

**Argyll and Bute Council**  
**Comhairle Earra-Ghàidheal Agus Bhòid**

*Customer Services*  
*Executive Director: Douglas Hendry*



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*24 February 2017*

**SUPPLEMENTARY PACK 1**

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MID ARGYLL, KINTYRE AND THE ISLANDS AREA  
COMMITTEE – 1 MARCH 2017 AT 10.00AM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,  
KILMORY, LOCHGILPHEAD**

I enclose herewith item 3 (**GRASS CUTTING PROPOSALS**) which was marked to follow on the Agenda for the above meeting.

Douglas Hendry  
Executive Director of Customer Services

**BUSINESS**

- 3. GRASS CUTTING PROPOSALS** (Pages 1 - 18)  
Report by Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure Services

**Mid Argyll, Kintyre & the Islands Area Committee**

Councillor Rory Colville (Chair)      Councillor Donald MacMillan (Vice Chair)

Shona Barton, Area Committee Manager

Contact: Lynsey Innis, Senior Area Committee Assistant Tel: 01546 604338

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**ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL****MID ARGYLL, KINTYRE AND THE ISLANDS  
AREA COMMITTEE****DEVELOPMENT AND  
INFRASTRUCTURE****1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2017**

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**GRASS CUTTING – PROPOSED CHANGES**

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**1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 As part of the budget process for 2016/17 Members considered a range of Service Choices which had been designed to meet the significant reduction in available budget, due to drastically reduced funding.
- 1.2 One of the options that was approved through the budget process was RAMS01i – Reduced/Stop Grass Cutting. This proposal included reducing the frequency of cuts to some places and completely stop cutting grass in others, allowing the grass to grow wild. The specification for this service choice reduced the number of some grass cuts to one per year, carried out in October/November.
- 1.3 This option saved £18,000 as a part saving for 2016/17, and was taken pro-rata across the four administrative areas. The starting point for each of the four areas was different because different frequencies of grass cuts had previously been applied to each area. The 2015/16 frequencies and schedules had varied historically with further local adjustments having been introduced as part of the service review process carried out in 2011/12. The service choice process was carried out over a much shorter timescale than that that of the service review process and consequently did not include the member workshop sessions where members have historically played a significant part in the design of service delivery in their area. The attached appendix details the locations where grass cutting has been reduced to one cut per year.
- 1.4 This Service Choices proposal has resulted in significant representation being received by Elected Members and officers. Being alive to the fact that this is something which matters to our communities it is proposed that the same level of saving is maintained but that the specification is changed as follows:
  - Areas removed from the 16/17 schedules will be reinstated
  - Areas cut only once a year in 16/17 will have the frequency increased where appropriate
  - Areas that received a reduced frequency of cuts in 16/17 will have the frequency increased where appropriate
  - Areas which experienced no change in the frequency of cuts in 16/17 will receive a reduced number of cuts (regard will be had to high amenity areas)

- 1.5 It is recommended that the Area Committee approve the amended grass cutting proposals detailed in the report.

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ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

MID ARGYLL, KINTYRE AND THE ISLANDS  
AREA COMMITTEE

DEVELOPMENT AND  
INFRASTRUCTURE

1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2017

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## GRASS CUTTING – PROPOSED CHANGES

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### 2.0 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This report sets out some of the representations received following one of the Service Choices policies RAMS01i (Reduce/Stop Grass Cuts).
- 2.2 This report also seeks approval to amend the previously approved policy and to revert to cutting all areas previously maintained but at a reduced frequency that can be accommodated within the available budget.

### 3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Area Committee approve the amended grass cutting proposals detailed in the report.

### 4.0 DETAILS

- 4.1 As part of the budget process for 2016/17 Members considered a range of Service Choices which had been designed to meet the reduction in available budget. Across Roads and Amenity Services the service choice options were varied including: increasing income from a number of sources, innovative solutions such as LED street lighting which reduced the amount of energy consumed, three weekly bin collections which encourage more recycling and reduce the amount of waste to landfill and a number of policy choices which resulted in a reduction in service delivery. All of these proposals having been progressed to ensure that the council can deliver a balanced budget whilst maintaining as many key services as possible.
- 4.2 The £18,000 saving as part of option RAMS01i, as a part saving for 2016/1, was taken pro-rata across the four administrative areas. The starting point for each of the four areas was different because different frequencies of grass cuts had previously been applied to each area. The 2015/16 frequencies and schedules had varied historically with further local adjustments having been introduced as part of the service review process carried out in 2011/12. The service choice process was carried out over a much shorter timescale than that that of the service review process and consequently did not include the member workshop sessions where members played a significant part in the design of service delivery in their area.

