

Poverty Leadership Panel

Action notes

27 November 2014

Present:

Gordon Matheson, Glasgow City Council
Ghazala Hakeem, Poverty Truth Commission
Steven Andrew, Glasgow Disability Alliance
Maggie-Ann Brunjes, Glasgow Homelessness Network (GHN)
Tressa Burke, Glasgow Disability Alliance
Sandra Collins, Govan Trust
Linda De Caestecker, Director of Public Health
Beverley Downie, Glasgow City Council (FS)
Lorna Kelly, Glasgow Centre for Population Health
Jacqueline Keltie, Glasgow Disability Alliance
Jim McCormick, Joseph Rowntree Foundation
David Ramsay, Glasgow Homelessness Network
Shaw Anderson, Glasgow City Council (DS)
Kevin Rush, Glasgow City Council (DRS)
Morag Sweeney, Department for Works and Pensions (DWP)
Carol Tannahill, Glasgow Centre for Population Health (GCPH)
Meriem Timizar, Refugee Women's Strategy Group
Andy White, Glasgow City Council (SWS)
Lorna Wilson, Glasgow Housing Association (GHA)
Martin Johnstone, Third Sector Forum
Shamaila Masood, Poverty Alliance
Stuart Patrick, Glasgow Chamber of Commerce
Mary Anne Macleod, Poverty Alliance
Johnathan Squire, Ethnic Minorities Law Centre
Meriem Timizar, Refugee Women's Strategy Group
David Cairns, Simon Community
David Maxwell, Volunteer Glasgow
Lorna Kelly, Glasgow Centre for Population Health
Peter Kenway, New Policy Institute
Brian Scott, Glasgow Disability Alliance

In attendance:

Louise Falconer, GGC; Jamie Sinclair, GCC, Kevin Kerr, GHN.

Apologies:

Lynn Brown, Jim Gray, Richard Brown, Malcolm Cunning, Peter Kelly, Colin Borland, Catriona Lindsay, Martin Armstrong.

Item	Discussion	Action
1.	<p>Welcome and introductions</p> <p>The Panel welcomed Stuart Patrick as a new member.</p>	
2.	<p>Minutes- agreed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A correction to the August minutes was agreed . that DRS and GDA will pilot a project to support under-represented groupsq access to voluntary opportunities. 	
3.	<p>Housing Priority Update</p> <p>It was noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work in this area would focus on community advocacy and empowerment. It will work with people to support local issues by engaging with existing community groups on a regular basis. • The work will respond to the needs of local communities. In the first year it will focus on Parkhead, Priesthill and Gorbals. Issues specific to these areas will be addressed when they emerge. • This housingqstream of work will be contextualised within all the Panelq work. Stream leads will be responsible for ensuring this happens. • The work will focus on both public and private housing and will consider the on-going work in Community Planningq Thriving Placesqprogramme. <p>It was agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The draft goals, outcomes and actions be incorporated into the PLPq Action Plan for Change, and work commence as suggested. 	GHN/ GCC
4.	<p>Development work – lone parents</p> <p>It was noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This work emerged from research conducted by GCPH that highlights the high risk of poverty lone parents face in Glasgow. • Welfare reform, childcare costs, housing issues and accessing the labour market contribute to increased risks of poverty for lone parents. Further changes to the welfare system may mean parents with children as young as three or four may be required to look for work. • The Smith Commission may result in changes to the benefits system in Scotland as more powers are devolved to Holyrood. • The provision of after school support appears to have reduced in recent times. This is difficult to manage in the context of diminishing budgets. • Gordon Matheson has asked the Head of Finance to examine issues around child care and early years provision. An announcement about this is expected in January. 	

