

Midlothian Council

Shaping our Future



Ask



Reshape



Focus

How can we save money?

Have your say!
Easy Read Guide 2017



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1. What are we asking?



- We're asking you what you think about cutting the cost of council services.
- Midlothian Council runs important services in your area.



- Services like housing, schools, libraries, community centres, roads, and rubbish collection.
- We need to cut the cost of providing these services.



- And we want you to have your say.

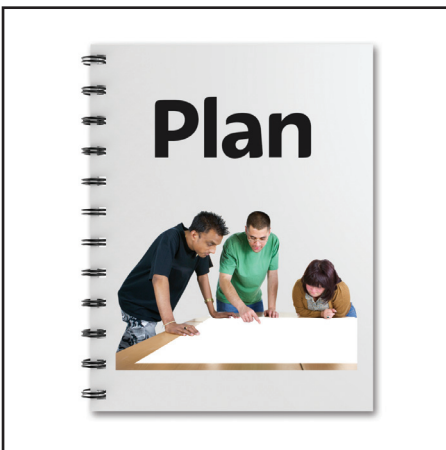


2. Why is the council making savings?



- We need to make savings to help us plan for the future.

- More people will be living here and will need our services. This will cost more.



- But we also need to save a lot of money.



- This is because we are getting a lot less money from the government to help pay for services.



3. How can I get involved?



- We want you to tell us what is important for you, your family and friends.

- What kind of things should we be spending your money on?



- How can we save money?



- Should we ask people to pay more for some services?



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3. How can I get involved?



- How could we make more money?
- What services could be run differently?



- Could local groups run some of these instead?
- Should we share more services with other councils or other organisations like the National Health Service (NHS)?



- What services can we stop providing?



4. How do I tell the council what I think?



Read about the savings we could make or ask a relative or carer to help you with this. You can get a copy in your local library or at: **www.midlothian.gov.uk/shapingourfuture**

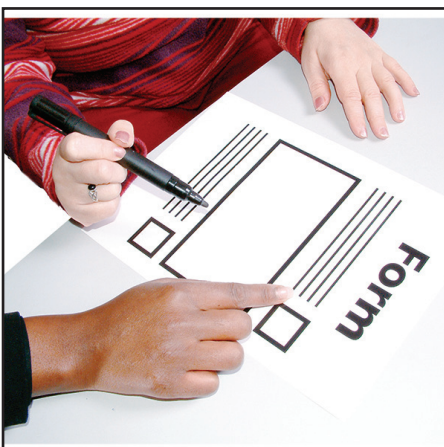
Tell us what you think. Email us at: **haveyoursay@midlothian.gov.uk**



Post a letter to:

**Have Your Say
Midlothian Council
Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street
Dalkeith EH22 1DN**

Or hand it in to your local library or council reception desk.



Fill in the form you can get in your local library or fill in our online form at: **www.midlothian.gov.uk/shapingourfuture**



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4. How do I tell the council what I think?



- Join in discussions organised by local groups, or start your own!



- We can help with speakers, fact-sheets and other information. Contact **haveyoursay@midlothian.gov.uk** or telephone **0131 271 3178**.



- Look out for details of meetings, events and more information at **www.midlothian.gov.uk**, in the local press, on local radio and in local libraries.



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4. How do I tell the council what I think?



- Get in touch with your local councillor. Visit **www.midlothian.gov.uk** or telephone **0131 270 7500**.



- Join the conversation on Facebook and Twitter **@Midgov** **#ShapingOurFuture**.



5. What happens next?



- We're asking people to tell us what they think by Thursday 14 December 2017.

- Your councillors will take the important decisions about the future of local services early in 2018.



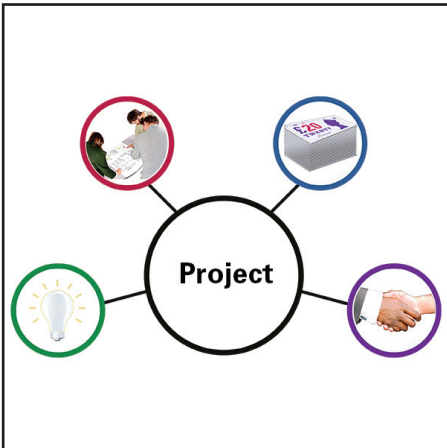
- They will look at your ideas and listen to your views on what savings should be made.



- It's important that you have your say.

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5. What happens next?



- The council is also looking at different ways or running services.



- You will be asked for your views about any big changes.
- We will tell you how we have listened to your ideas.



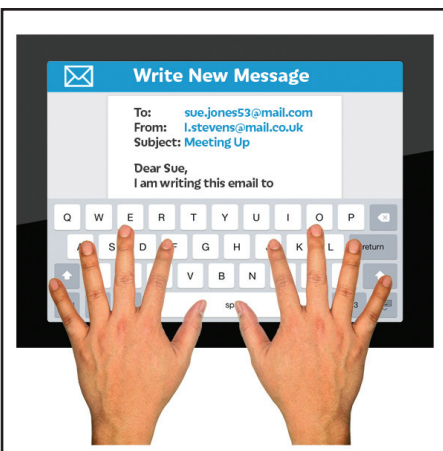
- We will tell you what we are doing.



6. How do I find out more?



- Find out more about Shaping our Future on the Midlothian Council website at: **www.midlothian.gov.uk/shapingourfuture** or ask someone to do this for you.



- If you don't have a computer, you can use the public computers in all our local libraries for free.

- For more information or advice, you can also email: **haveyoursay@midlothian.gov.uk**

or write to us at Have Your Say, Midlothian Council, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith EH22 1DN



- Or telephone **0131 271 3178**.