



North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership

## Kilwinning Locality Partnership

**Monday 11 September 2023, 7.00 p.m. in Conference Room, Kilwinning Academy**

### BUSINESS

Item	Subject	Pg No	Ref	Officer	Ask of the Partnership
1.	<b>Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest.</b>	-	-	Cllr Davidson	
2.	<b>Action Note</b> Review the action note and action log and deal with any outstanding items.	Pg 4	Enclosed	Derek Frew	Is this an accurate record of the meeting. Have all actions been completed?
<b>DECISION REQUIRED</b>					
3.	<b>Grants – Community Benefit Fund</b> The Locality Partnership are asked to consider grant reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Kilwinning Town Charitable Trust</li><li>Elderly Grants</li></ul>	Pg 9	Enclosed	Louise Riddex	LP to consider grant report.
<b>LOCAL MATTERS – TACKLING INEQUALITIES</b>					<b>7.10 – 8.50 pm</b>
4.	<b>Kilwinning Bowling Club</b> Update regarding funding received and how this was utilised.	-	Verbal	Allan Buchanan	Receive update and consider learning and partnership opportunities.
5.	<b>Kilwinning Locality Partnership Next Steps</b> Locality Officer to lead discussion on next steps for Locality Partnership.	-	Verbal	Louise Riddex	Receive update and consider learning and partnership opportunities.
5.	<b>Youth and Education Overview</b> The Locality Partnership will receive an overview from Head Teachers and the Community Development Team.	-	Verbal  Verbal	Head Teachers  Kimberly O'Neill	Receive update and consider learning and partnership opportunities.
6.	<b>Police Scotland - Wellbeing and Partnerships</b> Locality Partnership to receive update from Senior Lead Officer and discuss the key impact of wellbeing and partnership work being carried out by Police Scotland	-	Verbal	Derek Frew	Receive update and consider learning and partnership opportunities.
7.	<b>Scottish Fire and Rescue Service - Wellbeing and Partnerships</b>	-	Verbal	Craig McFie	Receive update and consider learning and

	The Locality Partnership will receive overview from Craig McFie on the key impact of wellbeing and partnership work being carried out by Scottish Fire and Rescue.				partnership opportunities.
8.	<b>Locality Officer Update</b> The Locality Partnership will receive an update on the work of the Kilwinning Locality Team during the last quarter.	Pg 12	Enclosed	Louise Riddex	Receive update and discuss how LP can further support this work.
<b>AOCB</b>					<b>8.50 – 9.00 pm</b>
9.	<b>AOCB</b>			Cllr Davidson	LP to use this time to raise/discuss matters linking to the Locality, the LP priorities and tackling inequalities.
<b>REPORTS FOR INFORMATION</b>					
10.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>North Ayrshire Youth Work Update</li> <li>TACT Update</li> </ul>	Pg 19 Pg 41	Enclosed	Cllr Davidson	Locality Partnership are asked to note the reports and share as appropriate.

## Distribution List

### **Elected Members**

Councillor Scott Davidson **(Chair)**  
Councillor Joe Cullinane  
Councillor John Glover  
Councillor Donald Reid

### **Community Representative**

Colin Hedley, Kilwinning Community Council **(Vice Chair)**  
Peter Marshall, Community Representative  
Aaran McDonald, Community Representative  
Alison Stell, Community Representative

### **CPP/Council Representatives**

Derek Frew, Senior Lead Officer  
Rhonda Leith, Lead Officer  
Louise Riddex, Locality Officer  
Ann Wilson, Third Sector Interface  
Craig McFie, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service  
David Cameron, Police Scotland

## **Kilwinning Locality Partnership**

**Supporting  
Skills and  
Work**

**Improving our  
Local  
Environment**

**Alleviating Poverty  
and Promoting  
Equality of Access  
to Opportunities**

**Improving  
Community  
Wellbeing**



Meeting:	Kilwinning Locality Partnership	
Date/Venue:	19 June 2023 at 7.00 p.m. – Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams	
Present:	Councillor Scott Davidson (Chair) Councillor Joe Cullinane Derek Frew, Senior Lead Officer Rhonda Leith, Lead Officer (NAC) Peter Marshall, Community Representative Alison Stell, Community Representative Kimberley O'Neill, Community Learning Development Worker (Kilwinning) Fiona Porter, Bereavements & Burials Officer (NAC) Lynn Robertson, Head Teacher, Whitehirst Park Primary School Laura Neill, Senior Manager, Employability (NAC) Shona McAllister, Programme Manager, Regeneration (NAC) Diane McCaw, Committee Services Officer (NAC)	
Also Present:	Allan Farmer, Corra Foundation	
Apologies:	Councillor Donald Reid Aaran McDonald, Community Representative Craig McFie, Scottish Fire & Rescue Colin Hedley, Community Representative Tim Swan, Head Teacher, Kilwinning Academy	
ACTIONS		
No.	Action	Responsible
1.	<b>Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest</b>  The Chair welcomed those present, and it was noted there were no apologies and no declarations of interest.	
2.	<b>Action Note</b>  The action note from the meeting held on 13 March 2023 was approved.	
2.1	<b>Matters Arising</b>  All matters arising had been covered or noted.	
3.	<b>Community Investment Fund – Full Application</b>  An application has been made to the Community Investment Fund from the Corra Foundation in the amount of £36,000 over a three-year period (£12,000 per annum) to contribute towards the continued delivery of the Getting Alongside Communities programme in Blacklands between 2023 and 2026.  Allan Farmer, Corra Foundation, addressed the meeting to give some background with regard to the application including an overview of the	

	<p>project to support partnership working for the next 3 years with a particular focus on mental health and wellbeing and working towards increasing sustainability of community led activities in the Blacklands area.</p> <p>Allan Farmer left the meeting at this point.</p> <p>The Partnership discussed:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the supportive work undertaken by Corra within the community; and</li> <li>the hope of a wider community led group emerging in 2-3 years in the local area with the support from Corra.</li> </ul> <p>The Partnership agreed that the proposal of £36,000 over a three-year period (£12,000 per annum) proceed to the North Ayrshire Council Cabinet for approval on 29 August 2023.</p>	<p><b>Rhonda Leith/ Kimberley O'Neill</b></p>
<b>4.</b>	<p><b>Grants: Elderly Grants</b></p> <p>The Partnership agreed to approve the Elderly Grants budget for the Kilwinning Locality in the sum of £6,463, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.</p>	<p><b>Rhonda Leith</b></p>
<b>5.</b>	<p><b>Street Naming Report</b></p> <p>The Partnership received a report by the Council's Planning Service on the naming of a street for a residential development at West Byrehill, Kilwinning.</p> <p>The Partnership agreed to name the streets within the development Heather, Primrose, Holly and Fern to ensure a consistent theme for the whole development.</p>	<p><b>Kirsty Gee / Lisa Dempster</b></p>
<b>6.</b>	<p><b>Kilwinning Cemetery Naming Report</b></p> <p>The Partnership received a report by the Council's Bereavement and Burials Officer on the naming of a new cemetery in Kilwinning.</p> <p>The Partnership agreed to name the new area Redston Cemetery.</p>	<p><b>Fiona Porter</b></p>
<b>7.</b>	<p><b>Employability</b></p> <p>The Locality Partnership received a verbal update on employability from Laura Neill, Senior Manager, Employability and Skills, including information on the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the recent rebrand of the service;</li> <li>'Your Next Move' providing support to those wanting to get on the career ladder or take the next steps;</li> <li>the delivery of an Equal programme to support people with disabilities to prepare and move into employment;</li> <li>a large modern apprenticeship programme;</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• work with anchor organisations including NHS, SFRS and Ayrshire College;</li> <li>• support for 16-19 year olds into training, further education or employment;</li> <li>• the criminal justice mentor programme;</li> <li>• work with TACT to provide positive steps into volunteering;</li> <li>• work with Barnardos to consider engagement with young people.</li> <li>• Employability week offering online and community events showcasing services available through the Council and various partners; and</li> <li>• revenue projects funded through the Ayrshire Growth Deal.</li> </ul> <p>The Partnership asked a question and were provided with information on the importance of soft skills e.g. communication, teamworking, required by local employers.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	
8.	<p><b>Communities and Place Fund</b></p> <p>The Partnership received a presentation from Shona McAllister, Programme Manager Regeneration on the Communities and Place grant funding which has been created to help communities deliver projects which support local priorities and local business needs.</p> <p>The presentation included information on the four themes within the fund namely, People and Skills, Local Business, Multiply and Communities &amp; Place, the application process, including timescales and scoring, and the decision-making process.</p> <p>Fiona Porter left the meeting at this point.</p> <p>The Partnership discussed:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the former Council Housing Office and surrounding buildings in Howgate, Kilwinning requiring development/refurbishment and whether this would be a suitable project for this type of application,</li> <li>• that applications to the Fund would be received from constituted groups;</li> <li>• whether the Locality Partnership itself could make an application to the Fund as a constituted group with Shona McAllister agreeing to check whether this was possible and advise the Partnership;</li> <li>• that any monies allocated would require to be spent within the current financial year as the Scottish Government have indicated no carry forward;</li> <li>• that there would be strong third sector representation on the assessment panel; and</li> <li>• that the Kilwinning engagement event would take place on Tuesday 27 June 2023 from 4.30-6.30pm in the Kilwinning Library.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Shona McAllister</b></p>

