East Ayrshire

Community Planning Partnership

Board Member Biographies

planning as one | *working* as one | *achieving* as one

Introduction

East Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership Board (CPP Board) sets the strategic direction for Community Planning in East Ayrshire and ensures effective performance through robust scrutiny, partnership working and leadership.

The CPP Board comprises member representation from all core Community Planning Partners as well as representatives from the community and voluntary sectors.

The current CPP Board, established in 2015, comprises 24 Members and is chaired by Councillor Douglas Reid of East Ayrshire Council.

Councillor Douglas Reid
(Chair)

Councillor Reid is the Leader of East Ayrshire Council.

He was first elected in 1992 onto the former Kilmarnock and Loudoun District Council, and in 1995 was elected onto East Ayrshire Council. He was appointed Leader of the Opposition in 1999, and following the elections in 2007, he subsequently became Leader of the Council.

He has a Degree in Town Planning which he obtained at Dundee University, following which he worked in Housing for 20 years, and was COSLA Spokesperson for Housing for three years.

Councillor Reid is a lifelong supporter of Kilmarnock Football Club, he is a member of the Killie Trust and his local bowling club. He is married to Linsey and has three young children.

His appointment to the Community Planning Partnership Board is as an East Ayrshire Council representative.

Dr Martin Cheyne
(Vice Chair)
Chairman, NHS Ayrshire and Arran Board

Martin is a Mechanical Engineer who spent virtually all of his career with ICI. Martin moved into sales and general management at Ardeer in Stevenston before working overseas until retirement.

Martin retired in 2000, returning to Scotland and taking up a number of voluntary positions. He was Chair of Ayrshire Council on Alcohol for 6 years, a member of the University Court of Glasgow Caledonian University for 11 years and Chair of Court for six. He is currently Vice Chair of Lloyds TSB Foundation for Scotland.

He was a non executive director of Scottish Government and chaired the Corporate Audit Committee, the Health and Wellbeing Audit Committee and the Education and Lifelong Learning Audit Committee during his term of office.

Martin has been Chair of the Acute Trust of NHS Ayrshire & Arran and joined the Board in 2004, becoming Chair in January 2012.

He is also Chair of the Grameen Scotland Foundation, a microfinance initiative using the Model developed by Professor Muammad Yunus in Bangladesh.

Martin plays golf and is an elder of his church. His wife is active in the Troon Friends of the Ayrshire Hospice. He has a daughter and a son.

His appointment to the Community Planning Partnership Board is as an NHS Ayrshire and Arran representative.

Councillor Elena Whitham

Elena Whitham is the Depute Leader of East Ayrshire Council and Cabinet Member with responsibility for Housing and Communities.

She was first elected to ward 6, the Irvine Valley, in 2015 at a by-election and previously had Cabinet responsibility for the economy and regeneration. She is currently Vice Chair of the Planning Committee and has many external Council appointments including to the East Ayrshire Leisure Trust and Crossroads Community Hub.

Her work experience stretches across the public and third sectors with a focus on supporting people. She worked within statutory and voluntary agencies to prevent repeat homelessness of young singles dealing with substance misuse and offending behaviour. She also spent a decade working with Women's Aid as a refuge worker and outreach worker, helping women and children fleeing domestic abuse.

Elena has a degree in Journalism and Communications from Concordia University in Montreal where she grew up after emigrating to Canada at the age of six. She has a second degree in Social Sciences and is a fluent French speaker.

She lives in Newmilns with her husband and two children and they can be often found walking their dog in the beautiful Valley countryside.

Her appointment to the Community Planning Partnership Board is as an East Ayrshire Council representative.

Councillor Clare Maitland

Councillor Maitland was first elected to ward 5, Kilmarnock South, in 2017. She is currently a Cabinet Member with responsibility for Equalities, Inclusion and Poverty., she is also a member of the Police and Fire and Rescue Committee.

Her appointment to the Community Planning Partnership Board is as an East Ayrshire Council representative.

Councillor Tom Cook

Councillor Cook was first elected in May 2007 to represent the constituents of Ward 3, Kilmarnock West and Crosshouse. He is the Leader of East Ayrshire Council's Conservative Group. He has served as Depute Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Equalities, as well as being a member of several Council Committees. Councillor Cook also represents the Council on a number of external bodies.

