

Appendix 1: Rural Growth Deal consultation findings summary

We received **907** responses, primarily via the website and citizens' panel.

Question	Overall response	Rate of response
Q1: Are you in favour of a Rural Growth Deal?	Yes	Yes = 97% No view = 1% No = 2% ('Argyll's remoteness is a key quality; 'investment would go to towns')
Q2. Are these the areas with most potential growth for Argyll and Bute?	Yes	Food/drink = 84%; Tourism = 91%; Culture = 85%; Innovation = 87%
Q3. Are these the areas to develop to achieve significant economic growth?	Yes	Roads/Infrastructure = 96%; Skills = 86%; Digital connectivity = 94%; Accommodation = 85%; Natural energy = 82%
Q6. Do you agree with 'Argyll, the natural choice' as a base for a vision?	Yes	Yes = 60% Don't know = 24% No = 16% ('live, learn, visit etc sounds like a list', 'needs to be more dynamic')

Below is a summary of the range of additional comments made.

Q 4/5 What would encourage young people to move and to stay here? (Responses to 'move' and 'stay' are very similar so are listed together.	Alternative suggestions for our vision?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Education/training/job opportunities eg bursaries - Leisure facilities – film, nightlife etc - Better transport links - Better broadband/digital - Suitable, affordable housing - Reduce council tax for young people - Better childcare initiatives - Good shops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Argyll, the land of natural opportunity - Argyll, the future is here - Argyll - for a richer pace of life - Argyll, the right choice for you - Come out west, we need the best - Argyll, expand your horizons - Argyll for growth, choice & nature - Argyll, the best choice
Suggestions for economic growth?	Any other ideas for growth?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Marine industry (e.g. improve piers, encourage water sport industry) - Renewable energy other than wind - tidal, wave, solar, biomass and geothermal. - Arts and culture – encourage creative industries into the area - Promote 'dark sky' space - Education (eg attract universities for rural and marine based courses) - Affordable/suitable accommodation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Better transport infrastructure - Broaden the business base; don't rely on tourism - Develop a route like the North Coast 500 - Support for business start-ups - Run large events eg sports, winter lights festivals - Improve digital connectivity - Trails – archeology, history, celtic - Serviced industrial, business sites - Coastal/Marine National Park status

Additional finding

Feedback demonstrates a sense of pride in Argyll, and awareness of its great potential for success, for example: *"If [Argyll] can be supported by 21st century standards of connectivity, roads, transport and communications, we couldn't be bettered in Scotland."* / *"[Argyll's] potential for growth is plain to see..with ideas and drive we still need investment to fulfil this potential."*