



North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

Irvine Locality Partnership

**Monday 7 September 2026, 6.00 p.m. at Redburn Community Centre,
Irvine**

BUSINESS

Item	Subject	Pg No	Ref	Officer	Ask of the Partnership
1.	Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest.	-	-	Cllr Macaulay	
2.	Action Note Review the action notes from June and August 2026 meetings and deal with any outstanding items.	Pg	Enclosed	Jacqui Greenlees	Is this an accurate record of the meetings. Have all actions been completed?
DECISION REQUIRED					
3.	Community Investment Fund The Locality Partnership to consider application made to the Community Investment Fund. The Group are seeking additional funding due to increase costs. Full application enclosed along with quotes. Full Application • Irvine Tennis Club	Pg 16	Enclosed	Elaine Baxter	LP to consider application made to the Community Investment Fund.
4.	Grants The Locality Partnership to consider applications made to the Elderly Grant Fund Elderly Grant Fund • BABCA • LBLB & Girdle Toll Age Concern • Dreghorn Old People's Committee • Irvine Joint Wards	Pg 32	Enclosed	Sharon Fleming	LP to consider two applications made to the Irvine Common Good Fund.

5.	Community Representative Discussion The Locality Partnership to consider three applications submitted for the community representative vacancies.	-	Verbal	Elaine Baxter	LP to discuss applications presented at June LP
PARTNER REPORTS					7.35– 7.55 pm
6.	Locality Report Receive report from the Locality Officer.	Pg 36	Enclosed	Elaine Baxter	Report enclosed.
7.	Partner Reports • Police Scotland • Scottish Fire & Resue • Active Schools • KA Leisure • Community Council		Verbal	Partners	Reports enclosed for information.
AOCB					7.55 – 8.00 pm
8.	AOCB			Cllr Macaulay	LP to use this time to raise/discuss matters linking to the Locality, the LP priorities and tackling inequalities.
REPORTS FOR INFORMATION					
9.	• HSCP • CLD Update Report	Pg 58 Pg 61	Enclosed		Reports enclosed for information.

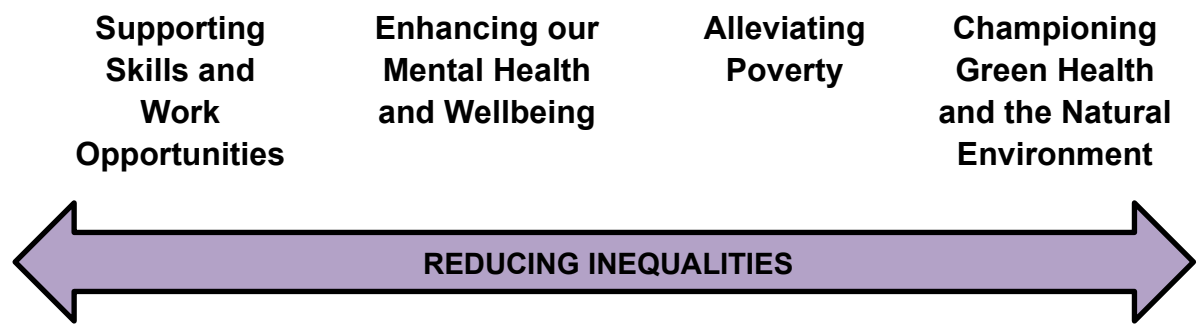
Distribution List

Elected Members	Community Representative
Councillor Shaun Macaulay (Chair)	Marjory Dickie
Councillor Marie Burns	Chris Pless, Irvine Community Council
Councillor Robert Foster	Donna Fitzpatrick
Councillor Scott Gallacher	David Phillips
Councillor Christina Larsen	Sally MacIntyre
Councillor Nairn Angus-McDonald	Irene McIlwain
Councillor Matthew McLean	Annie Small (Vice Chair)
Councillor Louise McLaughlan	Greg Sutherland
Councillor Chloe Robertson	Ian Wallace
Councillor Angela Stephen	

CPP/Council Representatives

Elaine Baxter, Locality Officer
Lindsey Murphy, Senior Lead Officer
Lesley Forsyth, Lead Officer
Michael Cowan, Police Scotland
Barbara Conner, TSI
Lesley Forsyth, Lead Officer
Paul Timmons, Scottish Fire & Rescue

Irvine Locality Partnership Priorities



Meeting:		Irvine Locality Partnership	
Date/Venue:		Monday 8 June 2026 at Redburn Community Centre, Irvine at 6.00 p.m.	
Present:		Councillor Shaun Macaulay (Chair) Councillor Christina Larsen Councillor Chloé Robertson Councillor Marie Burns Councillor Matthew McLean Elaine Baxter, Locality Officer Davie Phillips, Community Representative Marjorie Dickie, Community Representative Donna Fitzpatrick, Community Representative Greg Sutherland, Community Representative Stephen Fraser, Active Schools Annie Small, Community Representative (Vice- Chair) Lesley Forsyth, Lead Officer Fiona Smyth, Montgomery Park Primary Irene McIlwain, Community Representative Thelma Bowers, HSCP Richard Leaf, Irvine CC	
In Attendance		Chris McKenna, Irvine Tennis Club Jim McHarg, Dreghorn Bowling Club Susan Dever, North Ayrshire Transport Annie Johnson, HSCP Jacqui Greenlees, North Ayrshire Council Sharon Fleming, North Ayrshire Council Eleanor Crawford, North Ayrshire Council Calum Couston, North Ayrshire Council Lynne Easton, North Ayrshire Council	
Apologies:		Barbara Conner, TACT John McMillan, KA Leisure Chris Pless, Irvine CC Cllr Angus-McDonald Ricky Donnachie, SFRS Lauren Goldie, Active Schools Lindsey Murphy, Public Health Ian Wallace, Community Representative Sally McIntyre, Community Representative Inspector Michael Cowan Cllr Angela Stephen	
ACTIONS			
No.	Action	Responsible	
1.	Welcome/Apologies/Declarations of Interest		
	The Chair welcomed those present to the Irvine Locality Partnership meeting and apologies for absence were recorded.	Cllr Macaulay	

	No declarations of interest.	
2.	Action Note The action note arising the meeting held in March 2026 was approved as a correct record and the implementation of decisions confirmed.	Cllr Macaulay
3.	Community Transport The Locality Partnership received an update from S Dever, Coalfields including: • Community transport company based in Cumnock • Working to look at solutions for community transport in North Ayrshire • Community transport is vehicles owned by community funded and operated by community volunteers usually, for example day care services and school runs etc. Can also run employability for drivers to ensure drivers skills are up to date and they can still drive routes. • Benefits communities where traditional public transport is harder to access. • Three-year pilot scheme is being proposed for North Ayrshire and vehicles are currently being secured for this. Some groups have already been using the vehicles regularly. • Shared access minibuses and funds have been applied for through external funds as have the booking system and drivers. • Looking at day trips and community connector services, shopper and affordable group hire transport. Charge £30 a day and £1 a mile. • Driver training is done by Coalfields and lasts for 4 years. • This aims to reduce isolation, make stronger communities and strengthen community wealth building. • Some challenges are seen around increasing costs and volunteer recruitment. • Want to know who this could benefit most in North Ayrshire and what types of trips would be most useful. A community consultation is currently open online, and Susan encouraged people to participate. • D Philips highlighted they would like to promote this at the Seniors Forum Open Day. The Partnership also highlighted they would get in touch if there are further events happening over the summer that would be useful to link in with. • The LP asked where the base of operations would be and it was highlighted this would likely be in Kilwinning until the project can be scaled up. ACTION- The Chair thanked Susan and highlighted it would be useful to have a future update back to the Partnership on this work.	Noted.

4.	HSCP Update The locality Partnership received an update on the new HSCP Locality approach from T Bowers and A Johnson, HSCP including: • The HSCP Locality Planning process that HSCP must deliver on a statutory basis, which differs from the CPP Locality Planning process which aligns with the Community Empowerment Act 2015. • There have been various locality planning models over the years. However the landscape changed after the pandemic and the type of approach has required to change. • The previous Locality Forum model linked with Locality Conversations and evidence was gathered to inform the HSCP Strategic Plan. In 2025 it was agreed that the Locality Planning model needed to change to reflect current capacity and reduce duplication of effort. • The new approach will integrate with the current CPP Locality Planning approach. Heads of Service will attend two Locality Partnership meetings a year to provide HSCP updates and share emerging priorities, as well as to engage on HSCP Locality Plans. • The HSCP Locality Plan for Irvine will be developed using the data collected in the last phase and brought to the Irvine Locality Partnership for feedback. • A partner update on progress will be presented in September with the draft HSCP Locality Plan shared in December 2026. • Aim is to join up work, integrate the approaches and reduce duplication. • The Chair highlight how welcome the new approach is to ensure closer links and mutual benefit between the partnerships. • ACTION- It was agreed that a workshop on future topics for HSCP updates would be planned for the next meeting.	J McGee
5.	Community Investment Fund The Locality Partnership to consider three expression of interest applications made to the Community Investment Fund as follows: Expressions of Interest: Dreghorn Bowling Club £40,000 J McHarg from Dreghorn Bowling Club provided an overview of the project, which focuses on the Club being the 'Community Club' which hosts functions for the local community and partners. The group have also been working with local primary school to teach them bowling every week. They would like to make the Club more inclusive and accessible for the community and pupils who are attending, including the toilets which will hopefully then encourage more community members to make use of the Club. They are also	E Baxter

