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30 January 2018

NOTICE OF MEETING

A meeting of the **BUTE AND COWAL COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP** will be held in the **TIMBER PIER BUILDING, DUNOON** on **TUESDAY, 6 FEBRUARY 2018** at **10:00 AM**, which you are requested to attend.

BUSINESS

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3. MINUTES

- (a) Bute & Cowal Community Planning Group - 3rd October 2017 (Pages 5 - 8)

4. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND FULL PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

Report by Community Planning Manager (to follow)

5. AREA COMMUNITY PLANNING ACTION PLAN

- (a) Area of Interest: Tourism

Presentation by Argyll and the Isles Tourism Cooperative (AITC)

6. COMMUNITY FOCUS

Discussion led by Community Development Officer on input to future meetings from representatives from Community Organisations to provide an update on their community-led action plans and what support they need from partners to develop them further.

**7. ARGYLL AND BUTE OUTCOME IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2013-2023 - OUTCOME 1
(THE ECONOMY IS DIVERSE AND THRIVING)**

- (a) Social Enterprise in Argyll Update (Pages 9 - 10)

Presentation by Inspiralba

- (b) Tourism

Update by Visit Scotland

- (c) Highlands and Islands Enterprise

Update by David Smart

- (d) Strategic Urban Regeneration Fund (SURF)

Presentation by Brian MacDonald

- (e) No Fuss Events

Update on recent and planned events

- (f) Argyll and the Isles Coast and Countryside Trust (Pages 11 - 16)

Presentation on actions in Bute and Cowal

**8. ARGYLL AND BUTE OUTCOME IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2013-2023: OUTCOME 2
(WE HAVE INFRASTRUCTURE THAT SUPPORTS SUSTAINABLE GROWTH)**

- (a) Digital Update (Pages 17 - 26)

Report by Digital Liaison Officer, Argyll and Bute Council

- (b) Community Broadband Scotland (Pages 27 - 30)

Report by Campbell Cameron

- (c) ACHA Annual Update

Presentation by Regional Manager

- (d) Scottish Water

Update by Corporate Affairs Manager

9. PARTNERS UPDATE

Opportunity for Verbal updates by Community Planning Partners

10. DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS 2018/19

Report by Area Committee Manager
(Pages 31 - 34)

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY 1ST MAY AT 10.00 IN EAGLESHAM HOUSE, ROTHESAY

Discussion facilitated by the Area Governance Manager on items for inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting.

Outcomes to be discussed:-

Outcome 3 – Education, skills and training maximises opportunities for all.
Outcome 4 – Children and young people have the best possible start.

Bute and Cowal Community Planning Group

Willie Lynch (Chair)

Alistair McLaren (Vice – Chair)

Contact: Andrea Moir, Senior Area Committee Assistant - 01369 708662

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**MINUTES of MEETING of BUTE AND COWAL COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP held in the
ACTIVITY ROOM, MOAT COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTRE, ROTHESAY
on TUESDAY, 3 OCTOBER 2017**

Present: Alistair McLaren, Argyll TSI (Chair)
Councillor Bobby Good
Councillor Jim Anderson
Shirley MacLeod, Argyll and Bute Council
Rona Gold, Argyll and Bute Council
Samantha Sommers, Argyll and Bute Council
Caroline Swain, Argyll and Bute Council
Stuart MacDonald, Scottish Fire and Rescue
Chief Inspector Paul Robertson, Police Scotland

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

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

Apologies were received by:-

Willie Lynch, Dunoon Community Council (Chair)
Campbell Cameron, Community Broadband Scotland
Alison McGrory, NHS
Jayne Lawrence-Winch, HSCP
Stuart Mearns, Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park
Susan Brooks, Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park
David Smart, HIE
Michelle Rusden, Police Scotland

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were intimated.

3. MINUTES

(a) Bute & Cowal Community Planning Group - 18th April 2017

The minute of the Bute and Cowal Community Planning Group meeting of 18th April 2017 was approved as a correct record.

The Area Governance Manager advised that Alison McGrory from the Health and Social Care Partnership provided an email update notifying the Group that the new Joint Health Improvement Plan (JHIP) was launched in May 2017 following an evaluation of the old plan in 2016. The purpose of the JHIP is to provide high level direction and steer for enabling the people of Argyll and Bute to live long, independent and healthy lives.

The new JHIP will cover a 5 year period till December 2022. It is available to view at:

<http://healthyargyllandbute.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/JHIP-2017-22.pdf>

The JHIP includes 4 new strategic priorities as follows:

Theme 1 – Getting the best start in life

Theme 2 – Working to ensure fairness

Theme 3 – Connecting people with support in their community

Theme 4 – Promoting wellness not illness

Rona Gold, Community Planning Manager gave an update from the previous minute in regards to page 5 item 6(b) advising that the pilot project had been successful and was the only digital project of its kind in Scotland where nearly 900 votes had been cast online.

4. STANDING ITEM: MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Group gave consideration to a briefing note outlining the consideration of the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) to issues raised by Area CPG Chairs within their respective areas and highlights from the Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Management Committee meeting held on 20 September 2017.

Decision

The Group noted the contents of the briefing note.

(Ref: Briefing Note by Community Planning Manager, dated 3rd October 2017, submitted).

5. CONSIDERATION AND SIGN OFF OF THE BUTE AND COWAL COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

The Community Planning Manager took the Group through the requirement placed on the Council by the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 to publish locality plans, known as Community Planning Action Plans to address the inequality of experience across communities and have actions to address these. All Community Planning partners are responsible for ensuring the CPP delivers its commitments within the plans. The Plans are required to be signed off in October 2017 by Area Community Planning Groups and will form the basis of future meetings.

Decision

The Group noted and agreed the action plan for Bute and Cowal.

(Ref: Briefing note and presentation by Community Planning Manager dated 3rd October 2017, submitted).

6. DISCUSSION OF SCRUTINY ROLE OF THE BUTE AND COWAL COMMUNITY PLANING GROUP

Discussion took place on the scrutiny role of the Bute and Cowal Community Planning Group.

Decision

The Group noted the information provided.

7. REVIEW OF BUTE AND COWAL COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Group gave consideration to a report highlighting the revisions to the Area Community Planning Group (ACPG) Terms of Reference (TOR).

Decision:

The Group agreed:

1. To adopt the revised Terms of Reference contained in the report;
2. To adopt the meeting schedule and dates submitted in the report; and
3. That the Terms of Reference for the group be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure their ongoing currency and appropriateness for the work of the group as it develops over time.

(Ref: Report by Area Governance Manager, dated 3rd October 2017, submitted).

8. REVIEW OF MEMBERSHIP OF COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP

The Group gave consideration to a report outlining the current membership detail together with changes and additional organisations who have, through local circumstances, joined the ACPG since membership was agreed in March 2015. Discussion took place in respect of organisations from a number of sectors where there is currently no representation.

