



21 November 2012

A meeting of the **ARGYLL AND BUTE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP** will be held in the **COUNCIL CHAMBERS, KILMORY, LOCHGILPHEAD, PA31 8RT** on **WEDNESDAY, 28 NOVEMBER 2012** at **10:00 AM**.

AGENDA

- 1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**(Pages 1 - 2)
- 2. MINUTES OF THE FULL PARTNERSHIP MEETING HELD ON 20TH JUNE 2012**(Pages 3 - 8)
- 3. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS 22 AUGUST AND 10 OCTOBER - VERBAL - DEREK LESLIE**
- 4. SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT REVIEW OF COMMUNITY PLANNING - INCLUDING FEEDBACK FROM COSLA MEETING 19TH OCTOBER**(Pages 9 - 10)
- 5. AREA COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP UPDATES**(Pages 11 - 12)
- 6. WELFARE REFORM - DOUGLAS HENDRY/JUDY ORR**(Pages 13 - 22)
- 7. NEW COMMUNITY PLAN - BRUCE WEST**(Pages 23 - 32)
- 8. POPULATION PROJECTIONS - CHRIS CARR**(Pages 33 - 46)
- 9. CORPORATE PARENTING - LOUISE LONG - TO FOLLOW**
- 10. LOW CARBON VEHICLE PROCUREMENT SUPPORT SCHEME (LCVPS)**
 - (a) **LOW CARBON VEHICLE PROCUREMENT SUPPORT SCHEME (MAY 2012)**
(Pages 47 - 50)

(b) PLUGGED IN PLACED ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE
PROCUREMENT SUPPORT SCHEME - PHASE TWO (Pages 51 - 54)

11. **23½ HOURS - DEREK LESLIE -
[HTTP://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=AUAINS6HIGO](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AUAINS6HIGO)**
12. **AOCB**
13. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 27TH MARCH 2013**

COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP – FULL PARTNERSHIP MEETING

28 NOVEMBER 2012

APOLOGIES RECEIVED

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ARGYLL AND BUTE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP**MINUTES of FULL PARTNERSHIP MEETING held in the
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, KILMORY, LOCHGILPHEAD
on WEDNESDAY 20th JUNE 2012****Present**

Councillor Roderick McCuish (Chair)	Argyll and Bute Council
Sally Loudon	Argyll and Bute Council
Eileen Wilson	Argyll and Bute Council
Lynda Thomson	Argyll and Bute Council
Margaret Fyfe	Argyll and Bute Council
Councillor John Semple	Argyll and Bute Council
Audrey Martin	Argyll and Bute Council
Councillor Anne Horn	Argyll and Bute Council
Derek Leslie	NHS Highland
Elaine Garman	NHS Highland
Sheila McLean	Leader
Russell Dunn	Strathclyde Police
Barry McEwen	Strathclyde Police
Andrew Campbell	Scottish Natural Heritage
Michael Breslin	Argyll College
Glenn Heritage	Third Sector Partnership/Argyll Voluntary Action
Douglas Cowan	HIE
Bill Stewart	ABSEN
Shirley MacLeod	Argyll and Bute Council
Joyce Cameron (Minutes)	Argyll and Bute Council
Alison McGinty (Minutes)	Argyll and Bute Council

Apologies:

Cleland Sneddon	Argyll and Bute Council
Seonag Campbell	Skills Development Scotland
Fiona Logan	Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park
Moirra Paton	NHS Highland
Frances Webster	Skills Development Scotland
Dr Michael Hall	NHS Highland
Nigel Miller	Association of Argyll and Bute Community Councils
Neil Francis	Scottish Enterprise
Daniel Docherty	Strathclyde Fire & Rescue
Dave Duthie	HiTrans
Councillor James Robb	Argyll and Bute Council
Jonathan Pryce	

ITEM	DETAILS	ACTIONS
1.	<p>WELCOME AND APOLOGIES</p> <p>Cllr Roderick McCuish (Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting. The apologies were noted.</p>	
2.	<p>MINUTES OF THE FULL PARTNERSHIP MEETING HELD ON 2nd November 2011</p> <p>Matters Arising:-</p> <p>Ag Item 6: Community Plan/Single Outcome Agreement 2012/13 Success measures were approved at the CPP Management Committee meeting on 21st March 2012. Sally Loudon advised that the Executive Sub group meeting was cancelled on 6th June and was re-scheduled for the afternoon of 20th June.</p> <p>Ag Item 7: Citizen's Panel It was advised that the Tenders had been assessed in April and the contract was awarded in May to Hexagon Consultants.</p> <p>Ag Item 10: Armed Forces Community Covenant – Cleland Sneddon Sally Loudon was going to discuss with Cleland Sneddon the issue regarding the CPP's signing of the covenant and liaise with the Chair of the Partnership and the Chair of the Management Committee. It was advised that the Armed Forces Community Covenant has been deferred to the Council meeting on 28th June.</p> <p>AOCB – ESOL Funding A report on the ESOL Funding was provided by Jeannie Holles for the Management Committee meeting on 6th June 2012.</p> <p>CPP Management Committee Meetings – 21st March and 6th June 2012 Derek Leslie advised that the above meetings were held with continuing discussions around Community Planning. The Community Plan has been completed and signed off.</p> <p>At the meeting on 6th June a presentation on Citizen's Panel was provided by Chris Carr. The partners noted changes to the Council and the portfolio holders.</p>	

<p>3.</p>	<p>NEW COUNCIL</p> <p>Andrew Campbell would like to see “environment” within the job titles of Councillors.</p> <p>Councillor John Semple pointed out the environment is very close to the heart and has an enormous role to play. It is hoped to achieve a good balance of economy and environment.</p> <p>It was advised by Councillor John Semple that the aligning of portfolios that Lead Councillors have with Minister in Government, and the need for some consideration of what we call ourselves. Each Councillor will have a remit which will be available to view by anyone who wishes to do so.</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p>SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT REVIEW OF COMMUNITY PLANNING</p> <p>Councillor Roderick McCuish attended a very positive meeting in Edinburgh.</p> <p>Scottish Government and COSLA are agreed that we need a more joint approach to Community Planning and Single Outcome Agreements, which brings together political and administrative leadership from across the public sector to focus our efforts on improving outcomes for the people of Scotland. The new national role will have a key role in delivering that.</p> <p>Pat Watters is the Chair of the national group, and he has much experience of the public service.</p> <p>Sally Loudon advised that the National Review of Community Planning with regards to the attendance of the Executive Sub Group of people should be in place by the end of summer for a likely conclusion. Any further information will be passed on to partners as soon as it has been received.</p> <p>Roddy McCuish advised that disengaged people will never attend meetings if we don't get them around a table. New changes will hopefully help with this.</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p>TIREE SCENARIO MAPPING PROJECT – PRESENTATION</p> <p>Audrey Martin took the partners through a presentation updating the partnership on the Tiree On Shore Scenario Mapping project. The project looked at 4 possible scenarios relating to the proposed development of the Tiree off shore wind farm. The scenarios related to potential construction, operational and maintenance implications.</p> <p>It was advised that the Renewable Action Plan is updated on an annual</p>	

	<p>basis, and Sally Loudon brings regular updates back to the Management Committee.</p> <p>It was agreed that Audrey should work closely with NHS to establish health implications.</p> <p>A draft report has been produced and the consultation closed on 26th April 2012. Proposals are being carried out to go to Gigha to present the final report sometime in September when the holidays are over.</p> <p>Roddy McCuish agreed that the Council will feed into scenarios but the final will be from the developers.</p> <p>Audrey Martin made a strong emphasis on what this project will mean for the Community.</p> <p>Roddy McCuish thanked Audrey for an interesting presentation.</p>	
6.	<p>NEW CPP WEBSITE</p> <p>Eileen Wilson encouraged the partners to have a look at the Council's website at the Community Planning Partnership Section.</p> <p>Action Point If partners would like anything added, please let Eileen Wilson know. Links will also be put on partner websites.</p>	All Partners
7.	<p>STRATEGIC GUIDANCE FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIPS: COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT:</p> <p>Action Point It was agreed that this item should be put forward to the Management Committee meeting on 22nd August 2012.</p>	Eileen Wilson/Admin
8.	<p>CITIZENS PANEL</p> <p>Hexagon have been awarded the three year contract. It was advised that during the tendering process, it had been difficult to identify questions.</p> <p>Action Point: Partners are asked to submit any questions for surveys to Eileen Wilson/Chris Carr.</p> <p>Eileen Wilson to check questions that have been previously</p>	<p>All</p> <p>Eileen Wilson/Russell</p>

	<p>submitted by the Police. Russell Dunn advised that the Police will provide questions.</p> <p>Councillor John Semple would provide Strategic Transportation questions.</p>	<p>Dunn</p> <p>Councillor John Semple</p>
9.	<p>LOCAL AREA COMMUNITY PLANNING UPDATE</p> <p>Shirley MacLeod advised the partners that the Community Groups are establishing well, and that feedback has been more helpful.</p> <p>During the recent meetings in March and June significant items were:-</p> <p>M.A.K.I. – An excellent presentation from Christina West, NHS, Updates received from core partners were very good.</p> <p>B & C – There was good focus on reshaping older people services.</p> <p>Oban – An excellent meeting was held on 14th March, and the agenda was very full.</p> <p>Helensburgh – An informative updated from the Police and a presentation from ACHA.</p> <p>It was agreed that good practice would need to be identified for use of the video conferencing process, which causes some technical difficulties at times.</p> <p>Michael Breslin suggested that opportunities should be looked at to share equipment, expertise and facilities in a way that does not incur costs.</p> <p>Action Point It was agreed that a presentation from Chris Carr would appear on the next agenda. Feedback from partners on their experiences with video conference.</p>	
10.	<p>THEMATIC UPDATE</p> <p>a) Social Affairs Paper Noted.</p> <p>b) Environment The last meeting was held a long time ago. Sally would like to see if specific roles can be pulled together quickly and come up with</p>	

