



North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

North Coast & Cumbraes Locality Partnership

Tuesday 8 September 2026 at 6pm, The Annex, Clark Memorial Church

BUSINESS

Item	Subject	Pg No	Ref	Officer	Ask of the Partnership
1.	Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest.	-	-	Cllr Hill	
2.	Action Note Review the action note and deal with any outstanding items.	Pg 4	Enclosed	Russell McCutcheon	Is this an accurate record of the meeting. Have all actions been completed?
3.	Community Investment Fund – Project Update Receive update from Largs SWI project funded by CIF.	-	Verbal	Sharon Murdoch	LP to receive update on the project and impact made.
DECISION REQUIRED					
4.	Grants The Locality Partnership are asked to consider grant applications made to the Largs Common Good Fund and Elderly Grants Fund Largs Common Good Fund - Largs & District Museum 2026/27 Elderly Grants Fund - Age Well WK - The Cumbrae Forum - Fairlie Old Folks/Semple Centre - Skelmorlie SS - The Cameron Centre	Pg 9	Enclosed	Sharon Fleming	LP to consider applications made.
LOCAL MATTERS – TACKLING INEQUALITIES					
6.	Island Plan Receive update on the work of Cumbrae Island Plan.	-	Verbal	Cllr Hill	Receive update and consider partnership opportunities.
7.	Locality Officer Update The Locality Partnership will receive an update from Louise Riddex, Locality Officer.	Pg 14	Enclosed	Louise Riddex	Receive update and consider learning and partnership opportunities.

PARTNER REPORTS					
8.	- Education/Active Schools - Police Scotland - Scottish Fire and Rescue - KA Leisure - TACT	Pg 19	Verbal/ Enclosed	Partners	Reports enclosed for information
AOCB					
9.	AOCB Locality Partnership Vice Chair			Cllr Hill	LP to use this time to raise/discuss matters linking to the Locality, the LP priorities and tackling inequalities.
REPORTS FOR INFORMATION					
10.	- HSCP Report - North Ayrshire CLD Update	Pg 24 Pg 27			

2026 Meeting Dates

Date	Time	Venue
1 December 2026	6.00 – 8.00 pm	MS Teams

Distribution List

Elected Members

Councillor Alan Hill (**Chair**)
 Councillor Eleanor Collier
 Councillor Todd Ferguson
 Councillor Tom Marshall
 Councillor Ian Murdoch

Community Representatives

George Cloughey, West Kilbride Community Council
 Isy Agnew, Skelmorlie Community Council
 Alex Harvie, Cumbrae Community Council
 Rita Holmes, Fairlie Community Council
 Lizzy Barbour, Community Rep (*Co-opted*)
 Carol Campbell, Community Rep (*Co-opted*)
 Nick Hobson, Community Rep (*Co-opted*)

CPP/Council Representatives

Russell McCutcheon, Senior Lead Officer
 Rhonda Leith, Lead Officer
 Louise Riddex, Locality Officer
 Lisa Thomson, Police Scotland
 Richard Donnachie, SFRS
 Michael Thompson, KA Leisure
 Barbara Conner, TSI

**North Coast & Cumbraes Locality Partnership
Priorities**



Meeting:	North Coast and Cumbraes Locality Partnership	
Date/Venue:	Monday 22 June 2026 at 6pm, Dunn Memorial Hall, Largs	
Present:	Cllr Alan Hill (Chair) Cllr Tom Marshall Cllr Eleanor Collier Louise Riddex, Locality Officer Sarah Baird, Senior Officer (Islands) Lizzy Barbour, Community Representative Rhonda Leith, Head of Connected Communities Carol Campbell, Community Representative Tom Stewart, Largs Community Council Russell McCutcheon, Executive Director (Place) Isy Agnew, Skelmorlie Community Council Barbara Conner, TACT Tony Gilhooly, Active Schools Michael Thomson, KA Leisure Jim Philips, Largs Community Council	
In Attendance	Calum Couston, North Ayrshire Council Jacqui Greenlees, North Ayrshire Council Sharon Fleming, North Ayrshire Council Sharon Hackney, HSCP Rebecca Black, HSCP Scott Hunter, HSCP	
Apologies:	Cllr Todd Ferguson PI Lisa Thomson, Police Scotland Rita Holmes, Fairlie Community Council PS Donald Fisher, Police Scotland	
ACTIONS		
No.	Action	Responsible
1.	Welcome/Apologies/Declarations of Interest The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies for absence were noted and no declarations of interest were made.	Noted
2.	Action Note The action note arising from the meeting held on 3 March 2026 was approved. Item 5 from minutes – The Islands Briefing has been moved to after the summer recess in September.	Noted
3.	Grants – Millport Common Good The Partnership considered an application made to the Millport Common Good Fund from Millport Town Hall. The application sought £380 from the fund towards the cost of the clothes rails, alongside a £100 contribution from its own funds.	

