

## Strengthening Communities Quarterly Progress Report

**Organisation Name: Lorn Islands Partnership (LIP)**

**Reporting Period: 1 April – 30 June 2018 (Q1)**

Key Activities (as per original Investment Summary)	Details of progress to date	Outcomes achieved	What next?
<p><b>Post Funded – Development Officer</b></p> <p><b>Support further Social Enterprise/ Business Start-up/ Housing Needs development/ Online Strategy development and Tourism development providing information, training and opportunity for job creation and island income generation</b></p>	<p>Social Enterprise</p> <p>Expressions of interest sought across all islands in relation to Social Enterprise development.</p> <p>On Lismore extensive Community Consultation on the Island Plan has highlighted interest in Seaweed Farming, a Community Pub and Community Shop Ownership. Support has been provided by DTAS in relation to potential models for the Board to consider.</p> <p>On Easdale, SLF funding is being sought to enable the community to purchase the island's restaurant/ pub to be operated as a community owned business.</p> <p>Ongoing discussions with HIE have resulted in work being undertaken to refresh demand for business development/ expansion/ start-up/ workshop space across Luing, Lismore and Easdale to potentially allow HIE to support</p>	<p><b>Establishment of the Lorn Island Partnership as a Community Anchor Organisation</b></p> <p>The remit of LIP and the definition of its' role as a "community anchor organisation" is currently being reviewed in recognition of the roles that individual island Trusts already play. Board members feel clarity is required in relation to this for communities.</p>	<p>For Q2 Board agreement is required re the definition of community anchor organisation in relation to the LIP role and remit.</p>

	<p>some Feasibility Funding. Alongside HIE have requested advance indication of potential interest in the use of SLF for land/ building acquisition to support this development. Extensive work has been undertaken on Kerrera to further the community's aspirations to secure a community facility which could host/offer space for enterprise activities etc. Housing Needs Analysis HNA Reports are being completed for Lismore, Luing and Easdale, with Kerrera's Report already complete. Support from Rural Housing Scotland has facilitated this process via the provision of Board Guidance, Questionnaires and local Housing Workshops.</p>		
<p>Review and Identify future LIP asset development needs and income generation opportunities</p>	<p>Specialist Harbour conservation Consultants and a specialist Contractor has been secured to facilitate Harbour Repairs and development on Easdale to support enhanced income generation from this valuable island asset. Full scope of works and finance package being worked on by Consultants in conjunction with Eilean Eisdeal. EE are also applying to SLF for funding to purchase the island's restaurant/ bar as a community owned business and income generator. EE have funding applications outstanding to develop their island heritage offer with a view</p>	<p>LIP Continuation Plan developed to cover Years 4-6 to be completed by the end of Year 3 Ongoing Agenda item and focus for LIP Board</p>	<p>Priority for LIP Board during Q2.</p>

	<p>to securing additional visitor income from this source.</p> <p>EE are awaiting the result of their SLF Stage 2 Application to purchase the World Stone Skimming Championship Quarry to ensure all funds raised from this island fundraiser can be retained for community benefit and that ownership of the Quarry will link with plans to improve the island heritage offer.</p> <p>On Lismore the Board have re-confirmed their priorities via extensive community-consultation on the island Plan. As a consequence of this the Board are exploring opportunities and capacity building in relation to the principles of community business ownership and social enterprises, should these become necessary to secure assets.</p> <p>On Kerrera a second stage SLF bid is due to be submitted In August following years of work towards purchasing the old school to be refurbished as a community facility. The slipway continues to bring in a small regular income for IKDT.</p> <p>Luing is carrying out extensive analysis work of the business model of the Atlantic Islands Centre to ensure it has a sustainable future. All current and potential income streams are being reviewed and developed.</p>		
--	--	--	--

