



Derby City Council

## **COUNCIL CABINET** **15 May 2013**

# **ITEM 16**

Report of the Cabinet Member for Children and  
Young People

### **Derby Child and Family Poverty Commission - Update**

#### **SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The Derby City and Neighbourhood Partnerships (DCNP) Child and Family Poverty Commission held its inaugural meeting at the end of March 2013.
- 1.2 In addition to finalising the roles and responsibilities of the Commission, including membership (see Appendix 2), the main purpose of the meeting was to review both the areas for action for the Derby Child and Family Poverty Strategy and associated work programme for the Commission (Appendix 3).
- 1.3 The Commission endorsed the proposed areas for action and identified key work streams including:
  - the development of food banks in the city
  - joining up advice and support services in the city
  - challenging the marketing, promotion and positioning of pay day lending companies, to protect the vulnerable
  - promoting the alternatives to the use of pay day lending companies
  - increasing the supply of affordable banking and credit.
- 1.4 The Commission also agreed to carry out a review of:
  - the supply and demand for affordable banking and credit in the city
  - information and advice services

The results of the two reviews will be considered at the next meeting of the Commission in June/July.
- 1.5 Since the meeting, a number of areas have already been progressed and achievements made. The Cabinet Member for Resources has now finalised a bulk buy energy scheme for Derby residents and is exploring the development of ethical forms of payday support.
- 1.6 The Commission will report back to the DCNP Board at its meeting on the 11 June 2013.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 To note and endorse the key work areas for the Derby Child and Family Poverty Strategy.
- 2.2 To embed the key areas for action from the Child and Family Poverty Strategy into Council policy.

## **REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 To demonstrate the commitment of the Council to the delivery of the Derby Child and Family Poverty Strategy and actively tackling the causes of poverty in the city.



## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 4.1 The Derby City and Neighbourhood Partnerships (DCNP) Child and Family Poverty Commission held its inaugural meeting at the end of March 2013.
- 4.2 The detailed roles and responsibilities of the Commission, including membership, are set out in Appendix 2 and include:
- developing strategy and action to tackle the underlying causes of poverty in the city
  - ensuring continued engagement and commitment of all sectors and organisations in the development and delivery of strategy and action to tackle poverty in Derby
  - reviewing and where necessary challenging the strategy and plans of DCNP, including Outcome Boards, and partner organisations to ensure they are contributing effectively to tackling the causes of child and family poverty in the city
  - acting as a think tank for generating new and innovative ideas and solutions to tackling poverty in Derby
  - overseeing the delivery of the Derby Child and Family Poverty Strategy
  - utilising the influence and expertise of Commission members to overcome obstacles to change locally, regionally and nationally.
- 4.3 Prior to the inaugural meeting of the Commission a significant amount of work had been undertaken to carry out a Child and Family Poverty Needs Assessment for Derby and produce a Child and Family Poverty Strategy.
- 4.4 The main purpose of the first Commission meeting was to review, strengthen and endorse the areas for action for the Child and Family Poverty strategy and develop a programme for delivery (see Appendix 3).

## **OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 5.1 None – There is a legal duty on the Council and named partners to publish a Child Poverty Strategy and the Derby Child and Family Poverty Commission has been established to champion and oversee the delivery of the strategy and key work areas.

**This report has been approved by the following officers:**

<b>Legal officer</b> <b>Financial officer</b> <b>Human Resources officer</b> <b>Estates/Property officer</b> <b>Service Director(s)</b> <b>Other(s)</b>	Head of Service – Legal General Director of Finance and Procurement HR Business Partner N/A Director of Strategic Services and Transformation
<b>For more information contact:</b> <b>Background papers:</b> <b>List of appendices:</b>	Dr. Gavin Thompson 01332 643477 gavin.thompson@derby.gov.uk None Appendix 1 – Implications Appendix 2 – Derby Child and Family Poverty Commission Terms of Reference Appendix 3 – Derby Child and Family Poverty Strategy – Areas for Action (including key work streams)

<b>IMPLICATIONS</b>
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**Financial and Value for Money**

- 1.1 The costs of supporting the Commission and carrying out its activity are contained within existing budgets. Any costs associated with Commission recommendations will be reviewed by the DCNP Board and agreed between and by partner agencies accordingly.

**Legal**

- 2.1 The work of the Derby Child and Family Poverty Commission contributes directly to meeting the legal duty on the Council to publish a Child Poverty Strategy.

**Personnel**

- 3.1 None arising directly from the report.

**Equalities Impact**

- 4.1 The Derby Child and Family Poverty Commission will champion and oversee the delivery of the Derby Child and Family Poverty Strategy, which seeks to mitigate the effects and break the cycle of poverty in groups in the city with protected characteristics who are vulnerable to being in poverty.

**Health and Safety**

- 5.1 None arising directly from the report.

**Environmental Sustainability**

- 6.1 None arising directly from the report.

**Property and Asset Management**

- 7.1 None arising directly from the report.

