



Inverclyde Alliance

AGENDA ITEM NO: 5

Report To: Inverclyde Alliance Board **Date:** 20 May 2022
Report By: Louise Long Chief Executive **Report No:**
Chair of LOIP Programme Board
Contact Officer: Morna Rae Service Manger **Contact No:** 01475 712042
Corporate Policy,
Performance and Partnerships
Subject: Inverclyde Local Outcome Improvement Plan
Progress Report – January to March 2022

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Inverclyde Alliance Board with a progress report on the implementation of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) 2017-2022.

2.0 SUMMARY

2.1 This report provides details of the progress made between January and March 2022 in implementing the priorities within the LOIP.

2.2 This report provides an update on progress in the four priority areas of the LOIP:

- Population
- Local Economy
- Inequalities
- Environment, Culture and Heritage

The report also includes an update on localities and engagement with a further report contained within the agenda.

2.3 Progress has been made in the last quarter and some of the highlights include:

The Population Group are now working to their new priorities:

1. **Develop the Inverclyde brand** - position Inverclyde as a place to visit, work and live.
2. **Create sustainable communities, primarily through the housing offer** - address the private and social housing requirements, helping retain and attract new people to the area.
3. **Deliver a net inward migration** - create a net flow of population through strategic initiatives (including our New Scots)

The Local Economy Partnership continues to meet and supports local business with business grants etc. The Employability Pipeline performance has continued to improve from the difficult year of 2020/21. The tender has been concluded and contracts finalised for 2022/23.

A range of work relating to Alcohol and Drugs is ongoing including commissioning of a new recovery Hub for Inverclyde; training opportunities for both statutory and 3rd sector and the commencement of a new Alcohol and Drug Partnership website.

The Green Connections project is now established and the two sites of Greenock Central Link and Lady Octavia Park have been identified.

Through the *Remembering Together* project, proposals are in development for a piece of public art commemorating the Covid pandemic. Selection and announcement of the successful artists(s) and proposals by Greenspace Scotland and CVS Inverclyde will commence shortly.

Additional actions from the Partnership Recovery Plans that are not yet complete will transfer over to the LOIP plans as required.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the LOIP Programme Board:

1. Notes the quarterly progress update

Louise Long
Chair, Programme Board
Chief Executive, Inverclyde Council

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 Inverclyde's LOIP was formally agreed by the Alliance Board on the 11th of December 2017. This progress report provides details of the progress that has been made in implementing the LOIP during the period January to March 2022.

4.2 Oversight and delivery of the LOIP priorities sits with the:

- Population and Economy Partnership,
- Inequalities Partnership
- Environment Partnership
- Cultural Partnership

4.3 This report provides updates on the progress made across all priorities in the last three month period.

The following flash reports are appended to this report:

- Population Partnership Appendix 1
- Economic Partnership Appendix 2
- Inequalities Partnership Appendix 3
- Environment Partnership Appendix 4 and 5
- Cultural Partnership Appendix 6

5.0 PARTNERSHIP UPDATES

5.1 Population Partnership Update

Revised strategic objectives were previously presented to the Alliance Board and are summarised below.

4. **Develop the Inverclyde brand** - position Inverclyde as a place to visit, work and live.
5. **Create sustainable communities, primarily through the housing offer** - address the private and social housing requirements, helping retain and attract new people to the area.
6. **Deliver a net inward migration** - create a net flow of population through strategic initiatives (including our New Scots)

The Group has met several times to discuss ongoing progress, including how best to utilise remaining budget.

Members will note that several areas in Appendix 1 are rated as amber (slight slippage) or red (significant slippage). A key area of challenge continues to be the delivery of master planning, specifically for Eastern Gateway and planning reviews for both Port Glasgow and Greenock Town Centres. These projects are inherently complex and prone to delay, and they remain behind schedule. However, there has been positive progress and we have now identified a firm timetable for reporting to the Environment & Regeneration Committee.

Proactive liaison with the Scottish Refugee Council and the Scottish Government continues. There has been significant collaboration across all relevant agencies to ensure that Inverclyde has readiness for the needs of any Ukraine refugees.

Further detail is included within the flash report within Appendix 1.

5.2 Local Economy Partnership Update

The Local Economy Partnership Group has continued to meet and consider the actions against the updated plan. One action (employability) is currently rated as amber (slight slippage) but it is envisaged that this will move back to green.

- Covid remains a challenge which may be exacerbated now furlough and the Universal Credit uplift have ceased. The Council and its partners continue to monitor and offer support to businesses and strive to protect and enhance the local economy.
- In addition to the above the team have administered the Scottish Government Ventilation Grant to 19 Inverclyde businesses.
- In 2020/21 Inverclyde had a strong business start-up rate which exceeded the wider Renfrewshire target despite the impact of Covid. However, in 2021/22 the start-up is 21 more than started in 2020/21.
- The Council and its partners are also supporting job seekers into employment through employability programmes, skills development programmes and modern apprenticeships.
- A significant number of Inverclyde organisations are accessing workforce development opportunities from short one day training initiatives to bespoke upskilling courses.
- The Local Employability Partnership has been re-established and is meeting regularly and a draft Delivery Plan has been produced with finalisation due later in the summer.
- The Employability Pipeline performance has continued to improve from the difficult year of 2020/21. The tender has been concluded and contracts finalised for 2022/23.

5.3 Inequalities Partnership Update

Appendix 3 provides detail of the RAG status and progress updates. The rating of amber (slight slippage) is attributed to service pressures arising from the pandemic, both in terms of resourcing and service demands. Recovery from this position continues.

