



North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership

## North Coast & Cumbraes Locality Partnership

**Tuesday 5 December 2023, 6.00 p.m. in Clark Memorial Hall, Largs**

### BUSINESS

Item	Subject	Pg No	Ref	Officer	Ask of the Partnership
1.	<b>Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest.</b>	-	-	Cllr Hill	
2.	<b>Action Note and Log</b> Review the action note and action log and deal with any outstanding items.	Pg 4	Enclosed	Russell McCutcheon	Is this an accurate record of the meeting. Have all actions been completed?
<b>DECISION REQUIRED</b>					<b>6.10 – 6.40 pm</b>
3.	<b>Grants – Community Benefit Fund</b> The Locality Partnership are asked to consider grant reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Largs Common Good Fund</li><li>Largs Town Charitable Trust</li></ul>	Pg 9	Enclosed	Rhonda Leith	LP to consider grant report.
4.	<b>Locality Action Plan</b> Locality Partnership to consider Draft Locality Action Plan for 2023/24	Pg 12	Enclosed	Rhonda Leith	Locality Partnership to consider Draft Locality Action Plan for 2023/24
<b>LOCAL MATTERS – TACKLING INEQUALITIES</b>					<b>6.40 – 7.50 pm</b>
5.	<b>Carbon Neutral Cumbrae</b> The Locality Partnership will receive an update from Sarah Baird, Senior Officer/Scott Watson, Carbon Neutral Cumbrae	Pg 23	Enclosed	Sarah Baird Scott Watson	Receive update and discuss how LP can further support this work.
6.	<b>Youth and Education Overview</b> The Locality Partnership will receive updates linking in with the Locality Priorities from Head Teachers.	-  Pg 27	Verbal  Enclosed	Head Teachers  Louise Riddex	Receive update and consider learning and partnership opportunities.
7.	<b>Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue - Wellbeing and Partnerships</b> Officers to discuss with the Locality Partnership the key impact of wellbeing	-	Verbal	Stuart Dougan Barrie McCutcheon	Discuss progress, learning and partnership opportunities

	and partnership work being carried out by SFRS and Police Scotland in North Coast Locality.				
8.	<b>KA Leisure</b> The Locality Partnership will receive an update of work undertaken in North Coast Locality.	-	Verbal	Fiona Comrie	Receive update and consider learning and partnership opportunities.
9.	<b>Locality Priorities Officer Update</b> The Locality Partnership will receive an update from Deirdre Oakley, Project Officer, Community Learning and Development.	Pg 29	Enclosed	Deidre Oakley	Receive update and consider potential CIF pipeline and promotion.
10.	<b>Locality Officer Update</b> The Locality Partnership will receive an update from Louise Riddex, Locality Officer	Pg 30	Enclosed	Louise Riddex	Receive update and consider learning and partnership opportunities.
<b>AOCB</b>					<b>7.50 – 8.00 pm</b>
11.	<b>AOCB</b> West Kilbride Community Initiative Limited 25 <sup>th</sup> anniversary December 2023  A78 Roadworks  Local Place Plans			Cllr Hill  Russell McCutcheon  John Lamb	
<b>REPORTS FOR INFORMATION</b>					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quarterly CLD Report</li> </ul>	Pg 34	Enclosed	Cllr Hill	Locality Partnership are asked to note the report and share as appropriate.
Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 5 March 2024 via Microsoft Teams.					

## Distribution List

### Elected Members

Councillor Alan Hill **(Chair)**  
Councillor Eleanor Collier  
Councillor Todd Ferguson  
Councillor Tom Marshall  
Councillor Ian Murdoch

### Community Representatives

John Lamb **(Vice Chair)**, West Kilbride Community Council  
Helen Boyle, Skelmorlie Community Council  
Alex Harvie, Cumbrae Community Council  
Rita Holmes, Fairlie Community Council  
Lizzy Barbour, Community Rep *(Co-opted)*  
Carol Campbell, Community Rep *(Co-opted)*  
Nick Hobson, Community Rep *(Co-opted)*

### CPP/Council Representatives

Russell McCutcheon, Senior Lead Officer  
Rhonda Leith, Lead Officer  
Louise Riddex, Locality Officer  
Louise McDaid, North Coast LPF Chair

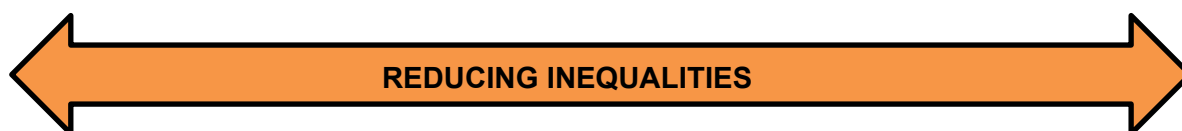
## North Coast & Cumbraes Locality Partnership Priorities

Improving  
access to  
financial  
services

Increasing  
social  
inclusion

Improving  
mental  
wellbeing

Supporting  
skills and work  
opportunities



<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>North Coast Locality Partnership</b>
<b>Date/Venue:</b>	5 September 2023 – Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams
<b>Present/ In Attendance:</b>	Councillor Alan Hill (Chair); Councillor Eleanor Collier Councillor Todd Ferguson; Councillor Tom Marshall; John Lamb, West Kilbride Community Council (Vice-Chair) Frank Alexander, Community Representative (Co-opted); Lizzy Barbour, Community Representative (Co-opted); Carol Campbell, Community Representative (Co-opted); Nick Hobson, Community Representative (Co-opted); Russell McCutcheon, Senior Lead Officer, NAC; Rhonda Leith, Lead Officer, NAC; Deirdre Oakley, Project Officer, NAC Julie McAleese, HT Cumbrae Primary School, NAC Stuart Dougan, Police Scotland; Shannon Wilson, Committee Services Officer, NAC
<b>Also in Attendance:</b>	Kay Hall, West Kilbride Community Sports Club Pamela Miller, NHS Ryan Scott, Euro-Sporting Susan Kelly
<b>Apologies:</b>	Louise Riddex, Locality Officer, NAC; and Councillor Ian Murdoch

## ACTIONS

No.	Action	Responsible
1.	<b>Welcome and Apologies</b>  The Chair extended a welcome to those present and invited introductions. Apologies for absence were then recorded.  There were no declarations of interest.	
2.	<b>Action Note</b>  The action note from the meeting held on 6 June 2023 was approved as a correct record and the implementation of decisions confirmed.	

