After the Coalfield Communities Landscape Partnership

Legacy Arrangements

Life in the Landscape

'Thriving Coalfield Communities will continue to share in the benefits of a renewed and resilient landscape, welcoming visitors from afar to celebrate their unique heritage, promote stewardship of the land and create new opportunities to enjoy the landscape, shaped by understanding of the past and needs of the future.'



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Introduction

The collapse of the open cast coaling industry in East Ayrshire left an ugly, unsafe and inaccessible landscape in the heart of the area containing those communities upon whose livelihood depended upon it. To address these issues East Ayrshire Council produced a Minerals Local Development Plan, with a focus on regeneration and restoration, rather than extraction. The CCLP is a key component of the Minerals Local Development Plan, which is now part of the Local Development Plan 2.

The CCLP, funded by the Heritage Fund for 5 years from 2020 to 2025, is a partnership led by **East Ayrshire Council** along with **East Ayrshire Leisure Trust**, **Nature Scot, Green Action Trust, Forestry and Land Scotland,** the **Galloway & Southern Ayrshire UNESCO Biosphere**, **East Ayrshire Social Care Partnership**, the **Coalfield Regeneration Trust** and the **9 Community Council Group**.

The vision:

'Thriving Coalfield Communities will share in the benefits of a renewed and resilient landscape, welcoming visitors from afar to celebrate their unique heritage, promote stewardship of the land and create new opportunities to enjoy the landscape, shaped by understanding of the past and needs of the future.'

The aims:

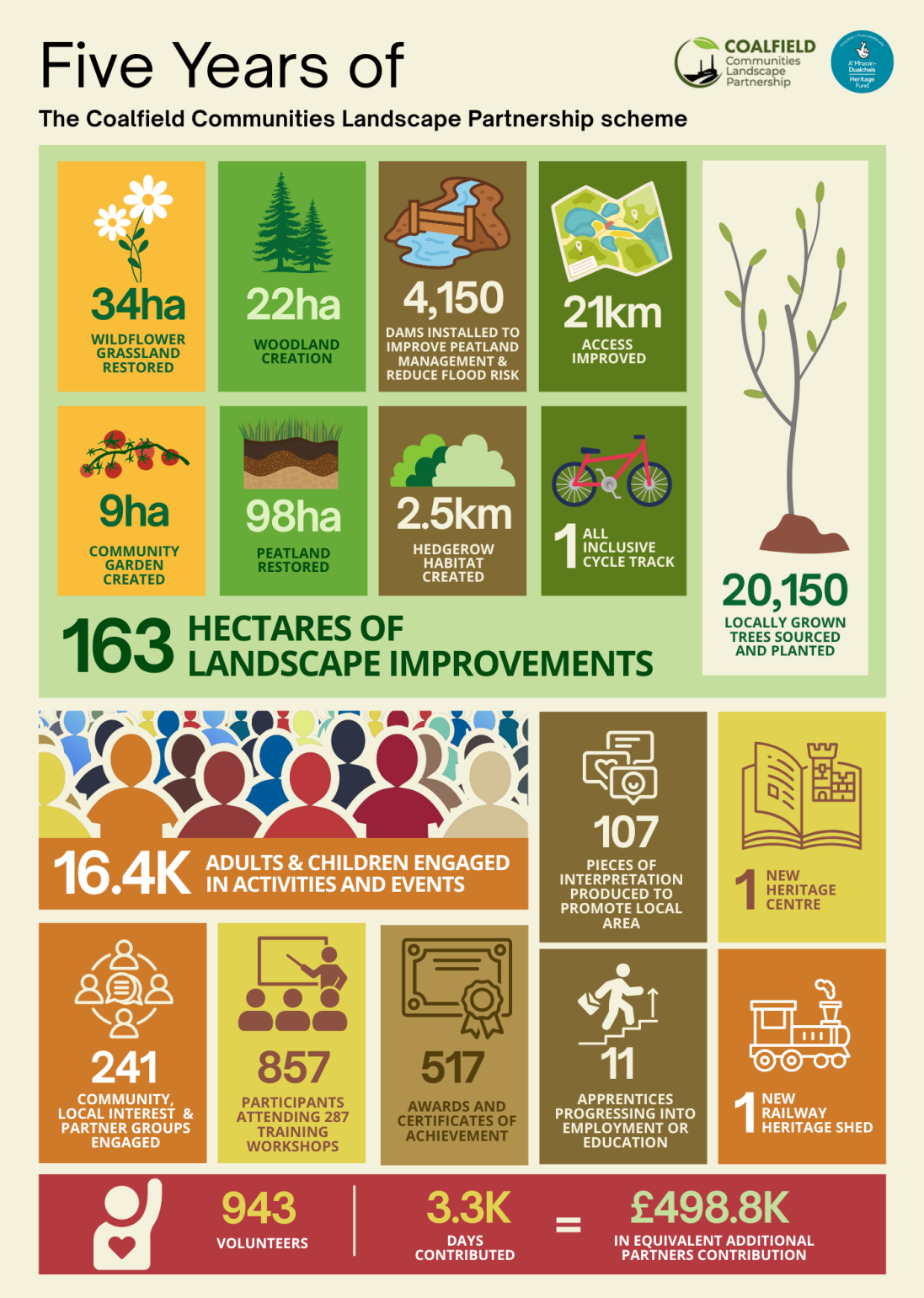
- Conserve and enhance the natural, built and cultural heritage for the benefit of people in the landscape
- Create and expand opportunities for learning, recreation and wellbeing within the landscape for people with a range of abilities and backgrounds
- Reveal and explore the past lives of the communities, drawing upon their close relationship with the land, thereby connecting people with their heritage and inspiring stewardship
- Foster and equip people with the skills and knowledge to manage their landscape sustainably, building capacity and making it a successful place for residents and visitors alike
- Communities will be connected through, rather than separated by, their landscape, culture and heritage.

