

Scottish Borders Community Planning Partnership – Key Priorities and Action Plan 2020/21

- **Opportunities to deliver re-imagined services in partnership**
- **Minimise the impact on communities**
- **More efficient decision making**
- **Alignment to renewal priorities**
- **Enable a focussed, targeted approach**
- **Faster adoption of new technology, e-commerce and digital skills**

RAG Status:

- Green – complete
- Amber – progressing
- Red - challenges re delivery

*Key to partnership organisations			
BHA	Berwickshire Housing Association	REP	Regional Economic Partnership
CA	Citizen’s Advice	RSL’s	Registered Social Landlord’s
CAH’s	Community Assistance Hubs	SBC	Scottish Borders Council
CPP	Community Planning Partnership	SBHA	Scottish Borders Housing Association
EIL	Eildon Housing Association	SDS	Skills Development Scotland
LAC	Locality Area Co-ordinators	SFRS	Scottish Fire & Rescue Service
LB	Live Borders	SoSE	South of Scotland Enterprise
PACE	Partner Action for Continuing Employment	TSI	Third Sector Interface - Berwickshire Association for Voluntary Service, The Bridge, Volunteer Centre Borders, Scottish Borders Social Enterprise Chamber
PS	Police Scotland	WAV	Waverley Housing

Theme	Impacted	Project/Action	Lead <small>* key above</small>	What is already in place ?	Update & Timescales
Structure:					
		<p>Develop Locality Model & Hubs</p> <p>Welfare calls to individuals within our communities</p> <p>Developing fast/efficient solutions to local issues in partnership</p> <p>Linking up services/people more efficiently</p> <p>Continue to build on locality model – improving process/redesign services & set foundations for the future</p>	CPP members	<p>Community Assistance Hubs have been set up in each locality:</p> <p>Whole system & person centred approach has been provided during Covid-19 response without complex systems</p>	<p>Model Framework being developed.</p> <p>Principles of Framework being developed.</p> <p>What Matters Hubs now being held virtually. Wellbeing Service are involved in the 12 week pilot</p> <p>Community Assistance Hubs (CAH's) weekly community partnership meetings now taking place virtually – please contact Shona Smith/Clare Richards for meeting invites.</p> <p>CAH's now report quarterly to Area Partnerships.</p> <p>JHIT nutritional advice & support included mapping of Government Food Boxes with Eatwell guidance and recipe planning and development of resources (e.g. recipe packs, understanding vitamin D).</p> <p>TSI staff attending meetings regularly and contributing with 3rd sector knowledge and linking services.</p> <p>TSI organisations (Bavs and The Bridge) have invested in new technology in order to continue remote service effectively. VCB invested in training modules for 3rd Sector Org (volunteers)</p>

		<p>Adopting new technology</p> <p>Emergency funding in place & being distributed as appropriate</p>			<p>using SG Boost Fund. SBSEC invested in NCFE level 5 social media and app design training to upskill team members.</p> <p>The SBHA Neighbourhood Teams engaging with Hubs and tenants are benefiting from the more connected service offer, particularly those living in complex situations). NHOs attending Community Meeting weekly at Cheviot, Teviot and Tweeddale.</p> <p>SBHA weekly welfare calls and working towards implementing a Community Monitoring Tool software to risk assess our tenants' support needs and determine the levels of contact and intervention required. Welfare Calls are continuing as required. The monitoring tool has changed from the one we were originally going with; alternatives are being investigated.</p> <p>SBHA rolling out Near to Me virtual Appointments and visits. Active member of housing sector project group with SFHA(Scottish Federation of Housing Associations) to roll-out this virtual platform for delivery of housing services to residents remotely. Near Me Pilot was used by our Financial Inclusion Team successfully and has been rolled out to NHOs to offer tenants this form of communication.</p>
Digital:					
	Families	Connecting Scotland Digital Project – Phase 2	SBC/TSI/RSL's/ Live Borders		409 devices being awarded to Scottish Borders in Phase 2. These will support 321 families, 63 care leavers and 25 other vulnerable people.

					VCB worked with Eildon Housing supporting with volunteers for Digital Champions. SBSEC has been training volunteers and young people.
	Older people and those with disabilities	Connecting Scotland Digital Project - Phase 3.	SBC/TSI/RSL's/ Live Borders	Phase 3 will focus on older people and those with disabilities who are living through social isolation and loneliness	<p>Submissions now being made for Phase 3.</p> <p>TSI to collaborate in raising awareness of 3rd sector organisations supporting the target group.</p>
	TBA	Connecting Scotland - Expansion Project	SBC/SoSE/CPP	Funding has been secured from Financial Inclusion Hardship Fund and SoSE to work in partnership with partners to expand the Connecting Scotland Project borders wide. This will include addressing any shortfall/oversubscription from previous 3 phases	<p>A more coordinated Digital Strategy in Berwickshire is being developed which will see to bring all digital inclusion projects as a network of resources for the local area. Possibility to support the expansion of Connecting Scotland project Borders-wide.</p> <p>LB submission to Financial Hardship Fund submitted to expand Connecting the Borders Project with deliver of wider scheme via CPP/SCVO and supported by library service/team</p>
	Community	Digital Access Programme	BAVS/BHA	https://www.berwickshirehousing.org.uk/news/berwickshire-housing-association-secures-78k-funding-from-the-supporting-communities-fund/	<p>https://www.berwickshirehousing.org.uk/news/helping-tenants-to-get-digitally-connected/</p> <p>BHA and BAVS currently working towards expansion of the project across rural communities in Berwickshire. Demand for devices has increased. Collaboration for a Berwickshire Digital Network between other providers in Berwickshire is currently</p>

