



Midlothian

A Great Place to Grow

Single Midlothian Plan 2022-23



Community Planning Partnership



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Our Vision

By working together as a Community Planning Partnership, individuals and communities will be able to lead healthier, safer, greener and successful lives by 2030. No child or household need live in poverty. Midlothian will be a Great Green Place to Grow by achieving our net zero carbon ambitions.

Who we are

Community Planning is a way of working together to best use all of the available resources to improve people's lives. Key organisations, both statutory and third sector, work together, with communities to plan services that will deliver better outcomes for people.

In Midlothian our Community Planning Partnership makes sure people are involved in the decisions made on public services that affect them. Organisations work together to provide better public services.

Our Community Planning Partnership is led by the Community Planning Board. A number of organisations sit on the Board including:

- Police Scotland
- Edinburgh College
- East and Mid Lothian Chamber of Commerce
- NHS Lothian
- Newbattle Abbey College
- Midlothian Federation of Community Councils
- Ministry of Defence
- Federation of Small Businesses
- Department Working Pensions
- Skills Development Scotland
- Sustran (South East Scotland Transport Partnership)
- Scotent (Scottish Enterprise)
- Third Sector Strategic Interface/Midlothian Voluntary Action
- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
- Representatives of Community Planning Working Group, Chief Officers' Group, Research, and Information Group and Faith Communities Partnership.

How we work together:

Armed Forces
Community
Covenant

Faith
Communities
Partnership

Poverty
Prevention

Research &
Information

Neighbourhood
Planning

Priority
Areas

Community Planning Working Group
Reports to Community Planning Partnership Board

Health &
Social Care



Community
Safety
& Justice



Getting it
Right for
Every Child



Improving
Opportunities



Sustainable
Growth



Health and Social Care

Community Safety & Justice

Getting it Right for Every Child

Improving Opportunities

Sustainable Growth

Groups:

MELDAP (Midlothian and East Lothian Drug and Alcohol Partnership)
Older People
Mental Health
Learning Disability
Physical Disability
Carers
Palliative Care

Groups:

Community Safety Delivery
Community Justice
Tactical & Coordination
Anti Social Behaviour and Offending
MIDSAFE
Road Safety
Youth Justice
MELDAP
Violence against women
Public Protection Committee
Offender Management

Groups:

Additional Support Needs
Early Years & Childcare
Vulnerable Children & Young People
Mental Health & Wellbeing
Public Protection Committee
Parenting & Family Support Group
Voluntary Sector Youth & Children

Groups:

Child Poverty
Employability & Learning
Midlothian Financial Inclusion Network
Developing Midlothian's Young Workforce
Youth Partners
Health Improvement Partnership
Voluntary Sector
Social Enterprise Action
Midlothian Federation of Community Councils

Groups:

Economy
Biodiversity
Tourism
Penicuik TSI
Access Forum
Housing Strategy & Homeless Review
Housing Associations
Fair Trade
Green Network
Small and Large businesses
Edinburgh Science Zone
Easter Bush
Borders Railway
Edinburgh and South East City Region Deal
National Planning Framework No. 4
Midlothian Community Planning Climate Emergency Group

Our Local Outcomes Improvement Plan

This plan is our shared plan of how we will meet the needs of our local communities and brings together all the priorities for Midlothian into one place. It shows how the Public, Private and Voluntary sectors and local communities will work together to make improvements in people's lives, by improving outcomes with individuals and communities, promoting preventative approaches that reduce demand for public services, and working with communities to increase their influence in decision making.

Our outcomes for the next 5 years are:

- **Individuals and communities have improved health and learning outcomes**
- **No child or household living in poverty**
- **Significant progress is made towards net zero carbon emissions by 2030**

We use a range of qualitative and quantitative data and consult with people who use and provide our services to plan and deliver services. We meet throughout the year to work together in a shared planning cycle:

- Revision of the data in the Midlothian Profile: April - June
- Public engagement (Citizens Panel, youth engagement, stakeholder events, and CPP planning day): July – November
- Achieving formal approval of plans and resources: January – March

Supporting all our communities

There is a gap in outcomes for people in different parts of the County. Some areas have poorer levels of employment; lower wage rates; lower average life expectancy, greater concentrations of people who are elderly or disabled; poorer access to physical amenities such as shops, health care, public spaces and play facilities; lower than average qualifications and higher levels of crime.

In Midlothian there are 3 communities in the top 20% of most deprived areas in Scotland. These are Central Dalkeith/Woodburn; Mayfield/Easthouses and Gorebridge.

The [Community Empowerment \(Scotland\) Act 2015](#) states that each of these areas must have a “Locality Outcome Improvement Plan” that local residents have been actively engaged in creating.

We are committed to ensuring our legislative requirements to equalities are met. We monitor the impact of any changes in service through Integrated Impact Assessments.

We want to develop a new approach to working with communities to develop locality outcome improvement plans. In the past we have had a dedicated group for priority areas and we also had neighbourhood plans which were very ambitious and covered all aspects of improvements in a community. In 2022 we would like to take a more focused approach to reducing poverty and working with communities to increase community wealth, reflecting the wellbeing and circular economy principles. We will work with the Midlothian Financial Inclusion Network and a new strategic poverty prevention group made up of elected members from across the different parties, public health and representatives from partners and communities. Our intention is to create supports around reducing poverty and increasing community wealth that all communities would benefit from. We will work with specific communities to have tailored plans for community wealth building.

We will support the production of the next Midlothian Local Development Plan and help encourage public engagement and consultation on the document. The Climate Emergency will need to be at the heart of the Local Development Plan. The draft fourth National Planning Framework was published in late autumn 2021. The final version of this document will set out the development requirements and policy direction for the second Midlothian Local Development Plan. Work on production of the next Midlothian Local Development Plan will occur in 2022.

Many of Midlothian’s 16 current Neighbourhood Plans are reaching their end date and there is an opportunity to review and celebrate the local achievements these plans have stimulated in our communities.

Moving forward, communities will be supported by Midlothian Council to produce a new type of plan, a Local Place Plan, under the new National Planning Framework. Local Place Plans are community led plans that set out desires for future land use in a local area. A starter pack to assist local communities is in preparation and will be circulated later this year.

Climate Challenge

The Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019, which amends the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, sets targets to reduce Scotland's emissions of all greenhouse gases to net zero by 2045 at the latest, with interim targets for reductions of at least 75% by 2030, 90% by 2040. The elected members of Scottish Parliament and of Midlothian Council have declared that a “Climate

Emergency” exists and that this must be addressed by collective action to reduce carbon and other greenhouse gas emissions.

Child Poverty

Midlothian’s Child Poverty report 2020 sets out Midlothian’s commitment to achieving the Scottish Government’s vision of eradicating child poverty by 2030. The three drivers for achieving this are:

- reduce the cost of living
- increase income from employment
- increase income from social security and benefits in kind.

This group will work closely with the new Strategic Poverty Group which will focus on reducing poverty and by working together build community wealth.

Getting Involved with Community Planning

Getting involved with Community Planning gives people of all ages an opportunity to have a say on issues that matter to their neighbourhood and bring about real change to help improve the quality of life and wellbeing. Being involved in Community Planning with the partnership can be very rewarding.

There are also additional opportunities for young people to get involved in Community Planning through Midlothian Youth Platform ([Midlothian Youth Platform \(MYP\) | Midlothian Council](#)).

To find out more on how to get involved email Community.Planning@midlothian.gov.uk or keep a watch on our webpage and social media channels for workshops, conferences, and other events.

www.midlothian.gov.uk/info/200284/your_community/214/community_planning_in_Midlothian

Adult Health & Social Care



Who we are

Midlothian Integration Joint Board plans and directs health and social care services that are delivered by Midlothian Health and Social Care Partnership and by certain hospital-based services. The Partnership brings together parts of Midlothian Council and NHS Lothian to help everyone in Midlothian live well and get the right support when they need it. Further details on the [Midlothian Health and Social Care Partnership Website](#).

We have recently published our Strategic Plan for 2022-2025 which lays out how we plan to deliver all our health and social care service offers and supports over the next three years. We recognise there is work to be done to transform health and social care and that it won't all happen at once. While we will continue to work towards all of our aims and ambitions, in 2022-2023 we will put an additional focus on 5 'spotlight' areas to help accelerate change and see meaningful improvement in the following areas:

- workforce
- frailty
- Midlothian Community Hospital
- primary care
- learning disabilities

For this plan, we have focused on where we can work together to make improvements in people's lives. We will work alongside communities to improve the outcomes that matter most to people, and promote preventative approaches to help people remain well and avoid needing services in the future.

Strategic Analysis

Independent Review of Adult Social Care - this looked at outcomes for people who use services, their carers and families and the experience of those working in the sector. There are likely to be significant changes to care services as a result.

COVID-19 – this has impacted every aspect of people's lives and how we deliver services. The pandemic increased inequalities across our communities and this has often meant that those already experiencing health inequalities have been the most affected. The pandemic has made us change the way we think about and deliver services and influenced our workforce with large scale programmes such as mass vaccination. This will continue next year and increase pressure on already stretched resources.

Workforce and Financial Pressures - There is reduced availability of staff with appropriate qualifications or skills, including General Practitioners, Social Care Workers and Staff Nurses. This impacts on service delivery and development. We need to do things differently: the traditional approach to delivering health and care services is no longer financially sustainable. However, shifting resources from hospital and care home provision to community based services, and placing more emphasis on prevention, can be challenging especially with current financial constraints.

Digital - We live in a digital world that is changing the way we all live and work. Scottish Government have made digital transformation a key area of focus, but we also know good health and social care relies on strong human relationships. Digital technology cannot replace those but can enhance them by transforming how we connect and keep in touch with services or monitor our own health. It can help us capture and bring together information about people who use our services to help us plan and deliver them more effectively. We will make best use of digital technology and consider issues such as privacy, inclusion, choice, access, control and the environment.

What the Data tells us

We use local and national data to help assess and forecast the health and social care needs of the adult population of Midlothian and to plan services. This data is available at <http://www.midlothian.gov.uk/mid-hscp/info/4/data-1> and shaped the actions we have chosen to focus on.

For example, the Midlothian Learning Disability Data and national intelligence told us that the numbers of people with a learning disability or autism have grown and that ensuring good housing remains a consistent priority area of focus. We also know that physical inactivity is one of the leading causes of premature death in Scotland. Increasing the opportunities available to older people to take part in physical activities not only supports health and wellness but can also reduce social isolation.

What the consultation told us

We gathered the views of people who use our services, partners and staff throughout 2021. Planning leads for each area of our plan used a range of methods including surveys, focus groups, interviews, Question and Answer sessions and findings from existing consultations. **Over 3,000 people's views were included**, and these informed the first draft of our plan. A copy of this draft plan was made available in every library and uploaded to our website. It was shared with key stakeholders including neighbouring IJBs, NHS Directors, the Integration Joint Board and third sector partners. We invited people to comment on it by raising awareness on social media and posting information to every household in Midlothian. **Over 80 people gave their comments.**

There were a few common themes throughout the consultation including:

- **flexible support.** People spoke of how services could be improved to offer more flexible and joined up support.
- **feeling heard and valued.** People spoke of the need to feel safe, welcome, and heard. This included not having to repeat your story, and not feeling processed, judged, or rushed.
- **supported Self-Management.** People told us we can help them keep safe and well through better information on what is available and being able to access services directly

What will be achieved and how will Midlothian's future look different?

We want to see the best possible outcomes for the people and communities of Midlothian. Our aim is to support people to recognise and realise their human rights, and participate in community life free from fear, harassment, and abuse. We want people to stay well and live the healthiest lives possible, but also have confidence that flexible and adaptable service offers and supports are there when they need them.

Some of our actions are designed to raise awareness and help support people and communities to better understand and manage their own health, wellness, and wellbeing. Others address specific needs. For example, our commitment to increase awareness and understanding of trauma aims to see Midlothian become a more trauma informed community.

We also know that we need to reach out to people who may not know when or where support is available. An example of this would be our action to identify more people who are carers so they can access the support, information, and advice they need. By helping people continue to provide care for as long as they are able and wish to, we hope that carers are recognised as experts in their role and know they are valued as equal partners in care.

Some of our actions, like those relating to type 2 diabetes, work towards national goals. Others are to help strengthen health, wellbeing, and wellness. Our plans to provide local physical activity sessions are designed for people to enjoy the health benefits of regular exercise, make new friendships, and learn new skills.

We know that being able to access services supports recovery for people who use drugs and/or alcohol. We want to extend our outreach and create more SMART recovery groups to assist people in their own individual recovery. By improving treatment and support to people at all stages of their treatment and recovery, we also hope to make recovery more visible in our communities.

We want people to live at the heart of their community, support people with moderate to complex needs to live locally and reduce the risk of living in accommodation that is unsuitable. Our plans to improve housing options are best practice in housing design and aim to increase independence within a safe, comfortable, and homely environment.

We hope this plan will help people access the right services at the right time, in a way that is meaningful, and enables people do more of the things that matter to them most.

Our Priorities

Action	Due Date	Performance Indicator & Target	Ownership
Increase awareness of the caring role e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying as a carer/identification of carers The positive contribution of unpaid carers in supporting our services and communities. Carer rights Support available. 	March 2023	No of referrals to VOCAL Target: 400	Midlothian HSCP Midlothian Council Communications Team HSCP Training & Development Team Third sector Partners
Increase the opportunities for older people to be physically active by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing the Ageing Well programme 	March 2023	Return to pre-Covid levels of activity provision for Ageing Well, volunteering and participation by April 2023.	Sport and Leisure, Midlothian HSCP
Develop a greater range of Housing Options for people with Learning Disability and Autism.	(i) June 2023 (ii) Dec 2022 (iii) Dec 2022	(i) Completion of 8 units in Bonnyrigg (ii) Completion of 4 units in Loanhead, for people with Profound and Multiple Learning Disability. (iii) Completion of 2 respite units in Loanhead.	Midlothian HSCP Midlothian Council – Housing NHS Lothian.
Increase number of people who report feeling connected to others by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing to provide 1:1 befriending support Volunteer 1:1 support for physical activity Supporting day services to offer creative ways to connect with clients who lack confidence Working with community-led groups to reach out to people 	March 2023	% of people aged 65+ who report feeling connected to others all or most of the time during the past 12 months Baseline (Citizen's Panel): Age 65-74: 90% Age 75 and over: 82% Target: Age 75 and over 85%	Community Lifelong Learning Community Councils Community Development Trusts Ageing Well Volunteer Midlothian British Red Cross Day Services Housing Associations

