

# **Midlothian Child Poverty Plan**

**2017/18 - 2021**

**August 2017  
Version 1**

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#### **1. Introduction**

More than one in five of Scotland's children are officially recognised as living in poverty (CPAG). This trend is reflected in Midlothian, in 2014 there were 21% of children in poverty after housing costs (AHC) and by 2015 this has risen to 22.5%. It is widely recognised that children living in poverty are at significantly increased risk of poor health and educational attainment. Children do not live in isolation of their families and wider communities. Any approach to address child poverty must widen the lens to include household and community poverty.

## **2. Background: 2012-17 Child Poverty Action Plan**

In 2012 a five year Midlothian Child Poverty Action Plan was developed. The five thematic priorities identified in the Action Plan were:

1. Supporting families who are in or at risk of poverty to cope with and be more in control of their circumstances.
2. Building resilience within local communities, so that vulnerable families feel better supported and able to access services and resources they need.
3. Supporting vulnerable young people to gain easier entry into employment, training or further/higher education.
4. Addressing the inequalities which are the most significant contributing factors toward poverty.
5. Widening access to services through: a) better publicity and: b) better use of community facilities to enable individuals to access support in a non-stigmatising way.

The Action Plan and Strategy Group reflected the aspirations and political will expressed in the Scottish Governments Child Poverty Strategy for Scotland (2011) and also the preceding Child Poverty Act (2010). In 2014/15 the Scottish Government revised the national Child Poverty Strategy and introduced a measurement framework as a way of tracking child poverty over time.

### **Review of the Action Plan**

During 2015/16 Midlothian's Child Poverty Action Plan was reviewed. The review focused on finding out what had been progressed; what data each agency holds in relation to child poverty; what is their agency doing in the targeted areas to address child poverty; examples of good practice and what the gaps are in relation to addressing child poverty. The review found that although some activities had been completed and the five priority areas should stay the same there was limited evidence of impact. The review concluded that there is a need to develop a measurement framework in line with the national approach to child poverty so levels can be tracked over time.

### **Next steps, 2018-2021 Child Poverty Delivery Plan**

#### **Political Context**

The Child Poverty (Scotland) Bill was published on the 10 February 2017 and will see Scotland become the only part of the UK with statutory targets to reduce the number of children experiencing the damaging effects of poverty by 2030. The government will publish a three-year child poverty delivery plan by April 2018, which will be updated every five years and annual reports to measure progress. The legislation reinstates income targets as the measure for child poverty.

If passed, the legislation sets an initial target of cutting the number of children in relative poverty to less than 10% by 2030. Relative poverty is based on an income measure that those living in households with incomes less than 60% of the median household income. With child poverty levels in Midlothian in 2016 at 22.5% this is clearly a stretch target. This is at a time when the Institute for Fiscal Studies are projecting a 50% increase in child poverty by 2020 due to an overall downturn in household income.

## Child Poverty Working Group

A Child Poverty Working Group has been re-established in 2017 to develop a Child Poverty Delivery Plan for 2018-21. The Delivery Plan will include a measurement framework, an update to the policy context and excerpts from service plans to identify how other services across the council are contributing to the child poverty agenda. Monitoring child poverty trends over time will allow the Community Planning Partnership to identify risks and put in place interventions that will help mitigate the impact of child poverty in Midlothian.

We recognise that reducing child poverty levels dramatically will depend on a range of external factors that the working group will be unable to influence. However the delivery plan will provide an opportunity to identify what we **can** do to reduce child poverty.

### 3. Child Poverty, Community Planning Partnership

The Community Planning Partnership undertook a review and engagement process in 2015 /16 resulting in changed priorities for the next three years, 2016-19. Taking into consideration evidence about the comparative quality of life of people living in Midlothian, where it is clear that less well off residents experience poorer health, have fewer or no choices in how they use low incomes, and where there is a proven relationship between these factors and their learning; as a result the top three priorities identified for the Single Midlothian Plan 2016-19 are:

- **Reducing the gap in learning outcomes**
- **Reducing the gap in health outcomes**
- **Reducing the gap in economic circumstances**

More widely, the five themes of community planning have agreed shared outcomes to work towards over the next 3 years.

