

MINUTE

Present	Apologies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pippa Milne, Chief Executive, A&BC • Kirsty Flanagan, Executive Director, Argyll & Bute Council • Fergus Murray, Head of Economic Development, Growth & Planning, A&BC • Gillian McKay, Corporate Support, A&BC • Commodore Malkin, Naval Base Commander, ADC Royal Navy • Captain Boyd, Royal Navy • John Carter, Co-Director of Clyde 2070, MOD • Hamish Tetlow NBCC Chief of Staff • Briony Gould, Strategic Engagement Lead Clyde 2070, MOD • Matthew Forbes, Head of International Affairs, Trade & Security Policy, Scotland Office • Kevin Omwenga, Head of Foreign Affairs & National Security, Scotland Office • Ayesha Chohan, Defence and Security Policy, Scotland Office 	None

Strategic Engagement Meeting – Summary Minute

Date: 12 December 2025

Location: Helensburgh and Lomond Civic Centre

Attendees: Representatives from Argyll and Bute Council, HMNB Clyde, Clyde 2070 Programme Team, and Scotland Office

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed attendees and outlined the purpose of the meeting: to maintain strategic alignment and collaboration on Clyde 2070 and associated programmes.

2. Updates – HMNB Clyde & Clyde 2070 Team

- HMNB Clyde provided a high-level update on recent developments and priorities. Confirmation of UK Government commitment to Clyde 2070, including initial funding allocation to support programme set-up and enabling works.
- Clyde 2070 team confirmed progress on programme setup and enabling works following recent funding announcements. Emphasis on the scale and long-term nature of the programme, requiring robust governance and phased delivery

3. Opportunities for Collaboration

- Discussion on areas for joint working, including planning, infrastructure, and community engagement.
- The group discussed the need for coordinated engagement to avoid duplication and ensure clarity for stakeholder, while maximising benefit/

4. Infrastructure, Housing, Transport

- Noted ongoing work to review transport options (rail, bus, active travel) and housing requirements linked to programme delivery. Agreement to maintain dialogue with relevant agencies to ensure sequencing and prioritisation
- The council provided an update on the Helensburgh Strategic Development Framework and opportunities for legacy housing.
- The group discussed the anticipated demand for accommodation linked to construction and operational phases.
- The council reinforced the importance of aligning local development frameworks with defence infrastructure plans.

5. Education, Skills and Workforce Planning

- Agreement on the importance of skills development and innovation hubs to support future workforce needs and the early consideration required here.
- Actions identified to progress engagement with industry and national agencies.

6. Community Integration and Engagement

- Commitment to transparent communication with local communities and elected members.
- Agreed to develop a public-facing briefing and define audience and purpose.

7. Economic Development and Business Opportunities

- Discussion on potential opportunities including Civic Centre office space and Clyde Engineering Centre.
- Noted alignment with Rural Growth Deal objectives.
- Discussion on progressing development of Rhu and St Andrews site, and associated release

8. Review of Constraints and Opportunities Analysis

- Highlighted need for ongoing review of risks and opportunities as programme evolves.

9. Local Development Plans / LOIP Update

- Council provided update on planning frameworks and identified areas requiring continued coordination.

10. Review of Meeting and Agenda Framework

- Agreed to maintain biannual strategic engagement meetings with flexibility for additional sessions.
- Terms of Reference to be reviewed and updated as required.
- Members' seminar dates to be confirmed.

11. AOB

- No additional items raised.

Next Meeting: Spring 2026 (date to be agreed)