

# Strategic Partnership Highlight & Exception Report



<b>Strategic Partnership</b> (Name of Partnership you are reporting on)	<b>ARGYLL &amp; BUTE STRATEGIC HOUSING &amp; COMMUNITIES FORUM</b>
<b>CPP Thematic Group</b> (i.e Economy, Environment or Social Affairs)	<b>ECONOMY</b>
<b>CPP Outcome</b> (please select – you can select more than one outcome)  Please refer to attached table for more detail on each CPP Outcome.	<input type="checkbox"/> CPP/CP01 – competitive and successful businesses  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CPP/CP02 – sustainable economic assets  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CPP/CP03 – vibrant towns that are centres of economic growth  <input type="checkbox"/> CPP/CP04 – promoting our cultural, social and natural heritage  <input type="checkbox"/> CPP/CP05 – Utilising our environment to create employment and prosperity  <input type="checkbox"/> CPP/CP06 – Protecting our unique area  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CPP/CP07 – services are planned and delivered based on local need  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CPP/CP08 – overall health, wellbeing, independence and social inclusion are improved  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CPP/CP09 – people feel safe and secure  <input type="checkbox"/> CPP/CP010 – our diverse culture is celebrated

<p><b>Activity Summary in Period</b> (please state period you are reporting on)</p>	<p><b>November 2010 – April 2011</b></p> <p>The Forum oversees the development, implementation &amp; monitoring of the Housing Needs &amp; Demand Assessment (HNDA), Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP), &amp; the Local Housing Strategy (LHS) for Argyll &amp; Bute.</p> <p>Members participated in a seminar on 25/11/10 to review the strategic vision, aims &amp; objectives of the new LHS and also engaged in a series of Option Appraisal workshops in February &amp; March 2011 to inform the draft Action Plan for the new strategy.</p> <p>At the formal meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2011, the Council’s new spokesperson for Rural Affairs &amp; Islands, Housing &amp; Gaelic, Councillor Robin Currie, assumed chairmanship of the Forum. The 2010 SHIP was approved and submitted to the Scottish Government in November 2010</p> <p>A finalised HNDA report was approved and submitted to the CHMA in December 2010.</p> <p>The outcome report on the Interim LHS Action Plan for 2010/11 was approved. Key achievements for last year in relation to CPP CP09 targets were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>156 new build completions</b> for social rent</li> <li>• <b>26 new build completions</b> for shared equity/LIFT</li> <li>• 8 of above total were designed to meet particular needs</li> <li>• Repeat <b>Homelessness</b> reduced by one third from previous year’s figure (i.e. from 28 to 19)</li> <li>• The revision of the <b>Council’s Strategic Housing Fund policy</b>, with approval this year of grants and loans potentially totalling in excess of <b>£9.5m</b> to support 8 individual projects.</li> <li>• The formal signing of the <b>HOME Argyll Development</b> joint agreement between RSL partners in January 2011.</li> <li>• A successful bid to the <b>Universal Home Insulation Scheme (UHIS)</b> securing funding of <b>£520k</b>, and completion of over <b>1,000 HIS projects</b> on the islands (covering loft &amp; cavity wall insulations).</li> <li>• An estimated public investment of over <b>£26m in the local economy</b> (including AHIP, PSHG, and SHF <b>but excluding</b> additional private leverage and other RSL investment from Wider Role and ongoing maintenance programmes)</li> <li>• Successful bid for <b>co-production</b> support funds and launch of local Cowal &amp; Bute disability pilot in 2010.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Key Challenges &amp; Actions to Address</b></p>	<p>Key challenge remains the loss of core development funding and fundamental restructuring of public investment in affordable housing (ie change from Affordable Housing Investment Programme to Investment &amp; Innovation Fund with total national pot less than budget previously allocated to Argyll &amp; Bute alone) which will impact significantly on supply while at the same time need &amp; demand are exacerbated by economic trends and national policy shifts such as welfare &amp; benefit reforms.</p>

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