



North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

Three Towns Locality Partnership

Wednesday 6 March 2024, 6.30 p.m. in the Castle Craigs Lounge,
Ardrossan Civic Centre

BUSINESS

Item	Subject	Pg No	Ref	Officer	Ask of the Partnership
1.	Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest.	-	-	Cllr Kerr	
2.	Action Note Review the action note and deal with any outstanding items.	Pg 5	Enclosed	Angela Morrell	Is this an accurate record of the meeting. Have all actions been completed?
LOCAL MATTERS – TACKLING INEQUALITIES					6.40 – 7.10 pm
3.	Place Frameworks The Locality Partnership will receive an update on Place Frameworks.	Pg 11	Enclosed	Claire Fitzsimmons	Receive update, discuss and consider partnership opportunities.
DECISION REQUIRED					7.10 – 7.35 pm
4.	Community Investment Fund The Locality Partnership are asked to consider two Expression of Interest applications. Expression of interest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hayocks Tenants and Residents Association Three Towns and District Community Shed 	Pg 58 Pg 62	Enclosed	Gordon Cowan Karen Frew Jim Inglis	LP to consider to Expression of Interest Applications.
5.	Grants – Community Benefit Fund The Locality Partnership are asked to consider grant reports: <u>Community Benefit Fund</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scottish Centre for Personal Safety Stevenston Community Council Freedom Fighters (Community Action Initiative) SCIO 	Pg 65 Pg 66 Pg 68 Pg 70	Enclosed	Angela Morrell	LP to consider grant report.

	<u>Ardrossan Common Good Fund</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scottish Centre for Personal Safety 	Pg 73			
	<u>Stevenston Common Good Fund</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> West Coast Furniture Bank 	Pg 74			
6.	Street Naming The Locality Partnership are asked to consider a Street Naming report from Planning.	Pg 75	Enclosed	Angela Morrell	LP to approve street names for new housing development.
LOCAL MATTERS – TACKLING INEQUALITIES					7.35 – 8.20 pm
7.	Impact of Community Investment Funding The Locality Partnership will receive an update on the impact of CIF Funding from Glenn Turner, SALT.	-	Verbal	Glenn Turner	Receive update, discuss and consider partnership opportunities.
8.	Education Overview The Locality Partnership will receive updates linking in with the Locality Priorities from Head Teachers.	-	Verbal	David Faulds	Receive update, discuss and consider learning and partnership opportunities.
9.	Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue - Wellbeing and Partnerships Officers to discuss with the Locality Partnership the key impact of wellbeing and partnership work being carried out by SFRS and Police Scotland in the Three Towns.	-	Verbal	Stuart Dougan Barrie McCutcheon	Discuss progress, learning and partnership opportunities
10.	KA Leisure The Locality Partnership will receive an update of work undertaken in the Three Towns Locality.	-	Verbal	Susan Kelly	Receive update, discuss and consider partnership opportunities.
11.	Locality Update The Locality Partnership will receive an update on the work of the Three Towns Team during the last quarter.	Pg 79	Enclosed	Gordon Cowan	Receive update and discuss how LP can further support this work.
AOCB					8.20 – 8.30 pm
12.	AOCB			Cllr Kerr	LP to use this time to raise/discuss matters linking to the Locality, the LP priorities and tackling inequalities.
REPORTS FOR INFORMATION					
13	CLD Strategic Quarterly Update	Pg 81		Cllr Kerr	Locality Partnership are asked to note the

					report and share as appropriate.
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Date of next Meeting: Wednesday 5 June 2024 at 6pm in Ardrossan Civic Centre.

Distribution List

Elected Members

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

Community Representatives

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

CPP and Council Representatives

- Angela Morrell, Lead Officer
- Susan Manson, Third Sector Interface
- Stuart Dougan, Police Scotland
- Barrie McCutcheon, Scottish Fire and Rescue

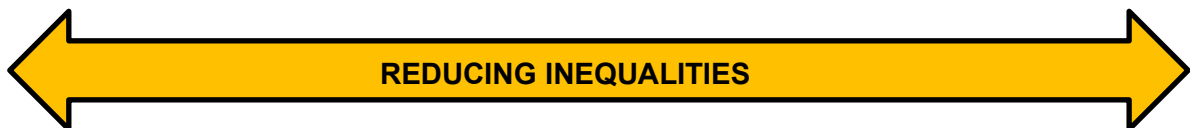
Three Town Locality Partnership Priorities

Promoting the local economy and tourism

Regenerating community facilities

Increasing civic pride and community engagement

Improving Community Wellbeing



Three Towns Locality Partnership – Community Investment Fund	
The Three Towns Locality Partnership CIF allocation to date:	£1,318,000
Funded Projects	Total Funding Awarded
Ardrossan Community Development Trust	£25,000
Three Towns Growers	£100,000
The Training Station	£50,000
Ardrossan Castle Heritage Society	£17,912
Raise Your Voice For Ardeer	£100,000
Ardrossan Community Sports Hub	£43,320
Winton Circus Playpark	£48,288
Ardrossan Community Development Trust - Development Officer	£53,100
Raise Your Voice For Ardeer – increased cost for multipurpose hub)	£130,000
Ardrossan Community Association (Whitlees)	£48,586
Ardrossan Community Sport - Winton Park 3G	£100,000
CHAP – Advice Outreach	£45,767
Ardrossan Scouts	£100,000
Saltcoats Active Lifestyle Group (SALT)	£45,600
Stevenston Community Council – Street Signage	£29,988
Remaining CIF Balance	£380,439

Meeting:	Three Towns Locality Partnership
Date/Venue:	14 December 2023, Ardrossan Civic Centre at 6:00pm
Present:	Councillor Amanda Kerr Councillor Cameron Inglis Councillor John Sweeney Councillor Stewart Ferguson Councillor Jim Montgomerie Julia Gray, Community Representative Scott Mould, Community Representative Jean Frew, Community Representative Pat Breen, Community Representative Ian Winton, Stevenston Community Council Chair Gordon Cowan, Community Development Worker, NAC Angela Morrell, Senior Manager (Community Learning and Development), NAC Claire Fitzsimmons, Interim Senior Manager – Regeneration, NAC Inspector Stuart Dougan (Police Scotland) Barrie McCutcheon, Station Manager (Scottish Fire and Rescue Service) Shannon Wilson, Committee Services Officer, NAC
Also in Attendance	Gordon McNeil, Three Towns Growers Susan Kelly, KA Leisure Donna Cullinane, Member of the Public John Sheehan, Member of the Public
Apologies:	Councillor Anthony Gurney Councillor Jean McClung Councillor Davina McTiernan Lindsay Murphy, NHS Ayrshire & Arran Glenn Turner, Community Representative Craig Mochan, Community Representative Susan Manson, TSI

ACTIONS

No.	Action	Responsible
1.	<p>Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest</p> <p>The Chair welcomed those present to the Three Towns Locality Partnership meeting. Apologies for absence were noted.</p> <p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>Councillor John Sweeney declared an interest in the Community Investment Fund item as a non-voting member of the Stevenston Community Council and did not take part in the decision taken on this application.</p>	

2.	<p>Action Note from meeting on 6 September 2023</p> <p>The Lead Officer advised that Gordon Cowan's name had been omitted from the previous sederunt in error. This was noted and the action note from the meeting held on 6 September 2023 was otherwise approved as a correct record and the implementation of decisions confirmed.</p>	
3.	<p>Community Investment Fund</p> <p><u>Ardrossan Winton Rovers</u></p> <p>The Lead Officer confirmed that the Winton Rovers CIF application would not be considered at the 14 December 2023 meeting however a further meeting would be scheduled with the Organisation, and Connected Communities Head of Service. The standing orders will advise on what is possible ahead of the March meeting and all of the partnership will be updated.</p> <p>Noted that the partnership fully supported this application at EOI stage and that the elected members, empathised need to be updated.</p> <p><u>Stevenston Community Council – Full Application</u></p> <p>The Partnership received an overview of the application submitted by Stevenston Community Council requesting £29,988 for the installation of street signage within Stevenston Town.</p> <p>The Partnership discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the liaison work that had taken place with Streetscene prior to the application being submitted; and • the number of signs required and where these were placed throughout the town. <p>The application was approved.</p>	<p><i>Angela Morrell</i></p>
4.	<p>Grants – Community Benefit Fund</p> <p><u>Three Towns and Arran Community Benefit Fund</u></p> <p>The Partnership noted that the Three Towns and Arran Community Benefit Fund had a balance of £57,107.34 and agreed to award the following: -</p> <p>Ardrossan Outdoor Bowling Club - £4,000</p>	
5.	<p>Street Naming</p> <p>The Partnership received a written report to consider naming one street within the Residential Development at Former Ardeer Primary</p>	

	<p>School Site, Stevenston. The Partnership considered the suggestions submitted by Planning and agreed that Old School Court or Place would be the most appropriate of the suggestions made.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p>Three Towns Growers</p> <p>Gordon McNeil delivered a presentation to the Partnership highlighting the positive impact of CIF funding received by the Three Towns Growers. The Partnership thanked Mr McNeil for the presentation which drew attention to the benefit this funding had in the community.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>B714 Upgrade / Beat the Street Update</p> <p><u>B714 Upgrade</u></p> <p>The Partnership received a verbal update from Claire Fitzsimmons regarding the B714 upgrade, including information on the revised phased approach approved by the Cabinet on 29 August 2023. Public exhibitions were scheduled to take place in late January to update on the adjusted phased approach.</p> <p>The Partnership asked questions and received clarification in relation to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the overall project budget and how this was used across each phase; • the active travel corridor plans included in Phase 2 and whether land had been purchased for this; and • projected completion dates for each phase. <p><u>Beat the Street Update</u></p> <p>The Partnership received a verbal update from Claire Fitzsimmons regarding the Active Travel initiative called 'Beat the Street'. Funding was received from Paths For All to roll out the project to selected schools in North Ayrshire and Argyll & Bute. The schools were selected for being in rural and island communities and/or based on their socioeconomic status. For North Ayrshire, the areas included were the Garnock Valley, Three Towns and Arran.</p> <p>The update noted that Beat the Street was a free, walking, cycling and wheeling game aimed at getting staff, pupils, and their families out and about in the local area, having fun and keeping healthy. It was designed to help people make small changes, such as walking or cycling to school, to improve physical and mental health and help embed physical activity into everyday life. A leaderboard would allow the top schools to win prizes, including sport and book vouchers.</p> <p>Primary school age children would be issued with a card to tap on the beat boxes registering the distance travelled, while older children and adults would be encouraged to download an app to play. Additional</p>	

	<p>cards would be made available at libraries etc also to ensure the game was inclusive, recognising that not everyone had access to a smart phone to play via an app.</p> <p>The website went live in January and the game would run from 14 February for 6 weeks.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	
8.	<p>Locality Action Plan</p> <p>The Partnership received an update on the Draft Locality Action Plan 2023/2024. The Lead Officer provided information on the context and rationale for the Action Plan and how it would operate as a dynamic document.</p> <p>The Partnership thanked colleagues for the work undertaken and agreed to (a) approve the Locality Action Plan 2023/24; and (b) note that a 2024/25 Plan would be prepared and presented in due course.</p>	
9.	<p>Education Overview</p> <p>There was no representation from the Education Service present at the meeting.</p>	
10.	<p>Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service - Wellbeing and Partnerships</p> <p><u>Police Scotland</u></p> <p>The Partnership received a verbal update from Police Scotland on the key impact of wellbeing and partnership work being carried out by Police Scotland in the Three Towns, highlighting that referrals to the Community Wellbeing Unit had remained steady and the Police continued to work in partnership with the Ardrossan Hostel to provide support and intervention.</p> <p>The Partnership received further information on the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • communications which were issued in regard to the closure of Police stations across Ayrshire, confirming Ayr Police Station was closed due to asbestos present in the building; • partnership working with community ladders amidst the cost-of-living crisis providing assistance and preventing vulnerable people committing crimes such as shoplifting; • ongoing work around retail crime and work undertaken with local retailers to improve security measures; • training undertaken by Officers focussing on suicide prevention tactics and mental health first aid; • engagement at Lockhart Campus which introduced pupils to the Emergency Services and provided further information on the work undertaken in the community; 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the return of Campus Officers in schools and the organised litter picks which took place with a number of secondary schools throughout North Ayrshire; • support provided to local bars throughout the festive period; and • ongoing fraud and scam prevention workshops including support on strengthening passwords to further protect accounts. <p><u>Scottish Fire and Rescue Service - Wellbeing and Partnerships</u></p> <p>The Partnership received a verbal update from the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service on work undertaken in the Three Towns highlighting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • partnership working with Police Scotland across Halloween and Bonfire night, giving thanks to colleagues for the support provided during Operation Moonbeam; • fire safety visits provided by the Service which include a mental and physical health review and referrals for care packages as appropriate; • the ‘16 Days of Action - Violence Against Women’ workshop ran at Kilwinning Fire Station; and • opportunities to run information sessions in schools, in partnership with Police Scotland, which provided further information on the Services and the work undertaken in the community. <p>The Partnership noted the information present and commended both Services for the work undertaken, thanking Inspector Dougan and Station Manager McCutcheon for their contributions.</p>	
11.	<p>KA Leisure</p> <p>The Partnership received a verbal update from Susan Kelly, General Manager based at Auchenharvie Leisure Centre with KA Leisure, on work with the Health and Wellbeing Alliance to help people access services and activities, identify gaps in provision and apply for funding.</p> <p>The Partnership asked questions and received further information on:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the opening hours of the Auchenharvie Golf Course and Driving Range, including the planned review the service and promotion of the course; and • the impact of the KA Leisure gym planned as part of the Ardrossan Community Campus and possible partnership working with the Ardrossan Community Gym to effectively deliver both services. <p>Noted.</p>	
12.	<p>Locality Update</p> <p>The Partnership received an update from the Community Development Worker highlighting the work undertaken by the</p>	

	<p>Saltcoats based group, Ripple Effect, including working with Architects and Consultants to progress their plans for Melbourne Park, Saltcoats.</p> <p>The Partnership provided suggestions for the group to consider, including, reinstating the putting green in this area and renovating the toilets/changing facilities.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	
13.	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>Wednesday 6 March 2024, 6pm at Ardrossan Civic Centre.</p>	

The Meeting ended at 7.50p.m.

Saltcoats

Place Framework

June 2023

DRAFT

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- C - Areas of Focus / Projects (supporting info & maps)

ACTION PLAN

This document should be read in conjunction with the Shared Action Plan

CREDITS

CLIENT:

North Ayrshire Council

CONSULTANTS:

Austin-Smith:Lord
Lead Consultant, Urban Design,
Landscape, Architecture,
Conservation, Engagement

WAVEparticle
Engagement,
Community Animation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Place Framework seeks to identify priority issues and bring together and co-ordinate place-based actions and initiatives to improve the quality of life in the coastal town of Saltcoats.

Saltcoats was one of three towns in North Ayrshire selected as part of a pilot to develop a Place Framework approach, with funding and support from Scottish Government.

This place-based approach seeks to enable and support socio-economic and environmental regeneration in response to local priorities and need, and in line with Council and Government policy objectives. The Saltcoats Place Framework is deliberately aligned with the strategic objectives of the Three Towns Locality Planning Partnership. The Place Framework also supports, and should be read in conjunction with, relevant local and national policies to help deliver local impact and outcomes.

The Saltcoats Place Framework draws upon extensive community and stakeholder engagement involving local residents, businesses, community organisations and relevant departments from across North Ayrshire Council. This participatory approach helped identify a set of priorities and actions that call upon all stakeholders with a responsibility for Saltcoats to work together to coordinate impactful action. This is deliberately in line with the collaborative ethos of the 'Place Principle' and promotes community-led action and capacity building where appropriate.

Many of the local challenges and opportunities are well known and documented, not least in the Three Towns Charrette (2017) that included Saltcoats. The impact of the Covid pandemic has accelerated the urgency to address many longstanding trends affecting Saltcoats. However this situation has also inspired local community action which has already delivered tangible impact, whilst local and national policies promoting community wealth building and '20 min neighbourhoods' supporting convenient access to local amenities and facilities are well aligned with the needs of Saltcoats.

On this basis the Saltcoats Place Framework identifies 5 Areas of Focus:

- 1) Town Centre and 'High Street' Projects
- 2) Coastal / Seafront Projects
- 3) Enhancing a Network of Open Space and Amenities
- 4) Improving Connections throughout Saltcoats
- 5) Providing Convenient Access to Good Local Services, Amenities and Opportunities

To address these Areas of Focus the Place Framework outlines a series of projects and tasks, set out within an Action Plan. It is intended this becomes a shared term of reference for all stakeholders to help co-ordinate action to secure buy-in, permission and (where necessary) funding to enable delivery.

Some projects and actions are community-led, others Council-led, others rely on other stakeholders to promote and deliver projects. All require coordination and partnership working to succeed. It is intended that the Saltcoats Place Framework Action Plan is regularly monitored and updated to record achievements, plan next steps and future action and identify new priorities and ideas.

In response a selection of headline projects include:

- Supporting and coordinating existing community groups and projects
- Activating vacant and under-used properties in the Town Centre and on the Seafront
- Shopfront improvements and street enhancements on Dockhead Street, Hamilton Street and Windmill Street
- Promoting and coordinating projects to enhance coastline including Tidal Pools, play areas, Harbour restoration and pathways
- Improving town-wide accessibility for walking, wheeling and cycling and considering a Community Bus to improve connections across Saltcoats
- Retaining, supporting and extending the existing network of community facilities across the town, including a focus on space / venues in the town centre and for young people
- Supporting open space improvements including successful community growing initiatives, art and heritage trails
- Redefining the potential of principle open spaces to provide amenity for the town (eg. Rewilding Holm Plantation, Glebe Park)
- Exploring the possibility and benefits of a Saltcoats Community Development Trust

01 ■ Introduction

PROJECT INTRODUCTION

Place Frameworks are a new concept in regeneration in North Ayrshire. Saltcoats is one of three settlements included in a Pilot to progress Place Frameworks for these towns. Following on from the Pilot it is intended to produce Place Frameworks for other towns and settlements in North Ayrshire.

The Place Frameworks support and are integral to the NAC Regeneration Delivery Plan (RDP) which was adopted in March 2021. This sets out priorities for delivering on the regeneration ambitions of the Council Plan and Community Wealth Building strategy, working in partnership with communities.

The RDP focuses on the delivery of physical regeneration across North Ayrshire through an ambitious project based rolling action programme. It is intended that the Place Framework inform this action programme, helping set priorities for securing and delivering against external funding sources including Scottish and UK Government funds.

Each Place Framework will inform local action and consider the following:

- Build on earlier planning and community engagement work (including recent charrettes)
- Moving on from the identification of need and issues to generate solutions and new initiatives
- Interpret and articulate commitments made in the strategic plans of Community Planning Partners
- Community led regeneration opportunities/action
- Community capacity to develop and deliver local regeneration
- 20-minute neighbourhoods
- Active Travel networks
- Vacant & Derelict Land sites
- Town Centre Living
- Green/ Open spaces
- Heritage assets
- Tourism
- Locality priorities

The Place Frameworks will inform short-, medium- and long-term Council and community led action and regeneration activity to create attractive and successful places.

