



# EAST AYRSHIRE LEISURE TRUST

## Facility Strategy

2022-2030

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## **SECTION 1: WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO**

### **1. Introduction**

#### **1.1 East Ayrshire Leisure Strategic Vision**

This document expands on our Strategic Vision 2020-2030 to give further information on our vision for East Ayrshire Leisure Trust and the facilities that we manage. It provides strong and ambitious objectives, outlines clear timescales for delivery and gives specific strategic direction for our facilities that will develop the Trust into a more independent, resilient, innovative and inclusive organisation. Within the period of this strategy, East Ayrshire Leisure Trust will continue to grow as a leisure provider, facilitator and partner that is recognised on both a local and national stage.

#### **To be successful in our ambitions collectively we plan to:**

- Work more closely with local communities and our customers to deliver services that are valued and embedded in local life;
- Engage with local and national partners to develop collaborative approaches to service design that enhance the opportunities for leisure across East Ayrshire;
- Develop facilities that are of a high quality and to support partners across the third, public and private sector in doing the same;
- Contribute to local and national agendas through the provision of an innovative programme that encourages East Ayrshire to flourish;
- Value our people, recognise their skills and talents and empower them to be solution focused;
- Integrate commercialisation and sustainability into our business model in its widest sense and to explore more efficient working practices, governance and leadership arrangements and to look to the market place for inspiration
- Be a responsible member of the community that supports a sense of place and adopts environmental best practice.

#### **1.2 East Ayrshire Council Asset Management Framework**

As part of the East Ayrshire Council's Transformation Strategy, the Property and Estate workstream identified the need to establish an overarching Asset Management Framework that draws together a number of important asset areas into a single framework to ensure effective management, improvement and long term investment for the Council's Asset Base. The vision for the Council's assets is that 'East Ayrshire has safe, sustainable and efficient assets that meet the needs of its existing and future users and communities'.

The strategic objectives of the Asset Management Framework are:

- To maintain and enhance a flexible portfolio of assets that are fit for purpose and will allow our people to deliver services in transformational and innovative ways;
- To review and rationalise the Council's asset base as part of service redesign ensuring that their use continues to be efficient and effective and delivers best value.
- To use our assets in support of the Council's wider aims recognising the value of partnership in a place based approach to facilitating community led regeneration.
- To ensure that our assets are subject to critical review and challenge, considering the outcomes and benefits along with whole life cost and long-term investment needs.

- To provide a clear rationale for future capital investment, building in financial and operational sustainability while working towards being carbon neutral.
- Managing, reporting and analysing asset information to ensure decisions are evidence based and can maximise the leveraging of new and extra funding.

All East Ayrshire Leisure Trust facilities are included within the Asset Management Framework and this Facility Strategy will support the implementation of the Framework.

### **1.3 East Ayrshire Property Pledge**

East Ayrshire Council has developed a property pledge to provide a collaborative and proactive approach to the maintenance of all East Ayrshire assets. East Ayrshire Leisure Trust will sign up to this pledge and work together to:

- Protect, maintain and raise the standard of repair in our buildings
- Strengthen the collective ownership approach through raised awareness of the importance of effective property management, with repair and maintenance an integral part of the facilities management regime
- Deliver effective and resilient operational buildings
- Ensure statutory compliance with an emphasis on safer buildings
- Ensure greater consistency and transparency of service by setting out the framework within which property management decisions will be made
- Take steps to improve the environmental sustainability of our buildings

### **1.4 Caring for Ayrshire**

Caring for Ayrshire is an exciting and ambitious programme that will transform health and care services across Ayrshire and Arran. The Caring for Ayrshire vision is that care shall be delivered as close to home as possible, supported by a network of community services with safe, effective and timely access to high quality specialist services for those whose needs cannot be met in the community. EALT will work with NHS Ayrshire and Arran, East Ayrshire Council and East Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership to ensure that our venues can support community wellbeing and contribute to wellbeing pathways.

## **2. Leisure at the Heart of Every Community**

East Ayrshire Leisure Trust will continue to provide high quality leisure facilities that are relevant and modern and will support other leisure providers in ensuring that leisure is truly at the heart of every community regardless of who the provider is. The following facility strategy will expand on how we intend to work with the community, local authority and private providers to develop a Leisure Facility Plan that identifies all leisure provision throughout East Ayrshire and maximises the opportunities for our communities to participate in leisure activity.

### **2.1 Place Based Lifestyle Hubs**

Working with partners across the public and third sector, including NHS Ayrshire and Arran, East Ayrshire Council Vibrant Communities and East Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership, it is our vision to develop facilities that support the health and wellbeing of our communities. This has become particularly important as we respond to the Covid-19 pandemic. Working with key partners, our facilities will become lifestyle hubs that provide pathways for people to become more engaged in physical activity and wellbeing.

Throughout 2020, investment has been made to our standalone venues to enhance the facilities that are on offer. We have also created spaces within our facilities for health care and lifestyle professionals. For example, the Ayrshire Athletics Arena has purpose built spaces for physiotherapists that could support a lifestyle project aimed at frailty and the Rose Reilly Sports Centre now has a therapy room that could be used as part of a stress and wellbeing lifestyle project. A pilot project will take place in 2021/22 with the key stakeholders to develop a Lifestyle Project that works closely with individuals and groups and introduces them to the facilities and activities.

## **2.2 Community Sports Hubs**

The Covid-19 pandemic has demonstrated the importance of community sports hubs and community sports clubs. Many of these clubs are run by volunteers and have provided essential services through the pandemic, but also have been critical to community renewal as restrictions ease. East Ayrshire Leisure Trust's Vision is to manage our facilities within the community as well as to support community sports hubs in each area.

Community Sport Hubs are a Sportscotland 2014 Commonwealth Games Legacy initiative which is aimed at supporting clubs and local communities to increase sporting opportunities. The Community Sports Hubs in East Ayrshire are currently co-ordinated by East Ayrshire Council's Vibrant Communities team.

The aim of a Community Sport Hub is to bring together sports clubs and partners with an interest in sport in a community to share knowledge, expertise, skills and resources to work together and become stronger. Community Sport Hubs can be based in local facilities including pavilions, schools and sports centres and provide a home for local sports organisations.

Each Community Sport Hub is unique which reflects the community where it is based but all hubs work to five common principles:

- Growing Participation
- Understanding Community Need
- Supporting Community Leadership
- Offering A Range Of Sports
- Ensuring All The Right People Work Together

## **2.3 Flexible Community Spaces**

It is the Trust's vision to provide venues within the community that respond to and are flexible enough to meet community need. In 2020, in order to simplify and improve the community use of schools, we worked with colleagues in East Ayrshire Council to develop a categorisation for community use of each school:

- **School Category 1: Integrated Sports Hubs**

Out of hours activity in these schools is directly managed by East Ayrshire Leisure Trust

- **School Category 2: Active Community Hubs**

These are school buildings within communities where there is no suitable alternative community space. The lets for these continue to be managed by East Ayrshire Leisure Trust. However, the aim is, in line with the successful Community

Asset Transfer Model, to develop community management arrangements for these schools. This model has already been adopted at Muirkirk PS and Shortlees PS.

- **School Category 3: Standalone School Facilities**

These schools are predominantly used for school activity and are not available for regular community use. East Ayrshire Leisure Trust continues to manage one off community events within these schools where there are no suitable alternative venues.

This model for community use of schools works well and the Trust's vision is to extend this similar approach to other community spaces as outlined below:

- **Community Category 1: Flexible Cultural Hubs**

Our Strategy is to develop Cultural Hubs that will provide a range of services. They will have library provision, galleries, museums, café and flexible space for community activity. These will be directly operated by East Ayrshire Leisure Trust and will include the Dick Institute, Stewarton Area Centre and Galston Town Hall. Over the life of the 2022-24 Corporate Delivery Plan we will explore opportunities in Darvel, Cumnock and the Doon Valley to be included within the 2024-26 Corporate Delivery Plan if appropriate. 2.4 below outlines a more detailed vision for these hubs.

- **Community Category 2: Flexible Community Spaces**

We will provide venues that won't have core opening times but will reflect the needs of the specific community. These spaces will be operated by East Ayrshire Leisure Trust and the flexibility will allow us to remove the distinction between core and non-core hours, making them more affordable to community groups. These venues will support regular bookings and one-off community events. We will also provide a programme of activities including childrens' shows, cultural events and wellbeing sessions in these venues.

- **Community Category 3: Community Partnerships**

Within this category, venues will be jointly managed by the community through a mutually beneficial management agreement. This will allow community groups to take more ownership of their local 'spaces' with the support and expertise that we can offer.

- **Community Category 4: Community Run**

These venues will be operated wholly by the community and will have transferred to the appointed community group through a Community Asset Transfer. All staffing, income and expenditure for these venues will be managed by the community group.

## **2.4 Flexible Cultural Hubs**

East Ayrshire Leisure Trust's vision for the future of our cultural services is to continue to deliver cultural services that are locally relevant and nationally important. We will continue



to work with East Ayrshire communities to identify our authentic assets and our unique selling points to ensure we develop an approach that reflects East Ayrshire's sense of place, which celebrates our shared histories, our similarities and our differences.

Strategic consideration will be given to the strength, quality, number of venues, opening hours and engagement programmes and in response, we will deliver multi-purpose cultural venues to support active, sustained and responsive engagement programmes which reflect place in the widest sense.

Our ambitious exhibition and event programme and our spectacular collections and display spaces set East Ayrshire apart from our regional counterparts and they remain a focus for us in relation to tourism, heritage, conservation and safekeeping. We will consider where possible, the safe repatriation of collections in the development of our hub venues to support developing a sense of place. East Ayrshire Leisure Trust will support community wealth building through our delivery of lifelong learning, skills building and digital access across our portfolio of services and our venues will be welcoming, warm, accessible and sociable dwell spaces for residents and visitors alike.

## **2.5 Sports Pitches as Flexible Community Spaces**

In 2019, the Trust carried out a review of all grass pitches and pavilions in the local authority area. Many sports pitches and pavilions are the subject of community asset transfer. Currently the Trust has responsibility for managing the bookings of the following pavilions and pitches:

- Cockliebie Pitch and Pavilion, Stewarton
- Knockentiber Pitch and Pavilion, Knockentiber
- Riccarton Pitch and Pavilion, Kilmarnock
- Scott Ellis Playing Fields and Pavilion, Kilmarnock
- Richardson Park Pitch and Pavilion, Hurlford
- Jamieson Park Pitch and Pavilion, Newmilns
- Kay Park Pitch and Pavilion, Ochiltree
- Merlin Park Pitches and Pavilion, Auchinleck
- Cedar Pitch and Pavilion, Dalrymple
- Beechgrove Pitch and Pavilion, Mauchline

Apart from Knockentiber Pitch and Pavilion and Scott Ellis Playing Fields and Pavilion all pitches and pavilions are currently subject to a community asset transfer application. Subject to a viable business case for each facility, East Ayrshire Leisure Trust would support a full asset transfer or a community partnership. These venues will be categorised in line with the Flexible Community Spaces as outlined in 2.3 above.

## **2.6 Open Space as Flexible Community Spaces**

Linked to the Community Action Plans that have been developed throughout East Ayrshire, East Ayrshire Leisure Trust is committed to supporting communities, East Ayrshire Council and other local partners and stakeholders in ensuring that open space is at the heart of community activity. High quality public spaces are important settings for enhancing a sense of

community and a sense of place within towns and villages. These spaces need to develop, be flexible and respond to community demand.

The Trust has direct management responsibility for 2 key open spaces; Dean Castle Country Park and Annanhill Golf Course. In managing these venues, we will ensure that they are for the whole community and will develop facilities, services and activities that meet the needs of marginalised or isolated communities and groups.

## **2.7 Mobile Services, Facilities and Activities**

East Ayrshire Leisure Trust's mobile library provision was introduced to serve the unique fabric of East Ayrshire's urban rural landscape. The demographic of East Ayrshire is such that only mobile solutions can fulfil the needs of library users in more remote communities. We currently operate a fleet of two mobiles, North and South, and increasingly these services are delivering flexible and agile solutions for communities across the region. Over the next few years, our vehicles will need to be upgraded and our vision is to invest in a green fleet which will support protection of the environment whilst ensuring customers in the more remote areas of East Ayrshire are able to access library services.

Our Homewords service is fundamental to our inclusion and equality of access to our library customers who experience access considerations. We currently operate one van and our vision is to replace this alongside the Mobile Libraries as part of the development and implementation of a sustainable transport strategy.

The provision of our mobile services has never been more appreciated or needed than during the last year. While we have been unable to open our venues due to the restrictions around Covid-19, our mobile and homeward bound services have been invaluable to customers throughout East Ayrshire. Our vision is to expand the mobile library service into other service areas to enable us to respond to communities within their own community. East Ayrshire Leisure Trust will consider the development of a green fleet which will bring accessible and affordable activities into every community in East Ayrshire across our culture, sport, community and outdoor portfolios and priorities.

## **2.8 Digital Transformation**

East Ayrshire Leisure Trust has always been committed to reviewing and developing our digital engagement programme and our facilities for reaching people through digital media. As part of our renewal and recovery programme following the Covid 19 pandemic, we have highlighted an urgency in implementing a programme of digital transformation. A digital gap analysis has been carried out and 5 year action plan has been developed to ensure our facilities, programmes and services are fit for purpose, engage with a large audience and are accessible.

## **2.9 Green Networks**

East Ayrshire's networks of paths and trails connect various destinations in East Ayrshire. Some of the trails will be longer strategic routes that connect settlements and towns, generally known as "core paths", others will be shorter routes that are part of a local network that are known and loved by the people who live here, "local paths".

Core paths are the links that the people of East Ayrshire will regularly use for journeys such as travelling to work, for visiting family and friends, or for visiting neighbouring towns and communities. They will also be used for recreational activities such as jogging, leisurely cycles, walking the dog or getting to the local park to have a picnic. In general core paths will be designed as shared use and suitable for all walkers, cyclists and horse riders; however not all of them will be suitable for every ability. Due to their location or proximity to livestock, it may be necessary for some to have gates, and while these may restrict access to some abilities, it is likely that there will be an alternative route nearby that can be enjoyed.

Local paths are short routes that the residents of East Ayrshire's towns and villages are able to use for local rambles and short walks. Similar to core paths but generally shorter with less of a strategic connection value to them, most of them will also offer travel between home and nearby amenities. These are ideal routes for doing regular errands and outings close to home and some may even connect to the surrounding core paths and offer connecting journey options to neighbouring communities. Ultimately, a local path in East Ayrshire is a public path that enables pedestrian and non-powered access for communities to local facilities, points of interest and for general informal recreation.

Here in East Ayrshire we have one of Scotland's 'Great Trails', the River Ayr Way, which offers a variety of landscapes for the visitor to immerse themselves in. Starting at Glenbuck Loch, situated in wild moorland, rich in natural and industrial history, it follows the growing river downstream as it becomes a powerful waterway, driving mills and carving a route through rocky sandstone gorges. The final section follows the river through open farmland and estates before reaching the historic county town of Ayr, finishing at its harbour. The River Ayr Way is an ideal medium-distance route for novices, with mostly flat terrain and only a few steep climbs. The distances are modest, but you have to organise your own logistics. The route can be walked over a long weekend, making an ideal short break for visitors to Ayrshire. It is also very popular tackled in short sections as day walks.

Our Vision for the East Ayrshire Path Network is to create opportunities for physical activity and wellbeing, to contribute economic regeneration through tourism, culture and heritage and to support a sense of place in each of our communities.

## **2.10 Flexible Spaces for Play**

Play is important in its wider context for everyone. Greenspaces can provide a balanced range of facilities and spaces that encourage active engagement in the landscape. Play provides spaces for developing social and fundamental movement skills and can complement the health benefits associated with active travel, the outdoors and leisure. As part of East Ayrshire Council's Green Infrastructure Strategy and Play Improvement Plan, East Ayrshire Leisure Trust will support:

- Enhancement of existing formal playareas
- Improved linkages to existing playareas
- Multi purpose outdoor spaces that encourage a range of activities
- Provision of natural play spaces

### **3. Living Your Best Life**

East Ayrshire Leisure Trust will contribute to improving the enjoyment, quality of life, health and wellbeing of communities and visitors to East Ayrshire through an innovative, welcoming and ambitious programme of cultural, sport and outdoor activities. In order to achieve this theme, we have established the following Strategic Objectives:

- To support the development of sustainable pathways that encourage lifelong participation in leisure activities
- To contribute to a programme of high profile regional and national events, exhibitions, programmes and projects, that are ambitious and outward facing, whilst maximising the impact on our customers and visitors
- To develop activities and services that contribute to the Scottish Government's aspirations for 'A Healthy and Active Nation' and 'A Creative, Open and Connected Nation' and that ensure that East Ayrshire Leisure Trust is at the heart of future trends and initiatives"

In order to deliver on this objective and to ensure our facilities meet the needs of our communities we will prioritise the following in our delivery plans until 2030:

#### **Community Partnerships**

- Development of a responsive active listening, engagement and inclusion policy;
- Development of Cultural partnerships – Boswell Book Festival; Ayrshire Open Studios, independent museums and galleries; Centrestage; Ayrshire Hospice; The Cumnock Tryst;
- Development of Community Partnerships through the Community Led Action Plans
- Support to Community Sports Hubs and mobile infrastructure to take leisure activities to all communities

#### **Wellbeing**

- Provide services which are welcoming, affordable and accessible;
- Work in a co-ordinated approach to support health and wellbeing;
- Maximise opportunities in the outdoors such as walking and cycling
- Embed the Digital Champions Network in our delivery plans

#### **Education and Engagement**

- Focus lifelong learning across all areas of delivery
- Deliver high quality schools engagement and event programmes;
- Work with partners in education to ensure our offer delivers significant added value with experiential and specialist activities and facilitators;
- Respond to national priorities and ensure embedded, responsive digital strategies to reduce the digital access gap

## **Tourism**

- Continue to promote our key attractions, walking and cycling routes and work with key partners including VisitScotland, the pan Ayrshire tourism team and East Ayrshire Council's Tourism Officer on key campaigns
- Work in partnership with tourism and hospitality providers in the region, whilst focussing on East Ayrshire's unique selling points in relation to our heritage, sports and countryside offer;
- Highlight our VisitScotland accredited visitor attractions;
- Commit to our ambition to develop a high quality retail and hospitality offer;
- Focus on a strong digital engagement package across all service areas

## **Events and Programming**

- Develop and deliver ambitious, high quality, dynamic and responsive events and programming hosted from within spectacular settings such as the Dean Castle Country Park, Ayrshire Athletics Arena, the Palace Theatre and Grand Hall and the Dick Institute and from within unique, intimate and special locations such as Burns House Museum and Dean Castle Courtyard;
- Attract external funds to support the high profile programmes and continue our reputation as a local, regional and national programme producer

## **Accessible and Affordable**

- Highlight our many free services such as physical and digital library services;
- Free access to our high profile exhibition programme;
- Continue to offer a competitive membership package and explore opportunities for added value membership offers;
- Develop and implement a donations strategy
- Ensure facilities meet British Standard BS8300 wherever possible. BS8300 will be used as the benchmark to ensure best practice accessibility standards in all renovation, development and new build projects. BS8300 will also be used in the replacement of equipment. BS8300 includes but is not limited to signage, furniture, lighting, décor, specialist equipment, management and maintenance.
- Carry out Accessibility Surveys at each venue every 3 years and produce an associated action plan where appropriate.
- Ensure all refurbishment, development and new build projects consider the inclusion of changing places facilities
- Ensure all refurbishment, development and new build projects consider the inclusion of gender neutral facilities

## **Sustainability**

- Publish an annual Climate Change Declaration that outlines our carbon footprint and our priorities for carbon reduction
- Identify and implement measures to reduce carbon use and improve environmental efficiency
- Participate in the VisitScotland Green Business Scheme to reduce the impact our organisation has on the environment

- Develop an organisational wide Sustainable Transport Strategy and embed the principles of Active and Sustainable Travel throughout our organisation, projects and programmes
- Support East Ayrshire Council on the implementation of the East Ayrshire Climate Change Strategy and the ambition to reach net zero by 2030.

