



North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

Three Towns Locality Partnership

**Wednesday 6 September 2023, 6.00 p.m. in the Castle Craigs Lounge,
Ardrossan Civic Centre**

BUSINESS

Item	Subject	Pg No	Ref	Officer	Ask of the Partnership
1.	Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest.	-	-	Cllr Kerr	
2.	Action Note Review the action note and deal with any outstanding items.	Pg 4	Enclosed	Angela Morrell	Is this an accurate record of the meeting. Have all actions been completed?
DECISION REQUIRED					6.10 – 6.50 pm
3.	Community Investment Fund The Locality Partnership are asked to consider one Community Investment Fund Expression of Interest and one Full Application. Expression of Interest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stevenston Community Council Road Signage Improvements Full Application <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ardrossan Winton Rovers CIC 	Pg 9	Enclosed To follow	Ian Winton & Jean Frew	LP to consider one CIF EOI and one CIF Application.
4.	Grants – Community Benefit Fund The Locality Partnership are asked to consider grant reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stevenston Common Good Fund Elderly Grants Community Benefit Fund 	Pg 15	Enclosed	Angela Morrell	LP to consider grant report.
LOCAL MATTERS – TACKLING INEQUALITIES					6.50 – 7.50 pm
5.	Raise Your Voice for Ardeer The Locality Partnership will receive an update on the impact of CIF Funding.	-	Presentation	Elizabeth Sweeney	Receive update, discuss and consider partnership opportunities.

6.	Education Overview The Locality Partnership will receive updates linking in with the Locality Priorities from Head Teachers.	-	Verbal	Head Teachers	Receive update, discuss and consider learning and partnership opportunities.
7.	Police Scotland - Wellbeing and Partnerships Receive update from Locality Inspector on the key impact of wellbeing and partnership work being carried out by Police Scotland in the Three Towns. Locality Partnership to consider opportunities to support this.	-	Verbal	Stuart Dougan	Receive update, discuss and consider learning and partnership opportunities.
8.	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service - Wellbeing and Partnerships The Locality Partnership will receive overview from Paul Timmons on the key impact of wellbeing and partnership work being carried out by Scottish Fire and Rescue.	-	Verbal	Paul Timmons	Receive update and consider learning and partnership opportunities.
9.	Locality Update The Locality Partnership will receive an update on the work of the Three Towns Team during the last quarter.	Pg 21	Enclosed	Gordon Cowan	Receive update and discuss how LP can further support this work.
AOCB					7.50 – 8.00 pm
10.	AOCB			Cllr Kerr	LP to use this time to raise/discuss matters linking to the Locality, the LP priorities and tackling inequalities.
REPORTS FOR INFORMATION					
11.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> North Ayrshire Youth Work Update 	Pg 28	Enclosed	Cllr Kerr	Locality Partnership are asked to note the report and share as appropriate.
Date of next Meeting: Thursday 14 December 2023 at 6pm in the Lounge Area, Ardrossan Civic Centre.					

Distribution List

Elected Members

Councillor Amanda Kerr (**Chair**)
Councillor Stewart Ferguson
Councillor Anthony Gurney
Councillor Cameron Inglis
Councillor Jean McClung
Councillor Jim Montgomerie
Councillor Davina McTiernan
Councillor John Sweeney

Community Representatives

Pat Breen
Jean Frew
Julia Gray (**Vice Chair**)
Craig Mochan
Scott Mould
Glenn Turner
Ian Winton (**Stevenston CC**)

CPP and Council Representatives

Angela Morrell, Lead Officer
Susan Manson, Third Sector Interface
Stuart Dougan, Police Scotland
Paul Timmons, Scottish Fire and Rescue

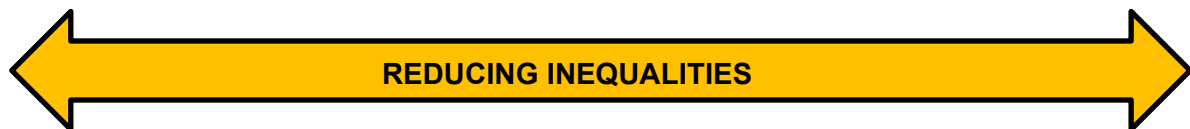
Three Town Locality Partnership Priorities

**Promoting the
local economy
and tourism**

**Regenerating
community
facilities**

**Increasing
civic pride and
community
engagement**

**Improving
Community
Wellbeing**



Action Note

Meeting:	Three Towns Locality Partnership
Date/Venue:	14 June 2023; Ardrossan Civic Centre at 6:00pm
Present:	<p>Councillor Amanda Kerr (Chair) Councillor Cameron Inglis Councillor Jean McClung Councillor Davina McTiernan Councillor John Sweeney Councillor Stewart Ferguson Councillor Tony Gurney Pat Breen, Community Representative Jean Frew, Community Representative Julia Gray, Community Representative Glenn Turner, Community Representative Craig Mochan, Community Representative Ian Winton, Stevenston Community Council Chair Gordon Cowan, Community Development Worker, NAC Colin Ferris, Locality Officer, NAC Angela Morrell, Senior Manager (Community Learning and Development), NAC Inspector Stuart Dougan (Police Scotland) Shannon Wilson, Committee Services Officer, NAC</p>
Also in Attendance	<p>Donna McGregor, SALT Group Graham Emans, CCTV & Concierge Service, NAC Elizabeth Gribben, Head Teacher, NAC Shona McAllister, Programme Manager, NAC</p>
Apologies:	<p>Councillor Jim Montgomerie Scott Mould, Community Representative Paul Timmons, Scottish Fire and Rescue Susan Manson, Third Sector Interface</p>

ACTIONS		
No.	Action	Responsible
1.	<p>Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest</p> <p>The Chair welcomed those present to the Three Towns Locality Partnership meeting. Apologies for absence were noted.</p> <p>Declarations of interest were made as below:</p> <p><u>Agenda Item 3 - Community Investment Fund</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Kerr and P Breen (EOI Ardrossan Winton Rovers CIC) • G Turner (SALT CCTV) <p><u>Agenda Item 4 – Grants – Community Benefit Funds</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Sweeney (Elderly Grants) 	

Action Note

2.	<p>Action Note from meeting on 8 March 2023</p> <p>The action note from the meeting held on 8 March 2023 was approved as a correct record and the implementation of decisions confirmed.</p>	
3.	<p>Community Investment Fund</p> <p><u>Full Application - SALT CCTV</u></p> <p>The Partnership received a summary of the equipment required, technical specification and the anticipated cost for the CCTV applied for by the SALT Group.</p> <p>The partnership discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the breakdown of costs to purchase, install and maintain one CCTV camera; • what was included in the quote noted in the full application; • the potential that future quotes would be slightly higher than the figure noted in the application due to inflation; • the process of re-evaluating the capacity of the CCTV & Concierge team each time a community group noted interest in installing CCTV in a public space; • the coverage of the CCTV equipment; and • the benefit of installing CCTV in public spaces which aids Police Scotland to ensure the community remains safe. <p>The Partnership agreed to approve the application.</p> <p><u>EOI Ardrossan Winton Rovers CIC</u></p> <p>The Partnership received a summary of the Expression of Interest Form received by Ardrossan Community Sports Club for £85,000 of funding to replace the stadium roof.</p> <p>The Partnership discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the urgency of the work required to ensure the main stand and adjacent rooms were not condemned and the expected lifespan of the stadium following works to the roof; and • community interest in the club, including recent events held to raise funds; <p>A Morrell noted the remaining balance in the Community Investment Fund was £556,027.</p> <p>The Partnership agreed to support the full application for funding.</p>	

Action Note

4.	<p>Grants – Community Benefit Fund</p> <p><u>Elderly Grants</u></p> <p>The Partnership received an update on the Elderly Grants Fund 2023/2024 budget and an overview of the application received in respect of the Three Towns and Arran Community Benefit Fund.</p> <p>The Partnership agreed to approve this application.</p> <p><u>3TFM</u></p> <p>The Partnership received a summary of the application received from 3TFM requesting £3,000 to support the annual running costs of the radio station.</p> <p>The Partnership agreed to support this application.</p>	
5.	<p>Street Naming Report</p> <p>The Partnership agreed to support the Street Naming Report received from Planning in regard to a new housing development in the area.</p>	
6.	<p>Communities and Place Fund</p> <p>S McAllister delivered a presentation to the Partnership outlining the Communities and Place Fund which was launched in June 2023.</p> <p>The Partnership discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the quick turnaround to submit an application and the impact this had on Community Councils who have had their final meeting prior to summer recess; • the potential for Community Councils to call an emergency meeting to discuss this fund and what assistance the Council could provide to those completing applications; and • whether a community group can apply for funding more than once. <p>Noted.</p>	
7.	<p>Three Towns Signage</p> <p>The Partnership received an update from the Locality Officer on signage in the Three Towns.</p> <p>The Partnership discussed the need to assess signage in the Three Towns to assist locals and tourists to the area, for example by installing a sign at Stevenston Cross to advise visitors that there is a beach nearby. It was also noted that the sign for Whitlees</p>	

Action Note

	<p>Community Centre in Ardrossan points in the wrong direction which is misleading to visitors.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	
8.	<p>Ardrossan Community Association</p> <p>J Gray delivered a presentation to the Partnership highlighting the positive impact of CIF funding.</p> <p>The Chair, on behalf of the Partnership, thanked J Gray for the presentation which drew attention to the benefit this funding had in the community. The Partnership agreed it would be beneficial to invite groups who have received CIF funding to future meetings to present how the funding was used and the impact it had.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	Jennifer McGee
9.	<p>Education Overview</p> <p>The Partnership received a verbal update from E Gribben, Head Teacher at Dykesmains Primary School.</p>	
10.	<p>Police Scotland - Wellbeing and Partnerships</p> <p>The Partnership received a verbal update from Inspector Stuart Dougan, Police Scotland on the Community Wellbeing Unit and work with residents at Ardrossan Hostel to assist their rehabilitation.</p> <p>The Partnership discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support from the Government which assisted in a reduction in sales of single use vapes; • the increase in graffiti and vandalism in the local area and the ongoing work with Police Scotland and Streetscene to remove this from public buildings as quickly as possible; • the success of the mural project in Saltcoats Town Centre and the potential opportunity to expand this project to other towns; and • deployment of the Police quad bikes and the positive impact these had on the community, increasing visibility with rural crimes such as fly tipping and providing assistance to Scottish Fire and Rescue to prevent wilful fire raising. <p>Noted.</p>	
11.	<p>Scottish Fire and Rescue Service - Wellbeing and Partnerships</p> <p>This item was not discussed as there was no representative from the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service present at the meeting.</p>	

