

[TO VIEW THE FULL 64 PAGE REPORT PLEASE CLICK HERE](#)

**Councillor Robin Currie, Leader,**

## **Pippa Milne, Chief Executive, Argyll and Bute Council**

It is with pleasure that we present the Argyll and Bute Council Annual Report for the financial year 2022/23. This report provides overview of your council's activities, achievements, and challenges over the past year. As we navigate through the evolving landscape of local government and strive to meet the needs of our diverse and vibrant communities, this document offers transparency into our actions and progress toward the collective goals we have set for the region.

The past year has been marked by unprecedented challenges, from the cost of living crisis to economic uncertainties, and through-out this it has been a time of resilience, adaptation, and innovation for Argyll and Bute.

In this report we provide examples of our achievements and these efforts would not have been possible without the dedication of our council meeaton

Over the course of 2022/23 the Council allocated over £4.3m to Council Tax accounts to support people through the cost of living crisis, awarded nearly £18m of non-domestic rates reliefs to support local businesses, paid almost £660k in Scottish Welfare Fund grants to support vulnerable people and over £800k of Discretionary Housing payments were distributed to households in need. During the year the Council also continued to pay grants to cover food and fuel for people in poverty and successfully referred them for support to advice agencies resulting in maximised benefit income and reduced fuel costs of over £2.5m by the end of the 2022/23.

## Our Performance

2022/23 is the first year that the 47 Corporate Outcome Indicators have been used. Due to the nature of the change it is not possible to draw a direct comparison to previous years' performance however, where possible historic data is used to help identify the overall trend and progress on delivering our Corporate Outcomes.

Where appropriate a Target is used to track Performance and progress is identified using a Red or Green status indicator to track performance.

Not all indicators have a Target, where this is the case the trend data is helpful for scrutiny.

For the majority of indicators the data is collected and presented annually, or even quarterly if this is possible and approp

<b>Corporate Outcome</b>	<b>Number Of Indicators</b>	<b>Number On Track / Above Target / No Target With Improving Performance</b>	<b>Number Off Track / Under Target / No Data</b>
People live active, healthier and independent lives	6	4	2
People will live in safer and stronger communities	4	3	1
Children and young people have the best possible start	8	7	1
Education, skills and training maximise opportunities for all	7	6	1
Our economy is diverse and thriving	12	10	2
We have an infrastructure that supports sustainable growth	5	5	0
Getting It Right	5	4	1
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>8</b>

1. A total of £659,812 in Scottish Welfare Fund grants were paid to support vulnerable people.
2. A total of £804,839 of Discretionary Housing Payments was distributed to household in need.
3. During the year a total of 1,810 families have been supported to maximise benefit income and reduced fuel costs to the value of £2.527m.
4. We allocated £4.3 million to Council tax accounts to support people with the cost of living crisis.
5. We calculated and implemented contract rates for the Council's early learning and childcare partners that enabled them to sustain their services and pay their staff at least the Scottish Living Wage.
6. Argyll and Bute Council's Employability Team and Third Sector delivery partners assist people into work.

Appendix 2 – Summary of Draft Council Annual Report 2022/23

1. Online and in person training has been delivered to over 50 community councillors.
2. Building Standards exceeded all targets for the 5 key national performance targets for 2022/23
3. New operational arrangements to deliver the short-term let licensing regime were developed.
4. Over 300 Ukrainian refugees have been welcomed to Argyll and Bute through the Scottish and UK Government's sponsorship

1. In order to improve outcomes for children and young people a new Counselling in S O T6 (l)6 nselliu.(v)-2.6 S68 0 Td( )TjE-0.6 (((v)-2. 0 Td{Yo)1.5 (un)0.5 (g)TJ0 Tcr5BTJ0 T

## Appendix 2 – Summary of Draft Council Annual Report 2022/23

1. We have progressed our assessments, watercourse clearance works, flood incident investigation and provision of flooding advice.
2. Construction of the Campbeltown Flood Protection Scheme started on site in September 2022.
3. All our ferry routes operated according to timetable with additional sailings put on