Decision

The Group agreed:

1. That the changes and additional organisations, as outlined at Appendix 2 of the report and during discussions, be adopted; and
2. That the membership of the group be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure currency and appropriateness for the work of the group as it develops over time.

(Ref: Report by Area Governance Manager, dated 3rd October 2017, submitted).

9. SERVICE TRANSFORMATION OPTIONS

The Group gave consideration to a presentation outlining the transformation strategy of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. Information was provided in relation to the financial implications, delivery model and the benefits to the future firefighter as well as the implications of a failure to transform the service.

Decision

The Group agreed to note the contents of the presentation.

(Ref: Presentation by Scottish Fire and Rescue Service dated 3rd October, submitted).

10. PARTNERS UPDATE

Police Scotland

Chief Inspector Paul Robertson gave an update to the Group on the busy last few months Police Scotland have had in the Bute and Cowal area.

He confirmed that policing for the Cowal Games and Bute Highland Games was delivered successfully with very minimal disorder and anti-social behaviour figures were low.

He advised there has been a general increase in anti-social behaviour across the board. He spoke about the police action plan for Bute and Cowal for town centre and licenced premises to help minimise complaints from the public.

He advised that the new Police Engagement Officer, PC David McPhee is settling in well in post and has close links with the schools and other local groups. His aim is to raise awareness and concentrate on young people that are vulnerable, and is progressing with initiatives on drugs and cyber-crime. He confirmed he has been in discussions with David Mitchell, Head Teacher of Dunoon Grammar School and they are in the early stages of recruiting adult volunteers to help deliver and support local events.

Paul advised that a road safety campaign, drink driving campaign and anti-social/violence campaign is ongoing.

Scottish Fire and Rescue

Stuart MacDonald gave an update to the Group on the recent fire course which took place in Rothesay to help recruit new firefighters. He advised they are currently down one community fire fighter but hope to fulfil the post in the near future.

Argyll TSI

The Chair advised that Argyll TSI have been going through a difficult period recently but a lot of good stuff is still going on.

He updated the Group on the Volunteer of the Year's Awards event he attended in Oban where the award went to a man in Bute and encouraged the group to attend next year.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Group noted that the next meeting of the Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group would take place at 10.00am on Tuesday 6th February 2018 in the Timber Pier Building, Dunoon.

Social Enterprise - Small and Local with Significant Impact in Argyll

The 2017 Social Enterprise Census for Scotland demonstrates the significance of Social Enterprise in the rural context with 34% of Scotland's social enterprises with only 18% of the nation's population. This is particularly relevant in Argyll and Bute, one of the top 3 local authority areas with the lowest population densities and highest density of social enterprise per capita, at 1.6% of the population and 4.4% of Scotland's Social Enterprisesⁱ

But many folks don't even know what a Social Enterprise is... It's a community business, or a business that trades services or goods for community benefit, rather than private profit, and in Argyll this includes a whole host of enterprises running vital services including; fuel filling stations, village shops, care services for older people, youth work and childcare services, community halls and environmental projects which enhance the tourism offering. These are run by a volunteer board and may employ staff, but any profits are reinvested for the community benefit. 80% of Social Enterprises in Argyll are also Charities.

Social Value Lab who undertook the national census have just published the Census the Social Enterprise in Argyll and Bute Report 2017ⁱⁱ, which confirms the importance of Social Enterprise for the area. The total income of the being £57million with an additional £30.3 million of Housing Association income for Argyll's economy. This is a significant contribution to the rural economy in terms of economic benefit, with the social benefit being more significant still, as many Social Enterprises indicated that there was not an alternative provider of their services and many delivering essential services which ensure rural communities can survive and thrive.

Most of these enterprises are small scale (with 70% of Social Enterprises having a turnover of less than £100k) and 48% delivering activities in a single neighbourhood or community. The Report was launched at a network Event in Inveraray on 30th November which was organised by Senscot, Unltd and local Charity Inspiralba. Representatives from Social Enterprises from Across Argyll met with partners from Scottish Government, Argyll and Bute Council and Highlands and Islands Enterprise and now hope the data will assist in raising the profile of the importance of the sector for our rural economy and communities across Argyll.

ⁱ Social Enterprise Census 2017 Report, Sept 2017 <http://www.socialvaluelab.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Census-2017-Main-Report.pdf>

ⁱⁱ Social Enterprise in Argyll and Bute Report, November 2017, Social Value Lab link to be included.

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Management Committee

Bute & Cowal

Date: 6 February 2018**Agenda Item:** 7(vi)

ACT Hubs update

1.0 Purpose

We have been invited to this meeting as a partner with an active role in promoting tourism through our ACT Hubs project. We are also a delivery partner for SOA Outcome 5 (People live active, healthier, and independent lives). We will briefly introduce our organisation and provide you with an overview of our ACT Hubs project.

2.0 Recommendations

Our membership is a clear way of demonstrating widespread community support and of ensuring that we are progressing projects that reflect area priorities. Members can influence the types of projects we deliver, and we are keen that as many individuals, groups, and businesses as possible in your area sign up for ACT membership, which is currently free. Community support for our projects through planning and delivery is invaluable. More information on membership is available at www.act-now.org.uk or email info@act-now.org.uk.

3.0 Background

Argyll and the Isles Coast and Countryside Trust (ACT) was established in April 2014. We are a registered charity (SCO44733) with a vision to maintain, enhance and promote the coast and countryside of Argyll so that residents and visitors can enjoy it forever. We have a range of objectives to help fulfil this vision. Our objectives are:

- 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 employment, training, and volunteering.
- To work in partnership with individuals or groups with an interest in our environment.

We are a small organisation with two permanent staff – a full time development manager and a part time finance officer. Additionally, four project staff and two contractors contribute to the delivery of four projects on a full- or part-time basis. Our Board has a maximum of 12, with four agency representatives and eight community representatives. We are also supported by a team of advisors with expertise in a variety of subjects. Our membership is open to anyone living in Argyll and the Isles. Members are kept up to date with a quarterly newsletter and can be invited to join project steering groups or suggest projects for ACT to deliver.

We have a proven track record of successful project delivery but have reached capacity with our existing staff. We are finalising our Growth Strategy and hoping to secure support from HIE and key agencies to resource a Business Development Officer to identify income options and help us to build a sustainable financial model.

4.0 ACT Projects

Our objectives are delivered through projects which have brought in over £1.5M of funding to Argyll and the Isles since 2014. We work across Argyll and the Isles on a variety of place and people-based projects. Current projects include peatland restoration in Islay (CANN project); eradication of *Rhododendron ponticum* in Glen Creran, Appin (Glen Creran); woodland activities for people with poor mental health across Argyll (Branching Out); employability training and service provision in Helensburgh and Lomond (ACT Argyll); supporting long-distance routes across Argyll to work co-operatively and pool resources for marketing and income generation (LDR forum); and supporting communities to develop projects that will enhance tourism (ACT Hubs).

