



North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

Three Towns Locality Partnership

Wednesday 4 September 2024, 6.00 p.m. in the Castle Craigs Lounge,
Ardrossan Civic Centre

BUSINESS

Item	Subject	Pg No	Ref	Officer	Ask of the Partnership
1.	Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest.	-	-	Cllr Kerr	
2.	Action Note Review the action note and deal with any outstanding items.	Pg 4	Enclosed	Angela Morrell	Is this an accurate record of the meeting. Have all actions been completed?
3.	CIF Project Update The Locality Partnership will receive an update on the impact of CIF Funding from Laura Houston, CHAP.	-	Verbal	Laura Houston	Receive update, discuss and consider partnership opportunities.
DECISION REQUIRED					6.20– 7.20 pm
4.	Community Investment Fund The Locality Partnership are asked to consider two applications. Expression of Interest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Freedom Fighters CIC Full Application <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ardrossan Winton Rovers 	Pg 12 Pg 16	Enclosed	Denise Fraser	LP to consider CIF Applications.
5.	Grants – Elderly Grants and Three Towns & Arran Community Benefit Fund The Locality Partnership are asked to consider grant reports: <u>Elderly Grants</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CLASP Saltcoats Old People's Welfare Three Towns OIR <u>Community Benefit Fund</u>	Pg 32	Enclosed	Angela Morrell	LP to consider grant reports.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St Peter's Primary Parent Council Retirement Yoga 	Pg 34 Pg 37			
6.	Locality Action Plan Locality Partnership to consider Draft Locality Action Plan for 2024/25.	Pg 39	Enclosed	Angela Morrell Denise Fraser	Locality Partnership to consider Draft Locality Action Plan for 2024/25
7.	CIF Process Receive update on CIF application process.	-	Verbal	Denise Fraser	Locality Partnership to consider adopting new application process.
LOCAL MATTERS – TACKLING INEQUALITIES					7.20 – 7.55 pm
8.	Education and Youth Overview The Locality Partnership will receive updates linking in with the Locality Priorities from Cluster Head Teacher and Active Schools.	-	Verbal	Head Teacher Active Schools	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 David Murray	Discuss progress, learning and partnership opportunities
10.	Auchenharvie Leisure Engagement Plan Survey The Locality Partnership will receive update on upcoming engagement.	-	Verbal	Angela Morrell	Receive update and consider partnership opportunities.
11.	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.
12.	Locality Update The Locality Partnership will receive an update on the work of the Three Towns Team during the last quarter.	Pg 42	Enclosed	Denise Fraser	Receive update and discuss how LP can further support this work.
AOCB					7.55 – 8.00 pm
13.	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					
14.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly CLD Update TACT Update 	Pg 56 Pg 93	Enclosed	Cllr Kerr	Locality Partnership are asked to note the

					report and share as appropriate.
Date of next Meeting: Wednesday 4 December 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

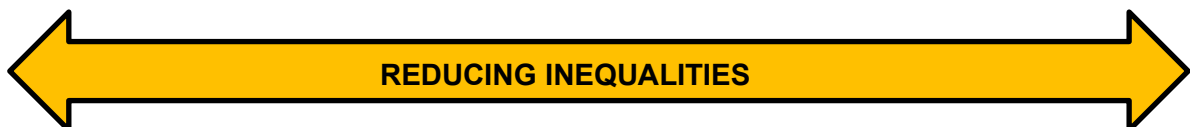
Three Town Locality Partnership Priorities

Promoting the local economy and tourism

Regenerating community facilities

Increasing civic pride and community engagement

Improving Community Wellbeing



Meeting:	Three Towns Locality Partnership
Date/Venue:	5 June 2024; Ardrossan Civic Centre at 6:00pm
Present:	Councillor Amanda Kerr (Chair) Julia Gray, Community Representative (Vice-Chair) Councillor Cameron Inglis Councillor Anthony Gurney Councillor Davina McTiernan Councillor Jean McClung Councillor Stewart Ferguson Councillor Jim Montgomerie Pat Breen, Community Representative Jean Frew, Community Representative Scott Mould, Community Representative Angela Morrell, Lead Officer, NAC Inspector Stuart Dougan, Police Scotland Denise Fraser, Locality Officer Jordan Stewart, Active Schools Co-Ordinator, NAC Jennifer McGee, Policy & Community Planning Officer, NAC (notes)
Also in Attendance	Susan Kelly, General Manager, KA Leisure Derek Moir, Freedom Fighters CAI June Maguire, Hayocks Tenants and Residents Association Jim Inglis & Scott Jamieson, Three Towns Community Shed Graham Hunter, Community Development Worker Kimberly O'Neill, Community Development Worker Richard Caig, Locality Worker Karen Frew, Locality Worker
Apologies:	Councillor John Sweeney David Murray, Station Manager (Scottish Fire & Rescue Service) Craig Mochan, Community Representative Glenn Turner, Community Representative Ian Winton, Stevenston Community Council Chair

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, introductions were made and apologies for absence were noted.</p> <p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p>	Noted

	<p>Cllr Gurney advised that he would not participate in the grant decision pertaining to Ardrossan and Largs Sea Cadets due to immediate family previously being members of the group.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>2.</p>	<p>Action Note from meeting on 6 March 2024</p> <p>The action note from the meeting held on 6 March 2024 was submitted for approval as a correct record.</p> <p>The Lead Officer provided the Locality Partnership with the following updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The application from Ardrossan Winton Rovers will not be heard tonight as a full application, there is further diligence required by NAC. The Lead Officer proposed that if this can be clarified before recess, that an extra online meeting to hear the full application could be arranged, this would stop any further delays the organisation was has been awarded £48,500 from the Regeneration, for funding towards the flood lighting and application will be updated to reflect this. • At the March LP Meeting no award was made to Scottish Centre of personal safety, support was offered after meeting, and they were successful in obtaining £34,125 funding from the Regeneration grant to support improvements. Similarly, there was no award made to West Coast Furniture Bank, again they secured £28,200 from a Regeneration Grant to support the project manager and the employment of the van driver. <p>The Locality Partnership (a) noted the update and (b) agreed to hold an additional online meeting for the Ardrossan Winton Rovers CIF application to be heard if information is received prior to recess.</p>	<p>Angela Morrell</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>Three Towns Locality Team</p> <p>The Chair welcomed the newly formed Three Towns Locality Team to the meeting. The team is made up of the following Officers, those in attendance introduced themselves individually:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Denise Fraser, Locality Officer • Graham Hunter, Community Development Worker • Kimberly O'Neill, Community Development Worker • James Weatherston, Community Development Worker • Richard Caig, Locality Worker • Karen Frew, Locality Worker <p>D Fraser advised the Locality Partnership that the team are currently building relationships, and supporting the community within the Three Towns with capacity building, sourcing funding. They have also sent out a needs analysis through their social media platforms to identify areas for development.</p> <p>The Team have hosted their first Locality Network Event last week with their first Chit Chat event taking place on 12 June.</p>	<p>Noted</p>

4.	<p>Locality Officer Update</p> <p>The Partnership received an update from the Locality Officer highlighting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three Towns Community Shed have now successfully moved into their new premises on Hill Street with assistance from the Facilities management team. The group are upgrading the Hill Street premises to make it fit for purpose and currently continue to have the use of the Glasgow Street location for now. • Three Towns Growers Development Worker Post has now been filled. This is a part time post over two and a half years. • SPLASH consultation and Harbourside Development Plan has been compiled by the architect and was in Saltcoats Library on 1st June for public feedback. 	Noted
5	<p>Freedom Fighters Community Action Initiative</p> <p>The Lead Officer highlighted that at the last LP Meeting, there was a request for the Group to be invited to a future meeting and update the Partnership on the offer in premises in Ardrossan.</p> <p>Derek Moir advised the Partnership that he started a support group for those suffering mentally from the effects of substance misuse back in December of 2008 committing to help others break free from the same problems he battled. In 2018 the group became a charity and since then have secured funding to provide one to one support, group work, counselling, workshops, and men’s and women’s groups and retreats.</p> <p>In February 2024, they acquired a new office space in Ardrossan, which they are in the process of turning into a trauma- recovery hub, a place of refuge and healing, where individuals can find professional therapeutic help and recovery support. D Moir also highlighted that local businesses have supported the groups with the refurbishment of the office by donating materials/time/labour.</p> <p>The Chair thanked D Moir for attending and providing a n update on the work of the group.</p>	Noted
6.	<p>Community Investment Fund – Full Applications</p> <p>The Partnership were asked to consider two Community Investment Fund Full Applications:</p> <p>Hayocks Tenants and Residents Association</p>	

June McGuire of Hayocks Residents Association provided the Partnership with a presentation. The Group have been working together with Hayocks Parent Council, Hayocks Primary School and Stevenston North Community Association and would like to extend the existing play park sited next to the Hayocks Community Hall as the current play park is suitable for children of pre-school age. The Group are seeking £100,000 of funding from the Community Investment Fund.

A proposed design was also shared with the Partnership which included accessible play equipment along with the associated costs for the entire project which will be around £151,700.99. J McGuire highlighted that young people from the area designed how they would like the playpark to look.

The Partnership discussed:

- How the playpark would likely bring money into community centre also and having young people involved in process, means they are less likely to vandalise.
- Whether ground works were included in the overall cost and who would be responsible for maintenance.

J McGuire thanked the Partnership for their comments and confirmed that groundworks were included in the overall costs for the project and Streetscene have confirmed they will assist with the maintenance and the Group will be responsible for any repair costs

Cllr Gurney highlighted the importance of ensuring Streetscene are fully sighted with regards to maintenance.

The Locality Partnership agreed the award £100,000 for the project subject to written confirmation from Streetscene regarding assisting with the maintenance of the playpark.

The Lead Officer undertook to ask the Council's Funding Officer to work with the group to look at options to obtain the remaining funding required for the project.

Three Towns Community Shed

Scott Jamieson from the Three Towns Community Shed provided the Partnership with an overview of their application to the Community Investment Fund. The Group are seeking £56,850 funding from the Community Investment Fund to repurpose their new premises in Hill Street, Ardrossan. Funding would fund an architect to draw up plans, build a toilet block complete and all plumbing, installation a fire alarm system across the whole unit with smoke and heat detectors, installation an accessible lift, removal of the old toilets and create either usable administration space or usable activities space, insulate as much of the building and all the necessary waste disposal costs.

Without these renovations, the group will not be able to appeal to those with mobility issues and more importantly they will not be able to bring

Noted

Angela Morrell

Angela Morrell

	<p>the She Shed members from Glasgow Street due to a lack of toilet provisions. Having two locations are incurring the group higher running costs.</p> <p>The Partnership discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The current membership of the Community Shed and the capacity they would like to get to: • How long the group had the lease to Hill Street • Any works the Landlord is carrying out <p>S Jamieson advised that there are currently there are 58 members in total. 46 are members of the Mens Shed and 12 are members of the She Shed. In terms of capacity, they foresee the membership not being much higher than 70 members. Men currently meet three times per week during the day and women three times per week in the evening. They are also looking at opening on a Saturday morning to give the opportunity to people who are work during these times to come along. He also advised that the Group currently have a 10-year lease of the premises and the Landlord is carrying out repairs to the roof within the building.</p> <p>Cllr Gurney highlighted that previously there have been issues raised around spending public money on a building not owned by the group, that 10-year lease was particularly short and it would be worth seeking legal guidance.</p> <p>Cllr McTiernan asked whether the Landlord would be open to extending the lease. S Jamieson advised that she did not foresee this being an issue and queried how long the lease should be extended to. The Lead Officer advised 25 years.</p> <p>The Locality Partnership agreed the award £56,850 for the project subject to the Group exploring extending their lease to 25 years and advise from NAC Legal team.</p>	<p>Angela Morrell</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Grants</p> <p>The Lead Officer advised that four applications had been made to the Three Towns & Arran Community Benefit Fund. The Fund has a balance of £89,585.40 available for disbursement.</p> <p>Ardrossan and Largs Sea Cadets</p> <p>The Ardrossan and Largs Sea Cadets unit, which is sited in cabins, requires upgrade and replacement of their facilities which include classrooms and canteen facilities for their cadets. The organisation is seeking £4,000 towards the cost of skip hire and clearing the site ready for resurfacing.</p> <p>The Partnership approved the application to award £4,000 to Ardrossan and Largs Sea Cadets.</p> <p>Ardeer Recreation Bowling Club</p>	<p>Rosemary Ramsay</p>

	<p>Ardeer Recreation Bowling Club are seeking £6,000 to support green maintenance.</p> <p>The Partnership queried the criteria for the fund as they were unsure this application fit within the scope. The Lead Officer undertook to circulate the criteria to the Elected Members and if suitable, seek approval of the grant via email.</p> <p>Ardrossan Indoor Bowling Club</p> <p>Ardrossan Indoor Bowling Club are seeking £2,378 funding to purchase a new CCTV system as it was recently subject to a break in which highlighted that their CCTV system was obsolete and poorly positioned.</p> <p>The Partnership approved the application to award £2,378 funding to Ardrossan Indoor Bowling Club.</p> <p>Parents for Stanley Primary School</p> <p>Parents for Stanley Primary School are seeking £4,000 funding towards reducing parental costs of their children's residential stay at Arran Outdoor Education Centre. This is for 62 children.</p> <p>The Partnership approved the application to award £4,000 funding to Parents for Stanley Primary School.</p>	<p>A Morrell</p> <p>Rosemary Ramsay</p> <p>Rosemary Ramsay</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Education Overview</p> <p>Apologies were submitted by the Auchenharvie Cluster Head Teachers. An overview will be provided at a future meeting.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>Police Scotland – Partnerships and Wellbeing</p> <p>The Partnership received a verbal update from Inspector Stuart Dougan, on various work being undertaken by Police Scotland, including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Chief Constable appointed with a lot of reviews taking place. • In terms of Local policing, there is a change of shift pattern to be in the community at the best times. • Safer shores – due to Ayr station being closed people are coming to North Ayrshire. The Team meets every Monday to discuss plans for summer. • There has been an influx in organised crime groups heavily hitting supermarkets across the UK. Locality Teams are linking in with Asda, Sainsbury and Morrisons in the Three Towns and alerting any of the supermarket of any information they can share regarding the groups. • Continued national increase with online fraud, locally the Team are working with Post Office regarding banking protocols and encouraging them to challenge people lifting large sums on 	

