



*Kilmory, Lochgilphead, PA31 8RT  
Tel: 01546605522  
DX 599700 LOCHGILPHEAD  
13 May 2021*

## **NOTICE OF MEETING**

A meeting of the **HELENSBURGH AND LOMOND COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP** will be held by **SKYPE** on **THURSDAY, 20 MAY 2021** at **10:00 AM**, which you are requested to attend.

Douglas Hendry  
Executive Director

## **BUSINESS**

### **1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

### **3. MINUTES**

- (a) Meeting of the Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group held on Thursday, 11th of February 2021 (Pages 5 - 20)

### **4. PARTNERS UPDATES**

- (a) Transport Scotland Update

Verbal update by Transport Scotland

- (b) Scottish Fire and Rescue Service - Helensburgh and Lomond FQ4 2020/21 Update (Pages 21 - 24)

Update by Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

- (c) Police Scotland Update (Pages 25 - 26)

Update by Police Scotland

- (d) Department for Work and Pensions Update (Pages 27 - 32)

Update by Department for Work and Pensions

- (e) Argyll College UHI Update (Pages 33 - 34)

Update by Argyll College UHI

- (f) Argyll and Bute Council Community Learning Service Update (Pages 35 - 36)

Update by Community Learning Team Leader, Argyll and Bute Council

- (g) Arrochar and Tarbet Community Development Trust (Pages 37 - 40)

Update by Arrochar and Tarbet Community Development Trust

- (h) Opportunity for verbal updates by Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group Partners

## **5. POLICE SCOTLAND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TEAM**

Verbal update by Inspector Boyle, Police Scotland

## **6. COMMUNITY FOCUS**

- (a) Helensburgh Community Hub

Verbal presentation by Eddie Cusick, Helensburgh Community Hub

## **7. UK WITHDRAWAL FROM THE EU**

- (a) UK-EU Post Transition (Pages 41 - 44)

Report by Chief Executive, Argyll and Bute Council

- (b) Opportunity for verbal updates from Area Community Planning Group Partners in relation to the impact of UK Withdrawal from the EU

## **8. CAMPERVAN, MOTORHOME AND STAYCATIONS**

- (a) Campervan, Motorhome and Staycation Activity (Pages 45 - 48)

Report by Head of Development and Economic Growth, Argyll and Bute Council

- (b) Opportunity for verbal updates from Area Community Planning Group Partners in relation to campervan, motorhome and staycation activity

## **9. COVID-19 RECOVERY**

- (a) Covid Infection Rates and Vaccination (Pages 49 - 54)

Report by Committee Manager, Argyll and Bute Council

- (b) Opportunity for verbal updates from Area Community Planning Group Partners in relation to Covid-19 recovery

**10. AREA COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN UPDATE**

Verbal update by Community Planning Officer, Argyll and Bute Council

**11. BASECAMP TRIAL UPDATE**

Verbal update by Community Planning Officer, Argyll and Bute Council

**12. COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE**  
(Pages 55 - 58)

Report by Committee Manager, Argyll and Bute Council

**13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will take place at 10.00am on Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> of August 2021.

**Helensburgh and Lomond Community Planning Group**

Contact: Iona Campbell, Senior Committee Assistant - 01436 658 801

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**MINUTES of MEETING of HELENSBURGH AND LOMOND COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP held  
by SKYPE  
on THURSDAY, 11 FEBRUARY 2021**

**Present:** Laura Cameron, Gibson Hall (Chair)  
 Albert Bruce, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (Vice-Chair)  
 Councillor Lorna Douglas, Argyll & Bute Council  
 Councillor Iain Paterson, Argyll & Bute Council  
 Kirsty Moyes, Community Development Officer, Argyll & Bute Council  
 Samantha Somers, Community Planning Officer, Argyll & Bute Council  
 Ruth Cairns, Community Learning Worker, Argyll & Bute Council  
 Cristie Moore, Gaelic Development Worker, Argyll & Bute Council  
 Neil MacFarlane, Transport Scotland  
 Lynn Campbell, Department for Work and Pensions  
 Angela Anderson, Plastic Free Helensburgh, Time for Change Argyll and Bute  
 and Fridays for Futures  
 Jayne Burnett, Visiting Friends  
 Susan MacRae, Skills Development Scotland  
 Allan Comrie, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport  
 Sarah Davies, Helensburgh Community Council  
 Duncan MacLachlan, Arrochar and Tarbet Community Development Trust  
 Morevain Martin, Garelochhead Station Trust  
 Samantha Stubbs, Argyll and Bute Third Sector Interface  
 Carole Spencer, Garelochhead Community Council  
 Alasdair MacCuish, Helensburgh Gaelic Group  
 John Lewis, Males Tales  
 Andrew Galloway, Local Democracy Reporter, Helensburgh Advertiser/BBC

**1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and general introductions were made.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of:

Inspector Roderick MacNeill, Police Scotland  
 Councillor Barbara Morgan, Argyll and Bute Council  
 Guy Keating, Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park  
 Fiona Jackson, Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park  
 Jean Cook, Rhu and Shandon Community Council  
 Sephton MacQuire, Dunbritton Housing Association

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest intimated.

**3. MINUTES**

**(a) Meeting of the Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group held on Thursday, 5 November 2020**

The Minute of the Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group meeting held on Thursday, 5 November 2020 was approved as a correct record.

#### 4. UPDATE ON A83

Neil MacFarlane, Transport Scotland, circulated a list of notable reports and Transport Scotland roadworks on the A83 and A82 Loch Lomondside as follows;

Completed:

A83 Tarbet To Arrochar Footway

Ongoing:

A83 Tarbet To Arrochar, additional drainage improvements now underway.

A83 Rest and Be Thankful

Upcoming:

A83 Campbeltown - Footway reconstruction Tarbert Road prior to carriageway reconstruction. Target start date late February/ March.

A82 Loch Lomond side night time convoy resurfacing – all of February to 9 March

A83 Clachan resurfacing from 18th to 22nd February

A83 Lit sign faces and bollards refurbishment

A83 Branch cutback proposals to be submitted by BEAR to TS

A83 Glen Kinglas Bunds – subject to contract completion

A83 Cairndow Signing scheme design underway.

A83 Campbeltown – consideration of BEAR pedestrian crossing report Kinloch Road

A83 Meall Mhor resurfacing 23 and 24 February

This report contains planned interventions for the next 5 years, focus is on locking in the positive benefits of increased active travel seen during COVID - <https://www.transport.gov.scot/publication/update-and-phase-1-recommendations-february-2021-stpr2/>

This report focuses on the challenges that the Argyll and Bute region is facing and the potential options that could address these - [Initial appraisal: Case for Change - Argyll and Bute - STPR2 \(transport.gov.scot\)](#)

The National Transport Strategy, published last February, sets out our vision for transport in Scotland for the next 20 years - [National Transport Strategy](#)

Neil advised that the works listed were likely to be subject to change at short notice due to weather issues at this time of year. Neil provided a further verbal update on the Rest and Be Thankful, advising that solutions were being investigated in the short, medium and long term and it was hoped that the trunk road could return to 24 hour use with a two-way system in due course. Neil confirmed that the resurfacing works on the A82 Loch Lomond side would now take place during the day and a convoy system would be in place until around mid-March, although this would be weather-dependent. Neil advised that Transport Scotland were working on a number of initiatives in conjunction with Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park (LLTNP) and Argyll and Bute Council, particularly around the traffic management issues associated with the different ways people were travelling during the Covid-19 pandemic. Duncan MacLachan, Arrochar and Tarbet Community Development Trust, confirmed that Guy Keating, LLTNP, had been in contact with Neil and was comfortable with the approach which was being taken.

In response to queries raised by Duncan in advance of the meeting, Neil provided further updates on a number of issues, including: improvement works to the railway bridge

between Tarbet and Arrochar and the ways in which this could be assisted by support from community groups seeking funding from Sustrans; Transport Scotland's project to widen sections of carriageway where required; improvement works to the A82 between Tarbet and Inverarnan; regular inspection reports highlighting areas of concern in terms of drainage and potholes; the immediate re-programming of a resurfacing team to address pothole issues on the A83; and the ways in which the old A82 road could be used following improvement works being completed. Neil encouraged anyone who was interested to access the links to reports which had been circulated with the update for further information.

Councillor Paterson asked if Neil could provide a timescale as to when the main A83 trunk road at the Rest and Be Thankful would be operational 24 hours a day under a two-way system. Neil confirmed that this would be dependent on the activity of material on the hill, noting that Transport Scotland were looking at a number of short term options prior to the end of the financial year and would attempt to build up as much resilience as possible before the next winter period. Neil noted that work in the area was likely to be ongoing for a number of years and the Major Projects team were looking at long term solutions, with communications ongoing as to how to get the best outcome and value for money.

Councillor Paterson raised concerns around the current mitigation measures in place being adequate to deal with the movement on the hillside, particularly in light of the weather conditions. Neil confirmed that geological and geotechnical experts were aware of these issues and future planning was ongoing around this.

Neil advised that he was keen to work with the community in Arrochar around issues with parking, noting that a working group involving Transport Scotland, LLTNP and Argyll & Bute Council were investigating potential solutions such as additional parking provision and Traffic Regulation Orders. Further discussion took place around the ways in which parking issues in Arrochar could be addressed, with Councillor Paterson advising that he felt that an Emergency Traffic Regulation Order was necessary to put in place double yellow lines from the Loch Long hotel to the petrol station in Arrochar prior to the restrictions being lifted and a potential increase in traffic. Neil advised that consideration had to be taken of the views of local businesses and residents prior to putting a Traffic Regulation Order in place and this could take up to 18 months if any objections were received. Neil confirmed that an Emergency Traffic Order could be put in place within 21 days where required.

Sarah Davies, Helensburgh Community Council, enquired about cycle paths in Helensburgh and the different methods of funding available. Neil advised that he could not provide official advice around this as it was not part of the trunk road but was happy to be involved in conversations around this if it would be helpful, noting that Sustrans were likely to be the best source of funding for cycle paths.

### **Decision**

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

## **5. PARTNERS UPDATES**

### **(a) Police Scotland Update**

The Group considered an update from Inspector Roderick MacNeill, Police Scotland,

detailing Police Scotland's response to Covid-19 which included responding to an increase in public nuisance type calls resulting from increased reports of Covid-19 legislation breaches; monitoring visitors travelling from out with the area in breach of travel restrictions; utilising the '4 x E's' policing response; charging and issuing individuals with fixed penalty notices where required; maintaining resources across the area; and the use of PPE by officers.

### **Decision**

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group:

1. considered and noted the information provided; and
2. noted that in the absence of Inspector Roderick MacNeill, any questions would be fed back to him and any responses circulated to the Group.

(Reference: Report by Inspector Roderick MacNeill, Police Scotland, submitted)

### **(b) Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Update**

The Group considered a report from the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) highlighting the SFRS Financial Quarter 3 review of local performance across Helensburgh and Lomond for 2020-2021.

Albert Bruce, SFRS, highlighted concerns around an increase in fatalities and a link to those who may be spending more time at home during the pandemic and living isolated lifestyles. Albert noted that it was likely that there would be an increase in Road Traffic Collisions in the next report due to the weather conditions. It was confirmed that the SFRS were engaged in a lot of partnership working in various ways, including assisting colleagues in the Scottish Ambulance Service to gain access to properties; assisting with the provision of food parcels and medication during the lockdown period; and running test centres in fire stations to assist in plugging the gaps in the NHS provision of Covid-19 test kits.

Samantha Somers, Community Planning Officer, asked if there were any plans for fire station test centres in the Helensburgh and Lomond Area. Albert advised that at present there was a walk-in testing facility in Dumbarton and a mobile testing centre in Helensburgh, however further discussions and research were ongoing between SFRS and the Scottish Government in connection with more fire stations being used for this purpose.

Following a query from Councillor Paterson, discussion took place around the ways in which vulnerable people were identified and assisted during the lockdown period. Albert provided details around the ways multi-agency working assisted in identifying people at high risk and the difficulties associated with those who do not wish to engage, noting that there had been an increase in those requiring assistance in the community who were suffering from mental health issues. Further discussion took place around the changes in smoke alarm legislation which had been delayed until 2022 and the ways in which the SFRS were advertising this and would be able to provide assistance to people with this in future. Councillor Paterson advised that he was a member of the Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA) board and would bring the information discussed to their attention at the next meeting.



