



North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

Arran Locality Partnership

Wednesday 30 November 2022 at 5.00 pm via Microsoft Teams

Business

Item	Subject	Pg No	Ref	Officer	Timings
1.	Welcome and Apologies	-		Cllr Billings	5.00 – 5.05
2.	Action Note Review the action note and deal with any outstanding items.	Pg 3	Enclosed	Cllr Billings	5.05 – 5.10
3.	Youth Participation Receive update from Donna Anderson.	-	Verbal	Donna Anderson	5.10 – 5.25
4.	Locality Partnership Forum/HSCP Overview Receive update from Ruth Betley.	-	Verbal	Ruth Betley	5.25 – 5.40
5.	Community Investment Fund Receive Full Application from Arran Eco-Savvy.	Pg 10	Enclosed	Ruth McLaren	5.40 – 6.00
6.	Grants – Community Benefit Fund Receive report from Lesley Forsyth.	Pg 46	Enclosed	Lesley Forsyth	6.00 – 6.10
7.	Child Poverty/Cost of Living Receive update from Audrey Sutton and Vicki Yuill.	-	Verbal	Audrey Sutton/Vicki Yuill	6.10 – 6.25
8.	Learning Overview Receive update.	-	Verbal	Susan Foster/Judi Worthington	6.25 – 6.40
9.	Arran Islands Plan Receive update from Cllr Billings.	-	Verbal	Cllr Billings	6.40 – 6.55
10.	AOCB <ul style="list-style-type: none">Community Planning Inquiry	-		Cllr Billings Audrey Sutton	6.55 – 7.00

The next Community & Locality Planning Conference will be held on Saturday 28 January 2023 at Saltcoats Town Hall from 9.30 am. To register you place please email: communityplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Distribution

Elected Members

Councillor Timothy Billings **(Chair)**

Community Representatives

Bill Calderwood (Arran Community Council)

Tom Tracey

Diana Turbett

CPP/Council Representatives

Vicki Yuill, Senior Lead Officer

Audrey Sutton, Lead Officer

Greg Hamill- Lead GP **(Vice Chair)**

Lesley Forsyth, North Ayrshire Council

Anne-Marie Hunter, North Ayrshire Council

Carol Norton, TSI

Michelle Sutherland, HSCP

Gordon Cairns, SFRS

Kevin Blackley, Police Scotland

Meeting:	Arran Locality Partnership
Date/Venue:	Tuesday 20 September 2022 at 5.00 pm via Microsoft Teams
Present:	<p>Councillor Timothy Billings (Chair) Vicki Yuill, Chief Executive Officer, Arran CVS (Senior Lead Officer) Audrey Sutton, Executive Director, Communities & Education (Lead Officer) Lesley Forsyth, Senior Manager Information and Culture Anne Marie Hunter, Engagement and Participation Officer Judi Worthington, Argyle College Tom Tracey, Community Representative Bill Calderwood, Arran Community Council Ruth Betley, Senior Manager, Arran Services, NHS Ayrshire & Arran Lindsey Murphy, Health Improvement Lead, NHS Ayrshire & Arran Ian Staples, Manager, Arran Outdoor Education Centre</p> <p>In attendance:</p> <p>Ruth McLaren, Arran Eco Savvy (Item 4) Mhairi-Aileen Smeir, Editor, Arran Sound (Observing meeting)</p> <p>Jennifer McGee, Community & Locality Planning Assistant, North Ayrshire Council (Notes)</p>
Apologies:	<p>Susan Foster, Head Teacher Kevin Blackley, Police Scotland Diana Turbett, Community Representative Michelle Sutherland, HSCP Carol Norton, Operations Manager, Arran CVS Shirley MacLachlan, Head Teacher</p>

ACTIONS

No.	Action	Responsible
1.	<p>Welcome and Apologies</p> <p>The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies for absence were noted.</p>	
2.	<p>Minutes from meeting held on 16 June 2022</p> <p>The action note arising from the meeting held on 16 June 2022 was approved.</p> <p>The Chair asked that an update in regards the Community Benefit Fund application made by Corrie and Sannox Village Hall be added the meeting planner for the June 2023 meeting.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>J McGee</p>
3.	<p>Arran Islands Plan</p> <p>A Sutton provided the Locality Partnership with a report on the delivery groups for the Arran. A Sutton highlighted that the purpose of the report was to seek agreement of the Arran Locality Partnership to include the Arran Islands Plan Delivery Group within the Locality Partnership arrangements.</p> <p>A Sutton highlighted that this proposal would create a new and innovative North Ayrshire Local Island Plan Delivery Group for Arran, creating an</p>	

	<p>inclusive and place-based partnership that would support island stakeholders to take a lead role in strategic community-led local development and fundamentally, in delivering action.</p> <p>The Locality Partnership unanimously agreed to include the Arran Islands Plan Delivery Group within the Locality Partnership arrangements and the proposed next steps, as outlined in the report.</p> <p>Cllr Billings commented that the Islands team have set up a workshop on 29 September 2022 and is about demonstrating the collaborative approach to this work and being clear about what is needing to be achieved.</p> <p>R Betley highlighted that at the workshop held in August, she undertook to look at the HSCP specifically as they have a statutory responsibility to have a Forum. R Betley advised that there has been discussion around this, and it was felt that the Health and Social Care Forum should be established and that it could be another theme/work stream that would feed into the larger group. R Betley would be the link between groups to ensure collaborative working across the forums.</p> <p>R Betley offered to bring a paper to the next meeting if the Locality Partnership would find this helpful.</p> <p>T Tracey commented that this approach would make sense and would give the subject the agenda space it requires.</p> <p>A Sutton commented that she is delighted with this way forward and happy to support where needed. A Sutton agreed to arrange a meeting with the Chair, R Betley, M Sutherland to look at the alignment of the Locality Partnership, Islands Plan Delivery Group and HSCP and bring back an update to Cabinet, Integration Joint Board and the Locality Partnership in due course.</p> <p>The Chair commented that it would be useful for Cabinet to receive an update on the governance arrangements on Arran as a whole. A Sutton welcomed this.</p> <p>The Chair commented that it would be helpful to have a note of who is attending the workshop on 29th September and also for attendees to have sight of an agenda before the workshop. J McGee undertook to advise Sarah Baird of this request.</p> <p>The Chair thanked A Sutton for her report.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>R Betley</p> <p>A Sutton</p> <p>A Sutton</p> <p>J McGee</p> <p>Noted</p>
4.	<p>Community Investment Fund – Expression of Interest Arran Eco Savvy</p> <p>The Locality Partnership considered a CIF Expression of Interest application from Arran Eco Savvy to support establish an EcoHub to support residents and businesses in addressing the climate emergency in a variety of ways.</p> <p>The group have applied for £87,974 from the Community Investment Fund and this would be used to cover salaries for six posts, travel and subsistence budget, office accommodation and running costs to support central and support functions. R McLaren also advised the Locality Partnership of external funding the Group have received.</p>	<p>Noted</p>

	<p>L Forsyth commented that this was a very comprehensive application and it was built on a solid foundation of need and how this fits in with LOIP and the Arran Island Plan.</p> <p>B Calderwood commented that in terms of the timescale of the programme, how would this be sustainable beyond December 2023. R McLaren advised that Eco Savvy rely on funding and the group do have ideas on how to be sustaining in some aspects. For example, within the travel and transport side of things, there are things they'd like to keep as a free service, however they could charge for other services that aren't offered on the Island, such as e-bike servicing. The Group are also looking at larger longer-term funds.</p> <p>A Sutton commented in terms of the next stage of the application, there is a number of short-term part-time posts as part of the application and there is a need for more thought around this. There is also a need for more clarity around the deliverables and measurables around what the group would like to achieve. A Sutton also commented that this application, if successful, would take up the majority of the remaining CIF funding available for Arran.</p> <p>V Yuill commented that there has been a tremendous amount of work in the application and asked whether with the bulk of the funding being used for salaries if there is an overlap in other organisations in some of these roles and whether some of the roles could be combined. R McLaren advised that the Group have structured it as part time posts, however they could be grouped together also and work across all of the strands. R McLaren also advised that the Group works closely with other organisations on the Island to avoid duplication.</p> <p>T Tracey commented that EcoSavvy provide an exemplar for how the delivery group need to start organising as they come up with a clear vision, a matrix and then report on the matrix.</p> <p>The Chair commented that EcoSavvy has a good record of achievements, however it is not immediately clear from the application regarding the sustainability of the project beyond the funding period. One of the main criteria for CIF is project sustainability. The Chair highlighted that full application would need to show:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who are the other organisations and individuals on Arran who undertake similar activities and how does EcoSavvy link and work with these organisations to enhance each other's projects and prevent duplication of effort? • How are volunteers used to support the work of EcoSavvy? • How will the CIF funding be used to attract additional funding sources, and what plans are there to ensure that this project is sustainable beyond the end of the CIF grant? • How does this project link into all three of the themes of the Island Plan and contribute to the achievement of actions across all the themes? <p>A Hunter advised that she would be happy to support Eco Savvy with progressing this.</p> <p>The Chair highlighted that from the comments received there is support for the application at this stage with further work required. The Locality Partnership agreed to consider the full application at the December 2022 Locality Partnership meeting.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>R McLaren/A Hunter</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>A Hunter</p> <p>J McGee/R McLaren/A Hunter</p>
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	The Chair thanked R McLaren for attending.	Noted
5.	<p>Learning Overview</p> <p>J Worthington provided the Locality Partnership with an overview of the work of Argyll College.</p> <p>J Worthington advised the Locality Partnership that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The College welcomed 12 new students to the Centre on Arran, plus 8 continuing students studying at degree level. • The College welcomed 2 additional members of staff. The team now comprise of 3 full time members of staff and 1 part time member. • The College graduation will be held in Dunoon this week, which is a great opportunity for everyone to celebrate. • There was a very successful launch event today of the Coastal café at Arran High School. This is a joint project with DYW Ayrshire, Arran High and UHI Argyll to deliver valuable practical experience to senior phase pupils. Pupils will be undertaking barista training. 24 pupils have enrolled in a SQA skills of customer care unit. The café is now open to public. • 10 pupils are undertaking a cyber security unit. • 8 pupils are undertaking schools link courses in business and marketing and creative digital media. <p>The Chair thanked J Worthington for her update.</p>	Noted
6.	<p>HSCP Overview</p> <p>R Betley provided the Locality Partnership with an overview of the work of the Health and Social Care Partnership.</p> <p>R Betley advised that in terms of work on the Integrated Hub on Island, which was paused during pandemic and is now starting again. R Betley highlighted that work is currently being refreshed and will be sent to Scottish Government at the beginning of the next financial year.</p> <p>R Betley also advised that the Team will be re-establishing a Project Board and that she will be in touch with key partners in due course.</p> <p>The Chair commented that he is pleased to hear this work is recommencing and thanked R Betley for her update.</p>	Noted
7.	<p>Child Poverty</p> <p>Audrey Sutton provided the Locality Partnership with an update on the child poverty work.</p> <p>A Sutton advised the Locality Partnership that one of the current Scottish Government priorities is to support progress toward meeting child poverty targets. The Act sets in place robust requirements to lift 140,000 children out of relative poverty by 2030 – reducing levels from 24% to 10%</p>	

