



North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

Irvine Locality Partnership

Monday 7 December 2020, 6.00 p.m. Via Microsoft Teams

BUSINESS

Item	Subject	Pg No	Ref	Officer	Timings
1.	Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest.	-	-	Cllr Burns	6.00 – 6.05
2.	Action Note Review the action note and deal with any outstanding items.	Pg 3	Enclosed	Kenny Hankinson	6.05 – 6.10
3.	Cost of the School Day Receive update from Lesley Forsyth	-	Verbal	Lesley Forsyth	6.10 – 6.20
4.	Chit Chat Update Receive update from Elaine Baxter.	-	Verbal	Elaine Baxter	6.20 – 6.45
5.	Community Support Receive update from Lesley Forsyth	-	Presentation	Lesley Forsyth	6.45 – 6.55
6.	Community Investment Fund <ul style="list-style-type: none">Full application - Digital upgrades	Pg 9	Enclosed	Elaine Baxter	6.55 – 7.15
STANDING AGENDA ITEMS					
7.	Locality Officer Update Receive update from Elaine Baxter.	Pg 18	Enclosed	Elaine Baxter	7.15 – 7.25
8.	HSCP Update Receive update.	-	Verbal	Louise Gibson/Gavin Paterson	7.25 – 7.35
9.	Youth Forum Update Receive update from Justin Jones.	-	Verbal	Justin Jones	7.35 – 7.45
10.	Grants Receive report from Lesley Forsyth.	To follow	Report to follow	Lesley Forsyth	7.45 - 7.55
11.	AOCB	-		Cllr Burns	7.55 – 8.00
REPORT FOR INFORMATION					

12.	TACT Update Report enclosed for information	Pg 36			
Date of Next Meeting: To be confirmed.					

Distribution List

Elected Members

Councillor Marie Burns **(Chair)**
 Councillor Ian Clarkson
 Councillor John Easdale
 Councillor Robert Foster
 Councillor Scott Gallacher
 Councillor Margaret George
 Councillor Christina Larsen
 Councillor Shaun Macaulay
 Councillor Louise McPhater
 Councillor Angela Stephen

Community Representative

Sylvia Mallinson **(Vice Chair)**
 Diane Dean (Co- opted)
 Donna Fitzpatrick
 David Mann
 Peter Marshall
 Janice Murray
 Annie Small
 Ian Wallace

CPP/Council Representatives

Kenny Hankinson, Senior Lead Officer
 Lesley Forsyth, Lead Officer
 Alan Brown, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
 Andy Dolan, Police Scotland
 Elaine Baxter, Locality Officer

Meeting:	Irvine Locality Partnership
Date/Venue:	14 September 2020 – Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams at 6.00 p.m.
Present:	<p> Councillor Marie Burns (Chair) Provost Ian Clarkson Councillor John Easdale Councillor Robert Foster Councillor Christina Larsen Councillor Shaun MacAulay Councillor Louise McPhater </p> <p> Sylvia Mallinson, Community Representative (Vice-Chair) Diane Dean (Co-opted) Donna Fitzpatrick, Community Representative Annie Small, Community Representative </p> <p> Lesley Forsyth, Lead Officer (NAC) Eddie Kenna, Scottish Fire and Rescue Gavin Paterson, Partnership Engagement Officer Elaine Baxter, Community Education Locality Co-ordinator Justin Jones, Youth Forum Diane McCaw, Committee Services, North Ayrshire Council </p>
Apologies:	<p> Councillor Angela Stephen Kenny Hankinson, Senior Lead Officer, Scottish Fire and Rescue Alan Brown, Scottish Fire and Rescue Andy Dolan, Police Scotland Ian Wallace, Community Representative </p>

ACTIONS

No.	Action	Responsible
1.	<p>Welcome/Apologies/Declarations of Interest</p> <p>The Chair welcomed those present to the Irvine Locality Partnership meeting and apologies for absence were noted. There were no declarations in terms of Standing Order 11.</p> <p>The Locality Partnership then took the opportunity to reflect on the sad passing of Theresa Potter, a highly regarded colleague within the HSCP and a committed local activist who had worked with a variety of organisations. On behalf of the Partnership, the Chair extended her condolences to Theresa's family, friends and colleagues.</p>	
2.	<p>Action Note</p> <p>The action note from the meeting held on 16 March 2020 was approved as a correct record and the implementation of decisions was confirmed.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	

