

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BUTE AND COWAL AREA COMMITTEE HELD ON A
HYBRID BASIS IN THE QUEEN'S HALL, DUNOON AND BY MICROSOFT TEAM
ON TUESDAY, 5 SEPTEMBER 2023**

4. PLAY PARK ENGAGEMENT - UPDATE REPORT

The Committee gave consideration to a report which provided an update on the Play Park engagement responses following the conclusion of the community engagement exercise in light of the Scottish Government Play Park funding allocation.

Councillor McCabe left the meeting at this point and Councillor McNeilly took over as Chair.

Decision

The Bute and Cowal Area Committee:

1. noted the breakdown of engagement and consultation responses in each area with the majority of responses focussing on new/replacement equipment; and
2. agreed that officers make arrangements for a Business Day to discuss how the funding would be spent in Bute and Cowal.

(Reference: Report by Executive Director with responsibility for Roads and Infrastructure Services, dated August 2023, submitted)

5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Alistair McLay asked the Area Committee a number of questions in relation to Dunoon Pier.

1. Does the Area Committee know which department within the Council currently has responsibility for maintaining the Pier?
2. Does the Area Committee know how much money is currently set aside annually for the maintenance of the structure and associated buildings and what resource has been committed this year?
3. I believe over the last couple of years there has been budget surplus, could this be allocated to the Area Committee to maintain the Pier?
4. What pressure has Argyll and Bute Council brought to central Government to secure the required resources to perform repairs and maintenance?

Councillor McNeilly advised that the Area Committee does not have financial responsibility and cannot make any spending commitments in this regard, adding that this would be a

Mr McLay asked the Area Committee if they would support looking at potentially partnering with a community body to apply for external funds such as the Heritage Lottery Fund?.

Councillor McNeilly highlighted that if Mr McLay had a group in mind that the Area Committee would be happy to engage with them.

The Project Manager advised that information is available through the Marine Asset Management Plan which focuses on marine infrastructure and that he would send Mr McLay the Plan along with the associated budget allocation following the meeting. Mr Calder further advised that the Roads and Infrastructure team are also happy to discuss and support any ideas around the maintenance and improvement of the Pier.

The Project Manager advised that the Dunoon Pier formed part of the wider Council bid for the levelling up fund and that there is a significant amount of information available in this regard. Mr Calder advised that he would circulate this to Mr McLay and the Area Committee for information.

The Area Committee agreed to convene a business day meeting to explore possible future options and funding streams for Dunoon Pier.

6. AREA PERFORMANCE REPORT - FQ1 2023/24

Consideration was given to the Area Performance Report for financial quarter 1 of 2023/24 (April to June 2023) which illustrated the agreed performance measures for this period.

Decision

The Bute and Cowal Area Committee:

1. noted and considered the performance and supporting commentary as presented;
2. noted that upon receipt of the Quarterly Performance Report the Area Committee should contact either the Responsible Named Officer or Sonya Thomas with any queries; and
3. noted that work was ongoing and to respond to Sonya Thomas with requests or comments regarding the layout and format of the Performance Report and Scorecard.

(Reference: Report by Executive Director with responsibility for Customer Support Services, dated 23 August 2023, submitted)

7. ROADS AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES UPDATE

The Committee gave consideration to a report which provided links to the recent activities of Roads and Infrastructure Services.

Decision

The Bute and Cowal Area Committee considered and noted the contents of the report.

(Reference: Report by Executive Director with responsibility for Roads and Infrastructure Services, dated August 2023, submitted)

Councillor McCabe returned to the meeting at this point and took over as Chair.

8.

