
Outcome 1: The economy is diverse and thriving – Progress Report

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide a progress update on the key activities for Outcome 1.

2. Recommendations

The paper is for information purposes only.

3. Summary

- A multi-agency group (led by Grant Manders) looking at joint recruitment strategies has now met twice and highlighted key areas of work which can be progressed jointly to encourage people to work for partners agencies within Argyll & Bute. Examples of work to be taken forward includes:
 - A co-ordinated recruitment website
 - Work placements
 - Improved marketing
 - A joined up approach to recruitment fairs
 - Exploration of what can be done jointly in relation to accommodation and short term placements
- The Argyll & Bute Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) Regional Group bid was approved by the Scottish Government in December 2016; with the official launch of the group taking place on 1 March 2017.
- Work is underway to produce a report highlighting the maritime industry training opportunities. This will be available by May 2017 and will include identification and profiling of relevant sectors and a series of first stage opportunities for consideration within the Oban as a University Town project.
- A copy of the recent report from the Argyll & Bute Economic Forum is attached at Appendix II. In essence this highlights that good progress

has been made in the past 12 months on the recommendations made in the original Forum Report and highlights the areas where greater emphasis is suggested in 2017:

- Upping the game in the tourism offering
- Engaging businesses with local schools
- Further development of Argyll College and SAMS
- Mobile connectivity
- Road improvements

4. SOA Outcomes

This report relates to Outcome 1. A recap of the other projects currently within the Outcome 1 development plan is included at Appendix 1. During the next 2 months, the development plan for 2017/18 will be established. Where possible, this will be specifically aligned with the operating plans of Highlands & Islands Enterprise (Argyll & the Islands area office), Argyll & Bute Council (economic development team), and other CPP partners with activity within the remit as appropriate.

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Appendix 1

Activities under Outcome 1: The economy is diverse and thriving

Activity	Activity Lead	Progress
Improve linkages from the curriculum to economic opportunities in Argyll and Bute linked to growth. Creating career pathways for key sectors: tourism, maritime, food and drink.	Ishabel Bremner, <i>Argyll and Bute Council</i>	On track
Deliver recommendations to progress Oban as a University Town	Lucinda Gray, <i>Highlands & Islands Enterprise</i>	On track
Deliver coherent multi-agency activities promoting and marketing Argyll and Bute	Julie Millar, <i>Argyll and Bute Council</i>	On track
Define the opportunities in maritime industry sector of Argyll and Bute, and Explore the feasibility of locally delivered training, apprenticeships and skills development for the marine industry in Argyll and Bute	Mark Steward, <i>Argyll and Bute Council</i>	On track
Explore the potential for an Argyll and Bute Centre of Entrepreneurship	Lucinda Gray, <i>Highlands & Islands Enterprise</i>	On track
Explore opportunities for joint resourcing and joint recruitment strategies across partners.	Grant Manders, <i>Police Scotland</i>	On track
Create a public sector asset register to develop economic growth	Matt Mulderrig, <i>Argyll and Bute Council</i>	On track
Create opportunities for young people to enter the public sector	Jane Fowler, <i>Argyll and Bute Council</i>	On track