

Area Wide

Argyll Food Producers - Pilot Events 2008

Argyll Food Producers

Project cost: £22500 Eligible cost: £22500 Grant award: £7500

Public match funding: £15000 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

Argyll Food producers is a newly constituted group formed to promote and enhance Argyll and the Islands reputation for quality local produce by taking positive action to develop commercial opportunities for the area's food and drink portfolio. Ten Argyll and the Islands based producers will joint together to attend 4 large events (Belladrum, Rockness, T in the Park and Connect) during the summer. The producers will meet the costs of the event pitch fees, marquee infrastructure, individual catering infrastructure , travel and accommodation at events. They will sell their products individually and retain the income. However, is important that high quality marketing and promotional materials, including bespoke sales area easily identified as Argyll Food is developed and the aim of this project is to support the producers activity by creating a high quality brand and marketing arena and provide training to producers in how to develop the types of product best suited to this type of market.

Grant awarded 15 May 2008

Area Wide

Development of Stramash as a Social Enterprise

Argyll and Bute Council

www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

Project cost: £64000 Eligible cost: £38750 Grant award: £19375

Public match funding: £19375 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

The aim of the project is to employ a development officer to take the group through the process of becoming a social enterprise, ensure all structures and policies are in place, prepare a development plan for the new board to follow and to provide training for board members. Part of the development officer's role will cover marketing activities - these activities are ineligible.

Grant awarded 15 May 2008

Area Wide

Argyll and Bute Agricultural Strategy - Next Steps

Scottish Agricultural College for Argyll and Bute Agricultural Forum

Project cost: £179129 Eligible cost: £179129 Grant award: £107479

Public match funding: £71650 Private match funding: £0

In-kind match funding: £

"An Agricultural Strategy for the Argyll area" was launched in August 2005. Whelk LEADER + funded the facilitation of Phase One of the strategy. This project was successfully completed. Following a review, Phase two has been planned. This application is for assistance with the costs of facilitating the implementation of Phase 2 of the strategy.

Grant awarded 15 May 2008

Area Wide

Argyll and Bute Woodland and Forestry Strategy

Argyll and Bute Council

www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

Project cost: £46880 Eligible cost: £45680 Grant award: £21880

Public match funding: £23800 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

The aim of this project is to develop a Forestry and Woodland Strategy, which covers a broader scope than a traditional Indicative Forest Strategy, based on findings of an extensive consultation process which will take into account the wide range of economic, environmental and social issues relating to forestry and woodland at a local level, involving local groups, the forestry industry and relevant agencies. A development plan based on the consultation will be written and be adapted as a supplementary planning guidance by Argyll & Bute Council (NB this will not affect Arran & Cumbraes and area covered by LLTNP as different planning authorities). It is anticipated that the development plan will also assist in attracting funding to further develop the forestry resource in the area.

Grant awarded 15 May 2008

Area Wide

Constructive Communities

West Highland Housing Association

www.westhighlandha.co.uk

Project cost: £131599 Eligible cost: £131599 Grant award: £36000

Public match funding: £95599 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

This is a collaborative project between West Highland Housing Association (WHHA) Dunbritton Housing Association (DHA), Fyne Homes Ltd and Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA) arising from More Than Housing –the joint regeneration strategy for RSLs in Argyll and Bute. A telephone survey confirmed that there was a need for a repairs and redecoration programme for village halls throughout the area.. A combination of circumstances has led to a high demand for these kind of improvements: the ageing of halls, lack of sufficient funds, volunteer fatigue, rising bills, elderly committees and shortage of trades people mean that disrepair threatens the wellbeing of many halls in Argyll and Bute as popular community venues. Representatives from the Committees of various Village Halls cited a range of repairs required, such as painting and decorating, door replacements, access improvements, worn worktops, step replacements and costly heating bills. To address these issues, WHHA has entered into a partnership with Argyll and Bute Council Employability Team to deliver this project as a training and employment project.

Grant awarded 27 June 2008

Area Wide

Expanding Learning Opportunities Across Argyll

Argyll College UHI Ltd

Project cost: £267900 Eligible cost: £267900 Grant award: £80370

Public match funding: £187530 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

This project will expand Argyll College UHI's capacity to deliver a range of courses additional to those previously offered by the college. It also aims to pilot two new full time courses in a number of centres. By offering additional learning and training opportunities to individuals and businesses across Argyll and the Islands, particularly in some of the most remote areas, the project aims to: strengthen the rural economy and increase prosperity and productivity in Argyll and the Islands; reduce outmigration of young people and the economically active; increase the accessibility of information and support within the rural community and enhance the quality of life within the locality. LEADER funding would help to support the running costs of the additional premises required to support Argyll College UHI's additional activity during its first two years. A demand for construction skills training amongst school leavers has been identified and construction skills, courses would be offered in Rothesay and Campbeltown.

Grant awarded 27 June 2008

Area Wide

Argyll & Bute Social Economy Partnership Action Plan – Phase One

Argyll and Bute Council on behalf of Argyll and Bute Social Economy Partnership

Project cost: £80000 Eligible cost: £80000 Grant award: £38915

Public match funding: £41085 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

Argyll & Bute Council is a member of the Argyll & Bute Social Economy Partnership and is making the application on behalf of the partnership.

The purpose of the Argyll & Bute Social Economy Partnership is to provide an overarching framework to encourage the growth of social enterprise and to support the development of a stronger third sector to deliver more public services within the Argyll & Bute Area. The Partners have developed a strategic Action Plan which will run from 2008 -2011. A phased delivery is being used to allow adaptations in response to changes within the third sector during the 3 year period.. This application relates to the implementation of Phase 1 of the Action Plan.

The project fits well with Progressive Rural Economy and fulfils SRDP measure 341 skills, animation, local dev. Strategies.

Grant awarded 27 June 2008

Area Wide

ALLenergy Training

Argyll, Lomond and the Islands Energy (ALLenergy)

Project cost: £10835 Eligible cost: £10835 Grant award: £5417

Public match funding: £ Private match funding: £5418

In-kind match funding: £

The aim of the project is to provide access to accredited energy efficiency training and qualifications for ALLenergy staff members and directors making the organisation better equipped to provide advice/support on energy efficiency locally, able to promote new approaches to energy saving and help to support community energy efficiency/renewable energy projects being developed by individuals and communities. The training will help build the capacity of the organisation and allow it to tender for commercial contracts which will reduce dependency on grants. Including the organisation's directors in the training programme will allow the individuals to take the new skills back to their organisations and enable more informed decision making on energy matters.

Grant awarded 27 June 2008

Area Wide

Time for Health

Argyll and Bute Volunteer Centre

Project cost: £42410 Eligible cost: £36200 Grant award: £18100

Public match funding: £18100 Private match funding: £0

In-kind match funding: £

Argyll and Bute Volunteer Centre received assistance from the WHELK LEADER+ programme to pilot time banking within the area. The pilot proved to be successful and the time banks established during the pilot are still active.

