

## DUNADD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Questions

<p>1. Council Representation at Meeting and Site Visit:</p>	<p>ABC Initial Response</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will a representative from the Council attend the meeting scheduled for December 15<sup>th</sup> with Jenni Minto and other stakeholders?</li> </ul>	<p>Yes Jim Smith, Head of Roads and Infrastructure, will attend the meeting with Jenni Minto MSP along with Elsa Simoes, Infrastructure Design Manager and Susan Donnelly from the Council's Civil Contingencies Team.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is there a plan for a Council representative to visit the affected areas, engage with residents, or schedule meetings for direct communication?</li> </ul>	<p>The Council's Flood Team do not have a representative as such for these matters, however, flooding enquiry matters can be addressed to: <a href="mailto:floodingenquiries@argyll-bute.gov.uk">floodingenquiries@argyll-bute.gov.uk</a> and Flood Advice can be found at: <a href="https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/environment/camera/flood-advice">https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/environment/camera/flood-advice</a></p> <p>In addition, the Council resilience team would be happy to re-inforce already communicated messages with regards to Building on and improving resilience in communities.</p>
<p>2. Preventative Measures and Lessons Learned:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What measures are the Council implementing to prevent a recurrence of the recent flooding?</li> </ul>	<p>Any measures would need to be progressed as a multi-agency response with asset owners involved</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will a comprehensive lessons-learned analysis be conducted, and will the findings be shared with the public?</li> </ul>	<p>A number of (single and multi-agency agency) debriefs have/will take place and identified lessons will be communicated on request where appropriate.</p> <p>Flooding Enquiries team can record all incidents reported via <a href="mailto:floodingenquiries@argyll-bute.gov.uk">floodingenquiries@argyll-bute.gov.uk</a> and report to SEPA. Flood Risk Management Plans that follow these are publicly available from <a href="https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/environment/camera/flood-advice">https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/environment/camera/flood-advice</a></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Who in the Council is managing this project? Is the tactical team involved?</li> </ul>	<p>This process is managed by and actioned at the Argyll and Bute Local Resilience Partnership meetings. Any debrief actions identified by the Council will feed into the multi-agency LRP one.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How are the local authority and other agencies assessing future risk of flooding to Kilmichael, whilst also maintaining land and services, dams etc that</li> </ul>	<p>Flooding Enquiries team will continue to record all incidents reported via <a href="mailto:floodingenquiries@argyll-bute.gov.uk">floodingenquiries@argyll-bute.gov.uk</a> and report to SEPA.</p>

<p>contribute to or prevent flooding including the effect of tide on river flow and flooding?</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will the affected areas be assessed for being a Particularly Vulnerable Area?</li> </ul>	<p>This is the responsibility of SEPA, however will be informed by flood incidents reported as above.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the council going to do differently –what have they learned and how are they going to warn us – are there any man-made things that have caused the Glens to be flooded as it happened in such a short time?</li> </ul>	<p>Argyll and Bute Council communicate via social media as a matter of course and re-send material from our partners at the Met Office and SEPA etc. Communities need to access this information. If signposting to these is required it can be provided.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If there is a build-up of materials what is the time limit for the council to come and remove the debris – what is in the risk assessments and need to have reassurance that this will be done?</li> </ul>	<p>Landowners are responsible for the provision and maintenance of private flood defence and drainage systems (watercourses) on their land and the Council will therefore not, as standard, exercise its powers under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009 to assist individual property owners.</p> <p>The Council has powers under Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 to require any person who obstructs the public road network to remove that obstruction immediately. If that is not done, the Council has powers to do the work and recover the costs from the person responsible.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There has got to be a plan if this is going to happen again – what is the relationship between the emergency services and work locally – how do the locals plan for the next local event – what equipment, training etc can be provided by the council?</li> </ul>	<p>There is a very strong successful multi-agency partnership in Argyll and Bute. The Argyll and Bute Local Resilience Partnership. This is chaired by the Council Corporate Resilience Manager.</p> <p>Communities are encouraged to build on and improve resilience in their areas. Regular communication is passed through our Governance officer to community councils on how to prepare a community plan. We also have a handbook prepared especially for communities which includes information on how to access the community asset register and community risk register etc. We do not currently have a community emergency plan on file for Dunadd. All community councils receive information on Community Resilience events across the West of Scotland.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who do we contact if this happens again? There should be a flier through the doors for residents to let them know what to do and who to contact. Many residents experience issues with WIFI and mobile</li> </ul>	<p>By preparing a community emergency plan the detail required here can be included.</p> <p>If a resident is experiencing difficulty the normal route to the council is via Police Scotland 101. And an emergency situation 999. In turn, this will be</p>

