



North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership

## Arran Locality Partnership

Monday 15 March 2023, 5.00 p.m. on Microsoft Teams

### BUSINESS

Item	Subject	Pg No	Ref	Officer	Ask of the Partnership
1.	<b>Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest.</b>	-	-	Cllr Billings	
2.	<b>Action Note and Log</b> Review the action note and action log and deal with any outstanding items.	Pg 4	Enclosed	Audrey Sutton	Is this an accurate record of the meeting. Have all actions been completed?
<b>DECISION REQUIRED</b>					<b>5.10 – 5.35 pm</b>
3.	<b>Community Investment Fund – Expression of Interest</b> The Locality Partnership are asked to consider one Community Investment Fund Expression of Interest. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arran Geopark</li> </ul>	Pg 11	Enclosed	Lesley Forsyth	LP to consider one CIF Expression of Interest Application.
4.	<b>Grants – Community Benefit Fund</b> The Locality Partnership are asked to consider one grant report for the Community Benefit Fund.	Pg 15	Enclosed	Lesley Forsyth	LP to consider grant report for the Community Benefit Fund.
<b>LOCAL MATTERS – TACKLING INEQUALITIES</b>					<b>5.35 – 6.50 pm</b>
5.	<b>Memorials and Plaques</b> The Locality Partnership will receive a report from the Head of Neighbourhood Services on the proposed options in terms of memorials and plaques.	Pg 18	Enclosed	Thomas Reaney	LP are asked to provide feedback on the report proposals.
6.	<b>Cost of Living Mini inquiry</b> Receive update from the Lead Officer following the recent cost of living mini inquiry held on the Island and discuss how the Locality Partnership can further support cost of living on the Island.	-	Verbal	Audrey Sutton	Receive update and discuss how LP can further support cost of living on Arran.
7.	<b>Mental Health and Wellbeing for Young People</b> Youth Participation Officer to provide an overview on Mental Health and Wellbeing for Young People work taking place in the	-	Verbal/ Presentation	Donna Anderson	Receive update and discuss ways the LP can support this work.

	Locality for discussion and direction from the Locality Partnership.				
8.	<b>Health and Social Care Partnership Overview</b> For discussion and direction from the Locality Partnership on the work of the Health and Social Care Partnership.		Verbal	Ruth Betley	Receive update and discuss learning and partnership opportunities
9.	<b>Police Scotland - Wellbeing and Partnerships</b> Locality Inspector to discuss with the Locality Partnership the key impact of wellbeing and partnership work being carried out by Police Scotland on Arran.	-	Verbal	Stuart Dougan	Receive update and discuss learning and partnership opportunities.
10.	<b>Free for All Event</b> Receive details of events being arranged by Arran CVS.	-	Verbal	Vicki Yuill	Receive details and share event details with networks.
11.	<b>Education Overview</b> An overview of work taking place across education establishments on the Island linking in with Locality Priorities.	-	Verbal	Head Teachers  Judi Worthington	Receive update and discuss learning and partnership opportunities.
12.	<b>Islands Plan</b> Receive update from the Chair on the work of the Cumbrae Islands Plan.	Pg 23	Enclosed	Cllr Billings	Receive update and discuss how LP can further support this work.
<b>AOCB</b>					<b>6.50 – 7.00 pm</b>
13.	<b>AOCB</b>	-	Verbal	Cllr Billings	LP to use this time to raise/discuss matters linking to the Locality, the LP priorities and tackling inequalities.

## Distribution List

**Elected Members**

Councillor Timothy Billings (**Chair**)

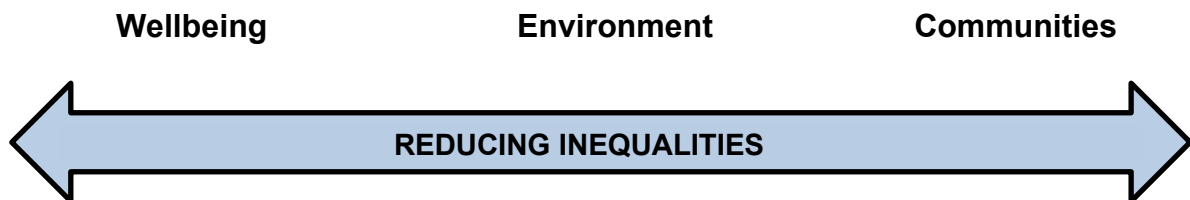
**Community Representatives**

Bill Calderwood, Arran Community Council

**CPP/Council Representatives**

Vicki Yuill, Senior Lead Officer  
Audrey Sutton, Lead Officer  
Ruth Betley, NHS Ayrshire and Arran  
Stuart Dougan/Kevin Blackley Police Scotland  
Lesley Forsyth, North Ayrshire Council  
Anne-Marie Hunter, North Ayrshire Council  
Carol Norton, Arran CVS

