Ayrshire Economic Partnership Board
5 November 2026

At a Meeting of the Ayrshire Economic Partnership Board at 2.00 p.m. involving a combination of participation by remote electronic means and physical attendance within the Council Chambers, Irvine.

Present (Physical Participation)
Councillor Anthony Gurney (North Ayrshire Council), and Councillors Brian Connolly and Alec Clark (South Ayrshire Council).

Present (Remote Electronic Participation)
Councillors Douglas Reid and Iain Linton (East Ayrshire Council); and Councillor George Weir (South Ayrshire Council).

In Attendance (Physical Participation)
R. McCutcheon, D. McDowall and S. Wilson (North Ayrshire Council).

In Attendance (Remote Electronic Participation)
G. Saunders and J. King (East Ayrshire Council); S. Penman, K. Braidwood and J. Tait (South Ayrshire Council); C. Baird (Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce); A. Cox (Ayrshire College); P. Zealey (Skills Development Scotland); C. Warburton (Visit Scotland); and R. Brown (Scottish Enterprise).

Apologies
A. Finlayson, C. Hatton and L. Kirk (North Ayrshire Council), Councillor Linda Mabon (East Ayrshire Council), A. Dobson (Taste of Arran); G. Docherty (Strathclyde University); M. Goodfellow (Highlands and Islands Enterprise); A. Luce (University West of Scotland); L. Eckford (Visit Scotland); and D. Zahran (Scottish Enterprise).

Chair
Councillor Tony Gurney in the Chair.

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest by Members in terms of Standing Order 11 and Section 5 of the Code of Conduct for Councillors

2. Minutes

The Minutes of the Special Meetings of the Partnership Board held on 10 September 2026, and 29 September 2026 were confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with Paragraph 7 (1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

3. 2027 Meeting Dates

The 2027 meeting dates of the Ayrshire Economic Partnership Board were confirmed as follows:

Tuesday 16 February 2027 - 10am
Wednesday 17 March 2027 - 2pm
Tuesday 22 June 2027 - 10am
Monday 13 September 2027 - 10am
Thursday 4 November 2027 - 2pm

4. Ayrshire Growth Deal - Programme Update

Submitted report by the Ayrshire Growth Deal (Strategic Manager) advising of the progress of the Ayrshire Growth Deal up to the end of September 2026

The Partnership Board agreed the content of the report and recommended approval to the Ayrshire Economic Joint Committee (AEJC) to note (i) the AGD Programme General Update; and (ii) the project specific updates through the paper.

5. Ayrshire Growth Deal - Programme Risk Register Update

Submitted report by the Ayrshire Growth Deal (Strategic Manager) advising on the update for the Ayrshire Growth Deal (AGD) Programme Risk Register up to the end of September 2026, in line with the AGD Programme Update.

Officers responded to Members' questions and the Partnership Board agreed the content of the report and recommended approval to the Ayrshire Economic Joint Committee (AEJC) and to note that the report covers Q2 (July to September 2026) and approve the changes in the Programme Register dated June 2026.

6. Urgent Items

There were no urgent items.

7. Prestwick Proposition Update

Submitted report by the Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing Operations and Development (South Ayrshire Council) providing an update on the progress of the Prestwick Proposition.

Officers responded to Members' questions and the Partnership Board agreed the recommendation as detailed in the report.

The meeting ended at 2:30 p.m.

The full meeting proceedings can be viewed at
https://north-ayrshire.public-i.tv/core/portal/home