

Arran and Cumbraes

Kilmory Wildlife Viewing

Kilmory Public Hall

Project cost: £36973 Eligible cost: £36973 Grant award: £17948

Public match funding: £15000 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £4025

The project aims to increase public awareness of and enthusiasm for wildlife on Arran, particularly hen harriers, and highlight the value of wildlife as a tourism asset. A room in the hall will be transformed into a viewing area for three months each summer. Live CCTV footage of a hen harrier nest will form the focus of the wildlife viewing room and it is hoped that other cameras can show Arran's wildlife in close up. An information officer will be engaged, who will interpret the CCTV footage, lead guided walks, give talks and run events. Volunteers will support the information officer and the project will work closely with the volunteer run tearoom, farmers' markets and other events that operate from the hall. In year one. Arran specific interpretation will be installed in the room to give a more local focus and a dedicated webpage will be set up to promote the project. It is hoped this will encourage people to visit from across the island and from the mainland.

Grant awarded 15 May 2008

Arran and Cumbraes

Market Research: Growing Sustainable Tourism on Arran

Visit Arran

www.visitarran.com

Project cost: £18568 Eligible cost: £18568 Grant award: £8828

Public match funding: £8000 Private match funding: £1740

In-kind match funding: £

The aim of the project is to conduct comprehensive research to assess the economic value of Arran's natural heritage to the island's tourism industry in comparison with Arran's other assets. This will help to evaluate the potential for increasing Arran's tourism income via increasing visitor spend during high season and increasing visitor numbers in the shoulder months. It is intended that strategies will be developed to increase visitor enjoyment, visitor spend, return visits and out of season visitors to the island and ensure that tourism is developed in a sustainable way. The research will evaluate the potential for adding value to Arran's natural heritage for visitors and to bring revenue in to businesses in Arran (tours, walks, boat trips, interpretation, leaflets etc) It will also evaluate the effectiveness of the island's various festivals in contributing to island image and visitor numbers and assess the support for a visitor payback scheme to support environmental projects on the island. The research will act as a baseline survey with which to compare progress. The main activity of this project will be the design and delivery of a questionnaire to visitors to Arran on their return trip on the ferry.

Grant awarded 27 June 2008

Arran and Cumbraes

Brodick Seafront Path

North Ayrshire Council

Project cost: £445000 Eligible cost: £445000 Grant award: £144750

Public match funding: £289250 Private match funding: £11000

In-kind match funding: £

The Brodick Seafront Path project aims to create an off-road route between the ferry terminal in Brodick on the Isle of Arran and the village centre. The existing provision between the ferry terminal and the village is poor and problematic therefore the project aims to provide an attractive route along the seafront, which will provide a focal point for the village and greatly enhance the amenities of Brodick for local residents and visitors. A new path will improve access to local facilities such as shops, libraries, sports facilities, the seafront and the ferry terminal. It will provide a safe route to and from the ferry service for passengers and make Brodick a more attractive and welcoming location, improving the aesthetic appearance of the seafront. This will improve visitors' initial perception of the island and add value and link to the works already carried out by a wide range of community organisations including the Brodick Improvements Committee and the Arran Coastal Way Group by providing a connection into the wider Arran pathway network. The project will also provide new signage for visitors highlighting community facilities and visitor attractions.

Grant awarded 26 September 2008

Arran and Cumbraes

Arran Wildlife Events Programme

Arran Natural History Society

Project cost: £33697 Eligible cost: £33697 Grant award: £16848

Public match funding: £15673 Private match funding: £1176

In-kind match funding: £

The Arran Wildlife Festival has been piloted over the last 3 years. It has been funded annually by SNH and organised by representatives of national wildlife organisations such as RSPB. A public meeting in 2008 revealed strong support for the Festival, but a desire for the Festival to become more sustainable and to be run by an island organisation so that the Arran community can take “ownership” of it.

The Arran Wildlife Events Programme will be run by the ANHS. The society will build its capacity to organise safe, well marketed events through acquiring the necessary training and skills. This will allow them to increase awareness of Arran’s wildlife, encourage people to record and conserve wildlife, promote its value to Arran’s economy and ensure that it is sensitively enjoyed. As well as the 8 day Festival other events will be held throughout the year, widening the number of people, both local and visitors, who will be able to learn about Arran’s wildlife.

An 8 day wildlife Festival in May including guided walks, talks, film evenings, art events and sea trips. The Festival will also include practical conservation activities and schools events to increase participation by local children. Throughout the year other one off events will be timed for seasonal highlights, for example red deer rut or fungi identification. Involvement in practical conservation will be encouraged with beach cleans, making and installation of nest boxes.

