

21 March 2018

**Child poverty and social mobility priority**

**1 Purpose of report**

1.1 The report provides an update on the proposed programme of work for the child poverty and social mobility priority and an analysis of the most recent data on child poverty.

**2 Background**

2.1 At the meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> December 2017 the Board agreed that one of the priority areas for 2018 should be child poverty and social mobility. The Board nominated Katie Needham to sponsor the priority and work alongside the Council's Strategy and Performance Team.

**3 Most recent data on children living in poverty**

3.1 The Centre for Research in Social Policy makes annual estimates of the number of children in poverty. These estimates are derived from data on families receiving out of work benefits, families receiving in-work tax credits and labour market survey data. The estimates are not accurate counts, but they are considered to be the best local data available to give an indication of where child poverty is most prevalent.

3.2 The estimates are based on the period July to September 2017. Households are defined as living in poverty where income is less than 60% of the median income.

3.3 The table below shows the estimated percentage and number of children living in poverty in each district. The highest percentage is in Scarborough Borough where approximately 3 in 10 children live in poverty.

<b>Children living in poverty by district</b>		
<b>District</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Number</b>
Craven	15.61%	1,590
Hambleton	16.62%	2,827
Harrogate	14.44%	4,420
Richmondshire	15.74%	1,595
Ryedale	19.9%	1,887
Scarborough	28.72%	5,818
Selby	17.86%	3,153
<b>Total</b>		<b>21,290</b>

3.4 The data is also broken down to ward level. The table overleaf shows every ward in North Yorkshire where more than 25% of children are estimated to live in poverty.

Over a third (37%) of the total children living in poverty in North Yorkshire reside in 29 wards (out of a total of 173).

<b>Children living in poverty by ward</b>			
Ward	District	%	Number
Woodlands	Scarborough	45.26%	566
Castle	Scarborough	41.22%	317
Eastfield	Scarborough	40.85%	707
Ramshill	Scarborough	34.80%	151
Selby North	Selby	34.27%	535
Hertford	Scarborough	33.71%	268
Filey	Scarborough	33.50%	362
Selby South	Selby	32.17%	439
Wolds	Ryedale	31.95%	128
Central	Scarborough	31.71%	455
North Bay	Scarborough	31.00%	304
Northallerton North	Hambleton	30.25%	215
Richmond West	Richmondshire	30.19%	145
Skipton South	Craven	28.67%	245
Falsgrave Park	Scarborough	28.03%	310
Esk Valley	Scarborough	27.98%	171
Pickering West	Ryedale	27.97%	194
Fylingdales	Scarborough	27.93%	84
Granby	Harrogate	27.90%	430
Northstead	Scarborough	27.66%	230
Rillington	Ryedale	27.54%	84
Cayton	Scarborough	27.29%	165
Sherburn	Ryedale	26.56%	112
Fairburn with Brotherton	Selby	26.13%	165
Bolton Castle	Richmondshire	26.12%	50
Streonshalh	Scarborough	25.84%	267
Northallerton Central	Hambleton	25.75%	321
Mulgrave	Scarborough	25.64%	142
Skipton West	Craven	25.56%	234
<b>Total</b>			<b>7,796</b>

3.5 These wards are shown on the map in **Appendix 1**. It can be seen that there is a clear cluster along the coast with fifteen of these wards within Scarborough Borough (note not just Scarborough town). There are other small clusters dotted across the County.

#### **4 Proposal**

4.1 The proposal is to focus in on a number of key topics relating to the priority and report back to the Board throughout the year as set out below:

- 21<sup>st</sup> March – the challenges around social mobility
- 13<sup>th</sup> June – understanding food & fuel poverty
- 26<sup>th</sup> September – impact of welfare reforms
- 5<sup>th</sup> December – understanding housing costs & quality

4.2 For each topic the intention is to provide a summary of the issues, relate these to family life and provide some challenge to the Board around how the partnership can respond to the issues.

## **5 Recommendations**

5.1 The Board is asked to note the proposed topics and most recent data on child poverty and provide any comment.

**Appendix 1** – Map showing wards where more than 25% of children are estimated to live in poverty

North Yorkshire wards where the percentage of children living in poverty (after housing costs) is greater than 25%

