

Draft Minutes Bute Community Council	
Date	2024-04-17 1900 at United Church Bute
Online at	butecommunitycouncil.wordpress.com
Draft Minutes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attendance: IGillespie, CHall, GFear, RMacintyre, FMartin, JMoffat, IMorisson, TNelson, WNLelson, JOsborne, Cllr RKennedy-Boyle, Cllr PWallace 2. Declarations of Interest: JMoffat, TNelson, WNLelson all associated with Buteiful Seas and Shores 3. Police Report: attached 4. Minutes of Previous Meeting: 20 March, 2024 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Cllr RKB clarified point 9.d.6. of the 20 March minutes, stating that empty and derelict properties do not currently fall under the new rules for double council tax. b. RMacintyre proposed and JM seconded acceptance of the minutes with clarification: agreed 5. Guest speakers: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Luke Winter, Story Wagon, explained to the assembly that he has a commission through CHArts for a COVID Memorial Project. The project is called Silver Linings and will involve etching thoughts about life/achievements during COVID shared by local people into mirrors that will then be placed around the island. Anyone wishing to discuss the project can contact Luke at butesilverlinings@gmail.com b. Hugh O'Hagan spoke to the assembly about his new role as Adult Literacy and Numeracy Co-ordinator for Live Argyll. This project is funded through Levelling Up monies. Hugh is new in the role and is just beginning to build community links. For more information about literacy and numeracy Hugh can be contacted at 01700 801086 or via email hugh.o'hagan@liveargyll.co.uk 6. A&B Councillor Reports <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Cllr Reeni Kennedy-Boyle: report attached <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attended a meeting earlier in the day regarding making spaces more accessible and accommodating for everyone in our community 2. Is requesting a meeting, with Cllr Peter Wallace, to speak with Visit Scotland about the future of the Discovery Centre. Cllr Wallace has received one message regarding the centre's future, while J Moffat has received a different message from the same person at Visit Scotland. The hoped for meeting would seek clarity. 3. Still pursuing having newspapers available in the library. 4. Briefly explained the change in ABCouncil leadership and stated that all was on hold until 25 April. b. Cllr Peter Wallace: report attached

1. Regarding point 6.a.2., Cllr Wallace explained that he had received the message that Visit Scotland is looking for someone/group to take over the building and cinema.

7. Matters Arising

a. Result of interim community council election JMoffat

1. Announced that Gloria Fear is now a duly elected member of BCC
2. Anne Marie Ferguson said that she would like to join the BCC and will undergo the co-option process. TNelson to send AMF a co-option form via email.

b. Any advance on offer by CHall to use Coffee Stop once a week for teen only hot chocolate and chat session: CHall said that she had had no further contact from Shona Edwards since making the offer at the January BCC meeting. TNelson to email Shona to see if she would like to pursue use of the café.

c. Update on derelict buildings in Port Bannatyne: FMartin and JOsborne

1. As the link between the BCC and the Castle Street Action Group, JOsborne gave the following report:
 1. The CSAG would support a change to council tax charges for empty/derelict properties
 2. CSAG are keen to arrange to speak with ABC planners; he asked if the elected councillors might help to bring about such a meeting
 3. JO had an online conversation with the developer, who still sees a compulsory purchase order by the Council as the way forward, and says that they would immediately buy it back as the CPO would resolve the ownership issues regarding 2 of the 24 flats. Cllr RKB felt that ABC would not agree to a CPO, as previous CPO's had ended badly. JO said that he would ask the developer if they would give a written guarantee of repurchase and asked if the elected Cllrs could enquire if that would make any difference in obtaining a CPO.
4. CSAG submitted an FOI request and was given access to complaints made/ABC response regarding 12 to 16 Buckingham Terrace.
 1. A&BC currently do not appear to list the content of FOIs on their website, though other authorities do. At this time, a yearly audit of FOI requests can be found under the Audit and Scrutiny Committee.

Latest Report for April 1st 2022 – March 31st 2023:

<https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/moderngov/ieIssueDetails.aspx?IID=134412&PlanId=0&Opt=3#AI166142>

Freedom of Information Annual Report - Appendix 1.pdf

Bute Community Council's FOI regarding nursery services at Ardencraig Gardens can be seen on page 4, under Request No 15430 as an example.

5. JO was told that the architect had visited number 16 in the past year and found it riddled with dry rot.
 6. The developer said that number 14 had been visited and that they would not enter it again as it is in too dangerous a state. JO suggested that the Council should visit inside and make an assessment.
 7. JO said that the CSAG had taken some interest in number 11 Quay Street, regarding how the empty building could be brought back into use.
 8. At this point, a member of the assembly said that he was the owner of number 11.
 9. He and another member of the assembly questioned how persons could join the CSAG and felt that BCC was leading the CSAG. It was explained that JO and F Martin had formed a sub-committee of BCC to carry out community engagement meetings in Rothesay, Kingarth/Kilchattan and in Port Bannatyne. At the most recent engagement meeting, in Port Bannatyne, the main point that had been brought up for discussion by Port Bannatyne residents was the empty buildings in Castle Street. These Port residents had formed the CSAG, with JO giving some assistance/guidance and making reports back to the BCC. The CSAG does not have officers and it is not clear if they have any written documentation, including minutes of their meetings. A clear answer was not given to the two gentlemen regarding who can and how to join the group.
- d. Update on West Coast Motors/ young riders being denied travel: JMoffat
1. JMoffat reported that after the meeting in January, when problems had been raised regarding young riders on buses, she had written to West Coast Motors via their website and had received an answer promptly asking for specific details of the incidents.
 2. As it turned out, the Bute Depot Manager of West Coast Motors, Alan Parr Smith, was in attendance at the meeting and spoke to the assembly about carriage policies of WCM as well as some of the problems that the bus drivers and passengers have been facing.
 1. Cards are never removed from young passengers; this problem had been mentioned by Shona Edwards as occurring in West Kilbride back in the January meeting
 2. People speak of free rides on buses but there are no such thing; a ride is either paid for by the passenger or through concession
 3. Sometimes a bus reaches a terminus point, for example Port Bannatyne. The bus has a period of down time, when it is not in service. The vehicle is not insured to have passengers aboard at such time and so passengers, of any age, may be asked to exit

the bus and re-board should they choose when the bus begins its next run.

