

Strengthening Communities Quarterly Progress Report

Organisation Name: Lorn Islands Partnership (LIP)

Reporting Period: October – end December 2017 (Q3)

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>(April to June) 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>(July – September) The first LIP Gathering is to be held on the 11th of November. Sessions to be included are; Online Strategy, changes to Data Protection rules and impact for Charities/</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. During the period Lismore has also secured 2 new Board Members and 2 new LIP Board members have been welcomed to meetings as alternates. The Project update attached evidences the</p>	<p>For Q4.</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. 2. Housing Needs Analysis to be completed during Q4 with the receipt of all island Reports, analysis and consultation re next steps. 3. Funding Applications to support asset

	<p>Trusts and Housing Needs Analysis. The second LIP Gathering is planned for the second week in February 18 focusing on AR in Heritage, potentially to support a cross-island Funding Application to promote LIP island heritage and culture. (October to December 17) Following review in early November re the best use of time for meetings and events it was decided to cancel the LIP Gathering planned for the 14th of November as there was insufficient time to cover all planned subject areas fully and to replace this event with a series of focussed workshops before the end of the financial year. As a result of this decision and feedback from communities, it was decided to hold three day long workshops on Social Enterprise, AR in Heritage and Social Media/ Developing an online Presence. The LIP Board and communities have been positive about these plans as consultation resulted in a preference for Saturday workshops to maximise attendance. Two Workshops are booked both sparking significant interest; Social Enterprise on the 24th of February, (huge thanks to DTAS) and AR in Heritage on the 24th of March. It is felt both areas relate directly to job creation and income generation and as such these areas should be prioritised.</p>	<p>increased number of assets coming into community ownership and links to future asset development and income generation.</p> <p>Work ongoing. Additional participation by IKDT Board Members to support LIP work has been very welcome.</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. Please see attached Project Activity Report.</p> <p>Work is ongoing, but lease/ purchase has secured two new opportunities for community hub</p>	<p>development and expansion - ongoing during Q4</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 progressed during Q4 7. Carbon reduction / energy efficiency issues
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<p>Complete the “asset enhancement” and future-proofing of individual island assets via conclusion of agreed funding targets/ projects</p>	<p>(April to June) 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 development, acquisition and economic regeneration and enhancement. Building on groundwork done during Quarter 1 significant progress can be evidenced. (July – September) This continues to be an area of ongoing work and is slowly being knitted into what will result in a cross-island Visitor Strategy and Online Strategy. Please see the attached Project Update, highlighting work ongoing in relation to asset acquisition, development, maintenance and income generation projects vis capacity-building across all islands. Work with HIE on the development of new workshop units and business development will also link to the achievement if this goal. (October to December) This continues to be a huge area of work now delivering significant results. Key examples include; lottery funds secured to enhance Luings Atlantic Island Centre, visitor and community offer, funds secured to create a playpark on Lismore and funds secured to create visitor information points in redundant telephone kiosks and a</p>	<p>development on Kerrera and Lismore.</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 a result of the ‘participation requests’ in the Community Empowerment Act <p>Significant learning achieved via CCF Project, Tourism Strategy, Online Strategy, Housing Needs Analysis are all progressing as cross-island themes. Please see Project Update attached.</p>	<p>to be reviewed during Q4.</p> <p>8. Further LIP IT Training will be carried out with specific sessions on online strategy, mobile apps and AR in Heritage.</p>
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<p>Review and identify future LIP asset-development needs</p>	<p>comprehensive Island Guide, a successful SLF Bid on Kerrera to secure the old School on the island for creation of an island hub, commitment secured from HES on Easdale for essential repairs and development of the community owned harbour and funds secured for what has been a very successful arts programme. There are many other Projects ongoing, including partial funding secured for a community hub on Lismore and other significant Projects across LIP islands which are directly contributing to asset enhancement for both local communities and visitors.</p> <p>(April to June)</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</p>	<p>Work is ongoing in relation to the above with significant progress in relation to economic, housing and infrastructure development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ new economic activities identified, suited to residents and potential residents <p>Project with HIE re support of Business Development Units/ Entrepreneurial activity ongoing. (22 businesses seeking workshop space, 9 x expanding businesses and 13 x new businesses, potential for minimum 15 x FTE roles.</p> <p>As above. Project ongoing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ increased community engagement and involvement 	
