

Strengthening Communities Quarterly Progress Report

Organisation Name: Lorn Islands Partnership (LIP)

Reporting Period: April – end June 2017

Key Activities (as per original Investment Summary)	Details of progress to date	Outcomes achieved	What next?
<p>Post being funded Development Officer</p> <p>Delivery of a further 3 Lorn Island Gatherings, providing information, training and opportunity for consultation to wider communities of interest re LIP focus</p> <p>Complete the “asset enhancement” and future-proofing of individual island assets via conclusion of agreed funding targets/ projects</p>	<p>During, this period no Lorn Island Gatherings have taken place due to the Easter period and lambing season and the launch of the visitor season which makes attendance at events difficult, however Board Meetings have taken place monthly, enhanced by Zoom meetings to support discussion re key areas of activity in-between. Lorn Island Gathering content has been discussed and it has been agreed to consider offering information sessions re “right to buy”, housing needs analysis and consultation re additional carbon reduction measures and opportunity for input into a cross island Creative Scotland Programme.</p> <p>There is a lot of work ongoing in relation to the achievement of this area of work. Please see attached the most recent Project update specifically related to asset</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ strengthened management and increased income generation from existing assets, <p>Work ongoing although Luing has secured 2 new Board members as has Lismore and Kerrera’s new Board members secured during Year 1. The Project update attached evidences the increased number of assets coming into community ownership and links to future asset development and income generation.</p>	<p>For Q2.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Project with HIE to support Business development/ workshop space/ business expansion and job creation to be moved forward via Architect Feasibility and Business Planning during Q2. 2. Housing Needs Analysis to be undertaken during Q2 3. Funding Applications to support asset development and

