

Public Document Pack

Argyll and Bute Council
Comhairle Earra Ghaidheal agus Bhoid

Customer Services
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31 March 2015

NOTICE OF MEETING

A meeting of the **BUTE AND COWAL AREA COMMITTEE** will be held in **EAGLESHAM HOUSE ROTHESAY** on **TUESDAY, 7 APRIL 2015** at **9:30 AM**, which you are requested to attend.

Douglas Hendry
Executive Director - Customer Services

BUSINESS

1. **APOLOGIES**
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
3. **MINUTES**
 - (a) Bute and Cowal Area Committee - 3 February 2015 (Pages 1 - 10)
 - (b) Special Bute and Cowal Area Committee - 3 March 2015 (Pages 11 - 12)
 - (c) Bute Community Safety Forum - 13 February 2015 (Pages 13 - 16)
 - (d) Cowal Community Safety Forum - 18 February 2015 (Pages 17 - 20)
 - (e) Forward Dunoon and Cowal Group - 18 February 2015 (Pages 21 - 26)
 - (f) Cowal Highland Gathering Partnership - 23 March 2015 (Pages 27 - 30)
 - (g) Cowal Transport Forum - 27 March 2015 (Pages 31 - 36)
4. **PUBLIC AND COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME**
5. **AREA PLAN SCORECARDS**
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7. **ROADS CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2015/2016**
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8. **TRAFFIC AND PARKING ISSUES**
Report by Contracts Manager (Pages 73 - 76)

- (a) Traffic Management on Kilbride Road
Report by Contracts Manager

9. ROTHESAY ACADEMY - STAFFING SITUATION UPDATE

Report by Head Teacher, Rothesay Academy (Pages 77 - 80)

10. OLDER PEOPLES CARE AT HOME SERVICE UPDATE

Report by Area Manager, Adult Care (Pages 81 - 84)

11. IMPLEMENTATION OF SELF DIRECTED SUPPORT

Report by SDS Project Manager (Pages 85 - 98)

12. WEST BAY DUNOON

Report by Amenity Performance Manager (Pages 99 - 102)

13. BUTE AND COWAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN

Presentation by Economic Development Manager (Pages 103 - 120)

14. NOTICE OF MOTION UNDER STANDING ORDER 13

The Bute and Cowal Area Committee wishes to work in partnership with the Dunoon Community Pier Trust to ensure that the historic Dunoon Pier is refurbished and brought back into use in a manner that reflects the community's views on what the pier should be used for.

The Bute and Cowal area committee recommends to the full council that a new sub-committee of the area committee is created for this purpose. The sub-committee will have responsibility for the refurbishment and future use of the pier and officers will report to this sub-committee. The sub-committee will in turn report to the area committee. The proposal is that the sub-committee comprises 3 elected members from the Dunoon and Cowal wards and 3 members of the board of Dunoon Community Pier Trust.

The 3 elected members from these 2 wards will be determined by a decision of the area committee for Bute and Cowal. The 3 members of the SCIO board will be determined by that board. The sub-committee will elect a chair and vice chair at its first meeting if the creation of the sub-committee is agreed by the full council.

Proposer Cllr Michael Breslin
Seconder Cllr Bruce Marshall

15. WESTCHURCH PROGRESS UPDATE

Report by Building Standards Manager (Pages 121 - 126)

E1 16. SPENCE COURT

Report by Estates Surveyor (Pages 127 - 132)

E1 17. GROUND WATERGATE ROTHESAY

Report by Estates Surveyor (Pages 133 - 138)

E1 18. CASTLE LODGE GATE HOUSE

Report by Head of Roads and Amenity Services (Pages 139 - 142)

E1 19. QUEENS HALL PROPERTY UPDATE

Report by Regeneration Project Manager (Pages 143 - 144)

The Committee will be asked to pass a resolution in terms of Section 50(a)94) 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 1 of Schedule 7a to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

The appropriate paragraphs are:-

Paragraph 8 The amount of any expenditure proposed to be incurred by the authority under any particular contract for the acquisition of property or the supply of goods or services.

Paragraph 9 Any terms proposed or to be proposed by or to the authority in the course of negotiations for a contract for the acquisition or disposal of property or the supply of goods or services.

BUTE & COWAL AREA COMMITTEE

Councillor Gordon Blair	Councillor Michael Breslin
Councillor Robert Macintyre (Chair)	Councillor Bruce Marshall
Councillor Alex McNaughton (Vice-Chair)	
Councillor James McQueen	Councillor Len Scoullar
Councillor Isobel Strong	Councillor Dick Walsh

Contact: Andrea Waters, Senior Area Committee Assistant, Tel: 01369 707134

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**MINUTES of MEETING of BUTE AND COWAL AREA COMMITTEE held in the CASTLE HOUSE,
DUNOON
on TUESDAY, 3 FEBRUARY 2015**

Present: Councillor Alex McNaughton (Chair)

Councillor Gordon Blair	Councillor Bruce Marshall
Councillor Michael Breslin	Councillor Len Scoullar
Councillor James McQueen	Councillor Isobel Strong
Councillor Dick Walsh	

Attending: Charles Reppke, Head of Governance and Law
Graeme Forrester, Area Committee Manager
Pippa Milne, Executive Director, Development and Infrastructure Services
Jim Smith, Head of Roads and Amenity Services
David Clements, Improvement and Organisational development Programme Manager
Hugh Blake, Asset Manager
Paul Ashworth, Health and Fitness Manager
John Gordon, CHORD Dunoon Regeneration Project Manager
Douglas Blades, Public Transport Officer
David Mitchell, Head Teacher, Dunoon Grammar School
Muriel Kupris, Leisure and Youth Services Manager

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated from:

Councillor Robert MacIntyre
Jayne Lawrence –Winch, Area Manager, Adult Care

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Gordon Blair declared a non-financial interest in relation to the Castle Lodge Gate House which was dealt with at Item 15 of this minute, citing friendship with an interested party. He left the room and took no part in the discussion of this item.

3. MINUTES

(a) BUTE AND COWAL AREA COMMITTEE - 2 DECEMBER 2014

The minute of the Bute and Cowal Area Committee of 2nd December 2014 was approved as a correct record.

(b) COWAL TRANSPORT FORUM 23 JANUARY 2015

The minute of the meeting of the Cowal Transport Forum of 23rd January 2015 was noted.

4. PUBLIC AND COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME

Question: Andy Anderson sought costs associated with a policy, referred to as one of 'planned obsolescence' of Castle Toward, for the last ten years along with an estimate for the next five years.

Response: Charles Reppke advised that Argyll and Bute Council do not have such a policy but that information could be sought from the Council's Strategic Finance department relating to costs associated with Castle Toward.

Karen Komurcu presented Councillor Walsh with a box containing a petition with 9,451 signatures supporting the Community buy out of Castle Toward, seeking to reduce the amount that Argyll and Bute Council will accept for the Castle Toward estate from £1,750,000 to £750,000.

Question: Karen Komurcu sought information as to whether Argyll and Bute Council had a plan for Castle Toward.

Response: Councillor Walsh stated that there is an opportunity to enhance the existing business case and that he supports sitting round a table with SCCDC as a partnership.

Question: Karen Komurcu asked if there is a plan for housing as part of development of Castle Toward.

Response: Councillor Walsh advised that if it was felt appropriate then housing could be included.

Question: Karen Komurcu queried whether housing had previously been an element of plans.

Response: Councillor Walsh responded that housing was considered in proposals developed in June 2014.

Response: Councillor Blair added that there would be the possibility to seek further information about this under the Freedom of Information Act.

Question: Councillor Marshall asked if there is any other company involved in discussions.

Response: Councillor Walsh advised that the Council is not involved in discussions with other companies regarding the sale of Castle Toward.

Question: Ken Barr queried why the Bute and Cowal Area Committee were not entitled to determine the disposal of Castle Toward, and further asked Mr Reppke to confirm there had been no other expressions of interest in the purchase of Castle Toward.

Response: Mr Reppke advised that the Council's Standing Orders are clear on the relevant delegations, and that he was not in a position to advise whether any other persons had expressed an interest in the purchase of Castle Toward.

Question: Alison Duncan queried the Council's actions should SCCDC withdraw from the buyout process.

Response: Charles Reppke advised that marketing of Castle Toward had ceased as an interest in community buyout had been expressed, and that if SCCDC were to withdraw further marketing of the property would be considered.

Statement: Dave Dewar stated that two Councillors have lost the support of the Community and in his view had two options: support the proposed community buy out or resign as Councillors.

Statement: Councillor Walsh advised that as Leader of the Council he has a responsibility for public funds and would always exercise judgement based on advice. The options which were available for consideration were reducing the asking price for the property or offering a loan to the community, and a loan had been determined to be appropriate. Councillor Walsh further reminded those present that he is accountable to the public and that is not disregarding public concern in the matter.

Statement: Dave Dewar stated that two councillors disagree with Councillor Walsh's view.

Question: Nicola Law queried why the Council is using as the basis for its position the valuation of Castle Toward provided by the District Valuer.

Response: Charles Reppke advised that this valuation was taken into consideration as the District Valuer had been appointed by the Scottish Government to provide a valuation as part of the community buyout process.

Statement: Nicola Law stated that a red book valuation had been prepared by Savilles and that this should be taken into consideration.

Question: Councillor Marshall queried whether the Campbeltown Town Hall had been valued at between £180,000 and £200,000 but that this asset had been handed to the community for nothing .

Response: Charles Reppke advised that he would check the valuation figure and confirm to Members because his recollection about his was not the same as the Councillor. At the end of the public and Councillor question time Mr Reppke confirmed that the District Valuer's valuation for Campbeltown Town Hall was zero.

Statement: Eileen Szykowiak stated that tax payers are currently paying to keep Castle Toward shut and that people are leaving Argyll and Bute. Ms Szykowiak further stated that there is something wrong with the running of the Council.

Question: Alison Duncan queried how many empty properties are currently held by the Council.

Response: Councillor Walsh advised that the Council maintains information on all assets it holds, and that the Council has an asset management strategy in place.

Question: Councillor Breslin requested clarity regarding the responses which had been given as to whether the Council had received notifications of interest in Castle Toward from parties other than from SCCDC.

Response: Charles Reppke advised that he did not know the answer to this question.

Response: Councillor Walsh advised that he is not aware of any other interested party.

It was declared by the Chair at this point that a point of order could not be taken by the floor.

Question: Councillor Strong requested detail as to the cost to Argyll and Bute Council of acquiring Castle Toward.

Response: Charles Reppke advised that Argyll and Bute Council acquired Castle Toward from Strathclyde Regional Council in 1996 as part of the

legislative process governing local authority re-organisation.

Statement: Councillor Strong responded that in her view Argyll and Bute Council had acquired Castle Toward without cost.

Question: Karen Komurcu asked for further information on the Council's strategic plan for Castle Toward, including for how long the Council are willing to have the building as an unused asset.

Response: Councillor McNaughton advised that it is likely that Castle Toward would be put on the open market if the proposed community buyout is not completed.

Question: Alistair McKinnon queried whether members of the public could see the strategic management plan, and asked who within the Council is responsible for the plan.

Response: Charles Reppke indicated that he was unclear about what was being asked. If the query was about a Strategic Master Plan for the Estate then this is possible under planning legislation and in theory can be progressed by a range of parties who might have an interest in seeing the land developed, it is not simply a matter for the Council.

Question: Alison Duncan queried why Castle Toward could not be handed over to SCCDC.

Response: Councillor McNaughton advised that this question had already been dealt with.

Question: Eleanor Stevenson asked why the Council wouldn't accept the offer which had been made and stop changing goal posts.

Response: Councillor McNaughton advised that this question had already been dealt with.

Question: Dave Dewar queried whether a letter from Alex Neil would influence thinking.

Response: Councillor Walsh acknowledged Alex Neil's interest in the matter and his knowledge of the right to buy process. He advised that he had already replied to the Minister

Question: Monty Phillips queried why the Council are using the valuation supplied by the District Valuer.

Response: Charles Reppke advised that the right to buy process needs to be followed, and reminded those present that the District Valuer had been appointed by the Scottish Government to undertake the valuation as part of the right to buy process.

Question: Councillor Breslin asked Mr Reppke if he agreed that all valuations are subjective.

Response: Mr Reppke responded that all valuations will include a subjective element, but noted that the District Valuer and all others suitably qualified undertake valuations within a professional framework.

Statement: Nicola Law advised that the importance of jobs in the area should not be forgotten.

Question: Councillor Marshall asked Councillor McNaughton whether he continued to support the community buyout.

Response: Councillor McNaughton advised that he continued to support the

buyout of the property by South Cowal Community Council, but could not support the sought reduction in sale price.

Question: Alistair McKinnon queried whether the Council borrow against the Council's property portfolio?

Response: Charles Reppke advised that this question would be most appropriately directed to the Council's Head of Strategic Finance for a response.

Question: Councillor Blair queried whether this would be a missed opportunity for jobs and whether Cowal would lose eighty to ninety jobs.

Response: Councillor Walsh advised that the Council's decision was made with the intention of helping the community and that he wanted to bring jobs to the area.

5. AREA PLAN SCORECARDS

The Committee considered a report proposing improvements to the Bute and Cowal Scorecard presented by the IOD Programme Manager. Two amendments to the scorecard by Members were noted.

Decision

1. The Committee noted the contents of the report.
2. The Committee agreed subject to Members suggested amendments to adopt the recommended improvements to the Bute and Cowal Area Scorecard.
3. For the report to be brought back with changes to the April Area Committee.

(Ref: Report by IOD Programme Manager dated 3rd February 2015, submitted).

6. ROADS REVENUE BUDGET 2014 TO 2015 - FQ3

The Head of Roads and Amenity Services provided a report following on from the report previously presented at the December Area Committee, containing information on road maintenance revenue activities being delivered in 2014/2015

Decision

The Committee noted the report.

(Ref: Report by Roads Performance Manager dated 3rd February 2015, submitted).

7. COWAL BUS SERVICE

(a) TOWARD/GLENFINART SERVICE

The Public Transport Officer provided a report outlining the ongoing work relating to issues and possible solutions around the supported bus service 489 which runs between Toward and Glenfinart. The report also considered

the withdrawal by West Coast Motors of the commercial service 80 between Dunoon and Hunters Quay on 17 November 2014 and its effect on service 480 which runs between Upper Kirn and Dunoon Ferry Terminal.

Decision

1. The committee noted the report.
2. The Committee agreed the recommendations as outlined in 1.5 of the report.

(Ref: Report by Public Transport Officer dated 3rd February 2015, submitted).

(b) ROTHESAY/PORTAVADIE/DUNOON SERVICE

The Public Transport Officer provided the Committee with a verbal update on the progress of the issue surrounding the early bus service from Portavadie to Dunoon, informing the Committee that talks were ongoing with Caledonian MacBrayne for an extra sailing. He also informed Members that there was a possibility of creating an extra run through a local contractor and will keep Members updated of the progress on this matter.

Decision

1. The Committee noted the verbal update.
2. Members requested a further update to March Business Day.

(Ref: Verbal update by Public Transport Officer dated 3rd February 2015, submitted).

8. SECONDARY SCHOOLS REPORT - DUNOON GRAMMAR SCHOOL

The Head Teacher of Dunoon Grammar School thanked Members for their continuing support and presented a report which provided a 2014/2015 progress update as well as a statistical breakdown of achievements.

Decision

The Committee noted the report

(Ref: Report by Head Teacher, Dunoon Grammar School dated 3rd February 2015, submitted).

9. SENSORY IMPAIRMENT PROGRESS UPDATE

A report providing an update on the progress of reducing Sensory Impairment waiting lists and providing a good quality responsive service to those with a Sensory Impairment in Argyll was considered.

The Area Manager - Adult Care had intimated apologies for the meeting, so no additional update was provided.

Decision

1. The Committee noted the report.
2. Noted that the report should come back to March Business Day with

updated figures.

(Ref: Report by Area Manager – Adult Care dated 3rd February 2015, submitted).

10. ROTHESAY HARBOUR

A report by Head of Economic Development and Strategic Transport was presented to Members and provided an update on the proposal to alter the governance model for the harbours within Argyll and Bute. It also provided Members with an update on the appointment of the Council's independent Designated person.

Members were informed that the Policy and Resources committee agreed the recommendation set out in the paper submitted on 18 December 2014 which was to recommend to full Council approval of the establishment of a harbour board as a sub-committee of the existing Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee for all Council owned ports and harbours

Decision

1. The Committee noted the report.
2. The Committee noted the decision by the Policy and Resources Committee.

(Ref: Report by Head of Economic Development and Strategic Transport dated 3rd February 2015, submitted).

11. NOTICE OF MOTION UNDER STANDING ORDER 13

The Committee considered the following Notice of Motion submitted under Standing Order 13 which was proposed at the meeting by Councillor Michael Breslin and seconded by Councillor Bruce Marshall–

Motion

The area committee notes with concern that Cllrs Walsh and McQueen voted for the motion at the December 2014 meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee and against Cllr Breslin's motion at the council meeting on 22 January. The area committee also notes with concern the vote against Cllr Breslin's motion by Cllr McNaughton on 22 January.

These votes helped end the much wanted community buy out of Castle Toward. The area committee also notes the motion of no confidence agreed on Wednesday

14 January 2015 by South Cowal Community Council and endorses that motion, copy below.

South Cowal Community Council no longer has confidence in Cllrs Walsh and McQueen due to their vote on 18 December 2014 at the Policy and Resources Committee that effectively ended the proposed community buy out of Castle Toward. In addition to their opposition to the buyout, Cllr McQueen has never attended a South Cowal Community Council meeting and, since the community

buy

out was first proposed, Cllr Walsh has rarely attending South Cowal Community Council meetings. Their failure to attend the community council meeting this evening, 14 January 2015, is inexcusable.

It is with regret that the community council feels it necessary to pass this motion of

no confidence in Cllrs Walsh and McQueen but enough is enough.

Proposer: Councillor Breslin

Secunder: Councillor Marshall

Amendment

That the Area Committee notes the views of South Cowal Community Council on this issue but also recognises that Councillors have a duty to exercise appropriate stewardship of public assets.

The Area Committee rejects the terms of the motion which appears to ignore due process and the principals of democracy.

Proposer: Councillor Walsh

Secunder: Councillor Scoullar

Decision

On there being a equality of votes the Chair gave his casting vote for the amendment and the amendment was carried by 5 votes to 4 and the Committee resolved accordingly.

(Reference: Notice of Motion by Councillor Michael Breslin and seconded by Councillor Bruce Marshall, 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 items of business on the grounds that it was likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 8&9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

12. REFURBISHMENT OF RIVERSIDE LEISURE CENTRE PROGRESS UPDATE

The Leisure and Youth Services Manager presented a report to Members providing an update on the proposals for capital investment in the Riverside Leisure Centre, Dunoon.

Decision

1. The Committee noted the report.
2. Noted that a further report be brought back to March Business Day outlining costs and survey results.

(Ref: Report by Leisure and Youth Services Manager dated 3rd February 2015, submitted).

13. KILMUN TOILETS

The Asset Manager presented a report for Members consideration, advising of

the offers of purchase received in respect of the former public conveniences at Kilmum Pier, Kilmun.

Decision

1. The Committee noted the report
2. The Committee agreed the recommendation as outlined in 3.1 of the report.

(Ref: Report by Estates Surveyor dated 3rd February 2015, submitted).

14. SPENCE COURT

This report was withdrawn from the meeting, to be brought back at a later date.

Councillor Gordon Blair having declared a non financial interest in relation to the Castle Lodge Gate House Item 15, left the room and took no part in the discussion of the item.

15. CASTLE LODGE GATE HOUSE

The Head of Roads and Amenity Services provided a report updating Members on the current position of the proposed sale of the Castle Lodge Gate House.

Decision

1. The Committee noted the report.
2. The Committee agreed the recommendations as outlined in 2.1 of the report.

Councillor Breslin having moved an amendment that failed to find a seconder asked for his dissent to be recorded from the forgoing decision.

(Ref: Report by Head of Roads and Amenity Services dated 3rd February, submitted).

Councillor Gordon Blair returned to the room at item 16 Queens Hall CHORD update.

16. QUEENS HALL - CHORD UPDATE

The Regeneration Manager presented a report to Members, providing a three part comprehensive breakdown of reviews following the conclusion of the Queens Hall stage E end review.

Decision

1. The Committee noted the report.
2. The Committee agreed the recommendations as outlined in 1.2 of the report.
3. The Committee agreed a delegation should be given to the Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services to amend plans to include infrastructure to enable video-conferencing to take place in the

building once redeveloped, subject to the relevant costs being in line with the budget.

(Ref: Report by Regeneration Manager dated 3rd February 2015, submitted).

17. WOODEN PIER - PROJECT UPDATE

The Regeneration Manager presented a report providing Members with an update on the proposed regeneration works to the wooden pier.

Decision

1. The Committee noted the report.
2. The Committee agreed the recommendations as outlined in 1.2 of the report.

(Ref: Report by Regeneration Manager dated 3rd February 2015, submitted).

**MINUTES of MEETING of BUTE AND COWAL AREA COMMITTEE held in EAGLESHAM
HOUSE, ROTHESAY
on TUESDAY, 3 MARCH 2015**

Present: Councillor Robert E Macintyre (Chair)

Councillor Gordon Blair	Councillor Bruce Marshall
Councillor Michael Breslin	Councillor Len Scoullar
Councillor Alex McNaughton	Councillor Isobel Strong
Councillor James McQueen	

Attending: Graeme Forrester, Area Committee Manager
Helen Ford, Project Manager, Helensburgh CHORD

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated from:-
Councillor Dick Walsh

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were intimated.

3. MEMBERSHIP OF THE BUTE AND COWAL AREA COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP

The Area Governance manager took Members through a report which provided an outline of the revised terms of reference in relation to membership and asks the Area Committee to appoint members to the Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group.

Decision

1. Members noted the contents of the report
2. Members agreed to confirm the appointment of the Chair (Cllr Robert Macintyre) and the Vice-Chair (Cllr Alex McNaughton) as members of the Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group;
3. Members determined to select from their number in advance of each Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group meeting at least one other Member to be the third Bute and Cowal Area Committee member of the Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group.

(Ref: Report by Area Governance Manager, 3 March 2015, 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 items of business on the grounds that it was likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 8 & 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

4. ROTHESAY CHORD PROJECT

The Project Manager, Helensburgh CHORD took Members through a report that requested a draw down of funds from the CHORD capital budget to allow design and construction survey work to continue throughout March and April, whilst approval for the Full Business Case is sought at the Council meeting on 23 April 2015.

