

## Partnership Working in Relation to Public Conveniences

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### 1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1.1 A summary of the current position in the MAKI area is detailed in this report. This includes a proposal for future toilet provision in Campbeltown, which enhances the number and quality of the available facilities.

In June 2013 MAKI Members participated in a workshop which considered how revenue budget reductions could be managed. Various options were considered including reduction in grass cutting, strimming and public conveniences. The workshop focused on how service standards could be maintained through partnership working and the rearrangement schedules to provide logistical efficiency etc. Following a number of meetings with Members and community representatives amended proposals were presented to and agreed by Area Committee. These were then amalgamated with the other areas proposals and approved by Council in December 2013.

A summary of the current position in the MAKI area is detailed in this report. This includes a proposal for future toilet provision in Campbeltown, with a view to enhancing the number and quality of the available facilities.

The report also sets out the proposal for the closure of Bolgam Street toilets, the upgrade of Pensioners Row toilets and potential partnerships.

### 1.2 Recommendation

- That Members note the enhanced number and quantity of public convenience provision in Campbeltown.
- That Members agree to the closure and demolition of Bolgam Street toilets and to use the site for additional car parking.

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### 2.0 SUMMARY

2.1 This report provides details of the enhancement to the number and quality of public conveniences in Campbeltown and sets out service reductions agreed for the MAKI area and also considers the future provision of public convenience facilities in Campbeltown and potential partnerships to enhance the available facilities. The steps that are now required to realise the associated savings are set out below.

### 3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 That Members:

- Note the enhanced number and quantity of public convenience provision in Campbeltown.
- That Members agree to the closure and demolition of Bolgam Street toilets and to use the site for additional car parking.

### 4.0 DETAILS

4.1 As part of the Amenity Services Service review Members considered a range of options that could be implemented to deliver services within the revised budget. Extensive consultation (Appendix 1 summarises the engagement process) took place regarding the options available. Following Area Committee approval of the works specification Council agreed at its December 2013 meeting:

- the amended works specification (Appendix 2)
- the budget reduction.

4.2 One of the options considered and approved by Council was the reduction of public conveniences and where achievable the introduction of comfort scheme(s) and agreements with third party partners.

4.3 At present the availability of public conveniences within Campbeltown are based around two facilities. Bolgam Street, which is open seven days per week from 08:30

to 18:00 and Pensioners Row, which is available for use seven days per week from 09:00 to 18:00.

- 4.4 The functional condition of the Bolgam Street facility is poor, this is compounded by the low aesthetical appeal of the building.
- 4.5 The Pensioners Row facility serves individuals visiting the local play area and members of the public, who walk the esplanade. This facility would benefit from a proportionate upgrade. The facility is well positioned to provide a good geographic spread across the town coupled with the proposals below.
- 4.6 The opportunity to enhance accessibility in Council buildings such as Aqualibrium leisure facility which is understood to be open 7am till 9pm Monday, Wednesday and Friday; 8am till 9pm Tuesday and Thursday; 10am till 5pm Saturday and 10am till 3pm Sunday, and Victoria Halls for public use and establishing robust partnerships with local businesses will see the quality and available facilities enhanced.
- 4.7 A number of local businesses have expressed an interest in exploring the possibility of a comfort scheme agreement. Initial meetings with interested parties were scheduled for Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2015. An update will be provided at the meeting regarding these potential comfort scheme agreements.
- 4.8 The closure and demolition of Bolgam Street public conveniences will allow for the re-distribution of resource to enhance other operations within the Amenity area. This will also provide the opportunity for additional parking spaces. If savings cannot be realised through the closure and demolition of Bolgam Street the alternative would be that Members would need to identify savings from elsewhere within the Amenity budget should enhancements to other operations.

## **5.0 CONCLUSION**

- 5.1 The closure and demolition of Bolgam Street public conveniences, the upgrade of the facility at Pensioners Row and the use of other Council buildings will see the available facilities enhanced, with possible additional facilities through the comfort scheme. The demolition of Bolgam Street will also provide the opportunity for additional parking. The demolition of Bolgam Street would also free up a small amount of budget for enhancements for other operations.

## **6.0 IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 Policy Service specification previously agreed by Council.
- 6.2 Financial In line with budget proposals and works specification agreed by Council
- 6.3 Legal Service level agreements or leases through possible partnerships

6.4	HR	None
6.5	Equalities	None
6.6	Risk	Sustainability of third sector partnership
6.7	Customer Services	None

Appendix 1 – Schedule of engagement

Appendix 2 – Service specifications agreed by Council December 2013

**Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure**

**Policy Lead** Councillor Ellen Morton

20<sup>th</sup> January 2015

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**Appendix 1**  
**Amenity Services Workshops/Meetings**

