

# Cabinet



Date of meeting:	09 September 2024
Title of Report:	<b>Building Bridges to Opportunity Position Paper</b>
Lead Member:	Councillor Chris Penberthy (Cabinet Member for Housing, Cooperative Development, and Communities)
Lead Strategic Director:	Ruth Harrell (Director of Public Health)
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Your Reference:	
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

## Purpose of Report

Position paper outlining a planned approach to create a locally informed framework for anti-poverty action and apply this to Plymouth City Council strategies and services to identify areas of excellence and gaps in provision for addressing poverty and child poverty in the city.

## Recommendations and Reasons

1. To support the launch of the Building Bridges to Opportunity programme and request that 6 monthly updates come to Cabinet;

*Reason: Low risk plan to develop a framework to explore current PCC policies, strategies, and services through the lens of poverty and child poverty. Taking a measured approach with sufficient engagement will ensure holistic and system wide involvement and increase the chances of a successful outcome and create wider awareness of the work being undertaken.*

2. Request the Leader of the Council to formally appoint a champion for this programme.

*Reason: Appointment of a champion will support cross-council commitment to this programme of work.*

## Alternative options considered and rejected

1. To continue with current approach and activity and to not bring together existing activity and work with partners to better coordinate efforts, plans and interventions to tackle poverty across the city.

*This has been rejected so that we can counter the real and perceived siloed working and ensure the city is making every effort to provide a more joined up approach to this issue.*

2. Undertake programme without a champion.

*This has been rejected due to the risk of programme failure due to a lack of cross-council input into development of the framework and review of current activities.*

### Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

The plan proposed in this position paper directly supports the Plymouth Plan with direct impact on 'delivering the best outcomes for children, young people and families' alongside a range of other policies aligned to reducing poverty and its impact including creating conditions for economic growth, meeting local housing needs, and reducing health inequalities. This piece of work clearly aligns with our Corporate Plan, particularly in relation to 'Fairness' and 'Co-operation' – this work will assist in helping to address inequality and inequity in our city, and it can only be done through better partnership working.

### Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

No current implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan; initial phases as outlined in position paper will use staff resource from existing structures.

### Financial Risks

No current financial risk based on plan as outlined in position paper.

### Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

No impact on council carbon footprint.

### Other Implications: e.g. Health and Safety, Risk Management, Child Poverty:

*\* When considering these proposals members have a responsibility to ensure they give due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not.*

Plan as proposed will act to consolidate the Council and its strategic partner's work on child poverty and identify where there are areas of excellence and gaps in relation to work carried out to address poverty in the city.

### Appendices

*\*Add rows as required to box below*

Ref.	Title of Appendix	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A	Building Bridges to Opportunity Position Paper							
B	EIA							

### Background papers:

*\*Add rows as required to box below*

*Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are unpublished works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.*

Title of any background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable)
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	If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.						
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
N/A							

**Sign off:**

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Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Ruth Harrell (Director of Public Health)											
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes Date agreed: 23/08/2024											
Cabinet Member approval: Councillor Chris Penberthy (Cabinet Member for Housing, Cooperative Development and Communities) <i>approved via email</i> Date approved: 30/08/2024											