

Argyll and Bute Council
Comhairle Earra Ghaidheal agus Bhoid

Customer Services
Executive Director: Douglas Hendry



3 June 2014

NOTICE OF MEETING

A meeting of the **HELENSBURGH AND LOMOND COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP** will be held in the **PILLAR HALL, VICTORIA HALLS, HELENSBURGH** on **TUESDAY, 10 JUNE 2014** at **2:00 PM**, which you are requested to attend.

Douglas Hendry
Executive Director - Customer Services

BUSINESS

1. **APOLOGIES**
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
3. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS HELENSBURGH AND LOMOND COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP MEETING - 11/03/2014**(Pages 1 - 6)
4. **OUTCOME 1: IN ARGYLL AND BUTE THE ECONOMY IS DIVERSE AND THRIVING**
 - (a) Highlight Report - Duchess Wood Local Nature Reserve Committee Report by Area Governance Officer (Pages 7 - 10)
 - (b) Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Report by Sustainable Development Manager (Pages 11 - 12)
 - (c) MOD Update by Commander Riches
5. **OUTCOME 2: WE HAVE INFRASTRUCTURE THAT SUPPORTS SUSTAINABLE GROWTH**
 - (a) Scottish Water

Verbal update by Joanna Peebles

- (b) SPT
Verbal update by Neil Sturrock

6. OUTCOME 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND TRAINING MAXIMISES OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

- (a) Education Quality and Standards Report
Report by Quality Standards Manager (Pages 13 - 50)

7. OUTCOME 4: IN ARGYLL AND BUTE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE THE BEST POSSIBLE START

8. OUTCOME 5: PEOPLE LIVE ACTIVE, HEALTHIER AND INDEPENDENT LIVES

- (a) NHS Highland
An update on Food and Healthy Weight – Carol Muir (Pages 51 - 56)
- (b) Argyll Voluntary Action
Update by Morevain Martin

9. OUTCOME 6: PEOPLE LIVE IN SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES

- (a) Police Scotland
- (b) Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
- (c) Scottish Ambulance
- (d) Helensburgh and Lomond Community Safety Forum

10. ISSUES RAISED BY THIRD SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS

11. ISSUES RAISED BY COMMUNITY COUNCILS

12. UPDATE ON COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP ENGAGEMENT EVENTS
Report by Community Development Officer (Pages 57 - 72)

13. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Helensburgh and Lomond Community Planning Group will take place on Tuesday 9th September 2014 at 2.00pm within the Pillar Hall, Helensburgh.

HELENSBURGH AND LOMOND COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP

Shirley MacLeod, Area Governance Manager

Contact: Lynsey Innis, Telephone: 01546 604338

**MINUTES of MEETING of HELENSBURGH AND LOMOND COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP
held in the PILLAR HALL, VICTORIA HALLS, HELENSBURGH
on TUESDAY, 11 MARCH 2014**

Present: Councillor Gary Mulvaney (Chair)

Councillor Richard Trail

Attending: Shirley MacLeod, Area Governance Manager
Sgt Eric Jardine, Police Scotland
Group Commander Eddie Refrew, Scottish Fire and Rescue
Audrey Baird, Community Development Officer
Commander Ian Riches, HMNB Clyde
Craig McNally, Senior Health Promotion Specialist
Jo Wright, Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park
Authority
Neil Sturrock, SPT
Morevain Martin, Argyll Voluntary Action
Tony Davey, Cardross Community Council
John Tacchi, Helensburgh Community Council

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were intimated from:-

Councillor Maurice Corry
Councillor Vivien Dance
Councillor George Freeman
Councillor David Kinniburgh
Councillor Robert G MacIntyre
Councillor Aileen Morton
Councillor Ellen Morton
Councillor James Robb
Joanna Peebles, Scottish Water
Neil Black, Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park
Linda Skrastin, NHS

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

**3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS HELENSBURGH AND LOMOND
COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP MEETING - 10/12/2013**

The Minute of the Meeting of Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community
Planning Group, 10 December 2013 was approved as a correct record.

4. PARTNER UPDATES

(a) POLICE SCOTLAND

Sgt Jardine introduced himself to the group and advised that he was
currently deputising for both Chief Inspector Stitt and Inspector
Miller. He advised of the new structure within Argyll and Bute, which

consists of 2 command areas, one in Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands, Oban, Lorn and the Isles, whose Area Commander will be Inspector Marlene Baillie and the other in South Argyll, Helensburgh and Lomond whose Area Commander will be Chief Inspector Stitt.

He advised that local policing plans will be presented to local Councillors and Community Councils by the Area Commander in due course.

Sgt Jardine advised that the statistics in respect of anti-social behaviour and disorder had decreased by 16% and 22% respectively. He advised that the focus was now on Road Policing specifically targeting speeding, the use of mobile phones and seatbelts. He outlined that the local media were covering this initiative. Sgt Jardine outlined measures that were being taken to deter from anti-social behaviour such as midnight football.

Sgt Jardine spoke of the positive results that were being seen in respect of drug trafficking and dealing. Mr Tacchi enquired as to whether there was any evidence that drug related crime was on the increase. Sgt Jardine advised that he did not have this statistic to hand, and advised that a freedom of information request could be submitted in order to obtain the information. Councillor Mulvaney advised that there should be public statistics available over a set period of time in this regard. The Area Governance Manager confirmed that she would request this information and circulate to partners.

(b) **SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE**

The group were updated by Group Commander Eddie Renfrew, who advised of the preparations being in put in place to educate in terms of the Muirburn Code, advising of the leaflets which had been distributed. He advised of the 4 deliberate fire groups that had been set up in Helensburgh, Oban, Dunoon and Lochgilphead.

Mr Renfrew spoke about the referring process for Home Safety Visits and urged partners to pass on details of anyone who may require this service. Mr Tacchi advised that he required a home visit and arranged to provide his details at the end of the meeting.

Mr Renfrew advised that the consultation period for the new local fire plan was complete at the end of February, and the new plan for the period 2014 – 2017 was due out at the beginning of April, and would tie in with the objectives of the Single Outcome Agreement.

Mr Renfrew further advised of the new local liaison officer, Alex Purdie who was now in post. He advised that Mr Purdie would be contacting partners in the forthcoming weeks to establish contacts.

(c) **SCOTTISH AMBULANCE**

As there was no representation, there was no update from the

Scottish Ambulance Service.

(d) **NHS HIGHLAND**

The group were given a short update by Craig McNally, Senior Health Promotion Specialist (Alcohol & Drugs). Mr McNally advised that reducing population levels of alcohol consumption as a component of reducing alcohol-related harm is a key outcome of Scotland's alcohol strategy. He outlined the overall rate of hospitalisation associated with alcohol conditions amongst the intermediate geographies within the Argyll and Bute CHP.

Mr McNally advised that the Helensburgh and Lomond Drug Partnership had no local Councillors on the membership and advised that by enlisting one it may be an opportunity to increase agedas in this regard. Councillor Trail volunteered to fill this position and agreed to pass his details to Mr McNally at the conclusion of the meeting.

The group agreed that the report provided by Mr McNally should be circulated to the Licensing Board by the Area Governance Assistant.

The Chair thanked Mr McNally for the informative presentation.

(Ref: Report by Senior Health Promotion Specialist (Alcohol & Drugs), Argyll and Bute CHP, dated January 2014, submitted.)

(e) **SCOTTISH WATER**

As apologies had been intimated by Joanna Peebles, Regional Community Manager Shirley MacLeod advised that an update from Scottish Water would be available at the next meeting of the group in June 2014.

(f) **MOD UPDATE**

The group were updated by Commander Riches on recent events within the MOD. Commander Riches advised that 700 Unite workers had started a peaceful protest at the base. He advised that Babcock had implemented an overtime ban with a work to rule action. He advised that they cannot walk away from safety critical posts and that security at the base would not be compromised.

Commander Riches advised of the Joint Warrior exercise which is due to take place between 30th March and 14th April. He outlined the programme of events including the arrival of ships between 26th and 28th of March. He further advised of the potential 2,000 extra sailors who would be on site during the exercise, but explained that there would be an additional 250 exercise staff on base to assist.

Commander Riches addressed the group in relation to the works carried out by the Armed Forces Community Covenant Awards Board. He requested that partners advertise the works of the group to all within and outwith the Helensburgh area who may have military connections. He explained that Morevain Martin of Argyll Voluntary Action could assist in providing guidance.

Commander Riches advised that although there was nothing planned, as yet, on base to celebrate the Centenary of the Commencement of Hostilities (4th August 2014), he was working jointly with Councillor Corry for the Commemoration event to be held on 20th September 2014 in Inveraray Castle.

The Chair thanked Commander Riches for the information provided.

The Chair acknowledged the attendance of Neil Sturrock of SPT and invited him to provide an update.

(g) **SPT**

Mr Sturrock provided the group with an update of recent works within SPT. He advised that through the Capital Programme, SPT had provided £175,000 to the Cycleway through Cardross and were currently working towards a route through to Arden. Mr Sturrock spoke of the New Capital Programme for the next financial year, which would see works for Argyll and Bute as a whole. Mr Sturrock agreed to provide the programme of planned works to the Area Governance Assistant, who would disseminate to the group by email.

The Chair thanked Mr Sturrock for his informative update.

5. ISSUES RAISED BY THIRD SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS

Morevain Martin, Argyll Voluntary Action provided the group with an update in regards to the recent training and events within the area, the consultation currently being completed and the challenges faced by the Third Sector Forum. Ms Martin outlined some good news items, such as Friends of Duchess Woods securing funding to deliver a walking play as part of the John Muir Event.

The Chair thanked Ms Martin for her informative update.

(Ref: Report by Argyll Voluntary Action, dated 11 March 2014, submitted.)

6. ISSUES RAISED BY COMMUNITY COUNCILS

There were no issues raised by Community Councils, however Morevain Martin who is also a member of Rosneath Community Council updated the group with regards to the beach cleans organised around the Rosneath Peninsula by Tom Ward. She advised that they had received help from the Payback Group and that the Council had provided a large skip.

Ms Martin further advised of the WW1 Celebrations taking place around Kilcreggan, Rosneath and Garelochhead. She advised that delegates are now in place to arrange celebrations with one possible idea being to host a memorabilia show using items found in peoples houses from the wartime era.

The Chair thanked Ms Martin for the update.

7. SUMMARY UPDATE ON COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

The group considered a report outlining the progress to date for the Area Forum Events.

The group noted that the results from the events will feed into the development for the Single Outcome Agreement Delivery Plans and the forthcoming Argyll and Bute Population Summit and that a report providing fuller information would be provided to the group at the next meeting in June 2014.

(Ref: Report by Community Development Manager, dated 11 March 2014, submitted.)

8. FUTURE MEETING PROGRAMME

Shirley MacLeod updated the group in relation to the future meeting programme following agreement at the full Council meeting on 23rd January 2014. She confirmed that the future meetings of the Community Planning Group would be:

10th June 2014;
9th September 2014;
9th December 2014; and
10th March 2015

9. HIGHLIGHT REPORT - DUCHESS WOOD LOCAL NATURE RESERVE COMMITTEE

Shirley MacLeod updated the group in relation to recent activity undertaken by the Duchess Wood Local Nature Reserve.

(Ref: Report by Area Governance Manager, Customer Services, dated March 2014, submitted.)

10. HIGHLIGHT REPORT HELENSBURGH AND LOMOND COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM

Shirley MacLeod provided the group with an update regarding the main pieces of work undertaken by the Helensburgh and Lomond Community Safety Forum.

(Ref: Report by Area Governance Manager, Customer Services, dated March 2014, submitted.)

ARGYLL & BUTE COUNCIL**Helensburgh and Lomond Community
Planning Group
June 2014****CUSTOMER SERVICES**

**Duchess Woods Local Nature Reserve Committee (DWLNRC)
highlight/exception report to Community Planning Group**

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1.1 The purpose of this Paper is to update the Helensburgh and Lomond Community Planning Group regarding activity undertaken by the Duchess Wood Local Nature Reserve Committee (DWLNRC).

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Area Community Planning Group:

- 2.1 Note that the Duchess Woods Local Nature Reserve is a contributing Partner of the Community Planning Group and that the Friends of Duchess Wood voluntary group undertakes a substantial amount of the actual day to day work in the wood;
- 2.2 Note the report provided below: If further detail is desired the full minutes of meetings of the Duchess Wood Local Nature Reserve Committee are published on the Council website, and;
- 2.3 Consider whether there are any specific tasks or issues which it wishes the Committee to undertake or review.

3. DETAIL

- 3.1 The Duchess Wood Local Nature Reserve (DWLNR) was created as under the original 15-year Management plan drawn up by Luss Estates, the landowners, and Dumbarton District Council, of which Argyll and Bute Council is the successor authority. The Council discharge this responsibility through the Duchess Wood Local Nature Reserve Committee (DWLNRC). The Committee is working to a management plan covering the period between 2012 and 2016 which incorporates both maintenance and development of the Woodland, and is seeking to further strengthen the current partnership arrangements regarding the responsible usage of the Duchess Woods.