	<p>money as well as those buying large quantities of Amazon vouchers. This is not seen as an issue in the Three Towns, however there is a need to be on the front foot with this work .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With regards to Evolution Skate Park, Inspector Dougan will arrange for one of his Officers to meet with D Fraser to discuss security options for the site. 	<p>S Dougan</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p>KA Leisure Overview</p> <p>The Partnership received a verbal update from Susan Kelly, on various work being undertaken by KA Leisure, including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer programme of events being finalised and will be available on KA Leisure’s website in due course. • Community Health Checks will be available at Auchenharvie on 5 July. The Activator bus will be at Ardrossan South Beach on 16 August – times to be confirmed. • 27 July they will be hosting a water safety event next to Winton Circus. • The ice rink at Auchenharvie has been closed for maintenance and it is hoped it will reopen at the end June. • KA Leisure have been in discussion with the World Curling Wheelchair Championship and the possibility of the event being hosted at Auchenharvie next year. This would be a great boost for centre, and the Three Towns. • Works are planned to commence at the Golf Club in the next few weeks following damage caused by sewerage works. • Athlete Programme being launched to help athletes competing nationally to reach their potential. This is available to young people aged 12 plus. S Kelly encouraged the Partnership to share programme with any individuals who qualify. <p>S Mould highlighted that Ardrossan Community Sport Hub would like to discuss sport in Ardrossan in partnership with KA Leisure as well as having the Activator Bus visit at a free or reduced cost to the Sports Hub. S Kelly undertook to speak with colleagues and link in with the Ardrossan Community Sport Hub.</p>	<p>S Kelly</p>
<p>11.</p>	<p>AOCB</p> <p>Ardrossan Community Campus – Community Benefits</p> <p>The Lead Officer advised the Partnership that the Contractor for the Campus is required to deliver a wide range of community benefits to support North Ayrshire. Part of this is the delivery of wishlist items. To ensure it is as fair as possible want to invite groups to submit their wishes for community support via the wish list:</p> <p>https://northayrshire.community/community-empowerment/community-benefits-wishlist-application-form/</p>	

	<p>The Lead Officer encouraged the Partnership to share this information with community groups.</p> <p>Cllr Montgomerie advise the Partnership that there will be a Beacon lighting at Saltcoats Harbour at 9.15 pm on 6 June for D-Day.</p> <p>The Vice Chair advised that on 30 June it will be Whitlees 10th Anniversary Gala Day. The parade will be leaving Stanley Primary at 11am and welcomed everyone to join in with the celebrations.</p> <p>The Chair reminded the Partnership of two reports attached the agenda for information.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
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The meeting ended at 7.45pm

Community Investment Fund Expression of Interest Form

Please see notes on reverse before completing this form.

Organisation name	<i>Freedom Fighters Community Action Initiative</i>
Brief details of organisation	<p>We formed as a support group in 2008 and ran for 10 years supporting those in North Ayrshire before becoming a SCIO in 2018.</p> <p>As we formed the charity our two main objectives were 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 & 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.</p> <p>These objectives have developed and progressed as our staff have developed. We now employ two fully qualified therapists who're registered with the BACP and have 2 others who've just completed their HNC. We offer trauma informed one to one counselling and recovery support and intend to offer this unique service from our hub to the people in the Three Towns.</p>
Locality	Three Towns
Amount Requested	100k
Timescale	2 years

Brief Overview of Proposal

We propose to use the CIF Funding to create a new admin/fund raiser position within our new Trauma Recovery hub in Ardrossan as well as move our fully qualified counsellor and recovery worker from part time to full time.

The 100k we're applying for is broken down as follows;

It will cover the new self-employed Admin/ fund raiser post for 35 hours per week for 48 weeks, over two years at £20,160 per year.

It will also pay for the increase of hours for our Recovery worker from part time to full time for the two years, working out at £13440 per year for two years from this fund.

The remainder of the fund will go towards paying counsellors on a sessional basis, providing 54 hours per month at £25 per hour, for the 2 years which works out at £32800 over the two years of the fund.

The other salaries will be provided for by Local Support Fund from the Scottish Government.

Our main objective is to deliver and make our services to those living in the three towns. We understand at the outset that we will have clients coming in from across North Ayrshire, as we have been working in different towns over the years, but our intention is to reach out to those in the three towns, through partnerships with CAP, Broken Chains, possibly CHAP and the local third sector interface, TACT and the Community Development workers within the three towns.

Here's the initial outcomes, which fit in with North Ayrshire Council's Local priorities and Fair for All strategy, that we're aiming to achieve as we increase the hours of our counsellor and recovery worker and bring in a new admin/fund raiser worker;

Outcome 1: We aim to invest in a new hub in Ardrossan, regenerating the facility & making it as energy efficient and as close to net zero as possible

Outcome 2: To create a new project to enhance and improve the wellbeing of those in the Three Towns, building resilience and hope within the community by providing trauma informed one to one counselling from our Trauma Recovery hub, with three indicators; clients become more self-aware, clients are supported to experience healing and breakthrough around their trauma, and clients are helped to re frame their story.

Outcome 3: to provide hope and build resilience through Recovery support. Clients are supported in their recovery journey, clients receive person centred, peer support from those with lived experience of the issues they're encountering, & clients are supported to better cope and manage their lives as they navigate their recovery journey.

	<p>Outcome 4: Our new hub will automatically provide new opportunities for people to take part in groups, workshops and events that could help to develop their skills, try something new, volunteer, or make connections with other people in the community, boosting community engagement and the local economy.</p> <p>Outcome 5: We aim to secure funding to employ a family therapist.</p> <p>Outcome 6: We aim to develop and grow a team of volunteers, and also offering trainee counsellors the 100 hours they need to complete their therapist training.</p>
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Timescale	2 years
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Contact Details	
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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.



The CIF will support proposals and projects that:

- The North Ayrshire Fair for All Strategy, with consideration for how applications contribute to community support for the cost-of-living crisis.
- The Community Planning Partnership and Locality priorities.
- North Ayrshire Council's values, priorities and business objectives.
- The Community Wealth Building and Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change Strategies.

And will also:

- Fulfil a compelling need and not duplicate existing services or facilities.
- Provide long-term, sustainable, positive results for the greatest number of people possible.
- Exhibit project and/or organisational innovation in their approaches to their work in their way of addressing community challenges and in their request to Locality Partnerships and the Council.
- Come from (an) organisation(s) that is financially viable (can provide financial statements upon request) and efficiently and effectively managed. This can include an organisation to be created to deliver the project.
- Include options or potential for NAC and CPP employee engagement and volunteering where possible; and
- Include measurable outcomes and can report to NAC on outcomes on a regular basis.

When to apply and how?

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

Name Gordon Cowan

Locality Officer Interim Three Towns Locality)

North Ayrshire Council

St John's Primary School

Morrison Avenue

Stevenston

KA20 4HH



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

1. Details of your organisation

Name of Organisation

Ardrrossan Winton Rovers Community Interest Company

Postal Address for Correspondence

Name of Contact Person Edward Gibb

Position in Organisation Company Secretary

Telephone Number

Email Address

2. Brief description of your organisation

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

The objects of the Company are to carry on activities which benefit the community and to carry on the business of a semi professional football club with Adult men's 24 players, Adult ladies first team (23 players), Under 20's men's team (20 players), Men's Saturday Amateur team (22 players), Men's Sunday Amateur team (18 players), Under 16 girls(18 players), under 14 girls (20 players), under 12 girls (20 players). Mini kickers and 2020's teams to be started September/October as is traditional (players approx, mini kickers 24, 2020's approx. 18). We will also be introducing new teams in September for Girls age under 10's and under 8's with projected combined numbers of 40 players. The numbers using the facility and associated with the club is projected at 213 with the club building up the boys clubs over the next few years and projecting future use of 5/6 teams and 100 + players.

171 players at present, with a further 58 projected new youth players in the coming season. Total 229 projected associated players.

The facility will also be available for use by other local groups, youth and adult football teams within the area including teams from TASS Thistle and Ardeer Thistle.



The Community Interest Company will provide at Winton Park a stadium and recreation ground and prepare such ground for the purposes of sporting & community activities such as the community fete, fundraising events and school activities and sports day. To carry out sports coaching and to maintain all properties associated with the provision of said coaching and activities. To promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of Ardrossan and environs by associating the residents, and all local groups including religious and voluntary organisations, educational and local authorities in a common effort to provide facilities in the interest of social welfare for recreation and leisure time, with the object of improving the condition of life for local inhabitants. These facilities are free to use and available to the members of the public at large and to individuals and groups having need of such facilities as aforesaid by reason of their youth age, infirmity or disablement, poverty or social and economic circumstances.

The organisation has been in existence since 1900, a total of 124 years.

3. Title and summary of proposal

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

Please include:

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

The stand roof at Winton Park is in a state of disrepair with roofing being corroded, the metal pillars which hold the roof in place are corroded and require replacement rather than repair. We consulted Mr Eric McMillan from McMillan & Cronin architects who advised replacing the roof and pillars as the only viable option. But that this would not be financially viable. Mr McMillan has produced plans which have been agreed by the AWR CIC that will reduce the capacity but make the structure safe and would provide many years of further use for the facilities contained within. These are physio, changing & referee rooms, showers, toilets, and pitch entrance area along with 2 meeting rooms.

These facilities are also part of the overall project at Winton Park in creating facilities for the town of Ardrossan that will include a new synthetic floodlight artificial surface with training equipment and modular changing rooms with areas to meet in. The

following information is taken from members of youth academy members past and present who are also inhabitants of the 3 towns.

- A significant majority of AWRYA teams reported great difficulty in hiring training facilities and a pitch for home games in Ardrossan – none of the 15 teams plays in Ardrossan itself, the majority playing elsewhere in the Three Towns and 6 of the teams travelling as far as Kilwinning (6.2 miles), Irvine (8.6 miles) and Kilbirnie (11.1 miles) to play home matches.
- All 15 Managers reported difficulties travelling to train or play home games - both logistically and in terms of costs, with lower turnouts when travel is involved as a result.
- Significant expenditure (c £50-70k pa) is made by the AWYA teams outside of Ardrossan in facility bookings and ancillary spend whilst teams travel for home games and training – representing leakage from the local community.
- There are no Astroturf facilities within the Three Towns that are suitable in size or surface to accommodate 11 aside league games on.
- There is obvious under provision of facilities within Ardrossan and the Three Towns when mapped against those available in other North Ayrshire towns such as Kilwinning, Irvine, Dreghorn and Kilbirnie
- Ardrossan contains significant pockets of deprivation with low income and poverty being a barrier to participation in sport, a factor which must inform our approach. 55% of Ardrossan's population live within data zones within the worst 20% in Scotland and Winton Park itself is located in an area within the worst 2%.
- The development of a new community asset would help give the AWRYA teams an identity and an affinity to the club and town – with a local survey establishing likely positive impacts on participation on sports and physical activity generally (92%), on pride in the area (90%) and on the health and wellbeing of people in the community (92%).

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

Please include:

- The outcomes you aim to achieve
- How you will approach reducing inequality
- How this proposal fits with the Locality Partnership priorities

Project Outcomes

In developing the proposals we will deliver the following activities and outcomes within the local community

- Develop and operate a sustainable 3G facility that is able to meet the requirements of the wider local community as well as the Ardrossan Winton Rovers Youth Academy for a safe, welcoming and accessible venue
- To promote excellent physical and mental health through participation in football, sport and physical activity.
- Enable more children and young people to engage in and enjoy positive sporting and diversionary activity.
- Increase the number of players, coaches and clubs playing football and progressing through recognized national pathways.
- Design and deliver specific programmes for a range of different groups within the community and link with related clubs and promote the new facility as a venue for local social and leisure events
- Create employment and volunteering opportunities, developing skills for life, learning and work.
The new roof protects the infrastructure contained within i.e. meeting rooms, toilets, changing rooms which will be used by the wider community. These facilities will required to be managed and therefore will create employment and volunteering opportunities.
- To improve access to sport and physical activities facilities and environments.
- Increase the level of community engagement with the Winton Park facility and establish a reputation for quality and good practice.
- To promote a strong, resilient, sustainable, and supportive community which has pride in its achievements.

AWR CIC recognize the need to ensure that the facility will offer real opportunities for children and young people to become engaged in football and other sporting activities at the facility - not only within their Club structure but also in the wider community. This is in line with Three Towns Locality Partnership objectives of regenerating community facilities, improving community well-being and increasing community engagement and pride.

North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership - Local Outcomes Improvement Plan

The Community Planning Partnership for North Ayrshire are the body charged with ensuring life is "Fair for All" in North Ayrshire. The Improvement Plan has 4 priority areas:

- A Working North Ayrshire



- A Healthier North Ayrshire
- A Safer North Ayrshire
- A Thriving North Ayrshire - Children and Young People

Under the Healthier North Ayrshire Priority, the ambition is for all people who live in North Ayrshire to be able to have a safe, healthy and active life – this includes building on the strengths of local communities; promoting good physical and mental health and wellbeing; and supporting more people to be physically active and be at a healthy weight.

