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25 April 2023

## **NOTICE OF MEETING**

A meeting of the **MID ARGYLL, KINTYRE AND THE ISLANDS AREA COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP** will be held on a **HYBRID BASIS IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, KILMORY, LOCHGILPHEAD AND BY MICROSOFT TEAMS** on **WEDNESDAY, 3 MAY 2023** 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 OF MID ARGYLL, KINTYRE AND THE ISLANDS AREA COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP, HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 1 FEBRUARY 2023** (Pages 5 - 18)
- 4. IMPROVING LIVES IN ARGYLL AND BUTE**  
Presentation by Community Planning Partnership Lead
- 5. COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE**  
(Pages 19 - 24)  
Report by Committee Manager, Argyll and Bute Council
- 6. NHS HIGHLAND DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT** (Pages 25 - 28)  
Report by Interim Argyll and Bute Alcohol and Drug Partnership (ADP) Coordinator
- 7. PARTNER UPDATES**

- (a) Police Scotland (Pages 29 - 30)
- (b) Scottish Fire and Rescue (Pages 31 - 36)
- (c) Transport Scotland
- (d) Argyll and Bute Citizens Advice Bureau (Pages 37 - 50)
- (e) Forestry and Land Scotland (Pages 51 - 54)
- (f) South Islay Development (Pages 55 - 58)
- (g) Campbeltown Community Council (Pages 59 - 60)
- (h) Tarbert and Skipness Community Trust (Pages 61 - 62)
- (i) Argyll Third Sector Interface (TSI) (Pages 63 - 64)
- (j) Opportunity for Verbal Updates

**8. HOME ENERGY EFFICIENCY (Pages 65 - 68)**

Report by Project Officer

**9. CLIMATE CHANGE**

- (a) Climate Change Working Group Highlight Report - TO FOLLOW

Report by Chair of the Climate Change Working Group

- (b) Climate Action Towns Update (Pages 69 - 70)

Report by Senior Design Officer, Architecture and Design Scotland

- (c) Community Cycling Ardrishaig (Pages 71 - 72)

Report by Janice Gale

- (d) Argyll and the Islands Coast and Countryside Trust (Pages 73 - 82)

Presentation by Project Officer

**10. COMMUNITY FOCUS**

**11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday, 30 August 2023

## **Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group**

Councillor John Armour (Vice-Chair) Ian Brodie (Chair)

Melissa Stewart, Governance Officer

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

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**MINUTES of MEETING of MID ARGYLL, KINTYRE AND THE ISLANDS AREA COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP held on a HYBRID BASIS IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, KILMORY, LOCHGILPHEAD AND BY MICROSOFT TEAMS on WEDNESDAY, 1 FEBRUARY 2023**

**Present:**

Ian Brodie, East Kintyre Community Council (Chair)  
Councillor John Armour, Argyll and Bute Council (By Microsoft Teams)  
Councillor Jan Brown, Argyll and Bute Council  
Councillor Dougie McFadzean, Argyll and Bute Council  
Stuart McLean, Committee Manager, Argyll and Bute Council  
Lynsey Innis, Senior Committee Assistant, Argyll and Bute Council (By Microsoft Teams)  
Antonia Baird, Community Development Officer, Argyll and Bute Council (By Microsoft Teams)  
John McLuckie, Partnerships Lead - Community Services, Argyll and Bute Council (By Microsoft Teams)  
Chiara Fingland, Architecture and Design Scotland (By Microsoft Teams)  
Valerie Nimmo, Campbeltown Community Council (By Microsoft Teams)  
Victoria MacBrayne, Campbeltown Community Council (By Microsoft Teams)  
Chris Abell, Islay Community Council (By Microsoft Teams)  
Sandra Taylor, Islay Community Council (By Microsoft Teams)  
Watch Commander Barry Colvan, Scottish Fire and Rescue (By Microsoft Teams)  
Jen Broadhurst, Argyll and Bute Citizens Advice Bureau (By Microsoft Teams)  
Teresa Robertson, Fyne Homes Housing Association (By Microsoft Teams)  
Jamie Titterton, Community Learning Worker, LiveArgyll/Kintyre Youth Action Group (By Microsoft Teams)  
Jeni West, Forestry and Land Scotland (By Microsoft Teams)  
John Sutherland, Forestry and Land Scotland (By Microsoft Teams)  
Becs Barker, Community Contacts, Carr Gomm (By Microsoft Teams)  
Lauren Worrell, National Farmers Union (NFU) (By Microsoft Teams)  
Caitlin Quinn, Scottish and Southern Energy (SSE) (By Microsoft Teams)  
Tim Bailey, Machrihanish Airbase Community Company (MACC) Developments Limited (By Microsoft Teams)  
Margaret Wallace, Argyll TSI (By Microsoft Teams)  
Phil Ashby, Argyll TSI (By Microsoft Teams)  
Rachel McNicol, ALI Energy (By Microsoft Teams)  
Richard Stein, North Knapdale Community Council (By Microsoft Teams)  
Clare Hay, Colonsay Community Council (By Microsoft Teams)  
Andrew Galloway, Local Democracy Reporter (By Microsoft Teams)

**Attending:**

Shirley Nicolson, Senior Support Worker, The Lochside Champions (By Microsoft Teams)  
Iain McDowall, The Lochside Champions (By Microsoft Teams)  
Anne Williamson, The Lochside Champions (By Microsoft Teams)  
Ashley Glen, Kintyre Youth Action Group  
Linda Campbell, Kintyre Youth Action Group  
Lauren Miller, Kintyre Youth Action Group  
Brooke Oxborrow, Kintyre Youth Action Group

## 1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

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

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of:-

Petra Pearce, Argyll and Bute TSI

Graeme Bruce, West Highland Housing Association (WHHA)

Elizabeth MacBrayne, Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)

John Beveridge, Laggan Community Council

Iona MacPhail, Fyne Homes

Michelle Mundie, Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA)

Heather Thomas-Smith, Argyll and the Isles Tourism Co-operative/Wild about Argyll

Kathleen O'Neill, CHARTS

Linda Mitchell, ALIEnergy

Neil MacFarlane, Transport Scotland

Jennifer Dryden, Argyll and Bute HSCP – Public Health

Lucia Cordani, LiveArgyll

Victoria Shaw, Calmac

Darren Gibb, Scottish Fire and Rescue

David Wilkinson, West Lochfyne Community Council

Allyson McGillivray, South Islay Development

Stan Philips, Chair of Climate Change Working Group

Kate Connolly, Community Cycling Ardrishaig

The Chair moved and the Committee agreed to vary the order of business to include additional Partner Updates and an additional item for Machrihanish Airbase Community Company (MACC), and to facilitate the attendance of Partners. The order in which discussion took place is reflected within this minute.

## 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest intimated.

## 3. MINUTES

The minute of the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group, held on 2 November 2022 was approved as a correct record.

## 4. PARTNER UPDATES

### (a) Scottish Fire and Rescue

The Group gave consideration to a report which highlighted the performance and activity of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service within the Mid Argyll Kintyre and the Islands area during financial quarter 3 of 2022/23. The report also included information on the local firefighter training plan; unwanted fire alarm signals; road and water safety campaigns; community engagement activities and home fire safety.

Discussion was had in relation to the engagement with local communities

in preparation of annual bonfire celebrations; the advice provided to rural communities on how to deal with the incidence of a fire while waiting on the service to attend; the lack of opportunity for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service to input into proposed housing developments in relation to the number and placement of hydrants and the types of properties responsible for the number of unwanted fire alarm signals.

On behalf of the Area Community Planning Group, the Chair offered sincere condolences on the recent sad loss of a Scottish Fire and Rescue officer, who died in the line of duty.

### **Decision**

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

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

### **(b) Police Scotland**

Having noted the absence of a representative of Police Scotland, the Group gave consideration to a report which provided an update on their recent work and activities within the MAKI and Oban Lorn and the Isles areas. The report included information on the development of the Communities and Partnerships Teams; the changes in the Community Council framework; the ongoing work with key partners to develop the 'Not at Home' protocol and the continued roll out of the 'Distress Brief Intervention' and the 'Rural Watch Scotland' schemes.

Discussion was had in relation to the new procedures in respect of attendance at Community Council meetings, with it being established that where possible attendance by a Police officer would continue and that the new centralised approach was to enhance the information Community Councils had access to. Further discussion took place in relation to the farming community and specifically to the forthcoming lambing season. Partners were interested to learn of any publicity campaigns being carried out by Police Scotland in relation to sheep worrying. The Committee Manager agreed to raise this issue with Police Scotland and circulate the response in due course.

### **Decision**

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

(Reference: Report by Police Scotland, submitted)

### **(c) Calmac**

Having noted the apologies of the representative of Calmac, consideration was given to a brief update on the current situation with the Tarbert/Portavadie service and the Campbeltown to Ardrossan service which is scheduled to begin at the end of April.

**Decision**

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

(Reference: Report by Calmac, submitted)

(d) **Public Health**

Having noted the apologies of Ms Dryden, the Group gave consideration to a report which provided an update on ongoing wellbeing and prevention activity overseen and delivered by the HSCP Public Health Team in Argyll and Bute. The report provided information on the launch of year 4 of the Living Well (Self-Management) community capacity building fund; the Community Link Working service which is commissioned by Argyll and Bute HSCP and delivered by the Third Sector and the launch of a new website which contains information about the Living Well Strategy and the wider health improvement work. The website can be accessed at <https://www.ablivingwell.org>.

**Decision**

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

(Reference: Report by Argyll and Bute HSCP – Public Health, submitted)

(e) **Forestry and Land Scotland**

The group gave consideration to a report which highlighted the ongoing workstreams of Forestry and Land Scotland within the MAKI area. Information on Land Management Plans; Renewable Energy plans; the significant spread of the Larch – Phytophthora ramorum disease in the Kintyre area; the ongoing peatland restoration programme; a number of upcoming complex operations and proposals to introduce car parking charges to a number of sites within the MAKI area was provided.

Concerns around the proposals were raised by a number of Partners, with the lack of consultation and engagement with the wider community a serious issue for many. Discussion around the possibility of arranging a meeting between Forestry and Land Scotland and all Community Council's was had with Mr Sutherland confirming that he was happy to facilitate this. Having noted the strong feeling on this matter, the Chair suggested that this issue be fed back to the Community Planning Partnership Management Committee for further discussion and action.

**Decision**

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group:-

1. considered and noted the information provided; and

2. requested that the Committee Manager relay the concerns of the group in relation to the proposals to introduce car parking charges to a number of sites within the MAKI area to the next meeting of the CPP Management Committee.

(Reference: Report by Forestry and Land Scotland, submitted)

(f) **Campbeltown Community Council**

Consideration was given to an update from Campbeltown Community Council which outlined two community events scheduled to take place in February 2023, being run in partnership with South Kintyre Development Trust (SKDT); Inspiralba and Architecture and Design Scotland Climate Action Towns. The update also outlined the concerns of the Community Council in relation to a number of road related issues.

Discussion was had in relation to the poor condition of the road at the Esplanade, Campbeltown. The Committee Manager agreed to raise this issue with the Council's Roads and Infrastructure Services Department and circulate the response in due course.

**Decision**

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

(Reference: Report by Campbeltown Community Council, submitted)

(g) **Community Learning Services LiveArgyll**

The group gave consideration to a report which outlined the activities of Campbeltown and Kintyre Youth Services since the festive break.

