

Creating a Fairer Future for Clackmannanshire

Annual Review 2022-2023



- **Third Sector Overview**
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Third Sector Overview

Vision:

Clackmannanshire has a vibrant and successful third sector that will help build wealth and health within communities through greater collaboration and partnership across sectors.

Mission:

Clackmannanshire Third Sector Interface will enable our members to help improve people's lives through thoughtful integrated service delivery and outcomes; a confident skilled workforce and voluntary management; and empowered places with increased active participation in our communities.

This year has seen greater integration of the third sector locally into the plans and developments of strategic partnerships, and in particular towards becoming a 'community wealth-building' nation. The third sector has been alive to this new direction and opportunities to work closely with partners to develop and deliver solutions, and new target operating models that will bring more community benefits locally.

This includes, for example providing childcare solutions to support the Family Wellbeing Partnership in Alloa South and East; pre-employability, adult learning and tackling poverty provision provided by a range of third sector organisations; and community approaches to support the new Climate Emergency Strategy from food-growing to furniture diversion. It also focuses on the strengths of local communities to meet the outcomes of the new Clackmannanshire and Stirling Health and Social Care Partnership Strategic Plan.

In light of the pressures brought about by the cost of living increases that started to emerge more seriously in Autumn 2022, our **Creating a Fairer Future for Clackmannanshire** strategy has been extremely important. This plan has five key areas of work enabling CTSI to use resources at its disposal, such as the Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund to focus on cost of living – enabling local groups to support people in crisis and volunteers to access financial help, as well as encourage the early adoption of fair work principles.

Our regular events like the Clacks Connect Funders' Fayre and the Forth Valley Third Sector Conference and our inaugural Trustees' Gathering which all returned to face-to-face in 2023 have also allowed opportunities for networking after Covid, and that has helped build back resilience in the sector.

Award-winning partnerships and consortium approaches include the Living Alloa project, Pre-employability in Clackmannanshire and the Forth Valley Social Enterprise Network Places Award. Together they demonstrate that innovation, regional approaches and cross-sector relationships are critical to success.

During 2023, Community Planning Partners have been holding events to discuss and develop a refreshed Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) through the prism of a Wellbeing Economy approach, where outcomes for people and the planet are the measures of success. With this in mind, looking forward, it is important that CTSI refocuses its energies on volunteering and voluntary leadership as a key driver to the success of third sector organisations and involved and engaged communities. Over the summer we have been consulting on a new strategic plan that will use a volunteering approach to a Wellbeing Economy and more detail on that is on pages 10-11.

This offers an exciting new chapter for CTSI and the third sector, where they are helping design, lead on and deliver some of the most transformative service changes for local people, and in doing so to drive improved economic and social outcomes for Clackmannanshire.

*Val Rose, Chair
Anthea Coulter, Chief Officer*

Anthea seated on right is joined by Esther, far left and Kelly, far right as local volunteer coordinators in a team with volunteers at the Volunteers' Thank You Games event held at The Hive, Dollar which formed part of Volunteers' Week in June 2023.



Creating a Fairer Future for Clackmannanshire

Key achievements:

- Pre-employability in Clackmannanshire (PEC) consortia, involving around 15 third sector organisations worked with 366 people on their health and wellbeing journey to work.
- FVSEN is recognised with the Social Enterprise Places Award which was announced in March 2023 and will lead to a year of promotion for the region.
- Clacks Good Food partnership launched and a series of events including a Clacks Good Food Summit were held.
- The first community benefit society in Clackmannanshire, Alloa Hub Limited won the *Most Improving Place* SURF Award in December 2022 for the Living Alloa project. It won the Visit Scotland Thistle Award *Celebrating Thriving Communities* in September 2023.
- Launched a new Community Link Worker programme with NHS Forth Valley and the Clackmannanshire and Stirling HSCP. By March 2023 there were Community Link Workers based in four GP surgeries.
- Provided a two day Forth Valley Third Sector Conference with neighbouring TSIs with the theme, *Caring, Connected Communities*.
- Trustees' Gathering – first event in Scotland in March 2023 to provide an outline to the new Charities Act 2023 in conjunction with OSCR.
- Clacks Connect Funders' Fayre in September 2023 was attended by over 75 people representing around 50 organisations.
- Youth Volunteering has seen a significant increase of 35% in Saltire Award hours and almost double the number of young people have registered to take part over the last year.
- Volunteers' Week in 2023 held a Volunteers' Thank You event; a Volunteer Recruitment Fayre attended by 30 organisations and a hugely successful Volunteers' Awards Ceremony that was enjoyed by 150 people. In September CTSI and Alloa First held a Charities Fayre in Alloa.

