



**MOTION TO MIDLOTHIAN COUNCIL**  
**TUESDAY 31 MARCH 2026**

**International Women's Day**

Council notes that International Women's Day is an opportunity to celebrate the achievements and contribution of women in all walks of life, while also recognising that women have too often had to struggle to be heard, to be safe, and to secure justice for themselves, their families and their communities.

Council recognises that women across the world have played a vital role in advancing peace, justice and human dignity; including the women in Ireland who helped build peace out of conflict, women internationally who continue to speak for dignity and humanity in the face of war and suffering, and the women of Scotland who, across generations, have stood up to adversity, inequality and exclusion.

Council further recognises the courage and persistence of women who have challenged injustice and unfairness, often in the face of indifference or entrenched opposition, and whose efforts have strengthened communities, widened participation in public life, and advanced the cause of equality.

Council believes that women's leadership, both formal and informal, has too often been undervalued, despite the central role women have repeatedly played in sustaining families, communities, and democratic life through times of hardship, conflict, and social change.

Council agrees that it is right that local government should mark International Women's Day by recognising the contribution of women locally, nationally, and internationally, and by affirming the importance of women's voices in building a fairer, more peaceful, and more inclusive society.

Council therefore resolves:

1. To mark International Women's Day and celebrate the contribution of women to peace, justice, equality, and public life.
2. To record its appreciation for the role of women locally, nationally, and internationally in building stronger, fairer, and more compassionate communities.
3. To acknowledge the contribution of Scottish women, past and present, who have stood up to adversity and worked for equality, dignity, and social progress.
4. To reaffirm the importance of women's voices, leadership, and experience in shaping a fairer, more peaceful, and more inclusive society.

**Proposed by: Cllr Dianne Alexander**



**Seconded by: Cllr Kelly Parry**