3.	<p><b>Grants – Community Benefit Fund</b></p> <p>The Partnership noted that the 2023/24 Elderly Grants Fund had a balance of <b>£13,766</b> and agreed to award the following: -</p> <p>The Cumbrae Forum - £949  Age Concern Largs - £7,339  Fairlie Old Folks Welfare Committee/Semple Centre - £1,366  Skelmorlie Senior Citizens - £1,488  Community Roots (Working in partnership with Age Well West Kilbride) - £2,623</p>	<p><b>Rhonda Leith</b></p>
4.	<p><b>Street Naming Report</b></p> <p>The Partnership received a written report to consider naming one street within the residential development south of Meadowfoot Road, West Kilbride. The Partnership considered the suggestion of Braidlaw Rise and decided that this did not have a local or historical connection with the town and that this would go back to the next meeting of West Kilbride Community Council for further consideration.</p>	
5.	<p><b>Summer Programme &amp; Recent Community Day</b></p> <p>The Partnership received a verbal update from Ryan Scott, Euro-Sporting on the success of the Summer Programme and recent Community Day. It was noted that alternative venues would be considered for future events to account for adverse weather conditions.</p>	
6.	<p><b>CIF Update – West Kilbride Sports Club</b></p> <p>Kay Hall from West Kilbride Sports Club gave a verbal update and presentation to the Partnership on how the funding they received was utilised.</p>	
7.	<p><b>Locality Chit Chat Update</b></p> <p>The Partnership received a written and verbal update on the progress and highlights in respect of the North Coast Chit Chat Action Plan. Deirdre Oakley provided an update on the outstanding actions and how these fit in to the North Coast Locality Priorities of: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improving Access to Financial Services</li> <li>• Increasing Social Inclusion</li> <li>• Improving Mental Wellbeing</li> <li>• Supporting Skills and Work Opportunities</li> </ul> <p>The North Coast &amp; Cumbrae Locality Project Officer Progress Report for period June – August 2023 was enclosed.</p> <p>The Partnership discussed how to improve attendance at the Chit Chat sessions including alternative venues and promotion through media channels such as Group Call notification to parents from the local schools.</p>	

8.	<p><b>Helter Skelter Funding Consultation</b></p> <p>The Partnership received an update on the Helter Skelter Funding Consultation that went live prior to the summer holidays. There were 54 responses received at this time. Discussions took place with schools to encourage pupils to complete a response. A range of suggestions were received with 20% of pupils who responded advising they would like to assist in organising events/activities for young people.</p> <p>The Partnership discussed the fantastic facilities at Douglas Park (Largs) including the basketball court and football pitch and requested that a similar project is undertaken at the playpark in Alexander Avenue, Largs. Russell agreed to ask his officers to prepare a high-level proposal and indicative costs to update the Partnership at the next meeting.</p>	<p><b><i>Russell McCutcheon</i></b></p>
9.	<p><b>Youth and Education Overview</b></p> <p>The Partnership received a verbal update from Julie McAleese, HT at Cumbrae Primary School, on school activity including:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Largs and St Mary's Primary Schools participation in the Viking Festival;</li> <li>• Largs Academy prize giving ceremony took place;</li> <li>• Primary 6 and 7 classes at Cumbrae Primary School won a trip on The Waverly;</li> <li>• Schools were offered a 10-week football training course</li> <li>• Adjustments were made to the school day at Largs Campus to allow pupils to better access public transport to and from school; and</li> <li>• Skelmorlie Primary School were awarded the Eco-Schools Green Flag.</li> </ul> <p>The Partnership discussed and raised questions in relation to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing discussions with Stagecoach to ensure a larger bus was used at the end of the school day to accommodate the pupils travelling home;</li> <li>• aerated concrete within the PE block at Ardrossan Academy and how the school was managing this to ensure pupil safety; and</li> <li>• how the Locality Partnership could work alongside schools to assist, such as promoting available Funds and how these could be used.</li> </ul>	
10.	<p><b>Police Scotland – Wellbeing and Partnerships</b></p> <p>The Partnership received a verbal update from Police Scotland on the key impact of wellbeing and partnership work being carried out by Police Scotland in the North Coast, highlighting the slight increase in</p>	



14.	<p><b>Future Meetings</b></p> <p>The Partnership was invited to note that the next meeting would take place on Tuesday 5 December 2023 at 6pm in Clark Memorial Hall, Bath Street, Largs, KA30 8BL</p>	<p><b><i>Jennifer McGee</i></b></p>
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**Meeting ended at 7.15p.m.**



**Locality Partnership:** North Coast Locality

**Date:** 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023

**Subject:** To advise the meeting applications received in respect of the Largs Common Good Fund and the Largs Town Charitable Trust Fund.

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

**Background:**

- The Largs Common Good Fund has a balance of **£4,000** available for disbursement.
- The Largs Town Charitable Trust Fund has a balance of **£3,328** available for disbursement.

**Key Points for Locality Partnership**

- Consideration to be given to the applications at Appendix 1.

**Action Required by Locality Partnership**

- To consider the applications for grant funding as outlined in Appendix 1 to this report.

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

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

## APPENDIX 1

### LARGS COMMON GOOD FUND APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 2023/24

#### Common Good Criteria -

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

Applicant	Purpose of Grant	Amount Requested	Previous Common Good Awards
Archaeology Scotland – Adopt a Monument	<p>Contribution towards the conservation and enhancement of Haylie Chambered Cairn.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conservation of Cairn Chamber and schools' session - £1,415.29</li> <li>- Upgrade and improvement of path - £482.97</li> <li>- Installation and replacement fencing and rerouting access - £836</li> <li>- Development of learning resource - £2,000</li> </ul> <p>Total Project Costs £4,734.26 Match funding received:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- AaM – School workshop and Cairn improvements - £500</li> <li>- Forestry Land Scotland – Learning Resource - £2,000</li> </ul>	£2,234.26	None
<p>Connected Communities, Finance and Legal Services have been consulted and their comments are as follows:</p> <p><b>Finance:</b> No backup for estimates/quotes above have been provided. There is a balance of £4,000 available for disbursement for Largs Common Good.</p> <p><b>Legal:</b> The application is for funding to assist with an Adopt-a-Monument project for the Haylie chambered cairn. The project aims to facilitate the conservation of the chambered cairn, carry out associated path and fencing works to make the site more accessible and develop of a learning resource for the use of teachers and education groups.</p> <p>The view can be taken that as the project aims to benefit all sections of the community the application can be legally justified.</p> <p><b>Connected Communities:</b> The main aims of the Haylie chambered cairn Adopt-a-Monument project are to facilitate conservation and enhancement through physical interventions, and via raising awareness through heritage engagement and learning opportunities for the local community.</p> <p>Links have been made with the local museum and the project as a whole is led, developed and supported by members of the local community. It will make the site more accessible to the community and offer a learning resource for local schools and education groups</p> <p>Connected Communities are satisfied that this project meets the criteria of the Common Good Fund.</p>			

# LARGS TOWN CHARITABLE TRUST

## APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 2023/24

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

Applicant	Purpose of Grant	Amount Requested	Previous Town Charitable Trust
Dementia Friendly Largs & District	<p>The Grant will be used to provide musical events and a football reminisce to people living with dementia in Largs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dee &amp; Carole £60 x 2 = £120</li> <li>- Malky £70 x 2 = £140</li> <li>- Scott Douglas £70 x 2 = £140</li> <li>- Scott Douglas (Memory Walk) £100</li> <li>- Football Events £500</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">Total Costs - £1,000</p>	£1,000	None

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

**Finance:** Quotes have been provided. There is £3,328 available for disbursement for Largs charitable trust.

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

I understand that the funds held in this Trust are primarily held for Purpose A, but the Trustees may award grants for one of the other purposes where more applications have been made for one of the other trust purposes and the Trustees consider granting funds for that purpose will most effectively relieve need amongst the persons who have applied for or are eligible for financial support. The applicants refer to Purpose B and Purpose C. The application states that musical events will be provided in the 3 care homes in Largs and the musical memories group for people living with dementia in Largs. In addition to this there will be a reminisce based football group. Both groups having the intention of helping prompt memories for the people living with dementia in the Largs area, creating an emotional response taking them back to certain times in their life, resulting them becoming animated and passionate .The aim of this to improve conditions of life and well-being through community interaction.

It is my view that the application can be granted as it meets two of the Trust Purposes B & C, however it should be noted that a grant for these purposes should only be made if there is a surplus of funds held for Purpose A due to insufficient eligible applications meeting those Trust purposes to exhaust the annual total amount available.

Trustees must also be satisfied that granting the application will be a beneficial use of the trust funds.

**Connected Communities:** The Grant will be used to provide musical events and football reminiscence events to people living with dementia in Largs and Connected Communities are satisfied that the application meets the criteria of the fund under Trust Purpose B – The provision of recreational facilities or the organisation of recreational activities with the object of improving the condition of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended and Trust Purpose C – The relief of those in need by reason of age, ill health, disability.

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# North Coast & Cumbraes Locality Partnership

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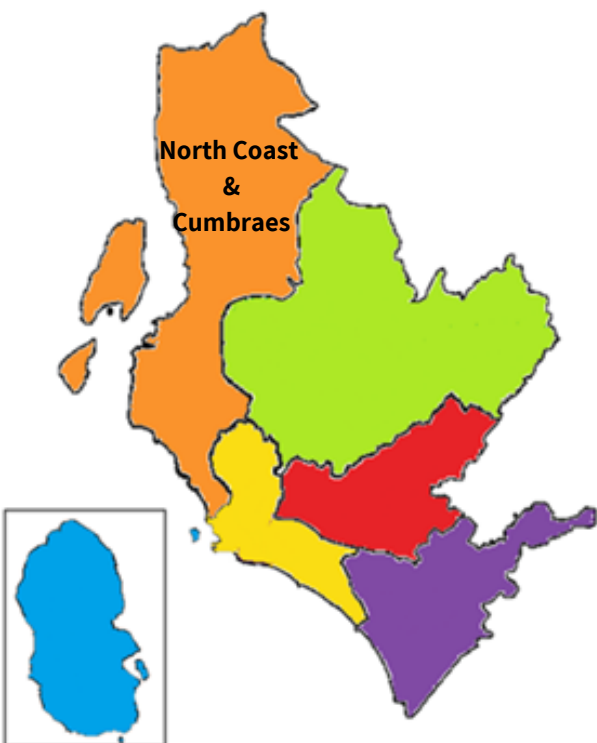


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## Locality Action Plan 2023/24

# About Our Locality

## North Coast & Cumbraes



The North Coast Locality area includes Cumbrae and the seaside towns of Largs, Fairlie, Skelmorlie and West Kilbride. It has a population of around 23,008 residents.

Largs is a traditional seaside resort and has a huge selection of amenities and activities that people make use of. You can also catch a ferry to Cumbrae for the day or visit the Vikingar Centre.

Fairlie, Skelmorlie and West Kilbride, although smaller than Largs, also have some great amenities including restaurants, shops and lovely rural walks. The seafront at Seamill has a long sandy beach and there is a small harbour at Portencross with beautiful views.

**23,008**



The estimated population of the North Coast - This equates to **17.4%** of the total population of North Ayrshire.

The North Coast unemployment count as of 2022 was **3.2%**

North Ayrshire average 4.6%.



**32.3%**

of the North Coast population are over the age of 65.



**16%**



of the North Coast population are under the age of 25.

**74.1 years**

Male Life Expectancy



This is 1.2 years **lower** than the North Ayrshire average (75.3 years).

**79.1 years**

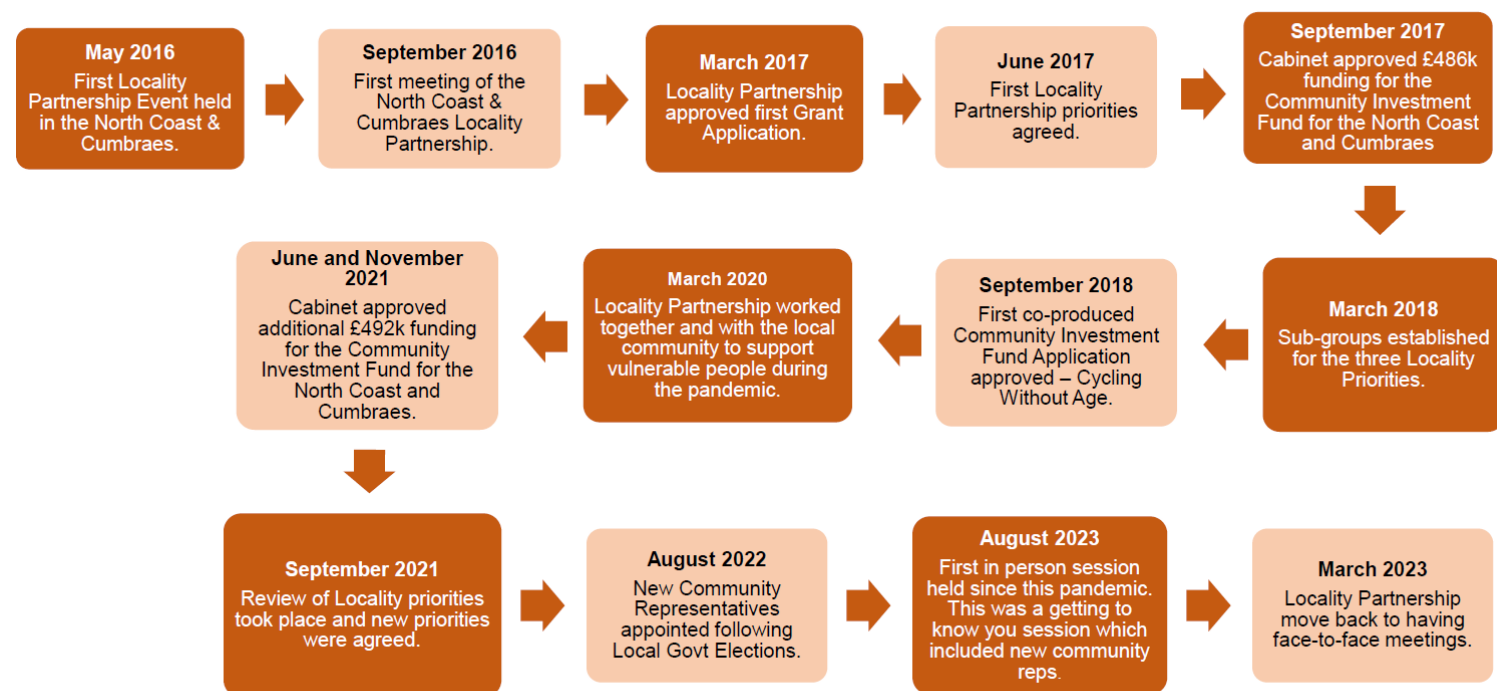
Female Life Expectancy



This is 1 year **lower** than the North Ayrshire average (80.1 years).

# North Coast and Cumbraes Locality Partnership - The Journey

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



# Why do we have this plan?

Locality planning was introduced in the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, under Part 2: Community Planning.

It is one of the ways local communities work together with public and third sector organisations to improve residents' lives and neighbourhoods.

Locality Planning represents a way to bridge the gap between strategic work of the Community Planning Board and the many groups which are working in their communities and to ensure priorities can be identified and actioned, and decisions made, at a manageable and more local level.

Locality planning was first introduced in North Ayrshire in 2016, with each Locality Partnership's priorities being reviewed in 2021.

In September 2022, updated Terms of Reference and Standing Orders were agreed by Council.

**Each Locality Partnership needs to develop a Locality Plan to show how they are going to work together to improve outcomes on their agreed priorities.**

# Who is involved?

- Elected Members
- Community Council Representatives
- Community Representatives
- Co-opted 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 and refreshed priorities were agreed.



