North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

Three Towns Locality Partnership

Wednesday 2 December 2026, 6.00 p.m. in the Castle Craigs Lounge, Ardrossan Civic Centre

BUSINESS

Item	Subject	Pg No	Ref	Officer	Ask of the Partnership
1.	**Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest.**	-	-	Cllr Kerr	
2.	**Action Note** Review the action note and deal with any outstanding items.	Pg 4	Enclosed	Angela Morrell	Is this an accurate record of the meeting. Have all actions been completed?
3.	**Three Towns Neighbourhood Board** Receive update on the work of the Neighbourhood Board and Regeneration Plan.	-	Verbal	Colin Bradford	LP to receive update.
DECISION REQUIRED					
4.	**Grants** The Locality Partnership are asked to consider grant applications made to the Community Benefit Fund, Common Good Fund and Elderly Grant Fund **Three Towns Community Benefit Fund** • Ardrossan Youth Association • Three Towns Photography Group **Elderly Grants** • Saltcoats Old People's Welfare	Pg 9	Enclosed	Angela Morrell	LP to consider Grant Applications made to the Community Benefit Fund.
LOCALITY DISCUSSION					
5.	**HSCP Locality Action Plan**			Elizabeth Stewart	Receive update and discuss how

	Receive report on the draft HSCP Locality Action Plan				LP can further support this work.
6.	**Locality Action Plan** Discussion session on new Locality Action Plan.	-	Verbal	Denise Fraser	LP to review key points and action from September LP
LOCAL MATTERS – TACKLING INEQUALITIES					
7.	**Locality Update** The Locality Partnership will receive an update on the work of the Three Towns Team during the last quarter.	Pg 15	Enclosed	Denise Fraser	Receive update and discuss how LP can further support this work.
PARTNER REPORTS					
8.	**Partners Reports** The Locality Partnership will receive updates from Partners: • HSCP • Police Scotland • Scottish Fire & Resue • KA Leisure • Active Schools • Education		Verbal /Enclosed	Partners	Receive update and consider partnership opportunities.
AOCB					
9.	**AOCB**		Verbal	Cllr Kerr	LP to use this time to raise/discuss matters linking to the Locality, the LP priorities and tackling inequalities.

Distribution List

Elected Members
Councillor Amanda Kerr **(Chair)**
Councillor Stewart Ferguson
Councillor Anthony Gurney
Councillor Cameron Inglis
Councillor Jean McClung
Councillor Jim Montgomerie
Councillor Davina McTiernan
Councillor John Sweeney

Community Representatives
Pat Breen
Jean Frew
Julia Gray **(Vice Chair)**
Craig Mochan
Glenn Turner

CPP and Council Representatives
Angela Morrell, Lead Officer
Susan Manson, Third Sector Interface
Lisa Thomson, Police Scotland
Chris Parker, Scottish Fire and Rescue
Susan Kelly, KA Leisure

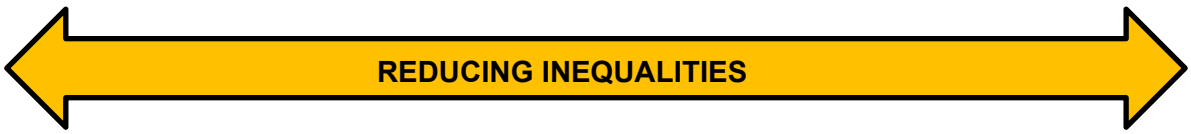
Three Town Locality Partnership Priorities

Promoting the local economy and tourism

Regenerating community facilities

Increasing civic pride and community engagement

Improving Community Wellbeing



Meeting:	**Three Towns Locality Partnership**
Date/Venue:	Wednesday 23 September 2026 at 6.00 pm in Ardrossan Civic Centre
Present:	Julia Gray, Community Representative (Vice Chair) Councillor Anthony Gurney Councillor John Sweeney Councillor Cameron Inglis Councillor Jean McClung Pat Breen, Community Representative Craig Mochan, Community Representative Jean Frew, Community Representative Densie Fraser, Locality Officer Leeanne McPhail, Active Schools Co-ordinator Susan Kelly, KA Leisure Susan Manson, TACT
Also in Attendance	Jacqui Greenlees, Senior Manager, Policy & Community Planning Sharon Fleming, Grants and Performance Officer Jennifer McGee, Policy & Community Planning Officer Stuart McMillan, Principal Manager, HSCP
Apologies:	Councillor Davina McTiernan Councillor Stewart Ferguson Councillor Jim Montgomerie Angela Morrell, Senior Manager (Connected Communities) Chris Parker, Scottish Fire and Rescue Glenn Turner, Community Representative

