



North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

Arran Locality Partnership

Thursday 7 March 2024, at 5.00 p.m. via Microsoft Teams

BUSINESS

Item	Subject	Pg No	Ref	Officer	Ask of the Partnership
1.	Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest.	-	-	Cllr Billings	
2.	Action Note Review the action note and action log and deal with any outstanding items.	Pg 4	Enclosed	Cllr Billings	Is this an accurate record of the meeting. Have all actions been completed?
DECISION REQUIRED					5.10 – 5.25 pm
3.	Grants – Community Benefit Fund The Locality Partnership are asked to consider grant report: <u>Community Benefit Fund</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Events Arran • Arran Junior Sailing Club 	Pg 12 Pg 15	Enclosed	Lesley Forsyth	LP to consider grant report.
LOCAL MATTERS – TACKLING INEQUALITIES					5.25 – 6.50 pm
4.	Health and Social Care Partnership Overview For discussion and direction from the Locality Partnership on the work of the Health and Social Care Partnership.	-	Verbal	Ruth Betley	Discuss progress, learning and partnership opportunities
5.	KA Leisure For discussion and direction from the Locality Partnership on the work of KA Leisure.	-	Verbal	Scott Morrison	Discuss progress, learning and partnership opportunities.
6.	Education Overview For discussion and direction from the Locality Partnership on the work taking place across education establishments on the Island linking in with Locality Priorities.	-	Verbal	J Worthington S Foster	Receive update and discuss learning and partnership opportunities.
7.	Islands Plan For discussion and direction on the work of the Arran Islands Plan.	-	Verbal	Sarah Baird Island Plan Leads	Discuss progress and how LP can further support this work.

8.	Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue - Wellbeing and Partnerships Officers to discuss with the Locality Partnership the key impact of wellbeing and partnership work being carried out by SFRS and Police Scotland on Arran.	-	Verbal	Stuart Dougan/ Martin Spence	Discuss progress, learning and partnership opportunities
9.	Locality Action Plan Progress Discuss progress of actions.	Pg 17	Enclosed	All	Discuss progress of actions
10.	Funding Opportunities Locality Partnership to discuss funding options available for the Island.	Pg 25	Enclosed	Cllr Billings	Discuss funding options available for the Island
AOCB					6.50 – 7.00 pm
10.	AOCB	-	Verbal	Cllr Billings	LP to use this time to raise/discuss matters linking to the Locality, the LP priorities and tackling inequalities.
REPORTS FOR INFORMATION					
11.	CLD Strategic Quarterly Update	Pg 28	Enclosed	Cllr Billings	Locality Partnership are asked to note the reports and share as appropriate.

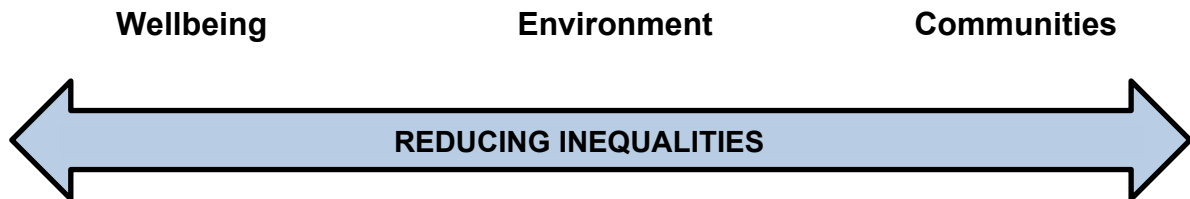
Distribution List

Elected MembersCouncillor Timothy Billings (**Chair**)**Community Representatives**

Bill Calderwood, Arran Community Council
 Sheila Gilmore, Community Island Plan Lead
 Alastair Dobson, Business Island Plan Lead
 Simon Ross-Gill, Environment, Island Plan Lead

CPP/Council Representatives

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

Arran Locality Partnership Priorities

Arran Locality Partnership – Community Investment Fund	
The Arran Locality Partnership CIF allocation to date:	£194,000
Funded Projects	Total Funding Awarded
Arran Youth Foundation and Arran High Joint Bid - Young People's Mental Health	£45,226
Arran Geo Park	£79, 853
Remaining CIF Balance	£68,921

Meeting:	Arran Locality Partnership
Date/Venue:	Wednesday 29 November 2023 at 5.00 pm on Microsoft Teams
Present:	<p>Councillor Timothy Billings (Chair) Vicki Yuill, Chief Executive Officer, Arran CVS (Senior Lead Officer) Audrey Sutton, Executive Director, Communities & Education (Lead Officer) Chrissy Archbold, Depute Island Plan Lead for Economy Sarah Baird, Senior Officer (Islands) Ruth Betley, Senior Manager, Arran Services, NHS Ayrshire & Arran Bill Calderwood, Arran Community Council Alistair Dobson, Island Plan Lead for Economy Lesley Forsyth, Senior Manager Information and Culture Susan Foster, Head Teacher Sheila Gilmore, Islands Plan Lead for Community Anne Marie Hunter, Engagement and Participation Officer Simon Ross-Gill, Island Plan Lead for Environment Scott Morrison, Community Sport Manager, KA Leisure Michele Sutherland, Senior Manager – Primary Care & Communities Nicola Tompkinson, Senior Health Improvement Programme Officer, NHS Ayrshire & Arran Judi Worthington, Argyle College</p> <p>In attendance:</p> <p>Jennifer McGee, Policy & Community Planning Officer North Ayrshire Council (Notes)</p>
Apologies:	<p>Laura Barrie, Head of Active Communities (KA Leisure) Carol Norton, Operations Manager, Arran CVS Martin Spence, Scottish Fire and Rescue Stuart Dougan, Police Scotland</p>

ACTIONS

No.	Action	Responsible
1.	<p>Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest</p> <p>The Chaired welcomed everyone to the meeting, apologies were noted, and introductions were made.</p>	Noted
2.	<p>Minutes from meeting held on 21 September 2023</p> <p>The action note arising from the meeting held on 21 September 2023 was approved and the following updates were provided:</p> <p>Community Transport</p> <p>A Sutton highlighted that £100k funding was set aside for community transport across North Ayrshire. A report will be presented to the Council's Cabinet next week updating on the progress of this work.</p> <p>A Dobson commented that transport is main blockage for people get to work on the Island as well as community access to health appointments. It is a wider piece of work that could be looked at as part of the Island Plan work and perhaps set up a group to look at transport on the Island. A Dobson also commented that this could be a community lead opportunity and a discussion will take place at the next meeting of the Island Plan Business Group.</p>	Noted

	<p>Cooking Workshops</p> <p>Following on from a discussion at the previous locality partnership meeting, A Hunter updated that Eco Savvy have worked with the High School around sustainable eating and hosting cooking workshops for adults and worked with young people through Arran Youth Foundations. They are keen to do more around nutritious food.</p> <p>Arran Community Council Fund</p> <p>B Calderwood advised the Locality Partnership that three more applications have been received. These will be assessed and if successful funding distributed by year end.</p>	
3.	<p>Health and Social Care Partnership</p> <p>R Betley provided the Locality Partnership with an update on the work of the HSCP on the island.</p> <p>The initial agreement report has been drafted and will be going to NHS Board and North Ayrshire IJB Board in due course before submitting to the Scottish Government early next year.</p> <p>Another piece of work being carried out is around the locality conversations and how to engage communities on health and social care. The HSCP engagement team attended meetings with both Arran CVS and the Patient Participation Group. From these conversations, the following priorities will be explored during 2023/24:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention, early intervention and recovery from drugs and alcohol related harms and deaths • Mental Health and Wellbeing – Mental Health Strategy consultation 2023 • Carer support • Complex Care needs • Social isolation <p>It is proposed the HSCP engagement team and partners will organise engagement events every 3 months between October 2023 and November 2024 focussing on different topics/ area of need.</p> <p>A paper outlining of the engagement for next year will be shared with the Locality Partnership for information and to assist in supporting shared priorities moving forward.</p> <p>S Gilmore advised that at both the Community Island Plan meetings there was concern around the review. Would there be an opportunity to promote who the person is from each village who sits on the patient user group? R Betley confirmed that the team will look at how to promote this.</p> <p>B Calderwood advised that the Community Council were provided with an update on this work and offered their help in any way to support this work. B Calderwood also conveyed thanks for the progress being made on this.</p> <p>A Sutton conveyed her thanks to the whole team working on the engagement approach and is thrilled how the Locality Partnership and the</p>	<p>R Betley/J McGee</p> <p>R Betley</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>

	<p>HSCP Forum on Arran come together and hopes to achieve this on the mainland also. The Chair thanked R Betley for her update and for the contributions from the Locality Partnership.</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p>KA Leisure</p> <p>S Morrison provided the Locality Partnership with an update on the work of KA Leisure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KA Leisure has been asked to lead of the delivery of a Wellbeing Alliance which will link together and scale up more opportunities on Arran. • A lot of the work KA Leisure do is on Arran is via Active Schools. In terms of evening and weekend work a new ASN sports session is taking place. • The Team along with Active Schools are currently working on a CPD calendar offering courses on sports delivery, first aid, child protection. Active Schools will share information in due course. • A consultation has been carried out on Brodick tennis courts. 561 responses were received, and a full report will be shared when available. <p>B Calderwood commented that he is pleased that tennis courts work is continuing and asked for an update on the position in terms of Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) funding which would have provided all weather courts. S Morrison advised that the LTA fund comes with restrictions, and they are looking at other funding avenues also. The Team is still in conversation with LTA. S Morrison also advised that the survey report is being pulled together and the Team will work with colleagues from the Council and make sure everyone is included in the planning.</p> <p>V Yuill asked how much work has been done in scoping what is already being done on the island in terms of the courses being offered. S Morrison advised that he would touch base with Active Schools Team to ensure Island groups who would help deliver training are included.</p> <p>A Hunter advised that groups have been in contact around staffing of facilities on the Island. S Morrison advised that they working on succession planning and new staff have been hired recently.</p> <p>T Billings commented that he would be keen to discuss the pricing increases in rental charges. S Morrison confirmed that he would be happy to discuss.</p> <p>S Gilmore commented that booking the facility is difficult, It would be handy to have a local telephone number to check bookings. S Morrison advised that the process will be updated, and he will arrange for main office number to be on website.</p> <p>A Sutton commented that she welcomed that S Morrison is here to allow these things to be raised. Wider discussion on Wellbeing Alliance would be welcome and it would be worthwhile having a Wellbeing Alliance session on Arran. When L Barrie is back, it might be useful for to discuss having a meeting on island. The Chair welcomed this.</p>	<p>S Morrison</p> <p>T Billings/ S Morrison</p> <p>S Morrison</p> <p>L Barrie/ J McGee</p>

