

CUSTOMER SERVICES

EXTRACT OF OBAN LORN AND THE ISLES AREA COMMITTEE HELD ON 9
OCTOBER 2013

8. LOCHAWWE

A report updating the Committee on the Inland Water Safety – LochWatch Loch Awe Initiative was considered.

The Environmental Health Manager spoke on LochWatch Loch Awe and advised the group was set up in March 2010 to improve safety on and around Loch Awe; to provide safety advice; lead in accident prevention work and assist the emergency services during an incident.

He also advised the Volunteer Group now wish to provide a safety boat on the loch; campaign for the compulsory wearing of life jackets; introduce an emergency sign initiative at the loch and seek to have a national inland water safety forum established.

The Committee congratulated the Loch Watch Loch Awe group on the excellent work which has been carried out, and noted the excellent work carried out in the early days of the group by the late Councillor Donald Macdonald.

Decision

The Committee:-

- i. Noted the contents of the report;
- ii. Recognised the work of LochWatch Loch Awe to date;
- iii. Agreed to back the campaign to introduce an all-weather safety boat on the loch;
- iv. Agreed to contribute to the debate on the compulsory wearing of lifejackets on and around Scotland's inland waters;
- v. Agreed to support the emergency sign initiative;
- vi. Agreed to support the call to establish a Scotland wide inland water safety forum; and
- vii. **Agreed to recommend that Argyll and Bute Council back the call from Loch Watch Loch Awe to the Scottish Government to set up a Scotland wide inland water safety forum.**

(Ref: Report by Environmental Health Manager dated 9th October 2013, submitted).