



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: Remotely via Microsoft Teams

On: Monday, 7 April 2025

Time: 4.00 pm

Chair: Councillor Mandy Evans

Membership:

Councillors: M Baker, P N Bentu, C R Evans, Y V Jardine, A J Jeffery, A J O'Connor, B J Rowlands and L V Walton

Watch Online: <http://tiny.cc/SocialCareSTC07-4>

Agenda

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Mandy Evans

Huw Evans
Head of Democratic Services
Tuesday, 1 April 2025

Contact: Democratic Services - (01792) 636923

Agenda Item 3



City and County of Swansea

Minutes of the **Social Care & Tackling Poverty Service Transformation Committee**

Multi-Location Meeting - Lilian Hopkin Room, Guildhall / MS

Teams

Monday, 24 February 2025 at 4.00 pm

Present: Councillor V M Evans (Chair) Presided

Councillor(s)

M Baker
A J Jeffery

Councillor(s)

P N Bentu
B J Rowlands

Councillor(s)

C R Evans
L V Walton

Officer(s)

Amy Hawkins
Allison Lowe
Simon Jones

Director of Social Services
Democratic Services Officer
Social Services Strategy and Performance Improvement
Officer

Julie Davies
Matthew Joyce-Brown
Chris Griffiths

Head of Child & Family Services
Lawyer
Principal Officer - Residential Support

Also present

L S Gibbard Cabinet Member for Care Services

Apologies for Absence

Councillor(s): A J O'Connor

32 Disclosures of Personal & Prejudicial Interests.

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

Councillor C R Evans declared a personal interest in minute 34 "Placement Sufficiency & Sustainability".

33 Minutes:

Resolved that the Minutes of the Social Care & Tackling Poverty Service Transformation Committee held on 13 January 2025 be approved and signed as a correct record subject to apologies from Councillor P N Bentu being included.

34 Placement Sufficiency & Sustainability.

The Head of Child & Family Services and Principal Officer for Residential Support provided a “for information” report which provided the Social Care & Tackling Poverty Service Transformation Committee with an update and overview of placement sufficiency within Child and Family Services for children who require residential and supported accommodation.

The report outlined the current arrangements around sufficiency of provision to include fostering but also the wider provision (residential supported accommodation) and how this meets the need and promotes better outcomes for our care experienced children and young people.

The Committee asked various questions, which the officers responded to accordingly.

The Chair thanked the officers for the update / overview.

35 Work Plan 2024-2025.

The Chair presented the work plan for 2024-2025.

Resolved that the Work Plan be noted subject to the following amendments to the agenda items for 7 April 2025:

Remove – Update on work carried out in relation to Substance Misuse. Item deferred to May / June 2025.

Add – Update on – Poverty Truth Commission, Adult Services Early Help Approach and Tackling Poverty Strategy.

The meeting ended at 4.38 pm

Chair

Agenda Item 4



Report of the Head of Adult Services and Tackling Poverty

Social Care and Tackling Poverty Service Transformation Committee –
7 April 2025

Adult Services Early Help Approach - Update

Purpose:	To inform the STC on an update on the Prevention and Early Help strategic approach in Adult Services. The report is for information purposes only.
Report Author:	Amy Hawkins
Finance Officer:	Chris Davies
Legal Officer:	Debbie Smith
Access to Services Officer:	N/A
For Information	

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Prevention and Early Intervention is one of the principles of the Social Services and Well-being Act, to increase preventative services in the community to minimise the escalation of critical need.
- 1.2 We define Prevention activity as **support** to maintain well-being and prevent or delay the development of people's need for care and support. This is via open access support.
- 1.3 We define Early Help as **interventions** to help people achieve well-being and what matters to them, removing or delaying the need for managed care and / or support. These are targeted or time-limited interventions.
- 1.4 The demand for Social Care is increasing significantly and exceeding the available resources. This has included a 21% increase in referrals for managed care and 18% increase in domiciliary care and a 7% increase in funded residential care.

1.5 We need to support people earlier to maintain their independence and reduce or delay the need for managed care.

2. **Adult Services Prevention and Early Help Strategic Approach**



2.1

2.2 The approach involves increasing the number of people accessing Enabling Communities activity, increasing those accessing Prevention activities and support and increasing short-term Early Help interventions. It is also focused on those currently in receipt of managed care accessing Early Help and Prevention support.

