

Evolution of Youth Strategy

Foundations for Recovery

On behalf of:

North Carrick Community Benefit Company

by



C E I S

AYRSHIRE

Executive Summary

The final strand in the plan was for CEIS Ayrshire to look at the Evolution of the Youth Strategy that NCCBC had commissioned and was due to have been published.

As of this report the full Strategy had not been published so there is little that we could do except the desk work. We engaged with the Youth Strategy Authors (Community Enterprise, specifically Lynda Johnstone in March 2022 and we did get the draft research report and outh Led Strategic Action Plan 2022-2027 from Community Enterprise in June, and link to the summary which is published on the NCCBC website in August. We felt we were unable to go out to the local population to look at an evolution for a strategy which has only had a summary published.

However, we have looked at the draft research report and the Action Plan. We have done some research on the Youth Parliament and the Scottish Rural Parliament and made some preliminary recommendations based on the limited work we have been able to do.

Contents

Executive Summary	2
1. Introduction	5
2. Policy Context	6
2.1 Youth Strategy for North Carrick	6
2.2 Scottish Youth Parliament	7
2.3 Scottish Rural Parliament	9
3. Market Analysis - North Carrick	11
3.1 Geographic Area	11
3.2 Population Profile	12
3.3 Employment and Business Base	13
3.4 North Carrick Community Action Plans	14
4. Evolution of the Youth Strategy	15
4.1 Defining The Requirement	15
4.1.1 Identify and justify the need	15
4.1.2 What is the desired outcome?	15
4.1.3 Who stands to benefit, and how	15
4.2 Potential Route to a Youth Parliament	16
4.2.1 Engaging with Key Stakeholders in North Carrick	16
4.2.2 Engaging with the Scottish Youth Parliament (SYP)	17
4.2.3 Considerations enroute to setting up a Parliament	17
4.3 Obstacles and Issues	17
4.4 Conclusions	18
Annex	19
Annex 1 – North Carrick Overview	19
1.1 Crosshill, Straiton, and Kirkmichael	19
2.2 Dunure	20

2.3 Kirkoswald, Maidens and Turnberry	20
2.4 Maybole	22
2.5 Minishant	22
Annex 2 – Scottish Youth Parliament Youth Engagement Provisional Booking Form ..	24
.....	24

Figure 2.1 Recognising and Valuing a Vision for 2025. Source: Virtual Scottish Rural Parliament with Social Enterprise Academy (2021)..... 10

Figure 3.1 Electoral ward and local authority..... 11

Figure 3.2 LEFT: Map of North Carrick 6 Fold Definition RIGHT: North Carrick Area Source: LEFT: Scottish Urban Rural Classification (2005) RIGHT: NCCBC (2022)..... 122

1. Introduction

The North Carrick Community Benefit Company (NCCBC) administers grant funding from renewable energy sources and other sources for the benefit of the communities of North Carrick in South Ayrshire. Under the project title of Foundations for Recovery, NCCBC has secured UK Community Renewal Fund monies to research and develop a number of investment ready projects across a number of themes. The purpose of this project is to deliver investment for South Ayrshire's coastal and rural Carrick region.

The project has been developed with reference to three themes of capacity-building: building the individual, building the community, and building the organisation. These themes have in turn been further divided into 6 project strands.

The sixth and final strand of the project relates to the Evolution of the Youth Strategy for North Carrick. Specifically to look at the creation of a Youth Parliament for North Carrick.

2. Policy Context

2.1 Youth Strategy for North Carrick

As of this report the Youth Strategy had not been published in its entirety. A summary is available on NCCBC's website and states:

What Young People Aspire To:

Projects for a connected and interactive community for young people:

1. Development of the North Carrick Development Trust, an independent youth led organisation involving an appointed Youth Chairperson and local Youth Advisors to lead and coordinate strategy activity.
2. A North Carrick Youth Chair's Fund supporting exciting projects for young people e.g. celebrations, trips and equipment.
3. North Carrick Festival - an annual celebration of the contributions children and young people make to North Carrick through volunteering, peer education, campaigning, fundraising and more.
4. Youth work programmes and training to support young people to become future volunteers, coaches and leaders.

Youth-led projects for making the most of the natural environment:

1. Support for youth social action projects to address issues important to young people.
2. A "Club" for social action – a space for young leaders and volunteers to develop skills, support each other and lead their own projects, events and campaigns.
3. Improved informal outdoor activity i.e. football nets, kick wall, accessible bike and wheel tracks, nature swings, top walks, treasure trail paths.
4. Activities and projects to help the environment and provide young people with new skills, knowledge and experience and improve mental health.
5. Attract and establish new businesses to the area to deliver affordable outdoor pursuit activities.

