



Food Poverty in the Dover District

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

FULL COMMITTEE / ~~SUB-COMMITTEE~~ / ~~TASK & FINISH WORKING GROUP~~

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Review Title:	Food Poverty in the Dover District
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Timescale:	March – April 2020
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Objectives of the Review

1.	<p>To make recommendations to the full Council in respect of the following Motion:</p> <p>“We note that there are 8 million people in this country who have trouble putting food on the table according to the UN. Over 500,000 people used Foodbanks in the UK last year.</p> <p>The Trussell Trust alone distributed over 1.3m three-day emergency food supplies of people in crisis in the financial year 2017/18. Three million children are at risk of hunger during the school holidays and around 10% of the NHS Budget goes on treating diabetes and up to 1 million people live in food deserts in the UK.</p> <p>We further note that the Government’s commitment to the UN’s 17 Sustainable Development Goals which apply internationally and domestically commits governments to ending hunger by 2030.</p> <p>We resolve to ask Scrutiny to investigate the extent of the issue in the Dover District and what can be done to tackle it.”</p>
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Why should this topic be the subject of in-depth scrutiny?

Criteria	Answer
Corporate Priorities / Objectives <i>Will the review contribute to the Council’s objectives / priorities?</i>	Yes
Performance Improvement <i>Are there issues of weak or poor performance? How / where are they identified?</i>	Not Applicable

Why should this topic be the subject of in-depth scrutiny?	
Public Importance <i>Do local communities think the issue is important? What Evidence?</i>	Subject of Council Motion
Public Dissatisfaction <i>What evidence?</i>	No evidence of dissatisfaction with Council services.
Member / Officer Concern <i>Who has identified it and why?</i>	Member – Motion at full Council on 30 October 2019
Legislation <i>Is the review affected by any government guidance or legislation?</i>	For the review to identify
Audit <i>Has an external or internal auditor raised the issue?</i>	Not Applicable
Duplication <i>What other work is been carried out that will compliment or duplicate efforts?</i>	None

Corporate Plan Links	
Corporate Objective	How?
Healthier People and Communities	Supporting vulnerable members of our community and reducing health inequalities

Key Risks	
Nature of Risk	Mitigation
Unable to formulate recommendations due to lack of evidence	Ensure local food bank providers are interviewed (either verbally or in writing) to gather evidence on food bank usage in the Dover District.

Methodology of the Review	
1.	Collate documentary evidence
2.	Interview relevant agencies
3.	Collate evidence gathered

Methodology of the Review

4. Draft Recommendations to (Cabinet and) Council

Reporting Line for the Review

Scrutiny with recommendations to (Cabinet and/or) Council

Timescale

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
		X	X	(X)							

Evidence Required and How It Will Be Obtained

(a) Proposed Witnesses

Objective One: To investigate the extent of the issue in the Dover District and what can be done to tackle it

Who?	Why?
Trussell Trust	Publisher of information referred to in Motion and seeding organisation for some local Food Banks
Dover Food Bank Includes: The Beacon Church Distribution Centre The Ark Food Bank (Dover)	Local Food Bank Network
Deal Area Food Bank Includes: Phoenix Centre Food Bank (Sandwich) St Finbarr Church Food Bank (Aylesham) St Richards Church Food Bank (Deal) Trinity Church Food Bank (Deal) Community Church (Deal)	Local Food Bank Network
Citizens Advice Bureau	Act as a signposting organisation for those in need of using food banks. Can assist with debt and benefit problems and will see causes of need for food bank usage. Can also advise on possible impact of benefit system.

Evidence Required and How It Will Be Obtained

(b) Documentary Evidence	
<i>What?</i>	<i>Why?</i>
State of Hunger: A study of poverty and food insecurity in the UK (Trussell Trust) 2019	Report referred to in Motion
Financial insecurity, food insecurity, and disability (Trussell Trust/Oxford University) 2017	Report looking at the demographics of food bank users nationally. Will provide background information for local food bank usage.
Emergency Use Only II (Trussell Trust) 2017	Report looking at the impact of changes in policy on those on low incomes
Any other documentary information identified in research phase	To contribute to development of evidence base

Evidence Required and How It Will Be Obtained

(c) Proposed Site Visits		
<i>Where?</i>	<i>Why?</i>	<i>When?</i>
To be determined		

Venues to be used for evidence gathering

<i>Where?</i>	<i>When?</i>
Council Offices	As required

Resource Allocation for the Review

Democratic Services

Officers from other Council Departments if required to provide expertise

Membership of the Committee / Sub-Committee / Working Group

Full Committee

Contact: Rebecca Brough, Democratic Services Manager (Ext. 872304)