The aim of the current project is to link with local mental health services and pilot time banking as an innovative way to increase the support mechanisms to impact positively on general mental health and well-being within the area. A new time bank will be established in Lochgilphead to cover the Mid Argyll area and the existing timebanks in Bute and Campbeltown will be extended to allow for development of health and well-being focussed timebank networks. This will require additional staff hours/ or new post to extend the service and specific staff training to acquire the necessary skills to engage with those at risk of or suffering mental health issues, isolation and who require support to participate. Workshops are planned and training will be offered to volunteers

Grant awarded 26 September 2008

Area Wide

Argyll and the Isles Bio-energy Centre

Argyll, Lomond and the Islands Energy (ALLenergy)

Project cost: £36038 Eligible cost: £36038 Grant award: £18019

Public match funding: £12500 Private match funding: £3019

In-kind match funding: £2500

Argyll and the Islands have enormous potential for biomass energy systems, drawing on the significant forest resources that the area supports. The area represents 20% of Scotland's managed forest land and produced almost 700,000 tonnes of wood in 2003 (mainly softwood spruce and fir). Forestry Commission Scotland predicts that this production level will double by 2015. But much of the felled timber is wasted; either as dead trees, fell to waste or in the form of unused brash. These waste products can be utilised as woodfuel. As with other forms of renewable energy, biomass can bring various economic, social and environmental benefits to Argyll and the Islands, including sustainable economic growth, greater energy security and a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. Biomass developments can maximise benefits for local communities as well as commercial developers. There are 38,969 households in Argyll and Bute; possibly more than 30% of which may be experiencing fuel poverty – and locally available and affordable renewable energy sources, such as woodfuel, can help to address this issue and to reduce fuel bills for everyone. Cost savings on fuel bills can be significant following the installation of a woodfuel boiler and this can benefit businesses and householders. The carbon savings from fuel switching to biomass (estimated to be in the region of 94,690 tC/lifetime and could be higher) are significant and will contribute to the Scottish Government's targets to reduce the amount carbon emissions by 80% by 2050. A number of woodfuel supply chains have already established in Argyll and some work has been undertaken to develop networks and linkages but there are significant opportunities to develop the biomass sector further. This project will promote and support the use of biomass as a renewable energy source for the benefit of communities in Argyll, by establishing bioenergy networks and developing and supporting woodfuel supply chains across the area. It is a pilot project and the intention is that a larger scale project will develop from this – establishing mechanisms for ongoing biomass support

Grant awarded 12 December 2008

Area Wide

Phase 1 - Attendance at Best of Britain & Ireland Show London 26 -29 Mar 09

The Seafood Trail

Project cost: £14770 Eligible cost: £9670 Grant award: £4670

Public match funding: £3000 Private match funding: £2000

In-kind match funding: £

The SeaFood Trail is a marketing group founded in 2005. Members consist of hotels, restaurants and B&B situated on the mainland west coast of Scotland, predominantly Argyll. Members must be close to water, source produce locally and provide at least 50% seafood on menu.

The SeaFood Trail has been invited to represent Scottish Fayre at the "Best of Britain and Ireland" 2009 show in London. The event runs from 26th -29th March 2009 and will showcase four kitchens; one each for England, Wales, Ireland and Scotland and anticipates attracting 30,000 attendees, plus 2,000 trade operators.

The aim of the project is to promote Argyll as a quality destination for Sea Food, other local produce, holidays and short breaks. Local seafood festivals at Tarbert and Loch Fyne will be promoted as well as SeaFood Trail members and other Argyll sourced food (lamb, venison, beef) will be provided as an alternative to seafood at the show. The group is applying for assistance with the costs of travel and subsistence, developing marketing materials and design of the arena kitchen at the show. All other costs such as staffing, raw ingredients and so on are being met by the members attending the show.

Grant awarded 03 February 2009

Area Wide

International Promotion at Edinburgh Rugby Sevens Festival

Argyll Food Producers

Project cost: £10560 Eligible cost: £10560 Grant award: £5000

Public match funding: £5000 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £560

Argyll and Bute Council is making the application on behalf of the Campbeltown Town Centre Regeneration Group. This group is the decision-making body for the Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) which aims to preserve and enhance the special historic and cultural value of Campbeltown and tackle its socio-economic problems by making the town centre a more attractive place to live, work and visit.

The aim of the project is to demonstrate the principle of town centre management as a way of achieving the long term sustainability and vibrancy of Campbeltown Town centre. Project activities will include marketing the town centre, co-ordinating a programme of promotional events such as markets, fairs, Christmas celebrations and encourage added value to be gained from these, the development of a 5 year Campbeltown Town Centre action plan within the context of the existing Kintyre Action Plan and THI project, establishing methods of obtaining resident, shopper, visitor and business feedback, report and feedback, identification of relevant training and support needs for town centre businesses and residents and the general animation of the area

This will be achieved by creating a Town Centre Manager Post. It is anticipated that the post will be co located with the existing CARS officer and the proposed THI officer to ensure an integrated approach to the regeneration of Campbeltown and provide shared admin support.

Grant awarded 24 April 2009

Area Wide

Community Account Management

Highlands and Islands Enterprise

www.hie.co.uk

Project cost: £531115 Eligible cost: £531115 Grant award: £185890

Public match funding: £345225 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

HIE has developed Community Account Management to build on the success of the Initiative at the Edge programme. It will be available throughout the HIE area and will provide intensive support to generate economic and social benefits within communities through supporting an anchor organisation to employ a local development officer to produce and implement a growth plan for the wider benefit of the community. Participating communities will go through a 'needs analysis' undertaken by HIE to establish the level of Local Development Officer support required within the community, and to provide an overview of the communities 'start point' against which growth can be measured. The selected Anchor Organisation will then recruit and employ the Local Development Officer. This application relates to the HIE Argyll and Islands area.

It is anticipated that 9 communities will be supported in the area and that 9 community growth plans will be produced. A number of local development posts will be created (exact number of full time/part time/sessional posts uncertain until community needs assessed) Training will be provided as will assistance with accommodation costs if additional space is required

The Community Growth Team in HIE will be responsible for the overall administration of the project , but local selection of the communities, and day-to-day interaction with these communities will be devolved to the Strengthening Communities team within HIE Argyll and the Islands.

Grant awarded 12 June 2009

Area Wide

Crofting Connections - Argyll and Bute

Soil Association Scotland

www.soilassociation.org

Project cost: £19238 Eligible cost: £19238 Grant award: £8605

Public match funding: £9870 Private match funding: £763

In-kind match funding: £

The aim of Crofting Connections is to enable crofting communities in Argyll and the Islands to promote, celebrate and preserve their local culture and heritage. The project will involve a programme of community-led activities and events that will inspire children and young people about crofting past, present and future. They will learn traditional crofting skills from crofters, create their own food-growing projects, and learn about the unique culture, customs and crafts associated with their communities.

A pilot project involving four schools and their crofting communities in Ardnamurchan, Shetland, Sutherland the Western Isles demonstrated that in learning from crofters, children and young people developed a sense of belonging to the land and the community, whilst older people enjoyed passing on their knowledge of food production and traditions and crafts associated with crofting. Many also expressed an intention to live and work in their communities when they completed their education.