Projects for healthy, vibrant and positive communities for young people:

1. Safe outdoor shelters or “hang out” spaces or “safe den” in each of the North Carrick communities
2. Improve the Maybole Skate Park
3. Build on the Mental Health Project “Place 2 Be” to offer a wide range of health and information services through North Carrick.
4. Explore the feasibility of a pop-up mobile “Ice cream/Barista”, to provide training and employment opportunities for young people.
5. Affordable and accessible community events for young people and families in community parks and public spaces throughout North Carrick.
6. Supporting young people to socialise in their own communities; and to travel to other communities to connect with their friends.
7. Summer and winter local events featuring a range of attractions.
8. Rural Youth Project Smart Village (a hyper connected online platform) which will enable young people to work and learn collaboratively.
9. Informal and formal activities and sporting tournaments.
10. Coaching pathways to recruit, train and support new volunteer coaches for existing organisations.

2.2 Scottish Youth Parliament

“Young people have the right to express their views freely and have their opinions listened to in all matters affecting them.”

Article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)

The Scottish Youth Parliament bases its Vision, Mission and Values on the UNCRC. In particular it embodies Article 12. It is a completely Youth-led charity.

Vision

“SYP is the democratic voice of Scotland’s young people. Our vision for Scotland is of a nation that actively listens to and values the meaningful participation of its young people. Our goal is to make this vision a reality, in order to ensure young people in Scotland grow up loved, safe and respected, and able to realise their full potential.”

Mission

“SYP’s mission is to provide a national platform for young people to discuss the issues that are important to them, and campaign for changes to the nation that they live in. We support our

members in their work by training them, supporting their personal development and empowering them, using a youth work ethos.

“MSYPs listen to and recognise the issues that are most important to young people in every community across the country and ensure that decision-makers listen to their voices.”

Values

“Democracy – We are youth-led and accountable to young people aged 14 to 25. Our democratic structure and the scale of our engagement across Scotland gives us a mandate that sets us apart from other organisations.

“Rights – We are a rights-based organisation. We are passionate about making young people aware of their rights, and ensuring that local and national governments uphold their rights.

“Inclusion and Diversity – We are committed to being truly inclusive and work tirelessly to ensure policymakers and politicians hear the voices of young people from every community and background in Scotland.

“Political Impartiality – We are independent from all political parties. By working with all stakeholders, groups, and individuals who share our values, we deliver the policies that are most important to young people.”

Manifesto

The Scottish Youth Parliament has a Manifesto, which sets out the changes that young people aged 12-25 across Scotland wish to see. There is an open call for blogs, vlogs and stories from young people.

The current Manifesto is called “From Scotland’s Young People” and is for 2021-2026¹

This is also set out on the Scottish Youth Parliament’s website <https://syp.org.uk/our-work/manifesto-2021>

Structure

The SYP is youth led and has four separate groups “in-charge”

- Board and Advisers
- Subject Committees

¹ <https://syp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/SYPS-11.pdf>

- Conveners Group
- Creative Communications Team

Board and Advisers

The board consists of a Chair, Vice-chair and Trustees all MSYPs (Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament) and is elected annually. The board is supported by four external advisers who attend board meetings but do not have a vote.

Elections and Representation

Elections to the youth Parliament take place every two years, with 2023 being the next one.

There are two ways for young people (age 14-25) to stand for election as an MSYP

- 1) As one of two MSYPs in their local constituency²
- 2) Through a number of voluntary organisations³ that have representative MSYPs.

2.3 Scottish Rural Parliament

“The Scottish Rural Parliament is a grassroots democratic assembly, bringing together people who live and work in rural and island Scotland to debate issues that matter.”⁴

The first Scottish Rural Parliament (SRP) took place in 2014 in Oban and was also held in 2016 (Brechin) and 2018 (Stranraer) before being a virtual event in 2021 due to the COVID19 crisis.

SRP is a member of the European-wide network of Rural Parliaments.⁵

In 2021 the SRP met virtually and produced a Manifesto with the vision for 2025 having been created by the youth delegated to the SRP/

² Scottish Parliament Constituency – for North Carrick that is Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley

³ [Our voluntary organisations - Scottish Youth Parliament \(syp.org.uk/get-involved/join-us/\)](https://syp.org.uk/get-involved/join-us/)

⁴ Definition from Scottish Rural Action <https://www.sra.scot/our-work/about-scottish-rural-parliament>

⁵ <https://europeanruralparliament.com/>



Figure 2.1 Recognising and Valuing a Vision for 2025. Source: Virtual Scottish Rural Parliament with Social Enterprise Academy (2021).

