

Public Document Pack



COMMUNITY PLANNING STRATEGIC BOARD THURSDAY, 17TH NOVEMBER, 2022

Date: 17 November 2022
Time: 2.00 pm
Location: Conducted via Microsoft Teams

BUSINESS		
1.	Welcome and Apologies	2 mins
2.	Minute (Pages 3 - 12) (a) Consider Minute of Meeting of the Community Planning Strategic Board held on 8 September 2022. (Attached) (b) Consider Action Tracker. (Attached)	5 mins
3.	CPP Task Group Improvement Plan (Pages 13 - 20) (a) Update from Jenni Craig. (b) Work Plan updates: (i) Enough money to live on – Jenni Craig (ii) Access to work, learning & training – Shona Mitchell (iii) Enjoying good health & wellbeing – Chris Allan (iv) A good place to grow up, live in & enjoy a full life – Vinnie Fisher (Work plan updates attached)	40 mins
4.	Food Growing Strategy (Pages 21 - 52) Update from Carole Cook and Amy Alcorn. (Report attached)	15 mins
5.	The Promise: Human and Economic Cost Modelling (Pages 53 - 68) Presentation from Claire Stuart and Louise Whitelock of The Promise. (Attached)	20 mins
6.	Forward Planner for Meetings (Pages 69 - 70) (Attached)	5 mins
7.	Any Other Business	5 mins
8.	Dates of Next Meetings Dates of next meetings – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 March 2023 • 8 June 2023 	

NOTES

Timings given above are only indicative and not intended to inhibit Members' discussions.

Membership of Board:

Councillor Caroline Cochrane (Chair)
Ms Hilary Francis, Third Sector
Councillor John Greenwell
Prof. Russell Griggs, South of Scotland Enterprise (Karen Jackson attending)
Councillor Scott Hamilton
Ms Karen Hamilton, NHS Borders
Mr Robin Hill, RSLs
Councillor Euan Jardine
Mr Ray McCowan, Borders College
Mr Colin McGrath, Scottish Borders Community Council Network
Superintendent Catriona Paton, Police Scotland
Ms Hilary Sangster, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
Councillor Elaine Thornton-Nicol
(only 3 out of 5 SBC Councillors are required to attend)

Copies also sent for information to:-

Mr David Alexander – Eildon Housing
Ms Anna Griffin – SEPA
Mr Crispin Hill – Nature Scotland
Ms Alison Irvine – Scottish Government
Mr David Gordon – Waverley Housing
Ms Shona Mitchell – Skills Development Scotland
Mr Bill White – Live Borders

Please direct any enquiries to Jenny Wilkinson, Clerk to the Council
Tel: 01835 825004 Email: jjwilkinson@scotborders.gov.uk



SCOTTISH BORDERS COMMUNITY PLANNING STRATEGIC BOARD

- Date:** 8 September 2022, 2.00 pm.
- Location:** Via Microsoft Teams
- Attendees:** Councillor C. Cochrane (Chair), Ms. A. Hall, Ms B. Francis, Ms C. Paton, Mr D. Dunlop (TSI), Mr R. Davidson, Mr S. Fletcher, Ms J. Grant (Borders College), Cllr J. Greenwell, Mrs K. Hamilton (NHS Borders), Cllr S. Hamilton, Mr R. Hill (RSLs), Mr K. Langley (Scottish Fire & Rescue), Mr C. McGrath (SBCCN), Mr R. Noble, Cllr E. Thornton-Nicol.
- Also in attendance:** Director Resilient Communities, Director Social Work and Practice, Strategic Planning and Policy Manager, Participation Officer, Communities and Partnership Manager, Democratic Services Officer (W. Mohieddeen) (all SBC).

MINUTE AND ACTION POINTS

1. **WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

Due to technical issues experienced by Cllr Cochrane, Cllr Hamilton assumed the Chair and welcomed attendees to the meeting. Apologies had been received from Cllr Jardine.

2. **MINUTE**

There had been circulated copies of the Minute of the Meeting held on 16 June 2022 and associated action tracker. With reference to paragraph 3.2 of the Minute, Mr McGrath asked that the Community Planning Partnership (CCP) being more visible be discussed in the meeting and, reference to paragraph 4 of the Minute, that consideration be given to renaming the Third Sector Interface.

DECISION

AGREED:

(a) to approve the Minute for signature by the Chair; and,

(b) to approve the action tracker.

3. **COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP TASK GROUP – IMPROVEMENT PLAN
UPDATE INCLUDING WORK PLAN**

- 3.1 With reference to paragraph 3 of the Minute of 16 June 2022, copies of an update paper on the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Task Group Improvement Plan had been circulated. SBC Director Resilient Communities, Mrs Jenni Craig, gave a presentation on an update on the Improvement Plan, highlighting its key points:

- The Community Planning Strategic Board agreed the CPP Improvement Plan on 3 March 2022 with three main areas of action: prioritise, governance and performance, and it was agreed a CPP Task Group be formed to progress the plan.
- The Task Group had met to look to refresh the Community Plan (LOIP) to account for significant changes in the operating landscape as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic including a rapid review of the existing community plan and reduce it to a few key, manageable priorities, a strong community engagement piece needed with communities and for a clear framework for discussion for community engagement.
- The Strategic Board had agreed four themes on 16 June 2022: enough money to live on; access to work, learning and training; enjoying good health and wellbeing; a good place to grow up, live in and enjoy a full life. The Task Group was asked to draft a work plan with key priorities and what actions needed to be taken to achieve positive outcomes for communities in the Borders.
- The Task Group noted that a further report on a CPP governance structure and performance framework which reflected the Work Plan should also be considered by the Joint Programme Board in August 2022 and onwards for approval to the Strategic Board in September 2022; that in parallel to the Work Plan, a full review of the Community Plan would be undertaken in 2023-24; and that this could require formal agreement of individual partners through their own governance arrangements.
- The Task Group met on 5 July, 2 August and 6 September to consider key priorities, the public consultation and what actions needed to be taken. While the public consultation was not significant in numbers, it gave early indication of what was important to communities: making sure everyone had enough money to live on; feeling well – both physical and mentally; and increasing the range and availability of sustainable transport/creating better employment opportunities. This was in alignment to the four themes that the Strategic Board had agreed, but it was recognised that further community engagement would be required in order to ensure a 'bottom up' approach when refreshing the Community Plan.
- The themes and leads for each were discussed and the Task Group agreed that they would be: Theme 1 – Enough Money to Live On, a focus on the current cost of living crisis and community wealth building, lead – Scottish Borders Council; Theme 2 – Access to Work, Learning and Training, sharing data more effectively to identify gaps in education, employment and training, lead – to be confirmed, lead - Skills Development Scotland/Scottish Borders Council; Theme 3 – Enjoying Good Health and Wellbeing, a commitment to health in all policies was proposed, with partners acting as champions to reduce health inequalities, lead – Public Health; Theme 4 – A Good Place to Grow Up, Live in and Enjoy a Full Life, a commitment to the Climate change Route Map, increasing the range of sustainable and greener transport, supporting Place Making and enhancing referral pathways to support early intervention and prevention, lead – Police Scotland.
- 12-month CPP Work Plan – the short-life Work Plan enabled work to be undertaken in a timely manner in relation to the actions within it. The Work Plan gave an opportunity to respond to emerging issues in a more flexible and efficient way. It also allowed other work that was taking place in parallel to be taken into consideration, including The Promise, Place Making and the creation of local Place Plans, IJB Health Needs Assessment and Review of Area Partnerships. Furthermore, the Work Plan gave an opportunity for medium to longer-term requirements to be developed for the refreshment of the Community Plan.
- Next steps for the CPP Task Group – the Task Group would continue to meet on a monthly basis to progress the CPP Improvement Plan: Item 1 – progressing the actions within the Work Plan (a timetable which set out required project resources, key actions, strategic assessments, community engagement and milestones to enable the refresh of the CPP Community Plan); Item 2 – CPP Governance and Structure including the delivery landscape and the relationship of Area Partnerships

to the Community Planning Partnership; Item 3 – CPP Performance Framework including standard reporting mechanisms for the four themes.

CHAIR

Councillor Cochrane joined the meeting at 2.30 pm and assumed the Chair.

- 3.2 In discussion of the contents of the report, Ms Karen Hamilton advised that Dr Sohail Bhatti had been appointed Public Health Director at NHS Borders and may be involved in public health-related work in the Work Plan. Community empowerment in decision-making was considered as a possible theme and would be reflected upon as part of the governance theme.