	<p>The recently published Best Start, Bright Futures: tackling child poverty delivery plan 2022-26 gives a clear direction on how we can and will focus resources. The action areas for 2022-26 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To enter, sustain and progress in work • Maximising the support available for families to lead dignified lives and meet their basic needs • Supporting the next generation to thrive <p>A Sutton advised that the drivers of reduction of child poverty link closely to the themes identified by the Government and the importance of the whole systems requirement to bring everything together to make a difference. The drivers are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income from employment • Cost of living • Income from social security and income in kind <p>A Sutton also highlighted the differences between relative and absolute poverty.</p> <p>A Sutton advised that the data for 2019/20 indicate that the rate of child of poverty in North Ayrshire was 27.9%, this was the second highest in Scotland. The latest assessment shows that in 2021 has fallen to 24.7% However, it should be noted that this decrease is unusual due to the impact of the pandemic and the figures are caveated.</p> <p>The North Ayrshire the Child Poverty Report and Action Plan were approved by Scottish Government in June 2022. The Council's Cabinet and Integrated Joint Board approved the set-up Child Poverty Board. This is being led by North Ayrshire Council and NHS Ayrshire & Arran. This approach was welcomed by the Scottish Government.</p> <p>A Sutton advised that a Strategic Action Template has been created and is made up of four key steps which are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agree Themes – Currently no wrong door and employability. 2. Initial workshop – initial face to face sessions where the focus will be on three key questions; - What are we doing well? What can we improve on? and Where are the gaps? The first workshop took place earlier this week and focussed on no wrong door. 3. Mini-enquiry – this will involve communities and third sector partners. 4. Development of the strategic actions – the Child Poverty Board will consider the output reports from steps 2 and 3. <p>A Sutton highlighted that there is a commitment to host the mini-enquires in all six localities.</p> <p>L Murphy commented that within Public Health, they wish to support partners across each locality to tackle child poverty. The Team also has an internal tackling child poverty plan. The NHS action plan will go to NHS Board in October for approval, and it will also go to the North Ayrshire Child Poverty Board for discussion.</p> <p>A Sutton commented that over the course of the work with Island Plan Delivery Groups she would be happy to give updates where appropriate.</p> <p>A Sutton also commented that the Council's data team have been tasked with breaking down child poverty and other types of poverty down to data zone and post code level. A Sutton advised that she would be happy to bring back a more granular update at a future meeting.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>A Sutton</p>
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	<p>The Chair welcomed this as it would be helpful to have a proper understanding of the extent and specific issues on the Island.</p> <p>V Yuill highlighted that Christians Against Poverty have agreed to arrange a Zoom money course to give the residents of Arran some support. V Yuill advised that the date/time will be confirmed in due course and that Arran CVS will share the details on their weekly bulletin.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
8.	<p>Grants</p> <p>The Locality Partnership was asked to consider two grant reports.</p> <p>Community Benefit Fund</p> <p>Arran Civic Trust are seeking £3000 funding to publish a new book on interiors of properties of Arran.</p> <p>The consensus of the Locality Partnership was that the work did not have a direct focus on the environment or inequalities and in addition, the direct benefits to the local community appeared to be low.</p> <p>Key elements of the application were seen to hold great potential and a future application would be welcomed if these were included.</p> <p>L Forsyth agreed to feedback comments to R Ramsay.</p> <p>Elderly Grants</p> <p>An application requesting £2,841 to be awarded to Arran CVS for distribution of grant money to Arran Groups for outings, meals and activities.</p> <p>The Locality Partnership agreed to award £2,841 to Arran CVS for disbursement to local groups.</p>	<p>L Forsyth</p> <p>Rosemary Ramsay</p>
10.	<p>AOCB</p> <p>V Yuill advised the Locality Partnership that the Team are looking into two bequest funds to help individuals. One of the funds will be directed at older people and the other for children and families. V Yuill highlighted that the funds are not large amounts, however, can support people with financial insecurities.</p> <p>B Calderwood highlighted that there has been announcement for £500k funding for toilets for Arran and Cumbrae, he has written to Councillor who made announcement for the fund around the process etc however he has not had a response as yet. The Chair advised B Calderwood that he has a meeting with Regeneration Team regarding this and will raise the concerns around the announcement of the fund and agrees that there could have been more background information provided at the time of the announcement.</p> <p>A Sutton advised the Locality Partnership that there is a report going to Council on Wednesday for discussion around the progress of Locality Planning.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>

The meeting ended at 7.15 pm



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The CIF will support proposals and projects that:

- Connect with:
 - The North Ayrshire [Fair for All Inequalities Strategy](#);
 - the [Community Planning Partnership](#) (CPP) and [Locality priorities](#); and
 - North Ayrshire Council's (NAC) 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 (attached), 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 Officer, by email if possible:

Anne-Marie Hunter
Engagement and Participation Officer
North Ayrshire Council
Connected Communities
2nd Floor (West)
Cunninghame House
Irvine
KA12 8EE

Email: Anne-MarieHunter@north-ayrshire.gov.uk
Tel: 01294 324706

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>



COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND ARRAN LOCALITY PARTNERSHIP

1. Details of your organisation

Name of Organisation
Arran Eco Savvy Community SCIO

Postal Address for Correspondence
Arran Eco Savvy Shop
Whiting Bay
Isle of Arran
KA27 8PR

Name of Contact Person Ruth McLaren

Position in Organisation Project & Communications Development Officer

Telephone Number [REDACTED]

Email Address [REDACTED]

2. Brief description of your organisation

Please include its legal status, aims and objectives, activities or services provided and how long it has been in existence.

Arran Eco Savvy is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) registered charity that was formed in 2013.

Arran Eco Savvy's aims are the advancement on Arran of:

1. environmental improvement by identifying and accomplishing environmental projects, which benefit the local community, increase environmental sustainability and support sustainable living, whilst working towards zero waste
2. education by providing learning opportunities for vocational skills and training of benefit to all ages and abilities to increase employment opportunities and allow individual enhanced contribution towards improving lifestyles, the local environment and environmental sustainability.

Arran Eco Savvy has been tackling issues of climate change since 2013. We ran an island-wide sustainability project focused on sustainable travel/transport, food, energy efficiency and carbon literacy. Some achievements from our 2 year project which ended March 2021:

- 827 tonnes CO2e saved
- 3,374 people actively engaged in project



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- 19,496 volunteer hours clocked
- 17,557 eBike miles cycled
- 146 energy audits/EPCs delivered
- All 8 island schools participated in project

Final report: https://www.canva.com/design/DAEZZtpGxn4/cyN7k9ZI-LPSD3NlaKv4Rw/view?utm_campaign=designshare&utm_source=sharebutton#1

We are very much embedded in the Arran community and all previous projects have exceeded their engagement targets by some distance due to demand.

Going forwards our work will aim to address several issues with multiple benefits:

Travel & Transport

- Reduced car use on the island contributes to cleaner, less polluted environments for all
- Greater access to sustainable travel/transport enables residents to reduce/give up car use resulting in financial savings, increased health and well-being and potentially employability
- (e)bike repair and charging network offers accessibility and convenience and contributes to the normalising of active travel and promotion of sustainable tourism

Food

- AES have worked with Arran's only supermarket to deliver a food waste reduction scheme where food that would be sent to landfill/incinerated is instead redistributed to residents - to date, 40 tonnes/over £252k of food
- Working with North Ayrshire Council (NAC) to develop a mobile Zero Waste Cafe pilot with a dignified model to address food insecurity, food poverty, support local supply chains and climate-friendly food systems (launched pilot in March)
- Working with Sustainable Food Places and Nourish Scotland to develop a "Good Food Movement" on Arran

Community shop & reuse

- Our small, volunteer run charity shop in Whiting Bay offers "pre-loved" goods for sale, as well as a range of eco-products and is one of only two charity shops on the island
- Supportive environment for volunteers, helping reduce social isolation, increasing skills through training/workshops, etc. bridge to paid employment, Duke of Edinburgh Awards
- Diverts goods that may otherwise be going to incineration
- We also recently piloted a mobile vintage pop up shop called "Savvy Vintage" which has been well received by the community

Net Zero Islands & Energy

AES is a delivery partner for a new and innovative Green Islands Programme for the North Ayrshire Islands of Arran and Cumbrae, to accelerate the path towards net zero by 2030 and boost the economic recovery and renewal of coastal communities.

The project is on target to deliver baseline carbon footprint audits and Net-Zero Action Plans with 21 businesses based on the Isles of Arran and Cumbrae, to provide Carbon and Climate Awareness Training and to develop a Net-Zero Strategy for each island.



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The next vital phase of the work requires a Carbon and Energy Project Development Manager to support organisations on Arran to implement their Net Zero Action Plans and to roll out the carbon audits so that other organisations can benefit and to support the community to deal with the challenges of the energy crisis.

All work is designed to encourage long-term behavioural change and we include climate literacy when appropriate.

We received funding for 4 consecutive years from the Scottish Government's Climate Challenge Fund based on the success of each subsequent project and are now working with North Ayrshire Council, Sustainable Food Places, Paths for All, the National Lottery as well as many Arran based organisations and businesses to follow up and expand on work from previous projects.

We were also successful in two Scottish Government funding bids via Inspiring Scotland which allowed us to buy some fantastic capital assets including equipment for the Zero Waste Café, bike maintenance stations and an electric van, among other things and these enable us to deliver our operations to the island's more remote communities and to those who do not have access to transport or for whom public transport may not be easy.



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3. Title and summary of proposal

Tell us 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
- any partners that are involved.

The Community Investment Fund will support Arran Eco Savvy (AES) to establish an EcoHub to support residents and businesses in addressing the climate emergency in a variety of ways. The funding would allow us to pilot the EcoHub and support ongoing delivery of the projects until April 2024.

- where it will be held / delivered

Though much has been achieved, what AES has missed is having a continuous central base for residents and businesses to drop into that can address multiple environmental (as well as social and economic) issues. What this funding would enable is that physical presence one day a week in Arran's main town of Brodick, as well as allow us to reach other locations on the island via our community shop in Whiting Bay and pop-up events.

- who is your target audience

Whilst we anticipate engagement would primarily be with Arran residents we would also engage with some of Arran's many visitors and tourists. We have also developed a large network of on and off island organisations that we consult and share knowledge with.

All work will be designed to encourage long-term behavioural change and we include carbon literacy when appropriate.

The EcoHub model would also seek to cross refer people to different actions and services they can get involved in that can impact their lives environmentally, socially and economically. We would also work with other on and off island organisations to promote their work.

- who will benefit from it and how

Primarily residents of Arran will benefit, however there will be benefits for other groups:

- Greater access to sustainable travel/transport enables residents to reduce/give up car use resulting in financial savings, increased health and well-being and potentially employability
- Reduced car use on the island contributes to cleaner, less polluted environments for residents and visitors
- A formidable (e)bike repair and charging network will benefit (e)cycling residents and visitors (approx 441k annually) by offering accessibility and convenience. Trickle down effects of these visual stations include the normalising of active travel and the promotion of sustainable tourism



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- Residents engaging with our food project will benefit from financial savings whilst actively supporting local suppliers and low carbon, low waste diets, packaging and food systems
- Residents engaging with our carbon and energy project will benefit from energy efficiency and renewables information and advice. 20 households will benefit from personalised plans to reduce energy use resulting in lower carbon emissions
- We actively pursue a dignified approach to this work to stamp out the stigma surrounded by food insecurity/poverty

Whilst Arran Eco Savvy is primarily an environmental organisation we recognise that environmental action does not exist in a vacuum and much of our work will have multiple benefits, intersecting environmental action with economic, health and social considerations. In addition to addressing issues and behaviours that cause climate change we will look to reduce inequalities and enable financial and health benefits, potentially increase employability, increase access to good food and support local growers, producers and the island economy.