**Arran Locality Partnership Priorities**



<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Arran Locality Partnership</b>
<b>Date/Venue:</b>	Wednesday 30 November 2022 at 5.00 pm via Microsoft Teams
<b>Present:</b>	<p>Councillor Timothy Billings (<b>Chair</b>)  Vicki Yuill, Chief Executive Officer, Arran CVS (Senior Lead Officer)  Audrey Sutton, Executive Director, Communities &amp; Education (Lead Officer)  Lesley Forsyth, Senior Manager Information and Culture  Anne Marie Hunter, Engagement and Participation Officer  Judi Worthington, Argyle College  Bill Calderwood, Arran Community Council  Ruth Betley, Senior Manager, Arran Services, NHS Ayrshire &amp; Arran  Lindsey Murphy, Health Improvement Lead, NHS Ayrshire &amp; Arran  Ian Staples, Manager, Arran Outdoor Education Centre  Susan Foster, Head Teacher  Diana Turbett, Community Representative  Carol Norton, Operations Manager, Arran CVS</p> <p><b>In attendance:</b></p> <p>Donna Anderson, Youth Participation Officer (Item 3)  Ruth McLaren, Arran Eco Savvy (Item 5)  Helen Ross, Arran Eco Savvy (Item 5)</p> <p>Jennifer McGee, Community &amp; Locality Planning Assistant, North Ayrshire Council (Notes)</p>
<b>Apologies:</b>	Shirley MacLachlan, Head Teacher Tom Tracey, Community Representative Kevin Blackley, Police Scotland Gordon Cairns, Scottish Fire and Rescue

## ACTIONS

No.	Action	Responsible
1.	<p><b>Welcome and Apologies</b></p> <p>The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies for absence were noted.</p>	<b>Noted</b>
2.	<p><b>Minutes from meeting held on 20 September 2022</b></p> <p>The action note arising from the meeting held on 20 September 2022 were approved.</p>	<b>Noted</b>
3.	<p><b>Youth Participation</b></p> <p>Donna Anderson provided the Locality Partnership with an overview on Youth Participation in North Ayrshire and how this impacts young people on Arran.</p> <p>D Anderson highlighted that her team has two employability project workers that worker and two mental health project workers who cover the whole of North Ayrshire.</p> <p>The mental health project workers have developed a number a different projects and campaigns and they are keen to get young people on Arran involved. The team have been working with mental health and wellbeing</p>	

	<p>ambassadors, who are young people in secondary school, and they are undertaking a SCQF 6 course in mental health first aid training. This is a three-day course which will allow the young people to become peer educators. D Anderson asked for any young people interested to get in touch as the team will be running their next course early next year.</p> <p>The team also support the Climate Change Ambassadors, this group was formed after COP 26 and was due to finish last year nationally, however, the project continues to run locally due to young people wanting to do more around climate change and sustainability. The Ambassadors also feed into the strategic Council working group and are keen to incorporate work on Arran also.</p> <p>A new project is being launched called Take Time Families, which brings together young people and families looking at resilience and wellbeing in a family setting. D Anderson advised the Locality Partnership that she would share details of all programmes.</p> <p>The Employability Team support a number of different projects, they have also carried out a roadshow on Arran and engaged with young people who are at risk of leaving school without a positive destination. The team also offer one to one support, interview skills and CV writing. They also offer an employability qualification called playback ice. The team would be happy to come over to the Island to support young people.</p> <p>The team are also looking to host a wellbeing roadshow on the island working alongside Arran Youth Foundations.</p> <p>In terms of youth participation, in North Ayrshire we have two MSYPs who are very keen to come over to engage with young people and partners on the island. The MSYPs campaign this year is Right to Food.</p> <p>Youth Service and CLD Team have submitted their portfolio to become a LGBT Sliver Charter Mark organisation to ensure we are fully inclusive of any young people who are LGBT. D Anderson happy to share information with organisations who would be interested in obtaining this also.</p> <p>During November it was National Youth Work Week. On Arran the focus was on poverty and inequalities with a concentration on psychotherapy arts programme.</p> <p>At a recent Joint Cabinet meeting there was five key issues addressed at the meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cost of Living</li> <li>• Young People Voice</li> <li>• Engagement with Police</li> <li>• Wellbeing</li> <li>• Health</li> </ul> <p>A draft report will be available January 2023 and will be shared around the Locality Partnerships when available.</p> <p>D Anderson highlighted that the team has carried out community mapping around mental health support for young people and their families. The team are now moving on to Arran. D Anderson asked for any services the Locality Partnership know of that look at mental health and wellbeing,</p>	<p><b>All</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>D Anderson</b></p> <p><b>D Anderson</b></p> <p><b>All</b></p>
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	<p>resilience, or anything around the wellbeing agenda on the Island to forward contact details on to her for inclusion.</p> <p>A Sutton highlighted that it would be good to arrange for a future meeting to hear directly from young people at a more local level. The Chair was supportive of this suggestion.</p> <p>The Chair highlighted that data is being gathered around how projects directly link in with the Island Plan. The Chair advised that he would be in touch regarding the discussed projects and how these match in.</p> <p>The Chair thanked D Anderson for the update.</p>	<p><b>J McGee</b></p> <p><b>T Billings</b></p>
<p><b>4.</b></p>	<p><b>Locality Partnership Forum/HSCP Overview</b></p> <p>Ruth Betley provided the Locality Partnership with an update on the work of the Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP).</p> <p>R Betley advised that at the workshop held in August, there was discussion around the restart of HSCP Locality Planning Forum. As a result of this discussion, there is now a patient participation group been set up. R Betley advised that she would be meeting with them next week to discuss the wider health and social care planning forum to start to inform the next steps the team take.</p> <p>R Betley also advised that she would be meeting with Michelle Sutherland, Vicki Yuill and the engagement team will be meeting the following week to look at how to engage more meaningfully.</p> <p>In terms of the Integration Hub, the initial agreement was pulled together in 2019, the team are now revisiting this work and updating the initial agreement. This is also part of the National Island Plan 2 and a programme board will be re-established to take forward this piece of work.</p> <p>R Betley is keen for members of the Locality Partnership to be part of the programme board.</p> <p>The Chair thanked R Betley for her updated and commented that it is very positive to see this work restarting.</p>	<p><b>Noted</b></p>
<p><b>5.</b></p>	<p><b>Community Investment Fund – Full Application - Arran Eco Savvy</b></p> <p>Ruth McLaren and Helen Ross of Arran Eco-Savvy presented the Locality Partnership with their full application to the Community Investment Fund for £87,788.</p> <p>The Chair asked R McLaren and H Ross to provide updates on the four main points which were raised at the September 2022:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who are the other organisations and individuals on Arran who undertake similar activities and how does Eco-Savvy link and work with these organisations to enhance each other's projects and prevent duplication of effort?</li> <li>• How are volunteers used to support the work of Eco-Savvy?</li> <li>• 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?</li> </ul>	

- 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?

R McLaren provided the Locality Partnership with an update on each of the points and provided examples for the each of their projects.

B Calderwood commented that the application is very comprehensive and asked if there was anything that shows income over the last few years.

H Ross advised that it is Eco-Savvy’s ambition is to generate more income themselves. The pandemic limited their ability to raise funding via the shop. To address this ambition, the shop has been refitted and have moved from a paper-based system to a shopify system to allow the shop to be run in a more productive way. Eco-Savvy also have a donate button on their website where people make donations. H Ross also advised that they are working on a renewable energy project which will generate income which could be used to support environmental projects going forward.

A Sutton asked for clarification around the hours, contract length etc for the roles the CIF funding would support.

R McLaren highlighted that:

- Sustainable Food Coordinator would work 3 days per week from from April 2023 for 12 months. Eco-Savvy have funding for this post until March 2023.
- Shop Manager would work two days per week from January 2023. One day’s salary would be covered by Eco-Savvy.
- Carbon and Energy Project Manager would work two days per week from January – March 2023.
- Communications and Funding Officer would work 1.5 days per week from April 2023.
- Logistics and Support Officer would work three days per week from April 2023 for one year.
- Strategic Project Development Manager would work three days per week from February 2023 until April 2024.

In terms of travel and transport section, the team are looking at additional funding sources to expand on this work.

V Yuill asked if Eco-Savvy were successful in obtaining the £349k funding from the investing Communities Fund mentioned in their application, would the funding from CIF still be necessary?

R McLaren advised that should Eco-Savvy be successful in obtaining that funding, they would revisit the application with the Locality Partnership.

The Chair commented that he would be keen to look at how this project would be sustained longer term and the sustainable outcomes that are going to come out of this application, as it is not very clear within the application at the moment. The Chair also commented that everything noted within the application is very worthwhile, however suggested continuing this discussion offline to examine the points around sustainability in a lot of detail.

**Noted**

	<p>The Locality Partnership agreed that discussions should continue offline and bring back an application when appropriate.</p> <p>A Hunter advised that she would contact R McLaren to progress this work.</p> <p>The Chair thanked Eco-Savvy for their application.</p>	<p><b>A Hunter</b></p>
<p><b>6.</b></p>	<p><b>Grants</b></p> <p>L Forsyth provided the Locality Partnership with two Community Benefit Fund Grant applications. The first from Arran High Mountain Bike Club and the second from Arran CVS. V Yuill and B Calderwood declared an interest in the application submitted by Arran CVS.</p> <p>L Forsyth advised the Locality Partnership that the applications submitted, total more than the current balance of the Community Benefit Fund.</p> <p>The Arran High Mountain Bike Club application seeks £4000 towards the purchase of a steel building at the Dyemill in Lamlash. L Forsyth highlighted that it was mentioned within their application that it is their intention to come to the Locality Partnership to seek Community Investment Funding in the future.</p> <p>The Arran CVS application seeks £1352 of funding towards supporting lunch clubs for the residents of Trust's Retirement Housing developments and the wider older person community from January – March 2023.</p> <p>The Locality Partnership agreed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Award £2000 to the Arran High Mountain Bike Club</li> <li>• Award £1352 of funding to Arran CVS</li> </ul> <p>The Chair thanked L Forsyth for the report.</p>	<p><b>Rosemary Ramsay</b></p>
<p><b>7.</b></p>	<p><b>Child Poverty/Cost of Living</b></p> <p>A Sutton advised that through the Child Poverty Board work has been carried out to establish the important themes that could be drivers and that are also able to mitigate child poverty and the cost of living. Due to the issues being the same the Child Poverty Board has been extended to the Child Poverty and Cost of Living Board. A link to a report that was approved by the Council's cabinet recently was shared with the Locality Partnership.</p> <p>A Sutton also highlighted the cost-of-living page on the Council's website and encouraged Locality Partnership members to share with their networks.</p> <p>A Sutton advised that on the mainland there has been a series of mini inquiries to discuss, in open forum, the gaps out there and what we could do better. A Sutton suggested having a separate mini inquiry on the cost of living for Arran to hear the views of local people on ongoing work, gaps and opportunities for people seek small levels of support to help support the cost of living. The mini inquiry would also demonstrate the relevance of the Locality Partnership and the work we do together to the wider Arran Community</p>	



	<p>The Chair welcomed this suggestion and thinks it would be of benefit to those living on Arran.</p> <p>V Yuill commented that hearing from working age population on the Island is particularly important as the cost of living is a lot higher on Arran than the mainland.</p> <p>D Turbett commented that going through the schools would be a good way to identify people to get accurate information.</p> <p>A Sutton advised that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a draft invite will be circulated to the Locality Partnership to ensure everyone is comfortable with how this event is being pitched.</li> <li>• A date to be arranged for one evening in the new year.</li> <li>• A template to be circulated that was used for other mini inquiries.</li> </ul> <p>The Chair thanked A Sutton for the update.</p>	
8.	<p><b>Learning Overview</b></p> <p>J Worthington provided the Locality Partnership with a presentation on the work of Argyle College. The presentation highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student and staffing levels</li> <li>• Launch of the new student and staff welfare space. Students and staff have free access to hot drinks, water, milk, soup, porridge, biscuits as well as crockery, cutlery, and appliances. This is free to use and students/staff.</li> <li>• Free for all January start courses. The college are waiving student fees for full time and part time Further Education courses – that’s everything up to SCQF level 6 and excluding leisure and commercial courses.</li> </ul> <p>The Chair thanked J Worthington for the update.</p>	
10.	<p><b>Arran Islands Plan</b></p> <p>The Chair provided the Locality Partnership with an update on the work of the Island Plan Group. The Chair advised that since the last Locality Partnership meeting the group has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set up a short life working group to look at the current the Action Plan and Terms of Reference for the Steering Group.</li> <li>• Had one meeting of the short-term working group and work has been set out.</li> <li>• Looking at reviewing the information about the current action plan and having an initial thought around what that means going forward. Further discussion will take place at the next meeting in December.</li> <li>• Looking at setting up public engagement sessions in the new year.</li> <li>• S Baird is supporting the work and there will be a report going to Scottish Government on the work of Island Plan so far, this will inform part of the annual review that is carried out by Scottish Government.</li> </ul> <p>The Chair also highlighted that the meeting of the short life working group was very positive and well attended.</p>	Noted

<p><b>11.</b></p>	<p><b>AOCB</b></p> <p><b>Community Planning Inquiry</b></p> <p>J McGee advised the Locality Partnership the Scottish Government are currently carrying out a consultation and want to hear from organisations directly involved in Community Planning Partnerships as well as communities and individuals about the impact the Partnerships response to significant events such as the Covid-19 pandemic and the current cost-of-living crisis.</p> <p><b>Community and Community Planning Conference</b></p> <p>J McGee advised the Locality Partnership that the next Community and Community Planning Conference would be held on Saturday 28 January 2023 in Saltcoats Town Hall.</p> <p><b>What's on Guide for Older People on Arran</b></p> <p>V Yuill highlighted that this guide was pulled together by Arran CVS. Printed copies are available, and an online version will be available on the Arran CVS website in due course.</p> <p>The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and highlighted the new direction of travel for Locality Partnerships, by making them very specific to the Localities and to look at locality-based issues and outcomes. The Chair also highlighted that he would welcome any comments by email around the format of the Locality Partnership meetings.</p>	<p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>
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**The meeting ended at 7:05 pm**

