

Meeting: Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date: 6 January 2014

Title: Report of the Child Poverty Sub-group

Author: Scrutiny Team Tel: 0191 643 5315 / 5614

Service: Governance Services

Directorate: Law and Governance

Wards affected: All

1. Purpose of Report

To introduce the report of the Child Poverty Sub-group.

2. Recommendations

The Committee are recommended to agree the report and refer it to Cabinet for consideration at its meeting on 13 January 2014.

3. Details

- 3.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee as part of their 2012/13 work programme prioritised child poverty as an important issue and agreed to establish a joint sub-group comprising of Members from Children, Education and Skills and Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Sub-committees to carry out an in-depth review.
- 3.2 It was recognised from the outset that child poverty was a vast topic area and for the sub-group to keep on task, it was important to clearly identify a small number of specific issues to investigate in detail. It was agreed to that it would be best to look at the topic deep and narrow rather than broad but shallow. The sub-group therefore decided to look specifically at 'best start in life, early intervention and prevention' and 'barriers to employment'.
- 3.3 The sub-group identified a total of 26 recommendations, 14 of these recommendations requires action from the Council, 11 from Jobcentre Plus and one from the Clinical Commissioning Group.
- 3.4 The full report which outlines the key findings, conclusions and recommendations of the review is attached at Appendix 1.

4. Appendices (if any)

Appendix 1 – Report of the Child Poverty Sub-group