	A query was raised as to whether to clothes rails will be accessible. It was agreed that further detail would be sought around type and location of the rails. The Locality Partnership agreed to award the funds.	S Fleming
4.	Community Project Fund The Partnership received a report from C Couston on the North Ayrshire Community Projects Fund – Pride in Place Impact Fund for the North Coast & Cumbraes: - The allocation for the North Coast and Cumbraes Community Grant Fund is £206,000 for community led projects. - There was also £308,000 allocated for Council led Projects. C Couston highlighted that applications had been assessed by a panel made up of locality representatives, a Connected Communities Officer and Irene Campbell MP. The panel recommended approval of six projects with total recommended funding of £160,066: The Locality Partnership approve the following projects: - Clyde Coast & Cumbraes Men Shed - £22,500 - West Kilbride Community Initiative - £47,800 - Millport Town Hall - £6,720 - Cumbrae Community Garden - £10,600 - Cumbrae Community Development Company - £40,000 C Couston also provided an update on how funding would be used for Council led projects. The Partnership discussed what other projects from across North Coast and Cumbraes that were assessed but were not approved. No applications were received from Fairlie or Skelmorlie. It was noted that the highest proportion of projects were based in Cumbraes. The Locality Partnership also agreed to approve on the CCDC project for £32,446 to refurbish the pond at Garrison House on basis that satisfactory information is circulated The Partnership also agreed to reopen the fund to account for the current underspend, considering the current spread of projects approved, and ensuring a wider audience is reached. Applications should be ratified at the September 2026 meeting of the Locality Partnership.	C Couston
5.	HSCP Update The Partnership received a report from S Hunter, on revised HSCP locality planning arrangements for the North Coast and Cumbraes.	

	• The new approach will align HSCP Locality Planning more closely with existing Community Planning Partnership Locality Partnership structures, replacing the previous standalone HSCP Locality Planning Review Groups. • This is intended to reduce duplication, strengthen partnership working and support a more coordinated approach to improving outcomes at a locality level. • HSCP Locality Leads will attend two Locality Partnership meetings each year, with a standing HSCP locality planning agenda item included to provide updates, share emerging priorities and identify opportunities for joint working. Written updates will be provided for the remaining meetings to maintain visibility of locality planning activity and relevant HSCP developments. • It was noted that HSCP Locality Plans will be developed using locality data, community engagement, service input and partner feedback. Draft plans will be brought to the Locality Partnership for comment, ensuring partners can help shape local priorities and delivery. • An update was requested from the Partnership about the move to critical care assessment for HSCP. S Hunter provided the LP with a short update including around the current programme of review. • It was highlighted that close alignment should be implemented around locality priorities, while still considering the differing legislative requirements of HSCP locality planning. • The Partnership also noted current issues across the locality around accessing GP services with discussion following. HSCP colleagues noted this and agreed to feed back to the service. • TACT gave an overview of the work of the kindness crew and offered to send further information to HSCP colleagues.	Noted
6.	Island Plan S Baird provided the Partnership with update on the refreshed National Islands Plan including: • An update paper was considered by Cabinet on 2 June 2026. • A link will be shared to the full report after the meeting. • The Partnership were asked to participate in the refresh of the new Islands Plan. The Chair thanks S Baird for her update.	Noted
7.	Locality Officer Update L Riddex advised that a report was included with the meeting paperwork. The Chair thanked L Riddex for her update.	

