

## Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)

### Stage 1 Scoping and Assessing for Relevance

#### Section 1 Details of the Proposal

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| <p><b>A. Title of Proposal:</b></p>   | <p>Local Child Poverty Progress Report 2022/23 and Local Child Poverty Report and Action Plan 2023/24</p>  |
| <p><b>B. What is it?</b></p>  | <p>A new Policy/Strategy/Practice <input type="checkbox"/><br/>A revised Policy/Strategy/Practice x</p>  |
| <p><b>C. Description of the proposal:</b><br/>(Set out a clear understanding of the purpose of the proposal being developed or reviewed (what are the aims, objectives and intended outcomes, including the context within which it will operate)</p> | <p>The Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 requires Local Authorities and Health Boards to jointly prepare a Local Child Poverty Action Plan Report and an Annual Progress Report.</p> <p>As per the Scottish Government's statement of intent to eradicate child poverty by 2030, the objective is to identify and reduce child poverty by mitigating financial and hardship risks.</p> <p>This work is facilitated by multiple partners, their action plans, workshops, poverty drivers, impact analysis and intended beneficiaries.</p> |
| <p><b>D. Service Area:</b></p>  | <p>Resilient Communities</p>   |

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| <b>Department:</b>  |  |
| <b>E. Lead Officer:</b><br>(Name and job title)   | Janice Robertson, Strategic Planning & Policy Manager  |
| <b>F. Other Officers/Partners involved:</b><br>(List names, job titles and organisations) | Multiple – these are cross-partnership Reports incorporating partners from Scottish Borders Council, NHS Borders and the third sector. These can be made available upon request. |
| <b>G. Date(s) IIA completed:</b>  | March 23<br>April 23<br>May 23   |

**Section 2 Will there be any impacts as a result of the relationship between this proposal and other policies?**

Yes

**If yes, - please state here:**

Scottish Borders Council Anti Poverty Strategy  
Integrated Children and Young People's Plan 2021/23  
Children and Young People's Services Plan 2023/26  
Council Plan 2023  
CPP Work Plan and priorities  
Community Learning & Development Plan  
Children's Rights Report 2021/23  
Scottish Government Child Poverty Delivery Plan 2022/26 Best Start Bright Futures

**Section 3 Legislative Requirements**

**3.1 Relevance to the Equality Duty:**

**Do you believe your proposal has any relevance under the Equality Act 2010?**

*(If you believe that your proposal may have some relevance – however small please indicate yes. If there is no effect, please enter “No” and go to Section 3.2.)*

Yes

| Equality Duty  | Reasoning:   |
|--|--|
| <b>A. Elimination of discrimination (both direct &amp; indirect), victimisation and harassment.</b> <i>(Will the proposal discriminate? Or help eliminate discrimination?)</i> | The proposals will help to eliminate direct and indirect discrimination, as all proposals are inclusive.<br><br>The plan also depicts the intended beneficiaries and how attainment will be measured in order to realise Scottish Government targets.  |
| <b>B. Promotion of equality of opportunity?</b> <i>(Will your proposal help or hinder the Council with this)</i>   | The 6 high level nationally identified priority groups at high risk of poverty are Lone Parents, Disabled, 3+ Children, Minority Ethnic, Youngest child aged less than 1 and Mothers aged less than 25.<br>The Drivers of Child Poverty fall into 3 main categories; Income from Employment, Cost of Living, Income from Social Security.<br><br>The plans have ensured all of these groups have been included and all actions detailed confirm that agencies involved are working collaboratively to promote equality and reduce exclusion. |
| <b>C. Foster good relations?</b> <i>(Will your proposal help to foster or encourage good relations between those who have different equality characteristics?)</i>             | Relationships have been established between all partner agencies Under the Equality Act there are nine protected characteristics. The plans make positive impacts on many of these as outlined below.  |

| 3.2 Which groups of people do you think will be or potentially could be, impacted by the implementation of this proposal?<br>(You should consider employees, clients, customers / service users, and any other relevant groups) |           |                 |                 |   |
|---|-----------|-----------------|-----------------|---|
| Please tick below as appropriate, outlining any potential impacts on the undernoted equality groups this proposal may have and how you know this.   |           |                 |                 |   |
|   | Impact    |                 |                 | Please explain the potential impacts and how you know this                |
|   | No Impact | Positive Impact | Negative Impact |   |
| <b>Age</b> Older or younger people or a specific age grouping   |           | x               |                 | The plans are inclusive to all children, young people and their families. |