3. **Update**

3.1 An update further to the previous report in December 2024. A revised structure of Adult Services team will be in place from 1/4/25 to strengthen the Early Help approach. This includes a new lead officer focusing on developing and leading the Adult Services Early Help offer, ensuring a coordinated approach to delivering front-line services that promote independence, well-being, and prevent recourse into managed care.

3.2 The Early Help lead will be collaborating with various departments, strategic partners, community and voluntary sector organisations, and other stakeholders to build on existing Early Help pathways of support and develop and facilitate additional pathways.

3.3 The lead will oversee a new Early Help team which is made up of existing and new teams, including the Information, Advice and Assistance teams from the Common Access Point, Local Area Coordination and the Third Sector Well-being team.

3.4 Resources have been secured and work is planned to enhance the social value of commissioned contracts to maximise Prevention and Early Help

opportunities. There will also be an additional post in the Third Sector to identify and develop pathways of Prevention and Early Help within community and Third Sector organisations.

- 3.5 Enhanced Early Help output and outcome data is being incorporated into the Adult Services performance reporting and will be developed further during the year.
- 3.6 The existing Tackling Poverty team are being renamed the Tackling Poverty and Enabling Communities team. This combines the existing Tackling Poverty, Participation and Involvement teams, and Community Safety teams supporting Enabling Communities activity within Adult Services and across the Social Services Directorate.

4. Integrated Assessment Implications

- 4.1 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.
- 4.2 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'.
- 4.3 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.
- 4.4 This is a for-information report. As such an IIA screening is not required.

5. Legal Implications

5.1 There are no legal implications associated with this report.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

Background Papers: None

Appendices: None

Agenda Item 5



Report of the Head of Adult Social Services and Tackling Poverty

Social Care and Tackling Poverty Service Transformation Committee –
7 April 2025

Swansea Poverty Truth Commission – Evaluation and Update Report

Purpose: The report is for information purposes only.

Report Authors: Anthony Richards / Amy Hawkins

Finance Officer: Chris Davies

Legal Officer: Mathew Joyce-Brown

Access to Services Officer: N/A

For Information

1 Background

- 1.1 Poverty Truth Commissions place those with lived experience of poverty at the heart of decision-making about poverty. They create a safe space for those with lived experience of poverty to tell their stories, build relationships with each other, and with influential decision makers in a local area.
- 1.2 Poverty Truth Commissions are not owned nor directed by any single organisation. Commissions are made up of 'Community Commissioners' with lived experience of poverty, and 'Civic and Business Commissioners' who have influence within key local services. A 'Facilitation Team' supports the Commission through its lifespan.
- 1.3 In Swansea, the Facilitation Team is hosted by Swansea Council for Voluntary Service (SCVS). SCVS was selected as host organisation by the multi-agency 'Start Up Group' which was coordinated by the Tackling Poverty Service in Swansea Council.
- 1.4 The [Swansea Poverty Truth Commission](#) (SPTC / PTC) held its official [launch event](#) at the Taliesin Theatre in October 2022 with the Community Commissioners telling their stories, and Civic and Business Commissioners officially recruited into the Commission.

1.5 Following the course of the Commission, a [‘Celebration Event’](#) was held at the Dylan Thomas Centre in April 2024.

2 Evaluation Report

2.1 The [independent evaluation](#) of the first Swansea PTC found that, in common with other PTCs, it had:

- *Deepened Commissioners’ understanding of poverty and the role of the system, that is supposed to be there to help people when they are in need but ends up creating deeper and more problematic issues.*
- *Increased the visibility of poverty and has given voice to the different aspects of poverty.*
- *Created a momentum and commitment to making change happen, despite the constraints and challenges facing the public sector.*
- *Changed people personally and professionally.*
- *Had influence well beyond Swansea with input into national and UK wide strategies.*

2.2 Individuals experiencing poverty were found to have benefitted personally from the PTC’s high level of interpersonal support and the very effective signposting to relevant services – a result of the Commission being hosted within SCVS and having access to so many supportive projects and partner agencies.

2.3 SCVS’s trauma-informed approach ensured that Community Commissioners had access to counselling which enabled them to process the difficult experiences which arise when discussing poverty, so not only remain engaged in the Commission but have the resilience to develop their role as “experts by experience” in other spaces.

2.4 Civic and Business Commissioners were found to have undergone significant shifts in their perception and understanding of poverty, with a strengthened ability to see connections between poverty in their work areas, and an increased commitment to learning from the expertise of lived experience.

