
**Argyll and Bute Community Planning
Partnership**

**Bute and Cowal
Area Community Planning Group**

10 November 2015

Agenda Item 7 (c)



COWAL FIXED LINK WORKING GROUP

1. Purpose

Strategic Outcome Agreement (SOA)

This project is a new project being introduced within the scope of SOA code 2.1.2:

To produce a Local Development Plan Action Plan with a focus on economic growth for Argyll and Bute covering essential services, connectivity including road, integrated transport, rail, ferries, ports, air, active travel, digital technology and grid, CHORD, TIF and Maritime Change Programme.

In particular, this project focusses on road and rail connectivity.

2. Recommendations

To note the contents of the report.

3. Background

Introduction

The Cowal Fixed Link Working Group (CFLWG) is an ad-hoc group of county councillors, community councillors and business people who live in Cowal and Rosneath and who have been considering, since late 2013, options for a fixed link to connect Cowal to the Central Belt, with some of those options also involving Rosneath.

4. Detail

Fixed Link Project

A number of fixed link options have been agreed by the Working Group and will be presented to the CPG. Also, an action plan involving a press conference and public consultation which is expected to be held in the first part of 2016 will also be discussed.

A meeting of key Stakeholders, chaired by Michael Russell MSP, will be held on November 6th. The Working Group asks for the indulgence of the CPG in not disclosing any further detail until the Stakeholder Group has agreed to the plans.

The Working Group believes it is crucial that the Fixed Link project is presented to the CPG as part of SOA 2.1.2, which will be discussed on November 10th. However, the unfortunate conflict of dates has resulted in the need to keep the specific detail limited until the actual date of the CPG meeting.

5. SOA Outcomes

Outcome 2

Name of Lead Officer

David McKenzie, Chair of Fixed Link Working Group

Tel : 07850 676574