3.2 One strand of strengthening the partnership arrangements is the reporting now being undertaken to the CPG.

4. IMPLICATIONS

4.1	Policy	Reporting by the DWLNRC to the Community Planning Group assists in delivery, reporting and monitoring of aspects of the SOA and the Community Plan
4.2	Financial	None.
4.3	Personnel	None.
4.4	Equalities	None.
4.5	Legal	None.
4.6	Risk	None
4.7	Customer Service	None

For further information, please contact Stephen Doogan, Area Governance Officer
Tel. 01546 604342

Theme	Issue and Actions	Comment
Education, skills and training	<p>Green Gym – There have now been eight formal Green Gym events and while participation was lower than expected, this can be attributed to lack of publicity and poor weather. With the improved summer conditions it is hoped that uptake will significantly improve, and this appears to be the case.</p> <p>Education – The Education Service wish to continue to support and have representation on DWNLRRC and the committee have accepted the nomination of Eileen Kay (Local Youth Service Worker) as the Education Service Nominated representative.</p> <p>Lomond School are interested in using the Woods as an outdoor nursery. The committee supported this idea in principle subject to a more detailed proposal being brought forward.</p>	<p>The Committee agreed that when confirmation is received of further funding being available from the Forestry Commission that a fresh application should be made to allow the programme to run again.</p> <p>FODW also run regular weekend work parties, these are advertised locally.</p> <p>Eileen has responsibility for the upper end of Primary schools in the area, and for pupils transitioning between primary and secondary. This often involves outdoor activities and family days so she is very much an appropriate nomination.</p>
Events and awareness raising	<p>A number of events have taken place in the last few months, and the need for a revised events policy was recognised this has now been drafted, and will be adopted.</p> <p>It was highlighted that there was a need to liaise with the local GPs to promote the use of the Green Gym.</p> <p>The events being run as part of the John Muir Events will include a Bug Life event suitable for children, local schools will be participating in this.</p> <p>The flower walk will be launched on Saturday 24th May and supporting leaflets have been drafted.</p>	<p>It was recognised that there would require to be exemptions for small community and educational events which would require notification rather than permission</p> <p>The Friends of Duchess Wood have been co-ordinating a number of events including the launch of a Flower Walk, with a John Muir-themed Walking Theatre Company play and a Bug life event.</p>
Maintenance and infrastructure	<p>Japanese Knotweed - This is an ongoing issue, however the benefits from recent treatments are now showing and the knotweed is much less dense in the treated areas - this will be continued.</p>	<p>An Action Plan for the remaining areas of Japanese Knotweed is being considered.</p>

	<p>Litter bins- The emptying of these has now been resolved and normal service is in place,</p> <p>Trees inspection – A tree inspection will be conducted at the end of the summer in order to identify winter works required.</p> <p>Monthly work parties and volunteers continue to do litter picks and repair fences as appropriate. Specific work has been undertaken at Thurgood Bridge which was successful - completed in part by the Community Payback Team.</p> <p>There is continued liaison with the Employability team as to work which may be undertaken. There are a number of options which can be presented and these are currently being defined.</p> <p>New noticeboards and way markers are being planned</p>	<p>Flyposting was noted as an issue and it was confirmed that FODW can remove such items</p> <p>A future meeting will be held between the Employability team and Committee members</p> <p>There is a query with Planning as to the need for a permission for the Information Boards funded by Babcocks, it is hoped that this will be resolved in early course</p>
Other Issues	<p>A memorial plaque commemorating the significant contribution of Councillor Al Reay has been installed in the woods on the route of the flower walk.</p>	

HELENSBURGH AND LOMOND COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP**TUESDAY, 10 JUNE 2014****Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Authority (NPA) – Report**

Local Development Plan – As you may have heard, the Main Issues Report (MIR) is currently out for consultation till 7th July. This is the first of two formal consultations in the process to prepare a new Local Development Plan (LDP) which, once adopted, will replace the existing Local Plan. The consultation on the MIR is known as 'LIVE Park'.

The Main Issues Report is a discussion-based document that outlines where the NPA thinks the existing Local Plan may need changed, focusing on key topics or locations, as a basis for consultation with communities and other partners. It is the principal opportunity for the NPA to consult on the proposed content of the Plan and involve the wider public.

To make it as easy as possible for you to get involved the Park Authority have set up several lines of communication as follows:

- www.ourlivepark.com
- twitter.com/ourlivepark
- facebook.com/ourlivepark
- instagram.com/ourlivepark
- text us on 07860 017 153
- email: hello@ourlivepark.com

National Park Elections – the process is currently underway to appoint locally-elected Board Members for the National Park. Every household should have received details of the election. If more than one person is nominated then an election will be held via postal ballot with election papers posted out around the 12th June and returned by 4pm on Thursday 3rd July.

Built Heritage Repair Grant –The 2014/15 scheme is now open for the repair and restoration of our traditional buildings. The grant scheme focuses on properties located along the main routes (including the West Highland Way and National Cycle Route 7) through the National Park and its settlements. For information on who can apply, what the grant will cover and how to apply please visit the website: <http://www.lochlomond-trossachs.org/looking-after/built-heritage-repair-grant/menu-id-963.html>.

Visitor Management - The NPA wants to be able to offer a high quality, authentic experience for visitors that compares to the best on offer around the world. In order to support this, we have a project currently underway to assess the visitor management challenges and opportunities across the National Park area. At present, visitor pressure and behaviour in a number of areas across the National Park is damaging the environment and this pressure needs to be addressed in order to gain the right balance between recreation and environmental degradation. We are currently in a listening phase, during which we are happy to hear from all interested parties. If you would like to input in any concerns about visitor pressures, or highlight any opportunities that you think may exist from addressing the issues, please contact Charlotte Wallace, Visitor Policy and Engagement Manager at the National Park on 01389722109 or via email to charlotte.wallace@lochlomond-trossachs.org.

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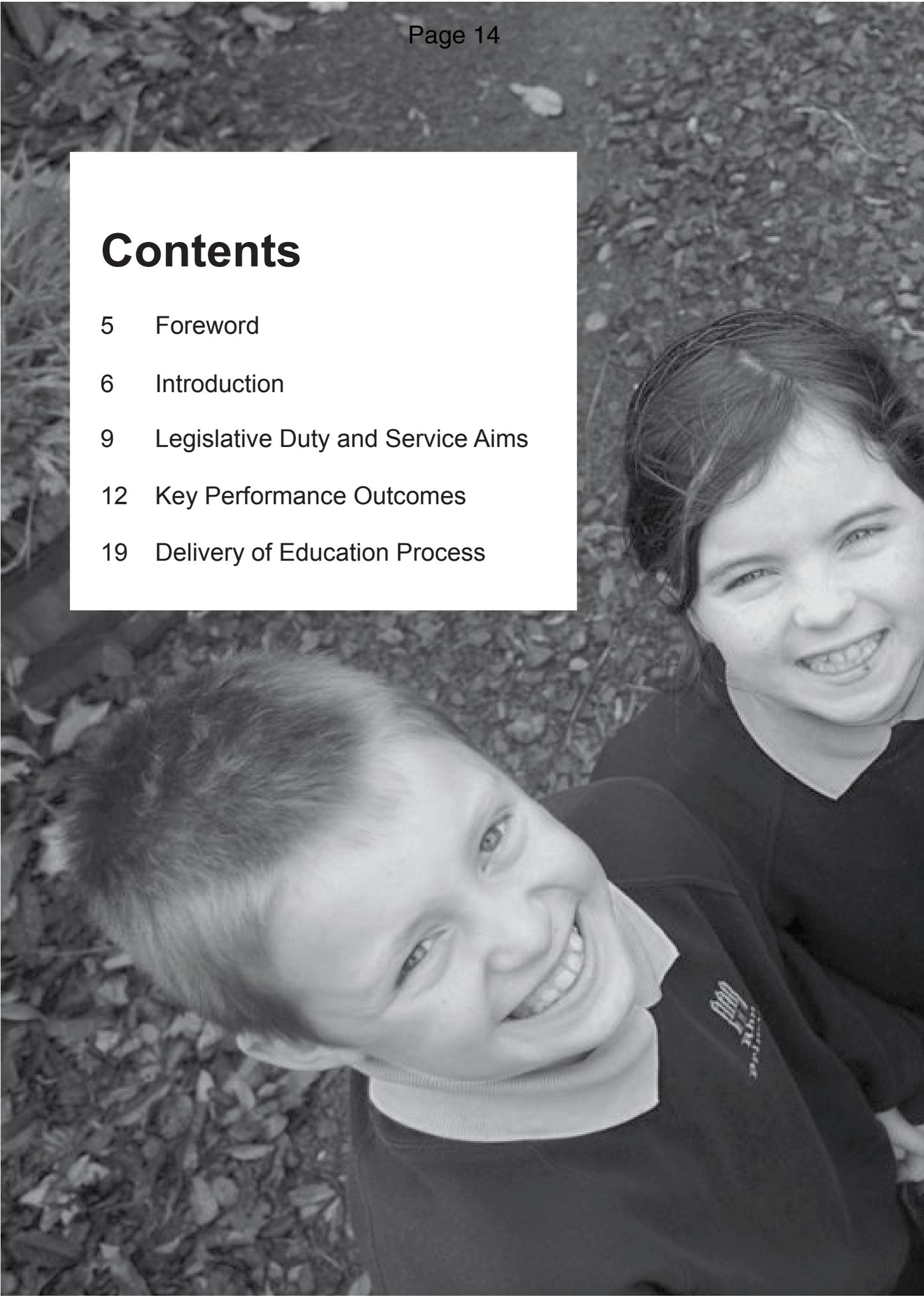
Standards and Quality in Argyll and Bute Schools 2012/13

Community Services: Education



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Foreword

Welcome to this Standards and Quality Report 2012/13 for Argyll & Bute Council's Education Service.

This report is aimed at providing information to the reader on how our service performs. The report highlights many of the excellent developments taking place in our service and recognises the considerable work undertaken by staff, pupils, parents and the wider community.

The Education Service is strongly committed to continuous improvement, and by working purposefully with a wide range of partners we are making significant improvements to learners' outcomes.

My thanks to everyone involved in educating and supporting our young people. This is much valued and appreciated.



Aileen Morton
Policy Lead
Education and Lifelong Learning

Introduction

Argyll and Bute is one of the largest and most sparsely populated local authority areas in Scotland. The population of 86,900 is scattered across an area of just under 2,700 square miles. It is approximately 120 miles long from the Isle of Coll in the north to Southend in Kintyre, and 100 miles wide from Bridge of Orchy in the east to the island of Tiree in the west. Two thirds of the population lives in small towns with a population of less than 10,000 and a third live in settlements with a population of less than 1,000.

It is an area of outstanding natural beauty with mountains, sea lochs, islands and more than 3,000 miles of coastline. The geography provides challenges for service delivery, particularly in communications and transport.

Argyll and Bute Council's vision 'Realising our Potential Together' is underpinned by 4 key values:

- We involve and listen to our customers and communities
- We take pride in delivering best value services
- We are open, honest, fair and inclusive
- We respect and value everyone

Community Services is the largest service within Argyll and Bute and accounts for approximately 53% of the total expenditure of the Council. The Council offices are located in Lochgilphead and three education offices are based in Dunoon, Oban and Helensburgh. Within Community Services, Education is responsible, under the 'Standards in Scotland's Schools etc. Act 2000' for providing school education for every child of school age to support the development of the personality, talents and mental and physical abilities of the child to his or her fullest potential.

The service manages seventy three primary schools, three 3-18 schools, five secondary schools, two joint campuses, one learning centre and two pre-school centres.

The total school pupil roll stands at 10,767 (September 2012 Census), made up of 5,698 primary pupils, 5,052 secondary pupils and 17 Learning Centre pupils. This compares with a total pupil roll of 11,065 in 2011/12 and five years earlier 11,880 in 2007/08. In addition there are 1075 pre-school children. These children are in two Council pre-school centres and forty eight pre-school classes. This does not include the twenty five voluntary and private pre-school establishments catering for another 684 children in the Council area.

Young people are taught by 419.69 FTE (Full Time Equivalent) primary teachers, 432.20 FTE secondary teachers and 5.7 FTE special teachers. The teachers are supported by 248 classroom assistants (79.09 FTE), 389 ASN assistants (176.66 FTE), 42 pupil support assistants (14.39 FTE), and 190 clerical assistants (109.39 FTE). In addition, the ten schools with secondary pupils each have a librarian (8.9 FTE) and 3 technicians (27.17 FTE).

Early Years education provision within our schools employ 110 childcare and education workers (64.62 FTE) and the two Council-run pre-school centres each have a head of centre and senior childcare and education worker. One mainstream pre5 unit also has a senior childcare and education worker.

