

Cllr Allen tabled a paper setting out this suggestions for key areas of focus for the Council's approach that should be included:

- All relevant services to be subject to poverty proofing
- The success of the Problem Families Programme to be turned into local action
- A grant fund for revenue funding of Foodbanks for three years to be developed
- Improve skills and employment career advice to schools and through co-ordination with job centres
- Encourage the CCG and County Council to focus on poverty alleviation through co-ordination with this Council
- Community team to engage the faith and voluntary sector in an audit of what exists and how to help this sector to efficiently harmonise with statutory bodies
- Supporting residents to access benefits and responding to the impacts of welfare reform
- Working with voluntary sector partners to provide debt advice and financial advice
- Promoting and signposting residents to sources of affordable finance
- Supporting residents in fuel and water poverty to reduce their energy and water bills
- Continuing to promote the Living Wage to employers
- Working with businesses to identify ways that they might use their skills, capacity and resources to support achievement of shared objectives around poverty and disadvantage
- Working with partners to support low income residents into higher paid employment and raise skills, attainment and life chances
- Continuing to promote digital access for residents on low incomes
- Continuing to promote volunteering as a means to develop skills and employability and build communities
- Promoting community pride and cohesion through supporting a range of community events and celebrations
- Working with partners to improve health outcomes for people on low incomes, including physical and mental health
- Constructing new Council homes and working with social landlords and developers to deliver more affordable homes
- Providing housing, employment and skills support for homeless people
- Delivering a range of projects to support groups of people that are more likely to experience poverty, including women, children and substance abusers.