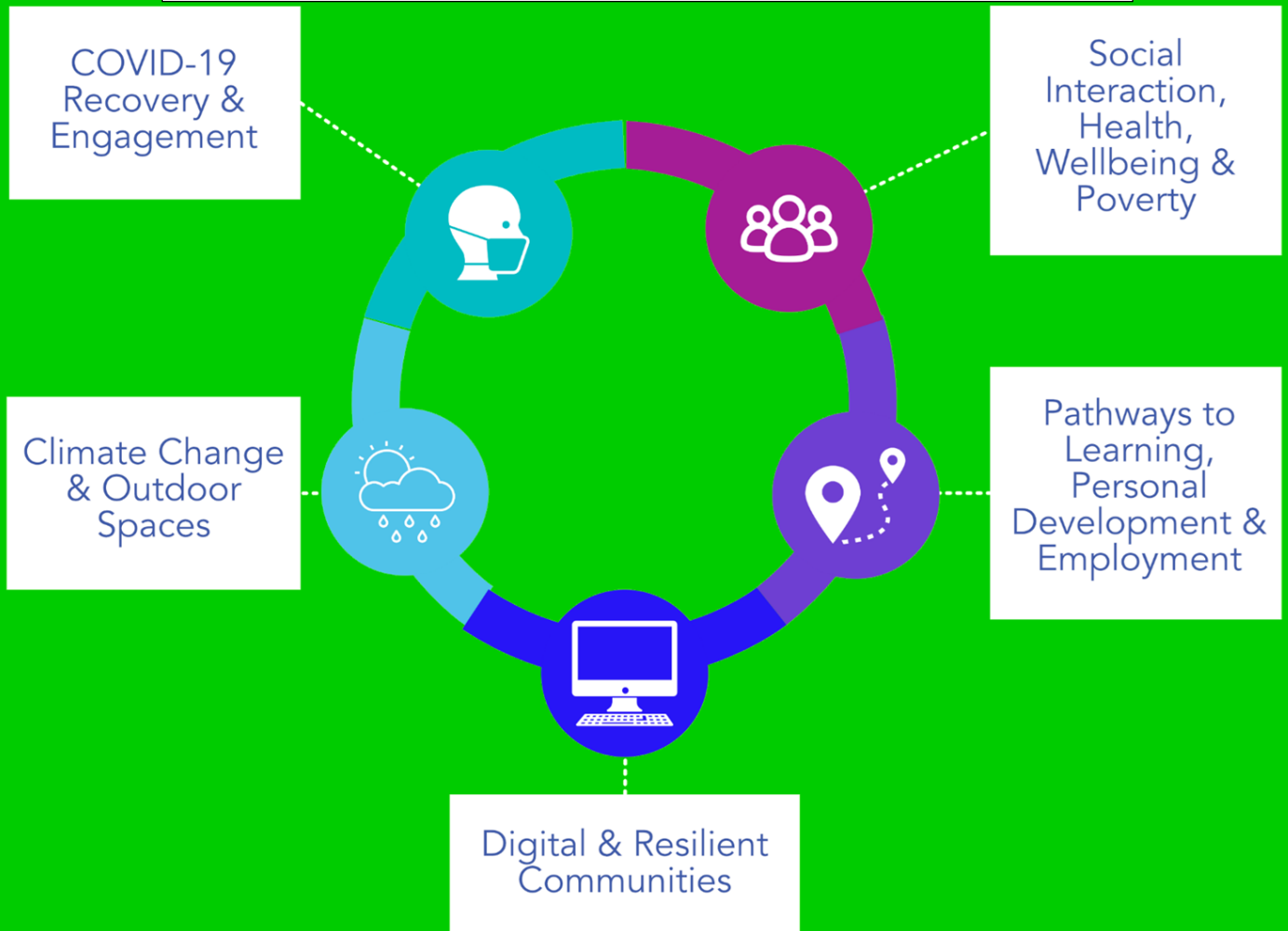


Midlothian Partnership Community Learning and Development Strategy and Action Plan September 2021 to September 2024

Progress Report Year 2, September 2022 to September 2023



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Background and Information

Welcome to our year 2 progress update report focussed on learning, development, and qualifications in the community of Midlothian, for all age groups.

This links to our three-year strategic plan that was produced by the Community Planning Partners to set out the steps we will take together to provide the best support we can to build community capacity, resources and increase skills for learning, life, and work. Currently we have just completed year 2 of the three-year plan 2021/2024.

CLD focuses on early intervention, prevention and tackling inequalities to:

- Improve the life chances of all ages, including young people, through learning, personal development, and active citizenship.
- Build stronger, more resilient, supportive, influential, and inclusive communities.