	<p>A Dobson commented that this is a great chance for a community led initiative such as having shared apprenticeships and the Arran skills passport which could be groundbreaking.</p> <p>S Baird commented that she is still trying to progress this work and highlighted a positive discussion with the Scottish Government looking at how we can tie funding into recovery and renewal funding to make it more flexible. S Baird will provide an update to Locality Partnership in due course.</p> <p>A Sutton commented that Brian Logan from the Scottish Government will be keen to hear about this work. A Sutton advised that she is happy to link in to arrange this. A Sutton also commented that this presents a good opportunity for a strategic use of CIF to support this work.</p> <p>The Chair also agreed that it would be good use of CIF and would be good to start to look at how this could be coordinated locally and pull together a business case. The Chair asked for a meeting to be arranged in the new year to discuss further.</p> <p>The Chair thanked S Foster and J Worthington for their updates and for the contributions from the Locality Partnership.</p>	<p>S Baird</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>V Yuill/A Sutton/ J McGee</p> <p>Noted</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Island Plan</p> <p>The Chair highlighted that there has been a lot of consultation work going on via all three strands of the Island Plan. The Steering Group is speaking with the Council's Comms Team next week and have a meeting to specifically look at this in January to look at how to bring all of this work together and have an online presence for the community.</p> <p>S Baird provided the Locality Partnership with an update on the work of the Arran Island Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Island Plan Steering Group will be holding a meeting in January to firm up the full action plan for 2024, finalise communication plan and the meeting schedule for the year ahead. A full update will be brought to the Locality Partnership meeting in March 2024. • North Ayrshire Council submitted a response to National Island Review Consultation. This was approved by Cabinet. • In terms of next steps, reports from the workshops hosted by Scottish Government on the Island will be published then a decision whether the National Island Plan will be refreshed or reviewed. • NorthStar were appointed through the Arran Affordable Housing Taskforce to prepare an affordable housing study for Arran. The study will provide an evidence-based assessment for affordable housing on Arran and will focus specifically affordable and rental accommodation, however will cover all tenures to build a full housing market analysis. Draft report will be presented to the Taskforce next week and S Baird will keep Locality Partnership updated on this work. • The Council is considering a locality approach to CWB looking at potential for Arran to form the first case study for a devolved approach to CWB in North Ayrshire. This would allow the five pillars 	<p>Noted</p> <p>S Baird</p> <p>S Baird</p>

	<p>of CWB to be progressed at a local island level with the end goal to be a wellbeing island.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delighted that Arran CVS will support with admin/note taking function for the Arran Island Plan Steering Group and theme groups. <p>The Locality Partnership then received updates from each of the Island Plan Theme Leads:</p> <p>Environment</p> <p>S Ross-Gill advised the Locality Partnership that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A number of meetings have taken place since June. Great to work with the environmental groups on Arran. Building skills will be a big part of this work also. Future work around environmental conservation and regeneration is really important for the group also. Noted interconnectivity between the three strands of the Island Plan. <p>Community</p> <p>S Gilmore advised the Locality Partnership that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Group will continue with meetings will have different geographical area of the Island. Next meeting will be held in February 2024. Noted that there are still a lot of people who don't understand what Island Plan is about or how they can contribute and get involved. This will be discussed at the Steering Group meeting in January. <p>Economy</p> <p>A Dobson advised the Locality Partnership that at the last meeting of the economy group there was discussion on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The drive for net zero on the Island, on island transport and a funding co-ordinator for the Island. Digitalisation is important and need to change the way we communicate to get continual community engagement. The Plan is to set up some collective work groups. <p>A Dobson also advised that a meeting was held today with Neil Gray MSP. This was facilitated due to a letter sent from the Business Group co-signed by the Leader of the Council. The meeting was around the immediacy of support the Island is needing due to ferry issues. The Leader of the Council, the Council Chief Executive and Director of Place also attended the meeting. The Group will also be reaching out to the UK Govt.</p> <p>The Chair thanked the Island Plan Lead for their updates.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue - Wellbeing and Partnerships</p> <p>Apologies submitted from both colleagues. The Chair asked for a request to be submitted for their attendance at the March 2024 meeting.</p>	<p>J McGee</p>

	<p>B Calderwood commented that the local sergent is very community minded and if anyone feels they need his input/support he is very willing to do so and B Calderwood happy to share his contact details.</p>	Noted
8.	<p>Draft Arran Locality Action Plan</p> <p>J McGee provided the Locality Partnership with an overview of the draft Action Plan which was included with the agenda pack.</p> <p>J McGee advised the Locality Partnership that the small infographic within the draft action plan will be expanded once the Census data is made available.</p> <p>J McGee asked the Locality Partnership for some suggestions for high level actions for the Locality to progress between now and June 2024 when the actions will be refreshed for 2024/25.</p> <p>The Chair commented that having this document will help everyone to understand the purpose of the Locality Partnership and the work being carried out. The document will link into other documents such as the Island Plan.</p> <p>The Chair suggested that we have a lot of momentum in the Locality Partnership and work going forward and suggested a lot of the action discussed tonight form the action plan from now until June 2024. The Locality Partnership agreed with this approach.</p> <p>The Locality Partnership approved the draft action plan.</p> <p>The Chair thanked J McGee for drafting the action plan.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>J McGee</p>
9.	<p>AOCB</p> <p>V Yuill advised that with closure of Lamlash Church Hall there will be no longer be a venue for the groups who meet during the day in Lamlash. The hall is extremely well used.</p> <p>A Steering Group has been set up to look at the purchase of the building. Three architects are keen to tender for the feasibility study for the creation of a community hub. An engagement event was held recently and there were 42 applications for membership of the group and 56 feedback forms were received. The subgroup will meet and they will select an architect to deliver the feasibility study. A referral has also been submitted to the Scottish Land Trust for the feasibility study to be carried out.</p> <p>The Chair commented that he has attended a few of the meetings and attended the recent consultation event. The Chair noted that it is good to see the interest from the community.</p> <p>S Gilmore commented that there has also been interest in Corrie and Kilmory churches. It is important to an island community that the buildings are not lying empty. V Yuill advised that Arran CVS have not been approached for support from either of these churches.</p> <p>The Chair highlighted that the LDP Your Place consultation is still open. This is part of the early evidence gathering by the Council for the review</p>	Noted

	<p>of the next LDP. The Chair encouraged everyone to share with their networks.</p> <p>The Chair advised the Locality Partnership that the quarterly CLD report was attached for information.</p> <p>The Chair thanked everyone for their input and conveyed his best wishes for the festive season.</p>	
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The meeting ended at 7.10 pm



Locality Partnership: Arran Locality

Date: 7th March 2024

Subject: To advise the meeting of applications received in respect of the Community Benefit Fund.

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

Background:

- The Community Benefit Fund has a balance of **£6,427.37** available for disbursement to Arran projects.

Key Points for Locality Partnership

- Consideration to be given to the applications at Appendix 1 of this report

Action Required by Locality Partnership

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

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

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

Date: 19.2.24

COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND

OFFICER REPORT

Applicant: Events Arran

Description of Applicant Organisation

Number of Members:	Established: 2017
Meeting Place: Venues in Arran	Date of Visit: Telephone Call 2.2.24

Description of the Project: Arran Rock & Blues and Arran Makers Market**Background:**

Events Arran (formerly Lamlash Events) has been running events for over 6 years. Originally formed to run the Community Christmas Fair called Santa's Sparkle, they have since organised three Rock n Blues Festivals, numerous craft markets (they have a market licence) and orchestrated a project called Arran Makers <https://www.arranmakers.com/> a showcase media for local business to broaden their sales.

Events Arran aims to support events running for the benefit of the local community on Arran and to encourage and support the economy by welcoming tourists to the Island.

Project for Funding:

Unlike the previous three festivals and makers market, Events Arran are holding the event in Lochranza this year. Lochranza has a wealth of opportunities and is somewhat left out of mainstream events and festivals due to its position at the North end of the island. However, Events Arran are working in collaboration with the Lochranza Outdoor centre, the Lochranza CIC hotel, the campsite and youth hostel to ensure they can host event visitors and help the local businesses thrive. They believe the commercial input to all of these businesses will help recover from the effects of Covid plus the lack of reliable ferry service. They are offering opportunities for young people to play at the festival and particularly encouraging original Scottish artists.

Events Arran are also supporting the Lochranza Country Inn by providing a free stage in their garden to support their income plus working with them to promote a wide food offering for festival visitors. In addition to this, they are running a market for local food providers and businesses to showcase Arran produce plus involving many local crafters and artists. There are also lots of opportunities for local musicians to demonstrate their talents and sell merchandise.

This is the first Arran Rock & Blues Event since lockdown in 2020 and Events Arran are seeking grant funding towards the cost of ferry crossings to the island for artists performing at the event as Calmac are not honouring their 2020 offer of tickets. Also, in order to ensure that people can travel safely from the ferry to Lochranza, Events Arran are seeking financial support to hire buses to enable movement to the north end of Arran.

