City and County of Swansea

Notice of Meeting

You are invited to attend a Meeting of the

Social Care & Tackling Poverty Service Transformation Committee

At: **Multi-Location Meeting - Gloucester Room, Guildhall / MS Teams**

On: **Monday, 24 July 2023**

Time: **4.00 pm**

Chair: **Councillor Ceri Evans**

Membership:
Councillors: M Baker, Y V Jardine, A J Jeffery, H Lawson, A J O'Connor, J E Pritchard and L V Walton

Watch Online: https://bit.ly/44oj8MY

Agenda

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1	**Election of Vice Chair for the Municipal Year 2023-2024.**	
2	**Apologies for Absence.**	
3	**Disclosures of Personal & Prejudicial Interests.** www.swansea.gov.uk/disclosuresofinterests	
4	**Minutes.** To approve & sign the Minutes of the previous meeting(s) as a correct record.	**1 - 2**
5	**Refresh of Swansea Council Tackling Poverty Strategy. (For Information - Lee Cambule/Anthony Richards)**	**3 - 10**
6	**Levelling Up Grant Process and Criteria. (Presentation - Jane Whitmore/Mark Gosney)**	
7	**Draft Work Plan 2023-2024.**	**11**

 Next Meeting: Monday, 11 September 2023 at 4.00 pm

Huw Evans, Head of Democratic Services
Tuesday, 18 July 2023

Contact: Democratic Services - (01792) 636923

City and County of Swansea

Minutes of the Social Care & Tackling Poverty Service Transformation Committee

Multi-Location Meeting - Gloucester Room, Guildhall / MS Teams

Monday, 12 June 2023 at 3.30 pm

Present: Councillor C R Evans (Chair) Presided

Councillor(s)	**Councillor(s)**	**Councillor(s)**
A J Jeffery	H Lawson	A J O'Connor

Officer(s)
Julie Davies	Head of Child & Family Services
Amy Hawkins	Head of Adult Services & Tackling Poverty
David Howes	Director of Social Services
Allison Lowe	Democratic Services Officer
Lisa Thomas	Senior Lawyer

Also present
L S Gibbard	Cabinet Member for Care Services
H J Gwilliam	Cabinet Member for Community (Support)
A Pugh	Cabinet Member for Well-being

Apologies for Absence
Councillor(s): L V Walton

4 **Disclosures of Personal & Prejudicial Interests.**

In accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by the City & County of Swansea, no interests were declared.

5 **Minutes:**

Resolved that the Minutes of the Social Care & Tackling Poverty Service Transformation Committee held on 18 May 2023 be approved and signed as a correct record.

6 **Terms of Reference. (For Information)**

The Terms of Reference for the newly formed Service Transformation Committees was presented for information.

7   Work Plan Discussions. (Verbal)

The Chair explained that discussions had taken place with the Director of Social Services, relevant Heads of Service and Lead Officers with the following items to be considered to form the future work programme:

- Volunteering Strategy;
- Special Guardianship – policy refresh;
- 'When I'm Ready' – policy refresh;
- Short Breaks – Parent / Carers – statement of purpose;
- Levelling Up – criteria for funding;
- Tackling Poverty Strategy;
- Enabling and promoting independence: Assistive Technology strategy implementation and growth of telecare / telehealth options;
- Internal Residential Care provision - model of delivery / statement of purpose.

The Director of Social Services stressed that this was a heavy programme of work for the Committee, therefore the timetable would require further consideration to ensure meetings were both purposeful and manageable for both Councillors and Officers. Whilst all of the items required work, some items might need to extend into the future year.

Resolved that the Committee approve the above items be included in the future work programme (timetable to be confirmed).

8   Date & Time of Future Meetings. (Discussion)

The Committee discussed the date and time of future meetings.

Resolved that all future meetings commence at 4 pm (rather than 3.30 pm).

The meeting ended at 3.39 pm

Chair

Cyngor **Abertawe**
Swansea Council

Report of the Head of Adult Services and Tackling Poverty

Social Care and Tackling Poverty Service Transformation Committee – 24 July 2023

Refresh of Swansea Council Tackling Poverty Strategy

Purpose:	The report is to update the Service Transformation Committee on the refresh of the corporate Tackling Poverty Strategy and to feedback on initial themes.
Report Author(s):	Lee Cambule / Anthony Richards
Finance Officer:	Chris Davies
Legal Officer:	Carolyn Isaac
Access to Services Officer:	Rhian Millar
For Information	

1.   Background

1.1.   Swansea Council's Corporate Plan 2023-2027 sets out six Corporate Priorities, one of which is 'Tackling Poverty and Enabling Communities – so that every person in Swansea can reach their potential'. Underpinning this Corporate Priority is our strategic direction for tackling poverty.

