

Argyll and Bute Council: Equality and Socio-Economic Impact Assessment

Section 1: About the proposal

Title of Proposal

Budget Reconstruction Proposal CSS02 –
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Consultation / engagement

CSP Staff whose posts are at threat of redundancy or whose posts are affected.

CSP Supervisors at CSPs.

Colonsay Community Development Company, Colonsay CSP Scalasaig, Colonsay PA61 7YW. Co- signed by Chair of Colonsay Community Council.

Jura Development Trust, The Service Point Craighouse, Isle of Jura, PA607XG (also endorsed by Jura Community Council).

Tiree Community Business Ltd. Office 2 The Island Centre, Crossapol, Isle of Tiree. Additional input received from Convenor of Tiree Community Council.

Deputy Registrar General, National Records Scotland in respect of Registration Service.

Data

Volume of Customer Service Enquiries Handled by each CSP in 2018 calendar year.

Registration Activity in each CSP District for calendar year 2018

Other information

Clearly this proposal will have negative impacts on the island communities of Mull, Islay, Jura, Colonsay and Tiree that need to be carefully weighed given the Section 7 and 8 duties

5. The council has a commitment to maintaining sustainable communities of place and so the cessation or reduction of CSP services could be viewed as making such communities seem more isolated and therefore unattractive to people considering moving or staying in them. The loss of the Police and Visit Scotland offices in some of these communities has made the CSPs the go to place for visitors seeking more general information and so their loss will further erode attractiveness to visitors. The Jura Development Council argue that as their population has grown by 15% since 2015 they have more need than ever of a CSP and its closure would imperil that growth.

6. Aside from the CSP provision the actual buildings are used as community hubs and whilst there may be future scope for community buyouts, only one building is currently community owned (Tiree) and it is not certain that local funding could sustain the currently council owned ones. The withdrawal of funding for upkeep of buildings and the staff to keep them open is likely to have an impact on Community of Interest groups that use the buildings for meetings and group activities such as mother and toddler groups in the absence of a library. Jura Development trust say the Jura CSP is essential to the success of its Community Action Plan 2018-23 and the facilities at their CSP are used by both its ageing and younger members of the community e.g. through Jura Juniors, Parent Council and the focus of the Music Festival event. Colonsay Community Council has highlighted impacts on the library and office space. Tiree Community Business say that the withdrawal of funding would lead to it being seriously financially challenged.

7. The CSPs moving to part time opening have meeting rooms used council and non council groups such as.6 (l)2.6 (i)2.6 (br)e(s)8.9 (1 (ee)10.5 02 -1.152 Td(c)-2 (ouw 0.804 0 T76 0 Td()2.

Negative **No** **Positive**
impact

Will impact delivery of the Registration Service

Will potentially impact delivery of the Social Care function on Tiree

Will require relocation of "offshored" work on Mull and Islay (e.g. Blue badge processing, Email and call handling).

Numerous small scale activities on behalf of other council services will need to be adapted and altered e.g. access arrangement to meeting rooms and VC facilities, key holding (buildings and minibuses), local, cemetery lair record management and internment/digging/memorial permissions e.g. it will be problematic to manage those on Tiree from Mull and the Tiree Community Council and Business have highlighted funeral arrangements as a particular concern..

The CSPs are also the focus for local emergency arrangements, which would need to be reviewed e.g. on Tiree the CSP holds the Community contingency plan, grab bag and emergency essentials.

Some have educational back up roles such as the CSP on Jura where it has been used as an exam base when pupils cannot get to Islay. These responsibilities will need to be reviewed as will access to the VC service at all the affected CSPs, for example on Jura the VC is used by a member of the H&SCP IJB, by the Community Council and the Progressive Care Centre.

Numerous activities completed on behalf of partner organisations will require to be reviewed and agreed including with Police Scotland, HM Passport Service for the remote passport interview service, Campbeltown Museum Trust.

Alternative venues will be required for MP, MSP and Councillor Surgeries if the venues on Colonsay and Jura are closed and for Community Council meetings. The community run CSPs are the bases from which the portfolios of community assets are run, such as shop, ferry tickets and moorings/pontoons.

Section 5: