
9.30am, 28th May 2026, Chambers: Ayr Town Hall, Sandgate, Ayr

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Welcome
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Apologies
4. Minutes of the Meeting of 29th January 2026
5. **South Ayrshire Trauma Responsive Roadmap**
Report and Update by Service Lead (Performance, Community Planning and Sustainability), South Ayrshire Council
6. **Report of a joint inspection of services for children and young people subject to compulsory supervision orders living at home with their parents in South Ayrshire**
Verbal Update by Children's Services Planning and Performance Lead Officer, South Ayrshire Council
7. **Development of new Local Fire Plan**
Verbal Update by Group Commander, East, North & South Ayrshire, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service
8. **South Ayrshire Council Programme of Work**
Verbal Update by Assistant Director (Corporate Policy, Strategy and Performance), South Ayrshire Council
9. **NHS Ayrshire & Arran: [Director of Public Health Annual Report 2025: Growing well to live well: Understanding the burden of disease](#)**
Presentation by Public Health Consultant (Inclusive Health), NHS Ayrshire & Arran
10. **Community Planning Improvement Board Update**
Verbal Update by Assistant Director (Corporate Policy, Strategy and Performance), South Ayrshire Council
11. **For information:**
 - (a) **Strategy Delivery Partnership Updates:**
 - (1) Children's Services
 - (2) Community Safety
 - (3) Financial Inclusion
 - (4) Population Health
 - (5) Sustainability Partnership
 - (b) **Locality Planning Update**
 - (c) **Community Planning Participation and Engagement Group**
12. **AOCB**
13. **Date of next meeting: (all meetings will start at 9.30am)**
 - 3rd September 2026
 - 3rd December 2026

SOUTH AYRSHIRE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIPS BOARD

Minutes of a meeting of the South Ayrshire Community Planning Partnerships Board held at 9.30 am on Thursday 29 January 2026 in County Hall, County Buildings, Ayr

Board Members:

Councillor Julie Dettbarn (Chair); Councillor Brian Connolly; John Binning, SPT; Claire Tooze, Area Manager – Skills Development Scotland; **Kevin Murphy**, Area Commander, Scottish Fire and Rescue; **Jane Bradley**, Director – Communities and Transformation; **Marie Oliver**; Chief Executive Officer, VASA; **Stephen Penman**, Chief Executive (SAC); **Scott Mulholland**, Director of Education (SAC); **Sally Amor**, Public Health Consultant; and **Kevin Anderson**, Assistant Director – Corporate Policy, Strategy and Performance (SAC).

Officers:

Mark Inglis, Director of Health and Social Care; **Susan McCardie**, Service Lead, Performance, Community Planning and Sustainability (SAC); **Lorna Jarvie**, Co-ordinator – Sustainability and Climate Change (SAC); **Joanne McEwan**, Climate Change and Biodiversity Officer (SAC); **Jamie Tait**, Service Lead – Thriving Communities (SAC); **Lisa McGuinness**, Scottish Government; **Alice Mergler**, Scottish Government; **Elizabeth Dougall**, Senior Policy Officer (SAC); **Stewart Marshall**, Senior Manager, Localities (H&SCP); **Lesley Reid**, Senior Manager Localities; **Kirsty Mackay**, Co-ordinator Thriving Communities (SAC); **Stephanie Dickson**, Community Planning and Equalities Assistant; and **Pamela Dewar**, Sportscotland.

Apologies:

Angela Cox, Principal Ayrshire College; **Rebecca Brown**, Scottish Enterprise; **Claire Baird**, Chief Executive, Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce; **Professor James Gordon**, Chief Executive, NHS Ayrshire and Arran; **Marcus Ross**; Vice-Principal - Planning and Recruitment (UWS); **Lesley Bowie**, Board Chair, NHS Ayrshire and Arran; **Sian Williams** – NatureScot; **Dean Anderson**, Service Lead (DWP); **Suzanne Chow**; Divisional Commander – Police Scotland; **David White**; Ayr United Football Club; **Gillian Carroll**, Children’s Services Co-ordinator (SAC); and **Cl Stephen McGrath**, Chair of Community Safety Partnership;

FIRST PART OF THE MEETING

South Ayrshire Youth Voice Team and Youth Council provided the CPP Board with an update and overview of their priorities and shared some of their ongoing work and highlights.

The presentation included the launch of the Louder Together Youth Voice Pledge which highlighted the importance of youth participation in local decision making and how to engage with young people effectively. Key decision makers endorsed the ongoing work and the commitment and approach moving forward.

SECOND PART OF THE MEETING – BUSINESS

1 Welcome

Councillor Julie Dettbarn (Chair) opened the meeting by welcoming all present to the Community Planning Partnership Board (the Board) meeting.

2 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest by Members of the Board in terms of the Board's Standing Order No.10.

3. Apologies

As above.

4. Minutes of previous meeting

The Minutes of the Community Planning Board (the Board) of 4 December 2025 (circulated) were submitted and approved.

5. Systems-based approach to physical activity in Scotland

There was a presentation by representatives from Sports Scotland and Public Health Scotland. A Leadership group (10-12 people) would be developed to represent the 8 Sub-systems and the 5 Strategic Delivery Partnerships within the Community Planning Partnerships.

Following discussion and questions, the Chair thanked the officers for their interesting and informative presentation.

6. Biodiversity Strategy

There was submitted a report (issued) of 16 January 2026 by the Chair of the Sustainability Strategic Delivery Partnership (SDP) and the Chair of the Nature Subgroup, Sustainability SDP presenting the South Ayrshire Biodiversity Strategy for approval.

Following discussion and questions, the Board

Decided to:

- (1) approve the strategy attached at appendix one.
- (2) support development and delivery of the associated action plan via the nature subgroups of the Sustainability Strategic Delivery Partnership (SDP).

7. **Community Planning Executive Annual Review Feedback – the future of Locality Planning Partnerships**

There was a presentation by the Assistant Director (Corporate Policy, Strategy and Performance) and Senior Managers (Localities), South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership.

Following Discussion the Board:

- (1) noted the update from the Assistant Director of Corporate Policy, Strategy and Performance.
- (2) agreed that an extended CPPB meeting would be arranged in March with LLPs.

8. **South Ayrshire Violence Against Women Strategy (2026-2029)**

There was submitted a report (issued) of 9 January 2026 by the Thriving Communities Coordinator – Communities presenting the Violence Against Women Strategy 2026–2029 (Appendix 1), which had been approved by the Community Safety Partnership, and outlining the strategic priorities, partnership responsibilities, and intended outcomes for preventing and responding to violence against women and girls in South Ayrshire.

Following discussion and questions, the Board

Decided: to endorse the strategy, including its strategic priorities, partnership-wide actions, and the proposed governance and reporting arrangements for delivery through the Violence Against Women Partnership.

9. **Any Other Competent Business**

None

10. **Date of Next Meetings:**

The next Board meeting will take place on 7 May 2026.

The meeting ended at 11.30am

South Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership Board



Report by Assistant Director: Corporate Policy, Strategy and Performance,
South Ayrshire Council to
Community Planning Partnership Board Meeting of 28th May 2026

Subject: South Ayrshire Trauma Roadmap

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide members with an outline of the South Ayrshire Trauma Roadmap.

2 The Board is recommended to:

- 2.1 Note South Ayrshire Trauma Roadmap and the guidance provided within the roadmap on the steps Community Planning Partners can take to support trauma responsive change.**

3 Background

- 3.1 In 2019-2020 the Scottish Government and COSLA laid out a joint ambition '*to achieve a trauma-informed and responsive workforce*'. To help realise this vision, the [National Trauma Transformation Programme](#) was developed by The Scottish Government, COSLA, The Improvement Service, NHS Education Scotland (NES) and partners, and the [National Roadmap for creating trauma informed and responsive change](#) was created to support organisations to:

- Realise that trauma is common;
- Recognise its impacts;
- Respond appropriately;
- Resist Re-traumatisation; and
- Understand that relationships matter.

- 3.2 South Ayrshire Council supported a motion committing to that ambition in 2021 and a dedicated trauma officer was recruited. In January 2023, South Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership signed the [Trauma Leadership Pledge](#) where the CP Board made a commitment to design systems and services that recognise the central importance of relationships that offer safety, choice, collaboration, trust, and empowerment; are actively informed by people with lived experience; and with a focus on reducing barriers to support, reducing re-traumatisation, and supporting recovery.

4 Detail

- 4.1 After extensive consultation with staff, strategic groups, and partners, the [South Ayrshire Trauma Roadmap 2026-2031](#) has been developed in line with the National Roadmap for Creating Trauma Informed and Responsive Change. It has also been informed by a robust evidence base including findings of a Scottish Government [evidence review](#) on the enablers and barriers to trauma-informed systems, organisations and workforces. The roadmap was approved by South Ayrshire Council Cabinet on 17th March 2026.

5 Next Steps

- 5.1 Following approval of the roadmap, an action plan has been developed by the Steering Group aligning to the key priorities of awareness and engagement; staff wellbeing; trauma responsive leadership; and experts by experience (personal and professional). The Trauma Network will also support the delivery of the action plan and oversee monitoring and evaluation.
- 5.2 To ensure this is a partnership approach and that meaningful and sustainable implementation occurs, representation across Community Planning Partners on the Steering Group would be helpful in securing this transformational change across South Ayrshire.
- 5.3 As Community Planning Partners signed up to the Trauma Leadership Pledge, it would also be of benefit for representation for the Community Planning Partnership to become a member of the priority sub-groups.

6 Equalities

- 6.1 A full Integrated Impact Assessment has been completed – the supporting IIA Summary report which can be accessed [here](#).

Report by:
Susan McCardie
Service Lead (Performance, Community Planning and Sustainability)
South Ayrshire Council
19th May 2026

Report of a joint inspection of services for children and young people subject to compulsory supervision orders living at home with their parents in South Ayrshire

Prepared by the Care Inspectorate in partnership with His Majesty's Inspectorate of Education, Healthcare Improvement Scotland and His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland

8 May 2026





Keeping the promise at the heart of what we do

We would like to thank everyone who took part in our inspection.

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<p>Care experienced young people in South Ayrshire were invited to design the cover for this report. We would like to thank the young person who created the artwork and we appreciate their valuable contribution.</p>	

Inspection summary of children, young people and families

Who we are



We are a team of inspectors who spent time in South Ayrshire from November 2025 - March 2026. It was our job to find out what was working well for children and their families.



We wanted to learn more about the support provided by local services to a specific group of children: children living with their parents who have been on **compulsory supervision orders***.

*Compulsory supervision orders mean that the local authority has responsibility for looking after and helping the child or young person.

What we did during the inspection



Surveys for children, parents and staff



Met children, young people and families



Read children's records



Met staff and leaders



Read information about local services

What we learned about your area



Most children and young people were getting the help they needed.



Children and young people were being listened to, and they helped inform how services were developed.



Most children and young people had good relationship with staff, who worked hard to support them.



Leaders recognised that people's needs were changing and understood that services had to be delivered differently. This was helping make people's lives better.

Our approach

The joint inspection of services for children and young people subject to compulsory supervision orders and living at home with their parents in South Ayrshire took place between November 2025 and March 2026.

Joint inspection teams include inspectors from the Care Inspectorate, Healthcare Improvement Scotland, His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland and His Majesty's Inspectorate of Education in Scotland. Teams also include young inspection volunteers, who are young people with direct experience of care or child protection services. Young inspection volunteers receive training and support and contribute to joint inspections using their knowledge and experience to help us to better understand the quality and impact of partners' work. Teams also may include associate assessors who are professionals from other organisations, who work as part of an inspection team for the duration of a particular inspection. More information about our approach to our joint inspections can be found [here](#).

Information about the range of evidence gathered during this inspection can be found in [Appendix 1](#). We take a consistent approach to inspections by using the [quality framework for children and young people in need of care and protection](#). Inspectors collect and review evidence against all 23 quality indicators in the framework to examine three key lines of inquiry which link with **the promise** foundations. In the final section of our report we evaluate four quality indicators using our [six-point scale](#). We also provide a confidence statement and outline next steps.

Throughout the report there are some terms which are in **bold**. This means that they are defined in the glossary which can be accessed [here](#). At the beginning of the glossary, we define what we mean by child, parent, and carer and subject to a compulsory supervision order while living at home. There is also an [area specific glossary](#) at the end of this report.

As the findings in this joint inspection are based on a sample of children and young people, we cannot assure the quality of service received by every single child and young person in South Ayrshire who are subject to compulsory supervision orders living at home with their parents.

Context

South Ayrshire's population was estimated at 112,260 in June 2024. Since 2001, overall growth has been minimal (0.1% increase), with declines in all age groups under 45. In contrast, the population over 45 has grown; most notably those 75+, increased by 48.28%. Looking ahead to 2032, the area's total population is not expected to grow, unlike Scotland overall (+4.4%). The 0–15 age group is projected to fall the most (–14.6%), while the over 75 group is expected to continue its strong growth¹.

