

| Action  | Poverty Driver* | Partners Involved              | How will impact be assessed?                                     | Intended beneficiaries/target group   | Update   |
|---|-----------------|--------------------------------|--|---|--|
| <b>Employability</b>  |                 |                                |  |   |  |
| Launch Intensive family support service   | 1               | City Region Deal SBC           | Number of participants<br><br>Number of employment opportunities | Families who are geographically isolated from existing services<br><br>Young parent families<br><br>Families where parents are aged 30-39 | Start delayed due to pandemic. Planned start now April/May 2021  |
| Engage with the Job Centre to support and advise individuals affected by COVID-19 or facing redundancy                    | 1               | Volunteer Centre Borders (VCB) | Number of participants   | Young People and families   | In 2020, due to Covid, intervention in this area had to be put on hold due to emergency support needed for those suffering from redundancy or reduced income due to the Pandemic. Engagement with Job centre should commence in Summer 2021 to deliver workshop sessions and a possible Partnership Fair to support a wider range of people.   |
| Work experience opportunities promoted via networks for young people  | 1               | Live Borders                   | Number of work experience opportunities available and taken up   | Young People  | From March 2020 and ongoing majority of staff furloughed and no further recruitment across the organisation  |
| Promote the Youth Volunteering Ambassadors Project and the Saltire Awards Scheme to all young people under the age of 25. | 1               | VCB                            | Number of participants   | Young People under the age of 25  | The Ambassador project and recruitment of volunteers was moved online due to the covid-19 pandemic. We had 9 active ambassadors from April – December 2020 and 7 have stayed on and are still in the role now. They took part in multiple projects over the course of 2020 including take over days, wellbeing promotions, training, good news videos of stories of amazing volunteering, community empowerment, project development or fundraising efforts from children from right across the region, they shared their experiences and connected with the primary school's team's platform. |

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| Support Skills Development Scotland and Activity Agreements to find opportunities for young people who may be vulnerable or lacking in confidence | 1               | VCB   | Number of participants                       | Vulnerable young people             | Due to restrictions, it has been challenging to continue this work, however as organisations have become more resilient, opportunities began to open up on a virtual basis, and 10 young people have been placed since October 2020 in opportunities who are still volunteering now. We have signposted 14 young people to organisations. These young people have either been referred to VCB by school, SDS or activity agreement or Quarriers. From March 2020 - October 2020 we placed another 25 referred young people to local opportunities. |
| Encourage participation in the Borders College Youth Pathway Project  | 1               | VCB<br>YouthBorders                             | Number of participants                       | Young People                        | Youth Pathway to Employment, involving Borders college, DYW, SDS, Youth Borders and SBC was designed and developed – in anticipation of need from learners who were at risk of not having a positive destination post school, particularly those who would have left school for employment. The pathway was not delivered in 2020/21 but remains available for future delivery.  |
| Engagement with Community Job Scotland opportunities for young people's employment  | 1               | Third Sector Youth Organisations (YouthBorders) | Number of opportunities                      | Young People                        | At least 5 opportunities were created in Third Sector Youth Organisations. CJS Opportunities were provided by Cheviot Youth, Stable Life, Tweeddale Youth Action and TD1 Youth Hub.  |
| Provide a weekly ASN Youth Group for 14-19 year olds to support the transition out of education and enhancing employability of ASN young people   | 1               | Borders Additional Needs Group                  | Number of opportunities                      | ASN young people                    | From July 2020 – March 2021<br><br>Total number of sessions: <b>30</b><br>Outdoor sessions: <b>10</b><br>Indoor Sessions: <b>2</b><br>Online Sessions: <b>18</b><br>Total YP engagements: <b>165</b><br>Average #YP per session: <b>5.5</b>  |
| Work with local partners to address the impact of Covid-19 on the local economy to deliver a range of support measures to sustain                 | 1               | South of Scotland Enterprise (SOSE)             | Number of opportunities Sustained employment | ALL                                 | South of Scotland Enterprise's primary focus for 2020/21 was to do everything it could to help the South of Scotland respond and recover from the impacts of Covid-19. Through the funding that it provided to businesses and community  |

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| businesses and jobs and address growth opportunities.   |                 |                         |   |                                     | organisations, SOSE safeguarded or supported the creation of over 3,700 jobs.   |
| Promote the principles of 'Fair Work', encouraging organisations to meet the expectations of the living wage  | 1               | SOSE                    | Number of jobs paying the living wage   | ALL                                 | South of Scotland Enterprise promotes Fair Work to the businesses that it works with. Applicants for South of Scotland Enterprise funds must evidence in grant applications how the business is addressing the Fair Work Agenda. All SOSE grant appraisals include an assessment of how the business is addressing the Fair Work Agenda and officials identify where improvements can be made, or where examples of good practice are in place.   |
| <b>Education</b>  |                 |                         |   |                                     |   |
| Run family learning programmes targeted at 18 of our primary schools where there are the highest levels of poverty  | 1,3             | SBC CLD                 | Maximised income for families, enhanced financial capabilities and increasing their income levels through improved employment | Families, children and young people | Jul –Dec 2020:<br>66 parents took part in learning opportunities. Of these learning opportunities, 41 resulted in achievement of one or more positive outcomes for their family.<br><br>Severely impacted due to Covid 19 and lockdowns. Work is still in place with the identified 18 primary schools. Some work was transferrable to remote learning approaches but many courses not deliverable in this way.   |
| Provide telephone/online support to parents/carers. This includes support/signposting and learning around financial inclusion and delivering programmes to develop employability skills | 1               | SBC Adult Learning Team | Number of participants  | Parents and carers                  | The CLD service have provided support for parents via phone, online via Teams and occasionally through one to one meetings outdoors when Covid-19 restrictions allowed.<br>April – June 2020:<br><b>94 parents</b> contacted (phone, Facebook/messenger, Whatsapp).<br>Deliveries of Fareshare food to vulnerable families in Selkirk area. Cooking videos, demonstrating how to use some of the Foodbank/Fareshare food were created and posted on Facebook.<br><br>Issues raised by parents included:; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of free school meals</li> </ul> |

