

Appendix A - Terms of Reference for the Slough Food Poverty Task & Finish Group

Background:

In October 2019, the Council's Neighbourhoods and Community Services Scrutiny Panel decided to investigate food poverty in Slough. The Panel resolved that due to the complexity of the issue, a task and finish group is the approach to follow. This was driven by concerns over the increase of food poverty in Slough, growing food bank use, an increase in the numbers of people sleeping rough, and the existing knowledge of pockets of deprivation and poverty in the Borough.

The Task & Finish Group will collect evidence and assess how effective the model of food aid provision in Slough is in meeting short- and long-term needs of residents. They will also consider ways to coordinate efforts and to minimise residents' dependency on food aid in the long term.

A report covering the areas of investigation identified above, including possible options and recommendations to help tackle food poverty in Slough, will be produced at the end of this investigation.

Purpose of the Task Group

The Task & Finish Group is seeking to answer the following key questions:

1. Who needs food aid in Slough and why?
2. Who is currently receiving food aid?
3. Who provides food aid and how?
4. Who can issue referrals/vouchers to the foodbank?
5. How accessible and appropriate is the food aid provision?

Outcomes expected

1. The Task & Finish Group will collect evidence and assess how effective the model of food aid provision in Slough is in meeting short- and long-term needs of residents. They will also consider ways to coordinate efforts and to minimise residents' dependency on food aid in the long term.
2. A report covering the areas of investigation identified above, including options and recommendations to help tackle food poverty in Slough, will be produced at the end of this investigation.

Operational Delivery

- The Slough Food Poverty Task & Finish Group will identify evidence and priority areas.
- The Task Group meetings will be held at Observatory House, Slough.
- The Task Group will be chaired by Cllr. Christine Hulme.

Membership

- Cllr. Christine Hulme (Chair)
 - Cllr. Ted Plenty
 - Cllr. Zafar Ajaib
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