¹ [National Records of Scotland](#)

20.7% of children in South Ayrshire were living in poverty after housing costs in 2023/24, which is on par with the Scottish average for the same period².

Public transport was limited in some rural areas. Regional bus fares were generally high, at times higher than the equivalent train journey. They were consistently perceived by the public to be higher than the cost of private car travel. This contributed to transport poverty within the authority area, impacting on individual's access to employment and education³.

Children and young people 'looked after' by the local authority⁴.

On 31 July 2024 there were 196 '**looked after**' children and young people in South Ayrshire. This equated to around 2% 'looked after' as a percentage of the local population, in line with the Scottish average. At that time around one-quarter of those children and young people were subject to a supervision order and living at home with their parents, which was more than the overall Scottish average.

² [Improvement Service](#)

³ [South Ayrshire Active Travel Strategy 2022-2032](#)

⁴ [Scottish Government – Children's Social Work Statistics](#)

Key messages

- Leaders placed priority on upholding the rights of children and young people.
- Staff were creative, agile and solution focused in the ways they supported children and young people, demonstrating a high level of professional commitment.
- The partnership's approach to early intervention was positively influencing outcomes, helping to prevent needs from escalating and ensuring that children and young people received timely support.
- The quality of plans for children and young people was inconsistent. Strengths in assessment and practice were not always translated clearly into effective planning.
- All parents and almost all children and young people had opportunities to build a relationship with a key member of staff, resulting in strengthened continuity and trust.
- An inclusive approach to involving children, young people and parents in reviews and decision-making processes, enabled meaningful participation.
- Leaders encouraged innovative practice, including the introduction of **Radical Place Leadership**. They demonstrated a sustained focus on improvement, and a commitment to embedding the promise.
- Leaders recognised the need for whole systems change and service redesign in response to changing needs and financial pressures. Impactful programmes were beginning to transform children's services.

Inspection findings

Key Line of enquiry 1

Children and young people are well supported to live with their families. This support helps to keep them safe, overcome difficulties and makes a positive difference in their lives.

Relationships

Staff consistently built strong, nurturing relationships with children, young people and families, recognising these as the foundation of effective practice. A positive cultural shift had strengthened children and young people's participation in decisions and planning. Professionals were adaptive so that the adults with the strongest relationships led key work, with staff showing agility and confidence across traditional boundaries.

The adoption of **Safe and Together** and **Signs of Safety** approaches improved engagement and reflected staff's strong understanding of trauma and the need for trust to support change.

Children and young people described consistently supportive relationships across services. Almost all parents felt well supported by staff, but a very small number felt that help could have come earlier, indicating some inconsistency in the support experienced.

Support to remain at home with families

The partnership had invested in early intervention. Statutory and third sector services worked cohesively to offer universal, specialist and targeted support. Parenting programmes such as the **Peep Learning Together Programme** was highly valued in helping parents to understand the needs of infants and very young children. Based on feedback from parents who said they wanted better consistency of parenting advice, **Togetherness** (previously Solihull) was being rolled out across the partnership. Operating across the eight school clusters, **Family First forums** ensured school-aged children, young people and their families could access timely and well-coordinated support to meet their needs within their local communities. Devolved funding allowed for flexible, needs led use of resources.

At the time of this inspection, almost half of the children and young people who were subject to compulsory supervision orders and living at home were **young carers**. The partnership worked well together to identify the needs of young carers and offer well-rounded support. The recognition of the differing needs between age groups of young carers was remarkable, identifying *wee carers* (primary-aged) and *teeny*

carers (under-fives). This demonstrated a comprehensive understanding of the scale and diversity of need.

Some children and young people experienced a move during the period of their compulsory supervision order, and a small number experienced more than two moves. Most received effective support to maintain relationships with brothers, sisters and other family members, upholding the promise foundations of *family* and *care*. The quality and impact of interventions was no different for those children and young people, compared with others who experienced no moves, demonstrating effective continuity of support.

Thriving Communities has established four locality-based teams in South Ayrshire. The teams are responsible for coordinating community learning and development, community safety, employability and health and wellbeing provision at a local level. Along with local partners, the service provided a wide range of supports to care experienced children, young people and their families within their local communities. All activities were designed to promote wellbeing, life skills, inclusion and a sense of belonging, and these were highly regarded by those who accessed them. They centred around quality outdoor learning, leadership opportunities, holidays (including families), and mental health workshops. Thriving Communities worked efficiently alongside the **Intensive Family Support Service** when families needed more flexible and targeted support to help children remain at home. **Integrated neighbourhood teams** were closely aligned with the child poverty strategy and informed by lived experience. Staff, children, young people and parents we met all highly valued and praised these resources, recognising a tangible and positive impact.

Mothers experiencing domestic abuse received compassionate, sustained support from Women's Aid. **Compass** offered a well-integrated hub of services including NHS addictions, justice social work, advocacy, housing, and thriving communities. Peer practitioners with lived experience further provided a valuable, non-stigmatising and accessible resource.

Young carers

Identifying and effectively supporting young carers under the age of 18 was a priority for the community planning partnership. This remained an area of priority in the 2024-2029 Local Outcomes Improvement Plan.

The number of young carers identified had increased over the last five years, with an **87%** increase from 602 in 2023/24 to 1126 in 2024/25.

South Ayrshire demonstrated strong practice by proactively identifying teeny carers (under fives), recognising and responding to early caregiving responsibilities. Funding was secured to support a two-year post to raise awareness and improve identification of teeny carers with colleagues and families.

The partnership had invested in a range of impactful awareness raising films, co-produced with, and featuring young carers, wee carers and teeny carers.

The partnership continued to invest extensively in young carers, to create opportunities, raise awareness and challenge stigma. Funding within the partnership, included £50K investment in residential and memory making days for wee carers; £15K to outdoor and adventure activities for young carers; and collaborations with local organisations including the Gaiety theatre, Ayr United football club, and Scottish Rowing.

Limited transport links and travel times meant that some services in the more populated north were more difficult to reach for those who lived in the more rural south. However, agile and solution-focused partnership working enabled staff to maintain flexible and responsive support for families. There was some variability in staff knowledge of third sector services, which at times limited the partnership's ability to make full and timely use of the wider support available. A few staff worked out with their usual hours on rare occasions, demonstrating personal commitment, but highlighting potential sustainability issues.

Almost all children and young people who responded to our survey said that they got all the help they needed some or all of the time. All parents agreed that the support they had received made their lives better and almost all agreed that the lives of their children had improved as a direct result of the support they received, endorsing partnership practice.

Support to stay safe

Staff were highly confident that they had the knowledge and skills to recognise and report child protection concerns. This was reflected in the partnership's initial response to concerns, which we assessed as mostly good or better. A co-located multi-disciplinary **initial response team** ensured concerns from various sources were appropriately assessed, allowing needs and required supports to be identified.

A high proportion of children subject to compulsory supervision orders and living at home also had their names listed on the **Child Protection Register** or had been subject to **Inter-agency Referral Discussion (IRD)** within the last two years. Strong and established arrangements were in place through the Scottish Child Interview Model (SCIM). All children and young people subject to **Joint Investigative Interview** in South Ayrshire were interviewed under SCIM, ensuring a dedicated multi-agency response by a specialist team of social workers and police officers.

Referrals to the **Scottish Children's Reporter Administration (SCRA)** on both offence and non-offence grounds had reduced significantly over recent years, which the partnership attributed to effective early intervention, diversion from prosecution and the consistent, proportionate consideration of referrals.

All children and young people who completed our survey said they could identify a trusted adult they could speak to if they felt unsafe. Children and young people identified staff across a range of services that had helped them. Most reported feeling safe all or most of the time when online or using social media; at school; or at home. While the majority felt safe in the community, a few said they only felt safe some of the time. In the small number of records we read where concerns related to a child or young person being at risk arising from circumstances in the community, we assessed work as good or better, demonstrating appropriate intervention.

Community planning partners responded proactively to emerging concerns within the community through a range of well-coordinated initiatives, such as *Safer Shores*; an effective multi-agency approach combining transport safety, proactive beach

patrols and targeted youth engagement. **Campus Police Officers** made a notable contribution to keeping children and young people safer through strong early intervention work. Working collaboratively alongside staff in schools, Thriving Communities, and the local community, they supported young people through well-planned individual and group-based activities, successfully diverting antisocial behaviours from escalating further. The partnership continued to develop its approach to **contextual safeguarding** through their active engagement in national networks and local safeguarding arrangements.

There had been a marked reduction in the number of all young people in custody and on community payback orders. The effectiveness of support to reduce concerns related to children and young people being in conflict with the law was good or better in the majority of records we read, demonstrating positive practice. Non-offence grounds were used proportionately when they applied to mitigate the future impact offence grounds may have had on young people.

Support with health and wellbeing

Children and young people benefitted from comprehensive health assessments when they became ‘looked after’, which identified health needs and informed assessment and interventions. The majority of staff agreed that the wellbeing and life chances for those subject to compulsory supervision orders and living at home were improving, reflecting optimism and positivity.

Most children and young people believed they had received the help they needed to improve both their mental and physical health, although staff perception was lower, indicating some disconnect in professional confidence around impact.

Where needed, children and young people received timely, targeted support for anxiety or emotional wellbeing difficulties from school nurses, education staff and family support workers trained in Let’s Introduce Anxiety Management (**LIAM**). The **Exchange**, a highly regarded commissioned school counselling service, provided additional support. Some young people in the **Virtual School** benefited from health-focused sessions delivered collaboratively by **Thriving Communities Active Schools** programme and education welfare officers, increasing their knowledge and confidence.

Timely trauma recovery services were provided by Children 1st offering responsive support to children and young people who had been interviewed under SCIM, The **Family Nurse Partnership** maintained purposeful contact with families on their caseload at least fortnightly, enabling effective monitoring of infants and very young children. Health visitor contacts through the universal pathway enabled early identification of concerns, leading to increased referrals to support workers to help improve developmental outcomes.

Staff highlighted the need for more timely access to specialist mental health services, including the **Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)** was needed. Nevertheless, the percentage of children and young people commencing treatment within the standard of 18 weeks of referral to CAMHS had consistently met

the 90% standard over the last three years, demonstrating strong performance against national expectations.

An effectively functioning multi-agency screening group met fortnightly to review and co-ordinate support for children and young people with neurodevelopmental needs. A commissioned neurodevelopment service significantly reduced waiting times by assessing children and young people and in some cases, providing timely short-term intervention. The partnership recognised the need for more sustainable post-assessment supports and improved provision. A new multi-agency pathway had been introduced to ensure families received timely and appropriate support, though it was too early to assess its impact.

Learning and achieving

All school-aged care experienced young people were overseen by the Virtual School. In January 2026, half of all children and young people who were subject to compulsory supervision orders and living at home were receiving support from the Virtual School and had an allocated welfare officer. This was having a strong and increasingly positive impact on attendance, attainment and exclusion rates. Most children and young people agreed that they had received help they needed with engagement at school. The Virtual School was creatively supporting children and young people to learn and achieve. Welfare officers were instrumental in helping children and young people get to school more regularly and access extra-curricular activities. The Virtual School had strong, embedded working relationships with other agencies, including Thriving Communities, social workers and campus police officers. This enabled support to extend well beyond school-based education, offering a joined-up model of support.

A comprehensive outcomes monitoring system effectively gathered data on care experienced children and young people, providing detailed analysis of attendance, achievements, exclusions and transitions from P.6 to S.2. Rigorous reviews of the data by the Virtual School headteacher enabled timely and targeted interventions and the allocation of additional support where needed.

Virtual School

The Virtual School effectively supported care experienced children, young people and their families to identify and address underlying barriers to school attendance. The range of support provided by the welfare officers was broad, covering all areas of wellbeing and financial inclusion. The Virtual School was highly valued by children, young people, parents and staff.

The Virtual School expanded the range of opportunities and experiences available to children and young people. Some of those included other family members, such as outdoor activities and residential weekends.

Led by the Virtual School, Routes into Skills Education (RISE) was created in 2025. This brought multi-agency teams together to support young people who may have otherwise been educated away from South Ayrshire. RISE focussed on the wider support needs of the young person, whilst providing a tailored curriculum at a pace to suit their needs, abilities and aspirations.

South Ayrshire's Skills Academy (SASKA) also sat under the Virtual School. Almost all young people who attended were care experienced and all gained qualifications.

The overall Virtual School provision had helped reduce school exclusion rates by over half.

The **attainment gap** for those subject to compulsory supervision orders and living at home continued to narrow, with the strongest SQA results yet. While children and young people 'looked after at home' still required more help than children and young people 'looked after away from home' and those not subject to supervision orders, the gap was closing in South Ayrshire. Attendance, completion of modern apprenticeships and positive destinations for care experienced young people were above national averages, demonstrating strong local practice.

School attendance remained lowest for children and young people subject to compulsory supervision orders and living at home. Secondary school attendance had improved by 4% in the last year. Educational psychology targeted support to care experienced learners, highlighting a needs-led approach. Care experience leads used data well and worked collaboratively to address trauma and reduce exclusions.

