



North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership

## North Coast & Cumbraes Locality Partnership

Tuesday 3 September 2024, 6.00 p.m. Clark Memorial Church, Largs

### BUSINESS

Item	Subject	Pg No	Ref	Officer	Ask of the Partnership
1.	<b>Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest.</b>	-	-	Cllr Hill	
2.	<b>Action Note</b> Review the action note and deal with any outstanding items.	Pg 4	Enclosed	Russell McCutcheon	Is this an accurate record of the meeting. Have all actions been completed?
<b>DECISION REQUIRED</b>					<b>6.10 – 7.00 pm</b>
3.	<b>Community Investment Fund - Largs Development Trust</b>  The Locality Partnership are asked to consider one full application to the Community Investment Fund.	Pg 8	Enclosed	Helen Meldrum	LP to consider one application to the Community Investment Fund
4.	<b>Grants</b> The Locality Partnership are asked to consider the Elderly Grant report:	Pg 24	Enclosed	Louise Riddex	LP to consider grant reports
5.	<b>Locality Action Plan</b> The Local Partnership are asked to consider the draft Locality Action Plan for 2024/25.	Pg 26	Enclosed	Russell McCutcheon	LP to consider draft Locality Action Plan for 2024/25.
<b>LOCAL MATTERS – TACKLING INEQUALITIES</b>					<b>6.55 – 7.50 pm</b>
6.	<b>WKCIL - Tech &amp; Creative Training and AV Service Project Update</b> The Locality Partnership will receive an update presentation on the project.  The Locality Partnership will also be asked to consider changes to the project.	-	Presentation	Kay Hall  Louise Riddex	LP to receive update on the work of the project, consider changes to the project and consider learning and partnership opportunities.
7.	<b>Youth and Education Overview</b> The Locality Partnership will receive updates linking in with the Locality Priorities.	-	Verbal	Head Teachers  Louise Riddex	Receive update and consider learning and partnership opportunities.

		Pg 33		Active Schools	
8.	<b>Island Plan</b> Receive update on the work of Cumbrae Island Plan.	-	Verbal	Sarah Baird	Receive update and consider partnership opportunities.
9.	<b>Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue - Wellbeing and Partnerships</b> Officers to discuss with the Locality Partnership the key impact of wellbeing and partnership work being carried out by SFRS and Police Scotland in North Coast Locality.	-	Verbal	Stuart Dougan David Murray	Receive update and consider partnership opportunities.
10.	<b>Locality Priorities Officer Update</b> The Locality Partnership will receive an update from Deirdre Oakley, Project Officer, Community Learning and Development.	Pg 35	Enclosed	Deidre Oakley	Receive update and consider potential CIF pipeline and promotion.
11.	<b>CIF Workshops</b> The Locality Partnership will receive an update from Louise Riddex, Locality Officer on plans to host CIF Workshops.		Verbal	Louise Riddex	
12.	<b>Locality Officer and Action Plan Update</b> The Locality Partnership will receive an update from Louise Riddex, Locality Officer.		Verbal	Louise Riddex	Receive update and consider learning and partnership opportunities.
<b>AOCB</b>					<b>7.50 – 8.00 pm</b>
13.	<b>AOCB</b>			Cllr Hill	LP to use this time to raise/discuss matters linking to the Locality, the LP priorities and tackling inequalities.
<b>REPORTS FOR INFORMATION</b>					
14.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CLD Strategic Quarterly Update</li> <li>TACT Update</li> </ul>	Pg 38 Pg 75	Enclosed	Cllr Hill	Locality Partnership are asked to note the report and share as appropriate.
Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 10 December 2024 at 6.00 pm on Microsoft Teams					

## Distribution List

### Elected Members

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

### Community Representatives

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

### CPP/Council Representatives

Russell McCutcheon, Senior Lead Officer  
Rhonda Leith, Lead Officer  
Louise Riddex, Locality Officer  
Stuart Dougan, Police Scotland  
David Murray, Scottish Fire and Rescue  
Michale Thompson, KA Leisure  
Barbara Conner, TSI

## North Coast & Cumberae Localities Partnership Priorities

Improving  
access to  
financial  
services

Increasing  
social  
inclusion

Improving  
mental  
wellbeing

Supporting  
skills and work  
opportunities



<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>North Coast and Cumbraes Locality Partnership</b>
<b>Date/Venue:</b>	<b>Tuesday 18 June 2024, 6.00 p.m. Conference Room, Largs Academy</b>
<b>Present:</b>	<p>Cllr Alan Hill (Chair)  Cllr Tom Marshall  Cllr Ian Murdoch  Russell McCutcheon, Senior Lead Officer, NAC  Rhonda Leith, Lead Officer, NAC  Louise Riddex, Locality Officer, NAC  Sarah Baird, Senior Officer (Islands), NAC  Deidre Oakley, Locality Priorities Officer, NAC  Donald Fisher, Police Scotland  David Murray, Scottish Fire and Rescue</p> <p>Carol Campbell, Co-opted Community Rep  Lizzy Barbour, Co-opted Community Rep</p>
<b>In Attendance</b>	<p>Jackie Tolland, Parent Network Scotland  Heather Meldrum, Largs Development Trust  Kirsty Carson, Head Teacher, Largs Primary School  Alicia Train, Head of Centre, Largs EYC</p>
<b>Apologies:</b>	<p>Cllr Todd Ferguson  Cllr Elenor Collier  Inspector Stuart Dougan, Police Scotland  Michael Thompson, KA Leisure</p>

## ACTIONS

No.	Action	Responsible
1.	<p><b>Welcome/Apologies/Declarations of Interest</b></p> <p>Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for declarations of interest as they arose.</p>	
2.	<p><b>Action Note</b></p> <p>The action note arising from the meeting held on 5 March 2024 was approved.</p>	<b>Noted</b>
3.	<p><b>Community Investment Fund</b></p> <p>The Locality Partnership were asked to consider three Community Investment Fund applications.</p> <p><b>Largs Development Trust – Expression of Interest</b></p> <p>The Locality Partnership were presented with an Expression of Interest Application from Largs Development Trust who are seeking funding for a Resource Hub in Boyd Street.</p>	