# Community Investment Fund Expression of Interest Form

*Please see notes on reverse before completing this form.*

<b>Organisation name</b>	<b>Arran Geopark</b>
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<b>Brief details of organisation</b>	<p>Arran Geopark aims to gain UNESCO Global Geopark status for the Isle of Arran by 2025. Geoparks are community-led international designations that combine conservation with sustainable development.</p> <p>Arran Geopark's vision is that "our environment and heritage are conserved, enhanced, and valued for their contribution to people's well-being and Arran's sustainability". We aim to achieve this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing understanding and appreciation of our remarkable environment and heritage to local people and to visitors.</li> <li>• Supporting sustainable local economic development through education, interpretation, practical conservation work, and nature-based tourism.</li> <li>• Collaborating with communities, businesses, and other local stakeholders who share our vision.</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for all to contribute to enhancing Arran's environment through a programme of volunteering, thereby increasing participants mental and physical well being.</li> </ul> <p>We see the UNESCO status as a catalyst to drive diverse benefits to our island's community, environment, and economy.</p>
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<b>Locality</b>	Arran
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<b>Amount Requested</b>	£80-90k
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<b>Timescale</b>	August 2023 to August 2026
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<b>Brief Overview of Proposal</b>	<p>We are seeking funding to appoint a Project Director who will implement the Geopark's management plan, which is aligned with the Local Island plan, and aims to gain UNESCO Global Geopark status for the island.</p> <p>The Geopark's work, over this crucial three year period, will tackle the following Island Plan themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community:</li> </ul>
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- Opportunities for practical conservation work;
- Increased mental and physical health through volunteering and outdoor activities;
- Increased understanding & appreciation of natural heritage, amongst residents young and old;
- Inclusion: reach out to more vulnerable groups to engage them in their local environment; and
- Provide a forum for local representatives from land managers, tourism, community groups and economic groups to discuss issues relating to the environment and develop island-wide solutions to visitor management and mitigate impacts.

- Environment:

- Education and awareness of our natural environment and the human impacts on it;
- Engage with the island community to develop local solutions for climate change mitigation and adaptation;
- Support and monitor local efforts towards the Sustainable Development Goals;
- Enhance the local environment through conservation programmes aimed at increasing biodiversity and reducing the impact of visitors on our landscape; and
- Develop partnerships with Universities and Colleges to encourage the use of our island resource for research and furthering our understanding of the island and its environment.

- Economy:

- Gain international exposure, benefiting local businesses both through tourism and increased exports; and
- Work with partners to develop a sustainable tourism strategy and to provide opportunities to increase visitor stay duration and spend.

Longer term sustainability is at the core of the proposal. We will seek new and innovative funding streams to ensure the Geopark can continue to operate indefinitely; such as commercial sponsorship, memberships and supporter fees. We will also lobby with partners across Scotland to secure Scottish Government core funding for the nation's UNESCO sites.

The success of the project will be measured and reported using the following outcomes:

- Gaining of UNESCO Global Geopark status
- Long-term funding secured
- Number of business partners signed up
- Number of volunteer hours
- Number of inclusion groups engaged with
- Number of guided walk participants
- Number of School groups
- Number of University groups visiting Arran
- Social media reach
- Increase in the average stay time of visitors

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Increase in the average spend of visitors</li> </ul> <p>How does proposal seek to reduce island inequalities?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Inclusion of vulnerable groups through education and practical activities</li> <li>● Outreach to all ages enabling them to participate in volunteering and/or educational experiences</li> <li>● Development of a forum where all aspects of the island's society is represented and where solutions to issues can be developed and enacted</li> </ul> <p>What does it mean for Arran's people?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A more inclusive society where people have the opportunity to develop solutions to the island's environmental wellbeing</li> <li>● The island economy is enhanced and sustainability is encouraged</li> <li>● The environment and landscape are enhanced for the benefit of all</li> <li>● Everyone has a better understanding of the environment</li> </ul>
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<b>Timescale</b>	<p>August 2023 to August 2026</p> <p>Outline UNESCO application process:        Aug 2023 – Submit draft application to UNESCO UK committee        Nov 2023 – Final application submitted        Apr 2024 – Desktop assessment by UNESCO        Jun 2024 – Field assessment by two international assessors        Sep 2024 – Recommendation received        Spring 2025 – Formal decision by UNESCO Executive Board</p> <p>Note: revalidation is required every four years to maintain the status.</p>
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<b>Contact Details</b>	_____
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**The Community Investment Fund (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?

- Groups should have an initial discussion with the relevant Locality Officer. Their contact details are available by emailing [communityplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:communityplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk).
- Initial interest in a CIF application should be via an expression of interest form sent to the Locality Officer. This will be discussed by the LP or an associated working group.
- If the partnership supports a bid then the group will be encouraged to submit a full application form, which they will decide upon before making a proposal to Cabinet for final approval.



**Locality Partnership:** Arran Locality

**Date:** 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023

**Subject:** To advise the meeting of an application received in respect of the Community Benefit Fund.

**Purpose:** To consider the application 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 **£1,088.90** available for disbursement to Arran projects.

**Action Required by Locality Partnership:** To consider the application for grant funding as outlined in Appendix 1 to this report.

**For more information please contact:** *Angela Morrell, Senior Manager, Connected Communities, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Cunninghame House, Irvine.*  
*Email - [amorrell@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:amorrell@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)*

**Completed by:** *Rosemary Ramsay ([rosemaryramsay@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:rosemaryramsay@north-ayrshire.gov.uk))*

## COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND

## OFFICER REPORT

**Applicant Contact Details**

<b>Name of Organisation:</b> Isle of Arran Music School	<b>Contact Person:</b> Thomas Barnes
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## Description of Applicant Organisation

<b>Number of Members:</b> 105	<b>Established:</b> 6 Years
<b>Meeting Place:</b> Arran High School	<b>Date of Visit:</b> Teams Meeting 3/2/23

**Description of the Project:****Background:**

The organisation's purposes are to advance the musical education of young people living on the Isle of Arran; to promote our national heritage and culture; and to increase public exposure to, appreciation of, and involvement in music and the performing arts.