John Lewis, Males Tales, requested further information around the demographic of people who had been involved in fatalities. Albert confirmed that the general demographic was males, over 60, who lived alone and had little in the way of family or support and noted that he would provide further information to John around this following the meeting. John offered his assistance in engaging with those suffering from mental health issues when restrictions allowed.

Alasdair MacCuish, Helensburgh Gaelic Group, asked why Cardross had not been included in the report. Albert confirmed that often the report would only include areas with recorded activity and so it could be that there was no activity in Cardross during this period, however he would investigate this and confirm with Alasdair following the meeting.

### **Decision**

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the contents of the report and information provided.

(Reference: Report by Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, submitted)

#### **(c) Department for Work and Pensions Update**

The Group considered an update from the Department for Works and Pensions (DWP) which detailed their response to Covid-19 as well as statistical information for the Argyll & Bute area and information on the Flexible Support Fund; Job Finding Support; Job Entry Targeted Support; the Kickstart scheme; the Restart Programme; Virtual Youth Hubs, local Job Centres; and assistance in finding work being provided to 18-24 year olds.

Jayne Burnett, Visiting Friends, asked for clarification around the impact of volunteering on benefits. Lynn confirmed that there was no restriction on volunteering, noting that people were encouraged to volunteer when initially registering for benefits. Lynn noted that only in individual circumstances, where an individual had reported health restrictions which had left them unable to work, would DWP investigate volunteering where it raised questions around this.

### **Decision**

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

(Reference: Update by Lynn Campbell, Customer Service Leader WS Inverclyde/Argyll and Bute, Department for Work and Pensions, dated January 2021, submitted)

#### **(d) Argyll and Bute Third Sector Interface Update**

The Group considered an update from Argyll and Bute Third Sector Interface (TSI) detailing their response to Covid-19 which included providing support to charities, social enterprises and community groups as well as the creation of an Argyll and Bute volunteering platform.

Samantha Stubbs, TSI, provided a further verbal update to advise that a community

lottery for Argyll was in the process of being instigated and further information would be circulated around this in due course.

Following a question from Jayne Burnett around the ways in which community groups could more easily communicate with each other and be aware of what services were available in the area, it was noted that the TSI discussed this at thematic network meetings and that a Council webpage had been set up which included details of local organisations who were providing adapted services throughout the pandemic. It was agreed that Kirsty Moyes, Community Development Officer, would contact Jayne following the meeting around this and would include information around the ways in which people could access and update this information in the regular communications and bulletins from the Community Development team.

### **Decision**

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

(Reference: Report by Samantha Stubbs, Strategic Development Manager, Argyll and Bute Third Sector Interface, dated January 2021, submitted)

#### **(e) Helensburgh Community Council Update**

The Group considered an update from Helensburgh Community Council, detailing their activities and response to Covid-19 which included holding monthly meetings via Zoom; running a set of webinars open to the community on a range of topics; holding weekly virtual meetings of the Planning Group to monitor planning applications; and upgrading the Helensburgh Community Council website. The update provided information on a range of local interests being pursued by Helensburgh Community Council and confirmed future plans for activities such as monthly beach cleans; the maintenance of shrub beds in Colquhoun Square; a celebration of the centenary of John Logie Baird's invention of the television; and further work on 'A Vision for Helensburgh' and the Innovation Hub at the library to commence when restrictions allow.

### **Decision**

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

(Reference: Report by Helensburgh Community Council, submitted)

#### **(f) Garelochhead Community Council Update**

The Group considered an update from Carole Spencer, Garelochhead Community Council, detailing their activities and response to Covid-19 which included virtual meetings of the Community Council; the election of new members; the provision of face masks, children's activity packs, fruit and vegetable boxes for the over 80s, and a telephone helpline for those requiring assistance; and work with the Portincaple community around a controversial planning application which had since been refused. Carole also advised that the Community Council were pursuing issues such as speeding; required works to Garelochhead cemetery as the onsite building had

now been demolished and the cemetery gates had been removed; works around a further planning application for Station Road; a new pet track service; and communications with the Helensburgh Access Trust team to explore potential new routes for the Three Lochs Way.

### **Decision**

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

(Reference: Report by Hilary Worton, Garelochhead Community Council, submitted)

#### **(g) Helensburgh and Lomond Food Bank Update**

The Group considered an update from Helensburgh and Lomond Food Bank, detailing their activities and response to Covid-19 which included providing support to those in community who required it as an essential service which remained open throughout the pandemic; the re-design of the service in line with Covid-19 guidance and restrictions; the provision of leaflets to signpost people to other organisations who could provide assistance; an increased provision of non-perishable and fresh food items for those in need; the provision of special festive food bags and a £20 fuel allowance over the festive period; and the distribution of posters to raise awareness of how people can access the Food Bank if required. The update highlighted the hard work of volunteers and thanked those who had supported the Food Bank throughout the pandemic.

### **Decision**

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group:

1. considered and noted the information provided; and
2. noted that in the absence of a representative from Helensburgh and Lomond Food Bank, any questions would be fed back to them and any responses circulated to the Group.

(Reference: Report by Helensburgh and Lomond Food Bank, submitted)

#### **(h) Argyll and Bute Council Community Learning Service Update**

The Group considered an update from Argyll and Bute Council's Community Learning Service which detailed information around the No One Left Behind Initiative; the Digital Employability HUB; Online Self-Learning Bytes; A.S.K. AB; the Health and Wellbeing Project; Argyll and Bute's Youth Voice on Lockdown; the Youth Advisory Panel; and the Community Learning and Development Plan.

Ruth Cairns, Community Learning Worker, advised that she would be leaving her post for a role with the SFRS as the national officer for the youth volunteer scheme and discussion took place around her new role and the benefits the youth volunteer scheme could bring to young people in the area.

### **Decision**

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

(Reference: Update by Community Learning Team Leader, Argyll and Bute Council, submitted)

(i) **Opportunity for verbal updates from Area Community Planning Group Partners involved in resilience projects relating to the Covid-19 response**

Susan MacRae, Skills Development Scotland (SDS)

Susan MacRae, SDS, advised that engagement was continuing with school pupils via online delivery and noted that young people appeared to be engaging more during this period of lockdown due to the way in which home schooling had been adapted. Susan noted that the focus for SDS was on school leavers, with many experiencing uncertainties and anxieties around what destinations were suitable for them due to the ongoing pandemic. Susan advised that SDS's Partnership Action for Continuing Employment (PACE) team were continuing to work with people in need and would monitor the end of the furlough scheme closely. Susan noted that SDS were also monitoring the impacts of Brexit and Covid-19 across the Argyll and Bute area. Susan confirmed that SDS were working successfully alongside a number of partners, including the Council's Community Learning and Development team.

Susan advised that she hoped to provide more information at the next meeting of the Group around school leaver destinations and a new tool being developed by SDS to monitor information around 16 and 17 year olds in the area. Following a query from Councillor Douglas, Susan confirmed that data for 16 and 17 year olds was used as the data received was more robust for that category of young people than for other age groups.

Carole Spencer advised that it may be beneficial to promote the Garelochhead Community Council helpline number to young people in the area requiring support or advice.

Allan Comrie, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT)

Allan Comrie, SPT, advised that the general advice was for people to avoid public transport, however there was an increasing need for people to access public transport to get to vaccination points. Allan confirmed that advice was available online for anyone who required to use public transport at this time and noted that priority was given for bus services to hospitals and vaccination points to allow people to access essential employment and healthcare.

Allan advised that SPT were working with Argyll and Bute Council and Sustrans on the Dumbarton to Helensburgh cyclepath and confirmed that this was now moving ahead at a good pace. Allan noted that allowances had to be made for issues such as land ownership problems which would have to be dealt with. Allan confirmed that work was also ongoing in relation to active travel and access to Faslane naval base from Helensburgh, noting that research was also being undertaken with SPT, Argyll and Bute Council and HiTrans around the feasibility of a rail connection.

Sarah Davies requested clarification around Allan's role with SPT and how to get in touch with him. Allan confirmed that he was a Senior Transport Planner with SPT and provided Sarah with his e-mail address for any future correspondence.

Jayne Burnett, Visiting Friends

Jayne Burnett, Visiting Friends, advised that the Group were still operating and providing one-to-one befriending service, largely by telephone. Jayne advised that the group were still taking referrals for befriending and were trialling new technology for those with limited IT skills following receipt of funding from the Befriending Network.

(j) **Opportunity for general verbal updates from Area Community Planning Group Partners**

Angela Anderson, Plastic Free Helensburgh

Angela Anderson advised that work was underway to achieve plastic-free status in Helensburgh within the next 12-18 months and noted that businesses and organisations would be approached around this to create a plan going forward. Angela advised that community engagement and beach cleans would also be continuing.

Angela Anderson, Fridays for Futures

Angela advised that a series of debates were being held to engage young people of voting age from each Holyrood parliamentary region who were interested in climate change and the environment. Angela noted that the West of Scotland debate would be held on 19<sup>th</sup> of February 2021 and that they were also looking for students to devise and pose questions. Angela advised that the link to join was as below and requested that anyone who knew of anyone from the West of Scotland region who may be interested please put them in touch with her:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-future-speaks-west-scotland-tickets-137177059277?aff=erelexpmlt>

Kirsty Moyes, Community Development Officer, Argyll and Bute Council

Kirsty Moyes, Community Development Officer, advised that the Supporting Communities Fund was now open for applications, with a deadline of the 20<sup>th</sup> of March 2021. Kirsty confirmed that the application form and information around the criteria for the fund was available on the Council website and assistance was also available from Kirsty and the rest of the Community Development Team.

Duncan MacLachlan, Arrochar and Tarbet Community Development Trust (A&T CDT)

Duncan MacLachlan, A&T CDT, advised that, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Three Villages Hall had been closed. Duncan noted that when the hall was able to re-open in line with restrictions it would be important to encourage organisations to use the space, and where possible to host meetings such as meetings of the Area

Community Planning Group, to sustain the operation of the hall for the community. Duncan advised that throughout the pandemic, a team of volunteers were fulfilling required roles and would be happy to respond to any requests or enquiries.

Alasdair MacCuish, Helensburgh Gaelic Group

Alasdair MacCuish, Helensburgh Gaelic Group, advised that the Helensburgh Gaelic Group had been established in 1997. Alasdair noted that the group were in contact with the Council's Gaelic Development Worker, Cristie Moore, and were hoping to receive funding and resources to encourage Gaelic speakers in the area to use their Gaelic and bring lapsed Gaelic speakers back to fluency. Alastair advised that the group were meeting by Zoom during the pandemic.

Discussion took place around Gaelic learning classes previously offered and Alastair confirmed that although the group usually met on Tuesday afternoons, evening meetings could be made available if there was sufficient interest and funding in place.

## **6. COVID-19 STAY AT HOME GUIDANCE**

The Group gave consideration to the Scottish Government Covid-19 stay at home guidance as of 19 January 2021.

### **Decision**

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the contents of the guidance.

(Reference: Scottish Government Guidance as of 19 January 2021)

## **7. UK WITHDRAWAL FROM EU**

### **(a) Argyll and Bute Seafood Sector Sustainability**

A letter to the Secretary of State for Scotland from the Leader of Argyll and Bute Council regarding Argyll and Bute's Seafood Sector Sustainability was considered by the Group.

### **Decision**

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group noted the letter.

(Reference: Letter from the Leader of Argyll and Bute Council, dated 15 January 2021, submitted)

### **(b) Opportunity for verbal updates from Community Planning Partners on impact of UK withdrawal from EU**

There were no verbal updates from Community Planning Partners on the impact of the UK withdrawal from the EU.