	<p>Councillor Hill declared a conflict of interest and passed the Chair of the meeting to Councillor Marshall.</p> <p>After discussion, the Partnership agreed that the applicants should proceed to full application which will be considered at the next Locality Partnership meeting.</p> <p><b>Parent Network Scotland – Full Application</b></p> <p>Parent Network Scotland presented their full application in regards to their project. The partnership discussed two levels of application and the needs of parents within the locality.</p> <p>The Locality Partnership agreed to support the higher level of project at a cost of £99k. A report will be prepared for the Council’s Cabinet.</p> <p><b>Locality Priorities Officer Extension – Full Application</b></p> <p>The Head of Service (Connected Communities) presented the application for an extension to the Locality Priorities Worker post. At this point the Locality Priorities Worker left the room.</p> <p>The partnership had already agreed in principle to fund the extension and with awareness that the second extension would lead to a full cost of over £100k for the project they decided that they still wished to proceed with the extension. A report will be prepared for the Council’s Cabinet.</p> <p>It was noted that due to summer recess, the next Cabinet meeting is scheduled to take place late August 2024.</p>	<p><b>R Leith</b></p> <p><b>R Leith</b></p>
<p><b>4.</b></p>	<p><b>Youth and Education Overview</b></p> <p>The Locality Partnership received an update From K Carson and A Train on the work taking place within the education establishments in the Locality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cumbrae Primary inspection and good practice guide produced</li> <li>• Skelmorlie Primary – Received Gold Rights Respecting School Award</li> <li>• St Mary’s Primary received 5<sup>th</sup> Green Flag Award</li> <li>• Number of school summer shows underway: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Largs Primary – Matilda</li> <li>• Skelmorlie Primary – Aladdin</li> <li>• Largs Academy – Grease</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Bake and Bite Largs gifted school pupils - including Largs Academy, Largs Primary, St Mary's Primary and all the early learning classes a free ice cream to celebrate 20 years in business.</li> </ul> <p>Following discussion, D Oakley undertook to link in with the Coastguard regarding the use of flares on the beach.</p>	<p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>D Oakley</b></p>

	<p>R McCutcheon highlighted that there is funding for tree planting and asked how schools could become more engaged.</p> <p>Cllr Marshall requested information regarding school roles, particularly Cumbrae.</p> <p>A Train highlighted that she would be keen to learn more about the CPP. R Leith undertook to speak with J Greenlees to arrange attending a Largs Cluster Head Teacher meeting.</p>	<p><b>K Carson/A Train</b></p> <p><b>K Carson/A Train</b></p> <p><b>R Leith</b></p>
<b>5.</b>	<p><b>Island Plan</b></p> <p>The Locality Partnership received an update on the work of the Cumbrae Island Plan. S Baird advised that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work surrounding the Cumbrae Sub-group is progressing</li> <li>• The Island Plan Action Plan is currently being reviewed and refreshed. An update will be shared with the Partnership in due course.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>S Baird</b></p>
<b>6.</b>	<p><b>Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue – Wellbeing and Partnerships</b></p> <p>The Locality Partnership received an update in relation to the wellbeing and partnership work taking place with the Police and Fire.</p> <p><b>Police Scotland</b></p> <p>D Fisher highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Police and working alongside partners around fraud prevention and scam intervention and advised that the team are happy to attend any groups in the locality to provide further information</li> <li>• Police Wellbeing Unit continue to engage and support vulnerable people.</li> <li>• Safer shores – priority is to keep people safe. Local teams are working alongside various partners including the British Transport Police and Coastguard.</li> </ul> <p><b>Scottish Fire and Rescue</b></p> <p>D Murray highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 74 home fire safety visits had taking place over the last 6 weeks with 20 people referred on for further support.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Noted</b></p>
<b>7.</b>	<p><b>Locality Priorities Officer Update</b></p> <p>The Locality Partnership received a report and update from D Oakley, Locality Priorities Officer. The updates highlighted were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cumbrae Chit Chat</li> <li>• Craufurd/Simson Avene Swing Park</li> <li>• Yuletide</li> <li>• CWAS Largs Chapter</li> <li>• Largs Food Hub</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cumbrae Community Shop</li> <li>• WKCIL 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration</li> </ul>	<b>Noted</b>
<b>8.</b>	<p><b>Locality Officer Update</b></p> <p>The Locality Partnership received a report and update from L Riddex, Locality Officer. The updates highlighted were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Largs Larder has now opened and is running well with 54 members signed up. They will also assist with Holiday Meals Programme.</li> <li>• 1:1 literacy/numeracy support being provided to the community through the multiply project. This will be ongoing until March 2025.</li> <li>• The Team are exploring setting up a for a walk and talk group in the North Coast Locality. Idea is currently out for consultation.</li> <li>• Planned Family Fun Days for the Locality which will be held in West Kilbride and Largs, as part of the summer offer from Connected Communities. These events will be open to all.</li> <li>• Information and contact details for the new Connected Communities Team supporting the North Coast and Cumbraes.</li> </ul>	<b>Noted</b>
<b>9.</b>	<p>The Chair thanked everyone for attending and highlighted that there was three reports for noting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CLD Strategic Quarterly Update</li> <li>• Roads Maintenance Programme 2024/25</li> <li>• TACT Update</li> </ul>	<b>Noted</b>

## The CIF will support proposals and projects that:

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

## When to apply and how?

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

**Louise Riddex**  
**Locality Officer (Kilwinning & North Coast)**  
Economy and Communities  
Community Development Team  
St John's Primary School  
Morrison Avenue  
Stevenston  
KA20 4HH

Email: [lriddex@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:lriddex@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)  
Tel: 01294475913  
Mob: 07980964858

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**

Largs Community Development trust

**Postal Address for Correspondence**

Click or tap here to enter text.

Name of Contact Person Alex Rhind/ Heather Meldrum

Position in Organisation Treasurer

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.

