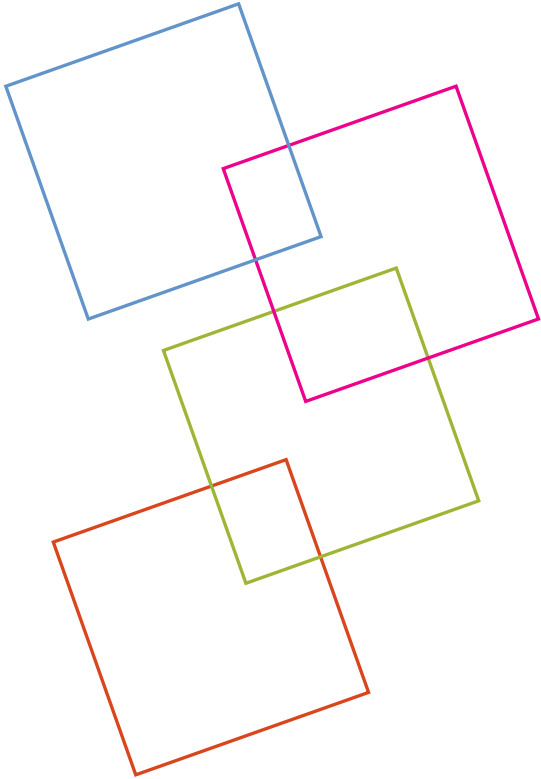


2017
2022

THE EAST LOTHIAN COUNCIL PLAN





The East Lothian Council Plan 2017–2022 continues the journey towards realising **our vision** for an even more prosperous, safe and sustainable East Lothian, with a dynamic and thriving economy, that enables our people and communities to flourish.

Building on our achievements, the plan focuses on the challenges and opportunities we face over the next five years.

Themes & objectives

Our overarching aim is '*reducing inequalities within and across our communities*'. The plan addresses four themes, each with a strategic goal, designed to make the biggest impact in our communities:

GROWING OUR **ECONOMY**

Reduce unemployment.
Improve the employability of East Lothian's workforce.

GROWING OUR **PEOPLE**

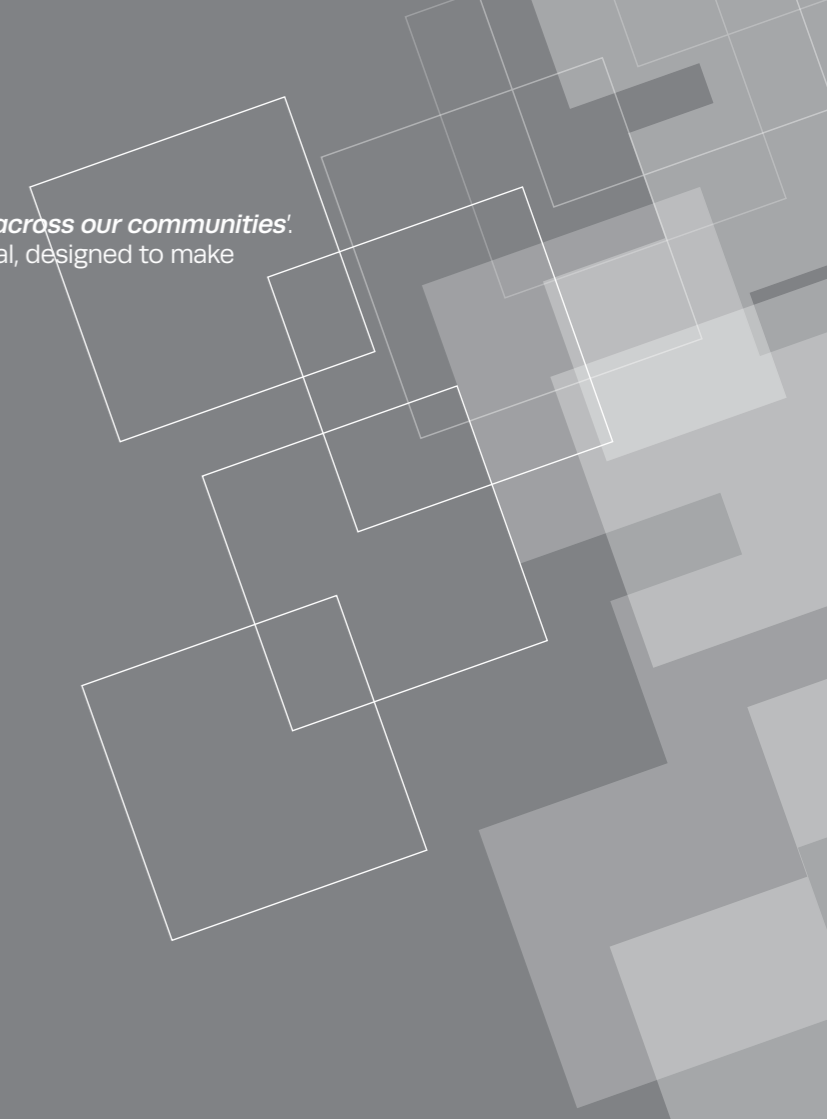
Reduce the attainment gap and raise the achievement of our children and young people.
Improve the life chances of the most vulnerable people in our society.