8.	Community Engagement L Riddex updated the Partnership on Locality Engagement including: • Engagement has now taken place through various channels including Consul online and face to face. • Communications have created a report around the online feedback, however the uptake was quite low, only around 70 people. • Feedback included that day-to-day financial pressure is an issue for communities, there are structural barriers facing communities around skills and employment, there is a strong demand for youth friendly spaces and that access and culture are key around mental health awareness and support. • The full report will be shared across the Partnership by email and uploaded to Consul. • The first Locality Network meeting will take place in August for partners and services to participate in locality planning for North Coast and Cumbraes. • The Partnership highlighted that links with the Local Employability Partnership will be key to the above work. • B Conner Highlighted the work of the Money Max project that could also link into the above work. The leaflet will be shared further across the Partnership. The Chair thanked L Riddex for her update.	<i>J McGee</i>
9.	Partner Reports Police Scotland- No representative present TACT- B Conner provided a verbal update. Education/Active Schools – T Gilhooly provided a verbal update. Scottish Fire and Rescue – No representative present KA Leisure- M Thomson provided a verbal update. The Chair thanked partners for their updates.	<i>Noted</i>
10.	Common Good Discussion • An update was provided on the current review of community grants and funding, including the process and information available around Common Good applications. • There will also be a review of the Locality Partnership Standing Orders and Terms of Reference, including the process for delegated powers. • An issue was raised by Cllr Murdoch regarding public response to decision making around recent Common Good applications. The Partnership agreed this was not a matter within their control and any issues should be taken up with the appropriate organisation. • It was agreed that while this is not the forum for such a discussion, that the ongoing review work around community grants and funding noted above should ensure clearer processes for community members and partners. • The Partnership also highlighted that the conditions of grant could be reviewed or a charter developed to include expectations of those in receipt of grants. • A progress update on the review of grants and funding will be brought back to a future meeting.	<i>J Greenlees</i>

11.	AOCB • The Partnership requested that future meetings should take place across the locality, weather and transport issues permitting including a potential earlier start to the meeting. • Summer of Sport: An allocation of funding has been received from Scottish Government for North Ayrshire for the Summer of Sport. A programme has been developed and printed and will be available in schools. An overview of some of the opportunities across North Coast Locality was provided. • Community Transport: An engagement is currently open on Consul around Community Transport, and the Partnership was encouraged to take part and share this with local groups. An update will be brought back to the next meeting.	<i>R Leith</i>
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The meeting ended at 19:56pm



Locality Partnership: North Coast Locality

Date: 8 September 2026

Subject: To advise the meeting of applications received in respect of the 2026/27 Elderly Grants Fund and Largs Common Good 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 and Largs Common Good Fund.

Largs Common Good Fund

- Largs & District Museum - **£9,421.00**

2026/27 Elderly Grants Fund

- Age Well WK - **£2622.66**
- The Cumbrae Forum - **£949.48**
- Fairlie Old Folks/Semple Centre - **£1,366.33**
- Skelmorlie SS - **£1,487.91**
- The Cameron Centre – Application issued, return pending. Allocation is **£7,339**

Key Points for Locality Partnership

- **Largs Common Good Fund** has a balance of **£9,421.00** for disbursement.
- **The 2026/27 North Coast Elderly Grants Fund** has a balance of **£13,766** for disbursement.

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 Morrell, 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

COMMON GOOD FUND

APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 2026/27

Common Good Criteria -

The application should benefit all or a significant group of the inhabitants of the area to which the Common Good relates

Applicant	Purpose of Grant	Breakdown of costs requested incl total	Previous Common Good Awards
Largs & District Museum & Historical Society	The purpose of the Grant would be to provide funding to enable vital internal insulation works to be carried out on the walls and ceiling of the main museum display area. The ground floor museum is formed from two 18th-century weavers cottages, with little or no insulation, expensive to heat and to maintain a safe and stable atmosphere. Local community and school groups are encouraged to arrange visits to the museum, and the museum display area is available as a venue for other groups and societies in the district. Currently Family History Society, and a sign language teaching group use the venue on a regular basis. We have recently upgraded our stock of chairs to make the venue a more attractive option for use by outside community based groups. The works include removal all plasterboard, and plaster to walls and ceiling in ground floor area. Disconnect all electrical circuits. Remove debris to skip. Supply and fit insulation as required. Supply & fit timber strapping and studs. Replaster all areas affected. Supply and fit skirting and finishing. Remove all rubbish and leave tidy.	Funding Breakdown Total Project Cost: £24,808 Amount Requested: £9421.00 Group Contribution (Reserves): £4,808 Funded through donations, fundraising activities, a charitable bequest, and Historic Environment Scotland tour income. Kelburn Windfarm Funding Application: £10,000 Application submitted on 28/04/2026.	n/a

