

Strengthening Communities Quarterly Progress Report

Organisation Name: Isle of Luing Community Trust

Reporting Period: October – December 2016

Key Activities (as per original Investment Summary)	Details of progress to date	Outcomes achieved	What next?
<p>POST BEING FUNDED</p> <p>Development Officer</p> <p>Visit to each island, mapping current assets, resources and activities, and reporting.</p>	<p>(May – September 2016) Several visits have taken place to each island including attendance at Board Meetings and AGMs as they arise. All Islands have taken part in a SWOT Analysis identifying and reflecting on the strengths, weaknesses, threats and opportunities related to their current asset base.</p> <p>(October – December 2016) Consultants have been present on member islands working on Funding Priorities, attending Board Meetings and supporting Board activities on a weekly basis during this Quarter. During this period all members have worked towards priorities identified within their Development Plans. All Boards can demonstrate progress in relation to ownership, team-working,</p>	<p>Strengthened Management and increased income from Existing assets – <i>work ongoing but progress made via current funding applications and success to date. Transition of the LIP to new legal entity will significantly impact this process</i></p> <p>Effective development of the partnership (monitoring, measurement impact, evaluation, governance and finance – <i>work ongoing – progress</i></p>	<p>1.Strengthened Management and increased income from Existing assets</p> <p><u>Quarter 4 Targets</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Delivery of identified Training and information Provision over Q4 - Continued support to islands to recruit new Board Members - Focused work with islands to establish and enhance Community Trust bases on each island and secure funding to support paid posts where appropriate - Completion of Island Marketing Plans and Island Trails – seek necessary funding