Decision

1. Members noted the contents of the report.
2. Members agreed the recommendations as outlined in 3.1 of the report.

(Ref: Report by Project Manager, Helensburgh CHORD 3 March 2015, submitted)

**MINUTES of MEETING of BUTE COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM held in EAGLESHAM HOUSE
ROTHESAY
on FRIDAY, 13 FEBRUARY 2015**

Present: Councillor Len Scoullar (Chair)

Robert Cowper, Anti-Social Behaviour Co-Ordinator
Jen O'Brien, Womens Aid
Inspector Paul Robertson, Police Scotland
Kathryn Armstrong, Fyne Homes
Jim Ferguson, Amenity Warden
Paul McCaig, Amenity Warden
Craig Boland, Buteman
Richard Gorman, Environmental Health Officer
David Cowley, Scottish Fire and Rescue

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated from:-

Dee Hancock, Bute Health and Wellbeing Co-ordinator

2. MINUTES

The minute of the Bute Community Safety Forum held on Friday 14 November 2014 was approved as a correct record.

3. MATTERS ARISING

(a) DOG FOULING SUPERVISORY CAMERA

Councillor Len Scoullar provided an update to the group on the proposal of Bute looking to get it's own supervisory camera to help control dog fouling. He informed the group that the three local housing associations had agreed in principal to contribute £750 each towards a new camera. A discussion took place regarding applying to the Rothesay Common Good Fund for the remainder of the cost. It was noted that Apple Tree Nursery already have an application in to the Common Good Fund for a camera to monitor dog fouling. Robert Cowper informed the group that there are legal implications attached to deploying a camera, and that there is strict criteria that needs to be adhered to. He also informed the group that discussions would need to take place with Police Scotland in order to determine whether they would be willing to monitor the camera.

Actions

1. Robert Cowper to have a discussion with Brian Fitzpatrick about the most suitable camera and the logistics.
2. Councillor Scoullar to speak to Apple Tree Nursery regarding there existing application to the Common Good Fund.
3. Further discussion required regarding putting in an application

to the Rothesay Common Good Fund.

4. **PARTNERS UPDATE**

(a) **POLICE SCOTLAND**

A representative from Police Scotland was not present at the meeting and therefore no update was provided.

(b) **SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE**

David Cowley from Scottish Fire and Rescue updated the Forum on their most recent figures and advised that:

- In the last quarter 32 home fire safety visits had been carried out.
- There is currently a national fire safety TV campaign with accompanying literature and information being rolled out across Scotland.
- Scottish Fire and Rescue are currently going through structural changes in Argyll and Bute.
- David advised that he would be happy to assist members of the Forum in regards to possibly a small amount of funding along with any resources that may be useful.

(c) **FYNE HOMES**

A representative from Fyne Homes was not present at the meeting and therefore no update was provided.

(d) **WOMENS AID**

Jan O'Brien, Womens Aid briefly explained that the purpose of Womens Aid was to help with long term domestic abuse and the long term issues that this can create.

She informed the group that there is currently no guarantee as to whether Scottish Government funding for Womens Aid on Bute will be available after March 2015. It was noted that Womens Aid has provided a service on Bute for the last fifteen years and that it is a valuable asset to the area.

5. **ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL**

Environmental Health

Ailleachd Vernon, Environmental Health Officer gave a verbal update on the following points:

- Environmental Health are currently working on annual gas safety inspections in conjunction with Scottish Fire and Rescue.
- A property action group is in place to deal with several buildings which are in disrepair on Bute.
- Environmental Health are currently working with the organisers of Bute Fest to ensure smooth running of this years festival.

Actions

1. Ailleachd Vernon to find out further information on the safety of the West Church building.
2. Councillor Scoullar to circulate the West Church report to the members of the Forum.
3. Ailleachd Vernon to email David Cowley with the details of Bute Fest.

Amenity Services

Jim Ferguson, Amenity Warden gave a verbal update on the following points:

- Most of the abandoned vehicles have now been dealt with.
- There is still an issue regarding abandoned trailers but this is being looked into.
- Paul McCabe has now settled into his Environmental Warden Role on Bute.
- Ailsa Cunningham is currently on a secondment until the end of March but this may be extended.

A discussion took place regarding using advertising as a deterrent to people who allow their dogs to foul. Craig Boland from the Buteman informed the group that he had already raised this with the Councils Communications department but so far had not had a reply. It was suggested that something should be put in the local paper in the police section highlighting the fining process for dog fouling.

Anti-Social Behaviour

Robert Cowper, Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator gave a verbal update on the following points:

- The Anti Social Behaviour sub group doesn't meet again until March so there is no new update available.
- Still seven cases in Bute which all have actions against them.

A discussion took place regarding whether anti social behaviour was more prevalent in certain age groups. Robert Cowper informed the group that it was more lifestyle and social circumstances that related to the behaviour of some individuals. He also informed the group that there is a multi agency approach when dealing with anti social behaviour.

6. AOCB

No further items were raised.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Friday 17th April, 10.15am Eaglesham House, Bute

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**MINUTES of MEETING of COWAL COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM held in 22 HILL STREET,
DUNOON
on WEDNESDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 2015**

Present: Councillor Bruce Marshall (Chair)

Robert Cowper, Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator
Sergeant John Forrest, Police Scotland
David Cowley, Scottish Fire and Rescue

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated from:-

Fiona McRoberts, Rape Crisis

Julie Thompson, Area Housing Officer

Ailsa Cunningham, Amenity Services Technical Officer

2. MINUTES

The minute of the Cowal Community Safety Forum 10 November 2014 was approved as a correct record.

3. MATTERS ARISING

(a) DOG FOULING

Councillor Marshall expressed concern over the number of complaints regarding dog fouling that he had received from members of the Cowal Community.

John Forrest informed the group that on the whole most people are very good at picking up after their dog, with only a small minority who don't.

Action

Councillor Marshall requested that Ailsa Cunningham pick this point up and investigate the matter further.

(b) CENTRAL COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP BUDGET

Robert Cowper, Anti Social Behaviour Co-ordinator provided a verbal update to the Forum regarding the potential funding available within the Central Community Safety Partnership Budget. Currently there are no central funds available for a Cowal Community Safety Forum joint event to be held in the Dunoon area and that in the past the forum has relied on funding from partners such as Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue.

(c) COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY REVIEW UPDATE

Robert Cowper provided a verbal update on the current progress of the Community Safety Strategy Review, informing the group that this is currently still with Governance and Law to make a decision and he will update the group on the progress of this matter once a decision

had been made.

The Group also discussed the decline in the attendance at Partnership Forums across Argyll and Bute and noted that this needs to be addressed.

4. PARTNERS UPDATE

(a) ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Robert Cowper commented on points from the previous minute that were raised by Inspector Paul Robertson. It was noted that he isn't in full agreement with the points raised and feels that there is a willingness to implement Anti Social Behaviour Orders where appropriate.

Robert informed the group that there is eight cases. Enforcement action is being progressed in one case with the other seven all having actions against them and that these figures are less than average figures previously within the Cowal area. He also informed the group that the most common issue within the Cowal Area are neighbour disputes.

John Forrest agreed with the points raised by Robert and felt that the ASB group was a successful forum.

Councillor Marshall informed the group that he was particularly pleased that the setting up of the ASBO Sub Group had been so successful in defusing potential trouble in communities and that partnership working was the key to that success.

It was agreed to discuss these points further at the next Cowal Community Safety Forum with Inspector Paul Robertson.

(b) POLICE SCOTLAND

Sergeant John Forrest from Police Scotland reported to the Forum on the following areas:

Crime Overview

- Over the last quarter low levels of crime reported
- Police Scotland have several initiatives running in the local area
- Over the festive period there was an increase in high visibility foot patrols, this method was also used as a preventative measure during the recent old firm football match.
- Also prior to the football match police visited known offenders of domestic abuse
- 17 assaults were recorded in the last quarter with a 88% detection rate
- Joint visits are being carried out between Social Work, Housing and the Police and this was a direct action that came out of the ASB group, David Cowley from Scottish Fire and

Rescue asked if they could also tap into this where appropriate.

- Councillor Marshall raised a point regarding the restructuring of Police Scotland and if there was any update available. John Forrest informed Councillor Marshall that he could contact Chief Inspector Gary Stitt for a progress update on the matter.

Action

Sergeant John Forrest to include Road Traffic Accident statistics into the report for the next Cowal Community Safety Forum meeting.

Drug Crime

- 14 Detections for possession
- 1 Detection for Supply
- A substantial arrest was made last quarter which took a large amount of heroin out of the area.
- John Forrest informed the group that a children's liaison officer is in place and this will allow drug awareness to be promoted more in schools

Speeding and Traffic Offences

- John Forrest informed the group that since the new drink driving limit had come into force there had been five offences committed of which four would have been over the old limit as well.
- 16 Speeding tickets were issued in the last quarter.

(c) **SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE**

David Cowley from Scottish Fire and Rescue updated the Forum on their most recent figures and advised that:

- Structural changes were still taking place with the hope that a new Local Senior Officer for the area would be appointed over the next few weeks.
- Several national campaigns had taken place, with some still ongoing. Social media is also being utilised to promote fire safety.
- 61 Home fire safety visits were carried out over the last quarter of which 34 were high risk, 26 medium risk and 1 low risk.
- Operationally in the last quarter there were 61 incidents of which 42 were automatic alarms, 3 chimney fires, 6 building fires, 2 road traffic accidents, 7 special service calls and 2 floodings.
- David also informed the group that Scottish Fire and Rescue were hoping to continue with the Inveraray Breakfast club this year to promote motor bike safety.

(d) **ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL**

Environmental Health

A representative from Environmental Health was not present at the meeting so therefore no update was provided.

Amenity Services

A representative from Amenity Services was not present at the meeting so therefore no update was provided.

Trading Standards

A representative from Trading Standards was not present at the meeting so therefore no update was provided.

5. AOCB

No further items were raised.

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 2nd April, 2pm, 22 Hill Street, Dunoon

MINUTES of MEETING of FORWARD DUNOON AND COWAL GROUP held in the 22 HILL STREET, DUNOON on WEDNESDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 2015

Present: Councillor Bruce Marshall (Chair)
Councillor Gordon Blair Councillor Michael Breslin

Attending: Janet McKellar, Help Project
Colin Moulson, PA23 BID
Melissa Stewart, Area Governance Officer
Ailsa Cunningham, Amenity Services Technical Officer

The meeting convened at 2pm in the Hill Street Office and immediately adjourned. The meeting reconvened at 2.20pm in Castle House.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated from:
Councillor Dick Walsh
Councillor Alex McNaughton
Councillor Jimmy McQueen
Virginia Sumsion, Fyne Projects
Catriona Craig, Cowal Marketing Group
Brian Close, Planning Officer

2. MINUTES

The minute of the Forward Dunoon and Cowal Group 10th November 2014 was approved as a correct record subject to a change at item 5 of the minute.

3. MATTERS ARISING

(a) COWAL OUTDOOR CENTRES

Councillor Gordon Blair updated the group on the progress made so far in terms of liaising with the Heads of Centres and schools in the Glasgow and Edinburgh areas, the following points were noted:

- Councillor Blair has arranged a meeting with George Bruce, Head of Centre for Ardroy, on Monday 23rd Feb.
- An email contact list for all schools has been created and Councillor Blair has been in contact with the schools via email.

A discussion took place regarding proposed ideas for linking the outdoor centres with the tourism market in the area. Councillor Blair felt this was a market that could be tapped into and suggested looking into sourcing funds for a brochure which would promote the

area and could be distributed to children visiting the outdoor centres with a view that they would come back to the area with their families.

Actions

- The group to contact Cowal Marketing Group for funding assistance as they have access to third sector grants.
- The group asked the Area Governance Officer to investigate who could advertise on the Council's what's on section of the website.
- The group agreed to take the ideas discussed forward, keeping the Head of Economic Development in the loop.

(b) ELECTRIC CAR CHARGING POINTS

Councillor Gordon Blair informed the group that Electric Car Charging Points had been raised at a recent Bute and Cowal Business day at his request, and that Members and the Head of Roads and Amenity Services had discussed that there will be one electric car charging point available for public use and this will be located at the Cole Pier. It was also mentioned that the plant yard in Dunoon have two charging points for Council vehicles.

It was noted that the group would gauge feedback once the first charging point had been installed to determine whether other charging facilities were required in the local area to address the concern expressed by Councillor Marshall about the length of time each car required to be on charge for. The hope is that if Dunoon has an electric charging point, visitors from the central conurbation will have no fear of coming to Cowal and not being able to return.

(c) CAR PARKING IN DUNOON

Councillor Marshall informed the group that Elected Members had met with officers last month regarding parking issues in the local area.

Councillor Breslin took the group through some of the changes that had been discussed which included:

- The road realignment at the Queens Hall through the CHORD project.
- Hanover Street Car Park will be realigned for car use only and will be free.
- The Glen Morag car park will be realigned for HGV use as well as cars and will also be free.
- Disabled parking bays will become for exclusive use of disable badge holders 24 hours of the day.
- It was also felt that the free parking for doctors should be discontinued

A discussion took place regarding other parking options ideas that could be implemented in the local area. The group noted that something more innovative should be done regarding the charging policy for parking which should also be linked into the tourism issues

in the area and also noted that better signage in the main street is required.

Colin Moulson informed the group that at the Revival Festival PA23BID funded ferry travel for scooters and that this was very successful with the distinct prospect that visitors to the festival may return this summer with figures of 200-300 scooters discussed.

A discussion took place regarding the pedestrianisation of Argyll street in Dunoon along with suggestions of providing some form of canopy at the shops to allow shoppers to remain dry in bad weather.

Action

The group requested that Pedestrianisation of Argyll Street be added as an agenda item to the Bute and Cowal Business Day meeting 3rd March 2015 which would include a discussion on parking in general and verbal reports by representatives from Roads and Amenity Services, Economic Development, Planning and Licensing would be satisfactory given timescales.

4. PARTNERS UPDATE

(a) HELP PROJECT

Janet McKellar provided a verbal update on the following:

- Help are currently very busy.
- The project recently organised a WW1 commemoration tea dance for the service users of Cowal Befrienders, Janet reported excellent feedback from Befrienders and noted that they had tweeted a thank you via social media.
- Janet McKellar and Ailsa Cunningham informed the group that they had discussed two potential environmental projects that would be suitable to be undertaken by Help clients, these were painting the crazy golf course on the west bay and tidying up the piece of land at the bottom of Moir Street. Both options were agreed as being of value.
- The group were informed that Help in conjunction with Dunoon Grammar School were running a pathway to employment day which would incorporate a jobs fare and employment workshops.

(b) COWAL MARKETING GROUP

A representative from Cowal Marketing Group was not present at the meeting so no update was provided.

The Group noted that the Cowal Marketing Group were coming under pressure from some local businesses to lodge an objection to the Bachan Burn planning application. The Area Governance Officer suggested that the Community Councils, in their capacity as statutory consultees, would be the appropriate body to represent the community views including the views of businesses.

Colin Moulson informed the group that PA23BID had a meeting arranged with PNE Wind for the 16th March 2015.

(c) **PA23BID**

Colin Moulson briefly took the group through a paper which provided an overview and update of the Bid's current position and achievements to date.

Colin agreed to circulate the paper via email to the members of the group.

Colin also discussed an issue regarding the flag poles on Hillfoot street informing the group that a complaint had been received and that PA23BID would now need relevant planning consent for them to remain.

Colin provided the group with a leaflet containing information about this years ride and run event, and informed the group that there are currently nearly 100 registered applicants for the event.

(d) **COWALFEST**

A representative from Cowalfest was not present at the meeting so no update was provided.

Ailsa Cunningham informed the group that she had recently met with Sue Minns to discuss future plans for the Bishops Glen and how this could be incorporated into Cowalfest events.

5. AOCB

Unsightly Buildings

A discussion took place regarding two unsightly buildings within Dunoon. Councillor Breslin felt that the owners of these buildings should be pushed harder to improve the appearance of these buildings.

Concert in Argyll Gardens

Councillor Blair informed the group that he had been approached by a local resident who would like to hold a concert in the Argyll Gardens. Ailsa Cunningham informed Councillor Blair that they would need to contact herself and Paul Farrell for a licensing pack.

Helensburgh WiFi

Colin Moulson raised a query regarding why Helensburgh is the only area in Argyll and Bute to be getting free WiFi within it's town centre. It was felt that this could be due to the area being more populated or perhaps linked to their CHORD infrastructure.

SSE Open for Business Event

Councillor Marshall advised of a forthcoming event being organised by SSE in Inveraray which may be of interest to the business community. He agreed to forward details to the Group for onward distribution.

Camanachd Cup

It was discussed by the group that Dunoon is shortlisted to hold the Camanachd Cup Shinty tournament this year and members of the group requested that this be added as an agenda item for the next Forward Dunoon and Cowal meeting in April.

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 2nd April 2015, 10am, 22 Hill Street Dunoon.

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**MINUTES of MEETING of COWAL GAMES PARTNERSHIP held in the 22 HILL STREET,
DUNOON
on MONDAY, 23 MARCH 2015**

Present:

Councillor Bruce Marshall (Chair)

Councillor Gordon Blair
Councillor Alex McNaughton

Councillor Michael Breslin
Councillor Jimmy McQueen

Shirley MacLeod, Area Governance Manager
Pat McCann, Culture and Libraries Manager
Malcolm Barclay, Cowal Highland Gathering
Paul Farrell, Technical Officer
Inspector Paul Robertson, Police Scotland
John Forrest, Police Scotland
Ailsa Cunningham, Amenity Services Technical Officer

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated from:
Councillor Dick Walsh
Donald McVicar, Head of Community and Culture
Ronnie Cairns, Cowal Highland Gathering
Fraser McCowan, Cowal Highland Gathering
Allan MacDonald, Amenity Performance Manager

2. MINUTES

The minute of the previous Cowal Games Partnership held on 4th November 2014 were approved as a correct record.

3. MATTERS ARISING

None

The Committee resolved in terms of Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, to exclude the public from the following item of business on the grounds that it was likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 6 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

4. MANAGERS REPORT

A Managers Report was submitted and Malcolm Barclay outlined the main areas covered by the report, with the following point noted:

Pipe Bands

Malcolm thanked the Partnership for their continued support and informed the meeting that talks are continuing with the RSPB in regards to agreeing the prize money for this years competition. Malcolm also explained that there remains an issue with the RSPB allowing the committee to communicate with Pipe Bands directly. Malcolm is currently collating a list of contact details for bands which will allow the Cowal Highland Gathering Committee to communicate directly with the bands and promote the

competition classes and prize money available this year.

Councillor Marshall expressed disappointment in the lack of cooperation on the RSPB's part and felt this was the reason for the lack of bands that had entered in 2014.

Councillor Marshall asked Malcolm about this year's prize money and Malcolm informed the group that prize money for 2015 would be less than the previous year with the money being split between 1st to 5th place and trophy's being awarded up to 6th place.

Malcolm also informed the group that although the RSPB requested that the MSR competition be removed, he confirmed that it will go ahead this year and that he was confident in a larger number of bands turning up this year, with a target of 35 bands but no more than 50.

Funding

Councillor Blair asked if funding was available for 2016 and Malcolm informed the group that a three year service level agreement was now in place with Argyll and Bute Council that would provide funding up until the 31st March 2018, the group all agreed that this was a positive outcome.

Dancers

Malcolm reported to the group that there was currently just over 200 entries which is a similar number to last year.

Councillor Marshall commented that this was excellent news and a boost for the local economy as most of the dancers and their families stay locally for the duration of the games.

Top Field

Malcolm reported that this year will see a continuation of the family entertainment that went down so well in 2014. He confirmed that the drakes of hazard, along with the clan mountain bike stunt team and the Glasgow science centre had all been rebooked to perform this year. The kids cycling track will also be brought back but made bigger to meet the demand experienced last year.

This year ceilidh tent will include performances from Skipnish and Dunmorg Gunner Sound as well as various other performances.

Charity Partner and Sponsorship

Malcolm informed the group that this year's events will have a charity partner which is Cash for Kids and 50 pence from each ticket sold will be donated to the charity.

A live music stage will be provided by Radio Clyde in conjunction with Cash for Kids and they will also provide media exposure for the Cowal Highland Gathering.

Malcolm took the group through this year's various sponsors which included the Scottish Salmon Company and Western Ferries who have been previous sponsors. Talks are currently in place with potential new sponsors McEwans and Heineken and Malcolm will update the partnership on the outcome of these discussions.

Ticket Sales

Tickets for this year event went on sale at the end of february and sales are up slightly on last year for the same period with Malcolm informing the group that the main grandstand sold out in eight minutes and the

enclosure sealing out shortly after that.

Malcolm also reported that a cruise company and a bus company had purchased a substantial amount of tickets and may need to purchase more nearer the time.

Chieftan

It was reported that this years chieftan is likely to be David Hayman but he will definitely confirm by the end of April.

Other Events

Due to the renovation of the Queens Hall this year, the Friday night ceilidh will be relocated to the stadium within a tent, making it a more outdoor themed event and Malcolm is hopeful that a barbecue will be provided by Food From Argyll.

Other events taking place outwith the stadium will include:

- Classic Cars Parade
- The annual Hill Race
- Childrens Ceilidh
- On street entertainment to include jugglers, clowns and stiltwalkers.

Partner Updates

Argyll and Bute Council

Roads:

Paul Farrell informed the group that most things are in place and he doesn't foresee any issues at this point.

A discussion took place regarding the use of cones in the Clyde Street area of Kirn and it was agreed that this should be looked at to scale back for this year and it wasn't necessary last year.

Culture:

Pat McCann told the group that he hopes to have the finances authorised this week which will allow the funds to be released slightly earlier than anticipated.

Amenities:

Ailsa Cunningham informed the group that everything was going well so far.

Malcolm went through the various parking options that will be available this year to ensure parking is not an issue.

A discussion took place regarding the clearing up after the event and Ailsa explained that it was business as usual for this year. It was noted that the clearing up on the Sunday is always very efficient.

Councillor Breslin commented on the financial loss in 2014 and noted that the event had a lot of ground to make up this year and asked if they were curtailing free tickets this year. Malcolm replied that they don't give away many tickets but will be continuing with the promotion of free tickets to primary school children when they are accompanied by a full paying adult, but that the cost of this is covered by an event sponsor.

Police Scotland

Inspector Paul Robertson informed the Group that from a policing perspective they were very positive about this years event. He explained that if any anti social behaviour takes place it is most commonly late at night or in the early hours of the morning.

Policing staff numbers will be reduced this year as the projected foot fall isn't as high as has been in previous years.

A discussion took place regarding the Waverley running an excursion this year, Councillor McNaughton asked if the Cowal Highland Gathering was mentioned in the Waverley's brochure and Malcolm replied that yes it is mentioned.

5. A.O.C.B

None

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the Area Governance Manager would liaise with Malcolm Barclay to arrange the next meeting for June 2015.