Under the Safer North Ayrshire Priority, the ambition is for North Ayrshire to be a safer place to live, residents feel safer and communities are empowered - which includes supporting communities by an asset based approach.

How does our application sit within the locality priorities:

1. Promoting the local economy and tourism
Investing in the infrastructure at the facility will allow the CIC to host training, matches, football camps, festivals and community activities such as the Winton Fete, these events bring teams, fans, and tourists to the area, boosting local businesses.
2. Regenerating community facilities
Winton Rovers Football club have been in existence for 125 years and are a much-loved local institution. They have become a Community Interest Company and have moved from a grass to a synthetic surface to promote usage, the facilities within the ground are available for use at a vastly reduced cost to every community group within the 3 towns and the regeneration will allow use for generations to come. The regeneration will provide a community facility that local residents can be proud of, have ready access to and where cost and travel are no longer real barriers to participation
3. Increasing civic pride and community engagement
The project will increase civic pride and community engagement by providing a sporting facility within the town that is of the highest possible standard, a facility that local people can be proud of. This will also lead to local people using the facility through a more active lifestyle and via the use of meeting rooms and community events that will take place within the new facility. The CIC will create a community user group that will lead on use, engagement and future planning.

4. Improving community wellbeing

The new facilities will encourage the engagement of local people in a more active lifestyle through sporting activities and community activities such as football memories and other programmes that will promote not only better physical health but better mental health through combating social isolation and providing an inclusive environment where people can meet, feel welcome and be more involved.

The availability of the Winton 3G facility will make it much easier for young people and adults to participate in the recommended level of physical activity per week. Improved self-esteem, confidence, self-efficacy and perceived competence result from long-term participation in sporting activities and team sports. The project will also work with local schools to use the appeal of sport within the education curriculum to engage disaffected pupils and improve academic performance and commitment to continuing education.

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

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

A professional firm of market researchers IBP Strategy & Research were employed to carry out a market research survey mid 2022 of Stakeholders & local residents re: attitudes to development proposals; and potential community impacts. 189 Responses were received, and Participants were asked to what extent do you think a project such as this would have an impact on the following things within Ardrossan and the immediate surrounding area?

The findings were

Potential Area of Impact	Negative Impact	No Impact	Some Positive Impact	Substantial positive impact	Base
Participation in sports and physical activity within the community generally	0%	8%	43%	49%	179
Pride in the area	1%	10%	44%	45%	171
Health and wellbeing of people in the community	0%	8%	45%	47%	174
Reduction in crime and anti-social behaviour	0%	27%	46%	27%	172
Quality of life generally	0%	10%	49%	40%	174

Across the board, a very substantial proportion of respondents indicated that they expected the project to have a positive impact on participation on sports and physical

activity generally (92%), on pride in the area (90%) and on the health and wellbeing of people in the community (92%). A smaller proportion indicated that they felt the project would have a substantial impact on reducing crime and anti-social behaviour in the area (73%), whilst 89% felt it would improve the quality of life generally. These very positive views were reflected across all identified demographic groups.

We carried out a survey of the Youth academy teams at the time (mid 2022) with approx. 325 members. The survey showed the following responses:

- No sheltered areas for non-playing staff/volunteers/subs/parents. Cold and wet days in Scotland can sometimes lead to people not bothering turning up.
- Distance travelling frequently results in non-attendance - we see much better turn outs when we are local to Ardrossan
- Some Girls can't pay the expense so unfortunately miss out. It's a real issue.
- Travelling for home matches should not be happening, it is totally unacceptable a town the size of Ardrossan, kids cannot play or train in the town due to lack of appropriate decent facilities

The administrators of these teams also commented when asked if they would like to see any other facilities on site. Answers included:

- Modular dressing rooms and meeting space to meet up before and after games/training.
- Areas to hold fundraising events and meetings with teams and parents.
- Food and beverage machines or place to get snacks.
- Some sort of shelter from the elements as the weather can be brutal particularly for non-playing people.
- A boot room for the academy players to store their boots and equipment in.
- Maybe a laundry area that could be on site so that teams can wash strips.
- Better toilet facilities.

6. How will the project be managed?

Please include:

- How the finances will be managed
- The finances will be saved in the CIC bank account, and we will hire an architect to manage the design and construction of the stand roof. This will

involve our architect certifying contractor payments that will then be followed by an invoice from the contractor to the club who will then release payments. We will use our accountants Anderson McDonald to manage all monies and to produce associated financial spreadsheets for the project to ensure prudent financial management. On top of this our board of directors will sign off any expenditure.

- Does the proposed project contribute to volunteering or employment opportunities in Three Towns? Please include the number of volunteering opportunities and employment opportunities
- If there are any staff requirements, please outline your HR plans

The replacement stand roof will add to the overall project, the facilities contained within will remain the responsibility of AWR CIC, they will ensure the maintenance of the standroof and the facilities contained within. AWR CIC will make the stand and facilities available on demand to the community at large and via ACSH.

The overall project will Design and deliver specific programmes for a range of different groups within the community and link with related clubs and promote the new facility as a venue for local social and leisure events, create employment and volunteering opportunities, developing skills for life, learning and work. Improve access to sport and physical activities facilities and environments and increase the level of community engagement with the Winton Park facility and establish a reputation for quality and good practice. Which will create volunteering opportunities (6-10 positions), developing skills for life, learning and work along with full time positions (2-3).

The replacement of the stand roof is a fundamental part of the overall projected allowing the protection as a roof to the structures underneath and therefore allowing AWR CIC to provide these facilities for community use and to compliment the wider project.

7. Amount of funding being requested

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

Amount of funding requested (£) **100,000**

In the past the CIC received from NAC

Ardrossan Common Good Fund

2019/20 - £2,000 towards Annual Fete

2023/24 - £4,000 towards Annual Fete

Three Towns & Arran Community Benefit Fund

2021/22 - £3,900 for club refurbishment Feasibility

2023/24 - £1,969 towards Annual Fete

RJ McLeod construction are currently carrying out in kind work at the ground as part of the groundworks in preparation for the placement of new changing rooms.

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

This project has been priced by McMillan Cronin architect, overall project which is expected to be between £115- £125,000.

Client : ARDROSSAN WINTON ROVERS

Project : STAND UPGRADE

Title : BUDGET COST

Date; 29th Nov 2023

Ref	Item	Unit	Qty	Rate	Total	£
DEMOLITION AND DOWNTAKINGS						
1	Carefully strip existing roof and gable sheeting and remove off site	sum	1	4600.00	£ 4,600.00	
2	Cut existing steel stanchions and remove steel frame off site	sum	1	6900.00	£ 6,900.00	
3	Carefully disconnect and remove existing lights and electrical fittings	sum	1	250.00	£ 250.00	
						<u>11750.00</u>
DEMOLITIONS AND DOWNTAKINGS						
BUILDERS WORK						
1	Excavate for new pad foundations not exceeding 1m deep including preparing for new concrete and removal off spoil off site	sum	1	1100.00	£ 1,100.00	
2	Reinforced concrete pad foundation approximate size 2000x2000x400mm thick include blinding layer formwork, etc - 4nr	sum	1	2640.00	£ 2,640.00	
3	A393 mesh reinforcement layer to top of concrete foundations	sum	1	650.00	£ 650.00	
4	Steel bar reinforcement to concrete foundations as Engineers details	sum	1	760.00	£ 760.00	
5	Build in to concrete foundations holding down bolts for steel stanchion bases	sum	1	600.00	£ 600.00	
6	Allow for possible remedial works to existing concrete foundations	sum	1	1000.00	£ 1,000.00	
7	Allow for possible stabilising existing stand walls	sum	1	1500.00	£ 1,500.00	
						<u>8250.00</u>
BUILDERS WORK						
STEEL STRUCTURE						
1	Supply all structural steel members as detailed in Engineers drawing approx 3.75	sum	1	21500.00	£ 21,500.00	
2	Erect structural steel members including all connections etc	sum	1	11350.00	£ 11,350.00	
						<u>32850.00</u>
STEEL STRUCTURE						

ROOF CLADDING						
1	Anthracite coloured profiled roof sheeting fixed Metztec purlins @ 1200mm c/c bolted to cleats on top of rafters including coloured trims etc	sum	1	18520.00	£	18,520.00
2	Anthracite coloured profiled wall sheeting fixed Metztec purlins @ 1200mm c/c bolted to cleats on top of rafters including coloured trims, etc	sum	1	6900.00	£	6,900.00
3	Form gutter tray at base of new wall cladding include outlets and connections	sum	1	1800.00	£	1,800.00
ROOF CLADDING						<u>25420.00</u>
ELECTRICAL						
1	Insatll new amenity lighting to service the access to seating area and to the seated area including testing on completion	sum	1	2500.00	£	2,500.00
ELECTRICAL						<u>2500.00</u>
DRAINAGE WORK						
1	Allow for making new surface water connections to existing drainage and testing on completion	sum	1	1500.00	£	1,500.00
DRAINAGE WORKS						<u>1500.00</u>

Ref	Item	Unit	Qty	Rate	Total	£
MAIN CONTRACTOR PRELIMS						
1	Allow for scaffolding, supervision, transport, fuel, skips, temporary protection of stand seating / grassed areas, protection of existing services, temporary welfare facilities, temporary power and water, etc as necessary to carry out the works	sum	1	10000.00	£	10,000.00
2	Allow for clearing the site on completion and making good any areas disturbed by the works and leave in a tidy state acceptable to the Client	sum	1	2500.00	£	2,500.00
MAIN CONTRACTORS PRELIMS						<u>12500.00</u>
ADD - CONTINGENCY						<u>10000.00</u>
TOTAL (excl vat)						£ 104,770.00

Based on McMillan & Cronin drawings - DD001, 002, 102, 103 & Engineers
Drawing 16191 - SK1.

With VAT Included at 20% of £104,770.00 = £29,540.00. Total project amount £134,310.

Match funding will be provided from: The CIC £5,000.

The CIC is VAT registered and will reclaim the VAT to reinvest in the project.

8. Monitoring and evaluation process

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

Arrossan Winton Rovers Community Interest Company will ensure an effective monitoring and evaluation programme is in place to provide the feedback necessary to allow us to run the facility effectively and secure the impacts we want to deliver for the community. This will include:

Area	What Will be Monitored
Use of the facility	<p>Weekly recording of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No of Games and Training Sessions Users • No of Players/Participants • % Occupancy levels in Peak and Off Peak periods <p>Use of information to monitor uptake as per business plan projections and to identify excess demand / access problems</p>
Beneficiaries	<p>Weekly recording of sociodemographic information on participants including age, gender, residence, disability, protected characteristics.</p> <p>Use of information to test who is using facility, ensuring maximum penetration within local community; help guide marketing and promotion activity to underrepresented groups; and identify need for creation of specific initiatives to address any issues arising.</p>
Financial Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly financial reports noting Peak and off peak income from facility hire; event income; grant revenue funding received – all against target • Monthly financial reports noting expenditure against budget. <p>Use of information to monitor financial position, identify variances against budget and need to take remedial actions where required.</p>
Satisfaction Levels	<p>Quarterly surveys of facility users to gain feedback on services provided – from booking systems, access arrangements and affordability and use of spectator areas.</p>

	Use of information to address concerns and review any policies or procedures necessary to ensure safe, welcoming, affordable and accessible facility.
Volunteering	<p>6 monthly monitoring of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nos and Characteristics of volunteers; no of volunteer hours; types of volunteering opportunities Questionnaires gathering information from volunteers on impact of these opportunities on skill levels, confidence, self-esteem and future aspirations. <p>Use of information to ensure facility is creating opportunities which are vital to long term success and supporting the development of volunteers.</p>
Wider Community Use	<p>Monthly recording of amount and type of use by different groups within the community including social and leisure use e.g. walking football, by local schools, community sessions (e.g. unemployed groups, walking clubs, youth groups), boot camps, aerobics, coaching courses etc.</p> <p>Use of information to gauge level of wider use made of facility by community and associated satisfaction levels.</p>
Impacts	<p>Anticipate carrying out annual survey work with facility users/participants, member clubs, wider community clubs and other community users.</p> <p>Use of information to test if facility has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> improved access to pitches for training and home games and resolved current barriers. increased participation levels for different groups impacted positively on teams/participants affinity and association with Ardrossan and Winton Impacts on participants physical and mental health and wellbeing <p>Beyond this at the end of Year 3 we would anticipate commissioning a wider, independent community survey to establish:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> resident's perceptions of the facility. how well it has been received by local people.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• the contribution it has made in terms of terms of increasing opportunities for participation in football wider physical activities, community use and in delivering health benefits.• and whether it has impacted on overall quality of life and pride in the community.
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Locality Partnership: Three Towns Locality

Date: 4 September 2024

Subject: To advise the meeting of applications received in respect of the 2024-25 Elderly Grants fund.

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

Background: Applications have been received in respect of the 2024-25 Elderly Grants fund.

Key Points for Locality Partnership:

- The 2024/25 Elderly Grants budget for the Three Towns Locality is **£12,980**.

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

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

Completed by: Sharon Fleming
Grants & Performance Officer
Email: sharonfleming@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Date: 16 August 2024

THREE TOWNS & ARRAN COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND

OFFICERS REPORT

Applicant: St Peter's Primary Parent Council

Description of Applicant: The Parent Council is a group of parents and teachers working together to support and enhance the educational experience at St Peter's Primary School. They organise fundraising events, apply for grants, and use the funds to purchase equipment, fund school trips, and contribute to other school initiatives.

