

Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership

Annual Report
1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022

Argyll and Bute Outcome Improvement Plan 2013 – 2023

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1. Summary

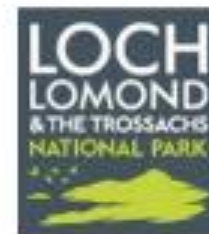
This annual report covers the twelve month period from 1 April 2021. This was a time of continued response to the pandemic following the emergent omicron variant. Our partnership developed 'cross-cutting' themes from partners understanding of what was critical to work on together and from engagement with community organisations which highlighted impacts of Covid-19.

The partnership agreed to work together on: climate change, building back better (strengthening communities), community wealth building, digital, safety in communities and addressing financial impacts including child poverty.

Progress and achievements on these issues are illustrated in this annual report. Highlights include:

- ✓ Climate Change Action webpage hosting information on actions to address climate change across communities and organisations in Argyll and Bute.
- ✓ Monthly meetings for community organisations supporting people in need, to share experience and get support from other organisations in the area.
- ✓ Funding and distribution of call blockers to prevent telephone fraud and scams.
- ✓ Over 6,000 Worrying about Money leaflets distributed
- ✓ Funding to increase awareness of digital opportunities in communities.

2. Who are we?



**Chair of the CPP
Management Committee**



Joe McKay

Joe joined the Fire Service in 1997 and has worked in various strategic roles including the role as deputy commander for the City of Glasgow.

In July 2020 he was transferred to Argyll and Bute and East and West Dunbartonshire as SFRS Local Senior Officer.

He is a MCR Pathways mentor for disadvantaged young people. Joe has a BA from Glasgow Caledonian University and an MSc.

He also enjoys sports and is a keen golfer.

Argyll and Bute Council	www.argyll-bute.gov.uk
Police Scotland	www.scotland.police.uk
Highlands and Islands Enterprise	www.hie.co.uk
NHS Highland	www.nhshighland.scot.nhs.uk
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service	www.firescotland.gov.uk
Argyll College UHI	www.argyll.uhi.ac.uk
Scottish Natural Heritage	www.snh.gov.uk
Skills Development Scotland	www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk
Scottish Enterprise	www.scottish-enterprise.com
Argyll and Bute TSI	www.argyllcommunities.org
Scottish Ambulance Service	www.scottishambulance.com
Loch Lomond & the Trossachs National Park	www.lochlomond-trossachs.org
Scottish Government	www.gov.scot
Department for Work and Pensions	www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-work-pensions

