

A Brighter Borough for All

Tackling Poverty across Stockton-on-Tees

January 2016



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Foreword

We first introduced 'A Brighter Borough for All – Tackling Family Poverty' in 2012. It was produced partly in response to what at that time was a statutory requirement to have a Child Poverty Strategy and partly in recognition of the need for a partnership approach to tackling the issue. 'A Brighter Borough for All' recognised that individually public sector organisations and the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector were doing a lot to support those experiencing poverty and to tackle the root causes. The framework document brought the detail of this work together and provided a focus for the refreshed Local Strategic Partnership partners around two key objectives.

The framework has been refreshed and updated to ensure that the additional needs that have emerged as the impact of welfare reform and wider economic policies and conditions are realised have been recognised and addressed.

Poverty is not a new concept but one that has been around for decades and is a complex one, as evidenced by the huge amount of research. Defining poverty is equally as complex but it is generally acknowledged that it is not only linked to income but embraces a much broader range of other elements including education, housing, health and opportunity.

The effects of children and families growing up in poverty are shown to have far reaching and long-term consequences both socially in term of outcomes and life chances and also economically. These effects manifest themselves at a number of levels - on individuals, families, the wider community and society as a whole.

The national policy and legislative context in relation to poverty has changed over time. In 1999 central government first announced its aim to eradicate child poverty by 2020. Whilst this was undoubtedly a challenging target in itself, the recession and the reductions in public sector funding since that commitment have severely impacted on the achievement of the aim. The shift in government thinking continues with an intention to "introduce a new and strengthened approach to tracking the life chances of Britain's most disadvantaged children"¹

This new approach includes the development of a new more effective measure focussing on the causes of poverty. The current measure is a relative measure linked to income and not necessarily an effective measure of improvement in lifestyles or outcomes. The government has indicated its intent to introduce legislation to introduce new measures linked to levels of work within a family and educational attainment. It is expected that new legislation to replace the Child Poverty Act 2010 will use:

- the proportion of children living in workless household as well as long-term workless households
- the educational attainment of all pupils and the most disadvantaged pupils at age 16

The government will also develop a range of other measures and indicators of root causes of poverty, including family breakdown, debt and addiction, setting these out in a children's life chances strategy.

As the Council and its partners have continued to work individually and collectively to tackle family poverty through its 2 key objectives of 'maximising family income' and

'giving every child the best start in life', the opportunity has been taken through the refresh of the 'Tackling Poverty Framework' document to acknowledge that not all people affected by poverty live in a traditional family setting and therefore additional objectives have been added to include anyone experiencing poverty in our Borough.

Until the clarity from central government emerges, we will continue to actively work to do what we can, to support lifting children, families and adults out of poverty. Much of the work in relation to this is contained within the respective plans and strategies of the public sector organisations that make up Stockton Strategic Partnership and this framework does not seek to replicate that. Instead it provides a focus through clearly defined objectives against which the Locality Forums and the relevant thematic groups within the partnership can set out their action plans and success measures.

Councillor Bob Cook, Chair of Stockton Strategic Partnership

1. Announcement by DWP, 1st July 15

Introduction

The origin of this document “A Brighter Borough for All, Tackling Family Poverty across Stockton on Tees” was based on the requirements of the Child Poverty Act 2010 and our continued commitment to tackle disadvantage and protect the vulnerable within our communities. The Child Poverty Act 2010 had set targets to halve child poverty by 2010/11 target and eradicate poverty by 2020. However the government has indicated a shift in policy thinking and is in the legislative process of moving to repeal elements of the Child Poverty Act of 2010 which committed to the target. The Government plans to develop a range of measures and indicators of root causes of poverty to replace it instead.

According to the latest national statistics (June 2015) the number of children in the UK living in relative poverty is 2.3 million and 2.6 million in absolute poverty. The DWP annual estimate shows the proportion affected – almost 1 in 6 is unchanged from 2011-12 to 2013-14. Projections by the Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) of relative and absolute child poverty – taking into account the latest economic forecasts, tax and benefit changes and population estimates – indicate that, under any plausible scenario, the national 2020 targets will be missed. Indeed, the IFS expect relative poverty to rise, reaching more than twice its target rate by 2020/21. Absolute poverty, meanwhile, is expected to rise to five times the 2020 target.

