
NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

18 February 2020

Cabinet

Title:	Proposals for Community Investment Fund (CIF) Expenditure
Purpose:	To determine applications by Locality Partnerships to allocate CIF funding to proposed projects.
Recommendation:	<p>That Cabinet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Reviews the enclosed applications from the Garnock Valley, Kilwinning, North Coast and Cumbraes and Three Towns Locality Partnerships in line with CIF criteria;b) Approves the CIF application in relation to YOUth Lead - Beith Community Development Trust;c) Approves the CIF application in relation to a multi-purpose youth and community hub – Kilwinning Rangers Juniors and Kilwinning Rangers Youth Club;d) Approves the CIF application in relation to a Project Officer for the North Coast and Cumbraes Locality;e) Approves the CIF application in relation to a feasibility study for a community heritage hub – Ardrossan Castle Heritage Society;f) Approves the early release of £30,000 from a sum of previously agreed to be ringfenced for Millport Town Hall to enable the project to progress; andg) Authorise officers to direct the Garnock Valley Locality Partnership and the Three Towns Locality Partnership to the new Small Grants Participatory Budgeting process in respect of the PB projects in the two deferred CIF applications.

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 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.
- 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 applications have been developed by community partners and North Ayrshire Council officers and are now recommended for approval by Cabinet. The proposals are as follows:

2.4.1 The Garnock Valley Locality Partnership

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

The Garnock Valley Locality Partnership CIF allocation	£390 000
Men's Shed	£28 000
Travel Needs Analysis	£25 000
Geilsland Gateway - Volunteering and Employability	£45 000
Balance	£322 000

Proposal: YOUth Lead: £43,500 (£14.5k per year for 3 years) (Appendix 1)

YOUth Lead has been developed within the Geilsland Gateway project and builds on the programme supported by the existing funding partnership including CIF, Scottish Government, the Robertson Trust and Beith Trust. Its 3-year funding commitment has meant that a more strategic approach to community development can be facilitated and the first project to come through is the YOUth Lead project. Beith Community Development Trust are seeking additional resources to facilitate this. The funding for the YOUth Lead Coordinator post will be match-funded by the Scottish Government Investing in Communities Fund.

2.4.2 Kilwinning Locality Partnership

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

The Kilwinning Locality Partnership CIF allocation	£286 000
Kilwinning McGavin Park	£35 000
Balance	£251 000

Proposal: Multi-Purpose Youth and Community Hub: £41,190 (Appendix 2)

Kilwinning Rangers Juniors and Kilwinning Rangers Youth Club, with the support of Kilwinning Rangers Football Club, would like to convert a recently donated 110ft x 40ft portacabin currently at the Club's base at Kilwinning Community Sports Club. This will form a 433 square metre flexible community space to address the capacity issues for youth and other activities in the main clubhouse building. A large, fully accessible, multi-functional space will be created through the removal of dividing walls, with works also to include a Youth Zone and the construction of toilets. Affordable office and rental space for small local businesses will help to provide the sustainability for the organisation and this will help to provide further youth activities.

Kilwinning Community Sports Club is a well -used facility and lacks the capacity to provide space for the numbers involved in its social inclusion, food provision, employability and community programmes and to meet the community ambitions of the organisation.

2.4.3 North Coast and Cumbraes Locality Partnership

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

The North Coast and Cumbrae Locality Partnership CIF allocation	£468 000
Cycling Without Age- Fairlie	£22 800
Clearer Minds	£30,200
Millport Town Hall	£200,000
Balance	£215 000

Proposal: North Coast and Cumbrae Project Officer: £35,947.85 (Appendix 3)

Following two CIF unsuccessful applications to build capacity in the North Coast and Cumbraes organisations to address the 3 locality priorities the Locality Partnership has worked to co-produce this application for a Project Officer.

This is a new post/service and will be dedicated to a specific range of activities supporting financial inclusion, mental health and the reduction of social isolation. It is envisaged that the post holder will work with local groups to develop Community Investment Fund applications, external funding applications and stimulate growth and development of support for these priorities.