Members of the Kintyre Youth Action Group were also in attendance and provided an update on work they were leading on within their communities, which included representing local youth views on issues that they care about; running a number of community events such as local coffee mornings to raise funds for the people of Ukraine; the setting up of an LGBTQ+ Youth Forum and their involvement in a number of volunteer programmes such as local food banks.

On behalf of the Area Community Planning Group, the Chair thanked the Members of the Kintyre Youth Action Group for their attendance, the information they provided and a number of Partners highlighted their support, and offered their services to the Action Group going forward.

**Decision**

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

(Reference: Report by Community Learning Services, LiveArgyll, submitted)

(h) **South Islay Development**

Consideration was given to an update from South Islay Development (SID) which included information on the new community hub at Port Ellen Playing Fields and the development of the £1 million Ardbeg All Islay Fund.

**Decision**

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

(Reference: Report by South Islay Development, submitted)

(i) **Department of Work and Pensions (DWP)**

Consideration was given to an update from the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP), which provided information on the number of claimants for Universal Credit and legacy benefits. Further information was provided in relation to a number of targeted packages of support for the most vulnerable which included the benefit uprating; the new cost of living payments; the benefit cap rise and employment and support allowance.

**Decision**

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

(Reference: Report by Department of Work and Pensions (DWP), submitted)

(j) **Argyll and Bute Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB)**

Consideration was given to a report which provided an update in relation to current workstreams of the Citizens Advice Bureau within Argyll and Bute. The report included information on the ongoing rise in the number of clients seeking support with energy costs as the cost of living crisis continues and the additional supports available in the form of grants available within the MAKI area. The report also highlighted the recruitment campaign about to begin for the spring cohort of volunteer trainee advisers and the annual consultation exercise with partner organisations in order to review the work of the bureau. Partners noted that they could participate in the consultation which could be found at <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/ABCABCommunityPartnersSurvey/>.

**Decision**

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

(Reference: Report by Argyll and Bute Citizens Advice Bureau,

submitted)

(k) **Scottish and Southern Energy (SSE) - Verbal Update**

Caitlin Quinn of Scottish and Southern Energy (SSE) provided a brief presentation on the progress being made on the delivery of Phase 2 of the Inveraray to Crossaig project. Ms Quinn outlined the construction of the new 45km overhead line between Port Ann and Crossaig substation and outlined the enabling works, which have included forestry felling, the construction of permanent and temporary tracks and overhead line corridors. She advised that the build involves the construction of 148 towers and the installation of 270km of conductor, and that the project was driven by load capacity and the current asset condition.

Discussion around the use of the temporary and permanent tracks; the support provided to local communities to a number of projects such as local foodbanks and charities and the provision of funding towards a number of initiatives such as the local school safety initiative was had.

**Decision**

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

(l) **Opportunity for Verbal Updates from Area Community Planning Group Partners**

Antonia Baird, Community Development Officer

Ms Baird advised that following discussions with the Chair, she had sought an update in relation to the recent work of the local foodbanks. She advised as follows:

In 2022 Islay foodbank helped 103 people including 49 children. Some of those were helped just once, some multiple times. That was a large increase on 2021 where we helped 50 different people.

We are seeing increased use on Islay.

There are also now two community fridges on Islay also giving away free food to people in need.

Kintyre foodbank gave out parcels to 56 adults and 20 children in December 21 and 84 adults and 21 children in December 22. They also gave all clients a Christmas parcel.

Supporting Communities Fund opening next week. Bids must be in by 30<sup>th</sup> March for approval by MAKI AC on 7 June 2023.

Transport Scotland

Having noted the apologies of Neil MacFarlane, the Committee Manager provided the following update on his behalf:-

There are no major resurfacing works planned at the moment owing to the weather and the time of year, we have actually had to postpone the priority works at Honeymoon Bridge owing to the current conditions.

I do not have a definitive date for BEAR to return to Hall Street for the footway repair at the Café.

Finally I am having my joint Route Tour with BEAR personnel next week to scope works for the next one to three years. If attendees want to send me specific locations for consideration this would be an opportune time.

Councillor Armour raised the ongoing issue of the pavement on Hall Street in Campbeltown and expressed his disappointment that no update had been provided in this regard. The Committee Manager agreed to feedback the comments to Mr MacFarlane and circulate the response to the Area Community Planning Group in due course.

### Rachel McNicol, ALIEnergy

Ms McNicol provided a brief update on the current workstreams being progressed by ALIEnergy, which included the provision of support to those experiencing financial difficulty and fuel poverty. She provided information on a number of funding streams that aimed to alleviate child poverty which included working in partnership with Inspiralba to introduce a new Parental Employability Support Fund and accessing funds from Children in Need. Ms McNicol further advised of a recent meeting with Brendan O'Hara MP to highlight the issues faced across Argyll and Bute and the continued efforts to raise awareness of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) opportunities also.

### Becs Barker, Community Contacts, Carr Gomm

Ms Barker introduced herself to the Group and provided a brief outline of the role of the Community Contacts team within Carr Gomm, which is to provide impartial advice to the residents of Argyll and Bute on self-directed support; to assist in accessing independent support and social care and in navigating the system. Ms Barker advised that Stuart Scott is the contact for the MAKI area and that the team could be contacted at [communitycontactsab@carrgomm.org](mailto:communitycontactsab@carrgomm.org).

### Argyll and the Isles Tourism Co-operative/Wild about Argyll

Having noted the apologies of Heather Thomas-Smith, the Committee Manager provided the following update on her behalf:

The AITC (Argyll & Isles Tourism Co-operative/Wild About Argyll) are currently supporting member businesses through the legislative changes that are currently coming into being (or have already done so) and looking into how those changes will affect local tourism facing businesses in the



long term. The legislation includes DRS (Deposit Return Scheme), STL (Short-term Let) and the proposed restrictions on marketing alcohol. We are also encouraging businesses to look at opportunities for improving their green credentials to encourage sustainable tourism in the area, something more visitors are now seeking. The AITC Summit will be on the 22nd March 2023, venue TBC.

#### East Kintyre Community Council

The Chair provided a short update on recent activities within the East Kintyre Community Council area. He advised of the sale of a large portion of private land at Carradale Harbour and of the upcoming MOWI development. He advised that more information on this development could be found at the East Kintyre Community Council's Facebook page.

## **5. COMMUNITY FOCUS**

### **(a) The Lochside Champions**

The group welcomed Shirley Nicolson, Senior Support Worker with Lochside Champions to the meeting. Shirley spoke to the written update provided which was a series of questions and responses from the consultation on the provision of their service and covered a number of topical areas, including Diverse Economy and Skilled Workforce; Financial Inclusion and Housing and Transport Infrastructure. Shirley introduced two of the people she supports, Anne and Iain, who provided information on a number of issues which affect them in their daily life and included difficulties in accessing the everyday activities that so many take for granted, such as being able to visit friends and family, gain meaningful employment or live independently.

Discussion was had in relation to the lack of a Pingo bus service in the Mid Argyll area; possible volunteering opportunities and the provision of core and cluster housing. A number of Partners pledged their support and gave an undertaking to get in touch with Shirley following the meeting to take forward discussions in respect of the issues highlighted.

On behalf of the Area Community Planning Group, the Chair thanked the Members of the Lochside Champions for their attendance and the information provided.

#### **Decision**

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group agreed to consider and note the information provided.

(Reference: Written submission by The Lochside Champions, submitted)

## **6. COMMUNITY DIRECTORY**

Phil Ashby from Argyll TSI provided a short demonstration on the Community Directory, a system that will allow users to locate the details of a range of services throughout Argyll and Bute. Discussion was had on the ability of services to register on the system; the analytics used within the system and the possibility that these can be developed to assist in early intervention where necessary. Further discussion took place in relation to the possibility of introducing a referral system and the business card which the Emergency Services currently distribute where appropriate.

The Community Directory can be found at <https://abcd.scot>.

### **Decision**

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group noted the demonstration provided.

(Reference: Demonstration of Community Directory by Argyll TSI)

## **7. MACHRIHANISH AIRBASE COMMUNITY COMPANY (MACC) DEVELOPMENTS LIMITED**

The group gave consideration to a report and presentation by Tim Bailey of Machrihanish Airbase Community Company (MACC). Mr Bailey outlined the background of MACC and of the support it provides to the local community with direct spending on local contractors and charitable donations to local good causes. He advised of a number of key projects that would benefit both MACC and the local community, which included a datacentre and the production of hydrogen as a means of local electricity generation. Mr Bailey sought the support of Partners in bringing the project start date of 2032 forward to enable the reversal of the projection of population decline within Argyll and Bute, bringing jobs to the area and increasing the local economy. Ms Quinn of SSE advised that she was happy to have more in-depth discussions with Mr Bailey outwith the meeting.

### **Decision**

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

(Reference: Report and Presentation by Tim Bailey, MACC Developments Limited, submitted)

## **8. CLIMATE CHANGE**

### **(a) Climate Change Working Group Highlight Report**

Consideration was given to a report which highlighted the ongoing work of the Climate Change Working Group. The report outlined the plans of the Working Group to produce an Action Plan, which will look to establish a region-wide climate risk assessment and develop an integrated set of adaptation, mitigation and engagement actions. The report also outlined the need to employ a Climate Change Project Manager within the current financial year to lead on the production of the Action Plan and the ongoing

work to establish a funding package to support the post.

**Decision**

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

(Reference: Report by Chair of the Community Planning Partnership Climate Change Working Group, submitted)

(b) **Community Cycling Ardrishaig**

Having noted the apologies of Ms Connolly, Councillor Brown provided a short update on the project. She advised that following the withdrawal of funding for the original Bike Bothy in Ardrishaig a group of local people had formed the Community Cycling Ardrishaig group. She advised that they currently meet every Monday and that they have their own Facebook page. The Committee Manager advised that Ms Connolly hoped to be in attendance to provide a further update at the next meeting of the MAKI ACPG.

**Decision**

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

(c) **Climate Action Towns Update**

Consideration was given to a report which provided an update on the workstreams of the Climate Action Towns group since the last meeting of the MAKI ACPG. The report highlighted the ongoing work to support the development of the Campbeltown Community Action Plan, to ensure that it considered future climate change and climate risks and the next steps in the process. The report also highlighted the upcoming training sessions and the support being provided in running two community climate action events in February 2023.

**Decision**

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

(Reference: Report by Climate Action Towns, submitted)

**9. COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Consideration was given to a report which provided information on matters discussed during a meeting of the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Management Committee, held on 7 December 2022. The Committee Manager outlined a number of key highlights from the meeting, with it being noted that the closing date for the consultation survey being conducted by the MSYP's in respect of the review of the Argyll and Bute Outcome Improvement Plan had been extended

until 14 February 2023. Partners were encouraged to take part in the consultation, which can be found at:- [tinyurl.com/3yf3xe8j](https://tinyurl.com/3yf3xe8j)

### **Decision**

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group agreed to consider and note the contents of the report.

(Reference: Report by Committee Manager, dated 1 February 2023, submitted)

## **10. MID ARGYLL, KINTYRE AND THE ISLANDS AREA COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP GOVERNANCE**

### **(a) Area Community Planning Group Governance Arrangements**

The group gave consideration to a report which outlined the governance arrangements of the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group (Area CPG) specifically the Terms of Reference, membership and future meeting dates.

The Committee Manager confirmed that organisational contacts could be updated as required, and noted that any suggestions for new organisations to join the group could be submitted to Stuart McLean or Lynsey Innis following the meeting.