The Health and Wellbeing Group previously developed as part of Covid 19 recovery has now been subsumed into the LOIP Inequalities Group and the membership updated to reflect this. An Alcohol and Drugs Partnership (ADP) Communication Strategy has been developed and progress is being made in developing a new ADP website. The ADP has commissioned a series of recent training for partners including Challenging Stigma; CRAFT and Naloxone training. Following successful tests of change in relation to recovery, a recovery tender has been awarded that includes continuing the Recovery Hub model.

Inverclyde Cares is progressing well against the 4 priorities

1. Bereavement & Loss
2. Stigma
3. Remembering Together- Covid Community Memorial Activity
4. Kindness Promise

Health & Social Care staff including commissioned services took part in a Winter Wellness week of activities with positive feedback.

5.4 Environment Partnership Update

Appendix 4 contains additional information on the actions and related progress. All the actions are currently rated as amber (slight slippage). In relation to Connectivity we await the Sustrans funding bid. The healthier lifestyles action is slightly adrift of target as the 3rd sector Environment Network has not been re-established following Covid restrictions and staff turnover. However discussions are currently underway to get this re-established. The open space strategy has been put on hold due to recent staff turnover but there has been progress with two vacant and derelict land sites receiving funding to bring

the sites into low carbon productive use for the community. The climate change action is amber as more needs to be done collectively to address this issue. It has been agreed that this will be a standing item across all LOIP priority partnerships to raise its profile.

The Environment Group has not formally met as all partners are now focusing their attention on the Green Connections project and are meeting monthly as part of the Green Connections Project Steering Group. The project will help contribute to delivery of all of the individual priority action areas identified by the Environment Group (connectivity, healthier lifestyles, land use and management and climate change). The group agreed the update timescales for the development year, running from January 2022 to end of March 2023. The outputs of this will include the application for the Delivery Stage to Sustrans for the following 2-3 years.

On 6th January Sustrans notified the Council that it would make a partial award for two of the 5 areas only. The Steering Group has met twice since then and agreed the two areas to submit: Greenock Central Link and Lady Octavia Park (see map attached at Appendix 5). An inception meeting with Sustrans is planned for 25 April to agree these.

The draft report of the Peatland Feasibility Study was submitted at end of March and comments have been provided to the contractor. It is expected that the final report will be available in the next couple of weeks and then we will be able to consider what actions need to be taken forward (contributing to land use and climate change priority activities).

5.5 Cultural Partnership Update

Members will note that the Heritage Strategy has a RAG status of amber (slight slippage). This is mainly down to Covid; Heritage Fund funding streams were open only to emergency Covid funding through most of 2020 and 2021 and the bulk of the Strategy Action Plan is to be funded through funding bids. It is envisaged that this will progress over coming months.

Appendix 6 contains further details, some highlights include:

Inverclyde's Culture Collective partners (Inverclyde Council, CVS Inverclyde, Beacon Arts Centre, RIG Arts and Kayos Youth Theatre) have successfully applied for £198,000 from Creative Scotland to extend the programme for a further year, to September 2023;

Through the *Remembering Together* project, proposals are in development for a piece of public art commemorating the Covid pandemic. Selection of the successful artists(s) and proposals by Greenspace Scotland and CVS Inverclyde will commence shortly;

Funded through the *Dandelion* project, RIG Arts, in partnership with Inverclyde Libraries and Inverclyde Shed, are working with volunteers to create an "Unexpected Garden" in scrubland behind South West Library at Barr's Cottage, Greenock;

As part of Scotland's Year of Stories 2022, Inverclyde Libraries have been selected to take part in *Scotland's Stories: Community Campfires Residency* which is supported by EventScotland in partnership with Scottish Book Trust. During the last week in April, a group of creative story makers will support individuals to tell, make and, if they want to, share the stories that matter to them. The residency will end with a Community Campfire event in the Beacon Arts Centre, showcasing attendees' finished stories with their family and friends.

Beacon Arts Centre hosted the world premiere of *LENA* and preview performances of National Theatre of Scotland's *Orphans*.

As part of Local & Community History Month (a national campaign held annually), Inverclyde Heritage Network (IHN) held its first Heritage Day at the Watt Institution. IHN invited groups and individuals who work towards preserving and promoting Inverclyde's heritage to have a stall with the chance for the public to come in and find out about their work and see how they can get involved. 14 organisations were present and over 320 people attended the event.

6.0 LOCALITIES

- 6.1 The six Communication and Engagement Groups continue to meet and are currently looking to devise new locality plans for each of the areas. Consultation regarding the Councils' Budget took place with each of the six groups.
- 6.2 There is a separate report on the agenda proposing a new model for locality planning across Inverclyde which maintains the six Communication and Engagement Groups to meet the Community empowerment legislation and develop two health and social care Locality Forums for the Integration Joint Board.

7.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Legal: none at present
Finance: none at present
Human Resources: none at present
Equality and Diversity: none at present
Repopulation: repopulation remains a key priority within the Inverclyde Outcomes Improvement Plan.
Inequalities: the Locality Partnerships will be working specifically to tackle inequalities on a geographic basis.