## **8. COMMUNITY FOCUS**

### **(a) Males Tales**

John Lewis, Males Tales, provided the Group with information around the background of Males Tales and their work supporting males with their mental health since the creation of the group in November 2019. John advised that male mental health was a huge issue, with suicide being the biggest killer of males under 45 in Scotland. John noted that support was available through various different avenues, including group peer support, one-to-one peer support and a buddy system. John advised that prior to the first period of lockdown in 2020, more than 50 males had attended Males Tales and during lockdown Zoom meetings had been held with an average attendance of approximately 10-12. John noted that when not in tier 4, the group did have permission to meet face-to-face from Scotland's Minister for Mental Health.

John provided information around a number of activities undertaken by the group, including the sponsorship of a local football team; the hosting of a Christmas day event to combat loneliness; the launch of a Males Tales website (<https://www.malestales.co.uk/>) ; early discussions with a submarine service charity around supporting veterans and submariners in the area; and seeking funding to ensure that the group remained sustainable.

John confirmed that a Females Tales group would be launched in the summer, having recruited a number of female volunteers who were undergoing training. John advised that he ensured that he and all peer support workers went above and beyond the basic requirements for training.

John agreed to provide a copy of his presentation for circulation to the Group following the meeting.

Jayne Burnett agreed to send John a link to a paper on effective coping strategies for loneliness adopted by the Banks group following the meeting.

Councillor Paterson thanked John for his presentation and advised that this was a long overdue service. Following a query by Councillor Paterson, John confirmed that anyone who wished to volunteer with the group could get in touch via the website. Councillor Paterson asked about the age range of attendees of the group, John advised that there were attendees between the ages of 17-68, with most attendees in their 30s to mid 40s, however support was available to everyone regardless of their age or background.

Kirsty Moyes encouraged John to consider the Supporting Communities Fund as a potential avenue for funding.

Samantha Stubbs advised that a new pot of funding was becoming available and asked John to get in touch if he was interested in linking in with researchers on the project. Discussion took place around other male mental health support groups across Scotland and John confirmed that he hoped to link up with some of these groups when restrictions allowed.

Councillor Douglas requested clarification as to whether Males Tales would still be operating out of the Drumfork centre when restrictions were eased. John confirmed that the group would continue to operate out of the Drumfork centre and noted that the MOD had been very helpful to them and many of the attendees preferred a location which was outside of the town centre.

Morevain Martin, Garelochhead Station Trust, provided details of a Mindfulness March project which involved a 6 week mindfulness course, noting that this was a free project and she would be happy for this to be open to members of the Males Tales group. Morevain agreed to communicate further details around this to John by e-mail.

John advised that there was a long-term fear around mental health given the current lockdown situation and the potential for people to find it difficult to adapt to a different way of living when restrictions were eased.

### **Decision**

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

## **9. INFORMAL CAMPING**

The Group considered a report which provided an update on the latest position in relation to informal camping, following the setting up a Short Life Working Group in response to the rise in informal camping activity across Argyll and Bute and associated arising issues.

Angela Anderson asked that the following comment was brought to the attention of the Economic Growth Officer, alongside her contact details:

“There is a need and opportunity for facilities for camping and vans. There needs to be easy access to disposal of waste and rubbish. In Europe and especially in France, where camper sized vans are not permitted in villages Aires have parking, waste disposal, water, and rubbish facilities for a fee and time limited to 24 or 48 hours and shorter times for visits. Also there is likely to be safe walking and cycling routes to villages. Full camping, tents and vans are in very short supply in Scotland. In Europe these are often run by local or community authorities and are revenue generating. People are willing to pay for a safe space with showers toilets disposal and water.”

### **Decision**

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group:

1. noted the contents of the report and progress to date;
2. agreed to continue to collaborate to attempt to address the challenges faced due to increased informal camping activity;
3. noted that work would progress on actions identified from the Short Life Working Group; and
4. noted that in the absence of the Economic Growth Officer, any questions would be fed back to them and any responses circulated to the Group.

(Reference: Report by Economic Growth Officer, Argyll and Bute Council, dated 11 February 2021, submitted)

## **10. BASECAMP DEMONSTRATION**

Samantha Somers, Community Planning Officer, provided a demonstration to the group of BaseCamp, an online website which allows members of the Area Community Planning



Group (ACPG) to access relevant documents relating to the ACPG; provide information on action points arising from the meetings or action plans; share information about relevant items of interest with other members; and provides better networks with other ACPG members in between meetings.

Samantha confirmed that she would circulate an e-mail to the Group distribution list following the meeting to ascertain the correct contact from each organisation to access Basecamp.

### **Decision**

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group;

1. thanked the Community Planning Officer for the informative demonstration and noted the information provided in the presentation; and
2. noted that the Community Planning Officer would contact Group Members to confirm the details of those who wished to be invited to access BaseCamp.

(Reference: Presentation by Community Planning Officer, Argyll and Bute Council, dated February 2021, submitted)

## **11. GAELIC DEVELOPMENT ACROSS ARGYLL AND BUTE**

The Group considered a report which provided information on the role of the Gaelic language in Argyll and Bute; provided details of the value that the Gaelic language could bring to the improvement outcome; and encouraged partners to continue to support the promotion and usage of the Gaelic language.

Cristie Moore, Gaelic Development Worker, outlined Gaelic resources and activities in the Helensburgh and Lomond area and asked anyone who was aware of any other Gaelic activity in the area to please get in touch with her. Cristie requested assistance from the Group in promoting the ongoing survey on the Gaelic language and invited Group members to pass her details to any contacts who may be interested in supporting work around Gaelic.

### **Decision**

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group agreed:

1. to support the promotion of Gaelic where possible;
2. to consider Gaelic as an option when looking at new and existing initiatives;
3. to connect interested parties with the Gaelic Development Worker;
4. to have an awareness of the Argyll and Bute Gaelic Language Plan and where possible support the objectives;
5. to note the information provided in relation to Colmcille 1500 funding and celebration which relates to initiatives linking Scotland and Ireland; and
6. to complete and promote the survey on the Gaelic language, noting that all views were welcome regardless of interest or knowledge of the Gaelic language.

(Reference: Report by Gaelic Development Worker, Argyll and Bute Council, dated 11 February 2021, submitted)

## **12. COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE**

The Group considered a briefing note which provided information around matters discussed during a virtual meeting of the Community Planning Partnership Management Committee, held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2020. Samantha Somers gave an overview of the briefing note, particularly highlighting discussions around local procurement; the child poverty action plan; wild camping; and the A83. Samantha also provided details around the climate change sub-group of the CPP Management Committee, advising that a directory was being created of climate change initiatives being progressed by community planning partners across Argyll and Bute. Samantha asked that anyone involved in any climate change initiatives please contact her in this regard.

Angela noted that the Helensburgh and Lomond area also includes the A82 up to Inverarnan and the road required improvement, particularly due to the increase in usage when being used as a diversion route during road closures. Alasdair noted that Neil had provided a brief update on this section of road earlier in the meeting and Samantha provided details of discussions which had taken place in relation to this section of road at a working group meeting.

### **Decision**

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the briefing note.

(Reference: Report by Committee Manager, Argyll and Bute Council, dated 11 February 2021, submitted)

## **13. AREA COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP GOVERNANCE**

### **(a) Annual Update of Terms of Reference, Membership and Future Meeting Dates**

The Group reviewed a report providing information around the Group's current Terms of Reference, membership and meeting dates scheduled until May 2022.

### **Decision**

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group;

1. considered and adopted the Terms of Reference as attached to the report (Appendix 1) and agreed that they be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure their ongoing currency and appropriateness for the work of the Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group as it develops over time;
2. considered the membership of the Group as attached to the report (Appendix 2);
3. agreed that the membership of the Group be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure currency and appropriateness for the work of the Group as it develops over time; and
4. noted the meeting schedule and dates submitted in the report.

(Reference: Report by Community Planning Officer, Argyll and Bute Council, dated 11 February 2021, submitted)

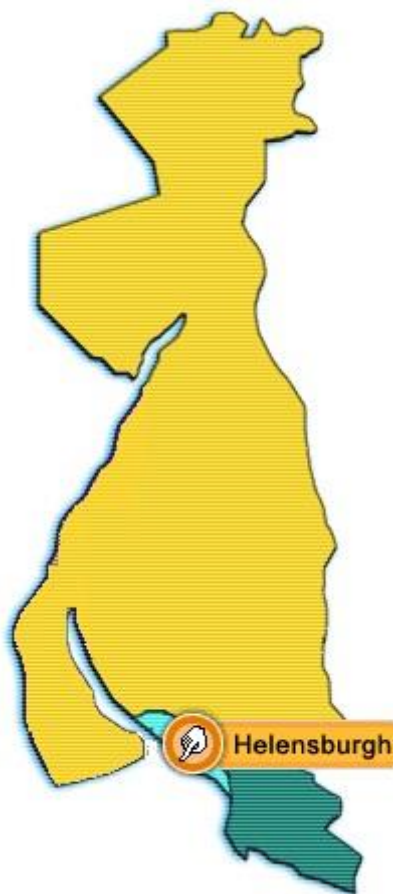
**14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Group noted that the next meeting of the Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group would take place on Thursday, 20 May 2021.

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## **Helensburgh and Lomond Q4 Report 2020/21**



## Helensburgh and Lomond Incidents Q4

H&LS – Helensburgh & Lomond South. HC – Helensburgh Central. LN – Lomond North

Incidents	H&LS 19/20	HC 19/20	LN 19/20	Total 19/20		H&LS 20/21	HC 20/21	LN 20/21	Total 20/21	=/-
Total	16	46	30	92		19	36	12	67	-25
Fire Fatalities	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0
Non-Fatal Fire Casualties	0	1	0	1		0	0	0	0	-1
Accidental Dwelling Fires	1	8	1	10		0	3	0	3	-7
<b>7KPI's</b>										
Deliberate Fires	1	1	2	4		5	0	1	6	+2
Accidental Fire	1	9	6	16		4	4	2	10	-6
Fatal and Non-fatal fire casualties	0	1	0	1		0	0	0	0	-1
Non-Domestic fires	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0
Special Services Incidents	6	7	6	19		3	7	0	10	-9
RTC Casualties	8	0	1	9		0	0	0	0	-9
False alarms	8	29	16	53		7	25	9	41	-12

**Incidents of Note****Primary Fires**

26/01/2021	Sinclair Street	Helensburgh	Extinguished before arrival
31/01/2021	Chalmers Street	Lochgoilhead	Washing machine
01/02/2021	East Princes Street	Helensburgh	Electrical cupboard. Extinguished by isolation
21/02/2021	William Street	Helensburgh	Extinguished before arrival
12/03/2021	Lochgoilhead	Lochgoilhead	Extinguished before arrival
14/03/2021	A814 Cardross	Helensburgh	1 private car
21/03/2021	Cardross	Helensburgh	Garden shed on fire

**Secondary Fires**

03/01/2021	Lochgoilhead	Lochgoilhead	Grass fire
24/01/2021	East Argyle Street	Helensburgh	Refuse
30/01/2021	Camperdown Court	Helensburgh	Refuse
22/02/2021	Camperdown Court	Helensburgh	Refuse
03/03/2021	Murray Road	Helensburgh	Fire on shoreline
03/03/2021	Cardross	Helensburgh	Near the pier
03/03/2021	Station Road	Helensburgh	Fire on beach
04/03/2021	Craigendoran Avenue	Helensburgh	Refuse
09/03/2021	Low Milndovan	Helensburgh	Derelict vehicle on fire
19/03/2021	Upland Road	Garelochhead	Grass fire on railway embankment
20/03/2021	Murrays Road	Helensburgh	Cardross shore line. Derelict structure on fire

**Chimney Fires**

01/01/2021	Kilcreggan	Cove	Chimney fire
01/02/2021	Lochgoilhead	Lochgoilhead	Chimney fire
26/02/2021	Luss	Helensburgh	Chimney fire

**Special services**

09/01/2021	Brodick Drive	Helensburgh	Flooding
09/01/2021	Kent Drive	Helensburgh	Ring Removal
10/01/2021	Fire Station Helensburgh	Helensburgh	Ring Removal
22/01/2021	Lochgoilhead	Lochgoilhead	Assist SAS
04/02/2021	Tarbet	Arrochar	Flooding
10/02/2021	Luss Road	Helensburgh	Assist SAS
22/02/2021	Fire Station Helensburgh	Helensburgh	Ring Removal
23/02/2021	South King Street	Helensburgh	Assist Police
26/02/2021	West King Street	Helensburgh	Assist SAS. Gain Access
02/03/2021	Drumfork Court	Helensburgh	Gain Access. Services not required
04/03/2021	John Street	Helensburgh	Flooding
07/03/2021	West King Street	Helensburgh	Assist SAS
22/03/2021	East Princes Street	Helensburgh	Gas leak

**Community Safety Activity - 1/1/21 to 31/3/21**

<b>Home Fire Safety Visits (Q4)</b>			
Station	Home Fire Safety Visits	High Risk Visits	HFSV with Smoke Detection Fitted
Helensburgh	23	7	10
Garelochhead	1	1	0
Cove	3	3	0
Lochgoilhead	0	0	0
Arrochar	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>

**Community Safety Activity**

- Post Domestic Incident Response (PDIR) – 12
- Fire Safety Talks – Due to Covid-19 were unable to go into schools so we integrated our presentations into Education networks and remotely supported schools with the presentations
- Continue to deliver Fire Safety advice via telephone and provision of smoke detection where none is fitted. HFSV's are carried out where there is a threat of fire from criminal activity
- Represented on the MARAC for those affected by domestic Violence
- Covid-19 Testing implemented at Arrochar and Cove Community Fire Stations in the area.
- Continue to support "Make the Call" Campaign



**SCOTTISH**  
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE  
Working together for a safer Scotland

**Do you know someone *OVER 50* who *SMOKES*?**

.....