### **Decision**

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group:

1. considered and adopted the Terms of Reference at Appendix 1 of the report and agreed that these be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure their ongoing currency and appropriateness for the work of the Area CPG as it develops over time;
2. considered and agreed the Membership of the group at Appendix 2 of the report and agreed that this would be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure currency and appropriateness for the work of the group as it develops over time; and
3. noted the future meeting dates submitted within the report.

(Reference: Report by Committee Manager, Argyll and Bute Council, dated 1 February 2023, submitted)

### **(b) Appointment of Vice Chair to the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group**

The Group considered a report which provided information relating to the appointment of a Vice-Chair of the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group and outlined the expected time commitment and information about the role.

Discussion was had on possible candidates, with it being noted that the preferred option was someone from a local Community Council rather than an elected member. Councillor Armour indicated his willingness to remain in the role until such time as a more suitable candidate could be found.

The Committee Manager agreed to email all Community Council's with information on the role and seek nominations.

### **Decision**

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group agreed that Councillor John Armour be re-appointed as Vice-Chair for a period of 6 months.

(Reference: Report by Governance Manager, dated 1 February 2023, submitted)

### **11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group noted that their next meeting was scheduled to take place on Wednesday, 3 May 2023 at 10:00am on a hybrid basis.

The Chair thanked everyone in attendance at the meeting, and thanked all partners for their continued proactive work within the community.

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**Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership****Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group****3 May 2023**

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**Community Planning Partnership Management Committee Update**

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This briefing relates to the meeting of the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Management Committee which was held on 23rd March 2023. The briefing is for noting and relevant discussion.

**Summary**

The CPP Management Committee met on the 23rd March 2023 with the meeting being held virtually. This update provides an overview of the discussion which took place.

Reports which were discussed at the meeting can be found by following this link - [Agenda for Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership - Management Committee on Thursday, 23 March 2023, 10:00 am - Argyll and Bute Council \(argyll-bute.gov.uk\)](#)

**HIGHLIGHTS****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 during the February 2023 cycle of meetings. The meetings had been well attended with the terms of reference and membership of each Group agreed. Of particular interest was the re-appointment of Councillor John Armour as Vice Chair of the Mid Argyll, Kintyre & the Islands (MAKI) Area Community Planning Group, and Kevin Champion as Chair for Oban, Lorn and the Isles (OLI). It was also noted that Reeni Kennedy-Boyle was appointed as Vice Chair in Bute and Cowal.
- The Management Committee noted the concerns raised by the MAKI and OLI ACPGs regarding the introduction of car parking charges by Forestry and Land Scotland, specifically the lack of engagement on the proposals and the negative effect charges may have on tourism and visitor numbers. The Management Committee agreed that the Chair would prepare a response on behalf of the Management Committee which will be forwarded to Forestry and Land Scotland.

## **CROSS CUTTING THEMES**

### **Climate Change**

Stan Philips provided a brief update report on the work of the Climate Change Working Group. It was noted that work continues to secure funding for a Climate Change Project Manager to take forward the development of a climate change action plan, with £90k of the required £120k secured. Pippa Milne added that the council had achieved bronze carbon literacy status, with 65% of elected members now trained by Argyll and the Isles Coast and Countryside Trust.

### **Child Poverty**

Mandy Sheridan advised that the associated report contained a summary of the framework on the requirements to achieve implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. She highlighted the importance of needing to move away from the idea that this is just an issue for child-facing departments and organisations, and requires a whole council approach.

Pippa Milne and Councillor Robin Currie noted that the papers contained complex information on work that sits alongside many other council duties i.e. island impacts, environment and social. Mandy responded that it is her plan to hold an event once the action plan had been firmed up, to communicate to stakeholders that the implementation journey would need to build new skills and approaches and best practice may take time to develop.

It was noted that a review of the Child Poverty Action Plan would begin shortly and is the first to include a target year of monitored work. Fiona Davies was optimistic that having come close to meeting current targets, the plan would help to achieve a reduction in child poverty in Argyll and Bute, she also advised that £197,000 had been awarded from the Scottish Government for Island Support.

### **Financial Inclusion**

Fergus Walker highlighted the range of different work around financial inclusion, including crisis grants, concessionary housing payment, flexible fuel and food fund and the Love Local cards.

### **Community Wealth Building (CWB)**

Takki Sulaiman advised that work was being taken forward on a CWB audit, and following consultation the brief had been split into separate lots. The separate lots being:

- how we look at land and assets to how we currently procure,
- identification of relevant replicable case studies,
- development of strategy and action, and
- can business cases and models be developed for us?



Takki confirmed that CLD funding had allowed a collection of groups in Oban to explore opportunities that take advantage of CWB as a methodology.

## Digital Communities

Iain MacInnes reported on the significant work regarding the R100 programme in the Oban area and shared the maps of completed premises that now have access to full fibre across Argyll and Bute. The Digital Scotland [website](#) shows where fibre is available or when it is expected. Iain highlighted there may now be residents in areas that can access full fibre but are not aware.

Regarding the resilience of the Carradale mobile masts, Iain advised that the network coverage by EE is very good whereas other networks have poor signal. Iain confirmed that each ESN mast has power outage resilience via wind, solar or generator power as they must be active at all times.

Iain advised that a contract to provide IT equipment to the island hubs (Islay, Coll, Jura and Tiree) has been agreed and that the equipment would be installed in late April 2023. Funding has been applied to extend this work further into 2023/24.

Alex Edmonstone advised that the CLD Partnership will reconvene next month and that the digital sub-group has been working with Takki Sulaiman on digital mapping to review existing activity and identify the support need to deliver essential skills to communities.

## Building Back Better

Kirsty Moyes advised that the Community Development Team had provided support to non-digital and hard to reach groups to support participation in the Argyll and Bute Outcome Improvement Plan (ABOIP) consultation.

Takki Sulaiman provided a [link to the TSI volunteer survey findings](#) and gave an overview of the key points:

- 106 responses to the survey covering 40 organisations and individual volunteers,
- qualitative and quantitative findings aligned to national research by SCVO on the cost of living crisis and its impact on volunteering,
- many organisations are struggling to recruit to volunteering roles
- further conversations needed by TSI on how to provide support to volunteers
- volunteers and organisations are interested in incentive schemes (discount cards etc).
- results suggest that the cost of living crisis has not directly impacted volunteer behaviour but it has directly impacted volunteer families, and
- the response regarding having a single volunteer system to on-board volunteers was inconclusive.

Takki advised that a successful, family friendly, volunteering event took place in Hermitage Academy, Helensburgh, where Community Councils and 60 groups got together and matched those organisations with a surplus of volunteers to those with shortages.

## **ARGYLL AND BUTE OUTCOME IMPROVEMENT PLAN CONSULTATION RESULTS AND NEXT STEPS.**

Rona Gold presented information on the Argyll and Bute Outcome Improvement Plan survey, methodology and participation rates, highlighting that over 1,900 responses had been received, over 1,000 paper copies of the survey were issued, with 230 posters and 500 fliers placed across Argyll and Bute to advertise the survey. The survey was also promoted via ebulletins, the Chief Executives podcast, twitter and Facebook. The team monitored the incoming survey results and then targeted promotion to increase participation across geographical areas and protected characteristics.

Kirsty Moyes presented highlights on the support by the Community Development Team to engage potential non-digital and hard to reach groups to participate in the survey. Paper surveys were widely distributed and interactive sessions were provided to support the completion of the forms, adapting to the audience with easy to read resources, different voting methods including QR codes and bucket voting. Central collection points and prepaid envelopes were also provided to ensure no costs were associated with the return of completed paper surveys. Over 40 community groups were supported to participate covering approximately 520 individuals and a video showcasing the engagement was played to the attendees.

Lucy Dunbar presented the work undertaken to engage young people. Promotion included church groups, young carers, development trusts, youth cafes, schools, scouts and guides. A further 18 youth organisations were contacted directly and there was also work with the LiveArgyll Youth Work team and CLD Partnership. Feedback received after targeted promotion was that young people were not engaged by the online survey, so an adapted single page survey was created in a more youth friendly format and language.

John McLuckie highlighted the overall top 3 priorities for Argyll and Bute are Transport Infrastructure, Housing and Community Wellbeing. A fourth priority theme of Financial Inclusion was also identified. It was noted that the survey would close on 31 March 2023. Rona advised the next step would be to analyse the survey results in more depth at a development day. Rona advised that John was currently preparing a key and handbook for the anonymised data, other steps include:

- sending thanks to all participants with an outline of next steps,
- holding CPP development day (May / June dependent on diaries),
- deep dive with online / offline groups over summer / autumn,
- definitions of housing, community wellbeing and transport are agreed,
- identify what needs to be improved,
- long term actions agreed,
- re-consult with stakeholders to ensure our understanding of the priorities and the actions proposed to address these matches those of our communities,
- draft report published (with consultation at this point required under legislation), and
- plan published.

**For further information, please contact:**

Stuart McLean, Committee Manager, Argyll and Bute Council (01436) 657605

[Stuart.mclean@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:Stuart.mclean@argyll-bute.gov.uk)

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**Argyll & Bute Community Planning  
Partnership**

**Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area  
Community Planning Group**

**Date: 3 May 2023**



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### **Partner update – Public Health**

The paper provides an update on ongoing wellbeing and prevention activity overseen and delivered by the HSCP Public Health Team in Argyll and Bute.

#### **Director of Public Health Report 2022 – Prevention**

Prevention is better than cure and this valuable report provides an evidence based rationale for moving upstream to a preventative approach where instead of rescuing people from river downstream, we prevent them falling into the river in the first place. Prevention is about looking upstream and taking the actions that are needed to stop people from becoming ill, or reducing the severity of their illness.

The report provides examples of where preventative action can and does improve health and prevent the need for more intensive and costly treatment. The report highlights the importance of prevention as a vital and integral part of healthcare and of wider community activities and makes a compelling case for investing in systemic preventive action.

The report provides a number of evidence based examples of projects which deliver prevention and early intervention and result in improved health outcomes and is cost effective.

#### **Key Messages**

- Investment in preventative measures which promote, protect and improve health and wellbeing is essential to ensure the future sustainability of the health and care system.
- There are many examples of preventative actions that have already helped achieve major improvements in health, for example, improved social conditions, vaccination against communicable diseases and national screening programmes.
- The effects of prevention work have contributed to a decline in cancer and cardiovascular disease mortality rates. Priority should continue to be given to preventing cardiovascular and smoking related conditions and there must be continued efforts to improve early diagnosis for effective treatment.
- There are thousands of avoidable deaths and preventable health conditions every year in NHS Highland. Estimates of health loss and avoidable mortality

should be used to help inform priorities for health and care service planning and redesign, and for disease prevention.

- Actions to address modifiable risk factors, such as high blood pressure, smoking, alcohol and drug use, healthy weight and physical activity, presents a sizeable opportunity to improve health, add years to life and to reduce existing inequalities in these measures.
- A life course approach to prevention should be used to identify potential areas of action relating to both the individual and the community.
- The characteristics of effective prevention work should be considered when planning programmes of work and training to ensure existing health inequalities are not reinforced.
- The 'best buys' in prevention should meet one or more of these objectives: cost-effective; likely to reduce health inequalities; likely to reduce avoidable health and social care problems.
- The NHS has an important role to play in prevention as an employer, researcher, collaborative partner and commissioner of services. Ensuring prevention is seen as part of everyone's role, and that time and resources are allocated to it may be key to supporting the fundamental shift towards prevention that is required for the future sustainability of health and care systems.
- There are many examples and evidence of preventative interventions that provide a return on investment and have the potential to deliver savings to the NHS in the short and longer term. These should be used to inform priorities for action.

