



## Argyll and Bute CPP Bulletin 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023

**Welcome** to the latest issue of the Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership Bulletin.

**This fortnightly bulletin is a place for sharing items of interest between community planning partners and our wider network of readers who are interested in the work of the Community Planning Partnership. These include links to strategies, consultations, reports, training, conferences & news stories.**

If you have items you would like to share through this bulletin, please send links with up to 200 words of introductory text to: [cppadmin@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:cppadmin@argyll-bute.gov.uk)

We make every effort to ensure that any hyperlinks in the Bulletin work – some of them may take longer to load. If you require printed copies of any of the documents attached in the Bulletin please contact: [cppadmin@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:cppadmin@argyll-bute.gov.uk).

Argyll and Bute Council also send out other bulletins regularly that may be of interest:



### **Communities Bulletin**

Every three weeks, containing links to resources and information for people in communities, community groups and the third sector in Argyll and Bute.

Sign up here: [Note of Interest Form \(argyll-bute.gov.uk\)](#)

### **Cuairt-litir Gàidhlig Earra-Ghàidheal is Bhòid - Argyll and Bute Gaelic Newsletter**

Up to twelve issues per year, sharing and promoting Gaelic news, events and other opportunities for everyone in Argyll and Bute.

Sign up here: [Note of Interest Form \(argyll-bute.gov.uk\)](#)

### **Monthly Funding Alert**

A wide range of current funding opportunities gathered from a range of sources and collated in a monthly bulletin highlighting deadlines and links for more details.

Sign up here: [Note of Interest Form \(argyll-bute.gov.uk\)](#)

## New in This Bulletin:

- [Partner Good News Stories](#)
- [Job Opportunity Gaelic Development Worker](#)
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## Partner Good News Stories

### UHI Argyll

UHI Argyll had their Graduation ceremony last Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September, at the Queen's Hall in Dunoon. More details of the day can be found here:

<https://www.argyll.uhi.ac.uk/news/graduation-and-celebration-of-success-2023-.html>



Recent upgrades to our heating system at our Oban centre meant we had a number of spare radiators looking for new homes. We were delighted to donate them to [Carr Gomm](#) Oban Housing Support Team to use in their start-up packs which help clients who were formerly homeless kit out their new residences.

Susan Collins, Manager of Carr Gomm in Oban said, "We are very grateful to UHI Argyll for the gift of these heaters. They will be of great benefit to our clients during the coming cold months."

Our Curriculum Lead for Catering, Hospitality and Tourism, Chris Wolfe, recently took part in the first ever Argyll Food Festival, held in Oban. Photos attached show Chris running a chocolate masterclass for visitors.



## **Scottish Fire and Rescue Service SFRS**



The crew from Tiree recently carried out a joint exercise with the HIAL fire crew from Tiree Airport. The sharing of information on equipment and techniques and the experience of working together will be invaluable for future incidents.



### **Tobermory Open Day**

LSO McKay recently visited Mull, and while at Tobermory station he gratefully accepted a cheque for £1000 on behalf of The Firefighters Charity. Following their highly successful Open Day earlier this year, the crews at Tobermory have also donated cheques of £200 to the following local charities and good causes:



- Tobermory High School Pipe Band,
- Tobermory Scout Hall and
- The Tobermory Beach Fund.

A superb effort from everyone concerned.

### **Helensburgh Open Day**

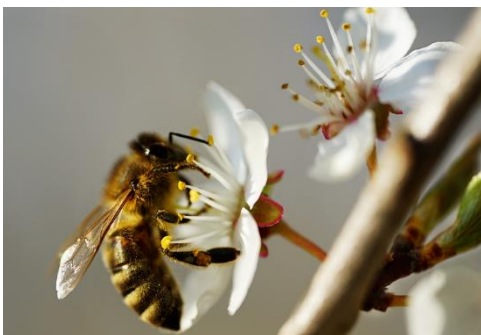
WC Kennedy and his crew ensured the crowds were kept entertained with games, stalls and face painting at Helensburgh's Open Day.

The Helensburgh crew performed a demonstration showing the dangers of an oil pan fire and providing safety advice on what to do in the event of a fire. The crew carried out RTC demonstrations throughout the day, this allowed the public to see first-hand the lifesaving equipment carried by SFRS appliances, and the skilful techniques applied. A grand total of £173 was raised for The Firefighters Charity.

