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# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check Research Paper



# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check

## Background

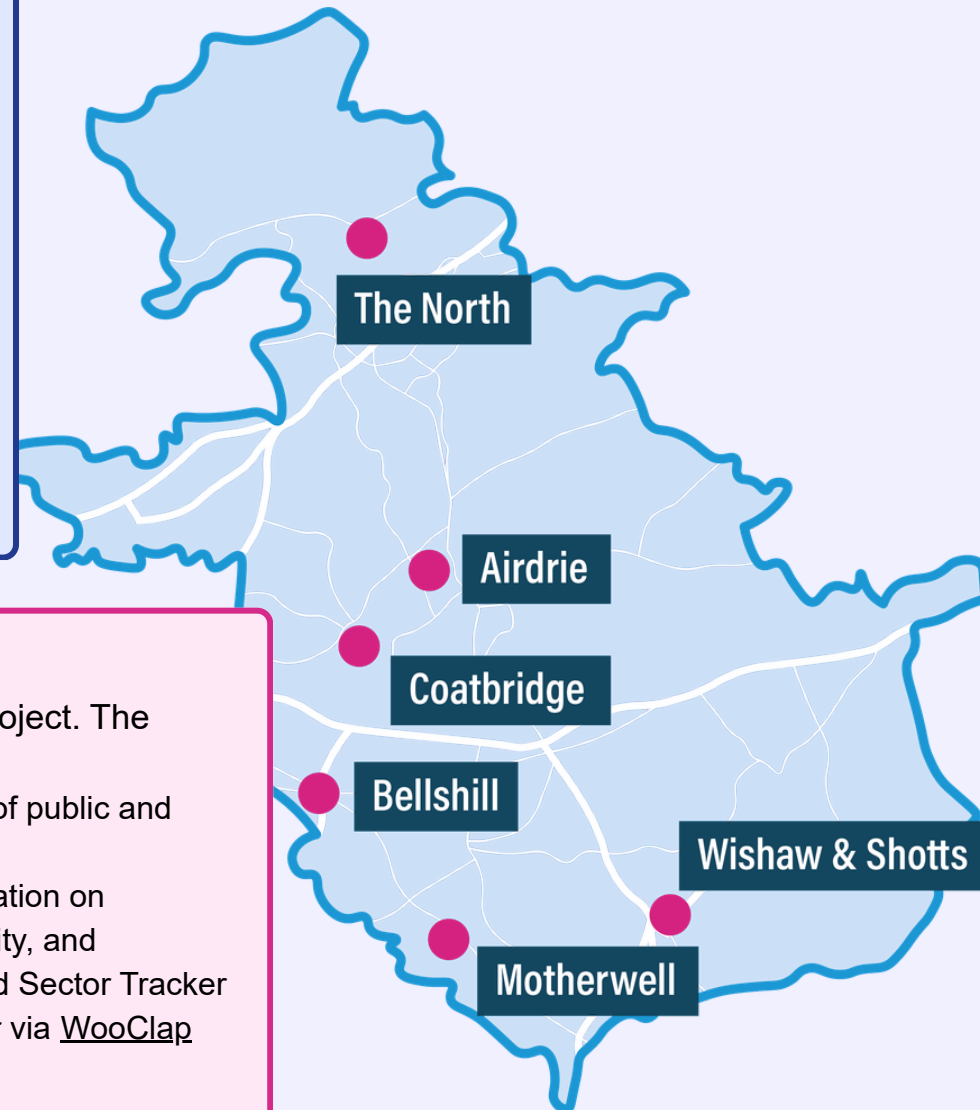
There are over 1000 diverse community and voluntary sector (CVS) organisations in North Lanarkshire. These include various small community groups, charities, and social enterprises. There is also limited research and intelligence about the 'health' of the sector. VANL has conducted this research on behalf of the sector, to gather a high volume of information **to create a picture of the reality of the sector**.

Our aim is for this research to contribute to sector-wide understanding of the issues, challenges, and opportunities that charities and voluntary groups are experiencing locally.

## Methodology

VANL employed an experienced Research Intern to conduct this research project. The research took three approaches:

- Creation of socioeconomic profiles of each locality, highlighting the availability of public and third sector services within each area
- A 'North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check' survey which gathered information on organisational capacity, support offered and required, beneficiaries, sustainability, and recruitment of staff and volunteers - which drew questions from the SCVO Third Sector Tracker
- An interactive, open-ended feedback activity to capture the voices of the sector via [WooClap](#)



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# Locality Profiles



# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check



## Locality Profile Sources

The locality profiles use four sources of information:

- University Health and Social Care Partnership (UHSCP), community profiles (2025 version)
- Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)
- OSCR - the Scottish Charity Regulator
- ScotPho

Please note - there is some variation between these datasets, therefore, comparisons should be taken mindfully. There is also local variation in definitions and ideas about belonging to different areas.

## SIMD

The SIMD maps the level of deprivation in small geographical areas known as datazones. The SIMD considers a number of socioeconomic factors to determine level of deprivation. There are 6,796 datazones across Scotland, with each area assigned a rank, from 1 (most deprived) to 6,976 (least deprived). Datazones are assigned Deprivation Quintiles (Quintile 1 being the most deprived, and Quintile 5 the least).

Intermediate datazones (IDZs) are used within the SIMD to represent larger and more stable community geographies. Intermediate Zones are used for analysing general trends across larger areas, whereas datazones are smaller and used for more precise SIMD rankings.



## OSCR

OSCR are the Scottish Charity Regulator. They are the independent regulator and registrar for over 25,000 Scottish charities including community groups, religious charities, schools, universities, grant-giving charities and major care providers.

All charities in Scotland must be registered with OSCR and must meet annual reporting requirements to keep their status. They also offer a wide range of guidance and services to support and encourage improvement within the charity sector.



## UHSCP Community Profile

The UHSCP provides information and statistics on health and social care related indicators across North Lanarkshire via locality profiles:

- Airdrie
- Bellshill
- Coatbridge
- Motherwell
- The North
- Wishaw and Shotts

Please note, this report uses the 2025 versions. Between data collection and publication of this research, the profiles have been updated.

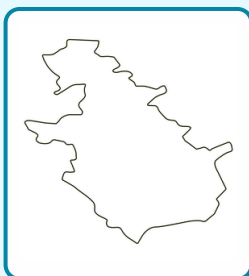


# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check



## North Lanarkshire

North Lanarkshire is one of 32 council areas, situated in west-central Scotland. It is the fourth largest local authority in Scotland in terms of population.



## Population Size

**340,920**

(UHSPC, 2025)



## Localities

North Lanarkshire's people live in the following six Health and Social Care localities:

- Airdrie
- Bellshill
- Coatbridge
- The North (Cumbernauld, Kilsyth, and the Northern Corridor)
- Motherwell
- Wishaw and Shotts

## SIMD

There are 447 datazones in North Lanarkshire. North Lanarkshire has a higher level of deprivation than Scotland as a whole.

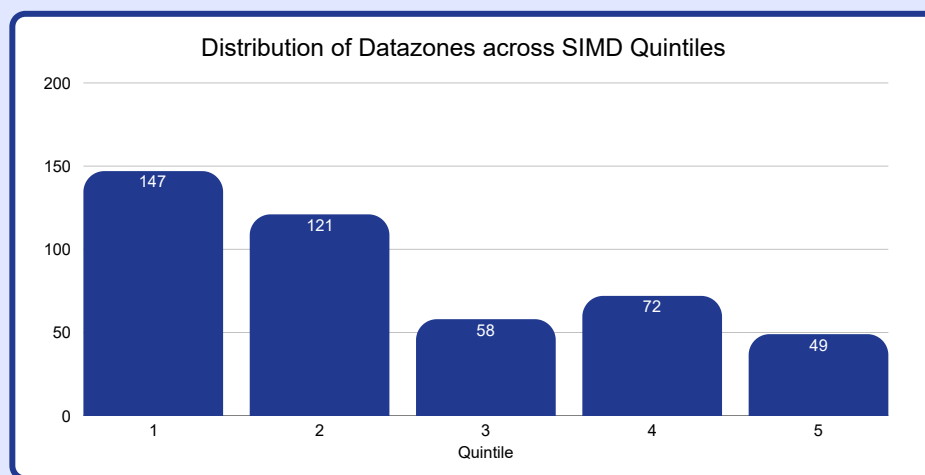
The largest proportion (33%) of people in North Lanarkshire live within SIMD quintile 1 - the most deprived quintile. This is 3 times the proportion that live within quintile 5 (11%) - the least deprived quintile.

North Lanarkshire has 31.6% of its population living within datazones with the 20% highest levels of deprivation.

| SIMD Quintile | North Lanarkshire |
|---------------|-------------------|
| 1             | 33%               |
| 2             | 27%               |
| 3             | 14%               |
| 4             | 16%               |
| 5             | 11%               |

Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire (VANL) is the Third Sector Interface (TSI) for North Lanarkshire which provides services and support to the wider Community and Voluntary Sector (CVS) across North Lanarkshire to help the sector be as effective as possible

The majority of datazones (268) in North Lanarkshire are within quintile 1 and 2.



# Locality Profile

## Airdrie

# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check



## Locality Profile - Airdrie

Airdrie is a large peri-urban locality in North Lanarkshire. Airdrie is largely urban, with a number of smaller satellite villages. It borders Coatbridge to the east, and is included in the Airdrie and Shotts constituency.



### Population Size

**56,248**

(UHSPC, 2025)  
27,227 males  
29,021 females



### Young People in Income Deprived Areas

**32.3%**

of residents aged 0-25 live within the 20% most income deprived areas, compared to 26.2% across North Lanarkshire

(ScotPho, 2023)

## Socio-economic Profile

Airdrie locality experiences higher levels of deprivation than the North Lanarkshire average, with 43% of residents living in SIMD quintile 1 (as opposed to 33% across North Lanarkshire).

However, there is a lower proportion of the population living within quintile 2 (19% vs 27%) and a higher percentage living in quintiles 3 and 4. Three percent of the population of Airdrie live within quintile 5, compared to 11% across North Lanarkshire more widely.

40.5% of residents within the Airdrie locality live in the 20% most deprived areas in Scotland, compared to 31.6% across North Lanarkshire (ScotPho, 2023)

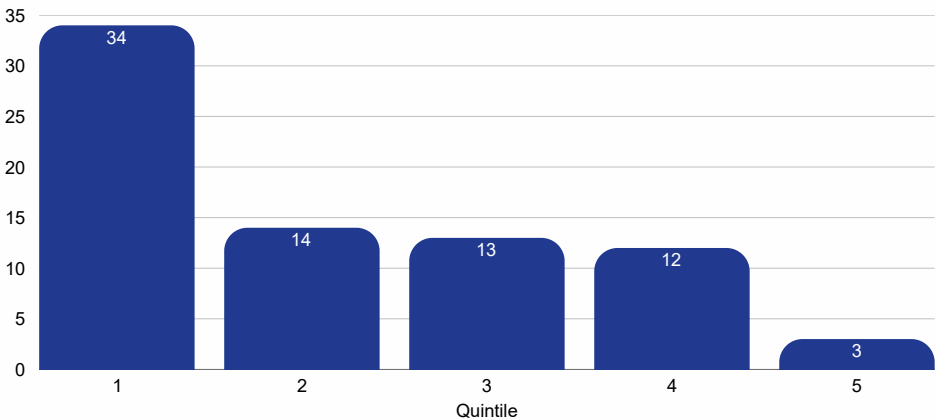
| SIMD Quintile | Airdrie | North Lanarkshire |
|---------------|---------|-------------------|
| 1             | 43%     | 33%               |
| 2             | 19%     | 27%               |
| 3             | 17%     | 14%               |
| 4             | 18%     | 16%               |
| 5             | 3%      | 11%               |

Airdrie Locality Report, USCHP, 2025

## Within Airdrie

Within Airdrie, the majority (48 of the 76) of datazones fall within quintiles 1 and 2. This further highlights the concentration of deprivation within the locality, with a majority of data zones within the more deprived SIMD quintiles.

Distribution of Datazones across SIMD Quintiles



# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check

## Within Airdrie cont'd

There are 13 intermediate datazones (IDZ) in Airdrie.

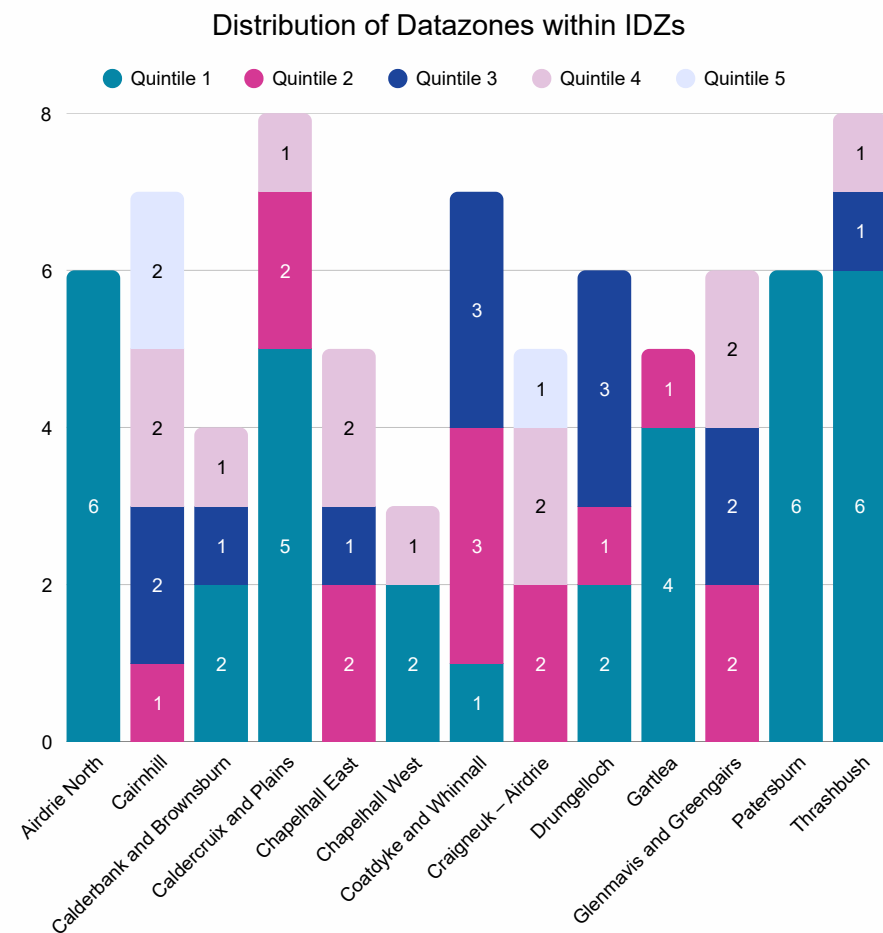
| Intermediate Datazone     | Number of Data Zones |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Airdrie North             | 6                    |
| Cairnhill                 | 7                    |
| Calderbank and Brownsburn | 4                    |
| Caldercruix and Plains    | 8                    |
| Chapelhall East           | 5                    |
| Chapelhall West           | 3                    |
| Coatdyke and Whinnall     | 7                    |
| Craigneuk – Airdrie       | 5                    |
| Drumgelloch               | 6                    |
| Gartlea                   | 5                    |
| Glenmavis and Greengairs  | 6                    |
| Petersburn                | 6                    |
| Thrashbush                | 8                    |

Intermediate datazones such as Airdrie North and Petersburn have higher levels of deprivation - all of their datazones are within quintile 1. Similarly, Gartlea has 4 out of its 5 datazones within quintile 1.

Thrashbush also has a higher level of deprivation - 6 out of the 8 datazones in the area are within quintile 1, however, it also has one datazone in quintile 3 and 5 each. All areas across Airdrie have at least one datazone within quintile 1 or 2.

Cairnhill has a more mixed profile with datazones in quintiles 2 to 5. Similarly, Chapelhall East and Glenmavis and Greengairs have datazones in quintiles 2 to 4.

Looking at IDZs demonstrates the uneven distribution of need across communities in Airdrie.



# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check

## Services Across Airdrie

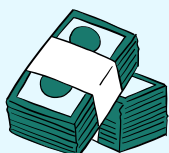
**98**

registered charities in  
Airdrie  
(OSCR, 2026)

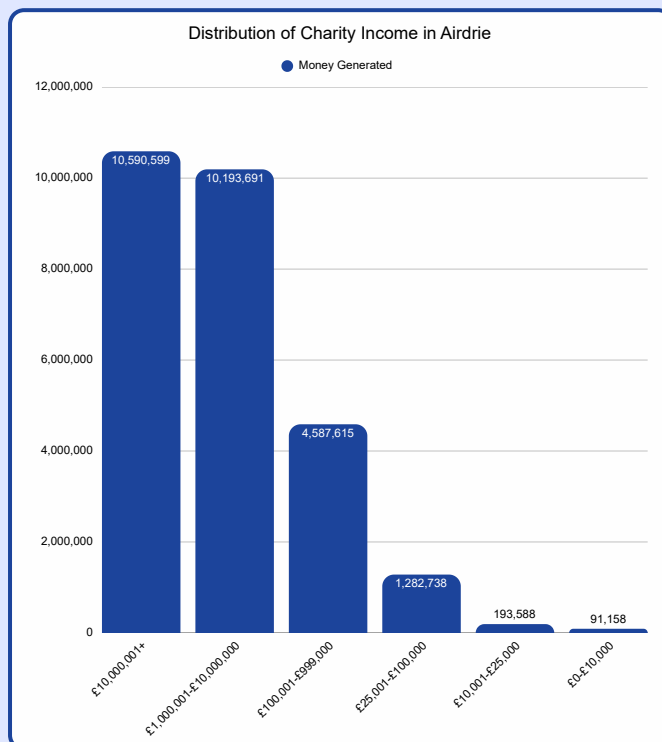


**£26,939,389**

income generated  
(OSCR, 2025)

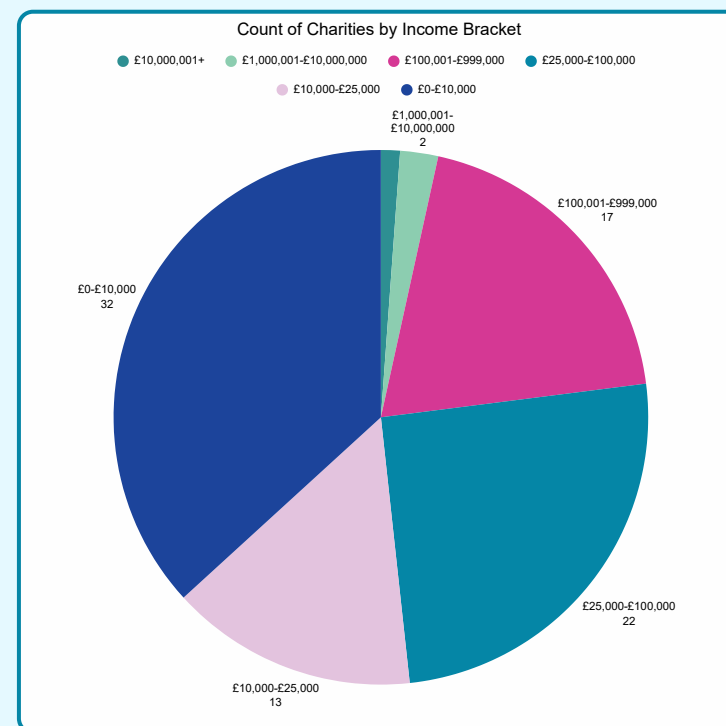


The below shows total charity income generated, broken down by the income bracket of the organisation:



One organisation operates with an income of over £10 million, accounting for nearly 40% of the total CVS income within the locality.

Using a count of charities operating in the locality by income bracket, the level of diversity in income is more evident:



While representing a small proportion of total income within the locality, smaller organisations (those operating with revenues of less than £25,000) make up the largest proportion of charities in the area - 45 organisations had an income of £25,000 and lower.

**It should be noted that 11 organisations had not at the point of analysis posted most recent income and expenditure information.**

# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check



## Services Across Airdrie

### Children and Young People

Motherwell has three secondary schools:

- Airdrie Academy
- Caldervale High
- St Margaret's High

These in turn are served by 20 primary schools:

- All Saint's Primary
- Calderbank Primary
- Chapelhall Primary
- Chapelside Primary
- Clarkston Primary
- Glengowan Primary
- Golfhill Primary
- Greengairs Primary
- Hilltop Primary
- New Monkland Primary
- Plains Primary
- Rochsolloch Primary
- St Aloysius Primary
- St Andrew's Primary
- St David's Primary
- St Dominic's Primary
- St Edward's Primary
- St Serf's Primary School
- Tollbrae Primary School
- Victoria Primary School

Additionally, the locality has four family learning centres: Caldervale, Devonview, Petersburn and Richard Stewart.

Each school hosts several third sector-provided projects. Below is an overview of this provision as funded by the Children and Young People's fund 2025/2026:

| School                     | Project                                       | CVS Organisation        |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Airdrie Academy            | Creative Me Wellbeing Programme               | VIP-Pass                |
|                            | Reeltime Music                                | Reeltime Music          |
|                            | Positive Creations                            | Make and Create Arts    |
| Caldervale High School     | Creative Me Wellbeing Programme               | VIP-Pass                |
|                            | Personalised Intensive Support                | HOPE for Autism         |
|                            | Shredability: Education and Schools Programme | Social Track            |
|                            | Stressbusters                                 | Health and Wellness Hub |
| St. Margaret's High School | Creative Me Wellbeing Programme               | VIP-Pass                |

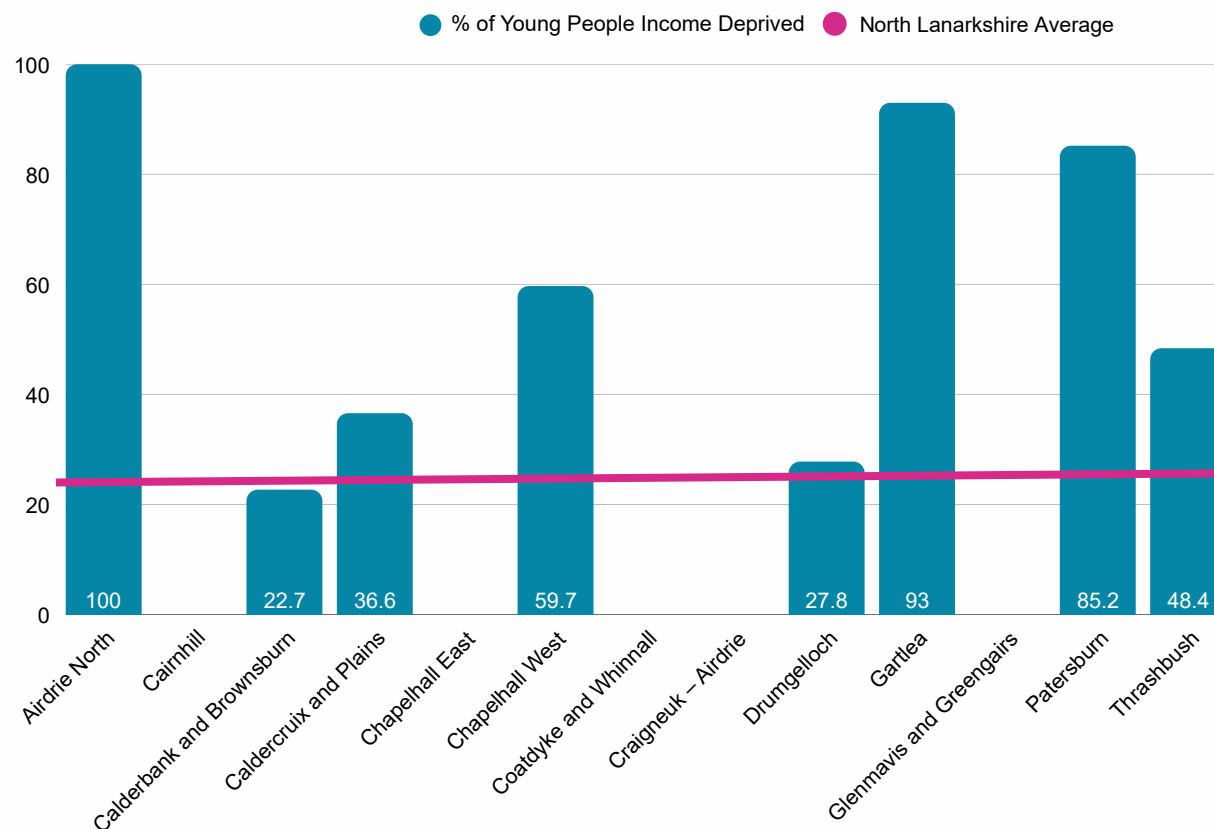
## Children and Young People in Airdrie

The proportion of children and young people (aged 0–25) living within the 20% most income-deprived areas varies considerably across the locality (ScotPHO, 2023). The average number of children and young people living within the 20% most income-deprived areas across North Lanarkshire is 26.2%.