Funding

Amount requested: £1,760 - Ferry Crossings - £960 - Bus Hire - £800	Contribution by Group: £5,000
Total cost of project: £23,325 (Breakdown of costs available)	

Supporting Information Provided

Constitution/Memorandum of Articles: Company Limited by Guarantee

Additional Comments on ScoringCriteria:

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

Level of environmental enhancement:

Events Arran aim to ensure that they remain as environmentally friendly as possible with this event and will not be using plastic. They will sell enviro cups of invite people to bring reusable festival cups.

Level of community involvement:

Events Arran (formerly Lamlash Events) has been running community events for over 6 years. This project is being delivered in collaboration with local groups and organisations and will engage with the local community to provide volunteering opportunities.

Level of funding secured or available:

Events Arran are contributing £5,000 with further funding being secured through ticket sales and fundraising.

Experience of group to deliver project:

Events Arran is well established and has been running events for a number of years.

Future sustainability of project:

This is the first festival that has been delivered since lockdown and Events Arran aims to build on this and bring the festival into the public domain to encourage larger participation each year. In addition to this they are planning to deliver a wellbeing festival in September.

Location of Project:

Lochranza, Arran.

Officer Details

Name:	Rosemary Ramsay	Position:	Funding Officer
Date:	8.2.24		

COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND

OFFICER REPORT

Applicant Contact Details

Name of Organisation: Arran Junior Sailing Club

Description of Applicant Organisation

Number of Members: 30	Established: 30years
Meeting Place: Arran Yacht Club, Lamlash	Date of Visit: Teams Call 16.2.24

Description of the Project: Expedition with Ocean Youth Trust

Background:

Arran Junior Sailing Club is open to all Arran students from P7 up to S6 age and aims to be completely inclusive.

The Club meets every Tuesday evening in the summer months and introduce participants to dinghy sailing. It aims to instil a lifelong love of sailing whilst assisting with the transition from primary to high school. The Club is traditionally a place where children from all the different villages on the Island can meet and aims for the young people to learn about themselves, and gain confidence in their resilience whilst learning to sail their fleet of Picos, Feva's and Wayfarers.

The Club is a registered charity, accredited by the Royal Yachting Association and is inspected annually by them. They run RYA courses throughout the year.

The Club is run with a volunteer staff of qualified dingy and power boat Instructors, assisted by suitably experienced but non-qualified staff.

Project for Funding:

The Club is sending ten of their older students on a 7 day voyage starting from Oban and planning to sail around Mull, Staffa and Iona.

The students themselves will benefit from seeing the wonderful scenery of the West coast of Scotland, learning how to transfer their dingy skills to sail a yacht and gaining an RYA Competent Crew Award.

The students will also live together as a team for 7 days in a small space. The Ocean Trust voyage provides an excellent environment for team building.

These ten students will also be the potential next generation of assistant instructors back home at Arran Junior Sailing.

Funding

Amount requested: £2,500	Contribution by Group: £5,000
Total cost of project: £10,000 (Breakdown of costs available)	

Arran Locality Partnership



Locality Action Plan 2023/24

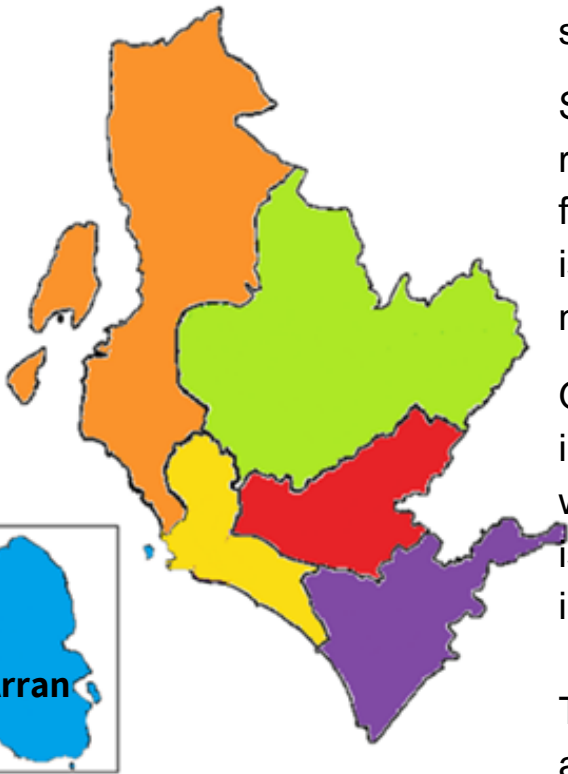
About the Locality


The Isle of Arran is the largest island in the Firth of Clyde covering an area of 432 square kilometres making it the seventh largest of Scotland's islands.

Situated just off the West coast, Arran has around 4,600 residents. The island is connected to the mainland via 2 ferry crossings, one at Lochranza in the North of the island and the main crossing in Brodick where a 50 minute sailing brings you into Ardrossan.


Often described as "Scotland in Miniature" its main industry is tourism attracting visitors from all over the world. The island has a strong history, rich heritage and is a cultural hub with many artists and creatives being inspired by its natural beauty.

The island is teeming with diverse wildlife, has an abundance of native species including red squirrels and a very special and unique natural geology due to its divided landscape of highland and lowland areas. The largest villages on Arran include Lochranza, Brodick, Lamlash, Whiting Bay, Blackwaterfoot and Corrie.




4,649 


The estimated population of Arran - This equates to **3.5%** of the total population of North Ayrshire.

32.1% 

of the Arran population are over the age of 65. For North Ayrshire as a whole, this figure is **23.3%**

21% 

of the Arran population are under the age of 25. For North Ayrshire as a whole, this figure is **26%**




The unemployment count on Arran as of 2022 was **2%**

North Ayrshire average - **4.6%**.

78.5 years 

Male Life Expectancy

This is 3.2 years **higher** than the North Ayrshire average (75.3 years).

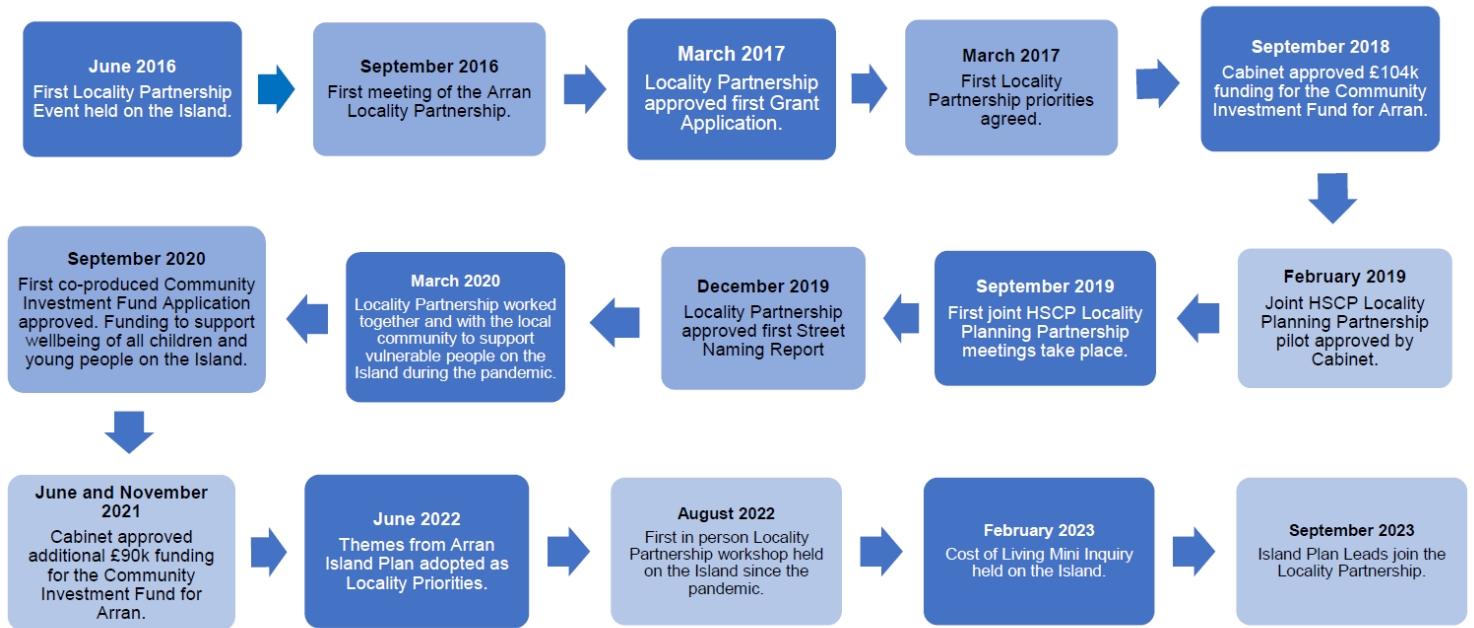
85.6 years 

Female Life Expectancy

This is 5.5 years **higher** than the North Ayrshire average (80.1 years).

Arran Locality Partnership - The Journey

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



Locality Planning on Arran has evolved significantly since its 2016 inception.

Reflecting its island identity, locality planning on Arran has successfully brought together the locality planning function and the work of the Health and Social Care Partnership Forum to create one partnership. Nurturing these very close links has helped develop a greater synergy between the two entities and ensures that work is aligned to best meet local needs using the resources available across the island. In recent years, the development of the Arran Island Plan has enabled the Locality Partnership to focus on how Community Planning Partners can work collaboratively with Arran local communities by adopting the priorities of the Arran Island Plan and in turn tackle inequalities.

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 November 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 Member (Councillor)
- Community Council Representatives
- Community Representatives
- Third Sector Representative
- Community Planning Partnership Representatives (North Ayrshire Council, HSCP, Police, Fire, Public Health, KA Leisure).



How did Arran Locality Partnership decide its priorities?

Each Locality Partnership has their own local priorities that relate to inequalities and highlight where working together 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 [SKS Scotland CIC](#) were commissioned by North Ayrshire Council to conduct a short, focused exercise engaging with residents on Arran to assess perceptions of how, and if, COVID-19 had changed the priorities for the island.