Grant awarded 12 December 2008

Arran and Cumbraes

Farming on Arran

Arran Theatre and Arts Trust Ltd

www.arrantat.co.uk

Project cost: £15500 Eligible cost: £15500 Grant award: £7250

Public match funding: £7750 Private match funding: £500

In-kind match funding: £

This project will link agriculture and the environment through an arts-based project working primarily with local schoolchildren. Arran Theatre & Arts Trust will work with NT Countryside Rangers to engage the services of suitable artists to stimulate interest and appreciation of the local natural environment. In the first part of the project the school groups will visit a local farm, accompanied by teachers, artists and rangers. The farmer will show them the workings of the farm, including any special measures taken to promote wildlife and public access. The children will find out about local produce and links to their community. In addition the rangers will share their expertise on the natural environment. The young people will be encouraged to question and record their observations. During the school-based sessions the artists will work with the children helping them to interpret their ideas using art, drama and digital technology. Other specialists may also visit the schools to share their knowledge. As the project progresses the children will create and contribute to a blog, enabling them to discuss and share their ideas with participants in other Arran schools. A project website will allow a wider audience to learn about the project. At the end of the project all participants (children, teachers, farmers, rangers, artists and other interested parties) will come together for an exhibition / presentation of the work created. The project will promote understanding of the outdoors as both a working and wild environment and raise awareness of links between local farms and the local community. The work produced and displayed at the exhibition will help to showcase Arran's natural heritage and demonstrate the potential of the area to become a green tourism destination.

Grant awarded 27 March 2009

Arran and Cumbraes

National Cycle Network Route 73 Brodick to Corrie Feasibility Study

North Ayrshire Council

Project cost: £30000 Eligible cost: £30000 Grant award: £12750

Public match funding: £15750 Private match funding: £1500

In-kind match funding: £

National Cycle Network Route 73 is a long distance route between Kilmarnock in East Ayrshire and Lochranza on the Isle of Arran. The route is predominantly off-road in mainland Ayrshire and provides a relatively flat and traffic free route for users. On the Isle of Arran, the route is on-road on the A841 between the settlements of Brodick and Lochranza. This route is one of the key roads on Arran and is also regularly utilised by vehicular traffic for everyday journeys, transport and haulage. The route is also used by walkers, cyclists and horse riders of all ages and abilities as it provides the most level route to and from the main settlements and ferry terminals. The route is also identified as a Core Path in the adopted North Ayrshire Core Paths Plan. The need for an alternative and preferably off-road route has been identified by the local communities, in a number of strategies and studies and through extensive public consultation. These include initial studies examining the potential for the creation of an off-road route. A working group was formed in 2009 to take the project forward and identified the need to appoint suitably qualified and experienced consultants to undertake a detailed feasibility study to identify the most economically and environmentally viable route given the sensitive coastline and the distance between the two settlements. The aim of the project is to undertake a feasibility study through the appointment of consultants to identify the most economically and practically viable route between Brodick and Corrie as an alternative to the existing on-road route.

Grant awarded 11 March 2010

Arran and Cumbraes

Visitor Payback Initiative (VPI)

Visit Arran

www.visitarran.com

Project cost: £20700 Eligible cost: £20700 Grant award: £10350

Public match funding: £ Private match funding: £9350

In-kind match funding: £1000

VisitArran is a Destination Management Organisation which aims to promote and develop the tourism industry on the Isle of Arran in an economically and environmentally sustainable way for the benefit of the business & resident island communities. Tourism is worth over £29m annually to the island economy and directly employs over 30% of the island workforce and is by far the island's most important industry. VisitArran works with over 60 small island businesses and community organisations and with public sector partners on actions which will improve the overall quality of the destination, the viability of the entire island economy and seeks to make tourism a year-round industry providing high quality employment opportunities for the indigenous population, and strengthening the rural economy. During the course of the last few years, considerable research has been undertaken on Visitor Payback Initiatives across the UK and Europe. A number of best practice case studies have been identified and VisitArran now wishes to update this information using a tailored sample base relevant for the island to inform the process for implementing a VPI. Initial visitor exit survey research has shown that there is already a favourable response to this potential approach. The project will be based on research and implementation during its first year of operation, identifying the viability of various methods of implementation. A series of facilitated and consultative workshops will be held to enable maximum engagement in the process as it develops.

The primary objective of implementing a VPI on Arran would be to enable the delivery of environment and tourism projects on the island which allows visitors to choose to give money to assist the conservation or management of places they visit. Visitor payback refers to voluntary giving rather than a compulsory payment such as a local tourist tax. This research study and implementation plan will provide a clear recommendation on how VPI should be delivered on the island.