The Annual Report of the Director of Public Health 2022 Prevention – Moving Upstream: <https://indd.adobe.com/view/45cbb2d9-8f8d-44dd-a040-efe28296701c>

### **Living Well Networks**

Following a pilot a new model of delivery has been implemented for our Living Well Networks. There are Co-ordinators in place in each locality and a new administrator role to deliver the valuable engagement and capacity building work of the networks. The networks contribute to improving the health of the people in Argyll and Bute by working in partnership with a range of stakeholders and community members and joining structures such as the Locality Planning Groups. The funding for the networks has been secured for two years. Further information and contact details for the networks can be found here: <https://www.ablivingwell.org/living-well-networks>

### **Adult Health and Wellbeing Profiles**

Public health partnership profile reports have been published for the four localities in Argyll and Bute local authority. These partnership areas are the focus of action to

improve the health of the people and communities in the area covered by NHS Highland Health Board. The profile reports present information across a range of health and wellbeing topics. They are designed to support staff and partners to make decisions and plans to improve population health and reduce inequalities. They bring together in one valuable resource, data on a wide range of topics and are themed into two profiles with further profiles for child health and wellbeing, and health inequalities being released in the coming months:

- [Demography and deprivation](#)
- [Adult health and wellbeing](#)

We encourage partners to take a look at this valuable resource which can be found at: [Public health profiles | NHS Highland \(scot.nhs.uk\)](https://www.scot.nhs.uk/public-health-profiles)

### **Children and Young People**

The Health Improvement Team and the Education Department have been working closely with schools, statutory and third sector partners to deliver the Smoke Free Programme and S3 Health Drama Programme in March 2023.

The Smoke Free Programme consists of five interactive lessons plans covering the effects of tobacco on health, the slave trade, black lives matters, the environment and financial cost. Aimed at P6/P7 pupils and offered to all primary schools, the programme is completed with a drama tour which has proven to be a impactful but also fun and memorable element to the programme which allows the pupils to sing the songs they have learnt and demonstrate their knowledge.

The S3 Health Programme “You Are Not Alone” is an impactful and meaningful part of the curriculum. Three lesson plans are delivered in PSE classes to compliment the messages in the drama production which contains three vignettes based on real life stories covering smoking, vaping, mental health, bullying, sending nude photos and alcohol. Each pupil receives a localised booklet for them to complete, takes part in discussions, and Q&As with service providers. The overall message of this programme is to access help, the evaluation of this year’s programme is still being collated but in previous years the programme has been successful in raising awareness of the help available for young people and results in young people accessing much needed support.

With thanks to Raenbow Productions who delivered 16 productions during March the tour reached the length and breadth of Argyll and Bute including the Island of Islay and Island of Bute, with IT support offered to Tiree and Mull. The success of this programme is also due to the partnership working within school, statutory and third partners.

## **Cool2Talk**

We are pleased to share that this valuable service has secured funding from Children and Families, the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership and Public Health for a further year. Cool2Talk is a website aimed at young people 12-24 years old where they can post a question and receive a bespoke response within 24 hours. The answers are evidence based and provide young people with accurate and safe health information and link to local and national services for support. There are also information resources on the site. The site can be accessed at: <https://cool2talk.org>

## **REPORT AUTHOR AND CONTACT**

Author Names: Sam Campbell, (Interim Health Improvement Principal); Laura Stephenson and Jenny Dryden (Health Improvement Leads)

Email: [nhsh.abhealthimprovement@nhs.scot](mailto:nhsh.abhealthimprovement@nhs.scot)



**OFFICIAL****Road Safety**

Work is currently ongoing to develop short information videos for anyone planning on towing a trailer, boat, caravan or horsebox this year following a change to driving licence requirements meaning individuals no longer have to sit a separate test for towing certain trailers. These will be launched shortly on our social media channels for watching and sharing and are being developed with partners from Campbeltown including Roads Policing Officers and DVLA instructors.

**Fraud Prevention**

The scam savvy quiz was discussed with the Inveraray Senior Citizens Group which was a great discussion with lots of inputs from local residents providing times where they have or nearly have fallen victim to scams and how we can all learn from this. This has resulted in a number of call blockers being fitted with many still to be installed. Discussions are ongoing with Furnace Community Council around this same event taking place in their area in the future and the possibility for working together for further call blocker funding as well.

**Naloxone Roll Out**

The roll-out of Naloxone to our officers across Argyll and West Dunbartonshire is nearly complete. The intra-nasal sprays can reverse life-threatening opioid-related overdoses, and are being issued to all constables, sergeants and inspectors across Scotland to supplement their existing extensive first aid training. Nearly 450 officers now have access to these sprays carried in pouches for easy access. Officers complete an online course before receiving the first aid equipment. Since officers in Scotland started to carry Naloxone, it has been administered 128 times (correct as of 24/2/23), with positive outcomes on all but 5 of the incidents.

**Pub Watch**

The Licensing Department within Police Scotland, alongside the Community & Partnerships Team are looking at ways to bring back 'Pub Watch' within all of the main settlements in the MAKI/OLI area. Pub Watch is a scheme that seeks to prevent crime and disorder in and around licenced premises, preventing nuisance to neighbouring businesses and residents, providing a safe and secure environment for the staff and indeed for members of the general public to frequent establishments that are part of it. It is a voluntary process whereby licensed premises come together to help problem solve and drive forward responsible practice, whilst working with key stakeholders like the Police and Council.

**OFFICIAL**

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**Working together  
for a safer Scotland**



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

# **Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands CPG Briefing Report**

## **Q4 2022/23**

## **Performance & Activity Report**

<b>From:</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> January 2023</b>	<b>To:</b>	<b>31<sup>st</sup> March 2023</b>
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## Introduction

Welcome to the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Community Board Performance Report. This performance report is designed to provide citizens, stakeholders and partners with information relating to Community Board based activity undertaken by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

Whilst using historic statistical benchmarking data, consideration must be taken of the somewhat random nature of fire related incidents and events, and how this can pose difficulties in interpreting emerging patterns and trends. This is of specific relevance where Community Board level data is analysed due to the relatively small number of actual incidents/events that occur in Community Board areas.

However, regardless of statistical anomalies, emerging patterns and trends in fire related incidents and events can assist the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Community Planning Partners plan and implement preventative intervention initiatives to target reducing fire related incidents and events.

## Local Firefighter Training Plan

Below is a list of subjects the operational crews have been focusing on within this period. Each subject has been covered both practically and theoretically and recorded in the Fire Service Training recording system

Training Subjects	January/February/March
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CFBT</li> <li>● Tac Vent</li> <li>● Casualty Care</li> <li>● RTC and Extrication</li> <li>● Knotts, Ladders &amp; Pumps</li> <li>● Incident Command</li> </ul>

## Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADF)

Ward	3 Year Average	2021/22	2022/23
Kintyre & the Islands	1.0	2	0
Mid Argyll	1.6	3	1
South Kintyre	1.0	0	2
<b>Community Board Total</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>

## ADF Casualties

Ward	3 Year Average	2021/22	2022/23
Kintyre & the Islands	0.0	0	0
Mid Argyll	0.3	1	0
South Kintyre	0.3	0	0
<b>Community Board Total</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>

## Deliberate Secondary Fire Setting

Ward	3 Year Average	2021/22	2022/23
Kintyre & the Islands	0.3	1	0
Mid Argyll	2.6	6	2
South Kintyre	0	0	0
<b>Community Board Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>

## Fires in Non-Domestic Property

Ward	3 Year Average	2021/22	2022/23
Kintyre & the Islands	1.6	0	3
Mid Argyll	1	1	1
South Kintyre	0.3	0	0
<b>Community Board Total</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>

## Casualties from Non-Fire Emergencies

Ward	3 Year Average	2021/22	2022/23
Kintyre & the Islands	2.7	5	0
Mid Argyll	2.3	2	1
South Kintyre	0.3	0	0
<b>Community Board Total</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>

## Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

Ward	3 Year Average	2021/22	2022/23
Kintyre & the Islands	23.6	28	26
Mid Argyll	29.3	30	27
South Kintyre	19.3	22	18
<b>Community Board Total</b>	<b>72.3</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>71</b>

# Incidents/Activities of Note

## Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS)

We're continually working with partners and targeting our top offenders, which are Education including Infant/Primary/Secondary Schools, and Residential/Care Homes.

A new UFAS mobilisation policy has been devised by a dedicated project team within SFRS with an aim at reducing UFAS Incidents further. This policy will go live 1st July 2023 and should result in a reduction of unwanted fire alarm signals.

## Road & Water Safety campaigns

We've been working alongside Police Scotland, RNLI and various other Partners across all sectors, engaging with the local community at various identified hotspots. We provided advice and literature relevant to Road & Water Safety (including drug and alcohol misuse and ASB), as well as providing Throwline and CPR Training to local businesses and members of the public. Local Area Liaison Officer WC McGloin attended Road Safety Seminar at Edinburgh International Conference Centre on the 21st March. The Community Action Team also attended a PAWS Workshop at Hermitage Academy on the 30th March to roll out new water safety presentations to Argyll and Bute's Schools – Various Partners in attendance including RNLI, Police Scotland, Water Safety Scotland and Education.

## Community Engagement Activities

- Post Domestic Incident Response (PDIR) following every domestic incident
- Fire, Water & Road Safety provided to schools and local community groups with practical demonstrations using new interactive scenario floorboards.
- Continue to deliver Fire Safety advice via HFSVs and provision of smoke detection
- Representation on Multi Agency Risk Assessment (MARAC) for those affected by domestic violence
- Continue to support 'Make the Call' campaign and On Call recruitment drive for retained and volunteer stations within Argyll and Bute
- Supporting Partnership Approach to Water Safety (PAWS) group and engaging with the public: #RESPECTTHEWATER campaign
- Engaging with communities utilising winter/spring Thematic Action Plans TAP
- Victim support referral pathway set up
- Careers engagement pathway delivered to all schools for fire service employment

## EWDAB LSO Activities

- Continued roll out of new fleet SFRS Electric Vehicles within the area
- New Virtual Reality headsets acquired in preparation for road safety awareness within the community
- We held two On Call Seminars held at Oban Fire station for all of Argyll and Bute's crews
- Watch Commander Tony McGloin joined EWDABs Community Action Team as a new Local Area Liaison Officer

## Home Fire Safety

As part of our commitment to building a safer Scotland we offer everyone in Scotland a free home fire safety visit. We'll help you sort out a fire escape plan and provide information about smoke, heat and carbon monoxide alarms.

For a Free Home Fire Safety Visit, please:

- Call 0800 0731 999
- Text "FIRE" to 80800 from your mobile phone.