ACTIONS		
No.	**Action**	**Responsible**
1.	**Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest** Apologies were received from the Chair. J Gray Vice Chair assumed the role of Chair for the meeting. The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies for absence were noted. **Delectations of Interest** The Chair declared an interest in the applications submitted by Whitlees Community Centre to the Three Towns Community Benefit Fund and Ardrossan Common Good Fund and did not take part in the decision-making for these applications.	**Noted**

2.	**Action Note** The action note from the meeting held on 10 June 2026 was approved and updates on any action provided.	***Noted***
3.	**Grants** The Locality Partnership were asked to consider grant applications made to the Three Towns Community Benefit Fund, Common Good Fund and Elderly Grant Fund. **Three Towns Community Benefit Fund** Three Towns Community Benefit Fund has a balance of £48,401 available for disbursement. Applications were received from: • Chest, Heath & Stroke - £2,000 • Retirement Yoga - £5,000 • Whitlees Community Centre - £3,774 • North Ayrshire Table Tennis - £6,420 The Locality Partnership approved all applications made to the Three Towns Community Benefit Fund. In relation to the application from the Tennis Club, it was agreed that officers would contact the group to request further information about the event, to support wider promotion. Councillor Sweeney asked whether Table Tennis Scotland would be contributing to the event, and S Fleming agreed to seek clarification on this. **Ardrossan Common Good Fund** The Ardrossan Common Good Fund has a balance of £30,347 available for disbursement. One application has been received: • Whitlees Community Centre - £3,950 The Locality Partnership approved the funding of this application. **Elderly Grants** The Elderly Grants fund has a balance of £12,980 available for disbursement. Applications were received from: • CLASP - £3,697.50 • Three Towns OIR - £4,910 The Locality Partnership approved all applications made to the Elderly Grants Fund.	***S Fleming*** ***S Fleming*** ***S Fleming*** ***S Fleming*** ***S Fleming***

	S Fleming advised that she is meeting with a group in Saltcoats to support them with their application. This will be brought to the December Partnership meeting for consideration.	***Noted***
4.	**Three Towns Locality Action Plan** A discussion session was held in groups to support more detailed discussion on the development of the new Three Towns Action Plan. The Partnership had the opportunity to consider each of the Locality Partnership priorities and provide feedback on what remains relevant, what may need to change, and whether there are any gaps or emerging priorities that should be considered. **Regenerating Community Facilities** • Opportunities for the Pride in Place Board to consider funding support for community facilities, particularly those which are already in community ownership. • It was noted that a previous "wish list" had been submitted on a number of occasions, however no response had been received. • Acknowledged that many community facilities are already well used and frequently booked. It was agreed that the priority should remain, however further consideration should be given to what the Locality Partnership can do to support the regeneration of community facilities. • Community asset transfer was highlighted as a useful mechanism for moving assets from Council ownership into community ownership, enabling community organisations to access external funding opportunities. • Concerns were raised regarding contractual arrangements linked to community facilities. J Gray agreed to outline what this could look like, with Councillors Gurney and Inglis to raise the matter with D Hammond. • KA Leisure outlined opportunities for collaboration, including work being explored around the development of a hub at St Matthew's. It was noted that this could support wider collaboration across the Three Towns and make better use of community spaces. Similar pilot activity is also being considered in Irvine and Garnock Valley. The Partnership noted that this could be a positive opportunity to promote and progress collaborative use of community facilities. • It was agreed that the wording of the priority may be open to interpretation and could suggest that responsibility sits primarily with the Council to fund improvements. Members suggested that the priority should be reframed to place greater emphasis on community asset transfer, partnership working and collaboration. • Members highlighted the need for better communication between Council departments, particularly where local access improvements are required. An example was given of difficulties in progressing a handrail and paving improvements to support accessibility for people with visual impairments. • Concerns were raised regarding public toilet provision, including toilets in Saltcoats being out of commission for a significant period	***J Gray*** ***D Fraser***

despite funding being available and a community group being willing to take them on. It was also noted that there is no public toilet provision in Stevenston.

- Asset transfer process is often initiated by community groups approaching the Council. Members reflected that this could potentially impact other groups and agreed that consideration should be given to how the process can be managed as smoothly and fairly as possible.
- TACT outlined the support available to groups interested in asset transfer, noting that there is a significant amount involved in the process. Groups need to have appropriate structures in place, including legal arrangements, constitutions and governance requirements.
- The need for better communication between Roads, Streetscene and utility providers to help minimise the impact of road closures and improve coordination of works.
- Facilities and charges for support groups. It was noted that Working for Families has access to spaces which could be promoted more widely, and that the Locality Partnership could provide a useful forum for sharing this type of information.
- Members noted the importance of clear strategic direction and considered whether updates could be provided through the Community Planning Partnership reporting process on a six-monthly basis.
- How events and activity could be promoted more effectively, helping to reduce duplication, keep partners informed, and support appropriate referrals to services and opportunities.
- Meetings should be focused discussions on the Locality Partnership priorities and in a workshop format.