Sitting under the Virtual School, **RISE (Routes into Skills and Education)** offered a promising means of helping young people to re-engage with learning in their own communities and at their own pace. While still a recently introduced initiative, a few young people had been helped to achieve positive destinations. **South Ayrshire Skills Academy (SASKA)** provided an effective and impactful alternative learning pathway which transformed outcomes for some young people subject to compulsory supervision orders and living at home.

Understanding and upholding children's rights

Leaders were clear that embedding the rights of children and young people was a priority. The UNCRC was prominent within strategic documents, and an improved understanding of rights was becoming systematically embedded across all services. Children and young people were supported to understand their rights. The majority reported that staff had explained their rights to them all or most of the time, with the remainder feeling this happened sometimes. Children's rights impact assessments were regularly and appropriately completed and reviewed, reinforcing a strong commitment to rights-based practice.

Care experience was treated as a protected characteristic and as such there were a wide range of inclusive supports on offer. Alongside school-term activities, engaging holiday programmes were available. Thriving Communities ran a well-attended and valued summer programme in 2025, with many care experienced young people among the attendees.

The Champions Board, youth council and Virtual School pupil council all had representation from children and young people who had been subject to a compulsory supervision order and living at home. The Champions Board led 46 youth work groups during 2025, and the youth council and Virtual School pupil council provided effective, empowering platforms for young people to express their views and challenge leaders. Elected members ensured Cabinet papers were discussed with the youth council in advance of meetings, demonstrating a genuine commitment to shared decision-making.

Key Line of enquiry 2

The services children and young people receive are well planned and delivered in a way which is compassionate and by staff who put children and young people at the heart of decision-making. People in the workforce ensure that children, young people, and parents are meaningfully listened to, heard, and included.

Assessing and managing risk and need

Children and young people living in South Ayrshire subject to a compulsory supervision order and living at home were cared for by a confident workforce who knew how to assess risk and need. Staff applied established frameworks to undertake assessments and manage risk, which informed strengths-based practice and enabled more effective support for families.

Staff felt well supported and had a clear understanding of the values and standards expected of them. Regular opportunities to discuss concerns with line managers contributed to a culture of professional assurance. Parents' views strongly reflected this confidence, with all reporting that their child was safer as a result of the support they received. Most also identified improvements in their own circumstances and in their child's broader wellbeing. We found that the effectiveness of intervention in meeting identified needs and risks was good or better in a high majority of the records we read.

The combined use of Safe and Together and Signs of Safety was enhancing how staff approached care planning, risk management and intervention across services. However, we agreed with the view of staff that their use of the models could have been more consistently captured in written records. Nevertheless, these models were beneficial in promoting transparency, partnership working and increased family involvement in safety planning.

Simultaneous child protection registration whilst the child or young person was subject to compulsory supervision orders and living at home was seen as a common and, in some respects, pragmatic practice. This was particularly the case when awaiting grounds of referral to be established. It also reflected the ongoing legal uncertainty before a substantive order was granted.

Some staff believed that child protection registration provided a greater sense of visibility and prioritisation, given the tighter review timescales and better-known procedures in child protection. While this rationale was understandable, the approach did not always lead to proportionate intervention or timely decision making around de-registration. There was limited shared understanding of the purpose and function of compulsory supervision orders, and how these should operate alongside child protection processes.

Assessments and Plans

Assessments were consistently up to date, and the majority were of good quality, although around one-quarter were only of an adequate standard. Most reflected a multiagency approach, demonstrating a commitment to maintaining rounded information about children and young people's circumstances.

The quality of plans, however, was more variable, with just over half evaluated as good or better. While most staff were confident in preparing outcome-focused plans and reported completing these in a timely manner, this was not always borne out in the records we reviewed. Although most plans were multi-agency, up to date, and clearly set out how needs, risks and concerns identified in assessments were to be addressed, inconsistency in quality indicated a need for further improvement.

Most children and young people told us they had been asked what help they needed and that they felt included in developing their plans. Our review of records confirmed that children and young people contributed their views to initial assessments, plans and reviews, and their views were consistently respected. This demonstrated a clear commitment to participation, though the quality of written plans did not always fully capture the richness of this engagement. Almost all parents contributed their views to assessments and plans and reported that their views were taken seriously and respected.

Although case notes showed effective relationships and collaboration, some assessments and plans lacked the clarity and sharpness expected. The partnership recognised the need to streamline these documents and ensure they were more focused, concise, and outcome-driven. This matters because strong relationships underpin the partnership's work. Unclear assessments and plans can reduce the effectiveness and consistency of support for children and families. This suggested a skills gap in translating some good direct practice into high-quality written assessments and plans. Nevertheless, staff knowledge of their local communities was a distinct strength, contributing effectively to joint working and enabling timely support.

Effective Intervention

Most records contained clear evidence of purposeful work to secure a stable and caring home environment. In almost all cases, referrals resulted in a service being provided, reflecting a responsive and well-connected system.

The majority of interventions were good or better, indicating that these children and young people experienced meaningful and timely support. However, notable variability remained, with over one-fifth rated as adequate and a small number weak. This indicated that children and young people did not consistently experience the quality of support expected. The partnership's own audit activity had identified similar variability, and leaders were taking steps to improve consistency. This reflected a mature and reflective improvement culture, although continued focus will be needed to ensure improvements translate into consistently stronger practice.

More than a quarter of children and young people whose records we read remained subject to a compulsory supervision order and living at home for longer than two years. Non-school attendance was identified as a concern for just over half of those children and young people and we found the support given to maintain attendance was good, or better in most cases. Some staff believed that children's hearings retained some young people on compulsory supervision orders at home longer than necessary and against the recommendation of the local authority. We were not confident that partners shared a common understanding about proportionality of the purpose and continued value of the supervision order.

Reviewing progress, joint planning and decision-making

Reviews were helping clear decision making and the majority were good or better in quality. However, timescales were frequently not met, meaning that some meetings did not take place as scheduled. This inconsistency limited the reliability of the review system in ensuring timely progress for children.

The partnership had itself identified, through case file audit, that concerns existed regarding the scheduling arrangements for children's reviews. Areas for improvement had been appropriately agreed, including the introduction of a more proactive early-notification system to support timely preparation. A review of scheduling processes was also underway to ensure consistent alignment with statutory timescales, particularly for interim compulsory supervision orders. These planned changes represent a constructive and necessary response to identified areas for improvement.

Most children, young people and almost all parents were invited to and included in reviews. Almost all parents understood decisions made, reflecting strong participation and clear communication, though a small number still felt insufficiently informed or included. This indicated isolated but important gaps in inclusive practice.

Information sharing

Information sharing arrangements were well established and generally effective. Key professionals routinely attended relevant meetings and contributed to risk assessment and planning decisions. AYRshare provided a reliable and up-to-date digital platform, facilitating timely and accurate information exchange across social work, health and education. There was strong evidence of cohesive multi-agency working, characterised by effective communication and sound professional relationships across children's and adult services. This supported more holistic and informed decision making.

Views, wishes and expectations of children and young people.

The voice of children, young people and families was identified as a continued strategic priority. Children and young people's voices were well embedded across the partnership, and they were increasingly shaping both practice and strategic developments. Parents described staff as kind, understanding and honest, qualities which enhanced engagement and supported trusting, effective relationships.

All children and young people who responded to our survey said they were treated with respect, and that staff listened to them all or most of the time, indicating strong relational practice. Almost all reported being asked what help they needed for things to improve, and most felt that staff explained decisions clearly, demonstrating growing consistency in child-centred communication. Children and young people were able to participate meaningfully in decisions about their lives. Their views were routinely gathered around meetings, with choice offered regarding meeting format, reinforcing a flexible and respectful approach.

Advocacy arrangements were strong and well implemented. Advocacy was reliably offered ahead of 'looked after' reviews and children's hearings. Some children and young people chose not to use advocacy because they felt confident to contribute independently; an indication of empowerment and self-advocacy skills. Advocacy workers ensured that children and young people's views were accurately represented and heard. The partnership had ensured inclusive advocacy was available for disabled children and young people, and Children's panel members had received baseline training in British Sign Language and Makaton, supporting more inclusive and accessible communication.

Promising practice was emerging around including and amplifying the infant voice. Play-based approaches were used effectively to gather the views of very young children. Health visitors integrated infant observations within universal health visiting pathway assessments, and family nurses continued to implement a well-established programme for listening to the views of infants and children under two. This represented innovative and thoughtful practice. The teeny carers initiative was a pioneering project, enabling the earliest possible identification of very young carers. This was complemented by the wee carers offer for primary-aged children, ensuring a comprehensive and tiered approach to supporting young carers.

Staff, children and parents we met consistently emphasised the central importance of strong, trusting relationships in achieving positive outcomes.

Embedding the promise

Embedding the promise saw purposeful language changes and the coproduction of documents and strategic plans.

At the request of children and young people, 'looked after child' review meetings were renamed to include the child or young person's own name, for example, "*Sam's meeting.*" These developments helped to reduce stigma and demonstrated a clear commitment to ensuring services reflected the voices and experiences of children and young people.

The partnership brought corporate parents together and worked closely with the Champions Board, ensuring that children and young people with lived experience helped shape improvement. Through a collaborative process, the partnership, children, and young people jointly developed the **Parenting Promise**. This was further strengthened by coproduced digital resources, ensuring that the Parenting Promise was relevant and easily understood by children and young people across South Ayrshire.

The Signs of Safety approach enhanced participation, enabling clearer, strengths-based conversations through accessible language and manageable report formats. Safe and Together similarly enhanced participation in supporting children and young people affected by domestic abuse, contributing to more sensitive and inclusive practice.

Children 1st played a valuable and influential role in ensuring that children and young people meaningfully shaped future service design within the **Bairn's Hoose**. A dedicated group of young people contributed to developing questions and influencing the research approach, showcasing practice in youth-led design.

The partnership took its corporate parenting responsibilities seriously and staff at all levels were dedicated corporate parents, who understood their responsibilities. South Ayrshire's **corporate parenting plan**, the **Parenting Promise**, made a series of ambitious and meaningful commitments, including preventing school exclusion of care-experienced children, maintaining sibling relationships, and ensuring universal access to independent advocacy. These commitments applied to those who were in the local authority's care and lived at home with their parents, as well as those who did not. The partnership also committed to ensuring staff were skilled in trauma responsive practice.

Feedback and complaints

Mechanisms for gathering feedback and complaints were in place and functional, though opportunities remained to strengthen the consistency and depth of formal feedback collection. Children and young people were encouraged to provide feedback on their experiences of Children's Hearings, which was used appropriately to inform training of panel members and improvement activity. There were emerging examples of digital approaches, such as QR codes, being used to gather real-time views. The partnership had a clear and accessible complaints procedure, supported by a co-created child-friendly policy and guidance, reflecting a growing commitment to inclusive communication. There were positive indications that the partnership was actively striving to promote the participation and meaningful involvement of children, young people and families.

Key Line of enquiry 3

Leaders and managers work well together to create and maintain a joined-up system of care which delivers the right services to each child at the right time. This provides children and young people, their parents, and the workforce with help, support, and accountability.

Vision, values and aims

Central to the progressive work demonstrated by the partnership, is a consistent and well-articulated leadership approach that guides a shared vision, values and improvement.

The community planning partnership's strategic vision was clearly articulated and evidenced through the local outcomes improvement plan. There was strong and coherent alignment across strategic plans, demonstrating a well-coordinated approach. Staff agreed that leaders had a clear vision for the delivery and improvement of services for children and young people. **Health and social care partnership** (HSCP) staff valued their twice-yearly engagement sessions, which provided meaningful opportunities to review progress and reflect on shared values.

Leaders demonstrated strong commitment to collaborative working, underpinned by shared values and aims. Strategic direction was clearly aligned with both national strategies and local priorities, informed by meaningful engagement with children, young people and families. Plans were coherently linked across documents, helping staff maintain a consistent picture of the partnership's approach.

Staff valued the culture of collaboration across all agencies, including the third sector. Staff overall felt well supported by line managers, within a culture that actively encouraged professional curiosity and respected staff contributions. Staff expressed pride in the contribution they made to improving children's wellbeing. While most staff felt valued, a small minority were less certain, indicating pockets of inconsistency in staff experience within some areas of the partnership.

Recruitment, deployment and joint working

Maintaining workforce capacity in the context of significant budget savings remained an ongoing challenge. Nonetheless, a responsive workforce strategy was in place. While there had previously been recruitment difficulties in the south of the authority, workforce data and reports from leaders indicated that these issues were largely stabilising. Investment in training existing staff to become qualified social workers demonstrated a proactive and sustainable approach to workforce development. The majority of staff believed leaders ensured the necessary capacity to meet the needs of children and young people subject to compulsory supervision orders at home, although variances between services remained.

Leaders knew and understood the needs of children, young people and their families well and this was helping them to effectively target resources to the areas of greatest need. They were alert and responsive to the challenges experienced by families living in rural settings and they worked creatively to ensure equity of opportunity and access to services, despite some of the barriers associated with rural living.