2.1	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>The action note was discussed and the Chair highlighted that at Item 3, CIF Expressions of Interest, the meeting on 16 March 2020 had agreed that both the Locality IT Upgrade and Castlepark Community Association be progressed as funding bids. Due to Covid and other issues, these applications are not able to be brought back at this stage and both are currently a work in progress.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	
3.	<p>Community Hubs and Next Steps</p> <p>The Partnership received a presentation by the Locality Partnership Lead Officer and discussed the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the excellent collaborative work of the 3 Community Hubs at Redburn, Fullarton and Vineburgh during lockdown to tackle local issues; • the invaluable support of local volunteers; • the success of working with local groups during lockdown to identify local solutions and the value of empowering staff and volunteers to act; • mental health referrals throughout lockdown; • volunteering opportunities going forward with a potential bank of volunteers; • the positive sense of community which had emerged during lockdown; and • the commitment shown by local businesses and partners to work together. <p>The Partnership expressed a huge debt of thanks to Donna Fitzpatrick, Louise McPhater and Elaine Baxter for the tremendous achievement and collaborate work with Council staff and volunteers who put themselves at risk by being on the front line throughout the pandemic lockdown.</p> <p>The Lead Officer advised on matters for consideration moving forward and the Partnership further discussed:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensuring that the needs of the locality continue to be met in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic; • the potential for a second wave of Covid-19 and structures which are still in place to respond to this; • the need for swift and efficient action in terms of the Partnership and community ownership; • the requirement for a caring and efficient people centred approach to the provision of local support and the importance of responding to different local needs; • the commitment of the Council in terms of community ownership within community wealth building; • issues in terms of poverty, mental illness and social isolation which were already in existence having been accentuated by the pandemic; 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • progress in terms of the Child Poverty Action Plan, food justice and food dignity, cost of the school day for parents, and the production of Scotland's first Anti-Poverty Policy within the Council to address issues within local communities; • the importance of employability as an issue moving forward, particularly following the conclusion of the furlough scheme; • the continuation of essential partnership working; • concern in terms of how a potential resurgence in winter months will affect poverty and mental health; • the requirement to consult with local communities to determine what is needed and to ensure local support is in place; and • letting income for hubs being non-existent which leads to a situation where it is hard to keep delivering services and employ staff and pay bills. <p>Eddie Kenna left the meeting at this point.</p> <p>The Partnership will receive a follow-up questionnaire which will allow them to share any other issues they wish to raise which have not been covered at this meeting.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	
4.	<p>Locality Officer / Community Rep Update</p> <p>Submitted an update report by Elaine Baxter, Locality Co-ordinator, detailing work which had been undertaken in the locality and highlighting the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Digital Irvine project tackling loneliness and isolation; • youth work and adult learning staff accreditation to deliver Playback Ice to focus on mental health and wellbeing and volunteering and employability opportunities; • funding secured from Connected Scotland which has been utilised to purchase 46 iPads and 5 Chrome books for community use; • Virtual Afternoon Tea Party organised by the Irvine Community Learning & Development Team in partnership with Jim Cooper Digital Participation Officer and Fullarton Hub who provided afternoon tea and delivered these out to participants who took part in the event played bingo, enjoyed a quiz and had live entertainment was held on Zoom on Friday 11th September catering for 30 individuals. • the recruitment of Digital Champions to support volunteers in the local area. <p>Noted.</p>	
5.	<p>Locality Officer / Community Rep Update</p> <p>The Community Representatives provided an verbal update highlighting the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • that without dedicated volunteers the hubs could not have provided the services they did during the lockdown period; 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • going forward a worthwhile blended partnership approach between the Council and the communities is required; • continued connections within the local community are important to ensure no-one slips through the cracks in the system; and • the need to recognise from past experience what requires to be improved on going forward. <p>Noted.</p>	
6.	<p>Youth Forum Update</p> <p>Justin Jones provide a verbal update on the Youth Forum and highlighted the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support to the community hub with a wide range of activities including working in foodbank, making up packs for families, dog walking etc –etc • young people had a keen passion and empathy to help members of the community and were empowered through this; • online youth work programmes including involvement in a Saturday fake away programme run by youth services; • holding youth forum weekly meetings on zoom platform; • Youth Festival 2021 will now take place at Kelburn Country Park on 3-4 August; • arrangements being made for a virtual switch on of Christmas lights; • an Awards for All application being completed to cover overhead costs associated with the lights; • National Secure Adolescence In-Patient Services meetings have now moved online; and • Funding and resources attracted from the Corra Foundation, Asda, Artastic, Tesco Bags for Life. <p>The Partnership recorded thanks to the Youth Forum for the range of activity involvement throughout the pandemic.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	
7.	<p>HSCP Locality Update</p> <p>The Partnership received a verbal update from Gavin Paterson (HSCP) on the work of the Health and Social Care (HSCP) Locality Forum, including information on:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the production of the HSCP's next Strategic Plan, which would be prepared on the basis of a 1-year transition plan to be developed by March 2021, followed by a 10-year plan; • plans for engagement with service users, staff and others on two questions, namely what mattered to them with regard to health and social care and how they kept themselves well; and • the next meetings of the Locality forums in mid-October. <p>Noted.</p>	

8.	AOCB The Chair thanked everyone for participating remotely in the meeting and also thanked Louise McPhater for ensuring both Donna Fitzpatrick and Sylvia Mallinson could join in the meeting via facetime.	
9.	Date of Next Meeting The next meeting of the Irvine LP will take place on Monday 7 December 2020 at 6.00 p.m.	

Meeting ended at 19.50 p.m.



Community Investment Fund Checklist To be completed by Locality Officer at expression of interest stage				
Item	Yes	No	Not Applicable (give reason)	Comments
Expression of interest coproduced	x			Yes this was co-produced between Castlepark, Redburn, Vineburgh, Fullarton, Dreghorn, Drybridge, Springside and Lanfine. The digital participation officer will support volunteer training and adult learning course.
Link to Fair for All	x			Digital exclusion has always been an issue even before the pandemic. Now more than ever people are relying on digital access. Digital exclusion is more apparent in older generations but more people going into poverty affordability for device and wifi is out with some peoples budgets. Once centres return and are open there is expected to be more and more people unemployed who will rely on their local community centre for support to be more digitally included.
Link to Locality priorities	x			
Does not duplicate existing services		x		

Long term impact and sustainable	x			Yes however each of the community associations will need to keep up to date with the maintenance of the software.
Evidence of financial viability (bank acct, annual accounts)	x			
Evidence of management arrangements (governance arrangements, officer bearers, organisational objectives, organisational status)	x			
OSCR compliance	x			Fullarton & Eglinton Community Association are going to be the anchor organisation who will take the lead alongside Digital Participation officer for purchasing and distributing keeping in line with the CWB by buying local.
GDPR compliance	x			
Child protection and vulnerable adults policies	x			This will need refresh – locality officer will send on the link for the e-learning training courses delivered by NA Child Protection and Adult protection committee.
Measurable outcomes	x			
Any issues flagged in past 3 years		x		
Completed By: Elaine Baxter				
Date Completed: 26.11.2020				

Community Investment Fund Application Form: Irvine 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:

Elaine Baxter
Irvine Locality Coordinator
Economy and Communities
Community Development Team
Redburn Community Centre
Dickson Drive
Irvine
KA12 9EW

Email: ebaxter@north-ayrshire.gov.uk
Tel: 01294 313593
Mob: 07814418453

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: Irvine Community Centres Digital Upgrades, on behalf of Castlepark Community Association, Fullarton Hub, Redburn Hub, Broomlands & Bourtreehill Community Association and Vineburgh Community Association.

Postal Address for Correspondence: North Ayrshire Council Communities, Irvine Locality Team, Redburn Community Centre, Dickson Drive, Irvine KA12 9EW

Name of Contact Person: Jim Cooper

Position in Organisation: Irvine Locality Digital Participation Coordinator

Contact Telephone Number: 01294 318438

Mobile:

E mail address jimcooper@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

2. 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;

Castlepark Community Association, Fullarton Hub, Redburn Hub, Broomlands & Bourtreehill Community Association and Vineburgh Community Association are longstanding constituted voluntary organisations*, with the exception of Redburn which is operated by North Ayrshire Council on behalf of the local residents.

All organisations share similar aims and objectives by providing community facilities for the benefit of the inhabitants of their neighbourhoods without distinction of sex or political, religious or other opinions by working together with the local authorities, voluntary organisations and inhabitants in a common effort to advance education, and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare, for recreation and for leisure time occupation.

All of the above community centres are the key hubs for each of their respective areas, and each have a long history (over 40 years) in providing community activities, learning opportunities and social events for people of all ages.

**The initial expression of interest included equipment for Springside Community Association, however this committee were successful in their application to the Ayrshire Leader Enabling Rural Communities Fund. This will supply enough equipment to cover the Centre's needs.*

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?*

Title: Irvine Community Centres Digital Upgrades

This application covers equipment for:

Castlepark, Fullarton, Redburn, Towerlands and Vineburgh Community Centres*.

The funding will be used to upgrade a range of computers, laptops, tablets, printers, cameras and peripheral equipment for use by, and the benefit of, the local community. These facilities will contribute to addressing digital inequality and the priorities of the Irvine Locality as outlined in Part 4.

