

# Action Note

Meeting:	Garnock Valley Locality Partnership		
Date/Venue:	11 September 2025, Beith Community Centre.		
Present:	<p>Councillor John Bell (Chair) Councillor Anthea Dickson Councillor Ronnie Stalker Councillor Margaret Johnson James Waite, Beith &amp; District Community Council – Vice Chair Catherine Wigzell, Kilbirnie &amp; Glengarnock Community Council David Park, Community Representative Jane Lamont, Community Representative Angela Morrell, Senior Manager, Community Learning &amp; Development, (Lead Officer) Christina Pieraccini, Locality Officer Garry Moore, Active Schools Sgt Dougie Clark, Police Scotland Heather McVie- Branley, Community Development Worker Chris Parker, Scottish Fire and Rescue Lynne McNiven, Director Public Health</p> <p><b>In Attendance</b></p> <p>James Robson, Beith Community Association Michelle Sutherland, HSCP Jennifer McGee, Policy &amp; Community Planning Officer (Notes)</p>		
Apologies:	<p>Kyle Lewis, KA Leisure Kaileigh Brown, TACT Kyle Lewis KA Leisure</p>		
ACTIONS			
No.	Action	Responsible	
1.	<p><b>Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest</b></p> <p>The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies for absence were noted.</p>	<b>Noted</b>	
2.	<p><b>Action Note</b></p> <p>The action note arising from the meeting held on 12 June 2025 was approved with all actions complete.</p> <p>A Morrell advised that the summary of coalfields initiative will be reported at December meeting.</p>	<b>Noted</b>  <b>A Morrell</b>	
3	<p><b>CIF Project Update – Beith Community Association</b></p> <p>J Robson provided an update on the project:</p> <p>Initial delays were caused by boiler issues, but Council core hours have helped reduce costs and improve flexibility. New caretaker appointed through CEIS support which has benefitted local young people. Projects include a new garden with seating and a sensory space (funded by ACVS), a toddler group running twice weekly and the continuation of carpet bowls under the Association’s banner.</p>		

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	<p>The community larder operated for one year but closed due to costs and pressures on volunteers, with demand being more for its social aspect than food need. Larder numbers were lower than elsewhere in North Ayrshire, suggesting the model may not have been the right fit for Beith. The Council continues to provide food support from the centre and there are examples locally, such as Beith Trust's initiative to reduce food waste, which could inform future approaches. Cllr Johnson suggested linking in with the Larder Network to see how other overcame similar issues.</p> <p>Footfall has improved with more lets in place, including Slimming World and toddler football. Plans are progressing with an organisation to use the café area as training kitchen/café in 2026, with engagement taking place to explore a warm hub model over the coming months.</p> <p>J Robson noted that CIF provided a strong foundation and capacity to build partnerships, and four staff are now employed compared to none previously.</p> <p>Volunteer recruitment remains a challenge, with the need to build projects of real interest rather than broad calls for support. J. Robson highlighted plans for further engagement over the winter.</p> <p>The Chair thanked J Robson for his input.</p>	Noted
4.	<p><b>Collaborative for Health Equity in Scotland (CHES)</b></p> <p>M Sutherland provided the Locality Partnership with an overview of the Collaborative for Health Equity in Scotland (CHES). CHES brings together Public Health Scotland and the University College London's Institute of Health Equity (IHE) led by Professor Sir Michael Marmot.</p> <p>CHES is working in partnership with Councils and Health Boards across:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aberdeen City</li> <li>• North Ayrshire</li> <li>• South Lanarkshire</li> </ul> <p>CHES is about improving Health Equity in Scotland. The programme focuses on actions to improve health and reduce health inequalities in Scotland.</p> <p>The presentation highlighted key data, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Healthy life expectancy of females in North Ayrshire is the lowest in Scotland at only 52 years (vs 61 across Scotland).</li> <li>• For males this is only slightly better at 56 vs 60 across Scotland. However, this number dropped in July 2025 52.6 years.</li> <li>• Around 50% of health outcomes are linked to social, economic, and physical factors. Work is needed to shift associated behaviours.</li> <li>• Data in the Garnock Valley showing the impact of premature deaths among 15–44-year-olds and under-75s linked to cancer and heart disease.</li> <li>• The eight marmot principles are being used to guide efforts to give everyone a healthier life.</li> <li>• CHES work is being co-chaired by Sharon Hackney and Dr. Ruth Campbell.</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current work includes analysing available data and assets, reviewing effective practice across the UK, and engaging communities.</li> <li>Phase 1 has focused on Locality Partnerships. Phase 2 will involve wider community conversations and organisational engagement. Implementation will begin in January across areas, with the first year seen as establishing a strong foundation.</li> </ul> <p>M. Sutherland asked to attend any network meetings to speak to as many people as possible to help inform the work.</p> <p>The Chair thanked M Sutherland for her input and asked that she come to a future meeting of the Partnership to provide an update on this work.</p>	<p><b>All</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>
5.	<p><b>Grants</b></p> <p>The Locality Partnership considered applications made to the Margaret Archibald Bequest Fund and Elderly Grant Fund:</p> <p><b>Margaret Archibald Bequest</b></p> <p><b>Dalry Old Folks Welfare Committee</b> – application submitted for £8,000 to support with the refurbishment of Rosearden Hall, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Repair and Re-decorate Hall</li> <li>New Blinds</li> <li>Gates</li> <li>Tables and Chairs</li> </ul> <p>The Locality Partnership approved this application.</p> <p><b>Dalry Old Folks Treat Committee</b> – application submitted for £6,000 to cover costs for Christmas Meal and Summer Trips which are open to anyone living within Dalry Parish and aged 65 and over.</p> <p>The Locality Partnership approved this application.</p> <p><b>Elderly Grants</b></p> <p><b>Kilbirnie &amp; Glengarnock Age Concern</b> – application submitted for £2,964 to contribute towards cost of meals, transport, gratuities and entertainment.</p> <p>The Locality Partnership approved this application.</p> <p><b>Beith Old People's Welfare</b> – application submitted for £3,053 to contribute towards annual bus trip to Callander. Christmas Lunch Rosebank House, Beith. Bus hire for both events.</p> <p>The Locality Partnership approved this application.</p> <p><b>Dalry Old Folks Treat Committee</b> – application submitted for £2,414 to provide a Christmas Meal and organise a Summer Trip for the senior citizens. Entertainment from singer or band is also provided at the Christmas Meal.</p> <p>The Locality Partnership approved this application.</p>	<p><b>S Fleming</b></p> <p><b>S Fleming</b></p> <p><b>S Fleming</b></p> <p><b>S Fleming</b></p> <p><b>S Fleming</b></p>

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6.	<p><b>Street Naming Report</b></p> <p>The Locality Partnership considered a street naming application for Miller Homes development of 44 houses on land at Glebe Road, Beith. One street name is required for this development.</p> <p>The Locality Partnership agreed The Manse Field as the preferred street name.</p> <p>They also asked for J McGee to check with Planning whether no suffix could be used eg 1 The Manse Field.</p>	<p><b>L Dempster</b></p> <p><b>J McGee</b></p>
7.	<p><b>Our Garnock Valley</b></p> <p>N. Wright advised the Locality Partnership that the Local Place Plan has been signed off by the Working Group and will be signed off by each individual organisation involved by the end of September. The Plan will then be submitted to the Council's Planning Service for registration, with the Planning Committee due to consider it on 29 October 2025.</p> <p>The Working Group will subsequently write to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the Locality Partnership to ask how each member can help deliver the plan's calls to action; and</li> <li>The Council's Regeneration Team around supporting the delivery of the plan.</li> </ul> <p>N Wright also highlighted the close links between the plan and the CHES work.</p> <p>C Pieraccini asked partners to review the plan and highlight three things like about the plan and how they can be part of the delivery.</p> <p>Further discussion on the plan will take place at the December LP meeting.</p> <p>The Chair conveyed his thanks to all involved in this work.</p>	<p><b>All</b></p> <p><b>C Pieraccini</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>
8.	<p><b>Locality Plan Progress</b></p> <p>C Pieraccini highlighted that the working group didn't meet over summer, however lots of discussion has been happening around the delivery of the plan and its actions.</p>	<p><b>Noted</b></p>
9.	<p><b>Locality Officer Update</b></p> <p>C Pieraccini advised the Locality Partnership that a report was included was part of the agenda pack. Key highlights including the Lochshore highland Games which was held on 2nd August and had a fantastic atmosphere, which attracted over 100 children and young people who participated in a series of Highland Games activities</p> <p>C Pieraccini highlighted that over the next couple of months several Community Councillors will be moving on or standing down from their roles. She thanked them all for their support and contributions, noting they will be a great loss to both the Locality Partnership and their communities.</p> <p>J Waite advised that he will bring new Beith and District Community Council rep to the December Locality Meeting.</p>	<p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>

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	<p>Cllr Dickson praised the exemplary work of the Locality Team, recognising their efforts in engaging so many people across the area. She noted that their visibility in the towns is very much appreciated and has made a real difference.</p>	<b>Noted</b>
<b>10.</b>	<p><b>Partner Reports</b></p> <p>The Locality Partnership received update from Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue and Active Schools:</p> <p><b>Police Scotland</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Road Policing and Locality Officers continue to focus on driver behaviour to prevent deaths and serious injuries. Teams are also tackling the anti-social use of off-road bikes and working with local groups to find a suitable solution.</li> <li>• Over the summer, the Safer Shores Initiative saw Police Scotland work with partners including the Coastguard, ScotRail, BTP, NAC and youth workers on Irvine beach to engage with young people and the wider community, although no specific issues were reported for the Garnock Valley.</li> <li>• The Garnock Valley Locality Policing Team continue school visits, often in non-uniform, to build positive relationships with pupils, supporting career choices and awareness of opportunities.</li> <li>• Wildlife Crime Officer is re-establishing links with the rural and farming community from Kilbirnie Police Office.</li> </ul> <p>Sgt Clark advised that he would shortly be retiring from his role and conveyed his thanks to the Locality Partnership noting that it had been a Privilege to work in the area for the last 5 years.</p> <p>The Chair and the Locality Partnership conveyed their best wishes for his retiral.</p> <p><b>Scottish Fire and Rescue</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 160 incidents were recorded in the Garnock Valley, with 60–70% being false alarms and 14% special service calls.</li> <li>• Operational crews attended local events, including primary school open days and the Dalry Car Show, where they gave RTC and extraction demonstrations and promoted on-call recruitment.</li> <li>• The Community Action Team has been engaging at Glengarnock Academy on fire-related antisocial behaviour and will visit as many schools as possible with bonfire safety messages.</li> <li>• Andrew McLeod (LALO) will be moving on to a new role, replacement will be confirmed at the end of October.</li> </ul> <p>Cllr Stalker asked if Dalry Community Fire Station are still struggling for numbers C Parker advised that they are beginning the recruitment process with 4 people who signed up at a local event.</p> <p><b>Active Schools</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority 1 – Moving Around: Partnership working has provided new opportunities in sport and leadership, including Gowanbank and Craufurdland activity days, which gave young people chances to try new activities and build friendships.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority 2 – Work and Local Community: All leadership recruitment for the new academic year is complete, with continued school and social media promotion. Participation rates ranged from 37% to 93% across primaries and Garnock Campus. Several schools have achieved or are working towards Gold/Silver sport awards.</li> <li>• Priority 3 – Facilities and Amenities: Collaboration with schools and KA Leisure ensures multiple clubs are offered before, during, and after school, with facilities also used during holidays to provide ongoing opportunities in the community.</li> </ul> <p>H McVie -Branley advised that deadline for PB application has been extended to 22 September. In the Garnock Valley there are currently 14 applications for the Locality PB and 4 for Youth PB.</p> <p>The chair conveyed his thanks for the updates.</p>	<p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>
11.	<p><b>AOCB</b></p> <p>Cllr Dickson encouraged the Partnership to complete the Bessie on the Bypass consultation for the installation of a statue of Bessie Dunlop on the Dalry bypass.</p>	<p><b>All</b></p>

The meeting ended at 9.06 pm