4. Drivers will not take a single child on the run up to Rhubodach – lack of amenities/facilities there, waiting time as described in previous point would mean asking child to stand alone in desolate area, etc.
5. Bus stand in Guildford Square has become a ‘no go zone’ in the evenings as young people congregate there and throw things at the buses and harass waiting passengers. The bus has an 18 minute wait time at Guildford Sq. at some points in the schedule. Recent additions to the schedule have taken the bus up to the joint campus for some of these extended waits and so the drivers have dealt with less problems; however, this does not speak to whether waiting passengers are still be harassed/intimidated.
6. Further to point just made, young people have been banned from bus services during the school day as the behaviour aboard the buses was so bad. They were banned and then given another chance last August, but within 3 weeks the ban was reinstated.
7. Several complaints have been received regarding treatment of young persons on a bus but in every instance, when CCTV footage has been reviewed and an offer made for the parents to come and see the footage for themselves, no parent has ever come in to watch.
8. There is the issue of safety of the drivers, particularly in light of the recent murder of a driver in Elgin by a 15 year old.
9. At this point, a member of the assembly asked why the full service had not been resumed after Covid, giving the examples of the 2330 bus out to Port Bannatyne on Saturday evenings or the late evening bus that used to allow dinner at the Kingarth Hotel. It was explained that there had been fewer users even after the end of Covid but if there were specific scheduling questions, people could contact WCM for further discussion.
10. Cllr R Kennedy-Boyle asked if WCM would be interested in further dialogue with some of the groups at the joint campus, for example there is an active youth council. WCM would welcome such dialogue.
11. Conditions of Carriage are available on the WCM website. <https://www.westcoastmotors.co.uk/conditions-stage-carriage> The banning of students as described in item 7.d.2.6. above is not listed in the Conditions of Carriage.

e. Update on Thomson Court:

1. Cllrs RKB and PW said that any decision to close the dementia day care at Thompson Court would not take place until a full review had been completed.

2. JM said that there are currently 12 families that currently rely on the dementia day care provided by Thomson Court and that without such care their loved ones would need to be moved to a facility on the mainland.
 3. The Bute and Cowal Planning committee, on which both Cllr RKB and JM represent the interests of Bute, has placed the Thompson Court issue onto the agenda so that dialogue begins before the September deadline arrives.
- f. Survey on fish farms:
1. TNelson reported that a month-long survey was conducted, garnering 70 responses. 52 people felt that they had enough information about fish farms to say they were not favourable to a fish farm near Bute, 4 people felt they had enough information to say they would be in favour of a fish farm near Bute. 14 people felt they did not have enough information to make a decision and many wrote questions.
 2. The plan had been to hold an information meeting/s to discuss fish farms and then take another survey afterwards. Though this plan had been discussed at previous BCC meetings, at this meeting the two elected Cllrs. suggested that it might be better to desist, as they feel having a general opinion may conflict with judging an application for a fish farm on its own merits.
- g. Update on Arden Craig Gardens and Rothesay Pavilion
1. No further discussions as to funding the Pavilion can occur until after 25 April when the leadership changeover of ABCouncil is complete.
 2. It was suggested that JM invite the Chartered Surveyor overseeing the Pavilion renovation project to address a BCC meeting.
 3. Arden Craig Gardens Friends group has now posted an events calendar for 2024 (attached).
 1. And online at:
<https://ardencraiggardensfriends.org/events/>
- h. Bute Island Foods Community Fund update: JO has still had no response from BIF as they said would happen at a previous BCC meeting when BIF representatives addressed the assembly. The matter will now be dropped as it seems BIF is not willing to engage.

8. Community Councillors' reports

a. Planning: WNelson

1. Bute BID is applying for a digital sign in Guildford Square [24/00697/ADV]
2. There is an application for 8 new homes in the Ballochgoy area [24/00564/PP]
3. The local architect, Mr Marshall, has applied to combine two store fronts [24/00557/PP]

	<p>4. No concerns were raised regarding any of these applications</p> <p>b. Transport: RMacintyre</p> <p>c. Transport Scotland is still not sharing passenger/vehicle numbers. RM requested that BCC write to Transport Scotland regarding this matter.</p> <p>d. RM also reported that the ferry between Portavadie and Tarbert had been taken off to cover runs to Islay, due to a problem with one of its ferries.</p> <p>e. Finance: JMoffat said that the only amounts that were being spent recently have been payment for the hire of the United Church Hall for meetings. This leaves a balance of £4,705.07.</p> <p>9. Public Questions</p> <p>a. A question regarding the missing bench at the Guildford Square bus shelter and its general state of disrepair was asked: JM said that she had reported this on the ABCouncil ReportIt page. Alan Parr Smith of WCM said that though WCM does not own/maintain bus stops or shelters, he had been asked to survey/photo all stops approximately 6 weeks ago. Cllr RKB said that the state of the bus shelter in the Square was due to a procurement problem; the contractors appointed to fix the bench and carry out maintenance of the shelter had not done the job and there was a new procurement process underway for the same work.</p> <p>1. https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/my-council/report-it</p> <p>10. AOCB: the BCC AGM will take place at the June meeting.</p> <p>11. Date of Next Meeting: 15 May, 2024</p>
<p>Following Documents</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police Report • Adult Literacy Information • Ardenraig Gardens Events Information • Cllr Report – Peter Wallace • Cllr Report – Reeni Kennedy-Boyle • BCC Survey Results • A&BC Pavilion Updates • Freedom of Information Annual Report - Appendix 1 for April '22- March '23



Community Council Debrief
Dates Between: 07/03/24 – 09/04/24
Location & Beat: Bute – LB53/54
Reporting Officer: PC James Convery

Between the dates above, the number of Incidents and Crime Reports respectively are 153 and 51






You identified drug dealing / drug misuse as a priority

We identified human trafficking as a priority

There have been 10 crimes recorded in relation to drugs offences.

There have been 7 crimes regarding possession of controlled substances, 3 of which are detected and 4 are ongoing enquiries.

There has been 3 crimes regarding being concerned in the supply of controlled substances which are all detected.

<div data-bbox="204 526 480 750">  <p>ACQUISITIVE CRIME</p> </div> <div data-bbox="491 526 917 629"> <p>You identified homes being broken in to as a priority</p> </div> <div data-bbox="491 645 917 748"> <p>We have also identified fraud as a priority</p> </div>	<p>There have been 8 crimes recorded regarding thefts. 1 of these have been detected and the remaining 7 are ongoing enquiries.</p> <p>There is 1 ongoing fraud enquiry.</p>
<div data-bbox="204 1115 480 1361">  <p>ROAD SAFETY AND ROAD CRIME</p> </div> <div data-bbox="491 1115 917 1218"> <p>You identified road safety as a priority</p> </div> <div data-bbox="491 1234 917 1359"> <p>We identified drink / drug driving and reducing road casualties as priorities</p> </div>	<p>There have been 7 crimes recorded regarding road traffic matters, including a detected drink driver.</p> <p>There has been 2 careless driving reported, 1 detected and the other an ongoing enquiry.</p> <p>There have been 4 fail to stop/report a road accident, 2 are detected and 2 are ongoing enquiries.</p>
<div data-bbox="204 1637 480 1861">  <p>VIOLENT CRIME</p> </div> <div data-bbox="491 1637 917 1740"> <p>You identified violent crime as a priority</p> </div> <div data-bbox="491 1756 917 1859"> <p>We have also identified domestic abuse as a priority</p> </div>	<p>There have been 4 crimes recorded regarding assault, 3 of which are detected and the other an ongoing enquiry.</p>



PUBLIC PROTECTION

You identified protecting children and adults at risk of harm as a priority

We identified missing persons, sexual crime and the management of registered sex offenders as priorities

There have been 5 vandalisms recorded, all of which are ongoing enquiries.

