

## BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL (BMBC)

This matter is not a Key Decision within the Council's definition and has not been included in the relevant Forward Plan.

Report of the Executive Director  
Core Services

### SCRUTINY TASK AND FINISH GROUP (TFG) REPORT ON CHILD POVERTY

#### 1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To report to Cabinet the findings of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee (OSC) from the investigation undertaken on its behalf by the Child Poverty Task and Finish Group (TFG). This report follows on from the previous investigation into poverty which focused on adults; however, this investigation looks specifically at the challenges and support for children and young people (C&YP) living in poverty. This included considering what the key challenges are for C&YP living in poverty; what support services are available from the Council and other local agencies; and what are the future plans in terms of this agenda. The TFG met with a number of representatives from local agencies, spoke with C&YP directly and highlight a number of recommendations in support of further improvement.

#### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 **That Cabinet considers the conclusions and recommendations set out in section 6 as a result of the TFG's review of Poverty.**

#### 3. Introduction/Background

- 3.1 As part of its work programme the OSC agreed to undertake a further TFG investigation into Child Poverty in Barnsley following on from previous work. The TFG acknowledge that support needs to be provided to parents and carers in order to lift children out of poverty; however, they are cognisant of there being specific impacts and implications on C&YP living in poverty and were keen to further investigate these and consider the provision of relevant support mechanisms.
- 3.2 There were already heightened concerns regarding poverty both locally and nationally prior to the Covid-19 pandemic. However, it is evident that this position has been exacerbated as a result of national lockdowns and additional pressures on household finances, job losses and reduced access to healthcare and education provision. It is also likely that this position may worsen as national government support schemes such as furlough are removed. The TFG have sought to better understand the specific challenges in terms of poverty in Barnsley on C&YP; to hear the views from a number of different key agencies and local residents; and consider what recommendations could be made for improvements.
- 3.3 The members of the TFG who undertook this investigation included the following: Councillors Jo Newing (TFG Lead Member), John Clarke, Jeff Ennis, Steve Hunt, Wayne Johnson, Phil Lofts, Pauline McCarthy, May Noble, Pauline Phillips and Kevin Williams.

#### 4. What the Task & Finish Group (TFG) looked at

- 4.1 Initially, the TFG met to consider the scope of the investigation. This involved discussing their key concerns around child poverty in their local communities including: the availability of support services specifically for C&YP; the extent to which C&YP are aware of and access such services; how agencies are working together locally to address this agenda; consideration of those who meet criteria for support, such as access to Free School Meals (FSM) as well as those living just above the poverty line; and consider what national agencies recommend regarding this agenda.

4.2 The TFG undertook a number of virtual ‘check and challenge’ sessions with officers regarding the work being carried out and future plans. This involved asking questions of them regarding their work, their involvement and partnership working with other agencies including the impact of this on Barnsley residents, as well as speaking with C&YP directly. This included:

- Meeting with BMBC’s Head of Early Start, Prevention & Sufficiency, the Early Start & Families Strategy & Service Manager, and a Family Support Manager, who all work in overseeing and delivering the Council’s Early Help Offer to children, young people and families (CYP&F);
- Meeting with C&YP representatives from Barnsley Youth Council, Care4Us Council and Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) Forum;
- Undertaking a session with BMBC’s Service Director for Children’s Social Care (CSC) & Safeguarding alongside a Professor of Social Work from the University of Sheffield and a Professor of Social Work from the University of Huddersfield who have been involved in poverty-proofing BMBC’s CSC assessment process;
- Meeting with Schools Forum representatives including the Head Teacher of Horizon Community College (HCC), Deputy Safeguarding Lead from HCC, and Executive Head of Meadstead Primary School to understand their experiences of child poverty and support provision for C&YP;
- Undertaking a session with officers from BMBC’s Youth Service including the Early Intervention & Prevention (EIP) Service Manager, EIP Operation Manager, the Youth Voice & Participation Operational Manager, the Children’s Rights Co-ordinator as well as an EIP worker;
- Meeting with BMBC’s Group Leader for Community Safety & Enforcement Services who looks after the enforcement team who manage private sector housing including both owner occupiers and private landlords;
- Attending an All Elected Member Information Briefing (AMIB) on the Good Food Barnsley Community Interest Company (CiC) which is a partnership whose aim is to work toward the relief of food poverty and the preservation and promotion of food access, good health and social improvement. The session was delivered by BMBC’s Head of Commissioning for Healthier Communities, the Commissioning Manager for Healthier Communities, the Cabinet Member for Communities and the Innovation Manager for Good Food Barnsley CiC;
- Meeting with BMBC’s Head of Service for Stronger Communities and the Area Manager for the Dearne Area Council to understand more about the work across different Area Councils to tackle child poverty as well as work undertaken by officers in partnership with corporate BMBC services;
- Meeting with representatives from BMBC’s 0-19 Public Health Nursing Service (PHNS) including the Service Manager, a Health Visitor, the Named Nurse for Safeguarding and Children in Care, a Child Development Practitioner and a School Nurse; and
- Finally, meeting with the Policy & Partnerships Officer-Social Security for the Joseph Rowntree Foundation to understand their work as a nationally recognised independent social change organisation working to solve UK poverty.

## **5. What the Task & Finish Group found**

5.1 During the first session on the Council’s Early Help Offer to CYP&F, the group were given an overview of the detrimental impact childhood experiences of poverty can have upon C&YP and their outcomes, and that the pandemic was resulting in increasing numbers of families being impacted. The service highlighted the importance of effective early intervention in terms of reducing this impact and how they advocate for a holistic whole family approach which provides access to the right service at the right time through universal, targeted and specialist services that wrap around the family whilst ensuring the child is at the centre. The TFG were given an overview of the different interventions utilised by the service, this included parenting programmes to help both parents and children to be resilient. Specific support was provided to C&YP impacted by poverty to help build their personal resilience, learn from mistakes, manage emotions, problem solve and encourage their aspirations by ensuring they were exposed to positive role models. Specifically, during the pandemic, the service had worked to maximise opportunities for CYP&F to obtain digital equipment as well as face coverings and hand sanitizer. The service also worked in close partnership with local agencies to provide support and interventions including CSC services, schools, health services and South Yorkshire Police (SYP).

