



North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

Garnock Valley Locality Partnership

**Thursday 7 March 2019 at 7.00 pm in Bridgend Community Centre, 17
Bridgend, Kilbirnie KA25 7DJ**

Business

Item	Subject	Pg No	Ref	Officer
1.	Welcome and Apologies			Cllr Bell
2.	Action Note Review the action note and deal with any outstanding items.	Pg 3	Enclosed	Elaine Young
STANDING AGENDA ITEMS				
3.	Locality Officer Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive update enclosed • Update on PB Event • Arran model • Food development plan 	Pg 8	Enclosed	Christina Pieraccini
4.	HSCP Locality Forum Update Receive update on progress	-	Verbal	Dr Janet McKay
5.	Locality Plan Progress Receive feedback from sub-groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moving Around • Facilities and Amenities • Work and the Local Community 	Pg 8	Enclosed Verbal updates	Christina Pieraccini Community Reps
7.	Community Investment Fund Receive progress update on current projects	-	Verbal	Christina Pieraccini
OTHER BUSINESS – DECISION REQUIRED				
8.	Grant Funding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CIF First Stage Expressions of Interest • CIF Second Stage Funding Applications • Nurturing Excellence 	Pg 14	Enclosed	Rosemary Fotheringham/ Christina Pieraccini

	• Festivals and Events			
OTHER BUSINESS – TO INFORM LOCALITY PLANNING				
9.	Locality Youth Forum Update Receive update on recent work	-	Verbal	Gary Tate
11.	Gaelic Language Plan 2019-2024 Update on forthcoming consultation	-	Verbal	Rhona Arthur
12.	Garnock Valley Hackathon Receive verbal update	-	Verbal	Rhona Arthur
13.	AOCB For info, the new Peoples Panel Focus Groups.	Pg 44		Cllr Bell
Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 6 June 2019, 7.00 p.m. Beith Primary School.				

Distribution

Elected Members

Councillor John Bell (Chair)
Councillor Robert Barr
Councillor Anthea Dickson
Councillor Joy Brahim
Councillor Todd Ferguson
Councillor Donald L Reid

Community Representatives

Catherine Wigzell, Community Council
Sheena Woodside, Community Council
Audrey Mason, Community Representative
Ian Shaw, Community Representative
James Waite, Community Representative

CPP Representatives

Dr Janet McKay, North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership (Vice Chair)
Kaileigh Brown, Third Sector Interface
Raymond Fallon, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
Jim McMillan, Police Scotland
Angela Morrell, Lead Officer
Christina Pieraccini, Locality Officer
Elaine Young, Senior Lead Officer (NHS Ayrshire & Arran)

Other Attendees

Rosemary Fotheringham, North Ayrshire Council

Meeting:	Garnock Valley Locality Partnership
Date/Venue:	4 December 2018 – Garnock Campus, Glengarnock
Present:	Councillor John Bell (Chair); Councillor Todd Ferguson ; Councillor Donald L. Reid ; Elaine Young , NHS Ayrshire and Arran (Senior Lead Officer); John McKnight , NAC (Lead Officer); Christina Pieraccini , NAC (Locality Officer); David Cameron , Police Scotland; Janet McKay , NAHSCP (Vice Chair); Catherine Wigzell , Community Representative; Ian Shaw , Community Representative; Audrey Mason , Community Representative; James Waite , Community Representative; Sheena Woodside , Community Representative; Julia Whitaker , North Ayrshire Venture Trust Development Officer, NAC Euan Gray , Committee Services Officer, NAC
Apologies:	Councillor Robert Barr ; Councillor Joy Brahim ; Councillor Anthea Dickson ; Kayleigh Brown , Third Sector Interface

ACTIONS

No.	Action	Responsible
1.	Welcome and Apologies The Chair welcomed everyone to the Garnock Valley Locality Partnership meeting and apologies were noted.	
2.	Action Note The Action Note from the meeting held on 6 September 2018 was approved. It was confirmed that the Festivals and Events budget cannot be carried into the next financial year and the balance must be spent by the end of March 2019. All other actions were complete or would be covered in the meeting. Noted.	
3.	Stagecoach Overview of Work in the Garnock Valley The Partnership received an update on developments with the Stagecoach bus service in the Garnock Valley from Alison McCluskie, Operations Director for Stagecoach West Scotland, and Fraser Smith, Commercial Director for Stagecoach West Scotland.	

	<p>Mr Smith began by setting out some of the challenges faced by bus operators across the country: increased car ownership leading to increased congestion, people travelling less to town centres to shop and socialise, and a change in work patters leading to a reduction in the number of people commuting at traditional times. He then addressed the fact that, as a commercial business, Stagecoach must make a profit and adding additional busses to routes would therefore not be a viable solution.</p> <p>Mr Smith then spoke of the importance of partnership working and stated that the Councils have a role to play in ensuring there is a reliable bus service in their area. He said that Stagecoach wanted to work with communities and would take all feasible suggestions on board.</p> <p>The Partnership asked questions and were provided with further information on:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • timetabling busses so that they meet the trains coming from Glasgow and Irvine; • the issues faced by locals who work in towns like Kilmarnock and rely on public transport outwith peak times; • the lack of consultation with parents over the trial period for the route which ran to the new Garnock Campus and that fact that private busses are now being run by parents for school transport; • how operators can adapt when passenger numbers are low and therefore adding busses would not solve the issue; • a timetabling issue with the number 25 where two busses come in minutes apart; and • if Stagecoach would engage with a proposed travel needs analysis. <p>Stagecoach agreed to (a) link with the group in relation to the transport needs assessment; (b) investigate timetabling issues with the 25 service and the fact that the busses do not meet the trains; and (c) provide a future update on the suggestion that smaller busses on minor routes feeding into major routes. Christina to make ensure links are made to Stagecoach at appropriate juncture</p>	<p>Christina Pieraccini</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Coastguard Rescue Service</p> <p>Kevin Paterson from the Ardrossan Coastguard Rescue Service gave a presentation and highlighted some of the points below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Team is on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year; • Each team member is a volunteer who lives within the local community, has a full time occupation and brings with them their own specialist skills and knowledge, ensuring for a diverse and very capable rescue unit; • Currently the team has specialists in industrial rope access, first aid and advanced trauma care as well as advanced land navigation and search management; 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The team are highly trained in a wide range of disciplines including water rescue, missing person search techniques, technical rope rescue, 4x4 support, radio communications, emergency life support and helicopter operations; and • Although primarily tasked with coastal and cliff rescue incidents, the team can deploy inland if required to assist other emergency services with missing person searches or rescue operations where our specialist equipment and techniques can be deployed. <p>Noted.</p>	
5.	<p>Locality Youth Forum Update</p> <p>The Partnership received an update on the Locality Youth Forum from Taylor Broughton, Dionne Griffiths, Nicole Welsh, and Amy ***</p> <p>The Youth Forum aims to work closely with the Partnership to improve the lives of young people in the Garnock Valley. They also plan to work with schools to encourage increased participation in the Forum among pupils.</p> <p>Two members of the Youth Forum have started the process to become candidates for the Scottish Youth Parliament Elections which will take place in March 2019.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	
6.	<p>Council Plan and Budget Engagement</p> <p>The Partnership received a report from John McKnight on the draft Council Plan 2019-2024.</p> <p>The Partnership discussed the “plan on a page” model used. The general consensus was positive with members noting it was an effective way of displaying the Council’s main goals. It was also noted that while the information that was available was positive, a full action plan would still be needed to explain how these goals would be achieved.</p> <p>Members were asked to submit any feedback to the Community Planning team inbox.</p>	All members
7.	<p>Participatory Budgeting</p> <p>Christina Pieraccini provided an update on participatory budgeting in the Garnock Valley informing members that the process of collating responses is under way and that Survey Monkey has been used to allow a greater number of responses to be submitted.</p> <p>At a recent youth participatory budget event 11 youth groups from the Garnock Valley received funding with 787 young people casting a vote.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	

8.	<p>Locality Co-ordinator Update</p> <p>Christina Pieraccini submitted a report on the work which she has undertaken in her role as Locality Co-Ordinator.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	
9.	<p>HSCP Locality Forum Update</p> <p>Janet McKay provided a verbal update on the work which has been undertaken by the HSCP Locality Forum.</p> <p>A number of points were discussed including:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An engagement activity around their local priorities; • A review of the membership of the Locality Forum; • £2.5m investment from the health board to rehabilitation and enablement services; and • Issues with recruitment and non-traditional routes for staff entering employment with the NHS. <p>Noted.</p>	
10.	<p>Locality Plan Progress</p> <p>Christina Pieraccini submitted a report on the work which has been undertaken by the three Locality Partnership Sub-groups, Moving Around, Facilities and Amenities, and Work and the Local Economy.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	
11.	<p>Community Investment Fund</p> <p>John McKnight provided an update on the status of the application for CIF funding submitted by Dalry Sports Club for a drainage project in Dalry Public Park.</p> <p>At the meeting on 6 September 2018 the Partnership considered the application and agreed to request that a report be produced by an NAC Roads Flooding expert on the proposed drainage method and other funding options. A drainage survey has now been commissioned and the results will be reported in due course.</p> <p>The Partnership were also made aware of an issue around the ownership of the land and the restrictions on the type of work which can be carried out without a lease in place. Dalry Sports Club advised that this information has only recently come to light and is a large setback to the proposal. Meetings have been scheduled to discuss the future progress of the proposal.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	

12.	<p>Grant Funding</p> <p><u>Community Investment Fund</u></p> <p>The Partnership considered expressions of interest in terms of CIF funding from the Beith Development Trust, The Ayrshire Community Trust (TACT), and the GVLP Facilities and Amenities Working Group.</p> <p>The Partnership agreed to refer the applications to the relevant working group to ascertain if enough information has been provided and to bring a recommendation to a future meeting.</p> <p>The Partnership also considered a CIF funding application from the Moving Around Working Group for £25,000 to fund a travel needs analysis in the area. The Partnership agreed that the proposal proceed to the North Ayrshire Council Cabinet for approval.</p> <p>It was noted that there may be a requirement in future to use part of the CIF funding for future grant awarding PB</p> <p><u>Other Grants</u></p> <p>The Partnership agreed to make the following awards:-</p> <p>Nurturing Excellence in Communities</p> <table><tr><td>Barmill Community Association</td><td>£621.58</td></tr><tr><td>Garnock Valley Allotment Association</td><td>£0</td></tr><tr><td>Greenhills SWI</td><td>£270.97 (i)</td></tr></table> <p>Kilbirnie and Glengarnock Charitable Trust</p> <table><tr><td>Garnock Valley Men’s Shed</td><td>£1249.71</td></tr></table> <p>Dalry and Gateside Charitable Trust</p> <table><tr><td>Playtime Early Years</td><td>£0 (ii)</td></tr></table> <p>Margaret Archibald Bequest</p> <table><tr><td>St. Margaret’s Church Guild</td><td>£260</td></tr></table> <p>(i) The total amount requested less the amount for marquee hire was awarded. The group will be advised on who to contact to use the community marquees.</p> <p>(ii) The application was deferred to a future meeting pending a consultation response from the Council’s legal team.</p>	Barmill Community Association	£621.58	Garnock Valley Allotment Association	£0	Greenhills SWI	£270.97 (i)	Garnock Valley Men’s Shed	£1249.71	Playtime Early Years	£0 (ii)	St. Margaret’s Church Guild	£260	<p>Christina Pieraccini</p> <p>Audrey Sutton</p> <p>Julia Whitaker</p>
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13.	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>The date of the next meeting of the Garnock Valley Locality Partnership has yet to be confirmed. A meeting initiation will be issued to all members in due course.</p>													

The meeting ended at 9.25 p.m.



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Garnock Valley Progress Report

March 2019



Locality update

- **The Provost's Civic Pride Awards 2019** – The Garnock Valley Men's Shed and Café Solace are both finalists in this year's Provost Civic Pride awards in the community group category. This award is for a voluntary group which has made a positive contribution and promoted or demonstrated civic pride in its community. Beith & District Community Council were also nominated under this category.
- Robyn Caldwell is also a finalist under the Young Citizen of the Year award. This award is for a young person (under 25 years) who has made a positive contribution and promoted or demonstrated civic pride in his/her community. Robyn dedicates a huge amount of time to volunteering at schools in the Garnock Valley, running basketball, badminton and netball teams, a lunchtime games club and assists with a S5 and S6 sports leaders' class. She helps out at Dalry Athletics Club and North Ayrshire Athletics Club and runs activities at schools across the area as part of North Ayrshire Council's holiday school meals programme. She also volunteered at Dalry Community Sports Club's summer camp.
- **Garnock Valley Community Council Networking meeting** - The 3 Garnock Valley Community Councils met again in February and are now progressing towards more collaborative working including producing a joint leaflet, submitting a collective application to the Community Investment Fund for a Participatory Budgeting event and also looking to run a youth work pilot. The collective group will next meet again on 27th March to take forward the youth pilot project.
- **Streetscene PB** - NAC received over 200 responses for the latest round of Ground Maintenance PB idea generation phase. The Streetscene Officers will now review the results to identify 'themes' in each Locality. This information will then hopefully be uploaded onto the Digital PB platform for 'on-line' voting/preferences with a paper voting option being available too.
- **MSYP elections** – The elections for the Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament will be held during March. Voting will be open from Friday 15th March until Thursday 28th March. Winners will be announced on Friday 29th March. Young people from the Garnock Valley who have been nominated are being supported during the process.



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Moving around (public transport, traffic and parking)

Highlights

- **Travel Needs Analysis** - The application to the Community Investment Fund for the travel Needs Analysis was successful and was ratified by Cabinet in February. The working group met with Stagecoach, SPT and Police Scotland on 13th February to discuss how to plan and implement the survey with all 3 key partners offering ongoing support in the project.
- **Dr Bike** – Following on from the popularity of the Dr. Bike sessions at Kilbirnie & Dalry Parklives in 2018, planning is underway to build on this for 2019 utilising funding from Cycling UK. This year it will include a led community cycle.
- **Active Travel** - The second drop in engagement session around active travel within the Garnock Valley took place on 26th February in Garnock Campus.

Next Steps

The working group will progress with the travel needs analysis and are also looking at the possibility of a pilot project with Garnock Campus and Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce. The working group will meet again on 13th March in Dalry Community Centre, Dalry.



Facilities and amenities

Highlights

- **Garnock Valley Men's Shed** – The Men's Shed continues to grow from strength to strength. Barr construction are now supporting the group to develop the toilet facilities at the shed. The Modellers Group are now operating in a purpose built modelling/crafts room within the shed, which was decorated by shed members and funded by the Towns Charitable Trust and WW1 Legacy funding. With 10 active model enthusiasts, the group has been approved to be a provider of Models For Heroes. Models For Heroes (part of the Help For Heroes charity) will provide the group with free models, paints, glue etc and the shed will provide tutored modelling sessions for military veterans.
- Age Scotland has agreed to fund and produce a promotional video for the Garnock Valley Men's Shed. This will be useful for funding applications, promoting the shed to a wider audience and engaging with hard to reach men to tackle loneliness and social isolation. Age Concern visited GVMS recently and were very impressed by what they termed as a "dynamic shed."
- **Geilsland Hall** - Thanks to funding from the Big Lottery, the community of Beith and the wider Garnock Valley can look forward to a valuable new facility as Geilsland Hall is preparing to undergo extensive refurbishment and upgrading. The project is informed by a process of slow design and asset based community development.



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- **Stoneyholm Mill** – The Stoneyholm Mill trust have organised a “Mills Girls” event which will take place on Sunday 10th March in Garnock Campus. This event is to tie in with International Women’s Day and will include a dramatization of the strike at the mill in 1913 as well as a showing of the Mill Girls Film. Tickets are free and are available to anyone who wishes to attend.
- **Kilbirnie & Glengarnock Community Council** – The Kilbirnie & Glengarnock Community Council have developed a newsletter and website that will help to promote the community council as well as share information through the local community. The newsletter has been distributed in local shops and buildings and they have also developed a new Facebook page. They will also soon be putting out nomination forms for Volunteer of the Year in preparation for their annual event. The Community Council are also looking to recruit 2 new members and have asked that anyone interested in joining them makes contact before 1st April.

Next steps

The working group will next meet on Wednesday 3rd April at 7pm in Bridgend Community Centre, Kilbirnie.