Leadership of improvement and change

The partnership was ambitious and forward-looking in its approach to improving the quality and efficiency of services. Leaders were proactive in promoting the continuous improvement of children's services, using learning opportunities to drive change and secure better outcomes. They demonstrated a strong and sustained focus on improvement, supported by tight governance arrangements and a highly effective use of data. This enabled consistent monitoring and responsiveness to emerging needs. The Joint Improvement Group maintained effective oversight, using performance data and engagement with families to challenge variability and ensure continuous improvement across services.

The poverty strategy sat appropriately within the community planning partnership governance reporting structure; however, this was to be better aligned and fully integrated into the children's services planning partnership.

Guided by performance and outcomes data, the partnership recognised the need for whole systems change in response to shifting needs and financial pressures. Consultation with staff and with families were key components of change. Creative use of **Whole Family Wellbeing Funding** enabled commissioned research that informed the development of a promising and innovative whole-system, place-based model, **Radical Place Leadership**. This approach reduced institutional silos and demonstrated collaborative working with communities, ensuring that support was better aligned with people's needs.

This was still at an early stage of testing, having been piloted in Ayr North with four priority

Radical Place Leadership

Sponsored by key strategic leads, Radical Place Leadership was strengthening partnership working and fostering a culture of trust, empowerment, and shared accountability.

Consultation took place with Community Planning Partners, including communities. Four strategic priority workstreams were identified, reflecting the area's most persistent and complex challenges, confirmed through data and intelligence.

- People who were homeless or at risk
- Family poverty
- Children and young people not ready for school or work
- Drug and alcohol-related deaths

An Integrated Neighbourhood Team brought staff together from across the partnership to deliver on these priorities. Its work was driven by data, community insight, and lived experience.

The partnership recognised that significant resources were being directed toward a small number of families. The subsequent review to reduce duplication and improve coordination had the potential to deliver more effective, tailored interventions, while also improving efficiency.

workstreams. Informed by the same data, a new *healthy start* priority was appropriately added to the existing strategic priorities within the children and young people's services plan.

Sustaining services that deliver positive outcomes

Most staff felt optimistic and solution-focused about overcoming barriers to achieving the best outcomes. Leaders and partners were realistic about future budget pressures. A significant reduction in out-of-authority placements had generated substantial financial savings, which were reinvested to transform service delivery. This sustained focus had supported the development of impactful services such as the Virtual School, RISE and SASKA.

Positive outcomes were enhanced through localised decision-making. Small grants administered through the Champions Board empowered young people, enabling them to support their peers and access meaningful opportunities. The high uptake of grants by young people subject to compulsory supervision orders at home indicated strong engagement from this cohort. Although funding had reduced significantly for 2026, leaders were committed to reviewing and protecting this offer as far as possible.

Outcome-led initiatives were beginning to transform practice, particularly the Family First model, which was effective in identifying risk early and preventing escalation. The successful roll-out of Signs of Safety was welcomed by staff and had contributed to shared values and improved practice coherence. Training senior leaders alongside frontline staff was viewed positively, strengthening shared understanding and whole-system cultural alignment.

Oversight of multi-agency performance

There was credible evidence of ongoing review of performance targets. Efforts were being made to systematically identify information gaps, particularly in relation to promise data and performance information. The focus on implementing the promise was tenacious. Importantly, the **Parenting Promise** remained on track, with stretch targets appropriately carried forward. This was supported by a benefits tracker that provided transparent oversight to the **Corporate Parenting Executive Group**.

Strategic plans were publicly accessible, rights-based and firmly aligned with the promise. They were underpinned by robust **joint strategic needs assessments**, including a dedicated assessment for children and young people. These assessments provided evidence that promise work, Signs of Safety, the Virtual School, and Family First strengthened collaboration across services and contributed to a reduction in the number of looked-after children and young people. The children and young people's services plan had been independently reviewed, further validating the partnership's commitment to continuous improvement.

A comprehensive suite of data informed strategic planning, allowing leaders to identify emerging risks with accuracy. The partnership was also advancing efforts to include further data held by third-sector partners, reflecting a mature understanding

of data limitations and a commitment to improving cross-system intelligence.

The right strategic groups were in place to oversee performance, with mature performance measures that were regularly reviewed. Elected members scrutinised performance information and reports and they challenged leaders about what they were doing to improve, reinforcing democratic accountability.

While most staff believed that evaluation led to improvement, a small number were less certain, suggesting some inconsistencies in how learning was disseminated. Data sharing across services was strong, though some minor duplication persisted. Leaders were actively addressing this through investment in data analysis and improved information management systems. The partnership's use of neighbouring authorities for comparison, in addition to the local government benchmarking framework, was appropriate and pragmatic.

Involvement in service planning and development

Children and young people meaningfully influenced planning, policy and service development. One simple, but effective example was when the youth council recently challenged the affordability of some school lunches, facilities management listened to their concerns and agreed to review pricing and report back. This showed a rights-based, responsive and accountable approach.

The views of children and young people were clearly shaping language and approaches through a promise lens. The Champions Board and youth council were well regarded, providing highly influential mechanisms for young people to shape strategic decision-making. They played an integral role in informing leaders and elected members of lived experience, leading to tangible improvements. Elected members placed strong value on their direct engagement with care experienced young people, acknowledging their impact on decision-making.

Feedback was actively gathered and used to inform service delivery, and children and young people were informed about how their feedback shaped improvements. Commissioned research drew effectively on the participation of parents, and the findings helped shape strategic objectives. A self-evaluation by senior managers in November 2025 identified the need to further strengthen and systematise how feedback was gathered, indicating a mature and reflective improvement culture.

Workforce development and support

Staff felt skilled and confident in undertaking their duties competently. Although supervision frameworks existed, their application was inconsistently embedded. Line management support was generally accessible, but some variation in practice remained. More consistent managerial guidance could have helped staff achieve greater uniformity in the quality of assessments and plans.

Multi-agency training was widely recognised as beneficial, but access was variable across staff groups. Rurality was cited by staff as limiting access for some. While online training improved reach, it also reduced opportunities for networking and

relationship-building, which staff identified as important.

Strategic documents were honest and transparent about the challenges facing the partnership in delivering improvement and change. These included sustaining long-term investment, maintaining collaborative focus, navigating complex systems and ensuring continuity of leadership. Some services operated waiting lists, affecting timely support. However, multi-agency working mitigated these challenges and demonstrated effective use of joint resources.

Leaders recognised the need to strengthen communication with staff, although most staff reported that leaders were visible, communicative, and had a good understanding of the quality of frontline practice. This was not consistent across all agencies, indicating variability in leadership presence. Staff felt listened to and respected. The HSCP had developed a structured pathway to support staff into leadership roles and build capacity around leadership functions.

The partnership was demonstrating examples of how local and national evidence about effective practice shaped improvement. They were involved in driving elements of national improvement, such as work with young carers, the Virtual School and associated services.

Confidence statement

The Care Inspectorate and its scrutiny partners are confident that the partnership in South Ayrshire has the capacity to make changes to service delivery in the areas that require improvement and in which they can directly influence change. This is based on the following key points.

- Strong governance structures are already in place to enable change and the partnership has mature, functioning systems that can translate findings into improvement activity. The partnership adapts and improves, based on evidence.
- The partnership has a reflective, improvement-oriented and data-driven culture. This suggests that learning from this inspection will be implemented.
- Children, young people and families already influence change and that inclusivity is growing. The partnership has modified service design and practice, based on what they have heard from those with lived experience.
- South Ayrshire is deeply invested in delivering on the promise and is accountable for its delivery. The promise is becoming embedded structurally and culturally.
- The partnership has already identified some of the learning from this inspection and were planning and implementing further change before the inspection was announced. This provides confidence in a partnership that is self-aware, with live programmes of continuous improvement.
- Staff felt supported, confident and aligned with the vision, which are enabling conditions for delivering sustained change.

Next steps

The Care Inspectorate will request a joint action plan that details clearly how the partnership will make improvements in the key areas identified by inspectors. The partnership should consider the potential benefits of other improvement support to further embed self-evaluation activity and to ensure that they can continue to learn from other areas. Progress will be monitored and supported through the Care Inspectorate's link inspector arrangements.

Evaluations

We collected and reviewed evidence against all quality indicators in the framework to support the three key lines of enquiry. We use a [six-point scale](#) to provide formal evaluation of four quality indicators. A summary of these is provided below, along with a brief rationale.

Quality Indicator 2.1: Impact on children and young people.

We evaluate this quality indicator as **Very Good**

- Leaders placed priority on upholding the rights of children and young people. The UNCRC was prominently and consistently embedded within strategic documents, and rights-based practice was evident across services. Children and young people were actively supported to understand their rights, contributing to a strong culture of empowerment.
- Corporate parents demonstrated high ambition and aspiration, treating care experience as a protected characteristic in a meaningful way. This approach brought benefits, including prioritised access to modern apprenticeships, financial support, and enhanced opportunities for inclusion.
- Most children and young people believed they had received the help they needed to improve their mental and physical health, although staff perception was more cautious, indicating a possible gap in confidence or awareness of impact. Even so, the experiences of children and young people reflected positive progress.
- Care experienced children and young people were supported to take part in a broad and enriching range of learning opportunities. Educational attainment continued to improve, and young people were being effectively supported into positive destinations.
- Staff were creative, agile and solution focused in the ways they supported children and young people, demonstrating a high level of professional commitment.
- Almost all children and young people had valuable opportunities to develop a relationship with a key member of staff, an important protective and stabilising factor.
- All children and young people who required it received support to nurture relationships with peers, and almost all received appropriate and timely support to strengthen relationships with family members.

- All children and young people reported having an adult they could speak to if they did not feel safe, which is a strong indicator of trust and relational security. All parents agreed that their children were safer because of the support they received.
- Children and young people in conflict with the law were well supported, with targeted and proportionate interventions that helped to effectively divert them from prosecution and the adult justice system.

Quality Indicator 5.3: Care planning, managing risk and effective intervention.

We evaluate this quality indicator as **Good**

- All children and young people had an up-to-date assessment that considered their needs, wellbeing concerns and risks. Almost all assessments were multi-agency, and a high majority were of good or better quality.
- Almost all children and young people were provided with the opportunity to have a health assessment, which identified health needs and informed assessment and interventions. Most were of good quality, reflecting strong operational compliance with statutory expectations.
- Almost all children and young people referred for support, received a service, evidencing a responsive and well-connected partnership.
- The quality of plans for children and young people was inconsistent. Strengths in assessment and practice were not always translated clearly into effective planning.
- The partnership's approach to early intervention was positively influencing outcomes, helping to prevent needs from escalating and ensuring children and young people received timely support.
- All interventions were effective for at least the majority of children and young people, indicating a generally strong baseline, but also scope for improvement.
- 'Looked after' reviews occurred in almost all cases, and the majority were well chaired, with records showing progress and challenge. However, timescales were often missed, leading to delayed meetings. This inconsistency reduced the reliability of the review system in ensuring timely progress.

- There was a limited shared understanding across the wider partnership of the purpose and function of compulsory supervision orders, and how these should operate alongside child protection processes.

Quality Indicator 5.4: Involving individual children, young people, and families.

We evaluate this quality indicator as **Very Good**

- Children and young people were treated with respect, and staff listened to them carefully. Most had meaningful opportunities to contribute their views to assessments and plans, and most contributed to their reviews. Their views on decisions were clearly respected, reflecting a strong culture of participation.
- All parents contributed their views to assessments and almost all to plans, with their perspectives appropriately considered in decision-making.
- Advocacy arrangements were strong and reliably implemented, with advocacy offered ahead of 'looked after' reviews and children's hearings.
- Almost all children and young people had access to someone who could help them express their views, a significant indicator of equitable and inclusive practice.
- All parents and almost all children had opportunities to build a relationship with a key member of staff, resulting in strengthened continuity and trust.
- Almost all parents believed their child had received the right help to maintain loving and supportive relationships, evidencing strong relational practice.
- Children, young people and parents were asked for their views on how and where review meetings should happen, and almost all were involved. Parents were increasingly encouraged to chair or co-chair these meetings, promoting a more empowering and inclusive approach.
- All parents agreed that the support they received made their lives better, and almost all agreed their children's lives had also improved - strong indicators of positive impact.
- Although clear mechanisms for feedback and complaints were in place, there remained scope to further strengthen the breadth and consistency of formal feedback collection to ensure all voices are systematically captured.

QI 9.2: The leadership of strategy and direction.