	trying to grow their youth classes and holiday provision and will be linking in with the Summer of Sport programme. The project will put in a proper accessible toilet and ladies toilets. Match funding has been sought from Lottery at £20,000. Links are also being made with Sports Scotland for further match funding of £17,000 and this is dependent on the other funds being secured. It was confirmed that the group could expand access for other local schools as the club progresses but that currently the links are being made in the Dreghorn Community. ACTION- The Partnership agreed this would progress to a full application. Irvine Tennis Club- £80,000 C McKenna gave an overview of the project. The refurbished tennis courts have been in place for 5 years and the next stage is to build the clubhouse. This would include putting in a water supply and sewage connection and building a timber building with cladding and accessible toilets. The local community have been asking for a clubhouse and the aim is that this will increase participation in the club, grown membership and help it develop as a community hub. This will also encourage level 3 coaches to come to the club if more facilities are available. The clubhouse will be around 9 by 5 metres and the plans were developed 5 years ago alongside the refurbishment of the courts. Sports Scotland funding was secured for the first phases of the project however they will not support the building of the community hub. Several other funders have also been sought. The partnership queried whether council apprentices could be used for some of the work and it was highlighted that this would act as a barrier to securing quotes. It was also highlighted that all local schools are linked in with the club. Tennis is a professional sport and it can be particularly difficult to secure coaches. Links have also been made locally with KA Leisure but the offer is limited due to the protected nature of tennis as a sport. ACTION- The Partnership agreed this would progress to a full application. The Partnership sought clarification as to whether all planning approvals have been received. BABCA- £6,000 No representative was present. Further information will be sought on the progress of this application. ACTION- The Partnership agreed this would progress to a full application.	<i>E Baxter/ J McGee</i>
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	ACTION- It was agreed that a special meeting is held for the full applications before the September round of meetings to reduce the waiting time.	
6.	Grants The Locality Partnership considered applications made to the Irvine Common Good Fund as follows: Irvine Incorporated Trades- - £3,948.50 • ACTION- The Partnership agreed to award this grant Irvine Joint Wards- £10,000 • ACTION- The Partnership agreed to award this grant Marymass Festival- £27,000 • ACTION- The Partnership agreed to award this grant	<i>S Fleming</i>
7.	Street Naming Report The Locality Partnership to considered street a naming report for new residential site at former High Flat site, Irvine. • ACTION- The Partnership agreed to the suggested names of Garnock and Annick.	<i>L Forsyth/ J McGee</i>
8.	Community Representative Applications The Locality Partnership considered three applications submitted for the community representative vacancies. E Baxter provided an overview of the two applications received and will clarify the number of vacancies. • ACTION- The Partnership agreed that in principle the applications are accepted but this will be finalised at the interim meeting with the possibility of any extra applications being coopted on.	<i>J McGee</i>
9.	Community Engagement E Baxter provided an update on Community Engagement events which have been taking place across the Locality. Reports were provided in hard copy at the meeting and can be circulated to the Partnership via email. This will also be the focus of an Irvine Locality Network meeting and E Baxter highlighted how positive the partner involvement was. Discussion highlighted how positive the engagements events were and the Partnership thanked the Irvine Locality Team for this work.	<i>Noted.</i>

10.	Neighbourhood Board Update The Partnership received an update from C Couston including the following: • The new Chair is Danny Anderson • The next meeting will take place on 30 June 2026. • The approved plan focuses on the whole of the Irvine Locality. • A working group has been pulled together to decide on community funding applications to the Community Fund which has £400,000 across the ten years of the programme. • There will be a further announcement on this after Board approval to let know groups know that applications are open. • Lynne Easton, North Ayrshire Council, will be attending future meetings as an additional link to the Locality Partnership. • Any queries can be directed to irvineprideinplace@north-ayrshire.gov.uk. • ACTION- C Couston agreed to publish the spend to date of the Irvine Neighbourhood Board, once approved at the next meeting.	C Couston
11.	Partner Reports • Police Scotland – Report enclosed • Community Council- Hoping to run another volunteer recruitment event, with a date still to be set. Also want to hold a water sports activity during the summer holidays. ACTION- The CC have requested further information on Irvine Common Good Land and Property Asset register. This will be updated at the next meeting. • Scottish Fire & Rescue- No representative present. • KA Leisure- No representative present. • Education- F Smyth updated including the transition programme, creation of a pupil leadership team across the Irvine Cluster and work of Montgomery Park parent council. Meetings also taking place with Police Scotland around a community programme for the astroturf at Montgomery Park primary which can be hired for £16 per hour. • Active Schools – Report enclosed.	J McGee/ L Forsyth

12.	AOCB • Summer of Sport: L Forsyth updated on the Summer of Sport programme and highlighted that activity will be taking place across the summer. Every child in North Ayrshire will receive information on what opportunities are available. Further information is available of the Community Planning website.	<i>Noted.</i>
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The Meeting ended at 8 p.m.

Meeting:	Irvine Locality Partnership - Interim Meeting
Date/Venue:	Monday 10 August 2026 at The Volunteer Rooms, Irvine at 6.00 p.m.
Present:	Cllr Christina Larsen Cllr Matthew McLean Cllr Shaun Macaulay Cllr Marie Burns Cllr Chloe Robertson Annie Small, Community Rep David Phillips, Community Rep Barbara Conner, TACT Lindsey Murphy, Senior Lead Officer
In Attendance	Karen Craig, Irvine Community Council Jim McHarg, Dreghorn Bowling Club Chris Lochwood, Irvine Tennis Ally Doyle, Irvine Tennis Club Dex Miller, Social Garage Project Jennifer McGee, Policy & Community Planning Officer (Notes)
Apologies:	Greg Sutherland John McMillan, KA Leisure Ricky Donnachie, SFRS Cllr Nairn Angus-McDonald Lesley Forsyth, Senior Manager Elaine Baxter, Locality Officer Chris Pless, Irvine Community Council

ACTIONS

No.	Action	Responsible
1.	Welcome/Apologies/Declarations of Interest The Chair welcomed those present to the Irvine Locality Partnership meeting and apologies for absence were recorded. Councillor Robertson declared an interest in the Tennis Club application as she is member of the Club.	Noted
2.	Community Investment Fund Expression of Interest – Social Garage Project The Partnership considered an Expression of Interest application from The Social Garage Project, which is seeking £100,000 from the Community Investment Fund to secure suitable premises, cover associated running costs, and purchase essential tools, equipment, IT resources, insurance and PPE. The proposed community garage would support mental health and wellbeing, practical skills development, peer support and financial resilience. The project also aims to work with local secondary schools,	

	community organisations and Ayrshire College to create intergenerational learning and employability opportunities. The Project has been established since March 2026 and is receiving referrals from partners including the NHS and TSI. The group is progressing SCIO status and plans to engage with, secondary schools and Ayrshire College. It aims to support practical skills development, particularly for young people, and is open seven days per week. The project has received several donations, including cars, a jet ski and a boat. However, the current unit costs £2,700 per month and available space is becoming an issue. The Partnership queried • how the project had been funded to date and was advised that it has been self-funded, with banking records maintained. • Future apprenticeship opportunities. The project confirmed that, once established, it hopes to create opportunities such as apprenticeships. It was noted that the project is already providing hands-on experience for young people who have completed college but have not yet secured employment. The discussion highlighted that the project fills a gap between youth provision and older people's activities, with a focus on teaching transferable practical skills and encouraging people to support the wider community. The Partnership queried the organisation's status and was advised that it is operating as a CIC and has applied for SCIO status, following the appointment of a third Director. The project is receiving support from local partners and noted that this support has been positive. Early discussions have also taken place with a production company regarding a potential documentary. The Partnership asked how the project intends to become financially sustainable. The project advised that income could be generated through buying and repairing project cars for resale, accepting donated vehicles to fix up and sell, and wider fundraising activity and events. Full Application Dreghorn Bowling Club The Partnership considered a full application from Dreghorn Bowling Club which is seeking £40,000 from the Community Investment Fund to expand and modernise its toilet facilities, creating a new ladies' toilet, a fully accessible toilet and a larger gents' toilet. This investment will double their current toilet capacity and remove barriers that currently prevent some people with disabilities or mobility challenges from fully accessing the club.	
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	Additional funding applications are being submitted to the National Lottery Community Fund and Sport Scotland to meet the remaining project costs which totals £75,000/80,000. J McHarg advised that around 115 children attend each week to learn to play bowls. The proposed accessible toilet would help ensure that no one is excluded from participating due to accessibility needs. The club is also looking to expand its bowling activities, with carpet bowls having been reasonably successful and plans to continue this over the winter period The Partnership queried match funding and was advised that applications to the National Lottery Community Fund and Sport Scotland are expected to meet the remaining project costs, subject to the Community Investment Fund contribution being approved. It was also noted that the club plans to tar the footpaths around the green to ensure accessibility inside and outside. The Partnership was advised that professional drawings and quotes have been provided and that planning permission has been granted. Irvine Tennis Club The Partnership considered a full application from Irvine Tennis Club which is seeking £80,000 to construct a community clubhouse and accessible toilet facilities at our regenerated tennis courts in Irvine. The project will create a fully inclusive, accessible community sports facility supporting health and wellbeing, social connection, volunteering, skills development and affordable participation in sport for people across Irvine. The group advised that courts are well used and provide an excellent facility, but the absence of a clubhouse is limiting the club's ability to develop. The club currently pays monthly fees for a Portaloo, which is not suitable when accommodating larger groups children at one time. The proposed clubhouse would include two showers, a changing area, small catering area, meeting space and toilet facilities. Applicants left the meeting after their applications were heard and the Partnership discussed each of the applications: Social Garage Project The Partnership recognised that community hubs of this nature are needed and acknowledged the potential value of the project. However, it was agreed that further work is required before the application can progress, particularly in relation to the organisation's legal status, governance arrangements, business planning, health and safety requirements, financial understanding	
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	The Partnership agreed to support the project in principle, subject to the above areas being addressed and further information being provided. The group is to be invited back to a future meeting to: • present its business plan • provide further detail on its legal status • clarify governance arrangements • outline health and safety requirements • provide information on its financial position • confirm other funding avenues being pursued This information should be provided before the project is considered for progression to full application stage. Dreghorn Bowling Club The Partnership discussed this application and agreed to agreed award the funding for this project. Irvine Tennis Club The Partnership discussed the application and noted that a clubhouse may have formed part of the original funding application approved by the Partnership in 2022. The Partnership agreed to support the project in principle, subject to confirmation of whether the 2022 application included a clubhouse, whether increased costs prevented this element from being delivered, and whether the Partnership was consulted on any change to the original proposal. J McGee undertook to liaise with E Baxter regarding this. Cllr McLean noted that he did not vote in favour of the recommendation to proceed.	E Baxter E Baxter E Baxter
3.	Community Representative Discussion Further discussion will take place at September LP.	Noted
4.	AOCB J McGee highlighted that at the last meeting, the Locality Partnership approved two street names for the former High Flats site: Annick and Garnock. Planning has since asked whether the Partnership would be happy for these to be named New Annick Place/Street and New Garnock Place/Street to avoid any confusion with existing Annick street names in the Irvine area. The Partnership noted its preference that “New” is not included in the street names and agreed to retain the previously approved names.	L Dempster