The objectives:

- Celebrate the area's rich industrial heritage and its wider role in the industrial revolution
- Learn lessons from past exploitation of the land to promote land use that preserves natural heritage and supports communities
- Improve and rejuvenate the landscape by restoring peatlands and establishing new habitats for flora and fauna
- Connect communities with their shared heritage and with each other through a programme of events and learning opportunities
- Revive a Sense of Place through recording and promoting sporting, artistic, linguistic and musical traditions
- Improve and enhance access to the natural environment for a range of users by creating new and upgrading existing paths

- Develop and build capacity to promote the Coalfield Communities as a destination for outdoor recreation and tourism in the Galloway and Southern Ayrshire UNESCO Biosphere.

Our 18 delivery partners helped deliver 22 discreet yet interlinked projects. Together we achieved the following:



In the final year of delivery, a legacy task and finish group was established to put together a legacy plan and set out how it would be delivered. This plan outlines the overall CCLP legacy, the legacy of the individual projects and the 10yr Management and Maintenance arrangements in place to ensure that the improvements to heritage will last long into the future. The plan is put together in line with the guidance provided by the Heritage Fund (Management and maintenance plan good practice guidance | The Heritage Fund) and 'Legacy Planning for Landscape Partnerships Prepared' for the Heritage Fund by David Mount, consultant at Countryside Training Partnership, Feb 2013.











Why our Heritage is Important

The project area (comprising just over 230km^2) is characterised by its diversity; from landscape character, landform, land use and habitats, the area exhibits an array of features and characteristics resulting from both natural and human influences.

Over the centuries life in the landscape has ebbed and flowed following patterns of social, economic and cultural change. Not only does the physical landscape change but so too do the communities. The long history of industry in the landscape (via farming, coal and iron to opencast coaling, forestry and now wind farms) has shaped communities heritage and influenced their interaction with the landscape.

The CCLP area has a unique landscape that has evolved from its mineral wealth. Extraction defined its purpose and condition for more than a century. Extensive exploitation for industrial gain has scarred the land, leaving a landscape bereft of significant remaining industry or employment. With a declining population, the landscape is, however, beginning to reclaim its hold and re-establish its authority. From Dingy Skippers on spoil heaps to re-wetted peat bogs, nature has an exceptional ability to adapt, restore, reclaim and re-wild.

To preserve, enhance and rediscover the areas cultural and landscape heritage the CCLP delivered our projects under 5 themes:

- **Understanding the Landscape -** In order to celebrate our unique heritage, we need to understand our historical landscape. Projects looked at discovering/rediscovering our historical past.
- **Visiting the Landscape -** Providing opportunities to visit and spend time in the landscape is important. Projects looked at celebrating our unique history, promote stewardship of the land and create new opportunities to enjoy the landscape.
- **Accessing the Landscape -** Due to historic mineral extraction in the centre of our area, communities have been cut off from the landscape. Being able to gain access is an important element of the CCLP. Projects created new opportunities to open up and enjoy the landscape.
- **Animating the Landscape -** Bringing our cultural and historical heritage to life will provide opportunities for residents and visitors to find out more about the area. Projects promoted stewardship of the land and created new opportunities to enjoy the landscape.
- **Enhancing the Landscape -** Our landscape has been scared by open cast mining, all of which has undergone remediation. Although we cannot address these issues directly, we have the opportunity to improve and enhance other areas of the landscape. Projects led to a renewed landscape through conserving and enhancing the natural environment as well as restoring peatlands and establishing new habitats for flora and fauna.

Risks to our Heritage

Our heritage in East Ayrshire will face several challenges in the coming years. These are listed below.

Climate Change

Our changing climate poses several issues:

- More extreme weather events will lead to damage to buildings, damage to trees, damage to footpaths from flooding and heavy rain.
- Warming seasons could cause changes in population of species such as insects and plants. This will affect populations of pollinators and the plants that they rely on.
- Shifts in population. People may seek out areas to live that are not so crowded, less prone to effects of extreme weather or disease. This may mean that heritage in some areas may become popular to visit and heritage in other area may be neglected.

Political Issues and Policy Changes

As governments (local and national) come and go priorities and policies change this can affect:

- Funding streams. For example, the alleviation of child poverty has become a high priority with more funding allocated to it than say sustainable transport, or heritage.
- Staffing levels. With increasing budget constraints Local Authorities face having to make staff cuts, focusing on essential staffing at the expense of staffing for heritage projects.