- 5.2 Members highlighted the importance of Family Centre Managers being well-linked with local ward members so they could mutually benefit from being aware of services available locally and promote them amongst communities, as it was felt these links had not always been made consistently. This also included Members being aware of the Family Information Service (FIS) which they could direct constituents to, especially those who may not meet criteria for certain support services. The FIS can also be used as a resource to support young people directly so they can access information on services such as 'I Know I Can' (IKIC) which is designed to build confidence, create dreams and aspirations, raise qualification levels and strengthen young people's life skills.
- 5.3 The TFG were keen to hear from young people directly regarding their experiences in relation to child poverty, whether this was something they had experienced directly, or something they had observed amongst friends and/or peers. One of the main concerns the young people raised was regarding digital poverty, where young people either didn't have access to any devices or were working off a mobile telephone. The other key challenge was ensuring young people had access to sufficient Wi-Fi and data, especially given the number of things including schooling taking place online. They spoke of evidence of schools and local colleges supplying students with equipment; however, felt this had not reached all pupils.
- 5.4 Young people felt that there was stigma attached to being poor which prevented CYP&F from accessing support. Examples were given where young people felt living in poverty meant struggles and less opportunities, for example: where young people had pretended to be ill as they couldn't afford to go on a school trip; they had studied locally as they couldn't afford to access their college/university education elsewhere due to transport costs; and where even non-uniform days were stressful for fear of being bullied for not being able to afford certain clothing. When asked what one thing would really help C&YP living in poverty, the young people responded having access to youth clubs. The young people felt that these were a real outlet for young people where they felt secure and could get advice and support without stigma being attached.
- 5.5 During one of the sessions, the group learned of the work being done by the Council in partnership with local universities to poverty-proof the CSC assessment process. It was highlighted that children living in deprivation in England are ten times more likely to be subject to child protection compared with those in more affluent areas, and that locally we don't want to see poverty as a reason for C&YP not to be with their families. It was noted that across the country, Social Workers (SWs) have developed a lens that looks at psychological issues and risk factors when undertaking assessments; however, poverty is a crucial consideration that is missing, where it's not about families not budgeting, but they simply don't have enough income to manage. Building on the service's work on neglect, they have now implemented a Manager's Poverty Checklist to take account of a family's economic circumstances as well as developing 'Poverty Champions' who will attend specialist training and share their learning across different services. The service recognises the need to maximise the income of all families and also to learn from families directly in terms of the challenges they have faced, including for example in navigating support systems. The TFG welcomed knowledge of SWs receiving basic training on the benefits system to assist families and highlighted the importance of the links with this work and Area Councils.
- 5.6 On speaking with representatives from local schools, the TFG learned of the variety of initiatives in place and work done to support CYP&F living in poverty. This included having dedicated staff providing welfare support for students in school as well as providing support to struggling families to access food parcels, replacement white goods and digital devices. Schools highlighted the number of families who find it difficult to ask for support; however, the pandemic has meant that for many of them they are no longer able to cope, with there often also being issues of drugs, alcohol and hidden gambling. Schools have therefore sought government grants where possible to address challenges and they have also worked with local partners to seek support for families. The consistency of welfare support in schools was discussed and the representatives agreed to take this to Barnsley Alliance to have as a regular agenda item so that schools can provide mutual challenge to each other regarding this. Linked with this, Members raised concerns regarding provision of support to families, given the number of agencies involved and whether there may be duplication, or conversely, families who are not getting any help at all.

- 5.7 As well as speaking to C&YP directly, the TFG met with officers from the Council's Youth Services who provide targeted provision for C&YP as well as represent youth voices universally to raise issues and themes that matter to them. The TFG welcomed knowledge of the service's integration with local partners to target and support specific young people to address risky behaviours, divert them from anti-social behaviour (ASB) and help them become resilient, positive citizens of the future. The group however noted the importance of generic youth work and the early help support this provides; thereby preventing the need for targeted support, which the service is currently unable to provide. The discussion highlighted that young people are unable to lift themselves out of poverty but provision such as youth clubs provides them with escapism and opportunities to seek support which they might not otherwise access proactively. The importance of having community venues to deliver such services was also discussed. Given the specific needs of C&YP, the TFG are keen to ensure that the voice of young people and youth services are heard when considerations are being made regarding tackling poverty within the borough.
- 5.8 Further to concerns regarding people living in poverty in private sector housing, the TFG met with the Group Leader who manages the private sector housing enforcement team to learn from their experiences of visiting properties across the borough and working with families living in poverty. The group were reassured regarding the service's work done in partnership with others to support families and make sure that 'every contact counts'; this includes helping to improve accommodation standards, as well as making referrals to other support agencies. The discussion highlighted the service's knowledge of support schemes for adults; however, that it would be helpful for them to have greater knowledge of access to support services specifically for C&YP.
- 5.9 Transient households were highlighted as an issue, whereby some households move from street to street due to issues paying rent, which is particularly unsettling for C&YP in those families. The service also raised concerns regarding the impact of the pandemic and a new cohort of people struggling financially due to a drop in income as a result of being furloughed; whereas those on benefits may have seen a rise in income due to additional monies provided through Universal Credit and access to support funds such as Council Tax and money towards paying utilities. The TFG noted the service's concerns regarding future homelessness due to the suspension on possessions and evictions coming to an end, as well as national government support schemes such as furlough being brought to a close. The service highlighted that work was being undertaken on a Private Rented Housing Strategy which TFG members were keen for OSC Members to be consulted on and involved in.
- 5.10 Further to a recommendation from the previous TFG on poverty and to avoid duplicating demands on officer time, the group attended an AMIB on Good Food Barnsley CiC. This enabled the group to provide further challenge regarding the progress of this work in addressing food poverty in partnership with other local agencies, as well as learning about recent developments such as the national Marcus Rashford campaign. The TFG welcomed the session and the work undertaken which covered:
- Foodbanks and the work of Fareshare in terms of supporting the most vulnerable and provision of emergency food aid due to the pandemic.
  - Healthy Holidays to provide food and activities for financially vulnerable families during holiday periods.
  - Rose Voucher Scheme to promote healthy eating and combat food poverty by giving families vouchers that can be redeemed for fresh fruit and veg at local markets.
  - Goldthorpe & Athersley Community Shops and their work in offering discounted good food, a café and a place where people can be supported to plan and budget for food.
- 5.11 Although TFG Members are aware of the work within their own Area Councils to address child poverty and projects to support young people living in difficult circumstances; they undertook a session to help them understand initiatives across all the different areas as well as officers' work with core Council services during the pandemic. The TFG were impressed by the innovative work being undertaken in different areas with robust contract management of local service provision. This includes projects where there may be provision of fruit and vegetables to support families struggling financially, but where so much more is done through the schemes such as educating families around healthy eating, but in a way where they don't feel stigmatised. Having undertaken several sessions

regarding services in local areas, the TFG acknowledged the great work being undertaken; however, they raised concerns regarding the co-ordination of these and trying to avoid duplication amongst the work of BMBC services, the Good Food Barnsley CiC, support in schools, projects commissioned by Area Councils and Ward Alliances as well as initiatives by 3<sup>rd</sup> sector organisations and local volunteers.

- 5.12 As part of their investigation, the TFG were keen to hear from health services with regards to child poverty and experiences of visiting CYP&F in their homes. A Community Paediatrician and Barnsley Hospital Paediatrician shared their experiences and concerns regarding the impact that living in poverty has on C&YP. This included the obesogenic environment many live in due to poor diet and lack of exercise, the challenges for families in navigating the plethora of local support, as well as statutory national services who each have their own access criteria and assessments. However, as the Paediatricians mainly undertake their work in clinical settings, this prompted the group to meet with representatives from the 0-19 Public Health Nursing Service (PHNS) as front-line practitioners going into people's homes and seeing the challenging environments some CYP&F live in. The TFG learned of the 0-19 PHNS' universal provision to all families, including nationally mandated contacts at key times in a child's early life via Health Visitors, as well as the offer of further services to support families with additional needs.
- 5.13 The PHNS highlighted the heightened challenges that CYP&F are facing regarding poverty as a result of the pandemic. This includes lower household incomes and rising expenditure for food and household bills as families are confined to homes, as well as for some families increased exposure to poor household conditions such as damp due to lockdown restrictions. They reported that families employ a range of coping strategies to manage the financial squeeze which often includes buying cheaper, less healthy food. This has also meant that the usual access to support networks and community services has been reduced and the service are noticing increasing complexities with cases, as well as the need to signpost more for benefits advice and support families to navigate various services. The service also reported seeing increased links with poverty and poor mental health issues amongst CYP&F and the relationship this has with neglect. Some families don't have access to basic safety equipment to protect their children which increases the risk of harm. The TFG praised the service's work with partners and available agencies; however, raised concerns regarding the need to rely on charitable organisations to support some families in acute need with equipment.
- 5.14 To conclude the TFG's investigation, they met with a representative from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF), which is a national organisation working to tackle poverty in the UK. The TFG learned of how they work to a social change model to deliver long-term plans aimed at tackling root causes of UK poverty in pursuit of people finding a route out of poverty through work, a better social security system and to have more people living in a decent, affordable home. The group were provided with an overview of the latest poverty statistics, highlighting the increase in those living in poverty, particularly since the pandemic, as well as increases in poverty in working households. The session covered the variety of challenges and schemes to support CYP&F living in poverty such as warm home grants, Local Welfare Assistance (LWA) schemes, including discretionary payments, as well as the benefits of advice services being co-located in accessible community locations such as GP surgeries to improve access. A key concern highlighted with regards to young people was the impact of the pandemic on industries closing where young people usually access work experience such as in the hospitality sector. For many this is where they begin building their skills and CVs for later life and may find that without these opportunities it may impact on later employment prospects. Therefore, the ability to undertake volunteering opportunities will be increasingly important for young people.

