



2 April 2015

NOTICE OF MEETING

A meeting of the **ENVIRONMENT, DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE** will be held in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER, KILMORY, LOCHGILPHEAD** on **MONDAY, 13 APRIL 2015** at **2:00 PM**, which you are requested to attend.

Douglas Hendry
Executive Director - Customer Services

BUSINESS

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (IF ANY)**
3. **MINUTES**
Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee held on 15 January 2015
(Pages 1 - 6)
4. **DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES PERFORMANCE REPORT FQ3 2014/15**
Report by Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services
(Pages 7 - 16)
5. **A83/TRANSPORT SCOTLAND UPDATE**
Report by Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services
(Pages 17 - 24)
6. **INTRODUCTION OF ROAD EQUIVALENT TARIFF (RET)**
Report by Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services
(Pages 25 - 28)
- * 7. **FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY**
Report by Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services
(Pages 29 - 42)

- * **8. COAST PROTECTION POLICY**
Report by Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services
(Pages 43 - 54)
- 9. PLANNING FOR SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH IN ARGYLL AND BUTE**
Report by Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services
(Pages 55 - 80)
- 10. ARGYLL AND THE ISLES COAST AND COUNTRYSIDE TRUST - PROGRESS REPORT**
Report by Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services
(Pages 81 - 88)
- 11. ARGYLL COASTAL WATERS PROJECT UPDATE**
Report by Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services
(Pages 89 - 94)
- 12. FALLEN HEADSTONES**
Report by Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services and recommendation from Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Committee held on 4 February 2015 (Pages 95 - 100)
- 13. ENVIRONMENT, DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE WORKPLAN** (Pages 101 - 104)

Items marked with an “asterisk” are items, on the basis of information available at the time this Agenda is published, on which the Committee may not have delegated powers to act, and which may therefore require to be referred to the Council or another Committee, and that referral may depend on the decision reached at the meeting.

ENVIRONMENT, DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Councillor Iain MacLean	Councillor Vivien Dance
Councillor Anne Horn	Councillor David Kinniburgh
Councillor Bruce Marshall	Councillor Iain MacDonald
Councillor Alistair MacDougall	Councillor Duncan MacIntyre
Councillor Robert Graham MacIntyre	Councillor Donald MacMillan
Councillor Alex McNaughton	Councillor Ellen Morton
Councillor Elaine Robertson	Councillor Sandy Taylor
Councillor Richard Trail	Councillor Dick Walsh

Contact: Hazel MacInnes Tel: 01546 604269

**MINUTES of MEETING of ENVIRONMENT, DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE
COMMITTEE held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER, KILMORY, LOCHGILPHEAD
on THURSDAY, 15 JANUARY 2015**

Present: Councillor Ellen Morton (Chair)

Councillor Iain Stewart MacLean	Councillor Robert G MacIntyre
Councillor Vivien Dance	Councillor Donald MacMillan
Councillor Anne Horn	Councillor Ellen Morton
Councillor David Kinniburgh	Councillor Elaine Robertson
Councillor Bruce Marshall	Councillor Sandy Taylor
Councillor Iain Angus MacDonald	Councillor Richard Trail
Councillor Alistair MacDougall	Councillor Dick Walsh

Also Present Councillor Gordon Blair Councillor Roddie McCuish
Councillor Douglas Philand

Attending: Pippa Milne, Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services
Jim Smith, Head of Roads and Amenity Services
Fergus Murray, Head of Economic and Strategic Transport
Mark Calder, Communications Officer
Patricia O’Neill, Central Governance Manager

The Chair indicated that a non Member of the Committee, Councillor Gordon Blair, had notified her that he wished, in terms of Standing Order 22.1, to speak and vote in relation to all items on the Agenda. She exercised her discretion to allow him to participate in discussions but that he was not permitted to vote on these items in terms of Standing Order 22.1.

The Chair further intimated that Councillor Michael Breslin, who was not a member of the Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee had notified her that he wished in terms of Standing Order 22.1 to speak and vote on item 7 of the Agenda. The Chair explained that as the matter was not an issue affecting the Members Ward in particular, she again was prepared to exercise her discretion as Chair to allow him to participate in discussions but not to vote on this item.

She intimated that both Members had been advised of the position in writing prior to the start of the meeting.

The Chair also welcomed Councillor Iain Maclean to his first meeting of the Committee.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Duncan Macintyre and Alex McNaughton.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest intimated.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee held on 13 November 2014 were approved as a correct record.

4. SERVICE PLANS 2015 - 2016 FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND STRATEGIC TRANSPORT AND ROADS AND AMENITY SERVICES

Consideration was given to the proposed Service Plans for 2015-16 for Economic Development and Strategic Transport and Roads and Amenity Services.

Discussion took place on the importance of developing and promoting Tourism within the Argyll and Bute area; and also on the robust communications systems in place to inform the public of disruptions to travel or school closures.

Decision

The Committee agreed;

- (i) that under "Significant challenges";
 - (a) the word "Taskforce" be added to the end of the sentence beginning "To ensure that the economic and social interests of our island communities....";
 - (b) "within agreed timescales" be added to the end of the section on CHORD;
 - (c) that reference would be made to the inclusion of a robust Communication system; and
- (ii) to approve the proposed service plans for Economic Development and Strategic Transportation and Roads and Amenity Services for submission to the Policy and Resources Committee

(Reference: Report by Executive Director - Customer Services dated 15 January 2015, submitted)

5. DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES PERFORMANCE REPORT FQ2 2014 - 2015

The Committee considered a report which provided the performance report and associated scorecards for Development and Infrastructure Services for FQ2 2014-15.

Discussion took place on recycling and bin collections, Sea Kayaking, out of hours re-fuelling of Oban Coastguard helicopter and planning permissions. Members also commended officers for encouraging film companies to come to Argyll and Bute.

The Committee;

- (i) noted the performance report for Development and Infrastructure Services for FQ2 2014-15;
- (ii) agreed that the non uplift of recycling bins in a particular area of Tarbert be investigated;

- (iii) agreed that an update report on the maintenance and development of the Argyll Sea Kayak Trail be brought to a future meeting of the Committee;
- (iv) noted that an update progress report on the Scottish Ferry Services Plan and financial details would be brought to the relevant Area Committee in the first instance, followed by the Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee and then Policy and Resources Committee;
- (v) agreed to prioritise the issue of re-fuelling Oban Coastguard helicopter during out of hours, and Members be provided with an update report on this; and
- (vi) agreed that further information on the progress of planning permissions and their implementation be provided to Members.

6. A83/TRANSPORT SCOTLAND UPDATE

A report which set out the arrangements for formal liaison between Argyll and Bute Council, Transport Scotland, the Trunk Road operating company (BEAR Scotland) and Police Scotland was considered.

The Chair updated Members on a meeting which had been attended by the Scottish Transport Minister. The focus was on the October landslip and it had been agreed that Transport Scotland and BEAR Scotland would continue to look at all options available to keeping the A83 at the Rest and Be Thankful open, along with the impact of mitigation measures, with the aim of ensuring “continuous access” to Argyll.

The next meeting would be brought forward from July.

Decision

The Committee noted and endorsed the report.

(Reference: Report by Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services dated December 2014.)

*** 7. ELECTION POSTERS**

A report was considered by the Committee which introduced a new policy which proposed that election and referendum campaign material not be permitted to be displayed on council property including street furniture.

Discussion also took place about information shared by the Chair, which referred to those Scottish Councils which had a policy for non display of election material on lampposts. Members deliberated the positive and negative aspects in relation to the proposed policy.

The Committee heard from the Head of Roads and Amenity Services on the key issues within the proposal and the position in other Councils which had adopted this approach.

Motion

To endorse the report and approve that the policy be taken to Council for approval as a Council policy.

Moved by Councillor Morton, seconded by Councillor Kinniburgh

Amendment

Take no further action.

Moved by Councillor MacDonald, seconded by Councillor Marshall

Decision

A vote was taken by a show of hands, there was 7 for the Motion and 7 for the Amendment. On there being an equality of votes the Chair gave her casting vote to the Motion and the Committee resolved accordingly.

The Committee;

- (i) agreed to endorse the report; and
- (ii) approved that the policy be taken to Council for approval as a Council policy.

(Reference: Report by Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services dated December 2014, submitted, and emails dated 15 January 2015 by the Chair)

Councillor Donald MacMillan left the meeting at this point.

8. SINGLE HARBOUR AUTHORITY OBAN

A report which provided an overview of the issues arising from the proposed creation of a new single harbour authority (SHA) in Oban setting out the benefits and risks associated with the proposal was considered.

Decision

The Committee agreed:

1. to support in principle the preferred option of a hybrid single harbour authority; and
2. that officers continue discussions on that basis, exploring financial and governance implications and report back to the Committee when more detail was available.

(Reference: Report by Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services dated 17 December 2014, submitted)

9. CAMPBELTOWN TO ARDROSSAN FERRY SERVICE

The Committee considered a report which provided an update on the second year of

the pilot service operating between Campbeltown and Ardrossan.

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

(Reference: Report by Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services dated 19 December 2014, submitted)

10. CRUISE SCOTLAND REPORT

A report was considered which provided the Committee with an update on the activity generated by Cruise Scotland this year.

The Committee considered membership of Cruise Scotland to be a real opportunity to; increase the number of cruise ships visiting not just Oban but also other areas of Argyll and Bute; to develop and expand the number of locations visited; and market the area's potential.

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report and endorsed the importance of Marine Tourism to the economy of Argyll and Bute.

(Reference: Report by Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services dated 15 January 2015, submitted)

11. ENVIRONMENT DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

An outline workplan to facilitate forward planning of reports to the EDI Committee was considered.

Decision

The Committee noted the report.

(Reference: Report on Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee Work Plan 201/15 as at January 15 2015, submitted)

This page is intentionally left blank

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT, DEVELOPMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES
COMMITTEE

DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

9 APRIL 2015

**DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES
PERFORMANCE REPORT FQ3 2014-15**

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Council's Planning and Performance Management Framework sets out the process for presentation of the Council's quarterly performance reports.
- 1.2 This paper presents the Environmental, Development and Infrastructure (EDI) Committee with the Development and Infrastructure Services departmental performance report with associated scorecard performance in FQ3 2014-15 (October - December 2014).
- 1.3 It is recommended that the EDI Committee reviews the scorecard as presented.

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT, DEVELOPMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES
COMMITTEE

DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

9 APRIL 2015

**DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES
PERFORMANCE REPORT FQ3 2014-15**

2.0 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The Planning and Performance Management Framework sets out the process for presentation of the council's quarterly performance reports.
- 2.2 This paper presents the EDI Committee with the Development and Infrastructure Services departmental performance report with associated scorecard for performance in FQ3 2014-15 (October – December 2014).

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Committee reviews the scorecards as presented.

4.0 DETAIL

- 4.1 The performance scorecard for Development and Infrastructure Services was extracted from the Council's Pyramid performance management system and is comprised of key performance indicators incorporating the services that make up Development and Infrastructure Services.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

5.1	Policy	None
5.2	Financial	None
5.3	Legal	The Council has a duty to deliver best value under the Local
5.4	HR	None
5.5	Equalities	None
5.6	Risk	Ensuring performance is effectively scrutinised by members
5.7	Customer Service	None

Pippa Milne, Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services

For further information contact: Lesley Sweetman, Performance and Business Manager

APPENDICES

Financial Quarter 3 Performance report and scorecard – Development and Infrastructure Services

Key successes

1. The council played a central role in delivering the Argyll and Bute Sustainable Economic Summit attracting over 200 delegates and bringing together local and national politicians, businesses and partner agencies. Consensus and commitment was given to growing the population and local economy with partners committing resources to deliver this.
2. An increase of 31% in recycling tonnages was recorded in the first two months of the new recycling service provided to 13,000 households in the Mid Argyll and Lorn areas. Excellent inter-service working has been credited for delivering this significant service change and sustainable approach to reduction in waste to landfill.
3. Dangerous road defects continue to decline, with year on year reductions demonstrating the continued effectiveness of the roads capital reconstruction investment. Year to date, emergency road repairs have more than halved on the previous year with 102 repairs made in 2014/15 compared to 213 in 2013/14 and more so when compared with the 817 repairs in the same period prior to the programme starting in 2009/10. This year's roads capital reconstruction programme was 96% complete at the end of this period and remains on track to successfully deliver £6.9M of roads improvements as part of a combined 3 year programme worth £22.4M.
4. Planning application approval target of 95% was exceeded for 8th consecutive quarter, placing this council amongst the leading planning authorities in Scotland. The average number of weeks to determine applications was 10.3 weeks against a target of 12 weeks, which also places the council amongst the highest performing in Scotland. Building warrant and building completion certificates issued rose by 17% and 28% respectfully on the same period last year and performance was excellent with all targets achieved.
5. Customer feedback for Planning Services indicates high levels of satisfaction and this has been independently endorsed by the Scottish Government through the Planning Performance Framework noting that this council has a "clear open for business approach and has embedded performance and a customer service culture". Planning Services Building Standards team was re-awarded the Government's Customer Service Excellence Award with every requirement met in full. The Assessor reported "a first class level of customer service and that accreditation was thoroughly deserved".
6. The Local Development Plan now moves forward for adoption following approval by the council. The Scottish Government reporter found it is a strategy for sustainable economic growth that is backed by effective allocations and an action programme for delivery. The Planning Service also concluded the Biodiversity Activity Report which was submitted to the Scottish Government and the Historic Environment Heritage Strategy which will be presented to council in April and then to COSLA.
7. Listed Building consent was secured for the Rothesay Pavilion and funding was secured from the Regional Capital Grant Fund for £625K and also the Coast and Countryside Trust for £600K bringing the current secured funding to £3,125M towards the project target of £8M with a number of other significant funding applications decisions imminent.

8. A further 159 housing completions were delivered during this period, bringing the year to date total to 277 and on course to exceed the annual target of 300.
9. Regeneration investment in Campbeltown is in excess of £7M to date, with two further Townscape Heritage Initiatives moving into the construction phase during this period, the Town Hall which will provide a new community hub with office accommodation and conference facilities; and a vacant, Grade 2 tenement at Cross/Main Street, which has had been in a state of disrepair for over a decade with a Dangerous Buildings Notice served, now being regenerated to create 4 residential properties and 2 commercial premises following the successful asset transfer from the council to the South Kintyre Development Trust.
10. Business Gateway supported 29 new business start-ups during this period and has achieved 95% of the annual target. Support for existing businesses continues show no signs of abating with 222 businesses supported this quarter, bringing the year to date performance 145% above target.
11. One year survival rate for new businesses supported by Business Gateway in Argyll and Bute increased to 83%. The latest three year survival rate also increased to 81%. New businesses supported to start this quarter have a combined annual turnover projection of £1.25M and a projected 34 new jobs.
12. Superfast Broadband is a priority for the area and council with a number of broadband projects already activity supported by officers. Good progress has been made with Cardross becoming the first settlement with the 'Rest of Scotland project' to receive superfast broadband. Superfast Broadband was also made available in Oban as part of their commercial rollout in partnership with Highland and Islands Enterprise. Community Broadband Scotland supported GigaPlus Argyll through the initial stage of procurement as part of their Argyll Isles project. Helensburgh town centre Wi-Fi project went to procurement; and the Vodafone Rural completion promoted to community groups provided equipment to 3 successful communities which currently experience poor mobile reception.
13. A new Community Benefit agreement with Scottish Power Renewables in relation to Beinn-An-Turic was agreed in principle and will be formally approved in FQ4, 2015 with benefit backdated to June 2014.
14. Responses were provided to 14 new filming enquiries. 13 productions were filmed during this period including 15 days in and around Dunoon that involved a cast and crew of 40; filming in and around Rhu involved a cast and crew of approximately 90 for 8 days, both productions are considered to deliver short and long term economic benefits to the area.
15. Economic opportunities continue to be explored between Glasgow and Oban Airports with discussions ongoing over a new route between Glasgow and Oban and possibly beyond, to the Isles. Complimenting Oban's Business Development Plan this exciting opportunity builds upon the continued service improvements and performance of Oban Airport, where passenger numbers grew 12.8% with 3516 passengers carried during 2014, compared to 3334 during 2013.