Our Branching Out project runs innovative programmes of woodland-based activities, in partnership with the NHS and Forestry Commission Scotland, for people with poor mental health. The project helps to tackle chronic problems such as anxiety and depression by getting people back to nature and encouraging peer-support through teamwork in the woods. There are five teams across all four localities of Argyll and Bute delivering 12-week programmes for participants. For more information and to watch a short film about the project see <https://www.act-now.org.uk/en/what-we-do/233-branching-out>.

Our ACT Hubs project is working with communities to help plan projects that will enhance tourism in the local area, encourage people to explore the great outdoors, and benefit the local economy. We are supporting a range of community projects including access, interpretation, habitat improvement and volunteering programmes. ACT Hubs is part-financed by ACT and part-financed by the Scottish Government and the European Community Argyll and the Islands LEADER 2014-2020

programme. We have a full-time project officer and part-time finance and marketing officers. ACT Hubs is currently funded until June 2018.

4.1 ACT Hubs community projects

In Cowal, we are working with the Tighnabruaich District Development Trust and Kilfinan Community Forest, with input from local residents including primary school pupils, to develop a leaflet describing and mapping local walking trails. The aim of the leaflet is to encourage people to spend more time in the area by highlighting the opportunities to explore on foot. ACT Hubs has facilitated meetings with representatives of the local groups and co-hosted a public meeting about the project. ACT Hubs has also supported development of the leaflet content and commissioned the design of a leaflet covering Tighnabruaich and North Kames. The leaflet will be available in print and electronic versions in Spring 2018. The community have also organised path marking and maintenance to encourage more people to explore the area of Tighnabruaich and Kames. A further two leaflets are planned to map paths in and around Portavadie and Kilfinan.

In Helensburgh and Lomond we are working with the Loch Long Jetty Association (LLJA) to develop plans for a floating pontoon and visitor moorings at the Teighness slipway in Arrochar. The pontoon will provide safe pedestrian access to Loch Long. The aims of this project are to provide a facility that will encourage greater use of Loch Long for leisure activities and attract more visitors to Arrochar by boat. The project was initially developed by Arrochar, Tarbet and Ardlui Community Council but the LLJA has been set up as a registered charity to continue the project. Planning permission has been granted for the pontoon. ACT Hubs is supporting the development of plans for the pontoon, particularly sourcing, and applying for capital funding. ACT Hubs also aims to formulate brief guidance on the process of installing a pontoon for other communities who want to embark on a similar project.

In Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Isles we are working with the Lochgilphead Phoenix Project to support their plans for developing the Corran area in Lochgilphead in to an accessible area with nature trails and wildlife viewing opportunities. The area is owned by the Council, and is infested with the invasive plant, Japanese knotweed. Eradication of Japanese knotweed from the area is an essential foundation to future development. The Phoenix Project are investigating the possibility of obtaining responsibility for the area from the Council. ACT Hubs is commissioning a feasibility study for the eradication of Japanese knotweed. This study will benefit anyone taking responsibility for the area by providing costs and timescales for Japanese knotweed eradication.

We are also working with the Isle of Gigha Heritage Trust to support their ideas for attracting visitors to the island for a variety of short- or long-term volunteering roles. ACT Hubs is developing guidance for setting up a volunteer programme.

In addition to location specific projects we are supporting ideas that have a strategic approach and cover a wider area across Argyll and the Isles. These projects include a review of visitor giving schemes and how these could be used to generate income for the maintenance of long-distance routes; a guide to developing regional food trails to showcase local produce; and the design of an info-graphic to illustrate the long-distance route network with links to the transport network and other infrastructure such as electric vehicle charging points. We are working in partnership with Argyll and the Isles Tourism Co-operative (AITC) on several of these projects.

5.0 Conclusions

Overall, we want to ensure that the coast and countryside that is being promoted as a product for tourism in Argyll and the Isles is managed and maintained in a positive way. We are aware of a general concern for visitor management and the capacity of Argyll to cope with increased visitor numbers. However, we are also inspired by the enthusiasm of communities to enhance their environment for the benefit of residents and visitors. Current and future activities of ACT, particularly through ACT Hubs, aim to support communities and enhance visitor experiences by contributing to improved infrastructure such as access, interpretation, facilities, and habitat management.

Our activities also contribute to our priority activity in Outcome 5 which is to “promote awareness of opportunities and activities to increase use of the outdoor environment”. We want to encourage better health and wellbeing through increased outdoor activity for people of all ages and abilities. We are currently making a short film about the advantages of outdoor activity and how regular activities can be included in daily routines. We believe that people who engage with their environment through outdoor activities will be encouraged to take better care of their surroundings. This will have great benefits for all current and future generations of residents and visitors in Argyll and the Isles.

Our ACT Hubs project is due to end in June 2018. However, plans to extend the project until September 2018 (within the existing budget) and to develop new approaches to build upon the success of ACT Hubs are underway. Community support, demonstrated through membership, is particularly important when developing new projects and applying for funding.

Report Author

Elaine Cameron, ACT Hubs Project Officer. elaine@act-now.org.uk. 07824833001.

References

For more information: www.act-now.org.uk

Appendices

N/A

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Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership**Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group**Tuesday 6th February 2018



Digital Infrastructure – Area Update

Summary

The following report provides an update on the various digital infrastructure projects which are ongoing in the area including Superfast Broadband, other Broadband issues and mobile communications.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 Work has continued on a number of programmes which aim to improve the digital infrastructure across Argyll. This report provides an update on the various projects within the Bute and Cowal area.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Area Community Planning Group is asked to note the contents of the report.

3.0 DETAIL

- 3.1 The work being undertaken in relation to digital infrastructure relates to broadband or mobile communications. A further information on Digital across Argyll and Bute is available on the council's website.

3.2 Next Generation Broadband

Next generation broadband within Bute and Cowal is being delivered through the commercial programme by BT (parts of Dunoan), the Highlands and Islands project and Community Broadband Scotland supported community projects.

- 3.3 Work continues on building the new infrastructure network to support next generation broadband. Having completed the subsea cable links in 2014/15, land based backhaul and local access fibre cables are required to connect communities. Whilst telephone exchanges will continue to provide a service in relation to telephone calls only a handful of exchanges will handle next generation broadband services, new access cables running from these "headend" exchanges

directly to new communication cabinets within communities will ensure that the superfast speeds reach the local cabinets.

