

Islay Community Council Meeting
Minutes
Service Point, Bowmore – 30th July 2025 at 18:30

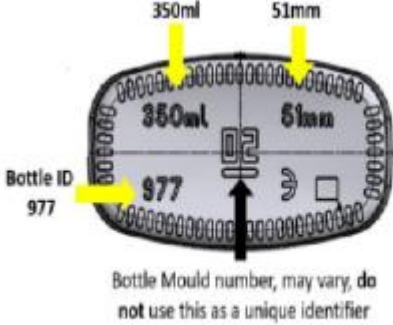
Item Number		Action
1	<p>Present & Apologies</p> <p>Present: Islay McEachern (IME), Convenor Garry MacLean (GML), Vice Convenor Jim Porteous (JP), Secretary Frazer Campbell (FWC), Joint Treasurer Colin Fraser (CF), Joint Treasurer Chris Abell (CA) Sandy Taylor (ST) Jim MacCalman (JMC) Scott Currie (SC) Councillor Alastair Redman (AR) Video Link Lucy Schwind (LS) Minute Taker Gerard McGoogan – Convenor of Tiree Community Council (Video Link) Dr John Holiday from Tiree Community Council (Video Link) Ms Jean Knowles (Video link)</p> <p>Apologies: Councillor Dougie McFadzean (DMF) Councillor Anne Horn (AH) Police Scotland Alyson McGillivray</p> <p>Meeting chaired by GML due IME delayed arrival.</p>	
2	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>None</p>	
3	<p>Minutes of the previous meeting 25th June 2025</p> <p>IME requested an amendment to page 3 of the minutes (Actioned)</p> <p>The minutes were proposed as a true record of the meeting by IME and seconded by CA.</p>	
4	<p>Matters Arising/Action Points</p> <p>Presentation from SSE <i>July Update: IME's question has not been answered by Peter Mcgrath, IME to follow up.</i></p> <p>Waste Bin at Uiskentuie DMF – requested this stay as an action until the bin is back in situ. He has been promised a weekly update from A&B Council. <i>July Update: DMF not in attendance at this meeting but has advised that no further updates have been received. Action carried forward.</i></p>	<p>IME</p> <p>DMF</p>

	<p>Julian Green Update</p> <p>JP – mentioned flooding at Port Ellen. JG knows there is a map which includes low lying areas which are of particular concern, used by flood team. JG would need to check this map to see if this relates to coastal defences or flooding.</p> <p><i>April Update: carried forward to next meeting. CA to follow up with JG</i></p> <p><i>May Update: Contacted JG and raised all three points. But not had a reply yet. Carry forward to next meeting.</i></p> <p><i>Update June – CA advised that JG has informed him that any actions are not responsibility of JG and CA has been provided with further contact information of the person to write to, which has been done. CA has received an acknowledgement email from A&B Council assuring him they will respond within a specified period which has now passed with no response. CA will write again.</i></p> <p><i>July Update: CA has now received a reply from the 'flooding enquiries' team at the council. The reply states that Islay has been reporting the risk of flooding for many years and was included in a flood alleviation project in 2009. Various options were suggested including a retaining wall and pump scheme, but nothing has ever done to implement this due to budgetary limitations and a low benefit ration. In 2011 further assessments did not identify Port Ellen as a potentially vulnerable area therefore no action for this location were taken forward. In 2016's flood risk plan (which is the current cycle of risk planning) Port Ellen has not been identified as a problem area. It finishes with advice on how residents can seek advice from the Scottish Flood Forum.</i></p> <p><i>CA to raise a complaint about this response on behalf of ICC and send to AR who will also support this.</i></p> <p><i>FC feels that ICC should also ask residents to raise all flooding incidents when they occur, to provide more data to back up the concerns. They must also be raised directly to A&B Council, not just to the Facebook Islay Community Noticeboard, for these to be recognised by A&B Council. Could the Co-Op also be included in this, as they have experienced significant flood damage and ACHA who had houses which have been repeatedly flooded.</i></p> <p><i>FC to add information on the Facebook page to highlight to residents that they must notify the local council departments directly if they want to see action.</i></p> <p><i>CA can we get a local petition/letter from residents highlighting the issues experienced?</i></p>	<p>CA AR</p> <p>IME</p> <p>FC</p> <p>CA/ ICC</p>
5	<p>Police Report</p> <p>JP has circulated the latest police report – 39 calls and 15 incidents for the last month.</p> <p>Apologies received as due to a call out no representative was able to attend the meeting.</p>	
6	<p>Councillor A Horn</p> <p>Unable to join the meeting.</p>	
7	<p>Councillor D McFadzean</p> <p>Apologies received.</p>	
8	<p>Councillor A Redman</p> <p>A full report is shown in Appendix A</p>	