## **6. Recommendations**

- 6.1 Throughout the investigation, the TFG members made a number of suggestions and recommendations regarding the work being undertaken and were able to provide an insight into how poverty was affecting their local communities, specifically raising the concerns, impact and interventions required to support C&YP living in poverty. In addition to these suggestions, the TFG recommends the following:

6.2 **Recommendation 1: All Family Centre Managers to hold engagement sessions with local Ward Members and ensure this is a mandatory part of the induction process for new managers as well as ensuring the intelligence is shared with other Family Centre staff**

As highlighted above, this is to ensure that intelligence is shared regarding the work of and available facilities in family centres so Members can promote these services amongst their communities. This will also provide opportunity for Family Centre managers and their staff to understand specific projects and services which have been commissioned on a local ward or area basis which they may be able to refer CYP&F to; thereby maximising available support opportunities.

6.3 **Recommendation 2: Priority needs to be given to addressing digital poverty for C&YP. This not only includes access to devices but also to Wi-Fi and adequate data**

The TFG recognise that there have been a number of schemes to address digital poverty amongst young people both locally and nationally, including provision via local schools and colleges. However, the group are cognisant of the challenges C&YP living in poverty face, without being further impeded with access to education. The group would welcome an update on the work done on this agenda and an indication of the extent to which there are still gaps. The TFG also recommend the Council engages with its suppliers regarding what they could offer local C&YP and the extent to which educational activity online could be exempt from data allowances.

6.4 **Recommendation 3: The Council makes provision for a generic youth service offer across the borough**

The group acknowledge the challenges the Council has faced in recent years and the changes made to youth service provision; however, they feel this is a critical service for local young people to access. A generic offer provides opportunity for young people to seek advice and support on a variety of issues in an environment which is not stigmatised. It is also acknowledged that young people are unlikely to proactively seek support for issues they may be experiencing but by being amongst professionals in an informal environment are more likely to disclose challenges they and their family may be facing and their support needs. This may be something that is commissioned either centrally or by individual Area Councils.

6.5 **Recommendation 4: Work around poverty-proofing CSC assessments is presented at each Area Council, so they can engage with this agenda and exchange knowledge of local resources and services to aid this work**

The TFG welcomed knowledge of this work and were keen to ensure that Area Councils are engaged with poverty champions so that the Council can make best use of its resources as well as those in local communities including 3<sup>rd</sup> sector organisations.

6.6 **Recommendation 5: Additional investment is made available to provide externally procured outreach advice services to ensure basic local provision in every area**

Given the importance of maximising family income and the impact the pandemic has had on households who have not previously struggled financially, TFG Members requested to reiterate the recommendation from the previous investigation into poverty, regarding the need for advice services to be available in all wards. Given the economic impact of the pandemic on employment, the group anticipate an increasing demand on households accessing benefits for the first time and the need for sound financial advice and support for them.

6.7 **Recommendation 6: The TFG welcome Barnsley Alliance discussing welfare support in schools as a regular agenda item to ensure consistency across the Borough**

The TFG welcome this action which came up during the discussion with local school representatives and are keen to support the work of the Barnsley Alliance, in particular for schools to provide ongoing peer challenge regarding their welfare support provision. The TFG are cognisant of the key role schools play in local communities, which has been, and will continue to be important, as CYP&F deal with the impacts of the pandemic both now and in the future.