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The CIF will support proposals and projects that:

- Connect with:
 - The [Community Planning Partnership](#) (CPP) and [Locality priorities](#); and
 - North Ayrshire Council's (NAC) values, priorities and business [objectives](#).
- Fulfil a compelling need and do not duplicate existing services or facilities;
- Provide long-term, sustainable, positive results for the greatest number of people possible;
- Exhibit project and/or organisational innovation in their approaches to their work in their way of addressing community challenges and in their request to Locality Partnerships and the Council;
- Come from (an) organisation(s) that is financially viable (can provide financial statements upon request) and efficiently and effectively managed. This can include an organisation to be created to deliver the project;
- Include options or potential for NAC and CPP employee engagement and volunteering where possible; and
- Include measurable outcomes and can report to NAC on outcomes on a regular basis.

When to apply and how?

- LPs should continue to engage with their communities, and stimulate interest in the CIF. The Locality Partnership will then strategically assess the applications, make links and look at the funding 'in the round'.
- Initial interest in a CIF application should be via an expression of interest form. This will be discussed by the LP or an associated working group.
- If the partnership supports a bid then the group will be encouraged to submit a full application form (attached), which they will decide upon before making a proposal to Cabinet for final approval.
- The proposal will go to the next suitable Cabinet for final approval.
- Forms should be returned to your Locality Officer, by email if possible:

Elaine Baxter
Locality Officer - Irvine
North Ayrshire Council
Connected Communities
Redburn Youth Centre
Dickson Drive
Irvine
KA12 9EW

Email: ebaxter@north-ayrshire.gov.uk
Tel: 01294 313593
Mob: 07814418453



1. Details of your organisation

Name of Organisation

Irvine Tennis Community

Postal Address for Correspondence

15 Somerville Way, Irvine, KA11 2EQ

Name of Contact Person Chris McKenna

Position in Organisation Trustee/Chair of Committee

Telephone Number

Email Address

Total amount of funding requested:	£100,000
Match funding (if any):	

2. Brief description of your organisation

Please include its legal status, aims and objectives, activities or services provided and how long it has been in existence.

Irvine Tennis Community is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) and registered charity (SC051186), established in 2021 to increase participation in tennis and create a welcoming, inclusive and accessible community sports facility for the people of Irvine and the surrounding area.

Our vision is to remove barriers to participation by providing affordable opportunities for people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds to enjoy tennis for recreation, health, social connection and competition. We believe everyone should have the opportunity to participate in sport regardless of age, income or experience.

Since our formation, Irvine Tennis Community has successfully led the regeneration of a previously neglected tennis facility into a modern community sports venue.

Through partnership working and external investment, we have delivered new drainage infrastructure, resurfaced courts, floodlighting and free public pickleball courts, transforming an underused site into an active community asset.

The charity is managed by a Board of six volunteer Trustees with experience across business, finance, human resources, marketing, project management and community sport. Trustees are supported by an expanding team of volunteers who



deliver coaching support, events, maintenance and community engagement activities.

We work closely with Tennis Scotland, the Lawn Tennis Association, Tennis Ayrshire, Active Schools, local schools and community organisations to provide opportunities for children, young people, families, older adults and community groups to participate in tennis.

In addition to regular social tennis sessions and coaching programmes, we are committed to reducing inequalities by offering free community sessions, beginner programmes, equipment loan opportunities and honorary memberships for those who may otherwise face financial barriers to participation.

Our long-term objective is to create a sustainable community tennis hub that promotes physical activity, improves mental wellbeing, develops volunteering opportunities and strengthens community connections while providing a high-quality sporting facility that local people can enjoy for generations to come.

3. Title and summary of proposal

Tell us about your idea. Please describe in as much detail as possible, what the funding will be used for.

Please include:

- where it will be held / delivered
- who is your target audience
- who will benefit from it and how
- any partners that are involved.

Title

Completing Irvine Community Tennis Hub – Community Clubhouse and Accessible Facilities

Summary of Proposal

Irvine Tennis Community is seeking £80,000 from the Community Investment Fund to construct a community clubhouse and accessible toilet facilities at our regenerated tennis courts in Irvine.

Over the last five years, with support from North Ayrshire Council, sportscotland and other funding partners, we have successfully transformed a previously unused and deteriorating facility into a modern community sports venue with new drainage infrastructure, floodlighting, high-quality synthetic courts and two free-to-use public pickleball courts.

The proposed clubhouse represents the final phase of this regeneration project and will unlock the full potential of the facility as an inclusive community hub.

The building will provide:

- Accessible toilet facilities for all users.
- A warm and safe indoor community space.
- Shelter during adverse weather conditions.
- A social hub that reduces isolation and strengthens community connections.
- A base for coaching, volunteering, schools programmes and community events.

The project will be delivered at Irvine Tennis Community's centrally located courts, providing easy access by foot, public transport and car for residents across Irvine and the surrounding area.

The clubhouse will directly benefit a wide range of users including:

- Children and young people participating in coaching and holiday activities.
- Local schools and Active Schools programmes.
- Families accessing affordable physical activity.
- Older adults participating in social and walking tennis.
- People returning to activity following illness or recovery programmes.
- Community groups seeking inclusive recreational opportunities.

- Volunteers and coaches delivering programmes and events.

The absence of accessible toilets and indoor facilities is currently the single biggest barrier preventing the site from operating as a fully inclusive community sports hub. It also limits our ability to attract a full-time coach, host competitions, deliver school partnerships, run holiday camps and provide year-round community programmes. The completed clubhouse will enable Irvine Tennis Community to significantly expand participation, increase volunteering opportunities and strengthen partnerships with Tennis Scotland, the Lawn Tennis Association, Tennis Ayrshire, Active Schools, local schools and community organisations.

The project builds on a proven track record of successful delivery and represents excellent value for money by completing a community asset that has already benefited from substantial previous investment. The funding will create a sustainable facility that promotes health, wellbeing, social inclusion and lifelong participation in sport for the people of Irvine for many years to come.

The clubhouse will be designed to be fully accessible and available for wider community use beyond tennis, providing a flexible meeting and social space that supports local groups, volunteers and community activities.

4. What difference will this project make within the locality and to local services and programmes?

Please include:

- The outcomes you aim to achieve
- How you will approach reducing inequality
- How this proposal fits with the Locality Partnership [priorities](#)

The proposed clubhouse will transform Irvine Tennis Community from an excellent outdoor sports facility into a fully inclusive community hub that supports health, wellbeing, skills development and social inclusion for residents across Irvine.

Supporting Skills and Work Opportunities

The clubhouse will provide a permanent base for coaching, volunteering and community engagement activities. It will enable us to expand our volunteer programme, providing opportunities for local people to develop leadership skills, gain experience in sports administration and event management, and progress towards Lawn Tennis Association coaching qualifications.

The facility will also allow us to attract and retain qualified coaches who can deliver regular programmes for children, adults, schools and community groups, creating additional self-employment and coaching opportunities within Irvine.

Enhancing Mental Health and Wellbeing

Regular participation in physical activity is proven to improve physical health, confidence, resilience and mental wellbeing. The clubhouse will provide a welcoming and safe social space where people can meet before and after activities, reducing social isolation and strengthening community connections.

The project will enable us to expand programmes including junior coaching, walking tennis, beginner sessions, family tennis, social tennis and community events, ensuring opportunities exist for people of all ages and abilities to stay active and connected throughout the year.

Accessible toilet facilities and indoor shelter will remove significant barriers for older adults, young children, people with disabilities and those with medical conditions, making participation genuinely inclusive.

