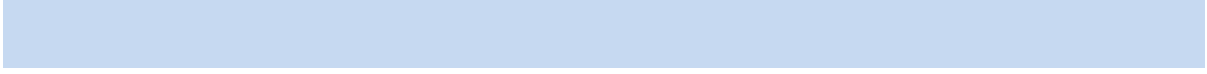


**Child Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA) for
the Argyll and Bute Local Housing Strategy 2022-2027**



not belong or fit in, so achieving this outcome would protect mental health.

Young people can find it challenging to remain in their local community when they move out of the family home to establish a new household due to the lack of affordable housing, especially in tourist hot spots. The Strategic Housing and Investment Plan programme and other initiatives outlined in the LHS will provide affordable housing, enabling young people to remain in their local communities. Hence, this will make communities more sustainable. Thus protecting the community and individuals within the community from decline.

Another desired outcome of the LHS is to protect young people from becoming homeless. The housing options service assist families and individual young people aged 16-18 to identify the type of home they need and can afford, which reduces the number of failed tenancies, thus ensuring more tenants can remain in their homes.


Supporting where possible housing developments which facilitate the implementation of 20-minute community principles. This principle would ensure that children's daily needs could be met within a 20-minute walk, cycle or wheel from their homes, ensuring they have access to facilities such as libraries and sports centres, clubs and networks which provide educational or exercise opportunities or enrichment. Twenty minute communities also are more likely to have less traffic, as people will opt to walk, wheel or cycle, making the streets safer for children.

Often, a family's most significant monthly expense is their rent/mortgage; providing more affordable homes will alleviate a critical driver that pushes families into poverty. Hence, one of the LHS's desired outcomes is to protect children and young people from poverty.

The housing strategy aims to provide children with warm homes. Research shows that children living in homes where the family can only afford to heat one room may find it challenging to have a quiet space that is warm enough to do homework and study; this negatively impacts their life chances.

One of the causes of fuel poverty will be addressed by improving the fabric of buildings and making homes more energy-

	<p>conditions such as Asthma and other respiratory conditions, thus protecting their health and wellbeing.</p> <p>The strategy also promotes a net-zero approach which will contribute towards protecting the planet and reducing the risks of adverse weather such as flash floods, drought, and extreme heat, severely impacting children and families. Also, research shows that children and young people feel powerless in the battle against climate change, causing anxiety and other mental health issues in children and young people. The strategy aims to deliver housing and infrastructure in our local communities that reduce carbon emissions and move towards net-zero; this will positively impact children and young people anxious about climate change.</p> <p>The housing strategy aims to prevent overcrowding and provide families with access to housing that is the right size to meet their needs. Research shows that children who live in overcrowded housing find it difficult to find a place to do homework and study, negatively impacting their life chances. In addition, sharing a room with a different sexed sibling in teenage years can negatively affect a child s wellbeing.</p> <p>The LHS has a range of advice and information provisions for children and young people to improve their wellbeing.</p> <p>Prioritising children facing domestic abuse or the fear of domestic abuse for rehoming will provide more children and young people with safe homes.</p>
<p>Executive summary</p>	<p>Argyll and Bute s Local Housing Strategy (2022 – 2027) sets out the strategic vision and overarching outcomes for housing across the local authority area. This LHS addresses affordable housing and aims to develop a healthy, well-balanced housing system with choice across all tenures and sectors of the market.</p> <p>The LHS must be based on a robust and credible Housing Need & Demand Assessment (HNDA), which sets the direction for housing investment. One focus of the new strategy will be on reversing population decline. However, the strategy will also support the broader priorities and objectives of the Scottish Government regarding climate change, energy efficiency, creating local communities that meet everyday needs and supporting island communities.</p>



Argyll and Bute s LHS addresses four key areas:

1. Improve housing supply and endeavour to have vibrant communities where people want to live and can continue to live. Some examples of how we will achieve this are by:

Maximising investment and ensuring sufficient and viable land is available to facilitate the building of new homes.


Addressing infrastructure needs to encourage developers to build new homes.

Encouraging the delivery of affordable, mixed tenure housing, thus ensuring a choice of housing options for people.