Promoting the local economy and tourism

- It was highlighted that further work could be undertaken to engage with local businesses around employment opportunities and encourage them to connect with local people.
- The Partnership discussed opportunities to work with Working for Families, including the potential for wage support. Whitlees Community Centre was noted a positive example of where this support has been helpful for them.
- Members noted that community centres would benefit from having a clear blueprint or structure to support them in developing and managing activities independently. The example of Whitlees Community Centre was highlighted, including its handbook covering areas such as running a café and progressing asset transfer. It was agreed that this type of resource should be more widely promoted.
- From a tourism perspective, it was felt that current promotion can be focused on larger areas such as Irvine and Largs. Members suggested that the Council could do more to promote smaller local events and tourism opportunities across the Three Towns.

	• It was suggested that event information could be collated through Chit Chats to help improve awareness of local activity. • It was agreed that further discussion should take place with Communications colleagues around how local events can be promoted more effectively and the use of what's on North Ayrshire. • Members suggested that a list of community groups in each locality area would be useful to support better communication and engagement. • The need to consider how information is shared with community groups to ensure opportunities, events and support are promoted more effectively. • Opportunities for local businesses to be involved in community events, such as coffee trucks and other small traders, were highlighted as a way to support community wealth building. • The potential benefits of a club accreditation programme for sports clubs, noting that this could help strengthen links between local clubs and schools. • TACT advised that they often refer newer community groups to more established groups for guidance and support. Members discussed how this approach could be made more effective, including how smaller groups can be better promoted and made more visible across the wider locality area	
5.	**Locality Update** A report was submitted by the Locality Officer as part of the meeting paperwork.	
6.	**Partner Reports** Any reports received were submitted as part of the meeting paperwork.	***Noted.***
	AOCB L McPhail advised that both Auchenharvie Academy and Winton Primary were awarded their gold sport award. D Fraser on behalf of SFRS who wanted to bring to the attention of the group was the increase in fire-related anti-social behaviour and deliberate fire setting within the derelict properties in the old Seafield School and Witches Linn areas. Councillor Gurney noted that these premises are privately owned and that responsibility for securing them sits with the landowners. The Chair thanked everyone for attending and their participation in the discussions.	***Noted*** ***Noted***

The meeting ended at: 7.57pm

North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

Locality Partnership: Three Towns Locality

Date: 2nd December 2026

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

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

Background: Applications have been received in respect of the Three Towns Community Benefit Fund and Elderly Fund as follows:

- **The Three Towns Community Benefit Fund**
  - Ardrossan Youth Association – **£6,000.00**
  - Three Towns Photography Group - **£1549.59**

- **Elderly Grant Fund**
  - Saltcoats Old People's Welfare – Application - **£4,373.03**

Key Points for Locality Partnership

The Three Towns Community Benefit Fund has a balance of **£30,981.18** is available for disbursement.

Elderly Grant Fund has a balance of available for **£4,373.03** is available 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 (*sharonfleming@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)

Date: 9 November 2026

COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND **APPENDIX 1**

Officer Report **Assessment date: 2 December 2026**

Applicant details

Name of Group	Ardrossan Youth Association (AYA)

Description of applicant organisation

Ardrossan Youth Association is a youth organisation operating from Ardrossan Youth Centre. The application states that the organisation has been established for over 25 years, has no employees, holds appropriate insurance and PVG arrangements, and delivers activity for young people and wider community users.

Number benefiting	70 weekly and more than 500 at family fun days, as stated in the application
Staff employed	0
Established	Over 25 years
Project location	Ardrossan Youth Centre
Funding required by	21 December 2026

Description of the project

Background

The application forms part of a wider refurbishment of Ardrossan Youth Centre. The applicant states that painting and decorating have been funded separately, and that other funding has been sought for a functioning kitchen. Sections of the wooden subfloor around the fire exits have been repaired, leaving damaged vinyl which the applicant identifies as a possible trip hazard.

Project for funding

The group have requested funding from The Community Benefit Fund for the supply and installation of new commercial vinyl flooring throughout the centre. The quotation covers approximately 200 m² and includes uplift of the existing vinyl, floorcoverings, adhesives and installation sundries, and installation of the new flooring.

Funding assessment

Cost item	Quoted cost	Funding position
Commercial vinyl floorcoverings	£4,990.00	Eligible capital cost forming part of the flooring replacement.
Uplift of existing vinyl	£1,050.00	The quotation states that the applicant will provide the skip.
Adhesives, cold weld, minor repairs and sundries	£800.00	Extensive subfloor preparation, damp treatment and unforeseen repairs are excluded from the quotation.
Installation of commercial vinyl floorcoverings	£3,700.00	Eligible installation cost.
Total quoted project cost	£10,540.00	Matches the project total stated in the application.
Community Benefit Fund request	£6,000.00	Requested contribution towards the eligible flooring works.
Applicant contribution	£4,540.00	Stated as own funds from lets fees and previous funding.