	<p>The Partnership thanked Shona for her presentation and agreed that the presentation slides be circulated to the Partnership.</p> <p>Shona McAllister left the meeting at this point.</p>	<b>Lesley Dunlop</b>
<b>9.</b>	<p><b>Youth and Education Overview</b></p> <p>Lynn Robertson, Head Teacher, Whitehirst Park Primary School provided a verbal update on primary cluster school activity including:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• self-evaluation work taking place to inform improvements for the next school session;</li> <li>• the extensive transition programme which is in place;</li> <li>• work with Kilwinning Sports Club for sports day activities;</li> <li>• evaluation work carried out by the schools cluster, together with consensus on common themes and strands of work; and</li> <li>• the year long project to support teachers with their professional learning and wellbeing.</li> </ul> <p>Noted.</p>	
<b>10.</b>	<p><b>Police Scotland – Wellbeing and Partnerships</b></p> <p>The Partnership received a verbal update from Police Scotland on the key impact of wellbeing and partnership work being carried out by Police Scotland in Kilwinning.</p> <p>The update highlighted areas including the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the Pitching In programme run by the Campus Officer in Kilwinning Academy to develop social skills and resilience in S3 pupils;</li> <li>• trips to Dumfries House for S1 and S2 pupils over a 4 week period;</li> <li>• the work of the locality policing team who maintain the bottle marking scheme working with off licences and North Ayrshire Licensing Standards Officer;</li> <li>• partnership work with North Ayrshire Housing to tackle anti-social behaviour;</li> <li>• Council supported funding for the provision of off-road quad bikes;</li> <li>• links with Choose Kilwinning and Eglinton Growers;</li> <li>• engagement with the Syrian refugee resettlement team; and</li> <li>• ongoing community wellbeing work and links with Kilwinning Sports Club's mental health programme.</li> </ul> <p>The Partnership discussed:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• training provided for new recruits regarding mental health issues;</li> <li>• partnership work with KA Leisure and other Ayrshire groups to highlight those who are vulnerable and provide more supported engagement through Community Wellbeing Officers; and</li> <li>• areas for deployment of the new quad bikes when in service.</li> </ul> <p>Noted.</p>	

11.	<b>Scottish Fire and Rescue Service – Wellbeing and Partnerships</b>  The Partnership agreed to continue consideration of this item to the September meeting.	<b><i>Lesley Dunlop</i></b>
12.	<b>Locality Officer Update</b>  The Partnership received a written report and verbal update by the Locality Co-ordinator, who highlighted the following:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the progress report covered the period March to May 2023;</li> <li>• non attendance at the chit chat 4 weeks ago with a new date set for 7 September 2023;</li> <li>• the successful completion of High Five Awards by 14 young people;</li> <li>• the commencement on Monday 26 June 2023 of the Discovery Award accredited learning for over 50s to tackle social isolation;</li> <li>• youth provision in Kilwinning and engagement with young people; and</li> <li>• interventions for those at risk of disengaging with school.</li> </ul> Noted.	
13.	<b>Reports for Information</b>  <b>Roads, Structures and Streetlighting</b>  The Partnership received a report from the Senior Manager (Roads Network), Neighbourhood Services outlining the proposed Roads, Structures and Street Lighting Maintenance Programme for 2023/24  Noted.  <b>North Ayrshire Youth Work Update</b>  The Partnership received report on the youth work across the area which linked into the North Ayrshire Locality priorities.  Noted.	

Meeting ended at 8.45 p.m.





**Locality Partnership:** Kilwinning Locality

**Date:** 11.9.23

**Subject:** To advise the meeting of applications received in respect of the Kilwinning Town Charitable Trust Fund and the 2023/24 Elderly Grants Fund.

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

**Background**

Applications have been received in respect of the Kilwinning Town Charitable Trust Fund and the 2023/24 Elderly Grants Fund.

**Key Points for Locality Partnership**

The balances available for disbursement are bullet pointed below:

- The Kilwinning Town Charitable Trust Fund has a balance of **£35,594**.
- The 2023/24 Elderly Grants Fund has a balance of **£6,463**.

**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 Morell, 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, Funding Officer, Connected Communities*  
*([rosemaryramsay@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:rosemaryramsay@north-ayrshire.gov.uk))*

**Date:** 28.8.23

## KILWINNING TOWN CHARITABLE TRUST APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 2023/24

**Kilwinning Town Charitable Trust Criteria** - In terms of the trust deed there are 3 purposes for which assistance may be given: Purpose A - the prevention or relief of poverty; Purpose B - the provision of recreational facilities or the organisation of recreational activities with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended; and Purpose C - the relief of those in need by reason of age, ill health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage.

Applicant	Purpose of Grant	Amount Requested	Previous Town Charitable Trust
Ayrshire Communities Education and Sport (ACES)	<p>Purchase of equipment to enable youth group to restart following the pandemic.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pro 6ft Folding Snooker &amp; Pool Table - £179.00</li> <li>PlayStation 5 Console &amp; Controller - £439.98</li> <li>Xbox S Gilded Hunter Bundle &amp; Controller - £304.98</li> <li>Games &amp; Chargers - £359.90</li> </ul> <p>TOTAL - £1,283.86</p> <p>Total project costs - £2,500 ACES contribution is provision of snacks – £1,216.14</p>	£1,283.86	2019/20 - £709.41

Connected Communities, Finance and Legal Services have been consulted and their comments are as follows:

**Finance:** Backup for all quotes above has been provided. No bank statements or accounts have been provided. There is £37,594 available for disbursement within the Kilwinning Trust Fund.

**Legal:** I note that this application is to fund the purchase of various electronic games equipment and a folding snooker and pool table, with a provision of healthy snacks being the responsibility of the Applicant.

In terms of the trust deed there are three purposes for which assistance may be given: Purpose A - the prevention or relief of poverty; Purpose B - the provision of recreational facilities or the organisation of recreational activities with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended; and Purpose C - the relief of those in need by reason of age, ill health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage.

The funds held in this Trust are primarily for Purpose A, with a small amount held for Purpose C. The Trustees may award grants for Purpose B if more applications have been made for that purpose and the Trustees consider granting funds for that purpose will most effectively relieve need amongst the persons who have applied for or are eligible for financial support. The Applicant refers to all three Purposes. Given the reasons stated in the Application, it is my view that this Application meets the criteria of all Purposes A, B and C.

The Application can therefore be granted, as it meets one or more of the Trust Purposes. In addition, the Trustees should also be satisfied that granting of this Application will be a beneficial use of the trust funds.

**Connected Communities:** The funding requested is to upgrade equipment to enable the youth club at Woodwynd Community Centre to start up again following the COVID-19 pandemic. The youth club will offer young people a range of activities that include sports, games, arts and crafts, fun nights and volunteering opportunities. These activities will encourage young people to take part in group activities, make friends and have fun which will support mental health and wellbeing and tackle social exclusion. The youth club will also provide food for each and every child to ensure no one goes home hungry which will provide a respite for parents ensuring that they don't have to worry about how to feed their child.

ACES have highlighted how they meet all Trust Purposes and Connected Communities are satisfied that their application meets the criteria of the fund.