Eight out of the 13 IDZs in Airdrie have a proportion of children and young people living within the 20% most income-deprived data zones. The 5 remaining areas sit at 0.

Seven out of the eight IDZs with a proportion of young people living in the most income deprived areas are above the North Lanarkshire average. Airdrie North has the highest percentage at 100%. The remaining area, Calderbank and Brownsburn is slightly under the average, at 22.7%.

Percentage of Young People (0-25) living in 20% most income deprived SIMD Quintile



# Locality Profile

## Bellshill

# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check



## Locality Profile - Bellshill

Bellshill is a smaller peri-urban locality. It borders Motherwell to the south, and Glasgow City to the west. Most of the area falls within the Coatbridge and Bellshill constituency.



### Population Size

**41,388**

(UHSPC, 2025)  
20,025 males  
21,363 females



### Young People in Income Deprived Areas

**38.7%**

of residents aged 0-25 live within the 20% most income deprived areas, compared to 26.2% across North Lanarkshire

(ScotPho, 2023)

## Socio-economic Profile

Bellshill locality experiences higher levels of deprivation than the North Lanarkshire average, with 37% of residents living in data zones within SIMD quintile 1, compared to 33% across North Lanarkshire as a whole.

Across quintiles 2 to 5, the level of deprivation in Bellshill is fairly similar to the North Lanarkshire average. The lowest percentage of population in Bellshill is within quintile 5 (9%).

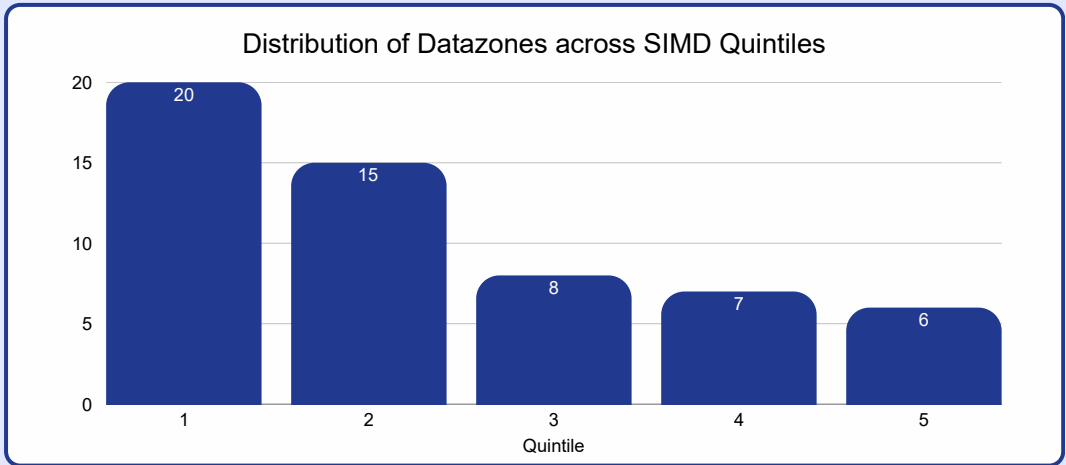
42.2% of residents within the Bellshill locality live in the 20% most deprived areas in Scotland, compared to 31.6% across North Lanarkshire (ScotPho, 2023).

| SIMD Quintile | Bellshill | North Lanarkshire |
|---------------|-----------|-------------------|
| 1             | 37%       | 33%               |
| 2             | 27%       | 27%               |
| 3             | 13%       | 14%               |
| 4             | 15%       | 16%               |
| 5             | 9%        | 11%               |

Bellshill Locality Report, USCHP, 2025

## Within Bellshill

Within Bellshill, 35 of the 56 data zones fall within quintiles 1 and 2, while the remaining 21 are distributed across quintiles 3 to 5. This further highlights the concentration of deprivation within the locality, with a majority of data zones categorised among the more deprived quintiles.



# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check

## Within Bellshill cont'd

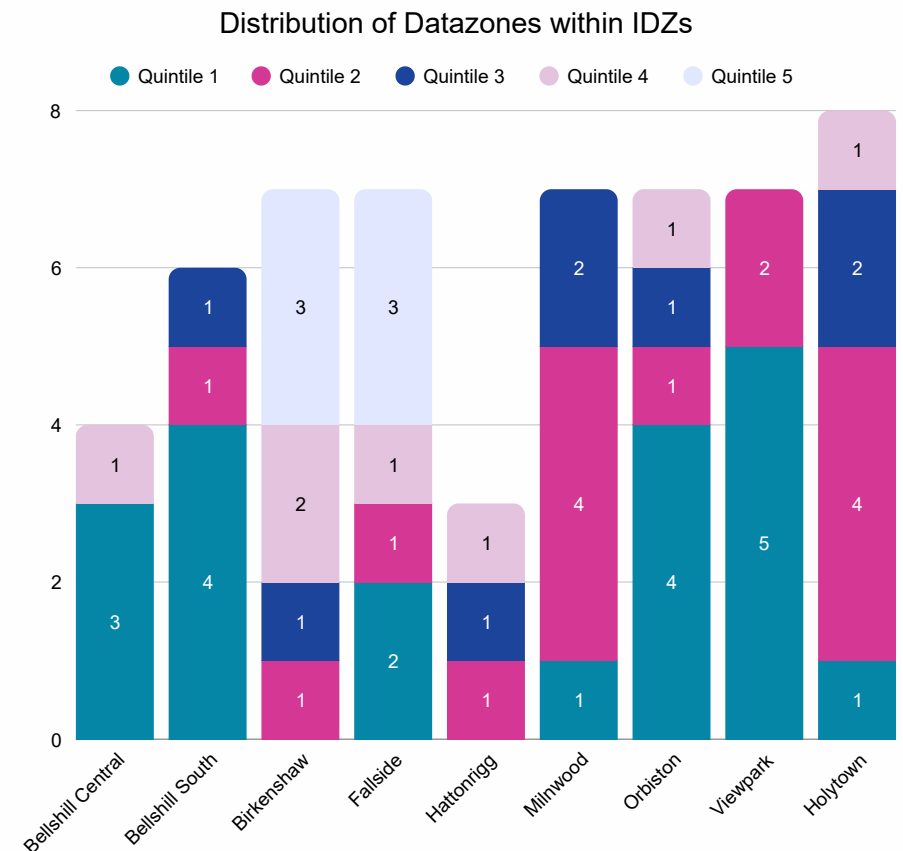
There are 9 intermediate datazones (IDZ) in Bellshill.

| Intermediate Datazone | Number of Data Zones |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Bellshill Central     | 4                    |
| Bellshill South       | 6                    |
| Birkenshaw            | 7                    |
| Fallside              | 7                    |
| Hattonrigg            | 3                    |
| Milnwood              | 7                    |
| Orbiston              | 7                    |
| Viewpark              | 7                    |
| Holytown              | 8                    |

Bellshill South and Viewpark have the highest proportion of data zones within quintiles 1 and 2, indicating comparatively higher levels of deprivation within these areas. Orbiston has the same number of datazones in quintile 1 as Bellshill South, however, it also has datazones across quintiles 2 to 4. In contrast, areas such as Holytown, Hattonrigg, and Milnwood show a more mixed distribution across the quintiles.

Birkenshaw and Fallside are the only two areas with datazones in quintile 5. They also have the highest number of datazones in quintile 4 and 5, reflecting lower levels of deprivation.

Looking at IDZs demonstrates the uneven distribution of need across communities in Bellshill.



# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check

## Services Across Bellshill

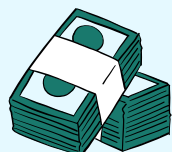
**49**

registered charities in  
Bellshill  
(OSCR, 2026)

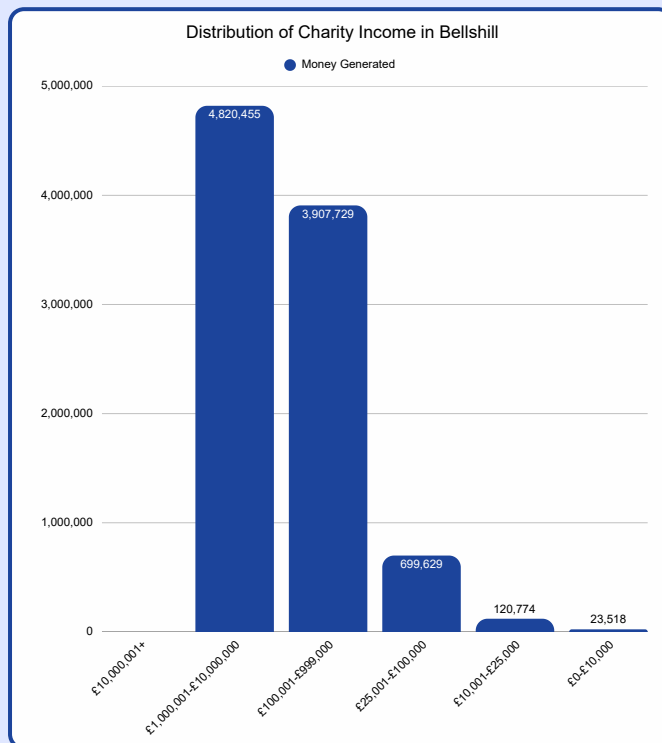


**£9,572,105**

income generated  
(OSCR, 2025)

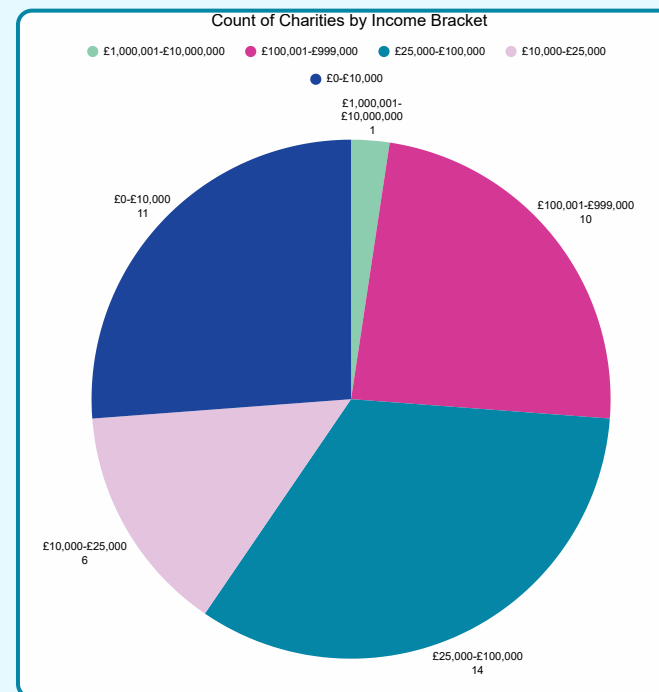


The below shows total charity income generated, broken down by the income bracket of the organisation:



In Bellshill, £4.8 million (50%) was generated by one large charitable organisation. No organisations in Bellshill reported an income over £10m.

Using a count of charities operating in the locality by income bracket, the level of diversity in income is more evident:



£3.9 million (41%) was generated by 10 organisations within an income between £100,001- £1 million. 14 organisations had an income between £25,001 and £100,000, reporting a collective income of just below £700k. Six organisations with incomes between £10,001 and £25,000 generated a collective income of just over £120,000 (1%). 11 organisations with incomes of less than £10,000 generated £23,518 (<1%).

**It should be noted that seven organisations had not at the point of analysis posted most recent income and expenditure information.**

# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check



## Services Across Bellshill

### Children and Young People

Bellshill has three secondary schools:

- Bellshill Academy
- Cardinal Newman High School
- Fallside Secondary (ASN)

These in turn are served by seven primary schools:

- Holy Family Primary
- John Paul II Primary
- Lawmuir Primary
- Mossend Primary
- Noble Primary
- Sacred Heart Primary
- St Gerard's Primary

Additionally, the locality has two family learning centres: Bellshill Family Learning Centre and Laburnum Family Learning Centre.

Each school hosts several third sector-provided projects. Figure 7 (below) provides an overview of this provision as funded by the Children and Young People's fund 2025/2026:

| School                    | Project                             | CVS Organisation                                  |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Bellshill Academy         | Nourish and Flourish                | Lanarkshire Community Food and Health Partnership |
|                           | Y-Empower                           | YMCA Bellshill and Mossend                        |
|                           | Equine Assisted Therapeutic Support | Ponies Help Children                              |
|                           | Positive Creations                  | Make and Create Arts                              |
|                           | Reeltime Music                      | Reeltime Music                                    |
| Cardinal Newman Secondary | Joining the Dots                    | The Holding Space                                 |
|                           | Creative Me Wellbeing Programme     | VIP-Pass Community Project                        |
|                           | Community Transition Group          | HOPE for Autism                                   |
|                           | OutLET                              | OutLET                                            |

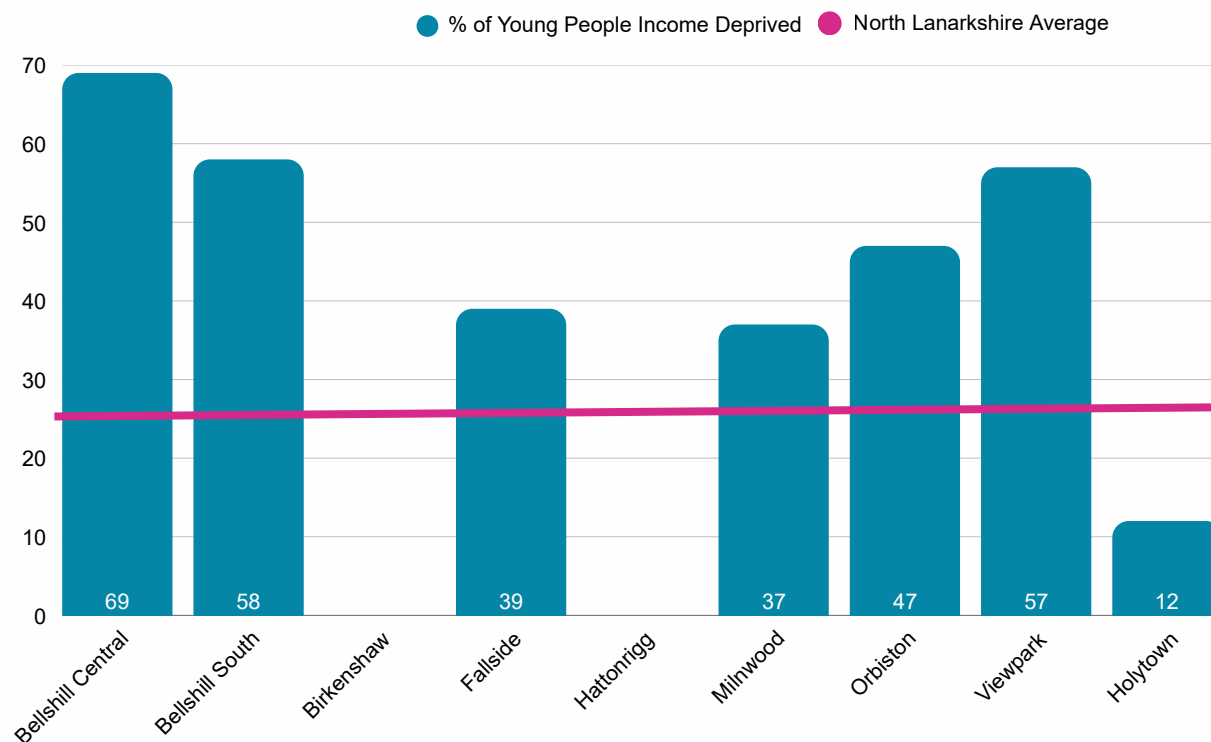
## Children and Young People in Bellshill

The proportion of children and young people (aged 0–25) living within the 20% most income-deprived areas varies considerably across the locality (ScotPHO, 2023). The average number of children and young people living within the 20% most income-deprived areas across North Lanarkshire is 26.2%.

Seven out of nine IDZs have a proportion of children and young people living within the 20% most income-deprived data zones. The two remaining areas sit at zero.

Six out of the seven areas with a proportion of young people living in the most income deprived areas are above the North Lanarkshire average. Bellshill Central has the highest percentage (69%), followed closely by Bellshill South (58%), and Viewpark (57%). Holytown is the only area in the locality below the North Lanarkshire average at 12%.

Percentage of Young People (0-25) living in 20% most income deprived SIMD Quintile



# Locality Profile

## Coatbridge

# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check



## Locality Profile - Coatbridge

Coatbridge is a large peri-urban locality in North Lanarkshire. It borders Airdrie and Glasgow City. Much of Coatbridge is classified as urban, surrounded by smaller villages such as Gartcosh, Marnock and Glenboig. It is within the Coatbridge and Bellshill constituency.



### Population Size

**48,371**

(UHSPC, 2025)  
23,534 males  
24,837 females



### Young People in Income Deprived Areas

**28.9%**

of residents aged 0-25 live within the 20% most income deprived areas, compared to 26.2% across North Lanarkshire

(ScotPho, 2023)

## Socio-economic Profile

Coatbridge locality experiences higher levels of deprivation than the North Lanarkshire average, with 40% of residents living in data zones within SIMD quintile 1, compared to 33% across North Lanarkshire as a whole.

Coatbridge follows a similar pattern to North Lanarkshire as a whole, with the number of datazones decreasing from quintile 2 to 5. The number of datazones in quintile 5 is significantly lower than the North Lanarkshire average, at 4% vs 11%.

39.7% of residents within the Coatbridge locality live in the 20% most deprived areas in Scotland, compared to 31.6% across North Lanarkshire (ScotPho, 2023).

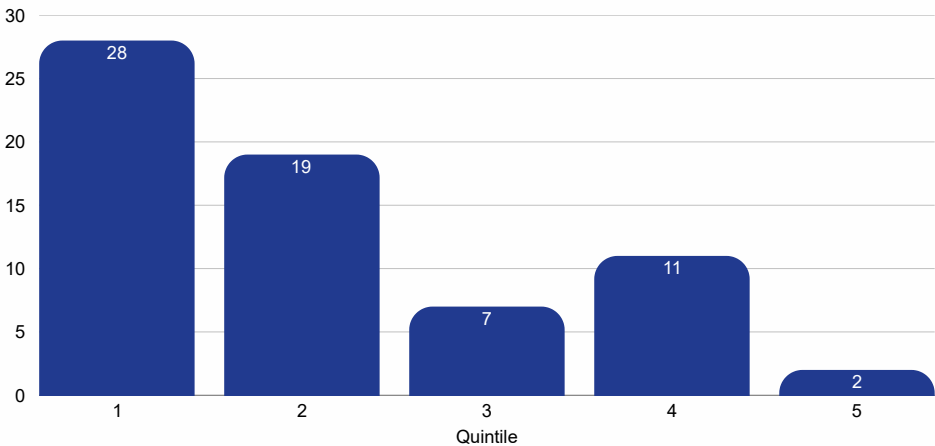
| SIMD Quintile | Coatbridge | North Lanarkshire |
|---------------|------------|-------------------|
| 1             | 40%        | 33%               |
| 2             | 29%        | 27%               |
| 3             | 14%        | 14%               |
| 4             | 14%        | 16%               |
| 5             | 4%         | 11%               |

Coatbridge Locality Report, USCHP, 2025

## Within Coatbridge

Within Coatbridge, 47 of the 67 data zones fall within quintiles 1 and 2, while the remaining 20 are distributed across Quintiles 3 to 5. This highlights the level of deprivation within the locality, with a majority of data zones categorised among the more deprived SIMD quintiles.

Distribution of Datazones across SIMD Quintiles



# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check

## Within Coatbridge cont'd

There are 11 intermediate datazones (IDZ) in Coatbridge.

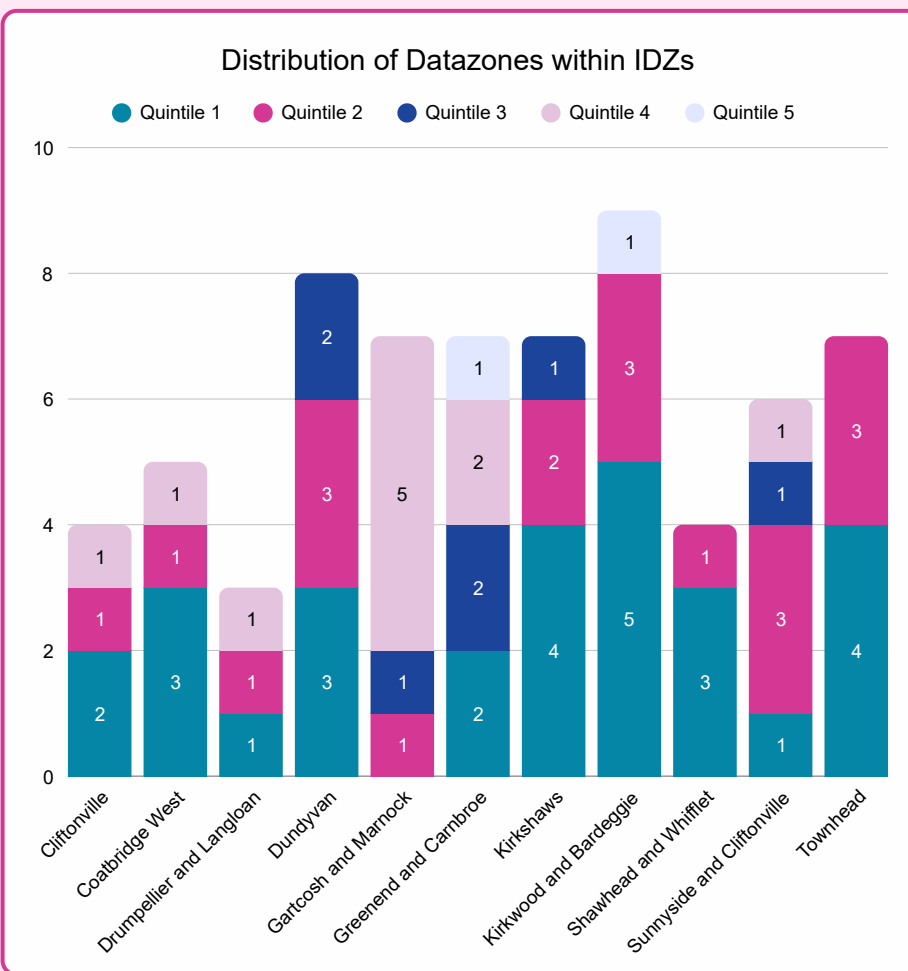
| Intermediate Datazone      | Number of Data Zones |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Cliftonville               | 4                    |
| Coatbridge West            | 5                    |
| Drumpellier and Langloan   | 3                    |
| Dundyvan                   | 8                    |
| Gartcosh and Marnock       | 7                    |
| Greenend and Carnbroe      | 7                    |
| Kirkshaws                  | 7                    |
| Kirkwood and Bardeggie     | 9                    |
| Shawhead and Whifflet      | 4                    |
| Sunnyside and Cliftonville | 6                    |
| Townhead                   | 7                    |

There is considerable variation in deprivation levels across the 11 IDZs in Coatbridge. Townhead and Shawhead and Whifflet contain the highest proportion of data zones in quintiles 1 and 2, indicating comparatively higher levels of deprivation within these areas.