A part-time Project Officer will be employed to assist schools, local communities, and heritage centres and museums to set up and run their own Crofting Connections projects in Argyll and the Islands. The projects will be managed within each community by a local steering group with wide representation from the community.

Grant awarded 12 June 2009

Area Wide

Argyll 3rd Sector Training Partnership

Argyll and Bute Volunteer Centre

Project cost: £46500 Eligible cost: £46500 Grant award: £21500

Public match funding: £25000 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

A Training Needs Analysis carried out summer of 2008 and updated Winter 08/09 by Argyll CVS/Argyll & Bute Volunteer Centre identified the range of training needs required by the voluntary sector. It also highlighted that more training is required than is possible to deliver with current levels of staffing

In response Argyll Volunteer Centre, Argyll CVs and Argyll & Bute Social Economy Network (ABSEN) aim to pilot a new way of working which will in a way that will share resources and aid a rounded, consistent approach to the delivery of a short and intensive programme of training support for voluntary and third sector organisations underpinning skills they require to adapt to the changing landscape of voluntary sector activity and to enable organisations to take advantage of new opportunities as they emerge.

The organisations will deliver a suite of training courses and workshops to community groups and social enterprises using a mix of additional hours for staff (including admin), buy-in of services from other partners within their networks and possibly employment of a trainer on a short term basis. An awareness raising event (Planning future Skills for the sector) to enable full discussion and feedback from the intense training activity and method of delivery.

Grant awarded 12 June 2009

Area Wide

People First - Phase One

Argyll and Bute Volunteer Centre

Project cost: £121848 Eligible cost: £121848 Grant award: £60924

Public match funding: £60924 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

Traditional means of community involvement tend to favour the more vocal, mobile and confident members of communities. As a result the views of the recurring few who do engage in existing processes dominate, often at the expense of the more vulnerable and marginalised individuals who form the excluded majority; yet these are often the very people for whom services are designed.

This project aims to break this cycle. Through employment of two dedicated staff plus administrative support we will use a variety of participatory methods to enable those who are hard to reach in communities of place, identity and interest to ensure that community engagement is given real meaning and equal access is available to who would wish to participate in planning, design and delivery of services and to communicate views to the statutory sector. Specific activities, include but are not limited to: action planning, parish maps, open space, participatory appraisals, guided visualisation, local sustainability models, future search. The appropriateness of models will depend on the groups involved .

This activity will complement and help underpin the geographically based community development work being undertaken by Argyll & Bute Council, Highlands and Islands Enterprise and Loch Lomond Trossachs National Park as well as the work of the Community Planning Partnership and other organisations within the area.

Grant awarded 12 June 2009

Area Wide

Ceilidhean air Cuairt - Slighean Ura

Feisean nan Gaidheal

Project cost: £442797 Eligible cost: £62326 Grant award: £24930

Public match funding: £24429 Private match funding: £12967

In-kind match funding: £

Cèilidh Trails have created a vibrant traditional music entertainment programme in many areas of the Highlands, enhancing the area's local identity, increasing the visibility and use of the Gaelic language, and boosting cultural tourism. Over the last 9 years Cèilidh Trails have proved to be overwhelmingly successful where they have taken place, and there is scope for further expansion and development. Cèilidh Trails typically offer summer placements to young people aged 16 to 25 who wish to develop their skills in traditional music performance. This involves an element of training led by highly experienced, quality tutors, coupled with a touring performance of a 1 -2 hour show across their local region. The shows are usually hosted by a tourist related business or community group, which contribute towards the costs of the project. This application will support a new collective approach to training and marketing and will create new part-time posts to facilitate closer co-operation and promote the Cèilidh Trails to new audiences. Quality work placements will be offered to 7 recent graduates to develop their communication skills, project management and marketing skills, providing a new pathway to employability. These post-holders will have the opportunity to gain hands-on work experience supported by an initial 1 week programme of collective training in marketing, graphic design, finance and presentation skills.

All Cèilidh Trail groups will come together for a high quality week long training event which will equip them with the skills required to tour as semi-professional musicians and ensure the overall artistic quality of the performance programme. In addition, all the groups will come together in a final performance, showcasing the talents of the young people involved and marketing the project to potential supporters, sponsors and businesses. It is envisaged that this may take place as part of the Blas Festival in early September each year.

The project will build on the international links already established by some of the Cèilidh Trail groups, aiming to bring in at least 2 internationally (European) based partner organisations during the duration of the project, primarily to engage new audiences.

Grant awarded 12 June 2009

Area Wide

Argyll & Bute Social Economy Partnership

Argyll and Bute Social Enterprise Network

www.absen.org.uk

Project cost: £80284 Eligible cost: £80284 Grant award: £38450

Public match funding: £37820 Private match funding: £4014

In-kind match funding: £

Argyll & Bute Social Enterprise Network (ABSEN) is a constituted affiliation of a wide variety of social enterprises and its membership comes from across the Argyll and Bute, meeting every few months to share good practice, offer peer support, develop trading links and coordinate training for the social economy.

The aim of the project is to build on and further develop the activities contained in the Argyll & Bute Social Economy Partnership Action Plan 2008 -2011. Phase 1 of the Action Plan ran from September 2008 until October 2009 and was managed by Argyll & Bute Council on behalf of the Argyll & Bute Social Economy Partnership. One of the objectives of Phase 1 was to build ABSEN's capacity to deliver Argyll & Bute Social Economy Partnership Action Plan 2008 -2011 outcomes.

This was successfully achieved and ABSEN is now in a position to deliver the remaining activities in the updated Action Plan. These include continuing to develop the ABSEN network at a regional and area level, organising a Conference and Dragons' Den in 2010 and 2011 coordinate the training of 4 advisors in how to develop Business Healthcheck service and offer 10 healthchecks free of charge and establish social enterprise as part of the enterprise curriculum. Additional admin support will be bought in and development work will be undertaken by either funding additional hours for existing staff or offered under contract to other organisations.

Grant awarded 11 September 2009

Area Wide

Outdoor Futures (Argyll Youth Employment)

Stramash Social Enterprise

Project cost: £208029 Eligible cost: £208029 Grant award: £51354

Public match funding: £136019 Private match funding: £20656

In-kind match funding: £

The aim of this project are to increase the range of training and employment opportunities available to young people in Argyll and Bute by providing training for 8 young people to become accredited outdoor education instructors .

The trainees will receive training in a wide range of activities including, canoeing, kayaking, rock climbing, hill walking, orienteering, archery, first aid, coastering, bushcraft and mountain biking. They will undergo certified training courses for the National Governing Body Awards in these various activities and once ready will undergo the assessments for these awards. They will also receive training in the soft skills of group management and leadership, personal leadership and environmental education Participants will receive a training salary and assistance with accommodation will be given if required. In addition 2 part time instructors will be recruited to run the training programme.

The overall project will be managed by existing Stramash staff. Additional admin support will be required and will be provided either by extra hours offered to an existing member of staff or bought in.

