

Item	Date
	18/07/2024
Title	For
Update report from Ceredigion PSB Poverty sub-group	Discussion
Summary of Issues	
<p>Meetings</p> <p>The Poverty sub-group continues to meet quarterly. We have reviewed the membership of the group and recently welcomed representatives from RAY Ceredigion, University of Wales Trinity Saint David, Barcud Housing Association and Wales and West Housing Association.</p> <p>Forward Work Plan</p> <p>Our forward work plan supports the delivery of Ceredigion Local Wellbeing Plan 2023-28 and Welsh Government Child Poverty Plan. Our forward work plan is attached as Appendix 1. We have two aims:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To enable households to reduce their costs and maximise their income. 2. To increase understanding of local poverty and work to address the stigma of poverty. <p>Lived Experience Video</p> <p>We want to create a video to highlight what life is like for people living on a low income in Ceredigion. We hope to film in September 2024. We have sent a message to all the warm welcome spaces, food banks and community cafes in Ceredigion to ask if they can help us to find volunteers that are willing to take part. We have received on one polite but negative response so far.</p> <p>Communication Plan</p> <p>We publish monthly cost of living bulletins and continually improve the webpage - Cost of Living Support - Ceredigion County Council</p> <p>Bulletins can be accessed via the links below:</p> <p>July 2024- 'Free or low cost summer holiday activities'</p> <p>June 2024 'Support for Early Years'</p> <p>May 2024 'Travel and Transport'</p> <p>April 2024 'Support for Disabled People'</p>	

Funding

We have applied for £25,000 from Welsh Government Child Poverty grant to improve the way that the Poverty sub-group engages with and co-produces solutions with staff, volunteers and users of warm welcome spaces, community cafes and food banks. If successful, we will start in Autumn 2024 and complete by 31st March 2025.

The project is about improved collaboration – providing some glue to help joined up working. However, the real need is longer term funding to pay for practitioners to provide advice. Ceredigion Citizens Advice has developed a new Fuel Poverty Project to increase the reach and impact of their energy team. We have provided a supporting email to help demonstrate the need for this type of project.

Data Dashboards

The Poverty Data Dashboards, developed by the Council's Partnerships and Performance team, are due to be re-commissioned later this year. The dashboards are used by the Poverty sub-group to target resources and identify trends. They also provide useful data to support funding applications. The current licence is for internal, Council use only. An additional £5,000 per year is needed to extend the licence for use by external partners.

Question – are PSB partners in a position to pool some budget to cover the cost of £5,000 per year so that the Data Dashboards are available to all?

Financial Implications

Potential income of £25,000 (if our application to Welsh Government Child Poverty grant is successful).

Potential expenditure of £5,000 per annum if PSB members are in agreement.

Recommendations

That Ceredigion PSB notes the content of this report and provides appropriate feedback to the PSB Poverty sub-group.

Attachments

Poverty Sub-group Forward Work Plan

Reporting Officer

Councillor Catrin MS Davies