Key challenges

1. Delivery of the key outcomes of the Single Outcome Agreement associated with the economy as endorsed by the 2014 Economic Summit including the creation of the Argyll and Bute Economic Forum supporting population growth.
2. Addressing the budget challenges associated with extreme weather events and prolonged provision of winter services, whilst satisfying stakeholder expectations and keeping Argyll and Bute open, safe and accessible.
3. Securing £3.34M of Heritage Lottery and Highlands for the Rothesay Pavilion improvements.
4. Securing EU funding support for future business support activities and employability.
5. Meeting revised targets set for the Employability Team by Working Links due to a change in measurement set by the Department of Work and Pensions.
6. Securing multi million investment needed to accommodate the larger passenger and vehicle ferry the 'Isle of Lewis' in order that it can operate on the Oban to Mull - Craignure route.
7. As part of the Scottish Ferry Services Plan (2013-2022) progress the transfer of responsibilities to Transport Scotland for ferry services Port Askaig to Feolin, Port Appin to Lismore Point, Cuan to Luing and Ellenabeich to Easdale.
8. Successful implementation of increased recycling services for the Cowal area commencing in April 2015.
9. Progressing workforce planning with a view to mitigating future service resourcing challenges.
10. Reviewing the arrangements as a Food Authority in light of the new Food Standards Scotland body which will be formed through statute and come into effect in March 2015.
11. Ensuring that the increased activity in public utility road openings associated the roll out of Superfast Broadband across Argyll is effectively controlled whilst supporting this key economic driver.
12. Reducing the costs and impact of absenteeism on services.

Actions to address the challenges

1. Prioritise the work of the Argyll and Bute Economic Forum bringing expertise from key sectors together to achieve all of the ambitions associated with population and economic growth to the area.
2. Ensure the emergency and winter service planning is effective in order to maximise efficiency and minimise unforeseen expenditure. Provide timely and effective communications including communications over service disruptions. Provide improved information over the resources required to keep Argyll and Bute open, safe and accessible.
3. Progress the Rothesay Pavilion Stage 2 application with compelling stakeholder communication and excellent project management.
4. Engage with Government consultations to ensure that new programmes accommodate the activity Business Gateway and the council seeks to access funding under the competitiveness strategic intervention.
5. Closely monitor the Work Programme business model ensuring all processes continue to meet the needs of the Prime Contractor and customer groups as outlined in the revised Employability project improvement plan.
6. Identify essential works necessary to accommodate the Isle of Lewis ferry service the Oban to Mull route ascertaining costs and engage with Transport Scotland regarding the funding required.
7. Following consultation with Luing, Lismore, Easdale and Jura community councils produce a financial model forming the basis of negotiation between the Council and Transport Scotland prior to agreeing any transfer.
8. Communicate planned recycling service changes with all stakeholders and finalise operational arrangements associated with service changes.
9. Progress workforce planning in a manner which will safeguard essential services against loss of a skilled and knowledgeable staff taking account and addressing an ageing workforce, recruitment and retention challenges and training and up-skilling needs.
10. Prepare for external audit by the Food Standards Agency, reviewing existing arrangements against the Codes of Practice for Food Law and considering how changes introduced by the new Food Body will impact on Environmental Health and to a lesser extent Trading Standards for feeding stuffs.
11. Continue to work with Local and West of Scotland Roads and Utility Companies addressing resourcing and performance concerns.
12. Increase efforts to minimise the impact of absenteeism both financially and operationally through the continued rigorous application of the council's Maximising Attendance Policy.

Corporate Objective 1 - Working together to improve the potential of our people G →

CO1 Our children are nurtured so that they can achieve their potential.	Department does not contribute directly to this Outcome.
CO2 Our young people have the skills, attitudes and achievements to succeed throughout their ...	Department does not contribute directly to this Outcome.
CO3 We have a skilled and competitive workforce capable of attracting employment to Argyll an...	Department does not contribute directly to this Outcome.
CO4 Our people are supported to live more active, healthier and independent lives.	Department does not contribute directly to this Outcome.
CO5 We work with our partners to tackle discrimination.	Department does not contribute directly to this Outcome.
CO6 Vulnerable adults, children and families are protected and supported within their communities.	G →

Corporate Objective 2 - Working together to improve the potential of our communities G →

CO7 The places where we live, work and visit are well planned, safer and successful.	G →
CO8 Create opportunities for partners and communities to engage in service delivery.	G →
CO9 The impact of alcohol and drugs on our communities, and on mental health ... is reduced.	Department does not contribute directly to this Outcome.

Development and Infrastructure Scorecard 2014-15 FQ3 14/15 Click for Full Outcomes

Corporate Objective 3 - Working together to improve the potential of our area A →

CO10 We create the right conditions where existing and new businesses can succeed.	A →
CO11 Argyll and Bute has more new businesses operating in the area, creating more jobs.	A →
CO12 Our transport infrastructure meets the economic and social needs of our communities.	A →
CO13 We contribute to a sustainable environment.	A →
CO14 We make the best use of our built and natural environment.	A →

Corporate Objective 4 - Working together to improve the potential of our organisation R →

CO15 Our services are continually improving.	R →
CO16 Our employees have the skills and attitudes to deliver efficient and effective services.	Department does not contribute directly to this Outcome.
CO17 We provide good customer service.	Department does not contribute directly to this Outcome.



...realising our potential together...

RESOURCES				
People	Benchmark	Target	Actual	Status Trend
Sickness absence DI		2.60 Days	3.08 Days	R ↓
PRDs % complete		90 %	84 %	R
Financial		Budget	Forecast	
Finance Revenue totals DI		EK 31,093	EK 31,725	R ↓
Capital forecasts - current year DI		EK 20,165	EK 22,987	R ↓
Capital forecasts - total project DI		EK 99,543	EK 104,708	R ↑
Efficiency Savings DI	Actions on track Savings	Target	Actual	G →
		7	4	
		EK 49	EK 49	

IMPROVEMENT					Status Trend
Improvement Plan	Total No	Off track	On track	Complete	A →
Outcomes DI	Outcomes	21	1	9	
CARP Development & Infrastructure	Total No	Off track	Due	Complete	G →
		10	0	10	

Customer Service DI		Number of consultations		
Customer Charter	G ↑	Stage 1 complaints	79 %	R ↑
Customer satisfaction	88 % G ↓	Stage 2 complaints	79 %	R ↓
Development and Infrastructure Services Audit	R	Overdue	Due in future	Future - off target
Recommendations		1 ↑	10 ↓	1 ↓
DI Average Demand Risk	Score	8	Appetite	8 →
DI Average Supply Risk	Score	7	Appetite	7 →

CO6 Vulnerable adults, children and families are protected and supported within their communities.			G	➔
PR02 Empowered ... customers ... exercising their legal rights ...	Success Measures	2	G	
	On track	2		➔

CO7 The places where we live, work and visit are well planned, safer and successful.			G	➔
PR04 Health, safety etc of people in & around buildings is protected ...	Success Measures	3	G	
	On track	3		➔

CO8 Create opportunities for partners and communities to engage in service delivery.			G	➔
ET04 Harness the potential of the third sector ...	Success Measures	3	G	
	On track	3		➔

CO10 We create the right conditions where existing and new businesses can succeed.			A	➔
PR03 Secure standards re public health & health protection ...	Success Measures	3	G	
	On track	3		➔
RA01 Proportionate, safe and available infrastructure	Success Measures	4	G	
	On track	4		⬆️
RA02 Roads maintenance strategies ... contribute to economic growth ...	Success Measures	2	A	
	On track	1		⬇️
RA03 Reliable, safe and efficient vehicles fleet	Success Measures	2	A	
	On track	1		⬇️

CO11 Argyll and Bute has more new businesses operating in the area, creating more jobs.			A	➔
ET01 Sustainable economic growth in Argyll and Bute	Success Measures	9	A	
	On track	7		➔
PR01 Local economy improved by delivery of sustainable development	Success Measures	4	G	
	On track	4		➔

CO12 Our transport infrastructure meets the economic and social needs of our communities.			A	➔
ET02 A&B better connected, safer & more attractive	Success Measures	9	A	
	On track	8		⬇️
PR05 Improved & enhanced access to natural environment & green networks	Success Measures	2	A	
	On track	1		⬇️
RA04 Capital projects improve the transport infrastructure	Success Measures	4	G	
	On track	4		⬆️

CO13 We contribute to a sustainable environment.			A	➔
PR06 ... an environment which is safe, promotes health & supports local economy	Success Measures	3	A	
	On track	2		➔
RA05 High level of street cleanliness	Success Measures	1	G	
	On track	1		➔
RA06 Sustainable disposal of waste	Success Measures	2	G	
	On track	2		➔

Development and Infrastructure Scorecard 2014-15 FQ3 14/15 [Click for Full Scorecard](#)

CO14 We make the best use of our built and natural environment.			A	➔
ET03 Renewables ... developed ... for the benefit of communities	Success Measures	2	G	
	On track	2		➔
PR07 Creation of well designed and sustainable places ...	Success Measures	4	A	
	On track	3		➔

CO15 Our services are continually improving.			R	➔
PR08 Protect health of our communities through effective partnership working	Success Measures	1	R	
	On track	0		➔

This page is intentionally left blank

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL**ENVIRONMENT, DEVELOPMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE****DEVELOPMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES****13 APRIL 2015**

UPDATE ON A83 REST AND BE THANKFUL

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Following an extensive period of heavy rain there have been further landslips at the Rest and be Thankful. The landslip on 28 October 2014 was the largest recorded landslip in the area with an estimated 2000 tonnes of material having come down the hillside. The previous largest recorded event having been in September 2009 when 1000 tonnes of material came down the slope.

At the November ED&I Committee a report was considered, the minutes of which were noted by Council at its 27 November meeting. Arising from Council the Executive Director of Environment Development and Infrastructure wrote to Scottish Government. Appended to this report are the letter to Scottish government and the response.

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT, DEVELOPMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

DEVELOPMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

13 APRIL 2015

UPDATE ON A83 REST AND BE THANKFUL

2.0 SUMMARY

2.1 This report provides an update on the recent landslip on the A83 and of recent correspondence between the Council and Scottish Government.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 Members note the report.

4.0 DETAILS

4.1 At the November ED&I Committee a report was considered, the minutes of which were noted by Council at its 27 November meeting. Arising from Council the Executive Director of Environment Development and Infrastructure wrote to Scottish Government. Appended to this report are the letter to Scottish government and the response.

4.2 The letter from the Executive Director of Environment Development and Infrastructure is included at Appendix 1 and the response from Scottish Government at Appendix 2.

5.0 CONCLUSION

5.1 This report provides an update on the recent landslip on the A83 and of recent correspondence between the Council and Scottish Government/Transport Scotland.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1	Policy	None
6.2	Financial	None
6.3	Legal	None

6.4	HR	None
6.5	Equalities	None
6.6	Risk	None
6.7	Customer Services	None

Appendix 1 letter from Executive Director of Environment Development and Infrastructure
Appendix 2 letter from Transport Scotland

Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure
Policy Lead – Ellen Morton
March 2015

For further information contact: Jim Smith, Head of Roads and Amenity Services

This page is intentionally left blank

Argyll and Bute Council
Comhairle Earra Gháidheal agus Bhóid



Development and Infrastructure Services
Pippa Milne Executive Director Development and Infrastructure

Mr Keith Brown MSP
Minister for Transport
and Infrastructure
Unit 4, 39 Drysdale Street
Alloa
FK10 1LY

Development and Infrastructure Services
Kilmory, Lochgilphead, Argyll PA31 8RT
Tel: 01546 604324 Fax: 01546 604459
E-mail: pippa.milne@argyll-bute.gov.uk
Website: www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

Ask For: Pippa Milne
Our Ref:
Your Ref:
Date: 18th December 2014

Dear Mr Brown

At its meeting on 27th November this year Argyll and Bute Council instructed me to write to the Scottish Government and Transport Scotland asking that work to find a permanent solution for the ongoing problems on the A83 at the Rest and Be Thankful be progressed. The Council in considering this matter endorsed the earlier decision of its Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee which had considered the A83 issue at its meeting on 13th November.

I welcome the fact that the A83 Task Group meetings are ongoing, with the next meeting scheduled for early in the New Year. I would ask that the Task Group meetings be used as a means to progress a permanent solution for the A83 as quickly as possible.

The works carried out to date in the way of debris netting and upgrading of the Old Military Road are very much appreciated but fall some way short of a permanent solution. There is currently a great deal of stigma attached to the Rest and Be Thankful and confidence is low in terms of the reliability of this route. This is adversely affecting the economy of Argyll and Bute with numerous reports of people not visiting due to the uncertainty of access and additional transport and business costs being incurred when the road is closed.

During the most recent landslip on 28th October this year the A83 was blocked not only at the Rest and Be Thankful but also at Ardgartan and Glen Kinglas. During the period that the Old Military Road was in use as the main diversion there were times when it was not available to all traffic due to the depth of water flowing across the carriageway at the eastern end. I understand that the level of this road was increased by overlaying the surface with additional material. I also understand that, despite this, the new surface was underwater for a period of time and therefore not available for cars to use.

The A83 will be of even greater strategic importance during the much welcomed improvement works on the A82 between Tarbet and Inverarnan Whilst the detailed programme is not yet available it is expected that these works will involve site activity for at least a couple of years. During this period there may well be the need for road closures for these much needed works to progress safely.



In the event that both the A82 and A83 were unavailable the trunk road diversion route into Argyll would be via Stirling. This would be totally unacceptable. It is considered essential that a permanent solution is in place for the A83 and that a 'return to service' plan is agreed with the council and community to allow the much welcomed A82 works to progress swiftly.

I believe that it is only Scottish Government that can provide a permanent solution for the A83 and regain the community's confidence in the transport network at this location. The Council looks forward to working with you to achieve this.

Yours Sincerely

Pippa Milne
Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure

Cc Graham Edmond

Network North
Trunk Road and Bus Operations

Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow G4 0HF
Direct Line: 0141 272 7354
Sean.clemie@transportscotland.gsi.gov.uk



Your ref:

Our ref:
2015/0002597

Date:
16 February 2015

Ms Pippa Milne
Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure
Argyll & Bute Council
Kilmory
LOCHGILPHEAD
Argyll
PA31 8RT

Dear Ms Milne

A83 Rest and Be Thankful

Thank you for your letter of 18 December to Keith Brown MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Infrastructure, Investment and Cities, about the A83 trunk road at the Rest and Be Thankful. As this is an operational matter for Transport Scotland, your letter was passed to me for reply.

We are pleased to have representatives of Argyll and Bute Council working with us on the A83 Taskforce, which last met on 14 January. The Scottish Government is acutely aware of the importance of the A83 to the communities of Argyll and Bute and has already invested over £9 million on the A83 around the Rest and be Thankful as a clear sign of our intent to find solutions to keep the A83 open and operational.

At the Taskforce, the Minister for Transport and Islands announced that an additional £3 million is being invested by the Scottish Government on the A83 in the coming year. The extra money will be used to take forward landslide mitigation work in Glen Kinglas and road realignment works at Strone Point corner. The Minister also asked for further investigation into what extra measures could be carried out at the Rest and be Thankful to ensure continuity of access to Argyll and Bute.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely

SEAN CLEMIE
Area Manager North



ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE****DEVELOPMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES****13 APRIL 2015**

INTRODUCTION OF ROAD EQUIVALENT TARIFF (RET)

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The introduction of Road Equivalent Tarrif (RET) on the ferry routes to the Isles of Bute and Mull are expected to increase the numbers of visitors to the two islands. The Isle of Bute is already improving the infrastructure on the island to encourage tourism and thus the introduction of RET is eagerly anticipated. Whilst the Isle of Mull is expecting an equivalent increase in numbers, there are more implications and challenges to the existing infrastructure that will need to be overcome. A comparison of fares to the two islands is shown at the Appendix.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Road Equivalent Tarrif (RET) is a distance based fares structure which underpins the Scottish Government's commitment to providing one single overarching fares policy across Scotland's entire ferry network. Following a progressive roll out, RET will be continued on all of the remaining ferry routes in the Clyde and Hebrides ferry services network in October 2015. RET may be seen to have implications for both Bute and Mull.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 That the EDI Committee notes the report.

4.0 DETAIL

4.1 The introduction of RET pricing has seen a significant increased demand on the Ardrossan to Brodick ferry service. It is anticipated that a similar increase in demand will be seen on the services to both the Isles of Bute and Mull. A comparison of fares pre and post RET to the two islands is shown at the Appendix. Of note is the Oban to Craignure service showing a reduction in a car fare from £33 down to £13.

4.2 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE ISLE OF BUTE.

The introduction of RET is therefore expected to make a significant difference to the tourism to the island which is expected to benefit local accommodation providers. It

may also help to stabilise the resident population as commuters will also benefit from lower fares. Infrastructure developments already occurring on the island are designed to encourage more tourism, therefore the introduction of RET is eagerly anticipated.

4.3 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE ISLE OF MULL.

Whilst the impact of RET on the Isle of Mull can be seen to be generally advantageous, the increase in traffic will bring some significant challenges.

