



North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

Garnock Valley Locality Partnership

**Thursday 7 December 2023, 7.00 p.m. in the Bridgend Community
Centre, Kilbirnie**

BUSINESS

Item	Subject	Pg No	Ref	Officer	Ask of the Partnership
1.	Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest.	-	-	Cllr Bell	
2.	Action Note Review the action note and deal with any outstanding items.	Pg 4	Enclosed	Elaine Young	Is this an accurate record of the meeting. Have all actions been completed?
LOCAL MATTERS – TACKLING INEQUALITIES					7.10 – 7.50 pm
3.	B714 Upgrade The Locality Partnership will receive an update.	-	Verbal	Claire Fitzsimmons	Receive update and discuss how LP can further support this work.
4.	Education & Youth Overview The Locality Partnership will receive an overview from Head Teachers and the Community Learning Development Team.	-	Verbal	Head Teachers & CLD Team	Receive update and discuss learning and partnership opportunities.
5.	KA Leisure The Locality Partnership will receive an updated on the work against the priorities of the Garnock Valley Locality.	-	Verbal	Scott Morrison	Discuss progress, learning and partnership opportunities
6.	Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue - Wellbeing and Partnerships Officers to discuss with the Locality Partnership the key impact of wellbeing and partnership work being carried out by SFRS and Police Scotland in the Garnock Valley.	-	Verbal	David Cameron Neil Shearer	Discuss progress, learning and partnership opportunities
DECISION REQUIRED					7.50 – 8.35 pm
7.	Locality Action Plan Locality Partnership to consider Draft Locality Action Plan for 2023/24	Pg 8	Enclosed	Angela Morrell	Locality Partnership to consider Draft Locality Action Plan for 2023/24
8.	Community Investment Fund Full Application • Beith Community Association	Pg 17	Enclosed	Christina Pieraccini	LP to consider two full CIF applications

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Garnock Valley 2023 Development Worker 	Pg 27			
9.	Street Naming The Locality Partnership are asked to consider a Street Naming report from Planning. This is to name 3 streets within the site of former Garnock Academy.	Pg 39	Enclosed	Angela Morrell	LP to approve street naming report.
LOCAL MATTERS – TACKLING INEQUALITIES					8.35 – 8.55 pm
10.	Locality Plan Progress Receive feedback from the sub-group. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moving Around Facilities and Amenities Work and the Local Community 	-	Verbal	Christina Pieraccini Community Reps	Receive update and discuss how LP can further support this work.
11.	Locality Officer Update The Locality Partnership will receive an updated on the work against the priorities of the Garnock Valley Locality.	Pg 42	Enclosed	Christina Pieraccini	Receive update and discuss how LP can further support this work.
AOCB					8.55 – 9.00 pm
12.	AOCB Democracy Matters	-	Verbal	Jane Lamont	LP to use this time to raise/discuss matters linking to the Locality, the LP priorities and tackling inequalities.
REPORTS FOR INFORMATION					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly CLD Report 	Pg 47	Enclosed	Cllr Bell	Locality Partnership are asked to note the reports and share as appropriate.

Distributions List

Elected Members

Councillor John Bell **(Chair)**
Councillor Anthea Dickson
Councillor Margaret Johnson
Councillor Donald L Reid
Councillor Ronnie Stalker

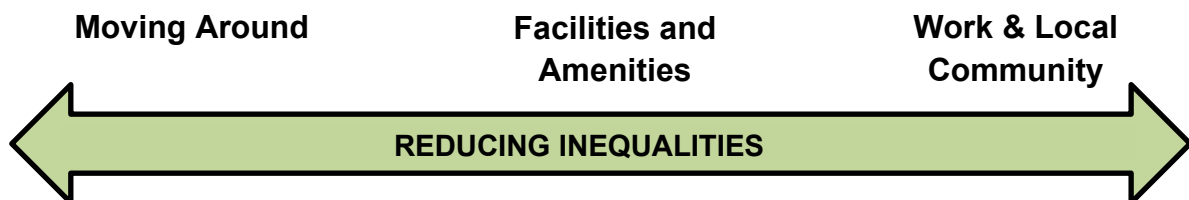
Community Representatives

Catherine Wigzell, Kilbirnie & Glengarnock Community Council
James Waite, Beith & District Community Council **(Vice Chair)**
David Park, Community Representative
Brenda Reilly, Community Representative
Jane Lamont, Community Representative
Allan Wright, Kilbirnie & Glengarnock Community Council

CPP/Council Representatives

Kaileigh Brown, Third Sector Interface
David Cameron, Police Scotland
Neil Shearer, Scottish Fire and Rescue
Angela Morrell, Lead Officer, North Ayrshire Council
Christina Pieraccini, Locality Officer
Elaine Young, Senior Lead Officer, NHS Ayrshire and Arran

Garnock Locality Partnership Priorities



Meeting:	Garnock Valley Locality Partnership
Date/Venue:	20 September 2023 – Conference Room, Garnock Campus, Glengarnock
Present:	<p>Councillor John Bell (Chair); Councillor Margaret Johnson; Councillor Ronnie Stalker; Elaine Young, NHS Ayrshire and Arran (Senior Lead Officer); Angela Morrell, Senior Manager, Community Learning & Development, NAC (Lead Officer); James Waite, Beith & District Community Council; Catherine Wigzell, Kilbirnie & Glengarnock Community Council; Allan Wright, Kilbirnie & Glengarnock Community Council; Jane Lamont, Community Representative; Christina Pieraccini, Locality Officer, NAC; Inspector David Cameron, Police Scotland; Neil Shearer, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service; Garry Tait, Community Education Worker, NAC; Louise Kirk, Interim Head of Service (Economic Development and Regeneration); Dennis Hopkins, Head Teacher, St. Bridget's PS Elaine Mann, Head Teacher, Moorpark PS Scott Morrison, Community Sport Manager, KA Leisure; and Craig Stewart, Committee Services Officer, NAC</p>
Also Attending:	<p>James Robson, Beith Community Association (Agenda Item 3 only) Ann Russell, Café Solace Chairperson</p>
Apologies:	Councillors Anthea Dickson and Donald L. Reid, David Park and Brenda Reilly, Community Representatives.

ACTIONS

No.	Action	Responsible
1.	<p>Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest</p> <p>The Chair welcomed everyone to the Garnock Valley Locality Partnership meeting and apologies for absence were noted.</p>	
2.	<p>Action Note and Log</p> <p>The action note from the meeting held on 15 June 2023 was approved as a correct record and the implementation of decisions confirmed.</p>	
3.	<p>Café Solace</p> <p>The Locality Partnership received an update from Ann Russell on the significant level of work undertaken since receiving the CIF grant which had made a considerable difference and had been instrumental in making the project go from strength to strength and was very well used by the community, particularly given pressures due to the cost-of-living crisis.</p>	

	Noted.									
4.	<p>Grants – Elderly Grants and Margaret Archibald Bequest Fund</p> <p>The Locality Partnership considered reports for Elderly Grants and for the Margaret Archibald Bequest Fund. Accordingly, the Locality Partnership agreed to award the following:</p> <p>Elderly Grants Fund 2023/24</p> <table><tr><td>Kilbirnie & Glengarnock Age Concern</td><td>£2,964</td></tr><tr><td>Beith Old People’s Welfare Committee</td><td>£3,053</td></tr><tr><td>Dalry Old Folks Treat Committee</td><td>£2,414</td></tr></table> <p>Margaret Archibald Bequest</p> <table><tr><td>Dalry Old Folks Treat Committee</td><td>£5,000</td></tr></table>	Kilbirnie & Glengarnock Age Concern	£2,964	Beith Old People’s Welfare Committee	£3,053	Dalry Old Folks Treat Committee	£2,414	Dalry Old Folks Treat Committee	£5,000	Angela Morrell
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5.	<p>Community Investment Fund – Expression of Interest</p> <p>There was a short presentation by Morag Strachan and James Robson, representing Beith Community Association (BCA), in respect of an Expression of Interest Application in terms of the Community Investment Fund.</p> <p>Following their presentation and a question and answer session, the Locality Partnership agreed (a) that the Application be continued to enable the applicant’s to come forward with further information, i.e. evidence no of volunteers; and (b) that the Application could then be taken forward for consideration taking into account all the information and evidence available.</p> <p>Councillor Bell, Chair, thanked Ms Strachan and Mr Robson for their attendance and for the presentation, and both then left the meeting.</p>									
6.	<p>Garnock Valley 2023</p> <p>The Locality Partnership received an update from Christina Pieraccini, Locality Officer, of the Garnock Valley 2023 Project.</p> <p>The update provided highlighted key aspects of the Garnock Valley 2023 Project.</p> <p>Noted.</p>									
7.	<p>Education & Youth Overview</p> <p>The Partnership received an overview on this from Elaine Mann, Head Teacher, Moorpark PS and Dennis Hopkins, Head Teacher, St. Bridget’s PS.</p>									

	<p>The overview covered all previous, current, and future planned activities in the School Environment and engagement with young people in terms of bringing about positive outcomes and personal development opportunities.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	
8.	<p>Scottish Fire and Rescue/Police Scotland – Wellbeing and Partnerships</p> <p>The Partnership received a verbal update from Scottish Fire and Rescue (SFRS) and Police Scotland on the key impact of wellbeing and partnership work being conducted by SFRS and Police Scotland in the Garnock Valley.</p> <p>The updates from SFRS and Police Scotland highlighted areas covered all ongoing engagement and participation opportunities, in the Garnock Valley and the positive impact and differences this was continuing to make in the locality in terms of Wellbeing and Partnerships. The SFRS update also provided an overview of the youth volunteer opportunities including the continuing success of this initiative.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	
9.	<p>Community Learning & Development & HMIE Inspection</p> <p>The Locality Partnership received an update regarding Community Learning & Development and the current HMIE Inspection.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	
10.	<p>Locality Plan Progress</p> <p>The Partnership received an update by Christina Pieraccini, Locality Officer, and from community representatives present, on the progress of the combined working group which covered all 3 locality priorities, namely Moving Around, Facilities & Amenities and Work and the Local Community.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	
11.	<p>Locality Officer Update</p> <p>Christina Pieraccini made reference to her update, which had been circulated detailing the considerable work in numerous areas which had been undertaken in the locality and invited any questions.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	
12.	<p>AOCB</p> <p>None.</p>	

13.	Reports for Information The following reports were submitted for information and sharing, as appropriate:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Ayrshire Youth Work Update • TACT update Noted.	

The meeting ended at 9.15 p.m.

Garnock Valley Locality Partnership



Locality Action Plan 2023/24

About Our Locality

The Garnock Valley includes the towns of Beith, Dalry and Kilbirnie, and the villages of Gateside, Barrmill, Longbar, Glengarnock, Burnhouse and Greenhills.

The Garnock Valley was a hive of industry during the 19th and early 20th centuries. Beith became world famous for producing high quality wooden furniture, silk scarves, curling stones, and leather and pigskin goods.

Kilbirnie produced linen thread and fishing nets while Glengarnock was known for the Glengarnock Weaving Factory, the Glengarnock Iron and Steel Works and the Auchengree Foundry and Engine Works which produced machinery for the furniture industry.

Dalry grew around the weaving and coalmining industries. Following the closure of the mines, four Brickworks were established in Dalry at Kersland, Carsehead, Broadlie and Boreston to recycle the leftover industrial waste.

The Garnock Valley, with its stunning views, supports a diverse range of natural habitats through which run miles of foot and cycle paths for recreational purposes.



19,676



The estimated population of the Garnock Valley - This equates to **14.6%** of the total population of North Ayrshire.

21.6%

of the Garnock Valley population are over the age of 65.



27%



of the Garnock Valley population are under the age of 25.

83.2 years

Female Life Expectancy



This is 3.1 years **higher** than the North Ayrshire average (80.1 years).

81.4 years

Male Life Expectancy



This is 6.1 years **higher** than the North Ayrshire average (75.3 years).

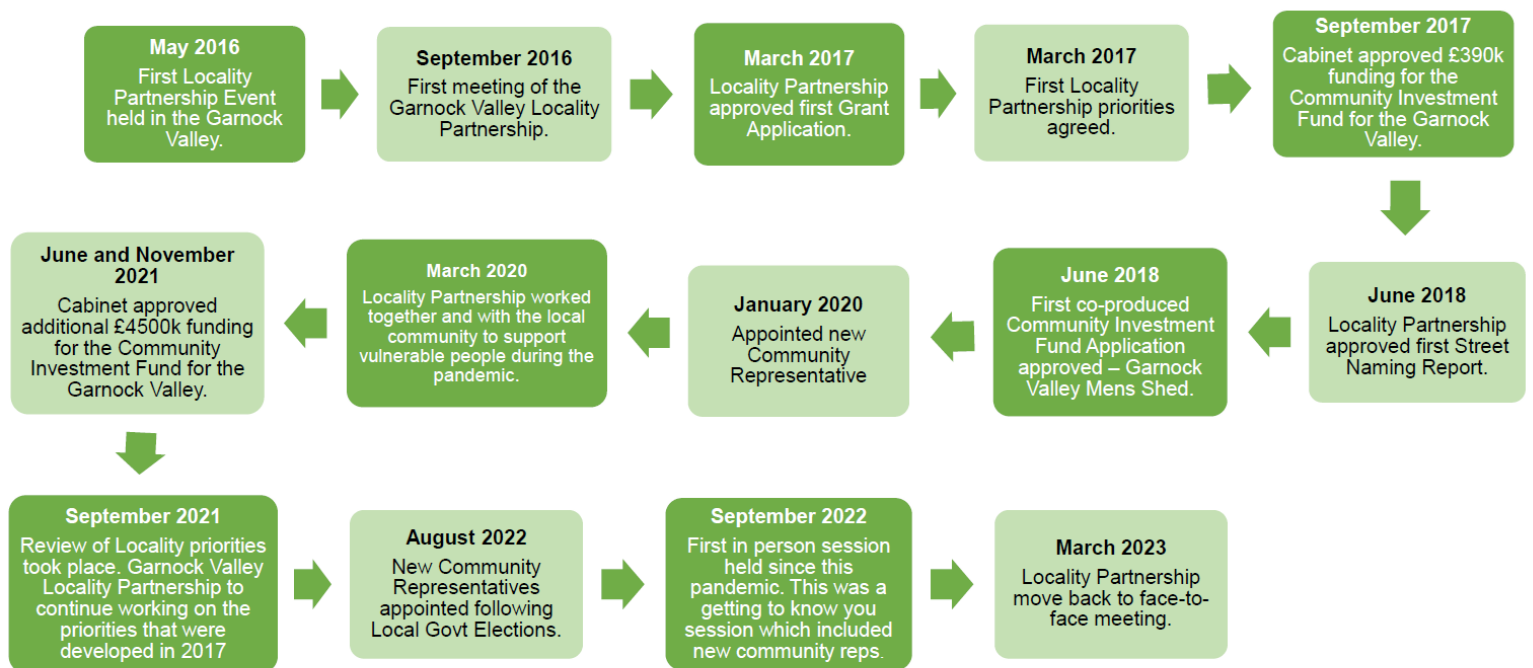
The Garnock Valley Unemployment count as of 2022 was **4.5%**

North Ayrshire average - 4.6%.



Garnock Valley Locality Partnership - The Journey

The following information provides a high level summary of the Journey of the Locality Partnership:



Who is involved?

- Elected Members
- Community Council Representatives
- Community Representatives
- Community Planning Partnership Representatives (North Ayrshire Council, HSCP, Police, Fire, Public Health, KA Leisure, Third Sector)



How did we decide our priorities?

Each Locality Partnership has their own local priorities that relate to inequalities and highlight where we feel we can add value. The priorities also link to our North Ayrshire Community Partnership plan – [The Local Outcomes Improvement Plan](#).

Each Locality Partnership agreed their original priorities in 2017 based on data analysis and local engagement. Following the Covid-19 pandemic, a review of the previous priorities was carried out to ensure that they were still relevant to local needs.