- 3.4 During 2017, we saw further new connections which meant that next generation broadband is available to the majority of premises in the Bute and Cowal area many for the first time. Work continues in many of these locations to extend the fibre services to as many premises as possible within the initial budget of the project. This initial budget has made more connections than originally expected through technological advancements and efficiency savings. Additional funds have also been made available through the Gainshare or Clawback mechanism that was written into the initial contract with BT.
A summary of all Cabinets across Bute and Cowal is contained at Appendix 1.
- 3.5 Once the new fibre cabinets are live, customers who want access to superfast broadband must order the upgraded fibre service from their internet service provider. Members of the public can check whether they are able to order a next generation service at www.digitalscotland.org/whereandwhen. If they are not able to order a next generation broadband service they will be given an indication of whether the service is likely to be available within their exchange area and if so when the first premises are expected to be connected.
- 3.6 BT commercial programme
The commercial rollout by BT has upgraded a number of Cabinets in the Dunoon exchange areas this is now complete. The premises not connected through the commercial program will be connected as part of the HI contract, CBS assisted projects or the R100 program.
- 3.7 Highlands and Islands Programme
The Highlands and Islands (HI) programme in Argyll is currently expected to connect 82% of premises when taken with the commercial rollout.
- 3.8 The first live premises through the HI programme in Bute and Cowal were made during the summer 2015 when premises in the Dunoon and Rothesay exchanges went live. Further fibre connections have since been made available in most exchange areas across Bute and Cowal, many of these areas have received a fibre service ahead of the initial timescales within the first rollout plans. There has been some unforeseen technical difficulties in some exchange areas which has seen major delays and caused distress to expected customers
- 3.9 Work is continuing across Bute and Cowal with the initial contract that was due to end Dec17 however a contract extension has been given due to additional funds being made available, this will see continued deployment during 2018.
- 3.10 Community Broadband Scotland
Community Broadband Scotland (CBS) operates to support communities in taking forward their own broadband solution where coverage through the above programmes is not expected.
- 3.11 During 2017, CBS have been working with communities in the Kyles of Bute with an update provided by Campbell Cameron from CBS

Other broadband issues

3.12 Extension of Funding

Additional funding was received from Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK) and the Scottish Government which will extend the rollout.

- 3.13 In addition to government funding, the Phase 1 contracts provide for a “gain share” clause to clawback funding if the project reached agreed take up levels. This saw BT make a payment of £17.8 million which will be used to extend coverage. It must be stressed that take-up of the new upgraded service could be better, it currently standing at around 40%. To assist with raising awareness of the access to SFB and increase take-up I have some cards which can be distributed across the area for people to take away with them.

3.14 Reaching 100% (R100)

A Scottish Government (SG) commitment is that every premise in Scotland is to have access to Superfast Broadband with broadband speeds >30Mbps by 2021. The R100 has split Scotland into 3 Lots North (Lot1), Central (lot2) and South (Lot3). This has now entered the procurement stage with Invite to Tender (ITT) being published. Most of Argyll and Bute is in Lot1 which has been allocated £384M of the £600M fund committed by the SG. The procurement exercise is expected to last around 9 months with the expected contract commencement date of late 2018/early 2019. Very little information will be available during this period due to commercial sensitivities.

Mobile Communications

3.15 Commercial upgrades

When Ofcom awarded the contract for delivering 4G across the UK it included a stipulation that 95% of premises within Scotland receive coverage. 4G coverage is available to some parts of Bute and Cowal, principally the Dunoon area, for some mobile operators. Further 4G deployments are planned as numerous planning applications have been approved however it is still not clear when full network activation will be complete. Appendix 2 outlines all the current mast locations and the proposed new masts sites.

- 3.16 Alongside the 4G licence, amendments have been made to the licences issued by Ofcom to the mobile operators to implement 90 percent geographic voice coverage throughout the UK by no later than 31 December 2017. Significant movements have been made towards this target. I have provided a wide frame coverage maps in Appendix 3. These are taken from Ofcom’s coverage data and show coverage for Vodafone (map1 voice), (map2 data) and EE coverage (map3 voice) and (map4 data). As you can see data coverage from EE is slightly better. This is mainly down to the new Emergency Service Network contract (ESN) that EE were award. This is to provide 4G coverage for the blue light services (Fire, Police and Ambulance)

- 3.17 Credit must be given to the Councils planning teams for their continued efforts in

seeing these numerous planning applications progress through the system, with a considerable number of these being quite contentious sites in designated and sensitive areas. In the last two years there has been just under 200 applications for new mast sites or mast upgrades across Argyll and Bute from various network operators.

3.18 Other activities

As well as MNO commercial upgrades and the ESN program there are other programs currently being progressed. There is the Emergency Service Mobile Communication Program Extended Area Sites, these are site that are being progressed by the Home Office to provide additional coverage in areas that are not commercially viable. There is also the 4G infill program which is being progressed by Scottish Futures Trust which is building robust masts that are suitable for holding multi operator equipment, with adequate power and fibre backhaul capabilities. This is also aimed at areas that are not commercial viable

- 3.19 One of the main reasons to the historic bad mobile coverage is the general topography of Argyll and Bute. Due to the licence obligations placed on some operators by Ofcom and government agreement by the other MNO's to provide similar coverage, this is why Argyll & Bute require such a large number of mast sites. Additionally the ESN is mainly targeted at the road network and data connections require a general direct line of site.

4.0 Conclusion

- 4.1 Digital connectivity across the Bute and Cowal area is constantly improving with the continuation of the fibre rollout programmes and the upcoming R100. Digital Scotland has outlined that it is possible that further funds may be required to meet the government's commitment to the R100 and that further procurements may be required to achieve this milestone target of 100%. Rollout is expected to continue during 2018 with coverage extending across more of the rural exchange areas. Progress on mobile coverage is although slow, we continue to press for improved coverage through both commercial and publically funded programmes.

5.0 Implications

- 5.1 Policy – the Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) and Economic Development Action Plan support improvements in the digital infrastructure.
- 5.2 Financial – Across Scotland funding of £600m has been committed to the R100 programme by the Scottish Government. No direct financial implications to the Council at the present time.
- 5.3 Legal – none.
- 5.4 HR – None.
- 5.5 Equalities – the differing nature of the deployment of new technology has the potential to lead to inequalities in terms of access to digital services including those which support business and personal development.

- 5.6 Risk – there is an overall risk that the economic benefits arising from modern digital infrastructure are not fully realised. There are risks that those areas which do not benefit from digital infrastructure could become less attractive locations within which to live and work which could have implications in relation to the SOA objective of growing the population. The various programmes are reliant on new technology and innovation which is developing rapidly. Some projects are reliant on commercial operator decisions to invest whilst grant funding is necessary for many aspects of digital infrastructure improvement in Argyll. These aspects all create a level of uncertainty around the extent of infrastructure improvements.
- 5.7 Customer Service – improvements in broadband and mobile technology improve the opportunities for digital based customer services.

6.0 SOA Outcomes

- 6.1 This report links to Outcome 2 – We have infrastructure that supports sustainable growth.

