

---

**Community Focus – Mid Argyll Transport Volunteers**

---

**Summary**

Catherine Kennedy of Mid Argyll Transport Volunteers (MATV) will describe the organisation and its contribution to supporting the most vulnerable during the lockdown of 2020.

**1. Purpose**

An extraordinary and varied response emerged from communities across the MAKI area. Learning from them will be an important component of preparing for the future.

**2. Background**

MATV was established in 1994 by a group from Ardrishaig with approximately 3 drivers who saw the need for transport for the elderly who could not access public transport due to age or illness. This was to help them go to shops or to medical appointments as well as to help with their social isolation. At that time there was approximately 16 clients.

The group has evolved with now volunteer 30 drivers, a part time coordinator and over 500 clients over Mid Argyll and Tarbert Area. We still take people to social occasions and shops/Banks but now our focus is primarily on transporting clients locally to the Doctor, or to nurses and dentist appointments. We transport clients to and from hospitals in Oban and Glasgow. In Feb of this year, before lockdown we were doing over 100 runs in 4 weeks - this was local and long distance.

**3. Detail**

Mid Argyll Transport Volunteers provided support to the food distribution work of Argyll and Bute Council as well as collecting prescriptions for people who called the Caring for People helpline.

The organisation will provide detail at this meeting.

**Name of Lead Officer**

Antonia Baird, Community Development Officer, Argyll and Bute Council

**For further information** please follow *Mid Argyll Transport Volunteers* on Facebook or contact Catherine Kennedy on 01546 603564