### **Digital Transformation**

- Undertake a gap analysis towards informing a digital action plan and implement actions that will enhance our service delivery;
- Work towards tailored digital services in relation to collections management, physical activity, engagement, ticketing, retail and hospitality;
- Install wifi within our key venues.

### **Management and Maintenance**

- Develop and agree a proactive maintenance programme for each venue/facility
- Use community feedback to prioritise development activities at each venue
- Continue to work with East Ayrshire Council and other stakeholders and partners on capital improvements
- Develop and implement rolling, 5 year management plans for Annanhill Golf Course, Dean Castle Country Park and the River Ayr Way
- Develop and implement a rolling programme of equipment maintenance and replacement

## **SECTION 2: OUR VENUES AND OUR VISION**

### **4. Place Based Leisure Priorities**

East Ayrshire Leisure Trust will work closely with our local communities to create real and sustainable partnerships; working together to deliver inclusive services which meet the community's needs. The following place base models are based on the existing defined catchment areas of secondary schools within East Ayrshire; chosen as they represent achievable travelling distances for communities to access the surrounding leisure facilities. Breaking down our facilities into the following defined networks allows us to hold localised community consultations; which we can utilise to mould/tailor our offerings to the needs of the surrounding communities. This section provides information on the types of facilities that are included in the local networks and outlines our future objectives for improvement and development.

#### **4.1 Stewarton Leisure Network**

##### **Stewarton Academy (Synthetic Grass Pitch)**

##### **Description**

In 2019, new synthetic grass pitches were installed at Stewarton Academy. This was done in partnership with Scottish Hockey and local hockey clubs. The facilities also include a sprint track.

##### **Vision**

The vision for the facility is to prioritise the growth and development of hockey within the region, as well as be an integral part of a place based approach to the leisure facilities in the Annick Valley. This place based approach will encourage leisure providers and local clubs to work collaboratively to develop multi sports pathways allowing all of the facilities in the area, including the newly refurbished tennis courts and the Rose Reilly Centre to offer a range of opportunities to young people and community clubs and groups.

#### Priorities for 2022-2030

- Develop a management arrangement which supports hockey as a priority sport, but which offers opportunities for other community sports and activities.
- Carry out the feasibility of converting Stewarton Academy from a category 2 school to a category 1 school to establish it as an integrated community hub with East Ayrshire Leisure Trust responsible for the co-ordination and management of the facilities within the Stewarton Leisure Network.
- Ensure the synthetic grass pitch is included within the sports pitch and floodlight renewal programme and that any development supports wider community sport.

### **Rose Reilly Sports Centre**

#### Description

Stewarton Sports Centre was officially opened in 2012 and renamed as the Rose Reilly Sports Centre in April 2021. The venue has been designed to cater for a range of leisure, sport and recreation activities for all ages. The Centre offers a specialised dance studio for dance and fitness classes, a full size 11-a-side synthetic grass pitch which can also be used for 7-a-side games, a multi-purpose sports hall (4 courts), and a newly refurbished fitness suite and free weights room. The venue now also has a treatment room, which can be hired and is suitable for physiotherapy, massage and other treatments. The centre is available for private hire offering potential for official football games/ tournaments, dance events, and a variety of indoor sports competitions.

#### Vision

As a standalone venue, the Rose Reilly Centre is an important facility that supports health and wellbeing throughout the Annick Valley. As part of a place based approach to leisure facilities in the area, the vision for the Centre is to establish a Place Based Lifestyle Hub. Working with partners in the NHS, Primary Care, East Ayrshire Council and the East Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership, our vision for The Rose Reilly Sports Centre is to develop as a facility for the local community that supports positive lifestyle choices.

#### Priorities for 2022-2030

- Develop a Shapemaster Studio which compliments traditional sport centre equipment, helping to provide opportunities for a wider section of the community by creating social hubs and bringing the benefit of physical activity to people with mobility issues or long term illness
- Create a dedicated outdoor physical activity space to introduce a programme of outdoor fitness and activity
- Install wifi and other digital infrastructure to enhance opportunities for digital engagement

- Realign the synthetic grass pitch and replace and upgrade the goals to support the development of youth and community football
- Upgrade technical kit within dance studio to provide opportunities for immersive programmes

## **Stewarton Area Centre and Library**

### **Description**

Built in 2008, Stewarton Area Centre is a modern building which houses two community halls, the library and local office. It has a main hall with a stage with 2 rear changing rooms, retractable seating with the capacity to hold up to 200 people. The hall can be used for dance and fitness classes, shows, meetings, training days, weddings and birthday parties. The lesser hall can accommodate up to 50 people and interview/meeting rooms for up to 4 people and Councillor surgeries. The facility has a fully functional kitchen that can be used as a bar/catering area.

Stewarton Library is one of five full time libraries operating in East Ayrshire and is a well-resourced, bright, open and large space. Over 17,000 library visits annually mean that the space is well used by the local community. School visits to meet authors and intergenerational programming via weekly Bookbug sessions make the library a fundamental resource in the delivery of lifelong learning and leisure in the heart of the community. Services provided onsite include PC access, scanning, Wi-Fi, printing, photocopying and book borrowing as well as a dedicated digital learning centre. A work coach visits the library weekly to support community wealth building and employability. Stewarton Library is very much a community venue – there is a monthly Chit Chat session where members of the community can meet together to discuss local news, reminiscences and topical issues in an informal, friendly setting to help to combat isolation. A well-attended book group meet every month in Stewarton Library providing an opportunity for book-lovers to gather together discussing their latest reads.

### **Vision**

At the heart of the town, our vision is to develop the area centre as a thriving community multi- purpose cultural hub providing opportunities for arts, leisure and wellbeing activities. We will extend our programme and introduce events and workshops making good use of the fantastic stage and facilities that support theatre and performing arts, whilst supporting local theatre and performing arts clubs and companies. We will also maximise the use of the library and digital suite through continued development of our wider cultural programmes.

### **Priorities for 2022-2030**

- Improve signage to the Centre to ensure that it remains a high profile facility within the community
- Install community cinema facilities to expand the programme
- Carry out a feasibility study to determine the benefits of introducing a hospitality and retail offer within the facility
- Work with East Ayrshire Council and local partners to maximise the space and consider introducing other facilities that will support the wider cultural and wellbeing offer including the potential for galleries or repatriation of collections specific to the local area.



## **The Jougs**

### **Description**

The Jougs was built in 1830 and is an A listed building. It is a small tower type building with two small rooms and is currently open by appointment. The Jougs housed the former Parish Council chambers and jail in Kilmaurs and was also used as the Kilmaurs fire station in the 19th century.

### **Vision**

This is an important building linked to the history of Kilmaurs and is positioned right in the heart of the village. With this in mind, it is our vision to repatriate some Kilmaurs collections to The Jougs to support sense of place and community wealth building through tourism and event planning.

### **Priorities for 2022-2030**

- Implement environmental and security controls that will allow the Jougs to house some specific collections
- Improve signage and interpretation for the building and surrounding area

## **4.2 Grange Leisure Network**

### **Grange Leisure Centre**

#### **Description**

Grange Leisure Centre is part of the Grange Community Campus which includes Grange Academy, Annanhill Primary School and Park School. It was opened 2008. The community facilities are available in the evenings and weekends. There are a number of indoor areas available for hire plus a floodlit 3G Synthetic Grass Pitch. The venue is a popular training venue for a number of sporting clubs. The 8 court games hall is versatile and suitable for staging competitions and larger events as well as badminton, football and netball.

The assembly hall has staging and a seating capacity of 300, making it the ideal location for shows, presentations, conferences and events. Our purpose built dance studio is suitable to accommodate groups of up to 30 and is equipped with a full length mirrored wall and ballet barre.

#### **Vision**

Grange Leisure Centre is an important Community Sports Hub with specialised facilities for football and other team sports. Our Vision for Grange Leisure Centre is to continue the focus on community sport and work with partners and the local community to develop opportunities for a wide range of sporting and physical activities linked to other facilities in the area, including Annanhill Golf Course and Bonnyton Pitch and Pavilion. We will also explore and maximise opportunities for wider community programming linked to wellbeing, culture and performing arts.

### **Priorities for 2022-2030**

- Improve directional and welcome signage to Grange Leisure Centre and from the leisure centre to other facilities in the area including the Kilmarnock Green Infinity Loop and Annanhill Golf Course to establish the leisure centres role as a key facility in the heart of western Kilmarnock.
- Explore opportunities for hospitality provision to support events and programmes

## **Annanhill Golf Course**

### **Description**

Annanhill Golf Course, an 18-hole course situated on the outskirts of Kilmarnock is open to residents and visitors alike. Set in the scenic surroundings of Annanhill Estate, the 5954 yard parkland course has a par of 71 and has something to delight and challenge all players from beginners to seasoned pros. The feature 13<sup>th</sup> hole is reminiscent of the famous "Postage Stamp" at Royal Troon, the par three is played across a valley to a raised, small green heavily guarded by bunkers. The course's other holes feature tree-lined fairways that are fairly wide, so wayward shots are not too greatly punished.

Offering a unique playing experience and new to Annanhill, our new state of the art golf boards are available for hire. An easy-to-ride fully electric vehicle that adds a whole new level of fun and excitement which also allows for a quicker round of golf. Golfers of all ages can now "Surf the Earth" from shot-to-shot. Annanhill is one of only 2 courses in Scotland to offer golf boards for hire.

### **Vision**

Our vision is for Annanhill Golf Course to become one of the top destinations in Ayrshire for community golf and youth development. As a key greenspace in Kilmarnock, we also plan to improve the opportunities for wider community use of the site through path networks, signage and interpretation. Annanhill is one of the key destinations on the Kilmarnock Green Infinity Loop.

### **Priorities for 2022-2030**

- Replace the storage containers at the starters' office to increase locker provision
- Upgrade and install additional electricity supply to allow the move from diesel buggies to electric alternatives
- Create a practice area to support coaching and youth development
- Upgrade and expand the car park for both visitors to the golf course and the wider park
- Construct a 3km path network to allow greater use of the whole greenspace
- Improve welcome and directional signage throughout the golf course and park
- Adapt the course maintenance practices to protect and enhance nature conservation including tree planting, wildflower meadows and hedge planting.
- Upgrade the course irrigation system
- Implement the Kilmarnock Infinity Loop through Annanhill Park
- Carry out a feasibility of converting the clubhouse to a community café/visitor centre with a dedicated space for golf development but which supports the wider use of Annanhill Park
- Upgrade and expand facilities for female and youth golf

### **Crosshouse Library**

#### **Description**

Crosshouse Library is one of our newest venues. It is a part time library which inhabits a wonderful large, bright and airy space. Crosshouse Library shares it's venue with the full time NHS Doctor's Surgery and opening and closing of the venue is run by East Ayrshire Council.

Over 5,500 local residents use the library annually, and our programme of weekly Bookbug sessions is popular with intergenerational families taking part. Services provided onsite include PC access, scanning, Wi-Fi, printing, photocopying and book borrowing. Crosshouse Library has a dedicated learning centre.

#### **Vision**

Through delivering our library services which are embedded in health, wellbeing and accessibility, and through our unique positioning in terms of digital access, skills building and employability, the vision for Crosshouse Library is to continue to play a fundamental part in the community wealth building of Crosshouse both as a centre for lifelong learning and as a warm, sociable, safe and welcoming place.

#### **Priorities for 2022-2030**

- Consider opportunities for hospitality provision within Crosshouse library
- Install directional and welcome signage

### **Whatriggs Library**

#### **Description**

Whatriggs Library is a part time library integrated into the new Whatriggs school campus and is used by just over 4,000 visitors each year. The school is one of the main users of the library.

#### **Vision**

Our vision is for the library to be more integrated into the school to enable it to support reader development and the Scottish Curriculum for Excellence.

#### **Priorities for 2022-2030**

- Liaise with East Ayrshire Council Education colleagues to better integrate the library into the school.

## **4.3 St. Joseph's Leisure Network**

### **St. Joseph's Leisure Centre**

#### **Description**

Facilities at St Joseph's Leisure Centre are available in the evenings and weekends. The centre is contained within St Joseph's school campus. There are a number of indoor areas available

for hire many of which are used by various sporting and community clubs. The 4 court badminton hall is versatile and suitable for staging competitions and larger events as well as badminton, football and netball. The Assembly Hall has a seated capacity of 250 which makes it the perfect location for shows, presentations, conferences and large events.

#### Vision

As part of the Community Sports Hub model, our Vision is to develop St Joseph's Leisure Centre as a 'Club Hub' for supporting local sport and physical activity clubs.

#### Priorities for 2022-2030

- Install flooring protection to dance floor to encourage greater use by local dance clubs
- Improve welcome and directional signage to provide a higher profile for the leisure centre within the community
- Implement active travel links from the leisure centre to the Kilmarnock Green Infinity Loop

### **Hunter Fitness Centre**

#### Description

The Hunter Fitness Suite is situated within the North West Area Centre, Kilmarnock and has a gym, fitness class studio and badminton court. The venue shares the building with a range of NHS and private health care services, early year's nursery and community learning and development, providing opportunities for health and leisure services to work together.

#### Vision

Our vision for The Hunter Fitness Centre is for it to be included within our series of Place Based Lifestyle Hubs. It's opening hours and its connection to other community facilities makes it ideal to support positive lifestyle choices within the community.

#### Priorities for 2022-2030

- Create a dedicated outdoor physical activity space
- Expand the gym area and introduce a programme of equipment renewal
- Convert fitness suite to support the introduction of group exercise classes, including immersive programming
- Install a Shapemaster Suite to support rehabilitation and a pathway to physical activity

### **Dean Castle Country Park**

#### Description

Dean Castle Country Park is East Ayrshire's only Country Park, situated in the heart of Kilmarnock. The Country Park is made up of formal gardens, amenity planted woodland, semi natural woodland, ancient woodland, standing water, riparian corridors and farmland. It is split into three distinctive but interconnected areas: Cultural Heritage, focusing on the formal and designed gardens which form the setting for the 14th Century Castle and associated buildings; Rural Life, which encourages visitors to explore the wilder parts of the Country Park demonstrating all aspects of rural life; Industrial Heritage, which allows us to explore the rich and diverse industrial history of the estate.

### Vision

Dean Castle Country Park will be a 5 star visitor attraction which will maximise the opportunities that the site has to encourage visitors to participate in, appreciate and value their local natural, social and cultural heritage

### Priorities for 2022-2030

- Secure Green flag accreditation and promote standards of good management and best practice
- Implement the woodland management plan including the development of a new woodland within the country park maximising community involvement
- Explore opportunities for more adventure and informal play
- Create a community woodland along the Kennedy Drive side of the Country Park to support community growing initiatives
- Develop plans for the restoration of Assloss Walled Garden and other designed landscape features associated with Assloss Estate
- Expand and upgrade the car park
- Implement the section of the Kilmarnock Green Infinity Loop which goes through the Country Park
- Install a water source to the farm paddocks
- Carry out the feasibility of developing the Dower House as a conference centre and event space
- Upgrade and restore the main gate and access wall
- Upgrade the main car park to create more spaces and to include lights and CCTV
- Upgrade main drive including lighting
- Upgrade Assloss car park

## **Dean Castle**

### Description

Dean Castle was the home and stronghold of the Boyd family for over 400 years. The Keep, dating to around 1350 houses outstanding displays that tell the story of the Boyd family and medieval life, as well as East Ayrshire's stunning collection of arms and armour.

The 15<sup>th</sup> century Palace was spectacularly rebuilt from ruins by the 8th Lord Howard de Walden in the 1930s. The result is a sensitive restoration in keeping with the interior design of the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries and even re-using original 17<sup>th</sup> century fixtures and fittings taken from Balfour House, Fife. This building will tell the stories of the Howard de Walden family and showcase an internationally significant and Recognised Collection of medieval musical instruments. Visits to Dean Castle have historically been tour led, with open access unable to be achieved.

### Vision

East Ayrshire Council, supported by East Ayrshire Leisure Trust, was awarded £1.5m from Heritage Lottery Fund towards the restoration and modernisation of Dean Castle. The project has a total cost of £5.2m, with funding of £500k also secured from Historic Environment Scotland, and the remainder coming from East Ayrshire Council. The vision is to reopen Dean

Castle with open access for visitors, with never before seen items from the collections, and with state of the art interpretation, sound interactives, animations and film.

#### Priorities for 2022-2030

- Complete all works associated with the Dean Castle Restoration and Modernisation Project
- Install a flexible awning and an external power supply within the courtyard to enhance opportunities for outdoor programming
- Replace existing outdoor toilet facilities
- Implement designed landscape plan to the rear of the Castle
- Develop an interpretation plan for greater access to the Chambers and Chapel within the Castle and the top floor of the Keep

### **4.4 William McIlvanney Leisure Network**

#### **William McIlvanney Leisure Centre**

##### Description

Opened in 2018 this campus location offers a 4, 3 and 2 court halls suitable for club and recreational use, a fully furnished fitness suite and exercise studio catering to all fitness needs. The community room located on the ground floor is suitable for small community groups to hire for meetings or activities. The venue also has two synthetic grass pitches one 7 and one 11 a side which are also fitted with flood lights.

##### Vision

William McIlvanney Leisure Centre is in a unique position in that it offers excellent facilities for sports clubs, but also has a well-equipped gym and space for fitness programming. Our vision for this centre is to manage it as both a Community Sports Hub to support the development of community sport and sporting pathways, but also as a Place Based Lifestyle Hub that provides opportunities for positive lifestyle choices.

#### Priorities for 2022-2030

- Include the pitches within the replacement of the synthetic Grass Pitch surface programme
- Improve welcome and directional signage to provide a higher profile for the leisure centre within the community
- Implement active travel links from the leisure centre to the Kilmarnock Green Infinity Loop

#### **Ayrshire Athletics Arena**

##### Description

The Ayrshire Athletics Arena is set amongst a sporting environment of athletics, cricket, rugby, judo, gymnastics and football facilities in Kilmarnock's very own Sports Park boasting a UK Athletics Class A outdoor athletics facility. It has been designed to meet the highest of training and competition requirements for a wide range of athletes, sports clubs, schools and

community groups. Facilities include Mondo Sportflex Super X Performance surface, 6 lane 63m sprints straight, Long and triple jump facilities, Throwing areas - Shot putt/discus/javelin/hammer, Multipurpose area for sprinting, hurdling, fitness, race running and all ability cycling, 2 bay cricket cage, First Aid & Physiotherapy Room - available for hire, 3 Accessible/Assisted changing and shower room, General purpose room - suitable for meetings, small functions and low impact fitness classes. It also has A newly refurbished strength and conditioning fitness suite with specialist performance equipment and studio area suitable for a range of fitness classes.