Grant awarded 11 March 2010

Arran and Cumbraes

Arran Woodlands

Arran Theatre and Arts Trust Ltd

www.arrantat.co.uk

Project cost: £8537 Eligible cost: £8537 Grant award: £4191.67

Public match funding: £1000 Private match funding: £3345.33

In-kind match funding: £

Arran Theatre & Arts Trust wish to develop a project which will explore the diversity of Arran's woodland environment through expressive arts working with groups from the island community. Arran has large areas of woodlands: Forestry Commission plantations and mixed deciduous woodlands, including Arran's unique hybrid species of white beam. Woodlands are important to the island as a resource for timber, wood fuel, wildlife habitats and as places of recreation. The Trust will work with National Trust Countryside Rangers to plan and carry forward this project, engaging the services of suitable artists with experience of working with community groups and running successful projects. Drawing on the skills of these local artists, NTS countryside rangers, foresters, teachers and others, the project will use science and the arts to engage three groups drawn from the Arran community (a group from Arran Primary schools, another from Arran High School and a group of adults with learning disabilities) in an exploration of the diverse ways in which people and wildlife benefit from woodlands. The culmination of the project will take the form of an exhibition of artwork, with presentations and video screenings from the participants that will enhance public appreciation of Arran's woodlands as a diverse resource enhancing the environment, supporting the economy and adding to the experience of island life.

This project has developed as a result of a successful 'Farming on Arran' project which was piloted by Arran Theatre & Arts Trust in 2009 with the assistance of LEADER funding. A DVD depicting the results of this project is available on request.

Grant awarded 11 March 2010

Arran and Cumbraes

Reintroduction of Black Grouse to Arran

Arran Black Grouse Group

Project cost: £5218 Eligible cost: £5218 Grant award: £2000

Public match funding: £2500 Private match funding: £718

In-kind match funding: £

Black grouse are a national priority species and are identified as a priority in the local Ayrshire Biodiversity Action Plan. The ABGG have established a captive breeding programme of black grouse on Arran. Initial releases of captive birds have also been undertaken and are currently being monitored through students from Glasgow University. However, a full population viability assessment is required to determine how many birds need to be released in the future, and an assessment of the prime habitat areas for black grouse is required to optimise the potential of the release sites. Arran is a good location in which to attempt to re-establish a population of black grouse. The island location means that any re-introduction project is unlikely to have any negative impact upon black grouse conservation work elsewhere in Scotland. The project also provides an excellent opportunity to learn about the factors that influence re-introduction projects, and could inform future projects if it is scientifically monitored and if the results are made widely available. No other group are attempting black grouse re-introduction in Britain. If this is successful it will help inform other black grouse programmes such as those taking place in Holland and Germany. Black Grouse are declining throughout Europe so this project could provide a template for halting their decline and help to increase black grouse numbers where there are remnant populations. If successful, Arran could become a net exporter of black grouse into areas where there are remnant populations. This is a community led project and is run through volunteers and utilises local expertise. To date there has been considerable support for the project through individuals giving up spare time to assist in constructing pens and caring for the captive stock. In the long term, a wild population of black grouse could contribute to the economics of Arran through wildlife tourism.

Grant awarded 11 March 2010

Arran and Cumbraes

Isle of Arran Mountain Festival 2010

Isle of Arran Mountain Festival

Project cost: £3500 Eligible cost: £3500 Grant award: £1750

Public match funding: £1480 Private match funding: £270

In-kind match funding: £

Isle of Arran Mountain Festival (www.arranmountainfestival.co.uk) aims to promote, extend and encourage green tourism, healthy outdoor pursuits, understanding of Arran's cultural and natural history and benefit the local economy as a whole. Based on the report of last year's festival it has been identified that marketing and promotion of the event is a key area of activity that needs to be improved and extended. With anew emphasis on online marketing, including a more professional festival website, on-line booking facilities, a regular newsletter, an online gallery and a blog, the project is aiming to reach and appeal to a wider audience.