Action Note

12.	<p>Locality Officer Update</p> <p>The Partnership received a summary of the report submitted by Colin Ferris, Locality Officer which highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the success of the Discovery Group across Scotland and eligibility criteria for over 50's; • link work with TACT which provided further information to the community on how to get involved; and • funding received to establish the Multiply Project, a free numeracy programme for adults. <p>The Chair, on behalf of the Partnership, thanked C Ferris for all work undertaken with the Locality Partnerships and wished him well in his new post.</p>	
13.	<p>AOCB</p> <p>G Turner requested an information session was scheduled to recap grant criteria, funding pots and replenishment to better inform the Partnership on what they have voted on.</p>	Angela Morrell
14.	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>Wednesday 6 September 2023.</p>	

The Meeting ended at 7:45 p.m.



Community Investment Fund Expression of Interest Form

Please see notes on reverse before completing this form.

Organisation name	Stevenston Community Council
Brief details of organisation	<p>Community Councils were established under the same legislation as North Ayrshire Council and have a duty to represent the residents of Stevenston.</p> <p>Members are elected from nominations on a 4-year cycle and endeavour to advocate for the town. We provide a voice to promote and challenge changes to the town.</p> <p>As such we are a non-charitable voluntary organisation.</p>
Locality	Three Towns
Amount Requested	£37000 approximation based on similar or advised costs
Timescale	We expect from funding being approved to completion approx. 6 months dependant on contractors and permissions required.
Brief Overview of Proposal	<p>Over several years inconsistencies in local signage have been noted, The Community council members have created a list of proposals to enhance both a visitor's navigation of the town and to enhance the residents understanding of the nature reserves and green spaces. Detailed changes have been collated over the summer. We then sent on this list to the NAC service who has responsibility for the type of signage and its placement for their comments. Roads, Streetscene and Heritage/ Ranger service. See attached list for greater detail.</p>
Timescale	March 24 onwards completion august 24

Contact Details	Don Campbell,



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.
- 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.

Stevenston Community Council Town improvements to Signage list of additions and changes. Prepared 01/07/2023

The changes desired are listed against the council service who we believe is responsible for the public space involved this has been confusing to clarify. Alternatively, we list the service involved in the original placement of the signage. There is no expectation that these services are now responsible for these changes however their expertise in identify appropriate contractors and formulating quote request would be appreciated. These changes will be subject to a public conversation in July.

An expression of interest will be presented to the locality partnership in September. Additional funding will also be pursued for specific items as it is identified.

However, we would prefer to allocate the contract to 1 single contractor.

Project managing this scale of installation is out with the capacity of volunteers involved in the Community Council.

NAC Service	Place in town	New or Change	Estimated Costs
STREETSCENE Street furniture	Stevenston Cross	New Finger signs on a black pole at junction of Main Street and New Street...outside Library. Saying.... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Railway Station • Beach • Beach Hub • Golf Course • Driving Range • Ardeer Quarry Nature Reserve 	Guesstimate £2500 hopefully worst case cost.
Street furniture	Ardeer Community Centre (at black bin, at corner of car park opposite Railways Station)	New Finger signs on black pole visual from Railway Station Saying.. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town Centre • Beach • Beach Hub • Beach Nature Reserve • Kerlaw castle 	Guesstimate £2500
Street furniture	McGregor Avenue.	New Finger Sign pointing left to Kerlaw Castle as you exit the walkway behind McGregor Avenue. Pointing left up Campbell Avenue.	Guesstimate £2500

Street furniture	entrance to Millend	New finger Sign at entrance to Millend off Stevenston Cross Saying <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walkway to Kerlaw Castle 	Guesstimate £2500
TOURISM /Heritage	A738 Glencairn Street	New Sign at the bottom of the steps at Bonnie Lesley Monument (facing both sides) on pole Saying Bonnie Lesley Monument ... Also New signs (facing both sides).. on Glencairn Street pointing up Kerelaw Rd Saying on pole Kerlaw Castle Linked to moving the current heritage sign to the bottom of the stairs this sign needs updated as well but the structure just needs moved. Or a duplicate put in place see option to move monument	Guesstimate £2500
ROADS...?	New Lamppost signs at Moorpark Rd West/East	New Lamppost signs Pointing to Moorpark Rd West Saying <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Auchenharvie Golf Course Auchenharvie Driving Range Pointing to Moorpark Rd East Saying Ardeer Quarry Nature Reserve	Based on advice from roads £600+
	Garnock Rd junction with Townhead Street	New Lamppost sign. Pointing down Garnock Rd(both side sign) Saying <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ardeer Rec Bowling Club Ardeer Quarry Nature Reserve TASS football pitches. 	Based on advice from roads £600+