**These outcomes are that, by the end of the 2019/20 budget year:**

|  |
|--|
| <b>Adult Health and Care</b>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• People are able to look after and improve their own health and wellbeing and live in good health for longer</li><li>• People, including those with disabilities/long term conditions or are frail are able wherever possible, to live independently and in their own home.</li><li>• Health and Social Care have contributed to reducing health inequalities.</li><li>• Unpaid carers are supported to look after their own health and wellbeing</li></ul> |
| <b>Community Safety</b>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fewer people are victims of crime, abuse or harm</li><li>• People feel safe in their neighbourhood and homes</li><li>• Our communities take a positive role in shaping their future</li></ul>  |
| <b>Getting it Right for Every Midlothian Child</b>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Children in their early years and their families are being supported to be healthy, to learn and to be resilient</li><li>• All Midlothian children and young people are being offered access to timely and appropriate support through the named person service -</li></ul>  |

|   |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All care experienced children and young people are being provided with quality services</li> <li>• Children and young people are supported to be healthy, happy and reach their potential</li> <li>• Inequalities in learning outcomes have reduced</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Improving Opportunities for the People of Midlothian</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poverty levels in Midlothian are lower than the Scottish average</li> <li>• Midlothian residents are successful learners and young people go on to positive destinations when they leave learning</li> <li>• There is a reduction in inequality in health outcomes</li> <li>• Citizens are engaged with service development and delivery</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Sustainable Growth</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New jobs and businesses are located in Midlothian</li> <li>• Midlothian's economic growth rate consistently outperforms the Scottish average</li> <li>• Midlothian is an attractive place to live work and invest in</li> <li>• The gap between average earnings of those living and working in Midlothian and the Scottish average has decreased</li> <li>• Environmental limits are better respected , in relation to waste , transport, climate change and biodiversity</li> <li>• More social housing has been provided taking account of local demand</li> <li>• Homelessness has reduced and people threatened with homelessness can access advice and support services</li> </ul> |

Single Midlothian Plan: Child Poverty Performance Indicators

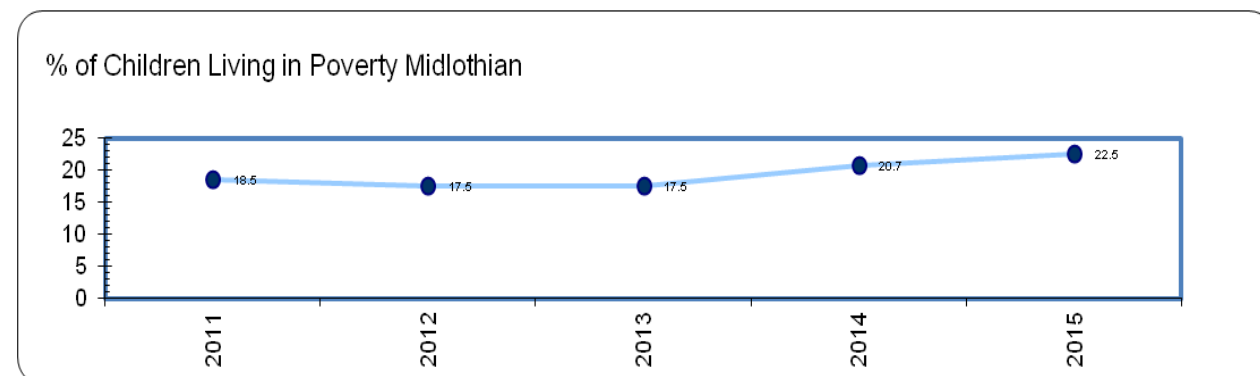
| Theme   | Actions   | Due Date | Performance Indicator   | Target | Baseline  | Previous Trend Data   |
|---------|---|----------|---|--------|---|---|
| GIRFEMC | Complete review of evidence available and establish process to monitor proportion of children achieving expected levels by Primary 1                                      | 30/08/18 | PIPS score (standardised) for maths for Midlothian P1 pupils at end of P1 year  | 52.7   | Based on 2% increase in score per year                                    | 52.0 (11/12)<br>51.5 (12/13)<br>51.1 (13/14)<br>51.7 (14/15)<br>51.58 (15/16) |
|         |   | 30/08/18 | PIPS score (standardised) for reading for Midlothian P1 pupils at end of P1 year  | 50.8   | Based on 2% increase in score per year                                    | 51.3 (11/12)<br>51.5 (12/13)<br>50.6 (13/14)<br>49.7 (14/15)<br>50.79 (15/16) |
|         |   | 30/08/18 | Percentage of increase in PIPS score achieved by P1 pupils from SIMD deciles 1 and 2 between entry and exit compared to the Midlothian average improvement. | 90%    | 81.2% (2015/16)   | 76.1% (2014/15)   |
| GIRFEMC | Establish joint education and <i>raising attainment for all</i> evidence base; establish process to monitor proportion of children achieving expected levels by Primary 4 | 30/08/18 | Percentage of P4 pupils scoring 100 or above in standardised assessments in reading, maths and numeracy   | 63.6%  | 61.6% Pupils achieved 100 or above in Granada Learning P4 testing (15/16) | 60.5% of Pupils achieved 100 or above in Granada Learning P4 testing          |

