



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