

VASLan Strategy

**MOVING  
TO  
ACTION**

2022 to 2024

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# FOREWORD

We are absolutely delighted to be launching our new strategy for 2022 to 2024, 'Moving to Action'.

Our previous strategy ended in 2020, and whilst around 65% to 70% was achieved, we perhaps fell a bit short in a few areas, including our approach to volunteering, and to social enterprise. Through the pandemic, we have been playing our part in supporting South Lanarkshire's third sector emergency response, our sector stepping up when our communities needed it. Alongside this, to be honest, as the TSI we have been spending a bit of time internally getting our own house in order. We have now completed that process, are better placed to serve South Lanarkshire's fantastic third sector, and are now 'Moving to Action'.

Within 'Moving to Action' you will see a refreshed vision and mission to better reflect the changing dynamics and circumstances that the pandemic has thrust upon us all, and our sector. Our shared values; Third Sector Chief Officers Group, third sector at large, and VASLAN, remain consistent, with a healthy addition of some Partnership Principles which apply across the Community Planning Partners, how we all commit to work alongside our communities. We also have a new set of strategic objectives, which will best support us to deliver upon our key functions of building capacity, being a source of knowledge, connecting partners and facilitating the voice of the sector.

We look forward to building on positive relations with the third sector, Community Planning Partners, National Stakeholders and indeed communities themselves to improve the lives and prospects of everybody in South Lanarkshire.



**STEVEN SWEENEY**  
Chief Executive Officer



# WHAT IS A THIRD SECTOR INTERFACE?



The Third Sector Interface (TSI) Scotland Network is a body of charities that support the third sector across Scotland. There are 32 TSIs in Scotland, one for each local authority area. VASLan combine all the functions of the TSIs work under one roof for South Lanarkshire.

The TSI Scotland Network is supported to carry out its main functions by the Third Sector Unit of the Scottish Government.

The third sector includes charities, community groups, development trusts, social enterprises and the volunteering sector. The key functions of the TSI is to help the third sector in each area in the following ways:

**BUILDING CAPACITY**

**SOURCE OF KNOWLEDGE**

**CONNECTING PARTNERS**

**VOICE OF THE SECTOR**

*More about TSI*



TSIs also have a strategic role in third sector involvement in community planning, health and social care integration and in responding to local needs.

In South Lanarkshire, we adopt the Community Planning Partnership's Places for Wellbeing Model.



"Moving to Action" is our commitment to serving the third sector in South Lanarkshire. Please check the video below to understand better our refreshed vision and mission.





## OUR VISION

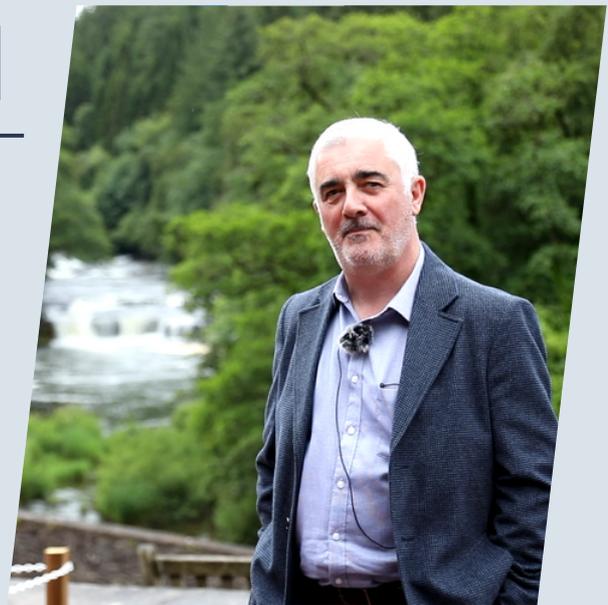
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Resilient and empowered communities creating a stronger, fairer and more equitable South Lanarkshire with volunteers and thriving local third sector organisations at its heart.

## OUR MISSION

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Enabling volunteers and local third sector organisations to deliver transformational change.



## OUR VALUES

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Respect | Integrity | Inclusiveness | Commitment





Monica Allen, Social Enterprise for Health Development Officer

“

**RESPECT.** We will respect the abilities, qualities, knowledge and achievements of colleagues and partners and take into consideration any time commitments when planning and executing collaborative work.”