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|  |                 |  |  |                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children with additional support needs, including return to school</li> <li>• Looking after young children's needs while shielding; having no garden for children to play in, children visiting parents in different homes</li> <li>• Marriage break-up</li> <li>• Police involvement with family member</li> <li>• Domestic/ sexual abuse (current and historic)</li> <li>• Pregnancy</li> <li>• Foster care</li> <li>• No access to Council and other services</li> <li>• Return to school, including transitions</li> <li>• Post-natal depression</li> </ul> <p>The Adult Learning team continued their telephone/online support to parents/carers throughout the pandemic despite the restrictions they have worked with 142 learners, 90 of whom completed courses that developed employability skills.</p> |
| Recruit 2 Parental Employability Support Workers (Government Funded) aiming to increase parental income through employment   | 1               | SBC  | Increased parental income and employment | Parents                             | <p>Workers recruited and programme started Oct 2020. 35 referrals</p> <p>Employment outcomes: 2 parents gained employment. Further learning outcomes: 2 parents enrolled on "Prepare to Care" course at Borders College; 15 expressed interest in "Introduction to Childcare" course at Borders College starting April 21.</p> <p>4 parents enrolled on Open University Access course. Financial advice: 15 parents referred to SBC Welfare Benefits Advisor</p>  |
| Support the reduction of costs of the school day by facilitating and contributing to school uniform swaps and clothing banks | 2               | Third Sector Youth Organisations (YouthBorders)<br><br>Early Years Centres | Reduced cost to families                 | Children and families               | <p>At least 5 Third Sector Youth Organisations supported this action.</p> <p>Some organisations facilitated clothing swaps or provided vouchers for clothing and school equipment. There are also clothing rails in some schools.</p> <p>Organisations noted the impact of building/school closures due to Covid-19 impacting on uptake of this support.</p>  |

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|  |                 |   |  |                                     | Early Years Centres have been supporting the operation of Clothes Banks as one of their key areas of work.  |
| Draw up individual school plans for targeted intervention to close the poverty related attainment gap  | 2               | SBC<br>Education Scotland                               | Indicators on attainment   | School children                     | Every school in SBC which qualifies for Pupil Equity Fund has developed plans which outline the key interventions they are putting in place to identify, close and mitigate all poverty-related attainment gaps. In addition two of our schools have been identified as Scottish Attainment Challenge schools and have received additional funding targeted at supporting the attainment of their most disadvantaged learners. Planning across all of our schools include a strong focus on developing literacy and numeracy skills, as these are recognised as gateways to achievement and attainment across the curriculum. We have also incorporated planning to support learner wellbeing, to ensure that children and young people are ready to learn and set up to succeed. |
| Roll out poverty related training to all staff in Education Service  | 2               | SBC   | Indicators on attainment   | School children                     | This was re-prioritised to inclusion and nurture training. This programme is in the process of being rolled out to all staff.   |
| Create an equity network and link to other Local Authorities to share best practice in education for children and young people affected by poverty | 2               | SBC<br>Other Local Authorities                          | Uptake to sharing best practice  | School children                     | Now led by our Equity and inclusion Officer who links to SEIC colleagues and relevant national networks.  |
| The CLD service and third sector partners provide targeted programmes to support disadvantaged young people to succeed and achieve.                | 1               | SBC<br>Third Sector Youth Organisations<br>YouthBorders | Success in obtaining non-formal qualifications and becoming employable | Disadvantaged young people          | At least 103 young people achieved a SCQF credit-rated qualification through Third Sector Youth Organisations. These include Youth Achievement and Dynamic Youth Awards. This activity was delivered by organisations including: TD1 Youth Hub, Beyond Earlston, Eat Sleep Ride, Rowland's, Stable Life and Cheviot Youth.<br><br>Again the delivery of this had been impacted by Covid 19 particularly the school lockdowns which is where most of the   |

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|   |                 |                                      |  |                                     | work is done by CLD staff. 165 young people participated in 179 courses.   |
| Participate in Scottish Government's Youth Guarantee by the offer of an appropriate study programme for all school leavers who apply  | 1               | Borders College                      | Uptake<br>Numbers enrolled<br>Numbers successfully completing  | All school leavers                  | This is an ongoing initiative and will continue for AY21-22. Working with partners we offer the most appropriate option to enable YP to access further education and participate in courses leading to a recognised qualification  |
| <b>Information &amp; Advice</b>   |                 |                                      |  |                                     |  |
| Provide benefits advice and support to children with families. This service is aimed at Pre-natal through to secondary school and is carried out by a dedicated Early Years Welfare Benefits Assistant.<br><br>Continue to deliver the Early years Pathway Project – improving access to benefits information, advice and support for early years families. | 3               | SBC Financial Inclusion Team         | Increased awareness of the benefits available<br>Assistance to claim, including challenging negative benefit application decisions where appropriate | Early Years Families                | Monetary gains have increased in 2020/21 despite a lower number of referrals due to Covid restrictions. Face to face meetings have not been possible and the majority of enquiries are dealt with by phone.<br><br>The Financial Inclusion Group promotes the Health Scotland eLearning Child Poverty Health and Wellbeing <a href="http://www.healthscotland.scot/learning-resources/child-poverty-health-and-wellbeing">http://www.healthscotland.scot/learning-resources/child-poverty-health-and-wellbeing</a><br><br>The new Parental Employability Support Team (PES) started up at the latter end of last year and a Welfare Benefits Assistant provides benefit advice to referred unemployed young families where required. Cases can be referred to the Team where benefit claimants are unemployed and want help in finding employment. Most of the families are simply looking to check their existing benefits and most think they have their full entitlement but with the introduction of the new Scottish payments and grants, many were surprised to find that they had additional entitlement and benefits for the cases referred totalled around £50,000 over the 5 month period to March 2021. |
| Continue to ensure that the Welfare Benefits Assistant builds up networks within the  | 3               | NHS Midwifery<br>NHS GP<br>Surgeries | Quarterly statistical reporting on referral  | Vulnerable families                 | The HVs are asking about financial inclusion at all core visits and recording signposting and referrals on NHS Borders database (EMIS) - quarterly data report in place  |

