

# Bute and Cowal CPG

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Highlands and Islands Enterprise  
Digital Communities.

## **CBS 3 - Kyles of Bute Community Broadband**

Outcome 2 – We Have Infrastructure that Supports Sustainable Growth



## KYLES COMMUNITY BROADBAND – REVISED PROJECT

### Project Detail

#### The Proposal

**Kyles Community Broadband (KCB) has published a fresh State Aid Public Consultation for the supply of Superfast Broadband for the area of the Kyles of Bute noted in the map below. (Appendix 1) The KCB Board plan to issue a fresh Invitation to Tender shortly for that service to be provided via the usual procurement channels.**

It is expected that project costs of c. £2.5m will be delivered via SRDP managed funds. The full project paper which will be completed for HIE approval will detail the project costs, funding package and on-going project sustainability.

The SAPC seeks to identify if any commercially provided service is proposed for the project area. As a result of the responses received the project area may reduce in size.

#### Background

In Autumn 2016, Kyles Community Broadband (KCB) aggregated project proposed to develop a Superfast Community Broadband network in two phases that would offer speeds above 30Mbps to over 400 properties that would not be served by the Digital Scotland Superfast Broadband (DSSB) fibre program. The first phases comprised 346 premises in the Colintrave and Glendaruel area and were offered to the market in an Invitation To Tender for a design build and operate system. Two responses were received however both responses indicated that the budget was insufficient to cover 100% of the project area and offered at best 80% coverage.

After two rounds of clarification questions, advice and support from industry specialists Farrpoint, Gardiner & Theobald project management team, and CBS and following group discussions it became clear that as neither offer suited the vision proposed to the community by the KCB board. Having considered their position they decided the best option was to terminate the tender process and indicate to the contractors they would seek to enlarge the project area to cover their entire present footprint and include all of rural Bute and rural Tighnabruich and then apply for a suitable budget designed to reach all of those premises.

This has now been completed and a project area as described has been mapped (Appendix 1) and as a result the premise numbers have increased from 346 to 624 with a projected budget of up to £2.5m indicated. An SAPC (State Aid Public Consultation) was launched on December 22<sup>nd</sup> and will close at the end of January.

KCB combines the skills of Tighnabruich & District Development Trust, (TDDT) Colintrave and Glendaruel Development Trust (C&GDT) and Bute Rural Broadband. The KCB Chairman also leads the C&GDT and the 5 members of the board are drawn widely from all of the area. The board members are all business people who are experienced in technology project management or in the operation of successful tourism business.

Both development trusts were set up to promote sustainable development for the benefit of local people, local community groups and local businesses resulting in income to the community, increased jobs and opportunities, a growth in population particularly families and young people and an increase in visitor numbers.

**APPENDIX 1**

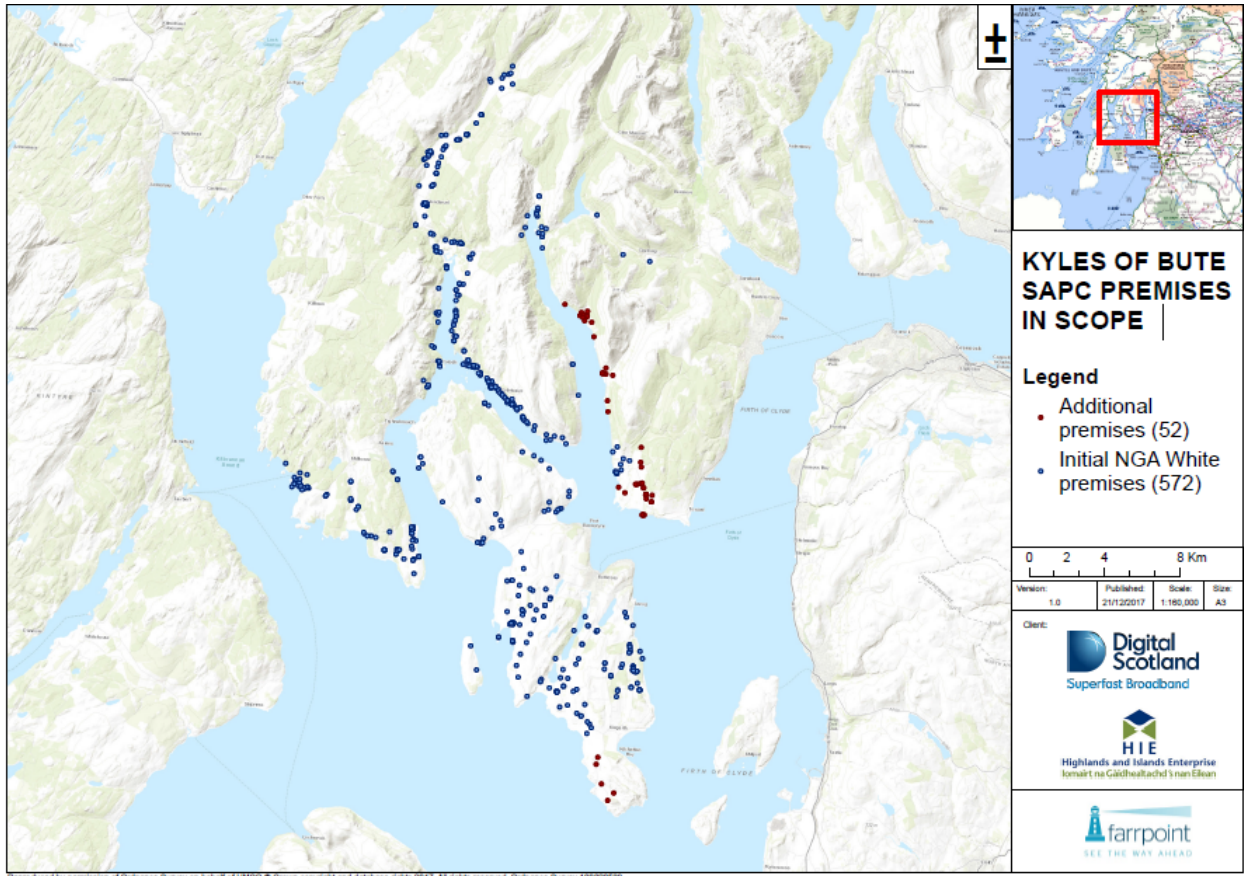


Figure 1: The Kyles Community Broadband Revised Project Area December 2017

Key procurement dates are:-

Activity	Date
DSSB/CBS/BT agreed intervention area	December 2017
Issue OJEU notice & State Aid Public consultation (1 month)	January 2018
State Aid – Public consultation report	February 2018
Publication of ITT	February 2018
Competitive Dialogue procurement	March - June 2018
Identify preferred bidder	July 2018
HIE Submission for Approval	July 2018
Contract Award	August 2018

Campbell Cameron	CBS Adviser	15 January 2018
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