<p>Completion of Visitor Strategy and enhanced LIP Trail/ AR Trail and Marketing/ Distribution/ Publicity Plan</p>	<p>The Board are currently considering this area of work and the balance to be struck between visitor strategy/ development and management. Some research has been carried out in relation to other Island Visitor Strategies for Board consideration. Luing is in discussions with a local marketing agency with a view to increasing footfall to the AIC and will share its findings with partners.</p>	<p>Funding secured to sustain LIP role post SCP as a Community Anchor Organisation Ongoing Agenda item and focus for LIP Board</p>	<p>Priority for LIP Board during Q2.</p>
<p>Establishment of Social Enterprise Activity</p>	<p>Social Enterprise Expressions of interest sought across all islands in relation to Social Enterprise development. On Lismore extensive Community Consultation on the Island has highlighted interest in a variety of enterprises such as seaweed farming, a community pub and the importance of the island shop. Support has been provided by DTAS in relation to potential models for social enterprises for the Board to consider. On Easdale, SLF funding is being sought to enable the community to purchase the island's restaurant/ pub to be operated as a community owned business.</p>	<p>LIP Lobbying Role agreed and implemented creating a cohesive LIP "voice" and consultative body Ongoing Agenda item and focus for LIP Board</p>	<p>To be further considered by the Board</p>
<p>Completion of cross-island Business Start-Up/ Workshop development Project</p>	<p>Ongoing discussions with HIE have resulted in work being undertaken to refresh demand for business development/ expansion/ start-up/ workshop space across Luing, Lismore and Easdale to potentially allow HIE to support</p>	<p>Strengthened role for LIP within the Scottish Islands Federation Agreed by Board and linkages made</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

	some Feasibility Funding. Alongside HIE have requested advance indication of potential interest in the use of SLF for land/ building acquisition to support this development		
Provision of an enhanced and shared island "Youth Offer"	Data re need and age-groups/ potential beneficiary numbers collated. Some pilot work ongoing on Lismore re children's activity workshops alongside the completion of their newly-funded playpark. Extensive community consultation in support of the Island Plan on Lismore has also highlighted youth aspirations and gaps in provision locally.	Increased income generation from existing assets and from new assets; additional meeting space, business space and housing projects Ongoing discussions with HIE have resulted in work being undertaken to refresh demand for business development/ expansion/ start-up/ workshop space across Luing, Lismore and Easdale to potentially allow HIE to support some Feasibility Funding. Alongside HIE have requested advance indication of potential interest in the use of SLF for land/ building acquisition to support this development. On Lismore the unused school house has been secured for community use	Ongoing

		<p>as a Trust base, for meeting space / potential youth space.</p> <p>Kerrera continue to work towards securing the funding package needed to purchase and refurbish their school house for community use.</p>	
<p>Provision of a cross-island response and project developments in relation to completed Housing Needs Analysis</p>	<p>HNA Reports are being completed for Lismore, Luing and Easdale, with Kerrera's Report already complete. Support from Rural Housing Scotland has facilitated this process via the provision of Board Guidance, Questionnaires and local Housing Workshops.</p> <p>Visits are being considered to other housing developments on islands and also to care projects completed on other islands.</p>	<p>Established new Businesses and Social Enterprise Projects</p> <p>Ongoing as detailed above however on Kerrera a successful application to Enterprise Accelerator which resulted in five days support from Community Enterprise to develop and action plan around the new septic tank enterprise on the island</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>Establishment of LIP wide Energy Forum and appraisal of alternative energy options</p>	<p>An overview of Lismore Trust's Energy Working Group has been shared with partners; there are plans to add info from the other partners to this so we have a starting point of what activities have already taken place.</p>	<p>Established LIP Area Visitor Offer and onward Strategy Development</p>	<p>Q2 priority for consideration by the Board</p>

Delivery of a co-ordinated LIP Lobbying Plan to key Stakeholders	To be further considered by the Board		
Secure appropriate onward funding for a further 3 years of LIP activity in supported of identified goals	Ongoing Agenda item and focus for LIP Board		

**Please describe any challenges or issues faced during this past quarter. In particular, please identify any areas or issues where assistance from the Strengthening Communities programme may be useful**

The LIP Board are currently considering the appropriateness of the current legal status of the Partnership. It is felt this needs to be fully considered due to implications for future funding. The LIP Board are also considering where the definition of “community anchor organisation” sits with the role and remit of individual Trusts.

**Please describe anything unexpected that has happened over the past 3 months that has added to what you have been able to accomplish this quarter**

As ever the ability of Board Members to meet regularly is a challenge and LIP workload in pursuit of agreed targets remains challenging for volunteer Directors.