4.4 CRAIGNURE PIER.

Transport Scotland published their Scottish Ferries Plan in December 2012 and as part of their strategy it is envisaged that there will both be a vessel replacement programme and a commitment to deploy two vessels on the Oban to Craignure route. The second vessel may be significantly larger, which may impact on the pier infrastructure at Craignure and may necessitate an upgrade to enable that facility to be able to accommodate a larger vessel. A project team has been formed with representatives from Transport Scotland, Caledonian Macbrayne, Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd and Argyll and Bute Council to investigate the feasibility of deploying a larger vessel on this route. This team will investigate designs that will offer the flexibility to accommodate a range of vessels.

4.5 WIDER INFRASTRUCTURE IMPACTS.

Caledonian Macbrayne and Transport Scotland are producing volume estimates of the increase in traffic on the ferry service which may impact on the wider infrastructure in Mull including the road system, capacity of car parks, the capacity of the marshalling areas at Craignure as well as social and economic impacts to the island community. However it is assessed that traffic to Mull is down by about 30% compared to that seen 10 years ago when visitor numbers peaked as a result of the Balamory affect, implying that the island may already have some capacity for an increase in trade.

4.6 ONGOING LIAISON.

As well as continual liaison with this committee, the effects of RET and the economic benefits that it brings will be discussed with Area Committees and Community Councils.

5.0 CONCLUSION

5.1 The introduction of RET pricing has seen a significant increase in the volume of traffic to the Isle of Arran. It is envisaged that a similar increase in traffic be expected to the Isles of Bute and Mull.

5.2 The economic and social benefits brought by RET to these islands is to be welcomed, but it also brings some challenges to the infrastructure, particularly to the Isle of Mull that will need to be carefully managed to ensure maximum benefits.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1	Policy	Improvements to ferry services and harbours supports the Single Outcome priority for infrastructure that supports economic growth and in particular the aim of improving transport onnetivity across Argyll and Bute..
6.2	Financial	Unknown but possible cost implications to the Council if upgrades to infrastructure are required.
6.3	Legal	None
6.4	HR	None.
6.5	Equalities	None.
6.6	Risk	Major increase in traffic does not materialise.
6.7	Customer Services	Positive impacts to the local communities of Mull and Bute.

**Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure
Policy Lead: Ellen Morton.**

**For further information contact: Clive Hayward, Marine Operations Manager
(01546604532)**

APPENDIX 1

Comparison of Fares

A comparison of fares to the Isles of Bute and Mull is shown in the table below:

Island	Route	RET Passenger Fare	Pre-RET Passenger Fare	RET Car Fare	Pre-RET Car Fare
Bute	Wemyss Bay-Rothesay	£3.05	£4.00	£10.95	£15.95
Bute	Colintraive-Rhubodach	£1.15	£1.45	£5.75	£7.60
Mull	Oban-Craignure	£3.45	£4.55	£13.00	£33.00
Mull	Lochaline-Fishnish	£2.35	£3.30	£6.90	£14.45
Mull	Fionnphort-Iona	£1.70	£3.65	£6.05	
Mull	Tobermoray-Kilchoan	£2.65	£5.30	£8.40	£27.25

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL**ENVIRONMENT DEVELOPMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE****DEVELOPMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES****13 APRIL 2015**

FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Flood Risk Management Act transposes the EU Floods Directive 2007/60/EC into Scots Law, amends the Reservoirs Act 1975 and repeals the Flood Prevention (Scotland) Act 1961. The appended draft policy document sets out the position for the council. The policy document has been drafted to confirm the approach of the council and to provide a policy framework covering flood risk management.

The Act provides that the Scottish Ministers, SEPA, and Responsible Authorities (Local Authorities, Scottish Water, Forestry Commission Scotland and National Park Authorities) must exercise their flood risk related functions with a view to reducing overall flood risk. In summary, the key requirements which these bodies must take into consideration when carrying out their functions are to:-

- act with a view to reducing overall flood risk;
- act to secure compliance with the Directive;
- act with a view to achieving the objectives set out in the flood risk management plans;
- have regard to the social, environmental and economic impact of carrying out those functions.

So far as is consistent with flood risk functions, they must also:

- act in the way best calculated to manage flood risk in a sustainable way;
- promote sustainable flood risk management;
- act with a view to raising public awareness of flood risk; and
- act in the way best calculated to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development.

Members are asked to:

- Note and endorse the report.
- Approve that the Flood Risk Management Policy be taken to the Policy and Resource Committee for approval as Council policy.

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT, DEVELOPMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

DEVELOPMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

9 April 2015

FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 This policy document identifies the Council's duties and powers in regard to Flood Risk Management and outlines the way in which the Council will allocate funds to comply with its duties under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009 ('the Act') and exercise its powers under the Act.
- 2.2 The attached policy document provides information in respect of: the general aims of the Act, the general duties placed upon Scottish Ministers, SEPA and Responsible Authorities (including local authorities) under the Act. The policy also sets out the powers of Local Authorities and the Council's approach to managing flood risks. The policy document further sets out the way in which the Council will allocate funding to comply with the duties placed upon it by the Act and will exercise its powers with a view to reducing flood risk.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Members are asked to:
- Note and endorse the report.
 - Approve that the Flood Risk Management Policy be taken to the Policy and Resources Committee for approval as Council policy.

4.0 DETAILS

- 4.1 The Act transposes the EU Floods Directive 2007/60/EC into Scots Law, amends the Reservoirs Act 1975 and repeals the Flood Prevention (Scotland) Act 1961.
- 4.2 The Act provides that the Scottish Ministers, SEPA, and Responsible Authorities (Local Authorities, Scottish Water, Forestry Commission Scotland and National Park Authorities) must exercise their flood risk related functions with a view to reducing overall flood risk.
- In summary, the key requirements which these bodies must take into consideration when carrying out their functions are to:-

- act with a view to reducing overall flood risk;
- act to secure compliance with the Directive;
- act with a view to achieving the objectives set out in the flood risk management plans;
- have regard to the social, environmental and economic impact of carrying out those functions.

So far as is consistent with flood risk functions, they must also:

- act in the way best calculated to manage flood risk in a sustainable way;
- promote sustainable flood risk management;
- act with a view to raising public awareness of flood risk; and
- act in the way best calculated to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development.

- 4.3 Local Authorities will be expected to use all existing and new powers at their disposal to deliver these broad aims, and this includes development management, traditional flood defence works, surface water management, awareness raising and wherever possible, natural approaches to managing the sources and pathways of flood waters.
- 4.4 The Scottish Government makes it clear that individual property owners have primary responsibility for the prevention of flooding to their property. Landowners are responsible for the provision and maintenance of private flood defence and drainage systems on their land.
- 4.5 Individuals with a watercourse within the boundary of their property, including piped watercourses, have what is termed 'riparian' responsibilities under common law. Riparian owners should allow the unrestricted flow of water through their property and should maintain and keep watercourses clear of obstructions that are liable to pose a risk of flooding.
- 4.6 At its meeting on 19 December 2013, the Council appointed Councillor Robert G MacIntyre to the Clyde & Loch Lomond LPD and Councillor Roddy McCuish to the Highland and Argyll LPD.

The attached Policy document sets out the following:

- General Aim and Purpose of the Act
- General Duties under the Act
- Local Authority Duties under the Act
- Local Plan Districts (Argyll and Bute Council fall into two Local Plan Districts)
- Mapping, Objectives and Measures
- Argyll & Bute Council's Policy on Flooding
- Map of all Local Plan Districts within Scotland

- 4.6 At its meeting on 19 December 2013, the Council appointed Councillor Robert G MacIntyre to the Clyde & Loch Lomond LPD and Councillor Roddy McCuish to the Highland and Argyll LPD.

5.0 CONCLUSION

5.1 This report is a covering report to a policy document that identifies the Councils duties and powers in regard to Flood Risk Management and outlines the way in which the Council will allocate funds to comply with its duties under the Act and exercise its powers under the Act with a view to reducing flood risk.
Members are asked to note and endorse the report and approve that the Flood Risk Management Policy be taken to the Policy and Resources Committee for approval as Council policy.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1	Policy	The report provides a policy position in relation to Flood Risk Management
6.2	Financial	Budgets are in place for dealing with elements of the Flood Risk Management Act
6.3	Legal	Covered in the body of the policy document
6.4	HR	None
6.5	Equalities	None
6.6	Risk	None
6.7	Customer Services	None

**Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure
Policy Lead Cllr Ellen Morton**

March 2015

For further information contact: Arthur McCulloch, Principal Engineer

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Flood Risk Management Policy and Strategy



DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY

Author	Principal Engineer – Infrastructure Design
Owner	Head of Roads and Amenity
Date	March 2015
Version	1

CONTENTS

Introduction to Policy Statement on Flooding	3
Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009	4
Argyll & Bute Council's Policy on Flooding	7
Map of Local Plan Districts	9

1.0 INTRODUCTION TO POLICY STATEMENT ON FLOODING

1.1 Purpose

- 1.1.1 This policy statement has been prepared by Argyll and Bute Council to provide a public statement of the Council's approach to managing flood risk in its area.

1.2 Introduction

- 1.2.1 The Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009 ('the Act') transposes the EU Floods Directive 2007/60/EC ('the Directive') into Scots Law, amends the Reservoirs Act 1975 and repeals the Flood Prevention (Scotland) Act 1961. The purpose of the Directive is to establish a framework for the assessment and management of flood risks, aiming at the reduction of the adverse consequences for human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity associated with floods.
- 1.2.2 Duties are placed on SEPA, Scottish Water, and Responsible Authorities (Local Authorities, National Park Authorities, Scottish Water and Forestry Commission Scotland) to exercise their flood risk related functions with a view to reducing overall flood risk across Scotland.
- 1.2.3 Flood risk is defined in the Act as the combination of the probability of flood and the potential adverse consequences associated with a flood, for human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity.
- 1.2.4 By focusing on "reducing overall flood risk", emphasis has clearly been placed on managing the likelihood and impact of flooding. Furthermore, although it is recognised that it is not always possible to reduce the likelihood, or even the impact of some floods, the Act makes it clear that all bodies involved in managing flooding should, wherever possible, aim to reduce flood risk by focusing their efforts on those areas and communities at greatest risk.
- 1.2.5 The Scottish Government makes it clear that individual property owners have primary responsibility for the prevention of flooding to their property. Landowners are responsible for the provision and maintenance of private flood defence and drainage systems on their land.
- 1.2.6 Local Authorities will be expected to use all existing and new powers at their disposal to deliver these broad aims, and this includes development management, traditional flood defence works, surface water management, awareness raising and, wherever possible, natural approaches to managing the sources and pathways of flood waters.
- 1.2.7 Individuals with a watercourse within the boundary of their property, including piped watercourses, have what is termed 'riparian' responsibilities under common law. Riparian owners should allow the unrestricted flow of water through their property

and should maintain and keep watercourses clear of obstructions that are liable to pose a risk of flooding.

2 The Act

2.1 General Duties under the Act

2.1.1 All bodies responsible for managing flood risk, including Local Authorities, SEPA, Scottish Ministers and Scottish Water, are placed under a set of general duties which provide the basic framework in which all work under the Act must be progressed and all flood management decisions must be taken.

2.1.2 In summary, the key requirements which these bodies must take into consideration when carrying out their functions are to:-

- act with a view to reducing overall flood risk;
- act to secure compliance with the Directive;
- act with a view to achieving the objectives set out in the flood risk management plans;
- have regard to the social, environmental and economic impact of carrying out those functions.

2.1.3 So far as is consistent with flood risk functions, they must also:

- act in the way best calculated to manage flood risk in a sustainable way;
- promote sustainable flood risk management;
- act with a view to raising public awareness of flood risk; and
- act in the way best calculated to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development.

2.1.4 These bodies also have a legal requirement placed upon them to adopt, wherever practicable, an integrated approach through co-operating with each other. Adopting a fully collaborative and coordinated approach to implementation, between local authorities, SEPA, Scottish Water and other relevant bodies is widely viewed as being central to the delivery of improved flood risk management.

2.2 Local Authority Duties under the Act

2.2.1 Local Authorities have a Duty to:

- Prepare maps of bodies of surface water
- Assess relevant bodies of water
- Prepare a schedule of clearance and repair works
- Prepare local flood risk management plans
- Carry out clearance and repair works in a schedule prepared by the council
- Keep a register of flood protection schemes

2.2.2 Local Authorities also have powers to manage flood risk and to take forward a 'flood protection scheme'.

2.3 Funds

2.3.1 Local Authorities have been provided with funding through their current settlement to fulfil their flood risk management responsibilities. Arrangements to fund prioritised actions/works in the first 6 year cycle have still to be announced by the Scottish Government.

2.4 Local Plan Districts

2.4.1 Local Plan Districts are the geographical areas based on catchment boundaries for managing flood risk and have been designated by Scottish Ministers on the recommendation of SEPA following a consultation process which included local authorities. A map showing the 14 Local Plan Districts within Scotland is included at the end of this document.

2.4.2 A Lead Local Authority has been identified for each Local Plan District to co-ordinate and support the production of Local Flood Risk Management Plans. In the National Flood Risk Assessment, SEPA identified geographical areas across Scotland, called Local Plan Districts (LPD), which include whole river catchments and cross local authority boundaries. Flood Risk Management Planning, and partnership working to support this, will take place for each Local Plan District in Scotland.

2.4.3 Argyll and Bute Council are members of two Local Plan Districts:- Clyde & Loch Lomond with Glasgow City Council as Lead Local Authority, and Highland/Argyll with Highland Council as Lead Local Authority. Argyll and Bute Council is represented at each Local Plan District by a Member and officers.

2.5 Mapping, Objectives and Actions

2.5.1 SEPA carried out and completed the National Flood Risk Assessment in 2011 and this identified areas that were potentially vulnerable to flooding – Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVAs). Within Argyll & Bute there are 16 PVAs (Clyde & Loch Lomond has 4 and Highland/Argyll 12).

2.5.2 In January 2014, SEPA published the Flood Risk Hazard Maps. These cover Coastal, River and Surface Water flooding. Key to the delivery of the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009 is an improved understanding of the location and character of flood hazards. The delivery of new strategic flood hazard maps for Scotland, will support the development of Flood Risk Management Strategies and be a valuable tool for organisations responsible for managing flood risk.

- 2.5.3 The public consultation period for the Characterisation and Objective setting to address flood risks nationally will close on 2 June 2015. The objectives will be centred on three principles; Avoid, Protect and Prepare against flood risk. Following the public consultation, the objectives will be prioritised into a national list of actions. The actions may consist of further study and better understanding of a flood risk area, physical works or flood warning systems. By completion, the process will have involved a public consultation and input from all the Responsible Authorities including SEPA, the local authorities and the Scottish Government.
- 2.5.4 Examples of this for each objective could be:-
- Avoid** – this is done through the planning process whereby flood risk should not be increased by inappropriate development – This is taken into account in the Local Development Plan and implemented through the processing of planning applications taking into account the flood sensitivity of each PVA.
- Protect** – this is done by construction of bunds, training walls and drainage pipes to reduce the impact on existing infrastructure. It also includes temporary measures such as sandbagging. Telemetry systems to record flood levels can also offer protection.
- Prepare** – this is a last resort and includes flood warnings/evacuation, civil contingency and community resilience plans.
- 2.5.5 The Act places a duty on Responsible Authorities to raise public awareness of flood risk by, for example, webpage information on Responsible Authorities' roles and responsibilities.
- 2.5.6 The Council's Planning and Regulatory Service is developing Supplementary Guidance for applicants for development to inform them of what is required by the Council in terms of Flood Risk.
- 2.5.7 The Strategic Appraisal of Measures will be undertaken nationally and will lead to the publication of Local Flood Risk Management Plans covering 6 year cycles to reduce flood risks. The first of these will cover the period 2016 – 2022.
- 2.5.8 Local Flood Risk Management Plans will comprise of two parts: a supplementary part and an implementation part. The supplementary part must include, amongst other things, information including; maps, information about how implementing actions may alter (including enhance) or restore natural features and characteristics, and further information about those actions, as the lead authority considers relevant to flood risk management within the local plan district . The implementation part is a detailed description of how particular actions will be undertaken, including a summary of when these will take place and who will be responsible for funding and undertaking such actions.
- 2.5.9 Not earlier than two years and not later than three years after a local flood risk management plan is finalised, the lead authority must (a) review the plan, and (b) publish a report on the conclusion of the review including information on the progress that has been made towards implementing the actions identified in the implementation part of the plan. Not earlier than five years, and not later than six

years, after a local flood risk management plan is finalised, or by such other date as the Scottish Ministers may direct, the lead authority must publish a report of the plan containing (a) an assessment of the progress made towards implementing the current actions, (b) a summary of the current actions which were not implemented, with reasons for their non-implementation, and (c) a description of any other actions implemented since the plan was finalised which the lead authority considers have contributed to the achievement of the objectives summarised in the supplementary part of the plan

