have been well attended by both corporate parents and young people. This culminated in a chippie tea champs board that was held in Kilmory on 19th June, where the Champions Board 'Help Us Grow' logo design was chosen.

A group of ten care experienced young people are setting off on a week-long sailing trip with Trinity Sailing Trust at the end of June. This will give the young people a fantastic experience and adventure as well as the opportunity to take part in Champions board team building. It is anticipated that the Champions Board will continue to grow and become central to the Council and HSCP's decision making processes.



Projects include...

Equalities

Social Prescribing

Health and Wellbeing Network

Key Achievements

- 79% of adults supported to live at home agree that they are supported to live as independently as possible.
- The number of enhanced telecare packages provided has increased from the previous year to 978.
- There has been a reduction in the number of alcohol related hospital admissions.



Equalities

Argyll and Bute Council's Equality Forum underwent a review during 2018 and decided to widen its scope by inviting partner organisations to become members. This was with a view to sharing experiences and pooling effort in order to improve equalities for everyone living in Argyll and Bute. Representatives from the Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) and Police Scotland are now active members of the Forum and links have been established with the Third Sector Interface (TSI). The Community Planning Partnership is also represented on the group.

In light of this joint working, the Forum has:

- Shared good practice on Equality and Diversity Impact Assessments between partners taking account of new legislation in Scotland to review social-economic factors (poverty) and island living.
- Investigated the possibility of having shared equality outcomes which is a legal requirement for statutory bodies in Scotland. Whilst there are some practical aspects to work through, partners see clear benefits in having unified intentions for equalities throughout Argyll and Bute.
- Reviewed the sharing of data and information for people with Equality Act protected characteristics in Argyll and Bute (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, sexuality, race, religion, sex and sexual orientation). This has resulted in an ongoing working group to develop information resources for the use in joint strategic needs assessments. This information will enable organisations to incorporate the needs of everyone in their service planning.
- Developed a joint British Sign Language (BSL) Action Plan between Argyll and Bute Council, NHS Highland, and Live Argyll.
- Endorsed a joint approach to reducing child poverty in Argyll and Bute

At the CPP Full Partnership meeting in March 2019, Jane Fowler, who chairs the Equalities Forum gave a presentation to delegates on the benefits of being more equalities aware in our service planning and delivery. She challenged partners about how to make the area welcoming and inviting to all groups of people.



Social Prescribing and Living Well

The Social Model of Health recognises that people are made ill by the circumstances in which they live as well as genetic factors and lifestyle choices. These circumstances include having enough money to live free of debt; living in strong, vibrant and supportive communities; access to the outdoors and being physically active; social connections with friends and family; and healthy environments. These factors are at the heart of a strategic approach to improving health and wellbeing in Argyll and Bute which aims to connect people with support in their community.

This work over 2018-2019 has included:

- Mapping and updating local services that contribute to healthy communities and publishing them on the NHS Inform website. NHS Inform is a trusted NHS brand used by health and care professionals as well as the general public. This mapping exercise included the following services: support for carers, money advice, physical activity opportunities and social/volunteer support. Accurate local information was captured by working in partnership with the local Health and Wellbeing Networks. NHS Inform is accessible to anyone with access to the internet and can be used by partners who deliver services face to face with the public so they have a reliable source of up to date local information. This is referred to as social prescribing.
- Knowing what is available in local communities is essential to the new Link Worker initiative coming to GP practices across Scotland between 2018 and 2021. The role of Link Workers is to explore issues that may underlie an individual's health problems and work in a person centred way to connect the person with local support. This year has seen engagement activity to investigate what link working should look like in Argyll and Bute. The views of third sector partners were explored with an online survey which received 56 responses. 62% of respondents already had a good understanding of social prescribing and 64% reported their service already receives referrals for health and care services. Link working is expected in Argyll and Bute from 2019.
- The multi-agency Self Management Steering Group met throughout 2018-19 to direct the delivery of services that support people to live better with a long term health condition. These activities included:

Delivery and Participation

- 13 self management courses
- 9 pain toolkit sessions
- 23 Tai Chi classes (5/6 week blocks)
- 361 people participated in one of more of the above
- 303 walkers participated in 3 walking groups

Recognising the pressing Public Health importance of long term health conditions to both quality of life and the use of health and social care services, Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership embarked on a comprehensive engagement exercise to develop a self management strategy for Argyll and Bute. More than 450 people have informed this work with 137 attending events, 48 responding to an online consultation and 270 staff participating in a scoping survey about current activity. This work will culminate in the publication of Argyll and Bute's Living Well Strategy in the summer of 2019.