	<p>proposals.</p> <p>c) Economy Things are moving forward. Paper was noted.</p> <p>d) Third Sector and Communities</p> <p>At the most recent meeting held the vc equipment worked extremely well. It was agreed that at the next meeting the focus would be on training and events.</p>	
<p>11.</p>	<p>AOCB</p> <p>The meeting was advised that Paul Connelly would be moving to another post in Strathclyde Fire and Rescue service outwith Argyll and Bute. Sally Loudon thanked Paul for his valued contribution and support to CPP and wished him well for the future. It was advised that James Scott would be taking over from Paul Connelly.</p> <p>Marlene Baillie, Strathclyde Police has taken up a new post in Govan and Gary Stitt would be taking over Dunoon, Helensburgh and Bute and David Pettigrew would take on Mid Argyll, Kintyre & Islay.</p>	
<p>12.</p>	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Wednesday 28th November 2012</p>	

Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership**Full Partnership**
Date: 28th November 2012

argyll and bute

communityplanningpartnership



Title: Scottish Government review of Community Planning and Single Outcome Agreements – Update November 2012

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report is to update the Community Planning Partnership on the progress of the Scottish Government review of Community Planning.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Community Planning Partnership notes the progress and timescales involved in the Scottish Government review.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Christie Commission on the future delivery of public services was tasked with looking for solutions and produced its report in June 2011. As part of the Government's response to Christie it agreed to undertake a review of Community Planning.
- 3.2 In March 2012, following that review, the Scottish Government and COSLA published a shared Statement of Ambition. This put Community Planning at the heart of an outcome based approach to public services in Scotland and made clear that effective community planning arrangements will be at the core of public service reform. The Statement of Ambition can be found at- <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Government/local-government/CP/soa>
- 3.3 The review recognised that coordination and collaboration at the national level had an important role in bringing partners together to deliver the Statement of Ambition locally. Detailed proposals for change based on the Statement of Ambition were set out in a letter circulated to Community Planning Partners on 10 May 2012.
- 3.4 A National Group has now been established to play a pivotal role in implementing and communicating the overarching vision for community planning and Single Outcome Agreements, identifying and addressing issues that have a national dimension and building the skills and capacity of partnerships.
- 3.5 The National Group is chaired by Pat Watters, immediate past President of COSLA and co-chair of the Review. Its membership is drawn from strategic leaders in public services and the wider community. It had its first meeting on 14 August 2012 and its terms of reference were agreed at that meeting. The National Group met again on the 23rd of October to consider the key propositions set out in the Statement of Ambition and agree the following key national priorities:
- Early years and early intervention
 - Outcomes for older people

- Employment
- Economic recovery and growth
- Health improvement
- Safer and stronger communities

More information on the terms of reference for the National group can be found at- <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Government/local-government/CP/communityplanningreview/ngtor>

- 3.6** The National Group also considered papers on:-
- The Group's Role in Providing Cultural Leadership
 - Embedding Prevention in SOAs
 - Transforming Scotland Using Evidence and Improvement Science
 - Policy Priorities for CPPs and SOAs

All of these papers can be found at-
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Government/local-government/CP/communityplanningreview/NCPG231012>

- 3.7** A Project Board of senior officials, led by Scottish Government and COSLA and including members from the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE), Audit Scotland, the Improvement Service, the NHS and the Third Sector has also been set up to oversee implementation of the proposals arising from the review. The Project Board's remit is set out in its own terms of reference at-
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Government/local-government/CP/communityplanningreview/projbrdtr>

- 3.8** Further information on the work of the National Group and other work to deliver on the Statement of Ambition is being provided through an Implementation Newsletter which was circulated at the management Committee meeting in August. The newsletter can be accessed on the Scottish Government website at-
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Government/local-government/CP/communityplanningreview/newsletter1>

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1** The next meeting of the National Group is scheduled for the 5th of December. Further updates will be provided as they become available.

For further information contact: Eileen Wilson
Eileen.wilson@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Telephone 01436 658726

Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership**Date: 28th November 2012**

Title: Update Report on Area Community Planning Groups

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1** This report summarises progress which area Community Planning Groups are making as they progress to becoming key partnership groups for local areas to plan and monitor aims and objectives and delivery of services within local communities.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1** That the Partnership note the progress which the area Community Planning Groups are making.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1** The area Community Planning Groups have had a very positive round of recent meetings, with all of them being better attended by partners and also by community groups and representatives. Their agendas have been focussed on items of partnership significance to areas, and on items brought forward by community groupings, resulting in meetings which have engaged in lively and positive debate.
- 3.2** The September MAKI meeting had extensive and useful updates provided by both NHS and Scottish Water, and had the biannual update provided by Alistair MacGregor, CEO of ACHA. The information brought to the group by ACHA resulted in detailed conversation regarding the impact which lack of availability of affordable housing has on other key partners, including NHS.
- 3.3** Bute and Cowal's September meeting addressed a number of issues raised by the Caucus of Community Councils regarding Community Council by elections and training initiatives which could be run on a partnership basis. They were also provided with service update information from Scottish Water.
- 3.5** The Oban, Lorn and the Isles meeting in September focused on updates on service delivery and development issues from Scottish Water and other partners and also the BID4OBAN group, and received feedback from the sub group set up to improve the community engagement strand of the group's work, resulting in the CPG deciding that meetings of the group due to be held in June and December each year will be held in the evening to facilitate easier attendance by members of the Community. They also agreed a number of other changes to the layout and structure of the agenda, and to a focus on "user friendly" language in papers

and reports associated with the meetings and the CPG's work. It was further agreed that the changes being agreed by the group would be reviewed after 4 meetings have taken place to assess the impact which they have had on improving community involvement in the CPG.

- 3.6 The September meeting of the Helensburgh Lomond Group was well attended, with excellent information being discussed and shared by all attending partners. A number of issues raised by the Grey Matters Community Group were also progressed by various attending partners.
- 3.7 In addition to the matters noted above, items which were discussed at all of the meetings included the Community Resilience Project, the opportunity to have Area Forums as part of the Community Planning Partnership Community Engagement Strategy, and the detailed information brought forward by the IHR service of the Council in regards to Population Decline. Agendas are now being formulated for the next round of meetings; items which are common to each area will include the updating of the Council's Economic Development Plan, NHS Screening Programmes, and updates by ACHA. In addition the groups are considering the format, structure and purpose of the proposed Area Forum event due to be held annually in each area, starting in November 2013.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 Area community planning meetings will continue to focus on issues of local concern which reflect local priorities and provide partners and community representatives with the opportunity to oversee local service issues. The generally positive momentum which the groups have developed over recent months will continue to be built on in the expectation that this will further enhance attendance by both partners and community representatives.

For further information contact: Shirley MacLeod, Area Governance
Manager, Customer Services

Telephone 01369 707134

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL**COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP****CUSTOMER SERVICES****26 NOVEMBER 2012**

WELFARE REFORM UPDATE

1.0 SUMMARY

1.1 The UK government is introducing the biggest changes to the welfare system in more than 60 years. The main objectives of the changes are as follows:

- To reduce worklessness and make work pay.
- To support financial inclusion and independence helping to end child and adult poverty.
- To simplify the welfare system and reduce the ever increasing cost of welfare in the UK.

1.2 In order to achieve these objectives a number of changes are planned some of which have already been implemented;

- Housing Benefit restrictions
- The implementation of the new Universal Credit
- The abolition of Council Tax Benefit and the replacement Council tax Replacement Scheme
- The transfer of the discretionary elements of the Social Fund to Local Authority administration.
- The expansion of Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP)
- Replacing Disability Living Allowance with Personal Independence Payments
- A creation of a new Single Fraud Investigation Service.

1.3 These changes will have significant impacts on Argyll and Bute Council. It will reduce the amount of benefit paid to claimants thereby affecting their ability to pay rent, council tax and other creditors. Claimants will need support to assist them to claim the new Universal Credit online. There could be increased numbers presenting as homeless as many will have responsibility for paying their rent to registered social landlords for the first time in their lives and struggle to manage their finances based on new monthly payments. Social services may also be stretched in supporting an increasing level of vulnerability and hardship. The changes will also bring a threat of redundancies in relation to 35FTE staff currently employed by the Benefits unit following the ending of Housing Benefit.

1.4 The Council has set up a cross-cutting working group to look at all of the upcoming changes and estimate the likely impact. The group meets four weekly.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 The Community Planning Partnership note the details of the report including the impact that Welfare Reform changes will have in Argyll and Bute.

3.0 DETAIL

Cost pressures on existing funding for HB/CTB

- 3.1 The UK government is introducing a new, simplified benefit from October 2013 which will be known as Universal Credit. In preparation for this change and to reduce the increasing cost of Welfare Benefit, a number of restrictions have been introduced to minimise the cost of Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (HB/CTB). HB and CTB are administered by local authorities on behalf of the Department for Works and Pensions (DWP).
- 3.2 The government is now abolishing Housing Benefit and support for Housing costs will be delivered through the new Universal Credit. Council Tax Benefit will be replaced by a new local Council Tax Reduction Scheme (see 3.22 to 3.25 below) to be implemented nationally in Scotland. The new scheme for Council Tax Reduction comes into force on 1 April 2013. Transition to Universal Credit will happen incrementally from 1 October 2013 to 31 March 2017.
- 3.3 The DWP currently pays £704,516 to Argyll and Bute Council for the administration of HB/CTB in 2012/2013 which amounts to approximately £30.4 million of HB and CTB payments to claimants in Argyll and Bute. This is a reduction from £754,379 in 2011/12, and will further reduce to £627,287 in 2013/14. However the caseload is not reducing by a similar amount and transaction volumes are increasing due to higher levels of changes in circumstances. CoSLA has estimated that 80% of the current cost of administering HB/CTB will remain with local councils just to administer a local council tax support scheme. This cost pressure has been advised to Strategic Finance to take account of in budget setting for 2013/14.