1.2.   In 2017, the Council published 'Working towards prosperity for all in Swansea - a tackling poverty strategy for Swansea'. Refreshing this 2017 – 2020 strategic document was delayed due to prioritising the response to the COVID-19 pandemic and Cost of Living crisis. There was also a strong desire to undertake co-production and engagement activities to inform the refresh of the strategy.

1.3.   The Tackling Poverty Strategy 2017 – 2020 defined poverty as:
- Income below the Minimum Income Standard (As defined by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation);
- Inadequate access to necessary services of good quality;
- Inadequate opportunity or resource to join in with social, cultural, leisure and decision-making activities.

1.4. The Tackling Poverty Strategy 2017 – 2020 set out an 'everybody's business' approach to tackling poverty and the following vision:

The Council aspires to achieve a Swansea in which:

- **Income poverty** is not a barrier to doing well at school, having a healthy and vibrant life, developing skills and qualifications, and having a fulfilling occupation.
- **Service poverty** is tackled through targeting resources where they have the most effect, with decisions about that made in conjunction with service users.
- **Participation** is enjoyed by all our residents, who have the opportunity and resources to join in with social, cultural and leisure activities and decision-making.
- Residents **Maximise their Income** and get the most out of the money that they have.
- Residents avoid paying the **'Poverty Premium'**, the extra costs people on low incomes must pay for essentials such as fuel and transport.
- **Barriers to Employment** such as transport and childcare are removed.

2. Strategy Content – Early Findings

2.1. The refreshing of Swansea Council's Tackling Poverty Strategy is building on the previous priorities and incorporating the learning from the COVID-19 pandemic response and the Cost of Living crisis.

2.2. The strategy will be based on the following characteristics of poverty, as identified through the Audit Wales review 'Time for Change' published in November 2022. We expect that our priorities for action will align with these seven common issues facing people in poverty. Tackling Poverty is also one of the key priorities of the Human Rights City approach.

2.3. We recognise the journey that people living in poverty are facing and our strategy will align with the following **headings** / key stages of this journey by:

- Focusing on **early intervention** to prevent poverty from happening;
- Dealing with **poverty crisis** to help people in greatest need or risk to avoid or escape crisis point;
- Enabling **poverty reduction** by supporting people already in poverty to reduce the effects or impacts of poverty;
- Helping people to **improve personal prosperity** by developing the confidence, skills and opportunities to tackle poverty for themselves;

- Ensuring people **recover from poverty** and helping them to **exit poverty sustainably** (mitigating the risk that they may return to poverty).

2.4. Based on evidence collected to date and early findings from our strategy development work, we have already started to identify potential priorities for tackling poverty including:

- Creating co-produced pathways out of poverty;
- Tackling and preventing homelessness;
- Improving access to affordable and energy efficient homes;
- More employment opportunities & support to improve employability;
- Improving access to / coordination between services;
- Improving digital inclusion;
- Tackling stigmas, discrimination & inequality.

3. Strategy Revision Process

3.1. Co-production and engagement using a wide range of approaches are being undertaken to ensure that the voices of all key stakeholders - including those with lived experience of poverty and groups that are at higher risk of poverty - shape the development of the strategy and actions.

3.2. Methods of co-production and engagement have included and will include: discussions with the Swansea Poverty Partnership and the Council's Poverty Forum; intelligence gathered from other relevant and recent events such as the Human Rights Action Plan Development event; an online survey for individuals and stakeholders; bespoke scheduled events across a range of venues; and maximising the network of internal and external services and partners to reach and gather a wide range of voices.

3.3. The final strategy will be subject to the findings of our co-production and engagement plus desktop research, review of national strategic drivers, drawing from good practice, recommendations from governing bodies such as Audit Wales, and aligning with other Corporate Priorities.

3.4. The refreshed Tackling Poverty Strategy will reconfirm our strategic intent, and priorities to set out how the Council will deliver on the Corporate Objective of Tackling Poverty and Enabling Communities with clear reporting structures in place.

3.5. A formal consultation period will follow including various formats of the Draft Tackling Poverty Strategy suitable for all audiences prior to the approval and adoption process.

4. Timescales and Next Steps

4.1. The following dates reflect the key phases of the refresh of the Tackling Poverty Strategy:

July and August – Engagement and Co-production.

August and September – Integrated Impact Assessment process and initial drafting.

