

# Public Document Pack

## **Argyll and Bute Council** **Comhairle Earra Ghaidheal agus Bhoid**

Customer Services  
Executive Director: Douglas Hendry



*Kilmory, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8RT*  
*Tel: 01546 602127 Fax: 01546 604435*  
*DX599700 LOCHGILPEAD*  
*Email: douglas.hendry@argyll-bute.gov.uk*

26 July 2011

### **NOTICE OF MEETING**

A meeting of the **MID ARGYLL, KINTYRE & THE ISLANDS AREA COMMITTEE** will be held in the **COUNCIL CHAMBERS, TOWN HALL, CAMPBELTOWN** on **WEDNESDAY, 3 AUGUST 2011** at **10:00 AM**, which you are requested to attend.

Douglas Hendry  
Executive Director - Customer Services

### **BUSINESS**

- 1. APOLOGIES**
- 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
- 3. MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 6 JUNE 2011** (Pages 1 - 10)
- 4. PUBLIC AND COUNCILLORS QUESTION TIME**
- 5. COMMUNITY SERVICES**
  - (a) Impact of the Council's Charging Policy for Elderly Care Services  
A report by Rod Clayton, MAKI Area Operations Manager. (Pages 11 - 12)
  - (b) Existing SLAs and monitoring arrangements  
A report by Moira Logan, Performance Improvement Manager. (Pages 13 - 14)
  - (c) Third Sector Grants  
A report by Audrey Baird, Community Development Officer. (Pages 15 - 18)
  - (d) Community Engagement and support for and with local businesses

A report by Robert Pollock. (Pages 19 - 38)

(e) Community Engagement staff enabling communities to develop effective plans  
A report by Audrey Baird, Community Development Officer. (Pages 39 - 42)

(f) Strategic Housing Development Plan  
A report by Moira MacVicar (Pages 43 - 46)

## **6. CHIEF EXECUTIVES SECTION**

(a) Area Plan/Corporate Plan - Linkages  
An update by Lynda Thompson, Organisational Development Manager.

## **7. CUSTOMER SERVICES**

(a) Fragile Communities - High speed broadband  
A report by Gerry Wilson, IT Infrastructure Manager. (Pages 47 - 50)

## **8. DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES**

(a) Timescale for implementation of the Asset Management Plan  
A report by Jim Smith, Head of Roads and Amenity Services.

(b) Potential impact - Extension of Road Equivalent Tariff (RET)  
A report by Jonathan Welch, Transport Planner. (Pages 51 - 54)

(c) Kilmory Home Farm Community Project  
A report by Paul Convery updating Members on the status of the Kilmory Home Farm Community Project. (Pages 55 - 60)

(d) Road Issues  
A report by Julian Green, Technical Officer. (Pages 61 - 68)

## **9. SCOTTISH WATER - UPDATE**

## **10. MACHRIHANISH DUNES GOLF CLUB**

An update by Janette Jansson, General Manager.

## **11. KINTYRE WAY**

An update by Owen Paisley, Kintyre Way ranger.

The Committee will be asked to pass a resolution in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 to exclude the public for items of business with an “E” on the grounds that it is likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in the appropriate paragraph of Part I of Schedule 7a to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

The appropriate paragraph is:-

**Paragraph 13** Information which, if disclosed to the public, would reveal that the authority proposes-

- (a) to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
- (b) to make an order or direction under any enactment.

**E1 12. OLD COURT HOUSE IN CAMPBELTOWN**

A report by Audrey Martin, Senior Planning/Development Officer (Pages 69 - 74)

**MID ARGYLL, KINTYRE & THE ISLANDS AREA COMMITTEE**

Councillor Rory Colville	Councillor Robin Currie	Councillor Alison Hay
Councillor Anne Horn	Councillor Donald Kelly	Councillor Donald MacMillan (Chair)
Councillor John McAlpine	Councillor Douglas Philand	Councillor John Semple

Shirley MacLeod – Area Governance Manager

Contact: Theresa McLetchie - Tel: 01546 604511

This page is intentionally left blank

**MINUTES of MEETING of MID ARGYLL, KINTYRE & THE ISLANDS AREA COMMITTEE held in  
the IONAD CHALUIM CHILLE ILE, BOWMORE, ISLAY  
on WEDNESDAY, 8 JUNE 2011**

**Present:** Councillor Donald MacMillan (Chair)

Councillor Rory Colville	Councillor Donald Kelly
Councillor Robin Currie	Councillor Anne Horn
Councillor John MacAlpine	Councillor Douglas Philand
Councillor John Semple	

**Attending:** Shirley MacLeod, Area Governance Manager  
Mike Johnston, Performance Management Officer  
Julian Green, Technical Officer  
David Ferrier, Technical Officer

#### 1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of the following:-

Councillor Alison Hay  
Ishabel Bremner  
Caroline Sheen

#### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

#### 3. MINUTES - 6 APRIL 2011

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 6 April 2011 were approved as a true and correct record.

#### Matters arising:- Page 5 – Tayinloan Ferry Berth Realignment

Councillor John McAlpine raised the issue of the timescale of the proposed realignment. He queried the initial completion date which had been notated as – June/July 2011. Whereas, it was now envisaged that the project would not be completed until September/October 2011.

**Action: Julian Green would clarify this issue with the Marine and Harbours officer and report back to Councillor McAlpine.**

#### 4. PUBLIC AND COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME

A member of the public was in attendance and questioned the process entailed in advertising the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area meeting on Islay.

He enquired on the feasibility of VC provision to enable Community Councils to

participate in the meeting.

Another issue which he raised was the removal of the brown bins collection on Islay and the removal of skips. In addition, he related the incorrect mapping of the local refuse site at Gartanbreck.

The Chair responded that the skips had been removed due to continued usage abuse.

Shirley MacLeod would investigate the advertising procedure.

Councillor Semple reinforced the issue of utilising VC at meetings and requested that this be followed up. Councillor Kelly fully supported the idea of VC participation and highlighted the time and expense of Members and officers travelling to Islay. Furthermore, he questioned the items within the Agenda which, in his opinion, should be more relevant to issues on Islay and Jura. In addition, he suggested that representation should be made to the Council to enable Area Committees to have more power, and disagreed with the centralisation of power in the area.

Councillor McAlpine highlighted the issue of the reduction in local bus services as an example. Whereby, the Executive committee had made the decision and the local Area Committee had no input into this.

Councillor Horn reported that she had attended the Executive meeting to oppose the reduction, but had not received any support from Executive members.

Shirley MacLeod replied that in regards to the Agenda, the MAKI Area Committee can request papers for consideration at the meeting. In regards the decision making process this was on-going.

Councillor Semple stated that in regards the issue of VC, this was the 2<sup>nd</sup> time he had made the request to utilise this technology at meetings. Shirley replied that Members should all be in the same meeting venue and technology was in the development process for fuller, community participation at meetings. Councillor Semple enquired if the Area Committee could make the decision to VC at meetings.

**Action: Shirley would endeavour to enable VC facility at meetings to allow fuller community engagement.**

Councillor Kelly enquired if the Chair and the Vice-Chair could ensure that future Agenda items be more relevant and pertinent to the scheduled meeting.

## 5. CUSTOMER SERVICES

### (a) AREA PLAN - TO FOLLOW

Shirley MacLeod reported that due to time constraints, she had not been able to refine the Area Plan as she would have wished.

She intended that the Area Plan and the Scorecard would effectively correlate and reflect progress and changes agreed by Members.

Members proceeded to discuss and deliberate on the Area Plan and the following comments were notated:

Page 1:

Councillor Kelly raised the issue of the Kintyre Nursing Home – currently under the ownership of Southern Cross - and requested an update from Argyll and Bute council in regards its future. Shirley MacLeod replied that she would obtain an update and feedback with information received.

Councillor Philand reported on complaints he had received in regards the charging policy and questioned on the procedure for clients who could not afford to pay the increased charges. He stated the need to monitor this and keep Members informed of the impact on increased hospital admissions, etc.

Shirley MacLeod stated that she had received statistics on this issue at the Bute and Cowal Area Committee and would request the same for MAKI.

Councillor McAlpine enquired on the Free Personal Care packages and asked if this was proving sufficient for clients needs. He asked if there was a backlog of assessments awaiting processing.

Shirley would ascertain the level of assessments and report back.

Page 2:-

Councillor Horn stated that the amount of 207k funding towards the Business Plan was now utilised. Members agreed that the Kintyre Way would still be promoted and the success measure would be the number of walkers utilising the walk.

Shirley MacLeod agreed that numbers should be recorded to indicate the trend.

Councillor Colville suggested that Owen Paisley, Ranger on the Kintyre Way, be invited along to the next MAKI Area Committee meeting to give an update on the work currently being undertaken on the Kintyre Way.

**Action: Theresa McLetchie would invite Owen Paisley to the meeting scheduled for 3 August in Campbeltown.**

Councillor Semple stated the need for better co-ordination at events and suggested that Argyll and Bute council could do more to enable this. He suggested a main point of contact in the MAKI area to synchronise and maximise the potential economic benefit from – e.g. events.

The Chair agreed on the benefits of identifying a person to encompass this remit.

Shirley MacLeod replied that Public Processions were approved and monitored by the council and the correlation between council departments.

Page 3:-

Councillor Kelly suggested that the current Town Hall Manager in Campbeltown could perhaps encompass some of the responsibility for supporting events orchestration. Councillor Semple stated that the remit of this post could not support this issue.

Councillor Colville updated Members on developments for the all weather pitch in Campbeltown. A meeting was scheduled for 23 June and would involve SportsScotland and officebearers.

Page 4:-

Councillor Horn reported that the flood prevention scheme in Tarbert was not working and the incidence of floods was, in fact, rising. Councillor Kelly informed Members of recent flooding in Campbeltown which had seriously affected some business premises. He highlighted his concerns in regards the current remedial work being undertaken by Scottish Water in the Longrow area of the town.

**Action: Theresa McLetchie would invite Jane McKenzie, Scottish Water to the MAKI Area committee meeting scheduled for 3 August in Campbeltown.**

Councillor Horn raised the issue of dog fouling, particularly within Tarbert cemetery. Discussion followed and Members agreed that the recently agreed Management Rules be amended to include – Prohibition of dogs, with the exception of working dogs, within cemeteries in the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands area.

**Action: Shirley MacLeod would liaise with Alison McIlroy, Grounds and Horticultural officer, to instigate this amendment to the Management Rules.**

Councillor McAlpine raised the issue of the provision affordable social housing in the MAKI area. The Chair replied that problems in the acquisition of land in the area was resulting in this not being addressed. Members agreed that both Moira McVicar and local RSLs be invited to the next MAKI Area Committee meeting in August.

**Action: Shirley MacLeod to liaise with Moira McVicar and RSLs to attend the next MAKI Area Committee meeting – August 3 2011 in Campbeltown. Moira to speak on the Strategic Housing Development Plan and RSLs to update Members on local housing issues.**

Page 5:-

Members discussed issues regarding local transportation problems, both old and new in the MAKI area. Councillor Currie stated that if Road Equivalent Tariff (RET) was implemented on the Islay ferry route, then this could impact onto ferry capacity and accommodation issues on Islay.

**Action: Shirley MacLeod would liaise with both Moya Ingram and Robert Pollock on these issues.**

Councillor Horn voiced her concerns in regards transportation issues in isolated communities. Whereby, the inability to attend doctors surgeries



(due to a reduction in transport) would impact onto more hospital readmissions and referrals to Social Work teams.

