

ARGYLL AND BUTE TSI – CPG MAKI UPDATE 31st AUGUST 2022

This was a quarter full of activity with the **Volunteer Awards** in June, the **Social Enterprise Network** meeting attended by the Scottish Minister responsible for Community Wealth Building and a conference placing the spotlight on community voices in the design and delivery of health and social care services. The TSI also distributed £40,000 worth of grants for the government under the **Community Based Adult Learning fund** and supported the Welcome Fairs for the resettlement of Ukrainian Refugees in Dunoon and Oban.

We expect the Scottish Government to confirm the year 2 funding for the **Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund** in August 2022, which is likely to be in the region of the original grant size of £285k. All going well the fund will be open for applications in September.

The new Joint Commissioning Strategy which was agreed at the Integration Joint Board meeting on 30th March 2022 – see <https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/moderngov/documents/s184458/Cover%20Report%20JSCS.pdf> enshrines the principles of three year funding for third sector organisations and co-production. Whilst the strategy is an excellent first step it will require a clear delivery plan and will need to be properly resourced. To take this further a very successful meeting on co-production was hosted by the TSI at the Inveraray Hub in June 2022 and a proposed model will be further developed over the coming months. The **Inveraray Hub** is in great demand and is proving to be a valued regional resource.

A **Training Needs Analysis** survey has been sent out to the voluntary sector, in partnership with the Council, and this will inform the strategy for the future provision of training for our sector over the coming 12 months. Results out shortly.

Excellent progress has been made on the database **ABCD (Argyll and Bute Community Directory)** with over 872 organisations now loaded with full contact details and service information. The aim is to launch a first version of the directory in September. The intention is to achieve something akin to the Glasgow Helps directory (<https://www.glasgowhelps.org/>) and the Dumfries and Galloway service locator (<https://dglocator.org.uk/>) which are both searchable and interactive.

The TSI is looking to develop a pan-Argyll and Bute approach to identifying and sharing volunteers as well as to underline the distinction between paid and voluntary activity as the public sector prepares to further reduce expenditure from 2024. To advance this the TSI are planning a **Volunteer Conference**. The conference is likely to be in September with a date to be announced in the coming weeks.

The **YPG mentor and volunteer placement programme** continues to deliver for Young People aged 16-24 with over 30 young people on the programme. The TSI is looking to expand the principles and model of the programme to other client groups such as low-level ex-offenders, people with learning disabilities and those experiencing mental ill health.

The TSI CEO has joined the steering group for the **Calmac Ferries Fund** which opened on 22nd August. It is worth approximately £80,000.