Action	Due Date	Performance Indicator & Target	Ownership
Increase the number of staff who are trauma informed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with learning and development to support the delivery of training and the co-ordination of trauma informed practice within the Midway. 	March 2023	Numbers trained Level 1 trauma trained - 400 Level 2 trauma training - 40	Midlothian HSCP Midlothian Council Third Sector
Increase the number of people participating in Get Moving with Counterweight and Let's Prevent (Pre-diabetes programme)	March 2023	Get Moving with Counterweight: Number of participants- 40 per quarter Let's Prevent: Number of participants- 7 per month	NHS Lothian Dietetics Midlothian Council Primary Care, Third Sector Organisations
Increase opportunities for people to volunteer at Midlothian Community Hospital	March 2023	A minimum of 6 volunteer posts filled	NHS Lothian Volunteer Service Midlothian Volunteer Centre Senior Charge Nurses, MCH
Increasing uptake of 0 to 5yrs vaccinations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivering core vaccination programme for under 5s utilising Child Health Information to provide timely and accessible services, Deliver flu and seasonal vaccination programmes Proactively support families who do not bring children for immunisation 	March 2023	Meet targets/ improve performance Delivery of seasonal flu vaccination programmes with improved uptake (>57%)	Midlothian HSCP HV data quality group Midlothian Education Services Third Sector
Improve geographical access to substance use recovery support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the number of SMART recovery groups in 2022-23 to improve outreach across Midlothian's communities 	March 2023	Increase the number of SMART recovery groups from 1 to 3 by March 2023	MELDAP Midlothian HSCP MELD Health in Mind

Action	Due Date	Performance Indicator & Target	Ownership
Increase the number of staff in the Physical Disability Team supported to develop their skills in having <i>Good Conversations</i> with Disabled People	March 2023	<p>Hold 4 peer support sessions for staff in 2022-23</p> <p>Over 55 of the cases audited through the case file audit system will have personal outcomes clearly identified</p>	<p>MVA and Third Sector Forward Midlothian Enable VOCAL</p>

Community Safety & Justice



Who we are

Community Safety and Justice Partnership: A multi-agency partnership that works together to reduce re-offending & proactively works to promote community safety

Community Justice is about reducing offending and supporting people to stop re-offending. Agencies work in partnership with local communities to make a positive change for people with an offending history, their families and victims of crime.

Community Safety is how safe people feel and how safe they are from becoming a victim of crime. It includes a range of issues including antisocial behaviour, violent crime, violence against women, protection of children and adults, misuse of alcohol and drugs, theft, road safety, home safety and fire safety.

Strategic Analysis

The Scottish Government has recently consulted with a range of partnership groups to review legislation on 'Bail & Release'. The consultation highlights the ineffectiveness of short term custodial sentences and has encouraged the justice system to look at alternative interventions that promote desistance and public safety. Consideration has also been given to victims of crime and how bail and release impacts on their recovery and trauma. The Community Safety and Justice Partnership has been involved with the consultation and some of the key themes they have recommended are:

- promote a victim led justice system
- highlight the importance of third sector organisations
- promote a trauma-informed approach for all aspects of justice
- establish professional relationships with individuals in custody prior to release

What the data tells us

Violent and sexual crime is less than 5% of crime recorded in Midlothian. Violence against woman and girls (VAWG) continues to rise which places a growing demand on statutory and third sector services. Midlothian recorded 572 (2021-2022) domestic abuse cases reported to Police demonstrating a similar theme to the national figures. This continues to be a core priority of the partnership from supporting victims and support organisations but also in providing interventions with men to desist from VAWG.

What the consultation told us

The community planning citizen's panel survey carried out in late 2021 identified key themes that people identified as priorities:

- **Making Communities Safer**
 - 84% of participants felt that 'reducing violent crime' should be a priority in making communities safer.
 - 80% of participants felt that 'reducing violence against woman and girls' should be a priority in making communities safer.
- **Ways to Reduce Re-Offending**
 - 67% of participants felt that 'supporting individuals to attend school and gain qualifications' would be most effective in reducing re-offending.

What will be achieved and how will Midlothian's future look different?

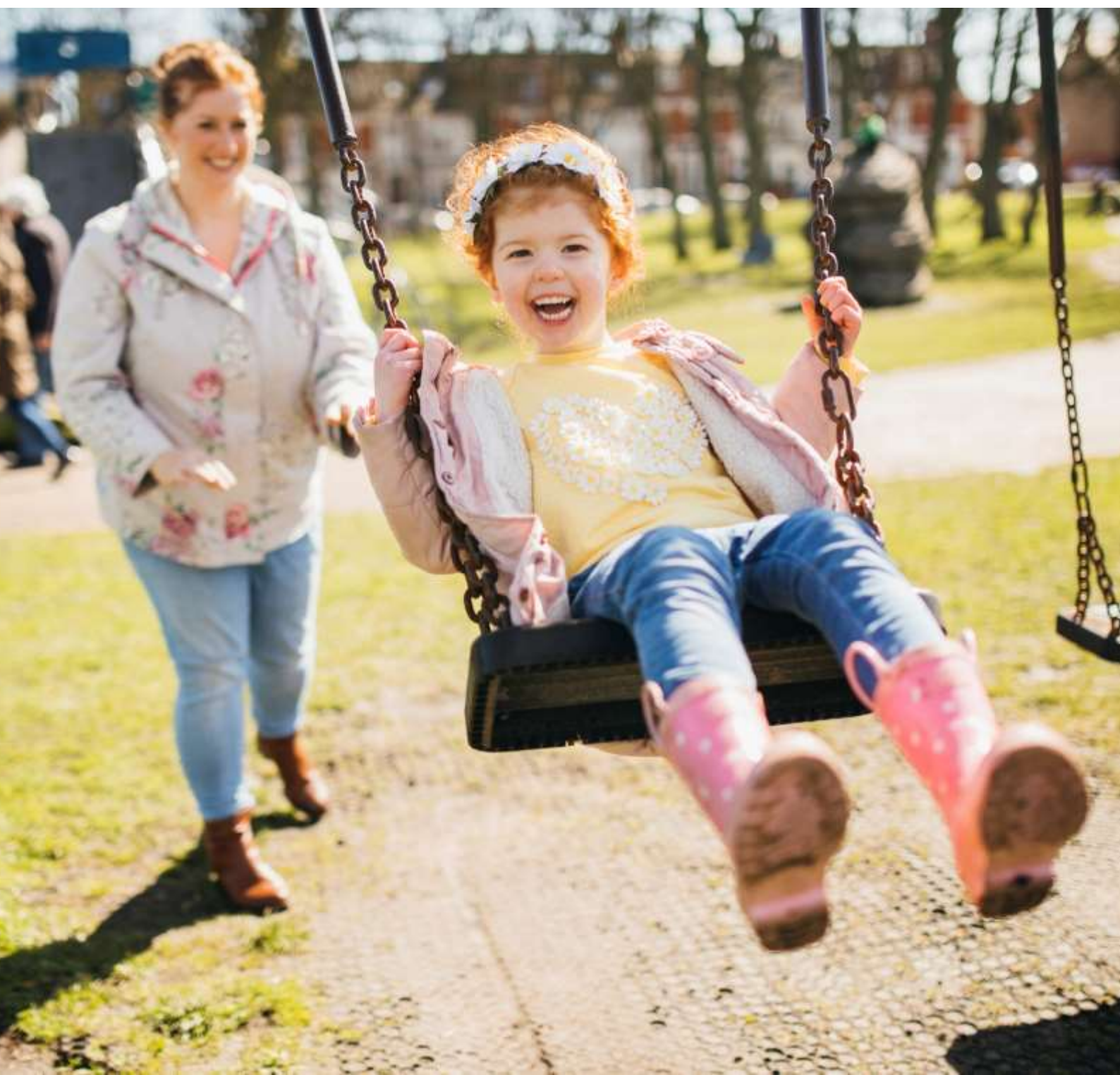
The outcomes included in this report are three examples of the Community Justice Vision and actions that we hold central to community justice within Midlothian. Our intention is that these will impact communities in the following ways:

- demystify misconceptions and stigmatisation of justice services
- ensure access to employment, education, housing and services are available to improve outcomes for individuals involved in the justice system (see CJOIP for actions)
- promote community awareness of community justice including alternatives to custody and their benefits to communities and impact on re-offending
- increase community awareness of services available to individuals that have or are likely to offend and survivors of crime
- promote a survivor led justice system
- promote early intervention for individuals affected by substance use

Our Priorities

Action	Due Date	Performance Indicator & Target	Ownership
Improve awareness with communities and businesses by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stories about Community Payback Orders(CPOs) & Unpaid Work on social media • Advertising campaign on the link between education/training, employment, health inequalities, substance misuse, housing, positive attitudes, relationships and (re)offending • Second Chancers spin off with press – voices of unpaid work telling their story (film) • Rebrand CJ logo with Midlothian secondary school • Launch ALISS database of services for Midlothian • Publish Community Justice Directory. 	2022 – 2023	Increase the number of combined followers on Community Safety & Justice Partnership social media platforms (Facebook and Twitter) by 5% Positive feedback received from pupils ALISS publicised to all Community Councils in Midlothian Number of Midlothian searches carried out on ALISS (target tbc)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Justice Social Work • Community Safety & Justice • Third Sector Partners • Education and further education
Improve support for people after a Community Payback Order by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a volunteering pathway • Develop an after care service 	2022 – 2023	25% justice social work clients involved in volunteering, training or employment at the point of completion of order. New process initiated for recording of telephone calls 6 weeks post completion - Attempt made to contact 100% of clients 6 weeks post CPO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Justice Social Work • Community Safety & Justice • Community Lifelong Learning • Third Sector Partners
Improve access to Mental Health and Substance misuse services for people on a CPO by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Automating the referral process to third sector support agencies with a focus on males aged 18-26 	2022 – 2023	Referral process designed 80% of relevant individuals on CPOs referred to Number 11 Practitioners Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Safety & Justice • Third Sector Partners • Health • Justice Social Work

Getting It Right for Every Child (GIRFEC)



Who we are

The Midlothian GIRFEC Board oversees effective delivery of the Integrated Children's Services Plan (also known as the GIRFEC 3-Year Plan) and the actions outlined below.

Our vision is for children and young people in Midlothian to have the best possible start in life and live safe, healthy, active, happy and independent lives. All of our work is supported by the Midlothian Third Sector Children's Services Network.

We are fully committed to realising a children's rights approach to all of our work and ensuring that we embed the principles of the United Nations Conventions on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

Strategic Analysis

Getting It Right for Every Child and the GIRFEC wellbeing [indicators](#) underpin our approach. We strive to improve how we support children, young people and families based on their needs and adapting our services to their needs. We aim to work better and in a more joined-up way across services, re-allocating budgets to better support the creative and innovative approaches that came about in response to the additional needs created by COVID-19.

Our work is also influenced by the principles summarised in **The Promise**. It shifts the focus from protecting against harm to protecting all safe, loving and respectful relationships. Behind The Promise is an ambitious 10 year plan to effect change to culture and legislation.

The Children and Young People's (Scotland) Act 2014 continues to provide the statutory framework for the delivery of children and young people's services.

Our focus on reducing inequalities has been strengthened by **Midlothian's Child Poverty Action Report**, which sets out Midlothian's commitment to achieving the Scottish Government's vision of eradicating child poverty by 2030.

What the data tells us

Between 2018 and 2028, the number of households in Midlothian is projected to increase at a faster rate than the rest of Scotland. Children and young people aged 21 years and under account for **25.5%** of the population of Midlothian.

Educational attainment varies across Midlothian secondary schools, with some schools achieving above the Virtual Comparator (a virtual school whose characteristics reflect the socioeconomic make up of Midlothian), and others below. This generally reflects levels of deprivation and social exclusion in each area. The percentage of children registered for free school meals is slightly lower than the national average. Free school meals are available to children whose families are on low incomes or who receive benefits themselves. From August 2022 free school meals will be available to all P1-P7 pupils. The rate of temporary exclusions from Midlothian schools has continued to reduce.

National and local research and evidence tells us that we need to work towards ensuring more children and young people receive timely and effective mental health support when they need it. The data tells us that we need to continue increasing our preventative approaches and early interventions that support children and young people's mental health and wellbeing.

What the consultation told us

A small consultative group of children and young people has told us what matters to them and this has strongly influenced the actions in our plan. This includes:

- Joined up service provision across mental health services, with greater information sharing and clear referral pathways.
- Accessible early intervention and prevention options for young people to prevent escalation of issues.
- Services that are well resourced enough that waiting lists are short and fast moving, with support and information available whilst young people are on waiting lists.
- Positive physical environments for young people, for indoor recreation and informal learning (such as youth clubs) and safe and pleasant outdoor spaces to promote wellbeing.

This brings together what is already known about current mental health needs and supports, with new insights and concrete opportunities for change.

What will be achieved and how will Midlothian's future look different?

These actions are designed to increase the numbers of children and young people who feel safe, healthy and resilient in Midlothian. In future, children's human rights will be embedded in all aspects of our work. More children and young people will have the tools to address their own alcohol and drug use and/or to minimise the impact of others' alcohol and drug use on their lives. Fewer families will be living in poverty. More adults will have the skills and knowledge to help more children and young people feel safe. Young people will have access to more positive physical environments. Families will receive support when they need it and for as long as they need it, through the Whole Family Wellbeing Service in Midlothian.

These actions are designed to ensure that more children and young people receive timely and effective mental health support when they need it. In future, children and young people will be able to access all levels of support for mental health and wellbeing when they need it. There will be more capacity within early intervention and prevention mental health supports and services to meet local need. More children and young people who are "looked after" will receive timely and appropriate supports for their mental health and wellbeing.

These actions are designed to reduce the inequalities in learning for children and young people. In future, family members will be able to learn together, and more parents will feel confident in supporting their children's learning and development. Educational equality and equity will be closer, through inclusion and more effective use of local resources.