	Lamppost sign at junction of Lundholm Rd and Caledonia Rd	New Lamppost sign at junction of Lundholm Rd and Caledonia Rd Pointing towards shore Rd. Saying <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beach • Beach Hub • Beach Nature Reserve 	Based on advice from roads £600+
	lamppost F46(on Campbell Avenue)	New Lamppost sign on lamppost F46(on Campbell Avenue) pointing left behind the houses to Kerelaw Castle	Based on advice from roads £400+
	Glebe Street	New Lamppost sign at bottom pointing up Glebe Street Saying Bonny Lesley Monument	Based on advice from roads £400+
	Hayocks Rd	New Lamppost sign at Ardeer Filling Station pointing up a Hayocks Rd Saying Hayocks Community Centre	Based on advice from roads £400+
	Hayocks Rd	New Lamppost sign on Hayocks Rd pointing along Morrison Avenue Saying Hayocks Community Centre	Based on advice from roads £400+
	at Hayocks Rd Shops	New Lamppost sign on Hayocks Rd () pointing towards Hyslop Rd Saying Hayocks Community Centre	Based on advice from roads £400+

HISTORICAL/ Tourism /Heritage		<p>Changes There are 6 possibly 7 Poster type information boards around the town that badly need refreshed. Put up over twenty years ago. Most are on post which while needing structure assessment just need new inserts placed in them.</p> <p>Kerelaw Castle (brought to the outside of the fence)</p> <p>Champion Shell</p> <p>Bonnie Lesley (currently outside Bonnie Lesley Court) to be removed and re sighted to actual Monument off Glencairn Street</p> <p>Barony and Parish of Stevenston (outside Library near DRs surgery)</p> <p>Stevenston Heritage Trail at fort of Millend Walkway just off Stevenston Cross</p> <p>Stevenston Commercial Coal Canal at Canal bridge at Ardeer Quarry Park</p> <p>There was also a sign at the pond at Ardeer Quarry telling the story of the work carried out transforming the area to a park and Nature Reserve (unfortunately this sign was completely destroyed and the information on it would need to be researched)!</p>	<p>Assumed costs £1000 per sign to refurbish. With addition cost for those to be moved assumed to be 1K per sign</p> <p>Approx. £9000 hopefully less. Subject to quote</p>
Nature / Environment biodiversity info	Stevenston Beach Nature Reserve	LECTERN style 4 signs Giving information on the wildlife and habitats on both reserves.	Assumed cost based on examples. £6000 designed and installed
	Ardeer Rec Nature Reserve 4 signs	LECTERN style 4 signs Giving information on the wildlife and habitats on both reserves.	Assumed cost based on examples. £6000 designed and installed
			Approximate total subject to quotes £36,900



Locality Partnership: Three Towns Locality

Date: 13th September 2023

Subject: To advise the meeting of applications received in respect of Stevenston Common Good Fund, the Community Benefit Fund 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 Stevenston Common Good Fund, the Community Benefit Fund the 2023-24 Elderly Grants fund.

Key Points for Locality Partnership:

- Stevenston Common Good Fund has a balance of **£17,728**
- The Community Benefit Fund has a balance of **£59,627.39**
- The 2022/24 Elderly Grants budget for the Three Towns Locality is **£12,980**.

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

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

Completed by: *Rosemary Ramsay, Funding Officer, Connected Communities*
(rosemaryramsay@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)

Date: 8.8.23

**STEVENSTON COMMON GOOD FUND
APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 2023/2024**

Common Good Criteria -

The application should benefit all or a significant group of the inhabitants of the area to which the Common Good relates.

Applicant	Purpose of Grant	Amount Requested	Previous Common Good Awards
Hayocks Tenants and Residents Association	Contribution towards creation of a community garden. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gardening Works - £2,500 Grow Bags - £100 Composite planters, soil, bedding plants and vegetables - £2,000 TOTAL - £4,600 £1,200 secured through local funds.	£3,400	2018/19 - £1,850 2016/17 - £1,687
<p>Connected Communities, Finance, and Legal Services have been consulted and their comments are as follows:</p> <p>Finance: 23/24 budget available for disbursement for Stevenston common Good is £17,728 disbursed to date in 23/24 is zero, therefore £17,728 is available for disbursement.</p> <p>Legal: In terms of s.15(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1994 when determining whether an application is to receive assistance from Common Good funds the Council should have regard to the interests of the inhabitants as a whole of the area to which the Common Good relates. It is mentioned in the application that the money will be used clear the weeds and replant flowers and veg. It is also mentioned that the garden was used pre-covid for fundays, picnics and general togethers, therefore it would seem that in order for the general public to benefit from this garden again the proposed clearance works are essential. I note that the applicant has previously been awarded CG funds and has provided all of the relevant details namely the constitution, audited accounts, bank statements and quotes/estimates. I think the award could be substantiated from a legal perspective in that the proposed works will ultimately benefit children and the community generally as it will create a community garden useable by all age groups. If the Committee decides to grant this application, it must be satisfied that the grant of the funds would be to the benefit of the inhabitants of Stevenston and that this perceived benefit be clearly minuted, as it is likely that the auditor will require this information, should an audit be conducted.</p> <p>Connected Communities: Grant funding is being sought to enable Hayocks TARA to clear and restore the community garden to the standard that it had been in before COVID-19. This will allow the area to be used for fundays, picnics and general get togethers. This will provide an outdoor community garden that is open to everyone of any age. The group aims to grow vegetables that will be given to members of the community for free and the project will provide and sense of community and civic pride.</p> <p>Connected Communities is satisfied that this project meets the criteria of the Common Good Fund.</p>			

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

Grant Allocation for Three Towns LPP Area

£ 12,980

Group	Purpose of Grant	Grant Allocated to Group	Amount Requested
CLASPS Stevenston (HOPE Project)	Provision of a number of health and wellbeing classes, one to one digital tuition and social outings using wheelchair friendly buses with the aim of reducing social isolation and loneliness, improving health and wellbeing, improving digital skills and providing information and advice on issues affecting older people.	£ 3,697	£ 3,697
Saltcoats Old People's Welfare	Contribution towards a range of activities such as afternoon teas, bingo, games and entertainment nights, pantomime, summer trip and Christmas dinners, with the aim of addressing social isolation and increase confidence.	£ 4,373	£ 4,373
Three Towns OIR	Contribution towards activities for elderly including walking football, trips, pantomime Christmas party and food vouchers.	£ 4,910	£ 4,910

COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND OFFICER REPORT

Applicant Contact Details

Name of Organisation: Inspire Motivate Celebrate SCIO	Contact Person: Jim Montgomerie, Chairperson
Address: 40 Springvale Street Saltcoats KA21 5LP	Telephone Number: Available

Description of Applicant Organisation

Number of Members: 330 250 regular members	Established: 29th August 2019
Meeting Place: 40 Springvale Street, Saltcoats	Date of Contact: 1.8.23

Description of the Project

Background:

The IMC Project is based in Saltcoats and the purpose of the organisation is to provide a fitness facility which will relieve the conditions of life and vulnerability of young people affected by crime, poverty, exclusion, isolation, lack of self-esteem, direction, purpose and education. The organisation aims to teach community focus, drive, determination and a will to succeed through inspiration and motivation. It offers gym and training facilities and aims to encourage young people in the community to come off the street and become focused on something positive through the art of boxing.

In addition to the above, IMC also aims to promote community focus and inclusion and as the Project is located within such a deprived area, it also acts as a community hub. Members are encouraged to volunteer and become involved in providing support to the local community through volunteering in the following initiatives:

- Foodbank
- Supporting poverty during Christmas
- COVID-19 Community Hub – this involved delivering food boxes, answering calls in relation to food provision, picking up prescriptions, taking people to hospital, cutting grass, putting money in electric/gas meters, preparing hot and cold meals, shopping, picking up food supplies for the Hub and delivering food from the Foodbank
- Provision of a community fridge
- Supporting local community events (including Bonfire Night Fireworks Event)

Project for Funding:

As highlighted above, IMC aims to promote community focus and encourages members to volunteer and become involved in providing support to the local community through volunteering.

As part of this activity, IMC arranges the annual bonfire night fireworks display that takes place at Saltcoats Harbour. This is a family fun event where all of the local community can come together to enjoy watching the fireworks display from a safe

distance. It helps bring everyone in the community together and ensures that those who may not otherwise be able to afford to go along to such an event can do so. IMC are seeking grant funding towards the cost of the fireworks display for this year's display taking place on 4th November 2023.

Funding

Amount requested: £2,520 - Outdoor category 3/4 firework display - £2,520 - Glowsticks for free distribution to local children - £700 Total Costs - £3,220	Contribution by Group: £700
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Supporting Information Provided

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

Additional Comments on Scoring

Criteria:

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| 1. Charitable | x | 2. Educational |
| 3. Community | x | 4. Environmental |
| 5. Renewable Energy | | 6. Energy Efficiency |
| 7. Sustainable Development | | 8. General Community Amenity |

Level of environmental enhancement:

This project offers no environmental enhancement.

Level of community involvement:

IMC is strongly involved with the local community and as the Project is located within such a deprived area, it also acts as a community hub. Members are encouraged to volunteer and become involved in providing support to the local community through volunteering in the delivery of the following initiatives:

- Foodbank
- Supporting poverty during Christmas 2019
- COVID-19 Community Hub – this involved delivering food boxes, answering calls in relation to food provision, picking up prescriptions, taking people to hospital, cutting grass, putting money in electric/gas meters, preparing hot and cold meals, shopping, picking up food supplies for the Hub and delivering food from the Foodbank
- Provision of a community fridge
- Supporting local community events (including Bonfire Night Fireworks Event)

Level of funding secured or available:

IMC are contributing £700.

Experience of group to deliver project:

IMC has considerable experience of delivering community-based projects. The organisation is governed by a committed Board of Trustees and as a SCIO, the organisation must comply with and be accountable to OSCR.

Future sustainability of project:

Since becoming established in 2019, IMC has continually grown and developed and is now acting as a Community Hub. The organisation now owns the building that they operate from and their business plan shows projected income growth which will contribute to their future sustainability.

IMC have been supporting the Saltcoats bonfire night fireworks event for several years and it is anticipated that they will continue to do so.

Location of Project:

The bonfire night fireworks display takes place at Saltcoats Harbour.

Officer Details

Name:	Rosemary Ramsay	Position:	Funding Officer
E-mail:	rosemaryramsay@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	Date:	8.8.23



North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

The Three Towns Progress Report

Reporting Period June - August 2023



The journey so far

Raise Your Voice with Ardeer

- Held their public open day at The Doon the Beach Café and Hub, in July. Over 2000 people came along on the day and took part in various interactive and fun activities.
- Staff training ongoing.
- The project is now employing 2 young staff members over the Summer. They also have 5 volunteers at the café/hub.
- The group have met with Eric McMillan, architect and they are investigating accessible changing area, fundraising is ongoing.
- The Raise Your Voice with Ardeer have been approached by other groups/projects who are looking at doing something similar.
- There are now lets at the hub.

