

## East Lothian Community Wealth Building Charter

**Community Wealth Building** is a people-centred approach to local economic development. It redirects wealth back into the local economy, helps to address inequalities and puts control and benefits in the hands of local people.

Community Wealth Building uses the economic levers available to Anchor Institutions to develop resilient, inclusive local economies with more local spend and fair employment, as well as a larger and more diverse business base, ensuring that wealth is more locally owned and benefits local people.

**Anchor Institutions** are tied to a particular place by their mission, histories, physical assets and local relationships. They are organisations that have an important presence in a place, usually through a combination of being largescale employers, the largest purchasers of goods and services, controlling large areas of land and/or fixed assets in the locality.

Examples of Anchor Institutions include local authorities, NHS Boards, universities and colleges, large local businesses, the combined activities of the community and voluntary sector and housing associations.

### Anchor Charter Mission Statement

To commit to long-term collaboration between East Lothian Anchor Institutions, supporting shared Community Wealth Building goals to improve collective wellbeing and create a strong, resilient and inclusive local and regional economy. This includes a commitment to the embedding of Community Wealth Building principles and reporting on progress to the East Lothian Partnership.

The Partnership will:

- work with, and encourage, wider local and regional Anchor Institutions in Community Wealth Building initiatives
- share highlights, success stories and promote best practice among Anchor Institutions and stakeholders
- monitor the implementation of the East Lothian Community Wealth Building Charter
- review policy and practice to deliver a more inclusive economy.

**We commit to this Anchor Charter to deliver Community Wealth Building in East Lothian through these Pillar Purposes, Objectives and Pledges**

<b>Pillar Purpose</b>	<b>Pillar Objective</b>	<b>Pledges</b>
<b>Procurement: We commit to using our spend to support a diverse local business base</b>		
Maximise economic, social and environmental benefit for the community through development of effective local supply chains comprising local SMEs, employee-owned businesses, social enterprises, cooperatives and other community owned enterprises.		Commit to undertaking supply chain and spend analysis and work towards increasing local spend where possible.
		Proactively engage with other Anchor Institutions to align procurement strategies and to identify and progress joint procurement opportunities, whilst supporting local businesses to bid and respond to these opportunities.
<b>Fair Employment: We commit to being a fair employer</b>		
Create fair and meaningful employment opportunities by paying the living wage, recruiting from and supporting people from priority groups into fair and sustainable employment, and building progression routes for workers.		Work towards becoming a Scottish Living Wage accredited employer.
		Seek to recruit locally and from priority groups where appropriate e.g. young people, people with long-term health problems, people experiencing poverty, people with caring responsibilities.
		Commit to providing secure, safe employment, addressing wage gaps (gender, racial or ethnic, age, disability) and developing strategies for in-work progression and wellbeing support for all.
		Follow the Fair Work Convention ensuring workers have an Effective Voice, Opportunity, Security, Fulfilment, and Respect.
<b>Land and Assets: We commit to the productive use of our land and assets to support communities and enterprises</b>		
Support equitable land development and ownership models, including the		Undertake an asset review to identify opportunities for Community Wealth Building.

imaginative use of assets for community and wider social and economic use.	Proactively support communities who wish to use or develop underutilised assets.
<b>Plural Ownership: We commit to supporting plural ownership of the local economy</b>	
Advance inclusive economic ownership models such as local SMEs, employee owned businesses, social enterprises, cooperatives, community enterprises and mutually owned companies and thus enable more wealth generated locally to stay within the community.	Proactively engage with communities to co-produce local services and initiatives.
	Commit to facilitate opportunities for local SMEs, employee-owned businesses, social enterprises, cooperatives and community owned enterprises to participate within local supply chains.
<b>Financial Power: We commit to harnessing and growing local wealth</b>	
Increase flows of investment within local economies by harnessing wealth that exists and is generated locally.	Seek to invest in ethical, environmentally sustainable, local economic development opportunities.
	Support and promote progressive finance initiatives including local credit unions.
	Encourage staff and service providers to shop locally and ethically, supporting 'Keep it Local' campaigns.
<b>Climate Change: We commit to tackling the climate and nature emergency</b>	
Take immediate and sustainable action to reduce carbon and greenhouse gas emissions and tackle the nature emergency.	Commit to a timescale for achieving net zero carbon and greenhouse gas emissions.
	Support and encourage environmentally sustainable supply chains.
	Develop and support strategies to support sustainable communities and our natural environment and bio-diversity through, for example, capital investment projects, active travel, sustainable energy generation.