



## COUNCIL – 9TH JUNE 2015

**SUBJECT: ANTI POVERTY STRATEGY**

**REPORT BY: INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

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- 1.1 The report, which sought the views of Members on a proposed Anti Poverty Strategy, was considered by the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee on 2nd June 2015, and by Cabinet on 3rd June 2015, prior to its presentation to Council.
- 1.2 Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee offered comments on four aspects of the draft Anti Poverty Strategy:
  1. The Anti Poverty Strategy must operate within current austerity measures and therefore there is a need to be aware of the consequence of further cuts and which may undermine the Strategy.
  2. Members highlighted the link between Health and Wellbeing and poverty. Members recognised that some areas were addressed within the Strategy, but requested a more specific focus and requested that further consideration be given to existing activities which contribute to this agenda.
  3. Members consider that there is a need to target those directly affected with a view to influencing the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation; there is a need to be confident that areas can show improvement.
  4. Members requested greater clarity in relation to how successful implementation of the Strategy will be demonstrated.
- 1.3 Following consideration of the report, it was moved and seconded that the following recommendation be referred to Cabinet for consideration (and thereafter Council for approval). By a show of hands, this was unanimously agreed. It was recommended to Cabinet that the Caerphilly County Borough Council Anti Poverty Strategy be endorsed.
- 1.4 The report together with the above views of Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee were presented to Cabinet on 3rd June 2015. Cabinet were advised that, in response to the view of Scrutiny Committee, it was proposed that a working version of the Anti Poverty Strategy would be developed with an additional column setting out the budget associated with each area in order to allow for more informed consideration of any future potential or actual changes to funding.
- 1.5 Cabinet were also informed that the proposed Anti Poverty Board detailed in 4.5 of the Committee Report will be asked to note and address the other recommendations of Scrutiny Committee in relation to strengthening links to health and well being activities, influencing the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation, and in terms of reporting and demonstrating progress against the Anti Poverty Strategy.

- 1.6 On consideration of the report, Cabinet supported the comments of Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee detailed above and requested that the lead service for each action also be identified in a working version of the Anti Poverty Strategy for the proposed Anti Poverty Board. Cabinet also requested the inclusion of an additional performance measure in relation to improving the performance of those pupils in receipt of Free School Meals to include Key Stage 4 (GCSE) and this has now been included within the draft Strategy.
- 1.7 Following consideration of the report, it was moved and seconded that the following recommendation be referred to Council for consideration. By a show of hands, this was unanimously agreed. It was recommended to Council that the Caerphilly County Borough Council Anti Poverty Strategy be endorsed.
- 1.8 Members are asked to consider the recommendation.

Author: R. Hartshorn, Head of Public Protection, Ext. 5315

Report to Council on 9th June 2015 – agenda item 7 refers