This linked the SRP into 5 main areas of action required, the ask from the youth delegates was to the Scottish Government to move these forward by 2025.

- Climate
- Jobs
- Mental Health
- Food
- Housing

The SRP also looked at 5 areas overall action:

- Democracy
- Economy
- Climate Emergency
- Tourism
- Transport

Three cross-cutting themes were also identified:

Full manifesto and other details are at: <https://www.sra.scot/our-work/scottish-rural-parliament/vsrp-2021>

3. Market Analysis - North Carrick

The following section outlines key information points on the area of North Carrick and are provided for context to demonstrate the specifics of the area in order to contextualise the proposed plans.

3.1 Geographic Area

The focus of this project North Carrick and area of South Ayrshire that includes: Dunure, Minishant, Maybole, Kirkmichael, Straiton, Crosshill, Kirkoswald, Maidens, and Turnberry. The data used for the analysis is drawn from the electoral ward of Maybole, North Carrick and Coylton and the local authority of South Ayrshire (figure 2.1).

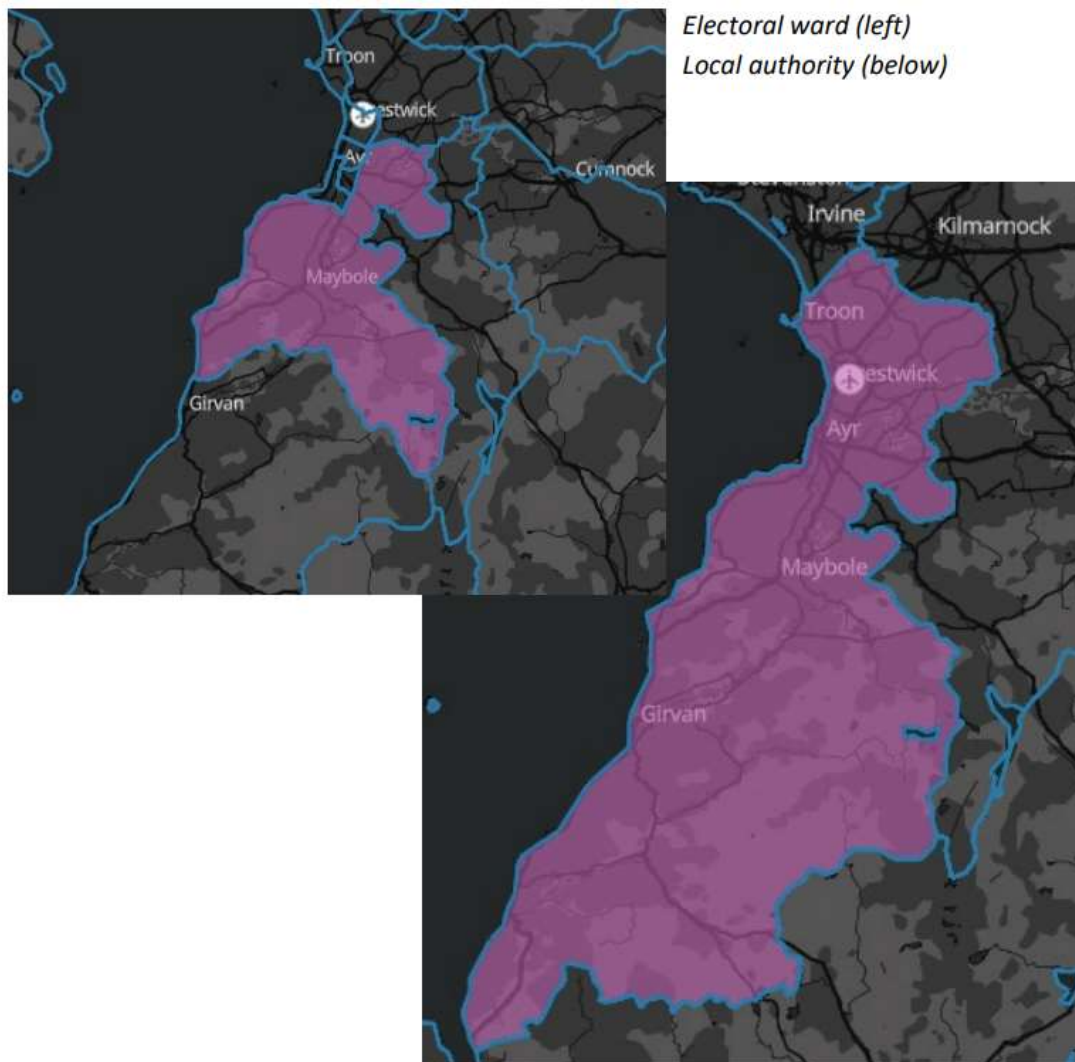


Figure 3.1 Electoral ward and local authority

Figure 2.1 identifies the main towns and villages that make up North Carrick (image 2, left) the makeup of the area using the Scottish Urban Rural Classification (image 1, right).



