

Argyll and Bute Council
Comhairle Earra-Ghàidheal Agus Bhòid

Executive Director: Douglas Hendry

*Kilmory, Lochgilphead, PA31 8RT
Tel: 01546 602127 Fax: 01546 604435
DX 599700 LOCHGILPHEAD*

7 August 2020

SUPPLEMENTARY PACK 1

**BUSINESS CONTINUITY COMMITTEE - BY SKYPE on THURSDAY, 13 AUGUST 2020
at 10:30 AM**

I enclose herewith amended **item 9 (ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN UPDATE)** which should replace the report previously circulated with the Agenda for the above meeting.

Douglas Hendry
Executive Director

AMENDED ITEM

9. ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN UPDATE (Pages 3 - 32)

Report by Interim Executive Director with responsibility for Development and Economic Growth

Aug 08

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ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN UPDATE

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Members recently approved a high level economic recovery plan in June 2020 for the Argyll and Bute region in response to the Covid 19 pandemic. That June report indicated that this plan will be subject to frequent review as we look towards an economic recovery and the need to reprioritise our economic objectives and actions in light of the national economic recovery and the significant changes to our local economy as a result of the pandemic.
- 1.2 This report has therefore identified the main Scottish Government Recovery themes together with key Council actions linked to each theme together with an initial list of key partners contained in **Table 1** of this report. The report also looks at some of the initial economic and social impacts of the Covid 19 pandemic in Argyll and Bute which of course has also informed a number of our economic priorities and actions going forward at this time.
- 1.3 **Appendix A** of the report highlights the extent of current and committed economic projects that have been identified under each of the main themes and form a significant part of the Council's economic recovery in the short and medium terms.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Business Continuity Committee:

- 2.1 Consider the contents of this report and approve the updated Argyll and Bute Economic Recovery Plan contained in **Table 1** and note the list of current and committed projects being taken forward in **Appendix A** subject to any comments they

and ending in October. While many people will hopefully return to their jobs it is anticipated that others will not be able to return as the business is no longer in operation or has downsized considerably to take account of the new economic reality that lies before us. It is therefore anticipated that many people will add to the claimant count and others may also have to move away from the area to find alternative work. It should be noted that the entire UK economy has been badly hit by the pandemic with a severe global recession now starting to emerge. How quickly it will recover remains a huge unknown at this time.

3.8 Consequently, economic recovery from the

Table 1

Argyll and Bute's Economic Recovery Plan

	Objectives and Outcomes	Council Actions	Key Partners
People	• Getting people back to work safely including disadvantaged groups and remote rural communities; • Ensuring School, Higher and Further education leavers move on to education, employment and training; • Re-focus on community wealth generation activity; • Improve workforce skills to meet current and future demand including foundation and graduate apprenticeships; • Look to attract new people and business to Argyll and Bute.	P1 – Ensure the wellbeing of employees, communities and customers is carefully considered in everything we do; P2- Fully understand the economic and social impacts of the pandemic on local people and communities; P3 – Put in place employment support for newly-unemployed, under-employed and those facing redundancy including disadvantaged groups and remote rural communities; P4 – Monitor leaver destinations and work with partners to promote opportunities and careers to all young people leaving full time education during the pandemic with enhanced support for those most at risk of becoming NEET (Not in Education, Employment or training); P5 - identify critical skills gaps post pandemic; P6 - Progress Skills, Education and Training theme of the Rural Growth Deal and Assess workforce and skills; P7 – Secure social value opportunities from Council procurement activity. P8 – Develop a range of opportunities for local businesses to engage with the Council and the community.	

	festivals;	PL3 – Implement Strategic Housing Investment Plan; PL4 –launch Strategic Events and festivals fund; PL5 – Continue working with local communities to help them secure a sustainable economic future including asset transfer; PL6 –Continue working with third sector partners in securing and re-purposing cultural assets as appropriate.	Scottish Towns partnership; TSI; Third sector and community partners; Scottish Canals.
Infrastructure	Continue to lobby and invest in our critical infrastructure;	I1- Continue .02899933 0 Td ()	

hospitality, food and drink.