We evaluate this quality indicator as **Very Good**

- Leaders demonstrated a strong, coherent and sustained commitment to collaborative working, underpinned by shared values and a clear vision for improvement.
- Priorities were well aligned with national strategies and local needs, informed by active engagement with children, young people and families.
- The Champions Board played an influential role in advising leaders and shaping improvements based on lived experience. Both the Champions Board and the youth council were well regarded by senior leaders and elected members, who valued them as key strategic voices.
- Strategic priorities were informed by a diverse dataset, strengthened further by engagement with children, young people and families. Evidence of ongoing review and monitoring demonstrated leaders' commitment to continuous improvement.
- Leaders maintained a strong and sustained focus on improvement. Well established governance arrangements supported consistent monitoring, effective oversight and responsiveness to emerging need.
- Leaders recognised the need for whole-systems change and service redesign in response to changing needs and financial pressures. Impactful programmes were beginning to transform children's services.
- Leaders demonstrated a strong understanding of the needs of children, young people and families, enabling them to target resources effectively.

Appendix 1: Summary of inspection activities

During the joint inspection we gathered evidence from a wide range of sources. This included:

Surveys

- We carried out a staff survey and received 304 responses from staff who worked in a range of services.

Meetings with children, young people, and families

- We listened to the views and experiences of 90 children and young people and 27 parents and carers. This included face-to-face meetings, telephone conversations and survey responses.

Review of written information

- We reviewed the initial information document, along with the initial 145 pieces of submitted written evidence. In addition to that we received and reviewed an additional 25 documents during the inspection. We also viewed a range of submitted videos.

Young inspection volunteer research

- Young inspection volunteers undertook some research to see what information, support or advice they could find for children and young people online and through social media around areas such as voice, health, education, money, drug and alcohol issues, support to young people in conflict with the law, and housing. They also looked at key strategic plans, such as the Parenting Promise, and reviewed how accessible they were to children and young people. They looked at whether children and young people were clearly involved in the development of plans.

Review of children's records

- We reviewed the multi-agency records of 60 children and young people who had been subject to compulsory supervision orders while living at home with their parents over the past two years.

Meetings with staff and leaders

- We met with 238 members staff including senior leaders and those who worked directly with children, young people and families.
- We met with five elected members.

We are grateful to everyone who spoke to us as part of this inspection.

Appendix 2: Area specific glossary

A full glossary of the terms that we use in our reports can be found [here](#).

Additional terms that we use in this report are listed below.

Peep Learning Together Programme	This is an evidence-based programme that supports the home learning environment. It helps parents and carers make the most of the learning and play opportunities in everyday life, so that children become confident communicators and learners.
Togetherness	These are learning pathways designed to enhance children's and families' emotional health and well-being. Parents can learn about their child's development and build their confidence in parenting.
Family First forums	Family First is a joint approach between HSCP, education and other agencies and is designed to support the aspirations of the promise and the ambition that children and young people in South Ayrshire Grow Well, Live Well and Age Well. Forums support young people who are at risk of exclusion, at key points of transition or have poor levels of school attendance. It is based on the 10 Principles of Intensive Family Support, helping families with their health, wellbeing, family relationships.
Young carers	A young carer is anyone under the age of 18 who helps to support someone. This can be a relative, friend or neighbour and they don't have to live in the same home.
Compass	Compass aims to remove barriers to accessing support for people affected by alcohol and drugs use, including those recently released from prison or hospital, or who have experienced a recent near fatal overdose. The service provided peer-based support, harm reduction advice and information, advocacy, and an element of coordination of support to help engage with services.
Virtual school	The Virtual School works with care experienced families and young people to address issues which may be preventing them from regularly attending school. It helps to identify underlying causes of attendance issues and provide support to manage these issues. The Virtual School supports young people to establish routines in school, to achieve core qualifications, and in difficult periods of transition. It also supports young people in their communities to make positive peer

relations, have the same opportunities and experiences as their peers, and championing their rights.

RISE (Routes into Skills and Education)

Rise is part of the Virtual School team and supports pupils who have been assessed as requiring education from highly specialist placements. The pupils have been previously supported through a range of universal and targeted interventions and high levels of support from multi-disciplinary teams.

South Ayrshire Skills Academy (SASKA)

SASKA creates a nurturing, respectful, and trusting learning environment where young people feel valued and supported. The programme aims to help learners achieve success, develop confidence, and build the skills required for positive destinations, with a strong emphasis on personal development, employability, and lifelong learning. Staff work with multi-agencies to ensure the most supportive plan is in place to gain qualifications and pathways to positive destinations for young people.

Radical Place Leadership

This approach is concerned with shifting power closer to communities and organising service delivery to focus on the support people really need, rather than organisational need and traditionally deliver. There is a focus on cultural change and long-term sustainability.

Corporate Parenting Executive Group

The corporate parenting executive group functions as the corporate parenting group, which has responsibility for the delivery of the Corporate Parenting Plan.

Parenting Promise

South Ayrshire's Parenting Promise is a plan for those who are care experienced and details what they can expect of their corporate parents.

Integrated neighbourhood teams

The integrated neighbourhood teams model is a whole system, place-based approach to delivering health and social care services, stemming from the Radical Place Leadership approach. This relationship-based way of working aims to reduce duplication in families lives in terms of the services who support them.

Intensive Family Support Service

The Intensive Family Support Service work with families who need a specific, targeted, and short-term intensive intervention to get back on track. The team will provide support for a set period, checking in regularly to ensure progress is monitored. The team help families work on making positive changes that last, build capacity and strengthen family skills through enhancing family

relationships; supporting new routines and boundaries; improving home environments; enhancing parenting skills, building confidence; and connecting to local communities and networks.

- Initial Response Team** The Initial Response Team is a central point for all concerns about children and young people. The service aims to get children and families help when they need it. A same day response will always be provided for children where there are child protection concerns.
- Thriving Communities Active Schools** **Thriving Communities Active Schools** aims to provide more and higher quality opportunities for children to participate in school sport and to increase capacity through the recruitment of volunteers who deliver the activity sessions.
- The Exchange** The Exchange Provides psychological support for children aged 5-12, helping them build resilience through collaboration with schools and parents.
- Thriving Communities** Thriving Communities is South Ayrshire Council's service responsible for delivering Health and Wellbeing, Community Learning and Development (CLD), Community Safety and Employability. The service operates across South Ayrshire and has established thematic and locality-based teams that support community planning priorities.

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STRATEGIC DELIVERY PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD OF 28TH MAY 2026



CHILDREN'S SERVICES SDP

Date of last meeting(s): The last CSPP meeting was held in August 2025.

CURRENT ISSUES OF CONCERN/CHALLENGES REQUIRING SUPPORT FROM THE CP BOARD AS AGREED TO ESCALATE BY SDP CHAIRS EXECUTIVE:

Reviewing progress of current plan is a continuous focus but particularly important in the coming months as we develop CS Plan 26-29 and bring Plan 23-26 to a close. CPP support sought to align shared priorities and strengthen joint working across the partnership in terms of whole family wellbeing.

MAIN CURRENT FOCUS OF THE SDP – LOIP PRIORITY AREAS:

The Promise

We will place love and relationships at the centre of the experiences and outcomes for every infant, child, and young person with care experience. We will do this through working together to fully implement the findings of the care review and The Promise by 2030.

Young Carers

Ensuring that all children and young people under the age of 18 who support, or help to support a relative or friend, because they have a physical or mental illness, disability, issues with drugs or alcohol, communication needs, or are elderly or frail, are recognised as being a South Ayrshire young carer. To work together across the CPP to ensure that young carers have access to the necessary support, advice, and resources to live a full active and achieving life.

PROGRESS UPDATE IN RELATION TO LOIP, LOCALITY PLANNING AND OTHER AREAS OF FOCUS:

Children's Services Inspection – Children Looked After at Home by Parents

Since the last CSPP update to the board, South Ayrshire Children's Services were notified of a joint inspection of services for children and young people subject to compulsory supervision orders living at home with their parents. A team of inspectors joined us in South Ayrshire from November 2025 to March 2026.

For this purpose of inspection, we were assessed against three key lines of enquiry and four quality indicators. This was a very positive inspection for South Ayrshire Children's Services resulting in:

- QI 2.1: Impact on Children and Young People – Evaluated as **Very Good**
- QI 5.3: Care planning, managing risk and effective intervention – Evaluated as **Good**
- QI 5.4: Involving individual children, young people, and families – Evaluated as **Very Good**
- QI 9.2: The leadership of strategy and direction – Evaluated as **Very Good**

The report is not available to share at the time of writing this update but will be published and available for the board in early May. As with any inspection, ongoing improvement work identified will be taken forward through the CSPP governance and planning processes.

Horizons Research Evaluation of Plan 23-26

CSPP Lead Officer works alongside Horizons Research to continually evaluate the progress and work of Children's Services Plan 2023-2026. This includes review of data, community intelligence, family and practitioner feedback, all reviewed against our action plans and high-level outcomes.

Key successes of Plan 23-26 include our collaborative and innovative use of the Whole Family Wellbeing Fund to promote placed-based multi-agency support from the right person, at the right time, in local communities. Family First, Rise, and our Early Years Connector work has been key to early help in South Ayrshire as we continue to keep families together where it is safe to do so. We continue to further our use of data to improve and this was also recognised within our inspection report.

Key next steps include increasing family voice within our evaluative activity, moving our early help into the earliest years and focusing on parental wellbeing.

The full evaluative report from Horizons will be available mid-May and is supporting to inform Plan 26-29 which is currently in the writing phase, with a draft due 1st May 2026.

The Promise:

FINAL Parenting
Promise 25-30.pdf

South Ayrshire Parenting Promise 25-30 was published in December 2025. Moving forward The Promise will find its governance within the Children's Services Planning Partnership, with the Corporate Parenting Executive Group moving into the main body of the CSPP. Over the coming months, multi-agency action planning will take place alongside a review of CPEG membership to ensure key partners are in place to support improvement work.

Plan 26-29

As a statutory requirement under the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, South Ayrshire must produce an integrated Children's Services Plan every three years. Our current 23–26 plan is now entering its final months, and development of Plan 26-29 is complete - with the writing phase underway.

Our established priority areas (The Promise, Child Poverty, Included, Healthy, People, Families, and Voice) will not change, however we now seek to deepen their ambitions in line with our commitment at the start of 2023 to deliver transformational change for South Ayrshire families. This includes strengthening our focus on early and preventative whole-family support.

To ensure we are led by family voice and those with lived experience, our JSNA is also informed by research and engagement with parents (in particular Wallacetown/Girvan/Care experienced young parents) to better understand how we can strengthen our early and preventative help offer with a particular focus on those who may need additional support to thrive. Themes from our JSNA include developmental concerns around speech and language, and the need for more integrated early help across services in the earliest years. In response, the CSPP has agreed to support a shift to a 'Healthy Start' priority which will bring our collaborative efforts together around improvements from birth to age 3.

Other key themes in Plan 26-29 include a deeper focus on parental wellbeing and recognising the critical influence of parents' mental health and wellbeing on children's life chances.

This analysis and engagement will ensure our refreshed plan both deepens and sharpens our collective response to local need, supporting families to thrive within their communities.

Child Poverty

The CPP should be aware that Child Poverty will now be a Priority Area within Children's Services Planning, with the Child Poverty Strategy feeding in as a key plan. In the upcoming Children's Services Plan 2026-2029 poverty will be a central focus, reflecting its role as a cross cutting theme that influences life chances for families across all priority areas. We will work to align the Strategy with and complement the ongoing work of other priority areas, similar to our approach with 'The Promise,' ensuring a coordinated and impactful response to poverty in all aspects of our services.

CSP 26-29 will support the Child Poverty Strategy by focusing on mitigating the harms that emerge from poverty.

Young Carers:

Presently in South Ayrshire over 1200 young people identify as being young carers with the breakdown noted as:

Teeny Carers – 16
 Young Carers – 1105
 Post School – 152

The board should be aware that the Young Carers Lead was recently successful in securing funding to establish at Teeny Carers Support Service. A steering group will be established to take this work forward.

The new Young Carers Strategy is also in development.

KEY ISSUES

1. [Children \(Care, Care Experience and Services Planning\) Bill](#) has unanimously passed the Scottish Parliament and now awaits Royal Assent. This has implications out-with CSPPs including services such as Housing (Care-experienced people become a mainstream priority for allocations, homelessness prevention and tenancy sustainment) and Adult & Universal Services (Health, mental health, employability and welfare services must actively identify and adjust offers for care-experienced people).

2. Sustainability of collaborative work (Family First, Rise, Early Years Connectors) when the WFWF concludes in March 2027. Discussions are underway.

Report Completed by:

Officer: Gillian Carroll, CSPP Lead Officer

Date: 21st April 2025

STRATEGIC DELIVERY PARTNERSHIP UPDATE
COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD OF 28TH MAY 2026



COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

Date of last meeting(s): 18th February 2026

CURRENT ISSUES OF CONCERN/CHALLENGES REQUIRING SUPPORT FROM THE CP BOARD AS AGREED TO ESCALATE BY SDP CHAIRS EXECUTIVE:

n/a

MAIN CURRENT FOCUS OF THE SDP – LOIP PRIORITY AREAS:

Safer Communities

We will work in partnership to reduce violence and antisocial behaviour in South Ayrshire by working with our local licensed and hospitality trade, schools, and local communities helping make South Ayrshire a safer place to live.

We will work in partnership to reduce all forms of violence against women and girls.