	<p>Additional Support Needs provision for schools. There has been a change in the way funding is allocated. From allocation per pupil to an allocation for schools. This has led to a reduction in support hours and support teachers.</p> <p>There are large concerns about this new funding method and the impact of this on the schools in Islay. AR has raised concerns with the policy lead for education and deputy policy leader for education as well as contacting the secretary for education in Scotland.</p> <p>GML requests AR sends his initial concerns, and the responses received along with a copy of his report.</p> <p>Visitor levy has come up again – especially as it is percentage based and this will be under discussion at the next council meeting on 1st September. Details of the consultation have not yet been made public. AR would encourage fellow councillors to vote against it.</p> <p>Landfill ban – which will influence our ferry service and jobs on the island. The landfill which will be removed from the island by ferry will place an additional strain on the ferry network.</p> <p>Flooding and pot hole issues continue – some are being fixed.</p> <p>Please encourage residents to report lighting and road issues directly to A&B Council rather than putting them on the Islay Noticeboard.</p> <p>Kilchoman wall/cemetery damage has been raised - roads department have made safe by putting a fence in front of it. Limited response to grass cutting in this area.</p> <p>Reports of dog fouling, from the Port Ellen area in particular. This is difficult to deal with if not actually witnessed.</p> <p>House building – growing issue with housing for large families and the new houses currently being built which are not big enough.</p> <p>Waste bins – continue to be an issue. Bins appear to be being removed by the council.</p> <p>Benefit enquiries – due to changes at a national level to the benefit structure.</p>	AR
9	<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>CF- balance as of 30/07/2025 £3512.00</p> <p>Bank of Scotland are charging £5 per month to service the account so ICC are looking to change to RBS who still have a branch on the island and may not charge monthly fees. ICC are also looking to move onto internet banking.</p> <p>AGM action – need to submit the final accounts.</p>	<p>FC</p> <p>FC/ CF</p>
10	<p>ICC Ferry Committee</p> <p>See Appendix B for the report.</p> <p>Key Issues:</p>	

	<p>ICC has huge concerns over the remaining 6 weeks of the summer timetable. ICCFC has written to CalMac today to strongly protest against the proposed change from double to single vessel service and to suggest a number of possible mitigations. Islay has long been acknowledged as a 2-vessel route. Poor service, disruptions, inadequate timetables and other issues have all been impacting utilisation and this has been highlighted by ICCFC on many occasions. There is a need to re-build confidence and to resolve inefficiencies such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the booking system is still not fixed • closing the booking system down for several days to transfer bookings when ships are changed, make it impossible to book for the duration. • deck space utilisation – numerous block bookings are not being taken up and travellers who are told that ferries are full, repeatedly see them sailing with substantial space that could otherwise have been used. <p>Block bookings The block booking system has been discussed over many years with CalMac, who say they are finally looking at changing their management controls in time for the winter timetable and in due course, the rules themselves.</p> <p>Their forecast for the last six weeks of summer timetable utilisation figures are drastically understated from what they should be in a state of normality.</p> <p>GML raised serious concerns from IJMG and the impact this will have on the island's economy.</p> <p>JP concerns have been raised with Duncan Mackison, and with our MSP</p> <p>ICCFC has suggested possible mitigations for these six weeks, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can the crew from MV Caledonian Isles cover some extra sailings of Finlaggan? (ICCFC has offered to find accommodation for extra crew on the island if this is a blocker) • Serve Colonsay direct from Oban and use the extra time for more Islay sailings. • Provide for an additional ship • Share a ship • Use some extra sailings for unaccompanied trailers to help reduce crew. • Bring forward management changes to the block bookings system eg reducing future allocations for those who have regularly not been taking them up. <p>Friday 1st August 2025 is the deadline for any response, and any ideas need to be sent to ICCFC asap</p> <p>GML: Can we include issues raised by ICC and residents as an item at next ICCFC meeting.</p> <p>GML advised IJMG have been actively campaigning for Islay to be included in the Island Business Resilience Fund as so many businesses have been affected by CalMac's service. JP advised that ICC and ICCFC had lent their support by signing an open letter from IJMG to SG and others.</p>	
11	<p>Islay Community Action Plan (ICAP)</p> <p>Work on the report is ongoing and an update will be provided at the next meeting</p>	ST/ CA