- To raise the profile of the area as a place to invest in.

business issues;

E4 – provide clear advice and information on social distancing requirements for local businesses;

E5 – Implement an easing from lockdown officer group to enable businesses to adapt service delivery and enable expansion into appropriate public realm areas;

E6 – Develop key sector recovery plans;

E7-

noted that the projects listed are where the Council is taking a lead, is part of a National initiative impacting on Argyll and Bute, or where the Council is a key partner in the project, or has a direct financial interest. There are also many other projects being implemented in Argyll and Bute by other agencies of the public sector, through private sector investment and the third sector assisting in our economic recovery.

- 3.13 The total estimated capital and revenue invested in the projects listed in **Appendix A** is circa £242.5m and this will help sustain circa 6,498 jobs¹ in our area prior to the further roll out of any national and local economic recovery plans.

4.0 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The Council continues to develop its plans for economic recovery in response to the Covid 19 pandemic. Our region has been hit very hard in terms of economic and social impacts in common

5.5 **Fairer Scotland Duty:**

5.5.1 Equalities - protected characteristics: There are no equal opportunities implications.

5.5.2 Socio-economic Duty: It is intended that by implementing our economic recovery it will best support the social and economic needs of our communities across Argyll and Bute.

5.5.3 Islands: None arising from this report; the economic and social needs of our islands will require to be fully considered as we move forward.

5.6 **Risk -** There is a risk that if we do not look to our region's economic recovery now opportunities and assistance will be missed.

5.7 **Customer Service -** There are no customer service implications.

Interim Executive Director with responsibility for Development and Economic Growth - Kirsty Flanagan

August 2020

For further information - please contact:

Fergus Murray

Head of Development and Economic Growth 01546604293

APPENDIX A

This Appendix contains a list of Council led projects, or where the council is a key partner, or has made a direct financial contribution. Project status is dependent on availability of funding with green equalling funding committed/agreed; amber not all funding secured; It should be noted that projects are subject to frequent changes and where we can costs have been included in relation to anticipated future spend and not the total value of the project implemented prior to March 20. It is also anticipated that additional projects will be added as funding is secured and this list does not take into account many third sector and private sector ongoing investments.

People – Specific Projects Currently being taken forward

Location	Project Title	Development Phase: Design (D), Procurement (P), Consultation (C), Implementation Phase (I)	Timescales	Partners	Status	Project value
Oban &						

Pan Argyll and
Bute

Employability
Fund
Council
Employability and
CLDII

contractor



Place - Specific Projects Currently being taken forward

Town Centre Recovery Projects

Location	Project Title	Development Phase: Design (D), Procurement (P), Consultation (C), Implementation Phase (I)	Timescales	Partners	Status	Project value
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ABC - Main project

2017-23	Development					
Helensburgh	Pier Improvements	I	2020	Scottish Government - TCF	On site	£85k
Helensburgh	Hermitage Park – events tool kit	I	2020	Scottish Government		£35k
Rosneath	Howie Park improvements	I	2020	Community Council; Scottish Government TCF		£90k
Oban	Town Centre Signage	P	2020	Oban BIDs; Scottish Government TCF		£44k
Oban	Rockfield Centre new community hub	I	2020	Oban Communities Trust; Scottish Government TCF; HES; NLHF; RCGF; HIE	Part of culture recovery	£540k RCGF, £90k TCF(total project £3million)
Rothsay	TH/CARS	I	2017 - 23	NLHF; HES; HIE; LEADER; SUSTRANS		£3.283m (£66k LEADER) 50% through programme
Rothsay	Rothsay Pontoons	P	2020	Scottish Government TCF & Council		£550k
Dunoon	CARs	I	2017-23	HES; Dunoon Burgh Hall Trust; Argyll College – UHI; Dunoon Grammar School; Dunoon Grammar S		

Ardrishaig	Gleaner Oil Site, Ardrishaig (Phase 2)	D	2021	Scottish Canals; Sustrans		£250k Tarbert Lochgilphead Regen Fund
Ardrishaig	Ardrishaig North Public			Scottish		

		complete early 2020)				
Colonsay	5 units	D	20/21	West Highland		tbc
Dunbeg SAMS / Kirk Road	4 units conversion	I (on site and complete by March 2021)	20/21	West Highland		£257,362
Dunbeg phase 3	300 units	I (on site full completion Feb 2022)	20/21	LINK		£63.687m
Ulva Ferry	4 units	D	20/21	MICT		£1m
Total Project Value						£79,749,362