Grant awarded 11 December 2009

Area Wide

Constructive Communities Business Plan

West Highland Housing Association

www.westhighlandha.co.uk

Project cost: £16270 Eligible cost: £16270 Grant award: £8135

Public match funding: £8135 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

This project has evolved from a pilot project previously funded by LEADER which linked Argyll & Bute Council's Employability team with West Highland Housing Association to offer a service to village hall committees that allowed them to have essential repairs and maintenance carried out on their buildings. It was a very successful project which is not moving on to a second phase without assistance from LEADER (funding will come from Wider Role) and 22 halls have been selected to benefit from the new programme. This application will allow six of these halls to develop business/development plans which will lead to their long-term sustainability.

Project fits with SRDP measure 341-Skills acquisitions and with LEADER outputs by encouraging research and development.

Grant awarded 11 December 2009

Area Wide

Feasibility - stage of 3 Biomass District Heating in Argyll

West Highland Housing Association

www.westhighlandha.co.uk

Project cost: £130300 Eligible cost: £75022 Grant award: £37511

Public match funding: £37511 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

West Highland Housing Association as a register social landlord manages and maintains approximately 650 units of housing across its operating area. In addition to the management and maintenance of housing the association is also a active developer and is currently in the process of delivering a further 80 units of housing for rent and low cost home ownership. The vast majority of the WHHA stock is located in “off gas” areas and therefore the heating system of choice has traditionally been Electric Storage heating with electric immersion for water heating. These systems are neither cost effective to run nor environmentally sustainable solutions. The aim of the project is to install a biomass district heating system to its new build developments at Glenshellach Phase 2 and 3 between 2005 and 2007 serving 89 units. The project is to fund a Project Development Officer and a development assistant to review its energy assessments, review options for the provision of cost effective sustainable heating solutions and if substantiated as viable undertake a series of feasibility studies investigating the uses of biomass district heating systems to deliver cost effective, controllable and sustainable heat across section of stock.

Grant awarded 11 March 2010

Area Wide

Argyll Future Jobs in Enterprise

Argyll Training

www.argyll-training.co.uk

Project cost: £381010 Eligible cost: £330850 Grant award: £82420

Public match funding: £248430 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

This two year project will involve a package of support for unemployed young people (aged 18 –24) and long term unemployed adults, offering employment with a social enterprise or a private sector enterprise, demonstrating community benefit from their activities or services across Argyll and Bute.

The beneficiaries will be eligible for a minimum of 6 months employment, this being extended to up to 12 months on their commitment to the local enterprise or business, depending on their specific support needs. In addition to the employment support the employees will receive support in personal development, employment and training planning and will receive monitoring and support visits from a programme co-ordinator who will be employed to deliver this programme.

Additional support will also be provided to the employing businesses to further develop their business opportunities and growth potential to enable the employees to be retained in employment for the long term. 35 employment opportunities will be created. This will include a client focused approach, meeting with unemployed potential beneficiaries and identifying their aspirations, skills, interests and issues to ensure they are matched appropriately with local social enterprises and businesses that provide community benefit. Regular monitoring and support visits will be provided to assist the employees and the employers to make the most of the supported placement, identify and work through any issues which may arise during the employment, and support the long term progression to employment for the beneficiary. In addition ,business development will be provided to assist the employing social enterprise or business with a community benefit to explore and develop opportunities for growth and business expansion.

Grant awarded 11 March 2010

Area Wide

Atlantic Hazel Awareness Raising Project

Argyll and Bute Council on behalf of AHAG

www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

Project cost: £41659 Eligible cost: £41659 Grant award: £20828

Public match funding: £20831 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

Argyll & Bute Council on behalf of the Atlantic Hazel Action Group which is a partnership established to enhance awareness of and improve the management of Atlantic hazelwoods. Members include Scottish Natural Heritage, Forestry Commission, Argyll Island Native Woodland Project, Scottish Native Woods, Argyll & Bute Local Biodiversity Partnership, Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh, British Lichen Society, and independent lichenologists.

The aim of the project is to promote the importance of Atlantic Hazelwoods, inform best practice management of Atlantic Hazelwoods and to work with land occupiers, farmers, crofters, advisors and government agencies to encourage management that will improve the condition and expand key Atlantic Hazelwood sites. This will be achieved by producing, publishing and distributing an Atlantic Hazel Book, by producing display materials and attending local events, by giving illustrated talks, and by press promotion, setting up & revisiting 3 long term monitoring plots, and establishing hazel tree coring chronology, working with local interest groups, developing an education programme associated with Hazel nuts and arranging and holding 3 targeted workshops and by engaging with individual farmers and land managers. The programme of activities will be delivered on a contract basis by a variety of specialists in the field. The overall project will be managed by the Argyll & Bute Biodiversity Partnership with specialist input from Atlantic Hazel Action Group members as required.

Partnership, Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh, British Lichen Society, and independent lichenologists.

The aim of the project is to promote the importance of Atlantic Hazelwoods, inform best practice management of Atlantic Hazelwoods and to work with land occupiers, farmers, crofters, advisors and government agencies to encourage management that will improve the condition and expand key Atlantic Hazelwood sites. This will be achieved by producing, publishing and distributing an Atlantic Hazel Book, by producing display materials and attending local events, by giving illustrated talks, and by press promotion, setting up & revisiting 3 long term monitoring plots, and establishing hazel tree coring chronology, working with local interest groups,

developing an education programme associated with Hazel nuts and arranging and holding 3 targeted workshops and by engaging with individual farmers and land managers. The programme of activities will be delivered on a contract basis by a variety of specialists in the field. The overall project will be managed by the Argyll & Bute Biodiversity Partnership with specialist input from Atlantic Hazel Action Group members as required.

Grant awarded 11 March 2010

Area Wide

Independent review of Argyll and Bute Agricultural Forum Work

Scottish Agricultural College on behalf of Argyll and Bute Agricultural Forum

www.argyllagriculturalforum.com

Project cost: £12500 Eligible cost: £12500 Grant award: £6250

Public match funding: £6250 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

The Argyll and Bute Agricultural Forum produced an Agricultural Strategy for the Argyll Area in 2005. In April 2006 the Forum secured funding (including LEADER) to employ a development manager to initiate activity to deliver actions identified within the strategy. Since this time the strategy has been refined further to the Next Steps of the Agricultural Strategy 2008. The forum has initiated and been involved in many projects, training events, studies and regional lobbying initiatives with varying degrees of success.

The aim of this project is to employ an independent consultant to undertake a general review of activity to date in order to quantify the benefits generated by the work of the Agricultural Forum to date, refocus priorities in light of the work already undertaken and identify a clear route map for the next stage of Agricultural Forum work, potentially through a transnational approach.