3. How do we work?

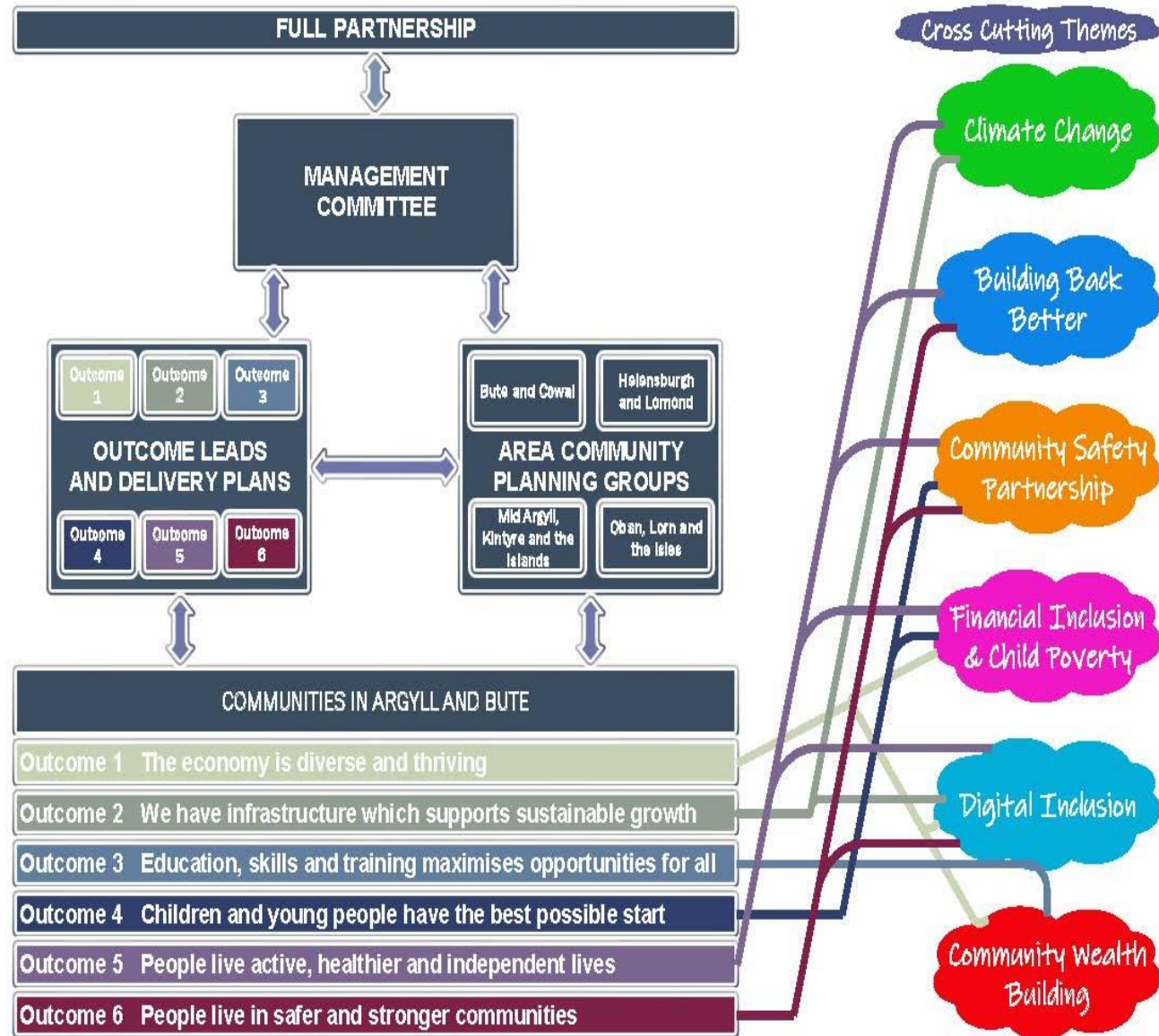
Community Planning in Argyll and Bute

The main purpose of the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) in Argyll and Bute is to address population decline and grow the economy.

The CPP is working together on a range of actions under six key outcome areas through cross cutting themes.

In autumn 2020, we asked communities how they had been impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. Communities told us about their needs, which we grouped together under cross cutting themes.

Although the themes relate back to the six outcomes of the Argyll & Bute Outcome Improvement Plan 2013-23, they make sure that our actions remain focused on what is important to communities in these changing times.



Outcome 2
We have infrastructure which supports sustainable growth

Outcome 5
People live active, healthier and independent lives

Partners

- Argyll and Bute Council
- Argyll Coast and Countryside Trust
- Bute & Cowal Area Community Planning Group
- Construction Scotland Innovation Centre
- East Kintyre Community Council
- Helensburgh & Lomond Area Community Planning Group
- Helensburgh Community Council
- Highlands and Islands Enterprise
- Isle of Gigha Heritage Trust
- Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park
- NatureScot
- NHS Highland & HSCP
- Oban Community Council
- Oban, Lorne & Isles Area Community Planning Group
- Plastic Free Helensburgh
- Police Scotland
- Scottish Environment Protection Agency
- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
- Scottish Government