				<p>'Let's Get Digital Berwickshire' lending library is lending tablet devices with unlimited SIMs via community partner orgs across Berwickshire. (Up to 50 devices are available to loan for up six months)</p>	<p>under way which includes Eyemouth Rotary project & Outside the Box Digital Buddies. This will see a more coordinated Digital Strategy in Berwickshire.</p>
	<p>School pupils, student, community, employers</p>	<p>Digital Skills Hubs</p>	<p>Borders College (in partnership with D&G College)</p>	<p>The hub is intended to pull together the careers and required digital learning and skills for the South of Scotland. The hub involves school, college, range of university and innovation centres as well as local and national employers. The Hub will form part of the DigiSkills Scotland Network.</p>	<p>So far 4 Workstream project groups have met and agreed priority actions. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career Long Professional Learning (CLPL) and mentoring • Upskilling and reskilling for business • Educational Pathways • Improving access to Digital Skills <p>Board and Industry Advisory Group established and have considered the 4 work stream outcomes and priority actions/resource.</p> <p>Early 'wins' include 'Industry in the Classroom' on cyber security being offered to all schools; integration of Data Science in to other technical subjects at Borders College being shared with D&G college; Staff and pupil/student mentoring scheme and development of progression pathways in Cyber Security to Napier University.</p>

		Digital Inclusion Training	Borders College	Providing free Digital Skills training for individuals looking for work or needing support to access digital resources in supporting their daily lives.	3 cohorts already delivered. Rolling programme planned for new academic year. LB Digital Skills via library service for users as part of restarts and ongoing programme.
	Eildon Tenants/ Residents	Community Wi-Fi pilot	Eildon Housing	Community Wi-Fi installed in 2 Eildon developments – Sheltered Housing and Learning Disability	Working well in two development currently. Plans to roll out to all supported accommodation in Eildon stock this financial year – including new Extra Care Housing development at Gala. Considering expansion to general needs housing in locations poorly served by broadband.
	Eildon Tenants/ Residents	IOT (Internet of Things) in the Borders	Eildon Housing	Internet of Things – working with SG North to install Gateway Network to enable the network to access smart technology	‘CLARE’ prototype in stage 2 development and secured access to further COVTECH funding support from Scottish Government. Collaborating on a South of Scotland webinar and a SFHA members webinar on IOT opportunities.
	All	Connecting R100 – making broadband progress	SPICe	Delivery of the Scottish Government’s “Reaching 100% programme”, more commonly known as the R100 programme.	https://spice-spotlight.scot/2020/10/05/connecting-r100-making-broadband-progress/
Education and Skills:					

	Young people	DWP Flexible Support Fund Bid (18-24yr olds – digital training and work trials)	Third Sector	https://www.turn2us.org.uk/Your-Situation/Looking-for-work/Flexible-Support-Fund	Through workforce mobility the TSI obtained funding through the city deal for free travel pass 16-19 year olds. 16–24-year-old will get 50% of their transport costs funded, further updates on full costs to follow.
	All	Jobs hub portal, dedicated helpline, secondary education programme, webinars & online learning portal (My World of Work)	SDS/PACE	https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/	Free online courses for those furloughed: https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/learn-and-train/find-free-online-courses MyWoW registrations for all Borders secondary pupils is 82%, nationally 74%.
		BLSEP Co-chaired by Borders Council and Borders College brings together a range of partners (DYW, DWP, SE, SDS, Schools, College, HW University, Chamber, ESECRD, Employability) to review current and future demand for skills and agree actions in response.	Borders Learning, Skills and Employability Partnership	Currently meeting every 3 weeks: Structure of BSLP being reviewed. Focus on: Advanced manufacturing Digital Skills Hub Apprenticeship models Construction Green jobs	New Strategic Board TOR agreed with new name – Borders, Learning, Skills and Employability Partnership. 2 working groups set up focussing on young people and adults (employability) that will feed into Strategic Board. Revisited membership and RSLs will be represented on Strategic Board. Will be co-chaired by Scottish Borders Council and Borders College. Increased focus on employability in light of economic crisis coming out of pandemic. Agreed priority actions for 2021/22: 1. Develop a skills development pipeline for each of the identified key sectors from school to post graduate and where there are gaps collectively agree a curriculum development programme. (Young People group)

