



Pilmeny  
Development  
Project

A company limited by guarantee  
with number SC188129  
Scottish Charity No. SC002549



LEITH BENEVOLENT  
ASSOCIATION



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Leith Community Connector  
Project

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**Community Connectors**

**Leith Community  
Connector Project**

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**Reducing Social Isolation  
for Older People**

## About Us

Leith Community Connector Project is a new pilot initiative working within the Greater Leith area and hosted by Pilmeny Development Project. It aims to offer older people personalised solutions to the problems of social isolation. Social isolation is a major problem for older people and can adversely affect both their physical and mental health.

The Community Connector is a supervised volunteer (or in special cases a paid sessional worker) who will work with appropriately matched socially isolated older people for a time limited period in order to facilitate social connections identified by the older people themselves.

There is no cost for the service.

The service aims to have a positive impact on older people by building confidence, reducing loneliness, increasing or maintaining levels of independence and giving older people a choice in the activities they want to be involved in.

Community Connecting is an alternative to traditional Day Services (Day Care and outreach/sitter) and will be offered to some older people before the consideration of more formal voluntary sector and City of Edinburgh Council Day Services.

**THIS IS A FREE SERVICE**



## What we do...

### *Community Connectors*

- Work with older people who have a range of needs and are socially isolated to help them to build social networks and/or link into community resources with the support of volunteers and sessional workers.
- Link with a range of local organisations to increase capacity building opportunities for older people and their carers.
- Work with a number of referral pathways and closely link with the local Referral and Resource Group (allocation group for Day Services) Home Care Reablement Teams, OPRA (Older People's Rehabilitation) and Portlee Day Centre.
- Ensure that older people who cannot benefit from Community Connecting will be offered appropriate Day Services.