In February 2021, a North Ayrshire mainland (including Cumbrae) public engagement was launched, and members of the public were asked to provide their comments around what our priorities should be and what we can do locally to tackle them.

We used different methods to consult with the community such as:

- Online feedback via CONSUL
- Telephone
- Email feedback
- Twitter polls
- Facebook polls
- SurveyMonkey polls
- Virtual working groups
- Online meetings

Our Priorities

Relevant national and local data were presented to the Locality Partnership along with findings from the public engagement and feedback already given through other engagement such as the Peoples Panel and Health and Social Care Partnership Strategic Plan in Autumn 2021.

In Garnock Valley, we decided to continue working on the priorities that were developed in 2017 as we felt they are still relevant issues within the locality and they required ongoing commitment with a renewed focus.



Moving Around (Public Transport, Traffic and Parking)



Work and the Local Community



Facilities and Amenities

We are more than a Plan...

The Locality Partnership Plan and meetings are only a small part of the work which is carried out in each locality to support locality planning and delivery and ensure the voices of local people are heard in an equitable and fair way.

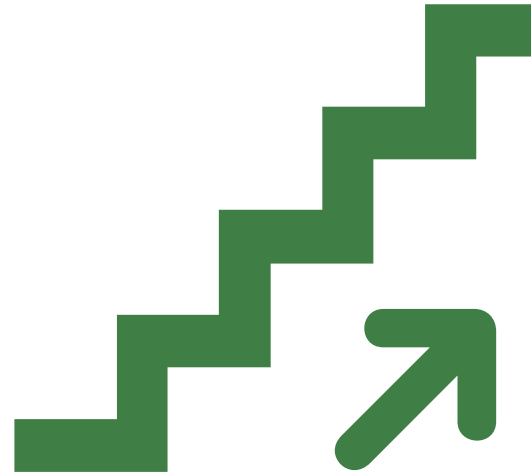
The meetings are a place to agree actions and to make decisions around funding and the ask of partners; they are the tip of a considerable iceberg which includes working groups, community chit chat meetings, locality networks and ongoing dialogues with community groups and members regarding their priorities and how they can be supported to work towards these.



Useful Links

- [Our Locality Partnership page](#) on the Community Planning website
- The [Locality Partnership – Terms of Reference](#) explains how these we work.
- The [Locality Partnership Standing Orders](#) explain the governance arrangements for the Locality Partnerships.

Next Steps



1

Action

The Locality Partnership will work together and with the local community and partners to take forward the actions in this plan.

2

Update

The action plan will be updated on an annual basis.

3

Review

The Locality Action Plan is a living document and will be regularly reviewed to ensure it is relevant and fit for purpose.

Funding Support

The Locality Partnership has considered funding decisions to grant applications to the following funds:

- Common Good Funds
- Town Charitable Trust Funds
- Margaret Archibald Bequest Fund
- Elderly Grants
- Nurturing Excellence in Communities



The Locality Partnership also consider how they might best address local priorities using the Community Investment Fund.

Since the conception of the Locality Partnerships in North Ayrshire in 2016/17 over **£500,000** has been awarded to Community Groups in the Garnock Valley.

Since 2016/17 the Locality Partnership has awarded over **£200,000** of Grant payments community groups in the Garnock Valley

Since 2018 the Locality Partnership has awarded over **£340,00** of Community Investment Funding to community groups in the Garnock Valley

Action	Who?	When?	Locality Priority	LOIP Priority
To create a vision for the Garnock Valley To take forward the recommendations from the GV2023 community engagement, which was undertaken early in 2023. Use these recommendations as a starting point for working with partners to create a Place Framework and a Place Plan for the Garnock Valley, which will influence future strategic policy and investment in the Garnock Valley.	Garnock Valley Locality Partnership Working Group Beith and District Community Council Kilbirnie and Glengarnock Community Council Beith Community Development Trust NAC Regeneration NAC Planning	March 2024	Work and Local Community Facilities and Amenities	World Wellbeing
Active Travel Undertake a Travel Needs Analysis to capture challenges and barriers to travelling to/from and within the Garnock Valley and identify potential measures that can be taken to ease these challenges. Working with partners, make progress towards linking the National Cycle Network Route 7 (NCN7) between Kilbirnie and Dalry. Work with partners on active travel projects and solutions in the Garnock Valley.	Garnock Valley Locality Partnership Working Group NAC Regeneration	Travel Needs Analysis by March 2024. Other projects ongoing.	Moving Around (Public Transport, Traffic and Parking).	World Wellbeing Work
Church of Scotland closures Facilitate discussions to gauge community interest in exploring potential alternative uses for buildings at risk of closure.	Garnock Valley Locality Partnership Working Group	Initial discussions by December 2023.	Facilities and Amenities	Wellbeing Work

The CIF will support proposals and projects that:

- Connect with:
 - The North Ayrshire [Fair for All Inequalities Strategy](#);
 - the [Community Planning Partnership](#) (CPP) and [Locality priorities](#); and
 - North Ayrshire Council's (NAC) values, priorities and business [objectives](#).
- Fulfil a compelling need and do not duplicate existing services or facilities;
- Provide long-term, sustainable, positive results for the greatest number of people possible;
- Exhibit project and/or organisational innovation in their approaches to their work in their way of addressing community challenges and in their request to Locality Partnerships and the Council;
- Come from (an) organisation(s) that is financially viable (can provide financial statements upon request) and efficiently and effectively managed. This can include an organisation to be created to deliver the project;
- Include options or potential for NAC and CPP employee engagement and volunteering where possible; and
- Include measurable outcomes and can report to NAC on outcomes on a regular basis.

When to apply and how?

- LPs should continue to engage with their communities, and stimulate interest in the CIF. The Locality Partnership will then strategically assess the applications, make links and look at the funding 'in the round'.
- If the partnership supports a bid then the group will be encouraged to submit a full application form (attached), which they will decide upon before making a proposal to Cabinet for final approval.
- The finalised proposal will go to the next suitable Cabinet for final approval.
- Forms should be returned to your Locality Officer, by email if possible:

Christina Pieraccini
Locality Officer - Garnock Valley
Connected Communities
North Ayrshire Council
Walker Hall
45, Main Street
Kilbirnie
KA25 7BX

Tel: 01505 680203
Mob: 07966 160854
Email: cpieraccini@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

For more information see the guidance form here: <http://www.northayrshire.community/wp-content/uploads/sites/60/2018/06/community-investment-fund-guidance-notes-17-12-17.pdf>

1. Details of your organisation

Name of Organisation

Beith Community Association SCIO

Postal Address for Correspondence

Name of Contact Person Morag Strachan

Position in Organisation

Telephone Number

Email Address

2. Brief description of your organisation

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

BCA has operated Beith Community Centre since 1964, providing space for private hires as well as fitness and sports classes.

Beith Community Association SCIO aims to provide an inclusive, safe and welcoming space for the community to socialise, enhance skills, develop peer support networks and access services and activities that would otherwise be inaccessible. We aim to provide services for the whole community, improving lives, building community resilience and ensuring everyone has fair and equal access.

In the last few years, we have restructured the Association into a more community-focused organisation, starting with the development of a community larder, providing low-cost alternatives to supermarket shopping which has helped to support people through COVID 19 and the Cost-of-Living Crisis. The Larder has also been a valuable lifeline for those who are suffering from or are at risk of isolation as we provide a safe and welcoming space for a chat and a cup of tea.

We have increased access to fitness classes. Removing the financial and childcare restrictions by running a free Baby Bootcamp, supporting parents/guardians, and reducing social isolation. For the older generation we have



run a low-cost weekly fitness class and have recently introduced through partnership a beginner day-time line-dancing class.

We have increased provisions for young people. We have established weekly youth clubs and a monthly open mic night through partnerships with Beith Trust and NAC, ensuring young people have a space to come together, share concerns, participate in a range of activities, and get something to eat. We provide young people with access to free, local services which helps reduce the financial strain on parents/guardians, during a cost-of-living crisis.

Increased access to the Arts. Through the Community Garden, we have provided a number of outdoor nature-based art classes. We have established regular music nights, increasing access to a performance space. Improving creativity and building confidence. Our regular open mics provide a safe space for those interested to explore their creativity. Additionally, we have our Junkyard Orchestra project, where people come together to create musical instruments from recycled materials, developing creativity and reducing the impact of waste on the environment.

Tackling the cost-of-living crisis head on. In partnership with Radio City, we ran two Cost-of-Living events, showcasing local organisations that can support people to reduce their daily spending and providing practical advice. In the last year, we have distributed over £5000 in financial help to local households. We have ensured **free** warm food has been available at our activities such as youth club, music nights etc. We also continue to offer the community access to cheaper groceries through our community shop.

Our Community Garden is a space for people to come together through shared interest to grow their own produce, reducing isolation and having a positive impact on both physical and mental wellbeing.

Over the last year we have seen many changes to the Association and how it is managed, including the revitalisation of the board, and restructuring to a SCIO. With a variety of experience and backgrounds joining our existing team, our board is now diverse and inclusive with a broad skillset. These changes enable us to employ staff, become more sustainable and make positive steps to further engage the community, enabling us to become a true community hub and ensuring that the community are involved in every step of the development of the centre.

It is the intention of BCA SCIO to ensure we continue to grow over the coming years in preparation for taking over ownership of Beith Community Centre. Since 1964 the association has successfully managed the centre, providing decades of memories; over the last few years, it faced some of its biggest challenges. In the North Ayrshire Council budget engagement tool NAC states “ **Next year - 2024/25 - we face a funding shortfall of up to £16.8million. This is assuming that a potential**

Council Tax freeze is fully funded and is on top of making savings of more than £118million over the previous 12 years.”

Budget savings are always a worry, community centres are vulnerable to cuts. In recent years we have seen the introduction of core hours which limits access to the centre by reducing opening times. In the last year, we have seen a sizeable reduction in maintenance of the building, for example, several rooms in Beith have light bulbs out, but not enough in one room to justify replacing. On top of this, we are not allowed to replace them, however, we have spent a considerable amount of money on refurbishing the centre. We have not done this to sit back and watch the doors close. Realistically the best chance of keeping the centre open for the foreseeable future is to act now to build capacity and pursue community ownership, we need to be proactive and not reactive, to survive.

3. Title and summary of proposal

Tell us about your idea. Please describe in as much detail as possible, what the funding will be used for.

Please include:

- where it will be held / delivered
- who is your target audience
- who will benefit from it and how
- any partners that are involved.

Beith Community Association are establishing a thriving Community Hub. We will provide a range of services and activities to encourage the community to come together in a safe and welcoming space, creating opportunities for people to share issues and develop support circles, enhance skills through volunteering and training opportunities, access information & advice services and employment support as well as participate in a range of sport, leisure, fitness and wellbeing sessions and activities to promote healthy living, having a positive impact on both physical and mental health. Social groups will help reduce isolation and provide a platform for people to develop peer support groups.

Our newly revamped Community Shop will continue to provide more affordable groceries alongside a warm, welcoming space to chat and have a cup of tea, reducing isolation and providing the opportunity for referral to additional support where needed. We are currently offering some home baking alongside our Shop openings and will continue to build on this to offer a warm meal. Since the revamp of our Community Shop we have seen a significant rise in the number of people



utilising this service and we expect it to continue to grow as the number of people in financial hardship continues to rise.

As highlighted during our community consultation, social groups are a much needed service within the local area and therefore we have already begun a Men's Group which we will continue to grow and develop and will begin a Women's group in the new year; these groups will provide a space for people to come together, share concerns, develop friendships and support circles, enhance skills through practical activities and participate in information sessions on a variety of topics such as health and wellbeing, finance, and employment. Groups will also be a place where people can come to share a cup of tea and relax. These groups will help to reduce isolation, support community cohesion, and increase confidence.

A lack of provision for toddlers was again highlighted in the community consultation, from this feedback we developed a Toddler group to provide a much needed local place for parents/guardians to come together and engage with others in what can often be a very isolating time. The group will support socialisation for both adults and babies/toddlers, reducing isolation, increasing opportunities for peer engagement from a young age and providing opportunities to create support networks. Feedback has now highlighted that an additional toddler group is needed to make it accessible for everyone, 1 afternoon session and one morning session and therefore we will be starting a 2nd group on 4th December.

We will provide a space for people to access support while seeking employment, including providing assistance to apply for jobs and further education. This will help to increase the confidence of participants as well as increasing their chances of securing employment which will in turn reduce the negative effect from the cost-of-living crisis.

The project will create many new volunteer roles, providing an opportunity for local people to be directly involved in the facilitation of the project and help to build confidence. Volunteers will be given opportunities to access training and develop skills that can help to increase their chances of securing employment, given regular 1 to 1 as well as group support and provided with opportunities to come together and develop peer support networks.

The development of Beith Community Association SCIO and the Community Hub itself would be unachievable with volunteers alone, not only would the time and commitment involved be an unrealistic expectation of a volunteer team, but we require a specific skillset and knowledge to push this forward which can only be achieved through the employment of staff.

To enable BCA SCIO to carry out the proposed development of the centre we require an experienced team in place and have used existing BCA SCIO funds to pilot a Development Manager on a 6-month temp contract to help build the organisation's capacity and lay the foundations. This has already had a significant impact in the perception and participation of the community, with a 344% rise in social media engagement and a 96% rise in net followers from August to November compared to the previous 90 days. The DM has also been vital in designing and implementing new services and activities as requested by the community through our community consultation. The Development Manager, with 12 years' experience in the charity and voluntary sector, including a track record of delivering results within a previous similar project. They will support BCA to ensure the sustainability of the project by sourcing additional funding and revenue streams, developing relationships with current and new partner organisations, ensuring relevant paperwork is in place, managing and developing staff and volunteers. Developing services and implementing groups which will increase the number of people using the centre. We will also employ a part-time Project Assistant to support the Development Manager with the day-to-day running of the services and activities, ensuring there is always someone on the ground engaging with the community. The CiF funding would contribute to the employment of the Development Manager on a 1-year contract and employ a Project Assistant on a part-time basis, enabling us to then carry out the further development of the centre, employ more staff and increase benefits to the community.

As shown in the Garnock Valley 2023 Presentation there is a lot of potential within the centre, some of which we have already started developing, such as our community allotment and with CiF funding our DM and Project Assistant, we would be able to ensure it reached it's potential as a hub for the community of Beith.

This project will benefit all Garnock Valley residents, irrespective of age, background or experience. It will provide opportunities and support, build confidence and self esteem, and develop skills and community spirit for those disadvantaged due to unemployment, poverty, health issues, age, etc

The work we will carry out in the next 3 years, developing the community hub, increasing usage and community engagement will be part of an ongoing feasibility study carried out as part of the role of the Development Manager to help build our case for community ownership of the centre.

Sustainability of the project will go beyond funding and the Community Centre itself; the people will be the legacy of the project, with lifelong friendships and support networks being developed, supporting ongoing wellbeing, and reducing isolation. Alongside this, the skills people will learn and develop will support their daily lives for

years to come and enable them to pass these on to future generations. The project will aim to create a more cohesive community, promoting people's abilities and what they can do, which will enable them to continue to build services and activities beyond the life of the project.

We currently work in partnership with NAC, Beith Trust and Radio City Association and will continue to develop partnerships with other charities and organisations such as CAB, NHS, Money Matters, Lemon Aid etc to provide specialist support to groups as required.

Following feedback from locality partnership meeting in June, we have engaged with the NAC Locality Business Advisor about developing a business plan and have been advised at this stage it is too premature to be exploring this however, we will keep in contact with them.

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

Please include:

- The outcomes you aim to achieve
- How you will approach reducing inequality
- How this proposal fits with the Locality Partnership priorities of 1. Moving Around (Public Transport, Traffic and Parking) 2. Work and Local Community 3. Facilities and Amenities

We currently work with people from Beith as well as across the wider Garnock Valley and expect that the positive work and changes that the Community Centre are going to implement will see our numbers increase which will in turn help to reduce isolation, increase confidence, and improve both the physical and mental wellbeing of those participating.

Outcomes over the next year will be: an increased income to BCA, increased sustainability, 12 new volunteers, 50 new members, increased community engagement, 6 additional community events per year.

All of our activities will be welcoming and accessible to all and will be supported by volunteers and staff who have received equality and diversity training. Services and activities will all take place within Beith Community Centre, providing local support within the community that may otherwise be inaccessible and we will work to ensure there are no barriers that could discourage people from participating.

Our work will support the following LP Priorities:

Work and Local Community:

We will provide opportunities for people to develop and enhance skills through volunteering opportunities, community growing and support to access further training such as college courses etc.

We will support people to enhance their employment opportunities through skills development and job support.

We will provide a variety of services and activities to bring the community together, create opportunities for developing local support networks and encouraging community cohesion.

The project will be community-led and all services and activities provided will be developed/reshaped based on the feedback from the community. This will support the community to increase their confidence and realise what they are capable of achieving collectively, which will encourage them to participate in more community activities.

Facilities and Amenities:

We will create more local, accessible activities and services for the community, within their locality. This will encourage more people to participate locally and will then provide more opportunity for further development.

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

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

In 2021 BCA carried out a community consultation which was very supportive of the work carried out by the association. At the end of July 2023, we launched another survey across the Garnock Valley; the survey is still live at the moment and to date has had 91 responses, many of which have been from people who do not currently use the centre. Responses showed a lack of usage due to activities not being of interest or direct benefit to respondents and people not being aware of what activities are available. However, also showed support towards the development of the centre and confirmed if provisions suggested through the community hub were available

that they would use the centre more. We also collected anecdotal evidence, speaking with the community during centre activities and on the street about our vision for the centre and the proposed work and again, we have received full support from them.

6. How will the project be managed?

Please include:

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

The Development Manager, with 12 years' experience in the charity and voluntary sector, including similar experience within a previous project, will support BCA to ensure the sustainability of the project by securing additional funding and increasing income generated through activities and services, developing relationships with current and new partner organisations, ensuring relevant paperwork is in place, managing and developing staff and volunteers as well as developing services and implementing groups which will increase the number of people using the centre as well as managing all finances and budgets. The proposed role of Project Assistant will support the Development Manager with the day-to-day running of the services and activities, ensuring there is always someone on the ground engaging with the community. The CiF funding would allow us to employ the Development Manager on a further year contract and employ a Project Assistant on a part-time basis, enabling us then to carry out the further development of the centre, employ more staff and increase benefits to the community.

We have a staff handbook consisting of all relevant policies and procedures, including recruitment, induction pack and terms and conditions. All staff will be managed and supported by the Development Manager who has extensive experience of all aspects of HR and payroll. The Development Manager will be line managed by the Chairperson and reports regularly to the board.

We already have a strong team of volunteers working in the Community Shop and supporting events. This project will have many new volunteering opportunities within each of our groups and activities. This will provide people with the opportunity to develop new skills, provide valuable work experience for CV's and job applications

and will provide a referee opportunity, which will increase the chances of securing employment.

7. Amount of funding being requested

Please supply details of funding being requested and any other funding you have had over the past 5 years, both financially and “in kind”.

Amount of funding requested (£) **22098.04**

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

Development Manager - £20,612.59 (£10,612.59 from CiF)

21 hours p/w @ £17 = £18564

E'er NI = £1306.03

Pension @ 4% = £742.56

Project Assistant - £11,485.45

16 hours p/w @ £13 = £10,816

E'er NI = £236.81

Pension @ 4% = £432.64

NAVT - £10,000 x 3 Years – Contribution towards salary for Development Manager
In Kind Contribution (Volunteer Time) – £65,520 - 105 hours per week, calculated at living wage

8. Monitoring and evaluation process

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

Regular feedback will be gathered from groups and activities through discussions as well as evaluation forms. We will host ‘have you say’ days where the community can provide valuable honest feedback on all services we provide. Staff and volunteers will also provide feedback on groups and sessions on a regular basis. We will continue to collect information from our community consultation and will also distribute regular requests for feedback on social media. All feedback will then enable us to evaluate the services and adapt as required.

The CIF will support proposals and projects that:

- Connect with:
 - The North Ayrshire [Fair for All Inequalities Strategy](#);
 - the [Community Planning Partnership](#) (CPP) and [Locality priorities](#); and
 - North Ayrshire Council's (NAC) values, priorities and business [objectives](#).
- Fulfil a compelling need and do not duplicate existing services or facilities;
- Provide long-term, sustainable, positive results for the greatest number of people possible;
- Exhibit project and/or organisational innovation in their approaches to their work in their way of addressing community challenges and in their request to Locality Partnerships and the Council;
- Come from (an) organisation(s) that is financially viable (can provide financial statements upon request) and efficiently and effectively managed. This can include an organisation to be created to deliver the project;
- Include options or potential for NAC and CPP employee engagement and volunteering where possible; and
- Include measurable outcomes and can report to NAC on outcomes on a regular basis.

When to apply and how?

- LPs should continue to engage with their communities, and stimulate interest in the CIF. The Locality Partnership will then strategically assess the applications, make links and look at the funding 'in the round'.
- If the partnership supports a bid then the group will be encouraged to submit a full application form (attached), which they will decide upon before making a proposal to Cabinet for final approval.
- The finalised proposal will go to the next suitable Cabinet for final approval.
- Forms should be returned to your Locality Officer, by email if possible:

Christina Pieraccini
Locality Officer - Garnock Valley

Connected Communities
North Ayrshire Council
Walker Hall
45, Main Street
Kilbirnie
KA25 7BX

Tel: 01505 680203
Mob: 07966 160854
Email: cpieraccini@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

For more information see the guidance form here: <http://www.northayrshire.community/wp-content/uploads/sites/60/2018/06/community-investment-fund-guidance-notes-17-12-17.pdf>

1. Details of your organisation

Name of Organisation

Garnock Valley Locality Partnership – Working Group

Postal Address for Correspondence

Name of Contact Person Christina Pieraccini

Position in Organisation

Telephone Number

Email Address

2. Brief description of your organisation

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

In 2018, the Garnock Valley Locality Partnership established three working groups, based on the Locality Action Plan, and each focusing on a different priority: Facilities & Amenities, Moving Around, and Work & Local Community. In February 2023, these groups combined into a single working group to address all three priorities collectively.

The newly formed group is led by a local community representative. Its members include representatives from various local Garnock Valley organisations:

- Kilbirnie & Glengarnock Community Council,
- Dalry Community Development Hub,
- Beith Community Development Trust,
- Beith & District Community Council,
- Dalry Parish Boundary Trust.

Additionally, it includes local community members, locality partnership community representatives, and elected officials.

This Working Group is collaborating with North Ayrshire Council (NAC) and Beith Community Development Trust to implement the project.

3. Title and summary of proposal

Tell us about your idea. Please describe in as much detail as possible, what the funding will be used for.

Please include:

- where it will be held / delivered
- who is your target audience
- who will benefit from it and how
- any partners that are involved.

GV 2023

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, a project was proposed to the Garnock Valley Locality Partnership aimed at enhancing the cultural and heritage aspects of the Garnock Valley as a means of contributing to the social and economic regeneration of the area.

This project was designed in three phases:

Feasibility Study:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To explore the potential and scope of the project.
Development Worker:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To hire a skilled co-ordinator to lead, drive and manage the project.
Community Engagement:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Funding to organise events and activities for community involvement.

In December 2019, the Locality Partnership approved funding for the first phase. This phase was to determine the specific role of the Development Worker / Coordinator in the Garnock Valley.

The project was delayed due to the pandemic but resumed in early 2023. Based on the findings and a report '[Garnock Valley 2023](#)' commissioned by the working group in the initial phase, and produced by Lateral North, the findings were presented to the Locality Partnership in June 2023. The Locality Partnership agreed to consider funding the second phase and invited a full application to be presented to the partnership. The projects highlighted via the engagement phase of Garnock Valley 2023 can be categorised as follows:

Garnock Valley 2023 Project List	
Strategic - Long-term, foundational projects crucial for setting the community's social, economic and environmental development and direction.	
1	Establish a Garnock Valley Brand
2	Establish a GV Ecomuseum*
3	Promote Active Communities
Short - Quick, targeted initiatives that address immediate needs and provide fast, visible results.	
1	Providing solar panels at Dalry Community Garden
2	Industrial Design at Stoneyholm Mill
3	Creating Pop-Up Shops in Beith
Medium - Bridges the gap between short-term successes and long-term goals, requiring more planning and resources.	
1	Repurposing St Margaret's Church
2	Kilbirnie Music
3	Beith Craft Exhibition at Geilsland Estate
Long - Ambitious efforts aimed at significant, transformative community changes over an extended period.	
1	River Reimagined
2	Beith Community Centre
3	Growing Dalry with Dalry Sports Club
<i>Ecomuseum</i>	<i>(Definition) "a blend of outdoor and indoor interpretation to encourage people to engage with nature, heritage and culture within a landscape rather than solely within a museum or gallery setting."</i>

It is important to note that projects can shift between these categories based on available opportunities, resource allocation, and changing community needs. For instance, a short-term project might evolve into a medium-term initiative as it gains momentum and resources, or a strategic project might be accelerated if a timely opportunity arises. This fluid approach allows for adaptable, responsive community development, aligning project execution with evolving priorities and possibilities.

This funding application represents a joint effort by the working group, North Ayrshire Council (NAC), and Beith Community Development Trust. The plan involves hiring a Development Worker for a two-year, part-time position to implement the recommendations of the feasibility study.

This individual will work with local groups to develop and drive forward the initiatives identified in the GV2023 report, many of which are already being led by community organisations. Their role will include assisting in funding applications, project development, and tackling challenges, and building the capacity of groups and volunteers to realise change.

The GV2023 report provides findings that are more detailed. The funding impact is expected to extend beyond the Development Worker's tenure. The worker will not only support local organisations in achieving their objectives outlined in the report but will also focus on building skills in various areas like training delivery, project funding, marketing, partnership development, and capacity building.

This collaboration aims to transform the long-standing negative perceptions of the Garnock Valley, with the anticipation that short-term projects will be completed during the worker's tenure, and groundwork for medium and long-term projects will be laid. Additionally, there is a possibility of extending the role by securing external funding.

Please see the enclosed role profile.

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

Please include:

- The outcomes you aim to achieve
- How you will approach reducing inequality
- How this proposal fits with the Locality Partnership priorities of 1. Moving Around (Public Transport, Traffic and Parking) 2. Work and Local Community 3. Facilities and Amenities

Outcomes - The GV2023 project aims to provide a firm foundation for collaborative working between established and new groups that makes a significant impact on the communities of the Garnock Valley. The main objective of the project is to bolster skills and confidence within local groups, enhancing their capacity to initiate and lead meaningful grassroots projects and to work with others to influence and drive change. The initiative is about bringing people together, not just to strengthen community ties and spirit but also to improve spaces, places and create a shared sense of purpose and action.

By shining a light on what's already going on, what could be possible, providing opportunities for learning and development, working together, sharing resources between different community groups, and nurturing collaborative grassroots initiatives, the project aims to encourage those who are not yet involved in community activities to take an active role. This involvement and capacity is a crucial vehicle for driving positive change in the Garnock Valley.

An important element of the project is supporting the development and progress of community identified and led projects. This includes providing necessary guidance and

resources to see these projects through to fruition. Additionally, the project will offer training and skills development opportunities for local volunteers, thereby increasing their capacity to effect change and contribute to the community's collective strength. Many groups will be engaged in the delivery of this project, including youth groups and the Garnock Valley Youth Forum. There is also the scope for this project to be a placement opportunity for a Community Development or Community Education student, supervised by the Locality Officer.

The impact of this project is designed to be long lasting, ensuring that the benefits continue well beyond the current funding period. It will lead to the development of more appreciation of the heritage and cultural interests and assets, aligned with the GV2023 report, enriching the community's understanding and appreciation of the Garnock Valley

Outcomes	Indicators	Locality Partnership Priorities
1. Enhanced Skills and Confidence in Local Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase in community projects initiated - Feedback indicating improved skills - Participation rates in training sessions. 	Work and Local Community
2. Increased Community Involvement and Cohesion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rise in volunteer numbers. - New formal and informal partnerships and working arrangements between community groups. - Improved or enhanced local amenities, facilities and greenspace 	Facilities and Amenities
3. Improved Accessibility and Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Feedback on transport services. - Development of transport solutions 	Moving Around (Public Transport, Traffic, and Parking)

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

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

In December 2019, the Locality Partnership approved a three-stage proposal. The commencement of the first phase was delayed because of the COVID-19 pandemic, which affected community engagement efforts. In late 2022, after a selection process, Lateral North were appointed to lead this phase. This part of the project was a joint effort by the Working Group, North Ayrshire Council (NAC), and Beith Community Development Trust.

Lateral North conducted workshops and various ad hoc engagement activities in the towns across the Garnock Valley. These activities took place in early 2023 and saw participation from over 250 people. The findings from these engagements were presented to the Locality Partnership in June 2023.

After reviewing these findings, the Locality Partnership agreed for the working group to submit a full CIF application for a Cultural Development Worker to take forward the recommendations in the report. This worker's role will be to implement the recommendations outlined in the GV2023 report.

Please see the GV2023 report for detail of the engagement.

6. How will the project be managed?

Please include:

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

Before the job advert is released, the working group and its partners will create a detailed work plan with objectives, actions and targets. This plan will use the GV2023 report as its basis.

Beith Community Development Trust is expected to take the lead in hiring, hosting, and directly managing the new post on behalf of the working group.

The Locality Officer will oversee the day-to-day management of the project.

To ensure everything runs smoothly, a clear agreement will be set up to define the roles and responsibilities of each party involved, especially concerning the management of this new position. This agreement will reinforce the already strong partnership between the working group and its partners. The working group will have an active role in developing the work plan, tracking progress, and reviewing reports.

This setup, including the work plan and the reporting mechanism tailored to it, will provide clear guidance for the daily operations of the new role. It will outline the areas where the post holder can make independent decisions.

The role will actively encourage new volunteering roles within the groups, clubs and organisations it works alongside, as well as building their capacity and skills, resulting in an increase in community activism and volunteer work. The aim is to increase community involvement and make a meaningful impact in the Garnock Valley.

7. Amount of funding being requested

Please supply details of funding being requested and any other funding you have had over the past 5 years, both financially and “in kind”.

Amount of funding requested (£) **£45,200**

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

The funding would be able to employ a Development Worker at 17.5 hrs per week for 2 years at a salary of £28,000 (pro rata) per annum and includes on costs, management, desk, equipment and a budget to support the delivery of the project.

Salary	£28,000
NI, Pension etc	£7,840
Management and equipment costs	£3,360
Budget for engagement activities	£6000

8. Monitoring and evaluation process

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

The project will utilise Beith Community Development Trust's existing monitoring and evaluation system (Upshot), a digital tool designed to effectively track and analyse project performance.

This system will provide a clear, integrated view of the engagement efforts and their tangible results. Activities and Targets will directly relate to the employees workplan, which will enable the working group and partners to objectively assess quantitative and qualitative data for impact and effectiveness, providing a practical M&E framework that ensures that GV2023 meets its objectives, whilst remaining flexibility to pivot to the community's changing needs.

This includes completing the CIF monitoring form and seeking evaluations from the Locality Partnership and the working group. These evaluations will focus on the project's alignment with Locality Priorities and the GV2023 report.

Further M & E checks and balances will be provided through regular updates to the Locality Partnership and the working group to ensure ongoing alignment with our objectives. Progress will be measured against the GV2023 work plan, with the understanding that adjustments may be necessary.

Additionally, we will maintain strict oversight of timesheets and time management to ensure efficient project progression.

A bespoke reporting structure will be developed to assess the status of GV2023 projects, providing a clear picture of each project's stage and progress.

JOB TITLE	Development Worker	PROJECT NAME	GV 2023
REPORTING TO	TBC	BASE	TBC
SALARY	£28,000 pa (pro rata)	CONTRACT	17.5 hours per week, fixed term 2 years
Purpose of Job			
<p>The Garnock Valley Locality Partnership Working Group are looking for an enthusiastic Development Worker, who is passionate about working with local communities. Someone who has experience of managing and delivering projects that engage local people, that support, inspire and empower people to make positive changes in their community.</p> <p>They are looking for someone with experience of sourcing funding opportunities, submitting successful funding applications and working effectively with funders. The successful candidate will have the ability to analyse challenging problems and recommend practical solutions. Excellent organisational skills are a must with an ability to manage a busy and diverse workload.</p> <p>Using the GV2023 report as a guiding document, the Development Worker will serve as a dynamic and creative catalyst for change within the Garnock Valley communities. This role calls for a proactive, can-do attitude and a deep understanding of what it takes to drive change in disadvantaged communities.</p> <p>The successful candidate will work closely with community members, established groups, and various stakeholders to enable them to develop and deliver a diverse range of community projects and actualise the recommendations in the GV2023 report.</p>			
Context and Scope			
<p>The Garnock Valley Locality Partnership Working Group commissioned a community engagement exercise, which identified community development opportunities within the Garnock Valley. The Working Group now require a Development Worker to help realise the recommendations in the report. The Development Worker for GV2023 will operate within the framework established by the GV2023 document, serving as a pivotal force for change in the Garnock Valley communities. Adopting a Place Based approach to working with communities, within a locality context, this role requires an individual with a proactive attitude and a knack for creative problem-solving. The scope of the role is comprehensive, encompassing project management, community and stakeholder empowerment, wider engagement, and strategic planning.</p>			
Major Tasks and Job Activities			
<p>1 – Engagement</p> <p>Stakeholder Engagement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build partnerships and foster collaboration using both conventional and creative approaches to community engagement. <p>Community Empowerment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilise creative methods to engage and equip community members with the skills and resources needed to bring about change. Engage with communities to help build the capacity of local groups and organisations. <p>Driving Change:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate an understanding of the complexities involved in promoting change within deprived communities and exhibit the perseverance and can-do attitude necessary to affect that change. <p>Capacity Building:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct workshops and training sessions that not only educate but inspire, leveraging creative techniques to build community skills. 			

2 – Project Development

Creative Problem-Solving:

- Employ innovative strategies to overcome challenges and turn ideas into actionable plans.

Project Management:

- Coordinate the implementation of projects in a way that encourages creative community participation and meets the objectives outlined in the GV2023 document.

Resource Allocation:

- Identify and secure funding opportunities, including those that may require out-of-the-box approaches to grant applications or fundraising efforts.

Compliance and Governance:

- Ensure all activities adhere to local laws and regulations, incorporating best practices in community development with a creative flair.

3 – Reporting and evaluating impact

Monitoring & Evaluation:

- Creatively track and assess the progress of initiatives against predefined targets, proposing adaptive strategies when necessary.

Documentation and Reporting:

- Produce compelling narratives and presentations that capture both quantitative and qualitative achievements and challenges. Report to The Working Group and the Garnock Valley Locality Partnership

Strategic Planning:

- Innovatively align project plans with the community's creative aspirations and the GV2023 roadmap and wider local and national strategies.

Communication:

- Maintain transparent and effective communication through a mix of traditional and creative channels.

Essential Skills, Knowledge and Experience

- Relevant Community Education qualification (as per CLD Standards Council Scotland List) or a degree in a relevant discipline or equivalent OR equivalent experience.
- Experience in working in community development, including working with young people, with a focus on creative approaches to project management. Supporting community organisations to realise change in their community.
- Deep understanding of the challenges and opportunities in deprived communities.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Proficiency in social media, digital engagement, and Microsoft Office Suite.
- Ability to work both independently and as part of a diverse team.
- Strong leadership and a proactive, can-do attitude.

- Exceptional organisational and multitasking skills.
- Aptitude for creative problem-solving.
- Experience of managing projects to completion.
- Resilience and adaptability in the face of challenges.
- Strong interpersonal skills, cultural sensitivity, and the ability to inspire those around you.
- Ability to work evenings and weekends as required.
- Experience and knowledge of funders and of applying for funding.

Staff Name

Date role was established



Locality Partnership: *Garnock Valley Locality Partnership*

Date: *7th December 2023*

Subject: *Residential Development at Former Garnock Academy Site, Kilbirnie*

Purpose: *Decide Street Names for the new development.*

Background

Housing Services, North Ayrshire Council has contacted Planning Services requesting new street names for the development of 50 houses on the site of the former Garnock Academy, located off School Road in Kilbirnie.

The Council has a statutory obligation under the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 to give a name to each new street built within the Council area, and this name, along with street numbers, becomes the postal addresses.

An outline plan of the development is available as an appendix.

At this stage, the development requires 3 new street names.

Key Points for Locality Partnership

A proposed street naming and numbering plan is available along with a list of proposed name suggestions.

Suggestions which have been made that use part of an existing street name in the town or immediate locality have been discounted on the basis that such duplication is likely to result in confusion.

Action Required by Locality Partnership

Choose 3 new street names for the development.

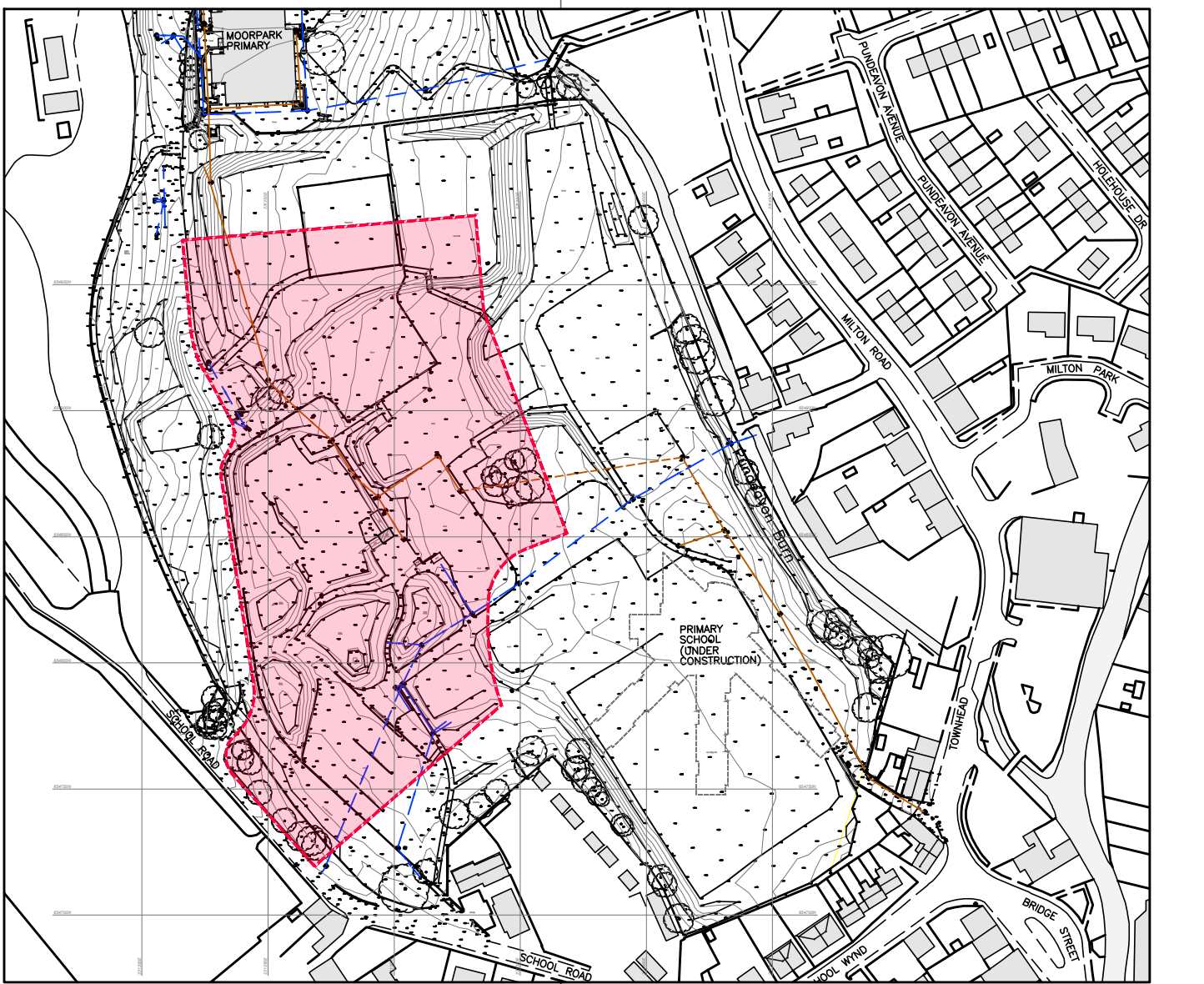
For more information please contact: *Lisa Dempster or Kirsty Gee, Planning Technicians, 01294 324319, snn@north-ayrshire.gov.uk*

Completed by: *Lisa Dempster and Kirsty Gee*

Date: *November 2023*

Street Name Suggestions	Background
Academy or Old Academy	<p>Refers to the former Garnock Academy which stood on the site between 1971 and 2017</p> <p>This name was suggested following an engagement carried out by Kilbirnie & Glengarnock CC with the local community.</p>
White	<p>Dr David White was rector of Garnock Academy for many years. He was also the first chairperson of Cunninghame District Council. Dr White lived in Saltcoats, and died in 2010.</p>
McQueen	<p>Gordon McQueen was a professional footballer who was born in Kilbirnie in June 1952 and died in June 2023. During his career, he played for St Mirren, Leeds United and Manchester United, as well as appearing thirty times for Scotland.</p> <p>This name was suggested following an engagement carried out by Kilbirnie & Glengarnock CC with the local community.</p>
Steele	<p>Joy Steele was a local artist and historian who died a few years ago.</p> <p>This name was suggested following an engagement carried out by Kilbirnie & Glengarnock CC with the local community.</p>
Dickie	<p>Dickie's Picture House was one of the cinemas in Kilbirnie and was located at Holmhead. The cinema closed down in 1969 and was converted into a bus garage. The building was destroyed by fire in 2008.</p>
Radio or George	<p>The Radio Cinema was Kilbirnie's largest cinema, with seating for 1200 when it opened in 1937. In later years it was known as the George Cinema, and was converted to a bingo hall (George Bingo) before it closed during the 1990s. The building was refurbished as a healthy living centre in 2002/03. Since then, it has been known as Radio City.</p>

Appendix 2



LOCATION PLAN 1:2500

STREET 1	<div></div>	Odds	1 to 29
		Evens	2 to 18
STREET 2	<div></div>	Consecutive	1 to 11
STREET 3	<div></div>	Odds	1 to 13
		Evens	2 to 16
PLOT NOS		Consecutive	01 to 50

Drawing Status: STREET NAMING & NUMBERING

Project:
NEW HOUSING PROPOSAL
FORMER GARNOCK ACADEMY SITE
KILBIRNIE
KA25 7AX

Drawing Title:
PROPOSED SITE LAYOUT

Client : North Ayrshire Council
Town : Kilbirnie
UPRN :
Property Name : Former Garnock Academy

File:
Scale: 1:500@A1 Drawn: HP Drawing No: 0192-NAC-00-ZZ-DH-A-0004 Rev: -
Date: JUNE 2022 Checked:

Property Management & Investment
DIRECTORATE: PLACE
CUNNINGHAME HOUSE, IRVINE, KA12 8EE





North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

Garnock Valley Locality Update

December 2023



Locality update

Participatory Budgeting - 14 projects from the Garnock Valley have been awarded a share of £15,232 following the outcome of the Locality PB. Across North Ayrshire, a total of 101 community groups and local organisations have been successful in their bids. These projects are set to make a real difference in the community. In the UK Shared Prosperity Fund PB, groups from the Garnock Valley were successful in securing four of the six available amounts of £5000, bringing £20,000 in to the Garnock Valley for local projects.

Beith Trust Ayrshire Business Awards 2023 Nomination - This autumn, Beith Community Development Trust were named a finalist in the prestigious Ayrshire Business Awards 2023. The organisation was honoured to be a finalist for the coveted Community Award, recognizing its unwavering commitment to fostering positive change in the Garnock Valley community. Although they did not secure the win, the nomination itself is a testament to the decade-long dedication to community-driven change in the locality.

Older Peoples Conference – Over 50 people from across North Ayrshire, including from the Garnock Valley, attended the inaugural Older People's Conference on 22nd November. During the conference, participants were able to contribute to a community mapping exercise, discuss some of the issues facing older people and how they can ensure the voice of older people is heard, including possibly creating a North Ayrshire wide network. Feedback from participants attending was positive.

New Friday Night Youth Group – The Locality Team, in partnership with KA Leisure and Police Scotland, have launched a new youth group on a Friday night based within Garnock Community Campus. The team are looking to engage with young people who are displaying anti-social behaviour. This project will offer them a safe place to participate in sporting and youth work activities to divert them away from being involved in anti-social behaviour.

Discovery Award - The Discovery Award is an achievement award for people aged fifty or over, to help promote an active and healthy lifestyle by offering challenges that both stimulate and motivate. Twenty people have registered for the Bronze Award in the Garnock Valley. A celebration of learning award event took place on Tuesday 14th November in Montgomery Court, with fifteen members of the group receiving their bronze certificates, with five members awards in progress. Twelve members of the group are now progressing on to work towards their silver award.

Kindness Mural – The Kindness Mural project in Dalry was showcased on Friday 1st December 2023. The Mental Health and Well Being Project Delivery Officer and Bee You Ambassadors have led on this project and worked in partnership with the Garnock Valley Locality Team, Garnock Valley Youth Forum and Dalry Community Garden. The fun and colourful graffiti style mural has a positive message and links to community mapping for mental health and wellbeing supports.

Multiply Project Delivery Officer – A new Project Delivery Officer has started in the Garnock Valley with a role in supporting local adults with their numeracy. The project



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will offer support for numeracy in groups or 1:1 support and in a variety of ways which can help everyday lives. If you would like to receive some support, or refer someone (with their consent), our referral process is quick and simple and can be accessed by emailing: multiplyinfo@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Women's Enterprise Scotland Award 2023 - If you live in or near Beith, there is a good chance you have visited the wonderful Mocha Jaks. They are so pleased that this year, Mocha Jaks stood out as a finalist in the esteemed Women's Enterprise Scotland Awards 2023, vying for the distinguished title of "Growth Business of the Year." While the ultimate victory may have eluded them, the nomination serves as a powerful testament to their excellence and a celebration of women entrepreneurs challenging norms.

The Ayrshire Community Trust - Challenge Poverty Week 2023 took place from Monday 2nd October to Sunday 8th October. Staff from the Capacity Building Team and Positive Steps at TACT worked together to make food parcels for people in the community. Staff put a wish on NAC Community Benefits Wishlist for donations and were overwhelmed with the response from contractors. In total, they were able to make thirty bags containing items such as food, toiletries, and treats. Any leftover stock was donated to the Foodbank so that they can help more families and individuals in need.

National Youth Work Week - North Ayrshire celebrated the power of youth work during November. NYWW is an annual awareness campaign supported by YouthLink Scotland. With a focus on #InvestInYouthWork and #YouthWorkMatters, the CLD Team created a week of locality-based events, case study spotlights for social media and North Ayrshire wide events showcasing work focussing on the seven priorities within the CLD Plan. In the Garnock Valley, as part of NYWW, the Youth Forum collated their stories and presented these on social media and at an open night held on Wednesday 8th November. They invited elected members, parents and guardians to come along to hear their stories, which was a fun and informative evening for all.

Beith Preparing for Winter Event – Beith Community Association and Radio City Association held an event in Beith Community Centre on 29 September 2023. The event was attended by fifty local residents, who received information from a number of support organisations who attended including food larders, money matters, Pre-Loved Uniform Centre and energy support.



