



# South Tyneside Council

## Cabinet

Date: 10 August 2022

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## Commission on Tackling Poverty in South Tyneside: Final Report and Recommendations (June 22)

Report of the People Select Committee

Cabinet Portfolio/Lead Members: Cllr Margaret Meling (Economic Growth, Skills and Climate Change), Cllr Anne Hetherington (Adults, Independence & Wellbeing), Cllr Adam Ellison (Children, Young People & Families), Cllr Jim Foreman (Housing & Community Safety) and Cllr Ruth Berkley (Voluntary Sector Partnerships and Cooperatives) Cllr Ernest Gibson (Transport and Neighbourhoods)

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### **Purpose of Report**

1. In December 2020, May 2021 and February 2022, the People Select Committee gave Cabinet their interim reports on their Commission on tackling poverty in the Borough. These reports made several strategic recommendations about how we support people who find themselves in poverty. This is the fourth and final report from the commission which makes some further recommendations arising from the work the committee have undertaken since the last report in February 2022.
2. Cabinet is asked to note the report and its conclusions, endorse the recommendations contained in paragraph 75 and ask the appropriate services to develop responses and action plans.

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## Background

3. In November 2019, the People Select Committee decided to undertake a Commission on tackling poverty in the Borough to take a strategic view on levels of poverty in the Borough and to assure themselves that we are doing everything we can as a Council to help people avoid or escape poverty, as well as mitigating against its effects.
4. In light of the impact that the Covid 19 pandemic and the cost of living crisis has had on people's lives and livelihoods over the last 2 years, the need to consider the issues surrounding poverty has become more urgent.
5. As it was recognised that the work of the commission was likely to take some considerable length of time, it was agreed that a number of interim reports should be submitted to Cabinet so that recommendations emerging from this work can be considered and actions taken at the earliest possible juncture. These reports were delivered in December 2020, May 2021 and February 2022.
6. This fourth and final report makes some further recommendations for Cabinet to consider. Whilst the committee will continue to monitor progress and investigate other ways we can help avoid and mitigate against the effects of poverty, this report represents the conclusion of the formal commission process.

## Terms of Reference

7. As Cabinet will recall, Members have acknowledged that the factors impacting on poverty are wide and varied. They also noted that some areas had been or were being covered as part of other commissions, with notable areas already being covered include homelessness and the skills agenda.
8. As a result, Members decided that they would want the focus of the commission to be on the following areas:
  - Understanding the relationship between health and wealth
  - Support for carers
  - Affordable diets/Support for food initiatives
  - The ongoing impact of Universal Credit/welfare support
  - Fuel poverty
  - Period poverty
  - Access to health and social care
  - Affordable transport
  - Digital Poverty
  - Impact of COVID 19

In addition, following evidence on those initial topics, Members decided that they would want the focus of the commission to be also expanded to the following areas:

- Food Bank Provision
- Fuel Poverty
- WHIST report on women's experience of poverty
- Poverty Truth Commission model

9. The following terms of reference were agreed by the committee:

- To assess the extent of relative poverty within the Borough.
- To investigate what support is available for families who find it difficult to afford healthy food, fuel, transport and sanitary products.
- To look at the impact of Universal Credit and what support is available to assist families requiring help with budgeting.
- To look at any barriers that might exist to accessing health and social care arising from poverty.
- To look at how we support carers in families where poverty is a factor.
- To look at any good practice that there is regarding supporting people in poverty locally, nationally and internationally.

### **Recommendations made in December 2020, May 2021 and January 2022:**

10. In the previous reports, which went to Cabinet in December 2020, May 2021 and January 2022, the following recommendations were made based on the evidence given by the various officers and partners:

- R1** The Health and Wellbeing Strategy for 2021-22 should make explicit reference to the need for family centred place based public health programmes which invest more in interventions that reduce social and environmental inequalities.
- R2** North East Combined Authority and the North East Local Enterprise Partnership should lead in developing 'tailored' programmes for young people providing both health and employment support to help them into the world of work as well as staying healthy at work.