This will be done by: Encouraging participation, nurturing talent and providing musical tuition and activities which support or enhance existing provision by the North Ayrshire Council Music Service. Providing opportunities for young people on Arran to come together to participate in, experience, learn from and enjoy musical performance opportunities of the highest standards. Providing young people with the opportunity to engage with, learn and perform traditional Scottish music and associated instruments. Providing opportunities for young people to engage with professional musicians and performance through attending concerts, shows and the like (on Arran and beyond) and participating in workshops. Working with the wider community to engage new audiences by encouraging their attendance at and participation in music rehearsal, concerts and community music making.

Through these aims and Isle of Arran have achieved many milestones as a music school including winning the BBC Na Trads community project of the year.

**Project for Funding:**

If awarded, the funding would go towards the cost of tutors, instrument upkeep, trips to the mainland and on island to participate in events and running costs.

The benefit to the local community would be by providing young people on the island the opportunity to learn to play musical instruments. This has proved very popular with around 50% of the eligible island population learning instruments within the music school.

The group also provides opportunities for the young people on the island to get on and off island experiences by attending events and competitions on the mainland and representing their local community. In addition to learning to play an instrument, this enables them to develop their skills and knowledge through being part of the music school.



**Funding**

<b>Amount requested: £1,000</b>	<b>Contribution by Group: None</b>
Total cost of project: £41,000	

**Supporting Information Provided**

<b>Constitution/Memorandum of Articles: Constituted SCIO</b>	
<b>Bank Details: Available</b>	<b>Balance in Bank: Available</b>

**Additional Comments on Scoring**

<u>Criteria:</u>			
1. Charitable	X	2. Educational	
	X		X
3. Community		4. Environmental	
5. Renewable Energy		6. Energy Efficiency	
7. Sustainable Development		8. General Community Amenity	
<b>Level of environmental enhancement:</b> Not Applicable			
<b>Level of community involvement:</b> The group is based at Arran High School and supports local community events.			
<b>Level of funding secured or available:</b> The group secured the following grant awards in 2022.			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SSPDT - £5,000 towards tutor costs</li> <li>- Gordon Duncan Memorial Fund - £1,500 towards tutor costs</li> <li>- PB Funding - £1,000 towards competition costs</li> <li>- PB Funding - £1,000 towards instrument costs</li> </ul>			
<b>Experience of group to deliver project:</b> Isle of Arran Music School is delivered through experienced tutors and the organisation is governed by a committed Board of Trustees. As a SCIO, the organisation must comply with and be accountable to OSCR.			
<b>Future sustainability of project:</b> Isle of Arran Music School has been running for 6 years and continues to attract new members. As highlighted above the organisation has an experienced governing body that offers continued support.			
<b>Location of Project:</b> Arran High School			

## Officer Details

Name:	Rosemary Ramsay	Position:	Funding Officer
Telephone No:	07917 228294	Date:	6.2.23



## **Locality Partnership: Arran**

**Date: 15 March 2023**

**Subject: Memorial benches, plaques, memorial trees and other options for bereaved families**

**Purpose: To note the proposed options in terms of memorials and to provide feedback on this.**

### **Background**

North Ayrshire Council has a longstanding history of providing memorial benches and plaques to offer bereaved families the opportunity to remember their loved ones in a lasting and meaningful way. Over time, the large accumulation of benches and plaques, challenges with suitable locations, maintenance, and sensitivities of removing tributes, led to the temporary suspension of the service and the investigation of alternative approaches.

North Ayrshire Council recognises and acknowledges the desire of many members of the public to remember loved ones with a memorial in the surroundings with which they were familiar. These requests are agreed and accommodated wherever possible, but any decision must recognise the needs of the wider public. The Council will therefore ensure that the memorial process is managed and implemented for the mutual benefit of all. This can also be to the benefit of the community if the memorial enhances or makes the location more attractive by helping to maintain the character of the area. The principles will ensure that requests for memorials are responded to in a consistent, efficient and sympathetic manner.

The objectives of a memorial offer are to ensure that:

- Unique remembrance spaces for local people are provided to celebrate and mark the lives of loved ones;
- The memorial offer and service is clear and easily understood;
- The response to contrasting needs is balanced and appropriate;
- Quality provision is offered at an affordable price without constraints by space or deterioration in inclement weather;
- The use of public spaces is not compromised and ensure the quality of attractiveness is maintained for the use of all residents and visitors;
- Any memorial is appropriate for the location in which it is placed;
- All memorials are cost-neutral and low maintenance for the Council;

- Costs of supply and installation are affordable and are covered by the applicant of the memorial.