Highlights

- **Activity Agreement** – Working with Garnock Campus, NAC Education and SDS, the Community Development Team started a Pre Activity Agreement programme in January with 8 young people from Garnock Campus actively engaging with CLD staff and making good progress in the programme. Discussions are currently underway to how that can be built upon and progressed after Easter.
- **Local Craft Fayre** – The Beith Development Trust will host the first of three craft fayres on 20th April from 11am-3pm and is a free event. There will be over 30 local crafters and individual traders. This event supports local crafters and independent traders. Events like these helps to encourage and develop businesses within an area allowing them to thrive and be as successful as possible.
- **Telephone Befriending project** - Beith Development Trust are piloting a telephone befriending project ‘Lend an Ear’, which was launched in November 2018. By end January 2019, 4 people were trained as telephone befrienders and are reaching out to 15 isolated, lonely or vulnerable individuals on a weekly basis, offering a chat and friendly voice once or twice a week. Initial feedback has been very positive from both sides of the telephone line.
- **Garnock Valley Parklives** - The ParkLives organising group have been meeting to start the process of planning ParkLives for 2019. They hope to build on the success of the 2018 events in Beith, Dalry and Kilbirnie, where an average of



Work and the
local community



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200+ people attended each weekly event. Local people participated in free sports activities and received free food in the local public parks. Volunteers are being sought to assist with preparation of 2019, including helping to set up and serve food. Full training will be provided. The group are also looking to explore how sports coaching and other qualifications can be incorporated in to Parklives to develop the skills and experience of those volunteering their time to help run the events. Parklives 2019 will run from 7th May in Kilbirnie until 22nd August in Beith.

- **The Stove Network** - The working group are planning to link in with the 3 Community Councils to visit the Stove Network in Dumfries to hear about the work they are doing. This community project has been working to develop the main street in Dumfries.
- **Local businesses** - The working group is also starting to link in with the newly formed Garnock Valley Business Forum, initially through the Locality Officer and the Business Development Team. This will help to build a closer working relationship between the local community and local businesses.
- **Youth Forum** – The youth forum have now recruited new members and staff are currently working with the group to build their capacity.
- **Place Woodland** – The group have been working on environmental and horticultural projects including building a bridge at the site. Members of the group are currently working towards a John Muir award. They will soon be undertaking a small project at the community garden at Bridgend and are linking in with one of the Garnock Connections projects. The group are looking for more volunteers to join them.
- **ESOL** – 4 new groups for English for Speakers of Other Languages will start during March in the Walker Hall Kilbirnie.

Next steps

The next meeting of the working group will take place on Thursday 21st March at Beith Community Centre, Beith.

For further information contact:

Christina Pieraccini - Locality Officer
cpieraccini@north-ayrshire.gov.uk
01505 680206



Community Investment Fund Expression of Interest Form

Organisation name	Garnock Valley Collective Community Councils
Brief details of organisation	<p>Beith and District Community Council are the lead organisation for this application. Our partners are Kilbirnie and Glengarnock Community Council and Dalry Community Council.</p> <p>The objectives of Community Councils shall be (a) to ascertain, co-ordinate and express to local and public authorities and others the views of the community and (b) to take such action in the interests of the community as appears to the Community Council to be expedient and practicable.</p>
Locality	Garnock Valley
Amount requested	£39,000
Brief overview of proposal	<p>We would like to hold a Participatory Budget event in the Garnock Valley. We plan to base our application around the three outcome objectives of the Garnock Valley Locality Partnership (GVLP). This whole project will be driven by the wider local community, with the community council in each area driving the project. We plan to develop a steering group made up of members of the three community councils.</p> <p>We believe that we are adding value to an existing programme of work. There has been 2 participatory budgeting (PB) events in the Garnock Valley which have been successful. Working with our partners at North Ayrshire Council we believe that we can further enhance these events and make them more inclusive for all in the Garnock Valley. The obvious collaboration is that the three community councils are working together to hold these events. However, we will rely on all our partners and stakeholders to ensure that all elements of the community are represented and able to take part.</p> <p>Our process will engage our wide-ranging partners and stakeholders which will allow many sections of the community to take part. However, we do not see this as enough, we believe that we have to reach out to the rest of the community, those who for whatever reason are not involved with these partners and stakeholders. In order to do this, we have considered the barriers to involvement and how we can work to overcome these.</p> <p>Transport is a major issue in our community, and one of the reasons we are holding 3 events, one in each area but we don't think this goes far enough and plan to arrange shuttle buses so the event is even more accessible, likewise the venues will be disabled friendly.</p> <p>Social isolation is a major issue and we hope that this event will lead to people making friends and also finding out more about local groups, to this end as well as group and projects bidding for money there will be stalls highlighting other local groups and clubs. To make this less formal and more social we plan to have free catering so building these connections can be done in a relaxed and natural manner.</p>

	<p>Prior to all this we wish to ensure that the applications come from all sections of the community. To do this we plan to target the underrepresented groups from the previous PB events. We plan to liaise with old people's welfare committees, sheltered housing and the local disability forum to ensure these groups have the chance to apply. We will link in with the Garnock Valley Youth Forum and the schools to ensure young people are encouraged to apply.</p> <p>We will also link in with Café Solace in Kilbirnie, which will assist us in reaching out to people in recovery and those experiencing mental health issues.</p> <p>Importantly as well as expecting the applications to meet the local priorities we would be looking for the applications to be for sustainable projects. So, for instance we would not support a trip or outing for a group, but we would consider supporting a project that increases the numbers of the groups and allow the group to thrive going forward. We would foresee any shortlisted activities being sustainable or a project that would make the group more sustainable.</p>
Timescales	Within 6 months of the funding being approved
Contact details	<p>Helen McNaughton 30 Reform Street, Beith Ayrshire KA15 2AE 07743927743 chair@beith-district.co.uk</p>

Forms should be returned to your Locality Co-ordinator by post or email.

For more information see the guidance form here: <http://www.northayrshire.community/wp-content/uploads/sites/60/2018/06/community-investment-fund-guidance-notes-17-12-17.pdf> or contact the Community Planning Team on info@northayrshire.community



Community Investment Fund Application Form: Garnock Valley Locality

The CIF will support proposals and projects that:

- Connect with:
 - The North Ayrshire Fair for All Inequalities Strategy;
 - the Community Planning Partnership and Locality priorities; and
 - North Ayrshire Council's values, priorities and business objectives.
- Fulfil a compelling need and do not duplicate existing services or facilities;
- Provide long-term, sustainable, positive results for the greatest number of people possible;
- Exhibit project and/or organisational innovation in their approaches to their work in their way of addressing community challenges and in their request to Locality Partnerships and the Council;
- Come from (an) organisation(s) that is financially viable (can provide financial statements upon request) and efficiently and effectively managed. This can include an organisation to be created to deliver the project;
- Include options or potential for NAC and CPP employee engagement and volunteering where possible; and
- Include measurable outcomes and can report to NAC on outcomes on a regular basis.

When to apply and how?

- LPs should continue to engage with their communities, and stimulate interest in the CIF. The Locality Partnership will then strategically assess the applications, make links and look at the funding 'in the round'.
- If the partnership supports a bid then the group will be encouraged to submit a full application form, which they will decide upon before making a proposal to Cabinet for final approval.
- The finalised proposal will go to the next suitable Cabinet for final approval.
- Forms should be returned to your Locality Co-ordinator, by email if possible:

Christina Pieraccini
Locality Officer - Garnock Valley
Connected Communities
North Ayrshire Council
Walker Hall
45, Main Street
Kilbirnie
KA25 7BX

Tel: 01505 680206
Mob: 07966 160854
Email: cpieraccini@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Support and information will be available for groups who are not successful. For more information see the guidance form here: <http://www.northayrshire.community/wp-content/uploads/sites/60/2018/06/community-investment-fund-guidance-notes-17-12-17.pdf>

APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Community Investment Fund

1. Details of your organisation

Name of Organisation: Garnock Valley Locality Partnership
Facilities and Amenities Working Group

Postal Address for
Correspondence: Walker Hall, Main Street, Kilbirnie, KA25 7BX.....

Name of Contact Person: Christina Pieraccini.....

Position in Organisation: Locality Officer.....

Contact Telephone Number: 01505 680206.....

E mail address: cpieraccini@north-ayrshire.gov.uk.....

2. Brief description of your organisation

The Facilities & Amenities working group is a sub group of the Garnock Valley Locality Partnership. The Working Group was set up in February 2018 to work collaboratively to take forward actions identified by the community, which are highlighted in the Garnock Valley Locality Action Plan.

The group is chaired by Catherine Wigzell, who is the Chair of Kilbirnie & Glengarnock Community Council. Other members of the working group include representative from: Dalry Community Council, Beith Community Development Trust, Dalry Community Sports Club and Project Kilbirnie.

The group meet monthly and have worked hard since coming together to refine the action plan and have identified the first areas to take forward using a coproduction model of working. They aim to work together to co-design and co-deliver solutions to the priorities defined in the Locality Action Plan, as well as drive and support locality activities.

3. Title and summary of proposal

The aim is to work to change the narrative of the Garnock Valley by creating a positive mindset and perception within the community of the area in which they live, as well as those from out with the area. It will promote the Garnock Valley as a positive destination (as included in the Garnock Valley Locality Action Plan) and help groups promote all the great and exciting work they are involved in locally. This will be done through a variety of means including: utilising existing social media platforms, creating new ones where needed, leaflets, logo, posters, pop up banners, training, linking people together, adverts, newsletter and working towards developing a signage strategy. It is hoped that it will send out a positive message about the Garnock Valley, while also highlighting what is happening locally and encouraging more people to get involved. It is hoped it will reduce social isolation as awareness of local groups, activities and events is raised within the community. It is also anticipated that it will link in with tourism and marketing, as well as working with local businesses (via the Business Growth Team) to try get their buy in and contribution.

This project will be Garnock Valley wide and will encourage people from all of the areas to work together. It will target a broad audience: local people to help create a positive perception of Garnock Valley and instil a greater sense of civic pride but also to attract people to the area through visitors and tourism.

This is a new project and the funding will be used to employ a member of staff to drive forward the project vision and also to buy materials and resources. One of the tasks will be to explore the feasibility of a Garnock Valley brand. Would businesses and local people buy in to it as an umbrella brand? Would they identify with and use it? The person will be proactive and will also work with local groups to build their social capital to help them promote themselves through support and training which in turn will hopefully encourage new members and new volunteers for their groups.

The post will also help to promote local events and activities, targeting those socially isolated and work with partners to enable people to get out and about more to the activities.

The person will collate, highlight and showcase positive stories about the Garnock Valley, highlighting the assets within the community. By working with local groups and organisations, they will help them design engaging events and activities, to encourage more people to get involved.

They will also be responsible for the promotion and planning of activities and in uploading content to online calendars, while engaging with and training local groups to populate and use it. One of the other suggestions for this role will be to work towards a theme/creative vision for the Garnock Valley.

Outcomes – Once the baseline is established by mapping current perceptions, it is hoped we can demonstrate:

- an increase in civic pride
- an increase in participation of people getting involved
- an increase in satisfaction/joy/happiness
- an increase in people liking where they live
- an increase in awareness of local opportunities.

4. What difference will this project make within the locality and to local services and programmes?

Please include -

[a] *How you will approach reducing inequality*

[b] *How this proposal fits with Garnock Valley's priorities of:*

1. *Moving Around (Public Transport, Traffic and Parking)*
2. *Work and Local Community*
3. *Facilities and Amenities*

This project has been identified through the Locality Plan and has been co-designed by the Facilities and Amenities Working Group, where representatives from Beith, Dalry and Kilbirnie have all been involved.

This project would help to promote the Garnock Valley on a wider scale, hopefully encouraging more people to visit the area and what it has to offer.

It is hoped that through the work of this project, people from outwith the area will be encouraged to visit but also by promoting what is on offer locally, it will encourage more people to get involved and reduce loneliness and social isolation. This could include targeting specific people in the area through a number of different methods i.e. leaflets in prescriptions, home shopping delivery etc. As well as working to address the priority of Facilities and Amenities, it would also contribute towards Moving Around (social isolation) and Work and Local Community (volunteering).

This project will link in with tourism and businesses (places to go, things to see) as well as working with a number of partners.

In addition, part of the role will include a proactive approach to building the skills within the community through training and support. It is hoped to build links with Ayrshire College to offer volunteering placements to media students, which could help develop and maintain the project.

Long term legacy through training and encouraging new volunteers/increased involvement in groups and activities. It is hoped it will make a difference by changing the community narrative and boosting civic pride.

5. Please give an overview of the engagement that has taken place in relation to the project

Please include the number of people that have been engaged with/ consulted

Over the last 2 years, a number of engagement events and work have taken place to identify the locality priorities and create the Locality Action Plan. These include: the Go Garnock Charette, workshops using the Place Standards toolkit, online surveys and discussion groups.

The group undertook some engagement (at Parklives and What's on events) during September and October 2018 to help establish what the Garnock Valley means to people locally, which will hopefully lead to ideas for a logo. This will be built upon by the person who takes on the role. In addition, a large part of the role will be working with local community groups and organisations to embed new skills gained and help ensure sustainability and a long term legacy.

In February and March 2018 the working group worked to refine the action plan and identified ways of moving forward. A marketing post was widely recognised as a role which could build the profile of the locality, as well as helping local groups to promote themselves. It is anticipated this would encourage new people to visit the area, as well as work towards shifting the mindset of the local community, by bolstering civic pride within the locality and strengthening community cohesion. It is hoped that this will also raise the profile of the locality partnership and contribute towards a collective Garnock valley identity.

6. Please tell us how the project will be managed

The project will create 1 new job, which will either full time or part time (TBC) for an initial period of either 1 year or 2 years (TBC). The person would be employed by North Ayrshire Council (as a fall back) or by another host organisation which has the infrastructure in place to employ staff. Whoever hosts the role would have to ensure that the person works to the remit of promoting the Garnock Valley as a whole, in line with the Locality Partnership objectives. If employed by NAC, they would be line managed on a day to day basis by the Locality Officer. This person would also be guided and directed by the Facilities and Amenities working group.

It is hoped that this post will work to encourage more people in to the area, as well as encouraging more people to get involved in local groups. The role will be to support existing groups to promote themselves and encourage new members to get involved, thus increasing volunteering in the area.

To date, there are a number of groups who have been working together within the working group. They include: North Ayrshire Council, Dalry Community Sports Club, Beith Community Development Trust, Kilbirnie & Glengarnock Community Council, Dalry Community Council, Project Kilbirnie and Garnock Connections. They also link in with other groups and organisations as part of this role.

As a sub group of the Locality Partnership, it is also hoped that the CPP partners will help contribute towards achieving this objective including: Police Scotland, NHS and TSI. In addition, the Person employed will also reach out to the business community to forge links with local businesses and, if possible, obtain sponsorship (financial or in kind).

7. Amount of funding being requested

Please supply details of the amount of funding being requested and any **other** funding you have had over the past 5 years, both financially and 'in kind'.

Amount of funding requested:	£50,000
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If the person is employed for 2 years part time at a Grade 9, the costs will be between £18,728 and £20,452 per annum, depending on where they would be placed on the scale. This includes all employer costs and contributions.

If the person is employed for 2 years part time at a Grade 10 (in line with a NAC Communications Officer), the costs would be between £21,050 and £23,019 per annum.
Any remaining amounts would be used to contribute towards any non-payroll expenditure and to buy resources and materials for the campaign.

(All staff costs are provisional subject to job evaluation).

There is an expectation that the person employed would work to attract external funding, either through grants or sponsorship with local businesses, to add value to and develop the project and to attract further investment. Awards for All has been identified as a possible source to put on events and training.

8. Monitoring and evaluation process

Please include detail on –

[a] *What monitoring and evaluation processes are planned/ in place*

Day to day line management would be by the host organisation, supported by the Locality Officer (on behalf of the working group). The person would be required to submit monthly updates to the Facilities and Amenities Working Group and also submit a quarterly report to the Locality Partnership.

One of the initial tasks would be to benchmark and create a starting point, which will help monitor progress towards meeting the aims of the project.



