
ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

**ENVIRONMENT, DEVELOPMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE**

**DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC
GROWTH**

4TH MARCH 2021

FILM IN ARGYLL SCREEN INDUSTRIES UPDATE REPORT

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This report provides an

3.4 For the year January 2020 to January 2021, Argyll and Bute Council received 91 film enquiries and there have been 21 productions filmed during the year. This has led to an estimated local production spend of **£310,000**. Compared

figures are a direct reflection the impact the Coronavirus pandemic has had on the screen industries. It should be noted that filming was unable to take place from the end of March 2020 until August 2020, missing out on key spring/summer months which are historically the busiest time for film in Argyll and Bute.

3.5 Within the year 2020 productions included:

Twelve celebrities attempt to

also filmed at Port Ellen, Islay and Oban before moving on to the Highlands. In addition to the estimated local spend, the Council received over £500.00 in commercial filming fees for use of the North Pier Harbour and Pontoons in Oban.

Secret Scotland with Susan Calman as she explores Mount Stuart House on the Isle of Bute, learns how to make a copper axe at Kilmartin Glen and discovers the secrets of oyster cultivation at Loch Fyne. Susan also visited the Isle of Mull and the Council assisted with filming in and around Tobermory and the Isle of Staffa.

My Mortgage Free Home presented by Amanda Lamb filmed in and around the Isle of Bute to show a couple potential properties and what the area had to offer.

STV Pride of Scotland Awards presented a well-deserved community award to the People of Bute for their role in welcoming families from Syria to the island.

3.6

4.0 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 Moving forward into the January 2021 full Scottish lockdown, the Scottish Government have stated Film and TV remains able to continue production

condition that productions adhere strictly to the industry specific guidance set out by the British Film Commission. The Development and Economic service will continue to monitor productions coming into the Argyll and Bute area where possible and encourage early community engagement. However it should be noted that this is not always possible if productions do not require input or permission from the Council this is however a very rare occurrence for larger productions.

- 4.2 The screen industries continues to have the potential to not only bring production spend to the local economy but to be a catalyst for the growth of the tourism industry in Argyll and Bute. recovery process from the coronavirus pandemic, the Development and Economic Growth service will continue to work across council services and with key partners such as Screen Scotland and the Scottish Locations Network to ensure filming is carried out safely in the Argyll and Bute area.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Policy

Supports SOA, Economic Strategy and Economic Recovery Plan under Place and People theme.

- 5.2 Financial

None

- 5.3 Legal

None

- 5.4 HR

None

- 5.5 Fairer Scotland Duty:

None

- 5.5.1 Equalities - protected characteristics

None

- 5.5.2 Socio-economic Duty

None

- 5.5.3 Islands

None

5.5.4 Risk

COVID-19 continues to be a real risk to our communities and it is critical that we continue to ensure that our processes reflect the guidance from SG, Screen Scotland and British Film Commission and continually adapt as this guidance changes

5.5.5 Customer Service

Executive Director with responsibility for Development and Economic Growth

Kirsty Flanagan

Policy Lead Councillor Alistair Redman

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