The following responsibilities and requirements are proposed for the Memorials Policy. Following agreement, the Policy will be reviewed every five years:

- The location and types of memorials for individuals will be agreed with applicants.
- Priority will be given to applicants that are resident In North Ayrshire or have a direct connection with the area. Other applications will be considered on a case by case basis;
- Memorials should have some community benefit either as street furniture or by enhancing the appearance of the local area;
- The cost of supply and installation of any memorial will be covered by the applicant and paid for prior to installation;
- The responsibility for the maintenance of any memorial is clearly defined and communicated prior to installation;
- The Council will accept no responsibility if a memorial is damaged, vandalised or stolen;
- In the event of damage by accident, vandalism or it becomes unsafe and beyond economical repair, the Council reserves the right to remove and not replace the memorial;
- Once installed the memorial can only be repositioned with the agreement of the Council;
- Any plaques or wording must be a suitable size, colour and type face and agreed with the Council in advance;
- Once installed the memorial will become the property of the Council and any routine maintenance costs will be covered by the Council.
- Any plaques will remain the property of the applicant and must be maintained in good condition;
- No additional structures or mementoes e.g. fencing, wreaths, flowers, can be placed on or at the memorial at any time.

Note: Unauthorised memorials may be removed by the Council taking account of the sensitivities around this.

## **Options**

### **Memorial Benches and Plaques**

The existing memorial option of procuring a memorial bench and/or attaching plaques to benches is nearing saturation point in some areas and it is proving difficult to support the wishes of individuals in specific locations.

To provide this service in the future, consideration must also be given to the length of time a memorial stays in place and to consider potentially bringing assets back into circulation after a period of time.

Alternatively, the option to purchase a bench with a prefabricated memorial could remain. However, the asset would be placed in a location identified by the Council and agreed with the applicant, such as parks and open spaces rather than the already congested coastal areas.

North Ayrshire Council will be responsible for all installation work. If the bench is to be placed on grass it will usually be fitted to a concrete base. Memorial plaques will require to be made of brass, stainless steel or aluminium and will be a maximum agreed size. Any inscription on plaques will require approval by the Council prior to fitting. The engraved plaque will be fitted to the bench by the Council.

It is proposed that this would be cost neutral to the Council with actual costs paid by those requesting the bench and/or plaque. It should be acknowledged that the costs of a memorial bench could be significant as the bench will be placed in a public space and will need to be durable, hard wearing and be of a higher specification than a typical bench used in someone's garden.

### Living Memorial Tree

Dedicating a tree provides a living, growing memorial to a loved one and a poignant way of remembering them.

The Woodland Trust offer this facility across the UK and can range from individual trees to whole areas of woodland and it is proposed that North Ayrshire consider a similar initiative.

This would not only provide a remembrance to a loved one but also contribute to the global climate challenge. This would also complement the Councils tree planting strategy and areas of woodland/open space could be set aside for memorial trees.

### Metallic memorial trees

Metallic memorial trees positioned in high amenity areas would offer a unique opportunity to remember family members and loved ones.

Metallic memorial trees are able to provide up to 640 memorial leaves in one location, creating a focal point for visitors and a single point of focus for families. The assets could become an attraction to visitors, require little to no maintenance, have a reduced impact on resources and would be cost-neutral.

Officers have identified an opportunity to promote this as a memorial offering. Once installed, the tree then has anodised gold-effect aluminium 'leaves', engraved with a loved ones' details, affixed securely to its branches over time. Leaves would be attached by Streetscene maintenance operatives. Similar trees have been installed successfully in other locations including across the UK and internationally.

The tree is manufactured from laser cut steel, stands at 3.2m in height, and has 640 spaces for memorial leaves. The tree is fixed to the ground with a two-part concrete foundation. The materials and manufacturing process are designed to withstand all weather conditions including exposed locations. Having purchased a memorial leaf, people can arrange the engraving of names, dates of birth and death with the possibility of a personalised message on the reverse and return it to be attached to the memorial tree. The tree memorial acts as a striking piece of public art, large enough that most leaves remain out of reach but still providing legibility of the messages engraved.

As with any public realm asset, the risks from anti-social behaviour must be considered. If this is an offering that is considered, then potential locations for this will be discussed further as appropriate. The tree is exceptionally robust, and the leaves themselves are securely fixed to the tree with pop rivets.

It is estimated that the cost of implementing this initiative could be cost neutral over a 5-7 year period.

### Memorial Rocks

Memorial rocks and stones offer a simple natural way to remember loved ones. Rocks can be placed on a beach or thrown into the sea, potentially being washed up for others to find. They can be placed in a park or open space where loved ones enjoyed or potentially into areas specifically created to house the memorials.

### Sponsoring flower bed

Sponsoring a memorial flower bed and remembering loved ones by planting some of their favourite flowers offers an appropriate memorial. Flower beds would be available in coastal locations as well as parks and open spaces.

### Digital Remembrance

Not all bereaved family and friends are local and may not be able to easily visit physical memorials.

A digital page of remembrance would offer people from all over the world the chance to log in and view memorials at any time.

