
ARGYLL AND BUTE DESIGN AWARDS 2020

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1** The purpose of this report is to invite Members to agree the proposal to facilitate the launch of built environment Design Awards in 2020.
- 1.2** Argyll and Bute Council has successfully held three rounds of Design Awards over the past ten years, the most recent being held in 2015. It is proposed that, as five years have passed since the last competition, that a further round in 2020 be launched as identified in the Service Plan.
- 1.3** The need for high quality, sustainable design is an important consideration within Planning at both the national level both in terms of Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) and the Scottish Government's Policy Document on Creating Places, and also at local level in the policies of the Local Development Plan (LDP). The Design Awards seek to raise awareness of these issues and promote successful design in Argyll and Bute. The Design Awards also acknowledge the significance of Climate Change and the council's need to comply with the Climate Change Act.
- 1.4** It is recommended that Members note and agree the content of this report which sets out the process required to adequately prepare for a built environment design competition to be launched in 2020.

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2.0 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to invite Members to agree the process required for preparation of built environment Design Awards in 2020.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that Members note and agree the content of this report which sets out the process required to prepare for a built environment design competition to be launched in 2020.

4.0 DETAIL

- 4.1 The need for high quality, sustainable design is an important consideration within Planning at both the national level both in terms of Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) and the Scottish Government's Policy Document on Creating Places, and also at local level in the policies of the Local Development Plan (LDP). The Design Awards seek to raise awareness of these issues and promote successful high quality design in Argyll and Bute. The Design Awards also acknowledge the significance of Climate Change and the council's need to comply with the Climate Change Act.
- 4.2 In previous years of this competition sustainability and design have been considered together. However given the heightened awareness of the impacts of Climate Change and the Council's need to comply with the Climate Change Act, it is proposed that sustainability be considered in its own right separately from other aspects of design.
- 4.3 It is proposed that a judging panel be formed of 2 Members as well as 2 Council Officers for each category. To ensure the most appropriate expertise in each category Officers with the relevant knowledge of energy efficiency and Building Standards will, along with 2 Members, judge the Sustainability category while Officers with knowledge of design will be on the judging panel for the other categories.

- 4.4 The proposed categories are:
- Sustainable design
 - Aesthetic design
 - Community Led Regeneration project
 - Built heritage
 - Design for under £100k
 - Members' award
 - Public Award

It is anticipated that, in some cases, projects may be entered into more than one category.

- 4.5 The proposed timescale for key tasks is:
- February 2020 - 12 week entry period opens; promotion of Awards
 - May 2020 – shortlisting
 - June 2020 – People's Choice voting period opens
 - August 2020 – site visits; judging meeting
 - October 2020 – Members' Choice voting at PPSL
 - TBC - awards ceremony

- 4.6 The Design Awards will be publicised via the website and press releases as appropriate. In order to ensure the event is widely publicised it is proposed that a mailshot be sent to all Agents currently held in the Development Management database and/or through the use of social media channels such as facebook for example.

- 4.7 It is acknowledged that in previous Argyll and Bute Design Award competitions Members' involvement, with the exception of the 2 Members on the judging panel, has been limited. It is therefore proposed that a Members' Award be added to the 2020 Awards. Members would therefore be presented with all the shortlisted entries from each category and allowed to vote for their favourite project. One Members' Award would be given which may or may not be a project which has won one of the categories judged by the Panel. It is proposed that a presentation of the shortlisted entries and a vote be included as an additional session prior to PPSL Committee in late 2020.

- 4.8 In recognition of the importance of community involvement in relation of the awards and to help publicise the need for high quality and sustainable design it is proposed that members of the public also be presented with the shortlisted entries from each category online and be allowed to vote for their favourite project across the categories. This may or may not be a project which has won one of the categories judged by the Panel.

5.0 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 High quality design and sustainability are both recognised as being of important concerns within Planning at the national level in the Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) and within the Scottish Government's Policy Document on Creating Places. It is also considered important at a local level in the Local Development Plan (LDP) through policies in the plan relating to design and climate change. The proposed Design Awards seek to raise awareness of these issues with the general public and promote successful high quality design in Argyll and Bute. The Awards intend to recognize the significance of the impacts of Climate Change, the need to adapt to these impacts together with the Council's need to comply the Climate Change Act.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Policy : The need for good and sustainable design is a requirement of the LDP and emerging LDP2.
- 6.2 Financial : met within existing budgets
- 6.3 Legal : None
- 6.4 HR : Officer and Member time
- 6.5 Fairer Scotland Duty: None
- 6.5.1 Equalities - protected characteristics: None
- 6.5.2 Socio-economic Duty: None
- 6.5.3 Islands : None
- 6.6 Risk : None
- 6.7 Customer Service: None

Executive Director with responsibility for Development and Economic Growth:

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