

Strengthening Communities Quarterly Progress Report

Organisation Name: Isle of Luing Community Trust

Reporting Period: January – end March 2017

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 has been achieved, with a new bank account and Company registration in place.</i></p> <p>Effective development of the partnership (monitoring, measurement impact, evaluation,</p>	<p>1.Strengthened Management and increased income from Existing assets</p> <p><u>Quarter 5 Targets</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Delivery of identified Training and information Provision over Q5 - 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 LIP Trail and Marketing Plan – 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>(Jan – 31 March 17) Support to Boards in a wide range of areas has been ongoing including HR, Community Consultation, Board Recruitment and Delegation. Via the experience of SLF Application on Lismore, lessons learned have been shared with the Partnership and wider community in relation to Community Consultation and establishing the basis of resident voting in Consultation Events. Consultants have provided a weekly presence on each island in support of Asset and Board Development. In relation to sharing and promoting each island’s assets, the planned LIP Trail leaflet has been completed with plans in place for Distribution.</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</p>	<p>governance and finance – <i>work ongoing – progress being made, quarterly reports and plans can evidence progress. Review of original Island Development Plans and LIP Development Plan targeted for April/ May 2017.</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"> - Assess each island’s website presence – assess development needs – seek funding <p>2.Progress in the development of new assets, both for community services and income generation to sustain Trusts where appropriate</p> <p><u>Quarter 5 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 LIP Trail and Marketing Plan – seek necessary funding <p>3.Creation of viable new Projects</p>
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	<p>(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 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 Luing Atlantic Islands</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</i></p>	<p><u>Quarter 5 Targets</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review and assess action in relation to each island’s short-term priorities as agreed in the completed Development/ Island Plans. <p>4.New Economic opportunities identified, suited to residents and potential residents</p> <p><u>Quarter 5 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 Q5 <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>
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<p>Identifying needs of, and organising and delivering appropriate training for, Trust boards.</p>	<p>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 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>(Jan – end March 17) Work in relation to the above is ongoing on each island with a number of funding applications outstanding and others in development. In this Quarter, the Partnership has been successful in securing Climate Challenge Fund support for our first cross-island initiative in relation to recycling and waste reduction and the promotion of energy focus groups on each island and involving the employment of the first LIP employee, the CCF Project Officer.</p> <p>(May – September 2016) 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 Luing. Action Point –</p>	<p><i>measures being investigated – European Placements/ funding for paid posts. Funded Volunteer Celebration Events undertaken during Q3 and Q4.</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><u>Quarter 5 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 - 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> <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
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	<p>Kerrera and Easdale Audits to be completed. 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</p>		<p>7.Skills Development for volunteers and others in the community, identifying gaps and addressing these</p> <p><u>Quarter 5 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 Q5 <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>
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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>priorities and applications has facilitated an almost tangible increase in confidence and understanding of community priorities and consultation across LIP Board Members.</p> <p>(Jan – end March 17) At our February LIP Gathering Event, further Training Needs were identified in relation to; Managing Community Consultation Identifying the basis of residential voting AR in Heritage – identification of cross island activity Website Development and Social Media promotion Individual Boards have received support during this period including appraising community asset transfer options versus purchase, HR policy and procedures, customer service, handling complaints, procedural transparency</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)</p>		<p><u>Quarter 5 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 5 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 completed during Q4
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	<p>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> <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</p>		
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	<p>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.</p> <p>Funding applications have been submitted to enhance the offer of the Luing 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 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>		
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	<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>(Jan – end March 17)</p> <p>During this quarter, the LIP Partnership became a Company with new legal status with its' own bank account. This was an essential step necessary to secure funding from a range of Funders including our successful Bid to the Climate Challenge Fund. As this will offer retrospective Funding, partners are having to pool resources to ensure cashflow is available to manage the CCF Project.</p> <p>Work has started in partnership with HIE in identifying each island's enterprise needs and aspirations, including the need for workshop space and small business start-up alongside assessing the opportunities for job creation.</p>		
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<p>Support the development of a marketing strategy for the Partnership, to include the Lorn Islands Trail and a website, with appropriate funding where necessary</p>	<p>(May – September 2016) Significant progress has been made re the creation of the Lorn Islands Trail – work ongoing to better publicise each island’s Visitor offer and also the all-island experience/ offer. To produce a Lorn Island’s offer, work is ongoing to agree the individual island offer. Plans are due to be completed by December 16 to initially produce a Lorn Islands leaflet. Future plans also include the exploration of a website aiming to increase visitor income from existing assets. Plans also in place to upgrade existing island websites in a thematic manner, co-ordinating with the final LIP website</p> <p>(October – December 2016) A Draft Lorn Islands Trail Leaflet was reviewed by the Partnership on 9 Dec 16. After Final adjustments this will be distributed following an agreed Plan during Q4.</p> <p>(Jan – end March 17) The planned LIP Trail leaflet has been completed during this period. Distribution Plans are in place for April alongside the establishment of a presence with the Oban Visit Scotland Office. Additional and smaller/ simpler leaflet options have been shared with the other islands to publicise their key assets and to start work on</p>		
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<p>Developing an achievable delivery plan with rationales and priorities for the Partnership and for each island Trust.</p>	<p>the production of “linked” family of leaflets. Luing leaflet is currently being drafted. The design approach, planned distribution and costs have been shared with the wider communities on each island. It is hoped that a broader, larger distribution strategy can be achieved for 2018.</p> <p>(May – September 2016) Draft Island/ Development Plans and SWOT Analysis have been completed for each Island and the LIP by the end of August 2016. Community Consultation is ongoing re island funding priorities and LIP funding priorities.</p> <p>(October – December 2016) All Funding activity and development work being undertaken on each island and across the Partnership is following the Development Plans agreed for each island and the LIP as a whole. 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>(Jan – end March 17) As noted above the LIP Partnership has now made the transition to a new legal entity and</p>		
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<p>Developing funding strategies for the identified projects.</p> <p>Initiating a funding programme.</p>	<p>company in its' own right. An essential transition for future funding and joint work. At the end of this quarter a review will be undertaken of the initial LIP Development Plan to allow this to be updated to identify key areas of work for a further year's funding. It is anticipated based on work undertaken this far that key actions will be "cross-island" and will include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In depth housing needs appraisal Marketing Enterprise activity Shared lobbying Energy Appraisal Shared Learning <p>Providing a platform for the plans above each Island Development Plan will also be reviewed and updated.</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 		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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> <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 		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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> <p>(Jan – end March 17) Work is still ongoing in relation to the above. Additional funding targets have also been identified in relation to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Core Paths and Trails – cross island Harbour Management – Easdale Pilgrim Trail – Lismore Heritage Hub – Lismore LIP Website – cross-island Marketing Strategy – cross island Publicity needs – cross island Roads – Lismore Arts Trail – cross island 		
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	<p>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.</p> <p>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> <p>(October – December 2016)</p> <p>A Volunteer Training and Support Package has been developed following work on Luing to be rolled out to all members during Q4.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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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	<p>(Jan – end March 17) Both Lismore and Easdale are on the way to offering European Placements via support from Exchange Scotland.</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

Continued busy schedules and poor weather affecting ability to meet in person has been addressed again this quarter by the use of ZOOM meetings which have proved very successful.
Support from our DTAS Development Officer and other staff has continued to be invaluable during this period in relation to budget re-alignment and advisory support.
Some Boards have lost Board Members due to health and work pressures however Boards have regrouped and are working in a much more co-ordinated manner with Boards on other islands, seeking informal support and sharing information and experience which has been a positive development.

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.