What Scottish Government ask us to do:

- Building capacity
- Voice of the Sector
- Source of Knowledge
- Connecting Partners

Our local strategic goals

• Community wealth-building for Clackmannanshire

• Volunteering is critical to improving our society, environment and lives

• Create caring, connected Clackmannanshire

• Collectively bring strong voice to the sector

• Building resilience



Forth Valley Men's Shed pictured, won the Community Group of the Year Award and Kenny Quinn, centre won Community Champion of the Year at the Volunteers' Ceremony in June held at the Cochrane Hall, Alva.



Community Wealth-building for Clackmannanshire

Key achievements:

- Pre-employability in Clackmannanshire (PEC) project consortium worked over one year with 366 people on their health and wellbeing journey to work – 102 qualifications were achieved – 78 graduates moved into work - with 43 in education and training. PEC has now merged with Clacks Works, the council-run employability service as 'Positive Moves'. This has been a huge enabling project by CTSI and its third sector partners which has helped integrate the statutory and third sector into one employment programme that will better help the local people from the earliest stages. To view PEC the Movie [CLICK HERE](#).
- **FVSEN is recognised with the Social Enterprise Places Award which was announced in March 2023 and will lead to a year of promotion for the region.**
- CTSI helped support the first Social Enterprise Academy Event for Schools in Clackmannanshire supported by Developing Young Workforce
- **CTSI represented the third sector on the new Community Wealth Building Plan including a new Fair Work Charter; the first Community Benefit Society, a Community Benefits programme with the Council; and developing the FVSEN online directory further. CTSI Chief Officer sat on the national steering group for the new Bill.**
- The first community benefit society in Clackmannanshire, Alloa Hub Limited won the *Most Improving Place* SURF Award in December 2022 for the Living Alloa project and along with two other awards for the partnership place initiative with the Council and Alloa First BID - and the Visit Scotland Thistle Award in September 2023.
- **CTSI represents on the new Clackmannanshire Anchor Partnership and on the new NHS Forth Valley Anchor Partnership.**

Social Enterprise Academy held its first event with schools from across Clackmannanshire, supported by Developing Young Workforce. Each school presented on their social enterprise idea to a panel of judges.



Case Study: Clacks Good Food

Clacks Good Food (CGF) is a cross-sector partnership of Local Authority, NHS Forth Valley, third sector and business groups.

Clacks Good Food Partnership is a member of the UK-wide Sustainable Food Places Network with the aim to make progress on key issues including tackling poverty and diet-related ill health; developing a diverse sustainable food economy; and tackling climate change through promoting sustainable growing and reducing food waste.

The partnership has set out its long-term vision for a **'Clackmannanshire where Food does Good'** in its charter, at forthvalleyfoodfutures.org/clacks-good-food/clacks-good-food-charter

Clacks Good Food has begun to make progress towards its objectives which includes measuring how food insecurity is tackled for the poverty action plan; informing food waste reduction actions with the Climate Emergency Strategy; being signposted by the Improvement Service's Shaping Places for Wellbeing programme on green spaces for community growing; and it has been supporting the Council's Food Growing and Allotment Strategy required under the Community Empowerment Act.

