



## **COST OF LIVING WORKING GROUP TERMS OF REFERENCE**

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### **1. Focus of the Group:**

1.1 To distinguish from “mainstream” poverty policy over strategic work that aims to address long standing structural poverty. The focus for this Group is the shorter term mitigations, actions and supports that can be put in place to quickly assist people who are vulnerable as result of the impact of the cost of living situation. The options for action would need to be explored but may be simpler shorter term or one-off measures.

### **2. Function of the Group:**

2.1 To assess the current and predicted impact of the cost of living crisis in Moray in relation to:

- Internal: council services, employees and any resulting impact on service provision;
- Community: service users; the most vulnerable in our community; and
- Economy and business.

2.2 Consider how council services can be prepared and can support the cost of living pressures in Moray in terms of:

- Alignment of existing services and resources to cost of living issues.
- Identify any council services that may be in jeopardy and possible mitigation.
- Best use of emerging external funding and identify how initiatives can make a positive contribution to cost of living issues where possible (e.g. to economic factors).
- Gaps and asks identified for consideration – new services, support, resources.
- Maximise opportunities to work with partners for greater impact on cost of living agenda.

### **3. Outcomes:**

- i. Council services prepared for higher operating costs.
- ii. Wide access to and take up of supports available by those who need it (measures could be take up numbers).
- iii. Council employees have supportive work environment in cost of living context (measures could be survey, absence).
- iv. Businesses survive (economic results).
- v. Community health and well-being (need to consider what measures could be).