**Improving access to financial services.**



**Increasing Social Inclusion.**



**Improving Mental Wellbeing.**



**Supporting Skills and Work Opportunities.**

# 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.

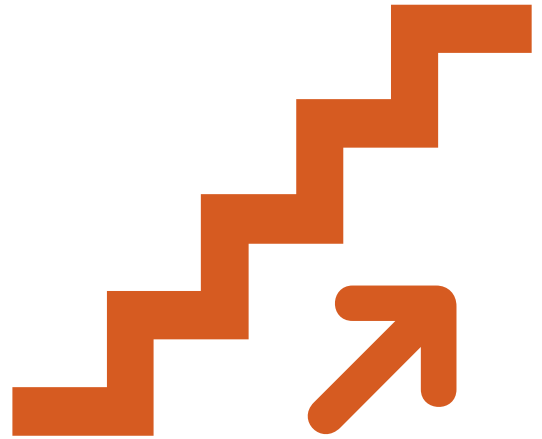
The meetings are a place to agree actions and to make decisions around funding and the ask of partners; they are the tip of a considerable iceberg which includes community chit chat meetings, locality networks and ongoing dialogues with community groups and members regarding their priorities and how 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
- 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 **£625,000** 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 North Coast and Cumbraes.

Since 2018 the Locality Partnership has awarded over **£425,000** of Community Investment Funding to community groups in the North Coast and Cumbraes

Action	Who?	When?	Locality Priority
Increase access to information in relation to money advice, energy support and what is on in the local community.	North Coast Locality Team Largs Library Staff	Summer 2024	Improving access to financial services
Work with local businesses to provide discounts for young people.	North Coast Locality Team North Coast Youth Forum Litter Picker Group	Summer 2024	Improving access to financial services
Work in partnership with Mens Shed to secure the Brisbane Centre through Community Asset Transfer.	North Coast Locality Team Mens Shed	February 2024	Increasing Social Inclusion
Provide youthwork and adult learning opportunities to improve knowledge and wellbeing.	North Coast Locality Team	Summer 2024	Increasing Social Inclusion Improving Mental Wellbeing Supporting Skills and Work Opportunities
Work to redeliver Cycle Without Age initiative in the Largs community.	North Coast Locality Team Cycling without Age Scotland	Summer 2024	Increasing Social Inclusion Improving Mental Wellbeing Supporting Skills and Work Opportunities
Work in partnership to make Largs a dementia friendly town.	North Coast Locality Team Dementia Friendly Largs Group	Summer 2024	Increasing Social Inclusion Improving Mental Wellbeing
Increase access to community larders.	North Coast Locality Team Largs Access to Food	Summer 2024	Improving Access to Financial Services Increasing Social Inclusion Improving Mental Wellbeing Supporting Skills and Work Opportunities
Support local Community Groups on Cumbrae to deliver on their Priorities.	North Coast Locality Team Senior Islands Officer Community Groups	Summer 2024	Improving Access to Financial Services Increasing Social Inclusion Improving Mental Wellbeing Supporting Skills and Work Opportunities <u>Cumbrae Island Plan Action Plan</u>

Work with volunteers to establish a youth work provision on Cumbrae.	North Coast Locality Team Local Volunteers	Summer 2024	<b>Increasing Social Inclusion</b> <b>Improving Mental Wellbeing</b> <b>Supporting Skills and Work Opportunities</b>
Engage and work in partnership with local agencies and community groups to address each of the North Coast priorities.	North Coast Locality Team Community Planning Partners Local Community Groups	Summer 2024	<b>Improving Access to Financial Services</b> <b>Increasing Social Inclusion</b> <b>Improving Mental Wellbeing</b> <b>Supporting Skills and Work Opportunities</b>
Deliver accredited courses to young and older people.	North Coast Locality Team	Summer 2024	<b>Increasing Social Inclusion</b> <b>Supporting Skills and Work Opportunities</b>

## **LOCALITY PARTNERSHIP: NORTH COAST & CUMBRAES LOCALITY**

**Date:** Tuesday 5 December 2023

**Subject:** Carbon Neutral Islands, Cumbrae

**Purpose:** To provide the Locality Partnership with an update on the Carbon Neutral Islands (CNI) project on Cumbrae.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Carbon Neutral Islands (CNI) project is 'A Fairer, Greener Scotland: Programme for Government 2021-2022' commitment, aiming to demonstrate the climate-resilience and low carbon potential of Scottish islands by 2040.

The CNI project is contributing to the delivery of key commitments in the National Islands Plan and the National Performance Framework, creating island-based jobs, and supporting islands to adapt to the impacts of climate change.

The project aims to align with wider net-zero and decarbonisation efforts and will contribute to the Scottish Government's statutory target to reach net zero by 2045.

The definition of 'carbon neutral', in the context of this CNI project means an island where the greenhouse gas emissions, captured as CO2 equivalent, are in balance with carbon sinks.

The CNI project is supporting one island in each of the six local authority areas with responsibility for islands in Scotland, these are:

- 1) Great Cumbrae (North Ayrshire Council);
- 2) Barra (Comhairle nan Eilean Siar/Western Isles Council);
- 3) Hoy (Orkney Islands Council);
- 4) Islay (Argyll & Bute Council);
- 5) Raasay (Highland Council) and;
- 6) Yell (Shetland Islands Council).

These six islands are acting as lighthouse communities for other island and rural communities, not only in Scotland but internationally, to determine their own pathways for their decarbonisation journey.

The CNI project is underpinned by the following key drivers:

- Alignment: The project aims to align with existing island-based climate change actions and to avoid duplication of efforts;
- Justice and inclusion: The project will support islands to become carbon neutral in a just and fair way;
- Replicability: The work is being completed to standardised and agreed methodologies wherever possible to allow replication and direct comparison.

### **DELIVERING CARBON NEUTRAL CUMBRAE**

The following summarises the progress made to date to support Cumbrae to become carbon neutral.

### **Project delivery**

The Carbon Neutral Cumbrae (CNC) project is led by the Community Development Officer (CDO) who is employed by the local anchor organisation, Cumbrae Community Development Company (CCDC), and works with a steering group of community representatives. Local knowledge and effective relationships are key to island community engagement, ensuring the project is driven by, and reflects, the island's concerns and priorities.

Support to Cumbrae and for the overall Carbon Neutral Islands project is provided by the Scottish Government Islands team, Community Energy Scotland (CES), Scottish Communities Climate Action Network (SCCAN), Sniffer, Aquatera, and external project partners.

### **Timeline**

**January 2023:** Cumbrae Community Development Company (CCDC), the local community anchor organisation for the Carbon Neutral Islands project on Cumbrae, successfully recruited a Cumbrae resident for the post of Community Development Officer (CDO) to lead the CNI project locally. The Cumbrae officer is one of six appointed for the CNI project across Scotland.

**February-March 2023:** A carbon audit for Cumbrae was undertaken to identify the likely sources of CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions for the following sectors: Energy, Transport, Land Use Land Use Change and Forestry, Agriculture, Waste and Blue Carbon (Marine Environment), to establish a baseline for Cumbrae. The audit is intended to be replicable by island communities and in using local expertise, the data used is both robust and specific to Cumbrae.

Existing audits, supporting data and data provided by island residents or verified by local experts were used, where possible and with an ongoing commitment to testing and sense checking information collated from the initial audits to improve accuracy and resolve any data gaps.

