



LOCAL AREA...

The Motherwell and District area has a population of **45,708** (2011 census). Motherwell is the area's biggest town with a population of 32,120 (2012 estimate). The area is split into the three wards of Motherwell West (Ward 16), Motherwell North (Ward 17), and Motherwell South East and Ravenscraig (Ward 18).

Motherwell was noted as the steel production capital of Scotland during the 19th and 20th centuries. The closure of the Ravenscraig steelworks in 1992 signalled the end of steel making in the area. Since then, Motherwell has to an extent recovered from the high unemployment and economic decline brought about by the collapse of heavy industry. Large employers include North Lanarkshire Council and Police Scotland (both of whom have headquarters established in Motherwell), and a few large call centres that has located in the area.

The Motherwell campus of New College Lanarkshire is based on the regenerated site of the former Ravenscraig steelworks and the town is also home to Motherwell FC.

VOLUNTEERING...

From January 2014 to December 2014, **269 new volunteers** from the Motherwell and District area were successfully matched with local volunteering opportunities through support provided by the local Third Sector Interface (Voluntary Action NL).

During the same period, 314 voluntary sector organisations listing a main premise in the Motherwell and District area promoted **161 live volunteering opportunities** through engagement with the Third Sector Interface. The most frequent genres of volunteering opportunities available in the local area were working with children or young people and working in a health or care setting. Based on the number of active volunteering opportunities in the local area, Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire estimates that approximately **13,000 individuals** from the Motherwell and District area engaged in volunteering during 2014-15 (prudent estimate including charity trustees).

Volunteering activity was also notable in the local area through opportunities provided by statutory partners, including **NHS Lanarkshire** (at Strathclyde Hospital), **North Lanarkshire Council** (mainly through Active Schools North Lanarkshire, North Lanarkshire Shopmobility, and Community Learning and Development), and **Secondary Schools** (clear evidence of senior pupil involvement in volunteering in Taylor High School, Braidhurst High School, Our Lady's High School, Brannock High School, and Dalziel High School).

SECTORAL PROFILE...

Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire research indicates that **314 voluntary sector organisations** listed premises in the Motherwell and District area as their main address (as at 2015), with an estimated total **1300 voluntary sector organisations**, including a high proportion of local authority wide and national organisations, having a footprint in the Motherwell and District area during the period April 2014 to March 2015. Key investors in the voluntary sector locally include North Lanarkshire Council, Scottish Government, The Big Lottery Fund, Voluntary Action Fund, and several private sector trust funds.

A strong sense of voluntary sector spirit can be easily identified in the Motherwell and District area. It is notable that a higher than average number of national and local authority wide voluntary sector organisations have set up base in Motherwell. This can partly be attributed to the town's central location within both Lanarkshire and Scotland. Outside the town, a thriving close-knit voluntary sector exists in the smaller towns of New Stevenston, Newarthill and Carfin.

Strathclyde Country Park provides a central hub for sports, outdoors, and recreational voluntary sector activity in the Motherwell and District area. Key volunteering and voluntary sector involvement regularly supports major events happening at the Park, such as the 500 volunteers that supported delivery of the Triathlon at the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games. Several voluntary sector organisations frequently access the Park as a base for outdoor, recreational or sporting activities.

ONLINE RESOURCES...

- **Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire** – www.voluntaryactionnorthlanarkshire.org.uk
- **Voluntary Action Scotland** – www.voluntaryactionscotland.org.uk
- **Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations** – www.scvo.org.uk
- **Volunteer Scotland** – www.volunteerscotland.net
- **Locator Tool (for older people's services)** – www.voluntaryactionnorthlanarkshire.org.uk/locator
- **Saltire Awards** – www.saltireawards.org.uk
- **Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator** – www.oscr.org.uk

STRATEGIC RESOURCES...