- R3** For the Council to work with the Health Service and other partners to develop a single system to identify at risk families and individuals.
- R4** Ask the Leader of the Council to write to the Government drawing attention to the findings of the Newcastle University Work particularly in relation to:
- Increased investment in Public Health in the North East
  - Increased investment in schools in the North East
  - Increased spending in the economic growth of the most deprived communities
  - Increase the level of benefits
  - Increased funding for local authorities to support those who have not been supported by the government’s COVID 19 “safety-net” measures
  - Remove excessive financial and practical barriers to obtaining universal credit and reduce delays in delivery of funds
  - Targeted job creation in economically vulnerable areas
  - Increasing eligibility and amount for food voucher schemes.
- R5** That the Leader of the Council writes to the Secretary of State for Housing Communities and Local Government urging greater urgency in progressing the Food Insecurity Bill.
- R6** That South Tyneside Council works with local Food Banks to ensure that all help and support is given to those who use them to meet their needs and help them out of their crisis. This could take the form of outreach workers being periodically placed within Food Banks.
- R7** That South Tyneside Council works with the Feeding Britain Network to develop a single access point for Food Bank provision to ensure that people get the appropriate service quickly and that the network is as efficient as possible in meeting needs.
- R8** To support the development of a Fuel Poverty Strategy with clear and realistic goals in bringing Council homes up to an EPC rating of C or above.
- R9** That we work with representatives of the local private sector to look at joint bids against round 3 of the Green Homes Grant to assist promoting bringing homes in the sector up to an EPC rating of C or above.
- R10** That there is an explicit reference in the Local Plan encouraging housing developers to build Carbon neutral homes and incentives are developed to support this.

- R11** That the Council works with Inspire South Tyneside to develop a training and resource pack for Community and Voluntary Sector organisations aimed at raising awareness of the features of Poverty and what skills and resources they can deploy in tackling the problems that people may face.
- R12** That work is undertaken with the ICP to ensure that GP surgeries are aware of the services available to patients across sectors who are struggling financially.
- R13** That South Tyneside look to set up a Poverty Truth Commission for the Borough to further inform work in this area.
- R14** That the Leader of the Council writes to the Treasury to communicate the reality of cost of living pressures faced by South Tyneside residents and call for additional support to be made available to those facing hardship in the current context.
- R15** That South Tyneside Council ensures ‘causes of causes’ of ill-health including poverty, unemployment and poor-quality housing are prominent considerations, along with prevention, within the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and other key Council strategies.
- R16** That the Council initiates a ‘health literacy’ initiative with schools so that young people are made more aware of the health system and when and how to access services
- R17** That the Council develops a policy with schools to promote opportunities to understand and mitigate challenges faced by less well-off pupils such as ‘Poverty Proofing the School Day Project’ and affordable school uniform policies
- R18** That South Tyneside Council proactively promotes underutilised hardship opportunities such as ‘water support’ to those in Council tax or rent arrears or otherwise known to be experiencing financial hardship.
- R19** That the Council continues to minimise bailiff action with regards to council tax arrears and explore alternative options for debt recovery such as attachment from benefits
- R20** That the Council works with community partners to promote awareness and take up of allowances and support local carers entitled to

**R21** That the Council supports the development and implementation of a Carer Support Strategy informed by carers with lived experience of poverty and financial insecurity.

**R22** That the Council develops a toolkit for schools aimed at providing the full range of options for future careers and ensures that all schools are proactively raising the aspirations of all pupils

### **What we have done since**

11. The Commission continued its work by examining further areas of work to add to the evidence on poverty:

- The provision of a Sustainable Food Plan for South Tyneside
- Access to Transport
- Skills Strategy and Raising Aspirations

### **Sustainable Food Plan:**

Witnesses:

Ellie Forrester (Public Health Practitioner, STC)

Zoe Deans, (Carbon Reduction and Sustainability Coordinator, STC)

Steven Carter (Senior Public Health Advanced Practitioner, STC)

Kelly Crews (Carbon Reduction and Sustainability Manager, STC)

12. In Full Council in November 2021, it was agreed that consideration was given to the development of a Food Plan as part of the Commission on Tackling Poverty. A Food Plan proposal was presented to Members in March 2022.

13. Members were told that the aim of the Sustainable Food Plan was to encourage local food culture to be more sustainable, affordable, healthy, and valued. It was hoped that this would help alleviate some of the pressures of poverty and improve wellbeing overall.