And do they meet one or more of the following criteria:

- **Living alone?**
- **Mobility issues?**
- **Using medical oxygen?**

**THEY MAY BE AT *GREATER RISK OF FIRE* AND WE NEED TO REACH THEM!**





**OFFICIAL**

## Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group

### Police Scotland Report

Frauds of all manner continue to be an issue and remain very difficult to prevent or detect. They have many forms, cold callers, emails, texts, DVLA, HMRC, Sky, Amazon, Post Office, EBay, Investment Opportunities, all fishing for bank details. Most perpetrators seem to sit abroad, very difficult to prevent or detect. We are putting warnings in the media and out via social media to prevent person becoming involved

Other general crime figures not causing concern.

Area, especially that sitting within The National park becoming very busy as restrictions ease and we predict a very busy summer period due to the continued international travel restrictions. I am working closely with the National Park, Local Authority and colleagues on the east and north end of the NP. Weekly meeting to identify any trends and resources moved accordingly.

I have the assistance of the Force Reserve and other specialist departments through the coming months, includes, mounted branch, marine unit on Loch Lomond etc.

Currently looking at possible funding via A&B Council to assist with the growing 'wild camping' issues around all of A&B. Dedicated staff and vehicles (non police) will be patrolling the hot spots from this funding.

Police resources remain very favourable at Helensburgh, doing a lot of pro-active work, executing warrants. Targeting any areas /individuals of concern.

Speeding remains an issue in various areas, I am in the process of implementing a wheelie bin speed limit sticker campaign. This is 30MPH stickers that go on the wheelie bins and on bin days it gives constant signage the full length of the street in question, no cost to the local community. May influence driver behaviour, has been used to some effect in Dumfries.

We continue to service the speeding areas best we can.

Comm Councils have remained in contact via police reports and via myself by email.

Recent visit of HMS Queen Elizabeth passed without incident.

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## DWP Update – Mar 2021

Argyll and Bute

Stats/MI (Recorded as of 11<sup>th</sup> Feb 2021)

Office	Total UC Claimants	Conditionality groups					
		Preparing for work	Planning for work	Working – No requirements	No work Requirements	Working – With requirements	Searching for Work
Campbeltown	971	22	13	177	217	170	375
Dunoon	1172	37	15	182	262	217	465
Helensburgh	1314	48	12	257	293	223	482
Oban	2139	63	38	466	330	342	894
Rothsay	665	36	15	75	168	107	262
	6261			1157		1059	2478

Customers searching for work by age (as at 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021)

	18 - 24	25 - 49	50 – 59	60+
Campbeltown	73	178	76	48
Dunoon	70	249	91	50
Helensburgh	105	236	99	41
Oban	176	467	172	82
Rothsay	35	137	52	38
Total	459	1267	490	259

## Kickstart

Jobcentre Plus colleagues are working closely with employers and Gateway Organisations (Inspiralba and Argyll & Bute Council) in preparation for Kickstart vacancies coming through and work coaches will match eligible customers to the live vacancies. **To date 5 young people have started work via Kickstart across Argyll & Bute.**

The Kickstart Scheme provides funding to create new job placements for 16 to 24 year olds on Universal Credit who are at risk of long term unemployment. Employers of all sizes can apply for funding which covers:

- 100% of the [National Minimum Wage](#) (or the [National Living Wage](#) depending on the age of the participant) for 25 hours per week for a total of 6 months
- associated [employer National Insurance contributions](#)
- employer minimum automatic enrolment contributions

Employers no longer need a minimum of 30 job placements to apply directly for a grant and can apply for a Kickstart Scheme grant by either: :

- applying online themselves
- applying through a Kickstart gateway who is already working with the Kickstart Scheme

Further funding is available for training and support so that young people on the scheme can get a job in the future.

## Virtual Youth Hub

DWP have been hosting a Virtual Youth Hub for our customers since July 2019 which expanded to include partners (Skills Development Scotland, Community Learning & Argyll & Bute Employability Team) in October 2019. The aim of a Youth Hub is to provide opportunities to train and develop skills, delivering individual wraparound support to ensure young people see a value in the world of work. The longer-term aim is that this will be hosted by a partner organisation and be supported by DWP staff.

## Our Job Centres

All offices remain open to vulnerable customers and are compliant with social distancing Covid guidance, with staff working from home and in offices. Work coaches continue to engage with customers on a digital or telephone basis, or a blend of both, and our telephone lines remain open until 6.30pm.

From 12/4/2021 opening hours will revert from 9.00 am to 5.00 pm each weekday, with the exception of Wednesday's when offices will be open from 10.00 am to 5.00 pm.

Staff working in Oban Job Centre continue to pilot **Video Appointment Service** which offers video appointments to customers.

From late autumn through a discussion with customers, the work coach check they have 'unlimited' home internet or 'unlimited' mobile data to ensure there is no cost to the customer, they have a suitable device as well as access to the appropriate web browsers. This is voluntary and participants can withdraw at any time. This has been well received by customers and work coaches alike and is helping to build rapport and trust as well as provide more visible support to their customers.

## Jobcentre Plus arrangements over the Easter period

On Friday 2 April and Monday 5 April Jobcentre Plus offices and phone lines will be closed. To make sure people receive their payments on a day when Jobcentre Plus offices are open, arrangements have been made to make some payments early:

<b>Expected payment date</b>	<b>Benefits will be paid early</b>
Friday 2 April	Thursday 1 April
Monday 5 April	Thursday 1 April

If the expected [payment date](#) is not shown, customers will get their money on the usual payment date.

## Benefits

The temporary £20 per week uplift to the Universal Credit Standard Allowance, introduced in March 2020 for 12 months to support those affected by COVID, will be extended by another 6 months and will apply to all Universal Credit claims until September 2021.

A single one-off payment of £500 will be made to all eligible WTC claimants. This payment will be made under the Coronavirus Act and will not be considered a welfare payment. It will also be disregarded for all means tests, capital tests etc. for welfare purposes

The Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme has been extended to 30 September 2021.

## Universal Credit benefits checker

We have launched a new benefits checking tool to help people who think they might be eligible for Universal Credit. It takes a few minutes, and doesn't require any detailed information, nor does it process or store personal data. It is an easy first step for anyone who is unsure whether they want to start a claim. [See the benefits checker](#)

## Post Office Card Accounts

DWP is writing to all customers who currently receive their State Pension or benefit payments into a Post Office card account (POCa). The letter informs them the POca service is closing and asks them to provide alternative account details.

Our dedicated customer service centre is available to take calls from POca customers, to accept new account details or answer any questions. We will ensure all future payments are switched to the customer's new account from the next available payment date and there will be no interruptions with their payments.

For anyone who is unable to open a different type of account or provide new account details, a payment exception service will be available.

### Customer Service Centre

Telephone: 0800 085 7133

Textphone: 0800 085 71

## **Help to Save**

Help to Save is a type of savings account. It allows certain people entitled to Working Tax Credit or receiving Universal Credit to get a bonus of 50p for every £1 they save over 4 years. Help to Save is backed by the government so all savings in the scheme are secure.

How payments work

You can save between £1 and £50 each calendar month. You do not have to pay money in every month.

You can pay money into your Help to Save account by debit card, standing order or bank transfer.

You can pay in as many times as you like, but the most you can pay in each calendar month is £50. For example, if you have saved £50 by 8 January you will not be able to pay in again until 1 February.

You can only withdraw money from your Help to Save account to your bank account.

Full details can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/get-help-savings-low-income>

## **Virtual Youth Hub**

DWP have been hosting a Virtual Youth Hub for our customers since July 2019 which expanded to include partners (Skills Development Scotland, Community Learning & Argyll & Bute Employability Team) in October 2019. The aim of a Youth Hub is to provide opportunities to train and develop skills, delivering individual wraparound support to ensure young people see a value in the world of work. The longer-term aim is that this will be hosted by a partner organisation and be supported by DWP staff.

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20.04.21

## Argyll College UHI – Update Report

Over the last 12 months, the college has been operating on a remote basis, meaning that all staff are working from home, and all students are studying from their own homes. The vast majority of our courses were able to run, due to the fact that Argyll College UHI provides much of its learning via video conferencing and our Virtual Learning Environment, Brightspace. We have moved to online provision for information sessions and Open Days, as a means of sharing information about our courses, fees, funding and student life which has helped in situations where we've been unable to hold physical events. We've also participated in online schools events where available so while it's been an incredibly challenging year, I feel that we've embraced the opportunities to be innovative and there will be many positives to be gained from the situation we've been put in due to the pandemic.

At present, we are in the process of recruiting new students for the coming academic year so we will be participating in virtual events with partners, including:

- a virtual jobs fair on May 19<sup>th</sup> with SDS and HIE,
- the CDN Choose College Showcase Event on May 26<sup>th</sup>,
- our Online Open Day on June 17<sup>th</sup>,
- our SQA Results Day event on August 10<sup>th</sup>.

At these events there will be opportunities to hear from our lecturers across a broad range of subjects, as well as speak to centre staff about how to apply and other key topics such as student funding. There will be lots of information for these events on the college's website: <https://www.argyll.uhi.ac.uk/study-with-us/open-days/> as well as on our Facebook, Instagram and Twitter feeds so we'd encourage everyone to sign up to the social media feeds.

As we are currently unable to hand out a physical prospectus to prospective students, those interested can download an online prospectus via our website: <https://www.argyll.uhi.ac.uk/prospectus/> and anyone interested in studying with us can call our Helensburgh centre on 01631 559 538 or email us at [achelensburgh@uhi.ac.uk](mailto:achelensburgh@uhi.ac.uk) for more information.

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### **Argyll and Bute Council - Community Learning Service update**

**Scottish Youth Parliament Elections 2021.** Any young person in Scotland aged 14-25 can stand as an election candidate. Expressions of Interest will open on 1 April until 30 June and will be done directly on the SYP elections portal. While the perception may be that a young person has to be politically minded to be an MSYP, this is absolutely not the case. They just need to be passionate about a subject such as climate change, young people's rights, LGBTQ+ etc. SYP are producing a short promotional video called "Passion over Politics" which will be available once they have completed the final edit.

Community Learning Services and current MSYPs are promoting the elections using the local area social media channels and through the schools, and delivery inputs into PSHE, House time and Modern Studies as this will be crucial to enthuse and inspire young people to stand as candidates. Also we will be utilising any school daily bulletins, newsletters and websites to help with the promotion. Once SYP have additional promotional materials available. There will be Q&A sessions with the three current MSYP's around May/June for any interested young people.