<p>Mapping the current financial and operating position of current community assets on each island.</p>	<p>delegation and Board function as a result of activity during this period.</p> <p>(May – September 2016) The Draft Island or Development Plans that have been completed for each island detail actions to be undertaken to both develop further and protect, existing assets but also the potential for adding to community-owned assets and creating additional income. These priorities have been split between short-term (next 12 months), medium -term (1 – 3 years) and longer-term (3-5 years).</p> <p>(October – December 2016) Analysis of the finance base of community assets has taken place on Easdale in relation to the Museum, Harbour and Hall and a funding strategy is in place to enhance the sustainability of these assets and increase income. Support has been provided in relation to operations and HR to the Atlantic Islands Centre, Community Trust Board and Trading Company and work is underway in support of same to aid Business Planning and forecasting, staff management and salary costs. Work is ongoing in accessing funding on Lismore via the HIE and the Scottish Land Fund on the community acquisition of Bachuil House to provide and income generating community asset for the community</p>	<p><i>being made, quarterly reports and plans can evidence progress.</i> <i>Transition of the LIP to new legal entity will significantly impact this process</i></p> <p>Progress in the development of new assets, both for community services and income generation to sustain Trusts where appropriate – <i>work ongoing but significant progress made</i></p> <p>Creation of new, viable Projects – <i>short, medium and longer-term options identified funding applications relevant to individual islands and cross-island have been submitted with work ongoing.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Completion of LIP Trail and Marketing Plan – seek necessary funding - Assess each island’s website presence – assess development needs – seek funding - 2.Progress in the development of new assets, both for community services and income generation to sustain Trusts where appropriate <p><u>Quarter 4 Targets</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Focused work with islands to establish a Community Trust base on each island and secure funding to support this – asset transfer or lease of school house on Lismore, same for Kerrera, or potential purchase of school via Scottish Land Fund. Assessment of need for paid posts for each island to support community work - Completion of Island Marketing Plans and
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<p>Identifying needs of, and organising and delivering appropriate training for, Trust boards.</p>	<p>and foundation for further development of community assets and infrastructure. Work is underway on Kerrera in securing funding via the Coastal Communities Fund to secure community owned pontoons and early stage investigations have been launched into community purchase of the School Building on the island as a development opportunity for a community hub.</p> <p>Funding applications have been submitted to enhance the offer of the Luìng Atlantic Islands Centre and development discussion has been undertaken in relation to development of Geological and Archaeological Trails as further asset developments. In addition exploratory work is underway on Luìng assessing the opportunity to acquire derelict property on the island for rent. Purchased through the Scottish Land Fund in partnership with the Rural Housing Initiative.</p> <p>(May – September 2016)</p> <p>Each island has been issued with a Board Skills Audit to assist with identifying “gaps” in expertise and areas where Board membership could be strengthened. The results have been reviewed by Lismore and Luìng. Action Point – Kerrera and Easdale Audits to be completed.</p>	<p>New economic opportunities identified, suitable to current and new potential residents – <i>as above, short, medium and longer-term options identified, funding applications relevant to individual islands and cross-island have been submitted with work ongoing.</i></p> <p>Skills Development for volunteers and others in the community, identifying gaps and addressing these – <i>progress made/ work ongoing</i></p> <p>Increased community engagement and involvement – <i>work ongoing</i></p> <p>Reduction in Volunteer burn-out – <i>progress made/ Work ongoing. Mitigation measures being investigated – European</i></p>	<p>Island Trails – seek necessary funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Completion of LIP Trail and Marketing Plan – seek necessary funding <p>3. Creation of viable new Projects</p> <p><u>Quarter 4 Targets</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agreed action in relation to each island’s short-term priorities as agreed in the completed Development/ Island Plans. Please see funding activity summary <p>4. New Economic opportunities identified, suited to residents and potential residents</p> <p><u>Quarter 4 Target</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation of a cross-island Enterprise or Economic Forum - Discussion on each island re establishing an island Economic or Enterprise Forum – implementation where possible to take place in Q4
