

DRAFT ACTION PLAN: Review of Child Poverty

No.	Recommendation	Proposed Actions / Progress	Success Measures	Responsibility	Date
1	That a family poverty profile is compiled and updated annually from available data and input from those with lived experience and is used to identify a key priority for targeted action each year; an initial focus being take up of Free School Meals for those eligible and in need.	<p>Defining who we are talking about and analysing on annual basis (i.e. lone parents, disabled sibling or parent, BAME, having a young child in household, Having young parents under 25, Armed Forces etc.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a theme as part of the FSOT work around Child Poverty • Link in with targeted work through the FSOT framework and roll out across other areas as the work develops. • Family poverty profile - Compile a profile from available data to monitor measure every year • Develop and agree a process for ongoing input from those with lived experience around Child Poverty through dialogue with schools, Thrive, Community Partnerships, Members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key strand included as part of the FSOT work • Annual family profile completion 	<p>Public Health (PH)</p> <p>Strategy Systems and Improvement (SSI)</p> <p>Fairer Stockton-on-Tees (FSOT)</p>	July – Oct 22
		<p>Annual focus on priorities Targeted action – doing one thing well</p> <p>Initial focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FSM – take up for those eligible and • Those in need but not on FSM • Go through annual process to define one key area to make progress on take up of FSM • Map breakfast provisions across our schools in the borough to identify any gaps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An increase in those eligible for FSM take up • Overall increased take up of HAF provision and FSM on the FSOT areas. 	<p>FSOT</p> <p>Children Services (CS)</p> <p>Little Sprouts</p>	Mar 23

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2	That support offered to families in poverty is enhanced through...	<p>Access to help, delivery and support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review our support offer, make it accessible, work with families experiencing poverty and building better links with employment and welfare / benefits service teams to target those most needing help for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Welfare advice drop ins ○ Outreach employment support in neighbourhoods ○ Pension Credit campaigns ○ Improve families benefits take up through communications campaign, promoting awareness of the available benefits and other financial support that people can access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased provision for those families affected by Child Poverty • Increased number of schools delivering Healthy Schools programme initiatives 	Family Hubs EIS Little Sprouts PH/FSOT	Mar 23
		<p>Poverty proofing all schools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revisit and review current stage of poverty proofing for all our schools • Explore the development of a Benevolent Fund / recycling scheme for school related items 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An increase with the number of our schools undertaken Poverty proofed activity 	Children's Services FSOT	Mar 23
		<p>Community/ Partnership giving:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build on COVID-19 mutual support to sustain mutual aid / giving scheme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued funding targeting and supporting 	Catalyst / FSOT	Mar 23

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore the establishment of a Child Poverty Partnership and Fund (with contributions from across all sectors i.e. Housing groups etc.) for those most in crisis to access to enable families 	families affected by Child Poverty <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Successfully secured funds • Establishment of a partnership 	TBC	
		Develop extended support offer as part of FSOT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of specific offer / additional support • Impact on FSOT outcomes 	FSOT	Mar 23
3	That specific interventions are put in place focusing on:	Healthy food <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food quality in schools • Cooking and budgeting skills • Holiday kitchen concept • Linkages / expansion of Food Power Network services 	Success measures to be determined once interventions develop.	0-19 service / Family hubs FSOT	Mar 23
		Help with energy costs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warm energy schemes / credits etc • Promotion / outreach of support schemes available targeting FSOT areas • Linkages with the Infinity Partnership – targeting work towards FSOT areas • Explore possibly Energy hubs type approach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in stress/ worries • Improved financial wellbeing 	Env Sustainability Environment team, Infinity Partnership FSOT	Jun 23

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		<p>Digital inclusion for all children – Investigate options to increase Laptop and accessibility scheme for school aged children:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Devices – held and managed by the school, recycling devices and seeking sponsorship • Donations / Funding options to be explored • Accessibility – dongles / wireless potentially in our fairer Stockton areas • Family learning opportunities ideally coordinated through Family Hubs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in the number of digital devices in our schools across the brough • Improved home learning for those affected by digital exclusion 	<p>CS FSOT</p>	<p>Mar 23</p>
4	<p>That, subject to funding, a direct payments scheme is developed for those identified as in need, building on the examples of vouchers during the pandemic</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making sure better access to existing support (e.g. benefits, FSM, access to employment) • Cost out options for a direct payment scheme as part of wider work on benefits access and take up 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An increase in those eligible for FSM take up • Increased take up of those non eligible to FSM meals • Overall increased take our of HAF provision and FSM on the FSOT areas. 	<p>TBC</p>	<p>Mar 23</p>
5	<p>That all subsidy policies are reviewed and revised as appropriate to provide streamlined and enhanced support for families.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Map out what current subsidies are available • Explore whether these can be better targeted, streamlined, extended etc. as part of wider support offer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased take up of subsidies 	<p>CS FSOT Welfare rights lead</p>	<p>June 23</p>