Community Investment Fund Application Form: Garnock Valley Locality

The CIF will support proposals and projects that:

- Connect with:
 - The North Ayrshire Fair for All Inequalities Strategy;
 - the Community Planning Partnership and Locality priorities; and
 - North Ayrshire Council's values, priorities and business objectives.
- Fulfil a compelling need and do not duplicate existing services or facilities;
- Provide long-term, sustainable, positive results for the greatest number of people possible;
- Exhibit project and/or organisational innovation in their approaches to their work in their way of addressing community challenges and in their request to Locality Partnerships and the Council;
- Come from (an) organisation(s) that is financially viable (can provide financial statements upon request) and efficiently and effectively managed. This can include an organisation to be created to deliver the project;
- Include options or potential for NAC and CPP employee engagement and volunteering where possible; and
- Include measurable outcomes and can report to NAC on outcomes on a regular basis.

When to apply and how?

- LPs should continue to engage with their communities, and stimulate interest in the CIF. The Locality Partnership will then strategically assess the applications, make links and look at the funding 'in the round'.
- If the partnership supports a bid then the group will be encouraged to submit a full application form, which they will decide upon before making a proposal to Cabinet for final approval.
- The finalised proposal will go to the next suitable Cabinet for final approval.

- Forms should be returned to your Locality Co-ordinator, by email if possible:

Christina Pieraccini
Locality Officer - Garnock Valley
Connected Communities
North Ayrshire Council
Walker Hall
45, Main Street
Kilbirnie
KA25 7BX

Tel: 01505 680203
Mob: 07966 160854
Email: cpieraccini@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Support and information will be available for groups who are not successful. For more information see the guidance form here: <http://www.northayrshire.community/wp-content/uploads/sites/60/2018/06/community-investment-fund-guidance-notes-17-12-17.pdf>

APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Community Investment Fund

1. Details of your organisation

Name of Organisation: Beith Community Development Trust

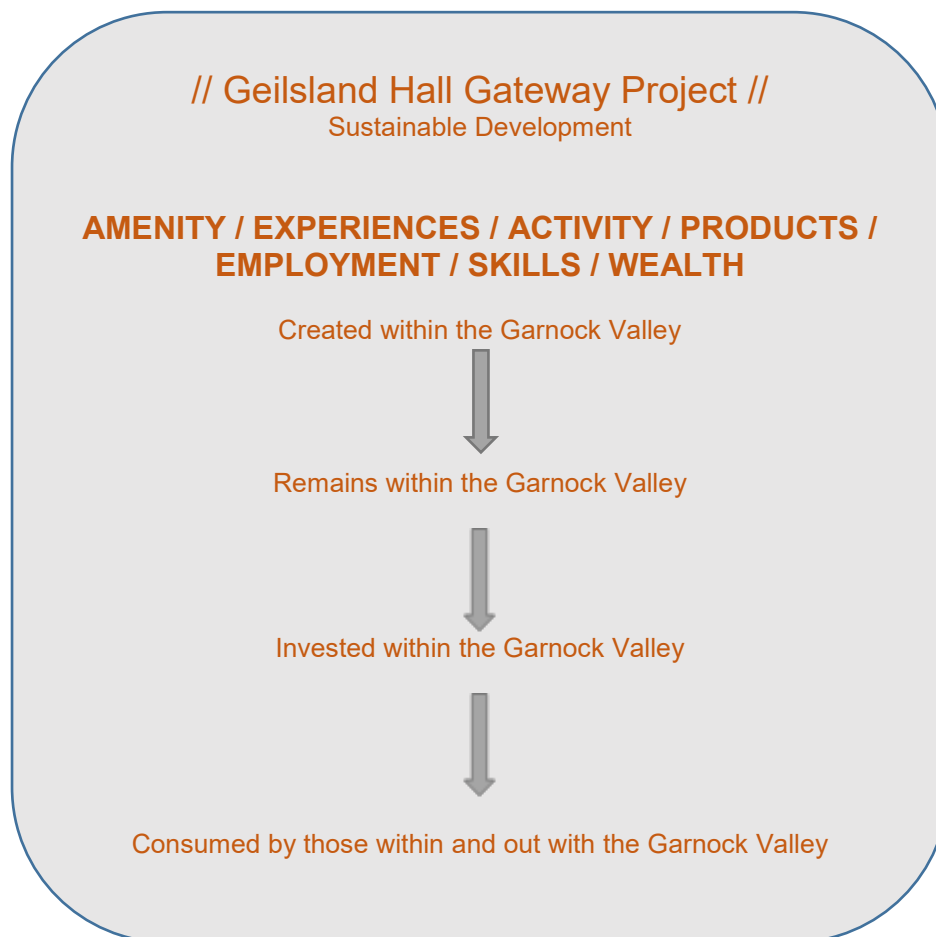
Postal Address for Correspondence: Geilsland House Estate, Geilsland Rd, Beith KA15 1HD..

Name of Contact Person: JANE LAMONT

Position in Organisation: Senior Officer

Contact Telephone Number 01505 228141

E mail address jane.lamont@beithtrust.org



Brief description of your organisation

Please include -

[a] Legal status, e.g. voluntary organisation, public/private limited by shares or guarantee;

[b] How long has organisation been in existence?

[c] Aims & objectives;

[d] General activities or services provided

Beith Community Development Trust (Beith Trust) is a community anchor organisation operating in Beith but also reaches out to the wider communities and satellite villages of the Garnock Valley.

We are a registered Scottish Charity and Company Limited by Guarantee. Only people with a KA14 & KA15 postcode are eligible for full membership and therefore eligible to be elected to the Board of Directors. Organisations, clubs and individuals living out-with the area are eligible for Associate Membership, young people aged 12 – 18 can join as Junior Members. Membership is free for everyone.

We currently have 859 members. We employ 9 full time staff, 15 part time and support 55 volunteers within our work on an annual basis.

We work between Beith Astro and Geilsland Estate delivering programmes and interventions aimed at developing people and place.

Our work focuses on providing support, resources & infrastructure which equips individuals to gain skills, attitudes and experiences which supports them to progress and develop on their own terms and at their own pace, the work we do often attracts people beyond the area to the Garnock Valley.

The board of Beith Trust is currently made up of 7 full members and 1 co-opted member, 7 men and 1 woman, skill sets within the board range within education, finance, HR, business development, project development and facilities management. The full board meets a minimum of 5 times a year, a finance subgroup meets monthly or more as required. Other subgroups meet when necessary and all feedback to main board.

Beith Trust was first thought of in 2010 when local sports facilities were threatened with closure. This situation was the catalyst that mobilised local people to come together as drivers of change in the local community.

They formed Beith Trust in 2012 to enable the sports facilities to operate under community management. The subsequent work of Beith Trust within the space transformed the tired and empty pitches and changing facilities into a dynamic enterprising community hub, offering opportunities for sport, learning and leadership training. In 2014 Beith Trust topped the RBS SE100 Index for growth and impact in Scotland and Beith Trust were awarded the Celebrating Community Section at the 2015 Scottish Charity Awards and we went on to achieve sports Leader Academy status in 2016 in recognition of the leadership pathways we facilitated in our work.

The board of Beith Trust is made up of local people who are elected from and by our members. Beith Trust is a membership organisation, we currently have 859 members. The unique nature of our work means that we are able to engage and support more vulnerable people in activities with meaningful purpose, enabling them to participate in project work which improves their general health, well-being, skill set and networks of friends and support.

3. Title and summary of proposal

Tell us a bit about your idea. Please describe in as much detail as possible, what the funding will be used for. Please include where it will be held / delivered, who is your target audience, who will benefit from it and how and indicate any partners that are involved.

Please include -

[a] What outcomes your organisation wishes to achieve;

[b] Is this a new service / project?

[c] Does a new organisation need to be set up?

Please ensure that all of the above information is supplied. Failure to do so may result in your application being rejected.

Geilsland Hall - Gateway to Garnock Valley

The Geilsland Hall Gateway Project to which this proposal relates will create a prominent, tangible venture which announces the Garnock Valley presence within North Ayrshire.

Currently an 'at risk' local landmark, Geilsland will be re-positioned as a prominent community asset hosting a range of quality / high profile social, recreational, commercial, community and entrepreneurial activity.

The Geilsland Hall Gateway Project will support and encourage the growth expansion of footfall, enterprise & business to and from, between and across the Geilsland Site and the wider Garnock Valley by nurturing a natural flow of consumers, individuals, produce and goods through collaboration and organic development, growth and expansion of the Geilsland Hall enterprise.

The Geilsland Hall Gateway Project will provide new employment, learning, training and skills development opportunities via two routes - within the operational requirements of the building itself and within the activities that take place within the programme the enterprise will facilitate. Activities within Geilsland Hall will serve a dual role;

1 - to attract consumers, visitors and residents to Beith as consumers of experience, amenity, goods and produce - creating new conditions which support enterprise, employment & training opportunities, volunteering and work placements.

2 - to host activity by providing support, opportunities, resources & infrastructure which equips individuals skills, attitudes and experience to source, secure and retain decent employment within or beyond the opportunities available within Beith Trust

Geilsland Hall Gateway will promote the Garnock Valley and create employment, training, skills development and volunteering opportunities within the operational requirements of the venue.

It will provide local communities, consumers and tourists with quality amenity, experiences, comfortable services, and accommodation offering equipped for 21st century lifestyles. This will be all underpinned by an annual programme of activity and events and high profile festivals which will keep them returning to linger to the venue and adjacent area to visit and consume produce and amenity.

The venue will be promoted as a 'Gateway to the Garnock Valley' and announce 'Welcome to the Garnock Valley' to passing traffic. A diverse range of accommodation will draw people to the Garnock Valley who would not normally consider the area as an option. The range of amenity on the site will accommodate the requirements of a diverse range of ethnic groups, organisations, recreational, sports and social groups and clubs, businesses and recreational customers.

The unique nature of Geilsland Hall can host up to 1500 people on site and the accommodation offering onsite can house 75 people within self-catering units and more within further camping / campervan / caravan stop over options.

The real value of the Geilsland Hall Gateway project is not only the new activity and improved amenity for the communities of the Garnock Valley but within the immediate operational requirements which will create new jobs and skills development opportunities for the Garnock Valley, the nature of the activity in and around Geilsland Hall creates a great number of ongoing and one off volunteering opportunities.

More vulnerable volunteers will be supported through an in-house progression route which will manage a pathway of volunteering, work experience, learning, accreditation and skills development opportunities which will equip those affected by complex life situations with meaningful purpose, stronger networks of

support and the necessary skills and attitudes to secure and retain employment either within or beyond the operational requirements of Beith Trust should they feel able to progress to employment.

This focused positive promotion the Garnock Valley and its attractions, the unique nature of the venue and its amenity, the quality accommodation options for all incomes and the high profile festivals and events like Beith Beer Festival will promote and celebrate the Garnock Valley beyond North Ayrshire showcasing local talent and produce, incubating new enterprise and small business and creative industries.

This activity will combine to reverse the negative perception of what the Garnock Valley has to offer residents, tourists, businesses and visitors. It will encourage local people to invest their time and money locally and new people to the area to stop, stay and spend their time and money. Longer term impact through local multiplier effects from increased incomes that employment opportunities provide will increase activity within our local economy overall.

The enterprise will operate as an income generating community enterprise and the income generated by Geilsland Hall will support its operation to become sustainable and less reliant on external financial resources.

Over time and with the right support there is real potential to re-position the local economy away from a reliance on inward investment from external sources to a generative economy that re-invests in people and place.

Geilsland Hall - Gateway to Garnock Valley

Main Objectives

- To promote and improve the Garnock Valley by encouraging residents and visitors to spend their time and money locally
- To create a sustainable income generating community enterprise which creates and sustains opportunities for decent employment and enables individuals to engage and progress through meaningful volunteering and skills development opportunities

Potential Impact and Benefits

- Opportunity to build skills and capacity for local people to enact real and sustainable change within their community.
- The size and quality of the existing physical infrastructure and site permits a diverse range of activity to be incorporated into a single location
- Income generation through commercial activities which will strengthen to sustainability of the enterprise
- Full time, living wage employment opportunities combined with work related skills development within operational requirements
- Acts as an advert for the Garnock Valley beyond the region.
- Increased visitor numbers leading to increased economic activity in the area
- Improved visitor and resident amenity

Geilsland Hall – Gateway to the Garnock Valley is a new project borne from the acquisition and subsequent development of a much loved prominent community asset. The site had previously operated as a young offender's residential home. A community petition and subsequent successful application to the Scottish Land Fund secured the site as a community asset for the future of our community late in 2015.

This proposal specifically relates to Geilsland Hall, but it is important that it is seen in the context of community led regeneration through an asset based approach. To date, significant resources have been successfully sourced and invested in the consolidation, improvement and development of suitable infrastructure and capital works upon the Geilsland site, specifically toward supporting the refurbishment of Geilsland Hall, the first building to be activated upon the site. We are now seeking support to move into the operational phase as a compassionate community focused venture.

4. What difference will this project make within the locality and to local services and programmes?

Please include -

[a] How you will approach reducing inequality

[b] How this proposal fits with Garnock Valley's priorities of:

- 1. Moving Around (Public Transport, Traffic and Parking)*
- 2. Work and Local Community*
- 3. Facilities and Amenities*

The Garnock Valley, like many industrial areas has suffered significantly since the withdrawal of major industry in the late 80's, the decline of the area is evidenced in increasing year on year deprivation statistics³. The areas location, furthest removed from the centre of the region combined with sparse and expensive public transport links has led to a social fragmentation within the community between those who have resources and choose to spend their time and money outside the town and those on low incomes catered for locally with poor quality amenity and provision.

Beyond secondary education there is very little in the way of opportunities for personal development and growth, individuals tend to relocate to educate themselves². Less than 3% of local employers invest in staff training¹. Low household incomes³ have led to a poor town centre offer catering to a low income convenience market exacerbating the already significant challenges around attracting and retaining visitors, business and employers to the area.

Beith Trust do not claim that Geilsland Hall Gateway project is a decisive answer to this 'perfect storm' of inequality, but it does represent an honest community led response which we believe has a great deal of value in addressing many aspects of the health and income inequality affecting the communities of the Garnock Valley.

The volunteering and skills development programme, which includes a telephone befriending service, support and encouragement to access personal and skills and employability coaching is a core element within the operational requirements of the proposal and has been developed to support vulnerable individuals affected by complex life situations to participate, learn and develop on their own terms and at their own pace.

Given time and a consistent programme of activity, the Geilsland Hall Gateway project will create and sustain local capacity [both infrastructure and skills] to conceptualise, design, deliver, maintain and develop the social, cultural, economic, environment assets of the Garnock Valley, whether they be physical or service based assets.

Moreover the income generated by the activity in and around Geilsland Hall Gateway project will be reinvested in the implementation of interventions and projects which support this development.

The project has a great deal of synergy with the Garnock Valley locality priorities

- Facilities and Amenity
- Work and Local Community

¹ Beith Town Centre Research & Action Plan' – produced by Douglas Wheeler Assoc –commissioned by North Ayrshire Council –Nov 2012

² Beith Community Action Plan' – produced by Baxendale – commissioned by Beith Trust –with the support of North Ayrshire Council and Ayrshire 21 - July 2013

³ Garnock Valley Locality Profile – produced by CCP Team, commissioned by North Ayrshire Council – Sept 2017

Demonstration – Beith Beer Festival – launched 2014, relocated to Geilsland 2018

*Issue - Few opportunities, other than what is available at secondary school, to develop musical interest and talent in the Garnock Valley. Children, young people and adults have limited progression routes and few tangible examples of success or what it takes to be successful within this field. Lack of live music in local venues means there is a limited audience for live music. Individuals who have talent, interest and enthusiasm – performers and audiences, leave the Garnock Valley to pursue their interest = **Outflow of wealth – talent – potential - money***

Beith Trust Interventions

- Free weekly Guitar and Drum lessons delivered as a drop in activity
- Bi-annual band factory project connects professional gigging musicians with young people keen to progress their interest and talent. Progressing (guitar and drum) over 5 consecutive days (cost to participants £20pp per week , subsidised by Beith Trust)
- Band Factory gig night – on the last day of Band Factory each band performs to a paying audience (attracting over 100 people)
- Beith Beer Festival – largest beer festival in North Ayrshire, platform for established musicians and showcase for our local talent, performing to a paying audience (over 1600 people)

Outcomes

- Improved local audience for live music.
- Better progression routes for local talent
- Improved and appropriate local amenity
- Increased consumers visit the Garnock Valley – pubs, cafes, shops report increased in business around Beith Fest weekend
- Increased market opp for local businesses (food & bar provision on the day)
- Personal development opportunities are more sustainable
- Increased opportunities for work related training - 50 accredited volunteering opportunities created in areas such as Security – SIA, Rehis Food Hygiene. Scottish Certificate for Licensed Premises staff
- Improved markets for Local food and drink producers

= Inflow & retention of talent, consumers, money

5. Please give an overview of the engagement that has taken place in relation to the project

Please include the number of people that have been engaged with/ consulted

Geilsland Hall is the first capital development project to be activated since the community buy out of Geilsland Estate site. The decision to take forward the Geilsland Hall initiative has been driven by a slow design process which constitutes a live and ongoing dialogue with the community also informed by our previous research and consultation guiding our journey. The most recent consultation (no8) eng aged approx 300 people.