				<p>Career pathways</p> <p>Developing enterprise skills</p>	<p>2. Increase local access to HE programmes, promote and build aspiration. (Borders College, SOSE)</p> <p>3. Develop apprenticeship pathways in key sectors, from foundation to graduate level included Shared models and increase accessibility for under-represented groups and individuals. (SDS, Borders College)</p> <p>4. Map/develop/enhance and deliver employability support to increase participation of marginalised and vulnerable groups. (Adult employability group)</p> <p>5. Increase awareness of labour market interventions to support workforce development, work-based learning reskilling and upskilling options to local employers with links to support. (Adult employability group)</p> <p>6. Create an Enterprise and Innovation ecosystem for the Scottish Borders which encourages social enterprise and expands the engagement with Young Enterprise Scotland across schools. (Young People group)</p> <p>7. Map/develop/enhance skills provision in the East of our region from school to HE level (Borders Council/College)</p>
	All	Blended core curriculum offer, specific provision to support economic recovery (Pathway to employment, green energy, sustainable construction, Health & Care, Agriculture etc.)	Borders College/SDS/P ACE	<p>http://www.borderscollege.ac.uk/find-a-course/</p>	<p>Economic recovery take up has been limited at the moment because of extension of COVID restrictions and support packages. Still available for when impact starts to be realised but concern about the funding support to deliver.</p> <p>THE (Tourism, Hospitality and Enterprise) modules in Digital Marketing and Leadership in the Rural Visitor Economy launched in partnership with SRUC College. 18 enrolments. Programme launched 22nd April. Second phase now launched.</p> <p>Increased number of short upskilling sustainable construction programmes now available. These include Insulation, ground source heat pumps, PV Installation, EV installation and repair,</p>

					wind turbine maintenance, conservation and forestry and land-based programmes. Also through CRF bid Carbon Literacy training programme will be provided to all school and college students and offered to community.
Place Planning & Built estate:					
	All	Output from the Strategic Property Group to brought to CPP as proposals are developed	SBC Strategic Property Group	Scottish Borders Council 17 12 20 (items 12-14)	https://scottishborders.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=132&Mid=5260&Ver=4
	All	Support to Village Halls - Scottish Government Guidance for re-opening village halls and community buildings	Third Sector	http://onlineborders.org.uk/search/apachesolr_search/Federation%20of%20Village%20Halls	http://onlineborders.org.uk/news/guidance-for-re-opening-community-buildings-issue-3 Consultation around Village Halls took place last month, data is currently being analysed.
	Young People	Under 19 Free Travel	SBC	Under 16s currently pay ½ fares on all local bus services Large numbers of young people currently live off the main bus corridors and therefore may not benefit from the introduction of the scheme	The roll out of under 19 free travel has been delayed pending an request for an impact assessment on the Islands and rural areas Ongoing engagement with stakeholders to identify how we can ensure that young people who don't stay on major bus arteries in the Borders have the same opportunities as young people who live in urban areas DRT services may provide an opportunity to link smaller communities into the wider bus network

					DRT Trial being implemented May/June 2021 on existing SBC DRT services, Possibility of also extending out to involve commercial operators
	Young People	College transport across the region	Borders College/SBC	<p>Remote learning taking place across the region. Pupils are attending practical sessions at College sites in Newtown and Galashiels</p> <p>College bus services were withdrawn at the request of Borders College in 2020 following changes to the way in which the curriculum was rolled out due to Covid</p> <p>As a result, dedicated college transport officer no longer in post.</p> <p>No direct links from Eyemouth to Borders College for pupils who are undertaking practical classes</p>	<p>Initial discussions have been held with Borders Buses on diverting the service 60 via Eyemouth to assist with transport for pupils to and from Borders College. This needs further analysis as passengers between Berwick and Chirnside will be impacted by the change to a peak service bus.</p> <p>Patronage figures have now been received from Borders Buses to assess impact of diverting the 60 via Eyemouth. This will impact on Foulden residents at peak times as the service will divert. Initial assessments show that patronage numbers are low</p> <p>Possible opportunities to improve bus service connections in Berwickshire area</p> <p>Service Level Agreement to be agreed between Borders College and SBC on level of support required from Passenger Transport. Discussions ongoing.</p> <p>Borders College still require assistance from SBC with regards to transport provision. There is no capacity in the team at present to assist due to insufficient resource since the college transport officer post has been withdrawn</p>

	Young People	Kickstart Scheme 50% Travel Discount	SBC	<p>The Kickstart Scheme provides funding to create new jobs for 16 to 24 year olds on Universal Credit who are at risk of long term unemployment.</p> <p>Passenger Transport in partnership with DWP, Local Operators and Paths for all have implemented a scheme which entitles kickstarters 50% off their transport costs to and from employment</p> <p>All Bus operators in the region have signed up to the scheme.</p>	<p>Funding has been secured for 2021/22 to continue funding the 50% ticket discount</p> <p>All Borders operators are engaged and have adopted the scheme</p> <p>Currently awaiting confirmation of the number of people using the scheme for transport</p>
	Young People	School Transport Planning	SBC	<p>The school planning process is carried out on an annual basis and the process has not changed significantly for a number of years</p>	<p>A paper was approved by CMT in June to move to a new approach for home to school transport in which parents/carers will apply for transport rather than the council providing transport for all entitled pupils.</p>

				<p>New software is available which can plan routes digitally which will assist us with planning a more efficient network for home to school transport whilst also reducing staff time</p>	<p>We are currently finalising the existing arrangements for August 2021 and will then move to the planning for a new network based on applications.</p> <p>Closing dates for applications is the 22nd of August 2021 with the new network to be procured and operational by January 2022</p>
	Vulnerable/ Older People	Community Transport Review	BAVS: Community Transport Development Officer/SBC Localities Transport Officer	<p>Currently 4 named partners operating CT across the Borders</p> <p>BAVS, The Bridge, RVS and</p>	<p>BAVs are currently carrying out a review of CT services</p> <p>Revised level of funding agreed for Flow Centre, SBC has committed to supporting the flow centre for a further year beyond which was previously agreed</p> <p>BAVs are currently carrying out a review of CT services</p> <p>Revised level of funding agreed for Flow Centre, SBC has committed to supporting the flow centre for a further year beyond which was previously agreed</p> <p>Draft Service Level Agreement has been circulated around the CT operators and discussions are underway around the content.</p> <p>David Hunter, consultant working with BAVS has submitted an interim 6 month report on the What Wheel Matters project which has outlines the Key objectives of WWM final report should be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to provide a roadmap for better collaboration between CT operators

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to identify and ideally report on some quick wins already achieved (website, SB Transport Forum?) to influence SBC senior management to invest in CT strategically.
	ALL	NHS discounted Travel	SBC/NHS Borders	<p>Borders Buses offered free travel to NHS staff throughout the pandemic to keep people connected with the BGH.</p> <p>SBC subsequently submitted a bid to Paths for All to continue this scheme and extend it out to people who were attending the BGH to try and stimulate travel on bus and reduce single occupancy car journeys. Scheme extended to all Borders Operators</p> <p>The scheme will run until September 2021</p>	<p>Analysis shows that there are almost 3000 tickets a month now being sold with journeys peaking between 06:30 and 08:30 with almost 30% of the tickets being sold at this time</p> <p>The NHS reduced ticket deal will come to an end towards the end of July. Comms have been issued focussing on the success of the scheme. We are working with NHS Borders and local transport operators to look at ways to increase patronage and access to public transport.</p>

	ALL	Local Bus Services	SBC	<p>Current local bus network has seen significant drop in patronage following Covid -19 with levels at around 35% of pre covid levels.</p> <p>Some competition between subsidised and commercial services</p>	<p>Opportunity to engage and work with local communities and transport operators in 2021 to develop a new travel network that meets the needs of the communities we serve. Bus Patronage levels still sitting at 50% despite the recent relaxation of restrictions and evening and weekend services are still significantly reduced</p> <p>Potential to bid into the Bus partnership fund in October 2021 to develop and deliver ambitious schemes which will encourage people to move towards public transport.</p> <p>The DRT project is awaiting final approval from UK government, expected mid to end of July.</p>
Early Intervention & Prevention:					
	All	Whole System Approach in Eyemouth	Joint Health Improvement Team	<p>https://www.nhsborder.scot.nhs.uk/healthimprovement</p>	<p>A successful grant application was submitted to enable community engagement work to take place. The Governance Group are now meeting on a regular basis to plan and deliver the community engagement work.</p> <p>Three workshops have taken place involving community members and stakeholders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify barriers to healthy weight • second to develop a vision statement, community priorities and a draft action plan • consolidated the draft action plan in preparation for phase 2 funding by agreeing the top three community priorities. Stakeholder agreed on 'quick wins' that were either already happening or could be readily met and they reached a consensus on the top three key priorities for action in phase 2. <p>Top 3 Community Priorities include:</p>

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications via a What's On & or Community Newsletter • Outdoor Activities – linked to Greenspace development and including cooking/physical activity options for children and for families • Family Participation & Learning <p>The working group are planning for priority theme meetings.</p>
	Vulnerable older people	Community Transport Review	BAVS: Community Transport Development Officer/SBC Community Transport Officer		<p>Berwickshire Wheels provided transport to 57 vaccination appointment in Berwickshire, 100% of passengers are older adults.</p> <p>What Wheely Matters project has been consulting with communities and transport providers around sustainable transport options. The focus of the project is around DRT, Zero Emissions Community Garage and links with e-bikes.</p> <p>Conversations around buddy scheme to support the use of public transport networks where this exists. Borders CT providers are working closely and finding solutions around sustainable transport options.</p>
		SBHA Ageing Well Strategy	SBHA		Ageing Well Strategy seeks to ensure sustainable housing for older people and was approved by SBHA Board May 2021 and in Year 1 of 5 Year Action Plan.
Health & Wellbeing (including Mental Health):					
	All	Personalised packages of support to individual volunteers	Third Sector		TSI Borders Mental Health and Wellbeing Forum, led by The Bridge took place in Feb 2021, this brought together Borders 3rd Sector in discussion around how to collaborate and conversation around service commissioning.

					<p>LB engaging with NHS Long Covid Lead to support planned programme of support/treatment and links to LB Health Team and already signposting to Creative Health offer (see below)</p> <p>LB Creative Writing for Wellbeing programme in partnership with NHS/Creative Scotland 110 participants. Extended for further 3 mths to build evidence of outcomes and support integrating into core programme of creative health programmes</p> <p>Walking & Reading Groups established in key locations across Borders</p>
	All	Health & Safety measures being put in place re office accommodation etc.	All CPP partners	https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/info/20014/social_care_and_health/1018/covid-19_business_information/5	<p>SBC Property Recovery Board meeting weekly re access to SBC properties</p> <p>Support across the Borders for 3rd Sector and village halls has been put in place, this is a collaboration between Bavs and The Bridge to ensure the safeguard of local halls in re-starting face to face activities. A professional risk assessor has been working closely with Village Halls and developing risk assessment plans and delivering training.</p> <p>SBC Property Recovery Board meeting weekly re access to SBC properties</p> <p>SBHA developing new flexible blended working arrangement</p> <p>Workforce Lateral flow Covid testing?</p>
	All	Covid-19 Vaccination Programme	NHS Borders	Covid-19 Vaccination Programme is operational and managed by NHS Borders.	<p>Delivery of the vaccinations commenced in early December 2020. The Programme has offered first doses to all know individuals aged 18 and over. Second doses are now continuing and will be completed by mid-September. Mop up for Covid</p>