We will also aim to work across all sections of society as well as in some of the island's more rural and under-served locations.

We know that significant carbon savings are achievable but also foresee other benefits such as reduced social isolation (e.g. through events, workshops), support of young people and vulnerable groups, enabling greater community cohesion and confidence to take action on climate change.

Please see sections below on the varying individual projects for more in depth info.

- any partners that are involved.

With the funding from the North Ayrshire Community Investment Fund we would like to formalise the EcoHub model and use it to expand, develop and cross-promote our work in the areas of energy, sustainable food, reuse and net zero.

This would also go hand in hand with the Active Travel Hub and associated travel and transport ambitions that we have which are already funded by Paths for All.

We have a wide variety of stakeholders and work with many other organisations on the island, which we would very much like to expand on:



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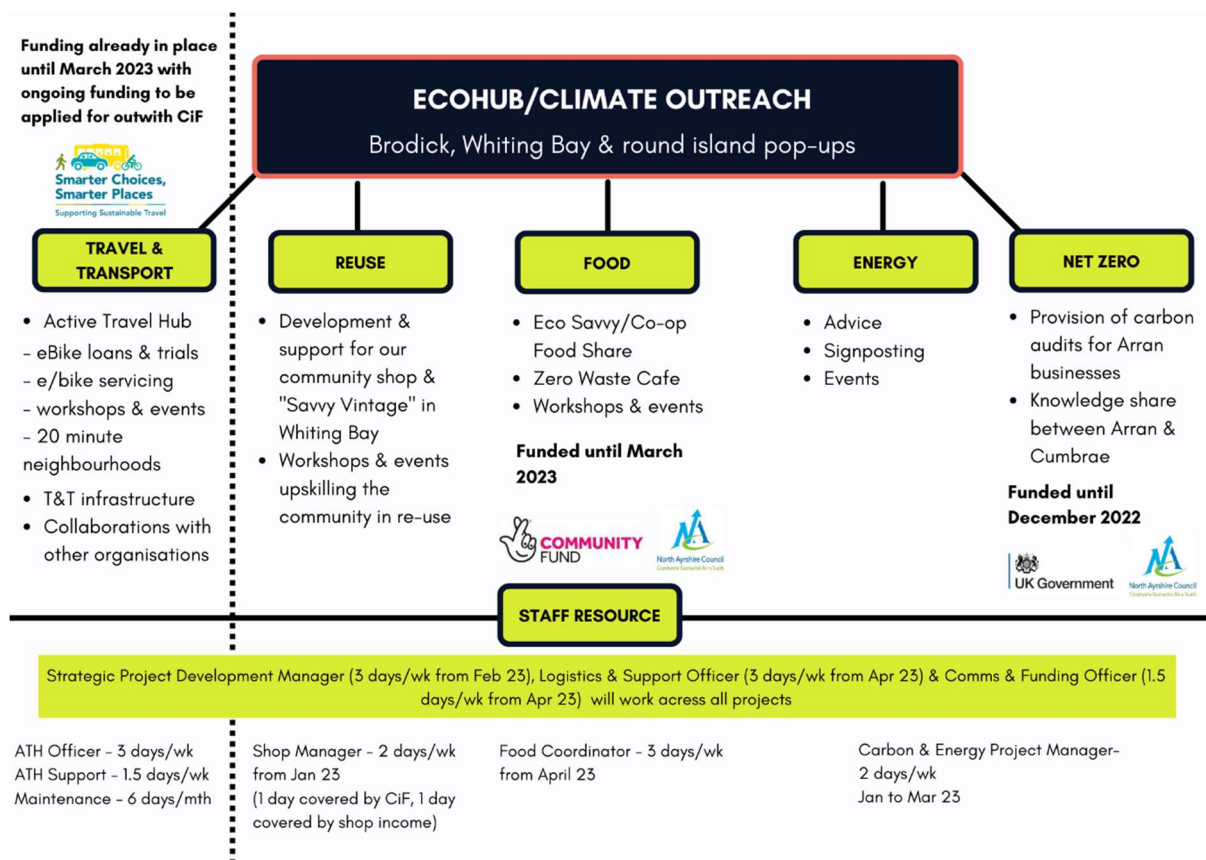
More information:

The funding from the Community Investment Fund would be used as follows until the end of March 2024:

- Salaries for the following team members (all part time):
 - Sustainable Food Coordinator
 - Shop Manager
 - Carbon and Energy Project Manager
 - Communications and Funding Officer to promote and coordinate all the projects and encourage community buy in
 - Logistics and Support Officer to help with admin and provide support across all the projects
 - Strategic Project Development Manager to oversee all the projects and link their work together.
- Travel and Subsistence budget, office accommodation
- A small contribution to our running costs to support central and support functions such as trustee indemnity insurance, bookkeeping and payroll costs. All other admin work is carried out on a voluntary basis by our trustees)

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We are currently working on several projects, have piloted some work and would like to add additional projects and explore wider reaching ideas that we feel would benefit from being brought together under a central “EcoHub” banner. This would allow us to better expand and develop learnings from previous work, have a central space for community engagement and consultation, and build cohesion and crossover between projects and with other organisations:



Inception and pilot

In April 2021 we received funding from Paths for All's Smarter Choices Smarter Places Open Fund to open an Active Travel Hub on Arran. This happens once a week from the Ormidale Pavilion in Brodick and takes the format of an informal drop-in session where people can come along and access active/sustainable travel info, trial ebikes, sign up for longer ebike loans, access bike servicing and repairs etc.

In September 2021 we organised a Climate Fringe event to run concurrently with the Active Travel Hub and raise awareness of COP26. We invited 9 other organisations to attend to promote other environmental work that is happening on the island, meaning we had an intersection of attendees with a variety of interests. The event attracted well over 70 attendees:



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ARRAN CLIMATE FRINGE

Saturday 18th September: 12 - 3pm
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick

- Trial an eBike on our special course (or try on your own bike)
- Take a led walk* along Fisherman's Walk for a tour round Cladach Community Garden (*email diana.ecosavvy@gmail.com to pre-book)
- Speak to the Pioneer Project about their work building local food resilience on Arran
- **1pm** - Bring along your own picnic to have at our "Low Carbon Lunch"
- **2pm** - join a beach clean & data collection of beach litter
- TAP (Think About Plastic - Arran), Scotland's first plastic 'free' community & island will be sharing ideas about how you can help reduce the plastic in the sea around Arran (or wherever you live)
- Info on reducing food waste & saving money whilst helping the environment
- Seed/seedling/pot swap & pop up shop!
- Learn about sustainable seafood & blue carbon from the experts at COAST
- Hear about how the Isle of Arran is on its way to becoming a UNESCO Global Geopark, a designation equivalent to a World Heritage Site or Biosphere Reserve
- Chat to some folks from the newly founded Arran Repair Cafe - they're looking for volunteers with the time & skills
- Get to grips with landscape scale carbon auditing with the local farmer led group Net Zero Arran as they take action for a greener, more sustainable island

Elsewhere

- 11am-12pm: Arran Pioneer Project's Community Garden at **Cladach** Open Session - pop in, see their work & buy some veg!

**CHECK ONLINE FOR
UPDATES &
MORE INFO**

Join us for a day of celebration & to find out about some of the work happening on Arran to combat climate change & protect the environment.

The success of this event prompted us to develop an EcoHub offering and from February to June we ran a series of events piloting the concept. We did this by running a regular drop-in every week, with a bigger event once a month. We feel that the success of this can be seen in the attendee numbers:

February "Valentines" Drop-in: 30 attendees

March Drop-in: 50 attendees

April Energy Drop-in: 48 attendees

May Green Health Week Drop-in: 65

June BikeFest Drop-in: 36

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND ARRAN LOCALITY PARTNERSHIP



Sustainable Food

Since 2019 we have been providing sustainable food education through workshops, cooking demonstrations, resources, recipe books and household food waste audits. We have delivered the Food Share scheme in conjunction with the Co-op, to date diverting 40 tonnes of food with a value of over £252k.

We collaborate with many organisations locally and have supported local producers to revive Farmers Markets in conjunction with Arran's Food Journey and Bellevue Farm. Last year we worked with Sustainable Food Places to deliver a Good Food Movement pilot on the island and more recently we have hosted legislation consultation workshops to increase community awareness of national food policy. More widely we are connected with the North Ayrshire Fairer Food network as we support the ambitions to be part of the Sustainable Food Places network.

Zero Waste Cafe

Following consultation with the Arran community, and with support from NAC, Inspiring Scotland and the National Lottery, we developed a pilot project for a Zero Waste Cafe that 'pops-up' in villages across Arran, providing healthy fresh and ambient food to residents.



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Since the submission of our Expression of Interest we were delighted to receive additional financial support in the form of a grant of £15k from North Ayrshire Council directly for use for the Zero Waste Café initiative.

This has allowed us to continue this work until the end of March 2023, employ an additional person 6 days a month, and we have expanded the café to another location (Corrie) on a fortnightly basis. A portion of this money is also allocated to pay the community halls that we use to go towards their heating bills and we will be sensitively promoting the Zero Waste Cafés as "[warm spaces](#)".

With the use of our new e-van we take zero waste dispensers, bulk dry goods ethically sourced from Greencity, tinned goods, free frozen food from the Eco Savvy/Co-op Food Share initiative, distributing locally grown vegetables and produce from Clachaig Farm, Pioneer Project and Holy Isle as well as offering refreshments, home baking and a healthy soup in Shiskine and Corrie where the cafe alternates on Wednesdays, as well as being held in Lochranza on a fortnightly basis on a Tuesday. All of these take the service to the people, and so supporting those without transport.





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We would use the cafe to cross promote ours and other local organisation's work on the island, for example, to date we have held collaborations with Arran Repair Cafe, Arran Milk and Savvy Vintage, hosting these groups at the Zero Waste Cafe.

We also held two very successful [Foraging Walks](#) which [Wild Food Arran](#) have developed into a fortnightly Foraging Club:



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Foraging Club takes place ending at the Zero Waste Café in Shiskine for people to be able to enjoy time outside, learn a new skill, socialise and then enjoy a healthy lunch and get some shopping.

We aim to make the cafe an inviting space with different activities on offer, providing access to these services and activities in the outlying villages on the island where we are running the pilot.

Over time and with more resources we would like to incorporate workshops focusing on sustainable food into the cafe, for example fermentation workshops, low-waste recipes and beginners guide to composting. We would like to collaborate with the Pioneer Project for outdoor cooking workshops and apple pressing and hope to work with other groups such as the Arran Wellbeing Cafe CIC to reach more people in the community.

We would also seek to broaden scope at the cafes, for example, by making available other services that address different issues. We would like to further promote active/sustainable travel by having our ebike coordinators attend the cafes regularly with ebikes and etrikes for people to try. We have trailed this so far at Lochranza and Shiskine with much interest from café attendees.