Page 6:-

Councillor Semple stated the need for more engagement with the Business Community. Shirley MacLeod agreed that there was a distinct gap and that the Community Engagement Strategy was not being effectively implemented.

Councillor Philand queried the effectiveness of the Area Plan, and questioned the evidence of it being given credence and being utilised in determining local Community Planning. Councillor Semple agreed and requested that an invitation be disseminated to the Directors requesting their attendance at the next MAKI Area Committee meeting, to inform Members on how the Area Plan would integrate with Services Plans.

**Action: Shirley MacLeod to update the Area Plan with agreed amendments and invite Directors to the next MAKI Area Committee meeting.**

**Decision: Members agreed that the formulation of the Area Plan would continue.**

## 6. CHIEF EXECUTIVE

### (a) AREA SCORECARD

Mike Johnston informed Members that the Area Scorecard was still being developed.

Councillor Semple enquired on the economic viability of local communities, which were predominantly rural.

Mike Johnston reported on discussions held with Ishabel Bremner in regards to Business Gateway grants. It was agreed that Ishabel would produce statistics to advise on business survival rates. The timescale would be 2 years into the existing project.

Councillor Semple asked Mike if there was a format for recording complaints. Mike replied that, at present, complaints at Stages 2/3 were recorded. However, at Stage 1 they are retained at a local level. Councillor Semple stressed the importance of recording these issues to ensure they were suitably addressed.

Mike Johnston advised that the Call Centre was still in the process of change and, he envisaged, through time this information would be

accessible.

**Decision:**

1. The Area Committee agreed the overall format of the scorecard.
2. The Area Committee gave guidance on the detailed selection of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) in the scorecard. This would be an ongoing activity as use of the scorecard develops.
3. The Area Committee agreed that officers named in the Area Plan provide regular updates via the Pyramid system including the creation of new Performance Indicators (PIs) if necessary. This work to be driven by Services and facilitated by Improvement and HR staff as appropriate.
4. The Area Committee would use the scorecard to review progress and performance within the area at each meeting.

(Ref: A report by Mike Johnston, Performance Manager, submitted, dated 8 June 2011).

**7. COMMUNITY SERVICES**

**(a) GRANTS TO THIRD SECTOR 2010/2011 (UPDATE)**

Members considered a report providing an update on the 2010/11 Grants to the Third Sector which had been submitted to the Area Committee on 6 April, 2011.

Councillor Horn enquired if new applications could be submitted to request funding in the second round. Shirley MacLeod affirmed this and advised that the deadline for receipt of new applications was June 24, 2011.

**Decision**

Members agreed to the recommendations in the report – 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3 with the addition of the following:-

3.4 Heads of Service who have in place Service Level Agreement (SLA) with community groups to provide update on these agreements to a future Area Committee, outlining the detail of the SLA and the monitoring arrangements for same which are in place.

(A report by Audrey Baird, Community Development Officer, dated 8 June 2011, submitted).

**8. DEVELOPMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES**

**(a) ROAD ISSUES**

Members considered a report detailing outstanding roads-related issues in Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands.

Councillor Currie voiced concerns in regards the timescale for completion of the works on Islay. Julian Green reported that the contractor had given assurances that the timescale would be adhered to. Councillor Philand enquired on the principle behind the existing contract and if there were suitable penalty clauses in situ. Julian agreed there were penalty clauses in place, but could not advise on the specifics.

He advised of a future consultation on Islay with a presentation for the local community for the proposed works at Laphroag..

Discussion continued in regards the implementing of the Asset Management Plan to ensure parity in regards remedial road works across the Argyll and Bute area. Julian replied that, at present, funding was apportioned on a 'needs basis', in each geographical section after inspections had been undertaken. However, he stated that roads which were forestry routes were more problematic than others.

**Action: Shirley MacLeod to write on behalf of the MAKI Area Committee to Sandy MacTaggart to ascertain the timescale of implementing the Asset Management Plan and invite Sandy to attend the next MAKI Area Committee meeting in August.**

Councillor McAlpine enquired on the timescale for grass cutting verges and when Julian could attend a Community Council meeting in Carradale. Juilan reported that the grass cutting programme had commenced and he would liaise with the Community Council to arrange attendance a future meeting.

**Action: Julian Green to attend a future Carradale Community Council meeting.**

Councillor Kelly highlighted various roads in Kintyre which necessitated urgent, remedial works. These included:

Kildonan  
B842 before Stewarton  
B842 Kilenen  
Davaar Avenue in Campbeltown  
White lining still to be completed at Kilkerran Cemetery.

Councillor Horn questioned the sparse white lining at the Kennacraig Terminal access road. Julian reported that this was a private road; however, Argyll and Bute council had offered to undertake this work. Calmac had declined the offer. However, Julian would re-visit this issue with Calmac.

Councillor McAlpine reported on the recent press report in regards Argyll and Bute tarring the wrong road. Julian responded that the paper had misrepresented the facts and the article was totally out of context.

**Decision**

Members agreed to note the report.

(Ref: A report by Julian Green, Technical Officer, dated 8 June, 2011, submitted).

(b) **DISCUSSION - FRAGILE COMMUNITIES AND DIFFICULTIES THEY ARE EXPERIENCING DUE TO CURRENT ECONOMIC CLIMATE**

The Chair ruled, and the Committee agreed, to adjourn the meeting for lunch at 1.00p.m. and reconvene at 1.30p.m.

Councillor Semple stated that, in his opinion, the focus for Economic Development was primarily in town centres and this should encompass and address the fragility of smaller, rural communities. The impact of Argyll and Bute council policies, including proposed school closures, would have a serious economic impact on these communities. The importance of local community planning being fed into the Area Plan was paramount. A distinct advantage would be effective broadband which would enable people to work from home.

Shirley MacLeod agreed that a formulated process would need to be devised to address this issue. She reported that the Economic Development Action Plan principally addressed issues in large towns. It would be necessary to feed into the Community Planning framework. The CP conference scheduled for June had been postponed, but would be rescheduled for a later date.

Councillor Kelly reported on new initiatives which were creating jobs; however, there was a distinct lack of social housing to accommodate workers.

Councillor Currie stated that island communities had more constraints in regards travel costs incurred by the necessity of utilising ferries.

**Decision:**

Members agreed on the following:

1. More engagement with local Business communities.
2. Continuous support for small business; not just new burgeoning businesses.
3. The involvement of the Community Development team to enable communities to develop effective plans.
4. To investigate and promote effective high speed broadband to remote and rural communities.
5. Request a paper on these issues to the August Area Committee by relevant officers.

(c) **MACHRIHANISH DEFENCE ESTATES UPDATE**

Members considered a report providing an update on recent developments

at Machrihanish between the Machrihanish Airbase Community Company (MACC) and Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) at the Ministry of Defence (MoD).

**Decision**

Members agreed to note the contents of the report.

(A report by Ishabel Bremner, Economic Development Manager, dated 26 May 2011, submitted).

The Committee resolved in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 to exclude the public for the following item of business on the grounds that it was likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

**9. EXEMPT ITEM**

**(a) GARDENS, DELL ROAD, CAMPBELTOWN - REPORT TO FOLLOW**

Members considered a report detailing the offers received in respect of Kirkland, Dell Road, Campbeltown.

**Decision**

Members agreed to the recommendations in the report – 2.1 and 2.2.

(A report by Caroline Sheen, Estates Surveyor dated 8 June, 2011, tabled)

This page is intentionally left blank

---

ARGYLL & BUTE COUNCIL  
COMMUNITY SERVICES

MID ARGYLL KINTYRE AND THE ISLANDS  
AREA COMMITTEE MEETING  
3 AUGUST 2011

---

## Update on Charging Policy in MAKI

---

### 1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report is to give a feedback to members of how the Charging Policy has had an impact on the service users in the MAKI area.

### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

Members note this report.

### 3. DETAIL

Following the implementation of the Charging Policy in April 2011 the MAKI area has not seen any major change with the numbers taking in a service to meet there needs. Unlike in some other area where services have had to be amalgamated due to reduction in the numbers using the service.

This has not been such in MAKI.

At the present time we have 282 receiving Care at home or Supported Living of which 43 incur a charge. All service users had a review of need completed with their income maximised as part of the policy. There are currently some outstanding assessment still being completed this is currently a total of 47. To date we have received for a small number of service users 8 in total request to terminate services as they do not wish to pay.

### 4. CONCLUSION

The Charging Policy in MAKI has not had any major impact on the number of people receiving services following there assessed need, nor has there been a reduction in the number being referred and taking services.

**5. IMPLICATIONS**

5.1	<b>Policy</b>	None
5.2	<b>Financial</b>	None
5.3	<b>Personnel</b>	None
5.4	<b>Equalities Impact Assessment</b>	None.
5.5	<b>Legal</b>	None

For further information, please contact Rod Clayton  
Area Manager Operations MAKI



---

**ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL****CUSTOMER SERVICES****3 August 2011****MAKI Area Committee**

---

---

**CONTRACTING WITH EXTERNAL AGENCIES**

---

**SUMMARY**

This note is issued to assist departments dealing with External Agencies. When developing an agreement with any outside body relevant teams should ensure compliance with all sections of the Following the Public Pound Code.

**DETAIL**

As part of the Internal Audit Report on Value for Money and Following the Public Pound in September 2010 a review was carried out on how we contract with External Agencies.

The main objectives of the 2009/2010 audit were:

- Confirm Service Level Agreements (SLAs) were in place with large payments paid to outside organisations;
- Confirm the SLAs meet the requirements of Following the Public Pound
- Confirm if the SLAs have been enforced in connection to payments, performance information and financial information;
- Look at the process for deciding what information is included in the SLA's;
- Check member/official involvement as included in the SLAs.

A Review was carried out of the use of written agreements with external bodies to ensure compliance with the 6 principles of Following the Public Pound which are

- Purpose
- Financial
- Monitoring
- Representation
- Limitations
- Accountability

As part of the review, written agreements we have with third party organisations have been streamlined, simplified and standardised. Applications for funding are being standardised and developed in line with the new style agreements. A Central Register of all contracts has been prepared and is due for completion shortly. A training programme for staff and members will be carried out over the next few months. The next stage in the process of review is to raise awareness of these changes and to ensure that **when dealing with outside bodies** all staff are aware of the following:

- Ensure that the correct Application for Funding has been used. If there is no application ensure that a process for funding has been followed and is recorded.
- Ensure that a contract is in place to cover the relationship with the external body and the new style written agreements have been used.
- Ensure that the details of the written agreement are passed to the Commissioning Team for noting on the Central Register.
- Confirm compliance with the terms of the written agreement in relation to finance and monitoring.
- Ensure the information given to the Commissioning Team is correct , current and relevant for the contract

For further information contact: Moira Logan, Commissioning Team, 01631 567948

---

**ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL**  
**MID ARGYLL, KINTYRE AND THE ISLES AREA COMMITTEE**

**3 August 2011**

***GRANTS TO THIRD SECTOR 2010/11***

---

**1. SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report details recommendations for the award of Third Sector Grants (including Events and Festivals) to Third Sector organisations in Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Isles.
- 1.2 The Executive agreed to the proposal that applications would be considered twice-yearly in April and again in August. This is intended to avoid allocation of the full budget at one meeting and enable activities held later in the year to be funded.
- 1.3 The total Third Sector Grant budget made available by the Council for allocation in Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Isles for 2011/12 is £35,000. A total of £30,435 was awarded to 27 organisations in April. The Committee is asked to consider the remaining allocation of £4,565
- 1.4 Members are asked to note the large number of applicants competing for the very limited funds available. Please also note that, with the exception of one, applicants have not applied for funding in the preceding two financial years. Also, four of the applicants are from the Islands, two from Mid Argyll and five are from Kintyre.
- 1.5 One application was received from the Lochgilphead Phoenix Project after the closing date and is therefore ineligible. The Group was seeking a £234 contribution towards the cost of an angling competition, auditing fee and planning application fee for a community noticeboard in Lochgilphead. The MAKI Community Development Officer will assist the Project to seek funding elsewhere.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 It is recommended that the organisations listed below are awarded funding totalling £4,565 from grants to the Third Sector.