Home, Road, and Water Safety

We will work in partnership to reduce the number of serious accidents at home, on our roads and in our waterways by delivering and promoting a range of safety initiatives.

PROGRESS UPDATE IN RELATION TO LOIP, LOCALITY PLANNING AND OTHER AREAS OF FOCUS:

Reducing Violence JAG

Last Reducing Violence JAG meeting took place on 7th April 2026. The JAG continues to meet regularly to ensure appropriate sharing of information and forward planning to support increased footfall in South Ayrshire due to events being delivered locally, and to support the safety of individuals who attend to enjoy hospitality/nighttime economy with a particular focus on Ayr and Prestwick.

Street Pastors: Continue to engage with nighttime revellers and carry out distribution of flip flops to reduce number of falls, foil blankets to reduce effects of cold, water to reduce dehydration, and also pick up bottle and broken glass to reduce chance of injury. Street Pastors have now been trained in first aid and carry defibrillators when patrolling. Patrol reports can be monitored by following Ayr & Prestwick Street Pastors on Facebook.

First Aiders: The use of first aiders in Ayr town centre stopped at the end of March 2026. Street Pastors have trained in first aid and can now assist where required.

Taxi Marshals: continue to assist persons requiring transport home, reducing potential flashpoints in queues. Use of taxi ranks has reduced over recent months, with a number of factors possibly contributing. Amongst factors is movement of patrons to Prestwick, reduced number of taxis available, the positioning of rank, and increased use of private hire apps to pre-book taxis. This situation is being monitored and may lead to review of service.

Figures for the above are available on request on a quarterly basis.

The presence of partners helps keep people safe and supports local policing. Local police continue to visit licensed premises.

Safer Communities JAG

Last Safer Communities JAG meeting took place on 7th May 2026.

BonfireWatch 2025 initiative ran over October / November. Full evaluation is now available. 2025 saw a slight increase in the number of bonfires attended by SFRS. Based on the preventative spend toolkit produced by the Scottish Community Safety Network the average cost to the Fire Service for attending an outdoor secondary non-deliberate fire is £2000. In relation to the 7 bonfires attended by the fire service in 2025 this equated to a saving of £58,000 when compared to previously recorded highest number of call outs. No reports of attacks on SFRS personnel. BonfireWatch has been put forward for an APSE award.

Targeted youthwork continues in hot spot areas for anti-social behaviour throughout South Ayrshire. Particular focus on Ayr Town Centre which has seen a large increase in youth related antisocial behaviour. Following early intervention there has been a large decrease in football related antisocial behaviour. Strong partnership working with schools, police, football clubs and youth workers helped develop input and engagement around these issues, which included vandalism, graffiti, violence and use of pyrotechnics.

Problem Solving Group set up to address road traffic issues and antisocial behaviour and Blackburn Road Car Park in Ayr. Multi agency partnership approach, including community members. Engineering of barriers and introduction of signage has taken place, with additional police attention and action in and around the area. Further engineering to take place before full restriction measures take effect.

Dog fouling initiatives have continued to take place where resource allows throughout South Ayrshire. Concerns generally raised through Tenants & Residents groups and Community Councils. These again have led to a reduction in community complaint re issue. Work in partnership with Environmental Health, Waste Management and Housing.

Re-deployable CCTV groups met in March, and new deployments agreed as follows –

1. Victory Park, Girvan
2. Elba Street, Ayr
3. Whitletts Road, Ayr
4. Lochside Road, Ayr
5. High Street, Ayr
6. James Street, Ayr
7. Mill Street / Smith Street, Ayr
8. Mainholm Road, Ayr
9. Ferguson Street, Ayr
10. John Street, Ayr

Home, Road & Water Safety JAG

Last meeting took place on 13th May 2026/ Road Safety input has been developed, and sessions continue to be delivered to all secondary schools in South Ayrshire. Themes being covered include hazard perception, wearing of seatbelts, in car distractions and substance misuse.

South Ayrshire Water Safety Policy not being progressed at this time. Continue to link with Pan Ayrshire Water Safety group, identifying local issues and sharing good practice. Planning continues to highlight water safety campaigns going into spring/summer months.

S1 Community Safety events / inputs planned for May/June at secondary schools throughout South Ayrshire. As well at Home, Road and Water Safety, themes will include Rail Safety, Safe Travel, Healthy Relationships and Substance Misuse. Partners involved include Police, SFRS, NHS, Coastguard, BTP and SAC Thriving Communities.

Safer Communities Scotland (formerly Scottish Community Safety Network) stress the importance of reducing accidents within the home, and how this links to aging well and tackling social isolation. This is particularly relevant for South Ayrshire, as it has one of the oldest populations in Scotland.

Violence Against Women JAG

The last VAWG Joint Action Group meeting took place on 12th May 2026.

- VAW strategy 2026-2029 launched January 26, along with Summary document and video.
- National Network Conference took place at Cosla February – networking and linking with other authorities.
- Pan Ayrshire leads and chairs group has been set up to share practice.
- Star centre/Rape Crisis new helpline launching – update to be provided at VAWP 20/5/26.
- MVP – staff session planned for 21st May - Karen Barlas will provide update and stats going forward at VAWP.
- Targeted S4 Belmont girls group activity ongoing – 4 week programme including healthy relationships, sexual health and onto 'get set girls with small steps team.
- Moving On Ayrshire – update on grooming Resource 'it's only a photograph' (including Belmont girls group) to incorporate local issues describes by local people.
- Continued links with TC supported Women's Groups and third sector linking, supporting, and referring. Wallacetoun WG to becoming constituted and independently run by June.
- International Women's Day in March saw events with engagement from Happy Mondays Group/ Wallacetoun Women's Group and Harbour Ayrshire.
- White Ribbon – Girls football tournament will take place on May 29th, active schools and TC providing Chocolates and Flowers input.
- Pan Ayrshire White Ribbon World Cup, June 10th Townhead, Cumnock – teams from all Ayrshire / input and stalls – use as starting point to launch White Ribbon awareness raising events up to 16 days through the JAG.
- Training – staff changeover at SAWA has resulted in delays with our JAG training but can now confirm CSE dates – 23rd June, 1st Sept, 30th Nov and December 7th – will be available on Coast.
- South Ayrshire Women's Ais will offer Domestic Abuse awareness training sessions council wide throughout summer.
- 16 days planning has begun: dates provided at next JAG
- Next VAWP meeting to be held on May 20th

KEY ISSUES

Reducing Violence

- Target weekends to be identified by Reducing Violence JAG to ensure properly resourced.
- Consider re-siting of taxi stance in Ayr to reflect changing trends.

Home, Road & Water Safety

- Increase in potential water safety issues due to increase in wild swimming and water-based activities.
- Increase Water Safety messaging and initiatives, particularly over the summer months, and around new pontoon development on River Ayr.
- Road safety issues particularly in relation to younger and older drivers.
- Renewed focus on accidents within the home.

Safer Communities

- SAC to consider approach and response to new Firework Legislation.
- Safety concerns and issues around closed/derelict buildings in Ayr town centre.
- Concerns re proliferation of vaping shops and safety of young people.
- Community concerns regarding impact of use of offroad vehicles.
- High levels of complaint in relation to dog fouling and other environmental issues.
- Increase in youth related antisocial behaviour in Ayr town centre.

Violence Against Women

- Continue to develop Pan Ayrshire approach to reduce violence against women and children.
- Focus on Commercial Sexual Exploitation.
- Creation of safe spaces and support for women fleeing violence.
- Introduce training for all Council staff in relation to Domestic Abuse Awareness.
- Raise focus on Positive Masculinity.

Report Completed by:

Officer: David Porte

Date: 07/05/2026

STRATEGIC DELIVERY PARTNERSHIP UPDATE
COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD OF 28TH MAY 2026



FINANCIAL INCLUSION AND GROWTH SDP

Date of last meeting(s): 12TH FEBRUARY 2026

CURRENT ISSUES OF CONCERN/CHALLENGES REQUIRING SUPPORT FROM THE CP BOARD AS AGREED TO ESCALATE BY SDP CHAIRS EXECUTIVE:

- Reduction and changes to funding to support employability.

MAIN CURRENT FOCUS OF THE SDP – LOIP PRIORITY AREAS:

Financial Inclusion

We will work in partnership to help individuals and families access financial support services that will assist with fuel poverty, income maximisation and food insecurity. Partners will ensure local support is available that assists with the cost of living by ensuring advice, guidance and support services are accessible and available across South Ayrshire.

Economic, Employability and Lifelong Learning Opportunities

We will work in partnership to prepare and assist people for employment, training, education, and volunteering opportunities. We will create opportunities that will assist our communities to thrive through economic development and local wealth building activity.

We will ensure provision in South Ayrshire is aligned with local, regional, and national priorities by developing personal centred approaches for individuals accessing our services.

PROGRESS UPDATE IN RELATION TO LOIP, LOCALITY PLANNING AND OTHER AREAS OF FOCUS:

Local Employability Partnership Update:

To support Parents into employment Thriving Communities have been working with Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA) to fund training costs to support South Ayrshire residents to become registered childminders, resulting in affordable childcare being available for Thriving Communities clients to progress back/into employment. Although opportunities were offered across South Ayrshire, there was a specific focus on the Carrick area, due to limited/no affordable childcare available in the area. Unfortunately to-date there has only been one person from the Carrick area. Funding will come to an end March 2026.

Discussions have taken place with Head Teacher clusters on how Education colleagues can help Thriving Communities engage with Parents to make them aware of employability support available to them. Education will send a link to Parents to fill in their contact details should they wish to hear more about Thriving Communities Employability offer. There have been no responses from Parents looking for support, as yet. This is a concern, especially when South Ayrshire is 2nd in the County for out of work benefit claimants.

Regional Economic Strategy (RES) / Local Growth Fund Update:

Proposal for the **Local Growth Fund** will be presented to the Ayrshire Economic Joint Committee on 28th May 2026. The funding will be focused on supporting skills and employability support, enabling growth and infrastructure and support for businesses.

There is a significant reduction from the previous UK Shared Prosperity Funding and there is a greater focus on capital investment. Draft proposals are being consulted on now, and the proposals should be approved by the end of May before being submitted to Government.

The updated **Regional Economic Strategy (RES)** will be presented at the Ayrshire Joint Committee on 28th May 2026. The key areas include business and economy; place, environment and people; and community. The LGF proposals are aligned to the RES actions and the proposals in the draft investment plan should create opportunities for delivering the key interventions.

Information & Advice Team Update:

A location review to look at drop-in times will take place on 9th February with possible changes from 1st March 2026. All locations will retain a service and those with low engagement will be encouraged to make referrals through awareness sessions, head-teacher meetings and in-service days.

Early Intervention work

A further update on the continuing Education Programme roll out of “Getting to Know Your Money”. Sessions have been completed in 2 secondary schools, in progress with 3 secondary schools (varying year groups) with 3 sessions still be arranged.

Awareness Sessions 2025

Sessions have taken place for internal staff as well as delivering to unique teams including Thriving communities, Scottish Welfare Fund, VASA/Connect and Ayrshire Housing.

Information and Advice Hub, and Energy Agency Updates:

- The Scottish Government launched their autumn campaign in early October and ran through until late November, this campaign featured TV, Radio and press advertising along with a strong social media campaign. As a result, we saw a significant increase in activity across all our channels which has resulted in a boost to the number of referrals are making to Warmer Homes Scotland.
- We continue to work closely with our partner network to ensure that information about our services, support and potential funding support is getting out to those people who most require it, and that will continue to be a significant focus over the remainder of this year.
- Our Energycarers continue to see significant demand for their services, a number of customers requiring support dealing with fuel debt, supplier issues and hand holding through their Warmer Homes Scotland.
- continue to see significant demand for support for customers struggling with the ongoing high fuel costs with the demand for support through the fuelbank foundation and other crisis funds remaining high.
- Our Stay Warm, Stay Well project that the Agency is delivering in partnership with Energy Action Scotland continues to make good progress. The funding for this project is sourced from National Energy Action and Scottish Gas networks. The aim project is to provide advice and support to householders to enable them to stay warm and safe in their own homes. The project is particularly focussed on supporting people with a physical or mental health condition.

Wallacetown Partnership:

- Continuation on New Tenant Focus with our core team partners. Options being explored around new methodology to best engage with residents.
- A bolstered partnership with Recycle Ayr has enabled us to link tenants with home furnishing support to support the transition into a new home. ‘New Tenant packs’ also being explored to offer new tenants things that can turn a new house into a home, bedding, cutlery, pots & pans, curtains, furniture, wall art.
- Within the Wallacetown Hub SSAFA – a number of new groups are using the Hub to meet and further talks with other organisations have taken place.
- Work has begun on the 2026 Community Art Festival which will take place in August/September this year.