Alleviating Poverty and Reducing Inequality

Irvine Tennis Community is committed to ensuring that financial circumstances do not prevent participation in sport.

The completed facility will support free community sessions, beginner programmes, honorary memberships and equipment loan schemes, allowing individuals and families to participate without the significant costs often associated with tennis.

Located within easy walking distance of the town centre and accessible by public transport, the facility provides affordable opportunities for physical activity close to where people live, reducing transport and financial barriers while encouraging lifelong participation in sport.

Championing Green Health and the Natural Environment

The project has already regenerated a previously neglected site into a vibrant community asset that encourages outdoor recreation and active lifestyles.

By creating a welcoming community hub, we will encourage more people to walk, cycle and use public transport to access regular physical activity in an attractive green space, supporting healthier lifestyles while making positive use of existing community infrastructure rather than developing new land.

Community Outcomes

The completed clubhouse will enable Irvine Tennis Community to strengthen existing partnerships with Tennis Scotland, the Lawn Tennis Association, Tennis Ayrshire, Active Schools, local schools and community organisations to deliver an expanded programme of activities.

Our long-term outcomes are to:

- Increase participation in tennis across all age groups.
- Improve physical and mental wellbeing through regular activity.
- Reduce barriers to participation for people experiencing financial disadvantage or additional support needs.
- Increase volunteering and skills development opportunities.
- Strengthen community connections through inclusive social activities.
- Create a sustainable, community-owned facility that local residents can be proud of and enjoy for generations to come.

By completing the final phase of this regeneration project, the Community Investment Fund will help maximise the impact of previous investment and secure a lasting community asset that contributes directly to North Ayrshire's priorities of building stronger communities, preventing inequality and improving health and wellbeing.

5. What engagement has taken place in relation to the project?

Please include the number of people who have been engaged with or consulted as well as the range of people.

The proposed clubhouse is the final phase of a community-led regeneration project that has been shaped by extensive engagement with local residents, elected members, sporting organisations and community partners since Irvine Tennis Community was established in 2021.

From the outset, the vision has been to restore a neglected public facility and create an inclusive community sports hub that is accessible to everyone.

As part of the initial consultation process, an online community survey was undertaken with 81 respondents, including 67 residents from Irvine and a further 14 from neighbouring Ayrshire communities.

The consultation demonstrated overwhelming public support:

- **100% (81/81)** supported the creation of Irvine Tennis Community.
- **99% (80/81)** supported community ownership and management of the facility.

The consultation also generated a significant number of offers of practical support, including volunteers willing to assist with coaching, maintenance, fundraising, event organisation, school engagement and promotion of the facility within the local community. This early support helped establish the strong volunteer culture that continues to underpin the organisation today.

Engagement has continued throughout the regeneration project rather than being a one-off exercise. Irvine Tennis Community works closely with:

- Tennis Scotland
- The Lawn Tennis Association
- Tennis Ayrshire
- Active Schools
- Local primary schools
- Local community organisations
- Recovery and wellbeing groups
- Families and local residents

These partnerships have already resulted in schools using the facility, junior coaching programmes, social tennis sessions, ladies' and men's tennis evenings and activities for community groups including Harbour Ayrshire Recovery Group, Vineburgh Kids Summer Care and Fit Ayrshire Dads.

Feedback from participants and partners has consistently identified the absence of accessible toilets and indoor facilities as the main barrier to expanding participation and delivering year-round programmes.

The proposed clubhouse is therefore a direct response to community need. It will enable the club to increase school engagement, introduce additional inclusive programmes, expand volunteering opportunities, host community events and provide

a welcoming social space that benefits the wider Irvine community as well as tennis participants.

The project has been developed with the community, is supported by the community and will continue to be managed for the benefit of the community.

6. How will the project be managed?

Please include:

- How the finances will be managed
- Does the proposed project contribute to volunteering or employment opportunities in Irvine? Please include the number of volunteering opportunities and employment opportunities
- If there are any staff requirements, please outline your HR plans

Irvine Tennis Community has a strong governance structure and a proven track record of successfully delivering complex community projects and managing significant external investment.

The charity is governed by a Board of six volunteer Trustees with expertise across finance, business management, human resources, marketing, project management and community sport. The Board meets regularly to oversee strategic direction, financial management, risk, safeguarding and organisational performance.

Financial Management

The Trustees are responsible for ensuring that all income and expenditure is properly authorised, recorded and monitored. Robust financial controls are in place, including:

- Regular budget monitoring and financial reporting.
- Independent examination of annual accounts.
- Transparent procurement and quotation processes.
- Maintenance of appropriate reserves and cashflow planning.
- Compliance with charity governance requirements and funder reporting obligations.

The organisation has already successfully managed approximately **£350,000 of grant investment** to regenerate the tennis facility, delivering each phase of the project and demonstrating our ability to manage significant public funding responsibly and effectively.

Project Delivery

The clubhouse project will continue to be managed by our appointed architect, **Eric McMillan**, who has successfully overseen the wider regeneration programme from design through to delivery. Trustees will monitor progress against agreed budgets,



timelines and project milestones, ensuring appropriate governance throughout construction.

Volunteering and Community Participation

Volunteers are at the heart of Irvine Tennis Community and are fundamental to the long-term sustainability of the organisation.

Completion of the clubhouse will enable us to expand opportunities for local people to become involved in:

- Tennis coaching and assistant coaching
- Event organisation and delivery
- Facility management and maintenance
- Community outreach and promotion
- Committee and governance roles
- Fundraising and partnership development

We will continue to support volunteers through induction, safeguarding procedures, PVG checks where appropriate and access to Lawn Tennis Association training and coaching qualifications, helping local people develop transferable skills, confidence and employment opportunities.

Employment and Coaching Opportunities

While the organisation is currently managed entirely by volunteers, the completed clubhouse will make the facility significantly more attractive to qualified self-employed tennis coaches, enabling the expansion of junior coaching, adult programmes, school partnerships and holiday activities.

This increased activity will create additional coaching opportunities while supporting the long-term financial sustainability of the club.

Partnership Working

Irvine Tennis Community has established strong relationships with Tennis Scotland, the Lawn Tennis Association, Tennis Ayrshire, Active Schools, local schools and a wide range of community organisations.

These partnerships have already delivered regular men's, ladies' and junior tennis sessions alongside activities for local schools and community groups including Harbour Ayrshire Recovery Group, Vineburgh Kids Summer Care and Fit Ayrshire Dads.

The clubhouse will strengthen these partnerships further by providing an accessible indoor base for meetings, coaching, community programmes and year-round activities, ensuring the facility continues to grow as a sustainable, community-owned asset that benefits residents across Irvine.

7. Amount of funding being requested

Please supply details of funding being requested and any other funding you have had over the past 5 years, both financially and “in kind”.

Amount of funding requested (£) £80 000

Please give a breakdown of cost and recent quotations where appropriate.

This is the final phase of a £430,000 community regeneration project.

Irvine Tennis Community is requesting **£80,000** from the Community Investment Fund to deliver the final phase of the regeneration of Irvine Tennis Community Tennis Hub through the construction of a community clubhouse with accessible toilet facilities.

Over the last five years, the charity has successfully secured and managed approximately **£350,000 of external funding** from a range of partners to transform a previously unused facility into a modern community sports venue.

Previous investment has funded:

- **Phase 1:** Site preparation, drainage improvements and construction of LTA-standard tarmac courts.
- **Phase 2:** Installation of floodlighting to enable year-round community use.
- **Phase 3:** Installation of high-quality synthetic grass playing surfaces.

The proposed clubhouse represents the final stage of this regeneration programme and will maximise the social value of all previous investment by enabling year-round coaching, school programmes, competitions, volunteering opportunities and inclusive community activities.

Project Costs

Item	Cost
Clubhouse construction	£55,000
Groundworks, drainage and utility connections	£20,000
Architect and professional fees	£3,000
Furniture and internal fit-out	£2,000
Total Project Cost	£80,000

Competitive quotations have been obtained from several contractors to ensure best value and demonstrate a robust procurement process.

The project will be delivered under the supervision of architect Eric McMillan, who has successfully managed the wider regeneration project from design through completion.

The Community Investment Fund investment will unlock the full potential of a community asset that has already benefited from significant external funding and thousands of volunteer hours.

The completed clubhouse will create a sustainable facility capable of generating ongoing income through memberships, coaching programmes, competitions, community events and fundraising activities, ensuring that the building can be maintained without requiring ongoing revenue support from North Ayrshire Council. This investment represents excellent value for money, completing a community-led regeneration project that will provide lasting health, wellbeing and social benefits for the people of Irvine for many years to come.

8. Monitoring and evaluation process

Please include detail on the monitoring and evaluation processes planned or in place.

Irvine Tennis Community is committed to measuring the impact of this investment and using the information gathered to continually improve our services and ensure the facility meets the needs of the local community.

Monitoring and evaluation will be overseen by the Board of Trustees and reported regularly to members, partners and funders.

Participation and Community Reach

We will record and monitor:

- Total club membership and annual growth.
- Attendance at coaching programmes, social tennis sessions and community events.
- Participation in free community and beginner sessions.
- School engagement and pupil participation through Active Schools and education partnerships.
- Usage by local community organisations and partner groups.

Equality and Inclusion

To ensure we are successfully reducing barriers to participation, we will monitor:

- Age profile of participants.
- Gender balance across programmes.
- Participation from people living in areas of deprivation.
- Uptake of honorary memberships and free sessions.
- Participation by people with additional support needs and older adults where appropriate.