Grant awarded 17 June 2010

Arran and Cumbraes

Isle of Arran - Scotland's Food Island

Taste of Arran

www.taste-of-arran.co.uk

Project cost: £94780 Eligible cost: £94780 Grant award: £47300

Public match funding: £22500 Private match funding: £24980

In-kind match funding: £

On May 27th 2010, Tourism Minister Jim Mather announced a year-long culinary celebration as the first in 4 themed years to build on the Legacy of the 2009 Year of Homecoming and pave the way for the subsequent Homecoming Celebrations in 2014: 2010 Food & Drink; 2011 Active Scotland; 2012 Creativity and Innovation; 2013 Natural Scotland. A Taste of Arran, the island's network of 11 food producers, and VisitArran, the island's social enterprise Destination Management Organisation encompassing 75 diverse businesses, have worked in partnership with Event Scotland and Scotland Food & Drink to identify a programme of events which will allow the promotion of Arran as one of the UK's premier tourism destinations and position Arran as Scotland's Food Island. Proposed themes in the following years have many synergies with the Arran 'Product Offering' and present a clear framework on which to build a promotional programme which will be the catalyst for the sustainable economic growth of the island's tourism industry. The annual theme for 2010 builds on work already undertaken where Food & Drink is a cornerstone of the 'Arran Brand'. All of the companies involved in Taste of Arran are based on the island and use traditional recipes and locally produced ingredients wherever possible resulting in a range of high quality products with provenance and heritage. Funding is currently being sought to employ a full time Project Manager to co-ordinate an initial year long programme of activity and to provide a budget for individual events and associated promotional activity. A full list of these events and related expenditure accompanies this application.

Grant awarded 09 August 2010

Arran and Cumbraes

Clachan Church Development

Shiskine Valley Trust

shiskinevalley.org

Project cost: £5000 Eligible cost: £5000 Grant award: £2500

Public match funding: £2000 Private match funding: £500

In-kind match funding: £

Shiskine Valley Trust on the island of Arran was formed in 2006 to coordinate community activities in the villages of Blackwaterfoot, Shiskine and the surrounding area. The Trust recently became owners of the Old Clachan Church, St Molio's Chapel, which was under threat of demolition. Local people were anxious to preserve this historic building which is of significant archaeological interest and is adjacent to the local cemetery. Trust members and volunteers have made the building safe by repairing the walls and removing the undergrowth which had begun to consume the building. The Trust aims to preserve the church building as part of the cultural heritage of this part of Arran, and make it more accessible to the wider community. The project to be undertaken is to 'pick and point' the walls, lay membrane on the floor and cover it with gravel to allow easy public access. Interpretation boards will be erected giving a history of the site and the present structure, providing information for local people and visitors to the area in order that people can appreciate the importance of the site. A memorial garden will be created, allowing the installation of memorial plaques for people with connections to the area. Once the initial work has been completed the project will be self-financing and maintained by the volunteers. The project will be promoted in www.shiskinevalley.org and it is anticipated that visitors from all over the world will visit the site.

Grant awarded 16 September 2010

Arran and Cumbraes

Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall Kitchen Project

Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall

Project cost: £50462 Eligible cost: £50462 Grant award: £35939

Public match funding: £10000 Private match funding: £4523

In-kind match funding: £

The project is twofold: firstly to provide a fully working kitchen in Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall providing an income stream which will assist in the self-sustainability of the village hall. This will make the hall more attractive to people wishing to hold social and fund raising functions in the village. The hall is hired out for weddings, parties and fund raising functions at present but catering is very limited by the existing tea and coffee making facility. It is envisaged that the hall would be in greater demand with kitchen facilities available for self catering or for use by catering companies.

Secondly the aim is to improve the access to the village hall premises. The improved multi access door and entrance area will make sound economic and social sense. The path surface will be improved for the benefit of wheel chair users, prams and buggies. The new door will access the already existing Community Garden (created and maintained by local volunteers) and will provide an environmentally friendly entrance area to the hall; reducing carbon footprint and fuel bills. In addition, the new arrangement will create a new small meeting room which could be hired out and thus increase income, whilst being more economic to run than the main hall. It would maximise the use of the existing footprint of the hall as many of the user groups of the hall are only small in number and a small meeting room would answer their needs. The North of the Isle of Arran is a designated Natural Scenic Area, rich in natural heritage and it is envisaged that the newly created room, which is currently used by the visiting Post Office twice a week, will be used as an information point for the surrounding natural heritage. This will be an asset to both locals and visitors.

Grant awarded 16 December 2010

Arran and Cumbraes

Arran Archaeology

Arran Theatre and Arts Trust Ltd

www.arrantat.co.uk

Project cost: £51575 Eligible cost: £51575 Grant award: £18307

Public match funding: £30600 Private match funding: £1118

In-kind match funding: £1550

Arran Theatre and Arts Trust has already run two successful projects with LEADER assistance, Farming on Arran and Arran Woodlands, working alongside the National Trust for Scotland Countryside Rangers, with the aim of protecting and promoting Scotland's natural and cultural heritage for present and future generations. ATAT now wishes to involve the community of Arran in an exploration of its archaeological heritage through site visits, practical workshops and creative activities. The project will be delivered by artists and rangers experienced in working with community groups. Other experts will be brought in as required. The participants will be drawn from Arran schools, other island groups and NTS Conservation Volunteers/ Thistle Camps. The project will run over two academic years with 3 Arran primaries + 1 community group of adults with learning disabilities participating in 2011 and the remaining 4 primary schools taking part in 2012. The roundhouse, which will be built in Brodick Country Park, will be used for educational purposes and will provide an additional visitor attraction for the park. The build will incorporate the knowledge available about the remains of roundhouses found on Arran to provide a unique insight into life in the Early Bronze Age (2700 –1500 BC). Funding is being sought from Heritage Lottery to support this project and it is also being supported by National Trust for Scotland and North Ayrshire Council.

