

Action Note

Meeting:	Garnock Valley Locality Partnership
Date/Venue:	11 June 2026 at 7pm in Garnock Campus
Present:	Councillor John Bell (Chair) Councillor Margart Johnson Councillor Ronnie Stalker Councillor Donald L Reid Andy Watson, Dalry Community Council (Vice Chair) Jane Lamont, Community Representative David Park, Community Representative Allan Wright, Community Representative Helen McNaughton, Beith and District Community Council Angela Morrell, Senior Manager, Community Learning & Development, (Lead Officer) Christina Pieraccini, Locality Officer Heather McVie Branley, Community Development Worker PC Adam McKinlay, Police Scotland In Attendance Susan Dever, Chief Executive Officer, Coalfields (item 5) Calum Couston, Programme Manager (Item 4) Sharon Hackney, Senior Manager, HSCP (Item 3) Angela Barrett, Lead Nurse HSCP Rebecca Black, Team Manager HSCP (Item 3) Jennifer McGee, Policy & Community Planning Officer (Notes)
Apologies:	Councillor Anthea Dickson Ewan Jamieson Active Schools Co-ordinator Chris Parker, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Inspector Michael Cowan, Police Scotland

ACTIONS

No.	Action	Responsible
1.	Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies for absence were noted. Declarations of interest were made by: - J Lamont in relation to the Geilsland Enterprise application made to the Community Projects Fund – Pride in Place Impact Fund - J Lamont, H McNaughton, A Watson and A Wright relation to the Our Garnock Valley application made to the Community Projects Fund – Pride in Place Impact Fund	Noted Noted
2.	Action Note The action note arising from the meeting held on 12 March 2026 was approved. The following updates were provided:	

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	- An additional Locality Partnership meeting was held to consider the full application from Dalry Community Sports Club. The application was approved by the Partnership and has since been approved by the Council's Cabinet - It is hoped that a representative from the Council's Active Travel and Transport Team and SPT will attend September Meeting	
3.	HSCP Update The Partnership received a report from S Hackney, on revised HSCP locality planning arrangements for Garnock Valley. 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. 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. 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. The Chair thanked S Hackney for her report and highlighted his ongoing support for strengthening the relationship between the HSCP, the Locality Partnership and the wider locality. S Hackney agreed and noted the importance of joining up conversations to support better outcomes for residents in the area. C Pieraccini noted the section of the report that refers to shared and aligned priorities and asked whether the HSCP priorities would reflect those of the Locality Partnership. S Hackney advised that the Locality Partnership priorities would be a starting point and that the intention was to avoid duplication of work. A Wright and the Chair requested further information on any gaps in local service provision, including relevant locality-level data on service pressures, reductions in provision, or the number of people requiring support who are unable to access it. It was noted that this information would help the Partnership better understand the scale of impact on residents. S Hackney advised that she would be happy to pull together relevant information where available. R Black highlighted that the Public Health Scotland Local Intelligence Support Team holds a range of locality data and also noted that work is ongoing with Carers Gateway, including regular monthly data hub meetings which provide numbers and emerging trends. The HSCP is also looking at whether any changes in demand or access are linked to eligibility changes, with a whole-system approach being taken to this work. S Hackney also advised that she would be happy to share data relating to the CHES work being undertaken in the area.	S Hackney/R Black S Hackney

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	Any key topics that partners would find helpful should be shared with S Hackney, who will arrange for a report to be prepared. The Chair thanked S Hackney for her input.	All
4.	Community Projects Fund The Locality Partnership received a report from C Couston on the North Ayrshire Community Projects Fund – Pride in Place Impact Fund for the Garnock Valley. The Garnock Valley allocation for the Community Grant Fund is £176,000 for community led projects. There was also £263,000 allocated for Council led projects. 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 five projects in the Garnock Valley, with total recommended funding of £113,804. The Locality Partnership approved the funding of the following projects: • Dalry Community Development Hub - £10,000 • Dalry Community Sports Club - £35,631 • Geilsland Enterprise - £29,898 • Our Garnock Valley Working Group - £28,425 In relation to the application from Radio City Association, the Partnership requested clarification on the financial due diligence undertaken. C Couston undertook to seek clarification on this matter. It was agreed that consideration of the application would be deferred until the information had been obtained and shared with the Partnership. A Morrell highlighted that there was an underspend of £62,196. The options could be to either reopen the fund with a view to coming back to a Partnership meeting later in the year. There has also been a request to use the remaining balance to support remedial works at Beith Auld Kirk via the Council led project fund. The Locality Partnership agreed to reopen the fund to allow groups to apply for the remaining balance to support community projects, with the caveat that spend must be committed by March 2027. It was also agreed that an interim meeting of the Locality Partnership would be held to consider the applications. It was also agreed that a timeline would be shared with the Partnership in due course. The Chair thanked C Couston for his input.	C Couston C Couston J McGee
5.	Community Transport/Locality Priorities The Partnership received a presentation from Susan Dever, CEO of Coalfields Community Transport, outlining a proposed community transport model for North Ayrshire. Community transport was described as a volunteer-led service designed to support individuals who have difficulty accessing mainstream public transport, including older people, those with disabilities and people living in rural areas. S Dever highlighted that there is a proposal for a three-year pilot scheme in North Ayrshire, which would provide shared accessible minibuses for	