NAC will take the responsibility for employing a Community Development Worker. The post is 21 hours per week for an 18month period. It will be based with the current Locality Team, who will continue with their broad range of work across adult learning, youth work and capacity-building.

2.4.4 The Three Towns Locality Partnership

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

The Three Towns Locality Partnership CIF allocation	£598 000
Ardrossan Community Development Trust	£25 000
Three Towns Growers	£100,000
The Training Station	£50,000
Balance	£423 000

Proposal: Ardrossan Castle Community Heritage Hub – Feasibility Study: £17,912 (Appendix 4)

This application is for a feasibility study for a community heritage hub.

The organisation wishes to develop a small community heritage hub located on Ardrossan Castle Hill, Ardrossan, subject to permissions. The purpose of this hub would be to take forward the aims and ethos of Ardrossan Castle Heritage Society to promote Ardrossan Castle as a positive tourist destination in North Ayrshire i.e. to conduct community research projects investigating Ardrossan Castle and the surrounding landscape, to provide public events related to the history of the Castle and to provide an indoor/outdoor space for education and learning activities related to the castle, such as school visits, including toilet and first aid facilities.

As an interim step, the project being applied for to CIF aims to deliver a feasibility study for a cost of £17,912. The feasibility study / business plan will form the basis of funding applications to Heritage Fund and other funders for the construction / installation of the community heritage hub and revenue funds for public activities.

2.4.5 The North Coast and Cumbrae Locality Partnership £30,000

The North Coast and Cumbrae Locality Partnership CIF allocation	£468 000
Cycling Without Age- Fairlie	£22 800
Clearer Minds	£30,200
Millport Town Hall	£200,000
Balance	£215 000

Proposal: Millport Town Hall: £30,000 (Appendix 5)

In August 2019 the Cabinet agreed to award £200,000 from the North Coast's allocation of the CIF to Millport Town Hall for the restoration of the building subject to:

- (i) the award being set aside for 12 months to allow for the full cost of the project to be funded; and
- (ii) a proportional reduction in the award should the overall cost of the project reduce.

The North Coast and Cumbraes Locality Partnership is requesting the early release £30,000 to Millport Town Hall. This will enable the project to progress with architectural and quality surveyor reports. This award will be part of the £200,000 CIF money, previously agreed to be ringfenced for the project. A conditional agreement, until July 2020, is agreed with another external funder to contribute some of the costs of the architectural and survey work and any delay risks losing the funding. The project requires reports from an architect and a quantity surveyor to inform the next step of the restoration and for further funding applications where the detail provided by specific experts is essential.

2.4.6 Deferred CIF Applications

On 29 October 2019, Cabinet agreed that, while small-grant awarding participatory budgeting (PB) was of proven value in creating community cohesion, the distribution of Community Investment Fund (CIF) funds via this approach failed to deliver the core objectives of the CIF, especially in relation to the sustainability of projects and the attraction of external match funding. Cabinet remitted officers to identify alternative sources of funding for small-grant awarding PB approaches for Locality Partnerships for consideration at a future meeting. Cabinet agreed on 29 October 2019 to defer two CIF applications in relation to (i) Garnock Valley Participatory Budgeting – Community Councils; and (ii) Participatory Budgeting - The Three Towns Locality Partnership pending the introduction of proposals to Cabinet for small-grant awarding Participatory Budgeting. On 21st January 2020 Cabinet approved an alternative source of funding for small-grant awarding PB through community funds, thus creating a funding opportunity for Locality Partnerships to direct and attract further funding for small-grant awarding PB.

3. Proposals

3.1 That Cabinet:

- a) Reviews the enclosed applications from the Garnock Valley, Kilwinning, North Coast and Cumbraes and Three Towns Locality Partnerships in line with CIF criteria;
- b) Approves the CIF application in relation to YOUth Lead - Beith Community Development Trust;
- c) Approves the CIF application in relation to a multi-purpose youth and community hub – Kilwinning Rangers Juniors and Kilwinning Rangers Youth Club;
- d) Approves the CIF application in relation to a Project Officer for the North Coast and Cumbraes Locality;
- e) Approves the CIF application in relation to a feasibility study for a community heritage hub – Ardrossan Castle Heritage Society;
- f) Approves the early release of £30,000 from a sum of previously agreed to be ringfenced for Millport Town Hall to enable the project to progress; and
- g) Authorise officers to direct the Garnock Valley Locality Partnership and the Three Towns Locality Partnership to the new Small Grants Participatory Budgeting process in respect of the PB projects in the two deferred CIF applications.