Grant awarded 10 March 2011

Arran and Cumbraes

Holy Isle Gateway Project - Feasibility Study

Kagyu Samye Ling Monastery and Tibetan Centre

www.holyisland.org

Project cost: £4400 Eligible cost: £4400 Grant award: £2000

Public match funding: £1400 Private match funding: £1000

In-kind match funding: £

The Holy Isle can only be accessed by the general public and the island's community by a small ferry service running from Lamlash on the Isle of Arran. The ferry lands when possible on the north end of the Holy Isle at a makeshift jetty from April to October each year. This landing facility not only restricts access to the island but is difficult and dangerous to use and less-able bodied people, children and the elderly are unable to visit the Holy Isle due to its poor condition. The island's residents are unable to travel home from the Isle of Arran and the mainland in adverse weather conditions. In winter the ferry or any other emergency boat (i.e. if someone on the island needs medical attention) is unable to land safely on the island due to the makeshift jetty's poor condition and its inability to cope with bad marine conditions. This project aims to provide better and safer landing access for all abilities to the Holy Isle from the sea, and provide an improved welcome to visitors coming ashore from the landing facility by way of a visitor "Gateway" adding to the island's tourist potential (and that of the Isle of Arran) by attracting the visitors who could not risk coming before, encourage repeat visits and promote the island to a day visitors interested in the Holy Isle's spiritual history, heritage, wildlife, biodiversity, walking and remote natural peacefulness. Phase 1 of the project will scope a safer and all-access landing facility with a feasibility and marine engineering study, landing facility design and costing proposal.

Grant awarded 10 March 2011

Arran and Cumbraes

Visitor Gifting Scheme

Visit Arran

www.visitarran.com

Project cost: £74000 Eligible cost: £74000 Grant award: £37000

Public match funding: £10000 Private match funding: £22000

In-kind match funding: £5000

VisitArran is a Destination Management Organisation which aims to promote and develop the tourism industry on the Isle of Arran in an economically and environmentally sustainable way for the benefit of the business & resident island communities. Visit Arran, have investigated the establishment of a visitor gifting scheme on the island in order to provide funds to protect and enhance the environment. Income from visitor gifting is used to create and maintain this green infrastructure. The LEADER programme has supported Visit Arran with the development of an initial feasibility study into visitor payback on the Island. This includes the development of a business plan and the running of an initial pilot scheme. Work has been carried out over the last year to establish business interest in the scheme and secure participation. The study has also established the level of support, IT and infrastructure required to implement the scheme. Following on from the feasibility study, a five year development plan and business plan has been prepared. The contributions so far generated by the pilot scheme would indicate that the 6 pilot businesses will generate around £20,000 of donations in a full year. Both the initial investigation and success of the pilot scheme indicate that there is a strong appetite for the scheme on the island. In order to administer the funds raised through the VGS and to ensure full public accountability Visit Arran has set up a charitable Trust known as The Arran Trust. Visit Arran are now seeking seed funding to fully implement VGS across the whole island taking in several more tourism operators. Funding is required to employ project staff for a period of two years. Project management, training, support and guidance will be provided by consultants with a phased move towards total ownership by The Arran Trust by year 3. In addition to this, the funding is also sought for administrative costs, marketing, website and IT support for participating businesses.

Grant awarded 15 September 2011

Arran and Cumbraes

Arran: The Island - Destination Development

Visit Arran

www.visitarran.com

Project cost: £120000 Eligible cost: £120000 Grant award: £60000

Public match funding: £54000 Private match funding: £6000

In-kind match funding: £

VisitArran seek to deliver a range of activity over the next year which will improve the quality of Arran as a destination, service provision within the destination, and the marketing of the destination, all of which will directly impact on the viability and sustainability of the island's economy in the long term. In 2010 Arran experienced the first decline in tourism revenue in ten years and anecdotal information now suggests a worse rate of decline in 2011. The work of VisitArran, as the island's Destination Management Organisation (DMO), is focused on reversing this decline and re-establishing Tourism as a growth sector on Arran. The Arran Tourist offering continues to improve, as does general awareness of the destination. Despite this, the general state of the economy and the additional costs associated with an Island destination show a two year decline in Tourist revenue at the end of 2011, taking it back to 2008 levels. Given this, the primary focus for VisitArran in 2012 will be to pull together the various strands of the Arran Tourist Industry and build on improvements already made and implement further initiatives. This application covers activity in 2012, which is phase one of a two year plan. Energies are focused the delivery of an extensive marketing strategy (attached) which will include the complete revision of online marketing resources in line with advancing technology, to a state of the art online media hub, including website upgrade, fully integrated Social Media strategy, development of smart phone apps and multi media devices to include all of Arran's products and the build/management of consumer database. VA will also implement an extensive PR & Advertising programme to increase geographical penetration. Additional staff resources will be required in the form of a part-time project manager.