	<p>It was agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GCC will match NHS funding for this post. • Wheatley Housing will look at funding as the post is developed. • Volunteer Glasgow and SWS will assist the post holder with their remit. • Shamaila Masood will be involved in the development of this post and its work. 	<p>GCC GHA VG and GCC (SWS)</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Work and Worth</p> <p>It was noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The changing economic and labour market mean that the priorities within the Work and Worth strand need to be revisited. • The future work plan will acknowledge the City Deal, the Glasgow Works strategy, the Single Outcome Agreement and the Smith Commission. • Wheatley Housing can provide support to the redevelopment of the plan in terms of engaging with specific groups of people. For instance, it has an African and a Polish forum for current residents. • JRF will commence work in January 2015 with a focus on recruitment, training and employment and how this affects people's experiences in the workplace. • Members of the PLP were keen to contribute to the implementation of City Deal, to ensure it benefited all groups in Glasgow. <p>It was agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GHN would carry out a consultation about employment services on behalf of GCC. This would form the basis of a revised Work and Worth action plan. • The redeveloped action plan will explicitly monitor its impact on specific equalities groups. • The revised Work and Worth action plan would be ready for the next Panel meeting in April. • The PLP would be involved in discussions about City Deal. 	<p>GCC (DRS)/ GHN</p> <p>GCC (DRS) GCC (DRS) GCC (DRS)</p>

<p>6.</p>	<p>Overall Progress Report</p> <p><u>Participation</u></p> <p>It was noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Parkhead Action Group have secured a temporary lease for a site on Whitby Street and are seeking to purchase it outright. The current owner has guaranteed the lease for 12 months and is seeking £450,000 to take full ownership. • The Big Lottery Fund and Development Trust Association Scotland could provide further advice on purchasing this land. • GCC could provide further support if the Action Group formally organised themselves into a co-operative. <p>The Panel agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partners would provide the Action Group with further information regarding sources of funding if they became available. • Mary Anne Macleod from the Poverty Alliance will liaise further with the Parkhead Action Group. <p><u>Credit and Debt</u></p> <p>It was noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A review of community finance has been commissioned and will examine how existing services are meeting people's needs. • Changes to the benefits system will require tenants to pay rent to landlords. This might be an issue for those with little or no experience of using formal banking services. • Engaging with people renting in the private sector is difficult. <p>It was agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homes for Good (Susan Aktemel), the Factoring Commission (Jean Charley) and DRS (Kevin Rush) could provide further insight into the private renting sector within Glasgow and may offer opportunities to engage with private tenants. <p><u>Welfare Reform</u></p> <p>It was noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first round of key messages is complete and a second round is in the planning stage. • Initial feedback, although positive, suggests further attempts could be made to target particular social groups. • More needs to be done to encourage people to maximise their income before further changes to the benefits system. <p>It was agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DWP will report back about whether the PLP's appeals packs can be distributed at Job Centres. • The Panel will be given the opportunity to provide feedback on the 	<p>PA</p> <p>GCC (FS)</p> <p>DWP</p>
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	<p>second round of key messages.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Panel members will visit a local DWP office. <p><u>Negative Attitudes</u></p> <p>It was noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Panel members worked together with GCMB to create a messaging campaign for staff. The messaging campaign on attitudes to poverty will start in early 2015. This will be rolled out to the NHS, Wheatley and GCC. <p>It was agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The definition of poverty is suitable and should be used by the Panel. People Make Glasgow Fairer. Let's tackle poverty together will be used for the staff messaging campaign. <p><u>Child Poverty</u></p> <p>It was noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Cost of the School day programme is progressing. <p>It was agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All updates should be provided in the correct pro-forma. 	<p>GCC (SWS) DWP</p> <p>GHA</p> <p>NHS</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Food Insecurity</p> <p>It was noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The report provides some background into issues around food insecurity in Glasgow and signals the Panel's intent to do more on this. The Poverty Alliance is drafting a report for the Scottish Government on food aid provision. <p>It was agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Panel will undertake work over the next few months to shape goals and practical actions around this. The Poverty Alliance will contribute to this work and will share their report findings with the Panel in January. 	<p>GCC PA</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Measuring our Success</p> <p>It was noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GCPH has developed this proposal about how we measure the Panel's successes. It will be the responsibility of the stream leads to ensure this monitoring work happens. 	

	<p>It was agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any comments about the paper can be sent to Louise Falconer. • The proposals for monitoring will be incorporated into the stream leads papers for the April Panel meeting. 	<p>All Stream leads</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>The date of the next meeting will be 23 April, 2-4pm, venue to be advised. The theme of the next meeting will be Credit and Debt.</p>	