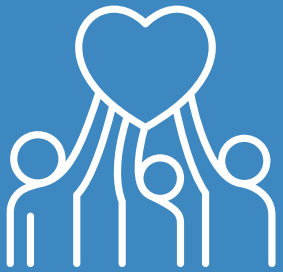
Arran Locality Partnership decided to use the results from the survey carried out by SKS Scotland CIC to inform their new priorities. The results were also used to help form the work of the [Arran Island Plan](#).

Arran Locality Partnership decided to adopt the key themes of the Arran Island Plan as its Locality Priorities, to ensure that the development of the Arran Island Plan and the work of the Locality Partnership align. Locality Partnership meetings will focus on how key work is developed on Arran, and how this supports the Arran Island Plan.

Our Priorities & Action Plan

The Arran Locality Partnership adopted the key themes of the Arran Island Plan following an extensive public engagement exercise. This ensures that the development of the Arran Island Plan and the work of the Locality Partnership align. You can find more information about the Arran Island Plan at:

- [Arran Island Plan](#)



Community



Economy



Environment

More than a Plan...

The Locality Partnership Action 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.

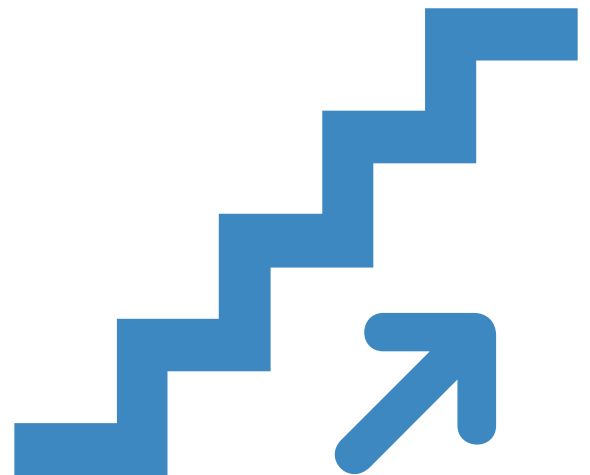
The meetings are a place to agree actions and to make decisions around funding and the ask of partners; they are the tip of a considerable iceberg which includes community chit chat meetings, locality networks and ongoing dialogues with community groups and members regarding their priorities and how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



Useful Links

- The [Locality Partnership page](#) on the Community Planning website
- The [Locality Partnership – Terms of Reference](#) explains how things 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:

- Community Benefit
- 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 **£165,000** has been awarded to Community Groups on Arran.

Since 2016/17 the Locality Partnership has awarded over **£40,000** of Grant payments community groups on the Island.

Since 2018 the Locality Partnership has awarded over **£125,000** of Community Investment Funding to community groups on the Island.

Action	Who?	When?	Locality Priority
Implement and support delivery of actions from Island Skills Audit.	Island Plan Working Groups Locality Partnership	Spring 2024	Economy
Support delivery of key actions arising from Island Cultural Heritage Funding.	Island Plan Working Groups Locality Partnership Local Citizens	Spring 2024	Community Economy
Support progress of Island Plan Sub-groups	Locality Partnership	Spring 2024	Economy Environment Community

Funding Information for Islands

Council Led Funding	
Fund	Information
SG Islands Programme	<p>Fund is for projects designed to stimulate economic activity, boost tourism and improve community assets on Scotland’s islands.</p> <p>Details on 2024/25 funding to be confirmed.</p>
Place Based Investment Programme (PBIP)	<p>Fund will help create a coherent approach to building resilient communities, addressing inequalities and supporting an inclusive, well-being economy in local settings.</p> <p>Details on 2024/25 funding to be confirmed.</p>
UK Shared Prosperity Funds (SPF)	<p>The UK SPF Community & Place Grants have been created to help communities deliver projects that will support local priorities and help communities thrive and grow.</p> <p>For further details or to submit an expression of interest please visit: - UK Shared Prosperity Fund (north-ayrshire.gov.uk)</p>
Repurposing Property Grant Fund (RPGF)	<p>Fund supports property owners or community groups to carry out feasibility studies to identify potential options for the sites and their viability.</p> <p>For further details or to submit an application please visit: - Repurposing Property Grant Fund (north-ayrshire.gov.uk)</p>
Community Outdoor Access Grant Scheme	<p>The scheme is to assist the development of community based access works such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improving or extending routes • inclusion of furniture (eg seats, cycle stands) • way marking and signage

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • production and/or printing of promotional literature <p>Further information can be found here:- Outdoor access (north-ayrshire.gov.uk)</p>
Community Benefit Fund	<p>Applications must demonstrate a direct benefit to the communities of Ardrossan, Saltcoats, Stevenston and Arran.</p> <p>Further information can be found here:- Apply for community funding (north-ayrshire.gov.uk)</p>
Funding Sources	
Community Investment Fund (CIF)	<p>CIF will support proposals and projects that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackle inequalities in North Ayrshire such as financial deprivation, poorer health outcomes, reduced employability, limited access to good food, or reduced access to services • Align to the Locality Partnership's priorities • Do not duplicate existing services or facilities • Provide long-term results • Include measurable outcomes and can report on outcomes on a regular basis <p>Further information can be found here:- Our localities Archive - Northayrshire Community</p>
North Ayrshire Venture Trust (NAVT)	<p>The fund contributes to the achievement of NAVT's charitable objectives to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • relieve poverty among residents • advance education, particularly among the unemployed • promote training in skills, particularly those that will assist in obtaining paid employment • advance citizenship or community development • promote charitable schemes for the benefit of residents

	Further information can be found here:- North Ayrshire Ventures Trust (navt.org.uk)
Arran Community Fund	<p>This funding is administered by Arran Community Council and will be awarded upon merit with the stated goal of improving the quality of life and / or community bonds within Arran. Projects/initiatives would be expected to fall into one or more of the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Facilities and Services • Skills and Employment • Heritage • Community and Local Events • Sport and Recreation • Net Zero/Emission Reduction • Environmental • Youth and Education <p>Further information can be found here:- FUNDING – Isle of Arran Community Council</p>
Islands Emergency Cost Crisis Fund	<p>The Scottish Government’s Islands Emergency Cost Crisis Fund has been established to support island communities across Scotland. The funding is being provided in response to the rising cost of living, which has been particularly challenging for islanders.</p> <p>Further information can be found here: Funding - Arran CVS</p>
Island Cultural and Heritage Fund	<p>The Scottish Government’s Island Cultural and Heritage Fund has been established to support island communities across Scotland.</p>
Ayrshire Skills Investment Fund	<p>The Skills Investment Fund offers a chance to apply for funding – a maximum of £3000 per person – to help address skill gaps in the workforce.</p>

	<p>The Fund is an Ayrshire Growth Deal project and has been established to target priority groups – young people, females, people with long term health conditions and people in low paid employment – to help them gain new skills and qualifications in existing and emerging growth sectors. The sectors targeted in the fund are engineering, digital, visitor economy and clean growth and may change as other priorities emerge.</p> <p>Further information can be found here:- Skillsfund Ayrshire Growth Deal</p>
The National Lottery Community Fund	<p>The National Lottery Community Fund awards money raised by National Lottery player to communities across the UK working with local groups and UK-wide charities enabling people and communities to thrive.</p> <p>Further information can be found here:- Home The National Lottery Community Fund (tnlcommunityfund.org.uk)</p>
Funding Scotland	<p>Using their free online search engine, you can find funding for your charity, community group or social enterprise. From small grants to funding for big capital projects, they can help track down the funding you need to make a difference in your community.</p> <p>Further information can be found here: - Funding Scotland</p>
Giving is Great	<p>Giving is Great help donors find highly effective charities that can't afford to spend millions on marketing. We help charities to find new sources of funding.</p> <p>Further information can be found here:- Discover the Best Charities to Donate to Giving is Great </p>

Useful information

- North Ayrshire Council Funding Information Page - [Community funding \(north-ayrshire.gov.uk\)](#)
- Arran CVS Funding Information Page - [Funding - Arran CVS](#)



COMMUNITY LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT

NORTH AYRSHIRE

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

STRATEGIC QUARTERLY UPDATE

FEBRUARY 2024 - DONNA ANDERSON, ANNE-MARIE HUNTER & DENISE FRASER



An Introduction to the CLD Strategic Themes

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

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

YOUTH WORK

Contact: youthwork@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

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

ADULT LEARNING

Contact: adultlearning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

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

CAPACITY BUILDING

Contact: denisefraser@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

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

Joint Cabinet

During National Youth Work week, the Joint Youth Cabinet meeting took place with over 100 young people from across out schools. With 5 key topics being discussed we have now collated young people feedback.

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.

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

We asked young people three key questions in relation to youth voice:

- *What powers could be added or used to help young people make decisions?*
- *What types of support might young people need to build their own capacity in their community?*
- *How can we make sure everyone in our communities is involved in decision making processes?*

Setting up **opportunities** within a school setting such as a teacher/ pupil boards would be effective. Whilst also using Pupil Councils to engage in relevant topics. Young people felt that **more interaction** is needed to support young people between schools and communities to make them aware of opportunities and to be consulted on all matters. Young people had also noted that Joint cabinet should be for young people that asked to attend, not selected.

To help build capacity within communities young people stated that they would like to see a **wider provision** of groups and opportunities for those who feel 'too old' for youth groups targeted at a younger age. They felt that although they have free bus travel it is often unreliable and stops them from getting more involved in their community. Mainly young people felt that they need to know what is available to them to join in, this includes opportunities for groups, community learning and volunteering.

Lastly by ensuring all young people are involved in decisions that affect them, not just young people that are selected for various groups and committees would have better results. Tools like social media, drop ins, working with their MSYPs and targeted promotion of these would benefit them and their communities as a whole. A popular piece of feedback was the importance of **closing the engagement loop** and always feeding back result to young people to know what has happened as a result of their participation.