There have been 2 breach of bails recorded which have both been detected.

There have been 7 instances of threatening/abusive behaviour recorded, all of which have been detected.

There have been 2 crimes recorded regarding refusing to leave a licensed premise and drinking in the street, both of which are detected.

There has been 1 obstruct police recorded which is detected.

There has been 1 livestock worrying recorded which is an ongoing enquiry.

There has been one instance of culpable and reckless conduct recorded which has been detected.

There has been 1 instance of attempting to pervert the course of justice which is an ongoing enquiry.

There has been 1 hoax bomb recorded, this has been detected.

Useful Links/Contacts

Crimestoppers – [Crimestoppers in Scotland | Crimestoppers \(crimestoppers-uk.org\)](http://Crimestoppers in Scotland | Crimestoppers (crimestoppers-uk.org))

Distress Brief Intervention - Distress Brief Intervention - Connected Compassionate Support | DBI.scot

Scottish Partnership against Rural Crime - [Scottish Partnership Against Rural Crime | Scottish Partnership Against Rural Crime \(scottishparc.co.uk\)](http://Scottish Partnership Against Rural Crime | Scottish Partnership Against Rural Crime (scottishparc.co.uk))

	<p>Women's Aid - Home - Women's Aid (womensaid.org.uk)</p> <p>Citizens Advice – 08081646000</p> <p>Trading Standards - 08081646000</p>
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Numeracy & Literacy



Want to improve your
Literacy or numeracy skills?

*Need free help with reading, writing and numbers?
– one to one and group tuition available –*

For further information contact

Hugh O'Hagan

Adult Literacy and Numeracy Co-ordinator

Community Learning Services

LiveArgyll

Ph. 01700 801086 hugh.o'hagan@liveargyll.co.uk



2024 Events Schedule

Tea in the Gardens

all dates 12pm - 4pm, with catering by Liz McHugh
tea, coffe, soup, and homemade cakes will be available for purchase in the
Arden Craig Gardens Tearoom

	Wednesday		Wednesday
May	8th	Sept. Aug.	7th
	22nd		21st
June	12th		11th
	26th		25th
July	10th		
	24th		

Other Events

May	7th, Tuesday
	Seed Propagation Workshop [Ticketed]
June	15th, Saturday
	Opening Day Event with Achievement Bute
Sept.	28/29th Sat/Sunday
	Closing Weekend Event with Achievement Bute

Up-to-date details and links to ticket reservations can be found at:

ArdenCraigGardensFriends.org/events/



At a Special Meeting of the Council on 2nd April, called for by the Strategic Opposition Group, the leadership of the Council changed when on both the election of Provost and Leader of the Council the 18/18 deadlock was broken by cutting cards, where luck was with the opposition group. Full details of the makeup of the new Council will be decided at the Council meeting of 25th April.

The Special Council Meeting on the 15th April 2024, agreed to implement a Council Tax freeze for 2024/25 following additional funding received from the Scottish Government. The report made clear that £1.1M from UK consequential and £2.3M severe weather monies had been confirmed since the February budget, along with an anticipated extra £600k from a share of the island’s cost of living fund. As a result of the extra monies which the previous administration were able to negotiate, services and jobs have been protected while allowing the Council Tax to be frozen, which is a win/win for the people of Argyll and Bute.

I met with the Visit Scotland Destination Development Director for Highlands & Islands to discuss concerns about their announcement that the Discovery Centre here on Bute would close. It was disappointing to hear that the board took this decision without any local consultation, pursuing a ‘digital first’ strategy, although this should probably be renamed a ‘digital only’ strategy, as all tourist information centres across Scotland are to close, creating the real risk of digital exclusion of some visitors.

Tourism is an important part of our economy, and this move undermines the work that is done by local providers to increase tourism and enhance the visitor experience. It is clear that a coordinated effort across Scotland will be needed to try to change this decision and to that end I am engaging with colleagues across the Council and the Scottish Parliament to call for an operating model that is more inclusive with both a digital and a face-to-face approach. I will of course also be supporting local efforts in relation to the Discovery Centre.

I attended the meeting of the Health and Social Care Partnership Integrated Joint Board as an observer; my request to speak at the meeting was denied as I do not serve on this board. Before the meeting I made representations to both the Chair and Officers in relation to plans to close Thompson Court Day Care facilities and I am pleased that at this meeting the immediate threat of closure was removed, with a full review of the delivery of this service to be undertaken and I will be closely following this process.

At the Environment Development and Infrastructure committee I raised concerns about road conditions here on Bute on behalf of Bute Wheelers, in relation to the cycling event later in the year. I was advised that in addition to the capital roads programme, additional works could be carried out through the revenue programme to address defects, but also that where there was accelerated deterioration identified on the network these could require some changes to the capital programme. I continue to liaise with the roads department in relation to specific issues to ensure that this event can go ahead safely.

The second batch of plugs has arrived for Bute and will be brought on at Ardenraig before being planted out. The Roads Department have been out checking culverts and clearing debris along the A844 following the stormy weather we have had recently. Unfortunately the poor weather has delayed lining works that were scheduled to be carried out.

With Cllr Kennedy-Boyle I had further meetings with Officers and Bute BID in relation to play facilities in the centre of town for which a small amount of money has been allocated. I also attended a meeting of the Dumbarton and Argyll & Bute Joint Valuation Board, and of the PPSL committee.

Working with others, we are seeking a round table with Visit Scotland to discuss the future of the Discovery Centre. It is expected that Jenni Minto will Chair with a number of local organisations represented. Angela Callaghan and Jean Moffat have set up a petition for people to sign and show their support for retaining the services for community and visitors alike.

At a special meeting Argyll and Bute Council the strategic opposition group put forward three motions to bring about changes to the political make-up for Administration of the Council. These motions were to:

- Nominate Douglas Philand, Argyll First, for role of Provost – this motion was successful after 18-18 votes led to decision by lot
- Nominate Jim Lynch, SNP, for role of Leader - this motion was successful after 18-18 votes led to decision by lot
- For all other elected member roles to become vacant until 25th April 2024 when a new administration will be put in place – this motion passed un-opposed.

