

Draft
Terms of Reference
Argyll and Bute Renewable Alliance (ABRA)

Purpose

The Argyll and Bute Renewable Alliance (ABRA) will bring together key partners to assist in the implementation of the Argyll and Bute Renewable Energy Action Plan (REAP).

Objectives

1. Act as a catalyst to promote the optimal development of the renewables industry across Argyll and Bute, especially in regard to marine/off shore wind and on shore wind renewable development.
2. Foster a partnership approach to securing local socio economic and community benefit for the communities across Argyll and Bute.
3. Develop the industry in Argyll and Bute in a manner that promotes sustainable economic development and recognises the need for co-existence with other economic activities, our environment and our communities.
4. Work with partners to secure capacity within the transmission network in order to unlock the future potential of our considerable renewable energy assets and provide confidence to investors.
5. Assist in the prioritisation and promotion of supporting physical and transport infrastructure investment to enable the growth of the renewable sector.

Membership and Administration

- The Alliance shall be administered by Argyll and Bute Council with the support of Highlands and Islands Enterprise. The Council shall be responsible for administrative support, liaising with the Chair regarding the agenda etc.
- The Alliance members will represent the key stakeholders involved in the marine/off shore wind and on shore wind industry.
- With the agreement of the Alliance, membership may be extended where it can be demonstrated that there is a clear link to the objectives of the Forum.
- Participants can be invited to attend the Alliance meetings where it is considered relevant to the topics under discussions.

It is proposed that the Leader of Argyll and Bute Council shall chair the meetings in the first instance. It is anticipated that the Chair shall be identified by the Members of ABRA on an annual basis.

- In order to facilitate co-ordination and focus, the membership of the Alliance will be initially kept to no more than 12 members. It is anticipated that the membership shall be made up from the following organisations:

Argyll and Bute Council
Highlands and Islands Enterprise
Scottish Government/Marine Scotland
Renewable developer representatives
Transmission operator representative (SSE)
Skills Development Scotland

The Community Planning Partnership members of ABRA will act as a conduit to the CPP Management Committee.

- A number of organisations shall receive copies of the Action Points and shall be invited to attend meetings as determined by the items on the Agenda e.g.

Argyll Renewable Communities
Community Energy Scotland
Scottish Natural Heritage
Scottish Enterprise
ALIEnergy
Argyll and Bute Energy forum
Crown Estate

Meetings

- The Alliance shall meet two/three times a year with the dates of the meetings being set in advance on an annual basis. Progress reports shall be submitted to the Community Planning Management Committee following agreement of the action points.
- The location of the meetings shall be agreed in advance by the Members and held during the day unless otherwise agreed by the Members.

Working arrangements

- Action points from each meeting shall be prepared, and following consultation with the Chair shall be circulated timeously to the Members. Following approval the Action Points shall be circulated to those detailed on the circulation list under Membership and Administration.

Review of Terms of Reference

- The Terms of Reference should be reviewed annually.