

**Argyll and Bute Council**  
**Comhairle Earra Ghaidheal agus Bhoid**

Customer Services  
Executive Director: Douglas Hendry



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6 February 2013

**NOTICE OF MEETING**

A meeting of the **OBAN LORN & THE ISLES AREA COMMITTEE** will be held in the **CORRAN HALLS, OBAN** on **WEDNESDAY, 13 FEBRUARY 2013** at **10:30 AM**, which you are requested to attend.

Douglas Hendry  
Executive Director - Customer Services

**BUSINESS**

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**3. MINUTES**

- (a) MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 DECEMBER 2012 (Pages 1 - 10)
- (b) MINUTE OF THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON 16 JANUARY 2013 (Pages 11 - 12)

**4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

- (a) FEEDBACK FROM PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTION TIME
  - i. Verbal update by Councillor Hall on Welfare Reform/Bedroom.
  - ii. Update from Area Manager, Adult Care on Quality Assurance for Care Homes.

(b) PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

**5. OBAN HOCKEY CLUB**

Presentation from Tara Pollock

6. **GLENCRUITTEN HOSTEL**  
Report by Service Manager – Resources (Pages 13 - 16)
7. **CHILDRENS CHAMPIONS**  
Report by Executive Director of Community Services (Pages 17 - 22)
8. **NEW OBAN HIGH SCHOOL**  
Report by Head of Facility Services (Pages 23 - 26)
9. **QUALITY ASSURANCE AND CONTRACT MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS - CARE AT HOME**  
Report by Performance Improvement Officer (Pages 27 - 34)
10. **GLENFORSA**  
Report by Strategic Transportation Manager (to follow)
11. **FERRIES PLAN**  
Report by Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure (Pages 35 - 40)
12. **PASSENGER ACCESS SYSTEM**  
Report by Marine Operations Manager (to follow)
13. **DE-CRIMINALISATION OF PARKING**  
Report by Head of Roads and Amenity Services (to follow)
14. **LOCAL ACHIEVEMENTS**  
Verbal update by Governance and Risk Manager
15. **CAPITAL RECEIPTS**  
Report by Area Governance Manager (Pages 41 - 44)
16. **TIREE HIGH SCHOOL - PERFORMANCE REPORT**  
Report by Headteacher of Tiree High School (Pages 45 - 52)
- E1 17. **BRIDGE OF ORCHY WATER SUPPLY**  
Report by Head of Facility Services (to follow)

The Committee will be asked to pass a resolution in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 to exclude the public for items of business with an “E” on the grounds that it is likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in the appropriate paragraph of Part I of Schedule 7a to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

The appropriate paragraph is:-

- E1 Paragraph 6** Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (other than the authority).

## **OBAN, LORN & THE ISLES AREA COMMITTEE**

Councillor Mary-Jean Devon  
Councillor Fred Hall

Councillor Louise Glen-Lee (Chair)  
Councillor Iain MacDonald

Councillor Alistair MacDougall  
Councillor Roderick McCuish

Councillor Duncan MacIntyre  
Councillor Elaine Robertson (Vice-Chair)

Contact: Danielle Finlay, Area Governance Assistant - 01631 567945

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**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Louise Glen-Lee declared a non financial interest in relation to the report on Third Sector Grants – Lorne Highland Games which is dealt with at item 15 (3.1) of this Minute because she is a member of the Lorne Highland Games Board, left the room and took no part in the discussion on this item.

Councillor Elaine Robertson declared a non financial interest in relation to the report on Third Sector Grants – Dunollie application which is dealt with at item 15 (3.3) of this Minute because her husband manages Dunollie Estate, left the room and took no part in the discussion on this item.

**3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 10 OCTOBER 2012**

The Minute of the Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2012 was approved as a correct record.

**4. MINUTES OF OBAN COMMON GOOD FUND MEETING 15 NOVEMBER 2012**

The Minute of the Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> November was noted.

**5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Mr Larry Nugent asked the Area Committee if Alan Reid MP had replied to the letter Councillor Fred Hall had sent to him, regarding problems associated with food production and the impact this was having on families on lower salaries/welfare. Councillor Hall advised the Committee that Alan Reid MP had replied timeously to his response which was subsequently circulated.

Mr Nugent raised a follow up question regarding the second bullet point in Mr Reid's response in relation to accommodation and additional bedroom provision for overnight carers. Councillor Hall agreed to discuss this issue with Shaun Paul Davidson and Councillor Robertson and bring a response to the February Area Committee.

Mr Sean MacIntyre seen an article in the Oban Times regarding the former Rockfield Primary School site being demolished, and asked the Committee if this site was still for sale. Councillor Hall advised that the site was still currently for sale and all bids had been withdrawn. Councillor Glen-Lee asked that the report which went to the September Business Day on former Rockfield Primary School site, be sent to Mr MacIntyre.

Mr Preston asked a question in relation to the Area Committee attitude and position regarding the Court Services Consultation in terms of the proposal for limited access to justice in Argyll and Bute. Councillor Glen-Lee commented that the suggestion that no jury trials would be held in Argyll and Bute was of great concern and that the Members of the Area Committee would be discussing this issue with the Council's Litigation Manager following this meeting. Councillors Hall and MacIntyre also had concerns in relation to travel time and expenses for victims, witnesses and the accused and also that the value and importance of Oban would be diminished in terms of the proposals. Mr Preston also expressed concerns regarding the proposals in terms of their impact on civil matters.

Councillor Hall had a copy of Mr Preston's response to the consultation and it was agreed that he would circulate this to all Members of the Area Committee.

Mr Leddy raised a question in relation to investigations of care providers in the local area. Shaun Paul Davidson spoke about the arrangements in place for unannounced visits and for dealing with complaints where services were not up to scratch. Councillor MacIntyre advised that this was discussed at a Council meeting on 25 June 2012 and that this was due to come back to Council although he was not sure when. He asked that, once the Council had considered the paper, a copy of this come to the Area Committee for information. Shirley MacLeod agreed to investigate this issue and bring back a response to the February meeting. Councillor Glen-Lee also suggested that this come to the Community Planning Group meeting.

### **6. OBAN HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMANCE REPORT (AGENDA ITEM 19)**

A report setting out Oban High School's achievements in the last 2 years, was considered.

#### **Decision**

The Committee agreed:-

- i. To add some staffing information (vacancies etc) and benchmarking info to future reports and also a suggested that presentation of this report be undertaken by pupils in future
- ii. That a report on the Hostel was to come to a future meeting so that the Area Committee could look at arrangements and compare with other areas.

The Committee also congratulated the Head Teacher, staff and pupils on their achievements.

(Ref: Report by Head Teacher of Oban High School dated 12<sup>th</sup> December 2012, submitted).

### **7. PROPOSED LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (AGENDA ITEM 6)**

A report setting out the main elements of the proposed Argyll and Bute Local Development Plan (LDP) with particular reference to the land use issues within the Oban, Lorn and the Isles area was considered.

#### **Decision**

1. Agreed to recommend to the Council approval of the proposed Argyll and Bute Development Plan, Written Statement, Proposals Maps and Supplementary Guidance for a 3 month period of public consultation commencing Mid-January 2013.
2. Agreed to establish a Short Life Working Group, comprising of Councillors Glen-Lee, Hall, Macdonald and MacDougall to look at developments in the Oban, Lorn and the Isles area throughout the duration of the consultation

period and that this Group would provide feedback to the department.

(Ref: Report by Development Policy Manager dated December 2012, submitted)

**8. CAPITAL RECEIPTS (AGENDA ITEM 7)**

A report advising the Committee of the current position in regard to capital receipts and to allow forward planning on the use and allocation of this funding was considered.

**Decision**

The Committee agreed to carry this item over to the January 2013 Business day and the February 2013 Area Committee for further consideration.

(Ref: Report by Area Governance Manager dated 8<sup>th</sup> November 2012, submitted)

Councillor Hall left the meeting at this point.

**9. AREA SCORECARD (AGENDA ITEM 8)**

A report setting out the continued development of the Area Scorecard to support improved understanding of performance in the Oban, Lorn and the Isles area was considered.

**Decision**

The Committee agreed to review this item in 3 months time.

(Ref: Report by Improvement and Organisational Development Programme Manager dated December 2012, submitted)

Councillor Hall re-joined the meeting at this point.

**10. THE NEW ADULT CARE STRUCTURE (AGENDA ITEM 9)**

A report proposing new Adult Care Structures that were approved by the Council in January 2012 was considered.

**Decision**

The Committee noted the report for information purposes only.

(Ref: Report by Area Manager, Adult Care, Oban Lorn and the Isles dated 27<sup>th</sup> November 2012, submitted)

**11. REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT TO GLENCRUITTEN GOLF CLUB SUB-COMMITTEE (AGENDA ITEM 10)**

A report setting out a request for Members relating to membership of a subcommittee of Glencruitten Golf Club was considered.



**Decision**

Agreed to appoint Councillor Hall to the Glencruitten Golf Club Sub-Committee.