4. Implications/Socio-economic Duty

Financial

- 4.1 CIF funding is allocated within existing resources.

Human Resources

- 4.2 Two jobs will be created: a 21 hour Community Development Worker for the North Coast and a contribution towards a YOUth Lead Coordinator which will be match-funded by Scottish Government Investing in Communities Fund.

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.

Environmental and Sustainability

4.5 Environmental and sustainability issues are considered in relation to each CIF application.

Key Priorities

4.6 The proposals contained within the report support the North Ayrshire Council Plan priorities:

- Active and strong communities
- Inclusive, growing and enterprising local economy
- People enjoy good life-long health and wellbeing.

Community Wealth Building

4.7 The applications support the following pillars of community wealth building:

- Advancing community enterprises;
- Advancing local ownership of underused land and buildings;
- Making financial power work for local places; and
- Supporting local business activities and increasing the variety of ownership models.

5. Consultation

5.1 The proposals contained within this report have been developed by the Locality Partnerships, through consultation with local people, including young people.

Audrey Sutton
Executive Director (Communities)

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

Background Papers

Appendix 1: CIF Application: YOUth Lead – Beith Community Development Trust

Appendix 2: CIF Application: Multi-Purpose Youth and Community Youth Hub - Kilwinning Rangers Youth Club, with the support of Kilwinning Rangers Junior Football

Appendix 3: CIF Application: North Coast and Cumbrae Project Officer- North Coast and Cumbrae Locality Partnership

Appendix 4: CIF Application: Community Heritage Hub - Ardrossan Castle Heritage Society

Appendix 5: CIF Application: Millport Town Hall

Appendix 1: Community Investment Fund: Proposal to Cabinet

Organisation name	<i>Beith Community Development Trust</i>
Brief details of organisation	<p>Beith Trust is a registered Scottish Charity and company limited by guarantee based in Beith, North Ayrshire, which was established in 2012 as a mechanism to drive forward a community led, asset based approach to the regeneration of the community.</p> <p>They aim to improve the present condition and the future prospects of the community by advocating for the community and facilitating opportunities for change, growth and development of the inherent potential of people and places.</p> <p>Beith Trust facilitate a diverse programme of activity and services in and around the Garnock Valley, mainly focused around their facilities at Beith Astro and Geilsland but also in the wider communities of the Garnock Valley, they work in partnership with a number of public, private and third sector groups, clubs and agencies. They manage and operate a number of facilities which generate opportunities for training, volunteering and employment, profits are reinvested in enterprise development or community services.</p>
Locality	Garnock Valley
Amount requested from CIF	£43,500 - £14,500 per year for 3 years match-funded by Scottish Government Investing in Communities Fund
Brief overview of proposal	<p>YOUth Lead</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. YOUth Lead has been developed within the Geilsland Gateway project and builds on the programme supported by the existing funding partnership including CIF, Scottish Government, the Robertson Trust and Beith Trust. Its 3-year funding commitment has meant that a more strategic approach to community development can be facilitated and the first project to come through is the YOUth Lead project for which Beith Community Development Trust are seeking additional resources to facilitate. The funding for the YOUth Lead Coordinator post will be match-funded by the Scottish Government Investing in Communities Fund. 2. The YOUth Lead programme has been piloted over the last 6 months with Beith Primary, Gateside Primary and Garnock Campus in partnership with Active Schools. Essentially a leadership and volunteering programme for young people, YOUth Lead is designed to provide skills development, leadership training and supported routes for local young people to 'give back' as volunteers within local groups, clubs, events and community festivals.

