2023
Midlothian TSI Outcomes Framework

Midlothian
Third Sector Interface

Table of Contents

Introduction

## Midlothian Third Sector Interface consists of :

The organisations work together in close partnership, sharing a Chief Officer and working out of the same office. Both Midlothian Voluntary Action and Volunteer Midlothian are independent charities, and the Social Enterprise Alliance Midlothian is a network of organisations.
This document outlines our goals and activities.

Midlothian

Midlothian is Scotland's fastest growing local authority with a record high population of 96,600 in 2022, up 16.1% from 2011. It is projected to have a higher household growth rate compared to the rest of Scotland between 2018 and 2028. The current population of Midlothian is characterized by a significant number of people aged 30 to 59 and those in the 0-15 age group, possibly due to the construction of new family homes. Midlothian Council area is divided into six wards, each represented by three Councillors.
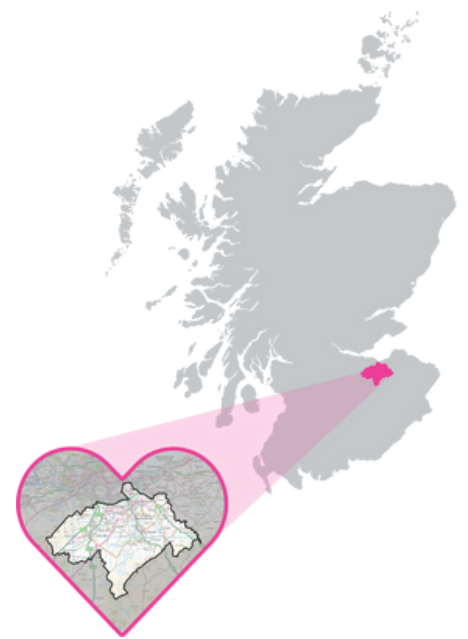
The local third sector in Midlothian is thriving, with over 500 formal groups or voluntary associations, including sports clubs, youth groups, and special interest organizations like art clubs and history societies. There are also around 270 registered charities based in Midlothian. As of 2019, there were 73 social enterprises in Midlothian, marking a 10% increase since 2017. This equates to approximately 8 social enterprises per 10,000 people in Midlothian and includes various organizations such as development trusts, housing associations, and childcare organizations. In the third sector, social care and health organizations employ more than half of all paid staff. According to the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) figures for 2022, out of the 3,220 people employed in Midlothian, 730 work for voluntary organizations.

More information can be found here.

Our Outcomes

1 People in Midlothian are more aware of volunteering and have access to a range of high quality, well supported volunteering opportunities in their local area.

2 Third Sector organisations have better access to information, and stakeholders are better informed about the successes and challenges of the Third Sector.

3 Third Sector organisations & volunteers are better able to have their voices heard in community planning.

4 Third Sector organisations have improved skills, resources and knowledge to work sustainably and achieve positive change.

5 The Third Sector's role in partnerships is strengthened.

6 Midlothian TSI is better placed to support Midlothian's third sector and to be able to respond effectively to changing circumstances within the sector.

Logic Model

ROLES/ AIMS

To be a central source of knowledge about:

- Third Sector locally, and national policy and how it might affect local TS communities and citizens.
- How the Third Sector can contribute to those agendas.

Voice
Ensuring a strong third sector voice at a strategic level within local planning structures and nationally.

Building Capacity
Promoting and developing the capacity of volunteering, community groups, voluntary organisations and social enterprises to increase their knowledge and implement best practice.

Connect
Providing leadership, vision and coordination to the local third sector to better respond to local priorities.

LOCAL SITUATION

Fastest growing local authority.

Semi-rural area with a number of small towns. 3 towns high on SIMD.

Demographics - growing young and older population.

Third sector made up of small TSOs

Good relationships with council and HSCP.

Strong representation of third sector in community planning.

ACTIVITIES

Volunteering drop-ins & promotion.

Recognition of importance of volunteering.

Information & intelligence.

Capacity Building.

Funding & sustainability work.

Advice.

Supporting enterprises.

Training.

Community planning.

Third sector forums.

Promoting improvement.

SHORT TERM OUTCOMES

1. People in Midlothian are more aware of volunteering and have access to a range of high quality, well supported volunteering opportunities in their local area.
2. Third sector organisations have better access to information, and stakeholders are better informed about the successes and challenges of the third sector.
3. Third sector organisations & volunteers are better able to have their voices heard in their community planning.
4. Third sector organisations have improved skills, resources and knowledge to work sustainably and achieve positive change.
5. Third sector's role in partnerships is strengthened.
6. Midlothian TSI is better placed to support Midlothian's third sector and to be able to respond effectively to changing circumstances within the sector.

MEDIUM TERM OUTCOMES

1. People are more involved in their community.
2. Improved cross sector collaboration.
3. Third sector organisations are better able to lead and develop shared agendas.
4. Third sector organisations are better able to respond to local need.
5. Key decision making includes third sector input.
6. Third sector organisations are better able to contribute to a strong and inclusive local social community.