Grant awarded 17 June 2010

Area Wide

ARC Socio-economic Impact Assessment (SIA) (Phase 2)

Islay Energy Trust on behalf of ARC Consortium

Project cost: £65704 Eligible cost: £65704 Grant award: £32852

Public match funding: £12402 Private match funding: £8750

In-kind match funding: £11700

Islay Energy Trust is making the application on behalf of ARC Consortium (Islay Energy Trust, Tiree Community Development Trust and Kintyre Energy Trust). In March 2009, the Crown Estate announced exclusivity agreements with developers to investigate three large scale offshore wind projects off the Argyll coast: Airtricity (Scottish and Southern) off Kintyre (378MW) and Islay (680MW), and ScottishPower Renewables off Tiree (1500MW). If successful, these projects totalling around 2.5GW and the associated grid infrastructure would require investment in the order of £7-9 billion. The communities of Kintyre, Islay and Tiree will be directly affected by the proposed wind farm projects and have begun to work together in order to understand better the implications of the proposed wind projects and to examine ways of securing financial sustainability for their communities.

Phase 1 of the project resulted in the production of a socio-economic impact assessment (SIA) scoping study. The aim of phase 2 is to commission consultants to carry out a full key, high level objective of the SIA is to research and collate factual information about the proposed offshore wind farms that will impact the respective communities. Once collated the information will be presented in a neutral manner to enable the ARC communities and the wider general public to form their own opinions from a position of knowledge and understanding of the issues affecting their long term sustainability. The study will examine the viability of establishing a "community investment fund" to invest in the projects or participate in revenue-sharing arrangements and recommend a structure to assist communities in ongoing engagement with developers and other stakeholders. 10 community consultation workshops and 3 awareness raising events will be held to pass on information and gather community views on the proposed developments.

Grant awarded 17 June 2010

Area Wide

Competitive Business Growth Programme pilot

Argyll and Bute Council - Business Gateway

www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

Project cost: £120000 Eligible cost: £120000 Grant award: £60000

Public match funding: £60000 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

The Competitive Business Growth Programme Pilot has been developed to fill an identified gap between the specialist support offered by Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) to high growth businesses and the current programme of advice, adviser support and workshops provided by Business Gateway and has three components:

1. Business Growth Programme-support delivered via Business Gateway for small businesses with growth aspirations to help them realise their growth potential
2. Business Growth Grant Scheme -funding to encourage small businesses in Argyll & Bute to invest and grow their business. The grant is discretionary and can cover up to a max of 50% of the cost of the project up to £3,000 for eligible start-ups and business expansion projects
3. Business Start-up Grant Scheme -a£500 discretionary start-up grant for new businesses.

The Business Growth programme will be delivered by existing Business Gateway staff who will also manage the grant schemes. The application to LEADER is for assistance in creating the grant funds and costs relating to the provision of specialist advice, awareness raising events, workshops and marketing the programme.

Grant awarded 17 June 2010

Area Wide

Food & biodiversity - development & research

Scottish Agricultural College on behalf of Argyll and Bute Agricultural Forum

www.argyllagriculturalforum.com

Project cost: £40000 Eligible cost: £40000 Grant award: £20000

Public match funding: £20000 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

The aim of the project is to undertake research to explore how best to make the links for consumers between quality food and drink and the environment it is nurtured in. To create information and advice for producers on the success of different approaches to marketing biodiversity and the environmental stewardship credentials of quality food and drink products.

This will be achieved by commissioning marketing experts to develop a number of marketing approaches connecting a premium food and drink product with stewardship of the environment and biodiversity benefits, work with 5 producers (Robins Herbs, Winston Churchill Venison, Barbreck Farms, Argyll Hill Lamb Ltd Cultural Identity of Meat on Islay project) and analyse the extent to which consumers respond favourably to each approach and the extent to which this equates with sales success. A report on the findings of the research will be produced. A shorter summary version of this will also be produced that will allow the benefits of the project to be widely distributed and a section will be developed on the Argyll and Isles website to list the products and explain about the project and approach. The project will be managed by the Argyll & Bute Agricultural Forum's Development Manager and SNH.

Grant awarded 16 September 2010

Area Wide

Viewpoint

Argyll and Bute Council

www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

Project cost: £9400 Eligible cost: £9400 Grant award: £4700

Public match funding: £4700 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

Recent work with the Carnegie UK Trust in partnership with Argyll and Bute Council and ABSEN has highlighted examples of good practice that have been developed by the Eden Project and Tipperary Institute, in community led planning and interactive community engagement. This Viewpoint project offers an opportunity to run a series of events across Argyll and Bute incorporating drama and art to engage with communities, celebrating and building on the positive elements within their communities and identifying solutions to various issues. The project aims to deliver 15 presentations across the Argyll area to provide an opportunity to feed in to the Local Area Community Planning Groups from a more locally based perspective. The project also aims to deliver 2 training and good practice development sessions to work with existing organisations and groups to ensure effective follow up from identified issues. It will also provide opportunities for staff to learn from best practice in community led planning. A tour of the presentation will be delivered with feedback gathered on an ongoing basis, to identify common themes as well as providing localised information which can be incorporated in community planning. This will include island and rural village venues as well as areas of deprivation, and specific events will be targeted at young people, elderly and mixed audiences.

Grant awarded 16 December 2010

Area Wide

Scottish Shark Tagging Programme Phase 2

Scottish Sea Angling Conservation Network

www.tagsharks.com

Project cost: £49699 Eligible cost: £46499 Grant award: £21854

Public match funding: £21845 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £2800

This is a co-operation project with Dumfries and Galloway Local Action Group. The aim of the project is to build on the work undertaken by the Scottish Shark Tagging Programme Phase 1 (due to end Feb 11) in the Argyll and the Islands area and to roll out the project into the Dumfries & Galloway area

The overall project will develop and produce educational outreach material, raise awareness throughout Argyll and Dumfries as well as any relevant national /international events and develop the website and facebook page with interesting articles and stories to keep volunteer interest high, continue to input data regularly to provide quick and informative feedback to anglers. This has shown to be the number one factor that generates interest and participation in the tagging programme.

Two posts will be created a development officer based in Dumfries and a Project Co-ordinator based in Oban. The officer based in Oban will be responsible for the overall management of the project and will line manage the Dumfries post. In addition to the common activities, the coordinator will create and strengthen links with commercial fishermen, anglers and external academic institutions in order to develop further research programmes in order to gain more key information on Scotland's elasmobranchs in order to provide advice for effective stock management.

Grant awarded 16 December 2010

Area Wide

Loch Lomond & the Trossachs Rural Housing Enabler

Rural Housing Service

www.ruralhousingscotland.org

Project cost: £50500 Eligible cost: £25250 Grant award: £11487

Public match funding: £10000 Private match funding: £1263

In-kind match funding: £2500

This project focuses on housing needs within Loch Lomond & the Trossachs National park. Lack of affordable housing is a main concern of a number of rural communities in the Park and features as a high priority for action in Community Futures Action Plans in Phase 1 (2002-6) and Phase 2 (2007-11). Thirteen of the twenty two Community Council areas highlighted housing as one of their main priorities, whilst for the remaining nine Community Councils, housing was an important issue. The Rural Housing Service helps rural communities to take practical action to address local housing needs by securing affordable housing through community trusts and working in partnership with government, landowners, and housing associations to deliver more affordable housing options. RHS helps people in rural areas with advice and information on rural housing options; promoting the uptake of grants and helping to find affordable rented housing. This project proposes to employ a Rural Housing Enabler on a part-time basis over two years who will work with communities and individuals to identify local housing needs; help communities to find solutions to enable new housing opportunities including developing community owned housing. He/she will work with partner agencies to identify funding and land opportunities and work with landowners and developers to enable delivery of housing opportunities. The RHE will act as an educator, facilitator and mediator to bring together these stakeholders and provide a joined up approach across the Park to enable new housing opportunities and help to attract external funds to projects.