Moving around

Highlights

Health Walks - Attendance at the walks has increased during the winter months. These walks are effectively tackling loneliness and social isolation, with participants' mental health improving, as well as their physical health through exercise.

Travel Needs Analysis – Following a delay due to the Covid 19 pandemic, this project is currently out to consultants for pricing. The working group hope a consultant can be appointed before the festive break, with work starting early in 2024. It is hoped they will work alongside the development of a Place Framework/Place Plan for the Garnock Valley.



North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

Garnock Valley Locality Update

December 2023

Highlights

Café Solace - Customer numbers for lunch and dinner continue to be steady with 90-100 attending each week. They have received quotes for the ground turnover for their kitchen garden and have engaged with the Community Payback Team, who have advised that they should be able to provide some assistance with labour. They are hoping that the garden will be ready for planting in early 2024. Café Solace have also engaged with the Community Payback Team on volunteering opportunities and await any potential placements.

Their volunteer drive has resulted in new volunteers joining the team, who have been attending on Friday evenings. They have held another engagement event with Children First, who provided some activities for children attending on a Friday and have offered support to parents.

Looking ahead to the festive season, the last lunch service of this year will be on Friday 1st December and preparations are underway for their famous Christmas dinners. Due to numbers, they are holding two events, on Friday 8th and Friday 15th December. Alongside a full turkey dinner, their customers will receive some small treats and a visit from Santa, who will provide a gift bag. Café Solace will be closed over the festive season and will reopen for lunch and dinner service on Friday 12th January 2024.

Dalry & Beith Job Clubs – The weekly Job Clubs continue to offer support and guidance to local participants that are applying for employment opportunities. Vital to this provision is the ICT support provided. Dalry Job Club runs every Thursday in Dalry Library from 1pm to 3pm and every Friday in Beith Library from 10am until 12pm.

New Scots Art Club Garnock Valley - A local artist is running a 7-week art class at Bridgend Community Centre for young New Scots. A variety of mediums and styles are being used including pen and line drawing, colour mixing and shading, working with acrylics and watercolours, making jewellery, bags, and pencil cases. Expression through these arts is enhancing mental well-being and improving skills. They have also helped develop friendships and confidence, while continuing to improve the participants English speaking skills.

History Talks – A new season of History Talks commenced with ten learners attending the first session. These sessions make learning more accessible and give people the opportunity to gather with common interests. Consequently, this promotes wellbeing by enhancing relationships through shared experience, and builds a sense of belonging/connectedness to their locality. The last of the current run of talks will take place on Thursday 14th December 2023.

Highlights

Community Support Services - Beith Trust can provide a variety of community support services aimed at helping the community with life's toughest problems. They offer a variety of services including:



Facilities and amenities



North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

Garnock Valley Locality Update

December 2023



Work and the local community

- Lend an ear befriending service.
- Garnock Valley Helping Hands for new parents.
- Professional Development: Improve your mental and physical fitness by keeping your mind and body busy - realise your true potential through classes, courses, and volunteering!
- Chit chat club: Join them at 12pm every Friday in Beith Community Centre for a warm drink, and a good chat with some friends. Where available, they also have free food available!
- Citizens Advice Centre: Confidential support and advice. Contact them for support via face-to-face, phone support, or both with help regarding finance, debt, energy, and welfare.

P7 to S1 Transition Groups - Garnock Valley Transition programme in Kilbirnie has successfully engaged with over sixty young people. The group, due to high demand, has had to be split over two sessions, which run in the Walker Hall on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Weekly sessions are also running in Beith Community Centre and Dalry Library.

Climate Change Ambassadors - In total, sixteen young people across North Ayrshire continue to work on a range of activities, opportunities, signposting and events around climate change and sustainability. The young people are passionate about climate change and the team have been working in schools and collaborating with community groups as well as volunteering with local environmental groups to raise awareness of biodiversity, carbon emissions and other climate issues where young people can do their own part to make a difference. Over the last two years, they have been at the forefront of helping the Council to deliver a series of biodiversity awareness sessions in schools to other young people – an important part of the job, contributing not only to the Council's Youth Participation Strategy but also supporting the Council's ambitious target of having net-free carbon emissions by 2030. The group continue to work to create a Climate Change Time Capsule, along with tree planting. The aim is to include items to look back on in 20 years to see how much change young people have been able to achieve.

Movie Nights – The Garnock Valley Locality Team, in partnership with Dalry Community Sports Club and NA Foodbank, have planned two movie events for December 2023. One for Friday 8th December and one matinee showing on Sunday 10th December.

Dalry Community Garden - Dalry Community Development Hub, Dalry Community Garden and Bypass Art would all like to wish all their volunteers and supporters a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. They have had a busy year and are looking forward to 2024 working with and supporting the community.

INFORM North Ayrshire – TACT 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:



North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

Garnock Valley Locality Update

December 2023

Garnock Valley Youth Forum – The Youth Forum continues to grow and develop positively. Over the past 3 months, the young people have been busy participating in various activities and events. They attended a team building residential at Arran Outdoor Centre, where they engaged well and took part in a Committee Skills Workshop. Following this, they formed their own committee and have each taken roles. They have set up and taken ownership of their own social media platforms on Instagram, Tik Tok and Facebook. They attended the Joint Youth Forum at Ardeer Community Centre, where they had an input into the CLD Strategic plan. They also continue to provide the Uniform Centre on a regular basis and are active in sorting and distributing donations.

Garnock Valley Countryside Ranger – The Ranger Graeme is regularly meeting with the John Muir Award Group from Garnock Campus, helping provide outdoor experiences at Lochshore Park, all the while working toward their JMA. Dalry and St Palladius' primaries have both signed up to the North Ayrshire wide Go Wild project, where teachers receive training and support in outdoor education using the Go Wild Box that is supplied to the school. The Ranger organised a bat walk at Lochshore Park in August, which was well attended and with lots of bats viewed. A second bat walk during Ayrshire Walking Festival at Geilsland and Spier's Grounds was popular, with lots of bats seen and even the International Space Station. The aim of these events is to showcase greenspace in a different light and introduce people to bats and other nocturnal animals. It is also a nice way to explore a place after dark in a safe group.

Kilbirnie Library – The library has had a very busy time with visits from all the local schools. The children have loved their teepee and have enjoyed sitting in it while listening to stories.

Barrmill Jolly Beggars - The club held a successful concert on Sunday 1 October at Geilsland Hall, Beith. Irvine and Dreghorn Band were in top form and supported by the fantastic Beith Theatre Group, made up of mainly younger but very talented members. The Barrmill Jolly Beggars also held their 89th Annual St Andrew's Dinner on Friday 24 November in Beith Bowling Club. Barrmill JBBC will hold their Christmas Concert on Sunday 10 December at 2pm in Geilsland Hall. On this occasion, they will welcome Garnock Valley Community Band and the joint choirs of Beith and Gateside Primary Schools. Finally, the Jolly Beggars will hold their 80th Annual Burns Supper on Friday 19 January 2024 in Beith Bowling Club.

Next steps

The combined locality partnership working group will next meet in January 2024 (date tbc). Anyone with an interest is welcome to attend and get involved. Please contact Christina for further information.

For further information contact:

Christina Pieraccini - Locality Officer

cpieraccini@north-ayrshire.gov.uk



COMMUNITY LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT

NORTH AYRSHIRE

NORTH AYRSHIRE CONNECTED COMMUNITIES
NORTH AYRSHIRE YOUTH WORK, ADULT
LEARNING AND COMMUNITY CAPACITY

QUARTERLY UPDATE

NOVEMBER 2023 - DONNA ANDERSON, ANNE-MARIE HUNTER & DENISE FRASER

Garnock Valley LP Pg 47



An Introduction to the CLD Strategic Themes

This quarterly report focusses on the CLD strategic priorities outlined in our North Ayrshire CLD Strategic Plan that ties into North Ayrshire locality priorities.

The full plan can be viewed here: <https://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/Documents/CorporateServices/ChiefExecutive/CommunityPlanning/community-learning-development-plan.pdf>

YOUTH WORK

Contact: youthwork@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

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.

ADULT LEARNING

Contact: adultlearning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Community based adult learning covers a wide variety of learning opportunities which target learners who have multiple barriers to opportunity, focusing on disadvantaged individuals and communities. Using a Social Practice Model, learning is built around the experience and needs of the learners and is underpinned by the three core principles of the Adult Learning Statement of Ambition - Learning is Lifelong, Life-wide and Learner-centred.

CAPACITY BUILDING

Contact: denisefraser@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Community Capacity Building is the support that community groups access to help them address issues which are important to them. 'Capacity' describes the range of resources that people have – knowledge about their area or common interest, skills and ideas, shared experiences, and material resources like funding and community spaces.

Joint Cabinet

During National Youth Work week the latest Youth Cabinet meeting at Saltcoats Town Hall was a hero highlight. With a bustling atmosphere, the youth participation event provided an opportunity for young people to share their thoughts and concerns with the Council Executive and other local policy makers. Representing all of North Ayrshire's secondary schools with over 100 young people attended.



During the round-table discussions, the format included a combination of listening to the experience of young people directly and encouraging the young people to also share feedback using a QR code via the Council's Youth Participation digital platform where all of the information gathered from the day will be collated and reviewed.

The discussions centred around, Youth Peoples Voice and Democracy, Crime and Personal Safety, Financial Literacies and Education, Mental Health and Wellbeing and secondary school life in North Ayrshire.

Theme 1 – Young Peoples Voice – Democracy Matters

North Ayrshire Council is in phase two of a national consultation called Democracy Matters, there has been a variety of workshops, events and engagements to speak to communities about this. To ensure we are engaging with young people we have engaged with our Joint Youth Forum and asked young people at Joint Cabinet some key questions which will form the feedback we give back as a council as a whole.

The engagement is building on the first phase of conversations where communities said they want more control over decisions that impact them the most. This phase is asking communities to get together to consider a series of open questions to help us understand what this control could look like in practice.

Theme 2 – Youth Crime and Personal Safety

As a key theme that young people came back and wanted to discuss during our pre-engagement consultation we are working in partnership with Police Scotland. These are areas which both young people and our partners have raised as areas of concern. Feedback from this will create actions when working with Police Scotland to make young people feel safer in their communities.

Theme 3 – Your School (NIF)

We are working in partnership with Education Scotland as one of two local authorities in Scotland to engage with young people on the Education National Improvement Framework.



Essentially the aim is to find out if the National Discussion responses remain valid under the three questions, or perhaps young people are noting different challenges or certain challenges are more pressing at this time than when the National Discussion was undertaken in 2022. We want to capture any difference / shifts in the young peoples views and experiences.

We were interested to hear their current views on their education and if they reflect the findings of National Discussion findings or perhaps highlight new or different concerns and challenges.

Theme 4 – Financial Literacies and Education

Another key area that young people wanted to discuss was around financial education. We are gathering the views of young people to help us shape workshops and information, this will help shape our work around cyber information for young people and directing them to trusted sources to learn more about financial education.

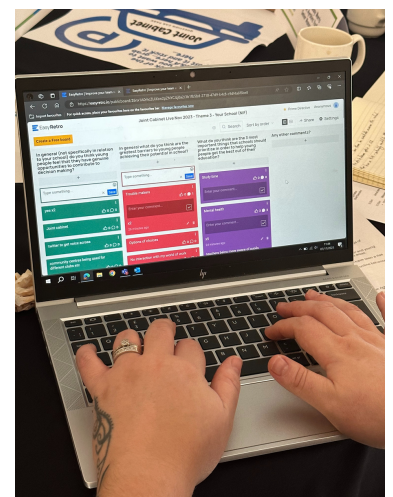
Theme 5 – Health and Wellbeing

Working in partnership with Education, NHS and Ayrshire Alcohol and Drugs partnership we are gathering information on health concerns relating to alcohol and drug education and mental health and wellbeing. This data will help shape support for young people across our communities and schools.

Priority Auction - Cost Of Living

The last bit of the session allowed for a bit of friendly school competition. The Modern Apprentices led on an interactive activity about the Impact of Youth Work and what is important to young people. With it being National Youth Work week, we wanted to know what young people want, what is important to them to help us shape our programmes and activities around their needs and wants. Young people were given 10 themes around this to rank in order from most to least important.

Full report to follow in next quarterly update.



Members of Scottish Youth Parliament

From August up until now the team have been working with eight candidates that are standing to become North Ayrshire next Members of Scottish Youth Parliament for a 2 year term.

National Youth Work seen the launch of the voting phase across Scotland and across our schools and communities using the Young Scot Voting platform. Unfortunately, it had come to light that votes cast using mobile phones had not been recorded by the voting.young.scot website, while votes cast using a desktop computer or a laptop were unaffected.

To ensure fairness and integrity in the voting process, with guidance from Scottish Youth Parliament and Young Scot, North Ayrshire Council, along with other local authorities and National Voluntary Organisations across Scotland has taken the decision to pause the voting and restart the process with fresh ballots. This is to ensure that every young person's democratic vote counts.

The eight candidates will form a newly appointed North Ayrshire Executive Committee and will join other youth voice groups as a group in their own right. This group will be supported by the Election Coordinator and go through a variety of training, support and group work to prepare them for elections and to input into the youth participation and citizenship structures that are already in place, for those not elected in they can continue in this role after the elections if they wish.

Elections will restart from afresh in January 2024 with a full paper ballot across North Ayrshire with MSYPs being officially elected in on Monday 29th January 2024.

CUNNINGHAME NORTH

Logan Gilmour, Rhyan Gorrie, Emma Henderson, Adam Johnson

CUNNINGHAME SOUTH

Emma Burns, Lee Fitzpatrick, Freya Fitzsimmons, Brooke Ramsay

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To read our candidates profiles you can visit here:

Cunningham North:

<https://elections.syp.org.uk/elections/19/constituency/18/>

- **Logan Gilmour**, who plans to concentrate on equalities, health and well-being and poverty and inequality.
- **Rhyan Gorrie** will focus on poverty and inequality, health and well-being and transport.
- **Emma Henderson** is targeting the issues of poverty and inequality, health and well-being and transport.
- **Adam Johnson** says equalities, health and well-being and democracy are his main issues.

#YWW23
#ThisIsYouthWork

YouthLink Scotland

"Youth Joint Cabinet and our recent Youth Conference are brilliant examples of how young people are placed at the forefront of the Council's decision making on all policies and strategies affecting them."

"SYP takes this further to both a local and national level - this is why it is SO important to **scan the QR code and VOTE NOW** for your preferred Scottish Youth Parliament candidate to ensure your voice and point of view is listened to, taken seriously and actioned upon."

SYP
SCOTTISH YOUTH PARLIAMENT

Mais Al Diri,
MSYP for Cunningham North

VOTE

North Ayrshire Council
Cunningham North & South

Cunningham South:

<https://elections.syp.org.uk/elections/19/constituency/1/>

- **Emma Burns**. Her main issues are economy, environment and health and well-being.
- **Lee Fitzpatrick**, who is focusing on health and well-being, democracy and culture and media.
- **Freya Fitzsimmons**, who has young people's rights, the environment and democracy in her sights.
- **Brooke Ramsay**, who will target equalities, the environment and health and well-being.

Elected candidates will be announced via our social media channels and full update provided in the next quarterly report.



Youth Participatory Budgeting

This year we have a dedicated budget for Youth PB of £50,000 – this included a £10k contribution from the Health and Social Care Partnership. North Ayrshire continues to be very successful and a key to this, as is the young people's involvement throughout the process.

Groups applied for money to deliver against themes, that were decided by young people, as part of their Youth Participation and Citizenship Strategy – 2021-2025.

Well over 100 groups applied this year via our digital platform which provided more scope for young people to be creative with their applications including the ability to submit video applications. All the applications were then reviewed by young people and those that met the criteria were voted on by young people aged **8-25 years**.