In contrast, areas such as Gartcosh and Marnock, and Sunnyside and Cliftonville have a more mixed distribution across the quintiles.

Greenend and Carnbroe and Kirkwood and Bardeggie are the only areas with datazones in quintile 5 (one datazone each). However, Kirkwood and Bardeggie also has 5 datazones in quintile 1, illustrating highly varied levels of deprivation across the area.

All but one area has at least one datazone in quintile 1.



# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check

## Services Across Coatbridge

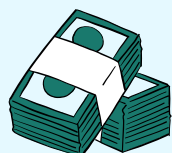
**85**

registered charities in  
Coatbridge  
(OSCR, 2026)

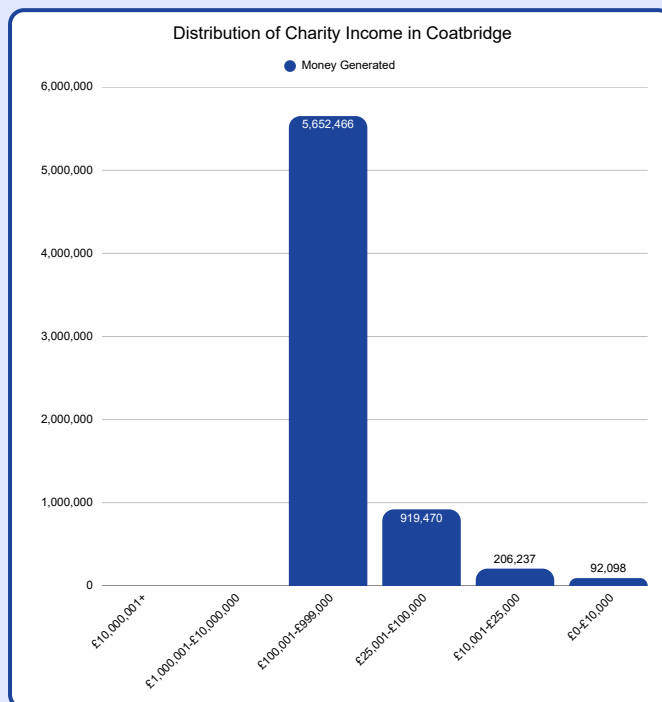


**£6,870,271**

income generated  
(OSCR, 2025)

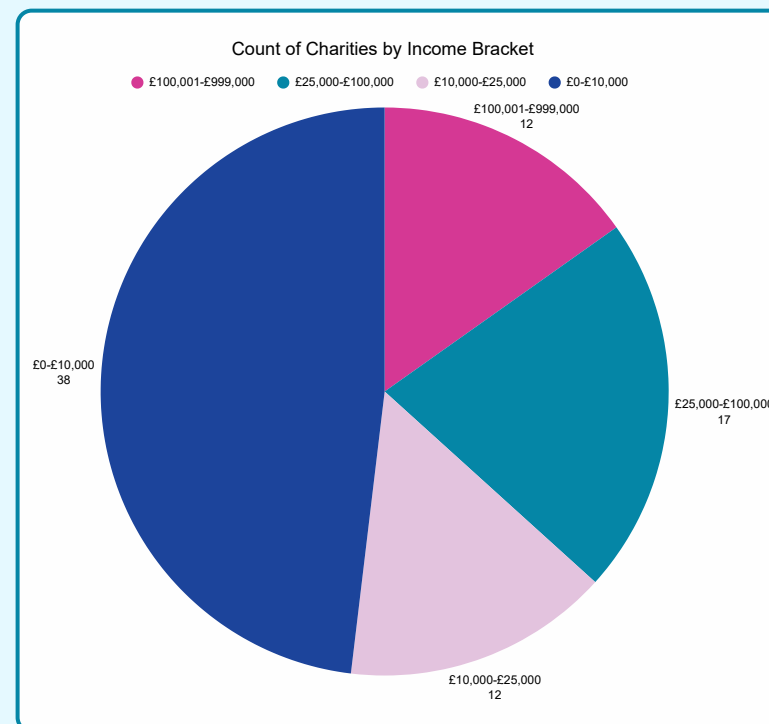


The below shows total charity income generated, broken down by the income bracket of the organisation:



82% of income in Coatbridge (£5.7m) was generated by 12 organisations reporting incomes between £100,001 and £1m. No organisations in Coatbridge reported incomes above £1m.

Using a count of charities operating in the locality by income bracket, the level of diversity in income is more evident:



A further £919,470 was generated by 17 organisations with revenues between £25,001 and £100,000 (13%). Finally, 50 organisations operated with revenues under £25,000, collectively generating £298,335 (accounting for 4% of the total income brought in by Coatbridge third sector charities).

**It should be noted that 6 organisations had not at the point of analysis posted most recent income and expenditure information.**

# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check



## Services Across Coatbridge

### Children and Young People

Coatbridge has five secondary schools:

- Buchanan High (ASN)
- Coatbridge High
- Portland High (ASN)
- St. Ambrose High
- St. Andrews High

These in turn are served by 20 primary schools:

- Drumpark
- Glenboig Primary
- Greenhill Primary
- Kirkshaws Primary
- Langloan Primary
- Mavisbank School
- Old Monkland Primary
- Our Lady & St Joseph's Primary
- Pentland School
- Riverbank Primary
- Shawhead Primary
- St Augustine's Primary
- St Bartholomew's Primary
- St Bernard's Primary
- St Mary's Primary
- St Monica's Primary
- St Patrick's Primary
- St Stephen's Primary
- St Timothy's Primary
- Townhead Primary

Additionally, the locality has 2 family learning centres: Dunbeth Family Learning Centre and Shawhead Family Learning Centre.

Each school hosts several third sector-provided projects. Figure 7 (below) provides an overview of this provision as funded by the Children and Young People's fund 2025/2026:

| School                   | Project                         | CVS Organisation                                  |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Coatbridge High          | Y-Act                           | YMCA Bellshill and Mossend                        |
|                          | Y-Empower                       | YMCA Bellshill and Mossend                        |
|                          | Equine Assisted Therapy         | Ponies Help Children                              |
| St. Ambrose High School  | Joining the Dots                | The Holding Space                                 |
|                          | Creative Me Wellbeing Programme | VIP-Pass Community Project                        |
|                          | Nourish and Flourish            | Lanarkshire Community Food and Health Partnership |
|                          | YMCA Bellshill and Mossend      | Y-Empower                                         |
|                          | Equine Assisted Therapy         | Ponies Help Children                              |
| St. Andrew's High School | Y-Empower                       | YMCA Bellshill and Mossend                        |
|                          | Youth and Community Ranger      | OutLET                                            |
|                          | Equine Assisted Therapy         | Ponies Help Children                              |

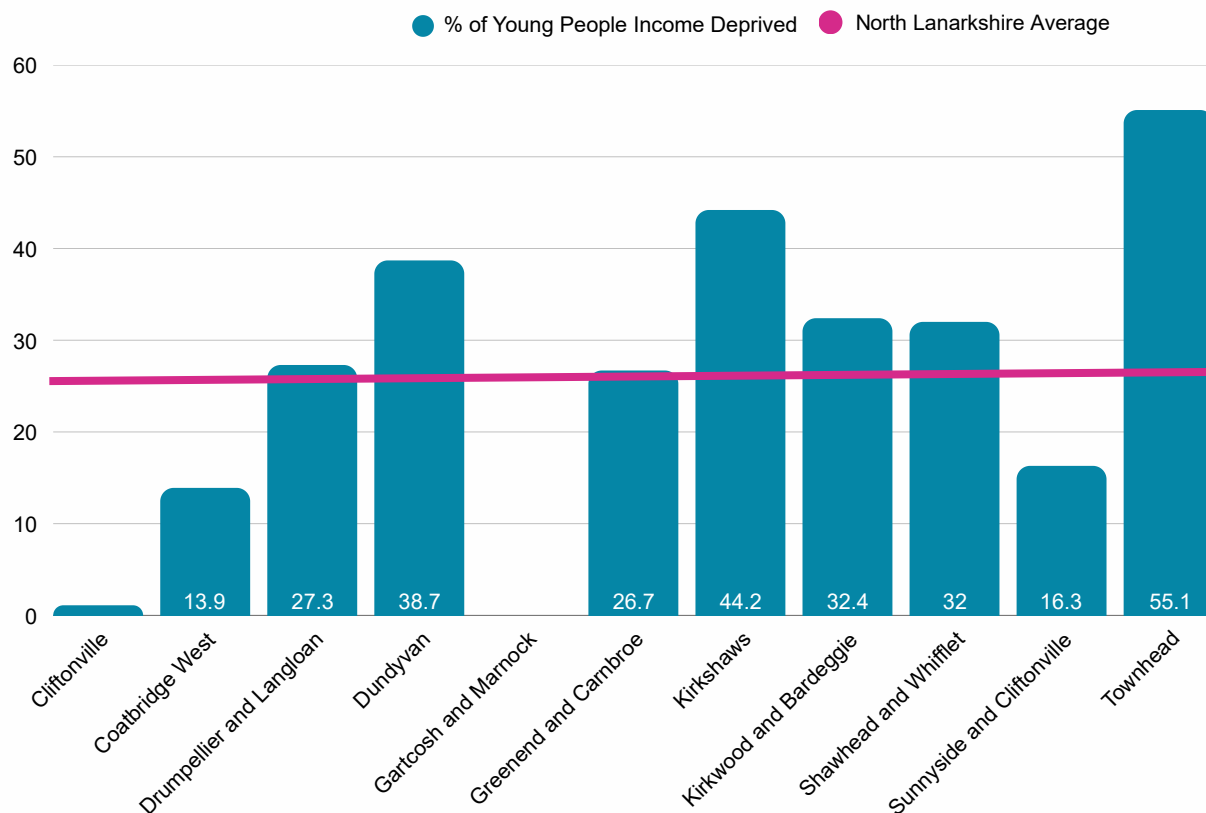
## Children and Young People in Coatbridge

The proportion of children and young people (aged 0–25) living within the 20% most income-deprived areas varies considerably across the locality (ScotPHO, 2023). The average number of children and young people living within the 20% most income-deprived areas across North Lanarkshire is 26.2%.

Ten out of 11 IDZs have a proportion of children and young people living within the 20% most income-deprived data zones. The remaining area sits at zero.

Seven of the ten areas with a proportion of young people living in the most income deprived areas are above the North Lanarkshire average. Townhead has the highest percentage with 55.1%. Cliftonville, Coatbridge West, and Sunnyside and Cliftonville are below the average - Cliftonville has a very small percentage at 1.1%.

Percentage of Young People (0-25) living in 20% most income deprived SIMD Quintile



# Locality Profile

## Motherwell

# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check



## Locality Profile - Motherwell

Motherwell is a large urban town bordering Wishaw to the East, Bellshill to the West and South Lanarkshire to the South. It is part of the Motherwell and Wishaw electoral constituency.



### Population Size

**55,164**

(UHSPC, 2025)  
27,074 males  
28,090 females



### Young People in Income Deprived Areas

**35%**

of residents aged 0-25 live within the 20% most income deprived areas, compared to 26.2% across North Lanarkshire

(ScotPho, 2023)

## Socio-economic Profile

Motherwell locality experiences a higher level of deprivation than the North Lanarkshire average, with 41% of residents living in data zones within SIMD quintile 1, compared to 33% across North Lanarkshire.

However, across the locality, more varied levels of deprivation are observed. Motherwell has a higher proportion of residents living within the least deprived SIMD quintile 5 (18% vs 11%), and significantly less residents living in quintile 2 (18% vs 27%).

39% of residents within the Motherwell locality live in the 20% most deprived areas in Scotland, compared to 31.6% across North Lanarkshire (ScotPho, 2023).

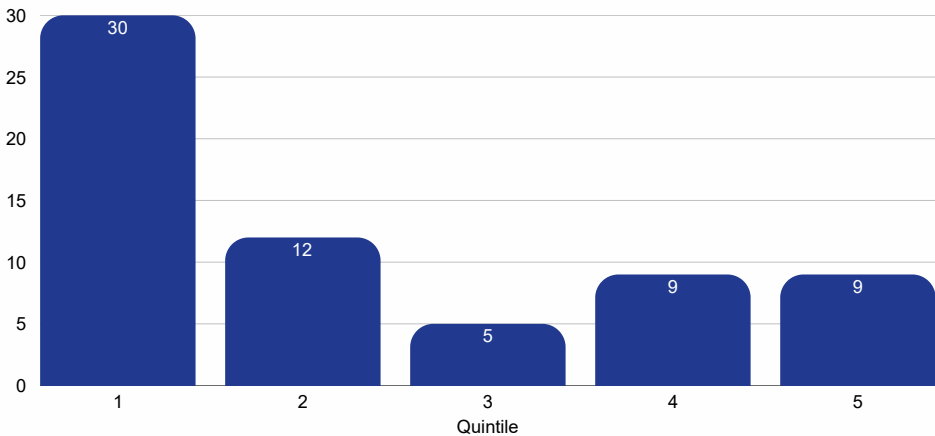
| SIMD Quintile | Motherwell | North Lanarkshire |
|---------------|------------|-------------------|
| 1             | 41%        | 33%               |
| 2             | 18%        | 27%               |
| 3             | 9%         | 14%               |
| 4             | 14%        | 16%               |
| 5             | 18%        | 11%               |

Motherwell Locality Report, USCHP, 2025

## Within Motherwell

There is some variability within the locality. Of the 65 datazones in the locality, the majority (42) were in quintile 1 and 2. The remaining 23 are in quintile 3 to 5.

Distribution of Datazones across SIMD Quintiles



# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check

## Within Motherwell cont'd

There are 12 intermediate datazones (IDZ) in Motherwell. UHSCP considers Craigneuk as part of the Motherwell community profile, as does this report. Craigneuk is considered Wishaw by some residents and statutory partners.

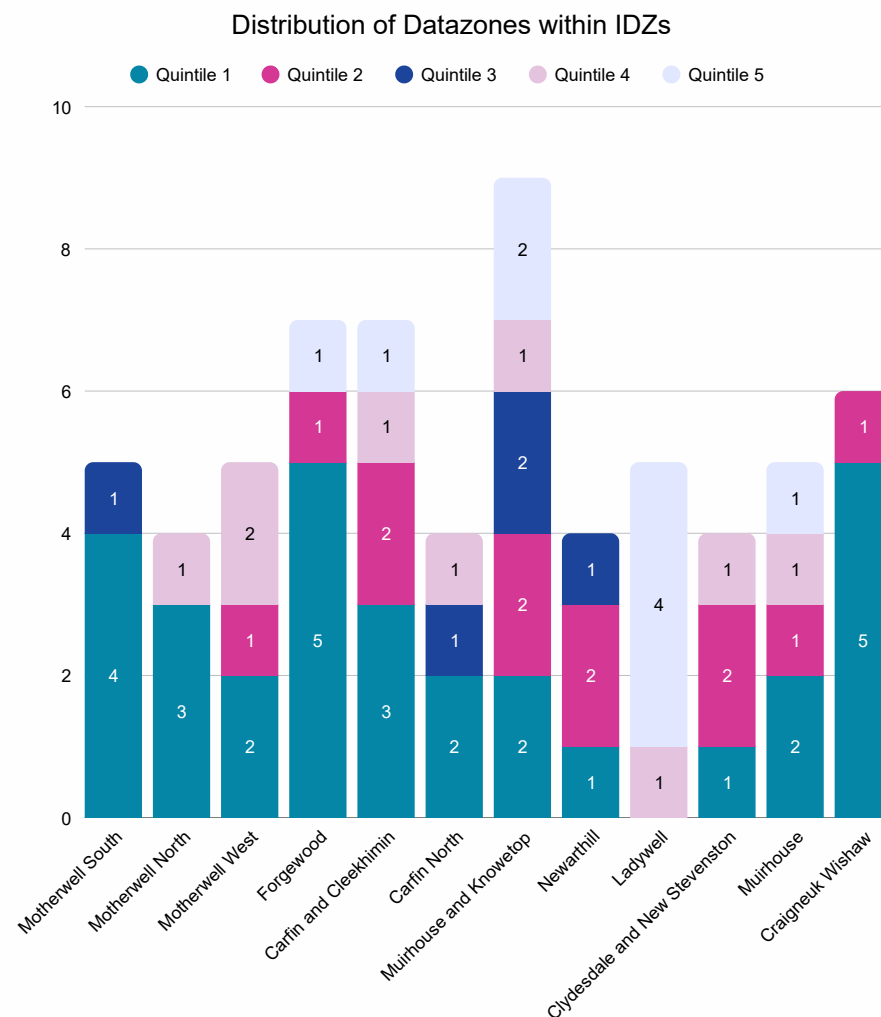
| Intermediate Datazone         | Number of Data Zones |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| Motherwell South              | 5                    |
| Motherwell North              | 4                    |
| Motherwell West               | 5                    |
| Forgewood                     | 7                    |
| Carfin and Cleekhimin         | 7                    |
| Carfin North                  | 4                    |
| Muirhouse and Knowetop        | 9                    |
| Newarthill                    | 4                    |
| Ladywell                      | 5                    |
| Clydesdale and New Stevenston | 4                    |
| Muirhouse                     | 5                    |
| Craigneuk                     | 6                    |

There is considerable variation in the levels of deprivation in Motherwell across the 12 IDZs.

Craigneuk and Forgewood have the highest proportion of IDZs in quintile 1 and 2 (5 each), followed by Motherwell South (4 datazones).

Muirhouse and Knowetop, and Carfin and Cleekhimin have a more varied distribution. Muirhouse is the only area with at least one datazone in each quintile.

Ladywell is the only area with all data zones in quintile 4 and 5, indicating lower levels of deprivation in this area. Five areas have at least one data zone in quintile 5.



# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check



## Services Across Motherwell

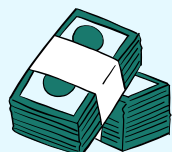
**111**

registered charities in  
Motherwell  
(OSCR, 2026)

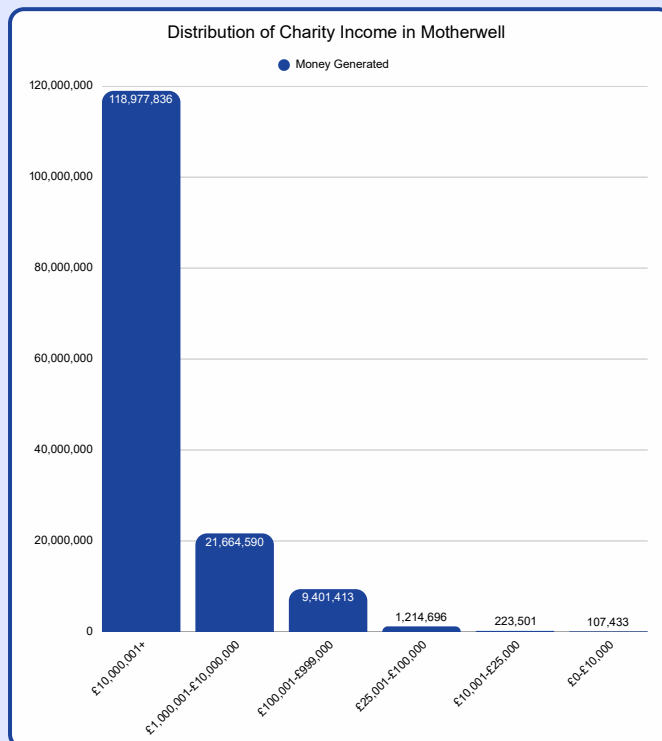


**£151,579,469**

income generated  
(OSCR, 2025)

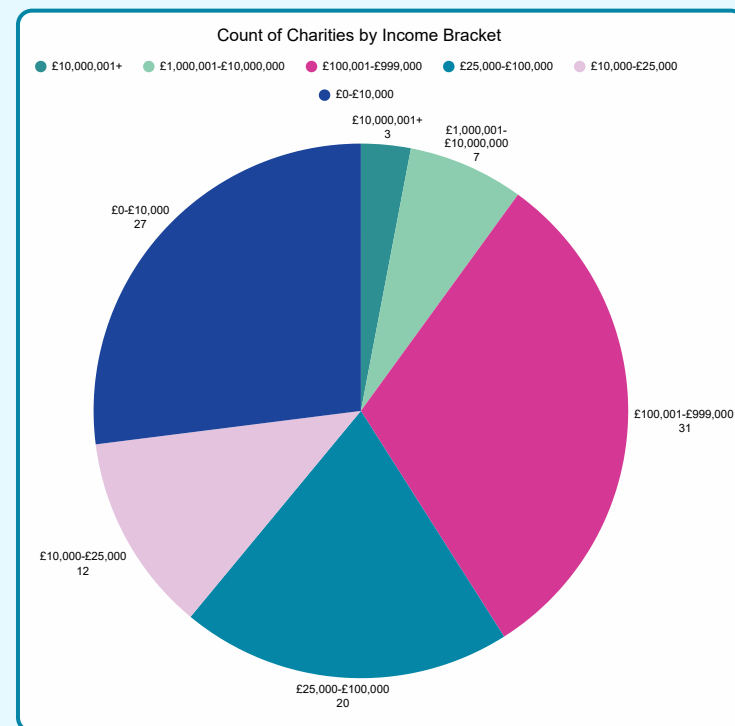


The below shows total charity income generated, broken down by the income bracket of the organisation:



The majority (79%) of income was generated by three organisations: a large further education institution, a large housing association, and a religious archdiocese.

Using a count of charities operating in the locality by income bracket, the level of diversity in income is more evident:



Seven organisations are operating with an income between £1m and £10m. 31 organisations operating with an income between £100k and £1m. There are 20 smaller organisations operating between £25k and £100k, 12 between £10k and £25k, and 27 between £0 and £10k.

**It should be noted that 11 organisations had not at the point of analysis posted most recent income and expenditure information.**

# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check



## Services Across Motherwell

### Children and Young People

Motherwell has six secondary schools:

- Braidhurst
- Brannock
- Dalziel
- Firpark (ASN)
- Our Lady's
- Taylor

These in turn are served by 20 primary schools:

- Cathedral Primary
- Christ the King Primary
- Cleland Primary
- Glencairn Primary
- Holy Family Primary
- Holytown Primary
- Kier Hardie Primary
- Knowetop Primary
- Ladywell Primary
- Logan's Primary
- Muir Street Primary
- Muirhouse Primary
- New Stevenston Primary
- Newarthill Primary
- Our Lady & St Francis' Primary
- St Bernadette's Primary
- St Brendan's Primary
- St Mary's Primary
- St Patrick's Primary
- St Theresa's Primary

Additionally, the locality has two family learning centres:, Ailsa Family Learning Centre, Forgewood Family Learning Centre and Craigneuk Family Learning Centre.