3.0 ARGYLL & BUTE COUNCIL'S POLICY ON FLOODING

3.1 Policy Statement

<p>Argyll & Bute Council acknowledges and supports the Scottish Government's aims and objectives as set out in the Act and our policy and approach will be consistent with them.</p>

3.2 Argyll & Bute Council is required to:-

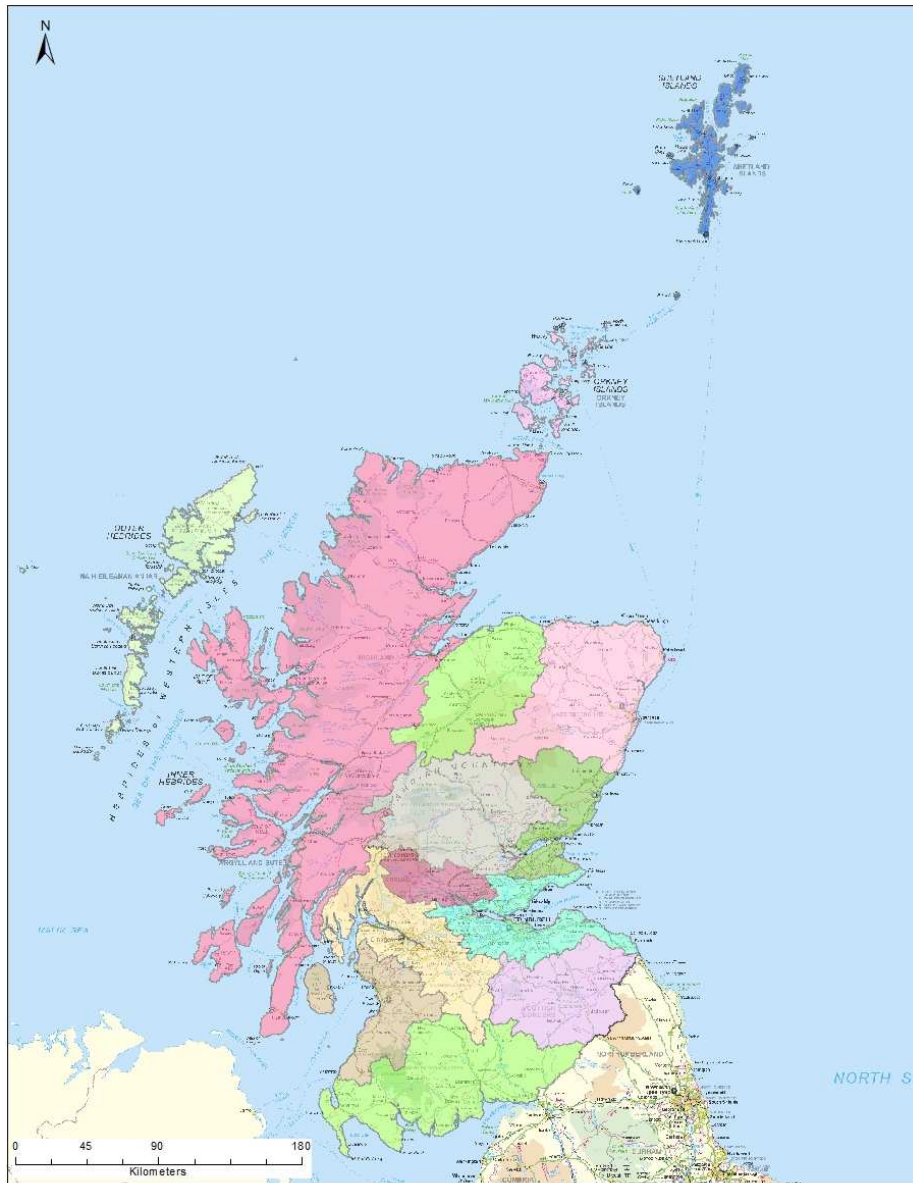
- (i) Work collaboratively with other Responsible Authorities such as SEPA, Local Authorities, Scottish Water, The Forestry Commission and the National Park with the overall aim of reducing flood risk.
- (ii) Prepare maps of relevant bodies of water and sustainable urban drainage systems.
- (iii) From time to time assess relevant bodies of water (other than canals) for the purpose of ascertaining whether the condition of the body of water gives rise to a risk of flooding.
- (iv) Where a body of water gives rise to a risk of flooding following the assessment and where it is considered that clearance and repair works would substantially reduce that risk, prepare a schedule of those clearance and repair works.
- (v) Carry out works described in the schedule of clearance and repair works where it considers that it will contribute to the implementation of current actions described in any relevant local flood risk management plan or will not affect the implementation of such measures.
- (vi) Provide the Lead Authority with information when requested.
- (vii) Keep a register of flood protection schemes.
- (viii) Monitor those watercourses which have proved to be critical in terms of flood risk and take action to maintain the critical parts.
- (ix) Regularly maintain those ordinary watercourses for which Argyll and Bute Council is the riparian owner.
- (x) Investigate, record and assess flooding events.

- (xi) Take account of flooding risks when preparing local planning policy and assessing individual planning applications
- (xii) Raise general public awareness on flooding matters through the Council's web site and other means.

- 3.3 Council funds for the management of flood risk will be allocated towards the fulfilment of the Council's statutory duties as listed above in the first instance.
- 3.4 As part of its road asset management process, the Council, as the roads authority, will compile an inventory of its ditches and culverts and review its roads drainage policy.
- 3.5 The Scottish Government makes it clear that individual property owners have primary responsibility for the prevention of flooding to their property. Landowners are responsible for the provision and maintenance of private flood defence and drainage systems on their land and the Council will therefore not, as standard, exercise its powers under the Act to assist individual property owners. The Council, will however, as far as reasonably and economically practicable, exercise its powers under s56 of the Act to continue the practice of providing emergency assistance in times of flooding by the provision of sandbags for public use and the clearance of critical watercourses and the structures thereon. It shall endeavour to offer advice to riparian owners on commercially available flood protection measure and recommends affected parties contact the Scottish Flood Forum for detail assistance.

4.0 MAP OF LOCAL PLAN DISTRICTS WITHIN SCOTLAND

Local Plan Districts



Legend	
Ayrshire (12)	Orkney (3)
Clyde and Loch Lomond (11)	Western Isles (2)
Findhorn, Nairn and Speyside (5)	Shetland (4)
Forth (9)	Solway (14)
Forth Estuary (10)	Tay (8)
Highland and Argyll (1)	Tay Estuary and Montrose Basin (7)
Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City (6)	Tweed (13)



© 2009 Scottish Environment Protection Agency.
 Some features of this map are based on digital spatial data licensed from the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, © CEH. Includes material based upon Ordnance Survey mapping with permission of H.M. Stationary Office, © Crown Copyright.
 Licence number 100016991. Helpdesk ref. N/A.
 Produced: 02/10/2012

This page is intentionally left blank

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT, DEVELOPMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

DEVELOPMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

13 April 2015

COAST PROTECTION POLICY

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Coast Protection Act 1949 ('the Act') defines the Council as the Coast Protection Authority for Argyll and Bute and sets out the Authority's powers in relation to the protection of the Coast. The Council currently does not have any formal policy in place relating to the Act.

The attached policy document covers: Outline Coast Protection Principles, Management Arrangements and sets out how Priorities will be set in terms of allocating resources. Information is provided in respect of other matters pertaining to the coast such as litter clearance and the disposal of carcasses of cetaceans stranded on the shore.

This draft policy document is effectively formalising custom and practice historically carried out by the Council.

Members are asked to:

- Note and endorse the report.
- Approve that the Coast Protection Policy be taken to the Policy and Resources Committee for approval as Council policy.

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT, DEVELOPMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

DEVELOPMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

13 April 2015

COAST PROTECTION POLICY

2.0 SUMMARY

2.1 The attached policy document covers: Outline Coast Protection Principles, Management Arrangements and sets out how Priorities will be set in terms of allocating resources.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 Members are asked to:

- Note and endorse the report.
- Approve that the Coast Protection Policy be taken to the Policy and Resources Committee for approval as Council policy.

4.0 DETAILS

4.1 The Coast Protection Act 1949 ('the Act') defines the Council as the Coast Protection Authority for Argyll and Bute and sets out the Authority's powers in relation to the protection of the Coast.

4.2 Section 4 of the Act provides that 'a coast protection authority shall have power to carry out such coast protection work, whether within or outside their area, as may appear to them to be necessary or expedient for the protection of any land in their area.' There are no duties placed upon the Council as the Coast Protection Authority by the Act. The length of coast includes all land bounded by the sea in Argyll and Bute extending to Craighendran Pier in the Firth of Clyde. Certain stretches of tidal waters are excluded, for reasons which are not explained in the Act. The River Clyde is excluded, above a line drawn from the seaward or western end of the Princes Pier, Greenock, to the seaward end of Craighendran Pier and as such, there is no Coast Protection Authority for the stretch of coast upstream of Craighendran Pier.

4.3 The Council has a duty to maintain roads entered on the list of public roads as the Roads Authority under the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984. Works undertaken to protect public roads against erosion and encroachment by the sea may be carried out by the Council acting as the Roads Authority or Coast Protection Authority.

- 4.4 It is the aim of Argyll and Bute Council to provide a service with respect of the above that will provide protection of the coastline within the budget allocated in accordance with the priorities of the policy outlined in this document.
- 4.5 Responsibility for management and prevention of erosion rests with the landowner of the land concerned. By necessity the Council's priority for spending will be to protect roads and infrastructure in its ownership/control.
- 4.6 The attached policy document covers: Outline Coast Protection Principles, Management Arrangements and sets out how Priorities will be set in terms of allocating resources. Information is provided in respect of other matters pertaining to the coast such as litter clearance and the disposal of carcasses of cetaceans stranded on the shore.

5.0 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 The attached policy document covers: Outline Coast Protection Principles, Management Arrangements and sets out how Priorities will be set in terms of allocating resources. This draft policy document is effectively formalising custom and practice historically carried out by the Council.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- | | | |
|-----|-------------------|--|
| 6.1 | Policy | Document proposes a policy for coast protection |
| 6.2 | Financial | The Policy sets out how available resources will be prioritised |
| 6.3 | Legal | Policy is based on legislation |
| 6.4 | HR | None |
| 6.5 | Equalities | None |
| 6.6 | Risk | There are significant risks to the Council in terms of the condition of the coast protection infrastructure. |
| 6.7 | Customer Services | None |

Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure
Policy Lead Cllr Ellen Morton

For further information contact: Arthur McCulloch, Principal Engineer

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Coast Protection Policy and Strategy

This page is intentionally left blank



DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

COAST PROTECTION POLICY AND STRATEGY

Author	Principal Engineer Infrastructure Design
Owner	Head of Roads and Amenity
Date	March 2015
Version	1

CONTENTS

Introduction	3
Outline Principles	4
Powers	4
Management Arrangements	5
Policy on Priorities	5
Other Matters	6
Appendix 1 – Map of Argyll and Bute	7

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Coast Protection Act 1949 (<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/Geo6/12-13-14/74>) ('the Act') defines the Council as the Coast Protection Authority for Argyll and Bute and sets out the Authorities powers in relation to the protection of the Coast against erosion and encroachment by the sea.
- 1.2 The Act provides the Council (coast protection Authority) with powers to carry out coast protection work, whether within or outside their area, as may appear to them to be necessary or expedient for the protection of any land in their area.'
- 1.3 "coast protection work" means any construction work of alteration, improvement, repair, maintenance, demolition or removal for the purpose of the protection of any land, and includes the sowing or planting of vegetation for the said purpose;
- 1.4 "protection" means protection against erosion or encroachment by the sea;
- 1.5 "sea" includes the waters of any channel, creek, bay or estuary and of any river so far up that river as the tide flows;
- 1.6 "seashore" means the bed and shore of the sea, and of every channel, creek, bay or estuary, and of every river as far up that river as the tide flows, and any cliff, bank, barrier, dune, beach, flat or other land adjacent to the shore.
- 1.7 The length of coast for which the Council is the Coast Protection Authority includes all land bounded by the sea in Argyll and Bute. On the mainland this extends from Craighendran Pier in the Firth of Clyde around Argyll's coastline to the boundary with Highland Council north of Appin in Loch Linnie. The coast also includes the coast of 23 inhabited islands. The overall coastline extends to some 4197 KM. The coast line is detailed by the shaded areas detailed in the map at Appendix 1. The River Clyde is excluded, above a line drawn from the seaward or western end of the Princes Pier, Greenock, to the seaward end of Craighendran Pier and as such, there is no Coast Protection Authority for this stretch of coast.
- 1.8 The Council has a duty to maintain roads entered on the list of public roads as the Roads Authority under the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984. Works undertaken to protect public roads against erosion and encroachment by the sea may be carried out by the Council acting as the Roads Authority or Coast Protection Authority.
- 1.9 It is the aim of Argyll and Bute Council to exercise its powers under the Act where necessary to protect the coast against encroachment and erosion by the sea within the budget allocated and in accordance with the priorities of the policy outlined in this document.

2.0 OUTLINE PRINCIPLES

- 2.1 The Council, through the Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure Services, will:-
- a) Draft, adopt and amend policy and strategy for Coast Protection;
 - b) Develop an inventory of the Roads and Amenity Services' coast protection assets;
 - c) Develop an inspection regime;
 - d) Design, procure and supervise any works required in accordance with the priorities set out within this document;
 - e) Set up a register of coastal events pertaining to ground not belonging to the Council;
 - f) Provide responses on Planning Applications that may affect the coast
 - g) Consider and determine applications submitted to the Council for consent for persons to carry out any coast protection work, other than work of maintenance or repair.

3.0 RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER COAST PROTECTION

- 3.1 Responsibility for management and prevention of erosion rests with the landowner of the land concerned.
- 3.2 The powers given to Local Authorities under the Act are permissive only, i.e. there is no duty placed upon the Local Authority to Act. The Authority:
- a) Carry out such coast protection work as appears to be necessary or expedient for the protection of any land in its area;
 - b) Carry out that work itself or engage someone else to carry out the work on its behalf;
 - c) Acquire land for, or associated with, such coast protection work;
 - d) Grant consent to coast protection works, other than work of maintenance or repair, to be carried out by others (and contribute to the cost of such works if appropriate). - As required by the Act, any works being carried out to provide coast protection facilities shall obtain the consent of the coast protection authority.
 - e) Require owners (etc.) to repair or maintain existing coast protection works (or the authority can carry out repairs itself and recover the cost of such repairs from the owner).

Where it appears to a coast protection authority that works are urgently necessary for the protection of land the authority can carry out repair works. The coast protection authority can take all necessary steps and carry out works without having served notice on the owners,

- g) Carry out survey and design works to prepare schemes for implementation.

4.0 MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

- 4.1 The Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure Services is responsible for implementing the Council's Coast Protection Policy.
- 4.2 The Head of Roads and Amenity Services has overall responsibility for ensuring that the Council's Coast Protection activities are carried out in line with the policy.
- 4.3 The Infrastructure Design unit is responsible for the day to day operation of the Council's Coast Protection policy. The unit is responsible to the Head of Roads and Amenity Services for the inspection and recording of the condition of the coast protection assets, the design, procurement and undertaking of any works required in accordance with the policy and allocated budget.

5.0 POLICY ON PRIORITIES

- 5.1 Each financial year the allocated coast protection budget will be divided between the following:-
Inspections and recording of asset information, planned works and emergency works.
- 5.2 Inspections shall be undertaken to establish a full inventory of all Roads and Amenity Services' coastal assets. The inspections shall record the condition and list any works required. The planned works programme shall be based on the condition of the assets and shall consist of value for money proportionate works. All locations where the rate of encroachment means that the road/infrastructure/property is in danger of loss/damage will be prioritised for treatment.
- 5.3 The emergency works shall be dealt with as the need arises. The extent of any emergency works are often as a result of a rough sea state and storm conditions. Random weather conditions make it difficult to accurately predict the extent and location of damage that can occur in any period of time.
- 5.4 Argyll and Bute has 4197km of coastline when measured at Mean High Water Springs. As at 4 September 2014, there is 214km of public road adopted by the Council with a centre line within 25m of the High Water mark. The coastal defences associated with this length of public road have an estimated replacement cost of £250m – £300m (based on full construction provision at an average height and construction type typically found in Argyll and Bute). The long term aim is to inspect these coastal defences every 2 years. One of the main tasks is to locate and record the condition of each coastal protection asset in the WDM database (the

software system used by the Council to hold inspection reports and enable asset management decisions to be made based on prolonging the life of coastal protection assets and mitigating the risk of unnecessary costs). The assets typically comprise retaining walls and other means of protection such as rip rap embankments or reinforced soil solutions such as gabion baskets and mattresses.

