North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

Arran Locality Partnership

Thursday 3 December 2026 at 4.45 p.m. on Microsoft Teams

BUSINESS

Item	Subject	Pg No	Ref	Officer	Ask of the Partnership
1.	**Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest.**	-	-	Cllr Currie	
2.	**Action Note** Review the action note and deal with any outstanding items.	Pg 4	Enclosed	Lesley Forsyth	Is this an accurate record of the meeting. Have all actions been completed?
3.	**Ayrshire Growth Deal – Arran Projects** Receive an update on engagement and consultation plans for the AGD Arran projects.	-	Verbal	David McDowall/ Kathleen Dow	LP to receive update and consider partnership opportunities.
DECISION REQUIRED					**5.15– 5.25 pm**
4.	**Grants** Partnership to consider applications made to the Community Benefit Fund.	Pg	Enclosed	Lesley Forsyth	LP to approve applications made to the Community Benefit.
LOCAL MATTERS – TACKLING INEQUALITIES					**5.20 – 6.00 pm**
5.	**Arran Local Strategy Refresh** Locality Partnership to note progress and discuss how the Partnership can support inclusive community engagement in shaping the refreshed Arran Local Island Strategy.	-	Verbal	Sarah Baird	Discuss progress and how LP can further support this work.
PARTNER REPORTS					
6.	• HSCP • Education/Active Schools • Police Scotland • Scottish Fire and Rescue • KA Leisure	Pg	Verbal	Partners	LP to receive update and consider partnership opportunities.
AOCB					**2.45 – 3.00 pm**
7.					LP to use this time to raise/discuss matters linking to the Locality, the LP priorities and tackling inequalities.

Distribution List

Elected Members

Councillor Charles Currie **(Chair)**

Community Representatives

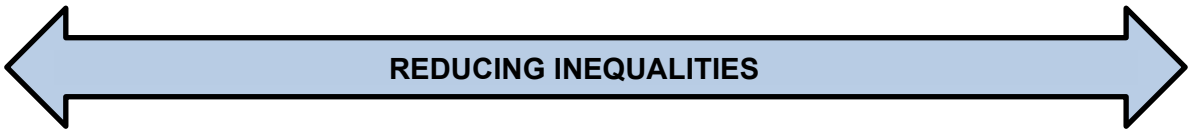
Tom Young, Arran Community Council
Sheila Gilmore, Community Island Plan Lead
Alastair Dobson, Business Island Plan Lead
Michael Gettins, Environment Island Plan Lead

CPP/Council Representatives

Vicki Auld, Senior Lead Officer
Lesley Forsyth, Lead Officer
Ailsa Weir, NHS Ayrshire and Arran
David Cameron, Police Scotland
Lesley Forsyth, North Ayrshire Council
Anne-Marie Hunter, North Ayrshire Council
Carol Norton, Arran CVS
Ricky Donnachie, Scottish Fire and Rescue
Vicki Lockhart, Head Teacher
Judi Worthington, Argyll College

Arran Locality Partnership Priorities

Wellbeing **Environment** **Communities**



Arran Locality Partnership – Community Investment Fund	
The Arran Locality Partnership CIF allocation to date:	**£194,000**
Funded Projects	**Total Funding Awarded**
Arran Youth Foundation and Arran High Joint Bid - Young People's Mental Health	£45,226
Arran Geo Park	£79, 853
Remaining CIF Balance	**£68,921**

Meeting:	**Arran Locality Partnership**
Date/Venue:	Friday 2 October 2026 at 2pm on Microsoft Teams
Present:	Cllr Charles Currie, Chair Tom Young, Arran Community Council Alistair Dobson, Island Plan Lead (Business) - Michael Gettins, Island Plan Lead (Environment) Vicki Auld, Arran CVS (Senior Lead Officer) Lesley Forsyth, Senior Manager, North Ayrshire Council (Lead Officer) Anne Marie Hunter, Engagement & Participation Officer Ailsa Weir, NHS Ayrshire & Arran Scott Morrison, KA Leisure Rebecca Black, Team Manager, HSCP Theresa Augusitis, UHI Argyll
In Attendance	Dr Greg Hamil (Item 4) Jacqueline Greenlees, Senior Manager, North Ayrshire Council Jennifer McGee, Policy & Community Planning Officer (Notes)
Apologies:	Sarah Baird, Senior Officer (Islands) Sheila Gilmore, Island Plan Lead (Communities) Ricky Donnachie, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service