**MINUTES of MEETING of COWAL TRANSPORT FORUM held in the CASTLE HOUSE,
DUNOON
on FRIDAY, 27 MARCH 2015**

Present: Councillor Alex McNaughton (Chair)

Keith Murray, Transport Scotland
Eleanor Stevenson, South Cowal Community Council
Fulton McInnes, Hunters Quay Community Council
Gordon Ross, Western Ferries
Ian McInnes, Lochgoil Community Council
Willie Lynch, Bute and Cowal Caucus of Community Councils
Gordon Forrester, Loch Lomond & the Trossachs National Park
Graeme Forrester, Area Committee Manager
Graham Revill, Kilmun Community Council
Bobbie Good, West Coast Motors
Anne Gabriel, Cowal Access Panel

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated from:

Eddie McElhinney, Police Scotland
Paul Farrell, Engineer/Technical Officer
Elizabeth McBride, Kilfinan Community Council
Douglas Blades, Public Transport Officer

2. MINUTES

The minute of the meeting of the Transport Forum 23rd January 2015 was approved as a correct record subject to changes to Item 3, bullet point two of the minute.

A discussion took place at this point regarding the contents of the previous minute with the following points noted:

- Fulton McInnes raised that the letter that was to be drafted to the police regarding parking at Western ferries had still not been completed. Graeme Forrester informed Fulton that he would require more information on this item and would discuss this with him at the end of the meeting. It was agreed that this matter would be taken forward by the Forum on behalf of Hunter's Quay Community Council.
- Signage – Gordon Ross informed the forum that the sign alerting road users that Western Ferries is an alternative route had still not been delivered as previously promised. Graeme Forrester read out an update from Paul Farrell that informed the group that the sign in question would be erected week commencing the 7th April.

3. TRANSPORT SCOTLAND

Keith Murray from Transport Scotland updated the Forum on the following points:

Rest and Be Thankful Update

- The large boulder at the Rest has now been tied back with the fencing still to be completed.
- Transport Scotland have increased the resilience of the Old Military road and there is now more soil nailing.
- Drainage Work has been carried out on the south end of the old military road, as well as another link road being built to allow convoy traffic to come out quicker.
- To date there has been a half a million spend on the hillside which included, the stabilising of the boulder and updating the monitoring equipment.
- Gulley work has also been carried out on the A83 and there is also now a rock side cage and catch fence below.
- Clear up operations spend to date is £426,000.

Gordon Ross asked Keith Murray if there was any review planned for high sided vehicles during periods of high winds given there has been several incidents involving high sided vehicles on or around the Rest and Be Thankful area.

Keith Murray replied that individual accident cases will be reviewed and any part of the network prone to high winds is reviewed as standard practice.

Ian MacInnes asked about the one way system in Lochgoilhead and whether this could be relaxed during off peak times, to avoid residents having to go through Hell's Glen.

Keith Murray advised that he would speak to BEAR Scotland regarding this and get back to Ian with a response. Ian also raised a point regarding whether Lochgoilhead could have a variable sign. Keith Murray informed him that there was a VMS that required refurbishment and he would enquire about it's ownership and whether Lochgoilhead could have it, a discussion would also need to take place with Argyll and Bute's Roads department as to whether they would be willing to take on the maintenance of the sign.

Gordon Ross raised a point in connection with Transport Scotland's website messages On Thursday 26th March regarding alternative routes. Keith Murray replied that it is always the strategic route that is put on the website. Gordon Ross noted that Western Ferries provide a viable alternative route that takes pressure of the roads which is a good thing.

Councillor McNaughton asked if there were wind monitors already in

place. Keith Murray replied that yes they were situated at the top of the Rest and Be Thankful and were monitored by BEAR Scotland.

Actions

1. Keith Murray to speak to BEAR Scotland regarding the one way system at Lochgoilhead and feed back to Ian MacInnes.
2. Keith Murray to determine the ownership of the VMS that requires refurbishment.
3. Keith Murray to speak to Paul Farrell regarding refurbishing the spare sign.
4. Keith Murray to take the requirement for more signage forward.

4. BUS TURNING CIRCLE

A transport representative was not available at the meeting so Councillor McNaughton provided the Forum with a brief update on the progress of the turning circle. He explained that all funding was now in place and the tendering documentation had been sent out. It is expected that work will commence early summer with an estimated finish date of late summer. It was also noted that the turning circle will also be useful for stacking in the event of a landslide.

5. SIGNAGE

This item was covered under item 3 of the minute.

6. FERRIES UPDATE

Argyll Ferries

A representative from Argyll Ferries was not present at the meeting, so no update was provided.

Western Ferries

Gordon Ross from Western Ferries updated the Forum on the following points:

- Fares will increase by 1.5% from the 1st of April 2015
- Western Ferries will still remain the cheapest option for foot passengers.
- Free foot passenger travel will remain available to Cowal residents with SPT concession cards.
- Western Ferries have now launched the ability to buy tickets online. Bobbie Good asked if this also applied to commercial vehicles. Gordon Ross replied that anyone requiring commercial tickets can phone up and pre order them whether they have an account with Western Ferries or not.

- The Co-Op in Gourock is now selling tickets.

A discussion took place regarding using E Type tickets, Gordon Ross explained that there is currently not the technology in the local area to support this, but if it became available it would certainly be something they would look at.

7. PUBLIC TRANSPORT UPDATE

The Public Transport Officer had submitted apologies to the meeting so therefore no update was provided.

8. POLICE SCOTLAND

The Police Scotland representative had submitted apologies to the meeting so therefore no update was provided.

9. ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORT STRATEGY

Councillor McNaughton took the Forum through the Accessible Transport Strategy explaining that the purpose of the strategy is to promote the social inclusion and the needs and rights of people with disabilities.

Anne Gabriel raised an issue with the Forum regarding the lack of appropriate wheelchair access and unsuitable layout at the Argyll Ferries pier.

Gordon Ross suggested that a possible solution to this would be for Argyll Ferries to install a floating pontoon that will create a flat surface all on one level which would allow easy access for everyone.

A discussion took place between the Forum regarding issues with bus links to the ferries, and it was noted that the Bus companies could be approached to discuss the situation.

Anne Gabriel informed the group that there is a selection of message cards currently in circulation that can be used by passengers to alert Bus drivers of any additional needs, such as requiring the driver to inform them when they have arrived at their destination. The Forum discussed the potential of developing this idea in Bute and Cowal.

Fulton McInnes provided the Forum with examples of hospital transport provision in other areas of Scotland and it was discussed that something similar could be put in place to meet the Dunoon ferries.

Actions

1. The Transport Forum will approach Argyll Ferries to discuss the issues surrounding disabled access to board the ferries.
2. Councillor McNaughton agreed to look at the leaflets regarding hospital transport and make further enquiries into how the process operates.

10. DUNOON CHORD PROJECT UPDATE

The Regeneration Project Manager provided a verbal update on the progress of the Dunoon CHORD project to date, with the following points noted:

- The new design for the Queens Hall was signed off in February 2015.
- Estimated closure date for the Queen's Hall is the end of May 2015.
- There is an estimated date of completion of January or February 2017.
- The tender for phase one of the redevelopment of the Dunoon Pier project will be announced in a week or so from this meeting.
- John Gordon informed the Forum that he is based in the Queen's Hall and anyone is welcome to pop in and discuss any questions or queries with him.

Clarity was provided to the Forum by the Regeneration Project Manager regarding the different stages of the Pier Redevelopment Project, along with a breakdown of the reorganisation of the marshalling area at the pier and the new parking arrangements for the regenerated Queens Hall. It was noted by Gordon Ross that there is a general feeling of dissatisfaction in the local area regarding the local community not currently being able to use the pier. A general discussion took place following on from Gordon Ross's comment surrounding the pier area, current porta cabins and parking areas and how these could be better utilised during the regeneration programme to suit the needs of the local community.

Anne Gabriel asked John Gordon how many disabled parking bays will be available once the Queens Hall is completed. He responded that there will be five disabled parking bays available and it was noted by Anne Gabriel that this is not sufficient to meet the needs of the local community.

John Gordon informed the Group that all proposals, plans and further information is available on the CHORD website.

11. AOCB

Loch Lommond and the Trossachs National Park Update

Gordon Forrester updated the Forum on the following points:

- Tourism – currently bringing together an itinerary pack for a day out in the local area and Gordon Forrester would like to discuss this further with Gordon Ross.
- Cycling routes – The national park are looking to put twelve cycling routes into Argyll and Bute and these will be graded easy, moderate and hard. Two of these routes will be in Cowal. Gordon Ross informed the Group that this is something he had previously

worked on with the National Forrest and it is something he takes a personal interest in. He informed the group that there is a lot of work involved in this and a lot of points to be considered. Gordon Ross also commented that the PA23BID were currently promoting cycle races in the area and that it was good to see potential marketing being looked at.

Action

1. Gordon Forrester will circulate routes and itinerary once they are completed through the Senior Area Committee Assistant.
2. Gordon Forrester to have a discussion with the Cowal Mountain Biking Club.

Other AOCB

Ian McInnes asked when the work would start at the top of the rest. Councillor McNaughton replied that they didn't know yet as the tendering process was still ongoing.

Ian McInnes asked if there was any further information on the landing stage regarding getting wood out from Carrick Castle. Councillor McNaughton replied that he had no information on this.

Graham Revill asked for information on the increased timber traffic through Blairmore. It was suggested the he speak to Stephen Tong, UPM Tillhill regarding this.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Cowal Transport Forum will be held on Friday 19th June 2015 at 10am in Castle House, Dunoon

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

**BUTE & COWAL
AREA COMMITTEE**

CUSTOMER SERVICES

7th APRIL 2015

AREA SCORECARD FQ3 2014-15

1 Background

- 1.1 This paper presents the Area Scorecard, with exceptional performance for financial quarter 3 of 2014-15 (October - December 2014). Where commentary has been entered in Pyramid, it is included here.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Area Committee
- (a) notes the exceptional performance presented on the Scorecard and
 - (b) adopts the new Planning measure noted on the scorecard.

**Douglas Hendry
Executive Director, Customer Services**

Jane Fowler
Head of Improvement & HR

For further information, please contact:

David Clements
Improvement and Organisational Development Programme Manager
(Planning and Performance Management)
01465 604205

Environment	<i>Target</i>	<i>Bute & Cowal</i>	<i>Council</i>
Car Parking income to date - B&C	£ 96,644	£ 45,701 R ↑	£ 732,707
Dog fouling - number of complaints B&C	27	43 R ↓	66
Dog fouling - number of fines issued B&C	1	1 →	1
LEAMS - B&C Cowal	73	77 G ↑	79
LEAMS - B&C Bute	73	81 G ↓	
No of Complaints ref Waste Collection - B&C Bute			
No of Complaints ref Waste Collection - B&C Cowal			

Economy	<i>Target</i>	<i>Bute and Cowal</i>	<i>Council</i>
% of Pre-App Enquiries Processed in 20 working days in B&C	75.0 %	83.1 % G ↑	75.3 %
NEW Householder Planning Apps: Ave no of Weeks to Determine - B&C	8.0 Wks	6.2 Wks G ↑	6.9 Wks
NEW All Local Planning Apps: Ave no of Weeks to Determine - B&C	12.0 Wks	9.7 Wks G ↓	10.3 Wks
CC1 Affordable social sector new builds - B&C	0	0 G →	67
no. of All Local Planning Apps determined in B&C		43 ↓	276

NOTE

Education	<i>Target</i>	<i>Bute & Cowal</i>	<i>Council</i>
% positive destinations Dunoon Grammar ACY 13/14		88 % ↓	91.0 %
% positive destinations Rothesay Academy ACY 13/14		90 % ↓	
HMIE positive School Evaluations - B&C Sec	75 %	100 % G →	78 %
% 5+ SCQF level 6 Dunoon Grammar ACY 13/14	0.00 %	13.61 % G ↑	13 %
% 5+ SCQF level 6 Rothesay Academy ACY 13/14	0.00 %	7.41 % G ↓	
School % unauthorised absence Dunoon Grammar		2.5 % ↓	1.4 %
School % unauthorised absence Rothesay Academy		1.1 % ↓	

Roads & Street Lighting	<i>Target</i>	<i>Bute & Cowal</i>	<i>Council</i>
% road area resurfaced/reconstructed - B&C	1.83 %	2.13 % G ↑	1.95 %
% road area surface treated - B&C	1.86 %	2.07 % G ↓	2.02 %
% Cat 1 road defects repaired timeously - B&C	90 %	100 % G →	93.5 %
Street lighting - % B&C faults repaired within 7 days	88 %	96 % G ↓	93 %

Adult Care	<i>Target</i>	<i>Bute and Cowal</i>	<i>Council</i>
B&C - % of Older People receiving Care in the Community - In Year	80.0 %	90.9 % G ↓	84.0 %
B&C - % of Older People receiving Care in the Community	80.0 %	78.8 % R ↑	76 %
B&C - Delayed Discharges awaiting Admission to a Care Home - In Year		3 ↑	17
B&C - Number of SM Clients		126 ↑	438
B&C - No of LD Cases		102 →	364
B&C - Total no of MH Clients		99 ↑	264
B&C - No of SM Care Assessments outstanding >21 Days	0	0 G ↑	3

Children and Families	<i>Target</i>	<i>Bute and Cowal</i>	<i>Council</i>
CA12 B&C - Total No LAAC		48 ↑	117
CA17 B&C - No of External LAAC		1 ↓	7
CA25 B&C - % Reviews of LAAC Convened within Timescales	100 %	96 % R ↓	94 %
CP5 B&C - No of Children on CPR		2 ↓	17
CP16a B&C - No of Children on CPR with a completed CP plan		2 ↓	13
CABD53 B&C - Open Cases - children with disability		26 →	119

Success Measure	Target FQ3 14/15	Actual FQ3 14/15	Traffic Light	Trend	Comments
B&C - % of Older People receiving Care in the Community	80%	79%	Red	Ascending	No commentary in Pyramid
A&B - No of SM Care Assessments outstanding >21 Days	0	3	Red	Ascending	HEAT 11 supersedes assessment targets HEAT 11 standard is that 90% of individuals enter treatment 21 days from referral. By definition this includes an assessment prior to treatment entry. therefore this target is redundant.
Bute - % of Older People receiving Care in the Community - In Year	80%	77%	Red	Descending	No commentary in Pyramid
CA25 B&C - % Reviews of LAAC Convened within Timescales	100%	96%	Red	Descending	Unfortunately due to bad weather one review had to be cancelled and could not be reconvened within timescales due to the Christmas/new year period. The review has now taken place.
CABD53 - Open Cases - children with disability		119		Constant	FQ3 14-15 All disability PIs are currently under review to ensure they reflect the change of management arrangements, with CWD cases now managed within Area Teams. The priorities of self-directed support have come into effect on 1st April 2014 and new measures are in development. Universal Child Assessment is being reviewed with one purpose being to enable accurate data regarding all Children with Disability indicators to be available from Carefirst.
CP16a B&C - No of Children on CPR with a completed CP plan	No target	2		Descending	Q3 All Children on the CPR continue to have a Child Protection Plan in place however due to changes in key personnel there was a delay in approving the plans for 4 children (from 2 families) These plans have now been signed off.

Success Measure	Target FQ3 14/15	Actual FQ3 14/15	Traffic Light	Trend	Comments
Dog fouling - number of complaints B&C	27	43	Red	Descending	<p>Over the period of FQ3 the number of complaints has declined, however, over the three month period remains higher than Amenity Services management would like to see. The warden service continues to carryout patrols, including joint patrols with the police. There have been added strains on the warden service over the past few months due to a long term illness within the Bute and Cowal management team.</p> <p>When I go back out to community councils and other partners to communicate the future service model through the Amenity Services savings, this issue will be raised with partners in an attempt to have them communicate details of offenders in an attempt for the groups/partners to assist in positive enforcement.</p>
Car Parking income to date - B&C	£97K	£46K	Red	Ascending	<p>Car Parking Income to Date - Bute and Cowal The actual income remains below the targeted projection, with enforcement now in place, it had been hoped that with the introduction of the Amenity Wardens that an increase in car parking income would have been seen. The support from the Amenity Services Enforcement Officers has been restricted within the Bute and Cowal area given the secondment of an Amenity Services Enforcement Officer to support the local structure. Ways of ensuring car parking enforcement is increased and more visible will be explored through the use of other Roads and Amenity Service staff through the forthcoming months.</p>

Success Measure	Target FQ3 14/15	Actual FQ3 14/15	Traffic Light	Trend	Comments
% Cat 1 road defects repaired timeously	90%	94%	Green	Descending	No of Cat 1 defects reported – 31 No. No of Cat 1 defects completed within the allocated period – 29 No. The overall percentage of Cat 1 defects attended to within the allocated 5 day time period remains at a comparatively high level of 93.5%. The overall number of Cat 1 defects reported in the third quarter, 31, compares favourably with 81 recorded for the same period last year – this is perhaps reflective of the milder weather conditions experienced over the early part of the winter. Figures for the Areas are as follows:- Bute and Cowal – 100% Helensburgh and Lomond – 100% Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay – 83% Oban Lorn and the Isles - 67% It should be pointed out that the seemingly poor performance in the OLI Area is due to the fact that only 3 defects were reported and one of these defects was repaired outwith the timescale. In the last quarter, we had a 0 %age performance for Lomond where only 1 defect was reported and the repair was late – Members have asked that we reconsider how to report on these figures.
% positive destinations (Rothesay Academy)	No target	90%		Descending	ACY 13/14 Rothesay JC has seen a decrease in the number of young people accessing training opportunities and conversely an increase in their unemployed and seeking cohort.
% positive destinations (Dunoon Grammar)	No target	88%		Descending	ACY 13/14 Dunoon GS has seen a 7.4% decrease in the number of young people accessing further education and this has had a detrimental effect on the positive destination figure. Dunoon residents have experienced travel issues accessing opportunities in the Inverclyde and Renfrewshire area.

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ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL**BUTE AND COWAL
AREA COMMITTEE****COMMUNITY SERVICES****7 APRIL 2015**

THIRD SECTOR GRANTS 2015/16

1.0 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report details recommendations for the award of Third Sector Grants (including Events and Festivals) to Third Sector organisations for Bute and Cowal.
- 1.2 Applications are considered twice yearly in April and 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 Bute and Cowal for 2015/16 is £35,000.
- 1.4 The Area Committee agreed to an upper limit of £4,000 to any one organisation in any one financial period, unless there are exceptional circumstances.
- 1.5 A minimum of £5,000 should be carried forward for allocation at the Area Committee meeting in August.
- 1.6 Fifteen applications have been received, 5 of which are for Events and Festivals.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The 15 organisations listed below are awarded funding from the Third Sector Grants budget.
- 2.2 Those organisations that have received funding for the two previous years or more should not be awarded more than the amount they received in 2014/15 unless increased developmental aspects are detailed in the application. These repeat applicants may be subject to a 20% reduction on the previous year's allocation. This is to reduce applicants' dependency on Council grants and encourage fundraising and income generation initiatives.
- 2.3 Where possible, and if appropriate, new applicants should receive all or most of the amount requested (up to 50% total project costs), unless a very large amount of funding is sought.
- 2.4 Grants will only be awarded pending receipt of the correct paperwork; an approved finance check; and an End of Project monitoring form (if a grant was awarded in previous year).

Ref No	Organisation	Grant 13/14	Grant 14/15	Total Project Cost	Amount Requested	Recommendation 2015
1	Ardentinny Community Trust	c/f £1,440	£2,000	£23,000	£4,000	£1,600
2	Argyll and Bute Youth Forum *	£250	n/a	£4,760	£1,000(Applying to 4 areas)	£250
3	Bute Agricultural Society*	£900	£650	£10,799	£864	£520 Underwrite
4	Bute Community Land Company	New	New	£8,110	£4,055	£3000
5	Cowal Community Care Forum	£1,700	£2,000	£7,532	£3,766	£1,600
6	Cowal Fiddle Workshop	£360	£300	£2,640	£1,240	£240
7	Dunoon and Cowal Youth Project	£4,000	£4,000	£6,000	£3,000	£3,000
8	Dunoon Burgh Hall Trust	£2,500	£1,500	£8,390	£4,000	£1,200
9	Friends of Loch Lomond & The Trossachs (B&C)	New	New	£3,000	£1,500	£1,500
10	Innellan Bowling and Tennis Club	n/a	£780	£4,190	£2,090	£1,500
11	Lochgoilhead Fiddle workshop	£332	n/a	£4,613	£2,213	£1,940
12	Rothsay & District Pipe Band	N/A	New	£14,820	£3,500	£3,500
13	Rothsay Pavilion Charity *	N/A	New	£37,000	£4,000	£4,000
14	Tee In the Port *	N/A	£2,208	£7,250	£3,375	£2,300
15	Visit Bute / Isle of Bute Marketing & Tourism Ltd*	New	New	£5,700	£2,850	£2,850
		Total Recommended				£29,000
		Balance				£6,000

*Events and Festivals

3.0 DETAIL

Ref No	Organisation	Rationale for grant allocation
1	Ardentinny Community Trust	A contribution towards the cost of volunteer training and expenses, garden materials and other equipment.
2	Argyll and Bute Youth Forum	Bi-annual youth award ceremony to be held in Oban in September. The event is to celebrate youth achievement across Argyll and Bute.
3	Bute Agricultural Society	A contribution towards the running costs of the annual agricultural show. The group have received funding over the last few years and as a result the reduction formula has been applied.

Ref No	Organisation	Rationale for grant allocation
4	Bute Community Land Company	To develop regular volunteering and educational opportunities, involving the community in improving the Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) area and improving access via the paths network.
5	Cowal Community Care Forum	Contribution towards supporting public involvement in health and social care development and co-production of services with statutory agencies
6	Cowal Fiddle Workshop	A contribution towards a programme to teach the Scottish fiddle to beginners and more advanced players and to provide concerts and recitals for the public.
7	Dunoon and Cowal Youth Project	Costs towards project workers salary, volunteer expenses and materials. The organisation provides a safe environment for young people to meet and socialise and get involved in issue based activities.
8	Dunoon Burgh Hall Trust	A contribution towards the development of a series of workshops, talks, and educational programme and an exhibition aimed at local artists and young people. The project has a cultural development aspect but there are a range of educational opportunities provided both for young people and the wider community
9	Friends of Loch Lomond & The Trossachs (B&C)	To give 40 children from disadvantaged areas in Cowal the opportunity to participate in structured outdoor learning activity days that will contribute towards a John Muir certificate and help them understand and respect the environment. The practical activities will include litter picking and education programmes to understand the impact of litter on the environment and wildlife, plus repairing paths and improving habitats.
10	Innellan Bowling and Tennis Club	A contribution towards the costs of providing coaching in both bowling and tennis. Membership of the Club is increasing and the fundraising activities in the club are having a positive impact on this small rural community.
11	Lochgoilhead Fiddle workshop	A contribution towards the costs of providing teaching to young people in the traditional Scottish Fiddle by ear only. The fiddle workshops act as a stimulant to cultural activity across the area.
12	Rothesay & District Pipe Band	A contribution towards the costs of providing taster sessions within school time at all Island schools, with lessons continuing on an afterschool and evening basis.
13	Rothesay Pavilion Charity	To assist in staging a four-day festival in September 2015 to celebrate Rothesay Pavilion's cultural significance prior to the building closing for refurbishment.
14	Tee In the Port	To support the running of the "Tee in the Port" event. An annual community event of music and the performing arts to encourage participation and education of music to all ages.
15	Visit Bute / Isle of Bute Marketing & Tourism Ltd	To design and deliver a programme of entertainment with local performers in Rothesay Town centre during the high season, making the most of the new performance area on Montague Street.