The Zero Waste Cafe is based around Nourish Scotland's Dignity in Practice framework and operates on a donate-as-you-feel basis to ensure accessibility. Attendance at the moment is between 15 and 40 individuals at each cafe. We are already seeing higher attendance at the cafes due to the rising cost of living and anticipate this will only increase.

Cafes create spaces for people to explore healthy, zero-waste food whilst providing a social meeting point. In time more workshops which promote low-carbon healthy eating would be incorporated, enhancing environmental sustainability in the community. The cafes operate in areas where cars would usually be needed to access food and so promote active travel and reduce food miles. We use our e-van to transport the cafe infrastructure so the cafe itself has a low carbon footprint. We've



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recruited 8 volunteers for the cafe who are actively involved and passionate about sustainable, zero waste food.

Here is a testimonial from one of our ZWC volunteers: *"I recently retired as an allied health care worker, which was hastened by the recent pandemic and finally decided to make the permanent move to the Isle of Arran. I have always been interested in environmental matters, especially reducing food waste. I thought that going to the Zero Waste Cafe would be an ideal opportunity/venue to meet other people in the community, have a cup of tea and sample some lovely home baking. And also the chance to pick up some food staples e.g rice. I saw the opportunity to give some of my time to volunteer at the Zero Waste Cafe, to help in the overall scheme of reducing food waste, a cause which I want to encourage. (The Zero Waste Cafe) is a real focal point for the community. It's (The Food Share is) redistribution of food that can be still utilised by the community, otherwise this food may have gone to landfill. It's giving the community the chance to socialise, exchange ideas, e.g recipes, that make use of food from Food Share. In these times of the rising cost of living, especially living on this island, the Food Share may help to reduce the weekly food bill. And (provide) value for money. The Zero Waste Cafe is also a social venue, especially as we are no longer in the restrictions of the pandemic, and the community is coming together again."*

The cafe's flexible model allows us to support local producers, businesses and community gardens when they have gluts and produce available. We are a distribution point and give donations back to the growers. We have had donations from food businesses and private individuals too. One example of this is our soup bread is donated by a local cafe who would otherwise bin their bread ends and now that we have entered the winter months we are very grateful to be receiving donations of unsold bread from [Blackwater Bakehouse](#).

The Zero Waste Cafe tackles food insecurity in a dignified model while reducing food waste, packaging and travel. We have been running the pilot since March 2022 initially alternating weekly between two locations: Shiskine and Lochranza.

In October 2022 we expanded to include Corrie on a fortnightly basis and are delighted to report a very positive community response with approximately 30 attendees at each of the three Corrie cafes so far.

We hope to expand the pilot to further locations around the island and have been approached by two other villages: Kilmory and Pirnmill to do so.

Eco Savvy/Co-op Food Share

Eco Savvy is partnering with the Co-op enabling us to collect and redistribute surplus food as part of their new, national redistribution programme. This is a nationwide Co-op initiative that enables local charities like ourselves to intercept surplus food before it reaches landfill.

Since December 2018 we have delivered the Food Share scheme in conjunction with the Co-op, to date diverting 40 tonnes of food with a value of over £252k.

This originally worked on a volunteer run distribution model 5 nights a week in various villages.

Unfortunately, during the Covid pandemic this model was no longer safe and so the Food Share was brought into the main Brodick store where food was made available for people to access in the evening.



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We are very pleased that the Food Share has now been able to return to the previous “collect and distribute” model. We have also worked hard to increase the volunteer network meaning that this food is available to more people throughout Arran and it now reaches 8 villages on the island:



ECO SAVVY FOOD SHARE LOCATIONS!



 **MONDAYS** Alternating in Lochranza & Pirnmill Halls – 9pm

 **TUESDAYS** Whiting Bay Hall, Whiting Bay – 9pm

 **WEDNESDAYS** Corrie Hall, Corrie – 8.30pm

 **THURSDAYS** Brodick, Ormidale Pavilion – 8.30pm

 **FRIDAYS** COAST Discovery Centre, Lamlash – 9pm 

 **SATURDAYS** Kilmory Hall, Kilmory – 9.30pm

 **SUNDAYS** St Molios Church Hall, Shiskine – 9pm

**THE FOOD SHARE IS OPEN TO ALL ARRAN RESIDENTS, HELP US TO PREVENT
SHORT LIFE FOOD FROM GOING IN THE BIN!**



**OF FOOD ALREADY DIVERTED FROM LANDFILL & USED BY
ARRAN LOCALS!**

Reaching people

We are actively working to destigmatize access to the food at the Zero Waste Cafe and Food Share by focusing on food waste and packaging reduction.

Of course, these initiatives support people experiencing food insecurity but by focusing on the environmental benefits of shopping locally and zero waste we are providing an open and dignified setting in which to access food.

We have also been working with Independent Food Aid Network UK and Arran CVS to develop a 'worrying about money' leaflet for Arran to make the community aware of available cash-first interventions and to embed this into our work. This has recently been finalised ([click here for digital version](#)) and we are soon to take delivery of the printed leaflets to make available at the Zero Waste



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Café and Food Shares as well as distributing them to the Food Bank and health and social care providers.

Reuse

Our community shop in Whiting Bay does a fantastic job of taking in donations and selling them to the community and showcasing and selling products that offer environmentally friendly alternatives to the mainstream. There is demand for this both as a retail concern, the circular economy solutions it presents but also as an opportunity for people to volunteer and access all the associated social and employability benefits of this.

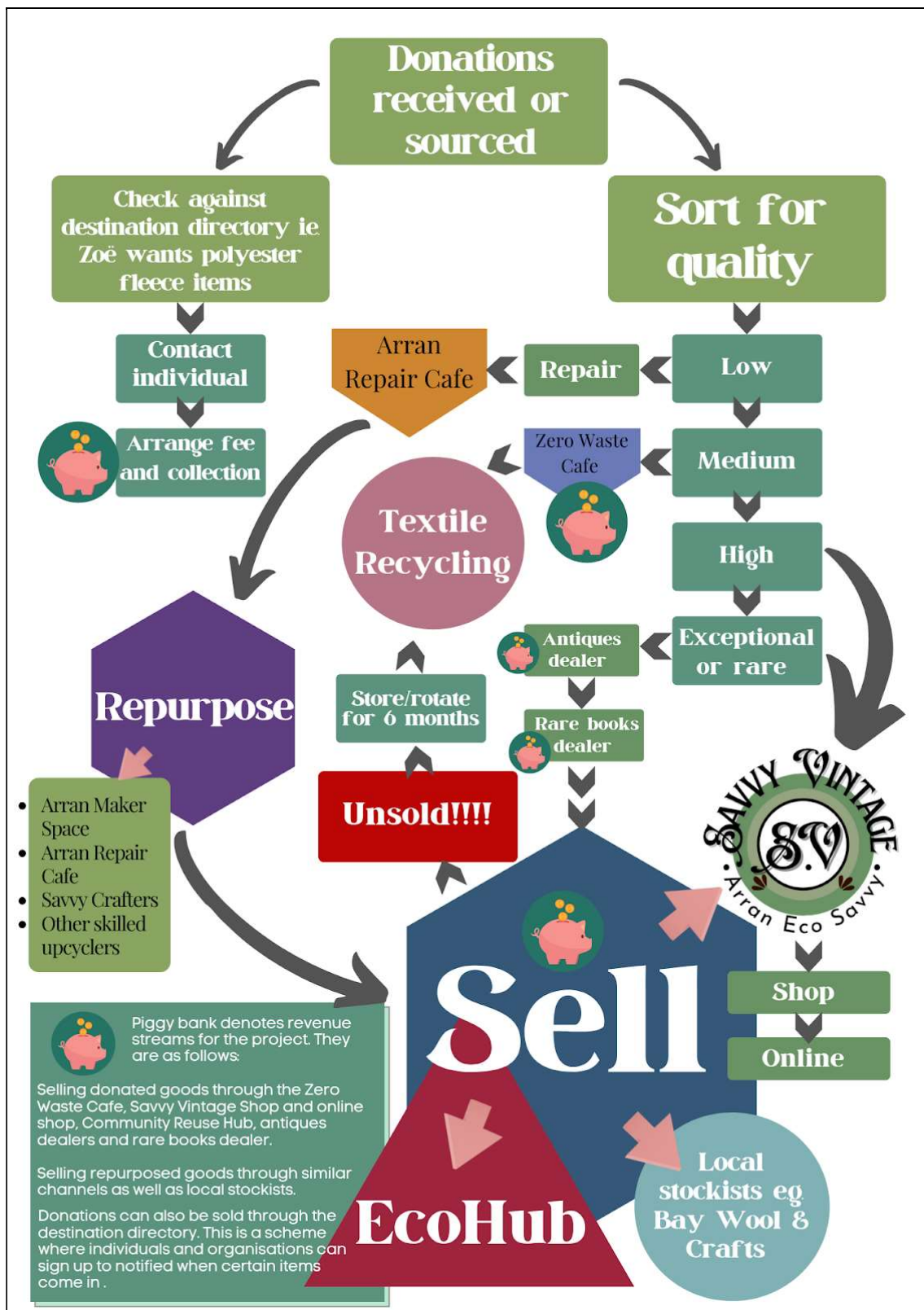
The shop is well positioned within the island community to receive donations, which we do in huge quantities and are currently struggling to process these due to lack of storage space.

We have several ideas that we would like to trial around our shop and reuse initiatives including:

- Promote Lifelong Learning and increase the capacity of our volunteers through learning to use new technology, software applications, smart devices, etc. helping our volunteers to adapt and thrive in today's world (POS system/online shop)
- Further consultation with the volunteers and wider community on how best to use the shop going forward, including holding pop up events at the EcoHub and Zero Waste Cafe
- Tap into the vast array of creative, upcycling skills that our current team of volunteers have by setting up regular crafting/repair workshops using materials and unsold items from the shop, turning them into sellable products which contribute to increased shop revenue. Develop an evaluation plan to reflect on the impact to inform future workshops
- Setting up a swap system whereby the volunteers collect items for upcycling by individuals in the community
- Reduce isolation and promote inclusion through establishing a resilient community group that gains confidence about the future through action
- Set up an online shop to broaden the appeal of the shop to a younger audience
- Establish partnerships with Arran High School and Arran Youth Foundations by offering regular work experience opportunities and accreditation through the Duke of Edinburgh Awards or Youth Achievement Awards
- Further develop our pop up shop "Savvy Vintage" which has been very well received both on the island and by other community groups – our Shop Development Manager was asked to present on this at the recent Circular Communities Scotland Seminar

The flow chart on the next page details the potential channels that could be explored, in a visual format:

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Energy and Net Zero

Initial insights from the Green Islands Programme indicate that we need to build upon the successes of the Sustainable Island Life and Green Islands project.

In order to fully understand the issues, opportunities and collective needs facing our community AES requires a part time Project Development Manager working with the Strategic and Logistics and Support Officers to deliver the next vital phase to support organisations on Arran to implement their Net Zero Action Plans and to roll out carbon auditing.

Working with Organisations

This will involve supporting 10 Arran based organisations across all sectors including fellow charities and CICs to develop and deliver their Net Zero Action Plans e.g. through additional audits, events and shared commissioning processes for services and products that build the wealth of the community and enable essential changes on the route to Net Zero. Support organisations in collective net zero purchases/funding applications.