### Vision

Our Vision for the Ayrshire Athletics Arena will be to establish it as the primary athletics facility for competitions within the west of Scotland and continue to develop the sport of athletics through the East Ayrshire Athletics Partnership.

### Priorities for 2022-2030

- Expand Wifi coverage to the new fitness spaces within the facility
- Replace indoor track roof
- Replace indoor and outdoor track surfaces
- Upgrade the overflow car parking at Scott Ellis
- Install a 500-1000 seater Stadium to attract national athletics programmes
- Review and upgrade floodlights
- Implement sections of the Kilmarnock Green Infinity Loop that go through the site

## **The Dick Institute**

### Description

Opened in 1901, the Dick Institute is a 4 star attraction, attracting over 120,000 visitors each year. It houses the largest museum and gallery spaces in Ayrshire and East Ayrshire's central library. A recent refurbishment and the addition of a cafe has breathed new life into this stunning building ensuring it will continue to be enjoyed by a new generation of visitors.

The Dick Institute features a programme of nationally important exhibitions, permanent displays of the museum's diverse collections and innovative work by contemporary artists, film makers and young people from the area. It has been described by the Glasgow Herald as 'Scotland's finest municipal gallery' through hosting an ambitious range of temporary exhibitions and is regularly the only Scottish venue for significant shows.

Library services provided from within the venue include book borrowing, PC access via a dedicated digital suite, scanning, Wi-Fi, printing, and photocopying. The regular event programme includes popular Bookbug Sessions and chit chat sessions to help combat isolation, a monthly hearing aid clinic, Gaelic conversation group meetings, one-to-one digital sessions, work coach visits and visually impaired support towards independent life skills.

### Vision

The vision for East Ayrshire Leisure Trust's flagship multi-purpose cultural hub is to continue to play a fundamental part in the community wealth building of Kilmarnock and wider East Ayrshire. Through our significant programmes for visitors and residents alike, the Dick Institute will play a fundamental role in celebrating the cultural heritage of East Ayrshire and being a key Cultural Space in Kilmarnock Town Centre.

#### Priorities for 2022-2030

- Install blinds within the main gallery
- Develop and implement a landscape plan to create a link between the building and the outdoors providing opportunities for outdoor programming and 'dwell spaces'
- Improve car parking
- Carry out a roof survey and replace where appropriate
- Carry out the feasibility of adding a sympathetic glass extension to the Dick Institute to enhance opportunities for programming, events and hospitality

### **The Palace and Grand Hall**

#### Description

Since 1863, the imposing Corn Exchange, with red-sandstone Italianate tower, by James Ingram, has dominated the cross at London Road and Green Street, as a multi-use concert hall. By day the venue would host the corn sales and by night was become the town's entertainment destination.

It became the Palace Theatre in 1903, when a stage was built. The Grand Agricultural Hall was added to the Palace complex in 1927, and was one of the last commissions for James Miller, a prolific Glasgow architect. This was also fitted with a stage in 1929 and was used as a concert room while the Palace found success as a theatre.

In the last 15 years the venue has established itself as a key touring venue for music and drama as well as becoming the home to a thriving local amateur musical scene and local dance school. The Pantomime has continued to develop its audiences and has received local and national acclaim.

#### Vision

Our Vision for the Palace and Grand Hall is develop the venue as Ayrshire's primary music venue which attracts high profile events to East Ayrshire, whilst supporting grassroots music, drama and performing arts.

#### Priorities for 2022-2030

- Refurbish, redevelop and modernise the Palace and Grand Hall as part of the 'Cultural Spaces' project for Kilmarnock including accessibility of the venue and establishing it as Ayrshire's primary music and performing arts centre
- Develop and implement a landscape plan to provide opportunities for outdoor performing, linking the venue to the Kilmarnock Water and to the town centre
- Improve car parking

### **Burns Monument – Local History Service**

#### Description



The Burns Monument Centre is a full time shared venue between East Ayrshire Leisure Trust, East Ayrshire Council and Ayrshire Archives. The Local History Service welcomes around 6,500 visitors annually. The local and family history collections at the Centre are cared for by East Ayrshire Leisure Trust. The collection includes items such as newspapers, maps, historic photographs, books and many other local and family history resources. The BMC is home to a state of the art environmentally controlled store, shared amongst the partners, allowing the care and storage of fragile documents.

#### Vision

Our vision for the Burns Monument Centre is to ensure the service is fully integrated across the region. An ambition for the service is to work towards a large scale community digitisation project, whereby external funding is secured to support a region wide approach to enabling community groups to access appropriate equipment to digitise their local collections and share the output of the digitisation onto Futuremuseum.com. Our staff would oversee and support this work via a structured approach to skills training and uploading of the contents.

### **4.5 Loudoun Leisure Network**

#### **Loudoun Leisure Centre**

##### Description

Loudoun Leisure Centre is located within Loudoun Academy campus and offers a wide range of activities and facilities for all the family including a fitness suite hosting a wide range of equipment for a total body workout, 11 a side flood light synthetic grass pitch, swimming pool, 3 court sports hall and Gymnasium hall, which can accommodate a wide variety of sport, fitness and activity services

##### Vision

Our Vision is to include Loudoun Leisure Centre as a Place Based Lifestyle Hub which supports community wellbeing and positive lifestyle choices while offering opportunities for community sport and programming. Loudoun Leisure Centre is also one of our aquatics sites with opportunities for swimming lessons as part of our community sport pathways

##### Priorities for 2022-2030

- Convert existing red blaes pitch into a dedicated outdoor physical activity space
- Replacement of the synthetic grass pitch and floodlights as part of the ongoing sgp replacement programme
- Realign SGP to support wider community sport opportunities

#### **Galston Library**

##### Description

Galston Library is one of our oldest venues. It is a full time library which shares it's venue with East Ayrshire Council Customer Contact Centre. Just over 10,000 local residents use the library annually, and our programme of weekly Bookbug sessions are popular with intergenerational families taking part. Services provided onsite include PC access, scanning, Wi-Fi, printing, photocopying and book borrowing. Galston library has a dedicated digital

learning centre which is often booked by other agencies for PC access. A work coach visits Galston Library on a weekly basis supporting community wealth building and employability.

#### Vision

Galston Town Hall is currently being restored and developed to house Galston's full time Library and EAC's part time Customer Contact Centre. The Town Hall is a beautiful building in a good location which will have customer parking available and which will be fully accessible to customers and visitors.

As part of the planning, we will consider the potential of the upper floor within the Town Hall for possible safe repatriation of collections and development of a multi-purpose cultural hub.

#### Priorities for 2022-2030

- Implement environment and security arrangements required for repatriation of collections and associated interpretation
- Implement restoration and development plans for Galston Town Hall

### **Morton Hall**

#### Description

Morton Hall is a B listed building situated in the main street of Newmilns. It was built in 1896 and is a single storey, 6-bay, gabled Jacobethan-style public hall. The building contains a large public hall with a stage and 2 smaller rooms. The Main Hall has a large stage and a seating capacity of 200 and can be used for large meetings, weddings and birthday parties etc.

The medium hall has been converted to provide accommodation for Newmilns Library. Newmilns Library is a part time library which hosts around 3,000 visits annually. Book borrowing, PC access, scanning, printing and photocopying services are currently provided from Newmilns Library and weekly Bookbug Sessions take place.

#### Vision

The vision for Morton Hall is to provide a multi-purpose cultural hub providing opportunities for community programming within a heritage venue.

#### Priorities for 2022-2030

- Complete redevelopment of the venue with integrated Library
- Investment in technical infrastructure to support community programming

### **Darvel Town Hall**

#### Description

Darvel Town Hall is a magnificent 'B Listed' building which sits prominently on the Main Street in the centre of the village. The venue is well used by the local community and plays host to the prestigious Darvel Music Festival and Darvel Flower Show.

The venue has a Large Main Hall (including balcony) with seating capacity of 200 and 360 standing for concerts. There is also a fully equipped kitchen facility. Upstairs, the Lesser Hall has a raised stage, seating capacity of 50 and adjoining kitchen facilities. Public Meeting Rooms

are also available. The Town Hall has a local museum on the history of Darvel Lace industry and local artefacts.

Darvel Library is one of our oldest venues. It is a part time library which hosts over 8,000 visits per year. Our programme of weekly Bookbug sessions is popular with intergenerational families taking part. Services provided onsite include PC access, scanning, Wi-Fi, printing, photocopying and book borrowing. Chit Chat sessions also run in the library to help with social inclusion anyone can join in and meet friends – new and old.

#### Vision

Darvel Town Hall already is an important music venue in the Irvine Valley. Our Vision is to work with local partners to maximise the facilities to support the growing Darvel Music Festival along with other community programming opportunities. Darvel Town Hall will also be developed into a multi-purpose cultural hub providing a range of opportunities to support local activities and maximise the venue as a tourist destination.

#### Priorities for 2022-2030

- Develop and implement proposals to create a venue that supports music, community and performing arts programming
- Implement infrastructure to ensure security and environmental controls are in place for repatriation of museum collections
- Carry out feasibility of the provision of hospitality and retail opportunities

### **4.6 Barony Leisure Network**

#### **Barony Sports and Community Village**

##### Description

Barony Sports Village, which opened in May 2021 sits within the new £68m Barony Campus in Cumnock, and is part of Scotland's most innovative, ambitious and inclusive learning facility. The whole concept of the facility is to focus on Health and wellbeing by creating indoor and outdoor environments for the local community to thrive. The Sports facilities available for community use include 4 multi-use sports halls that can cater for all sporting and physical activity requirements. Outdoors, there are two full size Floodlit synthetic grass pitches which are accredited for both rugby and football use, a 400m 4 lane running track and 2Km of path networks that surround the campus. Phase 2 of the project will include additional grass sports pitches plus 5 a side pitches.

