

## **Argyll and Bute TSI update January 2024**

### Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund 2023-24

The TSI has been reviewing applications for year three of the Scottish Government's Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund (CMHWB Fund). Funds to be disbursed total £282k but requests for support amounted to double this amount from over 70 organisations. Applications were particularly strong this year and indicate the level of need in Argyll and Bute. 42 groups have been supported and grant letters are being sent out. Groups that have been unsuccessful will be offered support from their TSSA and signposted to other available funds.

### Community Wealth Building strategy report

The TSI has been leading on the commissioning of a Community Wealth Building (CWB) strategy and action plan for Argyll and Bute's Community Planning Partnership. The January 2024 meeting approved the 20 high level recommendations, and the April 2024 CPP meeting will approve the final report.

All recommendations are centred around the five pillars:-

- Plural ownership of the economy.
- Making financial power work for local places.
- Fair employment and just labour markets.
- Progressive procurement of goods and services.
- Socially productive use of land and property.

Watch this space for further work to implement the recommendations as well as the forthcoming Scottish Government legislation on CWB. For more details on the local CPP recommendations see item 7 from the [last CPP meeting](#).

### Argyll and Bute Climate Action Network (ABCAN)

With funding from the Scottish Government Argyll and the Isles Coast and Countryside Trust (ACT) is leading on the establishment of the Argyll and Bute Climate Action Network, supported by Time for Change and the TSI. The goal of the network is to provide grassroots community level support to promote climate knowledge, mitigation and action. There are four local engagement leads mirroring the administrative areas of Argyll and Bute and to March 2024 there is £40,000 in seed capital funding available for micro and small climate action projects. See <https://www.argylltsi.org/climate-action-network-fund.html> and apply by 10th February.

### Towards a TSI strategy 2024-2029

Following on from the development of the Community Planning Partnerships new ten year plan the TSI will be consulting with community groups over the next three months about what you

want your TSI to do to support your community and community groups. More details in February about ways to have your say.

### TSI website

The TSI is launching a new website on February 20<sup>th</sup> and there will be new ways of getting help and support for members. This is the start of providing a much more interactive website and we look forward to hearing your views on how it works! In 2023 we launched a new funding portal and in 2022 we launched a community directory. The TSI is committed to investing in new digital services which can help promote the work we do and make some tasks easier.

### TSI Oban office

The TSI has taken an office in the Rockfield Centre in Oban and we will be offering a single hot desk for members who would like a temporary touch down desk when they are in the area. More details to be published on our website.

### Budgets 2024-25

It is no surprise to you all that budgets are going to be very tight again this year and we await the implications of the Scottish Government's budget announced in December 2023 as it filters down to programme level. The TSI network has been working with SCVO on a fairer funding campaign and all TSIs are looking to develop a long term campaign to demonstrate the impact of our sector on our communities. Ultimately we want recognition of the work we all do to be reflected in three year funding settlement agreements as well as greater transparency on funding decisions and involvement of the sector in service planning discussions.