A further special meeting will be held on 15th April 2024, at which it is hoped the 10% council tax increase put forward by previous Administration will be reversed.

The threat to Thomson Court Day Services has been temporarily abated with a review of Adult Service planned for the year ahead. I have been working with Jean Moffat to ensure that local stakeholders are properly engaged with any review. An initial dialogue with Community Planning Partners and local organisations will form part of the next Bute and Cowal Area Planning Group meeting.

I have attended meetings with Bute BID, Councillor Wallace and Amenities Service to progress a small children’s play park on the Esplanade. There have been a few issues with the project which was planned for Children’s corner. However following consultation with local stakeholders and parents a new location is being looked at which would be near the kiosk of the second putting green. There are a few additional actions to complete which Bute BID are working through with the service before procurement of a design and build contractor takes place.

In support of Disability Bute, I have arranged a meeting with the Service to discuss how an action plan could be taken forward to increase accessibility with focus on Rothesay at this stage.

I am supporting residents of Columnshill Street who have raised issues around amenity of green spaces on either side of the Lade and the Lade itself. I have engaged with Amenity Service, ACHA and Mount Stuart with some promising responses so far.

I am pressing for Council departments to engage with Castle Street Action Group to understand what options are open to gaining resolution of the derelict state of the buildings there.

I continue to support individuals with a range of issues from abandoned vehicles to planning. I would urge people to use the Report It page on Argyll and Bute Council website - [Report It | Argyll and Bute Council \(argyll-bute.gov.uk\)](https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/my-council/report-it)

<https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/my-council/report-it>

APRIL 2024 – FISH FARM SURVEY RESULTS

Presented are the results of the survey on Fish Farms run between March 1st and March 31st 2024 on the Isle of Bute by Bute Community Council.

The survey was available physically via provided paper forms at the following locations:

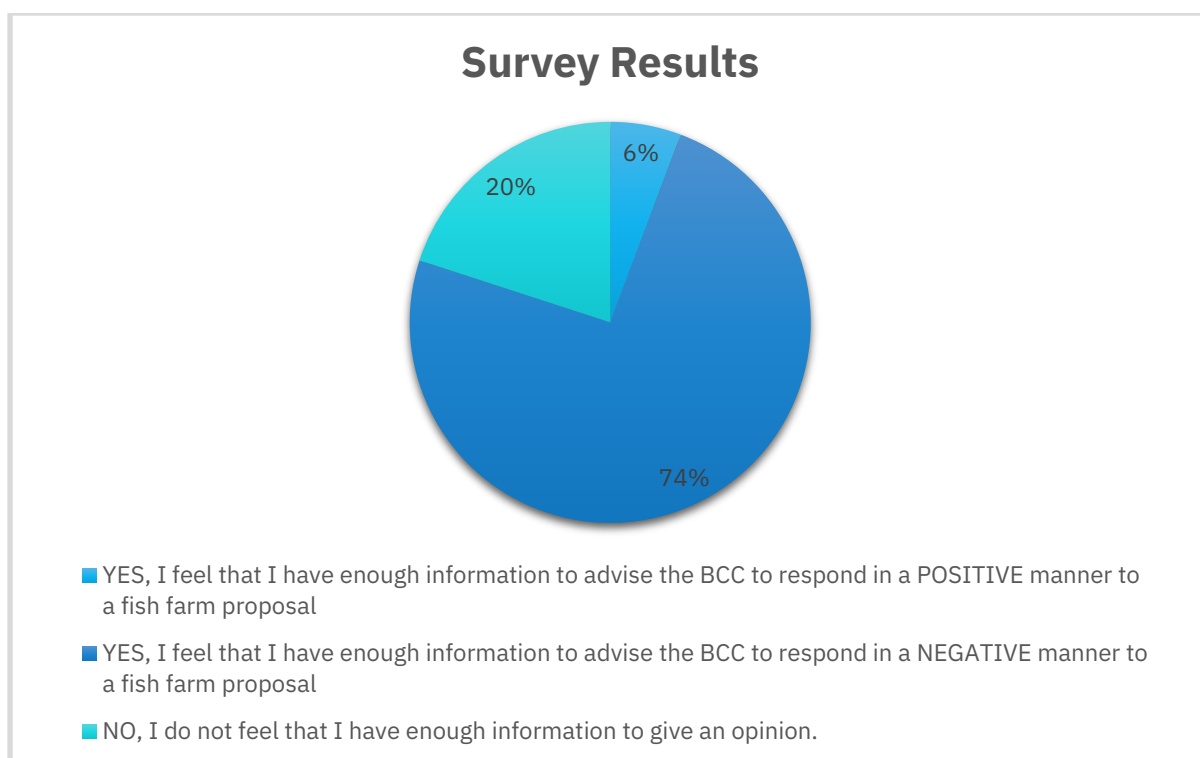
- Kilchattan Bay Post Office
- Port Bannatyne Post Office
- Rothesay Library

and online. The survey was promoted via ads in the Isle of Bute News and mentions at the BCC meetings.

The Survey asked the following questions:

Bute Community Council	Survey 24 - 1
Name: _____	
Address: _____	
Postcode: _____	
BCC is polling to determine opinion regarding fish farms so to inform how we should respond in the event of a possible fish farm application.	
1. Do you feel that you have enough information at present to say whether BCC should respond in a positive or negative manner to a fish farm proposal?	
<input type="checkbox"/> YES , I feel that I have enough information to advise the BCC to respond in a	
<input type="checkbox"/> positive manner to a fish farm proposal	
<input type="checkbox"/> negative manner to a fish farm proposal	
<input type="checkbox"/> NO , I do not feel that I have enough information to give an opinion.	
2. If you answered NO to question 1, could you list the questions/concerns that you would like to ask/raise:	

There were a total of 70 responses, 46 of which were from online.



Written Responses to the 2nd question are as follows:

If you answered NO to question 1, could you list the questions, concerns or information that you would like to ask, raise or know:

Concerned about the impact on these waters, the creatures that live in them and the damage to the coastal environment.

How will the proposed fish farms impact the waters around Bute

I would like to know if Mowi's proposal is for the same site as Dawnfresh's was and also the number of cages proposed. In other words is it exactly the same as the previous application by Dawnfresh ?

Would like to see full environmental impact assessment of proposal, is this available ?

I would like to see the proposed anchoring proposals for the nets, is this information available.

What chemicals and other biological agents would be used during the farming process.

What is the principal constituent of the fish food.

How would the fish farm be serviced, would it be a fully remote operation, would it require vehicular access to the pier at Kilchattan Bay ?

