

1. Purpose

To update Helensburgh and Lomond (H&L) Area Community Planning Group on activities undertaken by, Scottish Enterprise (SE) to the half year (Sept 2016/2017), within the H&L area of Argyll and Bute.

2. Recommendations

The Group to acknowledge SE's (half yearly-Sept 2016/2017) economic development activities.

3. SE Background

SE is a statutory partner in 27 Local Authority Areas.

At the heart of SE's approach is recognition that working in partnership with industry, business, and public sector partners helps the impact of what we can deliver. SE is a committed member of the A&B Community Planning Partnership and contributes to the work of several other bodies, including Chief Officer's Group, Helensburgh & Lomond Area CP Group and the Argyll and Bute Sustainable Economic Forum.

4. SE Detail

SE contributes to Scotland's long term economic growth by helping our companies to compete, supporting globally competitive sectors, attracting new investors, and creating an open and responsive business environment.

There are six SE Account Managed Companies in the H&L area in 2016/17; **Account Management** involves working intensively with the company, delivering the most appropriate support in accordance with their growth plans.

One firm has completed manufacturing reviews with one more currently undergoing reviews with the support of the **Scottish Manufacturing Advisory Service**, leading to reduced waste and improved cost, quality, and delivery performance.

SE helps companies to adopt **innovative approaches** across their operations. We use a range of grants to stimulate innovation activity. In H&L area two companies have received Innovation Grants.

Internationalisation SE recognises the importance of continuing to build Scotland's presence and visibility in overseas markets in an increasingly competitive, globalised economy. To September 2016/2017 Scottish Development International helped 27 A&B businesses to capitalise on global opportunities (data not provided at the H&L area level).

Our approach to enabling **Investment** is to help companies to secure the funding they need to unlock their growth potential. Through the **Scottish Investment Bank**, which supports the development of Scotland's private sector SME funding market to support access to growth capital, one company in A&B received a total value of SIB investment of £30,000.

Partnership Working

SE's interests are focused on local outcomes that contribute to national outcomes. SE will continue to work closely with A&BC and other partners for the benefit of the Argyll and Bute economy.

5. Argyll & Bute Council – Partnership working with SE

Regular Quarterly Meetings

Regular quarterly meetings now take place between SE and Argyll and Bute Council staff including appropriate staff in the Economic Development and Strategic Transportation (EDST) Service

Economic Development Action Plans

Outlined below is the year-end progress noted by key actions within the H&L EDAP and the Strategic EDAP that align to required input from SE.

Note: Other actions not relevant to SE under a particular outcome have been removed.

Helensburgh & Lomond EDAP: Investment

Investment in infrastructure (physical and digital), islands, key sectors, business support, communities and people will in turn attract further business investment, stimulate economic activity and deepen access to the labour market in the Helensburgh and Lomond (H&L) area.

| H&L: INVESTMENT IN KEY SECTORS AND BUSINESS SUPPORT | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|---|
| SOA Long Term Objectives (2023) | Outcome (by year 5) | Description of Activity | Milestones/Actions (in year) | Progress to Date (end March 2017) |
| Areas within Argyll and Bute realise their unique potential through partnership working. (Outcome 1) | H&L (Faslane/HM Clyde Naval Base) is recognised as a key location for defence at a national level. | Development and delivery of the Maritime Change Programme. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A Strategic Delivery Framework formalised with the MOD and other Community Planning Partners during 2016. 2. An Action Programme to be developed by the end of March 2017 to exploit the identified economic opportunities from this programme. | <p>A collaborative workshop, attended by Scottish Enterprise, to look at operational matters, was held on 18th January 2017.</p> <p>A partnership action plan was developed outlining the feedback from the event under the following six key themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • developable land & business premises; • transport; • skills requirements; • promotion and branding of Helensburgh and Lomond; • town centre enhancement; and • SME support. <p>Discrete actions have been aligned to Scottish Enterprise activity under the first and sixth themes.</p> |

Helensburgh and Lomond EDAP: Innovation

H&L must foster a culture of innovation alongside specific initiatives.

| H&L: INNOVATION - ENTREPRENEURSHIP | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|---|
| SOA Long Term Objectives (2023) | Outcome (by year 5) | Description of Activity | Milestones/Actions (in year) | Progress to Date (end March 2017) |
| Entrepreneurship is at the heart of all we do. (Outcome 1) | H&L is recognised as a key location for enterprise and entrepreneurial activity. | Identify building blocks for establishing the Virtual Centre for Innovators in Helensburgh. | 1. Argyll and Bute Council to work with Scottish Enterprise (SE) and key stakeholders, such as the Helensburgh Community Council, to take forward the concept of a Virtual Centre for Innovators by the end of 2017. | 1. This concept is now been taken forward by the Helensburgh Community Council with a pilot being undertaken in the Helensburgh Library. Council officers from Economic Development and the Argyll and Bute and contact from Scottish Enterprise received a presentation from the Helensburgh Community Council on the 8th February on this pilot approach. |

Strategic EDAP: Internationalisation

Enable Argyll and Bute Council to take advantage of international opportunities by rethinking its role in an evolving global context. The other action(s) under 'milestones/action (in year)' not relevant to SE have been removed.

| INTERNATIONALISATION – PROMOTION AND MARKETING OF ARGYLL AND BUTE | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|--|
| SOA Long Term Objectives (2023) | Outcome (by year 5) | Description of Activity | Milestones/Actions (in year) | Progress to Date (end March 2017) |
| Argyll and Bute has a positively promoted image within and out-with its area boundary. (Outcome 1) Education and training opportunities are aligned to economic development opportunities both within Argyll and Bute and nationally. (Outcome 3) | Education and skills training opportunities are aligned to economic development opportunities within Argyll and Bute. | Securing inward investment and local employment/training opportunities for Argyll and Bute. | 1. Develop a close working relationship with Scottish Development International (SDI), Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) and Argyll College UHI to identify and attract inward investment to Argyll and Bute. | 1. An initial inward investment meeting has been organised between SDI, Scottish Enterprise, Argyll and Bute Council appropriate EDST staff and some neighbouring local authorities, such as West Dunbartonshire Council, for Monday 15 th May 2017 at the Civic Centre, Helensburgh. |

6. Conclusion

That the Helensburgh & Lomond Area Community Planning Group notes Scottish Enterprise and Argyll and Bute Council Activities and Partnership working within the Helensburgh and Lomond Area

Note: figures relate to Argyll and Bute; our sister company Highlands and Islands Enterprise has responsibility for the other areas of Argyll and Bute out - with Helensburgh and Lomond.

Name of Lead Officer

Janice Kennedy, Scottish Enterprise

For further information please contact Janice Kennedy 0141 228 2767 or Ishabel Bremner (section 5 only) 01546 604375.