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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 72: 28th 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:\Users\calderm\Documents\My%20Received%20Files\Service%20Status%20(argyll-bute.gov.uk))

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)

All member briefings can be accessed on the website [here](https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/ris-member-briefing)

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| **Oban, Lorn and the Isles** | **Helensburgh and Lomond** | **Mid-Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands** | **Bute and Cowal** | **All areas** |
| **Notable road schemes**  Capital surfacing works on Kerrera are now complete on the adopted roads to the southern end of the island.  The significant capital works are ongoing on the A816 Blaran and A819 Claddich sites although today [Friday] we have taken teams off the A819 job to focus on forecast poor weather preparations (checking culverts and grids are clear ahead of rain).  **LED upgrade scheme**  Work commenced with the installation of the LEDs in Connel on Monday and good progress has been made in the first week.  **Commercial glass collections**  Due to an issue with our refuse vehicle we were unable to collect the commercial glass collections in this area this week. The collection has been rescheduled for Monday 31st and a notice placed on the [disruption page](https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/service-disruptions2#bins) on our website.  Emails advising of disruptions are also issued to anyone who has signed up to the ‘keep me in the loop’ service which is also available to sign up to on our website [here](https://argyllandbute.custhelp.com/app/admin/Contact_Preferences?utm_source=council%20website&utm_medium=banner%2C%20homepage%20link&utm_campaign=customer%20outreach)  **Local Bridge Maintenance Fund**  A816 Oude Bridge – ground investigation work due to start Monday 7th November. At points this will require traffic management by way of two-way signals. This is part of a programme of over £5.5M additional funding we have been successful in securing from Scottish Government, as per earlier reports to the ED&I Committee.  **Oban Municipal Harbour**  Work is underway to finalise the working draft of the Harbour Revision Order (HRO) which will be considered by a special meeting of the Harbour Board in December, ahead of the Council’s formal submission to Transport Scotland.  The Council’s [website](https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/oban-municipal-harbour) contains comprehensive information relating to the development of the Municipal Harbour and a further update is due to be published in the next few working days. | **Notable roads schemes**  All roads capital [carriageway] schemes are complete in this area.  We are preparing for footway schemes and for the moment focussing on day-to-day [revenue] maintenance like minor pothole repairs, ditching, gully cleaning etc.  In addition, further works will be carried out on the cycle path at Geilston Park including the erection of some signage and fencing  **Vacancies**  We are going through the recruitment process for the Team Leader position and interviews are set for November  **Cardross Crematorium**  The Council’s crematorium is located in Cardross. This is a busy facility which provides cremations for the whole of Argyll and Bute, as well as providing services to families in neighbouring local authority areas like West and East Dunbartonshire and Glasgow. The number of cremations from outwith the Argyll and Bute area is around 50% of all cremations carried out.  In the next couple of weeks there are 24 cremations already booked. | **Notable roads schemes**  Work on the B8024 is complete with the exception of lining work.  Next week work will commence on the A819 at Electric Cottage,  This is phase 1 of the £150,000 capital scheme for widening and realignment of the road. Work includes culvert extension, excavation of embankments and edge strengthening  **Campbeltown Flood Scheme**  A further project update mailshot was issued earlier this week and is in additional to the information on the project [webpage.](https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/campbeltown-flood-protection-scheme)  Good progress continues to be made on Phase One – Meadows area.  Further drainage works are set to commence in Witchburn Road on Monday. These will include trial holes, excavating a drainage track and installing new drainage and gullies then reinstating the road surface, first with a temporary surface, then later a full carriageway resurfacing. | **Notable roads schemes**  All roads capital [carriageway] schemes are complete in this area.  The jetpatcher has been delivering some revenue maintenance work in Cowal this week and will continue until Tuesday 1st November when it rotates round to the Lomond area.  **A886 Strachur landslip**  The contractors have begun the installation of the retaining wall [pictures below]. Work is continuing well and is on programme. Note the innovative interlocking concrete sections which are infilled with ballast.  **Grass cutting**  Due to the mild weather forecast a further cut of all amenity areas in Bute and Cowal will be carried out | **Armistice Day**  All teams will be checking war memorial sites in their area next week in preparation for Armistice Day. This forms part of our cleansing and sweeping schedules.  **Winter maintenance**  Our winter maintenance stand-by arrangements commence today (Friday 28th October).  You may have seen some gritters out this week; on Wednesday we did a full fleet dry run to ensure the vehicles and spreaders were in full working order with checks being made to the tracking devices, spread rate celebration, driver route information etc.  More information on winter maintenance can be found on our separate winter specific briefing which was attached to the email with this briefing and will be uploaded to Member Zone.  **Weather preparations**  Much like in previous weeks our teams have been out across the area checking culverts and known flooding hotspots ensuring our infrastructure is as prepared as it can be for any heavy rainfall.  Mechanical sweepers are being deployed to clear leaf fall to minimise drains being blocked etc. |

Images below showing the retaining wall on the A886 being erected using simple but innovative interlocking concrete blocks which are filled with ballast to create a fast (to build) and cost effective retaining structure.