Figure 3.2 LEFT: Map of North Carrick 6 Fold Definition RIGHT: North Carrick Area
Source: LEFT: Scottish Urban Rural Classification (2005) RIGHT: NCCBC (2022)

North Carrick is a predominantly rural area with all parts of the area falling into the rural classifications using the Scottish Government Urban Rural Classification⁶. Looking at figure 2.1 most parts of North Carrick are classed as accessible rural (light green) or remote rural (dark green). The only exception to this is the Maybole which is an accessible small town. Most people living within North Carrick are however considered to live in rural areas. For an in-depth discussion of the rural/urban mix of North Carrick when compared to South Ayrshire and Scotland see annex 1 section 1.1.

3.2 Population Profile

According to the 2011 census the electoral ward of Maybole, North Carrick and Coylton (hereafter referred to as North Carrick) has a population of 14,054 which makes up 13% of South Ayrshire's population. Across the two areas, the largest proportion of the population are aged 25-49 (30+) and the lowest proportion of the population are aged 16-24 (10%). The highest proportion of households are owned outright or owned with a mortgage or loan. Looking at house type the highest proportion of households in North Carrick are detached whole

⁶ Scottish Urban Rural Classification (2005)

houses/bungalows (36%). Education information showed that there was a high proportion of people over the age of 16 within the area with no qualifications 30% ($n=3538$) of people aged over 16 held no qualifications with the next highest proportion being people who held level 1 qualifications (23%, $n=2782$). Full population profile with accompanying data can be found in annex 1 section 1.2.

Comparison to the National Average

Other research⁷ provides a comparison in demographic profile between the Scottish average and North Carrick (defined as the community council areas of Dunure, Minishant, Maybole, Crosshill, Straiton and Kirkmichael, and Kirkoswald, Maidens and Turnberry).

- *Population*: North Carrick has a higher elderly population (23.9%) than the Scottish average (18.9%)
- *Households*: North Carrick (23.3%) has a higher proportion of pensioner households than the Scottish average (20.9%)
- *Deprivation*: 22.4% of children in North Carrick live in relative low-income families which is higher than the Scottish average of 17.2%
- *Health*: 16.4% of people living in North Carrick have limiting long-term illnesses; this is higher than the Scottish average (15%)
- *Education*: 31.9% of people living in North Carrick have no qualifications which is higher than the Scottish average of 26.8%
- *Skills and Economy*: North Carrick has a higher proportion of self-employed people than the national average (10% v 7.5% nationally)

3.3 Employment and Business Base

The number of working people by their level of economic activity in the week leading up to the 2011 census is summarised annex 1 section 1.4-1.5. 69% of people in North Carrick were categorised as economically active with highest proportion of people in the full-time employee category. In 2021, South Ayrshire had 3,865 enterprises registered, employing 35,010 people and generating a turnover of £6.2 million⁸. A sector breakdown of registered enterprises is provided in *Table 3.9. Wholesale and retail trade; Repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles* account for the largest proportion of registered enterprises across South Ayrshire (18%). Rural industries (Agriculture, forestry and fishing) accounted for 10% ($n=410$) of all enterprises in South Ayrshire. The majority of enterprises were operating with fewer than 5 employees (70%).

⁷ Source: Community Enterprise

⁸ Source: *Businesses in Scotland. (2021). The Scottish Government. <https://www.gov.scot/publications/businesses-in-scotland-2021/>*

3.4 North Carrick Community Action Plans

North Carrick sits within the council of South Ayrshire but has a significantly different makeup when compared to South Ayrshire. It is largely made up of areas that are classified as rural whether that be accessible or remote. Communities within rural areas are more likely to be reliant on their local infrastructure to provide solutions to the challenges they face. The communities were consulted in 2019 to gain an understanding of the key issues individuals living within North Carrick were facing. A summary of these action plans by sub-area is provided below.

