

Subject: Local Child Poverty Action Reports
 Report By: Karen McGuigan, Consultant in Public Health, Kerri Todd, Head of Health Improvement and Alana McGlynn, Health Improvement Programme Manager.
 Meeting **October NHS Board**
 Reporting To:
 Meeting Date: 26 October 2022

1. Purpose

This paper is coming to the October NHS Board meeting:

| | | | | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|---------|--------------------------|
| For approval | <input type="checkbox"/> | For endorsement | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | To note | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|--------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|---------|--------------------------|

2. Route to the Board

This paper has been:

| | | | | | |
|----------|-------------------------------------|----------|--------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|
| Prepared | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Reviewed | <input type="checkbox"/> | Endorsed | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
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Prepared by Karen McGuigan, Consultant in Public Health, Kerri Todd, Head of Health Improvement and Alana McGlynn, Health Improvement Programme Manager.

Endorsed by the Population Health & Primary Care and Community Services Governance Committee.

3. Summary of Key Issues

Both LCPAR are attached.

The Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 introduced a requirement for local authorities and each relevant Health Board to prepare **Local Child Poverty Action Reports (LCPAR)**, as soon as reasonably practicable after the end of each reporting year. The North and South Lanarkshire reports highlight work completed during 2021-22 to address child poverty.

“Poverty means not being able to heat your home, pay your rent, or buy the essentials for your children. It means waking up every day facing insecurity, uncertainty, and impossible decisions about money. It means facing marginalisation - and even discrimination - because of your financial circumstances. The constant stress it causes can lead to problems that deprive people of the chance to play a full part in society.” (Joseph Rowntree Foundation)

The Scottish Government’s Best Start, Bright Futures – Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan (2022-26) was published in March 2022. It sets out a vision for Scotland to tackle child poverty, the changes that are needed to achieve this and the actions that must be taken with partners to deliver that change.

3.1 Lanarkshire context

Both North and South Lanarkshire LCPAR recognise the additional burdens families are facing at the moment. Not only are they living with, and recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic, but they are facing an additional burden through the cost of living crisis which is already impacting on families through increasing energy and food costs.

In addition, the inequalities that we have known exist in our communities have significantly widened throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

The available data highlights that child poverty is a significant issue across Lanarkshire. Given the levels of deprivation in North Lanarkshire, it is no surprise that child poverty is higher than the national average. It is also notable that child poverty data for South Lanarkshire shows a steady increase in recent years, surpassing the national average, as seen in figure 1 below.