<p>signal. A lot of the councils reporting systems are online forms so it would be helpful to have a number.</p>	<p>actioned by Police passing information or requests the appropriate team in the Council.</p> <p>Important, useful contact information is maintained on the Councils Flood Advice page. We would recommend that residents consult this page regularly and note down any appropriate information including contact details for appropriate bodies.</p> <p><a href="https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/environment/camera/flood-advice">https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/environment/camera/flood-advice</a></p>
<p>3. Regulations, Relationships and Rules:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the Council's involvement in dam regulations and rules?</li> </ul>	<p>Scotland's reservoirs are regulated under the Reservoirs (Scotland) Act 2011. SEPA take on the role as the single national regulator for reservoir safety.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What involvement does the Council have with dam regulations and rules and any other organisations involved in the operation of the dam eg SEPA, SSE etc. Are there regular meetings that take place or processes in place? What contingency is in place to ensure that the DAM is opened weekly or what is the process?</li> </ul>	<p>SEPA is the regulator for reservoirs and risk designation</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The river Add is not a flood monitored river – there is no gauge. Is there an alert for the river and why is it not a monitored river?</li> </ul>	<p>No incidents of flooding of properties have previously been reported to the Council's flood enquiries team to notify SEPA. Therefore no requirement to monitor levels has previously been recommended.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are various council and national policies etc covering flooding -Argyll and Bute Council Flood Risk Management Policy, SEPA Flood Risk Management Plan, Highland and Argyll Local Plan District, Natural Scotland Scottish Executive Flood Prevention Schemes Guidance for Local Authorities, Argyll and Bute Civil Contingencies Unit, Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009. These detail responsibilities for Local Authorities, SEPA, Forestry Commission, Scottish Water etc in planning, preparing, preventing and responding to floods.</li> </ul>	<p>Argyll and Bute Council's Flooding Enquiries Team responsibilities are identified under the LFRMP 2022-2026 in accordance with Elected Members agreement based on SEPA guidance are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- maintain website advice page and provide advice,</li> <li>- record notified flood incidents,</li> <li>- assess relevant bodies of water,</li> <li>- carry out watercourse repairs and clearance/ notify riparian owners of their responsibilities,</li> <li>- deliver and maintain flood protection schemes in accordance with Elected Member direction based on SEPA guidance.</li> </ul>

<p>Could we ask for clarity with regards to each of these for Kilmichael and the affected areas?</p>	<p>For clarity, as no previous reports of flood incidents to properties have been reported in this area, Kilmichael has not previously been included in any actions as defined above.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SEPA and Scottish Natural Heritage – what relationship does the council have with these agencies and forestry land Scotland?</li> </ul>	<p>All are “Responsible Authorities” under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009. All consult with Scottish Ministers and each other to develop Local Flood Risk Management Plans every 6 years. Ongoing consultation with each other as required to deliver the Local Flood Risk Management Plans.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will the impacted areas now be classed as a floodplain?</li> </ul>	<p>SEPA are responsible for determining the classification of flood plains</p>
<p>4. Response to Flood Warnings:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is the Council's current response to flood warnings, particularly Amber and Red alerts?</li> </ul>	<p>Amber and Red alerts will initiate a preparatory meeting of the Local Resilience Partnership. Those within the flood warning areas are communicated to by SEPA.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can the timing discrepancy between Aberdeen's Red warning and our Yellow warning be explained?</li> </ul>	<p>SEPA / MET Office are responsible for weather warnings and should respond.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The whole of Argyll and Bute had a yellow warning, but Campbeltown and Islay for example were not impacted – can this be looked at in the future to show exactly what areas within A&amp;B are going to be impacted?</li> </ul>	<p>The Met office generally issue weather warnings based on forecast information.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sandbags-it is understood that residents are unable to access these from the Council – why?</li> </ul>	<p>There is no duty for any Responsible Authority to provide sandbags under the Local Flood Risk Management Plans, the responsibility to protect properties from flooding lies with property owners.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is the Council’s expectation for the Community Councils for flood prevention?</li> </ul>	<p>Flooding Team expectation is for the Community Council to encourage reporting of property &amp; business Flood Incidents to <a href="mailto:floodingenquiries@argyll-bute.gov.uk">floodingenquiries@argyll-bute.gov.uk</a> This will allow Argyll and Bute Council to inform SEPA accurately on known flood areas for the upcoming / next round of Local Flood Risk Management Plans.</p> <p>SEPA is responsible for the prioritisation of flood schemes using property flooding information – the more information on property flooding that is available, the higher an area will be expected to rank in this prioritisation. The</p>