8.0 CONSULTATIONS

- 8.1 N/A









9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 9.1 None

Population Partnership Flash Report

January to March 2022
Lead Officer – Richard Turnock





Area of Activity	Where are we now	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	RAG status
Develop the Inverclyde Brand <i>Position Inverclyde as the place to visit, work and live.</i>	<p>As at January 2022, significant progress has been made, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Discover Inverclyde' branding and website and social media presence (e.g. Business Gateway Inverclyde now on Facebook) • Successful Marketing and promotion activity and events (including housing engagement event) • Towns and Villages being supported to develop their presence through Recovery Plan funding • Greenock Ocean Terminal in progress (completion by end of Summer 2022). • Discover Inverclyde Tourism Partnership' (new name) established group now looking to build engagement with sector. • Dedicated marketing team established. • STV advertising campaign launched. • Mellora festival created. 	<p>The 'Discover Inverclyde' theme is the default marketing brand for tourism and visitors and existing population.</p> <p>The Discover Inverclyde website is considered the main, trusted reliable source of what to do in Inverclyde.</p> <p>Inverclyde is considered not only a tourist destination but also a place to work and live.</p>	<p>Continual enhancement of the marketing activity.</p> <p>Investment in the promotion activities to build the Discover Inverclyde theme</p> <p>Create a new Discover Inverclyde marketing toolkit</p> <p>Drive use of marketing toolkit, promoting the Discover Inverclyde theme,</p> <p>Enhance social media presence, including marketing out with Inverclyde.</p> <p>Partnership working including Visit Scotland, Scottish Tourism Alliance + other local authorities.</p> <p>Deliver targeted marketing strategy (inc. TV, Discover Scotland Expo.)</p>	<p>Council has signed up to STEAM reports for the next three years to establish baseline figures for tourism development</p> <p>Measure participation rates by local businesses and venues</p> <p>Measure attendance at events and participation rates</p> <p>Measure hits/reach/retweets etc.</p> <p>Ongoing tracking by Discover Inverclyde Tourism Partnership</p> <p>Focus on 22/23 initiatives, inc. food and drink; film and TV; outdoor activities, sports, cruise ships, heritage and walking</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>On track for Summer 2022</p> <p>On track from Summer 2022 onwards</p> <p>ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>2022/23 Programme plan</p>	<p>G</p> <p>G</p> <p>G</p> <p>G</p> <p>G</p> <p>G</p>

Area of Activity	Where are we now	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	RAG status
<p>Create Sustainable Communities, primarily through the housing offer</p> <p><i>Address the private and social housing requirements, helping retain and attract new people to the area</i></p>	<p>As at January 2022, significant progress has been made, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of a review of private housing land supply • Plans to deliver > 1,000 new social housing units (> 50% completion to date) • Ongoing work on the Eastern Gateway Opportunities Preparatory work on Town Centre Plans for Port Glasgow and Greenock Town Centre 	<p>Short to medium term Delivery of a private and social housing solution that provides enables retention and attraction of new families to Inverclyde.</p> <p>Medium to longer term Regeneration where required; complemented by other private and social housing development in the longer term.</p>	<p>Delivery of Private Housing New build.</p> <p>Delivery of Social Housing New build.</p> <p>Consideration of appropriate incentives (e.g. Lower council tax, subsidised nursery, leisure facilities etc.)</p> <p>Progress Local Development Plan</p> <p>Progress Eastern Gateway Master Plan</p> <p>Progress Port Glasgow Town Centre Plan</p> <p>Progress Greenock Town Centre Plan</p> <p>Consider other wider opportunities for regeneration and ad hoc projects.</p> <p>Partnership working with appropriate lobbying activity.</p>	<p>This is addressed through the Local Development Plan/SHIP.</p> <p>Regular measurement against planned progress for both private and social housing plans.</p> <p>Uptake in any available funding</p> <p>Informed by changes to Scottish national planning Framework</p> <p>Inverclyde Council/Committee governance + partner input</p> <p>Measures include e.g. utilisation of strategic acquisition funding (Rental Of The Shelf funding) plus any other transformational funding.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Report to E&R Committee / Alliance in Sep 22</p> <p>Tender to be issued June 22</p> <p>Study due to be completed July 2022. Committee update in Sep 22</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p>

Area of Activity	Where are we now	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	RAG status
<p>Deliver a net inward migration</p> <p><i>Create a net flow of population through strategic initiatives</i></p>	<p>As at January 2022, key achievements include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various resettlement Schemes have enabled immigration from Afghanistan and Syria in particular. • 37 new families now housed and settled within Inverclyde 	<p>Ensure that Inverclyde is considered as a location of choice for future New Scots.</p> <p>Ensure we attract and retain families who settle in Inverclyde</p> <p>Net inward migration not only about New Scots (other population inflow predominately via supported by wider Repopulation initiatives).</p>	<p>Ongoing collaboration between Inverclyde Alliance partners (HSCP News Scots Team + Social landlords + Education etc. Partnership working with the Scottish Refugee Council/UK Government</p> <p>Support the resettlement of an additional 16 families through the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS) by March 2022.</p> <p>Assist the acclimatization, supporting the enhancement of language skills and finding work, thus enabling rapid self-sufficiency and social integration in our communities.</p> <p>Partnership collaboration is ongoing to ensure preparation for the potential needs of any Ukraine refugees.</p>	<p>Measure the extent of both initial and sustained settlement within Inverclyde.</p> <p>Ongoing delivery of any commitment to Scottish Refugee Council/ Scottish Government.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p></p> <p></p>