(Ref: Report by Area Governance Manager dated 27<sup>th</sup> November 2012, submitted)

**12. GANAVAN UPDATE ON EFFECTS OF STORM DAMAGE DECEMBER 2011/JANUARY 2012 - MARINA CURRAN COLTHART (AGENDA ITEM 11)**

A report regarding the sand in the upper reaches of the beach at Ganavan Sands that was affected by a number of storm events between early December 2011 and January 2012, was considered.

**Decision**

The Committee noted the content of the report.

(Ref: Report by Local Biodiversity Officer dated 9<sup>th</sup> July 2012, submitted)

**13. DUNGALLAN PUBLIC PARK WALL (AGENDA ITEM 12)**

A report setting out fully-costed options for upgrade or removal of the wall, within the context of future options for the development of Dungallan Park, and including risk assessment information on the balustrades, was considered.

**Decision**

The Committee agreed:-

- i. Option 4 should be followed up and that Roads and Amenity Services should follow corporate processes to secure funding.
- ii. Officers will meet with Historic Scotland and Planning to establish that approval can be obtained.
- iii. That Officers should meet on site to review whether these same measures are required over the full length of the wall.
- iv. That in the event of either funding not being secured or approval from either Planning or Historic Scotland not being obtained this will be reported to the Area Committee in order that a alternative way of resolving the issue of the wall can be identified and agreed.

(Ref: Report by Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure Services dated 20<sup>th</sup> November 2012, submitted).

**14. PASSENGER ACCESS SYSTEM (PAS) - CRAIGNURE (VERBAL UPDATE) (AGENDA ITEM 13)**

The Committee were advised that a report was expected in the next 6 weeks and therefore suggested that this item be continued to the January Business Day

meeting, with any questions in the meantime being directed to Martin Gorringe.

**Decision**

Agreed to continue consideration of the item to the January Business Day Meeting.

**15. THIRD SECTOR GRANTS - SCORING PROCESS (AGENDA ITEM 14)**

A report detailing the proposed amendments to the process for all Third Sector Grants (including Events and Festivals) for the financial period 2013/14 and beyond was considered.

**Decision**

The Committee agreed:-

- i. To note the introduction of a Scoring Matrix for all Third Sector Grants (including events and festivals).
- ii. To an upper limit of £5,000 on the amount of funding made available to any one group or organisation in any one financial period, unless there was exceptional circumstances.
- iii. To carry forward a minimum of £5,000 of the total allocation to the second round of grant allocations at the Area Committee meeting in August each year.
- iv. To note the earlier closing date of 1<sup>st</sup> February for the first round of funding in 2013.

(Ref: Report by Community Development Manager dated 20<sup>th</sup> November 2012, submitted)

Councillor L Glen-Lee, having declared a non financial interest in item 15 (3.1), left the meeting and took no part in the discussion of this item. Councillor E Robertson took Chair of the meeting for this item.

Councillor E Robertson, having declared a non financial interest in item 15 (3.3), left the meeting and took no part in the discussion of this item.

**16. THIRD SECTOR GRANTS - CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS (AGENDA ITEM 15)**

A report for the award of Third Sector Grants (including Events and Festivals) to Third Sector organisations for Oban, Lorn and the Isles was considered.

**Decision**

The Committee agreed:-

- i. That funding from the Third Sector Grants budget is

awarded to organisations as detailed in the submitted report with the exception of the Dunollie Projects application which will be considered at a Special Area Committee on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2013.

- ii. That any grant withdrawn or returned after the December Committee meeting would be a service saving.
- iii. That Oban Shopmobility would be permitted to use £500 of their grant to contribute to the £3,000 they have secured from Awards for All and £2,500 from Lloyds TSB. They would then allocate £713.35 towards their overall costs of insurance which are £1,800 annually and £600 towards volunteer costs which is matched with some of their Awards for All funds.

(Ref: Report by Community Development Manager dated 12<sup>th</sup> December 2012, submitted)

**17. OSCR - OFFICE OF THE SCOTTISH CHARITY REGULATOR - REQUIREMENTS FOR ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL TRUST FUNDS (AGENDA ITEM 16)**

A report detailing that Argyll and Bute Council currently administers 21 OSCR registered Trust Funds and that it is a requirement that these funds submit an Annual OSCR Return, Trustees Annual Report, Annual Accounts and an Independent Examiner's Certificate for each by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012 was considered.

**Decision**

The Committee noted the detail of the submitted report.

(Ref: Report by Head of Strategic Finance dated 12<sup>th</sup> November 2012, submitted)

**18. MEETING CYCLE (AGENDA ITEM 17)**

A report outlining the proposed cycle of meetings for the Oban Lorn and the Isles Area Committee from April 2013 until March 2014 was considered.

**Decision**

The Area Governance Manager advised the timing was wrong for the June and December 2013 Community Planning Partnerships, they should commence at 6:30 pm, so therefore the Area Committee in June and December 2013 will now commence at 2:30 pm.

Councillor Glen-Lee confirmed the venue for the August 2013 Area Committee would be in Taynuilt.

(Ref: Report by Area Governance Manager dated 8<sup>th</sup> November 2012, submitted)

**19. RECOGNITION OF LOCAL ACHIEVEMENTS (AGENDA ITEM 18)**

A report outlining the wish of the Oban Lorn and the Isles Area Committee to present Lorn Achievement Medals and considering matters of procedure for consideration in progressing this matter.

**Decision**

Agreed that a Short Life Working Group comprising Councillors Hall, MacDonald and MacIntyre, Charles Reppke and Shirley MacLeod would progress this matter and report to the January Business Day and the February Area Committee.

(Ref: Report by Area Governance Manager dated 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2012, submitted)

**20. OBAN GANAVAN CYCLE WAY**

The Committee were provided with an update on the current situation with the situation with the cycleway and were invited to note that there would be a consultation undertaken which would commence at the meeting of the Community Planning Group later in the day.

**Decision**

The Committee noted the report.

(Ref: Report by Sustainable Travel Co-ordinator dated 12 December 2012, submitted)

**21. URGENT MOTION**

“That Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee request the Minister for Housing and Transport Mr Keith Brown MSP instigate an immediate enquiry as to the scope, design specification and quality/sustainability of the recent A85 Oban resurfacing schemes (Monday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2012 for three weeks) carried out by Scotland Transerv, acting on behalf of Transport Scotland.”

Mover: Councillor Duncan MacIntyre. Seconded: Councillor Alistair MacDougall.

**Amendment**

“That Councillor Duncan MacIntyre writes on behalf of the Oban Lorn and the Isles Area Committee to the Minister for Housing and Transport Mr Keith Brown MSP, outlining the concerns of the Committee and the people of Oban as to the scope, design specification and quality/sustainability of the recent A85 Oban re-surface scheme (carried out from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2012) carried out by Scotland Transerv, acting on behalf of Transport Scotland, and request a detailed response to the concerns of the Area Committee, and further agree that all Members of the Area Committee sign the letter in the advance of its submission to the Minister.

Mover: Councillor Fred Hall. Seconder: Councillor Louise Glen-Lee

The mover of the motion, with the agreement of the seconder, withdrew the motion.

### **Decision**

The Committee agreed the terms of the amendment.

(Ref: Motion by Councillor Duncan MacIntyre Seconded by Councillor Alistair MacDougall, tabled. Amendment by Councillor Fred Hall Seconded by Councillor Louise Glen-Lee, tabled)

## **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

The Area Committee resolved in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 to exclude the public for the following item of business on the grounds that it was likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 13, Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

## **22. DUNGALLAN PARK - REQUEST FOR LEASE**

A report advising the Committee of a new request from the Trustees of Oban Sailing Club to renew a Minute of Agreement for the construction and operation of a slipway at Dungallan Park, Gallanach Road, Oban, was considered.

### **Decision**

#### Motion

To agree the recommendations in the submitted report.

Proposer: Councillor D MacIntyre  
Secunder: Councillor A MacDougall

#### Amendment

That the Area Committee agree to renew the lease to the Oban Sailing Club for a period of 10 years, subject to the ability to terminate the lease early should development proposals for Dungallan Park be agreed.

Proposer: Councillor F Hall  
Secunder: Councillor E Robertson

On a show of hands, 4 voted for the amendment and 2 voted for the motion, and the amendment was carried.

(Ref: Report by Senior Estate Surveyor dated 21<sup>st</sup> September 2012, submitted).

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**MINUTES of MEETING of OBAN LORN & THE ISLES AREA COMMITTEE held in the CORRAN HALLS, OBAN  
on WEDNESDAY, 16 JANUARY 2013**

**Present:** Councillor Louise Glen-Lee (Chair)

Councillor Mary-Jean Devon                      Councillor Duncan MacIntyre  
Councillor Iain Angus MacDonald          Councillor Elaine Robertson  
Councillor Alistair MacDougall

Shirley MacLeod, Area Governance Manager  
Sandy Mactaggart, Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure  
Robert Pollock, Head of Economic Development and Strategic Transportation  
Peter Cupples, Finance Manager  
Fergus Murray, Development Policy Manager  
David Torrance, AECOM

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from:-

Councillor Roddy McCuish  
Councillor Fred Hall  
Stephen Quinn, Area Team Leader – Building Standards

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (IF ANY)**

Councillor Elaine Robertson declared a non financial interest in relation to the report on Third Sector Grants – Dunollie application which is dealt with at item 3 of this Minute because her husband manages Dunollie Estate, left the room and took no part in the discussion on this item.