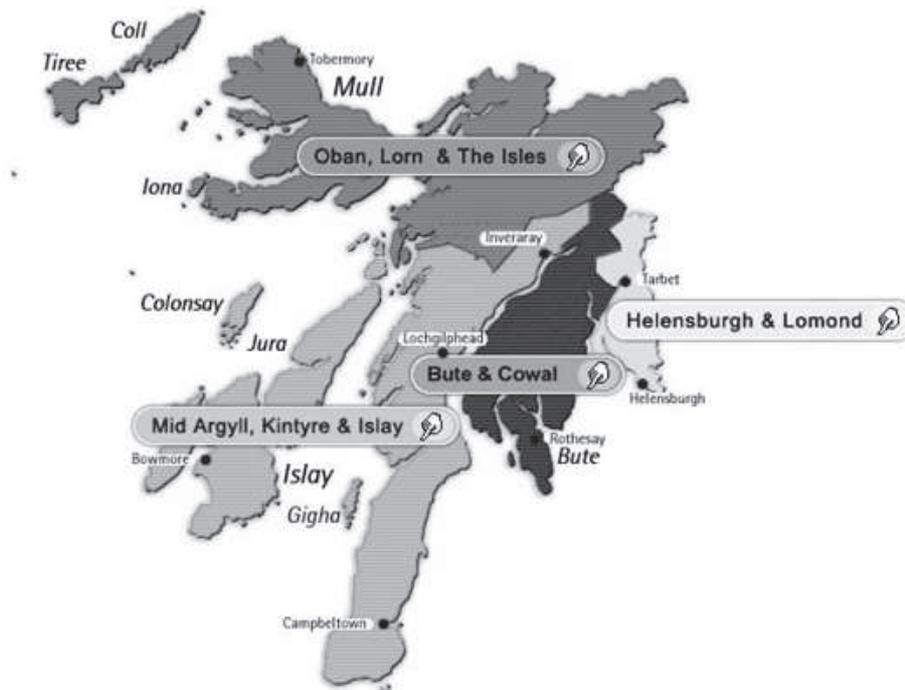
Four islands have their own secondary education provision and secondary pupils from remote locations or other islands travel to the most accessible school, staying in hostels or other arranged accommodation during the school week where necessary. Around 80% of Argyll and Bute primary schools have three or fewer teachers, with composite classes covering the 5 to 12 age group.

Five primary schools, five secondary schools and two joint campuses have integral learning centres that provide enhanced provision for children and young people with more severe and complex additional support needs. In addition, there is one free-standing learning centre making provision for pupils with complex additional support needs. The majority of children and young people with additional support needs have education provision made in their local pre-school centre or mainstream school. The Pupil Support Service and Educational Psychology Service provide advice, guidance and training on additional support needs to staff in mainstream setting as well as providing support for pupils with additional support needs and the implementation of universal early intervention approaches.

Gaelic Medium Education is available in six pre-school and primary establishments at Bowmore, Rockfield, Salen, Sandbank, Strath of Appin and Tiree and there is continuity and progression of language skills in the five associated secondary establishments.

All schools have a Parent Council under the Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006.

The Education Management Team comprises the Head of Education, Quality Standards Manager and two Quality Improvement Managers and the Principal Educational Psychologist. In addition, Quality Improvement Officers have responsibility for specific service priorities and four act as the contact officer for each of the four areas of the council.



The administration of the service is based in Argyll House, Dunoon with sub-offices in Helensburgh and Oban. An education training centre is located within the Inveraray Primary School building.

Performance in Argyll and Bute schools is generally above the national average. This commitment to excellence contributes to raising achievement in schools, making Argyll and Bute a more desirable place to live and work. This achievement increasingly reflects a wider range of alternative qualifications and skills for work.



Legislative Duty

Community Services: Education is responsible, under the 'Standards in Scotland's Schools etc. Act 2000', for providing school education for every child of school age. The service aims to develop the personality, talents, mental and physical abilities of the child to his or her fullest potential.

The Education Authority, in implementing the Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Acts 2004 and 2009 (ASL Acts), aims to ensure that all children and young people are provided with the necessary support to help them work towards achieving their full potential. In discharging its duties under the ASL Acts and the Equality Act 2010, the Education Authority works collaboratively with partner agencies. The Equality Act places a duty on education authorities to ensure that children and young people with a disability are not discriminated against and to ensure that they are able to have full access to the physical environment, the curriculum and information.

Our Vision – Achieve: Together We Can

The Education Service is forward looking and ambitious, continuously improving the quality of provision through self-evaluation for all children and young people in Argyll and Bute.

Our values underpin what we do and how we do it:

- We involve, listen to and respect our children and young people; their parents and carers, our staff and communities
- We take pride in delivering a quality education service securing best value
- We are open, honest, fair and inclusive

The service promotes the four capacities of Curriculum for Excellence:

Successful Learners with:

- Enthusiasm and motivation for learning
- Determination to reach high standards of achievement
- Openness to new thinking and ideas

Confident Individuals with:

- Self respect
- A sense of physical, mental and emotional wellbeing
- Secure values and beliefs
- Ambitions

Responsible Citizens with:

- Respect for others
- Commitment to participate responsibly in political, economic, social and cultural life

Effective Contributors with:

- An enterprising attitude
- Resilience
- Self reliance
- The ability to meet the demands of our changing world

HMIe Framework for Self Evaluation

The Education Service gathers management information and evidence that enables it to judge the effectiveness of its performance against six high level questions. These questions also form the basis for Validated Self Evaluation in partnership with Education Scotland.

These are:

- What key outcomes have we achieved?
- How well do we meet the needs of our stakeholders?
- How good is our delivery of education processes?
- How good is our management?
- How good is our leadership?
- What is our capacity for improvement?

Validated Self Evaluation

Validated Self Evaluation is led by the education authority and involves a partnership in which Education Scotland works alongside the authority and applies its knowledge of educational delivery and expertise in evaluation. The purpose of this is to support, extend and challenge the education authority's own self-evaluation, and so affirm (or otherwise) and strengthen outcomes for learners.

Validated Self Evaluation acknowledges that the responsibility for improving services and outcomes lies with the education authority. It recognises that self-evaluation is increasingly well embedded across the Scottish educational landscape and that high quality self-evaluation can lead to continuous improvement for learners and the achievement of excellence in practice and provision.

HM Inspectors (Education Scotland) were invited by Argyll and Bute Council to carry out a Validated Self Evaluation. The Validated Self Evaluation took place between October 2012 and February 2013. The Validated Self Evaluation concluded with a report which was published by Education Scotland on 19 February 2013.

The Validated Self Evaluation built on ongoing self-evaluation taking place within the Education Service and four themes were identified for focused attention during the process. Each theme was evaluated by a group of staff from the Education Service. The groups were led by Senior Managers of the service who co-ordinated activities throughout the Validated Self Evaluation and reported on the findings for their theme.

During the Validated Self Evaluation, members of each group undertook a variety of activities to evaluate their theme.

These included:

- Reviewing relevant documentation
- Visiting a sample of establishments across the Council area to observe practice and interview staff and children and young people
- Interviewing a range of stakeholders and senior officers

The Validated Self Evaluation Process required the Education Service to select a small number of themes for close scrutiny. The Education Service chose to look closely at a number of outcomes for children and young people. Four themes were selected for evaluation. These were:

- Positive Starts
- Literacy
- Opportunities for All
- School Review

From all themes the Service and HMIs have jointly identified the following high level strengths.

- The shared commitment across the Education Service and its partners to strengthening approaches to self-evaluation and to applying these to drive improvements
- High levels of professionalism, knowledge and skill amongst senior managers and staff
- Senior managers' creative and responsive approach to finding solutions to meet corporate objectives and identified needs
- Examples of significant improvements in outcomes, including improvements in the number of young people achieving positive post-school destinations
- Examples of improvements in arrangements for the delivery of services, for example in Early Years, as a result of established self-evaluation processes
- The engagement of elected members and senior managers in developing a shared vision for education in Argyll and Bute



Key Performance Outcomes

Across a five year period examination performance of pupils in Argyll and Bute is generally above or well above the national averages. Level 3 results (Access 3 and Standard Grade foundation) have been adversely affected by the introduction of alternative courses. These courses, provided in association with partners such as Argyll College, are not counted in the authority's Scottish Qualifications Authority analysis. 2013 results are pre-appeal.

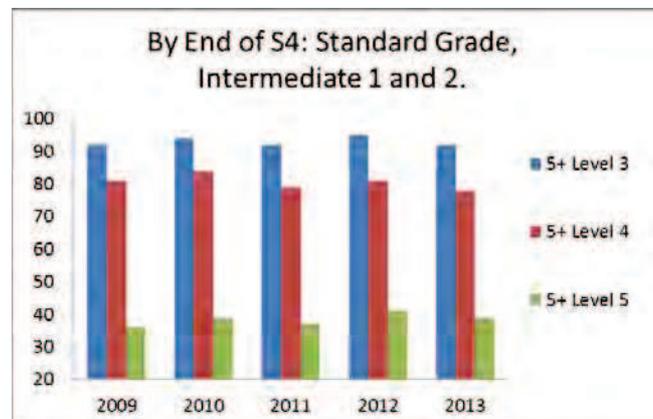
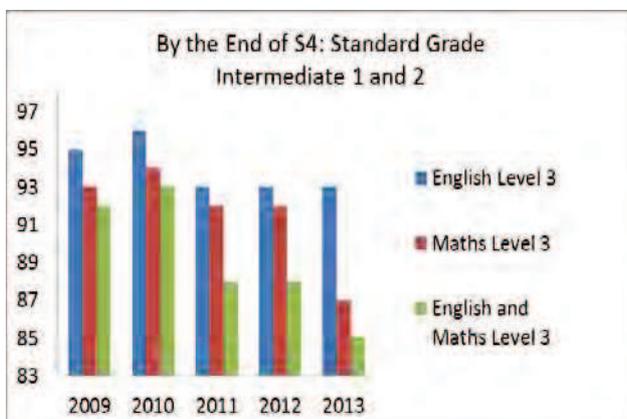
The authority has been working with schools to encourage more robust pupil tracking in order to identify pupils whose performance is lower than that predicted by prior assessment. Other initiatives include monitoring of performance of Looked After Children and encouraging more pupils to take five Highers when they are clearly capable of doing so.

The five year range shows the difference between the highest and lowest percentages achieved in the authority between 2009 and 2013.

Scottish Qualifications Authority Examination Performance 2009/2013

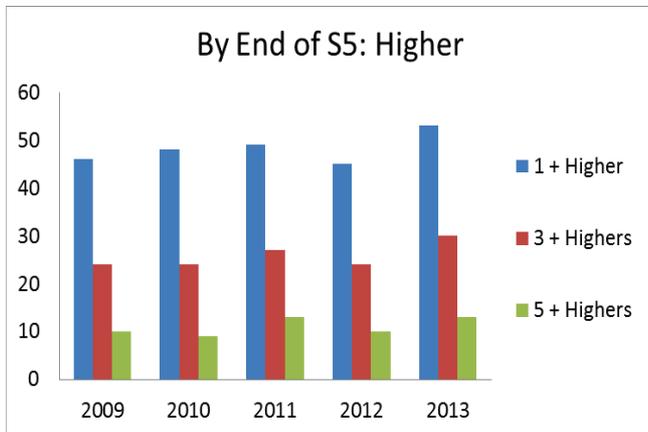
By the end of S4: Standard Grade, Intermediate 1 and 2.

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	5 year range
English Level 3	95	96	93	93	93	93 – 96 = 3%
Maths Level 3	93	94	92	92	87	87 – 94 = 7%
English and Maths Level 3	92	93	88	88	85	85 – 93 = 8%
5+ Level 3	92	94	92	95	92	92 – 95 = 3%
5+ Level 4	81	84	79	81	78	78 – 84 = 6%
5+ Level 5	36	39	37	41	39	36 – 41 = 5%



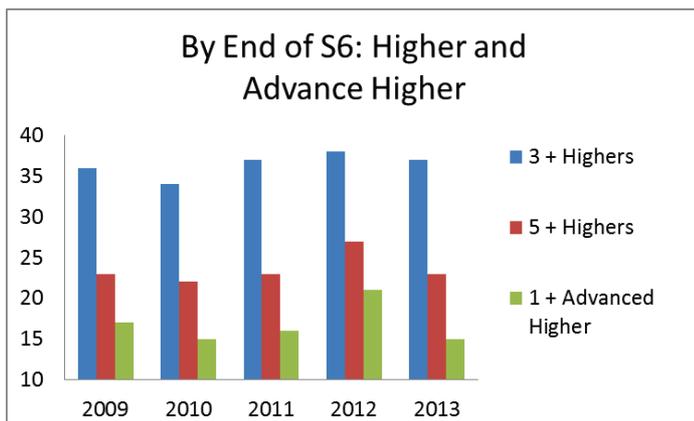
By the end of S5: Higher

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	5 year range
1 + Higher	46	48	49	45	53	45 – 53 = 8%
3 + Highers	24	24	27	24	30	24 – 30 = 6%
5 + Highers	10	09	13	10	13	09 – 13 = 4%



By the end of S6: Higher and Advanced Higher

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	5 year range
3 + Highers	36	34	37	38	37	34 – 38 = 4%
5 + Highers	23	22	23	27	23	22 – 27 = 5%
1 + Advanced Higher	17	15	16	21	15	15 – 21 = 6%



How do HMIE rate our schools?

In session 2012/13, HMIE conducted inspections in one 3-18 school, one joint campus and three primary schools. Out of a total of twenty five quality indicators, 56% were rated as good or better. Our target measure of 75% of all quality indicators being rated as good or better was not met due to lower gradings in some Education Scotland inspections.