Number of Members: 7	Established: August 2020
Meeting Place: St Peter's Church Hall	Date of Visit: 13 – 16 January 2025

Description of the Project: This parent council was formed shortly after the school restarted following the Covid lock down. Unfortunately, at this time, the existing member's children had all moved into secondary so we were a completely new group and in lots of ways we were starting from scratch with no handover. We had to find out feet with bank accounts and constitutions and figure out the best things the group could be focusing on. We felt it was really important to support the children back into a normal education experience after lock down. We found that the Scottish Government and the council education department seemed understandably nervous after lock down and we wanted to support and back them up in re-starting normal school activities including parent involvement. The first activity we supported was a Halloween Disco which the group felt so important that we organised this ourselves with the support of the local church St Peter's offering the use of their church hall. We were delighted to invest funds for a DJ and snacks and to see the kids enjoying normal social interactions that had been so reduced during lock down. I think this really set the tone for our wee group, always wanting to promote and ensure the kids have the best school experience possible, from school trips, parties, Christmas fayres and supporting the school getting parents along to events again.

The aims of this group are to represent parents and children within the school. We offer a sounding board to the head teacher and use our contacts with other parents to make sure their views are represented to the school. We organise annual fund raisers and school events such as parties and fayres. We apply for funding to reduce the cost of the school day for the whole school and provide opportunities for the children they might not otherwise have. Any parent/carer of a child in St Peter's is able and welcome to join the PTA and we have an AGM that everyone is welcome to where we report on the years activities and invite new members to join. We have contacts with other Parent Councils and work together when necessary.

Background: The Parent Council plays an important role in supporting the school and enhancing the educational experience for students. They work to raise funds and secure grants to provide resources and opportunities that might not otherwise be available.

Project for Funding:

The main aim of applying for this funding is to try and reduce costs for parents to ensure that pupils are not excluded from taking part in the residential trip and to promote financial inclusion within the community. Upon return pupils will share their experience with their community. Arran is only a ferry ride away and I am sure children will be telling their parents all the exciting activities they have completed and asking their parents to take them back in the future. My older son loved his Arran experience and has just this summer gone back to Arran and climbed to the top of Goat Fell. This was partly due to all the time spent outdoors on his Arran trip and I am grateful for it.

The residential opportunity has a number of benefits to the children including:

Confidence building - for some children this may be their first time away from parents/on a holiday for more than one or two nights, they may be pushed out of their comfort zones and as a result will build confidence and self-esteem at their own achievements.

Independence - Parents sending their children on this trip are giving their child the chance to be in a new environment away from home and normal caregivers and empowering them to explore the world independently.

Relationship building - this will allow students to spend time with each other in new environments and will foster deeper connections between each other and with teaching staff. Pupils can see their teachers in a new light out of the classroom. Ultimately these improved relationships with teachers will benefit the children as they progress through school and allow to prosper.

Resilience - This trip will include activities that are physically challenging and may be completely new to the children. Participating in these activities will lead to a greater determination to try other new things when they come home.

Social skills - being away from parents, will allow the children to grow in their social skills, interacting with each other during activities and working with new staff.

All students benefit - This is an inclusive school trip, and additional funding will help reduce financial barriers that parents may face. We find at St Peter's some parents are embarrassed about admitting financial hardship and very reticent about coming forward to ask for assistance with paying for anything school related. The funding will mean that the families most in need will automatically have a reduced cost, along with other parents without need of being singled out.

Engaging hard to motivate students - Some pupils in St Peter's do struggle in a classroom environment and having experienced the difference in some children even just on a day trip with the class or a walk around the local area, I think Arran will really bring them out of their shells and have their existing skills recognised and encouraged.

Funding

Amount requested: £3813.40	Contribution by Group:
Total cost of project: £3813.40	Teachers are being for their own accommodation

Three Towns & Arran Community Benefit Fund Criteria

1. Charitable	2. Educational	x
3. Community	x 4. Environmental	x
5. Renewable Energy	6. Energy Efficiency	
7. Sustainable Development	8. General Community Amenity	
Level of environmental enhancement: This visit to the outdoor centre promotes outdoor activity and well-being.		
Level of community involvement: Fundraising events and initiatives actively involve the community.		
Level of funding secured or available: The Parent Council have no funds to contribute to this experience.		
Experience of group to deliver project: This is an annual activity and those involved in the residential are very experienced in delivering this project.		
Future sustainability of project: This is an annual activity and those involved in the		

residential are very experienced in delivering this project.

Location of Project: Arran Outdoor Centre, Isle of Arran

Officer Details

Name:	Sharon Fleming	Position:	Grants & Performance Officer
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Date: 16 August 2024

THREE TOWNS & ARRAN COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND

OFFICERS REPORT

Applicant: Retirement Yoga Group

Description of Applicant: 09-CBF 24/25

Number of Members: 25	Established: Year 2000
Meeting Place: St John's PS Base	Date of Visit: Aug 2024
<p>Description of the Project: The Retirement Yoga Group is a constituted community group that aims to enhance the well-being of its members through yoga and social activities. The group meets weekly for yoga sessions and organises outings and coffee meetups to combat isolation and loneliness among its members, who are mostly over 70 years old.</p> <p>Background: The group has been active for 20 years, providing a supportive and inclusive environment for its members. The yoga sessions focus on maintaining mobility, flexibility, balance, and relaxation, which are essential for the physical and mental well-being of older adults. The social activities and friendship help address the issue of isolation that is often prevalent in this age group.</p> <p>Project for Funding: The funding would be used to cover the costs of yoga instruction, hall rental fees, outings, coffee meetups, and a Christmas dinner. These activities directly contribute to the group's mission of promoting physical and mental health, social interaction, and overall well-being among its members.</p>	

Funding

Amount requested: £3,000 Yoga tutor fees: £2,750.00 Hall let from NAC: £350.00 Outings and coffees: £1,250.00 Christmas dinner: £1,250.00 Total cost of project: £5,600	Contribution by Group: £1,183.00
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Three Towns & Arran Community Benefit Fund Criteria

1. Charitable x	2. Educational
3. Community x	4. Environmental
5. Renewable Energy	6. Energy Efficiency
7. Sustainable Development	8. General Community Amenity x
Level of environmental enhancement: N/A	
<p>Level of community involvement: The project directly benefits the 25 members of the Retirement Yoga Group, all of whom are residents of the local community. The group's activities specifically address the needs of older adults, promoting their physical and mental health, social interaction, and overall well-being. By combating isolation and loneliness, the project contributes to a more connected and supportive community.</p>	

Level of funding secured or available: The group is contributing £1,83.00 towards the total project cost of £5,600.00. They have also applied for £5,000 funding from Age Scotland.

Experience of group to deliver project:

The group has a 20-year track record of successfully organising yoga sessions and social activities for its members. They have a volunteer committee that oversees the group's operations and ensures the smooth delivery of its services.

Future sustainability of project:

The group has a sustainable model for funding its activities, with members paying monthly fees to cover ongoing costs. The requested grant would provide additional support for specific activities and events, enhancing the group's ability to serve its members effectively.

Location of Project: Saltcoats Town Hall

Officer Details

Name:	Sharon Fleming	Position:	Grants & Performance Officer
Date: 30 July 2024			

Locality Partnership: Three Towns Locality Partnership

Date: Wednesday 4 September 2024

Subject: Locality Action Plan 2024/25

Purpose: The Locality Partnership are asked to approve the content of the draft 2024/25 Locality Action Plan.

Background

In accordance with the Community Empowerment (2015) Act, each Locality Partnership is legally required to have an action plan.

Locality Action Plans should:

- Be focussed, prioritised, locally relevant and evidence based
- Tackle inequalities
- Be about working in partnership

Locality Action Plans will not:

- Contain everything that is relevant to the area
- Be a wish list
- Cover “business as usual”

Key Points for Locality Partnership

In December 2023 the Locality Partnership approved the 2023/24 action plan. An update on the outcomes from that action plan will be circulated to the Partnership by email in due course.

The draft action plan for 2024/25 is attached at appendix 1 of this report.

The Locality Partnership should note that:

- Locality Action Plans will be updated annually. Actions that span multiple years can remain on the action plan with annual updates provided.
- The Action Plan will be a standing item on future meeting agendas.
- Moving forward, Action Plans will be reviewed and approved during the June round of Locality meetings to allow for thorough discussion and engagement with the Partnership and Community Planning Partners

Action Required by Locality Partnership

The Locality Partnership are asked to approve the draft 2024/25 Action Plan

Completed by: Jennifer McGee, Policy & Community Planning Officer

Action	Who?	When?	Locality Priority
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to support and build the capacity of community organisations and support to identify funding streams which help each organisation work towards becoming sustainably responsible. 	Three Towns Locality Team NAC Funding Team	Summer 2025	Promoting the local economy and tourism
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build stronger relationships between local community groups/organisations and North Ayrshire Council departments to ensure strong partnerships are developed to sustainably develop local facilities. Continue to support community groups/organisations to utilise NAC community wish list to ensure large local developments are having a positive impact on community-based projects. Provide support to community groups/organisations with Community Asset Transfers and delivering information sessions for prospective asset transfers. 	Three Towns Locality Team Locality Partnership Members Active Schools Team	Summer 2025	Regenerating community facilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide individuals and like-minded groups with a common interest to become empowered to work towards improving their town centres, heritage sights and the wider community. Support groups to strengthen volunteer banks and encourage stronger engagements on locality-based priorities Work with our inspiring young people, adult learners and older people to become more active in their communities and place-based 	Three Towns Locality Team Locality Partnership Members Community Groups/Organisations TACT Youth Fourm Older People's Network	Summer 2025	Increasing civic pride and community engagement

<p>initiatives, to ensure their voice is heard, appreciated and actioned.</p>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to provide and promote holistic approaches to wellbeing through adult learning opportunities. • Support community-based organisations and groups that have a specific focus on improving community health and wellbeing to ensure they have the capacity to deliver their aims and objectives effectively. • Work in collaboration with local schools to deliver issue-based education, early intervention projects, qualifications and youth led groups. 	<p>Three Towns Locality Team NAC Education</p>	<p>Summer 2025</p>	<p>Improving community wellbeing</p>

THREE TOWNS LOCALITY PROGRESS REPORT Q2 SEPTEMBER 2024



North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership



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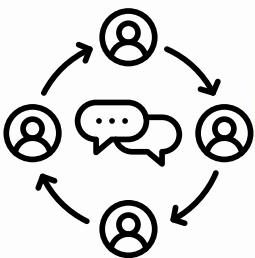
Economy & Tourism



Community Regeneration



Improving Community Wellbeing



Civic Pride & Community Engagement

Three Towns Locality KPi Stats

2

263 adults engaged in CLD activity this quarter

37 adults with improved mental health and wellbeing outcomes in CLD activity.

43 children (under 12) engaged in CLD activity this quarter

145 children and young people with improved mental health and wellbeing outcomes in CLD activity

102 young people (12 and over) engaged in CLD activity

29 community groups receiving capacity building support through CLD activity this quarter

There have been 75 volunteering opportunities participated in within CLD this quarter

268 adults and young people reached and engaged with through one off promotional events /drop ins/community events/engagements.

Promoting the local economy and tourism

Raise your voice Ardeer had a really successful Summer fun day at Doon the Beach. Many organisations partnered with them on the day and people attended from all over North Ayrshire



Ardrossan Castle Heritage Society have been busy with Community dig events held in July and will be facilitating a 'Doors open day' in September celebrating places and stories new and old!

There has been much excitement with the discovery of the Bell that used to hang in the North Parish Church in Ardrossan and can now be seen at the Heritage Centre



10 Amazing years were celebrated at Whitlees Gala Day in June and was a huge success with people attending from surrounding community and further afield. Gala days were supported across the Three Towns by our locality team and it was great to be apart of the festivities!





We have been working with the young people at Ardrossan Youth Association to structure their committee and delivered training sessions where necessary. The group met over the Summer to give the centre the TLC it needs which includes a deep clean, gardening and decorating. The association are looking to decorate the centre, inside and out and have completed a community benefits Wishlist.



We are currently supporting groups in the Three towns towards reaching their ambitions for community ownership. These include:

- Whitlees Community Centre
- Ardrossan Indoor Bowling Club
- Hayocks Swing Park
- Campbell Park, Saltcoats



Increasing Civic Pride and Community engagement

Calendar of Summer Events in the Three Towns below. Big day was planned for National Play Day with ACDT and unfortunately the weather was not on our side and will be rescheduled for September/October.



FREE Summer Events in the Three towns

Raise your Voice with Ardeer Family Funday
Sat 6th July
10am-4.00pm
'Doon The Beach Hub'
Stevenston.

Ardeer Gala Day
Sat 6th July
12.00pm-4.00pm
Ardeer Community Centre
Stevenston

Sea Queen Gala Day
Sat 13th July
12.00pm-5.00pm
Behind Oscars Restaurant
Saltcoats



Hayocks Fun Day
Tue 16th July
12.00pm-4.00pm
Hayocks Community Centre
Stevenston

Castle Heritage Community Dig
Fri 19th July & Sat 20th July
11.00am-4.00pm
Ardrossan Castle (Cannon Hill)
Ardrossan

Cunningham Housing Association Funday
Monday 22nd July
10.00am- 2.00pm
Whitlees Community Centre
Ardrossan

STEM Day
Tue 30th July
12.00pm-3.00pm
Whitlees Community Centre
Ardrossan



Duck day
Sat 3rd August
1.00pm-4.00pm
3 Towns Allotments
Ardrossan

Link Up Party in the Park
Sat 10th August
11.00pm-3.00pm
Glebe Park
Saltcoats



Increasing Civic Pride and Community engagement

Hayocks Fun Day

Collaborative Fun Day between NAC and Stevenston North Community Association held at Hayocks Hall, Stevenston.

