

Action Note

Meeting:	Arran Locality Partnership
Date/Venue:	Thursday 4 December 2025 at 5pm on Microsoft Teams
Present:	<p>Cllr Charles Currie, Chair</p> <p>Vicki Yuill, Chief Executive Officer, Arran CVS (Senior Lead Officer)</p> <p>Lesley Forsyth, Senior Manager, North Ayrshire Council (Lead Officer)</p> <p>Sarah Baird, Senior Officer (Islands)</p> <p>Anne Marie Hunter, Engagement & Participation Officer</p> <p>Alastair Dobson, Island Plan Lead for Economy</p> <p>Ailsa Weir, NHS Ayrshire & Arran</p> <p>Michael Gettings, Island Plan Lead for Environment</p> <p>Ross Dobson, Active Schools Co-ordinator</p>
In Attendance	<p>DI Simon Ridge, Police Scotland</p> <p>Jennifer McGee, Policy & Community Planning Officer (Notes)</p>
Apologies:	<p>Sheila Gilmore, Island Plan Lead for Communities</p> <p>Vicki Lockhart, Head Teacher</p> <p>Lisa Thomson, Police Scotland</p>

ACTIONS

No.	Action	Responsible
1.	<p>Welcome/Apologies/Declarations of Interest</p> <p>The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies for absence were noted.</p>	Noted
2.	<p>Action Note</p> <p>The action note arising from the meeting held on 25 September 2025 was approved.</p>	Noted
3.	<p>Input from Police Scotland</p> <p>The Locality Partnership received a presentation from Detective Inspector Simon Ridge on intelligence collection and community engagement. The presentation highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are three intelligence units in Ayrshire which align with local authority areas, covering everything from community-level issues to serious crime • How intelligence is used to understand, predict and prevent crime and how this is used to safeguard our communities • The benefits of sharing intelligence with partners • The priorities for North Ayrshire based on data and feedback from the Your Police Survey. These are: • Drug dealing and misuse - Sadly since January 2025, there have been 41 drug-related deaths in North Ayrshire. Nitazenes are emerging as a significant issue. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violence and antisocial behaviour – Since January 2025, 14 crimes of antisocial behaviour and 11 crimes of violence have been reported on Arran. • Crimes of Dishonesty - 17 crimes of dishonesty have been reported on Arran since January 2025. • Road Safety 107 road traffic offences have been reported on Arran since January 2025. • The aim is for communities, schools, and organisations to work collectively to tackle crime. There is a particular focus on young people affected by violence, creating spaces for engagement and understanding the pressures that lead to carrying weapons. • Work is already underway with youth groups and workers to explore these issues and develop meaningful interventions. • Partners such as social workers and teachers can upload information through the intelligence portal, which is currently being upgraded and is scheduled for rollout next year. <p>L Forsyth asked what the partnership could do to contribute. Suggested exploring opportunities to host initiatives in libraries or community centres and asked what support Arran could offer as an island community. S Ridge welcomed this opportunity and undertook to contact L Forsyth directly.</p> <p>S Ridge highlighted the advantage that Arran residents have by having a direct phone line to the local office for submitting intelligence to the team on the island.</p> <p>A Hunter suggested that S Ridge link in with youth workers on Arran to address concerns raised by young people and reinforce communication with the public. Suggested sharing information with them.</p> <p>The Chair thanked S Ridge for his presentation.</p>	<p>S Ridge</p> <p>S Ridge</p> <p>Noted</p>
4.	<p>Island Plan</p> <p>S Baird provided the Partnership with the following updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new National Island plan focuses on additionality and sets out seven strategic objectives: connectivity, housing, health and social care, digital services, economy and skills, nature and energy, poverty and social justice, and empowering communities and culture. The plan will be formally submitted to the Scottish Parliament imminently, with public publication expected in late February or early March 2026. • Early in the new year, work will begin on developing an updated Arran Island Plan Action Plan, drawing on input from the Locality Partnership and the wider island community. This will be discussed further at the Sterring Group meeting on Tuesday. • At the recent COHI event on Arran, Community Wealth Building was the main agenda item, providing an opportunity to showcase North Ayrshire and several Arran businesses. The Deputy First 	

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	<p>Minister sent a letter to the Chief Executive expressing appreciation for the successful delivery of the event.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population retention remains a priority, with funding allocated to address depopulation. Work is underway to explore how childcare provision could help tackle depopulation in both the Garnock Valley and Arran. A consultant is being appointed to assess feasibility, identify challenges and opportunities, and develop case studies, with an update expected in April 2026. <p>Island Plan funding has seen seven applications submitted, with North Ayrshire securing £863,000 for Arran. Successful projects include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arran Youth Foundations, Youth Centre - £382,399 to build a new, bespoke replacement youth centre in Lamlash Brodick Hall Island Hub - £323,925 to transform this vital and valued island community space, bringing it into the 21st century through critical investment in the building's fabric Lochranza Securing a Future in Marine Tourism - £129,718 to help secure the future for the community by attracting more marine visitors by rejuvenating and extending critical marine infrastructure at Lochranza. <p>Further announcements today confirmed funding for three smaller projects supporting Island Plan delivery: Cumbrae Drop-In Centre, Kildonan Hall, and Garrison House.</p> <p>A new pilot fund for communities on Arran and Cumbrae - 'Wee Grants for Islands' has now launched. Offering £500–£1,000 for new and existing small-scale projects.</p> <p>V Yuill confirmed that funding details will be circulated and added to the bulletin tomorrow.</p> <p>V Yuill asked whether TSI is involved in co-design work around childcare? S Baird confirmed this is not being done in isolation, but current work is desktop-based research.</p> <p>The Chair noted that discussions from the Community Planning Board this afternoon link well with upcoming Locality Partnership workshop themes</p> <p>S Baird advised that the steering group is scheduled to meet next week to plan for 2026, with a strong focus on developing island-based solutions as a core priority.</p> <p>The Chair thanked S Baird for her update.</p>	
5.	<p>Arran Community Council</p> <p>The Chair highlighted the need for additional members for the community council with five positions currently vacant—representing Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, and two in Shiskine.</p>	

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	<p>A Dobson highlighted that this could be an opportunity to clarify roles and communicate that each group whether that be the Locality Partnership, Island Plan, and Community Council has a distinct purpose.</p> <p>V Yuill stressed the importance of amplifying the community voice, enabling influence, and refreshing the Community Council's image.</p> <p>A Hunter agreed, noting that this aligns with other initiatives such as the Democracy Matters 2 work and suggested developing a programme to target potential members, including young people, and incorporating myth-busting to address misconceptions. She confirmed she is happy to lead on shaping this approach before the next planned Community Council meeting in January 2026.</p> <p>The Chair welcomed this and added that involving young people in the work of the community council would be valuable.</p>	A Hunter
6.	<p>Partner updates</p> <p>Health and Social Care Partnership</p> <p>A Weir provided the Partnership with an update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training for health staff on Arran can be challenging, but this is being addressed through accredited courses. In early November, eight trainers from BASICS Scotland delivered a three-day resuscitation course, which is part of a pre-hospital training programme and is repeated every three years. • The review of Montrose House is ongoing, with the team exploring an outreach daycare model. A focus group will be established in mid-January, and further communication will follow. There has also been successful cross-community working, including a Halloween party for residents organised by the Young Carers group. • Ann Reid, nominated by both the school and the community, has been recognised as a finalist for Nurse of the Year—a well-deserved achievement. • Additionally, all NHS community cars have now transitioned to electric vehicle models. <p>V Yuill expressed interest in discussing the community support aspect further and agreed that a focus group would be helpful.</p> <p>Active Schools</p> <p>R Dobson provided the Partnership with an update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The tennis courts are now close to opening, with completion expected in the coming weeks. KA Leisure is finalising the booking system, which will use a timed pin code for access. As part of the Lawn Tennis Association funding agreement, there is 	

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	<p>a commitment to provide free community access, it is looking like this will be between 10 am and 12 noon daily. Discussions are ongoing with the newly formed Brodick Tennis Club to determine whether the courts will operate solely as a club facility or adopt a hybrid model. Dates for Level 2 coaching courses are being finalised, which will enable sessions for both adults and school groups. An official opening is planned, with a community event scheduled for March 2026 following the completion of the final paintwork.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swimming provision has not been at previous levels, but progress is being made. There are now three potential swimming teachers who will undertake Level 2 training, and work is underway to develop a new programme. The main barrier has been qualification requirements, and efforts are being made to bring Scottish Swimming to the island. An update will be provided at a future locality meeting. Phase 2 of the outdoor centre programme is also progressing, targeting P6 pupils and young carers. The programme includes early transition activities and opportunities to gain qualifications. An activity day for P7 pupils is planned to support their transition, with additional support for S1 students. <p>The Chair thanked A Weir and R Dobson for their updates.</p>	
7.	<p>Meeting Forward Planning</p> <p>The Partnership discussed meetings for 2026. It was agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All meetings will be held face-to-face, with an option to move online if adverse weather or ferry issues arise. Sessions will include deep-dive discussions on key priority topics. The first deep-dive will focus on the Economy. A pre-meeting with the Island Plan lead will take place ahead of each Locality Partnership meeting to agree discussion topics related to that priority. 	J McGee
8.	<p>AOCB</p> <p>No other business was discussed.</p> <p>The Chair conveyed his best wishes to everyone for the festive season.</p>	Noted

The meeting ended at: 6.58 pm