The impact of growing up in poverty is well documented and evidenced and can affect every area of a child’s development and their future life chances. Evidence suggests that children from low income households are less likely to achieve in many aspects of their lives including reaching their academic potential and therefore securing employment as adults. They are more likely to suffer from poor health, live in poor quality housing and unsafe environments, often affecting their whole life cycle.

Figures on adults in poverty are harder to source but the Office for National Statistics indicates:

- In 2013, 7.8% of the UK population were considered to be in persistent income poverty, equivalent to around 4.6 million people. Persistent poverty is defined as being in relative income poverty both in the current year and at least two out of the three preceding years.
- In 2013, the UK persistent poverty rate was less than half the overall poverty rate of 15.9%. By comparison, in many other EU countries, the persistently poor make up a higher proportion of those in poverty.
- Since 2008 (the first year for which comparable EU longitudinal data are available), the UK has consistently had a persistent poverty rate lower than the EU average.
- Almost a third (33%) of the UK population experienced poverty in at least one year between 2010 and 2013, equivalent to approximately 19.3 million people. In contrast, across the EU as a whole, a quarter (25%) of people were in poverty at least once during that period, with a larger proportion of people in the UK experiencing poverty at least once over those 4 years than in many other EU countries.
- Almost 40% of those aged 65 years and over in the UK experienced poverty at least once between 2010 and 2013, compared with around 30% of those under 65.

- In the UK, 60% of those living in single parent households and almost half (46%) of those in single adult households experienced poverty at least once in the four years between 2010 and 2013 compared with less than a third of those living in households with two or more adults.

What do we mean by “Poverty”?

Poverty is an extremely complex concept. A lack of money can have a direct impact on a person’s ability to socialise, engage in activities, access employment opportunities and the resources people need to live. However we feel poverty is more than just about money. It is interconnected with a much wider range of issues such as being a vulnerable member of the community, having a safe environment, adequate housing, heating and lighting (fuel poverty), good health, the ability to work and access to services and opportunities. It often impacts on relationships, happiness and individual’s development and future prospects.

Central government has, historically, used relative poverty linked to income as its key measure, but as identified elsewhere in this document is intending to introduce a wider set of measures. Early indications are that new legislation to replace the Child Poverty Act 2010 will use:

- the proportion of children living in workless household as well as long-term workless households
- the educational attainment of all pupils and the most disadvantaged pupils at age 16

The government is also intending to develop a range of other measures and indicators of root causes of poverty, including family breakdown, debt and addiction, setting these out in a children’s life chances strategy. Some of these measures are already included in the Social Justice Outcomes Framework and there isn’t any clear indication of when government is planning to introduce new measures.

Whose responsibility is it?

Poverty is a cross cutting agenda that cannot be tackled by any one organisation in isolation. It requires a partnership approach that brings together the public, private and the voluntary and community sector.

Stockton Borough Council and its partners have a long and strong tradition of seeking to narrow the inequalities gap with the aim of ensuring a better quality of life for everyone in the Borough, now and for future generations. This was embedded within the Sustainable Community Strategy – Promoting Achievement and Tackling Disadvantage. Following the establishment of the Statutory Health and Well Being Board and the local refresh of the Stockton Strategic Partnership the ‘poverty’ elements of the Sustainable Community Strategy were encapsulated within the ‘Brighter Borough for All’ framework and objectives. The drive to tackle the root causes of poverty and support those affected by it is reinforced in the Council’s own policy principles linked to:

- Protecting the vulnerable
- Promoting equality of opportunity
- Developing strong and healthy communities
- Creating economic prosperity

In shaping the refresh of this framework we have listened to our customers, the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector who often are working closely with those affected and other key partners. We have widened the focus to include all vulnerable households in the Borough regardless of age. This is in recognition of the cumulative impact of the economic downturn and welfare reforms on the income and circumstances of particular groups. Including groups such as the under 35 years with no children, crisis or particular health need who often are not eligible or a priority category for some of the support schemes available. Taking a preventative approach will help avoid these individuals becoming trapped in a poverty decline and provide a helping hand into a brighter future.

