



# Midlothian Sure Start



## **Strategic Plan**

2018 - 2023



# Building Best Beginnings



## Our Vision

For all Midlothian's children to build the foundations for a happy childhood that serves them a lifetime.

## Our Mission

To help each child achieve their full potential by having valued, confident and collaborative staff who will work with each other and other agencies to provide best quality services to children and their families within the communities of Midlothian.

## Foreword

Midlothian Sure Start is delighted to present our Strategic Plan for 2018-2023. This plan sets out our priorities for action for the next 5 years in order for us to address our vision.

For over 20 years, we have been providing quality support services to families in Midlothian. Every year, our services reach in excess of 1000 parents and children. We work co-productively, using a strengths based approach and offer a range of services through 6 Family Learning Centres. In addition, we work in close partnership with a range of service providers in Midlothian. We use evidence based models and independent reviews have shown our work to reduce social isolation and build confidence for families of very young children. We will continue to build on these strong foundations to ensure that we meet local need through addressing the impacts of adverse childhood experiences and poverty.

In developing our plan, we have consulted all stakeholders, taken account of the external context in which we operate and considered the opportunities and challenges facing us. This plan is being launched at a time of uncertainty and austerity. Local Authorities face large deficits and communities deal with the impact of Universal Credit and increasing child poverty. At the same time, during this period, Scotland will double the number of hours of free childcare to families. In addition, the Scottish Government aims to continue to address inequality and make Scotland "The Best Place to Grow Up".

The stakeholders who contributed to the development of this strategic plan believe that Midlothian Sure Start should be ambitious for the children and families of Midlothian. We will work diligently, grasping all opportunities, we will rise to meet the challenges of this plan with resilience, creativity and compassion.

We recognise that in order to meet these key local priorities, co-productive work will be key.

Together, we can ensure that the communities of Midlothian are supported to be more resilient and able to provide the children of Midlothian, the best beginnings.

Cheryl Brown

Chief Executive

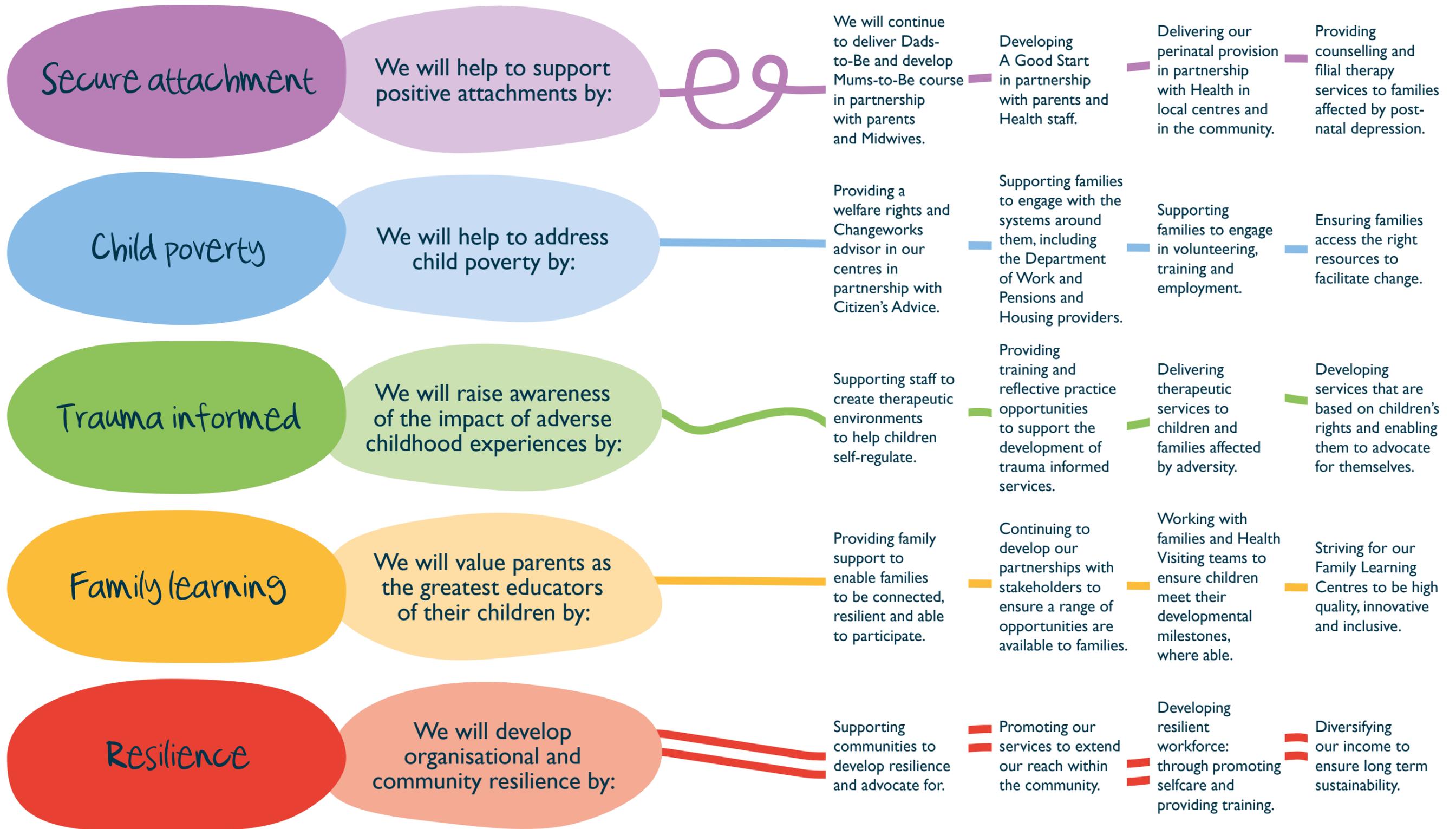
Su Duthie

Chair

# Plan for 2018 - 2023



Developed in consultation with our staff, families and the local community





[www.midlothiansurestart.org.uk](http://www.midlothiansurestart.org.uk)



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Midlothian Sure Start

Scottish Registered Charity Number: SCO031038  
Company Number: 215330  
Tax Number: 50620