#### **Dates and Phases:**

- 1 April – 30 June 2021 – Phase 1: Expression of Interest.
- 1 July -31 July 2021 – Phase 2: Confirmed Candidacy.
- 1 September – 30 October 2021 – Phase 3: Promote the Vote.
- 8-21 November 2021- Phase 4 – Elections.

On a local level, all MSYP's have been involved in the Youth Advisory Panel for the CYPSP and in the Youth Participation Group around youth voice in Argyll and Bute and ensuring young people's voices are heard in regard to COVID-19 and lockdown. The next SYP Election will be in November and expressions of interest are now open for any young people interested in standing.

**SYP AWARDS 2021 – CONGRATULATIONS!!** Goes to Cameron Garrett Argyll and Bute MYSP, who won the MSYP of the Year 2021. 18 year old Cameron who is from Ardrishaig has represented Argyll & Bute at the Scottish Youth Parliament since being elected in March 2019. Cameron is also the Convener the Education and Lifelong Learning committee and a member of the advisory panel to SQA, feeding back young people's views on exams and the impact of COVID-19 to the exam diet. Cameron was awarded MSYP of the year award at 74<sup>th</sup> National Sitting on 27 & 28 March for his commitment to the inspirational work of the Scottish Youth Parliament. Cameron is supported in his role by Community Learning to carryout consultations across Argyll & Bute on SYP National Campaigns, Members Motions, and Youth Parliament sittings and has represented Argyll & Bute at the Northern Alliance Youth Conference in Inverness.

#### **Argyll and Bute CLD Plan 2021 -2024**

[Argyll and Bute CLD Plan 2018-21.](#) Work continues on the development of the next plan which has to be completed by September 2021. Desktop Research is underway and a working group is in place developing the consultation exercise for a number of local consultation exercises and focus groups to take place which will shape the content of the plan. We will continue to report back to the Area Community Planning Groups on progress.

**Coming out of Lockdown Restrictions** – We continue to follow the Government Guidelines and as restrictions lift we will start the process of resuming face to face provision and Service Delivery around Recovery and Transition. We will still be maintaining a blended model of delivery which see provision still being delivered online/digitally. We will be in touch with Partners as we move through this transition and will continue to report back to the Area Community Planning Groups.

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**Arrochar & Tarbet Community Development Trust**  
**Update for Helensburgh & Lomond Area Community Planning Group May 2021 Meeting**

Development Trust Directors held a monthly Board meeting recently at which a range of matters were covered, as they continue to oversee **recovery of the 3 Villages Hall and Community Café, following year-long closure**, with no income from commercial lets or club hire. Fortunately with Government and Council Business Support, the buildings have been secured, maintained and actions taken to create a new Business Plan, when Covid restrictions will allow re-opening and return of group meetings inside our facilities.

Throughout lockdown we've been able to host a **mobile Post Office Service** which has been operating successfully on Mondays and a good relationship has been established with the Crianlarich Postmistress. We're now looking to arrange this service for two mornings a week, Monday and Friday, which will commence soon for the Summer months and then reviewed for continuation over the winter.

Many villagers in Arrochar, Tarbet and surrounding Lochside areas have attended **Coronavirus Vaccination clinics** in the 3V Community Hall, organised by Dr Troup's Arrochar Surgery Team, who have been able to use the vacant main Hall, with rigorous cleaning and hygiene measures throughout and following the clinics.

As a consequence of lockdown, The Trust have overseen a change in their **Community Café & PO** with the Manager/Postmistress and long-term Trust Director, Melanie Tonks retiring from her front line role and the future of the building reassessed. This resulted in an approach from a local business couple who proposed to lease the building and invest in it's complete refurbishment, with a view to future operation and integration with Community Hall events and activities. A business plan and legal agreements were drawn up to the satisfaction of all concerned.

Café refurbishment has progressed apace through lockdown closure and is soon to be opened as the **"Cu Mara" Bistro and Takeaway**. The new Tenants, made great progress with the kitchen and food preparation area able to provide freshly baked scones and Pizzas for a great turnout of volunteers for a large Hall Recovery Group working day on **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> April**.

This event was organised by the interim Hall Management group, who are now inviting members of the community to an **Introductory Meeting on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April at 7:00pm** in the main 3V Hall.  
( with alternative arrangements for those uncomfortable or unable to attend).



*Volunteers working on 3 Villages Hall Maintenance – inside and out*

Trust Directors were briefed on a successful funding application to Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO) for **Adapt & Thrive** assistance, with the Campus recovery plan that had been prepared with help from **Just Enterprise** and **InspirAlba**, who had helped with a Community Survey last summer. Our Trust Secretary, Jen Little, being the inspiration and driving force behind a comprehensive and detailed submission, that received significant funding to address the following intended to improve future prospects and sustainable operations on the Community Campus, when we'll be allowed to fully re-open for club activities and events.

- **Café:** replace existing entrance porch with new entrance to improve disabled /pram friendly access and provide a covered, secure cycle parking shelter ;
- **Hall Gym** refurbishment;
- Introduction of a **Wellness / Treatment Room**;
- Creating a **Business Hub** with fibre fast comms and facilities
- **Improved AV system** for main hall
- **Enhanced function and wedding facilities**
- Creation of specific **3VH website** for targeted marketing and promotion of events
- Funding for a **Volunteer Co-ordinator** for a further 6 months
- Support for **general hall operations** to re-open, to re-start groups and community activities
- Introducing **Energy Efficiency Measures** throughout future operations

Unfortunately Jen's application did not receive funding for Seedcorn funding to assist in creating and launching **new Community Groups and activities**. However, to receive full funding for the other elements was a credit to the hard work and effort involved, in pulling together the detailed application.

**3V Hall Marketing & Promotion** work is progressing for re-opening with a new commercial website in place : ([www.threevillageshall.scot](http://www.threevillageshall.scot))

## **West Loch Lomond - Stakeholder consultations and action plans**

Along with Argyll & Bute Councillors, LL&T NPA representatives and Community Councillors, the Development Trust have participated and responded to LL&T NPA Stakeholder review meetings concerning Covid lockdown, that saw extreme behaviour and local Car Parks overwhelmed.

From this LL&T NPA have produced an information pack and video outlining plans by the National Park Authority and other partners, to better manage visitor pressures this season.

[Our advice for visitors to the National Park | Respect Protect Enjoy - Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park \(lochlomond-trossachs.org\)](http://www.lochlomond-trossachs.org)

One of the actions was for a number of **Stakeholder "Destination" groups** to be formed to progress some of the positive suggestions and recommendations that emerged during the review process.

The Trust were invited initially to join the **West Loch Lomond group** and then another smaller business-led sub-group was established to specifically focus on **Arrochar and Tarbet projects**, chaired by Neil Wells of Lochs and Glens Holidays.

In addition to this involvement the Development Trust have aligned with the **Friends of Loch Lomond and the Trossachs** (FoLL&T) to progress a **Two Lochs Visitor Management Project** that emerged from above stakeholder discussions, on a partnership basis with local community representatives, tourism business groups, with support of landowners and the agencies to help address problems of excessive toileting and littering, and to promote more responsible tourism at the busy hotspot locations at Duck Bay, Arrochar and Loch Lomondside Lay-bys from Arden to Tarbet.

The Friends (FoLL&T) have experience of supporting Car Park, Steamship Café, Toilets and visitor amenity improvements at Trossachs Pier along with Sir Walter Scott Steamship operation on Loch Katrine, having secured **Rural Tourism Infrastructure Funding (RTIF)** for Visitor Management Projects. One involves the restoration of the **Trossachs Trail** with information Boards and signage, Loch Katrine, Trossachs Pier and Stronachlachar Car Park improvements and path construction to a visitor viewpoint – Rhoderick Dhu. They are also assisting infrastructure improvements at the Lake and Port of Menteith.

With this capacity the Friends developed a submission to Nature Scot for **Better Places Green Recovery - phase 2 fast recovery fund**. If successful this will take the form of the following :

**FoLL&T - Two Lochs Green Recovery** with support of Arrochar & Tarbet Community Development Trust, together with a business- led Arrochar & Tarbet Working Group, and Luss Estates.

1. Temporary toilets at the edge of Arrochar car park at a site identified by Argyll & Bute Council and agreed with Luss Estates. Another pod to be located at the 3 Villages Hall. This arrangement is linked with what is being planned for Duck Bay with a local sponsor in support. Their funding contribution being used as leverage to help secure provision at Arrochar. Emptying and waste removal included for all locations.
2. Visitor Services Wardens – 2 Seasonal posts to tackle litter, to try and keep the Head of Loch Long tidier, and to regularly clean the temporary toilets. Strong support for this from the community.
3. Info/map orientation boards at up to 15 sites including bus shelters and the railway station and other locations not requiring planning consent.
4. A 6 month A82 Layby Litter Bin Project from Arden to Tarbet, including procurement, installation and weekly uplift. This is with support of Argyll & Bute Council and the LL&T NPA to evaluate the levels of waste and benefits derived from the pilot project.

*This Note is for H&L ACPG info only at present, as the funding application has still to be considered and may not be successful in full or part. A full press release will be circulated by the Friends of Loch Lomond and Trossachs (FoLL&T) if and when any funding approval is awarded.*

A future **Rural Tourism Infrastructure Fund (RTIF)** application is also being considered by the A&T Destination Sub-Group that will look to more permanent and longer term improvements for the community.

## **Other Matters : A83 Railway Bridge Upgrade**

Transport Scotland, Neil Macfarlane advised at the previously mentioned stakeholder meeting that plans were being considered with Network Rail for a structural upgrade to the West Highland Railbridge between Tarbet and Arrochar on A83. It was suggested that the Development Trust contact Sustrans to enquire about community support for improved cycle/walkway passage in any reconstructed bridge. Following a number of exchanges with LL&T NPA and other access groups, contact was made with **Sustrans** and a helpful link was established that identified '**Places for Everyone fund**' to help create safe, attractive, healthier places by increasing the number of trips made by walking, cycling, and wheeling for everyday journeys. The fund is presently closed however it was hoped it would re-open again in September 2021.

The Development Trust is working with others and looking to take advantage of this scheme and explore a safe inter-village walking/cycling corridor, possibly separate from the busy A83.



### Planning Application 2021/0011/ADV

The Development Trust commended the stance taken by the Arrochar, Tarbet and Ardlui Community Council and the Friends of Loch Lomond and Trossachs and other local objectors in relation to the **introduction of signage and parking charges at Tarbet Pier** and decided to submit a further formal objection to the Planning panel for further consideration.

### Access to Argyll and Bute (A83)

The Development Trust having submitted comments on the preferred corridor through Glen Croe would also like to take a view on the **5 coloured possible Route options** in the recommended preferred route corridor and would be swayed by the technical merits from those with expertise and knowledge, as various factors will influence identification, including land ownership, construction cost, duration of building programme and disruption to normal trunk road traffic flow, and maintenance of recreation and links to leisure hospitality and the community at Lochgoilhead.

The Trust would however advocate that a holistic view of upgrading and improving safety on the A83 from Tarbet, through Arrochar and the approach to Glen Croe, as well as the renovation of the A82 North of Tarbet that also needs to be taken into account for short and longer term community benefit.



A suggested by-pass strategy for Tarbet and Arrochar if major improvement at RABT is to progress

### Walkers bridge above Arrochar on 3 Lochs Way beside Arrochar Community Hydro Turbine House

A new walkers/cyclists bridge crossing has been completed on the An t-Sreang above Tighness that provides a safe all-weather crossing of the burn that avoids unauthorised use of the Scottish Water Pipebridge. This has been a great benefit and attraction during lockdown and opens up great views on the 3 Lochs Way track to Glen Douglas, which has also had some drainage improvement work, following small landslides and blocked culverts that caused flooding damage on a much smaller scale to that in Glen Croe.

A replacement **pedestrian bridge at Succoth**, as part of LL&T NPA Core Paths for walkers and cyclists is being built over the Loin water funded by the National Park that connects Arrochar and Succoth, and leads to recreation routes in upper Glen Loin and the Argyll forest.