14. Food is tied in with multiple Council strategies and was fundamental to future urban planning. Local Authorities have a key role in shaping the production and consumption of food. The report outlined the situation within South Tyneside by exploring and updating members on several key areas:

- Weight and Obesity
- Fruit and Vegetable intake

- Mental Health and Loneliness
- Oral Health
- Food Waste
- Meat Consumption
- Plastic Pollution
- Poverty

15. 26.4% of children in the borough are from low-income families, with 5,417 (of 22,384) pupils claiming free school meals. There are links between obesity and poverty since more deprived areas are more likely to have higher levels of obesity. Whilst a well-designed food system will not address the causes of food poverty it will help alleviate the symptoms.

16. The plan presented to Members proposed solutions which targeted four main aims:

- Reduce levels of food waste among residents, businesses, and the Council
- Encourage the production and consumption of sustainable and healthy food
- Ensure sustainable nutrition is embedded in decision making and strategic planning
- Improve food education across schools, the community, businesses, and the Council

17. Members had view of a detailed document highlighting the solutions, their objectives and the partners, steps and strategic links which would help implement them. The Officers also delivered a presentation which highlighted some of the solutions which they thought most important in delivering their aims.

18. **To reduce food waste**, some notable schemes included utilising the organisation FoodCycle within the borough and working closely with schools and businesses to develop and offer advice and guidance on food wastage.

19. **To encourage the eating of sustainable and healthy food**, Officers highlighted schemes to ensure planned street food events offered healthy and sustainable food options, as well as improving plant based and low-carbon catering across the Council.

20. **To ensure sustainable nutrition was embedded in decision making**, the plan proposed establishing a South Tyneside Food Partnership which represented stakeholders across the food system, to help forge close links between Council departments.

21. **To improve food education**, they planned to create links with the Forest School Programme and work with schools to see how the Food Action Plan could support this and improve food education.
22. Following this, the presentation outlined plans for next steps to help implement the plan. Including:
- Desktop mapping
  - Identifying key partners
  - Signing up to the Food Active's Local Government Healthy Weight Declaration
  - Applying to Sustain the Food for the Plant grant of £5000
  - Ensure work aligns with existing policy

### **Member discussion**

23. Members said that it would be beneficial to examine how best to engage people in ways that are proven to be effective. They raised the point that while education can change minds, it does not always result in people making healthier choices. They asked what the highest priority solution was and what would make the biggest difference out of the proposed solutions put forward. The Officer responded that placing a monetary value on messages could help stimulate more action. For example, they stated that messages such as 'you are losing £100 a month due to food wastage,' could have a more poignant effect.
24. Another factor noted by Members was the increased cost of dental care and the knock-on effect that this has had on the NHS. It was noted that the Council had recently appointed an oral health practitioner who was helping to promote good oral health practices.
25. Members also noted the importance of raising awareness of food distribution, considering where food is grown and packaged could also help raise awareness of the environmental impact of food.
26. Members were concerned that the cost of a healthy lifestyle did not seem feasible for all parents who may revert to cheaper and less healthy alternatives. They expressed interest in promoting Community Pantry initiatives which would run in partnership with foodbanks to help families purchase healthier groceries.
27. A Member commented on how time had changed the way we consume food as fast food and takeaway restaurants have developed. They stated that as people have busy lives convenience is often prioritised over healthy eating. The Officer acknowledged that while this is the case, driving messages



around the cost of getting takeaways, as opposed to cooking at home, could help change people's minds.

28. A Member commented that schemes to promote healthy eating had been tackling the issue in different ways for several years. They noted that healthy eating had been embedded at a school level but was an issue the Council should reengage with to help tackle levels of child obesity.
29. The Community School Headteacher on the Committee began a discussion around the current role that schools played in promoting a healthy diet. They asked how the Officers planned to target which schools to work with. An Officer responded that they aimed to work with schools in areas with high levels of deprivation and obesity and would liaise with the Healthy Schools Programme. A discussion was then had around the usefulness of school nurses and enhancing links with the NHS.
30. Another Member referenced schemes provided healthy recipes which allowed families to cook in batches to reduce fuel consumption. The Officer responded that they had collaborated with external organisations around the possibility of running energy efficient cookery workshops. They also stated that the kind of schemes referenced by the Member also aided in the reduction of waste as people were encouraged to use the whole ingredients.
31. A Member queried whether there was a plan to provide a separate, or community, composting bins. The Officer explained that a separate composting bin could come with added implications for carbon emissions since diesel vehicles would be used to collect the waste. However, they stated that they had investigated community composting bins but due to time constraints had not included it in the presentation for that meeting.
32. Another Member suggested handing out healthy recipes on cards and another proposed working with South Tyneside Council's Youth Parliament.