A big thank you to our partners from HM Coastguard, Police Scotland, and SFRS Heritage Teams for attending and engaging with the community, and to St Andrews Ambulance who provided CPR training to over 60 children and adults on the day.



### **Busy Bees at Helensburgh**



Following the success of our beehives at Clydebank, Bishopbriggs and Milngavie, we recently installed hives at Dumbarton and Helensburgh. Too early to tell yet if the bees are settling in, but hopefully we will have a bumper harvest of honey for the Firefighters Charity towards the end of the year.



## **Job Opportunity Gaelic Development Worker**

**3 days per week on a 12 month contract Closing Date: 12/10/2023**



We are looking for a dynamic individual to join our busy Community Development team at Argyll and Bute Council. The post is flexible within Argyll and Bute, with the main activity in Oban and Lochgilphead.

The post-holder will deliver a series of actions building on the previous Gaelic work in the Council through working closely with the Argyll Gaelic Partnership and will deliver the project, 'Celebrating and Increasing the Use of Gaelic in Argyll and Bute'. This is a continuation of the Gaelic Development Worker role hosted by Argyll and Bute Council.

This exciting role involves the development of newly emerged Gaelic Community Hubs, supporting them to strengthen their capacity and increase uptake of membership. The post holder will promote and celebrate Gaelic projects as well as contribute to the work of the wider Community Planning and Development team

The role is also responsible for promoting the Argyll and Bute Gaelic Language Plan and contributing to the development and delivery of the Gaelic Gathering in Spring 2024. This is an exciting opportunity to join the team, we look forward to receiving applications from interested applicants. Fluency in written and spoken Gaelic is desirable. Please refer to the Job Description and Person Specification on [MyJobScotland](#) for more details.

**Interviews will be held online via MS Teams on 24th and 25th October.**

This post is part funded by [Bòrd Na Gàidhlig](#)



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## **Investment Scams - Police Scotland Warnings**

Police in Argyll and Bute have identified an increase in victims of fraud in our communities, who have been scammed through Investment Scams.

An investment scam is where you are convinced to move your money into a fictitious fund or pay for a fake investment which promised a high return.

People may be targeted by cold callers or presented with fake investment opportunities promoted on search engines and social media pressuring you to act quickly.

Click [here](#) for more information from Police Scotland to help protect yourself and others from becoming victims of fraud.



**POLICE  
SCOTLAND**  
POILEAS ALBA

## **Connecting Scotland New Funds Supporting Digital Inclusion**

Connecting Scotland is now welcoming applications for two new funds supporting organisations' digital inclusion initiatives with devices and connectivity. A third opportunity will be available later in the year.

The funds signal a new direction of the programme, which is moving from a pandemic-specific device gifting model to supporting organisations' new or existing digital inclusion initiatives, creating and boosting capacity at a local level.



### **1. Device lending libraries**

The device lending libraries programme is open to organisations that are already running device lending libraries. It can help them expand the range of devices and mobile connectivity that they have available, extend the number of devices available for loan or replace devices that are coming to the end of their lives.

### **2. Housing providers**

The housing programme provides devices and/or connectivity to organisations providing social housing or transitional accommodation. Organisations can apply for devices and connectivity to be used in developing lending schemes and hubs, as well as grants for connectivity infrastructure projects benefitting their residents.

Both programmes are open for applications from 29<sup>th</sup> August 2023. For more information and application details please visit: (link may be slow to load)

<https://connecting.scot/for-organisations/funding-opportunities-from-connecting-scotland>

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## **Consultations and Surveys**

### **SFRS Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) Survey**

It has been 12 weeks since the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) stopped attending automatic fire alarm (AFA) call outs to commercial business and workplace premises, such as factories, offices, shops and leisure facilities - unless a fire has been confirmed.



From 1 July 2023, dutyholders should ensure the safe evacuation of people from the building, safely investigate the cause of the alarm, then notify us if they discover an actual fire or signs of fire.

Our control room operators will now be asking anyone who reports a fire alarm to check whether there is an actual fire or signs of fire, before sending the nearest resource.

Signs of fire include: visual flame, smell of smoke, smell of burning, or any other fire alarm signal - other than a single smoke detector. If only a single smoke detector is activated, dutyholders will need to confirm other signs of fire.

This change does not apply to sleeping premises, such as hospitals, care homes, hotels or domestic dwellings who will continue to receive an automatic emergency response.

