



Strategic Partnership Highlight & Exception Report

Strategic Partnership (Name of Partnership you are reporting on)	Argyll and the Islands LEADER Local Action Group
CPP Thematic Group (i.e Economy, Environment or Social Affairs)	Economy
CPP Outcome (please select – you can select more than one outcome)	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> CPP/CP04 – promoting our cultural, social and natural heritage <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CPP/CP05 – Utilising our environment to create employment and prosperity <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> CPP/CP09 – people feel safe and secure <input type="checkbox"/> CPP/CP10 – our diverse culture is celebrated

**Activity
Summary in
Period**
(please state
period you are
reporting on)

Reporting Period : 17th December 2010 – 30th April 2011

Since it began allocating funds in May 2008, the Argyll and the Islands LEADER Programme (including the Convergence Programme) has played a significant role in aiding economic recovery. The LAG has awarded £5,343,284 of grant funding to 176 projects - a substantial cash injection for communities across Argyll and the Islands. By the end of the fourth quarter, 164 projects had formally acknowledged the approval of £4,712,244 of grant funding – these are the actual figures reported to the Scottish Government. Once acknowledgements have been received from project applicants, the remaining projects will be processed by the Secretariat during the first quarter of 2011/12.

During the fourth quarter of 2010/11 at the March LEADER LAG (thirteenth round) a total of 14 projects were awarded funding totalling £469,300. A few examples to highlight are as follows:

- a) **Argyll & Bute Council, Rothesay Townscape Heritage Initiative, £107,839:** Rothesay THI Training and Education Programme will complement a wider Heritage-led Regeneration Project which aims to ensure a sustainable long-term future for the island and to encourage economic growth through increased tourism.
- b) **Tiree Rural Development Limited, Tiree Goose Management Training Project, £1,895:** the aim of the project is to provide local crofters with the knowledge, training and skills to be able to control the numbers of geese on the island in a sustainable and environmentally sensitive way.
- c) **Arrochar & Tarbet Community Council, Arrochar Play Area £ 37,455:** a small community group taking positive action to improve the community facilities in their area.

In addition, the LEADER Project Co-ordinators have been assisting in the development of three transnational projects, two of which, Argyll Bute Council Taste of Rural Europe and South Islay Development the Columba Challenge and Festival of the Sea were approved at the Strategic LAG on the 7 of April 2011.

Full details all projects funded are available on our website
www.argyllandtheislandsleader.org.uk

**THE NEXT FUNDING MEETING WILL BE HELD ON 16th of June 2011
(DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS IS 28th April 2011).**

Subsequent meetings will be held quarterly throughout the life of the programme. Initial enquiries can be made to Project Coordinators: Lorna Elliott 01631 563016
lorna.elliott@argyll-bute.gov.uk or Sheila McLean 01631 564424
sheila.mclean@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Key Challenges & Actions to Address		
	Challenge	Action to Address
	The current economic situation continues to have an impact on the funding available to groups developing projects	Continue to signpost projects to the most appropriate funder to maximise resources
	Ensuring that there is a good level of awareness of the LEADER programme throughout Argyll and the Islands so that groups are aware of the types of project that can be funded by the programme and how to apply if relevant	Ensuring that information about LEADER is widely available so that groups are aware of the types of project that can be funded by the programme and how to apply if relevant
Name	Lorna Elliott Argyll and the Islands LEADER Project Coordinator	
Date	17/5/11	

Please complete and return to:

Environment Melissa.stewart@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Economy Fiona.mccallum@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Social Affairs Fiona.mccallum@argyll-bute.gov.uk

If you require any more information please contact

Eileen Wilson

Community Planning Manager

Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership

25 West King Street

Helensburgh

G84 8UW

Tel: 01436 658726

Mob: 07769968098

Eileen.wilson@argyll-bute.gov.uk