Area	Priorities	
Crosshill, Straiton, Kirkmichael	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. More community events using local facilities 2. Protect and enhanced wildlife habitats in the villages 3. Opportunities for socialising between young people in different communities 4. Improved local retail offer 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Improve the playparks in each village 6. Better cycling and walking infrastructure 7. Increased traffic safety and road improvements 8. Improve public transport
Dunure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improved use of outdoor space, activities making use of the waterfront 2. More clubs, festivals and community events 3. Improve the look of the village particularly the harbour 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Improvements to the school 5. Facilities and improvements to Kennedy park 6. Traffic calming and road improvements 7. Tourism destination development
Kirkoswald, Maidens, Turnberry	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. More activities for families and young people and more community initiatives and events 2. Protect and enhance the natural environment with a focus on wildlife, habitats and scenic views 3. Better marketing of the area and its businesses 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Disabled access improvements, increased traffic safety, road improvements 5. Making the most of the local area including existing and new facilities enhancements
Maybole	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. More activities and community events 2. Improve the appearance of the town 3. Encourage new local businesses 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Upgrade the play park and skate park 5. Champion safer roads for walking and cycling 6. Improve leisure and sports facilities
Minishant	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve the appearance of Minishant and make it more environmentally friendly 2. More community events, involving more people 3. Improved play parks and play areas 4. Improve the woods for activities 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Pub, community café or social space for all of the community 6. Traffic calming and car parking 7. Better quality and more leisure facilities

4. Evolution of the Youth Strategy

The brief of this part of the project was to provide a plan for a youth parliament in the area and we intend to fulfil that brief, however due to the fact that the Youth Strategy has not been published in full, although we have had sight of a draft, it was not possible or practical to undertake further community consultation.

A local Youth parliament is mentioned as a potential project, as there was a feeling that something was needed to allow for the youth voice to be heard. Contact with local MSYPs and the South Ayrshire Youth Forum is also mentioned.

4.1 Defining The Requirement

We have looked at the requirement for a Local Youth Parliament with a pragmatic approach and split it into three stages:

- 1) Identify and justify the need
- 2) What is the desired outcome?
- 3) Who stands to benefit, and how

4.1.1 Identify and justify the need

As stated above during the youth strategy consultations, the young people of the area apparently suggested that some sort of way for their voices to be heard was required. The draft action plan calls for “A connected and Interactive Community for Young People”, and crucially “The establishment of a supportive network providing needs met information...to come together and access support and training to deliver youth activities.”⁹

A local Youth Parliament may not fulfil this but having one may help bring forward the desired effects.

4.1.2 What is the desired outcome?

Having a local youth parliament would hopefully allow young people to feel they have a say in the local area. And allow them to potentially influence decisions which directly affect them.

4.1.3 Who stands to benefit, and how

The young people of North Carrick would be the prime beneficiaries of a youth parliament as it would, if recognised, be a voice for them to be heard. It would also benefit South Ayrshire

⁹ North Carrick Youth Led Strategic Action Plan 2022-2027 (Draft)

Council as it would allow the Local Authority to have a better idea of what local young people think.

4.2 Potential Route to a Youth Parliament

It should be noted that there is a robust Youth Parliament system across the UK and this is in place to allow the “voice” of young people to be heard by primarily national government (or devolved governments). The British Youth Council organise the UK Youth Parliament with elections every two years and the Scottish members of the UK Youth Parliament come from among the MSYOs of the Scottish Youth Parliament. The Scottish Youth Parliament is also elected every two years.

There appears to only have been one instance of a more local Youth Parliament and that was the Bradford-Keighley Youth Parliament in Yorkshire which ran from the early 2000s until sometime after the last election in March 2011. That parliament sent representatives to the UK Youth Parliament. (Although young people from the area would have been able to be elected to the UK parliament anyway.)

4.2.1 Engaging with Key Stakeholders in North Carrick

Most crucially in the plan for a local Youth Parliament engagement would need to be had with the Key Stakeholders in North Carrick.

Those are probably:

- 1) **Young People** – there is no point in looking to create a Youth Parliament if young people are not going to buy in to it or drive it. Policy across the area would look for the young people themselves to push this forward, and it would probably not be enough to have an organisation leading it, although having an organisation to spearhead a push (such as NCCBC or VASA?) might be useful.
- 2) **South Ayrshire Council** – if the Scottish Youth Parliament is there to influence the Scottish Government, then a North Carrick Youth Parliament would be looking to influence South Ayrshire Council and for that to happen the council would need to be brought on board. This may also include local schools, dependent on the age range chosen Carrick Academy and probably Queen Margaret Academy as well as primary schools if the age range was the same as the SYP and especially if it was the age range of the Youth Parliament was to coincide with the youth Strategy.
- 3) **An anchor organisation** to lead the parliament, this could be SAC but could be a more local organisation.