Our Priorities

Action	Due Date	Performance Indicator & Target	Ownership
More children and young people are safe, healthy and resilient <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to support children and young people affected by domestic abuse, parental alcohol or drug misuse - by supporting children and young people to address their own alcohol and drug use and/or to minimise the impact of others' alcohol and drug use on their lives (via MELDAP-commissioned services). 	March 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of children and young people reporting improved family relationships (target 27). Number of children and young people provided with support (target 55). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Midlothian Council Third Sector Partners NHS Lothian
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver responsive and accessible income maximisation support to reduce the number of families that are living in poverty. We will do this by mapping existing services, using lived experience to influence service delivery and redesign the delivery of income maximisation services in Midlothian to meet the needs of the residents. 	March 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing Income maximisation services are mapped and evaluation of impact is completed. Delivery of income maximisation services are re-designed in Midlothian to meet the needs of the residents. Increased income received through benefits claimed 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the proportion of children and young people who feel safe. We will do this by evaluating the work undertaken during 21/22 and developing the next stage of work, to commission and embed our <i>Positive Approaches</i> framework. 	March 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluation report completed. Work plan has been developed. Partners are commissioned and delivered commissioned work Monitor through school wellbeing surveys 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Partnership will further embed the children's rights approach to all of our work, including rights relating to health and education, leisure and play, fair and equal treatment, protection from exploitation and the right to be heard. 	March 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actions identified and undertaken Evidence gathered on our progress made in incorporating children's rights into our work. 	

Action	Due Date	Performance Indicator & Target	Ownership
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify positive physical environments for young people, including indoor recreation and informal learning (such as youth clubs) and safe and pleasant outdoor spaces to promote wellbeing. 	March 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with the Midlothian Learning Estates Team, positive physical environments for young people identified. Plans co-designed with young people, on use of the positive spaces identified. Actions taken to future-proof these positive physical environments for young people. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a Whole Family Wellbeing Service in Midlothian, that provides preventative, needs-based support for families when they need it, and for as long as they need it. 	March 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a multi-agency and multi-disciplinary approach that draws in support across the partnership. 	
More children and young people receive timely and effective mental health support when they need it			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver quick and easy access to all levels of support for mental health and wellbeing - by establishing a Single Point of Access to mental health and wellbeing supports and services. 	April - March 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blueprint for a Single Point of Access approved by GIRFEC Board. Work commenced on establishing a Single Point of Access. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Midlothian Council Third Sector Partners NHS Lothian
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build capacity within early intervention and prevention mental health supports and services to meet local need. We will do this by further investing in community-based activities that support mental health and emotional wellbeing in children and young people. 	March 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of children and young people who receive support from additional early MH support provision as a result of Community Framework and MEAP early action funding (target 300). 	

Action	Due Date	Performance Indicator & Target	Ownership
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the percentage of children and young people who receive a comprehensive assessment of their health needs within 4 weeks of becoming “looked after”, to increase chances of timely and appropriate supports being put in place. We will do this by introducing a comprehensive and timely assessment process that is responsive to the needs of each young person. 	March 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New process is implemented. • Percentage of children and young people who receive a comprehensive assessment of their health needs within four weeks of becoming “looked after” (target 95%). 	
Inequalities in learning are reduced <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a Midlothian Family Learning Strategy and plan that encourages family members to learn together, with a focus on intergenerational learning, and enables parents to learn how to support their children’s learning/development. 	March 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Midlothian Family Learning Strategy and plan is in place. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Midlothian Council • Third Sector Partners • NHS Lothian
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop an Equity and Inclusion Strategy and plan, which focuses on actions to reduce educational inequalities through local and inclusive actions and resources. 	March 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Equity and Inclusion Strategy and plan is in place and implemented. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a system of sharing information from the Child Health Reviews, which ensures that the partnership is able to identify and articulate how the educational experiences and health and wellbeing of children has been impacted by the pandemic and introduce local strategies to make progress for children in their early years. 	Dec 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System in place to share information on the health visiting pathway 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Midlothian Council • NHS Lothian • Third Sector Partners

Action	Due Date	Performance Indicator & Target	Ownership
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve children's early language and communication skills through embedding the Circle Up, Up and Away approach in early learning and childcare provision and other early years support services. 	March 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of Early Learning and Childcare establishments using the Up, Up and Away approach (Baseline and target will be established) The number of children that make over 30% progress on the early literacy assessment (target 50%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Midlothian Council NHS Lothian Third Sector Partners

Improving Opportunities



Who we are

We build resilient and empowered communities, grow and support investment in the third sector and reduce poverty and inequalities. Our vision is to eradicate child poverty by 2030. Through collaboration, co-production and innovation, we will work on the priorities of reducing the gap in learning, health and economic circumstances to deliver better outcomes for communities.

We lead and report on Midlothian's Child Poverty Action Report, the Local Employability Partnership (LEP), the Community Learning and Development (CLD) Plan and the Midlothian Financial Inclusion Network (MFIN).

Strategic Analysis

IOM members have been at the forefront of volunteering led community resilience during the Pandemic. Covid restrictions have changed the way partners deliver services with a move to more digital and online opportunities. The digital infrastructure in Midlothian and the lack of access to free Wi-Fi severely impacts on our most vulnerable residents. The pandemic has highlighted the need for an increased focus on the physical and mental health and wellbeing of the population.

Poverty, including child poverty, has continued to increase due mainly to a rise in the cost of living, in-work poverty and the withdrawal of the Universal Credit uplift. Rapidly rising energy costs and the significant increase in the price cap will have a detrimental impact on households.

Some occupational sectors and the travel to work area are experiencing challenges in recruiting suitably qualified and experienced staff. This increasing skills gap presents a challenge for Midlothian residents wishing to secure employment or secure a better paid job, fair work or career.

Financial challenges and increase in demand will mean that we will have to continue to grow and invest in the third sector to deliver better outcomes with communities.

What the data tells us

In Midlothian 24% of children are living in poverty, many living in working households. The areas of Central Dalkeith/Woodburn, Gorebridge and Mayfield/Easthouses are in the 20% most deprived datazones (SIMD) with parts of Loanhead, Penicuik and Rosewell in the 20-30% most deprived datazones. Child poverty levels vary across Midlothian according to the 2018-19 data available. Dalkeith has the highest rate at 35% and Bonnyrigg has the lowest rates at 11%.

During the Pandemic 4,340 referrals were made to Foodbanks with the majority coming from single people, families and single parents and today referrals remain high.

Positive destinations of young people leaving school have remained steady at 93.9% with the majority of young people moving into further education and employment, although numbers entering higher education are increasing. In January 2022, participation levels were above the Scottish average. Adults of working age have lower levels of qualifications at degree/HNC/HND levels and a lower proportion achieve qualifications at Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQ) 3 and 4 levels compared to the Scottish average. Midlothian residents earn less on average than the Scotland average, with women having a bigger gap in

earnings compared to men.

There are 3,095 people claiming out of work benefits, the highest level of claimants since the 1990's. In November 2020, a total of 7,155 households in Midlothian were on Universal Credit.

There was a significant increase in the number of adults volunteering in Midlothian's communities throughout the Pandemic, linked to grassroots and neighbourhood resilience initiatives. Conversely, the number of volunteering opportunities available in Midlothian has dropped by around 50% due to Covid restrictions.

What the consultation told us

The top 3 priorities identified by the Citizens Panel are:

- reduce the number of households in poverty - particularly those with children;
- increase the number of young people over the age of 16 engaged in training, employment, volunteering or education;
- reduce health inequalities.