CLD activities can include:

- **work with children, young people, and families**
- **Community based adult learning**, including adult literacy and numeracy, English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) and family learning.
- **Third sector delivery** of community-based activities
- **Learning for vulnerable and disadvantaged groups**, for example those with disabilities, care leavers, offenders
- **Volunteer development**
- **Community development** to build the capacity of communities to meet their own needs.
- **Employability** support and programmes delivered in a variety of settings.

The learning and development in our community plan includes the work of Midlothian Council, the Third Sector Interface (TSI) and other community planning partners such as public health.

Our plan set out how we would:

- Support the development of staff and volunteers through excellent training and personal development opportunities.
- Support services and community groups to become more resilient for the future.
- Gather more views to influence the CLD partnership offer for future years.
- Increase the number of people who can take part by removing barriers to participation.
- Increase digital participation.
- Promote a strong focus on prevention, early intervention and reducing inequalities.
- Improve opportunities for good health and wellbeing through joint working, grant funding and use of outdoor spaces.
- Provide a mixed learning offer - online, blended and face to face.
- Support young people, adults, and families to improve their life chances through the development of skills for learning, life, and work.

- Enhance our shared partnership endeavour by further embedding the Compact Track values in our work.
- Assist communities to meet local needs and develop their capacity including the effective use of volunteers.
- Increase the voice of learners and citizens to influence improvement in learning and development in our community.
- Make innovative use of outdoor spaces.
- Support communities to recover from Covid19.

In year one of the plan, we produced an annual progress report for 21/22.

This year two annual progress report 22/23 provides evidence that there has been very good progress made working in partnership to implement the Community Learning and Development Plan for 2021 to 2024.

**Armed Forces
Community
Covenant**

**Faith
Communities
Partnership**

**Poverty
Prevention**

**Research &
Information**

**Neighbourhood
Planning**

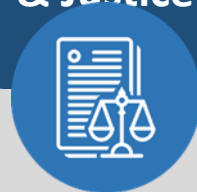
**Priority
Areas**

**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

Groups:

Economy
Biodiversity
Tourism
Penicuik TSI
Access Forum
Housing Strategy & Homeless Review
Housing Association
Fair Trade
South East Scotland Planning (SESPLAN)
Green Network
Small businesses
Edinburgh Science Zone
Easter Bush
Borders Railway
Edinburgh City Deal
Penicuik Business Improvement District

How are we doing?

The report is separated into sections to show how we are achieving our actions in each area. We have included progress towards our targets, feedback from people who have used our services and case studies.

- We have met our target.

- We have not met our target this year but are on track to meet the 3-year target

- We have not been able to meet our target.

There has been Very Good progress made working in partnership to implement the Community Learning and Development Plan for 2021 to 2024. From our collective scrutiny and tracking we can report there are:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No areas have been tracked as red in 22/23 compared to 1 in 21/22
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	10 areas have been tracked as amber in 22/23 and will be progressed further in year 3 compared to 13 in 21/22
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	23 areas are tracked as green in 22/23 and very good progress has been made over the last two years, compared to 20 in 21/22.

In 2023/24 we will focus on sustaining the current levels and achievements, although with reduced funding. We will work in partnership to further refine, build capacity, or expand our work in relation to:

- Climate Change
- Digital Inclusion
- Child Poverty and Cost of Living Crisis
- Employability including Foundation and Modern Apprenticeships
- Secure additional resources to offer programmes, projects, and qualifications to build skills for learning, life, and work.
- Improving outcomes with communities.

COVID-19 Recovery and Engagement

Over the last year (Sept 22 – Sept 23) partners have continued to work well to attract existing and new participants to provision following the pandemic. We have been able to widen our learning and community development offer by securing funding from UK Shared Prosperity, No One Left Behind, Scottish Government and other external providers of grants. This is within the context of a £250,000 reduction of budget to the Core Funding for Communities, Lifelong Learning and Employability (CLLE), Midlothian Council. As a partnership we have sustained our recovery in terms of the number of local people we have reengaged in our activities. CLLE (Midlothian Council) have reached 70% of the total number of people they used to work with prior to the pandemic.