GROWING OUR **COMMUNITIES**

Extend community engagement and decision making.
Increase community and individual resilience.

GROWING OUR **CAPACITY**

Deliver transformational change.
Harness the opportunities technology offers in the provision of services.



Increasing sustainable and inclusive economic growth as the basis for a more prosperous East Lothian

Our Economic Development Strategy 2012–2022 will build on the success of key sectors such as food, drink and tourism, and take advantage of new opportunities, such as the City Region Deal.

The projected growth in population needs to be matched by growth in the local economy and local job opportunities to reduce unemployment, retain income within the county and sustain communities.

We will improve the employability of East Lothian's workforce by focusing on positive outcomes for school leavers and our young workforce – matching skills and knowledge with the needs of local businesses.

Increasing the skills and knowledge of our workforce, and developing new job opportunities will provide the best opportunity for reducing the impact of 'in-work poverty'.

Giving our children the best start in life and protecting vulnerable and older people

We remain committed to giving our children and young people the best possible start in life and are investing in new or expanded schools. While attainment levels in our schools are mostly above the Scottish average we recognise the importance of raising this further.

We will provide services that give everyone the opportunity to live fulfilling, healthy, active and independent lives.

We will work towards a balance of care which provide enhanced quality of life for people in their own homes, and invest in early intervention to reduce the demand for more costly crisis intervention. We are committed to developing services that aim to reduce hospital admissions.

Giving people a say in decisions that matter most, providing housing, transport links, facilities and an environment that will allow them to flourish

We recognise the importance of meeting affordable housing needs, as well as supporting improved transport connectivity and infrastructure. New settlements or significant additions to existing communities should be accompanied by good transport links and the community infrastructure that make thriving communities.

We are planning investment in council housing, roads, parking improvements and in protection from coastal erosion and flooding. We will work with Area Partnerships, our community planning partners and the private sector.

growing our
CAPACITY

Delivering excellent services effectively and efficiently

To achieve our ambitious agenda we must deliver excellent services as effectively and efficiently as possible, within limited resources.

We will protect investment in key priority areas and frontline services. We will maximise our resources and introduce transformational change, such as developing digital services, for the benefit of local people.

Our plan is based on the understanding that East Lothian Council cannot address the diverse needs of our population on its own. At the heart is the concept that the council, the people, and communities of East Lothian can best deliver these solutions in partnership; *Working together for a better East Lothian*. Therefore, over the next five years, the lifetime of this plan, we will increasingly become:

- an enabling and empowering authority that works with its citizens and communities, the business and third sectors and other public sector partners to deliver the solutions that work best for East Lothian.
- a more entrepreneurial authority, developing new ways of ensuring services are provided in the most effective and efficient way possible;
- a digital authority, fully embracing and exploiting opportunities to use technology to deliver services.

East Lothian Council has an established a set of behaviours that will help drive continuous improvement towards meeting our plan objectives

These are known as **The East Lothian Way**

FOCUS ON SERVICE – putting the customer first, providing excellent customer service, and contributing to improvements in service.

EXPLORE THE BIGGER PICTURE – working together for a better East Lothian; understanding how our daily activities are linked to the Council's vision and priorities.

INITIATE SOLUTIONS – striving for excellence; taking personal responsibility and ownership to be effective in our jobs.

SHARE KNOWLEDGE – demonstrating regular and effective team working; being open and honest.

DELIVER OUTSTANDING RESULTS – taking responsibility and seeing tasks through to successful completion.

Our vision is for a prosperous, safe and sustainable East Lothian, with a dynamic and thriving economy that enables our people and communities to flourish.

Find us

www.eastlothian.gov.uk

 @ELCouncil  @EastLothianCouncil

East Lothian Council
John Muir House
Haddington
EH41 3HA

