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## Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee

ABERDEEN, 21 June 2023. Minute of Meeting of the ANTI-POVERTY AND INEQUALITY COMMITTEE. Present:- Councillor Allard, Convener; Councillor Bouse, Vice-Convener; and Councillors Brooks, Clark, Davidson, Farquhar (as substitute for Councillor Kusznr), Graham, Greig, Hutchison, Malik (as substitute for Councillor Bonsell), Mennie, Tissera (as substitute for Councillor Lawrence) and Watson.

External Advisers: - Evan Adamson (Instant Neighbour); Dr John Bone (University of Aberdeen), Maggie Hepburn (Chief Executive of Aberdeen Council of Voluntary Organisations); and Phil Mackie (NHS Grampian).

**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.**

### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND TRANSPARENCY STATEMENTS

1. 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 the Convener advised that he had a connection in relation to all of the Committee Business agenda items but in particular 9.1 (Child Poverty Action report) as he was a Council appointed representative to Community Food Initiatives North East (CFINE) Board, Aberdeen Foyer and Fairer Aberdeen Fund Board, Chair of the Granite City Good Food Steering Group and Chair of Community Planning Aberdeen, 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 items;
- (ii) to note that Councillor Brooks advised that he had a connection in relation to agenda item 9.1 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 item; and
- (iii) to note that Dr John Bone advised that he had a connection in relation to agenda item 9.1 as he was a Board member of CFINE 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.

### MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING OF 10 MAY 2023 - FOR APPROVAL

2. The Committee had before it the minute of the previous meeting of 10 May 2023.

#### **The Committee resolved:-**

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- (i) to note that in respect of Article 5(i) (Update on Current Initiatives), this instruction was to be issued as a Service Update, however there had been no further information regarding new initiatives in relation to fuel poverty. If there were to be any future information in this regard, it would be circulated as a Service Update from the Director – Customer Services; and
- (ii) to otherwise approve the minute.

### **COMMITTEE BUSINESS PLANNER**

3. 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 11 (Annual Committee Effectiveness Report);
- (ii) to agree to remove items 12 and 16 (Child Poverty Action Plan update) and 21 (Child Poverty Action Plan Annual statutory report); and
- (iii) to otherwise note the Planner.

### **CHILD POVERTY ACTION REPORT 2022/23 - CUS/23/170**

4. The Committee had before it a report prepared by the Interim Director – Children’s and Family Services, and Locality Manager seeking delegated authority to submit the draft statutory Child Poverty Action Report for approval by the Community Planning Aberdeen Board.

#### **The report recommended:-**

that the Committee:

- (a) note the attached Child Poverty Action Report;
- (b) note that the Child Poverty Action Report would be considered by the Education and Children’s Services Committee;
- (c) instruct the Interim Director – Children’s and Families Services to submit the Child Poverty Action Report to the Community Planning Aberdeen Board for approval; and
- (d) instruct the Interim Director – Children’s and Families Services, to publish the Child Poverty Action Plan on the Council’s website following approval by the Community Planning Board.

#### **The Committee resolved:-**

- (i) to instruct the Interim Director – Children’s and Family Services, to further clarify by way of a Service Update, the integration of the Child Poverty Action Plan update report and Child Poverty Action Plan Annual report into the Children’s Services Plan 2023-2026, including the necessity to incorporate an Integrated Impact Assessment in the Plan but not subsequent outcome reports;

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- (ii) to congratulate the This is Northfield group on their work to date;
- (iii) to instruct the Locality Manager to invite Dr Flora Douglas - RGU Professor in Public Health, to speak to the Committee in respect of her work on the impact of maternal and household food insecurity on parents' infant and young children feeding intentions and practices; and
- (iv) to otherwise approve the recommendations.

**FORMATION OF A WORKING GROUP TO SUPPORT THE ANTI-POVERTY AND INEQUALITY COMMITTEE - CUS/23/171**

5. The Committee had before it a report prepared by the Corporate Strategy and Community Planning Manager and Locality Inclusion Manager regarding the formation of a working group on anti-poverty and inequality issues in Aberdeen and actions identified to tackle these issues.

**The report recommended:**

that the Committee:

- (a) note the output from the Anti-Poverty Workshop held on 30 May 2023 and approach taken by the working group; and
- (b) instruct the Chief Officer Early - Intervention and Community Empowerment, to liaise with the Chief Officer - Data and Insights, and align the Committee business planner with key Community Planning Aberdeen deliverables.

**The Committee resolved:-**

- (i) to note the Horizon Scanning factors identified at item 3.3 of the report; and
- (ii) to otherwise approve the recommendations.

**- COUNCILLOR CHRISTIAN ALLARD, Convener.**

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