Twitter link: <https://twitter.com/abewdhq>





# Argyll & Bute Quarterly update

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By Jen Broadhurst  
Bureau Manager



# Argyll & Bute CAB

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- > ABCAB is a registered Charity, with offices in Lochgilphead, and Helensburgh and Outreach services available in Dunoon, Oban, Campbeltown, & Mull
- > Established in 2002, we celebrate our 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday this year
- > 12 staff
- > 16 volunteers



# Twin Aims of the CAB

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**All CAB's have a twin aim:**

- > To ensure individuals do not suffer through ignorance of their rights and responsibilities or of the services available; or through an inability to express their needs.**
- > To exercise a responsible influence on the development of social policies and services both locally and nationally.**



# Social Policy Work

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Last Year's Private Rental Sector Research

[https://www.cas.org.uk/system/files/publications/argyll\\_and\\_bute\\_citizens\\_advice\\_bureau\\_research\\_into\\_the\\_private\\_rental\\_sector\\_executive\\_summary.pdf](https://www.cas.org.uk/system/files/publications/argyll_and_bute_citizens_advice_bureau_research_into_the_private_rental_sector_executive_summary.pdf)

## **This year's Research:**

Big Energy Saving Network

Debt Happens

Money and Mental Health

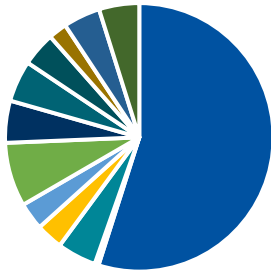
Impact of cost of living crisis on Carers





## ABCAB in 2021/2022

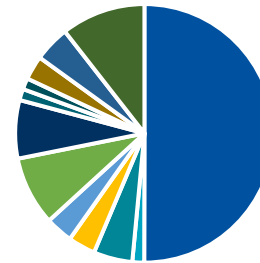
- Advised 1,040 clients
- 677 new clients
- Helped clients gain £1.1 million
- And provided 3,120 separate pieces of advice.



■ Benefits 1701	■ Consumer 23
■ Debt 146	■ Employment 100
■ Charitable Support 102	■ Health/PASS 420
■ Housing 157	■ Immigration 154
■ Legal 101	■ Relationship 69
■ Tax 138	■ Utilities 150

## ABCAB in 2022/2023

- Advised 1845 clients
- 1239 new clients
- Helped clients gain £879,561
- And provided 10062 pieces of advice



■ Benefits 1450	■ Consumer 42
■ Debt 138	■ Employment 97
■ Charitable Support 205	■ Health/Pass 299
■ Housing 207	■ Immigration 40
■ Legal 127	■ Relationship 85
■ Tax 127	■ Utilities 299

# Quality is taken seriously

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We have a 3-yearly audit by Citizens Advice Scotland, and our latest one in 2021 saw us pass with no recommendations.

We undertake quarterly assessment of our advice internally and this is in turn verified by CAS learning and standards team. This is in addition to weekly peer-to peer case checking by all advisers.

We deliver competency based training on a monthly basis to all staff and volunteers in the Bureau.

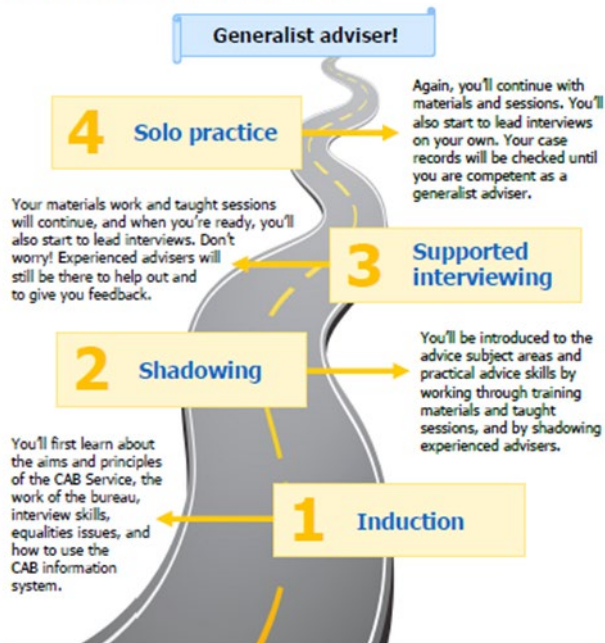




# Volunteers are the life-blood of every CAB

## The CAB Adviser Training Programme

Welcome to the CAB Adviser Training Programme! The training is made up of four stages (illustrated below). It will help to equip you with the knowledge and skills you'll need to be an adviser in the CAB.



The training consists of a combination of:



bureau practice



training materials



tutor-led sessions

Generalist Adviser Training can take 6 months to complete

We currently have 16 volunteer advisers and have reopened our recruitment period for our Spring intake

Training Starts May 2023



# Housing Debt/Money Advice

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- For those at risk of Repossession, eviction or debt related issues
- Lay representation for some civil court action
- Registered with the Financial Conduct Authority
- Money Talk Plus





# Patient Advice and Support Service



The Patient Advice and Support Service (PASS) is an independent service which provides free, accessible and confidential information, advice and support to patients, their carers and families about NHS Healthcare. The project offers the following support and assistance:

- Support you if you are going to a meeting
- Help you write letters and make phone calls
- Help you access your medical and clinical records
- Help you find health services and social care
- Help you access the treatments, care and support you need

The infographic is titled 'The Patient Rights (Scotland) Act 2011' and features the NHS Scotland logo. It includes a quote from the Act: 'Pursuing the Quality Ambitions of the Quality Strategy will ensure that, for the first time, the people of Scotland will be confident that NHS services will listen and improve services based on patient experience and outcomes.' It also states that the Act establishes a new independent Patient Advice and Support Service (PASS) and lists its key functions: providing information about the NHS, helping patients understand their rights and responsibilities, helping people with grievances, and offering support services like independent advocacy. The infographic is framed in a teal border.

**The Patient Rights (Scotland) Act 2011**

**NHS SCOTLAND**

The Patient Rights (Scotland) Act 2011 supports the Scottish Government's vision for a high quality, person-centred NHS. The Act applies to every member of staff working for NHS Scotland, and for all independent contractors and their staff who provide NHS services. The National Bodies which the Patient Advice and Support Service (PASS) must support you, your carer and independent contractors.

"Pursuing the Quality Ambitions of the Quality Strategy will ensure that, for the first time, the people of Scotland will be confident that NHS services will listen and improve services based on patient experience and outcomes."

*The national Quality Strategy to revolutionise healthcare*

**Patient Advice and Support Service (PASS)**

The Act establishes a new independent Patient Advice and Support Service (PASS). This will replace the Independent Advice and Support Service.

The Contract for NHS For Dummies (passed to Citizens Advice Scotland) and will be delivered through the contracts of local Citizens Advice Bureaux. PASS will provide information and help patients and members of the public to know and understand their rights and responsibilities when using health services. PASS will also be able to help and support patients to give feedback, comments, concerns and complaints about their healthcare experience. Where necessary, PASS will direct people to other types of support, such as independent advocacy or community care services.

**In summary, PASS will:**

- provide information about the NHS and what it does
- help patients and members of the public to know and understand their rights and responsibilities when using the NHS
- help people who wish to give feedback or comments, or raise concerns or complaints about the care they have received
- tell patients about other support services, such as independent advocacy, interpretation or translating, which might be helpful to them.

**The Act will:**

- encourage patients and their families to say what they think about the healthcare and treatment they have received or are receiving
- give patients a copy of the letter making a Complaint about the NHS if they need it

# Armed Services Advice Project

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We provide free, confidential, impartial information, advice and support to:

- members of the armed forces, & merchant navy
- their dependents
- those who are currently serving
- those who have left the armed forces whether they left yesterday or 20 years ago

The service covers the whole of Argyll & Bute and advice ranges from benefits through housing and debt to relationship advice.



# Pensionwise

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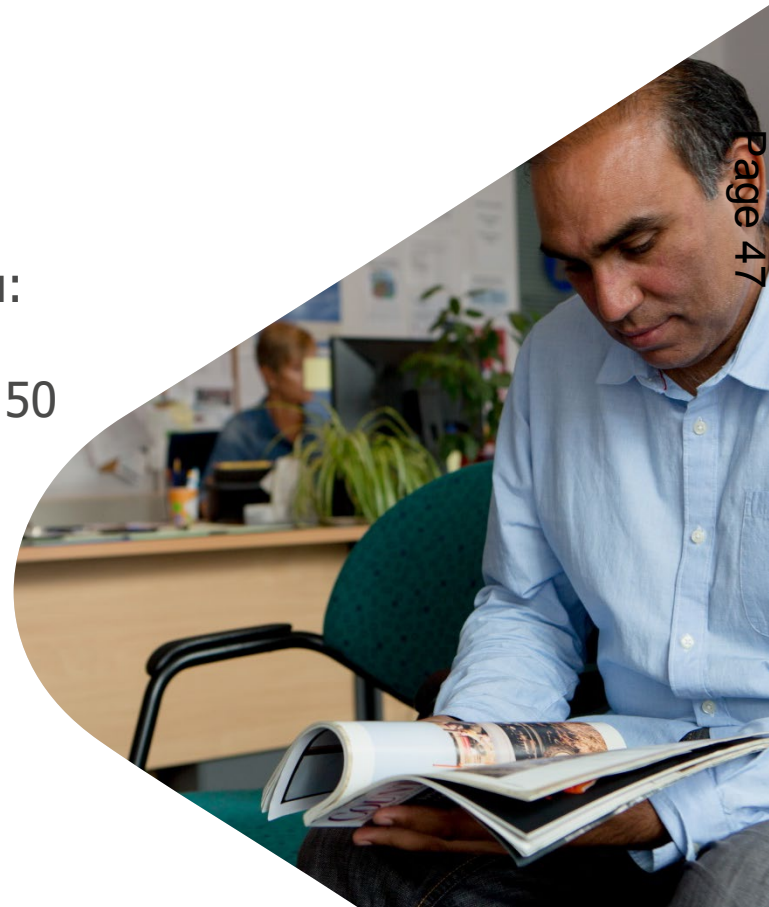
A service from



Pension Wise is a free and impartial service to help people make informed decisions about how to access their pension savings and plan financial matters in retirement by providing people with guidance about their options.

A Pension Wise appointment may help you if you:

- Are approaching retirement or close to or over 50
- Have a defined contribution pension pot(s)



# Energy Best Deal

# Worried about the cost of **energy**?

Argyll & Bute Citizens Advice Bureau  
is here for you.

[www.abcab.org.uk](http://www.abcab.org.uk)

phone: **01546 60 5550**

email: [info@abcab.org.uk](mailto:info@abcab.org.uk)



Charity No. SC030477



[cas.org.uk/BESW](http://cas.org.uk/BESW)

Supported by | **Consumer  
Scotland**



# We are looking for your views!

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As part of our processes we really need to know what our communities think of the work we do.

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/ABCABCommunityPartnersSurvey/>

We have shared this survey previously, but have had no responses from partners around the forum.

Please help Argyll & Bute CAB to continue to help across the region by completing the linked survey



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# Forestry and Land Scotland (FLS) update January 2023

## Land Management Plans (LMPs)

### Carradale

- Still with Scottish Forestry for approval

### Lussa

- Mid-term review to take place spring/summer 2023 to identify if LMP still meets current policies and objectives.

## Renewables

### Clachaig Glen

Planning permission denied for version 2, appeal will be going in. FLS will continue with felling proposals as per Carradale LMP.

On-going discussions regarding peatland restoration.

### Lussa

Peatland restoration projects proposed for areas within renewables project areas.

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) screening opinions will be submitted to Scottish Forestry.

### Inveraray-Crossaig power line

FLS identified roads with operational purpose and have submitted planning permission to retain these.

## Larch- *Phytophthora ramorum*

The disease is still spreading throughout Kintyre with infected areas now in the Kilberry area.

Work in progress to identify how to safely fell infected areas with Statutory Plant Health Notices (SPHNs), with likely amendments to be submitted for appropriate felling coupes, rather than keyholing out the infected larch.