Name of Lead Officer

Executive Director of Development Infrastructure: - Pippa Milne

For further information contact:-

Iain MacInnes, Digital Liaison Officer (01546) 604647
E-mail iain.macinnes@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Appendices

- 1 Exchange/Cabinet overview
- 2 Map of current and proposed mast sites
- 3 Ofcom mobile coverage maps

Appendix 1

Exchange Location	Cabinet No.
Ardentinny	1
Colintraive	CBS
Cairndow	In progress
Dunoon*	6*
Glendaruel	CBS
Innellan	4
Kilchattan Bay	2
Kilfinan	1
Kilmun	4
Lochgoilhead	2
Rothesay	11
Strachur	2
Tighnabruich	3
Toward	2

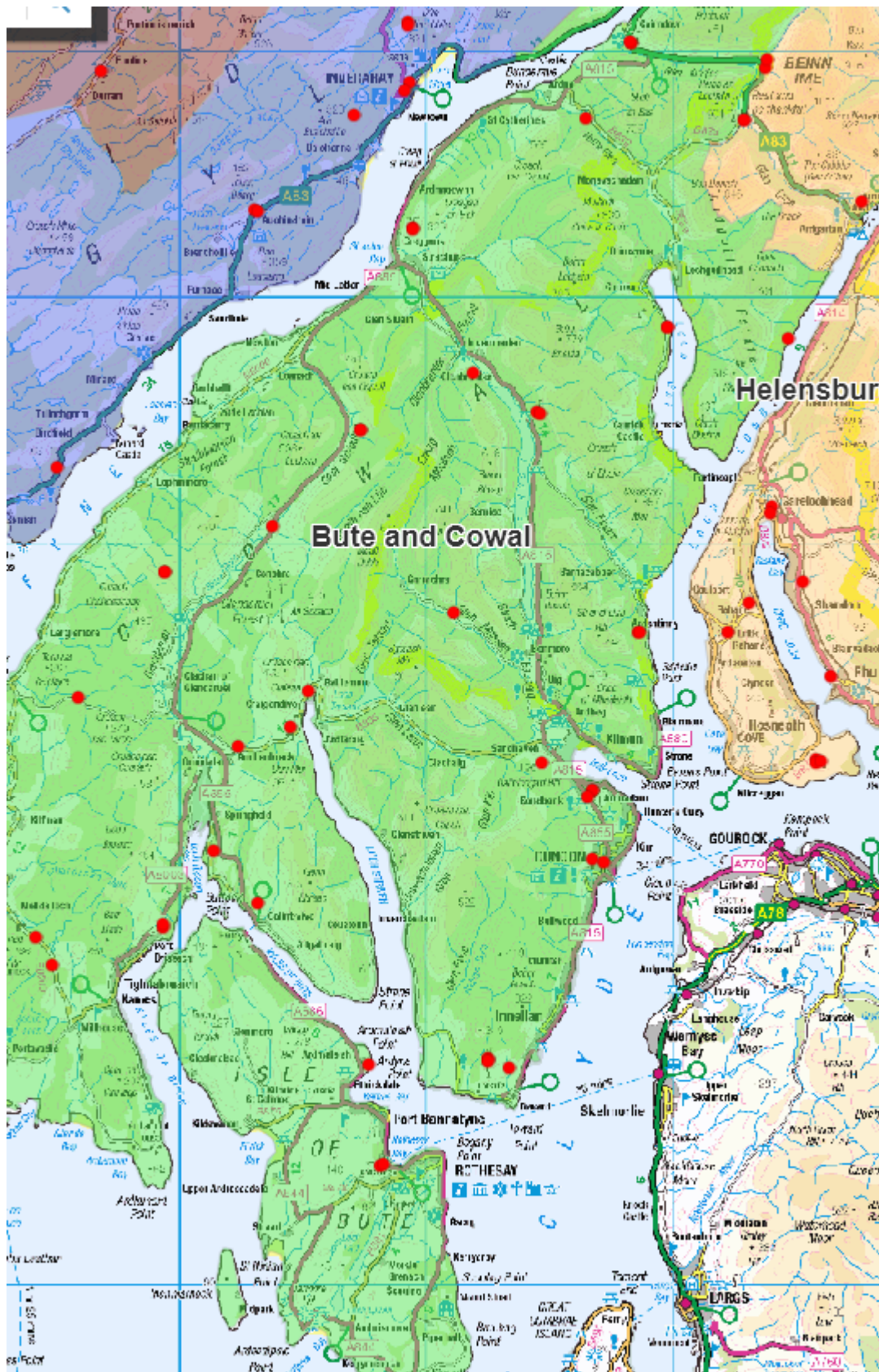
*It must be noted that Dunoon also had a number of BT commercial cabinets upgraded this is only the number of cabinets that have been funded through the HI contract.

Kilfinan exchange: Work on roll-out has started, but it's taking a little longer than expected to reach. A cabinet has been built and is going through the process. Delivery timescales depend on many factors and can be subject to change. BT will have services to this exchange area as soon as they can.

Cairndow exchange: Work on roll-out has started, but it's taking a little longer than expected to reach. Delivery timescales depend on many factors and can be subject to change. BT will have services to this exchange area as soon as they can.