It is recommended that you review your current Fire Safety Risk Assessments, apply due diligence concerning fire safety and security and ensure staff training and all maintenance activity is fully up

to date. Staff and occupants should be made aware of how to respond safely to AFA activations in each premise.

It is estimated that this change will greatly reduce unnecessary call outs which will increase our firefighters' availability to be able to undertake more community safety prevention work and to enhance firefighter training.

**Please take 5 minutes to tell us what you thought of our awareness campaign by completing [this survey](#) We are continually looking for ways to improve our communications and engagement and your thoughts really do matter.**

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## **A Human Rights Bill for Scotland: Consultation**

**Closes 5 Oct 2023**

The Scottish Parliament seeks the views of everyone on a new Human Rights Bill that will incorporate international human rights standards already signed and ratified by the UK into domestic law in Scotland. Have your say [here](#)

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## **Health and social care integration authority planning and performance reporting statutory guidance: consultation**

**Closes 27 October 2023**

The [strategic commissioning plans](#) and [performance reporting](#) statutory guidance were initially published by the Scottish Government in 2015 and 2016. The purpose of the statutory guidance is to support integration authorities, who plan and direct the delivery of health and social care services, to produce strategic plans and annual performance reports.

Re-drafts of the guidance have been produced through engagement with the working group. The Scottish Government is seeking to capture further feedback and views on these revised guidance documents. For more information click [here](#)

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## **Dates for your Diary – Events & Workshops...**

### **Poverty in Scotland**

**Monday 2 October, 10:30 - 12:00 Zoom webinar**

This year's [Challenge Poverty Week](#) event from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation will cover the current state of poverty in Scotland, including progress towards meeting the Scottish Child Poverty targets, and the role of work in reducing poverty. It will focus on drivers of in-work poverty in Scotland, including inequalities in the labour market, pay, hours and high costs.

Register for the event [here](#)



### **Ask Domestic Abuse Support Care Training**

**18th October 2023 -10:00 to 12:00 online**

ASC is a training programme aimed at anyone who may encounter those affected by domestic abuse in the course of their day-to-day job. From doctors and dentists, to vets, hairdressers and the fire service, this course can help you spot the signs of domestic abuse, ask the right questions and ensure those affected get the support they need.

Best Bar None Scotland have engaged with Medics Against Violence to promote their highly regarded training package around domestic abuse - Ask Support Care. Training will be held online in small groups and the aim is to make it as interactive as possible. All of the trainings are free to join.

To register for the 18/10/23 event and be provided a link to the online event, please click [here](#)

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# Community Wealth Building - Argyll & Bute



## **CPP Community Wealth Building Audit and Mapping Exercise: Citizen Led Workshop – Please share!**

**Mon, 9th Oct 2023 14:00 - 15:30 online**

Please share information about this free online event with any networks you have that reach Argyll and Bute individual community members or community groups:

[Community Wealth Building Citizen Led workshop Tickets, Mon 9 Oct 2023 at 14:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Background:

You may be aware that, earlier this year, the Argyll and Bute Third Sector Interface board agreed to fund a piece of work that would audit and map Community Wealth Building activity across Argyll and Bute on behalf of the Community Planning Partnership. This audit and mapping exercise will then identify gaps and opportunities for further action and research. The Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES) has been commissioned to carry out this work and have so far conducted a number of stakeholder interviews as well as holding in person citizen-led workshops across Argyll and Bute's four administrative areas. This online workshop offers community members the opportunity to learn about Community Wealth Building, a practical approach supported by the Scottish Government to drive a wellbeing economy, and to contribute views on key priorities for a fairer economy.

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## **Social Value Innovation Sessions**

**Session 1: Inequalities Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October 10:30am-12:00pm online**



To mark 12 years of partnership working on innovation in social value, Manchester City Council and the [Centre for Local Economic Strategies](#) are convening a series of online events.

The first session – focused on how social value can become a more powerful tool in tackling embedded inequalities – will be a collaborative space for thinkers. You'll hear from expert speakers from across the UK and have the opportunity to dig into their comments with peers. Delegates will receive a copy of the final agenda and instructions on how to access the venue around a week before the event. For more information, click [here](#)

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## **SCVO the Gathering 2023**

**8<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

Taking place at the EICC on Wednesday 8 November at 8.30am, this popular event is a unique opportunity to hear from Humza Yousaf as he addresses the voluntary sector for the first time since becoming First Minister.