ACTIONS

No.	Action	Responsible
1.	**Welcome/Apologies/Declarations of Interest** The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies for absence were noted. Declaration of interest – VA ask Arran CVS are managing the fund.	***Noted***
2.	**Action Note** The action note arising from the meeting held on 18 June 2026.	***Noted***
3.	**Grants** The Locality Partnership were asked to consider applications made to the Community Benefit Fund and Elderly Grants Fund. L Forsyth advised that the Grants and Funding Team had received an application from Arran Renewables for £1,550 from the Community Benefit Fund, comprising £400 for website domain costs and £1,550 for Microsoft storage and associated services. The application will be presented to the Partnership at its December meeting. L Forsyth highlighted that, if the Arran Geopark application were approved in full, only £931.40 would remain in the fund, which would be insufficient to support the Arran Renewables application in full and sought advice from the partnership on how they would like to proceed.	

	Community Benefit Fund The Community Benefit Fund has a balance of £5,056.40 available for disbursement. An application was made from Arran Geopark for £4,125. The project will install two fixed visitor monitoring sensors at King's Caves and Machrie Moor Stone Circles, two of Arran's most significant heritage attractions. Funding will support four remote-access visitor counters, installation and 10 years of data reporting to support maintenance, conservation and future funding bids. The Partnership discussed: • how counting visitor numbers would directly benefit the community and whether this was the most appropriate fund to support the project. • the importance of visitor data in understanding tourism flows and the associated community benefits. Noting that the group should have demonstrated these benefits more clearly in its application and that future applications should make a stronger, more direct link to community benefits. The Locality approved the funding of this project. **Elderly Grant Fund** The 2026/27 Arran Elderly Grants Fund has a balance of £2,841 available for disbursement. An application was received from Arran CVS for £2,841. Arran CVS will distribute grant money to Arran groups for outings, meals and activities. The activities planned by each individual group will be aimed at enabling Elderly people to engage in activities outside their own homes & reduce social isolation. The Locality approved the funding of this project.	
4.	**Lochranza GP Surgery** Dr G Hamil and A Weir presented the Partnership with a report on the future of the LP Report Lochranza Surgery which outlined the case for permanent closure of the Lochranza GP Branch Surgery following more than six years of inactivity. The report highlighted that healthcare needs continue to be met through alternative arrangements across Arran, with no evidence of unmet clinical need resulting from the closure. Key considerations included patient safety concerns associated with lone working, workforce sustainability challenges, the poor condition of the building and the significant investment required to bring it back into operational use.	

	An Equality Impact Assessment and Island Communities Impact Assessment, as well as feedback from community engagement highlighted concerns regarding access to healthcare, transport, prescription services and support for older and vulnerable residents. The Partnership were asked to support the recommendation that the proposal for permanent closure progresses through the appropriate NHS governance processes. The discussion acknowledged that circumstances could change significantly in future, while recognising the value of the island's hospital and GP services, with the GP practices described as among the highest rated in Scotland. It was acknowledged that, although services remained available, residents could view the closure as a loss. Tailored arrangements, including home visits, were welcomed, and questions were raised about how future needs would be met and whether these arrangements would apply to anyone in the area. It was noted that there were no plans to change existing medical arrangements and that current home visits would continue. Practical arrangements for prescription collection remained to be confirmed, with collection likely to be from the pharmacy in Brodick. A Dobson highlighted the importance of clearly communicating and explaining the measures to mitigate the impact of the closure. He suggested focusing on the services currently available and those that would continue. M Gettins raised concerns about the practical impact of service reductions, the extent of community consultation and why a decision was being sought after six years. G Hamill explained that the HSCP and NHS led the consultation and had set out the required process. He advised that everyone in the affected area had been given the opportunity to provide feedback, noted that a meeting had been held in Lochranza and encouraged attendance at meetings. A Weir advised that a survey and letter had been issued to all residents in the affected communities of Lochranza, Catacol and Pirnmill. She acknowledged the wider community's concerns but explained that the NHS had sought to focus consultation on those directly affected. A Weir and G Hamill would also attend the Community Council meeting to discuss the proposal. The Chair thanked G Hamil for attending the meeting.	
5.	**AOCB** **Partner Contributions** **Island Plan – Business**	