Prior to becoming a Councillor he was a Senior Manager with Scottish Power. He is married to Janice and has two grown up sons.

His appointment to the Community Planning Partnership Board is as an East Ayrshire Council representative.

Councillor John McGhee

Councillor John McGhee is Labour Councillor for Ward 1 Annick and was first elected in 2003.

He has a degree in Manufacturing Technology. He served his apprenticeship in Glenfield and Kennedy Ltd, Kilmarnock and works at GE Caledonian in Prestwick.

Councillor McGhee has two sons, they are lifelong Kilmarnock fans.

His appointment to the Community Planning Partnership Board is as an East Ayrshire Council representative.

Aileen McKechnie
Director of Advanced Learning and Science, The Scottish Government

Aileen took up the role of Director of the newly formed Advanced Learning and Science directorate in January 2015. She provides lead support to Scottish Ministers on the Government's policy and approach to tertiary education, student support and science. Previous roles have included Director of Culture and Heritage, Director of Culture and External Affairs, Head of Innovation, Investment and Industries Division; Head of Further and Adult Education Division; Head of Higher Education Strategy and Funding; and Head of Local Economic Development.

Aileen was a non-executive director of the Scottish Arbitration Centre (SAC) from its inception in 2010 till end-2013. Prior to joining the Scottish Government, she worked with Scottish Homes for a number of years and with Glasgow City Council before that. She is a languages graduate from Glasgow University, where she also completed an MBA.

Aileen is the lead Scottish Government Director linked to the East Ayrshire CPP Board.

Willie Mackie
Chair of Board of Management
Ayrshire College

Willie Mackie has over 36 years of experience in the Financial services sector and from 2001 to 2012 was the Managing Partner of Clydesdale Bank's Business, Private and Agricultural business across Ayrshire and Arran before he established his own business consultancy in January 2013.

Since 2005 he has played an active role in supporting and promoting economic development where he has had a particular focus on promoting further education and skills development and developing linkages with industry. He is currently Regional Chair, Ayrshire College and is a Board member of Colleges Scotland and the College Development Network. In 2012 he became Chair of Taste Ayrshire and in 2014 he was appointed to the Board of Skills Development Scotland. In 2016 he was appointed by the Deputy First Minister to the Board of Scottish Enterprise. He was a founding member of the Ayrshire Economic Partnership which was established in 2009 and is a past President of Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

His appointment to the Community Planning Partnership Board is as the Ayrshire College representative.

Neville Prentice
Senior Director Service Development and Delivery, Executive Leadership Group
Skills Development Scotland

Neville was appointed as the Senior Director Service Development and Delivery of Skills Development Scotland in October 2014.

In the previous fifteen years, Neville has worked in the business service sector delivering profit and quality services within highly regulated industries, in cooperation with state authorities and private sector clients. He has held Operations Director, Managing Director, Business Development and Process Improvement leadership positions at FTSE 100 and other major companies.

Neville has a degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Dundee and started his career in manufacturing.

His appointment to the Community Planning Partnership Board is as a Skills Development Scotland representative.

Mark Newlands
Head of Partnerships
Scottish Enterprise

Mark is Head of Partnerships for Scottish Enterprise covering the Glasgow City Region and Ayrshire. He is responsible for working with partners across the region to ensure that Scottish Enterprise is a fully engaged, visible and active regional partner.

Prior to taking up this role Mark spent 11 years in Scottish Development International laterally as Head of Trade & Investment for Technology & Engineering and before this he was the International Head of Education joining SDI to establish the Education Sector team.

Mark has worked for Scottish Enterprise in various roles since 2001 and prior to this has held roles in the college and private sectors.

Mark was born and bred in Kilmarnock and still lives in the town with his family.

Fiona Fawdry
Council of Voluntary Organisations (East Ayrshire) Ltd, Third Sector Interface

As a mature student Fiona qualified as a Registered General Nurse and worked with NHS Ayrshire and Arran before returning to university where she gained a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Business Economics with Business Analysis and a Post Graduate Diploma in Social Enterprise. During her time at university Fiona worked part time as a Service Manager with Cornerstone Community Care.

Fiona is Chief Executive of the Council of Voluntary Organisations (East Ayrshire) Ltd and has ten years experience of working in the third sector within Ayrshire. More recently she has been responsible for the development and renovation of Belford Mill as a third sector hub and WG13 a social enterprise restaurant and venue space which offers training, volunteering and employment opportunities for young people with addition support needs.