					<p>vaccination dose 1 and dose 2 will be on going to those that come forward.</p> <p>We are now planning for Tranche 2 Flu vaccination and Covid Booster. Delivery assumptions for Covid boosters are to be confirmed nationally.</p> <p>Berwickshire Wheels provided transport to 57 vaccinations appointments in Berwickshire.</p> <p>LB assisting and supporting with use of site/teams.</p>
	Vulnerable Households	Service Champions	SBHA		<p>Trained Neighbourhood Team members with enhanced knowledge of specialist areas (incl. Domestic Abuse, Dementia, Veterans, Addictions, Suicide Prevention, Mental Health, Fuel Poverty, Fire Risk Assessments, and LGBTQX) are supporting and mentoring colleagues in handling of complex cases, promoting appropriate referral pathways. Training for Neighbourhood Teams will continue, however this will focus on Dementia, Veterans, Fire Risk Assessment and LGBTQX as Training for the remaining ones has already taken place (Domestic Abuse, Addictions, Suicide Prevention and Mental Health).</p>
Poverty:					
	Child Poverty	Child Poverty Action Plan 2020/21	All	Child Poverty Annual Report 2019/20 & Child Poverty Report and Action Plan 2020/21.	<p>https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/directory/83/strategies_plans_and_policies_directory/category/710</p>

	Foodbanks/ Fareshare	Developing sustainable, local approaches to food security and to further develop FareShare network	Eildon Housing supported by CPP	https://fareshare.org.uk/what-we-do/ FareShare Borders depot opened in April 2020 plus 22 FareShare outlets being supported in the Scottish Borders	Eildon Housing and SBC will continue to support FareShare for the immediate future. Developing approached to longer term food security approach, including bid for community renewal fund.
		Social Housing Fuel Support Fund	RSLs/ Scottish Government		The Borders Housing Network (BHN) recently secured £450,000 from the Scottish Government's Social Housing Fuel Support Fund. In the last month, SBHA has supported 46 Tenants to benefit from this fund, with c£30,000 having already been claimed.
		Warm & Well Project	SBHA/Change works		Established in March 2020 and funded through the Scottish Government's Investing in Communities Fund. Specialist advisor providing support to households in fuel poverty, particularly families, and skills development of colleagues to embed energy advice. To date, 255 tenants have received support and benefited from c£75,000 in financial savings. Additional Funding received from Scottish Government to help with Fuel Debt of £100,000, still have £50,000 to spend.
		Equalities & Diversity Ambassadors	SBHA/SFHA		Cohort group of team members, Board and tenants undertaking programme of training on equalities and diversity to champion inclusion of services to all. . This was completed on 3 June 2021. Action Plan to be developed.
	Anti-Poverty	Draft Anti-Poverty Strategy being developed	SBC	Draft Strategy being presented to SBC Council 25 February 2021 for approval	Approved by Council 28 02 2021 Consultation now live until 16 May for both individuals and organisations:

					https://scotborders.citizenspace.com/
	Financial Inclusion Hardship Fund	<p>Allocation of the Scottish Government “Addressing future need to support individuals at financial risk 2020/21”</p> <p>Focussing on vulnerable families, digital poverty, food security and other essential emergencies</p>	Scottish Borders Council	https://scottishborders.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s49398/Item%20%20-%20Covid-19%20Responses%20-%20Proposals%20to%20Further%20Support%20Individuals...Committee%20Report.pdf	Approved by SBC Executive 9 Feb 2021
Employment & Economy:					
	All	<p>SOSE/REP - Furthering the sustainable economic and social development of the South of Scotland & improving the amenity and environment of the South of Scotland:</p> <p>SOSE Operating Plan now published which</p>	SOSE/REP	<p>https://www.southofscotlandenterprise.com/news</p> <p>https://www.southofscotlandenterprise.com/media/1187/sos_e_consultation_strategy20_interactive.pdf</p>	<p>SOSE is delivering its Operating Plan 2020/21. An Annual Report and Accounts will be produced at the end of the financial year. REP is meeting monthly. Its priority is the development of a Regional Economic Strategy and consultants have been engaged to assist in this work which will involve widespread engagement with stakeholders.</p> <p>Team SoSE continues to meet regularly to share intelligence on Covid and Brexit and to co-ordinate activity.</p> <p>An Engagement Framework has been published which sets out how SOSE intends to engage with stakeholders, particularly</p>