### **Access to Transport:**

Witnesses:

Trevor Male (Service Lead - Transport Services, STC)  
Huw Lewis (Nexus Customer Service Director, NEXUS)

33. Huw Lewis, delivered a report on Access to Transport in the borough. The report highlighted what Nexus and the Council were doing to help people access public transport.

34. One obvious barrier is the cost of transport. The Officer outlined several concessionary fares that Nexus provide on their own services and in collaboration with the bus companies. Particular attention was drawn to concessions which allow children, age 11 and under, and carers to travel for free with a paying adult. Nexus also provide a reduced fare for children and young adults from the ages of 0 – 21. The Officer stated that the reduced fare for young adults will assist those in full time education or those starting in new jobs.
35. Another barrier to the use of public transport is the level of service provision. The Officer shared statistics which demonstrated that most homes in South Tyneside are able to access 100,000 work opportunities within a 30-minute journey on public transport. The Officer stressed that the public transport network in South Tyneside is reasonably good but is under threat. The number of people using public transport has fallen during the pandemic but had not yet recovered. It was emphasised that for the transport companies to recover there needs to be more government funding in place to prevent fares from increasing and networks being reduced.
36. It was noted that Lead Members had been working with the bus companies via the Local Bus Board to address some of the Member's concerns. The Officer also drew members attention to the 'Loneliness with Transport Fund' which allowed local authorities to bid for funding to make public transport more inclusive.
37. It was recognised that there were more additional services than just buses, trains and metros such as taxis and minibuses which transported passengers between care homes and services. The Council also encourage the use of active transport and an investment plan in this area has been approved by the Cabinet.

### **Member discussion**

38. A Member noted that many people in their ward struggled to use public transport due to the cost. The Officer responded that this is a problem, but bus companies set their own fares as private companies. They stated that one of the fundamental ways in which Nexus could influence fares was through subsidies and would like to see bus companies follow their lead in allowing children to travel free of charge with a paying adult. However, the Officer noted that to have more control over fares would only be possible with more public ownership of transport or greater funding.

39. A Member stated that it was also the bus companies' responsibility to help improve transport access and that they should have the opportunity to put questions to them as well as Nexus. Another Member expressed that they thought cheaper fares would be more likely to attract people to use the service. The Officer from Nexus agreed and stated that they had found this had worked on the Metros by introducing cheaper travel for young people.
40. In addition to this, the Officer from the Council's transport department stated that they were working more closely in education since the selection process around moving to secondary school does not currently consider how pupils will get to and from school. They were aiming to liaise with parents to inform them of the public transport options available for school children.
41. A Member stated that they were pleased to hear about the promotion of active transport, however noted that paths and cycle routes needed to ensure safety, especially those being used by children to travel to school.
42. Members also expressed concern that hospital travel should be accessible and affordable, especially considering that those from deprived backgrounds have lower life expectancies.
43. The Member also commended the work of the Bus Forum and stated that more Members should be made aware of it. The Officer agreed with this statement and told Members that it was an open forum and agreed to make all Members aware of future meetings.
44. Another Member raised the issue of changing bus timetables that could have negative impacts on school children or people travelling to and from work. The Officer from Nexus responded that they endeavoured to align bus times with school hours as best they could when there were no other public transport options. They stated that if the Member had a specific example of a school where this was an issue, they would feedback to the bus companies with suggestions.

### **Skills Strategy and Raising Aspirations:**

Witnesses:

Paul Baldasera (Strategy and Democracy Officer, STC)

45. Members were presented with the key details from two reports which were brought to the committee. Both reports had been submitted to the Council's

Cabinet from Education and Skills Panel as part of a commission on Skills Provision.

46. The reports highlighted that several witnesses had stated that career advice offered in schools was not consistent or reflect the employment opportunities that existed. The findings of the reports also found that some schools did not promote vocational courses as much as academic routes and that that work experience was not always meaningful in teaching children skills for the workplace.
47. One of the recommendations was for schools in the Borough are provided with a consistent tool kit which could set clear standards for career advice and education.
48. The reports also discussed the need for adult support services to assist those looking for jobs or opportunities to reskill. This issue had been highlighted particularly during the pandemic. It was noted that South Shields Football Club had developed a programme to support people in developing their CVs and work experience.