Voting had to be suspended last minute due to an issue relating to the Young Scot Voting Platform. However, **all eligible** Youth PB bids in Arran, North Coast, Irvine, Kilwinning and Garnock Valley will be awarded funds this year. Therefore, no further voting needs to take place in these localities.

In the Three towns locality voting will require to go ahead and to ensure these votes are recorded accurately and are fully transparent, the voting process will restart completely and be done by taking paper voting ballots into all schools and communities across the Three Towns.

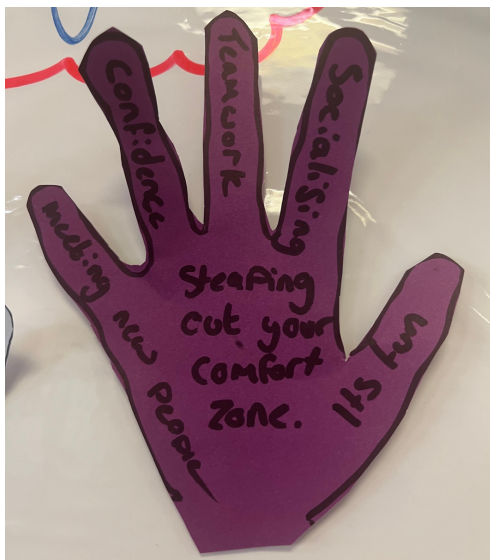
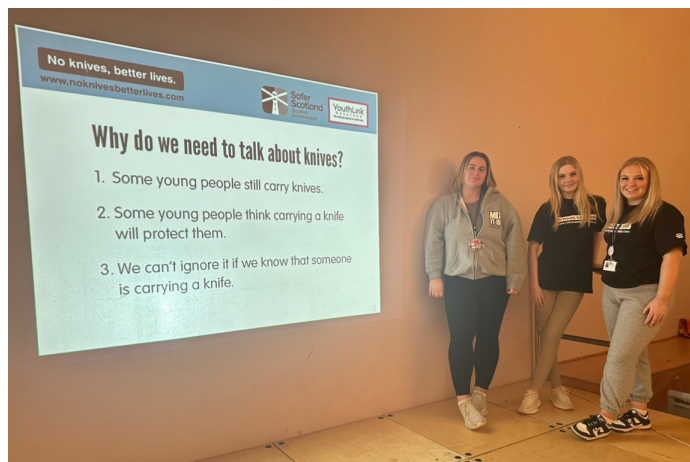
Results will be announced on Monday 11th December and all successful applicants will be informed shortly after.

"Although a little scary and disorientating, for some of the more introverted students on the day, it was inspiring to see how the youth workers encouraged everyone to come out of their comfort zone to overcome their fears, gain confidence and try it out."

"Very proud of everyone, thank you to Youth Services for brilliant end to Youth Work Week 2023! We will now take the learning and report back to our Pupils Parliament and Youth Council to further embed and increase awareness on the important issues discussed that are most pertinent for young people."

Youth Work Week has now come to an end, but this won't stop Youth Services continue to share exciting updates via social media as youth work has something for everyone and has the power to really change lives.

Email: youthservices@north-ayrshire.gov.uk if you want to get involved in a youth club or #youthparticipation or send a DM to Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/nayouthservices> and Twitter: <https://twitter.com/NAYouthServices>



Primary Seven Youth Council

Taking place in September at Ardeer Community Centre, primary 7 pupils from Skelmorlie, St Palladius, Glebe Primary, Springside Primary, St Mark's Primary and Lawthorn Primary took the chance to meet with their peers and take part in a series of interactive workshops. 140 pupils were in attendance to learn new skills and find out more about #youthparticipation in North Ayrshire.



The young people shared their views through a series of interactive workshops with the themes of:

A Young Persons Edit of the Council Plan - The Council plan has been published but we want to work with the young people to create a plan on a page that brings the plan to life in a youth friendly way.

Peer Pressure and Positive Thinking - An interactive workshop that focusses on peer pressure and how to handle these situations.

Know your Rights (Pupil voice) - Focussing on young peoples rights and how much young people know and what they mean. Discussing the role of duty bearers and how they can help uphold these rights if a young person is not able to do this.

A Spotlight on Climate Change - Pupils discussed their role within the Climate Change emergency and how small steps can make impactful change in their local community.

The interactive workshops were a good opportunity for the young people to meet with peers from other schools and have the chance to share what they liked about school life and the local facilities near them. It also focused on their lived experience of the areas of improvement required and the obstacles they and their families face amidst the Cost-of-Living crisis. This information will now be reported back the Council's leadership team so that the knowledge gained can contribute towards, and shape, specific policies and strategies related to children and young people, so that any necessary actions can be progressed.

Awareness is currently being raised among North Ayrshire Council staff to ensure that everyone understands their ongoing responsibility to protect the rights of our children and young people. The Council follows and respects The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) to ensure that all children's rights are respected and that they are free to learn, play and develop. North Ayrshire's long-standing key mechanisms for listening to the voices of our young people, the Primary Youth Council was formed last year to amplify the voice of primary school aged pupils.



National Youth Work Week



North Ayrshire celebrated the power of youth work this November – an annual awareness campaign supported by YouthLink Scotland.

From the 6th November with a focus on #InvestInYouthWork and #YouthWorkMatters, the CLD Team created a week of locality based events, case study spotlights for social media and North Ayrshire wide events showcasing work focussing on the seven priorities within the CLD Plan.

MSYP for Cunninghame North, Mais Al Diri, whose two-year term is now nearing its end, reflected: *“With clubs, events and the usual weekly running of youth clubs happening across our six localities, Youth Work Week ended with on a high with the impactful energy of the North Ayrshire Youth Conference.”*

Councillor Alan Hill, Cabinet Member for Islands and Communities added: *“From youth sports clubs and dance groups, to youth-focused projects with a focus on mental health and local climate action projects, there’s a host of incredible youth initiatives on our doorsteps and investing in the power of youth work continues to be a key focus for us a child-centred and youth-led local authority.*

“Investing community funding into local youth projects is crucial, especially as we approach another winter where so many people are still struggling due to the Cost-of-Living crisis.

“Stay tuned in the coming weeks when our Youth Participatory Budgeting and Scottish Youth Parliament voting will resume and eight-to-25 year old’s will be encouraged to have their say on who should represent them and where community youth funding should be best spent.”

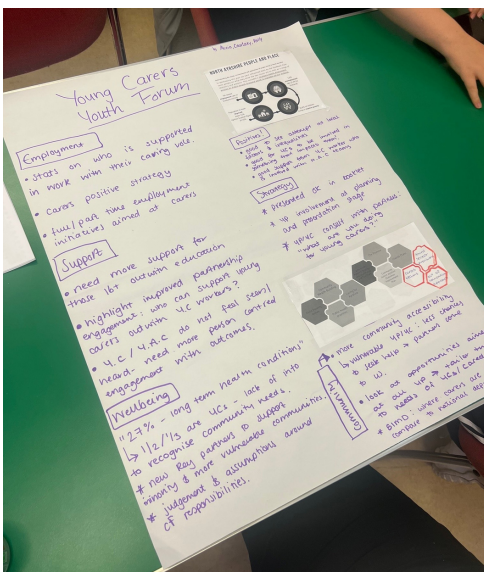
“Youth Work Week has now come to an end, but this won’t stop Youth Services continuing to share exciting updates via social media as youth work has something for everyone and has the power to really change lives.”



Joint Youth Forum

Our Joint Youth Forum, the meeting took place at Redburn Community Centre, giving young people aged between 12-25 the opportunity to raise issues that were important to them and share improvements that could be made to services for young people.

Supported by Community Learning and Development workers representing each locality in North Ayrshire, North Ayrshire's network of youth forums are a great way for those aged 12-25 to get involved in #youthparticipation.



Councillor Chloe Robertson, said: *"It was fantastic to have such a great turn-out with over 50 young people attending our first Joint Youth Forum meeting of 2023."*

"Lots of important matters were discussed including Democracy Matters, the Local Outcome Improvement Plan and a young persons version of the Council Plan."

"The forum was also a fantastic opportunity to reflect upon all the fantastic work happening in Youth Services to build a North Ayrshire that is fair and equal for all young people and their families, where no one is left behind."

Put simply, a youth forum is a place where young people have the chance to make their voices heard, where opinions will be taken on board and then used to inform local decision-making.

North Ayrshire Council has six youth forums operating weekly across each of our localities. The forums are the sounding board to the Council's Administration and Chief Executive on issues that matter most to young people.

The members also to help run local activities such as breakfast clubs, youth film night's and discos.



North Ayrshire's 60 youth forum members involved were also recently incremental in the latest round of Youth Participatory Budgeting as they rolled-up their sleeves to review the all PB applications ahead of the live vote.

Logan Gilmour, MSYP, was a panel member at the event. He said: *"Youth Forums are fantastic way for young people to meet new people, gain confidence and learn new skills such as problem-solving, minute-taking, networking and organising events."*

"This weekend's meeting was a vital opportunity for the young people involved to express their views and get answers to questions they wanted to ask."

"The young people also presented their plans for the year ahead and spoke with passion and determination about the many ideas they have to improve the health and wellbeing of young people throughout the region, combat climate change and make their communities better for all."

Young people also shared updates on exciting new initiatives and events happening in their localities including litter campaigns, breakfast clubs, swap shops and more.

Councillor Alan Hill, Cabinet Member for Islands and Communities added: *"Thank you to everyone who came along to the first Joint Youth Forum of 2023."*

"Providing support and a platform for the important work of the youth forum is just one of the many ways the Council is committed to ensuring that young people can step up and speak out to make a difference in North Ayrshire."

"I am proud to live in a North Ayrshire with so many passionate young people, who are proud to represent their peers and amplify their point of view. We care deeply about what matters to young people and those in attendance discussed a whole variety of issues which will now be reported back to our Leadership team as we work on updating our Youth Strategy action plan for the months ahead."

Do you want to get involved in youth participation?

If you're a young person in North Ayrshire, there are lots of ways you can have a say on decisions that affect you! Visit the Youth Services webpage: [Youth groups and organisations \(north-ayrshire.gov.uk\)](https://north-ayrshire.gov.uk/youth-groups-and-organisations) to find out more about Youth Forums, North Ayrshire's Executive Youth Council, our local MSYP's and the Young People's Champion then contact youthwork@north-ayrshire.gov.uk



Climate Change Ambassadors

Our group of ambassadors now have an additional 4 members that have joined, the 16 young people continue to work on a range of activities, opportunities, signposting and events around climate change and sustainability.

Passionate about climate change, the team have been working in schools and collaborating with community groups as well as volunteering with local environmental groups to raise awareness of biodiversity, carbon emissions and other climate issues where young people can do their own part to make a difference.

And over the last two years, they have been at the forefront of helping the Council to deliver a series of biodiversity awareness sessions to schools and other young people – an important part of the job, contributing not only to the Council's Youth Participation Strategy but also supporting the Council's ambitious target of having net-free carbon emissions by 2030.

The group continue to work 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.



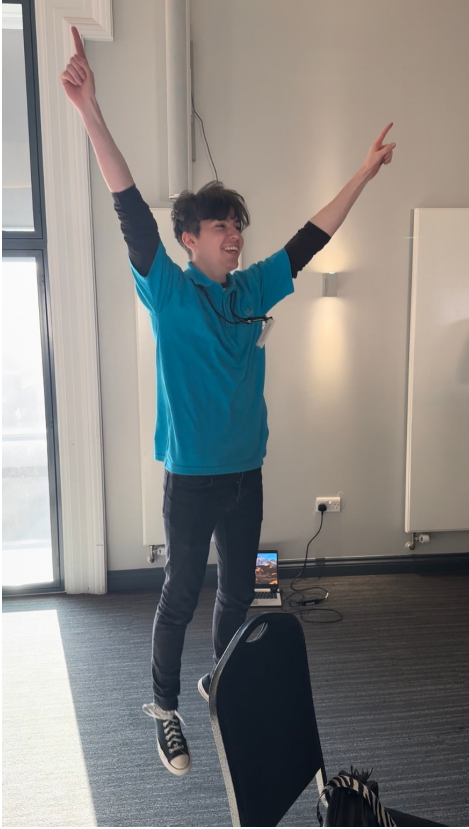
With funding they received from Scottish Government they are working in partnership with the Mental Health Ambassadors and Kilwinning Community Gardens and have funded 20 trees and protectors to be planted within the community garden with a time capsule which is reflective of young peoples wellbeing and their hopes and aspirations for the future. This even will take place on December of this year.

All ambassadors took part in the Joint Cabinet where they input their views on the various topics.

The group continues to meet fortnightly.



Youth Work Modern Apprenticeship Programme



At the beginning of September, we received notification of an upcoming HMle visit taking place for our Modern Apprentices in September. The visit with the inspector and a range of apprentices from both our senior and new candidates, allowed them to see their growth and development over the course of their qualification.

Discussions took place with the MA's before the visit to ensure they were able to recognise the effect they have on service delivery, support received and opportunities provided discussed with candidates regarding the support they receive in relation to their qualification and leadership opportunities provided to them throughout the apprenticeship.

It was evident our more experienced MA's had an excellent understanding of what they do and why they do it. It was clear that our MA's are provided leadership opportunities when left in charge of planning and delivering large events such as our Joint Cabinets, youth council and youth conferences. The MA's were fantastic when responding to all questions offering lots of information and real life examples of their experience.

Soon after the visit took place some feedback was provided by the inspectors, overall, the feedback was positive however the Modern Apprenticeship programme was identified as 'practice worth sharing more widely' which we were delighted to receive. The full report was provided a couple of weeks later containing the following comments:

"The MA programme run by North Ayrshire CLD service has a significant impact on the young people who participate, the learners and communities they support as apprentices, and on the CLD service. Apprentices contribute to and run a wide range of CLD programmes across the local authority. They are key to the development of young people's empowerment and involvement in influencing decisions. They are instrumental in running the Joint Cabinets between young people and elected members. Young people on the programme gain a wide range of skills and gain confidence. Whilst the staff provide clear leadership and support to the apprentices, the apprentices themselves also influence the CLD service. The input from MAs is helping the service be innovative and remain responsive to learners' changing needs, especially for children and young people."

A case study has now being created for HMle to share this with other organisations and services. We will be recruiting our new intake of MAs in April 2024.



Kindness Mural Consultation

Working with the Bee You Ambassadors group, we had many discussions around what issues young people in their local communities and how they could use their training to benefit these young people. Through these discussions it was recognised that some work around suicide prevention had to be prioritised. Throughout North Ayrshire the statistics for youth suicides were particularly high throughout North Ayrshire. They felt a project highlighting this could give young people local signposting/ support services, would address the matter head on in a proactive way. The Kindness Mural Consultation has been collaboratively developed with Project Delivery Officer developed the project alongside the Bee You Ambassadors, Community Partners and Locality Staff.

From March 2023 to August 2023 the consultation was live and pushed via various channels of engagement methods as earlier mentioned. 521 people had completed the survey wither that be as an individual as a group with the findings/ priorities being:

Kilwinning Locality

The first kindness project is taking place in Kilwinning linking in the time capsule and tree planting project at Kilwinning Community Gardens. Working in partnership with Eglington Rangers Service, Kilwinning Community Gardens, Climate Change Ambassadors and Bee You Ambassadors.

Irvine Locality

Irvine Youth Forum in partnership with Greenwood Academy participated in the kindness mural project. Within this session young people looked at how environments can shape individuals and co designed a kindness mural for the Irvine Locality.

Garnock Valley Locality

Working in partnership with Garnock Valley Locality Team and Garnock Valley Youth Forum with the creation of a graffiti style mural with direct links to community mapping for mental health and wellbeing. Garnock Valley locality have carried out session around the creation if the Mural in the Garnock Valley as well as collaborating with the graffiti artist and Dalry Community Gardens. This will be showcased on the 1st of December. Below you can see their initial design:



Mental Health Toolkit Refresh



The Mental Health Toolkit was launched in North Ayrshire in 2017 created by NAC Youth Services, local MSYP Courtney Gemmell and national mental health organisations to support teachers, youth workers and young people to become more informed on mental health. generally. Project Delivery Officer hopes that by refreshing this resource it would challenge the stigma surrounding mental health within schools and the wider community. The original toolkit was split into three key areas: information, signposting and support. Interactive workshops Distraction tools. Project Delivery Officer lead on a consultation phase, planning and reshaping of new mental health toolkit which will be used within the local community.