	<p>3. Situated within the context of the wider regeneration work of Beith Trust the YOUth Lead programme will support a 'can-do' leadership and giving back culture. Young people will take part in a programme which enables them to give their best in their chosen volunteering roles and give them a real-life experience of leadership and volunteering within their community. This will stand them in good stead when entering the employment market.</p> <p>4. Outside of secondary education and uniformed groups, there are not many opportunities in the Garnock Valley for personal development or for young people and choice may be limited by poor travel or affordability. This condition is compounded by a voluntary sector struggling to recruit volunteers, engage participants, refresh and sometimes even maintain existing activities.</p> <p>5. YOUth Lead will consist of fun and participative learning experiences where young people can discover, explore and develop their skills and talents. You Lead works concurrently across 2 strands</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitating the development of young leaders and equipping them with appropriate knowledge and skills to lead and volunteer within their community; and • Facilitating youth volunteering / leadership experiences within local clubs, groups, events and festivals. <p>6. The CIF fund will contribute £12 000 towards the co-ordinator and £2500 resource costs relating to the delivery of the project. The main area of costs after coordination and delivery staff is the costs of accredited qualifications.</p> <p>7. The weekly programme will be held in Garnock Campus, Beith Primary, Gateside Primary, Geilsland Hall and other venues in the Garnock Valley where appropriate. Programme participants will be aged between 8 and 25 and will work in age related groups. Beith Trust have successfully delivered a pilot programme with partners, Garnock Campus, Active Schools, Beith & Gateside Primary.</p> <p>8. The target is 120 participants by Dec 2020. Other targets include 1500 volunteer hours donated to local community projects, 150 recognised qualifications achieved by participants and 100 youth volunteer attendances within community activity.</p> <p>9. The project sits within the Geilsland Gateway project which employs a full-time staff member to manage the project.</p> <p>10. It is anticipated that YOUth Lead project will support x 1 full time employment opportunity and a 10 hour a week part time role. It is estimated that the project will generate at 1500 volunteer hours within the first year of full operations.</p>
Timescales	From March 2020
Contact details	<p>Christina Pieraccini – Locality Partnership Coordinator 01505 680206 cpieraccini@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</p>

Appendix 2: Community Investment Fund: Proposal to Cabinet

Organisation name	<i>Kilwinning Rangers Youth Club, with the support of Kilwinning Rangers Football Club</i>
Brief details of organisation	<p>Kilwinning Rangers has been in existence for 120 years, moving to Kilwinning Community Sports Club in early 2019. Kilwinning Rangers is a voluntary organisation, which manages the football delivery, within the umbrella of the registered charity, Kilwinning Community Sports Club.</p> <p>This application is from the youth sections (Kilwinning Rangers Juniors and Kilwinning Rangers Youth Club) of Kilwinning Rangers Football Club, who will manage the finances for them.</p> <p>Kilwinning Rangers Juniors and Kilwinning Rangers Youth Club provide pathways for young people to continue to participate in sport and to deliver their aspirations both within sport and the community.</p> <p>Although closely identified with its on-the-pitch activities, the football activities sit at the heart of a community hub. This delivers a wide range of community development, bringing together youth activities, community food provision, employability skills and health and wellbeing. Around 300-400 adults participate weekly in activities, with a further 270-330 young people taking part.</p>
Locality	Kilwinning
Amount requested from CIF	£41,160
Brief overview of proposal	<p>Multi-Purpose Youth and Community Hub</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kilwinning Rangers Youth Club, with the support of Kilwinning Rangers Football, would like to convert a recently donated 110ft x 40ft portacabin currently at the Club's base at Kilwinning Community Sports club. This will form a 433 square metre flexible community space to address the capacity issues for youth and other activities in the main clubhouse building. 2. A large, fully accessible, multi-functional space will be created to form a Multi-Purpose Youth and Community Hub through the removal of dividing walls, with works also set to include a Youth Zone and the construction of toilets. Affordable office and rental space for small local businesses will help to provide the sustainability for the organisation and this will help to provide further youth activities. 3. Kilwinning Community Sports Club is a well-used facility and lacks the capacity to provide space for the numbers involved and to meet the community ambitions of the organisation. 4. The project will also provide much needed sustainable community space. It will create much needed affordable retail and office space to