Her appointment to the Community Planning Partnership Board is as a representative of the Third Sector Interface.

Ian Welsh
Chief Executive of the Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland

Ian has extensive experience in the public, private and third sectors.

He was Director of UK Services for the Rehab Group, leading charities working in care, supported employment, rehabilitation and training.

As Chief Executive of Kilmarnock Football Club, he led the club through business and footballing success building a number of innovative community programmes.

He served as a non-executive Director of the Glasgow Prestwick Airport and as Executive Director of Human Resources and Public Affairs.

He serves on Ayrshire and Arran Health Board, chairing its Staff Governance Committee and is Chair of East Ayrshire Joint Integration Board.

He is also Chair of Microtech Group.

He currently sits on a range of Scottish Government Programme Boards, the Digital Participation Ministerial Advisory Group and the Ministerial Steering Group for the 2020 Route Map.

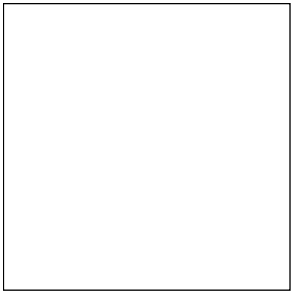
His appointment to the Community Planning Partnership Board is as a NHS Ayrshire and Arran representative.

Chief Inspector John Cairns
Area Commander, East Ayrshire
Police Scotland

John has 22 years' service as a police officer and during this time has worked in a number of roles in North Lanarkshire, Force Training and Recruitment Centre Jackton, South Ayrshire and latterly East Ayrshire.

On promotion to the rank of Inspector in 2012 he carried out a Response Policing role across East and South Ayrshire before becoming the Community Policing Inspector for Kilmarnock in November 2014. In February 2016 John was appointed Chief Inspector.

His appointment to the Community Planning Partnership Board is as a Police Scotland representative.



Jim Scott
Area Manager
Senior Local Officer—East Ayrshire, North Ayrshire and South Ayrshire
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

His appointment to the Community Planning Partnership Board is as a Scottish Fire and Rescue Service representative.

Lorna Gibson
Costley and Costley
Vice President, Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Lorna has over 25 years' experience of business management and business development within the private sector, initially a senior business manager within Doig & Smith, a UK wide Chartered Surveying practice, followed by a directorship with Paligap Brands Ltd, a digital marketing agency based in Ayr, a Director within the QTS Group, and now as a Strategic Development Director with Costley & Costley Hoteliers. Lorna also sits on the Developing Young Workforce Ayrshire Steering Group.

A passionate member of the Ayrshire Business Community, Lorna is involved with a wide range of business activities particularly with regard to private sector engagement with education and young people.

Her appointment to the Community Planning Partnership Board is as an Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry representative.

Val Russell
Chief Executive
Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Val's background is in the hospitality sector at senior level followed by a period with Jobcentreplus, and then local newspaper prior to joining the Ayrshire Chamber in 1999.

Val's role involves working in partnership with both public, private sector and social enterprise organisations working together to enable the Ayrshire economy.

Val is a member of various Partnerships, Boards and Groups including Community Planning Partnerships, Ayrshire Economic Partnership, CEIS, North Ayrshire Economic & Regeneration Board, Ayrshire LAG Leader Fund, Taste Ayrshire, and a Trustee of Ayrshire College Foundation Trust amongst others.

Being passionate about education Val encouraged the Chamber's involvement in schools leading to the Chamber co-ordinating the Work Experience Programme across three local authority areas together with all aspects of employer engagement which led to the Chamber becoming the lead organisation of Developing Young Workforce Ayrshire, a Scottish Government Initiative.

She believes in Ayrshire doing business with Ayrshire which led to the launch of a successful social media Campaign 'Buy Ayrshire'.

Val is married with three grown up children and four grandchildren. She enjoys walking and amongst many charity walks completed Great Wall of China Trek in aid of local hospice in 2009.

Her appointment to the Community Planning Partnership Board is as an Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry representative.

Brian Broadley
Third Sector Interface

Brian was born and raised in West Kilbride, Ayrshire, and educated in Glasgow: Strathclyde University (BA Geography), then onto Jordanhill Training College (Diploma in Secondary Education).