Duncan MacLachlan (Chair)

Arrochar & Tarbet Community Development Trust

22<sup>nd</sup>. April 2021

M: 07788813888



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**ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL****Helensburgh and Lomond  
Area Community Planning Group****Chief Executive****20 May 2021**

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**UK- EU POST TRANSITION**

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**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 Further to the UK exiting the EU and entering the new agreement from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021, this report sets out the considerations of the EU Withdrawal Tactical Group with regard to identifying and assessing any risks relative to Argyll and Bute.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 Members are asked to be assured that the Council and the HSCP are as well prepared as they can be with regards to having exited the EU and are actively engaged with our partners through the local and national resilience frameworks

**3.0 DETAIL**

- 3.1 On the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020, with the Transition Period concluding, EU Law jurisdiction in the UK, and access to the EU Single Market ended. The UK-EU Trade Cooperation Agreement (TCA) agreed on 24<sup>th</sup> December 2020 and ratified by the UK Parliament on 30<sup>th</sup> December (European Union (Future Relationship) Act 2020) covered the most urgent matters.
- 3.2 The TCA is wider in scope than most free trade agreements and makes provisions for workers, mobility, environmental and social standards, some easing on cross border services, participation in some EU programme and fisheries.
- 3.3 The TCA does have an impact on Argyll and Bute and the EU Withdrawal Tactical Group revised its risk assessment which covers the following themes:
- A. Economy and Population
  - B. Trade
  - C. Community
  - D. Policy and Funding
  - E. Health and Social Care

## Economy and Population

- 3.4 The downward trend projection for the population of Argyll and Bute is well established and it remains a risk. Exiting the EU common market will exacerbate this trend, particularly with the loss of free movement of economically active EU residents to our area. This will have a direct impact on key sectors in Argyll and Bute including tourism, food production (fishing and aquaculture) and the care sector with the latter a growing issue for our communities. EU residents currently resident in the UK have until 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021 to apply for Settled Status in the UK and it is unknown how many this may be.
- 3.5 In partnership with other local authorities, Argyll and Bute Council successfully lobbied the Scottish Government to lead on a national initiative to tackle population decline which is an issue for many rural authorities including all those on the West of Scotland. On the 15 March 2021 the Scottish Government published the first [national population strategy](#) based on four key building blocks as follows;
1. A family friendly nation
  2. A healthy living society
  3. An attractive and welcoming country, and
  4. A more balanced population
- 3.6 With regard to the economy, there are a number of concurrent risks including COVID-19 volatility in the economy (resulting in a recession and closure or reduction of business activity), treasury function disruption and as described later, potential impact on food exporters into EU.
- 3.8 Due to the ongoing pandemic, collectively we are all still in the resilience phase and it remains to be seen when and how we can effectively commence economic recovery. At the time of writing, furlough support is currently scheduled to stop at the end of April 2021 and it is likely this will have an adverse impact on employment levels as some jobs may not be redeemed once this financial support ends.
- 3.9 It is possible to draw comparisons with the economic recession of 2008 – 2009 where UK employment levels did not return to pre-recession levels until 2017. A more specific distinction is the long period of financial reductions to the public sector (and particularly to local government) due to reduced income to governments and an objective to reduce national deficits. Therefore a medium to long term risk is the continued squeeze on public finances.

## Trade

- 3.10 A central part of the TCA is the first ever EU non-tariff, non-quota deal with another trading partner in the largest bilateral trade deal in the world by volume of goods. Nonetheless, custom checks and controls now apply to all UK exports entering the UK. A separate and important mechanism is the

'level playing field' where both the EU and UK retain the right to take countermeasures if they believe they are being damaged by measures taken by the other in subsidy policy (State Aid), labour and social policy, or climate and environment policy, and fisheries; in plain terms this means the right to introduce quotas and tariffs.

- 3.11 The single greatest risk currently for Argyll and Bute is for food exports to the EU as they now require an Export Health Certificate (EHC). Our current projections was that this will generate a demand for an additional 1,000 EHCs in Argyll and Bute alone as the EU is our greatest export market for shellfish and to a lesser extent for aquaculture which has a more global market.
- 3.12 A significant development is all major food exporters in Argyll and Bute are using Commercial Hubs established in South Lanarkshire which reduced a significant burden on council services; possibly as many as an additional 19,000 EHCs per annum. Nonetheless, these suppliers now require attestation certificates from Argyll and Bute Council and this work is largely complete and will remain ongoing by request. This activity had a significant impact on resources within Regulatory Services and was prioritised at the expense of other statutory work. The Council continues to engage with and support industry at this time of change.
- 3.13 During the initial period of the new arrangements, due to issues with documentation (and primarily where multiple consignments were 'bundled'), a number of seafood exporters experienced lengthy delays at ports and a number of consignments were rotten. Allegedly single supplier vehicles were less impacted and were able to deliver goods on time. Regarding loss of income, the UK Government announced compensation for suppliers on top of the £100m fund that was previously set aside to invest in the UK fishing fleet.
- 3.14 On fisheries the UK has accepted that EU vessels continue fishing within UK waters with a distinction that the EU handing over 25% of its present quota to UK owned operators. This agreement will expire in 2026 and will be the subject of annual negotiations between the UK Government and the EU. The Council Leader and CEO are currently liaising with the Clyde Fisherman's Association to identify areas where the council can support the industry.
- 3.15 It remains to be seen if there will be an impact on the supply chain for other products, including other food (e.g. fruit and vegetables); this risk relates to an increase in costs as well as a reduction in choice. Senior officers continue to engage regularly with Scotland Excel, the Public Sector Food Forum and industry to ensure continuity of supply that meets nutrition standards.
- 3.16 Regarding ports and harbours', the only site of consideration in Argyll and Bute is Campbeltown. The Council's Marine Operations Team forms part of the West of Scotland Port Security Committee and received an approval in November 2020 which permits custom operations at this site from 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 to 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021. The Marine Operations Team continues to liaise with relevant agencies, including HMRC to ensure business continuity.

## **Community**

- 3.17 The primary risk for communities in the short to medium term is food security for vulnerable people and senior officers continue to liaise with the Argyll and Bute Community Food Forum which has evolved and expanded in response to the COVID-19 crisis. In addition, senior officers are liaising with the Scottish Governments Islands Directorate and Food Insecurity Team, from the Social Justice Directorate, where they pick up issues raised by the Food Forum. Whilst this is currently not a high risk, it is critical this is monitored to prevent a future crisis.

## **Policy and Funding**

- 3.18 It is well established that the EU Structural and Investment funding programmes will be replaced by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. The precursor to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund is the UK Community Renewal Fund and Argyll and Bute Council has been identified as a Lead Authority; one of the 100 priority places across the UK. The deadline for submission of bids from Lead Authorities to the UK Government is 18<sup>th</sup> June. These bids are competitive and there is no guarantee that funding will be awarded.

## **Health and Social Care**

- 3.20 As described above, retaining and attracting staff into the care sector which is a growing sector in Argyll and Bute will be impacted by the loss of free movement of economically active EU residents to our area. In liaison with the HSCP this will be monitored and lobbying opportunities promoted to the leadership.

## **4.0 CONCLUSION**

- 4.1 The exit from the European Union raises a number of risks and opportunities and the Council and HSCP continue to liaise with all partners and industry to ensure we remain as ready as possible whilst continue to monitor impacts on our communities.

**Pippa Milne, Chief Executive**

07 April 2021

**For further information contact:**

Ishabel Bremner, [ishabel.bremner@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:ishabel.bremner@argyll-bute.gov.uk)  
Stuart Green, [stuart.green@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:stuart.green@argyll-bute.gov.uk)

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**Argyll and Bute Community Planning  
Partnership****Helensburgh and Lomond  
Area Community Planning Group****20<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

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**Campervan, Motorhome and Staycation Activity**

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**Summary**

*This report provides CPP Area Committee members with a brief update following on from the previous report regarding informal camping.*

**1. Purpose**

- To provide a brief update on activity within this area.

**2. Recommendations**

**2.1** That the partnership group note the content of this paper and progress to date,

**2.2** That partners continue to collaborate to try and address the challenges faced due to increased informal camping activity.

**3. Background**

The last report presented was on Informal Camping and outlined the opportunities and challenges, some of which is being driven by the pandemic and some of which has been a longer term trend.

#### 4. Detail

Some relevant updates are provided below -

- The Motorhome and Informal Camping Survey went live at the beginning of February 2021. This was promoted through Argyll and Bute Council's communication channels and by partners. Over 150 responses from throughout Argyll and Bute were received. There were a range of views and locations shared across the Argyll and Bute Council region, with varying experiences. Feedback came from local community organisations, representatives, landowners, as well as local companies that fit out motorhomes. Although the survey was focused on communities within Argyll and Bute we received feedback from out with the area too. A link to the survey can be found here [Motorhome and Informal Camping Survey \(argyll-bute.gov.uk\)](https://argyll-bute.gov.uk/motorhome-and-informal-camping-survey). The survey data will have some operational value and will also help in future project work.
- At the recent council budget, resource was committed towards four seasonal warden positions for the 2021 season (one per administrative area) within Roads and Infrastructure Services. These positions will focus on positive and proactive engagement with visitors, encouraging responsible behaviour. Another temporary position is being created within Development and Economic Growth to help progress Staycation project work.
- At the recent council budget, resource was committed towards public conveniences (PCs), to support the reopening of those PCs which remained closed last year as the resource wasn't available to re-open them under the enhanced cleaning regime required.
- Progress is being made on developing clearer guidance for businesses/landowners/community organisations on the regulatory aspects and what might be required if they are interested in providing greater facilities to accommodate visitors. Most sorts of development, even small scale, will require planning permission and a caravan site licence. Assistance is being provided where possible to assist those interested in developing facilities.

- The national Visitor Management Plan and Strategy was published by VisitScotland on the 19<sup>th</sup> of March 2021 and full information on this can be found here - [Visitor Management: Scotland's Plan & Objectives | VisitScotland.org](#)
- NatureScot launched the Better Places Green Recovery Fund on the 19<sup>th</sup> of March, applications can be from constituted organisations, registered charities, trusts, local authorities and community groups. Where applications are received from partnerships or organisations working collaboratively, a lead applicant must be identified.
  - Fast delivery project applications - midnight Friday 9 April 2021.
  - All other applications - midnight Friday 14 May 2021.

Full information on this fund can be found at the following link - [Better Places Green Recovery Fund - Round 2 | NatureScot](#)

- VisitScotland announced the opening of Round 4 of the Rural Tourism Infrastructure Fund on the 19<sup>th</sup> of March, Design grants of up to £5,000 are available for projects, but to qualify for the design grant Expression of Interests through the local authority need to be in to VisitScotland by **Friday 30 April 2021**. If you have projects for submission please contact - [Craig.wilson2@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:Craig.wilson2@argyll-bute.gov.uk) Full details on the requirements of the fund can be found at the following link - [Rural Development Fund - Funding | VisitScotland.org](#)
- We are currently developing better collated information on locations of existing chemical waste disposal point facilities in Argyll and Bute. Encouraging existing sites which offer motorhome waste disposal points to non-resident tourers to promote their facilities through CaMPA's (Campervan and Motorhome Professional Association) map. Work has also be underway to identify within the regulatory environment and operationally, how additional chemical waste disposal points might be provided. Resource was allocated in the recent council budget to assist with this.
- We are promoting the Scottish Outdoor Access Code, which is a national priority, to encourage responsible behaviour, more information on this can be found here [NatureScot \(outdooraccess-scotland.scot\)](#). VisitScotland has recently setup a responsible visitor management campaign and more information can be found at the following link - [Responsible](#)

[Visitor Management - News | VisitScotland.org](#) A

communications approach will be adopted consistent with national messaging.

- The national guidance for Managing Camping with tents was recently updated - [Managing camping with tents in Scotland | Scottish Outdoor Access Code \(outdooraccess-scotland.scot\)](#)

## 5. Conclusions

Argyll and Bute Council continues to work with partners to respond to the challenges and opportunities presented, seeking solutions that will benefit our communities and reduce negative impacts where possible.

