

**REPORT FOR: OVERVIEW AND  
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

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**Date of Meeting:** 8 June 2016

**Subject:** Welfare Reform Scrutiny Review  
Group – Report and  
Recommendations for consideration

**Responsible Officer:** Alex Dewsnap (Divisional Director -  
Strategic Commissioning)

**Scrutiny Lead  
Member area:** Councillor Pamela Fitzpatrick

**Exempt:** No

**Wards affected:** None at this stage

**Enclosures:** Final report of the Welfare Reform  
Scrutiny Review Group

## **Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations**

This report sets out the findings and recommendations of the Welfare Reform Scrutiny Review Group which met between August 2015 and March 2016. The Group focused on the areas of the Benefit Cap and low pay.

### **Recommendations:**

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

- 1) Consider and endorse the report from the Welfare Reform Scrutiny Review Group
- 2) Forward the Review's report and recommendations on to Cabinet for consideration

## **Section 2 – Report**

### **Introductory paragraph**

The recommendations are based on the evidence gathered throughout the Review, which comprised a literature review; three challenge panels and an "Out and About" phase. Members were provided with information from a number of partner organisations, service users and expert witnesses and carefully considered this evidence in the forming of these recommendations.

### **Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications associated with this report. However, if the report's recommendations are accepted by Cabinet, the services affected will need to provide detail of any costs likely to be incurred.

### **Performance Issues**

There are no specific performance issues associated with this report.

### **Environmental Impact**

There are no specific environmental impact associated with this report.

### **Risk Management Implications**

There are none specific to this report.

### **Equalities implications**

Equality implications may have to be considered on implementation of the recommendations.

### **Council Priorities**

This review relates to the corporate priority of:

- Making a difference for the vulnerable
- Making a difference for families

### **Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance**

Statutory clearances not required.

**Ward Councillors notified:**

**NO**

*\* Delete as appropriate.*

### **Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers**

**Contact:** Rachel Gapp, (Head of Policy)  
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020 8416 8774

#### **Background Papers:**

Briefings prepared by the policy team, internal officers and external stakeholders which were presented to this Review Group at the meetings of 19 October 2015, 2 March 2016 and 30 March 2016.