DECISION

- (a) **AGREED the draft Work Plan detailed at Section 4 which presented the key priorities and actions for the partnership over the next 12 months;**
- (b) **NOTED:**
- (i) **that in parallel to the Work Plan, a full review of the current Community Plan was being proposed to be undertaken in 2023-24, including a refreshed Strategic Assessment and the Health Needs Strategic Assessment, which would provide an evidence base for future changes to the Community Plan;**
 - (ii) **the further actions and timetable requirements within the draft Work Plan in relation to the CPP Structure and Performance Framework; and,**
 - (iii) **that this may require formal agreement of individual partners through their own governance arrangements.**

4. CHILD POVERTY PROGRESS REPORT

4.1 There had been circulated copies of a report by the Director Resilient Communities that presented the Scottish Borders Local Child Poverty Report for 2021-22 and Action Plan for 2022-23 for endorsement before submission to the Scottish Government. The Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 required Local Authorities and Health Boards to jointly prepare a Local Child Poverty Action Plan Report and an Annual Progress Report. This report provided the Community Planning Partnership and Scottish Government with an update on progress made in the Scottish Borders against activities within the Action Plan for 2021-22 and sets out planned actions in 2022-23. Mrs Janice Robertson gave a presentation on the Child Poverty Report Update, highlighting its key points:

- The Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 required local authorities and Health Boards to jointly prepare a Local Child Poverty Action Plan Report and Annual Progress Report.
- The Scottish Government published in March 2022 a national delivery plan called Best Start, Bright Futures which set out how to deliver on Scotland's national mission to tackle child poverty. Best Start, Bright Futures was a plan for all of Scotland and recognised that all parts of society must deliver change needed for children and families. The Local Child Poverty Report and Action Plan aligned with the approach of Best Start, Bright Futures.
- Best Start, Bright Futures set out Scotland's offer to families in three parts: Part A – providing the opportunities and integrated support parents need to enter, sustain and progress in work; Part B – maximising the support available for families to live dignified lives and meet their basic needs; Part C – supporting the next generation to thrive including actions in early years education and post-school transitions.

- National targets – fewer than 18% of children living in families in relative poverty in 2023-24, reducing to fewer than 10% by 2030; fewer than 14% of children living in families in absolute poverty in 2023-24, reducing to fewer than 5% by 2030; fewer than 8% of children living in families living in combined low income and material deprivation in 2023-24, reducing to fewer than 5% by 2030; fewer than 8% of children living in families in persistent poverty in 2023-24, reducing to fewer than 5% by 2030.
- Scottish Borders headlines – Children in low income families (before housing costs) had dropped from 18.2% in 2019-20 to 14.7% in 2020-21. This was similar to the national trend. One in five Scottish Borders children lived in poverty (after housing costs); in 2021, the gross weekly full-time workplace-based wage in the Scottish Borders was £96 less per week than the average level for Scotland, this was the 2nd lowest of the 32 Scottish local authorities; in 2020, 24.6% of employees aged 18 and over earned less than the living wage in the Scottish Borders; the cost of living crisis was affecting the area with more families struggling to heat their homes or feed their children; 29% of adults in the Scottish Borders had no savings as at 2019 which was before the Covid-19 pandemic and the cost of living crisis; and in 2021, 25% of those in employment in the Scottish Borders were in 'lower-paid' occupations.
- 2021-22 Progress Report highlights – 20 families had engaged with the Intensive Family Support Service over the year and as a result, five adults had entered employment; the total number of clients assisted in the year by Citizens Advice Bureau in the Scottish Borders was 4,327, and the total financial gain relating to these clients was approximately £3.5m; the Borders Housing Network dispersed funds to Housing Associations in the Scottish Borders to support tenants in fuel debt; summer activity camps averaged 80% occupancy with 62% of places free of charge for targeted children and young people; £85,000 from the Council's Financial Hardship Fund was dispersed to local foodbanks/Fareshare, food growing projects, community cafes and the Low and Slow Project; and there were 510 referrals for financial inclusion of mothers and pregnant women from the Health Visitor and Family Nurse Partnership, which resulted in £1.25 million in gains.
- 2022-23 Actions highlights – Ensured funding of Early Learning Centre (ELC) was free at the point of delivery for parents; ran summer camps and volunteering for young people, which allowed parents to be able to work a full day; continued to seek solutions to workforce challenges for employers and employees in the third sector where a low wage economy contributed to in-work poverty; developed a plan to transform whole family support services using funding from the Whole Family Wellbeing Fund; reviewed and updated the Scottish Borders Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan in order to prevent families from becoming homeless; and continued to offer Modern Apprenticeship opportunities across a range of services.

4.2 Members discussed the report and recognised that many factors affected child poverty. Mrs Robertson advised that national data was relied upon and that sometimes there was a time lag in reporting data. Work was undertaken to develop a dashboard which displayed up-to-date data. With regards to transport allowances for Modern Apprentices, Ms Jane Grant advised that this would depend on the employer and day release availability, however many students were eligible for free bus travel and there also may be support available through Borders College for those with a college apprenticeship. Members asked that the report reflect the provision of sanitary products across Scottish Borders education alongside Borders College. The teaching of savings and personal finance was discussed by members that may be added to the Action Plan. Cllr Thornton-Nicol advised that there was an element of exclusion to the summer camp programmes if children were not able to travel to attend. Mr Easingwood, Director Social Work and Practice, advised that uptake on bus passes for young people was high but conversations were taking place with Lesley Munro, Director Education and Lifelong Learning, and David Robertson, Acting Chief Executive, with regards to improving uptake rates.

DECISION

AGREED to endorse the Scottish Borders Local Child Poverty Report for 2021-22 and Action Plan for 2022-23 for submission to the Scottish Government.

5. THE PROMISE GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

5.1 There had been circulated copies of a report by the Director Social Work and Practice which outlined the proposed governance for Scottish Borders Council to deliver The Promise. The Promise was based on five priority areas and five fundamentals – what matters to children and families, listening, poverty, children’s rights and language. The five priority areas were:

- A Good Childhood – Support, A Right to an Education, Relationships, Brothers and Sisters, Youth Justice, Advocacy, Moving on, and Physical Intervention;
- Whole family support – Family Support, Peer and Community Support, Service Integration, and Family Therapies;
- Planning – Planning, Investment, and Information Sharing;
- Supporting the Workforce – Workforce Values, Trauma Informed, and Relationships, Workforce Support; and,
- Building Capacity – Legislation, Children’s Hearing System, Inspection and Regulation, Policy Coherence, Data Mapping and Collection, and Governance Structures.

5.2 Mr Easingwood advised that The Promise would be a significant policy driver over the next decade and the Scottish Government would be measuring children and young people’s services using the plan. The Promise was not to detract from excellent work that was taking place but to provide a governance platform to deliver on The Promise. The Promise was not solely focused about care-experienced young people as the plan had at its heart an approach of shifting the balance of care away from acute delivery to early intervention using a multi-agency approach. There would be regular updates to the Community Planning Strategic Board on updates on The Promise and the governance structure would function as the strategic corporate parenting board of the Scottish Borders and have the voice of lived experience built into it from the outset. The proposed governance structure would provide a forum with a single overview of services for children, young people and families in the Borders and would align with Scottish Government policy. Scottish Borders Council was one of three pilot areas for delivering The Promise so there would be some input from the Scottish Government. The proposed governance structure featured a Champions Board as part of a number of forums where the voices of children, young people and families were listened to. A young person would also be present on the proposed Strategic Forum. In response to a question from Councillor Thornton-Nicol, Mr Easingwood advised strategic corporate parenting would be part of the role of the Scottish Borders’ Children and Young People’s Promise Oversight and Leadership Board.

DECISION

AGREED:

- (a) to approve the implementation of the Strategic Partnership outlined in the report (which was agreed in principle at the Children and Young People’s Leadership Group (CYPLG) away day on 30th June 2022);**
- (b) that the Promise Strategic Lead Officer, Promise Operational Lead Officer and Promise Implementation Officer be directed to continue to work with the current members of the CYPLG to finalise and implement the new governance structure;**
- (c) that additional partners, including AHSCP and ADP, were made aware of the re-organisation of CYPLG in order to identify areas of cross partnership working in**

relation to The Promise; and,

- (d) that strategic corporate parenting be part of the role of the Scottish Borders' Children and Young People's Promise Oversight and Leadership Board.**

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

With reference to paragraph 3.2 of the Minute of the Meeting held on 16 June, Mr McGrath highlighted that the Community Planning Partnership was regarded as not as visible as it could have been and that during August and September, NHS Borders had drop-in sessions throughout the Borders which had been regarded as having poor uptake. Mr McGrath suggested that Community Councils should be used more to communicate services with people to improve uptake.

The meeting concluded at 3.25 pm.

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL

ACTION SHEET

COMMUNITY PLANNING STRATEGIC BOARD - November 2012 onwards

Notes:-




Items for which no actions are required are not included

NO.	MINUTE PARAGRAPH NUMBER, TITLE AND DECISION REQUIRING ACTION	ORGANISATION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	OUTCOME
8 September 2022				
1. CPP Task Group – Improvement Plan Update including Work Plan	Para 3.2 – action (a) AGREED the draft Work Plan detailed at Section 4 which presented the key priorities and actions for the partnership over the next 12 months.	All	All	
	Para 3.2 – action (b)(i) NOTED that in parallel to the Work Plan, a full review of the current Community Plan was being proposed to be undertaken in 2023-24, including a refreshed Strategic Assessment and the Health Needs Strategic Assessment, which would provide an evidence base for future changes to the Community Plan.	SBC	Jenni Craig	
2. Child Poverty Progress Report	Para 4.2 – AGREED to endorse the Scottish Borders Local Child Poverty Report for 2021/22 and Action Plan for 2022/23 for submission to the Scottish Government.	SBC	Janice Robertson	
3. The Promise Governance Structure	Para 5.2 – action (a) AGREED to approve the implementation of the Strategic Partnership outlined in the report (which was agreed in principle at the Children and Young People’s Leadership Group [CYPLG] away day on 30 th June 2022).	SBC	Stuart Easingwood	
	Para 5.2 – action (b) AGREED that the Promise Strategic Lead Officer, Promise Operational Lead Officer and Promise Implementation Officer be directed to continue to work with the current	SBC	Stuart Easingwood	