Figure 1

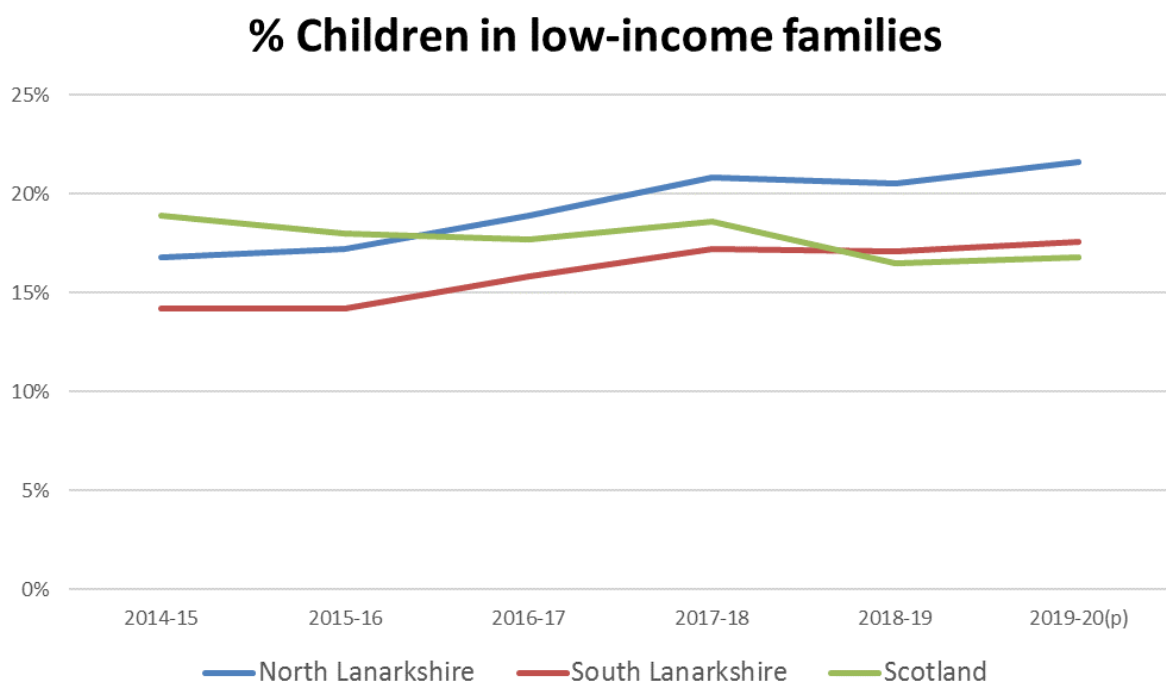


Figure 2: Drivers of child poverty reduction

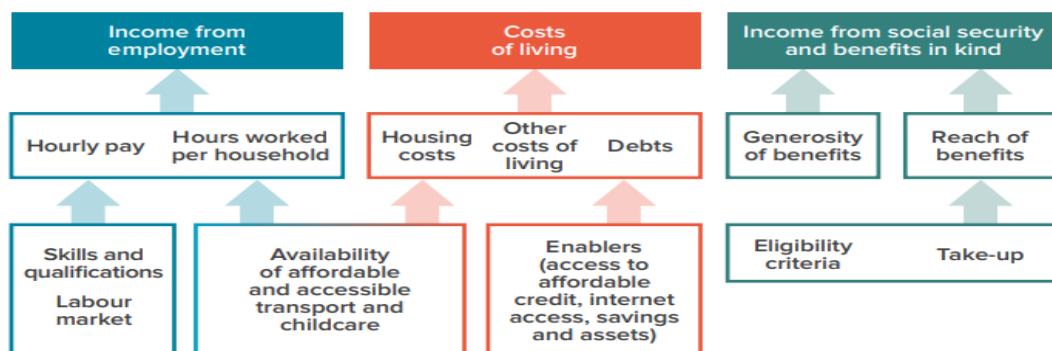


Figure 2 above shows how the SG are guiding action to tackle the drivers of poverty reduction.

Both LCPAR have structured their activities around these drivers and have taken on feedback from the Improvement Service.

North Lanarkshire continues to embed their action plan within their wider Tackling Poverty Action Plan ensuring child poverty is visible across all themes. This year South Lanarkshire have actively worked with the Improvement Service to help focus activity for the coming year 2022-23.

3.2 NHS Lanarkshire Contribution

NHS colleagues are active participants across both North and South in developing contributions to LCPAR.

Activity surrounding anchor organisations will continue to be a central driving force across the partnerships including employability programmes, the expansion of routine enquiry (income maximisation) and procurement activity to name a few areas.

Many NHS staff are local residents so it will also be important to include information and support in the developing Staff Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Action Plan.

4. Strategic Context

This paper links to the following:

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Corporate objectives | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | ADP | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Government policy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Government directive | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Statutory requirement | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | AHF / local policy | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Urgent operational issue | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

5. Contribution to Quality

This paper aligns to the following elements of safety and quality improvement:

Three Quality Ambitions:

| | | | | | |
|------|--------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Safe | <input type="checkbox"/> | Effective | <input type="checkbox"/> | Person Centred | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|------|--------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|

6. Measures for Improvement

Are contained in each of the plans.

7. Financial Implications

Any financial implications will be met within existing budgets.

8. Risk Assessment/Management Implications

The LCPAR continues to be a point of local and national scrutiny. This could have positive and/or negative impacts on perceptions of NHSL as a key partner and proactive PR approaches will be required.

9. Fit with Best Value Criteria

This paper aligns to the following best value criteria:

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Vision and leadership | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Effective partnerships | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Governance and accountability | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Use of resources | <input type="checkbox"/> | Performance management | <input type="checkbox"/> | Equality | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Sustainability | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | |

10. Equality and Diversity Impact Assessment (EQIA)

Has an EQIA been completed:

| | | | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------------|----|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|
| Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No | <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|-----|-------------------------------------|----|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|

11. Consultation and Engagement

Each programme within the LCPAR activity engages with participants and gathers feedback on services and interventions offered. South Lanarkshire did extensive consultation through partners using support from the Improvement Service and North Lanarkshire consulted widely using their Tackling Poverty Officers Action Group.

12. Actions for the NHS Board

| | | | | | |
|---------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Approve | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Endorse | <input type="checkbox"/> | Identify further actions | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Note | <input type="checkbox"/> | Accept the risk identified | <input type="checkbox"/> | Ask for a further report | <input type="checkbox"/> |

The **Board** is asked to:

- Note the endorsement by the Population Health & Primary and Community Services Governance Committee;
- Approve the two LCPARs; and
- Support, champion and prioritise the on-going activity across the partnership to tackle child poverty.

13. Further Information

For further information about any aspect of this paper, please contact:

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