Technically this is not a new service as there has previously been equipment available in these locations, however the purpose of the upgrades is to replace equipment which is slow, sub-standard, out-of-date or even non-functioning.

This equipment will support the following outcomes:

- Contributing to supporting people to find work – job seeking
- Contributing to supporting people to find work – building digital skills
- Contributing to addressing financial exclusion
- Contributing to addressing child poverty
- Contributing to addressing digital exclusion
- Contributing to the alleviation of loneliness and social isolation
- Contributing to mental health and well-being through all of the above

The funds will be administered by Fullarton Hub Management Committee with the support of North Ayrshire Council's Irvine Locality Connected Communities Team Digital Participation Officer therefore no new organisations need be set up.

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 Irvine's priorities of:

1. *Employment and Economy*
2. *Mental Health*
3. *Traffic and Parking*
4. *Influence and Sense of Control*

This application aligns with the North Ayrshire Fair For All Inequalities Strategy by “supporting residents to be digital”. In addition, the local Community Planning themes are addressed as follows: these computers will be free for public access and be available to, amongst other groups: jobseekers, students and families; addressing issues including:

- **employability** – for both searching for jobs online and as a facility for learning computer skills and enhancing employability; the provision of internet access via this equipment will enable residents to identify local suppliers of goods and services and by extension contribute to the **local economy**;
- the internet is of course the ultimate source of information, which supports a more informed community and contributes to its **Influence and Sense of Control**;
- there are many internet resources devoted to physical and **mental health & well-being** both directly and indirectly, in terms of providing access to information on health and being, and as a means to an end by providing those who digitally disadvantaged the facility to access all the online benefits outlined herein.
- this application will contribute to addressing **financial inequality** by providing facilities to source goods and services at lower cost and contributing, for example, to the alleviation of child poverty by allowing parents who might be unable to otherwise access the internet to take advantage of such financial benefits.

Each of the community centres listed sits within an area in the lowest three deciles of the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation. All are largely the only facility for internet access in their local areas or provide access at times to augment other facilities - Libraries for example.

The need for the upgrade of the PCs and laptops is immediate. Currently anyone using them is likely to be put off returning due to the age and consequent slow access speed of the devices currently in place.

The present situation of the Covid-19 pandemic, leading to an increasing number of people suffering from loneliness and social isolation, has highlighted the extent of the ‘digital divide’ between the digital ‘haves’ and ‘have nots’, and the resulting need for increased provision of opportunities for digitally disadvantaged people to acquire and improve their basic digital skills. Offering access to up-to-date digital equipment will encourage such activity.

Since the original expression of interest, Additional high-specification laptops have been added for the purpose of allowing young people to experience video creation which is an activity which develops skills such as communication, visualisation, forward-planning, and teamwork by participants.

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

The original CIF Expression of Interest was informed by the work of the previous Irvine Locality Digital Participation Officer (ILDPO) who consulted with representatives of each of the Community Centre Management Committees to compile the list of required equipment.

As much as the condition of the equipment allows, prior to lockdown in March, the digital facilities of each Centre are all in regular use. The Centre representatives have each put forward requests to upgrade the equipment as appropriate to their Centre.

The current ILDPO has ratified that the requests still stand as of March 2020 and updated the costs as necessary as of November 2020.

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 Irvine?*

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 Irvine locality?*

- a. Fullarton Community Hub will be the lead organisation responsible for the administration of the funds in collaboration with the ILDPO.
- b. Each organisation will have the potential to develop volunteering opportunities with regard to digital support for the less capable users of these devices. The ILDPO will provide training for such volunteers.
- c. No additional staff are required.
- d. The ILDPO will provide training for volunteer digital tutors who, in turn, will provide support for groups and individuals making use of the various centres' facilities. In addition, North Ayrshire Council's Get Connected facility will be a potential source of technical expertise by giving staff – IT staff in particular – the opportunity to offer their skills as volunteers in relation to setting up the computers and networks. In the event of a successful application, contact will be made with local tech-focussed businesses to request additional voluntary support.

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:	£77,213.57
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Please include detail on -

[a] Breakdown of costs if available;

[b] Recent quotations where appropriate

Upgrading of computer and other IT resources in the community listed around the Irvine Locality as follows:

• Castlepark Community Centre	2x PCs	£1637.98
	1x Printer/ Scanner/ Copier	£400.00
• Fullarton Community Centre	1x Laser Printer & cons.	£1087.06
• Redburn Community Centre	13x PCs (Web access)	£10,646.87
	2x PCs (Video Trg)	c. £4,600.00
	10x Laptops (Video Trg)	c. £25,000.00
	12x Vegas Pro Edit (S/W)	£3,600.00
	9x Laptops	£5,570.91
	4x Digital Cameras	£316.00
• Towerlands Community Centre	10x Android Tablets	£3,800.00
	14x PCs	£11,465.86
	11x PCs	£9,008.89
• Vineburgh Community Centre	1x Wifi Extender	<u>£80.00</u>

TOTAL: £77,213.57

The numbers of units listed is based on a digital audit of Irvine Community Centres completed prior to February 2020 by the original Digital Participation Officer in consultation with representatives from each centre with the addition of 2x video editing-capable PCs at Redburn Community Centre and 10x video editing-capable laptops for community training purposes.

Please note that hardware specifications change regularly and often, and the costs listed reflect the optimum balance of equipment capability and price at time of writing.

The computers, operating systems and software are current, and once in situ should last with the minimum of maintenance, providing a vital public service to communities identified as deprived, for a good number of years.

8. Monitoring and evaluation process

Please include detail on –

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

Purchase and Installation of equipment will be monitored by the Irvine Locality Communities Team / ILDPO.

With support from the ILDPO the individual community associations will monitor and evaluate the use of the equipment in their respective locations in relation to stated aims and objectives, assess actual levels of use, and the beneficial impact on the users of the equipment.

The respective community associations will be responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of their own equipment.



North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

Irvine Locality Progress Report

September - November 2020

Digital Irvine

Connected Scotland Phase 1

The Irvine Locality Communities Team has received 52 digital tablets and laptops together with 'Mi-Fi' internet connections from Connecting Scotland for distribution to people who are at risk of isolation because of the Covid crisis through being 'digitally disadvantaged', and who meet specific criteria.

Support will be provided to recipients of the devices on a one-to-one basis via phone and in person (in a venue where social distancing may be maintained).