24 <sup>th</sup> May 2013	Bute and Cowal Members
30 <sup>th</sup> May 2013	OLI Members
31 <sup>st</sup> May 2013	Helensburgh/Lomond Members
21 <sup>st</sup> June 2013	Maki Members
27 <sup>th</sup> June 2013	Maki Members
5 <sup>th</sup> July 2013	OLI Members
14 <sup>th</sup> August 2013	OLI Area Committee
27 <sup>th</sup> August 2013	Helensburgh Community Councils
19 <sup>th</sup> September 2013	Coll Community Council
26 <sup>th</sup> September 2013	Council
1 <sup>st</sup> October 2013	Trade Unions
4 <sup>th</sup> November 2013	Cowal Workforce
4 <sup>th</sup> November 2013	Bute Workforce
5 <sup>th</sup> November 2013	Oban Workforce
12 <sup>th</sup> November 2013	Helensburgh Workforce
13 <sup>th</sup> November 2013	Kintyre Workforce
14 <sup>th</sup> November 2013	Islay Members
14 <sup>th</sup> November 2013	Islay Community Council
19 <sup>th</sup> November 2013	Mull Workforce
19 <sup>th</sup> November 2013	Mull Community Council
3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2013	Bute and Cowal Area Committee
4 <sup>th</sup> December 2013	Maki Area Committee
10 <sup>th</sup> December 2013	Helensburgh & Lomond Area Committee
11 <sup>th</sup> December 2013	OLI Area Committee
13 <sup>th</sup> December 2013	Maki Special Area Committee
19 <sup>th</sup> December 2013	Council
3 <sup>rd</sup> February 2014	Ward 1 Members
12 <sup>th</sup> February 2014	Ward 2 Members
28 <sup>th</sup> February 2014	Cowal Workforce
28 <sup>th</sup> February 2014	Trade Unions
6 <sup>th</sup> March 2014	Bute Workforce
17 <sup>th</sup> March 2014	Mid Argyll Partnership
23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2014	Kintyre Workforce
23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2014	Kintyre Members
23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2014	Kintyre Community Councils
30 <sup>th</sup> April 2014	Oban Workforce
30 <sup>th</sup> April 2014	OLI Members
30 <sup>th</sup> April 2014	OLI Community Council
12 <sup>th</sup> November 2014	Maki Members
12 <sup>th</sup> December 2014	Caucus members (Cowal Community Forum)
12 <sup>th</sup> December 2014	Kintyre Initiative Partnership

Appendix 2 - Bute and Cowal model

Model 3 - Task	Total
Amenity grass cuts remain at 24	0
Reduce low maintenance grass areas to 1	185
Reduce rose and shrub beds to low maintenance	9,613
Reduce strim edges from 6 to 1	23,651
Weed killing application in relation to above savings in strim edges	-2,249
Reduced amenity cuts 21 to 6, at 4 locations	645
Reduce LETS team	45,646
Management restructure	46,102
<b>Total</b>	<b>123,593</b>
<b>Saving Target</b>	<b>116,959</b>
<b>Over achieved saving</b>	<b>-6,634</b>

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Mid, Argyll, Kintyre and Islay model

Model 1 - Task	Total
Reduce sportsfield cuts 32 to 28	219
Reduce amenity cuts 24 to 18 (includes cemeteries)	17,054
Reduce rose and shrub beds to low maintenance	10,714
Closure of 2 public conveniences (Crinan and Tayinloan)	7,686
Reduce LETS team	54,177
Reduce strim edges from 6 to 1	25,020
Cost of weed killer application in relation to reduction in strim edges	-2,277
Reduce low maintenance grass areas to 1	481
<b>Total</b>	<b>113,074</b>
<b>Target saving</b>	<b>113,074</b>
<b>Over achieved saving</b>	<b>0</b>

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Helensburgh and Lomond model

Model 2 - Summary	Savings
Reduce amenity cuts 24 to 21	8,901
Reduce rose and shrub beds to low maintenance	19,268
Closure of 1 public conveniences, Garelochhead	4,971
Reduce LETS team	22,823
Reduce strim edges from 6 to 1	20,523
Cost of weed killer application in relation to reduction in strim edges	
Reduce sportsfield cuts 32 to 28	145
Flower bed (at front - Tom to provide details)	213
<b>Total</b>	<b>76,844</b>

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Oban, Lorn and the Isles model

Model 1 - Task	Tiree	Lorn	Mull	Total
Reduce amenity cuts 24 to 21	82	1,398	1,045	2,525
Reduce rose and shrub beds to low maintenance		3508		3,508
Closure of 3 public conveniences (Taynuilt/Coll/Salen)	3661	3539	3443	10,643
Reduce LETS team	11411	11412	11412	34,235
Reduce strim edges from 6 to 1	2,053	8,035	1,517	11,605
Cost of weed killer application in relation to reduction in strim edges	0	-374	-141	-515
Reduce low maintenance grass areas to 1		19	67	86
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,207</b>	<b>27,537</b>	<b>17,343</b>	<b>62,087</b>
<b>Target saving</b>				<b>61,688</b>
				<b>-399</b>