3 Learning and Recommendations

3.1 The Commission’s three working groups each made clear recommendations for local businesses and services to consider taking up. These include:

- A “Rehumanising Systems and Services” Charter.
- More signposting to easily accessible services to support mental health, which people do not know are available to them.
- A review of GP’s general accessibility – many barriers have been encountered in trying to simply book appointments.
- A Peer Mentoring scheme between service providers and service users, to learn from each other and improve service impacts.

3.2 An overall recommendation from the Commission was that a “Lived Experience Panel” should be formed to allow ongoing dialogue between local

service providers and service users on low incomes about how Swansea could be improved.

- 3.3 The effectiveness of the “Poverty Truth Approach” has been recognised, with its emphasis on relationship building as a basis for honest conversations leading to innovative solutions. This has subsequently been explored further by SCVS in a shorter-term project using Welsh Government Child Poverty Innovation Grant, with excellent results.

4 Next Steps

- 4.1 SCVS completion of report summarising the recommendations and learning points from the Swansea Poverty Truth Commission.
- 4.2 Exploring the opportunity to secure resources for a second STPC via establishing a new ‘Start-Up Group’.
- 4.3 Working with Housing to pilot implementation of the Rehumanising Systems and Services Charter.

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.
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 - 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 This is a for-information report. As such an IIA screening is not required.

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: None

Appendices: None

Agenda Item 6



Report of the Head of Adult Social Services and Tackling Poverty

Social Care and Tackling Poverty Service Transformation Committee –
7 April 2025

Update on Tackling Poverty Strategy Refresh

Purpose: The report is for information purposes only.

Report Author: Lee Cambule

Finance Officer: Chris Davies

Legal Officer: Mathew Joyce-Brown

Access to Services Officer: N/A

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 and enabling communities. Tackling poverty is also one of the key priorities of the Human Rights City approach.
- 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 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 In the last 18 months, work has progressed on the drafting, engagement and communication of a refreshed Tackling Poverty Strategy. A final draft is about to be issued for approval to take to public consultation. This report highlights the progress that has been made on this development work.

2 Development Update

- 2.1 In September 2024, the Tackling Poverty Service (TPS) provided an updated on the work that had been ongoing to develop the initial draft version of the refreshed Tackling Poverty Strategy including:

- Conducting a public survey in August/September 2023 which received over 300 responses from individuals and organisations across Swansea;
- Face-to-face engagement sessions including the One Stop Information Shop at the National Waterfront Museum and two public drop-in sessions at the Opportunities Hub in the Quadrant Shopping Centre;
- Analysis of various policies, strategies, studies and research findings that have been co-produced with people who have experienced policy from organisations such as Joseph Rowntree Foundation;
- Engaging with the Council's internal and external poverty forums to connect with teams and organisations who have direct contact with people who have experienced poverty.

2.2 Since September 2024, the initial draft version was finalised and socialised with a wide range of internal and external stakeholders to gain initial views and insights on the proposed content. These engagement activities included:

- Further face-to-face engagement sessions with the general public and our key partnerships and forums;
- Quality review with colleagues from Council departments who are involved in tackling poverty, coordinated via the Enabling Communities Group and Swansea Council Poverty Forum;
- Direct engagement with the Swansea Poverty Truth Commission (SPTC) and other existing clients and contacts with lived experience of poverty;
- Presentations to the Council's Senior Managers Group (SMG) and a Cabinet/CMT Away Day as well as a range of senior leadership team meetings and events across Directorates.

2.3 While these engagement activities have been very encouraging and broadly supportive of the content of the strategy (including the proposed vision, definition, principles and themes), it has increased the awareness and profile of the work that is required to deliver a "One Swansea" approach to tackling poverty. Therefore, we are planning to increase internal and external engagement during the period of public consultation to build on this high profile and push the message that tackling poverty is everyone's business.

3 Next Steps

3.1 Presentation to Cabinet for final approval to proceed to public consultation with the draft strategy document.

3.2 Development of multiple versions of the draft strategy document to make the public consultation as accessible as possible (e.g. Welsh Language and Easy Read versions).

3.3 Planning and scheduling a range of engagement activities to coincide with the public consultation period.

3.4 Formal launch campaign for the public consultation including corporate communications and promotion through our community and face-to-face public services.

4 Integrated Assessment Implications

- 4.1 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:
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- 4.3 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 Legal Implications

- 5.1 There are no legal implications.