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	<p>website. IT and financial literacy training scheduled for Lismore and Kerrera in Q2. (July – September) Via the CCF Project a first stage LIP website has been designed with a LIP logo. This will be developed further to become a fully interactive portal for LIP members contributing to LIP online Strategy and Visitor Strategy. It is hoped that individual island websites will be successfully upgraded to link to the LIP website should funding be secured.</p> <p>(October to December) As noted above under the previous indicator re asset development, this remains a key area of work on all island and increasingly via cross-island work. Lismore has received the results of their Housing Needs Analysis and the Reports for the remaining three islands are due in January. Review and consultation on these results will dictate future work in relation to housing support services, social care and housing development across the LIP islands. In the second week of January we expect to have all information required from all professions involved in Feasibility work for Workshop Units across the LIP islands for consideration by HIE. This has been a significant piece of work but has so far resulted in positive dialogue with local landowners re making land available for this</p>	<p>New Board members secured as detailed above. Extensive community consultation has taken place re LIP lead activities on all islands, asset purchase, Housing Needs etc.</p> <p>As above, work ongoing, good attendance at AGMs and responses to Housing Needs Consultations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ reduction in volunteer ‘burn-out’ ▪ skills development for volunteers and others in the communities, building on the range of skills that exist within the partners, but also identifying gaps and addressing these <p>Volunteer recruitment and support is ongoing. However, some evidence</p>	
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<p>Completion of LIP IT Support Needs Appraisal including website upgrade and co-ordination and use of social media</p>	<p>purpose which has been a very positive development. Training is also planned for 19 Jan on website updating for all LIP Board Members which will enhance our usage of our LIP website and will provide a platform for future website/ social media development in 2018.</p> <p>(April to June) 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, 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>(July – September) As above a first stage LIP website has been developed during this quarter and IT Training has been delivered to LIP Board Members and individual Trust Directors. This is to be continued in Q3.</p> <p>(October – December) LIP IT development is ongoing with website training scheduled for 19 Jan and Social</p>	<p>of new and returning volunteers on all islands.</p> <p>As above, work ongoing, good attendance at AGMs and responses to Housing Needs Consultations. Good evidence of returning volunteers and new Board activity/ reach on Luing and Lismore.</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-hesion and some involvement of young</p>	
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<p>Launch of LIP Trail and Marketing/ Distribution/ Publicity Plan</p>	<p>Media training planned for early 2018. A workshop is also scheduled on 24 March to raise awareness of AR in Heritage as a potential tool to be included in a cross-island Heritage Trail. Financial/ IT Training has also taken place on Kerrera with Board members in this Quarter.</p> <p>(April – June) 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>(July – September) As above this work is broad-based and ongoing. A second run of LIP leaflets has been re-designed and printed – distribution</p>	<p>people in Business development work evidencing their hopes to be able to stay and develop their businesses on islands. It is hoped that strategy that follows the results of the Housing Needs Analysis will influence this goal.</p> <p>As above.</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. Individual Consultations re Asset Purchase and Development have also taken place on Easdale in this Quarter with high percentage responses.</p>	
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<p>Establishment of Social Enterprise Activity</p>	<p>is ongoing. Marketing and Publicity planning will progress following sessions planned this month on online strategy, which combined with Visitor Strategy will be a key focus for the remainder of this funding period.</p> <p>(October – December) A slightly revised version of the LIP Trail leaflet has been printed and distribution is planned to commence in February 18 with double the number of the previous year's distribution.</p> <p>Work ongoing in relation to website development, social media and AR is also relevant to this area of work.</p> <p>Lismore has also created their own mini-trail via funding secured for their Lismore Guide and information points created in redundant phone boxes on the island.</p> <p>(April – June) 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>(July – September) Development of the HIE Project promoting business development and enterprise activity is ongoing with a committed network identified of 22 businesses (9 expanding</p>	<p>Excellent response levels to Housing Needs Analysis and recent AGM attendance.</p> <p><u>New Outcomes for 17/18</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establishment of Partnership as a local lobbying, economic development and co-ordinated tourism body <p>Work ongoing.</p> <p>Work ongoing.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Co-ordinated approach to on/off island transport and costs <p>To be considered during Q3</p> <p>No progress, to be considered during Q4.</p>	
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<p>Development of a cross-island business start-up/ development/ mentoring Forum/ Development of an Enterprise Forum</p>	<p>business and 13 new businesses). In addition, it is possible that some social enterprise activity may be explored during Q3/4 in relation to care provision, and other areas such as recycling and waste removal where Local Authority cuts are already resulting in cuts in island service delivery. (October to December) With thanks to DTAS, a full day workshop on all aspects of Social Enterprise is planned for 24 Feb. It is hoped this will be the starting point for LIP to further explore the delivery of some island projects and services via a social enterprise model.</p> <p>(April – June) 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>(July – September) Development of the HIE Project promoting business development and enterprise activity is ongoing with a committed network</p>	<p>3. Co-ordinated approach to provision of energy across partner islands</p> <p>To be considered during Q3</p> <p>No progress, to be considered during Q4.</p> <p>4. Articulation of housing needs assessment and provision of “gateway housing”</p> <p>Process ongoing with Rural Housing Scotland.</p> <p>Lismore Report received in November 2017. The remaining three island Reports due in January 2018.</p>	