Clacks Good Food also shares learning, knowledge and resources through a programme of events, and has been actively developing a network of local connections. Outcomes include:

- Primary Schools that want to grow food being introduced to the Eco-Schools programme for its framework and resources.
- Gardener course graduates have been connected with community gardens for mentoring.
- Hawkhill's Mini-Farm benefiting from peer-to-peer learning.
- Clacks Good Food Summit.
- Over 200 people have engaged with Clacks Good Food via its public events while over 600 have engaged online through the bulletin and social media.



Dr Rhonda Archibald, NHS Forth Valley, Public Health Nutrition Lead is one of the key partners of the Clacks Good Food Partnership which held its first Good Food Summit in April. Hawkhill Community Centre, pictured on left is one of the third sector groups involved in delivering outcomes.





Caring Connected Clackmannanshire

Key achievements:

- By March 2023 there were Community Link Workers based in four GP surgeries with planning underway to increase the number across the Partnership area.
- Delivered support and review sessions for the Investing in Communities Fund, Rural Community-led Local Development Fund, Scottish Government Children's and Young People's Fund, Summer Of Wellbeing Fund and delivered the second year of the Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund.
- Increase of over 100% in number of organisations registered with ALISS as part of a comprehensive plan to provide more online health and wellbeing information.
- Provided series of consultation events with Health and Social Care Partnership on the new ten year strategy and developed new Locality Plans for three areas across the Partnership area.
- Digital and Community Volunteer Champions are based across the county in libraries and attached to GP surgeries.

Case study: Caring Connected Communities Conference

Forth Valley Third Sector Conference was held with neighbouring TSIs, SVE and CVS Falkirk with the theme, *Caring, Connected Communities*. The conference was hybrid with the first day providing six themed workshops and on the second day was held at Ingelwood Hotel in Alloa with plenary speaker, Kevin Stewart, MSP, the then Minister for Mental Health, attended by 120 people.

Over two days, coverage focused on social value, equalities, climate action, human rights, community space architecture, the Wellbeing Economy, writing good funding bids and engaging with young volunteers.

Over the two days over 250 people took part. 97% of people reported the wide variety of workshop sessions provided were beneficial to their organisation's work.



Third sector colleagues came together on the second day in Alloa for the Forth Valley Third Sector Conference in March 2023.

Community Link Worker: Case study

"Your support has kept me alive"

'P' was referred to Andy, the Community Link Worker at Ochil Practice, Alloa by the mental health nurse for support to her improve her mental wellbeing and support her with socializing and attending a support group.

Andy used wellbeing walks with 'P', to help her open up and allow her to share her story. 'P' spoke about becoming suicidal and had been admitted into in-patient mental health care. This came as 'P' was grieving for loved ones and in particular someone who had also died unexpectedly.

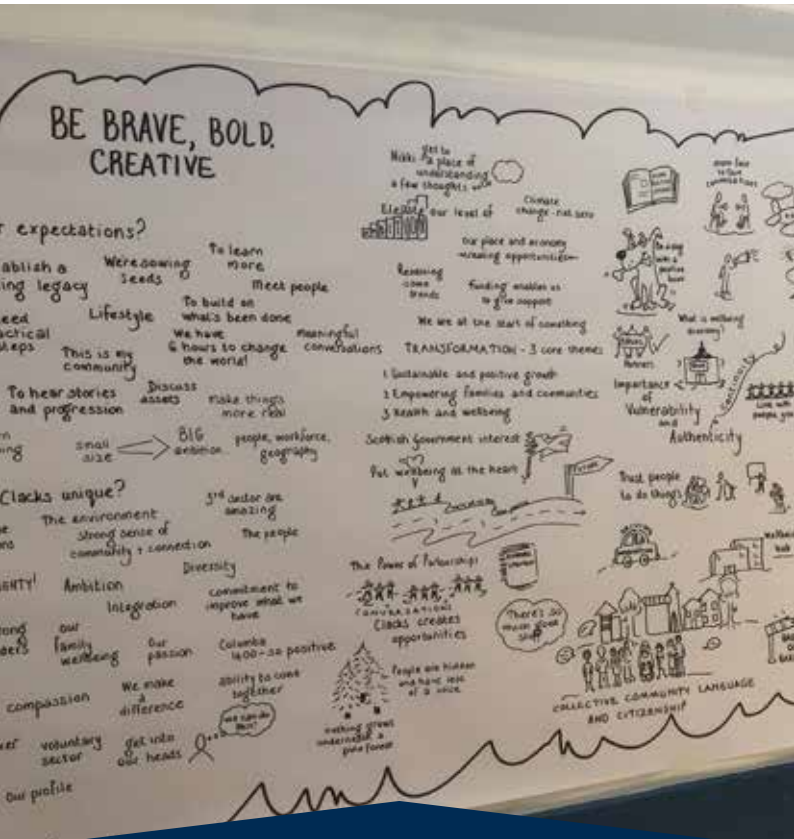
When Covid hit, 'P' became disconnected from her mental health support group, which left her feeling isolated and caused her mental health to decline. During Andy's time supporting 'P' she began missing appointments, however, he did not give up on her, continued to support through phone calls, and listened. 'P' wanted to rebuild social connections and had spoken about a therapeutic art group she had attended so was referred into a local art group. 'P' was supported along to her first meeting, to help her feel comfortable and reduce her anxiety. She was also encouraged to reconnect with her mental health support group again to improve her social connection and introduced to a local grief support group and despite her anxiety she talked openly about her life journey.