##### Vision

Barony Sports Village includes state of the art facilities for sports, arts and community activities. Our Vision is to offer a centre which attracts high profile events and activities to the Cumnock Area, whilst supporting and delivering community sporting pathways.

#### Priorities for 2022-2030

- Create 5 a side pitches to include flexibility for multi sports

- Include SGP and athletics track within the SGP and floodlight replacement programme
- Work with East Ayrshire Council to reconfigure access arrangements to provide access to other community facilities out with core school hours
- Install car park security including lighting and CCTV

### **Auchinleck Leisure Centre**

#### **Description**

Auchinleck Leisure Centre is located within the old Auchinleck Academy Campus and currently offers swimming, football and other team sports.

#### **Vision**

Our vision is to develop the site as Auchinleck Football Academy and to work in partnership with Auchinleck Talbot and other community sports clubs in the provision of an all-weather team sports facility to support community sporting pathways.

#### **Priorities for 2022-2030**

- Install new changing facilities to support the development of a Football Academy at the existing SGP
- Include SGP and floodlights within the sports pitch renewal programme
- Convert red blaes pitch to grass pitch

### **Baird Institute**

#### **Description**

The Baird Institute lies in the centre of the town of Cumnock. It was opened in March 1891 to provide leisure facilities for local people and included a museum, billiard room and reading rooms. It has been recently restored and upgraded. The venue is part time and welcomes around 2,000 visitors annually. An unusual style of architecture, the venue presents accessibility challenges to those with limited mobility and parking for the venue is difficult.

The Baird Institute holds collections of Mauchline Ware of world importance complimented by many items of Cumnock Pottery as well as a wide range of resources which relate to the history of Cumnock and the Doon Valley area – museum collections, archives, photographs, audio visual materials, books, maps and newspapers. James Keir Hardie, founder of the Labour Party, lived in Cumnock during the 1880's when he was asked to relocate to Ayrshire to organise a union of the local miners. One room in the Institute tells the story of his life through the display of his personal belongings.

The Baird Institute Barony Gallery space plays host to a continually changing programme of contemporary art and heritage exhibitions programmed. Exhibitions are explored in creative education and interpretation programmes to give physical, conceptual and interpretative access to the work.

#### **Vision**

The vision for the Baird Institute is to continue to play a fundamental part in the community wealth building of Cumnock and wider South East Ayrshire. Through our significant

programmes for visitors and residents alike, the Baird Institute will play a fundamental role in the cultural offer for the area.

#### Priorities for 2022-2030

- Improve accessibility
- Explore the potential of reconfiguring and expanding the rooms to support education and programming opportunities
- Install welcome and directional signage for enhanced visibility
- Develop and implement a landscape plan to maximise opportunities at the rear of the building to determine for outdoor activity
- Install alternative display and storage solutions
- Explore opportunities to include provision of hospitality and retail

### **Boswell Centre**

#### Description

The Centre has a range of rooms and halls available to hire which are suitable for meetings, presentations and classes. With ample car parking, a range of catering options and access to projectors and screens. The Main Hall can accommodate 150 people and is ideal for hosting large-scale events and has a music surround system, projector and a 5m x 4m screen available for use and retractable seating if for a cinema screening/show. The Lesser Hall can accommodate 50 people and the fully equipped with an adjoining kitchen which can also be used if required. There is a partition into the lesser hall which can be removed to provide additional space if needed. The two Multi-Purpose rooms can accommodate 20 people comfortably for meetings or groups for training. Centre also works in partnership with Auchinleck Community Development Initiative. They have staff and office space based in the Centre, and a community garden to the rear of the facility.

Auchinleck Library is one of our newest venues. It is a full time library which inhabits a large, bright and airy space. With almost 22,500 local residents using the library annually, Auchinleck is East Ayrshire's most visited library after the Dick Institute in Kilmarnock. Our programme of weekly Bookbug sessions is popular with intergenerational families taking part. Services provided onsite include PC access via a dedicated learning centre, scanning, Wi-Fi, printing, photocopying and book borrowing. Auchinleck Library is very much at the heart of the community with local groups using the library as their central point for meeting and point of reference. Auchinleck Library has hosted author events for adults and children – the hall in the Boswell Centre provides a large space to accommodate multiple schools attending a session. Auchinleck is conveniently placed to attract a number of different schools from within a radius including the Barony Campus. A monthly book group for adult meet in the library to discuss fiction titles. Local schools and nurseries visit the library to change books and immerse themselves in their community library experience from a young age.

#### Vision

The Vision is to work in partnership with Auchinleck Community Development Initiative to provide a community partnership venue which offers opportunities for programming, events and lifelong learning.

### Priorities for 2022-2030

- Develop and implement a landscape plan to provide enhanced opportunities for outdoor programming and to improve the setting of the centre as an integral part of the Community Garden Centre.
- Install welcome and directional signage that ensures the venue has a profile within the community, but also celebrates the links to Boswell
- Realign foyer to provide opportunities for hospitality

## **Burns House Museum and Library**

### Description

Burns House Museum in Mauchline is a full time museum and library which welcomes just over 5,000 visitors annually. The beautiful red sandstone heritage building sits in a picturesque cobbled street with Nanse Tinnocks sitting opposite. Challenges include poor parking provision and accessibility for those with limited mobility is challenging.

Through the display of original manuscripts, objects and other publications Burns House Museum interprets Burns' time in the town and his relations with many of its characters. Contemporary works commissioned in response to Burns and his work by significant Scottish artists such as Timorous Beasties and Calum Colvin complement the displays of historic objects. The collections on display are regularly changed and a series of events take place in and around the museum each year including Burns Birthday in Mauchline, an annual event that celebrates our national bard.

The library service offers PC, scanning, printing facilities and WiFi as well as book borrowing. Weekly Bookbug Sessions take place which are well-attended. Weekly Bookbug and any other engagement activities taking place.

### Vision

The vision for the Burns House Museum is to develop a museum which 'Goes Back in Time' and plays an integral part in the story of Burns in Ayrshire, encouraging locals and visitors alike to celebrate the life of Scotland's National Bard.

### Priorities for 2022-2030

- Improve welcoming and directional signage to improve the profile of the venue within the historic area of Mauchline
- Open up and reconfigure the downstairs to improve opportunities for programming
- Upgrade and improve accessibility including digital suite provision
- Develop and implement a landscape plan, maximising opportunities for programming within the courtyard and outdoor spaces
- Work with neighbours, local stakeholders and East Ayrshire Council to implement an improved outdoor storage solution which is in keeping with the historic setting
- Explore feasibility of increased access to Nancy Tinnock's balcony

## **Cumnock Town Hall**

### Description

Cumnock Town Hall was designed by Robert Ingram and built in 1883/4. This beautiful town hall has undergone extensive restoration to restore it to its former glory using traditional materials whilst incorporating updated facilities. The refurbished hall is now an arts and entertainment venue for shows, music and comedy clubs. The venue is available to hire for weddings, parties, shows and meetings at any time. The main hall can hold up to 200 seated and 300 standing with a kitchen and its own bar. There is also an upper Wee Hall with capacity for 150 with its own kitchen and small Keir Hardie Meeting Room on the lower floor.

#### Vision

As Cumnock's premier performing arts venue, our vision for Cumnock Town Hall is for it to continue to provide opportunities for community programming, as well as introduce programmes, events and activities that attract visitors to the local area as part of a place based approach to tourism, programming and promotion.

#### Priorities for 2022-2030

- Develop and Implement a landscape plan for Cumnock Town Hall which maximises opportunities for outdoor activities
- Investigate feasibility of using empty space including the flat at the back of the building including providing opportunities for programming and enhanced storage solutions

### **Cumnock Library**

#### Description

Cumnock Library is one of our newest venues. It is a full time library which inhabits a large, bright and airy space. Cumnock Library shares its venue with East Ayrshire Council as part of Rothesay House. Just over 12,000 local residents use the library annually, and our programme of weekly Bookbug sessions is popular with intergenerational families taking part. Services provided onsite include PC access via a dedicated learning centre, scanning, Wi-Fi, printing, photocopying and book borrowing. Work coach sessions in conjunction with EAC take place weekly as well as Bookbug sessions and school events.

#### Vision

Through delivering our library services which are embedded in health, wellbeing and accessibility, and through our unique positioning in terms of digital access, skills building and employability, the vision for Cumnock Library is to continue to play a fundamental part in the community wealth building of Cumnock both as a centre for lifelong learning and as a warm, sociable, safe and welcoming place.

#### Priorities for 2022-2030

- Install directional and welcome signage

### **River Ayr Way**

#### Description

The River Ayr Way was opened in 2006 as Scotland's first Source to Sea medium distance route. It is now part of a Scotland wide family of routes known as 'Scotland's Great Trails' It

stretches 44 miles from Glenbuck in East Ayrshire to Ayr in South Ayrshire. 22 miles are within East Ayrshire.

#### Vision

The vision is to upgrade and maintain the River Ayr Way as one of Scotland's most important routes which supports outdoor activities for local communities and attracts visitors to Ayrshire

#### Priorities for 2022-2030

- Implement accessibility audit to upgrade sections of the route and make them more accessible for all abilities
- Develop and implement a programme of signage and interpretation replacement including signage to local facilities
- Investigate opportunities for enhanced car parking, particularly at the start of the route
- Work with South Ayrshire Council in realigning sections of the route which are currently on road
- Replace people counters

### **4.7 Doon Leisure Network**

#### **Doon Valley Leisure Centre**

##### Description

Doon Valley Leisure Centre is situated in Dalmellington on the A713 Tourist Route from Dumfries to Ayr and offers a variety of activities for all the family including kids' activities, fitness classes, Children's Birthday Parties, casual sports such as badminton, basketball, indoor and outdoor football, swimming, swimming lessons and much more.