|         |  |          |   |                                     |                                     |              |
|---------|--|----------|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|
|         |  |          |   |                                     |                                     | (14/15)      |
| GIRFEMC | Ensure pupils are secure at First level in reading, writing, listening and talking, maths and numeracy                                       | 30/08/18 | Pupils achieving First level by end P4 in reading, writing, listening/talking, maths and numeracy                                 | 92% of pupils secure at first level | 90% of pupils secure at first level | 72%          |
| GIRFEMC | Identify the current gaps in educational attainment at individual school level and implement a range of targeted strategies to close the gap | 30/08/18 | Improvement in the percentage of pupils from SIMD deciles 1 and 2 achieving the expected CfE level by the end of P1, P4,P7 and S3 | To be established                   | Baseline to be established          | New measure  |
| IOM     | Provide high quality and localised welfare advice and support, targeted at the areas with the highest levels of poverty.                     | 31/03/18 | Midlothian Council Welfare Rights Team (WRT) will generate an additional benefit income maximization of £500k per quarter.        | £2m                                 | £1.5Million                         | £1.5million  |
| IOM     |  | 31/03/18 | Midlothian Citizen Advice Bureaux (CABs) will generate an additional income maximization of £625k per quarter                     | £2.5 million                        | £2.5 million                        | £2.5 million |
| IOM     |  | 31/03/18 | Midlothian CABs will provide 125 benefit advice sessions in the 3 targeted areas  | 125                                 | To be established                   | New measure  |
| IOM     | Reduce barriers to learning by poverty proofing the school day of the 11 primary schools in the priority                                     | 31/03/18 | Number of schools that poverty proof the school day   | 11                                  | To be established                   | New measure  |

|     |   |          |   |               |                   |             |
|-----|---|----------|---|---------------|-------------------|-------------|
| IOM | areas.  |          | Relative to Scotland, Midlothian can demonstrate a 1% reduction in child poverty. Currently the Scottish Average is 22% and Midlothian is 22.5% | 21.5%         | 22.5%             | 22.5%       |
| IOM | Provide short term support to people experiencing significant hardship. This will include practical interventions including access to food banks; travel vouchers and trial energy vouchers for households experiencing fuel poverty. | 31/03/18 | Midlothian Foodbank will provide 1,500 – 2,000 people with emergency food supplies  | 2200          | 2000              | 2000        |
| IOM |   | 31/03/18 | The number of Foodbank service users using the Foodbank on multiple occasions will be tracked and will demonstrate a reducing trend             | From baseline | To be established | New measure |
| IOM |   | 31/03/18 | Provide £5 food vouchers to Foodbank users to purchase fresh food and vegetables from the Toot 4 Fruit Van                                      | 300           | New service       | New measure |
| IOM | Increase the uptake of benefits such as the Healthy Start vouchers  | 31/03/18 | increase in % uptake  | 81%           | 71%               | N/a         |

#### 4. Child Poverty Levels

'After housing costs' (AHC) is a better guide to the number of households who experience poverty. The cost of housing is unavoidable and essential. People's standard of living is dependent on the disposable incomes they have after paying for their housing. Where low incomes entitle people to Housing Benefit it is treated as their income BHC and a rise in this benefit is treated as higher income BHC even though it only reflects a rise in housing costs and not in people's disposable incomes.



In Midlothian there are three communities within which there are concentrations of statistics which place parts of these areas in the top 20% of SIMD. These communities are Dalkeith Central/Woodburn; Mayfield/Easthouses and Gorebridge. However, it should always be noted that the majority of individual families experiencing relative poverty live **outside of areas of multiple deprivation**, which means that it is insufficient to target anti-poverty work solely at the communities named above.

As at 2014 there are roughly 20.8% of children in Midlothian living in poverty. This is slightly lower than the 2014/15 Scottish average of 22% and in 2015/16 that has risen to 22.5%. For the first time Child Poverty Levels in Midlothian have risen above the Scottish Average of 22%.