The attached appendix details the locations where grass cutting has been reduced to one cut per year.

- 4.3 This Service Choices proposal has resulted in significant representation being received by Elected Members and officers. Being alive to the fact that this is something which matters to our communities it is proposed that the same level of saving is maintained but that the specification is changed.
- 4.4 Representations received have generally been relating to the untidiness and general reduction in amenity in areas where grass has not been cut. It is felt that amending the specification would be beneficial and would reflect the views of our communities. This proposed change to specification would have no budget implication as the saving would still be delivered, only in a different way.
- 4.5 The starting point for each of the four areas was different with different frequencies of grass cuts applied to areas historically. The amended specification will continue on this basis, however, all areas previously cut in 2015/16 will be included within the new schedules, In order to make the changes but continue to deliver services within the approved budget the following approach will be taken:
- Areas removed from the 16/17 schedules will be reinstated
  - Areas cut only once a year in 16/17 will have the frequency increased where appropriate
  - Areas that received a reduced frequency of cuts in 16/17 will have the frequency increased where appropriate
  - Areas which experienced no change in the frequency of cuts in 16/17 will receive a reduced number of cuts (regard will be had to high amenity areas)
- 4.6 The appendix attached to the report detail the target cutting frequencies. The actual number will be determined by weather conditions.

## 5.0 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 This report proposes to adjust the specification of grassland maintenance in response to the representations made in response to the representations made following the implementation of changes in 2016/17.

## 6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- |     |           |                                                                                             |
|-----|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6.1 | Policy    | This report proposes to change a policy that was agreed through the budget process in 2016. |
| 6.2 | Financial | No financial implication as this proposal is cost neutral.                                  |
| 6.3 | Legal     | None known                                                                                  |
| 6.4 | HR        | None known                                                                                  |

|     |                   |            |
|-----|-------------------|------------|
| 6.5 | Equalities        | None known |
| 6.6 | Risk              | None known |
| 6.7 | Customer Services | None known |

**Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure** Pippa Milne  
**Policy Lead** Councillor Ellen Morton  
February 2017

**For further information contact:** Jim Smith, Head of Roads and Amenity Services  
Tel: 01546 604324

## **APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 - MAKI Grass Area proposed frequencies

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MID ARGYLL REVISED CUT FREQUENCIES FOR 2017 SEASON

CYCLICAL CUT 2017 SEASON - 14 CUTS

Grass Cutting -

Kileven Cemetery  
Kilmalieu Cemetery (New)  
Ladyfield Picnic Area  
Boxed Glenshira Cemetery  
Front Green Inveraray  
Sinclair Avenue  
The Avenue Carpark 1st Half  
Furnace Football Park  
Lochgair Green  
Lochgair Cemetery(St. Brides)  
Craignish Cemetery(Kilvoree)  
Kilmicheal Cemetery  
Kilmartin Cemetery (New)  
Kilmartin Cemetery (Old)  
Carsaig Cemetery  
Kiels Cemetery  
Inverlusa Cemetery  
Kilmory Cemetery

Achnabreach Cemetery

Section A  
Section C  
Section D  
Section E  
Section F  
Section H - J  
Achnabreac Cemetery Road

Kilmory Castle

Behind Information Hut  
Between Trees  
Kilmory Left and Right of Link Corridor  
Kilmory Main Lawn  
Kilmory Main Lawn Sides  
Kilmory Opposite Visitors Carpark  
Kilmory Outside C.E. window  
Kilmory Picnic Area  
Kilmory Rear Carpark  
Kilmory Shinty Park  
Kilmory Side of New Extension  
Kilmory Visitors Carpark

Lochgilphead Library  
Ropework Park - Dewar Avenue side

Ropework Park - Remainder  
Ropework Playing Field  
Rowan Park  
Scottish Episcopal Church  
Seaside Park Ardrishag  
Stag Park Guide Hut  
The Avenue Carpark 2nd Half  
Upper Lochgair Housing Scheme  
E.S. Depot  
Front Green Lochgilphead (All areas)  
Hospital Road  
Jubilee Terrace  
KGV Park Ardrishaig  
KGV Swing Park  
Childrens Reporter  
Corran Roundabout  
Cossack St, Patterson St & McCallum's Quay  
Ann Cala Childrens Home  
Ardrishaig Fronts  
Whitegates ATC  
Whitegates Corner  
Whitegates Office Carpark  
Wilson Road  
Wilson Road