Older People's Voice (NA Wide)

- Older peoples conference for June 28th at the Ardeer Centre was cancelled the new date set is in November.
- An over 50's event will be held towards the end of September, where it will show case what is on for over 50's in the 3 towns and some information stalls.
- The elderly forum, a date has still to be set for first meeting.

Sustainable food projects in Three towns.

- There has been ongoing support and visits to the larders.
- All larders are running well, everyone in the three towns working together to support each other. Community cafes are all open.

Ardrossan Community Development Trust

- Work on the playpark has now started, demolition of the toilets block is discussed and planned for September.
- An amazing Mural has been completed at number 1 Princes St. The artwork is based around feedback from the public engagement and local primary schools. The mural depicts historical events and things unique to Ardrossan, i.e. A seal with an Ardrossan Winton Rovers top on.

Ardrossan Community (Whitlees) Association.

- The Association development work is producing an EOI for a CAT of the Whitlees centre building to the Association.
- Business plan has now been completed.



Economy and Tourism



North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

The Three Towns Progress Report

Reporting Period June - August 2023

- Volunteers continue to work and gain experience in the centre and the café.
- The Whitlees Gala Day was a successful event with
- Heads Of Ayr Family Trip and Blackpool Family (Overnight) Trip were successful.
- The Association had to fundays over the Summer period which were both well attended.

Stevenston North Community Association (Hayocks Hall)

- SCIO application has now been submitted and application is being processed.
- New supports/templates for management committee including, finance, minutes. Agenda etc are now in place.
- Job description and a person specification for the anti-poverty development worker, job has been advertised and closed. Interviews took place Monday 28th August with hopefully someone appointed by Friday 1st September.
- The Association organised trips for the community and had a Funday in August all of which were well attended.

Argyle Community Association (ACA) and Centre

- The Association and the Ayrshire Independent Living Network (AILN) have now launched their dementia friendly café at the Argyle Centre. There was a successful launch event. The café is open Fridays 1:30pm – 3pm. There are volunteers from the centre and from the three towns community.
- Argyle Community Association in partnership with Saltcoats link up has facilitated/supported 3 pop up back to school events. This being free kids haircuts, 81 haircuts were carried out. Pop up events 2 and 3 being preloved school clothing events with over 55 families being catered for.

Stevenston South (Ardeer) Community Association

- Continuing to support Association meetings and continue to provide information regarding possible funding streams.
- The Association recently had their Gala Day in August. The event was well attended.
- The Association had trips to places like Blair Drummond over the Summer.
- The Association are looking at funding to upgrade the kitchen.
- The Association are looking to recruit more volunteers.



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Café Solace

- Supporting volunteers to manage weekly café & build relationships with relevant services to establish regular info tables/events.
- Supporting individuals attending Nadars Changes Group to access relevant interventions.
- Continue to develop interventions to reduce stigma & build relationships with the wider community. Supporting individuals to access training/learning opportunities.
- 6 Week Kitchen Skills training completed in collaboration with Argyle Community Centre/Link-up & Café Solace Kilbirnie – another session is being planned.
- Discussion is underway for provision of adult literacy class for volunteers.
- 6 Volunteers completed Naloxone Training
- 4 individuals registered at college to start courses in August.
- 2 volunteers are now in employment.
- Supporting individuals & adp sessional worker to develop & sustain Eglinton Growers allotment.
- Attending weekly recovery drop in to support individuals & service users to sustain & develop safe space to engage in social activities/walking group, service users meet to discuss & agree on activities/services to invite.
- Supporting individuals to develop recovery focused drop-in hub on a weekly basis within Irvine Youth Forum Legacy Hub
- Supporting volunteers to develop Conversation café to link in with Lived Experience panel – assisting regular volunteers to access relevant training to facilitate the hub independently in the future.
- 12-15 individuals attend the Recovery Hub on a weekly basis.
- Supporting ADP lived experience sessional worker & ADP support officer to meet ADP priorities in the local community.
- Support to access training/community engagement to develop skills & projects for the wider recovery community, including a Lived Experience Panel – Conversation Café
- Awaiting further info from ADP to confirm funding for additional sessional hours.



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Community Regeneration

SALT

- SALT group has successfully bided for CIF money to purchase a CCTV camera, and this will be placed at the pirate park, Winton circus, Saltcoats.

Ripple Effect, Saltcoats

- Ripple effect and Saltcoats Link Up were awarded UK Prosperity funding, £25,000. The award will be used to carry out a feasibility/consultation study around Melbourne Park. Austin Smith Lord (architecture and consultancy) will carry out the feasibility study.

Evolution Skate Park

- The group are looking at cost for a replacement building that will have an office, toilets, café. They had planned to submit an EOI for CIF but have decided to hold this back for the future.
- The business plan for skatepark is ongoing.

Three Towns Men's Shed

- 7,9 & 11 Glasgow Street -is now not an option as base for the group.
- The group are now investigating other options for premises.
- Remainder of the lottery grant has now been spent on new equipment.



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Network meeting

- Next network meeting will be end of September 2023, theme and agenda to be established.