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| Early Years Centres, local primary & secondary schools, NHS health visitors, GP surgeries, dental services etc to ensure that access to benefits advice is readily available across a range of services who are already supporting vulnerable families. |                 | NHS Health Visitors<br>NHS Dental Services<br>Education Services<br>RSL's<br>Social Work | numbers and monetary gains<br>Number of referrals from Partners            |                                     |   |
| Deliver the Financial Inclusion Pilot in Galashiels Health centre where money advisor support is provided during midwifery clinic. Covid-19 restrictions caused this to be put on hold. This will re-start when the situation allows.                   | 3               | SBC<br>NHS Borders   | Increase take up   | Pregnant women                      | The pilot has been paused due to COVID19.   |
| Continue to promote Take up campaigns for Scottish Government benefits eg Best Start Grants in schools, health centres and early years centres.   | 3               | SBC<br>NHS Borders   | Increased take up<br>Number of grants authorised and total income paid out | Families                            | The promotion of the Best Start Grants and Scottish Child Payment is a Quick Link on the NHS Borders Money Worries App and Social Media<br><br>Scottish Child Payment commenced in February 2021<br>SBC Best Start Grants -<br>Applications 1.925<br>Authorised 74%<br>Income £458k   |
| Continue to promote the SBC website pages on Welfare Benefits for Families with children.   | 3               | SBC  | Increased income into the poorest households                               | Families                            | Additional content has been added to include details of the Social Security Scotland benefits and website has been used to promote hardship payments funded by Scottish Government for families who are entitled to free school meals which has also led to an increase in take up for free school meals and clothing grants. |

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| <p>Finalise and launch a Money Worries app to provide information on benefits/support available. (Supported by Scottish Government Financial Inclusion Funding)</p> <p>Money worries resources made available for midwives and health visitors.</p> <p>Continue to develop systems to record conversations/response to money worries enquiries</p> | 3               | SBC<br><br>NHS Health Improvement Team                                    | Number of downloads of the Money Worries App | Families                            | The Money Worries App was successfully launched on 16 <sup>th</sup> March 2021, following a period of testing and improvements. Launch week communications has demonstrated a combined social media reach of 21,594. Reporting processes are currently being agreed.  |
| Introduce e-form for referrals to Financial Inclusion  | 3               | SBC<br>NHS Borders  | Uptake of use of e-form                      | Families                            | Progress has been delayed due to Covid but will be introduced in 21/22.   |
| Commitment to free access to family days out in museums service and outdoor play area (Harestanes Park) and active promotion of low/no-cost access to family days out  | 2               | Live Borders  | Number of participants                       | Families                            | From March 2020 facilities/sites closed. Partial reopening in July 2020 with access to parks/play areas. Further closure at the end of year and only partial reopening of free access facilities.   |
| Accessing emergency funds for families in crisis via routes such as Borders Children's Charity, Cash for Kids, or organisation specific crisis funds   | 2               | Third Sector Youth Organisations<br>YouthBorders<br>NHS Borders<br>C&F SW | Number of awards applied for                 | All families in crisis              | <p>From a sample of Third Sector Youth Organisations, 70% had accessed emergency funding for families. This sample of organisations had sought funds to assist 223 families.</p> <p>Between April 2020 and June 2020, Cash for Kids funded £2627.20 to C&amp;F SW. This ensured 36 families totalling 77 children, aged from birth to 18 years impacted by Covid-19 were provided with financial support using All Pay Cards.</p> |

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|  |                 |                                     |  |   | Cash for Kids, STV Winter Fund, Youth Scotland Winter Fund, Borders Children's Charity were all utilised by community organisations to support families in need. Some national third sector organisations were able to utilise their own crisis funding for Borders families, including Action for Children and Children 1 <sup>st</sup> .  |
| Raise awareness of specific information on welfare benefits, social security Scotland and all relevant information regarding finances, hearing and carers allowances to ASN families | 3               | Borders Additional Needs Group      | Increased benefits   | ASN families                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Distributed National Lottery Funding £10,000 to 23 children</li> <li>- Distributed RRR foundation Scotland funding of £1,500 to 14 families</li> <li>- Supported 8 families claim DLA</li> <li>- Held 2 workshops on ILF Transition Funding and supported 5 families apply for funding</li> <li>- Supported 10 families with Food parcels</li> </ul> |
| Create a dedicated website for ASN parents and carers to improve access to specific information  | 3               | Borders Additional Needs Group      | Increased benefits   | ASN families                              | Website and ASN monthly Bulletin produced.  |
| Promote Challenge Poverty Week 5 <sup>th</sup> -11 <sup>th</sup> October 2020  | 1,2,3           | SBC<br>NHS<br>Partners              | Uptake of various promoted schemes                         | All                                       | Scottish Borders Council and Partners supported Challenge Poverty Week by highlighting the wide range of information, advice and support that is available to support people experiencing financial hardship. A news release was used to launch the week's activities and different messages were posted on social media each day.  |
| Continue to raise awareness of Child Poverty by holding a Child Poverty Partnership Event  | 1,2,3           | All Partners                        | Creation of effective Action Plan with input from Partners | All                                       | A virtual Child Poverty Workshop was held in July 2020. Child Poverty Planning Group Partners attended along with other key groups and services. The workshop gave all partners the opportunity to provide an update on their work relating to child poverty. The Group then submitted their actions for inclusion in the 2020/21 Report and Action Plan.                                     |
| Improve the use of the Neglect Toolkit by the Child Protection Delivery Group in   | 3               | SBC Child Protection Delivery Group | Audit activity   | Children and young people most at risk of | Taking cognisance of the learning from the Neglect audit (2020) practitioners have subsequently been provided with new materials to better support their use of the toolkit.  |

