
**Argyll and Bute Community Planning
Partnership**

**Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands
Area Community Planning Group**

2 November 2022



Community Planning Partnership Management Committee Update

Financial Inclusion

Fergus Walker advised that the Financial Inclusion and Advice Group, and a splinter group are looking at energy advice and are very busy looking at how to mitigate issues and impacts on citizens in Argyll and Bute. Some research has shown that inflation has increased the cost of food, travel and clothes by more than 13% (higher in Argyll and Bute than elsewhere), and that 70% of properties in Argyll and Bute would require an income of over £82k to mitigate this, yet the average income in the area is £30k per annum.

While the Energy Price Cap was welcomed it was reported that the average cost of energy to homes in Argyll and Bute is double the price cap and many properties are off gas grid and rely on oil and electricity. Support for Argyll and Bute is being lobbied at senior levels in Government and there is work with multiple agencies to negotiate with energy companies and provide links to emergency support.

Fergus reported that the Loca eligible continues. The cards will have £120 loaded to spend at over 140 local businesses. The total card value is approx. £800k. Once the contract for this has been finalised it is hoped more businesses will join the scheme. The Food Fund has helped 1,350 households with an overall gain to them (customer gain) of £1.8m since January 2021.

Community Wealth Building

Takki Sulaiman provided an update of some of the work contributing to the development of Community Wealth Building approaches in Argyll and Bute. The focus of which is to use levers, as appropriate, to keep wealth generated in local areas to remain in that local economy.

local people in Mid Argyll. A place narrative was then developed to identify a shared story for change; explaining the context and setting out what makes a place distinct. Lochgilphead is a good place to live, and there has been visible investment to the area in the last year, however there is also a fragility to the area and this needs attention as to how demographic and economic changes can affect it.

David advised that work needs to be done to attract visitors to the town, and that there is also a need for housing stock, extension of childcare and nursery provision, youth activities and social activities. In terms of next steps, work is continuing on Phase 1 (ends November 2022) and this includes a Place Brief, Place Program, Developing Funding, Determining Governance and Assurance and planning detailed additional engagement.

Coll Engagement

Sarah Griffin introduced the work of the Coll Collaborative Working Group which aims to ensure person centred, sustainable, affordable and integrated access to care on Coll. A needs assessment was undertaken in July 2022 and will inform work as it goes forwa 0 1 192.25(l)3JET EMC /P #MCID 2143 BDCDC BT1 0 0 -6(s)28(i)-27(t)28()JTJET EM

Rona Gold delivered a presentation which detailed how Outcomes Improvement Plans are a requirement of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. The previous 10 year plan ends in 2023 and work needs to progress on forming the plan for the next 10 years.

During July to September 2022 the CPP team met with multiple partners and other Community Planning Partnerships and reviewed all engagement in