<b>Ref</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Grant Awarded 2010/11</b>	<b>Amount Requested 2011/12</b>	<b>Total Project Costs</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
2.1	Islay & Jura Community Enterprises Ltd	£1,000	£1,500	£25,012	£900
2.2	Mid Argyll Link Club	£0	£700	£1,400	£350
2.3	Blarbuie Woodland Enterprise	£0	£1,100	£2,200	£550
2.4	Kintyre/Campbeltown Rugby Club	£0	£210	£420	£0
2.5	Islay Children and Families Association	£0	£62,500	£125,266	£0
2.6	Islay and Jura Youth Wind Band	£0	£2,750	£5,500	£750
2.7	Kintyre Link Club	£0	£325	£625	£165

2.8	Machrihanish Dunes Sound of Kintyre Pipe Band	£0	£3,027	£28,527	£750
2.9	Kintyre Youth Cafe	£0	£2,000	£8,700	£0
2.10	Kintyre Cultural Forum	£0	£2,000	£29,350	£600
2.11	Bowmore Hall Committee	£0	£1,000	£5,000	£500
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>£1,000</b>	<b>£77,112</b>	<b>£232,000</b>	
		<b>Total Recommended</b>			<b>£4,565</b>
		<b>Balance</b>			<b>£0</b>

### 3. DETAIL

	Organisation	Rationale for grant allocation
3.1	Islay & Jura Community Enterprises Ltd	To help fund the Aquacare warm water therapy service for disabled children and adults, specifically the costs associated with hiring a physiotherapist. The Aquacare service will not run unless it is fully funded. Islay and Jura has a disproportionately high number of disabled people and this is an excellent opportunity for carers to get respite and socialise with each other.
3.2	Mid Argyll Link Club	To fund social events and an outing to the theatre at Christmas. Mid Argyll Link Club is a well established group that provides support and a safe environment for more than 50 people in the community suffering mental ill health.
3.3	Blarbuie Woodland Enterprise	Training for six walk leaders as part of a Health Walks Programme. The walks programme will target users of mental health services and people with health issues and a range of disabilities. The Group is well established and activities include the maintenance and enhancement of Blarbuie Wood, plus activities such as craft work, construction, plant propagation, arts, health walks, research and publishing.
3.4	Kintyre/Campbeltown Rugby Club	This Group was re-established six months ago. The Sports Development Officer has advised that new groups are eligible for a 100% grant from 2014 Scottish Rugby. This information has been forwarded to the applicant and he has taken the decision to apply for the alternative grant.
3.5	Islay Children and Families Association	Following a series of public consultations, a better resourced swing park was identified as a need in the area. The Association was established one year ago and is at an early stage in its fundraising activities. To date, a very small percentage of the total cost of the project has been raised. The Association needs to evidence a broader range of fundraising activities and it would be inadvisable to allocate TSG funds at this stage.
3.6	Islay and Jura Youth Wind Band	To assist with the Band's travel expenses from the islands to attend the Mid Argyll Music Festival in Lochgilphead in March 2012. The Band has been extraordinarily successful in attracting new members and has grown from 14 children to nearly 60 in just 7 years.
3.7	Kintyre Link Club	The Kintyre Link Club is a well established group supporting 25 members of the community suffering mental ill health. The group has been struggling in the last year but has turned a corner and is now actively fundraising for outings, including a trip to the theatre at Christmas.
3.8	Machrihanish Dunes Sound of Kintyre Pipe Band	The Band was formed just over two years ago to allow musicians in the local area to develop their talent. Many of the members are former members of the Kintyre Schools Juvenile Pipe Band. The Band has participated in various Championships throughout 2010 and reached 8 <sup>th</sup> in their grade at the Cowal Championships. The Band believes new drums would boost their performance and they have planned programme

		of events in 2011, including attendance at the European Pipe Band Championship in Belfast and the Festival Interceltique de Lorient, Brittany, France.
3.9	Kintyre Youth Cafe	The social enterprise Cafe is still at the development stage. Until premises have been identified for the Youth Cafe it would be premature to award funding at this stage.
3.10	Kintyre Cultural Forum	The Forum is seeking funding for running costs and an audience development package. The group is well established and has accessed significant amounts of funding in the past, including a successful Leader bid. To continue to support and encourage cultural activities in Kintyre, the group wishes to promote events through a bi-monthly free newsletter for local people and tourists. Lack of funding prevented production of the newsletter last year which led to poor ticket sales resulting in the cancellation of one performance. Recommend funding towards the costs of newsletters.
3.11	Bowmore Hall Committee	To help towards the cost of bringing the Singing Kettle to Islay. Children on Islay are less likely to have the opportunity to attend professional performances without leaving the island. Although the Committee has significant funds in reserve, these are needed for general building works and maintenance. This funding would help to enhance the children's arts education.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 All organisations have been contacted and grant applications assessed. Applications for funding of £2,000 and above have been forwarded to the Finance Section of Community Services and some are awaiting approval. Some recommendations are therefore pending a successful outcome of the financial assessment.
- 4.2 Recommendations are in line with the financial assessment to ensure that resources available from this grant budget are disbursed in a manner that will deliver optimum support to Third Sector organisations in Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Isles.

#### 5. IMPLICATIONS

*Policy: None*

*Finance: The report sets out the expenditure from the (insert committee) budget for the allocation of Third Sector Grants.*

*Personnel: None*

*Legal: None*

*Equal Opportunities: The grant allocation is consistent with the Equal Opportunities policy of Argyll and Bute Council.*

**Margaret Fyfe**  
**Community Development Manager**

For further information please contact:

*Audrey Baird, Community Development Officer, Tel 01546 604754*

This page is intentionally left blank

---

**BUSINESS GATEWAY – INFORMATION PAPER**

---

**1. SUMMARY OF ISSUES**

At the June MAKI Area Committee meeting, Members had a discussion about Fragile Communities, as a result of which they agreed the following points:

- Continuous support for small businesses not just new burgeoning businesses
- More engagement with local businesses

The purpose of this information paper is to provide the MAKI Area Committee with an update on the support that the Council's Business Gateway team can provide to businesses in the area and the methods used to engage them.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

The MAKI Area Committee notes the content of this paper.

**3. KEY ISSUES TO NOTE****3.1 Current Support to New and Existing Businesses**

Business Gateway can provide support to all small and medium sized enterprises in MAKI, regardless of the business's age, volume of staff employed or turnover. This support takes the form of access to one to one advice from a business adviser, workshops to develop specific business skills and access to business information.

To help all businesses access support, particularly those in rural or island communities, Business Gateway offers:

- A comprehensive website of business information including a range of self-help interactive tools at [www.bgateway.com](http://www.bgateway.com) and a national enquiry line;
- Adviser clinics held across the region. For MAKI, clinics have been held in Islay, Campbeltown, Lochgilphead, Jura and Inveraray;
- Adviser appointments at client premises if appropriate eg. Advisers have met clients in Clachan, Gigha, Kilberry, Southend, Ardfern; and
- Workshops delivered not just in Argyll's key towns but on islands where demand exists. Workshops have been delivered on Bute, Islay and Tiree.

More detail on how Business Gateway provides support is attached as an appendix.

Any business looking for support to start, survive or grow can access Business Gateway support, including meeting a business adviser. This is different to Lowland Scotland where one to one advisory services are restricted to those with prescribed levels of growth potential. A more flexible approach has been adopted across Business Gateway in the Highlands and Islands area due to the economic profile of the area, giving Business Gateway the ability to support all businesses with potential

to benefit the local economy. Additional adviser focus is given to clients with growth potential.

Business Gateway can signpost businesses to appropriate sources of funding, including the Council's pilot Competitive Business Growth Programme, which is administered by the local Business Gateway Team.

Business Gateway services are also open to social enterprises (those who reinvest profit into social or environmental aims) and the Business Gateway Team works closely with the Council's Social Enterprise Team to provide such support. With regard to new and existing social enterprises, through collaboration, the Social Enterprise Team's focus is on enabling sustainable social enterprise growth in order to:

- a) **Assist delivery of the Council's Economic Development Action Plan and Areas for Action** - bespoke support to developing social enterprises within and outwith the Council which meet with Council strategic priorities e.g. Campbeltown Town Hall, Kilmory Home Farm, Discover Bute LPS, Arrochar Pontoon; and
- b) **Improve the way the Council does business with the Third Sector** – working with partners to developing improved Council policies and procedures which can galvanise the Third Sector, such as:
  - i) Third Sector Asset Transfer Process;
  - ii) promoting information around procurement opportunities;
  - iii) providing a third sector customer support service which answers enquiries across a range of Council services thus making it easier for the Third Sector to access the information they need and providing information on funding opportunities e.g. Funding Alert.

## 3.2 Current Business Engagement Activity

As a new service in MAKI following the launch in July 2009, Business Gateway has pro-actively raised the profile of the service and engaged with the business community via several methods:

- a) **Building and maintaining a referral network** (see page 12 of appendix):
  - i) Developing a broad base of contacts with organisations that engage with SMEs, explaining the support on offer and encouraging them to refer clients to Business Gateway as appropriate e.g. banks, solicitors, estate agents, accountants, FSB; and
  - ii) Working with partner organisations which provide specialist support to SMEs to agree referral processes and client support eg, Scottish Manufacturing Advisory Service, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, Skills Development Scotland.
- b) **Marketing:**
  - i) Sponsorship of the business pages in the local press – monthly advert and text within the page (Argyllshire Advertiser, Campbeltown Courier & Oban Times cover MAKI);
  - ii) Press releases sharing examples of the support provided to clients and the business benefit this produced for them;
  - iii) Advertising of Business Gateway workshops, roadshows and adviser clinics in the local press (Argyllshire Advertiser, Campbeltown Courier, Oban Times, The Ileach) and online (Kintyre Forum, HI Arts website);



- iv) Enterprising Argyll Roadshow in September 2010 included Campbeltown, Inveraray and Islay venues and promoted not only Business Gateway support but wider support as up to 12 partner organisations attended including FSB, VisitScotland, Skills Development Scotland and the Council's Social Enterprise Team;
  - v) A bi-monthly ezine to the Business Gateway database of c1300 contacts (enquirers, businesses supported and the partner/referral network) to keep them updated on the support on offer; and
  - vi) Business Gateway national unit marketing activity has included press ads in local and national titles, online advertising and radio ads.
- c) Participation in business groups/forums/events:**  
Attending various forums, whether ad hoc or as a permanent member helps Business Gateway to engage with the wider business community and stakeholders. For instance:
- i) Argyll and Bute Agricultural forum
  - ii) Kintyre Initiative Working Group
  - iii) Strategic Tourism Partnership
  - iv) Mid Argyll Chamber of Commerce.
- d) Third Sector and Communities Community Planning Partnership Sub-Group:**  
Support to assist developing social enterprises and wider Third Sector is monitored through the newly established Third Sector and Communities Community Planning Partnership Sub-Group whose membership includes the Council and other partners such as Argyll and Bute Social Enterprise Network, Argyll Voluntary Action, Community Councils, NHS and others. This Group is chaired by Cllr Colville and is developing an action plan and scorecard.