### **Member discussion**

49. Members discussed the fact that not all children are strong academically and many excel in practical skills. The Community School Headteacher on the Committee cited an example of a child who had been struggling in school but excelled on a scheme which gave him work experience at a local construction company.
50. They also cited schemes in younger school years like STEM fortnight, which aim to introduce children to professions in engineering and technology.
51. They also mentioned the importance of access to positive role models from a variety of professions.
52. From this discussion, a recommendation was put forward which would Encourage schools not only just to fulfil their statutory requirements with respect to careers advice but to give a high priority to providing children with the best possible career advice and opportunities. The suggested development of the toolkit for schools would facilitate this.
53. They also cited the difficulties people faced in getting to work or school as the cost of public transport had increased. A discussion developed around this, as Members recognised job opportunities could be greatly restricted for those without a car as bus routes were also being terminated.

54. As a result of the discussion, the Committee that further recommendations should be developed in the following areas :

- That work experience weeks be staggered across the year so that not all pupils are seeking placements at the same time.
- That businesses offering apprenticeships are offered support so that there is a consistent approach.
- Greater support be available, in terms of travel and subsistence, for people with apprenticeships and placements.

## **Conclusions**

### *Food plan*

55. Members recognised the key impact that the food plan could have on the health and wellbeing of those fighting poverty. However, they recognised that healthy eating would not often be the top priority for those in financial hardship and that the messages given out needed to emphasise the benefits, particularly in financial terms (reducing food wastage, cooking from scratch etc) as well as health benefits.

56. That said they appreciated the fact that a healthy diet may not always seem affordable to those on a low income. Community Food Pantries could be one initiative that could help. Others could involve circulating healthy, affordable recipe information and promoting the benefits of batch cooking.

57. Whilst Members appreciated the work being undertaken in schools on healthy eating, a renewed effort should be made to tackle childhood obesity through schools. The Youth Parliament could be used to review the messages and how they are delivered.

58. They noted the importance of raising people's awareness of where their food comes from, where it is grown, how it is packaged and how it is distributed.

### *Access to Transport*

59. The Commission recognised that access to affordable transport should always be a key feature of any response to supporting people in tackling poverty whether it be getting to school, colleges, interviews and workplaces through to getting to the shops, health care appointments and other services.

60. They recognised the concessionary fares offered by NEXUS were vital but would like to see bus companies follow suit by offering young people accompanied by and adult and carers free travel.
61. Whilst recognising the that councillors had a very limited influence over bus companies as privately owned companies, nevertheless they felt that there should be some accountability to the local population brought into the system.
62. They noted that cheaper fares on the metro for younger people had brought increased patronage and there was a compelling case to encourage greater use of reduced fares which could prove to advantageous to the bus companies.
63. They were concerned that people were not always aware of the transport options available to them, particularly for school children.
64. Travel to and from hospital remained a key issue, particularly in the light of the “Path to Excellence” Programme which has meant that South Tyneside residents have had to travel to Sunderland more for services.
65. Encouraging active transport clearly has a place in any longer terms plans, but this must be backed up by safe and robust infrastructure.
66. It emerged that the Bus Forum was a key place to take areas of concern regarding the bus network, yet few Members had heard of it.
67. Subsequent to the commission’s session on Transport, it emerged that the introduction of the Enhanced Bus Partnership and Bus Service Improvement Plan was approaching.
68. The North East Joint Transport Committee formally approved the submission of the North East Enhanced Bus Partnership and Bus Service Improvement Plan to Central Government at a meeting on Monday 27th June. The next stage in the process is that the Department for Transport will review the submissions and once approved (or amended) they will be executed by each of the respective local authorities in order to complete the process.
69. The aim is for the region to be able to draw down £163 million over the next three years, to spend on capital projects designed to improve bus services, and on revenue-based areas, such as growing bus passenger satisfaction, introducing good value multi-modal fares, making buses greener, and growing bus patronage. It is hoped that these improvements will assist in

delivering the Commission's aims, particularly Recommendations 26 & 27 detailed later in this report.

### *Skills*

70. Members agreed with the conclusions of the Skills Commission report in that there needed to be a more consistent approach to careers advice in schools and that information on vocational routes should be as prominent as academic ones.
71. It was clear to Members that not all schools gave the same prominence to Careers advice; it should be given a consistently high priority by all schools. The deployment of a toolkit with standards was therefore a welcome recommendation.
72. After some discussion, they wanted to add the following to the recommendations:
- That work experience weeks be staggered across the year so that not all pupils are seeking placements at the same time.
  - That businesses offering apprenticeships are offered support so that there is a consistent approach.
  - Greater support be available, in terms of travel and subsistence, for people with apprenticeships and placements.