This has included the following documents which are all available on request from Beith Trust

1- ‘A Report on the Reasons and Options for Community Ownership of Sports Facilities in Beith’ – produced by Cambium and commissioned by a number of sports clubs in Beith with support from Oxfam Scotland in May 2010.

Objectives – To provide a route map for community ownership in the context of legislation, Policy development and current funding structures and recommend models of community ownership, along with the barriers, potential, risks and opportunities.

2 – ‘Beith Town Centre Research & Action Plan’ – produced by Douglas Wheeler Assoc –commissioned by North Ayrshire Council –Nov 2012

Objectives- To provide a health check on Beith which includes: an assessment of the town's current and potential function an analysis of the current perceptions toward the town centre from the consumer and community perspective and recommendations for improvements (shoppers, non-shoppers and other stakeholders) an analysis delivery of the regeneration strategy.

3 – ‘Beith Community Action Plan’ – produced by Baxendale – commissioned by Beith Trust –with the support of North Ayrshire Council and Ayrshire 21 - July 2013

Objectives - *To deliver a comprehensive analysis of the local area in terms of its geography, economics, culture, social amenity/activity, service provision and history, to engage with local people , organisations and stakeholders to help determine the needs, hopes and dreams and frustrations of local people, to observe and record the current condition of the community in terms of amenity provision, existing assets and resources, patterns of behaviour, physical condition , to develop and articulate a vision for Beith along with potential interventions that act as a catalyst for achieving that vision, to develop a delivery route map that suggest how immediate, medium and long term objectives can be achieved , to provide analysis of the work done and how appropriate the outcomes are in terms of the Trusts own aims and objectives, to Identify a strategic and sustainable capital project that meets the needs of Beith and the surrounding area.*

4 – ‘Options Appraisal following 18-month Community Consultation’ – produced by CEIS Ayrshire, commissioned by Beith Trust with the support of SESNA (Social Enterprise Support North Ayrshire) - July 2014

Objectives – *To review Beith Trust preferred options from Beith Community Action Plan assess their merit along with the barriers, potential, risks and opportunities following which Beith Trust will consider whether or not to move to full feasibility for one or more of the options*

5 - ‘Beith Community Action Plan Options Appraisal’ – produced by Baxendale – commissioned by Beith Trust, with the support of North Ayrshire Council - July 2015

Objectives – *To identify a broader role for Beith Trust in facilitating grassroots regeneration of the town, To identify existing initiatives and active groups who could become project partners or could benefit from ongoing support from the Trust, to identify active community members who could strengthen the board of Beith Community Development Trust, to continue to record the local people’s opinions regarding the current social, physical, environmental, cultural and economic condition of the town, to identify a suitable long term capital project to develop as a mixed use community facility that consolidates, builds and enhances the existing activities and the ethos that we have begun to develop within Beith.*

6- ‘Community Buy Out Petition’ – conducted by Beith Trust - April – June 2015

Objectives – *to engage the community in a dialogue about community asset ownership, to demonstrate the support of the community for the community buy out initiative of Geilsland Estate*

7- Beith Accommodation, Geilsland Estate’ – Initial Report – produced by Hostel Hub, commissioned by Beith Trust May 2016

Objectives – *To make an initial assessment of the suitability of existing accommodation at Geilsland Estate for use in the near future to identify the possible demand for accommodation at Geilsland and the core market segments this would entail. To make recommendations which provide the Board of Beith Trust with sufficient confidence to form a business plan and development strategy for the future*

8 – ‘Geilsland Improvement Project Community Consultation’ produced by SKS, commissioned by Beith Trust August 2018

Objectives – *To return to the community and confirm, test and further refine our findings and conclusions from previous engagement exercises. In particular this exercise focused on the specific proposals for the use of Geilsland Hall and benefits of these improvements for the Garnock Valley. We were also keen to check the current direction of Beith Trust against community aspirations and that it still ‘made sense’ to the community.*

6. Please tell us how the project will be managed

Please include -

[a] *How the finances will be managed*

[b] *Does the proposed project contribute to volunteering or employment opportunities in Garnock Valley?*

Please include the number of volunteering opportunities and employment opportunities

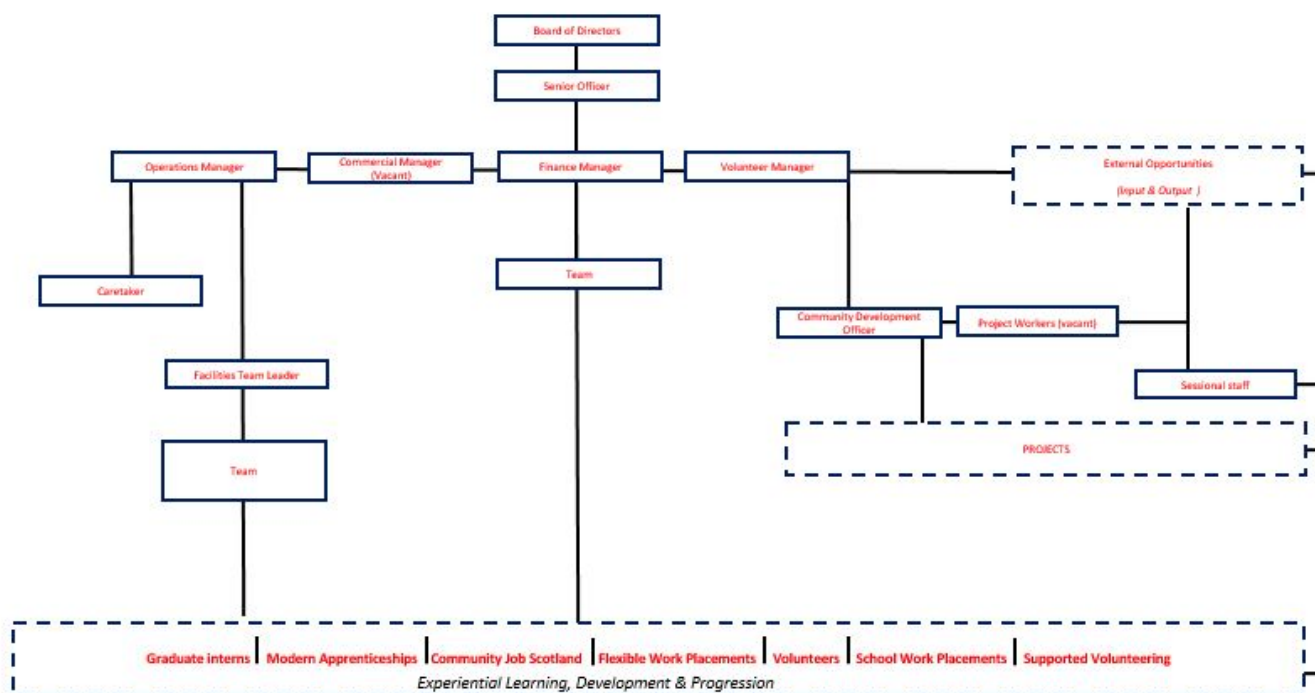
[c] *If there are any staff requirements, please outline your HR plans*

[d] *Is there evidence of partnership working in relation to the project within Garnock Valley locality?*

Beith Trust employ a Finance Officer who oversees fund management. All spend within the organisation is subject to finance procedures (available on request) and delegated authority as defined by the Board of Trustees, a separate finance subgroup meets on a monthly basis and oversees organisational budget, project spend against agreed budgets, cashflow, funding applications and reporting

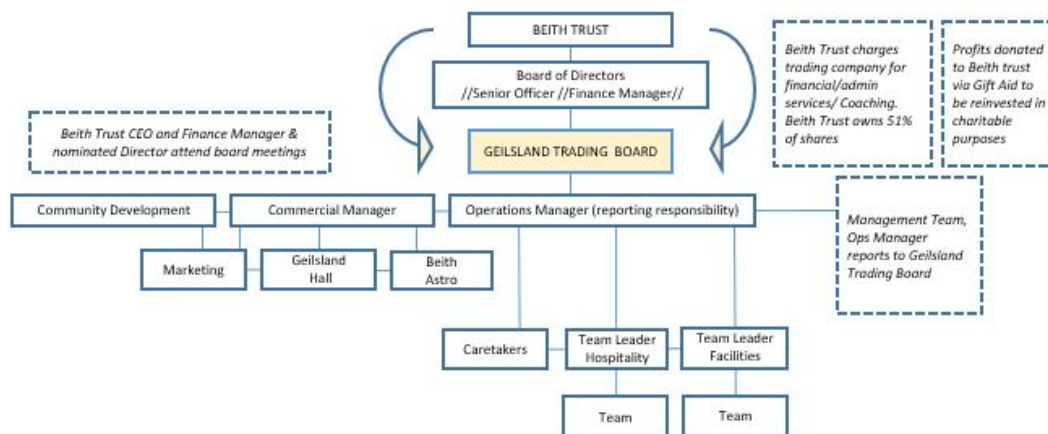
It is anticipated that Geilsland Hall Gateway project as will create 2 employment opportunities within its operational requirement and 20 volunteer opportunities in the first year of full operations.

Figure (i) . Existing Structure



Beith Trust aim to move to a structure which will support organisational development and growth organically as enterprises develop in and around Geilsland Hall Gateway activity

Figure (iii) - Proposed Structure (will develop organically to support organisational growth over time)



The acquisition and subsequent management responsibilities of a substantial asset in 2015 necessitated a steep and sometimes challenging learning curve and the implementation of new systems and processes often involving co-opting additional skills and expertise to the board when appropriate when required or employing people with particular specialisms.

As Beith Trust has grown as an organisation, the capacity of its leaders has developed and expanded to meet the many challenges the journey has presented, in some instances the challenges have come before the capacity. The result is that previous areas of weakness become our greatest areas of strength. What we have learnt to date is that our journey is our greatest coach, and creates the greatest capacity.

Since the inception of Beith Trust we have collaborated, supported and worked together with a range of clubs, groups, partners, agencies and individuals when it was sensible and appropriate to do so.

We work alongside local football teams like Beith Amateurs, Garnock Valley over 35's, Beith Juniors Community Club youth teams (x 10 of), local clubs such as Beith Harriers, Beith Brazilian Jujitsu, Garnock Valley Badminton Club, Garnock Valley Health and Fitness Club and local young farmers clubs.

We assist them with volunteer capacity, leadership training, funding, signposting, training, purchase of resources and subsidised or free pitch and hall hire. We use our social media platforms to promote the activities of new community groups and clubs and provide access to our equipment and resources often as simple as a meeting room, photocopying, occasionally helping with funding or volunteers to assist with delivery of an event or workshop.

Working with Tiny Totz, a local mum and toddler group, we assist with the delivery of a summer programme of bus trips and days out to attractions like Five Sisters Zoo, Heads of Ayr Farm Park, Xmas Panto etc which helps low income families enjoy affordable family trips together.

We also help local clubs and groups by offering free or subsidised accredited training to help them delivery their activities safely, courses like –Elementary Food Hygiene, Emergency First Aid, Moving and Handling, Fire Steward training.

We are currently we are working alongside Dalry Community Sports Club and Project Kilbirnie to deliver a Garnock Valley wide food initiative which combines physical activity with access to decent food. Beith Trust staff regularly engage with community link workers, social work services, doctors and health professionals and staff and volunteers are delivering food based engagement and learning activity in each of the 3 towns (Beith, Kilbirnie and Dalry). Our development staff liaise with local schools and Beith Trust facilitates schools and nursery sports days at Beith Astro.

We work in partnership with local schools - Garnock Academy, Stewarton Academy – Auchenharvie Academy to support flexible work placements within Geilsland Hall to assist young people who struggling in an academic environment to gain work ready skills and experience.

The Board and staff have reached out to other similar organisations whose experience has resonance with our ambitions through our links and relationships with Development Trust Scotland and funder recommendations.

We have drawn on the experience and attitudes of organisations such as MACC, (Machrihanish Airbase Community Company), The Stove Network, Ault Valley Community Trust, Mull and Iona Development Trust and Connect Community Trust

In much the same way, Beith Trust has also accommodated study visits from other organisations who are keen to learn from our journey, challenges and successes. Beith Trust staff and board members have worked alongside organisations / funders such as Climate Challenge Fund, Sported, and Development Trust Association often working as mentors to other orgs with similar ethos.

7. Amount of funding being requested

Please supply details of the amount of funding being requested and any **other** funding you have had over the past 5 years, both financially and 'in kind'.

Year	Amount	Funding
2013 -14	318,831	Community Energy Scotland Comic Relief North Ayrshire Council – Community Asset Mapping SFA Growing Our Game North Ayrshire Council - Youth Action Fund Keep Scotland Beautiful - Climate Challenge BGC Grant Zero Waste Scotland VAF Grow Trust Oxfam Scotland Entrust Cycle Scotland Robertson Fund Big Lottery – Celebrate Fund VAF Junior Climate Challenge Fund Enterprise Ready Fund Oxfam - Romanlav Moffat Trust
2014 – 15	212303	North Ayrshire Council - Youth Action Fund Oxfam Scotland Entrust Cycle Scotland Robertson Fund Junior Climate Challenge Fund Enterprise Ready Fund Peoples Health Trust Development Trust Scotland Big Lottery Awards for All Big Lottery Investing in Ideas Co-op Community Fund Moffat Trust
2015 -16	231096	Zero Waste Scotland Moffat Trust Peoples Health Fund Development Trust Association Scotland Awards for All Digital Challenge fund Scottish Government –People and Communities Fund Community Food and Health fund G & H Roberts Trust Fund
2016-17	923234	Resilient Scotland Scottish Government - Town Centre Communities Capital Fund Scottish Government - Peoples and Communities DTAS Strengthening Communities Programme Scottish Government - Fair Food Transformation Fund Scottish Government - Climate Challenge Fund Peoples Health Trust Cycling Scotland Big Lottery Ventures Trust Youthlink Scotland - Cashback for Communities Facilities Fund Cycling UK - Big Bike Revival Development Trusts Association Scotland

		Robertson Trust SCVO - Digital Challenge Scottish Land Fund Skills Development Scotland
2017- 18	666,188	Scottish Government Resilient Scotland North Ayrshire Ventures Trust The Robertson Trust Big Lottery Community Food and Health Scotland North Ayrshire Council Development Trust Association Scotland Cycling Scotland Cycling UK Ayrshire Leader

Amount of funding requested:	75000
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Beith Trust are seeking support of 25000 per year for 3 years. This resource will contribute towards the salary costs of Geilsland Hall Gateway Operations Manager and Volunteer Manager

8. Monitoring and evaluation process

Please include detail on –

[a] *What monitoring and evaluation processes are planned/ in place*

Beith Trust operate Upshot CRM system which allows us to manage, monitor and evidence our project work and demonstrate our impact

Upshot allows us to record participant details and report on current, past and future activity, links work to our outcomes, national policy and funder outcomes.

It assists us to evidence the effect our community projects have by enabling us to survey participants, record outcomes achieved, store photos and videos connected to projects and provide timelines to demonstrate participant or project growth or 'journeys'

Team leaders and development staff can set tasks and deadlines for staff and development targets for volunteers to ensure that project development is kept on track

The outcomes defined by a project such as Geilsland Hall or any additional funder outcomes would be added to the system and project activity linked against performance indicators with specific targets set and agreed for quantitative and qualitative in order to show how the project is delivering against Beith Trust strategic goals and those of our funders.



Locality Partnership: Garnock Valley Locality

Date: 7 March 2019

Subject: To advise the meeting of applications received in respect of the Nurturing Excellence in Communities Fund, the Beith & Gateside Town Charitable Trust, the Kilbirnie & Glengarnock Town Charitable Trust and the Festival and Events Fund.