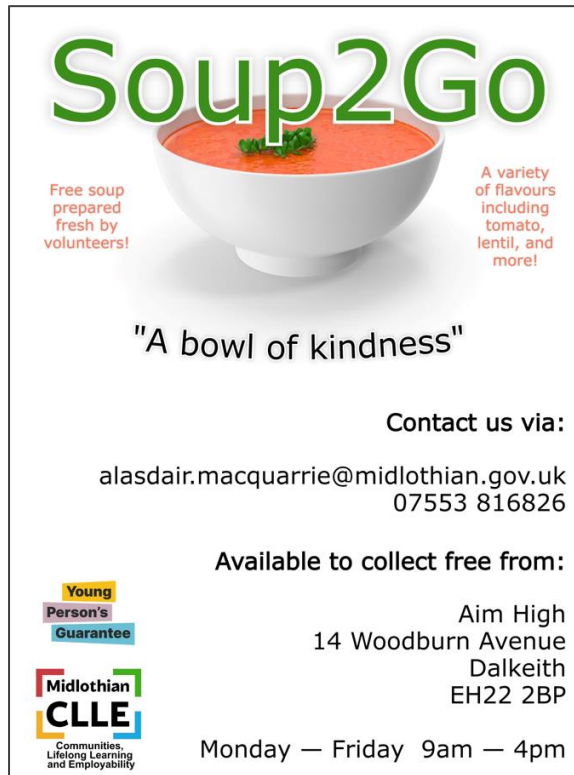
No areas require focused attention.



1 area requires to be developed further over the next year.



8 areas have made very good progress in working towards engaging with a similar number of local people and offer a range of activities similar to pre covid levels.



Soup2Go

Free soup prepared fresh by volunteers!

A variety of flavours including tomato, lentil, and more!

"A bowl of kindness"

Contact us via:
 alasdair.macquarrie@midlothian.gov.uk
 07553 816826

Available to collect free from:

Young Person's Guarantee

Aim High
 14 Woodburn Avenue
 Dalkeith
 EH22 2BP



Midlothian CLLE
 Communities, Lifelong Learning and Employability





Monday — Friday 9am — 4pm









Soup to Go Social Enterprise and Employment



A group of young people developed a social enterprise and pitched their ideas to Business Gateway. Their ideas developed the “Soup2Go” social enterprise with a plan to batch cook soup, portion it up, freeze it and make it available free of charge for collection by the community from our Aim High office in Woodburn. Through this project, the young people have developed their interests, skills and talents across a range of areas including marketing, digital and food hygiene. The group will progress to achieve their REHIS Level 5 and an SQA Enterprise and Employability Award that will tie in with the skills they are developing and enable those interested in finding out more about entrepreneurship. The group thrives on peer support, one of the members has successfully applied for a part time job at HMV while still enthusiastically volunteering for the Soup2Go social enterprise.

Engagement levels returns to 2019 levels over a three-year period. Below is the progress made in year two of the CLD Plan (Sept 22 to Sept 23)

Area	Indicator	Progress Against Annual Target	Our Progress
	<p>Increase engagement with CLLE by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - co-designing opportunities with learners - promote opportunities effectively. - work in partnership with libraries - increase provision for ESOL. 	<p>6,457 CLLE learners engaged, exceeded target for 22/23.</p>	<p> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> </p>
	<p>Increase the number of children and adults participating in family learning and pilot family learning opportunities in new subject areas for example data skills</p>	<p>Overall 431 individuals took part in CLLE family learning, 202 were adults, target of 290 exceeded.</p> <p>New Active Schools/CLLE family Learning Partnership created, 89 adults and young people participated.</p> <p>CLLE summer family learning programme was particularly successful with 215 individuals taking part.</p>	<p> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> </p>

Area	Indicator	Progress Against Annual Target	Our Progress
	<p>Listen to views of learners to inform services by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct needs analysis surveys. - Consult with young people. - Involve young people on decision making funding panels - Involve young people in the co-design of Community Planning Day. 	<p>Young People attended and presented at the Community Planning Conference Nov 22 directly influencing Community Planning Priorities.</p> <p>Midlothian Youth Platform and the Young Champs have influenced the evidence report for Midlothian Local Development Plan 2.</p> <p>Nearly 800 young people told us what youth work they wanted where and when including the identification of barriers to participation.</p> <p>Young people participated in employability grants.</p> <p>The Third Sector facilitated a “Moving Forward” Funding Event, 56 participants attended.</p>	
	<p>Increase youth activities relating to volunteering, mental health, physical activities, and youth clubs and after school activities.</p>	<p>159 Transform volunteering sessions (Supported & Supervised volunteering for 15–25-year-olds) were delivered.</p> <p>SQA in Volunteering Skills has been delivered to over 25 young people on the school roll at Newbattle, Beeslack and Lasswade High.</p>	