NO.	MINUTE PARAGRAPH NUMBER, TITLE AND DECISION REQUIRING ACTION	ORGANISATION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	OUTCOME
	members of the CYPLG to finalise and implement the new governance structure.			
	Para 5.2 – action (c) AGREED that additional partners, including AHSCP and ADP, were made aware of the re-organisation of the CYPLG in order to identify areas of cross partnership working in relation to The Promise.	SBC	Stuart Easingwood	
	Para 5.2 – action (d) AGREED that strategic corporate parenting be part of the role of the Scottish Borders’ Children and Young People’s Promise Oversight and Leadership Board.	SBC	Stuart Easingwood	
15 June 2022				
1. Community Planning Partnership Task Group – Improvement Plan Update	Para 3.2 – action (b)(i) NOTED that a further report on a CPP governance structure and performance framework which reflected the Work Plan would also be considered by the CPP Programme Board in August 2022 before being presented for approval to the Strategic Board in September 2022.	SBC	Jenni Craig	
3 March 2022				
No actions.				
18 November 2021				
1. Food Growing Strategy	Para 4.2 – action (b) AGREED that Partner members reflected the Strategy and Action Plan within their own organisational plans and considered how this could contribute to community planning objectives in relation to land use, climate change, health and wellbeing, and community resilience.	All	All	
	Para 4.2 – action (c) AGREED to collaboration between CPP partners to identify resources (land, utilities, funding streams, skills development) to develop community capacity and enable access to community food growing.	All	All	

NO.	MINUTE PARAGRAPH NUMBER, TITLE AND DECISION REQUIRING ACTION	ORGANISATION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	OUTCOME
	Para 4.2 – action (d) AGREED to receive an annual report and also an interim report in 6 months, on the progress of the Food Growing Strategy and Action Plan.	SBC	John Curry	On agenda – 17 November 2022
	Para 4.2 – action (e) AGREED to consider the longer term evolution of the Community Food Growing Strategy and how shared objectives may be reflected in the next refresh of the CPP Community Plan.	SBC	Jenni Craig	Consideration underway.
3. Anti-Poverty Strategy and Action Plan	Para 6 – action (b) AGREED that members of the Community Planning Partnership reflected the Strategy and Action Plan within their own organisational plans and considered how this contributed to community planning objectives.	All	All	
	Para 6 – action (c) AGREED to collaboration between CPP Partners to identify resources to deliver the Strategy and Action Plan where appropriate.	All	All	
	Para 6 – action (d) AGREED to receive an annual report of the Anti-Poverty Strategy Action Plan.	SBC	Jenni Craig	Update included in Work Plan Theme One on agenda – 17 November 2022.
9 September 2021				
1. Human and Economic Cost Modelling	Para 5.2 – AGREED to note the presentation on Human and Economic Cost Modelling and to receive an update on progress in due course.	The Promise	Fraser McKinlay	On agenda – 17 November 2022
2. Community Learning and Development Partnership Plan 2021-24	Paragraph 6 – action (d) AGREED to receive an annual report on progress of the Plan.	SBC	Lesley Munro	To be considered in 2023

KEY:

No symbol	Deadline not reached
	Overdue
	<1 week to deadline
	Complete – items removed from tracker once noted as complete at meeting.

Scottish Borders Community Planning Partnership Theme Reporting Template 2022/23

THEME: ENOUGH MONEY TO LIVE ON				
Theme lead: Scottish Borders Council		Group membership: to be finalised		
Outcomes	Actions	Timeframe	Progress/current position	RAG
Communities are supported with advice and financial assistance in relation to income maximisation, debt, food, warmth and fuel throughout autumn/winter	Short life multi-agency Community Planning Partnership task group to be convened to address the current cost of living crisis and provide support and assistance across the Borders to those in need throughout autumn/winter 2022.	Autumn/Winter 2022	<p>The Strategic Group have met and have instructed the Operational Group with initial tasking & direction also being given. Both groups will meet monthly and progress reported to Anti-Poverty Members Reference Group and Community Planning Partnership</p> <p>£585k has now been allocated from £1.2M Council reserves. £151k allocated from Financial Hardship Fund. Proposals being developed to support warm spaces/places where there is an identified need.</p> <p>Strong campaign for Challenge Poverty Week 3-9 October was undertaken, and SBC website has been refreshed with a Cost of Living Support page featuring different ways those in our communities can access support and information.</p>	
The Borders is a more equitable and fair place to work	Community Planning Partnership to work collaboratively to identify barriers and work towards developing a plan to remove them in order to support parents into employment i.e., childcare barrier, transport etc.		<p>Concessionary Travel and Under 22 Travel being promoted</p> <p>Parental Employability Service working with parents to address barriers to employment.</p> <p>Borders Housing Network: Borders Employment Advice & Mentoring project funded by the Community Renewal Fund (concluded October 2022). 52 people actively engaged 23 of whom have found work.</p>	
	Partnership to develop plans for paying the living wage – and encouraging contractors and sub-contractors to also do so.		Scottish Borders Council's Human Resources team have a programme of work that will include developing plans for paying staff the living wage, and	

Scottish Borders Community Planning Partnership Theme Reporting Template 2022/23

			a Lead Officer for Commissioning within Scottish Borders Council has recently been appointed.	
Build, redirect and retain wealth in the Scottish Borders local economy, and place wealth back into the hands of local people	Explore a partnership approach to Community Wealth Building – Community Planning partners to work collaboratively to develop community wealth building plans.		Partnership Meetings have begun to explore what is happening across the South of Scotland, and meetings have been held with South of Scotland Enterprise colleagues to consider options for the Scottish Borders	

Scottish Borders Community Planning Partnership Theme Reporting Template 2022/23

THEME: ACCESS TO WORK, LEARNING & TRAINING				
Theme lead: Skills Development Scotland		Group membership: Skills Development Scotland		
Outcomes	Actions	Time frame	Progress	RAG
<p>More people entering positive, sustained destinations who continue to participate in employment, training or education</p> <p>We will have a particular focus on equality groups i.e., care experienced young people, those with disabilities, those living with poverty, those who are refugees or asylum seekers or those with any other equality characteristics</p>	<p>CPP partners to share destination and participation data and work collaboratively to offer support to those not participating or with an unconfirmed status.</p>	<p>May 2023</p>	<p>Destination and participation data currently shared with a range of partners, including monthly at Skills Development Scotland/Director of Education meetings, shared with schools, colleges. Most data is also publicly available.</p> <p>Local Skills Development Scotland team are actively following up those with unconfirmed status and information is shared with schools for further updates but need to be in position of 'door knocking'. Local Employability Partnership input required to take a partnership approach</p>	
	<p>Community Planning Partnership and Local Employability Partnership to work together to identify gaps in education, employment and training in order to procure or develop provision to meet the needs of the people of the Scottish Borders from the start of the next financial year.</p>	<p>July 2023</p>	<p>Work of the Local Employability Partnership will be reported in to Community Planning Partnership via Theme 2 lead. Moving forward a timescale needs to be agreed with Local Employability Partnership for issuing of a request for information in advance of it being pulled into report for to Community Planning Partnership.</p> <p>Information is available on types of occupations and routes preferred by young people which can be used to help identify what opportunities are required. Need to make use of the Regional Skills Assessment to identify needs of employers/areas of growth and use this to inform provision.</p>	
	<p>CPP to work together to identify communities (geographic or characteristic</p>	<p>May 2023</p>	<p>Use Social Index of Multiple Deprivation information to agree geographic communities. Some activity already in place e.g. co-delivery</p>	

Scottish Borders Community Planning Partnership Theme Reporting Template 2022/23

	<p>based) that require targeted interventions. This could include exploring co-design and co-location of services.</p>		<p>from Burnfoot. Local Employability Partnership to feed in via Theme 2 lead other identified groups requiring further support.</p> <p>Community response already in place for Ukrainian refugees. Care experienced outcomes discussed regularly with Directors of education.</p>	
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Scottish Borders Community Planning Partnership Theme Reporting Template 2022/23

THEME: ENJOYING GOOD HEALTH AND WELLBEING				
Theme lead: Public Health			Group membership: To be finalised	
Outcomes	Actions	Timeframe	Progress	RAG
<p>Increased health life expectancy</p> <p>More people enjoying good mental health and well being</p> <p>Increasing the number of well-paid and fair jobs for local people</p>	<p>Community Planning Partnership to commit to addressing health and socio-economic inequalities by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing and completion of a template for baselining status as anchor institutions • Developing and completion of a template for baselining position for paying due regard to the Fairer Scotland Duty • Developing guidance for promoting good health and wellbeing 		<p>To be determined who would represent partner organisations as members of this theme group.</p> <p>Template for anchor institutions has been developed.</p> <p>To be determined / identified who is best to take forward completion of templates once representatives have been identified/ recruited.</p>	
	<p>Partners proactively engage in the Health and Wellbeing Area Partnerships/Locality Working Groups to develop local plans in each of the 5 localities and influence the direction of resource.</p>			

Scottish Borders Community Planning Partnership Theme Reporting Template 2022/23

	<p>The Partnership to effect change by advocating for reducing health inequalities aligning to the overarching purpose of the Community Planning Partnership to reduce inequalities.</p>			
<p>Increased volunteering numbers throughout the Borders which will provide additional support to those in need, and increased levels of wellbeing both for volunteers and those who are being supported</p>	<p>Current volunteering landscape to be considered & opportunities to be promoted and maximised.</p>			