**3. THIRD SECTOR GRANTS - CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS**

The Committee were invited to consider the Third Sector Grants applications detailed in the submitted report.

**Decision**

The Committee agreed the recommendations in the report.

(Ref: Report by Community Development Manager dated 16<sup>th</sup> January 2013, submitted).

#### 4. LORN ARC PROJECT

The Head of Economic Development and Strategic Transportation gave a presentation on the Lorn Arc with input from the Executive Director Development and Infrastructure and the Development Policy Manager.

They spoke about the investment options, the economic and financial appraisal that was now underway and the next steps in assessing and considering the business case.

##### **Decision**

The Committee thanked the Development and Infrastructure representatives for their work on the business case, welcomed the progress to date, noted the next steps in the development of the business case, agreed to participate in a Members' workshop, and asked that the Lorn Arc presentation be brought to a future Community Planning Group.

(Ref: Presentation by Head of Economic Development and Strategic Transportation dated 16<sup>th</sup> January 2013, submitted).



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**ARGYLL & BUTE COUNCIL**

**OBAN LORN AND THE ISLES  
AREA COMMITTEE  
13<sup>th</sup> February 2013**

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**School Care Accommodation Services: Glencruitten Hostel**

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**1. Summary**

- 1.1** This report summarises the hostel's history including the recent audit and the corrective action. The report also comments on the quality of care and support as well as the close working relationship with Oban High School.

**2. Recommendations**

- 2.1** That this report is noted.

**3. The Hostel**

- 3.1** The Council provides a registered school care accommodation service at the Glencruitten Hostel. The Hostel Manager is managed by the Service Manager (Children and Families). The hostel provides accommodation for children and young people from the outlying districts and islands (Mull, Iona, Lismore, Colonsay and Coll). The hostel accommodates up to eighty five children and young people which is the maximum number the hostel is registered for.
- 3.2** The majority of the young people are accommodated by the Council because of the distance they live from Oban High School and the travel times involved. Most the young people return home at the weekends. During the winter months the young people from Coll and Colonsay travel home on Saturday and return on Sunday. The hostel also supports pupils with occasional weekend accommodation enabling them to participate in sports activities.
- 3.1** Historically (2008) concerns were raised regarding the hostel and the educational support available to hostel residents. There were also concerns about discipline within hostel and the behaviour of hostel residents. Care and education reviews were undertaken which led to change of management and a closer working relationship between the school and the Children and Families Service. An improvement plan was drawn up and implemented which has delivered a greatly improved service. The improvements are reflected in the satisfaction ratings of the young people and their families. This

approach has continued under the management of Mr Neil Mitchell who was appointed Hostel Manager in May 2012.

**4. Recent audit**

- 4.1 At around the time of Mr Mitchell's appointment an audit was requested by the Service Manager. The audit reported in the autumn having identified a number of departures of procedure pre-dating Mr Mitchell's appointment in respect to the imprest, fund accounts and payroll.
- 4.2 Corrective steps have since been taken through the provision of financial training for staff and the establishment of clear procedures within the hostel. These arrangements are reviewed by the Service Manager every six months.

**5. Care and Support**

- 5.1 The Care Inspectorate regularly inspect the hostel and have independently confirmed that the young people are safe and well looked after. This has also been born out in recent surveys of the young people and their families who have variously graded the hostel 'Good', 'Very Good' and 'Excellent'. There have been no formal complaints in the past year.
- 5.2 Hostel care staff are registering with the Scottish Social Services Council and are being supported to achieve the necessary qualifications where applicable. This includes SVQ level 3 (Health and Social Care Children and Young People) for the majority of staff and SCQF level 9 professional development in the Leadership and Management of Care Services for the Officer in Charge and the Hostel Manager.
- 5.3 The Hostel Manager, at times accompanied by the Head of Service (Children and Families) and the Head Teacher of Oban High School, has visited several of our island communities to meet with parents. Improvements to our catering provision suggested by some parents in May/June have been met and no issues regarding the quality of care and support were raised during the autumn visits.

**6. Links with Oban High School**

- 6.1 The majority parents see the role of the hostel to be to facilitate the education of their children away from home, whilst ensuring that their care and welfare remains paramount within a hostel environment: an environment that should be "homely and caring, yet educational and orderly". The Hostel Manager attends school parent council meetings and provides parents with regular reports on the hostel.
- 6.2 The Hostel Manager meets regularly with the Head Teacher at Oban High School to share information and address any matters arising. Regular contact is also had between Hostel staff and the school attendance officer and Principal Teachers of Guidance and Subject Departments. The Hostel Manager (and keyworker where appropriate) attend a monthly partners'

meeting at Oban High School to share information and seek support strategies for specific young people. In addition to working with the school, other agencies may also be involved.

- 6.3** The hostel team support our young people with their homework and study in several ways: this ranges from additional literacy support such as paired reading suggested by the support department through to making study plans with senior pupils. The Hostel Manager offers and provides support for young people with their university, college and employment applications and liaises with school where required.
- 6.4** The Hostel and school work well together: Joint Planning meetings with parents and young people have ensured we meet the needs of young people. Joint training in the use of 'click & go' has helped keyworkers to identify and support pupils during 1-1 meetings. Senior staff from the Hostel also accompany the Primary 7 Transition visits organised by Oban High School. The Hostel is used as a location for the provision of special arrangement during SQA exams and for music practical examinations.

## **7. Educational outcomes**

- 7.1** All of the young people who left Oban High School and the hostel in the summer of 2012 went forward into positive destinations. Over 40% went on to university with the remainder going into further education at college and one pupil into employment with a trainee position in outdoor education.
- 7.2** Young people from the Hostel were represented at all academic levels at the Oban High School senior prize giving in 2012. This included: two Advanced Higher prizes; two higher prizes; Intermediate 2 and Intermediate 1 prizes; The Cunningham Irvine Memorial Cup for Photography and a selection of awards totalling over 160 hours for community voluntary work.
- 7.3** The educational opportunities for young people staying at the Hostel are the same as those provided for all pupils at Oban High School, the breadth of which can be seen in the Oban High School Area Committee Report on Achievement 2012. In terms of statistical analysis by the end of S6, attainment results were very high with 63 % gaining 5+ level 6 or better (Higher or Advanced Higher) and 54% 1+ level 7 (Advanced Higher).

## **8. Comparison with the Dunoon Hostel**

- 8.1** Both the Glencruitten and Dunoon Hostels are managed by the Children and Families Service. Both hostels are able to draw on the knowledge and experience of the Children and Families Service in the provision of high quality care. In addition to accommodating more young people, the main difference between the hostels is that Glencruitten accommodates young people six nights per week as opposed to four at Dunoon. Both hostels are in regular contact with one another and undertake training together as well as share good practice.

**9. Conclusion**

**9.1** In conclusion, the concerns raised in 2008 regarding discipline and education provision for the hostel residents have been addressed and the hostel continues to work towards excellence. Young people attending the hostel can achieve well both academically and vocationally. The structure and ethos at the Hostel has a positive impact on young people who are being well looked after in a homely environment.

**10. Recommendation**

**10.1** That this report is noted.

**11. Implications**

<b>11.1</b>	Policy	None
<b>11.2</b>	Financial	None
<b>11.3</b>	Personnel	None
<b>11.4</b>	Equalities Impact Assessment	None
<b>11.5</b>	Legal	None

**For further information, please contact:**

Neil Mitchell	Hostel Manager	01631 562895
Alex Taylor	Service Manager	01631 572930

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**ARGYLL & BUTE COUNCIL****AREA COMMITTEES****CUSTOMER SERVICES**

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**EXTRACT OF MINUTE OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF 24 JANUARY 2013**

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**(e) CHILDREN'S CHAMPION**

The Council considered a report which outlined recommendations to develop the role of Children's Champions across Argyll and Bute. The Council also heard a presentation by Denny Ford of Who Cares on supporting the needs of looked after children in Argyll and Bute.

**Decision**

1. Agreed the need for Children's Champions.
2. Agreed the principle that there should be four Champions, one for each geographical area which would better support the needs of looked after children population in Argyll and Bute and that this be delegated to the four Area Committees to make the appointments.
3. Accepted the principle of establishing a Corporate Parenting Board which will report to the Council annually to support and drive activity for looked after children. A further report on the membership and remit to be submitted to a future Meeting.

(Ref: Report by Executive Director of Community Services dated 26 November 2012, submitted)

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**CHILDREN'S CHAMPION**

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**1. SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report outlines recommendations to develop the role of Children's Champions across Argyll and Bute.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 Members agree the need for Children's Champions.
- 2.2 Members consider whether four Champions, one for each geographical area would better support the needs of looked after children population in Argyll and Bute.
- 2.3 Members accept the principle of establishing a Corporate Parenting Board which will report to the Council annually to support and drive activity for looked after children. A further report on the membership and remit will follow.