Area	Indicator	Progress Against Annual Target	Our Progress
	Identify positive physical spaces for young people that promote wellbeing	Through the first and second stage young people identified that they would most like to test a youth wellbeing space in Midlothian. This involved co-designing an open space for young people that is timetabled with a mix of activities, individual support and opportunities to relax through the mental health lottery system change project for young people. £835,000 over a series of years.	
	Maintain targeted provision for vulnerable young people including those with care experience	CLLE Midlothian Council directly support work with the Champions Board, Young Carers Project, Champs and Mini Champs Group, Our new project offered Paid Summer 2023 Work Experience for Care Experienced Young People. Queen Margaret University and Newbattle Abbey College and Edinburgh College have been supporting vulnerable young people to access programmes.	
	Increase the number of CLLE learners from 40% SIMD most deprived areas	2,307 learners engaged; the target was exceeded but less than the previous year.	
	Increase access to Edinburgh College Midlothian Campus for CLD activity by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Joint and Direct delivery from the campus 	7 opportunities offered including Baby Buddies, PDA youth work, HNC Working with Communities and Introduction to Health & Social Care.	

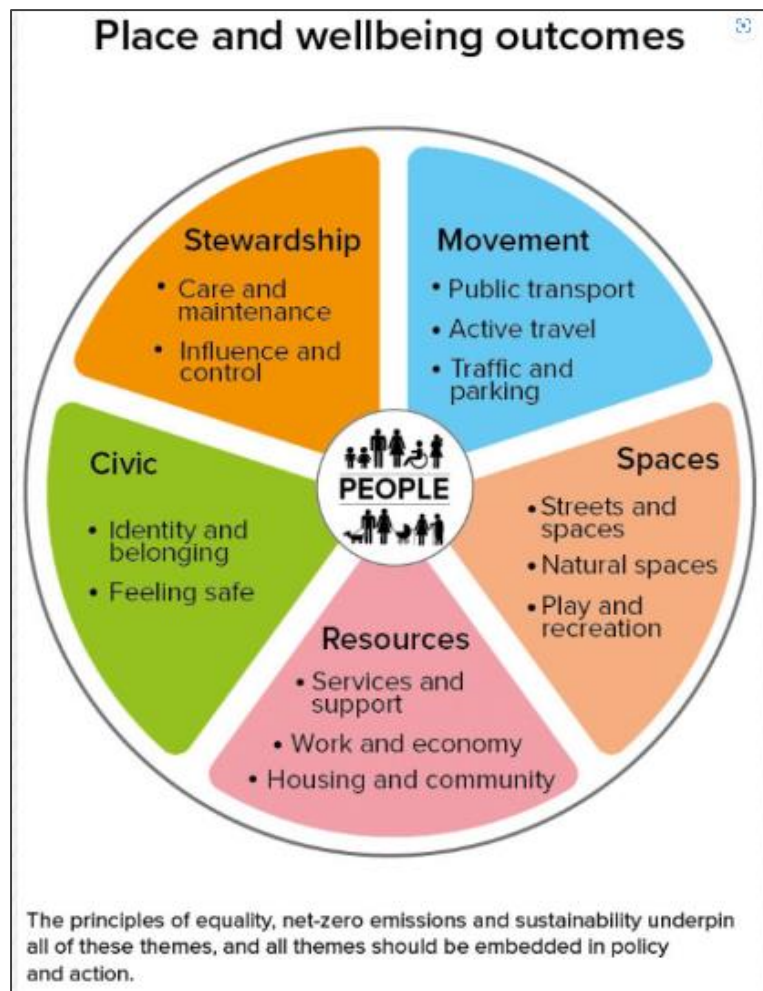
Area	Indicator	Progress Against Annual Target	Our Progress
<p>-</p> 	<p>Increase take up of College courses by Midlothian Residents affected by Covid19 through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide skills boost courses, - Provide introduction to college courses. - Provide commercial courses. 	<p>Exceeded target of 2,088 and achieved 3,773 (21/22) and 4,566 in 22/23 (922 full time, 3,644 not full time).</p> <p>Under 16 - 1,814, 16 to 17 years - 707, 18 to 19 years - 411, 20 to 24 years - 357).</p> <p>1,284 indicate they have disability .</p>	<p>Our Progress</p> 

Community Groups and Third Sector are supported to build capacity, secure funding and assets.

In Midlothian, like other areas in Scotland and the UK, we are experiencing challenges in relation to recruitment, funding, increased operating cost and service budget reductions in relation to Community Learning and Development Activities. However, as a partnership we have worked together to successfully attract additional funding and resources.





No areas require further focused attention although funding is a concern therefore a Strategic Funding Risks Insight Paper is being compiled for the Community Planning Partnership Board.