Amendments submitted to Scottish Forestry for larch removal work in Ormaig and West Loch Awe, to help prevent the spread North.



## Peatland restoration

Hopefully to being active restoration by end 2023.

## Upcoming “complex” operations

### Beinn Ghuilean felling

Complex operations, timescales tbc.

### Dunardy Face, Knapdale felling

Works scheduled for October.

## Other information

- “Stay the Night” scheme up and running in Ardcastle, Achnabreac & Carradale.
- Easter event Barnluasgan- very well attended, issues with car parking, VS team to have follow up meeting to discuss.
- FLS car parking charges to begin 1-5-2023.
- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths) placement- FLS welcomed a student from Tarbert Academy for a day End February.
- DYMS (Developing a Young Workforce Scotland)- FLS welcomed an individual into the FM team April for a 10 week placement.
- Modern Apprenticeships- FLS to expand opportunities through apprenticeships in the following; Trees & Timber, Civil Engineering, HM Machine Operator & Wildlife Ranger.





Forestry and  
Land Scotland  
Coilltearachd agus  
Fearann Alba

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# SOUTH ISLAY NEWS

March 2023

# CONTRACTOR SECURED FOR THE PORT ELLEN PLAYING FIELDS



South Islay Development are delighted to finally share the fantastic news that a construction team has been appointed to begin work on Port Ellen Playing Fields!

This is a huge achievement after many years of hard work by all SID Board members and staff, both past and present, and we can't wait to share more updates as the building begins.

# Port Ellen Playing Fields Construction begins..

SID are excited that construction work is finally due to begin on the Playing Fields in May 2023!

The successful contractor is Hamilton based Procast, who are keen to expand their community-based work. They will be responsible for both the community building and the motorhome expansion, and joined onsite by locally based McEachern Bros.

SID would like to extend a big Thank You to the project funders at this point, all of whom have continued to provide support despite numerous project delays. Funding has been received from the Scottish Government's Regeneration Capital Grant Fund, Visit Scotland's Rural Tourism Infrastructure Fund, Highlands & Islands Enterprise, The Glenmorangie Company, the Scottish Government's Rural & Island Communities Ideas into Action fund, delivered by Inspiring Scotland, Argyll & Bute Council, the Scottish Government's Islands Infrastructure Fund, the Scottish Government's Investing in Communities Fund, The Suez Communities Trust, South Islay Trading Company, Elixir Distillers, the Scottish Government's Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES), managed by Local Energy Scotland, The Garfield Weston Foundation, and Islay Energy Trust.

Huge Thanks also for all the continued support shown by the community during this process, especially when external factors have meant progress has been much slower than originally planned. SID are looking forward to the next steps now and beginning the build. An update on construction will be provided as soon as possible!

Drop Rosie an email at [portelleplayingfields@gmail.com](mailto:portelleplayingfields@gmail.com), or pop in and see us at the SID office if you have any questions or queries.





# FANTASTIC RESPONSE TO THE NEW FUND

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Ardbeg Islay single malt Scotch whisky established a £ 1million to support community and environmental projects on Islay.

Working in cooperation South Islay Development (SID) and Ardbeg were delighted to launch the Ardbeg All Islay Fund on the 30th of January 2023 inviting applications from groups and projects right across the island. The fund will run over a 5-year period with £200,000 per year to be allocated and distributed.

A series of open-day sessions were held in Port Ellen, Bowmore, Ballygrant and Port Charlotte for the SID team to meet the community groups and give them an opportunity to ask questions and become more informed about the fund.

SID has been delighted by the enthusiastic interest in the fund and has worked hard to ensure due diligence was undertaken to ensure the process works for all parties, including establishing an independent cross-Islay panel.

By the deadline on the 13th of March, there were 41 completed applications received from projects spanning the whole of Islay. All applicants have had acknowledgements of their applications.

Now for the hard work! All applications are being assessed next week and the SID staff will then send all the applications to the independent panel. The panel meetings will be held end of April with a provisional set for the beginning of May. The successful applicants will be informed by the beginning of May at the latest.

Thanks for all the interest and support – this is a very exciting fund which will allow many organisations to fulfil their ambitions for a wonderful community to flourish and prosper.

We will continue regular updates as the Ardbeg All Islay Fund progresses.



Supporting Island-Wide Projects on Islay for a 5 year period

## NEW FUEL PUMPS!!



Port Ellen Filling Station would like to thank the community for their patience over the past couple of years while we waited for our new pumps to be installed.

The Filling Station is still an attendant service with the perks of the upgraded staff back office controls. We would like to urge all drivers to wait for our staff to come and serve.

The wait was significantly longer than we first initiated but we got there in the end and everyone is happy with the results. We are now all ready for the busy season ahead.

**A MASSIVE THANK YOU**  
to our funders and the community  
for your continued support.

**Our Opening Hours Are**  
**Monday - Saturday**  
**8 am - 5:30 pm**

**Fuel - Parts - Air/Vacuum Services - JetWash**  
**\* New Confectionary In Stock \***



**Motorhome Service Point Online Booking**  
[www.southislay.co.uk](http://www.southislay.co.uk)



## **Campbeltown Community Council – Update**

### **Coronation Celebrations**

Campbeltown Community Council (CCC) is hosting a Picnic on Kinloch Green on Sunday 7th May between 2pm and 4 pm to mark the coronation of King Charles III. Entertainment will be provided by Campbeltown Brass, Kintyre Schools Pipe Band, SG Taekwando, James McCorkindale Highland Dancers and Sound city Disco. There will be children's races and everyone is encouraged to participate in a royal themed fancy dress!

Organisations who have benefitted from Campbeltown Community Windfarm Fund will be present to advertise their organisation/raise funds

Attendees should bring their own picnic food, chairs and rugs for the party in the park.

Alcohol is not permitted on the site.

### **Jubilee Path**

CCC is working to restore the footpath between the Trench Point and Slatyfarlan. This has become overgrown with vegetation and the bridge has become unsafe. It is hoped to make the path accessible for walkers, cyclists, pram and wheelchair users.

### **Gateway Garden**

The creation of a community garden and providing opportunities for food growing are identified actions in the Campbeltown Community Action Plan (2022 – 2027). In the first instance, South Kintyre Development Trust (SKDT), along with CCC hope to redevelop the Gateway Garden which is very prominent at the entrance to the town.

It is hoped that these latter two projects can access funding from the Crown Estates.

### **Electric Vehicle Charging Points**

CCC is receiving increasing queries about the current availability and future strategy for provision of EV charging points within Campbeltown. The ban on sales of petrol and diesel cars from 2030 will result in an increase in electric vehicles. A high proportion of dwellings within Campbeltown are flats with on-street parking, which are not suitable for home charging. Tourism is an important part of the Campbeltown economy, but this could be affected if facilities are not available for rapid charging.

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Tarbert & Skipness Community Trust has been working to encourage local members to take forward the plans outlined in the SHIP for 30 new houses by 2026. We are aware this is a complicated project but are very keen that the preparation process is started soon. The Trust is looking forward to a meeting with Douglas Whyte and Councillor Robin Currie which was unavoidably delayed in March.

Tarbert Life, Tarbert Heritage project will be opening for the 2023 season soon. Our project on shops will be a new display and we are working on making our existing information boards more user friendly.

We have been donated the skeleton of a Cuvier beaked whale which we will be displaying. We had thought it as a game for children to work on as a jigsaw until we looked up the price of whale bones on ebay! They would not have lasted long!

We have applied for, and have been granted an educational license in order to be in possession on the bones.

The Trust will be carrying out the annual beach clean on the weekend on 28-29<sup>th</sup> April. We anticipate being able to get up to 50 adults and young people out over the weekend. Thanks to Tarbert Harbour Authority for collecting bags from the beaches and GRAB trust for the pickers.

Thank you  
Jane Cowen

Tarbert & Skipness Community Trust  
William Duncan & Co.  
The Old Surgery  
School Road  
Tarbert  
PA29 6UL

[www.tsct.org.uk](http://www.tsct.org.uk)  
[info@tsct.org.uk](mailto:info@tsct.org.uk)

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## **Argyll and Bute Third Sector Interface Partner Update – MAKI ACPG Period: 16th February 2023 to 21st April 2023**

### **Local Strategic Partnerships**

At the March 2023 **Community Planning Partnership (CPP)**, A&B TSI CEO presented a third paper on moving the **local Community Wealth Building (CWB)** agenda further forward. The paper noted proposals for the governance of CWB locally and the progress on the research that the TSI is commissioning – the tender process for this work closes on 28th April and two bids have already been received.

At the same meeting the CEO presented a paper on volunteering, including the findings of the TSI's survey, and it was agreed that the TSI would lead on the **production of a volunteering strategy and plan**.

On 18th and 19th April 2023 at the TSI offices several partners attended the TSI funded **training on co-production methodologies** which was organised by TSI board member Mahailia Scott.

TSI has commissioned research from the Social Value Lab into the **health of social enterprises in Argyll and Bute** which has not been done since 2017. This has been commissioned jointly with the Council and Inspiralba. The census data aids the delivery of the duty on TSI to support the social enterprise sector and ties in nicely with the research on Community Wealth Building.

The TSI national network has continued to work on a response to the cost-of-living crisis. A&B TSI CEO is on a working group with the SCVO to embark on a joint campaign to highlight the importance of the third sector. In addition, A&B TSI is organising a Chief Officers strategy event in late June to improve the speed of the TSI Network's responses to public policy issues and to discuss the idea of a national TSI manifesto.

### **Future Funds**

The Scottish Government has confirmed funding for year 3 of the **Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund. Funds for distribution** in Argyll and Bute are likely to be the same as for year two i.e. £282,303.16. The full ministerial announcement can be seen here [£15 million mental health funding - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/news/15-million-mental-health-funding-2023-04-19/)

### **Future Events**

The first and second networking breakfasts took place in Helensburgh and Dunoon respectively **with Lochgilhead's event taking place on 25th April** and Oban's on 3rd June 2023 to support Charities Day. We are seeing approximately 14-16 groups attending which is great for local events.

## **Don't Forget ...**

The A&B TSI database contains over 1400 services across the region and has powered the **Argyll and Bute Community Directory** launched on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2022 (<https://abcd.scot/>). The directory provides a referral route for third sector services (and some statutory services) and it provides a means to analyse the strengths and gaps in local provision as well as map this against data such as that on poverty, health inequality and demographics.

**Volunteer of the Year** is at Brander Lodge on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June. Nominations have closed but there is still time to book your place to come along for an uplifting afternoon that celebrates volunteering in Argyll and Bute <https://voyargyllbute.co.uk/>

**Argyll and Bute Positive Destinations** is funded by the UK Government's Shared Prosperity Funds and enables support for anyone over the age of 15 with barriers to further education or employment by offering a 6-month volunteering placement in organisations across Argyll and Bute, with mentors to support personal development. To register go to [Register \(argylltsi-funding.org.uk\)](https://register.argylltsi-funding.org.uk)

[VolunteerArgyllandBute.org](https://volunteerargyllandbute.org) is a new and improved digital platform for volunteering, where people can search for the latest opportunities and register with the ones that suit them most. Groups and individuals can create their own online accounts to:

- Register their interest in opportunities that match their interests.
- Communicate directly with organisations offering opportunities.
- Log any hours spent volunteering.
- Provide feedback on the quality of the volunteering experience.
- Receive regular updates on new opportunities when they go live.
- Groups can advertise multiple volunteering opportunities on the portal.

