

Agenda for Council

Wednesday, 9th December, 2020, 6.00 pm

To: All elected Members of the Council; Honorary Aldermen

Venue: Online via the Zoom App. All Councillors and registered speakers will have been sent an appointment with the meeting link.

Contact: Susan Howl, Democratic Services Manager;
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**Important - this meeting will be conducted online and recorded by Zoom only.
Please do not attend Blackdown House.
Members are asked to follow the [Protocol for Remote Meetings](#)**

This meeting is being recorded by EDDC for subsequent publication on the Council's website and will be streamed live to the Council's Youtube Channel at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmNHQruge3LVI4hcgRnbwBw>

Public speakers are now required to register to speak – for more information please use the following link: <https://eastdevon.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/have-your-say-at-meetings/all-other-virtual-public-meetings/#article-content>

Dear Sir/Madam

**Meeting of the Council of the District of East Devon on
Wednesday, 9th December, 2020 at 6.00 pm**

You are called upon to attend the above meeting to be held online. It is proposed that the matters set out on the agenda below will be considered at the meeting and resolution or resolutions passed as the Council considers expedient.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "M. Howl", written over a white background.

Chief Executive

1 **Public speaking**

Information on [public speaking](#) is available online

2 **Minutes of the previous meeting** (Pages 8 - 22)

3 **Apologies**

4 **Declarations of interest**

Guidance is available online to Councillors and co-opted members on making [declarations of interest](#)

5 **Matters of urgency** (Pages 23 - 28)

Information on [matters of urgency](#) is available online. There is one matter of urgency to be considered.

Infrastructure Funding Statement 2019/20

Under the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Regulations 2010, as amended there is a legal requirement for East Devon District Council (EDDC) as a planning authority to prepare an Annual Infrastructure Funding Statement which must be published and submitted to the Government by 31 December 2020.

The Chair has agreed to include this as an urgent item so that EDDC can submit an Annual Infrastructure Funding Statement to the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government by 31 December 2020.

6 **Announcements from the Chair and Leader**

7 **Confidential/exempt item(s)**

To agree any items to be dealt with after the public (including the Press) have been excluded. There are no items which officers recommend should be dealt with in this way, but if confidential minutes from Cabinet and/or the Council's Committees are being discussed, Officers may recommend consideration in the private part of the meeting.

8 **To answer questions asked by Members of the Council pursuant to Procedure Rules No. 9.2 and 9.5**

9 **Reports from the Cabinet and the Council's Committees and questions on those reports** (Pages 29 - 32)

- a) Mnutes of Cabinet held on 28 October 2020, Minute numbers 227 - 243
(Pages 33 - 41)
- b) Minutes of Cabinet held on 25 November 2020. Minute numbers 249 - 266
(Pages 42 - 50)
- c) Minutes of Scrutiny Committee held on 5 November 2020. Minute numbers 87 - 94 (Pages 51 - 53)

- d) Minutes of the Strategic Planning Committee held on 20 October 2020. Minute numbers 62 - 76 (Pages 54 - 66)
- e) Minutes of the Strategic Planning Committee held on 22 October 2020. Minute numbers 77 - 81 (Pages 67 - 74)
- f) Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 7 October 2020. Minute numbers 153 - 164 (Pages 75 - 79)
- g) Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 4 November 2020. Minute numbers 165 - 175 (Pages 80 - 84)
- h) Minutes of the Audit & Governance Committee held on 26 November 2020. Minute numbers 51 - 61 (Pages 85 - 88)
- i) Minutes of the Licensing & Enforcement Committee held on 18 November 2020. Minute numbers 51 - 59 (Pages 89 - 92)
- j) Minutes of the Licensing & Enforcement Sub-Committee held on 14 October 2020. Minute numbers 27 - 31 (Pages 93 - 94)
- k) Minutes of the Standards Committee held on 13 October 2020. Minute numbers 18 - 26 (Pages 95 - 98)

10 **Changes to Governance arrangements** (Pages 99 - 101)

This report from the Monitoring Officer addresses changes to the political balance and committee allocations arising from Cllr Millar leaving the Democratic Alliance Group.

