

**MINUTES of MEETING of HELENSBURGH AND LOMO**



(Reference: Update by Neil MacFarlane, Transport Scotland, submitted)

(c) **Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Update**

The Group considered a report highlighting the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service's (SFRS) FQ2 review of local performance across Helensburgh and Lomond for the period 2021-22.

James Sullivan provided an overview of the statistics outlined in the report, and confirmed that there had been a slight increase in overall incidents. He advised that 94 Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSVs)

Duncan also provided the Group with a presentation, including pictures of the work which had been carried out throughout the Summer. He advised that the next steps were now to review the project and confirm what could be put in place next year, noting that the implementation of permanent toilets at the head of Loch Long would be a key target.

Kirsty Moyes congratulated Duncan and the Trust on their hard work during a busy Summer, and offered her support with any challenges which could be assisted by partnership working. Duncan confirmed that discussions were ongoing with colleagues at Argyll and Bute Council and Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park around the proposed strategy for next year, including how temporary provisions in place could be improved and taken forward on a more permanent basis.

Councillor Paterson reiterated his thanks for the work undertaken, and particularly noted the hard work of local wardens. Discussion took place around the 'window openings' on the Loch and Duncan confirmed that continuous maintenance of regrowth would be required by wardens and volunteers, however the wardens would soon be finishing for the season due to funding limitations.

Sarah Davies enquired about the success of the work around providing additional bins to combat litter, as Plastic Free Helensburgh and Helensburgh Community Council were undertaking some surveys in relation to this in Helensburgh. Duncan confirmed that the project had worked well and had gained a lot of interest, with a full report being prepared to collate statistics and relevant data. Duncan advised that it was likely that an adopt-a-bin scheme may be implemented in future due to the pilot project's success, however he would welcome the feedback of anyone who regularly travels the local area to inform future decisions around this.

### **Decision**

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

(Reference: Report by Duncan MacLachlan, Arrochar and Tarbet Community Development Trust and Friends of Loch Lomond, submitted)

#### **(e) Community Learning Service Update**

The Group considered an update from Rhona Grant, Community Learning Services Team Leader, Live Argyll, which provided information around a return to thematic remits for Adult Learning and Youth Services work and included contact details of the Community Learning Workers and Team Leaders for each area and remit. The update also included confirmation that workers would continue their engagement and work with partners and learners in line with the new Community Learning and Development Strategic Plan 2021-24 and the identified priorities therein.

### **Decision**

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

(Reference: Update by Rhona Grant, Team Leader – Community Learning Services,

Live Argyll, submitted)

(f) **Opportunity for verbal updates from Area Community Planning Group Partners**

Kirsty Moyes, Community Development Officer, Argyll and Bute Council

Kirsty Moyes confirmed that the Community Development Team continued to provide capacity support, and were hoping to relaunch the Supporting Communities Fund at the beginning of 2022. She confirmed that further information in relation to the Supporting Communities Fund would be provided in due course.

Duncan MacLachlan advised that he would encourage any local groups to enquire about this funding, and noted that Kirsty had been very helpful during the application process.

Dr Faye Tudor, Argyll College UHI

Dr Tudor advised that the new academic year had started, and all centres had re-opened. She noted that some students had returned to learning centres, and this was being monitored in line with government guidance. It was confirmed that, where there was a requirement to do so, students were being prioritised for physical attendance at centres according to their individual learning needs.

Dr Tudor provided information around the steps being taken to address digital poverty, including the provision of laptops and internet dongles for students. She also outlined the ways that Argyll College UHI were supporting students by promoting Health and Wellbeing Services, as well as arranging one-to-one sessions to identify any support required.

Dr Tudor highlighted that applications were open for the next academic year, and confirmed that an open day event was being held online on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2021. She encouraged anyone who was interested in this to check the Argyll College UHI website for further details.

Paula Darbyshire, Argyll and Bute TSI

Paula Darbyshire advised that she had recently started as a Service Adviser with Argyll and Bute TSI. She outlined information around a new Health and Wellbeing Fund being distributed, noting that consultation around this would be ongoing until 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021 and all relevant information was available on the website.

Paula confirmed that Young Person's Guarantee referrals were still being taken, and

Allan Comrie, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT)

Allan Comrie advised that there had not been any significant update from the last meeting of the Group to report, confirming that a response had been submitted on proposed changes to the rail network and rail services from May 2022. He confirmed that SPT's immediate focus was on providing public transport to vaccine centres, and this was ongoing.

Allan highlighted that the free bus travel scheme for young people under the age of 22 was scheduled to begin at the end of January 2022.

Allan also advised that SPT were in communication with Argyll and Bute Council

of the facilities available for artists in the artist's residency centre, and the ways in which artists could attend on a funded or self-funded basis. It was noted that a new

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(Reference: Presentation by Susan MacRae, Area Manager, Skills Development Scotland, dated 18<sup>th</sup> November 2021, submitted)

## **7. COMMUNITY LEARNING PARTNERSHIP PLAN**

change at a recent meeting of the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Management Committee, and they had agreed to undertake an audit of climate change work taking place across the area.

Sarah Davies advised that Argyll and Bute Council declaring a climate change emergency had been very welcomed. She also provided an overview of activities

community partners involved in the Group, and encouraged anyone who may be interested to put themselves forward for the role.

As there were no suggested appointments for either role, it was agreed that this item would be continued to the next meeting of the Group.

### **Decision**

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group:

1. agreed to continue the report seeking the appointment of a Chair and Vice-Chair to the next meeting of the Group; and
2. noted that the Committee Manager would raise the issues around recruitment of a Chair and Vice-Chair at the next meeting of the Community Planning Partnership Management Committee.

(Reference: Report by Committee Manager, Argyll and Bute Council, dated 18<sup>th</sup> November 2021, submitted)

### **11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Group noted that the next meeting of the Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group would take place on Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> of February 2022.