**3. DETAIL**

Argyll and Bute Council is seeking to improve the outcomes for looked after and accommodated children/young people in care through the development of four Children's Champions across each geographical area. The role developed in 2010 in Argyll and Bute had a single champion to enhance the lives of looked after and accommodated children through greater opportunities and the removal of barriers. Whilst the role was important to establish an Elected Member leading on Children's Rights there was a need to explore how to expand the role and lift the profile of looked after children. In consultation with looked after young people at an event on 23 November 2012 they indicated they would like an Elected Member for each of the four geographical areas so that they are able to build relationships with them.

**Focus**

- 3.1 One way of focussing on the needs of looked after children/young people is to review what is currently being achieved and what still needs to be done. The Getting It Right For Looked After Children Plan outlines all agencies' roles in improving services however, the Council also has a responsibility as a Corporate Parent to ensure that every child/young person has the opportunity to meet their full potential. For

that to happen, the Council needs to bring all its available resources to bear to meet these children/young people's needs in terms of their socialisation, well being, education, health and overall welfare.

- 3.2 Currently their needs are met through a multi-disciplinary focus of Social Work, Police, Education and Health. However as a Council we have embraced the role as corporate parent through the signing of the Give Me A Chance Promise by the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive on 30 October 2012. Argyll and Bute have pledged to reduce stigma and promote positive opportunities for all looked after children.

### **Corporate Parenting and the role of the Children's Champion**

- 3.3 Corporate Parenting relates to all children/young people who are looked after by the authority. It means that formal partnerships and actions are established by local authorities, departments and associated agencies that are responsible for working together to meet the needs of looked after children/young people.
- 3.4 The notion of a local authority acting as a parent recognises the legal and social responsibilities of public bodies to children/young people who become looked after. It recognises that those children/young people for whom the local authority has a particular responsibility are significantly less likely to achieve good outcomes not only throughout their childhood but throughout their lives.
- 3.5 Whilst there has been progress regarding Corporate Parenting at both a national and local level more needs to be done to promote the wellbeing of our looked after children/young people. This is reinforced by the report produced by the Scottish Government '*Looked After Children; We Can and Must Do Better*' which highlighted the need for local authorities to strengthen their approach to Corporate Parenting.
- 3.6 Corporate Parenting is essentially the same as being a good parent and wanting to achieve the same good outcomes for our looked after children/young people that we would want for our own children. To improve and make Corporate Parenting a reality depends upon drive, ownership and leadership at the highest level of the organisation. Children's Champions play an important role in promoting the rights of looked after children.
- 3.7 Who Cares? Scotland have been contracted to provide direct support to the Children's Champions. It is their intention to help us establish a Corporate Parenting Board where the Champions would act on behalf of the looked after population to drive forward changes.



### **Role and Remit of a Children's Champion**

3.8 The role and remit of a Children's Champion is to champion the rights of looked after and accommodated children/young people. There are several areas the Champion will focus on:

- (i) Providing further leadership and standards that recognise the Council's statutory obligation as a Corporate Parent to the looked after and accommodated child/young person and further provide impetus for change and improvement in service delivery.
- (ii) Promoting and safeguarding the rights of the looked after and accommodated child/young person ensuring that the services they require to remove barriers which are obstacles to progress are in place.
- (iii) Identifying in association with recognised service providers at all levels the additional provisions required to ensure that the needs of looked after and accommodated children/young people are best met.
- (iv) Communicating with these children/young people by consulting with them and their service providers to ensure that the looked after and accommodated child/young person receives the support, security and stability they require to achieve their individual potential.
- (v) Support the implementation of the Corporate Parenting Board with Community Planning Partners and young people to ensure Argyll and Bute drive the improvement required for the looked after population.

## **6. CONCLUSION**

This proposal for Children's Champions across four areas is a unique opportunity to develop the role within the Council further. Champions will lead and drive future development of all looked after and accommodated children/young people within Argyll and Bute through their understanding of children and young people's needs.

The Children's Champion will enhance the work already in place through existing services in working towards the future wellbeing of each accommodated child and young person's. They will be supported by Who Cares? Scotland and contribute to the Corporate Parenting Board. These developments will ensure we make significant improvement to how young people who are 'Looked After' experience your services.

**7. IMPLICATIONS**

7.1	Policy	Contributes to the development of the Corporate Parenting Policy
7.2	Financial	None
7.3	Legal	It will assist and fulfil the Council's statutory responsibility to looked after children and young people.
7.4	HR	None
7.5	Equalities	The Champions will assist to reduce stigma and discrimination faced by looked after children and young people.
7.6	Risk	None
7.7	Customer Service	None

**Executive Director of Community Services**

26 November 2012

For further information contact:

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**ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL****OBAN LORN AND THE ISLES  
AREA COMMITTEE****CUSTOMER SERVICES****WEDNESDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2013**

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**OBAN HIGH SCHOOL REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

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**1.0 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This paper provides a brief update on the progress that is being achieved in relation to the Oban High School replacement project.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 Members are asked to note the current position.

**3.0 DETAIL**

- 3.1 On 25 September 2012, the Scottish Government announced their commitment in principle to fund 66% of approved costs for the replacement of Oban High School. The Council considered this offer at their next available meeting on 25 October 2012 when officials were requested to prepare an Initial Business Case for consideration as part of the 2013/14 budget process. In general, the Scottish government will meet 2/3rds of the allowable construction costs of a secondary school. This funding is paid to Councils by way of a revenue support grant payable over the life of the project, usually 25 years. The Council will require to meet the 1/3rd share on the basis of an upfront capital payment, payable on completion of the construction of the school. Thereafter, the Council is required to meet the costs of the maintenance and lifecycle elements of the school over the period of the project through payment of an annual sum or "unitary charge". These costs are expected to be agreed as part of an on-going contractual arrangement over the life of the project and based on an agreed financial model at contract close
- 3.2 This Initial Business Case has been completed and recommends the allocation of the necessary funding to enable officials to develop a more detailed Outline Business Case during the course of 2013/14.
- 3.3 Assuming this recommendation is acceptable to the Council and agreed at the budget meeting on 14 February 2013, the work will include the initial identification of a long list of potential development sites in collaboration with Development and

Infrastructure Services as they undertake their masterplanning exercise for the Oban area. Identified sites will then be subject to an option appraisal to confirm the technical feasibility of accommodating the necessary development. A public consultation event will then follow to enable wider consideration of the potential sites in similar terms to that carried out for Campbeltown Grammar School.

Technical and educational briefs that will inform the design of the School will also be developed following the final site selection and consultation with pupils, staff and parents will contribute significantly to the development of these key documents which will ultimately underpin the development.

- 3.4 The new Oban High School is intended to be delivered through a design build, finance and maintain contract that will be procured through Hub North. This is a company developed by the Scottish Government and the Scottish Futures Trust (SFT) and is a joint venture with the private and public sector as a procurement vehicle for public infrastructure projects of this type.

Hub North is comprised of Cyril Sweett Investments Ltd and Miller Corporate Holdings (part of The Miller Group). The Council will eventually be engaging with Hub North in regard to all the school projects it currently has in contemplation in Campbeltown, Dunoon and Oban. The SFT expect that these projects will be coordinated so that they are procured at the same time through one contract and one funding package. The Council's upfront capital contribution for all three schools is also likely to be required at the same time.

The SFT are managing the Scotland's Schools for the Future Programme on behalf of the Government and are intended to provide a centre of expertise and advice on the development, funding, structuring, procurement and management of these projects.

The Council will continue to work closely with SFT throughout the on-going development of the project. SFT's approval will be required at specific points in order for the project to proceed to delivery. The final decision on the provision and level of unitary charge support for the project will be made by Scottish Ministers, subject to confirmation from both the procuring body and the Scottish Government that the project concerned is affordable and offers value for money.

- 3.5 It is intended that the timescale for the site selection process for the new school will be determined in liaison with the Council's Planning Services to be coordinated with the Master Planning exercise shortly to be carried out by them. This will allow wider considerations to be factored into the process to determine the optimum site and will allow the views of the community to be

coordinated in respect of the location of the new school as part of any wider development priorities for Oban

Thereafter, the timescale for delivery of the new Oban High School will be developed so that it is coordinated with the delivery of all the school projects the Council currently has in contemplation in Campbeltown, Dunoon and Oban as expected by the SFT. This is being progressed through the School Development Project Board currently chaired by the Executive Director of Community Services.

Information on the site selection process and the wider project timescale will be further reported to Members for approval.

#### **4.0 CONCLUSION**

- 4.1 Following the Scottish Government's announcement of support funding for the replacement of Oban High School, an Initial Business Case has now been prepared for consideration by the Council. This recommends the allocation of funding to enable the development of a more detailed Outline Business Case during the course of 2013/14.
- 4.2 All work relating to the project is being carried out to ensure full compliance with the Scottish Futures Trust's key stage review process.

#### **5.0 IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Policy - The project accords with the Council's policy of continuous improvement to the school estate.
- 5.2 Financial – Support funding is required to enable the development of the Outline Business Case during the course of 2013/14.
- 5.3 Legal - Nil.
- 5.4 HR - Staff consultation will be undertaken to inform the preparation of both the technical and educational project briefs.
- 5.5 Equalities - Nil.
- 5.6 Risk - Risk will be measured on an ongoing basis.
- 5.7 Customer Service - Ultimately, the new school will provide educational facilities fit for the 21<sup>st</sup> century and will also form a valuable community resource.