The devices are intended to benefit people who are **all of the following**:

1. **Digitally excluded** – do not have an appropriate device and/or are not connected to the internet at home
2. **On low incomes** so cannot afford to buy a device or pay for internet access
3. **At risk of isolation due to coronavirus** because they're in the extremely high vulnerability group* ('shielding') or the higher risk of severe illness group* – including people aged 70 or over (regardless of medical conditions)

Connected Scotland Phase 2

198 secured from Connected Scotland phase 2 supporting households with children. This was a 5 way partnership between Irvine locality Team, Greenwood Academy, Children's 1st and Young Persons Champions Board.

A role out of the programme will commence and the recruitment of digital champions will continue as part of the Digital Irvine Project.

Training and support for the Digital Champions is being coordinated by SCVO, and delivered through our digital participation officer, Irvine locality team and third sector organisations.

The Big Irvine Virtual Tea Party

Friday 11th September 22 people joined a fun packed afternoon on zoom. Afternoon tea was delivered to individuals in their homes. They enjoyed online bingo, quiz, afternoon tea and live entertainment. This was a partnership between Irvine Locality Team, Age Concern and Irvine Senior Forum.

Tackling loneliness and isolation with our senior residents within the Irvine community.

Due to the success of the afternoon tea party the Irvine locality Team are organising a Virtual Christmas Party (Zoom) Friday 4th December 1.30 -3.30pm. Participants will enjoy a quiz, Christmas sing along, bingo and mince pies. To register an interest in attending please contact jimcooper@north-ayrshire.gov.uk



North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

Irvine Locality Progress Report

September - November 2020



Employment and the economy

Employability

- Social Media (Irvine Virtual Community Centre) used to reach learners and update them on what is happening and what is available.
- 1-1 Support learning offering online literacy and numeracy
- ICT Support
- Employability Support – CV's, cover letters and interview skills
- Tutor upskilling to new ways of working online and engaging learners
- Purchase of online accredited courses
- Online courses made available to learners – free of charge
- Local employment opportunities posted on Irvine Virtual Community Centre as part of our teams employability Tuesday update.

September – November stats:

42 – 1-1 support sessions
70 – Participating in Health & Wellbeing course at SCQF level 3 & 4 (This course is being delivered in Greenwood Academy with 48 pupils and 22 are participating online in a group work setting using zoom)
22 – SCQF Level 4 employability course (delivered online via zoom)
12 – Employability Support
68 – ICT support

Young Person - Ambitious Agreement (Irvine) – Please see attached report



North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

Irvine Locality Progress Report

September – December 2020



Mental Health

Shaping North Ayrshire – Youth Participatory Budgeting £60,000 – Mental Health & Wellbeing

Community groups and organisations will soon be invited to apply for funding of up to £1,000 the themes for this year 2020/21 are:

- Health & Wellbeing
- Poverty and inequality
- Voice and Participation
- Digital Connections

North Ayrshire Youth Participatory budgeting will be run for young people by young people. North Ayrshire Youth Executive committee will carry out the short-listing for youth PB. Applications will open on 1st December and will close end of January.

Irvine Neighbourhood Virtual Working Groups have identified over 50 community projects that look at environmental, community, youth, **mental health**, poverty initiatives and looking at initiatives to address isolation and loneliness. – Please see attached neighbourhood visual funretro boards.



North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

Irvine Locality Progress Report

September – December 2020



Fair For All

Food System

As we move forward from state of emergency into recovery phase we have been working with anchor organisation within Irvine – Fullarton Community Hub and Vineburgh Community Association. The anchor organisations are going to be working in partnership to address issues of food inequality and looking into alternative delivery models using a community wealth building approach engaging with local businesses and third sector organisation providing low cost or free food to residents of Irvine if they need it – Please see attached development session.

We worked with NA procurement team to look at community benefit promises and we met with McTaggart Construction to deliver on a community project promise. They sent their community benefit officer and I introduced Ross to Donna F and it looked promising that they were going to give a donation to get the cabin.

We are meeting again at the end of November as both organisations were exploring potential premises for setting up a community food larder in Irvine Town Centre.

I met with NA regeneration team and shared with them “Irvine Fairer Trade” development session I had with Donna and Louise.

Please see attached “Irvine Fairer Trade” development session.

Next Step:

Arranging a meeting with the following departments and share vision.

Meet up with Business Development Team

Meet NA Regeneration Team

Meet Nicol Gooch – Community Benefits Officer

Donna F to look into premises that could be a potential food larder site in town centre of Irvine.



North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

Irvine Locality Progress Report

September – December 2020

Irvine Virtual Working Steams

We held an Irvine Virtual Working stream meeting on Zoom on Monday 23rd November, 37 people participated this included representation from community Irvine Community Council, Community Associations, community groups, youth groups, children 1st, NAC service access team, Irvine Senior Forum and Irvine locality partnership members to name a few.

The meeting was conducted online via Zoom, Marie Burns – Irvine Locality Partnership Chair opened and welcomed everyone to the meeting. We had identified 6 elected members to chair each of the neighbourhood virtual working streams with support of a scribe and a community rep from the locality partnership and we broke into virtual break out rooms. We used interactive comment boards using FunRetro where all end of year chat reports were collated onto FunRetro this allowed comments to be inputted by the scribe with all agreed actions and responses recorded and will be used to form neighbourhood action plan.

Initial feedback from participants was that they really enjoyed meeting up virtually but have all said they did not have enough time to complete the full task set within the breakout sessions. The structure and process of the evening they all enjoyed. They would like to continue to meet and have agreed to make it a monthly meeting. We will collectively continue to try and encourage participation at future meetings - ***Please see attached neighbourhood boards.***

Shaping North Ayrshire – Locality Participatory Budgeting

Locality PB (previously Nurturing Excellence Fund)

Applications will soon be open for community groups and organisations to apply for funding of up to £1000/£1250 final figure to be confirmed.

Irvine Locality Themes this year are:

Improving Local Life and Community Wellbeing

Ideas linking people together

Ideas promoting mental health & wellbeing

Ideas promoting a healthy & active community

Irvine Locality PB Steering Group

Community reps: Sylvia Mallinson, Annie Small, Donna Fitzpatrick and Justin Jones came forward to represent the locality partnership on the PB steering group and recently attending an informal planning meeting online via zoom. Training will be provided and the PB group will be supported by locality officer.

Shaping North Ayrshire - Locality Arts and Culture PB

Applications will soon be open for community groups and organisations to apply for funding of up to £400.

Community Asset Transfer

Coast Watch Irvine Beach Park Toilets – Public consultation stage (this will be open for 2 months as it is common good land)

Dunlop Hall – Full Transfer has now taken place

Irvine Vic's – Initial interest in Football pitches at Girdle Toll

Irvine Sports Club – Land agreed at Cabinet (legal and estates are processing the offer)

Irvine Neighbourhood Youth Forum – See attached report.



**Influence and
sense of control**



North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

Irvine Locality Progress Report

September – December 2020

For further information contact: Elaine Baxter, Locality Officer 01294 313593.