Theme 2 – Youth Crime and Personal Safety

In partnership with Police Scotland we asked young people the following:

- *How do you feel the introduction of the free bus travel has impacted your feelings of personal safety and reduction or increase of youth crime?*
- *Increased antisocial behaviour and young people putting themselves in vulnerable situations at local beaches/ shore areas. Why do you think this is and what can we do to reduce this?*
- *With so many young people on social media, specifically snapchat, we have seen a rise in online abuse. What can be done to reduce this and support young people with online behaviour and abuse?*

Young people seen both the positive and negative impact of the free bus travel scheme, for many they felt it had **increased their chance to travel freely**, without relying on parents and carers, and also foregoing the cost gives them access to more opportunities such as social interaction, going to clubs, reducing barrier to employment amongst others. Although these greatly benefit young people they did feel that there has been an **increase of anti social behaviour** on buses, which can make them feel uneasy or intimidated. Furthermore with free transport buses are much busier now, in particular to and from school with it already being unreliable but not being able to get on the bus when needed due to overcrowding and not getting to school on time regularly.

Beaches were a concern to young people in North Ayrshire with feeling of **increased ‘bad behaviour’**, alcohol and drug intake and feelings of social pressures to ‘fit in’. Suggestions to combat this included more bins for litter, having a specific young person hotline to report anti-social behaviour, an increase in beach CCTV with life guards and police patrols during busy times. Other suggestions included more **beach friendly activities** including beach sports and games, alcohol free barbeques and a young persons alcohol free beach bar to promote responsible behaviour.

Lastly when speaking to young people about the affects of social media, young people agreed about the **social pressures** to be online and an increase in online bullying. Many young people agreed that having training for parents to spot the signs and support their young person would be beneficial, likewise to have more youth friendly tools to cope with online bullying, likewise a campaign that promotes the health benefits of disconnecting would be received well.

Theme 3 – Your School (NIF)

Our third theme targeted questions were around the National Improvement Framework for Education, here we asked: Arran LP - Pg 32



- *In general (not specifically in relation to your school) do you think young people feel that they have genuine opportunities to contribute to decision making?*
- *In general what do you think are the greatest barriers to young people achieving their potential in school?*
- *What do you think are the 3 most important things that schools should prioritise in order to help young people get the best out of their education?*

Pupils felt that there are **opportunities to have your voice heard** through Joint Cabinet, pupil councils, leadership programmes, school captains, various committees and access to surveys. Although they felt this was more for senior pupils and there is a lack of these opportunities for S1-S3. Some young people felt that when giving their views that it 'doesn't make a difference', or that it is not taken seriously, and by not receiving feedback on what they have said it 'doesn't create change'. It was noted that there needs to be **more opportunity for minority groups** to have the opportunity to create change particularly around racism. Young people felt that an agreed joint action plan when engaging with young people should be made to detail what is to happen and support the feedback that should follow.

When discussing barrier to achieving potential, the most popular opinions included:

- Lack of funding
- Bullying
- More allocated study time within school
- The impact of the cost of the school day
- Lasting impact of COVID
- Pupils who are disruptive having no consequences for their actions resulting in less teaching time

This was followed by young people prioritising things that were important which were:

- Mental health and wellbeing
- Study time
- Security/ safety within the school setting
- Disruptive behaviour being challenged
- Cost of the school day
- Equalities

Theme 4 – Financial Literacies and Education

A topic picked by our young people was around financial education with 3 key questions being asked.



- *Where would you go to get information on finance, saving, debt and spending?*
- *What more could the council and partners be doing to educate young people on life skills and money management?*
- *What are your main concerns when it comes to finances as a young person?*

The majority of young people **did not know where to turn to for this information**, with some saying parents, teachers or going into a bank itself. Although this made some young people uncomfortable as have never approached a bank before. Young people stressed the importance of this being **part of the curriculum** to focus on financial education throughout their time at school.

Pupils said more support was needed around **life skills and money management** from S2 upwards that would cover all aspects of money management, as one young person stated *“it isn't just maths it should be in all of our subjects in some way.”* It should be supported by schools and outside organisations coming in to support with different areas.

With finances being such a vast subject area particular areas of concern for young people were:

- Inflation/ cost of living
- Barrier to further education due to financial pressures
- Budgeting
- Housing
- Being independent
- Good debt V bad debt

Theme 5 - Health and Wellbeing

Our last theme focussed on health and wellbeing with some broad themed questions.

- *Do you think you receive enough information about alcohol and drugs?*
- *Low school attendance is a significant concern. Some people say the reasons for this are rising anxiety levels due to the pandemic. What do you think are the reasons for the drop in attendance?*
- *Building and maintaining resilience is important for supporting positive mental health and wellbeing. What do you think is the best way to positively improve your long-term mental fitness?*

Young people felt the topic of alcohol and drugs is **covered well in PSE**, although many feeling it needs to be from S1 onwards, with topics of vaping going into primary schools.



Some felt what is taught is 'tame' compared to what they see in the outside world and needs to be **more hard hitting** with real like examples and having more up to date resources and information. With a clear message of the 'don't do it, its bad' message does not work. Young people felt that a **peer led approach** to this would work well in a school setting.

Young people who responded in relation to low school attendance had felt that the main reasons for this included:

- Mental health and wellbeing issues and concerns
- Young people simply feeling 'overwhelmed with school and life'
- Many young people referencing bullying and feeling 'unsafe'
- Young people are still feeling the impact of COVID, with home learning and feelings of isolation still impacting their learning.

Pupils had said that creating alternative curriculums and accepting the classroom environment doesn't work for everyone could help with this.

To support young people with their wellbeing it was noted that young being supported to create balance in their life would be beneficial, learning coping mechanisms when things feel overwhelming and **feeling validated** when they express their concerns. Participants said that there is concerns about disclosing that you are having negative feelings and being told they are not 'unwell' enough to access a school or community councillor. This **adds to the stigma** that still surrounds mental health and wellbeing, a suggestion being to have more in depth training on mental health for school staff and for peer supporters.



Members of Scottish Youth Parliament



The 5th February seen us celebrate our MSYPs past and present and celebrate the power of youth voice here in North Ayrshire where we continue to ensure that young peoples voices are at the forefront of conversation, engagement, policy and discussions.

The announcement evening our new members who now form part of the Scottish Youth Parliament (SYP) for the next 2 years was full of excitement for young people and guests alike.

SYP is a youth led organisation; the democratically elected voice of Scotland's young people where young people aged 14-25 from all over Scotland represent the views of young people within their constituencies. Within North Ayrshire we have four young people who became our members of the Scottish Youth Parliament - two who cover the Cunninghame North Constituency and two covering the Cunninghame South Constituency. They form part of the national Scottish Youth Parliament membership with over 150 young people ranging in age from 14 to 25 tasked with representing their constituencies in all 32 local authorities throughout the country alongside several national voluntary organisations.

The 4 democratically elected members from North Ayrshire's job is to listen to, and recognise, the issues that are most important to our young people, ensuring that their voices are heard by decision-makers, both locally and nationally, their role is to be the voice for our young people across our schools and communities. SYP exist to provide a national platform for our young people to discuss the issues that are important to them, and campaign to affect the change they wish to see.

Here in North Ayrshire they form an integral part of our Youth Participation Structure and our Child Centered Council approach, where young people are central to decisions being made about them – with them being key decision makers in these processes. All 8 candidates continue to be involved and have reformed our North Ayrshire Youth Council Executive Committee.



This election process started in November 2023 but due to national issues with the online voting platform, our Council took the decision to restart to ensure fairness and integrity, and return back to paper ballots using the Single Transferrable Vote system, allowing voters to rank their candidates in numerical order. This allowed for our young people to complete their ballots, meanwhile taking part in a voting process that is used both locally and nationally with our 16+ population. True democracy in action! This has resulted in record breaking numbers for our participation rate which was fantastic to see with **4230** votes cast - this is over 50% of our full secondary school population. Our elected MSYPs for the next two years, will work within our schools and communities on specific projects, both locally and nationally whilst representing the views of their peers.

Cunninghame North MSYPs



Adam Johnson

Largs Academy



Rhyan Gorrie

Garnock Campus

Cunninghame South MSYPs



Emma Burns

Irvine Royal Academy



Freya Fitzsimmons

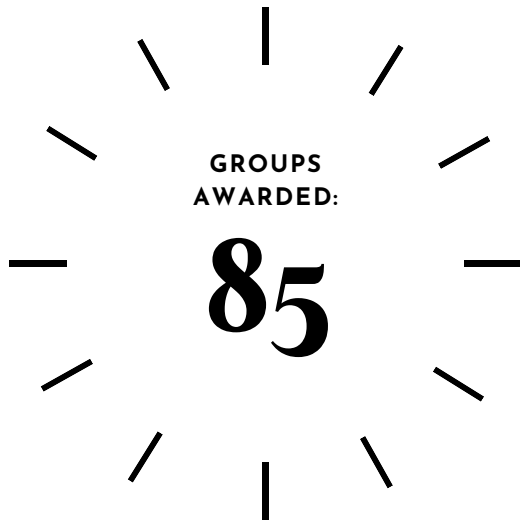
St Matthews Academy

To contact our MSYPs please email youthwork@north-ayrshire.gov.uk



Youth Participatory Budgeting

North Ayrshires Youth PB results were announced on Monday 11th December.



VOTES:

5,740
ACROSS NORTH AYRSHIRE

To view projects in your locality, please click link below:

<https://northayrshire.communitychoices.scot/2023-24results>

HAVE YOU VOTED ON #YOUTHBPB

Aged 8 - 25?

Please have your say!

North Ayrshire Executive Committee



Our newly formed Executive Youth Committee has now elected in its committee. This group is made up of young people from across North Ayrshire and covers all six localities, covering seven of our nine secondaries. The group is the overarching youth voice group for North Ayrshire and welcomes new members to join.

The role of the 'Exec' is to support our youth participation structures such as Joint Youth Forum, Joint Cabinet, MSYPs and Youth Council meetings. With both planning and facilitating the activities and events. Central to the 'Exec' are our four Members of Scottish Youth Parliament. The group will support their local activity throughout the next two year term.