#### Child Poverty by Ward

At ward level, the percentages of children living in poverty AHC are:

| Ward             | Oct – Dec 2013 | Oct – Dec 2015 | Change |
|------------------|----------------|----------------|--------|
| MIDLOTHIAN       | 21.25%         | 22.51%         | ↑      |
| Bonnyrigg        | 19.52%         | 22.03%         | ↑      |
| Dalkeith         | 26.63%         | 26.46%         | ↓      |
| Midlothian East  | 21.55%         | 22.51%         | ↑      |
| Midlothian South | 23.82%         | 26.59%         | ↑      |
| Midlothian West  | 16.78%         | 15.8%          | ↓      |
| Penicuik         | 17.90%         | 21.14%         | ↑      |

#### Poverty indicators in Midlothian

Child poverty is calculated

- As of November 2015, Midlothian's Job Seeker's Allowance Claimant Count was 1.1%, which is less than the average figure for Scotland, 1.7% and the UK-wide average, 1.5%.



- Average weekly earnings for Midlothian residents, both male and female, are currently significantly less than both Scotland and British averages, having risen to meet the Scottish average income in 2010 before dropping sharply in 2011. For all full time workers living in Midlothian, gross weekly pay was £452.20 in 2011, compared with the Scottish average of £490.60 and the British average of £503.10. For women, this drops to £398.70, compared with £441.04 and £446.30 in Scotland and Britain respectively. **We still need to get household income figures.**
- In 2014 50% of all jobs in Midlothian were in the retail, construction, health and social care and education sectors compared to the Scottish rate of 39%. Midlothian has above average employees working in retail and construction sectors.

Midlothian workforce planning study: Final report 1st June 2016, Glasgow University, identified particular areas of concern:

- Educational attainment remains an area of concern for some parts of Midlothian. In particular, school leavers from Newbattle High School and Dalkeith High School continue to be significantly less likely to enter Higher or Further Education than their counterparts from elsewhere in Midlothian and Scotland, and are more likely to remain out of work or training upon leaving school.
- There is a strong correlation between deprivation and teenage pregnancy. In the under 20 age group, a teenage female living in the most deprived area is 4.8 times as likely to experience a pregnancy as someone living in the least deprived area, and nearly 12 times as likely to deliver their baby. (<https://isdscotland.scot.nhs.uk/Health-Topics/Sexual-Health/Publications/2015-07-07/2015-07-07-TeenPreg-Report.pdf>)
- Midlothian has a slightly higher percentage of lone parent households than Scotland, 7.37% Midlothian v 7.15% Scotland. Of the Midlothian households the highest density of lone parent households is in Midlothian South, 8.63%.

## 5. Area Targeting

Midlothian CPP has identified Dalkeith/Woodburn, Mayfield/Easthouses and Gorebridge as priority areas for the allocation of resources. Additional staffing resources, family learning centres, grant funding and capital expenditure has been committed to these three areas. The work is overseen by the Area Targeting Steering Group and this section will be updated as the work progresses.

## 6. Impact of welfare reform

Changes made as part of the Welfare Reform Programme including the phased introduction of Universal Credit and the changes to child benefits present additional risks for some of the poorest families in Midlothian. As there is no additional money available for specific work in relation to addressing child poverty, there is a reliance on existing resources to undertake any identified actions to reduce child poverty in Midlothian. It has been agreed that Child Poverty will now be reported to both the Improving Opportunities Midlothian Group and Getting it Right for Every Child.

Midlothian Council Welfare Rights Team delivers complex case, appeals and tribunal support alongside CABs and other MFIN advice Services.

In the inspection areas over the three year period 2013/14 – 2015/16 the Welfare Rights team have provided 929 interventions and assisted local residents to achieve £1,224,785.00 financial gain by ensuring they received the correct welfare benefits.

|                         | 2013/14       |              | 2014/15       |              | 2015/16       |              | 3 year total  |              | 3 year % breakdown |              |
|-------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|
|                         | Interventions | Money Earned | Interventions | Money Earned | Interventions | Money Earned | Interventions | Money Earned | Interventions      | Money Earned |
| Dalkeith and District   | 206           | £234,256     | 70            | £178,044     | 87            | £329,674     | 363           | £741,974     | 16%                | 14%          |
| Gorebridge and District | 141           | £197,804     | 63            | £131,148     | 71            | £147,860     | 275           | £482,811     | 12%                | 9%           |
| Mayfield/Easthouses     | 176           | £239,205     | 47            | £79,901      | 68            | £148,936     | 291           | £468,043     | 13%                | 9%           |

## 7. Midlothian Council Grants

From the poverty stream of the large grants the following allocations were made:

| Large Grants 2015-18                          | YEAR 1<br>15/16 | YEAR 2<br>16/17 | YEAR 3<br>17/18 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Dalkeith and District Citizens' Advice Bureau | £148,693        | £151,315        | £121,690        |
| Midlothian Foodbank, Gorebridge Parish Church | £26,786         | £14,881         | £11,897         |
| Midlothian Financial Inclusion Network        | £17,038         | £17,724         | £11,751         |
| Penicuik CAB                                  | £212,415        | £153,793        | £121,690        |
| MARC  | £31,216         | £24,172         | £20,000         |
| Intowork Welfare Rights                       | £33,727         |                 |                 |
| Changeworks Resources for Life                | £15,143         |                 |                 |