Climate Change

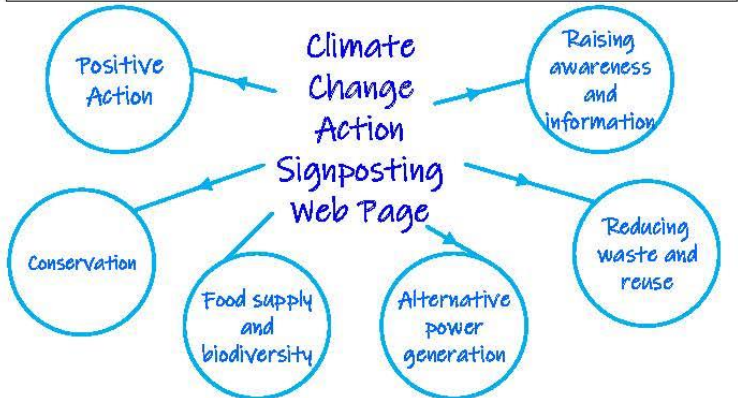
AIM:

To increase understanding of the facts and urgency of addressing climate change across the whole of Argyll and Bute and promote actions on mitigation, adaptation and engagement for a just and equitable transition to a net zero economy as soon as possible, and before national targets.

Plans: to develop strategy for addressing climate change for Argyll & Bute



Achievements:



www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/cpp-climate-change



Outcome 5
People live active, healthier and independent lives

Outcome 6
People live in safer and stronger communities

Building Back Better

Autumn 2020
 We asked community groups:
 "as we emerge from the pandemic,
 what is important to you?"

- Key areas identified:
- Financial implications
 - Restarting health services
 - Digital needs
 - Connecting to the environment & Climate change

We brought these priorities into the Community Planning Partnership by:

- Establishing a Financial Inclusion Working Group
- Working with the Health and Social Care Partnership
- Establishing a Digital Inclusion Working Group
- Expanding the work of the Climate Change Working Group

Building Back Better post created to:

- Build on community engagement
- Identify impact of pandemic on communities
- Create guidance for community groups
- Build community contacts
- Engage with and support communities and community groups



Community Organisations wanted help to:

- Understand the impact of Covid on organisations
- Grow numbers of volunteers
- Face challenges in sustaining support
- Develop support as needs change

Best Practice

Creating the right conditions for community groups to be supported and empowered during COVID-19 Response

Monthly meetings bringing together community groups



- > Networking and supporting each other by swapping experiences of tough times and successes
- > Sharing information about good practice, policies and Covid risk assessments
- > Identification of local needs

Rapid & accurate information about vaccination roll-out for groups



Mental Health by Shiraz Jamal from Noun Project

Access to free wellbeing & counselling services

Access to free training



Virtual training by Vectors Point from Noun Project

Partners:

- Police Scotland (Chair)
- HM Coastguard (Vice Chair)
- Argyll and Bute Council Regulatory Services
- Trading Standards
- Housing
- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Health and Social Care Partnership
- Violence Against Women and Girls Partnership
- Community Justice
- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
- Royal National Lifeboat Institution
- Argyll Third Sector Interface

Outcome 4
Children and young people have the best possible start

OFFICIAL
Outcome 5
People live active, healthier and independent lives

Outcome 6
People live in safer and stronger communities



Outcome 1
The economy is diverse and thriving

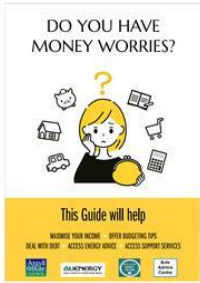
Outcome 4
Children and young people have the best possible start

Outcome 5
People live active, healthier and independent lives

Financial Inclusion & Child Poverty

200 Community Planning Partner staff members received Poverty Awareness Training

- People with experience of poverty played an integral part in the training
- The training aimed to address myths, negative stereotypes and views
- Participants were enabled to act with respect and empathy



Over 6,000 'Worrying About Money' leaflets distributed by community organisations and partners

Flexible Food Fund:

- *delivered by Community Food Forum, Bute Advice Centre & ALIenergy
- *764 households supported
- *Average of £1,221 in under-claimed benefits and grants accessed per household
- *Highly commended, IRRV Performance Awards 2021

950 adults & 597 children accessed emergency energy vouchers worth £33,108 with the support of ALIenergy & the Fuel Bank Foundation



