

North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership

## Three Towns Locality Partnership

**Wednesday 3 September 2025, 6.00 p.m. in the Castle Craigs Lounge,  
Ardrossan Civic Centre**

## BUSINESS

<b>Item</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Pg No</b>	<b>Ref</b>	<b>Officer</b>	<b>Ask of the Partnership</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest.</b>	-	-	Cllr Kerr	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Action Note</b> Review the action note and deal with any outstanding items.	Pg 4	Enclosed	Angela Morrell	Is this an accurate record of the meeting. Have all actions been completed?
<b>3.</b>	<b>Matters Arising</b>  Community Investment Fund Applications – June 2025	-	Verbal	Angela Morrell	Receive update on applications approved at June LP meeting
<b>4.</b>	<b>Collaboration for Health Equity (CHES)</b>  The Locality Partnership will receive a presentation on CHES Programme.	-	Verbal	Michelle Sutherland	Receive update and consider partnership opportunities.
<b>DECISION REQUIRED</b>					
<b>5.</b>	<b>Grants</b>  The Locality Partnership are asked to consider grant applications:  <b>Ardrossan Common Good Fund</b>  • Whitlees Community Centre  <b>Three Towns Community Benefit Fund</b>  • Saltcoats Carnival Funding • Dad's Rock • Ardrossan Outdoor Bowling Club • Saltcoats Victorica FC • Ardeer Community Association	Pg 12          Pg 13	Enclosed	Angela Morrell	LP To consider Grant Applications made to the Community Benefit Fund and Elderly Grants

	<b>Elderly Grants</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CLASPS</li> <li>• Saltcoats Old Peoples Welfare</li> <li>• Three Towns OIR</li> </ul>	Pg 23			
<b>LOCAL MATTERS – TACKLING INEQUALITIES</b>					<b>7.00 – 7.10 pm</b>
6.	<b>Locality Update</b> The Locality Partnership will receive an update on the work of the Three Towns Team during the last quarter.	Pg 25	Enclosed	Kimberly O'Neill	Receive update and discuss how LP can further support this work.
<b>PARTNER REPORTS</b>					<b>7.10 – 7.35 pm</b>
7.	The Locality Partnership will receive updates from Partners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Police Scotland</li> <li>• Scottish Fire &amp; Resue</li> <li>• KA Leisure</li> <li>• Active Schools</li> </ul>	-	Verbal	Partners	Receive update and consider partnership opportunities.
<b>AOCB</b>					<b>7.35 – 8.00 pm</b>
8.	<b>AOCB</b>		Verbal	Cllr Kerr	LP to use this time to raise/discuss matters linking to the Locality, the LP priorities and tackling inequalities.
<b>Date of next Meeting</b> 3 December 2025 at 6pm in the Ardrossan Civic Centre.					

## Distribution List

### Elected Members

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

### Community Representatives

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

### CPP and Council Representatives

Angela Morrell, Lead Officer  
Susan Manson, Third Sector Interface  
Lisa Thomson, Police Scotland  
Chris Parker, Scottish Fire and Rescue  
Susan Kelly, KA Leisure

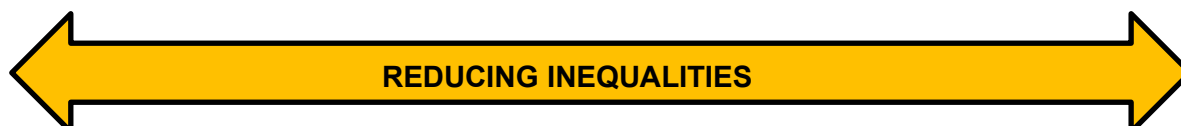
## Three Town Locality Partnership Priorities

**Promoting the  
local economy  
and tourism**

**Regenerating  
community  
facilities**

**Increasing  
civic pride and  
community  
engagement**

**Improving  
Community  
Wellbeing**



<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Three Towns Locality Partnership</b>
<b>Date/Venue:</b>	4 June 2025; Ardrossan Civic Centre at 6:00pm
<b>Present:</b>	Councillor Cameron Inglis Councillor Anthony Gurney Councillor Jean McClung Councillor Davina McTiernan Councillor John Sweeney Julia Gray, Community Representative (Vice Chair) Angela Morrell, Lead Officer, NAC Denise Fraser, Locality Officer Jean Frew, Community Representative Pat Breen, Community Representative Scott Mould, Community Representative Christopher Hays, Active Schools Jacqui Greenlees, Senior Manager, NAC Susan Kelly, KA Leisure
<b>Also in Attendance</b>	Sharon Fleming, NAC David Morrison, Ardrossan Bowling Club Peter Kean, Saltcoats Victoria FC Frank Alexander, Spectator
<b>Apologies:</b>  <b>(None Rec'd)</b>	Councillor Jim Montgomerie Craig Mochan, Community Representative David Murray, Station Manager (Scottish Fire & Rescue Service) Ian Winton, Stevenston Community Council Chair Councillor Amanda Kerr (Chair) Councillor Stewart Ferguson Susan Manson, TACT Glenn Turner, Community Representative

<b>ACTIONS</b>		
<b>No.</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsible</b>
<b>1.</b>	<p><b>Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest</b></p> <p>As Cllr Kerr submitted apologies it was agreed that Cllr Gurney would chair this meeting.</p> <p>The Chair welcomed those present to the Three Towns Locality Partnership meeting, introductions were made and apologies for absence were noted.</p> <p><b><u>Declarations of Interest</u></b></p>	<p><b>Noted</b></p>    <p><b>Noted</b></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scott Mould declared an interest in the grant application from West Coast Furniture Bank</li> <li>• Pat Breen and Cllr Inglis declared an interest in Saltcoats Vics application made to the CIF.</li> </ul>	
<b>2.</b>	<p><b>Action Note from meeting in March 2025</b></p> <p>The action note from the meeting held in March 2025 was submitted for approval as a correct record with the following updates provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All actions completed.</li> </ul> <p>Noted.</p>	
<b>3.</b>	<p><b>Grants</b></p> <p>The Locality Partnership are asked to consider four grant applications made to the Three Towns Community Benefit Fund. The fund has a balance of £44,000 for disbursement.</p> <p>Ardrossan Youth Association - £4,000 requested</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Partnership agreed to award this amount.</li> </ul> <p>Stevenston Community Association - £3,100 requested</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Partnership agreed to award this amount.</li> </ul> <p>St Peter's Flying Start - £5,000 requested</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Partnership agreed to award this amount.</li> </ul> <p>West Coast Furniture Bank - £6,000 requested</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Partnership agreed to award this amount.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Angela Morrell</b></p> <p><b>Sharon Fleming</b></p>
	<p><b>Community Investment Fund</b></p> <p>The Locality Partnership were asked to consider two CIF applications.</p> <p>Cllr Gurney outlined that the remaining funds left for the CIF in Three Towns are £74,349. The two applications below would total more than this balance with a gap of £4,679.</p> <p>Before the current decisions, Denise Fraser provided an update on the Hayocks T.A.R.A. project previously approved CIF application, which will proceed for Cabinet approval through Three Towns CIF. The group are now a SCIO and have a completed business plan. They have applied for match funding and are being supported by the locality team towards their Community Asset Transfer, the group continue to work in partnership with North Ayrshire Streetscene, which reflects the progress in terms of conditions.</p> <p><b>ACTION-</b> Angela Morrell will circulate an update to the partnership in July.</p>	<p><b>Angela Morrell</b></p>

Angela Morrell reminded the Partnership of the CIF guidance, CIF Officer's checklist and the purpose of CIF to support discussions.