**2016/17**

Of the £40,000 budget allocated to the poverty stream in 2016/17 for small grants, £16,725 was requested and £15,725 was allocated.

|                            |  |         |
|----------------------------|--|---------|
| Bill Russell Youth Project | raise awareness of and develop the skills to achieve good financial management using the weekly drop in  | £1,269  |
| Dalkeith CAB               | the Midlothian Travel Facilitation Fund - provide assistance to those experiencing periods of hardship, particularly those having difficulties meeting the necessary transport costs associated with attending welfare advice sessions, jobcentre meetings, medical appointments, job interviews, work commitments or collecting food parcels. | £ 2,800 |
| MAEDT                      | School uniform bank  | £ 2,725 |
| MFIN                       | Midlothian Fuel Bank Pilot, Funding will be used to supply emergency utility payments to eligible residents in crisis, via 'prepaid' debit cards   | £2,930  |
| Midlothian Foodbank        | Funding for the assistant foodbank manager's salary to ensure the continuation of the foodbank's service provision   | £3000   |
| Penicuik CAB               | We want to pilot a 'Write a POA' week, similar to 'Write a Will' week to encourage people to do this, and protect their future finances  | £3,000  |

**2017/18**

Due to the lack of applications to the stream a paper was put to council suggesting the £40,000 for 2017/18 be removed from the small grant budget and be allocated to the 3 targeted areas and be distributed using a Participatory Budgeting (PB) approach, this was agreed and the money will be allocated early 2017. NHS Lothian has put an additional £10,000 to support a PB project 'Food Glorious Food' in the three priority areas to address areas of poverty and inequalities relating to accessing healthy, affordable, high quality food.

## **8. Examples of Good Practice**

### **Building on good practice**

The following examples of good practice provide some directions for future work.

#### ***Midlothian Sure Start***

Midlothian Sure Start's model of broad-based support for parents of children between birth and 3 years has achieved excellent outcomes for vulnerable parents, enabling them to build skills and confidence, develop their parenting skills, and move on to positive outcomes. Midlothian Sure Start is aware that there is demand for this type of support for parents whose children have progressed into nursery and school, but currently there is insufficient capacity or funding to effectively develop this.

#### ***Family Nurse Partnership***

This programme, based on an American model, has been rolled out in parts of Edinburgh and Midlothian and involves intensive, focused home visits for vulnerable teenage parents from early pregnancy until the child turns 2. It involves parenting skills, confidence building, health improvement and education, and support for parents to improve their financial circumstances.

#### ***Family Learning Centres***

The Woodburn Family Learning Centre opened at the start of 2016. Family resilience is at the heart of the development, families will work in partnership with a team of professionals in early learning and childcare, family support, the health service and third sector. Parents and carers will have access to speech and language therapy for their children. The centre will work in partnership with local parents to design a range of group and adult learning courses. There will be a strong emphasis on encouraging parents' involvement in their children's learning and development. This model will be replicated in Mayfield and Easthouses and the Gorebridge area.

#### ***Credit Union***

Penicuik Churches Working Together run a satellite office from Penicuik North Kirk for Capital Credit Union. The initiative was in response to a Church of Scotland commission in 2012 which identified 4 priorities; reducing inequality, ending poverty, ensuring sustainability and promoting mutuality. As a member owned, community based, financial organisation they provide a more manageable alternative to pay day loans.

#### ***'A good time to be 2'***

A good time to be 2 offers high quality early learning and childcare in various settings across Midlothian for eligible 2 year olds. Eligible children will receive up to 600 hours of early learning and childcare in an early years setting. Children benefit from enjoying a range of play experiences and support with the transition to nursery.

#### ***Foodbanks***

The Trussell Trust Midlothian Foodbank based in Gorebridge provides emergency food to people in crisis. Clients are referred to the food bank by professionals who have identified them as being in crisis. There are additional food banks across the county.

#### ***Dalkeith Storehouse***

Storehouse is a local charity organised by The Full Gospel Church. Storehouse aims to provide essential supplies to families in crisis in the Dalkeith area to make sure no child or young person in Midlothian goes hungry. Regular, ongoing donations of food, as well as essential

household supplies meet the immediate needs of those in crisis. Storehouse provided thousands of breakfasts and lunches to local children in most need.

