

**QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR****Question submitted by: Councillor Terri Beer****To Cabinet Member:** Councillor Carlyle, Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Children and Young People**Question:**

*Are you aware of bed poverty? If so what are you doing to improve things in our city? If you are not aware of this issue, then why are you not aware?*

**Response:** ( for completion by City Council officers and Cabinet Members)

I can confirm that both I and the City Council are very aware of the concept of “Bed Poverty” and that this has been discussed on a number of occasions with officers and fellow Councillors. Indeed, it was one of the concepts recently discussed as part of the development of the new Child Poverty Action Plan for 2022 – 25. We know how important it is for a child’s development, especially with regards to their education and ability to concentrate, to ensure they can have a peaceful enough night’s sleep as possible.

As a consequence, addressing families and children’s ability to ensure the environment they live in is appropriate, an action to this effect has been proposed in the new draft plan. The draft plan will be shown to Cabinet on 6<sup>th</sup> October and will be scrutinised at Management Scrutiny Board during September.

I hope that this assures you that Bed Poverty and indeed all forms of Child Poverty are being addressed. I know that as a member of the Child Poverty Task and Finish Group, you were very influential in its development and I am pleased that your knowledge and experience in this area was able to be incorporated into the new plan.

**Signed:****Dated:** 2 September 2022