



City and County of Swansea

Notice of Meeting

You are invited to attend a Meeting of the

Poverty Reduction Policy Development Committee

At: Committee Room 1 - Civic Centre, Swansea

On: Wednesday, 26 September 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 | Presentations - High Interest Lending.
<i>Rachel Moxey – Head of Poverty and Prevention Services</i>
<i>Julie Mallinson – Celtic Credit Union</i> | |
| 5 | Presentation - Introduction to Human Rights City.
<i>Jane Whitmore - Partnership & Commissioning Manager</i> | |
| 6 | Letter of the Chair to Cabinet Members - Homelessness Strategy 2018 - 2022. (For Information) | 4 - 5 |
| 7 | Work Plan 2018-2019. | 6 - 7 |

Next Meeting: Wednesday, 24 October 2018 at 4.00 pm

Huw Evans

Huw Evans
Head of Democratic Services
Wednesday, 19 September 2018

Contact: Democratic Services: - 636923

Agenda Item 3



City and County of Swansea

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

Committee Room 5 - Guildhall, Swansea

Wednesday, 22 August 2018 at 4.00 pm

Present: Councillor A Pugh (Chair) Presided

Councillor(s)

P Downing
L R Jones

Councillor(s)

C R Doyle
G J Tanner

Councillor(s)

D W Helliwell
L V Walton

Officer(s)

Rosie Jackson
Rachel Moxey
Jeremy Parkhouse
Steve Porter
Joanne Portwood
Lyndsay Thomas

Senior Policy & Leasehold Officer
Head of Poverty & Prevention
Democratic Services Officer
Housing Operations Manager
Strategy and Policy Officer
Principal Lawyer

Apologies for Absence

David Howes

14 Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.

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

15 Minutes.

Resolved that the Minutes of the Poverty Reduction Policy Development Committee held on 25 July 2018 be signed and approved as a correct record.

16 Draft Homelessness Strategy and Action Plan.

Steve Porter, Operations Manager - Community Housing Services and Rosie Jackson, Senior Policy and Leasehold Management Officer provided a detailed and informative presentation on the Draft Homelessness Strategy and Action Plan.

Details provided in the presentation included: -

- Purpose
- Housing (Wales) Act 2014
- Progress So Far

- Emerging Themes
- Key Priorities
- Draft Aim
- Key Principles
- Draft Objectives & Actions
- Objectives 1-5
- Action Plan
- Next Steps

The Committee asked questions regarding the content of the presentation, which were responded to accordingly. Discussions centred around: -

- Access to services and how each person's needs differed and the requirement for the service provided to be flexible;
- Looking at the practical aspect of getting systems to work together;
- The positive and negative aspects of hostels and focussing upon the positives;
- Provisions in place for couples and the difficulties faced in dealing with certain circumstances, e.g. domestic abuse;
- The importance of having an action plan going forward;
- The importance of involving service users in consultations and how their views have been incorporated into the action plan;
- The huge amount of research that had been done in this area with third sector organisations;
- The reporting process of the Strategy and Action Plan.

Resolved that the contents of the presentation and discussions be noted.

17 Swansea Truth Commission - Feedback on Investigations on Progress in Other Areas. (Verbal)

The Chair reported that a report to Cabinet regarding the Poverty Truth Commission was not necessary.

The Head of Poverty and Prevention added that whilst the Authority could not lead on the project, it would still be involved as a partner. She informed the meeting regarding the progress that had been made and added that the meeting with representatives from other areas would be organised and would involve Members of the Committee.

She added that the Committee would be kept informed of progress.

Resolved that the contents of the report be noted.

18 Work Plan 2018-2019.

The Chair presented an updated Work Plan 2018-2019.

The Committee discussed High Interest Lending, employability, Human Rights City and food poverty.

Resolved that: -

- 1) The updated Work Plan be noted and that the Chair would meet with Rachel Moxey to refine;
- 2) Poverty Truth Commission be removed from the Work Plan 2018-19;
- 3) Celtic Credit Union be invited to the next scheduled meeting to discuss High Interest Lending.

The meeting ended at 5.16 pm

Chair

Please ask for:

Direct Line: Councillor Alyson Pugh

E-Mail: 01792 791988 / 07988666179

Our Ref: clr.alyson.pugh@swansea.gov.uk

Your Ref:

Date:

11th September 2018

Dear Cabinet Members,

I am writing to the Cabinet as Chair of the Poverty Reduction Policy & Development Committee to confirm the Committee's support of the Council's Homelessness Strategy 2018 - 2022.

Prevention of homelessness was identified as a key priority for the Committee as part of its work plan and it is clear that the Homelessness Strategy has a strong link with the Council's poverty agenda and Swansea's Wellbeing Strategy. In particular, it has a significant role to play in contributing to achieving the objectives of ensuring that children have the best start in life and building stronger communities through the early intervention and prevention of homelessness.

The Committee met with Officers from Housing on two occasions. On 28th March 2018 we were provided with an update of how the Strategy was developing, which looked at the review of homelessness that was carried out, the emerging priorities and the draft aims and objectives. More recently, on 22nd August 2018, a further update was provided by Housing Officers and the draft Strategy and Action Plan were presented to the Committee.

It was clear that a huge amount of work has been carried out in developing the Strategy, which is very comprehensive and has identified some key areas where a focus is required with regard to tackling homelessness in the next 4 years. The Committee were particularly pleased that the detailed Action Plan has been included in the Strategy, which sets out in detail what we want to achieve in the short, medium and long term. It was also recognised that in order to prevent homelessness we must take a collaborative approach and the Council must work with the voluntary sector, Health and a number of other organisations if we are going to meet the aims and objectives set out in the Strategy.

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to thank Officers in Housing for their work on the Strategy and confirm the Committee would like to ratify the Homelessness Strategy to Cabinet and look forward to its implementation in December 2018.

Yours faithfully

Councillor Alyson Pugh

Agenda Item 7



Report of the Chair

Poverty Reduction Policy Development Committee – 26 September 2018

Work Plan 2018-2019

Date of meeting	Agenda items and Format
25/07/18	Poverty Truth Commission <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Poverty Truth Commissions in other areas.– Proposal for Swansea.– Agree approach for Swansea Poverty Truth Commission with recommendation to Cabinet.
22/08/18	Poverty Truth Commission <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Feedback on investigations on progress in other areas. Draft Homelessness Strategy and Action Plan <p>Work Programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Presentation / Feedback / Information on Homelessness Action Plan before Cabinet consideration.
26/09/18	High Interest Lending <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Presentations - <i>Rachel Moxey – Head of Poverty and Prevention Services and Julie Mallinson – Celtic Credit Union</i> Human Rights City (HRC) <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Introduction – <i>Jane Whitmore - Partnership & Commissioning Manager</i> Letter of the Chair to Cabinet Members - Homelessness Strategy 2018 - 2022. (For Information)
24/10/18	High Interest Lending Human Rights City (HRC)
28/11/18	High Interest Lending Human Rights City (HRC)

19/12/18	
23/01/19	
27/02/19	
27/03/19	
24/04/19	

	Additional Topics
	• Employability
	• Food Poverty