

BUTE AND COWAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN 2015/16

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 The purpose of this paper is to provide an update for the Bute and Cowal Area Committee on the preparation of the Bute and Cowal Economic Development Action Plan (EDAP), 2015/16.

1.2 The following recommendations are for consideration:

- The Bute and Cowal Area Committee notes the content of this paper.
- The Bute and Cowal Area Committee agrees to the revised timescale for the preparation of the Bute and Cowal Economic Development Action Plan, 2015/16.
- The Bute and Cowal Area Committee agrees to that the Bute and Cowal Economic Development Action, 2015/16 (as an ongoing working document) is discussed and endorsed by the Area Committee at the meeting in August 2015.

BUTE AND COWAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN 2015/16

2. INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The purpose of this paper is to provide an update for the Bute and Cowal Area Committee on the preparation of the Bute and Cowal Economic Development Action Plan (EDAP), 2015/16.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The Bute and Cowal Area Committee notes the content of this paper.
- 3.2 The Bute and Cowal Area Committee agrees to the revised timescale for the preparation of the Bute and Cowal Economic Development Action Plan, 2015/16.
- 3.3 The Bute and Cowal Area Committee agrees to that the Bute and Cowal Economic Development Action, 2015/16 (as an ongoing working document) is discussed and endorsed by the Area Committee at the meeting in August 2015.

3. DEVELOPMENT AND PREPARATION OF THE BUTE AND COWAL EDAP

- 3.1 A workshop session was held in Dunoon, on Tuesday, 5th May 2015 to discuss the required specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and timebound (SMART) actions and success measures for inclusion in the Bute and Cowal Economic Development Action Plan, 2015/16.
- 3.2 From a list of 61 invited elected members and Community Planning Partners, a total of 14 individuals were able to attend, including the Director, EKOS Economic and Social Development consultants who facilitated the session. The turnout did not detract from having a very focused discussion on a variety of issues.
- 3.3 One of the key points noted at the workshop session was that the Bute and Cowal Economic Development Action Plan, 2015/16 included a lead organisation and responsible person/post for ensuring that the in-year actions are delivered in order to achieve the proposed success measures. One particular example is the need to incorporate appropriate findings from the Strategic Urban Regeneration Fund (SURF) report for Bute that has been undertaken by partner organisations. Therefore, additional preparation time is now required to work up specific actions with partner organisations that were unable to be present on 5th May.
- 3.4 Furthermore, the Council's Strategic Management Team has also requested that they have an opportunity to input to the area-based EDAPs. This process will take place during June 2015, to ensure the Bute and Cowal EDAP is recirculated to all partners and stakeholders for further comment prior to the submission of the plan and a supporting paper on 10th July for discussion at the pre-agenda meeting on 21st July 2015.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 Bute and Cowal Area Committee notes the content of this report and agrees with the revised timescale proposed.

5. IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The implications for the Bute and Cowal Area Committee are as outlined in **Table 5.1** below.

Table 5.1: Implications for the Bute and Cowal Area Committee	
Policy	The Bute and Cowal EDAP 2015/16 (and subsequent in-year plans) must align and adhere, as appropriate, to the overarching EDAP, 2013-2018, Local Development Plan and the SOA Local/SOA Delivery Plans.
Financial	The Bute and Cowal EDAP will ensure that the area's resources are allocated efficiently and effectively with regard to the economic development priorities and ambitions for Bute and Cowal. There will need to be annual consideration of best alignment between resources and priorities.
Legal	All legal implications at project level will be taken into consideration.
HR	The Bute and Cowal EDAP priorities will be resourced in terms of staff time in the context of the Council's annual service planning process and through shared staff resource discussions with Community Planning Partners.
Equalities	The Bute and Cowal EDAP will comply with all Equal Opportunities policies and obligations.
Risk	If the Bute and Cowal EDAP for subsequent financial years (2015/16 onwards) is not approved, then there will be no clear focus on or understanding of the economic development activities, and the associated resources, that will have the greatest beneficial economic impact for the area over the next three financial years.
Customer Service	The Bute and Cowal EDAP will provide internal and external customers with a clear articulation of the key priorities for developing the Bute and Cowal economy, thereby facilitating focus, effective resource planning and partnership working at the local level.

For further information contact:

Fergus Murray, Head of Economic Development and Strategic Transportation, tel: 01546 604293.
Ishabel Bremner, Economic Development Manager, tel: 01546 604375.