Place - Culture Recovery Projects

Location	Project Title	Development Phase: Design (D), Procurement (P), Consultation (C), Implementation Phase (I)	Timescales	Partners	Status	Project value
Kilmartin	Redevelopment of the museum	P	2021	HLF; HES;, SNH;		

				The Hugh Fraser Foundation; The Co-op Foundation; Scottish Land Fund; Stafford Trust; Pump House Trust		
Total Project Value						£17,220,000

Infrastructure – Tourism Recovery Projects

Location	Project

Infrastructure – investing in our piers and ~~and and and and and~~

Iona Breakwater	and extension Construction of Breakwater	D	2022/24	TS		£9m
Lismore point	Breakwater – Feasibility, GI & Design	D	2022/23			£200k
Port Askaig Pier	HGV Marshalling Area	-	2022/23			£1.6m
Rothesay Pier	Grouting/Piling	D/P	2021/22			£4.1m

Infrastructure – Additional Active Travel Projects

Location	Project Title	Development Phase: Design (D), Procurement (P), Consultation (C), Implementation Phase (I)	Timescales	Partners	Status	Project value
Cardross	Cyclepath Construction	I	2020-21	SPT, Sustrans, CWSR funding	Completion delayed by Covid-19, now forecast for end-2020.	£185,000
Islay	Bowmore to Bridgend Developed Design	D	2020-21	Sustrans, Islay Community Access Group		£70,000
Lochgilphead	Front Green to Crinan Canal developed and technical design	P / D	2020-21	Sustrans		Developed Design: £60,000 Technical Design: £65,000
Lochgilphead	Lochgilphead Town Centre Active Travel Concept	P / D	2020-21	Sustrans, Transport Scotland		£45,000
Jura	Craighouse, Concept Design	P / D	TBC	Sustrans		TBC
Rosneath	Phase 2 Developed Design	D	TBC	Sustrans		TBC
Rosneath	Town	I	TBC	Sustrans		TBC

Helensburgh	Helensburgh Community Engagement and Active Travel Identification	P / C	2020-21	SUSTRANS		£100,000
ABC	E -Scooter Trials		2020-21			TBC
Total Project Value						£1,090,000

Infrastructure – Improving Digital Connectivity

Location	Project Title	Development Phase: Design (D), Procurement (P), Consultation (C), Implementation Phase (I)
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ABC	Emergency Service Network (ESN)	I		Home Office; Everything Everywhere (EE)		Estimated £20m across Argyll
ABC	ESN Extended Area Sites (EAS)	I		Home Office		Unknown, Home Office Lead
Total Project Value						£20,384,000

Enterprise – creating new employment opportunities

Location	Project Title	Development Phase: Design (D), Procurement (P), Consultation (C), Implementation Phase (I)	Timescales	Partners	Status	Project value
Lochgilphead	Kilmory Business park phase 2	D	20/21/22/23	HIE; M and K Macleod		£1.8m
Dunbeg	European Marine Science Park phase 2 infrastructure works	I	20/21	HIE (lead)		£1m
Dunbeg	European Marine Science Park phase 2 Scotland Marine Training Centre	D	21/22/23	HIE; RGD		£7m
Dunbeg	Commercial Area – roundabout/infrastructure	D	21/22/23	LINK; Private sector		£3m
Helensburgh	Craigendoran Business Park	C	21/22/23	Scottish Enterprise; MoD; Private Sector (Lead);		£7m
Campbeltown	MACC – Spaceport	D/C	20/21/21	HIE; MACC; UK Space Agency	Feasibility work nearing completion	£3m Phase 1
Bute	Bute islands Foods factory expansion phases 1 and 2	I/C	20/21/22	HIE; Bute Islands Foods		£3m plus (£100k council)
ABC	Skills, Training and	D	21/22	HIE; SE; SDS;		£6m

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