

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S LEARNING SCRUTINY PANEL
ADDRESSING POVERTY ISSUES AND THE IMPACT ON LEARNING - ACTION PLAN**

22 DECEMBER 2020

SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATION	PROPOSED ACTION	POST TITLE	BUDGET COST	TIMESCALE
<p>a) That a partnership be developed to deliver a more joined-up, collaborative and integrated approach to tackle poverty and promote social mobility, cutting cross employment support, welfare, housing, early years provision, education, public health and family support.</p>	<p>Map existing partnerships through which the poverty agenda is currently addressed identifying where progress is already being made.</p> <p>A working party consisting of a range of stakeholders work to drive forward identified actions all aimed at reducing childhood poverty.</p>	<p>Senior Advisor/Public Health Consultant</p>	<p>NIL</p>	<p>March 2021</p>
<p>b) That a coherent strategy be developed to ensure that poverty remains high up on the agenda for every organisation in Middlesbrough and to maximise resources available across all sectors and agencies (including the Voluntary Community Sector).</p>	<p>Multi- agency working party action plan agreed and signed off.</p>	<p>Public Health/Senior Advisor</p>	<p>NIL</p>	<p>May 2021</p>
<p>c) That, once established, the partnership:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develops a monitoring tool to effectively measure poverty rates and trends in Middlesbrough; and • submits data on an annual basis, to the Children and Young People's Learning Scrutiny Panel, to demonstrate the impact of its work and to highlight the practices, interventions 	<p>Develop joint scorecard for partner for example; Use increased applications of the free school meal (FSM) entitlement in key stage 1 to accurately measure the % of families in receipt of FSM. Use Pupil Premium and disadvantage data to monitor trends. Use Pupil Premium and disadvantaged data trends to determine key areas of immediate support.</p>	<p>Senior Advisor Education/Data Officer/Revenues and Benefits</p>	<p>NIL</p>	<p>February – July 2021</p>

and strategies that have been most successful in tackling poverty.	Work collaboratively with key partners NIL(schools) to measure pupil outcomes The Middlesbrough Research Leads group to evaluate and monitor emerging trends and report to the partnership working party twice a year.			
d) That, in respect of those areas that have high levels of deprivation, the Local Authority works with the Financial Inclusion Group to ensure there is a greater presence from advisers offering debt advice and benefits support and advice in the community.	The Unclaimed Benefit Campaign and Hub Advice Service is to be evaluated considering if the current is still suitable and this will be linked to the ward based solution for example the level of deprivation will determine the level of support.	Revenues and Benefits/Financial Group	NIL	December – March 2021 April-July 2021
e) That, in respect of those areas that have high levels of deprivation, the Local Authority works with the Financial Inclusion Group and schools to introduce school-based advisers to provide welfare rights advice for parents, to help maximise family income.	Utilise Parent Support Advisors to record emerging issues. Access key local support groups such as Middlesbrough Environment City to educate vulnerable families with money management. The Unclaimed Benefit Campaign continues to provide sessions within school settings to families.	Welfare Rights/Financial Inclusion Group Democratic service officer (welfare)	NIL	April – July 2021
f) That the Local Authority works with schools to capture an accurate baseline of individual children's attainment as early as possible (on entry to nursery) to inform planning and maximise learning.	LA Data Team to provide census data and annual performance data. LA Achievement Team advisors to scrutinise pupil progress and achievement through monitoring visits. School Readiness team to provide advice and support to the Private	Senior Advisor Education/School Readiness Manager/Early Years Development Lead/Data Officer	NIL	July 2021

	Voluntary and Independent (PVIs) nursery setting which addresses parental engagement of helping their child to succeed.			
g) That the Local Authority works with Children North East to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • arrange training for teachers on the barriers to learning that exist because of poverty; • identify common threads that exist in schools; and • develop a good practice guide that highlights the effective practices used in tackling the root causes of poverty and mitigating the effects of disadvantage. 	As above in section C. Implement Children's North East Poverty Proofing the school day including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Poverty Proofing COVID response ➤ Implement a delivery partner model of Poverty Proofing the School Day 	Senior Advisor, Education	NIL	March – September 2021
h) That the Local Authority works with schools and catering suppliers to encourage implementation of the recommendations proposed by the Just Change campaign.	As above (section g)	Health Improvement Specialist	NIL	June 2021
i) That the Children and Young People's Learning Scrutiny Panel writes to the Secretary of State for Education to request that census data for early years is collected in July instead of January, when numbers are at their highest - as this data determines the Dedicated Schools Grant for the following year.	A letter will be drafted and sent to the Secretary of State for Education.	Democratic Services Officer	N/A	December 2020