	A Dobson advised that work on the Arran Island Plan was progressing, with a governance meeting scheduled for 29 October in Corrie Hall. NAC was supporting the Island Group to move to the next stage. The Island Plan refresh will help shape Arran's future direction, supported by an island data dashboard being developed by Arran Geopark. By bringing together community, business and environmental data, the dashboard will support more informed decision-making and strengthen links with wider regional economic planning. **Island Plan – Environment** M Gettins advised that considerable work had gone into developing the digital dashboard. By providing a clearer picture of activity across the island, it will help demonstrate impact, inform ongoing action planning and identify where further work is needed to address challenges relating to wellbeing, community benefit, climate and infrastructure. He emphasised that community support and a clear mandate would be essential to taking this work forward. **Arran Housing Task Force** The Chair advised that Arran Housing Task Force meetings would be paused for one year to allow key housing projects and policy developments to progress. During this period, housing will be a standing item on the Arran Locality Partnership agenda, enabling progress to be monitored. The arrangements will be formally reviewed after 12 months. The Chair advised the Partnership that several reports were included on the agenda for information.	

The meeting ended at: 3:00 pm

North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

Locality Partnership: Arran Locality

Date: 3 December 2026

Subject: To advise the meeting of applications received in respect of the Community Benefit Fund and Arran Elderly Grants.

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

Background:

- **The Community Benefit Fund** has a balance of **£932.40** available for disbursement to Arran projects.

Key Points for Locality Partnership

- Consideration to be given to the applications at Appendix 1 of this report

Action Required by Locality Partnership

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

- **The Community Benefit Fund**
  - Arran Community Renewables - £932.00

For more information please contact:
Angela Morrell, Senior Manager, Connected Communities, Cunninghame House, Irvine, KA12 8EE
Email: amorrell@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

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

Date: 8 November 2026

COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND **APPENDIX 1**
Officer Report

Applicant details

Name of Group	**Arran Community Renewables Ltd**

Description of applicant organisation

Number benefiting	10 direct beneficiaries stated; no island-wide beneficiary number provided for the proposed future fund
Staff employed	None; volunteer-led
Established	Approximately 5 years
Project location	Glenkiln, Lamlash, Isle of Arran
Funding required by	December 2026

Description of the project

Background

Arran Community Renewables Ltd is a volunteer-led Community Benefit Society developing the proposed Glenkiln Solar Farm at Glenkiln, Lamlash. The applicant describes it as Scotland's largest community-owned solar farm. The wider development has a stated project cost of £6,000,000. The applicant reports approximately £875,000 from the Scottish Government Community and Renewable Energy Scheme and £34,000 from North Ayrshire Council in 2023/24 towards the initial SSEN connection charge. The organisation states that CARES funding does not cover its operational costs and that it has no non-ring-fenced income.

Project for funding

The request is for the continuing operation of Arran Community Renewables Ltd, specifically website hosting, domain and migration arrangements due in December 2026. The Hosted Scotland proposal covers migration from Wix to Scotland-based cPanel hosting, hosting, SSL security and email authentication. Maintaining these arrangements would support access to project information and reliable communication while the solar farm is developed. If the development becomes operational and generates sufficient surplus income, the applicant intends to establish an Arran-wide Community Benefit Fund for sustainable projects. Projected fund values of approximately £30,000 initially and potentially £300,000 after infrastructure loans are repaid are applicant estimates dependent on delivery, income and financing commitments.