NATIONAL PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK

We have a globally competitive, entrepreneurial, inclusive and sustainable economy.

We are open, connected and make a positive contribution internationally.

We tackle poverty by sharing opportunities, wealth and power more equally.

We grow up loved, safe and respected so that we can realise our full potential.

We have thriving and innovative businesses, with quality jobs and fair work for everyone.

We are healthy and active.

We value, enjoy, protect and enhance our environment.

We are creative and our vibrant and diverse cultures are enjoyed widely.

We respect, protect and fulfil human rights and live free from discrimination.

Assumptions: The third sector encompasses social enterprises, small community groups and voluntary organisations. Each have different support needs and link into different strategies. Volunteers are fundamental to thriving communities, and many organisations involve volunteers in delivering services Most third sector organisations contribute to the local economy in spending and employing staff TSIs are independent bodies and are able to use that to take a leadership role in challenging others. Good governance is the building block of an effective third sector and leads to continued public confidence.

External environment: Currently very difficult operating environment due to Brexit (staff shortages), Covid (impact on community and volunteering), high costs (inflation, Ukraine, fuel prices), increased demand for third sector services, and local government cuts.

Our Vision

Resilient and empowered communities creating a stronger, fairer, and more equitable Midlothian with a thriving Third Sector at its heart.
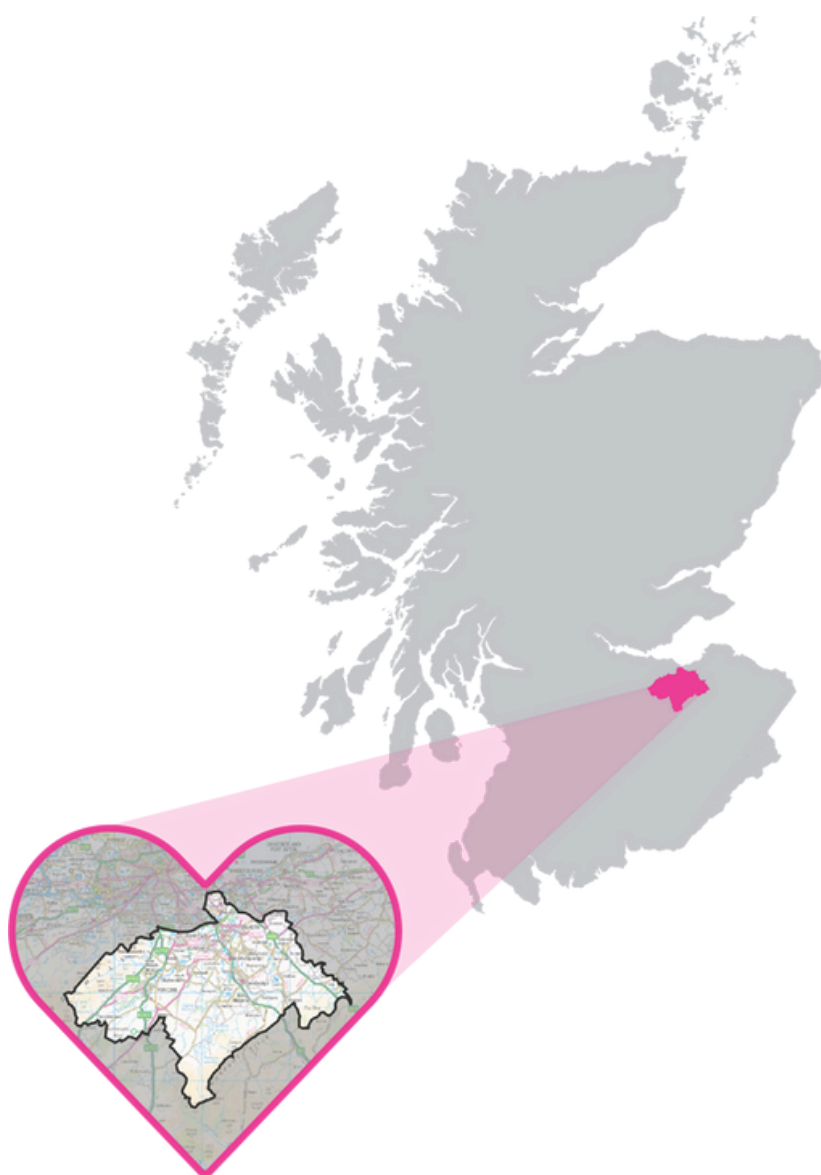
Our Boards

Our Boards are made up of local individuals with a wide range of skills and experience. The majority of the Board members are from the local community, and bring the skills they have gained in other community groups or voluntary organisations.

Our Buildings

The TSI has an office in a pedestrian precinct in the centre of Dalkeith. We have a small flexible office space, and a meeting room, which has full disabled access.

We recently took over the shop unit next door, which has become The Salon, a volunteering hub.