

## **Priority B**

**We will target all forms of poverty across our communities and mitigate the impact of austerity and welfare cuts on those hit the hardest.**

*Poverty is an affront to all of us and we must lead the way in helping those who need our help the most. We are already ensuring that everyone entitled to it receives compensation for the bedroom tax and we are doing much to protect services from the worst cuts caused by government austerity. But we must do more.*

*We will direct, but not limit, our services and resources towards the following considerations:*

- 1) We will promote school breakfast clubs
- 2) We will promote financial literacy in all areas and to all age groups
- 3) We will ensure credit unions are available to all our citizens where appropriate
- 4) We will invest in training and support for our council officers to ensure they are best placed to help those affected by welfare reform, PIP and the impact of Universal Credit
- 5) We will continue our programme of insulating homes and work tirelessly to eradicate fuel poverty
- 6) We will work with the Community Planning Partnership and other partners to tackle the wide divergence of health inequalities between our communities
- 7) We will promote poverty proofing the school day, ensuring every child has the support they need to learn
- 8) We will tackle digital poverty in our schools and in our communities to ensure our citizens have the tools they need to learn in a digital world
- 9) We will have a fundamental review of all council fees and charges
- 10) We will resource our schools to provide access to free sanitary products for all girls
- 11) We will consider a rent pressure zone for the city centre
- 12) We will promote measures to ensure our school meal service is an attractive choice for our schoolchildren and has the resources to provide healthy, inexpensive food
- 13) We will be inclusive with all our citizens through dialogue when setting policy
- 14) We will develop and build on the localities programme and create a model that gives power back to grassroots
- 15) We will support the concept and implementation of participatory budgeting
- 16) We will make available up to 1% of the Stirling council budget to facilitate innovative solutions for delivery of services by our communities
- 17) We will revise Community Council boundaries and the Scheme of Establishment before the next Community Council elections in 2018
- 18) We will establish a diversity charter to promote dignity, respect and social inclusion for every citizen across the Stirling Council area
- 19) We will ensure the Stirling Area Access Panel are consulted on all planning applications