Quality Indicator	Ex	VG	G	S	W	US
Improvements in performance	0	1	1	3	0	0
Learners' experiences	0	2	3	0	0	0
Meeting learning needs	0	2	0	3	0	0
The curriculum	0	0	3	1	1	0
Improvement through self-evaluation	0	0	2	1	2	0

KEY		
Ex	Excellent	Outstanding, sector leading
VG	Very Good	Major strengths
G	Good	Important strengths with some areas for improvement
S	Satisfactory	Strengths just outweigh weaknesses
W	Weak	Important weaknesses
US	Unsatisfactory	Major weaknesses



Skills for Work and Partner Achievement Qualifications on Offer 2012/2013

Skills for Work courses help pupils develop practical vocational skills and develop skills that will improve and enhance their future employment prospects. A variety of Skills for Work courses are offered in each of our secondary schools, dependent upon the areas of interest expressed by pupils. The courses are run in partnership with local colleges and employers.

Skills For Work		
Course	Level	Numbers
Creative Design Media	Intermediate 1	24
Construction	Intermediate 1	78
Construction	Intermediate 2	8
Early Education and Childcare	Intermediate 1	71
Early Education and Childcare	Intermediate 2	36
Engineering	Intermediate 1	29
Engineering	Intermediate 2	4
Hairdressing	Intermediate 1	91
Hairdressing	Intermediate 2	20
Hospitality	Intermediate 1	14
Hospitality	Intermediate 2	47
Motor Vehicle	Intermediate 1	1
Rural Skills	Intermediate 1	48
Rural Skills	Intermediate 2	5
Sport and Recreation	Intermediate 1	13
Uniformed and Emergency	Intermediate 1	22
General Operations Hospitality	National	5
Skills for Customer Care	Intermediate	21
Creative Industries	Intermediate 2	20
Sound Engineering	Intermediate 2	6
TOTAL		563



Partner Achievement Qualifications		
Award Scheme Development Accreditation Network	Bronze	6
Award Scheme Development Accreditation Network	New Horizons	3
Award Scheme Development Accreditation Network	Transition	7
Basic Food Hygiene	Certificate	246
Duke of Edinburgh	Bronze	82
Duke of Edinburgh	Silver	30
Duke of Edinburgh	Gold	12
European Computer Driving Licence		3
Enterprise and Employability	National	38
Friends Against Bullying		25
Getting Started – Basketball		20
Health and Social Care	Higher	6
John Muir		33
Leadership	Intermediate	163
Millennium Volunteers Award	5-200	64
Pool Lifeguard		1
Princes Trust XL Personal	Access 3	49
Psychology	Intermediate 2	9
Psychology	Higher	4
Scottish Football Association Early Touches – Football		20
Sports First Aid		23
Sports Leader	Award	39
Tutoring		16
Work Experience	Intermediate1	502
Young Applicants in Schools Scheme – S6 Open University		34
Youth Achievement		11
Baccalaureate – Science		6
Baccalaureate – Modern Language		2
Baccalaureate – Social Science		3
Baccalaureate – Expressive Art		5
Work Shadowing	Intermediate 1	29
TOTAL		1491
GRAND TOTAL		2054

Over the last 5 years central education staff have worked in partnership with secondary schools and their local learning communities to develop a greater range of wider qualifications. Skills for Work and Partner Achievement Qualifications can assist young people to develop skills for learning, life and work and assist them into positive and sustained destinations post-school.

In session 2012-2013 a total of 563 pupils took part in Skills for Work across our ten secondary schools and 1,491 young people opted to study partner achievement qualifications, making a grand total of 2,054 pupils involved in these programmes.

School Leavers Destination Information for Argyll and Bute pupils

Skills Development Scotland supplies information about the destinations of secondary school leavers to the Scottish Government on an annual basis. The following information return is based on pupils who left school between the 1 August 2012 and the 31 July 2013. We have also included an analysis of these statistics over the previous 2 year period.

School	Total Leavers	HE	FE	Training	Employed	Voluntary	Activity Agreement	Unemployed Seeking	Unemployed Not Seek	Total Positive	Total Other
	Nos	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
CGS	88	35.2	23.9	1.1	36.4	0	0	3.4	0	96.9	3.4
DGS	176	35.2	29.5	4.0	20.5	0	3.4	6.3	1.1	92.6	7.4
HA	201	42.8	24.9	3.0	15.9	0	1.0	10.4	2.0	87.6	12.4
IHS	38	23.7	5.3	2.6	57.9	0	0	10.5	0	89.5	10.5
LHS	83	55.4	9.6	1.2	27.7	0	0	6.0	0	94.0	6.0
OHS	201	29.9	17.4	6.0	39.3	1.0	0	5.5	1.0	93.5	6.5
RA	48	35.4	29.2	8.3	16.7	2.1	2.1	6.3	0	93.8	6.3
TAR	11	45.5	18.2	0	36.4	0	0	0	0	100.0	0
TIR	8	37.5	0	0	62.5	0	0	0	0	100.0	0
TOB	21	61.9	14.3	0	23.8	0	0	0	0	100.0	0
A&B	875	37.9	21.4	3.7	28.1	0.3	1.0	6.6	0.9	92.5	7.5

SCHOOL KEY

CGS	Campbeltown Grammar	DGS	Dunoon Grammar
HA	Hermitage Academy	IHS	Islay High
LJC	Lochgilphhead Joint Campus	OHS	Oban High
RJC	Rothsay Joint Campus	TAR	Tarbert Academy
TIR	Tiree High	TOB	Tobermory High

	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Argyll and Bute	%	%	%
Higher Education	35.9	39.7	37.9
Further Education	22.6	20.9	21.4
Training	3.0	3.6	3.7
Employment	27.8	24.9	28.1
Voluntary Work	0.3	0.3	0.3
Activity Agreements	0.1	0.6	1.0
Unemployed and seeking employment or training	9.4	7.6	6.6
Unemployed and not seeking employment or training	0.6	1.7	0.9
Destination unknown	0.1	0.6	0.0
Positive Destinations	89.8	90.1	92.5
Total Number of School Leavers	985	935	875

Scottish Education Awards 2013

Argyll and Bute continues to perform well in the National Awards. This national recognition raises the profile of our schools, pupils and staff.

2013 Finalists from Argyll and Bute

- **Numeracy Across Learning Award: Runner Up**
The Cottage Kindergarten, Helensburgh

Young Enterprise Scotland – Argyll & Bute

- **Overall Winning Company**
Plain Teaze, Lochgilphead Joint Campus
- **Best Trade Stand**
Plain Teaze, Lochgilphead Joint Campus
- **Best Presentation**
Seasonal Touch, Dunoon Grammar School

AB Awards 2012-2013 – Celebrating Youth Achievement in Argyll & Bute

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| ➤ Unsung Hero | Megan Foster, Hermitage Academy |
| ➤ Youth Entrepreneur Award | Leanne Goodall, Lochgilphead Joint Campus |
| ➤ Youth Volunteering Award | Sarah Nicolson, Lochgilphead Joint Campus |
| ➤ Health and Wellbeing | Islay High Film Group, Islay High School |
| ➤ Youth Environment Award | Peter Tyler, Tarbert Academy |
| ➤ Youth Citizenship Award | Katie Burke, Hermitage Academy |
| ➤ Youth Sporting Award | Robert Miller, Dunoon Grammar School |
| ➤ Youth Arts Award | John Anthony Graham, Hermitage Academy |



Delivery of Education Process

Every child and young person is entitled to experience a curriculum which is coherent from 3 to 18

The Education Action plan for 2012/13 is based on the Scottish Government's Curriculum for Excellence Plan and identified the following areas for development:

- Assessment
- Broad General Education Pre5 -S3
- Senior Phase S4-S6
- Developing Literacy Numeracy and Health and Well Being
- Professional Development
- Leadership
- Communication and Engagement



Progress within these areas during session 2012/13 was as follows:

Area 1: Assessment

Early Years

- Early Level National Assessment Resource activities were developed by the Principal Teacher for Early Years in partnership with Clyde Nursery, Clyde Cottage and Little Learners.
- Early Years Principal Teachers support vulnerable children in their pre-school year and provided effective transition into primary schools.
- Two Early Level Development days for pre5 and P1 staff were held centrally to share practice and gain a deeper understanding of the principles of early level classes.
- An Early Years Conference was held centrally to share practice for all practitioners and managers with a focus on Positive Starts, with keynote speakers from across the UK.
- Practitioners and managers from Early Level classes visited other settings to share standards. Opportunities were given during Early Level Development days for practice and standards to be shared.
- Needs are identified and children supported often through extended transition into nursery and into school.
- The Early Years Principal Teachers support staff and managers to deliver the GIRFEC Early Years protocol through support sessions within the setting, or through accessing authority training. The Principal Teachers also work closely with parents and families of very young children to ensure their needs are being met.
- Within the Early Level there is now a greater emphasis on quality interaction between parent, child and school. Personal Learning Plans are sent home or shared with parents regularly, as well as taking the time to participate in quality one to one learning conversations between practitioner and child.

Teacher Learning Communities

- Year 2 of the Teacher Learning Communities Leadership training programme was rolled out. This involved twenty five Teacher Learning Communities groups involving forty schools. Formative Assessment support materials were issued to support the work of the groups.
- A needs analysis was conducted to evaluate training required in relation to Teacher Learning Communities for year 5 (2013/14).
- In partnership with Education Scotland a training package was prepared and commenced Autumn 2013, enabling each cluster to have a group of local assessment moderators.
- Twelve primary schools took part in a moderation of interdisciplinary learning exercise led by the Authority Interdisciplinary Learning Team. A report is due to be published Spring term 2013-14.
- A Numeracy Strategy Group was established and policy development is taking place in identifying diagnostic materials.
- Sixteen schools (five secondary and eleven primaries) took part in a moderation of writing exercise. A summary of findings was produced and issued to all schools. Moderation of writing workshops took place in three clusters. The exercise will be repeated as part of cycle of moderation.
- A cross authority Assessment Forum was established with representation from each cluster and from primary and secondary schools. This Forum took forward consultation on reporting from August 2013.

- Opportunities for professional dialogue are a regular feature of head teacher meetings and subject implementation days.
- In-service sessions with teaching and non-teaching staff in twelve schools across Bute and Cowal have supported the further development of enhanced professional dialogue amongst staff. Cloud 10 materials were used to take forward a review of the curriculum.
- The Scottish Qualifications Authority liaison officer made regular visits to schools providing updates and support relating to new national qualifications.
- Principal Teachers were updated at subject implementation days and had opportunity to attend Curriculum for Excellence and Scottish Qualifications Authority events.
- Subject specialists had opportunities to attend subject implementation days in November and May. Extra subject days were organised when requested with a particular focus on assessment.
- Schools are implementing diagnostic summative assessment activities in numeracy and literacy at key stages in primary and early secondary.
- There has been 100% engagement with the authority's Reading Initiative, allowing more focused identification of reading needs at pre-school, P1, 2 and 4, with additional materials aimed at P7-S1 transition.
- Local clusters are beginning to set up their own systems for moderating standards and sharing expectations in line with Building the Curriculum.
- The skills and assessment forum is effectively supporting schools to continue to develop capacity in skills for learning, life and work through promotion of Skills Book, Solo Taxonomy, Blooms Taxonomy and development of a policy for the implementation of skills and assessment in Argyll and Bute.



Area 2: Broad General Education

- There was focus on the broad general education (S1-3) at subject implementation days. Schools worked together on these days and developed and shared materials and strategies.
- To ensure that all pupils experience interdisciplinary learning in line with cluster *Expectations and Aspirations*. The authority Interdisciplinary Learning Team conducted a moderation exercise across twelve primary schools. A report will be published in Autumn 2013/14.
- Schools continued to develop curriculum plans and review the impact of these, supported by the quality improvement team through school visits, the school review process and a series of effective Curriculum Design days delivered in partnership with Education Scotland.
- All schools are currently engaged in developing the curriculum related to experiences and outcomes across the curricular areas within Curriculum for Excellence.
- Across the authority there are many examples of developing practice in active learning at the early years. Dalmally Primary School have developed their model for learning within an Early Level Class, much of which is explorative and experiential in nature. Park Primary Early Level staff jointly plan to deliver active and challenging learning experiences through imaginative interdisciplinary themes.
- The authority has engaged secondary schools in restructuring their S1-S2 and in some cases S3 curriculum to provide a broader general education. Oban High School will introduce choice at S2 and again at S3 in order to broaden their curriculum. Oban High School pupils engage in interdisciplinary learning that comprises 25% of the S1/2 curriculum.
- The development of Curriculum for Excellence learning area for S1 pupils in Campbeltown Grammar School. This allows maximum flexibility for learners and teachers.
- Almost all primary teachers across Argyll have been trained in Big Writing, an interactive approach to teaching writing that has shown an increase in extended writing, especially from boys.
- Continuing Professional Development for session 12/13 on curriculum development, self-evaluation, newly qualified head teachers and formative/summative assessment.