Health and Wellbeing Networks

The Health and Wellbeing Networks are the flagship activity with which to improve the health outcomes of people living in Argyll and Bute. Operating for more than 10 years, the networks enable the following:

- An opportunity for people to come together, network and share experiences and plans for health and wellbeing.
- Joint action planning for activity to make their local community better.
- Support local activity with the devolved health and wellbeing small grant funding.
- Partnership working between Community Planning partners and community members.

There are eight Networks across Argyll and Bute and during 2018-2019 more than 30 meetings were held. The Networks each have their own administrator for one day per week who is committed to raising the profile of health and wellbeing in their local area.

Alison McGrory, Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership Health Improvement Principal said:

“The Health and Wellbeing Networks are essential to our strategic approach to improving health in Argyll and Bute. The Networks enable a wide range of people, who wouldn’t come together otherwise, to consider what would make their community better. We know that people live better lives in strong and vibrant communities and this partnership approach has been tried and tested over 10 years.”

Sharon Erskine, Cowal Health and Wellbeing Network Co-ordinator said:

“Connection is the key. If we feel connected to the people and services in our community we are more likely to engage with each other in a positive way. Connection is at the core of the Health and Wellbeing community which strives to create an opportunity to communicate needs and strengths and equity. Being part of the Community Planning process completes the flow of information and helps to maintain the connection at all levels of decision making in our localities.”

The past year saw the Networks take a new approach to investing the grant fund by trialling a method called Participatory Budgeting (PB). PB allows locals community members to score projects and to prioritise investment in activities that they value the most. Projects bid for funding in a short “Dragon’s Den” style pitch and the audience votes for their top initiatives. These pilots took place in Helensburgh & Lomond, Oban, Mid Argyll and Islay. A wide range of people not usually involved with the Networks attended and they reported that PB was a fun, inclusive and interactive way of allocating grant funding.



Projects include...

CPR

Real time crash scenario

Biker down

Key Achievements

- The number of accidental dwelling house fires in 2018-2019 has decreased from the previous year.
- The number of accidental dwelling fire casualties has decreased in the past year.
- Domestic abuse incidents have reduced from the previous year.
- The number of crimes and offences recorded in Argyll and Bute per 10,000 population has continued to decline.





Good News - BHF – CPR in Argyll and Bute

The Scottish Government Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest (OHCA) strategy, which has been developed in collaboration with a range of stakeholders, is a 5-year plan with the aim of ensuring that by 2020 Scotland becomes an international leader in OHCA outcomes. The headline aim is to save an additional 1,000 lives by 2020.

Since this strategy Scottish Fire and Rescue Service have been facilitating British Heart Foundation – Call Push Rescue sessions to a wide and varied mix of the community within Argyll and Bute, from Helensburgh in South to Tiree in the North, and we are committed to supporting the Scottish Governments aim to save an additional 1000 lives by 2020.

A variety of community groups, partners and schools have been fortunate to have been given this awareness and practical input from Campbeltown Grammar School, Garelochhead Community Centre to Grey matters.

Completing the CPR training is easy, using the BHF Video, which contains real life stories, which brings home the importance of learning these skills; the instructions are simple to follow and the sessions will give the learner more confidence of using these life-saving skills. We also provide a practical demonstration in the use of an Automated External Defibrillator and offer the learners the opportunity to try it for themselves which helps to reduce the “fear factor” in using this life saving machine.

Since we introduced these BHF – Call Push Rescue sessions to Argyll and Bute we have had well over 1000 participants attending these life-saving awareness sessions with 384 people having received this input over the last 12 months.

Argyll and Bute Community Justice team is one of our latest partners we are working closely with, we are providing their service users with these life-saving sessions. We provide CPR to people who have been awarded Community Payback orders from the courts and we are helping to reduce hours owed as well as providing the service users with a skill and awareness that could save a life.

John Gilchrist, Community Payback Workscheme Co-ordinator says

“I have to say that they all found these courses very good and useful as it could help save a life one day this is what some have said with the CPR course and also the safe driving course were very appropriate as some of the service users have been convicted of driving offences in all I would say that these course have went well. I must say I am surprised as I thought I might have a few of them saying that they didn't want to attend as this was optional to them but no everyone attended and said they were glad that they had. The supervisor has said that your team were good with clients and explained everything to them and answered any questions.”

