

RURAL GROWTH DEAL

Progress Update January 2023 – (Update No 4)

Welcome to our update

Welcome to the fourth edition of Argyll and Bute Council's Rural Growth Deal (RGD) quarterly update. Our £70 million Rural Growth Deal is about turning economic potential into a successful future for Argyll and Bute. It is about investing in initiatives that will turn the area's fantastic natural resources and business innovation into a thriving local economy.

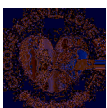
Progress to date

February 2021 – Heads of Terms agreed with Scottish and UK Governments

October 2021 – recruitment of Programme Management Office complete.

January 2022 – Stantec appointed as consultants to progress project business cases and Levelling Up Fund Bids

August 2022 – Development of the Rural Growth Deal (RGD) business cases and Levelling Up Fund Bids



undertaken to maximise benefits of this work and ensure coordination of marine economy work.

- **Creating a World Class Visitor Destination:**
 - Priority locations have been identified:
 - Dunoon
 - Rothesay
 - Helensburgh
 - Ardrishaig/Crinan Canal Corridor
 - Campbeltown – Kintyre Seasports
 - Unfortunately the Council were unsuccessful in securing funding for Rothesay and Dunoon via the UK Government's Levelling Up Fund. Projects will now be designed according to budgets available via the RGD.
 - Stantec are developing a Programme Level Outline Business Case which will encompass the projects at Dunoon, Rothesay, Helensburgh and the Ardrishaig/Crinan Canal Corridor. This approach has been developed due to the synergies of these projects and the similar outcomes/impacts they hope to deliver. Each project will develop a standalone FBC once the Programme Level OBC has been agreed. Kintyre Seasports will develop its own standalone OBC due to the different timescales and different purpose of this facility.
 - Stantec are progressing stakeholder engagement workshops, with a workshop for internal stakeholders held in December. Further workshops for each priority location will take place in early 2023. This will include engagement with local elected members, external stakeholders and community groups.
 - The OBC for Kintyre Seasports is well developed. Discussions have been taking place with the Council's Procurement Team to develop the

gt BMC 1 g15 2027812.00efEMC B32f0.dy A/CID 154DC 0.08 0.1