- 5.5 Each year the condition of the known assets will be reviewed and a programme of work prepared for appropriate repairs/renewals. Also to be included in this will be areas of coastline that do not have any means of protection but are considered to be at risk of encroachment or erosion. Business cases will be prepared if any proposed works are of the scale or nature that may justify capital expenditure. In general the priority for works to be funded from the Coast Protection Budget will be:-
1. Adopted public roads/footways maintained by Argyll and Bute Council;
 2. Amenity land, infrastructure and buildings owned by Argyll and Bute Council;
 3. Land maintained by the Council that is public open space, and is of benefit to the community but not necessarily owned by the Council;
 4. Other land open to the public;
 5. Other land – This would usually be limited to providing some advice to owners about how they may approach organising coast protection works. No expenditure on private land in this category will be made without appropriate authorisation through the Policy and Resources Committee.
- 5.5 In general, associated infrastructure, such as railings and parapets will be included as coastal assets. Adjacent assets such as parks, footways, lighting etc. will be excluded.
- 5.6 Repair and maintenance of coast protection works is the responsibility of the landowner except where government grant was made available for their construction.
- 5.7 The Council will require to consent to any works on other ground promoted by parties other than itself.

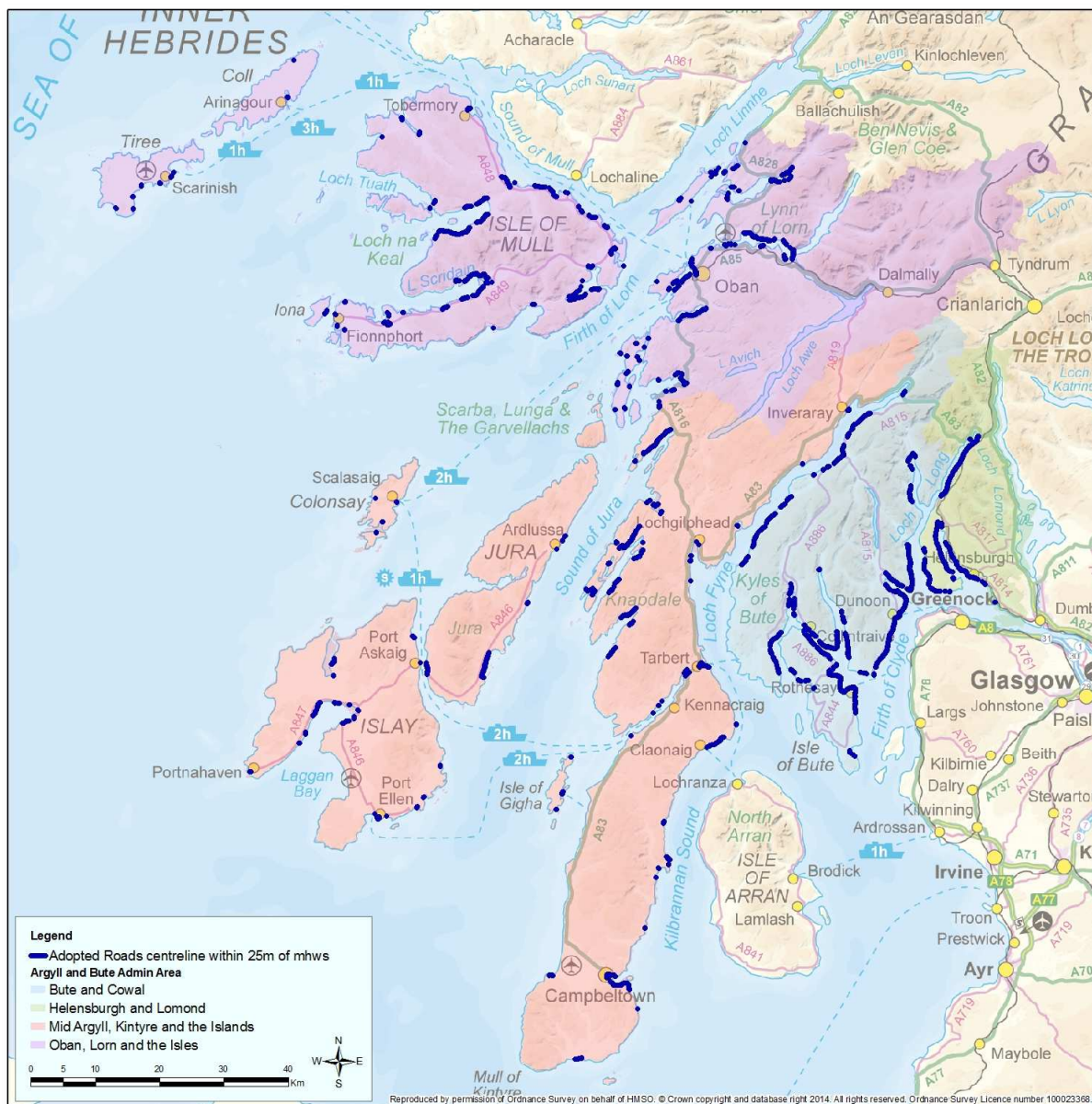
6.0 Other Matters

- 6.1 The Council's powers under the Act to carryout coast protection work do not extend to the removal of carcasses and litter from the shore and as such the cost of such works will not be met by the budget allocated for coast protection.
- 6.2 The Environmental Protection Act 1990 imposes a duty on Local Authorities and certain other land owners and occupiers to keep specified land clear of litter and refuse so far as practicable. Further information on the Council's power and duties in respect of litter on beaches can be found within 'The Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse (Scotland) 2006' guidance.
- 6.3 The responsibility for the carcasses of, whales less than 25 feet in length, and all porpoises, dolphins and sturgeons (cetaceans) found stranded dead on Scottish shores rests with the local authority, who may wish to arrange for their disposal.

- 6.4 The Scottish Government has first claim on all 'Royal Fish', being those stranded whales measuring more than 25 feet from the snout to the middle of the tail, found dead and stranded on the shoreline of Scotland. Where the Scottish Government does not wish to claim a Royal Fish, it will liaise with the Local Authority's Environment Health Department, who may wish to arrange for disposal of the carcass.
- 6.5 The Scottish Government has no legal obligation to assist with the costs of disposal of 'Royal Fish' but funding may be provided at its discretion to assist Local Authorities with difficult disposal cases.
- 6.6 Guidance in respect of the procedure to be followed upon the stranding of cetaceans and their disposal can be found in the 'ROYAL FISH: GUIDANCE FOR DEALING WITH STRANDED ROYAL FISH (e.g. WHALES OVER 25 FEET) IN SCOTTISH WATERS' issued by Marine Scotland

Appendix 1

Map of Argyll and Bute showing areas where the centre line of public roads is within 25m of Mean High Water Springs in plan view. Note that only roads where Argyll and Bute Council is Roads Authority (as at 4 September 2014) are shown.



ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL**ENVIRONMENT, DEVELOPMENT
AND INFRASTRUCTURE
COMMITTEE****Development and Infrastructure****13th April 2015**

Planning for Sustainable Economic Growth in Argyll and Bute

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The National Performance Framework states the Government's purpose is "*...to focus government and public services on creating a more successful country, with opportunities for all of Scotland to flourish, through increasing sustainable economic growth.*" This is translated into a series of Outcomes at a local level through the Argyll and Bute Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement 2013 – 2023.
- 1.3 The National Planning Framework states the Planning system is fundamental to achieving these Outcomes. Along with the Council's Economic Development Action Plan, the Local Development Plan and supporting Action Programme are fundamental documents and statements of policy which will facilitate the achievement of the Outcomes.
- 1.4 The Planning Service has adopted an "open for business" culture and approach. This is fully reflected in the up to date Local Development Plan which:
- identifies a very generous land supply with between 17-31 years housing land at current build rates and 90 hectares of employment land;
 - is actively pursuing development and promotion of a range of Strategic Business Sites; and
 - is promoting regeneration activity thus directly supporting the local building and construction industry.
- 1.5 Our performance is demonstrated in our annual Planning Performance Framework which has been commended by Scottish Government. It shows we:
- have delivered 632 housing consents in 2013-14;
 - have delivered in partnership with the SHIP 231 affordable houses during 2014/15 and should deliver upwards of 270 during 2015/18;
 - approve 97% of planning applications and do so quicker than the national average;
 - are exploring new ways to promote and secure investment such as delivering Masterplans for strategic sites, and adopting a proportionate approach to planning requirements; and
 - are committed to continually improving our Service in consultation with our customers.

- 1.6 The paper illustrates how we are working to achieve these Outcomes and the recommendation is that members note the report.

Planning for Sustainable Economic Growth in Argyll and Bute

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 At a local level through the Argyll and Bute Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement 2013 – 2023, national strategy is translated in to a range of objectives.
- 2.2 As stated in the National Planning Framework the Planning system is fundamental to achieving these outcomes. Along with the Council's Economic Development Action Plan, the Local Development Plan and supporting Action Programme are fundamental documents and statements of policy which will facilitate the achievement of the outcomes. These documents, aligned as they are to national and local priorities, dictate and guide how the Council plans for, pursues and facilitates sustainable economic growth in Argyll and Bute.
- 2.3 This paper aims to illustrate in summary how we are working to achieve these outcomes through implementing these policy documents and what challenges we are working to overcome.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Members note the content of this report.

4.0 DETAIL

A NATIONALLY INTEGRATED APPROACH

- 4.1 The National Performance Framework states the Government's purpose is "*...to focus government and public services on creating a more successful country, with opportunities for all of Scotland to flourish, through increasing sustainable economic growth.*" This is expressed spatially through the National Planning Framework 3 which highlights that the planning system contributes to all 16 National Outcomes.
- 4.2 Good planning creates opportunities for people to contribute to a growing, adaptable and productive economy. By allocating sites and creating places that are attractive to growing economic sectors, and enabling delivery of necessary infrastructure, planning can help provide the confidence required to secure private sector investment, thus

supporting innovation, creating employment and benefiting related businesses.

4.3 At a local level through the Argyll and Bute Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement 2013 – 2023, the national strategy is translated in to the following overall objective:

- *Argyll and Bute's economic success is built on a growing population;*

and this is then subsequently supported by the six long term outcomes including:

1. *The economy is diverse and thriving.*
2. *We have infrastructure that supports sustainable growth.*

4.4 As stated in the National Planning Framework the Planning system is fundamental to achieving these outcomes. Along with the Council's Economic Development Action Plan, the Local Development Plan and supporting Action Programme are fundamental documents and statements of policy which will facilitate the achievement of the outcomes. These documents, aligned as they are to national and local priorities, dictate and guide how the Council plans for, pursues and facilitates sustainable economic growth in Argyll and Bute.

4.5 This paper aims to illustrate in summary how we are working to achieve these outcomes through implementing these policy documents and what challenges we are working to overcome.

THE INTEGRATED STRATEGY

4.6 The Planning Service has adopted an "open for business" culture and approach. This is fully reflected in the Local Development Plan which has an overall vision:

- *Argyll and Bute is an economically successful, outward looking and highly adaptable area, which enjoys an outstanding natural and historic environment, where all people, working together, are able to meet their full potential and essential needs, locally as far as practicable, without prejudicing the quality of life in future generations.*

4.7 To deliver this vision the Local Development Plan:

- Identifies a very generous housing land supply which was considered recently by Scottish Government DPEA reporters to be both appropriate and sufficient to ensure that the assessed housing needs and demands within Argyll and Bute can be met.
- Identifies developable allocations for 4,500 housing units contributing to an overall established housing land supply of 8440 housing units

- Delivered in partnership with the SHIP 231 affordable houses during 2014/15 and should deliver upwards of 270 during 2015/18.
- Identifies 90 hectares of new industrial and business land, including significant new releases providing a flexible approach to sustainable economic growth in our fragile areas.
- Identifies and is actively pursuing development and promotion of a range of Strategic Business Sites distributed around Argyll and Bute's coast line which will tie in with a forthcoming Coastal Development Strategy to support Marine and Aquaculture industries.
- Makes land releases within Helensburgh Green Belt for the first time in over 15 years.
- Is actively preserving the Built Heritage and promoting regeneration activity which has a direct effect on the local building and construction industry and a wider stimulating trickle-down effect throughout the economy.
- Takes a proactive and innovative approach to Climate Change and Renewables, particularly through the agreement of the Renewable Energy Action Plan and ALIENERGY (Argyll, Lomond and the Islands Energy Agency) which are facilitating wider community benefits from renewables developments.
- Identifies 183 Potential Development Areas which are adding significant additional development flexibility, and 38 Areas for Action and 12 Strategic Masterplans

4.8 Examples of these and a great many other projects either instigated, supported, promoted or facilitated by the Local Development Plan are included in appendix A.

4.9 It is the key document for development in Argyll and Bute over the next five years, being the main consideration in determining planning applications and will support the Council in unlocking the development potential of the area which is in excess of £1 billion pounds.

WHAT WE ARE ACHIEVING

4.10 In order to demonstrate how we are achieving progress towards the national integrated approach outlined above, the planning service is required to produce an annual report to Scottish Government and the last report for 2013/14 can be found in the members' room. This report covers a broad range of performance measures covering a template devised by Heads of Planning Scotland and allows Scottish Government to compare our performance against other Scottish Authorities. It can also be found at the following link [PPF](#).

4.11 A review of our PPF was carried out by an independent consultant on behalf of the Scottish Government and was then considered by the Planning Minister – now Alex Neil MSP. The review was very positive and is included at Appendix 2. It stated:

- “We are encouraged by your outgoing approach to improving delivery of the planning service and commitment to improving Scottish planning services. It is clear you are committed to improving all areas of your service each year and that you wish to be at the forefront in introducing new working practices. ...your planning service works closely in partnership with business and public stakeholders to deliver economic development.”

4.12 The PPF shows:

- that we approved over 97% of planning applications during 2013/14 which was a small increase on the previous year and above the national average of 94%
- On average our decisions are made more quickly than ever before, and quicker than the national average.
- In 2013-14 we granted planning permission for 632 housing units.
- Demonstrating a proportional approach, we have relaxed affordable housing requirements in certain areas to increase flexibility for the development industry
- Where there are legal agreements to secure essential infrastructure or affordable housing we deliver these much faster than most local authorities concluding them on average in under 36 weeks compared to a national average of 61 weeks.
- In partnership with landowners and developers we are delivering masterplans for strategic development sites. This approach creates early certainty in design and layout and ultimately, creates places that are attractive to growing economic sectors, ensures delivery of necessary infrastructure and provides the confidence required to secure private sector investment, thus supporting innovation, creating employment and benefiting related businesses.
- Customer satisfaction surveys of applicants indicate 92% of respondents are satisfied or very satisfied with the service they receive.

A CHALLENGING CONTEXT

4.13 This positive performance must always be set in the context of the wider development industry and its activity on the ground.

- 4.14 In 2013-14 although we granted consent for 632 houses, only 239 housing units were constructed and completed during the same year. This is a trend that has been replicated for at least five years. Over that period on average only 33% of planning consents granted have been built to completion.
- Currently on average only one in three houses granted planning consent is built to completion.
- 4.15 It has been argued in certain quarters that this is because the planning permissions granted contain conditions which prevent them being implemented.
- 4.16 There is however, no evidence to support that argument. To the contrary, in 2014 we received only 19 requests to vary conditions attached to approved applications and 1 appeal against a condition. Of those only 3 were refused. This is a clear indication the vast majority of conditions are to the satisfaction of the applicants. In addition we use a list of Standard Conditions to give certainty and consistency to developers.
- 4.17 The reality is that in the context of an average annual construction rate of 265 houses over the last five years, there is an allocated land supply for 4500 houses which would be equivalent to 17 years at the current build rate, and an Established Housing land supply (including 2100 outstanding planning consents) for 8440 houses which would be equivalent to 31 years at that build rate. This gives a very significant degree of flexibility in the housing land market, with a great variety of choice in development opportunities.
- At current build rates we have 17-31 years housing land supply.
- 4.18 Despite this flexibility there are other factors which for the time being are likely to restrict any acceleration in the rate of housing construction. There can be no argument that the housing market and the wider development industry has slowed markedly since 2008 and; although there has been an improvement over the last 12 months, this has been quite varied by region and sector and has not been widely felt in rural Scotland or Argyll and Bute. This is reflected in the Clyde Valley City Region Plan which states there “...*has been significant reductions in the volume of house building since...2008 with private sector completions down 60%.*”
- 4.19 The reasons for the slow- down and the very slow recovery are extremely complex and varied but may, in part, be attributed to a combination of the following factors:
- the restricted availability of finance, both for development, and purchase;
 - the cost of finance, high for smaller enterprises even though we have a low base rate, partly hidden in arrangement fees;

- reduced and static land values which may mean many sites that transacted during pre-2008 are still in deficit value, and some sites which are in long term ownership may be held off-market until property prices recover an upward trend;
- there is a national and indeed international financial and housing supply crisis with a significant loss of confidence. This has not yet been repaired throughout the UK (with the exception of London) and is evidenced by continuing government schemes to publicly stimulate the housing market; and
- Stamp Duty is about to be replaced by Land Transaction Tax causing uncertainty and reduced activity in the market.