Between September 2022 and September 2023, the Third Sector Interface, CLLE Midlothian Council and other partners have worked very well in partnership to attract both financial resources and external expertise to Midlothian.

This has included:

- Gaining extra staff and expertise through Shaping Places for Wellbeing programme to improve place and wellbeing outcomes.
- Managing the mental health and wellbeing fund
- Co-writing the UK Shared Prosperity investment plan resulting in £3,558,662 for Midlothian Communities for 2023-25.
- Co-writing the Employability No One Left Behind Plan attracting £1.3 million.
- Midlothian Surestart, in partnership with Midlothian Council, were successful in their application to the Child Poverty Practice Accelerator Fund to influence system change through peer researchers and lived experience.

Area	Indicator	Progress Against Target	Our Progress
	<p>Support Community groups to build capacity, secure funding and assets</p>	<p>Exceeded target of 40 and achieved 82 CLLE supports for community groups and 35 community groups supported by MVA.</p> <p>Successful distribution of £250,000 Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund. Those with lived experience were on the decision making panel.</p> <p>A collaborative approach between CLLE, TSI and Economic Development was successful in securing £3.1 million from UK Shared Prosperity funding which local groups will directly benefit from.</p>	

Social Interaction, Health, Wellbeing & Poverty

Very good progress has been made in terms of the community learning and development partnership opportunities offered over the last year. Significant work has been undertaken on child poverty and is a key priority for the Community Planning Partnership, although this continues to be a challenge with the cost-of-living crisis.



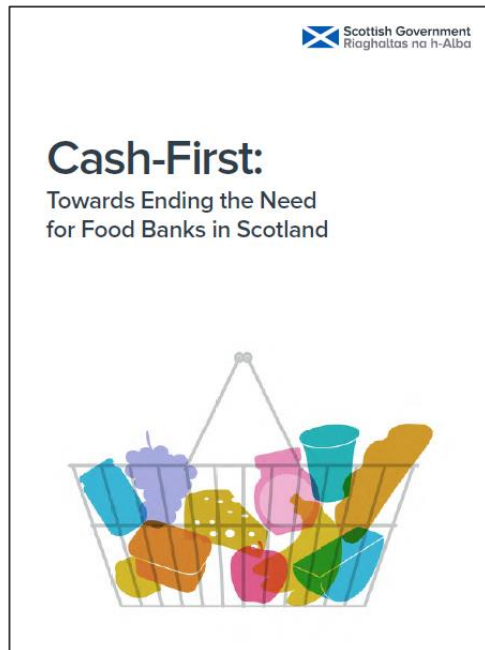
No areas require focused attention although child poverty and the Cost-of-Living Crisis remain a top priority.



4 areas including food, finance and the diabetes system change pilot require sustained focused action over the next year.



5 areas have made very good progress.
















Trusted Partners – Reducing Poverty – Cash First

15 organisations applied for Local Authority Covid Economic Recovery Funding (LACER) funding to give cash for food and fuel to those most in need using a CLD partnership approach.





“If insults and verbal abuse was visible to the human eyes, I am that living example. Imagine being with someone who controls your existence and manipulates you. Living with someone who dictates and has to approve everything you do. You think the payment you gave me today may be small, but its impact has been so big. I am so overwhelmed. I have experienced choice today. I am so, so, so, so grateful.”

Health and Wellbeing

Area	Indicator	Progress Against Targets	Our Progress
	<p>Increase the number of health and wellbeing courses through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Forest College and other courses at Newbattle Abbey College including prescribe nature courses. - Creating a variety of opportunities delivered by CLLE 	<p>18 CLLE health and wellbeing courses delivered exceeding the 5 per year target.</p> <p>73 (22/23) Midlothian residents enrolled at Newbattle Abbey College, with approximately 30 visitors per week to the grounds</p>	
	<p>Increase people's confidence in preparing healthy food and managing their finances by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Offering courses in financial management and healthy eating 	<p>7 courses offered, year one, 3 courses offered year two target 5 per year.</p>	
	<p>Improve Young People's capacity to promote positive mental health by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish Youth funding panel and deliver youth led Test of Change 	<p>Young People have co-designed a youth safe space where young people could promote wellbeing, as part a youth led test of change.</p>	
	<p>Increase Older People's level of physical activity by:</p>	<p>27,153 people attend Ageing Well activities, target was 20,000</p>	

