

**25<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

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**LEADER'S REPORT**

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**1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1** The Leader of the Council provides a report outlining her strategic activities for consideration at each meeting of Argyll and Bute Council, except the budget meeting in February. A [redacted] was considered at the council meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2019, with the next reports due at the council meeting planned for 16<sup>th</sup> April 2020 and covering activity during that period.
- 1.2** The COVID-19 situation required significant change to council business, includr

### **3. LEADER ACTIVITIES**

#### **3.1 Argyll and Bute Council Activities:**

COVID-19:

I visited the Helensburgh and Lomond area hub at Hermitage Academy on 20<sup>th</sup> May to join volunteers packing up some of the hundreds of parcels due to go out that day. It was great to see this first-hand s more detail about the project in the regular Covid-19 response reports to committee.

Volunteers Week 1<sup>st</sup>

different corners of the region. We wanted to ensure that they are doing everything they can to support people in Argyll and Bute to access decent broadband or 4G capability. At the moment around 14% of premises in the area still require to be able to access broadband above the USO level.

We were reassured to hear of plans for action and investment to change

Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership Management Committee,  
3<sup>rd</sup> June:

The CPP Management Committee caught up as planned, albeit on Skype, on 3<sup>rd</sup> June.

We welcomed a new member to the committee Stan Phillips, representing Scottish Natural Heritage.

and current position in relation to the coronavirus pandemic, we had a discussion on how it would impact us a partnership for example, changing our priorities, affecting delivery of outcomes, any impact on individual agency priorities and how that would affect the partnership as a whole.

We also took a look ahead to recovery and how we will continue to work together in that specific context.

Leaving Covid-

and Development Framework (SDDF) partnership with the Ministry of Defence will be particularly useful. We also had an opportunity to hear how the MoD is progressing its accommodation project (for p



must, as an organisation, build on all the good work we have done to drive



Vulnerable Communities  
Casual Workers

1st May:

Finance Update  
Guidance for Direct Payments During COVID-19  
COSLA Nominations for Public Health Scotland  
Education Update  
Emergency Childcare Funding  
Information Dashboard  
Early Release of Prisoners  
Digital Exclusion No One Left Behind Programme  
Unsuitable Accommodation Order  
Communications Update  
Distribution Update

15<sup>th</sup> May:

Finance Update  
Distribution Update  
Education Update  
Recovery Special Interest Group TOR  
Social Care Provider Sustainability

b. Guidance on Physical Distancing  
Test and Protect (Formerly TTIS)

12<sup>th</sup> June:

On 4<sup>th</sup> June, I spoke with Chief Superintendent John Paterson of Police Scotland, who is the Divisional Commander for Argyll and West Dunbartonshire. Our discussion inevitably focused on the current Covid-19 response and the areas where we are working together, as community planning partners, to promote guidance or ensure compliance with legislation. This was a positive session and plans are in place for a regular series of informal discussions or meetings moving forward.

With an increase in virtual meetings it has been possible to participate in a number of sessions which may not otherwise be possible due to practicalities. It has been helpful to attend various free webinars organised by organisations including the Improvement Service and others, focusing sometimes on Covid-

These include:

30<sup>th</sup> April: Improvemenpervid@B601 TJETBT/F1 12 Tf1 0 0 1 423.05 Tc30

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

- 4.1** This report highlights the activities of the Leader of Argyll and Bute Council for the period from end March to 15<sup>th</sup> June 2020.

**Councillor Aileen Morton  
Leader, Argyll and Bute Council**

**15<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

**For further information or to access the Leader's Report Pack please contact Aileen McNicol, Leadership Support and Member Services Manager, telephone 01546 604014 or email [aileen.mcnicol@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:aileen.mcnicol@argyll-bute.gov.uk)**