**Largs Community Development Trust :(LCDT)** The Trust is in the process of completing its application to become a SCIO. Membership at the moment consists of individual members of Largs Community Council and other interested parties including people from Largs First Responders, Largs Thistle Community Club, Green Futures, Visit Largs group and other.

The group meet monthly in the Vikingar, Largs. There are currently 10-14 attending the meetings with an additional 6-8 non attending people who are assisting with the work of the group.

The principal objectives of the Trust are to promote the area for the benefit of the inhabitants. This includes areas such as education, culture and leisure, tourism and social facilities, development of local businesses and the protection and enhancement of the natural environment. To date the activities of the group have been focused on enhancing the local environment and a mapping exercise of issues affecting local businesses.

**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.

**Funding will cover a Community space and services { as detailed below}  
Plus equipment to improve access for Largs Vikingar swimming pool.**

The funding will cover a three year period enabling the LCDT to lease and operate an intergenerational Community space at 36 Boyd Street Largs. (*THE SPACE*). The space will primarily be for the use of local residents and organisations to connect, share resources, collaborate on projects, engage in activities that benefit Largs as a whole, and access services missing in Largs since CAB closed.

**The Space will have three main aims:**

- To provide a physical space for community activities and accessible advice services.
- To provide credit union services
- To host and operate a community radio station.

Together with community organisations and residents we aim to deliver an inclusive programme of activities and services.

**The location–** *The Space* will be located on Boyd Street, Largs. This location was chosen for the following reasons:

- It is an area in need of regeneration. It has a number of vacant shop units and we predict *The Space* will increase footfall and give the area a lift.
- Clients accessing services such as debt management and Women's aid wish to do so in a discreet manner and not on the High Street.
- Value for money- the cost per square footage of property was substantially cheaper on Boyd Street.

**The property;**

The property currently consists of a reception area and 3 separate rooms. LCDT continues to consult with the landlord over the final design to ensure that the final room specifications are relevant to the programme of use. As a consequence, there are a number of changes and improvements that are anticipated including

- Consultation booth/room(s) offering confidential areas
- General access and security arrangements
- Soundproofing.

**The Space will provide:**

- Available safe meeting space for community organisations and volunteers.
- A place for / Information / Signposting.
- A base for the LCDT to “to undertake initiatives throughout Largs to enhance the educational, economic, cultural, environmental and social potential of residents enabling them to turn the community’s vision into reality.
- A space to develop appropriate links / engage with other community based organisations. i.e. OIR/ CC.

- A space to provide services from third party organisations such as Debt management/ Citizens Advice and Women's Aid making access to these services more accessible.
- Desk / room hire by the hour. To offer well presented, accessible spaces with good access to internet at reasonable rates.
- To place to provide satellite space for Credit Union services.
- A place to host and operate Largs community radio station.

***The Space will offer:***

- A welcoming, friendly, fun and positive place to meet for any social demographic.
- A safe place that can help lessen loneliness and social isolation of individuals in the community.
- A place to hot desk/ room hire by the hour available at affordable cost in line with the ethos and values of the Trust. There are no such facilities available in Largs that offer desk/ room rental.
- A point of contact for information sharing and signposting.
- Offer a job club.
- Access to volunteering opportunity.
- A place to engage with local young people to develop initiatives targeted at their own age group including training etc.
- An environment where residents young and old can work together, learn new skills and build confidence.
- A service to assist local residents build savings and financial resilience.

We will access the collective knowledge, expertise and experience of members of the community so that they can help each other deliver a successful community resource.

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

Please include:

- The outcomes you aim to achieve
- How you will approach reducing inequality
- How this proposal fits with the Locality Partnership priorities of 1. Improving access to financial services 2. Increasing social inclusion 3. Improving mental well-being 4. Supporting skills and work opportunities

##### **The Space will:**

Offer a physical space where community members can come together to connect, share resources, collaborate on projects, and engage on projects that will benefit the community as a whole. The range of services offered are listed above and are not exhaustive.

##### **The Credit Union will:**

Working alongside Scot West Credit Union (our chosen organisation responsible for delivering credit union services) we will improve access to financial services and provide volunteering opportunities, supporting skills and opportunities. The credit union will signpost people to other organisation who can provide debt or benefit advice.

We will encourage those who live or work within the common bond (as defined by Scot West Credit Union) to join and aim to assist people who have difficulty opening or accessing a high street bank account. We will encourage children's accounts and promote regular savings habits. We would like to explore ways of working with the local schools around this. We will encourage responsible borrowing.

The aims of Scot west Credit Union are not commercial (although they must be solvent and operate on a sound commercial footing); they will help its members save and borrow – especially people with very little money, who might be excluded from saving or borrowing with more conventional financial institutions.

##### **The Credit Union will provide:**

- A physical place to encourage members to save regularly and build financial resilience.
- Signpost members in need of financial advice and help.
- Provide loans at low interest rates.

### **The Credit Union will offer:**

- Flexibility to save what you can, however small, when you want to.
- It will provide an alternative to payday loans.
- The Credit union will be open to assisting members on a low income
- People without a previous borrowing history.
- People with a poor credit history.
- It will provide volunteering opportunities.

### **The radio station will:**

The radio station will be at the heart of the community and will support the local economy with outside broadcasts at local event e.g. Viking festival / food festival and the switching on of the Christmas lights etc. Hopefully we can reach more people and inspire them to attend these events.

We will encourage *all* demographic groups to participate in the running and presenting of Largs Radio Station. The radio station will be housed within *The Space* however we envisage that a satellite studio will be established within Largs Academy.

### **Radio station engagement**

Communication with Glyn Roylance from Associated Broadcast Consultants suggests that we would be best running an initial pilot using internet radio and podcasts. This give us a feel for engagement: we are therefore seeking **seed funding** for this element of the project. It would require software, PC's and mixing equipment within *The Space* and the Largs Academy studio. We are also seeking to engage local radio producers on the project to get input and help with planning and technical skills, and possibly training if they are willing. Initial contact has been made with IrvineBeat FM who started on their journey ten years ago and now have a very successful station.

