



City and County of Swansea

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

Committee Room 5 - Guildhall, Swansea

Wednesday, 25 July 2018 at 4.00 pm

Present: Councillor A Pugh (Chair) Presided

Councillor(s)

P Downing
B Hopkins

Councillor(s)

C R Doyle
G J Tanner

Councillor(s)

D W Helliwell
L V Walton

Officer(s)

Rachel Moxey
Jeremy Parkhouse
Lyndsay Thomas

Head of Poverty & Prevention
Democratic Services Officer
Senior Lawyer

Apologies for Absence

Councillor(s): L R Jones

10 Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.

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

11 Minutes.

Resolved that the Minutes of the Poverty Reduction Policy Development Committee held on 27 June 2018 be signed and approved as a correct record.

12 Presentation - Poverty Truth Commission.

The Head of Poverty & Prevention provided the Committee with a presentation on Poverty Truth Commission. Details provided in the presentation included: -

- Nothing about Us, without Us, is for Us;
- Other areas;
- Cannot be owned by the Council;
- Principles;
- Scotland and Leeds;
- 6 example key steps;
- Example key steps;
- Swansea proposal;
- Resource.

The Committee discussed the information contained in the presentation as follows: -

- The success of the projects in Leeds and Scotland;
- The need to involve people experiencing poverty at the moment;
- The need to be independent from the Council is essential;
- The potential costs involved;
- Interested organisations and how they could contribute non-financially, e.g. by providing resources;
- Providing a report highlighting the next steps and outlining the terms of reference;
- Using the experience of past events organised by the Authority to develop the proposals;
- The slow pace of change and supporting people now, when they needed help the most;
- Understanding that the Poverty Truth Commission would be a more generic project and would seek to understand the reasons why people make decisions and also bring them into contact with the Council leadership;
- The potential impact of continued austerity upon non-statutory services;
- Very little progress that has been made in this area over the previous 20 years;
- The positive effect the project could have and how this could expand;
- The stigma felt by people living in poverty and encouraging more openness;
- Organising an open day and inviting the leaders from other similar projects to contribute.

Resolved that: -

- 1) The contents of the presentation be noted;
- 2) A draft Cabinet report outlining the recommendation from PDC to advocate the development of proposals for a Swansea Poverty Truth Commission along with next steps be provided at the next scheduled meeting;
- 3) Feedback on investigations on progress in other areas be provided at the next scheduled meeting.

13 Work Plan 2018-2019.

The Chair presented an updated Work Plan 2018-2019.

Feedback on investigations on progress in other areas and the draft Cabinet report for approval regarding the Poverty Truth Commission be added.

Resolved that the content of the report be noted.

The meeting ended at 5.20 pm

Chair