4.2.2 Engaging with the Scottish Youth Parliament (SYP)

It would make sense that if there is to be a Local Youth Parliament that the first order of business should be to engage with the SYP.

SYP have a Youth Engagement Team who are available to run sessions, workshops or training with young people aged 12-25. There is a form to be completed for this but this is required to be completed by an organisation and there would need to be a cohort of young people interested.

Contact details of SYP are engagement@syp.org.uk or 01315570452.

Also contacting and bringing on board the local MSYP would be potentially useful

4.2.3 Considerations enroute to setting up a Parliament

- 1) Representation – how would this be split. Geographical, age, other split? How many representatives? Would there be representation from groups (eg Scouts, Guides etc) as there is in the SYP? Would each village have representation, would it be based on schools?
- 2) Elections – how would these be held? How often?
Scottish Youth Parliament has elections every 2 years
- 3) Where would it sit? How often would it sit?
- 4) Would it have a board of advisers and if so who would be on that board?

Most of those could be based on the model of the SYP, however it would be more appropriate to ask the stakeholders, especially the young people.

4.3 Obstacles and Issues

There may be some obstacles and issues to creating a Local Youth Parliament.

- 1) Is there a real desire for this in North Carrick? Some evidence from the draft strategy suggests there is a wish for a voice from young people, but is this the correct way to do it?
- 2) South Ayrshire Youth Forum (SAYF) already exists and already feeds ideas into the Scottish Youth Parliament.
- 3) Would SAC support a Youth parliament in North Carrick when there aren't ones in other areas? And especially when they support the Youth Forum.
- 4) The nature of North Carrick poses an issue with using the local youth parliament as a “feeder” for the SYP. North Carrick does not constitute the whole of a Scottish Parliamentary constituency so there would need to be careful consideration about this.

4.4 Conclusions

It would not be impossible for a North Carrick Youth Parliament to be created, however focusing on getting North Carrick represented on SAYF, if it is not already, may be a better solution to the “voice” issue. That is the purpose of that body and it already has the links into SYP.

A comprehensive survey of stakeholders could be carried out to specifically find out if a Youth Parliament is wanted or required, dependent on the final published version of the Youth Strategy. In fact it could be tied to the publication, and cover any other outstanding topics. This could give possible options on the considerations mentioned above.

It needs to be stressed that this would need to be pushed by the young people themselves, with guidance, and again it might be better to focus on the structures (SAYF and SYP) that are already in place and try to encourage participation in those at local level. While this would be at a South Ayrshire level, it would still allow for North Carrick issues to be brought up.

However if the draft strategy is final it might be that it is not a Youth Parliament that is required but something else which brings together “A connected and Interactive Community for Young People”. And if it is learning focused it might be linked to the findings in the Online Portal or even the Third Sector Training Academy.

Annex

Annex 1 – North Carrick Overview

All information provided in this annex comes from the Community Action Plans commissioned by NCCBC to better understand community needs. These are provided as a guide North Carrick and to demonstrate the breadth of the area.

1.1 Crosshill, Straiton, and Kirkmichael

Crosshill

Crosshill is located 3 miles (5km) south east of Maybole in South Ayrshire. The area was first settled by Irish immigrants in the late 1800s. Most came to Ayrshire as hand loom weavers. At its height, countless Crosshill women were employed as needle workers and almost all the men worked as hand loomers. They constructed many single-storey cottages, a few of which can still be found on Dalhowan Street. Crosshill has a population of approximately 480 people which has reduced by about 1% over the past 10 years.

Straiton

Straiton is a village on the River Girvan in South Ayrshire in Scotland, and dates back to 1760 when the village was laid out by Thomas, Earl of Cassillis. The village was mainly built in the 18th century, with low single-storey cottages on either side of the main road, but also has some more recent housing.

There are 170 households in Straiton including outlying farms and cottages; the primary school has approximately 16 pupils. The village has a shop, a pub / hotel, village hall and local cafe. It has a total of eleven accommodation businesses with over 100 bed spaces available and is a popular holiday destination for many visitors. The village's public toilets were closed by South Ayrshire Council in 2008 and subsequently re-opened under the management of the village community. Donations are invited to cover the £3500 annual running costs.

Kirkmichael

The Dyrock Burn runs through the core of the village of Kirkmichael, which started life as the focus of a well populated rural parish served by its church. Today it is a largely white harled small village set amid the rolling hills of South Ayrshire, a ten mile drive south of central Ayr. Its origins date back to the 13th century when John de Gemmelstoun founded a church beside the Dyrock Burn here, which he dedicated to St. Michael.

