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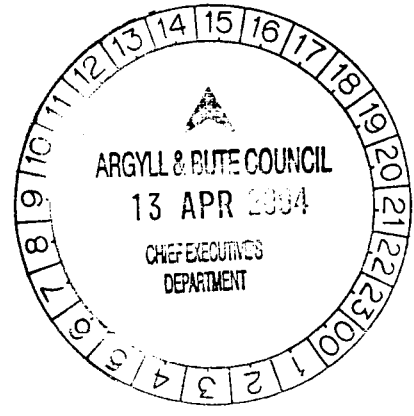
8th April 2004

Mr James A McLellan
Chief Executive
Argyll and Bute Council
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Dear James

Community Planning

I refer to the series of business meetings we have recently completed with Local Authorities throughout Scotland and the question of where Scottish Water fits within the context of Community Planning. Scottish Water currently participate within a number of plans at various levels, however, I thought it would be appropriate to clarify our position.

Scottish Water fully supports the concept of Community Planning and wishes to participate where appropriate. Whilst I do not anticipate that we will have as much day to day involvement as many of your other key partners, I do recognise that we need to provide input where appropriate. This may be within areas such as environmental work-streams that require information about water or waste water services being provided to our respective customers.

Although Scottish Water is not funded to provide financial support to Community Planning partnerships this does not preclude us from offering support where appropriate and we look forward to working with you regarding any relevant issues as they arise.

Yours sincerely,

Alan R. Thomson
Head of Strategic Liaison

CC, Cheryl Black – Customer Service Director