The Place Frameworks project will support the Community Wealth Building Strategy adopted in 2020 by North Ayrshire Council. This strategy puts local communities and economies at the heart of decision making and planning. In particular, the development of Place Frameworks aims to deliver on the Land and Assets pillar of the Community Wealth Building Strategy which recognises that the underutilisation of land and assets represents missed opportunities for towns and communities to achieve their full potential.



PROCESS & TIMELINES

North Ayrshire Council appointed a consultant team in Spring 2022 to progress pilot Place Frameworks for three towns: Saltcoats, Kilwinning and Largs. The team was led by Austin-Smith:Lord, supported by WAVEparticle, who were selected due to their experience of town centre charrettes across Scotland.

In response to the NAC Brief the consultant team developed a three stage process described below and illustrated opposite.

Stage 1 : Analysis and Pre-Engagement

Early activities included:

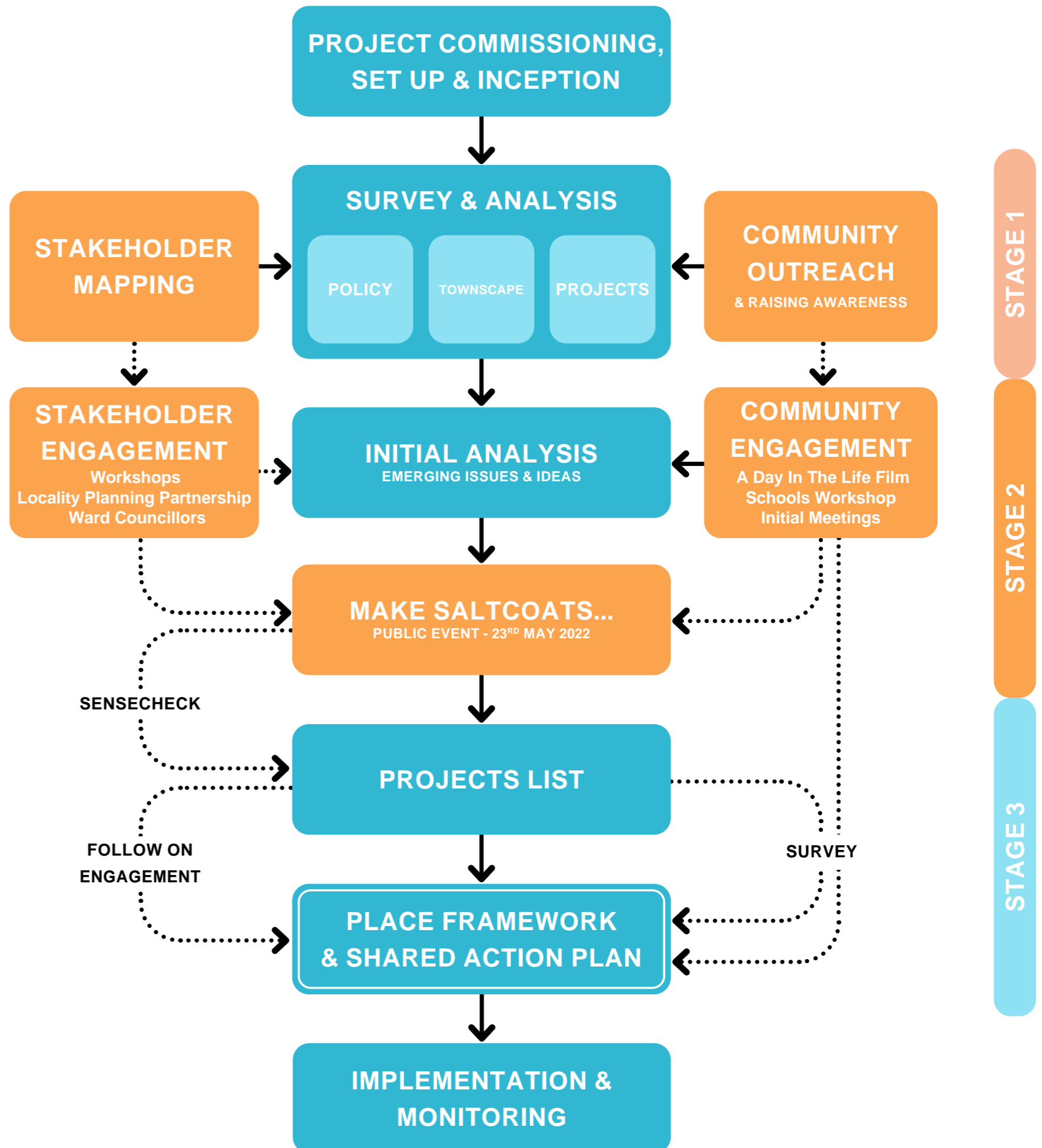
- collating and assessing an array of local and national policy and strategy documentation from the perspective of what it means for Saltcoats,
- developing a list of key stakeholders and preparing engagement activity
- engaging with Community Planning Partnership and local Ward Councillors pre May 2022 local elections.

Stage 2 : Engagement

The engagement approach sought to engage with a diverse cross section of local stakeholders in terms of demographics and interest in the town, including local residents, businesses, active community and civic groups, voluntary sector, Council departments and local and national agencies. Further details of engagement activity is outlined in more detail but included schools workshops, interviews with local community reps and businesses, public workshops (with walk and talk sessions, community chit-chats etc), preparation of a film capturing issues and ideas affecting the town, and an online survey of emerging ideas. These activities progressed either side of local Council elections, and summer holiday periods.

Stage 3 : Developing Place Framework

Based on the evidence emerging from the first 2 stages key objectives for the Place Framework were established, a list of emerging projects developed with an associated Action Plan outlining how to progress next steps and identifying 'quick wins' and priority projects and suggesting the partners who should collaborate to make progress.





HOW TO USE THIS PLACE FRAMEWORKS

This Place Framework Report is published as a guide for anyone with an interest in the future of Saltcoats. It is intended to provide a term of reference to help guide future efforts to enhance the place. It takes a local people-centred, action and project-driven approach, suggesting interventions and support required to sustain community action and promote and deliver projects (physical and non-physical).

This Place Framework report is accomplished by a Shared Action Plan that suggests projects aligned with stated objectives; with 'quick wins' and priority projects identified. Where possible potential partners who should consider collaborating to deliver projects are suggested. This is especially important given the Action Plan is 'shared' and is not the sole responsibility of any one organisation.

It is recommended that a group be established, with representatives from the Council, local resident and business community and other key stakeholders. This group should be tasked with reviewing progress against the Shared Action Plan; highlighting achievements and successful delivery, planning next steps and adding new items when deemed necessary. It should be maintained as a rolling programme of Actions.

Place Frameworks - Successful Delivery

This Place Framework, and the delivery of the projects and actions that emerge, have and should be;

- Developed by and with the Saltcoats community
- Adopted and delivered by the Saltcoats community, businesses, third and public sector partners

This Place Frameworks aims to be;

- Inclusive and participatory
- Feasible and realistic
- Flexible and responsive
- Action and project focused
- In line with the Locality Planning Priorities
- In line with the principles of Community Wealth Building
- In line with the transition to Net Zero

KEY CONCEPTS

The Place Principle

The overarching ethos of the Place Principle is embedded in the preparation and delivery of this Place Framework.

The Scottish Government and COSLA have adopted the Place Principle in order to improve the lives of people, support inclusive and sustainable economic growth and create more successful places.

We commit to taking:

A collaborative, place-based approach with a shared purpose to support a clear way forward for all services, assets and investments which will maximise the impact of their combined resources.



THEREFORE

We're developing a **Shared Action Plan** as a common terms of reference for all; the **resident and business community, civic groups, the Council, voluntary sector and local and national agencies.**

20 Minute Towns

ScotGov National Planning Framework 4

*"A method of achieving connected and often compact neighbourhoods designed in such a way that people can **meet the majority of their daily needs within a reasonable walk, wheel or cycle (within approx. 800m) of their home.**"*

Sustrans

"...ensure that it is easy for people to meet most of their everyday needs by a short, convenient and pleasant 20-minute return walk."

20-minute analysis has contributed to the basis of the Saltcoats Place Framework.



Community Wealth Building

North Ayrshire Council is recognised as being at the vanguard of promoting Community Wealth Building. The Place Frameworks are compatible with these aspirations and seek to encourage local business, skills development, promote local suppliers and community led regeneration and ownership of assets.

Climate and Biodiversity Emergencies

North Ayrshire Council has declared a Climate Emergency.

It is vital that the Place Framework helps proactively inspire climate action at a local level. This needs to include supporting enhanced open space, promotion of active travel (walking, wheeling and cycling) and public transport (optimising the presence of a town centre train station and improving bus coverage). In addition there is scope to promote retrofitting of existing under occupied buildings, increased town centre living and increased climate literacy and new skills to support a local green economy.

Prioritising Sustainable Transport



Hierarchy of Modes

The Place Frameworks emphatically promote the national hierarchy of modes of travel and transport. In line with Scottish Planning Policy and local policy active travel (walking, wheeling and then cycling) is prioritised. Public Transport is also encouraged, maximising the existing train service and supporting improved bus service provision, perhaps via a Community Bus initiative.

02. ■ Context



SALTCOATS NOW

Saltcoats is located on the Ayrshire coast between Ardrossan and Stevenson at the heart of the Three Towns. Saltcoats town centre had, and should continue to have, a central presence and role in the Three Towns going forward.

Saltcoats is widely known as a classic west coast of Scotland seaside destination. It feels like a place that is starting to rediscover and redefine its potential as a great place to visit or stay in in the wake of the Covid pandemic.

Saltcoats has a network of active community groups, energised by the passion and leadership provided by local community leaders, and supported by Inspire Scotland's Link-Up programme, funded by Scottish Government.

Early action by established and new community-led groups such as SALT, Splash, SeaSalt Growers, Seasalt Streets, The Training Station and others, has created positive momentum, some early successes and a 'can-do' attitude in Saltcoats.

Saltcoats has the community networks to exemplify the 'Place Principle' in action. This has to be nurtured and supported through partnership working. By working together, perhaps within a community-led Development Trust model, and sustaining a proactive, and positive, attitude Saltcoats can build on recent success and really transform itself to become a great place to live, work in and visit.

PLACE ANALYSIS

Saltcoats Today - Town Structure

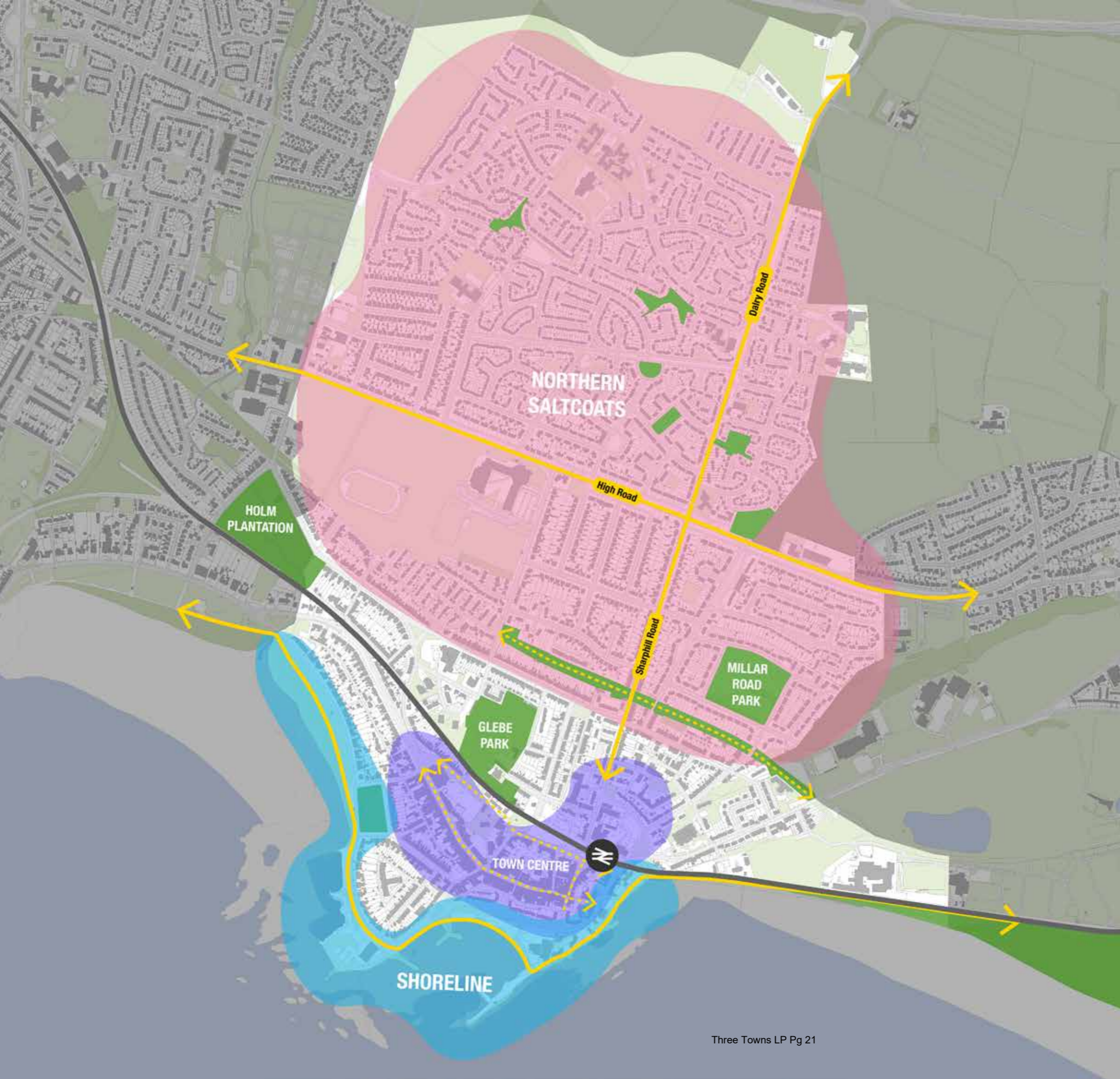
In common with many coastal towns Saltcoats' town centre is near the shoreline. The town centre is therefore at the edge of the settlement, rather than in the middle. The historic town centre is naturally where many of the key destinations, local facilities and public transport connections are, including the mainline rail station. But, in common with most town centres, it is also experiencing reduced footfall, increased vacancy rates and the challenge of supporting a vibrant day time and night time economy.

Saltcoats has expanded inland resulting in quite a large settlement, with most recently developed neighbourhoods tending to be farthest away from the town centre and its amenities. Accessibility on foot, by buggy, wheelchair or by bike to the town centre from neighbourhoods in North Saltcoats is further restricted due to the rail line and the inclined topography. Restricted bus service routing and timetabling and limited community facilities (except schools) across the whole town reduces convenient and nearby access to some local services and amenities (including quality open spaces) for some residents.

Enhancement of public open spaces, improvement to walking, wheeling and cycling routes to provide better access for all and the adaptation of existing buildings and gaps sites for town centre and mixed use development is planned and necessary.

This analysis therefore informs emerging Areas of Focus that can be summarised as:

- Town Centre and 'High Street' Projects
- Coastal / Seafront Projects
- Improving Connections across Saltcoats
- Enhancing Open Space and Amenities
- Providing Convenient Accessibility to Good Local Services, Amenities and Opportunities (20 Min Town)



PLACE ANALYSIS - INITIAL OBSERVATIONS



Seafront and Harbour

The coastal setting of Saltcoats is dramatic and one of its main attractions. Whilst the beach creates a natural attraction and Oscars provides an indoor leisure offer (including cinema) with a decline in visitors over several decades the seafront has been under appreciated. Two purpose-built retail units turn their back on the Harbour. The public spaces on the Braes and along the promenade have lacked investment. The coastline is exposed and lacks shelter in certain areas, and reasons to visit, stop and spend time there. Recent initiatives to bring new play spaces is very welcome, as is ongoing proposals to restore the former tidal pools which have fallen in to disrepair.



Dockhead Street, Hamilton Street and Vacant Buildings

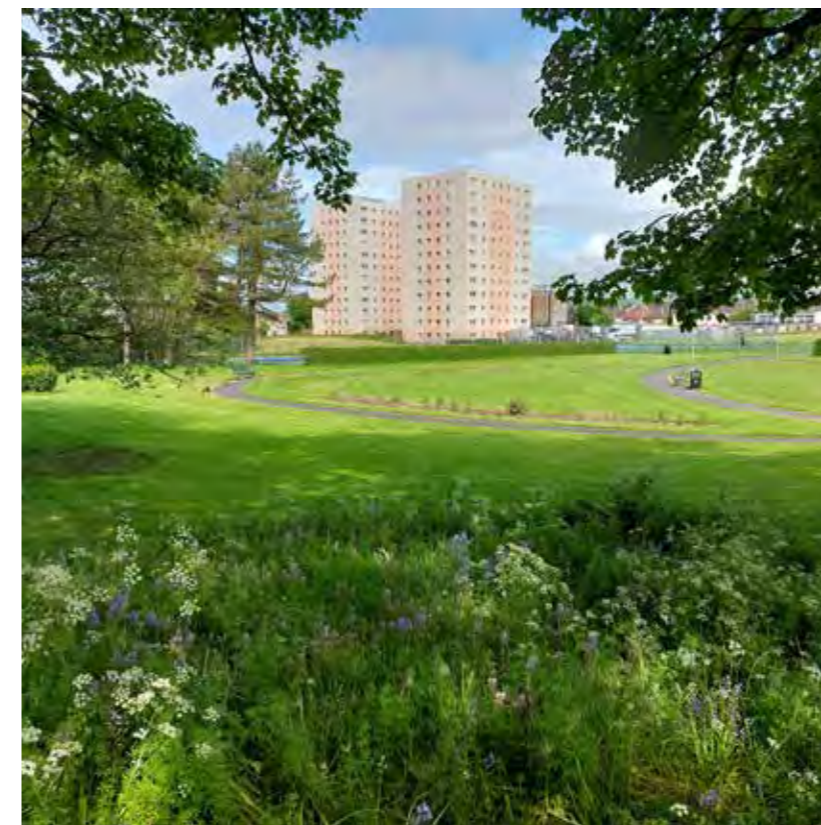
These streets, alongside the recently refurbished Countess Street, form the 'high street' of Saltcoats. In the face of wider economic pressure and trends towards online retail both streets have experienced an increased level of vacancy and decreased level of investment and activity. The public realm is 'tired' and building maintenance is variable, with some properties requiring attention. Several businesses have proven resilient and some recent initiatives (including the murals) have been warmly welcomed.

As with any Town Centre there are numerous examples of vacant street frontage units – some empty for the long term. There are initiatives – including via the Repurposing Property Grant – to seek new uses, including changes of use to meet shifting needs of Town Centres and 'high streets'. It was also observed that there are a lack of community spaces (aside from the Town Hall) in the Town Centre – particularly spaces for young people.