Economy Partnership Flash Report

January to March 2022
Lead Officer – Stuart Jamieson


Area of activity	Where are we now?	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there (including timescale)?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	RAG Status
Promote business starts	Tripartite business gateway contract	Inverclyde business start-ups exceed the wider Renfrewshire rate	Promotion of Services	Annual review	2021/22 has been a positive year, particular given Covid 19 challenges and there has been 228 business starts. This is 21 more than started in 2020/21.	
Property development / assistance	We want to ensure that premises are available both to indigenous companies and incoming businesses	Premises are available to suit a variety of different needs	Promotion of available properties through property searches and assistance in works	Reduce number of voids	The team continue to support businesses in relation to their property. The team supported 15 businesses with interventions to 16 properties and using 97% of the budget. In addition to the above the team have administered the Scottish Government Ventilation Grant to 19 Inverclyde businesses.	
Employability	Inverclyde Council and partners ensure that effective IREP engagement takes place.	Better engagement	Regular meetings and partnership working	Effective engagement amongst partners	The LEP has been meeting on a monthly basis from the start of the year and a draft Delivery Plan has been produced with finalisation due later in the summer.	
Employability Pipeline	Inverclyde Council has 4 employability contracts to deliver end-to-end pipeline activity.	Impact of Covid and other factors reduced to ensure maximum opportunities for all.	Contract delivery on an annual basis	Contract monitoring	Performance has continued to improve from the difficult year of 2020/21. The tender has been concluded and contracts finalised for the 2022/23.	


Area of activity	Where are we now?	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there (including timescale)?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	RAG Status
Jobs Recovery Plan	Programme commenced in April 2021	Full delivery of programme by April 2023	Deployment of comprehensive Jobs Recovery Programme	Regular reporting to Committee and Alliance.	Job recovery plan continues to progress well. Job vacancies continue to be advertised locally and shared with local employability partners under the Inverclyde Works branding.	
Workforce Development	Skills gaps exist within the workforce	Skills gaps has been removed from workforce	Engagement and delivery of programmes to ensure the workforce becomes more productive and efficient	Delivery of programmes Regular monitoring	A significant number of Inverclyde organisations are accessing workforce development opportunities from short one day training initiatives to bespoke upskilling courses. A primary support is our Flexible Workforce Development Fund which is available for both SMEs and larger employers to upskill and reskill their workforce to meet changing organisational needs. To date the College has delivered over £500k worth of employee led training across the West Region covering a range of organisations from across the public, private and third sector who have had a demand for skills development in: Leadership and Management Masterclasses, Digital and IT skills enhancement, Mental Health Awareness, Health and Safety, Coaching and Development training, and British Sign Language	

Area of activity	Where are we now?	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there (including timescale)?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	RAG Status
<p>Modern apprentices</p>	<p>West College Scotland and Inverclyde Council deliver modern apprenticeship programmes</p>	<p>Modern apprenticeships programmes are maximised for client use</p>	<p>Regular liaison within IREP</p>	<p>Regular reporting on modern apprenticeship numbers</p>	<p>The Council continues to progress well with this years' MA positions and continues to support those from previous years and those who are post qualification</p> <p>In SDS contract year 2021-22, West College Scotland supported 60 Inverclyde residents to start a Modern Apprenticeship and, throughout the year, we supported 115 Inverclyde residents on their Modern Apprenticeship journey. Our Skills Programmes team supported 15 Inverclyde companies to employ Modern Apprentices, with a further 8 supported to help their workforce undertake vocational qualifications. In total, we supported Inverclyde companies employ and upskill 147 Modern Apprentices across a range of vocational areas including: Engineering, Health and Social Care, Childhood Practice and Management.</p>	<p>G</p>

Inequalities Partnership Flash Report


January to March 2022
Lead Officer – Allen Stevenson

Area of activity	Where are we now?	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there (including timescale)?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	RAG Status
Alcohol and Drugs Lead officer Anne Malarkey	Drug use is one of the leading causes of death and ill health in the most deprived parts of Inverclyde	Inverclyde is a Place Where Less Harm is Caused by alcohol and drug use.	Delivery of the ADP priorities and recovery strategy Contribute to the review of the Inverclyde Licensing policy	Outcomes reported to ADP Committee Reduction in deaths Reduction in associated ill health Reduction in associated hospital admissions	An ADP Communication Strategy has been developed and progress is being made in developing a new ADP website. An ADP Prevention Plan is being finalised that will align with the GG&C Prevention Plan. The ADP has commissioned a series of recent training for partners including Challenging Stigma; CRAFT and Naloxone training. Following the ADRS Review, the final recruitment of staff is underway. Following successful tests of change in relation to recovery, a Recovery tender has been awarded that includes continuing the Recovery Hub model.	
Poverty Child poverty Fuel poverty Financial inclusion Food poverty Lead Officer Craig Given/ Tony McEwan	Inverclyde has the most deprived SIMD area in Scotland.	Levels of poverty in Inverclyde are reduced.	Partnership working to improve employment opportunities, maximize household income Review and deliver new financial inclusion strategy.	Outcome reporting on Child Poverty Action Plan. Outputs and contract monitoring from commissioned services e.g. Iheat Evidence delivery of council anti-poverty programmes.	Anti-poverty funding allocated to provide range of initiatives including Employability pilot – removing barriers to employment for those in recovery. New pantry planned for Port Glasgow. Year 4 of child poverty action plan in progress Delivery of child bridging payment.	
Active Inverclyde Lead Officer Tony McEwan	Inverclyde residents are less likely to be active than those in the rest of NHSGGC and Scotland as a whole.	The people of Inverclyde are more active and maintain activity throughout the life course.	Work in partnership with Inverclyde Leisure, NHSGGC health improvement services, local third sector.	Evidence delivery of outcomes associated with Active Inverclyde Strategy. Decrease in ill health associated with low levels of activity will be evidenced in local health needs assessment.	New Active Inverclyde Strategy agreed. Development of delivery plan underway by core group.	

