



Community Planning Partnership Board Meeting

23rd October 2025 at 10.00am via Microsoft Teams

Present – Abigail Wardlaw, Fiona Kennedy, Fiona Robertson, Grace Vickers, Kelly Parry, Kevin Anderson, Nick Clater, Wendy Campbell, Craig Sheerin, Alison Cumming, Ann Stewart Kmicha, Julian Holbrook, Keith Fiskien, Lesley Kelly, Rona Edington, Jim Sherval, Elliot Whitson,

Apologies – Andrea McCann, Audrey Cumberland, Dave McCallum, Fiona Wright, Gill Main, Jamie Bell, Karen Craib, Lynsey Davidson, Michael Jeffrey, Morag Barrow, Murray McEwan, Penelope Curtis, Rebecca Hooton, Roddy Henry, Susan Webb

Agenda Item	Minutes	Action
Approval of minutes	The board approved previous meeting minutes All approved / no matters arising	
Action Log	Anette Lang provided a summary of the action log, noting that the Economic Development 2025 update on key aspects of the business gate will be added to the December agenda alongside SMP reporting. The Citizen Panel Survey is progressing, with Engage Scotland appointed to establish Adult and Youth panels by April 2026. The Community Planning Risk Register has been updated by AL and RS, with agreement for annual updates and distribution alongside the minutes. Southeast Scotland meetings continue to go well, involving East and West Lothian, Borders, Fife, and City of Edinburgh Councils, with NHS colleagues contributing valuable learning exchanges. The SESTRAN community fund remains ongoing and will be revisited in December. Transport updates are included later in this agenda, while the Good Food Nation initiative is advancing, with a draft report currently under review by the working group before consultation. Finally, the Climate Change Action Hub is also featured on today's agenda	

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Climate Action Hub Update	Abigail Wardlaw, Hub Manager for the Midlothian Climate Action Hub, provided an update on current activities. The Hub is working with 54 members across the association and focuses on four key areas: biodiversity, food, energy, and reuse/share/repair. It is funded by the Scottish Government as part of a national programme comprising 24 hubs across Scotland. The Seedcorn Fund, which launched earlier this year, has already distributed £15,000 in small grants to support local initiatives.	
CPWG Update	Lesley Kelly provided an update from the Community Planning Working Group (CPWG), summarising progress across the three sub-groups. The resettlement group continues to support asylum seekers arriving in Midlothian, with 20 active properties and an additional 49 in procurement, which will provide 189 bedspaces. The trauma informed practice group reported a successful first trauma awareness session. Funding concerns were raised including the UK Government's Pride of Place funding distribution, noting that Midlothian did not receive support. Staff have expressed uncertainties around challenging behaviours and CPWG invited ideas on how to support staff in a changing environment. A short-life working group is reviewing severe weather information to reflect recent changes, such as increased storm warnings. Councillor Parry expressed concerns about funding decisions and confirmed that feedback has been sent to government departments, though no response has been received yet. Annette Lang asked whether the Board would support an action to explore interagency training for staff on appropriate responses and challenging behaviours, and also raised the question of what a growing community should look like for Midlothian's youth population	

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Single Midlothian Plan Consultations	Annette Lang presented the plan for the consultations for the Single Midlothian Plan in 2026. The current plan finishes in March 2027, therefore planning and consulting on new plan needs to begin in January 2026. Some questions and points posed to the Board included: • How long would we like plan to be? Previously 4 years, no restriction on how long plan is to be. Currently have a 10 year vision which would take us to 2030. Do we wish to do a 3 year plan then move to 5 year plan onwards? • Next GIRFEC plan will run from 2026-2029, usual then falls into Single Midlothian Plan, consult early and put actions in however run one year out. • CLD partnership plan which is a statutory function of council to facilitate with partners runs until September 2027. • CJOIP commences in 2029 Other factors in terms of context, Scottish Parliament elections in May 2026. Local government elections May 2027. Some dates proposed for the next Community Planning Conference are: 29/30 September 1/6/7/8 October. Poll will be sent for preference on dates.	
Local Improvement Plans	Annette Lang provided an overview of the timeframe and plan on producing the Local Improvement Plans. The CP Board were in agreement with the proposed timeframe and localities.	
The opportunity of a polycrises approach – presentation by Wendy Campbell	Wendy Campbell, Climate Change Lead Officer, delivered a presentation on the importance of integrating climate considerations into core service delivery. She highlighted findings from regional consultations and stressed the need for a polycrisis approach in response to climate change impacts such as severe weather and biodiversity loss. New Scottish	

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(Climate Change Lead Officer)	Government guidance outlines statutory duties for public bodies around climate mitigation, adaptation, and sustainability. Success depends on cross-sector collaboration, organisational commitment to deep change, risk management, and co-creation. Wendy emphasised aligning work programmes, assessing impacts, and evaluating effectiveness to ensure meaningful progress.	
Transport Presentation by Wayne Clarke (Group Manager Roads and Transport) and Anna Herriman (Strategic Transport Planning Manager)	Wayne Clarke and Anna Herriman provided an overview of Midlothian’s transport strategy, which aims to reduce transport-based carbon emissions while supporting health and wellbeing. Key priorities include reducing unsustainable journeys, investing in active travel and public transport, supporting vibrant town centres, and creating liveable communities with access to employment, education, services, and green spaces. The strategy also focuses on improving network safety and ensuring accessibility in line with equalities legislation. A strategic transport planning team has been in place since 2023, and work is underway on a local transport strategy, including an active travel strategy and parking refresh. Delivery tactics include leveraging funding opportunities, collaborating regionally, and addressing transport poverty. Notably, £1.2M has been secured this year for active travel and bus infrastructure improvements.	
AOB	Nothing noted	

Date of next meeting :4th December 2025