In addition to the audit, Cumbrae specific climate predictions were conducted by Sniffer, a Scottish charity that delivers the Adaptation Scotland programme, funded by the Scottish Government, which helps communities, organisations and businesses to adapt to the impacts of climate change.

**March 2023-Present:** Publication of the Cumbrae Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP) (Appendix 1), which identifies community priorities and key actions for each sector that will help decarbonise the local economy, increase Cumbrae's resilience to climate change, and provide wider social and economic benefits locally. In June this year, Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands Cabinet Secretary Mairi Gougeon MSP attended an event on Millport, Great Cumbrae to launch the six CNI Community Climate Action Plans.

Activity has continued at a pace on Cumbrae following the formal launch of the CCAPs in June with Scottish Government providing the six islands with up to £160,000 of capital funding each to take forward actions from their Plans. Funded projects and actions will be evaluated in terms of cost, feasibility, carbon impact, and wider benefits to the community.

Current Carbon Neutral Cumbrae project activities include:

- Ground-truthing i.e. testing and sense checking information collated from the initial audits to improve accuracy and resolve any data gaps;
- Community Energy Scotland are currently reviewing the existing energy infrastructure and preparing an options appraisal for community owned energy generation on Cumbrae;
- Completion of the final Business Skills Gap Analysis report from Aquaterra;
- Delivering energy efficiency projects on Cumbrae e.g. ECO4 Flex scheme and the Area Based Scheme (ABS).

Current Carbon Neutral Cumbrae funded initiatives include:

- Funding to Millport Bowling Club for the installation of solar, battery and air source heat pump, which is predicted to save the club in the region of £60k+ over the next twenty years.
- Purchase and installation of in-home energy monitors in direct response to both the ongoing issues and concerns from the Cumbrae community regarding electricity bills and smart meter installation and, the findings of the Domestic Energy Audit by Community Energy Scotland. These in-home energy monitors are used as an alternative to smart meters for those unable to access via their energy provider and can assist decarbonisation and help reduce fuel poverty.
- Ongoing work with NatureScot specifically around woodland areas to monitor health efficiency and potential.
- Exploring the potential for a community-led marine monitoring programme building on the previous blue carbon work.
- Funding support for educational facilities at Cumbrae Primary School for environmental and climate change-based learning.

### **Next step to March 2024:**

Carbon Neutral Cumbrae will continue to identify and fund projects aligned to the Cumbrae Community Climate Action Plan.

A Climate Action Handbook for island communities is being developed by Community Energy Scotland, Highlands & Islands Enterprise and Scottish Government by way of a 'replicability strategy' that will present the resources developed through the project. Knowledge and experience sharing events will be delivered to showcase good practices and lessons learned from the CNI project with other islands and rural communities throughout Scotland and internationally.

Highlands & Islands Enterprise are continuing work on a CNI islands investment strategy. This piece of work looks beyond March 2024 and how islands would continue their route towards Net-Zero.

We will be pleased to provide the Partnership with a further update following the end of the current CNI phase currently scheduled to complete at the end March 2024.

**Action Required by Locality Partnership:** The Partnership are asked to note the progress update.

**For more information please contact:** Sarah Baird, Senior Officer (Islands), Economic Policy, North Ayrshire Council, 2nd Floor Cunninghame House, Irvine.  
Email – [sarahbaird@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:sarahbaird@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)

**Report prepared by:** Sarah Baird Senior Officer (Islands), Economic Policy, North Ayrshire Council and Scott Watson, Community Development Officer, Carbon Neutral Cumbrae - [scott@carbonneutralcumbrae.co.uk](mailto:scott@carbonneutralcumbrae.co.uk)  
[www.carbonneutralcumbrae.co.uk](http://www.carbonneutralcumbrae.co.uk)

Date: 28 November 2023

## APPENDIX 1

To be attached to document

[Cumbrae Community Climate Action Plan](#)

**Locality Partnership: North Coast**

**Date:** September-December 2023

**Subject:** Youth Forums and Citizenship and Partnership work

**Purpose:** This report is to inform the North Coast Locality Partnership about Youth Forum, Youth Citizenship/Partnership activity, planned and actual for the North Coast Area.

**Background**

*The North Coast Youth Forum will strive to benefit the lives of young people in the North Coast area. We aim to achieve this by involving them in the decision-making process and giving them a voice.*

*The North Coast youth Forum merged with the North Coast LGBT youth forum in early September. All young people from both groups attended a residential at Arran outdoor centre.*

*During daytime, they all participated in team building activities which was valuable to group working together. This was proven to be a great choice as they all worked well together, and the confidence was clear to see.*

*In the evenings, they all worked towards mental health resilience training and by the end of the residential, they had completed this course and are now BU Mental health ambassadors. They will be looking to deliver this training themselves in the primary schools early next year.*

*The youth Forum has successfully seen 1 member go through and complete the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award. At present we have another 2 signed up to go through the award and are looking to sign up another 4.*

*The youth Forum attended the quarterly joint forum meeting. Meeting up with other locality forums and working together. The young people looked at different policies and outcomes and gave views on each. These were:*

- **Local Outcome Improvement Plan, to ensure young people's voices are represented.**
- **shape North Ayrshire plans and policies**
  - About their experience of getting involved in local decision-making processes.*
  - Whether they would like to have more control over some decisions, and what these might cover.*
  - The different types and sizes of communities that would make most sense when taking decisions about their future.*
  - The structures and processes that would allow for power to be exercised by communities.*
- **Creating a young person version of the Council Plan**
  - young people to shape with what will be included.*
- **Joint Cabinet Themes**

*The Youth Forum have been working in partnership with the Largs Community Council with the litter campaign. During National Youth Work week, the Forum launched their part within the partnership. They were handing out tie pin badges to all pupils who signed up for the campaign. Within the week commencing Monday 6 November, they handed out more than 600 pin badges to pupils who signed up for the campaign.*

### **Key Points for Locality Partnership**

### **Action Required by Locality Partnership**

**For more information please contact:**

- *Richard Caig, Locality Worker. Mob: 07823 562358*  
*Email: [richardcaig@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:richardcaig@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)*

**Completed by:** *Richard Caig*

**Date:** 22 November 2023



North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership

# North Coast & Cumbrae Locality Priorities Officer

## Progress Report

Reporting Period – Sept - Nov 2023

Improving  
Access to  
Financial  
Services

Increasing Social  
Inclusion  
Improving

Mental  
Wellbeing

Supporting Skills  
and Work  
Opportunities

- Community Open Day – West Kilbride Library  
Plans underway to hold a similar event as that held in Largs Library on the theme of Cost Of Living.
- Support local groups on Cumbrae in taking action on outcomes of mini-enquiry and Chit Chat.  
Consultation on Community Larder completed. Offer has been made by the Garrison Board to host the larder. Visit to the site has been planned to see the space being offered.
- Support local groups in Skelmorlie in taking action on outcomes of Chit Chat  
Possible CIF application to be generated by Skelmorlie Tennis Club
- Support Craufurd/Simson Avenue Swing Park Project.  
No real progress in this from CLD point.
- Support West Kilbride Yuletide  
Everything in place for Yuletide. All licences finalised, TTRO and Traffic Management Plan finalised, Insurance in place, Medical and Emergency Plan submitted.
- Support local groups in Largs in taking action on outcomes from PLACE Framework workshop and Chit Chat  
Discussion held with proprietor of JG Sharps with a view to meet with local businesses.
- CWAS (Cycling Without Age Scotland)  
Cumbrae Chapter helping with recruitment of volunteers and raising awareness of Largs Chapter.  
One volunteer trained but requires to do a few rides before taking anyone out on Trishaw.  
Awaiting another training date for other Volunteers.  
Key box purchased for easy access of key. Key box will be installed on an external wall of the Vikingar.
- Largs Larder. All works completed. Awaiting delivery of fridge and freezer. Volunteers recruited following Open evenings. Visit to West Kilbride Larder planned for Volunteers to see how a Larder operates. Group will meet to elect Committee, create Constitution and complete application for Bank Account.