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| <p>relation to income maximisation support for families.</p> <p>Collation of what income maximisation support is being offered to families and when, as well as following up on what difference the support has made</p> |                 |                   | Child Protection Indicators   | needing the Child Protection System           | <p>Materials were disseminated in November 2020: a Neglect Toolkit pathway providing clarity around expectations of the use of the Neglect Toolkit as well as a learning aid powerpoint / accompanying notes (for managers to deliver in lieu of Covid-19 impacting on delivery of training). Poverty is discussed in our CP/AP training briefly but we intend to strengthen this as we go forward.</p> <p>The quarterly Child Protection Minimum Dataset now includes reporting on the relationship between children on the Child Protection Register and deprivation. This data suite, with accompanying analysis, is considered and scrutinised by the CPDG, Public Protection Committee and then the Critical Services Oversight Group (CSOG). The Financial Inclusion Team are undertaking a project to map out available services. This will be used by the CPDG once available.</p> |
| Award discretionary funding to students in financial hardship as a result of family circumstances for housing and food costs   | 3               | Borders College   | Number of awards  | Students in financial hardship                | Borders College disseminated in excess of £350K in hardship and discretionary funding to its students to support living costs and mitigate effects of COVID19 restrictions.  |
| <b>Housing &amp; Energy</b>  |                 |                   |   |   |  |
| <p>New Affordable Housing: Deliver an estimated 122 new homes during 2020-2021</p> <p>Through the Local Housing Strategy (LHS), continue to monitor the level of affordable housing being built</p>                      | 2<br>2<br>2     | SBC and all RSL's | <p>Number of affordable homes completed</p> <p>Number of people receiving housing support</p> | All families and young people in housing need | <p>108 affordable homes delivered throughout the Scottish Borders, some projects having been delayed as a result of Covid.</p> <p>Scottish Borders Housing Association completed a new development of four three bed family homes at Heriotfield in Oxtun. These homes feature air source heating: an energy-efficient, low-carbon home energy solution for off-grid homes, allowing tenants to both heat their homes economically and reduce their impact on the environment.</p>   |

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| Through the Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP), set out the strategic investment priorities for affordable housing over a 5 year period.                             |                 |   |  |   | <p>The 2021/26 SHIP proposed delivery of 1,125 new affordable homes, under-pinned by an estimated investment of £166m</p> <p>The SHIP 2021/26 includes proposals for Scottish Borders Housing Association to build 4 homes as part of a collaboration with Aberlour to provide a specialist young person's service facility.</p> <p>SBHA's Development Programme will deliver 22 new build affordable homes early 2021-22.</p> <p>SBHA will seek to maximise our financial capacity to increase our contribution to new homes in the coming years and will confirm further in 2021-22.</p> |
| Delivery of the Housing Needs and Aspirations of Young People five year Action Plan  | 2               | Local Housing Strategy  | LHS Annual Progress and Monitoring Report  | All young people aged between 16-34             | <p>The plan has developed a range of policy and practical responses, with commitment from a range of partners. This will enable young people to make more successful and sustainable transitions into their own housing.</p> <p>Work is currently underway towards ensuring these actions are delivered and Scottish Borders Council continue to work closely with our partners.</p> <p>Progress on some of the actions has been delayed somewhat due to the pandemic and the impact upon staffing resource that this has had.</p>   |
| <p>Implement the Rapid Re-Housing Transition Plan</p> <p>SBHA continue to increase lets to homeless people. (60% year to date for 2020/21 compared to 43% for 2019/20)</p> | 2<br><br>2      | <p>Borders Homelessness and Health Strategic Partnership &amp; LHS Partnership Group</p> <p>CAB</p> | <p>Number accessing Housing Options service</p> <p>% of unintentionally homeless household accessing settled accommodation</p> | All, particularly those at risk of homelessness | <p>CAB – Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and policies put in place to stop evictions etc there was less risk of people being made homeless.</p> <p>Through our Warm &amp; Well Borders Project in partnership with SBC &amp; Changeworks we have assisted approx. 250 people with income maximisation and energy issues.</p> <p>Also worked in partnership with NHS/Healthy living network, SBC and others to devise and launch NHS Borders Money worries App.</p>  |

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|  |                 | Healthy Living Network<br><br>SBHA | Annual reporting against KPI's established in the Action Plan<br><br>Increased % of lets to homeless people                |   | Throughout the last year we have continue to offer a service by telephone and e-mail with the majority of our advisers working remotely.  |
| The Regeneration of Beech Avenue, Galashiels | 2               | Waverly Housing/SBC                | More people living independently in affordable and sustainable homes<br><br>More people able to afford to heat their homes | Waverley Housing tenants and families (existing and future) | <p>Although full application of RRTP resources were delayed due to the COVID-19 emergency the following key actions where achieved;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Part one of the Crisis Intervention Fund aimed at supporting households who face homelessness due to rent arrears was launched</li> <li>• Organisations were invited to tender for the delivery of Housing First support service.</li> <li>• Increase in temporary accommodation to manage the additional demand brought about by the Covid-19 emergency</li> <li>• Successful applications submitted to the Connecting Scotland programme supported 10 homeless households and 237 RSL tenants become digitally included.</li> <li>• EHA adopted a new allocations policy in October 2020 which includes platinum pass for statutory homeless and other key priority groups.</li> </ul> <p>SBHA is a partner in the Borders Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan (RRTP) and through this work we are now making 42% of our lets to homeless households (this compares to 29% in 2018-19).</p> <p>During 2020/21 the Council used Second Homes Council Tax to Waverley Housing to progress the regeneration of Beech Avenue Galashiels. There are 229 homes in the study area and the proposals envisage the demolition of 159 homes and provision of 109 new build energy efficient homes for social rent.</p> |