**Risk Management**

- 8.1 The work of the Derby Child and Family Poverty Commission contributes directly to meeting the legal duty on the Council to publish a Child Poverty Strategy.

## **Corporate objectives and priorities for change**

9.1 The work of the Derby Child and Family Poverty Commission contributes to achieving the following objectives...

- A thriving sustainable economy.
- Achieving their learning potential.
- Good health and well-being.
- Being safe and feeling safe.
- A strong community.

## **Appendix 2**

# **Derby Child and Family Poverty Commission**

## **Terms of Reference**

### **Roles and Responsibilities**

#### **Policy**

- To give the child and family poverty agenda the profile needed to make an impact in Derby.
- To interpret the impact of national policy and make recommendations to Derby City and Neighbourhood Partnerships (DCNP) Board, Outcome Boards and partner organisations.
- To lobby Central Government to shape national policy.

#### **Shared Direction**

- To develop strategy and action to tackle the underlying causes of poverty in the city.
- To create/maintain a continued focus on combatting the causes of poverty.
- To ensure the continued engagement and commitment of all sectors and organisations in the development and delivery of strategy and action to tackle poverty in Derby.
- To review and where necessary challenge the strategy and plans of DCNP, including Outcome Boards, and partner organisations to ensure they are contributing effectively to tackling the causes of child and family poverty in the city.

#### **Knowledge management:**

- To utilise knowledge of the city, neighbourhoods and communities to inform strategy to tackle the causes of poverty and review its impact.
- To act as a think tank for generating new and innovative ideas and solutions to tackling poverty in Derby.

#### **Delivery**

- To oversee the delivery of the Derby Child and Family Poverty Strategy.
- To influence the thematic strategies and plans of both DCNP and partner organisations to ensure action is being taken to tackle the multiple and complex causes of child and family poverty.
- To harness the passion, motivation and commitment of individuals.
- To utilise the influence and expertise of Commission members to overcome obstacles to change locally, regionally and nationally.

## Membership and Meetings

The Commission is a small body comprising civic leaders and passionate, knowledgeable and influential people from all sectors. It co-opts members as and when necessary to reflect the priorities of the Child and Family Poverty Strategy.

The current membership is as follows...

- **Chair** – Councillor Martin Rawson - Cabinet Member for Children and Young People – Derby City Council
- Cllr Sarah Russell – Cabinet Member for Resources – Derby City Council
- Chris Williamson – MP for Derby North
- Andrew Bunyan - Strategic Director for Children and Young People – Derby City Council
- Kath Gruber – Chair of Derby City Council Welfare Reform Board/Director for Customer Services
- Derek Ward - Director of Public Health – Derby City Council
- Peter Richardson – Chair of Derby Renaissance Board
- Paul Brookhouse - Director for Community Development – Hope Centre Derby
- Janet Tristram - Community Development Manager – St James Centre Derby
- Reverend Anita Matthews – Diocese of Derby
- Mohammed Sharief – Executive Director – Jobs, education and Training (JET)
- Commission Support – Gavin Thompson - Head of Policy Research and Engagement – Derby City Council
- Member Support - David Walsh – Constitutional and Civic Services Manager – Derby City Council

### Appointment Period

Membership of the Commission will be reviewed annually to reflect the priorities of the Derby Child and Family Poverty Strategy.

### Meeting Frequency

The Commission will meet quarterly.

### Commission Support

The Commission will be administered and supported by the Policy, Research and Engagement Division - Derby City Council



## Outputs

The Commission's outputs will include:

- advice to DCNP Board
- Child Poverty Strategy Action Plan
- an Annual Review
- thematic reviews
- recommendations to the DCNP Boards and Outcome Boards
- Recommendations to partner organisations
- feedback to Government departments
- feedback to regional networks.

## **Appendix 3 - Areas for Action**

### **Mitigation (short term)**

#### **Support for employees of partner organisations who are living in poverty**

- Adoption of Living Wage by partner organisations.
- Employee support schemes – development of bulk buying energy schemes.

#### **Food and essential items banks**

- Support for food banks.
- Basic training and awareness of food bank services for amongst partner employees.
- Strategic coordination of food bank services across the city.
- Increasing donation networks in the city.
- Monitoring of supply and demand.

### **Movement (medium term)**

#### **Doorstep/payday lending**

- Challenging the marketing, promotion and positioning of pay day lending companies, to protect the vulnerable.
- Development and promotion of alternative forms of payday support.

#### **Increasing the availability of affordable banking in the city**

- Understanding the supply and demand of credit unions in the city.
- Review of credit union development.

#### **Improving the financial literacy of those in poverty**

- Review of financial literacy support in the city.

#### **Joining up of advice and support services in the city**

- Review of information and advice provision in the city, including how services work together and could work better together.

#### **Improved advice and support for private sector housing tenant**

### **Breaking the cycle (long term)**

#### **Inspiring young people**

#### **Improving work readiness of young people**

#### **Opportunities for work experience/apprenticeships**

#### **High quality employment for future generations**

