

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER DECISIONS MEETING FOR COMMUNITIES

2th May 2016

Executive Board Member:	Portfolio:
Cllr. Pam Palmer	Communities

Establishment of a Tackling Poverty Advisory Panel

Recommendations / key decisions required:

To approve establishing an elected members' Tackling Poverty Advisory Panel to support and monitor the Council's work on Tackling Poverty.

Reasons:

During discussions at the elected members' Tackling Poverty Focus Group it was felt that the establishment of a Tackling Poverty Advisory Panel would provide important support to the Executive Board Member with responsibility for tackling poverty. The Panel would oversee and monitor the Council's Tackling Poverty Action Plan, overarching policy and wider tackling poverty agenda.

Directorate: Chief Executive's Department	Designations: Assistant Chief Executive (Regeneration & Policy)	Tel Nos. / E-Mail Addresses: 01267 224112 / 01267 224659 / 01267 224164
Name of Head of Service: Wendy Walters	Policy & Partnership Manager	WSWalters@sirgar.gov.uk GAyers@sirgar.gov.uk RSLlewhellin@sirgar.gov.u
Report Author: Gwyneth Ayers & Rebecca Llewhellin	Performance, Governance and Policy Officer	k

Declaration of Personal Interest (if any):

None

Dispensation Granted to Make Decision (if any):

N/A

(If the answer is yes exact details are to be provided below:)

DECISION MADE:

Signed:

DATE: _____

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER

The following section will be completed by the Democratic Services Officer in attendance at the meeting

Recommendation of Officer adopted	YES / NO
Recommendation of the Officer was adopted subject to the amendment(s) and reason(s) specified:	
Reason(s) why the Officer's recommendation was not adopted:	

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:- EBM Communities 12th May 2016

Establishment of a Tackling Poverty Advisory Panel.

In 2013 the Welsh Government requested that all Local Authorities in Wales appoint an Anti-Poverty Champion charged with improving the understanding of the poverty agenda and to support and challenge their organisation to deliver the necessary action. Cllr. Pam Palmer was appointed in this role. Work was initiated to identify existing tackling poverty work across the Authority which was presented to the Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee in February 2015.

The Scrutiny Committee requested the establishment of a cross party members task and finish focus group to look at:

- Improving coordination of tackling poverty initiatives delivered by the Authority;
- Identifying gaps in existing provision; and
- Identify priorities for tackling poverty going forward.

In order to fulfil these objectives and as a result of the work of the Focus Group an action plan will be developed to capture existing tackling poverty work across the organisation and to ensure that future programmes are designed with this action plan. The main aim of the proposed Advisory Panel will be to advise and support the Executive Board Member with responsibility for Tackling Poverty.

The objectives of the Tackling Poverty Advisory Panel are to:

- Develop a co-ordinated response by Carmarthenshire County Council to poverty in the county;
- Support the identification of needs of communities in relation to poverty;
- Consider gaps in tackling poverty support and potential means of addressing these;
- Support the identification of future priorities for Carmarthenshire County Council in terms of tackling poverty;
- Monitor the Tackling Poverty Action Plan;
- Explore opportunities for embedding best practice from flagship tackling poverty programmes such as Flying Start and Communities First into core service provision; and
- Encourage opportunities for greater collaboration between services and external partners in addressing poverty in Carmarthenshire.

It is proposed that the cross-party Panel will consist of six elected members (two from each group) together with the Executive Board Member with responsibility for Tackling Poverty. It is recommended that the membership would be consistent with the original members of the Focus Group. These are:

- 2 Independent representatives: Cllr. Hugh Richards & Cllr. Wyn Evans
- 2 Labour representatives: Cllr. Deryk Cundy & Cllr. Jan Williams
- 2 Plaid Cymru representatives: Cllr. J Eirwyn Williams & Cllr. Alun Lenny

Officer representatives from key tackling poverty initiatives will also contribute to the Panel as appropriate.

The Executive Board Member with responsibility for Tackling Poverty will chair the Panel and will elect a Vice-Chair from amongst the members. The Corporate Policy team will provide secretariat support to the panel.

This recommendation was supported by Corporate Management Team (CMT) in April.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ?	NO
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IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed : **Wendy Walters, Assistant Chief Executive (Regeneration & Policy)**

Policy and Crime & Disorder	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Organisational Development	Physical Assets
YES	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

The establishment of the Panel will provide greater clarity for the Council's existing work on tackling poverty and support the identification of gaps for further development through existing schemes or core services. Any gaps identified would be discussed in detail with the relevant project/service leads before being progressed.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: **Wendy Walters, Assistant Chief Executive (Regeneration & Policy)**

1. Scrutiny Committee – discussed and agreed as part of the Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee Tackling Poverty Focus Group

2. Local Member(s) – N/A

3. Community / Town Council – N/A

4. Relevant Partners – N/A

5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations

Officers leading on key tackling poverty programmes have been involved in the Scrutiny Focus Group and will continue to support the discussions of the Advisory Panel

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information

List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Tackling Poverty Position Statement & Summary		Available through Bex Llewellyn; Corporate Governance & Policy Officer