Ensuring housing encourages repopulation and sustains fragile communities in rural, island and coastal settings. To make sure that communities not only survive but also thrive.

Ensuring that there is an adequate supply and choice of housing to enable local businesses to attract and retain staff.

Promot



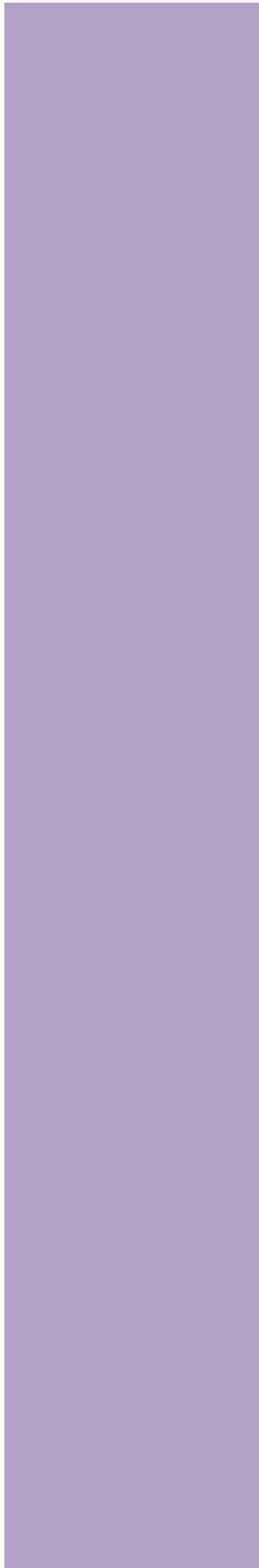
Supports regeneration and sustainability of town centres and rural and island settlement, ensuring that these areas provide high-quality, affordable homes. Thus ensuring these areas not only survive but thrive.

3. Specialist provision and supporting independent living. In this section, some examples of what the LHS aims to do are as follows:

- Improve joint working across Housing, Health & Social Care sectors to ensure that people with particular needs have these needs addressed;
- Provide a range of Housing Options that contribute to the health, wellbeing and independence of those with particular needs;
- Achieve the wheelchair accommodation target for new build social rented housing;
- Work with others to facilitate adaptations to housing in all tenures to ensure particular needs are met;
- Maximise the use of appropriate assistive technology /technology-enabled care to support more households living independently;
- Work with others to ensure that effective Support Services such as Care & Repair are in place.

4. Housing options, information, advice and support. Some examples of what the housing strategy will address are as follows:

- Have housing protocols for persons leaving institutional settings, e.g. young people leaving care or military personnel leaving the service.
- Work with others to tackle homelessness




Scope of the CRWIA, identifying the children and young people affected by the policy, and summarising the evidence base

The Child



Hence, the vast majority of children and young people will be positively impacted by the LHS



then the life chances of children and young people are affected. Hence, not just affecting the standard of living for children and young people at this time but also reducing their standard of living as adults and or parents.

This provision will promote and enable independence and provide the basis for improving and sustaining other aspects of a healthy, fulfilling life.

The LHS promotes technology-enabled care, which potentially enables young people to live independently in their own homes once they reach 16 years of age.

However, not all children and young people who require specialist housing will have the same requirements for example:

- Young people with autism may benefit from a core and cluster model where they live independently from their family with support and supervision from staff in a supported housing complex.
- In contrast, children who are wheelchair users may only require a family home like any other child; it just needs to be suitable for a wheelchair user.
- However, wheelchair users are not a homogenous group, with some users only requiring a wheelchair home while others have a wide range of complex needs and providing a wheelchair home on its own would not meet their needs. A full-time Housing Occupational Therapist (OT) has been employed to work within the housing service to ensure needs are met through the design of new-build housing or by adapting existing public and private sector homes. Children and young people with particular needs will benefit from the bespoke person-centred approach provided by the Housing OT.

Article 30 Culture and community. That is, *shall not be*

Monitoring and review

The strategy will be updated annually.

CRWIA Declaration

Authorisation

Policy lead



Douglas Whyte

Date 07/01/2022

Deputy Director or equivalent
Fergus Murray



Date 07/01/2022