Area	Indicator	Progress Against Targets	Our Progress
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Work with Ageing Well 		
	<p>Increase number of people supported by Weight Management Programmes: By developing a whole systems approach to Type II Diabetes Prevention Pilot in Mayfield and Easthouses.</p>	Funding secured and Pilot Underway.	
	<p>Support community development projects with a focus on mental health through grant funding operated by MVA.</p>	27 organisations funded.	
	<p>Increase support for people after a bereavement by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training staff - Promoting and maintaining information on local and national support. 	Staff trained, website operational https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/bereavement	

Number of Households Living in Poverty Reduced

Area	Indicatr	Progress Against Annual Target	Our Progress
	<p>Improve family’s financial circumstances by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Barnardo’s Together for Positive Change Service supported 15 families from Sept 22 to Sept 23 - Parental employability support fund 	<p>15 families received intensive support from Barnardo’s.</p> <p>148 parents have accessed the CLLE Parental Employability Project funded by Scottish Government. 40 of those parents new to accessing the service. (figures based on August 22 to September 2023).</p>	
	<p>Achieve the statutory income-based targets from the Child Poverty Act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Less than 10% of children in relative poverty. - Less than 5% of children in absolute poverty. - Less than 5% of children are in combined low-income and material deprivation. - Less than 5% of children are in persistent poverty 	<p>23.9% (19/20) of children in relative poverty in Midlothian now 22.7% (21/22).</p> <p>Underway:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New dedicated reducing poverty theme of community planning created. • Cash First Approach sustained in partnership with community organisations. • Food pantries extended. • Free community meals extended. • Strong leadership for cost of living established. • MFIN cost of living support directory. 	

Pathways to Learning, Personal Development & Employment

Very Good progress has been made in relation to Learning, Personal Development and Employment however we need to increase the success rates of those undertaking foundation apprenticeships, although some have left early and secured employment.



No areas require focused attention.







1 area focusing on Foundation and Modern Apprenticeships remains a priority to expand and sustain positive outcomes.









4 areas have made very good progress.



Employment, Learning and Qualifications

Area	Indicator	Progress Against Annual Target	Our Progress
	<p>Increase the number and level of qualifications people hold by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increasing number of courses offering qualifications - Provide 1:1 employability support. 	<p>Target of 750 qualifications exceeded.</p> <p>2,201 achieved, 500 people receive 1:1 employment support, 820 achieved, slightly less than the previous year.</p>	<p>Our Progress</p> 
	<p>Increase the number of young people who secure a positive destination by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support young people to secure a positive destination. - CLLE proactively door knock to support young people whose destination is unknown. - Operate a competitive funding round for Youth Guarantee funding/No One Left Behind Employability Funding 	<p>95.4% of young people (less than 100 people unknown).</p> <p>Youth guarantee funding distributed.</p>	<p>Our Progress</p> 

Area	Indicator	Progress Against Annual Target	Our Progress
	<p>Operate CLLE Foundation and Modern Apprenticeships</p> <p>FA Level 4 Automotive, Hospitality and Construction FA Level 5 Construction and Hospitality FA Level 6 Business Skills, Social Services and Health Care/Children Young People 22/23 CLLE supported 128 Modern Apprentices</p>	<p>118 pupils started level 4, 5, 6 Foundation Apprenticeships, 77% completing. 27 left early - 3 early leavers secured an apprenticeship, 8 secured employment, one went to college and 7 returned to school.</p> <p>CLLE supported 128 apprentices with achievement rate of 72.34%</p>	
	<p>Increase the number of Saltire Awards</p>	<p>Target exceeded, 266 Saltire registrations.</p>	
	<p>Support All Age Employability Participants including Parents through Scottish Government No One Left Funding to Secure Employment, Qualifications or progress on their employability journey.</p>	<p>292 individuals supported with 49 securing employment.</p>	

Digital and Resilient Communities of the Future

Good progress has been made overall in Years 1 and 2 of the Plan however in Year 3 we wish to increase focus and activity in this area and as a result have produced a more detailed partnership digital action plan with four key actions:

- Delivery of digital learning activities.
- Supporting digital inclusion.
- Sustainability.
- Digital upskilling for staff and volunteers.



No area requires recovery actions.



3 areas including digital skills, digital access and funding require further work therefore a specific partnership focus is being developed as described above.



No areas are fully completed in relation to being digital and resilient.



Communities, Lifelong Learning and Employability

National Progression Award PC Passport provides learners with up-to-date knowledge and skills in a range of popular IT software, such as MS office. Learners will improve skills in key areas such as word processing, spreadsheets, and presentation software, preparing them for employment and further study.





“I was out of the office environment for 3 years and had anxiety about going back into a new role with all the changes and advancement facing me when I was delighted to see The PC Passport course advertised by Parental Employability Support.