Social and Economic changes

Rural communities, such as those in the CCLP area, face challenges with regards to:

- Ageing populations. This impacts on the availability of volunteers to take forward and manage heritage projects. The expertise and time may be available but other issues, such as health, may limit involvement.
- Retention of young people. Loss of local employment pool which will impact development of heritage projects.

Local development issues

- Tourism facilities such as accommodation. This will restrict the number of visitors that visit the area and stay and spend money, which contributes to the local economy.
- Tourist attractions. Difficulty in developing of local attractions that will appeal to visitors, encouraging them to visit.

Post delivery Risk Register

The Post Delivery Risk Register brings together these risks and their mediation options. This will be maintained over the legacy period of the CCLP.

Legacy Principles

As part of the CCLP delivery, we are required to produce a Legacy Plan and a Management and Maintenance Plan (10 year plan) that will need to be carried out by the project partners as well as any other legacy outcomes that are delivered.

This document deals with the legacy of the CCLP and the legacy of individual projects in consultation with the individual project partners.

The Landscape Conservation Action Plan (LCAP), produced as part of the final submission for the delivery phase, has a chapter (Chapter 11) on what next after the CCLP completes in December 2025. The chapter deals with management and maintenance of the delivered projects as well as the legacy of the CCLP. See Appendix 1 for the original Chapter.

The standard offer of grant to each partner has a clause on management and maintenance. The relevant clauses are in the table below.

Standard offer of grant text
Part A Section 4.4 - Ensure there are firm plans in place to manage and maintain the project until April 2035; Part B Section 8 - To ensure the management and maintenance of the outputs of the projects listed in section 7 until April 2035, by securing landowners agreement (if required) to maintain the project to meet HLF requirements;

Not only does the LCAP provide guidance but the EAC LDP2 – Spatial strategy also has a section on the CCLP, see below.

C. Supporting sustainable tourism and rural placemaking
The Heritage Funding was secured on a 5-year basis and will end in December 2025. However, work will be undertaken over the 5-year delivery period to develop a legacy strategy with **the aspiration being that the work of the CCLP will continue sustainably into the future, developing further the projects undertaken and expanding into new projects and a wider geographical area.** The regeneration of the coalfields is not a short-term project. <u>What is our strategy for enabling the delivery of these projects?</u> We will: • give in principle support to other developments that link to and support the vision, aims and projects of the CCLP and Biosphere; • refuse proposals which would prevent the successful delivery and long-term sustainability of CCLP projects; • seek developer support in delivering additionality to the CCLP & Biosphere vison, aims and / or projects.

Policy SS5: Coalfield Communities Landscape Partnership
The Council will support developments that contribute to the vision and aims of the Coalfield Communities Landscape Partnership, as a key means of regenerating and rejuvenating the former coalfield area. The Council will not support any proposals within the landscape partnership boundary, or immediately adjacent, that would prevent the successful delivery and long-term sustainability of the projects carried out by the Partnership, as listed in Schedule 2 and denoted on Figure 6. Developers within the Landscape Partnership area are encouraged to seek ways in which their proposals can link into the Partnership, to deliver additional benefits to the landscape and communities of the coalfields.

The end of CCLP review and evaluation report will be used to learn lessons for any future area wide projects.









LCAP Chapter 11 Update

The original LCAP Chapter 11 can be found in Appendix 1. Below are the updates to it after 5 years of delivery.

11.4 Management and Maintenance

Was:

In order to secure a long-term legacy and ensure the sustainability of projects delivered through the CCLP, all CLLP projects have been required to consider maintenance for at least 5 years following completion.

Now:

CCLP project partners will maintain a 10 year management and maintenance plan with funding allocated across the first 5 years.

Was:

East Ayrshire Leisure Trust has committed £20k/year for management and maintenance of paths that have been created/improved. The paths will also be included within the next iteration of the Councils Core Path Plan, which will ensure their long term management is firmly embedded within the Council's strategic approach to access.

Now:

East Ayrshire Leisure Trust has committed to the management and maintenance of the Lugar Water Trail and Ayrshire Roads Alliance has committed to the Doon Valley Active Travel Route. The paths will also be included within the next iteration of the Council's Core Path Plan, which will ensure that they are firmly embedded within the Council's strategic approach to outdoor access.

The change is due to the use of existing resource rather than a specific budget allocation (of £20k/year).

11.5 Continuing the CCLP beyond 5 years

Was:

Over the delivery stage, we will look at what other Landscape Partnerships have done and finalise our own follow-on vehicle, taking cognisance of how the development phase progresses.

Now:

Over the delivery phase of the CCLP the Project Supervisor has been part of a wider group of CCLPs in the North of England, Northern Ireland and Scotland. Meeting online regularly to discuss issues faced by partnerships. We discussed procurement issues, management and maintenance, legacy, monitoring and evaluation of projects and what happens after the partnerships complete. Some, such

as the Inner Forth LP continued on as Inner Forth Futers (with new partners) and secured more Heritage Fund money to deliver further projects. Others such as Galloway Glens wound up and no continuation body was set up. In others the lead partner took on responsibility to ensure that the management obligations from the Heritage Fund were carried out.