Andy has been in touch with 'P' occasionally for updates, while she waits on a 1:1 support of a listening buddy.

Building resilience in the sector

Key achievements:

- **Trustees' Gathering** (photo right) – first event in Scotland in March 2023 to provide an outline to the new Charities Act 2023 in conjunction with OSCR. Other 'experts' attended covering health and safety, financial management and HR. 45 people attended with 100% of attendees reporting they would like the event to be repeated.
- **Clacks Connect Funders' Fayre in September 2022 attended by over 75 people.**
- CTSI senior staff have been attending Values-based leadership sessions with other key local leaders to explore better ways of delivering solutions for the area. These have been supported by Scottish Government and facilitated by Columba 1400 and the Hunter Foundation.
- **Free membership registration with Discover Clackmannanshire for third sector members provided.**
- Range of bulletins covering community news, funding and volunteering, for example provide vital information to the sector and now includes a new FVSEN bi-monthly bulletin and Clacks Good Food bulletin. Around 2500 people receive our bulletins every month.



Third sector leaders and CTSI staff took part in a values-based leadership programme with strategic leads from the council and other statutory organisations, supported by Scottish Government, the Hunter Foundation and Columba 1400.

Case Study: FVSEN Social Enterprises Places Award

Established around four years ago, the FVSEN has developed into a successful peer network, supported by the three Forth Valley TSIs. The Network holds bi-monthly meetings and also has a new bulletin in the alternate month. Shared stories, news and good practice across the region has raised the profile of the FVSEN and in March 2023 it was announced that it had been selected for a Social Enterprise Scotland's Places Award.

This will help to raise the profile further of Forth Valley being a good place for social entrepreneurs to start up and flourish. In Clackmannanshire, the UK Government Shared Prosperity Fund has helped to continue to support the growth of the FVSEN online directory and local social entrepreneurs are being encouraged to take part in the range of new business programmes being run by Business Gateway. Around 140 regional social enterprises are now listed on the directory.



Collectively bring strong voice to the sector

Key achievements:

- Re-established the Community Breakfasts in April 2022 after a two-year absence – along with the Children and Families' forum, Health and Social Care forum, Employability Providers' forum, Volunteer Managers' forum and FVSEN - these are vital ways to gauge opinions and raise issues to a strategic level.
- **CTSI provides representation on a range of strategic partnerships or provides support to representatives.**
- Representation on national Community Planning Improvement Board by CTSI's Chief Officer on behalf of the TSI Scotland Network and part of a joint TSI/SCVO group representing on funding.

- **CTSI's Chief Officer provided evidence on town centres consultation by Scottish Parliament representing third sector issues.**

- Representing Clackmannanshire and the TSI Scotland Network on the new Community Wealth-building Bill steering group.

