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To: Councillor Allard, Convener; Councillor Bouse, Vice Convener; and Councillors Brooks, Clark, Crockett, Davidson, Graham, Greig, Hutchison, Kuszniir, Mennie, Tissera and Watson.

Town House,
ABERDEEN 23 January 2024

ANTI-POVERTY AND INEQUALITY COMMITTEE

The Members of the **ANTI-POVERTY AND INEQUALITY COMMITTEE** are requested to meet in **Committee Room 2 - Town House** on **WEDNESDAY, 31 JANUARY 2024 at 10.00 am.**

VIKKI CUTHBERT
INTERIM CHIEF OFFICER - GOVERNANCE

**THIS MEETING WILL BE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWED BY A MEMBERS' VISIT TO
ABERDEEN CYRENIANS**

B U S I N E S S

DETERMINATION OF URGENT BUSINESS

1.1 There are no items of urgent business at this time

DETERMINATION OF EXEMPT BUSINESS

2.1 Members are requested to determine that any exempt business be considered with the press and public excluded

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS OR TRANSPARENCY STATEMENTS

3.1 Members are requested to declare any interests or connections

DEPUTATIONS

4.1 There are no requests for deputations at this time

MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

5.1 Minute of previous meeting of 1 November 2023 (Pages 3 - 6)

COMMITTEE PLANNER

6.1 Committee Business Planner (Pages 7 - 8)

NOTICES OF MOTION

7.1 There are none at this time

REFERRALS FROM COUNCIL, COMMITTEES AND SUB COMMITTEES

8.1 There are no referrals at this time

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

EXEMPT/CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

9.1 There is no exempt business

MEMBERS' VISIT

10.1 Committee Visit to Aberdeen Cyrenians

All Members are invited to attend a visit to Aberdeen Cyrenians - 62 Summer Street, Aberdeen, AB10 1SD - immediately following the Committee Business.

Should you require any further information about this agenda, please contact Emma Robertson, emmrobertson@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee

ABERDEEN, 1 November 2023. Minute of Meeting of the ANTI-POVERTY AND INEQUALITY COMMITTEE. Present:- Councillor Allard, Convener; and Councillors Brooks, Clark, Davidson, Greig, Hutchison, Kuszniir, Malik (as substitute for Councillor Graham), Mennie, Radley (as substitute for Councillor Bouse)(for article 9), Tissera, Watson, and Yuill (as substitute for Councillor Bouse)(to article 9).

External Advisers: - Dr John Bone (University of Aberdeen); Maggie Hepburn (Chief Executive of Aberdeen Council of Voluntary Organisations); Phil Mackie (NHS Grampian)(from Article 8); and Edward Obi.

The agenda and reports associated with this minute can be located [here](#).

Please note that if any changes are made to this minute at the point of approval, these will be outlined in the subsequent minute and this document will not be retrospectively altered.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

1. The Convener welcomed the new External Adviser, Edward Obi, to his first meeting of the Committee.

Mr Obi introduced himself. He explained that he was Chairman of an ethnic minority group in Aberdeen and thanked the Committee for the opportunity to contribute.

The Convener spoke about the recent Black History Month event hosted by the Council with the Theme of 'Saluting Our Sisters', which had paid homage to black women whose contributions has been ignored, ideas appropriated and voices silenced. He congratulated the Development Officer – Equalities, and the Equalities Team who worked on the event.

The Committee resolved:-
to note the remarks.

URGENT BUSINESS

2. There was no Urgent Business.

EXEMPT BUSINESS

3. There was no Exempt Business.

ANTI-POVERTY AND INEQUALITY COMMITTEE

1 November 2023

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND TRANSPARENCY STATEMENTS

4. Members were requested to intimate any Declarations of Interest or Transparency Statements in respect of the items on the agenda.

The Committee resolved:-

- (i) to note that Councillor Brooks advised that he had a connection in relation to agenda items 9.1 (Population Needs Assessment) and 9.2 (External Advisers' Report) as he was founder and Chairman of the TLC Charity which was part of the Trussell Trust family of food banks however, having applied the objective test he did not consider that his connection amounted to an interest which would prevent him from participating in the discussion on the items;
- (ii) to note that the Convener advised that he had a connection in relation items 9.1 and 9.2 as he was a Council appointed representative to Community Food Initiatives North East (CFINE) Board, Aberdeen Foyer and Fairer Aberdeen Fund Board and Chair of the Granite City Good Food Steering Group, however, having applied the objective test he did not consider that his connections amounted to an interest which would prevent him from participating in the discussion on the item; and
- (iii) to note that Dr John Bone had a connection with item 9.2 as he was a Director of CFINE, however having applied the objective test he did not consider that his connections amounted to an interest which would prevent him from participating in the discussion on the item.

MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING OF 30 AUGUST 2023

5. The Committee had before it the minute of the previous meeting of 30 August 2023.

The Committee resolved:-

to approve the minute.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS PLANNER

6. The Committee had before it the planner of committee business, as prepared by the Interim Chief Officer – Governance (Assurance).

The Committee resolved:-

- (i) to note the reasons outlined in the planner for the delay to item 12 (Integrated Children's Services Plan - Annual Update); and
- (ii) to otherwise note the Planner.