Is the proposal supported by and the the local Holyrood or Westminster MSP/MPs ?

What benefits would it bring to the residents of Kilchattan bay ...? Would there be a planning gain if approval for the farm was granted i.e monies to be spent on projects in the Village or bay area.

Thay the potential of waste from fish feed and faeces polluting the water and seabed around the proposed fish farm site leading to poor water and sediment quality.

Sea lice. Studies show that in Scottish salmon farms" one fifth of all deaths are due to infestation by sea lice". I am concerned that lice (and other pathogens) can spread to the surrounding wildlife

The risk of algae blooms from any uneaten food and fish waste. When these get into the waterways, the nutrients they contain deplete oxygen in the water, killing wild aquatic life.

And ultimately, the knock of affect the above will have in the islands tourist industry.

I advise the BCC to respond in a negative manner to a fish farm proposal due to the pollution risk from fish food, fish faeces and the unsightly sight of floating debris scum on the surface of the water which will eventually land the beaches plus shoreline posing unnecessary health risk to beach users, coastal walkers and the increasing numbers of wild swimmers. The water quality around Bute is crystal clean and attracts tourists to the island which is a very welcome lifeline revenue stream to the local businesses.

Scientific information about environmental impact of the fish farm on the immediate ecosystem. Info about economic impact on the island.

Would be good to better understand environmental impact of fish farms as well as the way a presence of a fish farm would affect local economy and community.

I'd like to know the detail of the design & everyday work which would take place on a new fish farm. Do they still use chemicals/antibiotics to maintain fish in a totally unnatural environment. Compare to their sophisticated natural environment. Consider the effect of such a contentious environment on the other species in the area. Look at the film on the Arran COAST website about the re-establishment of complex inter-related mass of species in their NO TAKE ZONE. Trips available to explain all aspects of Fish farming.

Our clean shores do not need to be made dirty with fish farms

For years they have been trying to push this agenda and been told time and time again no and here we are again! A firm no forever should be made strong from Bute so we do not have to come back to this same old question again as it will come back

I know nothing at all about fish farms. I have been told by my son that lots of fish are kept in small areas resulting in infections and infestations meaning the fish are unhealthy.

Pollution

Wildlife disturbance

Animal welfare

Salmon in open-net farms die from parasites, disease, and warming waters at a staggering rate. Estimates are that 15 to 20 percent of farmed salmon die each year before they are harvested; that is tens of millions of fish. By comparison, the mortality rate for factory chickens is 5 percent and 3.3 percent for feedlot cattle. Young wild salmon beginning their migration are especially vulnerable to the plumes of sea lice from the farms. Escaped farmed salmon compete with wild ones for food and weaken the gene pool through interbreeding.

I should like to understand the perceived pros + cons of fish farms around Bute.

1. Would the fish be kept healthy, ie no lice
2. Would the farm impinge on leisure [?]
3. will other methods of ecological sustainability be used eg increase seaweed or seafood eg [?] & improve water quality?
4. will the salmon be exported from Scotland

Fish Farms, why on our coastline

Future sites

Impact on Bute

Will we get a fish shop?

what consideration has been given to native marine life? Has a 'no take zone' been considered for the sea around Bute?

there are too many negatives to list here but here is one: the hovering up of coastal waters to catch fish for fish meal to feed farmed fish is destroying the livelihood of small fishing businesses and independent fishermen in third world countries.

The downsides of fish farms are not just local, or even national. They are contributing to the decimation of marine life worldwide.

PROGRESS UPDATE – APRIL 2024

CARETAKERS HOUSE:

All works are completed and the building handed over to the Council.

MAIN BUILDING:

- Completed - stone repair/replacement to the North elevation (facing Mackinlay Street - areas 2b/2c/2d)
- Roof 5. Completed - new roof covering. A section of scaffold remains in place for render works.
- Roof 3c and 3d (see location drawing). Installed - upstands / insulation and new roof coverings, including decorative resin finishes. Upstands serve as a critical barrier, elevating for example a skylight above the roof surface to prevent water pooling and ensuring a watertight seal.
- Roof 3b. Completed - revised tapered insulation scheme, and installation of additional storm water outlets.
- Roof 3 (Flytower overlooking Mackinlay Street.) Scaffold and roof trusses forming the temporary over roof insitu. All required scaffold propping is in place to support the temporary roof. Awaiting installation of polythene shrink-wrap “tent.” This is weather dependant.
- Underway: installation of powder coated aluminium copings/cappings above the first floor offices curtain walling on roof 4. Powder coating generally provides a thicker, more damage resistant finish that needs less maintenance than painted finishes.
- Roof 4: covering nearing completion following repair works at the base of the curtain walling.
- Roof 4a. Complete - new screed to drum area of roof (overlooking Argyle Street). A roof screed is a cement/epoxy resin based material that is laid on top of roof slab to give it a smooth and consistent surface prior to laying roofing materials.
- Roof 2e. Complete - concrete substrate repairs. Final new roof covering work in progress.
- Roof 5b. Complete - roof covering.
- Complete - internal mechanical and electrical surveys of the current installations condition.

PLANNED PROGRESS FOR NEXT 4 WEEKS - MAIN BUILDING:

ROOF 3:

- Cover the temporary scaffold and roof trusses with polythene protection.
- Remove copingstones to roof 3 in advance of roof works starting.
- Strip and remove the existing roof covering.
- Progress with build-up of insulation and new roof covering.

ROOFS 4A AND 4B (FRONT TERRACES OVERLOOKING ARGYLE STREET.):

- Install access/support scaffold, trusses and polythene protective “tent.”
- Remove existing roof covering to roofs.

ROOFS 2E, 3, 3B, 3D, 4, 5, 5A & 5B:

- Remove temporary polythene “tent” and support scaffolding to south elevation.

WEST AND SOUTH ELEVATIONS:

- Continue with the new render works.