Communities & Housing, Finance & Corporate Support, and Legal Services have been consulted and their comments are as follows:

Finance & Corporate Support:

The constitution, audited accounts for 2026, budget for the current financial year, a recent bank statement and a quote for works has been provided. £9,421 is available to disburse for this application. No further funds would be available for disbursement in 26/27 from the Largs Common Good.

Legal:

The application is for funding to assist with the costs of a maintenance /improvement works within the main museum area by installing insulation. Arguably the view can be taken that as these works will indirectly benefit all sections of the community then the application can be legally justified.

Communities & Housing:

The museum is a valued community facility used by residents, schools and community groups. The proposed insulation works will improve the building's sustainability, reduce running costs and support its continued use as a community resource. The application aligns with Common Good Fund criteria by helping to maintain and improve a community asset that provides educational, cultural and social benefits to the wider Largs community.

**ELDERLY GRANTS FUND
APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 2026/27**

Grant Allocation for North Coast LPP Area

£ 13,766

Group	Purpose of Grant	Grant Allocated to Group	Amount Requested
The Cumbrae Forum	The group supports older residents of the island through its weekly Lunch Club. Funding will be used to provide a special Sunday lunch during the winter months, helping members remain socially connected and reducing isolation. Breakdown of costs: Sunday lunch for 80 members @ £15 per person = £1,200 Total project cost: £1,200 Cumbrae Forum will meet the shortfall from income generated through its Charity Shop. Grant requested: £949	£ 949	£ 949
The Cameron Centre Largs	Application Issued – Return Pending	£ 7,339	£
The Semple Centre	The Semple Centre provides for the welfare of older and retired residents in Fairlie and the surrounding area through the provision of safe and comfortable facilities for leisure and social activities. Breakdown of costs: - Insurance = £994 - Gas = £958 - Electricity = £566 - Building maintenance = £536 Total project cost: £3,054 The balance of costs is met through user donations, investment income and reserves. During 2025/26, user donations totalled £1,570 and investment income totalled £1,209.	£ 1,366	£ 1,366

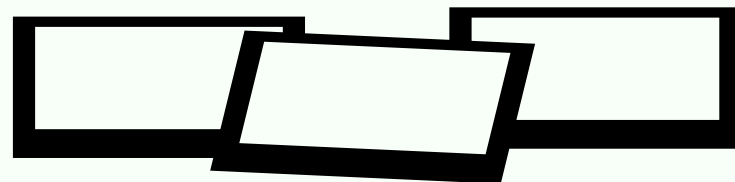
	Grant requested: £1,366		
Skelmorlie Senior Citizens	The organisation provides an annual Christmas party for older residents, promoting health, wellbeing and social connection through a community event including a meal, entertainment and refreshments. Breakdown of costs: • Three-course meal (catering) = £2,800 • Refreshments = £350 • Entertainment = £200 Total project cost: £3,350 The event is supported through a grant contribution, income from local calendar sales and donations from local residents. Grant requested: £1,488	£ 1,488	£ 1,488
Age Well West Kilbride	The group provides an annual festive event for older residents, supporting social interaction and reducing isolation within the community. Breakdown of costs: • Festive meal for 200 people = £5,390.00 • Posters and tickets = £119.94 Total project cost: £5,509.94 Income from ticket sales is expected to generate approximately £2,000. Raffle prizes are donated by local organisations and businesses, while volunteer drivers provide transport support. Additional fundraising helps cover the remaining costs and provides free tickets for those experiencing financial hardship. Grant requested: £2,623	£ 2,623	£ 2,623
		TOTAL	£ 6,426



Locality Partnership Progress Update

Poverty/Financial Inclusion

- Summer of sport sessions were ran throughout the summer holidays in every part of the locality. All provision was free at the point of entry and also included snacks/refreshments free of charge. Attendance for all session delivery in the North coast totaled 727 participants
- Work has been done with Millport Community Shop to bring on and upskill new volunteers. The lead volunteer has left the project. Next step is to co-opt into committee roles, with the view to having an AGM before the end of the year. The group will also be supported to look at funding for the project as funds are starting to run low, with no guaranteed of financial support from NAC next year.
- Community Hub banking is now available at Largs Library.



