

**SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT PLACE BASED INVESTMENT PROGRAMME FUNDING
2021/22**

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Council has been allocated £821,000 of funding from Scottish Government for the financial year 2021/22 in connection with the Place Based Investment Programme. This funding is to enable the Council to carry out the Programme in their area. Scottish Government has agreed to a 5 year funding programme in regard to this Programme fund and as a local authority the council will receive a share of the funding each year over the 5 years to support and advance place-based investment and build on the strong partnership currently existing through the Regeneration Capital Grant Fund.
- 1.2 The main objectives of the Place Based Investment Programme are:
- to link and align place based initiatives and establish a coherent local framework to implement the Place Principle;
 - to support place policy ambitions such as town centre revitalisation, community led regeneration, 20 minute neighbourhoods and Community Wealth Building;
 - to ensure that all place based investments are shaped by the needs and aspirations of local communities;
 - to accelerate our ambitions for net zero, wellbeing and inclusive economic development, tackling inequality and disadvantage, community involvement and ownership.
- 1.3 The full £821,000 must be committed by 31st March 2022 and this commitment of expenditure should be evidenced by a fully let contract or commencement of works in order to avoid having to return any unspent funds to Scottish Government. The eligible costs for which the Grant can be claimed are capital costs incurred by the local authority or third parties through the Place Based Investment Programme.
- 1.4 As was the case with the previous Scottish Government Town Centre funding annual allocations, the timelines for the delivery of capital projects and associated spend under this new Programme fund is very tight and capacity to deliver projects is limited. In order to ensure that the council can fulfil the requirements of the grant the focus has to be on projects that can be delivered within the timeframe and for which there are the necessary staff

resources available for the delivery. Any project chosen will require to be able to start as soon as possible.

- 1.5 The report is seeking member's initial approval to allocate funding to three projects and to delegate authority on the allocation of the remaining funding for this year to the

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

COUNCIL

**DEVELOPMENT AND
ECONOMIC GROWTH**

24th JUNE 2021

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2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 The council has been allocated £821,000 of funding from Scottish Government for the financial year 2021/22 in connection with the Place Based Investment Programme. This funding is to enable the Council to carry out the Programme in their area. Scottish Government has agreed to a 5 year funding programme in regard to this fund and as a local authority the council will receive a share of the funding each year over 5 years to support and advance place-based investment and build on the strong partnership currently existing through the Regeneration Capital Grant Fund,

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 It is recommended that the Council:

- a. Note the allocation of £821,000 of Place Based Investment Programme funding from the Scottish Government for the financial year 2021/22.
- b. Note the main objectives of the Place Based Investment Programme funding and associated criteria and conditions of the grant including the tight timeline for delivery.
- c. Agree to the allocation of the Place Based Investment Programme funding to the three projects as detailed in paragraph 4.9.
- d. Agree to delegate authority on the allocation of the remaining unallocated Place Based Investment funding for 2021/22 to the Policy and Resources Committee with a report going to the August meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee recommending subsequent individual

4.7 The Programme aims to invest in centres or neighbourhoods connected with

however the current budget available for the

fund. The biggest challenge at this time is the limited resources to both develop and deliver new projects.

5.0 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 The tight timescales associated with this year's fund combined with limited resources to deliver make for a challenging programme. The projects to be supported by this year's allocation of funding have to be focused on those that meet the criteria of the fund, are deliverable within the timeframe and have the necessary resources in place to ensure this otherwise there is a risk that funding will have to be paid back to Scottish Government.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Policy – There is a need to comply with the Scottish Government Place Based Investment Programme and associated criteria, grant conditions and guidance for the Fund.

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