### **Full Applications**

#### **Ardrossan Bowling Club- £28,600 requested.**

- The group are now putting in a contribution of £2,000 and they have applied for match funding from the Weir Trust for solar panels.
- It was highlighted that the group have taken on board comments from the EOI stage and altered their application accordingly.
- The group have strengthened their partnership with the Three Towns Growers to put in raised beds and have gained new members because of this.

#### **Questions**

- It was highlighted that Bowls Scotland are looking for increased membership from young people aged 8 years and above.
- The funding for solar panels is dependent on the new roof being successfully funded.
- The organisation highlighted they are not VAT registered.
- The group were asked to expand on their engagement with the community. They engaged with attendees at functions and have gone out into the community with their questionnaire. They took the decision to promote public activities more thoroughly and have booked three more activity days before the end of the year.
- The group were asked to expand on their innovation in addressing community challenges. They highlighted the challenge of losing the 180-year-old bowling club roof, and the services and functions for the community would be lost. They took on board comments at EOI stage and are moving to expand community involvement.
- The group highlighted many their members are on state pensions and they would have to ask donations from club members if they were not successful at securing funding.

At this point representatives from Ardrossan Bowling Club left the meeting.

#### **Discussion**

- Some reservations around whether the club approach is innovative or not, or that there were any measurable outcomes highlighted,
- Multiple reservations were voiced around the proportion of the community that would benefit from the new roof, or whether it would mainly be the benefit of the members of the club.
- Ardrossan Bowling Club have increased community involvement in recent years and work well with other local groups. The events they hold support income generation as well as community benefits.

- It was highlighted that each group should be treated the same as groups that have previously received funding.
- The steps made by the group to expand into the community and become more community focused were noted.
- The building is the oldest establishment in the town and if the building shuts this will influence the community as another derelict building.
- Despite members being mainly pensioners, the question was asked why members have not been asked for a contribution.
- Are there any other options aside from this funding application to stop the building from closing, for example mortgaging or community shares?
- It was highlighted that other fundraising measures have not been outlined.
- It was highlighted that perhaps a middle ground could be reached where a lesser amount of CIF would be awarded on the proviso that match funding was raised from members/ alternative methods.
- The group have sought advice from the North Ayrshire Funding Officer and will be supported in other applications if required.
- It was highlighted that the group would not be treated any differently than any other previous groups applying for funding.

#### **Saltcoats Vics - £50,428 requested.**

- Now 11 people on the committee for Saltcoats Vics.
- Won the Scottish Junior Cup 110 years ago. High focus on community and community history for the club.
- Have carried out local fundraising to extend the away dressing room. The funding would support the group to expand youth football in Three Towns.
- Would like the cabins to eventually act as a hub for community and young people.
- Holding fun days for the community, every young person that comes along will get a season ticket.
- Also have aims of getting young people active to promote health and wellbeing.
- Not looking for full amount, the group have applied for match funding through national lottery and will also fundraise themselves.
- The club have recently suffered from break ins and are working with the local community and beyond for security.
- Local surveys highlighted from most respondents that the dressing rooms need to be improved.

#### **Questions**

- The group confirmed that they will be keeping the old changing units and add wheelchair access for volunteering.
- A sponsor will be doing all the groundwork free of charge.
- The match funding application is currently in with national lottery, but this has not yet been approved. Around £3,500 will also come in from advertising boards in July.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work is underway to secure ownership of the park through CAT, work is underway to move this forward with KA Leisure and North Ayrshire Council. Expectation is that this will be completed in 2026.</li> </ul> <p>At this point representatives from Saltcoats Vics left the meeting.</p> <p>Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Partnership highlighted that the application is very strong, with clear outcomes and links with the community and local partners.</li> <li>• The current efforts to fundraise by the club were positively noted.</li> <li>• The Community Asset Transfer was also positively noted as evidence of the group's expansion in the community.</li> </ul> <p><b>Decisions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ardrossan Bowling Club:</b> The Partnership decided to part fund this in principle for £20,000 towards the roof on the proviso that match funding is sought towards the full cost and there is increased fundraising by the Club themselves and increased community involvement. We will keep the partnership updated when full match funding has been secured and this will be reviewed by the end of the year.</li> <li>• <b>Saltcoats Vics:</b> The Partnership decided to fund this on the basis that lottery match funding and self-fund raising is secured, the group will have continued support from the locality team and should keep them informed. We will keep the partnership updated when full match funding has been secured and this will be reviewed by the end of the year.</li> </ul> <p><b>ACTION-</b> ACDT will also pursue whether VAT can be reduced for each project which will then be re-added to the CIF pot.</p>	
5.	<p><b>Education and Youth Overview</b></p> <p>The Locality Partnership received updates from Jordan Stewart from Active Schools as follows from the report including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extracurricular events- 55 free clubs at point of contact.</li> <li>• Working with KA Leisure for free sports kits.</li> <li>• Free opportunities for young people to access sport and activity in Three Towns.</li> <li>• Move and Improve programme for Primary Seven young people.</li> <li>• St Johns and St Peter awarded Sport Scotland Gold Awards.</li> <li>• All Girls Football Festival with 100 girls taking part.</li> </ul> <p>Noted.</p>	Noted



6.	<p><b>Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue - Wellbeing and Partnerships</b></p> <p>Lisa Thomson, new Locality Inspector, updated on behalf of Police Scotland including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Police working with North Ayrshire Trading Standards to address scam behaviour.</li> <li>• Working with schools and ADP around vaping and addiction issues.</li> <li>• Campus officer continues to work in schools around several key themes for example addiction, hate crime and water safety.</li> <li>• Talks have also taken place with P7 pupils around online safety.</li> <li>• Police have attended suicide training and training around autism.</li> <li>• Engagement taken place with Three Towns Resource Centre around local issues.</li> </ul> <p>Noted.</p>	<b>Noted</b>
8.	<p><b>KA Leisure</b></p> <p>Susan Kelly from KA Leisure updated on recent updates including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pool roof at Auchenhavie update- extensive storm damage has meant increased more complex work is required. Work is taking place with North Ayrshire Council around this.</li> <li>• Update on evolution skate park- KA Leisure have inherited this site. Cabins have been moved with support from North Ayrshire Council. KA Leisure is now working on safely re-opening the site as soon as they can.</li> <li>• Community Sports events at St Matthews.</li> <li>• Question received around the Women's Open at Dundonald Links and what activity is taking place on this. KA Leisure is working with pros to develop more of a pathway for young people.</li> </ul> <p>Noted.</p>	
9.	<p><b>Locality Update</b></p> <p>The Locality Partnership received an update from Denise Fraser on the work of the Three Towns Locality Team during the last quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report included in papers.</li> </ul> <p>Noted.</p>	
	<p><b>Review of Locality Planning</b></p> <p>Jacqui Greenlees provided an overview of the recommendations in the recent review of Locality Planning in North Ayrshire which focus on the themes of supporting the Locality Partnership, making the most of the</p>	<b>J Greenlees</b>

	<p>meetings, strengthening focus on the Locality Plan and the Community Investment Fund.</p> <p>Discussion took place around potential changes to the meeting format and any other changes members would like to see going forward. Points were made as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overall, the Partnership agreed that the current format is working well, but that a workshop style discussion could add value.</li> <li>• It was agreed that the agenda for the next meeting would include a mixture of standing reports, decisions and a workshop style discussion relating to the Locality Priorities for Three Towns.</li> </ul>	
<b>11.</b>	<p><b>AOCB</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None highlighted</li> </ul>	

The meeting ended at 20.34pm

**Locality Partnership: Three Towns Locality**

**Date:** 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025

**Subject:** To advise the meeting of applications received in respect of the Ardrossan Common Good Fund the Three Towns Community Benefit Fund.

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

**Background:** Applications have been received in respect of the Ardrossan Common Good Fund and the Three Towns Community Benefit Fund as follows:

- **Ardrossan Common Good Fund**
  - Whitlees Community Centre - £4,000
- **Three Towns Community Benefit Fund**
  - Saltcoats Carnival Funding - £4,000
  - Dad's Rock - £1,237
  - Ardrossan Outdoor Bowling Club - £3,600
  - Saltcoats Victorica FC – £4,200
  - Ardeer Community Association - £1,850

**Key Points for Locality Partnership**

**Ardrossan Common Good Fund** has a balance of **£30,347.00** available for disbursement.

**Three Towns Community Benefit Fund** has a balance of **£66,817.51** available for disbursement.

**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](mailto:amorrell@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)

**Completed by:** *Sharon Fleming, Grants & Performance Officer*  
([sharonfleming@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:sharonfleming@north-ayrshire.gov.uk))

**Date:** 28 August 2025

**APPENDIX 1**

## ARDROSSAN COMMON GOOD FUND OFFICERS REPORT

Applicant	Purpose of Grant	Amount Requested	Previous Common Good Awards
<b>Ardrossan Community Association</b>	<p>Contribution towards delivery of pantomime on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2025</p> <p>Pantomime - £3,477.00 Food &amp; Refreshments - £1,000.00 Selection Boxes - £750.00 <b>Total costs £5227,00</b></p> <p><b>Ardrossan CA will contribute £1227.00</b></p>	£4,000	<p>2017/18 - £3,995 2019/20 - £2,000 2022/23 - £5,00 Panto &amp; Bonfire Event 2024/25 - £6,187 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala Event</p>

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

**Finance:** Invoice provided for the pantomime. No verifiable quotes have been provided for the selection boxes or food & refreshments. Budget for the current financial year has not been provided. Bank statement provided would suggest that the Ardrossan Community Association has sufficient funds to cover the costs of the event. The balance of the Ardrossan Common Good Fund, should this application be successful, would be £26,347.

**Legal:** In terms of s.15(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1994 when determining whether an application is to receive assistance from Common Good funds the Council should have regard to the interests of the inhabitants as a whole of the area to which the Common Good relates. This application is for a grant of £4,000 which will be used towards the funding of a pantomime and selection boxes

The applicant being the Ardrossan Community Association, have provided a clear description of what the proposed grant monies would be used for and have been transparent in their disclosure of all relevant/necessary information, namely their constitution, bank details and quote/estimates for items required by funding.

With regards to whether this proposal benefits the 'interests of the inhabitants as a whole of the area to which the Common Good relates', I am inclined to say it does. It is stated within the application that approximately 400 people will benefit from the funding, and it will be attended by many locals. This event will benefit people of all ages within the Ardrossan community and allow families to come along and enjoy themselves and reduce social isolation. With this also being a free event, families who are finally struggling will also benefit. I note that similar events have been successfully received by the community in the past and common good funding has been granted in the past, therefore taking all the above into consideration, it is my view that this event has the potential to benefit people of all ages within the community and as such can be substantiated from a legal perspective

If the decision is to award funding the benefit to the community should be clearly recorded as it is likely that the auditor will require this information. Please also ensure that copies of all invoices and receipts are retained and forwarded to legal for our file.

**Connected Communities:** Ardrossan Community Association has successfully held Pantos for the Community in previous years, and they offer an opportunity to bring together all generations of families in the Ardrossan area. The Panto will be accessible to all families regardless of financial situation and will benefit residents of all ages. They will provide the people of Ardrossan with an opportunity to socialise and enjoy themselves, promoting community cohesion and tackling social isolation. Communities & Housing are satisfied that this application meets the criteria of the Common Good Fund.

## THREE TOWNS COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND

## OFFICER REPORT

### Applicant: Saltcoats Christmas Carnival

#### Description of Applicant Organisation:

<b>Number of Members:</b> 10	<b>Established:</b> 2015 (10 years)
<b>Meeting Place:</b> Teams	<b>Date of Visit:</b> 27 August 2025 4pm
<p><b>Description of the Project:</b> The project is the annual Saltcoats Christmas Carnival, a free community event designed to bring local families together to celebrate the festive season without financial pressure. The day's activities include a funfair, multiple Santa's grottos (including one with ASN provision), arts and crafts, magic shows, and the switching on of the Christmas lights by an abseiling Santa. For 2025, the group plans to expand the event to include an afternoon tea dance for elderly residents to make the carnival more intergenerational. The event is expected to benefit over 6,000 people.</p> <p><b>Background:</b> Saltcoats Christmas Carnival is a voluntary organisation that has been in existence for 10 years. The group's main objective is to organise an annual Christmas Carnival in Saltcoats, creating an inclusive and joyful event for the entire community. A key aim is to ensure the event is accessible to all, particularly families and individuals who may be experiencing financial hardship, by removing cost barriers. The Saltcoats Christmas Carnival committee is an established voluntary group with 10 years of experience in organising this large-scale community event. Their constitution outlines a clear focus on community connection, social inclusion, and wellbeing. The organisation has successfully delivered the carnival in previous years, gathering positive feedback from attendees who highlight the event's inclusivity and positive impact on the town. They have a robust management structure, with elected office bearers, and are constituted with sound financial and governance procedures</p> <p><b>Project for Funding:</b> The grant funding requested will contribute towards the overall costs of staging the 2025 Saltcoats Christmas Carnival. These costs include public entertainment licenses, insurance, first aid cover, venue hire, and costs for performers.</p>	

#### Funding

<p><b>Amount requested: £4,000</b></p> <p><b>DESCRIPTION OF QUOTES:</b>  Coast Watch Scotland (First Aid) £330.00  Erin McGill - Face Painter £200.00  Kirkgate Church Hire - £500  Dawn Cuthbertson - Face Painter £220.00  Emma Scott – Face Painter £200.00  Glitter Bar - £200.00  Public Liability Ins – 398.20  Marvellous Mascots £675.00  Risk Assessment - H &amp; S £800.00  Starlite Entertainment £600.00  <b>Total Amount of Project: £41,223.20</b></p>	<p><b>CONTRIBUTION BY GROUP:</b>  The group has approximately £8,000 in unrestricted funds. Their most recent bank statement from April 2025 shows a balance of £14,416.13.</p> <p>The group also submitted applications to at least five other funders for a total of over £20,000, all of which have been successful. Lottery fund pending to cover the costs of the Carnival. If unsuccessful, event will still go ahead without Carnival.</p>
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#### Three Towns Community Benefit Fund Criteria

Charitable	x	Educational	
Community	x	Environmental	
Renewable Energy		Energy Efficiency	
Sustainable Development	x	General Community Amenity	x

<b>Level of environmental enhancement:</b> Low. The project is not focused on environmental enhancement. However, the group would like it noted they are very environmentally aware.
<b>Level of community involvement:</b> High. The project is delivered by a committee of volunteers and is designed for the benefit of the wider community, with an expected attendance of over 6,000 people.
<b>Level of funding secured or available:</b> The group has a healthy bank balance of £14,416.13 as of 17th April 2025. They have also submitted applications to at least five other funders for a total of over £20,000, all of which have been successful. Lottery fund pending to cover the costs of the Carnival. If unsuccessful, event will still go ahead without Carnival.
<b>Experience of group to deliver project:</b> The group has a 12-year track record of successfully delivering this large and complex event. Their detailed financial planning and governance documents indicate a high level of experience.
<b>Future sustainability of project:</b> The project is a well-established annual event with a proven track record of securing funding from various sources and strong community support.
<b>Location of Project:</b> Saltcoats

#### Officer Details

Name:	Sharon Fleming	Position:	Grants & Performance Officer
Date: 27 August 2025			

## THREE TOWNS COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND

### OFFICER REPORT

## Applicant: Dad's Rock

### Description of Applicant Organisation:

<b>Number of Members:</b> approx. 80	<b>Established:</b> Founded in 2012 and constituted as a charity on March 2013.
<b>Meeting Place:</b> Ardeer Neighbourhood Centre in Stevenston	<b>Date of Visit:</b> 22.08.25 – Teams 2pm
<p><b>Description of the Project:</b> Dad's Rock is a Scottish charity that supports fathers and families. They provide free Dad-focused spaces and services to help fathers feel more confident in their parenting, and they also foster peer support and friendships between dads to improve mental health, resilience, and wellbeing. They provide one-to-one support to dads through referrals from the Health and Social Care partnership and run two weekly playgroups for dads to attend with babies/children, one in Three Towns and another in Irvine. The group leaders proactively record how improvements, activities and projects are measure by:</p> <p><b>Background:</b> Most family services are aimed at mothers, which can leave fathers feeling isolated and lacking opportunities to bond with their children. Dad's Rock aims to address this by providing a welcoming space dedicated to dads, with experienced staff and peer support. Research by the Scottish government in 2024 showed a lack of father-inclusive services and that struggling fathers often prefer informal support from other dads.</p> <p><b>Project for Funding:</b> To purchase high-quality toys and play resources suitable for children under 5, cover the costs of healthy snacks for children, and pay rent for the weekly sessions for the year (40 weeks). The aim is to create a warm, engaging, and developmentally appropriate environment for families in Stevenston and Three Towns.</p>	

### Funding

<p><b>Amount requested: £1,237.56</b></p> <p>Baby toys (wooden maze): £8.65</p> <p>Baby mat x2 (Black &amp; White Gymini, 2-in-1 Musical Baby Play Mat): £97.96</p> <p>Sensory scarfs (scarfs): £4.99</p> <p>Tummy Time Pillow (Tummy Time Activity Pillow   Smyths Toys UK): £19.99</p> <p>Baby Sensory kit (Baby Sensory Kit): £19.99</p> <p>Bubble Machine (Bubble Machine): £19.99</p> <p>Baby wooden sensory toys (toys): £19.99</p> <p><b>Cost of Items: £191.56</b></p> <p><b>Venue Costs for year – £486.00</b></p> <p><b>Snack costs for Year - £560.00</b></p> <p><b>Total cost of project: £4,884.56</b></p>	<p><b>Contribution by Group:</b> Dad's Rock will contribute £3647 by covering the costs of the dad's worker who leads the sessions (£3540) and essential overheads (£107) such as staff training, insurance, safeguarding checks, and admin support. The source of their contribution is the Whole Family Wellbeing Fund.</p>
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### Three Towns Community Benefit Fund Criteria

Charitable	x	Educational	x
Community	x	Environmental	x

Renewable Energy	Energy Efficiency
Sustainable Development	x General Community Amenity x
<b>Level of environmental enhancement:</b> Although limited, as they do not have a specific environmental policy, the group encourage the use of public transport and organise activities like upcycling/recycling/mending and cooking with fresh ingredients.	
<b>Level of community involvement:</b> Consistent turnout of around 6 families per week, with a goal of 8-10 families, demonstrating clear demand and interest from the local community. The project fosters peer support between dads.	
<b>Level of funding secured or available:</b> £3647 from the Whole Family Wellbeing Fund via the North Ayrshire Social Care Partnership. To date the group administrators have not applied for other financial assistance.	
<b>Experience of group to deliver project:</b> Dads Rock was founded in 2012 and constituted as a charity in 2013. They operate in Edinburgh, Glasgow, North Ayrshire, Dundee, and online, providing one-to-one support and running two weekly playgroups in Irvine and Stevenston. They have experienced staff and have received overwhelmingly positive feedback from North Ayrshire dads.	
<b>Future sustainability of project:</b> Support from the Community Benefit Fund will contribute to the long-term sustainability of the Stevenston playgroup.	
<b>Location of Project:</b> Stevenston	

#### Officer Details

Name:	Sharon Fleming	Position:	Grants & Performance Officer
Date: 22 <sup>nd</sup> August 2025			

## THREE TOWNS COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND

### OFFICER REPORT



**Applicant:** The Ardrossan Bowling Club

**Description of Applicant Organisation:**

<b>Number of Members:</b> 140 members and approximately 2,000 members of the community will benefit from the funding	<b>Established:</b> 183 years ago
<b>Meeting Place:</b> St John's PS Base	<b>Date of Visit:</b> 21.08.25 1pm
<p><b>Description of the Project:</b> The project is to help towards the costs for the replacement of the clubhouse roof. The main clubhouse roof has been professionally inspected and found to be "crumbling and breaking up," which is allowing water to get in. The organisation plans to replace the existing roof with Marley-type tiles, new soffits, guttering, and downpipes made with recycled materials</p> <p><b>Background:</b> The Ardrossan Bowling Club is a non-profit organisation located in Ardrossan, North Ayrshire. It has been in existence for 183 years and employs three staff members. The club has appropriate insurance and a PVG (Protecting Vulnerable Groups). The project will benefit the communities of the three towns (Ardrossan, Saltcoats, and Stevenston) and they host various events like wedding anniversaries, engagements, birthdays, and funerals.</p> <p><b>Project for Funding:</b> The project is for the replacement of the clubhouse roof for the Ardrossan Bowling Club. A professional inspection found that the main clubhouse roof is "crumbling and breaking up," which is allowing water to get in. The organisation plans to replace the existing roof with Marley-type tiles, new soffits, guttering, and downpipes. The new guttering, downpipes, and soffits will be made with recycled materials. The club also considered roof tiles made from recycled car tyres but found the cost to be prohibitive and the lifespan shorter than other options. The work will prevent water ingress and potential cancellation or disruption of community events. The installation of solar panels is also being incorporated into the project to potentially make the club self-sufficient for its electrical power. Savings from this would be used to improve the club's facilities.</p>	

**Funding**

Amount requested: <b>£3,600</b>	<b>Contribution by Group:</b> The club has secured £20,000 from the NAC community investment fund which is to be match funded and will contribute £6,400 of their own money. The Partnership has provisionally agreed to provide £20,000 in funding for the roof replacement. This is contingent upon the club securing the match funding, increasing its own fundraising efforts, and demonstrating increased community involvement.
Breen Roofing: £25,000 + VAT = <b>£30,000</b>	
Total cost of project: <b>£30,000</b>	

**Three Towns Community Benefit Fund Criteria**

Charitable	x	Educational	
Community	x	Environmental	x
Renewable Energy		Energy Efficiency	
Sustainable Development	x	General Community Amenity	x
<p><b>Level of environmental enhancement:</b> The new gutters and downpipes will be made with recycled materials, and the project will improve the current broken-up roof which is "not aesthetically pleasing"</p>			

**Level of community involvement: Community Impact and Engagement**

The club's community involvement goes far beyond its financial contributions. They have become a central hub for local groups and activities, encouraging a strong sense of community.

- **Community Events:** The club hosts a weekly Winter Soup & Sandwiches event, which provides a warm space for community members. They also provide a venue for a Slimming World group with 74 members and a monthly bingo night that attracts 60-80 attendees.
- **Local Partnerships:** Their partnership with Three Towns Growers led to the installation of two vegetable planters. The group manages the planters, and all produce is donated to the local foodbank, supporting those in need.
- **Youth Outreach and Development:** They made a significant effort to engage the next generation. Recent coaching days with St. Peter's Primary School hosted 184 young people, an initiative so successful that the school has now integrated bowls into its curriculum. This has directly led to a growth in their youth membership. The Club are currently working to expand this program to Winton and Stanley primary schools.
- **Membership Growth:** The "Try Bowls" event was highly successful, offering four free weeks of membership followed by an affordable £50 annual membership, which includes full access to all equipment. This initiative has not only introduced new members to the sport but has also created a welcoming entry point for the community.

**Level of funding secured or available:** The organisation has a strong foundation of secured funding with a total of £26,000 already committed. This includes a £20,000 grant from the NAC Community Investment Fund of which an agreement of half match funding was agreed and a £6,000 contribution from the club itself.

To cover the remaining shortfall, a £4,000 grant request has been submitted.

Additionally, the club has received significant support through donations, including:

- Bingo Ladies: £2,000
- Gents Snrs: £500
- GT Ground Care: £1,800
- Ardrossan Indoor Bowling Club: £2,100

**Experience of group to deliver project:** The project will be managed by the applicant, David Morrison, and two committee members: the President and the Treasurer. Detailed accounts will be maintained and made available to all funding sources.

**Future sustainability of project:** The Club are working to ensure that they are sustainable for the future and is well supported by an experienced management committee and volunteers

**Location of Project:** Kilmeny Terrace, Ardrossan

**Officer Details**

Name:	Sharon Fleming	Position:	Grants & Development Officer
Date: 23 August 2025			

**THREE TOWNS COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND****OFFICERS REPORT**

**Applicant: Saltcoats Victoria FC**

**Description of Applicant Organisation:**

<b>Number of Members:</b> 8	<b>Established:</b> 125 years ago
<b>Meeting Place:</b> St John's PS Base	<b>Date of Visit:</b> 26 August 2025 11am
<b>Description of the Project:</b> The project is to refurbish the Supporters Stand. This stand was badly damaged by storms in January, and the club has nowhere for fans to stand under cover from the weather. The refurbishment will involve a new roof and sheeting. Hillhouse Quarry donated breeze blocks, cement and 2 bricklayers to build a half wall at the back of the stand. A fencing company will be finishing off this with a close fitted slatted fence at a minimal cost.	
<b>Background:</b> The Supporters Stand was damaged in January storms. Saltcoats Victoria FC is seeking funding to repair the damage.	
<b>Project for Funding:</b> To repair and refurbish the Supporters Stand at Saltcoats Vics Park	

**Funding**

<b>Amount requested:</b> £4,200  Roofing Replacement - £3,300 Fencing - £900.00 <b>Total Cost - £4,200</b>	<b>Contribution by Group:</b> Nil
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**Three Towns Community Benefit Fund Criteria**

Charitable	x	Educational	
Community	x	Environmental	x
Renewable Energy		Energy Efficiency	
Sustainable Development	x	General Community Amenity	x
<b>Level of environmental enhancement:</b> The application states that a stand with a cover would allow fans to be out of the weather and for their safety.			
<b>Level of community involvement:</b> The organisation is a voluntary one that serves the Three Towns of Ardrossan, Saltcoats and Stevenston.			
<b>Level of funding secured or available:</b> The club has a recent bank statement and an audited statement of account for the 2024/25 season, and quotations for the works has been obtained.			
<b>Experience of group to deliver project:</b> The organisation has been in existence for 125 years and has a board of office bearers. The constitution outlines the structure and responsibilities of the board of charity trustees.			
<b>Future sustainability of project:</b> The current upgrade programme forms part of the organisations future sustainability plans as it will enable the Saltcoats Vics FC to expand the facilities they offer and increase the safety and wellbeing of their supporters. Also, as highlighted above it is well supported by the community and experienced management committee and volunteers.			
<b>Location of Project:</b> Saltcoats Vics Park, Saltcoats			

**Officer Details**

Name:	Sharon Fleming	Position:	Grants & Performance Officer
Date: 26 August 2025			

**THREE TOWNS COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND****OFFICER REPORT**

**Applicant: ARDEER COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**Description of Applicant Organisation:**

<b>Number of Members:</b> Free to all residents of Stevenston	<b>Established:</b> 9 years
<b>Meeting Place:</b> Telephone Call	<b>Date of Visit:</b> 27/08/2025 5.20pm
<b>Description of the Project:</b> The project is titled "Christmas Pantomime". It is a trip designed to fully fund a pantomime trip for families experiencing financial hardship who would not otherwise can attend. The goal is to provide a memorable experience, promote community inclusion, and support mental wellbeing. The project is to benefit the area of Stevenston.  <b>Background:</b> The project aims to provide a joyful and inclusive experience for families during the festive period, strengthen community bonds, and reduce feelings of isolation, particularly among children from disadvantaged backgrounds.  <b>Project for Funding:</b> The project is a community pantomime trip. The date of the trip is 07/12/2025.	

**Funding**

Amount requested: £1,850.00 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Coach - £425.00</li><li>Theatre Tickets - £1425.00</li></ul> Total cost of project: £1,850.00	Contribution by Group: None
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**Three Towns Community Benefit Fund Criteria**

Charitable	x	Educational	x
Community	x	Environmental	
Renewable Energy		Energy Efficiency	
Sustainable Development		General Community Amenity	x
<b>Level of environmental enhancement:</b> The organisation's aims and objectives are to foster a community spirit for the achievement of objects as may by law be deemed charitable.			
<b>Level of community involvement:</b> The organisation is a community centre, and its purpose is to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of Stevenston. The project is a community event. The organisation provides facilities for social welfare, recreation, and leisure time occupation.			
<b>Level of funding secured or available:</b> The requested grant amount of £1,850 covers the total project cost. The group's contribution is to cover any shortfall.			
<b>Experience of group to deliver project:</b> The application provided copies of invoice of coach hire, indicating prior experience with similar events.			
<b>Future sustainability of project:</b>			
<b>Location of Project:</b> The project involves a trip to the Pavilion Theatre, Renfield Street, Glasgow, with pick up and return from Ardeer Youth & Community Centre, Shore Road, Stevenston			

**Officer Details**

Name:	Sharon Fleming	Position:	Grants & Performance Officer
Date: 27 August 2025			



**Locality Partnership: Three Towns Locality**

**Date: 3 September 2025**

**Subject:** To advise the meeting of applications received in respect of the 2025/26 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 2025/26 Elderly Grants fund.

**Key Points for Locality Partnership:**

- The 2025/26 Three Towns Elderly Grants budget for the Three Towns Locality is **£12,980**.

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

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

**Completed by:** Sharon Fleming  
Grants & Performance Officer  
Email: [sharonfleming@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:sharonfleming@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)

**Date: 27 August 2025**

## APPENDIX 1

### ELDERLY GRANTS FUND APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 2025/26

Grant Allocation for Three Towns LPP Area

£ 12,980

Group	Purpose of Grant	Grant Allocated to Group	Amount Requested
CLASPS Stevenston (HOPE Project)	The grant aid requested will be used for supporting the costs of hiring wheelchair friendly buses for our social outings bringing older people together in a safe and friendly environment. We will also use the grant aid to contribute to the costs of Tutors for our health and wellbeing classes such as adapted Zumba, yoga and beginners line dance classes. Also tutor costs for arts and wellbeing classes. Older people have reported that both their physical health and mental health have improved following participation in these classes. We would also use some of the funding to provide a Halloween Party and tickets to a Christmas Pantomime again providing opportunities to encourage the development of social connections and new friendships amongst older adults. Tutor costs for health and wellbeing classes (30 x 2 hour classes @ £30 per hour) = £1800.00 Tutor costs for Arts/Wellbeing classes (10 x 1.5 hour classes @ £30 per hour) + £100 Materials = £550 Hire of Wheelchair friendly buses for social outings = £600 Halloween Party ( Music/Refreshments/Hall Let) = £400 Christmas Pantomime (40 tickets @ £7 each) = £280 Venue costs = £68	£ 3,697	£ 3,697
Saltcoats Old People's Welfare	New Committee – Submitting application for December LPP Meeting	£ 4,373	£ -
Three Towns OIR	The grant will be used to enrich the lives of the elderly within the Three Towns. The group will be provided with activities and events such as a Christmas party for all members. Burns Lunch on 8th January and there will also be a trip to a panto in	£ 4,910	£ 4,910



	Largs and a summer outing. At present we have over 375 members. Choir £250, Food vouchers £3000, Burns lunch £460, Pantomime £400, Christmas party £800		
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£ 8,607</b>



# Locality Partnership Progress Update

## Promoting the local economy & Tourism

- **3 Towns – Larder Footfall** - A total of 2354 visit were made to the 5 community larders in the 3 Towns Locality.
- **Allotments and growers** from across North Ayrshire have been supporting their local community larders with locally grown produce. Households have been able to access potatoes, lettuce, turnips, kale, cabbage and beans to date. Feedback from the households has been very positive and the produce has been well received.
- **The North Ayrshire Fairer Food network** was represented at the information village at the recent Cunninghame Housing Tenants conference. It was very encouraging to discover that the majority of the people were all aware of the community larders and knew that they could access support if and when required.
- **The Three Towns Growers (3TG)**, delivered 2 annual community based events June - August 2025. Plant Sale Day and Duck Day. Plant Sale Day, people came from across the west coast to purchase bedding plants, ready to grow veg etc. This was the first time activities for families were offered, along with Scottish street food and refreshments (non alcohol). Nearly 400 people attended Plant Sale Day. Duck Day was again a fantastic success this year, with the event solidly established with local communities and wider, with over 600 people taking part. Activities included arts and crafts, North Ayrshire Nature Network giving away free pollinator plant kits. A Right to Grow campaign and petition was promoted at the event



## Improving Community Wellbeing

### Community Engagement Hub - David White Centre, Saltcoats

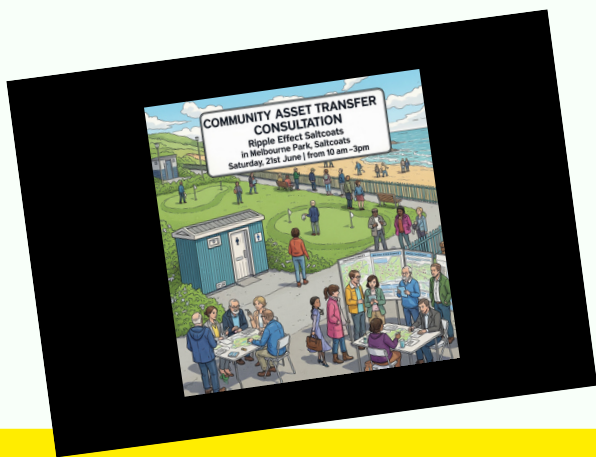
- Participation at the Hubs remains positive. Residents attended a Community Lunch/entertainment afternoon at WG13 restaurant through SCAPE Community Legacy Group. Further events will be planned once the new Ardrossan Campus is complete.
- Training taking place with the **active travel hub** with staff and volunteers to establish **Hayocks Walking Group** with the aim of getting inactive people active.
- Training on **LGBT awareness** has been given to HSCP staff ensuring we upskill staff on support our LGBT communities
- NHS Ayrshire & Arran have delivered eating well on a budget training.
- The **New Scots team** held a follow-on event with the Carers Centre, this time focused on young people, 20 people attended. Many of these young people have now signed up to receive ongoing support, including access to time to live funding. All Localities
- Across North Ayrshire we provide resettlement support for **New Scots** individuals and families. Our role includes co-ordinating and developing a “community hub” model which provides a vital point of contact for New Scots, offering practical support and connections to wider services
- **Hub International** have set up a North Ayrshire hospitality skills hub and confidence cafe within the Three Towns.

## Regenerating Community Facilities

### Community Asset Transfer News

There are currently 7 Community Asset Transfers which are at various stages of the process across Saltcoats, Stevenston and Ardrossan, these are:

- Whitlees Community Centre, who are progressing well with their business plan
- Ardrossan Indoor Bowling Club
- Hayocks Swing Park
- Campbell Park, Saltcoats
- Glasgow St, Ardrossan (Public Toilets)
- Castle Hill, Ardrossan
- Melbourne Toilets and Public Park, Melbourne Terrace, Saltcoats - 187 people have taken part in online and in person consultations park to gather views on whether people would support the group to take ownership and make improvements to the toilets and park.
- **3 Town growers** – Build has started, and completion date is looking at being Feb 2026. They had a successful duck day event with over 600 people in attendance





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# Locality Partnership Progress Update



## Promoting the Local economy & Tourism

- **Two movie days took place at Hayocks Hall** with the Hayocks Youth Café in partnership with the mobile cinema group and every child was served free popcorn and snacks. This was additional provision for the Youth Café bringing the cinema experience to the young people and free for all attending.
- The **Core Skills team** have had 38 referrals for core skills support in the community and currently have 26 active learners in 1 to 1 and group support provision
- Skills for Work drop-ins have been set up in Kilwinning Library, Stevenston Library and Irvine Library to support adults in boosting skills needed for employment, with a focus on literacy, numeracy, and digital skills.
- The Core Skills team are currently on the lookout for volunteers to support adult learning in the areas of numeracy, literacy and digital skills. If you are interested in finding out more about volunteering opportunities across North Ayrshire to help Core Skills support in your locality, you can fill in a form here: [Core Skills Volunteer Sign Up](#)



## Improving Community Wellbeing

- **Discovery Award-** Prior to the Summer Holiday the group engaged in a wide range of activities including pizza making, badge making, kindness rock painting and much more. The group have created an Award for all NAC groups to apply to in honour of one of the group members, Eric Sutherland. The Award will be given to 1 nominee per year for someone who has went above and beyond to support individuals and/or the group. The ceremony will take place on Thursday 25th September. Plans are already in place to try new things in the coming months such as photography sessions, Come Dine with Me sessions, hosting a joint St Andrews day celebration and much more.
- **Stroll with it walking group** has been led throughout the month of July by our Volunteer walk leader.
- **3 Towns Community Shed** – Recently the group have been supported to create, understand and fully manage their new Facebook and email accounts. External Funding streams have also been sourced for the group to consider and support with applications will continue to be offered.
- **Community Hub of Hope** – local mental health & wellbeing group held their first annual AGM. Further support has been provided to complete necessary paperwork and submit application for Charitable status. Support is on-going to identify and apply for external fundraising streams.
- **Link up** hosted various family days to the local community, organised school uniform pop ups and free local haircuts to school age children



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## Regenerating Community Facilities

- **Ardrossan Youth Association** – have been supported to access external funding and have been successful in gaining £24,000 to date. The money so far has allowed the young people to decorate their chillout room, which the young people done themselves with staff. Buy multiple resources for the centre of which all young people who access can use and host a free family fun day for the community. Monies left will help regenerate the centre by decorating internally and externally to make it more appealing as well as cover utility bills for 1 year.
- **Tenant Participation** Manager met with with Locality Officers to enhance and develop partnership working by sharing service information.
- **TACT** have supported local charities with their applications of Community Asset Transfers and supporting local groups who are wanting to take on premises to expand their services by ensuring that they have the correct legal structures and sourcing funding for them.
- **Hayocks Anti-poverty Worker update for Hayocks Community Centre:** Recent improvements include new flooring, new kitchen equipment, and upcoming plans to paint the kitchen. We have sourced new tables and chairs for the café, as well as equipment for toddler groups. Additionally, we have set up a library for everyone and offered free breakfast rolls and warm drinks during winter.





# Locality Partnership Progress Update

## Promoting the Local economy & Tourism

- **Community based ESOL learning** opportunities are currently supporting 117 learners across a range of levels. As well as levelled community based ESOL classes the New Scots team provide learning through our big class, conversation club, storytelling group and reading group.
- **Community Benefits :-**
- Donation of laptop to Ayrshire Long COVID Chat Group from Re-Tek
- Donation of £1050 to TACT for their Volunteer Awards from McTear Contracts (£500); Bell Group (£250); George Curruthers (£100) and Ashleigh Scotland (£150)
- Provision of support to **Pathways to Solace** with governance skills including, committee skills development as the group explore possibility of becoming a SCIO.
- The **Business Development Team** actively supports the 3 Towns business base. In the period of June - August we have provided advice to a number of new and established businesses and continue to work with those who are implementing next steps and developing projects. We have supported 6 new businesses to start-up and supported businesses in a variety of sectors with 4 grants and 3 instances of specialist consultancy support, as well as offering a number of free Business Gateway workshops and webinars covering a range of business topics. In addition, we've supported 8 businesses in the 3 Towns to develop Fair Work practices and 5 with energy/sustainability related support.

## Improving Community Wellbeing

- **Neurodivergent Safe space** – Through a referral from a Community Link Work, a neurodivergent adult has come forward for support to establish a weekly/monthly community safe space for others who also identify as neurominority. There is locality gap for this type of support available and through various meetings, an action plan will be created to underpin what this type of provision looks like.
- **Ardeer Community Centre** partnered with Leanne from Balance and bliss to provide health and well being treatments and kids retreats transitions - introducing sound baths and mental health chats.
- **3TG** has undertaken a number of engagements with young people from the Three Towns and wider. Delivering workshops food growing and related activities that are both fun, educational and increase a sense of wellbeing and wellness. These have included P1, P2, and P3 from St Peters Primary School, families through the **Family Centred Wellbeing Service**.
- The **Foodbank** continues to offer access to referred households for food support. The summer has seen children engaged and fed at their two food focussed programmes - Make a meal of it and Junior chef. The Community Food shop has allowed households to access 6.4 tons of food which would otherwise have been sent to Landfill as well as supporting households through its subsidised shopping project called the Larder.
- **Active Travel Team** continue to provide free Nordic Walking Sessions twice a month in Stevenston, as well as Trinity on the Move Sessions (activity information stall) at Ardrossan and Saltcoats libraries
- **The Dietetic Health Improvement Team** have delivered a 4-week healthy eating group called Fun with Food. This group follows the Peep approach and is open to families in the community with children under 5years. It was delivered in partnership with early years practitioners in Springvale Early Years Centre, Saltcoats

## Regenerating Community Facilities

- **3TG** has provided planters, and related growing materials, including vegetables and eatable flowers to a number of groups/organisations in the Three Towns.
- **Active Travel** have held a 3 Day Community Consultation for Sharphill Path Project.



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# Locality Partnership Progress Update



## Increasing Civic Pride & Community Engagement

### Participatory Budgeting -

- A total of **£204,159** is available to groups through this year's small grant PB cycle.
- £30,000 of the CWB Innovation Fund has been allocated to this round of PB to support projects that demonstrate Community Ownership, Local Innovation and Enterprising Communities. The fund will award up to £2,000 per application and there is no locality split within it. It's hoped that this pot will not only prompt applications from groups for projects that they may not submit to a traditional PB pot, but also help staff to identify ideas with potential or groups who may also be right for the Test It! Programme (assuming it is approved).
- The Shaping North Ayrshire site has been live for around a month before applications open, and a refreshed 'PB Support Hub' is in place to help address some of the questions around navigating the site and completing the application form from previous rounds.



## Case study: DofE

In July 2025 we had 9 young people from North Ayrshire attend the Palace of Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh to receive their Awards from HRH The Duke of Edinburgh.

One of our participants, Grant McLellan (ex-Auchenharvie Academy pupil and now University of Strathclyde student) was interviewed by HRH Prince Edward during the event, and the DofE have used his story as a case study in various online articles and websites. An extract of his story is below:

Grant's story: **"I wouldn't be alive without DofE"**

Grant, from Saltcoats, completed his Gold DofE Award in January 2025, and was in attendance, at a special celebration event, recognising his achievement, at the Palace of Holyroodhouse, Edinburgh, on Friday 4 July.

The celebration recognised Grant, and 600 other young people who have shown extraordinary perseverance, creativity and resilience to complete their Gold DofE in schools, community organisations and youth groups all over Scotland. Award holders and their proud guests had the chance to hear from famous Scottish faces, including Olympic athlete Eilish McColgan, singer and songwriter Nathan Evans and legendary Scottish actor James Cosmo.

HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, who is Patron of the DofE charity, met Grant, 21, and his family on the day, where Grant left The Duke momentarily speechless, as he shared how his parents had met on their own DofE Expedition, "I wouldn't be alive without DofE, as it was on their Silver expedition, in the Netherlands, where my mum and dad met".



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## Increasing Civic Pride & Community Engagement

- Working in partnership with Education and other council services the **UNCRC** workplan has started ensuring that we are both compliant and sector leading in our approach to UNCRC incorporation. This includes co design and production of our youth voice structures, training for Elected Members and the development of a mandatory ilearn module on UNCRC. Our Executive Youth Council are nearly at completion of a North Ayrshire Learners Voice Charter supporting the work of pupil voice structures across our schools.
- With over 60 regular participants across local schools, the **Champions Boards** in each secondary gives care experienced young people a strong voice. They've influenced policy, co-designed summer programmes, and are planning awareness presentations to educate peers and reduce stigma in schools
- With the completion of our **Cyber Explorers programme** across schools and communities, targeting P6-S2 across North Ayrshire:
- 899 young people are registered on the system with 603 active members.
- 277 young people completing 6 or more challenges
- 158 young people achieving SCQF level 4
- 74 young people achieving SCQF level 5
- **Professional Development Award in Youth Work** - delivery of the course to 21 young people has begun in Ardrossan Academy with Auchenharvie Academy following on after the new school term.





# Locality Partnership Progress Update

## Increasing Civic Pride & Community Engagement

- Youth-led initiatives, including awareness campaigns and potential community projects like wellness boxes, foster civic pride and positive change. These projects empower **care-experienced young people** to contribute meaningfully to school and local community life.
- In recent months, the **Executive Youth Council** and **MSYPs** have been actively promoting the Manifesto Consultation to increase participation and feedback from local young people, ensuring the voices of North Ayrshire's youth are represented. The MSYPs also continue to engage with their local Youth Forums and participate in community events such as Arran Pride to maintain visibility and strengthen connections with their constituencies. Support staff have attended SYP support worker sessions to stay up to date with all relevant information. SYP has recently undergone some changes and is currently under review. For our MSYPs, this means their positions will be extended until November 2026, which all have agreed to. The group's current key focus is revising the Pupil Council Toolkit.
- A new group was established as the **Equalities Forum** bringing young people from across various protected characteristics together to look at shared goals and vision to ensure North Ayrshire is equal, safe and nurturing to our young people. This group will focus on themes across the year working with New Scots, ASN, LGBT, Young Carers and others.
- **Ardeer Prom Run** – newly established opportunity with Stevenston. Supporting group founder by identifying funding streams.

## Increasing Civic Pride & Community Engagement

- The new **ESOL Forum** launch event took place this quarter and has already shaped how we plan to hear our new Scots learners voice going forward. The forum has also created volunteering opportunities for those involved, strengthening community participation and leadership.
- A **New Scots Youth forum** has been developed involving young New Scots 16 years and older. The group have formed a committee and created a constitution. The committee has 6 core members from Syria, Ukraine, Vietnam and Columbia.
- New Scots team are supporting **Lok Oi, Spike Wheat Scots, and the Ukrainian community groups to trial working in collaboration**. First joint event will be Lok Oi and the Ukrainian group movie night on 20th September, featuring a Chinese film, with other groups contributing food to make it a shared cultural event.
- Along with the **North Ayrshire Foodbank campaigner, 3TG** are in the early stages of establishing a community food garden with **West Coast Furniture Bank**, based at the old Robertsons site, Princes Street, Ardrossan. Looking to utilising the experiences and learning from Argyle Community Centre Garden it will include volunteers from the community of Ardrossan, and people who have come through the criminal justice system.

## Case Study: Midweek Meals

A shared vision for working with those most isolated became apparent when an introductory meeting was held between Kimberly O'Neill & Denise Fraser from Community Learning & Development and Alistair Allan from Criminal Justice. These discussions identified a needs-based approach for working with individuals Alistair supports and introducing them to Community Development initiatives to enable adult learning, capacity building and community-based project opportunities through a shared vision of supporting people who are experiencing social isolation and exclusion from their local community, those who are impacted by poor mental health, literacy difficulties and/or the cost-of-living crisis.

Through the needs recognised, a startup project was identified as a base for this partnership working.

Midweek Meals was established with a small group of individuals under the criminal justice team to carry out a six-week introductory cooking group with a numerical element attached. The purpose of this group was to deliver basic cooking and numeracy skills in an open and inclusive environment. The tasks involved including meeting with the group initially to ascertain which foods they enjoyed and would like to be able to re-create at home. From this we were able to devise a six-week simplified cooking programme. This involved creating recipes for healthy home cooked meals which could be affordable on a low budget. This also involved finding an inclusive space for the participants, one where they would be met with no prejudice and be able to express themselves freely whilst on their personal learning journeys.

The group is evolving, and the original participants are looking for new challenges. The cooking group will remain in place for new participants however, for those who have been attending for some time, they will now take part in an Award Challenge which has been adapted from the Over 50's Discovery Award. This adaptation will involve sections comprising of hobbies & interests, Service in the Community & recreational pursuit.





North Ayrshire Council  
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir a Tuath

# Locality Partnership Progress Update



## Increasing Civic Pride & Community Engagement

Three Towns team supported and held community fun days over the summer:

- Doon the Beach Fun Day
- Melbourne Park
- Hayocks Fun Day
- Ardeer Gala Day
- Ardrossan Youth Association Fun Day

•Hayocks Youth Café has continued through the summer providing free food, football, gaming and youth work activities.

**Ardeer Gala Day** - Back in 2005, a group of individuals took part in a Digital Time Capsule project at the Caley Centre, Stevenston. The plan was to open the capsule 20 years later, which was opened by the Ardeer Gala Queen at the Ardeer Gala Day 2025.



## Increasing Civic Pride & Community Engagement

- **Biodiversity Officer** and Senior Manager attended the **3 Towns Growers Duck Day** on Saturday 2nd August. They were promoting the North Ayrshire Nature Network, the North Ayrshire Biodiversity Partnership and Energy Smart funds. On the day they handed out approx. 80 free pollinator plant packs to encourage our communities to plant for wildlife in their gardens and outdoor spaces. The packs contained 7 perennial plants and 2 seed packets, plus information on energy grant schemes to help lower home energy bills.
- **Sustainability Officer** (SO) held 3 x climate workshops at Ardrossan Civic Centre. The aim of the workshops was to identify climate actions that support the 3 Towns locality priorities. This info would supplement the work already being undertaken as part of the Community Climate Action Plans - unfortunately just one person attended. The SO will also be delivering the workshops to a group from Neighbourhood Networks over the coming month.
- **North Ayrshire Foodbank campaigner** - Right to Grow initiative - We have adopted a mutual aid organizing approach as a community, addressing several issues such as isolation, lack of nutrition and health, poor collective physical and mental well-being, and a shared commitment to environmental sustainability in the area. The objective of this campaign is not to solve food insecurity directly, but to demonstrate to the community that they have the power to create change in their area. The Right to Grow initiative has been successfully implemented in multiple communities throughout the UK
- The council has crafted 20 growing beds built by its Duke of Edinburgh programme. These are being strategically placed throughout the three towns as part of a movement to utilize any available spaces for cultivation. These gardens aim to empower the community through collective learning and vegetable growing, promoting solidarity and collective action to share power within the community.

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