Tarbert

Cut grass Tarbert (Carrick) Cemetery New  
Cut grass Tarbert Old Cemetery  
Cut grass Tarbert Pitches  
Overmark Pitch  
Strimming Ardtilligan Cottages Picnic Area Layby  
Strimming New Play Area  
Cut grass Lady Eilleen Road War Memorial  
Inverlusa Cemetery

**FORTNIGHTLY CUT 2017 SEASON - 15 CUTS**

**Grass Cutting -**

Inveraray Fire Station  
Ardrishaig Primary  
Craignish Primary  
Minard Primary School  
Furnace Primary School  
Inveraray Primary  
Achahoish Primary School  
Kilmartin Primary  
Craignish Primary  
Tayvallich Primary  
Ashfield Primary

**MONTHLY CUT 2017 SEASON - 6 CUTS**

Grass Cutting - Verges

A816 Lochgilphead  
Auchnashelloch Layby  
Bishopton Road  
Brae above Lock 3  
Bridgend Approches  
East Bank Road  
Highbank Park  
Hospital Road  
Kilduskland Road  
Park Road  
St. Claire Road  
Whitegates Road Junction  
Furnace Village  
inclair Avenue Inveraray  
Auchagoyle Minard  
A819 Inveraray  
The Avenue Inveraray  
Brucehill  
Bus Turning point  
Garvel Road  
Lady Ilene Road  
Pier Road  
Oakfield Road  
Ardtunnie Layby

The Playing Fields will be retained at the original cut frequency.

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**KINTYRE REVISED CUT FREQUENCIES FOR 2017 SEASON**

**CYCLICAL CUT 2017 SEASON - 12 CUTS**

Millknowe Road - Town Approach  
Templars Hall Vere & Toilet  
Hillside Path  
Milldam Football Pitche  
Treatment Works  
Princess Street Walk  
High Street, George Walk  
War Memorial  
Pool Banks  
Kinloch Park Playground  
Kinloch Park Path Edges  
Pool Park & Surrounds  
Ardnacraig Avenue  
English Cemetery  
McCartney Garden  
Old Police Station  
Roundabout  
Hall Street  
Bus Island  
Hillside Playpark  
Meadows Playpark  
Kinloch Playpark (Esplanade)  
Ardsheil  
Meadowburn  
Bengullion Road/Tomaig  
Jock's Boat/Toilet Area  
Putting Green & Area Adjacent  
Saddell Grass Area  
Campbeltown ATC MHH (SRC)  
Railway Cutting  
Kirkland Park  
Registrars Office  
Kintyre Area Office  
Kintyre Park School Buspark  
Stewarts Green  
Community Centre  
Kilkerran Road Battery  
  
Kilkerran Cemetery  
Division 1  
Division 2  
Division 3  
Division 4  
Division 5  
Division 6  
  
Pool Park  
Pool & Boat Shed  
Witchburn Road  
Old Cemetery  
Kilkerran Road Transformer  
Kilkerran Road  
Kilkerran Road Banks

Saddell Cemetery  
Waterfoot Cemetery  
Brackley Cemetery  
Caradale Harbour Area  
Skipness Cemetery  
Whitehouse  
Clachan Cemetery Old  
Clachan Cemetery New  
Clachan Village  
Patchan Cemetery  
Machrahanish Bay & Isle View  
Drumlemble Surround  
Stewarton Front Green  
Bellochantay Picnic Area  
Kiel Cemetery  
Southend War Memorial  
Kilchousland Cemetery  
Westport Carpark & Picnic Area  
Kilkivan Cemetery  
Killean Cemetery  
Kilkenzie Cemetery  
Machrahanish Bay & Isle View  
Drumlemble Surround  
Campbelltown Nursery  
War Memorials  
Southend  
Oakfield  
Clachan  
Whitehouse  
Carradale

**FORTNIGHTLY CUT 2017 SEASON - 15 CUTS**

Glenbarr Primary  
Rhunahaorine Primary  
Clachan Primary  
Skipness Primary  
Carradale Primary  
Grammar School  
Grammar School  
Castlehill Primary

**MONTHLY CUT 2017 SEASON - 6 CUTS**

**Verges**  
Shore Road Carradale  
Saddell Verge  
Low Road  
Roding  
Woodlands  
Skipness  
Whitehouse  
Clachan  
Tayinloan  
Musssdale  
Southend  
Machrihanish  
Drumlemble

Witchburn Road - Town Approach

The Playing Fields will be retained at the original cut frequency.