4.0 CONCLUSION

4.1 All organisations have been contacted and grant applications assessed.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Policy: None
- 5.2 Financial: As per area budget allocation.
- 5.3 Legal: None
- 5.4 HR: None
- 5.5 Equalities Consistent with the Equal Opportunities policy of Argyll and Bute Council.
- 5.6 Risk: Monitoring of the process will minimise any risk to the Council
- 5.7 Customer Service: None

6.0 APPENDICES

None

Audrey Baird
Acting Lead Officer for Community Development

12 March 2015

For further information contact: Sharon Macdonald, Community Development Officer for Bute and Cowal. Tel No 01700 501357.

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL**XXXXX Area Committee****DEVELOPMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES****XX March 2015**

ROADS CAPITAL RECONSTRUCTION PROGRAMME 2015/16

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Roads Reconstruction Programme has been structured in accordance with the Roads Asset Management and Maintenance Strategy. The focus has been to recover the network through a delivery of a mix of carriageway resurfacing, patching/surface dressing and in-situ road surface recycling; designed to seal the road to stop the ingress of water, improve ride quality and reduce the amount of reactive repairs.

Over the last 4 years approximately 25% of the overall council road network has been treated which will make a significant and positive impact upon the local economy, connectivity and the quality of life of our communities.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Area Committee notes the successful completion of the 3 year Roads Reconstruction Programme for 2012-2015 and notes the proposed programme and budget for 2015/16.

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

XXX Area Committee

DEVELOPMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

XX March 2015

ROADS CAPITAL RECONSTRUCTION PROGRAMME 2015/16

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 This report provides Members with details of the proposed roads reconstruction programme for 2015/16.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That the Committee notes the successful completion of the 3 year Roads Reconstruction Programme for 2012-2015 and notes the proposed programme and previously agreed budget for 2015/16.

4.0 DETAILS

- 4.1 The focus of the roads reconstruction programme has been to recover the network through the delivery of a mix of carriageway resurfacing schemes, patching/surface dressing and insitu road surface recycling, which follow the principles set out within the Roads Asset Management and Maintenance Plan.
- 4.2 The schemes have been selected using the Councils Roads Asset database *WDM-PMS* and using the information collected from the full SCANNER Survey carried out in summer 2014. In-line with recommendations within the Annual Status and Options Report, the programme is not necessarily concentrated on the *red* roads but instead has been realigned to focus on the *amber* roads to arrest deterioration and prevent these becoming *red*.
- 4.3 Members' attention is drawn to the fact that schemes are not necessarily directed at what could be considered as 'roads in a poor condition'. Surface dressing schemes are selected on the basis that, either the skid resistance of the road surface is poor, or the road surface requires sealing *before* it fails. As Members are aware, schemes are also weighted on the basis of the strategic level of importance the route.
- 4.4 The summary table below highlights the positive and visible impact of the works undertaken to date. Since 2011 the Council has upgraded almost 40% of its A Class roads and over

580km of roads in total, which makes a significant and positive impact upon the local economy, connectivity and the quality of life to our communities.

4.5 **Table 1 – Treatment 2011/12 to 2014/15 (based on network pre trunking of A83)**

Road Category	Treatment FY 2011/12		Treatment FY 2012/13		Treatment FY 2013/14		Treatment FY 2014/15		Total Treatment Length	Total Treatment as a % of network length 2011-15	
	km	%	km	%	km	%	km	%			
A	55.76	10.01%	93.37	16.76%	47.42	8.51%	26.1	4.69%	222.67	39.98%	
B	26.846	4.38%	58.91	9.61%	25.96	4.23%	68.3	11.14%	180.01	29.37%	
C	12.374	2.85%	4.008	0.92%	7.99	1.84%	14.5	3.33%	38.83	8.95%	
U	18.86	2.60%	17.55	2.42%	43.6	6.01%	57.5	7.93%	137.53	18.97%	
	579.04								24.86%		

4.6 With the recent trunking of the A83 Tarbert to Campbeltown Road, the overall length of the network has altered. Percentage treatment figures for 2015 to 2016 are based upon the revised length of the road network.

4.7 **Table 1 – Treatment 2015/16 (based on network post trunking of A83)**

Road Category	Treatment FY 2015/16	
	km	%
A	47.988	9.50%
B	23.289	3.80%
C	24.416	5.63%
U	17.798	2.45%
	113.491 4.98%	

4.8 As in previous years, the roads reconstruction programme will be delivered by a mixed economy model with the Councils in-house team delivering carriageway reconstruction and patching works. The surface dressing element of the programme will be delivered by an external contractor; yet to be identified, however, the tendering process is currently underway.

5.0 CONCLUSION

This report provides details of the roads reconstruction programme for 2015-16.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1	Policy	Works assessed and carried out under the current Roads Asset Management and Maintenance Plan.
6.2	Financial	Programme based on capital allocation for years 2012 – 2016.
6.3	Legal	None
6.4	HR	Reconstruction works delivered by a combination of in-house Roads Operations team and sub-contractors.
6.5	Equalities	None
6.6	Risk	Completed works will reduce requirement to repair and maintain existing carriageway deterioration.
6.7	Customer Services	Overall improvement in travel time and quality of driven and walking journeys.

Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure: Pippa Milne

Head of Roads & Amenity Services: Jim Smith

Xx March 2015

For further information contact: Stewart Clark, Roads Performance Manager,

Tel: 01546 604893

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Proposed Roads Reconstruction Programme 2015-16

Appendix 2 – Location Plans

APPENDIX

Roads Reconstruction Capital Programme**Provisional Scheme List 2015/16**

Programme is subject to review following assessment of any winter damage in 2014/15

£4,366,000	Total Provisional Budget Allocation for 2015/16 , for Area based schemes
£4,367,487	Current Total Programme Estimate

MAKI

£1,353,460	Provisional Budget Allocation for 2015/16
£1,355,750	Current MAKI Total Programme Estimate

MID ARGYLL

WDM Scheme Number*	Route	Scheme Name	Location	Estimated Value	Proposed Scheme Details***
1,910	A816	A816 Kilmartin North	Tibertich junction to Tighmor, Kilmartin Village	£137,000	Pre-S/D and Surface Dressing
2,208	B8025	B8025 Tayvallich	B8025 from Tayvallich Inn to Dun Mhairich; C40 from C40/B8025 to Carsaig Quay and the U31 Tegnish Road from B8025/U31 Junction to Duntaynish	£75,000	Pre-S/D and Surface Dressing
1,902	A816	A816 Meadows	A816 from old playing field south	£141,000	Edge Strengthening
2,209	U24	U24 Barrananaoil	From A816/U24 junction to 70m west of Glenview	£50,000	Pre-S/D prep.
2,210	C62	C62 Argyll Street	Argyll Street and Colchester Square, Lochgilphead (from Union Street to Colchester Square)	£50,000	Inlay
Area Total				£453,000	

KINTYRE

WDM Scheme Number*	Route	Scheme Name	Location	Estimated Value	Proposed Scheme Details***
2,220	C19 & U13	C19 Polliwilline Ph1	C19 from B842/C19 junction to north Feochaig and U13 Macharich Branch Road	£215,000	Pre-S/D and Surface Dressing
1,513	U38	U38 Moss Road	U38 from Backs Water to U38/U59 junction	£55,000	Pre-S/D and Surface Dressing
2,211	U45	U45 Princes Street	Princes Street from High Street to Esplanade	£25,000	Overlay
2,212	B842	B842 Saddell	B842 from Bunlarie through Saddell to approx. 250m north of Schoolhouse	£100,000	Pre-S/D and Surface Dressing
1,479	B842	B842 East of Askomil	From Baraskomil to Allandale	£25,000	Edge Strengthening
1,510	C21	C21 Tayinloan	From ferry terminal pier to A83 junction	£30,000	Pre-S/D prep.
Area Total				£450,000	

ISLAY, JURA

WDM Scheme Number*	Route	Scheme Name	Location	Estimated Value	Proposed Scheme Details***
2,221	C15	C15 Loch Gorm	Loch Gorm	£110,000	Pre-S/D and Surface Dressing
2,222	C14	C14 Ardilistry Bay	Ardilistry Bay (Section 1)	£50,500	Pre-S/D and Surface Dressing
1,386	A846	A846 Knockrome	Knockrome, Jura	£23,625	Pre-S/D and Surface Dressing
2,223	U42	U42 Ballimony	Ballimony - Kilchiaran, Islay	£61,625	Surface Dressing
2,224	A846	A846 Low Road	Low Road, Glenegedale / Glenmachrie	£40,000	Edge Strengthening
1,438	U47	U47 Knockrome Vlge	Knockrome Village to Ardfemal	£45,000	Overlay
1,421	U34	U34 Loch Gruinart	U34 / B8017 Junction to Craigens	£50,000	Overlay
1,437	U49	U49 Claddach Loop	Claddach Loop - Claddach to Ballymeanach	£72,000	Overlay
Area Total				£452,750	

NOTES

* "WDM Scheme Number" is unique scheme reference and is not an indication of priority

** "Location" is a general descriptor and does not represent the exact scheme extents

*** "Cost Estimate" and "Proposed Scheme Details" are subject to review (eg after detailed site investigation)

OLI

£1,528,100	Provisional Budget Allocation for 2015/16
£1,530,000	Current OLI Total Programme Estimate

LORN

WDM Scheme Number*	Route	Scheme Name	Location	Estimated Value	Proposed Scheme Details***
2,201	A819	A819 Inistrynich	From Sabhal Dionach/Bowuy to forestry access south of north Cladich access	£270,000	Overlay
1,765	A816	A816 Scammadale	From A816/U14 Scammadale junction north	£115,000	Edge Strengthening
1,630	B845	B845 Taynult	B845 starting approx. 150m south of telephone exchange and heading south	£250,000	Overlay
2,202	U36	U36 William Street	From George Street to Corran Esplanade	£17,000	Inlay
2,203	U33	U33 Park Hotel Lane	From Corran Esplanade to Dunollie Road/George Street	£31,000	Inlay
2,204	U82	U82 Kerrera Terrace	Kerrera Terrace, Oban	£48,000	Inlay
2,205	U74	U74 Corran Brae	From Corran Esplanade to Strathbogie	£19,000	Inlay
2,206	U49	U49 Salen Loop	Lismore - U49 Salen Loop from B8035/U49 junction to Veolan House	£80,000	Type 1 / Planings
Area Total				£830,000	

MULL

WDM Scheme Number*	Route	Scheme Name	Location	Estimated Value	Proposed Scheme Details***
2,207	A849	A849 Salen South	A849 from U81/A849 Junction to Java Housing Scheme junction (Craignure)	£700,000	Surface Dressing
Area Total				£700,000	

NOTES

* "WDM Scheme Number" is unique scheme reference and is not an indication of priority

** "Location" is a general descriptor and does not represent the exact scheme extents

*** "Cost Estimate" and "Proposed Scheme Details" are subject to review (eg after detailed site investigation)

BUTE AND COWAL

£873,200	Provisional Budget Allocation for 2015/16
£871,735	Current Bute & Cowal Total Programme Estimate

BUTE

WDM Scheme Number*	Route	Scheme Name	Location	Estimated Value	Proposed Scheme Details***
2,180	A844	A844 Kilmory Circle	A844 Kilmory Circle from A844 / B881 Junction at Ambrismore to Ascog	£338,124	Pre-S/D and Surface Dressing
1,034	B878	B878 Barone Hill	B878 from A844/B878 Junction to Greenan Farm junction	£31,460	Pre-S/D and Surface Dressing
2,181	B881	B881 Kilchattan Bay	B881 from the jetty to the end of the public road	£22,150	Pre-S/D and Surface Dressing
2,182	U28	U28 Eastlands Road	U28 Eastlands Road (Canada Hill), section adjacent to the golf course	£9,367	Pre-S/D and Surface Dressing
2,183	U69	U69 Westlands Road	U69 Westlands Road from Knockreoch Farm to Abercom	£17,903	Pre-S/D and Surface Dressing
Area Total				£419,004	

COWAL

WDM Scheme Number*	Route	Scheme Name	Location	Estimated Value	Proposed Scheme Details***
1,123	A815	A815 Sandybeach	A815 Inellan from public toilet to Miller Avenue	£38,550	Regulate & Overlay
1,120	A815	A815 Strachur	A815 Strachur from Succoth Road to River Cur	£47,117	Regulate & Overlay
2,184	U1	U1 Ardenslate Road	Ardenslate road from A815 junction to Bencorrum Brae	£44,660	Inlay
1,114	A815	A815 Glenbranter	A815 Glenbranter from Driep Cottage to surfacing joint	£56,540	Regulate & Overlay
2,185	U52	U52 Lochan Avenue	All Lochan Avenue including dogleg to Ardenslate Road	£45,936	Inlay
2,186	U7	U7 Auchamore Road	Auchamore Road from Balgaidh Burn to Alexander Street junction	£72,732	Inlay
1,177	B839	B839 Hells Glen	B839 starting 450m from A815 junction	£62,475	Overlay
2,187	B828	B828 Gleann Mor	B828 from A83 junction	£38,048	Overlay
2,188	B8000	B8000 Leanach	B8000 from Leanach Cottage junction to Barnacarry Burn	£46,673	Regulate & Overlay
Area Total				£452,731	

NOTES

* "WDM Scheme Number" is unique scheme reference and is not an indication of priority

** "Location" is a general descriptor and does not represent the exact scheme extents

*** "Cost Estimate" and "Proposed Scheme Details" are subject to review (eg after detailed site investigation)

HELENSBURGH and LOMOND**£611,240****Provisional Budget
Allocation for 2015/16****£610,002****Current Lomond Total
Programme Estimate****Lomond**

WDM Scheme Number*	Route	Scheme Name	Location	Estimated Value	Proposed Scheme Details***
2,189	U268	U268 South King St.	From Old Luss Road to East King street junctions	£60,000	Regulate & Overlay
2,190	U229	U229 Old Luss Road	From South King Street junction to Williamson Drive / Old Luss Road junction	£60,000	Regulate & Overlay
2,191	A814	A814 Glenmallan	From jetty north of Glenmallan to new surface	£62,059	Surface Dressing
2,192	A814	A814 Morelaggan	From new surface to south side of Morelaggan slip	£70,013	Surface Dressing
1,251	A814	A814 Tighness South	From Tighness, Arrochar to the northside of the slip monitoring site	£77,930	Surface Dressing
2,193	B833	B833 Coulpport South	Coulpport r'about to Peaton Road junction	£36,800	Surface Dressing
2,194	B872	B872 Whistlefield	From B833 / B872 junction to Whistlefield R'about	£47,100	Surface Dressing
2,195	A814	A814 Gareloch Road	Gareloch Road - from Pier Road junction to Rhu Road Higher junction	£30,300	Surface Dressing
2,197	A814	A814 East Clyde St.	East Clyde Street - from no.221 to Waitrose roundabout	£55,800	Surface Dressing
2,198	A814	A814 Finnart Depot	From Lochside Cottage junction	£50,000	Regulate & Overlay
2,199	U101	U101 East King St.	From Sinclair Street junction to Grant Street junction	£60,000	Overlay
Area Total				£610,002	

NOTES

* "WDM Scheme Number" is unique scheme reference and is not an indication of priority

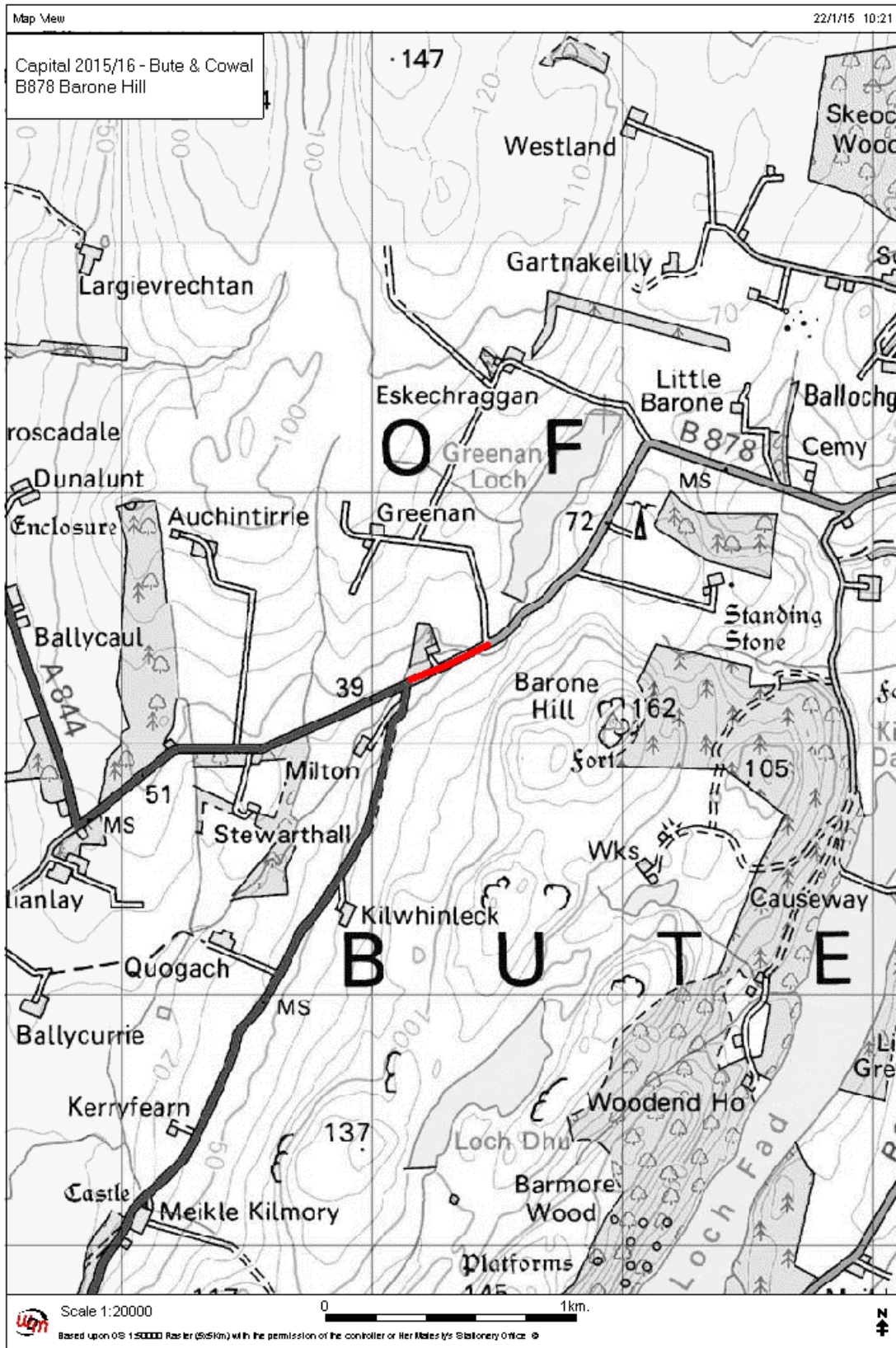
** "Location" is a general descriptor and does not represent the exact scheme extents