I was delighted to be accepted to attend on a Thursday night. After 4 months dedication and the wonderful support of Laura the tutor I am now confident in my new administration role. I am creating presentations for the department and getting amazing feedback on them, I am using spreadsheets on a daily basis and confident with using word and showing others how to use the cloud for saving and sharing documents.



Not only have I built my confidence, secured a new role during that time I have also gained SQA Qualifications. I would highly recommend this course.

Thank you, Midlothian Council,”

Increase access to digital learning opportunities.

Area	Indicator	Our Annual Target	Our Progress
	<p>Increase people's digital skills by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supporting people in 1-2-1 and group work settings for example through connect online. - Developing pathways for improving digital skills (from basic to FE/HE) - Improving signposting to digital opportunities - Raising awareness of assistive technology - Using ICT in libraries 	<p>Connect Online, 147 learners and volunteers participated.</p> <p>CLLE have delivered 4 digital skills courses.</p> <p>Midlothian Digital Steering Group Action Plan produced.</p>	
	<p>Increasing number of people who have access to a suitable device and are able to connect online by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Digital Steering Group will engage with Connecting Scotland and other initiatives to distribute devices to individuals. - Improving information on accessing devices. - Developing lending libraries of devices 	<p>Lending library expanded through Connect Online.</p>	

Improve skills, knowledge and resources of Third Sector Organisations and volunteers

Area	Indicator	Our Annual Target	Our Progress
	Sustain support to small local community groups to apply for funding and co-design and operate the 3-year large and small grants schemes from Midlothian Council.	3-year Council grants operate till end of March 2025. Small Grants were deleted from the Council Budget in 22/23.	

Climate Change & Outdoor Spaces

Although good progress has been made it is vital that our focus on climate change does not waver due to the size and scale of the issues and impact. Therefore, this remains a key area for focused attention in relation to climate change volunteering and securing climate change funding secure for Midlothian. However, we do now have a dedicated climate officer from Scottish Government funding to push forward climate change hubs.



No areas require focused attention.



2 areas require further attention over the next year volunteer opportunities linked to climate change and staff resources both will be improved with the climate change work and additional staffing.



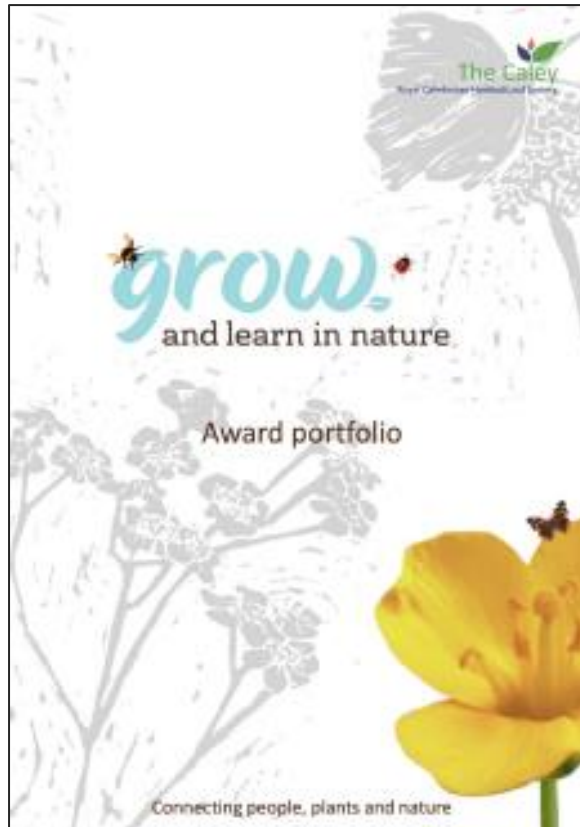
2 areas are making very good progress these include securing funding for climate change action and making more use of the outdoors for building skills for learning, life and work.

Learning in the Outdoors – Duke of Edinburgh – Improving skills for learning, life and work







You have no idea what it means to be able to go to Holyrood Palace to collect my Gold Award, I have ASN. My Mum and Dad are so proud of what I have achieved. I loved the Gold Expedition as in previous expeditions I had to have 1-2-1 adult supervision. The Gold award I was able to manage my own medication and behaviour with the help of my group. We all set alarms on our watches for when I needed to take my medication and they watched me take it and then text Paul to tell him it was done. I have now volunteered to help the Newbattle Open Group as an adult helper so I can help people like me. I can't stop talking about this, the Gold Residential was a buzz as we were doing Environmental work with the local Ranger. Being able to clear and repair paths, wildflower beds, cut down all the looping branches and make wildlife habitats with them and repair local cycle routes to keep cyclist of the busy roads. It was great fun even with the people from Penicuik who I did not know at the time. This has given me more self-confidence and belief that I can achieve anything.