Financial position and contribution

Amount requested	**£6,000.00**
Total project cost	**£10,540.00**
Applicant contribution	£4,540.00
Funding gap	£0.00, based on the stated contribution and requested award

Other funding	The application states that National Lottery funding and a donation from a former community group have been received.

Supporting information provided

Document / evidence	Position
Application form	Provided
AJS Flooring quotation	Quote AJS-110926-01 dated 11 September 2026; total £10,540.00; no VAT added
Constitution, accounts, current budget and recent bank statement	Submitted
Insurance and PVG evidence	The application records both as held by the group

Assessment against fund criteria

Criterion	Assessment
Charitable	Relevant
Educational	Relevant
Community	Meets
Environmental	Relevant
Renewable Energy	Not applicable
Energy Efficiency	Not applicable
Sustainable Development	Relevant
General Community Amenity	Meets

Additional comments on scoring

Level of environmental enhancement	Moderate. The principal benefit is a safer, more durable internal surface rather than a direct environmental project.
Level of community involvement	The application states that 70 people benefit weekly and more than 500 attend family fun days.
Level of funding secured or available	The applicant proposes £4,540 from own funds.
Experience of group to deliver project	The organisation states that it has operated for over 25 years and is progressing a wider phased refurbishment.
Future sustainability of project	The flooring is intended as a durable capital improvement. Ongoing maintenance and any excluded subfloor work will remain the applicant's responsibility.
Location of project	Ardrossan Youth Centre, Ardrossan.

Officer details

Name	Sharon Fleming
Position	Grants & Performance Officer
Email	sharonfleming@north-ayrshire.gov.uk
Date	26 October 2026

Applicant details

Name of Group	**Three Towns Photography Group**

Description of applicant organisation

Number benefiting	Approximately 25 members, with wider public benefit through exhibitions and support to local groups
Staff employed	No paid staff identified. The group operates on a self-help and volunteer basis
Established	More than 20 years
Project location	Stevenston and the wider Three Towns area
Funding required by	January 2027

Description of the project

Background

Three Towns Photography Group has operated for more than 20 years and has approximately 25 members. Membership is open to all sections of the community. Members share photography, camera and computer-based image-processing skills through group sessions, small-group activity and one-to-one support. The group also arranges outings and supports members who have transport or mobility difficulties. The group provides wider community benefit by creating an accessible and welcoming source of support for local residents. Through links with the Men's Shed and other community organisations, individuals can be signposted to the group where they can access peer support, social interaction and activities appropriate to their needs. This strengthens local support networks, encourages community participation and provides additional opportunities for people who may otherwise experience isolation or barriers to involvement.

Wider activity has included a public exhibition at Saltcoats Library, a planned exhibition at the Harbour Arts Centre, photography for the Highland Games and a local athletics club, and photography assistance to other community groups.

Project for funding

The group seeks funding to replace a projector and laptop that are both more than 10 years old and nearing the end of their useful lives. Replacement projector parts are difficult to obtain, and the existing laptop can no longer run the image-adjustment software used by members. The replacement equipment will support photography and image-processing activities and allow work to be displayed to members, other clubs and the public.

Funding assessment

Cost item	Quoted cost	Funding position
Acer Aspire 16-inch laptop	£699.99	Quoted
ViewSonic LS630HD projector	£849.60	Quoted
Total quoted project cost	**£1,549.59**	Fully supported by the costs recorded in the assessment
Community Benefit Fund request	**£1,549.59**	100% of quoted costs requested
Applicant contribution	£0	Weekly Voluntary hours are contributed by the group

Financial position and contribution

Amount requested	**£1,549.59**
Total project cost	**£1,549.59**
Applicant contribution	£0
Other funding	Separate £1,000 Participatory Budgeting application for an A3 printer and picture frames for a 2027 exhibition

Supporting information provided

Document / evidence	Position
Application form	Provided
Estimate	Quotes or estimates recorded as submitted
Constitution, accounts, current budget and recent bank statement	The assessment records the constitution, annual accounts, current budget and recent bank statement as submitted

Assessment against fund criteria

Criterion	Assessment
Charitable	Relevant
Educational	Relevant
Community	Meets
Environmental	Relevant
Renewable Energy	Not applicable
Energy Efficiency	Relevant
Sustainable Development	Relevant
General Community Amenity	Meets

Additional comments on scoring

Level of environmental enhancement	The applicant states that replacing older equipment with newer, lower-energy equipment will improve energy efficiency. The project does not involve physical environmental works.
Level of community involvement	Approximately 25 members will use the equipment for photography, image processing and shared learning. Wider community benefit is evidenced through public exhibitions and photography support to local events, clubs and groups.
Level of funding secured or available	No funding is identified for the laptop and projector. A separate £1,000 Participatory Budgeting application relates to different exhibition equipment and is not part of this request.
Experience of group to deliver project	The group has operated for more than 20 years, has an established office-bearer structure and is replacing equipment already used in its regular activities.
Future sustainability of project	The replacement equipment is intended to support the continuation of the group's photography, learning and exhibition activities. No ongoing revenue costs are identified in the assessment.
Location of project	Stevenston, with activity and community benefit across the Three Towns area.

