

ARGYLL & BUTE TSI

The Scottish Government has confirmed that Year 2 funding for the Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund will be £282,303. Two consultation events were held in September to review local and national priorities for the fund, an online application tool has been built linked to our database and the fund was formally opened locally on 17th October 2022.

TSIs across Scotland and many partners have become increasingly concerned about the impact of the cost-of-living crisis on our communities and have been discussing campaigning about the impact of the crisis on both individuals and charities. The latter is mostly treated in the same way as commercial business in terms of energy costs etc.

We have also offered the TSI hub as a space for community groups to meet instead of heating their own space and subject to further thought we are thinking of compiling a warm spaces list.

This last quarter has seen the final build and population of the Argyll and Bute Community Directory which now contains over 1400 services across the region.

Funding has been approved for the successor programme to the Young Person's Guarantee – Argyll and Bute Positive Destinations – from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. This will allow support for approximately 20 people per year and the beneficial group for pre-employment support via a mentor and a volunteering placement has been widened to other vulnerable groups. Further applications are in the pipeline and it is intended that 60 people per year will be supported.

Government has asked that TSIs play a role in planning for the resettlement of Ukrainian Refugees. The scheme has accelerated rapidly and over 300 people have been settled in Argyll and Bute. Welcoming events supported by Argyll and Bute TSI staff continue to be held across Argyll and Bute.

CEO is planning regular visits to groups in each of the four areas of Argyll and Bute. First visits took place June and July to Dunoon and Oban and Helensburgh was visited on 30th August 2022. Campbeltown visits are due to take place at the end of October.

TSI is hosting a Volunteer Conference in Inveraray on 9th December 2022.