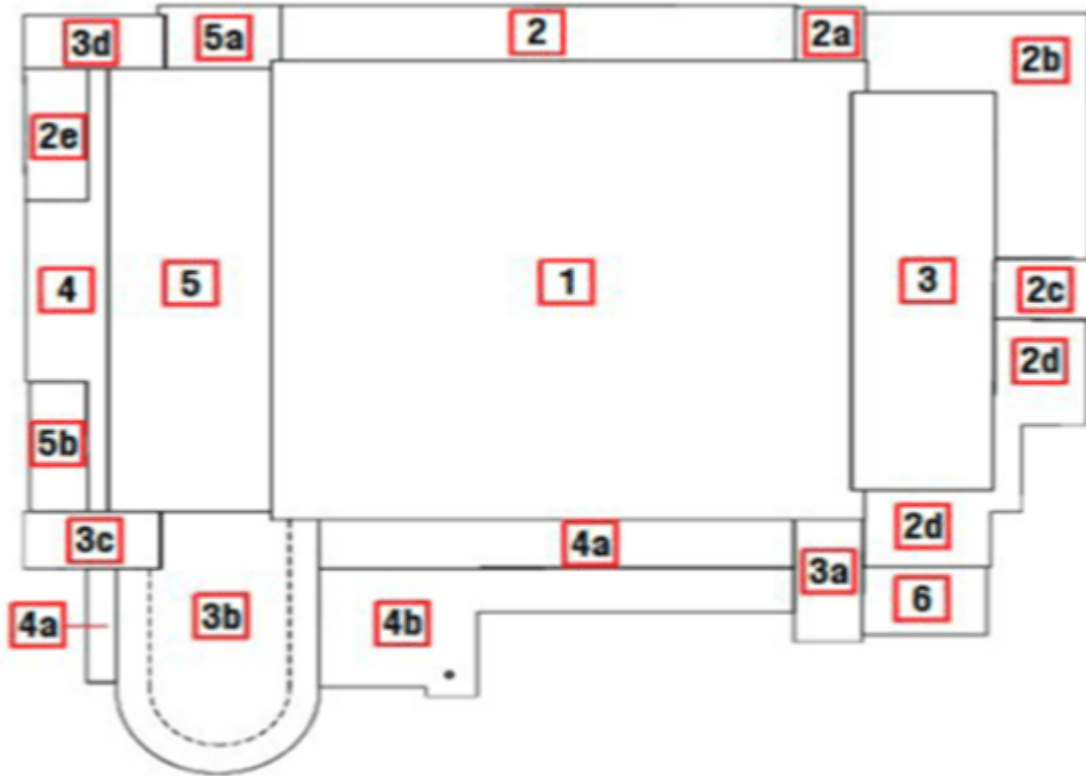


Image 1 Drawing: extract from Architects Roof Plan detailing the complexity, different levels and number of flat roofs that make up the Main Pavilion roof surfaces.

WORK IN PROGRESS PHOTOGRAPHS



Image 2 overview of site from argyle street



Image 3 ROOF 5 - NEW ROOF COVERING WORK IN PROGRESS



Image 4 ROOF 4 - OVERVIEW OF FIRST FLOOR OFFICES LOOKING EAST



Image 5 FLYTOWER VIEWED FROM MACKINLAY STREET - TEMPORARY SCAFFOLD AND ROOF TRUSSES INSITU.

Information Requests - Annual Figures - 1st April 2022 - 31st March 2023

Department / Service	FOISA and EIR Requests						Likely overall %
	Total requests received	Responded to in time	Responded to late	Running in time	Running late		
Chief Executives							
Financial	98	97		1	0	0	99%
CP&D	1	0		1	0	0	0%
Customer Services							
Education	254	251		3	0	0	99%
L&RS	400	388		12	0	0	97%
Commercial	44	44		0	0	0	100%
Development and Infrastructure							
D&EG	246	204		42	0	0	83%
R&IS	206	184		22	0	0	89%
Customer	106	104		2	0	0	98%
Health and Social Care Partnership							
IJB	0	0		0	0	0	-
Adult Care	78	76		2	0	0	97%
C&F / CJ	42	40		2	0	0	95%
Live Argyll							
Live Argyll	20	16		4	0	0	80%
Totals	1495	1404		91	0	0	94%

Request No	Date Received	Date Due	Date Closed	Duration	Subject	Late Closure	Details
Financial Services							
13952	01/04/2022	04/05/2022	18/05/2022	30	Debt Recovery	Late response from information provider	Late due to resource issues due to year end and introduction of new system
Community Planning & Development							
15277	23/01/2023	20/02/2023	01/03/2023	27	Funding Values	Late response from information provider	Community Development did not respond to e-mail or respond until reminded by FOI team
Education							
14116	29/04/2022	30/05/2022	31/05/2022	21	Training, materials and communication related to specific organisations	System issues	Response sent in full 1 day late, due to technical issues with zipped file.
14641	23/08/2022	21/09/2022	22/09/2022	21	School Information: Mull and Iona	Service sign-off delay	Partial response sent 1 day late due to oversight (SH had noted wrong due date).
14481	20/07/2022	17/08/2022	19/08/2022	22	Devices provided to school children	Service sign-off delay	Delay due to picking up FOI workload again after summer break
Legal and Regulatory Support							
14529	02/08/2022	30/08/2022	31/08/2022	21	High Hedge Notices	Service sign-off delay	Response 1 day late had to confirm the information supplied was up to date and accurate
14693	06/09/2022	06/10/2022	07/10/2022	21	Vaping products	Response sent to Governance Unit within 3 days of due date	Information received day before due date - delay in issue due to staff absences in FOI team
14636	22/08/2022	20/09/2022	22/09/2022	22	Anti-poverty initiatives	Late response from information provider	Partial response sent, awaiting information from Finance
14352	20/06/2022	18/07/2022	21/07/2022	23	Children & Young Person's	Late response from information provider	This was a complex request that required input from multiple services. Some services were not originally consulted and information provided by some services had to be clarified
15065	29/11/2022	29/12/2022	05/01/2023	23	Personal Injury Claims	Late response from information provider	Delay in in responding due to get information from Zurich (insurers)
14746	20/09/2022	19/10/2022	26/10/2022	25	Transportation of Argyll and Bute schoolchildren on local bus services	Late response from information provider	Late response due to resource issues within the Transport team
14360	22/06/2022	20/07/2022	29/07/2022	27	Education Budget Working Group	Service sign-off delay	Late response due to school holidays
14504	27/07/2022	24/08/2022	02/09/2022	27	Luss Traffic Order	Late response from information provider	Late response due to age of information and time to retrieve it, required consideration of information appropriate for release
14012	06/04/2022	09/05/2022	19/05/2022	28	Taxi Licensing	Service sign-off delay	Response had to be checked by manager who was on leave
15234	05/12/2022	06/01/2023	24/01/2023	32	Oban Harbour: community engagement	Admin Error	Missed in inbox and not logged until after due date Requester dissatisfied with lack of response, case closed an opened as a review
14631	19/08/2022	16/09/2022	31/10/2022	49	Planning Application 22/01098/PP Erection of shellfish export centre	Service sign-off delay	Request was passed back to LRS from Planning on day 18. It then need extensive input from LRS and some other services before it could be released
Procurement							
14146	09/05/2022	07/06/2022	20/06/2022	30	Adult social care contracts	Late response from information provider	Resource issues within procurement team
Development and Economic Growth							
14553	08/08/2022	05/09/2022	06/09/2022	21	How many restaurants and pubs have been issued with hygiene emergency prohibition notices in 2021 and 2022	Late response from information provider	Late due to workload pressures
14748	20/09/2022	19/10/2022	20/10/2022	21	Landlord data	Service sign-off delay	Late due to staff absence
15019	17/11/2022	15/12/2022	16/12/2022	21	Social Housing, Construction related Dissertation Questionnaire	Admin Error	Admin Error within FOI Team - FOI was not reallocated to correct service Dashboard
15304	24/01/2023	21/02/2023	22/02/2023	21	Environmental Protection Act, Housing (Scotland) Act, Planning Enforcement, Civic Government (Scotland) Act, Building Standards, Closing/Demolition orders	Staff Resources	Partial response sent within timescale Environmental Health response provided to customer on 22 February
14060	19/04/2022	18/05/2022	20/05/2022	22	Landlord registration deregistration	Late response from information provider	Late closure due to key staff on leave and workload pressures
14071	21/04/2022	20/05/2022	24/05/2022	22	Luss, Argyll and Bute and is located at NGR 236180, 689490 (nearest postcode G83 8NT).	Late response due to staff absence	Key staff on annual leave
14167	12/05/2022	10/06/2022	14/06/2022	22	Stratheck Caravan Park Licences	Late response due to staff absence	Late closure due to workload pressures, key staff on leave
14474	20/07/2022	17/08/2022	19/08/2022	22	Housing Land Availability	Late response from information provider	Late due to staff absence
14851	13/10/2022	10/11/2022	14/11/2022	22	PWS Dunoon	Admin Error	Key admin not processing request promptly
14918	01/11/2022	29/11/2022	01/12/2022	22	Complaints and incidents	Late response due to staff absence	Late response due to workload pressures and reporting Officers on annual leave
14919	01/11/2022	29/11/2022	02/12/2022	23	Complaints and incidents which resulted in pollution of and/or other impact on the water environment	Late response due to staff absence	Both reporting officers on annual leave, workload pressures.
15298	24/01/2023	21/02/2023	27/02/2023	24	Prevention of Damage by Pest Act 1949	Late response from information provider	Late response from Officer
14308	09/06/2022	07/07/2022	14/07/2022	25	St Catherines Caravan Park, Cairndow PA25 8AZ	Service sign-off delay	Confusion over who was issuing response
14392	28/06/2022	26/07/2022	02/08/2022	25	CLS - G20R0022/Mr W Storie	Late response from information provider	Planning Team provided a late response as initially the request was not sent to all possible information providers within the service.
14506	27/07/2022	24/08/2022	31/08/2022	25	Private Water Supplies	Service sign-off delay	Workload pressures, key staff out of office.
14872	19/10/2022	16/11/2022	23/11/2022	25	Stratheck Holiday Park, Dunoon - Historical Caravan Site Licences	Admin Error	Not processed promptly by key Admin

