

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

30th June 2022

FUEL POVERTY TASK GROUP

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor S. Webb
Portfolio Holder Consulted	Not at this stage
Relevant Head of Service (for Overview & Scrutiny)	Claire Felton– Head of Legal, Democratic and Property Services
Wards Affected	All
Ward Councillor Consulted	Not at this stage
Non-Key Decision	

1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

- 1.1 At the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Board held on 28th March 2022, the Fuel Poverty Task Group was established, with Councillor Rob Hunter being appointed as Chairman.
- 1.2 As agreed Members (with the exception of Members of the Cabinet) were contacted, requesting that anyone who had an interest in becoming a Member of the Task Group contact the relevant officer within a set timescale.
- 1.3 Group Leaders were also informed of the establishment of the new Task Group.
- 1.4 Seven Councillors have shown an interest in joining the Task Group:-

Councillors Harrison Rone-Clarke, Janet King, Sue Baxter, Kate Van der Plank, Andrew Beaumont, Malcolm Glass and Caroline Spencer.
- 1.5 Members are requested to consider in detail the terms of reference (see Appendix 1 'Possible Key Objectives') in order to ensure the Board is clear as to what they expect the Task Group to achieve. The Board can make amendments to the terms of reference if it wishes. Please note that the Task Group members, at the first meeting, will also be given the opportunity to discuss the terms of reference. However, should they wish to make any significant changes, these would need to be approved by the Board.
- 1.6 Members are reminded that when setting a timescale for a Task Group, it is usually expected that a Task Group will conclude its investigations within four to six months from the date of the first Task Group meeting. However, the Board can decide that certain topics require more time to ensure complex issues are properly scrutinised.
- 1.7 It is vital that appropriate officer support is provided to help ensure an effective investigation is undertaken leading to strong recommendations. Taking this into consideration, it is suggested that the Task Group commences its investigation as soon as officer support

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is available. Officer support is in place and the work of the Task Group can commence with immediate effect, with an initial meeting date being agreed with the Chairman of 14th June 2022.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Members are asked to:

- (a) consider and agree the terms of reference of the Fuel Poverty Task Group (see attached Overview and Scrutiny Exercise Scoping Checklist at Appendix 1);**
- (b) consider and agree the membership of the Task Group;**
- (c) decide upon the length of time the Task Group will have to carry out its investigations (Task Groups are normally expected to conclude their investigations within six months from the date of the first meeting); and**
- (d) request the Task Group to commence its investigation as soon as possible.**

3. KEY ISSUES

Financial Implications

- 3.1 There are no financial implications directly relating to this report.

Legal Implications

- 3.2 There are no legal implications directly relating to this report.

Service / Operational Implications

- 3.3 None for the purpose of this report.

Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications

- 3.4 There are no implications directly relating to customer/equality and diversity within this report.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 None for the purpose of this report.

5. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Overview and Scrutiny Exercise Scoping Checklist.

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6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

7. KEY

None

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