

Scrutiny Panel 30 January 2024 Item 5 – Poverty Reduction Update	Item No 5
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OUTLINE

Since 2016 the UK Government has had no official measurement for poverty nor targets for poverty reduction. Despite this the Hackney Labour party manifesto pledged in 2018: ‘We will tackle poverty, including child poverty, as well as key inequalities in health, education and employment based on a solid understanding of the barriers and needs of our different communities, listening to their concerns and expanding the use of social value and co-design.’

The Scrutiny Panel scrutinises cross cutting policies. Poverty reduction is a key priority area for the Council and a policy area that cuts across all scrutiny commissions. The Scrutiny Panel received an update last year about the strategic framework outlining the Council’s aims, objectives and approach to poverty reduction.

The purpose of this discussion is to review how the Council’s Poverty Reduction Strategic Framework is working in practice, the impact it is having and how it has been embedded across council services.

This policy review by the Scrutiny Panel was carried out over 2 sessions. The first meeting was held on [24th April 2023](#)

- 1. Case studies and information about the impact of the Council’s poverty reduction work in practice.*
- 2. Governance, accountability structures and how the work is being embedded across the Council.*

To support the first discussion the Scrutiny Panel visited 3 VCS organisations (detailed below) working to support residents to reduce the impact of poverty and the cost of living crisis.

Report in the agenda:

To support this discussion the following presentation is included for information.

- Presentation slides on poverty reduction work from London Borough of Hackney.
- Site visit to from the visit to Woodberry Aid, Chicken Soup Shelter and Volunteer Centre Hackney.



Invited and Attending for this item

London Borough of Hackney

- **Mayor Caroline Woodley**, covering families, early years, parks and play
- **Cllr Chris Kennedy**, Cabinet Member Health, adult social care, voluntary sector and culture
- **Cllr Rob Chapman**, Cabinet Member Finance, insourcing and customer service
- **Cllr Carole Williams**, Cabinet Member Employment, human resources and equalities
- **Sonia Khan**, Assistant Director Policy and Strategic Delivery
- **Rob Miller**, Strategic Director Customer & Workplace
- **Zoe Tyndall**, Head of Here to Help
- **Jenny Zienau**, Strategic Lead (Tackling poverty and inequality).

ACTION

Scrutiny Panel is requested to consider the presentation and to ask questions.