WHAT MORE CAN WE DO?

- 4.20 Publish a Key Sites Strategic Action Programme which will identify in detail the most important development opportunities within Argyll and Bute, explain the issues in bringing them forward and be used to promote their development.
- 4.21 Set up an internal Task Force to focus on selected Key Sites with a view to identifying and overcoming challenges to their implementation in partnership with other public and private sector organisations. This could include how and if the Council and or other public sector agencies might use innovative ways to facilitate development of stalled development sites (buying land, servicing sites, financing development etc...).
- 4.22 We need to explore the issues at a strategic level in the new Main Issues Report of the next Local Development Plan. These might include: settlement strategy and approach to rural development; delivering employment land; community plans; alternative mechanisms for delivery of affordable housing; strategic growth in Oban and Helensburgh.
- 4.23 Review the Housing Needs and Demands Assessment to ensure its continuing validity and appropriateness.
- 4.24 We can vigorously review our land supply to ensure we are not allocating sites which are unlikely to come forward for development due to intransigence on the part of the landowner in making sites available.
- 4.25 We can continue to develop a proportionate approach to planning requirements such as relaxing affordable housing requirements and developing an incremental scale of road adoption standards
- 4.25 Continue to improve a two way conversation with our customers and the development industry, particularly through:
- Developing our use of social media.
 - Continuing to hold user forums including customers who frequently submit planning applications to identify areas for improvement in our service.

5.0 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 The National Planning Performance Framework and National Planning Strategy set out a strategy and objectives to promote and achieve sustainable economic growth. This is translated to a Local Level through the Argyll and Bute Single Outcome Agreement.
- 5.2 The national strategy recognises the fundamental importance of the planning process in achieving these objectives. Reflecting this the Local Development Plan is strongly aligned with the achievement of these objectives.
- 5.3 It sets out a vision of how we will plan for and achieve sustainable economic growth and maps out in detail how when and where that plan will be delivered.
- 5.4 The Planning Service's performance in achieving these objectives is now nationally monitored through the Planning Performance Framework and compared with other Local Authorities. To date the performance we are achieving and have demonstrated in our PPF is amongst the best performing authorities and is acknowledged as contributing in partnership with business and public stakeholders to delivering economic development.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Policy Address issues raised through the next Main Issues Report which will be required to initiate preparation of the 2020 Local Development Plan. Create Key Sites Task Force
- 6.2 Financial Ensure up to date LDP and planning service performance to avoid the newly implemented Penalty Clause which would affect the level of planning fees chargeable.
- 6.3 Legal None as a result of this report
- 6.4 HR None as a result of this report
- 6.5 Equalities None as a result of this report
- 6.6 Risk None as a result of this report
- 6.7 Customer Service None as a result of this report

7.0 APPENDICES

- 7.1 Appendix 1 – Economic Development Projects.
- 7.2 Appendix 2 – Scottish Government Review of Argyll and Bute PPF Report.

Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure Services

Pippa Milne

11th March 2015

Policy Lead

CLlr David Kinniburgh

For further information contact:

Matt Mulderrig, Development Policy Manager: Tel: 01436 658925

Appendix 1 – Economic Development Projects.

Oban, Lorn and the Isles

Saulmore golf course, marina and hotel on site by April
Tom Laith Development full planning awaiting finance;
New hotel north pier – planning in for alteration.
Stafford street Oban public realm phase 1 - on site - £650,000 project;
Public Realm Phase 2 - Scheduled to start in Aug/September 2015 – Circa £2.6 - £3 million project;
North Pier Maritime Visitors Facility – Awaiting approval to tender - £1.6 million project;
Corran Halls Oban refurbishment – 2015;
Oban business park at the airport – planned start September;
Kirk Rd, Dunbeg – start dependent on CPO - £2.7 million scheme;
New Council road depot at Oban airport;
Seaweed factory at Barcaldine – final finance negotiations multi million pound investment;
5 affordable houses on Iona to start in 2015;

Kerrera marina – planning consent granted water constraint;
Dunstaffnage marina scoping expansion for 2015;
Liddell supermarket planning application lodged -2015;
Dunstaffnage phase 2 housing – 25 affordable houses;
New Oban High School Council funded project;
New class 4 offices under construction on business allocation – HIE funded.
Shuna south-west new marine salmon farm - under construction
Next Generation Broadband – H&I – A85 corridor and Seil areas
Giga Plus Argyll Community Broadband Project
Vodafone Rural – Tiree, Seil, Luing, Dunbeg, Connel
SG Mobile Pilot – Coll
Mobile Infrastructure Project – Clachan Seil, Ellenabeich/Balvicar, Bunessan, Cuan Ferry – IF technical solution can be found
Local Energy Challenge Fund Bid – ACCESS (Mull) and Microgrid Accelerator (Dalavich)

Maki

50 Main Street, Campbeltown - under construction;
Campbeltown cinema – scheduled refurb 2015;
Campbeltown Town Hall refurb – under construction;
Campbeltown Berthing Facility – Under Construction – Estimated completion date May 2015- £1.5 million project;
Campbeltown old quay and fish market nearing completion;
Campbeltown 6 business units - under construction;

Campbeltown grammar school – start date?;
Campbeltown CARS phase 2 – Historic Scotland funding to be announced in March 2015;
Campbeltown former call centre new council offices;
Campbeltown old hospital ward 1 converted to council offices;
MERL expansion value £322k HIE investment;
Machrihanish shared depot with Transport Scotland – in planning;
Machrihanish/Campbeltown SPACEPORT bid round 2 – multi billion pound proposal;
Machrihanish NIRI aquaculture investment – awaiting funding agreement;
Tangy wind farm re-powering – in planning;
Escairt wind farm - in planning;
Cour Windfarm – SSE – construction starting 2015;
RES Freasdail wind farm – due to commence 2015;
RES Blary Hill wind farm - in planning
Minard wind farm under construction;
Carradale grid upgrade under construction - £200 million project;
Tarbert marina expansion 500k coastal communities fund;
Islay private house upgrade on site to create 5 star hotel;
New Distillery being considered for Port Ellen;
Sound of Islay Tidal Array 10 MW awaiting funding approval;
Jura Ardfin Estate golf course and luxury accommodation £50 million project on site;
Jura Craighouse Hotel extension on site;

Bowmore expansion phase 1 nearing completion 20 affordable houses phase 2 funded;
Bruichladdich bonded warehouses - in planning
Inveraray expansion phase 1 under construction 12 affordable houses/flats; phase 2 new coop to commence shortly;
Inveraray CARS buildings refurbishment with a minimum of 2 key buildings on site in 2015;
Kilmory Industrial Estate expansion being scoped with private owner and HIE;
Yot Spot Ardrishaig chandlery under construction;
Clock Lodge refurb with Harbro new shop expected start 2015 - water constraint;
6 affordable houses nearing completion Ardfern;
Lochgilphead - new Argyll and Bute Hospital start on site 2016;
Extension to Srondoire Bay marine fish farm, Loch Fyne -in planning
Kimichael Glassary footpath on site in February £400k project Sustrans funding;
A83 £900k investment by Transport Scotland in 2015 south of Kennacraig;
Next Generation Broadband – H&I – Campbeltown exchange area
Gigha Plus Argyll Community Broadband Project
Vodafone Rural – Ardfern, Ormsary
Mobile Infrastructure Project – Crinan, Clachan, Achnamara, Southend – IF technical solution can be found
Cour Windfarm – SSE – construction starting 2015
Local Energy Challenge Fund Bid – Microgrid Accelerator (Machrihanish)
Inveraray to Crossaig Overhead Power Line Upgrade – planning stage

Helensburgh and Lomond

CHORD Helensburgh Public Realm works entering final phase - £7.2 million budget;
Helensburgh Pierhead development – New leisure swimming pool facility, flood defences and public realm works – Circa £18 million development;
East Clyde Street Council Offices nearing completion;
East King Street 24 flats shortly to start
Dunbritton HA;
Succoth Arrochar 26 houses shortly to start on site – Dunbritton HA;
Helensburgh Golf course 15 to 18 houses shortly to start Dunbritton HA;
Gasometer site proposal for commuter car park funding application to transport Scotland - £400k project;
Sawmill site pre planning for 150 houses and road access to industrial site;
Kirkton Farm site in Cardross pre planning for 150 houses with road improvements;
Hermitage former school site closing date for offers 13 th February 70 house development;
Helensburgh Golf Course dunbritton 15 affordable houses;
Hermitage Park refurb stage 2 application to HLF - £2 million development;
The Tower and submarine Museum Helensburgh Town Centre under construction, 450k project council, MoD and coastal communities fund;
NVA Cardross St Peters Seminary under construction with first phase – multi million pound project;
Maritime Change Project estimated value £1.3 billion project - projects on site, post and pre planning stages;
Helensburgh innovation centre feasibility stage looking at 1 East Princes Street;
Helensburgh Sustrans upgrade on site £500k; Cardross to Dumbarton cycle path upgrade on site;
Shopfront upgrades to 17 shops in Helensburgh on site and in post and pre planning - £140k;
Helensburgh public art on site - £100k;
Helensburgh town centre free WI FI scoping stage;
A 82 upgrade Crianlarich by pass completed; Pulpit Rock under construction; feasibility underway for £18 million pound improvements north of Tarmachan;
A 83 additional £3 million of upgrades announced by Transport Scotland;
Ben More marina, hotel and luxury housing awaiting finance- multi million pound development;
Next Generation Broadband – RoS – most exchange areas
Rollout of 4G by Vodafone & O2

Bute and Cowal

Pavillion refurb and creation of community hub - on site in 2016 - Council, RCGF, Coastal Communities Fund ,HIE and HLF funding secured - Subject to 2.6 million pounds funding - £9.2 million project;
Rothesay THI and CARs nearing completion targets meet – new tesco scheduled to open in 2015 on former guildford square gap site;
Royal Hotel secured structural integrity of building through council investment;
Mount Stuart £8.5 million investment in estate buildings and better tourism offer on site;
Queens Hall Dunoon skills and wellbeing centre out to tender in 2015 (£9.5 million project);

Dunoon pre CARS bid feasibility work - £30k;
Wooden Pier refurbishment start scheduled for 2015 (£2.85 million committed for Phase 1);
Burgh Halls refurb and conversion to community arts centre;
17 affordable houses St. Cuthberts fyne home development;
Dunoon Sustrans upgrade to Esplanade on site – value £500k;
Dunoon Primary school upgrade - £7 million investment;
Dunoon new unit for children in need of care - £ 1 million investment;
Ardynne pre planning scoping for aquaculture business site – multi million pound investment with HIE input;
Sandbank industrial site new advanced offices on site –HIE/ERDF investment £1.9 million;
Cairndow community forest buyout and MERK 1 MW hydro scheme under construction;
Portnavadie latest phase of development £7 million plus spa, energy centre and workers accommodation on site with HIE input;
Cowal Way upgrade 300k coastal communities fund;

Appendix 2 – Scottish Government Review of Argyll and Bute PPF Report.

This page is intentionally left blank

Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Communities and Pensioners' Rights
Alex Neil MSP

T: 0300 244 4000
E: scottish.ministers@scotland.gsi.gov.uk



Ms Sally Loudon
Chief Executive
Argyll and Bute Council

In 2014 Scotland Welcomes the
World



11 December 2014

Dear Ms Loudon

PLANNING PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK 2013/14

Thank you for submitting your authority's annual Planning Performance Framework (PPF) report covering the period April 2013 to March 2014.

I am delighted to have planning within my portfolio and I am pleased to see that continued progress is generally being made across the country to improve planning performance.

Please find enclosed feedback on your 2013/14 PPF, which has been prepared by a Scottish Government contractor, and is based on the evidence provided within your report. Contact details for my officials are available in the feedback report should you wish to clarify any element of the contractors commentary. We will be publishing an Annual Performance Report in the new year which will summarise performance across the country against the key markers of performance.

The quality of PPF reporting has significantly improved with many PPF reports setting out a very clear story of how the service is operating and their priority actions for improvement. There is still some inconsistency in planning authority decision making timescales across the country and I look forward to seeing progress in the next set of performance statistics.

You will be aware that Section 55 of the Regulatory Reform (Scotland) Act commenced on 30 June 2014. It provides Scottish Ministers with powers to vary the planning application fee payable to different planning authorities where the functions of a planning authority are not being, or have not been, satisfactorily performed. The High Level Group on Performance has been considering the process which would be used to determine if any authorities have not satisfactorily performed. It is hoped to

finalise that process at our next meeting in February 2015. Please note that following the last meeting, the preferred option was to base the process on decision making statistics alone using the annual statistics for the period 2014/15. I shall write again to planning authority Heads of Planning in February to update them on discussions at the High Level meeting. COSLA, HOPS, SOLACE, SOLAR, the RTPi and key agencies are all represented on this group.

I am determined to keep up the momentum with the performance agenda, maintaining continual improvement and enhancing the reputation of our planning service. I look forward to working with you to achieve this shared goal.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Neil', written in a cursive style.

ALEX NEIL

Cc: Angus Gilmour, Head of Planning and Regulatory Services

PLANNING PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK: 2013-14

FEEDBACK REPORT: **Argyll and Bute Council**

Date performance report due: 30 September 2014

Date of receipt of report: 26 September 2014

National Headline Indicators

- We welcome confirmation that your next LDP is on track for adoption within the statutory 5-year cycle. Your work on Supplementary Planning Guidance and the engagement with your partners for delivery of the LDP demonstrates a clear understanding by your Council of the importance of adopted plans and guidance.
- You have demonstrated the importance of working with other partners for the delivery of the wider Council objectives as part of the development plan.
- Your expansion of your pre-application service, as shown in the case studies, continues to grow bringing real benefits in application handling and we support the increased and on-going take-up of this service.
- The successful introduction and use of Processing Agreement and the recognition of their value and benefit are welcomed. We look forward to a continuing expansion of this service, including publication on the web.
- Again, approval and delegation rates have been a few percentage points above national levels this year. These can contribute towards confidence and a degree of certainty in your development management service.
- We welcome, again, the improvements in your average decision-making timescales across the categories. Your major applications team has been successful in reducing the average timescales which is now not significantly above the Scottish average. The time taken to decide your local applications is now less than the national average. Care should be taken in the use of the correct figures from the “all applications” data set.
- The average time to decide major developments and local applications subject to legal agreements has improved despite the clearing of the legacy cases; this is very welcome as is the internal audit in respect of planning obligations.
- We note your enforcement charter is currently under review. You demonstrate a commitment to positive rather than reactive monitoring of development which is very welcome. A sharing and discussion of your progress with this work may be very beneficial to other authorities and services.

Defining and measuring a high-quality planning service

- Again this section of your report is very well structured, giving a clear indication under each of the headings about the culture and objectives within the authority, helpfully supported by a good range of case studies and illustrations to demonstrate how this has been put into practice.

- Your Open for Business approach is clearly demonstrated, your commitment to working closely with others is commended particularly your Council's link between the LDP, action plans and the single outcome agreement.
- Your case studies demonstrate how your planning service works closely in partnership with business and public sector stakeholders to deliver economic development. We were pleased to see the case study showing that your pre-application service and the proactive management of cases by your planning staff demonstrate your Council's commitment to enabling development. Your report has illustrated a clear understanding of role of the planning service in delivering high quality development. You show that the LDP, design guides, supplementary guidance, policies and master plans have delivered not only quality design for individual proposals but also for existing settlements. The involvement of the Committee with review site visits and your work with other bodies will enhance this further.
- Certainty for economic development is central to delivering a high quality planning service, this you have again demonstrated. Your up-to-date development plan and emerging LDP and supplementary planning guidance is of benefit and we were pleased to see this illustrated by a case study.
- Your high approval rates, higher than average appeal successes and good early engagement can all contribute to a level of certainty and confidence in reliable, consistent decision-making. You have provided a case study noting the benefits of Processing Agreements and how you have been offering them to prospective applicants. Your intention to publicise the benefits of processing agreements is noted, this should also include advice on your website.
- We are pleased to see that you are committed to all of your customers and seek to publicise this with your Communication Team. Your commitment to Customer Service whereby you encourage customer feedback, hold user forums and staff training demonstrates your commitment.
- Your proactive engagement with town centre groups prior to enforcement demonstrates a positive approach and you have provided a case study that indicates its success.
- We note your on-going approach to efficient and effective decisions, particularly your scheme of delegation review and the virtual site visit described in your case study. In future the figures used should be based on the 'all applications' figures rather than those decided since August 2009. Continual improvement is clear as demonstrated in your review of the Validation Standards with HoPS.
- It is interesting to note the online delivery of team meeting and case conferences. You have demonstrated that you have management structures in place to the benefit of your customers and staff whilst delivering a competent planning service.
- We also welcome your wide availability of learning opportunities and programmes offered to staff and elected members to continue their individual development of relevant skills and knowledge.