KEY ISSUES

- Engaging Parents in employability support remains challenging, which results in out of work benefit claimants remaining high in South Ayrshire.
- Future funding/staffing resources are a concern. Although the funding from this group has allowed us to extend 5 FTE from March until October 2026, some other funding streams are uncertain.
- Funding from MacMillan Cancer support (0.6 FTE) ends on 31st May 2026. A new locality lead has been established for South Scotland and future funding will be allocated based on 20% of the most vulnerable (under categories defined by MacMillan). Although future funding may be possible it is unlikely to be for the same amount and McMillan are now focussing on how those delivering services sustain it, with a view to funding from them ending within 3 years.
- Trussell Foodbank for 1 FTE Advisor funding ends in August 2026 with no further extension at this time.
- Currently have a number of staff absences within Information & Advice Hub, however at present timescales for contact remain within 7 days (we do review and prioritise urgent cases). We will continue to review our position and if necessary, may need to advise customers of extended timescales.

Report Completed by:

Officer: Jamie Tait

Date: 08/05/2026

STRATEGIC DELIVERY PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD OF 28TH MAY 2026



POPULATION HEALTH SDP

Date of last meeting(s): 28TH JANUARY 2026 AND 10TH MARCH 2026

CURRENT ISSUES OF CONCERN/CHALLENGES REQUIRING SUPPORT FROM THE CP BOARD AS AGREED TO ESCALATE BY SDP CHAIRS EXECUTIVE:

MAIN CURRENT FOCUS OF THE SDP – LOIP PRIORITY AREAS:

Ageing Well

We will focus on ‘Ageing Well’ which will incorporate the work of our Ageing Well Strategy and the development of Age Friendly Communities. We will work with our stakeholders and local communities to codesign what our key priorities for ageing should be so that we are working together to make South Ayrshire the best place in Scotland to live and age well.

Mental Health Improvement including Suicide Prevention

We will support the mental health and wellbeing of our communities with a focus on prevention and early intervention, aligning with Scotland’s Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

Green Health and Active Living

We will focus on green health which is about engaging with nature to improve physical, mental and social health and wellbeing e.g., walking, gardening/growing, bird watching. Alongside this we will focus on active living which involves building physical activity into everyday actions e.g. taking the stairs rather than a lift, having walking meetings, cycling as part of a journey.

Physical Activity and Sport

We will co-ordinate and monitor physical activity and sport, so that everyone across the life course will have opportunities to be involved in, and remain involved in, physical activity and sporting activities.

PROGRESS UPDATE IN RELATION TO LOIP, LOCALITY PLANNING AND OTHER AREAS OF FOCUS:

Workshop 28th January 2026 discussion key items such as:

- What is being delivered and how we ensure maximum impact (across a prevention continuum) to effect change in this space as a team.
- How we demonstrate leadership and collaboration across the whole system to fully realise preventive potential.
- How we ensure our work reaches those most affected by poverty and inequality, including rural and remote communities.
- The gaps are in our current approach, and what practical steps we can take to close them.
- How we embed prevention across all systems and services, not just in strategic plans.
- What evidence demonstrates progress and impact across communities.

Ageing Well:

- Ageing Well second year plan developed and now on Pentana to allow for performance reporting.

- Transport Sub-group to be formed to address key transport issues and develop a pilot local transport project.
- Recent Oversight Meeting highlighted some key housing related work – one outstanding action is to develop some mitigation re absence of a Care and repair service.
- Work ongoing with health improvement staff to develop pilot Care Navigation/Health Literacy course.
- VASA leading work on Age Friendly Employment.
- Falls Prevention a major new theme and also within Service Plan for HSCP – new Falls Group established following development session.
- Big Cheerio event in Girvan
- Connect – Ageing Well content on web-site still in development.
- Champion’s Board had input re Service Plan at recent meeting.
- Scotland Age Friendly Community continues to meet and is led by South Ayrshire – priority to ensure pre-election period provides opportunities for raising older people related issues.

Mental Health and Suicide Prevention:

- Contributions to CLD Partnership as mental health is a cross-cutting theme.
- Discussions planned re links to Connect and contributions to mental health & wellbeing information available via Connect South Ayrshire
- Discussion re learning event (Ayrshire wide) which will focus on data and group are keen to include positive stories, creating hope and patient stories/voice of lived experience as well as data.
- Discussion regarding Violence Against Women (VAW) and opportunities for mental health and suicide prevention training for the VAW group.
- Further Low Road screening for CPP colleagues took place on 6th February, group members and SAC colleagues continuing to explore opportunities for a community licence for South Ayrshire.

Green & Blue Health:

- A further year’s funding has been sourced from Walking Scotland and Ayrshire Roads Alliance to continue the South Ayrshire Health Walks Officer post.
- Thriving Communities are currently hosting a successful programme of community-based cycling sessions across Maybole, Ayr and Troon. Targeted cycling opportunities are also being offered through the Rock Up and Ride programme to young people who require additional support. Thriving Communities have carried out a consultation in partnership with the NHS to identify barriers and opportunities to improve adult participation in cycling. Funding has been secured for accessible bikes to support children, young people and adults with additional support needs to access cycling opportunities.
- As a follow up to the Blue Health calendar launch, two groups in Wallacetown have been consulted to review the impact of the calendar launch and consult regarding further activities, including a regular walking activity.
- Green health app funding comes to an end at end February 2026. Naturescot have managed to secure 2 years funding to continue hosting of the app with Piota (within the NHS Ayrshire & Arran container app), however an alternative solution will need to be found at the end of this time.
- A presentation on South Ayrshire Connect was given at the subgroup. Connect will be considered as an alternative platform for green health information and a small working group will be set up to look at this.
- Use of the app in January has increased by 53%, due to promotion of a number of new events, and encouraged use by Community Link Practitioners. Overall active use of the app remains relatively low; however advantages include the offer of green health activities in one place, and its ability to offer push notifications, prompting use of the app.
- Green and Blue Health and Active Living subgroup has considered an options paper. Partners (particularly public sector) have found it increasingly difficult to source funding to deliver green health activities, to offer opportunities for people to connect with nature to improve their physical and mental health and wellbeing. The GBHAL subgroup includes a wide range of partners from NHS, local authority and third sector. The options paper includes a proposal to set up a body/organisation which would allow funding to be sought and secured for delivery of green and blue health activities. Public sector partners such as the NHS and local authority feel unable to lead on this type of initiative, however third sector

partners are willing to assist. It is requested that the Population Health SDP enable a discussion with wider SDP groups facing the same challenges, to see whether there is desire to set up a body to secure funding.

KEY ISSUES

- Difficulty in sourcing funding

Report Completed by:

Officer: Sally Amor, Chair, Population Health SDP
Date: May 2025

STRATEGIC DELIVERY PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD OF 28TH MAY 2026



SUSTAINABILITY SDP

Date of last meeting(s): 25 February 2026

CURRENT ISSUES OF CONCERN/CHALLENGES REQUIRING SUPPORT FROM THE CP BOARD AS AGREED TO ESCALATE BY SDP CHAIRS EXECUTIVE:

Partners are asked to continue to consider if their organisation should be represented on either the SDP or the subgroups delivering on the LOIP listed below. Partners are also asked to consider if they have activity areas that they would like to see added to the ClimateView database.

MAIN CURRENT FOCUS OF THE SDP – LOIP PRIORITY AREAS:

Energy

We will work to encourage appropriate energy use in South Ayrshire (reduced use through behaviour change, energy efficiency measures, good design etc) and promote low and zero carbon sources of energy where possible. We will work with partners to promote the installation of local renewable energy generation and its use. Demonstrating best practice in Scotland.

Food

We will promote healthy diet choices that reduce the ecological footprint of our food and encourage sustainable local food production and consumption.

Travel

We will work to promote and enable the sustainable travel hierarchy to reduce car distance driven and ensure when travel is required it is as sustainable, active, and low emission as possible. We will support 20-minute neighbourhoods.

Nature

We will work to create functional nature networks and connect people with nature.

PROGRESS UPDATE IN RELATION TO LOIP, LOCALITY PLANNING AND OTHER AREAS OF FOCUS:

At its last meeting the SDP considered progress made for LOIP priorities through the South Ayrshire Council integrated impact assessment. Partners remain committed to supporting development of assessments and mitigations as appropriate to ensure best possible outcomes. At present most assessments are positive and help not sought. Climate literacy training under development is expected to build capacity among officers completing assessments to encourage more comprehensive consideration of topic areas where input might be more likely to be sought. More information will be provided at the next SDP on assessments which are underway where help could be proactively offered.

The SDP is the Transition Team for South Ayrshire working with ClimateView and the Scottish Climate Intelligence Service. Information regarding the national analysis of interventions input by Local Authorities across Scotland was shared with the SDP. In South Ayrshire interventions from both the LHEES and Active Travel Strategy have been uploaded onto ClimateView and contributed to this national dataset. Most of the South Ayrshire interventions are concepts although these will be updated as progress status evolves and interventions will be added from other strategies not yet uploaded. The information shows the link between the national policies and transition elements, and we can use the number of interventions per transition as an early warning system regarding policy delivery success or failure, with the strength of this growing as more data is added. Partners were asked to share any actions they would like to see inputting into the platform, and these could be added to the data set. It is intended that the Ayrshire Regional Economic Strategy Action Plan will be

considered for inclusion across the region and that in South Ayrshire we will add our Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy Action Plan in the coming months.

The Scottish Government is funding a piece of work to look at our Ayrshire regional approach to climate change adaptation. This work will be carried out by the Sustainable Scotland Network working together with the 3 Ayrshire Councils in the first instance and will involve working with wider partners and partnerships as part of this. This will be on the agenda again at the next SDP meeting.

An Ayrshire Climate Springboard event took place on 20th March at UWS. The event was well received with proposals to keep the evolving network in touch moving forward and convene again in future.

Work is now underway to evolve the Action Plan for the recently approved South Ayrshire Biodiversity Strategy. The SDP was also updated that the Natural environment bill has been approved by the Scottish government and targets will be set towards the end of 2026 although the top priority is connectivity both regionally and locally. Actions relating to the bill will be developed soon. South Ayrshire Rangers Service held a launch for the Stepping Stones to coincide with Earth Hour on 28th March. The launch featured the launch of a booklet, short videos from all 12 communities, workshops and presentations. It was well received and more information including ways to get involved is available from the stepping stones website, www.stepping-stones-sa.org.uk More content will be added to the website over time and booklets will be available from libraries and other public locations. There will also be associated events during the year ahead which will be publicised.

It has been agreed that Ayrshire would take a regional approach to the development of our Good Food Nation commitments to have a good food nation strategy for each council and the NHS. The food subgroup is set to meet on 11th March and will meet again shortly to take this work forward.

The SDP received an update provided by ARA on the work that ARA are delivering and the progress being made in terms of Active Travel in South Ayrshire. A clear link is now in place between the SDP and the South Ayrshire Council Active Travel Member Officer Working Group to share information and make progress on the LOIP travel priorities.

The energy subgroup met on 30 April. The group had an input from Ed Forest of the Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere and took in wider representation from across Ayrshire in order to consider common approaches to supporting communities with energy issues. The meeting was very positive with a number of common areas identified and ways to make links to support people. It was also agreed at the meeting that the subgroup would be jointly chaired by Emma Bernard (Energy Agency) and Callum Roberston (SAC).

The Ayrshire Climate Hub updated the SDP on their positive work in the region, including the delivery of £25,000 seed funding distributed among groups. Delivery partnership funding will become a competitive model due to wide interest.

Green health week is on the 18th to 24th May. This year's theme will be '**Green Health: A Shared Action**'. Focus this year on green health in practice and showcasing examples across various organisations and partnerships.

The Nature Networks toolbox has updates with more guidance on including nature networks in LDP. Climate change and communities included.

KEY ISSUES

Partners are asked to continue to consider if their organisation should be represented on either the SDP or the subgroups delivering on the LOIP listed below. Partners are also asked to consider if they have activity areas that they would like to see added to the ClimateView database.

Report Completed by: Lorna Jarvie

Officer: Lorna Jarvie, SDP Chair and Lead Officer

Date: 08/05/2026

LOCALITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD OF 28 MAY 2026



LOCALITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIPS (LPP)

Date of last meeting(s):

- Ayr South LPP 28 April 2026
- Ayr North LPP 30 April 2026
- Girvan/South Carrick LPP 13 May 2026
- Maybole/North Carrick LPP 14 May 2026
- Troon LPP 22 April 2026
- Prestwick LPP 13 April 2026

MAIN CURRENT FOCUS FOR THE LOCALITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP:

CENTRAL LOCALITY

Ayr South – Priority areas for LPP are Community Connectedness, Promoting Good Mental Health and Wellbeing, Supporting our Ageing Communities.

Ayr North – Priority areas for LPP are Promoting Good Mental Health and Wellbeing, Reducing Harms from Alcohol, Tobacco and Drugs, Supporting an Inclusive Economy that Reduces Poverty and Inequality, Supporting our Ageing Communities.

In both Ayr North and Ayr South LPPs subgroups are being created to reflect each of the priorities. It is hoped that this will allow focus from partners on the areas of specialty they bring to the table.