100% of partners surveyed responded that they found 'CTSI a good partner to work with' and that 'CTSI represents and provides a strong voice to the third sector in Clackmannanshire'.

Case Study: Health and Social Care Strategic Partnership & Wellbeing Economy consultations

Over the last year, the Clackmannanshire and Stirling Health and Social Care Partnership has been developing and consulting on its new strategic plan for the next ten years. Made up of three localities, CTSI and SVE have worked closely together to help ensure that third sector organisations had the opportunity to comment and shape the plan. Alongside the consultation events and smaller

locality meetings, the TSIs have also support a new commissioning consortium approach to shape and change services to meet needs of local people.

Alongside this work, CTSI has been also been involved in consultation on the new Wellbeing Economy Local Outcomes Improvement Plan. More details on pages 10 and 11.



Volunteering is critical to improving our society, environment and lives

Key achievements:

- Youth Volunteering has seen a significant increase of 35% in Saltire Award hours and almost double the number of young people have registered to take part. This has been achieved by working more closely with schools, University and College, Developing Young Workforce and a wide number of organisations to help create new volunteering roles for young people. The team is now working with the new 'Virtual Head' who leads on a new Academy funded by The Promise and designed to support the high number of children in care in Clackmannanshire.
- CTSI manages the Volunteer Managers' forum and around 60 groups attend regularly. The forum provides the leadership for Volunteers' Week which in 2023 held a Volunteers' Thank You event; a

Volunteer Recruitment Fayre attended by 30 organisations and a hugely successful Volunteers' Awards Ceremony that was enjoyed by 150 people. There was also a Volunteers' Quiz night in December which is to be repeated in 2023.

- Homestart Clackmannanshire and Forth Valley Welcome received the Queen's Award for Volunteering.
- 40 volunteer stitchers worked over two years to produce the Clackmannanshire Tapestry which went on display at the Alloa Hub in Autumn 2022.
- The new Trustees' Gathering recognised the wider skills required by trustees representing third sector organisations.

Case Study: The Gate – Volunteering changes lives

"Practical Help for Positive Change" is the vision for The Gate Charity which aims to support local individuals and communities in many ways. Due to the nature of the programmes and projects, volunteering and local volunteers play a major part in helping The Gate to reach out to vulnerable individuals and deliver much needed support and advice to achieve their vision.

The Gate has recently provided two excellent examples of the "power of volunteering" with recent vacant job positions being filled internally by volunteers from The Gate. This is testimony to the excellent volunteer support programmes that are provided, and which have developed these volunteers and given them the experience and skills to step up into the roles of Foodbank Development Coordinator and a new post of Resilience Building Coordinator. The Gate adopts a succession planning strategy that demonstrates the benefits of volunteering when looking for work.

YOUNG VOLUNTEERS

The Gate also support young people. 'L' was a part of the Clacks Youth Volunteering programme. When the Council CLD provision faced



Jay-Anne McLaughlin (left) and Alisha Thomson (right) have moved from being volunteers to take up new roles.

cuts to its employability provision it prompted her to take the step and do more independent volunteering that was more orientated towards developing her professional skillset and outside of her comfort zone. At the Council service she was already doing some community cafe volunteering, but now she wanted to do something different - more customer-focussed volunteering within a bigger organisation. With

the support of CTSI, she began volunteering in The Gate's newly relocated charity shop in Alloa town centre. She has been enjoying it and is now actively looking for more areas to volunteer in the charity's wider operation.

She has reached over 200 Saltire Award hours and will be awarded an Ascent certificate.



Volunteering Approach to a Wellbeing Economy in Clackmannanshire

CTSI is developing a new three year strategic approach to improve health and wellbeing through volunteering. This will support increased volunteering for all and voluntary leadership of third sector organisations to ensure they are well run, responsive and innovative, to transform and improve the lives of people of all ages.

A Wellbeing Economy approach puts an emphasis on the wellbeing of the planet and people first.

