

**Tarbert and Lochgilphead Regeneration Fund**

---

**1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The Argyll and Bute Council 2016-17 Budget included an announcement of a £3 million area regeneration fund to be focused upon Lochgilphead, Ardrishaig, Tarbert and the surrounding areas. Policy and Resources Committee confirmed criteria and objectives for the funding, including the area of focus and the desire to deliver a small number of larger projects during its meeting on 12 May 2016.
- 1.2 There has been an excellent response in discussions with community organisations about the potential projects with a good number of projects put forward. An update on the work undertaken to date is detailed in the report to the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Island (MAKI) Area Committee on 7 December 2016, which appears later on the agenda.
- 1.3 The MAKI Area Committee's decision will be reported at the Policy and Resources Committee to enable the Committee to understand which projects are proposed to be the focus of feasibility works following which outline business cases will be prepared. It is not expected to be possible to deliver all of the above projects within the available funding, even with an emphasis on securing match funding. Further information will now be obtained to enable the further reduction in the number of projects so that resources can be focused on the projects which are most likely to match the agreed focus for the funding. This process will be managed by the Economic Development and Strategic Transport Service. Policy and Resources Committee are asked to confirm that funding may be released to enable this important work to be progressed.
- 1.4 Members of the Policy and Resources Committee are asked to:
1. Note the projects shortlisted by the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Committee detailed at paragraph 4.2.;
  2. Approve development funding of up to £250,000 to undertake the feasibility and initial design works, as set out in paragraph 4.2 to 4.4 to enable outline business cases to be developed for the shortlisted projects agreed by the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Committee on 7 December 2016.

**Tarbert and Lochgilphead Regeneration Fund**

**2.0 INTRODUCTION**

2.1 The Argyll and Bute Council 2016-17 Budget included an announcement of a £3 million area regeneration fund to be focused upon Lochgilphead, Ardrishaig, Tarbert and the surrounding areas. Policy and Resources Committee confirmed criteria and objectives for the funding, including the area of focus and the desire to deliver a small number of larger projects during its meeting on 12 May 2016. Following the principles set down in the Policy and Resources Committee decision a number of potential projects have been identified and an assessment process undertaken.

**3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 Members of the Policy and Resources Committee are asked to:
1. Note the projects shortlisted by the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Committee detailed at paragraph 4.2.;
  2. Approve development funding of up to £250,000 to undertake the feasibility and initial design works, as set out in paragraph 4.2 to 4.4 to enable outline business cases to be developed for the shortlisted projects agreed by the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Committee on 7 December 2016.

**4.0 DETAIL**

4.1 There has been an excellent response in discussions with community organisations about the potential projects with a good number of projects put forward. The Tarbert and Lochgilphead Regeneration Fund is however limited and has a specific focus and criteria; it cannot therefore deliver all of the projects put forward. The process of gathering potential projects and assessing them against the criteria confirmed by Policy and Resources Committee in May 2016 is detailed in the report to the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Island (MAKI) Area Committee on 7 December 2016, which appears later on the agenda.

4.2 The MAKI Area Committee’s decision will be reported at the Policy and Resources Committee however it should be noted that 11 projects were agreed by the MAKI committee for further investigation:

<b>Community</b>	<b>Project Ref.</b>	<b>Project</b>
Tarbert	T02	Barmore Road (A83)/Garvel Road junction improvement
	T10	Pavement/public realm improvements
	T07	Indoor bowling facility/sports hub
	T11	Harbour facilities

Lochgilphead	LA01	Ardrishaig – Lochgilphead Cycling Link
	LA10	Lochgilphead Front Green
	LA11	Argyll Street
	LA20	MAC Pool Redevelopment
Ardrishaig	LA13	Ardrishaig North Public Realm Improvements
	LA16	Ardrishaig South Public Realm Improvements
	LA17	Gleaner Oil Site

- 4.3 It is not expected to be possible to deliver all of the above projects within the available funding, even with an emphasis on securing match funding. An update will be provided to the MAKI meeting in April 2017 and in the interim period further information will be obtained to enable a more detailed assessment of the projects against the agreed criteria to be undertaken. This will allow officers to make a recommendation on a further reduction in the number of projects so that resources can be focused on the projects which are most likely to match the agreed focus and quantum of the funding. The initial feasibility and the final feasibility will each be presented for all projects simultaneously so that decisions on which projects ultimately progress take into account the anticipated costs of all the shortlisted projects.
- 4.4 Where possible the further feasibility information will be resourced from within the Service and using in-house council expertise. It is expected that some external support will be required where this is the case it will be procured through Argyll and Bute Council. Policy and Resources Committee are asked to confirm that £250k of funding is released to enable this important work to be progressed. This funding should be sufficient to progress to implementation stage for the final projects.

## **5.0 CONCLUSION**

- 5.1 The Tarbert and Lochgilphead Regeneration Fund offers an important opportunity to support proposals which aim to deliver regeneration and/or economic opportunities within the Mid Argyll area. The next step in progressing this fund is to undertake further assessment on the shortlisted projects with a view to refining the shortlisted projects and developing outline business cases during 2017.

## **6.0 IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 Policy – the proposed fund will offer the opportunity to support the objective and long term outcomes of the Single Outcome Agreement as well as the MAKI Economic Development Action Plan, Local Development Plan and other Council policy as may be relevant to specific proposals.
- 6.2 Financial – An allocation of £3m was identified in the 2016/17 budget for regeneration and economic sustainability in the settlements of Lochgilphead and Ardrishaig and Tarbert and their surrounding areas. The allocation is a capital fund and to date none of this funding has been used however the next stage will draw from the allocation, up to £250,000 is identified for feasibility and initial design works.

- 6.3 Legal – none at this time.
- 6.4 HR – staff within the Economic Development and Strategic Transportation Service will administer the fund on behalf of the MAKI Area Committee. Support from other teams across the Council has been given during the scoring process and will continue to be required as further investigation and project delivery proceeds.
- 6.5 Equalities – none at this time.
- 6.6 Risk - If the most appropriate projects are not correctly identified at this stage then the policy objectives may not be achieved and the impact desired from the Regeneration Fund will not be achieved. If the projects are not appropriately scoped out and resourced then this could impact on their delivery. If funding is allocated on an ad hoc basis then further requests could be received. The risks will be updated once the shortlisted projects are confirmed and there is a clearer indication as to which projects are proceeding.
- 6.7 Customer Service – none at this time.

**Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure, Pippa Milne**

**Policy Lead – Councillor A Morton**

7 December 2016

**For further information contact:** Anna Watkiss, [Anna.Watkiss@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:Anna.Watkiss@argyll-bute.gov.uk), Tel. 01546 604344