

NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY



SCRUTINY PANEL 2 –POVERTY IN THE TOWN

CORE QUESTIONS – EXPERT ADVISORS

The Scrutiny Panel is currently undertaking a review to review poverty in the town to ascertain whether it is a serious issue:

- Whether it is growing and more generally what are the trends (including migration)
- What are the causes of poverty locally?
- What can public services do in this time of austerity?
- What can other groups/individuals do to help?
- What the impact is, if any, on the economy, crime, health and education

The expected outcome of the review is to make informed recommendations to all relevant parties on the most appropriate approaches to take to address the causes and mitigate the impact of poverty in Northampton

CORE QUESTIONS

1. Do you feel that poverty is growing within the town? Please can you supply some trend data in support of your response, such as who are the most affected, where it is concentrated and the main causes of poverty.
2. What do you feel are the causes of poverty locally?
3. What can public services do in this time of austerity?
4. What can other groups/individuals do to help?
5. What is being done by your organisation to identify and mitigate household poverty?
6. Are you aware of an impact that poverty has had on the economy, crime, health and education? Please supply further details, together with any supporting statistics.
7. How can partnership working be maximised?
8. What has already been done to tackle poverty and what assistance is currently available?

9. What awareness exists of the different types of assistance that is available and how can this awareness be improved?
10. Are all households in poverty being reached?
11. What support and advice is available to individuals who find themselves in arrears, for example, arrears on mortgage payments?
12. Do you have further information regarding poverty issues which you would like to inform the Scrutiny Panel?