*** "Cost Estimate" and "Proposed Scheme Details" are subject to review (eg after detailed site investigation)

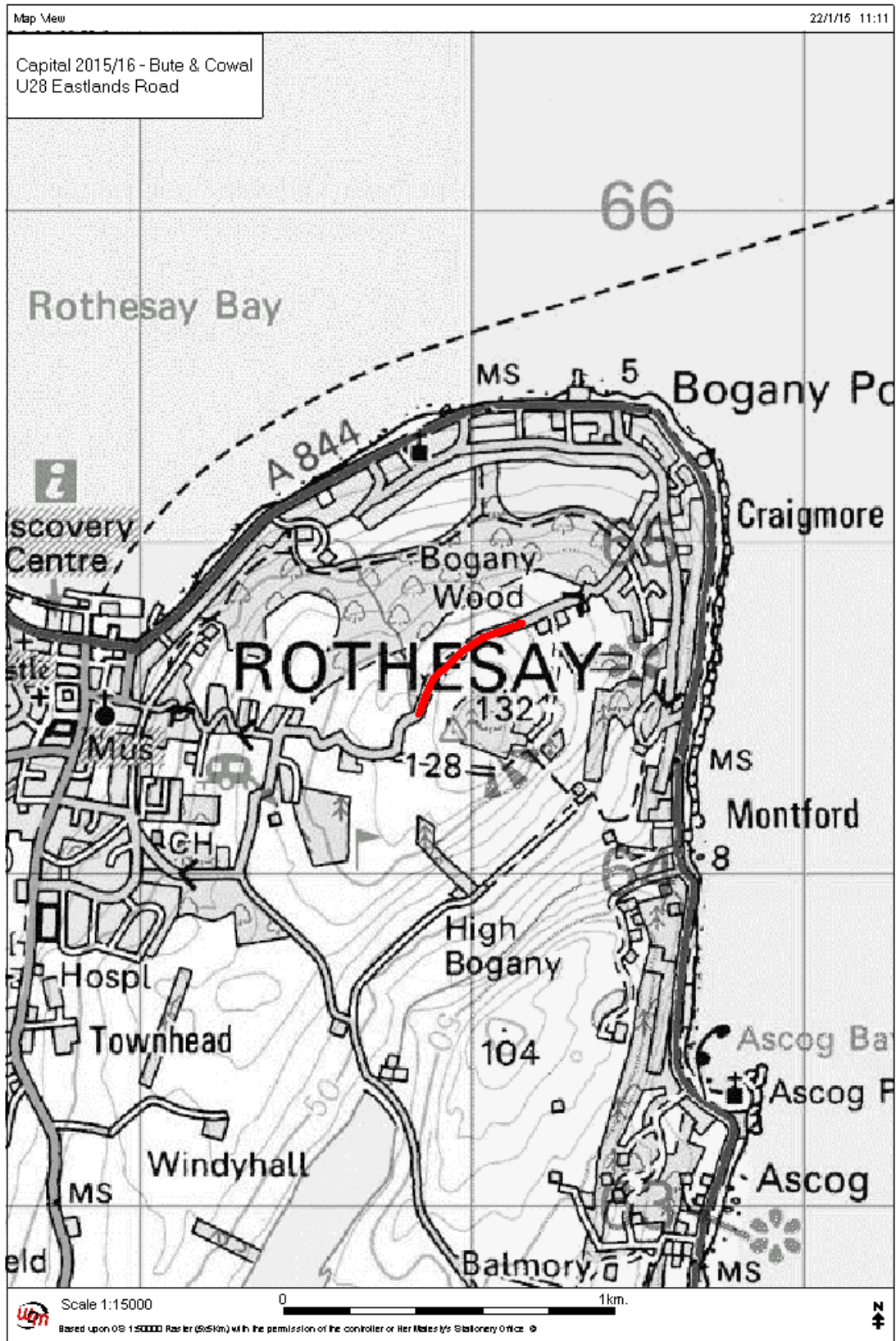
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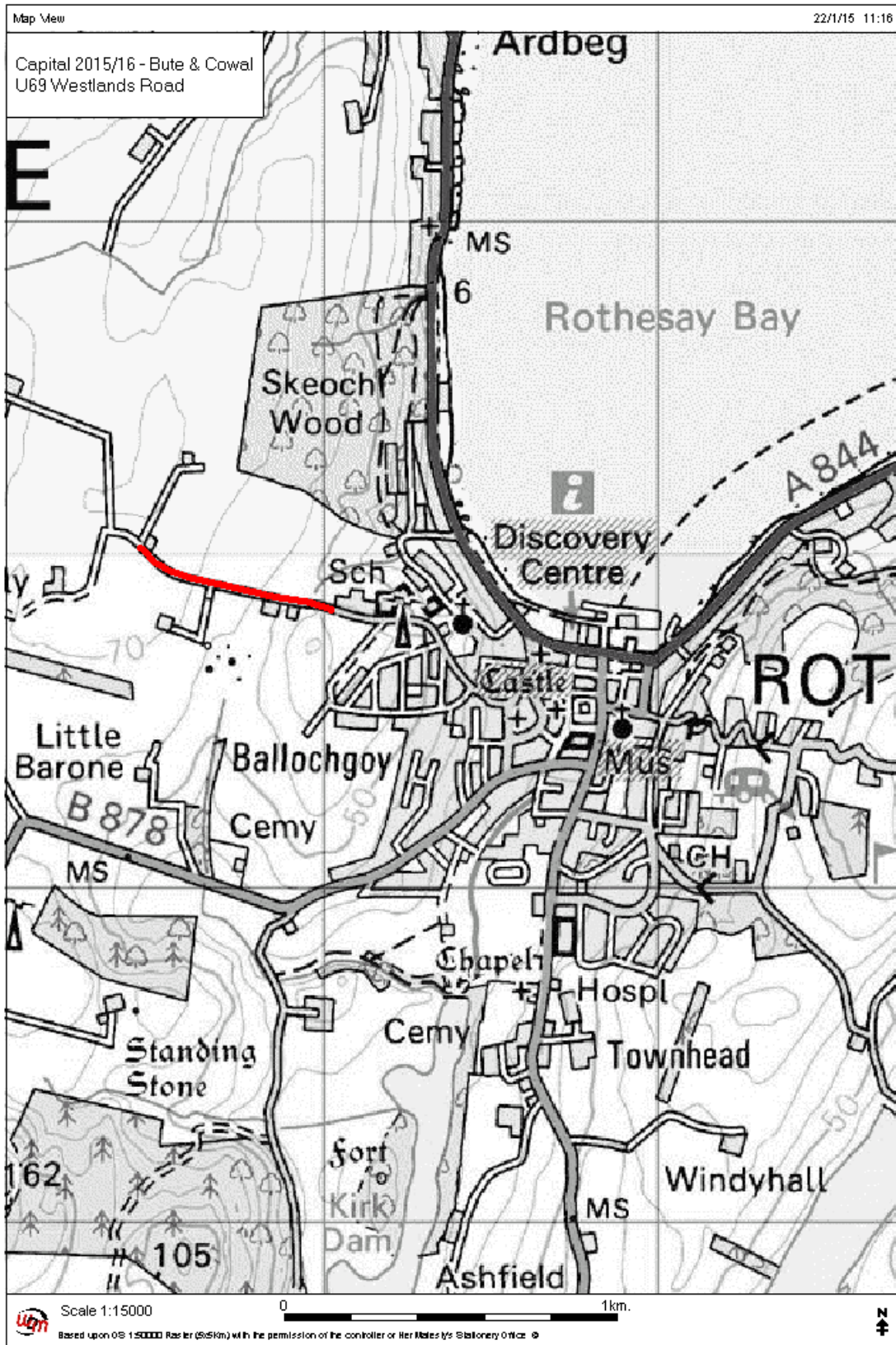
**Bute & Cowal
Capital 2015/16
Location Plans**