Executive Director of Customer Services  
24 January 2014

For further information contact:  
Malcolm MacFadyen

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**OLDER PEOPLES CARE AT HOME SERVICES**

**QUALITY ASSURANCE  
AND CONTRACT MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS**

## **INDEX**

### **Executive Summary**

- **Outcome of Tender- Changes to practice**
- **Corporate and Supplier Management Framework**
- **Processes**
- **Roles and Responsibilities**
- **Conclusion**

### **Appendices**

- **Appendix A – Care at Home Services Monitoring Process Chart**



## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of the report (appendix 1) is to advise of the arrangements for contract monitoring and management following the outcome of the recent tender.

At (2011/12) levels this represents a service volume in excess of 600,000 hours, per annum at an estimated cost of £8.5m. This service is provided to vulnerable individuals, predominantly by lone workers, in the home environment and as a result has always been considered a higher risk service requiring robust monitoring both by Community Services and Procurement and Commissioning.

The purpose of this report is to narrate how the Teams will continue to work together to ensure service quality, best value, contract compliance, risk management and customer satisfaction.

As part of the re-structuring of Community Services, Adult Care Resources, the change of remit of the existing Homecare Organiser posts to Homecare Procurement Officers (HPO) will ensure capacity to manage and monitor the larger number of home care hours provided by the independent sector.

Implementation of the changes is complete and the 15 Home Care Procurement Officers are now in post to provide this service.

The Procurement and Commissioning Team remit is to ensure best value, contract compliance, service quality and customer satisfaction. This will support Community Services to commission quality Care at Home services via the formal procurement and commissioning procedures.

## **OUTCOME OF TENDER - CHANGES TO PRACTICE**

The outcome of the tender process has resulted in a mix of externalisation and in house provision. The monitoring and review process, for each area, will be comparable throughout localities with local flexibility developed, appropriate to each area. Where externalisation, of all provision was agreed, Lorn, Bute, Cowal, Helensburgh and Lomond, three providers have been awarded geographical lots under the Framework. Service levels, within each lot, will be allocated on a ranking system.

Commissioning services, from individual providers on the Framework, will be the responsibility of Homecare Procurement Officers, replacing the previous mix of both care managers and Home Care Organisers.

The Homecare Procurement Officers will be the main link to the independent providers, commissioning the majority of care at home services, however any difficult and complex cases will still be care managed by Care Managers who will liaise with their Homecare Procurement Officer colleagues to ensure the correct processes are being followed within the framework agreement.

All HPO staff will also have individual care coordination caseloads and responsibility for managing/monitoring the allocation of services, to providers according to ranking status.

All HPO staff will have overall responsibility for service monitoring which will include financial monitoring and the service concern process. Quarterly reports will be provided for each of these areas that will feed into the overall contract performance management.

The Procurement and Commissioning Team, in consultation with Finance colleagues, supported the development of robust support and training arrangements for the Homecare Procurement Officers in their new role. This defines the formal practice to ensure contracts and budgets are managed appropriately.

The overall contract performance will be monitored, by the Procurement and Commissioning Team, using measures identified in the Corporate Contract and Supplier Management Framework.

These performance measures reflect the four themes from the Balanced Score Card within the framework:-

- **QUALITY** (Care Inspectorate grades)
- **SERVICE** (Issues identified under service monitoring)
- **DELIVERY** (Customer satisfaction from review process)
- **COST** (financial dependency on provider and issues identified re invoicing)

Performance, against these measures will feed into individual Providers' balanced score cards.

Overall scores will then be used to assess and rank providers performance, within the Framework, as per Scottish Procurement Directorate Policy and the Council's Corporate Contract and Supplier Management Framework.

## **CORPORATE CONTRACT AND SUPPLIER MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK**

Care contracts are considered high level risk according to national policy which is reflected in the Council's Corporate Contract and Supplier Management Framework, approved by the Procurement Board on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2011.

The said framework defines high level risk as being "where the failure of delivery would affect the strategic outcomes or have a significant effect on the delivery which relates to the risk analysis in the sourcing strategy. Contract review meetings should be managed using the full balanced scorecard supported by a **minimum** of four review meetings a year". This will consist of one business meeting carried out by the Performance Improvement Officer followed by quarterly contract monitoring meetings by the Procurement and Commissioning Team's Monitoring Officer alongside the HPO.

For the Corporate Contract and Supplier Management Framework to be effective it will require a continued close working relationship between Community Services and Customer Services Procurement and Commissioning Team.

Their roles and responsibilities are mapped out as detailed in Appendices A and B to ensure that the independent providers are continuing to provide quality care at home services to our service users and any issues that may arise are dealt with appropriately via the correct mechanisms whether that may be the service concern process, complaints process or review meeting forums.

### **PROCESSES TO ENSURE ROBUST CONTRACT MONITORING**

The following details the robust contract monitoring aligned to the Corporate Contract and Supplier and Management Framework that will be in place for care at home services

**Appendix A** maps the key elements/processes including:

- Links between service and contract monitoring with roles and responsibilities clearly defined.
- Monitoring of services by homecare procurement officer/care manager.
- Identification of any service quality issues which are then fed into the providers overall risk profile via the balanced score card.
- Supplier relationship management by the Procurement and Commissioning Team.
- Scoring system will be used to shape framework contract and manage allocation of the work by homecare commissioners within allocated lots.

### **CONCLUSIONS**

Following implementation of the Framework, for Care at Home Services to Older People, the majority of services will be delivered by the independent sector.

This will result in a significantly increased level of provision being under contract with a potentially greater number of external providers in the short to medium term. The risks attached to this change will require to be assessed, monitored and managed and respective teams fully aware of their roles and responsibilities per the attached Appendix 1.