Health and Wellbeing

- Throughout the summer holidays a Summer Of Sport programme was delivered through a range of local events and family fun days being delivered free of charge within the community. Activities and snacks have been provided at each event, helping to reduce costs for families during the holiday period while ensuring children and young people have access to positive recreational opportunities. Attendance at these events has been consistently high, demonstrating the demand for accessible community activities and the importance of providing cost-free opportunities that support inclusion, wellbeing, and community participation.

Regeneration and Increasing Civic Pride

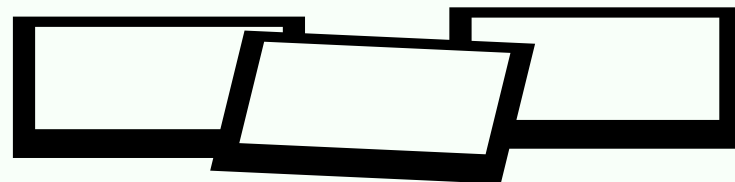
- Largs Development Trust have been working on various Projects: New play equipment has been installed in Linn Park, with positive feedback received from local families.
- Plans have been developed for activities addressing toxic masculinity and negative influences affecting young men. The proposals have received strong partner support and will be progressed following the return of schools to maximise participation.
- The Brisbane Art Project has entered its final phase, with artistic installations being developed and a new sculpture already installed to positive community feedback.
- As part of the project, the community-led "Outside the Box" initiative has been completed, with an exhibition planned later this year.
- Work is being done with Largs cycling without age group to explore options for a larger storage facility for the 2 trishaws as volunteers are struggling to maneuver the 2 into the existing asgard.



Locality Partnership Progress Update

Poverty/Financial Inclusion

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Health and Wellbeing

- The Largs Development Trust has continued to support initiatives that promote positive mental wellbeing. Well-attended Drop-In Art sessions were delivered as part of the Scottish Mental Health Festival, with participants' artwork due to be exhibited in October 2026. In partnership with SHINE, support has also been provided to establish a local women's organisation focused on empowering women and mentoring young girls, with strong community interest demonstrated ahead of its official launch in September.
- Regular users at your space include– Big soul network ,Equal, We work for Families, Scotwest, Kindness Krew, National autistic society. Two new Partnerships have been established. NODA (a Bereavement group) and Kindred roots (a befriending service of those attending rehabilitation at Vikingar).

Regeneration and Increasing Civic Pride

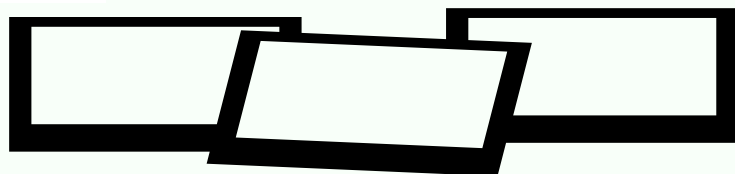
- The first Dementia Connect meeting has taken place, bringing organisations together to strengthen partnership working and improve support.
- The Community in Action group has continued to meet regularly since June 2026.
- Regular Trading Standards drop-in sessions have been scheduled.
- Plans are underway for a community screening of the Emergency briefing at Vikingar in September, followed by a public discussion and the potential formation of focused working groups.
- 7 groups from across the locality are being supported through the CAT process with a potential 4 more.
- Supported Largs Development Trust with a lottery application to help with some of the work Deirdre used to do, as well as support the trust.



