

# Action Note

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Arran Locality Partnership</b>
<b>Date/Venue:</b>	Thursday 19 March 2026 at 4.45 pm at the Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick
<b>Present:</b>	<p>Cllr Charles Currie, Chair</p> <p>Lesley Forsyth, Senior Manager, North Ayrshire Council (Lead Officer)</p> <p>Sarah Baird, Senior Officer (Islands)</p> <p>Anne Marie Hunter, Engagement &amp; Participation Officer</p> <p>Alastair Dobson, Island Plan Lead for Economy</p> <p>Ailsa Weir, NHS Ayrshire &amp; Arran (joined remotely)</p> <p>Michael Gettings, Island Plan Lead for Environment</p> <p>Ross Dobson, Active Schools Co-ordinator</p> <p>Scott Morrison, KA Leisure</p> <p>Ricky Donnachie, Scottish Fire and Rescue</p> <p>Sheila Gilmore, Island Plan Lead for Communities</p> <p>Carol Norton, Operation Manager, Arran CVS</p>
<b>In Attendance</b>	Jennifer McGee, Policy & Community Planning Officer (Notes)
<b>Apologies:</b>	<p>Lisa Thomson, Police Scotland</p> <p>Vicki Yuill, Arran CVS</p> <p>Allison Black, 1<sup>st</sup> Alliance Credit Union</p>

## ACTIONS

No.	Action	Responsible
1.	<p><b>Welcome/Apologies/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 4 December 2025 was approved.</p>	<b>Noted</b>
3.	<p><b>1<sup>st</sup> Alliance Community Bank</b></p> <p>The Chair advised the Partnership that A Black was unable to attend today's meeting and that an invitation to join the June LP meeting would be extended to her.</p> <p>C Norton offered to link A Dobson in with A Black.</p>	<p><b>J McGee</b></p> <p><b>C Norton</b></p>
4.	<p><b>Street Naming Report</b></p> <p>The Partnership considered a street naming report to the Partnership for the development of 26 houses in a single street development on a greenfield site at Brathwic, Brodick.</p> <p>A list of potential street names was submitted by the Arran community via local online forums.</p>	

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	<p>The Partnership agreed St Brides Well as the preferred street name. It was noted that the report listed Brides Well as the option; however, as the site is located close to St Brides Church, the Partnership requested that the prefix 'St' be included. J McGee agreed to confirm this with Planning.</p> <p>The Partnership also wished to record that there is already a Hill View on Arran and asked J McGee to liaise with Planning to clarify why other names submitted by the community were not included as options in the report.</p>	<p><b>L Dempster</b></p> <p><b>J McGee</b></p> <p><b>J McGee</b></p>
<p><b>5.</b></p>	<p><b>National Islands Plan</b></p> <p>S Baird provided the Partnership with a presentation on the new Scottish Government National Islands Plan 2026:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The new National Islands Plan 2 (2026–2031) marks a significant milestone, building on the 2019 Plan and responding to the 2023 review, which showed good progress but highlighted ongoing challenges.</li> <li>• The Plan is more focused, reducing objectives from 13 to 7 and aligning national priorities with what islanders said matters most to them.</li> <li>• Core themes include: economic resilience and fair transition to Net Zero, strong, empowered communities, population sustainability and attraction, climate pressures, cost of living and local service delivery, improved transport, digital connectivity, housing, health, education and skills</li> <li>• A new Implementation Route Map aims to improve transparency and accountability. The Plan reinforces local flexibility and community-led decision-making as key to supporting population retention and growth.</li> <li>• All work continues to be guided by the Islands (Scotland) Act 2018, with a renewed emphasis on early, consistent and transparent use of Island Communities Impact Assessments (ICIAs) whenever policies may affect islands differently.</li> <li>• Progress will be measured through case studies and local initiatives to demonstrate genuine community-led development.</li> <li>• North Ayrshire played a major role in shaping the new Plan and continues to deliver strong outcomes through the North Ayrshire Islands Programme, including:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over £6.6m secured for island projects</li> <li>• National recognition through COSLA</li> <li>• Regional influence</li> <li>• New initiatives such as Wee Grants for Islands</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The National Islands Plan and Implementation Route Map can be viewed or downloaded here: <a href="#">National Islands Plan – gov.scot</a></p> <p>The Partnership were asked to consider its involvement, next steps, and how the Plan can deliver meaningful outcomes for Arran.</p>	

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	<p>A Dobson encouraged the LP to look at the information on ICIA's.</p> <p>The Partnership discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The need for improved, proactive communication that demonstrates active listening and provides clear information. Communications should be in plain English, avoiding jargon, and the Locality Partnership can help translate national messaging into accessible local language.</li> <li>• The need for interpretive information through local press and radio, as well as fully inclusive meetings. A communications strategy should focus on real people and real stories, presented in a more dynamic way.</li> <li>• A local communications officer could support this work through direct engagement with the community, including producing reels with AYF and local schools.</li> <li>• A Weir offered to share examples from other islands in regards local based communication and engagement officers to support Health and Social Care discussions.</li> </ul> <p>The Partnership will support development of the new Island Plan, and S Baird undertook to explore potential funding to initiate the communications work.</p> <p>M Gettins provided an update in relation to the Environment workstream of the Island Plan and advised that the former 21 priorities have been condensed by the group to 3. It was noted that the proposed solar farm would not generate electricity for local use. Water remains a significant challenge and requires attention.</p> <p>S Gilmore provided an update in relation to the Communities workstream of the Island Plan and advised that Isla Anderson has taken on the role of co-lead, with a view to strengthening proactive communication. Feedback from the Reach from the Stars Event has been issued, and meetings are being planned for Lochranza and Blackwaterfoot areas of the Island.</p> <p>A Dobson provided an update in relation to the Economy workstream of the Island Plan and advised that the group has been progressing actions arising from the Reach for the Stars event. Concerns were raised that if depopulation and demographic change are not addressed, local businesses will be at risk. Smart Data Foundry work indicates that data is essential for supporting businesses. An asset register refresh is needed from a business perspective, and communications must be improved. A meeting is planned this Saturday around the food and drink supply chain.</p>	<p><b>A Weir</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>
<p><b>6.</b></p>	<p><b>Arran Community Council</b></p> <p>T Young provided the Partnership with an update on the work of the Community Council:</p>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Community Council is still finding its feet.</li> <li>• They are reaching out to community groups and have met with school Head Teachers to explore how schools can engage with the Community Council.</li> <li>• There is a challenge in achieving full representation across the island; they may look to fill remaining roles to ensure full allocation.</li> <li>• Everyone is welcome to attend Community Council meetings.</li> <li>• Work is ongoing to strengthen planning links with the Community Council, to establish a clear focus for the Community Council.</li> <li>• Discussion on whether representatives should be sector-based or geographical.</li> </ul>	
<p>7.</p>	<p><b>Partner Updates</b></p> <p><b>HSCP</b></p> <p>A Weir provided the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Montrose House inspection completed with a positive outcome.</li> <li>• GP recruitment filming scheduled for mid-April for broadcast on TV.</li> <li>• Discussion on criteria for critical adult social work services and the impact on island-based staff, noting particular vulnerabilities linked to island context.</li> </ul> <p><b>Scottish Fire and Rescue</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outcome Corriecravie Fire station due to be published in June</li> <li>• Currently looking for volunteer fire fighters in Lochranza, posts will be advertised in due course.</li> <li>• C Norton advised R Donnachie to contact her to share information via Arran CVS newsletter.</li> <li>• Ongoing push on wildfire safety information.</li> <li>• On 31 March an inter-agency event taking place on the island.</li> </ul> <p><b>Active Schools</b></p> <p>Report included as part of the meeting papers.</p> <p><b>KA Leisure</b></p> <p>S Morrison advised that he will arrange for a written update to be circulated to the Partnership.</p>	
<p>8.</p>	<p><b>AOCB</b></p> <p>L Forsyth advised the Partnership that due to time constraints, she would circulate the AOCB information by email.</p>	<p><b>Noted</b></p>

The meeting ended at: 6.45pm