Connections to North Saltcoats

Saltcoats has expanded northwards, resulting in new neighbourhoods being located farther from the Town Centre. The railway line to Largs also runs between the Town Centre and North Saltcoats, thereby limiting points of connection between these parts of the Town. Reference to severance, convenient access to service / facilities and amenities (per 20 min Neighbourhoods) is covered elsewhere in the appendices for this document.



Glebe Park

The Park is located at a pivotal location; near the Town Centre, north of the railway and surrounded by an array of local amenities and public services clustered around it. Although Glebe Park has the capacity to be a magnificent town park and gathering place, it is not currently living up to its full potential. The area is a hub of activity, with scope to become a destination that caters to the every day necessities of the local community, as well as a splendid venue for special events.

POLICY CONTEXT

The Place Framework approach, as outlined earlier, sought to bring together evidence and analysis based upon;

- **Consultation and Engagement** (with local communities – resident, business, civic, voluntary / third sector – and key stakeholders – including NAC departments and local and national agencies)
- **Place Analysis** – utilising on site surveys and observations as well as map based analysis and data review
- **Policy Context** – assimilating local, regional and national policies aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals, the Scottish Governments draft National Planning Framework 4 and the Town Centre Action Plan Review (2021).

North Ayrshire Council provided an array of relevant background policy and strategy documentation. This included the 'Three Towns Charrette' (2017) and the Regeneration Delivery Plan (2021).

Other key documentation included;

- North Ayrshire Council Plan 2019 -2024
- Local Development Plan (LDP 2019)
- Three Towns Locality Partnership Priorities
- Economic Development + Regeneration Strategy
- Economic Recovery & Renewal Approach
- Tourism Action Plan
- Open Space Audit (2022)

Key issues arising from this analysis include;

- An ongoing emphasis on mixed-use town centre, including mixed-tenure housing
- Focus on local economic and community benefits as part of the Community Wealth Building agenda
- Advocating 'Living Well, Locally' promoting the 20 min neighbourhoods concept as a place planning principle to ensure convenient accessibility to everyday services, amenities and opportunities (jobs, learning, active life) local to all,
- Promotion of active travel and public transport modes to reduce car trip generation and prioritise pedestrian and cycle accessibility
- Promotion of the Place Principle calling for partnership working and coordinated delivery
- Health and wellbeing benefits of quality open space and well connected active travel networks

KEY OBJECTIVES

There's an array of local and national policy influencing place-based decisions. To provide the Place Framework with local focus as well as alignment with key local policy it was proposed, in consultation with key stakeholders, to specifically focus on three documents;

- Local Outcomes Improvement Plan 2022 - 2030
- The Local Development Plan (2019)
- Locality Partnership Priorities > <http://northayrshire.community/your-community/three-towns/our-local-priorities/>

The **Local Outcomes Improvement Plan** was published in October 2022 and focusses on delivering on the vision of "North Ayrshire – Fair for All" and has three key themes, declaring that;

Wellbeing – We will address health inequalities. We will promote children and young people's wellbeing. We will enable community wellbeing.

Work – We will increase employment. We will develop volunteering. We will better support our young people.

World – We will work together to reduce carbon emissions and mitigate the impacts of climate change. We will increase active travel. We will increase carbon literacy within our organisations and communities.

The Local Development Plan states that, "North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership Vision is that every person in North Ayrshire is valued and should have the best opportunities to live their life to their full potential. This Vision looks forward 20 years and shows how development can help North Ayrshire become **Healthier, Working, Thriving and Safer.**"

The **Three Towns Locality Partnership** priorities will be:

1. Promoting the local economy and tourism
2. Regenerating community facilities
3. Increasing civic pride and community engagement
4. Improving community wellbeing

KEY CONCEPTS

Three Towns Charrette (2017)

The Charrette report from 2017 provided a strong platform and term of reference for the Saltcoats Place Framework. The priorities raised by the Charrette report remain relevant and have been incorporated into the Saltcoats Place Framework.

Charrette Priority	Place Framework Response
<p>1. Working together Communication and co-operation between the Council, businesses and community groups.</p>	<p><i>The Place Framework emphasises that partnership working is absolutely central to the delivery of the Action Plan and enshrined within the 'Place Principle'.</i></p>
<p>2. Centres and hubs as economic and social assets Giving priority to town centres, community centres and transport hubs.</p>	<p><i>The Place Framework continues to support priority on Saltcoats town centre (including the train station) and existing community centres (such as the Argyle Centre). The lack of community amenities except for schools across north Saltcoats warrants further consideration and perhaps suggests innovative ways to use the school estate.</i></p>
<p>3. The shoreline as a major asset. as a key natural resource and attraction for visitors and residents.</p>	<p><i>The Place Framework reflects the heightened awareness and appreciation of open space (notably the seafront) post pandemic and supports the ongoing community-led improvements to play space, open water swimming and wayfinding.</i></p>
<p>4. Expanding and caring for the greenspace network.</p>	<p><i>Post Charrette activity by SeaSalt Growers and others reaffirms the importance of tending to the green space network. The Place Framework is very supportive of sustaining and extending this endeavour.</i></p>
<p>5. Food Production</p>	<p><i>Food production and community kitchen / larder initiatives are well established elsewhere in North Ayrshire, and with an ongoing desire to deliver similar in Saltcoats. This is reflected and encouraged in the Place Frameworks.</i></p>
<p>6. Promotion</p>	<p><i>Promoting Saltcoats remains vital and the Place Framework suggests scope to improve communications within and beyond the town. There is an ongoing need for better awareness and promotion of community and visitor activities to boost the local economy and support social cohesion.</i></p>



Source: Three Towns Charrette Final Report, North Ayrshire Council

RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Noteworthy and recent successes in the town include:

- The conservation and refurbishment of the Town Hall
- The upgrade of streetscape at Countess Street
- The establishment of The Training Station at the train station
- The artwork / mural on the pend off Dockhead Street
- The enhancement of play facilities at Winton Circus
- Affordable town centre living progressing on site at Vernon Street
- The Seasalt Growers tending to open spaces / planting across the town
- Progress with the Tidal Pool project by Splash
- Progress on the refurbishment of the Metro nightclub

Seasalt Grower's public garden along Ardrossan Road



Vernon Street Town Centre Living



The Training Station

Re-Open Tidal Pools



Countess Street Regeneration

Town Hall Refurbishment



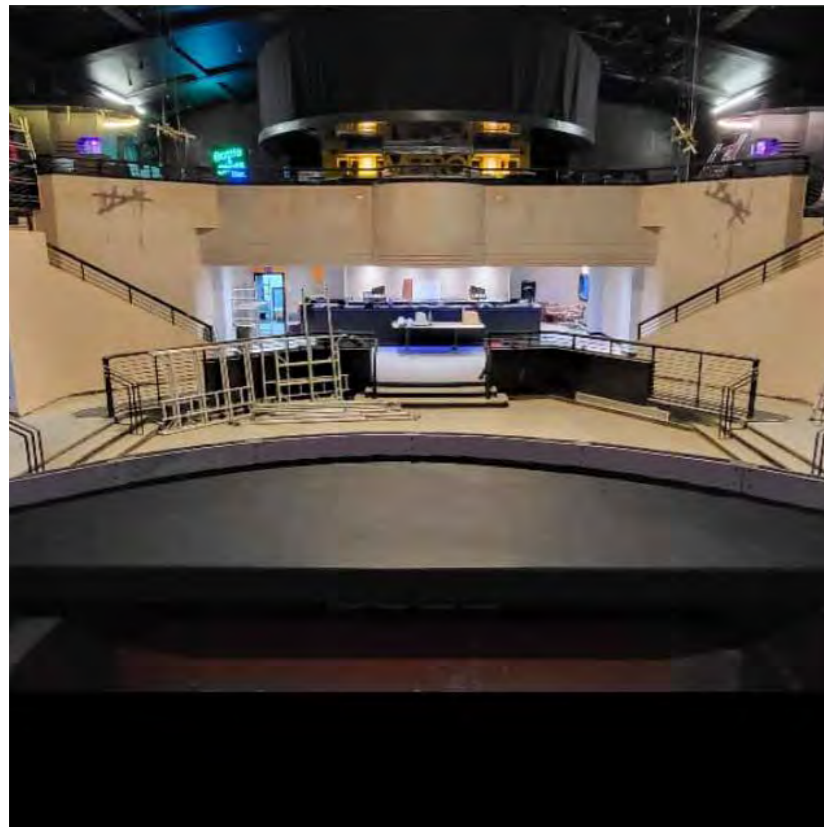
Three Towns LP Pg 25

First Mural Wall along Dockhead Street



Winton Circus Play Park

RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS - CASE STUDIES



Metro Building

The Metro Building is a much-loved local landmark and holds a special place in the hearts of many Saltcoats residents. In its hey-day, it attracted famous DJs and acts to the town. It closed in 2011 and lay derelict for much of the next decade.

In 2021, new owners announced that they were going to bring the Metro back into use as a nightclub and events venue. It is currently being refurbished by the owners and represents a significant private investment into the town's culture and leisure offer.



The Training Centre

Opened in 2021, The Training Station is a state-of-the-art health and fitness facility at Saltcoats Train Station. The building had lain empty for many years before it was refurbished using £525,000 of investment from ScotRail's Station Community Regeneration Funding, the Railway Heritage Trust, North Ayrshire Council's Community Investment Fund, and Sport Scotland.

John Deans was the driving force behind the project and runs a karate club from the venue. He worked closely with key partners such as ScotRail and North Ayrshire Council to deliver the project.

The space was initially intended to be a home for the karate club but quickly progressed into a venue that is used and appreciated by many different health and fitness groups.



Town Centre Mural

In Spring 2022, Seasalt Streets were awarded a grant from the Council's Communities' Project Fund (part of its Place Based Investment Programme) to deliver a mural in Saltcoats Town Centre.

Local artist Tragic O'Hara was commissioned to design and paint the mural. The design approach was community-led, involving local volunteers, artists, business owners, Council and Heritage teams and crucially, ideas from local residents.

The mural was unveiled in August 2022 at an event attended by approximately 200 people.



Winton Circus Play Area

A new pirate themed play area was installed at Winton Circus following a £48,000 investment from the Community Investment Fund. The project was led by volunteers from Saltcoats Active Lifestyle Team (SALT). The group ran several fundraising events to ensure the project could be delivered in a short space of time. Thanks to their hard work, the new play area opened a little over a year after the idea for its refurbishment was first suggested.

03 ■ Engagement

SUMMARY OF PROCESS & FINDING

Background

The Place Framework approach seeks to embed participatory planning as the basis of community and stakeholder engagement. The aim is to invite and enable local communities (resident, business, civic, voluntary / 3rd sector) and agencies (local and national) to identify the priorities for each place and influence, to inform the decisions around project delivery and to foster partnership working.

The Place Frameworks engagement strategy sought to involve as wide and representative a cross section of the local community as was practical; speaking with well-established groups, businesses and organisations as well as proactively seeking out lesser heard voices. To this end a range of in-person and virtual activities took place involving a range of different tools and techniques, to enable wider participation whilst also taking cognisance of Covid restrictions and guidance.

Make Saltcoats...

To make the engagement activities more accessible the title (and associated social media hashtag) 'Make Saltcoats...' was adopted for the Place Framework project. To raise awareness of the project and to promote events and activities during all stages of the project North Ayrshire Council's communications team, supported by the Connected Communities and the Regeneration teams and the project consultant team, published web news items, print and digital media articles and social media postings, alongside a local poster and flier campaign.

Timeframe

The events and engagement activities described below commenced in Spring 2022 and continued through until early Autumn 2022. This period spanned the 2022 Council election period with engagement with Elected Members and the Locality Planning Partnership prior to the election campaigns and after the election of new Councillors. Community engagement activities also spanned the school Summer holiday period, with direct interaction with the schools and general public occurring during term time.

Share your ideas!

North Ayrshire Council
Combine Strengths for a Future

FAMILY FRIENDLY

ACTIVE

GREEN & HEALTHY

ACCESSIBLE

IDEAS REALITY

MAKE SALTCOATS...

All Events are FREE!!!

SALTCOATS TOWN HALL

Countess Street,
Saltcoats,
KA21 5HP

MON 23.MAY
12pm - 8pm

Workshops | Presentations
Walk, Wheel & Talk
Community Chit Chats

#MakeSaltcoats regeneration@north-ayrshire.gov.uk 01294 310000

SUMMARY OF PROCESS & FINDING

Approach

The overall engagement approach followed 3 phases. These phases were;

Phase 1 (Discovery Phase) – mapping key stakeholders, making contact, facilitating early / initial engagement to establish key issues and ideas, commencing schools workshops and in-situ events / activities to raise awareness of the project and ‘Make Saltcoats...’ events. Key activities included WAVEparticle facilitating schools workshops, interviewing local people on-street and promoting key projects – all compiled in to ‘A Day in the Life of Saltcoats’ film capturing key issues, ideas and ambitions for the town.

Phase 2 (Public Events Day – ‘Make Saltcoats...’) - Community and Stakeholder Engagement focused around a set-piece day of public workshops and events in Saltcoats Town Hall on 23 May 2022, under the ‘Make Saltcoats...’ banner. The day involved school workshops, public workshop sessions, a walk, wheel and talk tour around the town centre and key coastal locations, and a community ‘chit chat’ show and tell session.

Phase 3 (Follow Up Engagement + Project Development) – following on from the issues and idea generation focused on the ‘Make Saltcoats...’ events day the project team conducted a follow up online and in-person survey inviting participants to feedback on the emerging Place Framework projects. Meetings with potential key project sponsors in the community were also conducted to progress projects and seek alignment and assess eligibility for Community Renewal Fund and Place Based Investment Programme support. This included engagement with the Saltcoats Action Group that emerged alongside the Place Framework activities and facilitated by Link-Up.

Engagement Process

During Phase 1 – Discovery, prior to the ‘Make Saltcoats...’ events day, the project consultant team, supported by NAC Regeneration and Connected Communities teams mapped out the existing network of community groups and key stakeholders in the town, across the Council and within partner organisations.

A full list of events, meetings and consultees is included in the Appendices for the record. A summary of some of the key stakeholder groups and significant engagement activity is outlined in the following pages.

Local Community Engagement

The legacy of extensive work by NAC Connected Communities ensured that there was good connections with key local community groups and a good level of participation and engagement. Key activities included;

- Local schools workshops
- On-street interviews and 1-to-1 meetings with key community organisations
- Preparation of ‘A Day in the Life of Saltcoats’ film capturing the key ideas from the previous two bullet points



Saltcoats resident speaking in Melbourne Park during the Walk, Wheel and Talk tour



Council team member speaking to residents along the Braes during the Walk, Wheel and Talk tour

SUMMARY OF PROCESS & FINDING

- The 'Make Saltcoats...' events day on 23 May 2022
- Online and in person survey of emerging projects
- Engagement with key project sponsors, including the new Saltcoats Action Group.

Local residents, businesses, community groups and local agencies were represented at a series of well attended events and activities throughout the 'Make Saltcoats...' events day. This has subsequently inspired the formation of a Saltcoats Action Group, facilitated by Link Up, with key community groups and initiatives represented working towards partnership works and delivery of priority projects.

Elected Members and Locality Planning Partnership

Local Ward Councillors and the Three Towns Locality Planning Partnership were briefed on the project at the inception stage, prior to the Local Elections in May 2022. The new Councillors and the Locality Planning Partnership were given a briefing on progress and the emerging priorities and projects emerging from the engagement process in Autumn 2022. The Place Framework sought to embed the Locality Planning Partnership priorities in to the assessment of key projects and action for Saltcoats.

North Ayrshire Council and Partner Agencies

NAC officers from relevant departments, alongside key agencies and partners including NHS, have been involved in engagement activity at all stages. In parallel with early townscape, policy and data analysis a series of thematic workshops were facilitated in Spring 2022 considering key issues relating to the following topics;

- Communities, Health and Wellbeing
- Local Economy (incl Tourism)
- Getting Around (incl Active Travel)
- Open Space
- Key Sites, Buildings and Assets

Key issues emerging from these thematic workshops included;

- continuing to be proactive in supporting town centre and 'high street' regeneration including repurposing vacant properties,
- enhancing and enforcing maintenance of properties and streets / open space,
- supporting local activities to promote Community Wealth Building,
- sustaining the encouraging levels of community activism and capacity emerging during the Covid pandemic,
- helping support local businesses and foster a stronger sense of business community,
- supporting local initiatives to adopt and maintain open spaces,
- an emphasis on developing enhancements to coastal setting and amenity to sustain heightened appreciation by locals and visitors.

Following on from the 'Make Saltcoats...' events day all of these key stakeholders / NAC officers were brought together in August 2022 to 'sensecheck' the emerging projects and priorities, to ensure alignment with local and national policy and funding.



Saltcoats residents attending the community drop in session during the first Make Saltcoats event



Local students and residents watching the 'A Day in the Life of Saltcoats' film.

PUBLIC & COMMUNITY

A Day in the Life of Saltcoats

The first engagement event in Saltcoats took place over the 13th/14th May 2022. The WAVEparticle team visited and stayed in the town to film the 'A Day in the Life of Saltcoats' film.

The day started with a Collective Schools Workshop hosted by St. Matthew's Academy, attended by 32 pupils from local primary schools. The pupils got active around the 'big floor map' and wrote 'postcards from the future' to themselves, imagining how Saltcoats should be in 2032. The group discussed what they thought would help Saltcoats even better and to identify the key issues for them, their friends and families and develop ideas about how to make a positive difference.

These initial conversations instructed where the WAVEparticle team would visit next, and every subsequent meeting (planned and unplanned) concluded with asking to be directed to a key individual or organisation to meet up with and film next, with dots being joined by the NAC's Connected Communities team.

The meetings included catching up with the Connected Communities team at the council and meeting with, and filming, a range of organisations including:

- Link-Up
- Seasalt Gardeners
- Seasalt Streets
- The Argyle Quilters
- artist Matthew Donnelly, who is working with local groups to create the Mosaic Trail
- SALT
- The Training Station
- The Melbourne Café
- The Saltcoats Carnival Group
- Saltcoats Harbour Association
- Jean McClung, Elected Member for Saltcoats and Stevenston.



