

Dalmeny Kirk

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Accelerate's support has been excellent. The Action Plan is just what we were looking for it and captures well the current situation and what we have achieved but also there are lots of great ideas and suggestions towards the end of how we can capitalise on our spare capacity and market ourselves more.



Background

Dalmeny Kirk, near South Queensferry, is a fine example of an early 12th-century Norman church with its adjacent hall (known as the Dalmeny Church Centre). Together, they support the needs of the congregation for worship as well as being available for use by the wider community.

Need for support

In accessing support through Accelerate, Dalmeny Kirk's mission was to explore generating additional income from the Kirk and the adjacent hall - to support its work and, at the same time, make its amenities more available to the local community and support longer-term sustainability and growth.



You can watch a testimonial video [here](#)

What we did

Accelerate's work with the Kirk was carried out in two distinct phases during 2022 and 2023. The first phase focused on the development of the café. This has now resulted in the employment of a café manager and the catering provision is now up and running.

The second phase of support has been to focus on the use of the hall and the Kirk in more commercial terms, whilst not forgetting that the primary purpose of these assets is to support the work of the church.

Accelerate has worked with the Kirk's office bearers to create a 5-year Action Plan. The Action Plan sought to build on the strengths of the Kirk's existing activities, with a focus on extending its services to the local community as well as generating increased income. This also involved setting clear targets and timescales for delivery.

Some of the potential opportunities identified within the Action Plan included promoting Dalmeny Kirk as a venue for weddings and conferences; making further use of the Kirk as a film location; and exploring options for managing activities themselves as well as making the premises available to let.

These ideas would also allow the Kirk to build its relationships across the local community, with a range of local businesses, and to continue to develop further relationships with the local community.

With its unique strengths and the proactive and entrepreneurial approach taken to date, the Action Plan now provides an excellent framework for further developing to make best use of the hall and Kirk – both in support the work of the Parish as well as for the benefit of the local community.

South Queensferry