

2017-2018

# ANNUAL REPORT

Third Sector  
**Interface**  
Argyll and Bute



The Scottish  
Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

**OSCR**  
Scottish Charity Regulator  
[www.oscr.org.uk](http://www.oscr.org.uk)

Registered Charity  
SC029947



# OUR BOARD

**James Hayle, Jenni Minto, John Stevens,  
Nicky Owens, Pete McDill**

**This has been another busy and eventful year for A&B TSI. There has been a great deal of organisational change as the Board, CEO and senior management team continue to implement the changes necessary to ensure that the TSI is best placed to deliver our remit as set out for us by the Scottish Government. We welcomed a new CEO, Kirsteen Murray, in March and her focus is now very much on providing support to and a voice for Third Sector Organisations, Social Enterprise and Volunteers across Argyll. The team of 5 Trustees has remained unaltered although we have adopted new roles that better suit our experience and expertise. In March, I took over from John Stevens as Chair, Jenni Minto took on the role of Treasurer and Pete McDill became the Company Secretary. We continue to seek volunteers to join the Board of Trustees, and a concerted recruitment drive is beginning to bear fruit. As you will see in the body of this Annual Report, our staff have continued their dedicated hard work and have delivered a great deal across Argyll. This will continue into the coming years as the Argyll & Bute Third Sector Interface strengthens further its support for local communities.**

**James Hayle, A&B TSI Chair**





# OUR VISION

A sustainable resource supporting the development of strong, smart and empowered communities.

Our aim is always to be a continually improving organisation offering best possible service to our sector and matching our delivery to community need.

## Our Mission

'To be a self- sustaining social enterprise which is the 'go to' organisation for the third sector, volunteers and community actions; to be influential and engaged across a wide range of strategic partnerships; to act as a knowledge hub and training provider and a key player in leading and developing business development and awareness; an effective contributor to the economic, environmental and social health of Argyll & Bute'

Our Annual Volunteer of the Year Award event, which was held again in the Gathering Halls, Oban recognised outstanding achievements of volunteers across the spectrum, from grassroots community led, to health and social enterprise volunteers. Gill Aitkenhead, Deputy Lieutenant for Dunbartonshire kindly agreed to be our keynote speaker. We watched presentations from 3 shortlisted organisations with Hope Kitchen winning Organisation of the Year. We were able to livestream the event for the first time over Facebook, illustrating our willingness to move into the social media age!







# OUR CORE ACTIVITIES

This year we were involved in a number of consultations providing responses to:

A Connected Scotland: Social Isolation & Loneliness

Transport Scotland

Personal Experience of Self Directed Support

Participation requests

Community Empowerment Act

Funding advice, information and support are always one of our highest requests and this year we provided information 3462 times.

We also supported organisations and groups to access funding 430 times and we helped third sector organisations with funding strategies 146 times.

Other types of support that was requested was around governance which included a variety of areas of support such as committee skills, gift aid, GDPR, conflict of interest issues and information on setting up a charity. The range and depth of support varied hugely over this year. Stepping in to support during times of crisis was vital to our third sector during this year.

Support to social enterprises included start up advice, training and funding support.

Our representational role continued to grow, supporting the annual CPP event in December 2017 and also continuing to support the integration agenda.

# OUR PROJECTS



## 1000 Voices

This project is funded jointly by the Big Lottery and HSCP, supporting older people to become more connected, to have a voice in issues that impact on their lives or their families, reduce inequalities of health and wellbeing, and support the establishment of new community assets to improve wellbeing and social connections. During 2017 - 18 we worked in more rural areas enabling support to be provided on islands such as Mull, Jura; Lomond peninsula and areas within Mid Argyll not previously supported through this work. Be Aware Prepare It's Winter events took place with over 50 organisations, public, private and third sector sharing their tips on getting through the Winter. Offering advice whilst providing an event where social interactions and fun were the order of the day! Knitting competitions encouraged a healthy competitiveness across Argyll & Bute too! During this year we engaged with over 3000 older people.

*"There's never a dull moment coming to this group, what a laugh!"*





# OUR PROJECTS



# CHOICES

YOUR RIGHTS • YOUR CHOICES • YOUR SUPPORT

## Self-Directed Support

### SDS Choices

SDS Choices was a project funded through Scottish Government's "Support in the Right Direction" fund which supports whole communities to understand and become aware of the options available to those who need support services, largely to enable them to live independently, and building community capacity to assist that process and the independent decision making about how people live their lives.

The team spent this year continuing to increase awareness of Self Directed Support, working with individuals to look at the options and assist in looking at more creative ways to make use of budgets within support plans. This involved looking at solutions to over-come barriers such as rurality, constraints on budgets and the number of options to choose from.



# OUR PROJECTS

## Guided Self Help

Working within the NHS Community Mental Health Team our team of 4 staff worked to empower individuals who were referred by their GP, showing signs of low level depression and mental illness. Our team supported individuals take control of their own lives, to identify their future pathway, connect people to volunteering opportunities and also to local community activities.

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## FOURTEEN

Argyll & Bute TSI was able to step in to support and administer a grants programme from Foundation Scotland to groups on Islay. This work included providing the area with a youth development worker developing Build your Own Bike workshops and hosting a volunteer fair.

# OUR PROJECTS

## Geriactivity.

This was a Kintyre based initiative funded by a small grant from Tesco Bags for Life which encouraged older people to get involved in fishing, shooting and golf. The impact of this project resulted in improved social interactions, new skills, and opportunities that increased their confidence.



*"This is something I've never done, really enjoyed the experience, such a thrill, thank you"*



# OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

*"Argyll & Bute TSI are an extremely valuable organisation who contribute a great deal to the local third sector"*



Committed to excellence

In January 2018 Argyll & Bute TSI achieved EFQM Committed to Excellence Award

In addition to supporting third sector organisations achieve Volunteer Friendly, Argyll & Bute TSI received the Volunteer Friendly Award in 2017.



*"I've learned new stuff... volunteering is fun!"*

Young Person, GIVE project

# OUR STAFF

Argyll & Bute TSI values the commitment and dedication shown by it's staff.

During this year we said goodbye to:

Joan Best, Heather Moore, Louise Harold, Katherine Wells and Glenn Heritage.

We welcomed new staff:

Jean Senior as third sector & volunteering support officer in Helensburgh and Beth Hannett joined the 1000 Voices team on Islay

We also welcomed Kirsteen Murray as our new CEO during this year.

## OUR FUNDERS