*Please note that copies of accounts and bank statements have now been produced.*

**ELDERLY GRANTS FUND  
APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 2023/24**

**Grant Allocation for Kilwinning LPP Area                      £     6,463**

<b>Group</b>	<b>Purpose of Grant</b>	<b>Grant Allocated to Group</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>
Landward Old Folks Welfare Committee	Contribution towards trip, transport and meal, 2 Christmas parties with live entertainment, 3-course meal and drinks.	£     3,447	£             3,447
Kilwinning Burgh Old Peoples Welfare Committee	Contribution towards Christmas dinners and entertainment and summer trips.	£     3,016	£             3,016
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£             6,463</b>



North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership

# Kilwinning Progress Report

Reporting Period – June 23 – Aug 23

## General

The Locality Network Meeting went well with good attendance and some good conversation taking place around what's available in the community during the summer.

Continuing to support Kilwinning Community Council.

Chased up Place Framework Action Plan. Graham said they have made amendments and just waiting for approval of it from Alex in NAC.

### St Matthews Transition

Group finished now with new P7 group restarting after October Holidays. Last group completed Hi5 awards and certificates were delivered to us during summer hols. These will be taken into the Academy to be given out to the Young People.

Kilwinning P7 Transition has also finished with 7 Young People gaining their Hi5 award. New P7s Kilwinning Transition group will restart after Christmas.

Staff had a stall at the Picnic in the Park event. This went really well and was very well attended. Well done to Kilwinning Community Events on organising another fantastic event.

Corsehill Community Association have held a Special General Meeting due to the sad passing of Sharon who held the position of Chair, and Connie stepping down as Vice Chair. These positions have now been filled. There's a lot of work to be done to get this committee functioning at the level they need to be at but Louise & Ricky will be working with them over the next few months until their AGM in March.

Participatory budgeting has kicked off for this year, including Mainstream, Youth and UK Prosperity Funding.

The launch event took place on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> August and was well attended. 5 community members will carry out the new procedure in shortlisting, now known as community reviewers, where the final feasibility decision will be made on the 26<sup>th</sup> Sept for online voting.



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# Kilwinning Progress Report

Reporting Period – June 23 – Aug 23

## **Skills & Work Opportunities**

Digi Need I.T. Support - Weekly drop-in support group available in Kilwinning Library. Numbers have been picked up and still available on Thursdays now.

Kilwinning Library offer free PC access and wifi which anyone can use to carry out job searching, create CVs etc.

Discovery Award is going well with good numbers attending. They have took part in 9 sessions in the library and 3 outings to date. Some have started doing their volunteering part too. This will continue to run on a Monday with one Monday in and one Monday out on a trip.



North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership

# Kilwinning Progress Report

Reporting MAR 23 – MAY 23

## Community Wellbeing

Me & My wellbeing group continues to run and is still well attended. The group are really gelling and being open and honest in the conversations they have about their experiences.

Diversionary Youth Work ran for 3 sessions over the summer. The team engaged with over 50 young people over the 3 sessions. Most of this was round about the Abbey and the Main St. Will look at putting on more sessions from now till Dec. This will be once or twice a month.

Stroll with it Kilwinning is continuing to meet on a weekly basis. The participants are all enjoying being back together. This week (5<sup>th</sup> Sept) the group is open to the Ayrshire Walking Festival, being organised by the Trinity Hub, which will invite new walkers to try out our talk and walk sessions.

ASN Groups continue to run well with numbers growing and referrals continuing to come in. Both groups are now just off capacity level, which is the first in a long time. Issues with transport costs so unless funding can be brought in then we will need to stop transporting the young people to and from. Work is happening to form a parents group to become constituted and look for funding.

Kilwinning Youth has also disbanded. Kimberly and Heather (new CLD Worker for Kilwinning & NC) have now organised an engagement sessions within all primary schools in June, to ask young people what type of provision they would like to see in their community. **Update:** The Variety group has been a result from this engagement. A variety of activities will take place in 4 weekly blocks. The first block consisting of sports. Exclusive to this arrangement, the 8 weeks following up to the Christmas break will consist of the STEM Leader Award, where young people will complete this training and receive a certificate at the end.

Take Time Families group finished for the summer in June. We were able to take the whole group to Heads of Ayr Farm Park in August. The families had a wonderful time and really enjoyed sharing the experience together. We look forward to welcoming our families back in September and looking at what they want to work on next.

The Library groups Knit and Natter and Lego Club and groups which are supported by Corra in terms of Co-ordinator in person support on a weekly basis. Chair Based Exercise and Nethermains Parent and Toddler Group have all benefited from increased participation. Parent and Toddler group in Nethermains Community Centre, this has now



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Community Planning Partnership

# Kilwinning Progress Report

Reporting MAR 23 – MAY 23

increased to an average of 30 children and 28 adults attending, giving space to play, learning experiences for very young children and peer support for adults. Some adults increasing in confidence are starting now to step forward to take a lead role in the group, this is a group that in the future will hopefully be community led.

A bereavement bookcase is situated in Kilwinning Library and Co-op Funeralcare, Kilwinning.

The team continue to support various community organisations with information/advice/funding availability.

Community Fusion is a new group which will be working with New Scots. This group will support people from all nationalities and cultures to learn about each other. Share stories songs and food that represents their culture. It will meet weekly on a basis in Nethermain Community Centre and provide different activities to encourage people to speak and share.

The team were involved in hosting take time on the road roadshows during the Summer holidays... These were held in Nethermain and Kilwinning Library. These days had a focus on mental health and wellbeing and both Kilwinning sessions were very well attended.

## Environment & Green open space

Continue to support Eglinton Growers Group. They held AGM and have a committee in place. Various community projects have taken place in the growers where they recently held an open day, which Kimberly and Sarah Supported. This offered, raffles, tombola's, outdoor games, glitter tattoos, flower printing and a fruit and veg competition.

As part of the Kilwinning Place Framework, we have been working with the Heritage Society to understand what the group's priorities are moving forward. They advised that the heritage centre required updating as it was looking tired and required the introduction of up-to-date technology. A grant of £13,784.00 from the Place Based Investment Programme was issued to the rebrand and refresh the heritage centre.

Work took place around the green space outside the Love Hall to make it more presentable. The Youth Group may look at taking this on as a project, maintaining the area and possibly growing.

Meeting of Swingpark group to take place Fri 8<sup>th</sup> Sept. The original site they wanted to use has been deemed unsafe by surveyors so they are now exploring other options.



North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership

# Kilwinning Progress Report

Reporting MAR 23 – MAY 23

## Poverty & Equalities

Food with dignity projects are continuing to run well.

### The Wee Shoap

Having issues with people making appointments and not turning up for them. The volunteers are trying to sort this as it leaves issues with the fresh food they have as they bring in enough for the appointments made. Other than that all is going well.

### Cranberry Moss

Have some new volunteers working with them. They are having 70 appointments per week which is having a major impact on their stock and fund levels. Currently looking at what other funding is available that they can apply to.

Work completed with the intervention group in Kilwinning Academy. Staff are trying to make contact with school to look at another programme moving forward.

Summer Holiday Meals programme went very well in Kilwinning with high numbers attending. A total of 364 engagements in July over the 2 hubs.

Free activities were available during the summer at the Take Time on the Road Roadshows. Both events were very well attended and participants reported enjoying them.

Free youth Activities due to restart W/B 5<sup>th</sup> Sept. Expanding the offer a little in Kilwinning with a new Awards Group starting in Love Hall on a Monday night. Also going to be starting a STEM focussed group for young people in the library on a Tuesday night.





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Reporting MAR 23 – MAY 23

## Update from Kilwinning Community Events

Kilwinning Community Events hosted a July funday with inflatables along with Uncle Billy providing two shows on Glasgow Fair Monday. The day ended up busier than expected with great feedback.

Picnic in the Park was on 10<sup>th</sup> August with a high number of people enjoying the free activities and entertainment in the park throughout the afternoon. We were lucky to have locality PB funding to cover some basic costs. There were additional attractions which had an inclusive wristband deal on offer. Feedback overall was the best we have ever had for the event with great value for money being the top comment for those who bought wristbands. We have already committed to next year's event on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> August 2024 in the hope of developing stronger partnerships with various bodies who want to attend the event.