Offering free car parking, changing rooms, showers, a pool and stair hoist, it is also a great base for local sports clubs. The Centre is near a number of local tourist attractions including Craigengillan Estate, Loch Doon and the Galloway Forest Park.

##### Vision

By 2025, Doon Valley Leisure Centre will be replaced with a state of the art community campus which provides opportunities for the learning estate, leisure and wellbeing.

#### Priorities for 2022-2030

- Work with East Ayrshire Council on the development of the new Community campus in Dalmellington.
- Replacement of the synthetic Grass Pitch surface and floodlights
- Create a dedicated outdoor physical activity space
- Refurbishment of football pavilion

#### **Doon Valley Museum**

##### Description



Doon Valley Museum was housed in one of the oldest buildings in Dalmellington and dates from 1744. It was saved from demolition in the 1980s and was a museum and art gallery. There are three galleries which displayed the social and industrial history of the area, including the ironworks, the coal mines and the communities, with a collection of artefacts and photographs. A large collection of maps and photographs were available for use by researchers of family and local history.

Doon Valley Museum was offered up for Community Asset Transfer which forced the closure of Doon Valley Museum and the local collections were moved to the Baird Institute in Cumnock.

#### Vision

The vision is to reopen Doon Valley Museum as a multi-purpose cultural hub that services the Doon Valley and supports wider wellbeing and regeneration of the area.

#### Priorities for 2022-2030

- Develop and implement plans for the reopening of Doon Valley Cultural Hub including library, gallery and museum spaces
- Implement infrastructure for the safe repatriation of collections to Doon Valley
- Explore opportunities for the introduction of hospitality and retail provision within the hub

### **Drongan Library**

#### Description

Drongan Library is a part time library integrated into the Drongan Primary school campus and is used by just over 4,000 visitors each year. The school is one of the main users of the library.

#### Vision

Our vision is for the library to be more integrated into the school to enable it to support reader development and the Scottish Curriculum for Excellence.

#### Priorities for 2022-2030

- Liaise with East Ayrshire Council Education colleagues to better integrate the library into the school.

### **Patna Library**

#### Description

Patna Library is a part time library integrated into the Patna Primary school campus and is used by just over 7,000 visitors each year. The school is one of the main users of the library.

#### Vision

Our vision is for the library to be more integrated into the school to enable it to support reader development and the Scottish Curriculum for Excellence.

#### Priorities for 2022-2030

- Liaise with East Ayrshire Council Education colleagues to better integrate the library into the school.

### **4.8 Leisure on the Move**

#### **Mobile Venues**

##### Description

The mobile libraries and homeward bound service has always been a crucial part of the library offer. However, throughout 2020 it has proven to be invaluable in supporting vulnerable and isolated communities throughout the Covid-19 pandemic

##### Vision

Our vision is to build on the existing popularity of the mobile libraries to create a wide range of mobile 'leisure venues' that can take our services to rural communities where access to leisure facilities are limited.

#### Priorities for 2022-2030

- Replace existing mobile libraries with electric or more sustainable alternatives
- Develop and implement a business case for an expansion to the mobile fleet to support cross service programming opportunities

#### **Mobile Hospitality**

##### Description

There is no mobile hospitality service within East Ayrshire Leisure Trust at the moment.

##### Vision

Our vision is to expand our hospitality service to support community events and activities, particularly within our own venues. This includes an expansion to provide catering for large scale events and festivals

#### Priorities for 2022-2030

- Develop and implement a business case for an expansion to the mobile fleet to support hospitality and programming

## **SECTION 3: FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES**

### **5. Changing Portfolio**

Since our inception in 2013, the portfolio of facilities that East Ayrshire Leisure Trust manages on behalf of East Ayrshire Council has change as some facilities are no longer viable, some have transferred to community ownership or management and new facilities have developed. In line with our Strategic Vision and the audit and community consultation that was carried

out in 2019 and 2020, this Facility Strategy sets out our vision for the venues that we currently manage that supports leisure programming across the area without competing with or duplicating other provision in local communities.

However, we are conscious that provision of an 8 year strategy must be flexible to respond to other opportunities as they arise. East Ayrshire Leisure Trust will continue to work with local, regional and national partners to grow the provision of leisure throughout East Ayrshire and to ensure that provision is responsive to local need and demand.

## **6. Growing Partnerships**

As well as being a leisure provider with a large portfolio of high quality leisure facilities, East Ayrshire Leisure Trust is also committed to supporting local community, charitable and private sector partners to maximise opportunities for community activity regardless of who the leisure provider is.

## **SECTION 4: CORPORATE DELIVERY PLAN**

### **7. 8 Year Programme of Development**

Our 10 year Strategic Vision and this Leisure Facility Strategy is underpinned by 6 Strategic Themes that guide our work:

- Sharing Our Vision
- Leisure at the Heart of Every Community
- Living Our Best Lives
- Investing in Our people and Embracing Our Values
- Creating a Sustainable Foundation for Growth
- Protecting the Environment

These Strategic Themes are translated into 2 year Corporate Delivery Plans which outline our priority actions that will allow us to realise our vision for leisure in East Ayrshire. These actions that are regularly reviewed and monitored.

The priorities that have been identified within this Leisure Facility Strategy will be integrated into the Corporate Delivery Plans as outlined below.

#### **Corporate Delivery Plan 2022-24**

<b>Venue</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Potential Funding Source</b>
Loudoun Leisure Centre	Synthetic Grass Pitch replacement	East Ayrshire Council Component Renewals
Stewarton Academy	Develop a management arrangement which supports hockey as a priority sport, but which offers opportunities for other community sports and activities.	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust

Stewarton Academy	Carry out the feasibility of converting Stewarton Academy from a category 2 school to a category 1 school to establish it as an integrated community hub with East Ayrshire Leisure Trust responsible for the co-ordination and management of the facilities within the Stewarton Leisure Network.	East Ayrshire Council Capital Programme
Rose Reilly Sports Centre	Develop a Shapemaster Studio which compliments traditional sport centre equipment, helping to provide opportunities for a wider section of the community by creating social hubs and bringing the benefit of physical activity to people with mobility issues or long term illness	Developer Contributions
Rose Reilly Sports Centre	Install wifi and other digital infrastructure to enhance opportunities for digital engagement	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust
Rose Reilly Sports Centre	Realign the synthetic grass pitch and replace and upgrade the goals to support the development of youth and community football	East Ayrshire Council Component Renewal
Stewarton Area Centre and Library	Improve signage to the Centre to ensure that it remains a high profile facility within the community	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust
Stewarton Area Centre and Library	Install community cinema facilities to expand the programme	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust
Stewarton Area Centre and Library	Carry out a feasibility study to determine the benefits of introducing a hospitality and retail offer within the facility	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust
Annanhill Golf Course	Construct a 3km path network to allow greater use of the whole greenspace	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / External Funding
Annanhill Golf Course	Improve welcome and directional signage throughout the golf course and park	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / External Funding
Annanhill Golf Course	Adapt the course maintenance practices to protect and enhance nature conservation including tree	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / External Funding

	planting, wildflower meadows and hedge planting.	
Annanhill Golf Course	Upgrade the course irrigation system	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / External Funding
Crosshouse Library	Consider opportunities for hospitality provision within Crosshouse library	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust
Crosshouse Library	Install directional and welcome signage	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust
Hunter Fitness Suite	Expand the gym area and introduce a programme of equipment renewal	East Ayrshire Council Component Renewal / East Ayrshire Leisure Trust
Hunter Fitness Suite	East Ayrshire Council Component Renewal / East Ayrshire Leisure Trust	East Ayrshire Council Component Renewal / East Ayrshire Leisure Trust
Dean Castle Country Park	Secure Green flag accreditation and promote standards of good management and best practice	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust
Dean Castle Country Park	Implement the woodland management plan including the development of a new woodland within the country park maximising community involvement	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust
Dean Castle Country Park	Create a community woodland along the Kennedy Drive side of the Country Park to support community growing initiatives	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Dean Castle Country Park	Implement the section of the Kilmarnock Green Infinity Loop which goes through the Country Park	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Dean Castle Country Park	Upgrade and restore the main gate and access wall	East Ayrshire Council Component Renewal
Dean Castle Country Park	Upgrade the main car park to create more spaces and to include lights and CCTV	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Dean Castle Country Park	Upgrade main drive including lighting	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Dean Castle	Complete all works associated with the Dean Castle Restoration and Modernisation Project	Dean Castle Project Budget