Officer details

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

ELDERLY GRANTS FUND
APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 2026/27

Grant Allocation for Three Towns LPP Area **£ 12,980.62**

<table>
<tr><th>Group</th><th>Purpose of Grant</th><th>Grant Allocated to Group</th><th>Amount Requested</th></tr>
<tr><td>Saltcoats Old People's Welfare</td><td>The group aims to reduce social isolation among older people by providing regular opportunities to meet, socialise and participate in a range of activities. These will include afternoon teas, bingo and games, entertainment, excursions, summer trips and Christmas dinners.

Through these activities, the group hopes to increase confidence, encourage social interaction and enable more older people to become involved in and regularly attend the group’s activities.

The North Ayrshire Council Elderly Grant will contribute towards the following costs:

<table><tr><th>Activity</th><th>Estimated Cost</th></tr><tr><td>Social activities, including bingo, raffles, tea, sandwiches and scones</td><td>£500</td></tr><tr><td>Christmas dinners, including ticket and poster printing, entertainment, raffles, tickets and selection boxes</td><td>£4,500</td></tr><tr><td>Summer trips and events</td><td>£5,000</td></tr><tr><td>Total estimated costs</td><td>£10,000</td></tr></table>The group also intends to undertake fundraising activities and seek additional external grant funding to help meet the overall cost of delivering the programme alongside the North Ayrshire Council Elderly Grant.</td><td>£ 4,373.03</td><td>£ 4,373.03</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td></td><td>TOTAL</td><td>£ 4,373.03</td></tr>
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Locality Partnership Progress Update

North Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir a Tuath

COMMUNITY LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT
NORTH AYRSHIRE

Promoting the Local Economy & Tourism

Test It! Programme Update
The third Test It! check-in took place in October, with groups providing formal progress updates and participating in safeguarding training delivered by an independent specialist. Updated safeguarding templates were also developed to address identified gaps in community group documentation.
In November, Xero financial management training was delivered, with follow-up digital finance support identified and signposted. Early feedback and reporting demonstrate positive impacts on projects, alongside increased confidence, skills and knowledge among participants.
Planning is now underway for Phase 2 of Test It! in 2027, with proposals discussed through COG to shape the future programme offer. A key success of the pilot year has been the strong partnership approach, with effective collaboration between delivery partners supporting the programme's development and positive outcomes.

Community Benefits Wishlist
Between 7 August and 9 November, five wishes were fulfilled through the Community Benefits Wish List. In the Three Towns locality, £150 was donated to Three Towns Chest Heart and Stroke.
The Community Benefits Newsletter was circulated to contractors in October and included a case study highlighting Lowmac Alloys and the positive impact of partnership working in supporting CEIS Future Trades Academy.
In November, a Christmas Appeal flyer was also distributed to contractors, promoting opportunities to provide festive support to local community groups across North Ayrshire.

New Scots Support has been provided to New Scots through community hubs and one-to-one support, including assistance with EMA, School Clothing Grant and Best Start Foods applications. Partnership working with Skills Development Scotland, Ayrshire College, employability services and the NAC Modern Apprenticeship Team has also promoted education, training and employment opportunities, with direct referrals supporting progression into learning and work.

Improving Community Wellbeing

Argyle Awards (Youth) Group

The Argyle Awards Group successfully completed a volunteering project with Three Towns Growers, creating a new pathway within the woodland area. Through their participation, the young people achieved the John Muir Award, Dynamic Youth Award, and contributed 50 hours towards their Saltire Award.
As a result of their involvement, participants gained recognised qualifications while also developing confidence and valuable life skills, including communication, teamwork, planning, and partnership working. The project provided meaningful opportunities for personal development and community engagement.
As group members are not currently of an age to undertake programmes such as Youth Achievement Awards or The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, the group will transition back to a drop-in format for the next 12 months. This will enable continued engagement, skills development and preparation for future accredited opportunities.



Regenerating Community Facilities

Community Asset Transfer News
There are currently 6 Community Asset Transfers which are at various stages of the process across Saltcoats, Stevenston and Ardrossan, these are:

- Hayocks Swing Park - Hayocks TARA
Hayocks TARA is progressing in final stage of its Community Asset Transfer process, with work underway to finalise an agreement with Streetscene covering play park inspections, maintenance and repairs. Once completed, we will ensure appropriate safety and maintenance arrangements in are in place for the facility.
Ongong support will focus on facilitating discussions and completing the agreement to enable the successful conclusion of the transfer process.