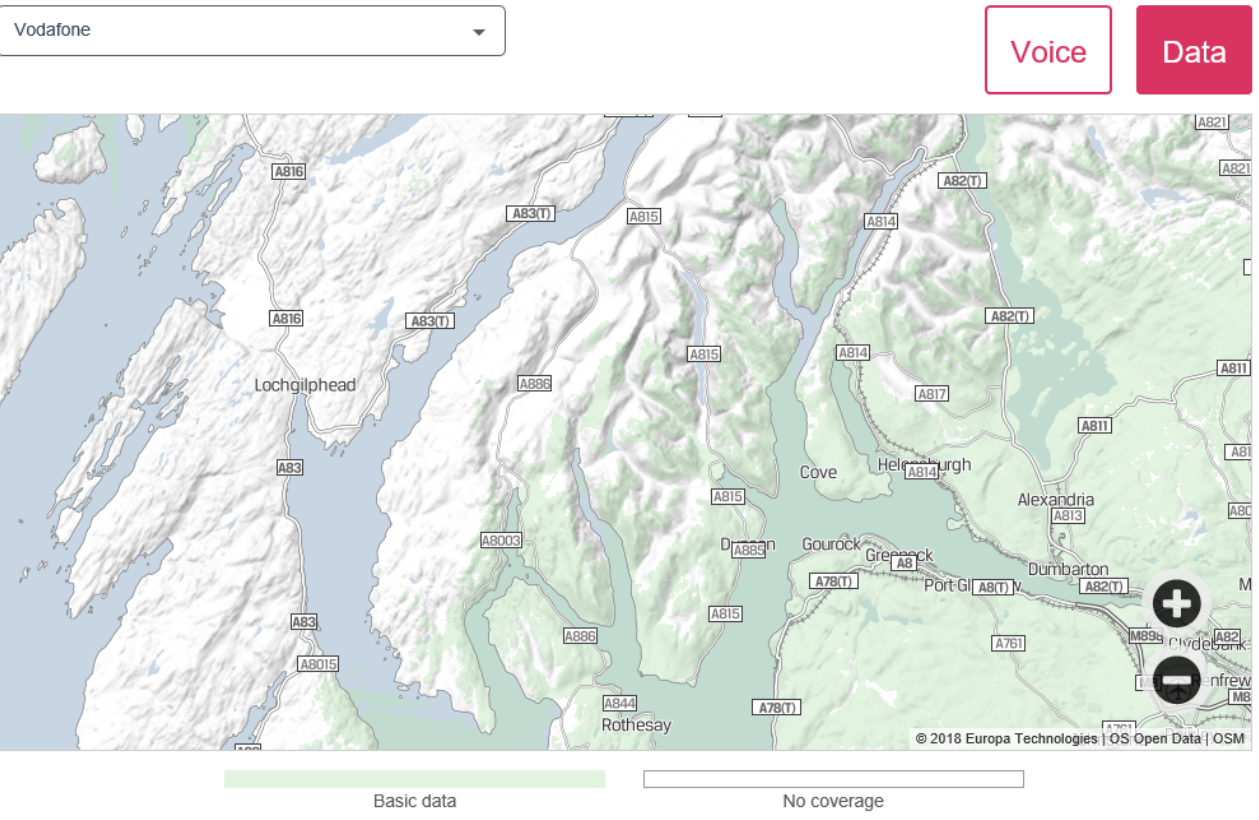
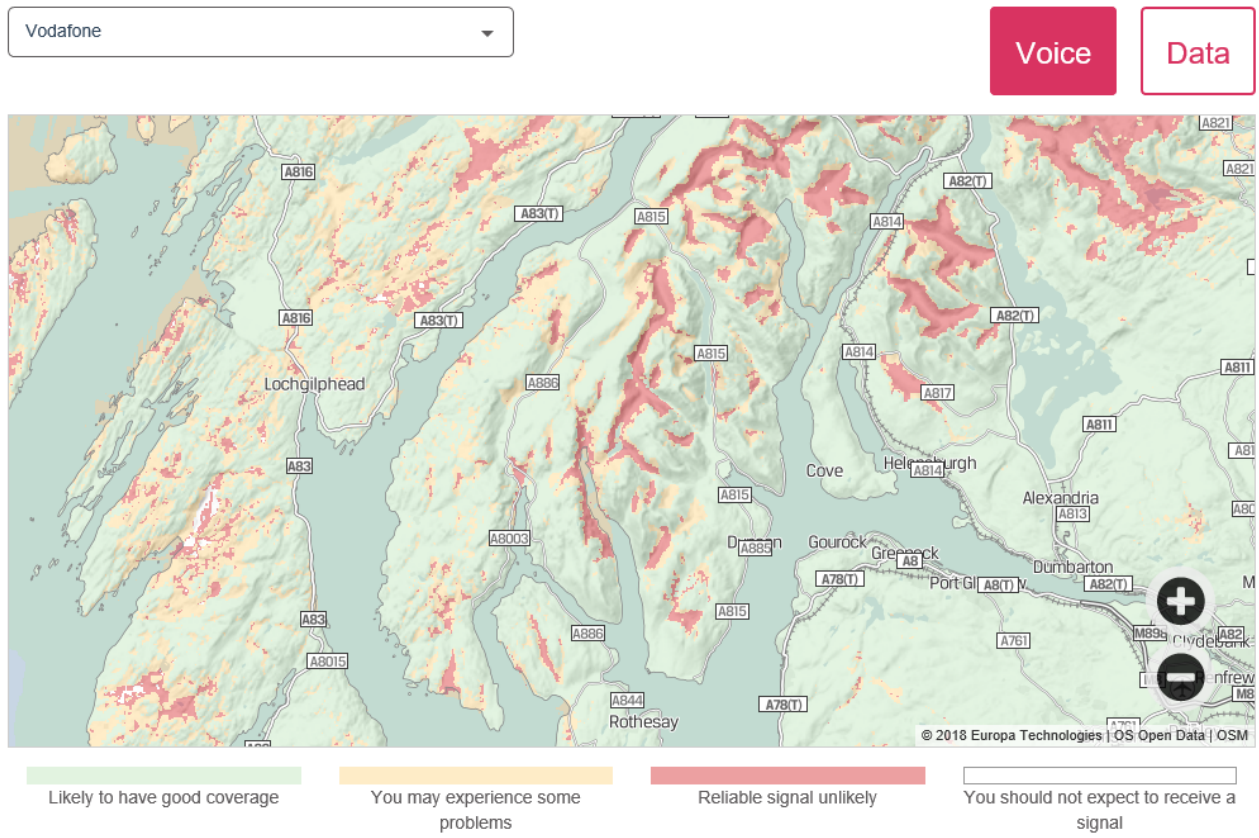
Colintraive and Glendaruel exchange areas are part of the CBS assisted project as they were not in the original scope of the HI/BT initial fibre rollout program.

Appendix 2



Appendix 3

This map shows mobile availability in your area. Please select your network to view availability from your provider.