Grant awarded 15 March 2012

Arran and Cumbraes

Holy Isle Gateway Project

North Ayrshire Council

Project cost: £255000 Eligible cost: £255000 Grant award: £127500

Public match funding: £77500 Private match funding: £50000

In-kind match funding: £

The Holy Isle Project is home to the Centre for World Peace and Health where courses, short-breaks and retreats can be taken. At the south end there is a closed Buddhist retreat. Volunteers run the project's centres and undertake conservation work with the island's habitats, tree planting and pathway maintenance –they make up the island's resident community. The island welcomes day visitors to walk on the footpaths and enjoy nature. It is a popular destination with holiday makers staying on Arran. The Holy Isle can only be accessed by the general public and the island's community by a small ferry service running from Lamlash on the Isle of Arran. The ferry lands when possible on the north end of the Holy Isle at a makeshift jetty from April to October each year. The aim of the project is to build a proper landing facility that is fit for purpose. Phase 1 of the project scoped a safer and all-access landing facility with a feasibility and marine engineering study, landing facility design and costing proposal. This has now been undertaken with a pontoon option being the most suitable, sustainable solution. Phase 2 of the project aims to build the new landing facility and path-works. Part of this build-work for the pontoon and associated pathway will be undertaken by the island community and volunteers so enhancing skills and the long-term maintenance and sustainability of the new facility. Therefore Phase 2 of this project will be developed with a skills and training element as well as a capital build element. This application for LEADER assistance is for this phase of the project's capital build work.

Grant awarded 15 March 2012

Arran and Cumbraes

Community Development of Elderly People Services on Arran

Arran Community and Voluntary Service

arrancvs.org.uk

Project cost: £45000 Eligible cost: £45000 Grant award: £20250

Public match funding: £22500 Private match funding: £2250

In-kind match funding: £

This project has been established as part of the Arran component of the 'Reshaping care for older people' (RCOP) work currently being implemented as part of a Scottish Government initiative. It aims to improve services for the growing number of older people on Arran, to enable them to continue living independently in their own homes for longer. The aim of the project is to employ a Development Worker who will support the recruitment and development of volunteers, and facilitate the expansion and implementation of a range of activities within the community of Arran specifically for the benefit of older people. Initially these activities will include the introduction of (and expansion of existing) lunch clubs, the extension of befriending, the introduction of practical community supports (e.g. shopping), and promotion to service users and groups of active leisure and learning activities provided through the 3rdSector and others. Through the provision of an enhanced social infrastructure, vulnerable elderly adults will be able to remain in their homes for longer. As part of the role, it is anticipated that the Development Worker will also, in conjunction with NAC Social services, provide signposting information and advice to the Local Authority Care Home (Montrose House) residents and/or staff.

Grant awarded 15 March 2012

Arran and Cumbraes

Arran Open Studios

Arran Theatre and Arts Trust Ltd

www.arrantat.co.uk

Project cost: £4200 Eligible cost: £4200 Grant award: £2000

Public match funding: £ Private match funding: £1980

In-kind match funding: £220

There are many Open Studio events across Scotland that have proved hugely popular and successful for visitors, artists and the wider local community (hotels, cafes, shops etc). Arran is home to a number of professional artists and also to many amateur enthusiasts and there are various art workshops and exhibitions that take place during the year. This project provides artists with the opportunity to establish contact directly with the general public, to show visitors where and how they work. For art-loving visitors this is a rare opportunity to see artists in their own working environment and, as they travel from studio to studio, to see the island which, for many artists, is the source of their inspiration. Arran Open Studios will take place over a long weekend in August ((Friday 10th to Monday 13th) and will be an added attraction to those already holidaying on the island and an incentive for art lovers across Scotland and beyond to visit.

The participating artists will feature on a map/guide which will have information about each artists and their work. It will also provide helpful information about location, parking, public transport and access. Local businesses will buy advertising space and there will also be an “artist recommends” space where each artist suggests a local place of interest, a walk, a beauty spot, a café or a pub to visit.

The map/ guide will be distributed to art centres, galleries, places of interest and tourist offices throughout the central belt and the west of Scotland.