- Campbell Park, Saltcoats
- The Braes, Saltcoats
- Castle Hill, Ardrossan
- Melbourne Toilets and Public Park
- Stevenston Beach Park Pitches and Trelawney Terrace (part of Stevenston beach park), Stevenston

Seasalt Streets is a community-led volunteer group focused on improving and regenerating Saltcoats town centre, particularly Dockhead Street and the surrounding area. CLD has supported the group to strengthen its governance and prepare for its first AGM by developing financial recording processes. This will ensure compliance with the group's constitution, improve accountability and place the group in a stronger position to access future funding and continue its town centre regeneration activities.

Locality Partnership Progress Update

Increasing Civic Pride & Community Engagement

Community PB 2026 Update

Voting for the 2026 PB cycle has now closed, with 8,852 online votes cast, including 2,338 votes from the Three Towns. Paper ballots are currently being counted, with results due to be announced in late November.
The introduction of MSYP voting in early November led to a significant increase in participation across localities, demonstrating the positive influence of young people in decision-making around Council spending. In the Three Towns, this generated an additional 186 votes. Young people were also well represented on Community Review Panels, supported by Modern Apprentices, and made valuable contributions to the Community Review Decision Day in September.
This year also saw a successful trial bringing Community Reviewers together to assess applications beyond their own localities, helping to improve consistency in decision-making across North Ayrshire. Additionally, for the first time, no extensions were required for either applications or voting deadlines, despite a surge in submissions during the final weekend. A review of future application deadlines will be undertaken to balance accessibility for applicants with staff capacity to process late submissions.



Increasing Civic Pride & Community Engagement

Retro Rollers

CLD supported Retro Rollers to explore options for securing a permanent community base, including facilitating discussions and a site visit with a local organisation.
Ongoing support is focused on identifying suitable community spaces, exploring shared-use opportunities, and accessing funding to help the group establish a sustainable base and expand its community activities

Discovery Award Group

The Discovery Award Group continues to meet weekly at the David White Centre and remains active in community events and fundraising. The group successfully hosted the second annual Eric Sutherland Award, bringing together award groups from across North Ayrshire to recognise participants' achievements, with a Three Towns member receiving this year's award.
Members are also organising their first Christmas Market to raise funds and strengthen connections with local businesses and residents. In addition, the group progressed to the voting stage of this year's Participatory Budgeting process.
These activities have increased community engagement, celebrated participant achievements and promoted opportunities for older people within the Three Towns. Ongoing support will focus on sustaining participation and securing resources to expand activities for older residents.

Regenerating Community Facilities

Three Towns Growers
Three Towns Growers reached a significant milestone with the official opening of their new Community Hub, providing an enhanced base for community activities, volunteering opportunities and local engagement. The new facility strengthens the organisation's ability to support residents, deliver projects and develop partnerships across the Three Towns area.
The opening of the Hub represents a major achievement for the organisation and creates new opportunities for community learning, environmental activities and social connection. The facility will provide a welcoming space for volunteers, community groups and local residents to come together, helping to increase participation and strengthen community capacity.
The development of the Community Hub highlights the continued growth of Three Towns Growers and their commitment to creating sustainable community-led opportunities that improve wellbeing, skills development and community involvement throughout the locality.

S.A.L.T. Pirate Playpark
Following the recent storm damage which had a significant impact across Saltcoats, the S.A.L.T. Pirate Playpark sustained substantial damage, including the loss of sections of wetpour surfacing and other play equipment infrastructure. The group had previously secured Community Investment Fund (CIF) funding for planned park improvements; however, governance arrangements currently restrict the group's ability to receive funding from sources other than the Council.
CLD has been working with Street Scene to explore potential solutions that would enable the park to access the funding required for repair and improvement works. The damage has highlighted the importance of establishing a sustainable funding mechanism to support the long-term maintenance and development of this valued community asset.
Ongoing work will focus on identifying a viable funding route and partnership approach to ensure the necessary repairs can be undertaken and the playpark remains a safe and accessible facility for local families.

North Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir a Tuath

Locality Partnership Progress Update

COMMUNITY LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT
NORTH AYRSHIRE

Promoting the Local economy & Tourism

S5 Extended Outreach Transition Pilot Project
CLD staff have been working weekly with S5 Extended Outreach pupils since August, building positive relationships and delivering practical, skills-based learning. Young people achieved their REHIS Introduction to Food Hygiene certificate, took part in cooking and budgeting sessions, and are currently participating in the Momentum programme, which focuses on self-awareness, decision-making, responsibility and personal development.
As part of the programme, young people participated in a series of workshops including Action & Reaction, Win or Learn, and Fear of Failure, exploring the consequences of choices, learning from setbacks, resilience and developing a growth mindset. These sessions have encouraged open and honest discussions, challenging perceptions and helping young people reflect on how they view themselves, their choices and future opportunities.
Following the success of the Summer of Sport programme, pupils also participated in a six-week Table Tennis coaching block delivered by North Ayrshire Table Tennis, with CLD staff supporting participation and encouraging engagement throughout. The programme provided opportunities to build confidence, develop new skills and engage in positive physical activity.
A number of educational visits were also delivered, including a trip to Hampden Park, where young people toured the national stadium and explored the history of Scottish football, demonstrating strong knowledge and enthusiasm throughout. Participants also visited Kilmarnock FC Community Trust, where the focus extended beyond football to employability and career pathways. Young people met a range of staff, including groundskeepers, kit managers, community coaches and charity leaders, gaining insight into the variety of routes into employment, including volunteering and community involvement.
The pilot has strengthened partnership working between CLD and Education, creating meaningful engagement with young people who may not otherwise have accessed CLD support. The practical and experiential learning approach has proven particularly effective in maintaining engagement, building confidence and supporting personal development. Exposure to new environments, positive role models and alternative career pathways has broadened aspirations and encouraged young people to think more positively about their future destinations.
Ongoing support will focus on delivering person-centred, youth-led activities that equip young people with the skills, confidence and resilience needed for successful transitions beyond Extended Outreach.

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Improving Community Wellbeing

West Coast Crucible
West Coast Crucible, a community gaming hub promoting wellbeing and social connection, has received CLD support to strengthen its governance, develop key policies and procedures, and access funding opportunities. Support has also been provided to raise the group's profile within the local community.
The group has identified priorities around premises improvements, resources and organisational development. Ongoing support will focus on securing funding, increasing community engagement and building the group's long-term sustainability.

D.I.S.C. Award Group
The D.I.S.C. Award Group, which supports individuals leaving prison or serving supervision orders, has made significant progress by formally constituting and establishing its governance arrangements. The group has also been supported to participate in Participatory Budgeting and apply for a community bank account.
Members recently completed a creative project in partnership with Creative Recycling, producing a banner for Mental Health Week which will be displayed locally. Through these activities, participants have developed confidence, new skills and stronger peer support networks while demonstrating increased capacity to work together as a group.
Ongoing support will focus on building members' confidence and skills, strengthening the group's sustainability, and creating further opportunities for personal development and community participation

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Improving Community Wellbeing

The Cronies is a community group based in Stevenston and the Three Towns area that supports older men through social activities, helping to reduce isolation and promote wellbeing. Support was provided to help the group participate in Participatory Budgeting (PB), including assistance with the online voting process due to digital access and confidence barriers among members.
The group was also supported to apply for mental health and wellbeing funding, recognising the importance of additional resources to support sustainability and meet the needs of an ageing membership. These interventions help strengthen community connections and improve wellbeing outcomes for older residents.

Ayrshire Fliers Speed Skating Club has received support to strengthen governance and develop an action plan following changes to its committee structure. Working in partnership with KA Leisure, the group is addressing financial challenges, including historic ice hire debt and increasing venue costs. Ongoing support has helped build confidence and momentum, enabling the club to progress towards a more sustainable future.

North Ayrshire Council
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Locality Partnership Progress Update

COMMUNITY LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT
NORTH AYRSHIRE

Improving Community Wellbeing

Ardrossan Youth Centre Youth Groups

Young people attending Ardrossan Youth Centre successfully participated in this year's Participatory Budgeting process, securing resources and organising a Halloween event for the FAB Youth Group. During the October holidays, members also supported the redecoration of the centre's small hall, lounge and toilet facilities, creating a more welcoming environment for young people and visitors.

The FAB Youth Group continues to attract new members, including local P7 pupils, and offers a range of activities including gaming, sports and creative sessions. The integration of the Art Group into the main youth session has increased participation and expanded activity choices for young people.

A new Pool and Darts Group, developed following the Summer of Sport programme, has provided opportunities to engage new participants, although attendance remains relatively low. The group will be reviewed following the Christmas break to assess future demand and sustainability. Overall, youth engagement at the centre remains strong, with ongoing efforts focused on maintaining participation and responding to young people's interests.

Promoting the Local Economy & Tourism

Three Towns Christmas Lights & Festive Events

Planning is well underway across the Three Towns for a range of festive community events. The Stevenston Christmas Lights Committee continues to demonstrate increased confidence and capacity in delivering its annual festive programme, including the Christmas Lights Switch-On, Christmas Fayre, Breakfast with Santa and Santa Dash. CLD has supported the group with event planning, funding applications, resource coordination and activity organisation. Although funding decisions are still awaited, forward planning has ensured sufficient resources are available to deliver a scaled-down event if required.

Across the wider locality, Ripple Effect Saltcoats will host its first Christmas Under the Stars Market at Melbourne Park on 13 December, with CLD providing support to complete the Events Toolkit. All proceeds from the event will contribute towards the restoration of the Melbourne Park public toilets.