Issues/Concerns

Issue around poverty- Highlighted through Covid

000

ADD

Food poverty/Foodbanks used more frequently due to furlough

000

ADD

Addiction issues getting worse during lockdown

000

ADD

Mental Health - Due to isolation

000

ADD

People don't have access to digital technology to socialise and take part in other opportunities.

000

ADD

Access to GP services has been limited due to Covid. Older members of the community have been impacted.

000

ADD

Face to face services for most vulnerable members of the community.

000

ADD

Impact on learning experience due to limited face to face or class time. Can be difficult for people with additional help needs.

000

ADD

What about setting up a Community Bus service that runs at night?

01

ADD

Marie to raise

Public transport needs improved. (Currently at the moment there are few buses running during the evening)

000

ADD

Due to the lack of buses running at night, there is a fear to go out in evenings

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ADD

Volunteer Car Pool utilising electric car through NAC- Marie to raise

000

ADD

Adopt a gran or papa- share a meal/stories

01

ADD

Age Concern

We could be doing more to visit those who are socially isolated

01

ADD

Check that service are still linking/contacting vulnerable

Issues with people being stuck in the house

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ADD

Young people are isolated and are turning to drug addiction

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ADD

Explain Benefits of Facebook/social media for people in isolation.

000

ADD

The establishing of the Mens Shed

000

ADD

Sometimes you don't want to bother anybody and mental health problems can stop you going out

000

ADD

Nobody really knows their neighbours nowadays - Lack of Community spirit

000

ADD

Continuous Problem with getting new volunteers

000

ADD

Encourage young people to become involved in community

000

ADD

Hold a consultation to encourage new volunteers through Social Media or in the community centre .

000

ADD

Need for an easy explained clear process to becoming a volunteer

02

ADD

Need to encourage volunteers for Age Concern

PVG Check costs

Need someone locally to deal with communications such as community facebook page, creation of flyers, and delivery of promotional materials to the community.

000

ADD

Need for a calendar plan of community events

000

ADD

Need for Community Social media page in order to promote groups/ activity

000

ADD

Establish a Community garden/allotment that will also be used by the nurseries, schools and elderly; Develop a Community Garden/allotment to grow produce for local area. Could it be at Bourtreehill park?

000

ADD

Desire for Bourtreehill Park to be a more positive place. Currently there are negative associations with it, and there is a need for it to become place of positivity with it hosting community events/ music festival events.

01

ADD

Elaine to action- Need update on service plans for Bourtreehill Park

The community would like to have investment in the park, create a play area, potential allotment area, clear walking paths and add seating.

000

ADD

Hold a consultation to encourage new volunteers through Social Media or in the community centre .

000

ADD

Could a historical night be planned?

000

ADD

Regular Lunch club/ afternoon tea dance for older members of the community

000

ADD

Can the gala be resurrected?; Fun day at village centre?

000

ADD

ESOL exchange of recipes and cultural differences/culture day

000

ADD

Ideas for groups: Treasure hunt in park; Local Music festival; Cultural events; Family events; Cinema nights in community centre; Establish Walking Group; Create clubs for children such as litter/environmental club; tennis club; library club; gaming club; Homework club.

000

ADD

Get more info for a CIF bid for Bourtreehill park

000

ADD

Get info on virtual activities for the community.

000

ADD

Increase digital access- project to highlight the community back in the day

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ADD

Raise future activities with BABCA,BABTARA, and Age Concern and existing groups

000

ADD

Current Issues/Concerns

+

Elderly not engaging with any services - Pride and mind-set stopping them from asking for help.
Donna Anderson 0 0

Mental Health- Increase in both adults and young people within the community.
Donna Anderson 0 0

Many families are feeling isolated due to lack of experience/knowledge in technology, not able to access zoom, teams ect.
Donna Anderson 0 0

Individuals feel like there is more community spirit needed - build the buzz back up of coming together.
Donna Anderson 0 0

Lack of child/family engagement from addictions services - no services that support the children and family members affected by substance abuse.
Donna Anderson 0 0

Services need to come together to support current issues and fill the gaps.
Donna Anderson 0 0

Fullarton

Environmental Projects

+

Residents are unhappy with the lack of weed removal/spraying on paths and the roundabouts in the area, they feel it makes the area look untidy and uncared for.
0 1

The Community Association are concerned about their waste removal, that they are considered a commercial organisation and that they are charged for this.
0 0

The Green Bridge at the bottom of Merryvale Rd, crossing to the Golffields area has a missing guard rail on one side, which is rather hazardous. Complaints have been made on and off for 5 years, with no resolution to the matter.
0 0

Residents felt that Merryvale Rd/Scott Rd were being omitted from street cleaning as there is a considerable amount of litter and dirt on both pavements and roads. There are ongoing issues with dog fouling issue within the grass areas.
0 0

An important concern of residents is the lack of, and poor quality of the street lighting in the area. Many lights are broken and particularly around the Lamont Drive area, next to Farmfoods is almost pitch black.
0 0

Mental Health & Wellbeing

+

There is division in certain areas of Irvine which breeds isolation and a break in relationships between neighbours.
0 0

Increasingly poor health stats in Fullarton. Depression is an issue within the area of Fullarton and it is a concern that with SAMH moving to Ardrossan, there will be no provision for mental health matters within the area.
0 0

There is a feeling that there is geographical discrimination against children in the area – unfair preconceptions based on a child’s/persons area.
0 0

Community Activities

+

It was raised that there is very little for men to do in the Fullarton area.
0 0

Groups are held at night and with the winter fast approaching this would prevent a lot of people from attending and further isolate them.
0 0

A green space with seats in the area would allow for congregation and bonding; Riverside area needs developed. A side river walkway and communal garden; Benches needed along river.
An outside gym would be beneficial for summer and good weather; It was suggested that Harry Richard of the Scottish Wildlife Trust could be asked to be involved in creating a green gym along the river walk. This would hopefully inspire community ownership of this project and increase physical wellbeing.
A green space with seats in the area would allow for congregation and bonding; Riverside area needs developed. A side river walkway and communal garden; Benches needed along river.
0 0

Community Projects

+

It was suggested that a Family Cookery afterchool activity could be provided
0 0

What about classes for parents to learn new skills, whilst child care provision provided for their children. Suggestions made were cross stitching and knitting.
0 0

It was suggested organising a fly-tying class for men, as it would increase interest in fishing.
0 0

Need to instil civic pride in young people
0 0

Continue the playscheme, darts, sports, and Friday Night Club.
0 0

Discussion on film project about the history of Fullarton’s high raise flats, and the changes facing the area.
0 0

It was proposed that the use of face and/or hand casting of members of the Fullarton community could be made and used to tell their story. Denise suggested this could also be digitised.
0 0

Next Steps...