Kirkmichael is centred around two intersecting streets, largely occupied by white cottages built for handweavers in the 1790s. A striking building is the red stone McCosh Hall on Patna Road. This serves as the village hall and in 1898 was gifted to the village by the estate of John McCosh, an army surgeon and pioneering photographer that served with the Indian Medical Service. At the junction of Patna Road and Straiton Road lies the white-painted Kirkmichael Arms, a long one-storey village inn.

The village of Kirkmichael has a community run village shop and café, a not-for-profit, community run shop that sells general groceries and household items as well as local products, and a range of eat in and takeaway snacks including tea, coffee, home-made soup, filled rolls and home baking. The village is also home to the Kirkmichael Primary School, located in new purpose built facilities that opened in 2014.

2.2 Dunure

Dunure is a small fishing village in South Ayrshire, located on the coast of the Firth of Clyde approximately five miles from Ayr. The first buildings in the lower Dunure village were erected in the early nineteenth century. Dunure Harbour is a square basin with a breakwater quay that was improved by the Earl of Cassillis in 1811 at a cost of £50,000. It is topped off by a locally common cylindrical stone harbour light. Kennedy Hall within the village dates from 1881 and Dunure House from 1800. With Limekilns being a common feature throughout the harbour and Dunure. Dunure Castle today stands in ruins on the Carrick coast, overseeing and once protecting Dunure Harbour. The site dates back to the 13th century, when the Kennedy family was granted lands in 1357 and built the castle. However the remains are 15th and 16th century. When in use, the castle consisted of two distinct parts: a keep and a lower building. It is reputed that Mary Queen of Scots stayed at Dunure Castle for three days in 1563. Today the castle is surrounded by the Kennedy Park, a play area and picnic spot with parking for the many cars that visit Dunure during the summer months.

2.3 Kirkoswald, Maidens and Turnberry

The Kirkoswald, Maidens and Turnberry Community Council area is located midway between the towns of Maybole and Girvan. Much of the area has been influenced by the important role of Clan Kennedy.

Kirkoswald

The village of Kirkoswald lies on the A77 some four miles southwest of Maybole and a mile inland from the coast at Maidens. As the name implies, the village started life as the home to an

ancient church serving a wider rural parish dedicated to Oswald of Northumbria, who is said to have won a battle here in the 7th century. The old church, which was built in 1244 and houses the baptismal font of Robert the Bruce, is now a ruin in the grounds of the modern church, which was built in 1777 to a design by Robert Adam. Kirkoswald is also noted for its connection with Robert Burns, who attended school while staying in the village, and would later base the characters Souter Johnnie and Kirkton Jean, made famous in Tam o' Shanter, on village locals John Davidson, Jean Aird and Douglas Graham and whose graves can be found in the parish churchyard. Kirkoswald today has the popular free National Trust for Scotland attraction Souter Johnnie's Cottage, a Post Office, the Richmond Hall, a restaurant on the site of the old school house where Robert Burns studied, a house and garden retail offer, a glass craft studio and Whisky Experience.

Maidens

The former fishing harbour of Maidens on the coast of the Firth of Clyde, is some six miles west of Maybole. Rocks known as the "Maidens of Turnberry" form a natural harbour, with the present harbour built by the Marquess of Ailsa in the mid-19th century. The village lies two miles north of the ruinous Turnberry Castle, ancient seat of the Earls of Carrick and likely the birthplace of Robert the Bruce. By the time the castle was slighted, never to be rebuilt, Maidens had established itself as a viable settlement. By the end of the 1300s it was helping supply "Coif Castle", a tower house built during that century on sea cliffs two miles northeast of the village. Over time, Coif Castle became Culzean Castle, the former home of the Marquess of Ailsa, the chief of Clan Kennedy. Today the Castle and Country Park together form one of the most popular visitor attractions in southwest Scotland in the care of the National Trust for Scotland. This in turn, supports the visitor economy with Maidens becoming a popular holiday location with a number of static and touring caravan sites.