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| <p><b>Disability</b> e.g. Effects on people with mental, physical, sensory impairment, learning disability, visible/invisible, progressive or recurring</p>   |          | <p>x</p> |  | <p>The partner agency of Borders Additional Needs Group implement actions and will continue to progress them.</p> <p>SBC work in partnership with NHS Borders and Borders College offering Project Search, an employability course for young people with additional needs.</p> <p>Interest Link provide 15 fortnightly peer-age befriending groups for young people with learning disabilities and autism aged 8-25 across the Scottish Borders.</p>                                       |
| <p><b>Gender Reassignment/ Gender Identity</b> anybody whose gender identity or gender expression is different to the sex assigned to them at birth</p>   |          | <p>x</p> |  | <p>The reports are inclusive to all children, young people and their families irrespective of gender reassignment/gender identity.</p>   |
| <p><b>Marriage or Civil Partnership</b> people who are married or in a civil partnership</p>  | <p>x</p> |          |  | <p>These are not nationally identified key risk groups in relation to Child Poverty.</p>   |
| <p><b>Pregnancy and Maternity</b> (refers to the period after the birth, and is linked to <b>maternity</b> leave in the employment context. In the non-work context, <b>protection</b> against <b>maternity</b> discrimination is for 26 weeks after giving birth),</p> |          | <p>x</p> |  | <p>The Early Years Financial Inclusion Team campaigns, provides advice and support in relation to maternity payments, childcare assistance (e.g free childcare or help within Universal Credit awards) as well as entitlement to Best Start Grants and Scottish Child Payments.</p> <p>Midwives and Health Visitors are proactive in referring expectant and new mothers for benefit checks. In 2022-2023 500 referrals were conducted resulting in a benefits uplift of £1.2 million.</p> |
| <p><b>Race Groups:</b> including colour, nationality, ethnic origins, including minorities (e.g. gypsy travellers, refugees, migrants and asylum seekers)</p>   |          | <p>x</p> |  | <p>Minority Ethnic Groups are a nationally identified key group and are recognised within the plan. The reports are inclusive to all children, young people and their families irrespective of race</p>  |

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| <b>Religion or Belief:</b> different beliefs, customs (including atheists and those with no aligned belief)   | x                |                        |                        | Religion and Beliefs are not nationally identified key risks in relation to Child Poverty. The reports are inclusive to all children, young people and their families irrespective of religion.           |
| <b>Sex</b> women and men (girls and boys)   | x                |                        |                        | Gender is not nationally identified key risk groups in relation to Child Poverty. The reports are inclusive to all children, young people and their families irrespective of sex.                         |
| <b>Sexual Orientation</b> , e.g. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Heterosexual   | x                |                        |                        | Sexual Orientation not nationally identified key risk groups in relation to Child Poverty. The reports are inclusive to all children, young people and their families irrespective of sexual orientation. |
| <p><b>3.3 Fairer Scotland Duty</b></p> <p>This duty places a legal responsibility on Scottish Borders Council (SBC) to actively consider (give due regard) to how we can reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socioeconomic disadvantage when making <u>strategic</u> decisions.</p> <p>The duty is set at a strategic level - these are the key, high level decisions that SBC will take. This would normally include strategy documents, decisions about setting priorities, allocating resources and commissioning services.</p> |                  |                        |                        |   |
| <p><b>Is the proposal strategic?</b></p> <p>Yes</p> <p><b>If No go to Section 4</b></p>   |                  |                        |                        |   |
| <p><b>If yes, please indicate any potential impact on the undernoted groups this proposal may have and how you know this:</b></p>   |                  |                        |                        |   |
|   | <b>Impact</b>    |                        |                        | <b>State here how you know this</b>   |
|   | <b>No Impact</b> | <b>Positive Impact</b> | <b>Negative Impact</b> |   |