### ***Pupil Equity Funding***

In February 2017 the Scottish Government announced a £120 million Pupil Equity Funding scheme. Midlothian has 1,894 eligible pupils and schools will receive £2.27 million. The funding should be used on activities and interventions that will lead to improvements in literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing.

### ***Empowering Families***

Empowering Families project is a partnership of 12 agencies who work with families across Midlothian. Its aim is to develop a multi agency, early intervention project to help families make positive changes for themselves to manage their problems better.

### ***Participatory Budgeting***

Mayfield and Easthouses Community Chest participatory budgeting initiative held a decision day on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2016. 349 residents in Mayfield were the key decision makers in deciding how to spend £30,000 on projects supporting people struggling financially. 17 out of the 31 projects who applied to be part of the process were successfully funded, with most being delivered by locally-based organisations.

<https://pbscotland.scot/blog/2016/5/27/participation-of-midlothian>

### ***Dissertations for Good***

Dissertations for Good is an NUS initiative that aims to connect students with organisations to complete research projects into social, economic and environmental sustainability with the end result being a report that is useful for the partnered organisation. Midlothian Council has matched with two Edinburgh University Masters students who are going to focus their research on reducing child poverty. They will work alongside selected schools with a high concentration of pupils affected by socio-economic disadvantage in Midlothian, specifically to identify economic barriers and test interventions that prevent children from poorer families achieving their full potential. Learning from the extensive research from the Cost of the School Day Report the project will test interventions in areas including the cost of school materials, uniforms, and after school learning and fund small interventions that can help remove these barriers. The project will aim to improve wellbeing by removing the stigma that poorer children and their families experience at school. There is an opportunity to develop further student placements to support the child poverty work.

### ***Button Box***

The Button Box is a community children's clothing project based in Midlothian. We are working with families across Midlothian to provide free clothing for children age 0-16yrs, we do this through holding regular free community events where all families regardless of their personal circumstances or background are welcome to come along and collect clothing for their growing family. We also work in partnership with early learning and childcare settings, schools, out of school care, local youth organisations and other relevant services for young people to promote the culture of recycling amongst the students, staff and the wider community. To break down barriers for families wishing to donate, we now have a drop off points in a number of areas across Midlothian. The project also has a strong focus on strengthening and building resilience within local communities by providing

opportunities for volunteers to become involved in the project and support families that live in Midlothian.

### ***Lifelong Learning and Employability – Young Mum’s Group***

Young mum’s under the age of 20 attending the LLE Mum’s Group are eligible to access EMA for attending 6 hours per week. The group is linked up with Gorebridge Food Bank and all attendees receive free lunch, crèche and bus fares to attend. All participants receive qualifications on completion.

### ***Lifelong Learning and Employability – Pathways***

Young people attending LLE Pathways are supported with travel, food and EMA if eligible.

### ***Lifelong Learning and Employability – Newbattle Summer Playscheme***

There are 10 free spaces available for young people looked after at home or kinship care.

### ***Lifelong Learning and Employability – Working for Families***

LLE have a small pot of money available specifically to support parents of children under 16 and carers of all ages who are moving into employment, training or education. The money is available to support costs such as:

- . A deposit to secure childcare provision to assist the return to work or education or moving from part time to full time employment
- . Help to bridge the gap between coming off benefits and receiving the first wage, bursary etc. e.g. Tesco vouchers for up to 4 weeks to assist with the cost of food and essentials, purchase of bus pass or bus tickets for travel to work or college
- . Some of the upfront costs often associated with moving into paid work e.g. assistance with work clothes or specialist equipment
- . The cost of a PVG certificate or replacement certificates required to prove eligibility to work and/or qualifications e.g. copy of birth certificate, SQA certificates etc

This list is not exhaustive and each case will be assessed on an individual basis. The fund is reserved for those on benefits or low incomes. People can be referred by agencies or can self refer.

### ***MAEDT Clothes Recycling***

MAEDT received a small grant to purchase a washing machine, dryer, iron to support. They distributed 450 items out in 4 hours (sold the concept as a recycling project), similar to Gorebridge Food Bank uniform swap idea.

### ***Toot For Fruit***

Toot for Fruit is an NHS Lothians health promotion initiative delivered in partnership with the Gorebridge Foodbank. It has a van, and a driver who works to provide access to good quality, low cost fruit and vegetables across Midlothian. The van is on the road three days a week with a focus on areas of deprivation – this can be in terms of income, high unemployment or geography.

