

Appendix Four - Brent Poverty Commission – Delivery Plan

Workstream Four – Overview Recommendations

Ref	Recommendation (in bold = priority)	Financial Implications	Update and Key Milestones	Lead Directorate/s
A:	The Commission recommends that central government gives renewed consideration to the devolution of powers and resources to local government to support its multiplicity of duties highlighted by the demands – and magnificent response of councils – during and after the Covid -19 crisis.	This applies to central government. However if successful it could involve additional funding for the council. There could be a need to ensure new responsibilities are properly funded.	N/A	N/A
B:	We recommend government looks again at the distribution of resources reflected in its funding for local councils and accepts the need for change to MHCLG's grant formula.	This applies to central government. It is intended to ensure the council has the funding it needs to discharge its responsibilities given local needs and circumstances.	N/A	N/A

C:	We recommend a substantial increase in investment in social housing as a central component for the economic recovery, and the reversal of social injustices, post-Covid.	This applies to central government. However if successful it could involve additional funding for the council.	N/A	N/A
D:	We recommend that, as the major employer and the source of so much of the Borough's spending, Brent Council extends its impressive efforts to secure more and better jobs, especially for its younger citizens.	Activities to deliver this recommendation are within the existing Regeneration & Environment budget.	Ongoing - Work is underway in schools through NEETS provision. Brent Works also seeks to secure more and better jobs especially for young people and links this work with regeneration colleagues and apprenticeships schemes. November 2020 – The council has successfully applied to the Kickstart scheme to act as an intermediary. The council will work with the employer and employee to secure sustainable employment including for young people.	Regeneration and Environment

E:	We recommend that the council ensures welfare support reaches everyone who needs it by making “every contact count” and referring people to, and supporting the finances of, the charities and community organisations that provide much-needed, expert advice.	Activities to deliver this recommendation are within the existing Customer & Digital Services budget.	Ongoing - The Resident Support scheme and the Hubs advisory service ensure that support is targeted where it is needed most. This includes referral to charities and community organisations. Ongoing - The council works collaboratively with the VCS at both a strategic and thematic group level. The council offers a range of grants to the VCS.	Customer and Digital Services /Assistant Chief Executive
F	We recommend that Brent Council establishes a consultative group that brings together elected members and officers with community organisations, service users and relevant bodies covering housing, health and education, and working collaboratively a) to agree measurable targets, reflecting the Commission’s conclusions, for reducing poverty over the years ahead; b) to explore and initiate collaborative working to deliver holistic, person-centred services which empower residents and	Within existing resources.	October 2020 - Terms of Reference agreed with the Lead Member. November 2020 – first meeting of the consultative group. This group is advisory and will feed back to the council on a regular basis.	Assistant Chief Executive

	increase resilience; and c) to monitor progress, reporting back to the council on a periodic basis.			
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