

## Stage 2 Evidence Gathering and Consultation

<b>A. Title of Proposal:</b>	Anti-Poverty Strategy Progress Report
<b>B. Service Area: Department:</b>	Resilient Communities
<b>C. Lead Officer: (Name and job title)</b>	Janice Robertson, Strategic Planning & Policy Manager
<b>D. Other Officers/Partners involved: (List names, job titles and organisations)</b>	Multiple – these are cross-partnership Reports incorporating partners from Scottish Borders Council, NHS Borders and the third sector.
<b>E. Date(s) IIA completed:</b>	April 23 May 23 June 23

## Section 1 Data and Information

### A. What evidence has been used to inform this proposal?

(Information can include, for example, surveys, databases, focus groups, in-depth interviews, pilot projects, reviews of complaints made, user feedback, academic publications and consultants' reports).

Data taken from the reports and policies as listed in IIA Stage 1 'Stage 1 Scoping and Assessing for Relevance', Section 2. These reports and policies provide both Local and National statistics.

Information and data provided by agencies, partners and organisations, e.g. NHS Borders, SBC's Local Area Coordination Team, Financial Inclusion Team, Communities and Partnerships Team and Housing Strategy, Policy and Development Team.

Report detailed input for those with lived experiences via case studies and quotes provided by SBC's No One Left Behind Team, Homelessness Team and Local Area Coordination Team, NHS Borders Joint Health Improvement Team.

**B. Describe any gaps in the available evidence, then record this within the improvement plan together with all of the actions you are taking in relation to this** (e.g. new research, further analysis, and when this is planned)

Anti-Poverty Members Reference Group, working with Anti-Poverty Data Group, will identify key collaborative priorities throughout the year.

Work to consolidate partner actions to align more closely with Anti-Poverty drivers continues.

These actions will help to highlight any gaps in our approach to Anti-Poverty.

## Section 2 Consultation and Involvement

**A. Which groups are involved in this process and describe their involvement**

Various multi-agency partners were involved in the process and development of the report. Consultations with the following internal and external teams and organisations informed the content of the report.

**Scottish Borders Council Teams:**

Communities and Partnerships

Local Area Coordination

Financial Inclusion

Housing Strategy, Policy and Development Team

No One Left Behind

Employment Support Services

Environment & Infrastructure

**Other Partnerships and Agencies:**

Scottish Government

NHS Borders

Home Energy Scotland

Citizens Advice Bureau

Local Foodbanks and Larders

Togetherall

Kooth

Quarriers

Borders Community Action

Scottish Borders Social Enterprise Chamber

Changeworks

Newcastleton Community Trust

Morrisons

Cyreniens

The Bridge

Youth Borders

Berwickshire Association For Voluntary Service

Borders Buses

Connecting Borders

The review of Action Plan and Progress Report will be ongoing, and all groups and agencies will be involved in this.

**B. Describe any planned involvement saying when this will take place and who is responsible for managing the process**

Ongoing communication with partner organisations to encourage collaborative partnership working and positive outcomes in reducing Poverty.

**C. Describe the results of any involvement and how you have taken this into account.**

All involvement is recorded in the Action Plan and Progress Report.

**D. Describe any events held and views obtained (if applicable). Add or remove as needed.**

n/a

## Stage 3 Summary and Next Steps

### Section 1 Summary

**Summarise what you have learned then develop this further.**

(Describe the conclusion(s) you have reached from the evidence, and state where the information can be found.)

**Please consider the following:**

**What have you learned from the evidence you have and the involvement undertaken? Does the initial assessment remain valid?**

**What new (if any) impacts have become evident?**

**Is the proposal not to proceed because of a disproportionate impact on equality or Fairer Scotland characteristics?**

Evidence has been gathered and provided by partners to inform the report. This process will be re-examined as part of the data observatory aim below.

Data and statistics have been specifically gathered for this report. In future, the aim is to address this by developing a data observatory (or equivalent) to store data and statistics when available. The Council's strategic assessment is an example of this.

Cost of living has impacted Poverty and the response to this has been addressed within the report.

The Anti-Poverty report meets Fairer Scotland considerations and has a positive impact on this as well as the Equality Act.

The initial assessment remains valid because poverty is still a prominent issue within the Scottish Borders.

#### **A. Please indicate if the proposal will proceed**

- Yes, please see below section 3 for next steps  
 No, the proposal will not proceed based on disproportionate impact on equality or Fairer Scotland characteristics

## Section 2 Sign Off

<b>Signed by Lead Officer:</b>	Janice Robertson
<b>Designation:</b>	Strategic Planning and Policy Manager
<b>Date:</b>	June 2023
<b>Counter Signature Director:</b>	Jenni Craig Director – Resilient Communities
<b>Date:</b>	June 2023