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	<p>Full LIP Training Needs Analysis is targeted for Q3 with delivery in Q3 and Q4.</p> <p>(October – December 2016) The first LIP Gathering Event took place in November 2016. One product of this event was a collated list of sought after island Training Needs. The second Event is planned for 25 Feb 2017 when Social Enterprise Training will take place alongside community sustainability training. Individual Board Sessions have been offered by DTAS in early March. Other sessions may include Fundraising, Social Media Training etc.</p> <p>Individual island IT sessions are planned for Q4. Support in relation to Marketing and Visitor Offer and press relations are also planned to be delivered during Q4.</p> <p>During Q3 island members have also been introduced to AR (Augmented Reality in Heritage) which has informed some of the aspirations in relation to future externally funded developments). A session was also delivered to the Partnership on alternative Employment Models to support community activities.</p> <p>All Boards have received support from Consultants on an almost weekly basis during Q3. The focus during this Quarter of funding priorities and applications has facilitated an</p>	<p><i>Placements/ funding for paid posts. Funded Volunteer Celebration Events planned for all islands during Q4 funded via Big Lottery Celebrate Funds</i></p> <p>Skills Development for volunteers and others in the community, identifying gaps and addressing these – <i>progress made/ work ongoing. Training package developed. Consultants providing weekly support to Boards.</i></p>	<p>NOTE: The economic targets from each agreed Island or Development Plan have informed this area of work</p> <p>5.Increased community engagement and involvement</p> <p><u>Quarter 4 Targets</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Volunteer Training, Recruitment, Development and Recognition Training to be delivered to LIP Members - Continued development support to be offered to Boards - Volunteer Celebration Events to be held on Luing, Kerrera and Lismore - Ongoing work to recruit new Board Members and Volunteers, so far, 4 recruits to Community Boards across 3 islands. - <p>6.Reduction in volunteer burn-out</p> <p><u>Quarter 4 Targets</u></p>
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<p>Mapping the needs and aspirations of each island community in relation to existing and future assets and services, including opportunities for new enterprise activities.</p>	<p>almost tangible increase in confidence and understanding of community priorities and consultation across LIP Board Members.</p> <p>(May – September 2016) The Draft Island or Development Plans that have been completed for each island detail actions to be undertaken to both develop further, and protect, existing assets but also the potential for adding to community-owned assets and creating additional income. These priorities have been split between short-term (next 12 months), medium -term (1 – 3 years) and longer-term (3-5 years). Key priorities for each Island include Economic and Enterprise targets as does the Draft LIP Development Plan completed at the end of July 16. Again these are divided in short, medium and longer-term goals. A feature of all Plans is the recommendation to create a cross-island Enterprise Forum, reflecting local activity, sharing best practice and exploring the opportunity for joint development. LIP priorities to be agreed by end October 16. Examples of potential development Projects include; seaweed farms, support to small crofters, skills collective – possible evolution to joint selling portal for Lorn Islands.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Volunteer Training, Recruitment, Development and Recognition Training to be delivered to LIP Members. Cross-island work re European Placements already underway as are funding applications to support paid posts <p>7.Skills Development for volunteers and others in the community, identifying gaps and addressing these</p> <p><u>Quarter 4 Targets</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review volunteer roles on each island – assess need for paid work and alternative sources of employment support – Work away etc. - Alternative Employment models Information Session to be delivered - Community Training opportunities planned for delivery during Q4
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	<p>(October – December 2016) Analysis of the finance base of community assets has taken place on Easdale in relation to the Museum, Harbour and Hall and a funding strategy is in place to enhance the sustainability of these assets and increase income. Support has been provided in relation to operations and HR to the Atlantic Islands Centre, Community Trust Board and Trading Company and work is underway in support of same to aid Business Planning and forecasting, staff management and salary costs. Work is ongoing in accessing funding on Lismore via the HIE and the Scottish Land Fund on the community acquisition of Bachuil House to provide and income generating community asset for the community and foundation for further development of community assets and infrastructure. Work is underway on Kerrera in securing funding via the Coastal Communities Fund to secure community owned pontoons and early stage investigations have been launched into community purchase of the School Building on the island as a development opportunity for a community hub. Funding applications have been submitted to enhance the offer of the Luig Atlantic Islands Centre and development discussion has been undertaken in relation to development of Geological and Archaeological Trails as further</p>		<p>8.Early indications that population decline is being reduced/ stemmed – signs that more balanced age profiles may be achievable</p> <p>9.A record of community consultations that have informed the outcomes above</p> <p><u>Quarter 4 Targets</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Records re funding applications and development goals being made in relation to Community Consultation and involvement - <p>10.Effective development of the partnership (monitoring, measurement impact, evaluation, governance and finance</p> <p><u>Quarter 4 Targets</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of LIP SCP progress at the end of Quarter 4 - Transition of LIP SG to a formal legal entity to be completed during Q4