Working with the community

Eco Savvy are painfully aware of the very valid public concerns surrounding energy price rises. We are frequently being approached by many island residents looking for advice on renewables and how to insulate and heat their homes.

From 2018 until 2021 we ran an Arran wide energy project where we delivered 146 home energy audits and EPCs, offered advice on renewables including supporting 12 households with the installation of solar PV, and held energy events. We still have much of this information and connections..

We feel that the community needs impartial support as a priority in energy matters and would like to learn from the impact of previous home energy audits undertaken by AES and offer an updated service in line with the current energy market. This will include:

- developing an action learning domestic energy network to reduce energy use and carbon emissions, improve energy efficiency and increase the use of renewables.
- developing the use of citizen accounting methods with community members and domestic homes.
- offering information, signposting and organising events such as the recent energy focused drop in that we held in April.
- supporting joint working with other community organisations to install small home energy efficiency improvements e.g.- making door draught excluders, installing foil backing for radiators etc.

Project Lead

Gather information from audits as to community need as a collective whole, any gaps in technology/funding/knowledge identified and flagged to relevant organisations for consideration. Provide a designated service for interested parties, and funders, and being the central point to provide funding/support information signposting to fellow charities, CICs, island citizens and business community to help them achieve net zero



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

Please include:

- The outcomes you aim to achieve
- How you will approach reducing inequality
- How this proposal fits with the Locality Partnership priorities of 1. Social isolation 2. Transport 3. Affordable Housing

- The outcomes you aim to achieve

Arran Eco Savvy would provide measurable outcomes and reporting. In addition to regular updates from the project leads, some of the measures we would provide:

Sustainable/active travel

- Number of events held
- Number of participants
- Number of ebike loans
- Number of ebike miles cycled

Net Zero & Energy

- Number of organisations supported to develop and deliver their net zero plans
- number of individuals supported to reduce energy use and carbon emissions and increase use of renewables
- Number of events held
- Number of participants

Sustainable food

- Number of people attending the Zero Waste Cafe
- Number of workshops to support healthier lifestyle held as part of the cafe and attendee numbers
- Number of collaborative events with other organisations
- Volunteers recruited to support the cafe
- Approximate weight of food diverted from incineration via the Food Share
- Approximate value of food diverted from incineration via the Food Share

Reuse

- Number of events held
- Number of participants
- Number of active volunteers



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- How you will approach reducing inequality

Inclusive and intersectional working

The Isle of Arran has a population of 4537 (2019 - source Isle of Arran Local Island Plan). According to pre-pandemic figures, Arran welcomes 420,000 visitors annually.

We aim to reach as much of the community here as possible as we understand that often people experience isolation or reduced service provision in some of the more remote locations on the island due to issues such as inadequate public transport, lack of technical devices/knowledge, physical limitations, financial barriers etc.

We are aware of many social and economic issues on the island. In terms of our demographics we have pros and cons:

- High life expectancy
- Low unemployment
- Low crime rates
- Higher than average levels of household income

However:

- Over 65s currently make up one third of the population and by 2026 this will rise to over half of the Arran population
- Residents of 16 to 64 are expected to fall to less than 4 in 10 of the local population by 2026
- Access to services - approx 44% of Arran's population live in datazones that are in the top 15% most access deprived in Scotland (access measures private vehicle and public transport drive times to GP surgeries, POs, retail centres, schools and petrol stations)
- Highest Dependency Ratio: Arran has the highest dependency ratio of all six localities at 0.81 compared with a North Ayrshire rate of 0.60. This means for every 10 workers there are over eight residents not economically active, compared with a rate of six residents across North Ayrshire.

Whilst many on Arran enjoy a decent standard of living and there are higher levels of wealth and affluence than many other areas in Ayrshire and Scotland, there are certainly individuals and households on the island for whom this is not the case. During the pandemic some social issues were highlighted and exacerbated such as:

- "Hidden" poverty
- Inequalities in different forms
- Social isolation

Whilst we are primarily an environmental organisation, we also strive to address these issues in our service provision. We have had success in many areas due to the fact that our focus and messaging is environment based and non stigmatising.

We adhere to the Dignity in Practice Framework which was developed by Nourish Scotland and the Poverty Truth Commission. The framework is a set of principles aimed at promoting dignity and human rights. Whilst this is primarily aimed at organisations working within food insecurity and access issues we try to apply the ethos of these principles to other areas of our work.



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- How this proposal fits with the Locality Partnership priorities of 1. Social isolation 2. Transport 3. Affordable Housing

1. Social isolation

Much of our work intersects environmental action with other social aims and we actively seek to benefit people in a multitude of ways.

The development of our sustainable food work very much considers overcoming social isolation and this was an issue highlighted by North Ayrshire Council in initial discussions before we were very kindly given use of the space at the Outdoor Centre, as well as a reason that the community in Shiskine asked us to use the hall at St Molios Church.

We very much understand the link between food and community and this notion is central to the development of our work.

Some of the ways we address social isolation in our food work:

- We operate in under-served villages and communities on the island
- We put measures in place to consider those that are still nervous about going to shared spaces or are actively isolating
- We aim to provide overlapping services that could attract people with a variety of interests
- We aim to use de-stigmatising language
- We consider differences in culture, living circumstances and eating habits and try to be as inclusive as possible with the food we make available

With the shop we aim to provide a community service as well as functioning as a retail space by considering and supporting those that are still transitioning out of Covid. Many of our volunteers were, and still are, unable to volunteer in the shop due to Covid.

Our active travel work celebrates getting outside and meeting with others. We have found that many people are keen to return to socialising but are nervous about doing so indoors. Active/sustainable travel and associated activities have been welcomed by many. We are looking to increase the number of group activities such as led rides that we offer.

2. Transport

Although we are not seeking funding via this application for our transport work we have plans to develop and continue the Active Travel Hub that we currently run.

The idea behind the "EcoHub" concept is to promote a variety of services and means for people to address the climate emergency as well as interrelated issues such as health and wellbeing, economic considerations and social aims.

Arran Eco Savvy also wish to increase and expand our island infrastructure, for example by consulting on existing and potential off road path access, increasing bike and ebike infrastructure etc. This will have multiple outreaching benefits for a variety of users and stakeholders.

3. Affordable Housing



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Whilst we do not operate directly within the housing sector the energy/Net Zero element of our proposed work aims to improve people's living circumstances and enable them to live in warmer homes and spend less on their energy bills.

Below we have outlined further ways that we believe this project will make a difference locally and in line with other Community Investment Fund eligibility criteria.

- **Connect with the North Ayrshire Fair for All Inequalities Strategy:**

We note the five key themes that North Ayrshire CPP considers integral to tackling and reducing inequalities to create Fair for All and we briefly outline below how we feel our proposed work addresses these:

Children

Although we do not work directly with children, much of our work indirectly supports families, for example, free food availability through the Food Share scheme, low cost, nutritious food available via the Zero Waste Cafe on a donation basis, energy advice to help families save money and heat their homes more efficiently.

We have also been exploring ways we can support young people in our community and have been talking to the team at Arran Youth Foundation about providing led rides and environmental collaborations and are actively seeking one or more young people to take on work experience placements within Eco Savvy and have registered with Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce for this purpose.

Health

Much of our work provides health benefits to the community for example, ebike loans and trials are a good entry point for people looking to increase their fitness or people with mobility issues, we have been working with the Trinity Active Travel Hub in supporting their health walks and promoting them on Arran, we have trialed foraging walks and plan to offer more supported walks and rides. Our food work has a health function in that we promote healthy, seasonal eating and provide a meal at each of our Zero Waste Cafes, as well as offering a social space for the community in under-served areas.

We also understand the importance of mental health and wellbeing and the benefits that can be offered via our projects. We strive to offer a supportive and welcoming experience for volunteers and people using our services. With the cost of living crisis we expect that many issues will be exacerbated and are keen to offer support to the community in energy, travel, food, and environmental anxiety.

We are investigating how our organisation can become involved in social prescribing and have been in touch with Arran Medical Group and Arran CVS regarding this.

Economy

The economic needs of the community are undeniable in the importance and success of our work. All of our services are offered on a free or by voluntary donation basis. We are very aware of the barriers that stigma can result in and we work very hard to overcome these. By offering services and framing them around an environmental message we can often avoid the stigma associated with things like free food or second hand clothes.

Being an island we are also very conscious of the way our systems work and how our island economy is driven and are mindful of this in designing our services, for example, in the Zero Waste Cafe a big



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focus is put on making local veg available which has multiple economic benefits - cheaper for households to buy, shortens the food chain, supports the local agricultural economy etc.

We are very aware of the impending cost of living crisis. We want to actively support island residents and island businesses to work together to everyone's benefit. Much of our work is in keeping with Community Wealth Building.

Environment

Arran Eco Savvy has been tackling issues of climate change since 2013 and we are very much embedded in the Arran community and understand people's needs and concerns.

As an example of what can be achieved, our 2 year island-wide sustainability project which focused on sustainable travel/transport, food, energy efficiency and carbon literacy that ended in March 2021 achieved the following environmental outcomes:

- 827 tonnes CO2e saved
- 3,374 people actively engaged in project
- 19,496 volunteer hours clocked
- 17,557 eBike miles cycled
- 146 energy audits/EPCs delivered
- All 8 island schools participated in project

Food

The issues around fair food systems are central to our sustainable food work. The Zero Waste Cafe and Food Share initiative tackle food insecurity in a dignified model while reducing food waste, packaging and travel. We adhere to the Dignity in Practice Framework which was developed by Nourish Scotland and the Poverty Truth Commission and we regularly attend events and training from Nourish Scotland to keep up to date with best practice and emerging actions that can be taken to support the movement to a fairer food system, such as organising consultations for the Arran community to feed back to wider policy.

We understand that many people cannot afford good food and this is exacerbated on Arran where we experience higher food prices. We aim to address this in our food work, as well as supporting local growers, businesses and organisations and linking all these issues in with environmental concerns.

- **Connect with the Community Planning Partnership and Locality priorities;**

We note the priorities of the North Ayrshire Plan and believe our proposed work impacts all three:

WELLBEING



Health and Wellbeing - We will reduce inequalities by targeted support to improve individual, family and community health and wellbeing.

There is a great deal of crossover in our work between encouraging behaviour change to respond to the climate emergency and positive health/wellbeing outcomes. This is very evident in active travel and fair and healthy food initiatives but has also been a factor in the development of our priorities in terms of energy, for example in the pursuit of warmer and safer homes via energy efficiencies, damp reduction workshops etc, our shop, for example in offering supportive volunteering opportunities and



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the associated mental health benefits of socialising, as well as the benefits of supporting people to take action to address the climate crisis and offer an outlet for discussing concerns such as environmental anxiety and eco grief.

WORK



Economy and Skills - We will address the causes and effects of poverty through a strong local economy and skills base.

Many of the behaviour change services we provide can also have financial benefits. This is inherent with using/consuming less or switching to local products and services and also has the benefit of supporting local businesses and economies.

We devise our offerings in consideration to the local landscape and make sure that we are not duplicating any existing work and that our actions are non competitive or detrimental to any existing businesses on the island.

AES are also extremely keen to offer learning opportunities to young people and have signed up to the Developing the Young Workforce Programme with Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce in the hope of providing (and benefitting from!) work experience opportunities to one or more young people this year.