We could utilise the helter skelter funding which is currently waiting to find a suitable project, and have engagement from Largs Academy staff who wish to be fully involved with a satellite studio in the school. As well as working with Largs Academy we also aim to encourage young people who have previously disengaged from formal education to come and participate/ volunteer with the radio station, enhancing their employability, critical analysis and communication skills, building confidence, self-esteem, and motivation which will support them into employment or further education

To ensure all local residents have the opportunity to participate we will work in conjunction with other local organisations and will have an intergenerational '*open door*' policy that serves to bring the community together in one location.

We will encourage a wide range of topics to be broadcast i.e.,

- 1) Local music groups
- 2) Offering our local churches the opportunity to have their sermon broadcast on Sundays.)
- 3) Radio book club.
- 4) Live outdoor broadcasts at events.
- 5) Largs players performing radio plays.
- 6) Phone in / chat show.
- 7) Local information/ traffic news etc.

The programmes will be inclusive and content directed by the community led by LCDT.

### **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.

We have engaged and had positive discussions with Largs Action Group (the group set up for the business meetings) .

We have also engaged with the Largs Writers group again with very positive feedback. Also, the group set up to look at what we can do to improve the footfall around the Boyd Street/ Nelson Street area. ( The Brisbane Quarter) have been very encouraging in their enthusiasm for the project.

Discussions have also taken place with OIR who want more detailed information on what services would be offered.

It is the intention to put some information in the library this week with contact details should anyone wish to get in touch.

Should our bid be successful we intend to ask residents what **additional** services they would like to see *The Space* host, and be guided by their suggestions.

### **Credit Union engagement**

We have identified a lack of banking facilities for people who have issues accessing mainstream banking and lending. Largs Foodbank and Scot West Credit union have told us that there is a need which is only going to increase. We are also aware that mainstream banks are closing, with RBS closing 2 October. This will leave Largs and North Coast with only Bank of Scotland.

We know that IT and online literacy, as well as use and access to technology by disadvantaged groups and older people are huge barriers to banking access. The Credit Union would be able to make a real difference to this situation which is likely to just get worse.

The project has been discussed at LCDT meetings and meetings organised by the business group and the Brisbane Quarter group. In addition the free press has ran articles about the proposal.

### 3. How will the project be managed?

Please include:

- How the finances will be managed
- Does the proposed project contribute to volunteering or employment opportunities in North Coast? Please include the number of volunteering opportunities and employment opportunities
- If there are any staff requirements, please outline your HR plans
  
- As ***The Space*** is made up from a constituent range of facilities and services yet to be constructed there is no relevant or trading history to draw on. All finances associated with *The Space* will be run and managed by the Community led by a vibrant and active development trust ( LCDT).
- Accounts for LCDT will be produced in line with the requirements of the charity Commission. All regulatory obligations will be adhered to.
- The group aims to generate a range of income sources to cover its running cost including grants, donations stemming from LCDT membership and other funding sources.
- The Credit Union *run* by Scot West ( hosted within *The Space* and supported by Largs volunteers) will be managed in accordance with their regulatory requirements.
- LCDT will manage the other projects and are currently seeking opportunities to initiate a number of social action projects which may attract third party resources. Examples include funding for crime reduction initiatives, postcode and big lottery

funding, wind farm funds, local supermarket funds. A small income could be generate by room/ desk hire.

- *The Space* will open up volunteering opportunities in terms of staffing and more specific learning and skills opportunities in terms of the credit union and the radio station. We aim to follow the five key principles set out in the Scottish Governments Formal Volunteering Framework.
- Whilst volunteering is the key driver in the setting up and development of *The Space* it is the intention to seek funding for a coordinator to be based out of *The Space* This post will be critical to act in an overview capacity and coordinate the different activities and flow of information generated by the Trust, while identifying new sources of funding and helping to promote *The Space*.

### Swimming pool steps.

An 'Oxford Dipper' chair hoist is used to give access for people with disabilities (bottom left, shown used in another pool).

Typically transfers take up to 20 minutes per person and require one or two pool attendants.

#### . Important limitations

Unlike modern infinity pools, the access space around this pool is very tight, measuring 1.5 to 2m wide or even less. (See the terracotta tiled area shown top left for an indication.)



The pool also has an older-style 'scum channel' which extends under the access space from the pool edge by about 20cm.

This makes installing fixings for equipment designed for modern pool environments very difficult if not impossible.

### Why is this a problem?

We know that users who can't manage the pool ladders simply self-select and don't even bother visiting this pool: the very groups of people that would benefit most from swimming are therefore most excluded from it.

- For many people with disabilities, pool-based exercise may be the **only** form of exercise easily open to them.

### What are we proposing?

- Installation of **a set of custom-made, double-width (970mm+) removable pool steps** will allow a greater percentage of Largs residents to enter the pool autonomously and discreetly, even if we can't fit a more autonomous pool lift at this time.

- Water can be the only place where people who are restricted to sitting much of the time experience any form of bodily freedom to move independently, offering important physical and psychological benefits.

- Swimming can be very sociable form of exercise that lends itself to solo and group activity at individual levels, making it excellent for not only physical but mental health.

Would be-swimmers have to travel an hour's bus journey to Greenock or Irvine for alternative facilities with steps and more autonomous access, if they even bother.

#### 4. 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 (£) **£92.865.00**

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

See attached budget sheet

#### Monitoring and evaluation process

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

To access progress and identify challenges LCDT will collate data and insight in a timely and accurate manner each month, quarter and year to permit Trust assessment and feedback for reporting, planning and decision making purposes.

User satisfaction

Issue survey/ feedback forms

Social impact/ value

Total visits/ engagement by project category

Social demographic breakdown by project category

Awareness survey

Engagement in education/ skills learning/ volunteering

Financial performance

Monthly review of expenditure and income.