12	<p>Planning Reports</p> <p>SC updated the group on recent planning applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ballivicar peat extraction – which will be a large project. • Another submission for peat restoration on the Oa. The RSPB have been consulting with residents close by the project. As a result of this they have exempted areas near and around boreholes until more information is known on the effect of this. • An application for further work at Laphroaig Distillery for 12 new wash backs <p>JP ICC has a duty to review planning applications as a community council. They should be discussing and sending any comments to the planning department. JP requested that if SC is not able to attend any future meetings, he should please send a summary of any major projects that ICC needs to review.</p>	SC
13	<p>CNI (Carbon Neutral Islands) Project</p> <p>GML advised that the installation of solar panels on community buildings is now physically taking place.</p>	
14	<p>Bowmore Hall Update</p> <p>Correspondence has been circulated between ICC, Fergus Murray (Head of Development and Economic Growth – A&B Council), Ina Glover and Ian Storey (on behalf of IDI). ICC has continued to request a meeting with IDI, to discuss concerns raised by members of the public, clarification of work that has taken place, what stage the project is at, what still needs to be done, what are the timelines for completion, and what funding is needed.</p> <p>Several attempts have been made to set up a joint meeting, over a number of months but IDI has not committed to a date. IDI has requested that any questions which are directed to ICC members should be referred directly to IDI for answer and has queried whether this falls within ICC's remit.</p> <p>It was felt that as a statutory body, ICC has a duty to follow up and answer questions and concerns raised by the community. It has also been particularly evident from the work of ICAP that residents have expressed the need of a community space/hub in Bowmore.</p> <p>Fergus Murray has referred JP to Jonathan Welch (Transformation Projects and Regeneration Manager, A&B Council). Jonathan Welch has offered 2 date options for a meeting with ICC. ICC is seeking reassurance that, if providing additional funding, the council will be in a position to give this project full support and oversight and to provide clarifications regarding the responsibility for day to day running, maintenance and repair and importantly, availability for community usage once the project is complete?</p> <p>Meeting date agreed for: 7th August 2025, 2pm, MS Teams (Online) with Jonathan Welch. IME/JMC/CA/ST to attend. JP to forward link.</p> <p>JMC Would be great for ICC to receive a monthly update from any project manager who is appointed.</p>	JP
15	<p>Co-Option of New Members</p> <p>Proposal for Alyson MacGillivray – proposed by JP. Unanimous vote: 'yes'</p>	

16	<p>Correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notices from BEAR regarding roadworks and closures • CA wrote to Julian Green – requesting a comment regarding the road closure of the Cruach road. Has received no response. CA will send this again. Would help if they could put a map on social media showing where the work is going to take place. • JMC Glen Road will be shut for 3 months. IME spoke with JG about this – his understanding that this was a temporary closure and traffic would be allowed through periodically. CA will seek clarification. • AR will also raise this with A&B Council to support CA • Circulated independent review of process for determining electoral boundaries • A member of the public asked about being able to join these meetings via remote access. Will depend on the availability of suitable technology as to whether this is possible. 	<p>CA</p> <p>CA</p> <p>AR</p>
17	<p>AOCB</p> <p>AR highlighted recent issue with counterfeit vodka. ICC requested FC update the noticeboard with this information.</p> <p>The council's Environmental Health team is working with colleagues in licensing and trading standards to track down, and remove, counterfeit bottles of Glen's vodka which may have found their way to the local market. Every genuine bottle of Glen's vodka has a laser etched lot code applied to the bottle between the rear label and the base of the bottle. They will also have markings on the base of the bottle - the three identifiers will not vary (position or detail).</p> <p>https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/news/2025/jul/health-warning-issued-after-harmful-counterfeit-vodka-discovered?fbclid=IwY2xjawL3SnVleHRuA2FibQlxMABicmlkETBHUWILVW41NkNWTWdxWTK4AR4VcMiy_5gxIKtaNjXAc1ib6s87lwabb46-GybAyBJfvdzCW4UseV4kHcX8A_aem_Ze4AKRGkxjDtp8vFhW2xHg</p> 	FC
18	<p>Date/venue for Next Meeting</p> <p>Next meeting 27/08/2025 at 18:30, Service Point, Bowmore</p>	

Appendix A –

Please find below my latest update for the Community Council, covering a range of local issues and concerns raised by constituents across the ward. I remain committed to representing the interests of our communities and welcome any feedback or follow-up questions.