WORLD



Climate Change - We will work more closely and effectively together to reduce carbon emissions and mitigate the impacts of climate change.

Everything that we do as an organisation centres around the environment and responding to the climate emergency. We understand the urgency of the situation and how it relates to Arran, North Ayrshire, Scotland and globally. We are steadfast in supporting people to take action in the ways that they feel they can.

Our work can provide measurable carbon savings and provide a place for the community to come together to address climate change issues whilst also offering social, economic and health benefits via a number of means.

- **Connect with North Ayrshire Council's values, priorities and business objectives**

We believe AES can contribute to North Ayrshire Council's values and priorities:



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Here are our priorities:

Aspiring Communities

- ▶ Active and strong communities
- ▶ Children and young people experience the best start in life
- ▶ Inclusive, growing and enterprising local economy
- ▶ People enjoy good life-long health and well-being
- ▶ People and communities are safe

Inspiring Place

- ▶ Effective infrastructure and digital connectivity
- ▶ Affordable, modern and well-designed homes that meets residents' needs
- ▶ Vibrant, welcoming and attractive places
- ▶ A sustainable environment

- Our organisation already has an active membership and following and has proven success in engaging the community on Arran on a variety of issues
- We are actively working on engaging young people on Arran and would like to increase our capacity to do this. There is a growing concern among young people about the climate emergency and their voices need to be heard and amplified. Young people need to be given access to support in how they wish to address the climate crisis
- We actively support local growers, producers and organisations on the island. Our focus is on working where there are gaps in current service provision on the island, linking up other relevant work and signposting people to support whilst avoiding duplication
- AES understands that the environment and health and wellbeing are intrinsically linked
- Through our active travel work we wish to increase and expand our island infrastructure, for example by consulting on existing and potential off road path access, increasing bike and ebike infrastructure etc
- Contributing to people's needs in their homes by offering access to support for the energy crisis
- Advocating for and protecting Arran's incredible natural environment
- **Fulfil a compelling need and do not duplicate existing services or facilities**

All of our proposed work has been developed in consultation with our community, much of it coming from identified need via previous projects:

- Sustainable/active travel: a key priority for the Scottish Government who have committed to reducing car kilometres travelled by 20% by 2030. Our ebike loan scheme is unique to our organisation on the island, therefore non competitive and we are not duplicating any existing services. Will actively work with other organisations to improve, increase and promote active travel infrastructure.
- Energy: increased levels of fuel poverty are going to be unavoidable and catastrophic for many households this winter. AES plan to offer energy saving advice, signpost to existing impartial organisations, such as Home Energy Scotland. We will not promote any one supplier of services and will work with a variety of stakeholders to connect our community with support on energy matters and not duplicate existing services.
- Net Zero: The Climate Change Act 2019 commits Scotland to net-zero emissions of all greenhouse gases by 2045 and North Ayrshire has the ambition to achieve this by 2030. Arran Eco Savvy is the delivery partner for the Green Islands Net Zero Project in partnership with North Ayrshire Council, funded by the UK Community Renewal Fund until December 2022.
- Food: Being an island, Arran, is arguably subject to a more precarious food situation than the mainland. We have far higher food costs and greater supply issues, particularly in winter when the ferry service is disrupted. We are one of only two organisations registered with the



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Co-op to deliver the Food Share scheme redistributing into the community food that would be going to waste. Following Covid we were approached by NAC to see how we could work together to address the food issues and inequalities they witnessed delivering the community support during the pandemic, which kick started the development of the Zero Waste Cafe pilot. We also work with Arran's food bank to ensure their needs are met and that we are not duplicating services.

- Reuse: There are only two charity shops on Arran - ArCaS Cancer Support in Brodick and our charity shop in Whiting Bay. These have a variety of benefits for the community such as offering a low cost retail function for islanders, supporting circular economy principles, reducing the burden of "waste" to be shipped off Arran from the HWRC, mental health/social wellbeing/employability benefits through volunteering and also being a draw for tourists. We work closely with the shop manager at ArCaS and often swap stock and other donated items.

- **Provide long-term, sustainable, positive results for the greatest number of people possible;**

All work will be designed to encourage long-term behavioural change and we include carbon literacy when appropriate.

We believe that long term behaviour change can be achieved and have already witnessed this in the "ebike revolution" that we are seeing on Arran. Often people try an ebike and are amazed at the difference it makes to their life, they then become advocates and refer others to take an ebike trial or loan.

The EcoHub model would also seek to cross refer people to different actions and services they can get involved in that can impact their lives environmentally, socially and economically. We would also work with other on and off island organisations to promote their work.

Whilst we anticipate engagement would primarily be with Arran residents we would also engage with some of Arran's many visitors and tourists. We have also developed a large network of on and off island organisations that we consult and share knowledge with.

- **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;**

As a small charity AES often has to work within the confines of a very tight budget. Additionally, being located on an island can present unique challenges such as a limited recruitment pool, cancelled ferries, huge variations in on-island residents between seasons etc. Over the years this has instilled a culture of problem solving and persistence within our organisation and we work hard to think creatively to overcome barriers to delivery.

Crucially, we have benefited greatly from enthusiastic and knowledgeable members of the community committed to a shared cause. We are very much embedded in the Arran community and all previous projects have exceeded their engagement targets by some distance due to demand.

A lot of our previous project successes have been built on positive word of mouth and we are very conscious to foster community support. We believe a just transition is possible and seek to normalise climate action, make it do-able and show not only that change is possible, but that it can have multiple benefits to individuals' lives.

We very much like to work with other organisations as we recognise that there is greater impact to be had by co-working and sharing resources and knowledge. We have built up a good network of



COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND ARRAN LOCALITY PARTNERSHIP

individuals, businesses and organisations that we work with and would like to expand on this going forward.

- **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;**

AES is financially viable and we would be happy to share accounts and other documentation as required.

- **Include options or potential for NAC and CPP employee engagement and volunteering where possible;**

AES would be keen to work collaboratively with NAC and support employee engagement and volunteering.

How the EcoHub project fits with the Arran Local Island Plan

To realise Arran's vision of becoming an island in balance, three key plan themes determine the Island Plan: economy, community and environmental wellbeing.



We believe that the work proposed in this application, and the wider work of Arran Eco Savvy spans these three themes – we are a **community** led **environmental** organisation working to address climate emergency issues that intersect with **economic**, health and social considerations.



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5. What engagement has taken place in relation to the project?

Please include the number of people who have been engaged with or consulted as well as the range of people.

Sustainable Food – Food Share

Since December 2018 AES have worked in conjunction with Arran's only supermarket, the Co-op, to deliver a food waste reduction scheme whereby food that would be headed for landfill is instead redistributed to residents - to date, 40 tonnes/over £252k of food has been redistributed.

The re-introduction of the Food Share back into the community has been warmly received with plenty of volunteers offering to be part of the collection process and many people coming along to get food as well as to get take things for friends, family, neighbours etc.

The positive response from the community has been fantastic.

Sustainable Food – Zero Waste Café

Upon being approached by North Ayrshire Council with the possibility of working together on a food initiative to address food poverty, insecurity and access identified during Covid we were keen to develop the work in line with what the community wanted and needed.

We launched a survey to help us develop a scheme with NAC, in line with community needs. This had 83 respondents:

- 32% people surveyed said they cannot afford the food they would like their families to eat
- 89% people are concerned about levels of packaging in food and household products they buy
- 88% would be interested in a zero waste shopping facility
- 16% said they would benefit from support in accessing food and household goods, 19% said they might

Travel and Transport

The Arran community has been very engaged with issues surrounding travel and transport, ebikes in particular, have proved extremely popular and we were pleased to be able to divert use of these during the first lockdown for community use for volunteers helping those who were shielding by delivering prescriptions etc.

We have struggled to keep up with demand for ebike trials and currently have a waiting list of both businesses and individuals wishing to take part.

Carbon and Energy

The community has responded positively to our energy and carbon emissions reduction project work with individuals and with organisations. The current energy crisis is generating a substantial demand for further help and advice with carbon audits, and energy performance support.

EcoHub drop-in pilot

In September 2021 we organised a Climate Fringe event to run concurrently with the Active Travel Hub and raise awareness of COP26. We invited 9 other organisations to attend to promote other



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environmental work that is happening on the island, meaning we had an intersection of attendees with a variety of interests. The event attracted well over 70 attendees:

ARRAN CLIMATE FRINGE

Saturday 18th September: 12 - 3pm
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick

- Trial an eBike on our special course (or try on your own bike)
- Take a led walk* along Fisherman's Walk for a tour round Cladach Community Garden (*email diana.ecosavvy@gmail.com to pre-book)
- Speak to the Pioneer Project about their work building local food resilience on Arran
- **1pm** - Bring along your own picnic to have at our "Low Carbon Lunch"
- **2pm** - join a beach clean & data collection of beach litter
- 'TAP (Think About Plastic - Arran), Scotland's first plastic 'free' community & island will be sharing ideas about how you can help reduce the plastic in the sea around Arran (or wherever you live)
- Info on reducing food waste & saving money whilst helping the environment
- Seed/seedling/pot swap & pop up shop!
- Learn about sustainable seafood & blue carbon from the experts at COAST
- Hear about how the Isle of Arran is on its way to becoming a UNESCO Global Geopark, a designation equivalent to a World Heritage Site or Biosphere Reserve
- Chat to some folks from the newly founded Arran Repair Cafe - they're looking for volunteers with the time & skills
- Get to grips with landscape scale carbon auditing with the local farmer led group Net Zero Arran as they take action for a greener, more sustainable island

Elsewhere

- 11am-12pm: Arran Pioneer Project's Community Garden at **Cladach** Open Session - pop in, see their work & buy some veg!

#CLIMATEFRINGEWEEK
18 - 26 SEPT

Join us for a day of celebration & to find out about some of the work happening on Arran to combat climate change & protect the environment.

Arran Eco Savvy
PIONEER PROJECT - ISLE OF ARRAN

TAP
Think About Plastic

Arran Geopark

WOODSIDE
ARRAN

COAST
Isle of Arran
Coastguard of Arran Island Trust

SAC
CONSULTING

ARRAN REPAIR CAFE

NORTH AYRSHIRE
Planning North Ayrshire
arran@northayrshire.gov.uk
01846 310000

ARRAN
CLIMATE
FRINGE
Zone

The National Trust for Scotland
Ranger Service

**CHECK ONLINE FOR
UPDATES &
MORE INFO**

The success of this event prompted us to develop an EcoHub offering and from February to June we ran a series of events piloting the concept. We did this by running a regular drop-in every week, with a bigger event once a month. We feel that the success of this can be seen in the attendee numbers:

February "Valentines" Drop-in: 30 attendees
March Drop-in: 50 attendees
April Energy Drop-in: 48 attendees
May Green Health Week Drop-in: 65
June BikeFest Drop-in: 36

6. How will the project be managed?



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Please include:

- How the finances will be managed
- Does the proposed project contribute to volunteering or employment opportunities on Arran? Please include the number of volunteering opportunities and employment opportunities
- If there are any staff requirements, please outline your HR plans

The work will be managed on an operational level by the proposed Strategic Project Development Manager with oversight by the Board.

Clear objectives will be agreed at the outset and reported monthly at Board meetings.