Grant awarded 15 March 2012

Arran and Cumbraes

Outdoor Access North Ayrshire

North Ayrshire Council

Project cost: £60000 Eligible cost: £16500 Grant award: £4275

Public match funding: £10725 Private match funding: £1500

In-kind match funding: £

The Outdoor Access North Ayrshire project has been developed by North Ayrshire Council and the North Ayrshire Outdoor Access Forum recognising that outdoor access has a valuable role to play in supporting the tourism economy within North Ayrshire particularly on the Isle of Arran and Isle of Cumbrae. The Island based partners include the Arran Access Trust, Forestry Commission Scotland and National Trust for Scotland. The project builds on and adds value to the extensive consultation and partnership working undertaken using the Ayrshire Outdoor Access Toolkits and through the Core Paths planning process.

Booklets will be produced for each participating area and information included on the Ayrshire Paths website www.ayrshirepaths.org.uk. The booklets will be developed by the Council, Forum and project partners with input from the organisations that the Forum members represent. In addition to this, the Council, Forum and partners will work in partnership with local businesses, community and voluntary groups to ensure that the project meet the needs and aspirations and recognises the area's full potential as an outdoor access destination. It is envisaged that 15,000 of the Arran leaflet and 10,000 of the Cumbrae leaflet will be produced for distribution through Visit Scotland, ferry terminals, bus stations, local attractions, community facilities and libraries and a variety of other regional and national locations to ensure that they reach the target audience.

Grant awarded 11 September 2009

Arran and Cumbraes

Enterprise Growth Programme

North Ayrshire Council

Project cost: £200000 Eligible cost: £200000 Grant award: £100000

Public match funding: £100000 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

The aim of this programme is to provide additional support to complement the current Business Gateway provision on Arran & Cumbrae with additional specialist advisory support and access to funding in order to generate company growth and increase business turnover. The project activity will be based around the needs of the business in order to realise their potential, seize opportunities, expand and invest. These activities will be delivered in the form of one to one support, workshops, consultancy, mentoring & coaching and networking. Grant funding will be made available to existing companies who can project growth within their business following one or more of the following specialist support:

Access to Investor Ready support;

Take-up of E-Business support;

The development of e-commerce strategy;

Customised training and development (non statutory) and access to specialist events.

During the development of this application 49 companies were consulted in order to identify need and demand.

Grant awarded 17 June 2010

Arran and Cumbraes

Islands Outreach Project

AIMS Advocacy

www.aimsadvocacy.org.uk

Project cost: £34000 Eligible cost: £34000 Grant award: £17000

Public match funding: £ Private match funding: £17000

In-kind match funding: £

AIMS Advocacy has been providing independent advocacy services in North Ayrshire since 1998. Independent advocacy supports people to put forward their views about what is important in their lives and to become more active participants in decisions that affect themselves and their communities. Independent advocates support people to gain access to information and explore and understand their options. They speak on behalf of people who are unable to speak for themselves, or choose not to do so. They safeguard people who are vulnerable or discriminated against or whom services find difficult to support. AIMS Advocacy has had previous experience of running an Islands Outreach project on Arran and Cumbrae through a grant from BIG Lottery and have been able to keep the service running, albeit in a contracted form since then. Over the last year the organisation has had a higher number of referrals from people resident on the islands, especially people who are socially isolated and who find it hard to access services. In recent months, information and advice services on Arran have seen their hours of operation cut, which has led to more people trying to access AIMS services. The project would operate on an outreach basis on Arran and Cumbrae using local community facilities and home visiting. It is also the intention to have an office base on Arran on a part time basis. A programme of self-advocacy workshops will be delivered and training will be offered to other service providers. It is also planned to conduct a Social Return on Investment (SORI) report which will aim to measure the monetary value of a service such as this.

Grant awarded 15 September 2011

Arran and Cumbraes

Arran & Cumbrae Maritime Recreation Access Improvement Study

North Ayrshire Council

Project cost: £20000 Eligible cost: £20000 Grant award: £10000

Public match funding: £10000 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

The project aims to produce a new Arran & Cumbrae Maritime Recreation Access Improvement Study which will inform the maritime interested communities of Arran and Cumbrae on how best to provide safe all weather, all tidal landing facilities. The project will tender by a brief for a specialist marine engineering consultant who offers the best value with the appropriate skills base and island marine infrastructure experience. The commissioned consultant will manage land and seabed survey work and will consult with interested parties in the community as well as the project partnership through meetings and project workshops in order to generate the study. The study will undertake site and seabed survey works and assess the options for landing facilities, providing estimate costs and appraisals of the best value options in terms of operational and maintenance issues. North Ayrshire Council will lead on the project; manage tendering, community capacity building and project processes, working in partnership with VisitArran and other interested bodies and organisations such as Arran Yacht Club, Cumbrae Community Development Company and the Blackwaterfoot Harbour Associations. The completed report will provide options for each sail -to-destination, provide outline facility designs; estimate the cost, provide information on the consents and permissions necessary and outline the processes necessary to carry the work out. It will also provide information and appraisals on operational matters and ongoing maintenance costs and identify and prioritise locations to be developed that will provide maximum economic benefits.