### 3.3 Current impact

An increasing volume of clients has been supported by Business Gateway in its second year, with enquiry volumes overall rising from 755 in 2009-10 to over 1,500 in 2010-11, demonstrating a greater engagement with local businesses and prospective entrepreneurs.

Business Gateway performance data for 2010-11 covering MAKI:

- excluding workshop bookings from enquiries, MAKI provided 34% of client enquiries, of which 65% were start-up enquiries (91) and 35% were existing business enquiries (48). This compares to an average across MAKI/OLI/CB of nearly 70% of enquiries being start-up;
- 8 start-up workshops and 17 existing business workshops/events were delivered in MAKI, with over 150 attendees in total. Locations included Inveraray, Islay, Campbeltown and Lochgilphead;
- 27 new starts were supported (31% of total start-ups);
- 134 existing business were supported with advice or workshops (36% of total existing businesses supported);
- 9 MAKI based businesses are included in the Business Gateway growth pipeline (31% of total growth pipeline); and
- 309 clients in the MAKI area are on the ezine contact list.

In terms of approvals for the Competitive Business Growth programme, 3 start-up grants have been approved for MAKI (one third of the total) and 2 growth grants (one third of the total).

**4. NEXT STEPS**

Although engagement and support to businesses in MAKI has grown year on year, the Business Gateway team recognises the importance of continuing to increase engagement. Several activities are planned to support this objective:

- a review of the island/fragile/rural area adviser visit programme. Following the success of the ‘Meet The Adviser’ sessions on Islay, the Campbeltown pilot will be continued to try and build momentum and sessions in Lochgilphead and Colonsay will be introduced. Sessions will be repeated on Jura;
- ongoing development of strong links with the social enterprise agenda through close working with the Social Enterprise Team and the newly established Third Sector and Communities Community Planning Partnership Sub-Group;
- the potential for a joint event with HIE in Campbeltown to engage the business community and encourage networking is being explored;
- a number of potential new workshops are being researched to try and broaden the appeal of Business Gateway, particularly to existing businesses;
- links to other Council departments engaging with businesses are being strengthened to better identify opportunities to support clients e.g. Trading Standards/Environmental Health;
- word of mouth referrals are being encouraged based on the high levels of client satisfaction;
- sponsorship of the monthly business pages in the local press will continue;
- relationships with referral organisations and partners will be maintained and new contacts explored;
- refreshed Business Gateway pages on Argyll and Bute Council’s website; and
- additional marketing activity will be explored e.g. a test mailing to businesses who have not engaged with Business Gateway.

**5. CONCLUSION**

The MAKI Area Committee notes the content of this paper.

**6. IMPLICATIONS**

<b>Policy</b>	None
<b>Financial</b>	None
<b>Personnel</b>	None
<b>Equal Opportunities</b>	None
<b>Legal</b>	None

**For further information contact:**

Kate Fraser, Senior Development Officer, 01546 605 453

Robert Pollock and Mary Kennedy, Business Adviser for MAKI, will be attending the Area Committee meeting to respond to questions as Kate Fraser will be on leave from 22/7/11

# Business Gateway in Argyll and Bute

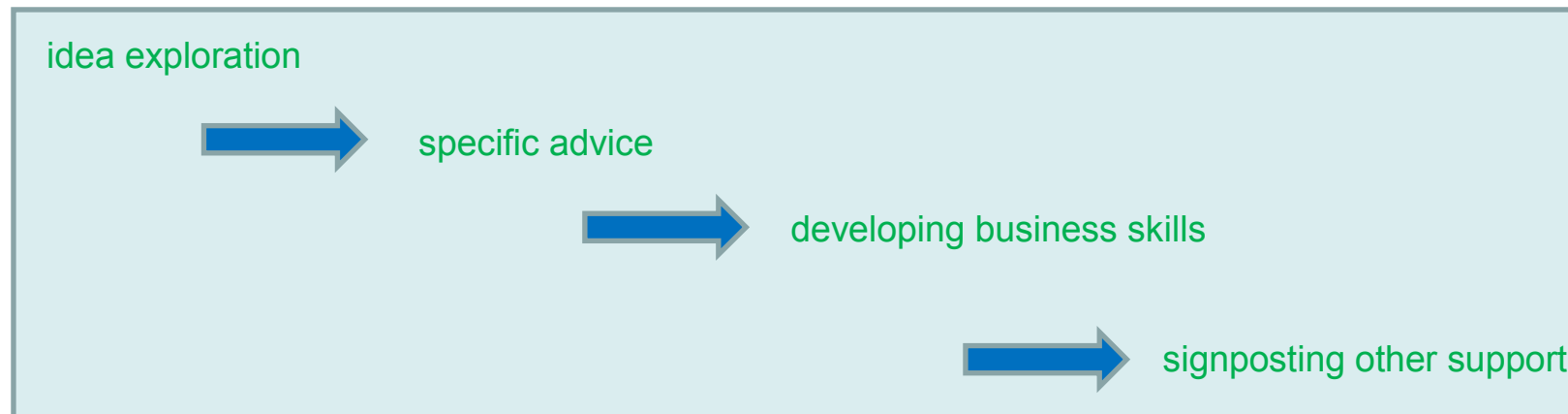
Summer 2011

# what we do



## “Practical help, advice and support for new and growing businesses in Scotland “

- Business Gateway offers free, impartial business advice to anyone wanting to start up or develop a business



# key tools

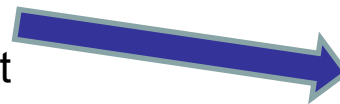
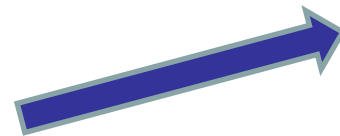
**Business Gateway uses national resources complemented by locally contracted services to support start-up and existing businesses**

## National resources

- comprehensive website [www.bgateway.com](http://www.bgateway.com)
- central enquiry service
- information service

## Local resources

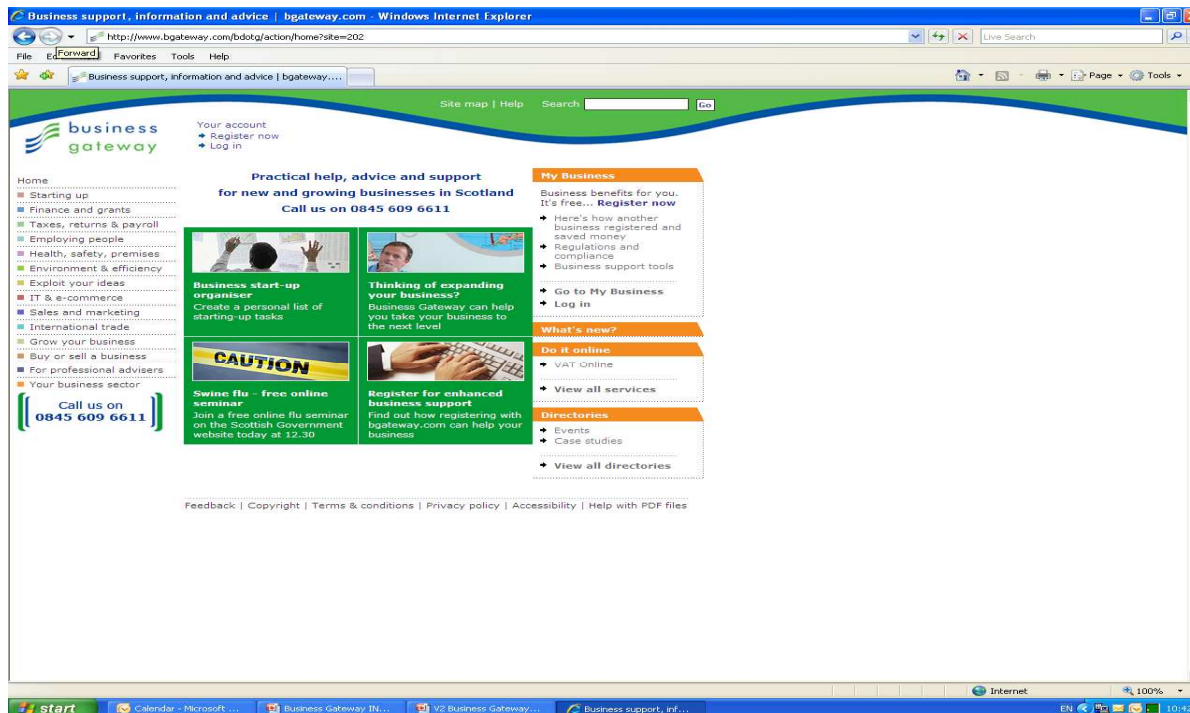
- workshops & events
- business advisor support



Delivered by in-house team for MAKI/OLI/CB

Delivered by contractor for HL

- wide range of business information
- interactive tools
- free & available to all
- 85% of users in Argyll and Bute are satisfied with the website versus 75% nationally



**What's new**  
eg regulation updates, newly published resources

**Regulations, licenses and compliance**

**Interactive tools**  
eg employing people checklist, assess the health of your business

**Directories**  
eg business awards, downloadable Govt forms, case studies

# enquiry service



**manages all the initial Business Gateway phone calls to 0845 609 6611 and emails to [info@bgateway.com](mailto:info@bgateway.com)**

- provides initial support to clients
  - sends start-up and existing business packs
  - books clients on to events
  - refers clients on to the local offices
  - answers client questions using a range of in-house information and [bgateway.com](http://bgateway.com) where appropriate
- same team also provides enquiry handling support for Scottish Enterprise, Scottish Development International, Interactive Scotland and Scotland Food and Drink
- 89% of users in Argyll and Bute are satisfied with the enquiry service versus 86% nationally

# information service



## Free research and information to any Business Gateway client company anywhere in Scotland, at any stage of their development

- UK and international market research, including market size, value, trends, forecasts and consumer behaviour
- news articles and trade publications
- UK company reports and lists, including financial reports and credit checks
- details of commercial premises available for sale or lease across Scotland
- subscribes to a wide range of commercial databases
- 86% of users in Argyll and Bute are satisfied with the information service versus 89% nationally

MINTeL

FROST & SULLIVAN



willings  
Press Guide

scottishproperty.com

DATAMONITOR

BUREAU VAN DIJK  
ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING

LexisNexis®

EQUIFAX



Q ... I am looking for a list of all children's day nurseries in the G43 1TW postcode area as well as information relating to the average weekly earnings for this area.

A... Client was emailed links to online business directories and a number of online resources that hold details of children's nurseries. Client was also sent information on average weekly earnings from the Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics website.

*"Thank you for the information - it was exactly what I was looking for."*

*"Perfect, thanks for your prompt help on this."*

Q ... I am looking for details of the number of people employed in Health & Safety management positions across the UK

A... This client received a range of newspaper articles from the Nexis UK database featuring statistics on the number of health and safety inspectors and managers in the UK. We also sent the most current statistical data from the Office of National Statistics, Scottish Government and Nomis websites. In addition we signposted the client to a range of other organisations who were able to assist further.

