

Poverty Leadership Panel

Meeting note

16 April 2014

Present:

Gordon Matheson, Leader of the Council
Ghazala Hakeem, Poverty Truth Commission (PTC)
Duncan Wilson, Scottish Human Rights Commission (SHRC)
Marianne Scobie, Glasgow Disability Alliance (GDA)
Lynn McCulloch, Glasgow Housing Association (GHA)
Carol Tannahill, Glasgow Centre for Population Health (GCPH)
Maggie-Ann Brunjes, Glasgow Homelessness Network (GHN)
David Ramsay, Glasgow Homelessness Network
Lynn Brown, GCC, Financial Services (FS)
Jacqueline Keltie, Glasgow Disability Alliance
Steven Andrew, Glasgow Disability Alliance
Malcolm Cunning, Executive Member for Health and Social Care
Martin Johnstone, Third Sector Forum (TSF)
Peter Kelly, Poverty Alliance (PA)
Rosie Sorrell, Ethnic Minorities Law Centre (EMLC)
Kevin Rush, Glasgow City Council, Dev and Regeneration Services (DRS)
Colin Borland, Federation of Small Business (FSB)
Allison Eccles, Glasgow City Council, Social Work Services (SWS)
Graham Johnstone, Glasgow City Council (SWS)
Meriem Timizar, Scottish Refugee Council (SRC)
Jim Gray, GCC, Democratic Services (DS)
Cathy MacPhail, Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)
Sandra McDermott, Glasgow City Council (FS)
Richard Gass, Glasgow City Council (SWS)

In attendance:

Diane Murchison, Tackling Poverty Assistant, Charles Dunn, Tackling Poverty Assistant, Louise Falconer, Leader's Office (LO), Anne Marie Kite, Glasgow Housing Association, Carla McCormack, Poverty Alliance; Sarah Wiktorski, Poverty Alliance; Allan Young, Scottish Refugee Council.

Apologies:

Aileen Colleran, Executive Member for Communities; Martin Armstrong, Glasgow Housing Association; Tressa Burke, Glasgow Disability Alliance; Jonathon Squire, Ethnic Minorities Law Centre; Linda De Caestecker, Director of Public Health; Jim McCormick, Joseph Rowntree Foundation; Fraser Falconer, BBC Children in Need Scotland; Sandra Collins, Govan Trust, Richard Brown, GCC; Catriona Lindsay, DWP; Jean Forrester, Poverty Truth Commission; Caroline Mockford, Poverty Alliance.

Item	Discussion	Action
1.	<p>Welcome, apologies and introductions</p> <p>Meriem Timizar, Caroline Mockford and Jacqueline Keltie were welcomed as new members of the Panel.</p>	
2.	<p>Minutes – agreed</p> <p>Actions arising – update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Scottish Human Rights Commission (SHRC) has published a web based resource on integrated equality and human rights impact assessments. Renfrewshire and Fife Councils piloted this work. Fife looked specifically at the impact of welfare reform on single parents. The Leader’s Office will facilitate an initial discussion between the DWP and Wee Panel about this work and its relevance to Glasgow. ○ The easy read version of Glasgow’s Action Plan for Change is now complete and available for use. 	<p>LO/ SHRC/ DWP</p>
3.	<p>Organisational commitment</p> <p>The Panel was asked to consider whether there were any gaps in the commitments to the Action Plan made by Panel members.</p> <p>It was agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jim McCormick from Joseph Rowntree Foundation would be contacted by the Wee Panel to see what further support his organisation can offer. ○ Cathy MacPhail from DWP would provide more information regarding their contribution. ○ All members would review their commitments to the action plan in one years time. 	<p>JRF</p> <p>DWP</p> <p>All</p>
4.	<p>Progress on Action Plan</p> <p>The progress of five priorities in the Action Plan were discussed: work and worth; participation; credit and debt; child poverty; and attitudes to poverty.</p> <p><u>Work and Worth</u></p> <p>It was noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Wee Panel and the Poverty Truth Commission would like to be involved in the review of the Glasgow Guarantee. ○ People with disabilities are one of the most underemployed groups of people. There is a case for them being a specific target group of the Glasgow Guarantee, and potentially BME groups as well. ○ There is conflicting guidance from DWP about volunteering whilst on benefits. <p>It was agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Wee Panel and the Poverty Truth Commission would be meaningfully engaged in the review of the Glasgow Guarantee. ○ GCC would have a separate conversation with GDA about unemployed disabled people. 	<p>GCC (DRS)</p> <p>GCC (DRS)</p>

	<p>It was agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The welfare advice leaflets would be available online in different size fonts. ○ Efforts will be made to display leaflets in supermarkets and other places that may have more passing traffic than libraries and sports centres. ○ DWP to investigate whether leaflets can be put in JPC offices. ○ GCC would investigate options for hiring a summer intern to carry out some of the welfare reform analysis. 	<p>GCC (SWS)</p> <p>GCC (SWS)</p> <p>DWP</p> <p>LO</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>PLP's influencing role - volunteering</p> <p>It was noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Already the Panel has had some successes with its influencing work in relation to free school meals and prepayment metres. ○ Individual organisations would continue to do their own advocacy work on their own terms. This is particularly relevant where a rapid response may be required. ○ It may not always be possible for a majority consensus on decisions of advocacy/ influencing, but this is the desired position. <p>It was agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The group would not advocate on an issue that needs an urgent decision and that hasn't been considered through its work. ○ The Panel's position on issues would naturally form as its work gathered pace and implementation progressed. ○ The Panel would adopt the volunteering statement but minor changes were required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 'social integration' be changed to 'social inclusion'. ● 'freedom to volunteer is unrestricted' be changed to 'not unreasonably restricted'. ● 'or are relying on social security benefits' be changed to 'or are in receipt of benefits'. 	<p>LO</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Communications</p> <p>It was noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The easy read 'Glasgow's Action Plan for Change' leaflet has been finalised and is ready for distribution. ○ The PLP now has a website and the address is: www.povertyleadershippanel.org.uk. Partners are asked to reference this site wherever possible to increase its visibility. ○ It will be the Panel's first anniversary in May. An annual report will be produced to highlight key points. Partners will be contacted about their contribution to this. 	<p>All</p>

8.	Next meeting The date of the next meeting is Thursday 21 August 2014 2-4pm , Committee Room 8, City Chambers. The themed focus will be attitudes to poverty.	
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