6 Financial Implications

- 6.1 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: None

Appendices: None

Agenda Item 7



Report of Director of Social Services and Chair of Social Care & Tackling Poverty Service Transformation Committee

Social Care & Tackling Poverty Service Transformation Committee - 7 April 2025

Social Care & Tackling Poverty Service Transformation Committee Annual Report 2024-2025

Purpose:	This report summarises the work programme of the Social Care & Tackling Poverty Service Transformation Committee in 2024/25.
Report Authors:	Simon Jones / David Howes
Finance Officer:	Chris Davies
Legal Officer:	Matthew Joyce-Brown
Access to Services Officer:	Cath Window
For Information	

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Service Transformation Committees were established in place of the former Corporate Delivery Committees to enable elected members to contribute to the ongoing development of the council's transformation activities.
- 1.2 The expected role of Service Transformation Committees contributes to:
 - Shape future policy and/or service design.
 - Consider mechanisms to encourage and enhance public participation in development of policy and service models.
 - Work with Senior Officers and Cabinet Members in a Team Swansea approach.
 - Consider and where appropriate to invite relevant organisations / individuals to contribute to policy development and service design discussions.

- 1.3 The Service Transformation Committees are expected to focus a work programme on work priorities linked to the Council's policy commitments and corporate plan priorities:
- Safeguarding people from harm
 - Tackling poverty and enabling communities
- 1.4 'Successful and Sustainable Swansea' – our transformation strategy for 2022-2027 and beyond supports the Council's Medium-Term Financial Plan objectives, and has twelve change programmes including:
- Transforming Adult Services
 - Transforming Child and Family Services
 - Future community hub model
 - Enabling Communities
- 1.5 The Chair of the Committee, Cllr Mandy Evans was elected at the May 2024 meeting, and outlined out a clear intention to progress an ambitious programme of work should progress policy within the schedule of future meetings. Cllr Patience Bentu was elected as the Committee's Vice-Chair.
- 1.6 Discussions took place with the relevant Cabinet Members and Senior Officers to identify proposals for the work programme likely to have most impact in support of the above Councils priorities and transformational aims and importantly most likely to improve the wellbeing outcomes for Swansea residents.
- 1.7 The terms of reference and initial work programme for 2024-25 were discussed and agreed at the June 2024 meeting, and the table below highlights the journey looking into specific areas of policy and strategy work:

Date of Meeting	Agenda Items
22 nd July 2024	– Swansea Council Volunteering Policy
	– Assistive Technology and Promoting Independence
16 th Sept. 2024	– Digital Inclusion (Digital Transformation)
	– Refresh of Council' s Tackling Poverty strategy,
9 th Dec. 2024	– Adult Services Early Help approach
	– Transition (Child to Adult)
	– Supporting Parents & Carers of Children with Additional Needs
	– Swansea Poverty Truth Commission
13 th Jan. 2025	– Tackling Poverty Strategy

	– Adult Services Day Service Transformation
24 th Feb. 2025	– Placement Sufficiency & Sustainability
7 th April 2025	– Annual Report

2. Outcomes from the work of the Social Care & Tackling Poverty Service Transformation Committee

This section summarises the progress made, outcome and outputs in each of the Committee’s main areas of work during the year 2024/5

2.1 Swansea Council Volunteering policy

The Tackling Poverty Development Manager presented a” report on the development of Swansea Council’s Volunteering policy in draft. The Draft Swansea Council Volunteering Policy was developed in partnership with Swansea Council for Voluntary Services. Our approach is based on best practice, as identified by Third Sector Support Wales, with a clear definition of volunteering, setting out the standards expected, and commitments needed within roles and responsibilities, for recruitment and selection, induction, training, support and supervision.

The draft Volunteering Policy is supported by a Manager’s Toolkit and Volunteer Handbook, both of which are key components to support the effective delivery of the new policy. The Manager’s Toolkit contains the resources required to enable services to welcome and host volunteers to meet our commitment to their development. The Volunteer Handbook sets out vital information to promote volunteer wellbeing in their work within Council services.

The Committee are looking forward to seeing the final policy approved and implemented.

2.2 Assistive Technology and Promoting Independence

The Transformation Manager, Adult Services presented an update on Adult Services Assistive Technology and planned activity. The report provided information on the current Adult Services assistive technology ‘offer’, how the service is integral to the Adult Services Transformation Programme for 2024/25, specifically supporting the priority of ‘Promoting Independence’.

The Committee were extremely interested in how an Assistive Technology ‘Smart Home Suite’ might aid residents and their families to engage with new aids. The suite, expected to be available this year, will display the latest in smart device technology available on the market today along with ‘connected’ Assistive Technology products the service already provides, all simulated in a familiar home environment.