# workshops & events



## **A range of workshops and events are delivered locally**

Suite of core workshops available

- start-up workshop: typically run as 4 modules across 2 days
- HMRC workshops: self-assessment, becoming self employed
- business skills: website development, online trading, book-keeping

Flexibility to deliver & evolve courses appropriate to local needs

- Self Assessment webcast pilot was successful
- Pilot of online learning modules had low usage
- Pilot procurement workshops well attended and received

# workshops & events



- 60 workshops/events were delivered in 2010-11 (excluding Helensburgh & Lomond)
- 881 booked on and 545 attended
- 100% of users in Argyll and Bute are satisfied with the workshops versus 93% nationally
- 96% of feedback sheets received locally rated workshops good or excellent

*I was made to feel relaxed at the workshops, which gave me the confidence to take part*  
Sharon Brady, Oban

*The start-up workshop was a great way to pick up useful information and skills to help me run my business. It was also good to meet other people getting ready to start a business and really motivated me to go ahead*  
Stephen Gallagher  
Pristine-Kleen, Dunoon

*I would thoroughly recommend anyone looking to start-up a business to go on the start-up workshop. The amount of information on hand over the 2 days is excellent especially if you have never had experience of writing a business plan and managing business finances*  
Jon Ireland, Clearbox Designs  
Oban

*I feel everyone walked away much more confident in their own web building skills, I know I did. The trainer was flexible, enthusiastic and certainly knowledgeable about his subject matter and the course was very helpful.*  
**Carole McCallum, Campbeltown**

# local business advisers



Our local Business Advisers are experienced business mentors and have all spent time in the commercial world, both in management positions and running their own business



## Oban, Lorn & the Isles

Nicky Archibald  
01546 605 456

[nicky.archibald@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:nicky.archibald@argyll-bute.gov.uk)



## Mid Argyll, Kintyre & Islay

Mary Kennedy (works wed – fri)  
01546 605 455

[mary.kennedy@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:mary.kennedy@argyll-bute.gov.uk)



## Cowal & Bute

Ann Scott  
01546 605 457

[ann.scott@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:ann.scott@argyll-bute.gov.uk)



## Mid Argyll, Kintyre & Islay

Barbara Halliday (works mon-tues)  
01546 605 454

[barbara.halliday@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:barbara.halliday@argyll-bute.gov.uk)

General enquiries: 01546 605 459 or [business.gateway@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:business.gateway@argyll-bute.gov.uk)

*Helensburgh & Lomond: Helensburgh Business Gateway Office 01436 653 001*

# local business advisers



- local business advisers had 524 appointments with clients in 2010-11 (Excluding Helensburgh & Lomond)
- 89% of users in Argyll and Bute are satisfied with their adviser meeting, the same as the national average

*Thank you for coming to meet me yesterday, it really helped to focus my ideas and start to make sense of some of the complexities of the financial side of things.*

**Kelda Platt, Munro Landscape  
Slockavullin**

*The support that Business Gateway can offer is brilliant and doesn't stop once the workshop ends. I hope to carry on working with my adviser to help grow my business.*

**Jon Ireland, Clearbox Designs  
Oban**

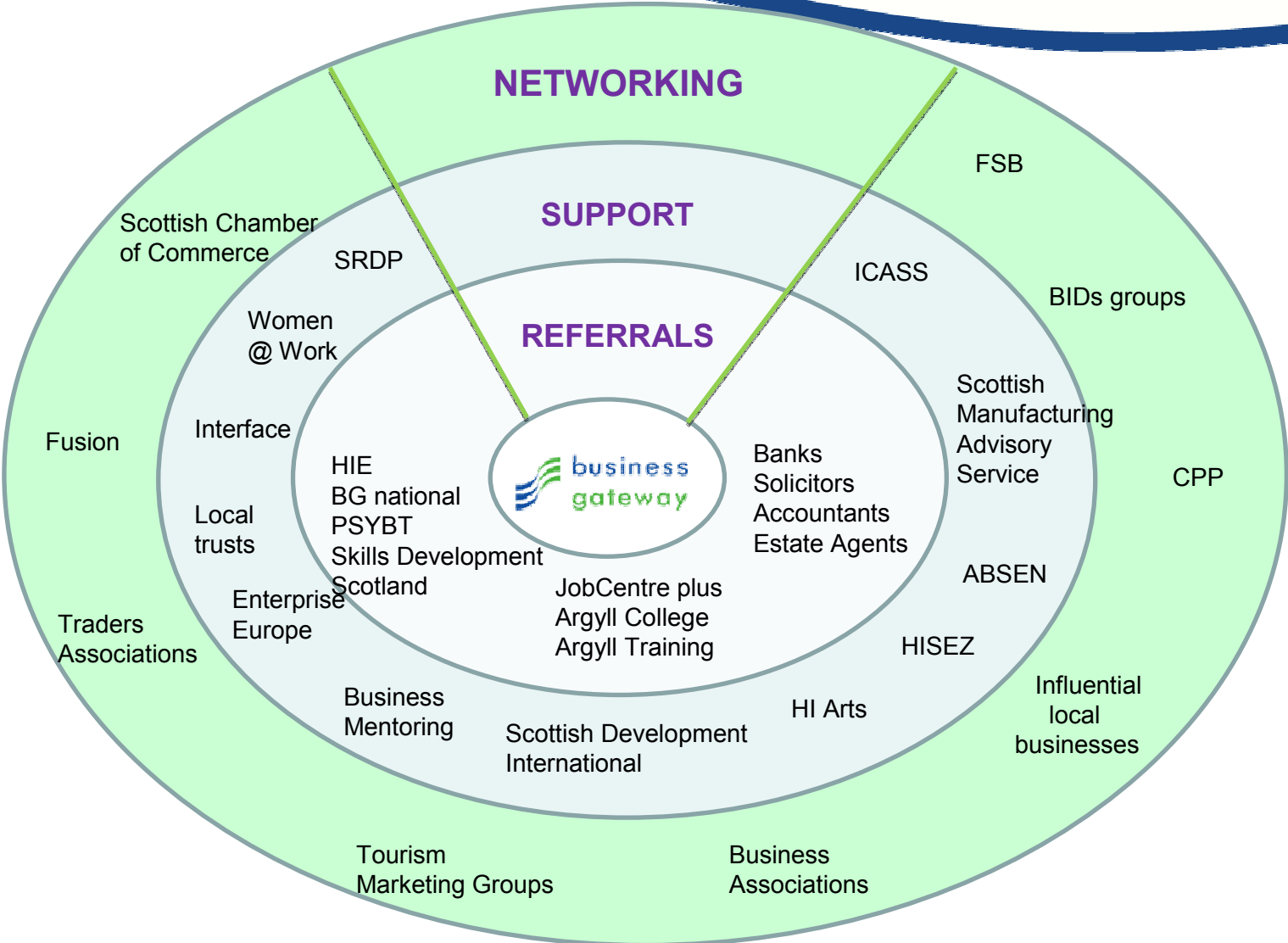
*My business adviser was very helpful when I set up my business. Not only did I get good advice on marketing my businesses and protecting my brand, but they helped signpost sources of funding to help with my start-up costs.*

**Samantha Macphee, Highland Bling  
Dunoon**

*The support provided has proved invaluable. My adviser has put me in touch with a range of useful contacts and is providing ongoing support to help me grow my business.*

**Lesley-Ann Morrison,  
Big Baby Productions Ltd  
Isle of Bute**

# our network



# increasing engagement



**Business Gateway was launched across Argyll and Bute in July 2009. Since then, engagement with businesses in the area has grown:**

- a doubling of enquiry volumes from 755 (including an estimated 375 workshop enquiries) in 2009-10 to 1543 (including 803 workshop enquiries) in 2010-11
- 25% increase in advisor appointments, from 417 in 2009-10 to 524 in 2010-11
- increasing proportion of adviser appointments from existing businesses, up from 25% of total appointments in 2009-10 to 30% in 2010-11
- 22% increase in the number of new start-up business supported, from 72 in 2009-10 to 88 in 2010-11

# what our clients say



## Monthly national quality assurance programme contacts all Business Gateway enquirers by email. For Argyll and Bute:

- 86% say Business Gateway was able to help them
- 85% are satisfied with the Business Gateway service
- 84 % feel the support provided will help their business start or grow

*I am very grateful for the support and advice I have received. I have learned a great deal relating to the structure of a functioning business. I have adopted a far more organised approach to my business and am looking far more likely to achieve what I had set out to.*

**Trevor Szynek, Oban**

*Business Gateway has been on hand right from the start. As a business novice, it's reassuring to know that there is always someone at the end of the phone to offer advice*

**Lynne Girdwood, Fyne Silver  
Tarbert**

*With advice from Business Gateway I have been able to get the business up and running in the right manner. I attended a number of their courses which I found to be invaluable and I've found their website a great resource that I can use at any time and for many of my business questions*

**Caroline Young,  
Born Outdoors, Dunoon**



# what we don't do



- **provide 'Business Gateway' funding**
  - Business Gateway can signpost appropriate sources of funding
  - [www.bgateway.com](http://www.bgateway.com) has a grants & loans database
  - Local Authorities can offer local funding schemes. Argyll and Bute Council offers Fit for Growth in HL and the Competitive Business Growth Programme in MAKI/OLI/CB, both administered by Business Gateway in Lochgilphead
- **we don't duplicate** adviser support for clients Account Managed by Highland & Islands Enterprise (or Scottish Enterprise for Helensburgh & Lomond)
  - we work with clients in to help them develop
  - we work with HIE to identify those appropriate for account management

# questions?



## To find out more contact

- Kate Fraser on 01546 605 453
- Any member of the team on 01546 605 459
- email [business.gateway@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:business.gateway@argyll-bute.gov.uk)

---

**ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL**  
**MID ARGYLL, KINTYRE AND THE ISLES AREA COMMITTEE**

**3 August 2011**

***COMMUNITY ACTION PLANS***

---

**1 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report provides an update on community action planning in communities in MAKI.

**2 DETAILS**

- 2.1 In February/March 2011, Community Action Plan training was offered by the Community Development team, and provided by STAR (Small Town and Rural Network), to staff from community development within the Council, Third Sector and HIE. Further to this, communities in MAKI were offered more localised training and a widely publicised training day for community groups and community councils was held in March 2011 in Tarbert. The training was attended by representatives from Kintyre Development Trust, South Kintyre Area Development group, Southend Community Council, East Kintyre Community Council, West Lochfyne Community Council, Islay Community Council and Islay and Jura CVS.
- 2.2 Since this training, South Kintyre Development Trust has received grant funding from LEADER and the BIG Lottery Fund (approx £10,000 from each) to undertake community action planning in the five community council areas in South Kintyre. This will be supported by the area Community Development Officer. Also, East Kintyre has already started its community consultation exercise as part of its community action plan.
- 2.3 The Community Development team received LEADER funding for a community engagement project in partnership with Kintyre-based Inspiralba. "Viewpoint" involves a drama presentation which raises issues facing rural communities and is followed by discussion workshops which enable participants to consider issues in their own communities and ways of addressing them. This project was taken up in MAKI by groups in Islay, Campbeltown, Lochgilphead, Glenbarr, and possibly in Carradale. The information gathered by this project may be used to support community action plans where these are being considered.

A new community engagement tool has recently been used in MAKI with communities. Voxur is a fun and accessible resource that records people's views on film. Voxur is on loan for free from Learning & Teaching Scotland and has been used at two Viewpoint activities and was well received. This equipment can be booked by community groups and training will be provided by the Community Development Officer.

- 2.4 The Better Community Engagement Resource Pack produced for LACPGs by the Community Development team with partners in health and the third sector will be available online for community groups to access. This includes information on useful engagement and evaluation

exercises, as well as information on how to access community engagement equipment.