Scottish Borders Community Planning Partnership Theme Reporting Template 2022/23

THEME: A GOOD PLACE TO GROW UP, LIVE IN AND ENJOY A FULL LIFE				
Theme lead: Police Scotland		Group membership: to be finalised		
Outcomes	Actions	Time frame	Progress	RAG
The Borders has a clear and planned pathway to Net Zero.	The Partnership will establish a definitive baseline of Area-Wide Greenhouse Gas Emissions, and develop a regional approach to delivering emissions mitigation and a climate-ready region.	12 months	The Scottish Borders Climate Change Route Map (CCRM) agreed by SBC 17 June 2021 provides a strategic framework around which to build concerted Partnership action. Scottish Borders Council is due to a schedule a workshop November/December supported by Edinburgh Climate Change Institute regarding 'area wide' Greenhouse Gas Emissions. It is intended to use this as a platform from which to develop a regional approach to mitigation and adaptation.	
Cleaner greener travel, less emissions and increased choice for communities within the Scottish Borders.	Increase the range and availability of sustainable transport.	Some steps within 12 months; further steps beyond 12 months	Strategic Transport Group established within SBC, chaired by Director of Infrastructure and Environment – issue re Community Planning Partnership interface. Range of relevant development – City Region Regional Transport Master Plan; Scottish Borders Local Area Transport Strategy; Berwickshire Demand Responsive Transport Pilot; Bus Passenger Transport Review – timescales tbc	
Communities at the heart of decisions shaping the future and making decisions that	Community Planning Partners to recognise and support Place Making (with the development of place	12 months	Meeting to be planned with partners to agree their role within Place Making and how they will support the governance of Place Making.	

Scottish Borders Community Planning Partnership Theme Reporting Template 2022/23

<p>affect their towns and villages.</p>	<p>plans in at least 15 communities across the five localities of the Borders) by being active in the governance of Place Making.</p>			
<p>Fewer people experience domestic abuse in Scottish Borders</p>	<p>Recognition-Respond-Refer: Empower communities to identify and take action to address domestic abuse through delivering increased awareness of 'coercive control' in the Scottish Borders and an understanding of what to do and who to contact</p>	<p>12 months</p>	<p>October 2022: Meeting to progress activity and partner agency involvement, resources and communication strategy</p>	

SCOTTISH BORDERS COMMUNITY FOOD GROWING STRATEGY – YEAR 1 UPDATE

Report by Director Infrastructure & Environment

17 November 2022

1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides an update on delivery of Year 1 of 'Cultivating Communities', the Scottish Borders Community Food Growing Strategy. It also proposes that Community Planning Partners establish a working group, comprising nominated named officers from each, to work with Scottish Borders Council on developing capacity and increasing access to Community Food Growing.**
- 1.2 The Community Food Growing Strategy was launched in 2021. It is a legislative requirement, but it is also our vehicle for nurturing and developing community food growing across the Scottish Borders, in line with the national food growing agenda. Community Food Growing is a valuable model for supporting sustainable, resilient, healthy communities. The Strategy addresses a priority identified by the Community Planning Partnership through the Improvement Plan theme of 'A good place to grow up, live in and enjoy a full life'.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 **I recommend that the Community Planning Partnership:-**
 - (a) Notes the Year 1 Annual Report on the progress of the Community Food Growing Strategy and Action Plan.**
 - (b) Agrees that a working group be established to deliver active collaboration in developing capacity and increasing access to food growing (including but not limited to realising land, utilities, funding streams and skills development opportunities); and in doing so agrees to nominate a named officer from each Community Planning Partner.**

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 Part 9 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 introduced new duties on Local Authorities, one of which was for every Local Authority to develop a Food Growing Strategy setting out how it would provide land to meet demand for food growing - as allotments or other forms of cultivation of vegetables, fruit, herbs or flowers for community or individual growing. The legislation requires that Food Growing Strategies cover 5 year periods, therefore the Community Food Growing Strategy runs from 2021 to 2026, and will be reviewed thereafter every 5 years.

3.2 Community Food Growing is integral to resilient, sustainable communities. The Community Food Growing Strategy supports the CPP theme of 'a good place to grow up, live in and enjoy a full life', contributing to the outcome that 'the Borders has a clear and planned pathway to Net Zero' through:

- Providing local opportunities for food growing, recreation, skills development and health and wellbeing benefits
- Support and facilitate locally, sustainably produced food thereby contributing to minimising local energy demand for food production/transportation
- Circular economy principles are embedded in community food growing models.
- Ensuring community resilience is enhanced by supporting local, self-sufficient community infrastructure

Community food growing also has a potentially vital role in addressing climate change adaptation within sustainable communities, as reflected in the Council's Climate Change Route Map – 5.4 and 5.5 set this out in more detail.

3.3 Since the launch of the Strategy, the Council has established a full time permanent post with the primary remit of supporting the delivery of the Community Food Growing Strategy, supporting and facilitating food growing with partnership organisations, the 3rd sector and communities.

4 THE STRATEGY THE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP

4.1 The aim of this Strategy is to support and facilitate anyone who wants to get growing, through existing growing opportunities and new approaches to growing. To do this we need to understand demand, supply and build relationships within communities. The Strategy includes a specific action which links this work with that of the Community Planning Partnership;

"Investigate and explore opportunities to develop further policies in support of food growing and community growing with Community Planning Partners"

4.2 Clear measurable progress has been made in Year 1 of the Strategy, as set out in the Community Food Growing Report 2021/22 (Appendix 1). To build on this, Scottish Borders Council are seeking to establish a working group with representation from all Community Planning Partners. It is proposed that this group of named officers would be formed to focus on active collaboration and would;

- Meet quarterly to review opportunities and share information, with interim collaboration as required to deliver on agreed actions.
- Explore the various land holdings for opportunities for community 'adoption' for food growing
- Liaise with the Council on any other initiatives or opportunities that their service users/service plans could benefit from.

4.3 The benefits of this across the Partnership could include;

- Tackling food poverty and food security through securing access to cheap, nutritious locally grown food
- Improved performance against climate change duties: e.g. less intensive grounds maintenance through open space (that currently requires regular grasscutting/maintenance) being repurposed by communities for food growing – bringing carbon savings/efficiencies
- Improved Biodiversity across the green estate
- Improved community benefit outcomes
- Improved relationships within the community
- Efficient use of resources through partnership working

4.4 As part of the Strategy, information on all growing opportunities within the Scottish Borders are promoted via an online interactive map ([Community Food Growing | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/community-food-growing)). This is a 'live' resource that is updated as new sites become available, with the opportunity to integrate land holdings and intelligence across all CPP Partners through the working group.

4.5 The Scottish Borders Food Growers Network has been operational since the Strategy launched last year; this forms an established platform for tapping into local capacity for food growing and features monthly newsletters showcasing successes and facilitating networking. While there is CPP representation in the Network this could be strengthened, for mutual benefit.

4.6 There is also an annual Awards initiative, the 'Cultivating Communities' Award for food growing within the Greener Gateway Community Awards programme. This can offer CPP organisations an opportunity for demonstrating success and raising awareness.

4.7 Through the establishment of a CPP working group these and other resources and initiatives can be fully utilised by partner organisations to achieve their own sustainability/community benefit objectives.

5 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Financial

There are no direct costs attached to any of the recommendations contained in this report.

5.2 Risk and Mitigations

- a) In order to meet the requirements of the legislation Scottish Borders Council has undertaken a consultation exercise and engaged with

stakeholders, and their views have been taken into account in shaping the Strategy. The Action Plan aims to ensure that the Strategy is implemented and mitigates potential risks to success.

- b) The proposed establishment of a working group of officers would help to increase collaboration and communication, increasing the effectiveness of the Strategy to deliver against the Action Plan – this mitigates against risk in terms of accessibility, capacity and skills development.

5.3 Integrated Impact Assessment

An IIA scoping exercise has been undertaken and as this paper constitutes a progress update it is not anticipated that there are any associated adverse impacts or unlawful discrimination.

5.4 Sustainable Development Goals

UN SD Goal	Impact
1 End poverty in all its forms everywhere 2 End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture 3 Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages 4 Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all potential 11 Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe resilient and sustainable 15 Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss 16 Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels	By; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • encouraging local action and community involvement • supporting community enterprise and local food chains • being responsive to communities • promoting access to healthy locally produced fruit and vegetables • promoting community stewardship of, and access to, green public spaces and; • by promoting such stewardship, encourage biodiversity enhancement within community greenspaces, thereby contributing to halting biodiversity loss and raising awareness of climate change adaptation and mitigation • working with partners • encouraging local access to the outdoors and physical activity • creating opportunities for intergenerational activities, education and skills development within communities <p>the successful delivery of the Strategy and associated partnership working will positively impact on these UN SD Goals</p>

5.5 Climate Change

The Community Food Growing Strategy has directly impacted positively on climate change mitigation through the following;

- Support and facilitate locally, sustainably produced food thereby contributing to minimising energy demand for food production/transportation
- Circular economy principles are embedded in community food growing models.
- Ensuring community resilience is enhanced by supporting local, self-sufficient community infrastructure

5.6 Rural Proofing

It is anticipated there will be no adverse impact on the rural area from the proposals contained in this report.

5.7 Data Protection Impact Statement

- There are no personal data implications arising from the proposals contained in this report.

5.8 Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation

There are no changes to the Scheme of Administration of Scheme of Delegation.