Was:

Whilst the detailed legacy strategy will be developed during the delivery stage, at this stage it is anticipated that at the end of the 5 year project East Ayrshire Council, as lead partner, will coordinate and lead a continuation of the CCLP. Whilst this will no longer benefit from Heritage Fund funding, it will continue the momentum of the first 5 years and will explore funding channels available at that time. As detailed in previous chapters, as the commitment to the coalfield communities is embedded in the Minerals Local Development Plan, this commitment is long term and will remain a priority of the Development Planning and Regeneration (DP&R) Team of the Council beyond the 5 year Heritage Fund programme. It is therefore envisaged that, in conjunction with communities and existing board members, the DP&R Team will continue to take forward the work of the CCLP as part of its overall workload. They will do so in partnership with the Councils Vibrant Communities team, which provides a valuable link to community groups throughout the area. A key role of the Project Supervisor during the delivery phase will be to finalise a mechanism for continuing the role of the CCLP in a sustainable way, taking on board progress throughout the delivery phase.

Now:

Things have changed much for Local Authorities since the LCAP was written. While EAC has embedded CCLP in LDP2, due to budgetary, and other constraints, and strategic reorganisation it will be a difficult for it to co-ordinate and lead on CCLP continuation. That is why a legacy sub group has been established to plan for what is next.

11.5.2 Future Long-Term Funding

Since the delivery stage started the funding landscape (especially in relation to revenue funding) has changed. The impact of COVID 19, the continuing Local Authority budgetary constraints and the cost of living crisis has contributed to this change.

However, there has been a very positive development in the CCLP area led by the formation of the 9 Community Council Group (9CCG). This was set up to help administer and distribute the community benefit money coming into the area from the various wind farm developers. The 9CCG joined the CCLP Board to ensure that in the future we could look at ways in which the legacy could develop, for individual projects as well as the CCLP as a whole.

One developer (Greenburn and possible Knockippen development) has committed a part of their community benefit money (about 11%) to the CCLP and this will be coming via the 9CCG. However, this money will not be available till at least 2026, after the CCLP completes. Further discussions are under way.

11.5.3 Continued Support of the Board Members

We will be looking for support from Board members who have an interest in the work of the CCLP to continue to support it.

Galloway and Southern Ayrshire UNESCO Biosphere

As the GASB will continue long after the completion of the CCLP It is anticipated that they will build on their Sense of Place project and expand activity to deliver other projects in the in the CCLP area.

EALT

At present East Ayrshire Leisure is revising its Core Path Plan which will take in to account work done through the CCLP in the Doon and Lugar Valleys. This is with a view to producing a Recreation Plan which will also embed the CCLP work, thus ensuring a legacy for the work. The paths are also part of the Strategic Paths Network. This will ensure that work done on the path network will be managed and promoted after the CCLP completes.

Health and Social Care Partnership

There has been limited involvement to date but hopefully in the final year we can build in projects such as the inclusive cycling and the walks into the wider health agenda.

Forestry and Land Scotland

The further development and delivery of the North Kyle Master Plan (once the windfarms are completed) will build on the CCLP projects and the networks and partnerships that have been established.

9CCG

The 9CCG will be establishing a Strategic Area Fund to fund high level strategic projects for the benefit of the Cumnock and Doon Valley. A Consultation exercise was conducted during 2024/2025 (to which CCLP Staff contributed) a long list of 9 ideas. It is encouraging to see that CCLP projects such as the Doon Valley Railway and cycling appear as part of these suggestions. The 9CCG Board will (in December 2025) agree the report outcomes and these will be presented to the public at the 9CCG conference on 20th January 2026.



Legacy Plan

Scheme legacy

The items below will form part of the overall scheme legacy:

- Brand and logo held by East Ayrshire Council and available to partners
- Website Coalfield Communities - Communities Landscape Projects hosted by East Ayrshire Council
- Social media - Facebook etc
- Digital time Capsule
- Increased partnership working in the area

Project legacy

The primary impact and legacy of the CCLP Scheme are listed in the table below.

Project	Lead Partner	Legacy
Understanding the Environment		
Attainment through Archaeology	Archaeology Scotland	On going delivery of projects and programmes in East Ayrshire
Coalfield Place Names	University of Glasgow	Place names website and data base at www.ayr-placenames.glasgow.ac.uk
Connecting Communities	Coalfield Regeneration Trust (CRT)	Continued delivery and expansion of its programme of activities in East Ayrshire. The CCLP funded a staff member to deliver their project and now they have employed 2 staff members to work in East Ayrshire.
Life in the Lost Villages (oral history)	University of Strathclyde, Scottish Oral History Centre	Lost villages website www.thelostvillages.co.uk Ongoing seminars and papers as well as sale of book "Memory, mining and heritage, voices from Ayrshire Communities." -The exhibition will be permanently housed at the Boswell Centre in Auchinleck.
Landscape Apprentices	East Ayrshire Woodlands	Continued delivery of Trees & Timber apprenticeships in East Ayrshire
Visiting the Landscape		
Doon Valley Railway	Ayrshire Railway Preservation group (ARPG)	Continued operation and income generation from new heritage shed
Sense of Place	Galloway and Southern Ayrshire UNESCO Biosphere	Continued delivery and expansion of its programme of activities in East Ayrshire
Doon Valley Inclusive Cycling	Dalmellington Parish Development Trust	Delivery and management of inclusive cycling facility
Lugar Heritage Centre	Lugar Parish Church	Management and further development of the Lugar Heritage Centre
Accessing the Landscape		
Lugar Water Walk	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust	Manage and maintain the walk, Path Wardens scheme
Doon Valley Walk	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust	Manage and maintain the walk, Path Wardens scheme