2.3 Digital Inclusion (Digital Transformation)

Cabinet Member for Community (Support) emphasised the importance of this work when introducing this work to ensure that Swansea residents can access services where there has been digital change. Alongside digital

transformation, work is needed to remove any barriers, citizens may face in accessing services such as digital poverty, digital exclusion and support needed in learning new digital skills.

The Committee stressed the importance of this work with leadership across all council/ public domain, and the need to ensure fair and equal access to all public services. This work has now been incorporated as a workstream in the Council's refreshed Tackling Poverty strategy.

2.4 Adult Services Early Help Approach

Cabinet Member for Community (Support) introduced the item and outlined the context of the report. The Interim Director of Social Services then presented the report to set out the Prevention and Early Help strategic approach in Adult Services, and proposals for next steps taking this approach forward.

The Committee focussed on how changes could be best communicated to Swansea residents and fair accessibility, with the importance of getting this right for our communities and those in need of care. The Committee also praised the "one stop information shop", held on the first Monday of every month at the Waterfront Museum, which can be complemented with local approaches to getting right help at the right time.

2.5 Transition (Child to Adult)

Head of Child & Family Services presented on service developments in relation to the transition from Child and Family Services to Adult Services for children with disabilities or additional learning needs.

The report outlined the commitment, vision and ambition to support positive transitions from child and family services into adult services for children with disabilities or additional learning needs of our young people to inform our practice, and how we will develop and adapt our service as required to ensure these needs are appropriately met.

Work is about to begin in the development of a transition policy which spans across child and family services and adult services. The focus will be to ensure a smooth transition for all young people entering adulthood where they require ongoing support from services.

2.6 Supporting Parents & Carers of Children with Additional Needs

The Child Disability Team Manager, assisted by the Commissioning Team Leader on behalf of the Principal Officer - Adolescent and Young People Service, presented a "For information" report to provide an overview of the provision by Child & Family Services of short respite breaks for both children and young people with disabilities and / or additional needs and their parents / carers. The review of Short Breaks service is almost complete, and recommendations will be taken to Senior Manager over the next few months.

The "Here for you this Winter" programme took place over winter 24/25. This was an extension of the COAST programme which included delivery of activities over holiday and weekend periods. A number of these

activities was specifically targeted at children and young people with additional learning needs.

2.7 Swansea Poverty Truth Commission

The Committee were updated about the work of the Swansea Poverty Truth Commission which places those affected by poverty at the heart of discussions about poverty. PTCs give a face to the facts, by creating safe spaces for people with lived experience of poverty to tell their stories, build relationships with each other, and with influential decision makers in the local area. The Swansea Truth Commission report has recently been published following a celebration event, and the finding shared with civic business and community leaders:

[Swansea Poverty Truth Commission | Swansea CVS](#)

The Tackling Poverty Development Manager reported in the 'Rehumanising Systems and Services Charter' as developed by the Swansea Poverty Truth Commission and plans to coproduce a Planning and Implementation Framework to take this work forward.

The Committee fully supported the work of the Commission in working with lived experience of people in poverty, and on building transformative relationships to finding solutions. The Committee is looking forward to supporting the next phase of work.

2.8 Tackling Poverty Strategy

Tackling Poverty Service Manager presented a report outlining the Council's approach to a refreshed Tackling Poverty Strategy (2024-2029) with extensive engagement and working with individuals and organisations as well as undertaking a public survey, which received over 300 responses. The Committee made several comments in relation to options for the public to contribute to the consultation process. The draft strategy document is ready to go out for Cabinet approval with plans to commence public consultation from March 2025, involving further opportunity for Councillors and the public to contribute to the final strategy and plans.

[Appendix A -Tackling Poverty Strategy 2024-2029 V0.6.pdf](#)

2.9 Adult Services Day Opportunities

The Committee heard plans for the transformation of internal Day Services aligned to Adult Service 3 key priorities:

- Prevention and Early Help,
- Promoting Independence
- Prioritising Resources

Adult Services' Target Operating Model promotes community, preventative and early help services, and recourse to managed care when there are no other options to help a person achieve their wellbeing outcomes.