A new toddler's unit has gone down well with many younger children enjoying the additional piece of equipment. This was funded by the Place Based Investment Programme. We managed, thanks to Street Scene to fill in the missing gap with a new roundabout which was fitted on the morning of Picnic. So, the park's image for so many new visitors was a positive one overall.

Justice Service Community Payback Scheme are in the middle of a programme of works to re-establish crazy golf in the park.

Housing Services approached us to see if McGavin Park would host an event, involving the Ukrainian community, which was a very successful day. This has resulted in further interest with an Afghan/Syrian community day planned this week. This together with the Turning Point Scotland funday and Kilwinning Girl Guides funday will make the park a popular place in September.

We are looking at some form of food provision during the October school holidays which is currently subject to volunteer availability.

We are actively fundraising and recruiting volunteers for Monday November 6<sup>th</sup> for Kilwinning Community Fireworks. The roles vary from Safety line, road closures and shaking a bucket as this year donations more than ever matter to the future of the event. We have tried to collect donations in advance but like lots of events we are seeing a commercial level of fraud trying to sell tickets for our events and the public unwittingly support the fraudsters. The benefits of an organised fireworks event help reduce anti-social behaviour in our communities, and we work to be as inclusive as possible. At 6pm there will be a shorter display for families who prefer lower noise. At 7.30pm the classic pyro musical display will be held.



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That takes us up to Christmas. We intend to have a Christmas tree in the park again and are looking at the potential of repeating the Kilwinning Panto season. Cinderella is the potential production this year.

Keep an eye on the Kilwinning Community Events Facebook page for updates on all the events.

For further information contact: Louise Riddex, [lriddex@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:lriddex@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)



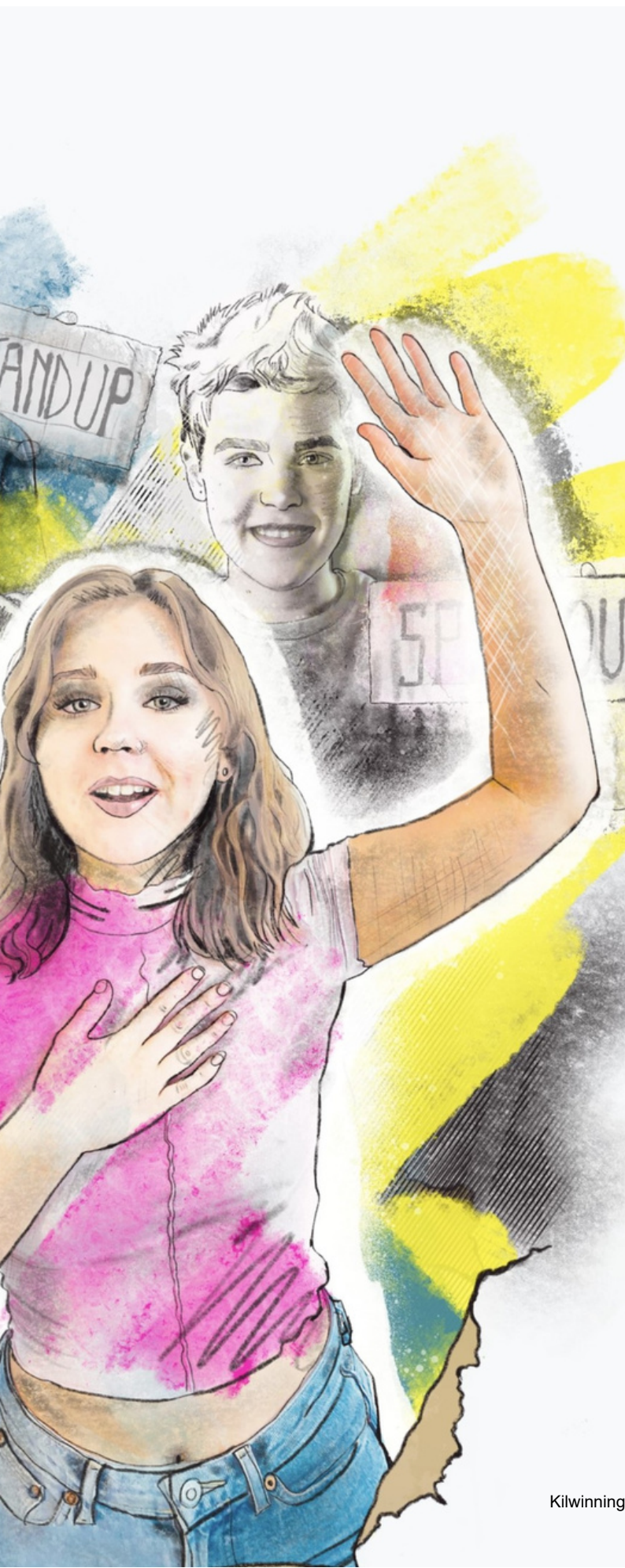
**NORTH AYRSHIRE CONNECTED COMMUNITIES  
NORTH AYRSHIRE WIDE YOUTH WORK**

# QUARTERLY UPDATE

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AUGUST 2023 - DONNA ANDERSON  
DANDERSON@NORTH-AYRSHIRE.GOV.UK  
Kilwinning LP Pg 19





THIS QUARTERLY REPORT FOCUSSES ON THE YOUTH WORK PRIORITIES OUTLINED IN OUR STRATEGIC PLAN THAT TIES INTO NORTH AYRSHIRE LOCALITY PRIORITIES.

Youth Work is an educational practice contributing to young people's learning and development. Youth work engages with young people within their communities; it acknowledges the wider networks of peers, community and culture; it supports the young person to realise their potential and to address life's challenges critically and creatively and it takes account of all strands of diversity.

#### **North Ayrshire key priorities:**

- Positive Destinations for 16-19 year olds
- Attainment and Wider Achievement
- Health and Wellbeing
- Young Peoples' Voice and Rights
- Climate Change
- Poverty and Inequality
- Digital Connectivity

# Joint Cabinet

From the most recent Joint Cabinet that took place in May with 110 young people discussing 6 key topics the data has been collated and action plan has been created.

Some of the key data that came back from young people were as follows:

## Climate Change and Sustainability

Young people engaged in conversations around Climate change with decision makers around 3 key points, this included creating a Climate Change Time Capsule, how the councils Climate Change Steering Group can guide young people to choose low-carbon travel in the future and how we can help to remove barriers to include and implement initiatives or projects for young people in relation to Climate Change.

### Some key comments included:

- We want to see more bee-keepers in localities
- Less plastic packaging and paper alternatives (water bottles, mail packaging etc)
- To have more recycling resources in schools to get people to do it more as they only can recycle paper and having different types of bins in school around the play ground for different litter
- I want there to be more cycle paths in the future so people can cycle instead, including more cycle paths. With more schools having more bike maintenance areas and classes within schools
- More education around waste and more facilities
- Have how to grow your own food projects
- More frequent bus services so people are not using cars and taxi's as often
- Have bike pick up stations like Glasgow so people can rent bikes

## UNCRC

Engaging with pupils on UNCRC we focussed on young peoples rights as protected by UNCRC, and how we as gatekeepers to these rights can help protect and uphold them on their behalf when they are not able to do this for themselves.

### Young people fed back:

- Some young people feel there is stigma surrounding expressing concerns for their rights
- More education on what UNCRC rights are for adults to learn if young person approaches to express concerns including social media campaigns and presentations
- Action group for young people which the council consult and creating childrens rights ambassadors.
- More events to share the views of young people such as Joint Cabinet.



## Opportunities and activities for young people

We asked young people what they wanted to see in North Ayrshire and their local communities to make North Ayrshire the best place to grow up in, wither this is things to do socially, groups to be involved in, how they can get involved in volunteering and what we need to do to help and support young people here in North Ayrshire.

### Young people responded:

- More info and recruitment on youth forums
- Transport for going to clubs and activities and wider bus service particularly in Arran
- We don't know enough about charities or volunteering opportunities, the council should play a role in accessing volunteering opportunities - they could do more to support young people access third sector orgs.
- A website or App for young people locally
- Give incentive to join and volunteer like awards and achievements.
- More tasters for young people to see what they want to do for work

## Inequalities

When thinking about various inequalities we asked young people what a community means to them, this could be the area they live, their school community or a community of interest like a local team or interest that they are involved in. Focussing on racism, sectarianism and bullying.