Project	Lead Partner	Legacy
Animating the Landscape		
A Musical Celebration of the Coalfields	The Cumnock Tryst	Website www.thecumnocktryst.com/musical-celebration-of-the-coalfields "Moss and the Cosmos" film
Ploughing up our Past	Cumnock History Group	Website www.cumnockhistorygroup.org/ploughing-up-our-past/ Book "Ploughing up our Past" and "Cumnock Cookbook"
Dalmellington Old Kirk yard	East Ayrshire Council	Continued upkeep of the kirkyard
School Green Gym	The Conservation Volunteers (TCV)	Continued delivery and expansion of its programme of activities in East Ayrshire
Enhancing the Landscape		
Perfect Peatlands	The East Ayrshire Coalfield Environment Initiative (CEI)	Continue to deliver further peatland enhancement projects
Healthy East Ayrshire Rivers	The East Ayrshire Coalfield Environment Initiative (CEI)	Continue to train and manage volunteers to maintain healthy rivers in East Ayrshire
Coalfields for Pollinators	The East Ayrshire Coalfield Environment Initiative (CEI)	To maintain planted areas and continue to deliver further planting for pollinators projects
Coalfields to Wildwoods	EADAH	To maintain planted areas and continue to collect and grow native species of trees and bushes
Tower Street Pocket Park	Cumnock Action Plan	Maintain, use and promote Pocket Park
Hedgerow Habitats	Netherthird Community Action Training	Look after new hedgerows and create new areas
North Kyle Land Management Plan	Forestry and Land Scotland	Implement the NKLMP as well as the North Kyle Master Plan



Management and Maintenance Fund Arrangements

As part of the ongoing legacy of the Coalfield Communities Landscape Partnership (CCLP) there will be a Management and Maintenance fund. This fund, valued at £246,215 over 5 years, commencing from the cessation of the CCLP in January 2026, aims to empower our partners to achieve, sustain and showcase the positive outcomes achieved through the CCLP.

Partners will be able to request a drawdown of funding from the project allocation and they will be paid by BACs. Requests can be made spread out over the five-year period, but once the allocated funding has been claimed no more will be made available.

The fund will be held and managed by East Ayrshire Council officers as an in-kind contribution to the legacy of the CCLP. In-kind contributions will also be provided under the Path Warden scheme along the Lugar Walk, administered by the East Ayrshire Leisure Trust.

Action Plan

This plan was put together from information gathered from Project Partners using the questionnaire in Appendix 2.

The table below shows what each projects actions are with regards to their projects. Partners will be able to draw down funds up to the value that is listed in the table below.





Project	What needs to be maintained and managed	What work is involved	Who will do it	When and how often they will do it	What resources (money, people and skills) are required	Allocation Cash £	Allocation Non Cash £
CCLP Legacy	Management and Maintenance fund	Delivery of the Lagacy Plan	EAC officer	Yearly	People		8,215.00
Lugar Heritage Centre	Building	Maintenance of the building and heritage collection	Lugar Parish Church	Yearly	People and funding	10,000.00	
Lugar walk	Foot path and vegetation	Repair of footpath, vegetation removal	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust	Yearly	Path Wardens and Estates Team	72,000.00	£20,000
Doon Valley Walk	Foot path and vegetation	Repair of footpath, vegetation removal	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust	Yearly	Path Wardens and Estates Team	20,000.00	£10,000
Dalmellington Inclusive Cycle track	Cycle track and bikes	Maintenance of bikes and cycle track	Dalmellington Parish Development Trust	Yearly	People, repair skills and funding	10,000.00	
Doon Valley Railway Heritage Shed	Building	Maintenance of new shed	Ayrshire Railway Preservation Group	Yearly	People, repair skills and funding	10,000.00	
Dalmellington Old Kirk yard	Kirk yard	Maintenance of information signs.	East Ayrshire Council	Yearly	People and funding	500.00	
Tower Street Pocket Park	Buildings and plants	Maintenance of site	Cumnock Action Plan group	Yearly	People and funding	7,500.00	
Hedgerow Habitats	Plants	Trimming of hedges	Netherthird Community Action Training	Yearly	People and funding	1,500.00	
Lost Villages Oral History	Website and book	Updating website with information.	University of Strathclyde,	Yearly	People and funding	2,000.00	