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|  |                 |  |   |                                     | <p>The project also includes the refurbishment of 68 homes, which is now substantially complete. The refurbishment element of the project comprises the installation of external wall insulation ('EWI'), work being undertaken to properties along with roof repairs, replacement main doors and entry systems.</p> <p>Contract work started on site in January 2020 based upon a 30 week notional timescale. Due to Covid-19 restrictions the programme of work was interrupted, and the revised completion date for these refurbishment works is April 2021.</p> |
| Deliver the New Home development programme   | 2               | Berwickshire Housing Association (BHA) | Statutory compliance measures relating to improved energy efficiency and performance of homes   | BHA tenants                         | <p>Springfield Phase 1, Duns completed 29 new homes, with handover and sign ups commencing on 9/12/20. Further developments include;</p> <p>Ayton Beanburn Phase 1 – which is on site. Phase 1 started on site 6/1/20 and will deliver 31 new homes by June 2021.</p> <p>3 further sites are within planning phases and could deliver a further 80+ new homes within Berwickshire within the development programme.</p>   |
| Planned major improvement to existing homes  | 2               | BHA                                    | Statutory compliance measures relating to improved energy efficiency and performance of homes   | BHA tenants                         | Major works were halted for much of 2020/21 owing to Scottish Government guidelines. BHA have rolled capital budget forward into 2021/22 to ensure we meet all statutory compliance targets and measures within the revised delivery timescales.  |
| Provide financial support to third sector partners and social enterprises on community capacity building | 2               | BHA                                    | <p>Increased local and accessible opportunities to grow and develop – building confidence and capacity across our communities</p> <p>Number of participants</p> | BHA tenants                         | Berwickshire Housing Association provides a wide range of financial support and undertake a variety of initiatives in the Community. These are detailed in Appendix 1(f).   |

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| <p>Provide funding and sponsorship of specific projects including school food events, access to recreational activities, intergenerational initiatives and tenant run pilot projects eg. Berwickshire Swap</p> <p>Provide funding and support to existing local projects that engage directly with children impacted by poverty and low income</p> |                 |   | Parents and guardians are reliably supported to improve their prospects and the environment they nurture children within |                                     |  |
| Deliver full EESSH (Energy Efficiency Standard for Social Housing) compliance. Current compliance is 96.2% from under 30% in 2016.   | 2               | Scottish Borders Housing Association (SBHA) | Full compliance (100%)   | SBHA Tenants                        | Since 2015 SBHA's investment programme has improved the warmth of our homes to EESSH standards from 31% in 2015-16 to 98.3% at the end of 2021-22 - this has significantly impacted on families. Going forward we expect to make significant investment to raise our homes to EESSH 2.   |
| Develop a vulnerability assessment toolkit to identify the most at risk households. This will support plans to be put in place to enhance tenancy sustainment and improve life choices.  | 2               | SBHA  | Number of tenants managing to sustain tenancies  | SBHA tenants at risk                | The percentage of SBHA Tenants who sustained their tenancy for more than a year increased by 2% in 2020-21. SBHA will develop a Wellbeing Framework which will enable us to identify Tenants with specific needs and target our services appropriately. SBHA will introduce emergency community monitoring tool software in 2021-22 which will risk assess our tenants' support needs and determine the levels of contact and intervention required. |
| Implement a toolkit to measure the impact of social housing in Scotland with a specific aim of supporting Scottish Government's child poverty targets.   | 2               | SBHA  | Additional social housing  | SBHA tenants                        | In 2021-22, SBHA will implement a Social Value Impact toolkit, developed with SFHA, to measure the social value attributed to support services accessed by Tenants. A pilot will commence in May on the impact of the Social Housing Fuel Support Fund.  |

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| <b>Health &amp; Wellbeing</b>   |                 |                                     |                                      |   |  |
| Explore options for early intervention models, including an intensive family support service (via Citydeal), and family group decision making to support families to become more resilient and determine their own solutions to issues.   | 1,2,3           | SBC Children & Families Social Work | No of participants<br>New employment | Families in need of support from Children & Families Social Work services | Pilot project for family group agreed. Decision has been drafted and will be progressed.   |
| Children & Families Social Work are focussing on the impact that COVID-19 is having on children and families struggling through the Pandemic. The service is exploring opportunities for collaboration focused on outcomes. This involves listening to, and involving children, young people and their families with lived experience of poverty in shaping their response. | 1,2,3           | SBC Children & Families Social Work | Opportunities taken up               | Families in need of support from Children & Families Social Work services | Ongoing interaction and contact with families. Families are having additional emotional and financial issues throughout the pandemic. There is also an increase in new families that have not previously used the C&F SW Service.  |
| Provide Holiday clubs for Additional Special Needs (ASN) families with free lunches (funded by Scottish Government School Hunger Programme)   | 2               | Borders Additional Needs Group      | Number of lunches provided           | ASN families  | Received no funding from Scottish Government Hunger Programme in this financial year.<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Held Social outings at Farm x 4 weeks</li> <li>- 8 week Forest School for youths</li> <li>- Created Online video and music session x 6</li> <li>- Filmmaking opportunities for ASN youths</li> </ul> |
| Provide sensory toys and cleaning materials for families with an ASN child  | 2               | Borders Additional Needs Group      | Number of items bought and given out | ASN families  | Distributed support to 39 families with sensory toys and sensory equipment   |

| Action   | Poverty Driver* | Partners Involved  | How will impact be assessed?                                       | Intended beneficiaries/target group | Update   |
|--|-----------------|--|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| who may be sensory seeking/bed wetting   |                 |  |  |                                     |  |
| Continue to promote online videos to mothers on support for weaning through the Early Years Centres.   | 2               | SBC<br>NHS Borders   | Uptake of scheme   | Mothers with babies                 | <p>Weaning video clips on Facebook: 17 video clips were released; they have reached 16,138 people, with 825 video views and 194 reactions, comments shares.</p> <p>Weaning Plus video clips on Facebook: 8 video clips were released; they have reached 4315 people, with 276 video views and 114 reactions, comments shares.</p>  |
| Issue wellbeing packs to young people identified by CLD Youth Learning Staff   | 2               | CLD Youth Learning Staff   | Number of packs issued   | Targeted children and young people  | No progress was made in this area in 2020/21. There are plans to undertake this action 2021/22.  |
| Co-ordination and development of Holiday Programmes for children and young people which include provision of positive and engaging activities and food | 2               | Community Learning & Development<br><br>Health Improvement<br><br><br>Live Borders<br><br>YouthBorders | No of programmes<br>No of participants<br>Evaluation of Programmes | Targeted communities                | <p>Some Holiday programmes paused due to the Covid-19 pandemic.<br/>Face to face holiday programmes have been translated into the virtual food environments &amp; activities in many creative ways across partners.</p> <p>Meals &amp; More funding has been offered to Early Years Centres.</p> <p>Due to Lockdown restrictions no programmes happened in October or Easter but discussions and planning are underway for Summer 2021. Limited Programmes due to furlough, demand and restrictions</p> <p>Scottish Borders Council worked in partnership with TD1 Youth Hub. The programme was delivered primarily online, with STEM sessions, baking, photography and self-care. Young people and their family received a food parcel each week, with themed meals recipes. All young people had the chance to start a Youth Achievement Award or Dynamic Youth Award.</p> |