	<p>identified flood schemes are further subject to Scottish Government funding. Presently, only one scheme in Argyll and Bute has secured funding: Campbeltown Flood Protection Scheme. A further seven schemes (Clachan, Oban, Tarbert, Helensburgh, Dunoon Sandbank, Dunoon Black Park and Lochgilphead) have yet to secure funding.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is the communication with landowners – there are trees in places that have never been there before – road up to Kilbride was lifted – parts of tar coming down the road?</li> </ul>	<p>(Question is unclear – answer below assumes this relates to obstructions on the public road from private land)</p> <p>The council has powers under Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 to require any person who obstructs the public road network to remove that obstruction immediately. If that is not done, the Council has powers to do the work and recover the costs from the person responsible.</p>
<p>5. River Monitoring and Infrastructure Assessment:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Why is the river Add not monitored for flooding?</li> </ul>	<p>No flood incidents (or private properties or businesses) have been reported previously.</p> <p>7<sup>th</sup> / 8<sup>th</sup> October was an extreme event that affected many areas of Argyll and Bute in unprecedented ways.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are bridges and roads being assessed post-flooding, and what plans are in place for the maintenance and repair of Kilmichael Bridge?</li> </ul>	<p>All ABCs road bridges within the October weather event area have been inspected. Repairs to the minor damage at the Kilmichael bridge have been scheduled for repair.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can the bridge be removed if it is holding back the water? What is the maintenance and repair plan for Kilmichael Bridge and how does it prevent and contribute to flooding and what action or consideration need to be taken into account?</li> </ul>	<p>The bridge is a fixed structure supporting a public road for the travelling public and cannot be removed. The bridge was not at full capacity during the highest water levels and does not contribute to flooding.</p> <p>The minor repairs required following the flood event will be picked up by the Council's internal maintenance teams in due course.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A significant element of the pooling of deep water in the middle section of the Glen comes from overflowing hill streams which arise in the hill behind Fernoch and which end up forming a river, flowing</li> </ul>	<p>Whilst this query is not clear, we shall investigate the drainage arrangements along the public road – we would appreciate more information on the location being addressed here to allow this to be undertaken.</p>

<p>down the main road to form a deep pool at lower level. Is there any way of improving road drainage there, so that the water is channelling away effectively?</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why has Kilmichael not been considered as a potentially vulnerable area?</li> </ul>	<p>All flood events in Argyll and Bute following the 7<sup>th</sup> / 8<sup>th</sup> October event are being reported to SEPA.</p> <p>As no previous reports of flood incidents around Kilmichael Glen have been reported – none have previously been provided to SEPA to inform any Flood Risk Management Plan.</p>
<p>6. Emergency Access and Contingency Planning:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What emergency arrangements can be set in place to enable an ambulance or other emergency vehicles to access the Glen, should a recurrence of the extreme issues of 7th October occur, when residents of the Glen were completely cut off, with vehicles unable to enter the Glen from either Bridgend or from the route via Kilmartin. For example, are there routes via Forestry land which would enable an ambulance to reach the north of the Glen? Obviously, an air ambulance probably isn't an option if fields are completely flooded?</li> </ul>	<p>In an event where road access was unavailable the multi-agency response team would agree the best response, considering circumstances etc. Ultimately this would be one for SAS and the NHS to lead on a supported by others as required.</p>
<p>7. Funding</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What Scottish Government Funding will be provided to Argyll and Bute Council for flood prevention measures and what will these measures be for the affected areas.</li> </ul>	<p>It is currently Argyll and Bute Council's understanding that any Scottish Government funding will be progressed through the normal route identified above – funding of Flood Protection Schemes as recommended by SEPA under Local Flood Risk Management Plans.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What funding is available for impacted families? It was noted that residents feel any funding available should not be means tested.</li> </ul>	<p>Scottish Government to comment – SG allocated £1500 to people whose properties were affected following storm Babet – is similar available for ABC?</p>