Service improvements 2013-14: delivery

- We welcome the completion of most of your committed improvement actions during the year, with some work continuing and reflected in your commitments for the year ahead.

Service improvement commitments 2014-15

- You have again committed to a good range of activities geared towards continuous improvement.

Conclusion

- You have produced a very thorough, positive and well-written report, with very good use of case studies as an evidence base for the performance and service standards you have achieved. This has shown you to be working well with the performance and customer service culture whilst developing the experience of your elected members and staff alike.
- From the information detailed you are on course to successfully replace your current LDP before the five year period has expired, this is especially welcome and your efforts are commended.
- Whilst your Enforcement Charter at the time of the report was more than two years old, your approach to reviewing the whole process is welcomed.
- We are encouraged by your outgoing approach to improving the delivery of the planning service and commitment to improving Scottish planning services. It is clear that you are committed to improving all areas of your service each year and that you wish to be at the forefront in introducing new working practices, this is welcome and we look forward to seeing it continue.

The feedback in this report is based solely on the information provided within your Planning Performance Framework Report covering the period April 2013 to March 2014.

If you need to clarify any aspect of the report please contact us on 0131 244 7148 or email Chief.Planner@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Please note that Planning Performance Framework Reports covering the period April 2014 to March 2015 are due to be submitted to the Scottish Government by 31 July 2015.

PERFORMANCE MARKERS REPORT 2013-14

Name of planning authority: **Argyll and Bute Council**

The High Level Group on Performance agreed a set of performance markers. We have assessed your report against those markers to give an indication of priority areas for improvement action. The high level group will monitor and evaluate how the key markers have been reported and the value which they have added.

The Red, Amber, Green ratings are based on the evidence provided within the PPF reports. Where no information or insufficient evidence has been provided, a 'red' marking has been allocated.

No.	Performance Marker	RAG rating	Comments
1	<p>Decision-making: continuous reduction of average timescales for all development categories [Q1 - Q4]</p>	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major Developments <p>Average timescales have improved slightly from last year going from 88.2 weeks to 59.1 weeks. However this still remains worse than the national average of 53.8 weeks.</p> <p>We note that the timescales are due to the clearing of legacy cases.</p> <p>RAG = Amber</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local (Non-Householder) Developments <p>Average timescales have slightly improved since last year going from 14.0 weeks to 13.1 weeks. This remains better than the national average of 14.3 weeks.</p> <p>RAG = Green</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Householder Developments <p>Average timescales have improved since last year from 8.3 weeks to 7.2 weeks which is better than the national average of 7.7 weeks.</p> <p>RAG = Green</p> <p>We note that there have been reductions in timescales for householder and non-householder applications.</p>

			<p>We also note a considerable reduction in timescales for applications subject to legal agreements.</p> <p>TOTAL RAG = Green</p> <p>Some of the figures included in the National Headline Indicators, report and official statistics refer to the post 2009 data rather than “all data”.</p>
2	<p>Processing agreements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> offer to all prospective applicants for major development planning applications; and availability publicised on website 	Amber	<p>5 applications with processing agreements were decided during the year within the agreed time period.</p> <p>No evidence submitted to show the availability is publicised on your website.</p>
3	<p>Early collaboration with applicants and consultees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> availability and promotion of pre-application discussions for all prospective applications; and clear and proportionate requests for supporting information 	Amber	<p>Continued progress in pre-application advice, last year there were 18.4% of applications, this year 19.4%.</p> <p>The report and case studies submitted demonstrate a commitment to early engagement through ‘Firm Foundations’ approach. The commitment to a prompt response time of 20 days is welcomed.</p> <p>No evidence in respect of a proportionate approach to requests for supporting information</p>
4	<p>Legal agreements: conclude (or reconsider) applications after resolving to grant permission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> reducing number of live applications more than 6 months after resolution to grant (from last reporting period) 	Amber	<p>No details were submitted on the numbers of live applications and how they have been reduced</p> <p>Based upon the annual planning authority performance statistics for ‘all applications’ 2013/14:</p> <p>Average timescale for the two major applications subject to legal agreements is worse at 110 weeks than the national average of 87.5 weeks but is attributed to a specific case as detailed.</p> <p>The average time for Local applications is better at 44.8 weeks than the national average of 66.1 weeks and is welcomed.</p>

5	Enforcement charter updated / re-published within last 2 years	Green	We note your enforcement charter is currently under review. It was published in August 2012, which makes it 1 year and 7 months old at the end of the reporting year, not 2 years old as reported in the National Headline Indicators.
6	Continuous improvement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • progress/improvement in relation to PPF National Headline Indicators; and • progress ambitious and relevant service improvement commitments identified through PPF report 	Green	Progress made across NHIs, including LDP reaching adoption stage, introduction of “Firm Foundations” and faster than Scottish average in decision-making. Scope for continued progress and improvement next year particularly in production of Enforcement Charter. Identified service improvements completed; some underway and some on-going.
7	Local development plan less than 5 years since adoption	Green	Local plan 4 years since adoption.
8	Development plan scheme – next LDP: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • on course for adoption within 5 years of current plan(s) adoption; and • project planned and expected to be delivered to planned timescale 	Green	Development Plan Scheme notes on track to deliver LDP within the 5-year cycle.
9	Elected members engaged early (pre-MIR) in development plan preparation – <i>if plan has been at pre-MIR stage during reporting year</i>	N/A	
10	Cross sector stakeholders* engaged early (pre-MIR) in development plan preparation – <i>if plan has been at pre-MIR stage during reporting year</i> <i>*including industry, agencies and Scottish Government</i>	N/A	
11	Regular and proportionate policy advice produced on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • information required to support applications; and • expected developer contributions 	Amber	Regular and proportionate policy advice produced on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • information required to support applications The introduction of your pre-application service “Planning for Firm Foundations” has provided advice for Major applications, and advice and guidance for business and industry development. The case studies demonstrate that the advice is proportionate and has helped improve certainty. RAG = Green

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expected developer contributions <p>Advised that the consolidated developer contributions advice is now complete but no evidence provided in report apart from one case study.</p> <p>RAG = Red</p> <p>TOTAL RAG = Amber</p>
12	Corporate working across services to improve outputs and services for customer benefit (for example: protocols; joined-up services; single contact arrangements; joint pre-application advice)	Green	Good evidence of corporate working, both in terms of general practice such as case conferences and working groups and also in case studies demonstrating practical examples of partnership working to deliver objectives.
13	Sharing good practice, skills and knowledge between authorities	Green	<p>Involvement in benchmarking groups with other authorities and actively within HOPS in relation to validation.</p> <p>Sharing of financial information with your benchmarking club is noted as is your annual two day meeting with Highlands and Islands planning authorities.</p>
14	Stalled sites / legacy cases: conclusion or withdrawal of old planning applications and reducing number of live applications more than one year old	Green	Very good evidence of a successful project such that only 8 remained at the start of the year 2013/14
15	<p>Developer contributions: clear and proportionate expectations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> set out in development plan (and/or emerging plan); and in pre-application discussions 	Amber	<p>Developer contributions: clear and proportionate expectations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> set out in development plan (and/or emerging plan); and <p>Case study example on affordable housing commuted payment guidance demonstrates that non statutory Supplementary Guidance has led to a more standardised approach for the delivery of affordable housing.</p> <p>No reference in the report to how other types of developer contributions are set out in the development plan. If none are proposed this should be explained in future reports.</p> <p>RAG = Amber</p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• in pre-application discussions <p>No evidence in case studies as to the type and level of contribution agreed at the pre application stage or as part of a processing agreement.</p> <p>RAG = Amber</p> <p>TOTAL RAG = Amber</p>
--	--	--	---

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL**Environment, Development and
Infrastructure Committee****Economic Development and
Strategic Transportation/Planning****13th April 2015**

Argyll and the Isles Coast and Countryside Trust – Progress Report

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report details the progress and future plans of Argyll and the Isles Coast and Countryside Trust (ACT). Argyll and Bute Council confirmed support for ACT in December 2012, a Development Officer was appointed in September 2013 for an initial 18 months and ACT was formally launched in April 2014.
- 1.2 A paper to SMT in November 2014 outlined ACT's intention to achieve charitable status, draw up a 3-year business and marketing plan, establish a brand identity and online presence, open a membership scheme and introduce the charity with a programme of launch events. These objectives have been achieved and ACT is moving towards a second phase of development.
- 1.3 Approaching the end of its first year in operation ACT has delivered and is developing a range of projects in partnership with many organisations across Argyll and Bute. Its key role is as a strategic and independent facilitator, combining existing and new projects resulting in increased and broader ranging project benefits and greater capacity and chances of achieving sustainability for initiatives across the area.
- 1.3 After one year in operation ACT has secured more external project funding than the core funding agencies have collectively contributed for its initial three years.
- 1.4 Securing ongoing core funding is still proving challenging and all opportunities for income generation are being pursued.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

This paper is for noting.

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

**Environment, Development and
Infrastructure Committee**

**Economic Development and
Strategic Transportation/Planning**

9th April 2015

Argyll and the Isles Coast and Countryside Trust – Progress Report

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Argyll and Bute Council, Scottish Natural Heritage, Forestry Commission Scotland and NHS Highland confirmed their commitment to support ACT in December 2012 as a result of recommendations identified through an extensive consultation and Feasibility Study. A Development Officer was appointed in September 2013 and the Trust was formally launched in April 2014. www.act-now.org.uk
- 1.2 ACT has been awarded charitable status and is established as a SCIO with a Board made up of community and agency representatives supported by an Advisory Group. ACT has one member of staff who works from SNH offices in Lochgilphead.
- 1.3 ACT has the following objectives which align with Argyll and Bute's Single Outcome Agreement, particularly Objectives 1, 2 and 3 and 5.
- To care for and enhance our environment - working strategically and locally.
 - To encourage people to enjoy and benefit from our environment.
 - To encourage investment that will improve our environment.
 - To share ideas on how to care for, enhance and enjoy our environment.
 - To increase opportunities for local people such as work, training and volunteering.
 - To work in partnership with individuals or groups with an interest in our environment.
- 1.4 Throughout its first year of operation, the key role which has emerged for ACT is as an independent and strategic body facilitating projects across the area.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 This paper is for noting.

3.0 DETAIL

- 4.1 In its first year of operation, ACT has achieved the following:

4.1.1 Brand identity, website and social media presence, governance and management procedures



4.1.2 Your Act/Act Alfresco

Two very successful social media based campaigns designed to raise awareness of ACT and distribute seedcorn funding to groups across the area.



Lorn Natural History Group “Acting Alfresco” and North Bute Primary School entering “Your Act” competition.

4.1.3 Kilmartin Glen Trails

Initially a path upgrade project, which was developed to include setting a series of geocaches which have proved to be extremely popular, and running a programme of art workshops to create “treasures” to be found on our upgraded and newly signed routes. We then organised a programme of guided summer walks to further promote use of the routes and encourage physical activity.

4.1.4 Partnerships

ACT has established a positive relationship with many of the key and emerging groups and projects across the area, working to establish where and if ACT can support, develop or share what they are doing.

A broad range of projects have been proposed and there has generally been a very positive response to the launch of ACT.

4.2 Concerns raised in our first year have been:

- Core funding – from a funder’s perspective, adding this element makes our project costs high. From a project group’s perspective it can create mistrust. Therefore securing ACT Core Funds is proving challenging if we want to work as positively as we can with funders and project groups.
- Competition for funding – we have endeavoured not to compete against community or local groups. For this reason we have avoided certain funding streams, and only progressed projects where we can ensure the benefits will be widespread and that our approach is strategic and aligns

closely with SOA objectives.

4.3 The following projects are at final stage of development due for implementation during 2015/16.

4.3.1 ACT Project Teams

ACT Project Team is a social enterprise trading within ACT charity which will be ready for implementation early summer 2015. There will be teams based in Oban and Helensburgh delivering access and environmental projects and practical work around social housing developments. ACT has worked with West Highland Housing Association, Dunbritton Housing Association, the Employability Teams, SNH, FCS and Argyll and Bute Council to develop the proposal which from the outset will provide work placements for 4 x environmental assistants (which can be taken up by apprentices, volunteers and long term unemployed), provide 4 x 12-month trainee placements plus 2 supervisors and 1 x manager post.

4.3.2 The model is designed to become self-sufficient over three years, and build towards establishing additional units across Argyll and Bute. ACT Project Teams are being incorporated as an element in other Argyll and Bute Council funding projects, including Economic Development's European Social Fund bid.

4.3.3 Rhododendron Management

We will submit two funding applications addressing rhododendron management. One is to Heritage Lottery Fund, which will consolidate and progress with work started by FCS in Glen Creran with a view to completely eradicating the species within that area.

The second proposal is to make an application for Interreg funds to develop a suite of approaches to community rhododendron management at a range of sites across Argyll. We are working with community groups, FCS, SNH, Argyll Fisheries Trust and Argyll and Bute Council's European Funding Unit to develop this project which if the bid is successful would launch in Spring 2016.

4.4 Branching out

Branching Out is an innovative partnership programme between FCS and NHS which provides woodland activities on referral for mental health services which has proved very successful in Perthshire and Highland. We have developed a three year proposal to tailor the programme for Argyll, establish a network of trained leaders and consolidate links with Community Health Mental Teams, Healthy Living Networks and Community Woodlands Association.

4.5 Projects under development include:

Tighnabruaich Path Network - improving a network of well signposted, mapped and maintained paths around the Tighnabruaich area. We hope to attract external and developer funding for the works and use the pilot project as a showcase for other communities to refer to and deliver in their own areas.

Long Distance Routes – we are working with a number of the long distance routes in Argyll and would like to further develop ideas to address the collective

maintenance, marketing and improvement needs that the routes have to contend with.

Your Act/Alfresco Campaign 2015

Following the success of our 2014 campaigns, we will be launching one for Spring/Summer 2015 at our AGM on May 15th at Portavadie Marina.

4.5 Finance

4.5.1 Agency contributions:

following confirmed in 2013 for core and project funds until September 2016:

Argyll and Bute Council	£42,000
Forestry Commission Scotland	£25,000
Scottish Natural Heritage	£30,000
NHS Highland	£30,000

4.5.2 Additional financial support for specific projects has been awarded:

ACT Project Teams

SNH	£20,000
FCS	£20,000
Argyll and Bute Council	£20,000
People in Communities Fund	£131,530
Skills Development Scotland	£8400
WHHA/Dunbritton Housing Association	£46,000

Oban- Tyndrum Route

SNH	£15,000 (tbc)
Smarter Choices, Smarter Places (ScotGov)	£15,000

Kilmartin Glen Trails/ACT Summer Walks

Awards for All	£10,000
A&BC Access/CWSS	£4,000
Dalriada Project	£500
FCS	£4314
Paths for All	£550
Heart of Argyll Tourism Alliance	£500
NHS Highland	£500

4.5.3 **Income generation**

A source of ongoing income would relieve pressure on project funding applications and on ACT's supporting agencies. All renewables developers have been written to asking if either they could contribute to ACT, or could discuss community investment options. ACT is one of four bodies listed in the "Review of the Argyll and Bute Guidance on Community Benefits from Onshore Renewable Energy" as a potential recipient of regional funds. (Review currently open for consultation).

4.5.4 **Memberships and donations**

Membership fees have been set low (£5) in order to encourage take up. Non-Argyll residents are able to become “friends of ACT”. We are currently developing a range of membership benefits.

4.6 **Board and Staff**

There have been three changes in Board members since the initial 8 Trustees were appointed.

Charles Dixon-Spain and Hugh Fife have stood down due to other commitments, and Carol Muir of NHS has moved to another post and has handed over her duties to Yennie Van Oostende, NHS Health Improvement Specialist based on Bute. New Board members are Grace Ferguson, Consultant Psychiatrist and Clinical Director of Mental Health Services for Argyll and Bute Hospital (retired), Fiona MacPhail of Tighnabruaich Sailing School and member of Argyll of the Isles Tourism Co-operative has also joined.

ACT Development Officer (Julie Young, on secondment from Argyll and Bute Council) initial 18 month contract has been continued until September 2016.

5.0 **CONCLUSION**

- 5.1 ACT has met its initial targets and is now a firmly established community led partnership that is helping to deliver a number of key SOA outcomes. ACT is uniquely placed as an independent and strategic body for environmental, access and rural development projects and has a proven ability to attract external funding. The key challenge for ACT in the final pilot year of the partnership is to secure sufficient core funding to be able to continue and operate the implementation of projects. ACT will also continue to raise its membership and look for additional opportunities to attract external funding to Argyll and Bute.