<p>Mental wellbeing & social isolation Lead Officer Alan Best/ Charlene Elliot</p>	<p>Impact of Covid has increased social isolation and negatively impacted mental wellbeing.</p>	<p>People of Inverclyde are supported to reconnect socially and emotionally.</p>	<p>Utilise recovery money, Public Mental health recovery funding and Wellbeing fund monies Develop suicide prevention plan Develop Inverclyde cares movement. Winter wellness week for Health & Social Care Staff.</p>	<p>Reported outcomes from associated funding streams. Self-reported outcomes from upcoming NHSGGC Health & Wellbeing Survey. Evaluation of Winter wellness week.</p>	<p>Funding for this came to an end at the end of March 22. This might be a good time to discuss whether there is any future funding available to continue this work. Inverclyde Cares is progressing well against the 4 priorities 5. Bereavement & Loss 6. Stigma 7. Remembering Together- Covid Community Memorial Activity 8. Kindness Promise Health & Social Care staff including commissioned services took part in a winter wellness week of activities with positive feedback.</p>	
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Environment Partnership Flash Report

January to March 2022
Lead Officer – Kerry Wallace

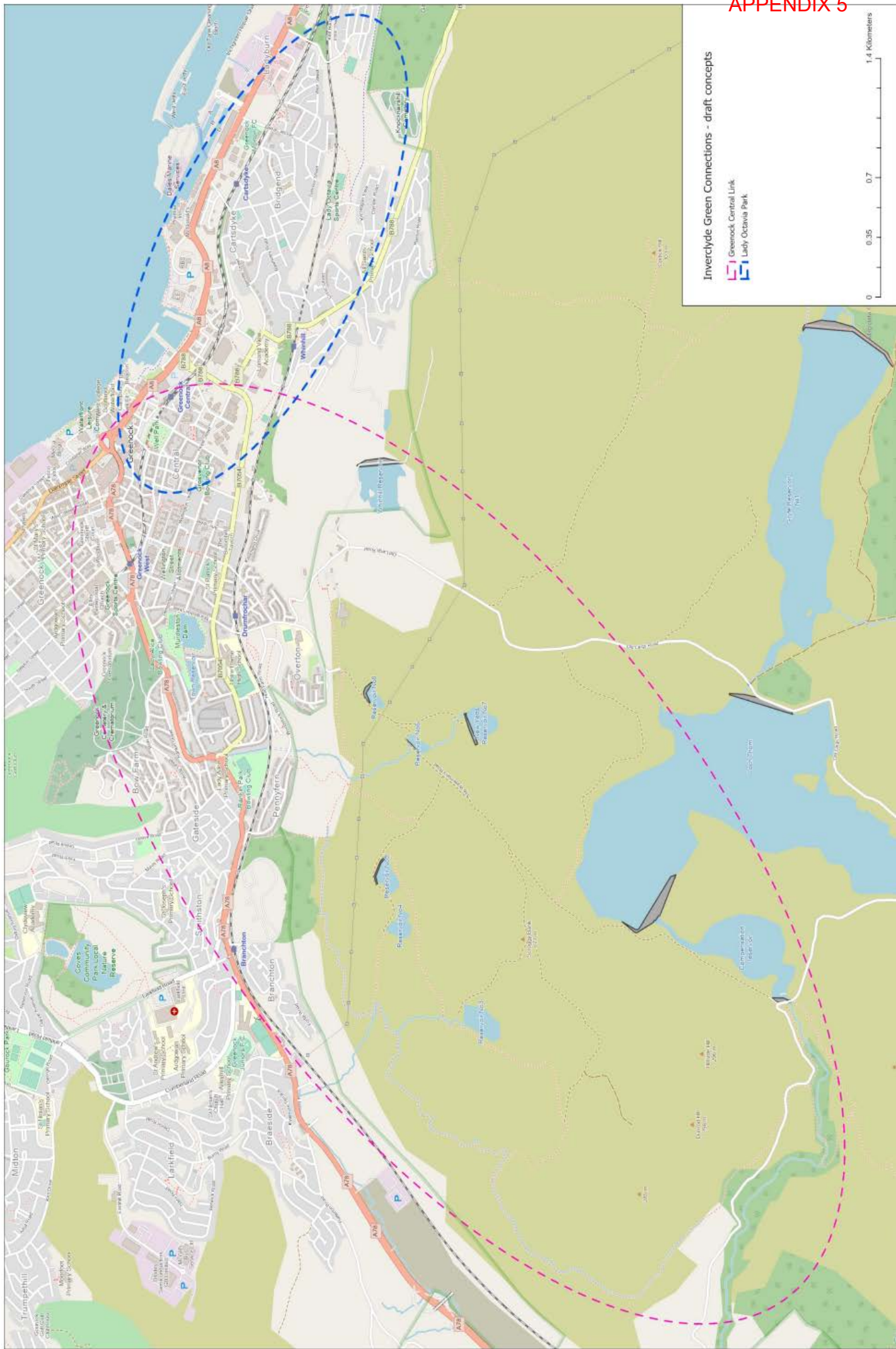
Area of activity	Where are we now?	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there (including timescale)?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	RAG Status
Connectivity	It is currently difficult for Inverclyde residents to engage in active travel with gaps in provision and poor infrastructure.	There will be an increase in the number of Inverclyde residents who take part in walking and cycling for everyday journeys and recreation.	Improve cycle paths and walking routes through the development of: Active Travel Strategy (complete 2018 and adopted by council – delivery of action plan in progress - Proposed Green Connections project (by 2025)	Statistics from Community Tracks; and Statistics from Bike Bothy.	Currently application has been submitted for a Green Active Travel officer to deliver the strategic Access Network part of the GN Blueprint – focusing on cross-boundary routes. Will complement the Green Connections project if that gets approval which will also include or complement the following actions: -Sustrans funded design for place making project (including active travel) along West Blackhall street – funding bid for implementation is ongoing. -Sustrans also funded a feasibility study on active travel links from Greenock Town Centre into West Blackhall street. -The council and Inverclyde Community Development Trust (ICDT) are in the process of developing a cycling/pedestrian route through Gourrock Pierhead -ICDT appointed consultant to carry out design study on various improvements to the NCN75 between Octavia Park and Gourrock train station – being reviewed) -Council investigating options for arterial active travel routes into Greenock	

