

## Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)

### Stage 1 Scoping and Assessing for Relevance

#### Section 1 Details of the Proposal

<b>A. Title of Proposal:</b>	Anti-Poverty Strategy Progress Report
<b>B. What is it?</b>	A revised Policy/Strategy/Practice
<b>C. Description of the proposal:</b> (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))	This report presents the progress in delivering the Anti-Poverty Strategy Action Plan, which was adopted by Council on 23 September 2021
<b>D. Service Area:</b> <b>Department:</b>	Resilient Communities
<b>E. Lead Officer:</b> (Name and job title)	Janice Robertson, Strategic Planning & Policy Manager
<b>F. Other Officers/Partners involved:</b> (List names, job titles and organisations)	Multiple – these are cross-partnership Reports incorporating partners from Scottish Borders Council, NHS Borders and the third sector.
<b>G. Date(s) IIA completed:</b>	April 23 May 23 June 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  
Local Child Poverty Report 2023/24 and Annual Progress Report 2022/23  
Council Plan 2023  
CPP Work Plan and priorities  
Community Plan  
Children's Rights Report 2021/23  
Scottish Government Child Poverty Delivery Plan 2022/26 Best Start Bright Futures  
Local Housing Strategy (LHS) 2023-28  
Affordable Warmth & Home Energy Efficiency Strategy 2019-2023  
Capital City Partnership Edinburgh and South East Regional Claimant Count - February 2023 Summary Update  
City Region Deal Edinburgh & South East Scotland Progress Report  
Scottish Borders CLD Strategic Partnership Plan 2021-24  
Community Food Growing Strategy  
Connecting Scotland: Phase 1 Evaluation  
Scottish Borders Integrated Children & Young People's Plan 2021/23  
Joint Health Improvement Team Annual Report 2021 - 2022  
SBC Local Housing Strategy 2017-2022 - Annual Report 2021/22  
The Promise Plan 2021/24  
Scottish Borders Health and Social Care Partnership: Health and Social Care Community Feedback Survey  
South of Scotland Regional Economic Partnership - Regional Economic Strategy Delivery Plan (2022-2025)

## 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:
<p><b>A. Elimination of discrimination (both direct &amp; indirect), victimisation and harassment.</b> <i>(Will the proposal discriminate? Or help eliminate discrimination?)</i></p>	<p>The proposals will help to eliminate direct and indirect discrimination, as all proposals are inclusive.</p> <p>All activity and actions relate to positive outcomes for residents of the Scottish Borders.</p>
<p><b>B. Promotion of equality of opportunity?</b> <i>(Will your proposal help or hinder the Council with this)</i></p>	<p>All actions detailed confirm that agencies involved are working collaboratively to promote equality and reduce exclusion.</p>
<p><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></p>	<p>Relationships have been established between all partner agencies. Under the Equality Act there are nine protected characteristics. The actions indicate positive impacts on many of these as outlined below.</p>

3.2 Which groups of people do you think will be or potentially could be, impacted by the implementation of this proposal? (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 reports are inclusive to all regardless of age.
<b>Disability</b> e.g. Effects on people with mental, physical, sensory impairment, learning disability, visible/invisible, progressive or recurring		x		The reports are inclusive to all irrespective of disability.
<b>Gender Reassignment/ Gender Identity</b> anybody whose gender identity or gender expression is different to the sex assigned to them at birth		x		The reports are inclusive to all irrespective of gender reassignment/gender identity. A good relationship is in place with Scottish Borders LGBT Equality sub-group TransGen, and a service is commissioned to support LGBT children and young people in the Scottish Borders. A good relationship is in place with Scottish Borders LGBT Equality, and a service is commissioned to support LGBT children and young people in the Scottish Borders.
<b>Marriage or Civil Partnership</b> people who are married or in a civil partnership	x			n/a
<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),		x		Informal engagement is in place with young parent groups. These groups provide feedback and input into projects and plans.  Parent Voice Group is facilitated by CLD.

<b>Race Groups:</b> including colour, nationality, ethnic origins, including minorities (e.g. gypsy travellers, refugees, migrants and asylum seekers)		<b>x</b>		The reports are inclusive to all irrespective of race.
<b>Religion or Belief:</b> different beliefs, customs (including atheists and those with no aligned belief)	<b>x</b>			The reports are inclusive to all irrespective of religion.
<b>Sex</b> women and men (girls and boys)	<b>x</b>			The reports are inclusive to all irrespective of sex.
<b>Sexual Orientation</b> , e.g. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Heterosexual	<b>x</b>			The reports are inclusive to all irrespective of sexual orientation. A good relationship is in place with Scottish Borders LGBT Equality, and a service is commissioned to support LGBT children and young people in the Scottish Borders.
<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>

	No Impact	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	
<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.		x		Report shows evidence of advice, support and grants provided to improve individual and family capacity and resilience. For example, through partnership working, £16.4k worth of supermarket gift cards were distributed to support deficit in income.
<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		x		Report noted increasing support via Crisis and Community Care grants for those struggling with financial pressures. As well as this, with the additional pressures from the Cost-of-Living Crisis, a Warm and Well Fund was created, distributing £22.1k throughout the Borders to create Warm Spaces during the winter.
<b>Area Deprivation</b> – where you live (e.g. rural areas), where you work (e.g. accessibility of transport)		x		Report details Communities and Partnerships Team executing Place-Making conversations, empowering communities to examine their needs and make plans for the future. These plans consider effective travel routes, accessible routes and active travel where possible.  Report also details 'Pingo', a demand responsive bus service pilot project operating from Berwickshire.
<b>Socio-economic Background</b> – social class i.e. parents' education, employment and income		x		Report details various partnerships, work and financial investment to the support of individuals regardless of their socio-economic background. For example, the provision of warm spaces does so without means testing.
<b>Looked after and accommodated children and young people</b>		x		Allocation of £668k awarded to SBC from the Whole Family Wellbeing Fund for 2023-2024 as part of the Best Start, Bright Futures delivery plan commitment.
<b>Carers</b> paid and unpaid including family members		x		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.

<b>Homelessness</b>		x		Report details the number of affordable homes delivered, alongside the financial investment from Scottish Government for the improvement of warm, affordable housing. Report also details SBCs work alongside SBHA and financial investment to the Homelessness Intervention Fund.
<b>Addictions and substance use</b>		x		Report details positive comparative data between the Scottish Borders and Scotland in relation to addictions and substance use. Partnership working and financial investment have been executed with local community groups and national organisations working within this sector, e.g. Recovery Coaching Scotland.
<b>Those involved within the criminal justice system</b>		x		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

<b>Covenant Duty</b>	<b>How this has been considered and any specific provision made:</b>
<b>The unique obligations of, and sacrifices made by, the armed forces;</b>	
<b>The principle that it is desirable to remove disadvantages arising for Service people from membership, or former membership, of the armed forces;</b>	
<b>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.</b>	

#### **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>June 2023</b>



<b>Counter Signature Director:</b>	<b>Jenni Craig Director - Resilient Communities</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>June 2023</b>