

**MID ARGYLL, KINTYRE AND THE ISLANDS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN, 2016/21 –UPDATED END OF MARCH 2017**

*It should be noted that the SMART actions outlined below will be undertaken by appropriate staff and teams of staff across the EDST Service.*

**INVESTMENT**

Investment in infrastructure (physical and digital), islands, key sectors, business support, communities and people will in turn attract further business investment, stimulate economic activity and deepen access to the labour market in the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands (MAKI) area.

<b>MAKI: INVESTMENT IN INFRASTRUCTURE - PHYSICAL/CAPITAL PROJECTS</b>				
<b>SOA Long Term Objectives (2023)</b>	<b>Outcome (by year 5)</b>	<b>Description of Activity</b>	<b>Milestones/Actions (in year)</b>	<b>Progress to Date (end Mar 2017)</b>
Rural growth is underpinned by a cohesive approach to regeneration. (Outcome 2)	Capital investment has successfully regenerated MAKI in a manner that optimises sustainable economic growth.	Regenerate the main towns of Lochgilphead, Ardrishaig and Tarbert (including surrounding areas)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Approval of Action Plan during 2016 further to the Crinan Canal Charrette process in May 2016.</li> <li>2. Identification of projects that could benefit from the Council's Lochgilphead and Tarbert Regeneration Fund (£3m).</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Charrette reported to MAKI Area Committee December 2016.</li> <li>2. MAKI Area Committee in December 2016 shortlisted 11 potential projects. Work ongoing to bring a further report to MAKI during early 2017/18.</li> </ol>
		Kilmartin House Museum redevelopment proposals	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Preparation and submission of stage 2 Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) bid by 2017.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Preparation of business plan underway by Kilmartin House Museum staff, submission to HLF expected December 2017.</li> </ol>
		Kilmory Industrial Estate Expansion	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ongoing partnership working with the private sector to attract businesses to locate to the Kilmory Industrial Estate.</li> <li>2. Identification of inward investors that could benefit from the Council's Inward Investment Fund (£1m).</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Discussions ongoing between the Economic Growth Team, Jayne Jones and MacLeod Construction to develop possibilities for a food and drink distribution Hub based at the Kilmory Industrial Estate.</li> <li>2. £40,000 approved for DSUK towards a Full Business Case.</li> </ol>
		Campbeltown Conservation Area for Regeneration Scheme (CARS) Round 6 (April 2015 to March 2020).	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. First priority building on-site.</li> <li>2. Small grant scheme process approved by MAKI Area Committee in June 2016.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 10-20 Longrow South due to be completed May 2017.</li> <li>2. Process approved June 2016.</li> </ol>
		Delivery of CARS in Inveraray.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Town House priority project commenced on-site, summer 2016.</li> <li>2. Chamberlands commenced on-site, summer 2016.</li> <li>3. Arkland and Relief Land priority buildings commenced on-site, summer 2016.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Project completed March 2017.</li> <li>2. Project completed March 2017.</li> <li>3. Relief Land 95% complete. Arkland and Relief Land due to complete in July 2017 following delays.</li> </ol>

<b>MAKI: INVESTMENT IN ISLANDS (INCLUDING INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT)</b>				
<b>SOA Long Term Objectives (2023)</b>	<b>Outcome (by year 5)</b>	<b>Description of Activity</b>	<b>Milestones/Actions (in year)</b>	<b>Progress to Date (end Mar 2017)</b>
Areas within Argyll and Bute realise their potential through partnership working. (Outcome 1)	The islands in the MAKI area are thriving through taking advantage of opportunities to diversify their economic base.	Student accommodation at the Gaelic College	1. Explore the possibilities of providing student accommodation on Islay for those studying Gaelic at the Ionad Chaluim Chille Ìle (the Columba Centre Islay).	1. Ongoing.
<b>MAKI: INVESTMENT IN KEY SECTORS AND BUSINESS SUPPORT</b>				
<b>SOA Long Term Objectives (2023)</b>	<b>Outcome (by year 5)</b>	<b>Description of Activity</b>	<b>Milestones/Actions (in year)</b>	<b>Progress to Date (end Mar 2017)</b>
Entrepreneurship is at the heart of all we do. (Outcome 1)	Sustainable and growing businesses in Argyll and Bute.	Roadshow across the MAKI business community to promote available business support with a focus on the EDFR funded Local Growth Accelerator Programme, the LEADER Enterprise funding and the LEADER Farm Diversification funding.	1. The Head of Economic Development & Strategic Transportation (EDST) accompanied by Business Gateway staff will repeat Business Breakfast and Business Lunch events held late 2015 in Campbeltown, Inveraray and Lochgilphead in September 2016.	1. ERDF funded Local Growth Accelerator Programme was launched 31/10/16 and included in the funding seminar as part of Argyll Enterprise Week (as was LEADER). 2. Business Breakfast held in Lochgilphead 25/10/16 with 6 attendees.
<b>MAKI: INVESTMENT IN COMMUNITIES</b>				
<b>SOA Long Term Objectives (2023)</b>	<b>Outcome (by year 5)</b>	<b>Description of Activity</b>	<b>Milestones/Actions (in year)</b>	<b>Progress to Date (end Mar 2017)</b>
Areas within Argyll and Bute realise their unique potential through partnership working. (Outcome 1)	Thriving, sustainable and successful MAKI Communities and the Third Sector.	Assist with the redevelopment of Inveraray Community Hall.	1. Assist the group with project development and attracting funding.	1. Big Lottery Funding received and used to develop designs to take forward future finding bids. Development work on transfer of title deeds is complete with transfer taking place in April. 2. Big Lottery funded Community Engagement programme completed and report produced for April AGM. Work supported by ABC Community Development officer and TSI officer.