## 6. SOA Outcomes

- **Outcome 1 - In Argyll and Bute the economy is diverse and thriving** – tourism is an important part of Argyll and Bute's rural economy and we are required to adapt to help support the growth of the sector.
- **Outcome 2 - We have infrastructure that supports sustainable growth** – Infrastructure investment is bid for in a targeted approach, working with industry and communities.

**For further information please contact:**

*Fergus Murray*  
*Head of Development and Economic Growth*  
[Fergus.Murray@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:Fergus.Murray@argyll-bute.gov.uk)  
01546 604 293



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**Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership**
**Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group**
**20 May 2021**



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**Briefing Note: Covid Infection Rates and Vaccination**


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This briefing provides some detail around the current Covid infection rates in Argyll and Bute and also gives some information on the uptake of Covid vaccinations.

**Summary**

Information is collated by Public Health Scotland on a daily basis in relation to the current rates of Covid infections. This information is freely available on the PHS website [Overview of the daily COVID-19 data dashboard - COVID-19 daily cases in Scotland dashboard - COVID-19 data and intelligence - COVID-19 - Our areas of work - Public Health Scotland](#)

Vaccination information is also collated and published on a daily basis on the Public Health Scotland website.

Infection rates in Argyll and Bute have remained low over the last few months.

Vaccination is progressing well with almost 70% of the adult population having received their first dose.

**Covid Infection Rates.**

Numbers of infections across Argyll and Bute have remained at consistently low levels over the last number of weeks, as can be seen in the table below.

**Cases for Argyll and Bute: Covers period to 11 May, 2021 (comparison with 4 May, 2021)**

	Argyll and Bute		Scotland	
	11 May	4 May	11 May	4 May
New daily positives reported over 7 day period	0	2	1,458	1022
Positive cases logged in past 24 hours	0	1*	347	271*
7 days rate per 100,000 population	0	2.3	26.7	21.0

**NOTES:**

1)These numbers will be subject to revision. The figures for the most recent few days will increase as more cases are logged.

2)'Positive cases logged in past 24 hours' includes cases added retrospectively to previous 'daily positives'. This is the headline figure that is reported in the media.

No new deaths have been reported since 20 February. The total number of deaths reported in Argyll and Bute within 28 days of a positive COVID diagnosis is currently 71.

Some additional graphical information is provided at Figures 1 – 3, which detail:-

Figure 1: Last 7 days with comparison with the Scottish figures

Figure 2: 7 day rates with comparison with neighbouring Local Authorities

Figure 3: Trends of number of positive cases.

## Vaccination Information

Daily figures for vaccinations across Scotland as at 12 May are shown below:

### COVID-19 vaccination in Scotland Daily update



Last updated: 12 May 2021

COVID-19 Vaccination Open Data: [OPEN DATA](#)

This page shows the latest available figures on COVID-19 vaccinations. More information about the vaccination programme can be found at: <https://publichealthscotland.scot/our-areas-of-work/covid-19/covid-19-vaccinations/>

Scotland	Newly reported	Total	% coverage (16+ years)
First dose	19,641	2,948,604	64.9
Second dose	20,276	1,526,889	33.6

The “**newly reported**” figure is the new number of reported vaccinations since the dashboard was last updated. These figures may include some new historic data due to delays in the data being received.

Due to extracting vaccination data at a later time yesterday, some additional GP IT data (usually with a one day lag) was included in yesterday's update. This has impacted in lower than usual new dose figures for today.

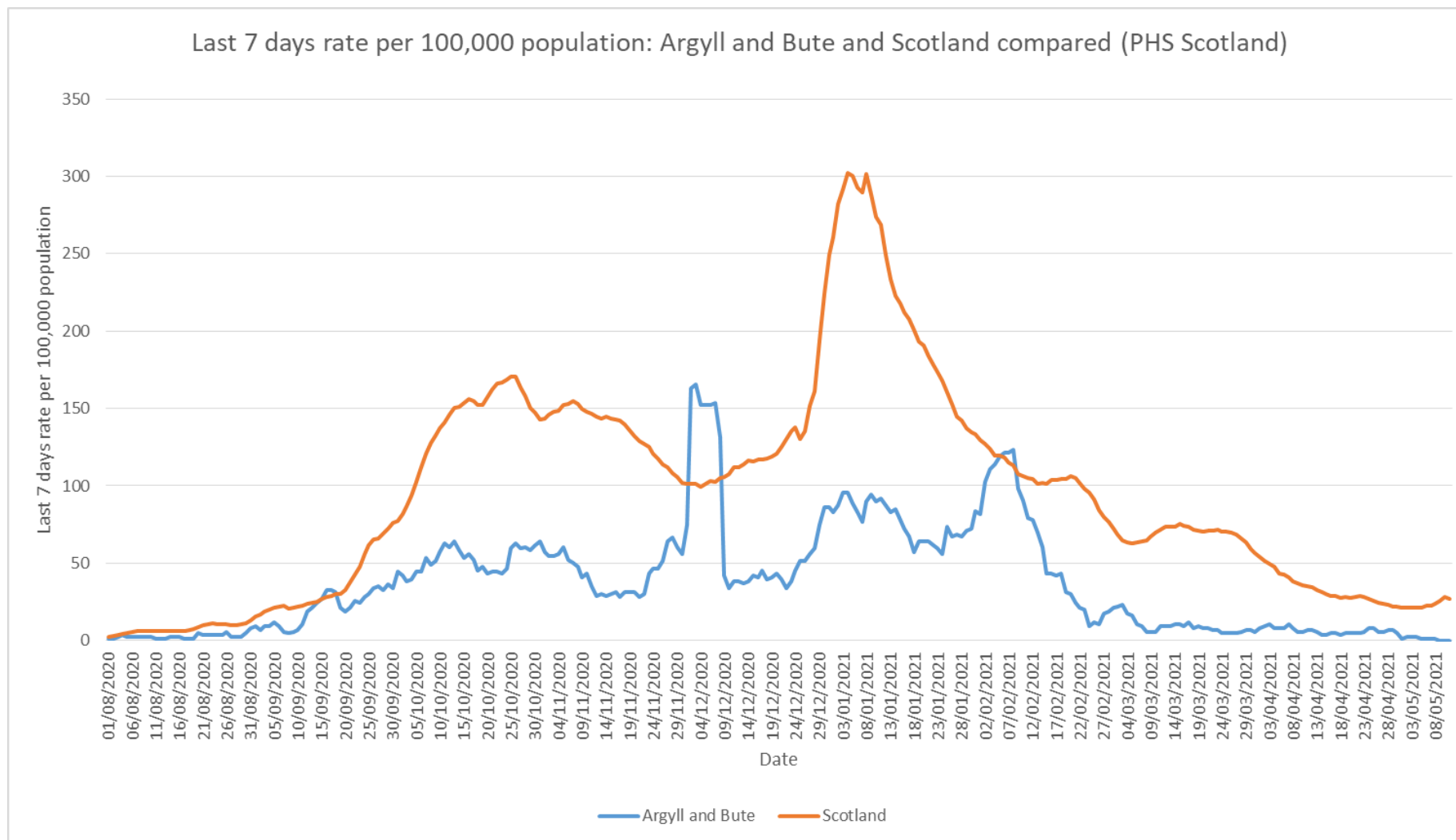
Figure 4 provides detail on vaccination figures for Argyll and Bute. 51,554 people in Argyll and Bute (an estimated 71% of the population) have had a first dose (up to 10th May, updated 11th May.) 32,760 people in Argyll and Bute (an estimated 45% of the population) have had a second dose (up to 10th May, updated 11th May.) For those over 60 almost 100% of this age group have received their first dose.

### For further information, please contact:

Shona Barton, Committee Manager, Argyll and Bute Council (01436) 657605

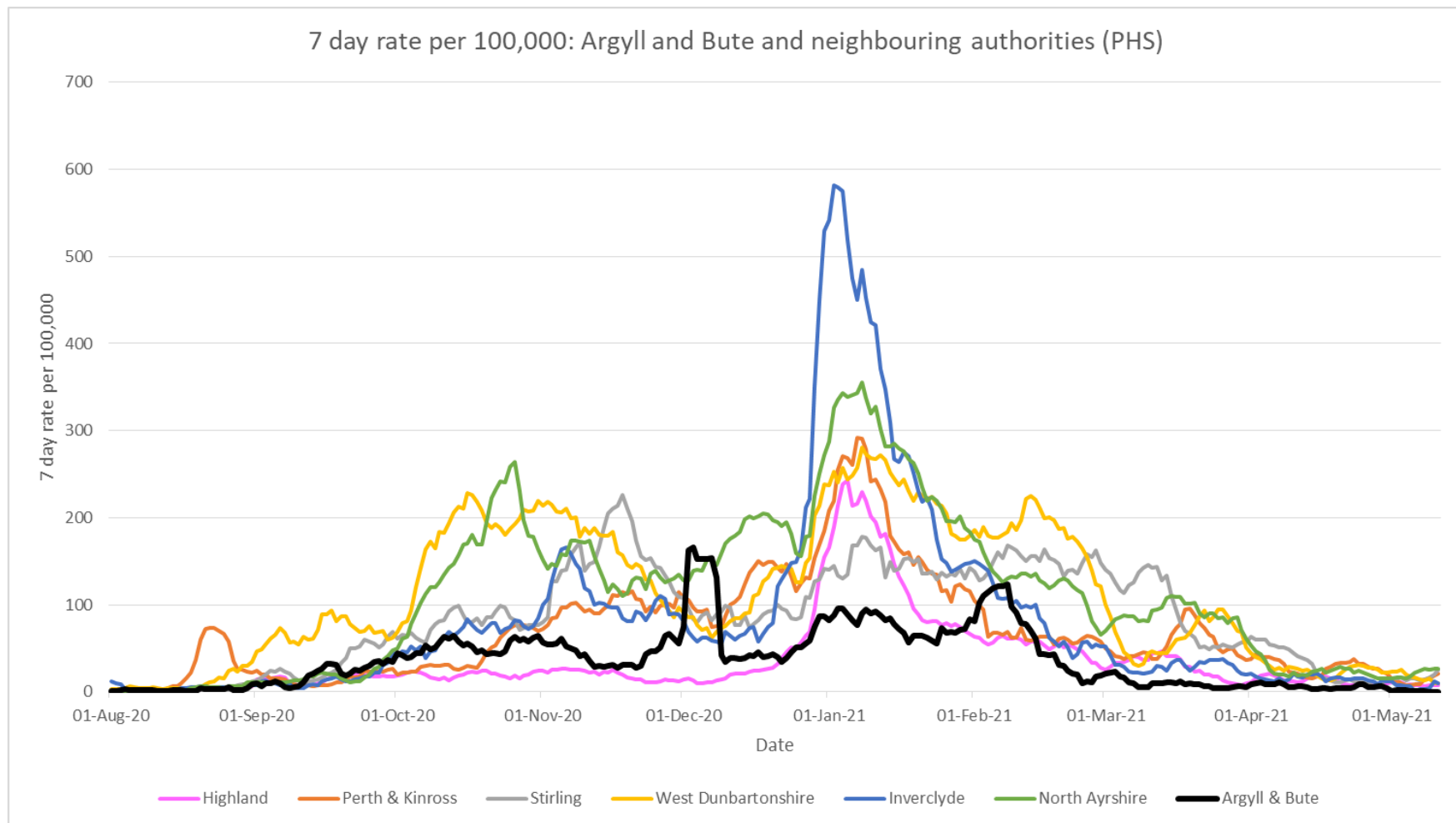
[Shona.barton@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:Shona.barton@argyll-bute.gov.uk)

Figure 1:



The figures for the most recent few days will increase as more cases are logged.