He taught for 10 years in Easterhouse, 6 years in Coatbridge and 14 years in Cumnock.

Volunteering has been a lifelong commitment:

- Board Member and currently Vice Chair of Coalfield Communities Federation
- Cronberry Logan & Lugar Community Council over the last 25 years, presently Chair
- Chair, Logan Communities Logan, Lugar & Cronberry Local Action Plan Steering Group member.

Brian became one of the Directors for CVO (EA) Ltd after a colleague working for the CVO at the time recommended it to him.

His appointment to the Community Planning Partnership Board is as a representative of the Third Sector Interface.

Caroline Scott
Third Sector Strategic Lead, Health & Social Care Integration
Council of Voluntary Organisations (East Ayrshire) Ltd

Caroline worked mainly in the manufacturing sector firstly for Ariston Acoustics and then Digital Equipment.

In 1996 she became a support worker in Kilmarnock for Key Housing Association and latterly for Quarriers. In 2008 she enrolled at Ayr College where she completed her HNC in Social Care. On leaving College Caroline then went to the University of Glasgow to study for a BA in Community Development.

Caroline became aware of the work of the CVO through her involvement with various community organisations in South Ayrshire.

Her appointment to the Community Planning Partnership Board is as an East Ayrshire Heath and Social Care Partnership representative.

Beth Griffin
Community Representative

Beth was born in Ochiltree, and after a period of 15 years working in the Civil Service, has retired and returned to her home town.

She has a passion for sharing the skills and knowledge gained during her career to help and educate others and spends a lot of my spare time doing Voluntary work which included volunteering with Cancer Research UK, helping them organise the administration side of their shops.

Beth is currently the Vice Chair of Ochiltree Community Hub, a charity organisation, their mission is *to "Establish the Ochiltree Community Hub – The Heart of the Rural Community" as a viable and sustainable facility, providing an increased range of services to benefit the community.*

She became Secretary of Ochiltree & Skares Community Council in 2015, a role which she enjoys and is keen to work on improving the overall appearance of the village, a passion her husband also shares.

Her appointment to the Community Planning Partnership Board is to represent the voice of Community Councils.

Arthur Cairns
Community Representative

Arthur retired from Strathclyde Fire Brigade in 2003 after completing 29 years service.

He was then employed an Emergency Planning Officer for East Ayrshire Council, North Ayrshire Council and finally as part of the Pan Ayrshire Team until 2010.

Arthur has been a member of Grange Howard Community Council for a number of years and is currently the Chair.

His appointment to the Community Planning Partnership Board is to represent the voice of Community Councils.

David McLatchie
Community Representative

David spent his working life in construction and was employed by a Cruden Group Company for 35 years, first as a Site Agent, then as a Contracts Manager and finally as a Construction Director before retiring in 2010.

During his time as Construction Director David represented the Scottish Contractors Group on the Scottish Committee of the Construction Industry Training Board.

He also served as Committee Member, Treasurer and Chairman of the Ayrshire Construction Safety Group over a 20 year period.

David has been a member of the Muirkirk Community Action Plan Steering Group since the start of the process and is the Theme Champion for Local Economy, Tourism and Heritage.

David was elected as Chairperson of Muirkirk Community Council when it was reformed in July 2016.

His appointment to the Community Planning Partnership Board is to represent those involved in Community Led Action Plans.

John Senior
Community Representative

John was born in Edinburgh, and, after qualifying from the Dick Vet in 1974, he worked in Dungannon N Ireland. He then moved to Cumnock and worked as a mixed practice vet till his elder son took over the practice in 2015. He still helps out occasionally, especially when someone is on leave.

He has been involved with the Cumnock Action Plan since its inception and is particularly involved with the Outdoor spaces and Better Town Appearance Theme within the Plan.

He is married with three children. His main hobbies are gardening and working with wood, especially wood turning.

His appointment to the Community Planning Partnership Board is to represent those involved in Community Led Action Plans.

Bruce Kiloh
Head of Policy and Planning
Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Bruce's appointment to the Community Planning Partnership Board is as a Strathclyde Partnership for Transport representative.

Building a better East Ayrshire

Inspiring Ambition and Delivering Change

Community Planning in EAST AYRSHIRE

Policy, Planning and Performance Division, East Ayrshire Council Headquarters, London Road, Kilmarnock KA3 7BU