## Budgetary estimate for Credit union/ Multi use space

One time set up costs		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Computes x 2 stationary etc printer	£2,500			
IT maintenance	£700	£700	£700	
Brand design/advertising	£1,500			
signage	£1,000			
Community engagement	£250			
training	£1,000			
Shop alterations inc. electrical points/ phone/ internet IT security desk locks	£5,000			
furniture	£750			
contingency	10%	10%	10%	
	£13,970	<b>£770</b>	<b>£770</b>	
<b>TOTAL x 3 years</b>	<b>£15,510</b>			

## Budgetary estimate for **Pilot** Radio station

### One time set up costs

Year 1

Year 2

**Year 3**

OFCOM application

£600

£600

£600

Studio equipment

mixing desk

software

screens x3

£4,000

mix box x2

desk

Transmission equipment/ indoor/  
outdoor

£2,000

Engineer costs

£2,000

signage

£1,000

training

£2,000

Soundproofing room/ booth

£2,000

mast

£2,000

Sockets/ internet

£1,000

contingency

10%

**TOTALx3 years** £19580 less £9.580 sought from  
other sources

**Centre/ Credit**

**union/Radio  
station running  
costs**

rent	£6,000	£6,000	£6,000
utilities	£3,200	£3,200	£3,200
Stationary/ network area storage x 4 discs	£2,000	£500	£500
Broadband webhosting 365 licence etc	£2,500	£2,500	£2,500
Security alarm	£500	£500	£500
Monitoring/ evaluation tools/ survey monkey licence	£150	£150	£150
MCPS {copyright) PPL	£400	£400	£400
Insurance for property/ fire etc	£500	£500	£500
Professional fees	£1,500	£1,500	£1,500
Employment liability insurance Public Liability insurance Professional indemnity insurance	£2,000	£2,000	£2,000
contingency	10%	10%	10%
<b>Centre running costs X 3 Years</b>	<b>£58,755</b>	<b>£20,620</b>	<b>£18,975</b>

*An addition application of £30,000 for a member of staff will be submitted to other funding streams.*

## Budgetary estimate for Pool Steps

**£8,600** ex VAT (as a budgetary estimate)

Pool steps, 10x tablets and Year 1 'Good Boost' software subscription

	<b>Total</b>
<b>Manufacture and delivery of pool steps to KA Leisure specification</b>	£3,600
<b>Specification and installation of steps at Largs Vikingar! pool</b>	
Estimated at ONE person, £600 per day:	
• Site inspection, specification and RAMS statement <i>Half a day's work</i>	£300
• Step installation <i>Half a day's work</i>	£300
<b>10 x waterproof tablets</b>	£2,400
<b>Year 1 'Good Boost' software subscription</b>	£2,000
<b>Budgetary estimate</b>	<b>£8,600</b>

### 1. Estimate of Good Boost ANA programme cost to KA Leisure Year 1+

We anticipate the £2,000 ongoing 'Good Boost' software subscription costs and contingency<sup>1</sup> for 10x tablets will be covered by a modest increase in users at the pool:

*(1) 15% contingency allowed annually for tablet repairs and loss*

*(2) 10x tablets and Year 1 Subscription funded by this CIF bid*

### Estimate of Good Boost ANA programme cost to KA Leisure Year 1+

We anticipate the £2,000 ongoing 'Good Boost' software subscription costs and contingency<sup>1</sup> for 10x tablets will be covered by a modest increase in users at the pool:

	<b>Tablet cost</b>	<b>Subscription</b>	<b>Contingency<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Total KA cost</b>	<b>Break-even (per month)<sup>3</sup></b>
<b>Year 1</b>	<i>£2,400<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>£2,000<sup>2</sup></i>	£360	£360	1 visit per tablet
<b>Year 2+</b>	–	£2,000	£360	£2,360	7 visits per tablet
<b>contingency</b>	10%	15%	15%	15%	

All estimate are exc-VAT.



**Locality Partnership:** North Coast Locality

**Date:** 3 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 Fund has a balance of **£13,766**

**Action Required by Locality Partnership**

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

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

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

**Date:** 16 August 2024



**Locality Partnership:** North Coast & Cumbraes Locality Partnership

**Date:** Tuesday 3 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 is attached at appendix 1 of this report.

The draft action plan for 2024/25 is attached at appendix 2 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

**Self Evaluating Previous Year's Plan:**

Team: NC Locality

Lead Partner/Officer:

Appendix 1

Louise Riddex

**North Coast Locality Partnership Action Plan 23/24 Self evaluation/progress update**

Action	Traffic Light Score	Impact
<p>Increase access to information in relation to money advice, energy support and what is on in the local community.</p>	 Amber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of 'Warm/Heat' Hubs in the Locality with services being available to advise.</li> <li>• Lemonade Energy available to give the community info and advice. This service can be accessed through Food Larders.</li> <li>• Regular communication on what groups are available for all ages.</li> <li>• Meetings with partner agencies at quarterly networking meetings to discuss potential partnership working and how they can benefit local groups.</li> <li>• Various Cost Of Living information events have been arranged within the Locality.</li> <li>• CIF proposal in from Largs Dev Trust which would look at the introduction of Scotwest Credit Union being present in the Largs hub, as well as money matters attending too.</li> </ul>

<p>Work with local businesses to provide discounts for young people.</p>	 Amber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Coast Youth Forum working in partnership with Robbie from Largs Community Council on a litter campaign in which young people receive a badge in return to get discounts on products from local businesses on the promise that the young people discard their litter appropriately.</li> <li>• Over 600 pupils signed up for this project.</li> <li>• Letters from youth forum have been handed in to local businesses to sign up to this litter campaign, to offer a discount to young people wearing the badge. As of yet, no local businesses have sent word back to the youth forum however we will continue to work on this with the help of Robbie and Largs Community Council.</li> </ul>
<p>Work in partnership with Mens Shed to secure the Brisbane Centre through Community Asset Transfer.</p>	 Amber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CAT (Community Asset Transfer) paperwork has been submitted and group are awaiting feedback. Hoping it will be ready to go to cabinet in October or November.</li> <li>• Supported Mens Shed by sending them funding opportunities to look at for when the CAT is complete.</li> </ul>