The Community Planning Conference also highlighted the need for digital inclusion (access to free Wi-Fi and devices for all); supporting people to develop skills and employability options including volunteering; involving young people and those with lived experience in shaping services and provision; and a focus on food and fuel poverty.

What will be achieved and how will Midlothian's future look different?

The actions of the IOM are designed to reduce the gap in learning, economic circumstances and health outcomes for all Midlothian residents.

As a partnership, we are working together to ensure that young people, adults and families are supported to move out of poverty through providing employability support, digital skills and devices, access to qualifications and opportunities to ensure good mental health and wellbeing. This will lead to people being able to secure employment and better paid jobs or increase their income from benefits and other sources of support. We will also work together to ensure that everyone has easy access to affordable, nutritious food and opportunities to live well in their local community.

Through our shared endeavour, we will work with communities to build strong, cohesive places where people feel a sense of belonging and pride and can build networks to support each other.

We want individuals of all ages and communities to shape the future direction of services in Midlothian through giving them a voice and influence to ensure that all services meet their needs and aspirations.

Our Priorities

Action	Due Date	Performance Indicator & Target	Ownership
Priority 1: Deliver the actions in the Child Poverty Action Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver responsive and accessible income maximisation support to reduce the number of households that are living in poverty. Reduce food insecurity and fuel poverty through co-ordinating services and working in partnership 	March 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing income maximisation services are mapped, baseline of income achieved is recorded and evaluation of impact is completed Delivery of income maximisation services are re-designed to meet the needs of the residents Those with lived experience of poverty are consulted Mapping of existing provision to establish a baseline Implement new projects from Food and Health Alliance food insecurity recommendations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CPWG MFIN
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve qualification levels for adults at National Vocational Qualifications (NVQ) levels 3 and 4 	March 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Track number of qualifications for adults through NOMIS Increase accredited adult learning opportunities. Target: 500 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CLLE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support adults into employment through partnership working 	March 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of Midlothian residents gaining positive outcome through accessing Regional Skills Centres (Target 20) Number securing employment through participation in employability programmes (Target: NOLB - ; PES - ; YPG - ; LTU – 20 places; IFS - 6) Reduce the number of adults aged 16 to 64 economically inactive in Midlothian (tracking only) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Skills Centres / K Hall CLLE

Action	Due Date	Performance Indicator & Target	Ownership
Priority 2: Participation measures for young people over 16 increased <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that transitional support is offered to young people in S4, 5, 6 who are at risk of leaving school without a destination 	March 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'Unknown's' on list average below 100 Sustain Participation Measure at 1% above national average Care experienced / young carers % positive destinations is monitored and increased above national average (Tracking only) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CLLE/SDS
Priority 3: Improve qualification levels for adults at levels Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQ) 3 and 4	March 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Track NOMIS data and measure against Scottish average (Target: above Scottish average) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CLLE
Priority 4: CLD Partnership Plan aims to increase skills for learning life and work.	March 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CLD Strategic Plan Actions are on target which will contribute to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Covid-19 recovery and engagement Improving social interaction, health, wellbeing and poverty Pathways to learning, personal development and employment Digital and resilient communities of the future Contribute to Midlothian being carbon neutral by 2030 Enhancing our workforce and volunteer skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annette Lang
Priority 5: Increase opportunities for Midlothian residents to be digitally included	March 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Map provision and produce Midlothian Digital Pathway with routes into support networks Number of digital opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Digital Partnership Group

Action	Due Date	Performance Indicator & Target	Ownership
		offered (new target: establish baseline) increased	
Priority 6: Third Sector organisations and volunteers have improved skills, resources, and knowledge to achieve positive change	March 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver an annual TSI training programme (target 10 training events) • Deliver one to one business support, information and training to around 300 third sector organisations and individuals per year (target 300) • Deliver the 1 year actions in the revised Midlothian Third Sector Compact (target: co-produce Council and third sector grants schemes) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSi / Midlothian Council
Priority 7: Health inequalities for people in Midlothian are reduced	March 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review draft IOM plan of action for whole system approach to Type 2 Diabetes and agree priorities (Target: October 2022) • Support Midlothian organisations to develop a prevention confident staff by providing learning sessions to statutory and third sector partners. • (Target: 80 staff from the HSPC, Council and Third Sector trained in Good Conversations by March 2023) • Increase awareness and action on health inequalities. (Target: 12 bitesize workshops delivered by 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Midlothian Public Health Team

Action	Due Date	Performance Indicator & Target	Ownership
		April 2023).	
Priority 8: Reduce the cost of the school day for families	March 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the implementation of COSD measures in Penicuik, Dalkeith and Gorebridge Area School Groups. • Involve families in the development of local measures. • Deliver poverty awareness-raising sessions across participating schools. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Poverty Working Group

Sustainable Growth

Climate Emergency, Economic Development and Housing



Climate Emergency

Who we are

The Climate Emergency Group's vision is to make sure significant progress is made towards net zero carbon emissions by 2030. Our values are to get to net zero equitably, taking into account different people and communities capacities and abilities to get there.

Strategic Analysis

Scotland's national target is to be Net Zero by 2045: the CPP Board in January 2020 agreed to make meeting the Climate Emergency target of '*Reducing Midlothian Carbon emissions to net zero by 2030*' a priority in its shared partnership work. The Board has set up a Climate Emergency partnership, built from and replacing the existing sustainable environment partnership grouping, to focus collective effort on meeting this commitment.

The draft fourth National Planning Framework was published in autumn 2021. The document gives a very strong indication of the development requirements for Midlothian and policy direction for informing production of Midlothian Local Development Plan number two. Work on this will occur in 2022 and the Council will actively seek to engage a wide range of partners, including community planning partners, in its consultation and production.

What the data tells us

While industry and commerce account for 21.2% of carbon emissions in Midlothian, the biggest sources of carbon emissions are still domestic heating (36.9%) and transport (36.6%). Therefore, we will concentrate in reducing carbon emissions in the areas of domestic heating and transport to get to Net Zero. The 2019 Midlothian annual carbon emissions from domestic heating were 137.73 kilotons and from transport 136.70 kilotons.

What the consultation told us

The concerns of communities raised through the 2021 annual community planning day included:

- the need for rapid parallel investment in infrastructure, retail, health, education and community facilities to match new development in Midlothian;
- value and enhancement of green spaces and natural environment and supporting their use;
- improve the layout of the built environment to encourage more engagement, integration and active travel;
- improve Midlothian town centres, including provision of local produce and presence of locally owned businesses, and incorporate the drive to net zero;
- improve local sustainable transport links across Midlothian to employment, learning, leisure and health facilities;
- integrate new and old communities;
- need to work to reduce food and fuel poverty and promotion of schemes to assist with this and sourcing and distribution of food.

What will be achieved and how will Midlothian's future look different?

Our actions focus on the key Climate Emergency issues of energy, food and travel. They are designed to increase awareness plus promote reflection and action in these specific areas as well as the Climate Emergency in general. They will lead to a better understanding of carbon emissions plus greater knowledge of electricity supply and energy matters, which in turn will help focus investment and policy support for these things in Midlothian. They will help inform and give people the opportunity to get involved in actions that can make a difference. Midlothian's future will be different through having more people aware and engaged in Climate Emergency issues, both consciously and subconsciously. This will make Midlothian more resilient to the effects of Climate Change and in addition help contribute more widely to Climate Change resilience.