Supported by Community Learning and Development workers this network of young people will develop and carry out local consultations and engagement with their peers and work on specific projects, led by the voices of young people across North Ayrshire.

The group is open to young people aged 12-25 in North Ayrshire. If a young person is interested in joining they can email youthwork@north-ayrshire.gov.uk for more information. Likewise if any partners would like to work with the group they can email the central mailbox.



Climate Change Ambassadors

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

Working with the Bee You Ambassadors group, they had many discussions around what issues young people face in their local communities and how they could use their training to benefit young people.

It was recognised that some work around suicide prevention had to be prioritised. Throughout North Ayrshire the statistics for youth suicides were particularly high. They felt a project highlighting this could give young people local signposting/ support services, would address the matter head on in a proactive manner.



Following on from the Kindness Mural Consultation it was decided that a tree planting project would take place within the Kilwinning Locality. The Climate Change Ambassadors funded the 16 trees and the time capsule for this joint project. With the aim of creating a community garden where young people could use green spaces to be with nature and feel calm.

Working in conjunction with Eglington Rangers Service to store and protect the trees through the winter. Ambassadors attending site visits and facilitate filling the time capsule with the ambassadors. The first date of planting had to be pushed back due to adverse weather making it hard for planting. The plan moving forward to February 2024 to enable the snow to pass. Within this time the two groups held a time capsule session to write a letter to their future selves, create a scrap book of memories looking at present times and projects that they have been involved in. The group continues to meet fortnightly.



Youth Work Modern Apprenticeship Programme



As our six senior modern apprentices are nearing the end of their course the focus has been on supporting them into positive destinations. Throughout their time they have developed a wide range of skills such as communication, interpersonal, ICT, planning and problem solving to name a few, alongside this they have

developed the required knowledge through the completion of their SVQ level 7 in Youth Work to become a competent and reflective Youth Work practitioner.

All of the apprentices have been added to our sessional list and will continue supporting young people and groups across the authority. Four have secured placements on the Community Development course at Glasgow University with 3 already communicating with colleagues regarding their first year placement. These MA's will continue to be supported through the team both in terms of placement but also with the qualification through accessing the small library of academic books and knowledge of colleagues.

Regarding employment, over and above their sessional opportunities, two have already gained full time employment, one has a full time position as a classroom assistant in Dreghorn Primary School and the other has secured a clerical position within the Housing team. The other four continue to apply for a variety of roles including mentoring positions and classroom assistants all being successful in gaining interviews.

During this time the MA's were supported with a range of support to improve their interview skills, this includes encouragement to apply for positions, providing references and also conducting mock interviews. MA's have feedback this level of support was beneficial to them in building their confidence and consolidating their knowledge in order to fully respond to questions.

We wish them all the best for their future.



Youth Work Modern Apprenticeship Programme

"Over the course of the apprenticeship, I have developed so many new skills and built amazing relationships with my colleagues and people within the community. I can honestly say my time as an apprentice has been some of the best moment of my life so far and has built me up into a completely new person from when I started. I joined the apprenticeship without much knowledge of what youth work was but thought it would be something I would enjoy; I had no idea the number of skills and opportunities it would provide me with and how much I'd thrive in the type of environment the team has created. Something I think the apprenticeship does best is allowing you to really throw yourself into the work you have a high interest. For example, I came in with an interest in working with young people surrounding mental health and they really allowed me to flourish within this type of work and build my knowledge around mental health through, programmes and training. All this as well as pushing me to try new things and come out of my comfort zone has helped me develop my confidence and do things within my professional and personal life, I never thought id be able to do.

Now that my apprenticeship is coming to an end my manager and team have played a major role in helping me with my next steps. Through their support and interview prep I have successfully landed a job within Dreghorn Primary as a classroom assistant and a placement in Glasgow University doing community development , two things I never would have been able to do without the qualification and experience I've gained within the past 18 months. As much as my apprenticeship has come to an end, I know the support within the team goes further than the 18 months and I always have a group of people to come back to ready to help and celebrate the wins with." - Modern Apprentice - Youth Work



Young Parents Group



The newly formed young parents group is open to young parents 25 or under and based in Stevenston weekly.

Working in partnership with the lifelong learning team this project is aimed to support young parents in a health and wellbeing environment, this will increase the confidence of parents and support improvement in their physical, mental, emotional and relational wellbeing for them and their children.

Designed by our MHWB Project Delivery Officer the group splits into activities suitable for the leaning and development of babies attending and also parents interacting in sessions. Using the first hour to focus on the baby/ child development through activities which is led by the lifelong learning team, using the second hour for the development of the parents.

Now the group is established sessions have been created to encourage learning for both parents and their babies, within a range of different topics including

- Messy Play
- What is mental health and how can this be linked between you and your baby
- Multiply input
- BookBug
- Worry and Fears session for parents (creating a social network)
- Resilience of a parent
- Baby Sensory
- Crafting
- Relax Kids
- Baking
- Baby Massage- attachment process and postnatal depression

The group is designed to be fun and exciting for both parents and their little one. They provide a great opportunity to try new activities and meet new people, creating lasting memories. The programme encourages parents to interact with other parents and share a variety of good and bad experiences. It creates perfect opportunities to get advice, meet new friends and catch up with their peers at each session.



Young Parents Group

As a result of this programme young parents that are attending have increased confidence, created a support network within the group and enjoy each session. 15 young parents have joined the group and this increases each week.

Attending these sessions allows the children to interact with other babies and their parents, promoting socialisation and interaction. This can help to develop parents and babies social skills and build confidence in this new chapter of their lives.



"This group has been a lifeline to me as we don't get to see anyone anymore since baby came along, the group is the thing that I look forward to every week. Meeting the other parents and getting support from each other is amazing, each week Dionne has something on for the kids but also an activity for the parents. I am sad that it will only be lasting 10 weeks, I really hope it can get extended. We have made friends for life, mums mental health is just as important as babies! The impact its had on myself and the other parents is more than words can say, we need more of this in our communities." Young Mum - Young Parents Group



Bounceback Programme - Dreghorn Primary

We delivered the Bounceback programme to Dreghorn Primary in this quarter, the programme focussing on mental health and wellbeing led by the North Ayrshire Bee You Mental health Ambassadors in delivering to Primary 6/7 school aged young people to then, in turn, become mini Bee You Ambassadors for their primary school.



The six, 1-hour sessions, has most recently been delivered to Dreghorn Primary School Primary 6/7 pupils. The programme allows the ambassadors who are all aged between 16 and 21 the chance to share the valuable information they have learned throughout their journey completing mental health programmes with these young people who are aged 11 and 12. This allows the primary group to then share this learning to help support their schools emotional awareness as Mini ambassadors for the younger aged classes within their school. The programme helped supports all 27 of the Dreghorn pupils involved in learning these workshops with their own resilience through topics that they are currently experiencing within.

The Ambassadors all have completed Mental Health First Aid and/or the Mental Health UKs Your Resilience programme so in delivering what they have learned only reaffirms the learning that these young people have already had further increasing their resilience and confidence.

Once the programme is delivered, the pupils continue to be Mini Bee You Ambassadors for the primary school, with the school deciding on how their roles will continue to support their peers.



Boyceback Programme - Dreghorn Primary

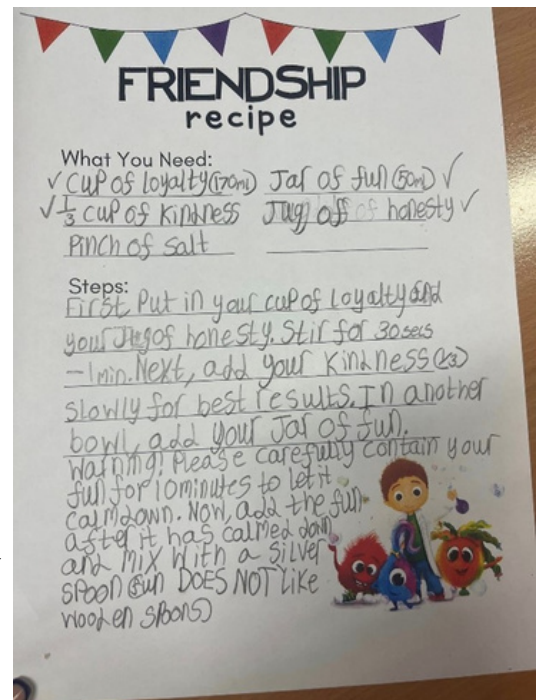
The interactive sessions have educated young people on:

- What is Mental Health
- Resilience
- Social Networks
- Friendships
- Making Decisions
- Self Care

This programme has become widely sought after across North Ayrshire primary schools.

"You all helped me realise not to care so much about what others think, you are all amazing there was nothing I didn't like, I have learned to believe in myself and try stop doubting myself if I fail. I think everyone deserves a visit from you all, I had so much fun well done 100/100." Pupil - Age 11

"The programme was really good at covering lots of different topics to help children cope with day to day pressures and scenarios. The key points from the programme that really supported the class was to think about what people are like on the inside, be positive and kind and resilience in having real life scenarios to help work through, this programme was pitched at a good level for the age group. The children responded well to the ambassadors as they were approachable and the children could relate to them." Mrs Brown- Teacher



Irvine Royal Academy - Mental Health Day



Our Mental Health and Wellbeing worker was asked to support Irvine Royal Academy MHWB day this quarter by creating a 1 hour workshop to help pupils aged 11/12 with the start of their secondary school journey, to have a understanding of 'What is Mental Health'. This was run on rotation for a full day for all pupils in 1st year.

This workshop covered 'What is Mental Health', using the North Ayrshire Council Youth Services handouts and a mix of interactive activities, such as body mapping, this is where we get the pupils to draw around a member of the class then in groups we give the pupils scenarios and they then can draw or write on the body map how these scenarios made them feel and what it might look like on the body.

