



## Report of the Cabinet Member for Well-Being

### Adult Services Scrutiny Performance Panel – 7<sup>th</sup> August 2023

#### Tackling Poverty Service Grants 2022/23 Impact Report

<b>Purpose</b>	To provide an overview of the grants administered by the Tackling Poverty Service during 2022/23.
<b>Content</b>	This report includes a summary of the grants administered by the Tackling Poverty Service during 2022/23 and their impact. This report will be of interest to councillors.
<b>Councillors are being asked to</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Give their views</li> <li>• Make recommendations to Cabinet Member</li> </ul>
<b>Lead Councillor(s)</b>	Cabinet Member for Well-Being
<b>Lead Officer(s)</b>	Head of Adult Services and Tackling Poverty Tackling Poverty Service Manager
<b>Report Author</b>	Lee Cambule – Tackling Poverty Service Manager <a href="mailto:lee.cambule@swansea.gov.uk">lee.cambule@swansea.gov.uk</a> Anthony Richards – Tackling Poverty Development Manager <a href="mailto:anthony.richards@swansea.gov.uk">anthony.richards@swansea.gov.uk</a>
<b>Legal Officer</b>	
<b>Finance Officer</b>	Chris Davies
<b>Access to Services Officer</b>	Catherine Window

## 1. Background

- 1.1. The Tackling Poverty Service (TPS) works in partnership with local people, Council services and other agencies to reduce the effects of poverty and support people to reach their full potential. One of the ways that TPS helps people is to administer a range of tackling poverty related grants that are available from Welsh Government and other funding sources. The Tackling Poverty Development Team is responsible for administering these grants to

organisations across Swansea and its communities. Depending on the conditions of each grant, these funds can help people with a range of poverty related issues and challenges from affording essentials like food to improving wellbeing for people struggling with the effects of living in poverty.

- 1.2. As the Cost-of-Living crisis continued to escalate in during the reporting year 2022/23, the number of grants for individuals and organisations increased and changed to reflect the changing priorities for Welsh Government and the needs of our population. An example of this was the introduction of 'Warm Hubs' funding to create places where people could go in their local communities to spend time in a warm and welcoming environment.
- 1.3. The purpose of the report (Appendix A) is to present the impacts made from the tackling poverty grants administered by the Tackling Poverty Development Team during the reporting year 2022/23.

## **2. Overview**

- 2.1. In 2022/23, Swansea Council awarded £527,188 in tackling poverty grant funding. This consisted of 263 successful applications to 132 unique organisations / services and 350 one-off payments to individual households.
- 2.2. Grants administered included:
  - Household Support Grant – Tackling food poverty and food insecurity
  - Direct Food Support Grant – Tackling food poverty and food insecurity
  - Sustainable Food Partnerships Grant – Establishing a Sustainable Food Partnership
  - Period Dignity Grant – Period Dignity in Communities
  - Warm Hubs Grant – Establishing Warm Hub provision
  - Cost of Living Discretionary Grant – Energy Payments
  - Men's Sheds – Developing Men's Sheds Projects
- 2.3. These grants were awarded to organisations (with exception of the Cost-of-Living Discretionary Grant) through an application process where the bidding organisation had to demonstrate that the money was making a positive impact in the lives of people living in poverty. At the end of the reporting year, we asked each organisation to provide the evidence of the impact they had made, and the report demonstrates the impact for each of the above grants.

## **3. Integrated Assessment Implications**

- 3.1. 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.

- 3.2. 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'.
- 3.3. 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.
- 3.4. An Integrated Impact Screening has been completed for this report with no further assessment required (See Appendix B). This is an IIA Screening for the 'For Information' Report to the Scrutiny Performance Panel – Adult Services regarding Tackling Poverty Grants Impact Report 2022/23.

#### **4. Legal Implications**

- 4.1. There are no legal implications.

#### **5. Financial Implications**

- 5.1. 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.

#### **For Information**

**Background papers:** None

**Appendices:**

**Appendix A:** Tackling Poverty Grants Impact Report 2022/23

**Appendix B:** IIA Screening Form