

Housing and Community Service Scrutiny Panel



Date of meeting:	22 October 2025
Title of Report:	Building Bridges to Opportunity
Lead Member:	Councillor Chris Penberthy (Cabinet Member for Housing, Cooperative Development, and Communities)
Lead Strategic Director:	Professor Steve Maddern (Director of Public Health)
Author:	Nick Shaw
Contact Email:	nick.shaw@plymouth.gov.uk
Your Reference:	
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

Purpose of Report

To update the Housing and Community Services Scrutiny Panel regarding the progress of the Building Bridges to Opportunity programme.

Recommendations and Reasons

- I. For the Housing and Community Services Scrutiny Panel to note ongoing work as part of the Building Bridges to Opportunity programme and for this to be reported back to the panel before the framework is presented 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

Alternative options considered and rejected

- I. Not consider this report - Rejected as the Housing and Community Services Scrutiny Panel requested to be kept informed of the programmes development prior to Cabinet consideration.

Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

Building Bridges to Opportunity directly reflects the Plymouth Plan's core principles including providing opportunity for the people of Plymouth, as well as supporting the Corporate Plan's vision of everyone in Plymouth enjoying an outstanding quality of life.

Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

No current or predicted implications to medium term financial plans or resources

Financial Risks

No current or predicted financial risks associated with this programme.

Legal Implications

No current or predicted legal implications associated with this programme.

Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

No current or predicted impact on the Council's 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.*

The framework describes local system action against poverty, including child poverty in Plymouth with the aim of strengthening current action.

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 - Update to Housing and Community Service Scrutiny Panel							

Background papers:

Title of any background paper(s)	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

Sign off:

Fin	N/A	Leg	LS/0 0001 075/ 1/AC /13/1 0/25	Mon Off	N/A	HR	N/A	Assets	N/A	Strat Proc	N/A
Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Professor Steve Maddern											
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes											
Date agreed: 08/10/2025											
Cabinet Member approval: Councillor Penberthy (Cabinet Member for Housing, Cooperative Development, and Communities) Approved by email											
Date approved: 08/10/2025											