
NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

14 May 2019

Cabinet

Title:	Proposals for Community Investment Fund (CIF) Expenditure
Purpose:	To determine applications by Irvine and Garnock Valley Locality Partnerships to allocate CIF funding to a range of proposed projects.
Recommendation:	That Cabinet approves the enclosed applications from the Irvine and Garnock Valley Locality Partnerships.

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 two proposals, each of which respond to the specific needs of the local community and which have been developed based on local circumstances and opportunities.
- 1.4 These proposals have been approved to be submitted to Cabinet through a process of collaboration and consensus by the respective Locality Partnerships.

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. The 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 Locality Partnerships and North Ayrshire Council officers and are now recommended for approval by Cabinet. The proposals are as follows:

2.4.1 Irvine Locality Partnership:

Fullarton and Vineburgh Community Enablers:

The project is seeking £100,000 over 3 years to employ two part time Community Enablers who will engage with the community to find opportunities to tackle issues such as the provision of dignified food, isolation, alcohol and drug addictions and to support lifestyle changes, build confidence and develop support networks. There are critical issues in an area that has high levels of deprivation and unemployment.

2.4.2 Garnock Valley Locality Partnership:

Beith Community Development Trust Geilsland Hall Volunteering and Employability Project:

This project is seeking £45,000 as part of a wider package of funding support from a range of other organisations to support the role of the development manager whose remit is to continue to develop both Geilsland Hall as an important community asset and a volunteering, learning and employability project aimed at supporting learning and skills development for residents and communities in Garnock Valley.

3. Proposals

That Cabinet approves the enclosed applications from the Irvine and Garnock Valley Locality Partnerships.

4. Implications/Socio-economic Duty

Financial:	The CIF funding has been allocated proportionately across Localities. The attached applications are the next to be drawn down from the existing funds (see 2.1 above). North Ayrshire Council Finance officers will monitor the draw down and spend of the funds.
Human Resources:	<p>Two posts are identified to be recruited to in the Irvine Locality Partnership and NAC will be represented in the recruitment process.</p> <p>NAC officers will continue to work with Beith Community Development Trust to explore the longer term sustainability of the post.</p>

Legal:	There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.
Equality/Socio-economic Duty:	<p>There are no equality implications arising directly from this report.</p> <p>The purpose of Locality Planning is to reduce inequalities. Each of the CIF proposals is tested against that purpose before being presented to Cabinet.</p>
Children and Young People:	<p>Children and Young People will be considered and prioritised by Locality Planning Partnerships in each of the projects. These CIF proposals propose particular benefits for children and young people, who have also been consulted as part of the process.</p> <p>Specifically, the Irvine project will assist in ensuring that children and young people's health and attainment is supported through provision of food before school and at weekends, education and support for them and their families in relation to alcohol and drugs and employability.</p> <p>The Beith Community Development project will address employability and training gaps for a range of young people, providing person-centred opportunities for them to gain experience and qualifications.</p>
Environmental & Sustainability:	There are no Environmental & Sustainability implications arising directly from this report.
Key Priorities:	<p>The proposal contained within the report supports the North Ayrshire Council Plan priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active and strong communities • Inclusive, growing and enterprising local economy • People enjoy good life-long health and well-being

Community Benefits:	<p>The CIF fund is designed to develop and promote collaborative projects which are community based. The projects within this report will have a wide range of community benefits.</p> <p>The Irvine project will provide resilience and support for families who are living in poverty and/or experiencing addictions. The objective is to reduce the symptoms of poverty through support to those residents experiencing addictions and related issues; and to address the drivers of poverty by supporting people into volunteering, training and work.</p> <p>In Beith, the project addresses the locality priorities, including local facilities, by supporting the development of Geilsland as a community asset. It also provides training for local people, and further provides volunteering and employment opportunities in an area of high unemployment. The telephone befriending project delivered by the Trust will also address social isolation and vulnerability in the local area.</p>
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5. Consultation

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

Karen Yeomans
Executive Director (Economy & Communities)

For further information please contact **Audrey Sutton, Head of Service (Connected Communities)**, on **(01294) 324414**.

