



Aberdeenshire
Health & Social Care
Partnership

Aberdeenshire Community Planning Partnership – work on child poverty and influence of the review

George Howie
Principal Health Improvement Officer
Aberdeenshire Health and Social Care Partnership



Aberdeenshire
Health & Social Care
Partnership

Overview of presentation

- How Aberdeenshire CPP has used the evidence review.
- Reflections on the evidence review.
- Aberdeenshire CPP commissioned research.
- Aberdeenshire approach to child poverty.
- Next steps.



How Aberdeenshire CPP have used the evidence review

- Informed consideration of child poverty by CPP Board and CPP Executive and ensured ownership of the agenda by all partners.
- Helped develop a shared understanding among CPP partners of range of actions required and need for sustainable action.
- Informed partner agreement on child poverty as one of our LOIP priorities and the commissioning of research to inform our approach.
- Provided an impetus for individual services and sectors to reflect on current practice and areas for potential improvement.
- Helped the CPP consider the need to improve public understanding of the nature, causes and consequences of child poverty.
- Highlighted necessity of involving local people in decisions.



Reflections on the evidence review

- Timely, will inform local action relating for LOIP and Child Poverty Bill.
- Breadth of the review welcomed but recognise that some wider factors including health, housing, transport, area regeneration considered too broad for inclusion.
- Welcome focus on mitigation and prevention.
- Welcome strong emphasis on action at a local level and the contribution of Community Planning partners.
- Talking Points and Further Reading features helpful.



Aberdeenshire CPP commissioned research

- The Poverty Alliance and Scottish Poverty Information Unit commissioned to undertake research on behalf of Aberdeenshire CPP:-
 - Focused literature review with emphasis on poverty/child poverty within a rural context.
 - Online survey of practitioners and qualitative interviews.
 - Qualitative field work to better understand living in poverty within an Aberdeenshire context.
 - Partner event to consider findings and feasibility of recommendations.



Aberdeenshire approach to child poverty

- Income maximisation
 - Investment in local services following audit of existing provision.
 - Annual Money & Debt Conference.
 - Exploring potential for integration within a Primary Care context.
- Education
 - Further promotion of free school meals and school clothing grants.
 - Review level of the school clothing grant and policy on school uniforms.
 - Review cost of breakfast and holiday clubs.
- Childcare
 - Explore what more can be done to ensure improved access to affordable childcare but protecting quality of provision.



Aberdeenshire approach to child poverty

- Employability
 - Further support for lone parents, particularly lone mothers.
 - Condition management service.
- Training/CPD opportunities for key staff on the nature, causes and consequences of child poverty
 - Further promotion of Health Scotland Child Poverty, Health and Wellbeing e-learning module.
 - Training on the nature, causes and consequences of child poverty.
 - Integration with MEOC training.



Aberdeenshire
Health & Social Care
Partnership

Next steps

- Development of an evidence informed Child Poverty Strategy and Monitoring Framework for Aberdeenshire, informed by evidence review and our commissioned research.
- Further engagement with those living in poverty as we develop our strategic approach and redesign services.