Throughout the process Project delivery officer consulted and engaged with sample groups of young people in events and groups like the Joint Youth Forum, Youth Council , Primary 7's, Young Adult Carers, Equalities Forum, Garnock Valley Youth Forum, Bee You Ambassadors and Modern Apprentices as well as online consultation. This was done to gather views in the hope to refresh such a resource, updating the workshops, information, and signposting.

These focus groups identified that the toolkit is now outdated and as such needs to be refreshed. Through consultation with young people, we will create this through a youth led approach. Working collectively with the steering group information will be relevant and engaging to both partners using this toolkit to work with young people.

Next steps, is for an person meeting/ developmental day to look at a partnership approach with young people and professionals to identify and create content in December 2023. Professionals will be identified to work on specific content creation in relation to themes that will be covered.



Mini Ambassadors Programme – Bounce Back Peer Support Programme – St Lukes Primary



The Mini Ambassador programme focusses on mental health and wellbeing delivered by North Ayrshire Bee You Mental Health Ambassadors, delivering to primary 6/7 young people and becoming mini bee you ambassadors for their primary school. It ensures 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.

The 6 part programme focusses on these young people becoming Bee You Ambassadors for their primary school, 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 This programme has most recently been delivered to St Lukes Primary School in Kilwinning to a class of Primary 7 pupils. The programme allows the Bee You Ambassadors, who are all aged between 16 and 21, the chance to share the valuable information they have learned throughout their journey with these young people. The programme supported all 27 of the St Lukes pupils involved in learning these workshops with their own resilience through topics that they are currently experiencing within primary school. The Ambassadors all have completed Mental Health First Aid and/or the Mental Health UKs Your Resilience programme, in delivering what they have learned only reaffirms the learning that these young people have already had further increasing their resilience and confidence.

"This programme has opened up conversations we liked the play-doh lesson because it taught us resilience. When they came along and squished our play-doh we could have given up and stop trying but they taught us to try again." Age 11

"The Bounce Back Programme was delivered very effectively within St Luke's Primary School by Vicki and her team. The staff were friendly, considerate and quickly built relationships with all children. These relationships and the atmosphere they created within the classroom were core to the success of the programme. This allowed pupils to take charge of the learning experiences. Each week they covered an extremely important and essential area of mental, social and emotional health. The lessons were well structured to include a variety of activities and were also very well resourced. All children looked forward to the Bounce Back Programme each week and are keen to now permeate the knowledge and skills they have developed throughout the school as trained Well-being Ambassadors." Miss Ness



Your Resilience – Irvine Royal Academy



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.

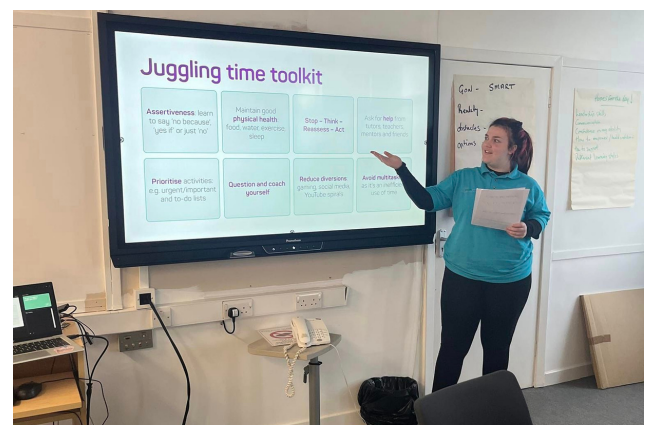
The programme is run weekly in Irvine Royal Academy with current 6th year pupils of a already established school mental health ambassador status. Sessions are 1–2-hours covering Resilience, Exam Pressure, Friendships/Decision Making, Social Pressures, Managing Studies and Juggling Time. Along with open 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.

At the end of the completed sessions and workbooks the young people have a opportunity to give feedback, they will then receive their certificate.

On completion the group have asked for a session to further brainstorm and information on how we can support their ideas moving forward as not only ambassadors for their school but ambassadors for their community. This session will be happening in the coming weeks with the hope of creating a lasting support and partnership for these senior pupils to further support the younger pupils of the school.

In learning and delivering this programme with the hope to reach as many young people as possible between the ages of 14–20 within North Ayrshire helping them increase their knowledge and tools to build resilience whilst promote the culture of open conversation about Mental Health.

"Thank you Vicki Andrew and her team for the work they are doing with some of our Irvine Royal Mental Health Ambassadors, the group are really enjoying the sessions and working with the Team" Mrs Marwick



Gaelic

Community Base Adult Learning Gaelic Provision

Thirteen weekly ongoing Gaelic language classes at various levels continue to be delivered face to face and virtually in North Ayrshire:

Level 3/4 - Irvine

Level 4 - Three Towns

Level 3/4 - Three Towns

Level 3/4 - Three Towns

Level 4/5 - Three Towns

2 x level 1/2 - Online

Level 2 - Online

3 x level 1 - Online

Level 3 - Online

Level 4 - Online

once a moth conversation (all levels) - Arran



As part of Adult Learners Week an Introduction to NAC Gaelic classes event was held in Arran Library on Sat 02 September with information for those interested in taking part in Gaelic classes across North Ayrshire. This resulted in increased numbers of learners wanting access to classes and new online classes having to be formed to meet demand.

Arran Geopark Landscape Walks

In partnership with Arran Access Trust two NAC Gaelic language students had recently qualified as Mountain Leaders and wanted to use their new skills to take people out on guided walks. They wanted to add to this by using the Gaelic they had to chat about place names. With degrees in geology they were already involved with Arran Geopark, and felt that a Gaelic landscape walk would be in keeping with Geopark themes around promoting and educating people about natural and cultural heritage. The walks cover various areas and terrains on Arran from a Gaelic perspective, looking at local history, geography, industry, place names and landscape.



Gaelic

Support to Gaelic Community groups/organisations

Suas Leis a' Ghàidhlig held their AGM in November and have adopted an updated constitution that will allow them to continue their Gaelic journey with trips and events over the coming months being planned.

Largs Gaelic choir continue on their Gaelic journey where they competed in the national Mod in Paisley in October.

Fèis Arainn was one of this year's recipients of the Coop Community Fund, events delivered included fiddlers and other musicians performing both at the Coop and around the island shops as part of the Shop Arran weekend with associated press coverage, also the Trad band will be taking part in a Christmas concert on 21/12/23.

The Fèis Arainn Junior shinty club continues to grow and the club is now attracting good numbers of around 15 in weekly sessions with mainland tutor. In addition an inter-primary schools tournament was held in September and attracted 55 participants. And the club has also held a parent and carer taster session in October.

Fèis Arainn was approached by a new resident on the island, who participates regularly in the Mòd as a member of the Govan Gaelic choir, who is eager to establish an Arran Gaelic choir.

Fèis Arainn and North Ayrshire Community Learning and Development have supported this request which has resulted in a good deal of interest. A meeting was held on 3rd November to discuss future steps involved in forming a choir. First rehearsals began on 14/11/23 with a view to performing in a Christmas event.

Isle of Arran Music School continues with weekly provision for school aged children in clàrsach, pipes and drums.

The band participated in several national events and competitions as well as a local concert on Arran on 28/10/23. Two of the drummers took part in the World Solo Drumming Championships in Glasgow and two pipers in the Caledonian Festival of Junior Piping.

One clàrsach player won a silver medal in the recent Mòd in Paisley.



New Scots

The film making club

This is a peer led project for ages 15+ that benefited from funding from TACT. They met once a week in Ardrossan youth hut to write and create a film, they have filmed on location and are now editing their film at the Media Hub in West Kilbride. Young Ukrainians, Scots and Syrians have all been involved in acting and learning skills in filming, sound production and editing.

The film will be shown at the Harbour Arts Centre in January 2024.



Ocean Youth Trust

In October 6 young New Scots from North Ayrshire, Ukrainian and Syrian, had the opportunity to join with other New Scots from Argyll and Bute Council to undertake a voyage with the Ocean Youth Trust. They were also given a team building activity residential in Ardentinn. The team received a qualification for completing their voyage and can now volunteer with the OYT who will take them through their sailing levels.



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New Scots

Judo club for New Scots with Loretta Doyle Judo Foundation

Judo lessons have progressed and are now offering weekly lessons in partnership with the foundation and Irvine Judo Club. Interest has been keen, with 34 children and 4 adults signing up.

All have been learning to speak Japanese within lessons(in the context of Judo). Learning the fundamental principles of judo : respect, courtesy, honesty, modesty, self-control, courage and honour.

All lessons, gradings, kit, insurances are provided free by the charity which enables attendance given families are low income and/or benefit based. Use of the local facility is developing more Community Presence within Irvine town.

There are plans a celebratory event after the grading in February.



YOUR NEXT MOVE
Working North Ayrshire

CEIS
Employability

Syrian Young Adult Programme

Are you Male, 16–30 years?
Want a brighter future for work?
Come to our information event:
Where: Kilbirnie Library
9th November
2.30–4pm

Our strength grows when we work together.

The New Scots Team, in partnership with Employability and CEIS developed an Information session for a Young Male Syrian Adult Programme in the Garnock Valley.

The aim is to increase engagement and long term futures. The information event has taken place, attracting 6 young men who are embarking on a programme to enhance their training and skills with a view to further learning and employment in the future.



New Scots

New Scots Children's Sports club

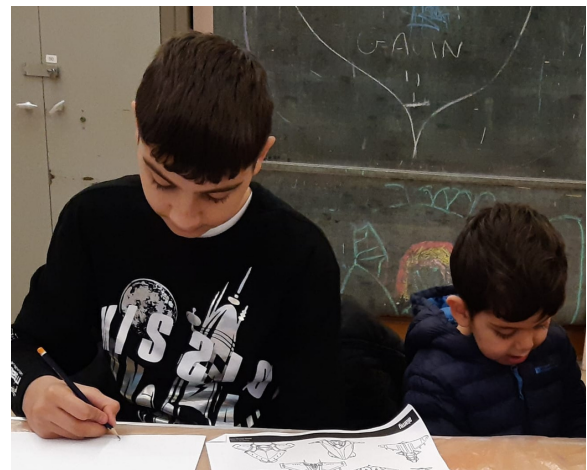
This is supported by Active schools and Young Sports leaders and runs once per week at Garnock Community Campus.

Most weeks, an average of 6-12 (from a group of 17) children attend. They continue to be introduced to a variety of sports and skills, which included: Archery, football, netball, team games, parachute games, boules and races. This offers the children varied physical activity and development of motor skills, promoting health and well-being. It is based locally to enhance accessibility, regular attendance and community presence. Children learn about team work, collaborative play and taking turns.

New Scots Art Club Garnock Valley

A local artist is running a 7 week art class in Bridgend Community Centre. This has developed from the Summer Art class to include a wider age range from 7 years plus, Mums can attend too!

A variety of mediums/styles are being used including pen and line drawing, colour mixing/shading, working with acrylics and watercolours, making jewellery, bags and pencil cases. Expression through these arts is enhancing mental well-being and improving skills. Developing friendships and confidence, continuing to increase English speaking skills.



New Scots

Nova Scotias boys group

Members of the Nova Scotias boys group have returned to their weekly football at the Circuit after a summer break. 23 boys representing 7 nationalities have attended football since September. Meetings have been held with Street Soccer Scotland with plans to secure a sustainable future for the team.

Nova Scotias activities have also included 2 Boxing training sessions in Ardrossan in September to introduce boys to the mainstream provision there.

6 Nova Scotias Youth Club members enjoyed a trip to Largs Viking Festival to learn about the history of the area. Regular fortnightly youth club meetings at Irvine Legacy Youth Hub resume on a new time and day, fortnightly on Saturdays from November, where they take part in Youth Achievement awards and will soon complete their Bronze. Youth Club members will also volunteer at events for younger children with the aim to begin their Silver awards.

Gardening Construction group

This group meets weekly at the Three Towns Growers in Ardrossan. The group have built decking and are now completing the construction of a nature hide for the pond area of the community garden.

This group has been beneficial to our new Scots supporting them with resettlement and their conversational English.



Dress making group

This women's group meet twice a week in the Argyle centre in Saltcoats. Their aim is to make occasion dresses for their daughters. They learn how to use pattern, measure, cut and sew using a variety of materials. The group was organised with the help of volunteer Layan Yousef and is tutored by volunteer Mariam Aranoush, a Ukrainian New Scot of Nigerian nationality. It is attended by Ukrainain, Syrian and Afghan ladies.



New Scots

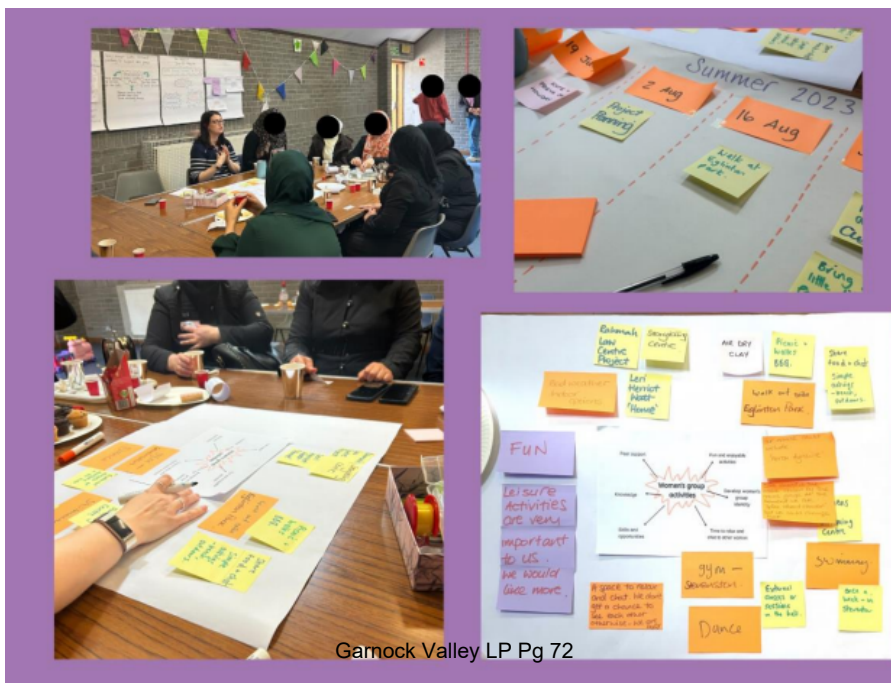
Spike Wheat Scots

Spike Wheat Scots recently hosted two community barbecues in Eglinton park park, one for men and one for women. Guests enjoyed Syrian food and the gatherings provided a warm and inviting space for individuals from diverse backgrounds, including Ukrainian and Scots, fostering a sense of community and connection



In collaboration with the North Ayrshire Carer's Centre, the group's drop-in sessions were attended by dedicated support workers, resulting in significant support for 11 families with caregiving responsibilities. Notably, these families were successful in securing much-needed funding

Their project with Outside the Box continues to develop with the group facilitating a session with KA Leisure to address the specific needs of BAME women focusing on supporting their participation in sports and community activities. The group also hosted New Scots from Clydebank at a session in Whitehurstpark community centre.