- 2.5 It should be noted that several communities in MAKI, including Tarbert, Ardrishaig, Craignish and Jura, have independently created community action plans. These have been promoted at community events such as Forward Together 2 and the MAKI LACPG, and this has helped to drive interest in the community action planning process from other communities.
- 2.6 For information, on Islay, Diageo undertook a community consultation in late 2010 and the results were published earlier this year. One of the key outcomes from the consultation was that islanders felt Islay lacked, what was termed, a 'leadership group' to lead strategic thinking and planning, influence decision makers, encourage inward investment and add gravitas. As a result of this, Diageo, through their consultants Liddell Thomson, organised a meeting on the island, at very short notice, on 19 June. The meeting was chaired by Sir George Robertson (who has offered his assistance) and attended by around 15 community representatives. A working group was set up and is scheduled to meet again in late August/early September. Also, Karen MacDonald, of Liddell Thomson, has asked to attend a Mid Argyll Partnership or Kintyre Initiative Working Group meeting in October in order to learn about the function and focus of these groups.
- 2.7 For information, earlier this year the Community Planning Partnership launched a 'Consultation Diary' to keep track of community consultations being undertaken throughout Argyll and Bute and ensure that the results of those are fed back to the Partnership.
- 2.8 It is important to note that the Community Development Officer's workplan contains work in addition to community action planning and community engagement/consultation, including co-ordination of the Mid Argyll Public Health Network and Health Improvement Fund grants; support to the LACPG, as well as to MAP and KIWG; administration of the Third Sector grants; and building community capacity with vulnerable groups.

### **3 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 That the Area Committee notes progress on community action planning locally and acknowledges the commitment of communities in the time and effort involved in this process.
- 3.2 That the Area Committee considers if any community warrants priority support from the Community Development Officer in this work, bearing in mind the capacity issues of having one officer covering the area.

### **4 IMPLICATIONS**

*Policy: None*

*Finance: Funding of these projects has been from external sources*

*Personnel: ``One Community Development Officer for MAKI area,  
working in partnership*

*Legal: None*

*Equal Opportunities: None*

**Margaret Fyfe**  
**Community Development Manager**

For further information please contact:

*Audrey Baird, Community Development Officer, Tel 01546 604754*

DRAFT

This page is intentionally left blank

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

MID ARGYLL KINTYRE AND ISLAY  
AREA COMMITTEE

COMMUNITY SERVICES

3<sup>rd</sup> August 2011**HOUSING DEVELOPMENT UPDATE****1. SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report provides Members with an update on completion of affordable housing in the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay area over the last three years; the developments currently on site and future funding issues.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 Members are asked to note the contents of this report.

**3. DETAIL**

- 3.1 **Developments.** The table below provides information on the affordable housing completions in Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay over the last three years.

Housing Market Area	08/09	09/10	10/11	Total units
Mid Argyll	17	7	18	42
Kintyre	13	22	30	65
Islay, Jura, Colonsay	0	0	3	3

There has also been substantial public investment in the refurbishment programme in Gigha and the Council has agreed to continue to support the ongoing programme through the private sector housing grant in 2011/12.

- 3.2 **Current Development Sites.** The developments currently on site in 2011/12 include:

- § 61 properties at Lochgilphead High School site;
- § 10 Rural Homes for Rent at Ardfern and
- § 32 properties at Park Square Campbeltown.

- 3.3 **Housing Need.** Primary research was conducted during 2010/11 to establish current levels of housing need and demand across all 9 Housing Market Areas (HMA). The Housing Need and Demand Assessment (HNDA) research forms the basis for housing supply targets for both affordable and market housing across the authority and informs the Main Issues Report. The Council's HNDA was awarded 'robust and credible' accreditation by the Centre for Housing Market Analysis in April this year. Affordable Housing Supply targets over the next five years are included in the Local Housing Strategy which is currently out to public consultation. Figures for MAKI are noted in the table below.

**Table: Affordable housing need and supply targets, 5 yrs.**

HMA area	5 year shortfall	Number of households whose need could be met via alternative interventions (est 30%)	Residual Affordable Housing Need
Islay, Jura, Colonsay	-522	157	-365
Mid Argyll	-384	115	-269
Kintyre	-73	22	-51

- 3.4 **Additional Criteria.** While basic housing need is the fundamental criteria for prioritising projects by area, a more refined evaluation process is required to reflect the range of factors affecting this prioritisation. These indicators have also been utilised in a wider context to provide evaluation criteria generally for prioritisation of individual Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP) projects. The criteria include:-

Criteria	Description	Indicator	Ranking
Criteria 1	Identified need by HMA	HNDA – total shortfall in affordable housing	1
Criteria 2	Pressure ratios by settlement	CHR - waiting list applicants per available let on an annual basis	2
Criteria 3	Homeless Pressure	HL1s - total applicants per HMA & relative time to close cases	3
Criteria 4	Social stock levels	Proportion of existing RSL stock to total number of dwellings on CTR	4
Criteria 5	Wider Strategic Fit	Direct resource links with Economic Development Action Plan or other community regeneration initiatives	5
Criteria 6	Particular Needs by HMA	HNDA – total shortfall for special needs accommodation	6
Criteria 7	Risk/Deliverability	Satisfies key development criteria	7



		(site ownership; planning consent; resourced; infrastructure constraints)	
--	--	---------------------------------------------------------------------------	--

- 3.5 **Strategic Housing Investment Plan.** The current Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2011-2016, includes potential development sites in Islay, Tarbert and Ardfern as priorities for development during the life of the plan.
- 3.6 **Funding for Affordable Housing.** The methodology for the allocation of government funding for the development of affordable housing has changed this year. The Affordable Housing Investment Programme was previously delivered through the allocation of Housing Association Grant and in Argyll and Bute in 2006/07 reached a record level of £21.4m.
- 3.7 **Innovation and Investment Fund.** This year funding will be allocated through an Innovation and Investment Fund which amounts to £50m for the whole of Scotland. The Fund is divided into three elements: Council House Building £20m; RSL developments £20m and an Innovation Fund £10m which is open to any organisation to bid for funds, including private developer.
- 3.8 Access to the Innovation and Investment Fund is through a national challenge process. There is no indication as to the how allocations will be decided but priority may be given to those schemes which require the lowest levels of grant subsidy. The key driver is to reduce the amount of government subsidy per unit. The Government will announce the outcome of this bidding process by the end of August.

#### 4.0 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 With the exception of Bute, which according to the findings of the updated HNDA will actually experience an increasing surplus of affordable housing over the next 5 to 10 years, all HMAs within Argyll and Bute are subject to varying degrees of housing pressure. The highest levels of housing need within the MAKI area have been identified within the Islay, Jura and Colonsay housing market area.
- 4.2 Affordable Housing Development across Scotland will be affected by the changes in the funding regime. The outcome of the bids for the current financial year will be known by the end of August but there has been no indication as to how housing development will be funded beyond 2011/12.

#### 5.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 *Policy: None*
- 5.2 *Financial: None*
- 5.3 *Legal: None*
- 5.4 *Personnel: None*
- 5.5 *Equal Opportunities: None*

Donald MacVicar  
Head of Community and Culture

07 July 2011.

For further information: Moira MacVicar, Housing Services Manager 01631 572184

---

**ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL****Mid Argyll, Kintyre & the Islands Area  
Committee****CUSTOMER AND SUPPORT SERVICES****3<sup>rd</sup> August 2011**

---

---

**Provision of Broadband in Rural Areas – Progress Report**

---

**1. INTRODUCTION**

Members will recall previous Council and EPPG updates regarding the recent broadband projects affecting connectivity and bandwidth availability across the Highlands and Islands of Scotland. The UK Government created a new body in 2010, Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK), with a broad remit including a vision that 90% of UK homes and businesses will have access to superfast broadband by 2015 with the remainder accessing similar services by 2020. To date BDUK have announced funding for 4 pilot superfast broadband projects, one of which covers the Highlands and Islands area including Mid Argyll and Kintyre. This project is managed by Highlands & Islands Enterprise (HIE). Much is expected of the BDUK superfast broadband pilot for the Highlands and Islands and HIE have recently taken the project to tender. This paper provides an update on developments to date.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

That members note the current status of the BDUK Superfast Broadband Initiative and the inclusion of MAKI within the existing HIE/BDUK Superfast Broadband project.

**3. DETAIL**

3.1. BDUK recently announced a £50m bidding round for superfast broadband projects in England. This is the second of 4 slices of funding out of a £530m national UK programme. BDUK has a clear remit to allocate and distribute the £530 fund to bring superfast broadband to the third of UK homes and businesses which won't be provided for by the broadband market and would otherwise miss out.

3.2. HIE have received £10m as one of the initial 4 pilot projects under the earlier bidding round and are working on an overall funding package which includes contributions from HIE, ERDF and other private and public sector partners. The project covers the Highlands and Islands and includes most of Argyll and Bute with the exception of the Helensburgh area.

3.3. The broadband Pathfinder North project is working closely with HIE on their plans and a Pathfinder North representative has been nominated to the project board.

- 3.4. HIE have a vision of everyone across the Highlands & Islands having access to at least 30mb bandwidth by 2020, although they know they will need considerably more resources to achieve this. If they can deliver superfast broadband to 50 key towns they will cover 50% of the population but if they include a radius of 20km from those towns they will cover 80% of the population. As a first stage they envisage coverage to at least 15 towns (including at least one in each local authority area) by 2014, expanding to a 20km radius of those towns the following year.
- 3.5. BDUK is adopting a national approach in Scotland in the disbursement of its funding for broadband projects. Although the exact process has still to be agreed between BDUK and the Scottish Government, BDUK has confirmed that Scotland has been taken out of the "competitive bid" approach it is pursuing with English Local Authorities. Instead, BDUK will work with the Scottish Government on the development of a strategic broadband infrastructure plan for Scotland. The Scottish Government, in turn, is working with the Local Authorities, Scottish Enterprise (SE) and HIE on the development of regional plans, which will contribute to the wider approach.
- 3.6. The Scottish Government are now finalising the regional strategic broadband plans for the HIE and South of Scotland areas and hosted a Rural Broadband Summit on 20<sup>th</sup> June where the remaining Scottish Local Authorities not already covered by the HIE and South of Scotland plans, were encouraged to begin the development of local plans. The final national Scottish plan is expected to be completed by the end of 2011
- 3.7. HIE recently published a fact sheet for stakeholders which includes the following update:
- 3.7.1. High speed digital connectivity is an essential part of Scotland's 21st Century infrastructure – an enabler of both economic and community benefits. Superfast, or Next Generation Broadband (NGB) will aid the sustainability and growth of fragile communities, not least by improving remote delivery of public services. It will also enable new forms of remote working, remote education opportunities and lifestyle choice in rural communities.
- 3.7.2. HIE, with support from regional partners, is committed to delivering NGB to all parts of the Highlands and Islands. This project is designed to meet the Scottish Government's target of NGB to all by 2020, with significant progress by 2015.
- 3.7.3. This is a truly transformational project for the Highlands and Islands, securing the delivery of a step change in connectivity across a large, sparsely populated region which the commercial market will not service unaided. NGB in the Highlands and Islands will make a real contribution to

Scotland's prosperity and avert the risk of a rural-urban digital divide.

- 3.7.4. HIE's project has attracted enthusiastic support from stakeholders including local authorities, universities and colleges, health authorities, and business and community organisations. Their backing stresses the importance of connectivity as an enabler, underpinning a vast range of activities which drive successful communities and businesses.
- 3.7.5. Current trials in the Highlands and Islands are already showing significant results, including cost savings and improved remote delivery of health services. Poor or limited connectivity in rural locations is a barrier to extending these trials further. This project will create opportunities to expand the remote delivery of public services.
- 3.7.6. In June 2011, HIE launched the procurement process to appoint an experienced partner to co-invest in the provision of NGB services throughout the region. Procurement will follow the OJEU competitive dialogue process and HIE expects to sign contracts by July 2012.
- 3.7.7. The project will be delivered in phases. Confirmation of the rollout plan will be known soon after the contract is awarded. It is expected that the total value of the contract, including both public and private sector funding, will be £200m - £300m. Initial funding will come from BDUK, HIE and ERDF. HIE is working to identify a funding package to deliver this.

