A Fairer Stockton-on-Tees

Supporting our residents through the Cost of Living situation

Fairer Stockton-on-Tees (FSOT) – the Council's strategic framework to reduce inequalities, address the underlying causes of poverty whilst focusing activity on our most deprived neighbourhoods





Key statistics



Average male life expectancy is 77.4 years. It is lowest in Stockton Town Centre Ward (67.4 years) and highest in Ingleby Barwick East Ward (84.1 years), a difference of 21.1 years.



Under 75 mortality rate from all causes (2018-2020) Stockton 395.3 compared to England 336.5. Directly age-standardised rate per 100,000 population



Average female life expectancy is 80.4 years. It is lowest in Stockton Town Centre Ward (71.8 years) and highest in Ingleby Barwick East Ward (90.3 years), a difference of 17.1 years.



19% of the population live with a limiting long-term condition against 21.6% in the North East. The percentage is highest in Stockton Town Centre (27%) and lowest in Ingleby Barwick West (8%).



Key statistics





7.5% of the population aged 18-24 (965) are claiming out-of-work benefits against 4.6% nationally.

23.9% of population aged 16-64 are economically inactive against 21.4% nationally.





24.3% of children are living in poverty against 15.1% nationally (after housing costs).

There are 560 children in our care, a rate of 132 per 10,000 children, against a national rate of 67.0 per 10,000 children



What are we Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council doing already?

Some examples

- Delivered Council Tax Rebates and Discretionary payments made to residents.
- Delivered 3 rounds of the Household Support Grant.
- **Provided** energy saving schemes and advice services delivered i.e. Warm Homes Healthy People.
- Delivered the Holiday Activities Fund and Free School Meals initiatives.
- Supported residents via our Welfare Assistance programmes i.e. Back on Track.
- Worked with partners to deliver Household Health Checks.
- Provided employment and training support through our Training & Employment Hub.
- Supported families through our network of Family Hubs.
- **Valued** the VCSE sector (worked collaboratively with Catalyst, SDAIS and Moneywise to deliver/support essential services).
- Tackling poverty Community Partnerships



The Cost of Living situtaion

- The pandemic left many households in our borough facing financial difficulties. The current cost of living situation led to many in our borough facing new challenges.
- The impact of the cost-of-living situation led the Council in to take immediate steps to support our residents.
- Our key areas of focus have been:
- Energy Crisis
- Food Crisis
- Employee Engagement
- Employee Upskilling
- Child Poverty and
- Corporate Social Responsibility





Cost of Living response

- Cost of Living Hub
- Here to Help booklet
- Warm Spaces (Community Spaces)
- Food Aid Fund
- Corporate Social responsibility (CSR) response
- Employee support video
- Employee drop in sessions
- Child Poverty work



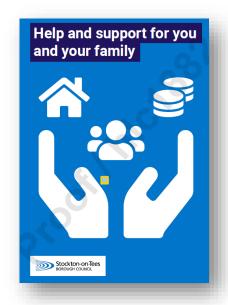
Cost of Living Hub

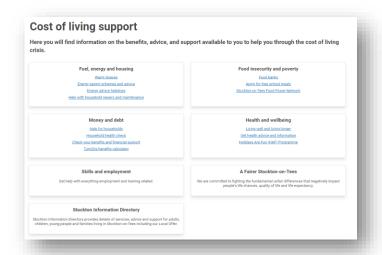


















Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

CSR activity can support immediate priorities such as work to tackle the problems arising from the ongoing cost of living challenges can be seen in this <u>video</u>.

- Giving Time
- Giving resources





Child Poverty

- Feed in service issues affecting Children in Poverty as a result of the Cost of Living situation
- Exploring possibilities around breakfast club provisions, Child Poverty Fund, promotion of HAF services etc.
- Represented at the North East Child Poverty Commission
- Child Poverty Scrutiny review



Employee support and awareness

Employee Support

- Drop in sessions across the organisation
- Up and coming roadshow

Employee Upskilling

• <u>Video</u> created to provide employees of Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council with information on Cost of Living support that is available for themselves and residents across the Borough. The course aimed to provide employees with the wide range of support options available, useful links and details on how to help our residents with Cost of Living related matters.



Other Cost of Living projects

The <u>A Fairer Stockton-on-Tees</u> team have also partnered with Tees Active Leisure to offer discounted leisure sessions from Monday 28 November (term-time only) including swimming for £1.50 at Thornaby Pool (Mondays 1.30pm to 2.45pm, Tuesday to Friday 1.30pm to 3pm) and soft play for £1.50 at Billingham Forum (Monday, Wednesday and Friday – 10.30am to 11.30am and Tuesday and Thursday – 1.30pm to 2.30pm).







Home Alone, Elf and Frozen 2 among free films for movie lovers at warm space this winter

Stockton Arc is offering a string of great films to watch as families stay warm during the cost of living crisis

WHAT'S ON By Jamie Smith
14:44, 23 NOV 2022

Bookmark 🔲











Catalyst

Working alongside partners to address inequalities



- Catalyst secured bid to the National Lottery Fund which is directly aimed at reducing inequalities
- Catalyst FSOT Co-ordinator
- The VCSE Directory gives details of over 300 organisations in the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector in Stockton-on-Tees.



Cost of Living – next steps

Planned activity

- Ongoing quarterly <u>newsletter</u> for all employees and partners is developed;
- On-going work to develop the <u>COL HUB</u>
- COL events are also to be organised across the seven Community Partnership areas through a project task and finish between Sept 23 March 24.
- Up to date <u>COL booklet</u> to be developed.
- COL Network meetings are held bi-monthly with Senior Officers from across directorates to ensure that the work reflects current priorities
- COL related projects include the Databank Project are also to be developed to support the most vulnerable
- APSE nominated! Best Community and Neighbourhood Initiative



Warm Spaces in Stockton-on-Tees

More than 40 venues across the Borough remain open this summer! The need for inclusive and welcoming places for people in need isn't going anywhere. Recent feedback is evidencing how vital these local hubs in the community are to help fight against social isolation and the impacts of the current cost of living. The FSOT team is on with developing an action plan to maximise the Warm Spaces venues to deliver targeted support, activities and more.

To stay up to date, visit the Warm Spaces webpage.





Introducing The Bread and Butter Thing



* Save over £20 a week on your shopping

* New hub opening: 1.30pm, Tuesday 12 September
At The Salvation Army, Palmerston Street,
Stockton-on-Tees, TS18 1NU



Opening in September 2023:

- Salvation Army, Palmerston Street, Stockton, TS18 1NU Tuesdays @ 1.30pm [launches Tuesday 12 September]
- Victoria Park Community Hall, Peel Street, Thornaby, TS17 6HL Mondays @ 1.30pm [launches Monday 18 September]

Discussions ongoing with community partners and volunteer networks with a view to establishing the remaining three hubs by December 2023:

- Newtown Community Resource Centre, Durham Road, Stockton, TS19 0DE Wednesdays @ 1.30pm
- St Andrew's Methodist Church, Hardwick, TS19 8PH Fridays @ 1.30pm
- Community venue in Billingham East TBC Thursdays @ 1.30pm



Next steps

- Planned work agreed through Cabinet /Council
 - Development of an Anti-Poverty Action Plan
 - Equality and Poverty Impact Assessment Toolkit
 - Cost of Living- planned activity



Thankyou!





Settlement support

Association for **Public Service** Excellence



















Billingham & Stockton Foodbank, Billingham Central - Tues & Thurs, 11-2pm





Welfare assistance schemes

Crisis support

Get help if you are in crisis and need help immediately

Back on Track Policy 2021-22