Approved by

Name John Curry **Title** Director Infrastructure & Environment

Author(s)

Name	Designation and Contact Number
Carol Cooke	Greenspace Manager
Amy Alcorn	Greenspace Programme Officer

Background Papers:

'Cultivating Communities – Scottish Borders Community Food Growing Strategy -

https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/downloads/file/7916/community_food_growing_strategy_2021

Proposed Finalised Food Growing Strategy – Executive Committee 16 March

2021 <https://scottishborders.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s50550/Item%20No.%208%20-%20FOOD%20GROWING%20STRATEGY%20ADOPTION%20-%20Exec.pdf>

Previous Minute Reference:

Community Planning Strategic Board, Thursday 18th November 2021 2.00pm

[Agenda for Community Planning Strategic Board on Thursday, 18th November, 2021, 2.00 pm - Scottish Borders Council \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

Note – You can get this document on tape, in Braille, large print and various computer formats by contacting the address below. Jacqueline Whitelaw can also give information on other language translations as well as providing additional copies.

Contact us at:

Carol Cooke Greenspace Manager, Scottish Borders Council tel: 01835 824000 / email: communityfoodgrowing@scotborders.gov.uk

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COMMUNITY FOOD GROWING REPORT

2021/2022



COMMUNITY GROWING REPORT



Scottish Borders Council launched 'Cultivating Communities' the region's first ever Community Food Growing Strategy in March 2021. The Strategy covers a 5 year period - 2021-2026 - a timescale set by the legislative requirements of Part 9 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. Here we provide an update on Year 1 of the Strategy.

In recognition of the importance of supporting community food growing as part of sustainable, resilient communities, Scottish Borders Council appointed a Greenspace Programme Officer in September 2021, with a specific remit of supporting the delivery of the Community Food Growing Strategy. This post was established to support the creation of a network of Community Food Growers in the Scottish Borders, supporting and facilitating community growing in all its guises by providing guidance and resources for anyone who is interested in starting, or already running, a community growing project.

So far we have:



Scottish Borders Community Food Growers Network (SBCFGN)



This network was founded in May 2021 as a direct response to the consultation feedback received during the creation of the Food Growing Strategy. There was a need for community growing projects to feel more connected, have a place to come together to share best practice and discuss the wider needs of community growing. The SBCFGN currently meet online every quarter, with monthly newsletters sharing case studies, events, funding opportunities and relevant growing information. The network is also supported via a dedicated online forum, managed by the Greenspace Programme Officer, to share resources throughout the year. The Network received a Bronze Award at the APSE Excellence in Service Awards, awarded to Scottish Borders Council's Parks & Environment Service in recognition of the Network as a new initiative for the region.

So far we have:

- Hosted **5** Scottish Borders Community Food Growers Network Meetings
- Built a dedicated secure online forum (called a SharePoint site) for members of the network to access, upload content to, share stories, ideas and resources.
- Published **6** Community Food Growing newsletters
- Acquired **100m3** of free compost to be distributed to members of the network and wider community food growing community after a direct request from SBCFGN member.
- Currently we have **40** members of the SBCFGN and **28** people signed up to Community Food Growing newsletter mailing list.
- The network is growing monthly, with new community growing projects requesting to join or requesting to be added to the newsletter mailing list.



What's on in December

- Peebles CAN Community Garden**
Peebles CAN offers inclusive gardening activities for the whole community to get involved with. All ages and abilities are welcome, there is something for everyone to get involved with.
Booking is essential for these free activities listed below, please email rachel@peeblescan.org to find out more and join our mailing list to receive the latest updates.
- Friday 10th December**
Wreath Making | 11am-12
Make your own festive wreath with natural materials.
 - Tuesday 21st December**
Winter Solstice Evening | 5-7pm
An evening celebration of the Winter Solstice, with local traditional performers and catering by Food Punks - Soups and Stews.

ISSUE 2
DECEMBER 2021

- In this issue ...**
- The Edible Garden, Innerleithen
 - St Ronan's Wells Community Garden
 - Funding Opportunities

December-January
Cycling Confidence Sessions, delivered by Ridebelines
Dates TBC, please email to find out more.

The Edible Garden, Innerleithen

This year, The Edible Garden kept going in the grounds of St Ronan's Primary School despite school closures and ended up providing a safe, socially-distanced, outdoor venue for summer activities with families.

We had a great fruit crop and also did well with tomatoes, onions and cucumbers, so the volunteers got busy turning the bumper crop that couldn't be eaten fresh into jams and chutneys. Shirley made her famous Spicy Courgette Chutney which is always a favourite, and Jean made delicious plum jam from the bumper harvest. Most of our preserves sold out on our stall at the fair held in October by The Food Foundation who run Neighbourhood Peables (photos attached). Our chutneys are still for sale through the Neighbourhood website (<https://www.neighbourhood.co.uk/markets/peables/>) and we look forward to supplying more products next season.



The garden has partnered with Innerleithen Community Trust to provide planting schemes and seedlings for the flower beds on the High Street. For two years we have created spring and summer displays in the hopes that the ICT can take on more civic garden spaces.

#yourpart



Nature based solutions

The 'Space to Grow' garden/plotment project is based near Melrose, within the Borders General Hospital campus. It is fairly close to Huminturn ward which is an acute mental health admission unit. This project is an innovative concept that allows patients, visitors, volunteers and staff the opportunity to leave the boundaries of the ward or community to spend time in the natural environment.



We all know this environment impacts positively on mental and physical wellbeing and has contributing to the patients' recovery and return to independent living. This green space environment allows patients, staff and volunteers to be active outdoors and engage/explains/absorb the natural environment.

The project is an additional resource to complement the existing ward program and community supports allowing an alternative to the traditional ward based activities/therapies and community services that are available. This 'space' offers patients from 'all walks of life' with varying degrees of illness/disorder the opportunity to access the natural environment, benefits also extend to staff who have been more frequent visitors.

During the onset of the global Pandemic the garden truly became an essential asset for staff and

patients to spend time out with the confinement of the clinical and office environments to look after their mental and physical wellbeing. The area has provided a safe space for patients to meet relatives, staff to meet face to face and for much needed restoration from hours of full PPE wearing as well as digital consultations. During lockdown it could be said that our gardens looked after us, it became apparent that it was almost essential to have an outdoor space when our lives were restricted in so many other ways. This garden resource was seen as something positive and an oasis within the chaos of Covid



and provided "a sanctuary" for the patients and staff. I am sure these experiences resonate with many of us and our experiences during the initial lockdowns associated with this current pandemic.

ISSUE 3
JANUARY 2022

- In this issue ...**
- The Swap and Share Shed, Innerleithen
 - Other Opportunities, Get your free Trees...
 - Funding

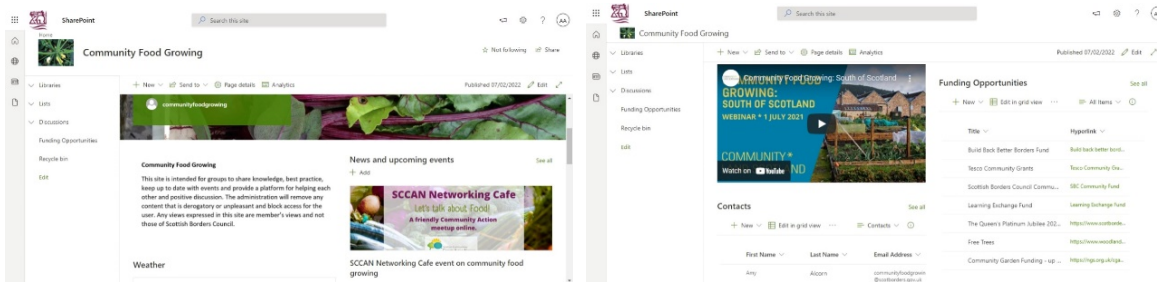


The raised beds produced a variety of vegetables which have been either eaten on the ward or shared among the volunteers (those that survived the rabbit attacks that is!). The courgettes took the prize for the biggest yield this year although we did alright without beetroot, spring onions and turnips too. One bed used for a 'cutting' garden another a herb bed, these have added some sensory stimulation as well as providing lovely fragrant blooms for patients rooms or for volunteers to pick for their homes.

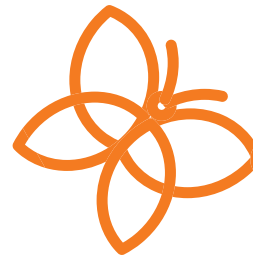


#yourpart





Community food growing support and site visits



Site visits to community growing projects, meeting with groups who have an idea for a growing project, and meeting individuals who want to discuss a growing project are all key elements of delivering a successful Community Food Growing Strategy. Since the adoption of 'Cultivating Communities' we have had many requests for information, advice and site visits.