Grant awarded 15 December 2011

Arran and Cumbraes

Isle of Cumbrae Development Plan

Cumbrae Community Development Company

www.garrisonhousecumbrae.org.uk

Project cost: £15000 Eligible cost: £15000 Grant award: £4500

Public match funding: £9750 Private match funding: £750

In-kind match funding: £

The aim of the project is to create a Development Plan for the Island of Cumbrae, which has a population of approximately 1,400 and is situated on the West Coast of Scotland, a ten minute ferry ride from the sea-side town of Largs. The main industries are farming and tourism. Building on the success of the recently refurbished Garrison House in Millport, the only town on the island, Cumbrae Community Development Company wishes to employ the services of consultants who will enable the community to identify ways forward for the sustainable development of the island through projects and initiatives that will boost the local economy and improve the quality of life of residents.

CCDC, working in partnership with HIE and North Ayrshire Council's Economic Development Services, have recognised the island's economic fragility and wish to carry out this community consultation exercise from Sep-Dec 09. The consultation will be supplemented by desk research and will culminate in the production of a Development Plan for the Island of Cumbrae. Subsequent to the submission of this application to LEADER, Millport, which has long been recognised as suffering from a lack of investment, has been awarded Town Centre Regeneration funding of almost £400K which will give a welcome boost to the local economy. The Development Plan will help to ensure that there is maximum input and benefit to the local community from this award.

Grant awarded 11 September 2009

Arran and Cumbraes

IT Infrastructure Development for Business Growth & Training

Cumbrae Community Development Company

www.garrisonhousecumbrae.org.uk

Project cost: £29050 Eligible cost: £29050 Grant award: £14525

Public match funding: £13072 Private match funding: £1453

In-kind match funding: £

The main activities of Cumbrae Community Development Company Ltd (CCDC) concern the socio-economic development of the Isle of Cumbrae. These include the provision of opportunities for: Business Growth; People Development; Environmental Protection; Inward Investment; Location Development; Recreation Provision.

This development is one of the top priority projects identified after consultation with the community of Cumbrae and published within the action plan from the Great Cumbrae Development Plan (Jura Consultants, 2010), a publication commissioned by CCDC but funded by Argyll & Bute LEADER in partnership with Highlands and Islands Enterprise and North Ayrshire Council. The specific tangible aim of the project is to deliver an operational and appropriately equipped Business Centre & Training Facility (with associated arts & crafts space) in the grounds of Garrison House, using the opportunity of the TCRF capital development completed in the former Lodge House and Courtyard rooms. The Business Centre will become the IT & Telephony hub of the site, thereby rationalising existing “threadbare” systems. Funding will provide the necessary equipment to make the project work.

Grant awarded 14 June 2012

Arran and Cumbraes

Isle of Cumbrae - West Bay Regeneration Project

Cumbrae Community Development Company

www.garrisonhousecumbrae.org.uk

Project cost: £64000 Eligible cost: £64000 Grant award: £32000

Public match funding: £28600 Private match funding: £3400

In-kind match funding: £

The main activities of Cumbrae Community Development Company (CCDC) concern the socio-economic development of the Isle of Cumbrae. Addressing the lack of public toilets was one of the top priority projects identified by the community of Cumbrae, published within the Great Cumbrae Development Plan (Jura Consultants, 2010), a publication commissioned by CCDC, funded by islands LEADER in partnership with Highlands and Islands Enterprise and North Ayrshire Council. The aim of the project is to deliver an operational, functional and appropriately sited toilet block with changing facilities for the use of the local community and visitors to the island. The proximity of the structure, close to an outstandingly beautiful stretch of the shoreline, provides a perfect opportunity to include a wall-mounted information and awareness raising panel -an interpretation board focusing upon the panoramic view and local wildlife/history of the location. The structure will function as a changing room & shower space for community sporting events and will include a fully ramped disabled access toilet. The site is adjacent to a local authority maintained full-sized grass football pitch but currently, the island takes no part in a local football league as it cannot offer changing facilities. New changing facilities would mean regular fixtures, significantly more visitors to the island (players and supporters) and the resulting economic benefit to the restaurants, pubs and cafes would be considerable. The inclusion of an interpretation board, developed under the guidelines set down by the Scottish Government, will greatly enhance the finished product, being an innovative way to inform, educate and involve people of all ages about the environment around them.

Grant awarded 13 September 2012