New Scots

Ukrainian Community in North Ayrshire Group

The Ukrainian group has initiated a Scottish culture and history club, cultivating cross-cultural understanding and appreciation. One notable experience was a captivating walking tour of Dalry, led by author John Hodgart, where the group delved into the intriguing history of Bessie Dunlop and Scotland's complex narrative surrounding "witches." This immersive exploration provided a unique lens into the rich cultural tapestry of Scotland. Additionally, the group further enriched their cultural journey with a tour of Kilwinning Abbey, conducted in collaboration with Kilwinning Heritage Centre. These diverse experiences not only contribute to language learning but also foster a deeper understanding and appreciation of Scottish heritage within the Ukrainian community, showcasing the positive impact of cultural initiatives.



Furthermore, in collaboration with John's Garnock Valley Traditional Music group, the group hosted a lively Scottish music night in Saltcoats. The event not only showcased the vibrant musical traditions but also marked the beginning of a promising partnership. Future plans include organising an event where members of the Ukrainian community will actively participate and play alongside the Garnock Valley Traditional Music group, further strengthening the cultural exchange and camaraderie between the two communities.



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New Scots

Bourtree Belles

The new weekly Bourtree Belles women's group based at Towerlands Community Centre has started very well. In total 14 women have attended including 9 New Scots. To date the group has decorated pots and planted herbs and has agreed a schedule of activities including sewing, candle making, tissue box decorating and other relaxing social activities. The group also gives women a welcome chance to chat about their lives and any issues facing them. The group has also agreed forthcoming trips to charity shops for sewing materials, to Kilwinning College Hair and Beauty for hair cuts, and Dalgarnen Mill.

In October half term the women elected to have a family activity and a drum and music workshop by Gruvi Beatz attracted 7 New Scots families with 22 children.

Unity Community Group

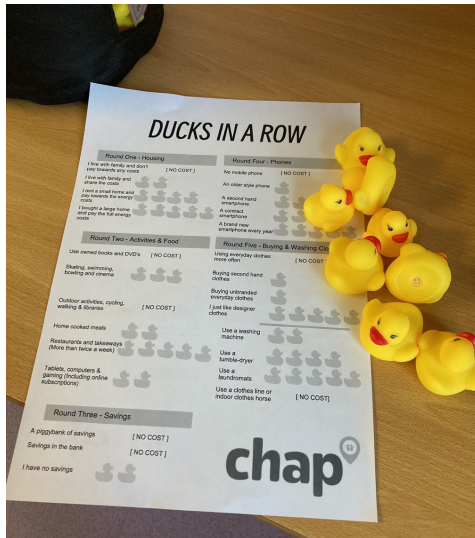
In September the new Unity Community group started in partnership with Kilwinning Locality Team at Nethermain Centre, and over 5 pilot weeks attracted 12 people including Scots and New Scots from Ukraine, Syria and Afghanistan. The group aims to facilitate community sharing and understanding of different cultures and focused each week on cultural topics agreed by the group, with participants encouraged to bring items and information to discuss.



The Multiply Project

The Multiply team have been promoting and our project across various partnership events including the No-one Left Behind Conference in Irvine.

Our staff attend the weekly Take Time Families group at Kilwinning Library to offer support to parents/carers - the group runs from 3:30-4:45 every Wednesday afternoon.



They have been working with CHAP to support delivery to primary 7 parents' which introduces young people to the world of everyday finance and budgeting. The 'Ducks in a Row' exercise gives young people a fun insight into the cost of adult life - running a home, paying bills etc. This game aims to make young people more aware of the issues surrounding finances. This promotes family learning as well as breaking down potential barriers to parents/carers accessing our numeracy/literacy supports.

In October and November the Multiply team have been working with our colleagues in Connected Communities on the recruitment and training of volunteers for our adult learning projects. We have hosted a recruitment event in Saltcoats Town Hall and in Irvine Bridgegate and currently planning another similar event at Ayrshire College at the start of 2024.



Our weekly numeracy group at Trindlemoss Day Centre is attended by between 6-8 adult learners with Additional Support Needs. During our sessions we develop skills in numeracy, cash handling, general confidence with numbers.

Through playing games like darts and cards we are able to introduce numbers and numeracy in a fun and engaging style. As the learners progress we hope to offer SQA approved units in order to give the learners certification and tangible outcomes for their learning.



The Multiply team were tasked with creating, planning, and facilitating a training day for the full Community Learning and Development service on October 27th. The emphasis was on fun, inclusivity, and enjoyment but also to present and demonstrate the innovative numeracy resources and sessions that could be delivered to any group.

Multiply most recently attended The Mount launch event in Townend, Dregthorn to offer adult learners numeracy support and meet with partners across the service and beyond.

we can offer support for numeracy in groups or 1:1 support - which offer help with:

- everyday maths,
- homework,
- qualifications,
- finances
- budgeting

If you would like to refer anyone our referral process is quick and simple and can be accessed by emailing:
multiplyinfo@north-ayrshire.gov.uk



Participatory Budgeting

Current PB updates:

- In this round of PB, the funding is split into three different categories – Youth PB, Locality PB and funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, with a sum of £198,377 overall
- Locality & UKSPF results will be announced on Monday 20th November.

Participatory Budgeting



Participatory Budgeting 23/24

Community empowerment is key to PB and through engagement with local groups and residents we will continue to improve the PB process.

Some key points:

Following the end of the 2022/23 PB process, a review was undertaken, which included collating the feedback gathered from a range of stakeholders while the round was live, and hosting an online Community Engagement Event for previous steering group members to help shape the 2023 round.

- Three topics were taken to the engagement session for discussion:
 - Criteria
 - Themes
 - Launch events

There were some great suggestions from the participants about the potential to use the events to do more than just 'PB'. Some ideas included promoting the event as a networking opportunity; opening the event to local businesses; bringing in local services who could provide wraparound support to the kinds of groups attending; and creating space for promotion of existing groups and projects and the opportunities to get involved.

- Co-production of the event with our stakeholders meant, we were able to produce an event that people actually wanted
- Pre launch events were held across 6 localities during August and September - each event allowed us to have 1:1 discussions with attendees and digital support for our online platform, this was also an opportunity for prospective applicants to ask questions about their projects and get advice and guidance from staff, as well as network with other local organisations who might be potential UK Shared Prosperity Fund partners.
- Our digital platform hosting PB has allowed us to keep the process centralised and has been an interactive space where applicants could upload written or video applications and promote their projects with those viewing/voting able to comment and support what is going on in their localities. From a total of 238 applications, only 3 were submitted using the paper form option.
- PB continues to be a hybrid process and we have had great support from our library team to enable people to apply and vote in person and in addition PB champions across the localities have been a continued support to the groups they work with.

Results are in!

We are excited to announce that 101 community groups and local organisations have been successful in their bids for the most recent round of PB. The allocated funding will be shared between projects throughout all of the six North Ayrshire localities and these broadly cover the themes of: improving local life and wellbeing, helping residents during the Cost-of-Living crisis, connecting people in local communities, promoting positive mental health and wellbeing, tackling climate change and promoting healthy and active communities. These projects are set to make a real difference for everyone involved!



ParticipatoryBudgeting@north-ayrshire.gov.uk



Participatory Budgeting: Launch Events



Let's hear from one of our successful PB applicants...



ParticipatoryBudgeting@north-ayrshire.gov.uk



Community Asset Transfer

We will support our community groups in their ambitions to own and lease assets via our Community Asset Transfer Policy.

The Community Asset team continues to work alongside TACT's Community Asset Transfer Development Worker, who provides assistance and support to community groups exploring or looking for advice on taking on an asset within their communities. Some of the support provided includes governance; pros and cons of asset transfer; liaising with DTAS on particular issues such as what it means for a group who are interested in an asset within the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) amongst many other

The Community Asset Team have been ensuring that all paperwork that is uploaded to the website is accessible for all and we continue to work on improving the asset transfer process.

Current CATs over 6 localities at different stages from initial enquiry to final stage:

Arran

Brodick Bowling Club

Three Towns

Three Towns Mens Shed - Ardeer Park changing rooms (cabinet approval and final stage) - Whitlees Community Centre

Kilwinning

Blacklands Hall

Irvine

Maress Road - Maress Playing fields - Initial expression of interest for - Oasis Youth and Community Centre, Broomlands Gate and Irvine Slipway

Garnock Valley

Dalry Public Park Sports Pavilion, brick built and dis-used Pavilion (old pavilion adjacent to swing park and old tennis courts) - Knox Institute - The Shed, Ladysmith Road - Meadowside (Beith Astro) Football park

North Coast

Douglas Park tennis courts - Douglas Park Nursery - Cairnies Quay - Bowencraigs Playing fields (final stages) - Brisbane Centre - Simson/ Craufurd Avenue Swing Park.



Community Leadership

Our innovative Leadership Collective, will deliver capacity and learning opportunities built on the expressed needs of our communities. We will support our environmental capacity projects such as tree planting, coastal care and our growers programmes.

Our community development team along with our partners from TACT, Green Health Partnership, HSCP and Ayrshire College, have supported over 200 adults to develop their knowledge and skills through opportunities offered via our 'Leadership Collective'. This includes; Naloxone training, committee skills training, REHIS, First aid, Mental Health first aid, trauma awareness training, bike maintenance skills, Canny cooker training, funding fares and funding workshops



Food Insecurities

The Fairer Food Network

Currently 14 food larders across North Ayrshire supporting over 3000 households with a dignified food provision.

The fourth quarterly payment has been made to all larders under the revised funding model. Weekly footfall will be monitored and reported on quarterly, and that figure will dictate the payment for the next quarter. Larders with up to 30 households per week will receive £1000 per quarter. There after, it will be a cost per head calculation of the remaining funding pot. This model will be reviewed at the December meeting after 2 payments have been received.

The quarterly NAFF meeting was held on 11 September in Fullarton Hub and was chaired by Donna Fitzpatrick. The group heard from The 1st Alliance Credit Union and NHS Dietetics. EW has recipe sheets from dietetics to copy and distribute to the larders.

There has been ongoing support and visits to the larders and a members survey is currently underway.



- The Tap End Larder, Stevenston was supported to arrange for quotes for wifi and digital support and an application was submitted to the Digital Access Fund which has been approved and is subject to two committee members attending cyber security training. Dawn Hogg, the Anti Poverty Development Manager has taken up post with the association. She has negotiated a longer working week with a shorter contract to make it financially viable. Due to the lack of wifi in the building, arrangements have been made for her to be based within St Johns some of the time.
- Cranberry Moss is currently in a challenging financial situation at present and suggestions were offered to reduce the basket value and decrease the gap between funding and basket value in the larder.
- Ardrossan South has been having a challenging time with a particular member who has since been barred. The larder does not feel it can support members who choose to spend the "savings" on drugs, alcohol or foreign holidays. This will be added to the November agenda of the network meeting.
- The 'Side Larder, Springside, has received a community benefit donation from McConnechie's of approx £270 of food.



Food Insecurities

Events

Beith Preparing for Winter Event in the Community Centre on 29 September. Engagement with approx 50 people. The stall distributed approx. 70 packs of tomatoes to local residents along with information on food ladders, money matters and energy support.

3 Towns Over 50's information event in Ardeer Community Centre on 19 October. Engagement with approx. 20 people. Recipe cards for celery soup were distributed along with packs of celery. A love it or hate it item.

Information on food ladders, money matters and energy support was also provided.



Sustainable Food Places

Ongoing participation in Sustainable Food Places discussions between North Ayrshire, Ecosavvy and Nourish to identify a route forward for a project in North Ayrshire and the impact of the Good Food Nation Act coming into play this year.

North Ayrshire Food Forum

The North Ayrshire Food Forum had its second meeting on 9 October. The members heard from Arran on the very successful Food and Drink Festival. The Teams Channel is now established and work is underway to develop a terms of reference for the group.

Training

The current offer is for Mental Health Awareness – A Practical Approach and an in person session is scheduled for Nov.

The outstanding Naloxone Kits have now been received and will be distributed to the individuals who attended the training back in April 23.

Other news...

Friends of Redburn Community Group received £2500 support from the Fairer Food Fund. This fund will be used to purchase equipment for the kitchen to allow for development of the lunch clubs, and food for the St Andrews Day Event in November 23.

Challenge Poverty Week focussed on food on 9 October and the Friends of Redburn invited over 70 of the elected members, chief officers and other officials. On the day, 20 people attended and as well as getting lunch, they heard about the work that is ongoing across the authority to support people with food. The event was supported by young people from two secondary schools who provided first class waiter service. The group received food from the “customers” as well as £188 in cash donations.



The Older Peoples Voice & Engagement Hubs

Older People's Voice Network

Your Voice. Your Agenda. You Decide!



The Older Peoples Voice Conference

Consultations regarding current platforms and issues facing older people completed in NC, 3towns, Irvine, and GV (5 consultations) and findings broken down and summarised.

Mapping completed of current provision; findings submitted to locality teams for feedback.

Steps forward are taking place in relation to older people's voices being heard through a participation and engagement structure by holding an older peoples conference on November 22nd at Saltcoats Townhall where older people will have the opportunity to feedback on the structure presented.

Transport will be in place with the aim to get as many people from each locality in attendance as possible.

The conference will also provide education around scams, intergenerational work, older peoples stories of trying to get their voices heard, lunch, and a raffle and marketing stalls where older people can talk directly to services which are there for their support.



The Older Peoples Voice & Engagement Hubs



Engagement Hubs

The engagement hubs aim to provide a needs-based programme of activities which were set out by initial consultations with residents and community members.

The provision is aimed at decreasing social isolation as well as improve physical and mental health.

At present there are 28 activities running across 4 hubs weekly featuring:

Chair exercise classes, chair dance classes, bingo, quizzes, tai chi, MS support groups, seniors forums, mental wellness support groups, Community Councils, entertainment committees, digital support groups, lunch clubs, live entertainment, trips, ESOL groups, over 50s discovery award groups, coffee mornings, football reminiscence groups, tea and a blether sessions and sewing groups.





Engagement Hub Committees

Four of the Hubs committees in Dalry, Irvine, Three Towns and Garnock Valley have received support to apply for PB funding and one committee to apply for further funding from the Robertson Trust's Wee Grants Scheme. Further support has been provided to bridge the digital gap in terms of voting.

Yes Your Entire Self

Wellness Wednesday is run weekly at Cumbræ Gardens Community Engagement Hub in Largs. The day started off slow but has steadily built numbers. The group has developed to the point they now have a waiting list seeing as much as 30 people taking part each week.



The group continues to receive positive engagement and has been arranging trips which as a result have saw many socially isolated people getting out of their homes and making new friends.



Networking and Funding

LPP Grant Awards

A total of **£76,885** was awarded by the Locality Planning Partnerships from August to October 2023.

External Funding Levered In

A total of **£522,114** external funding has been levered in by third sector organisations from August to October 2023.

Funding Support and Advice to Community Groups & Colleagues

- **2** funding workshops and drop-in sessions were delivered from August to October 2023.
- **8** funding updates circulated to community organisations and colleagues from August to October 2023.
- **712** members have now joined North Ayrshire Virtual Funding Centre
- **257** log-ins to Grantfinder and **668** searches carried out for the period August to October 2023,

Community Benefits Wish List

9 wishes have been delivered this quarter, bringing the total in 2023 to 37 wishes delivered since January this year. A total of 79 wishes have been delivered through the Community Benefits Wish List since it launched in October 2021.

Wishes delivered this quarter:

- MP Clean Energy Services Ltd - Donation of £500 to Eglinton allotments - Sept
- Sanctus Ltd - Donation of £1000 to pay for carpetting and a further donation of £500 to offset cost of energy bills in Millport Town Hall - Oct
- Redpath Construction - Financial donation of £800 to Kilwinning under 10 girls football team - Sept
- Carruthers - Financial donation of £100 to Hayocks ESR Base - Nov
- Emtec Group - Survey of roof damage for Corsehill Community Association - Nov
- Emtec Group has made a financial donation to the Tandem cycling club - Nov
- Stannah Lift Services Ltd - Donation of selection boxes to Friends of Redburn - Oct
- W Munro (Rehab) Ltd - Financial donation to Largs Colts football team - Oct

More information is provided in the bumper Christmas edition of the community benefits newsletter which will be available soon.

