

Argyll & Bute Citizens Advice Bureau Community Planning Update Nov 2022



The Bureau has continued to working at capacity over the intervening months since the last meeting. We currently have a waiting list of approximately 7 weeks for non-urgent enquiries, however are seeing urgent cases within one week in most cases.

Our Volunteer Adviser training Programme recommenced in September, and we have 5 new volunteers progressing well at this time, we anticipate these trainees will start to provide advice in the spring once they have completed their training. More information is on our website www.abcab.org.uk and application packs are available for interested trainees from info@abcab.org.uk our next training programme is in the spring of 2023 – we are especially keen to hear from existing organisations to see where we can offer partnership opportunities and link with existing volunteers

ENERGY ADVICE Due to the rapid rise of enquiries relating to energy and energy debt, the Bureau has secured additional funding to support households across the region to access energy advice and we will share details of sessions for partner organisations over the coming weeks.

INCOME MAXIMISATION ADVICE We have also secured additional funding to deliver income maximization support to households – this can provide important support that empowers individuals to look at their options independently through a dedicated website. www.moneytalkteam.org.uk

***CHANGE OF DATE *** The Bureau will now hold our A.G.M on 9th Dec at Helensburgh Community Hub and invites partners to join the Bureau as a member to help shape the strategic direction and future work of the Bureau. (an application is attached) We are holding a themed discussion this year as part of this year’s research project for the bureau; “The Cost of Caring” this will see speakers from Helensburgh & Lomond Carers and elected members discuss the particular impact of the increased pressures on the cost of living in Argyll for Carers. We will be developing a survey and are looking to engage with interested partners in this piece of work – anyone looking for more information at this stage is asked to contact our Social Policy Coordinator Lesley Sweetman lesley.sweetman@abcab.org.uk



Are money worries impacting your family?

The **Money Talk Team** can help maximise your income.

Visit our website or phone for information and advice on:

- > Benefits and other financial support that you may be entitled to
- > Dealing with debt
- > Ways to save money on your outgoings

 moneytalkteam.org.uk

 **0800 028 1456**

 **Scottish Government**
Riaghaltas na h-Alba



Citizens Advice Scotland. Scottish charity (SC016637) and company limited by guarantee (89892)

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