In producing the initial framework and this refresh it is acknowledged that the Council and its partners already have a range of plans, activities and priorities aimed at tackling poverty within their own strategies.

The purpose of the framework is not to duplicate that activity but rather to have a collective understanding of:-

- what poverty looks like in the Borough (through a needs assessment)
- the activity that is underway both to prevent the conditions that contribute to poverty and the support in place to tackle it
- any gaps in the support available
- our collective priorities for action to provide a focus for the Locality Forums and other relevant thematic groups, communities of interest within the local strategic partnership

How have we developed this framework?

Community involvement is at the heart of everything we do. In developing the original Framework for Tackling Family Poverty, agreed in July 2012, we held a series of large consultation events with members of the Local Strategic Partnership looking at differing aspects of poverty and its impacts and considered our approach to tackling the issue. We also took into account the views of young people which had been captured through a regional project.

Partnership events hosted by Stockton Strategic Partnership have focused on the original two key objectives of 'Maximising Family Income' and 'Ensuring Children Receive the Best Start in Life' with the Locality Forums subsequently developing action plans and impact assessment models.

A Welfare Reform Assistance workshop, which involved representatives from front line agencies across the voluntary and community sector and Council services, was held in 2014 to look at what support was available to residents across the borough and identify any gaps and opportunities for better linkages. This workshop identified a gap in support for single people under 35 years with no children, who were experiencing a crisis or particular health need.

These discussions and a revised needs assessment, have informed the refresh of this framework document which has been extended to include all residents of the borough, regardless of age, not just those who are in a family setting.

Challenges

Local context

Deprivation in our Borough is higher than average and about 22.3% of our children live in poverty, compared to 19.2 % nationally although some wards are significantly higher. (Public Health England Health Profile 2015 published 2nd June 2015).

It was estimated that Stockton Borough would lose between £13m and £29m as a result of welfare reforms with up to 2700 households facing reductions in benefit due to the new rules on under occupation and that the greatest impact would be felt in families with children and sections of the disabled community. (The Impact of Welfare Reform Changes in Stockton- a report by the Institute for Local Governance published 2012)

The national introduction of Universal Credit which seeks to streamline a range of different welfare benefits into one overall payment has still to be rolled out locally although for new single claimants was introduced in Stockton on 7th December 2015. Work continues to understand the impact that Universal Credit will have on individuals and the Association of North East Councils have commissioned the Institute for Local Governance to produce a further report.

We have conducted a needs assessment, set out at Appendix 1, which tells us that there are some significant challenges ahead for Stockton on Tees.

- 22% of our children are living in poverty
- 8 of our wards are in the most deprived 10% in the country.
- We have a higher rate of unemployment than the national average
- Average earnings are lower than the national average.
- We experience high levels of benefit dependency

There are also a number of issues that affect the wider determinants of poverty;

- Future demographic pressures – increasing number of older people as a % of the population, an increase in births
- The growing diversity of our communities, support for refugees and asylum seekers, other vulnerable groups such as single parent families, those with disabilities, carers or those with mental health problems.
- Increased fuel and energy costs
- A growing need for affordable housing
- Managing the inequality gaps, social, educational, health, income etc
- Our health outcomes are worse in the North East compared to the National Average.
- Unprecedented budget reductions in the public sector and continued austerity measures affecting the whole economy.

Stockton-on-Tees has a long and strong history of working in partnership to tackle the causes of poverty. The Sustainable Community Strategy of the former Stockton Renaissance partnership was all about 'Promoting Achievement and Tackling Disadvantage' and this refreshed framework seeks to build on that, acknowledging that many of the actions to promote achievement and tackle disadvantage are embedded within other statutory and non-statutory plans such as the Health and Well

Being Strategy, the Community Safety Plan, the Council Plan and others as indicated later in this document.

National context.

As indicated in the Foreword national policy on this issue continues to change and emerge. Its recent history includes the introduction of The National Child Poverty Strategy 2014-17, published by the coalition Government of the time. This outlined the national approach to tackling child poverty and was influenced by a number of reviews including the Independent Review of Poverty and Life Chances chaired by Frank Field

The review recommended a fundamentally different approach to measuring and preventing poverty, going beyond a narrow focus on incomes and recognising the importance of parenting and family support, health and education in framing life chances. The Allen and Marmot Reviews and other research supported these findings, suggesting prevention or early intervention is key to reducing poverty going forward.