Each school hosts several third sector-provided projects. Figure 7 (below) provides an overview of this provision as funded by the Children and Young People's fund 2025/2026:

| School                 | Project                                                   | CVS Organisation                                |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Taylor High            | Personalised Intensive Support – Taylor High              | HOPE for Autism                                 |
|                        | Shredability: Education & Schools Programme – Taylor High | Socialtrack                                     |
|                        | Creative Me Wellbeing Project                             | VIP-Pass Community Project                      |
| Our Lady's High School | Personalised Intensive Support – OLH                      | HOPE for Autism                                 |
|                        | Shredability: Education & Schools Programme – OLH         | Socialtrack                                     |
|                        | Beating the Blues in Schools                              | Action for Children                             |
|                        | Bespoke Youth & Children's Support - OLH                  | Made4UInML2                                     |
| Braidhurst High School | Nourish & Flourish – Braidhurst                           | Lanarkshire Community Food & Health Partnership |
|                        | Garden of Dreams - Creative Wellbeing Programme           | Bazooka Arts                                    |

\*continued on next page

# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check



Third sector-provided projects funded by the Children and Young People's fund 2025/2026:

| School                 | Project                                    | CVS Organisation           |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Braidhurst High School | Positive Creations - Braidhurst            | Make & Create Arts         |
|                        | Y-Empower – Braidhurst                     | YMCA Bellshill and Mossend |
|                        | Reeltime Music – Braidhurst                | Reeltime Music             |
| Brannock High School   | Creative Me Wellbeing Programme – Brannock | VIP-Pass Community Project |
|                        | Personalised Intensive Support – Brannock  | HOPE for Autism            |
| Dalziel High School    | Joining the Dots – Dalziel                 | The Holding Space          |
|                        | Youth and Community Ranger – Dalziel       | OutLET                     |

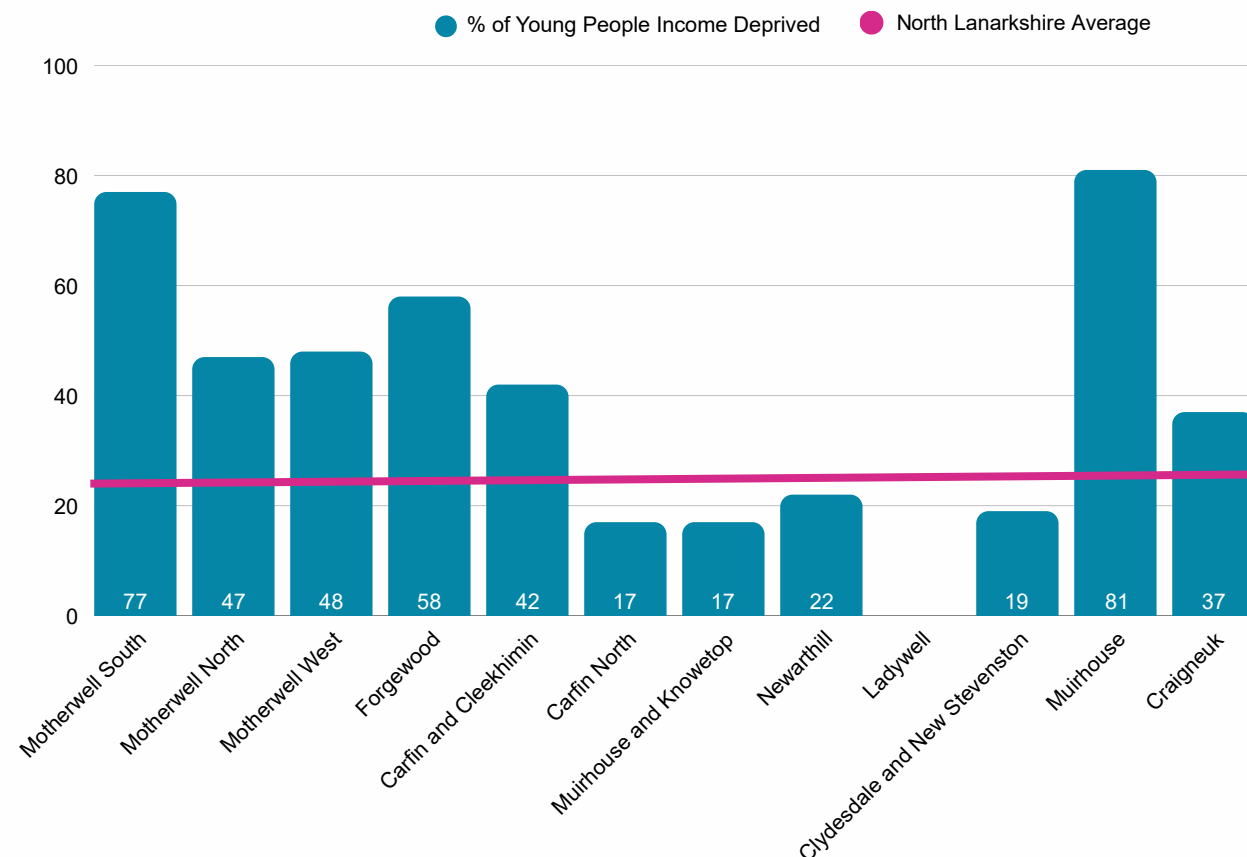
## Children and Young People in Motherwell

The proportion of children and young people (aged 0–25) living within the 20% most income-deprived areas varies considerably across the locality (ScotPHO, 2023). The average number of children and young people living within the 20% most income-deprived areas across North Lanarkshire is 26.2%.

11 out of 12 IDZs have a proportion of children and young people living within the 20% most income-deprived data zones. The remaining area sits at zero.

Seven of the 11 areas with a proportion of young people living in the most income deprived areas are above the North Lanarkshire average. The areas with the highest percentage are Muirhouse (81%) and Motherwell South (77%). The four areas below the average were roughly similar; between 17% and 22%.

Percentage of Young People (0-25) living in 20% most income deprived SIMD Quintile



# Locality Profile

## The North

# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check



## Locality Profile - The North

The North locality is the largest of the six North Lanarkshire localities, both by population and geographic size. The locality is predominantly suburban with significant rural and semi-rural areas. The locality is in the Cumbernauld and Kirkintilloch constituency.



## Population Size

**88,522**

(UHSPC, 2025)

42,804 males  
45,718 females



## Young People in Income Deprived Areas

**9%**

of residents aged 0-25 live within the 20% most income deprived areas, compared to 26.2% across North Lanarkshire

(ScotPho, 2023)

## Socio-economic Profile

The North locality has lower levels of deprivation than the North Lanarkshire average, with 12% of residents living in data zones classified within quintile 1, compared to 33% across North Lanarkshire as a whole.

This is the lowest percentage of population living within quintile 1 across all six North Lanarkshire localities. The North also has a higher proportion of the population living within quintile 4 and 5 than the North Lanarkshire average. This suggests the North experiences a lower level of deprivation compared to North Lanarkshire as a whole.

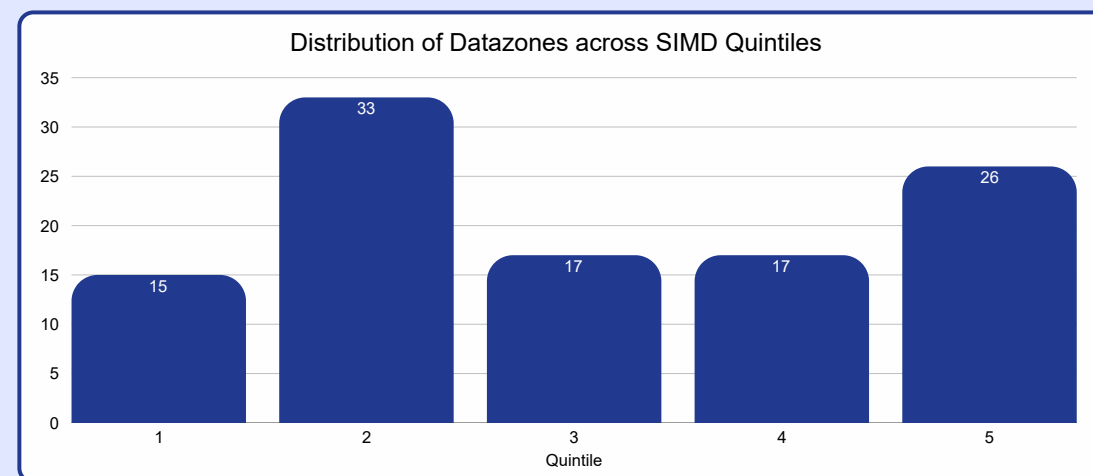
11.5% of residents within The North locality live in the 20% most deprived areas in Scotland, compared to 31.6% across North Lanarkshire (ScotPho, 2023).

| <u>SIMD Quintile</u> | <u>The North</u> | <u>North Lanarkshire</u> |
|----------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| 1                    | 12%              | 33%                      |
| 2                    | 30%              | 27%                      |
| 3                    | 16%              | 14%                      |
| 4                    | 19%              | 16%                      |
| 5                    | 23%              | 11%                      |

The North Locality Report, USCHP, 2025

## Within The North

Within the North, 48 of the 108 data zones fall within quintiles 1 and 2, while the remaining 60 are distributed across quintiles 3 to 5. 43 of the data zones contained within the locality fall within the two least deprived SIMD quintiles.



# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check

## Within The North cont'd

There are 20 intermediate datazones within the locality.

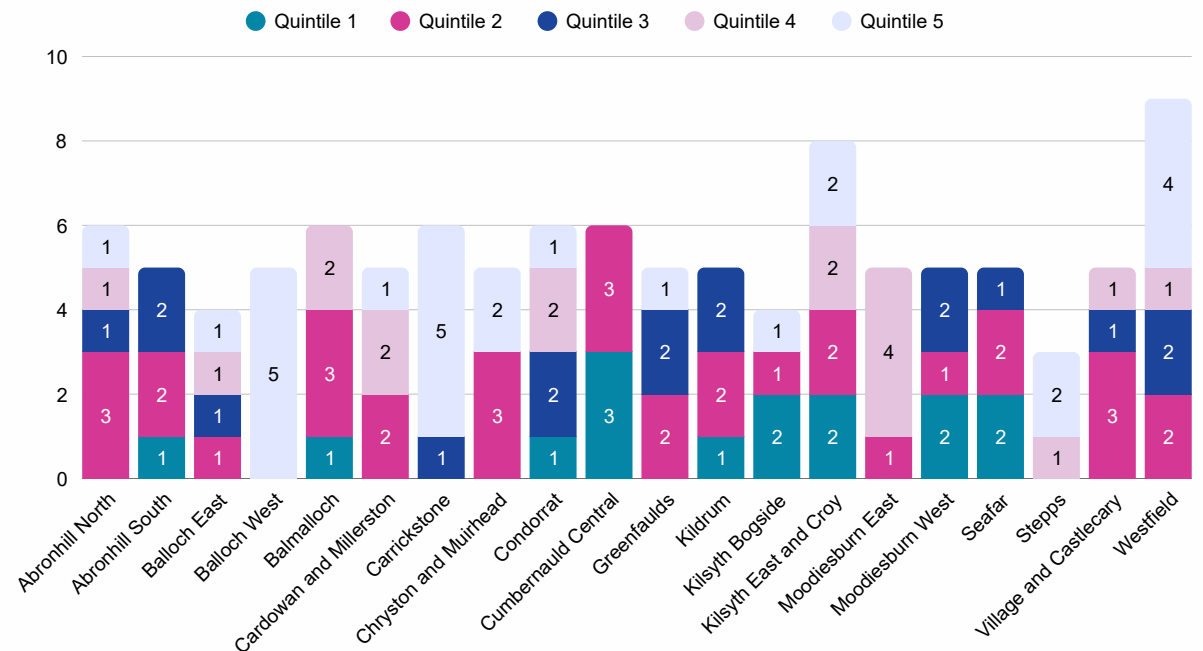
| Intermediate Datazone   | Number of Data Zones | Intermediate Datazone  | Number of Data Zones |
|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Abronnhill North        | 6                    | Cumbernauld Central    | 6                    |
| Abronnhill South        | 5                    | Greenfaulds            | 5                    |
| Balloch East            | 4                    | Kildrum                | 5                    |
| Balloch West            | 5                    | Kilsyth Bogside        | 4                    |
| Balmalloch              | 6                    | Kilsyth East and Croy  | 8                    |
| Cardowan and Millerston | 5                    | Moodiesburn East       | 5                    |
| Carrickstone            | 6                    | Moodiesburn West       | 5                    |
| Chryston and Muirhead   | 5                    | Seafar                 | 5                    |
| Condorrat               | 6                    | Stepps                 | 3                    |
|                         |                      | Village and Castlecary | 5                    |
|                         |                      | Westfield              | 9                    |

There is considerable variation in the levels of deprivation in the North across the 20 IDZs. Cumbernauld Central and Seafar have the most data zones within quintiles 1 and 2. Cumbernauld Central has all of its six data zones within quintiles 1 and 2. Seafar has four of five within these quintiles. This indicates higher levels of deprivation in these areas.

In contrast, Balloch East has all data zones in quintile 5, Stepps has all data zones in quintiles 4 or 5, and Carrickstone with 5 of 6 data zones in quintile 5.

Kilsyth East and Croy presents a mixed picture of deprivation, with half of their data zones in quintiles 1 and 2 and half within quintile 4 and 5.

Distribution of Datazones within IDZs



# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check

## Services Across The North

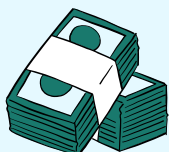
**137**

registered charities in the  
North  
(OSCR, 2026)

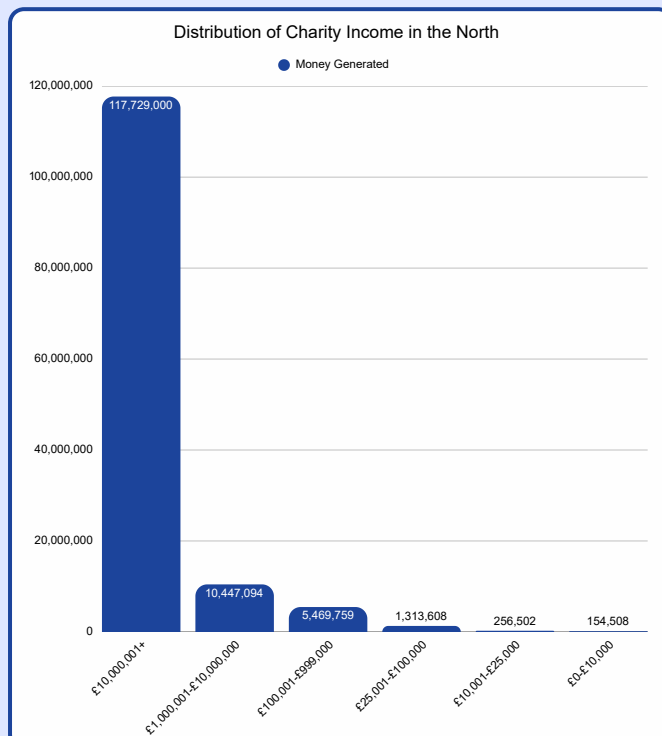


**£135,370,471**

income generated  
(OSCR, 2025)

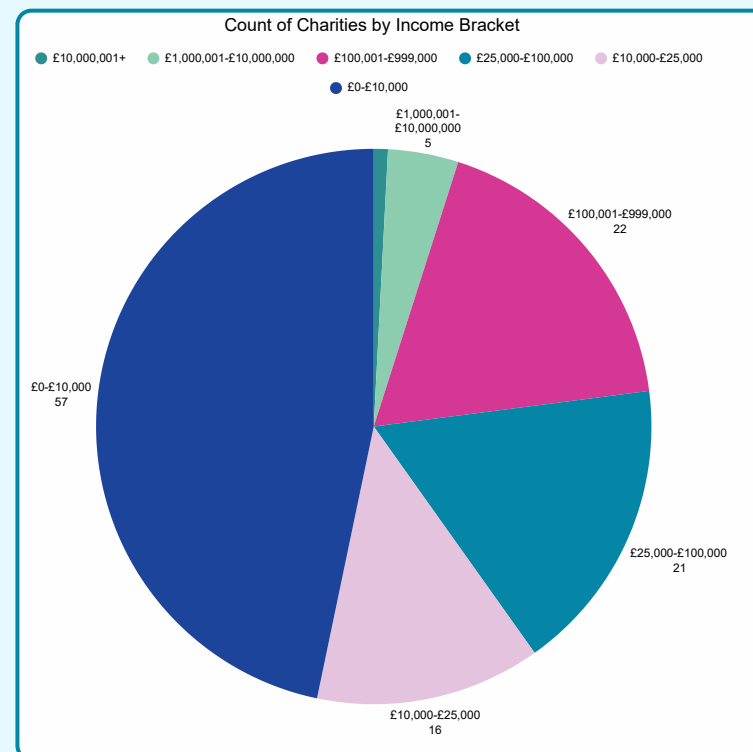


The below shows total charity income generated, broken down by the income bracket of the organisation:



A significant proportion of this revenue was generated by one organisation, a large social care and support provider (£118 million). This is the largest single income within North Lanarkshire.

Using a count of charities operating in the locality by income bracket, the level of diversity in income is more evident:



The majority of revenue (£10.45 million) was generated by five organisations, each operating with incomes of between £1 million and £10 million. In contrast, most organisations (57) were operating with incomes of less than £10,000, collectively generating an income of £155,000 (or 1%) of the total income of those organisations with less than £10 million income.

**It should be noted that 15 organisations had not at the point of analysis posted most recent income and expenditure information.**

# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check



## Services Across the North

### Children and Young People

The North has seven secondary schools:

- Chryston High
- Cumbernauld Academy
- Greenfaulds High
- Kilsyth Academy
- Our Lady's High
- Redburn School (ASN)
- St. Maurice's High

These in turn are served by 30 primary schools:

- Abrohill Primary
- Auchinloch Primary
- Baird Memorial Primary
- Balmalloch Primary
- Banton Primary
- Carbrain Primary
- Chapelgreen Primary
- Chryston Primary
- Condorrat Primary
- Cumbernauld Primary
- Eastfield Primary
- Gartcosh Primary
- Glenmanor Primary
- Holy Cross Primary
- Kildrum Primary
- Kilsyth Primary
- Ravenswood Primary
- St Andrew's Primary
- St Barbara's Primary
- St Helen's Primary
- St Joseph's Primary
- St Lucy's Primary
- St Margaret's of Scotland Primary
- St Mary's Primary
- St Michael's Primary
- St Patrick's Primary
- Stepps Primary
- Westfield Primary
- Whitelees Primary
- Woodlands Primary

The locality also has Glencryan School, which is a combined ASN primary and secondary school.

Additionally, the locality has six family learning centres: Broomlands, Cumbernauld Village, Kildrum. St. Patrick's, Jigsaw and Stepping Stones.

Each school hosts several third sector-provided projects. Figure 7 provides an overview of this provision as funded by the Children and Young People's fund 2025/2026:

| School                      | Project                                         | CVS Organisation                                  |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Chryston High School        | Shredability: Education and Schools Programme   | Social Track                                      |
| Cumbernauld Academy         | Reeltime Music                                  | Reeltime Music                                    |
|                             | Mental Health Supports                          | Miracle Foundation                                |
|                             | Youth and Community Ranger                      | OutLET                                            |
| Greenfaulds High School     | Creative Me Wellbeing Programme                 | VIP-Pass                                          |
|                             | Youth and Community Ranger                      | OutLET                                            |
|                             | Positive Creations                              | Make and Create Arts                              |
|                             | Reeltime Music                                  | Reeltime Music                                    |
| Kilsyth Academy             | Creative Me Wellbeing Programme                 | VIP-Pass                                          |
|                             | Youth and Community Ranger                      | OutLET                                            |
| Our Lady's High Cumbernauld | Nourish and Flourish                            | Lanarkshire Community Food and Health Partnership |
|                             | Garden of Dreams – Creative Wellbeing Programme | Bazooka Arts                                      |

\*continued on next page

# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check



Third sector-provided projects funded by the Children and Young People's fund 2025/2026:

| School                    | Project                             | CVS Organisation           |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| St. Maurice's High School | Creative Me Wellbeing Programme     | VIP-Pass                   |
|                           | Personalised Intensive Support      | HOPE for Autism            |
|                           | Y-Empower                           | YMCA Bellshill and Mossend |
|                           | Equine Assisted Therapeutic Support | Ponies Help Children       |

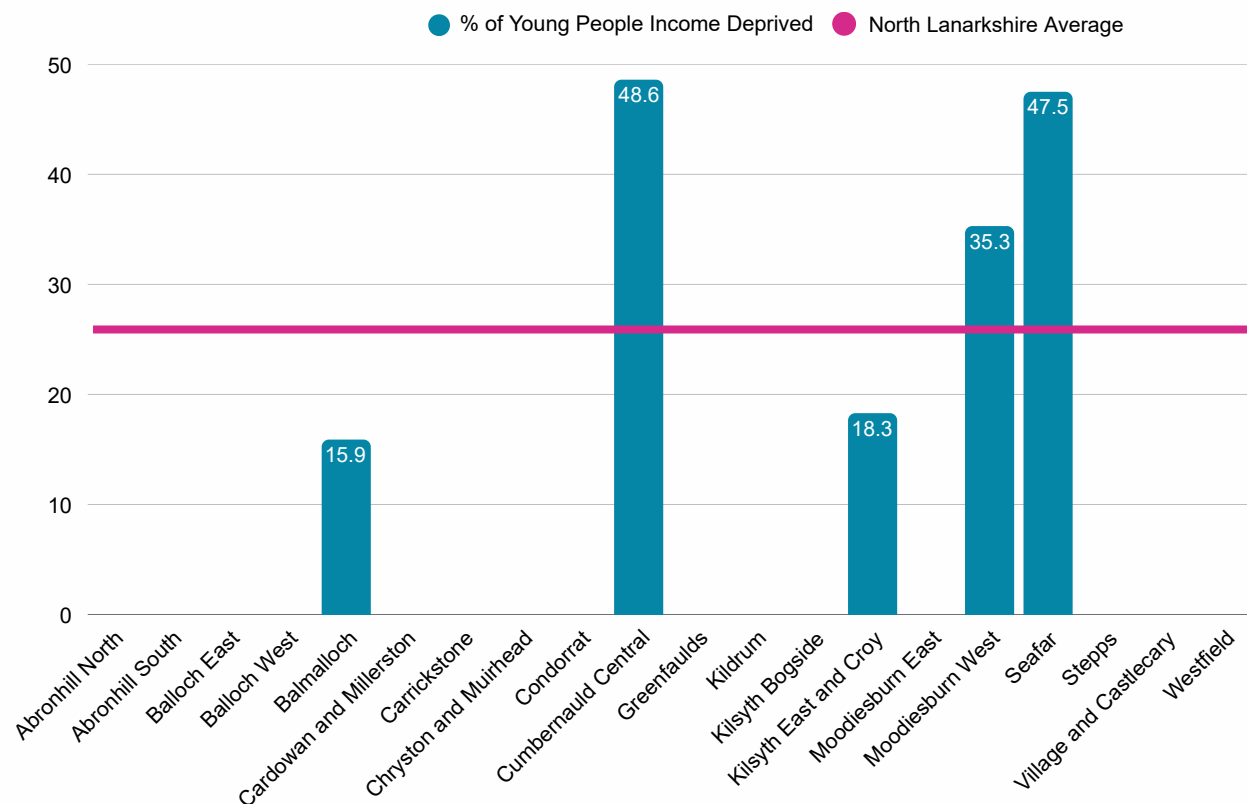
## Children and Young People in the North

The proportion of children and young people (aged 0–25) living within the 20% most income-deprived areas varies considerably across the locality (ScotPHO, 2023). The average number of children and young people living within the 20% most income-deprived areas across North Lanarkshire is 26.2%.

Five out of 20 IDZs have a proportion of children and young people living within the 20% most income-deprived data zones. The 15 remaining areas sit at 0.

Three of the five areas with a proportion of young people living in the most income deprived areas are above the North Lanarkshire average. Areas of greater need are Cumbernauld Central (48.6%), Seafar (47.5%) and Moodiesburn West (35.3%). Balmalloch and Kilsyth East and Croy are below the North Lanarkshire average.

Percentage of Young People (0-25) living in 20% most income deprived SIMD Quintile



# **Locality Profile**

## **Wishaw and Shotts**

# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check



## Locality Profile - Wishaw and Shotts

Wishaw is a semi-urban town in the south of North Lanarkshire. Shotts is a neighbouring rural town. Wishaw is part of the Motherwell and Wishaw electoral constituency and Shotts is part of Airdrie and Shotts.