Local partners recognise the value of aligning resources on priorities that will drive long-term sustainable improvement over the next decade. These include:

- Improving health and wellbeing for all
- Tackling poverty
- Improving environment through climate action
- Strengthening communities and local services



Wimpy Park Volunteers

“CTSI has been consulting with members over the summer and 100% of members felt that our strategic plan should align with people and places outcomes of a Wellbeing Economy.”

CTSI will deliver change by focusing on supporting its members:

- Providing citizenship and volunteering opportunities for all
- Promoting health and wellbeing through volunteering
- Improving participation and action for change within communities
- Building capacity and strong leadership of the voluntary sector
- Supporting 'partnerships for good' across sectors
- Providing strong voice to the sector
- Adopt community wealth-building principles and celebrate success

What do we want to achieve?

- More people of all ages involved in volunteering
- Healthier, happier more active residents through community involvement
- Vulnerable groups access and participate in third sector services they need
- Communities are more involved in decisions that shape their places
- Third sector leaders and social entrepreneurs have the right knowledge, skills and support
- More successful partnerships, using community wealth building pillars help to transform Clackmannanshire

What we aim to do from 2024-2027...

Journey Starts...

- Recognition of primary age and family volunteering
- Support opportunities for social entrepreneurship in schools
- Partnership with the new Virtual Academy and champion The Promise plans across the third sector
- Increase volunteering participation in young people
- Provide community support to promote local volunteering opportunities

Promoting Health

- Residents are aware of how to get involved in volunteering
- Support new and existing community-based early intervention/prevention services to address health issues
- Community Link Worker team works closely in partnership with existing statutory services and community organisations
- Communities of care & kindness have services and volunteers that help build resilience

Tackling Inequalities

- Support adoption of Fair Work Principles and support best practice in managing volunteers
- Reduce the barriers to volunteering for all
- Use local funding opportunities to deliver better wellbeing outcomes to meet gaps in provision
- Volunteering is recognised as a successful route to work and wellbeing
- Develop a more integrated community connectors and digital volunteer service

Support Partnerships

- Engage and listen to voice of communities and communities of interest to help shape local priorities and policy
- Adopt a set of co-produced principles to consult on new community-led operating models
- Help enable new partnerships and consortia to form to meet outcomes for local groups and communities
- Work in partnership with SVE and CVS Falkirk across Forth Valley with a view to promote the third sector

Leadership & Capacity

- Deliver an online training platform that builds and shares knowledge
- Equip trustees with access to the expert help and skills they need including information on the new Charities Act 2023.
- Connect leaders through events, forums and networks that support the work
- Focus on organisational governance e.g. scheme of delegation or adopting the Volunteer Friendly Award
- Share good, timely information across the sectors

Voice of Sector

- Operate regular forums aligned to strategic planning and provide strong representation on partnerships
- Represent third sector in Clackmannanshire within regional and national contexts
- Represent views on policy areas and funding on behalf of the TSI Scotland Network
- Support a human rights and equalities approach to organisational development and delivery to better challenge inequalities

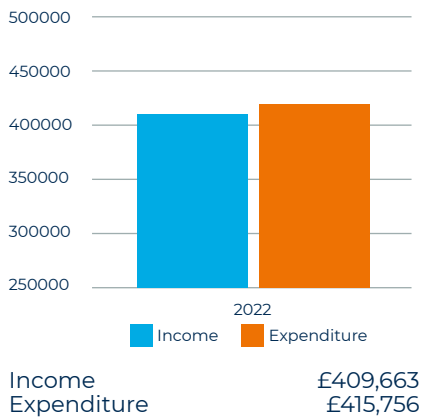
Celebrate community success

- Celebrate volunteers and the voluntary sector
- Develop a FVSEN Strategy in conjunction with the new Social Enterprise Places Award
- Progress the Third Sector Cultural, Heritage and Tourism Strategy for Clackmannanshire
- Third sector leads on climate challenge actions
- Continue to adopt successful community wealth building approaches