Our Priorities

Action	Due Date	Performance Indicator & Target	Ownership
Agree and implement a standard methodology and tool(s) for measuring and accounting for carbon emissions in Midlothian: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the range of extant carbon calculation methodologies and tools in use in government, academia and the private sector 	31/3/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review undertaken 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Midlothian Climate Emergency Group
20 minute neighbourhoods in Midlothian: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the principles of the '20 minute neighbourhood' concept within all partner organisations, including layout and make up of new development for local services Work with local shop owners and service providers to identify opportunities for new local premises and outlets to serve currently unmet need - work to producing a directory highlighting Midlothian produce and how/where it can be obtained 	31/3/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotional work and awareness raising undertaken with relevant partners Engagement has taken place with local shop owners and service providers and directory is in production 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Midlothian Climate Emergency Group

Action	Due Date	Performance Indicator & Target	Ownership
Climate Emergency Awareness Raising and Community Engagement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotion of Climate Emergency issues through a programme of engagement activities, including a sustained social media presence and investigation of setting up Climate Emergency Hubs Development of locally-owned Climate Emergency projects Learn from other Climate Emergency related projects and Community Planning Partnerships on Best Practice on Net Zero and Housing to prompt action and involvement Work with Midlothian Council education services, and youth platforms, to engage young people in Climate Emergency matters 	31/3/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotion group established and is operational Work progressed to take forward development of locally-owned Climate Emergency projects Relevant projects identified and understood Climate Emergency group partners liaise with Midlothian Council Education service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Midlothian Climate Emergency Group
Development of Renewable Energy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore developing a plan for decarbonising the electricity and hot water output from the Millerhill Energy from Waste Plant Review electricity grid capacity across Midlothian and assess its ability to handle predicted growth in electric vehicles, electric heating etc. Identify bottlenecks and engage with relevant bodies to invest in upgrades Identify potential sites on Council and other partners land for renewable energy generation Inc. solar and exploration of potential for community-owned schemes and joint ventures 	31/3/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work undertaken with Midlothian Energy to take forward the action Assess electricity grid capacity in Midlothian Consideration given by partners to potential sites for renewable energy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Midlothian Climate Emergency Group

Action	Due Date	Performance Indicator & Target	Ownership
Support and Promotion of Biodiversity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with schools on biodiversity projects in their local areas, including on establishment of B-line projects 	31/3/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Emergency group partners liaise with Midlothian Council Education service and other relevant bodies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Midlothian Climate Emergency Group
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take forward community driven citizen science projects and investigate potential locations and interested parties in taking forward a community woodland including “Tiny Forest” proposals, or managed open space 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotion group established and is operational Work progressed to take forward development of locally-owned Climate Emergency projects 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote wildlife corridors that connect urban and rural areas and across local authority areas 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Emergency group partners work with Midlothian Council, adjacent local authorities and relevant bodies 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote local food growing 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Emergency group partners help take forward the Midlothian allotment and food growing strategy 	
Place the Climate Emergency as the Central Theme of the Midlothian Local Development Plan no. 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate possibilities for peer review of the climate emergency credentials of the next Midlothian Local Development Plan 	31/3/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Emergency Group members to work with Midlothian Council (Planning) to take forward 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Midlothian Climate Emergency Group

Action	Due Date	Performance Indicator & Target	Ownership
Transport: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with car dealers, approved EV charger installers, Energy Saving Trust etc. to establish a 'one stop shop' for EV buyers in Midlothian to improve uptake, make the process of buying an EV and establishing the charging infrastructure seamless and smooth 	31/3/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work undertaken with car dealers to investigate how purchase of electric vehicles can be simplified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Midlothian Climate Emergency Group

Economic Development

Who we are

Sustainable Growth is comprised of three parts: Housing, Economy and Climate Emergency. We work with, and seek to bring together, public sector key agencies and partners, community groups, third sector groups/agencies, umbrella organisations and individuals.

Strategic Analysis

As Scotland's fastest growing and 4th most resilient local authority in Scotland, in part due to its diverse business base, Midlothian continues to face challenges following Brexit and the Coronavirus pandemic.

The Strategy for Growth 2020-25 seeks to harness opportunities in partnership with the CPP, national business support partners and the local business base to ensure we build back inclusively and sustainably.

The Scottish Government published its 10-year [National Strategy for Economic Transformation](#) in March 2022. This sets out the steps we need to take to deliver a green economic recovery and push forward on existing programmes and strategies including Covid-19 Recovery, EU Exit, Transition to Net Zero/Sustainability, Fair Work and Technological changes. The vision is 'To build an economy that will maximise Scotland's economic, social and environmental wellbeing in the face of opportunities and challenges that Scotland faces now and in the future'.

The £1.3bn Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal published the Regional Prosperity Framework in September 2021 to be used as a basis to guide and integrate public, private and third sector decisions, actions, collaborations, strategies, policies and investments across areas including sustainability, climate change, energy, transport, planning, housing, infrastructure, education, digital, services, equalities, well-being, economic development, procurement and delivery. It states that rebuilding the economy must support:

- People – to access fair work, to learn and develop new skills and to live happy and healthy lives
- Places – that are sustainable, and attractive to live and work in and where enterprise thrives
- Planet – meeting our needs in a way that will allow future generations to meet theirs, with a focus on reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (sustainability).

Midlothian Council will produce a new Economic Strategy in the summer of 2022. The strategy will reflect the national and regional priorities and expand the scope of our current work on community wealth building activities, the transition to net zero, fair work first and green skills development.

The Economic Development priorities for the 2022/23 Single Midlothian Plan align to the social, environmental and economic aspirations of the wellbeing economy with people focussed outcomes that will also deliver economic benefits.

What the data tells us

The Midlothian business base comprises a mix of sole traders, micro enterprises and Small Medium Enterprises with Midlothian Council the largest employer in the County.

In 2020 the Business Index register listed 2,720 enterprises in Midlothian, this data is drawn from VAT & PAYE records so does not include sole traders that do not employ or trade above the VAT threshold. Midlothian had **4300 self-employed** people registered between October 2020 and September 2021 which is lower than the national average.

Small businesses accounted for **89.9%** (lower than the Scottish average of 99%) of the enterprises and employed **44%** of the workforce in 2020.

Those who are economically active **increased by 2.3%** from 46,900 in September 2020 to 48,000 in September 2021. Proportionally, Midlothian has a slightly higher rate than Scotland and Great Britain.

Midlothian's unemployment rate (model based) between October 2020 to September 2021 stands at **3.4%** and it is below the Scottish (4.2%) and Great Britain (4.8%) rates.

In September 2021 there were 900 more people in employment than in September 2020.

What the consultation told us

- need to improve Midlothian town centres, including provision of local produce and presence of locally owned businesses, and incorporate the drive to net zero;
- need to work on reducing food and fuel poverty and promotion of schemes to assist with this and sourcing and distribution of food;
- the need for rapid parallel investment in retail, health, education and community facilities to match new development in Midlothian.

What will be achieved and how will Midlothian's future look different?