September – Internal approvals to progress to formal consultation phase.

September and October – Alternative formats developed.

October and November – Formal consultation phase.

November – Finalising and stakeholder feedback

December – Final approval process

4.2. Anybody who wishes to contribute to the co-production and engagement process - to inform the initial draft of the strategy ahead of its formal consultation phase - can get in touch with the Tackling Poverty Development Team via email tacklingpoverty@swansea.gov.uk .

5. Integrated Assessment Implications

5.1. The Council is subject to the Equality Act (Public Sector Equality Duty and the socio-economic duty), the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure, and must in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Acts.
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Deliver better outcomes for those people who experience socio-economic disadvantage.
- Consider opportunities for people to use the Welsh language.
- Treat the Welsh language no less favourably than English.
- Ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

5.2. The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 mandates that public bodies in Wales must carry out sustainable development. Sustainable development means the process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the 'well-being goals'.

5.3.   Our Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) process ensures we have paid due regard to the above. It also takes into account other key issues and priorities, such as poverty and social exclusion, community cohesion, carers, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and Welsh language.

5.4.   An Integrated Impact Screening has been completed for this report with no further assessment required (See Appendix B). This is an IIA Screening for the 'For Information and Action' Report to the Social Care and Tackling Poverty Service Transformation Committee (STC) regarding the refresh of the Council's Tackling Poverty Strategy. A full IIA will be carried out as part of the strategy development process in due course.

6.   Legal Implications

6.1.   There are no legal implications.

7.   Financial Implications

7.1.   Whilst there are no direct financial implications arising from this report, it may lead to decisions being taken at a later date that may have costs attached. Any such costs will need to be managed within departmental resources at that time with due regard to the Council's medium term financial plan.

Background papers: Current Tackling Poverty Strategy
https://www.swansea.gov.uk/article/9610/Tackling-Poverty-Strategy

Appendices:
Appendix A: IIA Screening Form

Appendix A - Integrated Impact Assessment Screening Form

Please ensure that you refer to the Screening Form Guidance while completing this form.

Which service area and directorate are you from?
Service Area: Tackling Poverty Service
Directorate: Adult Social Services

Q1 (a) What are you screening for relevance?

- ☐ New and revised policies, practices or procedures
- ☐ Service review, re-organisation or service changes/reductions, which affect the wider community, service users and/or staff
- ☐ Efficiency or saving proposals
- ☐ Setting budget allocations for new financial year and strategic financial planning
- ☐ New project proposals affecting staff, communities or accessibility to the built environment, e.g., new construction work or adaptations to existing buildings, moving to on-line services, changing location
- ☐ Large Scale Public Events
- ☐ Local implementation of National Strategy/Plans/Legislation
- ☒ Strategic directive and intent, including those developed at Regional Partnership Boards and Public Services Board, which impact on a public bodies functions
- ☒ Medium to long term plans (for example, corporate plans, development plans, service delivery and improvement plans)
- ☐ Setting objectives (for example, well-being objectives, equality objectives, Welsh language strategy)
- ☐ Major procurement and commissioning decisions
- ☐ Decisions that affect the ability (including external partners) to offer Welsh language opportunities and services

(b) Please name and fully <u>describe</u> initiative here:

This is an IIA Screening for the 'For Information' Report to the Social Care and Tackling Poverty Service Transformation Committee regarding the process to revise Swansea Council's Tackling Poverty Strategy.

A full IIA will be carried out as part of the strategy development process in due course.

Q2 What is the potential impact on the following: the impacts below could be positive (+) or negative (-)

	High Impact +	High Impact -	Medium Impact +	Medium Impact -	Low Impact +	Low Impact -	Needs further investigation
Children/young people (0-18)	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐
Older people (50+)	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐
Any other age group	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐
Future Generations (yet to be born)	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐
Disability	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐
Race (including refugees)	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐
Asylum seekers	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐
Gypsies & travellers	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐
Religion or (non-)belief	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
Sex	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
Sexual Orientation	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
Gender reassignment	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
Welsh Language	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
Poverty/social exclusion	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Carers (inc. young carers)	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐
Community cohesion	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐
Marriage & civil partnership	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐

1

Pregnancy and maternity   ☐ ☐   ☐ ☐   ☒ ☐   ☐

Q3   **What involvement has taken place/will you undertake e.g. engagement/consultation/co-productive approaches? Please provide details below – either of your activities or your reasons for not undertaking involvement**

Co-production and engagement using a wide range of approaches are being undertaken from the start of the process to ensure that the voices of all key stakeholders - including those with lived experience of poverty and groups that are at higher risk of poverty - shape the development of the strategy from the outset. We also intend for co-production to be a continuous process and inform development of action plans arising from the refresh of the strategy.

