



others) participation in round 3 of LEIP. We anticipate it will be a very competitive process with oversubscription of applications due to this being last round of government funding on offer plus financial challenges of all Councils. To this extent, there can be no guarantee that if a bid from Argyll and Bute is submitted it would be successful.

suitability and condition aspects of the current infrastructure / estate but also noting the majority of mainland towns have had new campus developed within the last 15 years and seeking to address our islands on an equitable basis. Previous Scottish

8.0 Summary and Next Steps

- 8.1 Note that a paper outlining approach to LEIP will be reported to the Full Council on 29th September which will also include feedback from pre-engagement with community.
- 8.2 This report is seeking to update and obtain political direction on the proposal to make LEIP submission for a new Mull Campus in October. This decision needs to be considered in the context of the educational priorities, learning benefits, regeneration, condition / suitability of the current building, community and overall affordability.

9.0 Implications

- 9.1 Policy – The Council's Learning Estate Strategy 2021 sets out that the ambition is to provide a property school estate that is of category A or B in terms of suitability and condition plus a number of other modern standards. Seeking to access LEIP funding to deliver new build estate on our priority location, Mull, supports that ambition.
- 9.2 Financial - Accessing LEIP is a significant financial commitment to the Council as the entire design development, associated cost like land acquisition (if required) and construction costs will be required to be met in full by the Council. The SG would then provide up to 50% of eligible capital costs back over 25 year annual payment if criteria is met. There is risk in this model should criteria not be met and also in terms of risk of construction in current climate so specific financial and affordability advice from Section 95 Officer has been afforded.
- 9.3 Legal – Accessing LEIP is a significant contractual and legal commitment to the Council which will be duly considered if move to next stage.
- 9.4 HR – None at this stage. Considered at future stages if progress.
- 9.5 Fairer Scotland Duty
 - 9.5.1 Equalities – None at this stage. Considered at future stages if progress.
 - 9.5.2 Socio-economic Duty – The level of investment in a new Campus will be substantial and Scottish Government have set requirements to deliver socio economic benefits if progressed.
 - 9.5.3 Islands – Positive implications given top priority in this competitive process has been identified as Mull.
- 9.6 Climate Change – Scottish Government have set requirements to key climate change criteria and benefits if progressed
- 9.7 Risk – Risks exists both in terms of financial and reputational. If progress to next project stages a risk register will be developed.
- 9.8 Customer Service – Pre-engagement has commenced and will be ongoing throughout process as progress.

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Appendices

Appendix A - Routemap

Appendix B - Financial & Budget Position (PUBLICALLY RESTRICTED)

Appendix C - Pre-Engagement Feedback