Locality Partnership Progress Update

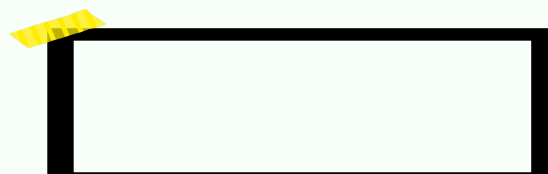
Community Engagement/Participation and Voice

- North Coast Youth Forums attendance has been increasing throughout the last session. There's been an influx in younger aged young people. Staff will adapt and diversify session content to reflect the age, stage and developmental needs of all participants moving forward. The young people from the forum also had the opportunity through the summer of sport programme to attend the commonwealth men's gymnastics. Those who attended really enjoyed this,.
- Safer Shores and Street Work teams have undertaken regular outreach and engagement with young people in Largs & West Kilbride throughout the summer holidays.. The primary focus of this work is community safety, wellbeing, and relationship-based youth work, encouraging young people to make safe choices.

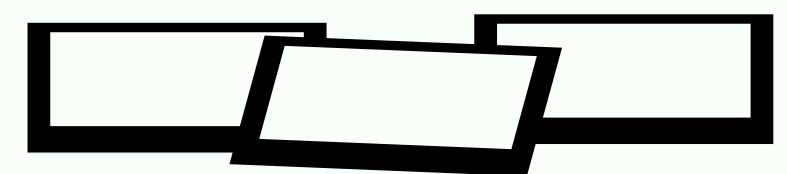


Work and Skills

- North Coast Youth Forum media project will restart in early September. Community Worker spoke to worker from media studio to look at adapting what's being delivered to better suit the needs/aspirations of the young people.
- There are currently 10 young people enrolled in the PDA Youth Work within Largs Academy. Before the holidays they started the introductory sessions to ensure the course was what they were looking for. They then moved on to the 1st unit of the ODA and half of the class have completed the first 3 questions of the assessment for unit 1 which is very positive. After the holidays they will continue on with the rest of the course. There may be movement with people doing the course due to exam results.



Climate Action and Local Environment





Locality Partnership Progress Update

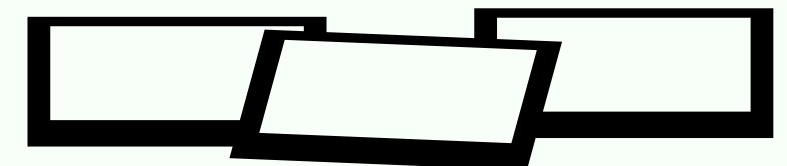
Community Engagement/Participation and Voice

- The North Coast Older Persons Network has continued to present challenges in relation to sustaining engagement and establishing a consistent programme of activity. Earlier in the year, it was believed positive progress had been made, with approximately 10 older residents expressing an interest in becoming involved in the network. Several attempts were made to organise meetings and re-establish momentum within the group, to no avail. A base for meetings has now been confirmed as the Cameron Centre in Largs, and hopefully the network can get up and running efficiently.
- Support has been given to Millport Pride group in the planning of their first Pride Event. Locality Teams are planning to take around 35 young people across to the event on 12 Sept. We will also be providing activities such as glitter tattoos, painting a mural, silent disco, after the procession has taken place.

Work and Skills

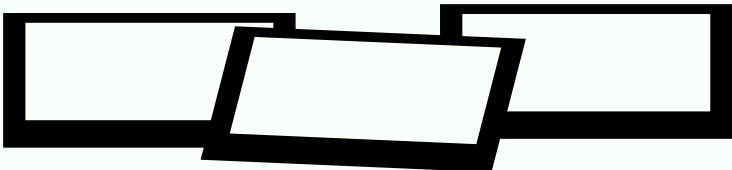
- Largs development Trust has undertaken a range of activities that support the Work & Skills priority:
 - A young person has been receiving training within Your Space across various aspects of the trusts work. He has also been given responsibility for assisting with the development and delivery of their social media strategy.
 - A young person has been shadowing the project coordinator, gaining valuable skills and work experience since finishing their studies at university.
 - Several new volunteers continue to be involved with the community radio station, with each receiving appropriate training and support.. Existing broadcasters have also undertaken further training to develop their skills and knowledge.
 - Good progress has been made in developing a marketing and advertising strategy to ensure the trust is sustainable going forward. Plans for this are progressing at pace.