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	community groups, alongside volunteer driver training and a flexible booking system. Additional service ideas include organised day trips, community connector services, shopper transport and low-cost group hire options. The key benefits highlighted were reducing social isolation, improving access to services and activities, supporting independence and strengthening local communities. Challenges identified included recruiting and retaining volunteers, securing sustainable funding, rising operational costs and potential concerns from commercial transport providers. Feedback is being sought through a consultation to understand local transport challenges, identify priority user groups and determine the most useful types of journeys to help shape future service delivery. S Dever noted that she has been applying for funding for buses for the project. S Dever encouraged the Partnership to share the complete the consultation. A Morrell advised that additional support would be available in libraries to help community members complete the online consultation. J Lamont raised questions regarding the feasibility of the proposed model and whether it would be an expansion of the work already being undertaken by Coalfields She also asked whether there was potential to build capacity for a community transport hub in North Ayrshire. S Dever advised that, if the model was not viable in North Ayrshire, it would not continue; however, she did not anticipate this being the case. She noted that the proposal would be an extension of the work already being delivered by Coalfields Community Transport. The Chair commented that Stagecoach services in the Garnock Valley don't operate to align with train times, which represents a significant loss for the area. He asked whether this type of service could be offered to help address this gap. S Dever advised that this may be possible, but only where the service could be delivered on a sustainable basis. S Dever highlighted that groups in North Ayrshire are keen to see Community Transport being offered. C Pieraccini asked if the Travel Needs Analysis will be considered as part of the consultation. S Dever advised that it should as the Council are gathering this data. C Pieraccini invited S Dever to attend the September Locality Partnership meeting, alongside representatives from Active Travel and SPT. S Dever confirmed that she would be happy to attend. The Chair thanked S Dever for her input.	J McGee
6.	Partner Reports Police Scotland • Police Scotland continue to respond to local concerns around speeding, parking and poor driver behaviour. • Road checks are being carried out in key hotspot areas across Kilbirnie, Dalry, Beith and Gateside. • Action is being taken on electric bikes and scooters, including vehicle seizures and public safety messaging.	

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	- Officers are working to disrupt drug-related activity and support local retailers affected by shoplifting. - Campus officer activity includes school transition support, youth programmes, internet safety sessions and safety inputs ahead of summer. H McVie-Branley asked about hotspot areas for detached youth work. A McKinlay highlighted the War Memorial in Kilbirnie and the area around Tesco as current areas of focus. Community Learning and Development - Two sessional youth workers were recognised at the National Youth Work Awards. - Youth groups are beginning to wind down for the summer period, with a P7 transition day taking place at Lochshore next week. - An event took place with young people from and members of the Discovery Group, which was very positive. - The new mural at Bridgend Community Centre was unveiled. - The Project Kilbirnie Volunteer of the Year Awards took place last weekend which was a great evening. - Detached youth work will continue throughout the summer. It was noted that: - The Active Schools update was included within the Locality Officer Report. - SFRS report was included as part of the meeting paperwork. The Chair thanked A McKinlay and H McVie-Branley for their inputs.	
8.	Locality Officer Report C Pieraccini advised that the full report was enclosed as part of the meeting paperwork. C Pieraccini highlighted: 21 young people from the Garnock Valley attended Arran Pride, and all had a great time. - Beith Citizen of the Year will take place next Friday and is a sold-out event. - The TACT Awards took place last week, with strong representation from the Garnock Valley. - The Development Worker is now in post and is doing a great job, currently getting out and about to meet people across the locality. C Pieraccini noted that they will be submitting regular reports to the Partnership. A Wright noted that the Mill Café has been nominated for a UK wide award. The Chair thanked C Pieraccini for her input.	
9	AOCB Summer of Sport	

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	A Morrell highlighted that this summer, children and young people aged 3–26 can enjoy a wide range of free opportunities to get active, try new sports, and have fun locally as part of the 2026 Summer of Sport. A wide variety of activities will take place across communities throughout the summer, with specific sessions, venues and times listed for each local area. Summer of Sport 2026 - Northayrshire Community Cllr Reid advised that a concert will be held at Kilbirnie Parish Church to raise funds for the Auld Kirk, with entry priced at £7 on the door. H McVie-Branley highlighted that on the 8 August at 1pm the Lochshore Games will be held at Lochshore Park and extended an invitation to the Partnership. A Wright advised that group have taken over Kilbirnie Auld Kirk now has charitable status and a bank account in place. Work is ongoing to consider the feasibility of future options for the building, which dates back to the 14th century. It was also noted that next year will mark 900 years of Kilbirnie, and consideration should be given to how this milestone could be celebrated. The Chair also conveyed his thanks to H McNaughton noting that this was her last Partnership meeting as she is standing down as Chair of Beith and District Community Council.	
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The meeting ended at 8:40pm