Primary school pupils from across Saltcoats holding up their postcard from the future



Betsy Miller re-enactor during a day in Saltcoats film

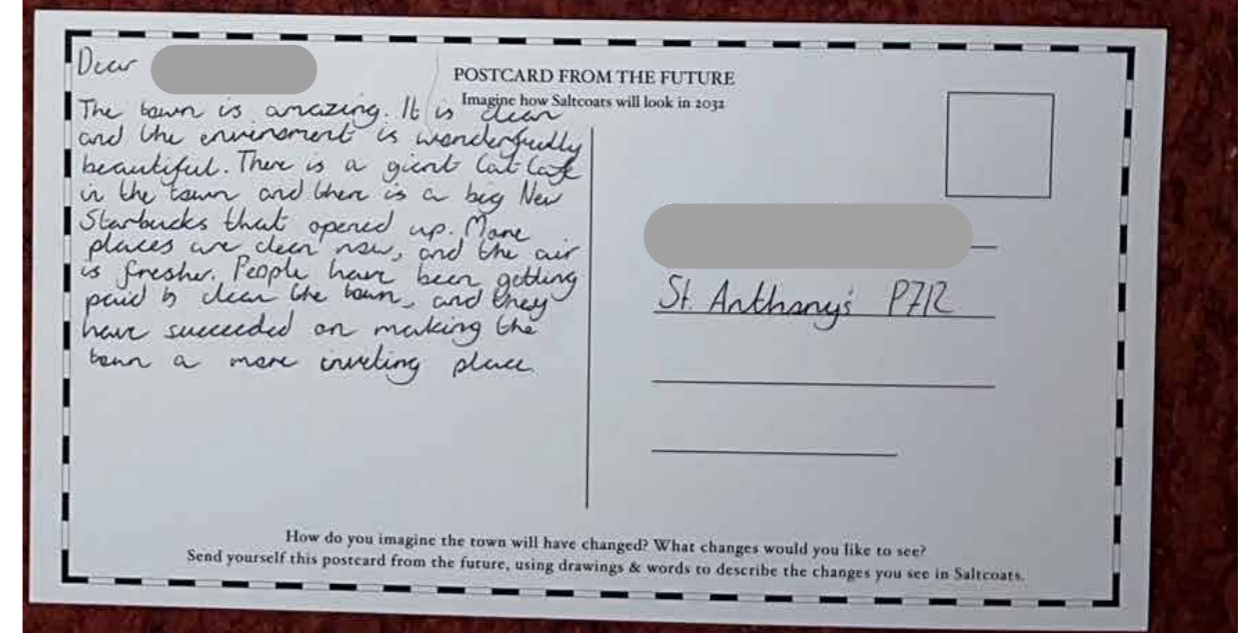
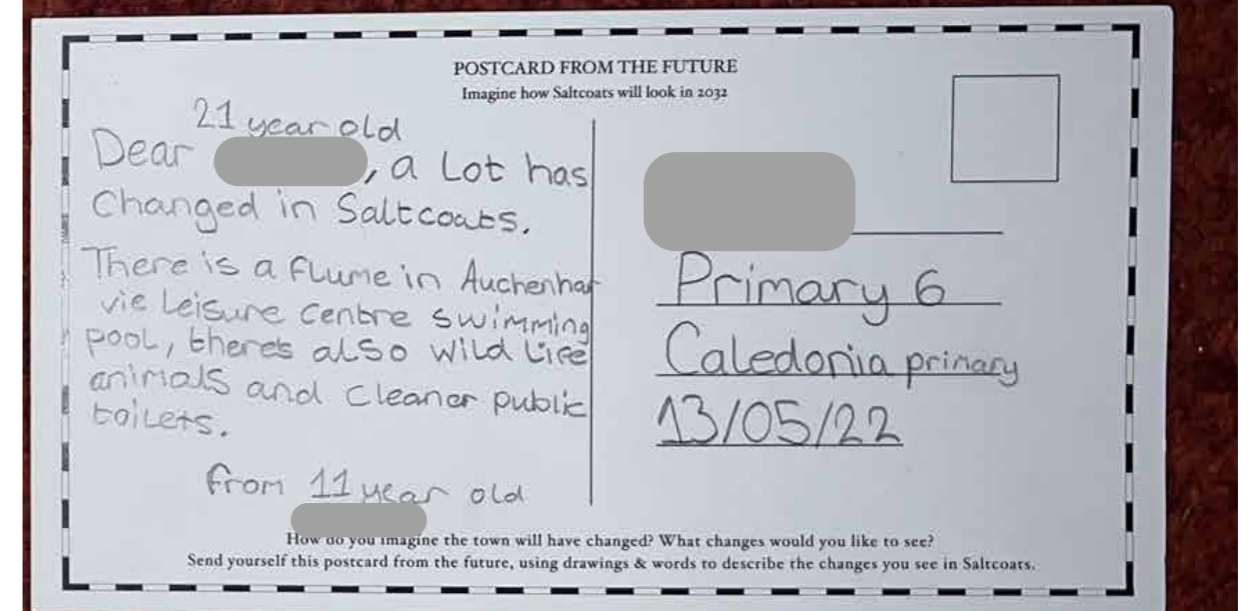
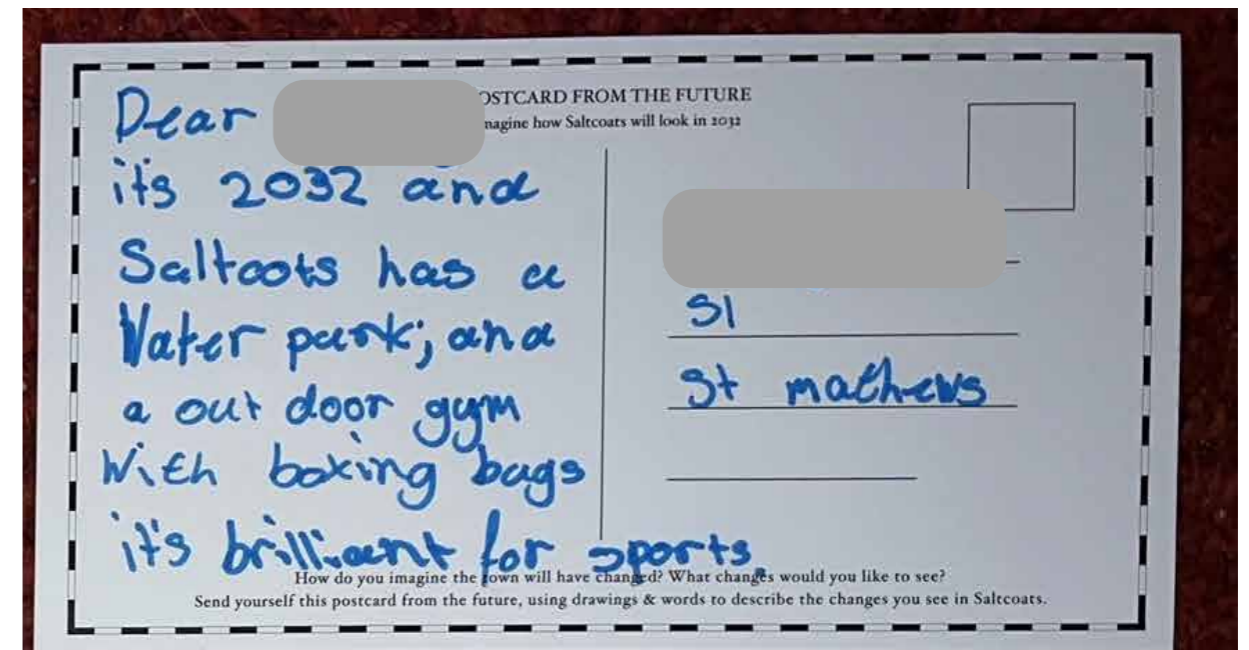
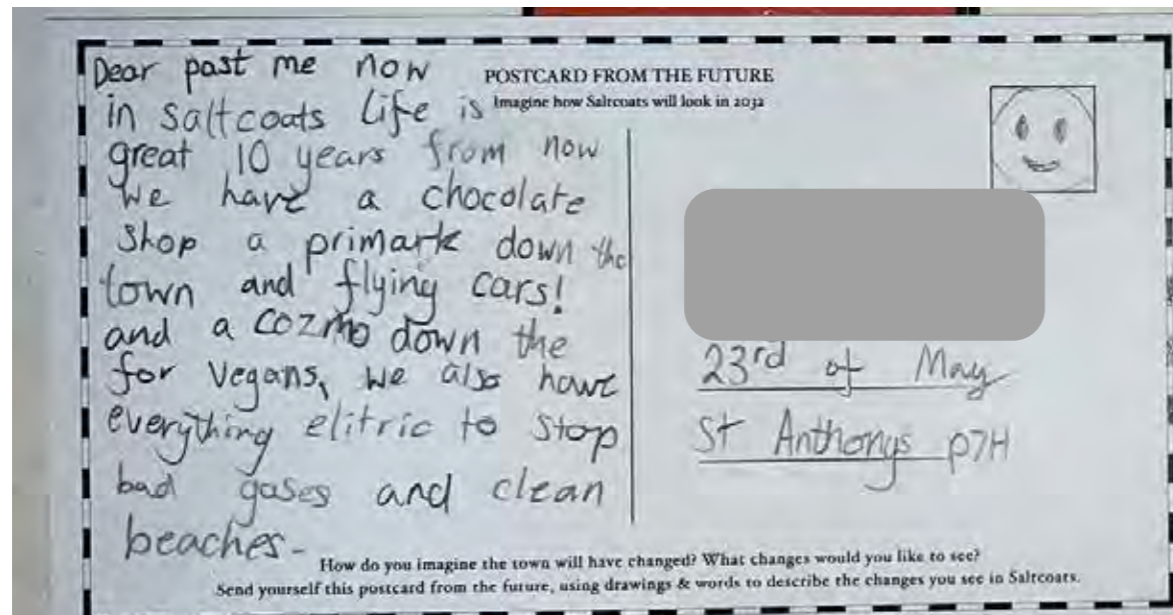


Seasalt Gardeners at the Ardrossan Road public garden

PUBLIC & COMMUNITY

Emerging issues and ideas for projects highlighted in these discussions included:

- Increase litterpicking across Saltcoats.
- Revamp tourism offer.
- Cleaner public toilets.
- Improve parking management.
- Improve look and feel of Saltcoats town centre.
- Green the streets – a walkable connected network of small green spaces in gap sites and in-between places, building on the existing work of Seasalt Gardeners and Seasalt Streets.
- Celebrate local history and heritage – e.g. there is a great interest in the idea of a statue to Betsy Miller, the first female sea captain of the 1800's, as a focal point for the town; and the potential to extend the Mosaic Trail for Dockhead Street to create a constellation of points that connect to existing walks and trails.
- Expand sports and activities, especially for young people.



PUBLIC & COMMUNITY

'Make Saltcoats...' Event

On the 23rd May 2022, the principal Saltcoats Place Framework public engagement event took place in Saltcoats Town Hall from 10am - 8pm.

The event was well attended with over 106 attendees at the various events and workshops throughout the day. The events supported idea generation as well as fostering partnership working and introducing key contacts across the local community to strengthen local networks.

These events through the day included;

- Schools Workshop – A session with the children who participated in the earlier Schools Workshop. This gave them an opportunity to share their ideas with the wider Project Team and find out more about how the Place Framework was progressing.
- Lunchtime Workshop – This session involved sitting in groups of 6-8 people around a table, identifying priorities for Saltcoats.
- Walk, Wheel and Talk – facilitated tour around the town centre and coastal locations
- Future Funding Workshop – led by Rosemary Ramsay of NAC outlining potential sources of project funding
- Evening Community Chit Chat and Ideas Showcase – an opportunity for different groups and organisations to provide an update on achievements, ideas and ambitions and to network / introduce key groups to each other. The groups included were Link-Up, Seasalt Gardeners, Seasalt Streets, Argyle Quilters, SALT, the Training Station and Saltcoats Harbour Association.

The venue also hosted a drop-in exhibition and all attendees were invited to contribute their ideas via 'Postcards from the Future' discussions around the big floor-map and debate about the ideas emerging and shared in the hall.

Throughout the day project team members also went to local businesses, footfall 'hot spots' and made contact with key local representatives to raise awareness and encourage participation.

At the conclusion of the day of events some of the emerging projects coming out of the day of debate, discussion and co-design included;

- establish a Community Development Trust or similar community-led group to deliver projects;
- create a support network centred on Community Chit Chats where ideas for projects are shared and support gathered,
- enhance and coordinate community events and venue availability,
- reopen the Harbour and Harbourmaster's House,
- revamp the town centre 'high streets' – Dockhead Street, Hamilton Street,
- improve play and open space amenity, especially along the seafront,
- repurpose vacant town centre buildings, especially retail units,
- better and more facilities for young people,
- improve public toilets.



Group activity during Schools Workshops



Walk, Wheel & Talk Tour



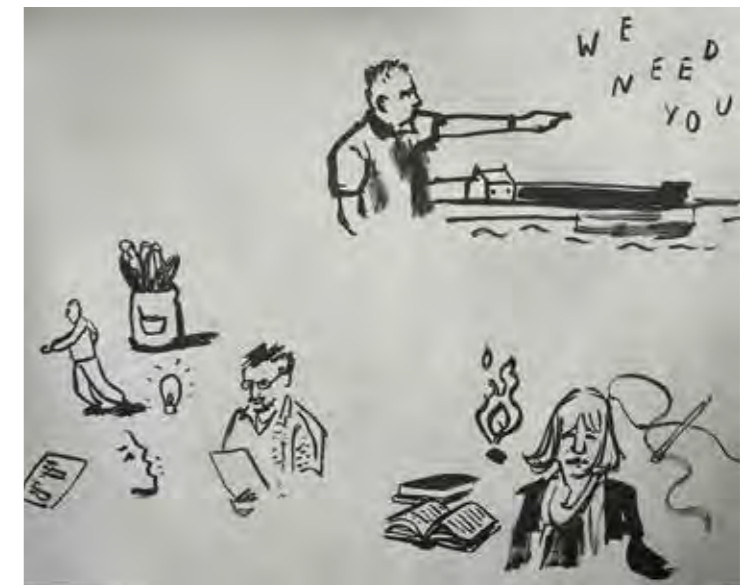
Community Chit Chat Session



Artist sketches annotating ideas generated by local community, shared at public workshops



Artist sketches annotating ideas generated by local community, shared at public workshops



Artist sketches annotating ideas generated by local community, shared at public workshops

PUBLIC & COMMUNITY

'Make Saltcoats...' Follow Up Event

The Place Framework team returned to Saltcoats Town Hall on the 1st March 2023 from 3pm - 8pm, to provide an update on the emerging draft Place Framework (for discussion), to initiate conversations and any updates on progress regarding the proposed projects and to invite further ideas and suggestions.

The event was well attended with residents, businesses, local community groups and Cllrs in attendance. The first session was a roundtable discussion between the project team and the community groups. Key stakeholders from the newly formed Ripple Effect group attended the discussion as well as representatives from the Argyle Foundation, SPLASH and Seasalt Streets. During the roundtable, a progress update on the Place Framework was given, before a wider discussion took place around what each group had achieved since the last event in May 2022, as well as their opinions on the Place Framework.

From this discussion it was understood that:

- Inspired by the May 2022 Place Framework event, various community groups such as the Argyle Centre, Seasalt Streets and the Training Station came together, facilitated by Link Up with the Council to form the Ripple Effect group. Their goal being to coordinate efforts and attain funding for future projects. The group is in contact with DTAS and Ardrossan Community Development Trust and are actively exploring setting up a Development Trust in Saltcoats. Their immediate goal as a group is to continue expanding the mural trail throughout Saltcoats after the success of the Tragic O'Hara murals installed previously.
- SPLASH has already conducted a feasibility study into restoring the Tidal Pools for community open air swimming and received an engineer's report, they are currently working with an architect that specialises in tidal pool design. The next step is to secure more funding to finally carry out the redevelopment.
- Link Up received further funding to extend their work in Saltcoats beyond March 2023.
- Winton Circus play park was completed and opened with a tremendous response from local people.
- The Harbour Group has unfortunately disbanded, however their ideas were adopted by the Ripple Effect group
- The refurbishment of the Metro Centre is under way

Following this roundtable, an evening Chit-Chat session was held where speakers from Link Up, the Ripple Effect group, SPLASH, Seasalt Growers, Seasalt Streets, Training Station and Argyle Centre all gave presentations on the work they've progressed since last year or for the first time. During the event we learned that:

- The Seasalt Growers have continued to work across the town setting up new planters in several new locations, they've also had an opportunity to travel and meet up with other growing groups from across the country, building a network.
- Link Up and the council are looking to potentially collaborate on setting up a community larder, adult education and event coordination for the Ukrainian refugees who have settled in Saltcoats.



Attendees watching presentations during the Chit-Chat session



Stakeholders, residents and the council team networking post Chit-Chat session

ONLINE SURVEY

Following the 'Make Saltcoats...' events day, and the array of engagement activity leading up to the public works, an emerging list of projects and ideas emerged. These were analysed and bundled in to themes and assessed against alignment with the Locality Planning Partnership priorities and NAC's strategies and policies.

Following a 'sensecheck' session with NAC officers representing a range of relevant departments a 'long-list' of potential project ideas was published online and presented in the Library, accompanied with an survey (online and in person) running from 26 September 2022 to 25 October 2022.

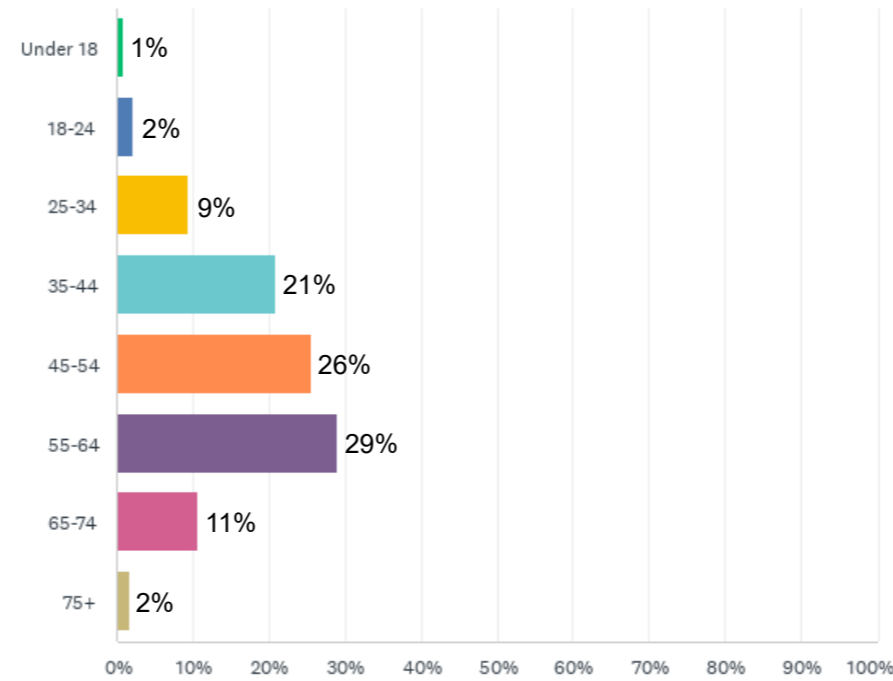
237 responses were received. Over 80% of respondents live in Saltcoats, nearly 70% of respondents were female and 75% of respondents were aged between 35 and 64. Despite extensive efforts there was not many respondents under 25 years old.