| Action  | Poverty Driver* | Partners Involved                                | How will impact be assessed?   | Intended beneficiaries/target group | Update  |
|---|-----------------|--|--|-------------------------------------|---|
|   |                 |  |  |                                     | A case study in Appendix 1(f) highlights youth work and food insecurity through a programme delivered by TD1 Youth Hub in with the Community and Learning Development Service (CLD).  |
| Specific Project in Burnfoot to encourage greater participation in sport/physical activity for the whole family group                         | 2               | Live Borders SBC                                 | Evaluation framework of participants   | Targeted communities                | From March 2020 and ongoing majority of staff furloughed. No further progress at present  |
| Active Schools Holiday Camps Programme to actively support children and families to have affordable child care options during school holidays | 2               | Live Borders SBC                                 | Number of participants<br>Number of programmes<br>Healthier, Happier, Stronger in-house evaluation methodology | All                                 | From March 2020 and ongoing majority of staff furloughed. No further progress at present  |
| Provide free or low cost access to activities, experiences and trips during evenings, weekends and school holiday periods                     | 2               | Third Sector Youth Organisations<br>YouthBorders | Number of participants<br>Service user feedback  | Young People (8+)                   | <p>From a sample of 13 Third Sector Youth Organisations, they provided free or low-cost activities to 711 young people. This is a quarter of the YouthBorders network, so this figure could be as many as 2800 as a projection. This is half of the total number of young people associated with the YouthBorders network in our annual membership census. Opportunities and activities were impacted by Covid-19 restrictions for a large part of the year.</p> <p>Feedback from Young People involved in community-based Youth Work activity:<br/> <i>“I like being part of groups where people are interested in the same things as me because then we can talk and I feel comfortable”.</i></p> <p><i>“I like the opportunities we get. You help us find things we are interested in, and it helps for the future.”</i></p> |

| Action  | Poverty Driver* | Partners Involved                                  | How will impact be assessed?                             | Intended beneficiaries/target group   | Update   |
|---|-----------------|--|--|---|--|
|   |                 |  |  |   | <i>"I join in with group stuff now and feel welcome and listened to."</i>  |
| Deliver an outdoor activity/nurture summer holiday programme to young people entitled to free school meals or LAC.  | 2               | CLD Youth Workers<br>Cashback for Communities      | Number of participants                                   | Young people entitled to free school meals or looked after children                                     | Due to Lockdown restrictions no programmes happened in October or Easter but discussions and planning are underway for Summer 2021 to improve inclusion rates in summer programmes for those that require additional support.  |
| Promote the development of Young Scot membership and rewards which support wellbeing, provision of trusted information, and provide opportunities and experiences to young people | 2               | CLD Youth Learning<br><br>YouthBorders<br><br>JHIT | Uptake   | Anyone aged 11-25   | The #BordersWellbeing campaign in autumn 2020 saw the development of local content focused on 6 ways to be well. The campaign increased Young Scot membership in the Borders by 45 users; reached 20k users on across social media platform; and offered 27 new Young Scot rewards; 40% of which were claimed by young people in SIMD 1 and 2.<br><br>Outline programme discussed with Young Scot. Funding to develop this requires to be agreed.  |
| Undertake a mentoring initiative to support those most at risk of disengagement to successfully transition through senior phase of school to college                              | 2               | Borders College                                    | Uptake   | Care experienced young people, those in rural areas, social isolation, young carers and school refusers | As school pupils did not access the College physically this AY due to COVID restrictions the resource was diverted to support those senior phase pupils who had received support last year with additional assistance to ensure their enrolment and commencement of their studies was fully supported. 20 senior phase pupils who have transitioned to college are care experienced, young carers or from the most deprived postcodes, and at most risk of poverty, received this mentoring support which included ensuring they were provided with the materials they required to commence their studies as well as equipment such as laptops and desks and chairs were made available. |
| Undertake 'Care Aware' initiative to provide support and a named person for care experienced young people and student carers. The   | 2               | Borders College                                    | Number of participants<br>Successful income maximisation | Care experienced young people and student carers  | 88 care experienced students and 61 student with caring responsibilities enrolled on College programmes AY 20-21 all offered a named person for 1-1 contact whenever required and ensured that they were receiving maximum student funding packages.   |

| Action  | Poverty Driver* | Partners Involved  | How will impact be assessed? | Intended beneficiaries/target group   | Update  |
|---|-----------------|--|------------------------------|---|---|
| initiative works to address barriers and provide information to maximise funding, access learning support and nurture.  |                 |  |                              |   |   |
| Continue to provide free sanitary products to students in need through a sustainable partnership whereby products are delivered to students rather than them collecting them.   | 3               | Borders College  | Uptake                       | Students in need of sanitary products   | This is an ongoing programme. Around 100 students took advantage of this scheme during AY 20-21   |
| <b>Communities &amp; Partnerships</b>   |                 |  |                              |   |   |
| Launch Capital Credit Union schools programme pilot at Burnfoot Community School  |                 | Capital Credit Union<br>SBC<br>Burnfoot Community School | Uptake of pilot              | Children (and families) associated with Burnfoot Community School   | Paused due to Covid-19 pandemic. Plans were in place to pilot April 2020.   |
| <b>Tackling Digital Exclusion</b>   |                 |  |                              |   |   |
| Connecting Scotland Programme - £15M funding - national investment to help 22,000 households get online.<br><br>SBHA have distributed 46 devices and a further 45 are pending delivery – (phase 1 shielding and older people) | 2               | SBC<br>NHS Borders<br><br>SBHA                           |                              | Households with children including pregnant women with no child in the household<br><br>Care leavers up to the age of 26 eligible for aftercare support | SBC participating in Connecting Scotland Programme which was launched in response to the pandemic to help support vulnerable people online.<br><br>People are gifted an appropriate device and access to connectivity and paired with a digital champion to help provide support.<br><br>The total number of devices for Scottish Borders for this phase were:<br>- 481 – 238 ipads<br>- 235 Chromebooks<br>- 460 MiFis |