Chit Chat

- Chit Chat was held Tuesday 29th August.
- The theme was a marketplace event to showcase groups in the 3 towns and ran in conjunction with the PB launch.
- 14 groups/projects took part in the marketplace, with 50 people attending.

Active Citizenship Activities

- Stevenston residents attended the climate change town get together in Stirling in May.
- Tree For Me and You - Recruitment is under way with discussions happening in September 2023 this will be in partnership with the biodiversity officer.

Three Towns Growers (3TG)

- Board build proposal (education hub) still in development
- Their current Development worker has now left to take up a post with Saltcoats link up.
- The 3TG have completed a new community development worker job description and role profile. The post is being advertised end of August beginning September.

Three Towns Clean-up crew

- Group members continue to collect litter and advise Streetscene on sighting of litter bins and hotspots around schools, community centres etc.
- Positive partnerships established with Streetscene to work on solutions to litter hot spots.
- Have started some outreach work with the schools.
- Three Towns Clean up crew took part in a waste awareness event in partnership with the young climate ambassadors and completed at litter pick at South Beach.

Make A Meal Of It (MAMOI)

- Both the Church of the Nazarene & the Ardeer community Centre venues were on over the summer school holidays.



Environment (Civic
pride and Community
Engagement)



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- Across both venues there were on average 45 children in attendance along with 7 parents.
- Various activities enjoyed by the kids & adults. Impact Arts, Groovy Beats and Bunny Love where some of the activities provided at MAMOI.
- Bounce station was the highlight of the holidays.

Adult Learning Opportunities:

- Digital devices drop in will restart week commencing 4th September at the Argyle Centre and Whitees Centre with a new session at Stevenston Library added.
- The Discovery Award Scotland (Accredited award for over 50s), most have now completed their bronze award and have moved onto silver.
- The Stroll with It (Health walks Championing Green Heath and the Natural Environment). Ongoing over the summer with some visits to new places. The group now have their own volunteer walk leader who successfully completed walk leader training with the Active Travel Hub.
- A New Hope Men's Health Group (MHWB). Peer led MHWB support group. Group are looking at an activity to do in September as part of the Scottish Suicide awareness week.

Youth program

Stevenston:

- The Gamers Group and Scratch group held 3 open sessions over the summer holidays

Ardrossan:

- Northern Lights Duke of Edinburgh Award Group. The group has completed their practise expedition and have the bronze expedition planned for September. 8 young people are hoping to complete the expedition.

All youth groups/projects will restart for Autumn/Winter will start 4 September 2023. Programmes will finish week ending 18 December 2023

Ardrossan Youth Association

- The Ardrossan Youth Association continue to meet on a weekly basis on a Thursday evening. They meet to maintain the running of the Ardrossan Youth Centre.



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- The Ardrossan Youth Association organised 3 Summer funday/BBQ events.

Summer Meals Programme:

- There were 3 Summer hubs across the three towns running from 3rd July to 28th July.
- Various activities and a light lunch were provided to over 60 children/young people.

Take Time on the Road Events:

- The Three Towns hosted 2 free fun events with a mental health and wellbeing focus over the summer period as part of an NAC Wide programme:
- Take time on the road events happened at the Glebe Park, Saltcoats and South Beach, Ardrossan. Both were well attended with over 800 people taking part in both events.

Stevenston Community Council

- The organisation had some time off during the summer period.
- Town centre gardening project have continued to improve the town centre and have now been engaging with members of the community.
- The SCC have put in EOI to the CIF to refresh and update the signage in Stevenston.

Participatory Budgeting

- Allocated budget per locality: 3 Towns Locality - £24,725 Shared Prosperity Fund - £30,000 and Youth - £13,689
- All PB applications opened 18th August and will close 11th September.
- Three Towns held a PB launch on Tuesday 29th August at the Civic Centre, Ardrossan
- A review date has been set for 28th September to review applications. Community members have still to be identified for the steering group.

