

**COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIPS
INFORMING THE STRATEGIC SPENDING REVIEW**



1) What are the current high level priorities and/or outcomes for your CPP area that you would like to see reflected in Spending Review decisions?

Investment in Roads Network – spending to reflect the high maintenance costs of supporting network of rural roads. Particularly important where economic development relies on good road network.

Investment in power grid to capitalise on renewables – Development of renewables is restricted by current grid capacity. Allowing areas in Argyll and Bute to be designated in the interim as Regional Power Zones would encourage commercial investment in renewables. Long term investment in additional grid capacity is needed to release the demand that is there.

Locate shared service providers in Argyll and Bute – Further relocation of jobs capitalising on the Broadband Pathfinder.

Investment in affordable housing – Retention of young people in remote and island communities by ensuring availability of housing and jobs

Tackle rural deprivation – commitment to better identify deprivation in sparsely populated areas, ensuring appropriate service provision and reducing outward migration.

2) Where do these outcomes differ from current national priorities and/or outcomes and what are the consequences of this?

Although the outcomes are not radically different from current national priorities we feel the unique features of Argyll and Bute require that the balance should be different.

Level of investment in roads needs to reflect the nature of the road network in Argyll and Bute and the reluctance to invest where communication is fragile. Additional investment in roads meets local and national requirements to improve access to services and attractiveness for business investment. Both of which will go some way to tackling deprivation where additional investment is required to identify and support excluded people in remote and rural areas.

Likewise the investment in grid development is specific to an area where there is such potential to develop renewables. Additional investment in the grid will enable the Scottish Executive to meet its renewables targets while having a significant impact on the local economy

Investing in jobs and housing for young people, enabling young people to stay, live and work in rural areas requires a further specific investment to

maintain population. Identifying remote, rural and sparsely dispersed deprivation requires additional investment to ensure adequate investment in service provision. Additional investment in housing will have a huge impact on the population, especially the young

3) How does your CPP contribute to an outcomes based approach? Please provide at least one example:

Ensuring stakeholders are kept informed of the effectiveness, impact and benefit of shared service development in Argyll and Bute is a key priority for the Argyll and Bute CPP. The development of Progressive Care Centres in Mull, Iona and Jura where partners have come together to address some of the service delivery issues around the growing elderly populations on the islands is one example. The Progressive Care Centres bring together the Local Authority, NHS Highland, Housing Associations and Communities Scotland. Outcomes were clearly identified and stakeholders were involved in the process from the outset. A community development outcomes based approach ensured that all partners and stakeholders were fully engaged throughout all stages of the project's development.

Another example of the Argyll and Bute CPP's outcomes based approach is the Mid Argyll Integrated Care Centre in Lochgilphead, an NHS Highland and Argyll and Bute Council partnership project. Primary care, community health and community services sharing a purpose built facility. The community was extensively consulted and involved in all stages the Centre's development. Having clear targets, ways of measuring progress, clear mechanisms for the collation, monitoring and analysis of progress and the ability to demonstrate that inputs and outputs lead to clear outcomes was central to the development process for this facility.

4) How does your CPP maximise the use of current resources to achieve shared outcomes? Please provide at least one example:

The CPP has targeted specific rural areas where service provision has been problematic. The development of an online referrals system will allow extensive access to information and advice while advice network developments and funding for an outreach provision enabled older people to access information and services with support. Issues around rural transport and access to services were addressed through the allocation of funding to support a rural transport initiative in Cowal. Interloch transport provides a service for older people in rural Cowal enabling them to access services from hospital appointments to getting to the shops. The Joint Health Improvement Plan is a core feature of the Community Planning Partnership where support is given through partnership working and resources are targeted to address health inequalities.

The Argyll and Bute CPP is currently setting up a Public Sector Property Group to maximise partner's capital resources.

5) Other key points relating to Community Planning Partnerships in a Spending Review context that you would like to raise:

Issues of supersparsity and the costs of delivering services in remote, rural and island communities require creative innovative solutions. Island and some remote mainland communities could be better connected through development of fast ferry services and inter-island links which would ensure current levels of population while encouraging further settlement and investment. Argyll and Bute has a particular disadvantage as we have 26 inhabited island and a thinly spread remote population where people have more difficult travel arrangements to access key services. This is in contrast with other rural authorities such as Highland and the Western Isles where islands are better connected and most of the population are within easier access to service centres.

Investment in the development phase of all the examples listed would be beneficial and support development of new service delivery mechanisms that would benefit the public sector across Scotland. It is more difficult for rural partners to raise the necessary finance because it is harder to realise the necessary fund from current assets.

For more information on this or any other CPP related matter please contact:
Eileen Wilson
Community Planning Manager
01546 604593
Eileen.wilson@argyll-bute.gov.uk