- How the finances will be managed

Finances will be reported monthly by the treasurer and annually as part of our normal financial report to OSCR.

- Does the proposed project contribute to volunteering or employment opportunities on Arran? Please include the number of volunteering opportunities and employment opportunities

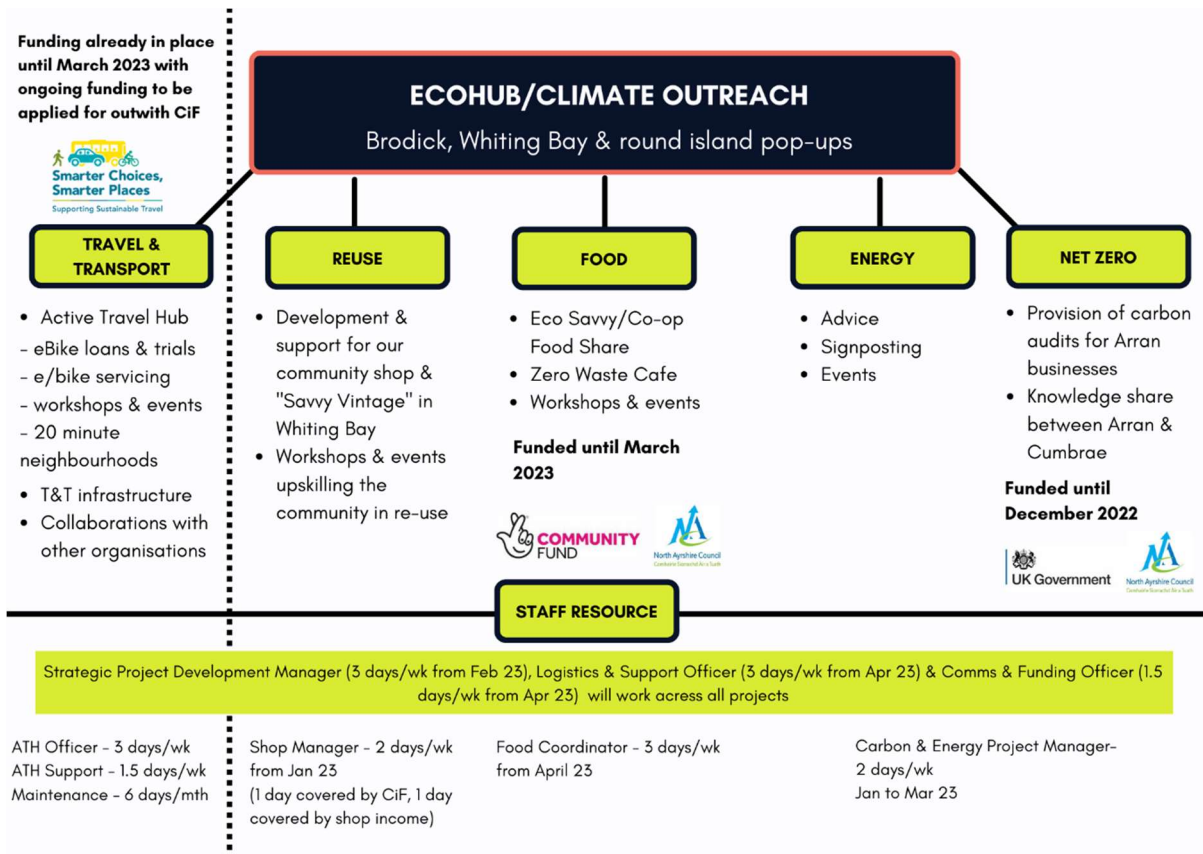
The work we are proposing would entail employment opportunities for the following 6 roles (all part time):

- Sustainable Food Coordinator
- Shop Manager
- Carbon and Energy Project Manager
- Communications and Funding Officer to promote and coordinate all the projects and encourage community buy in
- Logistics and Support Officer to help with admin and provide support across all the projects
- Strategic Project Development Manager to oversee all the projects and link their work together. This role will also develop an energy project and implement it with help from the Logistics and Support Officer

This would be supported by the Travel and Transport team that are funded elsewhere via Paths for All:

- Active Travel Hub Officer
- Active Travel Support
- Mechanic

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND ARRAN LOCALITY PARTNERSHIP



Arran Eco Savvy are also extremely lucky to have a great number of volunteers that support our work in different ways:

- Trustees: [7 trustees](#) with a diverse background working countless hours in pursuit of the aims of the organisation
- Food Share volunteers: approximately 40
- Zero Waste Café volunteers: approximately 8
- Shop volunteers: 7 regular volunteers who help for 3 hours each most weeks, this cover some of the 30 hours the shop is currently open. We also have one school pupil undertaking a Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award who shadows an elderly volunteer and helps with the recently installed digital POS system.

This work will address the twin priorities of a North Ayrshire Green New Deal:

1. to ensure an inclusive economic recovery by delivering our Community Wealth Building mission and
2. To ensure a green economic recovery focused on achieving our net zero carbon ambitions through the creation of sustainable infrastructure and regeneration projects and creating fair jobs.



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It will complement and contribute to North Ayrshire's Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy (2021-3 via the 7 workstreams) for how Arran will achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2030.

It will help deliver the main aims of the plan and particularly "Supports the principles of community wealth building" and "supports the transition to net zero".

It will contribute to Arran pioneering the transition of the island to net zero by 2030 - the 4 out of the 5 Key Priorities identified of:

- Climate Action and Sustainability
- Natural capital
- energy provision and energy costs
- active travel
- planning policy (but not Marine policy)

We are managing, and will build upon, the successful Green Islands Net Zero project that contributes to the achievement of net zero carbon emissions targets (Isle of Arran Local Island plan p55) will build on the Food Share work mentioned as Case Study 2 (p57) Case Study 4 - Arran Farmers Market (page 59):

<https://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/Documents/EconomyCommunities/irr/arran-local-island-plan.pdf>

In the action plan:

"identify priorities for and implement new and improved active travel route infrastructure from updated Local Transport Strategy across the island"

<https://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/Documents/EconomyCommunities/irr/arran-annual-action-plan.pdf>

- If there are any staff requirements, please outline your HR plans
- We already have HR policies and processes in place to cover recruitment and employment.



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7 Amount of funding being requested

Please supply details 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 (£) £87,788

Please give a breakdown of cost and recent quotations where appropriate.

Please find attached a budget spreadsheet with a breakdown of proposed cost.

Please also see our annual accounts on the AES website - <https://arranecosavvy.org.uk/about-arran-eco-savvy/financial-report/>

Please see below for a list of the funding we have received over the last 5 years:

- November 2022 - Zero Waste Cafe funding: North Ayrshire Council
£15K in support of the Zero Waste Cafe until end of March 2023
- 2022 – Green Islands Project funding: North Ayrshire Council
£50k to work AES as a delivery partner the Green Islands Programme for the North Ayrshire Islands of Arran and Cumbrae, to accelerate the path towards net zero by 2030 and boost the economic recovery and renewal of coastal communities until the end of December 2022
- January 2022 - [The Open Fund: Smarter Choices, Smarter Places](#): Paths for All/Transport Scotland
£40,686 towards year 2 running costs of Active Travel Hub in Brodick and associated activities until end of March 2023
- December 2021 - [Together for Our Planet](#): National Lottery
£10k towards the Arran Zero Waste Café pilot until the end of February 2023
- December 2021 - [Rural Communities Ideas into Action Fund](#): Inspiring Scotland
£32,006.12 for the purchase of goods/equipment for the Zero Waste Café and for salaries for a period of time until end of March 2022.
- November 2021 - [Island Communities Fund](#): Inspiring Scotland
£69,740.63 for the purchase of goods/equipment to aid in project aims covering T&T, food and general community climate action. This included the Arran Eco Savvy electric van which is used across all projects and is made available for other island community groups.
- November 2021 - [EST eBike fund](#): Energy Saving Trust
£17,061.26 for the purchase of ebikes and equipment for use at the Active Travel Hub and to promote active/sustainable travel.
- June 2021 - [Adapt & Thrive and Communities Recovery Fund](#): Scottish Government
£17,397 for the implementation of a Covid recovery plan for AES Community Shop
- May 2021 - Arran Food Systems: North Ayrshire Council
£15k for the development of Arran food systems, which funded research into the best model for Arran culminating in the Zero Waste Café pilot in Lochranza and Shiskine.
- May 2021 - [Sustainable Food Places Scotland](#): Sustainable Food Places
£5k towards the development of a Good Food Movement on Arran from May to October 2021
- April 2021 - [The Open Fund: Smarter Choices, Smarter Places](#): Paths for All/Transport Scotland



COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND ARRAN LOCALITY PARTNERSHIP

£20k to set up an Active Travel Hub on Arran with the primary outcome being to encourage people to develop more positive attitudes towards sustainable transport choices from 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022

- 2020 - eBikes for Key Workers Grant: Energy Saving Trust
£12,084 for the purchase of ebikes and equipment for use at the Active Travel Hub and to promote active/sustainable travel prioritising a section of the ebike fleet for use by key/essential workers.
- 2019/21 - Climate Challenge Fund: Keep Scotland Beautiful/Scottish Government
£293,638 Sustainable Island Life Project, an island-wide sustainability project focused on sustainable travel/transport, food, energy efficiency and carbon literacy.
- 2019 - [EST eBike fund](#): Energy Saving Trust
£11,706 for the purchase of ebikes and equipment for use at the Active Travel Hub and to promote active/sustainable travel.
- 2018/19 - Climate Challenge Fund: Keep Scotland Beautiful/Scottish Government
£112,151 to run a domestic Energy Efficiency Project where we delivered 146 home energy audits and EPCs, offered advice on renewables including supporting 12 households with the installation of solar PV, and held energy events.

Funding applications submitted and awaiting decision

- Investing in Communities Fund: Eco Savvy Sustainable Food, Travel & Transport – approx. £349k over 3 years - decision expected February 2023
- Rural Communities Ideas into Action Fund: Energy and Net Zero, plus 10 ebikes - approx £70 - decision expected December

Travel and Transport funding

As outlined above, we have been awarded £40,686 from the Paths for All Smarter Choices Smarter Places Open Fund to deliver the active travel work up until April 2023.

This covers most of the dedicated Travel and Transport work but if we were to be successful with the CiF fund the Strategic Project Development Manager, Logistics and Support Officer and Comms and Funding Officer would be involved to a degree to ensure good crossover between the Travel and Transport strands and the overall EcoHub offering.

For after April 2023 we plan to seek ongoing funding for Travel and Transport from active travel specific funders. Although it is no guarantee of success, we have been encouraged by our current funders to apply again for 2023/24 and will be putting in an application in January 2023.

We plan to regenerate and replenish the current fleet of ebikes and have applied for funding for ebikes via the Rural Communities Ideas into Action Fund. We are waiting a decision on this but if we are unsuccessful have identified various alternative potential sources of funding for this.

Other sources of funding Eco Savvy have already received that would support this project as a whole

We received some funding from the National Lottery (£10K) and North Ayrshire Council (£15k) to pilot the Zero Waste Cafe. We receive additional support from NAC via the use of a purpose built shed and large commercial fridge freezer situated at the Outdoor Centre in Lamlash.



