

Action Note

Meeting:	Kilwinning Locality Partnership	
Date/Venue:	19 March 2025 at 7.00pm via Teams	
Present:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Councillor Donald Reid - North Ayrshire Council - Councillor Joe Cullinane - North Ayrshire Council - Councillor Scott Davidson – North Ayrshire Council (Chair) - Sarah Crookston – Community Development Worker, North Ayrshire Council - Rhonda Leith - Lead Officer, North Ayrshire Council - Louise Riddex - Locality Officer, North Ayrshire Council - Graeme Gallie – Police Scotland - Neil Shearer – Scottish Fire & Rescue - Fiona Comrie – KA Leisure - Pauline Dickson – Education, North Ayrshire Council - Ann Wilson – TACT - Martyn Rae – Active Schools Co-ordinator, North Ayrshire Council - Jim Watson – Community Rep - Donna Morrison – Team Manager, Community Resources, NAC - Peter Marshall – Community Rep 	
Apologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fiona Smyth – Education, North Ayrshire Council - Tim Swan - Education, North Ayrshire Council - Councillor Mary Hume - North Ayrshire Council - Scott Morrison, KA Leisure 	
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No.	Action	Responsible
1.	<p>Welcome/Apologies/Declarations of Interest</p> <p>Chair welcomed everyone and introduced Graeme Gallie, newly appointed Police Scotland rep to the meeting.</p>	
2.	<p>Action Note</p> <p>The lead officer provided the following updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action 1 – Kilwinning Football Academy: Multiple emails have been sent requesting dates and times for a meeting, but no response has been received to date. L Riddex will continue efforts to keep communication open. This action remains ongoing. • Partnership Mailing List: The current mailing list is up to date. Wendy has been invited and may be able to join future meetings. • New Representative: Graeme Gaillie has been introduced as the new representative from Police Scotland. <p>All other actions from the previous meeting have been completed.</p>	Noted
3.	<p>Grants</p> <p>The Locality Partnership reviewed a grant application submitted to the Kilwinning Town Trust by ACES Kilwinning.</p> <p>The application requested a one-off payment of £1,606.82. Supporting</p>	

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	<p>documentation, including quotes, bank statements, and OSCR accounts, was provided.</p> <p>The fund currently holds £3,437 available for disbursement, which is sufficient to cover the requested amount.</p> <p>The Partnership agreed that the purpose outlined in the application met the fund’s criteria and expressed their support for awarding the grant.</p>	<p>S Fleming</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Kilwinning Hub</p> <p>Sarah Crookston advised the Partnership that she has presented the idea at various network meetings and has collaborated with Graeme Stroyan to explore how to implement a similar framework. Initial conversations with local services, ACES, carers’ services, and community groups have shown significant interest in the project.</p> <p>Discussion Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L Riddex asked if there’s anyone within the Locality Partnership or wider team who could contribute and help engage as many people as possible in the development process. • S Crookston explained that accessing services can be difficult and there’s no quick fix. The current appointment-based system isn’t always responsive. For example, rather than sending referrals, services like Money Matters are now visiting directly on scheduled days. • D Morrison asked about engagement with HSCP, Housing, and Money Matters. S Crookston responded that it’s still early stages. Some services have shown interest, but Housing has not yet engaged. There’s a desire to get the model right before piloting it. Challenges remain due to disjointed service provision. • F Comrie suggested linking in with KA Leisure’s health checks for signposting and tying services together. S Crookston agreed, noting the aim is to include various community groups, creating a hub that provides wider access—not just for core services but for the broader community. • P Dickson endorsed the idea, noting that many parents approach schools for support. A central hub would be valuable, and he suggested Sarah connect with senior leadership and area inclusion workers to support coordinated signposting. • S Crookston said the approach is community-based first, with plans to expand to school involvement once established. The idea is to host the hub in a consistent Kilwinning location but allow for some flexibility. • N Shearer expressed support from SFRS and offered them attend monthly or ad-hoc sessions with a stall. He noted he’s retiring at the end of March but is happy to be involved in the meantime. • J Watson noted this was the first he had heard of the proposal and asked about the scale and specific issues. S Crookston explained the range of issues seen—from food and fuel poverty to mental health crises and individuals leaving 	

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	<p>custody. The library sees increasing numbers seeking support, with demand rising over the past 6–8 months.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L Riddex added that although numbers may not be overwhelming, complex cases often require significant staff time. A hub model could improve efficiency and be less resource intensive. <p>Chair suggested drafting a brief overview of the proposal to distribute to Locality Partnership members to keep them informed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L Riddex supported the idea and encouraged early engagement at network meetings. • S Crookston agreed, saying she would gather feedback from different services and host a larger meeting. A summary will be shared before the pilot. • Cllr Reid reflected on the Wallacetown model’s success, led by a headteacher, but cautioned that it became labour-intensive for police and fire services. The council eventually had to reduce its involvement due to resource constraints. He highlighted the importance of aligning with the Council's "No Wrong Door" policy, which encourages coordinated support through one point of contact. • R Leith suggested convening a brainstorming session within the next few weeks involving Donna, Louise, and others to explore the potential and challenges. A balance needs to be struck between principles and service capacity. • S Crookston acknowledged the idea may evolve but emphasized the importance of getting it right to meet community needs. She committed to aligning the model with existing policies. <p>The Chair thanked S Crookston for her insight and looked forward to further updates.</p>	<p>R Leith</p> <p>Noted</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Youth and Education Overview</p> <p>P Dickson provided the Partnership with an update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1-2 families per day need financial support. • Mental health needs are high; referrals made to resources. • Schools provide free uniforms, fruit, trips, and subsidised residential; families signposted to support. • Kilwinning and McGavin Park collaborate; Kilwinning event dates confirmed. • Burns Club finals, cross-country events, and P7 residential completed or ongoing. • Eight staff training sessions planned, focusing on creative and deep learning. • Efforts underway to improve attendance; staffing adapted for neurodiversity, inclusion, and attendance priorities. • All cluster primary schools losing a class; surplus staff may be reassigned. <p>M Rae Active Schools provided the following update:</p>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 pupils enrolled in the Sports Academy. • Active Schools team engaging with the cluster to use outdoor areas. • 170 girls participated in a one-day event. • Transition process includes coaching by familiar faces for students. • Easter water sports planned for pupils from SIMD 1-2 and care-experienced backgrounds; details forthcoming. • Active Schools provide at least one club, a lunchtime break activity, and two after-school clubs per school, organised by Martyn and team. <p>D Morrison provided a presentation on how we are capturing progress against priorities and how we measure our core focus. The concise format was appreciated and is making a difference.</p>	
6.	<p>Police Scotland & Scottish Fire and Rescue – Wellbeing and Partnerships</p> <p>G Gallie provided a comprehensive update on the ongoing work taking place across Kilwinning, with support from Police Scotland, and highlighted several key initiatives. He thanked everyone for their continued collaboration and shared that a local community inspector will be attending future meetings. The update included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campus police focus on serious crime and road safety. • "You Me Together" campaign supports White Ribbon, tackling violence against women and girls. • Substance abuse awareness delivered with pastoral staff, covering drug risks and safety. • Internet safety talk highlighted social media risks, privacy, and reporting concerns. • Safety and behaviour sessions used videos to promote looking out for each other. • Group call system introduced for primary schools; concerns raised about young children and social media. • "No Knives, Better Lives" campaign promoted, encouraging crime reporting. • Vaping dangers discussed as part of health and safety education. <p>The chair expressed gratitude for the valuable education provided through engagement with various young people and groups.</p> <p>R Leith shared an update, confirming that ownership usually helps to reduce vandalism.</p> <p>G Gallie spoke about the ongoing efforts and initiatives in Kilwinning, noting positive outcomes</p> <p>N Shearer referred to a paper that was included as part of the agenda.</p> <p>L Riddex mentioned the fire skills course, which is available to both schools and youth groups. N Shearer highlighted the success of</p>	

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	<p>programme at Garnock. Summer or evening youth group sessions could be made bespoke depending on capacity, which will be reviewed as part of the ongoing planning process.</p> <p>KA Leisure is also involved and has been successfully operating within the area. L Riddex will reach out to SFRS, and connections will be made to ensure proper coordination.</p> <p>Additionally, fire skills courses include CPR training, with certificates presented by the British Heart Foundation (BHF). There are plans to expand this offer to the broader council workforce to support overall wellbeing. There is a focus on refreshers for defibrillators and supporting the Scottish Government's wider cardiac initiatives, with an expected increase in demand for CPR courses across schools and services in April.</p>	<p>L Riddex</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>KA Leisure</p> <p>F Comrie provided update on highlighting the work of the Wellbeing Alliance.</p> <p>The Chair conveyed his thanks for the briefing on the Locality Partnership at the CPP Board meeting. Attendees have expressed interest in receiving an invitation to the Wellbeing Alliance.</p> <p>L Riddex Will ensure an invite is sent out for the next meeting. The Community Wellbeing Initiative is collaborating with the Locality Partnership groups to help address shared priorities.</p> <p>G Gaillie highlighted that the mobile barber project— <i>Cut and Connect</i>. The partnership team successfully secured £300K to launch the service, which has now achieved charity status. The initiative provides haircuts, informal conversations, and signposting to additional support, with plans to expand into other local authority areas.</p> <p>F Comrie highlighted that the combined health check and haircut approach is proving to be an effective engagement tool, offering a valuable opportunity to connect individuals with further support.</p> <p>D Morrison highlighted that in relation to the Period Dignity Initiative, promotional materials will be available at any related events. We're currently engaging with community leaders and representatives to help raise awareness.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Locality Officer Update</p> <p>L Riddex provided the Partnership with an update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kilwinning Pavilion will open tomorrow. If you plan to attend, please let us know so we can update the list. This project is funded through the Community Investment Fund (CIF), and we're keen to have local partners represented. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CIF Information Workshops: One group and Councillor Reid attended the session. Since then, we've received five expressions of interest for community funding in Kilwinning. At present, there's a pause on progressing further applications as there's just over £300K remaining in the Kilwinning CIF fund. We are actively working on those five applications, which is a good amount to focus on for now. • There is also increasing interest in Community Asset Transfers (CAT) in Kilwinning. We're currently engaging with four groups through a single point of contact and continuing to support them as they move forward. 	Noted
<p>9.</p>	<p>Review of Locality Planning</p> <p>R Leith highlighted that a survey was issued last year to gather feedback on the Locality Partnerships, and this feedback has now been reviewed and updated.</p> <p>The key focus was to consider whether we are effectively addressing inequalities and doing so in the best way possible. Feedback from various partners and processes led to suggestions for improvement. A key goal is to develop a consistent approach across all six Locality Partnerships in North Ayrshire—recognising that while each LP is unique, there should be a shared, flexible framework that ensures consistency where it matters.</p> <p>Recommendations included strengthening the leadership structure—supporting the chair and leads to form a strong, coordinated team around the partnership. Another key point was the need to re-energise the space: encouraging greater participation and building stronger connections within the partnership.</p> <p>It was also suggested that future agendas include more in-depth discussions—taking one priority from the plan and exploring it together in detail to identify collective action we can move forward with.</p> <p>Looking ahead, the next round of feedback will focus on how people feel about how the partnership is working, and what can be improved. The next steps in the process include a report being presented to Council Cabinet in May, with some implementation plans to follow.</p> <p>The upcoming Community Locality Conference in May, for which invites have already gone out, will serve as a platform to introduce and promote this refreshed approach within the LPs.</p> <p>The Chair thanked everyone for their feedback and encouraged any ideas for future agendas to be shared with either L Riddex or R Leith.</p>	All
<p>10.</p>	<p>AOCB</p>	

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	The Partnership discussed an application being submitted to the Town Charitable Trust and agreed that approval could be granted through delegated powers once all paperwork is received.	S Fleming
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Meeting closed at 20.40