MOST SUPPORTED PROJECTS

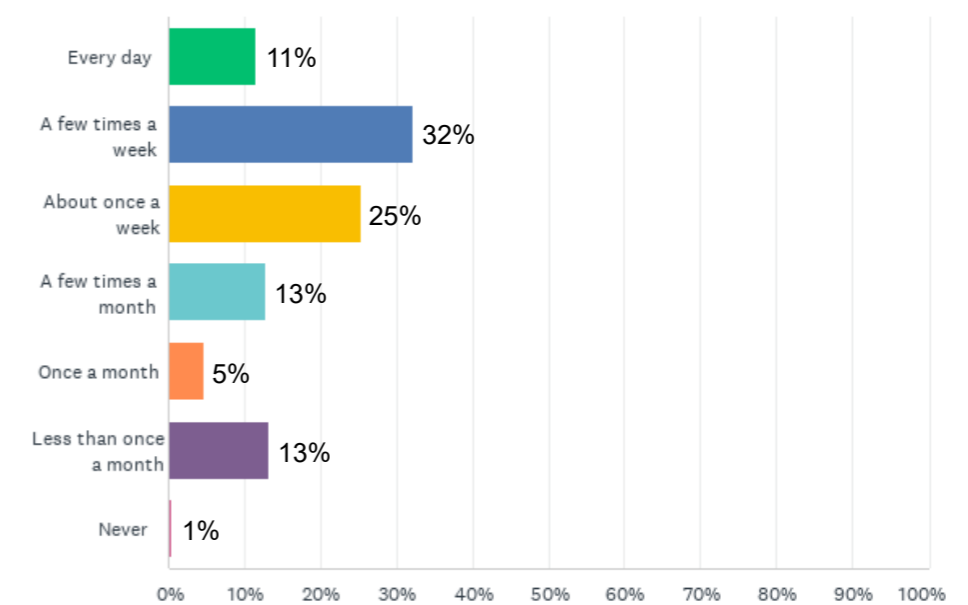
- 1) Develop a plan to repurpose the vacant buildings in the town centre and along the shorefront.
- 2) Upgrade and improve public toilets.
- 3) Establish more activities and venue for young people.
- 4) Reopen the Harbour once more and repurpose the harbourmaster's house.
- 5) Enhance the streetscape of Dockhead and Hamilton Streets.

"We live in a beautiful area of the country. If amenities were added along the shoreline what a place this would be."

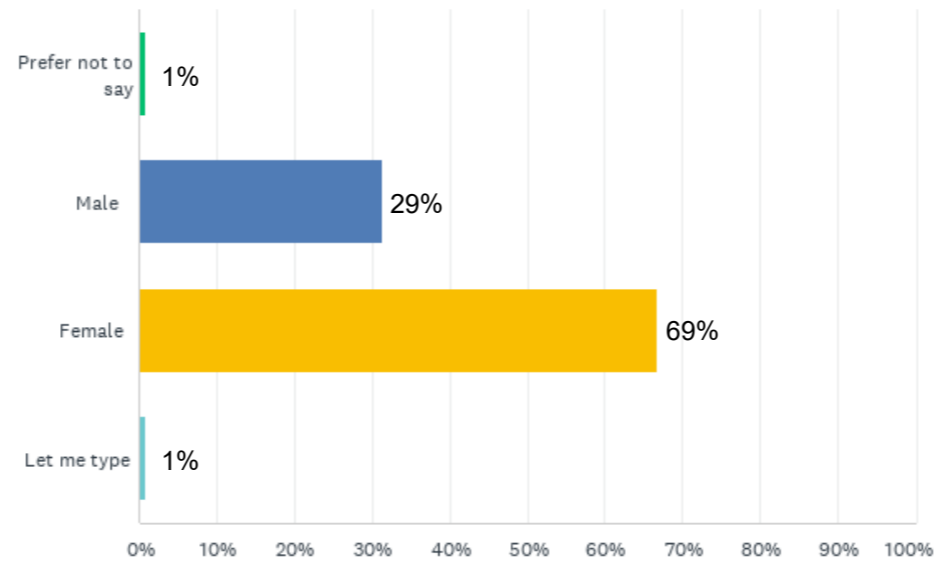
- Online Survey respondent on upgrading Saltcoats coastline locations



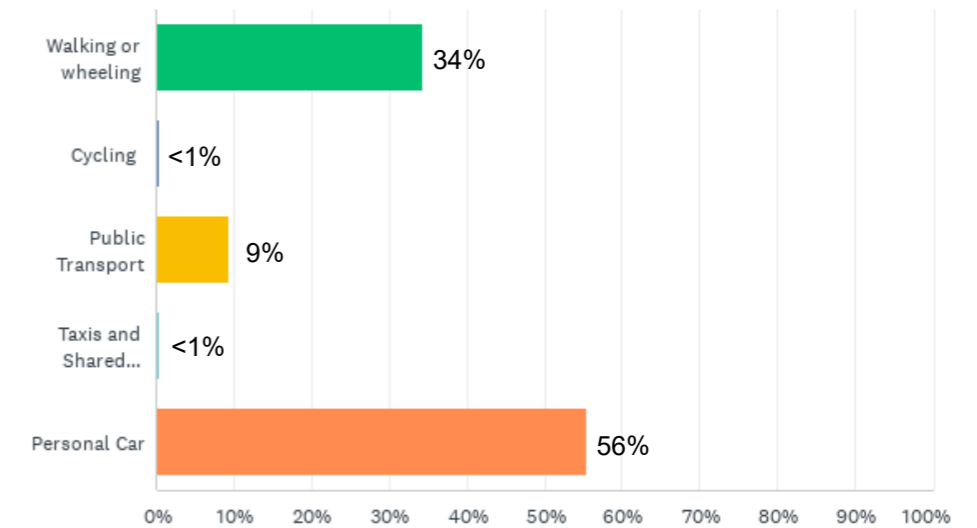
Of the respondents, 75% were between the ages of 35 and 64.



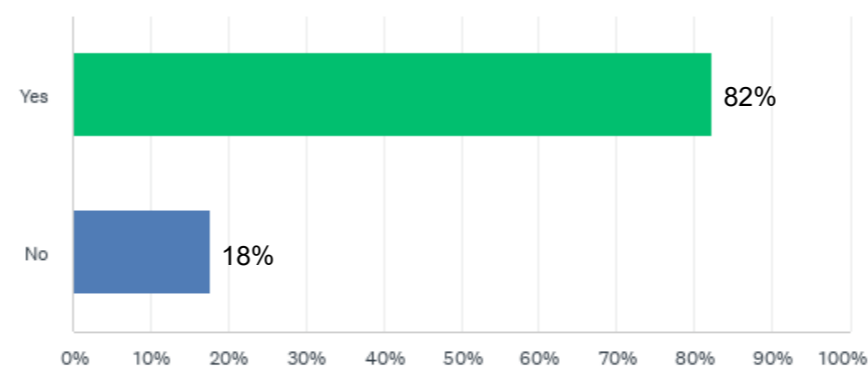
69% visit Saltcoats town centre at least once a week



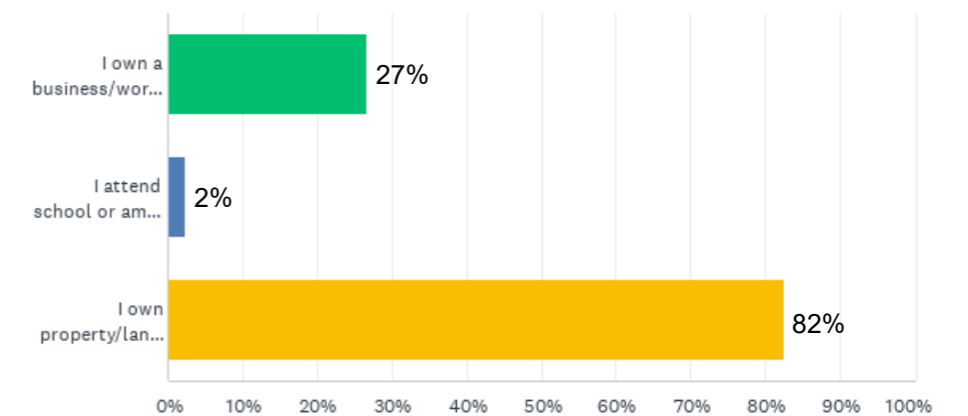
69% of respondents were female and 29% were male.



Overwhelming numbers of respondents either use their personal car or walk into Saltcoats. Public Transport is only used by 9%.



195 of the 237 respondents, 82%, were residents of Saltcoats.



83% own property or land in Saltcoats, 27% work or own a business and 2% are educated in the town.

MOST SUPPORTED PROJECTS BY THEME



OPEN SPACE

1. Upgrade and improve public toilets.
2. Produce a coherent plan for coastal destinations such as the harbour, the Braes and Montgomerie Crescent.
3. Install new playground at Winton Circus.



HEALTH & WELLBEING

1. Actively promote Saltcoats as a healthy, active place with a focus on mental health.
2. More growing spaces for the community to use.
3. Promote fairer food programs and support affordable food larders/kiosks.



GETTING AROUND

1. Enhance the streetscape of Dockhead and Hamilton Streets.
2. Upgrade paths and pends leading to the Braes, the Heritage Centre and to the north of the town.
3. Assess accessibility for the whole town, starting with the town centre, for walking, wheeling and cycling.



LOCAL ECONOMY

1. Support day visits and staycations, and enhance marine tourism offer.
2. Promote a mixed use town centre, with a mixed economy and town centre living opportunities.
3. Rebrand Saltcoats as an independent business town.



LOCAL COMMUNITY & CULTURE

1. Establish more activities and venue for young people.
2. Promote and support sport and activity facilities and networks.
3. Sustain the work at the Argyle Centre and consider having a presence in the town centre, as well as in the north of the town.



KEY SITES, BUILDINGS & ASSETS

1. Develop a plan to repurpose the vacant buildings in the town centre and along the shorefront.
2. Reopen the Harbour once more and repurpose the harbourmaster's house.
3. Repurpose Moffat House.

04. ■ Place Framework



AREAS OF FOCUS

Place Framework : Projects and Themes

The Saltcoats Place Framework and Shared Action Plan sets out a number of projects and initiatives. These featured projects have been short-listed from a longer list of potential ideas emerging from the 'Make Saltcoats...' public workshops and the extensive community and stakeholder engagement.

To help navigate the Place Frameworks, and to make this array of projects easier to digest, the projects have been categorised in to six themes, namely;

- Local Community & Culture
- Local Economy
- Health & Wellbeing
- Key Sites, Buildings & Assets
- Getting Around
- Open Space

These six themes are holistic and wide in scope; seeking to respond to local and national priorities for place-based investment and action. The six Place Framework themes are also selected to distil the 14 topics included in the Scottish Government's 'Place Standard' and include an emphasis on delivery; encouraging partnership working towards action and outcomes.

It is recognised that, as with any regeneration initiative, many projects (often those with highest and multiple impacts) cut across two or more themes. Whilst welcoming this, for the purposes of clarity, the projects are bundled by theme for ease of reference.

Action Plan

This chapter should be read in conjunction with the Place Framework Action Plan and any subsequent revisions. Each of the projects mentioned in this chapter and grouped under the six Place Framework themes are also elaborated on in the Action Plan. See the Action Plan for further details on next steps, prioritisation and recommended project partners

AREAS OF FOCUS

The Place Frameworks are community-led and project / action driven. In response to the analysis of the town and the ideas coming through engagement it is evident that there are some key areas of focus. These are summarised below.

1) Town Centre and 'High Street' Projects

Issue

For over a decade there has been significant focus on sustaining and regenerating town centres across Scotland, notably historic town centres. Saltcoats town centre has served as the heart of the Three Towns area. However, in the wake of click and collect / internet shopping, town centres like Saltcoats are grappling with a decline in retail, footfall, and therefore active businesses and therefore a subsequent increase in building vacancy. The investment in the refurbishment of the Town Hall, Countess Street and the Rail Station demonstrate what can be achieved.

Proposition

The Place Framework for Saltcoats suggests supporting and sustaining the existing retail and leisure offer (especially the locally owned independent businesses) whilst appreciating that there needs to be a greater mix and intensity of uses in the town centre – more mixed tenure housing, new community facilities (especially for young people), well used civic and cultural venues (such as the Town Hall), and a more diverse and quality food and drink / hospitality / leisure offer that attracts families, visitors and supports a positive evening economy.

Improving the look and feel of the Town Centre is critical – with much enthusiasm for recent public art / murals and a desire to celebrate the history and heritage of Saltcoats. The upgrade of the public realm, and shop fronts, on Dockhead Street and Hamilton Street was regularly cited as a priority.

2) Coastal / Seafront Projects

Issue

Saltcoats is synonymous with leisure and tourism; famous as an Ayrshire coastal holiday destination that reached its zenith in the mid 20th century. As visitor numbers declined, with tourists taking up opportunity to travel to sunnier climes, the coastal attractions were neglected and the seafront lost its lustre. The working harbour also declined and lost its purpose, ultimately becoming unnavigable.

Nevertheless the attraction of being by the seaside, with great views across the Firth of Clyde to Arran, never diminished and continued to contribute positively to the local quality of everyday life. Family run businesses proved resilient and the imprint of positive memories of decades past lingered. The Covid pandemic prompted a resurgence in appreciation of the important of the seafront to Saltcoats, for locals and day trippers alike.

Proposition

Prior to the Place Framework there were already ideas and projects emerging to improve access to the beach, seaside play areas and to refurbish and restore the Tidal Pools. Broader ambitions to link long distance coastal paths to access a great seaside destination at Saltcoats provide encouragement to deliver on ideas for the coastline and to rejuvenate the harbour as a berth for pleasure and leisure sailing and provide further activity on the shore. The potential for Saltcoats to rediscover its coastal assets, and enjoy a renaissance as a visitor destination that is local, quality, fun and enhances the environment presents an exciting prospect for locals and visitors alike.

3) Enhancing a Network of Open Space and Amenities

Issue

As with many equivalent towns Saltcoats has quite extensive public open spaces (principally parks and public spaces / streets) without the budget to maintain or enhance these. However, as is evident in discussions with local communities, access to quality outdoor amenity, parks and sports facilities and the easy, safe and convenient connections to these destinations is crucial to the quality of everyday life in Saltcoats.

Proposition

As with the coastal amenities, there was a re-appreciation of the importance of open space and access to nature during the Covid pandemic. Saltcoats was already making significant progress with the SeaSalt Growers and others proactively adopting and enhancing open and green spaces. Developing a network of improved green spaces inland from the coastal attractions would enhance access to amenity within the residential areas and town centre, with priorities including Glebe Park, Holm Plantation and Millar Road Park.

4) Improving Connections throughout Saltcoats

Issue

Saltcoats has expanded to become geographically spread out, built on a steady incline with a Town Centre with many amenities and assets (including mainline Rail Station) that are located at the southern edge of the settlement. The town also has comparatively low level of car ownership and a bus service that is limited in terms of timetabling and geographic coverage.

Proposition

The Rail Station is a great asset. Improving walking, wheeling and cycling routes to the Station is important. Improving other active travel routes, for instance along the old Caley Railway, are being progressed. This should become part of a wider network of cycle and foot paths connecting all part of the town to its centre and wider destination. Improving deregulated bus services can be a challenge so exploring Community Bus services should be progressed as an exciting, community-led alternative.

AREAS OF FOCUS

5) Providing Convenient Access to Good Local Services, Amenities and Opportunities (20 Min Town)

Issue

As noted above Saltcoats has an imbalance – with most of its established local services, amenities and opportunities for work or longer distance public transport being located in or near the historic Town Centre. The concentration of key amenities can support a rejuvenated Town Centre but, given the accessibility challenges noted above, also presents a significant challenge when considering Saltcoats against the metrics of a 20 min neighbourhood or town.

Proposition

In tandem with improving public transport and active travel links to the Town Centre from all across the settlement there should also be a coordinated approach to sustaining existing neighbourhood services (including local shops) in addition to seeking to improve enhanced local service access, through physical enhancement and effective service delivery innovations. The presence of school campuses across the settlement present an opportunity to optimise these to support access to local amenity and services, without diminishing the prominence of the Town Centre which itself needs careful, sustainable regeneration.

Getting the Basics Right

The projects outlined in the Place Framework Action Plan are predicated on getting the basics right in place leadership and management. Recurring issues around building and street maintenance, cleanliness and litter-free towns, traffic management and parking enforcement do not have dedicated projects listed as they are deemed to be “preconditions” for a successful place / town.





Key:

- Open Space
- Heritage Centre
- Vacant Units
- Saltcoats Harbour
- Town Centre Extents
- Proposed Town Centre Living
- Town Centre Activities / Venues for young people
- Public Toilets
- New Community Bus
- Parks
- Train Station
- Project Locations
- Town Centre 20 Min Neighbourhood
- Crossing points to be improved
- Trainline

Areas of Focus can be summarised as;

- Town Centre and 'High Street' Projects
- Coastal / Seafront Projects
- Improving Connections across Saltcoats
- Enhancing Open Space and Amenities
- Providing Convenient Accessibility to Good Local Services, Amenities and Opportunities (20 Min Town)

Emerging headline projects / actions include;

- Activate vacant / under-used buildings in Town Centre and on Seafront
- Support more activities and a Town Centre venue for young people
- Restore and reactivate the Harbour and Harbourmaster's House
- Enhance the look, feel and vibrancy of Dockhead Street and Hamilton Street
- Improve public toilet provision
- Reopen the Tidal Pools
- Promote more affordable housing in Town Centre
- Explore scope to set up a Community Bus Service
- Support SeaSalt Growers and others to improve green / open spaces

Saltcoats Project Mapping
Emerging Headline Projects



Saltcoats Project Mapping
 Town Centre & Coastline Projects

MAKE SALTCOATS

KEY SITE, BUILDINGS & ASSETS

Saltcoats has enjoyed recent success with the refurbishment of the historic Town Hall and Railway Station building having significant impact. The majority of key sites and buildings emerging through the Place Framework analysis and engagement discussions focus in and around the Town Centre.

It is heartening to observe that works are underway for new town centre living at the site behind the Town Hall. It is also widely welcomed that the refurbishment of the landmark Metro building appears to be progressing.

The majority of projects coming forward are either for:

- the repurposing of vacant or under-occupied buildings (with the prospect of support via the Repurposing Property Grant Fund)
- the encouragement to escalate enforcement action to ensure vacant buildings are maintained and secure
- the retention and upgrade of existing facilities (such as the Argyle Centre – seen by many as a pivotal community facility) alongside the potential for significant sites, such as the Vernon Street car park sites, coming forward as potential brownfield mixed-use redevelopment opportunities in the Town Centre.

EMERGING PROJECTS:

1. Repurpose Vacant Town Centre Main Street Buildings & Shopfront Improvement **(SKS01)**
2. Harbour and Harbourmaster's House **(SKS02)**
3. Vernon Street Sites **(SKS03)**
4. Moffat House **(SKS04)**
5. Seafront Property on Montgomerie Crescent **(SKS05)**
6. Town Centre Living **(SKS06)**

“Saltcoats could lead the way in ‘Town centre living’ which is desperately needed across our towns and cities.”