Many areas will have no shop or just one shop. Regular customers include many of Midlothian Sure Starts and nurseries, 16 housebound clients and at least 35 other regular customers. The van is also available for one-off events across the area.

Toot for Fruit has strong links to health via the health promotion team and the Joint Health Improvement plan. The initiative has also established key targets in terms of older people and early years. It is currently supporting an initiative enabling people using food banks to access fresh eggs, fruit and vegetables which they would otherwise not be able to obtain.

The scheme has had a positive impact on those supported. One local mum with four children aged from 6 to 13 has struggled because of the change from weekly to monthly benefit payments. She and her kids love the fresh fruit and veg vouchers.

“The kids love the free range eggs, they are fresher and tastier than those in the shops, and now ask for them when I go shopping”.

She herself did not buy fruit but has now started to. She likes the bananas and grapes. The Toot-for-Fruit van fruit has changed her eating habits.

She finds it very easy to contact the van. “The driver is very friendly and the kids really like going out to collect their supplies from him. The kids love it. The Toot-for-Fruit van is amazing”.

## 9. Draft Measurement Framework

| Indicator   | Baseline   | Desired direction of travel | Source   |
|---|--|-----------------------------|--|
| Decrease the % of families assessed as homeless or 'at risk' of homelessness  | Scotland 0.55%<br>Midlothian 0.60% (2014/15)   | Decrease                    | Housing/ Social Work<br><br>Contacted Rebecca Fairnie and Angela Harris 30/06/16, asked again on 1/12/16 |
| Reduce the number of sanctions made against claimants with children living in their home  |  | Decrease                    | DWP – FOI submitted 28/06/16   |
| Reduce the number of households whose combined earnings are lower than 60% of the UK average<br><br>Increase household earnings across Midlothian | 20% of Midlothian employees earn less than living wage compared to the Scottish figure of 19.3%<br><br>Full time workers in Midlothian earn £497.40 compared to the Scottish average of £527 (2015)  | Decrease<br><br>Increase    | NOMIS<br><br>ASHE (Annual Survey Hours and Earnings)<br><br>NOMIS  |
| Reduce the number of families dependent on food parcels   | In 2015 1002 vouchers were issued for the Midlothian Foodbank covering 1241 adults and 676 children.<br><br>Top 3 crisis types – Benefit Delays, Homeless, Debt.<br><br>60% of vouchers were issued to single people, 18% single parents, 11% families.<br><br>The first 6 months of 2016, 426 vouchers have been issued, 567 adults, 369 children.<br><br>The patterns remain the same for crisis types | Decrease                    | Emailed Janice Burns @ Gorebridge foodbank 30/06/16, info received 04/07/16                              |



|   |  |                 |   |
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|   | and family types.  |                 |   |
| Increase the % of school leavers moving into a positive destination in SIMD 20% zone            | Have info for all school leavers – April 2016, 93%   | Increase        | SEEMIS<br>Matthew Dunn ,got 15/16 have requested 14/15 on 1/12/16   |
| Reduce the number of care leavers assessed as homeless or 'at risk' of homelessness             |  | Decrease        | Housing<br><br>Contacted Rebecca Fairnie and Angela Harris 30/06/16, asked again on 1/12/16               |
| Increase the % of looked after and accommodated young people moving into a positive destination | 76% (19 of 25) Care Experienced Young People reached a positive destination (2014/15)  | Increase        | SEEMIS<br>Matthew Dunn  |
| Reduce the number of unexplained days absence from school                                       | 2014/15 91% Secondary attendance<br>94.51% Primary attendance  | Decrease        | SEEMIS<br>Matthew Dunn<br><br>Have asked Matthew to provide this information at SIMD level and per school |
| Pupils receiving free school meals  | Info for 2014/15:<br>1168 Primary (this excludes P1-P3 as it is an entitlement)<br>662 Seniors<br>45 Saltersgate<br>1,875 TOTAL<br>14,416 COHORT (13%) | Increase uptake | SEEMIS<br>Matthew Dunn<br><br>Have asked Matthew to provide this information at SIMD level and per school |
| Pupils receiving clothing grants  | Info for 2014/15:<br>1187 Primary<br>676 Seniors<br>45 Saltersgate<br>1,908 TOTAL<br>14,416 COHORT (13.2%)   | Increase uptake | SEEMIS<br>Matthew Dunn<br><br>Have asked Matthew to provide this information at SIMD level and per school |

