

**3<sup>rd</sup> February 2009**

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**BUTE AND COWAL AREA PLAN**

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**1. SUMMARY**

Members agreed the draft Bute and Cowal Area Plan at the Area Committee meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2008, at which time it was noted that the plan would be subject to a period of consultation prior to approval by Council in February 2009 as part of the Council's budget setting process. This consultation period has now been completed.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

1. Approve the Bute and Cowal Area Plan as outlined in Appendix 1 and agree that this plan be recommended for approval by Council in February 2009 as part of the Council's budget setting process.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The Bute and Cowal Area Plan is an integral part of the Council's Planning and Performance Management Framework and has been considered along with the draft Corporate Plan and service plans from December – February, prior to anticipated final sign off by full Council in February. No comments on the draft plan have been received through the consultation period.
- 3.2 There has been a fundamental shift in how the area plans are to be viewed – rather than an aspirational document it is intended that, for the area delivery priorities, the content should be restricted only to those items which are fully developed, costed and focused. The intention in future years will be to start from a principle of what are the priority outcomes which the area committee want to achieve in the area, then specific actions will be identified.
- 3.3 Where the priority requires a revenue spend to be made services are being asked to confirm whether they will be making an allocation of this spend within their service budgets. Where they are not then the area committee needs to consider making an "Area Development Bid" for the sum required. Where a bid is to be made the Area Committee are asked to identify where they would propose reducing

spend in another area to meet the funding required.

- 3.4 Where the priority requires a capital spend then items can only be included where an Outline or Initial Business case has been undertaken.

#### **4. IMPLICATIONS**

**Policy** Sets Area priorities for future years. Subject to yearly review.

**Financial** Considered as part of the Council's budget process in February 2009

**Personnel**

**Equal Opportunities**

**Legal**

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