Grant awarded 16 December 2010

Area Wide

Adopt-a-Monument Scheme - Phase 1

Archaeology Scotland

www.archaeologyscotland.org.uk

Project cost: £75978 Eligible cost: £60000 Grant award: £30000

Public match funding: £30000 Private match funding: £0

In-kind match funding: £

The Adopt A Monument Scheme (AaM) will enable community groups to take the lead on the care, interpretation and maintenance of neglected archaeological sites. AaM in Argyll and the Islands will be part of the first phase of the 5 year Scotland wide Adopt-a-Monument Scheme.

A project officer will be appointed to work with 5 community groups in the area to take forward local projects. Kildavie and Ballistae on Mull, various sites associated with the 'legacy' of the Discover Bute Landscape Partnership Project and two other sites within Argyll & Bute to be identified in year 2 of the project.

The project will also deliver 5 skills specific training courses , provide a complete set of Project Guidelines , establish a contact point for information and advice for community groups on all aspects of the historic environment and run an outreach project to support community groups and individuals that do not, or cannot, get involved in the historic environment on a regular basis and will offer learning and transferable skill development opportunities for people with disabilities, Black Minority Ethnic groups and disadvantaged young people.

Grant awarded 10 March 2011

Area Wide

Taste of Rural Europe Transnational Cooperation Project

Argyll and Bute Council

www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

Project cost: £124205 Eligible cost: £124205 Grant award: £85705

Public match funding: £33500 Private match funding: £2000

In-kind match funding: £3000

This is a transnational project which sets out to promote eight regions across Europe as good food producers and good food destinations. Scottish partners include Argyll, Taste of Arran and the Ayrshire Food Network and the project will work with partners in Poland (Lead Partner), Wales, Estonia and Spain, with the option for further regions to join as the project progresses. The project will build on the success of Argyll Agricultural Forum in enabling farmers and local food producers to add value to their produce and in turn improve the sustainability of their businesses. The Forum has worked with Argyll Food Producers to create the award winning Food From Argyll initiative to take high quality food to events and festivals across the country, building on the food identity of the region and making the link to food tourism opportunities in the region. The Forum has also engaged in creating broader added value brands from the region most notably Argyll Hill Lamb thus increasing the market penetration of the region. Through the transnational initiative the Forum is seeking to take this work to the next level where the reputation of the region as a food region can be enhanced by a multi faceted approach. The forum is keen to work with neighbouring initiatives who have similar aspirations, the Ayrshire Food Network and Taste of Arran, to create a strong message from this joined up geographic area. Working with partners from other member states in the Taste of Rural Europe project will bring an added dimension to the project and allow a series of joint initiatives that will promote good food production and food tourism throughout Europe.

Grant awarded 07 April 2011

Area Wide

Rugby Development Officer

Argyll and Bute RFC

Project cost: £33500 Eligible cost: £33500 Grant award: £8000

Public match funding: £15000 Private match funding: £10500

In-kind match funding: £

Argyll & Bute Rugby Football Club is a partnership between all 7 of the rugby clubs in the Argyll & Bute region (Oban Lorne RFC, Mull RFC, Mid Argyll RFC, Cowal RFC, Islay RFC, Bute RFC, Kintyre RFC).

The aim of the project is to develop the local volunteer infrastructure required to run successful clubs by providing on going local support, coach education and mentoring and to encourage more people to take a greater involvement in the game. This involvement will include coaching, administration or simply active participation in clubs.

This will be achieved by recruiting and Argyll & Bute Rugby Development Officer who will provide ongoing monthly coach mentoring sessions, formal coach education courses and general club volunteer support/development support. Central to the project will be the creation of individual club development plans that will focus on volunteer recruitment/development.

Grant awarded 16 June 2011

Area Wide

"HopScotch" Broadband Connectivity on Isles of Tiree and Bute

Hopscotch Good Broadband Cooperative Ltd

Project cost: £101655 Eligible cost: £101655 Grant award: £46000

Public match funding: £ Private match funding: £49999

In-kind match funding: £5656

Over recent years the Scottish Government/Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) have made significant efforts to ensure Broadband connectivity at 512kbts/sec to most homes in the region via a combination of BT exchange upgrades, wireless connection projects (Connected Communities) and satellite connections, as well as supporting community projects such as Tiree Community Broadband. For both Tiree and the south end of Bute this has meant that much of the islands have now some form of broadband access although there remain significant areas uncovered, and these connectivity problems are impacting the growth of local business, education, health services and connectivity to the modern world. The HopScotch Cooperative has been set up to integrate a formal Cooperative structure for communities to collectively procure, access and manage sustainable and extendable wireless broadband connections and share best practice between members and communities. Over the coming years the HopScotch project aims to deliver high speed internet to remote areas of Scotland (specifically the Highlands and Islands) in order to support local community social and economic development. The first phase of HopScotch cooperative activity will be on the Isles of Tiree and Bute in 2011 to set up sustainable and fit-for-environment high speed wireless internet connections to households and small businesses. As an outcome of this Leader application, Tiree Community Broadband would procure 4 (four) wireless base stations from the Coop, and 150 CPEs (customer premises equipment, i.e. to receive radio from the central basestations) to receive the wireless iterative at the user's premises thus serving all of Tiree with high-speed internet access. The south end of Bute (PA20 postcode) would procure 2 (two) wireless basestations to serve up to 50 CPEs. On the completion of this project the upgraded Tiree Community Broadband network will operate within the HopScotch Cooperative.

Grant awarded 16 June 2011

Area Wide

Argyll - Community Access Links - Phase 1

Argyll and Bute Council

www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

Project cost: £360717 Eligible cost: £318447 Grant award: £145000

Public match funding: £173447 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

The aim of the project is to create 1545 lin m of new shared use footpaths within the communities of Dalmally, Oban, Tarbert and Lochgilphead

Dalmally—the route will improve access from the south of the village and primary school to the community hall by providing an alternative path away from the A85. The route will be part of a longer network linking the east and west parts of the village. It will link the primary school local grocery store, pharmacy, post office, community centre and health centre.

Oban—The route links Soroba Road to Glengallen Road. This allows the local school campus of Rockfield and St Columba's to have an improved link with the new housing estates along Glengallen Road which are part of the school catchment area. The path also links housing estates in the Soroba area with Oban Hospital, Argyll Community Housing Association Offices/Pay Centre and Argyll College

Tarbert—The path would link the Eastfield and High Park residential areas to the east of the village with the housing at Oakfield and Glenfield and across the A83 to the west of the village. There is currently no continuous route across the village without negotiating a steep gradient and the busy A83 and harbour area.