Book your free place today to:

- hear the First Minister's plans for working with the voluntary sector and his thoughts on the valuable role the sector plays in Scottish society
- listen to [SCVO's](#) questions for the First Minister on the issues our sector is facing
- submit your own question for the First Minister to respond to

**Booking in advance is essential, click [here](#) to attend**

### **Important Event Info:**

- Booking for this event is essential - delegates who don't have a booking will not be able to access the event on the day.
  - Doors will close for the event at 8.20am sharp on Wednesday 8 November, with no access permitted after this time.
  - For the opportunity to submit a question in advance for the First Minister, make sure you book your place by Wednesday 4 October!
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## **Podcasts**

### **Pippa's Podcast**



Pippa Milne, Chief Executive of Argyll and Bute Council, shares interesting conversations that she has with a variety of people working to make a difference across Argyll and Bute.



The film industry in Argyll and Bute is going from strength to strength! In this podcast, she catches up with Jen Skinner from Screen Argyll, a key creative industries driver based on the Isle of Tiree, along with Natasha Galbraith from our Economic Development team, who delivers the council's [Film in Argyll](#) service, liaising with filmmakers and stakeholders on location filming across Argyll and Bute. You are welcome to [listen in here](#).

You can find more episodes of **Pippa's Podcast** [here](#).

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## Previous Items You May Have Missed...

### **A Minimum Income Standard for the United Kingdom in 2023**

The Minimum Income Standard (MIS) provides a vision of the living standards that we as a society agree everyone in the UK should be able to achieve. This latest update sets out what households need to reach the MIS benchmark in 2023.



There continues to be a big gap between what people have and what they need for a decent standard of living. Millions of people in the UK risk falling well short of a minimum living standard.

This report by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation looks at how the adequacy of disposable income (income after paying taxes, housing and any childcare costs) varies across different household types. It highlights the continued – and growing – inadequacy of out-of-work benefits, as well as incomes for working households failing to meet MIS.

You can use the JRF updated [Minimum Income Calculator](#) to work out whether you earn enough for an acceptable standard of living.

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### **Swing voter views on hardship ahead of the next election**

In a context where neither of the main parties are currently talking about the issues of deep poverty and hardship, this briefing sets out what key swing voters think about these issues. It looks at how they view the main parties' current positioning on this agenda, to help inform party strategy and policy ahead of the next election.

Read More [here](#)

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### **Fuel Poverty in Rural Scotland**

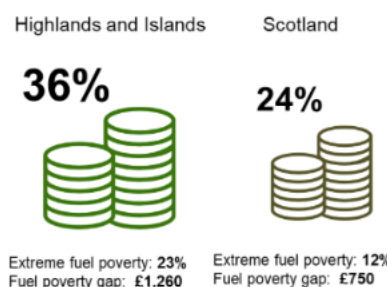
This report evidences the drivers, impacts, and extent of fuel poverty in rural Scotland. It outlines a series of interlinking factors which combine and compound each other to produce a 'perfect storm' for severe fuel poverty in rural Scotland.

In addition to the four recognised drivers of fuel poverty, the research identifies a set of rural specific drivers which contribute to significantly higher fuel poverty and extreme fuel poverty levels in rural areas, when compared to the rest of Scotland. The rural specific drivers of fuel poverty include factors such as a cold and wet climate, a lack of affordable housing, and limited access to support services.

To explain why fuel poverty is so pervasive in rural Scotland, the report also outlines the structural barriers to fuel poverty alleviation, including where current policy designed to limit or alleviate fuel poverty fails to recognise the realities of fuel poverty in rural Scotland.

More information [here](#)

#### Fuel Poverty



(Image from: Changeworks (2023) *A Perfect Storm*)

## School Uniform Initiative



Argyll and Bute Council has been working with its schools and third sector partners to roll out a new, innovative scheme that will see school uniforms that children have outgrown, either reused or recycled - saving peoples' purse and the planet. Partners include schools, parent councils, volunteers, Kintyre Recycling Limited, Oban Baptist Church, Helensburgh Parish Church, and Dunoon Community Hub.

Click [here](#) for more information.