		<p>focuses on: Adaption and Diversification, Economic Recovery Loan Fund, Crisis, Community Ideas & Community Asset Development</p> <p>REP Economic Strategy & Action Plan being developed: Emphasis on place, Children & poverty, business & wider community support, tourism & blue health</p> <p>£2.7m invested in South of Scotland Destination Alliance</p> <p>Significant SOSE Covid-19 Business Support measures plus 2 Support Programmes which include – Enterprises & hospitality/events/leisure</p>			<p>around the development of an Action Plan with longer term priorities for SOSE</p>
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		SOSE Consultation Strategy being developed which will lead to SOSE Action Plan & key priorities longer term priorities for SOSE			
		Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal	The Borderlands Partnership	https://www.borderlandsgrowth.com/ https://www.borderlandsgrowth.com/News	
		Employability Challenge in the Scottish Borders		https://scottishbordermodern.gov.co.uk/documents/s49403/Item%2010%20-%20Executive%20report%20on%20Employability.%20090221.pdf	Interactive leaflet created by YPG partnership and circulated to all school leavers highlighting options and support available
	All	Partnership Action for Continuing Employment (PACE)	SDS/DWP/LA/SoSE	National marketing campaign ongoing including a short video on PACE redundancy support:	<p>881 individuals received PACE information between 1 April 2020 – 31 March 2021. 37 between 1 April 2021 – 15 July 2021.</p> <p>83 customers received a service from SDS during this time. (These figures do not include clients who received a service from other PACE partners or where an individual has received multiple</p>

				https://www.ourskillsforce.co.uk/support-with-business-change/pace-free-advice-on-redundancy/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Making%20Skills%20Work%20-%20Scottish%20Borders%20-%20Feb%202021&utm_content=Making%20Skills%20Work%20-%20Scottish%20Borders%20-%20Feb%202021+CIDe5f274edc89c6afe81e33f19ffc9dc0f&utm_source=Campaign%20Monitor%20email%20campaign&utm_term=PACE%20support	<p>engagements from SDS). 7 individuals received a PACE service from SDS between 1 April 2021 – 15 July 2021</p> <p>Fortnightly PACE Strategy Group meetings are ongoing around response to redundancies, chaired by SDS Pace Chair. Representation from SBC, SDS, SoSE and DWP and including the newly appointed PACE Single Point of Contact (SPOC)</p> <p>PACE webinars are ongoing with additional local content added.</p>
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CPP – Completed/Ongoing Actions

		Develop a Covid-19 Vulnerability Assessment to identify those most in need at Ward level.	SBC to produce initial draft with partner input	<p>Scottish Borders Strategic Assessment: https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/downloads/download/211/strategic_assessment</p> <p>Scottish Borders ScotPHO Vulnerability Index 2020</p> <p>SBHA Tenant Analysis</p> <p>BHA Welfare Calls</p> <p>Shielding Lists</p> <p>Child Poverty Index</p> <p>Third Sector Surveys to establish needs</p>	Completed and circulated
	All	Financial inclusion - Money Worries App which will signpost individuals to a variety of support	Health Improvement Team/SBC/CA/RSL's		<p>NHS Borders Money Worries App now live w/c 22 02 2021</p> <p>App Downloads Launch to 31st March 2021: 141 Q1 April to June 2021: 127 Total Downloads: 268</p> <p>Reporting processes are currently being agreed.</p>

					<p>Next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased emphasis on communications to raise awareness & encourage downloads • Promote in various community settings including community testing & vaccination <p>April to June Training has taken place with community testing colleagues who are raising awareness of support through conversations and signposting people to the App.</p> <p>Q1 (April to June) Consultation has taken place with</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer Testers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HLN Volunteers • Regional Early Years Network colleagues <p>In Summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respondents rated the App 4.32 stars out of 5 • 46/48 respondents said they would use/promote/signpost people to the App in the future. <p>Promotional Posters have been updated to include QR codes and we are working in partnership with West Coast Motors to promote at bus stations and on bus screens.</p> <p>From April 2020 - March 2021 the Financial Support and Inclusion Team received 430 referrals for pregnant women and families with young children and increased benefits of £1.3m. The majority of these were direct referrals from Health Visitors.</p> <p>We continue to support the Best Start grant scheme. From March 2020 - February 2021 a total claim of £429,889 was gained for Scottish Borders families.</p>
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					In total from December 2018 - February 2021, 4,055 Best Start Grants applications (73%) were authorised in Scottish Borders - this is above the average for Scotland. A total claim of £888,434 was gained for Scottish Borders families over this time period.
	Families	Child Payment for under 6's – Child Heating Allowance – for those with children who have a high rate care requirement	Social Security Local Delivery Service	https://www.gov.scot/policies/social-security/scottish-child-payment/ https://www.gov.scot/news/new-benefit-help-with-heating-costs/	Child Payment: Applications open Nov 2020, payment Feb 2021. Child Heating Allowance: Dec 2020
	All	Promotion of the Wellbeing Service. Active/Mental Health/ Wellbeing Strategy	Live Borders/ Joint Health Improvement Team/LAC Team	http://www.nhsborder.scot.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/our-services/general-services/wellbeing-service/	<p>Complete & ongoing</p> <p>We continue to seek input from people who are bereaved by suicide in the Borders to shape our work. This year 40 people took part in the Light Up Their Life lantern making project as a way for people to remember those who have died by suicide. Working with Alchemy Film and Arts, the group are also making a video as part of the Scottish Mental Health Arts Festival in May 2021.</p> <p>Complete & ongoing</p> <p>We continue to seek input from people who are bereaved by suicide in the Borders to shape our work. This year 40 people took part in the Light Up Their Life lantern making project as a way for people to remember those who have died by suicide. Working with Alchemy Film and Arts, the group are also making</p>