North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership

# North Coast & Cumbrae Progress Report

Reporting Period – Sept 23 – Nov 23



## General

Work with the groups around Douglas Park is ongoing. Groups are now working on CAT applications.

This quarters Locality Network Meeting due to take place on 28 Dec at West Kilbride Community Centre. Community Roots will be doing a presentation at this.

Still waiting approval of Largs Place Framework Action Plan.

Community Chit Chat took place in Skelmorlie. Very low attendance but still had some good conversation with those who were there, with some good ideas for moving forward under the Locality Priorities.

West Kilbride Community Council have been working on a place plan for the area and the first draft has been collated and after discussions around this, amendments are being implemented.

West Kilbride Community Association sadly lost their treasurer/letting secretary, Chris Maughan, who passed away suddenly. With this massive loss there was an anxious period for them. However, they continued to work together and have encouraged a previous trustee to come back and take the role of treasurer. Their current finances are in order and the association are in a good position. They have worked hard to increase membership and now have 10 trustees in place, attending weekly meetings.

All community associations have been invited to attend cyber security awareness training, which will allow them to access funding for new digital equipment for their centres. This offer has been taken up by West Kilbride Community Centre, West Kilbride Village Hall, and Skelmorlie Community Centre.



North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership

# North Coast & Cumbrae Progress Report

Reporting Period – Sept 23 – Nov 23

## Update

Work on the larder in Largs Library is now about complete and team have been working at bringing in volunteers to develop/run the larder. There have now been 8 people registered an interest in volunteering. This should be up and running early in the new year once all relevant training has taken place. The volunteers will work closely with Largs Foodbank to avoid duplication and have a joined up approach in access to affordable/free food.

Largs Access to food group is back meeting regularly. Some good projects on the go including the work with Tasha at Largs church of Naz where she has the Common Ground back on a Thursday. There have been conversations with Largs Primary head teacher regarding breakfast/snacks/fruit etc. More discussion to take place in Dec to find out what the needs are.

West Kilbride 'The Village Larder' continues to run well. They will be supporting/participating in Yuletide again this year on 1<sup>st</sup> Dec.

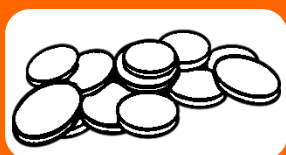
West Kilbride Yuletide event is due to take place on Fri 1<sup>st</sup> Dec. There will be similar activities to last year with mobile cinema, crafting, fun games, carol singing, and of course Santas Grotto to name a few. There will also be market stalls, brass bands, choir singing to add to the festivities. Appropriate funding has been secured for the event to run with activities being free of charge.

After the success of last year, Skelmorlie Community Association are going to be offering a 'heat hub' again this year and it will be called the Village Hub. They have applied for PB funding to help with the costs.

The islands Cost of Living fund has now closed. Applications will be shortlisted by community members of Cumbrae and Arran and awards will be made as soon as possible.

Youth groups from Kilwinning and North Coast are being given a trip to Bouncestation or the Cinema free of charge. Funding has been secured to allow this to happen.

Libraries are yes, working with CAB to bring monthly energy advice to Largs Library. All libraries all offer free public wifi/pcs, free tea/coffee etc.



## Financial Inclusion



North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership

# North Coast & Cumbrae Progress Report

Reporting Period – Sept 23 – Nov 23



North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership

# North Coast & Cumbrae

## Progress Report

Reporting Period – Sept – Nov 23

### Update

Following on from the positive engagement with 10 young people during the Summer Meal Activity Programme and the Helter Skelter consultation on a youth facility. It has been identified there is a need for an increase in free youth work provision in Largs. Largs Library has been booked for a pilot drop-in programme starting in January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024, for young people 12+. Between now and January promotional materials will be shared via social media, community venues along with a visit to Largs Academy

Continue to facilitate weekly activities for West Kilbride Youth Group young people. Group has been will be opened up to the West Kilbride primary 7's after Christmas holidays due to numbers of young people dropping.

North Coast LGBT Youth Forum has now reached a stage of confidence within the group that they have joined up with the North Coast youth forum. LGBT group now have allies within the North Coast youth forum and will have LGBT issues discussed in the Youth Forum meetings, LGBT young people will be helping to create the litter campaign. Our service were also successful in gaining LGBT Silver Charter mark.

Working with a group of Volunteers to establish youth provision on Cumbrae. they have called themselves the Cumbrae Youth Project. Bank account has been set up now. Group put a post out advertising for some more help. The Chair, Secretary and Treasurer posts have all been amended, and documents signed. First night took place on 17<sup>th</sup> Nov with 18 young people attending. Youth Scotland were there to support too.

Skelmorlie Environmental Trust - Things going well. We've had a couple of film nights plus organised a guided tour of the Kelly Woods from local expert on Scottish Rainforests. Group attended the Community Chit Chat which was useful. Group has been in touch and we understand second hand benches are on there way. We are trying to organise/co-ordinate wood chipping, with the aim to get the cuttings cleared and pathways formed before summer holidays. Rachel the groups secretary has been applying for funding.

Cycling Without Age project is still in process. Container is in place with key box to be attached to Vikingar so Rickshaw is accessible at all times and not only when Vikingar open. One pilot has been trained and Cumbrae Cyling Without Age chapter have offered to assist, where they can, with anything that's needed.



### Social Inclusion



North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership

# North Coast & Cumbrae

## Progress Report

Reporting Period – Sept – Nov 23

Dementia Friendly Largs - Dementia Tour Bus training delivered at Cumbrae Gardens Engagement Hub. Taking part was carers, NAC staff and community members in an immersive experience to understand how difficult life is with dementia. This was particularly effective for some adults caring for their parents with dementia to understand from their parent's point of view.

Continue to support all Community Associations and Community Councils in the North Coast area. All associations seem to be more settled now with good work happening.

Various groups meeting in the libraries eg Film clubs in Largs and Millport libraries, memories project in Largs and soon to be starting in WK library, poetry evening in SKelmorlie Library, class visits in all libraries in North Coast, various childrens events for kids and their grown ups eg bookbug, parents and Toddler drop in, afterschool and holiday events.

Supporting the lead volunteer from the West Kilbride Gala group. An expression of interest and events paperwork has been submitted. Continued engagement with the volunteers will support them to have all the relevant paperwork in place for next year's Gala.

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 platform presented. 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.

Library staff attended local primary parents evenings to promote library services to both children and adults. All libraries are in the process of class visits for every class in the north coast to highlight and promote the benefits of the library.

North Ayrshire Ranger Services delivered a talk for Opportunities In Retirement, Largs. Also done a Junior Rangers' annual work day at Haylie Chambered Cairn with member of the Museum.

Family Learning have delivered a few different programmes to our North Coast schools such as Lego based Therapy and Zones of Regulations.



North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership

# North Coast & Cumbrae Progress Report

Reporting Period – Sept – Nov 23

## Update

Skelmorlie & West Kilbride Youth groups will continue to have a session on mental health in each of their terms.