6.8 **Recommendation 7: The OSC undertakes a future TFG investigation into gambling**

Given the impact of the pandemic, a number of agencies mentioned concerns regarding gambling in communities and the harm this causes to CYP&F. There has been national recognition of the

increase in online gambling during the pandemic and concerns regarding the impact of this on poverty.

**6.9 Recommendation 8: Enforcement Officers working in private sector housing to be provided with/directed to information on specific support services available for C&YP living in poverty in local areas**

The TFG recognise the challenges in officers being able to have a plethora of knowledge on support services for both adults and children in different areas. Therefore, they recommend that officers are able to access a list of services they could direct young people to in local communities, whether this be at local schools, youth services or 3<sup>rd</sup> sector organisations for them to seek respite and support regarding challenging circumstances they may be living in.

**6.10 Recommendation 9: Work is undertaken to co-ordinate the support for CYP&F undertaken by different agencies such as BMBC services, the Good Food Barnsley CiC, support in schools, projects commissioned by Area Councils and Ward Alliances as well as initiatives by 3<sup>rd</sup> sector organisations and local volunteers**

The TFG praised the work of different agencies in supporting CYP&F living in poverty. However, they are keen to make sure that this is co-ordinated in order to maximise the available resources and referrals to commissioned services, avoid duplication and learn from good practice across partners. Similarly, it is important that the voice of CYP&F as well as youth services are heard within this work to ensure that provision is effective and accessed by those in most need who may not necessarily be visible to statutory services.

**6.11 Recommendation 10: 0-19 PHNS staff be provided with training on the Area Council model and commissioning of localised services, as well as basic training on the benefits system to help with assisting families in navigating services**

The TFG are mindful of the array of local support services available for families; however, they are aware of the challenges families face in navigating them, particularly as the pandemic has meant a new cohort of families need access to such services. It would also be helpful for staff to understand the service commissioning by Area Councils and what specific service provision may be available on local area footprints to both maximise referrals as well as prevent inappropriate ones.

**6.12 Recommendation 11: Provision is made by Family Centres for the loan of basic safety equipment to families most in need**

The TFG acknowledge the challenging circumstances a number of CYP&F live in and the need for them to be able to access equipment such as stair gates. The group were concerned regarding the reliance on local charitable organisations including faith groups for such items and recommend there is at least some provision via BMBC services.

**6.13 Recommendation 12: Forward planning to be undertaken regarding making opportunities available and recruiting young people as volunteers due to limited paid work experience opportunities**

As noted by another Member TFG undertaken on the Council's Covid Response, Recovery & Renewal work, the lack of employment and skill development opportunities for young people is of concern to Members. It is also thought that a number of Year 13 students plan to delay going to University for a year in the hope by which time the impacts of the pandemic will have reduced. It was recommended at a recent OSC meeting that C&YP are specifically involved in the development of Culture & Visitor Economy Services; therefore, this may be a particular opportunity which could be utilised.

The TFG would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who provided information, attended meetings and assisted with the TFG's investigation; it is much appreciated.

## **7. Implications for local people / service users**

7.1 The investigation undertaken by the TFG as well as the recommendations made are in support of improving outcomes for people in Barnsley, with a specific focus and concern for C&YP. The TFG acknowledge that support needs to be provided to parents and carers in order to lift children out of

poverty; however, they are cognisant of there being specific impacts and implications on C&YP living in poverty. The TFG recognise the daily challenges being faced by CYP&F, especially given the impacts of the pandemic, and acknowledge the good work already being undertaken by services to provide support.

## **8. Financial implications**

- 8.1 There are no specific financial implications, although in responding to the recommendations in the report, the financial implications of these would need to be fully assessed by the appropriate services responding.

## **9. Employee implications**

- 9.1 There are no specific employee implications, although in responding to the recommendations in the report, the employee implications of these would need to be fully assessed by the appropriate services responding.

## **10. Communications implications**

- 10.1 The TFG members are keen to ensure awareness of the variety of available services amongst communities as well as amongst staff delivering front-line support, so they can make referrals for CYP&F as appropriate, as well as avoid duplication. The TFG feel it is imperative that all communities have access to local welfare support services, particularly given the impacts of the pandemic, and that the availability of these is communicated.