					<p>a video as part of the Scottish Mental Health Arts Festival in May 2021.</p> <p>Keeping active/healthy weight: The Healthy Beginnings: MAP of Behaviour Change Learning Programme has been developed as an early intervention and prevention approach to Child Healthy weight in Early Years practitioners in partnership with JHIT, Health Visiting, Early Years Centres and the Oral Health Team and NHS Education Scotland. 5 trainers have delivered multi-agency training to 100 participants.</p> <p>Unicef Breastfeeding Friendly Initiative (BFI): On the 8th December NHS Borders achieved UNICEF- Sustainability Gold Award for Maternity Services. We are the 3rd board across Scotland to achieve this prestigious award, and the initial UNICEF feedback reflected on the submission of an outstanding portfolio.</p> <p>The Wellbeing Service operates across Borders and is part of the new primary care mental health pathway. Appointments have been offered via telephone and near me and a new psychological first aid intervention offered in response to Covid19. Positive outcomes measured in terms of emotional wellbeing, healthy eating and physical activity.</p> <p>The local Mental Health Improvement and Suicide Prevention Action Plan was adapted to respond to Covid19. Training and capacity building was adapted and the availability of online learning was increased.</p>
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					<p>In September 2020 during Suicide Prevention Awareness Week a new Scottish suicide prevention campaign was launched. United to Prevent Suicide calls on people to pledge to help make Scotland the most supportive country in the world. Locally we have developed this into three actions people can take to help prevent suicide.</p> <p>Keeping active/healthy weight: The Healthy Beginnings: MAP of Behaviour Change Learning Programme has been developed as an early intervention and prevention approach to Child Healthy weight in Early Years practitioners in partnership with JHIT, Health Visiting, Early Years Centres and the Oral Health Team and NHS Education Scotland. 5 trainers have delivered multi-agency training to 100 participants.</p> <p>Unicef Breastfeeding Friendly Initiative (BFI): On the 8th December NHS Borders achieved UNICEF- Sustainability Gold Award for Maternity Services. We are the 3rd board across Scotland to achieve this prestigious award, and the initial UNICEF feedback reflected on the submission of an outstanding portfolio.</p> <p>The Wellbeing Service operates across Borders and is part of the new primary care mental health pathway. Appointments have been offered via telephone and near me and a new psychological first aid intervention offered in response to Covid19. Positive outcomes measured in terms of emotional wellbeing , healthy eating and physical activity.</p> <p>The local Mental Health Improvement and Suicide Prevention Action Plan was adapted to respond to Covid19. Training and</p>
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	Support	Furlough and Job Retention Schemes implemented	All CPP partners as required/appropriate		Complete & ongoing
	Support	Support, advice & guidance to individuals and organisations	Third Sector	https://onlineborders.org.uk/directory	<p>Complete & ongoing</p> <p>Support to new groups and organisations that emerged throughout the COVID19 pandemic is ongoing. This has resulted in many groups changing their legal structure, looking at their governance following OSCR guidelines. This involves SCIOs altering their constitutions to adapt to online meetings and holding of AGMS. An example is the surge of community larders and food provision by third sector organisations. This work is ongoing for all Partners in the TSI. The Bridge and BAVs continue to support thematic areas throughout the Scottish Borders and attend Community Meetings in all localities.</p> <p>Bavs created a Berwickshire resource that is now available to Social Work team in Berwickshire and CAH: https://www.bavs.org.uk/berwickshire-community-food-projects</p>
	Funding	Supporting & distribution of funding programmes & micro grants	Third Sector	http://onlineborders.org.uk/sites/default/files/thebridge/files/Fallago%20Environment	<p>Scheme now closed with 38 awards made to local community projects – COMPLETE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grants obtained and dispersed during COVID19: • National Lottery,

				ment%20Fund%20Covid-19RecoveryProgramsAug2020.pdf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Government Supporting Communities Fund • Fallago • Scottish Government Wellbeing fund • Village Halls Business support grants • Seedcorn fund to social enterprises <p>These grants were used to respond quickly, and often creatively to the emerging challenges faced by communities in the Scottish Borders.</p>
	All	Online Guidance, Information & Resources	TSI	http://onlineborders.org.uk/community/thebridge/coronaviruses-information-and-resources http://www.vcborders.org.uk/ https://sbsec.org.uk/ (website currently unavailable) https://youthborders.org.uk/ https://www.bavs.org.uk/covid-19-information-for-the-community-in-berwickshire	<p>Complete & ongoing.</p> <p>Joint Health Improvement Team developed Covid-19 specific resources for improving and protecting mental health and for preventing suicide which was shared extensively across the partnership.</p> <p>The mental health and wellbeing guide for young people was updated and launched the new guide via a new six week campaign #BordersWellbeing, based on the Six Ways to Be Well, alongside a new health and wellbeing Young Scot microsite and uploaded it to 12,500 Inspire Learning devices.</p> <p>JHIT and the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership have developed online training opportunities to replace existing training plans. Learning is ongoing in terms of technology but online (interactive) training appears to deliver positive learning outcome and increase engagement as the proportion of 'did not attends' has reduced.</p>

