

Stage 2 Evidence Gathering and Consultation

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| A. Title of Proposal: | Local Child Poverty Progress Report 2024/25 and Local Child Poverty Report and Action Plan 2025/26 |
| B. Service Area: Department: | Resilient Communities |
| C. Lead Officer: (Name and job title) | Janice Robertson, Strategic Planning & Policy Manager |
| D. Other Officers/Partners involved: (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 |
| E. Date(s) IIA completed: | April 2025 May 2025 |

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).

Information from Agencies and partners
National Statistics
Local Data and Statistics
Lived Experience information via case studies and feedback
Case Studies
Publications
Action Plans and Progress Reports
Other key plans and strategies

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)

The Partnership Child Poverty Group will identify key collaborative priorities throughout the year.

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

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

C. Is the UNCRC engaged? Yes

(This arises where a proposal is covered by an Act of the Scottish Parliament. Regulations made under an Act of the Scottish Parliament or a common law duty and you have identified there is or may be an impact on children.)

D. If yes, has this flagged any concerns or gaps in evidence which require to be addressed?

There are no specific concerns or gaps in evidence.

A multi-agency working group continues to meet to ensure that we are meeting the requirements of the UNCRC (Incorporation)(Scotland) Act 2024, and members of the Child Poverty Group are part of that.

UNCRC continues to be embedded in services across the Partnership

Section 2 Consultation and Involvement

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

Various multi-agency partners are involved in the process. Any consultations undertaken by partners inform the content of the report.

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

No specific plans

The Partnership Child Poverty Group meets monthly and is responsible for the delivery of the Child Poverty Action Plan

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 input provided partners to inform the report.

Data and statistics have been specifically gathered for this report.

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

UNCRC is an integral part of this work

The initial assessment remains valid because child poverty is a prominent issue within the Scottish Borders. The 6 high risk groups identified in the national delivery plan Best Start Bright Futures are considered in the plan and align closely with the protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act.

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

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|------------------------------------|---|
| Signed by Lead Officer: | Janice Robertson |
| Designation: | Strategic Planning and Policy Manager |
| Date: | June 2025 |
| Counter Signature Director: | Jenni Craig Director – Resilient Communities |
| Date: | June 2025 |

Section 3 Monitoring and Review (complete if relevant, remove if not)

**B. State how the implementation and impact of the proposal will be monitored, including implementation of any amendments?
For example what type of monitoring will there be? How frequent?**

Annual Reports are prepared and reported to Community Planning Partnership, Scottish Borders Council and NHS Board

The Child Poverty Group work with an Action Plan and monitor it's implementation

C. What are the practical arrangements for monitoring? For example who will put this in place? When will it start?

Child Poverty Group monthly meetings

D. When is the proposal due for review?

Statutory publication in June 2025

E. Who is responsible for ensuring that this happens?

Child Poverty Group

Children and Young People's Planning Partnership

Community Planning Partnership

F. Please indicate if you have developed an Action Plan to take forward any remaining actions

- ☐ Yes, please see attached on final page
☒ No, no further actions required