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We also received funding from the Scottish Government via the Island Communities Fund (Nov 2021 - approx £70k) and Rural Communities Ideas into Action Fund (Dec 2021 - approx £32k) which enabled us to buy lots of assets including:

- electric van
- bike maintenance stations (meaning there will be 6 in total on Arran once we have them all installed)
- 2 electric vehicle charging points
- all the equipment for the Zero Waste Cafe such as zero waste dispensers, cooking equipment, storage, display units, freezers which we donated to community halls etc
- some tech hardware for staff use such as laptops and a printer

We have other assets from previous projects in the form of 21 ebikes and an etrike which have been wildly popular with Arran residents and are an excellent form of community outreach and are often a springboard for people to find out about the other projects offerings for the community. These assets came from funding from the Energy Saving Trust and the Climate Challenge Fund.

We envisage that the 2 day a week Shop Manager role would be part funded by CiF for 1 day a week and part self funded by the income from the shop 1 day a week.

AES is a delivery partner for the Green Islands Programme for Arran and Cumbrae which is due to end in December. Eco Savvy would very much like to enact a second phase of this work from the learnings of the original delivery, particularly when there is such momentum.

Comms support

Eco Savvy have also just completed the prestigious [Weston Communicating Climate Programme](#) (graduated October 2022), which is a six-month programme for environmental and climate charities to learn how to extend the reach, power, and impact of their climate change communications. This course is delivered by some of the UK's leading industry experts and only 20 organisations are accepted onto the programme each year.

We have revamped our comms and hope to use the skills learned to reach and engage more people across Arran and further afield to join in the climate change movement.



COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND ARRAN LOCALITY PARTNERSHIP

8. Monitoring and evaluation process

Please include detail on the monitoring and evaluation processes planned or in place.

Arran Eco Savvy would provide measurable outcomes and reporting. In addition to regular updates from the project leads, some of the measures we would provide:

Sustainable/active travel

- Number of events held
- Number of participants
- Number of ebike loans
- Number of ebike miles cycled

Net Zero & Energy

- Number of organisations supported to develop and deliver their net zero plans
- number of individuals supported to reduce energy use and carbon emissions and increase use of renewables
- Number of events held
- Number of participants

Sustainable food

- Number of people attending the Zero Waste Cafe
- Number of workshops to support healthier lifestyle held as part of the cafe and attendee numbers
- Number of collaborative events with other organisations
- Volunteers recruited to support the cafe
- Approximate weight of food diverted from incineration via the Food Share
- Approximate value of food diverted from incineration via the Food Share

Reuse

- Number of events held
- Number of participants
- Number of active volunteers



Locality Partnership: Arran Locality

Date: 30th November 2022

Subject: To advise the meeting of applications received in respect of the Community Benefit Fund.

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

Background: Applications have been received in respect of the Community Benefit Fund

Key Points for Locality Partnership:

- The Community Benefit Fund has a balance of **£4,344.90** available for disbursement to Arran projects. (Please note that there are insufficient funds available to support the full amount requested in the applications outlined in Appendix 1.)

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: *Angela Morrell, Senior Manager, Connected Communities, 2nd Floor Cunninghame House, Irvine.*
Email - amorrell@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Completed by: Rosemary Ramsay (rosemaryramsay@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)

Date: 16.11.22

COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND OFFICER REPORT

Applicant Contact Details

Name of Organisation: Arran High School Mountain Bike Club	Contact Person: Robert McNeice
Address for Correspondence: Arran High School Lamlash Isle of Arran KA27 8NG	Telephone Number: Available

Description of Applicant Organisation

Number of Members: 52 members 27,235 will benefit	Established: October 2014
Meeting Place: Arran High School Lamlash	Date of Visit: 28/10/22(Phone Call)

Description of the Project:

Background:

Arran High School Mountain Bike Club was established as a community group in October 2014 and incorporated in March 2016 as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO).

The Club has been formed to benefit the community of Arran High School which includes pupils, parents or guardians of pupils and staff, with the following purposes:

- To deliver regular opportunities for Arran High School pupils to participate in Mountain Biking.
- To encourage Arran High School pupils to choose cycling as an alternative travel option.
- To benefit the defined community by providing recreational facilities, or organising recreational activities, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended.

Although the defined community is 'Arran High School', it is recognised that the Club's activities and services have direct social significance within the wider community on Arran and indirect benefit to Scotland through regularly being used as a positive example of how to create positive change by Scottish Cycling and Developing Mountain Biking in Scotland.

The Club's community is recognised as access and opportunity deprived. It does not have the same access to world-class facilities as those on the mainland and does not experience the best start in life. The Club has identified that a significant proportion of children would like to take part in mountain biking but they experience barriers including lack of entry-level facilities. Through this project the Club aims address this barrier.

Project for Funding:

The Club is seeking a grant contribution towards the purchase of a steel building which will form part of their goal to build, manage and maintain an open for all, free to use, mountain bike skills trail with pump track at the Dyemill in Lamlash for the benefit of the Island's young people, wider community and visitors.

Forestry & Land Scotland has agreed the Club's request for a Community Asset Transfer of 5.71 hectares of land at Dyemill Forest, Lamlash and the Club is moving towards construction of the planned mountain bike skills trails and a pump track.

Funding

Amount requested: £4,000 - Erection of steel building £21,750 Total project costs - £364,933.28 (A full breakdown of costs is available)	Contribution by Group: £1,500
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Supporting Information Provided

Constitution/Memorandum of Articles: Available	
Bank Details: Available	Balance in Bank: Available

Additional Comments on Scoring

<u>Criteria:</u>			
1. Charitable	x	2. Educational	x
3. Community	x	4. Environmental	x
5. Renewable Energy		6. Energy Efficiency	
7. Sustainable Development	x	8. General Community Amenity	x
Level of environmental enhancement: The Club will manage and maintain the woodland and nature pond. They aim to remove non-native species and replant with native species of trees to improve biodiversity. One of the main aims of the Club is to encourage pupils to choose cycling a sustainable form of transport.			
Level of community involvement: The organisation is involved with the Island community through provision of training in mountain bike skills to pupils at Arran High Schools. It also offers volunteering opportunities as the young people are nurtured and supported by qualified mountain bike coaches who volunteer their time. The Club has consulted with the local community regarding the development of the skills trails and pump track and the wider aims of the project which are to reduce health inequalities, improve physical and mental health, reduce social isolation and contribute to the Island's economy, will also benefit the local community.			

Level of funding secured or available:

Funding towards the overall cost of the project.

Confirmed Funds

Sport Scotland - £194,000

Arran Trust - £7,333

Scottish Cycling - £2,500

ASDA - £1,000

NAC Communities Project Fund - £20,000

Pending Funds

Rural and Islands Ambition Fund - £63,000

NAC Communities Investment Fund - £59,000

Experience of group to deliver project:

The club has been delivering mountain bike training since 2014 and has develop from being a small community group to becoming a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) in March 2016. It is affiliated to their national governing body, Scottish Cycling, and training is delivered by qualified mountain bike coaches. This experience makes the Club well placed to deliver the project.

Future sustainability of project:

As highlighted above, the Club has the necessary experience to deliver the project. As a SCIO they are accountable to OSCR and governed by a Board of Management who will oversee the running of the project. The Club has strong links to the local community and works in partnership with a range of organisations, including Forestry Commission Scotland, Arran Community Land Initiative, Arran Access, Visit Arran and Scottish Cycling. Accordingly, the sound governance structure and good partnership working will ensure that this project is sustainable.

Location of Project:

Arran High School, Lamlash/Dyemill Lamlash

Officer Details

Name:	Rosemary Ramsay	Position:	Funding Officer
E-mail:	rosemaryramsay@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	Date:	28/10/22

COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND OFFICER REPORT

Applicant Contact Details

Name of Organisation: Arran Community & Voluntary Service	Contact Person: Sheridan Waldon
Address for Correspondence: Park Terrace Lamlash Isle of Arran KA27 8NB	Telephone Number: Available

Description of Applicant Organisation

Number of Members: 35	Established: 1965
Meeting Place: Arran High School Lamlash	Date of Visit: 1.11.22 (Phone Call)

Description of the Project:

Background:

Arran Community and Voluntary Service (ACVS) is a local charity that works with emerging and established community groups to ensure that local needs are met. ACVS supports local groups with everything from governance, legislative information and funding, to engaging with volunteers and the community in order to develop the capacity of organisations.

ACVS aims are to promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of Arran residents, and to promote and organise co-operation between voluntary and statutory agencies in order to achieve this.

ACVS is a partner in the Third Sector Interface North Ayrshire & play a key role in strategic partnerships.

ACVS oversee volunteers directly in three of their in-house projects: Lunch Clubs, Umbrella Group, & Community Transport Project.

ACVS employ 7 members of staff based on Arran and have an executive committee of 6 members.

Project for Funding:

ACVS will be working in partnership with Trust Housing Association to provide lunch clubs for the residents of Trust's Retirement Housing developments and the wider older person community. Trust Housing are providing the venues, cooking facilities, and use of existing crockery & kitchen utensils for the lunch clubs. ACVS will be responsible for promoting and managing the project, & recruiting, training & supporting the volunteer chefs & servers.

The lunch clubs will operate weekly, alternating between the venues at Brodick & Lamlash Retirement Housing developments.

The main priorities are:

- To enable older people to re-engage in community life & combat isolation post-pandemic
- To address issues of poverty in a non-stigmatising way by providing weekly no-cost/low-cost nutritious two-course meals in a warm, safe space.

Poverty & fear of poverty are pressing issues amongst the older community on Arran at present. In order to kick-start the project and to address these issues, throughout the period January to March 2023, ACVS would like to provide meals on a no-cost basis. As Spring approaches, the project will once again become self-funding, with attendees paying £5 per head for a two-course meal.

Funding

Amount requested: £1,256	Contribution by Group: £96
Total project costs - £1,352 (A full breakdown of costs is available)	

Supporting Information Provided

Constitution/Memorandum of Articles: Available	
Bank Details: Available	Balance in Bank: Available

Additional Comments on Scoring

<u>Criteria:</u>	
9. Charitable	x 10. Educational
11. Community	x 12. Environmental
13. Renewable Energy	14. Energy Efficiency
15. Sustainable Development	16. General Community Amenity
Level of environmental enhancement: Whilst there are currently no direct environmental enhancements, ACVS intend to explore the possibility of working with the Arran Pioneer Project, Arran Community Land Initiative and Woodside CIC. It is hoped that they can reduce food miles and the environmental harms associated with this, as well as promote the use of locally grown food.	
Level of community involvement: ACVS is a community focused organisation that works with emerging and established community groups to ensure that local needs are met. They provide a range of support to local groups including, governance, legislative information and funding, to engaging with volunteers and the community in order to develop the capacity of organisations.	
Level of funding secured or available: ACVS are contributing £96 towards this project.	
Experience of group to deliver project: ACVS is well placed to deliver this project as they have delivered similar projects in the past.	

Future sustainability of project:

ACVS has been in existence since 1965 and is run by an experienced management committee and staff. They have a range of policies and procedures in place and have delivered similar projects in the past which all contributes to the sustainability of the project.

Location of Project:

Isle of Arran

Officer Details

Name:	Rosemary Ramsay	Position:	Funding Officer
E-mail:	rosemaryramsay@north- ayrshire.gov.uk	Date:	1/11/22