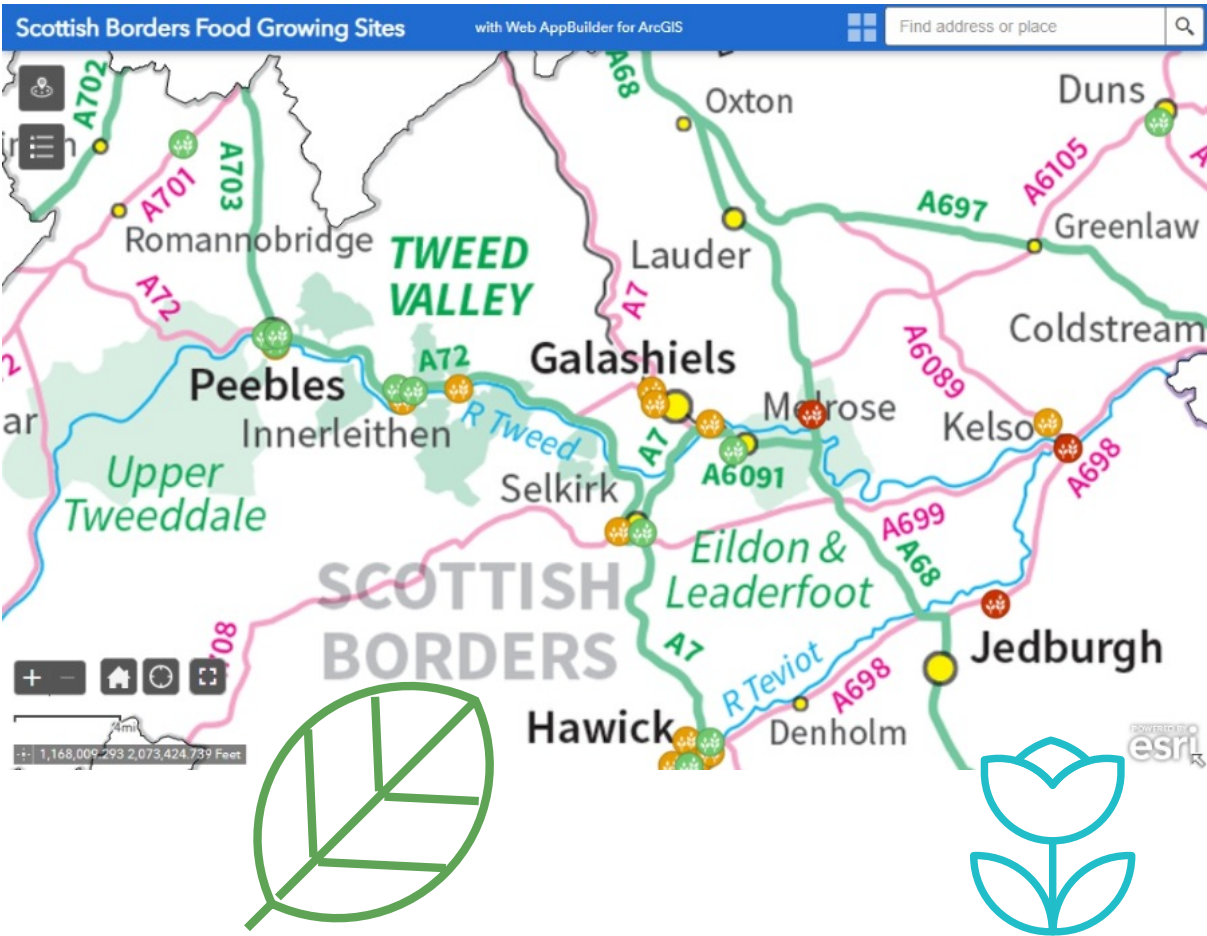
So far we have:



Virtual Map

We have built and populated a virtual map on the dedicated Community Food Growing pages of the Scottish Borders Council website. The map, illustrated below sites all of the community food growing projects that we are aware of in the Scottish Borders as well as allotment sites. As well as adding to this continually, the longer term aim is to include potential sites for community food growing, as a resource for communities and organisation who want to get started. Users are able to click on an icon to find out contact and site information of the growing projects.

This resource is a useful asset for individuals and groups who are looking for a growing project near them to get involved with.



Partnership working with Community Engagement Team

As community food growing is becoming more popular and supported across the Scottish Borders there is a stronger emphasis on working in partnership with the Community Engagement Team who are facilitating funding requests for community growing projects and community orchards. The Greenspace Programme Officer has become integral in overseeing applications for funding that involve any area of community growing. Supporting both the community groups who are applying for funding and the Community Engagement Officers who are processing the applications. This can be evidenced by site visits to potential food growing projects and advising on funding applications.

Case Study of How the Food Growing Strategy works in practice



This is a case study of the Food Growing Strategy in action, where the Community Planning Partnership members, in this instance the NHS, were supported by Scottish Borders Council through the Greenspace Programme Officer and Community Engagement team to bring a potential project to fruition.



Background

During an introductory meeting between members of the NHS Mental Health Team, and the Greenspace Programme Officer, a site in Burnfoot, Hawick was mentioned as a low quality greenspace, where the NHS staff member had tried to run jogging classes with a primary school but had to abort due to the poor quality of the greenspace, which had sadly become an underused area for the community, with dog fouling problems. A discussion followed of how high quality greenspaces improve mental health for residents and how this area could be regenerated for the local community.

Next Steps

The Greenspace Programme Officer took the site in Burnfoot to the Community Engagement Officers to discuss how it could be improved, with an emphasis on community food growing, and engagement for local people. Strong partnership working internally at Scottish Borders Council saw the Community Engagement Officer and Greenspace Programme Officer meet with two community groups in Hawick to develop ideas for the greenspace.

Both community groups were interested in taking the project to the next stage of developing a community orchard on the site, and worked with the Community Engagement Officer to source funding and write a bid. The Greenspace Programme Officer worked on the planning/estates/landownership side of the project ensuring the project could go ahead.

Results

Permission has been granted by SBC to use the greenspace to plant a community orchard on the site, with two community growing projects working together to take the orchard forward. Funding from SBC has been granted, and the local primary school is involved with the planning and planting of the orchard. There are now further plans to develop more of the greenspace around the orchard into a community growing project with plots for families to take over.

STAGE
1

Greenspace Programme Officer meets with NHS staff

STAGE
2

Greenspace Programme Officer takes ideas to Community Engagement Officers

STAGE
3

Greenspace Programme Officer and Community Engagement Officers work with partners to formalise a plan

STAGE
4

Community Engagement Officers help partners create a funding bid to bring project into fruition



The Edible Garden



Next steps – Looking ahead to 2022/23

Building on the work done to date, the Community Food Growing Strategy will continue to further the expansion of community food growing opportunities across the region. Some key activities for 2022/23 are set out below;



Support and facilitate more food growing in school settings, helping schools realise their growing potential, helping them secure funding and building relationships with local growing partners.

Work with Scottish Government bodies to explore the creation of a new officer forum across local authorities for those involved in the promotion and delivery of Community Food Growing and allotments.

Develop further opportunities through Planning to secure potential sites for food growing in new developments where appropriate.

Work with Community Planning Partners to develop community food growing opportunities across the region.







CPP Strategic Board

Food Growing Strategy Update

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Amy Alcorn
Greenspace Programme Officer



Recap - Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 Part 9

Under this legislation, local authorities are required to:

- Undertake new duties in relation to allotment management (i.e. new Allotment regulations, preparation of an annual Allotments Report)
- Increase transparency on the actions taken to provide allotments
- Limit waiting times for allotments, and
- Develop a Food Growing Strategy



COMMUNITY FOOD GROWING STRATEGY



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Scottish Borders Food Growing Strategy - Delivery

The aim of the Food Growing Strategy:

To support and facilitate anyone who wants to get growing, through existing growing opportunities and new approaches to growing.

Some of what we have achieved in the last 12 months;

Page 39

7

New allotment plots created in Hawick

23

Community growing projects visited

4

Scottish Borders Community Food Growers Network Meetings hosted

16

Community groups helped with funding applications relating to community growing

11

Community Food Growers Newsletters created and sent out

45m³

Of compost acquired and delivered to community growing projects free of charge

2

Presentations of the Food Growing Strategy delivered to Area Partnerships

Additionally

- Met with NHS representatives to discuss Quality Greenspace ideas and Social Prescribing
- Built and populated an interactive map showing food growing projects and contact details
- Prepared the Annual Allotment Report



Celebrating Success

Our Scottish Borders Community Food Growers Network won a Bronze award at the ASPE (Association of Public Service Excellence) Fleet, Waste and Grounds Seminar in Aviemore.

Scottish Borders Council were presented with a bronze award at the ASPE 'Striving for Excellence' Awards for our work in establishing the Scottish Borders Community Food Growers Network. This is part of the 5 Year Action Plan contained in 'Cultivating Communities', Scottish Borders Community Food Growing Strategy.

Our network continues to grow, we welcome all groups who are working to provide community growing opportunities in the Scottish Borders to join.





Newsletter

Community Food Growers Newsletter

What's on in July

Greener Melrose

Our Work Days which are the **last Saturday of the month run from 10am – 3pm**, please contact greenermelrose@live.co.uk for more details.

We are also looking for people to create beautiful micro gardens – for our Jubilee project, 'Jewels around the Eildons'. This could be a vegetable patch, pond, or a container. Just take a photo of yourself with your garden and send it to greenermelrose@live.co.uk. We will add it to our online gallery and send you the details.

St Ronan's Wells

Our garden is thriving in the June sunshine. We have a great group of volunteers and always room for more! We can engage people in all levels of activity so don't be put off by lack of garden knowledge or physical stamina. **We meet on Thursdays between 10.30 and 2.30.** Feel free to just come for a visit, it's a very beautiful garden and at its very best just now. Look forward to seeing you there.

Contact Jan 07739031868 for more information



ISSUE 9 JULY 2022

In this issue ...