Purpose: To consider the applications as outlined in Appendix 1 to this report.

Background

Applications have been received within a number of categories of the Nurturing Excellence in Communities Fund, Kilbirnie and Glengarnock Town Charitable Trust, the Beith and Gateside Town Charitable Trust and the Festivals and Events Fund. Details of these applications are summarised in Appendix 1 of this report.

Key Points for Locality Partnership

The balances available for disbursement are bullet pointed below:

- The Nurturing Excellence in Communities Fund has a balance of £7,088.92.
- Kilbirnie & Glengarnock Town Charitable Trust has a balance of £3,766.36
- Beith & Gateside Charitable Trust Town Charitable Trust has a balance of £6,842.59 (There are insufficient funds available to support all the applications to the level of funding recommended.)
- Festivals and Events Fund has a balance of £3,348.00

Action Required by Locality Partnership

To consider the applications for grant funding as outlined in Appendix 1 to this report.

For more information please contact: *Jim McHarg, Senior Manager, Connected Communities, 2nd Floor Cunninghame House, Irvine.*
Email - jmcharg@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Completed by: *Rosemary Fotheringham (rosemaryfotheringham@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)*

Tel: 01294 604612

Date: *06/11/2018*

APPENDIX 1

Nurturing Excellence in Communities Fund 2018/19				
Applications from Organisations seeking Financial Assistance – Garnock Valley 7 March 2019				
Organisation	Purpose of Grant	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Comments
Garnock Valley Men's Shed Meeting place: The Shed, Ladysmith Road, Kilbirnie Number attending: 30 Past awards: None Other funders: None Scoring: 31/40 Supporting documents received: Bank Statement Income/Exp Sheet Constitution Quotes	GV Men's Shedd are looking to purchase of a defibrillator: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zoll AED Plus fully automatic defibrillator - £1,095.00 	£1,095	£1,000	<p>GV Men's Shed is a free community workshop space for men aged 18+. Men come together to socialise and work in DIY projects using power tools and machinery. There is an element of risk in these activities, particularly as many of the members are in the older age bracket and therefore more at risk for cardiac related problems.</p> <p>Having a defibrillator on site at the men's shed, which is in the town centre would provide valuable emergency assistance to the local community by allowing easy access to emergency assistance and reduce the risk of cardiac fatalities in the area.</p> <p>The funding will be used to purchase a defibrillator that will provide reassurance for shed members and the wider community in the knowledge that this vital emergency assistance is available.</p>

Nurturing Excellence in Communities Fund 2018/19				
Applications from Organisations seeking Financial Assistance – Garnock Valley 7 March 2019				
Organisation	Purpose of Grant	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Comments
Cunninghame Choir Meeting place: Beith Community Centre Number attending: 36 Past awards: None Other funders: Craigie Developments Ltd - £750 Horne Ltd - £300 Tesco Bags for Help Scheme - £4,000 (Pending) Scoring: 33/40 Supporting documents received: Bank Statement Income/Exp Sheet Constitution Quotes	Celebration of 40 years music making in Beith: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soloists - £450 x 3 (£1,350) • Musicians - £1,050 Total project costs are £7,310 and a full breakdown of costs is available	£1000	£1,000	<p>Cunninghame Choir are looking for funding towards the costs of their project that is celebrating 40 years of music-making in Beith, Kilbirnie & Dalry. The principal expenditure is on the commissioning of a new and beautiful work "The First Toll", by Cunninghame Choir's talented accompanist and composer Maciej Ganat, for performance in their Spring Concert on 12 May 2019. This work sets to music a poem by local Beith character, Andrew Aitken, "The Beith Poet" musing on hearing Beith's Parish Church bell ring for the first time in 1810.</p> <p>This fund will contribute towards the costs of musicians required to produce the concert (3 soloists, a string quartet and a chamber organist plus instrument hire).</p> <p>As this is a community choir the concert will contribute to stronger community links and the understanding of the local history behind the key work's setting. There are links to the Beith Community Association, Beith & Gateside Primary Schools and Beith Cultural Heritage Society and 2 local Girl Guiding units will be assisting in the interval and benefitting from audience donations for their funds.</p>

Nurturing Excellence in Communities Fund 2018/19				
Applications from Organisations seeking Financial Assistance – Garnock Valley 7 March 2019				
Organisation	Purpose of Grant	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Comments
Beith Harriers Athletics Club Meeting place: Beith Community Development Trust Number attending: 16 Past awards: None Other funders: None Scoring: 35/40 Supporting documents received: Bank Statement Income/Exp Sheet Constitution Quotes	Support towards purchase of new storage facilities and equipment. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports Equipment - £500 • Storage - £500 Total project costs are £5,178.50 – a full breakdown of costs is available	£1,000	£1,000	<p>Beith Harriers Athletics Club has been a part of the Garnock Valley since 3 December 1923 and is now used to train and develop junior athletes.</p> <p>The club has moved to bigger premises which allows more children to take part. This move prompted closer inspection of all equipment which resulted in a lot of essential athletics equipment being condemned to irreparable wear, tear and damage and now needs to be replaced.</p> <p>Beith Harriers are committed to promoting physical/mental health and wellbeing in children and youth within the Garnock Valley locality through provisioning junior athletics.</p> <p>This funding will contribute towards the purchase of new equipment and storage facilities to enable them to deliver a full range of athletics activities.</p>

Nurturing Excellence in Communities Fund 2018/19				
Applications from Organisations seeking Financial Assistance – Garnock Valley 7 March 2019				
Organisation	Purpose of Grant	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Comments
Garnock Valley Transition Group Meeting place: Kilbirnie Youth Project Number attending: 12 Past awards: None Other funders: None Scoring: 31/40 Supporting documents received: Bank Statement Income/Exp Sheet Constitution Quotes	Provision of activity based sessions for young people: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Castle Semple all day activity team building for 15 people @£28 per person - £420 • Hall Let for 10 hours @ £22.09 per hour - £220.90 • Fresh cooking resources, ingredients and utensils - £183.12 Total cost of project £824.02	£824.02	£824.02	<p>The funding requested is to support the Transition Programme which helps young people in the journey from primary to secondary education. The programme aims to support the academic side of school life but focuses more on the social skills and self-confidence needed to get through secondary education.</p> <p>The funding will allow the group to undertake more activity based sessions which almost all of the young people would not be able to access due to the costs. The local community will benefit by having confident and responsible young people within the area who take pride in themselves and their community.</p>

Nurturing Excellence in Communities Fund 2018/19				
Applications from Organisations seeking Financial Assistance – Garnock Valley 7 March 2019				
Organisation	Purpose of Grant	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Comments
Beith & District Community Council Meeting place: Beith Community Centre Number attending: 10 Past awards: 2017/18 - £572.50 – Marketing & Publicity Costs Other funders: None Scoring: 35/40 Supporting documents received: Bank Statement Income/Exp Sheet Constitution Quotes	Support to purchase a lap top, printer and software for use by the Community Council secretary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lap Top - £299.99 • Printer - £49.99 • Office software for 1 year - £59.00 Total cost of project £408.98	£408.98	£408.98	<p>The funding will support Beith and District Community Council to purchase a lap top, printer and software to enable their secretary/minute taker to carry out their duties.</p> <p>The benefits to the community will be that they will be able to communicate effectively with the Community Council as well as providing them with professional minutes from meetings together with notices of forthcoming events.</p>

Nurturing Excellence in Communities Fund 2018/19				
Applications from Organisations seeking Financial Assistance – Garnock Valley 7 March 2019				
Organisation	Purpose of Grant	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Comments
Attix CIC Meeting place: Radio City Number attending: 4 Past awards: None Other funders: NAC Social Enterprise Fund - £2,475 (Pending) NAC Town Charitable Trust (Pending) Scoring: 34/40 Supporting documents received: Bank Statement Income/Exp Sheet Constitution Quotes	NAC Planning Fees • NAC Planning Fee -- £804 • NAC Planning Advert Fee - £182 Total cost of project - £986	£986	£986	<p>Funding will be used to meet NAC planning fees to support reinstatement and development of the upper River Garnock intake dam to create a new community owned hydro power scheme.</p> <p>The aim of this project is to re-invest net incomes generated from the hydro-electric power scheme into Garnock Valley community projects that will enhance the area's sports, heritage and cultural assets and stimulate economic activity and job creation. This presents enormous benefits to residents and organisations within the Garnock Valley community through the ability to access monies through the planned reinvestment of income.</p>

Nurturing Excellence in Communities Fund 2018/19				
Applications from Organisations seeking Financial Assistance – Garnock Valley 7 March 2019				
Organisation	Purpose of Grant	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Comments
St Inan's Day Meeting place: Beith Community Centre Number attending: 9 Past awards: None Other funders: Scoring: 32/40 Supporting documents received: Bank Statement Income/Exp Sheet Constitution Quotes	Re-instatement of St Inan's Day celebration event – purchase of costumes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Queens dress/headdress - £150 • Attendants dress/headdress x 2 - £300 • Flower girls dress/headdress - £150 • Herald's attire/shoes - £150 • Sashes x 5 - £50 • Crown/pillow/scroll - £75 • Shoes - £125 Total cost of Project - £3,000	£1,000	£1,000	<p>This funding will support the re-instatement of St Inan's Day by enabling the purchase of costumes and accessories that can be used to celebrate St Inan's Day annually following its reinstatement.</p> <p>St Inan's Day is a community event to include all members of the community from pupils participation to groups/organisations and members of the public and aims to bring local people together.</p>

BEITH & GATESIDE CHARITABLE TRUST
APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 2017/18

Beith & Gateside Charitable Trust Criteria - In terms of the trust deed there are 3 purposes for which assistance may be given:

Purpose A - the prevention or relief of poverty;

Purpose B - the provision of recreational facilities or the organisation of recreational activities with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended; and

Purpose C - the relief of those in need by reason of age, ill health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage. Purpose D – the advancement of education

Applicant	Purpose of Grant	Amount Requested	Previous Town Charitable Trust
Barrmill Jolly Beggars Club, Beith	<p>Financial assistance towards a celebratory social history book which will cover aspects of the entire Garnock Valley as well as recording aspects of the clubs 75 year journey.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design, layout and typesetting with picture editing - £500 • Printing from pdf ready file - £4,545 • 2 tones cartridges for club printer - £100 • 6 reams A4 paper - £21 <p>Total cost of project £5,166</p>	£3,166	2018/19 - £3,006 Celebratory event.

Economy & Communities, Finance & Corporate Support, and Legal Services have been consulted and their comments are as follows:

Finance & Corporate Support

Having reviewed the costs, Finance have no objections.

Legal

The application meets the criteria of Purposes B, C and D. In particular, the applicant states involvement in the project will provide recreational activities for members who are elderly and suffer from loneliness or social isolation and will therefore improve their conditions of life (Purpose B), and will assist members with disabilities by helping them develop new skills (Purpose C). In addition, once the book is published it will provide educational benefits particularly in relation to the history of the local area (Purpose D).

Note that in addition to meeting one of the trust purposes, the Trustees should be satisfied that granting the application will be a beneficial use of the Trust funds. In this connection, the project to produce the book will primarily benefit a small number of club members and the Trustees may accordingly wish to consider the extent to which this benefits persons in need in terms of Purposes B and C, although the book itself may provide educational benefits to a wider group of people in terms of Purpose D.

Economy & Communities

Economy and Communities are supportive of this applications as it shows clear community benefit and meets the criteria of the Town Charitable, in particular in relation to providing educational benefits and through informing the community of the history of the local area as well as supporting local schools through any royalties generated from the sale of the book.

BEITH & GATESIDE CHARITABLE TRUST APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 2017/18

Beith & Gateside Charitable Trust Criteria - In terms of the trust deed there are 3 purposes for which assistance may be given:

Purpose A - the prevention or relief of poverty;

Purpose B - the provision of recreational facilities or the organisation of recreational activities with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended; and

Purpose C - the relief of those in need by reason of age, ill health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage.

Purpose D – the advancement of education

Applicant	Purpose of Grant	Amount Requested	Previous Town Charitable Trust
Beith Orr Park Neighbourhood Watch	<p>Financial Assistance towards the cost of running the 2nd Annual Garnock Valley Carves Event with consideration being given to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 10 Carvers @ £400 each - £4,000 - Hire of Toilets (4) - £ 500 - Hire of Marquee - £450 - Licence Fees for event - £457 - Hire of 8 Radios - £200 - Fee for Brass Band - £200 - Fee for pipers - £200 - Payment Fees for First Aid staff - £200 <p>Total Costs £6,207</p>	£5,000	None

Economy & Communities, Finance & Corporate Support, and Legal Services have been consulted and their comments are as follows:

Finance & Corporate Support

The event will cost an additional £1,207 and it is not detailed in the application how this will be funded if donations and sponsorship are not received. No quotes have been provided for the costs detailed above.

Legal

The application meets the criteria of Purposes B and D. In particular, the applicant states involvement in the group reduces loneliness and social isolation among their members who are mainly elderly. The event itself will provide recreational activities for members of the group and the wider community and give other local groups an opportunity to let people know about the services/activities they offer (Purpose B). The event will provide an educational experience for both young and old to see the carvers at work and to try these skills themselves (Purpose D).

Note that in addition to meeting one of the trust purposes, the Trustees should be satisfied that granting the application will be a beneficial use of the Trust funds.

Economy & Communities

Economy and Communities are supportive of this applications as it show clear community benefit and meets the criteria of the Town Charitable, in particular in relation to Purpose B as this event will provide a range of activities for the local community

FESTIVAL & EVENTS FUND

Festival and Events Fund 2018/19				
Applications from Organisations seeking Financial Assistance – Garnock Valley 7 March 2018				
Organisation	Purpose of Grant	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Comments
Beith Trust Meeting Place Geilsland House, Beith Number attending: 8 Other funders: £4,000 - Beith Trust generated income £4,000 - Donations and sponsorship Supporting documents received: Bank Statement Income/Exp Sheet Constitution Quotes	Looking for financial assistance towards the Beith Beer Festival <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PA and sound equipment hire plus 2 x sound engineers and a stage hand – £1,000 Total cost of project - £9,500	£1,000	£1,000	<p>The recommended amount will enable Beith Trust to hire the Main Hall PA and monitors, Full Line equipment, a lighting frame, black backdrop with stage lighting, side fill monitors, a small PA and a small set of lights plus 2 sound engineers and a stage hand to support the delivery of the Beith Beer Festival.</p> <p>The Festival is a one day celebration of Scottish food, drink and music. The event hosts in the region of 30 curated Scottish Craft beers, food stalls and food producers, 15 local bands and music artists, there are also activities for children such as storytelling, music making and face painting. Since its inception in 2014 the festival has quadrupled in attendances, attracting people from all over the West of Scotland, Beith and the Garnock Valley.</p> <p>Local pubs, cafes and restaurants all benefit from greatly increased spend both during and after the event, they now anticipate the additional trade and cater accordingly. The event itself generates in the region of 50 volunteering and training roles. Moreover, the event provides a showcase for local talent through the acoustic and main stage and many acts that feature young people who have progressed through Beith Trust music projects such as Band Factory or guitar and drum lessons.</p>

Nurturing Excellence in Communities 2018/19

Garnock Valley

Group/Organisation	Client Group	Town/Area	Purpose of Grant	Amount	Balance
					14,051.00
Kilb & Glengarnock CC	Community	Kilb/G.G.	Extension to film	1,000.00	13,051.00
Beith Bowling Club	Sports	Beith	Ladies Open Day	350.00	12,701.00
Barrmill Jolly Beggars	Cultural	Beith	Educ Visit & Talks	941.00	11,760.00
Beith Orr Park Neigh.	Community	Beith	Chain Saw event	1,000.00	10,760.00
Capall Dorcha Theatre	Young People	NA	School tour	129.00	10,631.00
GV Pipes & Drums	Young People	GV	Bagpipes	1,000.00	9,631.00
Tidelines Book Festival	Community	NA	Book festival	149.53	9,481.47
Dalry Horticultural Soc.	Community	Dalry	Flower Show	500.00	8,981.47
Dalry Comm Dev. Hub	Community	Dalry	Film production	1,000.00	7,981.47
Barrmill C.A.	Community	Barrmill	Marketing costs	621.58	7,359.89
Greenhills SWI	Community	Barrmill	Christmas event	270.97	7,088.92

North Ayrshire Charitable Trust (Kilbirnie and Glengarnock)

APPLICANT	PURPOSE	AMOUNT OF GRANT	BALANCE OF BUDGET Recreation	BALANCE OF BUDGET Age, Health, Disability
BUDGET			£3,706.48	£1,309.59
Recommended Expenditure				
GV Men's Shed	Model Kits	£1,249.71	£2,456.77	

North Ayrshire Charitable Trust (Beith & Gateside Town Charitable Trust)

Name of Group	Purpose	Amount Applied	Poverty Bal.	Education Bal.
			£7,083.13	£2,765.46
Barrmill Jolly Beggars Burns Club	75th Anniversary activities	£3,006.00	£4,077.13	

Festivals & Events Fund

Ref No.	Group	Amount Awarded	Purpose	Balance
				£4,000
1	Beith Orr Park Neighbour.	£652	Carving & Wood craft	£3,348

Agenda item 13

**North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership
Peoples Panel**

Focus Groups Report 2018/19

Prepared for:
North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership
North Ayrshire Council
Cunninghame House
Irvine
KA12 8EE

Prepared By:
Lowland Market Research

January 2019

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1.0 Introduction

This report details the main findings to emerge from focus group research carried out by Lowland Market Research on behalf of North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership with regard to issues raised in the recent Peoples Panel consultation.