The research is clear in identifying that in particular the period from conception to age five is of fundamental importance for improving life chances and highlights the need to give these years greater prominence in both policy and resource terms. Getting early intervention right makes moral and financial sense and is key to breaking the intergenerational transmission of dysfunction and disadvantage. The work and resources invested locally in 'A Fairer Start' are entirely focussed on this principle.

The Child Poverty Act provided the legislative framework for the National Child Poverty Strategy which committed to a target of eradicating child poverty by 2020 and received Royal Assent in March 2011.

More recently the current government has indicated a shift in policy thinking and an intention to move to replace the Child Poverty Act of 2010 which committed to the target. The Government plans to develop a range of measures and indicators of root causes of poverty to replace it and to include a range of employment and other measures as referenced elsewhere in this document.

In December 2015 government announced a joint inquiry by the Commons Work and Pensions and Education Select Committees into their life chances strategy and the role that early or foundation years' intervention plays in shaping people's lives. It reiterated its intention to set out a range of indicators including family breakdown, debt and addiction in its new strategy. The inquiry is currently collecting evidence until the end of February 2016 and has indicated it will publish a Life Chances Strategy in Spring 2016 with the key aims of fighting disadvantage and extending opportunity. Early signals are that the strategy is aimed at linking the economic and social reform agendas based on a belief and evidence that a significant contributor to poverty is paucity of opportunity and that for some children it isn't that they 'get left behind' but that they 'start behind'. It is anticipated it will have a key focus on tackling the root causes of poverty rather than the symptoms. Statistics quoted in a speech by the Prime Minister in January 2016 show that:

- In Britain around a million children grow up without the love of a Dad
- A child born in a poor area will die, on average, 9 years earlier than their peers

The emerging picture suggests the new Life Chances Strategy will focus on 4 key areas:

- Families and the Early Years (including 'scaling up the Troubled Families Programme' and an expansion of parenting provision)
- Education (including Education Reform and funding for the National Citizens Service)
- Opportunity (including work experience, a cultural citizens programme, mentoring and housing transformation)
- Treatment and Support for those in crisis (including mental health and addiction)

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation is also looking at debt, credit and poverty with a view to producing a national anti-poverty strategy in 2016. A study published in 2014 concluded that low income families are vulnerable to drops in income and to peaks in expenditure, recommending that measures that should be included in a national strategy are:- impartial and free debt advice, greater access to affordable small loans, credit regulations, debt solutions and promotion of savings.

(Debt, Credit and Poverty by Yvette Hartfree and Sharon Collard, Personal Finance Research Centre, University of Bristol).

The 'agenda' for tackling poverty is set against the backdrop of challenging reductions in Local Government and other public sector funding over the last few years. For Local Authorities nationally, this has meant a 40+% reduction in funding. This position is likely to continue with the current government making it clear that its central priority is to reduce the financial deficit so further reductions in funding for local government and other public sector bodies are likely. Many local authorities, including Stockton, are working hard to minimise the impact of budget cuts on the most vulnerable.

Further welfare reforms were announced in the budget issued in July, 2015) including a fall in the amount of benefits a household with a child can claim from £26,000 a year to £23,000 a year for those living in London and to £20,000 for those outside the capital from April 2016. Other reforms included changes to housing benefit for social tenants, and changes to work related Employment and Support allowance and Tax Credits.

Vision and Aims

The aim of Stockton Strategic Partnership in working together to tackle poverty and create a 'Brighter Borough for All' remains:

- ✓ to be as focussed and as practical as possible
- ✓ to concentrate on tackling disadvantage and protecting the vulnerable in line with the agreed key objectives
- ✓ to be responsive to the current financial climate and maximising the opportunities community led action can have in tackling poverty, particularly around advice and guidance, credit unions and promoting sound financial management and practices.

This framework brings together what we are doing across partners' plans and strategies to deliver against the anti-poverty agenda.

In doing this we will also endeavour to harness the local knowledge and drive of our community based Locality Forums, communities of interest groups and the relevant thematic groups within the LSP infrastructure to support the delivery of the key

objectives through the development of focussed action plans, impact measures and task and finish groups.