### *member champion*

73. As a final recommendation of the commission, Members through that there needed to be a Member whose responsibility is to ensure that poverty is tackled across the whole Council and South Tyneside Partnership. Subsequent to this discussion, it was noted that the new portfolio for the cabinet Member for Voluntary Sector Partnerships and Cooperatives now makes explicit reference to tackling poverty.

## South Tyneside Poverty Group

74. As result of the need to provide a focus on the action on Poverty, the South Tyneside Poverty Group was subsequently established by the Corporate Lead for Policy and Insight in March 2022 to try to coordinate ongoing work across the Council on poverty prevention and mitigation, to maximise its impact and identify any gaps in support, particularly given the likely implications of the cost-of-living crisis. The group has wide representation across the Council and will report back to People Select Committee on progress.

## Recommendations

75. Having considered the evidence presented to Members, detailed in this report, the Commission wished to make the following recommendations in addition to the 22 contained in the previous interim reports to Cabinet in December 2020 and March 2021:

**R23** That the campaigns resulting from the food plan

- emphasise the financial benefits of reducing food wastage, cooking from scratch, batch cooking etc
- include affordable recipes, tips on using leftovers
- include details of how to find out where food comes from and why it matters

**R24** The Council should actively promote the development of Community Food Pantries in conjunction with foodbanks.

**R25** The Council works with schools and the Youth Parliament in looking at how healthy eating is reflected in the schools' curriculum.

**R26** That a request is made via the Bus Forum that work is undertaken on the feasibility of

- free travel for young people accompanied by and adult and for Carers
- reduced fares and whether the increased patronage would neutralise the effect of reduced income from each ticket. In particular to look at reduced fares for those on a lower income who need to travel to work, apprenticeships, and training.



- R27** That Nexus and the Bus companies undertake a campaign which highlights travel options for those on a lower income for journeys such as to school and hospital appointments.
- R28** That schools stagger their work experience weeks so not all pupils are looking for placements at the same time.
- R29** That the Council offer businesses offering apprenticeships guidance and support to create a more consistent approach.

### **Financial and Value for Money Implications**

76. The less people have available to spend has a negative effect on the local economy. Poverty can also lead to an increased use of services, which puts pressure on Council and NHS budgets.

### **Legal Implications**

77. No legal implications arise from this initial report.

### **Risk and Opportunity Implications**

78. Growing levels of poverty can lead to a deflated local economy and more reliance on Council services and NHS care. Reducing poverty can result in more local spend, greater demand for goods and services and more jobs.

### **Equality and Diversity Implications**

79. At the point of responding to any recommendations made by the commission, an equality impact assessment will be undertaken before any arrangements are implemented. The framework will set out how we plan to meet the public sector equality duty and other provisions of the Equality Act.

### **Environmental and Sustainability Implications**

80. There are several environmental and sustainability implications which will result from the implementation of the sustainable Food Plan including reducing food waste and encouraging the eating of sustainable and healthy food.

81. Also increased patronage on Public Transport will help reduce carbon emissions.

## **Report Recommendation**

82. Members are asked to:

- Consider and note the evidence and conclusions outlined in the report
- Endorse the recommendations (R23-29) set out in paragraph 75
- Ask the Directors for Adults Services and Commissioning and Children's Services and Regeneration and Environment to prepare a response and action plan to progress the recommendations.

## **Reasons for Recommendation**

83. The People Select Committee's Commission on Poverty seeks to identify actions which alleviate pressures on local residents experiencing poverty and promote improved access to services and support.

background papers background papers background papers

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## Commission on Tackling Poverty in South Tyneside: Final Report and Recommendations (June 2022)

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**The following is a list of the background papers (excluding exempt papers) relied upon in the preparation of the above report:**

<b>Background Paper</b>	<b>File Ref:</b>	<b>File Location</b>
Commission on Tackling Poverty in South Tyneside (1 <sup>st</sup> interim report), December 2020		Democratic Services
Commission on Tackling Poverty in South Tyneside (2nd interim report), May 2021		Democratic Services
Commission on Tackling Poverty in South Tyneside (3rd interim report), May 2022		Democratic Services

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