1.1 Background

The North Ayrshire People's Panel consists of a representative cross section of approximately 2,000 North Ayrshire residents who have volunteered to providing feedback to the partners of the North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership through an annual postal survey and other research methods. This feedback is intended to guide the work and priorities of the Partnership and its individual partners.

The most recent survey of the Panel took place in the autumn of 2018 and provided information on public views and priorities across a range of thematic areas; 1,317 panel members responded to this questionnaire. A large-scale postal survey such as this often gives rise to a need for further interpretation and investigation. To facilitate this additional research requirement, a programme of six focus groups has been developed, one within each of the Council's Locality Planning areas.

1.1 Objectives and Methodology

The broad thrust of the focus groups is to ascertain people's views and opinions regarding a variety of topic areas, including;

- Outdoor activity
- Healthy Eating
- Basic Income
- Community Justice
- Social isolation and kindness

In addition to these there were specific questions asked only of people living in specific localities.

Lowland Market Research recruited participants for a programme of six focus groups (one group in each of the six Locality Planning areas). It was endeavoured to have each group contain 8 participants and each was developed within the confines of the research budget to reflect a broad cross section of the population covering both socio- demographic indicators such as age and employment status as well as from the different geographical areas. As the table on the following page outlines, 44 people took part across the 6 focus groups.

The table below summarises the group composition and the geographic area where the group participants come from.

Group Composition

Group	Locality Planning Area	Location	Group Composition	Number of participants
1	North Coast and Cumbrae	Largs	Cross section of age, gender and employment status	7 participants
2	Irvine	Irvine	Cross section of age, gender and employment status	8 participants
3	Three towns	Ardrossan	Cross section of age, gender and employment status	8 participants
4	Garnock Valley	Kilbirnie	Cross section of age, gender and employment status	5 participants
5	Arran	Brodict	Cross section of age, gender and employment status	8 participants
6	Kilwinning	Kilwinning	Cross section of age, gender and employment status	8 participants

1.2 Topic Guide

The topic guide has been structured using the following themes that have been highlighted in the recent People's Panel questionnaire.

Topic Guide

Introduction – breaking the ice, having people in the groups thinking about the area in general terms.

- What do people like about living in North Ayrshire
- What do people dislike about living in North Ayrshire.

Outdoor Activity

Green health is improving health and reducing health inequalities by making more use of the outdoors for green exercise/nature based activities such as walking, cycling, outdoor play, conservation work, growing or volunteering in the outdoors.

1. *What existing knowledge do people have about green health activities available to them and what makes people engage in them*
2. *What are the benefits of being in the outdoors*
3. *What are the barriers to accessing activities in the outdoors*

Healthy Eating

1. *In your community what things could help increase healthy food purchases?* (Prompts: Community centres serving food, mobile food pop ups? Cafes? More/better shops)
2. *What would you ask local retailers to do to increase the amount of fruit and veg/ and healthy food people buy locally?* (Prompts: Is it about promoting the benefits of a healthy diet, is it cost, availability of healthy food?)
3. *What's your understanding of a healthy diet?* (Prompts: Types of food, what are key reasons that might prevent you from eating more of these types of food, i.e. shops, time, cost)
4. *What is your understanding of what a portion of fruit and veg is?*
5. *What activities around food and learning would be appealing to you?* (Prompts: Is this about cooking specific food or nutritional information for wellbeing? Cooking your own produce with friends and family. Themed nights. Forming a cookery group?)
6. *What things would most encourage you to start growing your own food?* (Prompts: Is it information? Would you growing veg in garden space, allotments, house/window box)

Basic Income

A basic income is an income unconditionally paid by the government to every individual, regardless of whether they work and irrespective of any other sources of income. It replaces many means-tested payments such as Jobseekers Allowance and Universal Credit (but not housing or disability benefits) and is high enough to cover basic needs (food etc). Most models suggest at least £73.10 per week for an adult of working age, in line with current benefit.

1. *Can you tell me what you know about Basic Income?*
2. *How do you think a Basic Income could benefit you?*
3. *How do you think a Basic Income could benefit other people?*

Community Justice

Community Justice is the collection of individuals, agencies and services that work together to support, manage and supervise people who have committed offences, from the point of arrest, through prosecution, community disposal or custody and alternatives to these until they are reintegrated into the community. Local communities and the third sector are a vital part of this process which aims to prevent and reduce further offending and the harm that it causes, to promote desistance, social inclusion and citizenship.

1. *Can you tell me what you know about 'community justice'?*
2. *Do you think that people who have offended in the past and have served their sentence (either in prison or in the community) should have the opportunity to 'wipe the slate clean' and move on in life?*
3. *What are the benefits of someone who has committed an offence serving their sentence in the community rather than being sent to prison?*

Social isolation and kindness

1. *Do you think loneliness is an issue for people in your locality area? If so, for whom and what do you think are the challenges?*
2. *Do you think you can rely on neighbours in an emergency/ for practical help / for emotional support?*
3. *Do you think people are generally kind?*
4. *Have you helped someone who needed it in the last 12 months / how?*
5. *Do you (or not) experience kindness? For example, do you think people are treated with kindness in places such as GP surgeries, libraries, social services, police and public transport? Where else do you (or not) experience kindness?*
6. *Do you have any ideas about what might help people to feel less lonely in your locality area?*

Locality Specific Questions (asked at each specific locality focus group)

Arran

1. *Do you have difficulty attending appointments, social gatherings or activities due to assistance or transport issues? If so what might help you?*
2. *Is your housing suitable for your current needs regarding cost, location and size of accommodation? If not how could this be addressed?*

Garnock Valley

1. *What are the greatest barriers to moving around...*
 - a) *Within Garnock Valley?*
 - b) *Beyond Garnock Valley?*
 - c) *What might potential solutions be?*
2. *Do you think there are enough of the right facilities and amenities for young people in Garnock Valley?*
 - *If not, what sort of facilities and amenities should there be?*
3. *How might we work together to increase work opportunities in Garnock Valley?*

Irvine

1. *How can services within a locality work better together responsive to the needs of their community*
2. *What could be done to give more power to people*
3. *How could we get more people involved in dealing with local issues*

Kilwinning

1. *Have you noticed the new traffic and parking signs in Kilwinning main street?*
 - *Did you know they were planned and put up as a result of the work of the locality partnership?*
2. *In terms of the local environment:*
 - *Is there any specific area in Kilwinning that you feel needs to be focussed on? If so, what do you feel needs to be done in this area?*
 - *Are you aware of the various allotments within Kilwinning, and do you think these are publicised enough?*
 - *Did you know that Kilwinning Community Events Group arrange clean up/litter picking days? How do you think these could be publicised to attract more volunteers?*

3. *Do you know how people can access services in Kilwinning to help support and better prepare them for employment*

North Coast

1. *What's your experience of how people in your community might be struggling to make ends meet?*
2. *What sort of help and advice do you think communities might need with managing money?*
 - *Do you know how people can access services which can help with financial worries such as unmanageable debts or managing your household budget*
3. *What's your perceptions about the pressures on young people and their ability to cope with stress? Do you have any ideas about what more could be done to support them?*

Three Towns

1. *The Three Towns have a Long connected Coastline- What could we do to encourage more people to visit and make active use of the Promenade, Beach and Coastline?*
2. *Growing Food and promoting healthy life styles is a priority for Three Towners - What more can we do to encourage wider participation in food growing, production and the promotion of healthy lifestyles through growing and the promotion of free access to food?*
3. *Community Centres are managed by trusted community Associations representative of local people- What can we do to encourage greater involvement of the community in the identification of local need and the delivery of local services?*

The discussion guide used in each focus group was the same. This report endeavours to outline the areas where members of the different groups have common view experience with regard to the issues discussed and where their experiences contrast.

1.3 Report Structure

The following sections of the report are structured around the topic guide used and outlines in both narrative and bullet points the types of responses and comments received during the focus groups. The bullet points give rich examples of specific perspectives with regard to the subject matter highlighting clearly and contextualising the more general narrative.

Qualitative research by its nature produces a large amount of information; the report has therefore been segmented into discrete sections to aid understanding. **Readers should be careful, however, not to view each section in isolation but maintain an awareness that many of the issues are inter-linked and should be assessed and actioned in a joined up manner.**

2.0 Research Outputs

2.1 Introduction

Participants in the focus groups were asked to state what they liked and disliked about living in North Ayrshire.

Likes

In terms of what they liked, one of the main things that people liked best was the countryside and for many the sea/coast. The proximity to the coast and countryside was very important to them.

In addition to this the fact that they are not too far from Glasgow and Glasgow airport was a big plus.

Other things that people liked included;

- Nice quiet areas
- Safe, clean and tidy
- Cheaper house prices
- Good schools
- Not so built up like the city
- Good transport links to Glasgow
- Always lived here, used to it

Dislikes

One of the main things that people disliked about living in North Ayrshire was the lack of good jobs in the area and the requirement to travel to Glasgow for many people to secure good well paid employment.

Other issues that were common across the 6 groups included;

- Road works and potholes
- Closure of community centres in many neighbourhoods
- Lack of activities and services for children and young people
- Closure of local banks
- Poor Police presence

Some locality specific dislikes included;

North Coast and Cumbrae (Largs)

- Traffic queue for the ferry slip – 2 hour queue for the ferry. Traffic cannot get down the road and the Police need to create a one way system to cope

Three Towns (Ardrossan)

- The beach needs tidied up

Garnock Valley (Kilbirnie)

- No Police in Kilbirnie – come from Irvine
- Lack of banks – for instance none in Beith

Kilwinning

- No public toilets
- Poor street lighting at times – for instance at under passes

Arran

- Lack of affordable housing for young people
- Lack of secure well paid jobs on the island

Irvine

- Not confident to walk about at night
- More Police and community wardens required

2.2 Outdoor Activity

Participants in the focus groups were asked to think about outdoor activities, specifically green health. Green health was defined for them as- *“Green health is improving health and reducing health inequalities by making more use of the outdoors for green exercise / nature based activities such as walking, cycling, outdoor play, conservation work, growing or volunteering in the outdoors”*.

What existing knowledge do people have about green health activities available to them and what makes people engage in them.

The term “Green Health” was one that the groups were not familiar with to describe some form of exercise that they may take outdoors. The types of exercise/activities that people will undertake included walking, running, cycling, fishing and gardening. People generally stated that they just went for a walk or went out on their bike rather than describing it as “Green Health” or outdoor activity.

The level and intensity of exercise also varies from a gentle walk with a dog in the countryside or along the beach, a cycle along a cycle path with the family to more serious activities such as running 10km or cycling 50 miles.

Examples of activities which members of the groups stated specifically included;

North Coast

- Using the cycle path from Largs to Fairlie. People also walked along the beach and used Kelburn Park

Garnock Valley

- Using the cycle path from Beith to Lochwinnoch, go sailing on Lochwinnoch and walk in Eglington Park

Three Towns

- People will walk along the beach at Ardrossan.

Kilwinning

- People used Eglington Park and McGavin Park

Arran

- Walking in the countryside, going down to the beach and sailing

Irvine

- Walking in Eglington Country Park and go down to the beach

Over and above these types of activities, people were aware of or took part in activities such as;

- Park runs
- Outdoor activities at Kelburn Park
- Golf
- Fishing
- Allotments
- Walking
- Dog walking
- Hill walking

Why do people engage with these activities - What do they see are the benefits of being outdoors

The main reason people stated to take part in outdoor activities was that they “enjoy being outside and it makes them feel good. People like the fresh air and being outdoors. They think it is good for their health, both mental and physical. People will often undertake outdoor activities as a family, it gets them all out together.

- Several people in the Largs and Irvine groups said that it helps them to lose weight. A few of these people participated in walking groups who met up weekly to get exercise but also to meet people and socialise
- In the Arran group several of the older members of the group stated that getting out for a walk in the countryside or on the beach keeps them active and “*gets them out of the house*”.
- For the younger members of the focus groups, several said that they enjoyed getting out with their children. It provided some good family time and got everyone, adults and children alike away from screens.

Other reasons for engaging in outdoor activities and the associated benefits included;

- Keep fit and active
- Fresh air
- Gets them moving
- Better than being in the house
- Helps people to socialise and to develop friendships
- Good for the kids – gets them off their tablet or phone and encourages them to use their imagination.
- Switch of from the stresses and strains of life
- Get balance right, clear head
- Bit of me time
- Health – mental and physical
- Fresh air
- Can be educational
- Can help with meeting people/socialising
- Grow their own food, good for health and beneficial moneywise

What are the barriers to accessing outdoor activities?

One of the main barriers to accessing outdoor activities is the weather. Many people in the focus groups stated that it is often wet and cold in Scotland. This put a lot of people off engaging in outdoor activities throughout the winter months, and even in the summer when the weather can also be unpredictable.

Apart from going for a walk, many other people said that a major barrier was that they just didn't know what to do or what was available. Several people from Largs and Kilwinning stated this, although it was a common theme among people in all of the groups. It would be good if there was more information about what was on and how they could engage with it. Some people said that they did not feel motivated and if there were organised activities that they could engage and join in with they would be more likely to take part in them. More information through social media such as Facebook would be useful, as would an App showing local outdoor activities.

For other people in the groups it was a time factor. They have busy lives and are often unable or unwilling to fit more things in. For instance *"By the time they have travelled home from Glasgow from work they are tired and can't be bothered"*. A couple of people from the Arran group stated that they commuted on and off the island each day and by the time they got home it could be quite late. This was also mentioned by people in Kilbirnie and Ardrossan.

Comment was made by people in Kilbirnie that in some parks and open spaces there were kids and young people hanging about sometimes that perhaps made them feel unsafe and could be intimidating.

The types of things that put people off engaging in outdoor activities include;

- The cost of clothing/bike etc
- Fewer organised activities being available in their communities. People would like to see a wide variety of outdoor activities being available
- Beaches needing cleaned
- Some activities can be expensive such as those at Kelburn Park
- Feeling their needs to be a commitment to regularly attend organised outdoor activities rather than just being able to drop in and out of them
- Allotments – perception is that they are big and expensive. People would like to try them but they need to make them smaller and easier to manage. They also need more information on them.
- Lack of facilities available for young children – for instance poorly maintained play parks

2.3 Healthy Eating

In your community what things could help increase healthy food purchases?

When discussing healthy foods and healthy eating, most people in all of the groups felt they understood what they should be eating. Members of the group in Largs said that they knew what they should be eating but healthy food can be expensive. In most of the groups it was discussed that healthy food tends to be more expensive than other types of foods, and unhealthy foods also tend to be more convenient to purchase and eat. The groups felt that healthy foods therefore need to be cheaper, tastier and more convenient/quicker to prepare. The availability of cheap unhealthy foods needs to be addressed. People

gave examples of the types of choices they have available to them. For instance 5 donuts for a £1, 6 bags of crisps or 4 bars of chocolate for £1. This is compared to a bag of grapes or apples for £3. These types of choices can make it difficult to always be healthy.