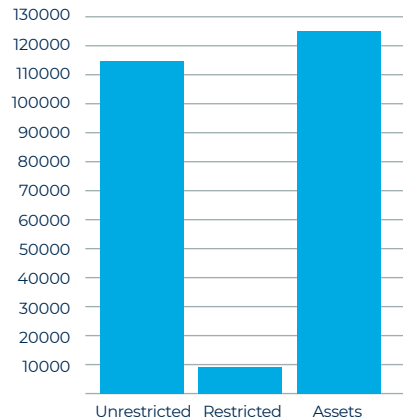
CTSI Community Health team supported the purchase of 'bands' for the residents of Parkway Court in Alloa to run their own strength class. Supporting ways for people to stay well in their homes, supported by volunteers is at the heart of our future work.



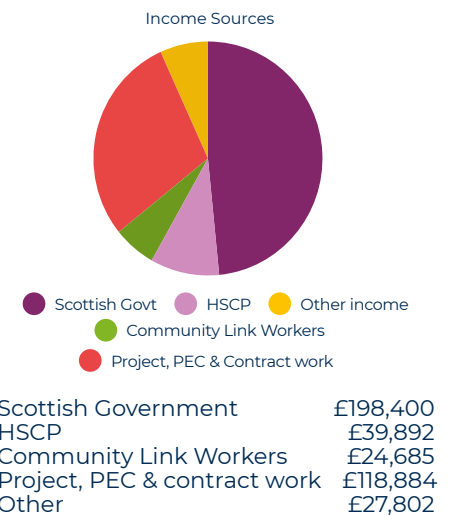
Financial Summary



Full accounts can be viewed on Companies House or via OSCR



Unrestricted reserves £114,438
Restricted funds £9,733
Assets £124,171



Scottish Government £198,400
HSCP £39,892
Community Link Workers £24,685
Project, PEC & contract work £118,884
Other £27,802

Partners

- Clackmannanshire Council
- Clackmannanshire & Stirling Health and Social Care Partnership & NHS Forth Valley
- Community Justice Strategic Partnership
- Children & Families Strategic Partnership
- Violence Against Women Partnership
- Forth Valley & Local Employability Partnership & Education CLD
- Clackmannanshire & Stirling City Deal Commission
- Alloa First, Business Gateway & Discover Clackmannanshire
- Anchor Partnership & NHS Anchor Partnership
- TSI Scotland Network & Scottish Volunteering Forum
- UK Government

Our thanks to our Funders:

- Scottish Government
- Clackmannanshire & Stirling Health and Social Care Partnership & NHS Forth Valley
- National Lottery Community Fund
- The Agnes Hunter Foundation
- Clackmannanshire Council
- UK Government Levelling Up Community Renewal Fund

Current Staff and Volunteers

Chief Officer & Business Manager

Anthea Coulter

Team Leader Membership, Enterprise & Community Capacity

Julie Haslam

Team Leader Volunteering & Routes to Work

Colin Melville

Team Leader Community Health & Integration

Liz Rowlett

Volunteer Development Officer

Christopher White

IT, Research & Employability Officer

Brian Weaver

Digital Communications Assistant

Amy McIntosh

Membership Officer & Office Manager

Lesley Jack

Senior Community Link Worker

Gemma Pritchard-Woollett

Community Link Worker

Andrew Davis

FVSEN Administrator

Jessie Henderson

Finance Officer

Fraser Kennedy

Office Staff

Kirsteen McGinn

Alloa Hub

Valerie Whyte, Aileen McFarlan

Board of Directors

Val Rose, Margaret Starkie, Eman Hani, David Carson, Elizabeth Ramsay, Kenny Quinn, Jean Hamilton and Fraser O'Brien

Accounting services:

Arm-in-Arm Accounting

We would like to thank all the volunteers and organisations who helped with this publication

Front cover photos:

Taken at this year's Volunteers' Awards ceremony at the Cochrane Hall, Alva during Volunteers' Week, 1st - 7th June 2023.

If you want to find out more about our work please follow us at

facebook @CTSIAlloa Instagram @clacksctsi Twitter @clacksCTSI @FVSEN @clacksgoodfood

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