

Your South of Scotland

A Summary Of Our 2021/22
Engagement Tour

South of Scotland Enterprise

EASY READ VERSION

Who are we?



We are South of Scotland Enterprise (SOSE for short)



We want to help make the South of Scotland the best it can be

What did we do?



We are writing an **Action Plan**.

We will publish our Action Plan in 2023.

An Action Plan tells everyone:

- who we are
- what we want to do over the next 5 years
- how we want to do it
- who we will work with
- how we will decide if we have done well



It is important to us that people in the South of Scotland get the chance to tell us what they think about our work.



We wanted to:

- tell people about ourselves and the work we have been doing
- ask people to tell us what they thought about the work we have been doing
- ask people what matters most to them and what they think we should be doing in the future



Between November 2021 and March 2022, we talked to people in these ways:

- in person at 25 public events across the South of Scotland
- held meetings with different groups (for example young people, women, disabled people, LGBT+ people)
- 3 early morning meetings with businesses
- had meetings with Members of Scottish Parliament and local elected Councillors
- online survey



We heard from almost 750 people.

31% were from a business
23% were from a community group
17% were from a charity
14% were from the general public
15% others

What did people tell us?



Poor housing, poor transport, poor internet and not enough buildings for businesses, make it hard for people to live and work in the South of Scotland.



More needs to be done to help young people stay in the South of Scotland and to get other people to move here.



SOSE need to ask different groups of people what they need and to include those groups when they are deciding what services to offer and how to offer them.



SOSE need to work in partnership with other organisations and communities.



SOSE need to help communities to make plans about how they want to develop.



SOSE need to show strong and brave leadership.



SOSE should act quickly when opportunities come along for the South of Scotland to make the South of Scotland even better.



SOSE should help to bring together people from different communities or with different interests.



SOSE should tell people about support that it offers and support that is on offer in other organisations.



Listening to what people have to say is very important if SOSE want to be successful.

What will we do now?



Speak to people in power about the things the South of Scotland needs.

Speak to the Scottish Government about getting better housing and transport.



Help young people to have their say on topics that matter to them.



Bring people together who have shared interests.



Lead the way in important areas such as tackling the climate crisis and making sure people are treated fairly at work.



Support people to set goals that will help their businesses to grow and their communities to thrive.



Help to make sure everyone in the South of Scotland has the chance to be heard on topics that matter to them.



Make sure more people know who we are, what we do and what help we can offer.



Make a plan about how we will make the South of Scotland better and share it with people across the South of Scotland.



Keep speaking and listening to people in the South of Scotland about what they want from us.