
NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

6 October 2020

Cabinet

Title:	Proposals for Community Investment Fund (CIF) Expenditure
Purpose:	To determine an application by the Arran Locality Partnership to allocate CIF funding to proposed projects.
Recommendation:	That Cabinet approves the CIF application in relation to the Young People's Mental Health Project - Arran Youth Foundations and Arran High School Parent Council.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 Within its budget for 2017-18, North Ayrshire Council provided a funding allocation for the creation of an innovative fund to enable communities to address the priorities they have identified through Locality Planning Partnerships and within the context of North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership's Fair for All strategy.
- 1.2 Locality Partnerships have subsequently continued to work on their local action plans and are refining proposals for expenditure in line with their locally identified needs. This is a challenging process, and it is a testament to the dedication of the Locality Partnerships and their community partners that proposals are now emerging to provide creative approaches to addressing local challenges.
- 1.3 This report brings forward a proposal, which responds to the specific need of the local community and which has been developed based on local circumstances and opportunities.
- 1.4 This proposal has been approved to be submitted to Cabinet through a process of collaboration and consensus by the Arran Locality Partnership and is the first to be put forward for funding by the Arran Locality Partnership.

2. Background

- 2.1 Within its budget for 2017-18, North Ayrshire Council provided an allocation for the creation of an innovative fund to enable communities to address the priorities they have identified through Locality Planning Partnerships and within the context of North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership's Fair for All Strategy, to be distributed among Localities as follows:

Locality	Population	Value
Irvine	29%	£754,000
Kilwinning	11%	£286,000
3 Towns	23%	£598,000
Garnock Valley	15%	£390,000
North Coast	18%	£468,000
Arran	4%	£104,000

2.2 It was agreed that the CIF will support proposals and projects that connect with:

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

2.3 The proposal development and application process has been agreed as follows:

- Locality Partnerships should continue to engage with their communities and stimulate interest in the CIF. Each Locality Partnership will then strategically assess the applications, make links and look at the funding 'in the round.'
- If the partnership supports a bid then the group will be encouraged to submit a full application form, which they will decide upon before making a proposal to Cabinet for final approval.
- The finalised proposal will go to the next suitable Cabinet for final approval.

2.4 The enclosed application has been developed by Arran community partners and North Ayrshire Council officers and is now recommended for approval by Cabinet. The proposals are as follows:

2.4.1 The Arran Locality Partnership

The allocation and funds committed to date are outlined in the table below.

The Arran Locality Partnership CIF allocation	£104 000
No proposals to date	£0
Balance	£104 000

Proposal: The Young People's Mental Health Project - Arran Youth Foundations and Arran High School Parent Council: £45,226 (Appendix 1)

This project is being submitted jointly by Arran Youth Foundations (AYF) and Arran High School Parent Council. They aim to provide innovative projects that contribute to the wellbeing of all children and young people on Arran, specifically looking at improving mental health and wellbeing services.

This application has been driven by a consortium with children and young people and their views at the centre. Engagement has been at the heart of this application and young people have been heavily involved in planning these projects and application.

A rich variety of activities (outlined in Appendix 1) supporting young people's mental health will build on the recent community asset transfer and creation of a wellbeing centre in the AYF building, such as the Mental Health First Aid Toolkit, counselling for addictions, Mindfulness and bereavement support. The funding will be used to provide additional staff capacity and specialist resources.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 That Cabinet a Approves the CIF application in relation to the Young People's Mental Health Project - Arran Youth Foundations and Arran High School Parent Council.

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4. Implications/Socio-economic Duty

Financial

- 4.1 CIF funding is allocated within existing resources. Projects frequently attract additional investment from external funding partners or matched funding

Human Resources

- 4.2 The Arran Young People's Mental Health Project will provide additional hours for sessional staff on the island. It also provides volunteering and skills development opportunities as well as the development of personal resilience.

Legal

- 4.3 None.

Equality/Socio-economic

- 4.4 The purpose of Locality Planning is to reduce inequalities, increase community cohesion and advance community empowerment. Each of the CIF proposals is tested

against that purpose before being presented to Cabinet. The Arran Young People's Mental Health Project has benefits for children and young people, who have been embedded in the development of the project.

Environmental and Sustainability

4.5 None

Key Priorities

4.6 The proposal contained within the report supports the North Ayrshire Council Plan priorities:

- Active and strong communities;
- Inclusive, growing and enterprising local economy;
- People enjoy good life-long health and wellbeing;
- Vibrant and welcoming places; and
- A sustainable environment.

Community Wealth Building

4.7 The application supports the following pillars of community wealth building:

- Creates employment opportunities and volunteering and skills development opportunities; and
- The Arran Young People's Mental Health Project builds on a previous Cabinet decision to transfer a building to local ownership.

5. Consultation

5.1 The proposals contained within this report have been developed by the Locality Partnerships and through wider consultation with local people, particularly young people on Arran.

Audrey Sutton
Interim Executive Director, Communities

For further information please contact **Rhona Arthur, Interim Head of Connected Communities**, on **01294 324415**.