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<p>Development of cross-island “craft collective” and marketing of same, supporting increased income from cottage industry</p>	<p>identified of 22 businesses (9 expanding business and 13 new businesses). In addition, it is possible that some social enterprise activity may be explored during Q3/4 in relation to care provision, and other areas such as recycling and waste removal where Local Authority cuts are already resulting in cuts in island service delivery. (October – December) Work in relation to the development of Enterprise Units across the LIP islands is ongoing with all professions providing details re the scope of works required by mid Jan.</p> <p>(April – June) 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</p>	<p>5. Delivery of cross-island “youth offer” and volunteer/ community contribution</p> <p>Targeted for activity during Q2/3. Lismore and Easdale both have small Projects to be pursued targeting children and young people.</p> <p>Work commenced on Lismore via a workshop Programme and small pieces of work underway on Easdale via their Arts Programme for children. Q4 Applications to be submitted for a cross-island offer.</p>	
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<p>Development of a cross-island Arts and Entertainment Programme</p>	<p>to LIP online strategy which has been agreed as a priority of Q2 and 3. (July – September) It is hoped that all funding necessary and leases will have been secured by the end of Q3, giving Easdale an enhanced hall, infrastructure to support increased use, Lismore a Community Resource Centre in the old school house and in Kerrera a Community Hub in the old School. CCF funding has supported recycling of materials and enhanced sewing skills via the purchase of sewing machines which can be used on all islands. (October – December) All necessary leases have been secured as detailed above, alongside a successful SLF Bid to support the creation of a community hub on Kerrera. Among other things this will provide facilities for group craft work. The HIE workshop development project also includes the development of a craft outlet on Lismore and potentially, Luing. In addition, islands are being asked what workshops they would like to have offered in relation to arts and crafts using recycled materials to aid waste reduction while supporting creativity.</p> <p>(April – June) Work has been undertaken during Q1 to support the first cross island entertainment</p>		
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<p>Provision of an enhanced and shared island “youth offer”</p>	<p>tour via Orkestra Del Sol which will also produce a LIP Promotional Video. Due to take place in October 17. (July – September) Unfortunately, this Funding Application to Creative Scotland was unsuccessful. This area of work will be revisited to support a cross-island Arts Programme during Q3. (October – December) Further discussion will take place during Q4 re the potential for a cross-island arts programme.</p> <p>(April – June) While this has been agreed as a key priority for Year 2, work will commence during Q2. (October – December) In Q3, Lismore has successfully secured funding from two sources to offer an initial programme of workshops for island children including arts/ photography. It is hoped further positive funding outcomes will allow this area of work to be further developed. Initial workshops will take place during Q4 and the results will be shared with other islands. A great deal of information has been secured re the number of island children and their ages and interests as a basis for funding applications to be submitted during Q4 for cross-island activity.</p>		
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<p>Completion of a LIP Housing Needs Assessment</p>	<p>(April – June) 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>(July – September) In partnership with Rural Housing Scotland, full community consultation and research is being undertaken on all islands in relation to current and anticipated, future Housing Needs.</p> <p>(October – December) All islands have taken part in Housing Needs Analysis via Rural Housing Scotland. Lismore has received their report and the reports for the remaining three islands are due in January. Detailed analysis and discussion with communities will dictate future actions in support of this area of work in Q4.</p>		
<p>Development of LIP wide Energy Forum</p>	<p>(April – June) 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>(July – September)</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>As above. Further work on this is planned for Q3. (October – December) Limited work has taken place in relation to this but will form the basis of focused work in Q4 and beyond.</p> <p>(April – June) 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. (July – September) As above. Further work on this is planned for Q3 (October – December) Further directed work on this is planned but increasingly LIP members are being represented to the Local Authority and key Funders under the LIP banner as a process of natural evolution.</p> <p>(April – June) As detailed in the Project Update attached all areas of work undertaken have potential 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. (July – September)</p>		
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<p>Evaluation of progress in relation to the above</p>	<p>As above, significant work has taken place on this during Q2, with draft costings circulated for discussion – decision needed on these to progress potential Applications. Input needed from DTAS on the likelihood of year 3 funding. (October – December) Draft costings are now agreed for the next year with further plans for a further two years after this. Potential Funders have been identified but it is hoped SCP Funding will be forthcoming for Year 3 and that a decision is received in relation to this as early as possible in Q4.</p> <p>(April – June) A full Programme Evaluation was completed and assessed following the end of Year 1. The results if 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>(July – September) As above. In summary cross-island themes are progressing in relation to Housing and Business Development/ Enterprise activity and online strategy, with sub areas of work including website, co-ordinated Visitor offer, also progressing.</p>		
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	<p>Asset maximisation and infrastructure development funding applications are now coming to fruition enabling local island activity and development plan implementation.</p> <p>(October – December)</p> <p>As above, regular meetings and good communication facilitates ongoing evaluation of Project work and the opportunity to change strategy as needs arise.</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

DTAS support has been particularly helpful in relation to Social Enterprise support now planned for Q4 and with the provision of support in relation to the eligibility of LIP member Articles for SLF funding.

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

The summer season as ever is busy and impacts on ability to attend meetings for LIP and Trust and also to facilitate Community Consultations. Despite this Board commitment to meet via ZOOM, use of evening meetings or weekend meetings has been successful.