Within our 'What is Mental Health' handout we looked at mental health vs physical health, there is an activity within this that encourages the young people to recognise qualities within themselves that they like, this is held within the class and encouraged to be continued at home. On the back of this handout are the QR codes for the North Ayrshire community mental health and wellbeing mapping these QR codes direct you to what groups and resources are available across our localities for wellbeing support, this is explained to the group and encouraged to highlight to their parents/carers.



"Thank You so much to Vicki and her team for their support of our young people. They thoroughly enjoyed the workshop; we look forward to working again with you soon."

Mrs Marwick



Your Resilience – The Hive – Ayrshire College



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 HIVE (Hope, Inspiration, Vision in Education) is a facility within Ayrshire college that many of the students arrive with no qualifications, and often no clear idea of what they want to do next. The HIVE aims to help you to achieve next steps and using the Your Resilience programme, we dedicated time to help these young people in their journey towards positive destinations.

Strong relationships have been established with the team and Ayrshire College The HIVE to support the young people that attend in helping them with their mental health and emotional awareness to move onto future courses or employment.

The programme was run weekly in Ayrshire College with current HIVE pupils (Intro to careers and bridge to careers). 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.

18 certificates went out to Intro to careers and 19 to Bridge to careers in this quarter.



Your Resilience - The Hive - Ayrshire College

"Working with young people who have previously disengaged from education within the HIVE at Kilwinning Campus, Ayrshire College, our course's aim is to prepare students to enhance their Employability skills, Confidence, Teamwork, Communication, self-esteem, and motivation which will support them into employment or mainstream courses.



Many of our students are Care experienced, have ASN, ADHD, Behavioural issues, Autism, Anxiety, Depression, Trauma and Mental Health issues. Vicki has been delivering Resilience sessions to over 50 of our students. The sessions have been invaluable for our students, through completing the workbook it has provided the students with an opportunity to take part in open discussions with relatable topics. Vicki and her staff have been amazing and were able to create a safe environment, build positive, trusting relationships with our young people, equip them with the tools and knowledge to reach out with any concerns and have better resilience which has had a positive effect on their mental wellbeing. I am hoping this partnership can continue, which will enable us to reach out to a lot more young people who will benefit from these sessions." Caroline McCulloch - Employability & Engagement Officer

"I liked this course because I learned more about mental health, it raised more awareness. My favourite part was the friendship part because it made me think about who I spend my time with" Participant - Age 18

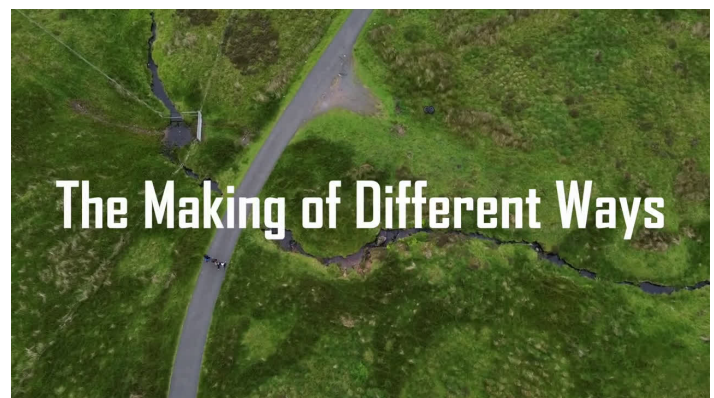


New Scots

The Film Making Project

The film project project has made a profound difference in the lives of the young people involved. By providing a platform for self-expression, the project has helped them overcome isolation, fostering a sense of belonging and community. The creative process of writing, action, filming, recording, and editing has not only honed their artistic skills but also served as a powerful tool for personal growth. Through engagement with peers, these young individuals have forged meaningful connections, breaking down barriers and building confidence. This holistic approach has not only empowered them in the realm of arts but has also contributed to their overall well-being and integration into their new communities.

The commitment of the young people, who dedicated 11 months to the project, is noteworthy. From conceptualisation to editing, they exhibited an extraordinary level of skill and dedication. The creation of a comprehensive behind-the-scenes documentary adds depth to their accomplishments, illustrating the profound impact the project had on the participating young people. The successful premiere at the Harbour Arts Centre, Irvine in January signifies not only artistic achievement but also community engagement.



New Scots

Nova Scotias Football

Nova Scotia's Boys Football team, established with a modest group in January 2022, has burgeoned into a thriving community initiative. From its inception, the team has expanded both in numbers and interest, currently boasting over 30 boys from diverse backgrounds. Beyond honing football skills, the group has evolved into a vital social network, fostering friendships and teamwork among resettled and unaccompanied asylum-seeking young people of various nationalities.

The support garnered from the Prince's Trust has been instrumental in the team's growth. Collaborations with organizations like Street Soccer Scotland, Killie in the Community, and Spike Wheat Scots have ensured the team's sustainability. Now, with two age groups formed in January 2024, Street Soccer Scotland oversees the over 16s team, with transitional staff support from CLD, while the under 16s group operates as a partnership with CLD, Spike Wheat Scots, and Killie in the Community providing coaching expertise.

Looking ahead, plans include participation in small tournaments during Spring and Summer, providing not just a platform for football development but also fostering personal growth among the boys. Nova Scotia's Boys Football team stands as a testament to the positive impact community sports can have on skill development, health, well-being, and resettlement



New Scots

Ukrainian discovery Award

The Ukrainian Discovery Award, launched at the Argyll Centre in Saltcoats, has rapidly become a transformative force and holds a crucial role in supporting the resettlement of older Ukrainian guests. With a membership exceeding 20 individuals and a consistent influx of new participants the impact is palpable. The introduction of a weekly cooking group and a craft café has not only provided creative outlets but has also fostered a sense of community and connection.

Recent visits to cultural landmarks such as Rozelle House, Glasgow University, and the Hunterian Museum have not only enriched their experiences but have also facilitated integration and cultural understanding. The Ukrainian Discovery Award has evolved into a vibrant hub for social engagement, skill-building, and cultural exploration, contributing significantly to the well-being and integration of the Ukrainian community in North Ayrshire.

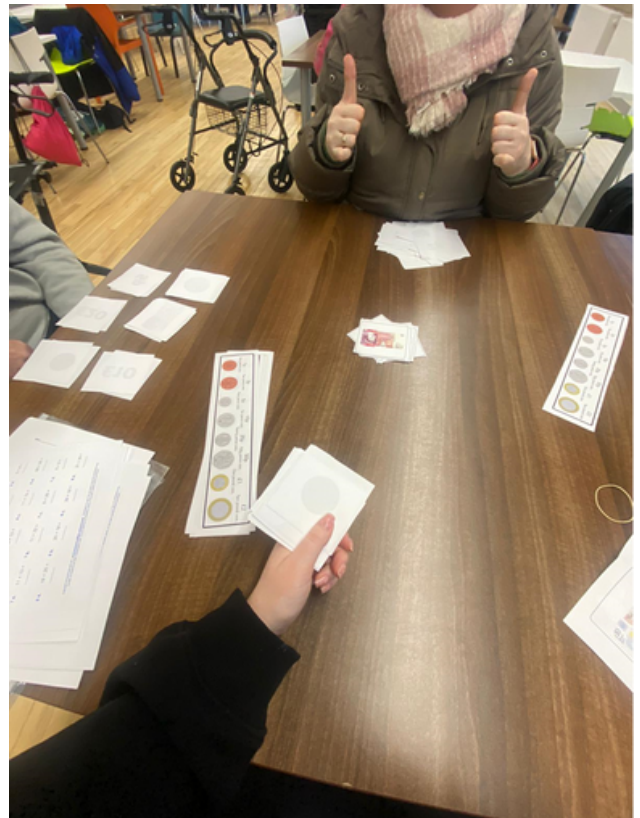
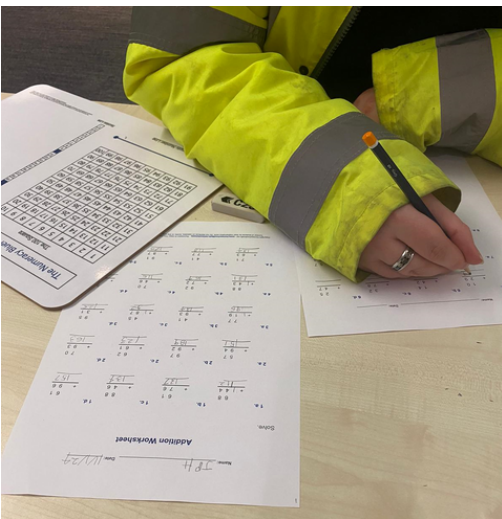


The Multiply Project

The Multiply team's collaboration with Trindlemoss in delivering a numeracy support group for Additional Support Needs (ASN) adults has proven to be a resounding success. Working in tandem with Ayrshire College, the team has secured a project agreement that paves the way for learners to receive accreditation in the community for their numeracy skills. This initiative is a remarkable opportunity for community-based adult learners, particularly those taking their initial steps back into education and learning.

The impact of this endeavour extends beyond skill acquisition, offering a transformative experience for adults seeking to re-engage with education. This initiative is poised to make a lasting difference by providing a supportive environment for numeracy learning and accreditation, creating pathways for individuals to thrive in their learning.

Multiply provision is free and can be accessed via our referral form: <https://forms.office.com/e/MDXDeF1QUw?origin=lprLink> or by emailing multiplyinfo@north-ayrshire.gov.uk



Funded by
UK Government

**LEVELLING
UP**

MULTIPLY



Participatory Budgeting

Current PB updates:

- In this round of PB, the funding was 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 were announced on Monday 20th November with Youth PB results announced on 11th December.