Turnberry

The growth of Maidens was aided still more by another local development: golf arrived on the scene with the building of a course, and subsequent village at Turnberry a little over a mile south of Maidens, in 1903. The following year the Glasgow and South Western Railway began building a large luxury golfing hotel at Turnberry which opened concurrently with a new railway line built between Ayr and Girvan, on which Maidens also gained a station. A second golf course was added at Turnberry in 1912. After purchase and further investment of over £200m the Turnberry resort is now part of the Trump group of luxury hotels, winning Scottish Hotel of

the Year at the 2018 Scottish Hotel Awards. The Ailsa golf course has hosted four Open Championships and with enhancements and the creation of five new holes has become one of the highest ranked golf courses in the UK and Ireland

2.4 Maybole

Maybole is a small town built on a sloping hillside overlooking the Southern Uplands. It is situated 9 miles (14 km) south of Ayr (see map) and 50 miles (80 km) southwest of Glasgow. The town has three primary schools: Cairn Primary, Gardenrose Primary and St Cuthbert's Primary. The secondary school for Maybole is Carrick Academy.

Maybole has huge significance as the ancient capital of Carrick. As a result of its longevity and central role as Carrick's ancient capital, the town boasts an array of historical figures who have lived or spent time there: • Robert the Bruce would have known the area well with Maybole being located only seven miles from Turnberry Castle, his childhood home. • For centuries it was the stronghold of the Kennedy Family, known as the Kings of Carrick who resided at Culzean Castle, only five miles from Maybole on the coast. • It was the location for a famous debate in 1562 between John Knox and the last Abbot of Crossraguel on the doctrine of the Mass. • Sir Gilbert Blane who discovered in the 1700s that limes helped to prevent scurvy lived in Maybole. • John Loudon McAdam, the famous road maker, was schooled in Maybole until 1770. • Robert Burns, whose parents met and married in Maybole, visited his life-long friend William Niven in Maybole for many years. • Scottish artist Robert MacBryde was born in the town in 1913. • General Dwight Eisenhower was a frequent visitor to the town which he always considered to be, "his Scottish hometown". In 1946, the Freedom of the Burgh was conferred on him by the townspeople. • In the nineteenth century the town was a centre for boots and shoe manufacturing. At its peak the annual production by the Maybole factories was over 1 million pairs of boots and shoes with thousands employed

2.5 Minishant

With a population of approximately 750, Minishant is located five miles south of Ayr and about three miles north of Maybole on the A77. The Culroy Burn runs through Minishant and the village is surrounded by open farmland and woodlands. History depicts Minishant as a weaving village with two factories that specialised in blankets. The village has grown in recent years, with developments of new houses at each end of the village. The primary school has approximately 35 pupils and seven staff, including the Head Teacher which is a shared role with Crosshill Primary School. The school aims to provide a vibrant learning community around six core values. There are a small number of play areas and the war memorial dates to 1920. Many

residents commute into Ayr, or Maybole for work and being on the A77, it is an accessible commute to Glasgow by car or by train from Maybole or Ayr. Minishant businesses include The Minishant, formerly an Inn but now a restaurant open seven days per week that underwent an extensive renovation in 2012. Minishant Store provides post office facilities, newspapers and grocery supplies and there is a long-established Mower and Garden Tool Repairs and Services. The Lady Coates Memorial Church, dating to 1877 and closed in the mid 1980s, was a popular Indian restaurant for many years but has recently been converted into a five bedroom Airbnb accommodation offer.

Annex 2 – Scottish Youth Parliament Youth Engagement Provisional Booking Form



Scottish Youth Parliament Youth Engagement Provisional Booking Form

The Scottish Youth Parliament Youth Engagement Team is available to run sessions, workshops or training with young people aged between 12-25. More information can be found about the work that we do at www.syp.org.uk.

Please fill in the information below with as much detail as you can, if you have any questions please contact Nicola.B@syp.org.uk or call the office and ask to speak to one of the team.

Main Contact

Name of Main Contact			
Organisation		Job Title	
Email Address		Phone Number	
Postal Address			

Session/Workshop

At the Scottish Youth Parliament we can deliver a range of Sessions and Training to engage young people. Our Youth Engagement Team can deliver a number of interactive and informative sessions to a variety of different audiences and sized groups.

Please let us know which of the below you would like us to deliver. Descriptions of each session can be found at <https://syp.org.uk/get-involved/engaging-scotlands-young-people/>

Sessions/ Workshops		Sessions Continued	
Speak Your Mind		Bespoke (please see below)	
Democracy Day		Bespoke sessions and training are available on consultation. Please contact engagement@syp.org.uk or call the office 0131 557 0452.	
Aye Naw Mibbe			
Right Here Right Now			

Group Details

Name of Group			
Number of Young People Expected			
Address (inc postcode) of Venue			
Date of booking		Time of booking	
Is there any additional information we should be aware of?			

Please note that this is a provisional booking form. You will receive confirmation regarding attendance from SYP Staff. Please return this form to engagement@syp.org.uk.