The community fun day was a great success, with over 300 people attending on the day. All the activities on offer were enjoyed by the families and young people Three towns wide. The community café made over £400, which will be reinvested into the centre/community The partnership working between Dawn (Development worker), the association and new locality team has cemented a good working relationship between us all, so much so, conversations have already begun regarding other projects we would like to work towards together to benefit the local community.

This partnership has helped close the gap towards barriers to participation because of the long-standing service the association already has in the area, which helped create opportunities between new and regular participants.



Increasing Civic Pride and Community engagement



Participatory Budgeting fund for 24/25 is now live!! Three Towns team held a chit chat to launch PB by hosting a PB Tea Party with a plus one invite. As a result, groups attended that had never heard of PB and were really happy to hear about this funding opportunity. Applications can be accessed via our Shaping North Ayrshire website and paper applications are available across libraries in all localities.

<https://northayrshire.communitychoices.scot/>



PB funding applications are now OPEN!



Increasing Civic Pride and Community engagement

Discovery Award Group

Supporting the group to meet their goals in terms of accessing services, volunteering opportunities, award materials and organising their journey of discovery trips.

The group are now constituted and have their own bank account.

Recommendations were raised regarding the constitution – these were adopted on Thursday 27th June by the group.

The group recently worked in partnership with Friends of Stevenston to clean up the Shore Road seating area and they also worked in partnership with the Three Towns Growers on Thursday 8th August to support their plot holders open day.



Youth Groups in the Three Towns

There are a number of youth groups held across the locality including; Gamers groups; Scratch group; Fun activity based groups; youth voice; DofE; Art groups; sports groups and many more!

Highlight on Argyle youth group- A brand new youth group in Saltcoats which started in May.

We had over 40 young people register, who all had an input in the group rules and the delivery programme.

COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

CLASP, who are based in Stevenston were introduced to the Coalfield Community Transport, which has led to one of their members of staff completing MIDAS training which keeps cost down paid by the council's community transport pilot funding.

CLASP: "social outings for our older people with only a cost per mile charged.

We were able to work in partnership with Coalfield Community Transport to provide CLASP with a solution to combat the barrier's trips can often cause them.

CLASP: "the cost of hiring private wheelchair friendly buses for our social outings had become prohibitive due to rising costs. Some of these costs we then need to pass on to our service users, but the rising costs then became a barrier for many older people participating."

This was great as at very short notice we were able to fill 2 buses on 2 separate social outings to Cardwell Garden Centre."

Past outings have faced cancellation due to high costs of coach hire, as CLASP struggled to then increase costs to service users directly. CLASP: "The costs were reduced significantly, and the participants loved their day out at a much-reduced cost. This helps them to connect with others, develop new friendships and reduce isolation and loneliness experienced by many older people."

Numeracy in everyday life

Shopping

Calculating change
Understanding discounts
Comparing prices

Budgeting

Keeping track of income and expenses and making sure you have enough to spend on the things you need

Banking

Opening a bank account
Understanding bank statements

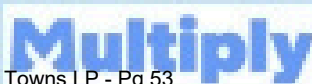
Homework help

Develop your own maths skills so you can help your children with their school work.

If you could use a hand with any of these tasks, contact Fiona Lynch for free adult numeracy support:
FionaLynch@north-ayrshire.gov.uk



North Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir a Tìth



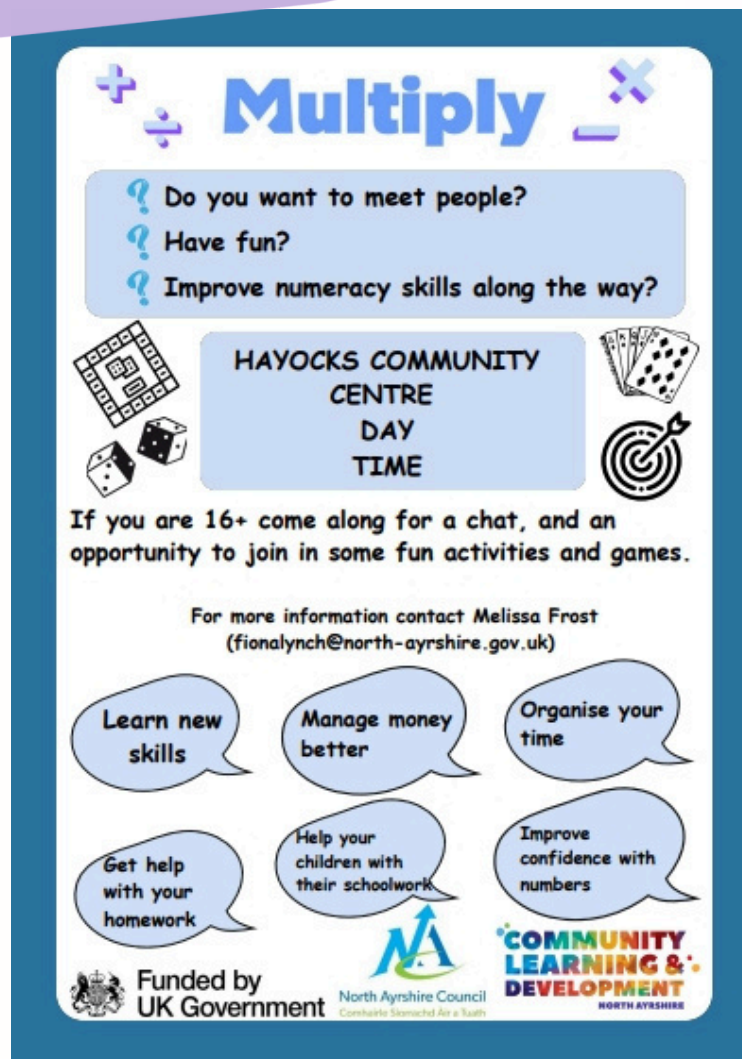
3 Towns LP - Pg 53



Funded by
UK Government

I wanted to improve my numeracy skills.
I have a good laugh and a good chat
about what we're doing and what's next.
It helps me with my money now that I
know my numbers better.

Brian M
Turning point



Multiply

- Do you want to meet people?
- Have fun?
- Improve numeracy skills along the way?

HAYOCKS COMMUNITY CENTRE DAY TIME

If you are 16+ come along for a chat, and an opportunity to join in some fun activities and games.

For more information contact Melissa Frost
(fionalynch@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)

- Learn new skills
- Manage money better
- Organise your time
- Get help with your homework
- Help your children with their schoolwork
- Improve confidence with numbers

Funded by UK Government
North Ayrshire Council
COMMUNITY LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT NORTH AYRSHIRE

I wanted to learn new skills. The work is good, and I am learning quite a lot. It helps get my brain working.

Alan
Turning point

For further information contact:

**Denise Fraser
Locality Officer Three Towns**

denisefraser@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

AUGUST 2024

DONNA ANDERSON, ANNE-MARIE HUNTER, DENISE FRASER & LEANNE HILLAN-FOWLER

3 Towns LP - Pg 56



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.

Members of Scottish Youth Parliament

Our MSYPs attended the national sitting of the Scottish Youth Parliament in July. Along with the Scotland wide membership they were involved in an anti sectarianism programme training.

MSYPs were working on the SYP manifesto consultation launch. The first step is to ask young people what issues they think need to be included in the manifesto. Then later this year, our MSYPs will work together to create policies that can tackle these issues if implemented.

At the last sitting the 3 campaign areas for the next 2 years were voted as:

- Increased mental health training and education
- Invest in and protect youth work services
- End gender-based violence



SYP recently announced the national campaigns publicly and have already received a large amount of support from organisations across Scotland, from third sector partners to Members of Scottish Parliament (MSPs). At the sitting, the campaign training sessions gave the opportunity to set the groundwork for what they know about these campaign topics, what other advocacy work is being done in Scotland and how they can work alongside it, and what they hope to achieve through these campaigns in the next two years. The campaigns could take a lot of different formats from creating resources and training, to hosting a public event to improve conversations, to writing to decision makers about new legislation.

Consultation workshops help shape national policy and as such our MSYPs took part in:

- CW 1 – Transitions to Adulthood for Disabled Young People.
- CW 2 – Scottish COVID-19 Inquiry Workshop 2 – Mental Health and Digital Inclusion.
- CW 3 – Artificial Intelligence in the Children’s Hearings System.
- CW 4 – Education Reform – What Should Happen Next?
- CW 5 - Together (Scottish Alliance for Children’s Rights): State of Children’s Rights Report.
- CW 6 - Learning for Sustainability Project – Phase 2 Workshop.

Our MSYPs have also been meeting regularly including Executive Youth Council, attending summer events and programmes, volunteering and working on individual projects.



Educational Visit to Houses of Parliament

In partnership with the UK Parliament Education Centre we secured spaces for a group of young people from North Ayrshire to attend an educational visit around Parliament, including watching some of the live House Of Commons. 23 young people including Executive Youth Council, MSYPs, Garnock Valley Youth Forum, North Coast Youth Forum and Greenwood Youth Forum travelled down with youth services staff for the event.

The event itself allowed the groups to meet up beforehand and get to know each other. We were guided round Parliament to learn more about how it works, took part in a debating class and were visited by MP Alan Gemmell who took time out of his day to meet with the young people for a Q&A and for him to share his own journey into politics. Even more so as Alan was one of our young people who was integral to the setting up of the Scottish Youth Parliament when it first started. The trip was a first for many of our young people who had never travelled without parents or carers or even out of the country.

Alan had quoted: *"I was inspired meeting this brilliant group of young people from North Ayrshire yesterday. They asked great questions - and I hope to see some of them in politics. We are lucky to have such great youth workers in North Ayrshire - thank you for making this visit happen!"*



One of our young people said of the trip: *"I learned so much socially and culturally, I learned to be more receptive and understanding of the difference in those environments. I also learned about how Parliament works in a bit more detail and was able to engage with that learning physically. I could actually see parliament working while being told about its history, how it functions, what it looks like and how it operates so it definitely gave a new perspective.*

I was also able to create and develop a lot of friendships. One area I really struggle with is being able to connect socially with people, making new friends can be challenging and I think that's maybe exacerbated here by the fact I'm no longer in school. I was worried that maybe I still wouldn't fit in during this trip and I was thinking of backing out but I stayed on and committed to enduring that discomfort, and I'm really glad that I did because I actually did develop and create some friendships - that was a massive thing for me.



This was also my first time down in London, and it's the farthest south I've ever been - I've never even left the UK, and so my experience of going to places like London or even Orkney have come from being involved in youthwork. My family is very working class so if it wasn't for being involved in youthwork and the exec, I don't think I would have had this opportunity for many years. I'm really grateful for that."



Arran Pride

North Ayrshire Youth Services team were joined by 40 young people from MSYPs and exec Members, Garnock Valley Youth Forum, North Coast Youth Forum, Irvine Youth Legacy Hub, Young Carers, and key youth participation representatives from across our six localities, as the team journeyed to Arran in June to celebrate Arran Pride.

The community event is one of the biggest in Arran's events calendar and Youth Services climbed aboard the Youth Services Mobile Youth Centre to tour the island and be part of the action.



The equalities forum stayed the night before at Arran Outdoor Centre to take part in some cold water therapy, teambuilding and preparing their banner for the next day.

Youth Work Modern Apprentice, Rachel Allison said: *"The atmosphere was incredible, and the island was beautifully decorated with Pride colours to show visitors how welcoming they are there of the LGBT community. We visited on Saturday to run mental health and mindfulness workshops, do some glitter festival style face painting and help spread the word of the power of youth work and our Equalities Forum which focuses on creating a fairer and more equal North Ayrshire for all young people – particularly those in marginalised groups such as LGBT youth, New Scots and our peers who are from the care experienced community. Thanks to everyone who travelled over with us and to the event organisers Arran Pride for an incredible weekend to remember!"*

For LGBT support available locally visit: [LGBT support \(north-ayrshire.gov.uk\)](https://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk).

Or give Youth Services a follow via Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/nayouthservices> or X: <https://x.com/NAYouthServices>



Outdoors For wellbeing

Our Outdoors for Wellbeing camp brought together 27 primary 4 -7 aged young people for a week of wellbeing activity, using indoor and outdoor activities to help our young people experience the power of nature through a range of different methods promoting positive mental health and wellbeing. Partners and professionals came along each day and held different activities with the young people.



This programme had such a diverse range of activities and different things for our young people to get involved with and learn.

- The MHWB Officer, along with our Modern Apprentices delivering arts, crafts and nature walks
- Scottish Sports Futures who delivered sports and wellbeing workshops.
- Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator delivered team building activities, camp fire building, fire lighting, hot chocolate and roasting marshmallows.
- North Ayrshire Countryside Rangers who delivered bird watching walks, Moth ID workshop and minibeast hunts
- North Ayrshire Councils Energy Awareness Officer and Biodiversity Officer came along and held sustainability scavenger hunt and an interactive timeline of biodegradability activities
- Hoots and Owls interactive bird display group came along with a variety of different owls and held a educational handling session with our group.
- North Ayrshire council Climate Change ambassadors and the Executive Youth Council helped facilitate the group with a park litter pick.
- The whole weeks activities were finished off with a outdoors Yoga session in the woods.

This programme opened young minds to nature, they learned new skills and found different ways to understand and spend time in nature away from devices.



Vicki Andrew, the MHWB Project Delivery Officer said:

"Starting off with a series of outdoor adventure days with a mental health focus – the Outdoors for Wellbeing summer camp booked up within a matter of hours after the call-out went live on social media. Our hope was that by taking part, the young people would have the chance to explore the great outdoors, taking time in beautiful surroundings to learn about nature, biodiversity and most importantly have fun."