	<p>allow existing and new businesses to flourish creating new employment and assisting in delivering the local authorities Economic Plan for Kilwinning. However, the most important aspect of the project will be the Youth Zone area that will allow young people in the town to visit mix and enjoy the social aspect of the facility.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Both Kilwinning Rangers Juniors & Kilwinning Rangers Youth Group are already constituted and form part of their regulated governing bodies. The groups have their own Committees with strong volunteer infrastructure. 6. The Club believes that no young person should suffer from financial disadvantage and provides ways in which young people can be included. Examples of this include football kit exchanges, food-programmes (The Buffs in the Kitchen in partnership with CentreStage) and after-school coaching schemes. A Homework Club is expanding its range of activities to offer more options to young people who are more engaged through creativity and tech, than sport. All participants have access to after-school snacks. 7. The Club work in partnership with local and national agencies including but not limited to Kilwinning Academy, The Scottish Football Association, Active Schools and local businesses to provide services and programmes that improve the life chances/health and wellbeing for members of the community. 8. This initiative supports the findings of the Kilwinning charrette, Kilwinning's Future, and the Locality Partnership's priorities of Work and the Local Economy and improving the Local Environment through building up local facilities.
<i>Timescales</i>	From March 2020
<i>Contact details</i>	<p>Louise Riddex – Locality Partnership Coordinator 01294 475913 louiseriddex@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</p>

Appendix 3: Community Investment Fund: Proposal to Cabinet

Organisation name	<i>North Coast and Cumbrae Locality Partnership</i>
Brief details of organisation	<p>The Locality Planning Partnership is part of the statutory Community Planning Partnership approach responsible for the delivery of the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan as set out within the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.</p> <p>The North Coast and Cumbrae Locality Partnership provides support for the communities of the North Coast and Cumbrae to help them do what is needed to tackle the issues that they have identified as priorities for their local area. These are outlined in the Locality Plan.</p> <p>The partnership meets four times each year and looks at any action required. They then make sure that it is allocated to the most relevant Partners to tackle the work.</p> <p>The Locality Partnership is made up of 7 local elected members, the Chairs of the 5 local Community Councils and 2 Community Representatives. The CPP officers support the Locality Partnership, which can also co-opt representatives who have knowledge or expertise in specific areas of the Locality Partnership's work (this is known as Participation by Experience).</p>
Locality	North Coast and Cumbrae
Amount requested from CIF	£35,947.85
Brief overview of proposal	<p>North Coast and Cumbrae Project Officer</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Following two CIF unsuccessful applications to build capacity in the North Coast and Cumbrae's organisations to address the 3 locality priorities the Locality Partnership has co-produced this application for a Project Officer. This is a new post/service and will be dedicated to a distinct range of activities supporting financial inclusion, mental health and the reduction of social isolation. It is envisaged that the post holder will work with local groups to develop Community Investment Fund applications, external funding applications and stimulate growth and development of support for these priorities. NAC will take the responsibility of employing a Project Officer with Community Development skills. The post is 21hours per week for an 18month period. It will be based with the current Locality Team, who will continue with their broad range of work across adult learning, youth work and capacity-building. The purposes and proposed outcomes of the work include:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To support the Locality Partnership and Locality Officer to tackle the issues of the Locality, as outlined in the LP Priorities. • To identify and support social/community assets. • To identify and assist partners/community groups to develop additional CIF proposals in line with Locality Priorities. • To identify and lever in (with support) additional funds to support CIF and other local projects. • To build on existing, and develop new networks, to encourage participation by experience, engaging on a one to one basis with community members to build individual and community confidence to explore sharing of experiences. • Liaise with other partners, including the wider council, to ensure that goals are met and delivered within agreed timeframes. • Work in partnership with The Living Room project to address the needs of the community. <p>5. Many of the locality's residents are older people, and they may face specific challenges in relation to social isolation, bereavement and access to services. The Living Room provides a town centre location where people can drop in either for a chat and a coffee or by signposted more specialist support. It will also be a place where older people themselves can get directly involved through volunteering. The Living Room acts as a community hub but additional professional skills would increase the impact this new services is already having.</p> <p>6. There will be a particular focus on the Locality Partnership priority of stress and anxiety of younger people. Links will be made with the Largs Wellness model (including schools, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services and other health services) to ensure young people get the most appropriate support when they need it. Volunteers at the Living Room have been trained in safeTALK suicide alertness training, to give them skills to recognise people at risk and connect them to services. The Project Officer will also be tasked with liaising with partners to gather information on what the needs of the young people are, and then providing appropriate opportunities for them to participate in.</p> <p>7. Financial Inclusion has proved to be a difficult priority to tackle within the Locality Partnership. The Project Officer will be tasked with carrying out an audit/mapping of what services are currently provided, then looking at what additional services could be put in to help address this priority.</p> <p>8. It is envisaged that the Project Officer will have the capacity to support groups from Millport, Skelmorlie, Largs, West Kilbride and Fairlie to develop new CIF applications.</p>
Timescales	From March 2020
Contact details	<p>Louise Riddex – Locality Partnership Coordinator 01294 475913 louiseriddex@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</p>

