



Building Better Life Chances through tackling poverty

Case Study

Cheshire West and Chester's Shared Prosperity Investment Plan aimed to support projects which would positively impact those most in need particularly deprived areas, disabled people and people vulnerable to cost-of-living crisis.

The Council held two fully open application calls, with weighting given to delivery led by residents or that has been co-designed with their input and which would support activity in 20% most deprived wards or worked with the individuals most vulnerable to the cost of living and poverty crisis.

Projects which sought to try out new ways of working which would make them more resilient and sustainable were particularly welcomed.



Funded by UK Government



Cheshire West and Chester



Sticking Together in the Cost-of-Living Crisis, is a project run by Pantry for Blacon (known locally as Blacon Beacon) who secured £26,546 from Cheshire West and Chester Council's Shared Prosperity Funding for a 20-month project to fund a Community Assistant to help empower residents and encourage them to be part of a resilient community that sticks together and supports each other.

The support ranges from practical help – such as assistance filling in forms or increased access to services tackling health and inequalities, through to empowering local residents and working with them to build social cohesion and to share healthy food stories. Local residents make an extremely positive contribution to Blacon by proposing ideas that are then turned into reality, for example cloth-swap events, healthy Sunday Lunches for over 50 Blacon residents and Happy and Healthy meals and cooking sessions for over 65 year-olds. Blacon residents, with a heart of gold and a desire to see good outcomes for everyone in their community, are the back bone of all that Blacon Beacon do.

Between January and March 2024, Blacon Pantry and foodhub saw an increased footfall with 318 residents engaged with social activities, and the more than 3,000 people were impacted by support.