			Scottish Oral History Centre				
Project	**What needs to be maintained and managed**	**What work is involved**	**Who will do it**	**When and how often they will do it**	**What resources (money, people and skills) are required**	**Allocation Cash £**	**Allocation Non Cash £**
Place Names	website	Adding new information to the database.	University of Glasgow	As needed	People	2,000.00	
Sense of Place	Fliers	Will continue community engagement with groups and to maintain relationships we have built and participate in the projects of partners we have made through CCLP. Reprint of the three fliers we created (2 x Ochiltree, 1 x Loch Doon)	Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere	Yearly	People and resources	5,000.00	
Coalfields to Wildwoods	Trees	Monitoring growth and replanting.	EADAH	Yearly	People	20,000.00	
Healthy Rivers	Support for the volunteers	Update in training of volunteers	The East Ayrshire Coalfield Environment Initiative (CEI)	Yearly	People	1,500.00	
Perfect Peatlands	Peatlands	Monitoring of site	The East Ayrshire Coalfield Environment Initiative (CEI)	Yearly	People	3,000.00	
Coalfields for Pollinators	Plants	Monitoring of site, plant surveys	The East Ayrshire Coalfield	Yearly	People	3,000.00	

			Environment Initiative (CEI)				
Project	**What needs to be maintained and managed**	**What work is involved**	**Who will do it**	**When and how often they will do it**	**What resources (money, people and skills) are required**	**Allocation Cash £**	**Allocation Non Cash £**
Landscape Apprentices	Further MAs	Maintenance of projects undertaken by the EAW's MAs	East Ayrshire Council/EAW	Yearly	People	10,000.00	
Attainment through Archaeology	Supporting staff and partners to develop the programme going forward, to meet changing needs of stakeholders and development priorities of staff. Continue to support the Ochiltree History group with their research and fieldwork.	Working with community groups and schools	Archaeology Scotland	Yearly	People, skills	12,000.00	

Project	What needs to be maintained and managed	What work is involved	Who will do it	When and how often they will do it	What resources (money, people and skills) are required	Allocation Cash £	Allocation Non Cash £
School Green Gym	Links to local schools	Networking and delivery of new programmes	The Conservation Volunteers	Yearly	People, skills	2,000.00	
Musical Celebration of the Coalfields	Links to community groups	Networking and delivery of new programmes	The Cumnock Tryst	Throughout the year	People, skills	5,000.00	
Ploughing up our Past	Website and book	Adding to and maintaining the website any further printing of Ploughing up our Past.	Cumnock History Group	As and when needed	People	1,000.00	
North Kyle Landscape Management Plan	Trees	Implementation of planting regime	Forestry and Land Scotland	Yearly	People and money	None. Covered by FLS	
Connecting Communities	Work with existing community groups and looking for new ones	Networking and delivery of new programmes	Coalfield Regeneration Trust	Throughout the year	People, skills	10,000.00	

Monitoring

A monitoring system of yearly updates on projects will be implemented to ensure that projects are being maintained and that money allocated is drawn down as needed.

Partners are committed to reviewing the plan after five years (2030) and ten years (2035). Each partner has a copy of this report, and East Ayrshire Council has a copy of this document which it will keep in a digital format for ten years on its server. East Ayrshire Council will continue to work with partners to ensure that the plan is implemented and reviewed.

The ongoing contacts at East Ayrshire Council for the plan are:

Colin Mckee – Projects Coordinator (Regeneration) – colin.mckee@east-ayrshire.gov.uk

Karen Purves – Strategic Lead Development Planning & Regeneration – karen.purves@east-ayrshire.gov.uk

Conclusion

After a successful 5 years of project delivery the CCLP Board would like to thank our main funders the Heritage Fund and the National Lottery players, NatureScot, Historic Environment Scotland, Transport Scotland, Scottish Landfill Communities Fund and East Ayrshire Council They would also like to say a big thank you to all the project delivery partners who worked hard to bring in match funding and deliver their projects.

The CCLP as is will be wound up and a 5 year Management and Maintenance Fund will be established to be administered by East Ayrshire Council. The Fund will enable partners to continue to deliver on the CCLP outcomes and outputs.

It is possible that in the future CCLP type projects will be undertaken, made possible with funds from windfarm community benefit money (possibly from Greenburn and Knockippen), through the 9 Community Council Group (9CCG). These funds will only be available once the windfarms are operational form late 2026 onwards.

I would like to thank our mentor Fiona Southern (Carrock Landscapes Ltd) for her valued guidance and advice during the Development and Delivery stages of the CCLP.

Appendix 1 – Original LCAP

CHAPTER 11

BEYOND 2025

11.1 Overview

All through the development stage there has been a strong emphasis, not only on the legacy and sustainability of the individual projects, but also on how the impact of these will be measured. We have also looked at how the legacy will be maintained and built upon after 2025.

We will be guided by the Heritage Lottery Funds 'A Lasting Difference for Heritage and People'.

11.2 Measuring Success

All things being equal, after 5 successful years of delivery, we will need to be able to measure our success. During the development stage each project was asked to set their baseline activity outcomes and outputs.