- Greener Gateway Community Awards
- Greener Melrose - Forest Garden Party a big success!
- Scottish Borders Community Food Growers Network wins Bronze award
- The Edible Garden



Community Food Growers Newsletter

What's on in August

Greener Peebles

Wed 17th August

10-12 | Spanish

Fri 19th August

11-11 | Music for Wellbeing (with Health in Mind)

2-3pm | Herb Garden Showcase

Wed 24th August

10-12 | Spanish

Fri 26th August

11-11 | Mental Health Conversations/Stigma (with Health in Mind)

Fri 9th September

2-3pm | Herbs for cooking

Fri 16th September

11-11 | Food & Mood (with Health in Mind)

Fri 23rd September

10.30-11.30 | Seed collecting & processing



The Walled Garden, Wilton Lodge Park

Sat 10th September

Alchemy Film and Arts Festival are hosting an event with food and music in the walled garden in conjunction with dandelion project, Burnfoot Hub and Abundant Borders.



Please email rachel@greenerpeebles.org to book your place.

Guest Chefs evenings at Burnfoot Community Hub

In conjunction with Alchemy Film & Arts, Burnfoot Community Hub has been hosting a series of Guest Chef evenings recently. These 'Tea Time' treats have been set up to give local residents the opportunity to enjoy a vegan meal prepared with fresh ingredients from our Community Garden.

The chefs were impressed with what we had growing in the garden and used vegetables, fruit, herbs and flowers in their dishes.

It has been a real privilege for us to watch these talented chefs turn our

simple garden produce into delicious plant-based meals and we have been amazed at the variety of dishes they have produced for us. The colour and presentation of the dishes had everyone's mouths watering.



Community Food Growers Newsletter

Space to Grow

Over the last few months at 'Space to Grow' we have watched our seedlings transform into beautiful flowers and tasty vegetables. The group members during their time at the project have sown, transplanted, potted on, planted and finally been able to receive the fruits of their labour by taking home the harvest.

All the members that have attended have been referred to the project to aid mental health recovery and boost wellbeing by engaging in an outdoor venue using plants and natural art as a medium to enhance recovery. This has been our first year having 'referrals' to the project, all those who have attended have benefited

in one way or another. When asking the group 'what words come up your experience of attending Space to Grow' here are a few of the words used to describe their experience: - **warmth, acceptance, valued, purpose, companionship, a learning space, creative space**

ISSUE 11 SEPTEMBER 2022

In this issue ...

- Scottish Borders Housing Association: Funding news
- Love Langley Community Garden is now open!
- Best Food Grown in SBT0 Gardening Competition
- Greener Melrose - Penny Plots
- Summer Fun in Burnfoot Hub Community Garden
- Justice Service Greenhouse Partnership



Show worthy cauliflower



starting seed collecting for sowing 2023



Shallot harvest



Staff tending the weed



Humour in the garden



Interactive Map





SharePoint Site

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This screenshot shows the home page of the 'Community Food Growing' SharePoint site. The page features a navigation sidebar on the left with options like Libraries, Lists, Discussions, Funding Opportunities, Recycle bin, and Edit. The main content area includes a header with the site name and a 'Not following' button. Below the header, there are several sections: 'Community Food Growing' with a brief description, 'News and upcoming events' featuring a 'SCCAN Networking Cafe' event, and a 'Weather' widget.

This screenshot displays the 'Funding Opportunities' page. It features a navigation sidebar on the left and a main content area with a 'Funding Opportunities' section. This section includes a table with columns for 'Title' and 'Hyperlink', listing various funding sources such as 'Build Back Better Borders Fund', 'Tesco Community Grants', and 'Scottish Borders Council Commu...'. There is also a 'Contacts' section below the table.

This screenshot shows the 'Photos' library within the 'Community Food Growing' site. The page displays a grid of photo thumbnails, each with a filename and a date. The photos include images of vegetables like courgettes and peas, as well as people engaged in food-related activities. The navigation sidebar on the left is visible, showing options like 'Hints and Tips', 'Case Studies', 'Templates', 'Photos', 'Recipes and cookin...', and 'Shared Documents'.

This screenshot shows a photo gallery on the 'Community Food Growing' site. The main content area features a large photo of a group of people standing in a wooded area, with a dog sitting in the foreground. The photo is captioned 'In the Community Woodland next door...'. The navigation sidebar on the left is visible, showing options like 'Libraries', 'Lists', 'Discussions', 'Funding Opportunities', 'Recycle bin', and 'Edit'.



A good place to grow up, live in and enjoy a full life

The Community Food Growing Strategy supports the CPP theme of 'a good place to grow up, live in and enjoy a full life', contributing to the outcome that 'the Borders has a clear and planned pathway to Net Zero' through:

- Providing local opportunities for food growing, recreation, skills development and health and wellbeing benefits
- Support and facilitate locally, sustainably produced food thereby contributing to minimising local energy demand for food production/transportation
- Circular economy principles are embedded in community food growing models.
- Ensuring community resilience is enhanced by supporting local, self-sufficient community infrastructure

We know that this has started, evidenced in the following slides, but there is so much more we can be doing to fulfil this ambition.



Working with CPP organisations - How it can work successfully

- Step 1 - Greenspace Programmer Officer meets with NHS staff from Health and Wellbeing team to discuss opportunities and challenges
- Step 2 - Greenspace Programme Officer takes ideas to SBC's Community Engagement Officer for the locality
- Step 3 - Greenspace Programme Officer and Community Engagement Officers work with partners to formalise a plan to help realise the opportunities highlighted by the Health and Wellbeing team
- Step 4 - Community Engagement Officers help NHS and other partners create a funding bid to bring project into fruition.





CPP Growing Projects Visited

Eildon Housing Association, Kelso

Eildon Housing Association have turned their greenspace at the back of one of their developments into a fantastic set of allotments for their tenants.

This has given much needed outdoor space to people during lockdown, and improved people's fitness and access to home grown food

The next stage of the development is to turn the area on the left into a community garden for local people to come and take part in gardening activities, this is being undertaken in partnership with Kelso High School and Abundant Borders.





CPP Growing Projects Visited

NHS site. Space to Grow, Melrose

This site was created by a dedicated nurse who saw the potential to work with her patients from Huntlyburn outside in a therapeutic, holistic way.

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Volunteers maintain the site, and the nurse (and community garden manager) runs sessions for patients on the ward as well as maintaining the site on only 7 hours per week. More funding is needed to sustain and fully develop this amazing resource for both NHS staff and patients.





Examples of other growing projects

Greener Peebles

A charity with a well established community garden running many volunteering, skill share sessions, community meals and groups for parents and children to learn about food growing together. This project is operated on SBC owned land, and has a huge reach



Burnfoot Community Futures

This garden is set in Burnfoot Hub and hosts many family activities, as well as using the produce grown in the garden in their thriving café. Any surplus produce is handed out to the local community.





Chirside Allotments

Chirside have provided their community with 12 allotments on private grounds. They have fundraised to create an allotment site space with uniformed sheds, rainwater harvesting and fenceless boundaries to ensure an open friendly allotment community.



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The Edible Garden

This site is situated within the community centre and school grounds in Innerleithen. The Edible Garden is run by volunteers and runs sessions for school children to come and learn about food growing. They also host weekly volunteering sessions for members of the wider community.





Next Steps

- Invite our CPP to develop community food growing areas on their greenspaces by nominating a dedicated person to work with SBC to identify land and projects
- Continue to develop the Scottish Borders Community Food Growers Network
- Work with our Planning department to integrate food growing land/opportunities into new development where appropriate
- Work with Scottish Government to set up a Forum for Local Authority officers to share best practice and knowledge to further the delivery of food growing opportunities
- Encourage community growing projects run by CPP organisations to enter the Greener Gateway, Cultivating Communities Award 2023

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Thank you

Do you have any questions?

For more information or to join the Scottish Borders Community Food Growers Network please email communityfoodgrowing@scotborders.gov.uk

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Using the money differently

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Scottish Borders Community Planning
Strategic Board

claire@thepromise.scot

louise@thepromise.scot

17 November 2022



Agenda Item 5

Using Money Differently – Introduction

What I'm going to cover:

- ♥ Using Money Differently – not a new issue
- ♥ Background and context - The Promise and Follow the Money
- ♥ Using Money Differently workstream - the story so far:
 - ♥ Local work (in 3 local authorities)
 - ♥ National work (the Whole Family Wellbeing Fund)
- ♥ Implications for governance
- ♥ Questions and discussion

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How to use money differently is not a new issue...

