

Argyll and Bute Council's Statement on Exercise of Functions

In line with the requirements of the Period Products (Free Provision) (Scotland) Act 2021, Argyll and Bute Council will ensure that period products are available to those who need them, in a way that protects people's dignity while avoiding anxiety, embarrassment and stigma.

A range of products are available to people in a range of different ways, including via online ordering, so that anyone who needs products can access them, regardless of where people live, or their personal circumstances. Products are available in an inclusive way, so that they are available to anyone who menstruates, regardless of their gender, and language used will be gender inclusive.

The provision of products has been designed in keeping with the feedback received during the initial public consultation exercise, and future changes will be made on the basis of feedback from communities through consultations and monitoring. This includes the promotion of products through a dedicated 'My Tribe' brand, to ensure equity and discretion, as well as compliance with the Fairer Scotland Duty.

A range of partners assist the Council with delivering the period product provision, and other Council priorities such as Climate Change are considered, with reusable products and non-plastic products prioritised.

Individuals can access as many products as best suits their own needs, and where products are ordered on line, there may be a delivery charge for this service.

Alongside an online provision, products are available in the following locations, with a provision in male and disabled toilets in public conveniences, with other locations encouraged to have a provision in in male and disabled toilets:

- Schools
- Leisure Centres
- Public Conveniences
- Community Centres
- Independent Locations, available on request (e.g. Church halls/Community spaces)

Argyll and Bute Council have created an individual brand, My Tribe and promotes the period product initiative across the local authority area, both within the community and in schools.

There is a dedicated My Tribe website, which provides a map of locations where products are available, and an awareness campaign of the brand.

The main focus of this initiative is around inclusivity, improving awareness and enabling and empowering those who require access to period products. We aim to focus on improved access, continued awareness, and education around reusable products.