EAST LOTHIAN POVERTY COMMISSION REPORT

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATIONS

Dear Member,

As you may be aware the Musselburgh Area Partnership recently held a "special meeting" with a view to providing us with a view of poverty within our community.

The meeting was well attended and was delivered through the attendance of key stakeholders with a remit for poverty in East Lothian. Whilst there was much discussion and information delivered the first step forward is to examine the recommendations outlined in the report.

The 54 recommendations outlined in the East Lothian Poverty Commission Report have been reviewed with a view to highlighting the recommendations which the Musselburgh Area Partnership may be able to influence, contribute to or act on through its work and remit.

This has been done to aide our integration of poverty into our work by streamlining the recommendations from the full report to the ones that potentially we have a realistic opportunity of achieving.

The following table highlights the key headings of the report along with the 18 reviewed recommendations.

The column headed score is to allow members to apply a score from 1 -18 to highlight their order of preference. By adding all the scores for each recommendation, we can place them in an order of priority which may assist us move forward.

This is in no way a decided option but a starting point to help us move forward in the right direction and members may feel that other recommendations in the full report may also be worthy of consideration.

I would therefore ask you to consider the table below and apply your score along with any comments you may wish to make, but also feel free to make your views known on any other recommendations you feel you wish included.

A copy of the full report is available here - .
http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/downloads/file/11917/challenging_perceptions_overcoming_poverty

Regards

Iain

Iain Clark - Chair, Musselburgh Area partnership

RECOMMENDATION	MAP CHAIR/AM COMMENTS	MEMBERS COMMENTS	SCORE
4.1 Having a home			
1.7 - Increase 'life skills' as part of basic education in school including cookery and understanding fuel systems e.g. how to take meter readings.	Can we influence this through our Children & Young Persons Network?		
1.10 - Ensure that all areas of East Lothian continue to be supported in tenant participation activity, giving residents a range of opportunities for local involvement that suit them.	Stuart has already had 5 meetings over the last 12 months with TRA's. This will continue		
4.4 Educated			
4.1 - East Lothian Education Authority should develop a whole school approach to raising awareness of the impact of poverty on education and what education can do to mitigate the cycle of poverty	Can we influence this through our Children & Young Persons Network?		
4.2 - East Lothian Education Authority should develop clear policies to reduce inequality in schools. The City of Edinburgh Council guide to poverty provides a good example of key steps to take.	Can we influence this through our Children & Young Persons Network?		
4.3 - Learn from Pinkie St Peter's and Prestonpans Infants current provision of activities and food during the summer holidays and expand efforts to address holiday hunger and morning hunger for children and young people to improve their educational attainment and overall wellbeing.	Can we influence this through our Children & Young Persons Network?		
4.4 - Schools should consider how they can use their existing digital resources to support wider engagement and development of digital skills for families	Can we influence this through our Children & Young Persons Network by engaging with schools and CLD?		
4.6 Identity: Valued and understood			
6.1 - Sign up to the Poverty Alliance 'Stick your Labels' Campaign and commit to a stigma-free culture and organisational practice. The East Lothian Partnership should send a clear message that stigmatising poverty is unacceptable in every aspect of the work delivered by public sector services and employees.	Should we and can we as a group sign up to and support this initiative? http://www.povertyalliance.org/policy_campaigns/syl		
6.3 - Include 'poverty attitude' questions within Citizen's Panel and other social attitude surveys to measure any changes in the perceptions of local people.	Should we consider looking at a localised survey to gauge community reaction?		

RECOMMENDATION	MAP CHAIR/AM COMMENTS	MEMBERS COMMENTS	SCORE
	We would need to look at guidance on the potential survey questions.		
6.5 - East Lothian Partnership and its partners should continue to use the Integrated Impact Assessment processes as a tool to understand the impact of decisions in relation to poverty	The Area Partnership should ensure that we assess the impact of any objectives on poverty. This was included in the work for the harbour study		
4.7 Healthy and Well			
7.2 - Many of the recommendations across this report should contribute to positive health for local communities. Ensuring that we create safe environments, have good quality and accessible services and good working environments (with good pay, conditions and prospects) are all key in reducing health inequalities	Again, the Area Partnership should ensure that where any of our projects link in or having a bearing on these issues, that we take cognisance of the implication surrounding poverty		
7.4 - Support, develop and co-ordinate current local movements to develop food Networks/clubs/projects that increase access to food, cooking skills and facilitate social interactions that are sustainable and reduce reliance on emergency food	Should we be examining the opportunity for projects and objectives that support this recommendation for the forthcoming year?		
4.8 Connected to the community			
8.1 – The commission recommends the development of more integrated travel solutions that better meet local need, particularly in more rural areas, e.g., the use of 8-seater mini buses	What can we do as an Area Partnership to help promote and develop this in our community? Can the Active travel sub group help?		
8.4 - Increase access to Wi-Fi in public spaces including maximising the use of existing IT resources across the county	Can we engage with East Lothian Council and other public bodies to see if there are opportunities to increase capacity through further free access? (Brunton Hall has free access)		
4.9 Empowered and responsible			
9.1 - The East Lothian Partnership should continue its strong commitment to tackling poverty and inequality as its core ambition within the next Single Outcome Agreement and related organisational plans, e.g., the Council Plan. Organisational leaders need to share and speak about their vision for a fairer and more equal East Lothian gaining full organizational buy-in to achieving real change	The Musselburgh Area Partnership should embed this in its plan as a matter of course to ensure we endeavour to tackle this issue at every opportunity		

RECOMMENDATION	MAP CHAIR/AM COMMENTS	MEMBERS COMMENTS	SCORE
9.2 - The Partnership needs to consider its response to the Community Empowerment Act to enable further involvement of local communities including the development of Participatory Budgeting and Human Rights based budgeting at the highest level and also at Local Area Partnership level	This is something that we are looking at but need to ensure that the Musselburgh Area Partnership are fully aware. Should we examine a Participatory Budgeting event for 2018 fronted by young people given next year is the year of young people?		
9.4 - East Lothian's Area Partnerships are a significant move towards increasing access to decisions over local services by local people. Further work and support is required to ensure that the voices of those experiencing disadvantage are included and projects at local level are informed by a sound understanding of poverty and inequality	Can we do more at our community events/ APM or other communications to support this recommendation?		
9.5 - Consider the development of a 'Poverty Champion' role within each Area Partnership to ensure that enough attention is paid to poverty locally.	Do we need this as an additional role and should this be done by an existing member?		
9.6 - The Council and its partners should continue to work toward building community capacity, leadership and resilience and responsibility to enable and empower local communities to take forward initiatives which mobilise community spirit to tackle poverty and inequality and make a positive difference in people's lives	Do we, as a Partnership, drive this forward in our local community ensuring that we link in with other key partners? What can we do?		