

Argyll and Bute Council

Anti-Poverty Strategy 2018-2022

APRIL 2018



(measured as in a household with less than 60% median UK equivalised income

services and reaching people to offer advice and support, is problematic when dealing with such a large, diverse area that includes 23 islands.

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- 5.6 **Wairer-** Argyll and Bute has a number of active community groups and individuals; we work well together. We are able to use this to our advantage in forwarding the Anti-Poverty Strategy and getting feedback from stakeholders. We have eight local Health and Well Being Networks and nine Locality Planning Groups. For example Locality Planning Groups for The Isles, Mull and for Oban. Professionals, Community Councils and others work together for local aims. We also engage well with our Third Sector colleagues and local employers.
- 5.7 **Heatad Soial Cae Pabip-** The integration of social and health into a unified partnership has led to closer, more effective working, tailored to the individual's needs in a holistic way. For example the co-location of Health Visitors and Social Workers allowing for joint working to support vulnerable families.
- 5.8 **Service Review edesir-** Argyll and Bute Council will review and, if necessary redesign its health, adult and childcare community services in order to ensure effective working with stakeholders and value for money.
- 5.9 **Raise Awareness Po-** We can engage with people, through a number Advisory and Support Groups. We can support and advise those in poverty and raise awareness of issues that relate to the causes of poverty and deprivation. For example: C.A.B.; ABAN (Argyll and Bute Advice Network); Money Skills Argyll, Bute Advice Centre, AliEnergy, Argyll and Bute Council Welfare Rights Officers, Carrgomm, Women's Aid, The HELP Project.
- 5.10 **Use Leaders of the People** – We will use the WRWG (Welfare Reform Working Group) to provide leadership on the Anti-Poverty Strategy. We will promote this and other messages by supporting both local and national campaigns. We will, through messages from our staff and in our leaflets and literature make it clear to all stakeholders that we are committed to addressing the causes of poverty and supporting people to improve the quality of their lives. In doing this we will champion equal rights and the value of all of our people in Argyll and Bute.

6. Our Objectives

- 6.1 We will focus our Anti-Poverty Strategy by using four key objectives

4. To provide services that meet the needs of people experiencing poverty.

**To improve and fairer experience and make a better
voice heard.**

6.2 In Argyll and Bute we think it is important to listen to people and to learn from them directly what they perceive the challenges and opportunities in their lives. We serve a large number of diverse and different communities, including town, large rural areas and 23 island communities. This gives us challenges that are perhaps unrivalled in Scotland. We place emphasis on consultation, joined up working and planning in order to meet these challenges. Importantly we work with our communities to deliver services to them that will help them to increase their independence, achieve their potential and lead happy and fulfilled lives. We understand that that no two communities are the same and if we are to address the causes and symptoms of poverty; we must listen and try to provide solutions to fit each one.

6.3 We will engage with our people and communities by:

Finding better ways to use the feedback that we get from people using our services (welfare advice services, fuel advice; money matters; community and health services etc.).

Talking to those who are experiencing deprivation and poverty. How can we make things better? What can we change in order to achieve more for individuals and communities?

Consulting with the users of front line services during our review and re-design processes.

**To improve independence to
independence.**

6.4 We noted earlier in this Strategy that the experience of poverty is often much wider and more complex than just having a low income, with some people experiencing a range of disadvantages that extend beyond just not having enough money. We understand that many people that we might describe as 'living in poverty' do not consider themselves to be living in poverty, or don't associate with words like 'poverty' at all. Hence we need to encourage people to use available services, supports and advice and see this as their right. We need to deliver services and advice in a way that will respect dignity and encourage independence.

6.5 Our Services and Stakeholders will:

Ensure that our staff understand the nature of poverty and are aware of its causes and impacts.

Ensure that our staff use positive, person focused language when dealing with people who are experiencing the effects of poverty.

Ensure that our strategies and plans incorporate ways of increasing resilience and independence in people.

Time of first access

- 6.6 The earlier that people access our services, the more likely it is that outcomes may prove to be positive. The research done on the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) shows that those who have experienced four or more “ACEs” have a 2.3 times increased risk of unemployment; four times increased risk of depression and a 12 times increased risk of suicide. Argyll and

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7.2 **Children and Families** We will work to improve the experiences and life changes of our children and families. It is acknowledged that our efforts must cover a wide range of services; we must ensure that our children live in good, sustainable houses and environments. We must ensure that they live in homes

carried out by different Services across the Council and supported by our Community Planning Partners. Many of these have their own focussed strategies and plans, and it is important to be aware of these and how they interact.