### Responses included:

- It should be more in schools and in the curriculum with school staff calling out challenging behaviours
- Talking about people experiences of inequalities to show the impact it can have
- Education the elder generations, to help them understand the racism isn't excepted anymore
- Learn how to report hate comments about racism as a hate crime
- Having access to information and a safe space about where to seek support for bullying that maybe online based and having antibullying ambassadors within schools
- Having access to anonymous online chat with teachers



## Health and Wellbeing

Health in its widest sense including mental health and wellbeing is a big topic for young people, and we created three key questions to put to young people about local support, during the pre consultation the concerns about smoking and vaping came up on a number of occasions and we wanted to get feedback on how we can help and support young people in North Ayrshire.

### Young people told us:

- Talk more about the effects of vaping, smoking and alcohol misuse in schools and communities - It is seen as the better smoking but there is lot that people don't know and need educated on
- Stop younger people from buying them stricter ID checks and targeting the shops allowing people underage to buy vapes
- People vaping in toilets in school causing worry to others and creating antisocial behaviour
- People vape because of peer pressure



A full report is available on the feedback from young people and a detailed action plan to create changes and provide feedback for the young people involved.

# Members of Scottish Youth Parliament - Recruitment

The Scottish Youth Parliament (SYP) is the democratically elected voice of Scotland's young people. Held every two years, the next SYP elections will take place in November 2023

People aged 14-25 can stand for election as a Member of the Scottish Youth Parliament (MSYP) as one of four MSYPs in North Ayrshire for a 2 year term.

The upcoming elections allows young people to vote for their preferred candidate, giving MSYPs their democratic mandate to represent the views of North Ayrshires young people locally and nationally.

MSYPs have a crucial role to play in Scottish public life, from representing young people across the country to running impactful campaigns. Becoming an MSYP is a life changing experience whilst improving the lives of Scotland's young people, learning new skills, and meeting other inspiring young people. They will become leaders, gain confidence, receive excellent training, and much more.

SYP believes young people's voices matter, and we are committed to ensuring candidates can realise their right to be heard.

Currently we have 12 candidates that are wanting to stand so far, but encourage more young people to register their interest until noon on Friday 8 September 2023 to start their candidate journey supported by the youth work team. If young people want to register as a candidate they can do so here: **[www.syp.org.uk/elections](http://www.syp.org.uk/elections)**



Scan the QR Code to register interest



Find out more and register at [syp.org.uk/elections](http://syp.org.uk/elections)



# Participatory Budgeting

'PB' is a way for young people to decide how local funds are spent choosing which projects get a share of the allocated money in each locality. A bi-annual source of community funding given directly from North Ayrshire Council to communities in need of a financial boost to realise their ambitions with a sum of £198,377 overall, this year's fund is split into three different categories, running simultaneously – Youth PB, Locality PB and funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund – a UK Government funding stream helping to boost pride and prosperity across all localities.

We are welcoming applications from all eligible North Ayrshire youth and adult community organisations and will deal with each application individually and on its own merits. And, we do of course encourage those who have already benefited in previous rounds to come back again this time round with new ideas. Everyone is welcome, we simply want to ensure that no one is left behind.

This years Youth PB Theme are:

- Health & Wellbeing
- Young People's Voice and Rights
- Cost of living
- Green projects

For more information on PB and once groups are ready to apply, they simply complete their application to one of the relevant funding streams (Youth PB, Locality PB or Shared Prosperity Fund) at: <https://northayrshire.communitychoices.scot/> Applications must be submitted with 11th September.

## Participatory Budgeting



Ideas are generated about how a budget should be spent



People vote for their priorities



The projects with the most votes gets funded

[ParticipatoryBudgeting@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:ParticipatoryBudgeting@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)

# Climate Change Ambassadors



A group of 12 ambassadors continue to work on a range of activities, opportunities, signposting and events around climate change and sustainability.

The group are working to create a Climate Change Time Capsule, along with tree planting. The aim is to include items to look back on in 20 years on to see how much change young people have been able to achieve in relation to green initiatives, climate change and sustainability in North Ayrshire.

The group have consulted with over 200 young people on what should be included in this with feedback telling us their hopes and aspirations for the future including:

- We want to see more electrical cars and have them go down in price so they are accessible and easy to buy
- More education on the changes that they can make by coming into schools
- Increased recycling opportunities
- Access to green travel options including more cycle paths
- Better access to public transport to reduce car travel

The young people's feedback is reported to the North Ayrshire Council Climate Change Steering Group which helps to shape policies and work surrounding the North Ayrshire Climate Change agenda.

The group are working on their time capsule project, attending local enquiries and are in the process of recruiting new group members.

# Youth Work Modern Apprenticeship Programme



The modern apprenticeship programme continues to develop and grow, and we are pleased to announce that we have an additional five youth work apprentices joining the team in August/ September 2023. They will join our existing team of six MA's, where they will build relationships with each other and take up peer education opportunities in relation to their qualification.

Throughout the programme we ensure that MA's are nurtured and encouraged to take on new learning opportunities. Candidates will often find new training courses or discover personal development needs as their knowledge and skills grow. .

A recent example of this was one of our MA's who has an interest in conservation had sourced a volunteering opportunity in Ecuador. The role was in animal rehabilitation & rainforest conservation with an organisation called Merazonia and would last for four weeks.

This was an excellent chance for the young person to develop both personally and professionally and we would support the candidate where possible. To support the MA we agreed that part of the time away could be considered as research for their youth work role. The candidate agreed that they would gather photos and maintain a diary so they could create and deliver a presentation to young people about the experience, outlining the application process, the requirements and feedback about the experience in general.

This experience will be used to inform and encourage other young people to consider international volunteering opportunities.



## Working with our New Scots

This summer Ukrainian and Syrian young people attended Youthbeatz festival in Dumfries. As well as enjoying the festival it was an opportunity to practice photography skills.



Syrian and Ukrainian young women attended a residential with Arran Outdoor Centre in July where they tried kayaking, stand-up paddle boarding, climbing, gorge walking and fire building. Among the staff on the residential was Mariana who had been a member of the swans group. Most of the girls had never been in a river or the sea before but they bravely jumped in.

*"I don't want to brag", but the trip was awesome" Liz Mattieo*

*"We went to Arran trip, we love the trip and the people there are very friendly. We done a lot of amazing activities. The weather was not bad but we wanted to stay more and have more and more fun. I need to tell the people there helping us and doing fun things with us thank you so much"*

*Lana Hajeh*

Over the summer young Ukrainians and local scots have been working on a peer-led film making project. The film is still underway and will be shown at the end of the year. The film story and script was written by the Ukrainian young people. Some Syrian young people joined the group and together they have been acting, filming, editing and learning sound technique.

The Swans football team has welcomed new members from the Syrian and Ukrainian community. They practice every week at Kilwinning sports club and have the benefit of 2 female coaches.



# The Multiply Project

As part of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) North Ayrshire Council have secured funding to deliver the Multiply Project.

This project aims to boost people's ability to use maths in their daily life, at home and work targeting learners who are 19+ that have not previously attained a level 2 SCQF, level 5 or higher maths qualification.

The Multiply team have used summer 2023 to promote and increase visibility for our project. Our summer outreach programme has included attendance at Take Time on The Road in Irvine, Largs, Three Towns, Kilwinning, Garnock Valley and Springside. At these events our staff have interacted with around 1500 residents of North Ayrshire at our information stall.

We have had interest in the service from several potential learners, who have given feedback to Take Time organisers that Multiply would benefit them in some form. We have a further 6 learners signed up through self-referral for numeracy/literacy support.



As the project is still in its early stages these outreach events have been vital with regard to planning and providing intuitive, meaningful supports to families across North Ayrshire. The initial contact we have made with many young parents/carers under the age of 25 – many of whom have indicated they would access numeracy/literacy support - has led us to designing and planning after school homework clubs and Multiply drop in groups that will run in conjunction with schools. Our partners at CHAP have requested our support in delivering their primary 7/parents' sessions which introduces young people to the world of everyday finance and budgeting.

Most importantly our summer outreach has allowed us to interact with young people in the authority, which will assist with the removal of the barriers and stigma that can be attached to numeracy and literacy.