6.0 **IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 Policy None
- 6.2 Financial None directly arising from this report
- 6.3 Legal None
- 6.4 HR None
- 6.5 Equalities None
- 6.6 Risk None
- 6.7 Customer Service None

Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure

March 2015

For further information contact:

Fergus Murray, Head of ED&ST, Fergus.murray@argyll-bute.gov.uk tel: 01546 604293

Matt Mulderrig, Development Policy Manager, matt.mulderrig@argyll-bute.gov.uk tel: 01436 658735

Julie Young, ACT Development Officer info@act-now.org.uk tel: 01546 604309

This page is intentionally left blank

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE****DEVELOPMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES****13th April 2015**

ARGYLL COASTAL WATERS PROJECT UPDATE

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Argyll Coastal Waters Project aims to develop the economic potential of our coastline through marine leisure opportunities based on the development of an Argyll Sea Kayak Trail, and a Paddle Argyll brand. To compliment this, there are opportunities for 12 modern apprentices, local businesses and for communities to take advantage of this development.
- 1.2 Project funding totals £606,199 and mainly comes from external funders. This fully funded phase of the project is due to complete in June 2015.
- 1.3 Funding has been awarded for small scale infrastructure, two full time and a one day a week post, 12 modern apprenticeships, and to promote the sea kayak tourism product.
- 1.4 We are working with a host of partners to ensure that marketing of the Argyll Sea Kayak Trail and the Paddle Argyll brand is maximised and that the water access sites are maintained and cared for. This will enable us to leave a legacy for local businesses and communities to build on.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.2.1 The Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee note the content of this report.

Argyll Coastal Waters Project Update

2. INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This report provides an update on the current development phase of the Argyll Coastal Waters project and information on maintenance arrangements.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee note the content of this report.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Argyll Coastal Waters project is a partnership project between Argyll and Bute Council, Stramash and Scottish Canals, with the Council as the lead partner. It aims to develop the economic potential of our coastline through marine leisure opportunities. It does this through developing nine (with an additional site at Ellenabeich now being developed) coastal access sites with small scale infrastructure installed such as signage and kayak rings for storage, offering 12 marine based apprenticeships, and developing and marketing a sea kayak trail connecting the Argyll coastline. Two posts are hosted by Stramash, namely a paddlesports co-ordinator and a training and apprenticeship co-ordinator, as well as a one-day-a week graduate trainee position in marketing.
- 4.2 Argyll Coastal Waters is a £606,199 project funded by the Coastal Communities Fund, Argyll and the Isles LEADER, Skills Development Scotland, and Argyll and Bute Council. With £30,000 of Argyll and Bute Council investment we have brought in approximately £576,199 to the area, which is 95% of the total project costs.
- 4.3 A website and leaflets have been developed to market the trail which was launched at the Commonwealth Games in July 2014. This involved a kayak relay from Ganavan in the north to Helensburgh in the south, and a symbolic handing over of a baton at the Sugar Sheds in Greenock for the final leg of the voyage which then joined the Commonwealth Flotilla to Glasgow. Two hundred and fifty copies of the Argyll Sea Kayak Trail leaflet were included in 'goodie bags' for those taking part in the Flotilla. BBC Scotland's Out of Doors programme broadcast segments on the Argyll Sea Kayak Trail on two consecutive Saturday mornings, one as part of the

Commonwealth coverage and also a live interview with Councillor Vivien Dance took place on Radio Scotland's Good Morning Show on the day of the Flotilla. Coverage of the kayak relay could be accessed live through the RYA website through a tracking device and regular tweets and facebook posts were sent out by Argyll and the Isles Tourism Co-operative and Argyll and Bute Council's Communications Team and viewed by 96,714 people. The website can be found at www.paddleargyll.org.uk.

- 4.4 The Argyll Sea Kayak Trail is the tourism product developed and it consists of a skeleton of water access sites covering 150km that can be added to in the future. The sites are shown on the attached flyer and are; Ganavan Sands Oban, (Ellenabeich), Arduaine, Crinan, Ardrishaig, Tarbert, North Bute, Toward, West Bay Dunoon, and Helensburgh.
- 4.6 To maximise use of the Argyll Sea Kayak Trail by visitors and residents a marketing plan has been produced. This includes promoting the trail through the Paddle Argyll website and partner websites through linkages, articles in trade press, watersports magazines and local press, a presence at trade shows, a suite of promotional videos, and print and promotional materials. We have received positive coverage in a range of press and special interest magazines such as Scotland Outdoors, Canoe Wales and Scottish Paddler, as well as positive tweets on our Paddle Argyll website. To reach the widest possible audience we are working with Argyll and the Isles Tourism Partnership, Visit Scotland, Scottish Canals, Argyll and the Isles Coast and Countryside Trust, Stramash, Tarbert Yacht Club, North Bute Community Land Company, Castle Toward Sailing Club and a host of watersports clubs and business across the area.
- 4.7 The water access sites were developed with minimum maintenance as a requirement and a 'leave no trace' policy as used at similar sites and projects. They will be checked at the beginning and end of each season with spot checks throughout the year by our partners and Council employees where appropriate. The attached paper details the arrangements at each site.
- 4.8 All twelve modern apprentices are in place with Hebridean Pursuits, Lochgoilhead Outdoor Centre and Stramash.
- 4.9 The economic impact of these posts and the modern apprentices has been estimated as an indirect increase in employment of 6.3FT. The economic impact of spend by kayak visitors to the area as a result of the Argyll Sea Kayak Trail is expected but not defined and will begin to be realised this coming season.
- 4.10 The project will complete this year as per our current funding requirements and the next steps are to finalise capital works, continue to support the modern apprentices on placement and to undertake community and business events in April and May 2015.

5.0 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 The Argyll Coastal Waters project has improved the water access infrastructure and created a sea kayak tourism product for the area that will benefit communities and

tourism and leisure businesses alike. It is currently providing modern apprentices for twelve individuals as well as having created two full time and a one day a week post. It has brought funding into the area and will leave a legacy that can be built upon in the future.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- | | | |
|-----|-------------------|---|
| 6.1 | Policy | None. |
| 6.2 | Financial | None. The current project is fully funded although officer time is required to oversee the project and to develop the capital elements. |
| 6.3 | Legal | Bound by Coastal Community Fund and LEADER terms of grant. |
| 6.4 | HR | Council element is met under current staff resources. |
| 6.5 | Equalities | None but the proposed improvements increase accessibility of sites to those with mobility problems. |
| 6.6 | Risk | Risks have been mitigated against and we are in the final stages of the project. Main risk is that the product is not used. |
| 6.7 | Customer Services | Improved access for customers. |

7. APPENDICES

- | | | |
|-----|--------------|--|
| 7.1 | Appendix One | Argyll Sea Kayak Trail leaflet. |
| 7.2 | Appendix Two | Argyll Sea Kayak Trail Site Maintenance Report 09 04 15. |

Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure

13th April 2015

For further information contact:

Arlene Cullum

Tel: +44(0)1436 658727

arlene.cullum@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Argyll Coastal Waters Council maintenance responsibilities

Site	Capital	Maintenance Arrangements
Ganavan	Signage, shelter, kayak rings.	Litter bins are already provided at this site and maintained by amenity services. The changing shelter is attached to the Council toilet.
Arduaine	Signage, new car park for 8 cars with ramped access to beach, kayak rings.	No litter bins as 'leave no trace' principal adopted.
Crinan Canal Crinan - Ardrishaig	Signage, kayak rings and pontoons along the length of the canal and new launch points at lock 14 and Crinan Bridge.	Scottish Canals have responsibility for maintenance and litter as per their own policies and our lease agreement. Litter bins are already present at Crinan and Ardrishaig car parks and are maintained by amenity services.
Tarbert	Signage and slipway improvements.	No litter bins on site but there are bins on adjacent approach to Calmac Portavadie ferry.
North Bute	Signage, changing shelter and composting toilet.	Site immediately adjacent to SSSI. Bute Community Land Company, the site owner, have responsibility for maintenance through their lease agreement. There are no litter bins on site.
Toward	signage, new car parking spaces for kayakers, kayak rings.	No litter bins as 'leave no trace' principal adopted.
Dunoon	Signage and slipway improvements.	Litter bins are already situated nearby on the promenade and are maintained by amenity services.
Helensburgh	Signage and slipway improvements.	Repairs to slipway to allow access to water. Litter bins are already situated nearby on the promenade and maintained by amenity services.

Comments

All sites will be checked at the beginning and end of the watersports season and spot checks by our partners and ourselves where appropriate, will take place throughout the year. Maintenance of the built fabric is met through a 10 year agreement and insurance policy which will be in place at sign off of the sites. Prior to work commencing on any site there was discussion with a number of kayakers and kayak/canoe clubs as well as the Canoe Association for Scotland. The unanimous advice we were given was not to install bins anywhere along the trail as the vast majority of paddlers apply the 'leave no trace' principle whereby they take any litter/rubbish with them as they leave. This principle is applied along most paddling routes and is commonly understood by paddlers. Full detail of the 'leave no trace' principle is prominently displayed on the interpretation sign which is located at each site. In addition to this we have received positive feedback from local residents in Arduaine for not providing a bin at the Arduaine site as they felt it would be abused. To date at that site there has been no litter problem. Some of the sites include car parks where there are existing bins (Ganavan, Crinan, Ardrishaig) and other sites have bins nearby (Dunoon and Helensburgh). In listening to the views of paddlers we feel we have properly dealt with the litter issue and any problems should be infrequent.

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL**ENVIRONMENT, DEVELOPMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE****DEVELOPMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES****13 APRIL 2015**

UPDATE ON CEMETERY MANAGEMENT AND FALLEN HEADSTONES

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Following a discussion at the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Committee where concerns were noted about the safety and re-erection of fallen headstones in graveyards a request was made that the Environment Development and Infrastructure Committee, as the relevant body, consider development of a corporate policy which will address these concerns and take this matter forward.

A policy on cemetery management is in the early stage of development and is due to be presented to the Environment Development and Infrastructure Committee early in 2016. This policy will also include fallen and dangerous headstones.

RECOMMENDATION

The Environment Development and Infrastructure Committee notes this report and also notes that the policy will be brought forward for consideration early in 2016.

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT, DEVELOPMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

DEVELOPMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

13 APRIL 2015

UPDATE ON CEMETERY MANAGEMENT AND FALLEN HEADSTONES

2.0 SUMMARY

2.1 This report provides an update on the proposed development of a policy covering cemetery management.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 The Environment Development and Infrastructure Committee notes this report and also notes that the policy will be brought forward for consideration early in 2016.

4.0 DETAILS

4.1 Following a discussion at the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Committee where concerns were noted about the safety and re-erection of fallen headstones in graveyards a request was made that the Environment Development and Infrastructure Committee, as the relevant body, consider development of a corporate policy which will address these concerns and take this matter forward.

4.2 A policy is currently being developed and will be presented to a meeting of the Environment Development and Infrastructure Committee in 2016.

5.0 CONCLUSION

5.1 This report provides an update on the proposed development of a policy covering cemetery management.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- | | | |
|-----|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| 6.1 | Policy | Policy currently under development. |
| 6.2 | Financial | None |
| 6.3 | Legal | None |

6.4	HR	None
6.5	Equalities	None
6.6	Risk	None
6.7	Customer Services	None

Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure
Policy Lead – Ellen Morton
March 2015

For further information contact: Jim Smith, Head of Roads and Amenity Services

This page is intentionally left blank

ARGYLL & BUTE COUNCIL

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
AND INFRASTRUCTURE
COMMITTEE**

CUSTOMER SERVICES

13 APRIL 2015

**RECOMMENDATION FROM MID ARGYLL, KINTYRE AND THE ISLANDS AREA
COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 4 FEBRUARY, 2015**

4. PUBLIC AND COUNCILLORS QUESTION TIME

Following a short discussion, the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Committee noted concerns about the safety and re-erection of fallen headstones in graveyards and requested that the Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee, as the relevant body, consider development of a corporate policy which will address these concerns and take this matter forward.

This page is intentionally left blank

Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee Work Plan 2015/16

April 2015: This is an outline plan to facilitate forward planning of reports to the EDI Committee.					
Date	Paper Designation	Lead Service/ Officer	Regularity of occurrence/ consideration	Date to Committee Services	Comment
9 April 2015					
	Development and Infrastructure Services Performance Report FQ3		Quarterly	17 March 2015	
	A 83 /Transport Scotland minute/issues	Roads & Amenity	Quarterly	17 March 2015	This is the minute of the quarterly meeting between Roads and Transport Scotland covering all trunk roads
	Introduction of Road Equivalent Tariff (RET)	Marine Operations		17 March 2015	
	Flood Risk Management Policy	Roads & Amenity		17 March 2015	
	Coast Protection Policy	Roads & Amenity		17 March 2015	
	Planning for Sustainable Economic Growth in Argyll and Bute	Economic Development		17 March 2015	
	Argyll and the Isles Coast and Countryside Trust	Economic Development		17 March 2015	
	Argyll Coastal Waters Project Update	Economic Development	Project	17 March 2015	
	Fallen Headstones	Recommendation from MAKI Area Committee held on 4 February 2015		17 March 2015	
	Environment Development and Infrastructure Committee Work Plan	Governance and Law	Every meeting	17 March 2015	
13 August 2015					

Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee Work Plan 2015/16

	Development and Infrastructure Services Performance Report FQ4		Quarterly	21 July 2015	
	A 83 /Transport Scotland minute/issues	Roads & Amenity	Quarterly	21 July 2015	This is the minute of the quarterly meeting between Roads and Transport Scotland covering all trunk roads
	Roads Quarterly Update	Roads & Amenity	Quarterly	21 July 2015	
12 November 2015					
	Development and Infrastructure Services Performance Report FQ1		Quarterly	20 October 2015	
	A 83 /Transport Scotland minute/issues	Roads & Amenity	Quarterly	20 October 2015	This is the minute of the quarterly meeting between Roads and Transport Scotland covering all trunk roads
	Roads Quarterly Update	Roads & Amenity	Quarterly	20 October 2015	
4 January 2016					
	Development and Infrastructure Services Performance Report FQ2		Quarterly	11 December 2015	
	A 83 /Transport Scotland minute/issues	Roads & Amenity	Quarterly	11 December 2015	This is the minute of the quarterly meeting between Roads and Transport Scotland covering all trunk roads
	Roads Quarterly Update	Roads & Amenity	Quarterly	11 December 2015	
7 April 2016					
	Development and Infrastructure Services Performance Report FQ3		Quarterly	15 March 2016	
	A 83 /Transport Scotland	Roads & Amenity	Quarterly	15 March 2016	This is the minute of the quarterly meeting

Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee Work Plan 2015/16

	minute/issues				between Roads and Transport Scotland covering all trunk roads
	Roads Quarterly Update	Roads & Amenity	Quarterly	15 March 2016	

Future Items					
	Waste PPP area Alternate co-mingled recycling	Amenity	TBC		Last went to Council in June 2014, a progress update is expected in August/Sept (From schedule of Implementation Plan)
	Renewable Energy Action Plan	Economic Development & Strategic Transportation			REAP requires to be refreshed this year.
	Economic Development Action Plan	Economic Development			
	Update on Iona Slipway Tender	Marine operations	6 monthly		As with most of these issues this will be largely project based and should be reported on from that perspective
	CARS Update /C 'town and Dunoon				Agreed an update would come to EDI but no detail
	Next Generation Broadband Mobile Infrastructure	Business Development Audrey Martin	Project Basis		There are a significant number of projects at various stages of development, and while many will be interrelated, most will be reported on a "by project" basis, typically six monthly
	Road Speed Policy	Roads & Amenity Services			
	Invasive Weeds Policy	Roads & Amenity Services			
	Post Implementation review of DPE	Roads & Amenity Services			
	Litter Policy	Roads & Amenity Services			

Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee Work Plan 2015/16

	Waste Strategy/Policy Implications	Roads & Amenity Services		
	Roads Asset Management	Roads Jim Smith	Annual	Last went to Council in August 2013 however the key performance data is not available until late October each year hence it has been held until November. The service advises that the Roads Asset Management Plan is also now being reviewed in light of Changes to the National Roads Management framework, which may change the timing of reports.
	Clean Up Scotland campaign	Education /amenity Pippa Milne	Annual	Annual Initiative last to Council in 2013. Amenity Services Staff work with Schools, and organise events.
	Update on Ferries Review	Economic Development & Strategic Transportation		Requested at Development Day
	Workshop on LED Street Lighting Project with Question/Answer Session	Roads and Amenity – Jim Smith		Requested by Jim Smith at April Pre-Agenda for late April Early May