

# The Coop spreads joy with free Christmas dinners

Scotmid Co-operative have spread some yuletide joy by helping those in need over the festive period with the donation of 3,000 Christmas dinners across the country.

In the community retailer's East Member Region, Scotmid have actively engaged with homeless charity, Crisis Edinburgh to provide funding for meals plus toiletries – shampoo, toothpaste and deodorant – for hundreds of local people, who require help at this time of year.

Jenny Whyte, Volunteer Co-ordinator at Crisis Edinburgh, said: "Scotmid's support has been absolutely brilliant and has meant we have been able to help more people.

"Crisis at Christmas has been going in Edinburgh for the past five years and is a lifeline for local homeless people.

"We provide warmth, shelter, food and we also have a lot of specialist services, like podiatrists and hairdressers, available for free.

"So we hope people will come, have a nice meal, enjoy some good company, play some games and have a nice Christmas.

"The funding will also enable us to help people throughout the year and make a difference."

Scotmid President Harry Cairney said: "This is a fantastic cause that we are very passionate about supporting – Crisis at Christmas in Edinburgh helps people in the local area.

"We were delighted to be able to support the initiative; at this time of year, small gestures can make a big difference and we wanted to help."

The support provided to Crisis Edinburgh is only one of several Christmas Dinner events that Scotmid are supporting across Scotland.