The Committee is supportive of the approach using co-production to help transform existing internal day services towards achieving six Day Opportunity types identified within the model:

1. Social and Community (Prevention & Early Help)

2. Assessment (Early Help)
3. Employability, Well-being and Skills Development (Early Help and Managed Care)
4. Flexible Support (Early Help and Managed Care)
5. Day Activity (Managed Care)
6. Specialist day support (Managed Care)

The Committee was keen to ensure that carers and families are centre stage in these proposals and fully involved in the co-produced model of future services.

2.10 Placement Sufficiency & Sustainability

The Committee inquired into how the Council are managing the elimination of profit agenda (as described in Welsh Government's draft Health and Social Care Bill) on placement sufficiency requirements and the local authority's ability to fulfil its sufficiency duty. The Bill seeks to eliminate private profit from the provision of children's care services, including children's homes, secure accommodation, and fostering services for looked-after children.

The Committee heard how both relational care and therapeutic care are approaches used in children's care settings (such as foster care, residential homes, and secure accommodation) are vital to support the emotional, psychological, and social well-being of children, particularly those who have experienced trauma or difficult life circumstances. These approaches emphasize building strong, positive relationships and providing emotional and psychological support to help children heal and thrive. The plan emphasises the need to recruit and develop the children's residential care workforce so that we have enough well trained and supported staff.

The Committee supported Child and Family Services in their ambition is to have 25 in-house residential beds available for Swansea children in the next 4 years, subject to sufficient resource to deliver our target operating model. Plans involve integrated work with Health to ensure we develop an appropriate therapeutic model to meet the care and support needs of children, as well as close partnership work with Education. Our shared best hope is to support children and young people out of residential care and for them to either return home to family or move into a local in house foster placement, so that there are inclusive pathways for our children and young people to access locally based and education and learning.

3. Conclusion

3.1 Concluding the Committee's work programme:

The Committee's Chair and Vice Chair have thanked Officers for the reports presented during this programme of meeting. The Committee has frequently commented on the standard of reporting and the commitment show to co-production with transformation programmes, strategy and

policy development. This way of working ensures that there is a broad ownership, consideration of impact and a support base for implementation, and that the work making a vital contribution to the Council's corporate priorities and well-being outcomes of Swansea residents.

3.2 Looking ahead:

The Committee is already looking ahead toward the next programme. of work, and those items to be carried forward:

The Social Care & Tackling Poverty Service Transformation Committee expects to receive an update on the work of the local Safer Swansea Partnership in relation to **tackling Substance Misuse**, and how this work is supported by the West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board.

The Committee expects to remain informed about the Tackling Poverty strategy implementation, and the next phase of the Swansea Poverty Truth Commission following up work on applying the 'Rehumanising Systems and Services Charter'.

The Committee resolved to follow up on Assistive Technology, following up the launch of a 'Smart Home' suite within the Assistive technology service.

4. Integrated Assessment Implications

4.1 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.

4.1.1 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'.

4.1.2 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.

4.2 This is a 'for information' report. As such an IIA screening is not required

5. Financial Implications

5.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

6. Legal Implications

6.1 There are no legal implications associated with consideration of this report.

Background Papers: None

Appendices: None

Agenda Item 8



Report of the Chair

Social Care & Tackling Poverty Service Transformation Committee - 7 April 2025

Work Plan 2024-2025

Date of meeting	Agenda items and Format	Lead Officer(s)
10 June 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work Plan Discussion 	
22 July 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swansea Council Volunteering Policy Assistive Technology and Promoting Independence 	Amy Hawkins / Lee Cambule / Anthony Richards Helen St. John / Lucy Friday
16 September 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tackling Poverty Strategy (Update on progress) Digital Inclusion (Digital Transformation) 	Amy Hawkins / Lee Cambule Amy Hawkins / Lee Cambule
28 October 2024	MEETING CANCELLED	
9 December 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adult Services Early Help Approach Transition (Child to Adult) Supporting Parents & Carers of Children with Additional Needs Swansea Poverty Truth Commission 	Amy Hawkins Julie Davies Julie Davies Amy Hawkins/Anthony Richards
13 January 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tackling Poverty Strategy Adult Services Day Opportunities 	Amy Hawkins Amy Hawkins
24 February 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Placement Sufficiency & Sustainability 	Julie Davies
7 April 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updates on: Poverty Truth Commission, Adult Services Early Help Approach, Tackling Poverty Strategy Annual Report 2024-2025. 	Amy Hawkins Simon Jones

- Update on work carried out in relation to Substance Misuse - Slipped to May / June to allow feedback from the Commission (Safer Swansea Partnership / Swansea PSB / Cllr Alyson Anthony)