Although there are many strategic aims and activity identified within the various plans across the public and VCSE, Stockton Strategic Partnership will aim to break the cycle of poverty by focussing on three key aims:

- Ensuring every child receives the best start in life
- Maximising household income
- Maximising access to support for groups such as the under 35 years with no children, crisis or particular health need who find themselves experiencing poverty. Support that includes help to manage debt, find employment, raise aspirations, housing-related issues, prevent or tackle risk-taking behaviour. This will also include support for single males.

Key strategic plans

There are a range of strategic plans that contain objectives and actions linked to tackling poverty as illustrated below:

Note – Diagram to be inserted.

Council Plan
 Health and Well-Being strategy
 Housing Strategy
 Affordable Warmth Strategy
 Financial Inclusion Strategy
 Green Vision

Strategy	Objective
Council Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve economic prosperity for residents across the borough. • Addressing the housing requirements of the borough. • Ensure effective pre-natal and early years support for children and families. • Improve educational performance of all children and young people across the borough. • Improve outcomes for children and young people in care and care leavers. • Give every child the best start in life. • Safeguarding adults at risk of abuse or neglect. • Support all sectors of our communities to secure enjoyment, learning and achievement through sport and active leisure.
Health and Wellbeing strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give every child the best start in life • Enable all children, young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and control over their lives • Create fair employment and good work for all • Ensure a healthy standard of living for all • Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen the role and impact of ill health prevention
Housing Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote and sustain independence • Prevent homelessness • Promote sustainable communities
Affordable Warmth Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the most vulnerable residents and energy inefficient properties are prioritised and targeted • Raise and maintain the profile of fuel poverty and affordable warmth • Support householders to gain the lowest possible tariffs and to reduce social inequalities in energy costs • Support householders to maximise their income to help pay energy bills • Help householders reduce their energy consumption by improved energy efficiency in their homes and through better energy usage • Provide interventions to support residents in crisis due to cold homes
Financial inclusion Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enable residents to effectively manage their money. • Enable residents to cope with financial pressures and plan. • Enable residents to deal effectively with financial distress or debt problems. • Enable residents to maximise their income. • Improve the take up of local goods or services that will help overcome the problems of financial exclusion. • Improve partnership working between partner agencies to better respond to financial exclusion. • Carry out local, regional and national social policy action to address the causes or impact of financial exclusion for people of Stockton.

How does this happen in practice?

These plans and strategies deliver on the three key aims through many initiatives and practical day to day activities that the local authority and partners are undertaking to eradicate poverty.

Detailed activity and timescales can be found within individual plans.

Monitoring and review

Measures

There is some debate on the most appropriate measure of child and adult poverty in general and what this means for different services areas. There are a number of measures available that consider the different dimensions of child and family poverty

and its severity, many of these are also included in the new Public Health Framework as well as the stated intended measures central government has indicated.

This Framework will be monitored by tracking the current national measure of poverty and the monitoring of other indicators that form part of the Councils Performance Management Framework and those associated with development of the needs assessment. Monitoring will include where possible different geographies and of those specific groups who are most vulnerable. Consideration has also be given to including relevant measures from the Social Justice Outcomes Framework in the absence of any clear national measures wider than the income related ones, as these are clearly linked to the indicator measures government has identified its intention to include in its Life Chances Strategy.

At Locality Forums progress on task group action plans is reported at each meeting. The impact of their actions is evaluated through case studies and survey work.

Performance against the Brighter Borough Framework as a whole is reported through a variety of existing mechanisms such as the regular welfare reform report to Cabinet, the Health and Well Being Strategy and delivery plan to the Health and Well Being Board and the Council Plan reported through Cabinet.

In addition an annual business meeting of Stockton Strategic Partnership is held to hear about achievements of the locality and thematic partnerships in tackling poverty.

Tackling the multiple factors that drive poverty and limit life chances will not happen overnight. An effective approach will require a long term and sustained commitment from all partner agencies. This framework will run until 2020 and be refreshed annually as appropriate.

Needs assessment

About Stockton

Stockton on Tees is a borough of wide contrasts, a mixture of busy town centres, urban residential areas and picturesque villages.