Appendix 3: Community Investment Fund: Proposal to Cabinet

Organisation name	<i>Ardrossan Castle Heritage Society</i>
Brief details of organisation	<p>Ardrossan Castle Heritage Society is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCO43515) and was established on 26 October 2012</p> <p>The Organisation's objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research: to advance the understanding of Ardrossan Castle and Castle Hill • Community: to encourage and facilitate community involvement at Ardrossan Castle • Education: to engage others in our growing understanding of Ardrossan Castle • Environment: to improve and promote Ardrossan Castle as a positive heritage destination <p>The Organisation delivers community volunteer-led events including the Ardrossan Castle Carnival, Easter and September Open Door Days, school visits, guided tours, research and archaeology projects.</p>
Locality	The Three Towns
Amount requested from CIF	£ 17, 912
Brief overview of proposal	<p>Ardrossan Castle Community Heritage Hub – Feasibility Study</p> <p>This application is in relation to a feasibility study for the community heritage hub. Ultimately, the organisation wishes to develop a small community heritage hub located on Ardrossan Castle Hill, Ardrossan, subject to permissions. The purpose of this hub would be to take forward the aims and ethos of Ardrossan Castle Heritage Society to promote Ardrossan Castle as a positive tourist destination in North Ayrshire, i.e. to conduct community research projects investigating Ardrossan Castle and surrounding landscape, to provide public events related to the history of the Castle, to provide an indoor/outdoor space for education and learning activities related to the castle, such as school visits, including toilet and first aid facilities.</p> <p>As an interim step, the project being applied for to CIF aims to deliver a feasibility study for a cost of £17,912 with the following aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Hub design and costings: this aspect would identify the preferred location and construction of the Community Heritage Hub on Ardrossan Castle Hill (ii) Outline activity and interpretation plan: this aspect will identify the range of heritage activities and engagement proposed for delivery at the hub (iii) Business plan: this aspect will develop the business case to support initial funding bids to construct the hub as well as identify anticipated running

	<p>and maintenance costs. The business planning preparation would include community engagement to gauge public reaction of the plans.</p> <p>The feasibility study / business plan would form the basis of funding applications to Heritage Fund and other funders for the construction / installation of the community heritage hub and revenue funds for public activities.</p> <p>The community heritage hub will enable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More people to be engaged with the heritage / natural heritage of Castle Hill; • More volunteers to be recruited and retained to work on the Hill (research, tidying / up keep, visitor guiding); • A bigger / better programme of events and activities on the Hill suitable for both visitors and local people. <p>The community heritage hub will address a range of needs. Currently the identified needs are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public toilets on the hill top, for residents, school visits, visitors or society volunteers; • Wet weather shelter / kitchenette for volunteers; • A multipurpose space for receiving groups of visitors on the Hill (tours, talks, walks, etc.); • A welcoming orientation / interpretation point for visitors; • Lockable storage space for tools, equipment, etc.; and • Work areas / work stations for heritage research. <p>The community heritage hub aims to make a difference by addressing inequality, including the provision of facilities and inspiring activities based at the community heritage hub aimed to include groups such as the young, elderly, disabled, etc. and providing disabled parking within close vicinity of Castle to facilitate easy access. There will also be health benefits from increased walking and volunteering opportunities.</p> <p>The community heritage hub would be a visitor magnet (heritage and natural heritage, viewpoint, activities / events / tours) encouraging choice of Ardrossan as a visit destination and encouraging longer length of stay and additional stop overs for transits. It would not displace meeting places / cafes / restaurants in the area.</p> <p>Ardrossan Castle Heritage Society is a community led charity accountable to the people of Ardrossan who will be involved in the design, development and operation of the community heritage hub.</p> <p>The community heritage hub is intended to be an exemplar low carbon project in terms of construction and operation. The activities based at the hub will include making sure that the environment of Castle Hill is maintained / protected including species logging / habitats.</p>
<i>Timescales</i>	From March 2020
<i>Contact details</i>	<p>Shirley Morgan – Locality Partnership Coordinator 01294 475912 smorgan@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</p>