- 7.10 Some of the most important strategies and plans that support the delivery of the vision and objectives within this plan are detailed in Appendix 2. As there is no one single, comprehensive measure of poverty or deprivation, it is therefore important to have a number of well-coordinated strategies and plans that

community bodies, the Third Sector, The Strategic Housing Forum, The Department of Work and Pensions, Employers and Education establishments.

8.4 The strategy sets out our vision as:

Appendix A: Action Plan

Project or Plan	Actions / Milestones: Objective 1	Responsible Department / Service	Progress / Performance Measure.
find out what services work for them.	Hold authority wide capacity building courses for young people to encourage involvement in local and national decision making.		education provision and learning experiences.

Appendix 1: Anti-Poverty Action Plan

Objective 2: To support people experiencing poverty to move from dependence to independence.

2.1 Promote the use of positive language and messages

2.1.1 Develop understanding and awareness of poverty

2.2 Work with partners, communities and individuals on resilience and capacity building initiatives

Project or Plan	Actions / Milestones: Objective 2	Responsible Department / Service	Progress / Performance Measure.
<p>Children and Young Peoples Services Plan 2017 -2020.</p> <p>Helping children and young people to realise and reach their full potential.</p> <p>Creating programmes that will support children and young people facing challenges, including poverty and deprivation.</p> <p>Working on a multi-agency basis to support and empower families facing difficulties.</p> <p>Working in partnership to improve the outcomes for our children and young people in education and work.</p>	<p>Our children and young people support to young people and</p>		

Appendix: Anti-Poverty Action Plan

Project or Plan			

Appendix A: Action Plan

Project or Plan	Actions / Milestones: Objective 3	Responsible Department / Service	Progress / Performance Measure.
<p>barriers to service uptake.</p> <p>Reducing barriers to accessing information and services; encouraging engagement for particular equalities groups.</p>	<p>Housing and Health inequalities are eradicated.</p>		

Appendix 1: Anti-Poverty Action Plan

Objective 4: To provide services that meet the needs of people experiencing poverty.

- 4.1 Children and families
- 4.2 Employment
- 4.3 Finance
- 4.4 Health and Wellbeing
- 4.5 Travel and transport

Project or Plan	Actions / Milestones – Objective 4	Responsible Department / Service	Progress / Performance Measure.
<p>Local Housing Strategy 2016 -2021</p> <p>Address the housing needs of families and individuals. Ensure that children from low income households live in well-designed sustainable places.</p>	<p>A minimum of 550 affordable homes completed over the initial 5 years (with at least 80% for social rent). 4,000 households have their needs met through the operation of the common housing register.</p> <p>A programme of at least 50 potential housing projects available in anticipation of new budgets</p> <p>A completed review of the effectiveness of existing LDP housing sites, in terms of infrastructure delivery and consumer interest.</p> <p>A minimum of 125 long term empty homes in the private sector brought back into use over the next 5 years.</p> <p>Promoting a housing strategy that prioritizes housing and support activities for those with an assessed need for specialist provision.</p> <p>Improving energy efficiency across both public and private sectors by utilising national funding programmes (such as HEEPS: ABS, the Home Energy Efficiency Programmes for Scotland: Area Based Schemes).</p>	<p>Argyll & Bute Strategic Housing Forum.</p>	<p>Achieve the Housing Supply Target for Argyll and Bute as follows: Annual 240-300; 5 Year Total 1,200-1,500; 10 year Total 2,400-3,000</p> <p>At least 10% of new builds should comprise some form of specialist provision.</p> <p>HEEPS: ABS programme covers 75 30</p>

Appendix: Action Plan

Project or Plan	Actions / Milestones – Objective 4	Responsible Department / Service	

Appendix 2: Other related policies linked to Anti-Poverty

Strategy / Plan	Time Frame	Who	Links to Argyll & Bute Anti-Poverty Strategy	Status
Argyll and	2017 - 2022			