+

Priority 1 - Action for next meeting
Donna Anderson 0 1

Are we aware of any development on any of the identified issues?
Donna Anderson 0 0

Priority 3 - Action for next meeting
Donna Anderson 0 1

Priority 2 - Action for next meeting
Donna Anderson 1 0

Children first are reaching out the young people along side the police in schools to ask what services they would like to see/attend.
Donna Anderson 0 0

Current Issues/Concerns	Mental Health/Isolation	Community Activity	Next Steps
+	+	+	+
<div> <div>mental health and social isolation issues as we move beyond covid.</div> <div>00</div> </div>	<div> <div>Isolation - as dangerous as smoking.</div> <div>00</div> </div>	<div> <div>Need to publicise groups/events more and in more locations</div> <div>01</div> </div>	<div> <div>Development on Identified Issues</div> <div>00</div> </div>
<div> <div>bereavement services / group may naturally emerge after Covid-19.</div> <div>00</div> </div>	<div> <div>More bereavement services required within community - only 1 (Castlepark).</div> <div>00</div> </div>	<div> <div>NAC needs to utilise Community Centres more, if libraries are closing, community centres need to fill the gap, they need to be more like hubs for the community.</div> <div>01</div> </div>	<div> <div>MUGA and park area partnership been established between Castlepark Community Association. Castlepark Primary School and Nursery and the Irvine Youth Forum. Asset Transfer of land</div> <div>00</div> </div>
Redburn	<div> <div>Need for more representation from Redburn and Castlepark within Irvine Locality Partnership</div> <div>01</div> </div>	<div> <div>Need for Development of MUGA park to become more safe and secure for young people</div> <div>01</div> </div>	
	<div> <div>Need for cooking classes for people with mental health issues and learning difficulties.</div> <div>00</div> </div>	<div> <div>School walking group was effective however only 1 month long</div> <div>00</div> </div>	
	<div> <div>Need to raise awareness of groups running etc - people moving into retirement would benefit from this info, where can this be advertised?</div> <div>02</div> </div>	<div> <div>More Groups needed for parents/carers and children.</div> <div>00</div> </div>	
	<div> <div>Wellness, mindfulness should be promoted in North Ayrshire; Are there many people delivering WRAP or similar in North Ayrshire? Is there much help for all sorts of mental health issues in Irvine?</div> <div>01</div> </div>		
	<div> <div>Break the silence - survivors of sexual abuse, violence and rape</div> <div>00</div> </div>		

Vineburgh

Current Issues/Concerns	Environmental	Community Spirit / Activity	Young People	Mental Health/Isolation	Parent Councils	Next Steps
<div><div>+</div></div>	<div><div>+</div></div> <div><div>Set up Community garden.</div><div><div>✕</div><div>👍 1</div><div>💬 3</div></div><div>ADD</div></div> <div><div>In process, funding applied for</div><div><div>✍</div><div>🗑</div></div></div> <div><div>country help-out rangers?</div><div><div>✍</div><div>🗑</div></div></div> <div><div>thoughts of using it for supplying local cafes</div><div><div>✍</div><div>🗑</div></div></div>	<div><div>+</div></div> <div><div>Set up gala days – The only big community event is Marymass.</div><div><div>👍 0</div><div>💬 4</div></div><div>ADD</div></div> <div><div>we have a great community spirit</div><div><div>✍</div><div>🗑</div></div></div> <div><div>discussion on holding events for the community as a mini vineburgh day</div><div><div>✍</div><div>🗑</div></div></div> <div><div>community annoyed at the councils process - hoping to engage in new capacity events officer for future events</div><div><div>✍</div><div>🗑</div></div></div> <div><div>hoping to make the applying easier for the community</div><div><div>✍</div><div>🗑</div></div></div> <div><div>+</div></div> <div><div>Sewing / knitting group-Craft groups</div><div><div>👍 0</div><div>💬 4</div></div><div>ADD</div></div> <div><div></div><div><div>👍 0</div><div>💬 0</div></div></div> <div><div>very active within the centre</div><div><div>✍</div><div>🗑</div></div></div> <div><div>these events are extremely important to our community</div><div><div>✍</div><div>🗑</div></div></div> <div><div>lots of participant from people who loved to craft helping encourage each other</div><div><div>✍</div><div>🗑</div></div></div> <div><div>join with impact arts?</div><div><div>✍</div><div>🗑</div></div></div> <div><div>+</div></div> <div><div>Regular Coffee morning fundraising.</div><div><div>👍 0</div><div>💬 4</div></div><div>ADD</div></div> <div><div></div><div><div>👍 0</div><div>💬 0</div></div></div> <div><div>happened at least 4 to 5 times a year</div><div><div>✍</div><div>🗑</div></div></div> <div><div>raised funds for a lot of groups that are involved with the vineburgh regularly</div><div><div>✍</div><div>🗑</div></div></div> <div><div>we want to expand and help the people of the community in a whole</div><div><div>✍</div><div>🗑</div></div></div> <div><div>this centre is here to help everyone in the community to feel welcomed and supported</div><div><div>✍</div><div>🗑</div></div></div> <div><div>+</div></div> <div><div>Vineburgh meeting place - coffees, lunches.</div><div><div>👍 0</div><div>💬 2</div></div><div>ADD</div></div> <div><div></div><div><div>👍 0</div><div>💬 0</div></div></div> <div><div>happened on a regular basis</div><div><div>✍</div><div>🗑</div></div></div> <div><div>hope to be as percostnant in the further future</div><div><div>✍</div><div>🗑</div></div></div> <div><div>+</div></div> <div><div>Activities for older people in centre; Bingo nights; Cooking classes; dancing.</div><div><div>👍 0</div><div>💬 3</div></div><div>ADD</div></div> <div><div></div><div><div>👍 0</div><div>💬 0</div></div></div> <div><div>held all these previously, currently helping out with a pupil in the Irvine royal academy, hopes to work on this further</div><div><div>✍</div><div>🗑</div></div></div> <div><div>we are hoping to get the young person the accreditation for the work he is doing in partnership with us</div><div><div>✍</div><div>🗑</div></div></div> <div><div>all other activities will come back as soon as we can socialise</div><div><div>✍</div><div>🗑</div></div></div> <div><div>+</div></div> <div><div>Community Trips/days out.</div><div><div>👍 0</div><div>💬 1</div></div><div>ADD</div></div> <div><div></div><div><div>👍 0</div><div>💬 0</div></div></div> <div><div>again this was all done before covid, this will continue once we can</div><div><div>✍</div><div>🗑</div></div></div> <div><div>+</div></div> <div><div>Theatre</div><div><div>👍 0</div><div>💬 4</div></div><div>ADD</div></div> <div><div></div><div><div>👍 0</div><div>💬 0</div></div></div> <div><div>hoping to see more with the development of the centre</div><div><div>✍</div><div>🗑</div></div></div> <div><div>the amount of work we have done with the young people is amazing, we are hoping to give them the theatre feeling in the future</div><div><div>✍</div><div>🗑</div></div></div> <div><div>hoping for a flexible place to do so in future planning</div><div><div>✍</div><div>🗑</div></div></div> <div><div>plans will hopefully be achieved in the near future</div><div><div>✍</div><div>🗑</div></div></div> <div><div>+</div></div> <div><div>Community Spirit: There is a lack of community events that bring young and old together.</div><div><div>👍 0</div><div>💬 1</div></div><div>ADD</div></div> <div><div></div><div><div>👍 0</div><div>💬 0</div></div></div> <div><div>answered in previous comments</div><div><div>✍</div><div>🗑</div></div></div> <div><div>+</div></div> <div><div>Community Spirit: Too much Health and Safety puts people off running events.</div><div><div>👍 0</div><div>💬 1</div></div><div>ADD</div></div> <div><div></div><div><div>👍 0</div><div>💬 0</div></div></div> <div><div>answered in previous comments</div><div><div>✍</div><div>🗑</div></div></div> <tr><td><div><div>+</div></div></td><td><div><div>+</div></div><div><div>Mental Health/Isolation: Ongoing issues with drugs in the area.</div><div><div>👍 0</div><div>💬 0</div></div><div>ADD</div></div><div><div></div><div><div>👍 0</div><div>💬 0</div></div></div><div><div>+</div></div><div><div>Mental Health/Isolation : There is a need for Mental Health peer support, Need for befriending services for MH patients.</div><div><div>👍 0</div><div>💬 0</div></div><div>ADD</div></div><div><div></div><div><div>👍 0</div><div>💬 0</div></div></div><div><div>+</div></div><div><div>Mental Health/Isolation: CCTV Cameras at Caldon Road not working.</div><div><div>👍 0</div><div>💬 0</div></div><div>ADD</div></div><div><div></div><div><div>👍 0</div><div>💬 0</div></div></div><div><div>+</div></div><div><div>Mental Health/Isolation: Mental health stigma is a regular issue.</div><div><div>👍 0</div><div>💬 0</div></div><div>ADD</div></div><div><div></div><div><div>👍 0</div><div>💬 0</div></div></div><tr><td><div><div>+</div></div></td><td><div><div>+</div></div><div><div>Parent council getting charged expensive lets.</div><div><div>👍 0</div><div>💬 0</div></div><div>ADD</div></div><div><div></div><div><div>👍 0</div><div>💬 0</div></div></div><div><div>+</div></div><div><div>Parent Councils: Always the same volunteers that help - 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Decent Swing Park needed.