- Online Survey respondent on housing opportunities

PROJECTS



SKS01 Repurpose Vacant Town Centre Main Street Buildings & Shopfront Improvement

Shopfronts along Hamilton and Dockhead Street are in need of repainting / repairing / improved maintenance. Vacant units will also need to be repurposed. Vacant units to be spaces where new businesses and uses can be trialled on a temporary basis



SKS02 Harbour and Harbourmaster's House

Harbour to be back in use for pleasure craft and the Harbourmaster's House to be refurbished and repurposed.

PROJECTS



SKS03

Vernon Street Sites

Redevelop surfaced car park along Vernon Street as well as other sites North and South of the rail line.



SKS05

Seafront Property on Montgomerie Crescent

Vacant sandstone building along Montgomerie Crescent in need of refurbishment.



SKS04

Moffat House

Vacant building at the junction of Nineyard Street, Kylehill and Vernon Street to be repurposed.



SKS06

Town Centre Living

Provide opportunities for more residential developments / renovations in the town centre and holiday lets.

MAKE SALTCOATS

OPEN SPACE

Saltcoats has a wide range of distinctive open spaces. The coastline provides a variety of settings; beach and bay, rocky headland / promontory, set piece seaside square, harbour and sea wall connected by a coastal path / promenade. Inland a series of neighbourhood parks and playing fields predominate, with some attractive and distinctive open spaces; notably Holm Plantation and others presenting significant potential as a central 'town park' at Glebe Park.

Further up the hill, north of High Road, the lack of designated green open space may point to the need for an open space strategy for North Saltcoats to ensure a network of quality green spaces serving the existing and increasing population in the area.

EMERGING PROJECTS:

1. Saltcoats Coastal Destination - Masterplan **(SOS01)**
2. Tidal Pools **(SOS02)**
3. Coastal Play Areas **(SOS03)**
4. Community Gardens / Adopt a Spot **(SOS04)**
5. Public toilets (and showering / changing facilities) **(SOS05)**
6. Upgrade Glebe Park **(SOS06)**
7. Rewild Holm Plantation **(SOS07)**
8. Millar Road **(SOS08)**
9. Open space 'up the hill' **(SOS09)**

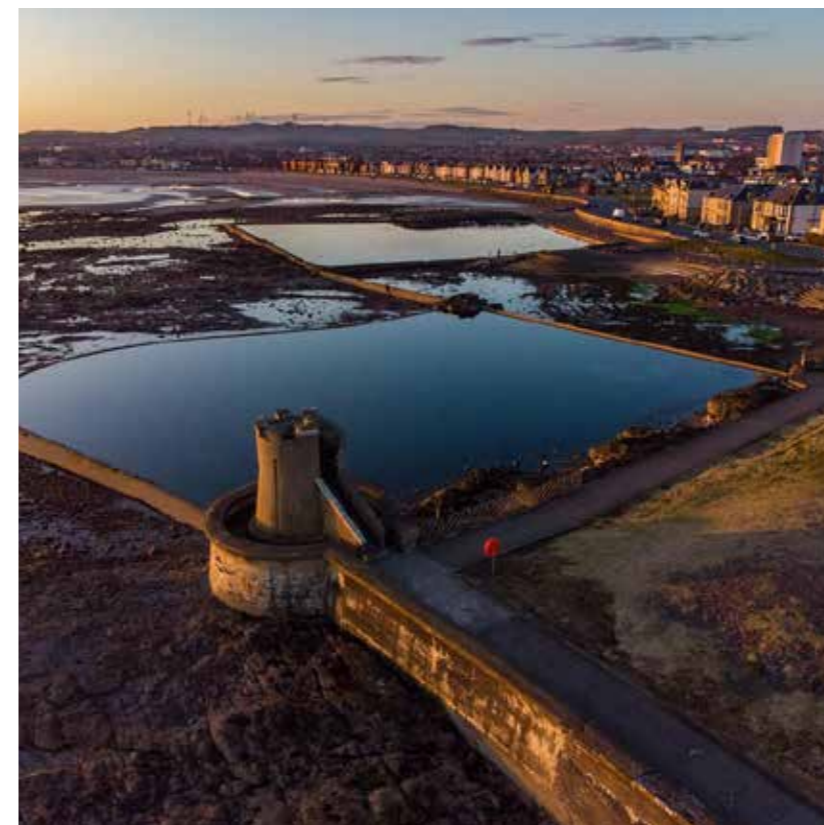
“Revitalise shore front / promenade and make use of the natural beauty of the area.”

- Online Survey respondent on enhancing coastal locations

PROJECTS



SOS01
Saltcoats Coastal Destination - Masterplan
Produce a coherent masterplan for locations along the coastline: including the Harbour, the Braes, the tidal pools, Winton Circus, Melbourne Park / Terrace and Montgomerie Crescent.



SOS02
Tidal Pools
Refurbish and reopen the Tidal Pools once more to the public.

SOS03
Coastal Leisure Opportunities
Explore opportunities for additional leisure activities along the Coast, e.g. Melbourne Park

SOS04
Community Gardens / Adopt a Spot
Find sites for community gardens and promote the 'adopt a spot' scheme

PROJECTS



SOS05 Public toilets (and showering / changing facilities)

Upgrade / reprovision public toilets
(at The Braes / Melbourne Park)
Scope to provide for coastal /
watersport activities



SOS07 Rewild Holm Plantation Implement rewilding Holm Plantation, including along Stanley Burn.



SOS06 Upgrade Glebe Park Implement upgrades in the park.



SOS08 Millar Road Enhance play area at Millar Road Park.

SOS09 Open Space 'up the hill' Enhance existing open and green spaces in the north of the town.

MAKE SALTCOATS EASIER TO GET AROUND

Saltcoats is quite a large settlement with a defined Town Centre located at its southern edge. Ensuring it is easy to get around on foot, bike or by public transport is therefore critical to enable sustainable and healthy mobility choices.

The town's structure and development pattern, coupled with its topography built on a steady incline south-facing slope, compounds the challenge. Principal east-west routes, notably High Road, the B780 and the railway create different levels of severance that place significance on improving key north south routes including the collection of bridges over the railway and Sharpill Road / Dalry Road.

Investment in upgrading active travel paths and networks, alongside advocating improved bus services to link to the town centre and amenities and interchange with the Train Station is therefore critical in a town with low car ownership.

EMERGING PRIORITY PROJECTS:

1. Carry Out Accessibility Audit **(SGA01)**
2. Improve on Dockhead, Hamilton and Windmill Streets **(SGA02)**
3. Town Centre Pend and Path Improvements **(SGA03)**
4. Community Bus **(SGA04)**
5. Cycle Infrastructure **(SGA05)**
6. Improve Wayfinding **(SGA06)**

“If this town is right for people living with dementia then it will be right for all of us.”

- Online Survey respondent on a town accessible for all

PROJECTS



SGA01 Carry Out Accessibility Audit

Assess whole town, starting with Town Centre, for walking, wheeling and cycling. Target 'quick wins' in key routes and crossings.

SGA02 Improve Dockhead, Hamilton and Windmill Streets

Streetscape improvements along Dockhead, Hamilton and Windmill Streets.



SGA03 Town Centre Pend and Path Improvements

Enhance pends and paths from Dockhead Street / Hamilton Street to The Braes, Heritage Centre and north 'up the hill'.

Potential Public Arts Strategy

SGA04 Community Bus

Introduce a community bus to address the gaps in the local service provision.

The council have set up a £100k fund to support community bus pilot project schemes.

PROJECTS



SGA05

Cycle infrastructure

Introduce electric bikes and improve cycle infrastructure, paths and storage around town.

Including Active Travel, Caley Cycle Path.

SGA06

Improve Wayfinding

Enhance signage and interpretation around Saltcoats.

Improve interpretation and wayfinding with additional public art interventions to the Heritage centre and other landmarks in Saltcoats.

MAKE SALTCOATS

SUSTAIN LOCAL COMMUNITIES & CULTURE

Saltcoats has enjoyed a renaissance in community activism and engagement in recent times. The confidence and capacity to consider progressing with a Community Development Trust, building on the momentum of recent achievements and ongoing initiatives is heartening.

The need for coordination – of venue availability, of event programmes and most significant project delivery – is evident. Supporting existing facilities such as the Town Hall and Argyle Centre as key hubs in the town is strongly supported by many. Augmenting these to establish facilities with new spaces to enliven the Town Centre ‘high streets’ and provide exciting new spaces for Young People is a clear priority that aligns strongly with many of the Place Framework objectives.

EMERGING PROJECTS:

1. Focus on Young People **(SLC01)**
2. Community Events and Projects Coordination **(SLC02)**
3. Sustain and complement Argyle Centre and Town Hall - New Town Centre Community Spaces **(SLC03)**
4. Town Centre Public Art **(SLC04)**
5. Heritage Centre, Interpretation and Trails **(SLC05)**

“Saltcoats is thriving, there is now a skatepark and the town centre is fantastic”

- a local primary school student on how they envision Saltcoats in 10 years

PROJECTS



SLC01

Focus on Young People

Provide more activities and venues for young people, such as new and upgraded playparks, outdoor boxing bags and more waterside activities, however these can be covered by projects SKS02 and SOS02.

SLC02

Community Events and Projects Coordination

Continue to develop and coordinate Community activities / events - online and non-digital promotion



SLC03

Sustain and Complement Argyle Centre and Town Hall - New Town Centre Community Spaces

Continue positive work at Argyle Centre and the restored Town Hall and consider additional provision ‘up the hill’ and/or in Town Centre (vacant units).

PROJECTS



SLC04

Town Centre Public Art

Seek new town centre locations for further mural walls to create a trail, expanding on the success of the first mural walls along Dockhead Street. These wall will be used to commemorate Saltcoats' heritage as well as for other purposes.

Install vinyl art work in vacant shop windows.



SLC05

Heritage Centre, Interpretation and Trails

Improve interpretation and wayfinding with additional public art interventions. Raise awareness and enhance Heritage Centre.

MAKE SALTCOATS

PROMOTE GOOD HEALTH & WELLBEING

Like many towns Saltcoats is facing in the health and social care challenges of our times. The need to for mental health and wellbeing support, alongside caring for the elderly and aging population and those with addition or substance abuse issues are societal and go well beyond the scope of this Place Framework.

At a local level, in addition to the existing health, social care and community services already in place, the opportunity to proactively encourage access to nature (including the seaside), sport and activities (indoor and outdoor – including water sports) and engaging in open spaces including community growing and food larders present existing and potential initiatives to support community health and wellbeing.

EMERGING PRIORITY PROJECTS:

1. Community Growing Spaces **(SHW01)**
2. Fairer Food / Food Larders **(SHW02)**
3. Promote and support North Ayrshire Table Tennis Club in finding a venue for pop up and play hub **(SHW03)**

“Would it be viable to have a locally funded canteen selling meals at reasonable proces?”

- Saltcoats resident on affordable food during the Make Saltcoats event

PROJECTS



SHW01

Community Growing Spaces

Identify areas where new allotments / community gardens / growing spaces can be set up.

Consider locations across the whole of Saltcoats including ‘up the hill’ in North Saltcoats.



SHW02

Fairer Food / Food Larders

Support affordable food programmes and food larders to tackle food poverty.

SHW03

Promote and support North Ayrshire Table Tennis Club in finding venue for pop up and play hub

Consider Community Sport Hub to share networks and assess facility / provision.

MAKE SALTCOATS

LOCAL ECONOMY PROSPER

Saltcoats has comparatively high unemployment. Established business sectors, including retail and hospitality / leisure have diminished and been affected by global trends and factors, including Covid. The need to address social inequality and promote the Community Wealth Building agenda gives clear focus and purpose to nurturing Saltcoats economy. The Town still sustains an array of locally owned, independent businesses who could come together to help promote the town as a destination.

The resurgence in staycations and local day trips gives Saltcoats an opportunity to redefine its historic role and reputation as a visitor destination. And its position on the regional rail network suggest scope to position Saltcoats as an attractive and affordable location to establish a business, or adopt new working models to thrive.

Saltcoats also has a distinctive heritage and history; one which many are eager to promote and celebrate, alongside contemporary culture in venues across the town centre, not least the refurbished Town Hall.

EMERGING PRIORITY PROJECTS:

1. Promote Saltcoats as an Independent Business town **(SLE01)**
2. Co-Working Spaces in Town Centre **(SLE02)**
3. Enhance and Promote Tourism Offer **(SLE03)**
4. Develop Art and Culture Offer **(SLE04)**

“We must ensure these small, family businesses survive, thrive and attract others to the area.”

- Online Survey respondent on supporting local independent businesses

PROJECTS

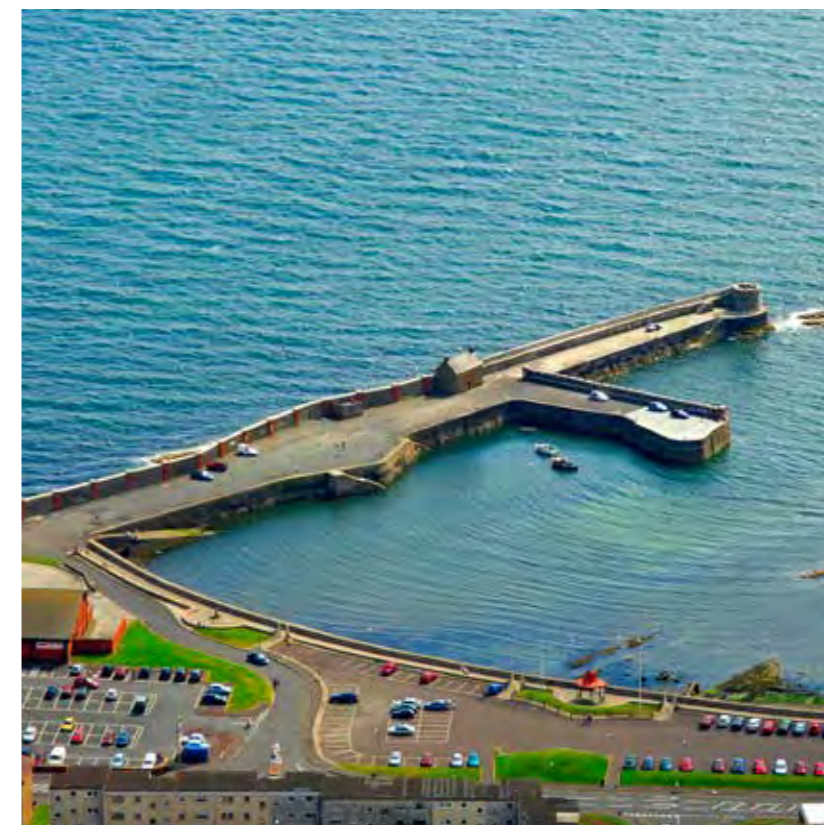


SLE01 Promote Saltcoats as an Independent Business town

Rebrand Saltcoats as a Independent Business Town to encourage greater engagement with the high street and all the local businesses in the town centre. Support businesses to collaborate and develop Community Wealth Building agenda.

SLE02 Co-Working Spaces in Town Centre

With more people working from home or in hybrid situations, there may be scope to establish a co-working space in the town centre, potentially re-using one of the vacant retail spaces.



SLE03 Enhance and Promote Tourism Offer

Support day visits and staycations. Hospitality, active and marine tourism (showering and changing facilities on coast). Positive family friendly night-time economy.

SLE04 Develop Art and Culture Offer

Enhance local cultural offer, potentially through the establishment of:

- Outdoor Cinema
- Pop-up galleries
- Taste trail
- Heritage trail
- Digital pursuits.

05 ■ Next Steps

MAKE SALTCOATS

DELIVER POSITIVE CHANGE

Early momentum is critical in progressing the actions and projects emerging via this Place Framework. Even prior to the Place Framework being finalised and adopted partnership working is already progressing in Saltcoats with North Ayrshire Council, Link Up and a range of other community partners.

Quick Wins / Early Action

The 'Ripple Effect' Group has emerged inspired, in part, by the Place Framework engagement activities and brings together existing community groups and emerging project champions. Moreover early activities supported by funding allocated via the Place Frameworks process include additional Murals on the existing Trail, funding for a feasibility study for the Tidal Pool project.

Recommendations

The previous Chapter and the associated Action Plan sets out the recommended Place Framework Projects categorised for ease of reference into six Place Framework themes; Local Community & Culture, Local Economy, Health & Wellbeing, Key Sites, Buildings & Assets, Getting Around, Open Space.

To enable prioritisation and progress to deliver these Place Framework Projects the following is recommended:

1) Establish a Place Framework Coordination Group

NAC to confirm and identify who monitors and updates the Place Framework Action Plan and reports to the Locality Planning Partnership. The PF Coordination Group governance and arrangements should be tailored to suit each place. It could be envisaged that it could be led / coordinated by NAC Regeneration team with representatives from the local resident and business community, elected members and community leaders, and Council Officers. In Saltcoats this could involve the 'Ripple Effect' Group.

2) Publish, Monitor and Update the Place Framework Action Plan

The Place Framework Action Plan should be periodically updated and published, becoming a dynamic document, with new actions and priorities added and achievements noted and celebrated. It should be considered a 'Shared Action Plan' and an accessible term of reference for all stakeholders to help coordinate action across the town.

In the first instance the Action Plan priorities should be reviewed, refined and ratified by the PF Coordination Group and then reviewed at least every 6 months.

3) Aligning Projects with Funding

In order to progress projects North Ayrshire Council and project partners must continue to assess alignment with internal and external sources of funding. As part of the PG Action Plan review

process cited in item 2 above it is suggested that NAC's Funding Officer provides an update to the PF Coordination Group, and that if Funding opportunities arise that the Place Framework Action Plan provides the basis for a review of potential projects.

Next Step / Task	Action / Involvement
Identifying priority projects aligned with immediate / early funding opportunities (including the Community Renewal Fund and Place-Based Investment Programme)	NAC with relevant project sponsors
Arrange an ongoing programme of support for local Community Groups including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct support (mentoring, capacity building, funding guidance) Arrange a programme of networking opportunities (including regular 'chit-chats') 	NAC Connected Communities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress thinking on the best way to coordinate community-led projects, including monitoring the Place Framework Shared Action Plan; Support newly formed Saltcoats Action Group (led by Link Up) Progress discussions with DTAS towards establishing a Community Development Trust Consider scope to trial a 'Community Assembly' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NAC Link Up Local Community Groups

The tasks listed above are also included in the Place Framework Shared Action Plan (see reference numbers and project descriptions on following pages).

Place Champion

Ideally a dedicated Place Champion should be identified (a paid post) to lead and coordinate delivery of the Place Framework, in partnership with project sponsors from the local community, voluntary sector, local business community and local and national authorities and agencies. A Place Champion would report to the Place Framework Coordination Group. In the absence of a dedicated Place Champion it is envisaged that this role could be fulfilled by NAC Regeneration team.



Networking Opportunities
Saltcoats has a healthy number of community groups, however, there is a disconnect in communication between them. It would be beneficial to strengthen these links and provide events / sessions in which they can come together to share and network.



Support existing Community Groups
There are a number of successful community groups in Saltcoats that would benefit from continual promotion, mentoring and support to expand volunteer numbers.

Include succession planning and encourage volunteering.