11 **Motion: Poverty Strategy and Actions**

The second wave of the Covid-19 epidemic is creating even worse economic damage to East Devon which requires short-term actions as well as strategic initiatives to be put in place immediately. There is concern about the process of holding Poverty Working Panel meetings in private when it should be transparent as well as the slow pace of results when the Council has already decided a '**policy vision**' 12 months ago, namely:

- **No one in East Devon is to be destitute without immediate help, and**
- **Nobody should be in involuntary poverty for more than two years duration.**

There are '**key issues**' which still need addressing urgently such as;

- Work with partners to address gaps in our benefit system and recommend solutions
- Use all available Government grants and policies to sustain incomes and reduce housing costs.
- Strengthen families and communities with clear signposting to help for

those at risk of poverty including use of the Community Hub and EDDC Website to maximise help for those in economic problems

- Set up town-by-town briefing sessions in January on ways to access current support and develop financial resilience. Involve local town and Parish Councillors
- Promote help to sectors with long-term economic growth potential to reduce dependency on agriculture, tourism and catering industries

Poverty is a cross cutting issue, with several Council Services involved in our interventions and many partners to coordinate with. Other Councils are proceeding rapidly to develop '**emergency actions**' which we should also consider and be reported to Overview Committee without delay.

It is vital that young people have access to East Devon local opportunities in the simplest way. With technology becoming more and more integrated into our daily lives. We recognise that Team Devon has proposed measures to help younger workers. It is considered that in East Devon this should also include those over 50 and we should seek in all age groups to address stress and depression issues. EDDC should seek to improve work placements and work trials for all ages of those seeking work. This should be a '**significant priority**'.

The Poverty Working Panel has identified the following five '**strategic objectives**' to be included within the emerging Poverty Strategy which Council endorses:

- 1 Help people on low incomes to maximise their household income and minimise their costs, building financial resilience and reducing indebtedness. Lead Service – Finance.
- 2 Strengthen families and communities, including supporting groups of people that are more likely to experience poverty. Work up approaches with community and voluntary groups working to combat poverty. Lead Service – Housing.
- 3 Promote an inclusive economy, using career counselling, raising skills and improving access to a range of higher-paying employment opportunities for people on low incomes. Lead Service – Growth, Development & Prosperity.
- 4 Address the high cost of housing, improving housing conditions, creating affordable warmth and reducing homelessness. Lead Service – Housing.
- 5 Improving health outcomes for people on low incomes, including access to good diet, health care and ill health prevention. Lead Service – Environmental Health.

In the current circumstances, urgent action is required to deliver these strategic objectives to enable those in need to be helped as soon as possible.

This approach reflects evidence on the nature of poverty in East Devon and responds to changes in the current situation. Poverty is a cross cutting theme with a number of Council Services involved in our interventions and we look for good SMT coordination.

These strategies also build on the learning from the Council's existing approach to supporting individuals and communities. This learning includes:

1. The importance of balancing efforts to address the immediate effects of poverty, with preventative work to address the root causes of poverty.
2. Being clear on which issues can be addressed by direct delivery by Council services, which issues can be achieved through partnership working (where more can be achieved through collaboration), and which issues require influencing and lobbying activity (where powers lie with Government or other agencies).
3. It confirms a need to build the capacity and resilience of residents and communities which is why the Forum should be open to the public.

This Council therefore agrees that;

- (1) The 'policy vision' is incorporated immediately in the Poverty Strategy to help deliver the best response for our residents across East Devon;**
- (2) Future meetings of the Panel should be in public and past meeting agendas and minutes made available;**
- (3) To achieve faster actions the 'key issues' should immediately be addressed.**
- (4) The Poverty Working Panel should immediately review 'emergency actions' by other Councils and provide a report to Overview Committee including comment on the budgets available across local Partnerships;**
- (5) East Devon's tactical response should include the 'significant priority' mentioned above.**
- (6) It endorses the 'strategic objectives' in the emerging Poverty Strategy and asks for action proposals to address them to be presented to Cabinet within 2 months.**

