

COUNCIL PRIORITIES

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to invite members to put in place arrangements to identify the Council priorities for the new 5 year term, which are articulated in a manner that will allow Officers to deliver them on an operational basis.
- 1.2 It is recommended that the priorities are developed and framed within the context of the Argyll and Bute Outcome Improvement Plan (former Single Outcome Agreement - SOA), the Council's Corporate Plan, and in line with the requirements of Best Value.

COUNCIL PRIORITIES

2.0 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to invite Members to put in place arrangements to identify the Council priorities for the new 5 year term, which are articulated in a manner that will allow Officers to deliver them on an operational basis.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Members are invited to identify the Council's priorities for the next 5 years;
- 3.2 It is recommended that the identified priorities are then developed and framed within the context of the Argyll and Bute Outcome Improvement Plan (former Single Outcome Agreement - SOA), the Council's Corporate Plan, and in line with the requirements of Best Value.

4.0 DETAIL

- 4.1 Following the elections on 4 May 2017 a new Council is now in place until 2022. It is important that the Council sets out its key priorities for delivery during this period.
- 4.2 In line with the common practice for previous Councils, it is proposed that the priorities are developed and framed within the context of the Argyll and Bute Outcome Improvement Plan, formerly referred to as the SOA. This underpins everything that we do in Argyll and Bute, in partnership with our Community Planning Partners, and supports the overall objective of *"Argyll and Bute's economic success is built on a growing population"*. The 6 key outcomes that support the delivery of this vision, and which inform all our activities, including the production of service plans, are:-
1. Our economy is diverse and thriving
 2. We have infrastructure that supports sustainable growth
 3. Education, skills and training maximises opportunities for all
 4. Children and young people have the best possible start
 5. People live active, healthier and independent lives
 6. People live in safer and stronger communities

- 4.3 It is important that the Corporate Plan is also taken into consideration as part of

the process to develop the Council priorities. It is due to be renewed this year, and the priorities for 2017-22, once approved, will inform the development of the new Plan. At present the overall mission of the Corporate Plan is *“Making Argyll and Bute a place people choose to live, learn, work and do business”* and there are a set of strategic priorities in place to achieve this. All service plans are aligned to the strategic priorities and the 6 key outcomes detailed at 4.2 above.

- 4.4 One further consideration is that in order for the Council to demonstrate Best Value it is important to demonstrate that our priorities have been developed taking into account the views/aspirations of our communities. Information gathered from communities as part of the Budget Consultation in 2016/17 asked specific questions of our communities about their priorities (findings report available [here](#)). Community Planning has also carried out engagement with communities on priority issues (copy of key findings report available [here](#)). Both these sources of recently gathered information provide supporting evidence to inform members’ consideration of priorities.

5.0 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 Members are invited to develop priorities for the next 5 years, and it is recommended that these are developed in line with previous approaches, taking account of the Argyll and Bute Outcome Improvement Plan, the Corporate Plan, and the aspirations of our communities.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Policy – none at present
- 6.2 Financial – none at present
- 6.3 Legal – none at present
- 6.4 HR – none at present
- 6.5 Equalities – none at present
- 6.6 Risk – none at present
- 6.7 Customer Service – none at present

Cleland Sneddon
Chief Executive

5 July 2017