

SCRUTINY PANEL

April 2017

POVERTY IN RUTLAND: GREEN PAPER

Report of the Scrutiny Commission

Strategic Aim:	All	
Exempt Information	No	
Cabinet Member(s) Responsible:	N/A	
Contact Officer(s):	Helen Briggs, Chief Executive	01572 758201 hbriggs@rutland.gov.uk
	Natasha Brown, Corporate Support Coordinator	01572 720991 nbrown@rutland.gov.uk
Ward Councillors	N/A	

DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Panel:

1. Endorses the green paper which has been developed through the scrutiny process;
2. Discusses the issues raised and provides a response to the consultation on the Green Paper; and
3. Formulates recommendations which will be included in the White Paper to be presented to Council in June 2017.

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To present the findings of the Scrutiny Poverty Review in a Green Paper which has been produced in order to encourage further discussion of the topics and some of the issues raised through consultation with Elected Members, Key Partners and Members of the Public;
- 1.2 For the Panel to provide feedback on the discussion points highlighted by the paper as part of the consultation process and to formulate recommendations which will be included in the White Paper to be presented to Council in June 2017.

2 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS

- 2.1 The Scrutiny Commission agreed to undertake a review of Poverty in Rutland in August 2016. The project objectives were:

- To develop an agreed definition(s) of Poverty in Rutland;
- To develop a Council policy in the form of a White Paper to be approved by Full Council that will outline for Rutland how the Council will act to positively impact on poverty within the County.

2.2 An all Members Workshop held on 13 September 2016 identified a list of areas for further investigation (listed in Appendix A to the Green Paper). These areas were then investigated and discussed at corresponding Scrutiny Panel meetings during November and December 2016 and February 2017.

2.3 This green paper is a culmination of the work done at the Workshop (September 2016) and within the scrutiny panels. Further feedback on the format and content of the Green Paper was provided at an All Member Workshop in March 2017 where the paper, the revised timetable and scope of the consultation was endorsed by those members present.

3 CONCLUSION AND SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 Through the Scrutiny function, the Poverty Review has identified that there are pockets of deprivation in Rutland and many people may find themselves challenged by their economic circumstances for periods of time. Rutland is a largely affluent community and this can mean that support mechanisms are lacking and it is more difficult for those who need support to speak out. The review has highlighted a number of areas where action is required to improve our support to those at 'risk of' or living in policy. The Green Paper is not a final document but has been produced in order to encourage further discussion of these topics and some of the issues raised through consideration of the questions posed.

3.2 Through a period of consultation the views of Elected Members, Key Partners and members of the public will inform the next steps of the review and a series of recommendations which will focus on both solutions and prevention. These recommendations will be accompanied by an action plan to enable the outcomes of the review to be measured and monitored. The recommendations and action plan will be presented to RCC Full Council in June 2017 in the form of a White Paper.

4 BACKGROUND PAPERS

4.1 There are no additional papers.

5 APPENDICES

5.1 Green Paper: Poverty in Rutland (Including Appendix A (Feedback from September Workshop) and Appendix B (Supporting Data).

A Large Print or Braille Version of this Report is available upon request – Contact 01572 722577.