| Action  | Poverty Driver* | Partners Involved           | How will impact be assessed?                   | Intended beneficiaries/target group           | Update  |
|---|-----------------|-----------------------------|--|---|---|
|   |                 |                             |  |   | <p>This helped support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 382 families</li> <li>- 65 care leavers</li> <li>- 34 other vulnerable people</li> </ul> <p>SBHA has distributed a total of 190 IT devices to Tenants to improve digital inclusion and 40 Digital Champions in SBHA teams support this programme. Feedback from Families with school-age children who have benefited from this has been overwhelming.</p> |
| Device lending library of ipad/chromebook devices for excluded families                         | 2               | Live Borders                | Uptake   | Families with no access to electronic devices | Completed via Connecting Scotland Programme 35+ Devices and further 15+ progressing   |
| Free access to digital content for children and families as part of library offer               | 2               | Live Borders                | Uptake   | Children and families                         | Further investment in digital content. Significant growth during pandemic   |
| Inspire Learning Programme – roll out of iPads to Primary 4 and 5 pupils                        | 2,3             | SBC                         | Number of iPads distributed                    | All   | 2400 iPads were delivered to P4 and P5 prior to the October break 2020.   |
| Provide laptop loans and wifi provision to all students who require to engage in online studies | 3               | Borders College             | Number of laptop loans                         | Students who do not own a laptop              | Approximately 500 laptop loans were mobilised by Borders College during AY20-21 to ensure that all students who required IT kit to engage in their studies had access to this. A further 75 WiFi dongles or mobile data packages provided for those who could not afford suitable broadband or data packages or for those who did not have access at the time.  |
|   |                 |                             |  |   |   |
| <b>Fuel related activity</b>  |                 |                             |  |   |   |
| Deliver the Warm and Well Project to tackle fuel poverty  |                 | SBC<br>Home Energy Scotland | More people able to afford to heat their homes | Families with young children                  | Home Energy Scotland - The Warm & Well Project is now in its second year. In response to the Covid-19 pandemic the delivery model and staffing requirements had to adapt. Colleagues were creative and flexible and were able to  |

| Action  | Poverty Driver* | Partners Involved                          | How will impact be assessed? | Intended beneficiaries/target group | Update  |
|---|-----------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
|   |                 | SBHA<br>NHS Borders<br>Scottish Government |                              |                                     | <p>respond by offering support digitally, on line, over the phone etc. and tailoring advice accordingly.</p> <p>The scheme has seen significant savings with over 300 households having been supported with benefit checks, new benefits secured and energy advice and sign posting to grants to improve affordable warmth. Over £300,000 has been secured to support those experiencing fuel poverty.</p> <p>The Warm &amp; Well Project was established in March 2020 and funded through the Scottish Government's Investing in Communities Fund. This is central to our future commitment to supporting people in fuel poverty, particularly families. This has established an in-house Warm &amp; Well Co-ordinator, in partnership with Changeworks, to provide specialist advice and train SBHA Team members to expand our energy advice offer. He will support 1,015 SBHA households living in fuel poverty. To date, 119 tenants have received support and benefited from c£25,000 in financial savings. In addition, the Borders Housing Network (BHN) recently secured £450,000 from the Scottish Government's Social Housing Fuel Support Fund. As at the end of April 2021, SBHA has supported 46 Tenants to benefit from this fund, with c£40,000 having already been claimed.</p> |
| Continue to engage with the Scottish Borders Home Energy Forum. | 2               | NHS Borders<br>Home Energy Scotland        | Number of vouchers given out | Early years families                | <p>Home Energy Scotland - The Forum continues to ensure that a strategic, multi-agency approach is taken to help reduce fuel poverty, improve energy efficiency and improve health and well-being in the Scottish Borders, particularly for the most vulnerable households within the region.</p> <p>The Partnership comprises organisations representing housing associations, statutory bodies, advisory groups, bodies associated with energy, affordable warmth, health and income maximisation.</p>  |

| Action                                       | Poverty Driver* | Partners Involved                          | How will impact be assessed?   | Intended beneficiaries/target group | Update   |
|--|-----------------|--|--|-------------------------------------|--|
|  |                 |  |  |                                     | <p>The Forum has acted as a catalyst for building collective support for ongoing strategies including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EES:ABS and the Energy Efficiency Standard for Social Housing (ESSH)</li> <li>• Funding opportunities</li> <li>• Joint proposals have been planned and submitted</li> <li>• Upcoming funding opportunities are discussed</li> <li>• Has facilitated the establishment of a new Construction Sector and Supply Chain Forum</li> </ul> <p>Served as a platform to promote and facilitate measures and schemes that target alleviating fuel poverty and increasing energy efficiency in households; as well as improving health and wellbeing.</p>  |
| Deliver the Home Energy Efficiency Programme | 2               | SBC<br>Home Energy Scotland<br>Changeworks | Households living in fuel poverty<br>Number of private sector energy efficiency measures installed<br>Number of households provided with energy advice/information | Tenants                             | <p>The HEEP:ABS was renamed the Energy Efficient Scotland Area Based Scheme (EES:ABS). There were significant challenges to delivery due to Covid-19 pandemic restrictions. There were still opportunities to support households and applications of interest have been taken forward into the next scheme delivery year to ensure to one who is eligible for support misses out.</p> <p>In the financial year 2019-20 SBC were awarded £1.34m in EES:ABS funding. No installations were able to take place between March and July 2020 and following the nationwide lockdown restrictions remained on works taking place inside people's homes. It was still possible to install 100 of the planned 278 energy efficiency measures supporting over 75 households.</p> <p>For the 2020/21 programme (expected to complete in December 2021) SBC have been allocated over £1.7m, a record allocation for the Borders. Renewable technology including Air Source Heat Pumps and PV and Battery storage will be part of the measures delivered.</p> |

