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Please find below a brief snapshot of both the huge range of work being undertaken to manage the impact of the recent extreme weather, as well as the normal day job work.

**Roads and Infrastructure**

**Weekly member briefing**

**Edition 122: 3rd November**

The updates are designed as a resource for you to be able to answer constituent queries, alongside the information on the weather impact [webpage.](https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/my-council/civil-emergencies-and-contingencies/argyll-and-bute-moving-weather-67-october)

You can find details of the weather impact specific service disruption on the Council website [here.](https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/service-status) We are continuing to update this twice daily with the live position.

You can view all previous weekly member briefings on the [website](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** |
| **Roads updates**  Kilmelford Bridge opened to light vehicles on Monday 30th October at 1600hours.  Weight restrictions were then lifted on Thursday at noon to allow vehicles weighing up 44 tonnes (the maximum weight allowed on UK roads) to pass over the new bridge.  All in all it took a mere 14 days from the original damage to the bridge to effect a complete and permanent replacement, a fantastic job by all involved.  There is additional work to be done which means the bridge, while unrestricted in terms of weight, will operate under traffic management.  The local roads squads are still on ‘tidy up’ operations from the flooding events last month, jetting culverts, roadsweeping etc.  We are also completing works on the Bonawe Road and the works at Gibraltar Street in Oban are nearing completion.  On Mull we are installing culverts at Crogan and Torloisk. We are also clearing scrub and filling potholes.  **Moleigh household waste recycling centre**  Just a reminder that Moleigh Household Waste and Recycling Centre will be closed from Tuesday 7th November until Friday 10th November to enable Renewi, who operate the site on the Councils behalf, to carry out essential resurfacing works.  Information has been placed in the local newspaper, our social media channels and the council’s disruption page.  **School Transport**  We are pleased to say the bus service from Ardfern to Oban High School was reinstated this morning. | **Roads updates**  The surfacing works/culvert repair on the C69 Glen Douglas will be completed today (03/11/23).  Starting next week, we will be progressing a resurfacing job on the A814 and it will be closed between Glen Douglas road end and Arrochar for 10 working days (excluding weekends). Closure times will be from 09.00hrs till 17.00hrs from 6/11/23 till 17/11/23 with diversion route A817 – A82- A83 in place as per the plan below. The road will remain open overnight.    Installation of signs for traffic order in Luss will continue next week.  **Street Lighting**  The team have been focusing on the cabling faults that have been causing issues within Helensburgh, they are working with Virgin Media and Scottish Power to have these resolved as quickly as possible.  The streets affected are:  Duncan Road,  Crawford Drive,  Bain Crescent,  Kilbride Drive,  Douglas Drive East and  East Dhuhill Drive. | **Roads updates**  A816 at Ardfern: We have so far removed around 3000 of the 6000 tonnes of debris on the road, as well as taking steps to stabilise the hillside so that the workforce can clear the road safely. Working with Forest and Land Scotland we have an arrangement in place to dispose of the debris at a disused quarry locally.  While it’s a big task, clearing the actual debris is relatively straightforward – the main issue is the hillside itself and the large, precarious boulders, some weighing up to 70tonnes. Some of the upper soil slopes have been stabilised and a rope access system is now in place, which will allow further assessment of the hillside and large boulders.  We won’t reopen this road until we know it is safe to do so.  Subject to no further material coming down off the hillside, we are hopeful the road can reopen around the middle to end of November.  The jetpatcher will be moving back from Islay to Mid Argyll and Kintyre next week.  The team will be undertaking routine maintenance works and winter preparation across MAKI next week before starting on the A819 Electric Cottage site on 13th November. This job was postponed because of the disruption across the network due to the recent weather events.  **School Transport**  Arrangements are still in place to use the Venture West rib to transport pupils and teachers to and from Ardfern/Crinan due to the A816 closure. Feedback is that this is working well. | **Streetlighting**  Ladeside Place street lighting works are still ongoing.  **Roads updates**  On Bute we are focussing on safety inspection repairs and general revenue maintenance works or ‘housekeeping’.  In Cowal we have put the  A8003 STTS scheme on hold while we work through a couple of landowner/land access matters.  All other capital carriageway works are now complete.  Other works ongoing are safety inspection repairs, clearing remaining blocked culverts etc. from the flooding at the start of October and ‘housekeeping’.  **School Transport**  We continue to use the diverted bus route due to the B836 Strachur/Glen Lean closure for pupils travelling to Dunoon. While this is inconvenient and adds time to the journey, it all seems to be working well. | **Funding award will help reduce waste and increase recycling**  We have been successful in a bid for just under £900,000 from Net Zero Scotland’s Recycling Improvement Fund to make it easier for people to reduce waste and recycle more.  This funding will enable improvements to be made to recycling facilities at Argyll and Bute’s six council-run Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC), therefore increasing the quality and quantity of recyclable material, and providing further re-use opportunities for items deposited at these sites.  The funding will enable us to make a number of improvements at our waste and recycling centres so that we can provide our communities with more consistent recycling services.  It will also help us to divert an estimated additional 416-565 tonnes of waste from landfill to reuse and recycling. |