Members of the focus groups said that they think it would be a great idea if there were community centres serving healthy foods. Comments were made however that in many areas the community centres had closed. The members of the Largs group said that they did not have a community centre in Largs anymore. Some people commented that they have seen community enterprise cafes elsewhere, such as in Glasgow, and it would be great to have these in their communities.

People said they would like to have more shops selling cheaper healthy foods. Members of the Ardrossan Group said that they don't tend to eat as healthily in the winter, this was echoed among other groups such as Irvine and Kilbirnie. They stated that when it is dark and wet and they get in late from work, they tend to eat stodgy comfort food.

People in Ardrossan said they would like to have cookery demonstrations and be given ideas on how to make healthy cheap meals. Many people said they would like to be shown how to make healthy food taste nice, be shown how to make healthier versions of the things they like such as pizza and curry. They want more information so they can create more variety in the healthy meals they cook.

Members of the Kilbirnie group said that they would like advice on how to plan, prepare and cook healthy affordable meals. People spoke about batch cooking meals and freezing them. They wanted support to do this because they felt they soon run out of ideas and then revert back to their old ways.

What would you ask local retailers to do to increase the amount of fruit and veg/ and healthy food people buy locally?

As stated previously, people understood what a healthy diet should look like and what they should be eating. Most people indicated that there are plenty of opportunities to buy healthy food in their area. For instance in Largs there is a large Morrison's, an Asda in Ardrossan and a Tesco in Kilbirnie to name but a few large well stocked supermarkets. Even on Arran, members of the focus group stated that the local Co-op stores were generally well stocked with fruit and vegetables and other healthy foods.

Most people said it wasn't really about availability of healthy foods or a lack of understanding of what they should be eating, the big issue is that it needs to be cheaper than the alternatives and they need more ideas on what to cook that are tasty, easy and quick.

There was also discussion about reducing the availability of unhealthy foods. Some people felt that it is too easy to buy pizza, chips, chicken dippers etc from the supermarket and put them in the oven.

Members of the Irvine and Kilbirnie groups stated that the preparation of healthy meals and the creation of meal ideas can put them off. If retailers could have healthy meals/ingredients pre prepared, pre packed and portioned up for people that would help. They indicated that a service like the Hello Fresh meal boxes which have all the ingredients provided in proper portions for 2/3/4 people from which you make a healthy and tasty meal would be great. Something that is all thought through for them and all they have to do is cook it.

What's your understanding of a healthy diet?

Most people understood what a healthy diet consists of. They mentioned the need for a balance in what they ate. There was a requirement for fruit and vegetables, meat and fish, potatoes, rice, bread and pasta and to cook more homemade meals from scratch rather than heating up pizza and chips or a microwave ready meal.

People provided long lists of things they should be eating including;

- 3 proper meals a day
- Eggs
- Fruit and veg
- Home cooked food, cooked from fresh
- Soups
- Fish
- Fruit juice
- Meat, chicken
- Baked potatoes and tuna
- Lots of water
- No sugary drinks
- Less processed food
- Cut down on snacks

The key reasons that people stated for not eating a more healthy diet included;

- Salad and vegetables are expensive
- A ready meal is made in 2 minutes and costs £3
- They lead busy lives and things need to be quick
- They have bad habits
- They want things to be affordable, easy, tasty, varied
- They have been brought up in a culture of eating in a more unhealthy manner
- Costs puts them off – easier to buy a pizza
- Need more ideas and how to cook healthy interesting meals

What is your understanding of what a portion of fruit and veg is?

Most people knew what a portion of fruit or veg is. They all mentioned the 5 portions a day recommendation for fruit and vegetables and some people mentioned that a third of your dinner plate should be vegetables. Examples given by people in the focus groups of what a portion of fruit and veg is were as follows;

- A piece of fruit like an apple, banana or an orange
- A small handful of vegetables, half a tin of peas or beans
- A glass of fruit juice

What activities around food and learning would be appealing to you?

Many people in the focus groups would really like to go to cookery classes. People in Largs said that they would like to go to some sort of cookery club. One of the participants in the Kilwinning group mentioned that he had gone to cookery classes at the Cook School, which he said had been given as a present, but which are expensive. Most people said that they would like to do something like that in their local community. They would like some kind of cooking club for instance where they learn how to cook healthy, tasty and varied meals and also have the opportunity to meet people.

Examples of the types of food they would like to cook includes;

- Curry
- Italian food like pizza and lasagne
- Fish
- Healthy chicken dishes
- Other things from scratch/fresh

People also commented that they would like to be able to go along to classes with a list of ingredients that they have been told to bring along and prepare and cook a variety of meals for their family that they could then take home to feed them for several days. In this way they would learn new skills, meet people and have meals all ready to be heated up for later in the week saving them time and making their life easier through the week. This type of activity could involve their children as well. It could be undertaken in local high schools, people mentioned Largs Academy for instance, that have cooking facilities children use during the day.

Several people in the Kilwinning group mentioned that Centre Stage comes to Kilwinning sports club on a Friday. This is an organisation that allows people to take fresh homemade food home by putting in a donation.

All of the participants in the focus groups stated that any activity must be fun and show them how to make quick, easy, tasty and healthy meals. They are not particularly interested in the nutritional information of the food merely that it is healthy, easy and quick to cook, balanced and tasty and above all not expensive.

What things would most encourage you to start growing your own food?

The main barrier for people to consider growing their own food is a lack of knowledge and understanding of how to do it. They would require more information and examples of what they could grow and how they could grow it on a small scale.

Several people mentioned allotments or community gardens. They spoke about the allotments in Ardrossan and the Fairlie Community garden. They thought these were great ideas and could be used to provide them with more information and advice.

There is a perception that gardening and growing food takes a lot of time and effort and can be expensive. They want to be shown that it can be done easily, cheaply and that they will get something useful to eat from it in the end. Comment was made that growing vegetables seems like hard work when you can buy it cheaply in Aldi for instance. Other people said that they felt it would be complicated, hard work, expensive and at the end of it all they might not even get anything worth eating.

Some people in the focus groups stated that they had grown things themselves such as raspberries, tomatoes, chillies, sweet peppers and herbs. This was primarily done in pots on the window sill or in the back garden.

The main ways people stated that would encourage them to start growing their own food included;

- More information on what to grow and how to grow it
- Provide support and advice on what to do
- Advice on the materials and equipment required
- Training on how to grow things
- Grow bag that you just open up and water and up grows potatoes or other vegetables
- Need to know when to plant/start and how to do it
- Feeling that it could be expensive to buy in everything that you need to begin with
- Space, support, knowledge, materials/equipment
- People need some quick wins to get them into it

2.4 Basic Income

Participants in the focus groups were asked what they knew of the term/concept of a Basic Income.

What is Basic Income

In all of the focus groups most people did not know what Basic Income was at all and had never heard of it. Only 2 people in the Ardrossan group said they knew about Basic Income due to the fact that they worked in the employment sector.

The groups were then informed about what a basic income was.

Basic Income – Definition

A basic income is an income unconditionally paid by the government to every individual, regardless of whether they work and irrespective of any other sources of income. It replaces many means-tested payments such as Jobseekers Allowance and Universal Credit (but not housing or disability benefits) and is high enough to cover basic needs (food etc). Most models suggest at least £73.10 per week for an adult of working age, in line with current benefit.

How do you think a Basic Income could benefit you?

Most people thought a Basic Income would be useful to them. Only one person in the Kilbirnie group was not keen on the idea as he stated he would “just get hammered for tax”.

One person in the Largs group said that they would love to be gifted £73 per week. It would give their children a holiday and pay for treats. It would also mean they could spend more time with the kids rather than taking overtime or extra shifts to help make ends meet.

A participant in the Kilwinning group said that said that £73 per week is nearly their rent and that it would transform their life.

Several people in the Irvine group said that the additional money would reduce their stress levels and would allow them to budget better. One example given was that they would be able to put £10 in the gas meter instead of £5.

Other examples of how it would benefit people in the focus groups included;

- Eat healthier – would be able to afford it
- Spend more time with their family
- Would not need to rely on overtime shifts
- Help with childcare costs
- Pay off debts
- Save it up
- Pay for a car to go to work – especially useful in North Ayrshire
- Travel expenses
- Maybe do less shifts and have more time with their family
- Would top up poor wages
- Pay off debt
- Help with maternity leave
- Pay council tax
- Bit extra to do fun things to keep healthy – like go swimming

How do you think a Basic Income could benefit other people?

Most people in the focus groups thought that the concept of a basic income would be beneficial to a lot of people in the same way that it would be beneficial to themselves. It would help people pay off some debt, and potentially create more family time for them as they may not have to work as long hours or take over time. It may also pay for activities or days out with children or allow people to save for a rainy day.

If some people were taking less overtime or doing shorter shifts it might also free up some jobs/employment opportunities for other people. It might encourage some people into work. If the basic income replaces existing benefits then people already on benefits will not see any uplift in their income. However for people in work it would be a bonus. It could mean that if people who currently receive means tested benefits went on to secure a job, they would get the basic income on top which would significantly increase their income. This would be a real incentive to take a job and come off benefits altogether.

Comment was made that a lot of people in North Ayrshire are in low paid jobs . The basic income would benefit people on minimum wage and bring their earnings up to a more liveable wage.

Over and above all of the above, the basic income would potentially have more money buzzing about the local economy. People might spend more in the local shops thus keeping shops open and making communities feel more vibrant and successful.

2.5 Community Justice

Can you tell me what you know about 'community justice'?

Community justice in most people's eyes was things like community service. People who have committed a crime and have been told to do 200 hours of community service for instance, undertaking activities such as painting fences, picking up litter or decorating old people's houses. It is a way of people paying back to the community for things that they have done wrong.

Do you think that people who have offended in the past and have served their sentence either in prison or in the community should have the opportunity to 'wipe the slate clean' and move on in life?

People were unsure about having "criminals" wipe the slate clean. They were of the view that if you have committed a crime then you need to be punished for it and in some ways part of the punishment is to have that offence follow you through life. After a discussion regarding the variety of crimes that people may commit most people thought that you should have the opportunity to wipe the slate clean but with some important caveats and other constraints.

- Firstly, it would depend on the offence. It should not be allowed for paedophiles, violent crimes like murder or crimes where people get life in prison.
- Secondly, the person would need to show remorse and a willingness to change their behaviour
- Thirdly, they would need to show that they can stay out of trouble for a significant length of time, several years at least.

What are the benefits of someone who has committed an offence serving their sentence in the community rather than being sent to prison?

The initial discussion among all of the focus groups was that they were unaware of any community based sentences being undertaken in their community. They do not see any evidence of this happening. People think it should be noticeable either by having the actual people being very visible when undertaking community service or by having signage/advertising that tells people that a particular activity has been undertaken by people undertaking community service. These activities could be cleaning the beaches, picking up litter on walkways, tidying parks or painting fences for instance.

The benefits of someone serving their sentence in the community rather than being sent to prison would be two fold. 1. The community would receive a benefit by having jobs or tasks undertaken to improve it and 2. the person would receive a benefit by not having a prison sentence and possibly gaining a skill which could improve their life.

Community benefit

- Help the community and the people in it
- Make environmental improvements to the community through activities such as litter picking, cleaning the beaches, painting fences etc
- Help vulnerable people in the community through painting houses, gardening and other jobs for people who are less able
- By making the tasks visible it may deter other people from committing crimes

Personal benefit

- Learn a new skill or trade
- Can help stop people from re-offending by helping them to respect the community in which they live
- Helps people gain confidence and a feeling of self-worth
- Allows people to give something back to the community
- May create an opportunity to break the cycle of offending and move into either a training or job opportunity

2.6 Social isolation and kindness

Do you think loneliness is an issue for people in your locality area? If so, for whom and what do you think are the challenges?

People in most of the focus groups initially stated that loneliness is an issue for elderly people in their area. They stated that there is very little for elderly people to do and that the closure of community centres contributes to this. This was a view right across all of the 6 focus groups

The discussions inevitably moved on and people began to discuss loneliness among other groups of people. People in Kilwinning for instance mentioned that younger mums and single mums can face issues with loneliness. They stated that when people get stuck in the house with nothing to do they lose their confidence, and don't feel that they are able and capable of doing things. One mum stated that if she didn't go out to work or do the school run she wouldn't talk to anyone all day.

People in the Irvine group said that it also included young people who are out of work or not in education or training, mums with young children, as spoken about in the Kilwinning group and people who have disabilities.

The issue of younger people feeling isolated was spoke about in the Largs group. People were aware of suicides which had been reported in the newspapers often caused by loneliness and exacerbated by issues including drugs, not much to do, poorly paid jobs and difficulty in getting affordable housing.

Much of social isolation is linked to financial situation. In the Irvine group they said that if people are on benefits or in a poorly paid job they find it difficult/unaffordable to go out and socialise. Members of the focus groups felt that there should be more facilities/activities available for people to engage with in their community. These could be;

- Drop in centres to pop in and have a coffee and a chat. People commented about local churches in some areas which had cafes where people could pop in and get a bowl of soup and meet people.
- Community cafes
- Mother and toddler groups
- Other activities that people could engage in such as walking groups and exercise classes

In general, people stated that there needs to be more, different and varied activities and initiatives to encourage people to get out and engage and meet people. Most people stated that there were fewer and fewer places in their community where people could meet up and socialise. The issue of community centres closing was raised time and again in many of the focus groups not least of all the Largs group.

People felt there also needs to be better communication about what is available and how people can participate and join in. This could be through an app on their phone which has all the activities in the area, what they entail, where they are and how to participate. Lots of people said that going to an activity the first time can be difficult, people can be a bit embarrassed to go along. Getting passed that initial hurdle is difficult. If there was an easy way to initially engage with a group or activity through an online contact this may assist some people.

Do you think you can rely on neighbours in an emergency/ for practical help / for emotional support?

Some people in the focus groups said yes to this whilst others said no. It depends on what is happening and what the issue is. People in the Arran and Largs groups were most likely to state that there was a feeling of community spirit and that their neighbours would help them in an emergency. For some people living on Arran the distance to their nearest neighbour can be an issue, in that they are not living in housing estates right next to people.

People were more likely to state that they could rely on their neighbours for practical help or assistance in an emergency rather than emotional support. For instance, they would help with taking the bins out or getting some shopping if someone is ill or the weather is so bad that they cannot get out. Members of the groups said that they have helped and been helped by others in these types of situations, for instance this was mentioned by people in the Kilwinning and Largs groups. However most of the focus groups were not so sure about emotional support, they did not think people are as keen to discuss emotional issues with neighbours.

Some people just do not expect this from their neighbours. People don't really know their neighbours in the way they might have in the past, they tend not to interact with them and as such don't look for any type of support or assistance. In the Ardrossan group for instance some people stated that they did not know who their neighbours were.

Do you think people are generally kind?

Most people in the focus groups did think that people are generally kind though people in the Ardrossan group stated that there was a perception that this is getting less and less. People in Kilwinning said they did not think that people in general would want to do anything bad or nasty or unpleasant to them. They will be polite and courteous, but whether other people would actually be kind made the groups less sure.

Members of the Irvine group said that people are kind to other people that they know. They are wary though of strangers/people they don't know, even if they are neighbours. People on Arran said that "people do appreciate the effort if you are kind".

In the Kilbirnie group people said that being kind is a much more involved and active interaction, and most interactions people have are quite passive. They will do what they have to do but not go that extra mile to do it better or be specifically kind.

Have you helped someone who needed it in the last 12 months / how?

People in the focus groups have helped people they know or neighbours in a variety of different ways. About half of all the people in the groups said that they have helped someone in the past 12 months. Someone from Largs mentioned that an elderly woman fell on the pavement and a member of the focus group sat with her and got her water and called her husband. In Kilwinning someone said that she helps a neighbour with managing the different tablets she takes so that she doesn't get confused and in Ardrossan one person said that he had helped an old man who had fallen out of a taxi drunk. He called an ambulance and sat with the man.

Other ways in which they have helped people have included;

- Helped an elderly neighbour in with her shopping
- Gone to see an old man he knows to see if he is OK
- Help at her sons local school – volunteer
- Visit people through the church – elderly and housebound to see if they are OK
- Help friends and family – move furniture
- Check that an elderly neighbour is OK
- Taken a neighbour to the doctors
- Went shopping for a neighbour when the snow was really bad and she couldn't get out
- Helped take wheelie bins out and back in again

Several people in the groups also stated that they had been helped by other people in the past year. This included help with shopping in the snow, help with cutting down bushes and another person who was helped by random people when her car had broken down.