Participatory Budgeting 23/24 Results Overview:

LOCALITY PB -
SUCCESSFUL GROUPS:

93

3,131 VOTES

UK SHARED PROSPERITY
FUND -
SUCCESSFUL GROUPS

8

793 VOTES

YOUTH PB -
SUCCESSFUL GROUPS:

85

5,740 VOTES

To view all successful projects in your locality, please click link below:
<https://northayrshire.communitychoices.scot/pbresultsnov23>



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, John, who provides valuable assistance and support to community groups exploring or looking for advice on taking on an asset within their communities. Particular areas of support provided have focussed on supporting groups with their governance documents and for some in preparation to go to court in respect of common good land; 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) and site visits for groups who are interested in submitting an initial expression of interest in a particular asset.

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

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

Arran

Brodick Bowling Club

Three Towns

Ardeer Park changing rooms has now received cabinet approval - Whitlees Community Centre - 3 Towns Men's shed - Initial interest from Ardeer Thistle Youth Academy

Kilwinning

Blacklands Hall - Auld Dirrans Centre

Irvine

Maress Road - Maress Playing fields

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

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; Volunteer training, Naloxone training, committee skills training, REHIS, First aid, Mental Health first aid, trauma awareness training, funding fares and funding workshops



CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING
FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS

MON 26/2 ONLINE, 6.30 - 8PM

WED 28/2 REDBURN CENTRE IRVINE, 10AM - 12

Child Protection Awareness Session



To register please scan the QR code or contact Elaine Walker on 07818228733



North Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir a Tuath



Food Insecurities

The Fairer Food Network & Larder Updates



- Currently 14 food larders across North Ayrshire supporting over 3000 households with a dignified food provision.
- Two new larders in Largs and Millport will be opening in 2024 and a subsidised food model is supported on Arran.
- The fifth 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 was reviewed and agreed at the NAFF meeting In November 2023.
- The quarterly NAFF meeting was held on Teams on 29 November 2023. The group heard from SP Energy about the priority list for energy support in the event of powercuts. Gerry Gilmurray also offered to host drop ins at the larders to promote to members.
- Facilities Management had provided the network with a range of reuseable period products as part of period dignity week. There had been a mixed response from members and a mixed uptake. All remaining items were to be returned to Facilities Management as this was not to be an ongoing offer.
- There has been ongoing support to the larders and during the first quarter of the year, the senior manager and the Fair For All Development Officer visited all larders to get an update on their current financial status, any concerns and any highlights.
- The Tap End Larder, Stevenston is continuing to get on going support as their new employee settles into post. There have been various issues highlighted around centre security which are in the process of being dealt with. They have also been awarded one years funding for WIFI, a new laptop and phone via the digital fund.
- Argyle Community Shop volunteers and Saltcoats Link up have been receiving support in relation to ongoing internal difficulties between the two groups.
- Ardeer Larder have reduced their operational days and times but support can be given out with these time via an appointment.
- Support is being given and appliances ordered for the new larder at Largs Library. It is hoped it will open later in February and is currently awaiting a bank account.
- Millport Larder - Appliances have been ordered for this new larder. No proposed date has been scheduled for it to open.



Food Insecurities

Publicity and Promotion

Over the festive period, Comms continued to roll out information and promotional video clips advertising the larder network. Despite this, numbers have remained steady with no significant increase in demand.

Community Planning created and circulated a festive period support brochure for NA wide.

Sustainable Food Places

Scottish Government launched The Good Food Nation Plan in February. Further information can be found at <https://consult.gov.scot/agriculture-and-rural-economy/national-good-food-nation-plan/>

North Ayrshire Food Forum

The North Ayrshire Food Forum attempted a third meeting on 27 November as a hybrid model but there was a very poor attendance so the meeting was cancelled. No date has been rescheduled.

In other news.....

Survey

A survey of larders members from 50% of the larders was undertaken. 53% said that they had been using their larder for less than 6 months. This indicates that they are being used in the manner that was anticipated. 89% were happy with the range of food offered but despite access to the larder, 63% said that they still skipped meals to ensure that others in their household were being fed.

Community Planning

The Council's Planning Service are putting together research aimed at gaining an understanding of how North Ayrshire residents access food throughout the area. As an important part of that, they are seeking views of the experience had by both Foodbanks and Community Larders. The views will be important in making future policy decisions including whether to support certain types of development in certain places such as Local Shops or Supermarkets.



The Older Peoples Voice & Engagement Hubs



The Older Peoples Voice Conference

The Conference was an inclusive success seeing participation from over 50 older people from all over North Ayrshire.

The day was focussed on the following key elements:

- To have representation from all localities
- Ensure people attending felt connected
- To finalise a participation structure for older people in a way their voices can be heard
- Complete mapping of all community provision for older people
- Educate, inform, and report findings of older people's voice consultation
- Listen to what the current issues are and provide the opportunity for networking with peers and local and national services

The day would aim to ensure:

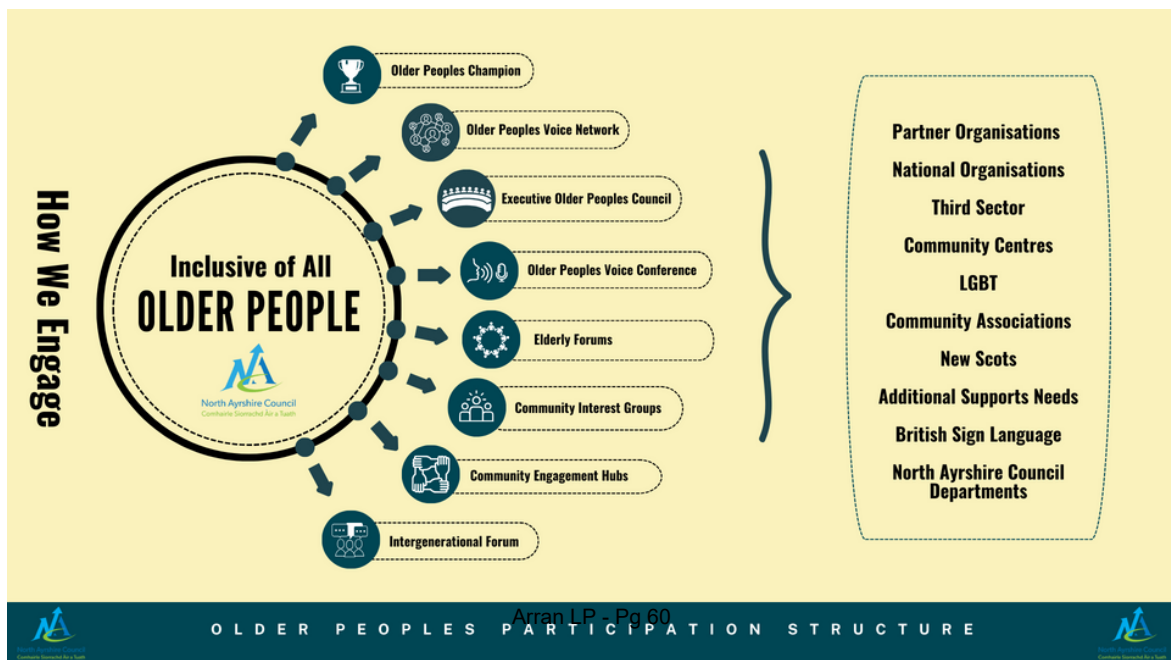
- A clearer understanding of what is most important to older people
- Gaps in service provision were addressed to determine how improvements could be made
- Single Points of Contact for each locality, were introduced to every older person to help establish a dedicated action plan for their area.
- Participants were encouraged to share any concerns they may have
- Helpful information and signposting was provided to support services for older residents



The conference was all about ensuring that older people remain at the forefront of the Council's decision-making and is a positive next step forward in the right direction to establish the Council's Older People's Voice Participation Structure – a key area of importance in North Ayrshire's Community Learning and Development (CLD) Plan.



With the poor weather conditions leading to the ferry's being cancelled Connected Communities worked with partners in Arran Community & Volunteer Services to ensure our older people had the opportunity to still take part online.



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 improved 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.

Over the festive period there have been many festive lunches and events run by the CLD team, groups using the hubs and the hub committees, providing free lunches and visits from local School choirs.



CAPACITY BUILDING



Funding Success

Four of the hubs Committees at the David White Centre, Vennel Gardens, Watt Gardens and Montgomery Court as well as two groups have been supported to apply for funds to support and continue their activity within the hubs and been funded a total of £6,000.



Montgomery Court Committee

The committee have gone from strength to strength since forming in the last 6 months, running weekly coffee afternoons and supporting CLD activity weekly including bingo and a sewing group.

Pictured above is the committees Burns Lunch which went down very well with free soup, haggis, neeps and tatties as well as poetry and deserts.



Networking and Funding

LPP Grant Awards

A total of **£7,234** was awarded by the Locality Planning Partnerships from November 2023 to January 2024.

External Funding Levered In

A total of **£274,290** external funding has been levered in by third sector organisations from November 2023 to January 2024.

Funding Support and Advice to Community Groups & Colleagues

- **3** funding workshops and drop-in sessions were delivered from November 2023 to December 2024.
- **9** funding updates circulated to community organisations and colleagues from November 2023 to January 2024.
- **774** members have now joined North Ayrshire Virtual Funding Centre
- **200** log-ins to Grantfinder and **579** searches carried out for the period November 2023 to January 2024.

Community Benefits Wish List

4 wishes have been delivered this quarter, with 39 wishes delivered in 2023. A total of 74 wishes have been delivered through the Community Benefits Wish List since it launched in October 2021.

Wishes delivered this quarter:

- Largs Foodbank: donation of £300 from RJ McLeod (December)
- Stanley Primary School Parent Council: donation of £100 from Carruthers (January)
- Irvine Youth Legacy Centre: donation of £100 from Carruthers (January)
- Organic Growers of Fairlie: donation of £200 from RJ McLeod to purchase paint for their raised beds (February)

Around 10 wishes are in discussion with contractors, but are unlikely to be delivered until spring/summer 2024 as they require better weather.

The next issue of the Community Benefits Newsletter will be circulated to contractors in late February/early March, with a focus on new wishes on the list.

A review of the Wish List is currently underway in partnership with the Third Sector Interface, who are hosting a forum on community benefits with representatives from across the sector.