					<p>-Council tendering for feasibility study into a new walking/cycle route between Inchgreen dry dock and McDonalds</p> <p>-On 6th January Sustrans notified the Council that it would make a partial award for two of the 5 areas only. The Green Connections Steering group has met twice since and agreed the two areas to submit: Greenock Central Link and Lady Octavia Park. Refer to Appendix 5.</p>	<p>RAG Status</p>
<p>Area of activity</p> <p>Healthier Lifestyles</p>	<p>Where are we now?</p> <p>Only four in ten (39%) adults met the current physical activity recommendations and just over a third (35%) of secondary school pupils meet the target of taking 60 minutes or more of physical activity on five or more days per week. (Inverclyde Child and Youth Health and Wellbeing Survey 2013).</p>	<p>Where do we want to be?</p> <p>Those living in the most deprived localities in Inverclyde will be more physically active and enjoy improved wellbeing</p>	<p>How will we get there (including timescale)?</p> <p>Establish links between health and environment professionals - Develop green gyms, community growing.</p> <p>Community food growing. Establish an Environmental Network</p>	<p>How will we know we are getting there?</p> <p>HSCP attend Environment Partnership and Environment network.</p> <p>Inverclyde Life could be a digital platform to raise awareness of opportunities in which communities and individuals can become involved in.</p>	<p>Progress</p> <p>600 trees will be planted as part of Clyde Climate Forest by Volunteers at Coves LNR</p> <p>Community Food growing strategy in place – Council identifying potential sites Reviewed annually and Allotment for Inverclyde action plan will be developed –Access point needs to be developed for people to receive information and advice.</p>	<p>RAG Status</p> <p>A</p>
<p>Area of activity</p> <p>Land Use and Management</p>	<p>Where are we now?</p> <p>The percentage of derelict land increased from 17% to 51% in 2016. 80% of the increase in</p>	<p>Where do we want to be?</p> <p>Inverclyde residents will have access to good quality and multifunctional greenspace close to where they live (the</p>	<p>How will we get there (including timescale)?</p> <p>Develop a Greenspace Strategy.</p>	<p>How will we know we are getting there?</p> <p>By periodically measuring the number of people within a 5 minute walk of a good quality useable</p>	<p>Progress</p> <p>The Council has been allocated £88,000 from the Nature Restoration Fund for 2021/22. The Head of Roads is currently preparing a Committee Report on how</p>	<p>RAG Status</p> <p>A</p>

	<p>derelict land related to two large sites, the Former Inverkip Power Station site and Valley Park, Spango Valley.</p>	<p>importance of this priority has been heightened as a result of the COVID-19 lockdown)</p>		<p>greenspace (this is line with a new national indicator on access to greenspace). Performance measures: The number of people within 400m of quality green space.</p>	<p>the funding will be spent. Projects not known at this stage. Development of the Greenspace Strategy is on hold until the secondary legislation and associated guidance on Open Space strategies is published in the autumn of 2021. Following this, there will be a review of VDL sites to identify opportunities to plug gaps in greenspace provision for community benefit The GCV Green network partnership completed the Strategic habitat network in 2019 – aspects of the network will be incorporated as part of the proposed Green Connection Project.</p>	
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		Derelict land will be transformed in key communities to provide multiple benefits for people and nature			Two applications were successful in Stage 1 of the SG Vacant and Derelict Investment Fund in November and will now be developed further for Stage 2 in March 2022. The applications included Brachelston Road Greenock - This project will contribute towards the remediation of 0.98ha of derelict land and re-use it as a HSCP Community Learning Disabilities Hub through the creation of landscaping and pollinators areas. £990,000 has been sought from the fund. It would contribute to the following VDLIP aims and objectives: Net Zero, Climate Change Adaptation, Inclusive growth, tackling disadvantage and Place based approach Carwood Street Greenock – The project would remediate 0.22ha of derelict land and re-use it as a community food growing space. £69,000 is being sought from the fund. It would contribute to the following VDLIP aims and objectives: Net Zero, Climate Change Adaptation, tackling disadvantage, inclusive growth and Place based approach.	RAG Status	
Climate Change	Where are we now?	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there (including timescale)?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	Contract has been awarded for a Peatland Restoration Feasibility Study to be carried out within Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park. The Final draft report of the Peatland Feasibility Study was submitted at end of	
	Inverclyde's contribution to climate change will be well on its way to ending by 2045 and the transition to a just and net zero	Inverclyde Council are developing a Carbon neutral/net zero strategy and from this we will identify actions we					

		<p>economy will be well established.</p>	<p>can take forward which is likely to include those actions we are already undertaking.</p>	<p>March and comments have been provided to the contractor. It is expected that the final report will be available in the next couple of weeks and then we will be able to consider what actions need to be taken forward</p> <p>A Peatland Action project officer is being recruited to cover the Glasgow City region (including Inverclyde).</p> <p>A nature-based solution will be implemented to prevent flooding using Glen Moss Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).</p> <p>A workshop for partners being held on Net Zero and the Climate Emergency. This will establish and encourage positive action to help address these issues.</p>	
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Cultural Partnership – Flash Report

January to March 2022
Lead Officer – Ruth Binks




Cultural Partnership - LOIP 10 Year Vision

- There will be increased attendance at cultural events and places of culture.