Looking at the restart of the Largs Wellness model and possibly expanding it out to other areas.

Aberlour project who were operating in Largs is coming to an end in Dec 23.

Started an 18+ mens mental health group running within Largs library every Tuesday afternoon as of 31<sup>st</sup> of October. The group will aim to be a support network for other men suffering with mental health issues and will have positive mental health inputs from partner agencies such as North Ayrshire Park Rangers. *Promotional posters have been shared with partners, departments, Community venues, Doctors Surgeries including the Community Link Worker and via social media.*

Clyde Coast & Cumbraes Mens shed is going well with lots of members. Looking at upping the hours of operation. They are working on providing accessible work benches as there are a couple of people in wheelchairs who have expressed an interest in joining but they currently only have 1 accessible bench. Group are continuing on the Community Asset Transfer Quest and are currently working on their business plan. Once CAT is in place the group will be approaching various funders, including CIF.

Looking at a NA wide update and rewrite of the Mental Health Toolkit to bring up to date and add in resilience, suicide prevention, mindfulness and coping strategies. Currently in planning stages before consultation phase with young people.

Community Mapping: Exercise to establish what supports and resources are available in North Ayrshire in regard to MHWB.



**Stress  
and anxiety**



North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership

# North Coast & Cumbrae Progress Report

Reporting Period – Sept – Nov 23

## Work & Skills

Facilitating an adult capacity building group within Largs library, aiming at upskilling community members by completing training opportunities such as food handling, committee skills training and literacy training, with the end goal of having readymade staff feeding into community groups such as village larders. The group will run every Thursday afternoon.

PDA (Personal Development Award) in Youth work is being delivered for another year in Largs Academy. Participants have completed the first unit and are working on the assignment. Work has started on the 2<sup>nd</sup> unit. All will be completed by May 24.

Volunteers from Cumbrae Youth Project will receive Youth Work Training.

CLD numeracy and Literacy group in Largs Library, as well as esol classes.

Multiply worker now in post for 1 year. This post will focus on Numeracy skills for 19+ age group.

NA Rangers service delivered Go Wild project: outdoor education training to Largs Early Years- which encourages teachers to use the outdoors as a classroom.

under the Young STEM Leader award we are highlighting careers in STEM and trying to highlight employability skills at a young age.

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

North Coast LP Pg 38



## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

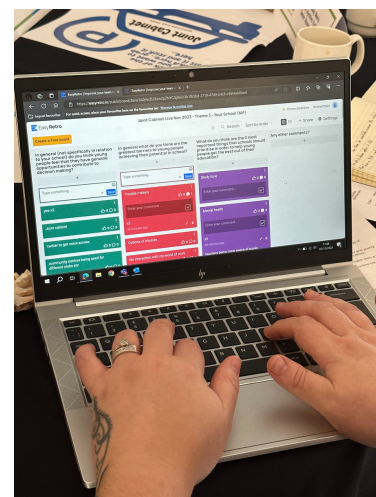
### **Theme 5 – Health and Wellbeing**

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](https://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.

The infographic is set against a blue background. At the top left, the text 'CUNNINGHAME NORTH' is written in white, bold, uppercase letters. Below this, four circular portraits of candidates are arranged horizontally. Each portrait has a white oval label at the bottom with the candidate's name. From left to right, the candidates are Logan Gilmour, Rhyan Gorrie, Emma Henderson, and Adam Johnson. To the right of these portraits is the logo for the Scottish Youth Parliament (SYP), which consists of a stylized 'SYP' in white and blue, with 'SCOTTISH YOUTH PARLIAMENT' written in small white capital letters below it. In the bottom left corner, there is a graphic that says 'YOUR VOTE IS YOUR VOICE' in white and yellow text on a blue and yellow background. To the right of this, the text 'CUNNINGHAME SOUTH' is written in white, bold, uppercase letters. Below this, four more circular portraits of candidates are arranged horizontally. From left to right, they are Emma Burns, Lee Fitzpatrick, Freya Fitzsimmons, and Brooke Ramsay. Each portrait has a white oval label at the bottom with the candidate's name. At the very bottom center, the text 'North Coast LP Pg 42' is written in white.

**CUNNINGHAME NORTH**

Logan Gilmour

Rhyan Gorrie

Emma Henderson

Adam Johnson

**SYP**  
SCOTTISH YOUTH PARLIAMENT

**YOUR VOTE IS YOUR VOICE**

**CUNNINGHAME SOUTH**

Emma Burns

Lee Fitzpatrick

Freya Fitzsimmons

Brooke Ramsay

North Coast LP Pg 42



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.

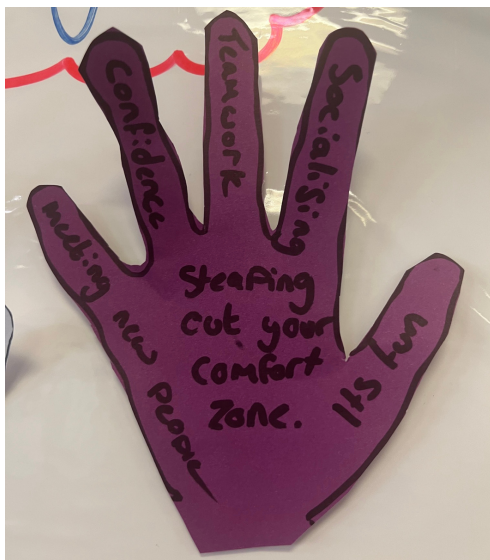
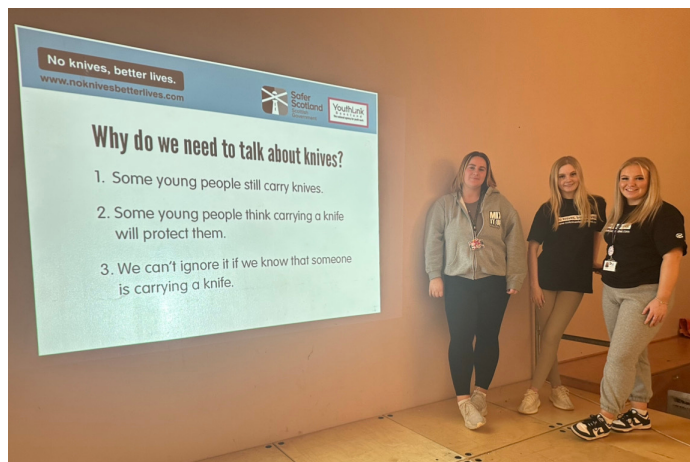


*"Although a little scary and disorientating, for some of the more introverted students on the day, it was inspiring to see how the youth workers encouraged everyone to come out of their comfort zone to overcome their fears, gain confidence and try it out."*

*"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](mailto: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.”*

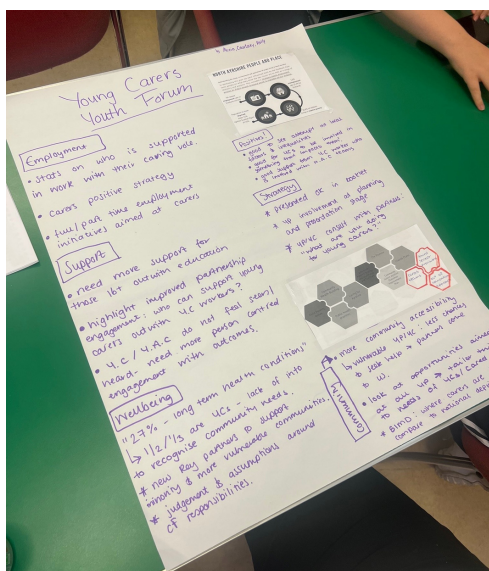
*“Youth Work Week has now come to an end, but this won’t stop Youth Services continuing to share exciting updates via social media as youth work has something for everyone and has the power to really change lives.”*



# 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://www.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](mailto: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.