14182	13/05/2022	13/06/2022	21/06/2022	26	Consultation on New National Parks in Scotland	Late response from information provider	Response late due to staff leave
14852	13/10/2022	10/11/2022	18/11/2022	26	Environmental enquiry gas works site Dunoon	Admin Error	Request not submitted promptly to Officer
15148	19/12/2022	20/01/2023	30/01/2023	26	Requesting data of quarries production capacities	Staff Resources	No additional information provided
14288	07/06/2022	05/07/2022	14/07/2022	27	Public Register for Contaminated Land	Service sign-off delay	Late due to admin error
15356	03/02/2023	03/03/2023	14/03/2023	27	Planning Application 22/02081/PP	Staff Resources	FOI response will be slightly late due to my manager being unavailable to review the response. National Planning Framework 4 Policy has taken precedence. Requester notified of delay
14814	03/10/2022	31/10/2022	11/11/2022	29	Licensed Establishments Relating to Horses	Admin Error	Key admin not processing the request promptly
14878	21/10/2022	18/11/2022	01/12/2022	29	JER9677 Request for Information, Phase 1 Study at Lochorodale	Late response due to staff absence	Late response due to workload pressures and both reporting Officers being on annual leave
15291	24/01/2023	21/02/2023	07/03/2023	30	Food Hygiene (Scotland) Regulations 2006	Late response from information provider	Late response from information provider. Also, subsequent to receiving the late response there was a service sign-off delay.
15294	24/01/2023	21/02/2023	07/03/2023	30	Health & Safety at Work Act etc. 1974	Late response from information provider	Late response from information provider due to operational constraints. Also, as Officer's response was incomplete, Admin sourced additional information prior to making response to customer.
15292	24/01/2023	21/02/2023	07/03/2023	30	Food Safety Act 1990	Staff Resources	Late due to operational constraints on Officer. Admin sourced information for response.
14428	07/07/2022	04/08/2022	19/08/2022	31	How many license's for dog breeding have been issued	Late response from information provider	Late response due to Admin Error in Env Health
14455	18/07/2022	15/08/2022	30/08/2022	31	Section 80 Environmental Protection Act	Late response from information provider	Late due to Admin Error in EnvHealth
14819	04/10/2022	02/11/2022	17/11/2022	31	Private Water Supplies	Late response due to staff absence	Staff holidays and current total available resource due to illness and leave within team
14830	05/10/2022	02/11/2022	17/11/2022	31	Natasha's Law - Allergen Labeling	Service sign-off delay	Late response due to pressure of work/competing demands within the service. Service provision taking priority
14865	14/10/2022	11/11/2022	30/11/2022	33	Listeria outbreak connected to smoked fish including Salmon	Late response due to staff absence	Late response due to key staff leave and resource issues within team
14085	25/04/2022	24/05/2022	14/06/2022	34	Scottish National Planning Framework 4	Late response from information provider	Partial response sent by DevMgmt in May. Late response (EnvHealth) - due to workload pressures, key staff on leave.
14729	14/09/2022	14/10/2022	04/11/2022	35	Pre-packed for Direct Sale (PPSD) food businesses	Late response from information provider	Workload pressures
14728	14/09/2022	14/10/2022	04/11/2022	35	Registered dog breeding establishments	Late response from information provider	Workload pressures, other priorities and difficulty accessing information from manual files held in closed offices
14396	29/06/2022	27/07/2022	19/08/2022	37	Housing and Environmental Health Acts	Late response from information provider	Partial response issued 27/07, transferred to Environmental Health for outstanding question to be responded to. Delays in response from Env Health due to Admin Error.
14595	15/08/2022	12/09/2022	07/10/2022	37	Planning resources	Late response from information provider	Late due to staff absence and the need to co-ordinate with other services
14406	01/07/2022	29/07/2022	24/08/2022	38	Inspections of Fasnacloich Estate RUS53052/00001	Late response from information provider	Late due to Admin Errors within Env Health
15036	22/11/2022	20/12/2022	19/01/2023	38	Cardross to Helensburgh cycle path project	Admin Error	Checked email archives and JM previously issued response on 23/11/22 however customer didn't receive the email. NA reissued response on 19/01/23.
15043	23/11/2022	21/12/2022	20/01/2023	38	Council's short-term let licensing scheme	Service sign-off delay	Service sign-off delay
15128	12/12/2022	13/01/2023	13/02/2023	41	Gallanach Road, Oban, UK	Staff Resources	Late response due to Officers' workload pressures
15478	15/02/2023	14/04/2023	18/04/2023	42	Blary Hill Wind turbine Noise Complaints	Late response from information provider	Staff resources due to Public Enquiry re Major Application
15199	09/01/2023	06/02/2023	10/03/2023	44	PLANNING APPLICATIONS 22/01262/PP & 21/01278/PP & 21/01278/PP ("2021 Application")	Staff Resources	Unable to review provided documentation from officers with Development Manager due National Planning Framework 4 Policy taking precedence.
Roads & Infrastructure							
14056	19/04/2022	18/05/2022	19/05/2022	21	Overnight parking at Lorne street Lochgilphead	Late response from information provider	Late response due to resource issues within Network & Standards team.
14057	19/04/2022	18/05/2022	19/05/2022	21	Lorne Street Lorry/ coach and car park, Lochgilphead	Late response from information provider	Late response due to resource issues within Network & Standards team.
14123	03/05/2022	31/05/2022	01/06/2022	21	Fleet Management	Late response from information provider	Late response due to admin error.
14143	09/05/2022	07/06/2022	08/06/2022	21	Municipal Waste and Software Applications	Service sign-off delay	Late due to admin error
14325	14/06/2022	12/07/2022	13/07/2022	21	Unadopted Highways of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984	Late response due to staff absence	Late response due to annual leave within DISPerformanceHQ team.
14498	27/07/2022	24/08/2022	25/08/2022	21	Easdale Island Marine Contracts	Late response from information provider	Late response due to resource issues within Marine Operations team.
14744	16/09/2022	18/10/2022	19/10/2022	21	418 bus service risk assessments	Late response from information provider	Late response due to resource issues within Public Transport team.
14829	04/10/2022	01/11/2022	02/11/2022	21	Jura Ferry financials for the last 4 years	Late response due to staff absence	Late response due to key staff leave
14942	03/11/2022	01/12/2022	02/12/2022	21	Road and Street Gritting	Service sign-off delay	Late response due to requirement of information to be sought from other service. This was requested close to due date and service was not able to supply within tight timescale