Background Papers

Appendix 1: Irvine Locality Partnership: Fullarton and Vineburgh Community Enablers.
Appendix 2: Garnock Valley Locality Partnership: Geilsland Hall Volunteering and Employability Project

Appendix 1: Community Investment Fund: Proposal to Cabinet

Organisation name	<i>Fullarton Community Association</i>
Brief details of organisation	<p>Fullarton Community Association is a voluntary management committee and registered charity with over 40 years community development experience. Fullarton strives to promote the benefits of all inhabitants in conjunction with the local authorities, voluntary organisations and inhabitants in a common effort to advance education and to promote and provide facilities in the interests of social welfare and leisure time occupation of the residents of Fullarton. The Association aims to foster and promote community spirit to inhabitants and to promote life changing opportunities to further self-worth and job prospects.</p> <p>Fullarton will work on this project with Vineburgh Community Association, which has similar aims and objectives within its community and Fullarton will be the lead partner for the purposes of the application.</p>
Locality	Irvine Locality
Amount requested	£100,000 over 3 years
Brief overview of proposal	<p>This project will use a place-based approach to work in Vineburgh and Fullarton to address the needs and aspirations of the residents in both communities. Both areas are identified as having high levels of deprivation, low aspiration and in some cases three generations of unemployment.</p> <p>Fullarton accounts for 8% of the Irvine Locality's population with 100% living in deprivation and is made up of four datazones, all of which fall into the 20% most deprived areas of Scotland.</p> <p>Vineburgh accounts for 8% of the Irvine Locality's population and is the 6th most populated intermediate zone in Irvine. 45% live in deprivation two of its four datazones fall into the 10% most deprived areas of Scotland.</p> <p>To enable the Community Associations to carry out this project funding is required from the Community Investment Fund to employ 2 part time "Community Enablers" (one in each area). These Community Enablers will meet the unique needs of the people living, working and volunteering in the areas. By engaging with the community and working collaboratively they will identify gaps and opportunities, including in relation to alcohol and drugs and addictions, and the provision of dignified food, as identified through local engagement via Chit Chat and other meetings, building a network of opportunities in the Locality that will inform Vineburgh Neighbourhood Centre and Fullarton Hub action plans.</p> <p>This approach will empower people to better manage their own wellbeing through:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Combating isolation; • Providing motivation for lifestyle change; • Building confidence; • Identifying support networks; and • Linking to resources and helping people identify services within the locality. <p>The associations are already in receipt of funding from the following external funders and will be looking to further match fund the CIF funds through these and other funders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National Lottery Community Fund; • The Robertson Trust; • North Ayrshire Ventures Trust; • NAC Festival and Events fund; • Youth PB; • Nurturing Excellence; • Irvine Towns Charitable Trust and • Scottish Foundation Express Grants. <p>North Ayrshire Council will be represented in the recruitment process.</p>
<i>Timescale</i>	May 2019 till March 2022
<i>Contact details</i>	Jim McHarg, Senior Manager, Connected Communities

Appendix 2: Community Investment Fund: Proposal to Cabinet

Organisation name	<i>Beith Community Development Trust</i>
Brief details of organisation	<p>Beith Community Development Trust (Beith Trust) is a community anchor organisation operating in Beith but which also reaches out to the wider communities of the Garnock Valley. Beith Trust is a registered Scottish Charity and Company Limited by Guarantee. Only people with a KA14 & KA15 postcode are eligible for full membership, however organisations, clubs and individuals living out-with the area are eligible for Associate Membership and young people aged 12 – 18 can join as Junior Members. Membership is free for everyone. Beith Trust currently has 859 members. It employs 9 full time staff, 15 part time staff and supports 55 volunteers on an annual basis.</p> <p>Beith Trust works between Beith Astro and Geilsland Estate delivering programmes and interventions aimed at developing people and place. Work focuses on providing support, resources & infrastructure which equips individuals to gain skills, attitudes and experiences which support them to progress and develop on their own terms and at their own pace. The work done by the Trust often attracts people beyond the area to the Garnock Valley.</p> <p>The board of Beith Trust is currently made up of 7 full members, meeting a minimum of 5 times a year.</p> <p>Beith Trust was first thought of in 2010 when local sports facilities were threatened with closure. This situation was the catalyst that mobilised local people to come together as drivers of change in the local community. They formed Beith Trust in 2012 to enable the sports facilities to operate under community management. In 2014 Beith Trust topped the RBS SE100 Index for growth and impact in Scotland and Beith Trust was awarded the “Celebrating Community” award at the 2015 Scottish Charity Awards. Sports Leader Academy status was achieved in 2016 in recognition of the leadership pathways developed.</p>
Locality	Garnock Valley
Amount requested from CIF	£45,000
Brief overview of proposal	<p>Geilsland Hall Volunteering and Employability Project</p> <p>Beith Trust is requesting a contribution towards the costs of our Geilsland Hall Volunteering and Employability Project. Geilsland Hall will operate concurrently across 2 levels:</p>