**Anne Austin**

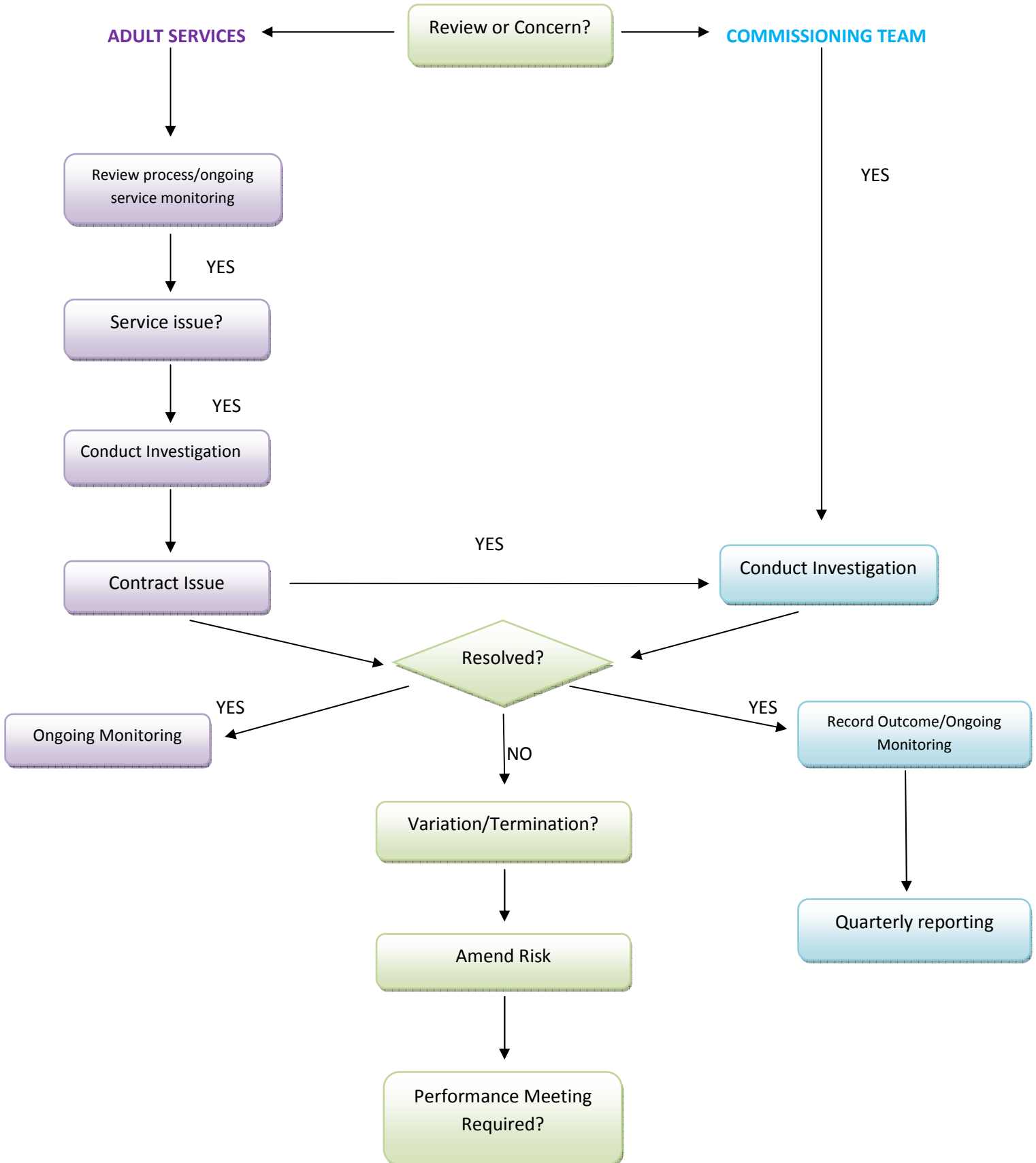
**Service Manager - Resources**

**Adult Care**

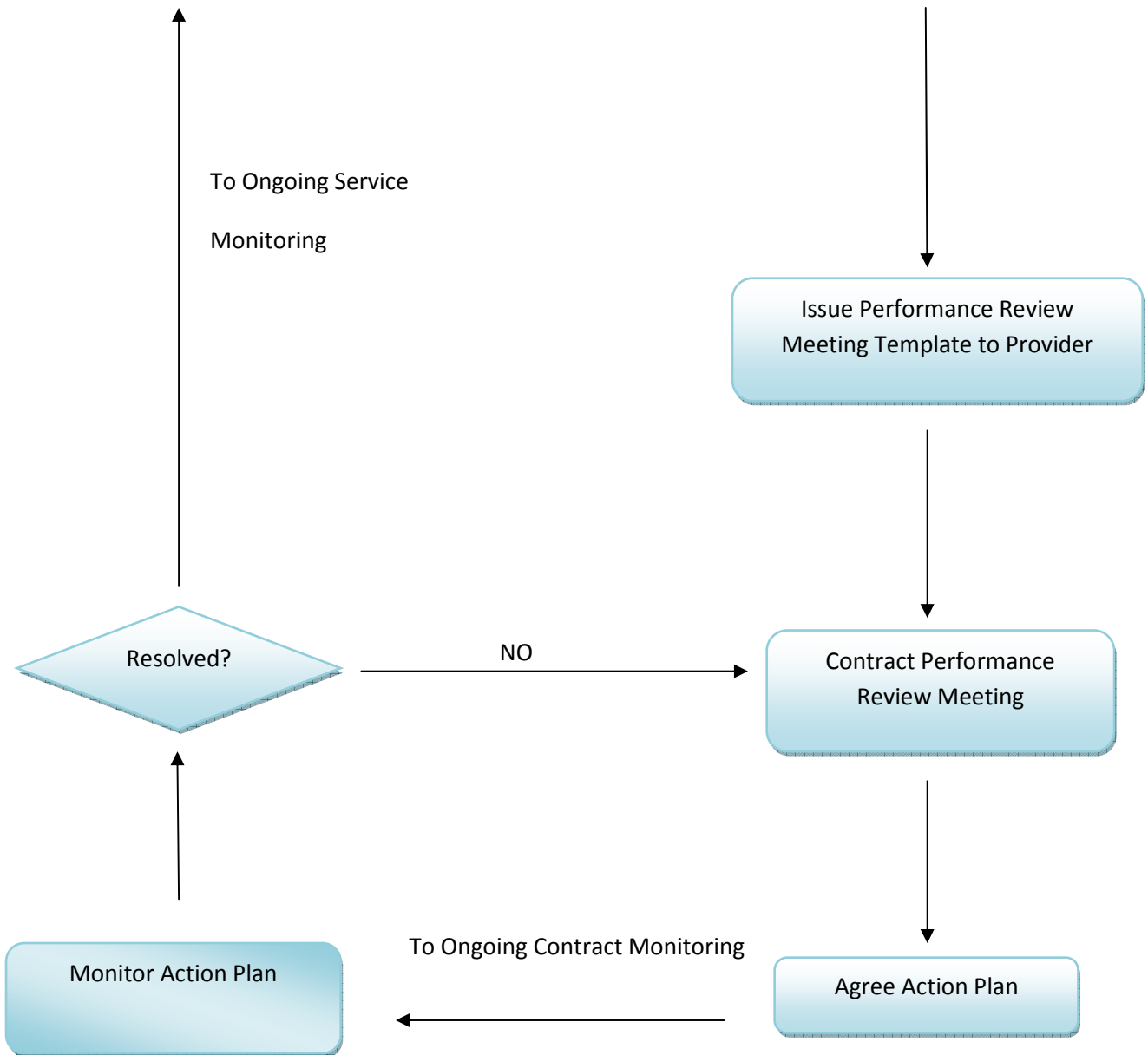
**Community Services**

**Appendix A**

**Homecare Service Monitoring**



### Homecare Contract Monitoring



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**ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL      OBAN LORN AND THE ISLES AREA  
COMMITTEE****DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES      FEBRUARY 2013**

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**SCOTTISH FERRIES PLAN**

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**1.0      SUMMARY**

- 1.1      This report provides a review of the recently published Ferries Plan and how it impinges on the Oban Lorn and Isles area. There are proposals to increase the level of service to both inner Hebridean islands and the Western isles served from Oban. The commitment is apparent that the Government will engage with the Council in respect of the transfer of responsibilities for ferry services and details of how Road Equivalent Tariff will be implemented.

**2.0      RECOMMENDATIONS****2.1**

- 2.1      That Members note the contents of this report and that;
- 2.2      A further report will be presented to the Council in March which will set out the Council's proposed position with regard to the Ferries Plan and associated actions.

**3.0      DETAIL****3.1      Ferries plan**

The plan for the period 2013 – 2022 was published by Transport Scotland prior to Christmas 2012. The purpose of the document is to provide communities with a clear view of the intended way forward. The Review has enabled the Scottish Government to develop a shared vision for lifeline ferry services in the context of the National Transport Strategy and inform their long term plan.

**3.2      Proposals affecting Oban Lorn and the Isles**

In the short term the Government proposes to improve the winter service between Oban, Coll and Tiree; similarly between Oban, Barra/South Uist.

During the interim Clyde Hebrides Ferry Services (CHFS) contract the intention is to provide a dedicated vessel for Mull during the winter period.

As part of the next CHFS contract which is envisaged to commence in 2016, their plan is to provide a second vessel for Mull, allowing for increased frequency all year and to continue the

improvements listed above in respect of Coll, Tiree and Barra. The programme for vessel replacement indicates that the Isle of Mull is due by 2019 and the Lord of the Isles by 2025.

What should be noted is that all of the proposals are subject to future Spending Review commitments.

### 3.3 Mull

The plan confirms that as a result of the consultation the option to introduce a two vessel service was broadly welcomed by the community and that this will form the basis of future provision for the Oban Craignure service. The impact of this on the Passenger Access System (PAS) is significant in that the existing proposals will require to be re-designed. It is anticipated that the new vessels will be smaller than the M V Isle of Mull, probably more akin to the M V Argyle and M V Bute that operate between Wemyss bay and Rothesay. Once confirmation of this is received and a timeline for the introduction of these new vessels is published then work can commence on designing a purpose built solution for the PAS and associated improvements to the port infrastructure (e.g. vehicular marshalling, passenger waiting facilities, pier strengthening /upgrade).

### 3.4 Iona

The Government have undertaken a Routes and Services needs assessment and concluded that a model service profile would require later evening sailings than are currently provided. In addition to this, the infrastructure at Fionnphort was considered and the response from the consultees was that if a berthing facility was constructed this would permit additional sailings to operate until 2000hours. This will be considered as a long term initiative.

### 3.5 Lismore

The conclusion of the consultation is that the passenger service model operated by the Council is satisfactory in respect of frequency although it would be desirable to extend the operating day during the summer timetable period. It also confirms that any future proposal to replace the two vessel service with a single vehicular service would be located at the north end of the island. The rationale for this is that it represents the shortest crossing but it would permit an enhancement to the frequency of sailing and length of operating day. In conclusion the Government recognise that there remain a number of issues to be resolved before this can be implemented, not least that the infrastructure on either side of Port Appin, Lismore Point requires major investment to upgrade it to accommodate a vehicular ferry.

### 3.6 Coll and Tiree



The short term future service provision for the winter of 2013/14 is to deploy the Isle of Arran to ensure a two vessel service during the winter period. This will provide an additional sailing day during most of the winter timetable. It will only revert to the current timetable when the Isle of Arran has her annual 4 week refit.

### 3.7 Kerrera, Luing and Easdale

The ferry routes to Luing and Easdale are subject to further discussion with the Government in respect of the potential for a transfer of responsibility. Kerrera is a commercial operation which is presently subject to intervention by the Government. There is a demand to resolve the long standing issues regarding the sustainability of the ferry service to the island and the Council is working in partnership with the Government to achieve a long term solution.

### 3.8 Links to the Western Isles

The routes and services needs assessment has concluded that the sailings to Barra from Oban should be increased to at least five sailing days. The proposal is that the Isle of Arran is deployed on this route during the winter period except when she is scheduled for her annual refit. In the long term the Isle of Arran will not be available during the winter period but one of the two vessels on the Oban Craignure route will be deployed instead.

The Lochboisdale to Oban service is considered an important link for the residents of South Uist and on this basis it is to be retained. The proposal to operate a ferry service between Mallaig Lochboisdale will be given further consideration by the Government when drafting the specification for the next CHFS tender.