These sessions give the people in the more rural and remote location whom may wait an extended time for definite medical care, the opportunity to learn new lifesaving skills.

If your work place, community or organisation would like to receive this training from our Community Action Team, contact your local Community Fire Station.



Multi Agency Real Time Crash Scenario Mossfield Park Oban

Argyll and Bute Youth Services and local Emergency Services hit home the consequences of speeding and lack of concentration at an event in November 2018 when they staged a realistic car crash at Mossfield Park Oban. The crash scenario was at the request of Argyll and Bute's young people who have put safety top of their list of reasons they love living and growing up in Argyll & Bute, which was part of the Year of Young People 2018 consultation.

Known as the 'staged real-time crash scenario' the emergency services responded to a call from a driver of a car which has just been in a collision. The scenario unfolded and people saw how their local emergency services arrive at different times to the scene. Working together the emergency services assessed the situation, they detained the driver from one car, they cut out a trapped person using hydraulic cutting gear from another car and they finally removed the fatality in a body bag from the wreckage.



The aim of the crash scenario is to make young people stop and think hard about their driving which in turn will hopefully reduce the possibility of future collisions and fatalities on Argyll and Bute's roads. The scenario is aimed at all drivers however in particular young drivers and those who are thinking about, or are learning to drive. Most collisions are due to driver error with failing to look, careless driving, sudden breaking and speeding as the most common factors. Almost a quarter of all KSI road collisions in Argyll and Bute in the last 3 years have occurred on the A83 between Inveraray and the Rest and Be Thankful of which many have involved young drivers.

This interactive approach has and continues to demonstrate a willingness by drivers to understand the dangers of road traffic collisions and how they may be avoided. All emergency personnel were on hand to explain the dangers and to answer any questions after the scenario.

Biker Down

Following the success of the Biker Down courses last year at Inveraray Community Fire Station we took the Biker Down workshop to different venues across Argyll and Bute including Oban, Campbeltown and Inveraray.



If you were the first on the scene of an accident involving a biker, would you know what to do? Would you know who is most at risk, how to protect the area or whether you should remove the helmet of a downed rider?

Actions taken in the first few moments after an accident can be crucial in minimising injuries and can make a real difference to the lives of those involved. But there can be some uncertainty about what to do in these situations.

Biker Down is a free training workshop designed to answer these uncertainties. The course uses the expertise of the Emergency Services to prepare motorcyclists should the worst happen on the roads. Biker Down is not about lecturing riders on the consequences of things going wrong – it's about equipping them to make a difference if they encounter an emergency.

The workshop is aimed at motorcyclists of all ages and experience. The free workshop offers people the chance to learn practical skills by showing you:

- How to manage the scene of a bike crash, using the same principles the Fire Service uses. We will show you how to protect yourself and others, how to prioritise your actions, how to collect information for the emergency services and how to make use of the resources you have available to you, including other people.
- Ways of taking care of a casualty, including basic life support and the why, when and how of removing a crash helmet.
- What may work (or not work) when it comes to making yourself more visible to other road users. You will also learn about how people look for and recognise objects and how you can help to make sure that other road users see you.

Motorcyclists are roughly 38 times more likely to be killed in a road traffic collision than people in cars. Around 30 bikers are killed or injured in the UK every single day and when an accident does happen then the actions of those first on scene can be the difference between life and death.

Biker Down goes beyond telling people about the consequences of things going wrong and actually offers them the chance to learn practical skills that could be crucial if they come across an emergency. Designed by bikers for bikers, the course focuses on three key areas: Accident scene management, First Aid for motorcyclists and the Science of being seen.

As many bikers ride in pairs or in groups, it is often the case that the first person on scene following a collision involving a motorcycle will be a fellow biker. Training motorcyclists in how to deal with a casualty can save lives and Biker Down courses include ways of keeping the scene safe, first aid appropriate to common types of injury and the issues of safely removing a helmet.

SFRS's Group Manager for Argyll and Bute, Stuart McLean, said: "Firefighters are frequently called to the scene of collisions and when a report comes through of one involving a biker there's always great concern. Motorcyclists are particularly vulnerable and a crash that would be likely to cause only minor damage to a car could easily claim their life. A&B is home to many country roads enjoyed by bikers, so road safety is clearly a key issue for our team."