# Cost Of Living – The School Day

The Cost of the School Day work has been focussed and two separate groups. Initially to professionals that work with young people across North Ayrshire and secondly to young people from both primary and secondary across North Ayrshire.



The initial concept came from consultation during Year of the Young People in North Ayrshire where our legacy plan highlighted cost of the school day and child poverty as a key priority for our young people focussing on the following key areas:

- Access to food (during the school day and holidays and weekends)
- The cost of school transport to and from schools and for extracurricular activities
- The costs of school trips and visits
- The costs of school uniforms
- The costs of materials needed for going to school.

As one of the key priorities within our rights-based CLD Strategic Plan, it's especially pertinent in North Ayrshire, with the second-highest concentration of multiple deprivation in Scotland, with greater risk of key groups of young people in North Ayrshire living in poverty. Therefore, the work that we carry out around child poverty is essential. Our method of 'by young people, for young people' is embedded in our work and our Youth Participation Strategy with young people coming on journeys of change with us.

Young people lead on discussions around Child Poverty, shaping policy and practice for North Ayrshire Council and partners, they are involved in all initiatives that have come from the data in a co design, production and delivery model. This work shows visible changes to lowering the cost of the school day for young people and their families.

The work that we carry out is in partnership with our education colleagues, the creation of this joint piece of work allows us to plan, alongside our young people, in delivering events, activities, creating feedback loops and disseminating information to our young people and their parents.

Young people are empowered to speak truth to power, support and challenge officials and decision-makers as duty bearers and to ensure young people voice is respected and acted on in relation to Child Poverty

This work has been ongoing since the start of 2022 and is ongoing as we continue to consult and engage with our young people, which allows us to shape the services and policy changes based on what young people tell us. Young people are involved in any changes to service delivery, new models of engagement and shaping policies for North Ayrshire and its partners. Changes due to the engagement and involvement of young people:

- Non branded uniforms policy has been implemented across all of our schools
- Policy on no gifts for teachers
- Increase in breakfast clubs and swap shops in schools and communities.
- Family learning providing opportunities for extracurricular across schools
- Increase in homework clubs
- Increased uptake and use of the transport for U22 scheme
- Healthy snacks free of charge in all primaries through PEF funding
- Access to digital materials for all pupils
- Holiday meals provisions – over 11,000 young people accessed this over the summer period 2023.
- Joint working across CLD and Education has allowed us to engage more young people and children in activities, opportunities and feedback – the commitment to young peoples active participation around voice and rights is increased across schools.
- Youth led PB process and community PB has a key theme of poverty and inequality to support local groups and initiatives in delivering activities and support for young people around child poverty and cost of living.



Going forward we will continue to engage and consult with young people – with a future conference to link in with learners voice which will take place in November 2023 allowing us to check where we are and where we need to go next to continue to tackle child poverty (we are currently writing our learners voice strategy that will compliment the Participation strategy with education). We will link Child Poverty to learner and youth participation with actions taken forward within the context of learners voice.

Child poverty will continue to feature across all of our platforms from Locality priorities, our CLD Plan, youth work key priorities and youth participation work. Whilst the Pupil Equity Fund will focus on child poverty and mitigate the effects of this for our children, young people and families.

# Take Time Families

To establish good understanding of Mental Health and Wellbeing between parent/carers and primary aged children Take Time Families promotes early emotional awareness and resilience.

Linking caregivers and children in a primary aged setting where we work with caregiver and children addressing anxiety, further emotions and resilience, This programme offers parents time for open discussion based activities for themselves before being joined by the child to carry out activities linking into areas that will support healthy mental health and wellbeing for both, the hope is to build positive social, emotional, behaviour, thinking and communication skills within both the caregiver and child to become more resilient in the future with a mutual respect to each other's mental health and wellbeing. Supporting households with tools to develop personalised action plans to gain confidence in managing their family's mental health.

This builds positive social, emotional, behaviour, thinking and communication skills within both the caregiver and child to become more resilient in the future with a mutual respect to each other's mental health and wellbeing. This programme has moved from a school setting to a community setting to increase inclusiveness within targeted localities.



This programme has found success and has a group of core members keen to keep this group consistently running, in the past year we were successful in receiving participatory budget funding and due to this we are able to take the group on a summer trip to a Farm Park and purchase more resources and look at training opportunities for our parents. Before the summer break parents and children have been giving feedback on the journey with the group so far.



We have had some amazing Outcomes in this group. We have a family that attends where the parents are separated, this family come along each week to help themselves communicate better with each other as well as their young person dad travels from Inverness or Glasgow each week to make our group as he has been so happy with the outcomes that he has seen within the family.

Other great outcomes we have had is our families where there is separation anxiety issues from the parents the young people now look forward to the weekly group for the friendships and the activities they might never have tried without our parent/child combined approach to learning and mental health and wellbeing .



*"This group takes into account not only my mental health but my daughters, she reacts positively to her surroundings when we are at group." Separated Dad with daughter*

*"The people Vicki and Sarah bring to group who provide information on First Aid and NAC Multiply were very helpful, useful skills provided to take away from the workshop. Group provides fun art activities/ideas and suggestions to try at home and helps children express their feeling through art. The social aspect of group is great for our kids". Separated Mum with daughter*

*"My son wasn't happy at school when we first started coming to this group, but now his worry box is empty as he tells me he no longer has any. Coming to this group has given me lots of information and coping strategies to deal with situations. Mum with son and daughter suffering separation anxiety."*

# Mini Ambassadors Programme – Bounce Back Peer Support Programme

The Mini Ambassador programme surrounding mental health and wellbeing for North Ayrshire Bee You mental health ambassadors to deliver to primary 6/7 school aged young people and becoming mini bee you ambassadors for their primary school.

It ensure clear current reliable information is integrated into hour long workshops that is easily delivered and understood with 'the by young people, for young people' with our secondary Bee You Ambassadors young people to confidently able to deliver the programme.

This programme is 6 1-hour sessions delivered by Bee You Ambassadors who are a group of young people. The programme is delivered to groups of P6/P7 with the idea of these young people becoming Bee You Ambassadors for their primary school, how schools wish to continue this would be up to them, we help support the young people moving forward in their new roles. The topics covered in these sessions include What is Mental Health, Resilience, Social Networks, Friendships, Making Decisions and Self Care.

This programme has been so far successfully delivered to multiple schools across North Ayrshire. The programme allows the ambassadors who are all aged between 16 and 21 the chance to share valuable information with young people aged around 10-12. The programme is designed to support all of the young people involved and their resilience. The Ambassadors all have completed Mental Health First Aid and/or the Mental Health UKs Your Resilience programme so in delivering what they have learned only reaffirms the learning that these young people have already had further increasing their resilience and confidence.



*"It made a big change to me, I like knowing that people may come to me for help, I'm not nervous, I'm fine with it now I can help". Age 11*

*"This programme has opened up conversations within the school about Mental Health and Wellbeing and an exciting opportunity for Castlepark primary to have our own Mental Health Ambassadors. This has been a positive impact on the school and promoting positive wellbeing. The team that delivered the programme were fun, engaging and built fantastic relationships with the Pupils." Miss Burton*

## LGBTQI+

Young people who attend the group, want to be proactive in their local community, to ensure that all young people are all equal - not only those who are protected by the characteristics but allies of these young people too. Following on from the equality's forum, the young people were invited over to Arran Pride to walk in the parade and hold a stall to support the event.

Working in partnership with Arran Outdoor Education Centre, we were able to give the young people attending respite for the evening and supported some development sessions to help bond the group together. Spending the night in Arran Outdoor Education Centre, we were able to prepare for Arran Pride and work together for some team building activities whilst being supported by staff.



Our teams aim of the day was to make sure we had a welcoming stall that people wanted to spend time at but had the purpose of giving relevant information, support and guidance to those who needed it for themselves or someone important to them and that the young people could fully be themselves and feel supported doing so whilst connect with each other.

Overall the day was a huge success and this was made clear by the numbers on the day, the photos and the feedback. The amount of information and signposting that was made available to the public because of the huge range of partners was incredible and was very well received by all who attended, also the staff had a chance to gather relevant information and learn more about other supports available.

The Equalities Forum brought along 20 young people from across our six localities to have the opportunity to join in the celebrations and spread a message of kindness and acceptance for all LGBTQ+ people across North Ayrshire.