Community Link Up is also delivering a free family Christmas event at St Matthew's Academy on 28 November, offering a range of activities for local families. In addition, the Ardrossan Christmas Lights Switch-On will take place on 28 November at Ardrossan Civic Centre, bringing together local businesses, organisations and community groups as part of the town's festive celebrations.

The Three Towns Joint Community Associations have also come together to organise their second annual Winter Wonderland event at Auchenharvie Leisure Centre. The event will feature reduced-cost family skating sessions, a Christmas market, Santa's Grotto and a variety of festive activities designed to bring communities together and provide accessible family entertainment during the festive period.

These events demonstrate strong community collaboration and volunteer commitment across the Three Towns, providing opportunities for residents to come together, celebrate locally and strengthen community connections during the festive season.

Regenerating Community Facilities

The Maze Regeneration Project is a newly formed community group working to improve local open spaces and create a safer, more attractive environment for residents. Support has been provided to help the group establish its governance arrangements, open a bank account, and develop the appropriate legal structure. The group has successfully engaged local residents through community events, secured improvements including bins and seating, and is building the foundations needed to achieve its longer-term community regeneration goals.

Ardrossan Youth Association

Ardrossan Youth Association has continued to improve its community facility by redecorating the interior of the building, creating a more welcoming environment for existing users and making the venue more attractive for potential groups looking to hire the space.

The Association has submitted funding applications for a new kitchen installation and floor resurfacing works, with decisions expected in December. If successful, these improvements will enhance the quality, functionality and accessibility of the centre for the wider community.

Further funding applications have also been submitted to support a Christmas day outing for Association members and a Christmas party for centre users, with outcomes expected shortly. These activities aim to recognise the commitment and hard work of members throughout the year and support their wellbeing, morale and continued engagement within the Association. Overall, the group has demonstrated a proactive approach to improving both its facilities and the experiences available to its members and centre users.

North Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir a Tuath

Locality Partnership Progress Update

COMMUNITY LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT
NORTH AYRSHIRE

Improving Community Wellbeing

Hayocks Youth Café

Following a successful summer programme, Hayocks Youth Café was temporarily paused due to staffing challenges and issues around participant behaviour. The group is scheduled to restart in November, with a renewed focus on establishing clear expectations, group rules and positive behaviour standards.

The relaunch will also include the development of a Youth Voice Committee, providing young people with greater ownership of the group and opportunities to influence decision-making.
The pause has provided an opportunity to review the group's approach and reinforce expectations to ensure a safe, positive and inclusive environment for all participants.

Ongoing support will focus on re-establishing regular attendance, embedding agreed group standards and developing meaningful youth participation through the new Youth Voice structure.

Increasing Civic Pride & Community Engagement

Hayocks Community Association
Hayocks Community Association has received support following the loss of a full-time staff member, with a focus on strengthening governance, financial management and organisational continuity. Support has included helping the group access key files and accounts, reviewing existing funding commitments, and improving oversight of financial resources.
This work has increased the confidence of committee members in managing the organisation and planning future activity. Ongoing support will focus on financial management improvements, including transferring accounts to digital systems, developing budgets for funded projects, recruiting a bookkeeper and supporting trustees through regular meetings and governance development.

New Scots

- Established a multi-agency working group to develop a volunteer project and ‘New to North Ayrshire’ resource pack, improving access to information and community support.
- Delivered a Parliament Outreach session to increase understanding of democratic processes, civic participation and the role of the Scottish and UK Parliaments.
- Worked with Ayrshire College to gather learner feedback linked to RISE funding, ensuring participant views informed future planning.

Gaelic

- Suas Leis a' Ghàidhlig successfully held its AGM and completed a leadership transition, appointing a new Chairperson and strengthening the group's long-term sustainability.
- In partnership with Suas Leis a' Ghàidhlig, work is underway to develop a Gaelic Community Action Plan involving community groups, organisations and North Ayrshire Council services.
- Gaelic volunteering awareness sessions generated interest from six new volunteers, while a new online beginner Gaelic class attracted 10 learners, supporting engagement with Gaelic language and culture across North Ayrshire.

Promoting the Local Economy & Tourism

North Ayrshire Fairer Food Network

Community larders received £25,000 of financial support across 15 locations during the quarter. In the Three Towns, 1,052 households accessed affordable food through local larders, with households also benefiting from a free visit during the school holiday period.
The North Ayrshire Fairer Food Network met in September to discuss succession planning, while the Food Forum provided partners with updates on current developments and activities. Opportunities were also facilitated for local growers and food producers to share knowledge, experience and resources.
In partnership with Argyle Community Association, REHIS Elementary Food Hygiene Training was delivered at Argyle Community Centre, Saltcoats, funded through the Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund.

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