| Action   | Poverty Driver* | Partners Involved                             | How will impact be assessed?  | Intended beneficiaries/target group                        | Update   |
|--|-----------------|---|---|--|--|
| <b>Food related activity</b>   |                 |   |   |  |  |
| Continue to support Third Sector partners financially to provide community based food schemes and support groups   | 2               | SBC CLD                                       | Reviews and evaluations of schemes<br><br>Participation, achievement and attainment | Children and families                                      | CLD service have been heavily involved in the Community Assistance Hubs and supporting community food schemes in partnership with the Communities and Partnership team.<br><br>7 CLD staff have either provided the lead for a CAH or worked in one. They worked within the Community Assistance Hubs providing support and assistance to those in need, including those that have been shielding. This has included food provision, assistance with fuel costs & clothing, referrals into financial inclusion support.<br>Families and individuals have been given short term emergency support to those who have been in crisis. However, the referral in to services that can provide longer term sustainable support will be key to income maximisation and pathways out of poverty.<br><br>Financial support has been given to Foodbanks & FareShare outlets to assist with practical issues – white goods etc. |
| Provide recipes to align with available produce and food distributed to Early Years Centres  | 2               | NHS Joint Health Improvement Team             | Review and evaluation   | Families with young children attending Early Years Centres | Appendix 1(f) shows details of 'Spotlight on Success – Early Years Centres, supporting families during the pandemic'   |
| Address food insecurity through the provision of food to individuals and families via Fareshare and other food distribution schemes including food growing and community cafes | 2               | Third Sector Youth Organisations YouthBorders | Number of referrals<br>Number of food parcels<br>Sustained engagement               | Young People (8+)  | At least 253 young people were supported through the receipt of food parcels.<br>Over the year at least 10,000 food parcels were distributed by Third Sector Youth Organisations. The organisations which made most provision were Cheviot Youth, TD1 Youth Hub, Rowland's, Connect Berwickshire.<br><i>These figures exclude young people who took part in online cooking workshops within youth work programmes and where ingredients were provided</i>  |

| Action   | Poverty Driver* | Partners Involved             | How will impact be assessed?   | Intended beneficiaries/target group              | Update   |
|--|-----------------|-------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Promote Free school meals and increase uptake  | 2               | SBC                           | Increased % uptake of free school meals  | Eligible children                                | This has been promoted as part of the holiday support payments for eligible FSM families 190 new families signed up for FSMs   |
| Deliver a breakfast programme for S1-S4 young people entitled to free school meals.  | 2               | CLD Youth Workers             | Uptake of programme  | S1-S4 young people entitled to free school meals | Funding has been secured to develop this but it has not been a priority for schools this year due to the Pandemic  |
| Continue to establish breakfast clubs in schools. Breakfast clubs are established in a number of schools in areas of greatest need but the aim is to have one in every school. | 2               | SBC Schools                   | Children from poorer households will have had at least two nutritional meals per day whilst at school. | All children and young people                    | Funding has been secured to develop this but it has not been a priority for schools this year due to the Pandemic  |
| Provide recipes and information to community assistance hubs for people in receipt of food boxes, contributing to food security.   | 2               | Joint Health Improvement Team | Review and evaluation  | All  | This work is complete. All community hubs were offered support.  |
| Support extended food distribution schemes in partnership with Criminal Justice Services Social Work   | 2               | Joint Health Improvement Team | Review and evaluation  | All  | Funding has been allocated for the financial year 2021/22 to continue with the development of our Greenhouse Project.<br><br>This includes partnership work with Action for Children & Children First. |
| Support food distribution work in communities with funding, recipes and practical support to provide meal bags for children and families                                       | 2               | Joint Health Improvement Team | Review and evaluation  | All  | Funding from SBC to LINKS Eyemouth is ongoing via a partnership with BAVS as an anchor agency. This is helping to grow this children & families food network.  |

| Action   | Poverty Driver* | Partners Involved                    | How will impact be assessed?                | Intended beneficiaries/target group | Update  |
|--|-----------------|--------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| Enhance community food support available via Burnfoot Community Futures  | 2               | Joint Health Improvement Team        | Review and evaluation                       | All                                 | NHS Borders funded BCF during furlough phase to support staff hours for food distribution activities. This project is complete.   |
| Set up a Scottish Borders Food Network to promote and raise awareness of opportunities for children and families   | 2               | SBC<br>NHS Borders                   | Uptake to network<br>Number of participants | All                                 | At the start of the pandemic there were approximately 17 foodbank/FareShare outlets in the Scottish Borders. This has now increased to 25, with other informal community larders etc in very rural and remote locations across the Borders. The Foodbank/FareShare outlets have been supported through the Financial Inclusion Fund. The Eyemouth Food Partnership has also been supported via this fund, and is being considered as a pilot to test this approach, and if it could be expanded Borders-wide in the future. |
| Continue with 'Food Friday' to provide students with food bags to make a dinner. Tesco and Asda contribute to this initiative run by the Students Association at Borders College | 3               | Borders College Students Association | Number of food bags provided                | Students in need of food            | Up until lockdown in March, the Students Association had managed an initiative which saw Tesco and Asda supply almost sell by produce to them for dissemination amongst our student cohort. This was also supported by recipe packs being made up so that students had all the ingredients and instructions for a simple meal. After lockdown College purchase supermarket vouchers so that we could provide these to any students experiencing food hardship. We have disseminated around £450 worth of these.             |

#### \*Poverty Drivers

- 1 – Income from Employment
- 2 – Costs of living
- 3 – Income from Social Security and benefits in kind