	Young People	Young Person Guarantee – No-one left behind	Borders College/SDS/ PACE/ Third Sector	https://www.gov.scot/news/delivering-the-youth-guarantee/ A collaborative system-wide review announced on 24 th February 2021: https://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/news-events/2021/february/building-a-world-class-career-system/	Being delivered 2020/21 – set up complete & ongoing. Annual Participation Measure published in August 2020 showed that 94.5% of Borders 16-19 year olds were participating in education, training or employment compared to 92.1% nationally. https://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/media/46977/2020-annualparticipationmeasure-scottishborders.pdf Monthly Participation Snapshot for 16-17 year olds published in May showed that 96.1% were participating compared to 95.7% nationally – https://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/publications-statistics/statistics/monthly-participation-snapshot-for-16-and-17-year-olds/ Scottish Borders Social Enterprise Chamber, on behalf of the Borders TSI is a Gateway for the UK government’s Kickstart Scheme, supporting young people into employment and the voluntary sector employers who have the capacity to employ and mentor a young person in the workplace.
	All	Upcycling of digital devices	Newlands Community Development Trust	Donate, refurbish & rehome digital devices	https://renewcrew.org.uk/ COMPLETE - Project now up and running
	Student’s	450 digital devices & data packages distributed	Borders College	http://www.borderscollege.ac.uk/current-students/	Student Portal continuously being updated with resources, guidance & information & continues to respond to demand. Complete & ongoing.

	Vulnerable older people & shielding group	Connecting Scotland Digital Project – Phase 1	SBC/TSI/RSL's/ Live Borders	https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/info/20027/working_for_us/918/latest_news/2	<p>Approx. 300 devices delivered in Phase 1 and support provided for 6 months – COMPLETE.</p> <p>(Although Phase 1 is complete, an evaluation summary from Connecting Scotland will be shared with CPP as part of future performance reporting)</p> <p>SBSEC has been distributing devices and access to online learning through Connecting Scotland and online centre network.</p> <p>40 Digital Champions trained across SBHA to provide guidance and support for tenants to use devices and get online and devices supplied to 190 Tenants through the Connecting Scotland above.</p>
	Young people	Digital access for young people – Inspire Learning	SBC	Inspire Learning programme: https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/info/20009/schools_and_learning/913/inspire_learning	Now rolled out to P4/5 across the Borders - completed

Best Value Action Plan:

	Actions:	Timescales	Update
1	Work with the Improvement Service and Scottish Gov't to provide guidance and support to gain insight into best practice in the implementation of the Community Empowerment Act	Ongoing	Initial discussions have taken place with both the Improvement Service and Scottish Gov't., and SBC will continue to monitor the national position in relation to best practice.
2	Conduct a review of the operation of local area partnerships to inform the development of enhanced local decision making service provision and the allocation of resources	30 09 2021	<p>Complete - Report to Council 27 08 20 – Area Partnerships are now in the process of making recommendations on how both the Area Partnerships and Community Fund are developed in future: https://scottishborders.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=132&MIId=5138&Ver=4</p> <p>The recommendations in relation to the Community Fund have been approved and are in process of being implemented.</p> <p>A further report on Area Partnerships will be taken to Council in Autumn 2021.</p>
3a	Use the experience of the budget consultation process 2020/21 to develop the approach to mainstreaming participatory budgeting. Work with communities to identify priority areas within current budgets.	31 03 2021	The approach to Participatory Budgeting has now been agreed as part of the ongoing budget process, with a strategic and operational officer group now established.
3b	Evaluation of Localities Bid Fund to be undertaken	31 10 2020	<p>Complete - Report to Council 27 08 20 - Evaluation of Localities Bid Fund: https://scottishborders.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=132&MIId=5138&Ver=4</p>

4	Promote the #your part campaign to recognise the contribution of communities	Ongoing	#your part campaign used extensively throughout Covid response and recovery phases
5	Undertake an organisational review under Fit for 2024 of how to best develop community capacity in the 3 rd sector and localities	TBC	Ongoing
6a	Review Community Plan and Action Plan to ensure actions align to 2020 Strategic Assessment.	30 06 2020	CPP Key Priorities Plan 2021 will inform a future refreshed Community Plan and Action Plan
6b	Agree Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Performance Management Framework through CPP Joint Programme Board and CPP Strategic Board	31 03 2020	Complete - 2017/2019 Performance Report has been approved by CPP Strategic Board: https://scottishborders.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=185&Mid=5235&Ver=4 2019/2020 Performance Report now needs to be progressed.
7	Completion and publication of Locality Plans and Action Plans	31 03 2020	Complete - approved by CPP Strategic Board 10 September 2020: https://scottishborders.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=185&Mid=5235&Ver=4
8	Promote stakeholder engagement through Area Partnerships and community engagement events, with training around leadership/national standards of engagement.	31 12 2021	Area Partnerships will resume virtually in Nov 2020: https://scottishborders.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=421&Mid=5295&Ver=4
9a	Community Empowerment Act to become standing agenda item at Area Partnerships with information to raise awareness and provide support to communities.	31 Dec 20	Standing item on AP's agenda & support ongoing: https://scottishborders.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=421&Mid=5295&Ver=4
9b	Research to be undertaken on SBC performance relative to other local authorities	31 12 2020	This has been concluded, SBC are in alignment with other local authorities similar to size and geography.

10	Develop regular reporting of progress of community engagement across the whole council, for inclusion in reports to members and CPP Strategic Board	30 06 2020	Reporting of Citizen Space surveys and consultations is being developed.
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