Area of activity	Where are we now?	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there (including timescale)?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	RAG Status
Heritage Strategy	With funding from the Heritage Lottery, ICP commissioned and developed, and published a Heritage Strategy for Inverclyde.	Partnership working to develop, enhance and deliver the strategy, building a network and legacy.	Funding bid to deliver elements of the Action Plan that cannot be delivered within existing resources.	Action plan priorities and objectives taken forward with identified outcomes being successfully implemented.	<p>Funds to procure a consultant to work up a funding bid (c. £250K) have been secured from Council recovery funding, and bid match funding has been secured from Council earmarked reserves. Council officers are working on this bid which will be submitted in 2022.</p> <p>Progress reports on this bid will be brought to future Programme Board/Alliance Board meetings.</p> <p>As part of Local & Community History Month (a national campaign held annually), Inverclyde Heritage Network (IHN) held its first Heritage Day at the Watt Institution. IHN invited groups and individuals who work towards preserving and promoting Inverclyde's heritage to have a stall with the chance for the public to come in and find out about their work and see how they can get involved. 14 organisations were present and over 320 people attended the event..</p> <p>Inverclyde Community Development Trust have completed work with Proud2Care and Magic Torch comics to develop a graphic novel about abolitionists and Inverclyde's historical links to slavery.</p> <p>National Lottery Heritage Fund are holding an information day on 24 May 2022 at the Watt Institution, aimed at Inverclyde community groups who want to find out more about what the Fund has to offer.</p>	
Area of activity	Where are we now?	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there (including timescale)?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	RAG Status

<p>Arts and Creativity Strategy</p>	<p>Inverclyde's Arts & Creativity Strategy launched in 2017 but did not contain an Action Plan to take the Strategy forward.</p> <p>Arts sub-group have developed an action plan to complement the Arts & Creativity Strategy.</p>	<p>Arts & Creativity Strategy and action plan being implemented with actions being delivered;</p> <p>Arts sub-group feeding in to overall Cultural Partnership and cultural delivery plan for the area.</p>	<p>Maintain regular meetings of the Arts & Creativity sub-group, ensuring representation across Inverclyde.</p>	<p>Meetings take place consistently and attendance by all partners remains high.</p> <p>Regular review of members of partnership.</p>	 <p>Alliance Board approved the <u>Arts Action Plan</u> running alongside the Arts & Creativity Strategy on 14 June 2021.</p> <p>Inverclyde Council, in partnership with CVS Inverclyde, Beacon Arts Centre, RIG Arts, and Kayos Theatre Group successfully applied to Creative Scotland's 'Culture Collective' funding stream for £275K over 18m to assist with delivery of many of the aspirations on the Arts Action Plan and also Covid-19 recovery. The original Inverclyde Culture Collective (ICC) project runs from March 2021-September 2022, overseen by the ICC Steering Group and the Cultural Partnership. Reports on progress will be part of Cultural Partnership reporting as the project progresses.</p> <p>Culture Collective is now being extended until Sep 2023 with Inverclyde receiving a further £198,000 of funding from Creative Scotland. This will allow us to re-contract our Creative Producer and Activities Co-ordinator for a further year; provide additional funding for our consortium partners CVSI, the Beacon, RIG Arts and Kayos Youth Theatre; provide further local artist development bursaries; support Galoshans; host a residency celebrating black history and culture at the Watt Institution; host a residency in Greenock town centre; run several creative events by and for young people; and carry out significant work using art to improve health and wellbeing in partnership with the HSCP.</p> <p>Several opportunities for creative practitioners through the Culture Collective are currently live, including outdoor arts residencies (Clyde Muirshiel) community practice residencies (in Greenock south/southwest (Grieve Road); Greenock East and Central (working with Barnardo's) and in Port Glasgow (Coronation Park); and opportunities to include arts practice in criminal justice (working with IFIT) and recovery (working with Your Voice).</p> <p><u>Remembering Together: Inverclyde Covid Memorial</u>: proposals for this piece of public art are being produced and selection of the successful artist(s) will be made in May 2022 by Greenspace Scotland working with CVS Inverclyde.</p> <p><u>Galoshans 2022</u>: the application to Creative Scotland for funding to run Galoshans was submitted in April 2022 and the result should be known by July 2022. A consortium led by RIG Arts and CVS Inverclyde</p>
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Area of activity	Where are we now?	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there (including timescale)?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	RAG Status
Festivals and Events	Develop calendar of current and emerging arts, culture & heritage festivals and events including those within individual communities.	Work to develop, create, deliver and support arts, culture & heritage events across Inverclyde, both by ICP members themselves, and by building capacity within communities. Effective use of public spaces and venues to support co-ordination of events.			<p>have applied for £83,441 to run this year's festival, which will hopefully return to more in-person activity.</p> <p><u>Dandelion</u>: an ambitious creative programme demonstrating the power of collective action in a unique 'grow your own' initiative. 10 arts organisations across Scotland funded, inc. RIG Arts in Inverclyde. In partnership with Inverclyde Libraries and Inverclyde Shed, a piece of scrubland behind south West Library is being turned into "The Drying Green: A Story Growing Garden". Creative community activities are being programmed from April-September 2022.</p> <p>Planning continues for the 2022 <u>Meliora</u> festival. Cultural content includes British Pipe Band championships (May) and a Performing Arts strand led by the Beacon Arts Centre (17-19 June) which will include the opportunity to visit an Architects of Air 'Luminarium', as well as performances from Scottish Opera, Elaine C Smith, Ed Byrne, events hosted by Inverclyde Libraries, and music, street theatre, storytelling and dance. RIG Arts are creating a painted Labyrinth on East India Harbour. There will also be a community events fund open to local community groups to host events.</p>	