# Equalities

The Equalities Forum was established as an inclusion project for 12 – 18 year olds. Young people who attend the group, want to be proactive in their local community, to ensure that all young people are all equal - not only those who are protected by the characteristics but allies of these young people too. To lift and empower each other and raise the voices of young people who may be a part of this group or represent these characteristics.

The project is guided by the young people's needs and wants, in a hope to speak truth to power and empower our young people to make positive change within their communities in a safe and nurturing environment. Meeting by monthly the group have been able to prioritise projects they would like to develop moving forward.

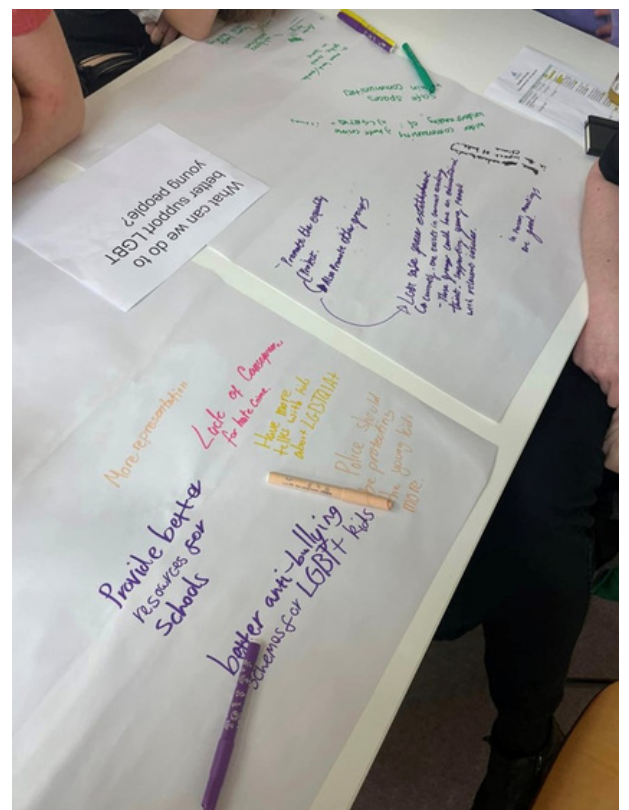
It is part of North Ayrshire's Youth Participation Strategy and supports UNCRC, which ensures that all children's rights are respected, heard and actioned. The project group has been established to support key groups of young people/ protected characteristics :

**LGBT+** – a group of local LGBTQ+ members aged 12-18 from Irvine and beyond, looking to make friends in the area

**ASN** – young people living/studying in North Ayrshire with additional support needs

**Young Carers** – helping with information, support and advice for carers aged 12 – 18 in partnership with North Ayrshire Carers Centre

*"I am really passionate about contributing to 'The Equalities Project' and enjoyed the chance to get involved in the group. By meeting up with other people like me and listening to their experiences via local LGBTQ+ groups, I feel like I have a good knowledge and understanding to speak on their behalf and highlight the types of inequalities we as a community can face. I'm really grateful for North Ayrshire Youth Services who are taking the time to create a safe space where we can hopefully really make a difference not just for the LGBTQ+ Youth and other minority groups, but for all young people. I look forward to seeing what changes we will make together to make North Ayrshire a more inclusive place to grown up in and realise our full potential."*



# Drama for Wellbeing

Creating a summer programme that used the power of drama therapy to connect young people, allowing them to express themselves whilst addressing issues surrounding Mental Health and Wellbeing.

This group brought young people together to create scripts and express themselves through drama approaching subjects and themes as Connect, Be Active, Take Notice, Learning and Friendships, creating a space for young people to use drama as an outlet to address issues affecting our young people. Supported by youth work staff, a drama tutor and a singing coach, this space was about inclusiveness, trying new things and creating lasting messages with our young people.

2 groups were established, one primary and one secondary, resulting in 30 young people completing this 7 week summer programme. With having secured the Harbour Arts Centre as the hosting venue we were lucky enough to have studio and theatre space to give the young people a truly memorable experience.



Focussing on improv games, mini plays and confidence building with the Secondary aged group working on drama delivery and discussed how to bring their experiences in to personalise their showcase. These scripts were based on different issues that may be experienced in primary schools but with the message of a positive ending. The secondary aged group had been tasked with looking at their personal spaces and had started blocking and staging for their own plays.

The hour long showcase started with the juniors running their scripts followed by the song True Colours, after came the seniors who delivered a very memorable play called 'Brainstorm' which was developed from their own experiences, finishing with the song Unwritten. This was performed for parents, caregivers and invited guests such as service heads and elected members from the community.

This programme was very successfully received from parents and young people alike. The feedback from the hard hitting, real and emotional showcase viewing was fantastic and this programme seemed to have a lasting impression on our young people taking part and those who were fortunate enough to view this unique showcase.

### Students:

*"I think we were given a lot of freedom to decide what we wanted to do and speak about things that are important to us, I felt more confident and enjoyed helping the younger kids learn new things." Age 10*

*"I loved the drama games and being brought out my comfort zone as I'm very shy." Age 7*

*"I loved drawing and playing games, acting out our plays and watching other act out their parts, I loved going every week the teachers were all really nice, I can't wait for mum and dad to see our show." Age 9*

*"I enjoyed getting to work with new people and push my performance skills, it really made me work hard, getting the chance to learn something off by heart." Age 12*

*"I enjoyed everything, I liked writing my own script and taking part in acting, being part of this programme has impacted me personally to think about myself more." Age 15*

*"I Loved being part of a show and making new friends, I feel more confident and out my shell." Age 5*



### Parents:

*"My daughter loved coming to drama every Friday and would wake up very excited, this has brought her confidence out more. Very happy and proud to see her shine.*

*A happy girl every week, I enjoyed listening to her lines and practicing her song. She has grown in confidence. Thank You!"*

## Take Time on the Road

The take time campaign was started in 2021 this summer we took it to the road. The roadshow was about taking some time for ourselves whether that be spending time with our animals, having fun with your friends or exercising some mindfulness through activities like yoga. Along with other activities and agencies that support community mental health and wellbeing this roadshow has been all about 'taking time' and highlighting positive mental wellbeing. This had also been made free for families to attend, to break down barriers of inclusion, in the hope that the message and learning from the Take Time Campaign can be infused with our communities, creating a lasting legacy within North Ayrshire.



Take Time on the road was designed as a pop-up open day style, tying in with different partners and inviting along agencies that have a focus on mental health and wellbeing. Targeting families across areas of North Ayrshire, hosting 10 events across all 6 localities. These events were led and co-ordinated by the project delivery officers Dionne Griffiths and Vicki Andrew and supported by Connected Communities Locality Teams.

The take time on the roadshow was well received by the communities of North Ayrshire bringing in over 2000 people to engage in various activities that took place during the summer months.

Over 40 partners came along to support these events and the families living in or visiting North Ayrshire! To give local and readily available information on the supports within mental health and wellbeing whether that be for employment, mental health specific, free programmes/ groups to get involved with, oral and general health. Here is what some of these partners had to say about the events.

*"My own favourite activity was sketching on the sandy shore, and archery. I congratulate the team on bringing something for everyone each incorporating mindfulness, physical activity, skill development and of course sheer joy - to enhance wellbeing!"*



# Your Resilience



Your Resilience supports young people's mental health resilience. The education programme is focused on building resilience through life's transitions in 14–20-year-olds, equipping them with the tools and resources to manage their mental health now and in the future.

The programme is delivered in a range of settings, Individually, community groups, schools, or college groups. This programme included pupils from Kilwinning Academy S6 pupils for 3 full days.

Staff delivered 3 workshops a day covering Resilience, Exam Pressure, Friendships/Decision Making, Social Pressures, Managing Studies and Juggling Time. Along with open conversation work through the appropriate workbook for groups age ensuring the group understand the tasks and the tool kits provided to help them manage their own life scenarios and support their Mental Health and Wellbeing.

