

Argyll and Bute Council news round-up – 16 August 2019

Welcome to Argyll and Bute Council's weekly news round-up. Thank you for reading it. If you have ideas on how we could make it more useful for you, we'd love to hear them. Please let us know by emailing press@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Could your child be eligible for free school meals?

"There are a number of young people in Argyll and Bute who are eligible for free school meals but are not benefitting. It is vital that parents look into whether or not they are missing out on this opportunity."

These were the words of Policy Lead for Education, Councillor Yvonne McNeilly, who this week urged parents to check whether or not their children should be receiving free school meals.

You can [read more on our website](#).

Did you know?

The Scottish Government has launched its new **Best Start Food payment**, which replaces the UK Government's Healthy Start Vouchers in Scotland.

Best Start Foods provides low income families on certain benefits with £17 every four weeks during pregnancy and for every child under three to spend on a range of healthy foods. This payment increases to £34 for children under one.

News

[Council shortlisted for COSLA Excellence Award](#): Argyll and Bute Council's work in supporting refugees into employment has made the final shortlist for the 2019 COSLA Excellence Awards

[Food growing strategy](#): A new council strategy which aims to encourage and enable people who wish to grow their own food is to go out for public consultation.

[Events and festival fund opens for applications](#): Applications are being invited for Argyll and Bute Council's Strategic Events and Festivals Fund for 2020-21.

[Back to school](#): Teaching staff and young people across Argyll and Bute returned to school after the summer holidays.

[Summer roads programme protects against winter damage](#): Close to half a million square metres of road throughout Argyll and Bute will be surface dressed over the summer to reduce the chance of new potholes developing as the weather deteriorates over winter.

[EU Exit information](#): The EU Exit page on our website provides links to the latest information on the UK's withdrawal from the EU (Brexit), including the EU Settlement Scheme which outlines the process for EU, EEA and Swiss citizens and their family members who want to stay in the UK to get the immigration status they need.

Argyll and Bute Council from A-Z: We've been highlighting some of our key services, from A-Z, and asking the people who do the day to day jobs, exactly what's involved. This week we reached the end of the alphabet with [Z is or Zero Waste](#).

We hope you have enjoyed finding out a bit more about the people and work of the council.

Consultations

[How good is your place?](#) Between now and the end of September we would like to know what you think about the places you live and work. That way we can work out what is important for our communities as priority actions. Please help us by taking [our survey](#).

Work with us

Whether it's island living or town life you like, we could have the job for you! This week our vacancies range from teaching and social work to research, clerical and SVQ Assessor roles. Locations include Mull, Islay and Bute, and Campbeltown, Helensburgh, Dunoon, Lochgilphead and Dunoon.

Find out about these, and other posts, at [MyJob Scotland](#).

For information about living and working in Argyll and Bute go to www.abplace2b.scot
#closerthanyouthink

Next edition

We will issue our next news round-up on Friday 23 August 2019.