Area of activity	Where are we now?	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there (including timescale)?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	RAG Status
<p>Key Cultural Venues</p>	<p>Central Greenock has 2 major cultural venues: the Watt Institution, and the Beacon Arts Centre, and a third which will open in early 2023 - the Wyllie Gallery. Inverclyde's 6 public libraries also provide cultural spaces within communities.</p>	<p>All 4 centres are represented at the Cultural Partnership and will work together to maximize cultural opportunities for the people of, and visitors to, Inverclyde.</p>		<p>Each centre will report increasing visitor numbers.</p> <p>Cultural participation in Inverclyde will increase.</p>	<p>The <u>Watt Institution</u> continues to attract visitors to exhibitions guest curated by Dr Emma Bond of St Andrews University and the internationally acclaimed artist Alison Watt respectively. The Digital Learning & Engagement Officer (funded by Museums Galleries Scotland) has been busy engaging with a diverse range of community groups to ascertain needs and aspirations as well as ensuring the Watt is more active online to increase the digital accessibility of collections. Work continues on the Watt Voices NLHF-funded project to redisplay and reinterpret collections, this includes a new Creativity Space for the centre which will be launched later in 2022.</p> <p>The <u>Beacon Arts Centre</u> – Highlights from the previous quarter include: the world premiere of LENA and preview performances of the National Theatre of Scotland's Orphans; development support for new productions; creative engagement including Beacon Youth theatre, Platinum Dance, and Creatability amongst other projects; and Dance for Parkinson's which is now part of the Beacon's core activity, one of the first venues in Scotland to mainstream this programming.</p> <p><u>Inverclyde Libraries</u> – Highlights from the previous quarter include: development of the greenspace behind south West Library into a growing, performance, and reading garden through the Dandelion project (see above); community campfires residency (supported by EventScotland in partnership with Scottish Book Trust to celebrate Year of Stories 2022) Inverclyde were one of only 4 Scottish library services to successfully bid for a residency; new "Step Out Chatty Café" carrying on the popular café-style idea in libraries to reduce social isolation, but this one includes a 30 min walk led by trained Walk Leaders; over 300 children took part in Bookbug's Library Challenge; Easter holiday programming and new offers for young people including table top gaming, a study group, and Lego Club, were initiated.</p>	 
<p>Climate Emergency</p>	<p>The culture sector can contribute creatively to the</p>	<p>The Inverclyde Climate Beacon will</p>	<p>The vision for the Climate Beacon is to</p>	<p>Partners jointly create or commission artistic</p>	<p>Creative Carbon Scotland confirmed in June 2021 that Inverclyde would be 1 of 6 Scottish Climate Beacons and have provided c.£30K of funding to support the programme.</p>	

	<p>challenges of climate change and climate justice.</p> <p>Inverclyde successfully bid to be a "Climate Beacon" with funding from Creative Carbon Scotland, in an application led by the Beacon Arts Centre and involving various cultural partners including Inverclyde Libraries, RIG Arts, Belville Community Garden amongst others.</p>	<p>focus on the roles of climate change mitigation and adaptation as part of Inverclyde's recovery from Covid.</p>	<p>produce and promote an exciting programme of activities to shape attitudes, concepts, and skills to help Inverclyde achieve carbon net zero. In the lead up to COP26, the project partners will host and present participatory, interactive and social events to engage local communities in discussions on climate change.</p>	<p>work; engagement work; and development work to highlight the climate emergency and environmental issues.</p> <p>Awareness of climate issues is raised in Inverclyde.</p>	<p>Led by the Beacon Arts Centre, project partners include Belville Community Garden, Inverclyde Libraries, RIG Arts, Ian Parsons, Inverclyde Shed, CVS Inverclyde amongst others. Activities include Creative Nature for Wellbeing Workshops; a live adaptation of 'Gaia – A Foretold Storm'; Climate Researcher in Residence; external speakers on climate, climate and eco-themed Chatty Cafes; eco exchanges, climate-focussed work with children and young people; COP26-themed Galoshans; climate-themed Book Week Scotland; climate artists; community upcycling; climate mitigation films; pop up community garden events; a hydro project feasibility study; and various other workshops.</p>	
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Challenges this quarter: February – May 2022

This quarter saw a relaxation of Government restrictions in relation to Covid, although confirmed infections was at an all-time high, and thus visitor numbers remain subdued. Visitor and participant figures, and thus revenue income, are likely to continue to be depressed in comparison to 2019/pre-Covid, and likely to be an ongoing challenge for some time.

Next steps: June-August 2022

Inverclyde's cultural sector will do as much as possible to offer Covid-safe activities to residents and visitors. Next quarter plans include the Meliora Festival/Luminarium, summer holiday programming, Get it Loud in Libraries returning to Central Library in July, and continued Culture Collective activity.