<p>Provide youthwork and adult learning opportunities to improve knowledge and Wellbeing.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of youth groups within the North Coast improving knowledge and mental health and wellbeing: Skelmorlie youth group, West Kilbride youth group, Largs Drop in group, North Coast LGBT Forum, North Coast Youth Forum.</li> <li>• Delivery of PDA (Personal Development Award) SQA level 6 Youth Work course within Largs Academy to S5-S6 pupils</li> <li>• Assist various groups on relevant funding</li> <li>• Supported Volunteers to register with Youth Scotland and start youth provision on the island of Cumbrae.</li> <li>• Support West K Adult Learning committee. Have encouraged them to have a free offer along with the payable offers.</li> <li>• Multiply (16+ numeracy) group in the form of a board game group has been started in Largs Library.</li> <li>• Multiply (16+ numeracy) 1:1 support takes place in Largs and is on offer across the Locality.</li> <li>• Summer programme for Young people, and families took place across the Locality. 421 people participated.</li> <li>• Skell Well festival has been arranged for weekend of 30 Aug. Various wellbeing activities are taking place.</li> <li>• Support was given to Skelmorlie Rights Respecting Committee within Skelmorlie Primary School. Work is underway to address issues/concerns the young people have about the community. This includes the MUGA and Skatepark.</li> <li>• Worked with groups to build their capacity, and become SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation)</li> </ul>
<p>Work to redeliver Cycle Without Age (CWA) initiative in the Largs Community.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Volunteers identified and training took place.</li> <li>• Storage for Trishaw is situated at Vikingar.</li> <li>• Project is up and running with support from Cycling Without Age Scotland where required.</li> <li>• Cumbrae chapter of CWA supported the start up.</li> </ul>

<p>Work in partnership to make Largs a dementia friendly town.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to work with the Largs Dementia Friendly group</li> <li>• Summer memory walk took place on 2<sup>nd</sup> June '24 and went well. Activities included walking football, tai chi and facepainting. £950.54 was raised in total on the day (this does not include other donations given to DFL volunteers by members of the public)</li> <li>• Dementia Tour Bus training was delivered at Cumbrae Gardens Engagement Hub. A further 2 dates have been set for 21st September at Stevenston Institute and 29th October at Cumbrae gardens.</li> </ul>
<p>Increase access to community larders.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Largs Larder opened 27/2/24. This was named Largs Food Hub. They currently have 80 members registered with 12 Volunteers.</li> <li>• Cumbrae Larder opened 23/7/24. This was named Millport Community Shop. They currently have 62 members with 6 Volunteers</li> </ul>
<p>Support local Community Groups on Cumbrae to deliver on their Priorities.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was an opportunity for Island groups to apply for Cost Of Living Funding. Only 1 group from Cumbrae applied. Another 2 groups were identified that funding could support. 2<sup>nd</sup> round of funding has been announced and work is underway looking at how this could best be used. Meeting was held on the island with Louise, Deirdre and Cllr Hill and a couple of community groups to start discussions on this.</li> <li>• Support was given to volunteers to start up a Youth Group on the Island.</li> <li>• Support was given to Millport Town Hall with NAVT Funding.</li> <li>• Cathedral Group have been in touch with Locality Officer and supports is available if/when required.</li> <li>• Provision of a Cumbrae Sub Group is in the making. This will look at Locality Priorities as well as Island Plan priorities, and how these can be addressed.</li> </ul>
<p>Work with volunteers to establish a youth work provision on Cumbrae.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to support and guide the Cumbrae youth group volunteers to ensure they reach a level of competency where they can appropriately facilitate youth work provision and organise relevant training required such as child protection and committee skills training.</li> </ul>

<p>Engage and work in partnership with local agencies and community groups to address each of the North Coast priorities.</p>	 Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitate face to face meetings and have regular correspondence with other partner agencies through meetings such as: Network meetings, Chit Chats, Community Councils Community Association Youth Forum</li> <li>• Various Expression Of Interest applications heard at meetings throughout the year, most of which led on to Full applications being presented at LP.</li> </ul>
<p>Deliver accredited courses to young and older people.</p>	 Amber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Young people from the North Coast youth forum attended a residential to complete BE-U Mental Health awareness training and became peer mentors to other young people within the North Coast.</li> <li>• 5 Young people currently in process to complete their bronze Duke of Edinburgh award.</li> <li>• Delivery of PDA youth work course '23-'24 which includes theory of Youth Work, as well as a work placement in which the learners attend youth groups and deliver sessions including issue-based talks over a 5 week period giving them experience in youth work delivery. There have been several young people who completed PDA that have become youth work apprentices within the service.</li> <li>• PDA youth work course '24-'25 has began in the new school year. There are 19 participants registered.</li> <li>• Discovery Award (Age 50+ accredited course) has been advertised in Skelmorlie for people to register interest. Only 4 have registered and its bow being widened out to Largs to see if we can get the minimum number of 6 that's required to run a group.</li> </ul>

## Appendix 2

Action	Who?	When?	Locality Priority
<p>Explore place-based solutions to address skills gaps and recruitment challenges in Island Communities</p> <p>Develop appropriate place-based solutions to address barriers to accessing and sustaining employment</p>	North Ayrshire Employability Team	Summer 2025	<p><b>Supporting Skills and Work Opportunities</b></p> <p><b>Improving Mental Wellbeing</b></p> <p><b>Increasing Social Inclusion</b></p>
Support the delivery of the Cumbrae Island Plan and Sub-group.	<p>North Coast Locality Team</p> <p>Senior Islands Officer</p> <p>Community Groups</p>	Summer 2025	<p><b>Improving Access to Financial Services</b></p> <p><b>Increasing Social Inclusion</b></p> <p><b>Improving Mental Wellbeing</b></p> <p><b>Supporting Skills and Work Opportunities</b></p> <p><b><u>Cumbrae Island Plan Action Plan</u></b></p>
Support volunteering opportunities within the North Coast and Cumbraes.	<p>The Ayrshire Community Trust</p> <p>Active Schools</p> <p>Community Groups</p>	Summer 2025	<p><b>Increasing Social Inclusion</b></p> <p><b>Improving Mental Wellbeing</b></p> <p><b>Supporting Skills and Work Opportunities</b></p>
Continue to engage and work in partnership with local agencies and community groups to address each of the North Coast priorities.	<p>North Coast Locality Team</p> <p>Community Planning Partners</p> <p>Local Community Groups</p> <p>Library Staff</p>	Summer 2025	<p><b>Improving Access to Financial Services</b></p> <p><b>Increasing Social Inclusion</b></p> <p><b>Improving Mental Wellbeing</b></p> <p><b>Supporting Skills and Work Opportunities</b></p>

**Locality Partnership: North Coast**

**Date:** June-August 2024

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

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

**Background**

The North Coast Youth Forum will strive to benefit the lives of young people in the North Coast area. We aim to achieve this by involving them in the decision-making process and giving them a voice. The group was formed by the joining of two different groups – the North Coast LGBT Forum & the North Coast Youth Forum in which they take part in various events and activities, representing North Coast young people.

**Key Points for Locality Partnership**

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

North Coast Youth Forum were part of a wider North Ayrshire residential trip to London to visit the houses of parliament. The young people also had a personal visit from local MP Alan Gemmell who discussed issues young people face within North Ayrshire. This trip was enjoyed by all and provided young people with experiences out with their usual learning environments and to have their opinions expressed.

The youth forum also took place in a ‘Lights, Camera, action’ media project. This was a project designed for young people from the North Coast Youth Forum to take part in entry to media course at West Kilbride library. This was a week-long project in which it was all led by the young people.

Day 1: Setting the Scene – young people decided the name of the production company

Day 2: Designing the script and running order of the tv show

Day 3: Filming day

Day 4: Editing the show

Day 5: Showcase

*The purpose of the project was to give young people the autonomy to get creative in a safe and nurturing environment. The young people themselves designed a production company, designed the film set, wrote the running order and filmed a tv show. Every aspect of the tv show was meticulously designed/created and shot by the young people as well as the young people portraying 'chat show hosts' in which they followed the running order of the show and conducted an interview with a singer who performed on the show.*

**Action Required by Locality Partnership.**

**For more information please contact:**

- Ewan Grant. **Mob:** 07444518782  
**Email:** [ewangrant@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:ewangrant@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)

**Completed by: Ewan Grant**

**Date:** 27<sup>th</sup> of August 2024



North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership

# North Coast & Cumbrae Locality Priorities Officer Progress Report

Reporting Period – Jun – Aug 2024

Financial Inclusion

Social Isolation

Work and Skills

Stress and Anxiety

- **NORTH COAST & CUMBRAE CHIT CHATS**  
Skelmorlie Chit Chat is being planned. Date still to be confirmed.
- **CRAUFURD/SIMSON AVENUE SWINGPARK**  
Engagement event with the Community being planned in order to boost local interest and inform local Community of CAT process. Mobile Youth Centre and Swingpark area will be used as a base for Engagement event. Date is still to be set as Mobile Youth Centre is in for repair.
- **YULETIDE**  
  
Initial Community Meeting has been held. Second meeting to be held on Tuesday 10 September 2024.  
Event notification sent and awaiting Action notes.
- **CWAS**  
  
We have now withdrawn support from this as Chapter are well established.
- **LARGS FOOD HUB**  
  
Largs Food Hub going well with now over 70 members.  
  
Received £1000 from Windfarm funding.  
  
Good feedback re School Lunches.  
  
Group have applied for funding to be able to offer School Lunches during October, Christmas and Easter holidays as so many depended on them during the Summer Holidays.
- **MILLPORT COMMUNITY SHOP**  
  
Community Shop opened on Tuesday 23 July 2024.  
  
Over 60 members signed up since opening.  
  
Some volunteers have withdrawn so Recruitment for more volunteers being organised.



North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership

# North Coast & Cumbrae Locality Priorities Officer Progress Report

Reporting Period – Jun – Aug 2024

- **CIF**

Louise and Deirdre organising CIF workshops to raise awareness and generate applications.

Dates of Workshops:

23 Sept 2024  
WK Com Centre  
6.30 – 7.30pm

30 Sept 2024  
Kilwinning Library  
6.30 – 7.30pm

21 Oct 2024  
Largs Library  
6.30 – 7.30pm

22 Oct 2024  
Skelmorlie Com Centre (venue not confirmed yet)  
6.30 – 7.30pm

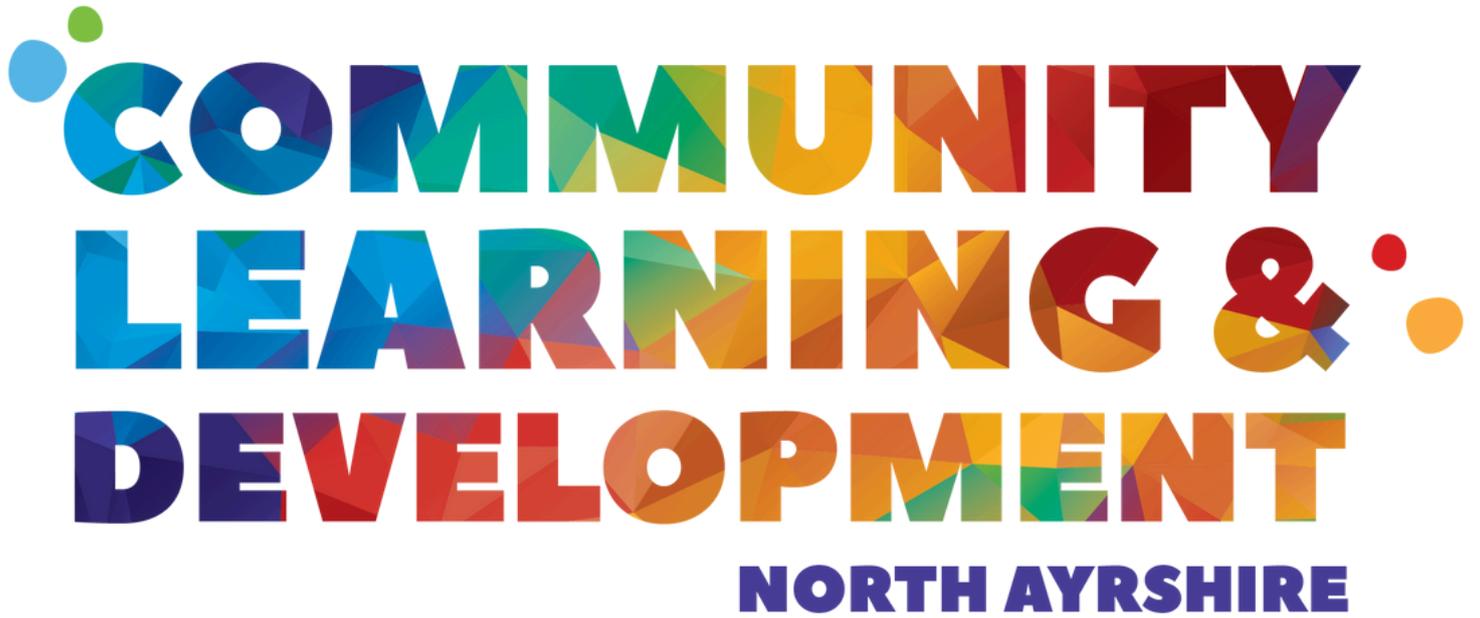
28 Oct 2024  
DA Hall, Cumbrae  
6.00 – 7.00pm



North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership

# North Coast & Cumbrae Locality Priorities Officer Progress Report

Reporting Period – Jun – Aug 2024



# 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

NC LP - Pg 38



## An Introduction to the CLD Strategic Themes

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

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

### YOUTH WORK

Contact: [youthwork@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:youthwork@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)

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

### ADULT LEARNING

Contact: [adultlearning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:adultlearning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)

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

### CAPACITY BUILDING

Contact: [denisefraser@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:denisefraser@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)

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

# 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

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*"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:

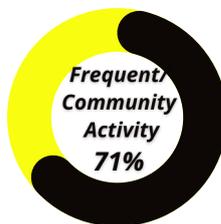
Work with key partners/stakeholders to remove the barriers for young people within Care Experience and to access Sport and Physical Activity opportunities across North Ayrshire to lead a healthier lifestyle.

**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.

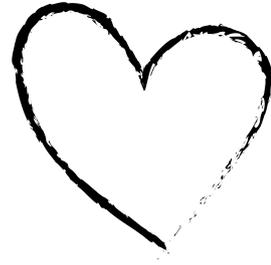
If you would like more details on any of our work please contact [naactiveschools@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:naactiveschools@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)



## 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."*



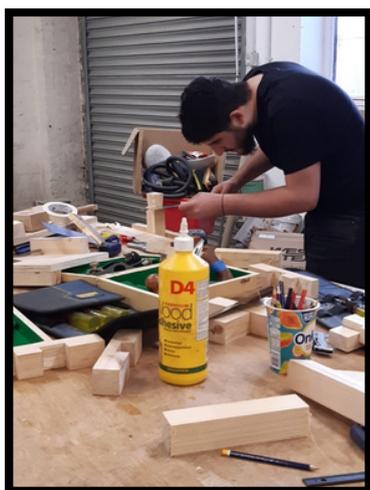
# New Scots

## 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 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.



# 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.

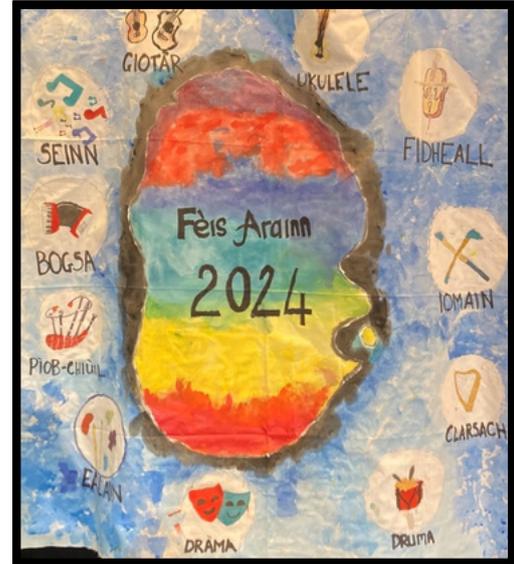
Learners now feel more confident as they can recognise and identify monetary values. One learner used to carry a one-pound coin wherever she went however she now understands a one-pound coin amounts to the same as two fifty pence pieces. Learners have increased confidence and feel empowered so much so 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"> <li>Moving Around (Public Transport, Traffic and Parking)</li> <li>Work and Local Community</li> <li>Facilities and Amenities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting Skills and Work Opportunities</li> <li>Enhancing our Mental Health &amp; Wellbeing</li> <li>Alleviating Poverty</li> <li>Championing Green Health and the Natural Environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting Skills and Work</li> <li>Improving our Local Environment</li> <li>Alleviating Poverty and Promoting Equality of Access to Opportunities</li> <li>Improving Community Wellbeing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improving access to financial services</li> <li>Increasing social inclusion</li> <li>Improving mental wellbeing</li> <li>Supporting skills and work opportunities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promoting the local economy and tourism</li> <li>Regenerating community facilities</li> <li>Increasing civic pride and community engagement</li> <li>Improving community wellbeing</li> </ul>

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](http://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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Sector organisations and would be interested in attending, please email: [info@tact.scot](mailto: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](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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:ann@tact.scot)
- Communities Mental Health & Wellbeing Fund round 4 will be launched on September 25<sup>th</sup> with application available on 30<sup>th</sup>.
- 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](mailto: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](mailto:michelle@tact.scot)