

Notice of Meeting

You are invited to attend a Meeting of the

Poverty Reduction Policy Development Committee

At: Committee Room 5 - Guildhall, Swansea

On: Wednesday, 27 June 2018

Time: 4.00 pm

Chair: Councillor Alyson Pugh

Membership:

Councillors: P Downing, C R Doyle, D W Helliwell, B Hopkins, Y V Jardine, L R Jones, H M Morris, G J Tanner and L V Walton

Agenda

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|----------|---|--------------|
| 1 | Apologies for Absence. | |
| 2 | Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.
www.swansea.gov.uk/disclosuresofinterests | |
| 3 | Minutes.
To approve & sign the Minutes of the previous meeting(s) as a correct record. | 1 - 3 |
| 4 | Terms of Reference. (For Information) | 4 - 5 |
| 5 | Work Plan 2018-2019. (Discussion) | |

Next Meeting: Wednesday, 25 July 2018 at 4.00 pm



Huw Evans
Head of Democratic Services
Wednesday, 20 June 2018

Contact: Democratic Services: - 636923



City and County of Swansea

Minutes of the **Poverty Reduction Policy Development and Delivery Committee**

Committee Room 5 - Guildhall, Swansea

Wednesday, 25 April 2018 at 4.00 pm

Present: Councillor P B Smith (Chair) Presided

Councillor(s)
D W Helliwell
A Pugh

Councillor(s)
P K Jones
C Richards

Councillor(s)
L R Jones
L V Walton

Officer(s)
Allison Lowe
Rachel Moxey
Steve Porter
Sandie Richards
Chris Sivers

Democratic Services Officer
Head of Poverty & Prevention
Housing Operations Manager
Principal Lawyer
Director of People

Apologies for Absence

Councillor(s): B Hopkins

51 Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.

In accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by the City & County of Swansea, the following interest was declared:

Councillor C Richards declared a personal interest in Minute No. 54 – Work Plan for 2018/19 – Governor of Penyrheol Comprehensive School.

52 Minutes.

Resolved that the Minutes of the Poverty Reduction Policy Development and Delivery Committee held on 28 March 2018 be approved and signed as a correct record.

53 Homelessness.

Steve Porter, Housing Operations Manager provided a presentation on Housing First.

As requested at the last meeting, 2 documents had been circulated to the Committee, which were also included in the agenda pack:

- Housing First – Housing-led solutions to rough sleeping and homelessness (produced by The Centre for Social Justice);

- Housing First (HF) – National Principles and Guidance for Wales.

The Housing Operations Manager explained the background to Housing First (HF), why the Local Authority should consider it, its advantages, including the challenges involved and how it could be taken forward in Swansea. Comments from the Committee included:

- Concern about how Communities would react to having rough sleepers placed in their areas, however most Communities do tend to “look after their own”;
- Utilising the HF scheme means that the need is spread across the City, rather than all being located in one place;
- Acknowledged that it won't suit all those in need but at least those who do take up the scheme will be housed in an area that they chose rather than being chosen for them or them having to go into a hostel situation;
- Mental Health teams will need to play a major role in the partnership work that will need to be undertaken;
- All of the Principles need to be applied for it to work;
- It can be more difficult for HF to work for young people;
- Also need a joined up approach for care leavers;
- Local Councillors will need to be updated where possible - taking into account the new GDPR rules;
- Good work still ongoing within the Welfare Rights Unit in relation to Universal Credit;
- Recent Mortgage Interest Support changes have been announced – how would this affect the scheme?
- Need to ensure the “hidden homeless” are also identified, including those, including youngers who “sofa surf”;
- Whether the funding provided by WG would cover the scheme?
Approximately £12k per year to house a person using the HF scheme.

Resolved that the presentation be noted.

54 Work Plan for 2018/19. (Verbal)

The Committee discussed the work they had undertaken during the 2017-2018 Municipal Year.

They suggested that the following issues still needed to be addressed – cost of school uniforms, free school meals, food banks and low wages in Wales for working families resulting in the working poor. Considering these issues, the Committee would like to recommend that the future Committee consider “Working Poor” as a theme for the Work Plan for 2018/2019.