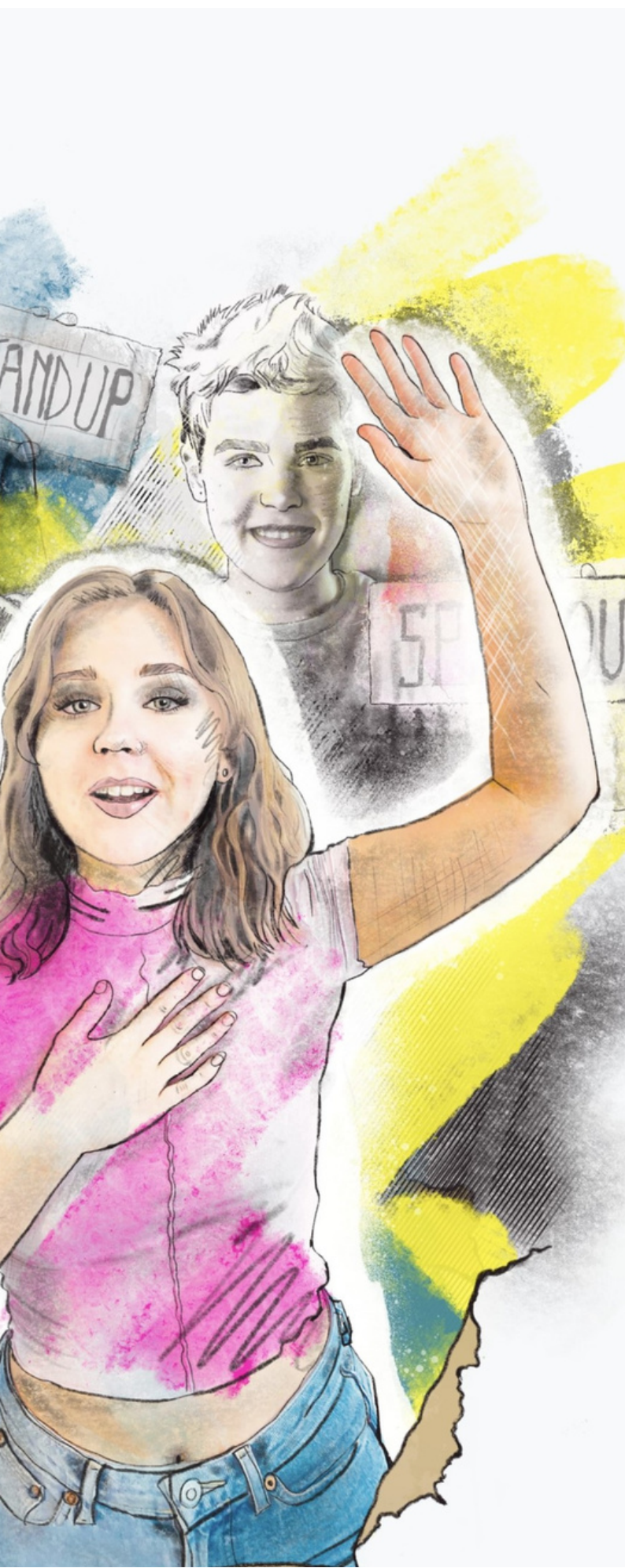
For further information contact: [Gordon Cowan, Community Development Worker:](#)
GCowan@north-ayrshire.gov.uk



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

QUARTERLY UPDATE

AUGUST 2023 - DONNA ANDERSON
DANDERSON@NORTH-AYRSHIRE.GOV.UK



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.

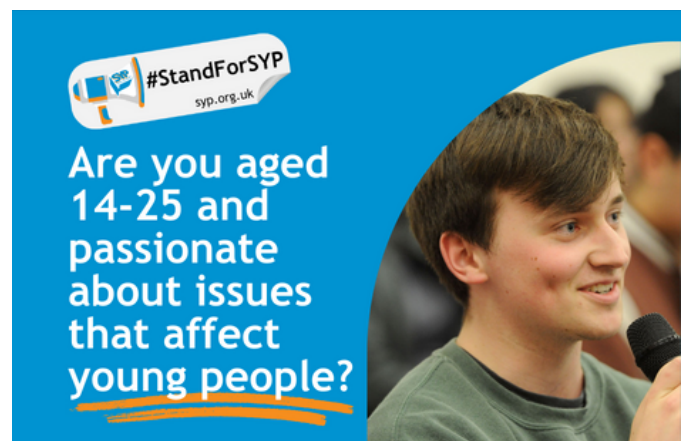
MSYPs have a crucial role to play in Scottish public life, from representing young people across the country to running impactful campaigns. Becoming an MSYP is a life changing experience whilst improving the lives of Scotland's young people, learning new skills, and meeting other inspiring young people. 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**



Scan the QR Code to register interest



Find out more and register at 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

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 peoples 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.

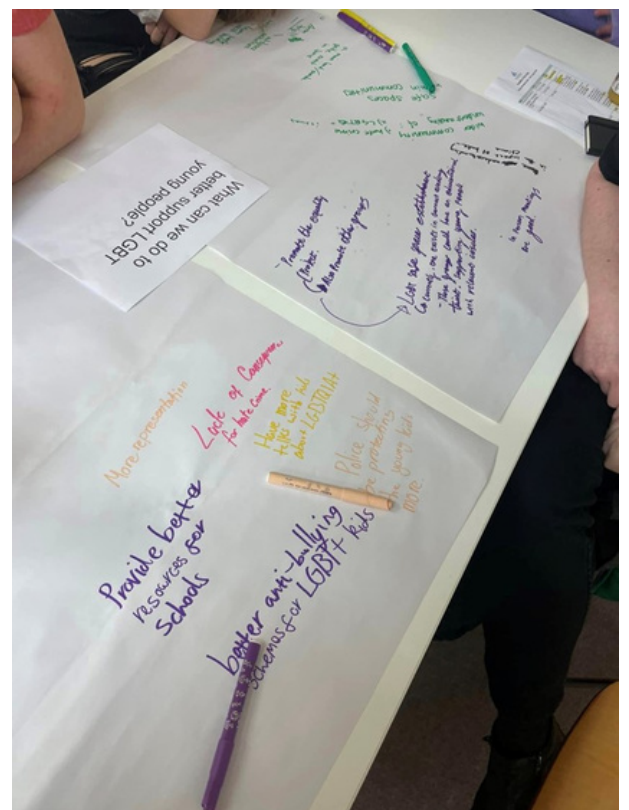
It is part of North Ayrshire's Youth Participation Strategy and supports UNCRC, which ensures that all children's rights are respected, heard and actioned. The project group has been established to support key groups of young people/ protected characteristics :

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