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Please find below a brief update on various key areas of work. These briefings are also available for reference as part of the various information resources available on the new Member Zone system

**Roads and Infrastructure**

**Weekly member briefing**

**Edition 70: 14th October**

Please let us know if you find these briefings useful and if there is any specific information you would like or alterations to the format.

The updates are designed as a resource for you to be able to answer constituent queries.

You can find details of notable service disruptions on key service areas like bin collections and street lighting on the Council website [here](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Ccalderm%5CDocuments%5CMy%20Received%20Files%5CService%20Status%20%28argyll-bute.gov.uk%29)

As well as the updates on notable roads schemes in the table below, the whole roads capital programme is available online – you can access the full list of schemes [here.](https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/roads-capital-programme-0)

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| **Oban, Lorn and the Isles** | **Helensburgh and Lomond** | **Mid-Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands** | **Bute and Cowal** | **All areas** |
| **Weather issues**None reported**Notable road schemes**Capital surfacing works on the U56 on Kerrera to commence Monday 17th October and run for one week.Capital footway surfacing at Bunessan on Mull to be completed by Wednesday 19th October.In addition to the pot holing and patching work that was required for the preparation of the Mull Rally drainage work had to be carried out due to the recent / current weather conditionsThe significant capital works are still ongoing on the A816 Blaran and A819 Claddich sitesThe road closures in place for the Mull Rally are available on our website [Our Roads - Regulations and Limits (argyll-bute.gov.uk)](https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/trafficorders)**Salt delivery**The salt delivery reported last week is now expected to be delivered on the 21st October. We will update further next week **Oban buses** We have reviewed the feedback received and listened to local concerns regarding the bus services. We have been working with the bus operator, we can confirm a new timetable will be in operation from 24th October 2022 to coincide with the return of schools. The changes include:The service to Catalina Avenue that operated prior to 15th August 2022 will be reinstated Oban Airport will have buses serving the airport bus stop (this is on an access road just off the main A828). These will be timed to link in with flight arrivals and departures when possible.Barcaldine will regain a bus at around 10:30 heading into Oban, and around 14:30 arriving back in Barcaldine from Oban.Residents of Nant Drive will have additional return journeys from Oban centre.The Mossfield area of Oban will drop back down to an hourly service.The revised timetable can be viewed via the links below:Service 1/401 - [Dunollie - Oban - Soroba (argyll-bute.gov.uk)](https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/dunollie-oban-soroba) Service 5/405 - [Oban - Dunbeg - Benderloch - Barcaldine - Appin (argyll-bute.gov.uk)](https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/oban-dunbeg-benderloch-barcaldine-appin)Service 416 - [Oban - Longsdale Crescent - Mossfield Avenue - Hospital - Nant Drive (argyll-bute.gov.uk)](https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/oban-longsdale-crescent-mossfield-avenue-hospital-nant-drive)**LED upgrade scheme**The streetlighting team are meeting the approved contractor today for the official contract start-up and work is expected to commence with the upgrade of streetlights to LED in three weeks.The actual works themselves are expected to take around six weeksLED street lighting is more beneficial due to them being more cost effective, they last longer reducing the likelihood of faults, more energy efficient and minimise light pollution | **Weather issues**None reported**Notable roads schemes**Capital resurfacing work on the U149 at Ardmore commenced this week and is still ongoing Dalmore Cresecent footway works completed**Lining work**We are currently using two lining contractors in Helensburgh to ensure we receive best value for money on each job.`Mark On’ one of the contractors has been in the area this week marking and refreshing some disabled bays in the Helensburgh and Lomond area. **Vacancies**We currently have both the Team Leader and Assistant team leaders’ positions vacant for Helensburgh and Lomond. The recruitment process for the Assistant post did not lead to an appointment so this role is being re-advertised; interviews for the Team Leader post are expected to take place shortly | **Weather issues**None reported**Notable roads schemes**Traffic management in place on the B8024 at Inverneil to allow for drainage works to be completed Due to holidays and sickness absence no other capital works to report on – the team are focussing on day-to-day revenue maintenance works at the moment e.g. potholing. **Islay streetlighting faults**Due to the increase in tourism, the streetlighting team have found it difficult to find availability on the ferry and accommodation for the engineers to attend the island over recent weeksThe engineers are now scheduled to attend the island on Monday 17th October and will be staying until Friday 21st. They will be attending logged faults and doing a sweep of the island to try and repair as many faults as possible.**Campbeltown Flood Scheme/Burnside Square consultation**We’ve had a good response to the consultation with over 300responses. The consultation is due to close on Monday but given the school holidays we’ve decided to extend it by a week, so it will now run until Monday 27th.  | **Weather issues**None reported **Notable roads schemes**Re-surfacing works now complete, excluding road markings, are A815 Wellington St/Auchamore Road and Argyll Road with MacArthur Street due to be completed today. The B8042 Victoria Rd sections will be complete by Tuesday 18th October.All carriageway capital reconstruction schemes on Bute are now complete along with the A844 Victoria St Footway.The jetpatcher has been carrying out some revenue maintenance work potholing, patching etc. in Cowal between A815, A886 and A8003 and extremities of our network. The team will then be on Bute for week commencing Monday 17th October and then back in Cowal week commencing Monday 24th October.**Bus services** The winter Calmac timetables come into effect on 24th October with the Bute bus services switching to the winter timetables to align with this **A886 Strachur landslip**This week the contractors have continued with the excavation to allow for the installation of a retaining wall.The retaining wall is due to be installed on Monday 17th October  | **Poor weather preparations**Again this week we’ve been working across all areas checking gullies/drains and culverts in known hotspots and ensuring that they are clear and ready to collect water.**Bus timetables**We are working with HITRANS who are in the process of checking and printing our timetables. We expect that in approx. 1 month we will be able to start updating all bus stop timetables across Argyll and Bute **Sickness absence**We are experiencing higher than normal sickness absence across our Operations team this week, with almost 30 staff off ill.  |