HOUSING BENEFIT RESTRICTIONS

- 3.4 In preparation for the implementation of Universal Credit a number of cuts have been made to the **amount of HB** that can be paid to claimants including:
- Capping the amount of HB paid for customers renting property in the private rented sector through the Local Housing Allowance (LHA) scheme with a maximum £400 per week for a 4 bedroom property from April 2011.
 - Removal of £15 excess LHA from April 2011.
 - LHA's calculated at 30th percentile of market rents rather than 50th percentile from October 2011
 - LHA's to be frozen for 1 year from 1 April 2012 and then increased by CPI rather than RPI
 - Shared room rate extended from age 25 to age 35 from April 2012
 - Size criteria restriction for working age social tenants under occupying (14% for 1 Bedroom or 25% for 2 or more bedrooms).
 - The Benefit Cap. Overall cap on benefits of c £500 per week by April 2013 (will initially be implemented by reducing HB payable).
- 3.5 The new restrictions coming in April 2013 in respect of size criteria and benefit cap will have a significant impact on the Social Rented Sector and a significant amount work in partnership with our Registered Social Landlords (RSL's) is urgently required to mitigate against these impacts. RSLs have reported that their welfare rights officers have been overwhelmed by the extra demand for assistance from

their tenants in understanding and planning for these changes. In the first 6 months of 2012/13, the Council's welfare rights team has seen an increase of 24% in the volume of appeals which they have submitted on behalf of residents. Clients are routinely waiting for 3 weeks before getting an appointment with a welfare rights officer.

THE IMPACT OF THE BENEFIT CAP IN ARGYLL AND BUTE

- 3.6 DWP submitted information to the Council on 17 September 2012 advising that 16 households in Argyll and Bute were potentially affected by the cap however, having analysed the detail 4 households are no longer residing in Argyll and Bute therefore the estimate is reduced to 12 households impacted. The DWP estimate that the impact will range from a reduction of HB of £ 4.41 per week to £132.13 per week for some families.
- 3.7 DWP has made contact with these households and the Council will also speak to the claimants affected to see how we can support them. The government has pledged additional funds through DHP to help reduce the impact on these families however these funds are short-term in nature and they will not stretch to mitigate against the full amount of the reductions.
- 3.8 The table below summarises the Benefit cap impact in Argyll and Bute and the housing providers.

LANDLORD	NO. OF HOUSEHOLDS POTENTIALLY IMPACTED BY CAP	DWP ESTIMATE OF IMPACT (£ PER WEEK)
**PRIVATE SECTOR RENTAL	2	30.13
ACHA	4	102.81
COUNCIL - HOMELESS	2	171.35
WHHA	2	90.22
FYNE HOMES	1	38.93
MAXI RICHARDS FOUNDN	1	101.79
TOTAL	12	535.22

** This has been reduced for claimants who have moved outwith the area or who are no longer in receipt of HB Analysis of the private rented sector households impacted shows the following:

- 3.9 It is estimated that the Benefit Cap reductions could remove a total of £536 per week from 12 households in within Argyll and Bute which equates to c. £28,000 per annum.

SIZE CRITERIA/BEDROOM TAX

- 3.10 A more significant impact in Argyll and Bute is expected from the implementation of the size criteria measure. This measure brings the rules of LHA used to calculate the maximum rents in the private sector into the Social Rented Sector. The measure is being implemented as the government tries to reduce the benefit bill and ensure better value from social sector housing stock. It penalises working age claimants who under occupy their homes in the social rented sector by restricting HB payments by 14% if a claimant is deemed to under-occupy their property by

one bedroom (i.e.:- a couple with no children living in a two-bedroom property) and 25% if they are under-occupying by two or more bedrooms.

3.11 This will cause significant issues in Argyll and Bute due to a high level of households that will be deemed to only require one bedroom as per the new rules. There is a shortage of one bedroom properties available in Argyll and Bute. This has significant impacts for both the Council and RSL's in terms of their strategies for housing, housing allocation policies and potential changes to tenancy agreements.

3.12 The impact in financial terms in Argyll and Bute has been estimated as below;

RSL/HA	No. Hholds supported by HB	No. of Hholds affect by Underoccupancy	HB Reduction (£ per week)	Average Reduction per week
ACHA	2814	626	£ 7,086.22	£ 11.32
Fyne Homes	1,371	155	£ 1,755.92	£ 11.39
Dunbritton	359	77	£ 992.00	£ 12.88
West Highland HA	345	64	£ 781.00	£ 12.20
Key	23	5	£ 62.31	£ 12.46
Trust	61	1	£ 16.32	£ 16.32
Link	9	0	£ -	£ -
TOTAL	4,982	928	£ 10,693.77	£ 11.52

It is estimated that the size criteria restrictions and could remove a total of £10,694 per week from 928 households in Argyll and Bute which equates to c. £556,000 per annum, on average £599 per household per annum.

3.13 This information has been shared with RSL's and they are contacting tenants that are thought to be affected by the change. The Council are in process of writing out to claimants to explain the size criteria measure and see how we can support them.

3.14 There are some restrictions to the size criteria in respect of claimants who require an extra room for a non-resident overnight carer will be allowed an extra bedroom. Additionally pensioners will not be affected. Children under the age of 16 and of the same gender will be expected to share a bedroom as will children under the age of 10 regardless of gender.

3.15 The DWP have pledged an extra £30 million nationally for DHP and Argyll and Bute will receive a small share of these funds to mitigate against the size criteria reductions. This is discussed in more detail in paragraphs 3.31 to 3.37 below.

UNIVERSAL CREDIT (UC)

3.16 Universal Credit is a new simplified benefit that replaces the following existing benefits:

1. Housing benefit
2. Income support including statutory mortgage interest
3. Child Tax Credit
4. Working Tax Credit
5. Income related Job Seekers Allowance
6. Income related Employment and Support Allowance

3.17 UC will be administered by the DWP through their network of Job Centre Plus offices. This will affect the 35 FTE Council employees who will no longer process claims for HB and there is a risk to their long-term employment with the Council.

3.18 The key features of UC are:

- It will be digital by default with claims made online.
- Payment will be made monthly direct to a single member of the household.
- Changes to conditionality means that claimants can be in or out of work.
- Payments will be made by BACS therefore claimants need a basic bank account in order to receive the benefit.

It should be noted that in Northern Ireland three significant concessions have been agreed – payments will be made fortnightly not monthly, they can be made to more than one member of a household and payments will be made direct to registered social landlords for the housing element. No such similar concessions have been made for Scotland.

3.19 Migration of HB to UC is timetabled as follows;

- New claims for UC will be taken from 1 October 2013. There will be no new claims of HB from this date.
- Existing claimants in receipt of HB will transfer to UC when they experience a change in circumstances between October 2013 and March 2015.
- Any existing HB claimants not yet transferred to UC will migrate from April 2015 to March 2017.

3.20 It is expected that there will be at least 80% of the current benefit caseload that will still require to be administered by the Council come March 2015 but there have been no assurances given to the Council about the level of administration subsidy that will be paid in the future. This places significant risk around the ongoing employment of 35FTE Benefits administration staff.

3.21 The issue of the direct payment of UC to one member of the household is causing great concern for the Council, RSL's and Social Services as there is a significant risk of rent and council tax arrears increasing hardship and vulnerability of claimants.

COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME

3.22 Council Tax Benefit (CTB) will be replaced by a local Council Tax Reduction Scheme from 1 April 2013. In Scotland the Scottish Government has been working with local authorities through COSLA to come up with a national scheme for Scotland.

3.23 It has been decided that in year one, the scheme should mirror that of the existing CTB scheme to negate the impact on the claimants. During year one, a longer term solution will be developed which could see the maintenance of the scheme as a means tested benefit or see it amended to become more like a Council Tax discount.

3.24 The UK government will devolve £360 million to the Scottish Government for distribution to Scottish Local Authorities through the revenue support grant. This equates to 90% of the existing CTB bill in Scotland. The funding shortfall is

estimated at £40m. It has been agreed that the Scottish government pays £23 million towards the gap and COSLA funds £17 million. The shortfall for local authorities could be met at least in part if they chose to introduce new powers to charge double council tax on long term empty homes.

- 3.25 Draft legislation is currently out to consultation and is not expected to be laid until towards the end of 2012. The primary challenge is to ensure that the software is in place to allow councils to bill Council Tax to customers when annual billing is undertaken in February 2013 in advance of the new financial year. The council's current software provider has quoted £65,000 for the new software but has not guaranteed that it will meet Scottish requirements. Negotiations on this are being undertaken through the user group. If the software is not procured timeously then there is a significant risk that the Council will not be able to bill customers for Council Tax on 1 March 2013 as planned. This may impact on our ability to collect council tax which will also be compromised by reductions to benefit.