Stockton-on-Tees Borough area is 20,393 Hectares in size with a population of 194,119¹ and 83,337² households across the Borough. The Borough's population is projected to increase by around 1,000 each year, reaching 208,600 by 2027 and 212,500 by 2032. The majority of our residents live within the six main settlements of the borough, namely:

- Stockton (central locality) with a population of 69,500
- Billingham with a population of 36,025
- Thornaby with a population of 25,095
- Norton with a population of 20,755
- Ingleby Barwick with a population of 21,455
- Yarm with a population of 9,750

0-15 year olds make up around 20% (1 in 5) of the population and continue to do so throughout the projections. Higher births relative to the rest of the UK means numbers of 0-15 year olds increase by over 3,200 by 2032.

Currently (Mid 2014) 17% of the population are over 65, by 2027 that is projected to increase to 21.3% (over 1 in 5) and 23.3% by 2032. Number wise, the changes are substantial; an extra 13,100 over 65s by 2027 and an extra 18,000 by 2032 above current numbers.

The borough itself has a unique social and economic mix with areas of affluence existing alongside more disadvantaged communities. This makes areas of Stockton Borough some of the most affluent in the country and therefore it is not uncommon to find significant variances in lifestyle and opportunities between neighbouring communities across the Borough.

Narrowing this gap has been a key priority for the Council and its partners and we have already achieved some success in some areas in terms of raising households out of deprivation, improving our environment, reducing crime, and improving our education attainment levels, however, further work remains to be done.

To better understand and prepare for the impact of welfare reform the Council established a Welfare Reform Board with work streams concentrating on the various elements of the welfare reform agenda. These work streams, which included our partner organisations, interpreted the legislation and emerging policy and practice to enable us to continually monitoring the impact of this agenda as it rolled out. We also commissioned The Institute for Local Governance to deliver a report highlighting the potential impacts for Stockton provided an understanding of the initial impact on the people and the economy of the borough. This and other work is being used to inform our approach to managing the impact and any changes to service delivery required going forward.

Initial analysis indicates that the Troubled Families initiative, introduced by central government, will also impact on the same families affected by the Welfare Reforms. Both initiatives are working alongside each other to maximise our knowledge and intelligence about our communities and support those potentially affected by these initiatives.

Over 22.3% of children in Stockton are living in poverty. This is based on the latest available data (2009 ONS) from the National Poverty Indicator which measures “The proportion of children living in families in receipt of out of work benefits or tax credits where their reported income is less than 60% median income”.

The Council has other information and intelligence at its disposal to monitor the spread and impact of family poverty in its communities. One of these is the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) which comprises the percentage of children under 16 living on various means tested benefits. This includes children aged under 15 in households claiming Income Support, Income based job seekers allowance or where working benefits are being claimed yet the families income is still less than 60% of the national average. This index is a useful tool and an indicator to be used alongside other sources of information to highlight those areas in our borough which are most at risk from family poverty.

The data identifies Lower Super Output Areas, which are small geographical areas of approximately 1500 residents or 650 households. Within the country there are 32,844 of these Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA), data collected can be ranked so comparison with other Lower Super Output areas can be benchmarked. This index shows within Stockton Borough there are 8 such areas which fall within the top 10% most deprived in the UK. It should be noted though that this is relative and not absolute data and should not be used in isolation from other sources of data and intelligence.

Ward	IDACI rank
Billingham East	258
Hardwick and Salters Lane	351
Mandale and Victoria	163
Newtown	46
Parkfield and Oxbridge	458
Roseworth	490
Stainsby Hill	584
Stockton Town Centre	66

This data indicates that those LSOA areas with the highest levels of poverty are spread across eight wards in the borough and of our partnership areas. This shows that poverty is an issue facing resident’s right across Stockton Borough.