Appendix 2: Objectives and principal activities - Anti-Poverty

Strategy / Plan	Time Frame	Who	Links to Argyll & Bute Anti-Poverty Strategy	Status
			<p>and supports economic growth.”</p> <p>The main purpose of the LHS is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set out a shared understanding of the need and demand for all types of housing, and for related services such as housing support, now and in the future; Set out actions and targets to improve the standard and condition of housing; Provide clear strategic direction for housing investment; Focus on the outcomes required to achieve the vision. 	
Joint Health Improvement Plan	2017 - 2022	Health and Wellbeing Partnership	<p>The JHIP The health improvement approach favoured in Argyll and Bute centres on building better communities with a wide range of services and activities in these communities. We call this an “Assets based approach”. There are 8 local networks for health and wellbeing that contribute to the plan and to local activities.</p> <p>There are 4 key themes that will govern the work of the next 5 years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Getting the best start in life; Working to ensure fairness; Connecting people with support in their community; Focusing on wellbeing not illness. 	Active
Health and Social Care Partnership Strategic Plan	2016 / 17 – 2018 / 19	Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership	<p>The Strategic plan is key to meeting the aims of the Anti-Poverty Strategy as it looks to focus health and social care services and set targets for positive change. The Health and Social Care Partnership will work within the six principles of integration which are that health and social care:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. is integrated from the point of view of recipients 2. takes account of the particular needs of different recipients 3. takes account of the particular needs of recipients in different parts of the area in which the service is being provided 4. is planned and led locally in a way which is engaged with the community and local professionals 5. best anticipates needs and prevents them arising 6. makes the best use of the available facilities, people and other resources <p>The plan looks to engage people with services. “Delivering public services in an equal-0.75 o1an</p>	Active

Appendix 2: Objectives and principal activities - Policing

Strategy / Plan	Time Frame	Who	Links to Argyll & Bute Anti-Poverty Strategy	Status
and Bute			including Community Councils, and use qualitative and quantitative data to create our 2017-2020 Divisional Strategic Assessment to identify the most important policing priorities for Argyll and Bute. Currently the local Policing priorities are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drug dealing/ drug misuse Antisocial Behaviour Road Safety/Road Crime Acquisitive Crime – Homes being broken into Protecting People at Risk and Harm. 	
Strategic Economic Development Action Plan (and four specific area-based EDAPs)	2016-2021	Argyll and Bute Economic Development and Strategic Transportation Service	The Plan (EDAP) provides a framework for sustainable economic growth aligned to the four priorities presented in Scotland's Economic Strategy. Argyll and Bute is recognised as an area that promotes fair and equitable inclusive growth. Many of the outcomes for 2021 articulated in the Strategic EDAP are pertinent to addressing poverty/access poverty/fuel poverty in Argyll and Bute: For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrated sustainable transport networks; Full coverage of superfast broadband connectivity across Argyll and Bute; Increase coverage of mobile connectivity across Argyll and Bute. Sustainable and growing businesses in Argyll and Bute, where the area is recognised as a key location for enterprise and entrepreneurship. The islands in Argyll and Bute are thriving through taking advantage of opportunities to diversify their economic base; Thriving, sustainable and successful Argyll and Bute communities and the Third Sector. Education and skills training opportunities are aligned to economic development opportunities within the Argyll and Bute area; Robust and sustainable engagement between employers and education; Sustainable growth in tourism through skills development; A sustainable food and drink industry supply chain. Forestry industry has moved up the value chain. 	Active
Employment Activity Plan	2017/18	Argyll and Bute Employability Partnership	The Argyll and Bute Employability Partnership has developed an Employment Activity Plan (EAP) which maps the provision and products of all delivery agents and partners within the region across the five stages of the Strategic Skills Pipeline (SSP). The delivery of the SSP is factored around five strategic commitments: career skills management; corporate parenting responsibility; education and training; job creation and community benefit. The main drive is to create a diverse and thriving economy, based on the principles	updated every quarter for each financial year

Appendix 2: Objectives and principal links to Anti-Poverty

Strategy / Plan	Time Frame	Who	Links to Argyll & Bute Anti-Poverty Strategy	Status
			of social justice, through the provision of suitable opportunities for all individuals, including under-represented groups. The EAP (updated on a quarterly basis) is to be developed into a	

