

Argyll & Bute Citizens Advice Bureau Community Planning Update August 2022



The Bureau has been extremely busy over the last few months seeing an unprecedented rise in requests for advice and support from clients across all areas of Argyll & Bute.

We celebrated our 20th Anniversary in May at a small event for staff, volunteers and invited guests, where we recognised the contribution the Bureau has made over those 20 years to the 93,000 clients and increasing the local economy by approx. £12 million. This year is already demonstrating a similar benefit with us securing £1.1 million in client financial gain for around 1100 clients.

The costs of living crisis has pushed our energy enquiries up by 89% between September and July compared to the same period the previous year. And the bureau has been working very hard to reduce waiting times which are currently sitting at approximately 6 weeks for non-urgent cases. Our case numbers overall have increased by 31%.

We have relocated in Helensburgh to the Helensburgh Community Hub 116 East Princes Street, Helensburgh G84 7DQ and are looking forward to better partner collaborations with other organisations located in the Hub.

Our Volunteer Adviser training Programme recommences in September, more information is on our website www.abcab.org.uk and application packs are available for interested trainees from info@abcab.org.uk

We have been attending local events, highland games and local shows over the last few months and engaged with the council's welcome Ukrainian Refugee events in Dunoon and Oban recently. If partners are aware of local events that they think would benefit with the attendance of our selves they are asked to let us know by emailing info@abcab.org.uk

The Bureau will hold our A.G.M on the 22nd Nov and invite partners to join the Bureau as a member to help shape the strategic direction and future work of the Bureau. (an application is attached)

Argyll and Bute Citizens Advice Bureau



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Under the Memorandum and Articles of the Argyll and Bute Citizens Advice Bureau you are required to become a member in order to be able to vote at the Annual General Meeting.

I, NAME _____ (Block capitals)

ADDRESS _____ (Block capitals)

Post code

Signed

Date

wish to be registered as a member of Argyll & Bute Citizens Advice Bureau, a Company Limited by Guarantee and not having a share capital, under the following category.

(Please tick appropriate box below)



A) "LOCAL RESIDENT MEMBER" - open to any individual (aged 16 or over) who resides in the Operating Area of Argyll & Bute.

B) "LOCAL GROUP MEMBER" - open to any individual who is nominated for membership by a voluntary, statutory or other organisation or body operating within the Operating Area or by a department of a statutory organisation or other body operating within the Operating Area.

C) "VOLUNTEER WORKER MEMBER" - open to any individual who is a member of the volunteer staff of the bureau