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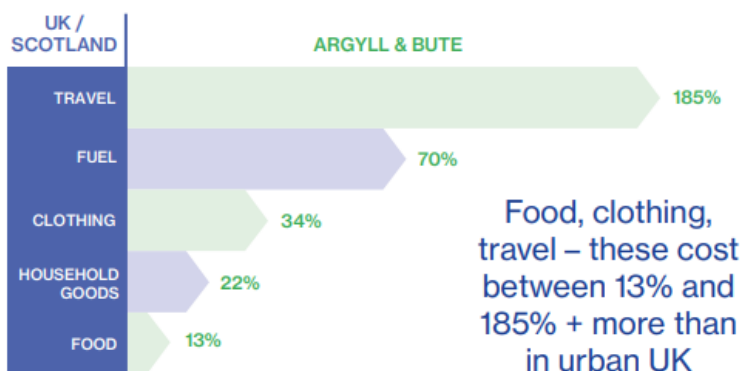
## Argyll and Bute Council – Advice and Assistance in the Cost of Living Crisis



The council and partners are working to support people and businesses affected by the cost of living crisis in Argyll and Bute. Please find here a summary of that work, the sources of help and advice that are available and please feel free to share this with third parties and other organisations.

### DETAILS:

Argyll and Bute's island, rural and mainland geography brings additional cost to our citizens' day to day lives (as highlighted in a report to Council on 29th September). For fuel costs alone this means that 70% of our households are at risk of fuel poverty or extreme fuel poverty; impact on additional key areas of living are outlined in the graphic below and at the end of this information note.



### Working with partners to support people and businesses:

The council's FIAG group (Financial Inclusion and Advice Group) brings together council services and support agencies. To make it as easy as possible for people to get support when they need it the council provides a 'one-stop-shop' of information on our website to provide key information and also help and information on money saving initiatives such as cheaper deals for internet connection and the availability of warm spaces provide by other organisations: [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/advice-services](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/advice-services)

We summarise below some of the help available:

#### Fuel

FIAG brings together different sources of support specifically with fuel costs on our website: [Heat your home - managing rising costs \(argyll-bute.gov.uk\)](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/heat-your-home). This includes information about warm spaces – (link may be slow to load) <https://www.argylltsi.org/warmspaces.html>

## Money

Bute Advice Centre and ALIenergy produced a [booklet highlighting financial support services available across Argyll and Bute](#). This includes for example maximising income, foodbanks, energy and budgeting advice. It has been widely circulated to Elected members, across the NHS, Schools, support agencies and is available on the [Bute Advice Centre website](#).

*Argyll and Bute Scotland Loves Local Gift Cards* The Council is rolling out an initiative to provide £120 gift cards to around 6,650 Council Tax Reduction recipients. This will support households on low incomes and the local businesses registered for the card.

*The Council is looking at a proposal to develop Welfare Rights & Health Partnerships in Argyll & Bute.* The pilot is looking at 5 practices within Mid-Argyll, Kintyre & Islay where the Council would embed Local Authority welfare advice specialists within the practice's healthcare setting for an average of one day per week per practice.

*Data mining to identify benefits eligibility and maximise household income* The Council's Data Advisory Group is working on matching data from relevant council systems to identify unmet benefit eligibility so we can support eligible households to maximize their income.

## Food

*Flexible Food Fund:* The Fund provides a one-off cash payment to families on low incomes to help with food and fuel. The size of the payment is based on their household composition. Claimants are offered a second cash payment if they have engaged with support agencies, the Bute Advice Centre and ALIenergy, in financial management. The project achieved national acclaim in October 2021 for Excellence in Innovation from the Institute of Revenue Rating and Valuation. Over 96% of people receiving the first grant payment engage, get the support they need and get a second payment; applicants, through different routes, have received a total of £2 million they could otherwise have missed out on.

[Food banks:](#) there is a list of food banks on the council's website

## Clothing

*Preloved School Clothing Project.* The Council and its schools are working with community groups to give every child in Argyll and Bute access to a school uniform, by developing a uniform re-use scheme. There is a reused school uniform hub in Helensburgh, one nearing completion in Campbeltown, and work in in planning for schemes for Dunoon, Rothesay, Oban and Lochgilphead, Tarbert, Islay and Mull.

## Support

*Additional funding for advice agencies.* The Council has provided £40,000 in funding to ALIenergy, Bute Advice Centre and the Argyll and Bute Citizens Advice Bureau to help them meet increasing demands from the public between 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.