Pound Money by Anzi from Noun Project

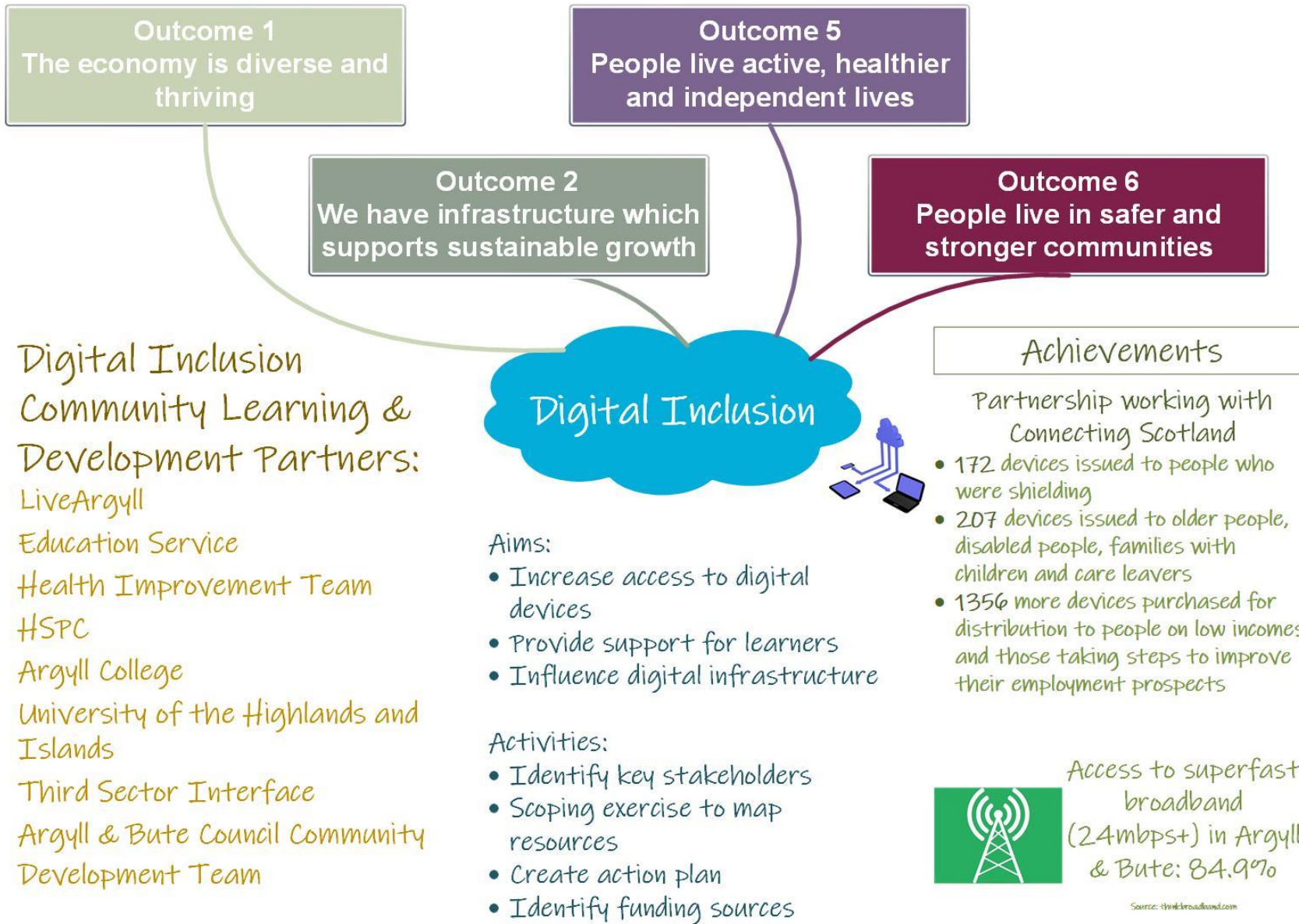
36 households secured bulk heating fuel deliveries worth on average £250 each



Heating by Ian Rashadi Kurniawan from Noun Project

47 parents received support to upskill or retrain to increase family income from the Parental Employability Support Fund