Appendix 1 - Community Investment Fund: Proposal to Cabinet

Organisation name	<i>Millport Town Hall – SCIO 49279</i>
Brief details of organisation	<p><u>Mission Statement</u></p> <p>To preserve a building of heritage significance and to create a community facility for the future which is sustainable and run by the community, for the community.</p> <p>To create a space capable of accommodating a variety of uses which is vibrant, facilitates community and social cohesion and spirit and enhances not only the economy of the Isle of Cumbrae but also enriches the lives of its residents and visitors.</p> <p>SCIO status has been granted and an associated trading arm set up to minimise risk and maximise tax efficiency.</p>
Locality	North Coast and Cumbraes
Funding requested	£30,000
Brief overview of proposal	<p>In August 2019 the Cabinet agreed to award £200,000 from the North Coast's allocation of the CIF to Millport Town Hall for the restoration of the building subject to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the award being set aside for 12 months to allow for the full cost of the project to be funded; and (ii) (ii) a proportional reduction in the award should the overall cost of the project reduce. <p>A conditional agreement, until July 2020, is agreed with another external funder to contribute some of the costs of the architectural and survey work and any delay risks losing the funding. The project requires reports from an architect and a quantity surveyor to inform the next step of the restoration and for further funding applications where the detail provided by specific experts is essential.</p> <p>MTH are orchestrating a cocktail of funding applications which are dictated by funding deadlines and decision dates. The total cost as per Feasibility Study is £2,929,000</p> <p><u>Applications submitted and Expressions of Interest</u></p>

	NORTH AYRSHIRE COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND	£200,000	Ringfenced
	ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE FUND	£23,800	Approved
	SCOTTISH LAND FUND	£54,010	Approved
	SCOT GOV REGENERATION GRANT	£750,000	Pending
	HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS EU	£200,000	Pending
	MILLPORT CARS SCHEME	£25,000	EOI
	ROBERTSON TRUST	£500,000	TALKS
	MAGNOX SOCIO- ECONOMIC/NDA	£750,000	TALKS
	CUMBRAE LOTTERY	£4,000	INCOME
	<p>Other funds with a potential of £470,000 have been identified. There are many further funders identified for once the project is underway; what is needed now is the “basket” to deliver the outcomes.</p> <p>The organisation’s Scottish Land Fund mentor has indicated that if MTH are successful with their current application then they may be referred to HIE for consideration for their own funding streams.</p> <p>Scottish Community Enterprise have awarded 6 free training days to ensure maximum benefit from a crowdfunding campaign. Actor Bill Paterson is visiting Cumbrae in August to shoot a promotional video for this campaign.</p> <p>The proposal is the restoration and regeneration of a historic building, on the At Risk Register and within a Conservation Area. The proposed use is as a multi purpose building housing a <u>Heritage and Conservation Centre</u>, <u>Arts and Culture Centre</u> and <u>Community Centre</u>. Sustainable income will be achieved from ticketed events, three holiday let flats, exhibitions, Cumbrae Lottery and local fundraisers. Community lets will be charged at a rate commensurate with those of NAC. The Feasibility Report has shown this to be a viable proposition.</p>		
Timescales	<p>Alienation from the Common Good has taken place and the Community Asset Transfer is nearing completion.</p> <p>The next stage is architectural and quality surveyor reports.</p> <p>Next stage development funding applications are pending.</p>		
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