- There were support visits to primary schools not meeting the two hours target for PE. These visits supported teachers and management teams to develop an understanding of perceived barriers for success.
- Kodamba music packs for Early Years, level 1 and 2 were developed and offered to all teachers attending Continuing Professional Development sessions. A total of twenty four twilight Continuing Professional Development sessions and two inset days were delivered throughout the authority. These packs contain resources for teachers to facilitate active creative music lessons.
- The samba programme continued with great success and 55 primary schools received a six week samba course, from a music specialist.
- Creative Learning Network were developed to allow partnerships to develop between teachers and artists based on mutual understanding of each other's needs. This gives time for dialogue based on Curriculum for Excellence and practice, both from artists and teachers. Extensive Continuing Professional Development is offered within this forum focusing on skills development of teachers and artists.
- Continued development of Music Buddies methodology for learning of music in primary aged children in the Helensburgh area. This after school central approach allows children often from small primary schools, to learn with peers, and to have a group learning session, deepening understanding of a real breadth of musical concepts.
- The music service continues to deliver instrumental opportunities for young people across the authority. Children and young people learn in a variety of contexts both in and out of school. Many of our ensembles – brass, wind, fiddle and pipe have successfully participated in national level events.
- Community Learning and Development Youth Service team members are working closely with schools to provide a range of alternative curriculum activities, including the Princes Trust XL programme, Award Scheme Development Accreditation Network (ASDAN) courses, Pupil Support/Alternatives to Exclusion, Peer Education Projects, Personal and Social Development and Youth Achievement Awards.
- Schools were supported with the delivery of Enterprise Education through an investment of £400,000 with a focus on development of Skills for Work and exploration of S6 options.
- Skills Development Scotland rolled out my World of Work to all secondary pupils from S3 and above.
- The Kintyre Learning Technologies group was established as a pilot project. Learning Technology Co-ordinators were recruited and are working with schools in their local area to share practice in the applications of digital skills in the curriculum.
- A digital space was established to enable communication of the Kintyre Learning technology co-ordinators as an online network of support, evaluation and development.
- Schools, including Bunessan Primary, Sandbank Primary and Dunoon Grammar School piloted the Skills Book electronic profiling methods.
- Islay and Jura Primary Schools engaged in the Endeavour Project, offering a rich, deep personalized interdisciplinary learning experience for children across the island.
- Co-operative Learning Academies continue to be organised. There is evidence through school reviews and quality improvement officer visits to classrooms of regular pupil engagement in co-operative learning.

Area 3: Senior Phase - Opportunities for All

- Appropriate paperwork to support procedures within the senior phase to assist secondary school pupils in making a positive transition post-16 has been developed and shared with all ten secondary schools including:
 - Timeline – month by month
 - Timeline – quick guide
 - Senior Phase transitions spreadsheet
 - Leavers Form
- At least one member of staff has been trained in the use of the Risk Matrix in all secondary schools. Training was delivered in-house or at Inveraray Conference Centre.
- Work has taken place with Argyll College to deliver a range of HNC/HND and first year degree level courses for S6 pupils through distance learning and with the support of a Student Academic Advisor as well as work with partner agencies to explore potential course delivery opportunities including:
 - A wider range of qualification for the senior phase was introduced and developed. The pilot took place in Lochgilphead Joint Campus.
 - 1 student studied sustainable environment module and completed – used as part of UCAS application.
 - Student Academic Advisor has worked with all ten secondary schools to raise awareness of the programme.
- Work took place with local and national partner agencies to develop Activity Agreements for vulnerable young people, this resulted in:
 - 31 Referrals to Activity Agreement programme.
 - 17 Starts on Activity Agreement programme.
 - 15 students completed Activity Agreements throughout Nov 11 – March 13 of which 10 went on to positive destinations.
- 524 senior phase pupils completed a work based vocational learning placement in 2012/13 (1- S3, 356 - S4, 37 - S5 and 130 - S6).
- Work Based Vocational Learning policy and procedure document rolled out to all schools to ensure they have knowledge and understanding.
- Secondary schools continue to refine their curriculum maps, a support session for secondary heads and deputes was delivered in partnership with Education Scotland and another authority, ensuring senior leaders understand the increased expectations on curriculum design.
- A member of senior leadership was identified to take Opportunities for All forward in each of the ten secondary schools. All schools were trained and made aware of the relevant policies and procedures.
- S6 booklet on Further and Higher education opportunities was produced in partnership with Argyll College.

- Senior Phase transition spreadsheets and risk matrix scores were used and will continue to be used to identify young people at risk of disengaging offering additional help and support through Skills Development Scotland.
- Social Enterprise – over the last four years the authority has developed a partnership with the Social Enterprise Academy in order to build capacity, knowledge and understanding on how to successfully operate and run a social enterprise company. To date 30 teaching colleagues have completed training with the Social Enterprise Academy (one of our most successful local social enterprise companies). 15 schools now have a successful social enterprise company up and running and a further 5 are in the early stages of planning and implementation. The Social Enterprise Academy had recognised the fantastic work being done in this field and 6 school based companies have received recognition for their efforts at the National Social Award award ceremony.



Area 4: Developing Literacy and Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing

- A Literacy Leader has been identified within all schools and the authority has provided ongoing training for them. This has focused on literacy across learning. Dunoon Grammar School has formed a Literacy across Learning group that will lead developments. The Maths and English department at Hermitage Academy have worked closely together on various projects, including a Literacy Olympics reward scheme, an integrated gardening project and 'Junior apprentice'.
- The Reading Initiative is aimed at closing the gap in achievement at early years through a programme for early intervention in identifying reading needs and subsequent targeted support. This is being extended to bring a self-evaluation focus to assessing the impact of literacy initiatives across the authority.
- The Argyll Reading Partners scheme has led to the provision of locally based tutors who have trained teams of paired readers in schools. In the schools in which this scheme operates, there has been an increase in motivation of reluctant readers.
- All clusters are engaging in the 'Big Writing' programme which has served to increase motivation and improve standards in writing.
- In Campbeltown, a Volunteer Peer Mentoring scheme is being explored by Community Learning and Development adult literacy staff with a view to setting up a scheme to allow 16+ individuals to be paired up with younger pupils to be mentored and support their development.
- The authority set up a numeracy working group with membership from pre5, primary, secondary and Community Learning and Development staff. This group began to consider actions which could raise attainment at all levels but in particular to close the gap in achievement at early years and set up a pilot project to investigate the impact of parental involvement in developing early numeracy skills.
- The numeracy forum has developed an online numeracy toolkit.
- The literacy forum shared best practice nationally with all establishments.
- A Health & Wellbeing draft implementation guide was created. Health and Wellbeing, the responsibility of all experiences and outcomes were mapped against the 8 GIRFEC indicators. This will ensure that the message that GIRFEC is at the heart of Curriculum for Excellence not just support is shared across the authority.
- 350 teenagers throughout the authority received a six hour programme on empathy and relationship skills. A course for level 2, "Empathy and Collaboration in the Classroom" was developed and four inset days were offered based on this material. Both these programmes were devised to support the mental and emotional wellbeing outcomes, focusing on fluency in expressing feelings and needs and understanding the feelings and needs of others. Presentations at Head Teacher cluster meetings demonstrated the work of this project and as a result some schools requested specific support, either in workshops for pupils or staff training.



- Respectme co-ordinators were trained for all school clusters. These co-ordinators will lead the implementation of the respectme philosophy across all schools.
- Two clusters have been identified to take forward the Online Wellbeing Assessment tool. This will be rolled out to all clusters next session and has a particular focus on wellbeing.
- Supporting schools to embed Health and Wellbeing in their curriculum.
- Continuing to enhance delivery of programmes to support health and wellbeing curriculum in the areas of:
 - Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood training for secondary teachers.
 - Substance misuse – “Natural High” programme delivered to S1 and S2 pupils.
 - “Smoke Free Me” delivered to P7 and some P6 pupils. These programmes were funded by Argyll and Bute’s Alcohol and Drugs Partnership and NHS Highland respectively. Substance misuse training delivered jointly to staff in 3 secondary schools with Argyll and Bute’s Alcohol and Drugs Partnership.

- Schools, in conjunction with educational psychology services, have explored and successfully implemented universal approaches to mental health and wellbeing including whole class approaches to reducing anxiety and depression and staff development on attachment and resilience building.
- Expansion of Empathy based projects in schools – Empathy in the Classroom and Roots of Empathy.
- Appointment of a PE development officer who has completed an audit regarding quantity with a focus on quality of the two hours of PE being delivered in our schools. A programme combining modeling of teaching, mentoring, Continuing Professional Development and underpinning pedagogies is being developed to increase the quality of both physical education and physical activity across the curriculum.
- In partnership with Education/Sport Scotland a comprehensive Continuing Professional Development programme was delivered, improving the confidence and skills of teachers/school leaders and partnership staff.
- An audit of PE delivery across the authority was carried out, identifying areas of good practice.
- Colleagues in all establishments were supported to develop an understanding of what is meant by quality PE, developing an understanding of significant aspects of learning in core PE.
- A programme was delivered that modelled good practice through demonstration lessons, team teaching, observed lessons and partnership working with Senior Management Team in schools to identify the development needs within the teaching of PE and help teachers to make their next steps in learning.
- Early Level literacy and numeracy continues to be a focus on the Early Years Continuing Professional Development calendar. During session 2012-13, there were 811 members of staff who attended Continuing Professional Development events within the course calendar.
- Bookbug developments are growing within Argyll and Bute to take forward Assertive Outreach, Effective Gifting and training for session leaders. During session 2012-13, there were parents and carers who attended Bookbug sessions across Argyll and Bute.

Area 5: Professional Development

- There was an opportunity for staff to refresh or begin learning about co-operative learning opportunities through the delivery of a co-operative learning academy.
- A revised model of child protection training was introduced which integrated with Child Protection Committee multi-agency training.
- An internet safety programme and materials for parents were devised. Trainers were identified. Two pilot sessions were held in mid-Argyll schools in June 2013.
- An audit of Single and Multi-Agency Plans was undertaken. Feedback from GIRFEC locality workshops was used to inform multi agency training. Staff were supported to attend planning and review meetings.
- Staff were supported to gain recognised qualifications for Scottish Social Services Committee registration purposes and the provision of an extensive range of courses for Post Registration Training and Learning. During session 2012/13, 16 members of staff were supported to complete Scottish Social Services Committee qualifications.



Area 6: Leadership

- Conferences led by the Quality Improvement Team to support newly appointed head teachers were held to develop their understanding of leadership.
- These conferences enabled head teachers to explore practical management skills and leading change in the context of a 21st century school.
- Child Protection training for managers was and continues to be conducted on a multi-agency basis.
- Looked After and Accommodated Children attainment statistics were compiled for inspectors in April 2013.
- Looked After and Accommodated Children exclusions were and continue to be scrutinised at Education Management Team meetings.
- GIRFEC practice was the theme at DHT/PT Pupil Support Development Day in May 2013.
- Effective use was made of video conferencing leadership sessions – particularly successful with managers from rural/island settings.
- An authority developed leadership programme for aspiring leaders and those wishing to refresh their skills in team leadership has enrolled thirty eight teachers.
- Continuing the work of the Curriculum for Excellence Steering Group to ensure service wide involvement in strategic planning.
- Provided a one day training programme on self-evaluation for head teachers to develop capacity for leadership.
- A one day conference for pre-school leaders and managers with keynote addresses by Sally Featherstone on literacy at the early years was organised.
- Successful development days for leaders of secondary subjects took place. These covered areas such as pedagogy, resources and Curriculum for Excellence.
- Monitoring and Evaluating training was offered to all managers as part of the Early Years Continuing Professional Development calendar.

Self-evaluation

- The authority has restructured its approach to School Review and aims to build capacity in its schools for self-evaluation, with particular emphasis on achievement, curriculum, learning experiences and meeting needs. This will be achieved through meaningful and regular partnership working between quality improvement officers and head teachers, with rigorous professional dialogue improving a school's ability to reflect on its practice and affect necessary improvement.
- In 2012-13, seven schools participated in a school review under the new partnership arrangements. Reports for each review are produced which highlight key strengths and next steps for school improvement.

Area 7: Communication and Engagement

- A professional learning tab was introduced to the Sharing Argyll Learning website to introduce a professional learning space to the site with easy navigation.
- All national information and guidance was issued to parent council chairpersons and head teachers.
- Children Educated at Home management circular (3.18) was updated and implemented.
- Developments within the Early Level have culminated in a shared vision of what an Early Level setting should look like, sound like and feel like.
- Transition groups in each cluster were reinstated to ensure there is stronger communication between nursery and school. Examples of sharing good practice in transition between nursery and school within each of the locales are also being highlighted.



Partnership Working

Active Schools, Sports Development and Leisure Services

The quality of partnership working with Education has continued to improve during the past year, especially following the appointment of the PE Co-ordinator. Effective planning between the PE Co-ordinator, Active Schools and Sports Development has resulted in fully integrated service delivery and clear roles and responsibilities.

Our service has continued to support the delivery of Curriculum for Excellence, in particular Health and Wellbeing outcomes and has helped enhance links to the wider sporting community.