Nick Jones, Video and Media Officer

“

**INTEGRITY.** We will practice and encourage open and honest communication, to gain respect and trust through dependability and be responsible for our actions.”



Peter McGhee, Sustainability and Collaboration Development Officer

“

**INCLUSIVENESS.** We will welcome, accept, and value the contributions of all, especially those who may otherwise be marginalised, and will provide mechanisms to recognise collaboration as a strength. We will ensure everyone is given the opportunity and support to reach their full potential.”



Letitia Gallacher, Admin Services Manager

“

**COMMITMENT.** We will show enthusiasm and commitment towards our shared goals, mission, and vision of the Third Sector. Cultivating a strong work ethic and taking ownership of our responsibilities and commitments.”



# STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES



To **reprioritise volunteering** in South Lanarkshire for individuals, third sector organisations and across the Community Planning Partnership.

To support VASLan members to **proactively access the capacity building** supports available to them, as and when they require it.



To develop flexible, well organised, well managed third sector organisations, which supports **future third sector growth**.



To raise the **visibility of volunteering and third sector organisations**, and their active contributions to society, within the general public, the third sector itself, the private sector, across health and social care, and the Community Planning Partnership.



To accelerate **partnership and collaborative working** within South Lanarkshire's third sector.

To continue internally as a **sustainable organisation with sound governance**.



# THIRD SECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE



*"Resilient and empowered communities creating a stronger, fairer and more equitable South Lanarkshire with volunteers and thriving local third sector organisations at its heart."*

As a TSI, we can't achieve this alone. We have 3 key pieces of third sector infrastructure which support us to deliver upon our strategic plans; Locality Anchor Partnerships, the Third Sector Chief Officers Group, and our wider VASLan Membership.

## LOCALITY ANCHOR PARTNERSHIPS

The Locality Anchor Partnerships deliver and support community involvement and locality improvement, whilst managing and influencing strategic commissioning and the resource shift. They are made up of voluntary organisations who have stepped forward, demonstrating leadership within the locality for the third sector. The Locality Anchor Partnerships aims are to:

- ✓ Test local views
- ✓ Improve locality-based intelligence
- ✓ Support wider community feedback
- ✓ Drive local initiatives and investment



## THIRD SECTOR CHIEF OFFICERS GROUP

A leadership group with voluntary membership across South Lanarkshire's third sector providing connectivity and peer support for Chief Officers. The Chief Officers Group's aims are around:

- ✓ Core income and Strategic Commissioning
- ✓ Strategic Engagement
- ✓ Being Collaborative

## VASLAN MEMBERSHIP

The wider VASLan membership hold us accountable in the delivery of our 4 key TSI functions:

- ✓ Building Capacity
- ✓ Source of Knowledge
- ✓ Connecting Partners
- ✓ Voice of the Sector



# PARTNERSHIP PRINCIPLES

Our Community Planning Partnership shared principles set out how we plan to work better, together:

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**Added Value and Continuous Improvement:** We will work together to achieve more and become better at doing so.

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**Clarity of Purpose:** We will attempt to avoid duplication of effort, developing agreed priorities to maximise our impact and focussing on the actions that will make the most difference.

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**Communication and Empowerment:** We will talk to and listen to each other in a meaningful way, helping individuals, families and communities to take positive action to improve their wellbeing.

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**Embracing Change:** We work in a rapidly changing world. We are committed to making the most of this, shaping the direction of these changes to benefit local people and communities, taking innovative approaches and always questioning how and why we are doing things.

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**Focused Delivery:** We will not lose sight of the fact that we need to make a positive difference. We will work creatively and build on what we are already doing, focusing our services and actions to meet future needs.

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**Openness and Trust:** We will do more together, from planning to delivery, ensuring openness and transparency in how we work; trusting each other to fulfil our roles; and working in harmony.

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# COLLABORATION AND ENGAGEMENT

We welcome your feedback and suggestions! Acting on feedback from you, helps us to improve the service that we provide for the third sector in South Lanarkshire.



Would you like to get involved?

# GET IN TOUCH WITH US



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South Lanarkshire  
Community Planning Partnership



NHS  
Lanarkshire

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