Funding assessment

Cost item	Quoted cost	Funding position
Non-profit website hosting for 24 months	£720 including VAT	Evidenced
Basic onboarding and migration support	£270 including VAT	Evidenced
Total quoted project cost	**£990 including VAT**	Supported by Hosted Scotland proposal
Community Benefit Fund request	**£932**	£58 below the total evidenced cost
Applicant contribution	£58	

Financial position and contribution

Amount requested	£932
Total project cost	£990 operational costs evidenced; £6,000,000 stated wider solar development cost
Applicant contribution	£58 identified
Funding gap	£0
Other funding	Approximately £875,000 CARES funding and £34,000 North Ayrshire Council funding for the wider solar development; these do not cover the operational costs requested

Supporting information provided

Document / evidence	Position
Application form	Provided
Estimate	Hosted Scotland proposal supplied
Constitution, accounts, current budget and recent bank statement	Constitution or governing document, audited accounts and current-year budget recorded as submitted; recent bank statement not confirmed in the completed assessment
Insurance and PVG evidence	Not stated in the completed assessment form

Assessment against fund criteria

Criterion	Assessment
Charitable	Relevant
Educational	Relevant
Community	Meets
Environmental	Relevant

Renewable Energy	Meets
Energy Efficiency	Not applicable
Sustainable Development	Meets
General Community Amenity	Relevant

Additional comments on scoring

Level of environmental enhancement	High potential through the proposed community-owned solar farm. The present request is for operational and communications infrastructure rather than physical environmental works.
Level of community involvement	The organisation is volunteer-led and structured as a Community Benefit Society. Ten direct beneficiaries are stated. The intended future fund would support sustainable projects across Arran, but wider beneficiary numbers are not quantified.
Level of funding secured or available	The applicant reports approximately £875,000 from CARES and £34,000 from North Ayrshire Council for the wider development. CARES does not meet the operational costs included in this request.
Experience of group to deliver project	The organisation has operated for approximately five years, secured substantial development grant funding, and is a member of Co-operatives UK and Community Energy Scotland. The reviewed assessment does not provide a delivery history for completed capital projects.
Future sustainability of project	Potentially strong if the solar farm becomes operational and generates surplus income. The proposed future Community Benefit Fund values are projections dependent on successful project delivery, income and financing commitments.
Location of project	Glenkiln, Lamlash, Isle of Arran. The intended future Community Benefit Fund would support sustainable projects across the Isle of Arran.

Officer details

Name	Sharon Fleming
Position	Grants & Performance Officer
Email	sharonfleming@north-ayrshire.gov.uk
Date	9 November 2026

North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

Locality Partnership: *Arran*

Date: 3rd *December 2026*

Subject: *HSCP Partner Update*

Purpose: For Information and Awareness

General HSCP update

Children, Families & Justice Services

- The Community Justice Ayrshire Partnership published a seven-minute briefing to raise awareness of stigma experienced by people involved in the justice system. It can be accessed online.
- North Ayrshire Council has approved a new three-year Children and Families Plan, setting out a shared vision to make North Ayrshire the best place for children and young people to grow up.
- As part of the 16 Days of Activism campaign, a partnership initiative involving the Mhor Collective and Simon Community Scotland is delivering a learning event focused on digital inequality among women who are in contact with support services. The session will explore how factors such as poverty, homelessness, trauma, exploitation and abuse can create barriers to accessing digital services and support.
- The Lennox Partnership will be working with local childcare providers to deliver the Childcare Parents Fund, offering eligible low-income parents up to 12 weeks of funded registered childcare. The fund supports access to employment, education and training. North Ayrshire Children and Families Services are promoting the fund and encouraging staff to signpost eligible families.
- Additional support has been launched by EPIC Think Learn, funded by the Scottish Government, to support parents and carers of neurodivergent children aged 5–10. The programme will offer expert-led webinars, peer support opportunities and learning resources for teachers, helping to strengthen support for neurodivergent children and their families through improved knowledge, understanding and access to guidance.
- A limited number of free 12-month KA Leisure memberships are available for care-experienced young people aged 12-25 living in NA. The membership covers gyms, fitness classes, swimming and skating.