Environmental: No park space for recreational use/children to play at.

👍 0

💬 1

ADD

applied for an asset transfer, which be part of the ongoing transfer of the centre

✍

🗑

Establish Community shop.

👍 0

💬 1

ADD

had the food division topic with elaine, we have already had some projects running ahead and we further plans soon

✍

🗑

Outdoor fitness gym needed for adults - like Ayr & Prestwick.

👍 0

💬 1

ADD

been discussed , needed for the recovery work in the area, an asset transfer will be looked at

✍

🗑

Community Pay Back Team - can they assist with local clean up?

👍 0

💬 3

ADD

now have volunteers in the community helping out.

✍

🗑

support for the crew need to be kept up

✍

🗑

the work is being promoted, showing our pride in the people of this community

✍

🗑

Environmental: The Cage - dirty needles lying around Woodlands Primary School.

Environmental: Litter - lack of public bins; Dog mess due to lack of dog litter bins.

Environmental: Area needs a spruce up.

👍 0

💬 8

ADD

highlighted in a chitchat session, woodlands cage and st andrews church has a high number of needles being found

✍

🗑

not wanting the volunteers picking these needles up

✍

🗑

case of it needing to be addressed if the numbers group higher

✍

🗑

people need to know how to report it

✍

🗑

the local community needs to know how to report it

✍

🗑

more engagement with the local professional bodies

✍

🗑

can we reach out to say about more bins and dog litter bins?

✍

🗑

people are coming forward to let us know on their opinions on these factors

✍

🗑

Irvine Food Co-op Development Session by Irvine Virtual W

9 November 2020

1 (100%) Participants - 1 Voted - 22 Cards - 16 Comments - 1 Votes

Model

Food Co-op (0 votes)

Key Features

A food co-operative is a group of people organising to buy food in bulk, direct from wholesalers or even from farmers themselves. (0 votes)

Comments

- Buying in bulk kilo bags of pasta, pulses, rice, noodles etc. Saving money and being more eco friendly.

By pooling buying power co-op members (who may pay £1 for example to join) can save money on their food bills and are able to buy healthier, better quality foods (0 votes)

Comments

- We will make contact local businesses with support from NAC Business Development Team and invite community wealth building team. Also invite Nicola Gouch new community benefits officer to see how we can all work together.

Savings to be made often amount to between a half and a third of local shop prices. (0 votes)

Fruit and vegetables usually offer the greatest savings. Although co-ops are often run by unpaid volunteers, they need money for start-up costs to buy equipment such as weighing scales and knives, and the initial float. There are continuing costs including transport, hire of premises and paying volunteers' expenses or paid staff. (0 votes)

Comments

- Already in place and secured by SG funding. DF to make contact with Fruit market in Glasgow to bulk buy produce.

Legally, a co-op must be a membership organisation. There are different ways of doing this. You could have an annual membership and yearly fee, or free membership on a daily basis, recording daily members in a log. (0 votes)

Comments

- We will be looking to set up a Social Enterprise and will require support from Business Development Team.

Most co-ops have a yearly membership, charging a nominal fee of between 50p and £2. This can go towards the cost of buying equipment needed for the co-op to run effectively. (0 votes)

Comments

- A membership fee of £1 will be way forward.

Benefits

Food co-op members have reported substantial financial savings as well as increased fruit and vegetable consumption. (1 votes)

Food may be delivered to people who are disabled, elderly or housebound and who cannot collect their orders. (0 votes)

Comments

- Volunteers are in place for Vineburgh and Fullarton. We need to engage with other community associations to bring them on board and to develop capacity to to widen participation and neighbourhood volunteers.

Winter Warmer packs for the elderly can be organised and packed by a co-op and distributed through churches and community cafes. (0 votes)

Comments

- Already in place. 84 local residents have signed up and numbers increasing daily.

Winter Warmer packs are a couple of days supply of non-perishable food, such as corned beef, instant potato, biscuits, tea bags and UHT milk. These are particularly important where steep roads and pavements are treacherous in icy weather or where an area may get cut off in the winter for days at a time.