Thank you for inviting me to speak at the Community Planning Group

My name is Jackie Westerman and I am the Home Energy Efficiency Project Officer for Argyll & Bute Council.

I have been in post for just over 1 year.

My role is to promote and administer the scheme but most importantly to promote.

My biggest challenge is to make people believe that there are free grants available!

Since 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022 spend to date in Argyll & Bute is £1.35m and we have insulated more than 180 households in this years' programme alone.

The premise of the Scheme is to contribute towards the Scottish Governments target of net-zero emissions by 2040, by retro-fitting insulation measures to homes, however more recently Fuel Poverty has become the main issue. We work hard to ensure that both issues are addressed.

The scheme is called the Energy Efficient Scotland: Area Based Scheme (ABS for short) – all Local Authorities in Scotland can make an application to the Scottish Government for funding for the Scheme.

The Councils Scheme differs to other Councils as we do not own our own stock so we work on a house-by-house basis. This gives us an advantage as we are contacted by householders who want to take part of their own accord and we have a Contractor engaged on a rolling basis.

Councils with their own stock will carry out programmes of street or blocks at one time and can find problems with householder engagement and engaging contractors on a project-by-project basis so some Councils decide not to take part at all, however the programme budget is over £2m in this financial year and I feel that it is important that this amount of funding is appropriated in Argyll and Bute.

I am particularly keen that geography should be no barrier to householders applying and to having works carried out timeously.

The Councils Home Energy Efficiency Team work in partnership with Home Energy Scotland who take referrals on our behalf and then guide the customer to the correct scheme, as there are several different schemes in Scotland, for heating, solar, wind etc. The ABS Scheme is for insulation, to retrofit homes that have poor Energy Performance ratings to improve their energy efficiency and reduce fuel poverty.

**Insulation is the bedrock of energy efficiency in the home.**

The Programme open to homeowners and private rented tenants, Argyll & Bute Council gained special permission to open up the Scheme to a wider audience due to our unique geographical issues, and by extending the "fuel poor" criteria.

Grants amounts are not means tested but depend on house type and personal circumstances and start at £8,500 for a flat up to £13,000 for a detached property.

There is also an additional grant of £5k for households assessed to be Extreme Fuel Poor.

Repairs grants are offered at 10% of basic grant if works are required to facilitate measures.

In addition we offer a redecoration grant of £750 for internal wall insulation, and we have a modest contingency fund from which we can assist applicants if we need to get them “over the line”

The insulation type depends on the type of property and is determined by survey.

The Scheme offers, External Wall Insulation, Internal Wall Insulation, Cavity Wall Insulation, Loft and Underfloor Insulation and Room in Roof insulation.

It's normal that the grant will cover all works however for larger houses or complex cases a personal contribution is sometimes required.

We are passionate about signposting other departments within the Council, for example we have referred many customers for a Welfare Rights referral as there is currently £120bn unclaimed in benefits in the UK, and are working closely with the Public Sector Housing Grants Team.

I am keen to talk to as many people as possible about the scheme and I would be pleased to attend any events or meetings to further promote the scheme.

The following insulation measures are available through the Scheme and will be determined by the Technical and Energy Performance Survey:

- **External Wall Insulation** (dependent on conservation area and planning approval)
- **Internal Wall Insulation**
- **Cavity Wall Insulation**
- **Loft Insulation**
- **Underfloor Insulation**
- **Room in Roof Insulation**

**HOMEENERGYSCOTLAND.ORG**  
**0808 808 2282**  
FUNDED BY THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

Should you require more information, please contact the Argyll & Bute Council Energy Efficiency Team:

- **Jacqueline Westerman: Project Officer, Energy Efficiency**  
☎ 01586-555943  
Email: [jacqueline.westerman@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:jacqueline.westerman@argyll-bute.gov.uk)
- **Brenda Galbraith: Housing Improvement Assistant: Energy Efficiency**  
☎ 01546-604254  
E-mail: [brenda.galbraith@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:brenda.galbraith@argyll-bute.gov.uk)



**HOME ENERGY**  
**ARGYLL & BUTE**  
**HEAT IN — COLD OUT**



To register your interest for grant assistance to install energy efficiency improvements to your property please contact Home Energy Scotland:

**HOMEENERGYSCOTLAND.ORG**  
**0808 808 2282**  
FUNDED BY THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

## How is it funded?

Argyll & Bute Council have been awarded Scottish Government funding to provide grant assistance for the installation of energy efficiency measures to eligible householders in Argyll and Bute. The grant levels in 2022/23 are:

<b>Flat</b>	<b>£8,500</b>
<b>Mid &amp; End Terraced</b>	<b>£9,000</b>
<b>Semi-detached</b>	<b>£10,250</b>
<b>Detached</b>	<b>£13,000</b>

*For applicants on an Island, in a very remote rural location or off the gas grid, an additional grant may be applied to your offer.*

*For applicants assessed to be Extreme Fuel Poor, an additional grant of £5000 may be available.*

## Am I Eligible?

The Scheme is open to Owner Occupiers and Private Rented Householders in:

- Council Tax band A-C Properties.
- Council Tax band D Properties with an EPC of E, F or G.
- Island Properties In addition to above eligibility, Council Tax Band E and above with an EPC of E, F or G.

(second/holiday/empty homes are not eligible)

## Who are Home Energy Scotland?

Home Energy Scotland are the Scottish Government's Energy Advice Service. They are the main route to register your interest for the scheme. Home Energy Scotland can also provide you with energy advice and support by phoning free on:

**HOMEENERGYSCOTLAND.ORG**  
**0808 808 2282**  
FUNDED BY THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

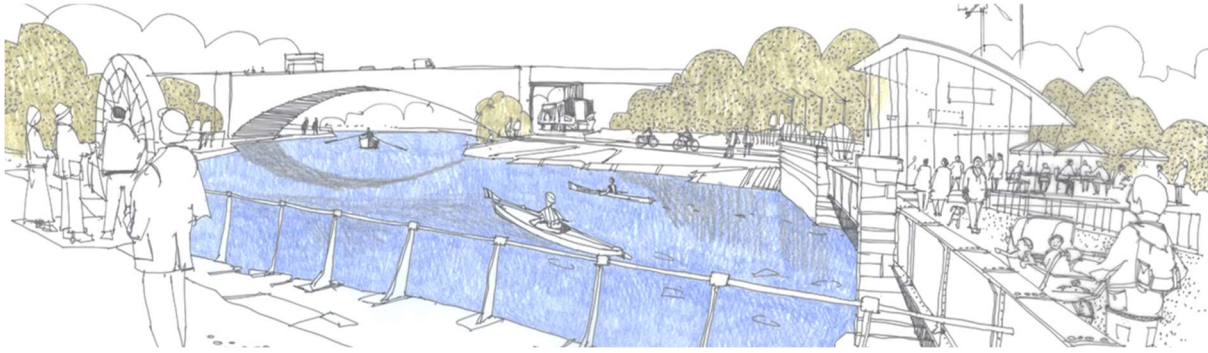
## Who does it work?

Following a competitive tendering exercise, Argyll & Bute Council have appointed BCA Insulation Ltd as the Contractor for the Scheme. Argyll & Bute Council Energy Efficiency Team administers the Scheme with the contract of works being between the Householder and the Contractor. The Contractor will:

- Carry out a Technical and Energy Performance Survey of your property at no cost to you to determine the most suitable insulation measure(s).
- Provide a quote for works recommended for your property.
- Install the measures.







## MAKI - Climate Action Towns Update

April 2023 MD

### About Climate Action Towns

Climate Action Towns is a Scottish Government pilot run by Architecture & Design Scotland. The pilot aims to support place-based climate action in a network of (now) nine small Scottish towns, working collaboratively with local communities. From this, Architecture and Design Scotland will develop learning that can be applied in places across Scotland. Campbeltown has been selected as one of the Climate Action Towns.

To date we have been focusing our support around the development of the Campbeltown Community Action Plan, to ensure it considers future climate change and climate risks. Over the past year we have helped involve local people and businesses in developing the action plan. Refer to the below summary for key recent updates.

For reference, our learnings from Year 1 across the original seven Climate Action Towns have now been published. To take a look please visit:  
<https://www.ads.org.uk/resource/climate-action-towns-year-one-lessons-report> .

The Year Two report will be published at the end of April.

**Note: Chaira Fingland has now left Architecture & Design Scotland. Mark Dowe is the officer now engaged with Campbeltown.**

### Updates since the last MAKI meeting:

- Continued to support local partners South Kintyre Development Trust, Campbeltown Community Council and Inspiralba with ad-hoc support and guidance on the Community Action Plan.
- Completed the three Scottish Communities Development Centre (SCDC) to host first training sessions 'Building Stronger Communities' with a range of representatives from local organisations. The outcome is a community groups forum to co-ordinate community actions in Campbeltown around the Community Action Plan. The group is Campbeltown Community Action Network (CampbeltownCAN) and will meet on a monthly basis in the Town Hall.
- Two new posts supported with Inspiralba which will enable CAT work in the town, partially funded by CAT.
- Continue to support dialogue with Campbeltown Community Council to work with Campbeltown Grammar School's pupil council, so that young people's voices are heard in local decision making. The young people attended the Adaptation event (S5/S6) and we will look to deliver a climate change workshop with S2/S3 after the summer break.

## Page 70

- Hosted a Climate Adaptation workshop to identify local climate issues in Campbeltown and map these. A report will be issued by CAT to identify where in the Community Action Plan these issues could be addressed and where gaps in the Plan might address these in the next iteration of the document. The event also featured Antonia Baird presenting on Environmental Action Plans for Community Groups.

### Next Steps:

- Host a Systems Barriers Workshop to establish barriers to positive action including funding, delivery etc
- Enable SCCAN networking in the town and beyond to establish a Climate Hub in Argyll & Bute.
- Engage at a community level at the Mull of Kintyre Music Festival in August to promote Climate Action Towns in Campbeltown
- Second communications workshop focussed on CampbeltownCAN engagement in the town.
- Promote and engage with the [Novara One Planet Project](#) as it moors in Campbeltown in May.

Further, we are hosting the Gathering event bringing together the nine CAT towns to share learning and network. Please get in touch if you would like an Eventbrite invitation to the online event on May 12<sup>th</sup>.

If you'd like to get involved or find out more please email [mark.dowey@ads.org.uk](mailto:mark.dowey@ads.org.uk).

Thanks

Mark

Presentation to MAKI CPG Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023

**Community Cycling Ardrishaig (CCA) Registered Charity SC 052342 company no. SC759890**

CCA was formed on 23.2.2023 after long supporter meetings to take forward its plan to serve the community following the closure of the previously active Cycling UK Bothy. CCA is a registered charity and company limited by guarantee and is a membership based organisation with full membership open to anyone whose main residence is within the boundaries of the Mid Argyll area. RCT has a board of four directors all of whom live in this area.

**Background and Context:**

Ardrishaig is rural village of 1290 people with good local buses but limited access to public services such as doctors, dentist, hospital, library and post office. These services are mostly 3 miles north on flat ground and could be accessed readily by cycling. Dr Stephen Watkins, co-chair of the Transport and Health Study Group (an independent society of public health practitioners and researchers with millions of professional publications) says: "The risks of cycling are low. The health benefits of cycling rather than driving every day are many times greater than any risk of injury" Cycling is a well enjoyed sport and leisure activity which is becoming more popular as its health benefits are known for both participants and the environment. Many of our members have cars but prefer to cycle to Lochgilphead especially when the bus doesn't meet the appointment time. Ardrishaig has a vibrant community life with many different active community groups and clubs on offer. Until 2022 counted amongst these was The Bothy, a cycling and walking hub administered by Cycling UK and run by local volunteer cycling enthusiasts.

