

Poverty Leadership Panel

Date: 13 November 2013

Agenda item number: 5

Title: Resources to support the Poverty Leadership Panel's work plan

Summary: At the October Panel meeting, the Panel agreed that some Panel members would further develop a proposal to support organisations involve more people in its work.

The attached paper is the proposal for this allocation of money.

This report is for: Decision

Recommendation: The Panel agrees that this proposal be submitted to the Community Planning Partnership, to be implemented in the new year.

Poverty Leadership Panel

Supporting Organisations Proposal

Summary

This paper outlines a proposal to ensure that people with direct experience of poverty are organisationally supported to participate in the Panel's work.

Background

The Poverty Leadership Panel approved a programme of work which invites people experiencing poverty to participate in the design and delivery of the poverty strategy. *'All in for tackling poverty in Glasgow'* is the participation strand of the new strategy and has three phases:

- (i) Experts and advisors: direct participation on the Panel and on its satellite working groups, providing a real time advisory role.
- (ii) Targeted people: mainly third sector organisations collaborating to bring forward the views of people using their services. The method is a common survey across a single month, done twice a year.
- (iii) Targeted places: creating a structure for local people to take the lead. Workshops will be facilitated in some of Glasgow's communities.

Purpose

It is proposed that services would be commissioned to organisations that are facilitating the participation of their members or service users, in recognition of the time and resources they need to dedicate to building the capacity of those volunteering to do this work.

There are organisational capacity implications specifically around:

- supporting their service users/members to participate fully and equally in meetings, including briefing in preparation for and supporting or advocating during the meeting.
- the survey fieldwork being undertaken by participating organisations, with the data collated and reported to the Panel for consideration.

Outcomes

The two overarching outcomes from this proposal are that:

- people who may not have the confidence to ordinarily engage with structures and processes will be supported to do so;
- the actions undertaken as part of the Panel's work will be strengthened by the contribution of people with direct experience of the issues.

More specifically

- Volunteers have increased confidence and ability to contribute effectively to the Panel's work and to participate in other community engagement processes;
- Volunteers are able to better understand the range of experiences and perspectives of people experiencing poverty and represent these;
- Volunteers learn new skills or develop existing ones;

- Volunteers have a better understanding of decision making processes in the city;
- Organisations have a better understanding of how to influence policy and practice;
- Partnership working across the city is strengthened.

Project Outputs

Organisations commissioned to provide this service will be expected to:

- Select individuals using their service who could benefit from the developmental opportunities provided by participation, and who also have something to contribute to the process;
- Ensure attendance of identified volunteers at Poverty Leadership Panel meetings and at working group meetings;
- Ensure volunteers can contribute to and prepare for meetings equally by, for example, arranging a translator or BSL as required;
- Provide support for volunteers before each meeting, and after each meeting around specific agendas; including feeding back as appropriate to their community group or engagement forum;
- Contribute to events which bring together all supported organisations and volunteers to share best practice and suggested ways of improvement.

Criteria for eligibility

Organisations eligible to be commissioned for this service will include:

- Those organisations which over the last year have been supporting their members to participate in Panel-related meeting
- Those organisations supporting the Panel's work, as identified through their survey returns
- Organisations that support groups more likely to experience poverty (e.g. women's, BME and recovery groups), but whose members are not already involved in the Panel's work

Administration

Organisations able to satisfactorily deliver the outputs outlined above will be commissioned for this service at a standard rate for each phase. An additional allowance is available for organisations meeting any additional communication needs (for example, translation or interpretation services).

- an organisation supporting people would receive £500, or £600 for organisations meeting additional communication needs
- an organisation participating in survey fieldwork would receive £300, or £400 for organisations meeting additional communication needs

The budget for this strand of work would be between £10,000-£12,000 (exact figure to be confirmed shortly) allocated from the Integrated Grant Fund.

This money will be administered by Glasgow Homelessness Network.