## **11. Consultations**

- 11.1 Consultations have taken place with: the Child Poverty TFG Members; OSC Members; the Council's Cabinet Members; Council Officers from the Children's, Adults & Communities, and Public Health Directorates; the Professor of Social Work from the University of Sheffield and the Professor of Social Work from the University of Huddersfield; the Head Teacher of HCC, Deputy Safeguarding Lead from HCC, and Executive Head of Meadstead Primary School; the Community Paediatrician and Barnsley Hospital Paediatrician; the Policy & Partnerships Officer-Social Security from the JRF; and the Council's Senior Management Team.

## **12. The Corporate Plan and the Council's Performance Management Framework**

- 12.1 As outlined in the Corporate Plan, the three priorities for Barnsley are: a thriving and vibrant economy, citizens achieving their potential and strong & resilient communities. Work to tackle poverty is central to achieving all of these priorities, in particular, in ensuring the support needs of C&YP are met; therefore, it is essential the Council and its partner organisations work together to support these aims.

## **13. Promoting equality & diversity and social inclusion**

- 13.1 The TFG is keen to ensure that all Council services and activities are accessible to all its communities. Throughout the TFG's involvement in this work they have specifically referred to making sure that services are accessible to all, particularly C&YP and those in our most deprived communities. As part of the investigations, specific enquires were also made regarding support and access to services for C&YP with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities as well as for CYP&F where English is an additional language. The TFG also ensured they heard directly from C&YP on the Youth Council, members of the SEND Forum & Care4Us Council.

## **14. Tackling Health Inequalities**

- 14.1 There are large health inequalities between Barnsley and England, and within Barnsley itself. Poverty and associated factors are recognised as wider determinants of health inequality; therefore, working to tackle poverty contributes to tackling health inequalities. The investigation undertaken



by the TFG and recommendations made are in support of improving services across the borough, with a particular focus on those for C&YP; with recognition that additional work may be required in specific communities to help address health inequalities.

## 15. **Risk management issues**

- 15.1 It is likely the recommended activities detailed in this report will contribute further to the effective mitigation of risks associated with poverty, specifically with regards to challenges for C&YP in Barnsley, and it would be appropriate for any follow-up report to be cognisant of these risks.

## 16. **Glossary**

AMIB	All Elected Member Information Briefing
BMBC	Barnsley Metropolitan borough Council
C&YP	Children and Young People
CiC	Community Interest Company
CSC	Children's Social Care
CYP&F	Children, Young People & Families
EIP	Early Intervention & Prevention
FSM	Free School Meals
HCC	Horizon Community College
JRF	Joseph Rowntree Foundation
LWA	Local Welfare Assistance
OSC	Overview and Scrutiny Committee
PHNS	Public Health Nursing Service
SYP	South Yorkshire Police
TFG	Task and Finish Group

## 17. **Background papers and useful links**

- OSC TFG Report on Poverty (Cab.18.3.2020/8):  
<https://barnsleymbc.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s64022/Overview%20and%20Scrutiny%20Committee%20-%20Task%20and%20Finish%20Group%20-%20Poverty.pdf>
- Response to the OSC TFG Report on Poverty (Cab.19.8.2020/8):  
<https://barnsleymbc.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s69025/Overview%20and%20Scrutiny%20Committee%20Work%20Programme%20for%20202021.pdf>
- JRF Annual report 20/21 re. UK Poverty: <https://www.jrf.org.uk/report/uk-poverty-2020-21>
- Poverty in the UK Statistics House of Commons Briefing Paper June 2020:  
[file:///C:/Users/annam/OneDrive%20-%20Barnsley%20Metropolitan%20Borough%20Council/Desktop/SN07096%20\(1\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/annam/OneDrive%20-%20Barnsley%20Metropolitan%20Borough%20Council/Desktop/SN07096%20(1).pdf)

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