Key highlights include:

- Participation in extra-curricular sport and physical activity continued to rise in 2012-2013. The service now supports some 434 volunteers to deliver 112,000 extra-curricular participant sessions (802 clubs across three terms) to 4,904 pupils (46% of the total school population).
- The highlight of the coach education calendar was again the Annual Coaching Champions weekend which offered school staff and senior pupils the opportunity to gain a range of coaching qualifications to utilise within their school or community. Sixty volunteers were financially supported by Active Schools to attend the weekend and across the year some 247 volunteers were supported to attend a range of coach education courses.
- The Active Schools/Sports Development team delivered an extensive events programme throughout the year as well as supporting schools with their local events/attending national events. Highlights included larger events like the Youth Games involving more than 600 secondary pupils to the Scottish Schools Championships such as badminton and swimming to cluster primary events across a range of sports.



- Active Schools recognises the major part sport and physical activity can play in improving health and wellbeing by engaging with hard to reach young people and their families by contributing to the wider health and equalities agenda. The team successfully worked in partnership with a range of internal and external organisations to offer discounted programmes to help increase access, family health intervention programmes, peer mediation, active girls projects and sporting opportunities for young people with additional support needs.
- The sports leaders programme continued to further develop in 2012-2013 with all secondary schools fully engaged with sports leadership and working in partnership with Active Schools to offer a range of Sports Leader UK Awards, in house training and National Governing Bodies Awards. The training has provided our young people with additional confidence, skills and valuable work experience. Eighteen pupils from nine of our secondaries were involved with the national Young Ambassadors Programme and five secondary schools attended the national Lead 2014 conference, both part of the Glasgow 2014 Legacy Programme. Methods of rewards/recognition included presentations at assemblies, clothing to provide some identity/professional image and to supply equipment to help volunteers with their clubs. Active Schools also sponsored the sports category of the inaugural Argyll and Bute Celebrating Youth Achievement event - the Argyll and Bute Awards.
- School-community links have continued to strengthen both in number and quality. Pupils have benefited from curricular taster sessions delivered by sports development officers and local community coaches to support the development of these school-club links along with sports festivals and club open days.
- The Community Sports Hub initiative is **sportscotland's** contribution to the Scottish Government's 2014 legacy plan. The initiative is an exciting and innovative approach to develop sporting participation and increase membership to local sports clubs. The Hub works to the following five principles:
 1. Growth in participation
 2. Engage the local community
 3. Promote community leadership
 4. Offer a range of sporting opportunities
 5. Bring all appropriate (key) partners/groups/people together

The initiative has led to the development of a fully funded Community Sports Hub Officer who has been tasked with developing sports hubs across Argyll and Bute. The aim of the post is to help develop stronger links between local clubs enabling them to work together on funding opportunities, training/Continuing Professional Development and increasing their membership.

The Community Sports Hub programme has identified a number of potential hub sites and initiatives across Argyll and Bute: Kintyre, Rothesay, Helensburgh and Dunoon. The remit of the Community Sports Hub officer is to identify and deliver the following in each area:

- Audit – baseline i.e. who, what and where?
 - Speak to Individual Partners
 - Set up group meeting with partners to discuss plans
 - Develop area/plan
 - Deliver plan
 - Ensure sustainability
 - Assist clubs in achieving Argyll and Bute Council Clubmark
-
- Leading on the Argyll and Bute Aquatics Plan, the service is continuing work with Education to develop a school swimming programme that dovetails into the Argyll and Bute Council Learn to Swim Scheme. The programme has been helped by the development of Swimming Top Up programme. The programme is in its third year and is funded by the Scottish Government to support improved delivery of swimming lessons for primary school children across Scotland. The funding has enabled the teacher to child ratios to be decreased. The introduction of the National Swimming Award and the Triple S criteria also fits in with Curriculum for Excellence and the Argyll and Bute Council Learn to Swim Scheme level structure.
 - Leisure and Youth services have introduced Gymnastics to the Bute and Cowal area. The programme has been developed as part of the after school Active Schools programme and adheres to the strict guidelines outlined by Scottish Gymnastics. So far the programme has proved very successful with over a 100 children taking part in 8 week blocks across the two areas.



Meeting Learners' Needs

Between November 2012 and June 2013, Argyll and Bute became a pilot authority for the new model of Integrated Children's Services Inspection. The inspectors noted the positive impact of current early intervention strategies.

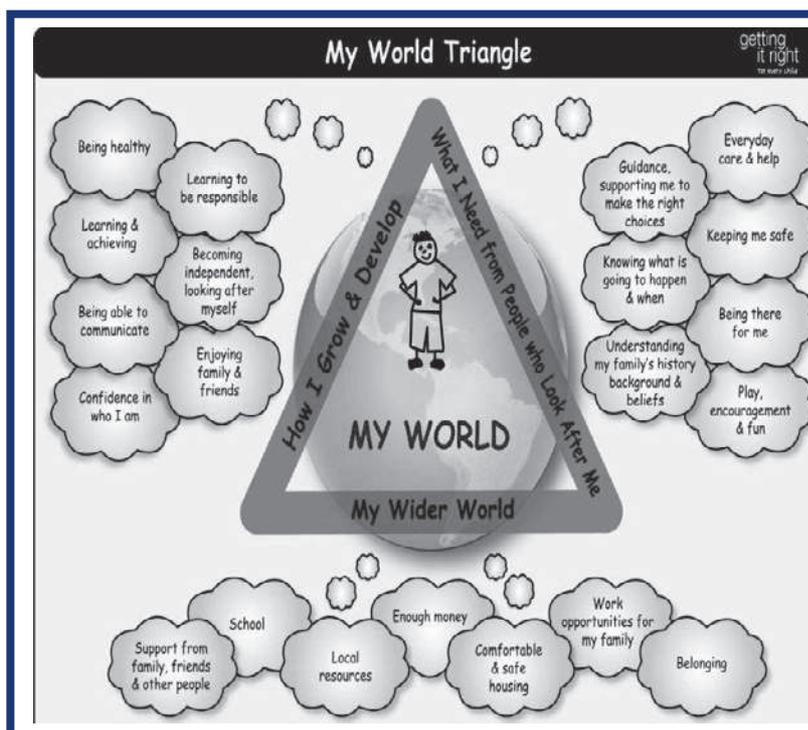
The implementation of Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC) continues across all authority educational establishments. The inspectors noted the successful introduction of the Named person role in educational establishments. In 2013 initial steps were taken to develop a universal child's plan through the establishment of a multi-agency working group. Also in 2013 the education service began working with SEEMIS to create a fully functional electronic version of the assessment and planning tools.

The education service participated fully in the development of the Multi Agency View system which allows education staff to access electronic data from social work systems. A pre-pilot in one school and a full pilot across six schools have been conducted. Education staff are involved in analysing usage data to further develop the system.

The education service fully participates in the multi-agency Early and Effective Intervention initiative, the multi-agency response to police generated concerns around children and young people affected by domestic violence and involved in youth offending. The inspectors noted that the Early and Effective Intervention initiative is improving the quality of assessment and support to children and families.

The Education Service has been fully involved in the Child Protection Committee's improvement agenda alongside other agencies. This has included participating in self-evaluation and audit activities. Meetings were held with Police Scotland to devise a programme and materials for internet safety for parents. Two pilot sessions were held in mid-Argyll in June 2013. The service has also been involved in the delivery of training to senior education staff on the West of Scotland child protection procedures.

The education service has been fully involved in the planning and design of multi-agency training video focussing on best practice in conducting Single Agency and Multi Agency planning meetings. This work will be completed in session 2013-14.









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Healthy Weight in Argyll & Bute

Carol Muir, Senior Health Promotion Specialist (Community Development)

Jackie Barron, Weight Management Coordinator for A&B CHP

Yennie Van Oostende, Senior Health Promotion Specialist (Self Management and Long Term Conditions)

The ACPG is asked to:

- Note the partnership working activity and the contents of this paper in relation to healthy weight
- Consider where improvements can be made in key partnership activity regarding healthy weight
- Consider their role in relation to the food and health agenda in Argyll & Bute
- Consider their role in relation to the physical activity agenda in Argyll & Bute
- Endorse & support co-production of services to promote healthy weight

1 Background and Summary

Overweight and obesity have been linked to increased risks in adults of Type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and other long term conditions such as hypertension and strokes and some cancers such as breast and colon cancer.

Shona Robison MSP said this in March 2013 “the challenge of obesity and physical inactivity are major public health issues for Scotland.....if obesity levels continue to rise the cost to the Scottish economy will be 3billion”

This rise in cost was noted by Nicola Sturgeon in 2010 “a cost so large that it will directly impact on our nation’s ability to achieve sustainable economic growth. It is shocking to realise that all of this is preventable and with small steps people can begin to control their weight”

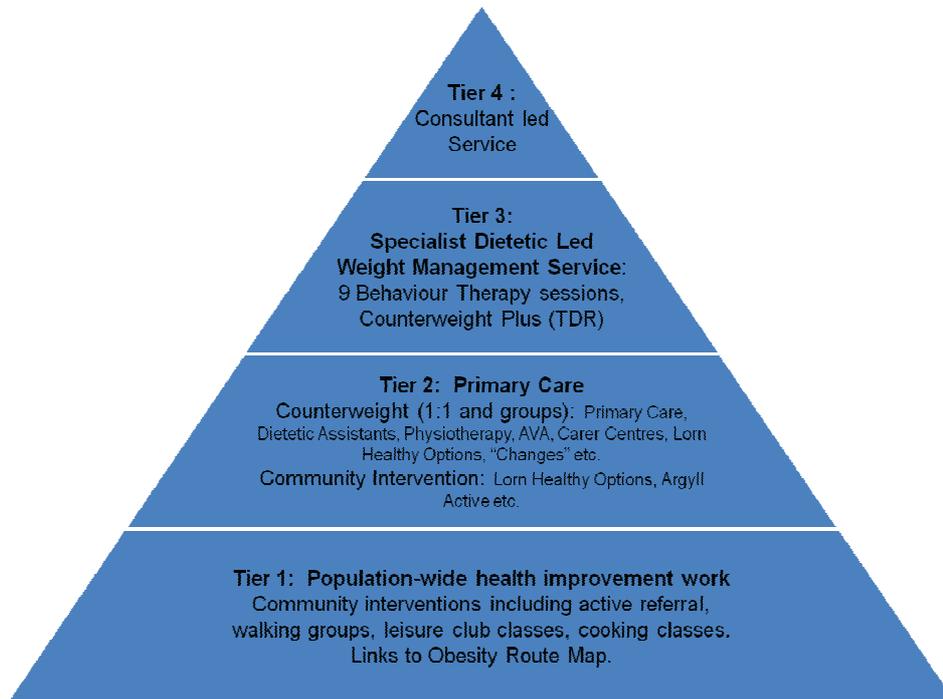
Dr Andrew Fraser, NHS Health Scotland also said in March 2013 that “Action is essential to reverse the rising trend in weight gain and prevent growing levels of obesity related ill health. Obesity is a direct cause of a range of life limiting and life reducing illnesses including a range of cancers, heart disease and diabetes. It means people cannot work and is also a cause of very significant financial cost to a resource limited NHS”

2 The Obesity challenge for NHS Highland

The obesity problem and the need for intervention, is highlighted in The Obesity Route Map, a publication produced by the Scottish Government (2010). The total cost of obesity to Scottish society in 2007/8 “was in excess of £457 million and it is likely that this is an underestimate”.

The Scottish Government, (2010) states that “Obesity poses a real risk to people’s health & Health Boards have been encouraged to develop explicit care pathways offering a range of weight management programmes. In NHS Highland, the weight management pathway is based on a tiered approach (Diagram 1) and reflects the outcome of local, regional and national discussions and an agreed model of service provision.

Diagram 1 - A&B CHP, NHSH Weight Management 4 Tier Structure



From April 2013 A & B CHP dietetics was granted permission to fund a post to co-ordinate weight management. Healthy weight money provided by the government via the public health budget has also supported resources for weight management by fostering a good working partnership between dietetics and public health. This has helped to promote the service working across Argyll & Bute and is moving forwards to begin to meet local challenges of obesity as set out by the Scottish Government including:

- Support to public health to deliver tier 1 preventions
- 31 practitioners trained in Counterweight across A & B, including 3rd sector volunteers, practice nurses and health care assistants, Lorn Healthy options staff (LOHO)
- Development of electronic Health Action Planning tool with the UHI

3 Contribution to the SOA and local strategy

A & B Health & Well Being Partnership's Joint Health Improvement Plan delivers on strategic priorities for health improvement via 7 local Health & Well Being networks. The Healthy weight outcome is informed by national and local policy as above and locally agreed measures in the SOA:

As can be seen from the statistics on overweight and obesity, further coordinated action is required to develop a varied approach to tackling obesity. Without targeted intervention a major and irreversible time bomb will be ticking away at our children's and our nation's health. There is no silver bullet to encourage healthy weight; instead multiple coordinated actions are required to tackle a multifactorial problem. As well as individuals themselves, we all have a role to play to lower the rate of obesity in the UK.