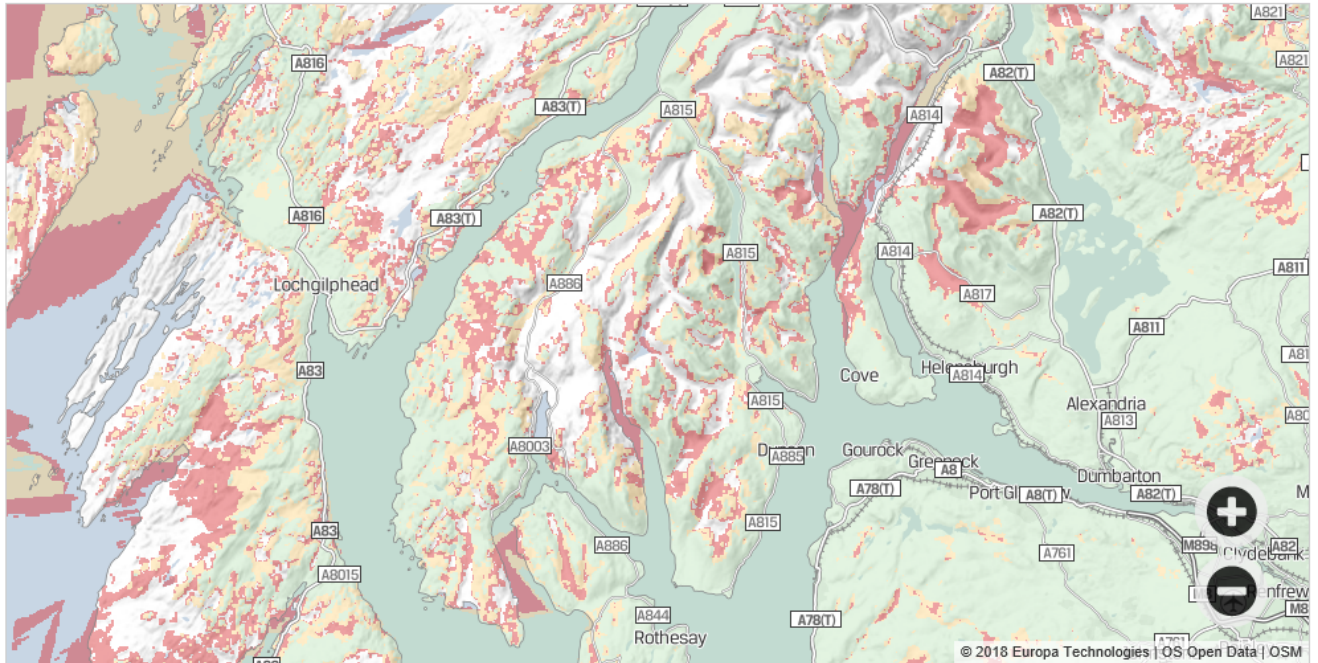


This map shows mobile availability in your area. Please select your network to view availability from your provider.

EE

Voice

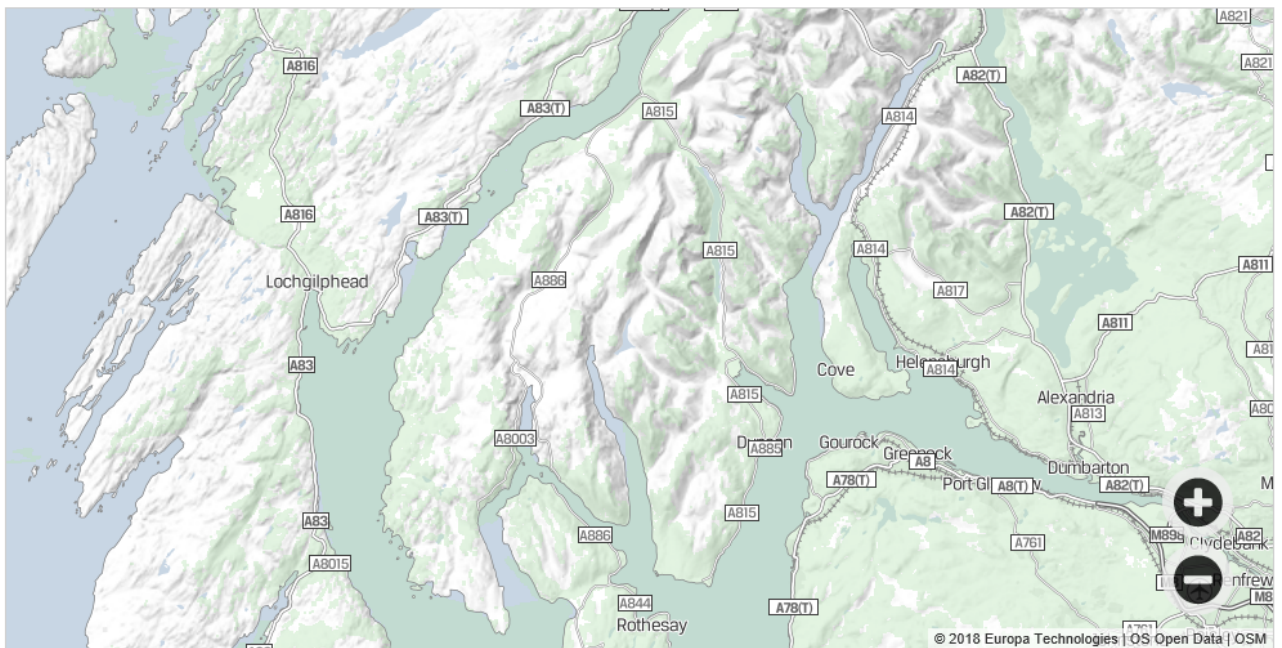
Data



EE

Voice

Data



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Bute and Cowal CPG

Highlands and Islands Enterprise
Digital Communities.

CBS 3 - Kyles of Bute Community Broadband

Outcome 2 – We Have Infrastructure that Supports Sustainable Growth



KYLES COMMUNITY BROADBAND – REVISED PROJECT

Project Detail

The Proposal

Kyles Community Broadband (KCB) has published a fresh State Aid Public Consultation for the supply of Superfast Broadband for the area of the Kyles of Bute noted in the map below. (Appendix 1) The KCB Board plan to issue a fresh Invitation to Tender shortly for that service to be provided via the usual procurement channels.

It is expected that project costs of c. £2.5m will be delivered via SRDP managed funds. The full project paper which will be completed for HIE approval will detail the project costs, funding package and on-going project sustainability.

The SAPC seeks to identify if any commercially provided service is proposed for the project area. As a result of the responses received the project area may reduce in size.

Background

In Autumn 2016, Kyles Community Broadband (KCB) aggregated project proposed to develop a Superfast Community Broadband network in two phases that would offer speeds above 30Mbps to over 400 properties that would not be served by the Digital Scotland Superfast Broadband (DSSB) fibre program. The first phases comprised 346 premises in the Colintrave and Glendaruel area and were offered to the market in an Invitation To Tender for a design build and operate system. Two responses were received however both responses indicated that the budget was insufficient to cover 100% of the project area and offered at best 80% coverage.

After two rounds of clarification questions, advice and support from industry specialists Farrpoint, Gardiner & Theobald project management team, and CBS and following group discussions it became clear that as neither offer suited the vision proposed to the community by the KCB board. Having considered their position they decided the best option was to terminate the tender process and indicate to the contractors they would seek to enlarge the project area to cover their entire present footprint and include all of rural Bute and rural Tighnabruich and then apply for a suitable budget designed to reach all of those premises.

This has now been completed and a project area as described has been mapped (Appendix 1) and as a result the premise numbers have increased from 346 to 624 with a projected budget of up to £2.5m indicated. An SAPC (State Aid Public Consultation) was launched on December 22nd and will close at the end of January.

KCB combines the skills of Tighnabruich & District Development Trust, (TDDT) Colintrave and Glendaruel Development Trust (C&GDT) and Bute Rural Broadband. The KCB Chairman also leads the C&GDT and the 5 members of the board are drawn widely from all of the area. The board members are all business people who are experienced in technology project management or in the operation of successful tourism business.

Both development trusts were set up to promote sustainable development for the benefit of local people, local community groups and local businesses resulting in income to the community, increased jobs and opportunities, a growth in population particularly families and young people and an increase in visitor numbers.