Anyone interested in learning more about the Scottish Biker Down or would like to book one of the workshops can email verina.litster@firescotland.gov.uk to book your place on the course or visit our Facebook page 'Biker Down Scotland'.

Community Engagement

There are excellent examples of Community Engagement which have taken place across the Partnership this year.

Case Study: Kintyre Link Club

Kintyre Link Club attended the MAKI Community Planning Group in the summer of 2018 and gave a compelling presentation of their work. They noted that there was likely to be considerable unmet need in Kintyre and it was agreed that the Community Development Team would provide support to help them evidence this and build a case for more funding.

In November 2018 a community engagement and planning day was successfully held and hosted by the Link Club members. It was designed by them, supported by the Community Development Officer. 40 people attended, half of whom were members of the Link Club and half of whom were mental health staff.

The engagement day:

- Built new networks between health and third sector
- Raised the profile of the Link Club and its value to members and attendees.
- Increased the confidence of members who were able to make their views heard.
- Increased understanding of the role of the third sector for staff and of what the Link Club offers its members.
- Provided evidence of the value of the club to its members and to health staff working in the area.

The evidence gained on the day is demonstrating the case for an increase in funding to the Club.

Case Study: Participatory Budgeting – Supporting Communities Fund

The Community Development Team and Area Committees piloted using a participatory budgeting method to distribute the Council's Supporting Communities Fund. There are a variety of participatory budgeting methods and styles and the team trialled the use of digital voting online as a means of enabling participation across the wide geography of Argyll and Bute.

Community groups were encouraged to submit ideas for applications to a discussion site where people could ask questions, make suggestions and share their experiences. This helped shape the applications which were then submitted. Projects going forward to the public vote were posted on a website and residents aged 16 or over were encouraged to vote for the projects they wished to see funded. Everyone who logged on was given the full area budget to allocate, to give them a realistic experience of decision making within available budget and a real say in the decision.

4,686 people voted on funding which was allocated to 61 projects across Argyll and Bute. To address potential inequalities, 44 face to face voting events were held where people could vote in person.

Overall feedback was that people liked the process and felt it gave communities more of a say.

It was a real success. An independent evaluation, commissioned by the Council, found the costs to run the voting to be disproportionate to the fund available. The learning from the engagement and use of digital engagement platforms is being shared nationally to support the development of a national engagement website.





Area Community Planning Groups

There are 4 Area Community Planning Groups within Argyll and Bute

- Bute and Cowal
- Helensburgh and Lomond
- Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands
- Oban, Lorn and the Isles

The Chair of each Community Planning Group in 2018-2019 is -

Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group
Willie Lynch, Dunoon Community Council

Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group
Stuart McLean, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group
Andy Buntin, Lochgilphead Community Council

Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Community Planning Group
Margaret Adams, Ardchattan Community Council

Bute and Cowal Bute Island Alliance

The Cowal and Bute Community Planning Partnership is keen to help support its communities to diversify and thrive. The Bute Island Alliance is an excellent example of how a community with support can do just this.

Bute Island Alliance (BIA), in 2016, with Scottish Government funding managed a Charrette in which over 400 local people participated. One key ambition was the need to 'Foster opportunities for skills sharing and development, jobs, entrepreneurialism and business growth'.

The BIA then undertook a hyperlocal Business Needs/Space Analysis. This identified a previously unrecognised, significant level of micro-entrepreneurial activity which is both relatively under supported through existing business approaches, and an absence of appropriately scaled and costed space.

The next stage was to work with Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) / Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) as funding partners to find a way to overcome these barriers.

Two key projects emerged as important.

- The first is a business enterprise space which will be opened in Autumn 2018.
- The second, is a manufacturing hub for small scale producers and makers.

In 2018 Bute Island Alliance undertook further development work to understand the business case and the practical potential for delivering a manufacturing hub on the island, with support from Big Lottery Fund and the BIA is currently assessing the findings to decide whether this project is viable.

Strachur Hub

Cowal and Bute Community Partnership were extremely fortunate to be able to show case the Strachur Hub at the partnership meeting at the Queens Hall this year.

The objective of the Hub is to ensure that older people have an opportunity to live active, independent, healthy and happy lives in their own homes for as long as possible.

Key Achievements:

- Reduce social isolation and loneliness
- Improve quality of life and create positive experiences
- Improve mobility
- Provide respite with support to carers and family members
- Prevent falls
- Assist healthier living
- Reduce health inequalities for those living in rural areas

Approximately 37 elderly, with an average age of 82, meet in Strachur Village Hall every Thursday where they can participate in strength and balance exercises, Tai Chi Classes, ball and other games followed by lunch.

