

[Insert date]

[PLACE] residents take a stand against poverty



People and community groups in **[PLACE]** will gather during Challenge Poverty Week England and Wales (17–23 October) to speak out against systems that cause poverty in the region, and to set out potential solutions.

[NAMES OF GROUPS/PROJECTS] are taking part in Challenge Poverty Week, which is an opportunity for voices that are often ignored to be heard loud and clear. It's a chance to focus attention on the need to tackle poverty, and to show the immense difference we could make to our society if we do.

They will discuss their own work and the main causes of poverty in their communities – with a particular focus on the growing cost of living crisis, what they're doing to address it – and what action is needed from Government.

[INSERT A QUOTE FROM YOU OR A MEMBER OF YOUR GROUP HERE. Include: some background on your group and what it does; why you're getting involved; something about the impact of the cost of living crisis and local causes of poverty; and the need for top-level solutions. If you'd like advice here, let us know or have a look at the key messages on the CPW website.]

[INCLUDE DETAILS HERE OF HOW PEOPLE CAN JOIN YOUR EVENT – date, venue, and e.g. an email address, sign-up page or Zoom link]

Gavin Aitchison, from the national Challenge Poverty Week coordinating team, said: "All of us want to live with dignity – to be treated as fully human, to have choices and be able to participate in our community. But this winter, the soaring cost of living will deny that dignity to millions of people. People will be forced to choose between heating or eating... to skip meals so their children can eat... to go cold and hungry in one of the world's richest countries.

"Challenge Poverty Week is a time for people and communities facing poverty to stand up with dignity, share experiences, and speak out for just solutions to the cost of living crisis."