15201	09/01/2023	06/02/2023	07/02/2023	21	Argyll and Bute Council for parking at Lorne street Lochgilphead	Late response from information provider	Late response as the information had to be provided by the Finance team and they did not respond until 7th February.
14121	29/04/2022	30/05/2022	01/06/2022	22	Fly tipping	Late response from information provider	Information provider did not pick up email when originally sent and then a key officer was on A/L.
14292	23/05/2022	21/06/2022	23/06/2022	22	Use of pontoons	Late response from information provider	Information was not held and the service requested it from a consultant which caused a delay
14559	09/08/2022	06/09/2022	08/09/2022	22	Complaint 220712-000445	Late response due to staff absence	Late response due to resource issues within DIS Performance HQ team.
15407	13/02/2023	13/03/2023	15/03/2023	22	Dunoon linkspan infrastructure survey	Late response from information provider	Survey results were only available from w/c 6th March. Additional time was required to collate the information as requested by the requester, and this work was impacted by annual leave within Marine Services team.
15545	09/03/2023	06/04/2023	12/04/2023	22	Harbour reference group	Late response from information provider	Late response due to error on the part of Marine Operations Manager.
15452	20/02/2023	20/03/2023	23/03/2023	23	Battersea Dogs and Cats Home	Late response from information provider	Late response due to absence within Amenity Warden team.
14094	27/04/2022	26/05/2022	01/06/2022	24	Use of glyphosate spray by Scottish Councils	Late response from information provider	Late response due to resource issues within Amenity Services teams.
14362	22/06/2022	20/07/2022	27/07/2022	25	Cuan Ferry, Argyll & Bute Council	Late response from information provider	Late response from officer due to annual leave commitments.
14184	16/05/2022	14/06/2022	22/06/2022	26	Parking fines	Late response from information provider	Resource issues within Parking Services team
14485	22/07/2022	19/08/2022	09/09/2022	35	School Transport Costings	Late response from information provider	Late due to resource issues within Transport team
14470	19/07/2022	16/08/2022	15/09/2022	42	Subsidised Bus Services	Late response from information provider	Late due to resource issues within Transport team
15430	15/02/2023	15/03/2023	05/04/2023	43	Impact assessment of closure of Council nurseries.	Late response from information provider	Information was requested from Officer and reminders sent but information was not provided within timescale
HR & OD							
14535	03/08/2022	31/08/2022	14/09/2022	30	Argyll and Bute Council posts based on Bute	Late response from information provider	Late due to resources with IHR and the complexity of extracting the data
ICT							
15392	08/02/2023	08/03/2023	09/03/2023	21	Back Office Applications	Late response from information provider	Late response due to staff absence
Adult Care							
15330	30/01/2023	27/02/2023	28/02/2023	21	Adult Social Care Budgets	Received on due date	Response from information provider sent to FOI rep at 21:38 on due date. Email opened by FOI rep next morning and response sent to requestor.
14698	24/08/2022	22/09/2022	28/09/2022	23	Council's Public Sector Equality Duty	Late response from information provider	Only partial response received from service, full response was not received until after due date
Children, Families & Justice							
14725	13/09/2022	13/10/2022	14/10/2022	21	Child protection committee	Service sign-off delay	Press team raised additional questions before info could be released, this was not requested until due date
14574	11/08/2022	08/09/2022	13/09/2022	23	Children and Young People's Services	Late response due to staff absence	Late response due to staff absence
Live Argyll							
14375	27/06/2022	25/07/2022	26/07/2022	21	Generation Z in the library	Late response due to staff absence	Late due to staff absence
15575	16/03/2023	19/04/2023	24/04/2023	23	Swimming pool closures	Service sign-off delay	Slight delay in responding as awaiting final figures
15516	13/01/2023	10/02/2023	22/02/2023	34	Library HQ at the Sandbank Office	Original request not logged as FOI	Information was initially refused by service before being released and then passed to FOI team to log.
15978	29/03/2023	28/04/2023	16/06/2023	54	Procedure on the clearance of snow and ice was dated January 2023, labelled as Issue 2	Original request not logged as FOI	Not logged as a FOI Request by LiveArgyll and no response sent