This information will help us identify underrepresented groups and adapt our programmes to ensure the facility remains accessible and inclusive.

Health and Wellbeing Outcomes

Annual participant surveys will gather feedback on:

- Improvements in physical activity levels.
- Mental wellbeing and confidence.
- Social connections and reduced isolation.
- Satisfaction with the facility and activities provided.
- Suggestions for new programmes and community initiatives.

The clubhouse will also provide a welcoming social environment that encourages community interaction beyond participation in tennis.

Volunteering and Skills Development

We will monitor:

- Number of active volunteers.
- Volunteer hours contributed.
- Volunteer retention rates.
- Number of people accessing training and Lawn Tennis Association coaching qualifications.
- Progression of volunteers into leadership or coaching roles.

These measures will demonstrate the project's contribution to skills development, employability and community capacity building.

Partnership Working

We will record and review engagement with:

- Tennis Scotland.
- Lawn Tennis Association.
- Tennis Ayrshire.
- Active Schools.
- Local schools.
- Community organisations and wellbeing groups.

The number and range of partnership activities delivered each year will be used as a measure of the clubhouse's wider community impact.

Continuous Improvement

The information collected will be reviewed regularly by the Trustees to identify emerging needs, evaluate programme effectiveness and inform future planning. Success will be measured not only by increased participation in tennis but by the creation of a sustainable, inclusive and community-owned hub that improves health, wellbeing, volunteering opportunities and social connection across Irvine.

We will provide regular monitoring information and outcome reports to North Ayrshire Council and other funding partners, demonstrating the long-term value created through this investment and ensuring accountability for the public funding received.

Why This Project Matters

Timeline

2021

- Irvine Tennis Community established
- Old Red blaes courts maintenance work and regeneration of existing facility to a playable standard begins.
- Regular coaching and general play established.

2022-23

- Fundraising and investment begins to establish new modern facility

2024

- Site regeneration begins
- Drainage and resurfacing completed
- Floodlights installed
- Synthetic courts and public pickleball courts opened

2026

- Community Investment Fund request to complete the Community Tennis Hub

Key facts

- Registered Scottish Charity
- Approximately £350,000 external funding secured
- Volunteer-led organisation
- Strong partnerships with Tennis Scotland, LTA and Active Schools
- Free community programmes
- Inclusive and accessible ethos
- £80,000 completes a £430,000 regeneration project

Tennis Quotes

Clubhouse

	2024	2026
[REDACTED]	£40 000	No price.
[REDACTED]	£38 000	£70 000
[REDACTED]	£45 000	
[REDACTED]		£ 85 000
[REDACTED]	£ 75 000	
[REDACTED]		£72,000

Groundworks

	2024	2026
[REDACTED]	£22 125	£27 500
[REDACTED]		
[REDACTED]	£42 200	£48 000
[REDACTED]		
[REDACTED]	No price	£ 75 000
[REDACTED]		
[REDACTED]	No price	No price
[REDACTED]		

Groundworks - £27 500

Joinery - £70 000

Architect fees - £2500

Total £100 000

Reason for increase

Gorundworks - £5000

20% increase from [REDACTED]

Joiner price raised from £38,000 to £70,000.

This is down to number of factors

- Joiner is now VAT registered (20% increase)
- 20% increase in materials
- Plumbing has to be factored in. Previously plumbing was going to be done for free by a committee members father but can no longer do this due to ill health.
- Concrete slab foundation was not included in price.



Locality Partnership: Irvine Locality

Date: 7 September 2026

Subject: To advise the meeting of applications received in respect of the 2026/27 Elderly Grants Fund

Purpose: To consider the applications as outlined in Appendix 1 to this report.

Background: Applications have been received in respect of the 2026/27 Elderly Grants Fund

- **BABCA - £2,148.59**
- **LBLB & Girdle Toll Age Concern - £3,037.58**
- **Dreghorn Old People's Welfare - £1,709.84**
- **Irvine Joint Wards - £7,426.00**

Key Points for Locality Partnership

The 2026/27 Irvine Elderly Grants Fund has a balance of **£15,050**.

Action Required by Locality Partnership

To consider the applications for grant funding as outlined in Appendix 1 to this report.

For more information please contact: *Angela Morell, Senior Manager, Connected Communities, Cunninghame House, Irvine.*
Email - amorrell@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Completed by: Sharon Fleming
Grants & Performance Officer
Email: sharonfleming@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Date: 27 July 2026

ELDERLY GRANTS FUND APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 2026/27

Grant Allocation for Irvine LPP Area

£
15,050

Group	Purpose of Grant	Grant Allocated to Group	Amount Requested
BABCA	BABCA provides activities and social opportunities for people aged 50 and over in the Broomlands, Bourtreehill and Girdle Toll areas. Funding will support a Christmas lunch, entertainment, community activities, a theatre trip and a Christmas bingo event, helping to reduce isolation and encourage participation within the local community. Breakdown of costs: • Christmas lunch for 50 people = £600 • Entertainment = £400 • Hall hire = £15 • Theatre trip and transport = £1,000 • Bingo afternoon and prizes = £170 Total project cost: £2,185 The group contributes through ongoing fundraising activities and volunteer support, including work at the Farm Basket, Community Garden and Towerlands Community Centre. Grant requested: £2,185 Grant allocated: £2,185	£ 2,185	£ 2,185
LBLB & Girdle Toll Age Concern	The group provides opportunities for older residents to participate in social events, outings and group activities that reduce isolation, promote wellbeing and encourage community participation. Funding will support events, transport and assistance for members throughout the year. Breakdown of costs:	£ 3,038	£ 3,038

	- Willowbank Hotel High Tea Event = £536.50 - Transport (Bus Hire) = £495.00 - Butcher Vouchers = £900.00 - McChristies Festive Lunch = £741.15 - Additional Transport (Bus Hire) = £275.00 - Burns Supper Event = £200.00 Total project cost: £3,147.65 The group will make a contribution towards the overall cost of activities. Grant requested: £3,038 Grant allocated: £3,038		
Dreghorn Old Peoples Welfare Committee	The group arranges two annual outings for older residents of Dreghorn, comprising a Christmas lunch and a summer trip. Funding helps subsidise participation costs, ensuring activities remain affordable and accessible while reducing social isolation and promoting inclusion. Breakdown of costs: - Coach hire for Christmas meal = £600 - Christmas meal = £3,500 - Coach hire for summer trip = £1,500 - Summer trip meal = £3,000 Total project cost: £8,600 The group expects contributions from participants of approximately £2,500 towards the Christmas lunch and £2,700 towards the summer trip. Grant requested: £1,710 Grant allocated: £1,710	£ 1,710	£ 1,710
Irvine Joint Wards Old Peoples Welfare Committee	The Committee coordinates activities on behalf of older people aged 60 and over across Irvine. Funding supports annual summer outings and festive lunches, including catering and entertainment, providing opportunities for social interaction and community involvement.	£ 7,426	£ 7,426

	Breakdown of costs: • Summer outings and festive events for approximately 600 participants • Estimated cost per participant: £25 - £30 Estimated total project cost: £15,000 - £18,000 The group contributes through fundraising activities, donations, ladies' nights, raffles and ticket sales, generating approximately £7,000 - £8,000 annually. Grant requested: £7,426 Grant allocated: £7,426		
Drybridge Hall Management Association	No application received – reminder issued	£ 178	£ -
Springside Community Association	No application received – reminder issued	£ 513	£ -
Total		£ 15,050	£ 14,359



Irvine Locality Partnership

Q2 Progress Report

September 2026

Elaine Baxter, Irvine Locality Officer

The Irvine Locality Partnership has continued to make strong progress against the four agreed locality priorities:

- Enhancing Mental Health & Wellbeing
- Supporting Skills and Work Opportunities
- Alleviating Poverty
- Championing Green Health and the Natural Environment

Activity during this period has focused on strengthening community engagement, developing community-led solutions, supporting employability and skills opportunities, developing integrated family support, expanding youth participation, progressing community investment opportunities and strengthening partnership working across Irvine. Significant progress has also been made in utilising community intelligence and consultation findings to inform future service design and investment decisions.

Enhancing Mental Health & Wellbeing

Family Wellbeing and CHES Development

Through the CHES Good Start workstream, extensive family engagement involving 215 community responses identified priorities around mental health support, family activities, accessible services, community hubs and reducing isolation. These findings directly informed development of a proposed Family Wellbeing Hub for Irvine, with Redburn Community Centre identified as the preferred location.

The hub model adopts a community-based, relationship-centred approach bringing together health, education, social care, employability, housing, community learning and third-sector services. The proposal includes open access support, family learning, parenting support, wellbeing activities, volunteering opportunities and targeted interventions for families experiencing additional challenges.

Older People's Wellbeing and Participation

The Irvine Discovery Group continues to support 19 older adults through accredited learning, volunteering and peer support, with participants working towards Discovery Awards and engaging in wider community activity. Members attended national events, supported new learners and progressed local volunteering opportunities.

The Friendship Group, attended by up to 20 participants weekly, continues to provide a safe and supportive environment, reducing social isolation and increasing confidence through wellbeing activities and creative learning opportunities.

The Women's Writing for Wellbeing Group successfully completed a practitioner research project in partnership with the University of Glasgow and the Royal Literary Fund, demonstrating improvements in participants' confidence, social connectedness and measured wellbeing outcomes.

Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing

Analysis of over 400 youth responses through the Youth Engagement consultation process highlighted mental health and wellbeing as a key concern. Young people identified the need for safe spaces, increased youth provision, accessible activities and stronger mental health support. These findings directly informed the development of a new accredited youth work programme for primary and secondary schools.

Supporting Skills and Work Opportunities

Youth Work Learning Framework

The Irvine Locality Team has developed a new accredited youth work menu for primary and secondary schools. This programme incorporates:

- Health Issues in the Community (HIIC)
- John Muir Awards

- Youth Achievement Awards
- Dynamic Youth Awards
- Participative Democracy Certificates
- Saltire Awards
- Young STEM Leaders
- Digital and Cyber Learning
- Leadership and Volunteering Opportunities

The programme has been mapped against National Youth Work Outcomes and will now be discussed with schools for implementation.

Skills Development for Adults

At Trindlemoss, 12 learners successfully completed SQA-recognised qualifications through literacy, communication and digital learning opportunities delivered in partnership with Ayrshire College and AbilityNet. Participants reported increased confidence and improved digital skills.

The Discovery Group continues to support adults aged 50+ to gain recognition through Discovery Awards while promoting skills development, volunteering and leadership opportunities.

Employability and Community Wealth Building

The Project Bank of Ideas consultation identified significant demand for practical life skills, employability support, community learning hubs and accredited learning opportunities. These findings are helping shape future locality initiatives and partnership planning.

Alleviating Poverty

Community Investment Fund

Support has been provided to community organisations including:

- Irvine Tennis Club
- The Social Garage
- Dreghorn Bowling Club

Through officer assessment, application support and guidance, community organisations have strengthened governance and developed projects that contribute directly to locality priorities.

Food Insecurity and Community Support

Friends of Redburn continue to deliver free weekly lunches, secure food redistribution through local partnerships and provide food support for local residents. Additional funding has been secured through ADP funding streams to sustain provision. Young volunteers are also being supported to gain Saltire Awards through their volunteering contribution.

Community Transport Consultation

Transport accessibility emerged as a recurring issue through Irvine Community Conversations in Family Wellbeing, Older People's Voice Network and wider locality engagement. In response to limited online participation, the Irvine Locality Team delivered face-to-face consultation events at:

- Redburn Community Hub
- Irvine Library
- Vennel Gardens Engagement Hub

Over 80 residents participated in discussions regarding the proposed Community Transport pilot scheme, helping strengthen the evidence base for future service development.

Championing Green Health and the Natural Environment

Green Health Activity

Environmental themes were consistently identified through youth engagement, family wellbeing discussions and the Project Bank of Ideas consultation. Residents highlighted community gardens, litter-picking, outdoor activity and improved use of green spaces as priorities.

Community Environmental Action

The Vennel Litter Pickers and Irvine Clean-up Crew partnership continues to deliver regular litter-picking activity, improving local environments while reducing social isolation and promoting positive mental wellbeing. Several participants have since joined wider community clean-up initiatives.

A community litter-pick event at Redburn brought together Irvine and Kilwinning Discovery Groups alongside Friends of Redburn, strengthening community spirit and preparing the site for the intergenerational sports event.

The accredited youth work framework also incorporates John Muir Award opportunities, supporting environmental learning and youth-led climate action.

Community Engagement and Participation

A significant focus during this period has been increasing participation and ensuring community voices directly influence locality planning.

Following community feedback that engagement opportunities were not always accessible, the Irvine Locality Team expanded consultation activity into:

- Irvine Library
- Community Centres
- Community Lunch Clubs
- Redburn Community Hub
- Vennel Gardens Engagement Hub
- Cafe Solace

This resulted in increased participation from residents who are less likely to engage online, particularly older adults and those experiencing barriers to digital engagement. Consultation findings have informed:

- Family Wellbeing Hub proposals
- Youth Work development
- Community Transport planning
- Project Bank of Ideas priorities
- Locality planning discussions

Irvine Town Board Update

The Irvine Town Board has continued to strengthen governance and community participation.

Key developments include:

- Appointment of new Chair, Danny Anderson

- Approval of two new Board members
- Approval of Community Fund application process and scoring framework
- Agreement to operate the fund on a rolling application basis
- Board member involvement in assessment and promotion activity
- Agreement to utilise Microsoft Project to monitor project delivery, risks and budgets
- Approval of communications and branding proposals
- Commitment to transparent reporting through dedicated website development linked to Community Planning Partnership communications
- Feasibility work progressing for Bridgegate regeneration in partnership with Ironside Consultancy, North Ayrshire Council and private commercial owners
- Governance discussions initiated with TACT to explore charitable status and long-term sustainability options

These developments strengthen local accountability, improve transparency and create further opportunities for community-led investment and regeneration.

Overall Assessment

The Irvine Locality Partnership continues to demonstrate strong progress against all four locality priorities. The partnership has successfully combined robust community engagement with practical delivery, ensuring that community voices directly influence service design and investment decisions.

Particular strengths include:

- Development of the proposed Family Wellbeing Hub
- Creation of an accredited youth work pathway informed by youth voice
- Expansion of face-to-face community consultation
- Strengthening of community-led environmental action
- Successful support for community groups through CIF and PB processes
- Continued development of the Irvine Town Board and Local Investment Plan
- Increased participation through older people's networks, community groups and volunteer opportunities

Overall RAG Status: GREEN

Progress remains on track with strong partnership commitment and significant opportunities identified for future development and investment across Irvine.

Area of work (brief description):	Locality Priority	What did you do and what progress has been made?	What difference has this made and Lessons learned?	Next steps	Evidence (please list any evidence that you have available if requested)	RAG rating (delete as applicable)
Irvine Locality Partnership (development and coordination of locality partnership activity)	Mental Health & Wellbeing; Skills for Learning and Work; Poverty; Green Health & Open Spaces	Coordinated Irvine Locality Partnership activity, supported planning and delivery of meetings, monitored progress against locality priorities and worked with partners to progress agreed actions. Ensured locality priorities remained central to discussions and planning activity.	Strengthened partnership working and improved coordination between services and community organisations. Improved understanding of locality priorities and opportunities for collaborative delivery. Learned that regular communication and action monitoring remain key to sustaining momentum and accountability.	Continue monitoring progress against locality priorities and identify further opportunities for collaborative projects and funding.	Agendas, minutes, action plans and progress reports.	GREEN
Community Investment Fund (CIF) (supporting community organisations through funding processes)	Poverty; Mental Health & Wellbeing; Green Health & Open Spaces	Supported community organisations through the Community Investment Fund process, providing	Increased community capacity to access resources and deliver projects that benefit local residents. Early support improved	Continue supporting successful projects, monitor outcomes and promote future funding opportunities.	CIF assessments, application records, monitoring information and Locality Partnership reports.	GREEN

Irvine Tennis Club The Social Garage Dreghorn Bowling Club		guidance, undertaking officer assessments and preparing recommendations for consideration. Worked with groups to develop applications that align with locality priorities.	application quality and strengthened organisational confidence and governance.			
Community Engagement and Capacity Building (supporting community participation and community-led action)	Poverty; Mental Health & Wellbeing	Engaged with residents, community groups and partner organisations to identify local priorities, emerging needs and opportunities for action. Supported community participation in decision-making processes and promoted available support and resources.	Improved understanding of community concerns and priorities. Increased opportunities for community voices to inform planning and service delivery. Continued evidence of cost-of-living pressures highlighted the need for coordinated support across services.	Target engagement activity within communities experiencing the greatest inequalities and strengthen community representation in locality activity.	Consultation feedback, engagement records, meeting notes and participant data.	GREEN
Skills for Learning and Work Partnership Activity (partnership	Skills for Learning and Work; Poverty	Worked with partners to identify opportunities that support learning, employability and	Improved awareness of local opportunities and strengthened partnership links	Continue developing partnership activity and identify opportunities to	Partnership meeting records, action plans and	AMBER

development to improve skills and employability opportunities)		progression pathways. Promoted collaborative approaches that connect community development activity with employability and skills programmes.	supporting residents into learning, training and employment. Learned that partnership coordination is essential to maximise existing provision and reduce duplication.	improve access to learning and employability support.	programme updates.	
Green Health and Open Spaces (supporting environmental and wellbeing initiatives)	Green Health & Open Spaces; Mental Health & Wellbeing	Supported discussions and community-led activity aimed at improving local environments, increasing access to green spaces and promoting wellbeing through outdoor activity. Worked with partners to explore opportunities for future development.	Increased awareness of the benefits of green health approaches and demonstrated community interest in environmental improvement initiatives. Community participation is strengthened when projects are locally led and visible.	Explore funding opportunities and support development of community-led environmental projects.	Project proposals, meeting notes, community feedback and partnership discussions.	GREEN
Elected Member and Stakeholder Engagement (supporting communication)	All Locality Priorities	Maintained regular liaison with Elected Members, Community Planning Partners and stakeholders regarding locality	Improved communication and strengthened relationships between communities, elected members	Continue engagement and provide regular updates on locality priorities and outcomes.	Briefings, correspondence, meeting notes and stakeholder feedback.	GREEN