Mental Health

- The 2026 Scottish Mental Health Arts Festival marked its 20th anniversary, with 24 events delivered across North Ayrshire under the theme ‘Reflection’. Events included a session at the Harbour Arts Centre on 20 October and sensory storytelling at Trindlemoss Day Opportunities on 28 October. Further information was available on the NAHSCP website.
- The Suicide Prevention and Wellbeing Training Calendar has been updated to show the training available from October to December, offering a range of free learning

opportunities in suicide prevention and mental health awareness for staff and volunteers across Ayrshire and Arran. To book a place, please contact: chooselife@aapct.scot.nhs.uk.

- The North Ayrshire Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund for Adults (Year 6) is now open for applications, with £116,881 available to support one-year community projects focused on improving mental health and wellbeing. Funding is available through two application levels, offering grants of up to £2,000 and £10,000, with projects to be delivered by 31 March 2027. Applications will be accepted until Tuesday 8 December.
- North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership, in partnership with Killie Community, successfully delivered the Boots & Blether event as part of Men's Mental Health Month. Held at Rugby Park community pitches in Kilmarnock, the event provided a welcoming environment for men to come together, participate in physical activity, build social connections and engage in open conversations about mental health and wellbeing. The event featured former Scotland international footballer Andy McLaren and received strong attendance and positive feedback from participants.
- A new referral pathway has been introduced to provide clarity for staff supporting children, young people and families affected by alcohol or drug use. The pathway outlines locality-based referral arrangements for early intervention and prevention services, helping to ensure individuals and families access the most appropriate support in a timely manner. The guidance also sets out arrangements for specific groups, including kinship families and those with more complex support needs, alongside dedicated support available for adults affected by a family member's substance use.
- Thirty-two people attending Trindlemoss Day Opportunities achieved recognised SVQ qualification through a partnership with Ayrshire College. The achievement was celebrated at a graduation ceremony at Riverside Lodge Hotel in Irvine on 20th August.
- NAHSCP and the Third Sector Interface are seeking feedback on the Active, Connected, included resources, which promote accessibility and inclusion for people with learning disabilities. A short survey has been developed to gather feedback on awareness and experience of using these resources. The findings will inform future development and support improvements in inclusive practice locally and nationally. The survey can be accessed online.

Planning, Performance and Transformation

- The Programme for Government 2026–31 prioritises prevention, public service reform and community-based support, aligning with North Ayrshire HSCP's strategic direction. The HSCP will monitor national reforms and their implications for local service delivery.
- The Scottish Human Rights Commission identified pressures on health, social care and community services across South Scotland, including North Ayrshire, Arran and Cumbrae. It recommended embedding human rights, community participation and impact assessment more fully within service planning and reform.
- The programme to replace analogue Community Alarm units with digital technology is nearing completion. As part of the final phase, checks are being undertaken to ensure that all analogue units have been identified and upgraded, recognising that some records date back many years. This work is essential to ensure the continued reliability and resilience of Community Alarm services and to support uninterrupted service provision as analogue systems are phased out.

Professional Standards

- The Standards Commission for Scotland has updated its guidance and training resources for Integration Joint Board (IJB) members to support the introduction of voting rights for lived experience representatives. This includes revisions to the Advice Note for IJB Members, the introduction of a dedicated guidance card for lived experience members, and the development of a standard training presentation on the IJB Code of Conduct.
- The Scottish Government has consulted on proposed changes to Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) registration requirements, including the potential introduction of registration for three additional workforce groups: adult day care workers, offender accommodation service workers and social work assistants. The proposals follow extensive engagement and consultation work undertaken by the SSSC during 2025.

Action Required by Locality Partnership

To note the HSCP updates.

For more information please contact: Kerry Logan*, Head of Service, Health and Community Care, HSCP/ Rebecca Black, Team Manager, Strategic Planning & Equalities*

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

Date: *16th November 2026*