The week long event was a massive success with so much positive feedback from participants and their parents/carers.

"I enjoyed meeting new people, the fire building and the owl visits were my most favourite but I enjoyed all of it, Thank you for the chance to come! I made new friends I enjoyed finding and learning about bugs and mini beasts, I feel I learned a lot I wouldn't have handled a frog, a worm or a beetle before." - Young Person



"With regards to the last five days of your club, the boys have learned so much on many different and highly interesting and diverse subjects from art to outdoor activities and many more. A club can only be as good as those presenting all subject matters and I have to say from the feedback I have had from the boys the staff were of the highest quality. They showed great patience, knowledge and understanding of the various needs and character of all the young people taking everything into consideration this was a wonderful five days and I would have no hesitation of recommending it to everyone I know and I hope something similar will be available in the future. Congratulations and thank you." - Parent

"I have been really struggling with my health at the moment which has impacted my ability to go outdoors and do activities with my daughter, this week has given her a break from her care giver role and allowed her to have fun with her peers. My daughter has been more chatty and had more energy due to this week she has made friends with new people and learned lots of new skills." - Parent

"I have been really struggling with my health at the moment which has impacted my ability to go outdoors and do activities with my daughter, this week has given her a break from her care giver role and allowed her to have fun with her peers. My daughter has been more chatty and had more energy due to this week she has made friends with new people and learned lots of new skills." - Parent

"This week has been fantastic for her she has come home every day excited to share her day, there has been such a variety of learning in the most fun and interactive ways.

The outdoors has definitely increased her positivity and wellbeing. Well done all!!" - Parent



Drama for Wellbeing

Performers receive standing ovation at HAC drama showcase

Youth Services returned to the Harbour Arts Centre in August for a week-long drama workshop. This year, the North Ayrshire Drama for Wellbeing sessions were attended by over 35 young performers aged between 6 to 15 years old.

Following a series of workshops throughout the week with a mental health and wellbeing focus, the hard work of the children and young people was celebrated on Friday, August 9 with a show-stopping on-stage performance to the Provost, special guests and family members.

Some of the young performers have already been used to the stage, starring in amateur drama and local dance school productions. However, for others, this was their first time in the spotlight.

Youth Worker Vicki Andrew led the workshops throughout the week supported by drama facilitators working in the industry. She said: *"I am incredibly proud of our talented performers. The free workshops were fully booked. We were really amazed how well received the uptake was as the aspiring performers were able to discover the power of youth work via confidence-building and wellbeing sessions. It's been great to welcome performers who were with us last summer too, they've grown so much!"*



"In our performance we wanted to convey the power of confidence and resilience and demonstrate the power of drama in doing this through building a positive mindset, creative expression, self-esteem and encouraging self-belief levels - everything our students learned throughout the week. The transferable skills gained through this drama experience means that our young people can carry this with them through life supporting communication, teamwork and leadership, listening and responding, creativity, critical thinking and problem solving alongside time management and research. These skills can help with school, relationships and beyond. They surpassed our expectations and were absolute superstars, I'm delighted that their performance was so well-received, they couldn't believe that they got a standing ovation. I'm so proud of each and every one of them."



One parent said: *“The singing was incredible, and the drama was really moving, it was also brilliant to see Makaton being part of the performance too. I was deeply moved by the production and it’s great to hear from my daughter and her friends that they’ve been able to learn some valuable performance skills and develop techniques to be more mentally resilient ahead of the new school term.”*

The programme is a brilliant example of how the Council continues to champion children and young people’s rights – building their confidence and encouraging them to learn new skills beyond the classroom.

Drama for Wellbeing also centres around the Council’s ongoing work around The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) - an important, legally binding agreement which outlines the fundamental rights of every child, regardless of their race, religion or abilities.

In this case, the workshop focusses on Article 13 – freedom of expression and Article 31 – the right to relax, play, learn and develop.



Rhonda Leith, Head of Information and Culture shared: *“Well done to the colleagues across Youth Services who have been back on the road this summer to support our communities with a host of youth work activities over the school holidays. The youth work delivered at Drama for Wellbeing demonstrates how the Council is dedicated to providing safe and supportive environments for children and young people thrive, be themselves, have their say on what matters to them, and most importantly have fun across various local venues. It was incredible seeing everyone perform at the Harbour Arts Centre as they experienced what it is like to be on the stage at one of North Ayrshire’s most prominent venues for arts and culture.”*



Duke of Edinburgh

North Ayrshire Youth Services have shared their congratulations to Ross Muir, Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator – winner at in the national YouthLink Scotland Awards.

Nominated by his colleagues and young people for his work with the Duke of Edinburgh Award outdoors, the local 'Mountain Man' scooped the coveted Outdoor Learning and Environment Award at the annual YouthLink awards ceremony.

Held on Wednesday, June 12 at the Double Tree Hilton in Glasgow, the annual award ceremony is a celebration of the power of youth work across Scotland.



His colleague and nominator Donna Anderson, Youth Participation and Democracy lead said: *"We are absolutely over the moon that Ross came out on top. Ross is North Ayrshire's very own mountain man and he is so driven and passionate about helping young people to conquer their barriers. Making connections outdoors is so important to him and is central to his work. His love for the outdoors really is contagious. I nominated him on behalf of Youth Services because his hard work and commitment to outdoor youth work opportunities and the Duke of Edinburgh Award programme has been unsurpassed."*

Ross has over two decades of experience and has supported thousands of young people over the years to unlock their potential outdoors and make a lasting impact in their local communities.



In the last year alone, he has supported over 400 young people in delivering over 5,000 voluntary hours locally, including foodbanks, charity shops and ASN sports support. He has also championed outdoor expeditions, identifying exciting outdoor activities like mountain-climbing and orienteering, and is always on the look-out for more ways that he can harness the power of youth work to give back to local communities.

Head of Service for Connected Communities Rhonda Leith, said: *“Ross’s passion for the great outdoors and youth development has earned him the coveted accolade. He continues to be a source of inspiration for to us all and we are delighted that he came out on top, being recognised at a national level. Through his leadership, young people have been able to discover the transformative power of nature, gaining essential life skills along the way. He is a true embodiment of the Council’s values of focus, passion and inspiration and we are so grateful to have his expertise on board, leaving a lasting legacy across North Ayrshire’s six localities.”*

Ross said, *“I am still absolutely in shock to be nominated, so to have won the Outdoor Learning category is just unbelievable. Thank you so much to everyone for their support, what a brilliant start of the summer for me! There were so many inspirational people at the ceremony, it was amazing just to be sitting alongside them and listening to their stories. The focus for the Duke of Edinburgh over the coming year and beyond is to keep promoting and offering the Award to as many young people as possible. I’m looking forward to continuing to work with all of our school coordinators and youth workers locally to help young people across our six localities to realise their potential. They are the ones that keep the Award alive here in North Ayrshire and who continue to put us on the map in this important area of youth work.”*

The Duke of Edinburgh Awards offer a wealth of exciting development opportunities for young people to learn new skills and realise their full potential.

For more information about the Duke of Edinburgh programme and other youth work opportunities, visit the Youth Groups and Organisations Council webpage.



Active Schools have had an amazing quarter to finish off the Academic year!

Extra Curricular Programmes

We have had a total of 9181 distinct participants take part in our extra curricular programmes across all primary, secondary and ASN schools. The team have worked hard to make sure our programmes are inclusive and open to all ages and stages.

Events

We have delivered 81 sport and physical activity events across the school year with 5300 participants attending. Again schools from across all sectors have attended. These range from netball, football, dance to boccia, basketball and rugby.

Volunteers

We currently have 98% of all our programmes being delivered by volunteers which include young people, teachers, parents and club representatives. We are delighted by the dedication shown by our volunteers to make sure they are providing high quality sport and physical activity sessions to our North Ayrshire young people.





Leadership

This year seen 1003 P6/7 young people trained to deliver playground games using our Move and Improve resource. These young people have then went on and delivered multi sessions to their peers to keep them active at break and lunch times.

This year has seen 120 Young Ambassadors complete their Ruby, Sapphire, Emerald and Diamond stages. Their role has been to promote, motivate and inspire other young people to get involved in sport in their schools, clubs and local communities. The young people involved have also supported the delivery of clubs and events.

185 young people from across 9 secondary schools and ASN school completed their North Ayrshire Sports Academy qualifications and volunteering with us in early July. The participating young people gained more than 15 national governing body qualifications and in house workshops. They also all received a saltire award for their volunteering and contribution to sport. Many of the young people also completed their level 6 SQA qualification in Leadership as part of their journey. This year's cohort reached over 3000 hours of volunteering within their own schools and community.



1003



120



185



Sportscotland School Sport Awards

This year has been a record year for our schools. With support of their Active Schools Co-ordinator, schools have worked hard to gain these awards. The award looks at all aspects of school sport from curriculum PE, teacher training all the way to extra curricular provision and access to national events.

Our Success



Gold



Silver



Awaiting

Those schools awaiting should be granted these no later than October.

Active Schools and Community Partnership Officers

The Aim of these roles:

Work with key partners/stakeholders to remove the barriers for young people within Care Experience and to access Sport and Physical Activity opportunities across North Ayrshire to lead a healthier lifestyle.

51

EXPERIENTIAL
OPPORTUNITIES
DELIVERED

638

NUMBER OF
PARTICIPANTS
TARGETED



Shanaari Indicators



We are so looking forward to the next Academic year and making sure we provide even more sport and physical activity opportunities for our North Ayrshire young people.

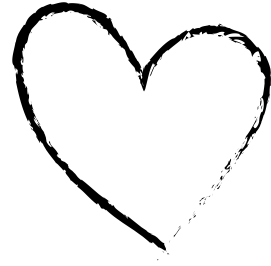
If you would like more details on any of our work please contact naactiveschools@north-ayrshire.gov.uk



NASA 2023/24 GRADUATION



- *"I was nervous about taking part with all the different people that were there. I was also nervous about going to other schools. I really enjoyed it and it was good to get the certificates"*
- Lockhart Staff Quote - *"Taking part in NASA boosted the participants confidence and self belief at a crucial time in their life. The course helped to break down barriers and has helped the leaders to thrive academically and socially."*



OCEAN'S YOUTH TRUST BOAT TRIP

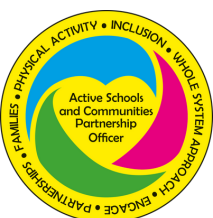


Q. Now that you're back on land, do you notice any changes in yourself?

A. *"I have been a lot more open minded and a lot more helpful with my mum doing the dishes or cooking more. I feel I have been a lot happier since I have been home which is really good. I feel more confident all of the time now."*

TERM 4 RESIDENTIALS

- *"It was good. I was so tired but good now. I didn't think I could manage going to the mainland for the night but I did and didn't even worry!"*
- *"I loved all of it. I especially liked meeting new people and i have a new bestie. I didn't realise I could do so many sports and be quite good at it!"*
- *"I was a bit nervous and anxious because I didn't know many people, but then I built up the courage to speak to people and I loved it"*
- Staff Quote- *"It is so exciting to see how a pupil can begin to realise their own potential through initiatives such as this and the effective partnership working between everyone. Thank you."*



Corporate Parenting Summer Programme



The summer programme offered whole family support to mitigate the impacts of poverty and bringing young people together by offering Care Experienced young people a chance to try new things, get out the house and build relationships with others who may have similar experiences to them. It offered chances to connect with young people and build relationships so when working with schools and communities the staff became a friendly face and in turn allows for further engagement.

The Corporate parenting team now sits under the youth work banner within Connected Communities, this work is in line with North Ayrshire Promise priorities.

The programme worked well with young people to taking part in activities that they otherwise may have not gotten the chance to do as the cost can often be too high allowing friendships to blossom, which was great to see, particularly the older members who attended. Young people were able to open up to one another about their experiences and chat about coping techniques and things that they enjoy with some activities for parents/carers to stay at the events or to do a drop off giving some families some respite, but it also gave others a chance to bond and to experience an outing together.

With one carer stating: *"Being twins the girls have quickly learnt to rely on each other in their own small bubble. Attending events that can take them out of their comfort zone and help them interact with other young people is great for their own personal development. Both girls really enjoyed soft play and as a carer it gave us a couple of hours off knowing the children were safe and being looked after."*

The programme made a difference to many of the young people in which all had stated that they wished they could stay at events all day. We had some great feedback in person from the parents/carers who loved watching their young person thrive and have fun in this environment. With one young person at our bowling event who was particularly scared around the noise and the potential dangers of bowling, but with the support from the other young people who attended he took part and came in second at the bowling which was a great achievement for him as you could see the happiness just by his facial expressions.



Corporate Parenting - Finding Their Space

In my previous role as Youth Worker, staff took a group of young people to the first Promise Conference. Two young people, let's call them X and Y, in particular were magnificent on the day. Without realising what they were doing they took the lead in a group discussion and showed incredible bravery to tell their stories. They were shared in a very open way and without fear; real storytelling and connection in action.

What they both didn't realise was that by articulating their experiences, they opened up a safe and trusted space for others to do so. One young person, from another school, who was sat next to them and had not said a word in the previous couple of hours. As X and then Y started to speak, she made eye contact and was engaged. Then very quietly she found the courage to share her story with the group as well. As she spoke it was easy to sense that she was feeling every word and was visibly rising upwards in her posture.

At the end of the session, X and Y were thanked and congratulated, both of them blissfully unaware of how they had, with humility, opened up a space into which the other young person could step and flourish.