SOCIAL FUND

- 3.26 The UK government has devolved the responsibility for administering the discretionary elements of the Social Fund (Crisis Loans and Community Care Grants) to local authorities. Scottish Local Authorities are working together with the Scottish Government through COSLA with a view to implementing a national scheme for Scotland albeit with some flexibility locally to ensure best possible service for the customers. This transfer goes live on 1 April 2013 and presents significant challenges for local authorities in preparing for this.
- 3.27 Typically there are 4,000 to 5,000 claims made in Argyll and Bute every year. Payments total c. £400,000 per annum. These are monies paid almost immediately to those in crisis and to meet pressing needs to purchase food, clothing and basic white goods or furniture. Eligibility criteria for the new grants are currently being finalised. One national application form is being developed and software will need to be procured on an individual basis by local authorities to allow quick decision making on individual applications.
- 3.28 A significant amount of planning is required to design how to deliver both the front facing elements of this service as well as back office verification of applications and appeals processes. DWP advised that they deliberately did not provide local decision making for these claims in order to minimise threats to their staff.
- 3.29 The UK government is providing funding to Scotland of £5 million in year one and £4.6 million in year two. The Scottish Government will distribute administration funding for year one of the project to local authorities on the basis of historic number of applications. The amount will not be confirmed until December 2012 but we expect Argyll and Bute's share to be £56,000. The total for set-up costs devolved to Scotland is c £237,000 which is expected to be wholly inadequate and CoSLA have taken this up with the Scottish Government and the DWP on our behalf.
- 3.30 The following steps will need to be undertaken in order to implement the Social Fund locally:
1. Prepare a plan to ensure milestones are met and the Council can take claims on 1 April 2013.
 2. Procure software to aid decision making.

3. Design the frontend face to face service and back end decision making with a view to protecting staff from potential consequences of a negative outcome.
4. Work with the Post Office and other providers such as Paypoint to develop a mechanism for making Social Fund payments to customers.
5. Discuss a national procurement and distribution mechanism for Community Care Grants whereby furniture and white goods can be provided to help a family take up a new tenancy.
6. Speak to food banks about the provision of food parcels in Argyll and Bute for those who do not get a payment or food voucher from a Social Fund application.
7. Look at developing a more holistic approach to the administration of Social Fund by including other passported benefit applications, DHP applications and Social Work section 12 and section 28 funding applications under the one unit.

DISCRETIONARY HOUSING PAYMENT (DHP)

- 3.31 The Council currently receives £58,625 per annum from the DWP to distribute to HB and CTB claimants who are deemed to be in hardship. This is Argyll and Bute's share of a £60 million national pot.
- 3.32 The funds are provided for short-term financial support for claimants to give them time to reassess their finances and their housing options, negotiate their rent with their landlord and make decisions about the viability of their ongoing tenancy. Support is normally provided for a period of 13 to 26 weeks and is capped by the difference between the level of HB received and the claimants total eligible rent.
- 3.33 The DWP have announced that from 1 April 2013 there will be two additional pots of DHP funding to specifically address the HB restrictions relating to benefit cap and size criteria. This funding will be provided in addition to the £60 million existing DHP fund.
- 3.34 They have announced that £80 million of DHP funding will be made available to support the HB restrictions relating to the Benefit Cap. In addition they will provide further £35 million of DHP to support the implementation of the size criteria measures.
- 3.35 The Council expect to be advised by DWP how much DHP funding will be received in respect of each of the three specific funding streams by the end of the calendar year.
- 3.36 The Council do not expect to see much of the £80 million in relation to Benefit Cap as the distribution is based on expected impact and the majority of claimants affected by this live in London and the South East. The DHP funding to support those in hardship as a result of the size criteria measure is unlikely to cover the the expected impact of a reduction of £556,000 HB locally. If the Council receive the same share of the current DHP fund for this measure then we can expect to receive around £34,000 which will cover a very limited subsection of those impacted.
- 3.37 DWP have issued guidance to local authorities to assist them in writing a new DHP policy and this is being taken forward by the Welfare Reform Working Group.

PERSONAL INDEPENDENCE PAYMENTS

- 3.38 Personal Independence Payments (PIP) will replace Disability Living Allowance for people of working age (people aged 16-64) from April 2013. The reforms are designed to ensure that those claimants who face the greatest barriers to living full, active and independent lives continue to receive the right levels of support.
- 3.39 Entitlement will be based on the degree to which individuals are able to participate in society, not on their health condition or impairment and there will be a phased introduction beginning with new claims in North West England so that the process can be tested and reviewed. In October 2013 the DWP will begin assessing everyone who gets Disability Living Allowance for Personal Independence Payment. By March 2016 all current Disability Living Allowance claimants of working age will have been contacted about assessment to Personal Independence Payment.
- 3.40 This measure is designed to further reduce the benefit bill and force some claimants into work. In Argyll and Bute for the first quarter of 2012 there were 4890 claimants of DLA (source: Scottish Neighbourhood Survey). Based on national projections, up to 900 claimants could be refused an award under PIP or receive a reduced award. DLA awards range from £20.55 per week to £131.50 per week so the potential loss of disability income for households in Argyll and Bute could be very significant.

SINGLE FRAUD INVESTIGATION SERVICE

- 3.41 The Council currently employs a team of 3FTE to investigate Housing and Council Tax Benefit Fraud in Argyll and Bute. In 2011/2012 the team issued 67 sanctions identifying in excess of £140,000 of fraudulent benefit overpayments.
- 3.42 In 2013 the DWP have stated that the team will become part of the Single Fraud Investigation Service (SFIS) which will be a single body incorporating existing fraud officers from local authorities, the DWP and HMRC.
- 3.43 In the initial stages of SFIS the staff will continue to be employed by the Council but work to SFIS policies and procedures. In the longer term it is proposed that the posts will be made redundant as SFIS develops. DWP have stated the TUPE will not apply to existing Fraud staff. The rationale for this decision is unclear and it is being challenged by CoSLA on behalf of Scottish local authorities.

WELFARE REFORM WORKING GROUP

- 3.44 A Welfare Reform Working Group (WRWG) has been set-up in order to mitigate against all of the proposed changes. The group is composed of staff from the following council services and external organisations:
- Customer Services
 - Revenues and Benefits
 - Housing services, homelessness and welfare rights
 - Social Work
 - Money Advice
 - Employability
 - National Health Service

- Citizens Advice Bureau
- Registered Social Landlords
- DWP

3.45 To date there have been four meetings looking at the impacts of welfare reform and responding to government consultations on a number of related issues. The group's focus is the impact on the customer and provision of support for the customers against the effects of welfare reform. Members of the group share a wide consensus that welfare services provided by the Council need to be reorganised in order to provide more seamless support to vulnerable people in Argyll and Bute.

3.46 The group's work is focussed on four specific themes as follows;

- Digital by default, the provision of IT and support services to allow claimants to make online claims for UC.
- Preventing homelessness by maintaining tenancies providing financial support where appropriate using funds available to help.
- Financial Independence, providing help support and money advice to help claimants access bank accounts and manage their finances effectively. Looking at the role of the credit unions in operating 'jam jar' type accounts effectively ensuring that rent and council tax obligations are met from the income deposited in their accounts.
- Supporting people into employment by developing links with the employability unit.

3.47 The Council have recently agreed that there is a need for dedicated resources in the form of a project team to plan and implement the necessary changes to meet April 1 deadlines for the new local Social Fund and Council Tax Reduction Scheme; to plan for migration to Universal Credit and PIPs; to work with the vulnerable citizens of Argyll and Bute who will be impacted by these changes; and to engage fully with community planning partners and DWP.

3.48 This team will be managed by a seconded third tier manager and would report to the Welfare Reform Working Group. In addition to an existing full time staff member from Benefits there will be another staff member from this area (to lead on the replacement Council Tax Support Scheme) and full time staff members from Social Work (to lead on Social Fund), Housing (to lead on support to RSL and private sector tenants, housing allocations and homelessness issues), Welfare Rights / Money Advice (to plan services to support financial inclusion and ensure that all benefits are maximised) and Employability (to support claimants into work). These will be seconded staff of an appropriate grade to design new systems and procedures. The secondments will be of a variable length to last until the new systems have been designed and tested. The team will be managed by a seconded third tier manager on a full-time basis until March 2014. In total it is recommended that a team of 6 people is required including the manager.

3.49 It is proposed that the project team is put in place on a secondment basis with secondments to commence no later than the end of November 2012.

3.50 In addition to designing new systems and procedures, a number of policies need to be developed or updated including a new financial inclusion and anti-poverty strategy, a policy to assist the digitally excluded, a new corporate debt recovery policy and an updated discretionary housing payments policy.

4.0 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Policy: The following policies need to be developed or reviewed:

- § Discretionary Housing Payments
- § Financial Inclusion and Anti-Poverty
- § Corporate Debt recovery
- § Digital inclusion

4.2 Financial: Significant reduction in the amount of Benefits to be received by working age claimants increasing child poverty. Significant issues for the Council in terms of the threat to Council Tax collection levels, redundancy cost of staff and the increased cost of homelessness as claimants in rent arrears face eviction.

4.3 Legal: New regulations will need to be complied with once enacted.

4.4 HR: Potential for up to 35FTE redundancies from benefits staff whose jobs will be impacted from ending of Housing Benefit.

4.5 Equalities: Issues for disabled claimants in receipt of DLA moving to PIP. New Social Fund arrangements and Council Tax Reduction Scheme will have to be assessed for equalities.

4.6 Risk: Significant risks associated with Welfare Reform changes. Failure to deliver a service for Social Fund will put claimants at serious risk of extreme hardship. Failure to implement the new Council Tax Reduction Scheme will risk the Council's ability to bill and collect Council Tax in 2013/2014. Failure to agree partnership with DWP in UC delivery would be a considerable risk to 35 local jobs.

