

MINUTE

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

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)