

SERVICE AND PARTNERSHIPS PERFORMANCE PANEL

Minutes of hybrid webcast meeting on
11 February 2026 at 10.00 a.m.

- Present
in County Buildings: Councillors Philip Saxton (Chair), Stephen Ferry, Brian McGinley,
Gavin Scott and George Weir.
- Attending
Remotely: Councillor Ian Cochrane.
- Apologies: Councillors Kenneth Bell and Lee Lyons.
- Attending
in County Buildings: K. Braidwood, Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations
and Development; K. Anderson, Assistant Director – Corporate Policy,
Strategy and Performance; W. Carlaw, Service Lead – Democratic
Governance; C. McPhail, Co-ordinator (Ayrshire Growth Deal); D. Johnstone,
Lead Project Officer (Ayrshire Growth Deal); J. McClure, Committee Services
Officer and C. McCallum, Clerical Assistant.
- Attending
Remotely: R. Peterson, Senior Auditor.
- In Attendance: B. McDonnell, Strategic Manager; and A. Kamau, Special Projects Engineer,
Ayrshire Roads Alliance.

Chair's Remarks.

The Chair

- (1) welcomed everyone to the meeting; and
- (2) outlined the procedures for conducting this meeting and advised that this meeting would be broadcast live.

1. Sederunt and Declarations of Interest.

The Chair called the Sederunt for the meeting and having called the roll, confirmed that that there were no declarations of interest by Members of the Panel in terms of Council Standing Order No. 17 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

2. Minutes of previous meetings.

The [Minutes](#) of 18 November 2025 (issued) were submitted and approved.

Following a comment from a Member that his question on page 6 , paragraph (4) of the minutes regarding the efficiency of the search facility on the Council website had not been responded to fully within the Action Log, the Assistant Director – Corporate Policy, Strategy and Performance advised that he would liaise with officers in ICT and provide a further response.

3. Action Log and Work Programme.

There was submitted an update of the [Action Log and Work Programme](#) (issued) for this Panel.

The Assistant Director - Corporate Policy, Strategy and Performance outlined that the two Actions had been completed and that, following a request at the Panel of 18 November 2025, the responses to the questions were included within the Log.

Questions were raised and comments made by Members in relation to:

- (1) why the report entitled “The International Ayr Show - Festival of Flight 2025” had not been submitted to this meeting when a decision had been taken at the meeting of South Ayrshire Council of 26 June 2025 that a report be submitted to the January 2026 meeting of this Panel providing the Economic Impact Assessment for the 2025 Ayr Show and a breakdown of the revenue and income available at that time, however, this report had now been deferred to the 21 April 2026 meeting of this Panel;
- (2) that it would be useful to the Panel to obtain information when it was available to speed up the scrutiny process; and
- (3) that officers should examine how reports were being presented to Members as some were partially illegible due to font size, and when they being submitted, as certain issues could be presented when decisions were ongoing and being made at other Panels, making the scrutiny of this Panel pointless.

The Assistant Director – Corporate Policy, Strategy and Performance advised that this report had been due to be considered at the meeting of this Panel of 21 April 2026 to allow for changes in the final ledger close to provide the Panel with exact figures, however, the Director of Communities and Transformation would be happy to submit this report to the next meeting of this Panel.

Following further discussion, the Panel

Decided:

- (a) to note the current position with regard to the Action Log;
- (b) to note the current status of the Work Programme;
- (c) that a Special meeting of this Panel be arranged to take place prior to the meeting of South Ayrshire Council scheduled to be held on 5 March 2026 to set the budget, to consider the report entitled “The International Ayr Show - Festival of Flight 2025”; and

- (d) that officers should provide a detailed explanation to the Panel within the Work Programme on why reports were being deferred as some reports were being deferred for a significant amount of time.

4. Subject: Active Travel Strategy Performance Report.

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 14 January 2026 by the Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development providing an update on Active Travel projects and external grant funding secured.

The Service Lead – Democratic Governance referred to a typographical error within paragraph 2.1 of the report which should read “It is recommended that the Panel approves this report and continues to commit to supporting Active Travel in South Ayrshire”.