Climate Action and Local Environment



Community Engagement/Participation and Voice

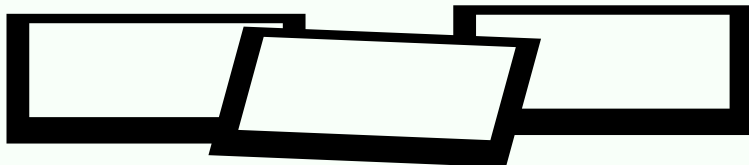
•The Participatory Budgeting (PB) cycle has recommenced, with preparations underway for a revised and streamlined process designed to reduce administration and coordination requirements. Community reviewers have been consulted, a Youth Reviewer has been identified, and reviewer records have been updated to ensure information is accurate and current. Ongoing engagement with reviewers will continue to support the implementation of the revised PB process. Applications are now open for PB with a closing date of 6th September.



Work and Skills

•Attendance at Skelmorlie Youth Group remained consistent, with a varied programme of activities delivered to meet the interests and needs of participants. Activities included a creative scavenger hunt, video projects based on fairy tales, and the production of videos highlighting the importance of the youth group. These activities supported teamwork, creativity, confidence, digital skills, and provided opportunities for young people to express their views. Progress has also been made in developing youth voice opportunities, with links to the Community Council remaining a priority for future development.

Climate Action and Local Environment



North Coast & Cumbraes Partnership Update —

Scottish Fire and Rescue



North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

Improving Access to Financial Services

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) supports efforts to reduce financial vulnerability and promote safer, more resilient communities across the Ayrshire North Coast and Cumbrae locality. Through home fire safety visits and partnership working with local authorities, health and social care services, and third sector organisations, SFRS engages with individuals who may be experiencing financial hardship or other vulnerabilities. By identifying those in need and signposting them to appropriate advice, support and financial assistance services, SFRS helps ensure that residents can access the resources available to improve their wellbeing. These collaborative approaches contribute to reducing inequality, strengthening community resilience and supporting people to live safely and independently within their communities.

Increasing Social Inclusion

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) is committed to helping ensure that all individuals across the Ayrshire North Coast and Cumbrae locality feel safe, supported and connected within their communities. Through targeted home fire safety visits, engagement with vulnerable and hard-to-reach groups, and partnership working with local agencies and third sector organisations, SFRS helps reduce inequality and supports those who may be at greater risk of harm or social isolation. By building strong community relationships, promoting safety awareness and supporting community resilience, SFRS contributes to creating more inclusive communities where everyone has the opportunity to live safely, participate fully and access the support they need.

Improving Mental Wellbeing

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) is committed to supporting the mental health and wellbeing of individuals and communities across the Ayrshire North Coast and Cumbrae locality. Through community engagement, partnership working and early intervention initiatives, SFRS helps reduce the impact of isolation, vulnerability and risk factors that can affect wellbeing. By identifying and supporting those most at risk, signposting individuals to appropriate services, and working closely with health, social care and third sector partners, SFRS contributes to building resilient communities where people feel safer, more connected and better supported. These collaborative efforts help create an environment that promotes positive mental wellbeing and improves quality of life for local residents.

Supporting Skills and Work Opportunities

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) contributes to developing skills, employability and career opportunities across the Ayrshire North Coast and Cumbrae locality. Through engagement with schools, youth groups and community organisations, SFRS helps raise awareness of career pathways within the emergency services and promotes the development of valuable life skills such as teamwork, leadership, communication and problem-solving. By supporting community initiatives, participating in local events and working in partnership with education and employability services, SFRS encourages individuals to build confidence, develop their potential and access opportunities that enhance their future employment prospects, helping to strengthen local communities and the wider economy.



Locality Partnership: North Coast

Date: 8th September 2026

Subject: HSCP Partner Update

Purpose: For Information and Awareness

HSCP Update related to North Coast Locality

- Health Visitor recognition- Marie Purdie, a health visitor based in Largs, has been shortlisted for the Sands Elaine Thorp Award for Bereavement Care. The shortlisting recognises excellence in supporting families affected by pregnancy loss or death of a baby.

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 Tean 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: *Scott hunter, Chief Social Work Officer, 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**