

Brighton & Hove Child Poverty Commissioning Strategy 2012-15

Brighton & Hove Strategic
Partnership

28 February 2012



Brighton & Hove
City Council

Informed by a needs assessment

- Presented initial findings to Brighton & Hove Strategic Partnership (September 2010)
- Overseen by task group with representatives of each thematic partnership
- Signed off at the Public Service Board (June 2011)



Headlines

- 22% of all children in Brighton & Hove, 1 in every 5, live in poverty
- In line with the national average but significantly worse than the South East
- Wide variation across the city (1 in every 2 children in the poorest communities)



Child poverty is defined as

- Children and young people living on less than 60% of the national median income
- £344 per week for a two parent family with two children before housing costs
- £263 per week for a one parent family with two children before housing costs

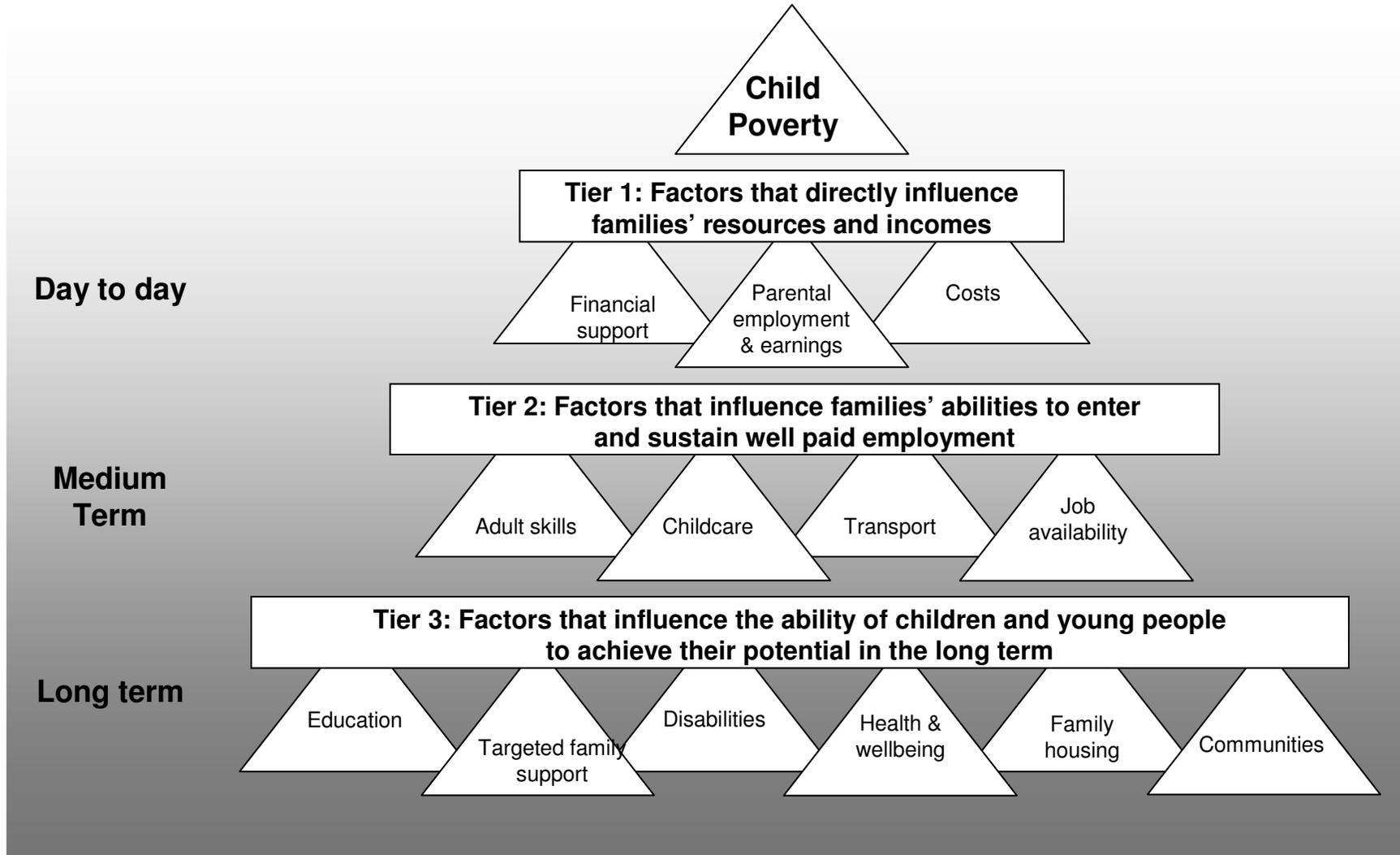


The Social & Economic Context

- Rising unemployment/reduced employment
- Rising costs of living
- Reductions in public services funding
- Reductions in welfare benefits
- Reductions in tax credits
- Disproportionate impacts on families



Causes and solutions are many and varied



Recommended focus on

- Lone parents - the majority family type living in poverty
- Children and families with disabilities - higher risk of living in poverty
- Families with a complex range of problems - impacts on children's life chances
- Black and Minority Ethnic families – higher risk
- Supporting community based organisations – trusted and effective gateways



Four Strategic Outcomes

- Strategic Outcome 1

Child poverty outcomes provide an overarching theme for the Local Strategic Partnership and reducing child poverty is a Council standard priority for tackling inequality

Effective mechanisms are in place to lead, drive forward and assess progress on alleviating and reducing child poverty



Four Strategic Outcomes

- Strategic Outcome 2

Families have the resources to enable them to meet their day to day needs and to make positive choices to ensure their family's wellbeing



Four Strategic Outcomes

- Strategic Outcome 3

More parents, carers and young adults living in poverty gain the skills, training and qualifications they need to get decently paid jobs and more families earn, as a minimum, a living wage for Brighton and Hove



Four Strategic Outcomes

- Strategic Outcome 4

Children and young people grow to adulthood and achieve their potential in safe and nurturing families and communities



Delivery

- In the Council's Commissioning Plan – a 'citywide' commission
- Must be supported by other relevant commissions and by all partners
- A six monthly task group with seniority to oversee the outcomes



Accountability – Child Task Group

Dialogue with:
Young people/ parents
Public Service Board
Strategic Leadership Board

Child Poverty Task Group
Meets every 6 months

Reports to:
Local Strategic Partnership
Relevant Council Committees
Health & well Being Board

Role of Task Group:

- Establish baseline monitoring and 6 monthly reporting
- Read across commissioning activity (City Commissioning Plan) identify gaps and recommend additional commissioning
- Oversee contribution of Partners

Chair : Strategic Director People

Indicative Membership:

- City Employment & Skills Steering Group
- Education Partnership
- Advice Partnership
- Voluntary & Community Sector Disabilities Expertise
- Lead Commissioner Housing
- Senior Commissioner for Health Prevention
- Lead Commissioner Children & Young People
- Lead Commissioner Families in multiple disadvantage
- Head of Partnerships (local Strategic Partnership liaison)

Working towards Child Poverty Strategic Outcomes 1- 4



What is Strategic Partnership asked to do?

- Agree the Child Poverty Commissioning Strategy and the four strategic outcomes
- Facilitated discussion at key thematic partnerships to make sure plans fit
- Receive regular updates each time the child poverty task group meets