Resolved that “Working Poor” be recommended as a theme for the future Committee for 2018/19.

The meeting ended at 5.20 pm

Chair



City and County of Swansea

**Minutes of the Poverty Reduction Policy
Development Committee**

Council Chamber - Guildhall, Swansea

Thursday, 24 May 2018 at 4.47 pm

Present:

Councillor(s)

P Downing
B Hopkins
A Pugh

Councillor(s)

C R Doyle
L R Jones
G J Tanner

Councillor(s)

D W Helliwell
H M Morris
L V Walton

Apologies for Absence

Councillor(s): Y V Jardine

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- 1 To suspend Council Procedure Rule 12 "Chair of Meetings" in order to allow the Presiding Member to preside over the under mentioned agenda items.**

Resolved that Procedure Rule 12 be suspended in order to allow the Presiding Member to preside over this meeting.

(Councillor D W Thomas presided)

- 2 To elect a Chair for the Municipal Year 2018 - 2019.**

Resolved that Councillor A Pugh be elected Chair for the 2018-2019 Municipal Year.

(Councillor A Pugh presided)

- 3 To elect a Vice-Chair for the Municipal Year 2018 - 2019.**

Resolved that Councillor C R Doyle be elected Vice-Chair for the 2018-2019 Municipal Year.

- 4 Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.**

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

The meeting ended at 4.48 pm

Chair

Policy Development Committees (PDCs) - Terms of Reference

There are 5 Committees:

- 1) Education Improvement;
- 2) Economy & Infrastructure;
- 3) People Service;
- 4) Poverty Reduction;
- 5) Future Council.

Purpose:

The PDCs are committees of Council with the purpose of development of the Council's Corporate Policies for consideration and adoption by Cabinet and / or Council as appropriate.

Membership & Frequency of Meetings:

- 1) Non-Executive Members are eligible to be members of the PDCs;
- 2) Executive (Cabinet) Members are **not** eligible to be members of the PDC's;
- 3) Frequency of meetings is a matter for the Chair depending on workload; however, it is anticipated that formal Committee meetings shall be held monthly or as dictated by the work plan. In addition to formal Committee meetings, Informal Working Groups may be undertaken, if the work plan dictates;
- 4) Chairs of the PDCs will meet to co-ordinate agendas and work plans to ensure consistency and that there is no duplication in work.

Role and Framework:

The role of the PDC is to:

- 1) Have a work plan shared with the relevant Cabinet Member;
- 2) Focus on policy development & delivery by in depth analysis of policy issues and consider future policy development with reference to the Corporate Plan;
- 3) Make a report and/or recommendation to the Cabinet Member / Cabinet / Council in connection with work undertaken;
- 4) Consider mechanisms to encourage and enhance public participation in development of policy and policy options;
- 5) Work with Senior Officers in a Team Swansea approach to deliver key corporate priorities; and
- 6) Consider and where appropriate to invite relevant organisations / individuals to contribute to policy development discussions.

Relationship with Scrutiny:

- 1) The role of the PDC is distinct from the Council's scrutiny function of holding to account, questioning and challenging proposed decisions, monitoring the performance of services, and tackling issues of concern through inquiries or one-off meetings (which may relate to a broad range of policy / service areas).
- 2) PDCs may refer any issues arising out of their role to the Scrutiny Programme Committee for further consideration / investigation and vice-versa.
- 3) The PDC Chair will also consider whether any matter under consideration should be referred to the Scrutiny Programme Committee.
- 4) PDCs and the Scrutiny Programme Committee should ensure awareness of each other's work programmes and consider whether there is any issue of duplication. The Scrutiny Programme Committee should consider relevant advice but has autonomy on decisions about the scrutiny work programme.

Support:

- 1) The Democratic Services Team shall provide the relevant support to the Policy Development Committees.
- 2) The Director, Head of Service, or nominated relevant Officer will provide work plan support and research and produce reports as appropriate.