## **Key Points for Locality Partnership**

It is proposed that the North Ayrshire Council memorial offer provides a range of affordable options to bereaved families and friends to assist them to celebrate a life and remember a loved one. Choice and affordability will be key with responsibilities made clear from the outset.

It is proposed that North Ayrshire Council will limit prices to the actual cost of each memorial selected. Therefore, the Council will not generate any surplus from its memorial offer.

## **Action Required by Locality Partnership**

It is proposed that the Locality Partnership consider and provides feedback on the range of memorial options for implementation including:

- Benches and Plaques
- Living Memorial Tree
- Metallic Memorial Trees
- Floral Beds
- Memorial rocks
- Digital remembrance
- Bespoke requests on a case by case basis

**For more information please contact: Thomas Reaney, Head of Service (Neighbourhood Services), 01294 324570, [treaney@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:treaney@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)**

**Completed by: Thomas Reaney**

**Date: 23 February 2023**

**Title of Meeting:** Arran Locality Partnership

**Date:** 15 March 2023

**Subject:** Arran Island Plan update

**Purpose:** To provide an update to the Arran Locality Partnership on the progress of the Arran Island Plan.

### **Arran Island Plan Update**

Since the last Locality Partnership meeting in December, there has been a number of constructive and significant achievements directly supported through the Islands pilot, that are contributing to the aims, objectives and actions of the Arran Island Plan and the priorities of the Arran Locality Partnership including:

#### **Inception of the new Arran Housing Task Force**

To support the objective of improving housing on Arran, North Ayrshire Council has established the Arran Housing Task Force which will involve a wide range of partners to address the issues which face island residents and businesses.

The taskforce aims to assess the demand for affordable housing on Arran and identify issues that may be limiting economic sustainability and growth. The Council has already started work on formally assessing the demand for affordable housing across the island, with the outcome expected to be considered by the Task Force during the summer. Meanwhile, an action plan will be developed to investigate innovative funding solutions and construction options for island housing.

The review will consider affordable housing in all forms, including, but not limited to, social housing, private rented sector, shared equity and shared ownership.

For further information on the Arran Housing Task Force please contact the Affordable Housing Team on 01294 324031 or email [developmentandstrategy@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:developmentandstrategy@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)

## **North Ayrshire Islands Skills Initiative Fund (NAISI)**

Following the Council's successful submission of a proposal to Scottish Government for funding, we created and launched a small-scale yet impactful trial of a North Ayrshire Islands Skills Initiative Fund (NAISI) focussing on individual island needs and piloting innovative approaches to address key education and skill challenges to meet local needs and demands.

In providing short-term funded skills and capacity building solutions, North Ayrshire Council can ensure islanders are engaged with and participate in activities that meet local needs and employment priorities.

Over £90,000 of grants have been committed to 26 individuals and businesses across the islands of Arran and Cumbrae. This initiative will support the resilience of the island economy post-pandemic whilst driving economic growth for the future.

Outcomes from this exclusive island pilot will inform wider Ayrshire Growth Deal investment and the planned Ayrshire Skills Investment Fund, currently in development to be launched later in 2023.

We will bring an update report to the Partnership in due course summarising the outcomes, outputs and any evaluation undertaken from this pilot skills fund.

Further information can be found here: [Approval and launch of the pilot North Ayrshire Islands Skills Initiative \(NAISI\)](#)

## **Supporting the delivery of the Cost of Living Crisis Emergency Fund**

The Emergency Budget Review (EBR) for 2022-23 identified funding of around £35 million for a range of initiatives to support people with the increased cost of living, including a new £1.4 million Island Cost Crisis Emergency Fund to help island households manage higher energy costs and was secured to support Local Authorities in addressing the urgency of the cost crisis.

The £1.4M was allocated to the 6 local authorities to target island areas only on the basis of a 100% population allocation. North Ayrshire received an allocation of £80K (£63K revenue, £17K capital) to target immediate need, help those struggling due to the cost crises and to fund existing schemes of new support, where identified as needed.

NAC Senior Officer (Islands) worked with the SG Islands Team in the initial development of the fund with input from our Connected Communities and Energy & Sustainability



teams and following the funding allocation, NAC Connected Communities team rolled out a package of interventions to Arran & Cumbrae including:

- An allocation of funds to community groups following the Cost of Living mini enquiries held on Arran on 13th February and Cumbrae on 20th February, with the funding to be distributed by Arran CVS;
- Energy Smart funding for tailored advice, support and grants to Arran and Cumbrae residents;
- Money Matters support to provide specific money and debt advice to Arran and Cumbrae.

Further information - [Supporting the delivery of the Cost of Living Crisis Emergency Fund](#)

### **Island Plan Delivery Working Group**

The Island Plan Delivery Working Group were scheduled to meet on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March, this meeting has now been postponed to 4<sup>th</sup> April. The working group will reconvene to move forward with the action plan and discuss group and future membership, youth participation and developing an Island Plan engagement event.

It is proposed that the Arran Locality Partnership notes the Arran Island Plan progress update, as outlined above.

Name: Sarah Baird

Designation: Senior officer (Islands)

Date: 15 March 2023