We employed the Countryside Training Partnership to construct our monitoring and evaluation framework, combining the Heritage Lottery measurement requirements with the aggregated outcomes and outputs from all the projects. This has provided a robust framework to measure our success throughout the delivery stage and at the end. The framework can be found in Appendix 16 and contains a range of outcome that the CCLP will aim to achieve. The monitoring framework will be refined and finalised before commencement of the project, particularly to reflect projects that have been worked up in more detail close to the date of submission and to remove projects which have been placed on the reserve list.

The framework will be used by the Delivery Group and the Board to monitor projects progress on outputs and outcomes and enable support to be provided to projects that are not progressing as anticipated with their project plans.

We will also be looking to capture any unintended/or added value benefits that had not been thought of during the development stage, such as economic and health and wellbeing benefits. We are conscious that throughout the 5 years a lot could change in terms of development pressures, funding available and community priorities and that as a result additional projects may come on stream or complimentary projects may be undertaken through other channels that will maximise the impact of the CCLP projects.

11.3 Legacy and Sustainability of individual projects

All the project partners have been asked to think about legacy and include this in their project plans. It is important that this is captured right at the start of delivery so that over the 5 years we can make the most of every opportunity to ensure the sustainability of projects beyond 2025.

The post-delivery risks have been assessed and the risk register can be found in Appendix 17.

11.4 Management and Maintenance

In order to secure a long-term legacy and ensure the sustainability of projects delivered through the CCLP, all CLLP projects have been required to consider maintenance for at least 10 years following completion. For the projects that do not have a physical aspect, no significant maintenance requirement is expected.

The project with the most significant maintenance requirements is expected to be the Access project, delivering the Doon Valley and Lugar Water walks. East Ayrshire Leisure Trust has committed £20k/year for management and maintenance of paths that have been created/improved. The paths will also be included within the next iteration of the Councils Core Path Plan, which will ensure their long term management is firmly embedded within the Council's strategic approach to access.

There is also the potential to benefit considerably from the development of proposed windfarms which will, subject to receiving planning consent, be setting up community benefit funds.

Whilst the windfarms are unlikely to come on stream until after the CCLP 5 year programme has come to an end, they offer significant potential to continue the work of the CCLP in the longer term, presenting an exciting opportunity to increase the longevity and impact of the CCLP. This is explained in more detail below, in relation to legacy planning.

11.5 Continuing the CCLP Beyond 5 years

11.5.1 CCLP Plus

In order to ensure that the landscape scale benefits of all the projects is maintained it is important to have a follow on coordinating presence.

The Inner Forth Landscape Initiative have established Inner Forth Futures to take forward the legacy of the Inner Forth Landscape Initiative landscape Partnership. This could be one possible model.

Over the delivery stage, we will look at what other Landscape Partnerships have done and finalise our own follow on vehicle, taking cognisance of how the development phase progresses. Given the wide breadth of projects and partners involved, it is expected that some projects will act as a stimulus for further projects and follow up phases. Other projects may run their course and come to a natural end.

Whilst the detailed legacy strategy will be developed during the delivery stage, at this stage it is anticipated that at the end of the 5 year project East Ayrshire Council, as lead partner, will coordinate

and lead a continuation of the CCLP. Whilst this will no longer benefit from Heritage Fund funding, it will continue the momentum of the first 5 years and will explore funding channels available at that time. As detailed in previous chapters, as the commitment to the coalfield communities is embedded in the Minerals Local Development Plan, this commitment is long term and will remain a priority of the Development Planning and Regeneration (DP&R) Team of the Council beyond the 5 year Heritage Fund programme. It is therefore envisaged that, in conjunction with communities and existing board members, the DP&R Team will continue to take forward the work of the CCLP as part of its overall workload. They will do so in partnership with the Councils Vibrant Communities team, which provides a valuable link to community groups throughout the area. A key role of the Project Supervisor during the delivery phase will be to finalise a mechanism for continuing the role of the CCLP in a sustainable way, taking on board progress throughout the delivery phase.

11.5.2 Future Long-term Funding

The CLLP board has remained mindful throughout the development phase of the pressure for windfarm development in the area. Whilst this brings with it obvious landscape impacts, it also creates opportunities for additional funding coming into the area, in the form of community benefits associated with the developments. Partly in response to this opportunity, the CCLP includes projects focussed on community capacity building that will help communities to identify future needs and priorities. Working in tandem with the Councils Vibrant Communities Team, which is represented on the CCLP board, the work of the CCLP will help to ensure that communities are geared up to maximise the monies that may come their way.

With this in mind, during the development phase the CCLP team has engaged with potential windfarm developers. Whilst no firm commitments have been made, the following statements are considered positive steps in utilising potential monies for a lasting role for the CCLP.

- North Kyle Energy Project – A planning application, submitted in September 2019, proposes a £7.56 million boost funding for the community on top of an annual contribution of approx. £1.13 million. It is proposed in the planning documentation that a proportion of the 'boost' funding be used to fund existing initiatives such as the Coalfield Communities Landscape Partnership.

- Greenburn Wind Farm – The proposal has been through the scoping process and a planning application is expected imminently. The CCLP team has been in regular dialogue with the developer. As part of the community benefit associated with the development, the developer will set aside £60,000 per annum for the CCLP over the lifetime of the development, which would ensure long term funding to support the ongoing work of the CCLP.

