

Anti-Poverty Outcome Improvement Group Note of meeting held on 26 September 2022

Present:

Angela Kazmierczak, Financial Inclusion Team Leader, ACC (Project Lead)

Caroline Johnstone, Quality Improvement Manager Schools, Integrated Children's and Family Services, ACC

Dave Black, Manager, GREC (Project Lead)

Derek McGowan, Chief Officer, Early Intervention and Community Empowerment, ACC (Chair)

Jenny Cheyne, Quality Improvement Officer, Integrated Children's and Family Services, ACC

John Bone, Co-Coordinator Aberdeen Just Transitions Lab, School of Social Sciences, University of Aberdeen

Paul Tytler, Locality Inclusion Manager, Early Intervention and Community Empowerment, ACC

Susan Morrison, Partnership Officer, ACVO

Susan Thoms, Fairer Aberdeen Fund Coordinator, ACC (Lead contact)

| Agenda item | Notes | Action |
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| 1. Apologies | Chris Smillie, H&SC Partnership | |
| | Lawrence Johnston, Business Development Manager, SCARF (Vice Chair & Project Lead) | |
| | Leona McDermid, Chief Executive, Aberdeen Foyer | |
| | Mel Booth, Senior Housing Strategy Officer, ACC (Project Lead) | |
| | Rachel Thompson, Health Improvement Officer Children and Young People, Health and Social Care Partnership | |
| | Sam Leys, Development Manager, CFINE (Project Lead) | |
| | Willie Kenyon, Team Leader, Skills Development Scotland | |
| 2. Note of last meeting | Minute was agreed as accurate. | |
| | Matters arising: 3. Working groups have not yet been established, will be kept on agenda. Members should contact: Sam - Food Poverty Tracy - Child Poverty Lawrence - Fuel Poverty | All |

| | 7. Risk register has been circulated. To be completed. | All |
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| | 9. Warm Places – Derek updated, ACC is developing concept with libraries and community centres, publicising what's open and when, and developing programmes of activities looking at joint services with NHS. Will circulate draft plan when completed. | DM |
| | 10. Dave has done some preparation work on what's working/not working. Will take more info to next meeting. | DB |
| 3. Priority area(s) Updates from working groups – Child Poverty, Food Poverty, Fuel Poverty Review of Child Poverty Action Plan - attached | No updates from working groups. | |
| 4. Developing and embedding Lived Experience approach | John Bone updated on research project, preliminary interviews have been held with stakeholders and are being analysed now. The bigger project is starting and will be looking at what issues are affecting people most severely and what would make a difference. Lived experience will be central to this. Dave Black will be attending Aberdeenshire Lived Experience conference and will report back to next meeting. | DB |
| 5. LOIP projects (standing item, attached) Updates on progress | 1.1 has been achieved. 1.2 and 1.5 had stalled but picking up again. 1.3 Financial assessments for homeless – benefit checks ging well, need to refine when moving from temporary accommodation to permanent home, are testing out on one patch then will widen out. 1.4 Focus on employability services, increasing access for women and ethnic minority groups. Have tried out focus groups and different ways to connect to these groups. Data from Pathways but ABZ Works can't provide data so need to consider how to proceed. Need to consider if there other sources of data available. Angela to show Dave how DWP statistics can be broken down to city/ward level. | AK/DB |
| | Holding a Meet the Funder event in mid October with National Lottery, ACVO and H&SCP for ethnic minority groups. Cost of living crisis – look at outreach work to identify issues/reasons why people aren't accessing support. Initially focus was on women and minority ethnic communities, with shift to focus on cost of living it would be good to focus on disability as well. Data supported this regarding covid impact but nothing more recent regarding cost of living crisis impact. Opportunity to learn from other improvement projects on how they reached vulnerable groups. Dave, Angela, and Sam to liaise on reaching more marginalised groups. 1.6 Angela is working on project end report and will share with the group. | DB/AK/SL |
| | Derek highlighted that 2 of the 6 projects were complete and now | |

| | business as usual, giving an opportunity to look at others we could be working on. Consider issues coming from existing groups with focus on child poverty/food poverty, Anti-Poverty Committee. For example in work poverty, cost of the school day. Any suggestions to come to next meeting. Angela updated on the expansion of the Scottish Government Child Payments, will open tis up to many more families not just restricted to those entitled to FSM. Questions regarding how to capture data on the difference this makes to families. Social Security Scotland may be able to provide data on how many more families receiving it. Consider what we want to record data for to show outcomes and planned/unplanned consequences. | All |
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| 6. Latest TPI Data, and developing further data | Discussion on data relating to referrals to services like SCARF and key advice services. This is not done centrally but each organisation will have information. Angela reported an 79% increase in volume and other advice agencies are probably similar. Susan Morrison suggested a discussion with 3 rd Sector organisations to provide quarterly updates centrally rather than to individual funders, if it can be done without being an arduous task. Need to consider what data required to give the group a picture of what is happening in the city, oversight role and understanding change. Needs to be systematic to target interventions and evaluate impact. | |
| 7. Emerging issues and risk register | Needs refreshed given UK Government response and impact. Derek will update for ACC. Dave raised example of increased number of students with NRPF looking for basic support due to changes in how universities are recruiting. All to update the spreadsheet. | DM All |
| 8. Challenge and awareness: communications plan, campaigns, training | Challenge Poverty campaign – Susan Morrison working with ACVO/SHMU/CFINE. Articles to be included in ACVO newsletter to have spotlight on various groups. Social media campaign potential link with ACC Comms. Susan to check with Rachel. Aberdeen Foyer holding a conversation café event. Anne is happy to get involved in planning activities in the future. Angela will send info to ACVO for newsletter. | |
| 9. Policy influence | Derek discussed Audit Scotland report on child poverty policy assessment. | |
| 10. What is working? Local and national case studies | Covered in matters arising. | |
| 11. AOB | Derek had circulated the Anti-Poverty and Equalities committee terms of reference and child Poverty Action report. He went through the role of the Anti-Poverty and Equalities committee, which will have external advisors. The first meeting is on 23 rd November, and they are looking for someone with lived experience who could represent people with lived experience of poverty. It was felt this | |

| | was a big expectation for one person, but it could be a different person for each meeting, and this reflects a genuine attempt to bring in lived experience. There was a discussion about different formats for having input, for example case studies from 3 rd sector organisations, or a LE group to feed in a collective voice. The committee is new and can be flexible in how this is done. | |
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| 12. Date of next meeting | 21 November 2022 | |