and partnership working)		priorities, community concerns and service delivery issues. Provided updates and supported discussions around emerging opportunities and challenges.	and partner organisations. Early engagement has supported collaborative problem solving and improved information sharing.			
Youth Engagement and Youth Work Development (using youth voice to inform future youth work provision)	Mental Health & Wellbeing; Skills for Learning and Work; Poverty; Green Health & Open Spaces	Led youth engagement activity across Irvine, including analysis of feedback from over 400 youth responses gathered through Sensemaker engagement. Findings highlighted young people's priorities around mental health support, access to affordable activities, increased youth provision, sports and physical activity opportunities, safe spaces, environmental action and improved communication about available	Young people have directly influenced future service design and provision. The engagement demonstrated strong demand for improved mental health support, more youth groups and clubs, affordable activities, opportunities to participate in sports and outdoor learning, and better information about what is available locally. Findings also highlighted strong interest in environmental action, community	Present the accredited programme to primary and secondary schools for discussion and implementation. Map programme outcomes against Youth Work Outcomes, Curriculum for Excellence and accreditation requirements. Launch and promote the "What's On in Irvine" offer for young people. Develop John Muir Award opportunities and expand environmental and community action	Youth Engagement - Sensemaker Report , engagement data, programme framework, youth work planning documents, school engagement records. [Youth Enga...ker Report Word]	GREEN

		opportunities. The Irvine Youth Work Team used these findings to design a new accredited youth work programme for primary and secondary schools which aligns with identified needs and youth work outcomes. The programme has now been developed and will be discussed with schools to support implementation. The programme incorporates health and wellbeing, sports and physical activity, safe spaces, affordable opportunities, youth participation, community action projects and environmental activities including John Muir Award opportunities. A new approach to	improvement activities and accessible green spaces. The learning reinforced the importance of co-designing services with young people and ensuring opportunities are clearly communicated and accessible to all. The development of an accredited programme provides a structured pathway for young people to gain recognition for participation and achievements while developing skills, confidence and community involvement. The youth engagement identified Environment & Nature as the most	projects linked to youth priorities. Continue gathering youth voice evidence to inform future locality planning and service development.		
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		promoting opportunities for young people through a coordinated "What's On in Irvine" communication platform has also been developed.	discussed theme (29%), Mental Health & Wellbeing (21%), Physical Health & Activities (18%) and Community Facilities & Activities (15%). Young people also highlighted the need for more clubs, free activities, access to sports facilities, structured outdoor learning and stronger mental health support within schools. Young people expressed a strong desire for youth clubs, sports groups, leadership programmes and free opportunities that support health and wellbeing.			
Project Bank of Ideas and Community-Led Development	Mental Health & Wellbeing; Skills for Learning and Work; Poverty;	As part of the Sensemaker engagement activity, a Project Bank of Ideas exercise was undertaken to gather	The engagement has provided a valuable evidence base for future project development and funding	Use the Project Bank of Ideas to inform future locality planning, community engagement activity	Project Bank of Ideas - Sensemaker Report, Sensemaker engagement findings, locality planning	GREEN

	Green Health & Open Spaces	community-led suggestions for future development across Irvine. Analysis of 55 community submissions identified a range of opportunities linked to locality priorities, including skills development, employability support, community hubs, mental health and wellbeing initiatives, environmental improvement projects, volunteering opportunities and improved communication regarding local services and activities. Findings have been used to inform locality planning discussions, future funding opportunities and the development	applications. Residents identified opportunities to improve skills and employability through community-based learning and accredited opportunities, alongside proposals for community hubs offering integrated support services. Strong themes emerged around mental health and wellbeing, including recovery hubs, trauma-informed support, walking groups, community cafés and social activities to reduce isolation. There was also significant support for environmental projects including community gardens, allotments, litter-picking initiatives and activities linked to John Muir	and funding opportunities. Explore opportunities to develop community learning hubs, wellbeing initiatives, volunteering projects and environmental programmes. Align future Community Investment Fund priorities and locality resources to ideas emerging from the engagement. Incorporate relevant proposals into locality partnership discussions and community action planning.	discussions, project development plans and funding proposals. [Project Baker Report Word]	
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		of community-led projects. Many of the themes identified align strongly with existing Irvine Locality priorities and support future Community Planning and Community Wealth Building ambitions. Project Bank of Ideas - Sensemaker Report highlighted community demand for accessible learning opportunities, practical life skills programmes, employability support, community hubs, green health initiatives, community gardens, volunteering opportunities and improved information sharing. [Project Bank of Ideas - Sensemaker Report Word]	Awards. Communities highlighted the need for a central source of information about local services, events and volunteering opportunities, reinforcing work already underway to strengthen communication across Irvine through locality-wide information sharing approaches. The exercise demonstrated strong community appetite for co-produced solutions and community-led action. [Project Bank of Ideas - Sensemaker Report Word], [Project Bank of Ideas - Sensemaker Report Word], [Project Bank of Ideas - Sensemaker Report Word]			
Community Health and Wellbeing	Mental Health & Wellbeing;	Supported the CHES Good Start	The engagement and subsequent	Continue development of the	Family Wellbeing - Sensemaker Report;	GREEN

Engagement (CHES), Family Wellbeing and Family Hub Development	Poverty; Skills for Learning and Work	workstream and community engagement activity across Irvine, including analysis of the Family Wellbeing Sensemaker engagement involving 215 community responses. Findings highlighted the importance of accessible family support, community hubs, childcare, wellbeing provision, cost-of-living support, youth provision, community connection and improved access to services. Alongside the wider CHES programme, the findings directly informed development of a proposed Family Wellbeing Hub model for Irvine. A detailed proposal has now been	proposal development have created a strong evidence base for future family-centred service delivery within Irvine. Families consistently identified a need for community hubs, local support services, improved information and signposting, family activities, wellbeing support and opportunities to reduce isolation. The proposed Family Wellbeing Hub responds directly to these findings and provides a mechanism for delivering integrated, community-based support through a "No Wrong Door" approach. The model promotes	Family Hub model through CHES governance arrangements and partnership planning. Establish co-production arrangements with local families and stakeholders. Develop a Family Reference Group and partnership steering arrangements. Explore funding and resource requirements and identify opportunities to pilot family support, family learning, wellbeing and community engagement programmes within Redburn Community Centre. Align delivery with Irvine Locality Partnership priorities, Community	2026-06-01 Family Hub proposal SBAR; CHES Good Start workstream papers; partnership planning records; community engagement findings. [Family Wel...ker Report Word], [2026-06-01...posal SBAR Word]	
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		developed which recommends Redburn Community Centre as the preferred location due to its established role within the community, available indoor and outdoor space, digital learning facilities and existing locality team presence. The proposed model adopts a community-based, relationship-centred and whole-family approach, bringing together health, education, social care, employability, housing, community learning and third sector support within a coordinated community setting. The model has been designed around early intervention, prevention, community empowerment and	earlier intervention, improved service coordination and greater family participation in service design. The proposal places family voice, community leadership and co-production at its centre, recognising families and community organisations as equal partners in shaping future provision. Redburn Community Centre was identified as the preferred location due to its accessibility, community connections and capacity to support both family activities and multi-agency delivery. The proposal also creates opportunities to strengthen family	Learning and Development outcomes and wider Children's Services priorities.		
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		co-production with local families. The proposal includes open access support, universal family programmes and targeted interventions, alongside opportunities for volunteering, peer support, family learning, employability, digital inclusion and wellbeing activities. The proposal is currently progressing through governance and partnership discussions.	learning, parental confidence, community resilience, volunteering and social connectedness while reducing inequalities and barriers to support			
Community Transport Consultation Community Engagement and Participation (supporting community participation and	Poverty; Mental Health & Wellbeing; Skills for Learning and Work	Engaged with residents, community groups and partner organisations to identify local priorities, emerging needs and opportunities for action. Feedback from previous community conversations	Increased participation and strengthened relationships with local communities by taking engagement into trusted community venues. Residents welcomed the opportunity to participate within	Use consultation findings to inform locality planning, project development and service improvement. Strengthen links between community consultation activity, the proposed Family Wellbeing Hub, Locality Partnership	Consultation records, attendance figures, community feedback, Sensemaker engagement findings, locality engagement reports and venue records.	GREEN

community-led action)		identified a need for more accessible, face-to-face engagement opportunities and improved access to consultation activity for residents who may not engage online. In response, during June and July the Irvine Locality Team took community consultation and engagement activity directly into community settings across Irvine, including Irvine Library, community centres and lunch clubs. This approach enabled wider participation from residents who may otherwise have been excluded from engagement exercises and supported ongoing locality conversations	familiar settings and the approach helped capture a broader range of views, particularly from older residents and those less likely to engage digitally. The experience reinforced the importance of responding to community feedback and designing engagement methods that are accessible, inclusive and community-led. It also strengthened awareness of local services, opportunities and emerging priorities across Irvine communities.	priorities and future service design.		
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		around priorities, services and community aspirations.				
Irvine Town Board and UK Shared Prosperity Fund / Plan for Neighbourhoods	Skills for Learning and Work; Poverty; Mental Health & Wellbeing; Green Health & Open Spaces	Supported the ongoing development and governance of the Irvine Town Board. The UK Pride and Place Group successfully recruited a new Chair, Danny Anderson, and the Board approved the appointment of two additional members, further strengthening community and stakeholder representation. The Community Fund Working Group presented the proposed application process, assessment criteria and application form to the Board, with all members approving the recommendations.	The Board has continued to mature its governance arrangements while strengthening community participation and decision-making. Recruitment of a new Chair and additional members has increased leadership capacity and representation. Approval of the Community Fund process creates a clear route for community-led projects to access funding aligned to local priorities. The adoption of Microsoft Project will improve transparency, accountability and performance monitoring across	Launch and promote the Community Fund. Support Board members with application assessment and decision-making processes. Implement project monitoring through Microsoft Project and establish regular reporting arrangements. Progress communications activity through dedicated digital channels and community updates. Continue feasibility discussions regarding Bridgegate and town centre regeneration priorities. Work with TACT and Board	Town Board minutes, Community Fund documentation, Microsoft Project monitoring framework, branding and communications proposals, feasibility study updates, governance papers and Board reports.	GREEN

