

<b>Key Decision Required</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>In the Forward Plan</b>	<b>No</b>
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## CABINET

**13 MARCH 2015**

### **ADDENDUM REPORT OF WELL-BEING AND PARTNERSHIPS PORTFOLIO HOLDER**

#### **A.8 TENDRING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S STRATEGY**

(Report prepared by Ian Ford)

#### **BACKGROUND**

At its meeting held on 9 March 2015, the Community Leadership and Partnerships Committee considered the issue of Child Poverty which is one of the three key elements in the current Tendring Children and Young People's Strategy. In attendance at that meeting were Lee Bailey (Lead for Partnerships Delivery, Family Operations – Essex County Council) and Benjamin Mann (Senior Policy and Strategy Advisor – Essex County Council).

Benjamin Mann, delivered a presentation, which, mindful of a National Child Poverty Strategy that had been released in April 2014, touched upon the Government's commitment to eliminating poverty by 2020. He said that poverty cost Essex emotionally, physically and financially, with 15.4% of children in Essex living in poverty however, this was lower than the national average of 18.1%.

Lee Bailey spoke on issues as these affected Tendring and that working with N E Essex Local Children's Partnership Board had identified four key priorities, which were:

- **Priority 1** Stay Safe – Protecting children and young people from harm and neglect;
- **Priority 2** Early Help – Developing resilience in families to help reduce dependency on public services by enhancing their capacity to resolve their own problems;
- **Priority 3** Starting Well – Enabling children to get the best start in life; and
- **Priority 4** Developing Well – Promoting good health for children and young people and reducing health inequalities.

The Committee discussed, in detail, Child Poverty issues and, in particular, that:

- TDC's strategy should bear some resemblance to Essex County Council's Strategy;
- No mention had been made of whether there were targets to be met;
- When draft reports are sent to Cabinet they should make it clear that this is a strategic priority of Council;
- This subject could be included on new Members' induction, new Members to be made aware;
- This issue is really important to the reputation of the District and that this subject must be addressed and issues reported every six months – if not addressed the reputation of the Tendring area will not be improved;
- Benjamin Mann and Lee Bailey had offered their support to the Council's Officers preparing Child Poverty Strategy and this should be followed up.

## COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS AND COMMENTS TO CABINET

Cabinet is now asked to consider the recommendation of the Community Leadership and Partnerships Committee determine its response if any:

The Community Leadership and Partnerships Committee **RECOMMENDED** to **CABINET** that:

- (a) The Council takes up the offer of Essex County Council's Officers to assist this Council's Officers in drafting its Child Poverty strategy; and
- (b) The draft strategy be brought back to the Community Leadership and Partnerships Committee for scrutiny before being finalised.

## PORTFOLIO HOLDER'S COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO CABINET

The Portfolio Holder for Well-Being and Partnerships thanks the Community Leadership and Partnerships Committee for its observations and recommendations and is pleased that the Committee has taken up her suggestion that, once the Tendring Children and Young People's Strategy has been reviewed, the proposed new Strategy should be reviewed by the Committee before it is considered by the Cabinet and the Tendring Health and Well-Being Board.

As was reported to the Committee on Monday, Tendring District Council Officers already work with Essex County Council and other officers on a range of work-streams, projects and activities which seek to alleviate the various aspects of child poverty and Officers will certainly liaise with ECC officers in the review of the Tendring Children and Young People's Strategy to ensure that the new strategy dovetails and links with the Essex Child Poverty Strategy where appropriate.

The following additional recommendation to the report on Page 158 of the Cabinet Agenda is therefore proposed as follows:

*“(b) That the revised draft Children and Young People's Strategy be submitted to the Community Leadership and Partnerships Committee for review and comment prior to being submitted to the Cabinet and the Tendring Health and Well-Being Board.”*