When it came to Joint Cabinet and deciding upon which young people to invite, we wanted to broaden the scope so that we took less of the 'usual' young people that would volunteer. X and Y attended, with a 100 other young people from different schools. With plenty of reassurance, even more persistence and encouragement, they agreed to go. And when at Joint Cabinet they were overawed, exercised, loud, shy, erudite and energised in equal measures!

Following this, both X and Y have been attending the Champions Board meetings and it has been a pleasure to see them turn up and really engage with the opportunity. They have both said yes to having an input in shaping future events and seeing the commitments they have made has been a joy.

Two things stand out from the Champions Board meetings: firstly X has been able to formulate and state her career goal of being a Cabin Crew member, *"making loads of money, seeing the world and then working with care experienced kids like me to make it better for them"*. Secondly, towards the end of term Y was the only young person able to attend a Champions Board meeting. The vast majority of other young people would not have stayed on their own and certainly would not have spent 45 minutes with two members of the Corporate Parenting team chatting so freely. Y did.



To bring the story up to date, the staff member is also volunteering as a MCR Pathways Coordinator, *"I was lucky enough to have X and Y within my scope for enrolling on the Young Talent Programme. I knew from the very first day that both X and Y would benefit from having a mentor but also that X would be very anxious about who her mentor would be."*

When it came time for that first introductory meeting, it was obvious instantly that the matching process had excelled. X and her mentor got on famously, with a second full period meeting arranged for the next week. Two things stand out from that; due to an incident at home it was the only period of the week that X came into school and she was completely comfortable meeting with her mentor in a very public space.

Y's mentoring situation mirrored this. Again, an instant connection with her mentor was there and a full session followed swiftly. It really has been a privilege to see both X and Y develop and flourish, all of which started with The Promise Conference. The next chapters of their stories are awaited with enthusiasm.



Modern Apprenticeship Programme

Staff training - L&D9DI and L&D11

This activity was planned to increase the bank of assessors to meet service needs and fully support the delivery and assessment of a range of qualifications. Qualifications include PDA, SVQ level 3 and level 4 youth work, L&D9DI assessor award, and the L&D11 Internal Verifier award.

This was essential due to movement of staff to different roles and taking on more responsibility, previous assessors and internal verifiers were unable to maintain their assessment roles. Resulting in having four assessors, two of which were also undertaking the responsibility of internal verification.



The process began with identifying potential staff who were keen to develop their skills and become part of the assessment team. Locality coordinators then chose the staff members to complete the appropriate qualifications based on workload and service need.

Completing this process has resulted in an increased pool of assessors and internal verifiers to share the responsibility and alleviate the time spent by individual staff members conducting assessment duties.

The assessment team has almost doubled in size where we now have eight assessors and three internal verifiers. This also allows for more tailored and individual support to be provided to candidates as most assessors will now be assessing one candidate instead of two or three.

Assessor and IV candidates were taken through their qualifications two at a time, this allowed for some peer support to take place and fully embed their learning regarding assessment decisions, processes, and procedures. The question bank group worked well and was identified as good practice during a recent L&D external verification visit. This gave new assessors an opportunity to look at a range of responses and discuss what is acceptable with experienced assessors, Through this group we have attempted to make assessment decisions as easy as possible by identifying a range of acceptable evidence for each point.



This training programme has allowed:

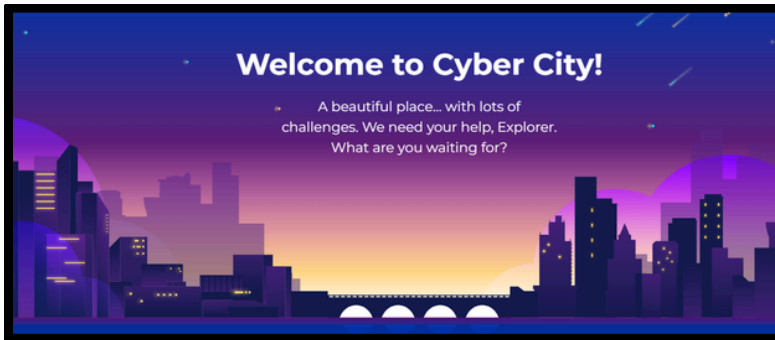
- Increased bank of assessors and verifiers has reduced the time required for individual assessors and verifiers are required to spend on these responsibilities.
- Improved standardisation due to an increased number of views and perspectives being considered.
- Staff have been upskilled and gained valuable qualifications.
- Increased awareness of national occupational standards for youth work.
- SVQ candidates are better supported with more individual guidance and training.

One of our IV assessor candidates had said: *"Throughout my assessor and internal verifier qualification journey, I have felt immensely supported and valued. From the very beginning, my assessor and IV provided clear guidance and constructive feedback, ensuring I understood each concept thoroughly. Their encouragement fostered a positive learning environment, allowing me to ask questions and seek clarification without hesitation. The resources made available were comprehensive and tailored to meet my individual needs, reinforcing my confidence in applying the knowledge practically. Moreover, the structured support system, including regular check-ins and mentorship, made me feel like an integral part of the Assessor team. Craig acknowledged my progress, celebrating milestones along the way, which significantly boosted my motivation. This recognition not only affirmed my skills but also enhanced my belief in my ability to succeed in this field. Overall, the continuous support and recognition from Craig and the wider assessor team have been pivotal in my professional growth. I now feel equipped with the necessary skills and confidence to excel in my role as an assessor and internal verifier, knowing that I am valued and supported every step of the way."*

Our commitment to workforce development continues in supporting staff members to complete this qualification as well as a fully comprehensive training programme across all areas of CLD practice.



Cyber Resilience – Cyber Explorers



We were delighted to receive funding from UK Government for this first of its kind Cyber Resilience programme. This is the first in the UK delivering this programme in a community setting whilst working alongside our education department .

Cyber Explorers is a programme designed to offer digital skills for children and young people. It is an accredited programme that young people aged 11-14 complete a set of challenges and missions. These tasks let you work through the 'cyber city' and learning all about different digital skills to enable service users to prepare for the world of work.

The significance of the programme is to learn about how digital and technology will play a part in certain career opportunities. It highlights safety online and gives chances to make better choices whilst online. It will fall in line with the curriculum. The programme offers lesson plans, resources and full guidance from me and other delivery staff. On completion of challenges, they will be awarded and SCQF Level 4 and SCQF Level 5.

With the academic year started we will be targeting primary 6 & 7 as well as S1 and S2 pupils. A letter of proposal will go out to specific academies to begin with and all cluster primary schools in those specific academies. Before the year had even started we have a number of primary schools on board.

Delivery in the community will be across council community centers and the remotely with the use of the Mobile Youth Centre.

With the post only starting four weeks ago we now have

- A full time staff in place, with support from sessional staff and Modern Apprentices to support delivery.
- Electronic equipment ready
- Cyber hub in place
- Mobile Youth Centre updated
- Wifi in place at our Cyber hub
- Mifi for remote delivery
- 2 primary schools ready for delivery
- Social media set up



Cyber Resilience – Summer Roadshow

Youth Services teamed up with North Ayrshire Libraries to deliver a series of cyber sessions this summer.

Delivered by the youth work modern apprentices, the sessions focussed on cyber resilience and online safety, young people's rights online, digital technologies, inclusion and digital opportunities to learn online or take the next step in employment.

Youth Work Modern Apprentice Max said: *"We were really looking forward to visiting libraries to deliver this vital cyber programme. As a young person, I know how important being digitally connected is to young people. But there can be a dark side too... We want to empower young people to know the dangers of online, how to protect themselves against cyber attacks but also how to utilise the power of online and apps to help overcome obstacles, look after their mental health build connections and help them to achieve their aspirations and goals."*



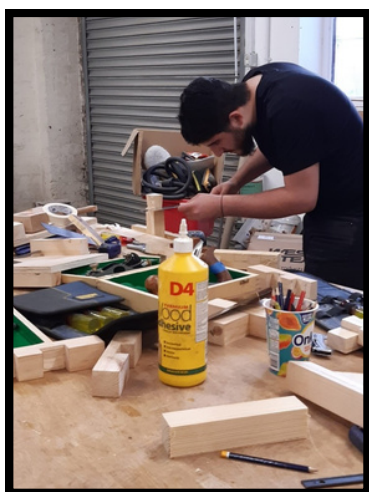
New Scots

New Scots Maritime Museum Project

The New Scots Maritime Museum Partnership was a project designed to increase engagement between New Scots communities and the Maritime Museum. Building on the work initiated by New Scots volunteers, who were introduced to the museum through Community Learning and Development (CLD), over the summer this partnership has been instrumental in developing bilingual resources. These resources aim to widen the museum's audience and improve inclusivity, making exhibits more accessible to non-native English speakers.

A significant part of the partnership is a project that engages both adults and young people in identifying and designing a new exhibition. This exhibition links their old and new communities, highlighting the rich cultural histories of the participants' countries of origin while connecting them with Scotland's maritime history.

The positive feedback from participants underscores the value of the project in enhancing their lives and contributing to a more inclusive and connected society.



New Scots

ESOL Big Class Experiment

This quarter we delivered the "Big Class Experiment". This aimed to address the high number of ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) learners spread over large areas, each with diverse needs. Recognising the challenge of providing effective language education we sought an innovative approach to maximise our impact.



We reached out to the Glasgow ESOL Forum to learn about their strategies for managing classes with diverse needs. Inspired by their methods, we decided to pilot a similar approach, selecting a central location to bring together learners from different areas. We had different tutors and volunteers facilitating at different tables to meet specific needs based on language levels.

We organised six different tables for various language levels, ensuring that participants could learn effectively with content tailored to their current language proficiency. This structure helped in providing focused and relevant instruction to each learner.

The experiment successfully engaged a large number of people from various communities. By centralising the location and diversifying the classes, we were able to effectively meet the different needs of a substantial number of learners.



New Scots

New Scots Book Writing Project

From August 5th to 9th, a group of four ESOL learners embarked on a unique and enriching book writing project, meeting daily to collaborate with a PhD student from the University of Glasgow. Over the course of five intensive days, the learners not only developed their English writing skills but also had the chance to express their creativity through storytelling. This project allowed them to build confidence in their language abilities while working together towards a shared goal.

The result of their hard work is the publication of *Children and Angel Ankey*, a book that delves into profound themes such as war, courage, friendship, and the power of dreams. The experience proved to be a rewarding journey for all involved, as the learners combined their personal insights and imaginations to create something truly meaningful. Supported by the CLD ESOL and New Scots team, this project showcases the powerful impact of community learning. The book is now proudly available on Amazon.



New Scots

Taste of Home Cooking Group

The Taste of Home cooking group started through the Discovery Award, which is a fun and free personal challenge award for people aged over 50. The Discovery Award was undertaken by members of the Ukrainian community over the age of 50. 'Skills' were part of one of the sections, so they decided to start a cooking group to share dishes that are traditionally Ukrainian. The group meets at the Argyle Community Centre in Saltcoats.

We have a lot of Ukrainians living in North Ayrshire and it is great for them to be able to spend time with each other, share their recipes and improve their English at the same time. Groups like this also help Ukrainian people to integrate into the community by spending time with members of the Women's Group at the centre – and with other Scottish people they meet.

Recently, the New Scots women got a chance to put their feet up instead of putting aprons on when members of the Women's Group at the centre cooked for their Ukrainian friends and made cottage pie with ginger loaf, tablet and shortbread for dessert.



New Scots

Spike Wheat Scots and Scots Syrian Roses Arabic Seran Events

In July, Spike Wheat Scots and Scots Syrian Roses organised two vibrant Arabic Seran events (loosely translated as picnic BBQs with music) in McGavin Park. These gatherings, supported by the CLD New Scots team and Kilwinning Community Council, brought together the Syrian community, asylum seekers, and other New Scots in a celebration of culture and connection.

The first event, hosted for men, and the second, organised by Syrian Roses, a community group for New Scots women, featured delicious Syrian food, including kebabs and other flavourful Middle Eastern dishes. Both events were family-friendly and saw a great turnout, offering a space for attendees to relax, socialise, and enjoy music.



In addition to providing a joyful experience, the events played a meaningful role in helping asylum seekers in the area build connections and feel more integrated into the local community.



New Scots/Multiply

Financial Literacy Game Group

Since June, Ukrainians in North Ayrshire have been meeting monthly to participate in a financial game designed to increase understanding of financial literacy, budgeting, and numeracy skills. This engaging activity not only helps participants improve their money management but also provides an opportunity for socialising and connection.



The sessions, which are part of the Multiply Project and supported by the CLD Multiply team, cater to learners with varying levels of literacy needs, from more advanced participants to those just starting out. The game offers an interactive and enjoyable way for everyone involved to deepen their understanding at their own pace, empowering them to manage their finances more effectively.

These monthly gatherings have not only enhanced financial awareness but also helped participants build valuable community ties.



Funded by
UK Government

MULTIPLY



Multiply

Multiply STEM visit to Whitelee Windfarm

A group of adult learners from across North Ayrshire recently attended an excursion to Whitelee Windfarm. This trip was arranged in partnership with The Learner Hub at the windfarm and it allowed the learners to experience various aspects of the renewable energy industry. The educators at the windfarm are specially trained educators with a specialist knowledge in science and engineering. They facilitated practical learning sessions for the Multiply group as well as conducted a question and answer session.

Each participant has been part of the ongoing Multiply project and has accessed 1:1 or group work numeracy lessons and supports. Multiply Project Delivery Officers , Jennifer Haining and Chloe Smith organised the trip in order to supplement the work which is ongoing in hubs throughout each locality. The learners on the trip have shown immense dedication and commitment to developing their skills, some which has resulted in completing SQA accredited units in Numeracy.

The trip was a unanimous success and a further trip to Glasgow Science Centre has already been planned. These fantastic visits are a great example of the opportunities for practical , meaningful adult learning which Multiply presents.