ASN Provision Concerns

A major focus of my recent work has been the growing concern over reductions in Additional Support Needs (ASN) provision across Argyll and Bute — including here on Islay.

I've been contacted by a number of concerned parents and education staff who are seeing clear evidence that children with additional needs are receiving less support than they did previously. These concerns are not isolated; they reflect a broader issue affecting multiple schools across both the islands and the mainland.

In response, I have written directly to senior education officers at Argyll and Bute Council — including the Education Manager, as well as the Policy Lead and Depute Policy Lead for Education — to raise these issues and demand clarity. I have also contacted Jenny Gilruth MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Education, to highlight the wider national implications and push for accountability at the Scottish Executive level.

The Council's official position is that there has been no cut to the ASN budget and that a formula-based system is being trialled to allocate hours more equitably. However, I have firmly challenged this claim. When pupils who once received hands-on support no longer do, the outcome is a cut — regardless of how it is dressed up.

Families and professionals are not confused. They know what support looked like before, and they know what is missing now. I will continue to stand with them and speak out loudly until proper support is restored and vulnerable pupils are no longer sidelined.

Visitor Levy Update

One of the most pressing issues currently facing our communities across Argyll and Bute – and particularly here on Islay – is the proposed Visitor Levy. I want to be absolutely clear: I will be voting against this proposal, and I would strongly encourage my fellow councillors, including my fellow ward members, to do the same.

This levy risks doing real harm to our local economy. Both businesses and residents have voiced strong opposition to it. The idea of applying a flat, percentage-based tax on accommodation is deeply flawed – especially in rural areas where tourism is seasonal, margins are tight, and infrastructure challenges are already significant. Such a one-size-fits-all policy fails to account for the realities of life in places like Islay.

There is still no clarity on how exemptions would be handled, including whether workers, children, the elderly, or different types of accommodation providers would be treated fairly. In fact, many vital details remain unknown. What is clear, however, is that some parts of Argyll and Bute will be hit much harder than others – and areas like Islay, which rely heavily on tourism but face higher logistical costs, are especially vulnerable.

To make matters worse, councillors have now been informed that a Special Meeting of Argyll and Bute Council will be held on Monday 1st September at 10am to consider a report on the Visitor Levy. There are growing concerns that councillors may be asked to vote on this proposal with very little time to study or challenge the details, despite the scale of its potential impact.

Rushing through such a significant and controversial policy without proper scrutiny or public transparency would be completely unacceptable. Our residents and businesses deserve better.

I remain firmly opposed to the introduction of a Visitor Levy in Argyll and Bute. It is an ill-conceived and poorly timed policy that could damage jobs, limit growth, and undermine our rural communities. I will continue to speak out and vote accordingly.

Landfill Ban

At the last full council meeting, I raised serious concerns about the upcoming 2026 landfill ban and the likely consequences for island communities like Islay. I questioned Councillor Luna Martin, the Policy Lead for Climate and Net Zero, on how this policy can be justified when it is expected to drive up costs, increase emissions, and put further pressure on already overstretched ferry services.

I specifically asked whether much of our waste will simply end up being shipped to England, only to be landfilled there at greater expense and with no environmental gain.

I have since received an acknowledgement of my question, but no full response has been provided. Given the scale of potential disruption, this delay is deeply concerning. I will continue to pursue proper answers and stand up for the interests of our island communities.

Potholes, Road Conditions and Flooding

Potholes remain a serious and ongoing issue across Islay. I continue to receive complaints from residents, businesses, and visitors about the poor and deteriorating state of our roads—many of which are essential not just for daily life but for tourism, farming, and emergency services.

Recent periods of heavy rain have only made the situation worse. Flooding in various parts of the island has not only damaged roads further but also highlighted long-standing drainage and infrastructure issues that have not been adequately addressed. Temporary patch jobs often fail to survive wet conditions, and in some cases create even more dangerous driving surfaces.

I will continue pushing for a more robust and accountable approach to road and drainage maintenance, including greater investment in long-term repairs, improved flood prevention, and better oversight of contractors. Our communities deserve safe, reliable infrastructure—and that starts with properly maintained roads that can withstand the weather conditions we face.

Data Protection and Accountability

I want to take this opportunity to highlight the vital importance of adhering to data protection laws and regulations—especially for those of us in public office. Elected representatives, including councillors, must be held to the highest standards when it comes to handling personal information and respecting the privacy of individuals.