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<p>Support the development of a marketing strategy for the Partnership, to include the</p>	<p>asset developments. In addition exploratory work is underway on Luing assessing the opportunity to acquire derelict property on the island for rent. Purchased through the Scottish Land Fund in partnership with the Rural Housing Initiative.</p> <p>A further aim to be progressed during Q4 will be the established of an Enterprise Hub or network across the LIP.</p> <p>A Full list of Funding activity for each island all targeted at asset development and infrastructure enhancement can be supplied upon request.</p> <p>Cross-island activity in mapping aspiration in relation to recycling, waste reduction and sustainable living has led to the submission of Climate Challenge Fund Application in support of all LIP members and the successful application for Kerrera via Comic Relief for a glass-imploder.</p> <p>In order to be able to lever further cross-island funding for Partnership Projects the SG has worked with DTAS to identify, tailor and progress the Partnership to a new legal entity.</p> <p>(May – September 2016)</p> <p>Significant progress has been made re the creation of the Lorn Islands Trail – work ongoing to better publicise each island’s Visitor</p>		
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<p>Developing funding strategies for the identified projects.</p> <p>Initiating a funding programme.</p>	<p>In order to be able to lever further cross-island funding for Partnership Projects the SG has worked with DTAS to identify, tailor and progress the Partnership to a new legal entity</p> <p>(May – September 2016)</p> <p>The following Funding needs have been identified for each island. However, it has been agreed that the initial focus should be placed on establishing a Community Trust hub on each island without dedicated premises.</p> <p>1. Individual Islands</p> <p>Kerrera</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - North/ South Link Road - Pontoons – Coastal Communities Bid submitted, decision 6 Oct 16. – possibly also Community Assets? - School Building - South Road Maintenance - Kerrera Trail as part of LIP Trail <p>Lismore</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - School House – Community base establishment - Phone Box Marketing Project - Youth Music Making - Playpark - Heritage Centre support/ Staffing/ Resources/ Development/ - Lismore Trail as part of the LIP Trail <p>Luing</p>		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Electric Bike partnership pilot - Paths and Trails – stock-proof gates - Heritage work – archaeological walks - Luing Trail as part of the LIP Trail - Playpark - sustainable refurbishment with resolution of insurance issue <p>Easdale</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Museum Maintenance/ Development - Establishment of a Community Base - Staffing for Community Assets Management - Signage - Harbour maintenance - Arts Programme - Stone Skimming Website - Easdale Trail as part of the LIP Trail <p>2. LIP – short-term Funding Priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lorn Islands Trail Leaflet - Lorn Islands Trail website - Shared Craft Collective - Enhanced Arts Programme <p>(October – December 2016) Please see attached the LIP Funding Activity Summary highlighting clear progress towards individual island and Partnership Goals.</p>		
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<p>Delivery of information and awareness raising about community enterprise for each community.</p> <p>Identifying and developing a volunteer skills training programme.</p>	<p>(May – September 2016) Discussion re potential areas of all-island Training and Awareness Raising Support has included; Board Development Social Enterprise Awareness Volunteer Development Alternative Employment models Funding Awareness</p> <p>(October – December 2016) Social Enterprise Training and Community Sustainability Training is planned for 25 Feb 2017.</p> <p>(May – September 2016) All-island Development Day is arranged for 12 November 2016 as part of this process Volunteer recruitment, development, support and recognition is identified as a priority area in each Island/ Development Plan. Work is already underway in Luing and once evaluated lessons learned will be incorporated into the LIP Volunteer Training. All islands are currently assessing their Volunteer roles in relation to the need for “paid staff” and other supported Employment models which could potentially contribute to reduced volunteer “burn-out.</p>		
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	<p>(October – December 2016) A Volunteer Training and Support Package has been developed following work on Luing to be rolled out to all members during Q4. A cross-island Application is in progress for European Placements across the membership. Training sessions have taken place on alternative employment models to alleviate volunteer reliance. Successful Celebrate Funding Applications for Luing, Lismore and Easdale have offered each island the opportunity to host a Celebration Event recognising the role of volunteers within their communities.</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

<p>Support from our DTAS Development Officer and other staff has been invaluable during this period in relation to budget re-alignment and advisory support. This support has been particularly helpful in relation to preparing Community Trust articles for asset transfer and in supporting the LIP SG to become a formalised legal entity, something that has been highlighted as increasingly necessary during Q3 to progress funding opportunities and asset development. Communication during the busy summer period and opportunity to meet has been difficult as has the ability of some Trusts to focus on LIP Targets due to workload during the summer season however this has been mitigated by reallocation of time spent with each partner and the creative use of ZOOM and other media to facilitate group discussion.</p>
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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

Support from DTAS and HIE has assisted all 4 members to consider asset purchase via the Scottish Land Fund. If successful, these Applications will have significant impact on the income generation and economic sustainability targets of each member island. Lismore has successfully completed Stage 1 Application in pursuit of a nearly £1m asset purchase on the island. Easdale is at valuation/ appraisal stage and Luing and Kerrera are at Expressions of Interest/ Consultation Stage. While this has been a time-consuming process it represents a significant achievement for LIP members and a huge opportunity for learning and community involvement.