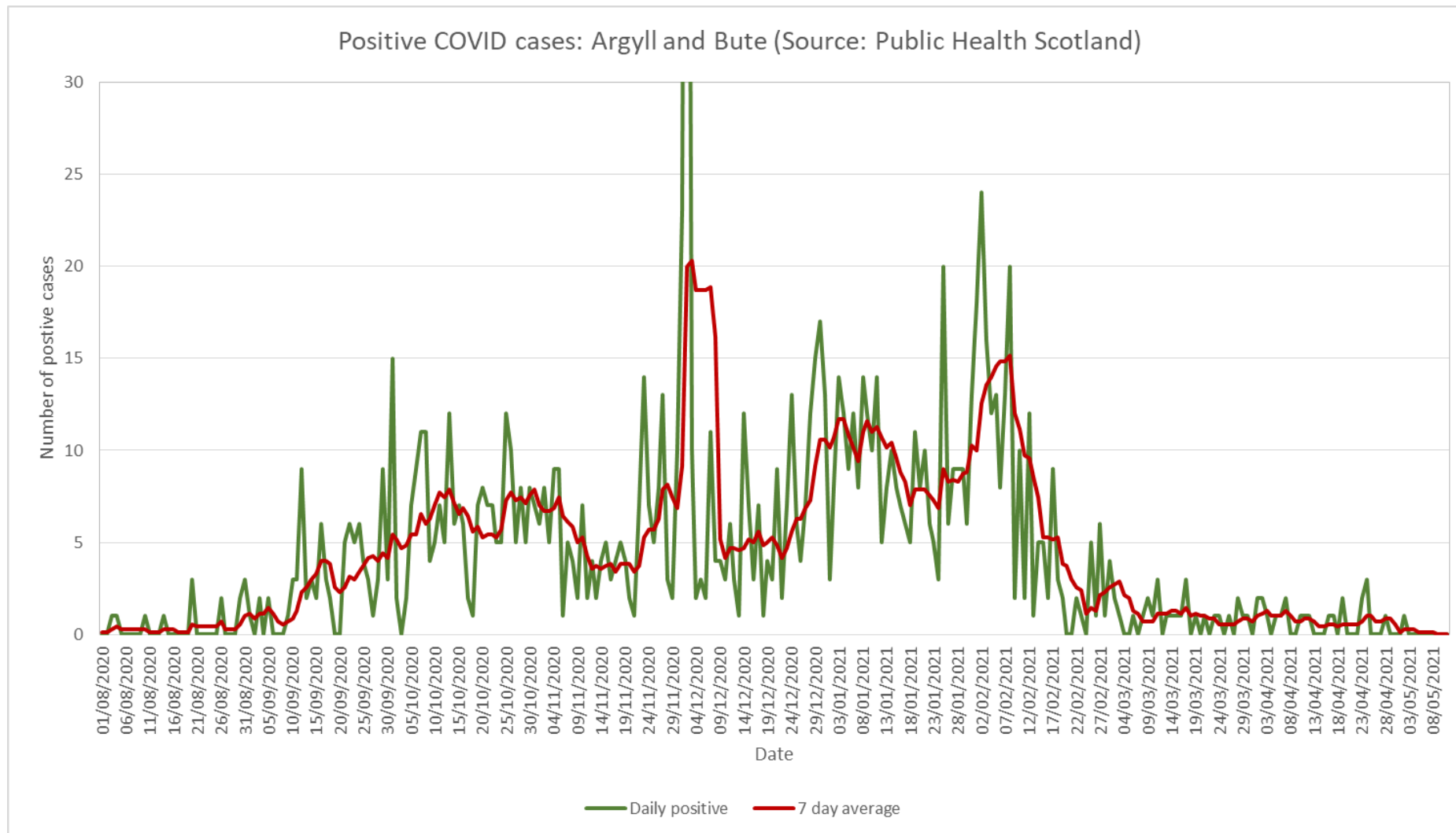
Figure 2:



The

figures for the most recent few days will increase as more cases are logged.

Figure 3:



The figures for the most recent few days will increase as more cases are logged.

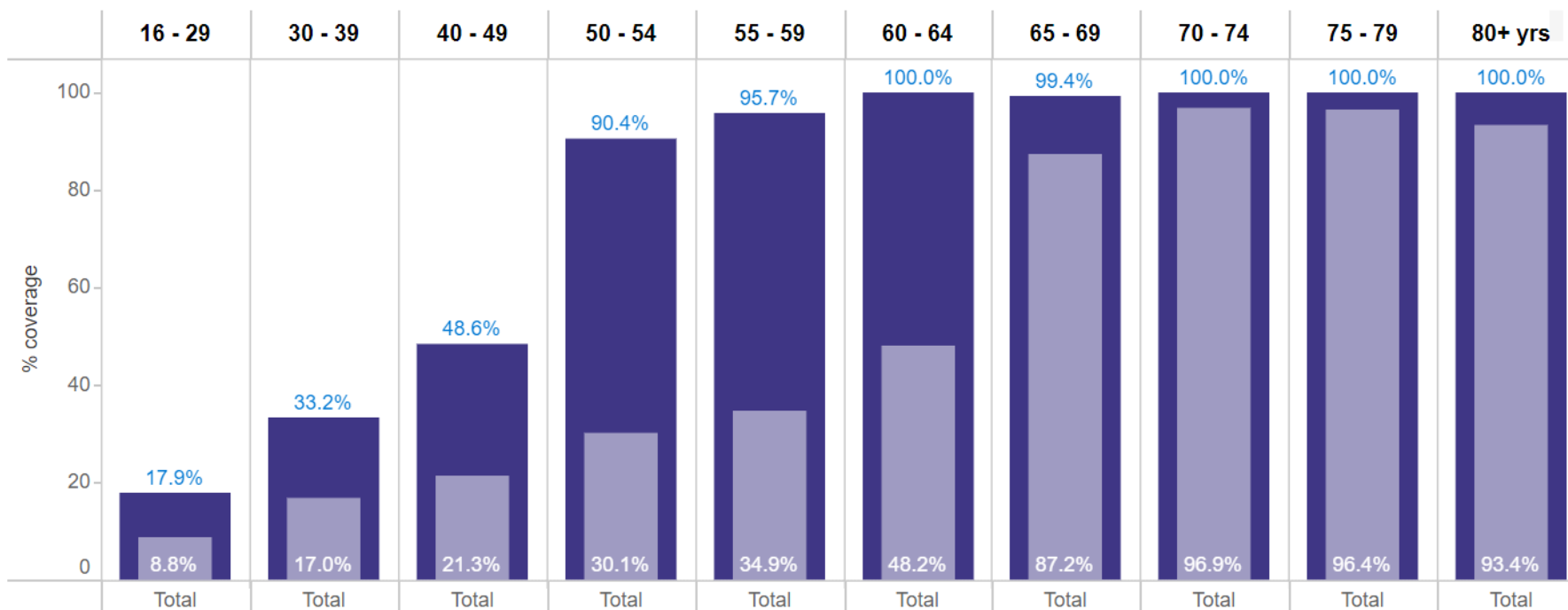
Figure 4

Vaccination Uptake by age group.

Select NHS Board / Local Authority

Argyll and Bute

Total % coverage by age group in Argyll and Bute



Age group breakdowns use the age of the individual as at 31 March 2021.

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**Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership****Helensburgh and Lomond  
Area Community Planning Group****20 May 2021**

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**Briefing Note: Community Planning Partnership Management Committee Update**

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This briefing relates to the meeting of the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Management Committee on 10 March 2021. The briefing is for noting and relevant discussion.

**Summary**

The CPP Management Committee met on the 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021 with the meeting being held virtually given the restrictions in place in regard to public gatherings.

This was the third Management Committee meeting since the beginning of the restrictions. This update provides an overview of the discussion which took place.

Further information is available in the *meetings, minutes and agendas* section of: <https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/council-and-government/community-planning-partnership>

**Highlights****Cross Cutting Themes**

- In relation to Community Wealth Building it was noted that a number of workshops were planned to take place over the coming months with representation from community groups and youth representatives being highlighted as possible attendees. It was agreed that there would be 5 workshops organised and a recommendation was made to look at wider participation.
- Joanna MacDonald provided detail on the last meeting of the Child Poverty Action Group with it being noted that the Council sees child poverty, and poverty in general, as a high priority.
- In regard to the Climate Change Working Group it was noted that the process had begun to create an interactive web directory showing climate change action around Argyll and Bute. This webpage is scheduled to go live at the end of March. Samantha asked for any further examples of good climate change proactive work which can be included on the website to be sent on to her.

- Digital Inclusion as another cross cutting theme was discussed with detail being provided on two projects – Connecting Scotland and Digital Connections.

### Matters Arising from Area Community Planning Groups

- An update was provided on the discussions which had taken place at all 4 Area Community Planning Groups which had been held in February 2021. In regard to the issue of youth engagement it was noted that this was already being taken forward as a key action by the Management Committee.
- The MAKI Area Community Planning Group had agreed to undertake a survey to look at identifying any barriers for partner attendance. There was some discussion around diary clashes in diaries for partners with it also being noted that there can be an element of repetition at meetings, particularly for officers who attend all 4 meetings. It was agreed that this would be discussed at the next meeting of the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the ACPG's in advance of the August meetings.
- Kevin Champion, Chair of OLI ACPG highlighted the importance of the youth voice and it was noted that the OLI ACPG Vice-Chair was also part of the local youth forum. It was agreed that discussions would be set up to explore how to involve youth in community planning.
- Fergus Murray provided an update on wild camping, highlighting the work of the group which had been formed as a result of previous discussion at the Management Committee. A survey was also being undertaken which had received over 150 responses. It was noted that the Council had also announced in the budget a substantial fund to address the staycation pressures moving forward, including the recruitment of 4 additional wardens which would provide support and resource. It was hoped that there would be some work and facilities put in place for the coming season, but there may be some work which will roll into future years. It is the intention to create a map with specific guidance for each area which would help in identifying waste disposal and potable water facilities.
- Discussion took place around the current difficulties on the A83 at The Rest and Be Thankful. It was noted that there has been a lot of work carried out with bunding and the re-opening of some parts of the trunk road, but the key focus was on the provision of a permanent solution and maintaining pressure on that. Correspondence to the Scottish Government and Transport Scotland was discussed and it was agreed to pursue responses.

### Outcome 5&6 Updates – Healthy Independent Lives and Safer Stronger Communities

- Sheena Mclean, Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator spoke about the Community Safety Strategy 2021-2023 which had been developed in partnership with Police Scotland, who have lead responsibility for Outcome 6. The strategy will be overseen by the Community Safety Partnership Tasking and Coordinating Group and was developed by consulting with members, the responses were then collated to ensure intelligence analysis informed the decision theme and trends. The Group is chaired by Marlene Baillie and the 5 main areas of concern were identified as:-
  - Suicide Prevention



- Water Safety
- Fraud
- Drug Deaths
- Children and Young People

The CPP commended the innovative partnership work being done on the strategy.

- Alison McGrory provided an update on the Suicide Prevention Steering Group with it being noted that there was a need to appoint a new chair to replace Joanna who was leaving post shortly. Any volunteers for the post were asked to get in touch with Rona.

#### Covid 19 Impact and Building Back Better

- Discussion took place on the proposal for incorporation of Building Back Better (Communities) as a workstream for the CPP as a cross cutting theme. It was noted that partnership working was key to success and that it would be important to make better links with the Area Community Planning Groups and to have conversations with communities to create improved communication routes as part of the recovery strategy. It is proposed to incorporate these discussions into the discussions around the revision of the Area Community Planning Action Plans.
- Sarah Griffin provided a presentation on an analysis looking at the impact of Covid. She noted the impact on health and social care provision had included reduced visits to GPs, A&E and Out of Hours services; reduction in emergency and planned admissions to hospital; reduction in outpatients; reduction in cancer diagnoses; and reduction in cardiovascular services. Societal impacts had been enormous due to school closures, increased online abuse of youths, increased domestic violence against women and girls, and the impact of shielding and loneliness and increased inequalities for vulnerable groups. However, support for community resilience had increased.
- Alison McGrory advised that the Social Mitigation strategy would be presented to the NHS Highland Board at the end of March and would be shared in due course.

#### Promotion and consideration of Gaelic

- Cristie Moore was in attendance and had submitted a paper to the committee on her remit to promote and support the growth of Gaelic in Argyll and Bute and to deliver the Gaelic Gathering. Partners were asked to share information on their Gaelic plans any provide any possible items for the Gaelic newsletter.

#### **For further information, please contact:**

Shona Barton, Committee Manager, Argyll and Bute Council (01436) 657605

[Shona.barton@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:Shona.barton@argyll-bute.gov.uk)

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