ANTI-POVERTY AND INEQUALITY COMMITTEE

1 November 2023

POPULATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT - CUS/23/318

7. The Committee had before it a report presenting the 2023 Population Needs Assessment for Aberdeen City.

At this juncture, Councillor Yuill made a transparency statement by virtue of his position as an NHS Grampian Board Member, however, having applied the objective test he did not consider that his connection amounted to an interest which would prevent him from participating in the discussion on the item.

The Corporate Strategy and Community Planning Manager introduced the report and responded to questions from Members.

The report recommended:-

that the Committee note the Population Needs Assessment 2023 as contained at Appendix 1 of the report.

The Committee resolved:-

- (i) to note from the report that, while all households in Scotland will be affected by increases in the cost of living, a report by the Scottish Government suggests that it is those with lower incomes and little or no savings who will be most impacted as they spend a higher proportion than average on energy, food and transport and they therefore have less flexibility in their budget to cope with price rises. Therefore, to agree that a Council Tax freeze can only be supported if it is fully funded by the Scottish Government; and
- (ii) to otherwise note the report.

EXTERNAL ADVISERS' REPORT - CUS/23/319

8. The Committee had before it an update report prepared by the Locality Inclusion Manager and External Advisers regarding (1) a joint workshop with the Anti-Poverty Outcome Improvement Group on 19 September 2023 to begin the process of refreshing the Local Outcome Improvement Plan; and (2) a bid led by Aberdeen Council of Voluntary Organisations (ACVO) - which the external advisers had been involved in along with a group of third sector and public partners - to the Scottish Government Cash First fund. The outcome of the bid had been expected to be known by the end of October 2023.

The report recommended:-

that the Committee note the report from the External Advisers.

The Committee resolved:-

to note the information provided.

ANTI-POVERTY AND INEQUALITY COMMITTEE

1 November 2023

COMMITTEE EFFECTIVENESS REPORT - COM/23/325

9. The Committee had before it annual report of the Anti Poverty and Inequality Committee.

The report recommended:

that the Committee:

- (a) provide comments and observations on the data contained within the annual report; and
- (b) note the annual report of the Anti Poverty and Inequality Committee.

The Convener moved, seconded by Councillor Greig:- that the Committee approve the recommendations.

Councillor Tissera, seconded by Councillor Malik, moved as an amendment:- that the Committee:

- (1) agree that anti-poverty is already dealt with by Community Planning Aberdeen and that eradication of poverty involves many differing agencies all of which are part of Community Planning Aberdeen; and
- (2) agree to recommend to Council that the Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee should be disbanded as part of the next review of the Scheme of Governance in 2024.

On a division, there voted:- for the motion (7) – the Convener, and Councillors Clark, Davidson, Greig, Hutchison, Mennie and Radley; for the amendment (3) – Councillors Malik, Tissera and Watson; declined to vote (2) – Councillors Brooks and Kuszniir.

The Committee resolved:-

- (i) to note that the Director - Customer Services would begin dialogue with partners in respect of the provision of Warm Spaces and in particular the former staff canteen at the Town House; and
- (ii) to otherwise adopt the motion.

- COUNCILLOR CHRISTIAN ALLARD, Convener.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	ANTI-POVERTY AND INEQUALITY COMMITTEE BUSINESS PLANNER The Business Planner details the reports which have been instructed as well as reports which the Functions expect to be submitting for the calendar year.								
2	Report Title	Minute Reference/Committee Decision or Purpose of Report	Update	Report Author	Chief Officer	Director	Terms of Reference	Delayed or Recommended for removal or transfer, enter either D, R, or T	Explanation if delayed, removed or transferred
3	31 January 2024								
4	Committee Visit to Aberdeen Cyrenians			Paul Tytler	Early Intervention and Community Empowerment	Customer	1.1 and 1.3		
5	20 March 2024								
6	Memorandum of Understanding between Aberdeen City Council and the Department of Work and Pensions on preventing homelessness and improving outcomes	At the Council meeting on 13 July 2022 the Council resolved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU); to agree that the Co-Leaders of the Council countersign the MoU on behalf of the Council; and to agree that update reports for the MoU be submitted on a six-monthly basis to the relevant committee.		Paul Tytler	Early Intervention and Community Empowerment	Customer	2.3		
7	Fairer Aberdeen Fund Annual Report	To provide members with the Fairer Aberdeen Fund annual report for 2022/23 - CUS/24/003		Susan Thoms	Early Intervention and Community Empowerment	Customer	1.14		
8	Integrated Children's Services Plan - Annual Update	The statutory requirement for an integrated plan has resulted in the Child Poverty Action Plan being integrated into the Children's Services Plan, as reported to Education & Children's Services (ECS) committee on 21 March 2023. Yearly progress reports will be presented to ECS Committee and thereafter for approval by the Community Planning Management Board. Reporting to the Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee will therefore align with this reporting cycle.	This report was originally due on 12 June 2024 but has been brought forward to this meeting.	Eleanor Sheppard	Education/ICFS	Children's and Family Services	1.1		