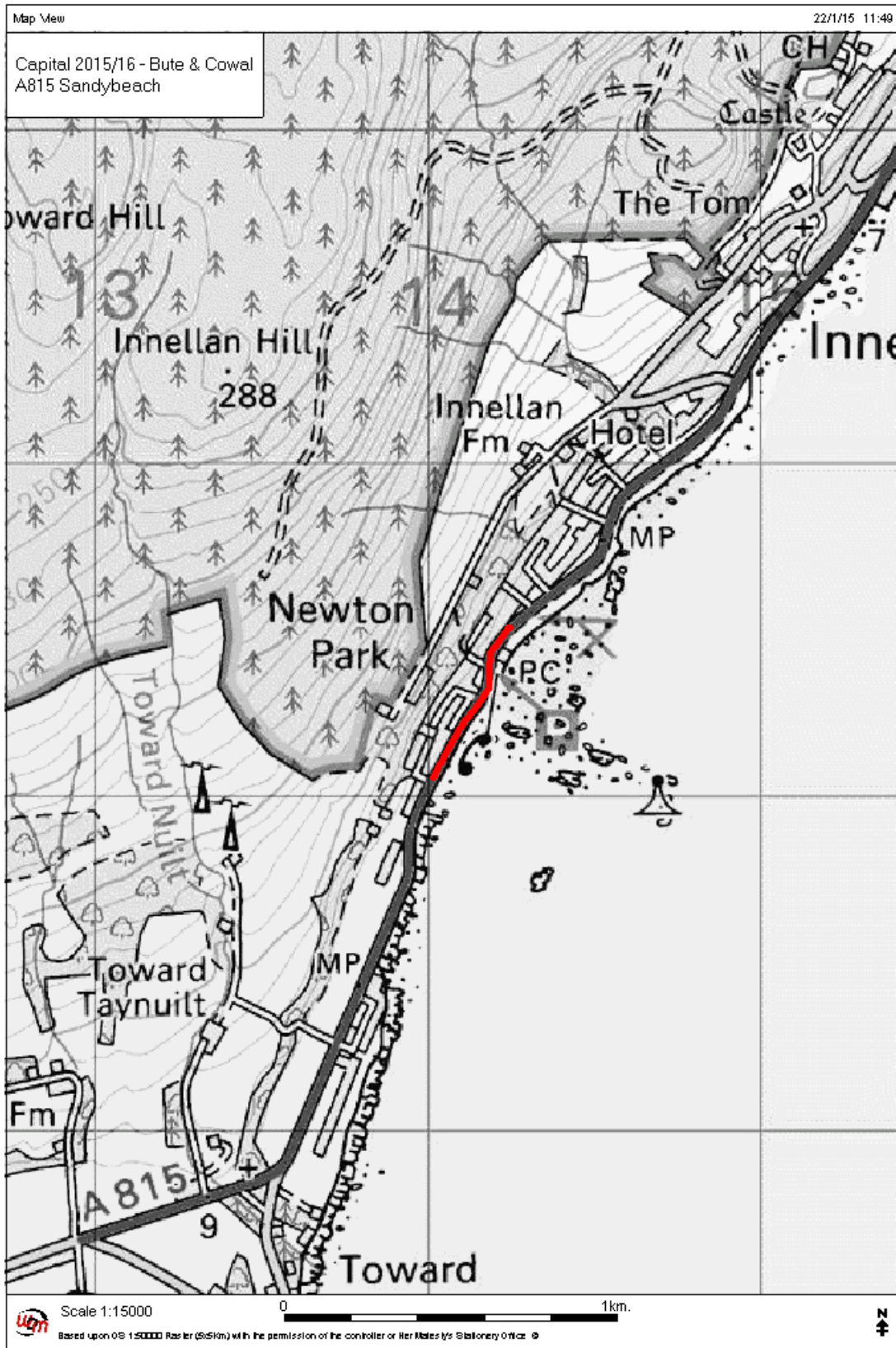


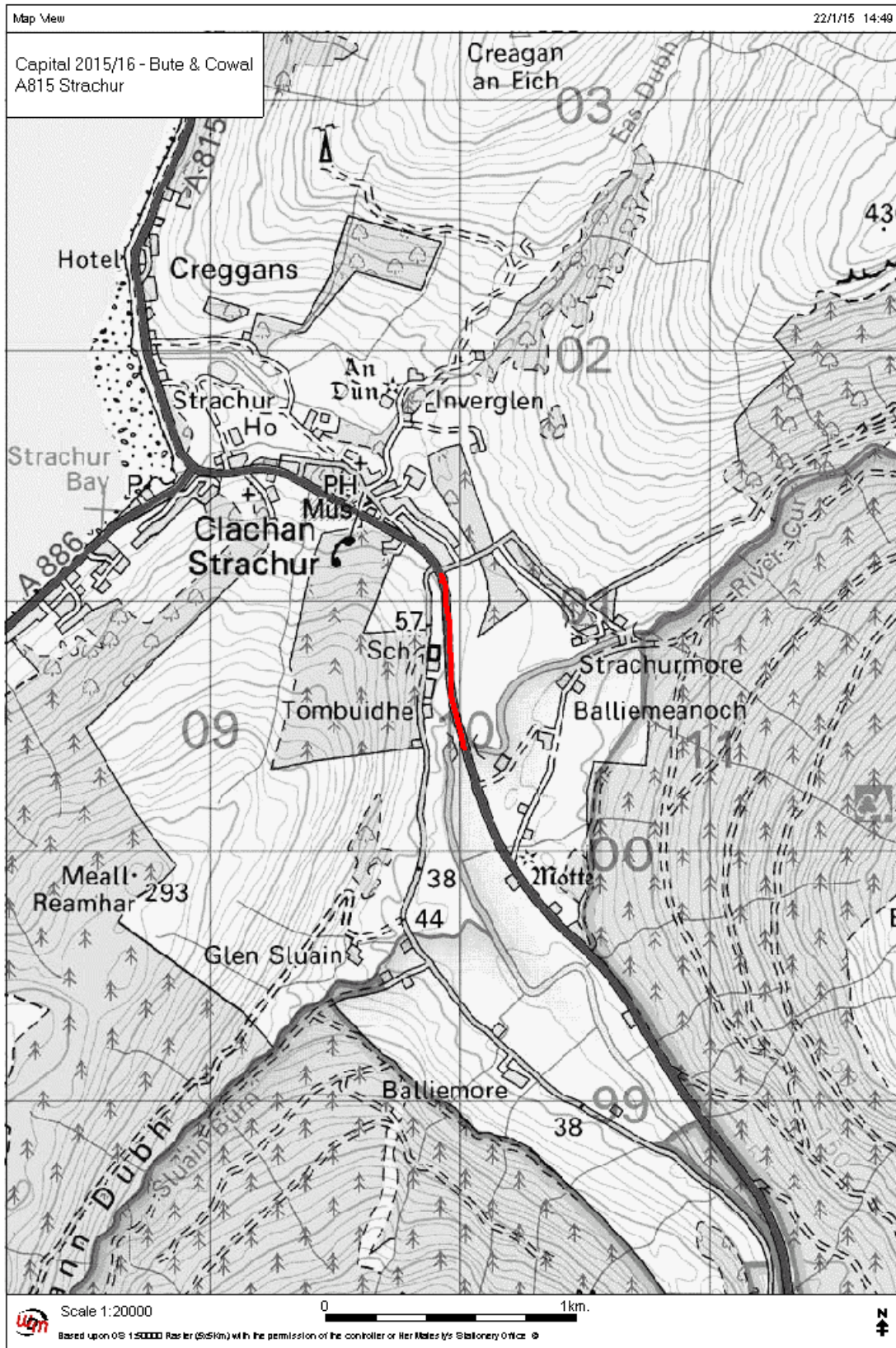


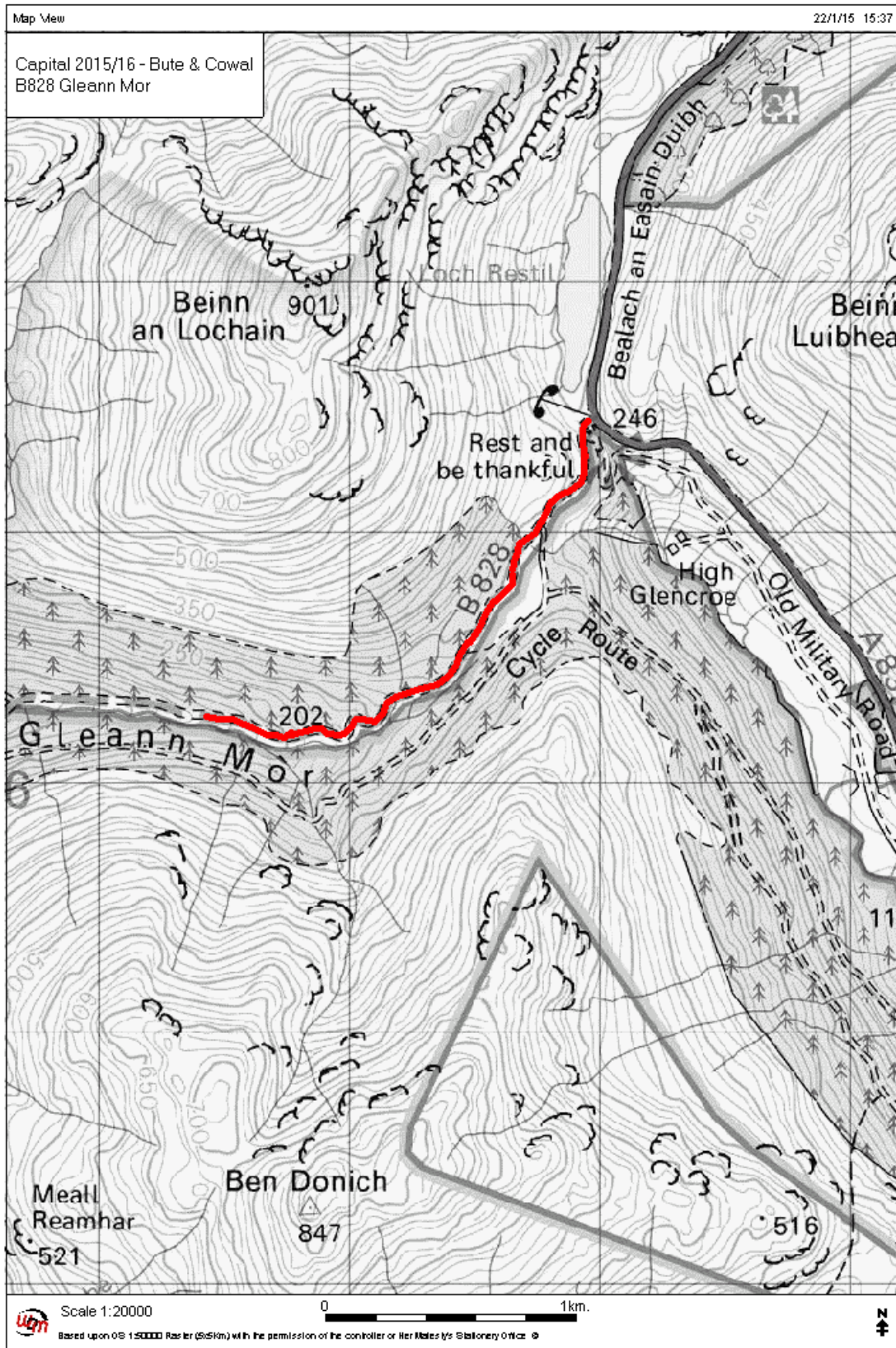


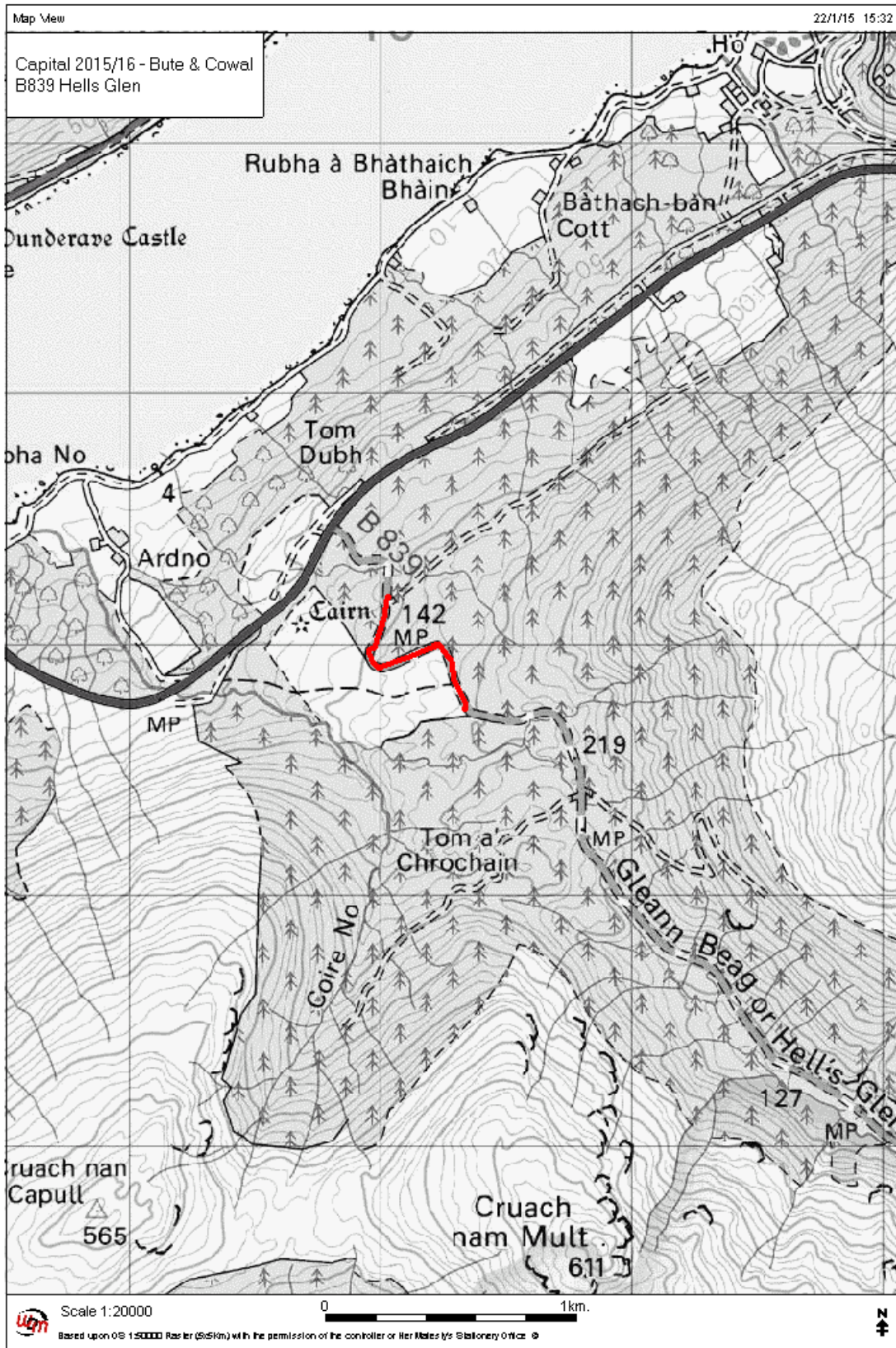


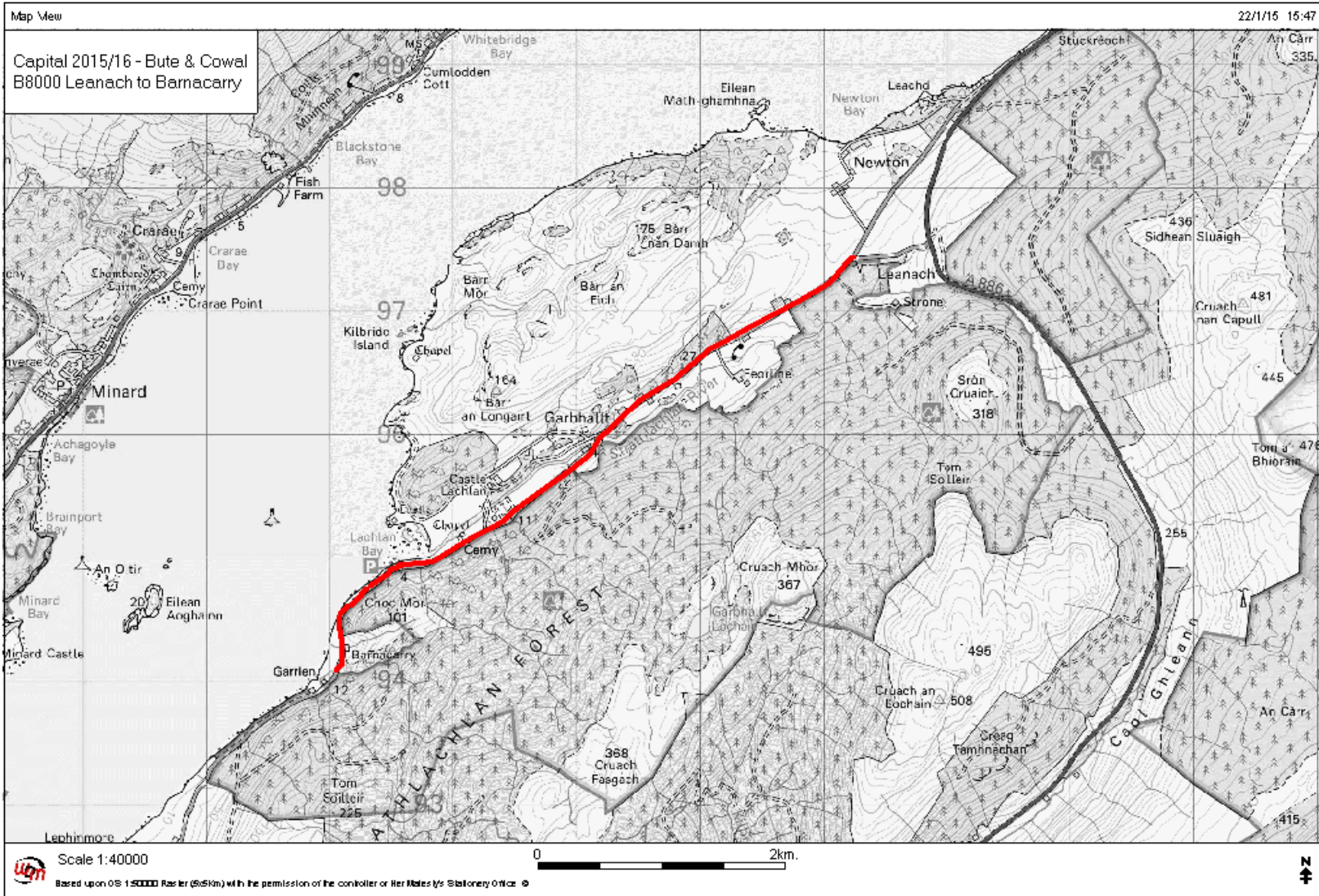




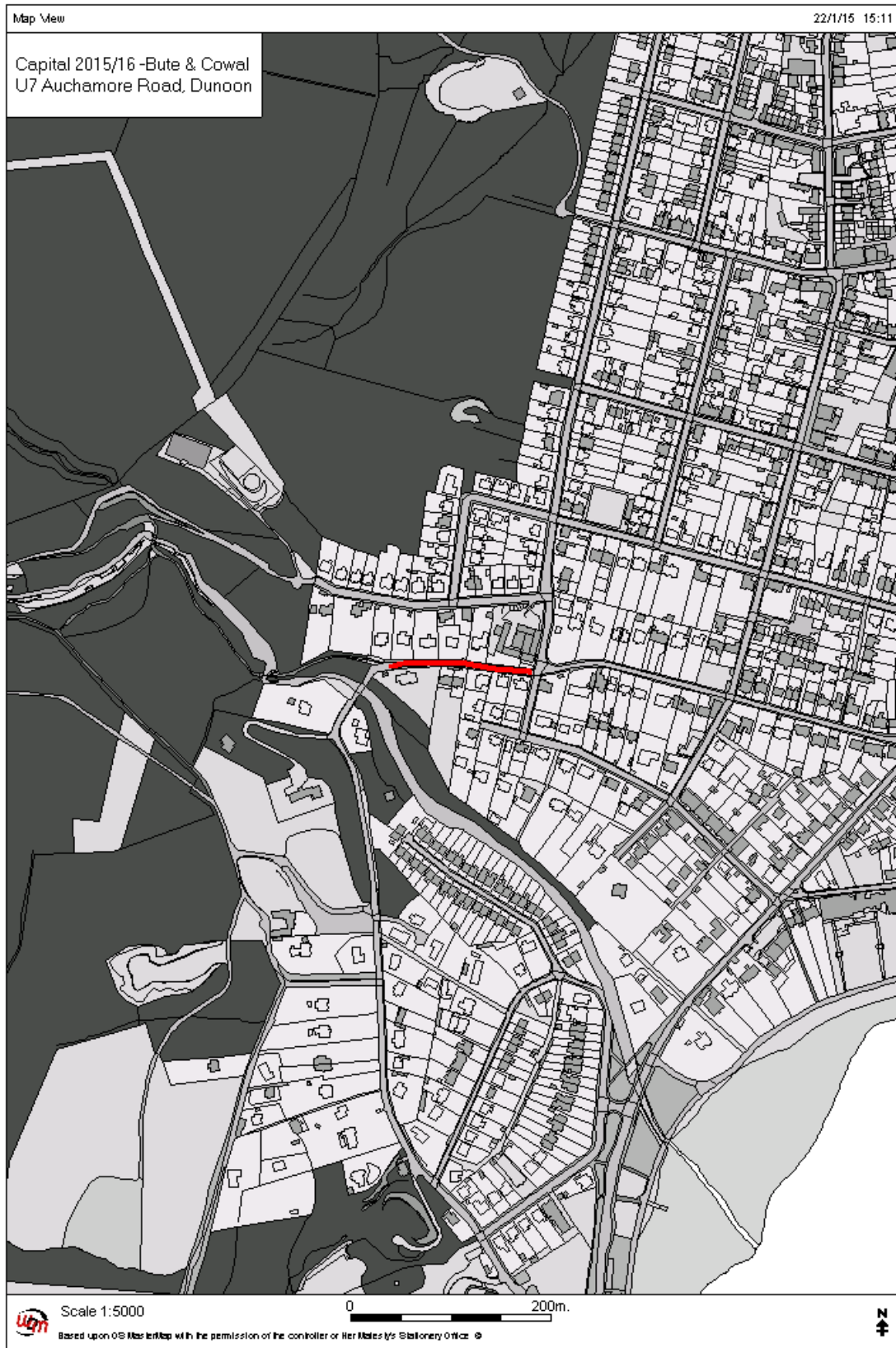


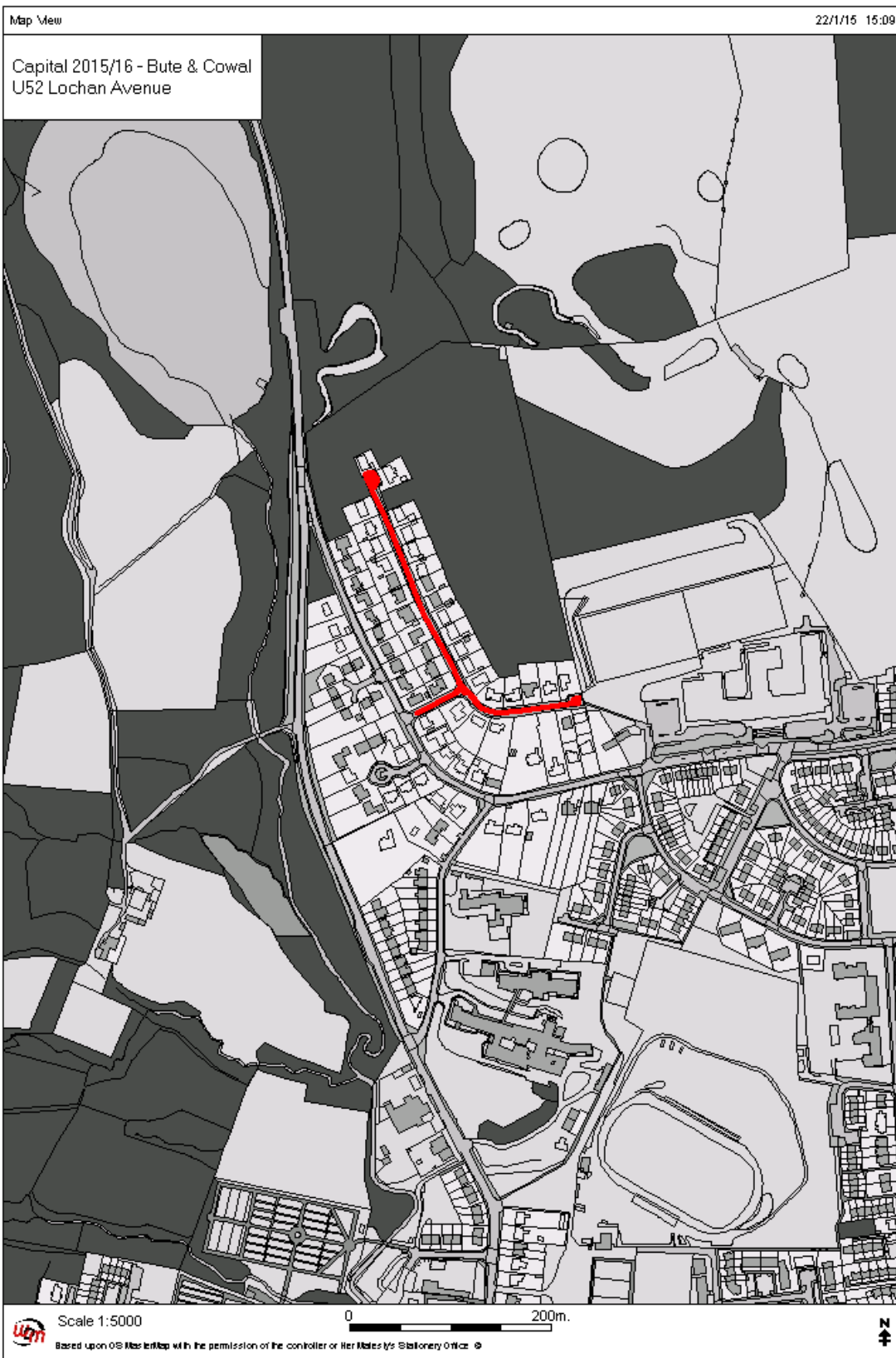












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ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL**BUTE AND COWAL AREA COMMITTEE****DEVELOPMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE
SERVICES****7th APRIL 2015**

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT AND PARKING REVIEW UPDATE

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In May 2014 Argyll and Bute Council were given approval from Scottish Government to implement Decriminalised Parking Enforcement (DPE) . This means that Council Officers can issue penalty charge notices (PCNs) for any parking contravention on the road, as well as in off street council car parks covered with a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO). Many of Argyll and Bute Councils TROs go back several years, some decades. Given the introduction of DPE and the introduction by the Council of a Parking Policy last year, now is the ideal time to review parking which is being carried out to each of the 4 areas.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Members note this report and agree to an informal consultation document being produced and circulated to Community Councils and other stakeholders.

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

BUTE AND COWAL AREA COMMITTEE

DEVELOPMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE
SERVICES

7th APRIL 2015

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT AND PARKING REVIEW UPDATE

2.0 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This report provides a summary of the issues raised at the parking workshop for Bute and Cowal held on 15 January 2015.
- 2.2 This report also provides an update for the recently introduced measures at Kilbride Road, Dunoon.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Members note this report and agree to an informal consultation document being produced and circulated to Community Councils and other stakeholders.

4.0 DETAIL

4.1 Parking Review:–

4.1.1 Parking demand changes over time as traffic behavior alters; influences include - population variation / shopping demand / inter-relationship with other forms of transport – buses, ferries etc. etc. A review at this time is therefore considered to be appropriate, particularly given the recent introduction of Decriminalised Parking Enforcement (DPE). In addition, there is considered to be a need to standardize waiting and parking regulations throughout Argyll and Bute to meet the needs of the people.

4.1.2 A review of car parking, throughout Argyll and Bute, is currently being progressed. This process involves holding a series of workshop meetings, with Members and Officers, to discuss local parking-related issues in all four areas of Argyll and Bute. The review will also enable a draft list of proposals to be compiled ahead of any informal consultation.

4.1.3 At the Bute and Cowal car-parking workshop in January, various aspects of parking in the area were discussed, both on-street and off-street parking. Parking provision and related demand was considered in some detail - provision at ferries for commuters was identified as a high priority; parking provision adjacent to ferry terminals in Dunoon and Rothesay will therefore be examined as a priority. The workshop was held under the framework of the Councils parking policy approved last year.

4.1.4 Based upon information discussed with Members at the workshop and any additional comments recorded through this meeting a detailed consultation leaflet with detailed plans will be produced and circulated to Members in the very near future. The leaflet will then be forwarded to Community Councils and other stakeholders for comment. These comments will be reported back to Area Committee and once a detailed list of proposals has been agreed a formal TRO consultation will be carried out.

4.1.5 Following implementation of any changes, a review will be carried out to ensure any alterations have had a desired and positive effect.

4.2 Kilbride Road Traffic Calming:-

4.2.1 Kilbride Road is now part of the recently introduced Glenmorag 'Twenty's Plenty' scheme. At locations where there is no available footway or refuge for pedestrians, advance warning signs have been erected advising motorists of pedestrians on the carriageway.

4.2.2 The new scheme will be monitored. It is also proposed to make this scheme the subject of further discussion with Members at the forthcoming car-parking review workshop in April.

5.0 CONCLUSION

This report provides an update to Members on traffic management issues and the on-going parking review in Bute and Cowal.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- | | | |
|-----|------------|---|
| 6.1 | Policy | Parking Policy 2014 |
| 6.2 | Financial | Any physical work required to be carried out on the roads network, i.e. signing and lining, will be funded by the roads revenue budget. |
| 6.3 | Legal | Traffic Regulation Orders will be implemented as necessary. |
| 6.4 | HR | None |
| 6.5 | Equalities | None |
| 6.6 | Risk | Safer roads for all road users. . |
| 6.7 | CS | None |

Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure

Head of Roads & Amenity Services Jim Smith
16 March 2015

For further information contact: Stewart Clark, Roads Performance Manager,
Tel: 01546 604893

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ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

BUTE AND COWAL AREA COMMITTEE

COMMUNITY SERVICES: EDUCATION

7 APRIL 2015

ROTHESAY STAFFING REPORT

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The main purpose of this report is to provide information relating to the current staffing situation in the secondary department of Rothesay Joint Campus.

The content of the report identifies those posts which are currently filled along with the full time equivalence of the posts. It also identifies any vacancies with the current staffing complement.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Area Committee is asked to note the report.

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

BUTE AND COWAL AREA COMMITTEE

COMMUNITY SERVICES: EDUCATION

7 APRIL 2015

ROTHESAY STAFFING REPORT

3.0 INTRODUCTION

3.1 The main purpose of this report is to provide information relating to the current staffing situation in the secondary department of Rothesay Joint Campus.

The content of the report identifies those posts which are currently filled along with the full time equivalence of the posts. It also identifies any vacancies with the current staffing complement.

4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 Area Committee is asked to note the report.

5.0 DETAIL

5.1 The secondary staffing complement of Rothesay Joint Campus currently comprises the following posts:

1 Head Teacher

The current post holder has tendered her resignation and is leaving on the 29 March 2015. The vacant post has been advertised in the first instance, as a temporary appointment until the end of June, by internal advert (within Argyll and Bute). This will allow time to consider and generate an advert for a permanent post holder during the summer term with a start date of August 2015.

2 Depute Head Teachers

10 Full time Equivalent (FTE) Faculty Heads (Principal Teacher posts). These posts are:

- 1 English,
- 1 Mathematics
- 1 Religious and Moral Education/Social Subjects
- 1 Modern Languages

- 1 Science
- 1 Physical Education/Expressive Arts
- 1 Technologies
- 2 Guidance
- 1 Support

15.7FTE Teachers. These posts are:

- 2 English
- 2 Mathematics
- 1 Geography
- 0.6 Religious and Moral Education
- 1 Chemistry
- 0.4 Biology
- 1 Physical Education
- 1.6 Art
- 1 Music
- 0.1 Drama
- 1 Home economics
- 2 Technical
- 1 Administration
- 1 Computing

5.2 There is presently a 0.8FTE Modern Languages vacancy. This post was advertised but not filled. This has been discussed with the Parent Council.

6.0 CONCLUSION

6.1 With the exception of a 0.8FTE Modern Languages vacancy the secondary staffing complement of Rothesay Joint Campus is at capacity.

7.0 IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Policy - None

7.2 Financial – Funding for HT post already allocated

7.3 Legal - None

7.4 HR – Arrangements have been made to ensure HT appointments for interim and substantive posts.

7.5 Equalities - None

7.6 Risk – Failure to attract high quality candidates for HT post

7.7 Customer Service - None

Cleland Sneddon
Executive Director of Community Services

Councillor Aileen Morton
Policy Lead for Education and Lifelong Learning
12th March 2015

For further information contact:
Ann Marie Knowles, Head of Service: Education
Tel: 013969 708474
email: annmarie.knowles@argyll-bute.gov.uk

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL**BUTE AND COWAL AREA
COMMITTEE.****COMMUNITY SERVICES****7th APRIL 2015**

HOME CARE SERVICES

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The main purpose of this report is to provide elected members an update of the current home care service in Bute and Cowal. The report highlights recent developments in improving the service and Bute and Cowal current service provision activity. It also shows the number of service users awaiting services and the review activity to date.

CARE AT HOME SERVICES

2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1

As reported at previous committees, Bute and Cowal provide a high level of home care services to those requiring support within the home environment. This has proved challenging for a number of factors including the availability of home care to some areas and the effects the national shortage of home carer's has impacted on our ability to provide a responsive service at a local level.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1

As stated above the national shortage of carer's has had a significant impact on Argyll and Bute and there are a number of factors. One of which is that often caring is not seen as an attractive career of choice. However, Jim Robb Head of Service held the first of a series of workshop on 16/1/15 with provider agencies to look at the recruitment and retention of staff for Argyll and Bute and the long term sustainability of the service. This work is ongoing.

3.2

From a local aspect there continues to be issues regarding the availability of home care especially to the rural areas. In Bute and Cowal we have been in negotiations with a Carr Gomm agency to take over the Collintraive area therefore freeing up capacity for Allied so they are able to focus on Tighnabraich. This will be monitored and reviewed but it is hoped it will assist in reducing waiting and travel times for services in those particular areas so we can provide a swift sustainable responsive service. The above action will be implemented on 23/3/15 and all current service users that are affected will be informed in advance.

4.0 DETAIL

4.1

Bute and Cowal current activity:

Details up to week ending 13/03/15	Bute	Cowal	Total
No of clients receiving a service	152	189	341
Projected hours of care	2,235.50	2,194.25	4,429.75

4.2

We current have a total of 6 service users awaiting services (w/e 13/3/15). All are situated in our outlying areas. 3 are receiving partial care support from an agency and 3 are being supported by family and friends with back up for the Extended Community Care Team (ECCT). However, one of the service user self-discharged from hospital against medical advice before an assessment could be completed therefore this has been done retrospectively.

4.2

Initial reviews are undertaken by the Home Care Procurement Officers at 4 weeks after services are introduced and are all up to date at the time of writing. Further reviews are done at regular intervals and at least once a year if situation is stable. However, a review can be called at any time depending on the individual need of the service user.

5.0 CONCLUSION

5.1

You will see that we provide a high level of care to a total of 341 service users for Bute and Cowal and this number only varies depending on incoming demand and attrition. To date we have 6 people currently awaiting services and it is hoped that the implementation of zoning of agencies will alleviate this. Work is continuing at strategic level to support agencies with their recruitment and retention of staff to support the long term sustainability of home care services in Argyll and Bute,

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- | | | |
|-----|------------------|--|
| 6.1 | Policy | May affect our ability to support those in Argyll to live Independently and therefore tip the Balance of care. |
| 6.2 | Financial | May affect our ability to generate future income for ABC. |
| 6.3 | Legal | NA |
| 6.4 | HR | Ongoing issues regarding HR for our external partners |
| 6.5 | Equalities | Potentially creating a post code lottery approach to service delivery. |
| 6.6 | Risk | Risk to the sustainability of the home care service in B&C. |
| 6.7 | Customer Service | We aim to provide the best possible home care service to those in B&C. |

Executive Director of Community Services

Policy Lead

Jim Robb

Date of Report prepared 11/3/15

For further information contact:

Jayne Lawrence-Winch

Area Manager

Adult Care

Bute & Cowal

Argyll and Bute Council

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL
COMMUNITY SERVICES

BUTE AND COWAL AREA COMMITTEE
7 APRIL 2015

THEMATIC REVIEW OF SELF-DIRECTED SUPPORT

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide a review of progress to date in respect of the implementation of The Social Care (Self-directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013 following its enactment on 1st April 2014.
- 1.2 The main body of this report has been presented to Community Services Departmental Management Team (DMT) therefore this report refers to decisions made by DMT following the initial implementation report presented to Area Committee in March 2014.
- 1.3 This report will identify key issues that have emerged from Implementation and will detail actions required and / or taken to address them such as:
- Supported Assessment Questionnaire and Resource Allocation System
 - Workforce Development
 - Communication Strategy
 - Direct Payments (Policy and Procedural amendments)
 - Scottish Government Transformation Funding (recruitment)
 - Best Rate Available for Agency Rates in relation to Direct Payments and Option 2.
 - Audit Scotland's Key Messages in relation to SDS implementation
 - Monitoring and Evaluation.
- 1.4 Area Committee are asked to note the content of the report in respect of barriers and challenges; the actions taken to address these and the continued significant progress made to date on the implementation of the Social Care (Self-directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013 in Argyll and Bute.

THEMATIC REVIEW OF SELF DIRECTED SUPPORT

2. INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Area Committee with a review of progress to date in respect of the implementation of The Social Care (Self-directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013 following its enactment on 1st April 2014.
- 2.2 A previous report presented to Area Committee in March 2014 described the new duties of the Act and detailed Argyll and Bute Council's proposed implementation plans to fulfil the duties of the Act and made recommendations for noting which would assist with implementation.
- 2.3 The main body of this report has been presented to Community Services Departmental Management Team (DMT) therefore this report refers to decisions made by DMT following the initial implementation report presented to Area Committee in March 2014.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Area Committee are asked to note the content of the report in respect of barriers and challenges; the actions taken to address these and the continued significant progress made to date on the implementation of the Social Care (Self-directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013 in Argyll and Bute.

4. DETAIL

Background

- 4.1 A previous report presented to Area Committee in March 2014 described the new duties of the Act and detailed Argyll and Bute Council's proposed implementation plans to fulfil the duties of the Act and made recommendations for noting which would assist with implementation.
- 4.2 The implementation work streams identified within the March report were:
- Supported Assessment Questionnaire and Resource Allocation System
 - Workforce Development
 - Communication Strategy

- Direct Payments
 - Scottish Government Transformation Funding
- 4.3 The decisions taken at DMT and SMT were an endorsement of the implementation plans and part approval was given to implement a Resource Allocation System (RAS).
- 4.4 Part approval enabled the Resource Allocation System to be applicable to all new Social Work Clients, eligible for support, from the 1st April 2014.
- 4.5 DMT requested that current care plan costs were honoured for existing clients when determining the ‘relevant amount’ under the Act. Should there be a change in circumstances for existing clients leading to an increase of support to meet agreed outcomes, the increase would be calculated at the rate of equivalency whereby the support required would be costed at the chosen provider rate.
- 4.6 The recommendation requesting endorsement of applying an average funding allocation over a 3 year period was turned down by DMT. A request was made that a full analysis and evaluation of the RAS was to be undertaken in October 2014, the results of which were to be reported back to DMT and are detailed in this report.
- 4.7 Throughout implementation, further workstreams have emerged which this report will detail. These include:
- Best Rate Available for Agency Rates in relation to Direct Payments and Option 2.
 - Audit Scotland’s Key Messages in relation to SDS implementation
 - Monitoring and Evaluation.

Current Position

4.8 **Project Board**

Project Board have met on a monthly basis to monitor progress on implementation and direct the implementation plan as described in workstreams below.

