Meeting:	Garnock Valley Locality Partnership		
Date/Venue:	16 March 2021 - Microsoft Teams		
Present:	Councillor John Bell (Chair); Councillor Robert Barr; Councillor Joy Brahim; Councillor Anthea Dickson; Councillor Donald L. Reid; Elaine Young, NHS Ayrshire and Arran (Senior Lead Officer); Angela Morrell, Lead Officer, NAC; Christina Pieraccini, Locality Officer, NAC; James Waite, Beith Community Council; Sheena Woodside, Dalry Community Council; Allan Wright, Kilbirnie and Glengarnock Community Council; Henry Johnson, Community Representative; Audrey Mason, Community Representative; Craig McFie, Scottish Fire and Rescue; Morna Rae, Senior Manager (Connected Communities), NAC; Kirsty Carson, Head Teacher, Dalry Primary School; Elaine Mann, Head Teacher, Beith Primary School; Garry Tait, Community Development Worker, NAC; Ryan Cooney, Modern Apprentice, NAC; Ewan Jamieson, Active Schools Coordinator, NAC;		
Apologies:	Councillor Todd Ferguson; Janet McKay, NAHSCP; Catherine Wigzell, Kilbirnie and Glengarnock Community Council;		
	ACTIONS		

### **ACTIONS**

No.	Action	Responsible
1.	Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest	
	The Chair welcomed everyone to the Garnock Valley Locality Partnership meeting and apologies for absence were noted.	
	Henry Johnson declared an interest in the CIF Expression of Interest which had been submitted by the Garnock Valley Men's Shed and took no part in the decision-making process for that item.	
2.	Action Note	
	The action note from the previous meeting, held on 10 December 2020, was approved.	
	The following points were discussed as matters arising:	
	<ul> <li>invitations had been issued to local Head Teachers to attend GVLP meetings;</li> </ul>	

- Henry Johnson had been added to the Locality Partnership membership as a Community Representative following his appointment at the previous meeting;
- Angela Morrell fed back the error in the report on an application for Margaret Archibald Bequest funding; and
- an update was provided on the Radio City CIF application which
  was evaluated by the Council's Internal Audit team and
  determined not suitable for CIF funding. The application was
  initially submitted to the Internal Audit team following a number
  of complaints, both on how the application was being processed
  and the content of the application itself.

### 3. Garnock Valley Young People

The Partnership received an update from Garry Tait on the work which had been carried out with young people in the Garnock Valley. The update covered a number of points including:

- a working group had been set up to help tackle youth disorder in the locality;
- an application was due to be submitted to the Youth Work Education Recovery Fund for a project which would allow outdoor learning to resume;
- a grant application for a re-wilding project in Kilbirnie was successful; and
- progress with the Dalry Skate Park was expected with a designer due to be selected in the near future.

Ryan Cooney, Modern Apprentice, was also in attendance to provide an update on the work that he had been involved in since joining the Community and Learning Development team. This included work with other localities to set up efficient means of online communication, plans to replicate the Stevenston Scratch Youth Forum in the Garnock Valley and the Back on Track programme which aims to help pupils who have fallen behind during the pandemic.

Noted.

### 4. Locality Priorities and Locality Partnership Standing Orders

The Partnership considered a report by the Senior Manager (Community Planning) on refreshing the Locality's priorities and the Locality Partnership Standing Orders.

In terms of the Locality Partnership Standing Orders, these set out how LP meetings should be run and apply to all localities in North Ayrshire. The process to amend these had stated and proposals would be brought to the Partnership at a future meeting.

Information was provided on the priorities refresh which detailed the process which would be followed and a consultation exercise which had been extended to June due to the pandemic. Questions were raised as to whether it was appropriate to conduct a consultation exercise during lockdown and whether the process could be delayed

	until later in the year. Questions were also raised around the success of the current priorities and how the impact they had was being measured.	
	The Partnership were advised that a report on the process would be brought to the next meeting for decision.	
	Noted.	
5.	Community Investment Fund - Expression of Interest	
	The Partnership considered an expression of interest for CIF funding which had been submitted by the Garnock Valley Men's Shed in the amount of £20,000 for a new heating system.	
	The Partnership unanimously agreed to allow the group to proceed to a full application.	C. Pieraccini
6.	Grants/PB Update	
	The Partnership received an update on the Elderly Grants budget for 2021/22 and were asked to consider proposals to carry forward the unspent 2020/21 balance.	
	The proposed 2021/22 Elderly Grants for the Garnock Valley was £11,145.	
	A balance of £8,474 remained unspent from 2020/21 due to activities not taking place during the pandemic. It was proposed that this would be carried forward and that officers would meet with local older people's groups to discuss how these funds could be used to tackle the key issues affecting the elderly.	
	The Partnership agreed to approve the balance of £11,145 for 2021/22 and approve the carry forward of the unspent 2020/21 balance.	A. Morrell
7.	Locality Officer Update	
	The Partnership received an update on the work undertaken throughout the locality since the last meeting. Information on the consultation exercise on the review of halls, centres and libraries the fact that the Garnock Valley Community Support Hub had been operational for a year were highlighted from the update which was circulated with the papers.	
	Noted.	
8.	HSCP Locality Forum Update	
	There was no update from the Locality Forum as Janet McKay was unable to attend the meeting.	

#### 9. Learning Update

The Partnership received an update on the progress made and challenges faced around the education of school pupils during the pandemic.

Kirsty Carson and Elaine Mann, Head Teachers at Dalry Primary and Beith Primary respectively, were in attendance and provided information and answered questions on:

- the return of pupils to in-school education and whether there had been any resistance from parents on the grounds of safety;
- methods used to reach pupils who either found it difficult to engage with online learning or simply did not have access;
- food deliveries to families in need and the wider role which schools play in their pupils' wellbeing; and
- the level of disruption which was faced and the number of pupils and staff who had tested positive.

Ewan Jamieson, Active Schools Co-Ordinator, was also in attendance and provided information on the resumption of activities. Outdoor exercise for pupils had been permitted and the Active Schools Co-Ordinators were allowed to visit three schools per week. It was not expected that extra-curricular sport would resume until the next academic year but a number of other non-contact initiatives had been explored including a mountain bike club and 'clubbercise' classes.

Noted.

### 10. Locality Plan Progress

An update was provided by each of the Partnership's three working groups.

### Moving Around

Confirmation had not yet been received on a Sustrans funding bid for cycle track repairs. The group were working with the three community councils to progress the A737 upgrade at Beith and had written to the Transport Minister regarding this matter. A number of issues had been reported by people struggling to get to their vaccination appointment and the group were providing support where possible. An idea had been proposed to have an electric bicycle hire point in Dalry so people could rent a bike and cycle to the coast - this was being investigated further.

#### Facilities and Amenities

Work had been taking place to produce the consultant brief for the GV2020 project - a subgroup meeting had taken place to help shape this. Discussions had also taken place about appointing an archivist for the Garnock Valley and a whether a proposal for CIF funding around this would be brought to a future meeting.

	Work and the Local Community	
	The group repeated their call for as many local businesses and community groups to help populate the GVLife app. Development of the app was progressing.	
	Noted.	
11.	Lochshore	
	The Partnership received an update on the progress with the Lochshore project which included details on an active travel link which was due to be constructed in August.	
	The Partnership noted the update and agreed to invite representatives from the Lochshore group to the next meeting to provide a more detailed update.	J. McGee
12.	AOCB	
	The Partnership were asked to note that a presentation would be given	
	at the next meeting on the proposed Community Learning and Development Plan before it is presented to the Council for implementation.	

The meeting ended at 9.15 p.m.