

THEME: ENOUGH MONEY TO LIVE ON				
Theme lead: Scottish Borders Council		Group members: CPP Partners, DWP & CAB		
Outcomes	Actions	Timeframe	Progress/current position	RAG
Communities are supported with advice and financial assistance in relation to income maximisation, debt, food, warmth and fuel throughout autumn/winter	Short life multi-agency Partnership Group (including Community Planning Partners) continues to meet to address the current cost of living crisis and provide support and assistance across the Borders to those in need throughout autumn/winter 2022.	Autumn/Winter 2022	<p>Feedback from those awarded funding during 2022/23 included that some warm spaces continued to operate as the weather improved. Borders Community Action is seeing concerns from communities as summer has come to an end and that warm spaces may be required again to help people stay safe during the winter and remain connected. Similarly Live Borders reports that energy costs will continue to be an issue for sports clubs as we move into the colder weather.</p> <p>The Cost of Living Strategic and Operations Groups continue to meet with a current focus on future identified need.</p> <p>Challenge Poverty week ran 2-8 October 2023. Throughout the week SBC highlighted the range of advice, information and support that is available to support those experiencing financial hardship. Information remains available on the SBC website <a href="#">Financial support and advice   Cost of Living Crisis support   Scottish Borders Council (scotborders.gov.uk)</a></p> <p>Plans to refresh the Anti-Poverty Strategy, in order that it remains fit for purpose, are being developed.</p> <p>For 2023/24 to date grants totalling of £5,169 has been awarded from the Community Welfare Trust to support cost of living activity. This was represented by £1,309 awarded to individuals and £3,860 awarded to groups.</p>	
The Borders is a more equitable and fair place to work	CPP to work collaboratively to identify barriers and work towards		A working group has been established to develop a planned and sustainable approach to the running of holiday provision.	

	<p>developing a plan to remove them in order to support parents into employment i.e., childcare barrier, transport etc.</p>			
	<p>Partnership to develop plans for paying the living wage – and encouraging contractors and sub-contractors to also do so.</p>		<p>The following partners are Living Wage employers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scottish Borders Council</li> <li>• Borders Community Action</li> <li>• SoSE</li> <li>• Berwickshire Housing Association (also requires suppliers/contractors to adopt an approach to ensure fair work practices are in place incl. paying a Real Living Wage)</li> <li>• SBHA accredited as a Living Hours Employer, effective from 01/11/23. This means that employees people get a contract that reflects the hours regularly worked, get a reasonable notice period for changes in shifts and have a guaranteed minimum of 16 hours of work per week (or choose to opt out of this). SBHA are amongst the first employers to implement this new standard and next week in Living Wage Week there is to be a celebration of the first 40 employers in Scotland to achieve accreditation. <p>More information on Living Hours can be found at <a href="http://www.livingwage.org.uk/living-hours">www.livingwage.org.uk/living-hours</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waverley Housing</li> <li>• Eildon Housing Association (also encourage partners and contractors to pay the Living Wage and shortlisted for a Living Wage Leadership Award on 09/11/23)</li> </ul> </li></ul>	

<p>Build, redirect and retain wealth in the Scottish Borders local economy, and place wealth back into the hands of local people</p>	<p>Explore a partnership approach to Community Wealth Building - CPP partners to work collaboratively to develop community wealth building plans.</p>		<p>169 responses to the public consultation have been published on the Scottish Government's website including five CPPs (including Scottish Borders). The overall fundings are yet to be released.</p> <p>Increasing fair work is one of the five pillars of CWB activity and contributed to by partners as set out above.</p> <p>All resource and capital funding grant awarded by South of Scotland Enterprise (SOSE) requires those in receipt of the grant to pay real living wage (including to sub-contractors or agency staff involved in delivering the grant funded activity) and to provide appropriate channels for effective workers' voice.</p> <p>SOSE's procurement strategy sets out what it expects of its suppliers. SOSE will ensure that all suppliers/contractors and sub-contractors are paid at least the real Living Wage and shall not use zero hours contracts in relation to any contracts with SOSE.</p> <p>SBC is working with organisations including SoSE and Borders Community Action to support communities take on the ownership/management of publicly owned assets.</p> <p>Working in line with its sustainable procurement charter SBC is procuring goods through local suppliers.</p> <p>SBC's Strategic Events Fund requires that where possible local suppliers should always be used. Prioritisation of applications includes supporting local businesses. Applicants to include information on number of businesses contributing, new and innovative methods of adding value to local products, local jobs created and individuals gaining new skills.</p>	
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