Gerry Wilson  
IT Infrastructure Manager  
11 July 2011

For further information please contact:  
Gerry Wilson, IT Infrastructure Manager, Tel 01436 658936

This page is intentionally left blank

---

**ARGYLL & BUTE COUNCIL****DEVELOPMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE**3<sup>rd</sup> August 2011

---

---

**Road Equivalent Tariff (RET) Briefing Note for MAKI Area Committee**

---

**1. Summary**

This report advises of the background to the Scottish Government's RET pilot, the impact to date on those communities involved and the costs of extending the pilot in the future. The Scottish Government have recently published a draft report into the impacts of the RET pilot and the findings of this form the basis of this briefing note.

**2. Recommendations**

2.1 This report is for noting.

**3. Background**

3.1 The remote islands of Scotland are some of the most peripheral and fragile communities in Europe as a result of their distance from mainland markets, public services and social and cultural facilities. Ferry services are a vital lifeline to many of these fragile communities however, the Scottish Government recognised that the expense of ferry travel was a further disadvantage to many islanders.

3.2 As a result the RET pilot scheme was introduced in October 2008 in the Western Isles, Coll and Tiree as a means of setting ferry fares based on the cost of travelling an equivalent distance by road. The RET pilot is aimed at reducing the disparities in the cost of travel between island and mainland communities thereby reducing the economic disadvantage suffered by remote island communities.

3.3 The location for the RET Pilot was determined by the Scottish Government based on consideration of economic problems within different island communities, and on the requirement for a self-contained area in which the concept could be monitored.

3.4 The Pilot was initially due to end in spring 2011 however, the Scottish Government have extended this by one year until spring 2012.

3.5 The following ferry services have been effected by the RET Pilot:-

- Ullapool – Stornoway;
- Uig – Tarbert/Lochmaddy;
- Oban – Castlebay/Lochboisdale;
- Oban – Coll/Tiree.

3.6 Passenger fares fell by on average 40% with discounts of over 50% available for commercial vehicles on some services.

**4. Impact of RET**

- 4.1 Research undertaken as part of the pilot indicates that there was approximately 17% more passenger traffic on RET routes in the first two years of the pilot. In addition, car traffic increased proportionately by almost 50% more than passenger numbers, resulting in difficulties accommodating peak period demand.
- 4.2 An increase in commercial vehicle traffic of 8% over two years on RET routes was recorded however, this has been attributed to changes in business activity on the islands rather than as a direct response to lower fares.
- 4.3 The increased demand for ferry services (in particular motor vehicle traffic) on RET routes, has resulted in difficulties for Island residents and businesses getting on the sailings they require. In certain instances this has resulted in journeys being cancelled, additional costs being incurred and fuel supplies on Coll and Tiree were reported to be unavailable for several days because the fuel tanker could not be accommodated on the ferry.
- 4.4 Approximately 30,000 additional visits a year were made by ferry to the Pilot area predominantly by tourists who say they would have otherwise visited another destination in Scotland had it not been for the reduced fares. This resulted in increased demand for accommodation on islands (confirmed by VisitScotland data) putting additional strain on availability particularly during the traditional peak months of July and August. There was also a 4% increase in turnover of tourist related businesses within the pilot area.
- 4.5 RET has made a positive impact on haulage businesses by lowering ferry costs by an estimated 50% however, this has been offset by other costs such as rising fuel prices. Hauliers have also seen an increase in businesses transporting their own goods instead of contracting haulage, which can be attributed to the ending of multiple-trip discounts which had given a cost advantage to local hauliers making frequent use of the ferries.
- 4.6 There is information available from business surveys suggesting some island firms have expanded into mainland markets and conversely some mainland business have expanded in the RET area. There has also been a marginal improvement in employment levels in the Western Isles over the RET pilot period.
- 4.7 No evidence to suggest RET has had any impact on fuel or house prices.

**5. Coll and Tiree**

- 5.1 Residents of Coll and Tiree are more dependent on ferry services for access to basic services, including shopping, health and education. Their ferry services are lifeline, with many more trips for what may be considered 'essential' purposes and as a result RET has not resulted in the same increases in ferry travel observed in the Western Isles.
- 5.2 The ferry between Oban and Coll/Tiree has experienced the lowest



level of traffic growth, and the residents report the least increase in the frequency of their trips to the mainland.

- 5.3 There are also different attitudes towards the RET pilot on Coll and Tiree than the other islands in the pilot area. Whilst the majority of residents surveyed thought the lower cost of accessing goods and services on the mainland was a real benefit to the community, 42% of those on Coll and Tiree identified that increased tourism as a result of the pilot could have negative social and environmental impacts on the islands.
- 5.4 In general the residents of Coll and Tiree benefitted from RET through cheaper access to essential goods and services however, this did not result in a substantial increase in trips. Islanders benefitted less from increased economic activity, and reported some negative impacts of increased tourism such as low fuel supplies when the fuel tanker could not be accommodated on fully booked sailings.

**6. Cost of Extending RET Pilot**

- 6.1 Figures published in a Scottish Government draft report suggest that extending RET across the entire ferry network would result in a loss of fares revenue in the region of £14 million pa assuming that there is sufficient capacity available to carry the additional trips generated. If RET was extended but no additional demand could be accommodated, then the loss of revenue is estimated at £21 million pa.
- 6.2 The Scottish Government Ferries Division have advised that a paper regarding the future of RET is currently with the Minister for Transport for consideration.

For further information contact Moya Ingram, Strategic Transportation Manager, Manse Brae 01546 604190 or Jonathan Welch, Transport Planner, Manse Brae 01546 604329.

This page is intentionally left blank



**REPORT ON KILMORY HOME FARM COMMUNITY PROJECT**

---

**1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 Members will recall that the Area Committee previously agreed to allow the Kilmory Home Farm Community Group time to pursue the development of a business plan and to pursue funding opportunities (Mid-Argyll, Kintyre and Islay Area Committee – 6<sup>th</sup> August 2008).
- 1.2 It has taken longer for the community group to consider and prepare the business case for the Home Farm than was originally anticipated, however the Social Enterprise Plan was finally delivered in September 2010. (copies can be made available to Members on request)
- 1.3 The Home Farm Community Group now wish to secure the Council's support for the Social Enterprise Plan(SEP) and in particular to re-affirm support for the project. This will include the transfer of the Home Farm steadings to the Community Group, and to explore the potential for the transfer of other surrounding land areas required to support the SEP.
- 1.4 The Council's continuing support and commitment to the project has to be demonstrated before potential funding bodies will give favourable consideration to the proposals.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 That the Area Committee continue to endorse the Kilmory Home Farm Community Group's aims and objectives as set out in the Social Enterprise Plan and;
- a) Agree to the transfer of the Kilmory Home Farm steadings at nil cost to the community group when they have secured confirmation from the relevant funding bodies that the project can proceed.

**3.0 DETAIL**

- 3.1** The Social Enterprise Plan(SEP) prepared by the Community Group sets out ways in which various activities could be incorporated into the vision of the home farm as a community venture. These activities relate principally to the potential use of land surrounding the home farm for allotments, community orchard, play areas etc (see plan attached). It is intended that such activities would be initiated early on in the overall project both to act as a catalyst for promoting community interest and as a means of generating income to support the project over the longer term.
- 3.2** The community group are now pursuing the possibility of either acquiring or leasing some of the land around the Home Farm to allow for the implementation of the Social Enterprise Plan. Negotiations over the possible transfer of this additional land are being conducted separately through the Council's Estates Service, but will, like the transfer of the Home Farm, be dependent upon the likelihood of the project receiving funding support.
- 3.4** This is a significant project for a community organisation to take on, with an estimated cost of circa £3 million for the renovation of the home farm buildings alone, there will need to be a major commitment from funding bodies such as the Big Lottery and the Heritage Lottery Fund if the project is to proceed. The determining factor for the future of this project will be the views of these funding bodies.
- 3.5** In addition, the Home Farm does not currently have a dedicated means of vehicular access and this will have to be addressed by the community group as a component part of the overall project and additional funding identified.
- 3.6** Given the current uncertainty over the funding available for this project, it is not considered prudent to pass the Home Farm buildings to the community group at this stage. If the funding applications were to be unsuccessful the community group would then be left with the significant liability of the buildings which are in a poor and worsening condition.

**4. CONCLUSION**

- 4.1 The community group have requested that the Council continues to offer full support for the project including the continuation of the commitment to transfer the Home Farm buildings to them at an appropriate juncture.
- 4.2 The Council has previously indicated its full support for this community venture which currently offers the best hope of securing the renovation of the listed Kilmory Home Farm and its long-term future.

**5. IMPLICATIONS**

- Policy:** Consistent with previous Council decisions to support the Kilmory Home Farm Community Group with this project.
- Financial:** No direct cost to the Council, although the transfer of the asset to the community group will, in the longer term reduce the liability for costs associated with keeping the buildings safe and secure.
- Personnel:** Officer time.
- Equal Opportunities:** None.

For further information contact: Paul Convery (Planning)

Tel: 01546 604278

## Kilmory Home Farm Community Project - Area Proposals

### Area A - (1.5ha or thereby) KHF Area

Core sustainable project uses; Kilmory Home Farm Building & Immediate surroundings creating KHF as a hub with play area; skate park, living classroom, open space, picnic/BBQ areas, meeting area, starting point for many all ability walks, cycle paths & other active living exercise.

### Area B - (5.0ha or thereby) Spinney

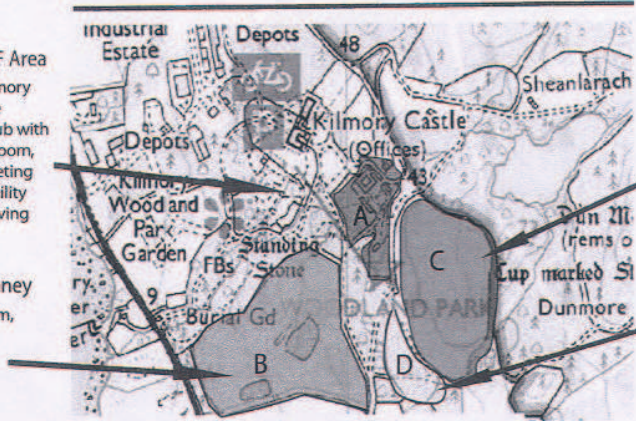
Initially grazing for community farm, sheep, horses etc; progressively developed as community open space/park land to complement agroecology scheme.