Do you (or not) experience kindness? For example, do you think people are treated with kindness in places such as GP surgeries, libraries, social services, police and public transport? Where else do you (or not) experience kindness?

Most people feel they are generally treated well, perhaps not with kindness but treated nicely. As stated previously, the groups felt that kindness tends to be something you may get if you have a more detailed and involved interaction with someone. Most interactions people have with each other tend to be quite superficial and so they are generally treated courteously but that is about as far as it goes.

The groups felt that contact with people in GP surgeries and libraries is generally polite and courteous. Comment was made that in the GP, the receptionist goes into far too much detail about your personal issues in front of everyone and there is no confidentiality. They felt there is very little understanding or compassion with regard to how people might be feeling or how sensitive they may be about certain personal issues.

On public transport, it was discussed that some drivers are friendly and some are not. People still experience drivers who move away from a bus stop before people have the opportunity to sit down. This can be quite dangerous for older people and not at all thoughtful or kind.

With regards to interaction with the Police, most people stated that there is not much in the way of a Police presence, so they have very little contact with them and as such have almost no knowledge about whether or not they are kind.

People stated that some doctors are not kind and can be very workmanlike in their approach. People would expect a bit more in the way of kindness and compassion when engaging with a doctor.

In general people stated that there is a lack of manners sometimes and a lack of respect shown for people in a wide variety of situations. One of the most obvious is when driving. Some felt that people show very little consideration when driving and can actually be very aggressive/display road rage to other drivers and pedestrians.

Do you have any ideas about what might help people to feel less lonely in your locality area?

As already mentioned several times, people in many of the focus groups spoke about the closure of community centres in their area. The people in the Largs focus group stated this often, and the need to have more community centres to enable people to meet up would help people feel less lonely.

Most of the groups feel that there needs to be more organised events and activities in their area where people can come along and meet and socialise. The closure of community centres in many different areas reduces the opportunity to have places where activities can be organised.

People would like there to be more community events that bring everyone together from the youngest to the oldest in their area to create a sense of community spirit. They spoke about events that had been organised previously such as the gala day in Kilwinning, firework nights in Ardrossan and T in Saltcoats (a mini T in the park event). Other events could be things like street parties or large organised walks along the sea front.

In addition to these larger community based events people also mentioned specific activities for different members of the community. These included;

- Community centres, places for people to drop in and meet – have a tea/coffee and a bowl of soup
- Friendship club
- Befrienders
- Tea dances
- Mothers and toddlers groups
- Lunch clubs
- Reminiscing groups for older people
- Get togethers at local community centre

The groups felt that it is also important that there is more information and support available to encourage people to take part. There needs to be better awareness of the activities, possibly promoted through an app for younger people or through social media such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram etc.

2.7 Locality Specific Questions

2.7.1 Arran

Do you have difficulty attending appointments, social gatherings or activities due to assistance or transport issues? If so what might help you?

Most people in the focus group stated that the only way to reliably travel round the island was to have your own transport. If people were to rely on public transport they would find it difficult to be anywhere on time or have to leave a long time in advance of their appointment.

Comments were made regarding poor public transport around the island, these included;

- Less than frequent services
- Services that don't start early or finish late enough
- The cost of journeys

For younger people this is even more of a problem as they do not have the option of having their own transport. They have to rely on their parents or public transport and as such they would like an improved public transport service.

In addition to this, members of the focus group also said there were;

- Poor lighting on the roads should you be able to walk
- Poor road surfaces for cycling
- Travel and transport for young people round the island is difficult. The bus service is poor and needs to be improved.

Over and above the issues within the island itself, people also stated that the ferry service can often be unreliable. This was particularly so this year when one of the ferries serving the island was taken out of service for repair. The resulting cancellations of services was very disruptive to people on the island when they were trying to get to and from the mainland. They mentioned that there was long queues for the ferry and sometimes they were unable to get on certain crossings due to the fact that the ferry was so busy.

The types of improvements people would like to see to help them with regard to transport issues included;

- More reliable ferry service, with better provision when a ferry is being repaired.
- Better public transport service - cheaper fares, better timetable, more reliable buses
- Improved roads – road surface and lighting

Is your housing suitable for your current needs regarding cost, location and size of accommodation? If not how could this be addressed?

Members of the focus group stated that their housing in general was suitable for their current needs. Housing is expensive on the island due to the number of people wanting to buy places as holiday accommodation. It is also expensive for young people who live on the island and many live in caravans.

Some of the housing is not as close to employment opportunities on the island as people would like. Many people work in the hospitality industry and start work early in the morning and finish late in the evening. Lack of accommodation close to work coupled with a poor public transport system early in the morning and late at night makes their life quite difficult.

All of the group stated that the following issues need to be addressed with regard to accommodation;

- More affordable housing to rent and buy
- More varied house sizes with between 2 and 5 bedrooms to accommodate young people, through families to older households.
- More accommodation that is affordable at or near the areas of main employment opportunities on the island.

2.7.2 Garnock Valley

What are the greatest barriers to moving around...

- a. ***Within Garnock Valley?***
- b. ***Beyond Garnock Valley?***
- c. ***What might potential solutions be?***

Public transport within and beyond the Garnock Valley was variable. People commented that there was no competition in the bus service in the area with most services provided by Stagecoach and a bit by McGills. This in their view meant that buses don't run late in the area with no real services much after 10pm, not enough early services and a poor Sunday service.

In addition to this there is only an hourly bus service up and down to Glasgow and down to Ardrossan

People in the focus group thought that more competition among the bus operators may help to bring more bus services both within the Garnock Valley and beyond. As stated above they felt that there needs to be more early and late buses, more frequent services during the day and a better Sunday service.

Do you think there are enough of the right facilities and amenities for young people in Garnock Valley?

Members of the focus group stated that the services available were acceptable when children are young, around primary school age. Comment was made that once they get to high school/academy age there is very little for them to do. People stated that they need to go to Kilmarnock or Glasgow for the cinema for instance.

The group stated that there needs to be more activities and services for teenage young people. They mentioned places like Radio City or more drop in centres/ cafés.

They said there is a swimming pool in Dalry but no proper leisure centre in the area. They didn't like the Portal in Irvine as it is not like the Magnum which had a big swimming pool and ice rink etc. People thought there should be more hobby type activities as well as sports available in the area. There should also be more uniformed organisations like the army cadets, bb's scouts and guides to provide activities for young people.

How might we work together to increase work opportunities in Garnock Valley?

Members of the focus group felt that a variety of things need to be done to increase work opportunities in the Garnock Valley.

Many people stated that there are no big employers in the area. The Council and other economic development agencies need to promote the area and attract large employers. This could be done by showing employers that there is a big and able workforce in the area who are dynamic, skilled and hard working. As part of this, people stated that there needs to be a proper dual carriageway to the area. The A737 is a single carriage way and not quick to get into the area. The group felt that employers need good communication links to central Scotland which would encourage them to locate to the area.

In addition to this, there should be more apprenticeships for young people and better training for the work force in general to make sure they have the appropriate skills. Members of the group stated that local people could volunteer to help and inform young people about the different types of careers and jobs there are available.

By doing the above, it could develop/keep jobs in the area, keep people in the area and in doing so generate better jobs with better pay. This could result in people spending more money in local shops which in turn would create other jobs and make the area more prosperous.

2.7.3 Irvine

How can services within a locality work better together responsive to the needs of their community

What could be done to give more power to people

How could we get more people involved in dealing with local issues

Most members of the focus group said that they had assumed that public services already work together when developing and providing services to them. They spoke about the Council providing care services to elderly people in the community working together with the health service. The focus group indicated that a broad range of public services should be coming together at an early stage with representatives of the community to assess the needs and priorities of the community and to develop services accordingly.

Partners should be looking at how the services they provide interact with each other. For instance, assessing the costs relating to vandalism in an area resulting in planning better services for young people. Similarly, looking at the costs of having an older person in hospital compared to providing a suitable service to look after them in their home. People in the group thought that if the overall costs of providing services in an area were taken into consideration across all sorts of public organisations, then a more holistic approach to service delivery could be developed. At the moment they mostly tend to see each public service doing their own thing.

Most people are not fully aware of public sector organisations working together. They would like these linkages made obvious to them by communicating clearly how the services they receive have been developed in a coherent and cooperative manner.

Participants in the Irvine locality indicated that it would be a good thing if there was more public engagement in local decision making

Communication and involvement

An initial stage in getting more people involved and giving them more power would be to improve people's awareness that they can actually become involved in this. Most people in the focus group had very little understanding that this was an option.

They could be informed of this through the following means;

- Posters and notices in shop windows, libraries, sports centres, doctors surgeries etc
- Flyers and leaflets through their door
- Adverts in the local paper
- Social media posts on Facebook, Instagram and Pinterest for instance

People would like to be heard and give their opinion about issues that are important to them and the area in which they live. Most people though would rather not commit too much time to do this. To encourage them to participate more they would like to see very obvious and real changes to the services they receive to make them feel that their involvement is actually worthwhile. They would also like to have the ability to spend real money on the services they believe to be important, not just be a talking shop with no power.

The ways in which people would like to get involved in dealing with local issues vary from the very "light touch" to a more involved and detailed level of participation. These could include;

- The opportunity to comment on issues either through an online survey or Facebook
- Having people from services more visible in their local area who they can chat to informally, for instance in supermarkets or sports facilities.
- Meeting representatives of services in and around where they live – possibly as an annual/biannual walk around the area to talk through the issues.
- Engage with representatives of local community groups through some sort of forum
- Quarterly public meetings where representatives of all the service providers in an area could come along and consult on their plans and services they deliver with a representative cross section of the community.
- Finally, only for those people who would like to be fully engaged, there should be the opportunity for ordinary members of the public to attend and engage with service development and planning meetings.

2.7.4 Kilwinning

Have you noticed the new traffic and parking signs in Kilwinning main street? Did you know they were planned and put up as a result of the work of the locality partnership?

About half the people in the focus group said that they had not noticed any new parking and traffic signs in Kilwinning main street. A few people mentioned the disabled parking and taxi parking, stating that it had been there for a while. No-one in the focus was aware that they were planned and put up as a result of the work of the locality partnership.

In terms of the local environment: Is there any specific area in Kilwinning that you feel needs to be focussed on? If so, what do you feel needs to be done in this area?

The types of improvements that people within the focus group would like undertaken include;

- More shops and better variety of shops in town centre
- More play parks for the children
- Better lights in the underpasses
- Pennyburn needs brightened up

Are you aware of the various allotments within Kilwinning, and do you think these are publicised enough?

People said that they have seen the allotments when they drive past them. They are on the bus route so are quite visible. Apart from that they don't really know very much about them. They stated that there is no information sent out and that they would like to know more.

Members of the focus group stated that it would be good to have an open day at the allotments to find out more about them, begin to understand what it entails and to potentially enquire about getting one.

Did you know that Kilwinning Community Events Group arrange clean up/litter picking days? How do you think these could be publicised to attract more volunteers?

Focus group participants gave a variety of suggestions regarding how people could be encouraged to participate in clean up/litter picking days. These included publicising them through organising and developing other community based activities that people might come along to such as a fireworks night. Events such as these can develop a sense of community in other ways which will encourage people to engage with the clean-up/litter picking days.

People also stated that members of the community could be informed and encouraged to participate through the following communications channels;

- Social media such as Facebook. Instagram, Pinterest etc
- Flyers through their door
- Signage/posters in shop windows, sports centres, libraries, doctor surgeries etc
- Notice boards in town.
- Have volunteers come into the town centre and talk to people about it.
- Other websites/Facebook pages such as the Housewives of Pennyburn pages

Do you know how people can access services in Kilwinning to help support and better prepare them for employment?

Knowledge of services to support people and better prepare them for employment was very limited. One person said that there was something at the Stevenston Library and another mentioned the employability hub at Ayrshire College where people could get advice and help with regard to C.V.'s, applying for jobs and other support. People also thought that there may be help available through the job centre.

2.7.5 North Coast

What's your experience about how people in your community might be struggling to make ends meet?

Many people in the group said that it is expensive to live in Largs. There is a perception that people in other areas think that everyone in Largs is well off and as such they feel they do not get the same amount of services as other parts of North Ayrshire. Comment was made that the cost of living is expensive, issues mentioned included;

- Council Tax
- Travel and Transport
- Food

... all being expensive.

They stated that many people are on low wages and that the foodbanks are very well used, especially at this time of year (Christmas). Members of the group also stated that it is difficult for people to save and they have little money for extras or treats or days out.

What sort of help and advice do you think communities might need with managing money?

People mentioned that there was no Citizens Advice in the area from which to get advice on various issues. They also stated that there was no credit union which they thought would be useful to help people save and to borrow small amounts of money at a reasonable rate of interest.

The type of advice and support people would benefit from included;

- Help with getting out of debt
- Advice on budgeting
- Advice and information on where to access affordable credit
- Shopping and feeding a family in an affordable way
- Managing monthly or quarterly bills such as household energy bills whilst being paid weekly

In addition to the above, members of the group said that better paid jobs in the area would also be a big help.

Do you know how people can access services which can help with financial worries such as unmanageable debts or managing your household budget

Most of the focus group did not know of anything in the area that could provide people with this type of service. They thought that Citizens Advice would be a good service to have for this. One person

mentioned the “Money matters” service that she had heard of but didn’t know how or where to access it. She thinks you would need to go to Irvine for this.

What's your perceptions about the pressures on young people and their ability to cope with stress? Do you have any ideas about what more could be done to support them?

People commented that they had noticed in the local news that some young people have committed suicide recently in the area. They are aware that young people are facing pressures that can be very stressful in this day and age.

They mentioned that the types of stress and strain that young people face include;

- Young mums on universal credit experience stress – trying to care for young children and finding it difficult to make ends meet
- There are not a lot of local jobs, people have to travel up to Glasgow to get work. This adds a couple of hours onto their day and they get home late and tired, not able to do things in the evening.
- Housing is expensive and there is little opportunity to get affordable rented accommodation wither through the council or housing associations.

Members of the focus group stated that people need help with jobs, housing, travel, managing money and accessing training opportunities. If these issues were to be addressed the levels of stress would be significantly reduced.

2.7.6 Three Towns

The Three Towns have a long connected Coastline. What could we do to encourage more people to visit and make active use of the Promenade, Beach and Coastline?

The type of things that people stated would encourage more people to visit and make use of the coastline included;

- More events and activities for people to come and participate in/experience
- Improve the area, many of the shops are closed and derelict and need to be improved
- There needs to be more things open at night – places for tea and coffee or other places to meet
- Have some form of fun park for children
- More activities and events
- Clean up the beach/coastline
- Activity equipment for adults in parks and on sea front – for example outdoor gym machines
- Have things for children and adults, to do things as a family/intergenerational groups

Growing Food and promoting healthy life styles is a priority for Three Towners. What more can we do to encourage wider participation in food growing, production and the promotion of healthy lifestyles through growing and the promotion of free access to food?

Most people said that they needed more information on how to grow things and what they should grow. People need to be taught how to do easy quick win things. For example, growing things on window sills, in small pots etc. They need to be shown that it is easy and not complicated. Members of the group talked about growing potatoes in plastic bags and chillies and cherry tomatoes in small pots.

To make this happen people would need places to get cheap seeds and other plants and vegetables things to grow along with the things they need to grow them in and other advice to make it all work properly.

In addition to this they would like to get more ideas for cooking with different vegetables and opportunities to share what they have grown and swap different vegetables among groups of people.

Community Centres are managed by trusted community Associations representative of local people- What can we do to encourage greater involvement of the community in the identification of local need and delivery of local services.

Members of the focus groups said that the following should be undertaken to encourage greater community involvement.

- Members of the community want to be supported by professionals to create some easy quick wins for people in the community to see the benefits. Many people in the community don't have lots of time but would be willing to help out for an hour or two so if their limited time contribution could be supported by some professional input.
- Develop activities and events that people in the local community would come along to and then engage with them to develop further initiatives that they would like.
- Make real cash available to do things in their community
- Develop integrated activities for young and old, families and other mixed generations to come together.

In general, people stated that things need to start slowly, confidence and capacity needs to be built and local communities need ongoing support to make things work.