Ayr South LPP is currently without a chair, with the Senior Manager from the Central Locality supporting the meeting. In Ayr North LPP, a chair and vice chair are in place.

SOUTH LOCALITY

Girvan/South Carrick – Priority areas for LPP are promoting good mental health wellbeing and physical health, managing long term health conditions, tackling social isolation and loneliness, tackling drug and alcohol issues and supporting unpaid carers.

Maybole/North Carrick – Priority areas for LPP are promoting good mental and physical health including ageing well, tackling drug and alcohol issues and tackling social isolation and loneliness.

For both LPPs, the current priorities will remain however following public consultation, more priorities may be added after discussions at the May LPP meetings.

Both LPPs meet monthly and adopt a hybrid approach for attendance. Girvan/SC is on a Wednesday evening, and Maybole/SC is on a Thursday afternoon. The Girvan/SC LPP takes place consistently in Carrick Opportunities Building and the Maybole/NC LPP alternates between Maybole Library, McCandlish Hall (Straiton) and the McCosh Hall (Kirkmichael).

NORTH LOCALITY

Prestwick – Priority areas for LPP are Isolation and Loneliness, Caring for Carers and Promoting Good Mental Health and Wellbeing. Since last year the LPP has not identified a chair going forward.

The Principal Social Worker for the North Locality currently supports the group with help from the vice chair. The LPP meets on a bi-monthly basis on a Monday afternoon at Biggart Hospital.

Troon – Priority areas for LPP are Supporting People with Long-term Health Conditions, Tackling Social Isolation and Loneliness and Promoting Good Mental Health and Wellbeing.

The LPP has no chair or vice chair in place but is supported by the Clinical Nurse Manager for the North Locality. The LPP meets on a bi-monthly basis on a Wednesday morning at the Municipal Buildings in Troon.

PROGRESS UPDATE:

CENTRAL LOCALITY

Engagement

TEC Talks to promote Technology Enabled Care were delivered across both localities in late November / early December in partnership with SAC Community Libraries. 83 people attended these sessions with positive feedback. We will be pursuing these in the new session.

To increase awareness of the LPPs and community-based services, both localities held Community Roadshows which visited Annbank, Tarbolton, Forehill, Ayr Town, Alloway, Dalmling and Lochside. These sessions were supported by AILN, Staying Ahead of the Curve, Community Links Practitioners, VASA, Crossroads and South Ayrshire ADP. People attending were provided with information on local services being provided across the localities with access to additional support if it was required.

Promotion of Locality Planning Partnerships has been integral to all the community events outlined.

Consultation

Both LPPs had input on the Engagement and Consultation Strategy for the HSCP and the opportunity to provide comments and feedback.

Performance and Reporting

The LPPs are asked to feed into a number of reporting structures, including the Strategic Planning Advisory Group, the Performance and Audit Committee, the CPP and internal HSCP groups. Each Locality has a Plan, with actions aligned to the priority areas identified. These plans are currently being refreshed by each LPP.

Both LPPs have created working subgroups to identify actions that will support the delivery of the LPP priorities within the respective plans.

Ayr South

LPP attendance has dropped within Ayr South, with only 1 or 2 community members attending. Attendance at the LPP continues to be mainly professional staff however representatives from Ayr and the villages have been in attendance. The LPP now schedules their meetings across communities within the locality and have met in Alloway, Ayr town and Annbank this year. The Partnership Engagement Officer continues to communicate with local organisations to encourage attendance.

It was agreed that due to the small numbers participating in Ayr South LPP that from the new year, they would meet bimonthly allowing a focus on the priorities to be undertaken.

Moving forward we are working with SAC colleagues to investigate a hybrid approach to our future meeting allowing more people to participate.

A focus on the Ayr South activity has been around local resilience, with work being progressed with the Ayr South Resilience Group which brings together representatives from the Three Villages to plan for unexpected incidents, for example, extreme weather or major incidents in local areas.

Ayr North

The LPP is fortunate to have an increasing number of engaging participants in attendance, with sustained participation from key partners. Partnership Engagement Officer has been working on this with a positive outcome. The LPP currently has both a Chair (from Ayrshire Housing) and Vice Chair (from South Ayrshire Council).

The development work to create and implement an Integrated Neighbourhood Team within Ayr North continues.

SOUTH LOCALITY UPDATE

Engagement took place across the localities for the Engagement Strategy and toolkit, and the final draft has been created and sent out for final comments. The Partnership Engagement Officers will lead on the strategy and attend the Engagement Strategy Oversight Group to ensure it is being implemented and imbedded across the partnership.

The Partnership Engagement Officer for Carrick has been involved in organising the 'What Matters To You' roadshow with Tommy Whitelaw delivering the sessions. The roadshow will take place over a 2-week period at various venues and the PEOs will support in person at each of the sessions.

Girvan and South Carrick

Extensive engagement has taken place in relation to the Locality Plan and the priorities to ensure they still meet the communities' needs. This has been done through face-to-face meetings with local groups, consultation with the LPP members, as well as an online survey. The plan will link in with local and national strategies. Following the consultation, the current priorities will remain however further priorities may be added after discussions at the next LPP meeting.

The LPP continues to encourage speakers from different organisations/groups to attend and speak to the members about the work they do in the community which also gives opportunity for joint working. The LPP have had various speakers at the meetings including Faye Murfet who discussed the ADP Strategy Refresh, David Rose from Active Travel and Stewart Marshall and Phil White who discussed the Ageing Well Service Plan.

We worked in partnership with our colleagues in the MSK team to deliver a MSK Community Appointment Day on Friday 20th March. Patients on the MSK waiting list were invited along to be assessed on the day. There were numerous stallholders in attendance to allow patients to receive information at the same time and the telecare hub was also available for patients to access. 28 patients were assessed on the day, and feedback has been very positive.

The LPP is working in partnership with VASA to deliver the 'Big Cheerio' event on Wednesday 6th May in The Wave Hub in Girvan. The event will be to give people as much information on preparing for passing away including Power of Attorney, writing a will and funeral services.

A tech demo session has been organised for Thursday 30th April in Girvan Library, and it will showcase what is available to help keep people independent in their homes. Murray Waugh from the Telecare Hub will deliver a presentation on what is available.

Work is taking place to open a Connect Hub in Nursery Court in Girvan. The date for the opening still has to be confirmed.

The Locality Planning Partnership continues to attend a variety of meetings such as the Community Planning Participation & Engagement Group and Adult Strategic Carers Meeting.

Maybole/North Carrick

Engagement has taken place in relation to the Locality Plan and the priorities to ensure they still meet the communities' needs. This has been done through face-to-face meetings with local groups, consultation with the LPP members, as well as an online survey. The locality plan will be a 3-year plan and will link in various other strategies and pieces of work taking place in Maybole and North Carrick. Following consultation, the current priorities will remain however more may be added after discussions take place with the members at the next LPP meeting.

We have recently recruited a Chair for the LPP meetings – Simon Glendenning. Simon has extensive knowledge of the locality and will be a great link to other groups such as the Community Council. We have moved the LPP meetings to 6 weekly in the hope that we can encourage more community engagement and increase the membership.

Over the last few months, the LPP has had various speakers including Faye Murfet who discussed the ADP Strategy Refresh, Stewart Marshall and Phil White who discussed the Ageing Well Service Plan, Andrew Downie from Harbour Ayrshire and David Rose from Active Travel.

A second small grants process has taken place to distribute the remaining funding, and 11 groups were successful in gaining funding. These groups have been allocated a mentor who will support them through the evaluation process.

The LPP members allocated some funding to celebrate unpaid carers. This funding was used to organise a wellbeing session that took place at the Community Wellbeing Hub in Maybole, and carers from the locality were invited along to have a sound bath, then mix up their own aromatherapy oils whilst enjoying light refreshments. The feedback from the session was positive. We also allocated a small amount of funding to each of the schools in Maybole and North Carrick for them to celebrate Young Carers Action Day on Wednesday 11th March.

A tech demo session has been organised for Wednesday 22nd April in Maybole Library, and it will showcase what is available to help keep people independent in their homes. Murray Waugh from the Telecare Hub will deliver a presentation on what is available.

The Maybole and North Carrick Connect Hub is now open and a timetable is being built up which will have different services that will be available for the community to access.

NORTH LOCALITY UPDATE

Prestwick

Following on from the previous update, Jennifer Ferguson has been chairing the meetings in the absence of the Senior Manager who had been chairing previously. There has been good community representation at the meetings so far this year with a focus on ensuring individuals recognise their “membership” role. The group have been revisiting terms of reference and looking at confirming a membership list to ensure that meetings are quorate and the group are in a position to make decisions / award funds based on adherence to terms of reference.

The LPP continue to be active within the communities they represent, events are well supported by the engagement officer. Over recent months there have been Tech Care events with the Rotary club and also with Dementia friendly Prestwick.

At the most recent LPP meeting, the Prestwick membership agreed that they will continue with the same priorities moving forward, these were as follows:

- Isolation and loneliness
- Caring for carers
- Promoting good mental health and wellbeing

However, the group did note that they would revisit the priorities should an alternative area be noted within the locality profile.

There have been presentations at recent meetings to discuss the engagement consultation and the Ageing Well strategy, these were both well received and resulted in good discussions within the meeting. In relation to future meetings there is a plan to invite groups who had funding awarded in the last 12 months to present on how they have utilised their funding to the benefit of the community.

Since the last update the Connect hub has opened in Prestwick and updates are provided to the LPP group. This will continue to be an area that is discussed to ensure that the Connect Hub can be used flexibly to support the citizens of Prestwick.

Troon

The group have discussed a number of challenges associated with implementing the Connect South Ayrshire model within the Troon localities – both a physical hub and consideration to ‘spokes’. A key issue highlighted was the ongoing difficulty in identifying suitable, accessible, and sustainable accommodation options.

It was agreed that a subgroup should be established to link with Lesley Reid Senior Manager, to support further exploration and understanding of potential delivery models. This approach will enable more focused discussion and informed consideration of the most appropriate options.

There has been a strong emphasis on the need to gather local intelligence to better understand community needs and determine which model of delivery would be most effective.

The group also agreed that access to up to date profiling data would be beneficial in informing the final selection of the three priority areas. However, there was a general consensus that the overarching priorities are unlikely to change, with sub-groups playing a key role in shaping the detailed approach.

The group agreed to formally discuss and confirm the three proposed priority areas at the May 26 Locality Planning Partnership (LPP) meeting, informed by the availability of up-to-date profiling data.

The identified priority themes are:

- Supporting people living with long-term health conditions
- Tackling social isolation and loneliness
- Promoting good mental health and wellbeing

It was agreed that sub-groups will be established to further develop these priorities, with a focus on defining specific outcomes aligned to each theme and identifying how these can be effectively delivered within the local context.

An Alcohol and Drug Partnership (ADP) representative attended the meeting at the request of the group and will provide a presentation at a future session. This will support the group in developing a better understanding of substance use within the community and inform future discussions and planning

Report Completed by:

Officer: Lesley Reid, Sandra Rae, Mark Halpin, Val Burns, Neil Goudie

Date: May 2026



**COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTICIPATION AND ENGAGEMENT GROUP (CPPEG)
UPDATE TO
COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD OF 28TH MAY 2026**

Date of last meeting: 18th March 2026

Main current focus of the group:

The main focus of the Community Planning Participation and Engagement Group is to inform the process of widening community engagement within a community planning setting through representation of communities of interest, forums that sit within VASA (Voluntary Action South Ayrshire) and community and third sector organisations. The Community Planning Participation and Engagement Group will also support CPPs on the best approaches for engagement activity for plans/strategies.

The group considers any engagement opportunities and consultations from Community Planning Partners. The group plans to produce workable examples which can be used to promote the group and the benefit of bringing consultations and potential engagement activity.

The group will continue to give advice to organisations about their consultation processes and share consultations with wider partners and promote good pro-active practices.

PROGRESS UPDATE

Since the last CPP meeting the CPPEG have met twice. The meetings focused on consultations that the Thriving Communities Health and Wellbeing Team and the HSCP were carrying out.

David Rose – Thriving Communities Health and Wellbeing Team, Community Sports Hub Officer
David presented the services consultation on understanding cycling needs within the authority. David explained the purpose of the consultation and how the consultation was going to be delivered and promoted.

Neil Goudie – HSCP Partnership Engagement Officer
The HSCP are currently consulting on their new Engagement Strategy and Toolkit. The members of the group were guided towards the online consultation page where they could make comments.

The group were also shown the Council budget consultation and how to navigate the site and complete the questionnaire and were informed about SEPA's (Scottish Environment Protection Agency) consultation on Flood Risk Management and advised that this could be accessed through the SEPA website.

KEY ISSUES/ACTIONS

- **The group will continue to meet, and the co-chairs will continue to promote the group through the SDP groups.**
- **The group will develop examples of how the group can assist organisations with consultation process. This will show the reach of the group to CPP members and the benefits from involving the group in the consultation process.**

Report Completed by:
Officer: Lorraine McKenzie (Vice-Chair)
Date: 7th May 2026