Galston Town Hall	Implement environment and security arrangements required for repatriation of collections and associated interpretation	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Galston Town Hall	Implement restoration and development plans for Galston Town Hall	East Ayrshire Council Capital Programme
Morton Hall	Complete redevelopment of the venue with integrated Library	East Ayrshire Council Capital Programme
Morton Hall	Investment in technical infrastructure to support community programming	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Barony Sports Village	Create 5 a side pitches to include flexibility for multi sports	East Ayrshire Council Component Renewal
Barony Sports Village	Work with East Ayrshire Council to reconfigure access arrangements to provide access to other community facilities out with core school hours	East Ayrshire Council Component Renewal
Barony Sports Village	Install car park security including lighting and CCTV	East Ayrshire Council Component Renewal
Auchinleck Leisure Centre	Install new changing facilities to support the development of a Football Academy at the existing SGP	East Ayrshire Council Capital Programme
Auchinleck Leisure Centre	Convert red blaes pitch to grass pitch	East Ayrshire Council Capital Programme
Burns House Museum	Work with neighbours, local stakeholders and East Ayrshire Council to implement an improved outdoor storage solution which is in keeping with the historic setting	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council
Burns House Museum	Improve welcoming and directional signage to improve the profile of the venue within the historic area of Mauchline	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust
River Ayr Way	Implement accessibility audit to upgrade sections of the route and make them more accessible for all abilities	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust /External Funding
River Ayr Way	Develop and implement a programme of signage and interpretation	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust /External Funding

		replacement including signage to local facilities	
River Way	Ayr	Investigate opportunities for enhanced car parking, particularly at the start of the route	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / External Funding
River Way	Ayr	Work with South Ayrshire Council in realigning sections of the route which are currently on road	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / External Funding
River Way	Ayr	Replace people counters	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / External Funding
Doon Valley Museum		Develop and implement plans for the reopening of Doon Valley Cultural Hub including library, gallery and museum spaces	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Doon Valley Museum		Implement infrastructure for the safe repatriation of collections to Doon Valley	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Doon Valley Museum		Explore opportunities for the introduction of hospitality and retail provision within the hub	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Drongan Library		Liaise with East Ayrshire Council Education colleagues to better integrate the library into the school.	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council
Patna Library		Liaise with East Ayrshire Council Education colleagues to better integrate the library into the school.	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council

### Corporate Delivery Plan 2024-26

Venue	Action	Potential Funding Source
Dalmellington Leisure Centre	Synthetic Grass Pitch replacement	East Ayrshire Council Component Renewal
Rose Reilly Sports Centre	Create a dedicated outdoor physical activity space to introduce a programme of outdoor fitness and activity	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Rose Reilly Sports Centre	Upgrade technical kit within dance studio to provide opportunities for immersive programmes	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Grange Leisure Centre	Improve directional and welcome signage to Grange Leisure Centre and from the leisure centre to other facilities in the area including the Kilmarnock Green Infinity Loop and Annanhill Golf Course to establish the	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust

	leisure centres role as a key facility in the heart of western Kilmarnock	
Grange Leisure Centre	Explore opportunities for hospitality provision to support events and programmes	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust
Annanhill Golf Course	Replace the storage containers at the starters' office to increase locker provision	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust
Annanhill Golf Course	Upgrade and install additional electricity supply to allow the move from diesel buggies to electric alternatives	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust
Annanhill Golf Course	Create a practice area to support coaching and youth development	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust
Annanhill Golf Course	Upgrade and expand the car park for both visitors to the golf course and the wider park	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Annanhill Golf Course	Implement the Kilmarnock Infinity Loop through Annanhill Park	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
St Joseph's Leisure Centre	Install flooring protection to dance floor to encourage greater use by local dance clubs	East Ayrshire Council Component Renewal
St Joseph's Leisure Centre	Improve welcome and directional signage to provide a higher profile for the leisure centre within the community	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust
St Joseph's Leisure Centre	Implement active travel links from the leisure centre to the Kilmarnock Green Infinity Loop	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Dean Castle Country Park	Explore opportunities for more adventure and informal play	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Dean Castle Country Park	Install a water source to the farm paddocks	East Ayrshire Council Component Renewal
Dean Castle Country Park	Upgrade Assloss car park	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding



Dean Castle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Install a flexible awning and an external power supply within the courtyard to enhance opportunities for outdoor programming</li> </ul>	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Dean Castle	Replace existing outdoor toilet facilities	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Dean Castle	Implement designed landscape plan to the rear of the Castle	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Dean Castle	Develop an interpretation plan for greater access to the Chambers and Chapel within the Castle and the top floor of the Keep	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
William McIlvanney Leisure Centre	Improve welcome and directional signage to provide a higher profile for the leisure centre within the community	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust
William McIlvanney Leisure Centre	Implement active travel links from the leisure centre to the Kilmaronock Green Infinity Loop	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Ayrshire Athletics Arena	Expand Wifi coverage to the new fitness spaces within the facility	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust
Ayrshire Athletics Arena	Upgrade the overflow car parking at Scott Ellis	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Ayrshire Athletics Arena	Replace indoor track roof	East Ayrshire Council Component Renewal
Ayrshire Athletics Arena	Replace indoor and outdoor track surfaces	East Ayrshire Council Component Renewal
Ayrshire Athletics Arena	Implement sections of the Kilmaronock Green Infinity Loop that go through the site	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Dick Institute	Install blinds within the main gallery	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Dick Institute	Develop and implement a landscape plan to create a link between the building and the outdoors providing	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding

	opportunities for outdoor programming and 'dwell spaces'	
Dick Institute	Improve car parking	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Dick Institute	Carry out a roof survey and replace where appropriate	East Ayrshire Council Component Renewal
Dick Institute	Carry out the feasibility of adding a sympathetic glass extension to the Dick Institute to enhance opportunities for programming, events and hospitality	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Palace and Grand Hall Complex	Refurbish, redevelop and modernise the Palace and Grand Hall as part of the 'Cultural Spaces' project for Kilmarnock including accessibility of the venue and establishing it as Ayrshire's primary music and performing arts centre	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Palace and Grand Hall Complex	Develop and implement a landscape plan to provide opportunities for outdoor performing, linking the venue to the Kilmarnock Water and to the town centre	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Palace and Grand Hall Complex	Improve car parking	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Darvel Town Hall	Develop and implement proposals to create a venue that supports music, community and performing arts programming	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Darvel Town Hall	Implement infrastructure to ensure security and environmental controls are in place for repatriation of museum collections	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Darvel Town Hall	Carry out feasibility of the provision of hospitality and retail opportunities	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Cumnock Library	Install directional and welcome signage	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust
Doon Valley Leisure Centre	Work with East Ayrshire Council on the development of the new Community campus in Dalmellington.	School Investment Programme

Doon Valley Leisure Centre	Replacement of the synthetic Grass Pitch surface and floodlights	East Ayrshire Council Component Renewal
Doon Valley Leisure Centre	Create a dedicated outdoor physical activity space	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Doon Valley Leisure Centre	Refurbishment of football pavilion	East Ayrshire Council Component Renewal

### Corporate Delivery Plan 2026-28

Venue	Action	Potential Funding Source
Stewarton Academy	Synthetic Grass Pitch replacement	East Ayrshire Council Component Renewal
Stewarton Area Centre and Library	Work with East Ayrshire Council and local partners to maximise the space and consider introducing other facilities that will support the wider cultural and wellbeing offer including the potential for galleries or repatriation of collections specific to the local area	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Annanhill Golf Course	Carry out a feasibility of converting the clubhouse to a community café/visitor centre with a dedicated space for golf development but which supports the wider use of Annanhill Park	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Annanhill Golf Course	Upgrade and expand facilities for female and youth golf	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Dean Castle Country Park	Develop plans for the restoration of Assloss Walled Garden and other designed landscape features associated with Assloss Estate	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Dean Castle Country Park	Carry out the feasibility of developing the Dower House as a conference centre and event space	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Ayrshire Athletics Arena	Install a 500-1000 seater Stadium to attract national athletics programmes	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Ayrshire Athletics Arena	Review and upgrade floodlights	East Ayrshire Council Component Renewal

Loudoun Leisure Centre	Convert existing red blaes pitch into a dedicated outdoor physical activity space	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Baird Institute	Improve accessibility	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Baird Institute	Explore the potential of reconfiguring and expanding the rooms to support education and programming opportunities	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Baird Institute	Install welcome and directional signage for enhanced visibility	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Baird Institute	Develop and implement a landscape plan to maximise opportunities at the rear of the building to determine for outdoor activity	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Baird Institute	Install alternative display and storage solutions	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Baird Institute	Explore opportunities to include provision of hospitality and retail	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Boswell Centre	Develop and implement a landscape plan to provide enhanced opportunities for outdoor programming and to improve the setting of the centre as an integral part of the Community Garden Centre.	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust
Boswell Centre	Install welcome and directional signage that ensures the venue has a profile within the community, but also celebrates the links to Boswell	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust
Boswell Centre	Realign foyer to provide opportunities for hospitality	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust
Cumnock Town Hall	Develop and Implement a landscape plan for Cumnock Town Hall which maximises opportunities for outdoor activities	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Cumnock Town Hall	Investigate feasibility of using empty space including the flat at the back of the building including providing opportunities for programming and enhanced storage solutions	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding

Mobile Venues	Replace existing mobile libraries with electric or more sustainable alternatives	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Mobile Venues	Develop and implement a business case for an expansion to the mobile fleet to support cross service programming opportunities	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Mobile Hospitality	Develop and implement a business case for an expansion to the mobile fleet to support hospitality and programming	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding

### Corporate Delivery Plan 2028-30

Venue	Action	Potential Funding Source
Whatriggs Primary School Site	Synthetic Grass Pitch replacement	East Ayrshire Council Component Renewal
McIlvanney Leisure Centre	Synthetic Grass Pitch replacement	East Ayrshire Council Component Renewal
Barony Leisure Centre	Synthetic Grass Pitch replacement	East Ayrshire Council Component Renewal
The Joughs	Implement environmental and security controls that will allow the Joughs to house some specific collections	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
The Joughs	Improve signage and interpretation for the building and surrounding area	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Hunter Fitness Suite	Create a dedicated outdoor physical activity space	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Hunter Fitness Suite	Install a Shapemaster Suite to support rehabilitation and a pathway to physical activity	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Burns House Museum	Open up and reconfigure the downstairs to improve opportunities for programming	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Burns House Museum	Upgrade and improve accessibility including digital suite provision	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding
Burns House Museum	Develop and implement a landscape plan, maximising opportunities for programming within the courtyard and outdoor spaces	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding

Burns House Museum	Explore feasibility of increased access to Nancy Tinnock's balcony	East Ayrshire Leisure Trust / East Ayrshire Council/ External Funding