4.7 Customer Service: Security issues for staff delivering face to face service to Social Fund claimants.

FERGUS WALKER
REVENUES AND BENEFITS MANAGER
7 NOVEMBER 2012

Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership

**Full Partnership
28 November 2012**

New Community Plan

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report sets out the approach to and progress in developing the next community plan. It also sets out the approach to developing outcome planning. The new community plan can still be approved by 31 March 2013. There is some slippage in timescales at present but this can be addressed over the next few months.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The full partnership notes the approach and progress in developing the new community plan and in developing outcome planning as previously approved by the Management Committee.
- 2.2 The full partnership notes the progress with data analysis to date in developing the new community plan.
- 2.3 The full partnership considers the proposed approach to engagement and consultation outlined in Appendix 3.

3 DETAIL

Background

- 3.1 The current community plan covers the period to 31 March 2013. A new community plan requires to be developed for the period commencing 1 April 2013.
- 3.2 Partners are committed to a shared community plan but it is not possible to have a single plan that covers all partners avoiding the need for their own plans. Local partner plans for Argyll and Bute need to fit within both the context of the Argyll and Bute community plan but also their respective parent organisation. There is however an opportunity to improve how these are developed around a common set of outcomes for Argyll and Bute.
- 3.3 The community plan cannot simply be an amalgamation of each individual partners plan otherwise there is no obvious additional benefit from coming together as a community planning partnership. An approach needs developed that considers the requirements of the parent organisation plans for each partner but brings these together and refines these in a way that also takes account of a shared set of outcomes for Argyll and Bute and the single outcome agreement. These Argyll and Bute outcomes need to be multi

partner and supported by an action plan setting out the contribution of each partner. This approach should be divisible into 4 areas so that there is clarity in outcomes, actions and partner contributions at an Argyll and Bute level but also at area level.

Outcome Planning

- 3.4 The Improvement Service working with a few community planning partnerships has pilot tested implementation of outcome budgeting in a few service areas. A report on the outcomes and lessons learned has been prepared. One of the key findings is that whilst there are clear benefits from outcome budgeting, it is very resource intensive and there are significant issues to be addressed in setting it up. Outcome planning which is not full blown outcome budgeting offers many of the same /similar benefits but at significantly less cost in terms of implementation resources and issues to be addressed.
- 3.5 The plans at Argyll and Bute level and area level need to be capable of measurement and included in performance management reporting and in a way that uses existing data/systems rather than creating any additional unnecessary bureaucracy. Within these parameters the community plan outcomes need to be SMART. There needs to be clarity around the relevant success measures and how the contribution of each partner will be measured and the frequency of this measurement and reporting.
- 3.6 In order to take forward the above the undernoted matrix provides for a staged approach to developing an integrated approach to planning/prioritisation, performance management and financial management for the CPP. The matrix sets out 3 levels of development for planning/prioritisation, performance management and financial management with an assessment of where we are at present for that level and the stage at which we could develop that level further as part of a project.

Planning & Prioritisation	Performance Management	Financial Management
A	B	C
Agreed outcomes that are prioritised, evidenced based common and shared. Now – part Stage 1	Reporting of performance information Now – part Stage 1	Global reporting of financial information Now – No Stage 1
D	E	F
Agreed outcomes are SMART	Analysis of performance information and identification of areas for improvement	Alignment of budget and financial information with outcomes and performance information

Now – part Stage 1	Now - No Stage 1	Now – No Stage 2
G	H	I
Plans/priorities/outcomes that are influenced by performance and financial information	Performance information that is influenced by plans/priorities/outcomes and financial information	Financial information that is influenced by plans/priorities/outcomes and financial information
Now – No Stage 3	Now – No Stage 3	Now – No Stage 3

Integrated planning/prioritisation, performance management and financial management to support decision making.

- 3.7 The overall approach outlined in the diagram and matrix is proposed as the way forward for developing the new community plan and progressing with outcome planning. To take forward the actions required arising from adoption of the approach proposed in the matrix above will require a 3 stage project.
- Stage 1 - Complete boxes A, B, C, D and E.
 - Stage 2 - Complete box F.
 - Stage 3 – Complete boxes G, H and I.
- 3.8 Stage 1 of this project is being taken forward now. Following completion of stage 1 consideration will be given to taking forward stage 2. Following completion of stage 2 consideration will be given to taking forward stage 3. At the conclusion of each stage a review will be completed and a report prepared for the Management Committee.
- 3.9 The outcome planning project is being managed as a standalone project. Progress reports will be submitted to the Management Committee. The Council have nominated Bruce West, Head of Strategic Finance to lead this project and to be the lead person for co-ordinating input from the Council. The lead person nominated by each of the other partners is as follows:
 Fire - Jim Scott
 NHS - Elaine Garman
 Police – Barry McEwen

Developing The New Community Plan - Progress

- 3.10 Appendix 1 sets out progress to date and expected timelines for development of the new community plan. Although there is some slippage to date it is envisaged that the final plan will still be approved by 31 March 2013.

Issues/Options Identified For Engagement/Consultation

- 3.11 Analysis of templates returned by partners is well underway. Appendix 2 gives a high level summary of partner responses against themes in the templates. A more detailed analysis is also being carried out as set out in the

Appendix.

- 3.12 The CPP will need to consider how it engages and consults as part of developing the new community plan. It is proposed to seek the views of communities on the range of themes and issues that have been identified during the data analysis. Feedback from the engagement/consultation can then be considered alongside the themes/issues in drafting the new community plan.
- 3.13 The proposed approach to engagement and consultation is set out in Appendix 3. The detail of this will be developed in the next few weeks.

Progress With Outcome Planning

- 3.14 The development of the new community plan will take forward a number of the elements of stage 1 of the outcome planning project. Specifically development of the new community plan will address the actions around:
- Agreed outcomes that are prioritised, evidenced based, common and shared.
 - Agreed outcomes are SMART
- 3.15 The actions around setting out performance management arrangements and collating financial information will be taken forward in the next few months.

4 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 Progress is being made in developing the new community plan and in terms of a more integrated approach to planning and performance management for the CPP. Although some slippage has arisen to date this work is expected to complete all the required works this financial year,

For further information contact: Bruce West, Head of Strategic Finance, Argyll and Bute Council

Telephone 01546 604151

APPENDIX 1 PROGRESS WITH DEVELOPMENT OF NEW COMMUNITY PLAN				
Ref	Stage	Initial Plan	Current Position	Comment
1	Approval of project and approach	August Mgt Cttee	Complete	
2	Data and information collection	August/ September	Complete	Information data sheets and contextual information prepared for different areas of interest and issued to partners. Completed templates returned.
3	Data analysis, drafting of evidence base and identification of issues/options	October	In progress will be completed by end of November	This will include analysis of completed templates and review of partner plans
4	Consideration of draft issues/options	October Mgt Cttee	Initial consideration at November Full Partnership and finalised at December Management Committee	Deferred by 6 weeks
5	Agree engagement and consultation approach on draft issues/options	November Full Partnership	Initial consideration at November Full Partnership and finalised at December Management Committee	Deferred by 2 weeks
6	Carry out consultation/ engagement	December/ January	Mid December/ Mid February	Deferred by 2 weeks

7	Summarise feedback from consultation/ engagement	January/ February	January/ February	No change
8	Review outcome of consultation/ engagement	February Mgt Cttee	February Mgt Cttee	No change
9	Draft revisions to community plan	February/ March	February/ March	No change
10	Consider and approve new community plan	March Full Partnership	March Full Partnership	No change

APPENDIX 2 PROGRESS WITH DATA ANALYSIS FOR NEW COMMUNITY PLAN

As part of developing the new plan a needs analysis was undertaken. The process was approved by the Management Committee in August.

Information was sought under five broad headings:-

- Children and young people
- Health and social care
- Housing, environment and Infrastructure
- Community safety
- Economy

These headings were to enable us to gather and manage the information; they did not represent any agreed final themes.

The deadline for returns was the 9th of November. There have been 23 returns to date; these include individual organisation returns and partnership submissions. The table below shows the responses received by theme and organisation.

Organisation	Theme				
	1. Children and Young People	2. Health and Social Care	3. Housing, Environment and Infrastructure	4. Community Safety	5. Economy
West Highland HA					
AVA					
Argyll and Bute CHP: Health Improvement Team					
SEPA					
Forestry Commission					
SNH					
Strathclyde Police					
HIE					
Strathclyde Fire and Rescue					
Visit Scotland					
Argyll and Bute Council:					
Facility Services					
Housing Services (Community and Culture)					
Community Safety Partnership					
Economic Development					
LEADER					
Planning	No form filled in. Referred to Local Development Plan.				

The analysis of the information is now underway. Feedback is being categorising under the following topics:-

- Achievements
- Challenges
- Changes that need to be made
- Current position
- Existing services that make a difference
- Existing services where work needs to be done
- Gaps in service provision
- 'One thing to change'
- Opportunities

- Recommended interventions
- Other

The information is also being linked by topic/sector/initiatives/etc. This will enable us to report to the Management Committee in December with a detailed report identifying high level strategies and specific actions for further discussion.

**APPENDIX 3
PROPOSED APPROACH TO ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION IN
DEVELOPING THE NEW COMMUNITY PLAN**

It is proposed to adopt the following key messages as part of the consultation process:

- It is likely that resources for the public sector will continue to be under pressure.
- All partners are facing real reductions in funding.
- Resources will need to be prioritised - we can't do everything.
- We need to make the best use of the resources we have by working efficiently and together.
- Any other key messages that partners identify.

