









(d) Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Update

The Group considered a report from James Sullivan, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, highlighting the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service's (SFRS) FQ3 review of local performance across Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands for 2020-21.

James confirmed that SFRS had an emergency response in place and had suitable resilience in dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic. James advised that there had been an overall reduction in operational activity for SFRS across all areas in Argyll and Bute, providing an overview of incidents outlined within the report. James provided details around the ways in which people could engage with SFRS during this period of lockdown and noted that Lochgilphead fire station was being used as a hub for issuing Covid-19 test kits, with Campbeltown and Tarbert fire stations also being identified as potential locations for assisting with this in future.

Decision

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Commo1 (er)7s in which people could engag4H

this point for a short period, noting that she had provided a comprehensive written

the impact of restrictions and funding available to local businesses; Argyll College activities; private childcare arrangements in light of the ongoing pandemic; Islay Resilience Group activities; airport passenger numbers; and information from Islay

## Decision

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group:

1. considered and noted the information provided; and
2. noted that in the absence of a representative from Inveraray Community Council the Committee Manager would take back any questions to Inveraray Community Council and circulate any responses to the Group.

(Reference: Report by Linda Divers, Inveraray Community Council, submitted)

### (k) Tarbert and Skipness Community Trust Update

The Group considered an update from Tarbert and Skipness Community Trust detailing their response to Covid-19 which included supporting the Team Tarbert volunteer group through Scottish Government Supporting Communities Fund, Force 9, Fern Community Benefit Fund and STV Appeal funding. The update advised that through successful partnership working the Trust were able to provide assistance in a number of areas including; co-ordination of food delivery in Tarbert and Skipness; the provision of food and fuel vouchers; payment of volunteers expenses; the provision of online and digital content to combat isolation and loneliness; the provision and delivery of activity and mindfulness packs; supply of PPE for volunteers; and the provision of 10 laptops to Tarbert Academy and Tarbert Primary School. The update advised that future plans for the Trust included a hardship fund continuing until the end of March 2021; the extension of after school care for holiday provision; the construction of a socially distanced meeting venue for older people; the continuation of online and digital support; and the provision of PPE to support public venues when they are able to re-open.

## Decision

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group:

1. considered and noted the information provided; and
2. noted that in the absence of a representative from Tarbert and Skipness Community Trust the Committee Manager would take back any questions to Tarbert and Skipness Community Trust and circulate any responses to the Group.

(Reference: Report by Jane Cowen, Secretary, Tarbert and Skipness Community Trust, dated 19 January 2021, submitted)

### (l) Opportunity for verbal updates from Area Community Planning Group Partners involved in resilience projects relating to the Covid -19 response

Ian Brodie, East Kintyre Community Council (EKCC)

The Chair advised that vaccines had arrived in East Kintyre and that the local doctor had begun to vaccinate eligible people. The Chair confirmed that the resilience



aware of relevant phone numbers through word of mouth and documents previously circulated locally.

Susan MacRae, Skills Development Scotland (SDS)

Susan MacRae, Skills Development Scotland, advised that following the return to lockdown restrictions, SDS had largely returned to online delivery of services via Microsoft Teams. Susan referenced the difference between the different lockdown periods, noting that young people appeared to be engaging more as the schools were up and running online. Susan noted a rise in anxiety among young people during this period of lockdown, with many concerned around exam results, assessments and online learning.

Susan provided information around an 'I Can Do Anything' day being run virtually for young people to attend and gain insight from a number of speakers and employers, advising that all local schools had engaged with this and she hoped to provide feedback on this event at the next meeting of the Group. Susan confirmed that SDS were currently in the process of contacting young people thinking about leaving school this year to check if they had plans in place or provide support where needed, advising that there appeared to be more uncertainty around this this year than last as many young people had already made plans for their departure from school prior to the initial period of lockdown in 2020.

Susan noted that SDS were in the process of collating information around the different grants available at this time and would share this information with the Group when it was available.

- (m) Opportunity for general verbal updates from Area Community Planning Group Partners

Antonia Baird, Community Development Officer

Antonia Baird, Community Development Officer, advised that the Supporting Communities Fund was now open for applications, with a deadline of the 11<sup>th</sup> of March 2021. Antonia confirmed that there were four new criteria for the fund this year, with information available on the Council website and assistance available from the Community Development Team.

Councillor John Armour

Councillor Armour expressed his frustration at non-attendance of partners at meetings of the Group, noting that he had also raised this issue at the previous meeting of the Group. Councillor Armour advised that he was unaware of what solution was required to increase attendance, however he felt that improvement was required to support meetings going forward. The Committee Manager, advised that a number of written updates had been submitted on the response to Covid-19 following a request to partners and noted that the attendance at the meeting from partners was improved from the previous meeting. The Committee Manager confirmed that where there was not a representative in attendance to speak to a report, the Committee Manager had offered to feedback any questions to them and circulate responses to the Group. The Committee Manager also confirmed that the feedback around non-attendance from the previous meeting had been



(c) Opportunity for verbal

2. agreed to continue to collaborate to attempt to address the challenges faced due to increased informal camping activity;
3. noted that work would progress on actions identified from the Short Life Working Group; and
4. noted that in the absence of the Economic Growth Officer the Committee Manager would take back any questions and circulate any responses to the Group.

(Reference: Report by Economic Growth Officer, Argyll and Bute Council, dated 3 February 2021, submitted)

#### 10. BASECAMP DEMONSTRATION

Samantha Somers, Community Planning Officer, provided a demonstration to the group of BaseCamp, an online website which allows members of the Area Community Planning Group (ACPG) to access relevant documents relating to the ACPG; provide information on action points arising from the meetings or action plans; share information about relevant items of interest with other members; and provides better networks with other ACPG members in between meetings.

Samantha confirmed that she would circulate an e-mail to the Group distribution list following the meeting to ascertain the correct contact from each organisation to access Basecamp.

Decision

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group;

1. thanked the Community Planning Officer for the informative demonstration and noted the informat

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group agreed:

1. to support the promotion of Gaelic where possible;
2. to consider Gaelic as an option when looking at new and existing initiatives;
3. to connect interested parties with the Gaelic Development Worker;
4. to have an awareness of the Argyll and Bute Gaelic Language Plan and where possible support the objectives;
5. to note the information provided in relation to Colmcille 1500 funding and

1. considered and noted the briefing note;
2. agreed that the Committee Manager would carry out a survey of all members of the Group to ascertain potential solutions for better attendance and provide a report on the results of this survey at the next meeting of the Group;
3. agreed that potential barriers to youth engagement with meetings be raised with the Community Planning Partnership Management Committee; and
4. agreed that the Committee Manager would communicate to all members of the Group that they could send a depute to the meetings if unable to attend personally.

(Reference: Report by Committee Manager, Argyll and Bute Council, dated 3 February 2021, submitted)

### 13. AREA