**Borders Housing Network (BHN)** comprises of the four leading Scottish Borders Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) – Berwickshire Housing Association (BHA), Eildon Housing Association (EHA), Scottish Borders Housing Association (SBHA) and Waverley Housing (WH). Together, BHN provides over 12,000 homes, serving c.23,000 residents within the Scottish Borders. With a combined team of c.480 staff, BHN generates revenue of more than £60m annually which is reinvested into homes and local communities. The network offers joint support programmes, optimising resources and increasing the quality and accessibility of services to Tenants across the region.

### **BHN Partnership and Collaborations**

# **Reducing Fuel Poverty in the Scottish Borders**



BHN has successfully secured more than £1.5m since March 2021 to tackle fuel poverty. This includes,

- funding for an Affordable Warmth Co-ordinator who provides advice and support to people in fuel poverty across the Scottish Borders,
- funding for fuel vouchers for pre-payment meters, and to help pay off fuel debt, and
- o funding for affordable warmth aids such as draught excluders and heated blankets, as well as air fryers as an affordable, low energy way to cook.

As at December 2023, BHN has supported 4,088 adults and 2,370 children in the Borders, with a total of 4,678 fuel bank vouchers disbursed.

#### Make a Stand Pledge



BHN is committed to the Chartered Institute of Housing (CIH) Make a Stand campaign which encourages the social housing sector to develop policies for both staff and customers to tackle domestic abuse. All staff in the four housing associations will be equipped with specialist training with an increased focus on early intervention and accessibility to support services.

#### Raising Awareness of the Impact of Cuckooing and County Lines

A growing concern in the Borders – drug dealers who exploit vulnerable young people, the elderly or those at risk – BHN is committed to raising awareness of the situation and the support and help available for those affected.

## **Past Programme**

**Borders Employment Support and Mentoring (BEAM)** 

(January – October 2022)

BEAM was a partnership with The Wise Group, a leading social enterprise that provides mentoring support, employment, skills, and energy advice, and Borders College. BEAM helped removed barriers to employment to support economically inactive or long-term unemployed people who lived in social housing properties across the Scottish Borders.

The programme offered local community-based advice and support, signposting and linking people with local services and providers. It also supported people who were affected by the poor transport infrastructure and those who had difficulty accessing mainstream services which were not delivered locally.

**BHN – Making a difference, transforming lives and places in the Scottish Borders**. If you would like to contact one of the four Borders Housing Network members, please see the details below.

Berwickshire Housing Association 0800 652 8104 info@berwickshirehousing.org.uk

Eildon Housing Association
03000 200 217
tenancysustainment@eildon.org.uk

Scottish Borders Housing Association 01750 724444 / Freephone 0800 0193 222 enquiries@sbha.org.uk

Waverley Housing 0800 104105 info@waverley-housing.co.uk