Covid-19 Response Working Group

Thursday 25 June 2020
10:00-11:00
Virtual Meeting by Zoom video communications

Attendees Commission
Morag Treanor
Katie Schmuecker
Lindsay Graham
Shona Stephen

Secretariat Attendees
Katherine Myant, Analytical Manager
Katherine Hudson, Secretariat Manager
Michele Barr, Secretariat/Administrator

Apologies
Bill Scott, Chair
Patrick Hogan, 3x1PR

1. Welcome and apologies

Morag Treanor opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Apologies were given for Bill Scott, Chair and Patrick Hogan.

2. Updates on completed briefings:

<u>Response from Scottish Government on food insecurity briefing</u>
Katherine Myant updated the group on the response received from the Scottish Government on the working group's food insecurity briefing.

<u>Meeting on free school meals</u>
Lindsay Graham and Morag Treanor updated on the meeting with Scottish Government officials from the Free School Meals team to discuss the concerns of the working group.

3. Scottish Welfare Fund

Katherine Myant talked through the Commission's briefing paper on the Scottish Welfare Fund. This included some discussion of the available data on SWF, an analysis of local authority websites and the available evidence on how people with lived experience of poverty had experienced the SWF. It was agreed that data at a local authority level was needed to understand more about the SWF was working in

practice and that we needed to understand more about people's direct experiences of the fund.

Actions were:
- Katherine Myant to contact John McKendrick to find out whether the survey of community organisations included a question exploring whether organisations were referring people onto the SWF
- Katherine Myant to request local authority level data on applications and expenditure of the SWF from the Scottish Government.

4. Resourcing over the summer and next steps

- The working group agreed to put the group on hold until August to allow the secretariat to focus on the policy circle work.

5. AOB

- Date of next meeting is 13 August