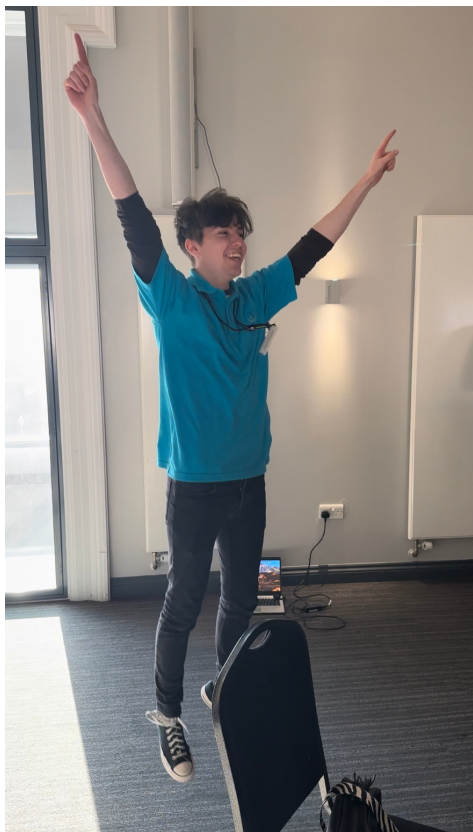
With funding they received from Scottish Government they are working in partnership with the Mental Health Ambassadors and Kilwinning Community Gardens and have funded 20 trees and protectors to be planted within the community garden with a time capsule which is reflective of young peoples wellbeing 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.

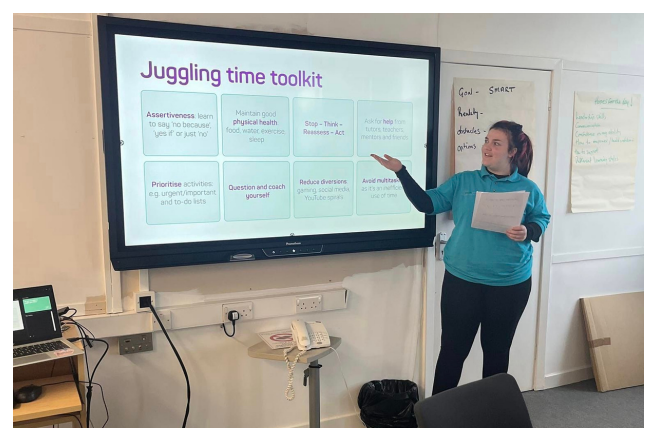
The programme is run weekly in Irvine Royal Academy with current 6th year pupils of a already established school mental health ambassador status. Sessions are 1–2-hours covering Resilience, Exam Pressure, Friendships/Decision Making, Social Pressures, Managing Studies and Juggling Time. Along with open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

### 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

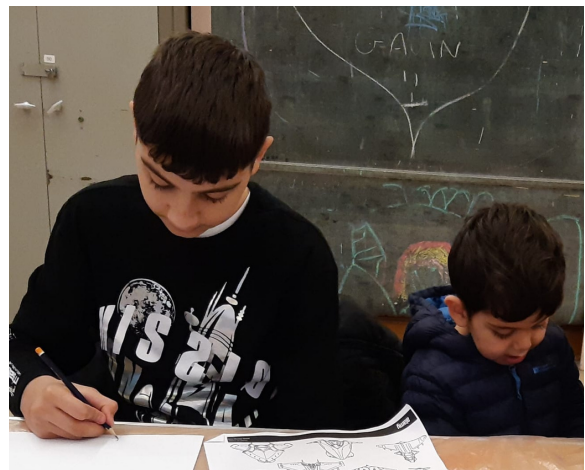
This is supported by Active schools and Young Sports leaders and runs once per week at Garnock Community Campus.

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

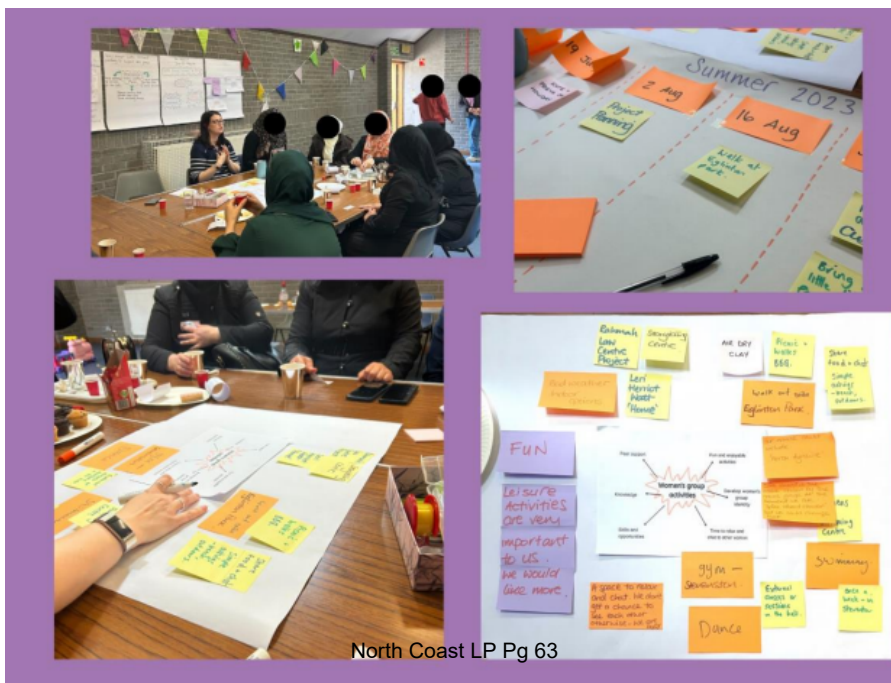
## Spike Wheat Scots

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 Dalgarven 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

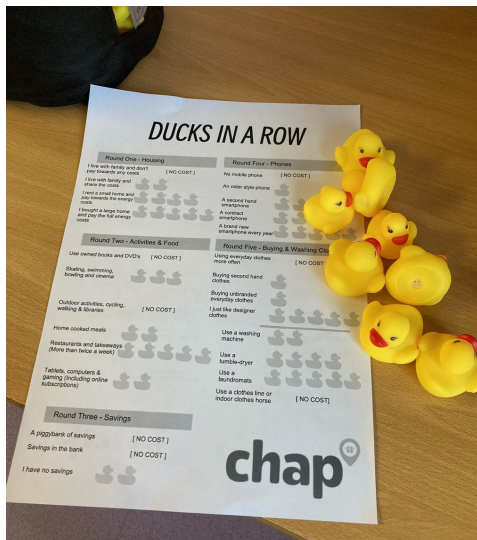
In September the new Unity Community group started in partnership with Kilwinning Locality Team at Nethermain Centre, and over 5 pilot weeks attracted 12 people including Scots and New Scots from Ukraine, Syria and Afghanistan. The group aims to facilitate community sharing and understanding of different 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](mailto: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](mailto:ParticipatoryBudgeting@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)



# Participatory Budgeting: Launch Events



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



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

Brodict 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 larders, 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 larders, 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 Corsehills 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.