The Multiply Project

Trindlemoss Number and Money Skills Group

The aim of this group is to build knowledge and support around numbers and money handling. We have covered a wide range of numeracy aspects such as coin recognition, addition, subtraction and making purchases using coins and notes.

Working alongside Ayrshire College we have been able to secure numeracy accreditations for learners across the Multiply Project. These qualifications allow learners to secure SQA units without the pressures of attending college and are achieved through community learning.



So far 20 learners attending the Trindlemoss Numeracy and Money Skills Groups have gained a numeracy qualification. The learners are now working towards their next level of money handling. They have recently received their SQA certificates through the post. Gaining their First level numeracy qualification gave the learners a sense of achievement and are keen to secure their next level.

Learners now feel more confident as they can recognise and identify monetary values. One learner used to carry a one-pound coin wherever she went however she now understands a one-pound coin amounts to the same as two fifty pence pieces. Learners have increased confidence and feel empowered so much so some are now making purchases themselves using coins at Trindlemoss café.

Gaelic

Fèis Arainn

Fèis Arainn took place 23/07/24 – 26/07/24 and attracted higher numbers than ever, with 85 children attending the main fèis and a further 12 attending Sgoil-Feasgair for more advance players. This year Fèis Arainn worked in conjunction with Arran Music School. Fèis Arainn is a festival of traditional music, culture and language carried out in an easy, non-competitive way with fun and games included. We offer traditional music tuition and a Gaelic arts experience to young people from the age of eight. Participants have the opportunity to try out or improve their skills in a number of musical instruments, song and drama as well as giving them experience of the Gaelic language which was of course the first language of Arran residents in earlier times. In this way they are reminded of the heritage of the island and, we hope, encouraged to keep the language and the spirit of Gaelic alive.



Another Gaelic Scrabble session was held on 06/06/24 under the auspices of Fèis Arainn, this time in the Garden Room of the Arran Heritage Museum in Brodick and attracted slightly increased numbers with sufficient players for three boards including visitors to the island. Those that came enjoyed the session and expressed a desire for more of them.

A further session will be held in early autumn, perhaps to coincide with the European Day of Languages.



Gaelic

Suas Leis A Ghaidhlig and Gaelic Medium Education Picnic

In this quarter North Ayrshire Suas Leis A Ghaidhlig group were invited to attend a picnic in McGavin park with the GME Whitehirst park Kilwinning children teachers and parents.

The Suas Leis a Ghaihlig group attended the picnic in the park with the children, teacher and family members. There was games which the children played with the help of the Suas members using the Gaelic language. There was a few different stations where the children and suas members rotated.

They then had a few songs and poems from the children in Gaelic. Also, happy birthday was sang in Gaelic as it was one of the children's birthday.



Participatory Budgeting



Current PB updates:

- PB 24/25 (locality and youth) has now been launched across all six localities, with launch events held in each locality, providing opportunities for groups to find support to apply and a chance to network with other local organisations.
- Applications are open and organisations are invited to apply via our Shaping North Ayrshire site or through local libraries from 26th August to 13th September for locality and youth PB.
- PB training has been delivered across localities to staff and a community reviewer engagement session has taken place for this round of PB.
- Our Modern Apprentices are working on our Youth PB packs which will go out to all schools (primary, secondary and ASN) to include a session ahead of young people voting. The workshop will cover the importance of a rights based approach, incorporating UNCRC and how to use the digital voting platform to allow all young people to vote from aged 8-25

For further information please visit: <https://northayrshire.communitychoices.scot/>



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 has delivered training to staff who are interested in being the Single Point of Contact for Community groups exploring community asset ownership. This training will build on improved communications between departments to ensure groups feel fully supported through the CAT journey.

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

Three Towns

Whitlees Community Centre - Campbell Park, Saltcoats - Ardrossan Indoor Bowling club - Hayocks playpark and surrounding area

Kilwinning

Blacklands Hall - Auld Dirrans Centre

Irvine

Maress Road - Maress Playing fields - Ravenspark Golf Club - Clubhouse,

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 - Bowencraigs Playing fields (final stages) - Brisbane Centre - Simson/ Craufurd Avenue Swing Park - Holehouse Road - Cameron Centre



Food Insecurities



The Fairer Food Network & Larder Updates

- Currently 16 food larders across North Ayrshire supporting over 3000 households with a dignified food provision.
- Millport Community Shop opened in July and has over 40 registered households to date. Cool boxes have been ordered to help keep food cool while transporting back to the island.
- Beith Larder has stopped responding to requests for information and figures. Despite several requests, there has been no success and as a result, they did not receive the latest payment. The FFDO will attempt a drop in visit to bring them back on board.
Update: figures have now been received and payment released.
- Cranberry Moss is needing support to recruit volunteers, look at keyholding, funding and general support. A meeting will be scheduled with FM, locality staff and the FFADO to support all aspects.

Mears Grant

- Four families have signed up through the Mears Foundation. Two for Choices and two for The Tap End. Funds are in the process of being transferred to Choices. The Tap End are the holding account for the fund.

Development Day

- The Fairer Food Network had a development day on 9 May at Ardeer Centre. The group discussed sustainability, covered the breastfeeding toolkit and looked at funding. Working agreements were also reviewed and updated to align with the changes to community contracts.
- Due to the development session being close to the next network session, the group decided to postpone the next network meeting. They will now meet early in September.

Trussell Trust Community Campaigner

- The FFADO met with Rhion Mills who is the new Community Campaigner with North Ayrshire Foodbank. Rhion is looking for assisting in reaching out to people who have local issues that need support. The FFADO linked her to the larder network and the locality teams.



Food Insecurities

IMC Community Fridge

- The FFADO met with Cllr Montgomerie who oversees the IMC Community Fridge initiative in Saltcoats. He would like for the fridge to become part of the Fairer Food Network so steps have been taken to register it as a food provision with Environmental Health. There is now works to be undertaken to meet the registration criteria.
- Once the work has been completed, the project will go on to receive quarterly funding along with the larders.

Funding

- The 7th quarterly payment has been made to all larders with the exception of Beith (see above) 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.
- A new monitoring form has been issued to all larders to cover the period to March 2026.

Events

- The FFADO had a stall at the Cunninghame Housing Conference at Seamill Hydro in June. Approx 60 people interacted with the stall and it was good to see that many were aware of the larder network.
- The FFADO attended a morning session on Delivering place-based Regeneration initiatives: SURF Awards Shared Learning Workshops. The FFADO intends putting the network forward for the next round of awards
- The FFADO attended Glasgow Community Food Network's Regional Event. It was good to hear from other areas about current initiatives and challenges.

Other Updates

- Equal supported Employment Garden has consistently supplied fresh produce on a weekly basis all summer. These have gone mainly to Cranberry Moss and Argyle due to the days they have been harvested and the opening times of the larders.
- Many of the other growers and allotments have donated on an ad hoc basis throughout the summer.





Locality Partnership

The Ayrshire Community Trust Update – September 2024

Garnock Valley	Irvine	Kilwinning	North Coast	Three Towns
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moving Around (Public Transport, Traffic and Parking) Work and Local Community Facilities and Amenities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting Skills and Work Opportunities Enhancing our Mental Health & Wellbeing Alleviating Poverty Championing Green Health and the Natural Environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting Skills and Work Improving our Local Environment Alleviating Poverty and Promoting Equality of Access to Opportunities Improving Community Wellbeing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving access to financial services Increasing social inclusion Improving mental wellbeing Supporting skills and work opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting the local economy and tourism Regenerating community facilities Increasing civic pride and community engagement Improving community wellbeing

The Ayrshire Community Trust covers the whole of North Ayrshire, and we continue to support the Community and Voluntary Sector with a range of services. Below is a list of support / activities undertaken in which are relevant to the Locality Priorities above since the last Locality Meeting:

- www.tact.scot continues to be updated with a range of information.
- We have sent out various information bulletins highlighting useful resources, funding information and general advice.
- TACT social media continues to be used as a platform to promote safety messages from Police Scotland, Funding Information, Benefit Support, Energy Advice and vital local service provision. We would welcome any information from other service providers that we can share.
- TACT Staff have been organising and facilitating quarterly 'networking' Forums for all 3rd Sector groups and organisations that wish to attend. The next Forum meetings are scheduled for **Tuesday 3rd September (online) and Tuesday 3rd December 2024 (in person)**. There are 4 per year and they are all themed, this year the themes are Cost of Living, Funding, Support to the Sector and Sector Updates, relevant speakers are booked for each forum. If you are working with or know of any 3rd Sector organisations and would be interested in attending, please email: info@tact.scot
- Staff continue to maintain regular dialogue with North Ayrshire Council to update on progress and identify additional ways we can work together.
- INFORM North Ayrshire** – Cost of Living Support. We have created an online guide to provide information on the range of services available across North Ayrshire who are able to offer support and advice on topics such as energy, food and money concerns. The directory can be accessed here: https://issuu.com/tact-na/docs/inform_north_ayrshire

- **Positive Steps with Partners** is our Pre-Employability Project funded by Your Next Move Working North Ayrshire. The team are focusing on Personal development activities supporting barrier removal in helping people become more ready for exploring employability options. The team are delivering face-to-face interactions and offering personal development sessions such as STEPS to Excellence, One to One sessions with the Confidence Coach focusing on personal goals to overcome barriers towards employment.
- Health in Mind is a new element to PSWP where individuals' work with our Personal Trainer Tommy Kelly focusing on improving physical and mental wellbeing. Our programme motivates individuals to explore volunteering that will support them to gain the practical experience they can transfer into the workplace.
- The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service also provide our participants who are ready to move into volunteering with a placement within the Community Action Team attending events promoting Fire Safety in the Community. If you have anyone that may be interested in finding out more, please contact Cheryl Newall via: cheryl@tact.scot
- **Employability** - TACT continue to be a partner on the North Ayrshire Local Employability Partnership (LEP) and strive to keep the sector up-to-date with events, training, consultations and information relating to employability
- **North Ayrshire Third Sector Chief Officer Group** – This is open to Senior Staff working with a 3rd Sector Organisation across North Ayrshire. This Group works together to tackle local issues collectively whilst providing great networking opportunities. A doodle poll has been circulated to agree a date for the next meeting. If you are interested in getting involved, please email: kaileigh@tact.scot
- **Organisational Support** – continuing to work with groups and organisations delivering relevant training including Governance, Basic Bookkeeping, Constitution & Charity Registration, Funding and Volunteer Management. We are also assisting with Charity Registrations, PVG Support, Funding Support and Support with compiling Constitutions. Continuing to support groups in achieving SCIO status and supporting groups with their CAT applications.
- **Community Asset Transfer (CAT)** - We are supporting ten community groups/organisations through the Community Asset Transfer (CAT) process. Each organisation is at various stages of the process, and we are liaising with and supporting them at each stage. We also provide advice to groups that are considering or want to know more about CAT. To date we have provided information and support to 28 different community groups and organisations, helping 4 community groups to take control to assets and we are currently supporting another 11 organisations through the asset transfer process. We have produced a CAT guidance document for North Ayrshire Council (NAC) to support and help their staff understand the CAT process, ensuring the CAT process is more user-friendly for those accessing it. We have provided training on the CAT guidance document to NAC Community Development and Active Schools staff. We continue to deal with regular queries from community groups and organisations about the CAT process as CAT becomes a viable option for many community groups throughout North Ayrshire.
- **Community Wealth Building**, the Third Sector Interface, TACT sits at the Community Wealth Commission. This commission supports the implementation of the CWB Strategy and will encourage involvement from local businesses, government agencies and local organisations on CWB initiatives.
- Staff are continuing to update and source a range of Volunteering Opportunities that are currently available. We are still receiving a high number of Volunteer Registrations and don't have enough placements for those interested. If you know of any groups or organisations that could assist with some additional volunteers, please contact ann@tact.scot
- TACT Capacity Building Officers continue to promote Community Benefit opportunities to the 3rd sector, this in the past has included training and opportunities to learn topics such as first aid and tendering skills from successful NAC contractors.

- Capacity Building staff also held two information sessions on the Scottish Government's desire to know if there should be further reviews Charity Regulations with one session being in-person and the other online. The feedback gained via these sessions has been passed to Scottish Government.
Committee Skills sessions continue to be delivered upon request.
- **Organisation of the Month** To date we have promoted 38 voluntary organisations. This promotion is on hold at the moment, but we are hoping to resurrect it at a later date.
- **Adult Volunteer Recognition Award** – This award was launched in June 2021 and is designed to recognise the hours of commitment that Volunteers give to organisations throughout North Ayrshire. These awards can be given at any time. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Ann Wilson on ann@tact.scot
- Communities Mental Health & Wellbeing Fund round 4 will be launched on September 25th with application available on 30th.
- Capacity Building staff have also administered and supported the delivery of NOLB and Multiply Funding. These are now closed, and all groups have received their funding.
- **Independent Examinations** (scrutiny of charity accounts for submitting to the charity regulator OSCR). Training is now complete, and the trainees are all busy carrying out examinations, Organisations have been really supportive of the trainees taking on the examination. We are currently working on the accrual accounts service, and this will be promoted when we have more information. If you are aware of any groups who are needing support with their accounts, please feel free to pass on my contact details susan@tact.scot
- **Kindness Krew** This is a new project which aims to link the most isolated people in our area with a volunteer who will be able to meet and have a cuppa and a chat or encourage people to go out. This is a pilot project, and we are working in the 3 Towns areas of Stevenston, Saltcoats and Ardrossan and also Kilwinning and Irvine areas. For further information please contact Michelle Trainer michelle@tact.scot