### 3.9 Council operated services

Officers have met with officials from Transport Scotland and articulated the view that we would wish to progress the proposed transfer of responsibility. This would be subject to a routes and services needs assessment methodology (RSM), Options Appraisal and Business Case for each of the four routes which will be undertaken by the Council with assistance and guidance from Transport Scotland, this is anticipated to be completed within the next eighteen months. The routes will have to be lifeline and if transfer of the routes is realised then the port infrastructure associated with the ferry service would have to be transferred too. It is clear that the Government will only fund services at a level considered necessary after applying the RSM. Any provision above this will have to be funded by the Council. It is also clear that there would have to be an agreement about the levels of capital and revenue funding to be transferred to the Government. This would take account of the age and condition of the vessel

being transferred and the revenue funding would represent the true cost of providing the service. In regard to the application of RET, no decision has yet been taken for the routes operated by the Council. Even if the routes are transferred it does not mean that RET will automatically be introduced. Finally, there is no guarantee that the Government will accept responsibility for the transfer of ferry services.

### 3.10 RET

The Government has committed to rolling out a Road Equivalent Tariff (RET) across the entire network. This will include fares for passengers, cars and small commercial vehicles up to 6m in length and coaches.

The intention is for RET to become a permanent feature on routes to the Western Isles, Coll and Tiree. The impact of this will be that instead of having to purchase multi journey tickets the RET single ticket will be competitive with the single journey equivalent of a multi journey ticket. There is concern that the application of RET will create an issue for demand. The operator will have the opportunity to bring forward proposals for managing this demand in consultation with the community it is serving. It is important to note that there will be no distinction made between residents and non-residents.

#### Commercial RET

The Government has confirmed that the additional revenue generated by applying the updated RET formula for passengers, cars and small commercial vehicles will be reinvested in commercial vehicle fares in order to reduce the impact of the removal of RET for commercial vehicles. The government will also provide additional funding for this sector such that no fare will rise above 10% in 2013. The long term aim is to provide an overarching policy for freight fares taking account of the need to balance the wellbeing of the communities against public sector cost. Initially the findings of the study on the Western isles, Coll and Tiree economies will be reviewed and a further working group established that will consult with all key stakeholders. The study by MVA consultancy on the impact of the removal of RET from commercial vehicles on the Western isles, Coll and Tiree was published in January 2013.

## 4.0 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The plan contains several significant proposals that will affect Oban Lorn and the Isles both in the short and longer term. There remains a considerable amount of work to be progressed if the Council is to achieve its aim of transferring responsibility for its ferry services and this would also require Council approval of the

Business Case prior to transfer. RET is a contentious issue, particularly for the commercial operators. The prospect of the introduction of RET causing over demand especially through the summer season will create the potential for demand management.

## **5.0 IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Policy: If the ferries are transferred to the Government then the Council will be required to approve the transfer of both vessel and associated port assets associated with the routes.
- 5.2 Financial: If the ferries transfer then there will be an adjustment to Government funding for the council. The council should be no better nor worse off financially on completion of transfer.
- 5.3 Legal: There may be a requirement to formally transfer council owned assets
- 5.4 HR: There is the potential TUPE of staff and employees
- 5.5 Equalities None
- 5.6 Risk: That the Council retains the ferry services and continues to bear the risk on what is considered as a non-core activity.
- 5.7 Customer Service: The routes and services needs assessment may demonstrate a service profile model which is in excess of what is considered necessary and unless the Council fund the additional services then it will result in a curtailment of service.

**Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure Services**

18 January 2013

**For further information contact:** M.Gorringe, Marine Operations Manager  
(01546 604656)

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ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL  
CUSTOMER SERVICES

OBAN, LORN AND THE ISLES AREA  
COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 2013

## USEABLE CAPITAL RECEIPTS

### 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report updates the Area Committee of the current position in regards capital receipts to allow forward planning on the use and allocation of this funding.

### 2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 The Area Committee is asked to note the updated detail of this report and agree that the previously agreed allocations which have not yet been spent, which are detailed at 3.2 of this report, are not likely to be required and are therefore removed, and note that when free funds become available they must be used in accordance with the conditions noted below.

### 3 DETAIL

- 3.1 Members are asked to note the up to date position regarding Useable Capital Receipts in the Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area (see table below), which summarises receipts obtained, expenditure and agreed allocations not yet spent.

3.2	<b>Receipts</b>	<b>OLI</b>
	Fmr Rds Depot, Campbeltown Rd, Tarbert	3,010.00
	Land at Lora View North Connel	800.00
	Land at Peninver Car Park	200.00
	Land at Baliscate Ind Est, Tobermory	12,600.00
	Land at Westlands Rothesay	9,010.00
	Clachan Rds Depot	3,726.60
	Land at Old Luss Rd, Helensburgh	150.00
	Land at Glengorm Rd, Tobermory	150.00
	Former St James Church, Rothesay	5,700.00
	Land at Torridon, Dervaig Rd, Tobermory	1,720.00
	Land at Marine Parade, Kirn, Dunoon	60.00
	Garage Tighnabruaich	200.00
	Claddach Centre, Shore St, Bowmore	3,545.00
	Land at Strachur, Cairndow	125.00
	Land Adj to 31 Sandhaven Sandbank Dunoon	300.00
	Land SE side of Shore Rd Innellan	150.00

Land Adj to Tigh An Easan, Nth Connel	700.00
Former Public Convenience at Corran Halls	8,000.00
Land adjacent to Ambleside, Tobermory	200.00
Land at Carrick Castle, Lochgoilhead	15.00
Fmr Store MacBrayne's Lane Lochgilphead	1,250.00
Land at Site 2, Shore Road, Innellan	150.00
Land opposite 125-Shore Road, Innellan	125.00
	<b>51,886.60</b>

<b>Actual Expenditure</b>	<b>OLI</b>
A82 Campaign	2,000.00
Tear Recycling Group	3,615.00
Esplanade Painting Railings	1,800.00
Tobermory Rd	12,000.00
Pennyghael Association	5,000.00
Power Boat Race	250.00
Plant Display for National MOD	3,158.32
Corran Halls Upgrade Sound System	5,000.00
Corran Halls 300 chairs @ £29 each	8,700.00
Corran Halls chair racks @ £1,000	1,000.00
Coll Community Centre	50,000.00
	<b>92,523.32</b>

**Current Balance in Capital Fund** **(40,636.72)**

**Projects Allocated but not yet Spent**

Power Boat Race - contribution to event	3,750.00	Event has taken place, no need for future support
George St, Oban (sand on beach)	15,000.00	Project completed
Black Lynn Burn, Oban feasibility	3,000.00	Project completed
Corran Halls Painting to Front Elevation	2,922.00	Project completed
Corran Halls Painting to Seaward Elevation	2,000.00	Project completed

3.3 Members will note that the up to date position shows receipts totalling £51,886.60 and expenditure of £92,523.32. During discussion of this matter at the January business meeting Members noted that all of the Projects where an allocation has been made but not yet spent have been completed, and asked that an update report confirming this position be tabled for consideration at the next available Area Committee meeting. If Members are therefore in agreement that no spending for these projects will be required from future Capital Receipts

this will leave a net **negative** balance of £40,636.72.

- 3.4 It is worth noting that when free capital receipts become available, the conditions that relate to their use for capital and revenue expenditure from the Capital Fund are noted below.
- 3.5 Area Committees must use funds in a way that contributes to the Corporate Plan and Statement of Intent. Funding can be used as a contribution to projects in either the revenue or capital budget.
- 3.6 Where funding is being used for a capital project then the criteria for capital expenditure is as follows:
- The expenditure must result in the creation of an asset owned by the Council.
  - The expenditure must be in respect of an asset already owned by the Council and must significantly:
    - Increase the value of the asset.
    - Extend the useful life of an asset.
    - Enhance the operating capability of the asset.
- 3.7 Where funding is being used for revenue expenditure then the expenditure, in addition to contributing to the Corporate Plan and Statement of Intent, must relate to:
- Repair & maintenance of public sector infrastructure
  - A one off contribution to an external body towards the capital cost of a community asset or a contribution to an event.
  - A one off contribution towards the cost of an event that has a significant impact on the corporate objectives of the Council.

Payments must not be made to support revenue costs and must not create an ongoing commitment on the Council's revenue budget.

## 4 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 Members should note that if agreement is made to remove these projects this will leave a net **negative** balance of £40,636.72 of Useable Capital Receipts in Oban, Lorn and the Isles, and should further note that when further free receipts become available they must be spent in accordance with the conditions detailed at paragraphs 3.5 to 3.7.