It is important that we encourage and help people to:

- Make healthier lifestyle choices
- Eat and drink more healthily
- Be more active
- Reduce sedentary behaviour

To do this we need to secure high-level commitment to long-term, integrated action on obesity, as part of our joint health and wellbeing strategy. At this strategic level, the impetus for a community-wide approach begins with local elected members alongside senior managers from the NHS, the local authority and representatives from the Third Sector. Argyll & Bute CHP Public Health directorate already provide some investment and leadership via the Health & Well Being partnership and the Food and Healthy Weight working group.

4 Food & Healthy Weight Activities

Argyll & Bute Food & Healthy Weight working group

This group acts as the Food & Health sub group to the Health & Well Being partnership with representatives from statutory organisations and the Third sector. It aims to promote the benefits of healthy eating, sustainability and food safety, increase the procurement and provision of safe, nutritious and sustainable food for A & B and raise the profile of Food and Health issues within respective members' organisations and partners.

Rock Up in Red - Keep Well with Local Produce Roadshow (March 13)

In response to food and health reports in the national media (January 2013), the Argyll & Bute Food and Health Working Group saw an opportunity to raise awareness of cooking with local food. Tarbert & Skipness Community Trust and NHS Highland, teamed up to provide a series of events aimed at promoting locally grown food and associated health benefits. Almost 1,500 individuals in the areas of Oban, Campbeltown, Islay, Tarbert, Dunoon and Rothesay attended the roadshow.¹

The Barrowband

The Barrowband specialises in educational workshops and performance about the environment and health, celebrating nature and its products through, music, art & performance and influence people's health in a positive way. Accompanying the Keep Well roadshow it was identified that in order to fully capitalise on the success, a forward plan should be developed to further engage with young people and the curriculum with support from the Barrowband, recognising the importance of early intervention to inform health choices for life. (See next steps)

Consulting Chefs

As part of scoping activity in the first year of the Weight Management co-ordinator post public health staff and the WMC asked people 'How can we help you EAT BETTER' during the Keep Well with Local Produce roadshow and at another 5 community events. An Argyll based chef demonstrated healthy cooking options on a budget and public health staff asked the question "How can we help you EAT BETTER?" answers included:

- Greater support and access to land for allotments from the council & NHS
- Encourage people to grow their own
- Promote local produce
- Run community cooking classes
- Work with co-op, change way food is marketed
- Tax sugar
- Promote green gym activities

¹ <http://healthyargyllandbute.co.uk/keep-well-with-local-produce/>

Soil Association's Bronze Food for Life Catering Mark

Argyll and Bute Council's primary school meals staff have been recognised with a prestigious national award which aims to increase access to fresh and healthy food. The local authority's school catering service has been awarded the Soil Association's Bronze Food for Life Catering Mark. This certification shows that the council's school meals teams are committed to a set of key principles. These include using environmentally sustainable and ethical food; preparing meals using unprocessed ingredients without additives and trans fats; making it easier to eat healthy meals, and supporting local producers.²

Physical Activity Consultation

A scoping consultation exercise with key partners in relation to physical activity across Argyll & Bute has recently been completed on behalf of the Health & Well Being partnership. The aim of the consultation exercise was to clarify the range of initiatives which support physical activity locally in addition to scoping the views of stakeholders with respect to issues pertaining to physical activity.

Innovative Practice

In Argyll & Bute, an innovative programme called "Joint Activity" has been delivered during 2013/14. Funded by RCOP, but delivered by Arthritis Care Scotland (ACS).

Apart from these modules there is a programme of physical activity that is still being developed, but which started with Tai chi for Arthritis (suitable for people with mobility problems), chair-based yoga and Boccia (a seated sport, a bit like bowls).

LOHO – Lorn & Oban Healthy Options

Healthy Options is a community organisation & social enterprise, formed from collaboration between local NHS health professionals and community activists. During first two years a total of 265 people started on a Healthy Options programme results show joining HO has made a positive impact on clients' daily life, for some joining HO has been nothing short of 'life-changing'. There is clear evidence that communities have a major role in enabling the people of Scotland to 'live longer, healthier lives' Healthy Options is the embodiment of this thinking and along with their evaluation results is a living, working model which proves this.³

Childsmile

Childsmile is a national programme designed to improve the oral health of children in Scotland and reduce inequalities both in dental health and access to dental services. As one of the key oral health messages is to reduce the amount but more importantly the frequency of food and drink containing sugar, this programme will impact on the overall health and wellbeing of our communities.

Argyll and the Isles Coast and Countryside Trust –ACT

This new initiative is a partnership between Argyll and Bute Council, the Forestry Commission, NHS Highland and Scottish Natural Heritage and will be active in a variety of projects running across the area. ACT will focus on initiatives which improve opportunities in the access, biodiversity, health and wellbeing, economic growth, heritage and environmental tourism sectors.⁴

² www.soilassociation.org

³ <http://www.lornhealthyoptions.co.uk/>

⁴ www.act-now.org.uk

Next Steps

Food for thought Funding

A submission has been prepared for Scottish Government Food For Thought Funding to support a Campbeltown Cluster Project: involving Dalintober and Castlehill Primaries, working with Campbeltown Grammar School. The outcome of the funding bid is anticipated in June.

Inspiring Volunteers

Third Sector Partners Inspiralba, Bridgend Community Garden and Kintyre Environmental Group have secured funding for Inspiring Environmental Volunteers. This project recognises the therapeutic benefits of engaging with horticulture / the garden environment and also builds on the experience of community gardens in supporting people to live healthier lives - through provision of active volunteer opportunities, developing confidence and self-esteem and promotion / access to healthy local produce.

Ongoing work:

- Continue collaboration with the Barrowband, develop more formal input to A & B schools, creating pilot project using enterprising approach to cover costs and enable school PTA's / Parent Councils to generate income for workshops and resources.
- Further analysis of results of consulting chefs and develop further work with Health & Wellbeing networks to implement further outreach activities.
- Further analysis of Physical activity consultation by short life working group and develop future action plan.

The area community planning groups can help ensure a joined-up approach by fully involving other statutory agencies and council departments, such as planning, transport, education and leisure to identify a CPP role in addressing obesity and promoting healthy weight and healthy lifestyles, involving representatives from the range of agencies and departments to identify good practice and a shared strategy. The groups could consider appointing people within these areas to champion Healthy Weight / Health and Wellbeing and be represented on relevant forums such as the Food & Health Working group or the Health & Well Being partnership.

Members could encourage and support ongoing work by key stakeholders on Healthy Weight, promoting a positive work environment, enabling staff to participate in health promoting activities, and working towards the Healthy Working Lives award. Councils and the NHS are one of the largest employers in A & B – both can set a good example by making moves such as removing vending machines that offer unhealthy foods from their own buildings and running healthy lifestyle activities like organised walks at lunchtime.

Argyll & Bute Food and Health working Group

May 14

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Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership**Helensburgh and Lomond
Area Community Planning Group
10 June 2014**

Community Planning Group Area Forum Events

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report is to inform the area Community Planning Group on the data gathered at the Area Forum events as part of the engagement on the Single Outcome Agreement 2013-23.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The area Community Planning Group considers how best to utilise the information gathered at the events to ensure feedback is used by partners to inform future planning and activities of the group, including the area Economic Development Action Plan (EDAP).
- 2.2 The area Community Planning Group considers appropriate actions, under each outcome heading, to be taken forward by partners at area level.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Area Community Planning Group agreed at its meeting in May to consider a full report on the Area Forum events, which were consulting with communities on the SOA 2013-2023.
- 3.2 It was agreed that the results from the events will feed into the development of the SOA Delivery Plans and a forthcoming Argyll & Bute Population Summit.

4. DETAIL

- 4.1 A total of 14 events were held, including two (public workshops in the afternoon and a debate in the evening) in Helensburgh and Lomond on Thursday 6 February at the Victoria Halls. In addition, a youth event was held to gather views of young people across Argyll and Bute.
- 4.2 A large amount of information was gathered and analysed. A detailed report was produced for, and presented to, the CPP Management Committee meeting on 25 April 2014. The area CPG requested a more localised report for its June meeting and this is attached. Within this report are issues raised in H&L, alongside potential solutions, which were put forward by participants at workshop events.

- 4.3** Information from the online survey is not included in this area report, but some of the data from this is included in the full report covering all the engagement methods across Argyll and Bute. <http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/good-place-live-work-and-play>

5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1** The information gathered from this extensive consultation exercise should be used to inform future delivery of services by partners in the area, and to help alleviate issues of population decline.

Margaret Fyfe
Argyll and Bute Council
Community Development Manager
12 May 2014

For further information please contact:
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Argyll and Bute: A good place to live, work and play?

**Local report on the Single Outcome Agreement 2013-2023
consultation within the Helensburgh and Lomond Area**

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 Outcome 6 People live in safer and stronger communities

CONCLUSION.....10

APPENDIX11

SUMMARY

This is a report on the recent public consultation exercise by Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership (CPP) which was designed to inform the delivery plans for the new 10 year Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) 2013-23. This exercise was undertaken across Argyll and Bute. The focus of this report is the findings within the Helensburgh & Lomond (H&L) area. The Argyll and Bute wide report is available online¹

Recent census data indicated the population of Argyll and Bute had declined by 3.4% between 2001 and 2011. Population change within H&L has proved to be a contentious issue locally, with a drop of 7.5% stated as the figure from the 2011 census (with significant local variation) and used in the SOA. Helensburgh Study Group adjusted the figure to -5.2%, stating that different ways of calculating Navy personnel in the two censuses had created a discrepancy.

The CPP recognises that for Argyll and Bute to become more prosperous, tackling population decline and cultivating an environment where the economy can thrive are the CPP's top priorities. Thus the overarching outcome for the SOA is **'Argyll and Bute's economic success is built on a growing population'**.

The public consultation process was entitled: **'Argyll and Bute - A Good Place to Live, Work, and Play?'** and comprised an online survey and 15 events across Argyll and Bute, including two in Helensburgh.

The findings in H&L highlighted local concerns around a number of issues including enabling and supporting businesses (especially start-ups), better quality and affordable housing, more and better quality leisure and entertainment facilities for families, difficulties accessing further and higher education and the lack of an accident and emergency service in Helensburgh.

Suggestions to tackle these concerns include setting a target for a desired population size within H&L (and the wider Argyll and Bute) with parallel work on planning for population growth localities and the alignment of services to support this growth.

The data from this and the full Argyll and Bute wide report will feed into the strategic Population Summit to be held later this year to consider ways of addressing the population decline in Argyll and Bute.

¹ <http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/good-place-live-work-and-play>

BACKGROUND

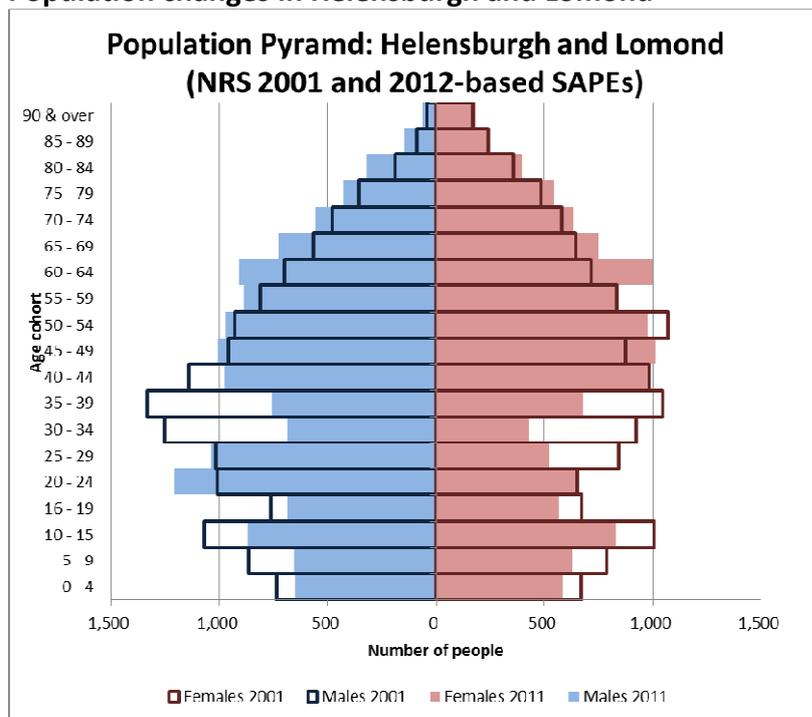
In August 2012, Argyll and Bute CPP agreed to consultations on the Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) to ensure communities had a say in how the Partnership can achieve its outcomes.