Breaches of data protection are not minor technicalities—they can cause real harm, erode public trust, and undermine confidence in democratic institutions. Everyone involved in public service should be aware of their legal obligations and the serious consequences of failing to uphold them.

I will continue to advocate for strong accountability and proper training on data protection within the council. We must lead by example, not only in what we say, but in how we protect the rights and privacy of those we serve.

Kilchoman Cemetery – Wall Damage and Grounds Maintenance

I've contacted the Roads and Infrastructure Department regarding the damaged wall at Kilchoman Cemetery, as well as the overgrown grass that continues to affect part of the site. While I understand there may be concerns relating to the nearby church ruin, that does not excuse the current condition of the cemetery.

These are sacred grounds that deserve proper care, respect, and attention from the authorities responsible. Leaving them neglected is not acceptable to local residents or to me.

I'll continue to press for urgent action and a proper maintenance plan to ensure the dignity of this site is upheld.

Dog Fouling

I continue to receive complaints from residents about persistent dog fouling in several areas across Islay. It's not just unsightly—it poses a health risk, especially for children, and creates unnecessary mess for everyone using shared spaces.

There's no excuse for it. Dog owners have a responsibility to clean up after their pets. I'll be raising this with the relevant departments and pushing for increased signage, enforcement, and public awareness where problem areas have been identified.

Everyone has a part to play in keeping our communities clean and respectful.

Housing Needs and Conditions

Housing remains a key concern across Islay, and I've recently received a number of comments and complaints from constituents on this issue.

Firstly, there is a growing need for larger homes to accommodate increasing family sizes. Several residents have raised this with me directly, and it's clear that our current housing stock does not meet the needs of many local families. This must be addressed through better planning and meaningful investment in new housing that reflects the real demographic demands of our island communities.

Secondly, concerns have been raised about the condition and appearance of certain social housing properties. In particular, I've received complaints about the so-called "red houses" in Bowmore. Although these homes are relatively new, local residents have said that the materials used in their construction—especially the external render—have weathered poorly, leaving the buildings looking discoloured and unsightly from the outside.

I will continue to raise these issues with the relevant housing bodies and council officers, to ensure that residents across Islay are provided not only with homes that are safe and functional, but also built and maintained to a standard that respects the pride people have in their communities.

Overflowing Bins and Waste Management

I have received a growing number of complaints from constituents about overflowing bins across Islay, particularly during the busier months. The council's current policy of removing bins that are regularly overflowing—rather than increasing capacity or frequency of uplifts—is causing justifiable concern.

This approach does nothing to address the root of the problem and risks encouraging more littering and fly-tipping. In areas where visitor numbers are high and local use is already stretched, removing bins only makes matters worse for residents, businesses, and tourists alike.

It's clear that this policy needs to be looked at again. What we need is a more practical and responsive solution: more frequent bin uplifts during peak periods, larger bins in high-use areas, more bins where needed—or a sensible combination of all three.

I will continue raising this issue within the council and pushing for a review of waste collection policy that reflects the seasonal pressures and long-standing infrastructure needs of our island communities.

Benefits System – Enquiries and Concerns

Over recent weeks, I have been contacted by a significant number of constituents with concerns and questions about proposed changes to the benefits system. Many local residents are understandably worried about how these changes might affect their current entitlements, especially in the context of rising living costs and the ongoing pressure on rural services.

I have been busy dealing with a high volume of benefit-related enquiries—ranging from changes in eligibility to confusion around recent correspondence from government departments. These concerns are particularly acute in island communities like ours, where access to advice services is more limited and where many households rely on timely support to make ends meet.

I will continue to do everything I can to assist those affected, and I encourage anyone with benefit-related concerns to get in touch with me directly. I am also pressing for clearer communication and fairer implementation of any changes being proposed, so that residents are not left in the dark or placed under unnecessary stress.

Patient Transport and Ferry Disruptions

I continue to hear from constituents about ongoing difficulties with patient transport—particularly for those needing to travel to and from hospital appointments on the mainland. These issues are often closely linked to ferry disruptions and limited capacity.

Some patients travelling on foot find that public transport connections do not properly link up with ferry timetables, making journeys stressful and, in some cases, impossible without overnight stays. Others travelling by car struggle to secure a space on the ferry, especially during busy periods, which can lead to delayed or missed appointments.

These are not just transport issues—they are healthcare access issues, and they affect some of the most vulnerable people in our community.