Lochgilphead—This route would provide a cycling and walking route across the east side of Lochgilphead, specifically from MacIntyre and Macdonald Terraces through to the hospitals, golf course, and Blarbuie Community Woodland project. The route links into the wider path network, through to Kilmory Woodland and Home Farm project and Dunholigan travellers site to the south of Lochgilphead, up to Achnabreck forestry and cycle trails, and the NCN route 78 at the Crinan Canal to the north and west.

Grant awarded 15 September 2011

Area Wide

Constructive Communities - Phase 3

West Highland Housing Association

www.westhighlandha.co.uk

Project cost: £50158 Eligible cost: £50158 Grant award: £23278

Public match funding: £26880 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

This project builds on the success of the 2008-2009 and 2010-2011 Constructive Communities Projects the former of which was shortlisted for a Scottish Urban (and rural) Regeneration Forum (SURF) Award and both of which have been highlighted by Wider Role and LEADER as best practice examples in rural community regeneration. The project will target those village halls, church halls committees and communities that are in need of greatest support in improving their facilities from Lorn, the Isles and south Argyll. The project will address the physical needs to improve halls through painting and decorating and with minor joinery, plumbing and landscaping works..The physical works programme is yet to be finalised, but the approximate spread response will be Mull/Iona 4 halls. and Islay 2 halls, Luing/Lismore 1 hall, Mid Argyll 4 halls Lomond /Garelochhead area 5 halls. Additionally, the 10 trainees and 2 charge hands for the Employability squads will be recruited from within these localities to ensure as far as possible unemployed people from within these communities benefit from the training opportunities created. Within the targeted localities there are significant pockets of disadvantage which will be targeted for the recruitment of trainees including Dunbeg and Soroba (Oban), Garelochhead and Rosneath and Kirkmichael & Churchill (Helensburgh). This project will work to improve village and church hall facilities to accommodate entertainment and services for all groups within the local community. In addition, young people undertaking the training programme will have the opportunity to learn about the importance of community halls to social cohesion and also about the value of volunteering and taking on a role in community activities.

Grant awarded 15 September 2011

Area Wide

From Involving to Devolving - Influencing Change

Argyll Voluntary Action

www.argyllcommunities.org

Project cost: £167668 Eligible cost: £163220 Grant award: £81610

Public match funding: £27945 Private match funding: £53665

In-kind match funding: £

Argyll Voluntary Action received LEADER funding for its People First – phase 1 in June 2009. This project aimed to build capacity within local communities by using a variety of participatory methods to encourage traditionally ‘hard to reach’ members of the community to engage with planning, design and delivery of services and to communicate their views to the statutory sector and will finish at the end of September 2011.

The aim of the From Involving to Devolving – Influencing Change project is to build on the work of the People First project and further develop capacity building with hard to reach groups and facilitating wider community engagement with and participation in the community planning process.

This will be achieved by running personal development courses to give individuals the skills and confidence to undertake a representational and influencing role within their community; running workshops and awareness raising events with Community Planning partners and voluntary, public and private sector providers to enable the cultural change required to adopt new and deliberative approaches; strengthen and extend links with community account managers to take further developments forward and support people coming together to act jointly in those communities. The work will be undertaken by project manager and two community empowerment outreach staff with admin support. Sessional workers will also be used to deliver some accredited training and facilitate workshops in remote areas as required.

Grant awarded 15 September 2011

Area Wide

Argyll Forest Tourism Initiative – Phase 1

Forestry Commission Scotland

www.forestry.gov.uk/scotland

Project cost: £24000 Eligible cost: £24000 Grant award: £12000

Public match funding: £12000 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

Argyll and the Isles has a wealth of woodland, forest and garden resources, some of national if not international importance. These resources have considerable tourism, recreational health living and educational value. In other areas of Scotland the forest resource has been successfully used as a platform for socio-economic development –Perthshire Big Tree Country; The Great Trossachs Forest; the 7Stanes (Borders and Dumfries & Galloway). FCS therefore commissioned a study earlier in 2011 to identify opportunities to maximise the tourism development opportunities associated with Argyll's forest and gardens, irrespective of ownership. This study concluded that Argyll is well placed to benefit from current trends in tourism, the ongoing growth in shorter visits, increased awareness of and interest in environmental and sustainability issues, greater demand for adventure activities, and visitor demand for authenticity. The study also concluded that from available research Argyll has significant spare capacity in the accommodation sector and therefore good potential to increase overnight visitor numbers and spend across the area. This project will:

1. Agree and develop a logical cluster and hub approach to promoting the forestry, woodlands and gardens of Argyll & The Isles;
2. Secure working relationships within each cluster through a workshop programme liaising with local marketing groups and other interested parties;
3. Develop an associated leaflet which will become the foundation for a wider communications strategy and be developed, produced and delivered as part of the Argyll-wide www.argyllandtheisles.com website.

Grant awarded 15 December 2011

Area Wide

Argyll and the Isles: Stronger Together

Argyll and The Isles Tourism Cooperative Ltd

Project cost: £115000 Eligible cost: £115000 Grant award: £54500

Public match funding: £54500 Private match funding: £6000

In-kind match funding: £

Argyll and The Isles Tourism Cooperative Ltd has just recently formed and aims to present a joined up message about the region to the Tourist consumer. Argyll has over 25 separate marketing associations, but until now not an overall regional approach.

The overall aim of the project is to establish an Argyll and Isles umbrella identity across the region by building a collective approach to the region that all the sub regions buy into, raise awareness of Argyll and the Isles as a high quality destination to the Tourist consumer and increase visitor numbers and visitor spend in Argyll and the Isles.

This will be achieved by using a facilitator to hold a series of meetings and workshops throughout the area to demonstrate the benefit of a pan region approach and to receive feedback from groups, developing marketing materials for trade shows, attending trade shows, communication to the consumer through various forms of media to raise the profile of the region and developing a website.

Grant awarded 15 December 2011

Area Wide

Community Led Growth

Highlands and Islands Enterprise

www.hie.co.uk

Project cost: £422111 Eligible cost: £422111 Grant award: £147739

Public match funding: £274372 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

This project builds on the Community Account Management phase 1 and phase 2 project which was approved in June 2009. The project has seen nine communities benefit from the support of a community development worker, producing and beginning to implement a development plan for their community.

This project aims to continue working with seven of the existing nine communities, and with a further two communities by supporting the salary costs of Development Officers to support the economic development of the community anchor organisations to help prioritise and deliver a credible revenue earning project that is able to finance future community activity, as well as the implementation of the community development plans (CDP). These nine communities would be Tiree; Colonsay; Cumbrae; Bute; Ross of Mull and Iona; South Islay; Colintrave & Glendaruel; South Kintyre; and Ulva & North West Mull.