The population figures from the 2011 census had highlighted that Argyll and Bute was one of only four Council areas in Scotland with a declining population, and that the reduction here had been the steepest in the 10 years since the last census in 2001. This was identified as a significant threat to the sustainability of the area by CPP partners. Since the publication of the 2011 Census, National Records of Scotland (NRS) has published:

- 2011 rebased Mid-Year Estimates and Small Area Population Estimates
- 2012 Mid-Year Estimates and Small Area Population Estimates

Figures for Helensburgh and Lomond using the more recent NRS stats are detailed below:

Population changes in Helensburgh and Lomond



Population changes in Helensburgh and Lomond

Age cohort	Number of people		Percentage change 2001 to 2012	Proportion of age cohort within total population (%)	
	2001	2012		2001	2012
0-15	5,134	4,389	-14.5	18.4	17.6
16-24	3,098	2,640	-14.8	11.1	10.6
25-44	8,539	5,302	-37.9	30.6	21.3
45-64	6,896	7,441	7.9	24.7	29.8

65-74	2,273	2,885	26.9		8.2	11.6
75+	1,929	2,284	18.4		6.9	9.2
Total population	27,869	24,941	-10.5		100.0	100.0

In August 2013, the first stage of Argyll and Bute’s Single Outcome Agreement was approved by the Scottish Government. This included the principal outcome:

“Argyll and Bute’s economy is based on a growing population”

To achieve this outcome a set of supporting long long-term outcomes were agreed:

- 1. The economy is diverse and thriving**
- 2. We have an infrastructure that supports sustainable growth**
- 3. Education, skills and training maximises opportunities for all**
- 4. Children and young people have the best possible start**
- 5. People live active, healthier and independent lives**
- 6. People live in safer and stronger communities**

In order to achieve these outcomes, a delivery plan is being developed for each of the six outcomes and named ‘outcome leads’ have been identified to take responsibility for delivering them.

The community consultation was designed to enable local communities to inform on the content of delivery plans for each of the six outcomes, in addition to contributing to setting and achieving localised outcomes.

In addition to the consultations, a parallel online survey was undertaken with over 500 responses across Argyll and Bute, including 79 from the H&L area. A youth consultation was also undertaken on 23rd and 24th of November 2013 by Argyll & Bute Youth Forum, attended by 50 young people (including 4 from H&L). Full details of these findings can be found in the main Argyll and Bute report².

Argyll and Bute CPP is grateful to Education Scotland for its support in part-funding this consultation process, which in turn will feed into the strategic guidance on Community Learning and Development.

² <http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/good-place-live-work-and-play>

Workshop Findings

Introduction

Many of the key Argyll & Bute wide issues were reflected in Helensburgh and Lomond.

Noteworthy comments include the feeling that the SOA needed to consider setting a desired target population, programmes that could be implemented to encourage growth and the impact this may have in planning service provision. For example certain areas could be targeted for growth with local initiatives designed to encourage inbound migration such as a multi-layered approach to housing, targeted business support, safeguarding the environment and developing appropriate infrastructure.

A brief description of the main headlines from the Argyll and Bute wide perspective, followed by detail on local issues and priorities within the Helensburgh and Lomond consultation, follows. Potential solutions to the issues raised are based on participants' views and comments.

Outcome 1 - The Economy is Diverse and Thriving

Argyll and Bute

Four main issues were raised in the Outcome 1 workshops:

- Enabling (small) businesses / start-ups
- Promoting Argyll and Bute
- Housing
- Land ownership

Main issues in Helensburgh & Lomond:

- **Enabling and supporting businesses (esp start-ups)**
- **Better quality, affordable housing**
- **More, better quality leisure and entertainment facilities for families**
- **More investment in enhancing the environment throughout H&L**
- **Better links with the Faslane Naval Base community**

Topic	Issue	Suggested Potential Solutions
Business Development	Lack of business incentives and support, lack of suitable premises and infrastructure. Empty shops. Lack of parking.	More targeted support for start-ups, better variety of affordable business units in key localities. Incentives scheme. More links between Base and Town. Manufacturing/Industrial units.
Employment	Lack of opportunities for graduates.	Make H&L an attractive location for business.
Employment	Tourism	Promote high end tourism, short-stays and day trips.
Employment	Income Deprivation	Adopt Living Wage Across CPP partners
Employment	Access to Jobs	Develop Career Fairs, open days with local employers.
Land	Lack of availability	Community buy outs, Land release

Ownership		
Town Centre	Empty retail units in Helensburgh	Assess business rate levels.
Housing	Lack of good quality, affordable housing	Release land. Housing expo. Support rented sector.
Leisure & Entertainment Facilities	Lack of variety and quality of entertainment and leisure facilities	Working with and support private sector providers.

Outcome 2 – We have an infrastructure that supports sustainable growth

Argyll and Bute

Four main issues were raised in the Outcome 2 workshops:

- Transport
- Broadband and internet
- Mobile coverage
- Electricity / grid

Main issues in Helensburgh & Lomond:

- **Better recreational facilities for young people, families, low income families, visitors**
- **Broadband**
- **Poor access to healthcare**
- **Affordable, good quality housing**
- **More attractive Helensburgh town centre/seafront and environmental protection**

Topic	Issue	Potential Solutions
Access to Healthcare	Transport issues. Perception that H&L is sandwiched between two healthcare authorities and neither wants to take responsibility. No A&E	Consider timings of appointments for people who don't drive.
Broadband	Slow Roll Out hindering small business growth and inbound mobility	European Funding, Research Innovative models, community ownership models, Lobby for faster rollout
Attractive, affordable recreation facilities	Need to attract young people and facilities. With new attractions, more 'trendy' shops, more attractive seafront, wet weather cover, sports and community facilities.	Make better use of existing facilities. Encourage commercial enterprise.
Housing	Affordability, location, size	More appropriately sized and located affordable housing
Helensburgh Town centre	Seafront seen as a 'wasted opportunity'. Old fashioned	Provide shop-front improvement incentives for owners. Attract retailers

and Seafront	shops not geared to young people	that focus on young people and families
Recognise and safeguard H&L's coastal and inland scenic areas	Beaches and loch sides in particular are spoiled by litter and other debris. Train journey to Helensburgh spoiled by litter/	Extend Love Loch Lomond's Respect campaign. Raise awareness of the impact of litter and dumping in schools and elsewhere. Support third sector and community initiatives to clean up their areas.

Outcome 3 - Education, skills and training maximises opportunities for all

Argyll and Bute

Main issues raised in the Outcome 3 workshops across Argyll and Bute related to:

- Barriers to accessing education, skills and training opportunities
- Secondary education, particularly with regard to where this leads and how it relates to future careers
- Access to, and availability of, further and higher education
- Skills gaps between the workforce and job opportunities
- Need for apprenticeships, career progression and work experience opportunities

Main issues in Helensburgh & Lomond:

- **Transport is a barrier to accessing education, skills and training opportunities for people in rural areas**
- **Secondary education, particularly with regard to where this leads and how it relates to future careers**
- **Lack of access to, and availability of, further and higher education**
- **Skills gaps between the workforce and job opportunities**
- **Need for apprenticeships, career progression and work experience opportunities**

Topic	Issue	Potential Solutions
Lifelong Learning	Lack of Opportunities	Improved broadband connections, more local provision
Skills and Training	Lack of appropriate Training e.g. forest husbandry, fish farming, tourism	More H&L focused training - work more closely with businesses to align training
Skills and Training	Support for those returning to work	Program / project to support those returning to work
Skills & Training	Work Experience – Lack of programme	Develop placement program with businesses
Skills & Training	Apprenticeships	Develop program with businesses to create H&L pilot Apprenticeship Program
Skills & Training	Use of Online Resources	Significant scope to increase online learning, need to increase rollout of high speed internet, Create post dedicated to expansion of access to online learning

Outcome 4 - Children and young people have the best possible start

Argyll and Bute

The discussions in the workshops appear to have concentrated on childcare issues and the lack of activities and facilities for children and young people.

Main Issues discussed in Outcome 4

- Childcare
- Facilities and Activities
- Volunteering
- Engagement with Young People

Main issues in Helensburgh & Lomond:

- **Bigger variety and better quality leisure and sports facilities and activities**
- **Need more childcare, after school care, summer holiday activities**
- **Development of Helensburgh Seafront**
- **Transport issues in outlying areas**

Topic	Issue	Potential Solutions
Sports and Leisure Facilities and Activities	No enough affordable activities for young people. Why no cinema, beach, Helensburgh community centre, family centre, drop-in facility, place for young people to hang out other than pubs and Costa?	Work with private enterprise. Support the third sector to develop resources.
Child Care	No after school care in some schools. Mother & toddler groups need support.	Support for private enterprise and the third sector to provide care.

Outcome 5 – People live active, healthier and Independent Lives

Argyll and Bute

Areas highlighted in the Argyll and Wide report include the needs of specific groups, the value of social interaction and issues relating to access, most of which were also raised in the H&L area.

Main issues in Helensburgh & Lomond:

- **No A&E in H&L**
- **Demands of an ageing population**
- **Transport issues for people who do not have cars**

- **Lack of opportunities for young people to learn about healthy living**

Topic	Issue	Potential Solutions
Lack of A&E	Access to acute medical services needed on this side of the Clyde. Need enhances community services to compensate for centralisation of acute services. Hospital system puts people off living in H&L.	
Ageing population	Need to raise awareness about dementia and support communities to take more responsibility for the older people who live there.	
Transport issues	No consideration given to appointment times for people who use public transport. Vale Hospital difficult to get to by public transport. Too much time being spent travelling vs providing care. How can healthcare planners take on board the practical aspects associated with access to healthcare?	
Young people and health lifestyles	Barriers to eating in the school canteen. Children choosing to eat lunch out of school. Access to unhealthy food too easy, even within schools.	

Outcome 6 - People live in safer and stronger communities

Argyll and Bute

There was general agreement across Argyll and Bute that the area was safe and secure with a vibrant third sector. This was acknowledged to be a significant strength in developing programmes to encourage inbound migration.

Main issues in Helensburgh & Lomond:

- **Facilities for young people to hang out in**

- **Local decision making**
- **Lack of community leaders and volunteers**
- **Police presence in rural areas**

Topic	Issue	Potential Solutions
Facilities for young people	Young people hanging around in parks and on the street. Why is there no 'Centre 81-type' community facility in Helensburgh?	Support for the third sector
Local decision making	Need community engagement in, and consultations about, allocation of resources.	Support local community action planning.
Police presence	Lack of police presence in rural areas	
Lack of community leaders and volunteers	A strong community needs people to take part. Health & Safety and other legislation puts people off. Why can't we get scout leaders?	Support for the third sector.

Conclusion

The consultation highlighted participants' wish to prioritise developing the economic potential of Argyll and Bute through harnessing the strengths of our rich natural resources and heritage. Supporting small to medium enterprises through a range of measures including additional support at the early stages and more suitable premises came through as a strong view.

Challenges include how to ensure the health service meets the needs of an ageing population and people who do not own a car. Leisure, entertainment and sporting facilities for young people and families was a recurring issue, as was access to good quality affordable housing in both the rented and private sector.

Developing of a range of practical incentives designed to encourage inbound mobility includes opening land for development, a multifaceted approach to delivering new, appropriate, housing solutions and a commitment to paying the living wage across Community Planning Partners may all add to the blend that will arrest a falling population and build a longer term sustainable and vibrant economy serving the needs of those who choose to live and work and play in one of Scotland, and the UKs, most impressive, safest, and hospitable areas.

Appendix

Consultation events occurred in Helensburgh & Lomond on Thursday 6 February as follows:

Victoria Halls	Workshops	2-4pm
Victoria Halls	Debate	7.30-9.45pm

The attendance at events was as follows:

Location	Dates	Attendance			
		CPP	Third Sector/ Community	Other	Total
Victoria Halls	06/02/14, afternoon workshops	26	30	19	75
Victoria Halls	06/02/14, evening debate	19	20	35	74

The online survey responses were as follows:

Area	No of responses
Helensburgh & Lomond	79

EVALUATION OF EVENTS

In order to assess how participants felt about the events, and how the consultation processes might be improved in future, evaluation of events were carried out. At 8 of 9 workshop events PowerPoint voting was used and results for Helensburgh & Lomond are as follows:

Table 5: Results of PowerPoint voting evaluation at workshops

	Important	Quite important	Not really important	Not important at all
How important do you think it is that we hold events to discuss issues like this with the community?	77.5%	10%	7.5%	5%
	Comprehensive	Adequate	I would have liked more information	I didn't receive any information
How would you rate the information you received prior to the event?	12.5%	42.5%	30%	15%

	Very good	Good	Poor	Very poor
How would you rate the opportunities to discuss issues in the workshops?	39%	45%	13%	3%
	Better than I expected		As I expected	Less than I expected
Did the event meet your expectations?	42.5%		47.5%	10%
	Excellent	Good	Not very good	Poor
How would you rate the event overall?	22%	64%	11%	3%
	Important	Quite important	Not really important	Not important at all
How important is it that we provide you with a summary of the points raised at the event?	79%	13%	8%	%

Evaluation forms were available at the Question Time events and some of the comments received are as follows:

'Does population growth necessarily lead to economic growth? No discussion on use of housing stock – eg, would population rise if there were fewer homes standing empty for much of the year?'

'Excellent organisation and execution.'

'Not enough questions were asked or concluded satisfactorily. The 'outcomes' were statements and were not really given enough consideration'

'I would get rid of the panel. Use the time to get ideas and suggestions from the audience. The statistical data provided looks at only 2 years (2001 and 2011). It is important to look over a much longer time-period. It does not follow from the stats that H&L needs a larger population.'

'...use proper qualitative and quantities marker research'

'I am not sure this is the best way to inform the CPP of the views of the community as a whole. It smacks of planning by a non-elected committee of a small number of local people.'

'Chamber of Commerce/RSL representation needed.'

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