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**CYCLICAL CUT 2017 SEASON - 16 CUTS**

**Grass Cutting -**

Bowmore Churchyard  
 Bowmore 93 Extension  
 Bowmore Cemetery 2nd extension  
 Bowmore - Killarrow House  
 Bowmore Office Garden  
 Bowmore Park(Morrisons Square)  
 Birch Drive  
 Carpark @ Tourist Information  
 Hawthorne Lane

Port EllenNorth Bay open space  
 Kildalton Cemetery-Prt Ellen  
 Port Ellen School St & Banking  
 Port Ellen War Memorial  
 Kilnaughton Old Ground-Prt Ellen  
 Lennox Street  
 Ardview Houses

Port Ellen - School Street  
 Port Ellen - 30 sign to Phone Box  
 Port Ellen - Ardbeg Road  
 Port Ellen - Mansfield Road  
 Bridgend Toilets  
 Port Ellen Frederick Crescent & Banking  
 Port Ellen Ramsay Memorial Hall  
 Play Park at Ramsay Mem Hall

Bridgend - St. Columba's Church  
 Bridgend Churchyard  
 Bridgend Cemetery Outside Verge

Port Charlotte Cemetery  
 Kilchoman Churchyard-Prt Charlotte Rd  
 Kilchoman Burial Ground-Prt Charlotte Rd  
 Nerabus Cemetery Approach Road  
 Nerabus Cemetery-Prt Charlotte Rd  
 Nerabus Cemetery 93 Extension-Prt Charlotte Rd  
 Port Charlotte - Kilchiaran Road

Portnahaven Toilets & Shore Street  
 Kilnave Cemetery  
 Kilnaughton Cem 51 + 75 Extension & Verge  
 Kilnaughton Cemetery 44 Extension & Verge

Kilmeny Cemetery-Prt Askaig  
 Keills Approach Road  
 Keills Churchyard-Prt Askaig

**FORTNIGHTLY CUT 2017 SEASON - 15 CUTS**

**Grass Cutting -**

Keills Primary School-Prt Askaig  
 Bowmore Primary School  
 Bowmore High School  
 Port Ellen - Fire Station  
 Bowmore Fire Station  
 Bowmore Primary Playing Fields  
 Port Ellen Primary School

**MONTHLY CUT 2017 SEASON - 6 CUTS**

Ballygrant - East Side North & South  
 Ballygrant - Verge West Side  
 Kiells - Verge East Side North & South  
 Kiells - Verge West Side  
 Port Askaig - Verge East Side South  
 Port Askaig - Verge West Side South

Port Charlotte - Verge East Side South  
 Port Charlotte - Verge West Side South  
 Port Charlotte - South Verge  
 Port Charlotte - School Street Verge  
 Port Charlotte - Verge East Side North  
 Port Charlotte - Verge West Side North  
 Port Charlotte - North Verge  
 Port Charlotte - Achnamara to school  
 Port Charlotte Bridge to Achnamara

Portnahaven - Verge East at Church  
 Portnahaven - Verge West at Church  
 Portnahaven - Verge North Side  
 Portnahaven - Verge South Side  
 Port Wymess  
 Portnahaven - P/Wm Side  
 Portnahaven - P/Ch Side

Port Ellen - Verge East Side North  
 Port Ellen - Verge West Side North  
 Port Ellen - Verge North Side East  
 Port Ellen - Verge South Side East  
 Port Ellen - Back Road

Bowmore - Verge Shore Side North  
 Bowmore - Verge East Side South  
 Toabh Na Mara to 30 sign Bowmore  
 Gortonvogie  
 Stanalane Road  
 Moss Road  
 30 sign to Highlands                      1 mtr Strip

Bruichladdich - Verge East Side South  
 Bruichladdich - Verge West Side South  
 Bruichladdich - Verge East Side North  
 Bruichladdich - Verge West Side North  
 Bruichladdich Roadside

Bruichladdich Roadside Bowmore Side  
Kilchoman Cemetery Verges

**ACHA (COMMERCIAL CONTRACT) FORTNIGHTLY CUT**  
**2017 SEASON - 15 CUTS**

Ballygrant ACHA  
Jameson St & Hawthorne Terr. ACHA  
Port Ellen Bay View & Antrim View ACHA  
Port Ellen Corrsgeir Place ACHA  
Port Ellen Tarsgeir Place ACHA  
Port Ellen - Ardview Houses ACHA  
West End Scheme ACHA - Port Charlotte  
Elder Crescent ACHA  
Broomhill Park ACHA  
Stanalane - complete ACHA  
Port Ellen Cnoc Na Faire & Banking ACHA  
Port Ellen Texa Crescent Open Areas ACHA  
Port Ellen Texa Crescent Strim. Areas ACHA  
Bruichladdich Burnside ACHA  
Rear of Flora Street ACHA  
Lane to Council Garages ACHA  
Daal Terrace ACHA  
An Creagan Place ACHA

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