I will continue to raise these concerns with both the Council and relevant transport providers, and press for better coordination between ferries, buses, and medical services. Our residents deserve patient transport arrangements that are reliable, joined-up, and respectful of their time and health needs.

Standing Up for Our Communities

I have been dealing with a high volume of calls, emails, and messages from constituents across the ward on a wide range of issues—from transport and housing to benefits, bins, and public services. I want to thank everyone who has taken the time to get in touch. I will continue working hard for this ward, always putting our local area and local residents first—before any special interest group or political party. For me, it's people first, always.

Appendix B – ICC Ferry Committee Update

ICCFC - last regular meeting Wed 23 July - next Tue 19 Aug. Draft Minutes to be posted in CC website.

Other meetings:

GML + JP with Lauren McEwan + Pauline Blackshaw CalMac 26 June re 5-year plan.

IME + JP due with Paul Flynn TS re fares Islay/Kennacraig and Oban 8 Aug.

IME + JP due with CMAL Ceo 12 Aug.

IME Round table meeting due with Jenni Minto 29 Sept.

Key items being progressed by ICCFC include:

Summer 2025 - have raised concerns regarding the timetable for Islay from 8 Sept until 19 Oct and the need to retain a two-vessel service despite problems elsewhere in the network. An announcement was subsequently made by CalMac on 29th July advising that the Islay route would reduce to single vessel, with only Finlaggan, during these six weeks. A strong protest has been sent today to CalMac CEO, copied to our MSP and Councillors, including a suggested list of possible options. (Copied to all members).

Bookings system. Long awaited fix for the unwieldy Islay 2-port booking system has been found to contain a glitch and is now delayed until early Aug as opposed to July which was previously advised by CalMac.

Lorry block bookings. CalMac has said they are managing performance more closely, with a view to amending bookings to more closely reflect usage and remain in consultation with hauliers regarding amendments to T's & C's and possible charges for no shows. ICCFC has asked to be kept informed and will also be continuing to monitor performance.

Lorry drop trailers. Trials have taken place this month at PE during 4 days in June. These have been stopped by CalMac due to a variety of issues including health and safety concerns, port issues and sailing delays.

New vessels. Delivery time has now slipped until end of the 3rd quarter with a possibility of entering service several weeks later after trials.

Winter 2025/6. CalMac has said that they are planning to open the timetable based on Finlaggan single vessel but with the addition of Isle of Islay, when the new vessel joins service. ICCFC have confirmed that another vessel working with Finlaggan is essential and have asked that the booking system is updated to include the two vessels as soon as possible. ICCFC has previously asked that PE calls should be maintained while this port remains open.

Loti unscheduled drydock from 9th July caused 3 days of reduced sailings, including sharing IOA with Arran for 2 days, resulting in significant disruption.

Other -

ICCFC and ICC have signed an open letter from IJMG to SG protesting about the failure to award a share of compensation for ferry disruptions arguing that Islay and Jura, like several other islands, should also be entitled to a share due to the effect of disruptions on this route.

Patient travel protocols agreed last year are due to be revisited and republished to ensure wide awareness in the community. Before finalizing, ICC is awaiting an update on relevant patient travel procedures from the NHS Area Manager for Kintyre & Islay which are said to be due soon.

Advanced Standby procedures - ICCFC has requested copy of a paper from Alan Hood concerning proposed changes. CalMac has said this will be subject to further consultation throughout the network but they will keep us informed.

Port Askaig - CalMac has said they are commissioning independent experts to examine layout of marshalling and parking areas, including health and safety aspects, in advance of the new vessels joining service. They have agreed to keep ICCFC informed of progress and findings, bearing in mind concerns that ICCFC has previously raised with A&BC and the difficulty experienced in obtaining information from them.

Loti unscheduled drydock from 9th July for 4 days resulted in sailing cancellations and sharing of IOA for 2 days with Arran. Significant disruption caused.

IOA - due to onboard sewage issue, all sailings cancelled Mon 28 July. Severe disruption caused - not all traffic could be accommodated on Fin. Traffic prioritisation measures invoked. Returned to service Tue 29 July, picking up 13.00 sailing es Kennacraig. (07.00 ex PA, 10.00 ex KC and 12.45 ex PE cancelled)

Ferries Community Board - Has recently recruited several new members. Meetings were attended 15 July for discussion with TS re the new CHFS contract and 16 July for introduction to new FCB members. The FCB is engaging further with Transport Scotland regarding it's future role and scope and regarding KPI's within the new CHFS 3 contract.