Digital Inclusion
Community Learning & Development Partners:
LiveArgyll
Education Service
Health Improvement Team
HSPC
Argyll College
University of the Highlands and Islands
Third Sector Interface
Argyll & Bute Council Community Development Team

- Aims:**
- Increase access to digital devices
 - Provide support for learners
 - Influence digital infrastructure

- Activities:**
- Identify key stakeholders
 - Scoping exercise to map resources
 - Create action plan
 - Identify funding sources

Outcome 1
The economy is diverse and thriving

Outcome 3
Education, skills and training maximises opportunities for all

Partners
Argyll & Bute Council
Development & Economic Growth
Third Sector Interface
Highlands & Islands Enterprise

Community Wealth Building

Mapping what is happening in Argyll & Bute

Inclusive Ownership:
Developing more local and social enterprises which generate community wealth, including social enterprises employee owned firms and co-ops.

What CWB policies do partners have?
What do they say?
What resources are available?

Spending:
Maximising community benefits through procurement and commissioning, developing good enterprises, fair work and shorter supply chains.

Community Wealth Building is a practical approach to local economic development that supports the delivery of a wellbeing economy for Scotland. It delivers actions that give the people of Scotland a greater stake in our economy and wealth, making it work for us and our planet.

Workforce:
Increasing fair work and developing local labour markets that support the wellbeing of communities.

What are great examples of CWB in Argyll & Bute?

Land and property:
Growing the social, ecological, financial and economic value that local communities gain from land and property assets.

Finance:
Ensuring that flows of investment and financial institutions work for local people, communities and businesses.

How do we make CWB relevant to Argyll & Bute's rural and island communities?

10. Engagement

Argyll and Bute Council and partner organisations wanted to understand the strengths and challenges experienced during lockdown and how to work together moving forward in this time of resilience and recovery.

Following a series of conversations with community groups, we established an online forum and invited communities to take part in discussions on some of the issues below:

- What were the challenges communities faced during COVID-19?
- What positives do you think came out of lockdown - is there any long term benefit for your community?
- Who were the community leaders on any local community outbreaks in future?
- How can we work together on any local community outbreaks in future?
- Is there any continued working we need to do together to strengthen our community post-COVID?

Click here for more information: [Building Back Better - Key Findings Report](#)

11. Best practice

As the Covid-19 pandemic entered into its second year, the Community Planning Partnership continued to support local community groups across Argyll and Bute through our Caring for People partnership. Key Community Planning partners included Argyll & Bute Council, Argyll & Bute Health and Social Care Partnership, the Third Sector Interface, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service and our excellent community organisations and groups. Together we provided guidance and community support to ensure that no one was left behind.

You can read a case study that was highlighted by Communities Channel Scotland as an example of best practice here: [Support for local networking: Garelochhead Station Trust's experience during Covid-19](#)

12. Addressing inequalities

Addressing inequalities is something that our Partnership seeks opportunity to do and we are delighted to be working with the Improvement Service on one of six pilot projects in Scotland to reduce inequalities through place based approaches to wellbeing.

The Shaping Places for Wellbeing Programme is a delivery partnership between the Improvement Service and Public Health Scotland (PHS), funded and supported by The Health Foundation and Scottish Government with support from COSLA. The overall ambition of the programme is to improve Scotland's wellbeing and reduce inequalities. It aims to change our collective approaches to the places where we live, work and play. To deliver upstream preventative interventions that reduce Scotland's significant health inequalities while delivering on the range of national ambitions around Covid recovery and climate action.

Dunoon is one of six communities across Scotland that has been identified to receive support to stimulate actions promoting strong partnership working around data driven knowledge on inequality with citizen involvement to create systems change.

You can read more about the programme here: [Shaping Places for Wellbeing Programme](#)

For more information about the Community Planning Partnership in Argyll and Bute you can find our welcome pack and e-bulletins on our webpages: <https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/council-and-government/community-planning-partnership>

Please email cppadmin@argyll-bute.gov.uk if you would like to receive the e-bulletin direct to your inbox.