♥ **Community Planning Statement of Ambition, 2012:**

- ♥ *CPPs must have a clear understanding of respective partner contributions, how total resources will be targeted to deliver the priorities, and how partners will be held to account for delivery.*

Page 55 ♥ **Single Outcomes Agreement guidance, December 2012:**

- ♥ *Show how the total resource available to the CPP and partners has been considered and deployed in support of the agreed outcomes, especially in ways which promote prevention, early intervention and the reduction of inequalities*

♥ **Scottish Borders Community Planning Audit Report, March 2013: –**

- ♥ *estimated £470m of public money spent by partners in Borders (plus c. £290m DWP)*

The Promise 21 - 24

Five Priority Areas

A good childhood



- Support
- A right to an education
- Relationships
- Brothers and Sisters
- Youth Justice
- Advocacy
- Moving on
- Physical Intervention



Wholefamily support



- Family Support
- Peer and Community Support
- Service Integration
- Family Therapies



Planning



- Planning
- Investment
- Information sharing



Supporting the workforce



- Workforce Values
- Trauma-informed
- Relationships
- Workforce support



Building capacity



- Legislation
- Children's Hearing System
- Inspection and Regulation
- Policy Coherence
- Data Mapping and Collection
- Governance Structures



Actions

The Fundamentals



What matters to children and families



Listening



Poverty



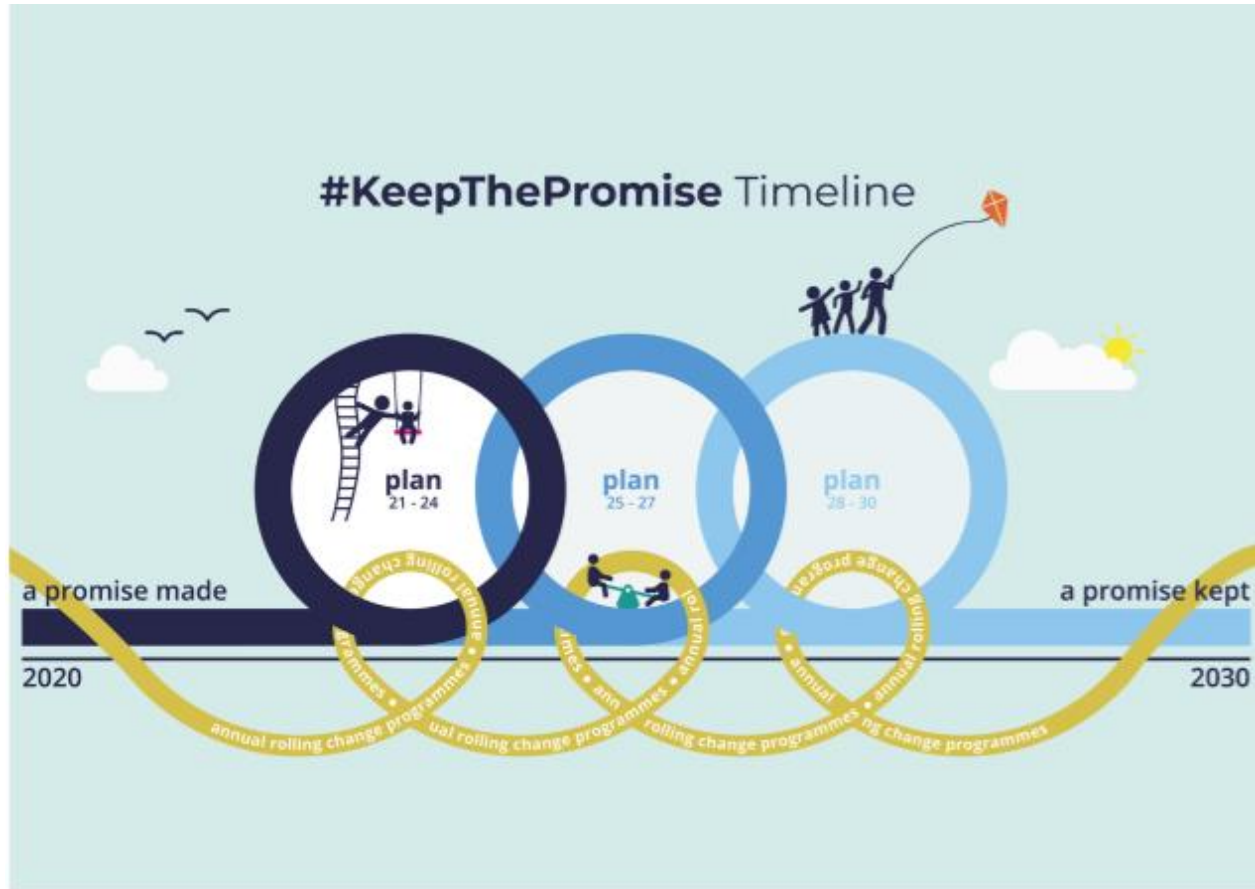
Children's Rights



Language

The Promise Scotland

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'Follow the Money' showed the human and financial costs of the 'system' failures



Using the money differently – overall approach

- ♥ Establish how resources are currently spent on children and families in and around the 'care system'

Page 59 ♥ Think about how we use the money better in future, to deliver better outcomes and better value for money

- ♥ Understand the strategic investment required to get from where we are now to where we need to be

Using the money differently locally – the story so far

- ♥ Extensive engagement in all three areas – councils, partnerships
- ♥ Initial work to estimate how much we are currently spending on children and families in and around the care system
- ♥ Used the headings in the Follow the Money report – ‘operational costs of the current ‘care system” and ‘costs associated with the current ‘care system”

The current spending picture...

Follow the money mapping (2020/21) – Totals c.£100m (councils only) - some caution required in the numbers, but what we have so far:

Scottish Borders

- ♥ Operational costs = £15.9m
- ♥ Associated costs = £4m (education)

North Lanarkshire

- ♥ Operational costs = £42.8m
- ♥ Associated costs = £13.8m (education)

Clackmannanshire

- ♥ Operational costs – £16.1m
- ♥ Associated costs = £7.5 (education and housing)

The current spending picture...

- ♥ Gathering the data has been difficult - mirrors some of the challenges experience in the Independent Care Review
- ♥ Numbers are not readily accessible - 'direct' spend is more easily identifiable e.g. residential, adoption, fostering, kinship
- ♥ Can make some assumptions about proportion of spend on care experienced children and young people in universal services, particularly education
- ♥ It gets harder the wider out you draw the boundary – other council services and into partnerships, the third sector?

Whole Family Wellbeing Fund – story so far

- ♥ Programme for Government commits to £500m over the lifetime of this Parliament (to 2026)
- ♥ Working towards the ambition that 5% of all community based health and social care spend will be spent on preventative whole family support measures by 2030
- ♥ Initial £50m identified for 2022-23 – split into three ‘elements’
 - ♥ Element 1 – distributed to CSPPs (via councils) - £32m
 - ♥ Element 2 – working with SG on transformation - £6m
 - ♥ Element 3 – national developments - £12m

Whole Family Wellbeing Fund – story so far

- 💖 Scottish Borders share of element one is £0.668m
- 💖 Scotland wide, hearing some good things on planning for use of the money
- 💖 But also some real concerns that third sector isn't as engaged as it could be in some places
- 💖 Evaluation process underway – needs to be realistic given that money was only distributed in July

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Whole Family Wellbeing Fund - reflections

- ♥ National and local systems around budget are not well suited to this kind of investment
- ♥ Repurposing investment is difficult – not new, not rebadged
- ♥ Concerns that we might end up ‘robbing Peter to pay Paul’
- ♥ Accountability and incentives
- ♥ Requires longer term commitment – and longer term thinking
- ♥ Effective partnership working is key

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Implications for governance

- ♥ Good governance is key to using the money differently
- ♥ Needs to support innovation while still ensuring good stewardship of and accountability for public money
- ♥ Current structures and processes make that difficult
- ♥ Need to move towards a more collaborative approach to governance

What does a new approach to governance need to achieve?

- Accountability for, and assurance on, the proper and effective use of public money
- Provide clarity of roles and responsibilities
- Openness and transparency on how the money is used
- 'Principled engagement', building shared ownership across multiple stakeholder groups
- Build 'shared motivation' and 'capacity for joint action'
- Provide a framework / mechanisms for managing risk effectively
- Facilitate learning and improvement
- Simplicity, avoiding more 'governance clutter'



Thank you
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Any questions?

claire@thepromise.scot

louise@thepromise.scot



CPP Forward Planner

		Meeting dates	
Programme Board			Strategic Board
26/10/22	→		17/11/22
15/02/22	→		09/03/23
17/05/22	→		08/06/23

Meeting cycle	Subject	Org	Programme Board	Strategic Board	Notes
Page 69 of 69 Winter 2022	Anti-Poverty Strategy Action Plan update	Scottish Borders Council (SBC)	26/10/22	17/11/22	Included in Work Plan (Theme one) update
	Progress update on Human and Economic Cost Modelling	The Promise	26/10/22	17/11/22	
	CPP Task Group Improvement Plan update including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work Plan • Proposed CPP Governance Structure and Performance Framework • Progress report of review of Community Plan 	All	26/10/22	17/11/22	
	Food Growing Strategy & Action plan progress report	SBC	26/10/22	17/11/22	
	Forward Planner	SBC	26/10/22	17/11/22	
	Theme updates	SBC / Skills Development Scotland / NHS Borders / Police Scotland	26/10/2022	17/11/22	
	Spring 2023	CPP Task Group Improvement Plan update including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work Plan • Proposed CPP Governance Structure and Performance Framework • Progress report of review of Community Plan 	All	15/02/2023	09/03/2023

	Update on the relevant results of the Young People's Wellbeing Survey.	SBC	15/02/2023	09/03/2023	
	The Promise – quarterly update	The Promise	15/02/2023	09/03/2023	
	Forward Planner	SBC	15/02/2023	09/03/2023	
	Theme updates	SBC / Skills Development Scotland / NHS Borders / Police Scotland	15/02/2023	09/03/2023	
	Reimagining the TSI	Third Sector Interface	15/02/2023	09/03/2023	
Summer 2023	The Promise – quarterly update	The Promise	17/05/2023	08/06/2023	
	Forward Planner	SBC	17/05/2023	08/06/2023	
	Theme updates	SBC / Skills Development Scotland / NHS Borders / Police Scotland	17/05/2023	08/06/2023	
Forthcoming	How shared objectives of the Community Food Growing Strategy may be reflected in the Community Plan refresh	SBC	tbc	tbc	
	Progress update on Community Learning and Development Partnership Plan 2021-24	SBC	tbc	tbc	