Questions were raised and comments made by Members in relation to:

- (1) welcoming this report, particularly the recruitment of two officers to assist with the delivery of Active Travel; and seeking clarification on the 1600m of footway to the north of Maybole being constructed at no cost to ARA using community benefits from the Dundonald to Barassie Active Travel Route; and the Special Projects Engineer, ARA advised that this was a contract for the whole of South Ayrshire and not for one specific location; and that the construction of this footway had come from the community benefit, therefore free plant materials had been provided to construct this footpath from Maybole;
- (2) paragraph 3.8 of the report which stated “ARA secured funding through the Active Travel Infrastructure Fund (ATIF) to complete the detailed design of Accessible Ayr phase 1 – a separate paper will be submitted to Cabinet in March 2026” and had this now been superseded; and the Strategic Manager, ARA advised that the Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development would be meeting with officers from Balfour Beattie, therefore, paragraph 3.8 had been superseded, however a further update would be submitted to this Panel;
- (3) seeking examples of “meaningful and quantifiable behaviour change”; and the Strategic Manager, ARA advised there was no set guidance as yet, however, he would be working with the Member/Officer Working Group on this to determine the targets to be set and monitoring the usage of the infrastructure as it was constructed;
- (4) whether the Active Travel Hub referred to was the building beside Ayr Train Station; and the Strategic Manager, ARA confirmed that it was;
- (5) how the Member/Officer Working Group (MOWG) was progressing and its relationship with the communities it served; and the Strategic Manager, ARA advised that several meetings of the MOWG had taken place and that the MOWG formed a useful role driving forward the Active Travel strategy and the Group also formed a link with communities;

- (6) behaviour change as this was an intensive process and more than just a consultation; was a process in place to ensure that people used the facilities provided; and was there evidence that the paths were being fully used; and the Strategic Manager, ARA advised that colleagues in Thriving Communities had staged a three day Active Travel Day event last year providing an opportunity to reach members of communities of various abilities and featuring initiatives around encouraging walking; that he acknowledged the significant investment made in relation to Active Travel and that it was important this was built upon and that positive behaviour changes were promoted;
- (7) that parts of the report were illegible; and the Assistant Director – Corporate Policy, Strategy and Performance advised that this was the Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) which had printed in smaller print and that this would normally be a summary attached to the report, however, this was not material to the consideration of the report, was available online should members wish to read this and that an IIA was not required for reports being considered at this Panel or Audit and Governance Panel;
- (8) that consultation had been carried out regarding works at North Drive, Troon which was welcomed, however, local residents at Adams Gate, Troon were requesting consultation prior to works being carried out;
- (9) that at a recent Community Council meeting it had been advised that the local community in Troon had been donated two trishaws and had obtained one other, however, planning permission was in place for storage of two of these trishaws only, therefore, they were seeking further storage for this; and
- (10) what works were being undertaken with schools in regard to encouraging Active Travel; and the Strategic Manager, ARA advised that colleagues in Thriving Communities visited schools to undertake Bikeability Projects to assist children in learning to cycle and to undertake other works around encouraging more active forms of travel to and from school; and that the Road Safety Teams worked to improve the situation outside schools with traffic calming measures within the available funding.

The Panel, having thanked the officers from Ayrshire Roads Alliance for this report,

Decided: to approve this report and continue to commit to supporting Active Travel in South Ayrshire

Exclusion of press and public.

The Panel resolved, in terms of Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, that the press and public be excluded during consideration of the remaining item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information in terms of paragraphs 8 and 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

5. Ayrshire Growth Deal Prestwick Proposition.

There was submitted a report (Members Only) of 13 January 2026 by the Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development providing an update on the Ayrshire Growth Deal Prestwick Proposition.

A full discussion took place and the Panel

Decided:

- (1) to note the progress by officers identified in the report towards the strategic recommendations agreed for the Ayrshire Growth Deal Prestwick Proposition.
- (2) to note the further work identified in the activity work schedule; and
- (3) to agree a further update be provided to the Service and Partnerships Performance Panel in August 2026.

6. Consideration of Disclosure of the above confidential report.

Decided: to agree that under Standing Order 32.4, the undernoted report remain exempt due to the commercially sensitive information within the report:

- Ayrshire Growth Deal Prestwick Proposition

The meeting ended at 10.45 a.m.