Methods of coproduction and engagement include, but are not limited to: Forum discussions; intelligence gathered from other relevant and recent events such as the Human Rights Action Plan Development event; development of an online survey that can be self-completed or with support from other stakeholders; bespoke scheduled events across a range of venues; and maximising the network of internal and external services and partners to reach and gather a wide range of voices.

Q4   **Have you considered the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 in the development of this initiative:**

   a) **Overall does the initiative support our Corporate Plan's Well-being Objectives when considered together?**
     Yes ☒   No ☐

   b) **Does the initiative consider maximising contribution to each of the seven national well-being goals?**
     Yes ☒   No ☐

   c) **Does the initiative apply each of the five ways of working?**
     Yes ☒   No ☐

   d) **Does the initiative meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs?**
     Yes ☒   No ☐

Q5   **What is the potential risk of the initiative?** *(Consider the following impacts – equality, socio-economic, environmental, cultural, legal, financial, political, media, public perception etc…)*

High risk	Medium risk	Low risk
☐	☐	☒

Q6   **Will this initiative have an impact (however minor) on any other Council service?**

   ☒ **Yes**   ☐ **No**   **If yes, please provide details below**

The refresh of the Tackling Poverty Strategy is a corporate strategic development and we will use existing internal forums and networks (including the Swansea Council Tackling Poverty Forum) to seek input from other Council departments and staff. We envisage that the strategic direction for tackling poverty will remain 'everyone's business' and therefore we will work with senior managers and leaders to take forward this development further.

Appendix A - Integrated Impact Assessment Screening Form

Q7   What is the cumulative impact of this proposal on people and/or communities when considering all the impacts identified within the screening and any other key decisions affecting similar groups/ service users made by the organisation?
(You may need to discuss this with your Service Head or Cabinet Member to consider more widely if this proposal will affect certain groups/ communities more adversely because of other decisions the organisation is making. For example, financial impact/poverty, withdrawal of multiple services and whether this is disadvantaging the same groups, e.g., disabled people, older people, single parents (who are mainly women), etc.)

N/A at this stage.

Outcome of Screening

Q8   Please describe the outcome of your screening below:
- **Summary of impacts identified and mitigation needed (Q2)**
- **Summary of involvement (Q3)**
- **WFG considerations (Q4)**
- **Any risks identified (Q5)**
- **Cumulative impact (Q7)**

This is an IIA Screening for the 'For Information' Report to the Social Care and Tackling Poverty Service Transformation Committee regarding the process to revise Swansea Council's Tackling Poverty Strategy.

A full IIA will be carried out as part of the strategy development process in due course.
  (NB: This summary paragraph should be used in the relevant section of corporate report)

☐ **Full IIA to be completed**

☒ **Do not complete IIA – please ensure you have provided the relevant information above to support this outcome**

NB: Please email this completed form to the Access to Services Team for agreement before obtaining approval from your Head of Service. Head of Service approval is only required via email.

Screening completed by:
Name: Anthony Richards
Job title: Tackling Poverty Development Manager
Date: 12/07/23

Approval by Head of Service:
Name: Amy Hawkins
Position: Head of Adult Social Services and Tackling Poverty
Date:

Please return the completed form to <u>accesstoservices@swansea.gov.uk</u>

Report of the Chair

Social Care & Tackling Poverty Service Transformation Committee – 24 July 2023

Draft Work Plan 2023-2024

Date of meeting	Agenda items and Format	Lead Officer(s)
12 June 2023	• Work Plan Discussion	
24 July 2023	• Levelling Up Grant Process and Criteria	Jane Whitmore / Mark Gosney / Amy Hawkins
	• Tackling Poverty Strategy	Lee Cambule / Anthony Richards / Amy Hawkins
11 September 2023	• Volunteering Strategy	Lee Cambule / Anthony Richards / Amy Hawkins
23 October 2023	• Internal Residential Care provision model of delivery / statement of purpose	Cathy Murray / Alison Bromfield / Amy Hawkins
	• Special Guardianship Ready	Julie Davies / Claire Edwards-Matthews
4 December 2023	• When I'm Ready	Julie Davies / Helen Williams
15 January 2024	•	
26 February 2024	• Short Breaks	Julie Davies / Helen Williams
8 April 2024	•	

Item(s) to be timetabled:

• Enabling and promoting independence: Assistive Technology strategy implementation and growth of telecare / telehealth options.