Climate Change in Action



The Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society Grow and Learn in Nature Awards Family Learning

“We only use peat free compost as the children have been learning about carbon emissions, we spoke about why it is so important they said, “peat is not good to use, should stay in the ground”. We have also invested in a compost bin to make our own compost for future use. During a gardening session we spoke about feeding the soil as the plants take the goodness out to grow and these needs replaced to allow more to grow, we only use environmentally friendly fertiliser, using fish blood, bone & marrow in our planters.

Area	Indicator	Our Annual Target	Our Progress
	<p>Increase access to resources for staff, volunteers and community groups to run climate change sessions and create an information hub by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training sessions for staff and volunteer groups 	<p>MVA were successful in securing £10,000 for Damhead Community Council and Penicuk Community Development Trust to secure expert support to produce Climate Action Plans</p> <p>MVA also produced a community briefing dedicated for climate action week</p>	
	<p>Increase climate change volunteering opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 	<p>Created Community Board Volunteer Climate Change Champion Role, River Fly Volunteers continuing and trained the Council Rangers staff to train their volunteers in River Test Monitoring.</p> <p>Midlothian Climate Action Network established in 22/23 (MCAN) with volunteer membership and community groups</p>	

Area	Indicator	Our Annual Target	Our Progress
	<p>Secure funding for climate change projects</p>	<p>Climate Action Network funding for £75,000 year 1 and £120,000 year two has been submitted for staff and seed corn funding.</p> <p>Update Midlothian Climate Change Hub Funding Bid Successful.</p>	
	<p>Increase use of outdoor spaces for learning and community activities</p> 	<p>Summer Outdoor Family Learning, P7 Vogrie Country Park transition, Garden Project Dalkeith Country Park and Young Carers outdoor learning activities and Duke of Edinburgh. Croft Street Garden, Bike ability – Cycle Local.</p> <p>Sustained the Volunteer Midlothian Group Befriending outdoors.</p> <p>Volunteering Activities in 22/23 included Gardening at our Community Garden in Dalkeith</p>	

Area	Indicator	Our Annual Target	Our Progress
		<p>Country Park, Intergenerational Activities in Sheltered Housing (at Crystalmount & Whitehill Lodge in Dalkeith and Heinsberg house in Penicuik.</p> <p>One of the weekly Volunteering Activities Transform (Volunteer Midlothian) delivers is a Gardening opportunity. In addition to young volunteers, there are a few Adult Support Volunteers who help support the young people and take part in the garden development and maintenance. Approximately 15 volunteers have regularly engaged with the Gardening, developing confidence, skills, experience and improving their social connections and future ambition as a result.</p>	

Enhancing Our Workforce and Volunteer Skills

Good progress has been made in upskilling the workforce and volunteers through joint Continuous Professional Development progress across a range of areas however these need to be maintained and developed going forward. Key areas of sustained work include the Voluntary Sector Summits.



No areas require focused action.



1 area requires continued development in year 3 in relation to voluntary sector summits and being responsive to the current context.



1 area is on target and very good progress has been made on providing staff and volunteer development opportunities across the partnership.



Volunteer Midlothian

‘Using funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, Volunteer Midlothian has established an English-language Conversation Café at its volunteering hub in Dalkeith (The Salon.) Open to anyone who wants to improve their language skills, the café is led by volunteer facilitators and has attracted a wide range of participants from countries including Ukraine, Spain, Poland, Venezuela, Hong Kong and Turkey! Some of the café’s participants have now moved on to volunteering, and two of the participants are starting a craft group which will meet once a month. The café members recently ventured further afield with a very enjoyable trip to visit The Kelpies (pictured). The Conversation Café runs on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, 10-11.30am. Participants are welcome to drop in or can contact the TSI Office in advance on 0131 663 9471. ‘

A skilled and confident workforce including volunteers

Area	National Indicator	Our Annual Target	Our Progress
	<p>Staff and volunteers are confident in priority areas by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Delivering training and CPD - 	<p>16 training opportunities which includes 11 from TSI</p>	<p>Progress indicator: 3 boxes (2 white, 1 green)</p>
	<p>Identify opportunities for integrated working to support people to stay healthy and independent by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Voluntary Sector Summits 	<p>2 voluntary sector summits held in partnership with health and social care</p>	<p>Progress indicator: 3 boxes (1 white, 1 yellow, 1 white)</p>