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**ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL**

**MID-ARGYLL, KINTYRE AND THE  
ISLANDS AREA COMMITTEE**

**DEVELOPMENT AND  
INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES**

**6 MARCH 2019**

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## **FESTIVE LIGHTING UPDATE**

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### **1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update members on the delivery of festive lighting across Mid-Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands in 2018, as well as the community handover arrangements now that the Council is ceasing to provide this non-statutory service.
- 1.2 Overall the outlook is very positive, and it is expected that all community arrangements will be in place, at least in principle, by the end of this financial year. Each situation is slightly different from the last in terms of the historic provision; as well as the mix of skills, funding and capacity available to communities, with the result that this is a complex piece of work.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members are asked to:

- Consider the contents of this report;

**FESTIVE LIGHTING UPDATE**

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**2.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 This report provides Members with an update on the delivery of festive lighting across Mid-Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands in 2018. The overall programme saw a mix of council-led and community-led festive lighting displays.
- 2.2 As per the Budget decision of February 2016, the Council is no longer in a financial position to deliver festive lighting. Community handovers are at various stages, with some complete and some still in progress.

**3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members are asked to:

- 3.1 Consider the contents of this report.

**4.0 DETAIL****4.1 DELIVERY OF FESTIVE LIGHTING 2018**

- 4.1.1 Festive lighting in Mid-Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands was delivered as follows:

Town/village	Delivery mechanism		Comments
	Council	Community	
Lochgilphead		Lochgilphead Christmas Lights Committee, using local contractor McLeod Construction	Delivered by the Christmas Committee with the aid of a grant of £5,000 from ABC
Ardrishaig	ABC led, with the switch on subcontracted to McLeod		The local development trust has agreed to take this on in future years

	Construction		
Inveraray		Inveraray Community Council	Delivered by the CC with the aid of a grant of £1,750 from ABC
Tarbert	ABC delivery		In principle agreement for local events group to take this on going forward
Furnace			There was a community-led solution in place at Furnace but unfortunately this fell through at the last minute which meant that the Furnace tree was unlit this year. Steps are being taken to ensure the community arrangement going forward is robust.
Campbeltown	<p>ABC delivery with the aid of local contractor McKinven and Colville.</p> <p>In utilising a local contractor alongside the Council's street lighting squad, this provided the contractor with the knowledge and experience needed for the job going forward.</p>		There is an established Committee in Campbeltown with which the Council is working closely to ensure a successful handover for 2019.
Bowmore		Delivered via the Bowmore Sports Committee, who utilise an independent local electrician	
Jura		Jura Development Company arrange the event, with the install being done by a local electrician.	The Council's contribution to the community handover was the purchase of a small number of replacement features.

## 4.2 FINANCIAL POSITION

4.2.1 The estimated balance of the MAKI festive fund is noted in the table below. The total costs are not fully reconciled in the ledger because timesheets require to be verified and final invoices are awaited from suppliers/sub-contractors. The exact balances will be available after the end of the financial year.

Area	2017/18 spend	2018/19 budget	2018/19 spend (or committed)	Balance
MAKI	31,174	20.7287	7,750 in direct grants  Repairs and labour (inc. sub-contract) TBC	<500

## 5.0 CONCLUSION

5.1 The project to transition from Council-led to community-led festive lighting across Argyll and Bute is approaching a successful conclusion. Lighting events were delivered successfully in Mid-Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands in 2018 via a mix of Council and community groups.

## 6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Policy – none (ref Budget February 2016).

6.2 Financial – EDI is considering a model for the disbursement of any remaining funds

6.3 Legal – there is a template agreement for groups to sign up to which make the roles and responsibilities of both parties clear.

6.4 HR – none

6.5 Equalities – none

6.6 Risk – there is a risk that in future years community partners may approach the Council to fund their events due to a lack of independent revenue streams or external funding.

6.7 Customer Service – none

**Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure, Pippa Milne**  
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