The approach to engagement and consultation will be as follows:

- Face to face:
 - Presentations to area community planning groups on the key themes/issues with an invite for community councils to attend.
- Printed documents:
 - A consultation document to be available from various CPP partner premises outlining the key themes/issues and seeking feedback.
 - Posters based on the consultation document for display in various Council premises.
- Online:
 - Online version of consultation document on CPP website.
 - General email address for return comments on the consultation.
 - Web chat with key representatives of management committee.
 - Web casts.
 - Looking local TV station.

Consideration will also be given to the opportunities for engaging hard to reach groups.

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NRS' 2010-based population projections for Argyll and Bute

Chris Carr

Improvement and Organisational Development



Introduction

- 2010-based population projections for local authority areas published 29 February 2012
- Over projection period (2010-2035) in Argyll and Bute:
 - Total population will fall
 - Number of children will fall
 - Number of working age people will fall, despite increases in pension age
 - An increase in the number of people of pensionable age
 - Population aged 75+ to increase by 73.6%
- There will be more deaths than births
- Migration flows will not compensate

Background (1)

- NRS produces population projections every two years
- Projections
 - make assumptions about
 - Future fertility rates
 - Future mortality rates
 - Migration (hardest to predict)
 - Are based on past trends
- Projections affect policies; policies affect projections
- Projections are NOT predictions

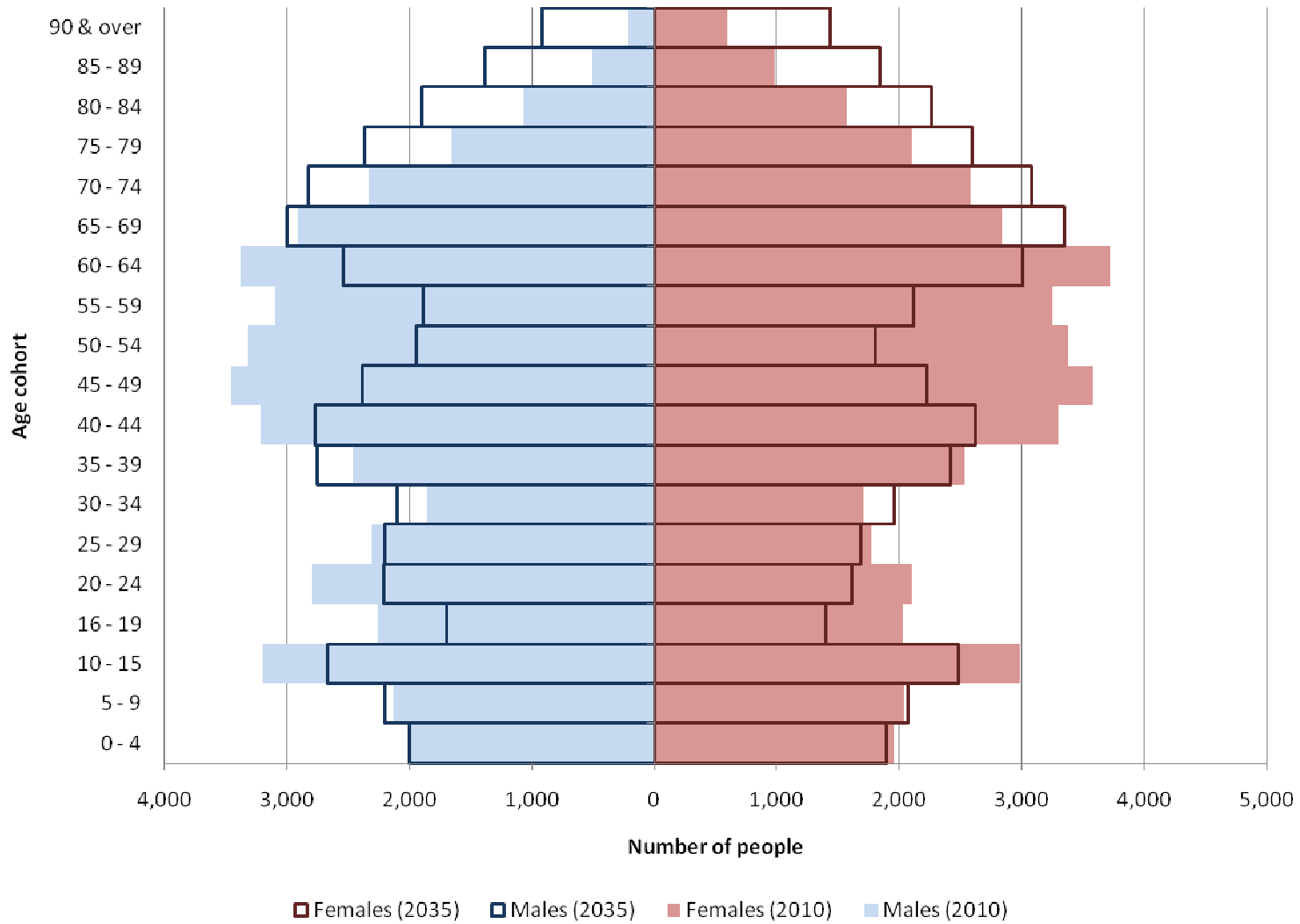
Background (2)

- Over the period 2010 to 2035:
 - Population of Scotland to increase from 5.22million to 5.7million
 - 32 Scottish local authorities:
 - 22 expected to show population growth
 - 10 expected to experience population decline.
- Argyll and Bute's population is projected to decline.

Argyll and Bute

- Population change in Argyll and Bute (2010 to 2035)
 - 89,200 in 2010
 - 82,754 in 2035
 - Deaths will exceed births
 - Migration flows in longer term assumed to be zero
 - Age profile of population will change:
 - Total population will decrease by 7.2%
 - Number of 0 to 15 year olds will decrease by 8.7%
 - Number of working-age people will decrease by 14.4%.
 - Number of people of pensionable age will increase by 9.8%.
 - An increase of 73.6% in the population aged 75 and over.
 - These figures take account of changes in pensionable age.

NRS 2010-based population projections: 2010 base year and projections for 2035 compared (Argyll and Bute)



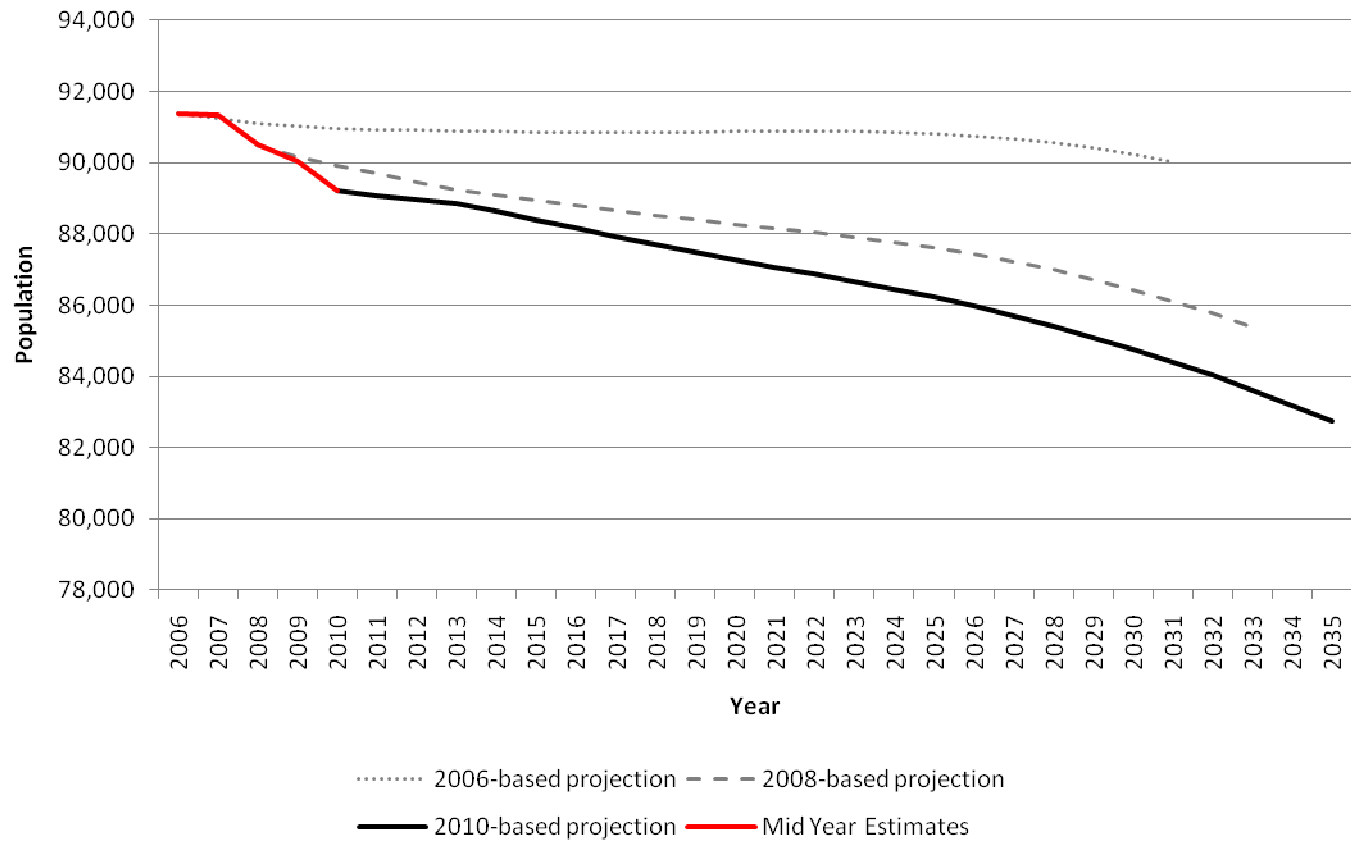
Argyll and Bute's population (thousands)