- South Kyle wind farm – The development of a 50 turbine wind farm to the east of Dalmellington was approved in July 2017 and further planning applications to discharge the conditions are currently under consideration. The developer has committed to provide a significant community benefit and is currently working out the mechanics of how this will be distributed. As the communities of Dalmellington and Patna must benefit from the investment, the developer is keen to explore how the CCLP can be part of this process, as a means of ensuring the community monies are spent in a strategic and managed manner that brings real tangible

benefits. The developer is also committed to exploring access opportunities within the site, if these would link into the access project (i.e. the Doon Valley path) included within the CCLP.

The potential for windfarm funding marks a clear opportunity for enabling the CCLP to carry on beyond the 5 year period in a meaningful way. With the potential funding coming available and the commitment of the Council to continue its support for the project in a leadership role, there is an exciting prospect that the CCLP will be sustained long term.

11.5.3 Continued Support of the Board Members

It is anticipated that should the CCLP achieve what it sets out to achieve and given the commitment shown to date throughout the development phase, the board members will retain a desire and enthusiasm to continue the momentum of the CCLP.

The Galloway and South Ayrshire UNESCO Biosphere, an important board member, was the first in Scotland and now one of only six in the UK. The CCLP have signed up to the 'Proud Supporter' Charter to support the Biosphere in delivering their six principles to promote sustainability in the area. Being associated with the Biosphere brand will help promote activity in the CCLP area. The Biosphere designation will exist long after the CCLP completes in 2025 and is in a good place to help support projects and initiatives delivered by the CCLP.

At present East Ayrshire Leisure is revising its Core Path Plan which will take in to account work done through the CCLP in the Doon and Lugar Valleys. This is with a view to producing a Recreation Plan which will also embed the CCLP work, thus ensuring a legacy for the work. The paths are also part of the Strategic Paths Network. This will ensure that work done on the path network will be maintained and promoted after the CCLP completes.

Having the Health and Social Care Partnership join the CCLP Board, as reported in Chapter 2, will ensure that projects will continue to be promoted across the whole community, thus enabling the projects to continue to attract participants and link into other ongoing projects and programmes.

Appendix 2 – Legacy Questions

Legacy, Management and Maintenance questions

Project:

As per the grant agreements that were produced at the start of the CCLP, partners are required:

- To ensure the management and maintenance of the outputs of the projects listed in section 7 until August 2035, by securing landowners agreement (if required) to maintain the project to meet Heritage Fund requirements;

Answers to these questions will help us complete our legacy arrangements (management and maintenance plan) to be submitted to the Heritage Fund in order to draw down their funding for these activities.

1. **Legacy outputs**

   Which of the elements below do you consider to part of your projects legacy? (Please select as many as you consider appropriate)

Brand (logos etc)	Website	Buildings	Records e.g biological records	Legacy documents e.g. books
Volunteers	Nature	New networks/partnerships	Infrastructure e.g. paths	Activity e.g. annual events
Business plans	Anything else:			

2. **Impact and Vision**

   What specific impact/goals do you envision this project having in the:
   Short Term (6 months/1 yr:

   Medium Term (1-5 yrs):

   Long Term (5-10 yrs):

   How will your community or organisation benefit from this project after it is completed?

   Are there any existing projects or initiatives that inspire your legacy vision?

3. Management and Maintenance Arrangements

3.1 Sustainability of Operations

What resources (money, people, skills etc) will you need in order to manage and maintain your project?

What structures or processes will be in place to sustain the project's impact after initial completion?

How will you ensure that key personnel or partners remain engaged over the long term?

What plans do you have knowledge transfer to ensure new team members understand the legacy objectives?

If your team is no longer involved, what handover plans are in place to ensure a smooth transition?

Will there be documentation, training materials, or mentorship for those taking over?

3.2 Stakeholder Involvement

Who are the key stakeholders that will support the legacy, and what are their roles?

How will you engage community members or end-users to take ownership or actively participate in maintaining the legacy?

3.3 Financial Sustainability

What are the costs involved in relation to management and maintenance of your project?

Is there going to be a shortfall?

Beyond initial funding, what are the main sources of income or funding streams you expect to maintain the project long-term?

Do you have contingency plans if funding sources change or become limited?

Will the project generate revenue, or do you plan to apply for grants, seek sponsorships, or charge fees to sustain it?

4. Evaluation/Monitoring

4.1 How often do you plan to review or update the project to ensure its relevance and effectiveness?

4.2 Do you have an evaluation plan to measure whether legacy goals are being achieved?

4.3 How will feedback be collected and used to improve the project over time?

5. **Risk Management Post Delivery Risk Register**

5.1 What potential risks do you foresee in maintaining the legacy, and how do you plan to address them?

5.2 Are there any technical or operational dependencies that may affect the project's sustainability?

6. **Future Partnership working**

6.1 Would you like to see a continuation of the CCLP?

6.2 If yes in what format would you envision it?

6.3 Are you interested in further developing partnership working with the project's partners in the future?

6.4 If yes, which partnerships would you like to prioritise?

6.5 Do you have any suggestions for what a collaborative partnership could achieve or deliver?

Our main funders

Our delivery Partners