Other special needs can also be catered for. (0 votes)

Food co-operatives can provide a setting for exchanging recipes or information about healthy eating. (0 votes)

Comments

- Community COVID book being collated to provide nutritious meals. Looking at getting learning circles together looking at cooking classes as centres start to re-open. Groups of 5 people each person makes a meal enough for 5 people. They share their own dish with the 5 people that becomes 5 different meals that will last them for the week.

Volunteers can also gain new skills and increase their chances of employment. (0 votes)

Comments

- DF has employability hub within Fullarton and will engage with the staff who deliver the employability hub for referrals of local people looking to gain skills and increase their employability by becoming volunteers.

Potential Difficulties

If a food co-op does not have a committee or any governing documents, then difficulties may occur. This is often because the roles and responsibilities of volunteers and those running the food co-op are not clearly defined, and this can lead to confusion, disagreements and problems with keeping people involved. (0 votes)

Comments

- We looking to engage with the following groups to become involved: Age Concern, Children 1st, Vineburgh, Castlepark, Redburn, BABCA, Dreghorn/Drybridge.

For existing organisations running food co-ops it is also important to clarify other areas, such as who is responsible for managing volunteers and covering insurance. (0 votes)

Comments

- This will be a shared responsibility as each area will organise their own volunteers and individually contribute to the food system.

In some cases, a local organisation can help start a food co-op by working with local people, but then hand over responsibility to the community to carry on running it. If such a food co-op does not have any kind of documentation stating how it is run and how decisions are made, the co-op may find it much harder to survive in the long term. Also, once a community has become used to having external support and someone to help them deal with problems, they may find it harder to sort out such issues themselves. (0 votes)

Comments

- This will be set up as a social enterprise. Irvine Fairer Trade will be set up and will be guided by their committee.

Like many projects which depend on volunteers, food co-ops sometimes have to rely heavily on a handful of committed people who after a time may simply 'burn out'. People may be put off offering to help if they see that the work load is too much or if they do not feel they have the necessary skills, such as book keeping and publicity. (0 votes)

Comments

- We looking at different neighbourhoods and organisations coming on board to share the responsibility.
- We will invite employability and skills team to see how we can work together to develop a volunteer programme and have accreditation as part of their contribution. Developing volunteers, skills and confidence to enable them to move on into employment.

Whilst some will welcome the opportunity to learn these new skills this requires support and training. (0 votes)

Comments

- Training programme will be developed as part of the volunteer programme.

Many of these problems can be overcome if there is a development worker and/or a supportive network of co-ops. (0 votes)

Comments

- Donna Fitzpatrick and Louise McPhater are development workers leading the food system for Irvine with support from Locality officer and Irvine CLD team.

Next Steps

Invite partners to an initial start up meeting to see who would be interested in coming on board. (0 votes)

Meet with Business Team (0 votes)

Sylvia to see if we can get support from Social Enterprise consultant. Who provides 8 days support. (0 votes)

Partners to come on board

Locality Partnership The Ayrshire Community Trust Update – 23rd November 2020

The Ayrshire Community Trust continues to support the Community and Voluntary Sector with a range of services. Below is a list of support / activities since the last Locality Meeting in September 2020:

- www.tact.scot continues to be updated with a range of information.
- We have sent out various information bulletins highlighting useful resources, funding information and general advice.
- TACT Social Media continues to be used as a platform to promote safety messages from Police Scotland, Funding Information, Benefit Support, Energy Advice and vital local service provision. We would welcome any information from other service providers that we can share.
- TACT Staff have been organising and facilitating monthly 'networking' Forums for all 3rd Sector groups and organisations that wish to attend. The next online Forum Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 8th December. If you are interested in attending please email: info@tact.scot
- TACT and Arran CVS as the Third Sector Interface in North Ayrshire recently supported the Response, Recovery Resilience Funding. This enabled 8 local organisations in North Ayrshire to receive funds of up to £2,000 to support the local community at this difficult time of year.
- TACT acted as an anchor organisation with a Funding Bid to the Supporting Communities Fund for a total of £107,270 which enabled 13 groups and organisations to expand services in relation to COVID-19.
- Staff continue to maintain regular dialogue with North Ayrshire Council to update on progress and identify additional ways we can work together.
- TACT still have a small supply of PPE for local volunteers / groups to access. This includes: gloves, sanitiser, aprons and face masks. If you know of any groups that could benefit from this, please telephone the office on: 01294 443044.
- TACT Digital are currently working with Kilwinning Heritage Group on a Digital Heritage Project for Kilwinning Abbey. We hope this will enable a greater number of individuals to access the Abbey on a digital platform.
- Positive Steps with Partners is our Employability Project focusing on working with local individuals to access quality work placements, training and personal development opportunities. If you have anyone that may be interested in finding out more please contact Cheryl Newall via: cheryl@tact.scot
- North Ayrshire Chief Officer Group – this is a relatively new group which hasn't met for some time due to the pandemic. We are looking to resurrect these meetings at the start of the New Year. This is open to Senior Staff working with a 3rd Sector Organisation. We hope this Group will join forces and tackle local issues collectively whilst providing great networking opportunities.
- Eglinton Community Garden Collaboration - we are working with a range of organisations including North Ayrshire Council, Turning Point Scotland, The Conservation Volunteers, HSCP Learning Disability Team and North Ayrshire Alcohol and Drug Partnership to deliver a successful Community Garden for local people to get involved and learn to grow their own produce. If you know of anyone interested in getting involved please email: info@tact.scot
- Organisational Support – continuing to work with groups and organisations delivering relevant Training including Governance, Basic Bookkeeping and Volunteer Management. We are also assisting with Charity Registrations, Funding Support and Support with compiling Constitutions.

- Community Wealth Building, North Ayrshire is the first Community Wealth Building Council in Scotland – this is fantastic news and something very positive for North Ayrshire. As the Third Sector Interface, TACT sits at the Community Wealth Commission. This commission supports the implementation of the CWB Strategy and will encourage involvement from local businesses, government agencies and local organisations on CWB initiatives.
- We are continuing to contact and engage with 3rd Sector groups and organisations to complete our COVID Health Check Questionnaire. This Health Check enables us to ascertain support that is required including Funding, Governance Support, OSCR Guidance, Volunteering Support, Health and Well-being information and any other areas.
- Christmas Gift Appeal – TACT are in the process of creating 150 Christmas Gift Bags for North Ayrshire children this year. These bags will contain plenty of craft activities and sweet treats. We are working alongside the local Foodbank to ensure these go to those that need them most.
- Staff continuing to update and source a range of Volunteering Opportunities that are currently available. We are still receiving a high number of Volunteer Registrations and don't have enough placements for those interested. If you know of any groups or organisations that could assist with some additional volunteers please contact info@tact.scot
- TACT and Arran CVS staff will offer at least 100 individuals from different groups and organisations the opportunity to attend Mental Health Improvement Training to support the ongoing needs of service users and staff throughout this pandemic and importantly there on after.