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| <p><b>Low and/or No Wealth</b> – enough money to meet basic living costs and pay bills but have no savings to deal with any unexpected spends and no provision for the future.</p>                       |  | <p>x</p> | <p>Income from employment is one of the 3 main drivers of child poverty. The Action Plan depicts multi agency actions to be undertaken, how these are assessed, intended beneficiaries and the progress of such actions. Income maximisation work and employability work contribute to ensuring families have enough money to live.</p>   |
| <p><b>Material Deprivation</b> – being unable to access basic goods and services i.e. financial products like life insurance, repair/replace broken electrical goods, warm home, leisure and hobbies</p> |  | <p>x</p> | <p>Costs of Living is one of the 3 main drivers of child poverty. The Action Plan depicts multi agency actions to be undertaken, how these are assessed, intended beneficiaries and the progress of such actions. Food banks, Warm and Well scheme, and the provision of Warm Spaces all contribute.</p>  |
| <p><b>Area Deprivation</b> – where you live (e.g. rural areas), where you work (e.g. accessibility of transport)</p>   |  | <p>x</p> | <p>Berwick Housing Association continue to promote 'Ride Pingo' for its customers across Berwickshire.</p> <p>Borders College works with the Local Employability Partnership, Employment Support Services and DWP to ensure course times are arranged with transport vouchers to ensure accessibility.</p> <p>SDS (Skills Development Scotland) Advisers engage with individuals in a location appropriate to them. When a customer is unable to attend a Public Access Centre in Hawick or Galashiels, SDS Advisers arrange to meet in outreach locations including Community Centres and are looking to expand the outreach activity in 2023.</p> |
| <p><b>Socio-economic Background</b> – social class i.e. parents' education, employment and income</p>  |  | <p>x</p> | <p>Income from employment is one of the 3 main drivers of child poverty. The Action Plan depicts multi agency actions to be undertaken, how these are assessed, intended beneficiaries and the progress of such actions.</p> <p>SBC and Borders College support the Parental Employability Project through collaborative development and implementation of Introduction to Childcare Course with Borders College.</p>   |
| <p><b>Looked after and accommodated children and young people</b></p>  |  | <p>x</p> | <p>Allocation of £668k awarded to SBC from the Whole Family Wellbeing Fund for 2022-2023 as part of the Best Start, Bright Futures delivery plan commitment.</p>  |

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| <b>Carers</b> paid and unpaid including family members   |  | <b>x</b> |  | The Health and Wellbeing census is to ensure an increased number of children and young people with caring responsibilities are given the necessary support if required. CHIMES is to engage with each school cluster in the summer term to re-emphasise the importance of support for young carers.   |
| <b>Homelessness</b>                                      |  | <b>x</b> |  | SBHA tenants are supported to access BEAM (Borders Employment Advice and Mentoring) to help them access training, educational and volunteering opportunities to enhance their opportunities to find employment.   |
| <b>Addictions and substance use</b>                      |  | <b>x</b> |  | These are not nationally identified key risk groups in relation to Child Poverty. Tweeddale Youth Action signpost specialist support, including mental health and drug and alcohol services to young people who attend youth club. This information is clearly displayed at both youth clubs and is also included on our website's resources page- accessible by families and young people alike. |
| <b>Those involved within the criminal justice system</b> |  | <b>x</b> |  | JHIT work with SBC's Community Justice Team to grow a range of seasonal produce at a greenhouse site in Galashiels. Links have been established with the Community Food Growing Network, as part of the Scottish Borders Food Growing Strategy.   |

### **3.4 Armed Forces Covenant Duty (*Education and Housing/ Homelessness proposals only*)**

This duty places a legal responsibility on Scottish Borders Council (SBC) to actively consider (give due regard) to the three matters listed below in Education and Housing/ Homelessness matters.

This relates to current and former armed forces personnel (regular or reserve) and their families.

**Is the Armed Forces Covenant Duty applicable?**

**No**

If "Yes", please complete below



| Covenant Duty  | How this has been considered and any specific provision made: |
|--|---|
| The unique obligations of, and sacrifices made by, the armed forces;   |   |
| The principle that it is desirable to remove disadvantages arising for Service people from membership, or former membership, of the armed forces;                |   |
| The principle that special provision for Service people may be justified by the effects on such people of membership, or former membership, of the armed forces. |   |

## Section 4 Full Integrated Impact Assessment Required

Select No if you have answered “No” to all of Sections 3.1 – 3.3.

### Yes

If yes, please proceed to Stage 2 and complete a full Integrated Impact Assessment

**If a full impact assessment is not required, briefly explain why there are no effects and provide justification for the decision.**

n/a

|                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Signed by Lead Officer:</b>     | <b>Janice Robertson</b>                                 |
| <b>Designation:</b>                | <b>Strategic Planning and Policy Manager</b>            |
| <b>Date:</b>                       | <b>03.07.2023</b>                                       |
| <b>Counter Signature Director:</b> | <b>Jenni Craig<br/>Director - Resilient Communities</b> |
| <b>Date:</b>                       | <b>03.07.2023</b>                                       |