Data to Support Needs assessment

Data set / indicator	Source of data	Date data refers to	Stockton	North East	England
Free School Meal gap for Key Stage 2 in Combined Reading, Writing and Maths	Department for Education	10/12/2015	19%	18%	17%
Free School Meal gap for 5 A*-C's including English and Maths	Department for Education	10/12/2015	32.8%	30.1%	27.9%
Reoffending rate – frequency (this is the rate of re-offenses for reoffenders per 1000 pop aged 10-17)	Police National Computer	October 2012 – September 2013	1.01	1.23	1.14
Reoffending rate – binary rate (this is the rate of re-offenders per 1000 pop aged 10-17)	Police National Computer	October 2012 – September 2013	28.81	38.93	37.17
Employment rate	NOMIS	June 2015	76.3	74.7	77.5
Unemployment rate	NOMIS	June 2015	7.4	7.6	5.7
Working Age residents aged 16 to 64 claiming JSA who have been unemployed for over a year	NOMIS	November 2015	0.7	0.7	0.4
No of opiate drug users that left treatment successfully who do not re-present to treatment again within 6 months as a proportion of the total number in treatment	NDTMS	November 2015	4.7%	N/A	7.1%

Rate of emergency hospital admissions for alcohol related harm per 1000,000 population	NHS England	Q2 2015/16	2708	2656	2013 (2012/13 data)
% of children in workless households	ONS	January – December 2014	19.7%	17.9%	13.2%

Experian mosaic

The Council and its partners make use of Experian Mosaic data which is specifically designed to help the public sector focus its services on the needs of its citizens. It provides a detailed and accurate understanding of each citizen's location, their demographics, and likely lifestyles and behaviours. Using this data alongside other intelligence we can identify the most vulnerable groups in terms of the objectives of this framework, living within our communities. This can help with intelligence to support the locality forums to more effectively target their activities.

Stockton Local Strategic Partnership

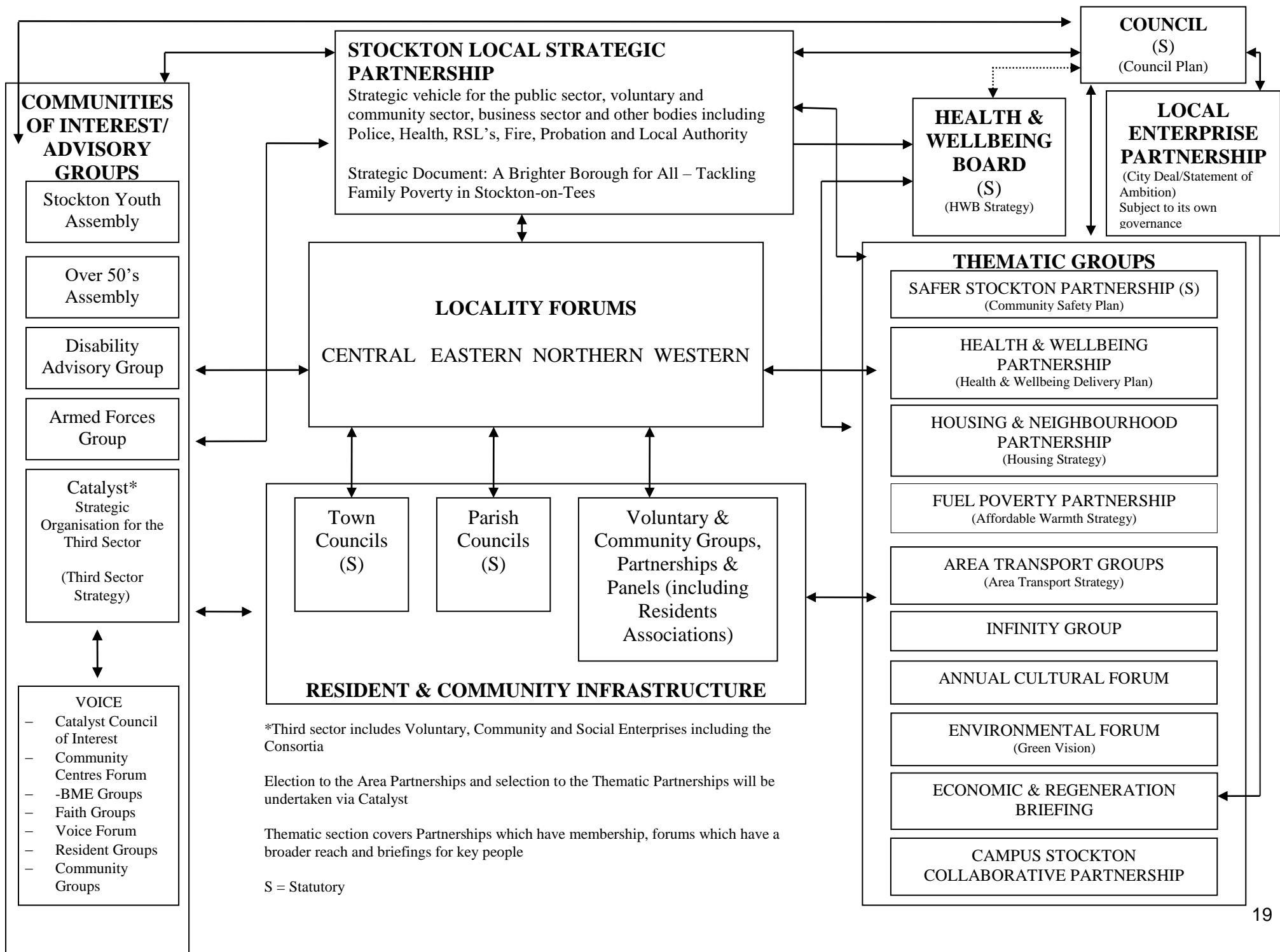
There is a strong history of partnership working in the Borough. The Local Strategic Partnership is a forum through which various organisations within the public sector, private sector and voluntary and community sector can come together to improve Stockton on Tees for the benefit of its residents, through a common and shared vision and set of objectives. The partnership comes together 2 or 3 times a year to make a collective and positive difference on specific topic areas linked to the strategic plans of key partners and emerging policy areas, for example, the Council Plan, the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and agenda linked to thematic groups such as the fuel poverty partnership and the infinity group. The partnership has focussed these meetings on Maximising Family Income and Ensuring Every Child the Best Start in Life. A partnership diagram is shown on page 19.