APPENDIX 1

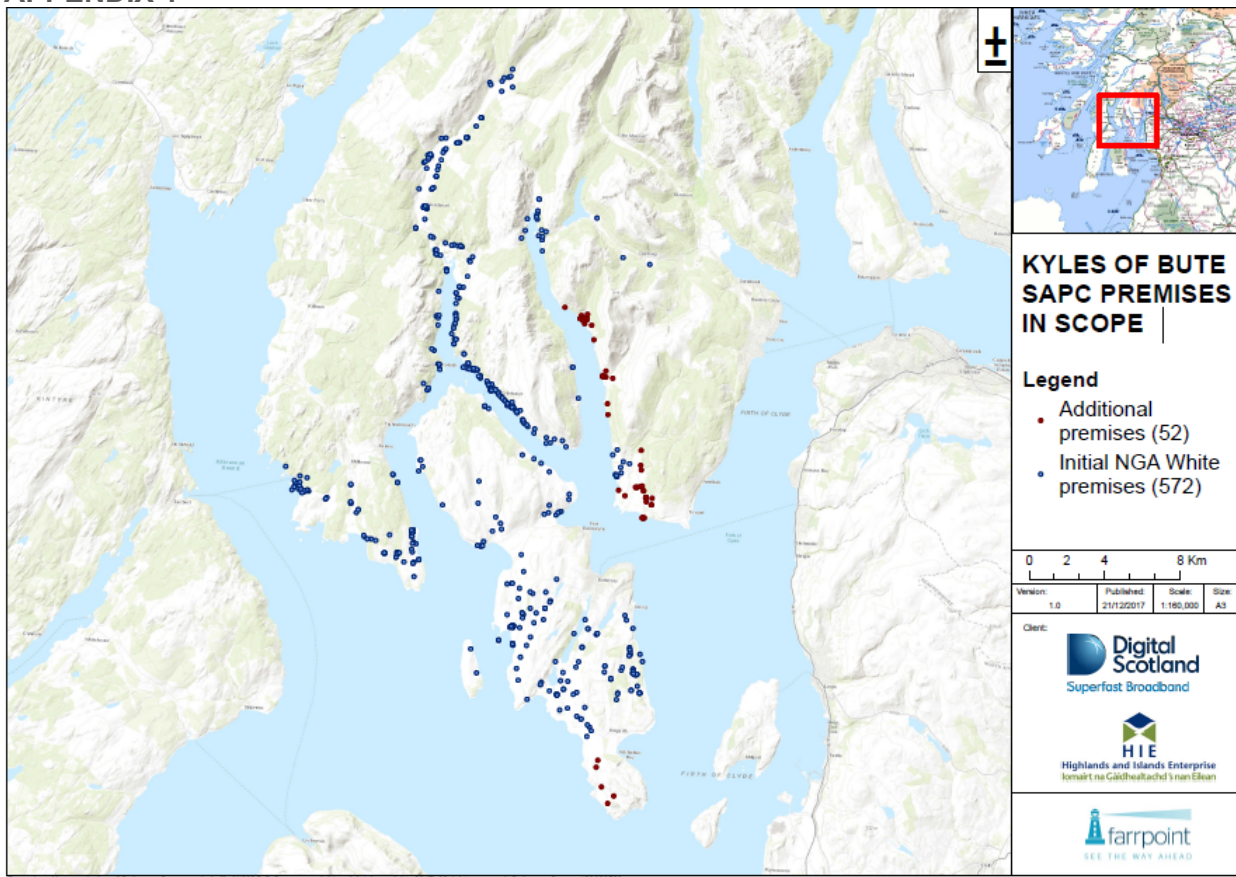


Figure 1: The Kyles Community Broadband Revised Project Area December 2017

Key procurement dates are:-

Activity	Date
DSSB/CBS/BT agreed intervention area	December 2017
Issue OJEU notice & State Aid Public consultation (1 month)	January 2018
State Aid – Public consultation report	February 2018
Publication of ITT	February 2018
Competitive Dialogue procurement	March - June 2018
Identify preferred bidder	July 2018
HIE Submission for Approval	July 2018
Contract Award	August 2018

Campbell Cameron	CBS Adviser	15 January 2018
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**Argyll and Bute Community Planning
Partnership****Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning
Group****6 February 2018**

Agenda Item

Dates for future meetings – 2018/2019

Summary

The following report provides information relating to the proposed CPG meeting schedule for the period from August 2018 to June 2019. The proposed dates, times and locations are detailed in the Appendix to the report.

1. Purpose

1.1 This report asks the Area Community Planning Group to consider and agree dates for meetings for the period from August 2018 to June 2019.

2. Recommendations

2.1 The Area Community Planning Group is asked to agree the dates for meetings as shown in the attached appendix.

3. Background

3.1 The dates for meetings of the CPG have already been agreed up until June 2018. The Council at its meeting held in November 2017 agreed a schedule of future meetings up till June 2019 including suggested dates for the Area CPG meetings.

3.2 According to the Terms of Reference the Area Community Planning Group should agree the schedule of meetings.

4. Detail

4.1 All Area CPG meetings are held on a quarterly basis in the months of May, August, November and February in line with the Terms of Reference which were agreed by the Group in March 2015. This cycle ties in with the meetings of the

CPP Management Committee and allows for discussion to take place on the relevant Outcomes prior to them being discussed by the Management Committee. .

- 4.2 The meetings of the Bute and Cowal Area CPG will take place in the months of May, August, November and February and historically have been held alternately between Dunoon and Rothesay. All meetings commence at 10am. It is suggested that a similar model is adopted for future meetings.
- 4.3 The pre-agenda process begins some weeks earlier, with meetings being held with the Chair and Vice-Chair to discuss the format of the agenda. A proposed timetable for the meetings and deadline dates for reports being submitted is attached as an Appendix to this report.

5. Conclusions

- 5.1 Given that the arrangement for meetings worked well in 2017/18 it is suggested that the CPG agrees to adopt a similar pattern for their meetings for the period from August 2018 to June 2019.

6. SOA Outcomes

- 6.1 This report does not link to any specific Outcome as it relates to the administrative arrangements.

Name of Lead Officer

Shirley MacLeod, Area Governance Manager

For further information please contact:

Shona Barton, Area Committee Manager (01436) 657605

Appendix – Dates for future meetings

Call Out E-mail	Pre Agenda	Front Sheet Agenda Issue	Full Pack Agenda Issue	COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP	Venue	Start time
Tuesday 26 th June 2018	TBC	Tuesday 17 th July 2018	Tuesday 7 th August 2018	Tuesday 14th August 2018	Timber Pier Building, Dunoon	10:00am
Tuesday 18 th September 2018	TBC	Tuesday 9 th October 2018	Tuesday 30 th October 2018	Tuesday 6th November 2018	Eaglesham House, Rothesay	10:00am
Tuesday 18 th December 2018	TBC	Tuesday 8 th January 2019	Tuesday 29 th January 2019	Tuesday 5th February 2019	Timber Pier Building, Dunoon	10:00am
Tuesday 19 th March 2019	TBC	Tuesday 9 th April 2019	Tuesday 30 th April 2019	Tuesday 7th May 2019	Eaglesham House, Rothesay	10.00am

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