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## Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership

### Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group

17 August 2021



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## Briefing Note: Climate Change Working Group – Involvement of Area Community Planning Groups

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This briefing provides information on the Climate Change Working Group which has been formed by the CPP Management Committee, gives details on the aims of the Group and looks at how Area Community Planning Groups can be more involved.

### Summary

A Short Life Working Group was formed by the CPP Management Committee following its meeting held in December 2019 and was initially co-chaired by the MSYP's who were members of the Management Committee.

Following a break due to the pandemic, the Group has met recently and has a new Chair, Stan Phillips of NatureScot.

The Group is currently exploring its remit and what actions can be taken forward.

### Membership of the Climate Change Working Group

The Group currently has members from across the CPP Management Committee. It is Chaired by Stan Phillips from NatureScot and has input from partners and Council officers – Willie Lynch, Chair of the Bute and Cowal ACPG is also a member.

At their last meeting the Working Group agreed that they would be keen to increase membership, to make sure relevant sectors/demographics were represented, including young people. It is therefore suggested that each Area Community Planning Group may want to appoint a representative (and a substitute if possible) who could attend the Working Group meetings and act as liaison with the ACPG.

### Remit and aims of the Climate Change Working Group

When the Working Group was originally set up it looked to build on and promote the work being carried out by partners across Argyll and Bute. At the most recent meeting the Group agreed to look at the remit and aims and discussion within the Group noted the following:-

- To educate everyone in A&B about climate change and reducing our carbon footprint.

- Messaging.
- More awareness raising around industrial decarbonisation agenda.
- How businesses are supported/incentivised to just transition to net zero.
- To have a simple, short statement reflecting our purpose/mission statement.
- To identify risks for the area e.g. rising sea levels
- Adaptation planning
- To explore what our natural capital means and how we can best use this, particularly in relation to Community Wealth Building.
- Continue to update website with new material

Members of the Group were asked to think about the discussion and to bring forward ideas for refining the discussion into a set of meaningful actions. Any actions which are put forward need to be achievable and realistic given that there is no direct resource allocated to the Working Group.

Primarily, actions should be something that can make a difference.

Input from the Area Groups with any ideas for actions would be welcomed.

### **Climate Change actions across Argyll and Bute**

Across Argyll and Bute there are many examples of good work and practice which relate to the climate change agenda. For example, the Council has a Climate Change Board which looks at how the Council can make a difference by implementing different ways of working or taking forward different practices which all contributes to the climate change agenda. There are many more examples across the partners of the Management Committee and in the wider community.

Members will be aware that the Climate Change Conference (COP 26) is being hosted in Glasgow in November of this year. This is a key opportunity in terms of the climate change agenda and there will be many activities taking place in local areas which will link into the conference, including an Education conference in October which is being taken forward by the Council.

The CPP Management Committee has created a dedicated climate change webpage which is hosted on the Council website, it has lots of useful links and information and can be accessed here [Community Planning Partnership - Climate Change \(argyll-bute.gov.uk\)](https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/community-planning-partnership-climate-change).

ACT (Argyll and the Isles Coast and Countryside Trust) are taking forward a project called Act Now and one part of this is the compilation of an interactive map which they hope will encourage greater levels of collaboration between organisations and promote engagement.

ACT Now is looking to add any not-for-profit organisation to the map which have a focus on climate change awareness, home energy efficiency, sustainable travel, local food production, health and wellbeing in the natural environment, environmental education, upcycling/recycling, improving biodiversity, promotion of natural heritage etc. You can view the map here [ECOconnect Map Argyll | Argyll and the Isles Coast and](https://www.ecoconnectmap.org.uk/)

[Countryside Trust \(act-now.org.uk\)](http://act-now.org.uk) Any examples which the Group considers relevant can be collated and passed on to ACT Now.

## **Recommendations**

The Area Community Planning Group is asked to:-

- (1) Discuss the information outlined in the briefing and provide suggestions for actions for the Climate Change Working Group;
- (2) Consider the nomination of a substitute to represent the Bute and Cowal ACPG on the Working Group; and
- (3) Provide detail on any relevant project/organisation that could be put forward as an addition to the ACT interactive map.

### **For further information, please contact:**

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