Update on Implementation Workstreams

4.9 **Supported Assessment Questionnaire & Resource Allocation System**

As noted above, DMT agreed implementation of the Resource Allocation System (RAS) was for all new care packages from 1st April 2014, with current care packages retaining their current resource allocation.

- 4.10 The Resource Allocation System (RAS) provides a framework to support a consistent approach to estimating the potential cost of a person’s support

package taking into account a broad range of predictive outcomes which have been identified from completion of the Supported Assessment Questionnaire (SAQ). The RAS provides a system, which will consistently match funding to individual/families social care needs, reflect the social care needs of the individual/families and produce an indicative budget to meet the agreed needs and outcomes. The indicative budget will then be used as a guide to support planning in order to achieve identified outcomes.

- 4.11 The RAS model approved by DMT for all new cases that are eligible for support from 1st April 2014 comprises two main elements:
- a) An assessment (Supported Assessment Questionnaire) that will be completed on CareFirst which provides an overview of the supported person's needs, associated risk, identified outcomes and;
 - b) A calculation template that is connected to CareFirst and is used to score the above assessment based on a scoring model built into the template.
- 4.12 As part of the RAS development, a carers section was included on the basis that the carer had eligible support needs. Completion of this section of the SAQ may provide an indicative budget for the carer which can be used as replacement care for the cared for person (respite) or can be used to support the carer to maintain their caring role – e.g. support to maintain the household. As with the process for the cared for person, the indicative budget is an estimate with the actual amount not being confirmed until a support plan detailing identified outcomes has been agreed.
- 4.13 **RAS/SAQ Analysis**
- As directed by DMT, an analysis of the RAS was carried out in October 2014 whereby a comparison exercise was undertaken to compare the RAS calculation against the current costs of existing cases.
- 4.14 The analysis undertaken looked at a number of cases where the percentage difference of the outcome of the RAS significantly differed to the actual cost of the current care plan. The percentage differences ranged from 1658% over actual cost compared and 100% under actual costs.
- 4.15 During the analysis, a number of discrepancies were identified which led onto further analysis. Further analysis identified that the discrepancies were due to interpretation of responses to specific sections of the SAQ. Once the responses were amended and recalculated via the RAS, budgets identified were within 10% of actual current care costs.
- 4.16 As detailed in point 4.12 above, a carers section is included within the SAQ and RAS which identifies a budget for the carer.
- 4.17 During the evaluation of the RAS it was identified that the Carer's assessment section within the SAQ does not take into account the Eligibility Criteria or the interpretation of what are substantial and regular caring responsibilities as defined in The Carer's Assessment (Scotland) Directions 2014. The RAS may

therefore produce a budget for the carer even though they are not entitled to receive any funded support.

- 4.18 Further to this, if the carer were to direct their budget to purchase respite, there is a requirement for any charge for this to be waived as per The Carers (Waiving of Charges for Support) (Scotland) Regulations 2014. Historically, respite is assessed as part of the supported person's assessment; therefore the waiving of charges does not apply. However, if the indicative budget within the carer's section of the SAQ remains, this then becomes part of the carers assessment and therefore subject to the relevant regulations. A full comprehensive report detailing the impact of these regulations will also be submitted to SWMT for consideration of future action.
- 4.19 On conclusion of the analysis of the RAS the following recommendations were endorsed by Social Work Management Team on 22nd January 2015:
- A further analysis of the RAS to being carried out and be reported back to Social Work Management Team in March 2015.
 - A parallel exercise to be carried out by operational social work staff to ensure a sample group of responses accurately reflect the agreed assessment.
 - SAQ guidance to be amended.
 - Separation of the Carers section in RAS
- 4.20 Initial guidance and process flow on the SAQ and RAS, which detailed the steps in which to apply the Act in practice has been in place since April 2014. Whilst reviewing these documents and taking into consideration the feedback received from clients, families, carers, staff and providers, these documents have been updated to provide a simple step by step guide. These documents have been cascaded to Operational management.
- 4.21 Feedback from the SDS Project Board identified further analysis is to be carried out in relation to the budget the RAS predicts compared with the existing budget of high level risk clients such as those with complex Learning Disabilities and vulnerable older people. The purpose of this analysis is to ensure there is a consistent approach to risk thresholds across all client groups. This analysis will form phase 2 of the evaluation and will be reported back to SWMT in June /July 2015.

Workforce Development

- 4.22 As detailed in the March report, Argyll and Bute Council have engaged with SPAEN (Scottish Personal Assistants and Employers Network) to assist with developing and delivering the SDS training plan.
- 4.23 In relation to this, the Workforce Development workstream and SPAEN have developed 4 progressive levels of training on SDS for all social work staff. These are detailed below:

Level one is basic awareness which is offered three ways:

- 1(a) A full day for practitioners applying SDS
- 1(b) A half day awareness raising for those not expected to apply SDS
- 1(c) A one hour session for all staff to give them some knowledge to be able to signpost appropriately.

Level two: Application of the Act into practice

Level three has 2 sub sections on the Options of SDS

- 3(a) Option 1 – Direct Payments
- 3(b) Option 2, 3 and 4

Level four: Outcome focused care planning.

- 4.24 Links had been made with the Learning and Development section to assist with the coordination and administration of the training inclusive of the course outlines, objective, target delegate lists and evaluation.
- 4.25 To date Levels 1, 2 and 3(a) have been delivered. Attendance at these sessions has primarily been frontline practitioners from Adult Care. Feedback and evaluation from these sessions has been positive.
- 4.26 Feedback from Children and Families staff who attended the training requested separate SDS sessions to be tailored to the GIRFEC process. Following discussion with the Children and Families SDS Lead, tailored sessions have been developed and commenced on 5th December.
- 4.27 The Project Board held on 4th December considered the barriers to implementation as detailed above. Operational Lead proposed a variation to the Workforce Development Strategy for Adult Care which would be inclusive of training on the new universal Adult Care assessment documentation which will come into force at end of January 2015. This was agreed by the Project Board. The variation proposed that initial training will be targeted at Team Leaders who will then become Champions and be responsible for cascading training in their locality. This training will be delivered internally in partnership with Area Manager Adult Protection, Service Manager – Operations, Adult Care Assessment Reviewing Project Officer and SDS Project Manager. A decision at DMT on 22 December 2014 from the Executive Director is agreement of this plan and reinforcement that Team Leaders must attend.
- 4.28 A paper detailing workforce training requirements for Health staff has been presented to NHS Core Management Team. Recommendations were as follows - NHS Core Management Team:
 - Support the requirement for attendance at the appropriate session before undertaking any SDS assessments
 - All staff working in the community should attend level 1 (c) training in the first instance
 - All staff who will be undertaking the role of lead worker/professional should attend level 2 training (this is dependent on the outcome of the Adult Care Assessment Framework review)

Communication Strategy

- 4.29 As detailed in the March report, Argyll and Bute Council have engaged with SPAEN (Scottish Personal Assistants and Employers Network) to assist with developing and delivering the SDS communication plan.
- 4.30 SDS has been communicated throughout Argyll and Bute to both staff and public via the Council's website and information leaflets available in Council offices, GP Surgeries and libraries. The Social Work SharePoint site also enables staff to access information such as policies, procedures and guidance plus the most current templates for the Support Assessment Questionnaire and Support Plans.
- 4.31 A Personalisation in-box is available for all staff to log any queries/comments/suggestions and this can be accessed and responded to by multiple staff members for a quick turnaround.
- 4.32 A programme of public sessions/roadshows has been undertaken throughout 2014/15 and we are working in partnership with RCOP and the Integration Communications Team to share these platforms.
- 4.33 A Resource Directory has been established with approximately 60 providers plus third sector organisations invited to register their details via the website to join our web based resource directory. To date, approximately 20 have registered and the site remains under development.
- 4.34 A Members Seminar was held on 1st December 2014 following Councillor Devon requesting clarification on the process of how individuals access Self-Directed Support.

Direct Payment Policy and Procedural Arrangements

- 4.35 The Social Care (Self-directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013 repeals Section 12B of the 1968 Act (the duty to offer and provide direct payments). In its place the 2013 Act provides a new, enhanced duty to offer the direct payment option and to "give effect to" the person's choice of a direct payment.
- 4.36 Alongside the 2013 Act the Self-directed Support (Direct Payments) (Scotland) Regulations 2014 came into force in April 2014. This is applicable to all direct payments arranged after 1st April 2014.
- 4.37 For existing Direct Payments arranged before the 1st April (as long as they were legally competent), they are not affected by the new regulations as Article 5 of The Social Care (Self-directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013 (Commencement, Transitional and Saving Provisions) Order 2014 makes a saving provision in relation to a direct payment which has already been offered under Section 12B of the 1968 Act before 1st April 2014 and accepted.
- 4.38 Sections 12B and 12C of the 1968 Act (which make provision in relation to direct payments in respect of community care services) continue to apply in

respect of that payment despite their repeal in section 25 of the 2013 Act as long as they are legally competent.

- 4.39 Argyll and Bute Council's current Direct Payments Policy & Procedures have been revised by the Direct Payment Workstream and now require endorsement. The new policy and procedures reflect the new regulations and terminology of the 2013 Act. The Direct Payment Agreement / contract has also been updated and also require to be endorsed.
- 4.40 The Scottish Government Self-directed Support Policy Team have advised they are working on further guidance in relation to Section 9 of the Regulations in respect to exception to the family Area Committee rule. Further information in this regard will follow. This may require a further amendment to our policy and procedures.
- 4.41 The rate currently provided for direct payments is £10.20 per hour. However, approval is required to review this rate to take into consideration several changes for example the impact of the changes made to Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) as this is no longer recoverable from HMRC; inflationary increase; living wage etc. A further detailed paper will be presented to SWMT in early course.

4.42 **Scottish Government Transformation Funding**

SDS transformation funding received over the last three years has been:

- £136,680 in 2012/13
- £235,180 in 2013/14
- £136,680 in 2014/15

- 4.43 A total funding allocation of £508,540 has been received over the three year period.
- 4.44 In the year 2012/13 the spend was around £21,000 which was mainly in relation to workforce development in relation to the Scottish Government's SDS strategy.
- 4.45 The project officially took off in 2013/14, with the appointment of a Project Manager and spend was around £85,000 - £32,000 spent on staff costs, £12,000 spent on workforce development and £41,000 spent on software/computing supporting the development of and implementation of a Resource Allocation System.
- 4.46 All spends made up to 31st March 2014 were met by Council revenue budget for Adult Care which has allowed for the full carry forward of all grants previously provided.
- 4.47 Together with £35,000 earmarked in 2011/12 and £25,000 specifically for Children & Families this provided Argyll and Bute Council with a fund of £568,540 to spend in 2014/15.

4.48 The commitments currently against this funding are:

- 4 x Generic Care Manager/Social Worker posts for each locality in Argyll: £176,000
- SDS Project Officer Post: £56,000
- Third Sector partner organisation: £46,000
- Finance Support Post: £29,000
- SDS Project Assistant Post: £30,000
- Teleconferencing Equipment: £26,000
- SDS Direct Payment Officer (2014/15): £37,000
- Care Assessment and Reviewing Officer post for Children with Disabilities: £50,000
- Miscellaneous costs associated to room hires, conferences, stationary etc: £15,000
- SPAEN Area Committeehip £6,000
- CareFirst modules maintenance; £7,000
- Cost related to training courses (basic time and travel claims): £35,000 (estimate)
- Agency costs while recruiting LGE11 posts: £23,000
- Flexible revenue to assist with care packages impacted by SDS; £33,000

4.49 Due to the timing of recruitment of the LGE11 posts, CARO post and the timing of the contractual payments to the Third Sector partner organisation there will be some slippage into 2015/16. Based on this forecast, there is likely to be £134,000 slippage on posts and also £12,000 due to the contract agreement with the Third Sector partner in early 2015/16. The CARO post is profiled as 2 months in 2014-15 (£8,000) and 4 months in 2015-16 (£17,000). Estimated slippage into 2015/16 is therefore £163,000.

4.50 Four generic Social Work/Care Manager posts have been funded through transformation funding, one per locality. These posts will work across all of Social Work and will enable frontline Social Work assessors and reviewers to embed the values and principles of SDS into everyday practice. The post holders will also assist in the development and Implementation of SDS and provide advice and guidance to practitioners and service users enabling them to make informed choices on the options available.

4.51 The Helensburgh and Lomond post has been filled under the Council's redeployment procedures. The posts in Bute & Cowal, Mid Argyll, Kintyre &Islay and Oban, Lorn and Isles have been advertised twice and appointments had been made during the second round of interviews to the three remaining localities, however, Bute & Cowal and Oban, Lorn & Isles candidates turned down the offer of employment citing the temporary nature of the post being the main factor in their decision to turn the offer down. In the interim, Agency workers will be recruited to assist with outstanding reviews within the area teams where vacancies remain.

4.52 Within Children and Families service, a Care Assessment Reviewing Officer has been funded for one year from SDS transformation funding – this post has

also been re-advertised with a reduced essential criteria to possibly attract interest from third sector.

- 4.53 The Scottish Government asked Local Authorities to identify their use of the remaining SDS Transformation resource until the end of 2014/15 and also complete a stock take questionnaire which will help to inform the monitoring and evaluation strategy for SDS. Scottish Government have advised they are currently developing plans for the targeting of SDS transformation resources from 2015/16 onwards. This will include a detailed consideration of where and how to target capacity building resource across Councils, the third sector and user/carer information services. The stocktake questionnaire responses will help to inform decisions about future transformation resource funding.
- 4.54 At the beginning of January 2015, Ministers announced the allocation to local authorities for SDS as part of their Government Aided Expenditure (GAE). Feedback from the stocktake questionnaire and a breakdown of local authority SDS funding will be published in late January. Clarification has been obtained that this year's allocation is £87,000, which is approximately 40% less than previous years. Work is currently underway to identify the priorities of spend such as extension several key posts which enable us to continue to embed the values and principles of SDS into our policies, procedures and practice for 2015/16. The priorities identified will be presented to the SDS Project Board on 4 February for ratification.

Additional Workstreams

4.55 **Best Rate Available for Agency Rates in Relation to Direct Payments**

The Council requires to set the Best Rate Available to ensure a fair and transparent process in which the supported person can make an informed choice with regard to how their individual budget is spent.

- 4.56 Under Option 1 of the Act, the supported person can choose to recruit an agency using their direct payment. This is not a new process to the Council. However previously, agreement of appropriate rate has been via local arrangements. The Best Rate Available will provide agreed rates for each type of service at the average market rate in each locality. If the supported person chooses an agency whose rate exceeds best rate available then the supported person is free to top up the difference or negotiate a better rate with the provider.
- 4.57 Under Option 2, the supported person can direct their individual budget by choosing any provider whether on the Council's framework or not. The supported person can request the Council administers their budget to their chosen provider or they can request the provider administers their budget as directed by them known as Individual Service Fund (ISF).
- 4.58 The Pre-Placement Contract, the Supported Persons Agreement and the Individual Service Fund Tripartite Agreement (inclusive of Best Rate Available) developed in relation to option 2 are detailed in a separate report for SWMT.

4.59 The Methodology to work out the Best Rate Available for both care at home and supported living services is based on the average cost within each locality inclusive of the three types of service provision (framework, in-house, contracted).

4.60 To ensure a fair, transparent process, consideration of all current framework, contracted and internal care at home and supported living costs has been given in order to provide the Best Rate Available. Due to market fluctuation, no one single rate can be applied across all of Argyll and Bute Council area, therefore the Best Rates proposed correspond to specific localities.

4.61 **Audit Scotland's Key Messages in Relation to SDS Implementation**

Audit Scotland conducted an audit on the progress of SDS implementation across all 32 Local Authorities in Scotland and published its findings in June 2014.

4.62 Key Messages from Audit Scotland Report are as follows:

§ Councils still have a substantial amount of work to do to fully implement SDS. Some have made slower progress than others and they will have to implement the cultural and practical changes more quickly over the next few years.

§ Councils need effective leadership from senior managers and Councillors and continued support from the Scottish Government through detailed guidance and regular communication on how implementation is progressing across the country.

4.63 **Key Recommendations are as follows:**

Audit Scotland Report Key Recommendations state that Councils should:

- Ensure that they have a clear plan and effective arrangements for managing the risks
- Plan how they will allocate money to pay for support for everyone who is eligible as demand for services increases
- Plan for how and when to stop spending on existing services if too few people choose to use them
- Plans to develop and invest in new forms of support for people with social care needs
- Assess and report on the short and long-term risks and benefits of the way they have chosen to allocate money to support individuals
- Monitor and report on budgets and spending on social care services.

- Take action to lessen the risks of overspending, which might mean that they are unable to provide support for everyone who needs it
 - Work more closely with people who need support, their carers and families, providers and communities, to involve them in planning, agreeing and implementing SDS strategies
 - Develop a local strategy in partnership with all stakeholders for what social care services and support will be available to people in the future.
- 4.64 Audit Scotland also produced a self-assessment checklist inclusive of the recommendations above for Council officers to help review progress in implementing self-directed support within their Council. Argyll and Bute have developed an action plan which addresses the key recommendations.
- 4.65 Audit Scotland have issued a supplementary paper setting out some issues that Councillors may wish to consider in relation to progress in implementation of self-directed support in their Council. A clear pathway of engagement with Elected Area Committee must be developed to ensure Councillors are advised and updated on progress on a regular basis.

SDS Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation

- 4.66 The key reporting themes for monitoring and evaluation SDS are:
- Statutory/governmental requirements
 - Local performance reporting requirements
 - Reports required to be made available to Pyramid
 - Exception reporting – errors, where process/procedures have not been followed.
 - Financial reporting – which option has been chosen.
- 4.67 A workstream has been established to address all requirements in relation to collating the information required for the themes detailed above. Dougie Hunter, Area Manager – Service Development Team has taken over as Chair of this group. To date, we have not agreed the final Pyramid or exception reporting criteria. As a result, no regular feedback has been given to Area Managers and Locality Managers regarding local performance.
- 4.68 Performance Management – SDS performance measures are included within the SOA. The workstream discussed possible measures and these proposals will be discussed further with the Service Development Team. Possible measures include the number of support plans completed; the option selected and the impact this has made to the supported person. Measuring the impact of SDS also ties in with Audit Scotland’s self-assessment checklist inclusive of recommendations for Council Officers to help review progress in implementing self-directed support within the Council.

Uptake on Options

4.69 The table below provides information on which options people have chosen following their assessment and/or review since the implementation of SDS.

Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4
18	9	295	1

4.70 Since 1st April 2014 there have been 10 new Option 1 (Direct Payment) applications.

Operational Procedures Still to be Established as Part of Implementation

4.71 Option 1 - Direct Payment Guidance has been revised in line with the new regulations.

4.72 A Guide to Direct Payments for Supported People has been drafted. A request will be made to Legal Services to check this guide over for accuracy prior to being presented to SWMT for approval.

5. CONCLUSION

5.1 Significant progress continues to be made in the implementation of the Social Care (Self-directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013 in Argyll and Bute.

5.2 We have identified challenges and barriers to implementation and work is ongoing to address these. Progress on overcoming these challenges and barriers will be dependent on the prioritisation of spend for 2015/16 from the Scottish Government’s SDS allocation.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Policy Consistent with Social Care (Self-directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013.

6.2 Financial Introduction of SDS may impact on current spend on Social Work budget.

6.3 Legal Council must ensure compliance with Social Care (Self-directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013.

6.4 HR Difficulty in recruiting and retaining social care staff in some areas may lead to some options not being available in some areas.

6.5 Equalities SDS policy is based on the human rights principles of fairness, respect, equality, dignity and autonomy for all.

6.6 Risk Failure to ensure all recommendations are met may lead to failure to comply with statute.

6.7 Customer Service People will be given more choice and control over their support.

James D M Robb
Head of Adult Care/CSWO
16th March 2015

For further information contact:

Pamela MacLeod
Project Manager – Self Directed Support
Tel: 01631 572948

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL**BUTE AND COWAL AREA COMMITTEE****DEVELOPMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES****April 2015**

West Bay Beach, Dunoon.

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

West Bay Beach, Dunoon has the benefit of a 'formal' paved promenade which is well used by locals and visitors. The beach area below the promenade is subject to varying levels of shingle due to tidal action. Weed growth can also be an issue and has resulted in complaints/enquiries being made to the Council.

On 19 February 2015 a workshop for Members was held with experts from Scottish Natural Heritage, SEPA and the Council on hand to discuss with members the management of the beach. From the meeting a number of actions were agreed which are detailed in the report.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that Members note the actions summarised in the report.

West Bay Beach, Dunoon

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 This report provides an update regarding the future management of the shingle beach area at West Bay, Dunoon.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that Members note the actions summarised in the report.

4.0 DETAILS

- 4.1 Bute and Cowal members attended a workshop in Feb 2015 at Castle House meeting room to hear from Council Officers and representatives from SEPA and Scottish Natural Heritage.
- 4.2 As previously reported, a number of issues relating to the management of this area were being considered with options for improving the appearance of the beach. The discussions were around historical removal of shingle and weed and the need to look at future options for the area. The Area Manager for Amenity Services gave a brief history on removal of shingle and cost implications on this type of operation within Roads and Amenity Services.
- 4.3 Marina Curran-Colthart the council's Bio-Diversity Officer presented information to show the need for providing clear information through informative displays. This would provide information on how best to manage the area and to allow an understanding of the ecology of the area to be better appreciated and understood the reasons for leaving areas in a natural state.
- 4.4 In tandem with the above, SEPA Officer Kat Ball gave in insight into the changes in sea levels and tidal movement in the area from previous years until now and the likely changes in years to come with the effect of global warming and natural impact on coast lines of Scotland. The message from SEPA was clearly around conserving the shingle beach and managing the area by protecting this coastal cove in Dunoon.

- 4.5 A detailed report was provided by Dr Nick Everett of Scottish Natural Heritage on coastal erosion and susceptibility of towns such as Dunoon in the years to come and need to protect areas such as West Bay.
- 4.6 Members asked a number of questions of the speakers and stated they were grateful for their clear and concise reports and very informative presentations.
- 4.7 Members agreed the need for this area of the town to be maintained to a standard that was in accordance with the information and discussions that had taken place at the workshop. It was agreed that the following actions be progressed:-
- Areas that require weed eradication (Japanese Knotweed) or dead heading (Dockens) would be managed to ensure a tidier appearance as part of a beach management plan to be created by Marina- Curran Colthart.
 - Litter picking will be carried out in conjunction with GRAB / Criminal Justice etc.
 - Schools involvement to be explored with support from GRAB officers under the Beach Schools educational initiative to look at planting part of beach with suitable grasses etc.
 - A Policy for A&B beaches should be developed to allow clear information for their future management.
 - Look at options to raise the publicity of the shingle beach - possible Skimming Competition as this area lends itself to this type of event – the PA23 BID Manager to be contacted to take forward this idea.
 - Create bright and informative interpretation displays that depict the history of the area and provide detail on the wildlife and ecology within the beach area as existing, to give the public a clearer understanding of the areas appearance.