Social Enterprise Development sessions – these events will bring community organisations and residents together to discuss challenges and opportunities in their localities with the aim of developing new social enterprises with long term support from Business Gateway.

Employer Engagement Surgeries – these sessions will be promoted to Business Gateway clients and are an opportunity for them to learn about the different employability support mechanisms that are available to them and meet the teams that provide the support. This will also be an opportunity for businesses to raise other employee related challenges, for examples skills or labour shortages, and will enable us to work with colleagues and partners to identify solutions.

MTF Roundtable sessions – These sessions bring together a mix of businesses to discuss specific challenges in the tourism sector which can often lead to opportunistic solutions. We hope to see new ideas for events and activities that will further promote Midlothian to visitors as well as develop collaborations with the businesses in attendance to realise increased trade.

Our Priorities

Action	Due Date	Performance Indicator & Target	Ownership
Social Enterprise Development: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with communities to identify service gaps or community ideas suited to the social enterprise model. • Support the development of new models via Business Gateway and MVA 	6 Month Review: November 2022 End date: March 2023	No of community events held Target: 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Midlothian Council Economic Development team. • Midlothian Voluntary Action • Third sector Partners
Employer Engagement Surgeries: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to employability initiatives • Access to training opportunities for staff • Business Gateway support 	6 Month Review: November 2022 End date: March 2023	No of sessions held Target: 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Midlothian Council Economic Development team. • Midlothian Council CLLE team. • DWP • Skills Development Scotland • Capital City Partnership • Access to Work
Tourism Roundtable Events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MTF membership offer for businesses to share collectively, or individually, challenges and opportunities to access support at early stage. 	6 Month Review: November 2022 End date: March 2023	No of sessions held Target: 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Midlothian Council Economic Development/Business Gateway team. • Midlothian Tourism Forum

Housing

Who we are

Our vision is that individuals and families will be able to access housing that is affordable and of good quality in sustainable communities.

We provide housing and homeless services working to support people in the community to alleviate homelessness, increase access to housing across a mix of tenures, support independent living and promote tenancy sustainment to support the wellbeing of our customers and sustainment of our communities.

There continues to be a substantial demand for affordable housing across Midlothian despite the success achieved at significantly increasing the new supply of affordable housing. To address this the supply of new affordable housing across all tenures needs to increase.

We continue to work on supporting our most vulnerable households who are affected by homelessness through our Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan (RRTP). Our vision for the Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan is that by 2024: “An increased number of homeless households will obtain permanent accommodation, no homeless household will be accommodated in bed and breakfast accommodation, and the average time taken for the Council to complete its homeless duty will have halved from 105 to 52 weeks.”

What the data tells us

There continues to be high demand for affordable housing.

- the level of housing need has increased with 4,363 households on the Housing List (01/02/2022) including 706 homeless households.
- to address this rapid increase in housing need the supply of new affordable housing across all tenures needs to increase.
- Midlothian’s Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP) 2021- 26 identifies the main strategic investment priorities for affordable housing. The SHIP details potential sites for 2,446 new affordable homes to be built during 2022-27 and the approach to promoting affordable housing investment and meeting housing supply targets identified in the Strategic Development Plan for Edinburgh and South East Scotland.

What the consultation told us

The feedback from the Community Planning Partnership Conference 2021, indicated that there was a strong consistent focus on ensuring fewer households live in, or at risk of, fuel poverty and that the supply of new affordable housing increases across all tenures in Midlothian. These continue to be key priorities for Midlothian residents which has been the case for some years. These two themes are closely aligned to the Council’s Local Housing Strategy, 2021-26 aims and actions.

Feedback from the conference also highlighted that communities want to feel connected to the services being provided by the Council. Housing Service will continue to work with local people, through our Tenant Participation activities and our Tenants’ Satisfaction Survey to ensure we are providing opportunity for local communities to provide feedback on services and contribute to the shaping of future services.

What will be achieved and how will Midlothian's future look different?

The actions set out in the plan contribute to Midlothian's Local Housing Strategy's strategic vision that:

"All households in Midlothian will be able to access housing that is affordable and of good quality in sustainable communities."

Housing plays a crucial role in the everyday lives of many people in Midlothian. This includes addressing homelessness, maximising access and availability of housing advice services, tackling poverty, and improving health and wellbeing.

Through the outcomes of the plan we want to work to ensure that everyone can access services through the delivery of high quality housing, support and advice services.

By aiming to increase the number of single people and families who access our advice services, at an early stage, we hope to support and prevent homelessness where possible. This not only helps promote individual wellbeing but also supports us in achieving sustainability within our communities.

The level of housing across all tenures in Midlothian is increasing and working with partners we are able to provide higher numbers of affordable, warm and accessible housing that meets individual needs over the course of their lives. We continue to work to ensure our housing stock is responsive and flexible enough to respond to the changing needs of our communities and the people who live in them.

Our Priorities

Action	Due Date	Performance Indicator & Target	Ownership
1. Ensure households, including the private sector, are supported to access a wide range of housing advice	31/3/23	Number of advice and assistance cases Current baseline: 821 (A&A cases between 1 st Mar 21 and 28 th Feb 22) Target: 1000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MC Housing
2. Increasing the number of housing advice cases where homelessness was prevented	6 month review: Nov 2022 End date: 31/3/23	% of prevented cases Baseline: 44% (1 st Mar 21 and 28 th Feb 22) Target: 55%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MC Housing
3. Provide more social housing - taking account of local demand, including specialist housing - in partnership between the Council, Registered Social Landlords and private developers.	31/3/23	Number of new homes completed, including specialist housing Target: 300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MC Housing RSL's Developers
4. Increase the number of households accessing energy saving or fuel poverty advice and assistance schemes.	31/3/23	Number of households accessing advice. Target: 150	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MC Housing Changeworks

COMMUNICATING CLEARLY

We are happy to translate on request and provide information and publications in other formats, including Braille, tape or large print.

如有需要我們樂意提供翻譯本，和其他版本的資訊與刊物，包括盲人點字、錄音帶或大字體。

Zapewnimy tłumaczenie na żądanie oraz dostarczymy informacje i publikacje w innych formatach, w tym Braillem, na kasecie magnetofonowej lub dużym drukiem.

ਅਸੀਂ ਮੰਗ ਕਰਨ ਤੇ ਖੁਸ਼ੀ ਨਾਲ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਅਤੇ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਤੇ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪ ਵਿੱਚ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਸ਼ਨ ਪ੍ਰਦਾਨ ਕਰਾਂਗੇ, ਜਿਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਬਰੇਲ, ਟੇਪ ਜਾਂ ਵੱਡੀ ਛਪਾਈ ਸ਼ਾਮਲ ਹਨ।

Körler için kabartma yazılar, kaset ve büyük nüshalar da dahil olmak üzere, istenilen bilgileri sağlamak ve tercüme etmekten memnuniyet duyarız.

اگر آپ چاہیں تو ہم خوشی سے آپ کو ترجمہ فراہم کر سکتے ہیں اور معلومات اور دستاویزات دیگر شکلوں میں مثلاً بریل (تایما افراد کے لیے ابھرے ہوئے حروف کی لکھائی) میں، ٹیپ پر یا بڑے حروف کی لکھائی میں فراہم کر سکتے ہیں۔

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