Background Papers

Appendix 1: CIF Application: The Young People's Mental Health Project - Arran Youth Foundations and Arran High School Parent Council

Appendix 1: Community Investment Fund: Proposal to Cabinet

Organisation name	Arran Youth Foundations and Arran High School Parent Council
Brief details of organisation	<p>Arran Youth Foundations (AYF) is a non-profit making charity and a company under guarantee, which provides youth work services for the Isle of Arran, employing two and supported by ten volunteers.</p> <p>AYF is managed by a committee of local trustees, bringing experience of business, education, health and island community life, and members who give their time and expertise to the charity to see its objectives achieved for the benefit of Arran's young people. The committee includes two parents of young members and young people.</p> <p>Their objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -To provide a safe, warm environment in which young people can meet -To develop educational, physical and social skills and foundations of friendship through a variety of activities and events -To build the capacity of young people by involving them in management and decision making. <p>They run approximately 16 weekly clubs from the youth centre, based at the back of Arran High School, that has been entirely decorated and refurbished by young people, for young people. North Ayrshire Council recently agreed the Community Asset Transfer of the youth centre to AYF.</p> <p>Activities are provided free of charge, including: cooking club; girls football; intergenerational activities at local elderly sheltered housing; band jam in the music room; art psychotherapy; youth forum; guitar tuition, accredited with qualifications; one-to-one mentoring; LGBT+ club; running club; Friday night youth club. AYF also provide trips and events in school holidays, including a trip to Alton Towers, gorge-walking, abseiling, paragliding, go-karting, paintball and many more.</p> <p>AYF staff help young people with their mental health and wellbeing, helping to build the capacity of young people in many ways. Young folk come to AYF to discuss stress, grief, depression, suicide, self-harm and mental health. This is done in their own space - be it within the youth cabins, going out for coffee, within school, home visits, or jointly conducting GP appointments with one of the doctors at request of young people. Arran Youth Foundations won the inaugural Mental Health & Wellbeing Award in 2018 at the National Youth Work awards.</p> <p>The Arran High School Parent Council works in partnership with the school to promote and support all aspects of the children's lives to support them to become healthy and successful adults and members of the community. The council supports and promotes projects across the school whether it is sport, funding extra-curricular opportunities, supporting academic developments, or helping to support the creation of, and ongoing work of, the new wellbeing centre. This partnership working has also</p>

	supported the school to become one of the three finalists in the 2020 Scottish Education Awards for Health and Wellbeing, with the winner being announced later this year.
Locality	Arran
Amount requested from CIF	£45,226
Brief overview of proposal	<p>This project is being submitted jointly by AYF and Arran High School Parent Council. They aim to provide innovative projects that contribute to the wellbeing of all children and young people on Arran, specifically looking at improving mental health and wellbeing services.</p> <p>This application has been driven by a consortium with children and young people and their views at the centre. Engagement has been at the heart of this application and young people have been heavily involved in planning these projects and application. Included in these engagement opportunities where Arran High School youth mental health ambassadors, Arran Youth Forum and AYF</p> <p>This funding will build on innovative projects already piloted by AYF and Arran High School, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of wellbeing centre/hub • Pet therapy • Intergenerational project • Family therapy sessions • One to one mentoring sessions • Art therapy • Psychotherapy group • Mindfulness • Heart start training • GP Surgery in school • SHINE research school on mental health • SAMH charter on mental health through sport • Training for staff and young people building indigenous capacity <p>In addition, the funding will develop and deliver new activities, opportunities, and training including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual residential (on Arran) – to explore mental health and wellbeing • Social club for 18 to 25 year olds – to support mental health and wellbeing • Physical wellbeing group – developed by young people • Bereavement counselling • Support to families around end of life care • Crisis services and counselling for addictions • Bereavement boxes • Production of a pocket guide to mental health • Self-harm support kits • Training for staff and young people with a view to building capacity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Outdoor activity training – mountain bike leaders, jog Scotland ○ Jump start type of training and project ○ Assist ○ LGBTQI charter mark ○ Mental Health First Aid ○ Confidence and Comedy

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Winston's wish bereavement training ○ Leadership programmes ○ D1 minibus (allowing staff access to Arran Outdoor Centre vehicles) ○ SVQ Level 5 Mental Health <p>The finances will be managed by AYF and Arran High School Parent Council. They have a proven track record for managing funds, overseeing sustainable projects, monitoring and evaluating projects. In 2018/19 AYF secured £59,445 in grant funding from 5 different funding bodies and in June 2020 they secured £10,000 for drugs and alcohol services for young people on Arran that will contribute to the outcomes of this project. They have also managed to secure several voluntary contributions to the delivery of the project including mindfulness and guided meditations and use of Arran Outdoor Education Centre minibuses. AYF contribute £5,091.20 and make other in-kind contributions such as venue, staff input, training, resources and complimentary delivery and activities.</p> <p>The consortium will continually reflect on the delivery and impact to ensure it is meeting the needs of the young people and this will inform their funding plan as the project progresses.</p> <p>A base line survey/engagement will be undertaken to identify how young people feel about their mental health and welling and the provision on support on Arran. This will allow the impact to be monitored and adjustments made as the project is delivered. A progress report will be submitted quarterly for the Arran LP meetings and a biannual meeting will be held with the consortium to discuss progress, any areas of concern or development.</p>
<i>Timescales</i>	From November 2020
<i>Contact details</i>	Anne-Marie Hunter – Engagement and Participation Officer Anne-MarieHunter@north-ayrshire.gov.uk