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|  |   |          | Do we have data trends?  |
| Crisis grants  | 2,897 issued 2014/15<br>857 refused<br>394 partially granted<br>1646 fully paid   |          | Rebecca/Angela<br><br>(any assessment of dependents?)  |
| Community care grants  | 941 issued 2014/15<br>255 rejected<br>461 partial<br>225 fully  |          | Rebecca/Angela   |
| Number of section payments issued to care leavers and those with dependents              | 359 emergency one off payments<br>£28,168 in total through 126 clients  |          | Rebecca/Angela<br><br>MOSAIC   |
| Increase number of Family Nurse Partnership clients becoming economically active         |   | Increase | Val Alexander/Val Waters (NHS)<br>Emailed 28/06/16   |
| Increase the uptake of Early Learning for 2's places                                     | 170 places taken, still waiting on number eligible  | Increase | Emailed Diane Janczyk on 1/12/16   |
| Educational attainment – reading, writing and numeracy levels for P7s –<br><b>ON SMP</b> | All P7s 79.4% v target 81%<br>SIMD Level 1 and 2 59.4% v target 62.4%   | Increase | SEEMIS<br>Matthew Dunn   |
| Increase number of Modern Apprenticeships for young people (focused on area targeting)   | As at 4/7/16 there are currently 290 Midlothian YP employed as Modern Apprentices. Of these 43% are classed as SIMD levels 1 and 2 (17% level 1 and 37% level 2). | Increase | Information from the hub via SDS from Lesley.  |
| Reducing fuel poverty  |   | Decrease | Contact Lesley Kelly, use the information on fuel vouchers – fuel bank trial starts Dec 2016 |
| Access to IT/digital literacy  |   | Increase |  |
| Increase educational levels  | 39.9% of Midlothian residents have NVQ4s and above compared to 42.5% Scotland   | Increase | NOMIS  |

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| Toot for Fruit   | Monday – 24 customers<br>Tuesday – 26 customers<br>Wednesday – 19 customers<br>Thursday – between 7 and 23 customers |   |   |   |          | Emailed Janice Burns 06/07/16 and received info |
| Dental health – proportion of P1 children who have no obvious dental disease – Scottish target 60% | East Loth<br>Edinburgh<br><b>Midlothian</b><br>West Loth   | 2012<br>73.2%<br>73.6%<br><b>65.0%</b><br>65.7% | 2014<br>72.5%<br>68.6%<br><b>68.5%</b><br>67.3% | 2016<br>72.4%<br>73.1%<br><b>68.8%</b><br>63.7% | Increase | Melissa – Childsmile Programme 4/8/17           |
| Dental health  | 100% of all Midlothian nurseries currently participate in the toothbrushing programme                                |   |   |   |          | Melissa – Childsmile Programme 4/8/17           |
|  |  |   |   |   |          |   |

*\*Working group members to contribute other measures*

## 10. References

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| Child Poverty stats per ward:<br><a href="http://www.endchildpoverty.org.uk/">http://www.endchildpoverty.org.uk/</a>   |
| Child Poverty Strategy for Scotland:<br><a href="http://www.gov.scot/Topics/People/fairerscotland/tacklingpovertyinscotland/CP">http://www.gov.scot/Topics/People/fairerscotland/tacklingpovertyinscotland/CP</a>  |
| Dissertations for Good:<br><a href="http://dissertationsforgood.org.uk/organisation/midlothian-council-reducing-the-attainment-gap-in-education/">http://dissertationsforgood.org.uk/organisation/midlothian-council-reducing-the-attainment-gap-in-education/</a> |
| Empowering Families:<br><a href="http://www.midlothiansurestart.org.uk/efp.html">http://www.midlothiansurestart.org.uk/efp.html</a>  |
| Midlothian Profile 2016:<br><a href="https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/1285/midlothian_profile_2016.pdf">https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/1285/midlothian_profile_2016.pdf</a>  |
| Participatory Budgeting:<br><a href="https://pbscotland.scot/blog/2016/5/27/participation-of-midlothian">https://pbscotland.scot/blog/2016/5/27/participation-of-midlothian</a>  |
| Pupil Equity Funding:<br><a href="http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Education/Schools/Raisingeducationalattainment/pupilequityfund">http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Education/Schools/Raisingeducationalattainment/pupilequityfund</a>   |
| Scottish Government Child Poverty Bill:<br><a href="http://news.gov.scot/news/child-poverty-bill-published">http://news.gov.scot/news/child-poverty-bill-published</a>   |
| Welfare reform: the impact on families in Scotland:<br><a href="http://www.cpag.org.uk/sites/default/files/CPAG-Scot-WR-impact-families(Sep16)_1.pdf">http://www.cpag.org.uk/sites/default/files/CPAG-Scot-WR-impact-families(Sep16)_1.pdf</a>                     |