
**Children, Education and Communities Policy
and Scrutiny Committee**

24 March 2020

Report of the Director of Governance

Child Poverty in York Scoping Report

Summary

1. This report presents the Children, Education and Communities Policy and Scrutiny Committee with initial information and the draft remit proposed by the Task Group set up to examine Child Poverty in York.

Background

2. At the meeting on 27 November 2019 the Committee considered a Scoping Report on a Corporate Review of Poverty in York. The Committee agreed to take part in the review and further agreed that to enable a remit to be considered all Committee Members would be invited to attend an informal meeting that would provide them with a better understanding of the topic area. All members were invited to an informal meeting on 4 February 2020.
3. At the meeting on 4 February Cllr Webb, Cllr Fitzpatrick and Cllr Fenton considered a review remit and decided to focus on better understanding the impact that poverty has on a child's physical, emotional and cognitive development between the ages of 0 and 4.
4. The Task Group therefore proposes the following draft remit to the Committee:

Aim

To better understand the impact that poverty has on a child's physical, emotional and cognitive development between the ages of 0 and 4.

Objectives

- i. To assess the impact that the following factors have on a child's physical, emotional and cognitive development:
 - a. Poverty of food
 - b. Poverty of attention / engagement
 - c. Poverty of access to play and physical activity
- ii. To understand the work currently being done by the council and its partners in the city in relation to the three factors above.
- iii. To understand the efficacy of current policies and practices designed to improve the life chances of young children living in poverty.
- iv. To identify any 'best practice' examples from other local authorities.
- v. To identify any opportunities for the council and its partners to have a greater impact in improving the life chances of young children living in poverty.

Consultation

5. To progress the review the Task Group agreed to consult with the City of York Council Assistant Director Education and Skills, Social Mobility Lead, Local Area Co-ordinators, Local Area Teams, Health Visitors, Healthy Child Service and Pre-school / nursery providers.

Options

6. The Committee is asked to note the information in this report and can:
 - i. Endorse the draft remit proposed by the Task Group;
 - ii. Amend the draft aim and/or objectives;
 - iii. Add any further objectives the Committee agrees are relevant.

Analysis

7. There is no analysis at this stage.

Council Plan

8. This report supports Good health and wellbeing, a better start for children and young people and an open and effective Council elements of the Council's Plan 2019-23.

Risks and Implications

9. There are no known risks or implications associated with the recommendation in this report. Implications arising from the recommendations in the final review report will be addressed accordingly.

Conclusions

10. There are no conclusions at this stage.

Recommendation

11. Members are asked to consider and endorse the above suggested remit.

Reason: To enable the Task Group to proceed with work on the agreed scrutiny review

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Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report