*Anti-poverty training.* The Poverty Alliance has delivered training across the Council and Community Planning Partners on anti-poverty actions and this will be extended to elected members on 30 November.

## Promoting information

The Council's Communications Team is already using social media and also statements provided to local press in the area to reach groups and individuals who perhaps don't use social media to make people who need it, aware of support available, using for example digital and traditional media channels, and word of mouth, inviting the help of Councillors, council employees, partner agencies and the public in passing information on, via whatever channels they have, to people who need it.

Please use the information and links above and pass to those who need it.

Remember key information and links to other advice and assistance can be found at:  
[www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/advice-services](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/advice-services)

[Heat your home - managing rising costs \(argyll-bute.gov.uk\).](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/advice-services)

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## **Argyll and Bute Council Weekly News Round Up**



You can sign up to receive the Argyll and Bute Weekly News Round Up which is full of useful information, guidance, surveys and vacancies [here](#).

## **Funding Links**

### **Argyll and Bute Flexible Food Fund**



The Flexible Food Fund is having a really positive impact in communities across Argyll & Bute, putting cash in the pockets of those with no financial buffer. Bute Advice and ALLenergy have worked successfully to provide welfare rights, money and energy advice to over 200 households across Argyll and Bute. This holistic approach is supporting households to become financially stable and helps bring peace of mind to families across Argyll and Bute.

Applications to the fund can be made via the [online claim form](#) available on the council's website. If you need help or support to complete the form please call us on 01700 502784 and ask about the Argyll and Bute Flexible Food Fund.

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### **Benefits Money and Energy Advice Leaflet – New Updated**



A new Money Worries guide has been created by Bute Advice Centre and ALLenergy in partnership with the Argyll and Bute Community Food Forum, with the aim of providing basic information to help households maximise their income where possible, reduce outgoings and make the most of existing budgets. In addition, it will provide contact details of support services available throughout the region. The

Leaflet can be found on Bute Advice Centre's website, [here](#)

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### **Argyll and Bute Third Sector Interface Funding Update**

The TSI's latest Funding Update can be found [here](#). (this hyperlink may be slow to load)

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### **Funding for Communities**

Funds to support communities at this time can be found [here](#).

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### **Sign up to Funding Alert**

You can sign up to receive the Argyll and Bute Council monthly Funding Alert [here](#).

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## **Grantnet – Funding Search Tool**

GRANTnet is a straightforward free to use service which can help you identify suitable funding for your activity or project across a wide range of funding sources.

### **What is GRANTnet?**

- Up-to-date information on over 7,000 grants and other incentives,
- Rapid identification of funding sources specific to need,
- Data sourced from EC and UK Government sources, including Government departments, local authorities, charitable trusts and corporate sponsors.

### **How to access GRANTnet**

You can access the Grantnet home page [here](#).

When using the system for the first time, go to the '**Log in / Register**' page [here](#) and enter your details including your e-mail address (this will become the username), name, organisation, postal address and telephone number. Clicking on the 'Register' button will generate an e-mail providing a password.

**Using GRANTnet** - When you log into the system you must answer some questions about your organisation and the project which you wish to undertake. GRANTnet will then provide an overview of all the funds available.

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## **Funding help available for businesses**

Funds to support businesses at this time can be found at [here](#).

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## **COVID-19 Advice from NHS Inform**

Covid 19 is still around – for the latest updated advice, visit the NHS Inform website by clicking: [here](#)



## **Other Partners General Information**

Here is our partner websites with other useful information :-

[Police Scotland](#) - Information on Police Scotland.

[Fire Scotland](#) - Latest news and details.

[Highlands and Islands Enterprise](#) – Advice for businesses, communities and third sector organisations.

[Scottish Natural Heritage](#) – Tips to support and enjoy local wildlife.

[Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park](#) – Details of facilities and helpful advice for visitors and businesses.

[Argyll College UHI](#) – Student support and advice.

[Argyll & Bute Council](#) – Help and advice for residents, businesses, communities on council services.

[Scottish Enterprise](#) – Business continuity advice.

If you have information that you wish to share from your organisation please send this to [cppadmin@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:cppadmin@argyll-bute.gov.uk)



Argyll and Bute's economic success is built on a growing population

[cppadmin@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:cppadmin@argyll-bute.gov.uk) 01546 604464