This innovative project has developed a preventative and supportive service working collaboratively with a range of partners which is crucial in a depopulating and rural area. The project uses a mix of professionals from the GP practice, public and third sector and local volunteers. It has helped to improve equality by bringing urban services to a rural area. Because it is community based it is flexible and responsive to peoples' needs and is very cost effective



Helensburgh and Lomond Garelochhead Station Trust



Garelochhead Station Trust (GST) is a newly established Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) with a remit of delivering services to veterans and their families, and as such have a number of varied events, training courses and excursions running or scheduled throughout the year.

Its story began in March 2018, when Helensburgh & Lomond TSI was approached by Kilmarnock Station Railway Heritage Trust (KSRHT) to ascertain if there was scope to redevelop the vacant train station building in Garelochhead.

Following a number of community consultation meetings arranged from April 2018, discussions with partners, business owners, community groups and the public highlighted a gap in the accessibility of veterans' services in the area.

After discussing this idea with partner agencies at the CPP meeting the following month, the group gained more momentum, and became a constituted organisation soon after. GST was included in the TSI report to the Helensburgh & Lomond CPG in August, leading to offers of support from many attendees - Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS), Service Pupil advisor and elected members being particularly prominent.

During August to October, much progress was made with KSRHT appointing an architect to draw up draft plans for the station building, the first application for charitable status being submitted to OSCR and some of the trustees taking part in Age Scotland training for those delivering services to veterans and their families.

In January 2019 KSRHT secured funding from Scottish Government through the Supporting Communities fund for a year long development worker post, and Morevain Martin was appointed in February 2019, just in time to work on the redrafted second application for charitable status to OSCR.

New partnerships were established with Age Scotland; Scottish Government Cross party group for Armed Forces and veterans Community; SSAFA; Scottish War Blind; Erskine Read Centre; Help for Heroes; Legion Scotland; Service Pupil Adviser; Police, MOD and local businesses before Morevain went on to deliver an introduction to A&B Armed Forces, Grey Matters and to the Community Partnership. These events resulted in new members joining the group, some from communities farther afield, but many local to Garelochhead. More in depth presentations to the LACPG and local community councils, along with two trips to a cross party steering group at the Scottish Parliament brought contacts and support from a number of organisations, including Police Scotland Youth Volunteers, who were heavily involved in a D-Day commemoration event, and are working with GST on future events already.

June 2019 saw negotiations begin with SPT for the lease of the station building, along with a visit with the architects to consult on the plans, and the awarding of charitable status, along with SCIO number from OSCR, opening new doors for funding and working with many organisations, from local level such as Jean's Bothy, Community First Responders and NHS teams to national established charities such as Poppy Scotland and more.

GST are looking forward to working with more partner agencies, and helping to connect local people with community groups that suit their needs in both the short and long term future.



Generation Communities

Generation Communities formed to provide the younger and older members of the Arrochar area communities with support; activities and friendship; plus tea and cake! Meeting once a month in Arrochar primary school, to share memories, and importantly make new ones. Mixing the generations, and allowing them to learn together, and from one another, has improved fitness, physical and mental health and social isolation problems within the senior members, and the children are learning how simple gestures of kindness improve people's lives. They have gained in confidence to share stories/games with others, and to think about how others feel. Sharing and learning from one another is something everyone has enjoyed.



Founder Fiona Paterson first applied for the community grant because she felt there was no group in the community that involved both the younger and elder members: so many of each age had no experiences of spending time with the other generation, especially where family members live far away.

Upon receiving funding, Fiona liaised with the local nurses, and Arrochar Primary headteacher, to contact those they felt may enjoy the group, and so it came into being. The first meeting included people who had lived in the village for years but had never met because they had never attended the same groups or activities.

One wee boy told the group how "old people were made fun of by children at his old school", but now he loves coming to see his new friends, and introduces them to others when he meets them outwith the group.

Some service users with learning difficulties are also involved, working to help set up before the meetings begin, and have made great friends with all the members too.

Various organisations have been involved in the evolution of the group from start up, to the success it currently is, including SFRS; Loch Lomond & the Trossachs National Park; Heartstart; the local GPs and nurses; and Cove Park - helping with learning and activities covering a wide spectrum of topics. The project is also benefiting from links established with the Paths For All walking group, with members from each becoming involved in the other.