Age group	2010	2015	2020	2035
All ages	89.2	88.4	87.3	82.8
0-15	14.3	13.1	13.0	13.1
16-29	13.3	14.5	13.5	10.8
30-49	22.1	19.3	17.7	19.0
50-64	20.2	19.8	19.8	12.7
65-74	10.7	11.9	12.0	12.0
75+	8.7	9.8	11.1	15.1

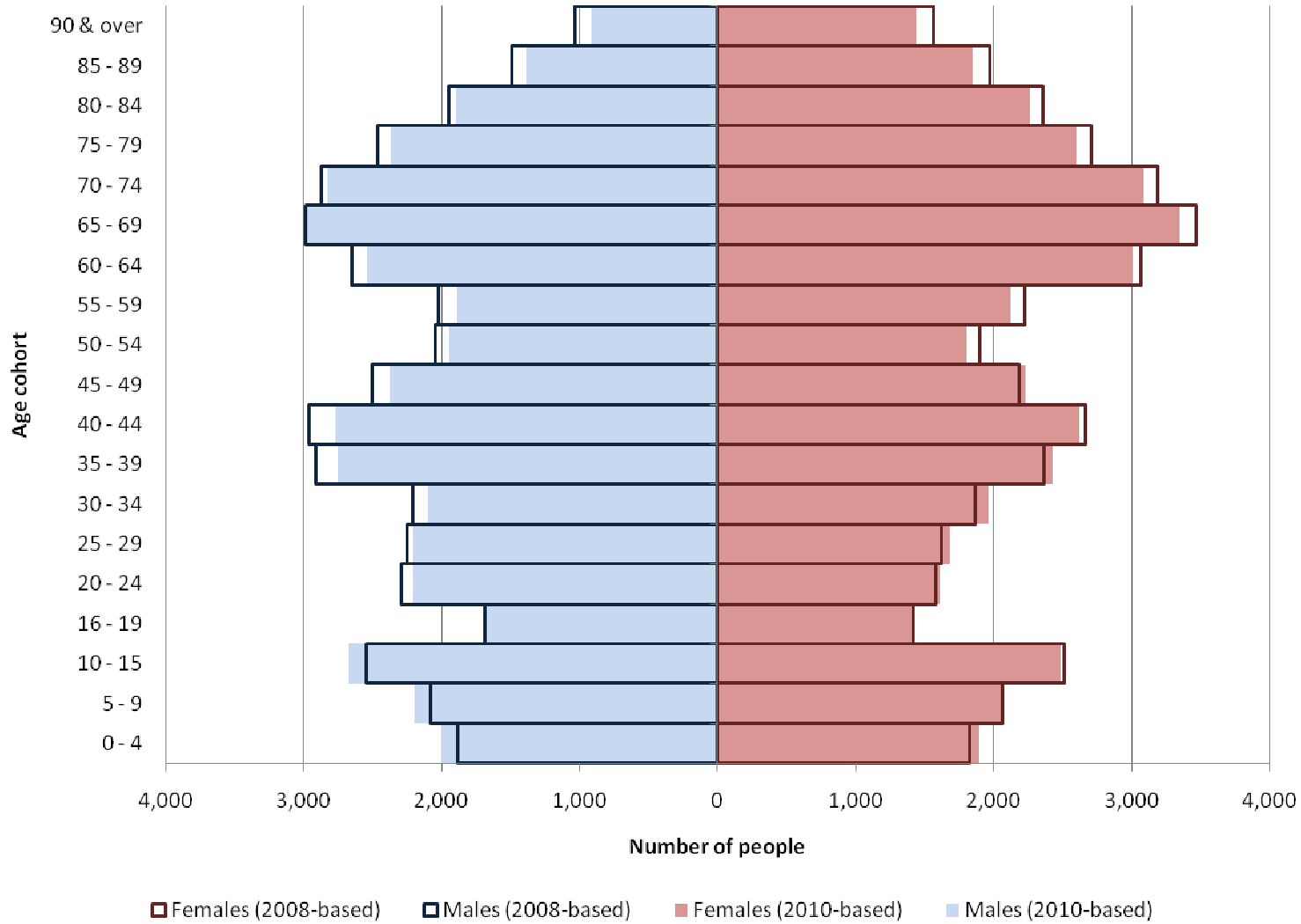
Comparisons with previous projections

- Previous projections also suggested a decrease in Argyll and Bute's population
 - 2008-based projections: 5.7% population decline over 25 years
 - 2010-based projections: 7.2% decline
- Reasons why 2010-based projections show a more rapid decline:
 - Net migration flows have been lowered

NRS Mid Year Estimates and 2006-, 2008- and 2010- based population projections for Argyll and Bute compared



NRS 2008- and 2010-based population projections for 2033 compared (Argyll and Bute)



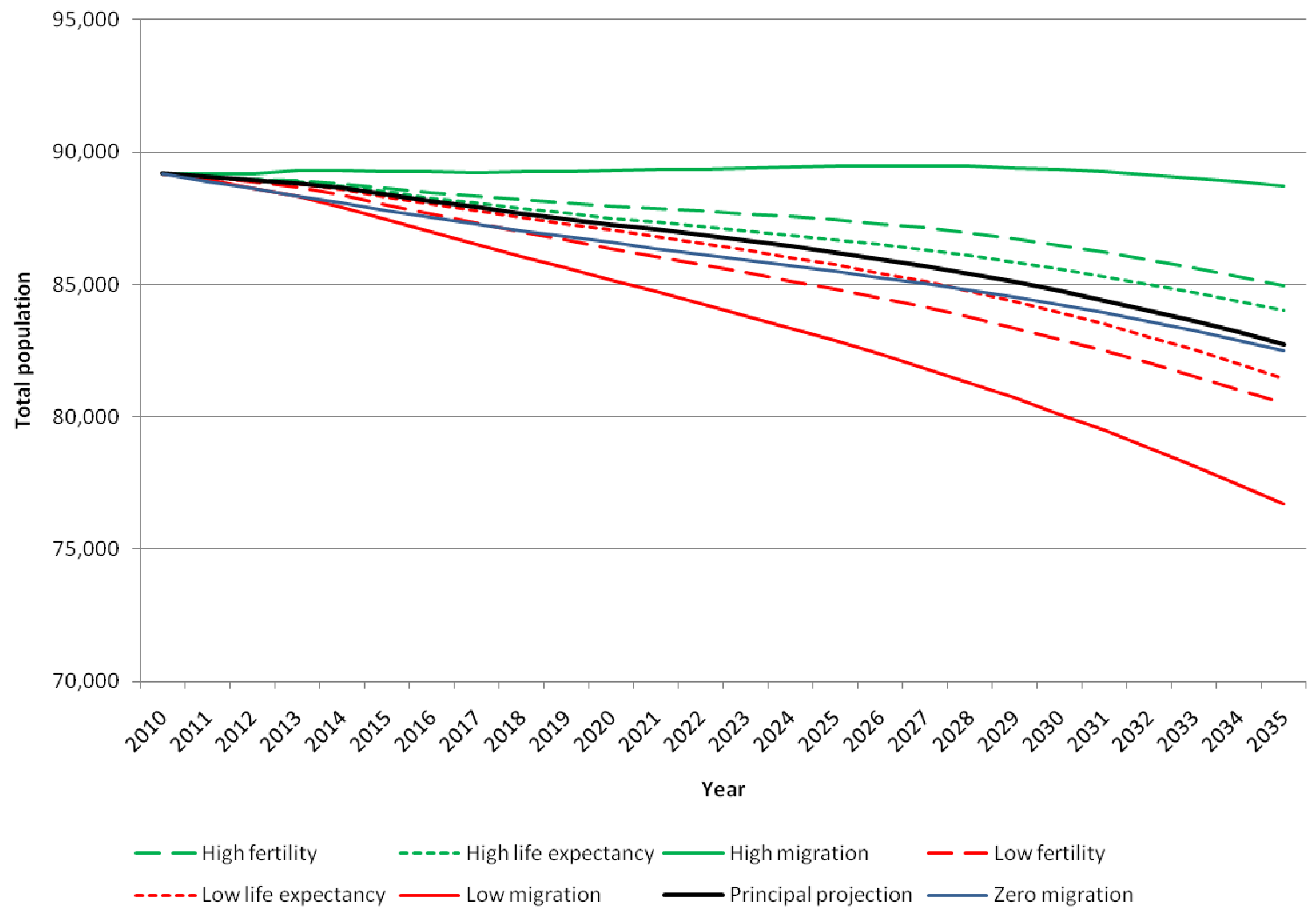
How accurate are projections?

- Overall accuracy depends on:
 - Accuracy of base year population
 - Accuracy of assumptions built into the model
 - Whether past trends will continue into future
- Can only tell how accurate projections are by looking at them retrospectively
- Calibration with Census 2011 will be helpful

Variant projections

- NRS has published:
 - Principal projection
 - Seven variant projections
- Variant projections suggest alternative, plausible scenarios for what might happen
- Note the impact of changing migration assumptions

NRS 2010-based Population Projections for Argyll and Bute: principal projection and variants



Conclusion

- Projections are not predictions
- With one exception, all variants and principal projection suggest population decline
- Projections are used to inform budget allocations
- How will these projections be used to inform policies?
- What are the impacts of these projections for service planning?

Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership**Management Committee**
Date: May 2012

Title: Low Carbon Vehicle Procurement Support Scheme

1.0 SUMMARY

1.1 The Scottish Government launched the Low Carbon Vehicle Procurement Support scheme (LCVPS) in June 2010 as a means of encouraging the development and use of low carbon vehicle technology to help meet targets set out in the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009. Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership has made two successful grant applications during this time which have assisted in the purchase of a number of hybrid vehicles and the associated charging infrastructure. The purpose of this report is to inform CCP members of our participation in the scheme.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that, if the Scottish Government decide to extend the scheme for another year, Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership should continue to support any grant applications and encourage members to explore further opportunities for introducing low carbon vehicles to their fleets.

3.0 BACKGROUND**Scheme Participation 2010/11**

3.1 The Low Carbon Vehicle Procurement Support Scheme, since renamed the Electric Vehicle and Plugged in Places Charging Infrastructure Scheme, provides public bodies with an opportunity to introduce and evaluate low carbon vehicles in a wide range of operating environments and to provide feedback to the Scottish Government on their use and suitability.

3.2 As part of this promotion Transport Scotland offered Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership a grant of up to £85,000 to provide subsidy for the purchase of Low Carbon Vehicles and their associated charging/refuelling infrastructure during the financial year 2010-11. The grant was designed to be used to bridge the gap between the costs of an internal combustion engine vehicle and a low carbon alternative.

3.3 The grant funding was available to all member organisations of the Community Planning Partnership, and all were invited to

submit proposals for use of the funding. No funding requests were received from partners other than Argyll and Bute Council.

- 3.4 The opportunity to introduce electric cars was given careful consideration. Analysis of pool car journeys made by employees of Argyll and Bute Council revealed that the average return trip is 120 miles. However, information supplied by vehicle manufacturers and feedback from other Scottish local authorities indicated that electric vehicles have range restrictions of less than 90 miles which makes them more suited to urban environments.
- 3.5 The above analysis assisted in the impact assessment carried out, considering affordability, sustainability and risk, and which resulted in the rejection of electric vehicles, due to range restrictions, in favour of hybrid vehicles.
- 3.6 Arising from this process, the decision was to select Ashwoods, one of the main suppliers of hybrid commercial vehicles, to supply three Transit minibuses and one Transit van. These vehicles do not require plug-in charging as energy is recovered during braking and deceleration events and is stored in a Lithium battery.
- 3.7 These hybrid vehicles drive like standard diesel and petrol vehicles and government tests have shown them to achieve fuel savings of between 15 to 25% as well as reducing CO2 emissions by similar amounts. This is supported from the initial evaluation of performance.
- 3.8 A breakdown of the procurement costs for each of these vehicles is shown in the table below:-

Vehicle Costs – Financial Year 2010/11

Item	Basic price (£) Paid by Council	Hybrid engine price (£) Paid by Grant	Total Vehicle Price (£)
Ford transit Hybrid Engine Van	15,335.20	11,873.05	27,208.25
Ford Transit Hybrid Engine 17 seat minibus	20,119.00	12,047.55	32,166.55
Ford Transit Hybrid Engine 17 seat minibus	20,119.00	12,047.55	32,166.55
Ford Transit Hybrid Engine 17 seat minibus	20,119.00	12,047.55	32,166.55
TOTALS	75,692.20	48,015.70	123,707.90

Scheme Participation 2011/12

- 3.9 In 2011/12 the grant scheme shifted its focus from Low Carbon Vehicles in general to Electric Vehicles and their associated charging infrastructure.
- 3.10 Discussions took place with Streetscene managers in Development and Infrastructure Services who were very enthusiastic about introducing a small number of electric utility trucks to replace some of their grounds maintenance vehicles which are approaching the end of their life. These vehicles are predominantly used in and around towns which is ideally suited to electric vehicles.
- 3.11 With the Streetscene requirements in mind further grant applications were made to Transport Scotland and successful awards of £36,000 and £24,000 were allocated towards the costs of electric vehicles and infrastructure respectively.
- 3.12 After carrying out an impact assessment considering sustainability, affordability and risk the Double A Trading Company based in Cupar, Fife was chosen to supply two Goupil G5 utility vehicles. These vehicles use dual mode hybrid technology and have a payload of 600kg. Starting in electric mode, the petrol engine takes over at 25kph and allows a maximum speed of 70kph. For local applications the electric mode offers a range of 80km and a speed of 40kph. Expected delivery date of these vehicles is July 2012 and a breakdown of purchase costs is shown below:-

Vehicle Costs – Financial Year 2011/12

Item	Basic price (£) Paid by Council	Hybrid engine price (£) Paid by Grant	Total Vehicle Price (£)
Goupil G5 Hybrid Truck	9,999.00	15,951.00	25,950.00
Goupil G5 Hybrid Truck	9,999.00	15,951.00	25,950.00
TOTAL	19,998.00	31,902.00	51,900.00

- 3.13 The Scheme will also cover the full costs of the supply and installation of charging outlets to support the electric vehicles.
- 3.14 Following a tender exercise via the Public Contracts Scotland website the contract for supplying and installing six charging outlets at sites across Argyll and Bute was awarded to Electromotive.
- 3.15 The following Council premise sites were chosen in order to provide a vehicle charging network across Argyll and Bute:-
Kilmory Nursery, Lochgilphead
110 High Street, Rothesay
Mossfield Stadium, Oban

The Roding, Campbeltown
Hamilton Street Depot, Dunoon
Blackhill Depot, Helensburgh

- 3.16 The costs for supply and installation of these charging outlets are shown below:-

Infrastructure Costs – Financial Year 2011/12

Item	Basic price (£)
	Paid by Grant
6 Elektrobay 305 (combi) wall mounted charge points	23,944.00
TOTAL	23,944.00

These charging points form the first installations under the Scottish Plugged in Places (PiP) project and are not intended for public use, However, Transport Scotland has indicated that the next round of grant funding will be targeted at installing charging infrastructure to be made available to the public.

4.0 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership has been demonstrating its commitment to tackling climate change and reducing carbon emissions through its participation in these schemes.
- 4.2 Detailed findings of carbon and cost reductions will be provided to the CPP once the vehicles and charging infrastructure have been operational for a minimum period of six months

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Policy – None
- 5.2 Financial - 15% savings to be confirmed
- 5.3 Legal – None
- 5.4 HR – None
- 5.5 Equalities – None
- 5.6 Risk – None

Malcolm MacFadyen, Head of Facility Services
16 May 2012

For further information contact:
Gordon Munro, Fleet Management Officer, Facility Services – 01546 604453

**Argyll and Bute Community Planning
Partnership**

**Management Committee
Date: November 2012**

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communityplanningpartnership



**Title: Plugged in Places Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure
Procurement Support Scheme – phase two**

1.0 SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Scottish Government launched the Low Carbon Vehicle Procurement Support scheme (LCVPS) in June 2010 as a means of encouraging the development and use of low carbon vehicle technology to help meet targets set out in the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009. Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership has made two successful grant applications during this time which have assisted in the purchase of a number of hybrid vehicles and the associated charging infrastructure.
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to bring to the attention of the CPP phase two of the scheme, which has now been renamed the Plugged in Places Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Procurement Support Scheme.
- 1.3 A report detailing the two previous funding applications made by Argyll and Bute Council on behalf of the CPP was presented in May 2012, and is attached as an appendix for information.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that the CPP gives consideration to the viability of pursuing an application for phase two of the Plugged in Places Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Procurement Support Scheme, and reach agreement regarding participating partners.

3.0 DETAIL

- 3.1 Argyll and Bute Council have, through the CPP, obtained grant funding in 2010/11 from Transport Scotland through the Low Carbon Vehicle Procurement Support Scheme, and the following year, 2011/12, from phase one of the Electric Vehicle and Plugged in Places Charging Infrastructure Scheme.
- 3.2 The funding in 2010/11 enabled the purchase of three hybrid minibuses and one hybrid transit van. The funding in 2011/12 was used to purchase two hybrid utility vehicles, and six electric

charging outlets. Details of the costs and grants are included in the appendix to this report.

- 3.3 The focus for phase two of the current scheme has now shifted solely to infrastructure and has now been renamed the Plugged in Places Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Procurement Support Scheme.
- 3.4 The offer of grant funding of £80,000 for the year 2012/13 has now been issued by Transport Scotland to the Community Planning Partnership. The grant funding is to assist in the procurement and installation of charging infrastructure in locations agreed upon with Argyll and Bute Council and their Community Planning Partners.
- 3.5 The grant offer includes funding for Portable Electric Vehicle Rescue Charging Units.
- 3.6 The sites suggested by Transport Scotland include car parks, government offices, gymnasiums, swimming pools, libraries, NHS estate, locations on the primary road network and at ferry terminals.
- 3.7 A back office data monitoring and collection facility linked to the charging facilities will be set up and financed by Transport Scotland until the end of the year 2015/16.
- 3.8 Transport Scotland has indicated that the charging infrastructure should provide free electricity to participating motorists, and that the cost of the electricity should be met by the location provider, and that representatives are keen to meet and discuss the offer with participating partners.
- 3.9 The grant funding is dependent on the project being completed and operational by 31 March 2013.

4.0 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership has been demonstrating its commitment to tackling climate change and reducing carbon emissions through its participation in these schemes to date.
- 4.2 In order to participate in phase two of this project, agreement should be reached regarding partners who wish to become involved, bearing in mind the ongoing implications relating to cost and upkeep of the charging infrastructure, and the requirement to collect back office data after 2015/16.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Policy – None
- 5.2 Financial - Costs associated with electricity provision and also with back office data collection after 2015/16

5.3 Legal – None

5.4 HR – Participating partners may have to review job descriptions if Portable Electric Vehicle Rescue Units are purchased to include some stand by activity.

5.5 Equalities – None

5.6 Risk – Ongoing costs associated with the maintenance of charging infrastructure and electricity provision.

Executive Director Customer Services

5 November 2012

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