### Population Size

51,227

(UHSPC, 2025)

25,070 males

26,157 females



### Young People in Income Deprived Areas

26.6%

of residents aged 0-25 live within the 20% most income deprived areas, compared to 26.2% across North Lanarkshire

(ScotPho, 2023)

## Socio-economic Profile

Wishaw and Shotts locality experiences a higher level of deprivation than the North Lanarkshire average.

| SIMD Quintile | Wishaw | North Lanarkshire |
|---------------|--------|-------------------|
| 1             | 36%    | 33%               |
| 2             | 35%    | 27%               |
| 3             | 12%    | 14%               |
| 4             | 14%    | 16%               |
| 5             | 3%     | 11%               |

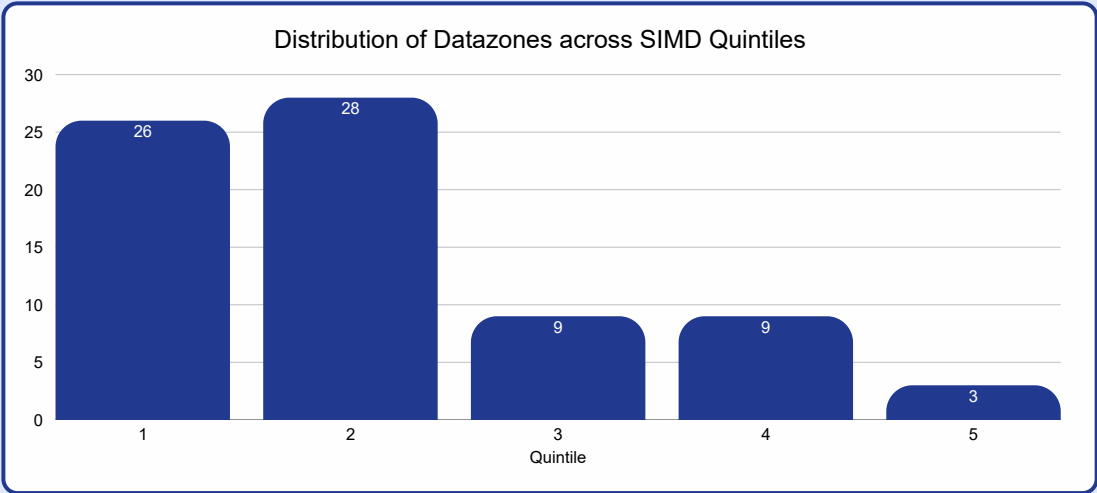
36% of residents living in data zones classified within SIMD quintile 1, compared to 33% across North Lanarkshire as a whole. Wishaw and Shotts also has significantly less people living in quintile 5 than the North Lanarkshire average (3% vs 11%)

32.4% of residents within the locality live in the 20% most deprived areas in Scotland, compared to 31.6% across North Lanarkshire (ScotPho, 2023).

Wishaw Locality Report, USCHP, 2025

## Within Wishaw and Shotts

There is some variability within the locality. Of the 75 datazones in the locality, the majority (54) were in quintile 1 and 2. The remaining 21 are in quintile 3 to 5.



# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check

## Within Wishaw & Shotts cont'd

There are 13 intermediate datazones within the locality.

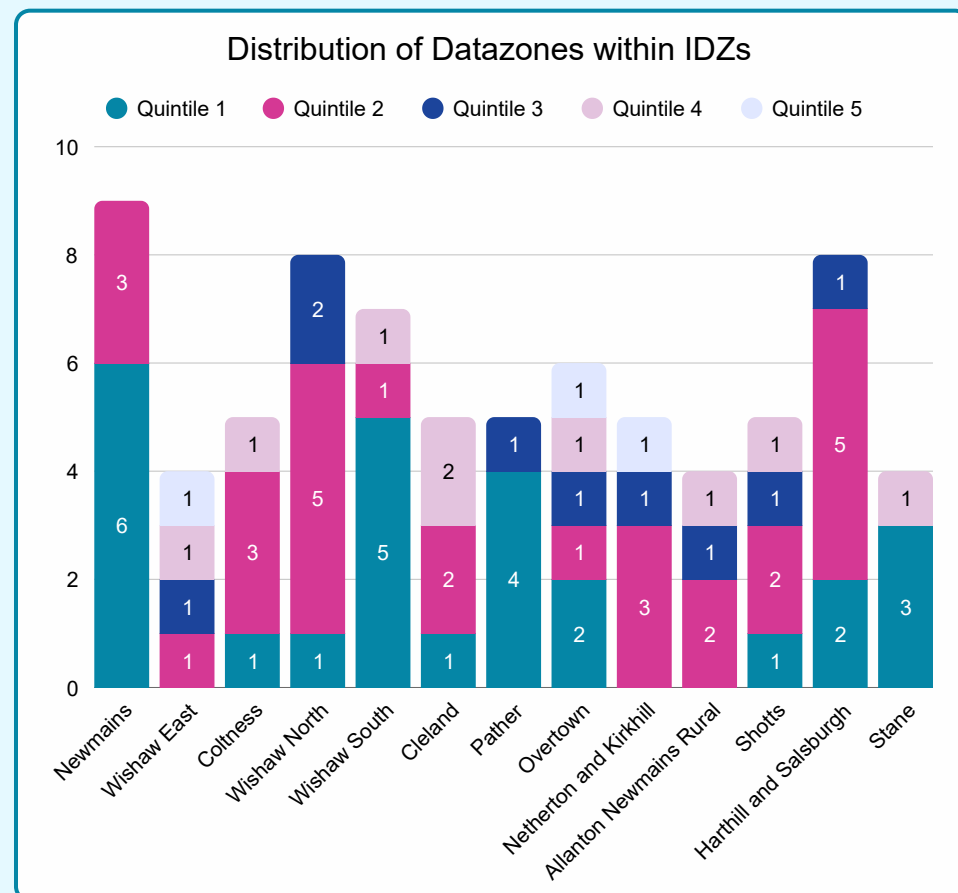
| Intermediate Datazone   | Number of Data Zones |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Newmains                | 9                    |
| Wishaw East             | 4                    |
| Coltness                | 5                    |
| Wishaw North            | 8                    |
| Wishaw South            | 7                    |
| Cleland                 | 5                    |
| Pather                  | 5                    |
| Overtown                | 6                    |
| Netherton and Kirkhill  | 5                    |
| Allanton Newmains Rural | 4                    |
| Shotts                  | 5                    |
| Harthill and Salsburgh  | 8                    |
| Stane                   | 4                    |

There is considerable variation in the levels of deprivation across the 13 IDZs. Respectively Newmains (6), Wishaw South (5), Pather (4), and Stane (3) have the highest proportion of data zones within the quintile 1 and 2, indicating higher levels of deprivation.

Wishaw East, Netherton and Kirkhill, and Allanton Newmains Rural do not have any data zones within quintile one, indicating a lesser level of deprivation.

Areas like Wishaw East, Overtown, and Shotts show mixed profiles of deprivation, with data zones spread across 4 quintiles.

Wishaw East, Overtown and Netherton and Kirkhill have one data zone within quintile five each.



# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check

## Services Across Wishaw and Shotts

**85**

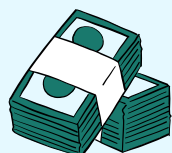
registered charities in  
Wishaw and Shotts

(OSCR, 2025)

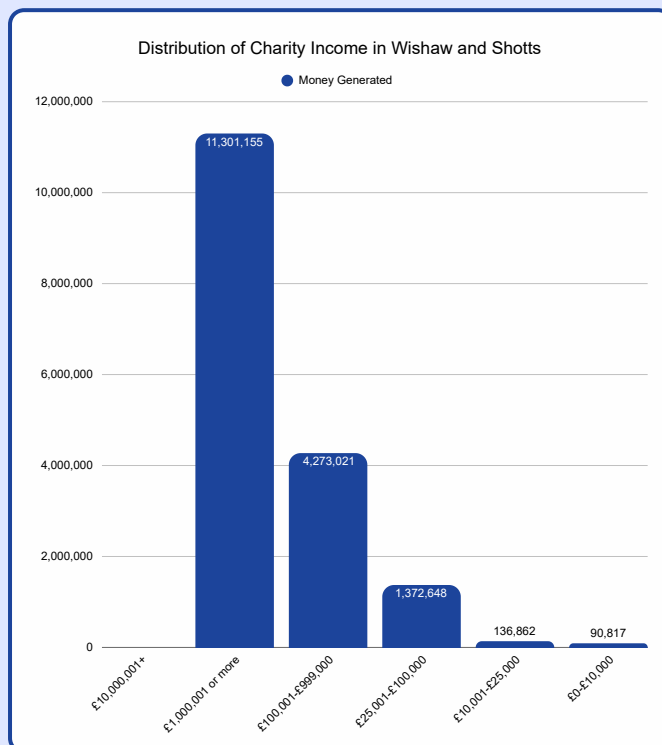


**£17,174,503**

income generated  
(OSCR, 2025)



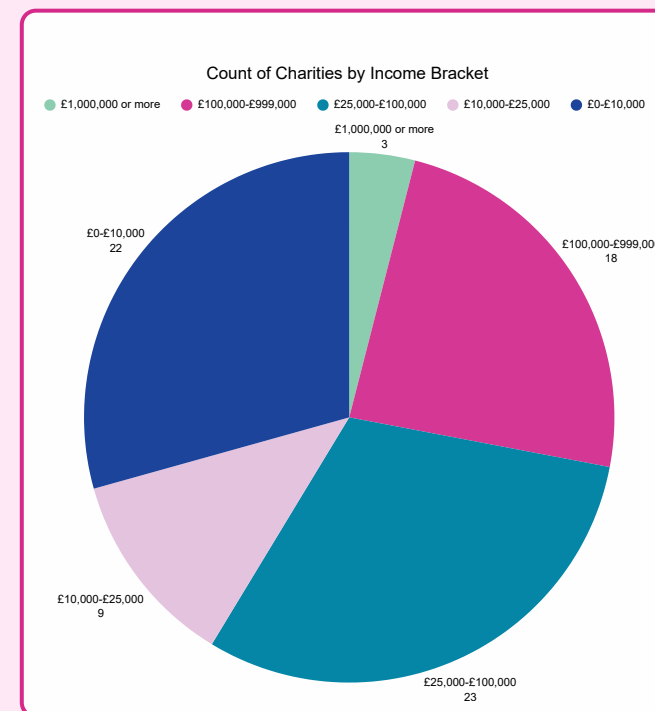
The below shows total charity income generated, broken down by the income bracket of the organisation:



Most of the income within Wishaw (66%) was generated by 3 organisations, including:

- a large provider of social care services
- a registered social landlord
- a local community organisation

Using a count of charities operating in the locality by income bracket, the level of diversity in income is more evident:



The second largest portion of income received within the locality was generated by 18 organisations who operated with an income of between £100,000 and £1m. 23 organisations operated with an income between £25,000 and £100,000, while 9 organisations operated with an annual income between £10,000 and £25,000. Finally, 22 organisations operated with an annual income of less than £10,000. No organisations in Wishaw and Shotts reported an income of over £10m.

It should be noted that 10 organisations had not at the point of analysis posted most recent income and expenditure information.

# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check



## Services Across Wishaw

### Children and Young People

Wishaw and Shotts have four secondary schools:

- Calderhead
- Clyde Valley
- Coltness
- St. Aidan's

These in turn are served by 17 primary schools:

- Berryhill
- Calderbridge
- Cambusnethan
- Dykehead
- Kirk O' Shotts
- Morningside
- Netherton
- Newmains
- Orchard
- St. Ignatius
- St. Aidan's Primary
- St. Brigid's
- St. Patrick's
- St. Thomas
- Stane
- Thornlie

Additionally, the locality has six family learning centres: Abernethyn, Craigneuk, Innerleithan, Netherton, Newmains and Wishaw.

Each school hosts several third sector-provided projects. Figure 7 provides an overview of this provision as funded by the Children and Young People's fund 2025/2026:

| School       | Project                                       | CVS Organisation         |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Clyde Valley | Joining the Dots                              | The Holding Space        |
|              | Youth and Community Ranger                    | OutLET                   |
| St. Aidan's  | Creative Me Wellbeing                         | VIP Community Pass       |
|              | Personalised Intensive Support                | HOPE for Autism          |
|              | Made4U – Youth and Children's Support         | Made4UinML2              |
| Coltness     | Reeltime Music                                | Reeltime Music           |
|              | Mental Health Supports                        | The Miracle Foundation   |
|              | Personalised Intensive Support                | HOPE for Autism          |
|              | Shredability: Education and Schools Programme | Social Track             |
|              | Stress Busters                                | Health and Wellness Hub  |
| Calderhead   | Play Outdoor Programme                        | Parent Action for Safety |
|              | Reeltime Music – Calderhead                   | Reeltime Music           |
|              | Mental Health Supports – Calderhead           | The Miracle Foundation   |
|              | Personalised Intensive Support – Calderhead   | HOPE for Autism          |
|              | Shredability: Education and Schools Programme | Socialtrack              |

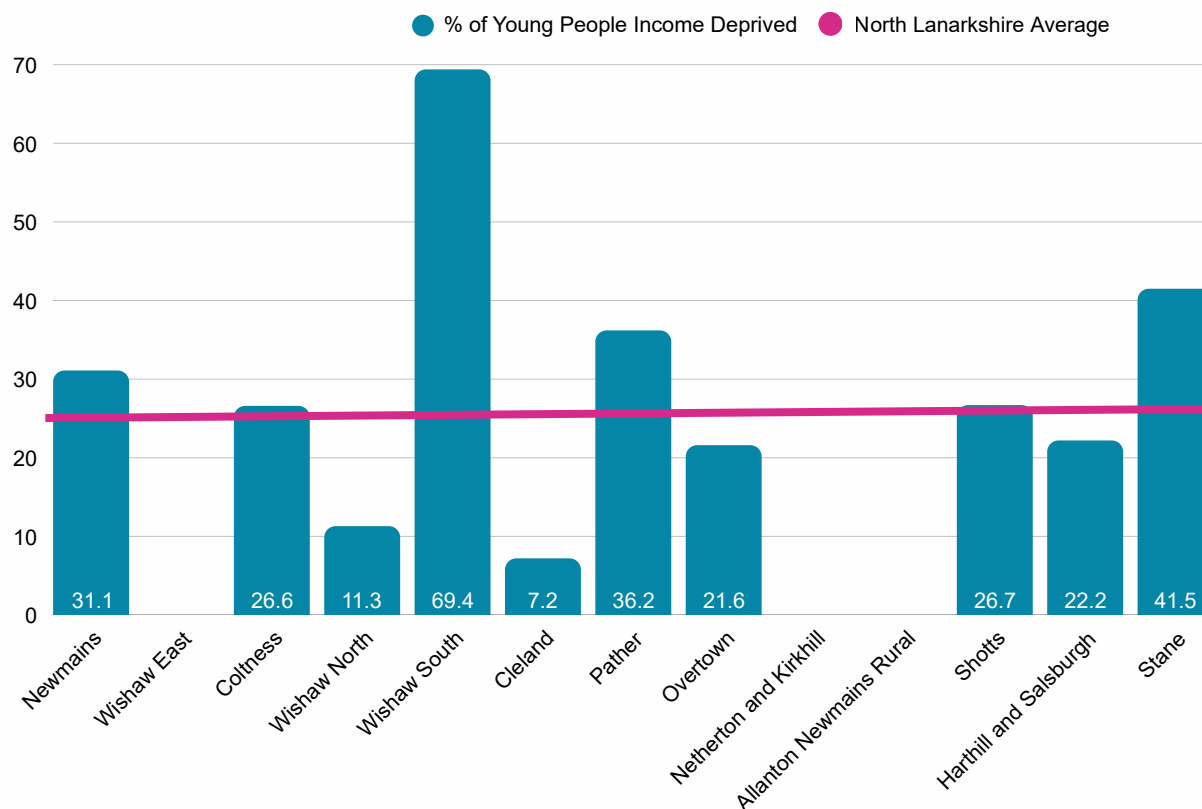
## Children and Young People in Wishaw and Shotts

The proportion of children and young people (aged 0–25) living within the 20% most income-deprived areas varies considerably across the locality (ScotPHO, 2023). The average number of children and young people living within the 20% most income-deprived areas across North Lanarkshire is 26.2%.

Ten out of the 13 IDZs have a proportion of children and young people living within the 20% most income-deprived data zones. The three remaining areas sit at zero.

Six of the ten areas with a proportion of young people living in the most income deprived areas are above the North Lanarkshire average. Wishaw South has the highest percentage at 69%, which is significantly higher than the next highest (Stane, 41.5%). Four areas are below average, with the lowest at 7.2% (Cleland).

Percentage of Young People (0-25) living in 20% most income deprived SIMD Quintile



# Conclusions

# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check



## Locality Profile Conclusions

## Locality Comparisons

| Locality          | Population | Level of deprivation compared to North Lanarkshire average (above/below average) | % of population living in SIMD 1 | % of population living in SIMD 5 | Number of registered charities | Income       | % of residents living in the most deprived 20% | % of young people living in most deprived 20% | Number of intermediate data zones with young people living in most deprived 20% |
|-------------------|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Airdrie           | 56,248     | Above                                                                            | 43%                              | 3%                               | 98                             | £26,939,389  | 40.5%                                          | 32.3%                                         | 8 out of 13                                                                     |
| Bellshill         | 41,388     | Above                                                                            | 37%                              | 9%                               | 49                             | £9,572,105   | 42.2%                                          | 38.7%                                         | 7 out of 9                                                                      |
| Coatbridge        | 48,371     | Above                                                                            | 40%                              | 4%                               | 85                             | £6,870,271   | 39.7%                                          | 28.9%                                         | 10 out of 11                                                                    |
| Motherwell        | 55,164     | Above                                                                            | 41%                              | 18%                              | 111                            | £151,579,469 | 39%                                            | 35%                                           | 11 out of 12                                                                    |
| The North         | 88,522     | Below                                                                            | 12%                              | 23%                              | 137                            | £135,370,471 | 11.5%                                          | 9%                                            | 5 out of 20                                                                     |
| Wishaw and Shotts | 51,227     | Above                                                                            | 36%                              | 3%                               | 85                             | £17,174,503  | 32.4%                                          | 26.6%                                         | 10 out of 13                                                                    |

## Locality Profile Conclusions

### Analysis of Deprivation

- The North is largest locality in North Lanarkshire, both by population (88,522) and geographic size. The second largest by population (Airdrie, 56,248 occupants) has over 30k less people in the locality. The smallest locality by population (41,388) and geography is Bellshill.
- The North is the only locality in North Lanarkshire where the proportion of people living in SIMD quintile 1 (the most deprived areas) is below the North Lanarkshire average. The North has 12% of its population living in SIMD quintile 1, compared to the North Lanarkshire average of 33%.
- The North also has the highest proportion of its population living in quintile 5 across North Lanarkshire, with 23%.
- Motherwell has the second highest proportion of people in quintile 1 (41%), but also the second highest proportion of people in quintile 5 (18%)
- Airdrie has the highest proportion of its population living in quintile 1 (43%), and also, has the joint lowest number of people living within SIMD quintile 5 (the least deprived) with Wishaw and Shotts (3% each).
- When we look at the percentage of residents living within the most income-deprived 20%, all localities except the North are above the North Lanarkshire average at 31.6%. Bellshill has the highest percentage at 42.2%, followed closely by Airdrie at 40.5%. The locality with the lowest percentage is the North (11.5%).
- Again, all localities except the North (9%) have a higher percentage of young people (aged 0-25) living in the 20% most income deprived areas than the North Lanarkshire average (26.2%). Bellshill has the highest percentage of young people (aged 0-25) living in the 20% most income deprived areas at 38.7%.

This analysis might suggest that, despite clear variations in the level of deprivation across all areas of North Lanarkshire, at locality level Bellshill has the highest level of deprivation, whereas the North has the lowest. However, this report has demonstrated that analysing deprivation at locality level obscures the uneven distribution of need within localities, with clear concentrations of disadvantage across all localities. Looking at intermediate data zones provides a clearer picture of the reality of each locality. For example, the North has the lowest percentage of its population living in SIMD quintile 1, however, it has areas of high disadvantage such as Cumbernauld Central. Cumbernauld Central has all of its six data zones within quintile 1 and 2, and 48.6% of its young people living in the 20% most income deprived areas. Conversely, Bellshill has areas of lower deprivation - Birkenshaw has five of its seven data zones in quintile 4 and 5.

# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check



## Locality Profile Conclusions

### Analysis of Third Sector Provision

- Bellshill has a smaller third sector presence than other localities within North Lanarkshire, both in terms of the number of organisations (49) and the overall income generated (£9.6m). This may be due to smaller geographic size, or Bellshill's proximity to larger areas with larger third sector presence, including Motherwell (111 organisations) and Glasgow City. Only one organisation in Bellshill reported an income of over £1m, with most organisations reported an income between £25k-£100k (14 organisations)
- Coatbridge's third sector is larger than some other localities in terms of the number of charities (85), but smaller in terms of the income generated by those organisations. Coatbridge has the lowest overall income at £6.9m. Coatbridge also has no registered charities with larger incomes (over £1m). Coatbridge's profile is largely comprised of smaller organisations, the majority of which generate incomes of less than £25,000 (50 organisations)
- The North has the largest number of registered charities (137) and the second highest income (£135.4m), however, it also has the largest number of small-scale CVS organisations. There are 94 organisations in the North operating with incomes less than £100,000; 57 of which reported an income below £10k. This suggests that the North has a particularly high proportion of organisations that may be vulnerable to changes in funding or financial instability
- The most significant proportion of all income in the North was generated by one organisation; a large social care and support provider (£118m). This is the single largest income in North Lanarkshire
- Motherwell has the largest income (£151.6m). Similarly, to the North, the largest proportion of income generated in Motherwell was £118m, but this was generated by three organisations rather than one; a large further education institution, a large housing association, and a religious archdiocese. This indicates a significant imbalance in financial capacity within the local sector. In contrast, there is a substantial number of charities operating with relatively modest incomes – 59 have incomes below £100k
- Wishaw and Shotts and Airdrie have sizable third sectors (85 and 98 organisations respectively), but both areas have lower incomes (£17.2m and £26.9m). Both localities have higher numbers of organisations operating with smaller incomes. However, in both areas, the highest proportion of income is generated by a small number of organisations. For example, in Airdrie, one organisation operates with an income of over £10 million, accounting for nearly 40% of the total CVS income within the locality. Wishaw has three organisations operating with an income of £1m or more, which make up 66% of all income in the locality

Across North Lanarkshire, a small number of organisations generate the largest incomes. The relatively low-income levels of the majority of charities may indicate constraints on sustainability, scalability, and resilience—particularly in times of financial pressure. While smaller organisations may benefit from their proximity to communities—supporting responsiveness and trust—this position can also expose them to heightened financial and operational risks. However, this analysis also highlights the impressive size of the third sector in North Lanarkshire; 565 organisations were registered within the local authority.

# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check Survey



# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check



## Why we need a healthy Third Sector

- Around 46,000 Community and Voluntary organisations in Scotland
- Around 136,000 employed in the CVS
- The CVS contributes over £9 billion to the Scottish economy
- Around 1 million people volunteer their time in some capacity
- 80% of households utilise a service provided by a CVS organisation
- The CVS has grown by over 30% in the last 15 years

## Why the Third Sector is essential in North Lanarkshire

- Over 1,000 CVS organisations in North Lanarkshire
- Around 8,000 people employed in the CVS in North Lanarkshire
- The CVS contributes over £0.5 billion to the North Lanarkshire economy
- Around 60,000 people volunteer their time in some capacity

## Where the CVS receive funding from

- About 40% of CVS funding comes from the public sector, from councils, the Scottish Government, the NHS, and public bodies, like Creative Scotland or Historic Environment Scotland. Council funding is a combination of contracts for services like social care or employability, and grants for smaller projects or activities
- About 60% of the sector's funding comes from public donations, corporates, trusts, and foundations
- Given the financial pressures facing the public sector and the cost-of-living crisis facing families and individuals, it is at best a difficult time for the CVS

# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check

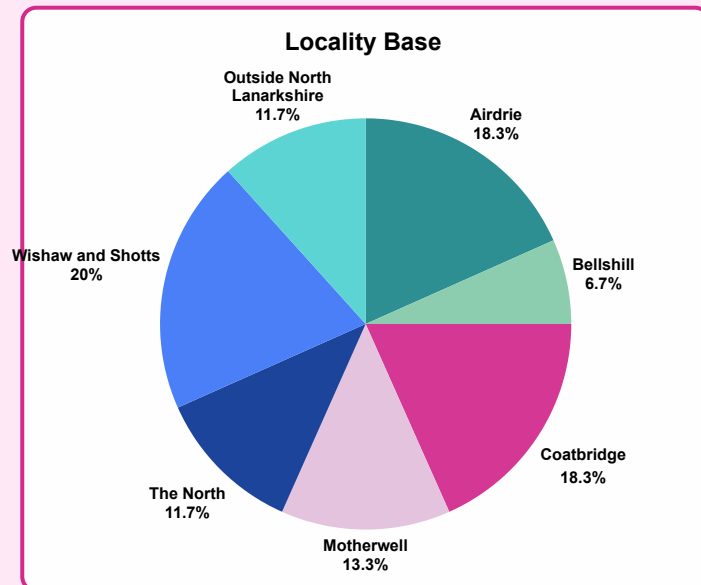


## North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check Survey

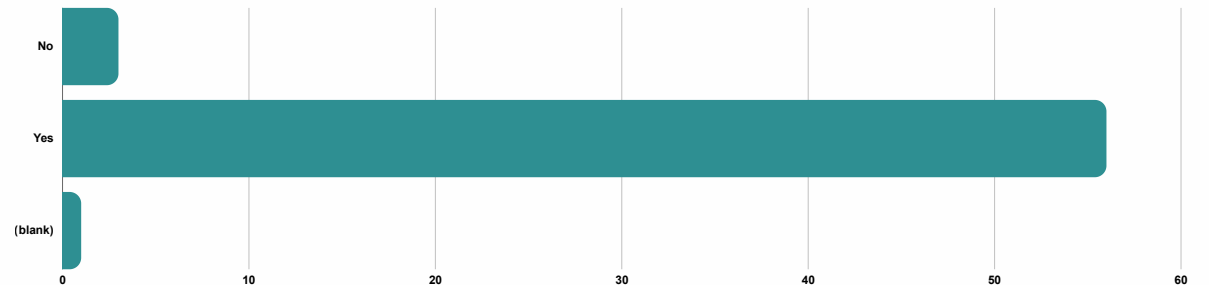
The survey sought to contribute towards a sector-wide understanding of the issues, challenges and opportunities that charities and voluntary groups are experiencing. The following report presents a summary of survey findings covering the financial year 2025-26. The survey received **60 responses** from organisations across North Lanarkshire.

## Profile of Respondents

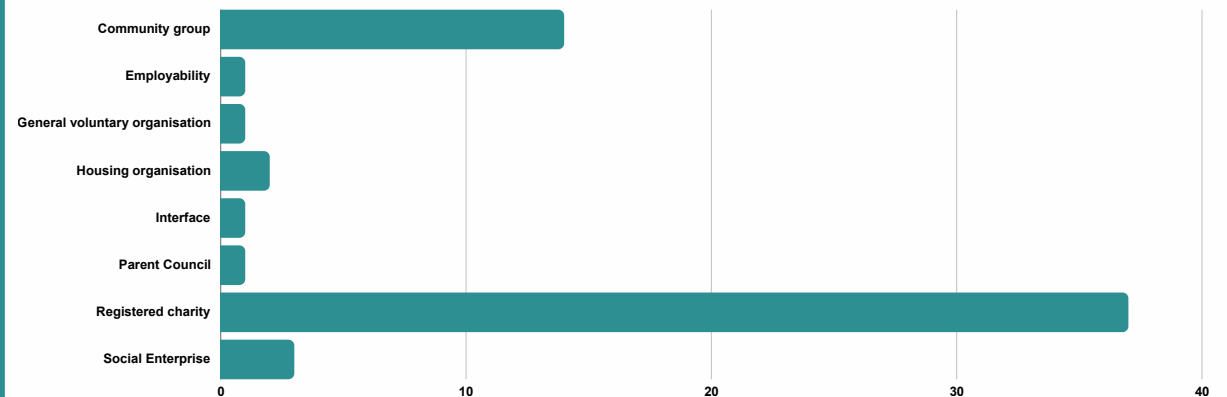
- 55 out of 60 organisations responding to the survey were registered in North Lanarkshire
- 53 organisations were based within North Lanarkshire



### Does your organisation provide a direct service to either individuals, organisations or communities?



### Type of Organisation



# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check



## Profile of Respondents

### Who are the main beneficiaries that your organisation or group supports?

|                                             |    |                                                                             |    |
|---------------------------------------------|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Animals                                     | 1  | People who identify as LGBTQI+                                              | 3  |
| People with care experience                 | 6  | People of a particular gender                                               | 1  |
| Children and young people                   | 24 | Residents within a specific neighbourhood                                   | 8  |
| The environment                             | 1  | People who experience difficulties with their mental health                 | 16 |
| Older people                                | 21 | People who identify as having a particular religious background             | 0  |
| Other community organisations               | 4  | People experiencing issues with substance misuse                            | 0  |
| People of a particular ethnicity or race    | 1  | No particular group, we operate for the benefit of the community in general | 21 |
| People with disabilities or health problems | 19 | Other                                                                       | 8  |
| People experiencing financial hardship      | 12 |                                                                             |    |

### What is the main activity of your organisation?

|                                              |    |                                  |   |
|----------------------------------------------|----|----------------------------------|---|
| Advice and support                           | 1  | Health                           | 6 |
| Animals                                      | 1  | Healthy Living Centre            | 1 |
| Children and families                        | 16 | Poverty                          | 1 |
| Community anchor organisation                | 10 | Representation                   | 2 |
| Culture and/or sport                         | 3  | Services for the Deaf Community  | 1 |
| Education and/or research                    | 1  | Social care                      | 5 |
| Elderly                                      | 1  | Social prescribing               | 1 |
| Employability                                | 2  | Therapeutic support and advocacy | 1 |
| Entertainment                                | 1  | Umbrella organisation            | 1 |
| General charitable purposes including grants | 4  | Women, children and young people | 1 |

# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check

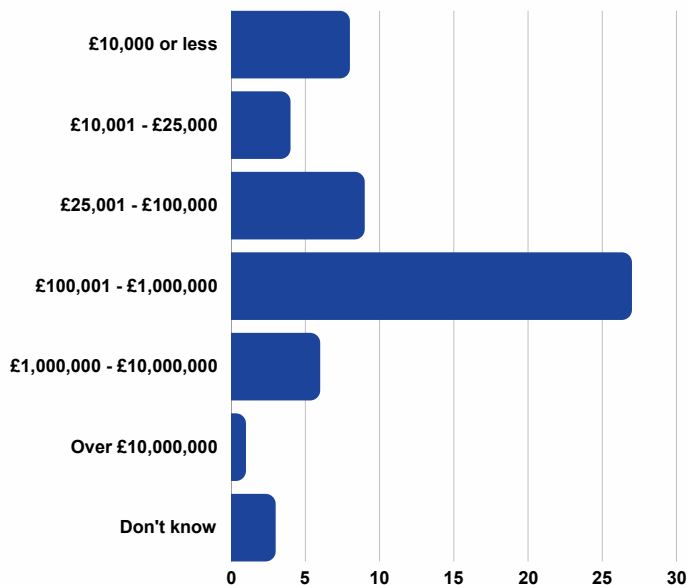


## Finance and Income

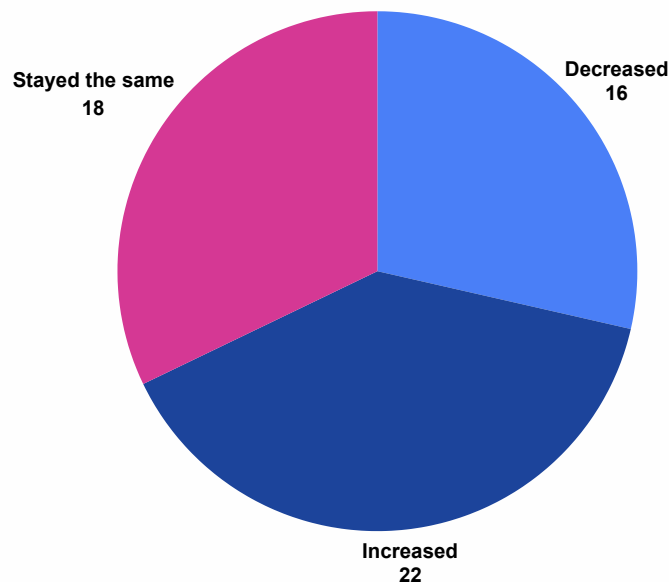
### Turnover

- Most respondents (34) indicated a recent annual turnover of over £100,000
- The most common turnover indicated was between £100-001-£1,000,000 (27, 47%)
- In regards to changes in turnover from the previous years, responses were fairly evenly distributed between staying the same (18), decreasing (16), and increasing (22). An increase in turnover was the most common response (39%)
- Positively, the majority of responding organisations were not running at a deficit (42, 78%)

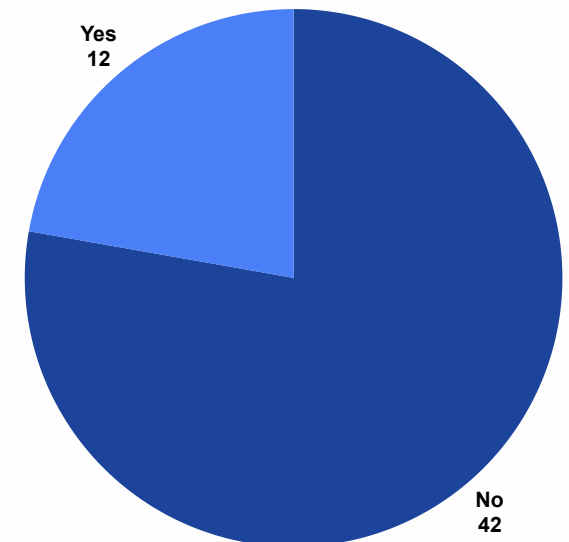
Approximately, what will your organisation's turnover be in 2025-26?



Has turnover increased, decreased, or roughly stayed the same as the previous year?



Is your organisation's budget currently running at a deficit?



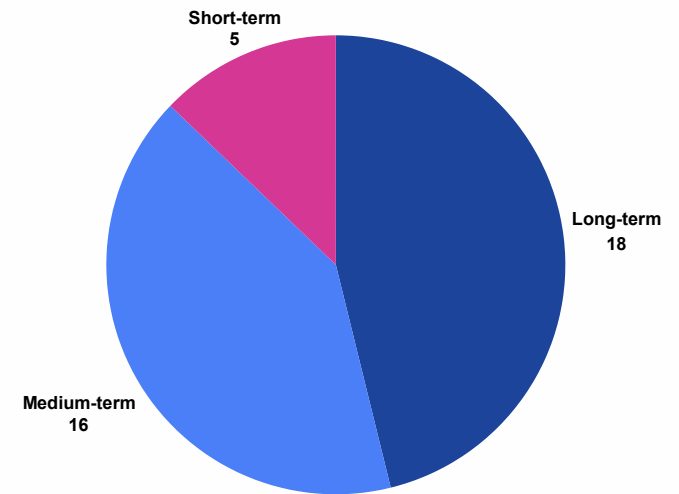
# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check

## Finance and Income

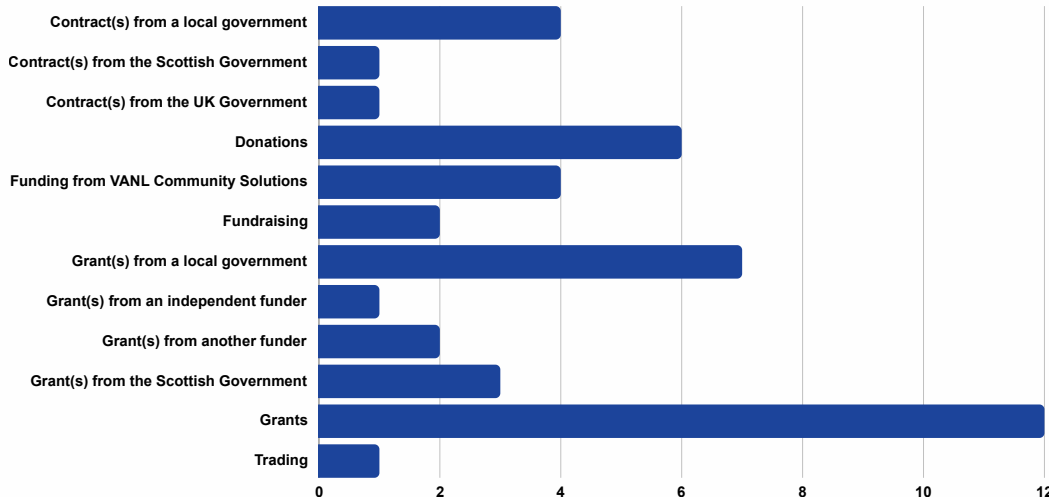
### Turnover

- **Most organisations felt that a reduction in their turnover was likely to be a long-term issue (18, 46%). The minority (5, 13%) felt it would be a short-term issue**
- The most common source of decreased turnover was grants (12), followed by grants from a local government (7)
- Conversely, the most common source of increased turnover was also grants (13), following by trading
- We asked organisations if they were not already, had they considered trading as away to generate income. Most organisations said they had not considered trading (29, 48%), whereas 18 organisations said yes (30%)

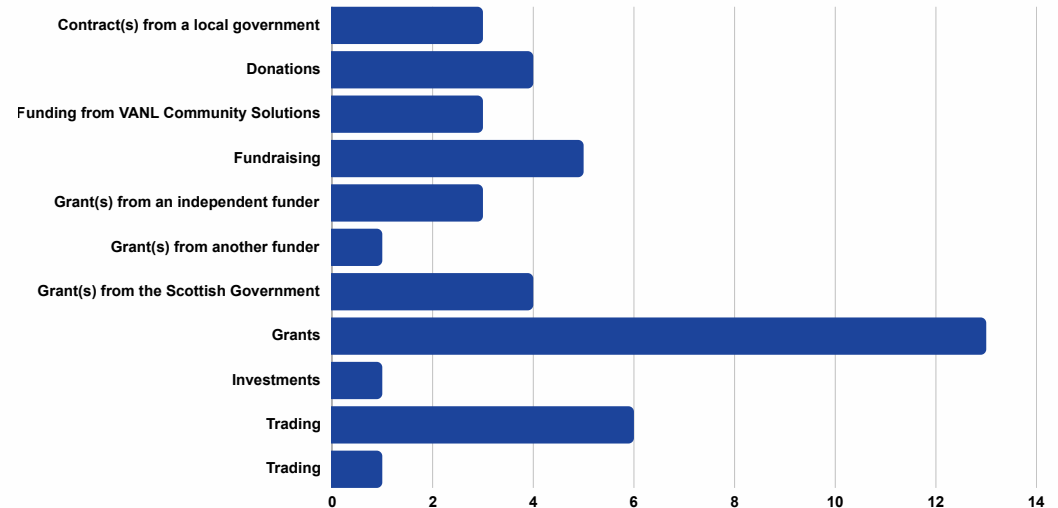
Looking to the future, do you believe your organisation's reduction in turnover is likely to be a short, medium or long-term issue?



Which source of decreased turnover has contributed most to your organisation's overall decrease in turnover?



Which source of increased turnover has contributed most to your organisation's overall increase in turnover?



# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check

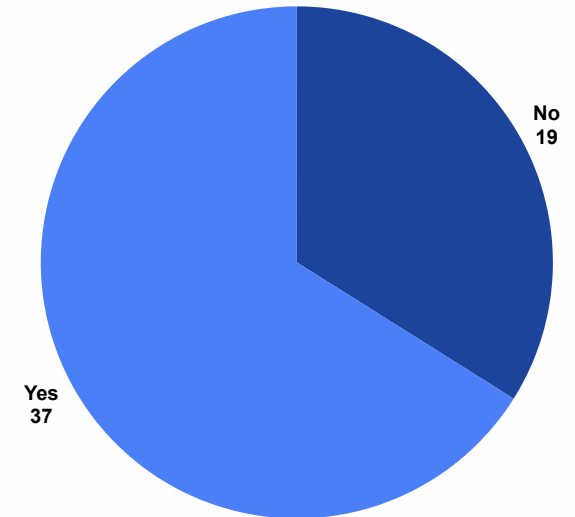


## Finance and Income

### Future Income

- 40 organisations had their funding confirmed for the 2026-27 financial year, whereas 19 did not (1 did not respond). Most organisations (23) had a confirmed level of funding for 2026/27 that was less than expected
- Most organisations (37, 66%) had developed a new income stream this year
- The most common new income stream developed was through applying to new funding streams (34)

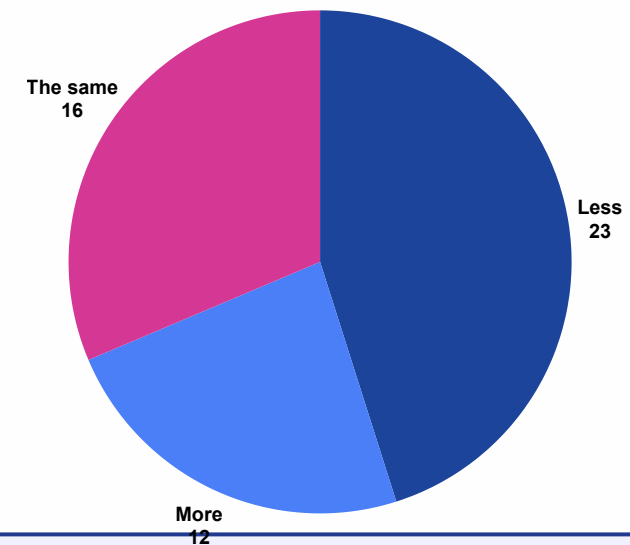
Have you developed any new income streams?



Which, if any, new income streams has your organisation developed?



Is your level of confirmed funding for 2026/27 more, the same or less than expected?

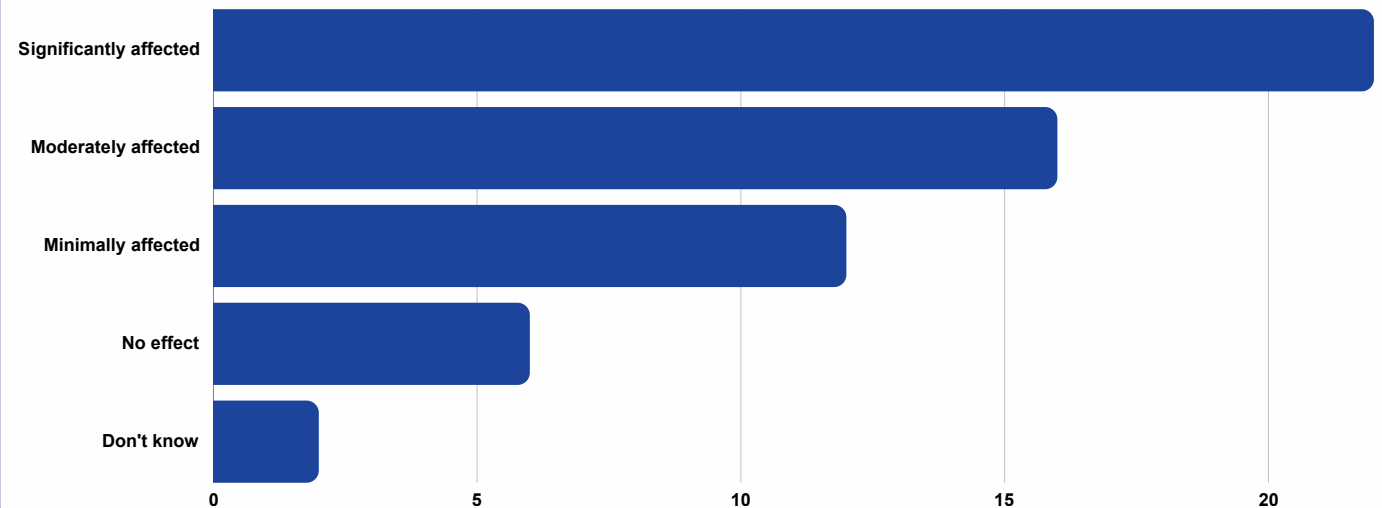


## Finance and Income

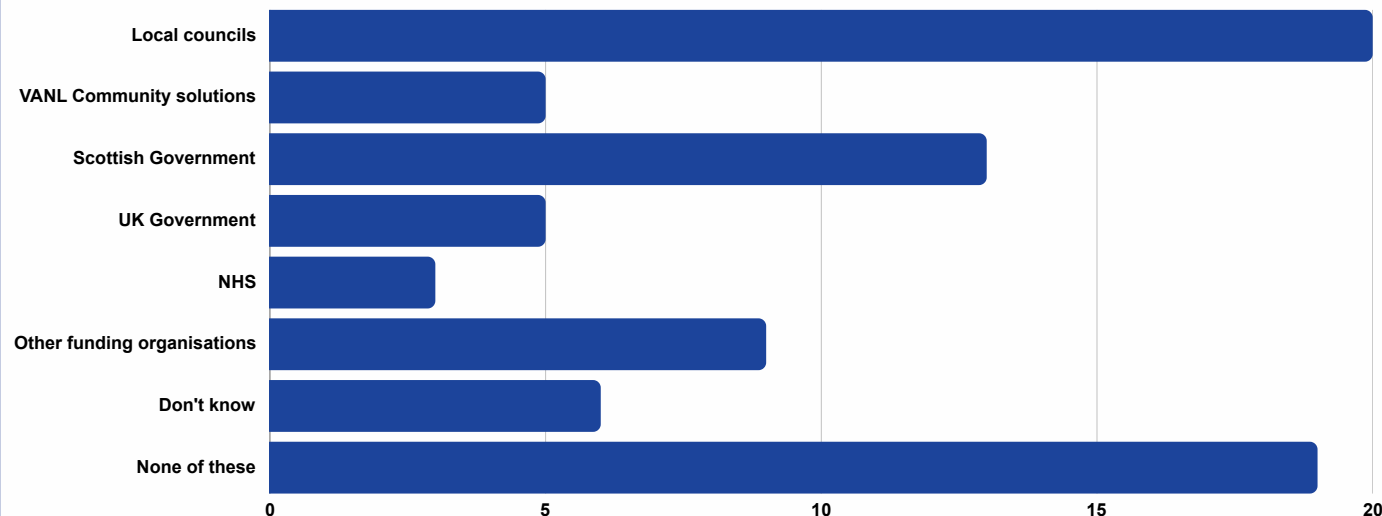
### Financial Challenges

- Most organisations reported that rising costs had either significantly (22, 38%) or moderately (16, 28%) affected their ability to deliver their core services
- Organisations were asked if they had been affected by delays in funding decisions. The top response was delays from local councils (20, 25%). However, the second most common response was none of the options suggested (19, 24%)

To what extent have rising costs over this time affected your organisation's ability to deliver its core services or activities?



Has your organisation been affected by delays in funding decisions from any of the following?