5.0 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 This is an interim report setting out the recent workshop with members, SEPA, SNH and Council Officers. The report also summarises the current activities taking place in relation to the West Bay Beach, Dunoon. A future Business Day report will update members on progress on the plan outlined above.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- | | | |
|-----|-----------|--|
| 6.1 | Policy | None |
| 6.2 | Financial | No budget identified – interpretation boards to be funded through existing budget provision. |
| 6.3 | Legal | Duty of care to the public and Biodiversity Duty under the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 |
| 6.4 | HR | None |

6.5	Equalities	None Known
6.6	Risk	Flooding / Tidal Impact.
6.7	Customer Services	None Known

Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure

For further information contact: Jim Smith, Head of Roads and Amenity Services

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Copy of presentations given to members in Feb 2015

BUTE AND COWAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN 2014/15

1. SUMMARY OF ISSUES

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper and accompanying presentation is for the Bute and Cowal Area Committee to note the feedback on the delivery of the actions and in-year success measures within the Bute and Cowal Economic Development Action Plan (EDAP) 2014/15, which was approved by the Area Committee in April 2014.
- 1.2 The content of the Bute and Cowal EDAP aligns with the Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) Delivery Plans developed by the Community Planning Partnership.
- 1.3 It is important to note that the Bute and Cowal EDAP is a working document so that economic opportunities can be captured and addressed as they arise over the next three financial years inclusive to 2017/18. Therefore the actions and in-year success measures contained within the Bute and Cowal EDAP for 2015/16 will need to be agreed by the Area Committee and taken forward.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Bute and Cowal Area Committee notes the content of the presentation on the delivery of the actions and in-year success measures for 2014/15.
- 2.2 The Bute and Cowal Area Committee agrees to undertake a separate workshop session (late April/early May) with officers from the Economic Development Service to input to the content of the area-based EDAP for 2015/16. Mirroring the process for the preparation of the 2014/15 plan, the Area Committee also agrees that a similar workshop session is taken forward with the Bute and Cowal Community Planning Group.
- 2.3 The Bute and Cowal Area EDAP for 2015/16 will then need to be approved by the Area Committee in June 2015.

3. DEVELOPMENT AND PREPARATION OF THE BUTE AND COWAL EDAP

- 3.1 The Bute and Cowal EDAP sets out the growth agenda for the economy of Bute and Cowal, with a key focus on partnership delivery. The area EDAP provides a framework for sustainable economic development centred round four 'C's':
 - **Competitive** Bute and Cowal – businesses, places and sustainable economic assets;
 - **Connected** Bute and Cowal – transport, infrastructure, digital connectivity and grid;
 - **Collaborative** Bute and Cowal – national and European policy and funding, employability and skills development, and the need to harness the potential of the third sector; and
 - **Compelling** Bute and Cowal – increase the profile of the area to attract economically active new residents (individuals and families), inward investors and visitors.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 Bute and Cowal Area Committee notes the content of the presentation on the delivery of the actions and in-year success measures for 2014/15 and agrees to the proposed workshop sessions for the preparation of the 2015/16 area-based EDAP.

5. IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The implications for the Bute and Cowal Area Committee are as outlined in **Table 5.1** below.

Table 5.1: Implications for the Bute and Cowal Area Committee	
Policy	The Bute and Cowal EDAP 2014/15 (and subsequent in-year plans) aligns and adheres, as appropriate, to the overarching EDAP, 2013-2018, Local Development Plan and the SOA Delivery Plans.
Financial	The Bute and Cowal EDAP will ensure that the area's resources are allocated efficiently and effectively with regard to the economic development priorities and ambitions for Bute and Cowal. There will need to be annual consideration of best alignment between resources and priorities.
Legal	All legal implications at project level will be taken into consideration.
HR	The Bute and Cowal EDAP priorities will be resourced in terms of staff time in the context of the Council's annual service planning process and through shared staff resource discussions with Community Planning Partners.
Equalities	The Bute and Cowal EDAP will comply with all Equal Opportunities policies and obligations.
Risk	If the Bute and Cowal EDAP for subsequent financial years (2015/16 onwards) is not approved, then there will be no clear focus on or understanding of the economic development activities, and the associated resources, that will have the greatest beneficial economic impact for the area over the next three financial years.
Customer Service	The Bute and Cowal EDAP will provide internal and external customers with a clear articulation of the key priorities for developing the Bute and Cowal economy, thereby facilitating focus, effective resource planning and partnership working at the local level.

For further information contact:

Fergus Murray, Head of Economic Development and Strategic Transportation, tel: 01546 604293.
Ishabel Bremner, Economic Development Manager, tel: 01546 604375.

Bute and Cowal Economic Development Action Plan

**Bute and Cowal Area Committee
7th April 2015**



Competitive Bute and Cowal Success Measures 2014/15

Businesses:

- Business Gateway has liaised with Dunoon BIDS during 2014/15 and opportunities for joint working will be taken forward as appropriate.
- Small Business Units on Bute:
business needs (demand and supply) on Bute - progressed during 2015.
Current provision through the gap site work and the Hanson Building Contractors development.

Competitive Bute and Cowal Success Measures 2014/15

Place:

- Rothesay THI.
- Rothesay Pavilion - £5.85m of external funding secured from Heritage Lottery Fund, Coastal Communities Fund, Regional Capital Grant Fund, Historic Scotland and HIE.
- Dunoon Wooden Pier – both contracts have been let.
- Queen’s Hall, Dunoon – timescale of refurbishment now dictated by Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO).
- Team Town approach going forward.

ROTHESAY THI

Investment

THI Grant awarded to 68 property owners to:

Comprehensively repair 4 tenements

Make smaller scale repairs to a further 8 properties

Restore or replace 12 shop fronts

Redevelop 1 prominent gap site

Overall common fund: £2.6m

Council Contribution of £546,124

Owner contributions = £1.4M

Owner contributions critically include

Private Sector Housing Grant

Total eligible project cost = £4.05M

Job Creation

4 Bute based jobs – foreman, bricklayer, stonemason & labourer

2 Bute based apprentices

Argyll based contractors working on 17 projects

Glasgow based contractors working on 3 projects

Framework agreement with conservation accredited Glasgow based architects

Training and Events Programme

157 event days = 2095 active participants

20 training days = 192 active participants

6 courses targeted at local contractors = 50 up-skilled



Before



After

Rothesay Post Office

95% grant

Total eligible cost = £39k

Gap Site 15-19 Montague Street

Nearing Completion

Before



Council owned land sold to developer
£250k grant
Total project cost = £1.28M

Rothesay Pavilion

Restoring famous Art Deco pavilion

£8.8 million project to renovate this iconic building

Creating a hub for culture, tourism and sports

Work to include:

Full upgrade of the main hall



Creation of a second performance and community venue

A new café

Full mechanical and electrical upgrade

Full exterior repairs



Dunoon – Wooden Pier

Saving Dunoon’s iconic pier

Circa £2.8 million investment (Phase 1)

Probably the best remaining example of a wooden Victorian-era pier in Scotland.

Key piece of the Clyde’s maritime heritage.

Working with the community to save it in the short-term and to develop it in the longer term.

Phase 1A - major repairs to the substructure, expected to start spring 2015.

Phase 1B - work on the decking and buildings, expected to start autumn 2015.

Repairs to decayed timber piles and timber cross bracings.

Decking to be lifted, repaired and replaced.

Essential structural work on harbour master’s office and waiting room.





Dunoon – Queen’s Hall Dunoon’s waterfront gateway

Circa £9million investment

Creating a centre for skills and learning

Project will revitalise the Queen’s Hall, giving people exciting gathering places both inside and outside

New fitness and training suite

Refurbishment of the main hall

Soft play area & Library

Visit Scotland & Skills Development Scotland

New road layout

New paving and soft landscaping

Easier access to the town centre for ferry passengers



Competitive Bute and Cowal Success Measures 2014/15

Sustainable Economic Assets - Renewable Energy:

- Scottish Islands Federation conducted an Energy Audit on Bute as part of the SMILEGOV project. Bute work concluded at the March 2015.

Sustainable Economic Assets – Tourism:

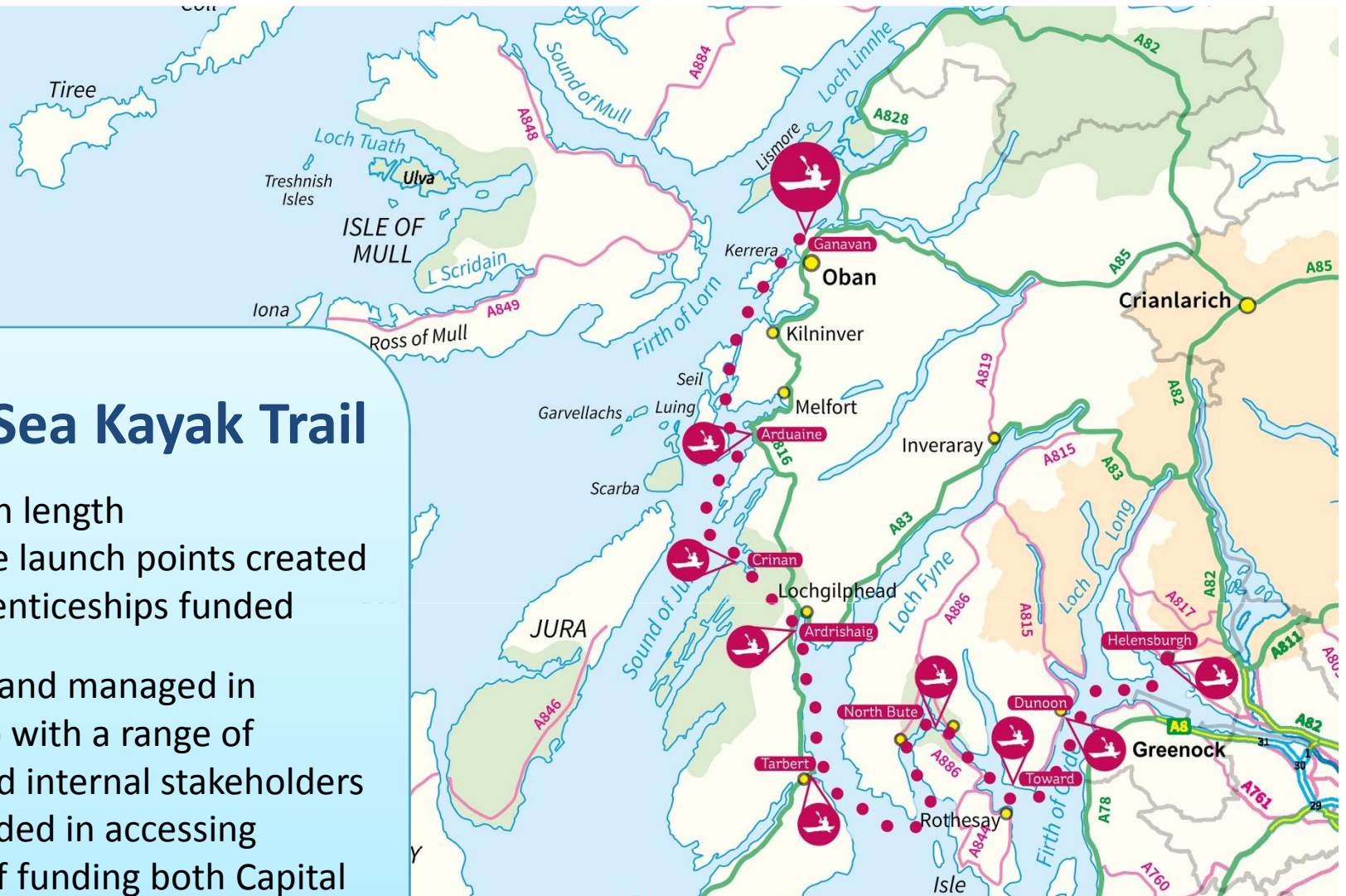
- AITC - appointment of freelance Development Agent to work with Kyles Marketing Group, Cowal Marketing Group and VisitBute to build capacity and grow membership.
- Bute Berthing – keen to expand the shower and laundry facilities and extend the opening times of the toilets.
- Attendance at cruise ship conference in Barcelona in October 2014 provided a marketing focus for the whole of Argyll and Bute.
- Hebridean Princess visited Rothesay during 2014/15 – 36 passengers disembarked. Saga Pearl due to visit Rothesay in September 2015.
- Argyll Sea Kayak Trail completed (North Bute, Toward and Dunoon launch points). Marketing materials produced.



Argyll Sea Kayak Trail

130km in length
nine safe launch points created
10 apprenticeships funded

Developed and managed in partnership with a range of external and internal stakeholders and succeeded in accessing £500,000 of funding both Capital and Revenue, from coastal community fund and LEADER. The project continues until May 2015 and a further stage of development is planned.



Connected Bute and Cowal Success Measures 2014/15

Digital Connectivity/Utilities:

- Superfast broadband - Dunoon and Rothesay brought forward to the summer 2015.
- Community Broadband Scotland supporting communities at initial stages of superfast broadband development.
- Mobile phone signal - initial indication that some masts will be upgraded to 4G.
- Grid improvements – Argyll and Bute wide study between forestry (timber industry) and SSE to be completed during 2015/16.

Sustainable Transportation:

- Argyll and Bute Council continues to input to Dunoon-Gourock Ferry Action Group to influence journey times.

Connected Bute and Cowal Success Measures 2014/15

Sustainable Transportation (continued):

- HIE to undertake a study in relation to transport connectivity and the economy in Argyll and Bute with a particular focus on the southern part of the area, including Bute and Cowal. Key objectives:
 - assess the extent to which transport connectivity between Dunoon and Rothesay and to these from the Glasgow/Inverclyde area, has a real impact on businesses, service providers, and the potential for future economic growth. (Identifying problems)
 - consider the scope for major transformative investments in transport infrastructure to produce transformative economic impacts. (Identifying opportunities)
- Slight decrease in usage of the cycle network (hands up survey data).
- Bute and Cowal iCycle training during 2014/15: 17 trainers trained and 72 children trained.

Collaborative and Compelling Bute and Cowal Success Measures 2014/15

Compelling Argyll and Bute Administrative Areas Study:

- Detailed study underway which has two overarching objectives:
 1. To undertake a detailed economic profiling and analysis of Argyll and Bute and each of the four sub-areas, with a particular focus on **skills development** issues.
 2. To develop '**compelling**' propositions/promotional action plans for Argyll and Bute and Bute and Cowal in order to attract the economically active through the collation of the findings from desk-based research and primary research (to include input from local communities and employers).
- Study timescale extended to end of April 2015 to cover a focus on public sector employment as per outcome 1.8.2 of the SOA.

Next Steps

- Report back to the Area Committee on key issues such as the Compelling Argyll and Bute Administrative Area study.
- Organise a discrete half day workshops with the Area Committee and Area Community Planning Group to discuss actions to be included in the 2015/16 B&C EDAP.
- Area Committee to approve 2015/16 B&C EDAP.

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ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL**Bute and Cowal Area Committee****Development and Infrastructure****07.04.2015**

West Kirk Rothesay

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The main purpose of this report is to up-date the Bute and Cowal Area Committee with regarding the current position with West kirk Rothesay.

Financial: There will be a financial implication, this is detailed in the report, briefly, costs will be associated with stabilising the building so a sustainable future can be developed or for demolition. Until tenders are returned for either option it is not possible to be exact about the difference in these costs, however it is estimated that neither one will be considerably different from the other.

It is recommended that the Area Committee note the contents of this report.

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

Bute and Cowal Area Committee

Development and Infrastructure

07.04.2015

West Kirk Rothesay

2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 This is an up-date paper regarding the West Kirk Rothesay.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 It is recommended that members note the content of this report

4.0 DETAIL

4.1 **Background:** The West Kirk Rothesay is a B listed building which makes a significant land mark contribution to the sky line and town scape of Rothesay.

The building has been monitored for some time by council officers from Environmental Health and Building Standards, with both teams intervening as necessary to ensure public safety and control pests. However the passage of time and no effective maintenance has led to the continued decay of the building and the risk to public safety becoming a greater concern.

Ownership: One of the main issues with the building is the lack of owner with whom to engage with or pursue to ensure adequate maintenance of the building. The property was last in the ownership of a Limited company which was dissolved several years ago. Property, cash and any other assets owned by a company when it is dissolved automatically pass to the Crown (QLTR) as bona vacantia property in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006. The QLTR has however issued a notice of disclaimer in respect of the West Church, Rothesay. The property of a dissolved company which has been disclaimed by the Crown becomes ownerless.

Condition: Engineers have inspected the building; from their initial report the following summary can be provided. The building is clearly in a dilapidated condition and continuing to deteriorate. This deterioration is occurring primarily as a result of water ingress through failed and missing

rainwater goods and finishes (slates, pointing etc). There are no obvious indications of ongoing structurally-significant distortions in the main walls of the building, although there are signs of historic movement. These localised areas of historic movement are not progressive in a significant way. The steeple was found to be in a reasonable structural condition, however closer inspection is required to assess the impact of the vegetation growth. Of most concern at this time is the condition of the primary roof trusses at their bearings on the wallheads, both because of the associated safety issues and because the roof structure restrains the wallheads. The timberwork at these locations needs to be checked and measures taken to address any significant deterioration to ensure that the main structure of the building is not compromised in the short term. This action will allow the interior of the building to be cleared and made safe, and will assist in securing the stability of the building.

Building standards are in the process of commissioning these investigative works to ascertain the exact condition and requirements of the roof trusses.

Options: There are currently several options;

- § Secure a sustainable future for the building working in partnership with third sector
- § Carry out moth balling repairs and undertake ongoing maintenance until such time that the council had resolved ownership issues and developed an end use in partnership with a private developer
- § Demolition

Secure a sustainable future: third sector partnership:

An increasing amount of interest in securing a sustainable future has been developing for some time now in the local community. A group has been formed and several community meetings held. Council officers are working with the group to support them as they develop their ideas and monitor their progress. This is to ensure they have the advice they require and that our decisions regarding dealing with the condition of the building take into account all the relevant factors. The community group are working toward submitting an initial Architectural Heritage Fund grant by the end of March to secure funds to investigate the viability of several ideas in more detail, these ideas include:

- innovation/business space centre – start-up/small business, wifi and serviced - potentially including some low rent retail/workshop space
- theatre/photography/studio/arts space – potentially allied to some residential courses/training
- themed community use training/learning centre – including healthy living or marine (boat building) theme
- indoor activity/adventure centre – with soft play adventure, climbing wall(s) etc. year round but with tourist appeal too

Initial talks with the Architectural Heritage Fund have been, positive a formal response to the grant application should be provided in May.

The group continues to work towards becoming formally constituted and have also began talks to work in partnership with the Bute Conservation Trust. They have also considered the future funding requirements from various funding sources and made positive progress in terms of understanding the processes, work and time scales involved.

Secure a sustainable future: private sector partnership:

There is currently no evidence of significant interest in this option. Equally this option is likely to be costly to the Council, both financially and in terms of officer resource. The Council would have to resolve the ownership issue, take the building into ownership through a form of compulsory purchase and pass it on through a back to back agreement if there was a possibility of this, or market the building on the open market. The current conditions of the open market and the deteriorated state of the church would make offers unlikely, coupled with the fact that if the building was bought for private development access to grant funding would be unlikely. Alternatively the Council, at its own cost, could move to market the building, but without the ownership issue resolved or any significant prospect of grant aid, it is even less likely that a private developer will express interest. For the reasons presented this option is not currently being pursued by officers.

Demolition:

Building Standards can only legally justify demolition if the building is assessed to be in danger of immediate collapse; this is currently not the case. However engineers have advised that works are required in the short term to ensure that collapse is avoided in the near future. In order to ensure immediate public safety Building standards have therefore cordoned off the area and will establish in more detail any risk of future collapse through the investigative works currently being commissioned.

Impact: The following table briefly considers the impacts of some of the key considerations.

Secure a sustainable future	Demolition
Cost to Council, investigative works currently out to tender, those coupled with resulting intervention are estimated to be broadly similar to the costs of demolition although this cannot be confirmed until the results of the tenders are in and the investigative works complete.	Cost to Council, estimated to be broadly similar to the costs of investigative works and resulting intervention, although this cannot be confirmed until the results of the tenders are in and the investigative works complete.
Potential economic impact : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> § Local employment during initial stabilisation works § Local employment during later renovation works § Long term job creation opportunities 	Potential economic impact: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> § Creation of local employment during demolition works § If the steeple is retained there will be an ongoing maintenance cost to the Council. § No scope for increased local employment

<p>associated with end use</p> <p>§ Creation of a visitor and Community Asset</p> <p>§ Ripple effect on local economy due to the all of the above</p>	<p>during full refurbishment</p> <p>§ No long term job opportunities created.</p> <p>§ No ongoing ripple effect from any new business activity.</p>
Aligns with wider regeneration objectives in Rothesay	Does not align with wider regeneration objectives in Rothesay
Improves quality of place by retaining a B listed building which makes a significant land mark contribution to the sky line and town scape of Rothesay. This has positive economic and social benefits.	Quality of place is negatively impacted through the loss of a land mark building and the economic and social opportunities its retention would have brought about.
Reputation impact with local communities and funding partners is positive.	<p>Negative reputational risk to the Council from local community who are expressing a desire to retain the building.</p> <p>Negative reputational risk to the Council from funders who have already invested heavily in heritage led projects in Rothesay</p>
Financial risk to Council through cost of works, however there is a wider economic benefit in return	Financial risk to Council through cost of works, little wider economic benefit in return

5.0 CONCLUSION

It is not possible to deal with the west kirk, without the Council being open to some risk, financial or reputational. The key therefore is to manage the risk as effectively as possible and bring about the most positive outcome for the local area and the Council. Taking the relevant factors of the current status into account officers from planning and building standards are working towards establishing a solution which both ensures public safety and helps deliver the wider benefits of a sustainable re-use of the building by a community led group. The condition of the building and the progress of the group will be kept under review.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Policy : None

6.2 Financial : Cost of demolition and intervention works estimated to be broadly similar costs, although this cannot be confirmed until the results of the tenders are in and the investigative works complete

6.3 Legal : May have resource impact if legal are required in any way to assist with resolving the ownership issue. However they have already advised on this and there are options open to any group or individual wishing to obtain ownership using their own legal team.

6.4 HR : None

6.5 Equalities: None

6.6 Risk : Potential reputational risk detailed in report. Continued risk to public safety.

6.7 Customer Service : None

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Report Date: 16.03.15

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