In the first seven of these communities, existing Development Officer jobs will be safeguarded, whilst in the final two, new Development Officer posts will be created. Training will also be provided as required to ensure the officers have the necessary skills. Travel and subsistence costs have been included to allow the officers to meet up with each other locally and also to link in with similar projects running throughout the Highlands and Islands area.

Grant awarded 15 December 2011

Area Wide

Education & Training Opportunities, Young People (16-25)- Feasibility Study

Loch Lomond and the Trossachs Community Partnership

www.thecommunitypartnership.org.uk

Project cost: £19695 Eligible cost: £19695 Grant award: £4924

Public match funding: £11971 Private match funding: £1000

In-kind match funding: £1800

The Community Partnership initiated and now manages a project in which National Park-based micro-businesses and trade businesses (plumbers, electricians and builders) are supported to take on a Modern Apprentice or Trainee. The businesses and the trainees are then assisted financially and in other ways (mentoring) over the four years of the apprenticeship. During the course of the apprenticeship the CP maintains contact with the participants and assists with extra-mural training or employment issues where appropriate. There are currently 16 businesses and 18 trainees involved in the project. The success of the current project, which comes to an end in 2014, has spurred the CP on to look at how this model could be extended and applied to other key business and employment sectors within the National Park (NP). The requested project funding would be to carry out a feasibility study into delivering an apprenticeship or training support package to young people within LLTNP. It will investigate the three key economic sectors in the Park -Tourism, Land Based Work and Local Food Production and identify current training opportunities and needs within those sectors. It will determine which, if any, of these sectors should be prioritised by the Community Partnership for an apprenticeship support programme. It will look at how and where the project could complement/partner with any existing local authority or Government apprenticeship schemes (e.g. Stirling Council Apprenticeship Programme '101 Apprentices in 100 days') and explore any existing employment support mechanisms in place for young people within the National Park including through local FE Colleges to help young people achieve a recognised qualification.

Grant awarded 15 March 2012

Area Wide

Saving Scotland's Red Squirrels, West of Scotland

Scottish Wildlife Trust

www.swt.org.uk

Project cost: £60467 Eligible cost: £60467 Grant award: £12093

Public match funding: £28140 Private match funding: £15184

In-kind match funding: £5050

The red squirrel is one of our best loved and iconic native species and is a key wildlife attraction for national and international tourists. However, there has been a catastrophic decline in their numbers; it is estimated that there are only around 160,000 red squirrels remaining in the whole of the UK, as opposed to 3 million grey squirrels. It is clear that the main threat to this native species is habitat competition and spread of disease from the more robust invasive grey squirrel. In Scotland the distribution of grey squirrels is focused at present on the Central Lowlands and increasingly across south Scotland. However, these populations continue to relentlessly expand northwards and westwards, threatening red squirrel populations in the Highlands and Argyll. The red squirrel is therefore a conservation priority for the UK and Scotland. There is strong support in rural communities across the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park area and Argyll to protect this iconic species. This is demonstrated by the range of activities being carried out by formal bodies and voluntary groups to secure red squirrel populations in the area by halting the spread of grey squirrels and promoting the positive management of red squirrel habitat. This project aims to: establish a survey and monitoring system to monitor the impact of conservation activities on red and grey populations and inform control efforts; increase community awareness of red squirrel conservation issues and increase community engagement; significantly decrease the grey squirrel population and increase the red squirrel population in the project area and safeguard their populations within the area and beyond.

Grant awarded 15 March 2012

Area Wide

Argyll Coastal Waters

Argyll and Bute Council - Social Enterprise Team

www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

Project cost: £245391.65 Eligible cost: £227541.65 Grant award: £108059

Public match funding: £119482.65 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

The wider Argyll Coastal Waters project is being developed in partnership with Stramash, Argyll and the Isles Strategic Tourism Partnership, Skills Development Scotland, local businesses, communities, and potentially the Loughs Agency in Ireland. The overall aim is to develop coastal access sites to assist the economic growth of Argyll and Bute's coastal communities through the improved infrastructure and access to the waterfront and subsequent development of water based recreational activities for people who visit and live in Argyll.

The application to LEADER is to assist with the infrastructure element of the project. A variety of improvements such as upgraded access, composting toilets, shower/changing facilities, kayak/canoe racks and parking will be undertaken as required at the following sites Ganavan (near Oban) Clachan Seil, Arduiane, Crinan Canal and toward Quay. Linked information panels, forming the basis of a sea kayak trail, will also be installed at each site.

The project will be managed by Argyll & Bute Council on behalf of the wider partnership with the capital works and design elements being contracted out.

Grant awarded 13 September 2012

Area Wide

Environment, Tourism and Social Care Employability Project

Fyne Homes Ltd

www.fynehome.org.uk

Project cost: £134500 Eligible cost: £134500 Grant award: £53062

Public match funding: £81438 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

The areas of Kintyre and Bute have a range of employability issues with specific challenges in dealing with older aged long-term unemployed people with limited skills and employment experience. At the same time it is recognised within the Economic Development Action Plan (EDAP) and Skills Development Scotland (SDS) Labour Market Information that there are skills gaps within key growth areas of the local economies' Environment, Tourism and Care Sectors. Care assistants and home care employment is regularly one of the highest notified vacancy types reported by SDS. The move to more community based provision and the ageing population of these areas requires the sector to think differently about their service design to support people in their own homes for longer.

This project will fund 24 unemployed people with a supported employment opportunity within these sectors from October 2012 -November 2013. Lasting an average of 26 weeks these work placements will be waged and supported by tailored personal development support and on-the-job training. The project aims to support participants, who may be facing a range of disadvantages and barriers, to benefit from a supported employment opportunity -providing the opportunity for unemployed people to demonstrate their ability to make a positive contribution to their local area - redressing any negative reputation factors, building their relevant experience and re-engaging with employment. Based on experience of similar schemes it is anticipated for individuals participating that there will be at significant likelihood of further employment and/or further education or training opportunities. The project aims to have an impact on reducing the level of worklessness within these communities and improving the social outcomes for these individuals and their families.

Grant awarded 13 September 2012

Area Wide

Developing Capacity and Skills in Social Enterprise across Argyll & Bute

Argyll and Bute Social Enterprise Network

www.absen.org.uk

Project cost: £18028 Eligible cost: £18028 Grant award: £9014

Public match funding: £ Private match funding: £7446

In-kind match funding: £1568

The overall aim of the project is to increase knowledge, skills and capacity within the social enterprise sector by addressing specific training and capacity building needs previously identified by members of the sector and within the context of the current economic climate.

This will be achieved by delivering 4 workshops, and one learning presentation, including accommodation costs to enable social enterprise practitioners to participate on the themes of: Business Negotiation Skills, Financial Sustainability, Marketing and Procurement. In addition, a portfolio of membership benefits will be developed to assist social enterprise organisations across Argyll, for example joint procurement to access goods and services at a reduced cost, inter enterprise trading and possibly more advanced support such as legal, financial and personnel services.

In order to facilitate the delivery of this project, ABSEN will employ a graduate to support the activities highlighted above for a six month period.

Grant awarded 13 September 2012