## INNOVATION

MAKI must foster a culture of innovation alongside specific initiatives.

<b>MAKI: INNOVATION - ENTREPRENEURSHIP</b>				
<b>SOA Long Term Objectives (2023)</b>	<b>Outcome (by year 5)</b>	<b>Description of Activity</b>	<b>Milestones/Actions (in year)</b>	<b>Progress to Date (end Mar 2017)</b>
Entrepreneurship is at the heart of all we do. (Outcome 1)	Machrihanish Airbase becomes a key strategic business site that will attract innovative entrepreneurial activity.	First UK Spaceport at Machrihanish Airbase.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Machrihanish Airbase Community Company (MACC) now moving to Stage 2 of the UK Spaceport bid with the Machrihanish site still offering some of the key criteria identified in the latest publication by the UK Space Agency.</li> <li>2. Work is due to be completed during 2016 on the feasibility study to inform the Stage 2 bid that has been prepared through MACC with assistance from Argyll and Bute Council and HIE. This report is highly technical in nature and will be presented to members of the MAKI Area Committee in due course.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. DSUK and ABC held a successful reception at Westminster in January 2017. This highlighted the potential for DSUK, MACC and living and working in Argyll and Bute. Several important contacts were made with politicians and industry leaders.</li> <li>2. Feasibility study complete. £40,000 awarded to DSUK from the Inward Investment Fund towards developing a Full Business Case.</li> </ol>

## INTERNATIONALISATION

Enable MAKI to take advantage of international opportunities by rethinking its role in an evolving global context.

<b>INTERNATIONALISATION – PROMOTION AND MARKETING OF MAKI</b>				
<b>SOA Long Term Objectives (2023)</b>	<b>Outcome (by year 5)</b>	<b>Description of Activity</b>	<b>Milestones/Actions (in year)</b>	<b>Progress to Date (end Mar 2017)</b>
Our essential utilities can facilitate economic growth across Argyll and Bute. (Outcome 1)	Kintyre is a major player as a renewables hub within the UK and Europe	Development of Kintyre as recognised operations and maintenance renewables hub with a focus on Campbeltown and Machrihanish (National Renewables Infrastructure Plan (NRIP) site).	1. Working in partnership with CS Wind, Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) and supply chain businesses to develop this proposition by the end of March 2017.	1. Continue to promote Campbeltown harbour and Machrihanish. Information on these facilities and the importance of the renewables hub has been included in the updated REAP and associated story app approved by EDI in January 2017. Attended Offshore Wind Exhibition and Conference.
Argyll and Bute has a positively promoted image within and outwith its area boundary. (Outcome 1)	MAKI is a destination of choice for families, individuals and businesses to relocate, live and work.	Delivery of the Marketing Action Plan.	<p>1. Promotion of success of major capital regeneration projects and venue marketing, such as Campbeltown THI/ CARS programme.</p> <p>2. Joined up marketing of local events, e.g. Highland Games and Agricultural Shows throughout MAKI; Kintyre and Islay half marathon/10k; Mull of Kintyre, Jura and Tarbert Music Festivals; Fèis Ìle; Ride of the Falling Rain, Islay; Islay Jazz Festival; Islay Rugby Festival; Colonsay Book Festival; Scottish Series, Tarbert; Tarbert Seafood Festival; Tarbert Christmas Fair; Loch Fyne Viking Festival; Lochgilphead Celtic and Pictish Festival; etc. - attractive for visitors and also for people who may decide to move to MAKI.</p> <p>3. Align such marketing activity with sectors of comparative advantage, such as the whisky industry, for the MAKI area.</p>	<p>1. Major Capital regeneration projects highlighted in the autumn edition of the new Transformation magazine produced by the Council's Marketing and Promotions Officer. New display stands for Campbeltown were produced and these were taken to the Westminster Briefing for DSUK to sell the overall area as well the potential spaceport site.</p> <p>2. Ongoing. Posters and flyers were produced for the Viking Festival and assistance was given to promote the Pictish Festival.</p> <p>3. Ongoing.</p>