

It also identifies how key partners including the Council, Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, HM Coastguard, Health & Social Care Partnership (HSCP), Third Sector Interface (TSI) and local groups will bring together resources to ensure that Argyll and Bute is a safer place to live, work and visit.

- a) The Procurement, Commercial and Contract Management Team provided a strong lead to ensure we continued the percentage of Council spend that is under a contract or service level agreement while also maintaining the percentage of all Small Medium Enterprises that win council contracts. We also worked to improve the delivery of contract management on all high risk contracts.

We effectively planned and coordinated the release of tenders to avoid overwhelming the market, in particular the local market – by issuing invitations to tender where the regulations allowed. For 2021/22, we awarded 151 contracts and of these 119 were Quick Quotes (ITQ's).

Our procurement processes were simplified and streamlined, ensuring that documentation was as straightforward as possible and engaged with local Economic Development colleagues and other collaborative stakeholders, to support emerging priorities that will support the economic recovery within Argyll and Bute.

The percentage of total bids b

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e)

- a) Additional requirement at short notice to administer 3 separate Taxi Support Fund tranches in addition to business as usual. Required new forms, procedures and appeals process with around 250 plus applications dealt with. All processed and paid within the deadline.

- a) Delivered 1 local by-election during 2021/22 and Scottish Parliamentary election while continuing to meet the electoral performance standards as set by the Electoral Commission. New processes and procedures were devised and implemented to meet Covid-19 responsibilities while delivering a successful outcome. This was completed while the Election Team were also putting arrangements in place for the Local Government Election in 5th May 2022. A significant volume of works was undertaken in relation to the planning arrangements.

- b) Review and redevelop the Elected Member Induction Programme ahead of the 2022 local government elections. The Elected Member induction programme underwent a review based on feedback arising from the previous local government elections and this provided the basis for the development of a virtual programme to support election of three new Councillors during 2021/22.

CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT - WE ASKED, YOU SAID, WE DID....

- a) A review of Taxi Fares was conducted during 2021/22. In terms of Section 17 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, the Local Authority requires to fix maximum fares and other charges in connection with the hire of taxis operating in their area and to review the scales for taxi fares and other charges on a regular basis. The review process commenced in summer 2021 and as a result it was proposed that there would be increases to the existing scales. This was advertised with responses invited within a month. Adverts were placed in local newspapers with a deadline given for any responses. After review of the responses the Head of Legal & Regulatory Supports and the Chair of the Planning, Protective Services and Licensing Committee (PPSL) agreed subsequent increases to the current fares.

- b) Procurement, Commercial and Contract Management Team conduct regular Customer and Supplier Surveys. The feedback from our Customers on