

# Argyll & Bute Council

Argyll and Bute stands at the heart of Scotland's renewable energy future - its rich and growing mix of hydro, wind, wave, tidal, and biomass resources are driving a powerful surge of investment, alongside transformative grid upgrades that will unlock opportunity, resilience, and long-term economic prosperity. These opportunities position Argyll & Bute as one of the most active areas for energy transition in Scotland and, given the scale of these investments, offers a generational opportunity to secure inclusive growth and lasting benefits for communities.

## Turning grid investment into local opportunity:

- **Investing £1.3bn** in transmission projects across Argyll & Bute (**4% of T3**)
- **Awarding £216m** worth of contracts to **Argyll & Bute-based businesses**
- **Supporting 500 jobs** through investment in Argyll & Bute-based projects

## Delivering on council priorities (Economic Strategy Refresh: 2024-34):

- Offsetting the decline in Argyll & Bute's economically active population.
- Improving workforce skills and supporting higher-wage employment opportunities in emerging industries.
- Improving biodiversity, including woodland and peat and restoration.
- Supporting the sustainable growth of renewable energy production and empowering communities through community wealth building



**£216m** injection into Argyll & Bute's supply chains



**2 new roles** for trainee engineers with SSEN Transmission in 2026

## Argyll & Bute



Skilled peat restoration and biodiversity jobs



**£125m GVA** generated in Argyll & Bute

Our investments will deliver benefits which directly support key priorities of the council. These benefits fall under the five cross-cutting themes:

### 1) Demographic sustainability



**Supporting up to 279 jobs in construction**  
14.7% of the sector's total employment in Argyll & Bute

Supporting employment opportunities and expanding the affordable housing stock to support retention of the working-age population.

### 2) Inclusive economic growth and fair work



**18% boost to Construction Sector GVA in Argyll & Bute**

Supporting a sustained increase in the availability of skilled, well-paid employment and training opportunities, boosting local economic resilience.

### 3) Net Zero and climate resilience



**Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) embedded in all major projects**

Protecting natural heritage, including peat and forestry, and generating employment opportunities in the green sector through restoration activities.

### 4) Strong local supply chains



**£28.6m annual spend in local construction sector**

Securing a reliable stream of revenue within local supply chains throughout the T3 period (2026-2031), facilitating growth and strengthening industry.

### 5) Community wealth building and social value



**Unlocking more than £3m in funding for community-led projects**

Ensuring benefits from the Just Transition are retained and distributed in Argyll & Bute, with funding targeting projects designed by the communities who will benefit.