

Derby City Council – Response

ID Reference FOI662166942

Date 26/07/2024

Information Requested	Response
<p>1. Does your council have a written anti-poverty strategy (this may also be referred to as a 'poverty strategy')? This may be an all-age strategy, or one focusing on a specific group of the population, such as a child poverty strategy. If so, please provide a link to the strategy if it is available publicly, or a copy via email.</p>	<p>Anti-poverty strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Council along with a range of cross sector partners, voluntary sector and stakeholders are currently working to develop an anti-poverty strategy for the city.• The move toward developing an anti-poverty strategy follows on from the work that was started as a response to the Cost Living Crisis.
<p>2. If your council does not have an anti-poverty strategy in place, does it plan to develop one within the next 12 months? If so, please provide a link to any public facing document detailing this commitment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There is an agreed approach to address and counter the impact of the cost-of-living crisis on groups, communities, and people in need, including those most affected by the wider economic and social impact of rising prices and the cost of services that was happening across the country. You can view the webpages here outlining the detail of the campaigns and support : https://www.communityactionderby.org.uk/crisis-support/help-with-the-cost-of-living• The group created a strategy and action plan at in 2022 and have been working towards the actions in this plan to tackle the crisis. Areas of focus include:<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Collective Poverty Commission working with partners such as YMCA, Community Action Derby and Food for Thoughto Funding allocated to warm welcome hubs and to with those most vulnerable such as the Household Support Fund, Discretionary



	<p>housing payments, Council Tax Support Scheme, Council Tax Hardship Fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Work has been undertaken to try and ensure people access the benefits they are entitled to, for example the Welfare Reform team have been working on getting £1.9 million in financial awards and 500 additional families received free school meals. o Food for Thought providing food parcels and meals. • In April 2024, over 100 representatives, organisations and partners came together at a Child Poverty Summit. This collective work will be captured in the Anti Poverty Strategy.
<p>3. Has your council voluntarily adopted the socio-economic duty?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SED has not been adopted in law, whilst it is part of the Equality Act 2010, we are not duty bound to adopt. We did however as a Council, adopt this voluntarily on 25 May 2022. • In the doing so the Council set out its approach as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Formally adopt the Socio-Economic Duty o 'Poverty-check' decisions and policies for socio-economic impact, and how this interacts with other types of inequalities (protected characteristics e.g., race, disability, sex) including within EIAs (Equality Impact Assessments) o Develop a proactive strategy, taking meaningful action to alleviate the effects of the cost-of-living crisis and reduce socio-economic disadvantage, drawing upon good practice examples from other cities and consultation with diverse local community groups, unions, activists, Derby People's Assembly, Derby United Against Poverty, Derby Poverty Commission, and residents subjected to inequality by circumstance in Derby.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Council has developed and integrated a SED impact assessment, which we now apply in our decision making and policy development processes.• The Council is working with a range of partners and is in process of consulting on the development of a city wide anti-poverty as outlined above.• We are now also looking to the new government on any possible updates to the Equality Act to move SED to being enacted in law.
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