Locality Forums

The Locality Forums are four geographically based forums that sit within the Stockton Local Strategic Partnership framework and support the delivery of key partnership strategies, with a primary focus on this framework- A Brighter Borough for All – Tackling Poverty. The forums bring together the community, voluntary sector, public sector and are uniquely placed to deliver action to support this agenda within their communities. Through focussed task based working they have already demonstrated that they can champion public health messages and promote financial inclusion.

Thematic Partnerships

The Council, The Adult Health and Wellbeing Board and the Local Enterprise Partnership, alongside the Locality forums are supported by a number of thematic groups, for example the Fuel Poverty Partnership, Infinity Group, Housing and Neighbourhood Partnership, Campus Stockton collaborative partnership.



Related review and research documentation:

- ¹ Office for National Statistics' mid 2014 population estimate
 - ² Tees Valley Unlimited mid 2013 households estimates.
- Child Poverty Strategy 2014-17- HM Government
 - Debt, Credit and Poverty by Yvette Hartfree and Sharon Collard, Personal Finance Research Centre, University of Bristol.
 - Living Standards, Poverty and Inequality in the UK:2015, Institute of Fiscal Studies 16th July, 2015
 - A UK Without Poverty- Joseph Rowntree Foundation
 - Anti-Poverty Strategies for the UK- Joseph Rowntree Foundation
 - The Foundation Years: Preventing Poor Children Becoming Poor Adults December 2010, Frank Field
 - Early Intervention: The Next Steps January 2011, Graham Allen
 - Health and Social Care Bill (2011)
 - Review of the Early Years Foundation Stage March 2011, Dame Clare Tickell
 - Fair Society, Healthy Lives (February 2010, Sir Michael Marmot)
 - Association of North East Councils and Institute of Local Governance – the Impact of Welfare Reform in the North East (August 2013) and in Stockton (2012)
 - Social Justice - Transforming lives 2012
 - Strategy for Social Mobility – HM Government 2011
 - Children and Working Age Poverty from 2010 to 2020 – Joseph Rowntree Foundation
 - Poverty and Inequality in 2020 Joseph Rowntree Foundation May 2012.
 - Local Authorities and Child Poverty; balancing threats and opportunities July 2012 – Child Poverty Action Group
 - Children north East – Child Poverty definitely not a thing of the past 2011/12
 - Written out of the Picture – Child Poverty Commission - Support for Refugees and Asylum Seekers 2013.
 - Life Chances Strategy – speech by The Prime Minister