

## **Report summary:**

## Local anti-poverty strategies: good practice and effective approaches (2023)

Poverty is on the rise in the UK, but the government at Westminster has no plan or strategy to resolve poverty. Eradicating poverty should be a national mission, and Resolve Poverty believes that localities have a central role to play in such mission.

A strategic approach to resolving poverty is vital for any local, public body looking at their responsibilities in supporting residents experiencing poverty, because it provides a clear sense of direction and adds value in three specific ways:

- 1. Sets clear objectives, underpinned by a shared understanding of poverty and its drivers
- 2. Improves co-ordination which leads to cost-effectiveness, due to a collective determination to resolve poverty across all departments and partners
- 3. Increases accountability by providing measurable targets.

Our major report, Local Anti-Poverty Strategies: Good Practice and Effective Approaches (February 2023) is essential reading for anyone working in local government or other areas of the public sector wishing to strengthen an organisation's approach to resolving poverty. The report highlights examples of good practice and impact from localities where there is a strong strategic focus on addressing poverty, delivered through, and steered by a robust anti-poverty strategy.

The report outlines a 12-point framework for organisations implementing their own strategic responses and explores themes such as: the importance of leadership on the issue of poverty; a deep understanding of the causes and drivers of poverty, delivered through <u>training</u> staff and elements such as adoption of the socio-economic duty; and the importance of co-production with those who have lived experience of poverty.

Despite poverty being a significant issue across the UK, there has been a lack of research into anti-poverty strategies over the last two decades, due in part to national government policy and the move in focus away from ending poverty on a national scale. With this report, Resolve Poverty aims to fill that gap in research and also provide practical solutions to localities aiming to resolve poverty themselves. If you'd like to read the report, please get in touch.

We can work with local, public bodies wishing to implement new, or strengthen existing strategic responses to poverty. We can tailor a package of consultancy support to suit your needs and budgets – please get in touch with us for an initial discussion.