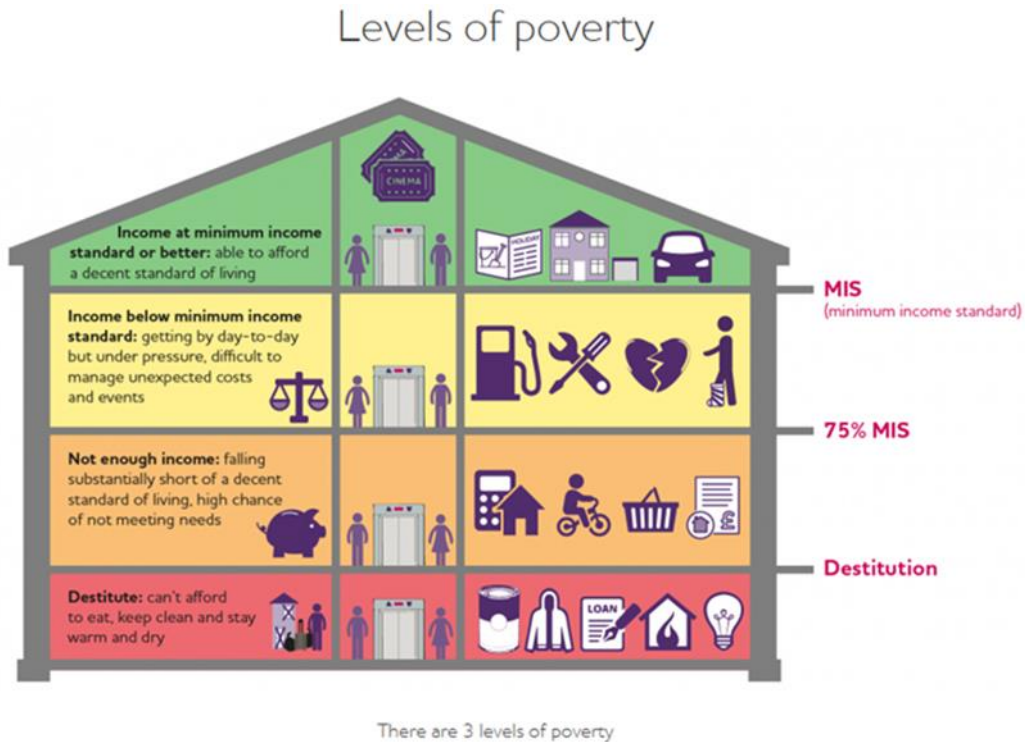
Proposed by Mike Allen

Seconded by Maddy Chapman

Supported by Helen Parr, Bruce de Saram, Stuart Hughes, Ben Ingham, Philip Skinner and Andrew Moulding

Motion: Poverty Strategy and actions - Appendix 1

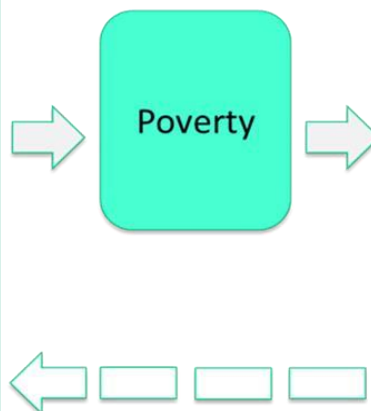
Poverty is defined in different ways including not having enough possessions or income for a person's needs; the condition of being extremely poor; a person or community that lacks the financial resources and essentials for a minimum standard of living; household income below 60% of the average. Six types of poverty have been recognised – situational; generational; absolute; relative; urban; and rural.



The causes and effects of poverty identified by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, local stakeholders and consultees are summarised in the diagram below.

Causes

- Low-paid, insecure jobs
- Low skills or education
- Ineffective benefits system
- High cost of housing, goods and services
- Financial literacy
- Discrimination
- Weak family relationships
- Childhood poverty
- Chaotic lives
- Abuse or trauma



Effects

- Difficulty meeting basic costs
- Housing problems
- Homelessness
- Becoming a victim or perpetrator of crime
- Health problems
- Drug or alcohol problems
- Teenage parenthood
- Relationship and family problems
- Lower educational achievement
- Digital exclusion
- Fuel poverty

[Decision making and equalities](#)

For a copy of this agenda in large print, please contact the Democratic Services Team on 01395 517546