

Action Note

Meeting:	Arran Locality Partnership
Date/Venue:	Thursday 27 March 2025 at 5.00 pm on Microsoft Teams
Present:	Councillor Charles Currie (Chair) Lesley Forsyth, Senior Manager Information and Culture (Lead Officer) Bill Calderwood, Arran Community Council Alistair Dobson, Island Plan Lead for Economy Sheila Gilmore, Islands Plan Lead for Community Inspector Lisa Thomson, Police Scotland Ross Dobson Active Schools Co-ordinator Susan Foster – Head Teacher Carol Norton, Arran CVS
In Attendance	Graeme Johnstone, Arran Youth Foundation Laura Potter, Childcare Development Officer Scott Robertson, KA Leisure Tom Young Arran Community Council Jennifer McGee, Policy & Community Planning Officer (Notes)
Apologies:	Vicki Yuill, Chief Executive Officer, Arran CVS (Senior Lead Officer) Judi Worthington, Argyll College Sarah Baird, Senior Officer (Islands) Scott Morrison, KA Leisure Ailsa Weir, NHS Ayrshire & Arran

ACTIONS

No.	Action	Responsible
1.	Welcome/Apologies/Declarations of Interest The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, introductions were made and apologies for absence were noted.	
2.	Action Note The action note arising from the meeting held on 5 December 2024 was approved. L Forsyth advised the Partnership that the Funding Team have been in touch with Arran Dogs to look at alternative funding options.	Noted
3.	Youth Engagement G Johnstone provided the Partnership with an update on youth work on the Island: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided an overview of summer activities • Youth centre is based at the back of the high school, which is a centralised social hub for the young people on the island. • Fundraising group which is a committee of 20/25 young people fundraising for their own group and have a target of £3200 by the 	

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	<p>summer currently their fundraising efforts are at £2000 which is great.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Girls football team coached twice per week which has been hugely popular. • Multisport group has been a great opportunity to support P7 transition to the high school. • Friday night youth club continues to be popular. • Provide free health food for young people through the week. Using the fruit and veg to make soup and smoothies. • Supporting with addictions and mental health by providing therapy. <p>G Johnston also highlighted that the current youth centre is owned by North Ayrshire Council and AYF has been the tenants since 2008. AYF previously looked at a community asset transfer for the building, however now working with the Council to look at funding for a new centre. Feasibility study carried out and presented to the AYF committee and the Council in November 2024.</p> <p>S Gilmore enquired regarding the site and ownership. G Johnstone advised that the study is based on the current site and if successful would be Council owned.</p> <p>C Norton enquired regarding potential new building being a shared resource. G Johnstone advised that the proposal would be that it would be a community space out with the times it is used for youth activities. C Norton suggested meeting up to discuss further.</p> <p>L Forsyth advised that she arrange a meeting with G Johnstone Calum Couston from the Council's Regeneration Team and officers from within Connected Communities.</p> <p>The Chair thanked G Johnstone for his input.</p>	<p><i>C Norton</i></p> <p><i>L Forsyth</i></p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Rural Island Childcare</p> <p>L Potter provided the Partnership with an update on rural childcare and school age childcare. In North Ayrshire there is a focus on Arran, Cumbrae, North Coast, and Garnock Valley.</p> <p>L Potter has been working with the Arran Skills Group to look at the challenges around childcare on the Island. L Potter highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A survey conducted by Arran CVS received 53 responses representing 97 children, highlighting significant childcare challenges • Lack of childcare is impacting job opportunities, preventing people from moving to the island, and causing some to delay starting families¹ • The Scottish Childminding Association's Scotland Childminding Future programme, funded by the Scottish Government, aims to recruit new childminders in rural areas. North Ayrshire is 	

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	<p>providing additional funding to support potential childminders through the registration process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The programme emphasises the need for both pre-school and school-age childcare, addressing various family needs • The Highland and Islands regional economic partnership childcare subgroup is exploring potential changes to childcare models that could benefit rural and island communities. <p>These efforts aim to address the critical shortage of childcare options in rural and island areas, which has been identified as a significant barrier to economic development and community sustainability.</p> <p>Sheridan from Arran CVS has issued a survey and will sharing the analysis in due course.</p> <p>L Forsyth advised that there is a leaflet of information that will be available which she will share with the Partnership in due course. L Forsyth encouraged the Partnership to share information through their networks to reach potential childminders.</p> <p>The Chair thanked L Potter for her input.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>L Forsyth</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Island Plan</p> <p>The Chair highlighted the update report submitted by Sarah Baird which was included within the meeting papers.</p> <p>A Dobson provided an update on the work of the Economy strand of the Island Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NetZero accelerator helping business to identify ways to become more carbon friendly. • Digital Group works across the whole Island Plan Steering Group, have developed a small website to pull together the project on Arran. A Dobson encouraged the Partnership to share any projects that can be included. • A Dobson will now be attending the Highland and Island Regional Partnership. • Event taking place next week around Island Economies taking place at the Scottish Parliament. <p>S Gilmore provided an update on the work of the Communities strand of the Island Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed a Communications Plan which is still in discussion • Group are responsible for sharing surveys etc to inform the needs of the island • UNESCO Status will be confirmed in April 2025. <p>The Chair thanked A Dobson and S Gilmore for their inputs.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Health and Social Care Partnership Locality Planning</p>	

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	<p>Apologies were received from A Weir. Update to be provided at a future meeting.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>KA Leisure</p> <p>S Robertson provide the Partnership with an update on the work of KA Leisure on the island:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding has been received for Brodick Tennis Court, work will commence in April and aim to be completed by June. • Supporting group to reopen the bowling club in Brodick. • Weekly classes with young people nursery age to S1 continues. Some of the Coaches have been developed via the Active Schools NASA programme. • Arran Community Sport hub is now open 5 days per week (Monday – Friday) and has 2 members of staff. • Team will be supporting the Free For All Event in April on the Island providing free health check to attendees. • Supporting with Easter Camps. <p>S Gilmore enquired regarding the putting green in Brodick and who to contact. S Robertson advised that KA Leisure currently in process of handing back to North Ayrshire Council. L Forsyth highlighted that anyone interested should contact the Council’s Estates Team.</p> <p>The Chair thanked S Robertson for his input.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Education Overview</p> <p>S Foster provided an update in relation to the education establishment on the Island:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting senior school students as they prepare for exams scheduled to take place following the Easter break. • Building a strong working relationship with the newly appointed Primary Head Teacher. • Continuing collaborative efforts with partners on the island to achieve shared goals. • S Foster also advised that she will be retiring in June 2025 <p>Active Schools</p> <p>R Dobson provided the Partnership with an update on the work Active Schools on the Island:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Events and tournaments – including netball, football, rugby, swimming, cross country and shinty. • Extra-curricular Club provision – 18 active clubs available free of charge. Arran High achieved a 70% participation rate for Term 1 and 2, the highest among secondary schools in Scotland. • Easter Holiday Provision – multi sports, football camp, gymnastics camp, dance camp will be available during Easter break. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Ayrshire Sports Academy – Senior pupils delivering activities to primary schools and undertaking SQA Leadership award. • Active Girls Committee – 60 P1-7 girls involved. • Small School Virtual Challenge – all island primary schools participated. • Orienteering Club Lamlash Primary – Looking to expand delivery to more schools after Easter. • Arran High Mountain Bike Club – 4 community volunteers leading weekly session for all high school students. • Outdoor Adventure Programme – provision available to primary students from August to October 2025. <p>The Chair thanked S Foster and R Dobson for their input and commented that it is great to see the opportunities available for young people on the Island.</p>	Noted
8.	<p>Police Scotland</p> <p>L Thomson introduced herself to the Partnership as the new Locality Inspector who has been in post for 2 weeks. L Thomson provided the Partnership with the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interviews have been conducted for the summer secondees, and four officers will be stationed on the island starting in May for the summer. • L Thomson plans to visit the Island in the coming months to engage with local communities. • Early intervention and Prevention Officer is expected to visit the Island soon to address issues related to vaping and scams. • The island's Police team has delivered talks on scamming to community groups on Arran. They also participated in primary school career days, with one school requesting a live investigation activity for students. • "Fit to Drive" event is scheduled for autumn, feedback from previous event suggests rebranding is needed to encourage community participation, L Thomson welcomed any suggestions. <p>C. Norton suggested that the upcoming Free for All event in April could provide a valuable platform for some community engagement. L Thomson undertook to speak with the Locality Team regarding this.</p> <p>The Chair thanked L Thomson for her update.</p>	Noted
10.	<p>Community Spaces</p> <p>C Norton highlighted that it was recently announced that Lamlash Church Hall would be closing and will be a huge loss to the community of Lamlash as it hosts various community activities, including social gatherings, fitness and well-being classes, music, crafts, children's activities, and support services.</p>	

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	<p>C Norton enquired whether there was any potential to collaborate with the high school to provide better access for community groups during the day.</p> <p>S Foster highlighted that during school hours all spaces are used, there is also the issue of safeguarding and ensuring young people are safe. S Foster advised that she is happy to meet with C Norton to discuss further.</p> <p>The Chair thanked C Norton for her input.</p>	<p>C Norton/S Foster</p>
<p>11.</p>	<p>AOCB</p> <p>Free For All Community event</p> <p>C Norton advised the Partnership that the Arran CVS Free For All Event would be taking place on Saturday 26 April at Arran High from 11am – 2pm. The event will bring together local services, community groups and the public in a free event showcasing free taster sessions and activities available on Arran. Organisations can secure their space at the event by signing up via the Arran CVS website – Free For All Event.</p> <p>Review of Locality Planning</p> <p>J McGee advised that a review of Locality Planning has been underway over the year following the 2024 Locality Partnership survey. Key themes for the review are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening LP membership and support. • Refreshing meeting formats to focus on action. • Centring activities around the Locality Plan, with the Island Plan as a core component. <p>A report will go to the Council's Cabinet in May 2025. The Chair highlighted that feedback would be welcomed by the Partnership.</p> <p>Arran Events</p> <p>J McGee advised that a time bound application from Arran Events has been received by the Council's funding team and that this would be circulated to the Partnership for decision by email.</p> <p>.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>

The meeting ended at: 6.35 pm