

ANTI-POVERTY POLICY DEVELOPMENT GROUP

MEETING, 9TH SEPTEMBER, 2013

Present – Councillors Lewis (Chair), Morris (Vice-Chairman), Adia, R. Allen, Francis, Haslam and Murray.

Also in Attendance

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| Mr. S. Harriss | - | Chief Executive |
| Mr. J. Rowlands | - | Assistant Director Customer Services |
| Mrs. V. Ridge | - | Deputy Democratic Services Manager |

Councillor Lewis in the Chair

1. ANTI-POVERTY

Mr. J. Rowlands, Assistant Director Customer Services gave a presentation which updated members on the current situation with regard to how the one million pound which has been allocated to address Anti-Poverty within the Borough would be utilised.

By way of background, members were advised that National and Regional Policy/Research and local experience all pointed to an increase demand for anti-poverty resources and a number of factors were currently driving this increase, notably the impact of Welfare Reform and the general economic position. Consequently, the Council had recognised this issue and had therefore allocated an additional one-off resource of onemillion pound to an Anti-Poverty Fund. It was stated that whilst this was a substantial amount compared to the size of issue this would clearly not resolve everything.

In view of the above information was provided in relation to the following areas, viz:-

- The Councils current offer in relation to universal services;
- The Councils current offer in relation to specific services;
- The Councils current offer in relation to funding;
- Revenue collection in the current context;
- The pressures and activity on Welfare Reform;
- The progress which had been made to date;
- The draft proposals which had been drawn up to address the issues and challenges;
- The financial considerations; and

- Indicative timescales.

In terms of the next steps, members were informed that it was intended to produce for each proposal a detailed scope; financial business case; and outcomes for agreement with a view to submitting them to a meeting of this Policy Development Group in October, 2013.

It was agreed that the presentation be noted.

(The meeting started at 2.00 p.m. and finished at 3.05 p.m.)