		Board members agreed to support promotion of the fund and participate in application scoring processes. To maximise accessibility, the Board agreed that the Community Fund should operate on a rolling application basis, with projects meeting agreed scoring thresholds being presented to the Board for final approval. The Board also considered how best to monitor delivery of the Town Investment Plan and agreed to utilise Microsoft Project to track project progress, milestones, risks and budget expenditure. Branding proposals were presented and approved, alongside communication plans to ensure	the programme, allowing clearer oversight of milestones and expenditure. Communications planning and agreement around transparent reporting will help strengthen public awareness and trust in the Board's activities. Discussions regarding Bridgegate demonstrate progress towards addressing long-standing regeneration priorities while recognising links to community safety and economic development. Governance discussions have also helped the Board consider long-term sustainability and	members to explore future governance and charitable options.		
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		transparency and regular sharing of progress and success stories. It was agreed that project updates and information would be promoted through a dedicated website with links from the Community Planning Partnership website, reflecting the Board's role as a sub-group of the Locality Partnership. The new Chair presented an update on progress against priority projects and highlighted achievements to date. In addition, Julian from Ironside Consultancy provided an update regarding ongoing feasibility work with North Ayrshire Council and private commercial owners relating to Bridgegate. This	opportunities to strengthen its future operating model.			
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		work directly supports delivery of one of the Town Board's key priorities around town centre regeneration and addressing antisocial behaviour concerns. Governance arrangements were also discussed, with TACT agreeing to provide advice regarding the advantages and disadvantages of charitable status and to support the development of a focus group to explore charitable aims, purposes and future governance options.				
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Locality Partnership: *Irvine*

Date: *7th September 2026*

Subject: *HSCP Partner Update*

Purpose: For Information and Awareness

HSCP Update related to Irvine Locality

- Boyle Street supported accommodation- a new facility for care-experienced young people is opening in Irvine. It will provide a safe, homely environment for young people aged 16-21, who are moving on from care and no longer require full-time support, but would benefit from assistance to build the skills, confidence and resilience needed for independent living.
- Trindlemoss House- Trindlemoss House is a council residential care service that provides supported accommodation for adults with learning disabilities and autism. The Irvine service received a highly positive Care Inspectorate report following an unannounced inspection, achieving "Very Good" ratings in five out of six areas assessed. The inspection highlighted high-quality, person-centred care, effective leadership, a skilled staff team and strong support for residents' wellbeing, independence and community inclusion.

General HSCP update

Children, Families & Justice Services

- Care Leaver Payments- the Scottish Government has introduced a £2,000 payment for eligible young people moving from care into adulthood and independent living. Scottish Government has committed to fully funding local authorities to administer and deliver the payment.
- Child protection communications- following engagement with young people, the Child Protection Committee is developing content for North Ayrshire Youth Services social media channels to promote key child protection messages. A survey for young people aged 11 and over has been launched to identify their preferred platforms and approaches to online engagement.
- Vaccination programmes- eligible young people across Ayrshire have been able to book meningococcal B vaccination appointments from 6 July, ahead of the 2026/27 academic year. The annual school flu programme is also being rolled out across North Ayrshire, with vaccinations scheduled from 14 September to 4 December and parents and carers encouraged to return consent forms promptly to support uptake.

Health & Community Care

- Transfer of Care Programme and Home First Approach- NHS Ayrshire & Arran continues to experience significant system pressures, including high hospital occupancy, delayed discharges, Emergency Department congestion and reliance on

non-standard capacity. In response, NHS Ayrshire & Arran, the three HSCPs and Acute Services have developed the Transfer of Care Programme to expand community capacity and redesign discharge pathways around a Home First approach. Following IJB approval in June 2026, implementation is progressing to expand community-based support to enable timely discharge and reduce hospital pressures. North Ayrshire planned investment includes up to 25 additional care-home placements, up to 35 additional Care at Home and reablement packages, and 5 step-down beds at Anam Cara through the discharge to assess pathway. This will strengthen rehabilitation and recovery support, improve patient flow and help more people return home safely.

- **Unscheduled care improvement-** In June North Ayrshire HSCP received £1.081 million from The Scottish government to support Phase 1 of the Whole System Implementation Plan: £746,000 to strengthen hospital-based multidisciplinary capacity and £335,000 to increase Mental Health Officer capacity. These enhancements have been implemented to support patient flow and discharge planning.
- **Digital housing and independent living-** The Envision: Digital Blueprint for a Smart Home of the Future report provides an evidence-based framework for housing that integrates digital health, adaptable design and low-carbon construction. Housing and HSCP colleagues will explore how learning from the framework can inform future planning and service development to support health, wellbeing, independence and net zero ambitions.
- **Adult Support and Protection-** a staff survey has been launched across HSCP and partner organisations. Findings will inform the Adult Protection Committee's biennial report and future business plan, helping to shape priorities and continued improvement in adult protection arrangements.

Mental Health

- **North Community Learning Disability Team-** the team received the Team Award at the Scottish Learning Disabilities Nurses Network Awards for their work to reduce health inequalities for people with learning disabilities in North Ayrshire.
- **Alcohol and Drug Partnership-** the North Ayrshire ADP has published its latest newsletter, providing information on recent community activity, available supports and this year's Overdose Awareness Day event.

Planning, Performance and Transformation

- **Beam Notes-** the AI-supported documentation tool previously known as Magic Notes is being rolled out across North Ayrshire HSCP social work services. Training is underway and use has expanded to additional service users from 20 July. The tool is intended to support quicker drafting of records and documentation, reduce administrative time and enable practitioners to focus more on direct engagement and conversations with the people they support.
- **Care at Home Service review-** The HSCP is currently doing a review of the Care at Home service and staff are being invited to dedicated engagement sessions to discuss current service delivery, improvement opportunities and help shape future developments. Separate sessions for frontline and office-based staff will ensure that operational experience and staff feedback inform the review and future planning.

Other

- **Set Aside arrangements-** work continues across Ayrshire to implement statutory Set Aside arrangements for delegated hospital services. This includes developing a joint

commissioning plan, strengthening IJB directions to NHS Ayrshire & Arran and agreeing a transparent methodology for fair resource allocation across the three Ayrshire partnerships.

- IJB voting rights- from 1 September 2026, third-sector representatives, service users and unpaid carer members will have full IJB voting rights under the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2025. Recruitment is underway to fill the service user/ unpaid carer representative role.

Action Required by Locality Partnership

To note the HSCP updates.

For more information please contact: *Thelma Bowers, Head of Service, Mental Health, HSCP/ Rebecca Black, Team Manager, Strategic Planning & Equalities*

Completed by: *Rebecca Black, Team Manager, Strategic Planning & Equalities*

Date: *26th August 2026*



North Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir a Tuath

New Scots, Core Skills and Gaelic Team

Locality Partnership Progress Update



Poverty/Financial Inclusion

- Delivered New Scots drop in events for families with school related applications and processes – **NA Wide held in Saltcoats**
- Provided support through community hubs, helping individuals access information, complete forms and connect with appropriate services, including support relating to financial and practical issues – **NA wide held in Kilwinning and Garnock Valley**

Health and Wellbeing

- New Scots community picnic at Eglinton Park was attended by 30 people, bringing adults, children and families together through physical activities, games, conversation and shared food. The event supported intergenerational participation, social connection and community wellbeing – **NA wide held in Eglinton Park**
- Intergenerational bingo and board game activities was delivered in Kilbirnie and Saltcoats, providing opportunities for social interaction and reducing isolation – **Held in Kilbirnie and Saltcoats**
- Youth work Community Mental Health & Wellbeing project officer delivered a four day fitness programme for New Scots boys aged 11–15, promoting physical activity, wellbeing and positive social interaction – **Held in Kilwinning Academy**
- New Scots Youth Forum summer event in Eglinton Park saw 23 New Scots young people come together and participate in health and wellbeing activities – **NA wide held in Eglinton Park**



New Scots, Core Skills and Gaelic Team Locality Partnership Progress Update

Community Engagement/Participation and Voice

- Supported delivery of the Lok Oi community event, 100 attendees enjoyed opportunities for engagement and participation within the New Scots community – **NA wide held in Irvine**
- New Scots Youth Forum have been engaging with its membership and partners to identify activity and a programme for the next year – **NA wide**

Community Engagement/Participation and Voice

- Fèis Arainn had a successful week seeing young people from Arran and the mainland participate in Gaelic language and culture activities. Ending with a concert held in Arran Hight School on the last day – **NA Wide held on Arran**

Work and Skills

- ESOL provision continued to support learners to build literacy, numeracy, digital and communication skills, often linked directly to real life and work related scenarios such as jobcentre appointments, applications, volunteering and workplace communication. Many learners progressed to volunteering or employment during the reporting period – **NA Wide**
- Delivered weekly ESOL Employability and IT class supporting learners to develop CVs, cover letters, interview skills and basic digital skills – **NA Wide held in Kilwinning**
- Supported seven ESOL volunteers to undertake an ESOL Literacy training course, strengthening volunteer capacity to support learners with literacy needs – **NA wide held online**