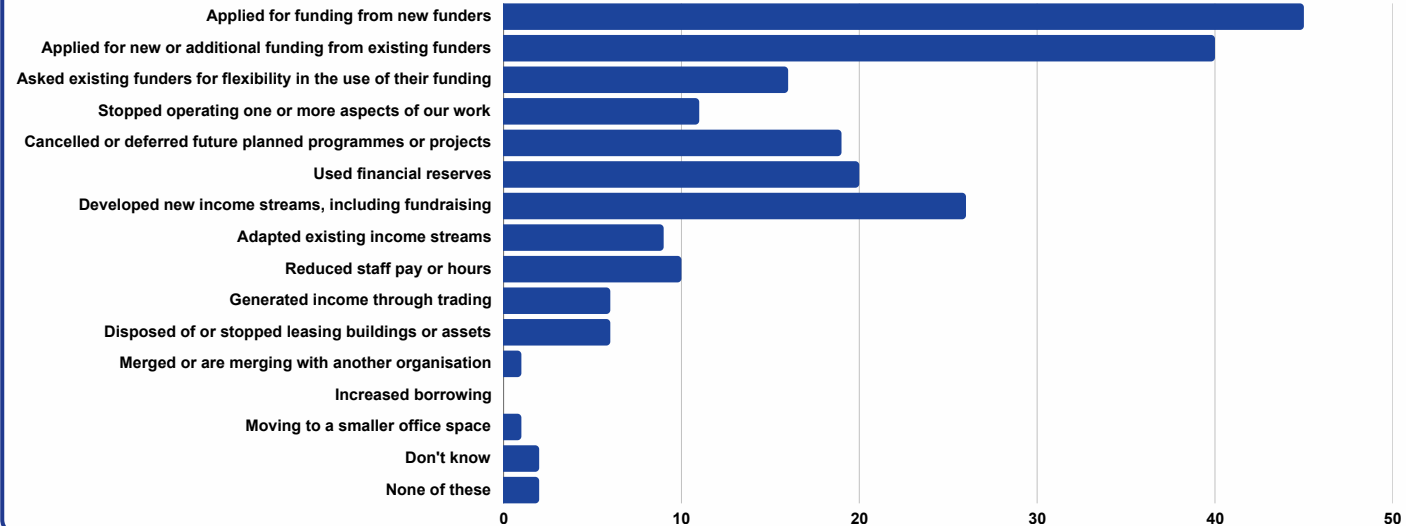


## Finance and Income

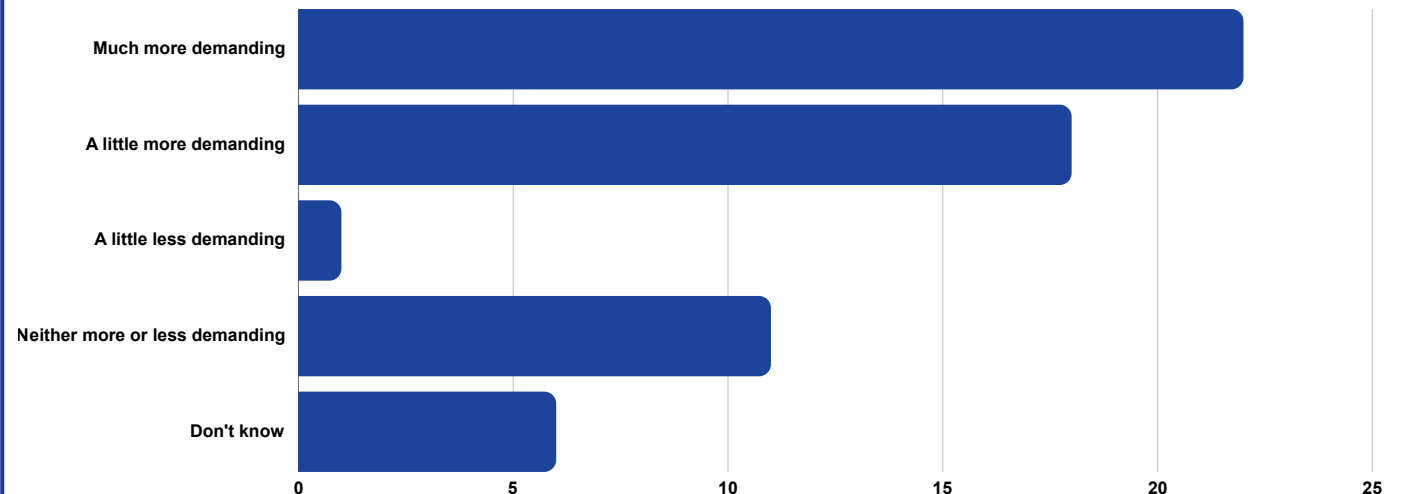
### Financial Challenges

- In response to financial challenges, most organisations had applied for funding from new funders (45) and applied for new or additional funding from existing funders (40)
- 11 respondents stopped operating one or more aspects of their work
- 19 respondents cancelled or deferred future planned programmes or projects
- 20 respondents indicated that they had used their financial reserves
- 10 respondents indicated they had reduced staff pay or hours
- 26 respondents indicated they had developed new income streams

Which, if any, of the following has your organisation done in response to any financial challenges?



To what extent do you believe the conditions attached to your receipt of regular (e.g., annual) funding have become more or less demanding over the last 12 months?



# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check



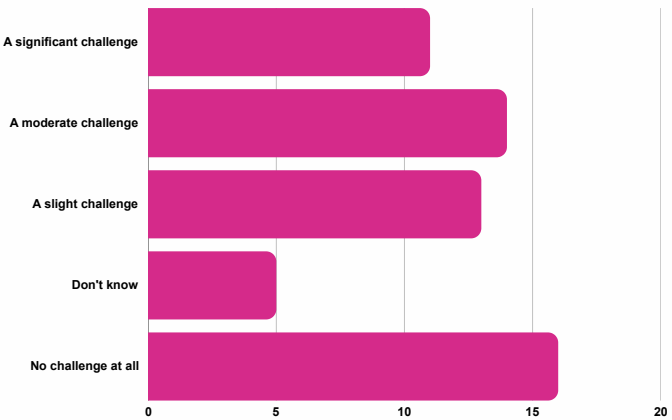
## Staffing

- A total of 646 full-time equivalent staff (FTE) were employed by 55 respondents
- Respondents reported an average of 12 FTE staff
- The majority of respondents (32) reported having retained the same number of staff since April 2025
- **25 out of 59 respondents (42%) indicated that they had found staff recruitment and retention either a moderate or a significant challenge**
- Hiring more staff (20%) was the most commonly used measure to improve staff recruitment/retention, followed by reducing the hours of one or more staff members and redeploying existing staff into different roles due to a reduction in income needed (both 17%)

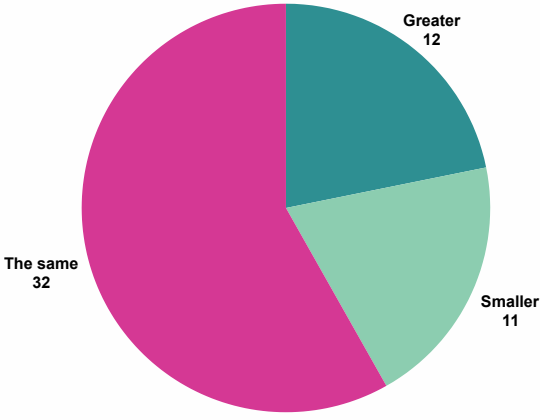
We asked organisations if there was anything else about staffing or capacity they would like to raise:

- 9 organisations were volunteer-run and had no staff
- Staff are being asked to do more with less resources and time
- The nature of funding makes it difficult to recruit due to part-time or short-term contracts. This also leads to increased staff turnover
- Some projects have less staff than required. This meant cutting down on services because they didn't have enough staff to run them
- The sector affords organisations the flexibility to work around uncertainties and challenges

To what extent has your organisation found staff recruitment and/or retention challenging since April 2025?



Since April 2025, is the total number of paid staff at your organisation greater, smaller, or the same?



Which of the following measures has your organisation taken?

| Measure                                                                                     | Organisations |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Due to a reduction in income required, we have had to make staff redundant                  | 4             |
| Due to a reduction in income required, we have had to reduce the hours of one or more staff | 14            |
| Hired one or more new paid members of staff                                                 | 17            |
| Cancelled or postponed plans to recruit staff                                               | 10            |
| Due to reduction in income needed, had to redeploy existing staff into different or wider   | 14            |
| Promoted one or more members of staff                                                       | 9             |
| Don't know                                                                                  | 12            |
| Prefer not to say                                                                           | 3             |

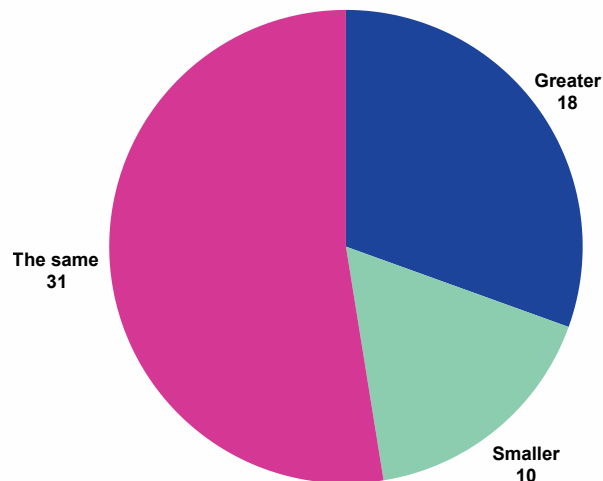
## Volunteering

- A total of 1613 volunteers supported 52 organisations
- Respondents reported an average of 31 volunteers

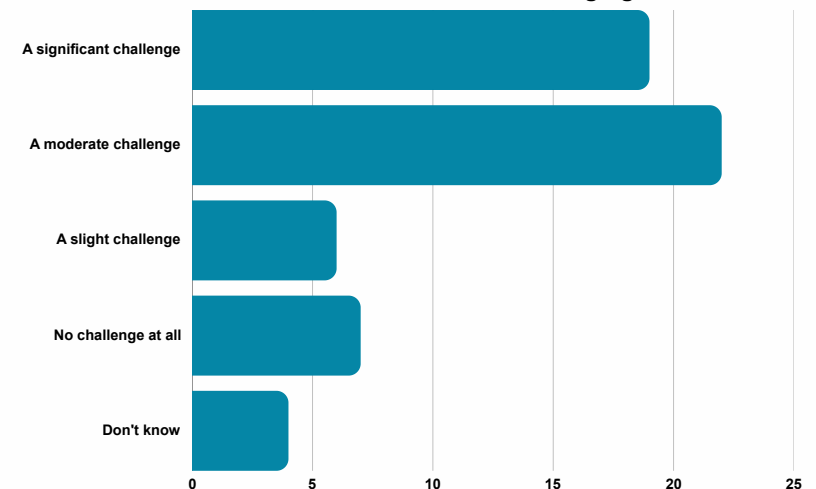
We asked organisations if there was anything else about volunteering they would like to raise:

- **There is less volunteers available in general**
- It is particularly difficult to find volunteers with specialised skills or with specific requirements e.g. people to work with the Deaf community, people from a specific geographic area, people with lived experience
- Reliability of volunteers poses challenges - volunteers have other things going on and cannot attend every commitment. People are dealing with financial and health issues, caring responsibilities etc.
- It is time and resource intensive to train volunteers who then leave
- **Multiple organisations mentioned they do not have the capacity to train, support, and manage volunteers**

Is the number of people currently actively volunteering for your organisation greater, smaller, or about the same?



To what extent has your organisation found volunteer recruitment and/or retention challenging?

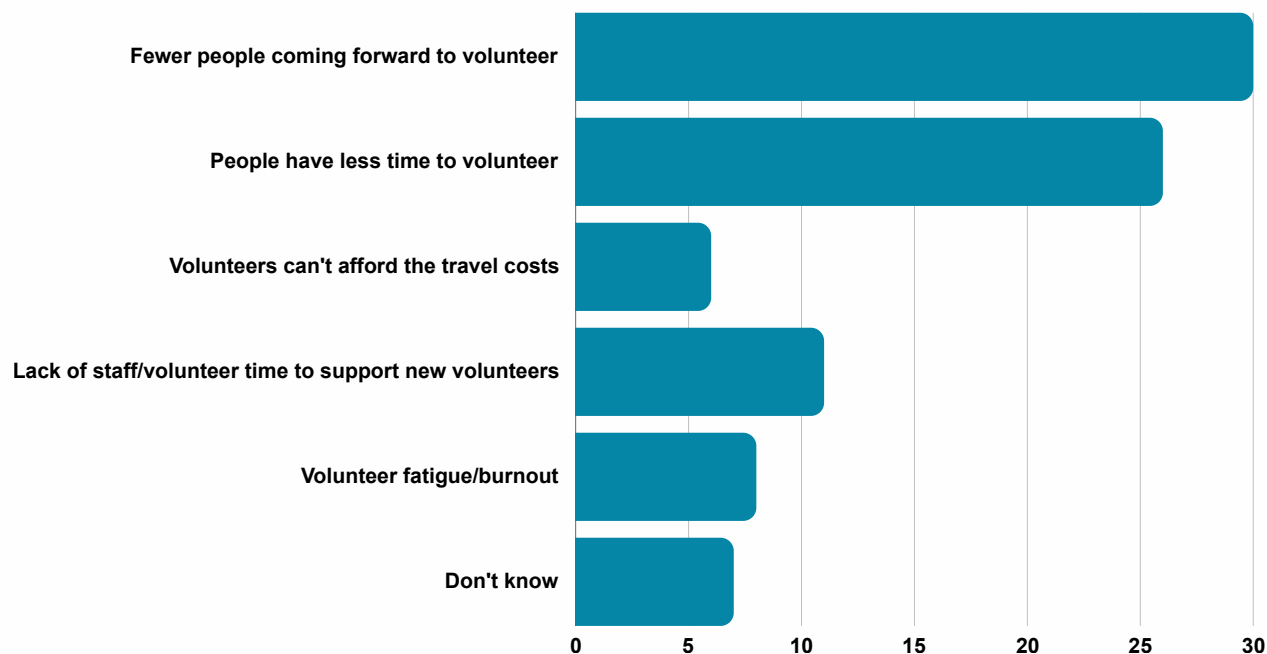


# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check



## Volunteering

Which of the following challenges has your organisation faced in terms of recruitment/retention of volunteers?



Other challenges raised included:

- Losing volunteers through retirement
- To work with their service users, volunteers have to have specific requirements or qualifications
- Changes in volunteers personal circumstances
- Volunteers moving to paid work
- No capacity for volunteer management

Which of the following actions has your organisation taken to improve its recruitment/retention of volunteers?

| Action                                                                                                                  | Organisations |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Sought advice from VANL or other infrastructure organisation                                                            | 19            |
| Sought advice/guidance from other third sector organisations                                                            | 12            |
| Looked to increase volunteers through diversifying the volunteer pool, e.g. recruiting from specific demographic groups | 14            |
| Reduced/stopped services offered to beneficiaries                                                                       | 4             |
| Increased volunteer management resource/investment                                                                      | 6             |
| Run a recruitment campaign                                                                                              | 21            |
| Change in roles to offer more flexibility                                                                               | 11            |
| Don't know                                                                                                              | 4             |
| No specific action taken                                                                                                | 12            |

Other actions taken included:

- Appealed to their existing members
- Refreshed their website to advertise volunteer positions
- Started paying volunteer travel expenses
- Changed delivery model from 1 to 1 befriending to group befriending or mentoring

# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check

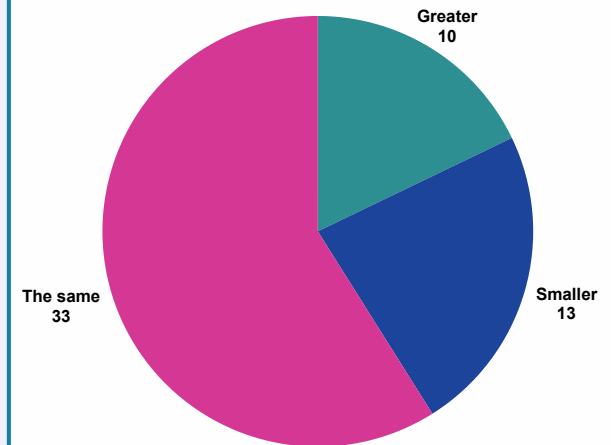
## Volunteering

- A total of 392 trustees supported 52 organisations
- Respondents reported an average of 7.5 trustees

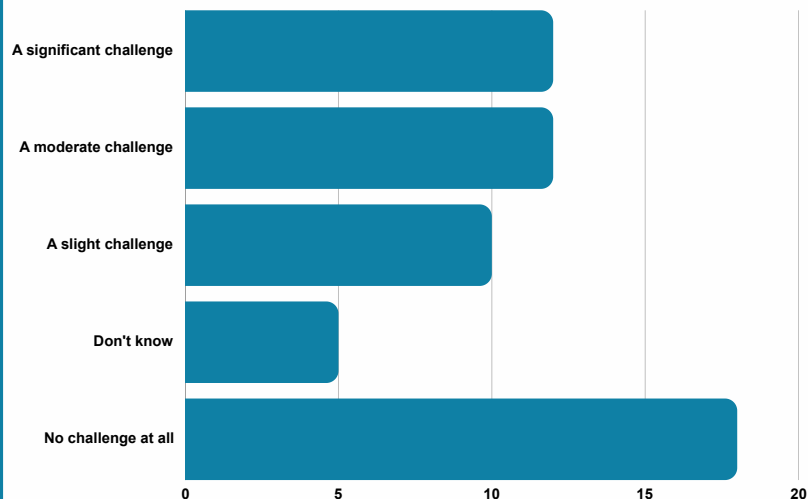
We asked organisations if there was anything else about recruitment and retention of trustees they would like to raise:

- **Multiple organisations responded that it was difficult to recruit the 'right' trustee. It is difficult to find a trustee who understands the roles and responsibilities involved, who understands the reporting requirements etc.**
- Two organisations reported difficulty recruiting a diverse board of trustees. Both organisations were keen to do this in the future

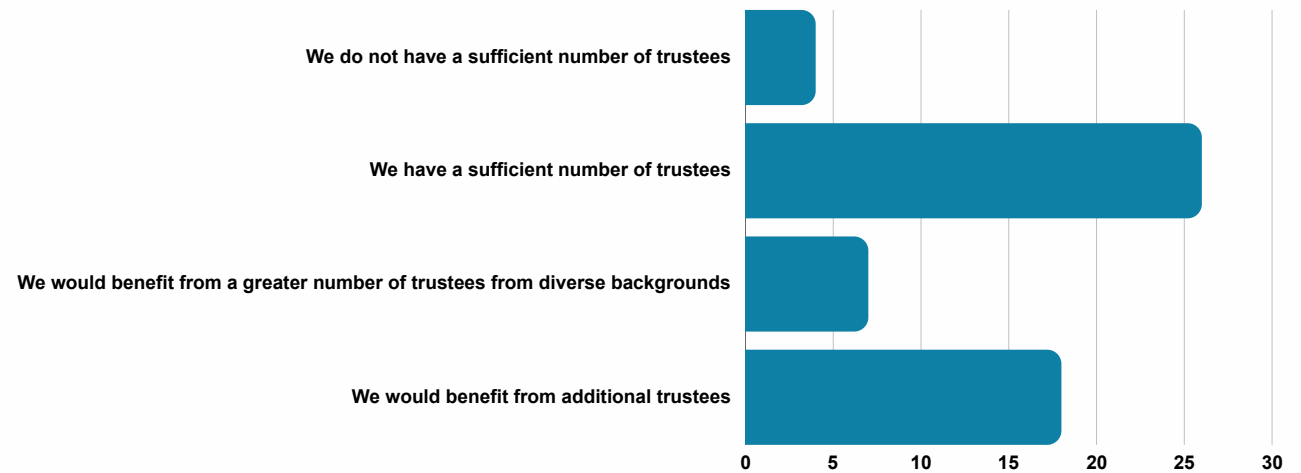
Is the number of trustees representing your organisation greater, smaller, or about the same?



To what extent has your organisation found trustee recruitment and/or retention challenging?



To what extent do you feel that your organisation has a sufficient number of trustees on its board?

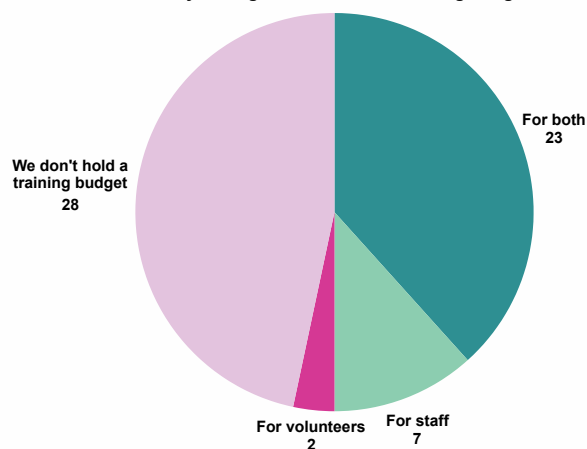


## Training and Development

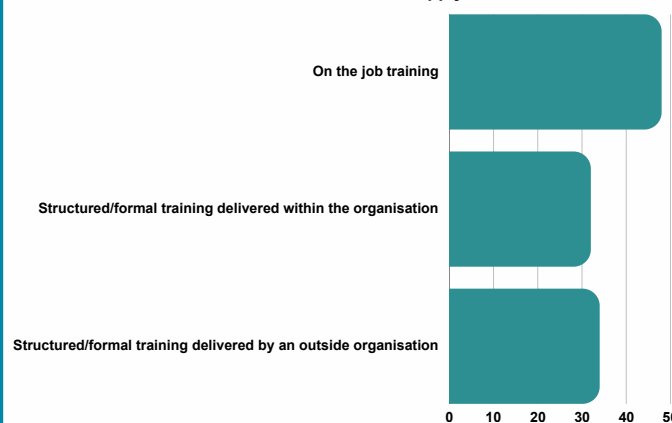
- Most organisations did not hold a training budget (28, 47%). Of the 32 organisations who did hold a training, most held a budget for both volunteers and staff (23, 38%)
- On the job training was the most popular method of delivering training to staff and/or volunteers (48, 42%)
- A third of organisations have found that offering appropriate training to staff and/or volunteers was no challenge at all (20, 33%)
- Respondents were asked if there was anything they'd like to share about their experience of staff and/or volunteer development:
  - Good, reliable training can be difficult to source, particularly, specialised training
  - Many organisations would like to provide more accredited training but staff do not have capacity. There is limited time or resources to provide structured training
  - The cost of training is increasing and there is less monies available to provide training
  - A lot of support or training happens informally through peer support and mentoring

*“The challenge can often be about the capacity to facilitate learning and development activities as opposed to the desire or commitment to do so”*

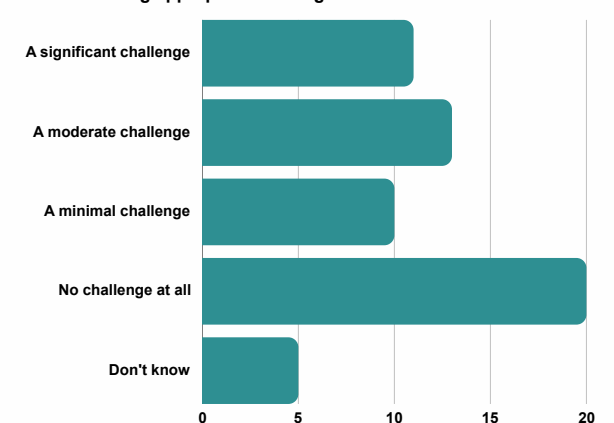
Does your organisation hold a training budget?



How does your organisation deliver training to staff and/or volunteers?  
Please select all that apply.



To what extent has your organisation experienced challenges in offering appropriate training to staff and/or volunteers?



# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check



## Capacity

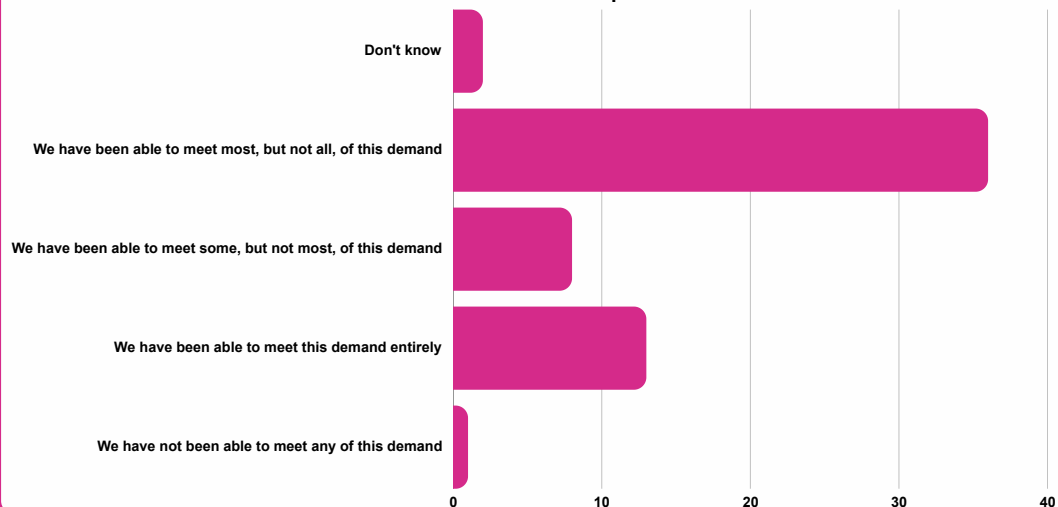
- Only 13 respondents (21%) indicated that they had been able to meet the demand for their services
- 36 respondents (60%) indicated that they were able to meet most of the demand for their core services
- 8 respondents (13%) met some, but not most, of the demand for their services
- 1 respondent reported that they had not been able to meet any of the demand

**What has been the biggest challenge your organisation has faced in trying to deliver its planned programmes and services since April 2025?**

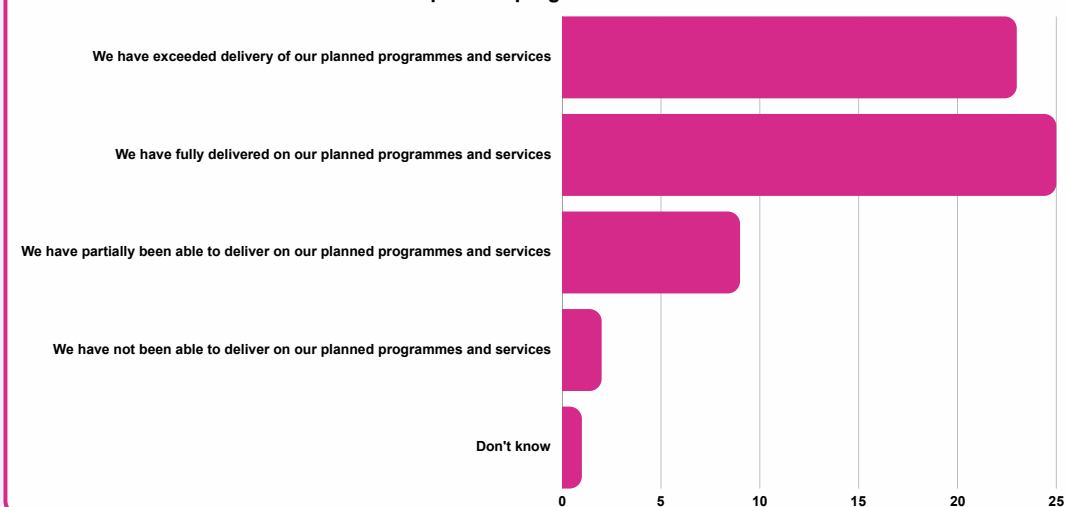
58 out of 60 respondents reflected on the challenges their organisations were experiencing. Responses identified the following themes:

- Accessing funding and funding precarity, including core funding
- Lack of long-term funding
- Rising costs
- Staffing and capacity issues
- Volunteer recruitment, training, and retention
- Increased demand for services
- Increased complexity of community need
- Availability of appropriate premises
- Challenges working with statutory partners

**Which of the following statements best represents the ability of your organisation to meet the demand for its core services since April 2025?**



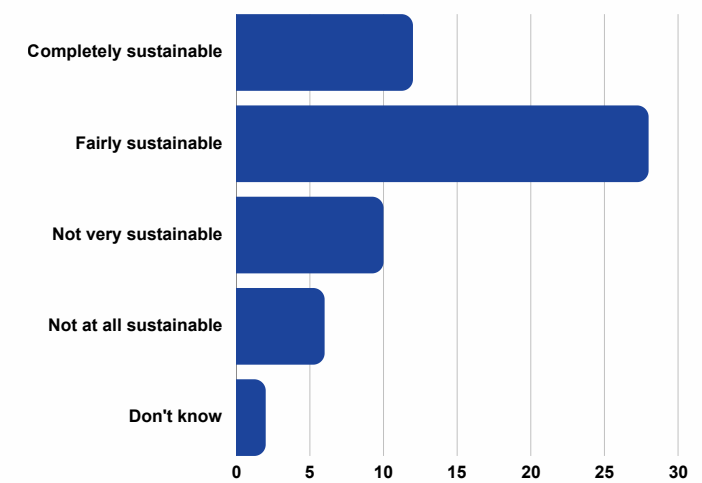
**Which of the following statements best represents the extent to which your organisation has been able to deliver its planned programmes and services?**



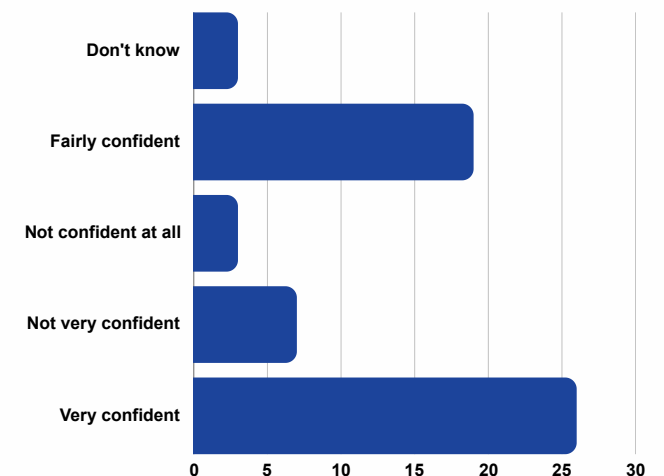
## Sustainability

- Respondents reported having a median of 6 months of financial reserves
  - **16 respondents (27%) identified that their present use of financial reserves was either not very sustainable or not at all sustainable**
  - 40 respondents (67%) said that their present use of reserves was either fairly or completely sustainable
- We asked organisations how confident they were that they would still be operating in 3 years time:
  - 26 were very confident (43%)
  - Around a third were fairly confident (19, 32%)
  - **10 said they were not confident at all or not very confident (17%)**
- Respondents were asked if there was anything they would like to share about their organisation's sustainability:
  - Many organisations detailed how they are taking action to improve their organisation's sustainability, but what they are able to do is limited
  - Some organisations felt more support is required to stabilise their operations and services
  - Funding is increasingly hard to attain, particularly unrestricted funds
  - Two year funding makes delivery easier
  - Some organisations felt positive about their sustainability. For example, they had an experienced board managing their finances, or they felt positive about upcoming opportunities for growth

How sustainable do you believe your organisation's current usage of its financial reserves is?



How confident are you that your organisation will still be operating in 3 years' time?



# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check



## Support

56 out of 60 respondents were aware they could contact VANL for support

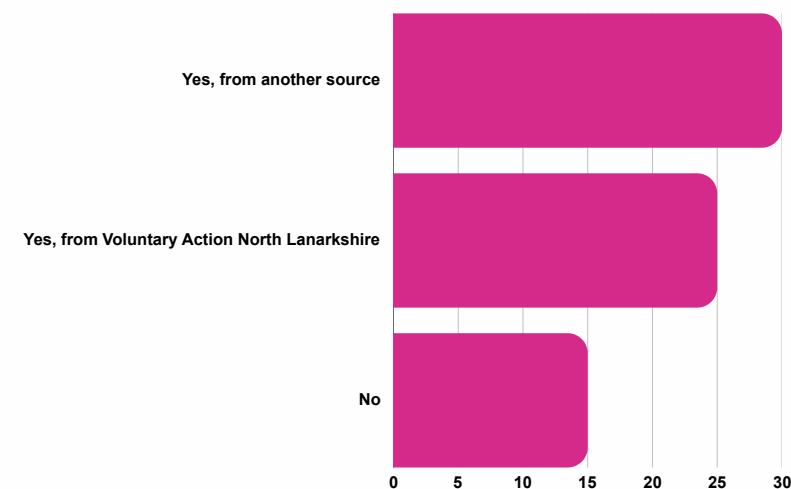
We asked organisations what support they would find beneficial in the upcoming year. The following areas of support were most frequently requested:

- **Accessing funding**
- **Income generation support**
- **Networking**
- **Accessing volunteering opportunities**
- **Volunteering guidance**

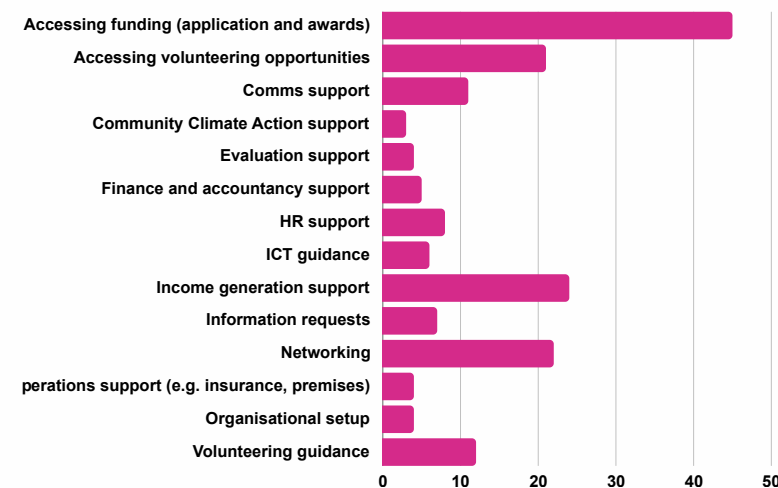
We also asked if there was any other service, training, or input that VANL could offer. The following was suggested:

- Training, including: training for volunteers, group or inhouse training, training on IT and use of AI, admin, accounts, generating income, first aid and food hygiene
- Support with funding, including: multi-year funding, advice, long-term funding sustainability, diversifying income strategies, accessing unrestricted funding opportunities, regular funding intelligence updates, support with partnership or consortium bids
- Volunteer recruitment events
- Practical help with collecting social impact evidence
- Support communicating with statutory partners
- Support for CEOs
- Marketing and raising awareness of local groups
- Improving VANL's capacity to deliver support, e.g. more than one person per area
- Support for new chairs and committee members to understand their role

Has your organisation sought external support or advice since April 2025?



Which of the following services do you feel would be of benefit to your organisation/group in the upcoming 2026 - 2027 financial year.



# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check

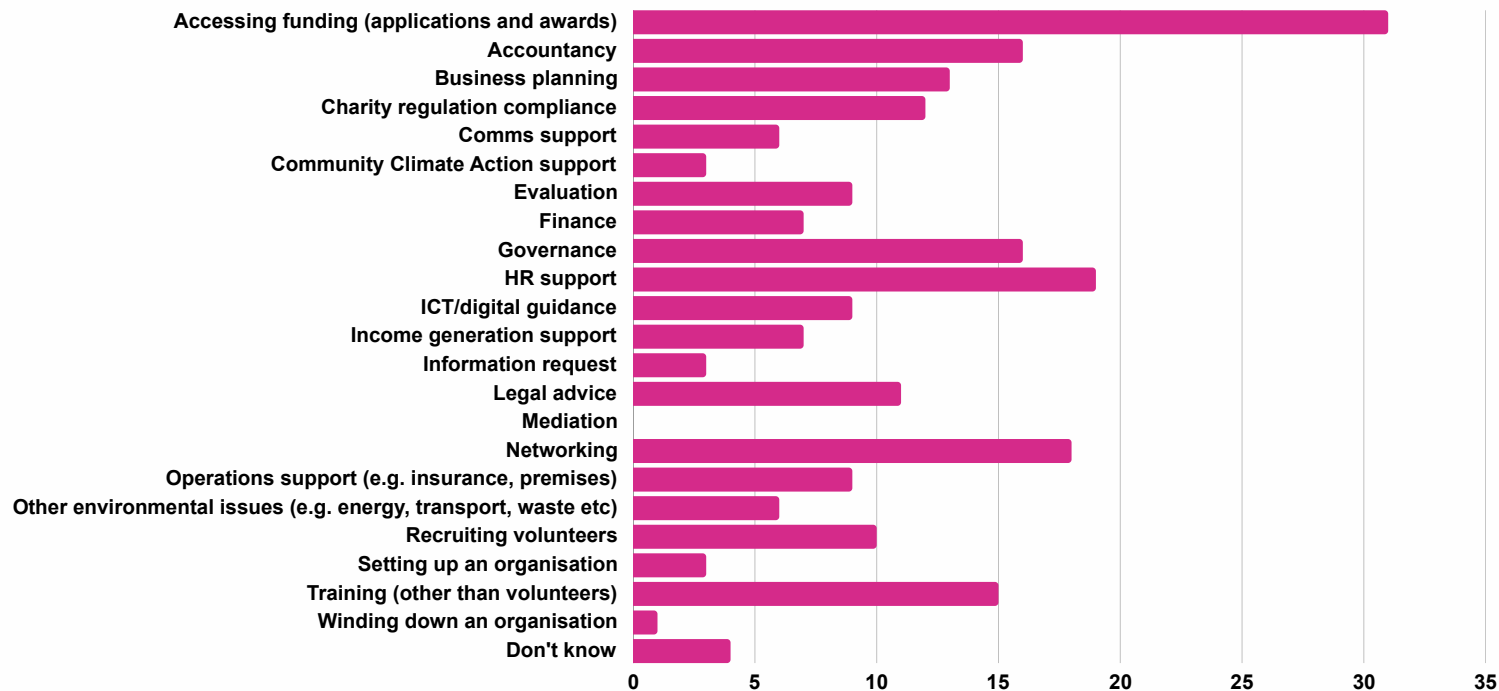


## Support

We asked respondents if there was anything their organisation would benefit from which was not covered by the survey:

- One organisation said they would approach VANL in the future to become a SCIO
- VANL to continue providing networking opportunities
- VANL should spotlight organisations and show good practice more frequently, bringing in other charities to share their knowledge and expertise
- Continue to develop knowledge of communities supported and what is on offer in each area

For which of the following areas has your organisation sought external support or advice?



- The area of external support or advice sought by organisations in the past year was accessing funding (applications and awards) (31)
- This is followed by HR support (19), and networking (18)
- Only one organisation sought support with winding down an organisation, and no respondents had sought support with mediation

## Conclusions

- Despite the wider challenges, the survey highlighted the high level of resilience within the sector. The organisations that completed this survey are taking a variety of actions to tackle financial challenges
- Funding emerged as the biggest challenge, particularly its scarcity, precarity, and the impact of its loss on the reserves held by organisations
- In addition, volunteer retention, organisational capacity, morale, and the ability to meet increasing demand were all highlighted as key issues
- **If trends continue, more and more organisations are likely to shrink or close. Essential services will be lost. The health and wellbeing of individuals, families and communities in North Lanarkshire will suffer**
- **The sector requires support to meet ongoing growing demand for services**
- **VANL is changing how it operates and will continue to do so. Statutory partners also need to reflect**

# WooClap: the Voices of the CVS in North Lanarkshire



# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check



## The Voices of the CVS in North Lanarkshire

At VANL's annual conference in April 2026, and four CVS Locality Network Events in May 2026, VANL staff led an interactive presentation to gather 'the voices of the CVS in North Lanarkshire'. Presentation software WooClap was used to allow audience members to anonymously answer questions about their experience of the CVS in North Lanarkshire in real time.

## WooClap Questions

- What are the greatest challenges facing the sector at the moment?
- What impact is this having on your organisation?
- VANL would like to be more visible in local communities. What would be the best ways for VANL to do this?
- Part of VANL's role in representing the sector is influencing change at national & local levels. How can we more effectively influence statutory & other partners in NL?
- What would you like VANL to prioritise doing in the next year?



**30.5**

Average number of responses  
to each question



**763**

Total survey responses

\*This figure is indicative of the number of responses given to the survey questions, not the number of individuals who completed the survey

# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check

## What are the greatest challenges facing the sector at the moment?

The top five most commonly cited challenges were:

- **Funding** - the lack of longer-term funding, funding cuts, reliance on insecure funding, and the competitiveness of funding
- **Staffing** - recruitment, retention, and training of staff
- **Capacity** - increased workload, less time and resources
- **Demand** - struggling to meet demand
- **Volunteers** - recruitment, retention, lack of volunteers, availability of volunteers

40.8

Average number of responses to Question 1

204

Total responses to Question 1



The below table shows the number of times each response was given.

| Theme             | Count of Responses | Theme                          | Count of Responses |
|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Funding           | 118                | Awareness                      | 7                  |
| Staffing          | 34                 | Sustainability                 | 7                  |
| Capacity          | 22                 | Recruitment                    | 6                  |
| Demand            | 18                 | Time                           | 5                  |
| Volunteers        | 17                 | Representation                 | 3                  |
| Burnout / Stress  | 14                 | Being taken seriously          | 2                  |
| Resources         | 12                 | Politics                       | 1                  |
| Premises / Venues | 11                 | Transport                      | 1                  |
| Collaboration     | 10                 | Opportunities for young people | 1                  |
| Accessibility     | 8                  | The unknown                    | 1                  |
|                   |                    | Perception                     | 1                  |

\*Some responses mentioned multiple terms, therefore the count of responses is higher than the total responses to the question

# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check

## What impact is this having on your organisation?

The top five biggest impacts cited were:

- **Burnout** - staff burnout, overworking staff, exhausted volunteers, stretched staffing and pressure
- **Stress and wellbeing** - rise in stress levels, anxiety, poor mental health and wellbeing, impact on staff wellbeing, demotivated, loss of worth
- **Funding problems** - lack of funding, short contracts, reduced budgets, time spent on funding applications, inability to pay staff, more spending, higher costs
- **Capacity and resource limitations** - lack of capacity and resources, stretched staffing, bottleneck delivery
- **Staffing and retention issues** - losing staff, staff move on, high turnover, redundancies, job loss, staff absence, losing good colleagues, inability to fulfill staff hours

36.4

Average number of responses to Question 2

182

Total responses to Question 2



The below table shows the number of times each response was given.

| Theme                               | Count of Responses |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Burnout                             | 24                 |
| Capacity & Resource Limitations     | 22                 |
| Staffing & Retention Issues         | 20                 |
| Stress & Wellbeing                  | 18                 |
| Service Reduction & Delivery Impact | 17                 |
| Funding Problems                    | 15                 |
| Planning & Growth Restrictions      | 14                 |
| Insecurity & Uncertainty            | 10                 |
| Training & Skills Gaps              | 8                  |
| Volunteer Challenges                | 7                  |
| Accessibility Issues                | 3                  |
| Premises / Venue Costs              | 2                  |

# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check

## VANL would like to be more visible in local communities. What would be the best ways for VANL to do this?

The top five most cited ways VANL could be more visible in local communities were:

- **Networking** - more networking, more networking events, evening and weekend networking, localised meet-ups, regular meetings
- **Community presence & local engagement** - visiting services, having more presence in the community, community engagement, visibility at local events, being based in local hubs
- **Partnership working** - more partnership working, promotion of partnerships, collaborative working
- **Social media & communications** - having more social media and online presence, newsletters, advertising and posters, website promotion
- **Events** - community events, pop-ups, volunteer and career events

27.2

Average number of responses to Question 3

136

Total responses to Question 3



The below table shows the number of times each response was given.

| Theme                                 | Count of Responses |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Networking                            | 34                 |
| Community Presence & Local Engagement | 28                 |
| Partnership Working                   | 17                 |
| Social Media & Communications         | 16                 |
| Events (General)                      | 14                 |
| Advertising & Promotion               | 8                  |
| Support & Guidance                    | 7                  |
| Schools & Young People                | 6                  |
| Accessibility & Availability          | 6                  |
| Localised Focus                       | 5                  |

# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check

## Part of VANL's role in representing the sector is influencing change at national & local levels. How can we more effectively influence statutory & other partners in NL?

The top 5 suggested ways VANL could effectively influence statutory & other partners in NL were:

- **Partnership working** - co-production and collaboration with decision-makers, partnership groups, 'get statutory partners in the room', involving the CVS
- **Lived experience & community voice** - championing lived experience first, sharing local voices, use case studies and spotlighting good practice
- **Evidence, research & impact** - using evidence-based research, evidence impact of sector, spotlight work showing social change, highlight cost effectiveness
- **Showcasing & visibility** - showcase local services, share videos/presentations, use social media
- **Political & decision-maker engagement** - lobby politicians and decision-makers, build relationships with partners, call out decision-makers and hold them accountable

22.6

Average number of responses to Question 4

113

Total responses to Question 4



The below table shows the number of times each response was given.

| Theme                                 | Count of Responses |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Partnership working                   | 22                 |
| Lived experience & community voice    | 12                 |
| Evidence, research & impact           | 11                 |
| Showcasing & visibility               | 11                 |
| Political & decision-maker engagement | 10                 |
| Support for grassroots/small orgs     | 7                  |
| Communication & consultation          | 7                  |
| Networking & relationship building    | 6                  |
| Policy influence & structural change  | 5                  |
| Sector awareness                      | 4                  |

# North Lanarkshire Third Sector Health Check

## What would you like VANL to prioritise doing in the next year?

The top 5 suggested priorities for VANL next year are:

- **Funding & financial support** - multi-year and longer-term funding, host funding events, promote funding opportunities at the earliest opportunity, helping with funding insecurity, push for unrestricted funds
- **Partnerships & collaboration** - encouraging partnerships and connecting partners, collaboration, connecting organisations with similar goals
- **Networking & engagement** - more conferences and networking events, online events and digitally enabled networking, social media, enabling networking
- **Training & development** - promoting training opportunities, wider variety of training courses, training support, volunteer development and recruitment
- **Community engagement** - engaging local community and meeting local groups in their area, help link local groups to national strategy, engaging young people

25.6

Average number of responses to Question 5

128

Total responses to Question 5



The below table shows the number of times each response was given.

| Theme                        | Count of Responses |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Funding & financial support  | 27                 |
| Partnerships & collaboration | 22                 |
| Networking & engagement      | 18                 |
| Training & development       | 10                 |
| Community engagement         | 10                 |
| Evidence & research          | 9                  |
| Influencing & advocacy       | 8                  |
| Volunteering support         | 7                  |
| Digital engagement           | 6                  |
| Sector visibility            | 5                  |

## Conclusions

### Funding Stability

- Funding insecurity appears to be the biggest issue affecting organisations across North Lanarkshire. Organisations are struggling with short-term grants, funding cuts, competitive funding environment, and rising costs which are causing burnout, staff loss, and service instability. Respondents want VANL to advocate for multi-year funding, host funding events, and push for unrestricted funds

### Staffing, Volunteers and Workforce Pressures

- There are challenges with recruitment, retention and training of staff and volunteers. There is a shortage of available volunteers. This is contributing to burn out and instability of the workforce, in turn affecting service delivery and organisational wellbeing

### Capacity Limitations and Rising Demand

- Similarly to above, organisations are overstretched with increasing demand and too few resources (time, money, staff). This is leading to reduced service availability and increased pressure on staff and volunteers

### Networking, Partnerships and Collaboration

- Respondents would like more opportunities to network and connect with other organisations, collaborate, and work together. Respondents would like VANL to facilitate bringing CVS organisations and statutory partners together

### Community Engagement and Local Presence

- Respondents would like VANL to be more present within the community, by visiting services, attending local events, being based in local hubs, and engaging directly with groups across North Lanarkshire

### Evidence, Research, and Demonstrating Impact

- Respondents requested VANL build evidence bases to influence statutory partners, showcasing the value and impact of the sector, and demonstrate cost-effectiveness

### Showcasing and Visibility

- Organisations want VANL to promote the sector, by showcasing services, sharing case studies and highlighting good practise, and using social media more