- a) As an income generating physical and economic community asset which attracts consumers, visitors and tourists to the area to spend their time and money within events, festivals, hospitality, social occasions and celebrations; and
- b) As a volunteering, learning and employability project which provides the communities of the Garnock Valley with meaningful, quality opportunities for personal growth, support and signposting, experiential learning and development, accreditation, skills development for enterprise, leadership and employment, both within and beyond Beith Trust

Geilsland Hall is an ambitious attempt to utilise a much loved Garnock Valley asset to improve the social condition of the local community. This responds to two of the Garnock Valley Locality Partnership priorities – local facilities and transport. The volunteering and employability programme will facilitate the delivery of quality amenity and services in and around Geilsland Hall. Volunteers will progress and develop at their own rate within an in-house training programme which can include amongst others:

- HSE First Aid;
- REHIS - Elementary Food Hygiene, Cleaning and Disinfection, Elementary Food and Nutrition, Elementary Cooking Skills;
- Scottish Cert for Licensed Premises Staff;
- Leadership Qualifications - Sports Leader, Arts Award;
- SIA Door steward training;
- John Muir Awards; and
- Saltire Awards.

The project will support many individuals who are affected by complex life situations and circumstances to establish new friendships and networks of support through regular social activities as recognition and rewards. For very vulnerable people the Geilsland Hall project will facilitate a Telephone Befriending Service which reaches out to the most vulnerable people in our community, more often than not isolated within their own homes due to old age or poor physical and mental health.

The CIF funding will form part of a wider funding assembly, including current funding as follows:

- Big Lottery Growing Assets: £575,000
- Big Lottery CLM: £30,000
- DTAS Pockets & Prospects: £15,000
- Resilient Scotland: £250,000
- NAC Festivals & Events: £1,000.

To summarise Geilsland Hall Volunteering and Employability Project will facilitate:

- Volunteering opportunities;
- Volunteer development;
- Volunteer support & social activity;
- Employability coaching, signposting and support;
- Volunteer social activities;
- Work related training, qualifications and accreditation; and
- Income generating services and amenity.

	<p>Beith Trust is seeking funding to support the (new) post of Operations / Development Manager.</p> <p>Main duties will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To line manage, lead, mentor and support project delivery staff; • To maintain and oversee recording systems for monitoring progress towards meeting organisational, project and funder outcomes; • Financial monitoring and reporting of the project; and • Ensure high standards project delivery, quality control and safeguarding; • Completion of funding applications and tenders; and • Development of new services and projects <p>Total salary costs will be £30k p.a.</p> <p>PROPOSED ANNUAL OUTCOMES AND ACTIVITIES</p> <p>OUTCOME 1 Increased opportunities for personal growth and skills development Activity 1 – Geilsland Hall will support / enable 50 x individuals to participate in skills development courses, classes or workshops. Activity 2 – Geilsland Hall will facilitate 10 x skills development classes, courses or workshops. Activity 3 – 30 x individuals achieve an accredited qualification within Geilsland Hall activity.</p> <p>OUTCOME 2 Improved mental well being Activity 1 - 30 people surveyed will demonstrate an improvement in their perception of their own wellbeing.</p> <p>OUTCOME 3 Garnock Valley is a thriving and enterprising place Activity 1 – 300 people stay and make use of the Geilsland Hall amenity. Activity 2 – 5 new income generating activities are facilitated within Geilsland Hall. Activity 3 – 10 new income generating Geilsland Hall hires are developed.</p>
<i>Timescales</i>	August 2019 – July 2022
<i>Contact details</i>	Christina Pieraccini, Locality Officer, Connected Communities