

## What is the Carrick Community Councils' Forum?

- The Forum is a constituted group, set up in July 2006 with representatives from the Community Councils of the Carrick area.
- Our role is to work with and for local communities to share information and knowledge of what is going on and to help to improve the area.
- Now that we have produced the Economic Development Strategy we'll be working with individual Community Councils, the local authority and others to draw up detailed action plans – to make sure that the improvements we want to see in Carrick actually happen.
- We are about to finish a project called “*Crucial Carrick*” with funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Hadyard Hill Community Benefit Fund. This project will help to publicise our rich heritage and make Carrick more attractive for visitors.

The Forum wants to know your views about Carrick Please get in touch with your local Community Councillor or contact us via Horizons on 01465 716194

You can use the same number to get more information on the strategy or download a full copy from [www.girvan-online.net](http://www.girvan-online.net) or [www.maybole.org](http://www.maybole.org)

# Carrick

## Economic Development Strategy and Action Plan

Prepared by **Horizons** on behalf of the Carrick Community Councils' Forum



View to Ailsa Craig



## Why do we need a Strategy?

- Over 20,000 people live in Carrick. That's almost  $\frac{1}{5}^{\text{th}}$  of South Ayrshire's population and well over half of its rural population.
- Our area has great advantages – coastline, including Ailsa Craig and harbours; great hills and farmland; an important history and heritage; active communities .....
- But, Carrick also has its disadvantages – higher unemployment than other parts of South Ayrshire and Scotland; relatively low pay for those who have jobs; villages where shops, other businesses and services are closing. This makes it harder for us to get the things we need and it combines with a lack of opportunities for housing and for young people, making the future of our towns and villages uncertain .....

The Strategy will help us to overcome the disadvantages and make the most of the advantages so that Carrick can be:

## ***“The Best place to Live, Work, Visit and Play”***

### What is the Strategy about?

- The Strategy is based on research and surveys carried out by Horizons and individual villages.
- It covers all of the towns and villages in the area and highlights 6 issues where people think work needs to be done. These ‘priority aims’ are:
  - ***Improving access to affordable housing***
  - ***Developing employment and wealth via tourism***
  - ***Improving enterprise, innovation and employment***
  - ***Developing active, engaged and involved communities***
  - ***Improving access to services and local facilities***
  - ***Tackling ‘out migration’ of young people***

- The Strategy has been designed to dovetail with local village, regional and national strategies.
- It has been designed, too, to help all of the communities in Carrick to access support from the Scottish Rural Development Programme including the Leader programme, and to make best use of funding that is coming from windfarm developments in our area.