## 5 IMPLICATIONS

- |     |           |   |
|-----|-----------|---|
| 5.1 | Policy    | None  |
| 5.2 | Financial | The Area Committee will be able to allocate free funds from Capital Receipts once they become available |
| 5.3 | Legal     | None  |
| 5.4 | HR        | None  |

5.5 Equalities None

5.6 Risk None

5.7 Customer Service None

**Executive Director of Customer Services**

24<sup>th</sup> January 2013

**For further information contact:** Shirley MacLeod, Area Governance Manager,  
01369 707134



**Tiree High School**  
(Pre-5 Unit, Primary & Secondary  
Departments)  
**Standards & Quality**  
**Report**  
**Session 2011-2012**



**Tiree High School**  
**Aiming for Excellence**

In the context of 'Curriculum for Excellence'<sup>1</sup> and supported by our values of Respect, Integrity, Responsibility, Equality and Challenge, our aims are:

1. To continue the development of courses using teaching and learning methods which enable all pupils to achieve to the best of their ability
2. To continue to provide varied and enriching opportunities for pupils to develop and practise skills outwith the classroom
3. To place a high value on developing positive, responsible and caring attitudes which allow pupils to leave school confident of finding a meaningful place in society

**Progress of School Improvement Plan**

Session 2011/2012 showed continued progress and improvement across the school and considerable development towards Tiree High School's Curriculum for Excellence.

**Curriculum for Excellence Assessment**

- Pre-5 staff established system of tracking children's progress which integrates comments from parent & child.
- Across all sectors learning is captured through a variety of media (recordings, observations, constructions)
- Assessment is built in when planning interdisciplinary learning
- Big Writing initiative has proved to be successful at all stages of Broad General Education (BGE) from P1 to S3 as it encompasses so many elements of literacy. There is evidence of improved standards in talking and writing.

<sup>1</sup> Visit [www.hmie.gov.uk/documents/publication/hgiosjte](http://www.hmie.gov.uk/documents/publication/hgiosjte)

- Around identified themes, Pre-5 workers work with children to plan their activities and map out learning in line with Early Level Experiences and Outcomes

### Planning

- Secondary teachers have prepared curriculum outlines for senior phase courses in S4 and S5
- Pre-5 and Primary staff have joint planning sessions to coordinate learning at Early Level (Pre-5 to P1)
- Primary staff hold joint planning sessions to improve consistency
- Common format created for planning and assessment in numeracy, literacy and Religious and Moral Education across BGE stages
- Appointment of Principal Teachers in both Primary and Secondary departments has established our leadership team allowing improvements to be taken forward

### Skills Development and Tracking Progress

- Following the introduction of ASDAN Skills programmes, the first tranche of S2 pupils completed the Secondary Steps programme
- Principal Teacher Primary and Principal Teacher Secondary jointly have a lead role in taking skill development forward in line with Authority developments

### Links with Parents and Community

- Parents have responded well to encouragement to visit playroom at Pre- and more regularly look at the children's work
- Parents meet on scheduled basis with Key Pre-5 worker to discuss children's progress
- Parents have attended termly Primary Assemblies in substantial numbers giving their children and audience and added purpose

### Support for Pupils

- Behaviour support was revisited through in-service training for staff. This led to revised approaches with creation of rules reflecting the school values
- Staff development has resulted in improved support for children with additional support needs
- Close working with Educational Psychologist helps identify suitable resources to support pupils

### Pre-5 Outdoor Play

- Pre-5 garden is gradually being developed and recent purchase of dungarees and jackets for the children allows outdoor play on most days
- The assistance of parents and helpers has allowed the children to plant up a variety of crops

### **Attainment**

#### **Curriculum for Excellence Broad General Education: June 2012**

Pupils have responded well to the revised methodologies and assessment strategies developing to follow curriculum for excellence principles. Pupils are assessed continuously on what they make, do and say as well as what they write and receive regular feedback on their learning through all of these strategies.

Children in Early Years (Pre-5 to P1) are progressing well with Curriculum for Excellence Early Level with P1 children now consolidating knowledge and skills across curriculum areas. Most children are consolidating their learning at level 1 at the Primary 3 stage with pupils in P6 and P7 developing and consolidating learning at level 2. Pupils in S1 are consolidating learning at level three across curriculum areas with individual pupils developing literacy and numeracy skills at levels 2 and 3. Use of Big Writing methodologies has allowed teachers to more accurately identify pupil's needs and set next steps accordingly.

Most pupils are learning with the levels below with demands of literacy and numeracy being adapted to suit appropriate development level.

Early Level: Pre-School - Primary 1  
 First Level: Primary 2 - Primary 4  
 Second Level: Primary 5 -Primary 7  
 Third Level: Secondary 1 - Secondary 3

The increased emphasis on interdisciplinary learning has allowed pupils to set their learning in context and reinforce their knowledge and skills to make their learning secure. Young people across the stages are showing improved skill levels e.g. in working with others or presenting, reflecting the greater emphasis on skill development in the curriculum.



### SQA Results 2011

The percentages of pupils gaining the levels of national qualifications shown are as follows:

	THS	Argyll & Bute
In S4 5+ Level 3 (SG Foundation or equiv)	100	92
5+ Level 4 (SG General or equivalent)	90	79
5+ Level 5 (SG Credit or equivalent)	50	37
In S5 1+ Level 6 (Higher)	47	49
3+ Level 6 (Higher)	13	27
5+ Level 6 (Higher)	7	13
In S6 3+ Level 6 (Higher)	75	37
5+ Level 6 (Higher)	38	23
1+ Level 7 (Advanced Higher)	25	16

Cumulative successes of pupils by end of S6 (three year averages, 2008-2011)

	THS	Argyll & Bute
5+ Level 3 (SG Foundation or equiv)	100	95
5+ Level 4 (SG General or equivalent)	100	86
5+ Level 5 (SG Credit or equivalent)	100	57
1+ Level 6 (Higher)	64	55
3+ Level 6 (Higher)	48	36
5+ Level 6 (Higher)	16	23



Collaborative working with Argyll College has proved to be popular with students with the introduction of Skills for Work Courses in Construction and Hospitality this session.



Our Primary pupils took on the Summer Reading Challenge in significant numbers and all enjoyed a celebration of their success on return to school in August.



## Achievements Confident Individuals

### Pre-5 Farm Visit



Pre-5 Children visited a local farm when they were learning about the season Spring. They enjoyed seeing a new born lamb.

Pre-5 children enjoying their first school Christmas lunch



Pre-5 and Primary children put on a very entertaining Christmas Performance, with an adaptation of the Musicians of Bremen and a Tíree take on Strictly





The S5/6 Induction programme in June 2012 proved to be very challenging with a lengthy cycle route and a raft build with race to follow. The rafts did float and everyone managed to complete the course.



The regular S1/2 trip to Ardentenny saw our pupils take on a range of outdoor challenges including mountain biking, canoeing and hillwalking. They rose to the challenges



physically and developed their team-working skills.



### Responsible Citizens

The Annual Beach clean saw an impressive 39 bags of rubbish collected from Gott Bay causing a number of people to comment on the big improvement.



Primary pupils spent a day fundraising for Children in Need. The smartest teddy competition brought several Pudsey lookalikes and there was keen competition for the best Pudsey portrait







The Gala King and Queen carried out their duties very responsibly at the Tiree High School Grand Gala Day in September. Having provided a warm welcome to all who attended they entered into all the activities.

### Effective Contributors

One of our more ambitious interdisciplinary tasks involved pupils in S2 working on the topic of Christianity. Working with the school Chaplain, they planned the entire delivery of the school Easter Service in Heylipol Church. They discussed the Minister's address and built this into their plan. Parents who attended the service were very impressed with the poetry, prayers, artefacts, artwork and the hot cross buns



World Book Day was celebrated in style with staff and pupils dressing up as their favourite character and bringing in their books to read.



We were happy to welcome teams from Oban High School who visited Tiree to give highly valued competitive matches in hockey and football.



As part of a very interesting, informative and enjoyable workshop with Kilmartin Museum staff, Primary pupils had the opportunity of visiting a local Glassmaking studio. They designed glass tiles as part of a large mural and created a beautiful finished product.



The annual Tiree High School Grand Gala Day proved to be very successful with a good turnout of parents and friends. Although it is principally a fundraiser, each year the staff and pupils organising the event make extra efforts to provide new and interesting events. This session, the highlight (for the audience) was the Bush-Tucker Trial where the Gala King & Queen joined staff volunteers to sample some exotic foodstuffs. The brave volunteers raised a substantial sum in the auction and provided great entertainment for the crowd.

A whole school Zumba session raised money to support the Children in Need Appeal

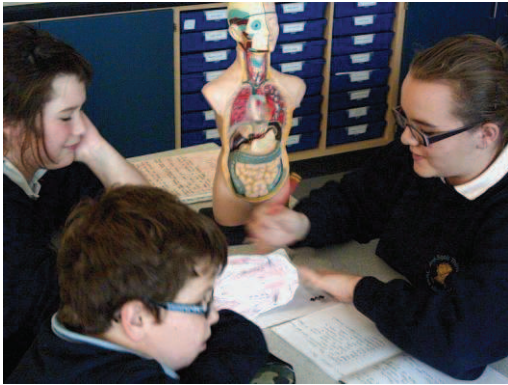






Senior pupils playing some lively tunes at the infant party were greatly appreciated by their audience.

Gaelic Medium pupils had the opportunity to attend workshops with Rona Wilkie where they composed and sang their own songs.



Pupils in S1 and S2 worked collaboratively on an interdisciplinary task focussing on health & wellbeing. They researched a variety of health topics and finally presented their information to all our primary pupils at a Health Fair.