<p>Review and identify future LIP asset-development needs</p> <p>Completion of LIP IT Support Needs Appraisal including website upgrade and co-ordination and use of social media</p> <p>Launch of LIP Trail and Marketing/ Distribution/ Publicity Plan</p>	<p>development, acquisition and economic regeneration and enhancement. Building on groundwork done during Quarter 1 significant progress can be evidenced.</p> <p>The need for a LIP website has been discussed extensively during Q1 with some costs already identified. It has been agreed that further work is required in relation to agreeing a cross-island online strategy tying in with the cross-island Tourism/ Visitor Strategy rather than a narrow focus on the development of a new LIP website. Kerrera has commenced work on a website upgrade and Lismore have identified work to be undertaken with their island website group. It is hoped work on each island to consider what their online presence should be, will provide learning prior to further development of a LIP online strategy and website. IT and financial literacy training scheduled for Lismore and Kerrera in Q2.</p> <p>Generation of the Lorn Island Trail leaflet was achieved in Q4 of last year. Distribution included various vehicles and it will be evaluated at the end of October after the main summer/ autumn season. Feedback from Visit Scotland has been very positive. Via the use of adopted phone boxes,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ progress in the development of new assets, both for community services and income generation to sustain the four Trusts, where appropriate <p>As above.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ viable new projects identified from a long list including renewable energy; on-island transport; affordable housing; tourism provision; fast broadband; reliable 3G mobile phone signals; opportunities which may arise as a result of the 'participation requests' in the Community Empowerment Act <p>Significant progress made via CCF Project, Tourism Strategy, Online</p>	<p>expansion - ongoing during Q2</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Investigations to be undertaken across islands re derelict houses that could possibly be acquired as community resources or to support recruitment to tie in with Housing Needs Analysis. 5. Lismore Trust to undertake a learning visit to other islands with community housing/ social care solutions – info to be shared with LIP members and tie in with Housing Needs Analysis 6. Cross island youth Project to be discussed during Q2
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<p>Development of a cross-island Enterprise Forum</p> <p>Establishment of Social Enterprise Activity</p>	<p>Lismore and Kerrera are considering developing local information points which will also host the Lorn Island Trail leaflets alongside other essential information. Funding applications for these developments have been submitted.</p> <p>This has been a major area of work in Q1. Cross island needs have been identified which has highlighted a significant number of local business entrepreneurs and potential job creation which is currently limited by workshop space. HIE have come on board to support the process of design research and business planning for a cross island project to develop innovative and cost-effective workshop and storage units to support business creation and expansion. As Luing, Lismore and Easdale are involved in this Project, the development of an Enterprise Forum will naturally be supported as the project develops.</p> <p>At this stage, no new social enterprise development is underway but will be revisited in Q2 for further discussion however there was significant awareness raising activity undertaken in relation to this in the previous year.</p>	<p>Strategy, Housing Needs Analysis. Please see Project Update attached.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ new economic activities identified, suited to residents and potential residents <p>Project re support of Business Development Units/ Entrepreneurial activity ongoing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ increased community engagement and involvement <p>New Board members secured as detailed above. Extensive community consultation has taken place re LIP lead activities on all islands.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ reduction in volunteer 'burn-out' ▪ skills development for volunteers and 	<p>7. Carbon reduction additional measures to be consulted upon during Q2.</p> <p>8. LIP IT Training will be carried out with Lismore in Q2 and in relation to financial literacy and cashflow for Kerrera in Q2.</p>
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<p>Development of a cross-island business start-up/ development/ mentoring Forum</p> <p>Development of cross-island “craft collective” and marketing of same, supporting increased income from cottage industry</p> <p>Development of a cross-island Arts and Entertainment Programme</p>	<p>This has been a major area of work in Q1. Cross island needs have been identified which has highlighted a significant number of local business entrepreneurs and potential job creation which is currently limited by workshop space. HIE have come on board to support the process of design research and business planning for a cross island project to develop innovative and cost-effective workshop and storage units to support business creation and expansion.</p> <p>All islands are interested in this area of work and it is planned that this will be revisited in Q3. It is also hoped that work via the business space/ community workshop units will also offer space to support this development however other activities supported via LIP will also support this including lease of the school house on Lismore as a community resource and acquisition and re-development of the school house on Kerrera as a community resource and provision of all year-round heating in Easdale’s hall will all offer additional space to support this development. Again, all these activities link to LIP online strategy which has been agreed as a priority of Q2 and 3.</p>	<p>others in the communities, building on the range of skills that exist within the partners, but also identifying gaps and addressing these</p> <p>Volunteer recruitment and support is ongoing. However, some evidence of new and returning volunteers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ early indications that population decline is being stemmed, and even reversed, with signs that more balanced age profiles of the populations may be achievable <p>Too early to report on this however measures are being supported to support the achievement of this aim – improved infrastructure, community experience and co-</p>	
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<p>Provision of an enhanced and shared island “youth offer”</p> <p>Completion of a LIP Housing Needs Assessment</p> <p>Development of LIP wide Energy Forum</p> <p>Delivery of a co-ordinated LIP needs lobbying plan to key stakeholders Support ongoing Community Consultation</p> <p>Identification of appropriate onward funding models and possibilities</p>	<p>Work has been undertaken during Q1 to support the first cross island entertainment tour via Orkestra Del Sol which will also produce a LIP Promotional Video. Due to take place in October 17.</p> <p>While this has been agreed as a key priority for Year 2, work will commence during Q2.</p> <p>Ongoing work with Rural Housing Scotland has resulted in the LIP Board agreeing to move forward with a cross-island Housing Needs Analysis undertaken by Rural Housing Scotland, Funding has been sourced and work will take place in August 17.</p> <p>This has been in some way partly achieved via the CCF Project where a sub-group made up of representatives of LIP Communities have come together to form a Steering Group for the Project.</p> <p>During Q1 no tangible work has been undertaken specifically to support this area of work however the LIP Board have agreed to become a member of the Scottish Islands Federation.</p> <p>As detailed in the Project Update attached all areas of work undertaken have potential</p>	<p>hesion and some involvement if young people in Business development work evidencing their hopes to be able to stay and develop their businesses on islands.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ a record of community consultations that have clearly informed the above outcomes <p>This is ongoing with more consultations planned in relation to Housing Needs Analysis. Q1 Consultations have largely related to carbon reduction measures, glass imploders, the introduction of swap shops.</p> <p><u>New Outcomes for 17/18</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establishment of Partnership as a local lobbying, 	
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<p>Evaluation of progress in relation to the above</p>	<p>funders attached. Discussion during Q1 with the Robertson Trust and LEADER has highlighted potential follow-up options for the LIP Project should SCP not be available during Year 3.</p> <p>A full Programme Evaluation was completed and assessed following the end of Year 1. The results of this have informed the priorities for Q1 of Year 2 and ongoing. Project progress is fully discussed at each Board Meeting and as previously stated additional meetings are undertaken as needs arise to support the Project.</p>	<p>economic development and co-ordinated tourism body</p> <p>Work ongoing.</p> <p>2. Co-ordinated approach to on/off island transport and costs</p> <p>To be considered during Q3</p> <p>3. Co-ordinated approach to provision of energy across partner islands</p> <p>To be considered during Q3</p> <p>4. Articulation of housing needs assessment and provision of</p>	
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		<p>“gateway housing”</p> <p>Work has started with Project Brief circulated to all islands. Implementation Plan being finalised with Rural Housing Scotland.</p> <p>5. Delivery of cross-island “youth offer” and volunteer/ community contribution</p> <p>Targeted for activity during Q2/3</p>	
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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

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

A successful cross-island Application to the Climate Challenge Fund represents our first LIP Company Application which will see further community consultation taking place across the member islands re waste reduction and recycling, the purchase of glass imploders and introduction of an extensive series of workshops for community benefit. A dedicated Project Officer will also facilitate greater community and volunteer involvement and will support Energy Groups as sub-groups of Boards across the partnership.