These enthusiasts are reluctant to see such a valuable service go.

We want to go beyond what was achieved previously and amongst our plans is co-operation with like-minded organisations and businesses and especially social prescribing authorities. Bearing in mind we are going through an asset transfer with Cycling UK right now and are negotiating with Scottish Canals for the lease of The Bothy these plans are currently aspirational but we fully expect to achieve them. However, we are able to do small one-day events like one we attended recently in conjunction with the MS Centre held at the MacPool when we surveyed the public and results were extremely encouraging.

**Our vision is to provide:**

- A weekly program of led bike rides and other activities such as bicycle maintenance and activities to suit all ages. As we are not sure which items the asset transfer will include we might need to buy further stock to meet all these activities requirements e.g. balance bikes for accompanied toddlers or side by side or cargo e bikes. We will evaluate in further surveys what the community most want and follow that lead. I am a qualified nursery nurse for example and can provide activities for accompanied children in conjunction with for instance the local police on road safety.
- A base which offers members of the community and holiday-makers information about our cycling program and bicycle loans. There will be information leaflets regarding bicycle maintenance and checks and trained volunteers to answer questions.
- Somewhere where people are invited for a chat about their own needs and aspirations, and how we can help them meet them. They may have special needs, or feel they have lost confidence in riding, or may not be able to ride and we can offer riding lessons. Or they might just be enquiring about a more active lifestyle and considering cycling. We will do our best to signpost enquirers to other exercise providers if cycling does not appeal.
- A place to receive information about local health inspired activities such as kayaking, walking, cycling, swimming, water sports and other outdoor pursuits. We already have connections with other local sporting and leisure companies such as **Dan the Merman**, a professional wild swim coach and guide in the beautiful Mid-Argyll region of Scotland. and Ann Shand at Argyll Kayaks situated opposite The Bothy in Ardrishaig.
- A venue where bicycle maintenance classes can be arranged. We have trained volunteers in first aid, bicycle mechanics, ride leading, risk assessment and further training is being undertaken now and is planned.
- Storage and maintenance facilities for the project cycles and different cycles to suit different riders. We have been monitoring the assets for Cycling UK and making sure The Bothy is securely locked.
- An administrative area where records may be completed and securely stored and the expected office equipment is kept.

And to promote cycling as a green and environmentally friendly activity for all ages and abilities which can improve health and fitness and uplift mood for all those in Mid Argyll especially the lonely or socially excluded.

## **Funding**

As we are a charitable company, we are applying for funding from providers including Argyll and Bute Council. Our vision doesn't require the income of a large charity to put on a program that we envisage but we will depend on funding and will be actively seeking new money.

We will be happy to receive gifts or donations although our services will be free of charge due to the free help of our volunteers and supporters some of whom are retired.

We will actively seek further volunteers and supporters as we establish our services and will advertise wherever possible to achieve this, especially speaking to service users once they show an interest.

## **Experience**

My own experience is that I moved to Ardrishaig two years ago and immediately started walking along the wonderful Crinan canal and saw led rides, which on enquiring I found were from the Bothy. I had always been a cyclist but a couple of years before had lost all confidence in a road rage incident and sold my bike. I explained that to the very helpful Bothy manager and he encouraged me to start by borrowing a bike and starting from scratch in the area around the Egg Shed to regain my skills and then along the canal on a one to one training until I felt safe to go alone. I was so glad to find this was free because I had moved 500 miles to be in Scotland and didn't need further expenses. This experience was successful because it was not forced and catered for my circumstances. I progressed to an e-bike and I am very happy to be cycling again, I would like this experience and similar ones to be available to the community. Thank you.  
Janice Gale.

Janice Gale      6th April 2023

[smartgran@me.com](mailto:smartgran@me.com)



**ACT Now project update in the MAKI area.**

# act

**working with Argyll's people to make the most of our environment.**

## **ACT Now**

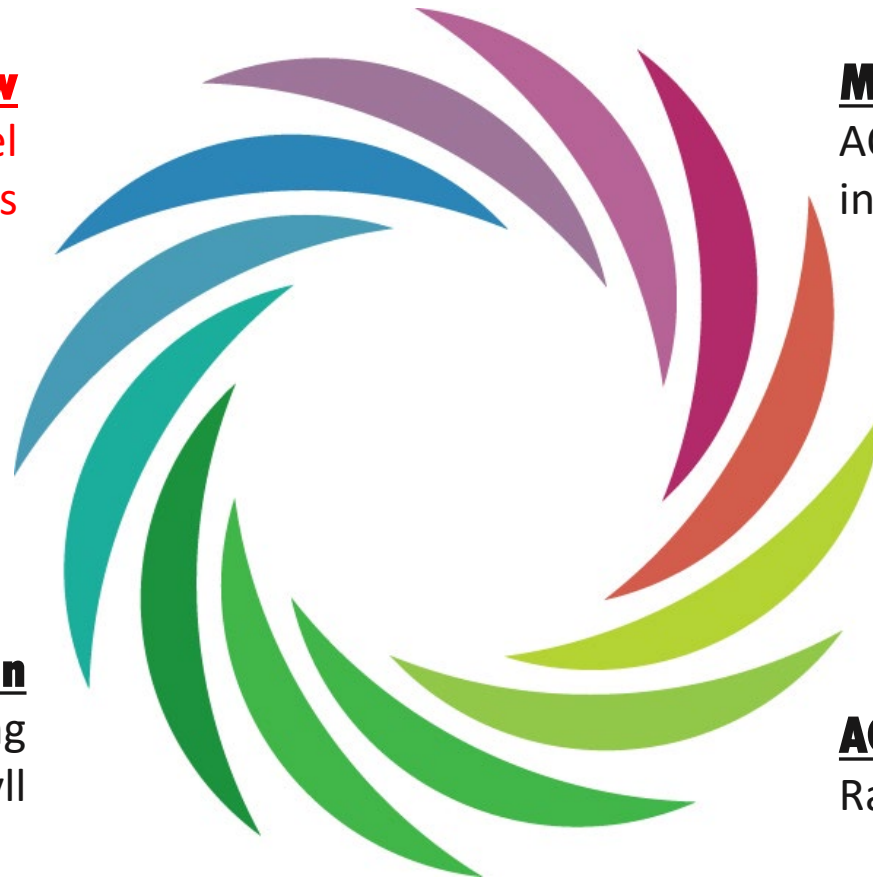
Climate Change Awareness, active travel  
and workshops

## **ACT Peatland**

Community-led restoration of a  
precious natural resource on Islay

## **Branching Out and Moving On**

Outdoors health and wellbeing  
programmes across Argyll



## **MAKI Pups**

ACT's outdoor nursery for 3-5 year olds in an  
inspiring setting

## **ACT Rainforest**

Improving and expanding our unique  
rainforest and native woodland  
habitat

## **ACT@Blarbuie**

Ranger and community woodland activities

**[www.act-now.org.uk](http://www.act-now.org.uk)**

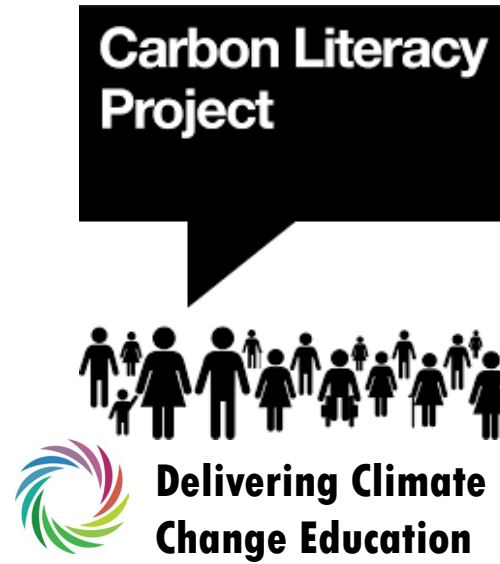
# Argyll and the Isles Coast and Countryside Trust.

Community led. Established in 2014. SCIO 44733.

- To care for and enhance our unique natural environment.
- To give people opportunities to experience, learn in and be inspired by nature.
- To encourage investment in Argyll's natural capital to support our economy.
- To increase opportunities for employment, skills development and volunteering in our environment.

Act has a Board of up to 12 trustees, 20 Advisors and over 400 members. We aim to keep our activities relevant, local and sustainable.

act w. enjoy forever.



*The ACT Now Project exists to support Argyll and Bute communities adopt strategies to tackle climate change*

- Free accredited Carbon Literacy Training was made available to all Argyll and Bute residents.
- reCycle, in Mid Argyll, delivers free refurbished bicycles and training to all ages and abilities to support uptake in sustainable transport.
- We encourage car use reduction through education, online resources, and practical support.

act now. enjoy forever.





## Carbon Literacy Participant individual action in 2022

*My family and I are not going to have a personal family car for as long as we can...My wife and I and two children have bikes and we have a great commute route for shops etc using the Crinan Canal towpath. There is limited access to public transport but we can use this when needed.*

*I have calculated that this one decision will mean a reduction of just under 2 tCO<sub>2</sub>e every year from my household..*

*Although I mostly work from home my job role requires that I travel from time to time and so I will have access to a workplace car 1 day per week for any necessary travel.*

**act now. enjoy forever.**

# Reconditioning Bikes for use by the Mid Argyll Community

- reCycle is a scheme which takes donated bicycles, reconditions the bicycle to a safe and useable standard, and then provides this bicycle for free to Mid Argyll residents who apply.
- The main aim of this scheme is to encourage people to cycle as part of their everyday short journeys.

reCycle  
community  
bicycle scheme



- Since scheme launched in April 2022 over 60 bikes have been provided to applicants.
- Travel diaries and feedback indicate that, on average, users of the bicycles are saving 0.25 tCO2e every year.
  - In addition participants report health and financial benefits.
- Over 1400kg of unused bicycles (and parts) diverted from landfill.

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## **ACT Now. Delivering climate change education and promoting positive action to members of the following groups throughout Argyll and Bute**

- Allenergy
- Ardrishaig Community Council
- Ardrishaig Community Garden
- Argyll and Bute Council
- Arrochar and Tarbert Community Development Trust
- Cairndow Community Council
- Cardross Climate Action Network
- Carr Gomm
- Colintrave and Glendaruel development Trust
- Colintrave Community Council
- Cove and Kilcreggan Community Council
- Cove Park
- Dunoon Community Council
- DWS Associates
- Green Action Trust
- Innovate Rural
- Isle of Jura Development Trust
- Kilchoan Estate
- Kilmartin Museum
- Mull and Iona Community Trust
- Nature Scot
- Oban Community Council
- Sandbank Community Development Trust
- Sustainable Tayvallich
- Tarbert and Skipness Community Trust
- The Grab Trust
- Time for Change
- Tiree Community Development Trust



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Looking ahead & under  
development



**Climate change training for Argyll & Bute children  
& young people**

Developing climate knowledge, promoting positive action,  
and fostering resilience in a changing world

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Questions or comments?

Please feel free to contact me at –

[jamie@act-now.org.uk](mailto:jamie@act-now.org.uk)

Or

07943 020241

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Invite to all Councillors

ACT drop in afternoon - Friday 12th May 1pm

- 4pm

MAKI Pups

Kilmory

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