Agree a vehicle for delivery of community-led projects
Reinvigorate community action and participation by reforming a community council or other community-led body.



Sustain Link Up support in Saltcoats
Offer to LinkUp support to progress early activities should be taken up to support progress towards 'quick wins' and to secure an extension to the LinkUp funding for Saltcoats.



Community Assembly

As an alternative to a Community Council.

Suggestion of further, ongoing, engagement with communities across Saltcoats, proposed by LinkUp, to develop a town 'vision' and progress projects.



Establish a Development Trust

Setting up a Development Trust would give more agency to the local community to progress projects forward.





North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

Community Investment Fund Checklist				
To be completed by Locality Officer at expression of interest stage				
Item	Yes	No	Not Applicable (give reason)	Comments
Expression of interest coproduced	YES			Hayocks Primary Parent Council, Hayocks Tenants & Residents Association, Stevenston North Community association
Link to Fair for All	Yes			
Link to Locality priorities	Yes			Community Regeneration, Civic Pride
Does not duplicate existing services	No			Replacing a activity area that is not fit for purpose
Long term impact and sustainable	Yes			Cost includes contingencies for repair and upkeep.
Evidence of financial viability (bank acct, annual accounts)	YES			
Evidence of management arrangements (governance arrangements, officer bearers, organisational objectives, organisational status)	Yes			There is a working group made up members from Hayocks Primary Parent Council, Hayocks Tenants & Residents Association, Stevenston North Community association
OSCR compliance		No		N?A
GDPR compliance	YES			
Child protection and vulnerable adults policies	YES			
Measurable outcomes	YES			Park upgraded and constructed

Any issues flagged in past 3 years		NO		
Completed By: Gordon Cowan				
Date Completed:			15-02-2023	

Community Investment Fund Expression of Interest Form

Please see notes on reverse before completing this form.

Organisation name	Hayocks Tenants and Residents Association(HTARA)
Brief details of organisation	<p>Hayocks Tenants and Residents Association was set up by members of the Hayocks area in August 2012.</p> <p>HTAR's aim is to safeguard and promote the interests of residents in the area on matters concerning housing, the environment, and the social and community life in the Hayocks area.</p> <p>Our objectives are:</p> <p>To bring the residents together to ascertain their views on a wide range of issues affecting the area.</p> <p>To advocate those expressed views to various agencies/bodies delivering the services in the area.</p> <p>To give residents a voice in the decision-making processes which affect them.</p>
Locality	Three Towns
Amount Requested	£100,000 (project cost £134,811.39)
Timescale	1 year
Brief Overview of Proposal	<p>Working in partnership with Hayocks Parent Council and Stevenston North Community Association we consulted with the local community and local schools and have identified the need to design a play park for all ages and abilities.</p> <p>We aim to develop the existing play park in the Hayocks area into a suitable area for all ages. The existing park is aimed at toddlers with the equipment needing replaced and excludes children with a disability. Upgrades to the park would include renewing the existing equipment and installing new play equipment and extending the footprint of the play area into a much-needed larger play space.</p>

	The renewal of the playpark will benefit all children in the community providing a safe space to play and socialise with friends. The project has the full support of Hayocks community as well as the schools, parent council and the community association.
Timescale	1 year
Contact Details	Robert McMillan



The Community Investment Fund (CIF) will support proposals and projects that:

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

When to apply and how?

- Groups should have an initial discussion with the relevant Locality Officer. Their contact details are available by emailing communityplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk.
- Initial interest in a CIF application should be via an expression of interest form sent to the Locality Officer. This will be discussed by the LP or an associated working group.
- If the partnership supports a bid then the group will be encouraged to submit a full application form, which they will decide upon before making a proposal to Cabinet for final approval.



Community Investment Fund Checklist				
To be completed by Locality Officer at expression of interest stage				
Item	Yes	No	Not Applicable (give reason)	Comments
Expression of interest coproduced	YES			Men shed and she shed
Link to Fair for All	Yes			
Link to Locality priorities	Yes			Community Regeneration, Civic Pride, health and well being
Does not duplicate existing services	No			The only community shed in the locality
Long term impact and sustainable	Yes			to bring their building to a standard for access for all.
Evidence of financial viability (bank acct, annual accounts)	YES			
Evidence of management arrangements (governance arrangements, officer bearers, organisational objectives, organisational status)	Yes			Very active management committee
OSCR compliance	YES			N/A
GDPR compliance	YES			
Child protection and vulnerable adults policies	YES			
Measurable outcomes	YES			Park upgraded and constructed
Any issues flagged in past 3 years	YES	NO		Issues around acquiring premises in the Three Towns
Completed By: Gordon Cowan				
Date Completed:			15-02-2023	

Community Investment Fund Expression of Interest Form

Please see notes on reverse before completing this form.

Organisation name	<i>The Three Towns & District Community Shed</i>
Brief details of organisation	A safe social space for all over 18's offering a place for those encountering social isolation or mental health challenges. We offer wood-working, bicycle repairs, modelling, CNC machine output, 3D printing output, crafting space and a music group amongst others. Formerly the Men's Shed it has been enhanced with the introduction of a She Shed and hopefully some additional hours once the new premises are established.
Locality	Ardrossan, Saltcoats, Stevenston & district
Amount Requested	£65,000
Timescale	Over 12 months
Brief Overview of Proposal	The Community Shed has new premises in Hill St, Ardrossan which to allow safe disabled access will require the installation of new toilets and disabled ramp to comply with the disability discrimination act , along with a fire alarm and the re-purposing of the existing toilets into office space.
Timescale	Over 12 months
Contact Details	Scott Jamieson – Chairperson



The Community Investment Fund (CIF) will support proposals and projects that:

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

When to apply and how?

- Groups should have an initial discussion with the relevant Locality Officer. Their contact details are available by emailing communityplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk.
- Initial interest in a CIF application should be via an expression of interest form sent to the Locality Officer. This will be discussed by the LP or an associated working group.
- If the partnership supports a bid then the group will be encouraged to submit a full application form, which they will decide upon before making a proposal to Cabinet for final approval.



Locality Partnership: Three Towns Locality

Date: 6th March 2024

Subject: To advise the meeting of applications received in respect of, the Three Towns & Arran Community Benefit Fund, Ardrossan Common Good Fund and Stevenston Common Good Fund.

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

Background: Applications have been received in respect of the Three Towns & Arran Community Benefit Fund, Ardrossan Common Good Fund and Stevenston Common Good Fund

Key Points for Locality Partnership:

- The Three Towns & Arran Community Benefit Fund has a balance of **£57,107.34**
- The Ardrossan Common Good Fund has a balance of **£18,614**
- The Stevenston Common Good Fund has a balance of **£14,328**

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: 26.2.24

COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND

OFFICER REPORT

Applicant Contact Details

Name of Organisation: Scottish Centre for Personal Safety
--

Description of Applicant Organisation

Number of Members: 62 regularly 450 will benefit from funding	Established: 1997
Meeting Place: Barony St John Centre, Princes Street, Ardrossan	Date of Visit: Phone Call 12.2.24

Description of the Project: Wellbeing Café - Equipment**Background:**

The Scottish Centre for Personal Safety (SCPS) provides empowering Personal Safety Training to vulnerable people, especially female victims of abuse/violence, children/youths, sensory impaired people, people with learning disabilities, people from ethnic minority backgrounds and people from LGBTI backgrounds.

SCPS's venue, the Barony St. John Centre in Ardrossan, provides a point of contact for those who are at risk of violence or those seeking advice as well as being a community hub and venue for various community groups (exercise, dance, fitness classes etc.).

Project for Funding:

SCPS are building a Wellbeing Café extension to their existing Barony St John Centre which was the idea if female victims of abuse/violence as most felt unable to socialise after the trauma of what had happened to them.

The café aims to promote wellbeing and social interaction and focus on mental/physical health. SCPS will have daily/weekly session times for each of the vulnerable groups of people that they deal with and outwith these sessions, the café will be open to the wider community.

SCPS have secured funding to enable them to commence building the café in March 2023 and now need to raise funds to fit out the building. They are seeking £4,665 grant funding for the purchase of L-shaped fabricated countering with wash-up section, prep. section and void for dishwasher and fridges.

Funding

Amount requested: £4,665	Contribution by Group: £8,506.99
Total cost of project: £16,693.27 (Full breakdown of costs available)	

Constitution/Memorandum of Articles: SCIO

Additional Comments on Scoring

Criteria:

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

Level of environmental enhancement:

The wellbeing café will be environmentally friendly with energy efficient LED lighting and radiators, double glazed windows, ceiling insulation etc all designed to significantly reduce SCPS's carbon footprint.

Level of community involvement:

As highlighted above, SCPS provide support to a wide range of people within the community as well as offering space for community activities.

Level of funding secured or available:

SCPS have applied to the Ardrossan Common Good Fund for £3,841.99 towards equipment.

Experience of group to deliver project:

SCPS is well established, is governed by a Board of Trustees and their training is delivered by qualified instructors and volunteers. Accordingly, the group has the experience to deliver their project.

Future sustainability of project:

SCPS promotes sustainability through training and development of volunteers and instructors. Appropriate Equal Opportunities, Health Safety policies and procedures are in place. As a registered charity it has an experienced management committee and is accountable to OSCR.

Location of Project:

Barony St John Centre, Ardrossan

Officer Details

Name:	Rosemary Ramsay	Position:	Funding Officer
Date:	13.2.24		

COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND

OFFICER REPORT

Applicant Contact Details

Name of Organisation: Stevenston Community Council

Description of Applicant Organisation

Number of Members: 15 regular 1,000 will benefit	Established: 2018
Meeting Place: Ardeer Community Centre	Date of Visit: 26.2.24

Description of the Project:

Renovation and Art Project for Stevenston Beach Pavilion

Background:

Stevenston Community Council (SCC) is part of the Local Democracy Legislation, they represent the residents of Stevenston who vote for the Community Council every 4 years and attend public meetings and contribute to discussions and local issues.

SCC also works to enhance the town for both residents and visitors and to improve the overall aspect of the town for all. They work with all sectors, Council Officers, Police, Fire Services and Locally Elected members and are a fully inclusive organisation.

SCC have carried out several funding applications over the past few years and have made improvements to the town centre. They have also carried out tree planting around the town and have ongoing gardening projects.

SCC work with other groups in the town and carry out consultations to ensure that they have the opinions and views of the community.

Project for Funding:

Grant funding is being sought for repair works to Stevenston Beach Pavilion.

SCC have already secured £5,000 from The National Lottery Community Fund Awards for All for murals that will be designed by local young people from local schools to be painted on the pavilion. The funds will be used to carry out repair work to make the property safe to work around and improve access for the mural work to be carried out. SCC have secured support for other elements of the work and work is being carried out by Criminal Justice Services.

The main aim of this project is to enhance a historic building which is much loved by the Community and the hope is that once the work has been carried out the public will enjoy the local area at the Nature Reserve.

Funding

Amount requested: £7,344	Contribution by Group: None
Total cost of project: £7,344	

Supporting Information Provided

Constitution/Memorandum of Articles: Yes

Additional Comments on Scoring

<u>Criteria:</u>		
9. Charitable		10. Educational
11. Community	x	12. Environmental
13. Renewable Energy		14. Energy Efficiency
15. Sustainable Development		16. General Community Amenity x
Level of environmental enhancement: The project will add to the work carried out over the years to improve the area. The murals will contain local nature themes and climate action related issues.		
Level of community involvement: As representatives of the residents of Stevenston, SCC is heavily involved with the local community. They carry out community consultations and work to enhance the town for both residents and visitors and to improve the overall aspect of the town for all.		
Level of funding secured or available: SCC are seeking full project costs.		
Experience of group to deliver project: SCC have delivered a number of improvement projects within Stevenston and are well placed to deliver this project.		
Future sustainability of project: As highlighted above, SCC have delivered a range of improvement projects and have the knowledge and experience to ensure sustainability.		
Location of Project: Stevenston Beach Pavilion		

Officer Details

Name:	Rosemary Ramsay	Position:	Funding Officer
Date:	26.2.24		

COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND

OFFICER REPORT

Applicant Contact Details

Name of Organisation: Freedom Fighters (Community Action Initiative) SCIO
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Description of Applicant Organisation

Number of Members: 20 Regular 400 will benefit from funding	Established: 2018
Meeting Place: Trauma Recovery Hub, Glasgow Street, Ardrossan	Date of Visit: 13.2.24

Description of the Project: Trauma Recovery Hub

Background:

Freedom Fighters (Community Action Initiative) SCIO was established in 2018 and their objectives are:

1. The advancement of citizenship and community development through supporting those at risk, experiencing, or recovering from addiction by encouraging active and positive citizenship through volunteering and community re-engagement. Raising awareness of the causes of addiction & its related mental health issues with the purpose of reducing stigma, marginalisation and isolation.

2. The relief of those in need by reason of addiction and its causes and consequences, (including addiction related mental health, social isolation, poverty and disadvantage). Through facilitating one to one support sessions, group sessions, support groups, workshops, training, preventative work with young people, social activities, signposting, events and participation in Freedom Fighters programmes.

Freedom Fighters' Cultivate Project is funded by the Scottish Government and offers one to one counselling, which is delivered by 2 qualified counsellors. Both are members of the British Association of Counselling and Psychotherapy. The organisation is also funded to offer recovery support and they employ a Recovery Worker to run their groups and offers one to one recovery support to their clients.

Freedom Fighters run support groups for men and women and currently delivery 5 support groups per week. In addition to this they support a women's Keys to Freedom group, as well as offering opportunities for people to volunteer and access peer support.

Project for Funding:

Freedom Fighters have managed to secure premises in Glasgow Street, Ardrossan which will act as a Trauma Recovery Hub and they are currently in the process of upgrading and renovating this space. To date, they have managed to secure the following financial and in-kind support to assist them in setting up the Hub.

- Hillhouse Group – First Year’s Rental Payments
- Ayrshire College – Architectural Drawings completed free of charge
- James Frew – Multiple trades free of charge (electricians, joiners, plumbers and plasterers) as well as carrying out electrical and gas checks.
- A local fabricator has agreed to remove a tonne and a half safe door, which will allow Freedom Fighters to turn the old safe into a safe space counselling room.
- Pro ceilings and Drywall Ltd - Redo the ceilings and erect stud partitions to make the Hub more welcoming to clients.
- Andersons Kitchen’s - Free kitchen
- Annandale Home Improvements – Fitting kitchen for free
- ADP – Currently awaiting decision on funding of £10k to refurbish the Hub and equip it with the technology required deliver services, workshops, training etc

Freedom Fighters are seeking an award from the Community Benefit Fund to enable them to re-floor the Hub and put money towards the purchase of 240sqm of plasterboard required to redo the ceilings and walls.

The aims for the new trauma recovery hub are to provide counselling services, recovery support work, support groups, workshops and training, debt and financial management help, addiction support, pre and post rehab support which will be available to all.

Funding

Amount requested: £4,000 - Industrial Carpet & Lino - £1,550 - Fitting of Flooring - £1,451 - Materials for New Ceilings and Walls- £4,040.68	Contribution by Group: £3,041.68
Total cost of project: £7,041.68	

Supporting Information Provided

Constitution/Memorandum of Articles: SCIO

Additional Comments on Scoring

<u>Criteria:</u>	
1. Charitable	x 2. Educational
3. Community	x 4. Environmental
5. Renewable Energy	6. Energy Efficiency
7. Sustainable Development	8. General Community Amenity
Level of environmental enhancement:	
The refurbishment of the hub will take into account environmental measures to reduce the organisation’s carbon footprint.	
Level of community involvement:	
Freedom Fighters currently link up with a number of local organisations including, The Ayrshire Community Trust, the Three Towns Men’s Shed, Christian’s Against Poverty (CAP) and North Ayrshire ADP. They aim to offer their support and services to the local community.	

Level of funding secured or available:

North Ayrshire ADP - £10,000 (award pending)

Hillhouse Group – First Year’s Rental

Own funds - £3,041.68

Experience of group to deliver project:

The group has been delivering a range of projects since 2018 and are supported by a strong management board, experienced staff and volunteers.

Future sustainability of project:

As highlighted above, Freedom Fighters are supported by a strong management board, experienced staff and volunteers and as a SCIO are accountable to OSCR. Having a dedicated base in the form of the Trauma Recovery Hub will also promote future sustainability.

Location of Project:

Glasgow Street, Ardrossan

Officer Details

Name:	Rosemary Ramsay	Position:	Funding Officer
Date: 28.2.24			

**ARDROSSAN COMMON GOOD FUND
APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 2023/24**

Common Good Criteria -

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

Applicant	Purpose of Grant	Amount Requested	Previous Common Good Awards
Scottish Centre for Personal Safety	Contribution towards wellbeing café equipment. - Maidaid Dishwasher - £3,050 - Countertop Automatic Water Boiler - £781,99	£3,841.99	None
<p>Economy & Communities, Finance & Corporate Support, and Legal Services have been consulted and their comments are as follows:</p> <p>Finance & Corporate Support: Quotes for the costs of the equipment have been provided. £18,614 is available for disbursement.</p> <p>Legal: In terms of s.15(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1994 when determining whether an application is to receive assistance from Common Good funds the Council should have regard to the interests of the inhabitants as a whole of the area to which the Common Good relates. This application is for a grant of £3,841.99 which will be used towards the funding of wellbeing café extension for various vulnerable groups.</p> <p>With regards to whether this proposal benefits the ‘interests of the inhabitants as a whole of the area to which the Common Good relates’, I am inclined to say it does not. Whilst it is appreciated that the proposed grant would be used towards important purposes, the groups involved are very specific and are therefore limited in nature ie : female abuse victims, LGBT youth, addiction support services etc. Therefore they are not benefiting the inhabitants ‘as a whole’. There are also set times for the different groups, again restricting the demographic. The application states that there is no age restriction/open to everyone, however the groups by their very nature are restrictive. In addition to this, it states that the café caters for people in local area, however it then goes on to say ‘mainly people from 3 towns but also people from Largs, Dalry and Kilwinning’ therefore the geographical area extends beyond the recognised area entitled to benefit from the Ardrossan Common Good Fund.</p> <p>I am of the view that the Application, as it currently stands, cannot be justified in terms of section 15(4), however if the decision is to award funding the benefit to the community should be clearly recorded as it is likely that the auditor will require this information. Please also ensure that copies of all invoices and receipts are retained and forwarded to legal for our file.</p> <p>Economy & Communities: The Scottish Centre for Personal Safety (SCPS) is building a Wellbeing Café at the Barony Centre in Ardrossan and will have daily/weekly sessions for the vulnerable people that they deal with, these include: female survivors of abuse and violence; traumatised youth; sensory impaired people; people with learning disabilities; New Scots refugees; Open Ayrshire LGBT and people rehabilitating from drug and alcohol misuse.</p> <p>In addition to the scheduled sessions for clients, the Wellbeing Café will be open to all within the Ardrossan area and SCPS plan to cater for a significant number of local inhabitants. Their open-door policy will cater for all in the area who wish to come along and take part in their wellbeing activities and visit the café.</p> <p>Once SCPS have set up their timetable they will advertise when they are open and when closed-door client sessions are taking place. This information will be put on their website and posted on the café door.</p> <p>Applications to Ardrossan Common Good fund should benefit all or a significant group of the inhabitants of the Ardrossan area and Connected Communities is satisfied that this project meets the criteria of the Common Good Fund.</p>			

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

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

Applicant	Purpose of Grant	Amount Requested	Previous Common Good Awards
West Coast Furniture Bank SCIO	Match Funding towards the employment of a van driver. Total Project Costs - £18,720 £13ph x 30hrs x 48 weeks (seasonal working) Applicant is providing funding of £9,360 (generated through sales of donated items)	£9,360	None

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

Finance: A breakdown of the project cost has been provided. There is £14,328 available for disbursement.