- **North Lanarkshire Voluntary Sector Strategy 2013-18** – North Lanarkshire Voluntary Sector Partnership Group's strategy document outlining a vision for the voluntary sector
- **North Lanarkshire Partnership Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement 2013-18** - Key strategic documents of North Lanarkshire Partnership highlighting priorities and objectives for developing communities
- **A Framework for Third Sector Connectivity to Community Planning in North Lanarkshire 2015-18** – Outlines a vision and three-year Improvement Plan for voluntary sector involvement in Community Planning
- **Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire Business and Operational Plans** – The Business and Operational Plans of The Third Sector Interface include a number of aims and objectives for developing the local voluntary sector
- **MILO Platform** – The Scottish Government endorsed online database for Third Sector Interfaces to hold key data.

PARTNERSHIPS...

Listing some of the key local partnerships and forums relevant to the local voluntary sector:

- **Motherwell & District Local Area Partnership** – Local strategic community planning table. Key items on the agenda include activities for young people, anti-social behaviour, capacity building for communities, improvement to local play facilities, continued development of Motherwell town centre, community safety, estate management, and health improvement
- **North Lanarkshire Voluntary Sector Partnership Group** – Key strategic group linking the voluntary sector to North Lanarkshire Partnership
- **Motherwell Area Voluntary Sector Locality Network** - Network for the local voluntary sector, facilitated by Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire on behalf of the North Lanarkshire Voluntary Sector Partnership Group (two gatherings per annum)
- **Motherwell Community Forum** – North Lanarkshire Partnership's recognised vehicle for engaging and consulting with citizens of the Motherwell and District community
- **Motherwell Community Learning and Development Partnership** – Multi-agency Partnership to assist the development of local communities, facilitated by North Lanarkshire Council Community Learning and Development
- **Other Partnerships** include Voluntary Sector Thematic Networks, North Lanarkshire Social Economy Partnership, and private sector liaison.

ORGANISATIONS...

Brief synopsis of a few key **local voluntary sector organisations** operating in and specifically providing services to the Motherwell and District area:

- **Motherwell & Wishaw Citizens Advice Bureau** – Provides free, impartial, and confidential advice services for local citizens
- **Motherwell African Refugee Community Association** – Supports the cohort of African refugees living in the local area
- **Reeltime Music** – Provides a range of music services and facilities with a view to developing disenfranchised young people
- **The Health and Wellness Hub** - Provides a host of free health and wellness activities to help improve the health of local people.

Brief synopsis of a few key **local authority wide voluntary sector organisations** with a major footprint in the Motherwell & District area:

- **LAMH Recycle Ltd** – Social firm specialising in recycling and refurbishment services for IT and communications equipment
- **Lanarkshire Links** – Supports mental health service users and carers in the Lanarkshire area, central office based in Motherwell
- **LANDED Peer Education Service** – Peer education service to educate young people about drugs, alcohol and sexual health
- **Routes to Work Ltd** – Provides employability support, advice and guidance to local citizens from its Motherwell office.

Brief synopsis of a few key **national voluntary sector organisations** with a significant footprint in the Motherwell and District area:

- **Barnardo's** – The Axis Lanarkshire project supports 16-18 year-olds affected by substance misuse and other complex issues
- **Community Service Volunteers** – Provides a Lanarkshire wide befriending service for local Social Work clients aged 8-18 years
- **RSPB Scotland** – Provides focussed conservation and environmental activities at Baron's Haugh Nature Reserve
- **Scottish Association for Mental Health** – Clubnet and Well Informed mental health support services are based in Motherwell.

Please note that the organisations noted above represent only a small sample of active local and national voluntary sector organisations.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

The voluntary sector, along with NHS Lanarkshire, North Lanarkshire Council and the Independent Care sector, played a key role in the delivery of North Lanarkshire's Reshaping Care for Older People Change Plan during the period 2011-15. Following on from the Change Plan, the voluntary sector is a central delivery partner in Scottish Government's Health and Social Care Integration agenda.

As part of a well-established Locality Partnership Development Programme, **North Lanarkshire Carers Together** is the lead organisation for the Motherwell and District area for supporting and facilitating voluntary sector involvement in Health and Social Care Integration. A number of local voluntary sector organisations have been funded to deliver services that contribute to this agenda.