Arrochar Community Development Trust helped to secure a grant application by linking with them, and through them, the group has learned about the hydro scheme.

The majority of members of the Generation Communities group attended the February Local Area Community Planning Group meeting, and enjoyed presenting their views and experiences of the group to those present. Some of the partner agencies had already been aware of the project but others were keen to make contact, including Garelochhead Station Trust.

Partners who can assist in facilitating a 'Sport for All' event to tie in with the 2020 Olympics (with teams having mixed abilities and ages) are invited to get in touch as one of the most important achievements for Generation Communities is the forging of links with people, clubs and organisations who can help to keep the group vibrant, educational and inclusive.

Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands (MAKI) Community Planning Group Building Relationships, A success?



One of the items on the MAKI Action Plan was for the Lochgilphead Community Council to “Build relationships with the Youth Forum”. It was felt by the Community Council that we were missing a vital section of the community and this had to be addressed. We took the view that not only did we need to foster relations with the Youth Forum but also with the Mid Argyll Youth Development Service, (MAYDS).

We started by inviting the Youth Forum to one of our meetings to give a presentation on what they had been doing and then open the meeting to a discussion on what we could do to help. The important thing we took on board was to LISTEN. This trial was thought by both parties to be worthwhile and beneficial to the community in a wider sense. This inter-generational exchange has led to a better understanding of the needs and aspirations of our young people and how we can help.

This has now developed into a twice yearly event which is looked forward to by both parties. The Youth Forum has written into their rules that there must now be at least one joint meeting per year.

A similar plan was then followed with MAYDS and again this has proved successful and beneficial to both parties. We were able to help fund a short cookery course to better prepare the youths for when they leave home, either to set up home themselves or go on to further education at college or university.

Both groups gave very interesting presentations to the MAKI CPG. We now regularly invite youth groups to present to the MAKI meetings. They have included Young Firefighters, Young Police Volunteers as well as Youth Forums from other parts of the MAKI area. This gives us the opportunity to hear and see what the young people are doing in the community. Good citizenship is extremely important and this is highlighted by the quality and confidence shown by these young members of our communities.

We at Lochgilphead have now extended this link with young people to the Scouts and again this has been beneficial and successful.





Parking in Oban, Lorn and the Isles (OLI)

Oban, Lorn and the Isles were selected as an area in which to pilot new arrangements for parking charges throughout Argyll and Bute. In recognition of this pilot scheme an action was added to the OLI ACPG Action Tracker to monitor progress of the pilot with periodic reports being scheduled in.



During the pilot phase communities and businesses suggested that there was a lack of information available on parking. Being very much a tourist destination some comprehensive information about matters such as where the car parks were, which of these had 2 hours free parking, how permits could be purchased (for residents and visitors) and regarding charges was necessary.

As the responsible service to deliver the pilot the Council's Roads and Amenity Services staff attended the OLI CPG meeting in November 2019 to discuss concerns. In a positive example of partnership working in action, when it was reported that Officers in the service had intended to prepare an information leaflet but had been unable to do so due to staffing and financial resources, and no timescale was in place for this, the Group recognised a wider role in ensuring information was put together and distributed. As such the Group encouraged Bid4Oban, who represent business interests in Oban Town Centre, to work with the Council, Oban Community Council and the Tourism Sector to produce a parking leaflet. It was also suggested that the leaflet be in electronic format to enable businesses to download and print on demand which would alleviate any print costs.

While there has been some difficulty surrounding the pilot in general a leaflet has now been produced to be of use during the tourist season. While it has been made available there is an intention to further develop the leaflet to include maps which highlight the various car parks and the include details about the availability of weekly permits which have since been introduced.

Although a simplistic concept, the way in which the matter was progressed overall demonstrates just one of the examples where the Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Community Planning Group have been effective in terms of partnership working. This cannot be achieved without having the right people around the table to commit to projects such as this one and the Group are grateful for the ongoing support of all partners in making this happen.





argyll and bute
communityplanningpartnership



Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership

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The Annual Report is a review of partnership working towards the ambition of the Argyll and Bute Outcome Improvement Plan. For more details of the delivery plans for 2018 - 2019, please refer to this document on our website. For more information about what individual partners are doing in Argyll and Bute, please refer to the websites of our partners.

www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/council-and-government/community-planning-partnership