

# Employment & Tourism

## MARINE ACCESS FACILITY



### AIM

The aim of this project is the development of a new and improved marine access facility for the Peninsula West area.

### OUTPUTS

By the end of the project the output that could be achieved is:

- A new marine access facility suitable for non-commercial, private and visiting craft

### OUTCOMES

The associated outcome would be:

- More tourists are able to access the Peninsula West area, boosting local businesses

### NEED FOR PROJECT

#### STATISTICAL EVIDENCE OF NEED

Of the 1257 economically active people resident in the Rosneath, Clynder and Kilcreggan area, 67% leave the area for work or study with only 27% working in the area (Census, 2001). 71% of those that leave the Argyll and Bute Council area for work travel over 20km to access their employment each day. The vast majority of these will be employed in Inverclyde or Glasgow and an upgraded marine facility and improved ferry link would greatly benefit them.

#### CURRENT PROVISION IN AREA

There is a pier in the centre of Kilcreggan, from which a ferry operates to Gourock and Helensburgh. This currently operates approximately 13 times between 7 am and 6pm every weekday with up to an hour and a half between consecutive ferries. There are also three ferries on a Sunday during the summer period.

## COMMUNITY DEMAND FOR PROJECT

The Cove Sailing Club also has small pier for member and visitor yachts to berth.

### COMMUNITY SURVEY

53% of respondents indicated this was one of their top three environment priorities for the Peninsula West area. Ten additional comments were also left by respondents highlighting the need for improvements to the current pier to increase tourist numbers and make the Peninsula West area more accessible to all.

### COMMUNITY PRIORITISATION EVENT

Of those that completed the Marine Access Facility board, 63% prioritised the creation of a new marine access facility/community pontoon over improvements to the existing pier or the development of an overnight berth.

## RELEVANT POLICIES

The Argyll and Bute Local Plan aims 'to promote appropriate responses to the variety of challenging economic, transport-related and planning circumstances facing these local communities' and 'to enhance the economic and social prospects of the geographically diverse local communities in Argyll and Bute'.

In addition, the Argyll and Bute Community Plan 2009 – 2013 aims to create vibrant communities with outstanding environment that are 'well connected economically and socially' and 'accessible, yet retaining their remote character'.

The development of a new marine access facility in the Peninsula West area will also contribute towards the aims of the Argyll and Bute Local Transport Strategy 2007-2010 to 'encourage a growing and sustainable economy in Argyll and Bute and 'improve accessibility for all our communities'. This strategy currently includes a commitment to upgrading the pier at Kilcreggan in the period 2010 to 2015, with £1.5 million allocated for both the Kilcreggan and Helensburgh piers.

This project could also contribute to the 'Wealthier and Fairer' and 'Safer and Stronger' strategic objectives of the Scottish Government by promoting tourism, improving access to local businesses, improving opportunities and providing a better quality of life for local residents by increasing access to the Peninsula West area.

## POTENTIAL PROJECT

The Trust would look to construct a variety of marine access facilities to allow residents and visitors to launch and moor boats and small craft at a new marine access point taking advantage of the site and situation from the existing pier east to the old boat yard.

## COST OF PROJECT

**£200,000** (including lighting)

## POTENTIAL LOCATION

### COMMUNITY PREFERENCE

Almost two thirds of those that completed the relevant board selected the old boat yard as the preferred location of a new marine access facility, over any upgrade to the existing pier in Kilcreggan or the Sailing Club.



### CURRENT OWNERSHIP OF SITE

Part of the site surrounding Kilcreggan pier is owned by Scottish Water, while Pier Cottage is owned by the occupier. The remaining area surrounding the pier appears to be until recently owned by McKellar's Slipway Limited when all or some of the site was disposed to Donald Robert McIndewar Bruce. This potentially includes the site of the old boat yard.

### POTENTIAL FUNDERS

The Scottish Government's **Scottish Rural Development Programme** is a potential funder for this project to revitalise social and economic wellbeing of the area.

As the development is on the Crown Estate (seabed), the project could secure funding through **Marine Communities Fund** if the project is not seen to replace statutory responsibility.

There is existing commitment from **Argyll and Bute Council** to invest in the existing pier and dialogue is needed to identify further match needed.

As a historic structure (B-listed Victorian pier), there is funding potential to enhance the pier as long as this does not detract from the historical significance of the pier. **Heritage Lottery Fund** ([www.hlf.org.uk](http://www.hlf.org.uk)) could be a source of funding support where community are involved in participating and learning about the historical significance of the pier. **The Architectural Heritage Fund** ([www.ahfund.org.uk](http://www.ahfund.org.uk)) can fund both feasibility studies and offer grants and affordable loans for relevant projects linked to the pier.

### POTENTIAL PARTNERS

**Argyll and Bute Council Roads and Amenity Services** – The Trust should work with the relevant Argyll and Bute Council department to ensure that any development fits with the council's priorities. Within the Local Plan, the Council set out an intention to conduct improvements to Kilcreggan Pier. The Trust should negotiate with the Council to determine their plans and whether the Council would fund the group to undertake them on their behalf.

**McKellar's Slipway Limited** – McKellar's Slipway Limited are the current owners of Kilcreggan Pier and the Trust should work in partnership with them to develop a new pier suitable to meet the local community's demand as well as suitable for existing commercial purposes.

## PREVIOUS PROJECT EXAMPLES

### NEWBURGH COMMUNITY TRUST

The trust purchased the sea wall and three of the former industrial piers and is applying for grants in order to repair and upgrade these to allow commercial and recreational boats to visit.

### EILEAN EISDEAL

The trust purchased the harbour and some adjoining land and then refurbished the harbour, improved facilities and organised moorings for islanders and visitors.

### EDAY PARTNERSHIP

The Trust has built a new slipway which will be complemented by the installation of 4 mooring buoys, a new shed and a marshalling yard which are currently under construction at the pier.

## CONTACTS

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### Argyll and Bute Council

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