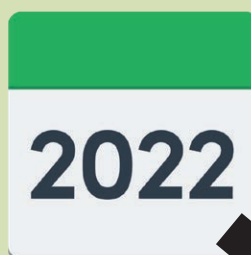
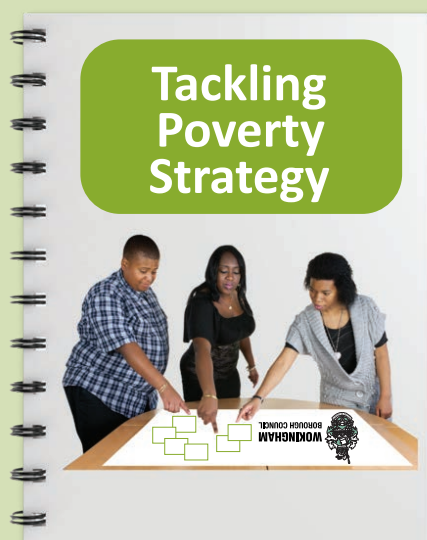


Wokingham Borough Council's

Tackling Poverty Strategy

4 Year Plan 2022-26

Easy Read



WOKINGHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL

This report is made up of 6 sections.
The sections are:



1

Introduction



2

Aims and objectives



3

**Groups we will
focus on**



4

**How we will
support people**



5

The action plan



6

More information



1. Introduction

Lots of people struggle because they worry about money.



Sometimes people describe this as living in **poverty**.

Poverty means you are poor and not able to:

- Pay for food
- Heat your home
- Pay your rent
- Buy the things you and your children need



We **Wokingham Borough Council** are working with local charities to help these people.

The charities we are working with are:



- Citizens Advice Wokingham



- AgeUK Berkshire



- First Days Children's Charity



- Wokingham United Charities



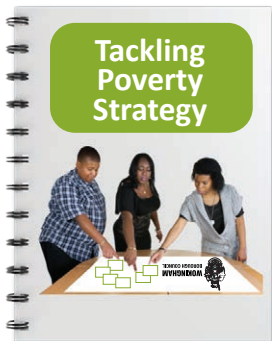
We are calling our group the Hardship Alliance.



1. Introduction



We have a plan to stop poverty in Wokingham Borough.



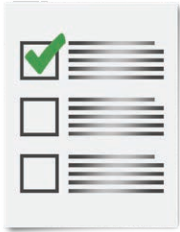
The plan is called the Tackling Poverty Strategy.



The strategy is in place for 4 years.



We will have an **action plan** for each year.
Actions are things that need to get done.



2. Aims and objectives

We want to work towards ending poverty in Wokingham Borough.



There are 4 main things we want the strategy to do:

1. To reduce the impact poverty has on people now.
2. To support people and help them out of poverty.
3. To support people living in poverty.
4. To help residents get out of poverty.



**The strategy also has 3 objectives:
Objectives are things we want to do.**

1. To support people and help them out of poverty.
2. To help communities and stop more people falling into poverty.
3. To improve the lives of people living in poverty.





3. Groups we will focus on

There are 3 main groups of people that need support.

People in **persistent hardship**

These are people on low income, Universal Credit, or other benefits.



People who are **just about managing**

These are people who don't have much money left at the end of the month.



People who are **asset rich, cash poor**

These are people who own a home or a car, which is an asset. But, they don't have much money.





4. How we will support people

Wokingham
Borough
Tackling Poverty
Strategy
2022-26

We have an action plan for 2022-2023 which shows what we are going to do.

There are different ways that we will support people.

We will carry on working with local charities.

We will look at ways to make our services better.

We have some money to help us get things done.

We will use the money on services lots of people can benefit from.

We also have money from the Government's **Levelling Up fund**, which will help communities in the next 3 years.

Levelling up means giving everyone, in all parts of the UK, the same opportunities to make the most of their lives.



5. The action plan



Every year we will make a new action plan
There are lots of things we want to do in 2022 – 2023. We have included some of these below:



Continue to run the **One Front Door Service**.
One Front Door was set up at the start of the pandemic. It helps people with things like money, getting food, loneliness, and more.



Provide a **debt adviser** to Citizens Advice Wokingham. A debt adviser helps people find ways to repay money they owe to others.

Make sure people can easily find information about the support available.

Help people to find jobs and improve their skills.

Lobby for changes to government policy to help those most in need. Lobby means to try and get a government to change its policies.



Train people on how to manage their money and give more help to people who owe money to others.

5. The action plan



Increase access to computers or **IT devices** and help people learn how to use them.

IT devices include things like telephones, iPads, smart phones and printers.

Lots of people do not have good internet access. This means they can't do things on the internet that might save them money.



Tell people how they can save money on their energy bills.

Support people who need help when they move into council homes.



Tell more people about **free school meals** and the **healthy start initiative**.

The healthy start initiative provides food vouchers to pregnant women and parents who are on benefits.

6. More information



You can get this document in other formats and languages.



You can talk to someone about this document
You can call: 0118 974 6000.



You can send an e-mail to:
insightstrategyandinclusion@wokingham.gov.uk.