*"I learned about when it comes to Exam time and studying how to deal with stress, it will benefit me when it comes to making decisions in the future and exam time." Female 17*

*"I learned about what resilience actually is, how to deal with my exam stress and I how I should juggle my time better, the programme was really detailed and helpful." Female 16*

*"This course made me realise that I shouldn't compare myself to anyone else and not to take social media too seriously, I enjoyed the force field analysis activity I think I will use pro/con lists when making big decisions now." Female 17*

*"This has impacted me a lot, it has made me realise that everyone feels different things at different times and that people cope with things differently. I find it hard to make decisions so the tools to help with that will help me." Female 16*

*"It was great to learn more about the group of young people I teach. I have seen them in a different capacity which has strengthened the positive relationship I have with the pupils. As a teacher it would be great to learn more on how to deliver this to pupils in a professional capacity, even if it is just the toolkits." Miss McConnell*



## Locality Partnership The Ayrshire Community Trust Update – September 2023

<b>Garnock Valley</b> Moving Around (Public Transport, Traffic and Parking) - Work and Local Community - Facilities and Amenities
<b>Irvine</b> Supporting Skills and Work Opportunities - Enhancing our Mental Health & Wellbeing - Alleviating Poverty - Championing Green Heath and the Natural Environment
<b>Kilwinning</b> Supporting Skills and Work - Improving our Local Environment - Alleviating Poverty and Promoting Equality of Access to Opportunities - Improving Community Wellbeing
<b>North Coast</b> Improving access to financial services - Increasing social inclusion - Improving mental wellbeing - Supporting skills and work opportunities
<b>Three Towns</b> Promoting the local economy and tourism - Regenerating community facilities - Increasing civic pride and community engagement - Improving community wellbeing

**The Ayrshire Community Trust** covers the whole of North Ayrshire and we continue to support the Community and Voluntary Sector with a range of services. Below is a list of support / activities undertaken in which are relevant to the Locality Priorities above since the last Locality Meeting:

- [www.tact.scot](http://www.tact.scot) continues to be updated with a range of information.
- We have sent out various information bulletins highlighting useful resources, funding information and general advice.
- TACT social media continues to be used as a platform to promote safety messages from Police Scotland, Funding Information, Benefit Support, Energy Advice and vital local service provision. We would welcome any information from other service providers that we can share.
- TACT Staff have been organising and facilitating quarterly 'networking' Forums for all 3<sup>rd</sup> Sector groups and organisations that wish to attend. The next online Forum Meetings are scheduled for Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September with the theme of 'decision makers' with speakers from Scottish Parliament, the Third Sector Unit at Scottish Government & OSCR and Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023 with the theme of 'support' and will feature presentations from 3 or 4 organisations that provide support to the third sector. If you are a 3<sup>rd</sup> Sector organisation and you are interested in attending, please email: [info@tact.scot](mailto:info@tact.scot)
- Staff continue to maintain regular dialogue with North Ayrshire Council to update on progress and identify additional ways we can work together.
- **TACT Digital** • NAC Heritage Centre – filmed an interview at Saltcoats harbour for a WW2 exhibition.
- Visited Dalgarnen Mill Museum to discuss filming a series of videos. Currently editing a video about the Andrew Goldie collection.
- NAC Libraries- filmed a creative crafts session for children with a local artist in Irvine library.
- Scottish Centre for Personal Safety – website redesign. Created a live mockup and sent the link to Alan Bell for review (<http://354.444.myftpupload.com/>).

- PrioritEyes – edited a second draft of the video for review. Just waiting on feedback from Norma.
- Kilwinning Abbey Project – creating information panels
- NA Green Health Partnership – website updates and maintenance..  
Find out more about our digital services here: <https://www.tact.scot/digital>
- **INFORM North Ayrshire** – Cost of Living Support. We have created an online guide to provide information on the range of services available across North Ayrshire who are able to offer support and advice on topics such as energy, food and money concerns. The directory can be accessed here: [https://issuu.com/tact-na/docs/inform\\_north\\_ayrshire](https://issuu.com/tact-na/docs/inform_north_ayrshire)
- **Positive Steps with Partners** is our Pre-Employability Project funded by Your Next Move Working North Ayrshire. The team are focusing on Personal development activities supporting barrier removal in helping people become more ready for exploring employability options. The team are back in the office full time working back to face-to-face interactions and offering personal development sessions such as STEPS to Excellence, Skills & Strengths, Introduction to Volunteering, Cooking on a Budget. Working in partnership with Penumbra to delivery the Anxiety Matters training and The Massage Barber who facilitates a session in techniques to overcome stress and this session includes a head massage! The project is also involved at the Eglinton Community Garden collaboration with our 'Sow, Grow & Cook Group as well as our Wood Woodwork Group. Ayrshire College provide us with 8week SCQF Level 4 in Health and Wellbeing course enabling our participants to gain an accredited qualification. Our programme motivates individuals to explore volunteering that will support them to gain the practical experience they can transfer into the workplace. The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service also provide our participants who are ready to move into volunteering with a placement within the Community Action Team attending events promoting Fire Safety in the Community. If you have anyone that may be interested in finding out more, please contact Cheryl Newall via: [cheryl@tact.scot](mailto:cheryl@tact.scot)
- **Employability** - TACT are currently working in partnership with the employability team to allocate 40 Parental Employment Programme (PEP) places across the 3<sup>rd</sup> sector with a variety of organisations taking up the opportunity. There is also support available through our partners at DWP to interview potential candidates at Saltcoats Jobcentre on Tuesday the 12<sup>th</sup> of September.
- **North Ayrshire Third Sector Chief Officer Group** – This is open to Senior Staff working with a 3<sup>rd</sup> Sector Organisation across North Ayrshire. This Group works together to tackle local issues collectively whilst providing great networking opportunities. The next meeting is scheduled to take place via Zoom on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2pm. If you are interested in getting involved, please email: [kaileigh@tact.scot](mailto:kaileigh@tact.scot)
- **Organisational Support** – continuing to work with groups and organisations delivering relevant training including Governance, Basic Bookkeeping, Constitution & Charity Registration, Funding, and Volunteer Management. We are also assisting with Charity Registrations, PVG Support, Funding Support and Support with compiling Constitutions. Continuing to support groups in achieving SCIO status and supporting groups with their CAT applications.
- **Community Asset Transfer (CAT)** We are supporting ten community groups/organisations through the Community Asset Transfer (CAT) process. Each organisation is at various stages of the process and we are liaising with and supporting them at each stage. We also provide advice to groups that are considering or want to know more about CAT.
- **Community Wealth Building**, North Ayrshire is the first Community Wealth Building Council in Scotland – this is fantastic news and something very positive for North Ayrshire. As the Third Sector Interface, TACT sits at the Community Wealth Commission. This commission supports the implementation of the CWB Strategy and

will encourage involvement from local businesses, government agencies and local organisations on CWB initiatives.

- **Volunteering** Staff are continuing to update and source a range of Volunteering Opportunities that are currently available. We are still receiving a high number of Volunteer Registrations and don't have enough placements for those interested. If you know of any groups or organisations that could assist with some additional volunteers please contact [info@tact.scot](mailto:info@tact.scot)
- **Capacity Building Officers** continue to promote Community Benefit opportunities to the 3rd sector, this in the past has included training and opportunities to learn topics such as first aid and tendering skills from successful NAC contractors. We have recently noticed a higher demand from groups for basic first aid training s this can be costly for groups to fund themselves.
- **Organisation of the Month** promotion still going strong. To date we have promoted 29 voluntary organisations. This promotion has been received favourably with the 3<sup>rd</sup> sector and it gives a chance to highlight and promote them. If you would like to nominate a voluntary organisation to be promoted, please contact Susan Manson on [susan@tact.scot](mailto:susan@tact.scot)
- **Adult Volunteer Recognition Award** – This award was launched in June 2021 and is designed to recognise the hours of commitment that Volunteers give to organisations throughout North Ayrshire. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Ann Wilson on [ann@tact.scot](mailto:ann@tact.scot)
- Supporting our Third Sector Interface partners Arran CVS with the Communities Mental Health & Wellbeing Fund for the third year. The 3<sup>rd</sup> (and probably final) round of this funding is due to kick off in the late autumn. This funding is a great way for smaller grass-roots services to access vital funding to support their communities.
- If any Third Sector Organisations are supporting New Scots living in North Ayrshire and are in need of some small pockets of funds to offer support please get in touch on 01294 443044 or email: [info@tact.scot](mailto:info@tact.scot)