### Area C - (5.0ha or thereby) Oval Field

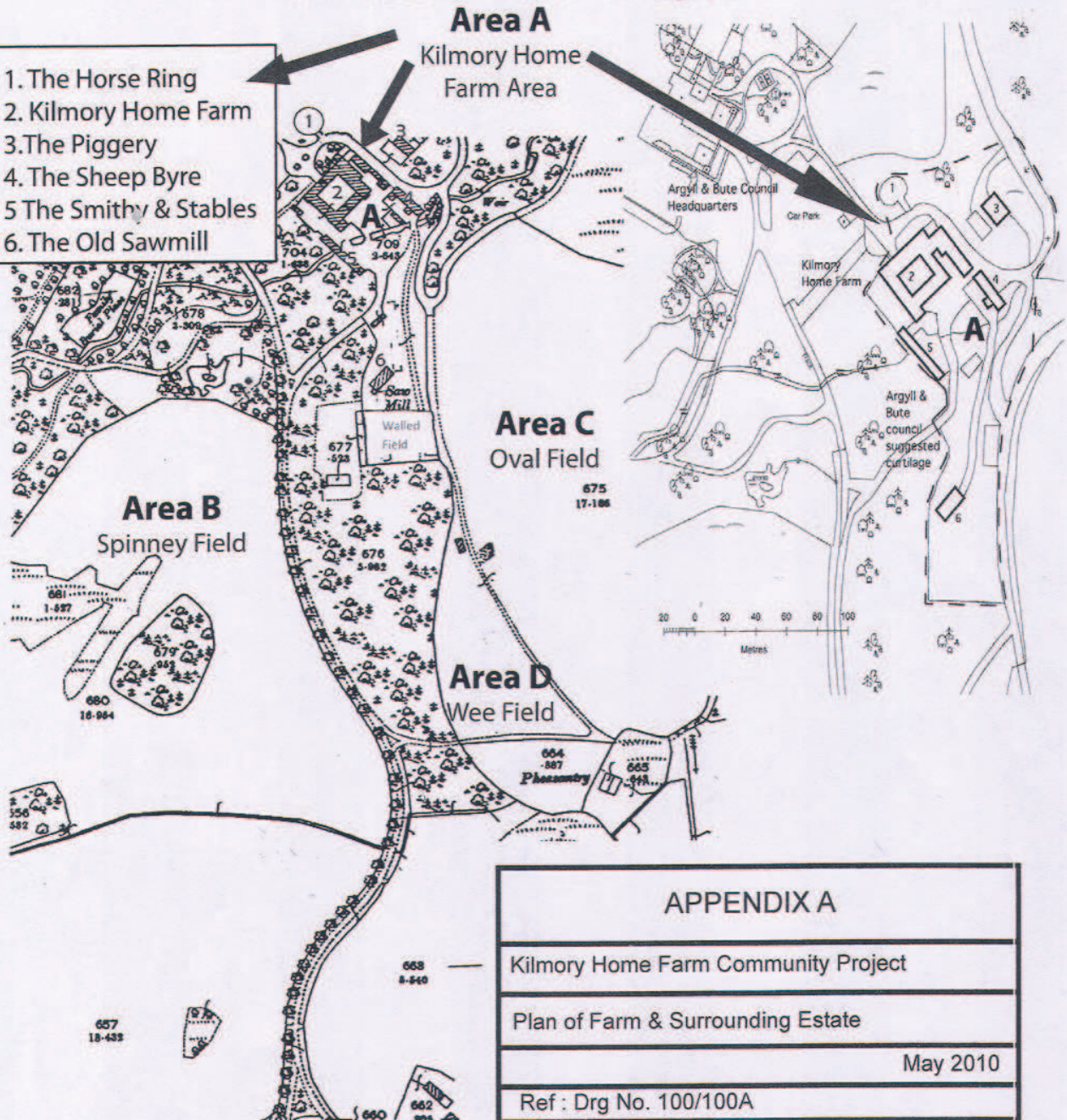
Initial grazing for community farm, sheep, horses etc; progressively developed in line with agroecology ethos; sheltered heated poly tunnels; community growing space (plots and half plots); nurseries for fruit and decorative trees; childrens orchard. Community open space. Core Renewable Energy Production & Training.

### Area D - (1.2ha or thereby) Wee Field

Initially grazing for horses, developed in line with agroecology aims.



1. The Horse Ring
2. Kilmory Home Farm
3. The Piggery
4. The Sheep Byre
5. The Smithy & Stables
6. The Old Sawmill



<b>APPENDIX A</b>
Kilmory Home Farm Community Project
Plan of Farm & Surrounding Estate
May 2010
Ref : Drg No. 100/100A

This page is intentionally left blank



---

**ARGYLL & BUTE COUNCIL**

**MID ARGYLL, KINTYRE & THE ISLANDS AREA  
COMMITTEE**

**DEVELOPMENT AND  
INFRASTRUCTURE**

**WEDNESDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2011**

---

**ROADS ISSUES**

---

**1. SUMMARY**

1.1 This report provides an update on outstanding roads-related issues in Mid Argyll, Kintyre & Islay.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 It is recommended that Members note this report.

**3. DETAIL**

3.1 Capital Programme – 2011/12 (see Appendix B).

- Capital surfacing work is progressing well in Mid Argyll with completion of the last section of overlay on the A816 at Cairnbaan expected by mid July.
- Surfacing work in Kintyre is expected to commence in mid July, with completion programmed for mid August.
- Surfacing work on Islay is expected to commence following the completion of works on the mainland in mid August with completion programmed for late September.
- All surfacing work in Kintyre and Islay will be carried out under the Council's new partnership agreement with Breedon Aggregates (See press release in Appendix A).
- Surface dressing is now complete. All surface dressing work was carried out this year by our external contractor – Colas.

3.2 General revenue works –

- General safety-related works (drainage and permanent patching) is ongoing. Some scrub cutting is being carried out in Kintyre.
- Grass cutting – 1<sup>st</sup> cut nearing completion – should all be complete by mid July for all areas.
- The Patchmaster vehicle will commence work on Islay on Monday 18 July 2011.

3.3 Islay – Port Ellen to Ardbeg Road

- A public consultation is planned for the latter part of July to discuss options being proposed. A verbal update will be given at the Area Committee meeting following the public consultation.

3.4 Asset Management Strategy Report

- An Asset Strategy Plan is being prepared for all primary routes across Argyll. A report will be presented to members by the Head of Roads and Amenity Services at an Area Committee later in the year.

3.5 A83 Drumore / UC59 Machrihanish road surfacing works.

- Discussions regarding remedial works are ongoing with the contractor. A verbal update will be given at the Area Committee meeting.

3.6 Scottish Water Works in Campbeltown

- Campbeltown works are expected to be complete by late summer / early autumn.

**4. Policy:** The road network will be maintained in line with the 'Road Maintenance & Asset Management Plan' as closely as the available roads maintenance budget will allow.

**5. Financial:** Expenditure of revenue and capital budget to maintain the network.

**6. Personnel:** Nil

For further information, please contact:

Stewart Clark, Contracts Manager (Tel: 01546 604893)

Graham Brown  
Operations Manager  
8<sup>th</sup> July 2011

## APPENDIX A

## **BREEDON SIGNS PARTNERSHIP WITH ARGYLL & BUTE TO IMPROVE ROADS IN ISLAY, JURA, MULL & KINTYRE**

Breedon Aggregates Scotland has signed a pioneering partnership agreement with Argyll & Bute Council to undertake road improvement programmes on Islay, Jura, Mull and Kintyre. The three-year partnership agreement, which has an option for a one-year extension, will cover a programme of road reconstruction, resurfacing, patching and markings as well as surface dressing and coated roadstone installation. The overall value of the contract is estimated to be over £7 million.

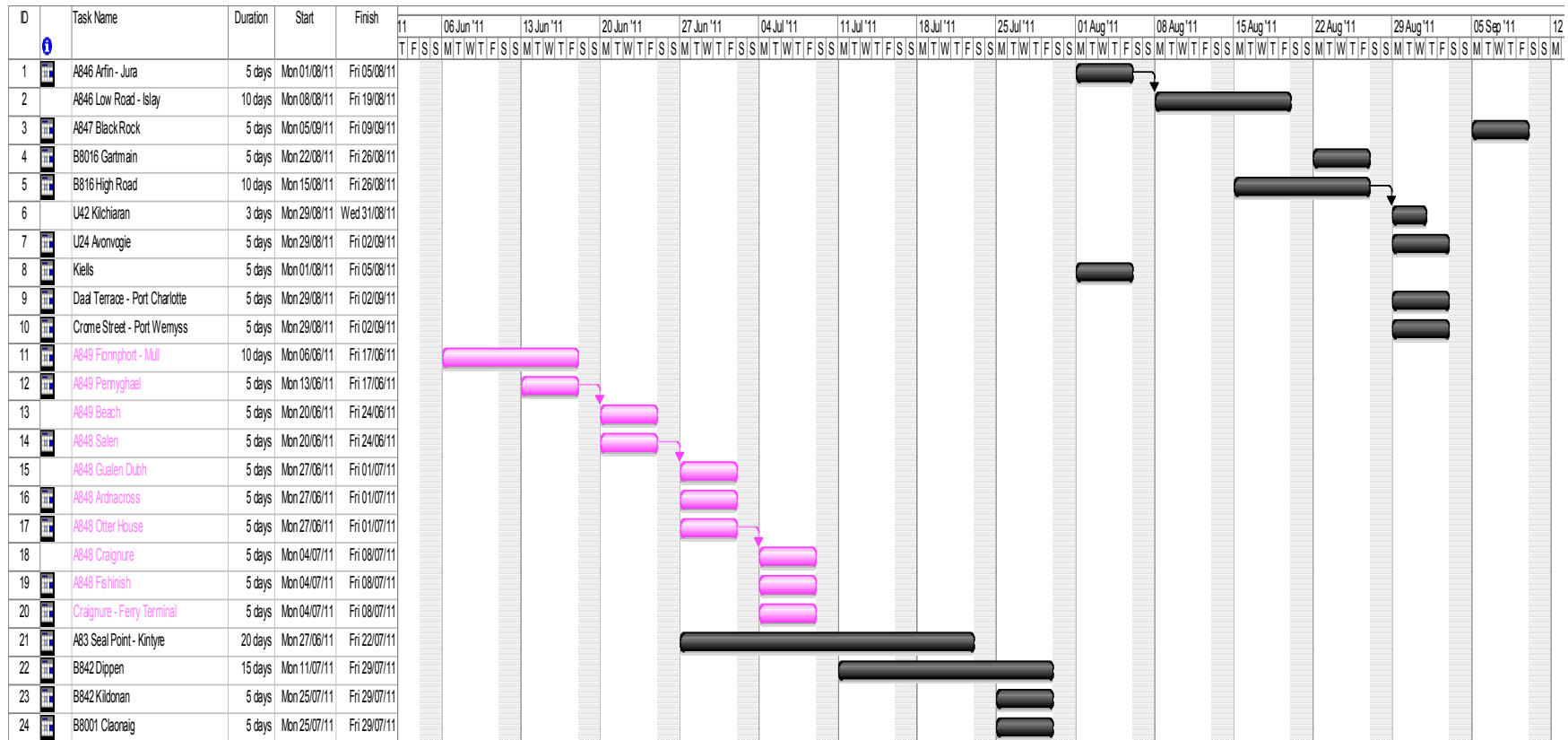
For the first year the programme of works has been prepared and designed by Argyll & Bute Council. In subsequent years, Breedon Aggregates will be responsible for the design and preparation of the programme.

Alan Mackenzie, chief executive of Breedon Aggregates Scotland, said: "This is great news for Breedon Aggregates Scotland and for the local authority, as this approach allows them to maximise their budgets at a time when funding is under pressure. We have a good working heritage in this area and the fact that this is a long-term deal and a partnership agreement is testament to our experience and ability to deliver good quality results."

Spokesperson for Transport and Infrastructure at Argyll and Bute Council, Councillor Duncan MacIntyre, said: "This partnership agreement will ultimately mean that we can ensure good maintenance of the routes in Islay, Jura, Mull and Kintyre over a long period of time at a competitive rate. It will make a real difference to the communities in these areas of Argyll and Bute. We are committed to improving the area's roads for local people, businesses and tourists. Breedon Aggregates have proved that they are able to deliver time and again. We are looking forward to working with them."

The contract commences this month.

## APPENDIX B



This page is intentionally left blank



Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank