

# Action Note

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Arran Locality Partnership</b>
<b>Date/Venue:</b>	Thursday 18 June 2026 at 4.45 pm at Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick
<b>Present:</b>	Cllr Charles Currie, Chair Vicki Auld, Chief Executive Officer, Arran CVS (Senior Lead Officer) Lesley Forsyth, Senior Manager, North Ayrshire Council (Lead Officer) Anne Marie Hunter, Engagement & Participation Officer Sheila Gilmore, Island Plan Lead for Communities Sgt Claire Neilson, Police Scotland PC Andy McParland, Police Scotland Carol Norton, Operations Manager, Arran CVS
<b>In Attendance</b>	Alison Black, 1 <sup>st</sup> Alliance Credit Union Calum Couston, Programme Manager (joined remotely) Kerry Logan, Head of Service (joined remotely) Stuart McMillan, Principal Manager (joined remotely) Jennifer McGee, Policy & Community Planning Officer (Notes)
<b>Apologies:</b>	Alastair Dobson, Island Plan Lead for Economy Ailsa Weir, NHS Ayrshire & Arran Michael Gettins, Island Plan Lead for Environment Ross Dobson, Active Schools Co-ordinator Sarah Baird, Senior Officer (Islands) Tom Young, Arran Community Council

## 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> <p>Declaration of interest was made from S Gilmore in relation to both applications made to the Community Project Fund.</p>	<b>Noted</b>
2.	<p><b>Action Note</b></p> <p>The action note arising from the meeting held on 19 March 2026 was approved.</p> <p>J McGee advised that in relation to the street naming report presented in March 2026, Planning have clarified why some names submitted by the community were not included as options in the report. J McGee advised that this information would be circulated to the LP for information.</p>	<p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>J McGee</b></p>
3.	<p><b>Community Project Fund</b></p> <p>The Partnership received a report from C Couston on the North Ayrshire Community Projects Fund – Pride in Place Impact Fund for Arran. The Arran allocation for the Community Grant Fund is £44,000 for community led projects. There was also £67,000 allocated for Council led projects.</p>	

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	<p>C Couston highlighted that applications had been assessed by a panel made up of locality representatives, a Connected Communities Officer and Irene Campbell MP. The panel recommended approval of two projects in Arran, with total recommended funding of £44,460.</p> <p>The Locality Partnership approved the funding of the following projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heather Lodge CIC - £7,095</li> <li>• Shiskine Public Hall Community SCIO - £37,365</li> </ul> <p>C Couston highlighted that he has requested funding from small island grants to pay the difference.</p> <p>C Couston advised that the £67,000 for Council led funding to deliver improvements to community spaces has been awarded to Arran Outdoor Education Centre.</p> <p>The Partnership commented that having a catering facility in a community setting would fill a gap in market for weddings and events on the Island.</p> <p>The Chair thanked C Couston for his report and update.</p>	<p><b>C Couston</b></p>
<p><b>4.</b></p>	<p><b>1<sup>st</sup> Alliance Community Bank</b></p> <p>A Black provided an update on ongoing work to support financial resilience within island communities, including Arran and Cumbrae. The service offers a range of loans and savings accounts tailored to individual needs and circumstances, with a focus on supporting people to move away from high-cost payday lending.</p> <p>In addition to financial products, the Community Bank provides budgeting advice and signposting to local and national support services. Payroll deduction schemes were highlighted as a key offer, enabling employees to save directly from their salary. Engagement with local employers remains a priority to increase uptake of these schemes.</p> <p>A number of community-based initiatives are also underway. The savings club at Brodick Primary School has expanded to a whole-school approach, providing young people with practical experience of saving, with plans to extend this model to other schools across the island. Regular community pop-up sessions are also being delivered in Cumbrae every four weeks.</p> <p>It was noted that the organisation benefits from being based on the island, allowing for strong relationship building within the community. A Black confirmed she is keen to continue developing partnerships locally and has shared contact details with Locality Partnership members.</p> <p>The Partnership noted the wider context of financial vulnerability, with many individuals having limited savings, increasing the risk of debt and reliance on high-cost lenders. The Community Bank's role in promoting accessible savings and affordable credit was welcomed.</p> <p>During discussion, Cllr Currie confirmed he will share information with individuals who may benefit from the service. It was highlighted that a key challenge is encouraging broader engagement, as the service is available to everyone, not just those in financial difficulty.</p>	

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	<p>L Forsyth advised that the new Head Teacher at Cumbrae Primary School may provide an opportunity to strengthen engagement and offered to link A Black with Cumbrae Youth Forum and the Parent Council.</p> <p>Further opportunities to connect with Parent Councils and Health Visiting services on Arran were also identified.</p> <p>A Black noted that Armitage and Arran Haulage have signed up to the payroll deduction scheme, which was welcomed as positive progress.</p> <p>The Chair thanked A Black for providing the update.</p>	<p><b>L Forsyth</b></p>
<p><b>5.</b></p>	<p><b>Health and Social Care Partnership</b></p> <p>The Partnership received a report from K Logan, on revised HSCP locality planning arrangements for Arran.</p> <p>The new approach will align HSCP Locality Planning more closely with existing Community Planning Partnership Locality Partnership structures, replacing the previous standalone HSCP Locality Planning Review Groups. This is intended to reduce duplication, strengthen partnership working and support a more coordinated approach to improving outcomes at a locality level.</p> <p>HSCP Locality Leads will attend two Locality Partnership meetings each year, with a standing HSCP locality planning agenda item included to provide updates, share emerging priorities and identify opportunities for joint working. Written updates will be provided for the remaining meetings to maintain visibility of locality planning activity and relevant HSCP developments.</p> <p>It was noted that HSCP Locality Plans will be developed using locality data, community engagement, service input and partner feedback. Draft plans will be brought to the Locality Partnership for comment, ensuring partners have the opportunity to help shape local priorities and delivery.</p> <p>K Logan also provided a general update in relation to HSCP activity in the Arran Locality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engagement held on social care budget, leading to wider consultation.</li> <li>• Eligibility tightened to critical need, with reassessments underway.</li> <li>• Likely increased demand on partners, especially third sector.</li> <li>• New Chair of the ADP appointed</li> <li>• New Self-Directed Support website</li> <li>• Montrose House rated “Good” overall following unannounced Care Inspectorate inspection.</li> <li>• Launch of new fostering scheme in April 2026</li> </ul> <p>The Chair thanked K Logan for her update.</p>	
<p><b>6.</b></p>	<p><b>Island Plan</b></p> <p>The Chair highlighted that S Baird submitted a report as part of the paperwork issued. The report provided updates on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progress of the North Ayrshire Islands Programme</li> <li>• The New National Islands Plan (2026–2031)</li> <li>• Refresh of Local Island Plans</li> <li>• Arran Intelligence Hub</li> <li>• Funding</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wee Grants for Islands</li> </ul> <p>S Gilmore noted that in the report the grant launch date was 12 June – nothing has been circulated. C Norton noted it was publicised on the main Council website and shared the link with Partnership members.</p>	<b>Noted</b>
7.	<p><b>Community Council Update</b></p> <p>Apologies submitted by the Community Council, no update provided.</p>	<b>Noted</b>
8.	<p><b>Island Emergency Cost of Living Fund</b></p> <p>C Norton provided an update on the Islands Emergency Cost of Living Crisis Fund, which offers grants of up to £2,000 to community groups and voluntary organisations operating on Arran. The fund is administered locally by Arran CVS on behalf of North Ayrshire Council and is targeted at supporting those experiencing financial hardship through locally delivered activity.</p> <p>C Norton was reported that a total of 32 awards has been made to date, comprising 16 awards to community groups and organisations and 16 directly to individual residents. Funded activity has included lunch clubs, warm spaces, food provision for events, youth and family activities, and direct financial assistance to individuals experiencing hardship.</p> <p>Arran CVS has also extended its reach to Cumbrae, including engagement with the local food larder/food bank. Through this work, five hardship awards have been made on Cumbrae</p> <p>£7,565 has been awarded to individuals and £26,584 to local groups and organisations.</p> <p>During discussion, S Gilmore sought clarification on access to the fund, and it was confirmed that individuals can approach Arran CVS directly or be referred by local services.</p> <p>L Forsyth highlighted the broader impact of the fund, noting that it has supported a wide range of initiatives, including provision of free summer sports activities through KA Leisure.</p> <p>The Chair thanked C Norton for her update.</p>	
9.	<p><b>Partner updates</b></p> <p><b>Police Scotland</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work experience – Five S5 and S6 students have completed a week of work experience in South Ayrshire where they visited various departments in Police Scotland. These included the mounted branch, dog branch, armed response, roads policing and the helicopter. Hope to make this more regular.</li> <li>• Campus officers attended Brodick Primary and delivered internet safety inputs to both children and parents.</li> <li>• PS Neilson and PC McParland have arranged to attend Kilmory Primary and deliver inputs to both early years and primary students around use of the 999 system and who to call in an emergency.</li> <li>• PC Graham attended Brodick primary assisted with cycle and road safety advice to students using pedal cycles.</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PS Neilson accompanied NAC Licensing officer, Isaac Kerr, conducting premises visits around the island.</li><li>• Roadshow was postponed due to ferry cancellations, plans to do this in the new year and will have a focus on vaping.</li></ul> <p>The Chair queried about the potential for PSYV provision on the island. C Neilson undertook to explore this further and report back to him.</p> <p>The Chair thanked C Neilson for her update.</p>	
<b>10.</b>	<b>AOCB</b> <p>L Forsyth provided update on the summer of sport programme being delivered North Ayrshire Council, through its Connected Communities service, providing inclusive sport and physical activity opportunities for children and young people aged 3–26. The programme is supported by £315,000 investment from Sport Scotland (funded by the Scottish Government), as part of a national initiative to improve wellbeing and reduce inequalities through increased participation in sport.</p> <p>V Auld highlighted that the Ko-Nekt Nurture Programme offer a 10-week Nurture Programme supports parents to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understand behaviour and what's driving it</li><li>• Manage emotions (theirs and their children's)</li><li>• Build positive routines and calmer home life</li><li>• Strengthen relationships and confidence Parents regularly tell us it's the first time they've felt properly understood and supported.</li></ul> <p>V Auld shared flyers with the Partnership to gauge interest in running the programme on the Island. S Gilmore and C Neilson commented that this programme would be welcomed on the Island.</p> <p>V Auld highlighted a desire to engage Ko-Nekt, the high school and Arran Youth Foundation, noting ongoing challenges in securing engagement within the schools. L Forsyth advised that she would raise this with S Anson, as the work aligns closely with ongoing wellbeing activity.</p>	

**The meeting ended at: 6.20 pm**