Legal: In terms of s.15(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1994 when determining whether an application is to receive assistance from Common Good fund the Council should have regard to the interests of the inhabitants as a whole of the area to which the Common Good relates. The application states that the grant of £9,360 will be used as match funding to contribute towards the van drivers salary, whose primary role will consist of, but will not be limited to delivering furniture to homes, particularly for those members of the community in need.

The applicant being West Coast Furniture Fund, have described what the proposed grant monies would be used for and have been transparent in their disclosure of the necessary information, namely their constitution, accounts, bank statement and receipts/payments.

With regards to whether this proposal benefits the 'interests of the inhabitants as a whole of the area to which the Common Good relates', I am inclined to say that it does. It would help to furnish homes, schools, surgeries and churches etc in the Stevenston area whilst also encouraging recycling and work experience opportunities. Stevenston is considered to be a deprived area and many families would benefit greatly from the work of this charity given the rise in the cost of living, which is affecting families of all incomes. There is no age limit or membership required either.

If the decision is to award funding, the benefit to the community should be clearly recorded as it is likely that the auditor will require this information.

Connected Communities:

West Coast Furniture Bank SCIO is a charity based in Stevenston that aims to assist people who are in need by providing basic necessities for their homes when they are unable to afford to purchase these items themselves. This includes items of furniture, electrical/white goods, carpets, curtains, bedding and linen and more recently clothing for babies and infants.

The Furniture Bank receives donations of furniture etc, which they collect free of charge and then redistribute to those in need. They get referrals from a wide range of agencies and organisations including, Social Services, Women's Aid, The Lennox Partnership, Welfare Rights and the Community Mental Health Team and work closely with local primary schools, churches, GP surgeries, community groups and organisations in the area.

Being a local charity, the Furniture Bank has supported a large number of residents in the Stevenston by delivering a wide range of items to people living in the area as well as recycling furniture and picking up unwanted household items from local residents.

Applications to Stevenston Common Good Fund should benefit all or a significant group of the inhabitants of the Stevenston area and Connected Communities is satisfied that this project meets the criteria of the Common Good Fund.



Locality Partnership: *Three Towns Locality Partnership*

Date: *March 2024*

Subject: *Residential Development Former James McFarlane Site, Ardrossan*

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

Background

The developer of the above site has contacted this department requesting new street names for the development.

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

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

At this stage, the development requires 1 new street name.

Key Points for Locality Partnership

Proposed examples of numbering layout plans are available as appendices along with a list of proposed name suggestions.

Action Required by Locality Partnership

Choose 1 new street name for the development.

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

Completed by: *Lisa Dempster*

Date: *7th February 2024*

Street Name Suggestions	Background
<p>James McFarlane</p>	<p>James McFarlane, known as Jim, was born in Mossblown, Ayrshire on 13 March 1910, the fourth of seven children. His parents were Harry McFarlane, a blacksmith in a colliery and his wife Annie McLaughlin. He attended Saint Anne's Primary School, Mossblown, Queen Margaret Academy, Ayr and Saint Aloysius College, Glasgow before graduating from Glasgow University in 1932. At university, he met Margaret Patton, a fellow student from Lanarkshire. He married Margaret (1909-1994), known to the family as Daisy, on 17 July 1935 in the Church of Our Lady of Good Aid, Motherwell, later to become Motherwell Cathedral. They had nine children, namely Anne now Anne Halbert, Jim, Catherine now Catherine Smith, Tom, Henry, Charles, Theresa now Theresa Moreland, John and Matthew.</p> <p>Jim became a teacher, his career starting in 1933 in Saint Mary's Advanced Division School, Saltcoats where he taught Mathematics, History and Music. The school then transferred to the Central School, Ardrossan which later became Saint Peter's School. In 1943, he was appointed Head Teacher of Saint John's Primary School, Stevenston, a post that he held until his retirement in 1972.</p> <p>While at Saint John's, Jim became aware that there was no educational provision for children with learning disabilities. His concern prompted him to establish the Saltcoats and District Branch of the Scottish Society for Mentally Handicapped Children in 1961. Under his chairmanship, the Branch made continued representation to the authorities and raised a great deal of money. Thousands of Christmas cards were sold from his home to generate funds. Parents, family, friends and neighbours of the children worked tirelessly to support the fund raising. These monies provided premises and resources to help special children. One such building was the Day Care Centre in Campbell Avenue, Saltcoats which opened in January 1970. When it later became a school and Government funded, the staff were consulted as to an appropriate name. Because of Jim's commitment to handicapped children, it was called James McFarlane School. The school moved to a new building in Dalry Road, Ardrossan in September 1988. During Jim's term of office, the Branch also established three occupation centres, a workshop, two social clubs and a holiday caravan in the service of mentally handicapped people.</p> <p>Jim was a founder member of the local Don Bosco Guild of Catholic Teachers. He was a keen chess player at home and as part of the Ardrossan Chess Club. Jim was a talented musician and as a student played in a band to support himself. Later, he exercised this gift often at Saint John's School and Church. He was also the organist and choirmaster in the Church of Saint Peter in Chains from the late 1940s to the late 1960s.</p> <p>Jim died on 1 March 1976. He and Daisy are buried in Ardrossan Cemetery.</p> <p>Planning Comment:-</p> <p>This street name would be suitable for the site</p>

Street Name Suggestions

Fitzsimmons

Name suggested by
Councillor Ferguson

Background information:-

JOHN (JACK) HENRY FITZSIMMONS, LAST PROVOST OF ARDROSSAN

Born: 25 July 1923, 162 Glasgow Street, Ardrossan to parents Henry Fitzsimons and Ann Jane Dorian. His parents were married 21st June 1922 at St. Mary's, Saltcoats.

Religion: Roman Catholic

Education: Central School, South Crescent, Ardrossan. Opened 1935/6. It had 270 primary pupils and 150 pupils in the Junior Secondary department. The senior secondary school was at St. Michael's College, Kilwinning. (The school was later renamed St. Peter's Primary School)

Occupation: Foreman at Ardrossan Harbour

Married: Elizabeth (Lily) Mason

Children: Doreen Mary; Vincent John; Thomas Martin; Henry Phillip and Gerrard (born 1948-1956)

Death: Died suddenly at home on 3rd March 1989 and is buried in Ardrossan Cemetery, new section, lair no. 927

Political career:

- Elected to Ardrossan Town Council May 1962 with 1,467 votes. He served for 13 years as Labour Councillor
- Served as Treasurer 1971-1973
- Elected Junior Baillie 1972-1973
- Elected Provost 1973-1975. 2nd Labour Councillor to hold post of Provost in Ardrossan
- Other Posts held
 1. Chairman of Ardrossan Labour Branch for many years
 2. Served for four years as secretary of the Transport & General Workers Union
 3. Served as member of the Ardrossan Dock Labour Board
 4. Served as a representative on the Docks Group of Scotland

Planning Comment:-

This street name would be suitable for the site

Appendix 3

House Type	GIFA	No. Bedrooms	No. Units	%
House Type A - 2B4P House	89m2	2	10	52
House Type L - 4B6P House	113m2	4	2	11
House Type P - 2B3P Amenity Bungalow	63m2	2	4	21
House Type Q - 2B3P Wheelchair Bungalow	66m2	2	1	5
House Type R - 3B5P Wheelchair House	125m2	3	2	11
Phase Total				19
Allocated Parking				23
Visitor Parking				12
Parking Total				35
				159

BOUNDARY TREATMENTS KEY

- 1100mm TIMBER FENCE
- 1800mm TIMBER FENCE
- 1800mm TIMBER FENCE (BOARDED BOTH SIDES)



Sports Court

**North Ayrshire Council
Street Naming & Numbering**

1-11 (odds) and 2-26 (evens)
New Street Name Required

APPLICABLE REGULATIONS
 CDM 2015 & HASAW ACT 1974 (and all amendments) - Applies at all times.
 Working at Height Regs 2005 - Applies at all times.
 Workplaces (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regs 1992 - Applies at all times.
 Control of Asbestos Regs 2012 - Applies at all times.

Notes

- Application Boundary
- Service Strip (2m)
- Shared Surface, Tarred Road with Red Stone Chippings

Rev	Description	Date	Issued
F	Shared road revised. Road widths adjusted. Block 3, 6 adjusted position. Service strips delineated & shown in front of plot 12, 13, 14.	13/01/22	DL
G	Service strip around turning area. Park access path width adjusted. Steps removed from path (adj. to plot 12).	17/01/22	DL
H	GIFA in table updated.	03/02/22	RN
I	FFL Levels added to Blocks; Front paths added to plot 12. Trees / planting removed from gardens.	28/02/22	RN
J	Block plans revised in line with block changes - minor changes to window locations etc.	10/03/22	RN
K	Fences revised following site visit. Blocks 4 and 5 revised to MAC mix changes. Schedule updated.	18/08/22	DL
L	Blocks 5 & 7 house types updated.	06/12/22	CD/DL
M	Shared surface updated.	26/01/23	CD/DL



51 St Vincent Crescent
Glasgow
G3 8NQ

T 0141 221 6834
E mast@mastarchitects.co.uk
W mastarchitects.co.uk

MAST ARCHITECTS

MASTARCH Ltd trading as MAST Architects registered in Scotland, company number SC44111, whose registered office is at 51 St Vincent Crescent, Glasgow, G3 8NQ.

DO NOT SCALE FROM DRAWINGS.
 All dimensions to be checked on site by the Contractor and any discrepancies to be notified to the Architect prior to works being commenced. Use Figured dimensions only.

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Client
Ashleigh (Scotland) Ltd.

Scale Sheet Size Job No.
1:200 A1 2946-5

Originator Checked Date
RN GB June 21

Project
North Ayrshire Council
Housing Programme Lot E

Drawing Title
JM - Proposed Site Plan

Drawing No. Rev
L(20)010 M



North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

The Three Towns Progress Report Reporting Period January - March 2024



Economy and Tourism

SPLASH - Saltcoats Harbour

The Splash group have taken the lead role in conducting an online consultation about Saltcoats Harbour. The architect from 'Studio Octipi' has compiled and drawn up some ideas for the Harbour Area. There is an online consultation & paper-based version available in Saltcoats library and Argyle community centre allowing people to give their view and opinion on what they would like to see at the harbour.



Community Regeneration

Three Towns Community Shed

The Three Towns Men's Shed and She Shed have now merged and are called 'The Three Towns and District Community Shed'. Group are settling into their new workshop, Hill Street, Ardrossan. They have completed an Expression of Interest for Community Investment Funding, to upgrade facilities at the workshop.



Environment, Civic Pride and Community Engagement

Three Towns Growers (3TG)

The Growers are once again seeking a development worker. They are considering making the post part time 18-25 hours. This would make the time that the development worker would be with the project, 2.5 years rather than 1 year.

The Growers carried out another successful Potato Day in February, selling a wide selection of **seed** potato varieties. With keen growers coming from across the Three Towns, wider Ayrshire and as far afield as Glasgow.

	<p>Estimated that 400 people attend on the day. All the seed potatoes sold out within 4 hours.</p>
<div data-bbox="371 309 619 470" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="272 506 719 577">Environment, Civic Pride and Community Engagement</p>	<p data-bbox="810 309 1326 380">Three Towns Community Associations/Community Centres</p> <p data-bbox="810 421 1345 631">Community Associations in the Three Towns are undertaking their Annual General Meetings and committee elections. Community Learning and Development is supporting the Associations through the process.</p>

For further information contact: Gordon Cowan, Community Development Worker: GCowan@north-ayrshire.gov.uk



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

Three Towns LP Pg 81



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 our 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



- *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



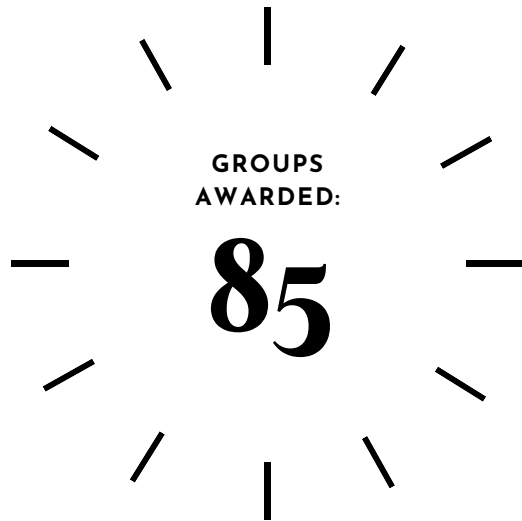
Freya Fitzsimmons
St Matthews Academy

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!

Shaping North Ayrshire | YOUNG SCOT | NORTH AYRSHIRE Health and Social Care Partnership | North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership | North Ayrshire Council

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 Dreggorn 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

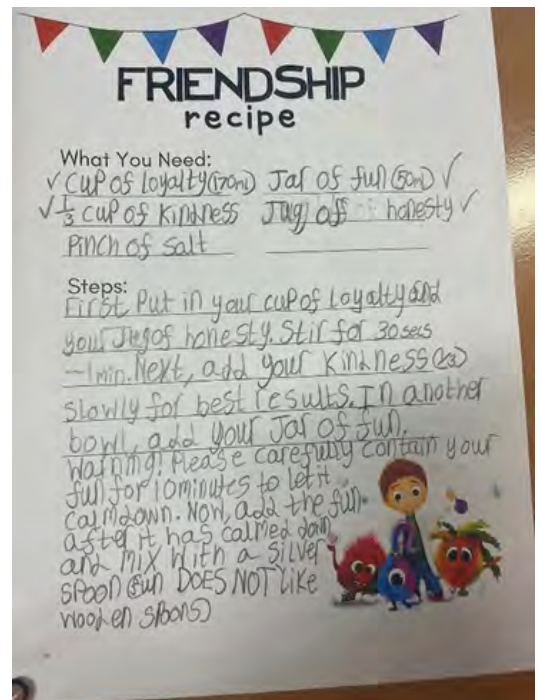
The interactive sessions have educated young people on:

- 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.

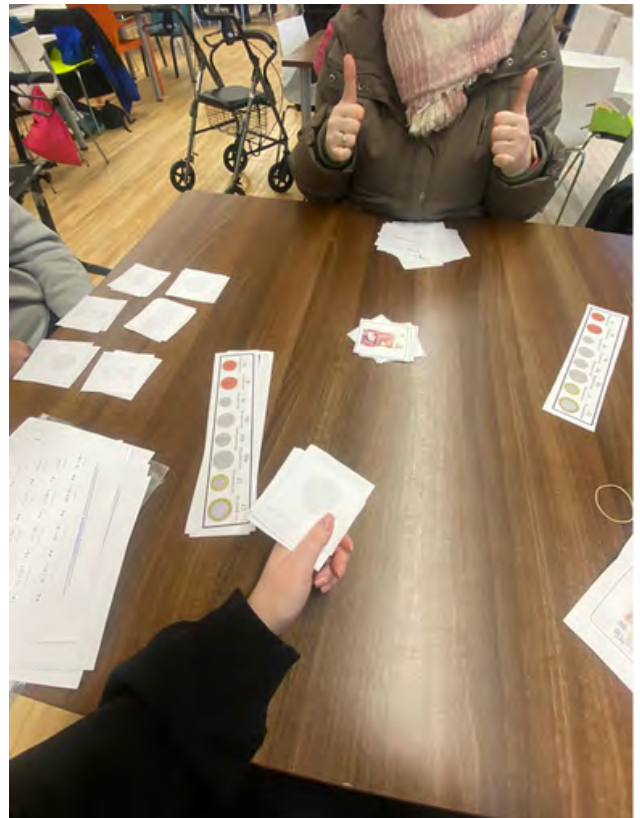


The Multiply Project

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 Siostail Air 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:

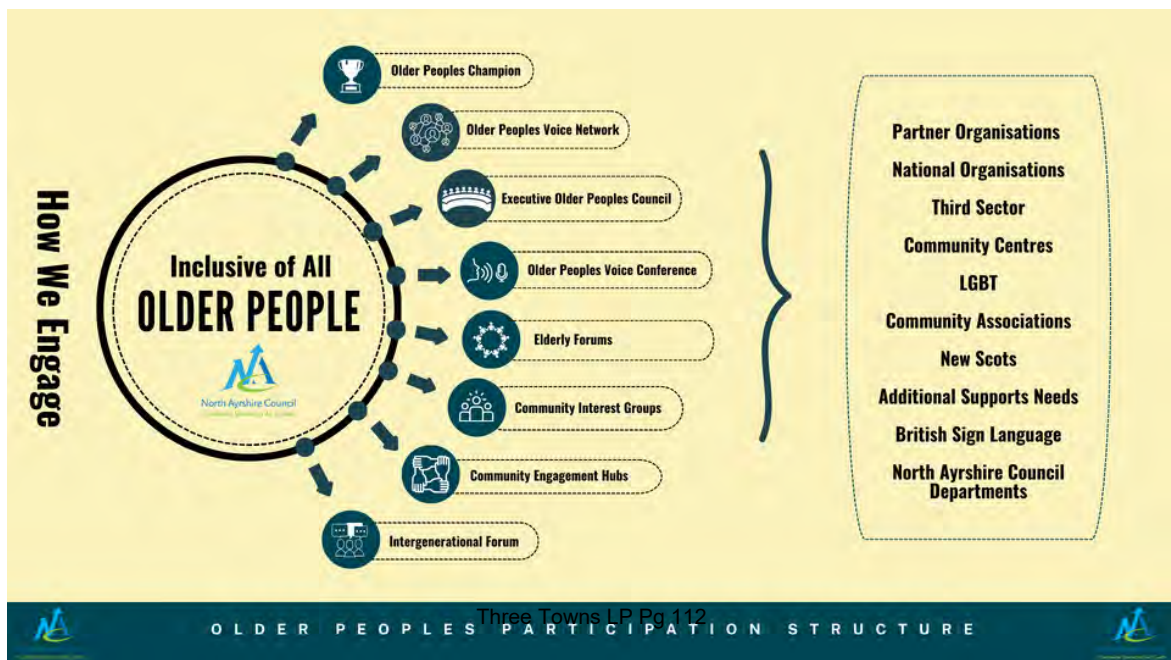
- A clearer understanding of what is most important to older people
- Gaps in service provision were addressed to determine how improvements could be made
- Single Points of Contact for each locality, were introduced to every older person to help establish a dedicated action plan for their area.
- Participants 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.

