

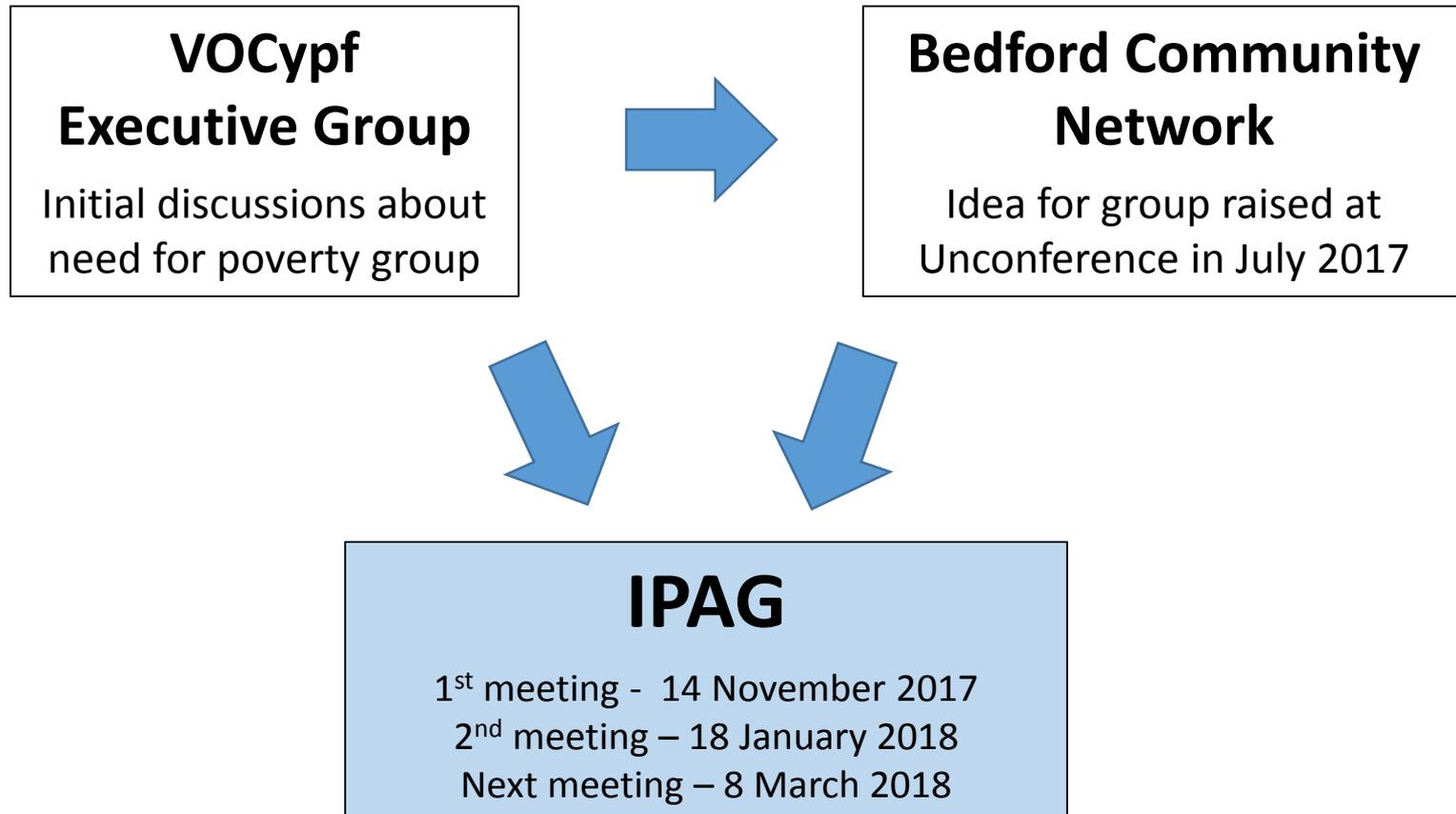
Poverty in Bedfordshire

Independent Poverty Action Group

24th January 2018

Independent Poverty Action Group

IPAG is a new group in Bedford



What is the role of IPAG?

- **Forum** for VCS agencies in Bedford Borough to discuss poverty issues
- **Raise awareness** of poverty issues
- **Share expertise** on poverty issues
- **Central resource** on poverty issues
- **Advise and support** organisations working with people in poverty

Why do we need IPAG?

Poverty is on the increase

There does not seem to be any coordinated anti-poverty action in Bedford Borough

Family poverty in the UK

- 4 million children (30% cent of children) live in poverty in the UK (2015-16)
- Child poverty reduced dramatically between 1998/99-2011/12 – but has increased again since then
- Two-thirds (67%) of children growing up in poverty live in a family where at least one person works
- Poverty blights childhood and can have long-term effects – on educational attainment, health, and life expectancy

Family poverty in Bedford Borough

How many people used the Bedford Foodbank over the Christmas period?

- 500
- 600
- 700
- 800

Family poverty in Bedford Borough

How many people (approximately) used the Bedford Foodbank over the Christmas period?

- 500
- 600
- 700
- **800 (794)**

Family poverty in Bedford Borough

How many people were helped at a special, 2 hour, food distribution session at Bedford Salvation Army on 22nd December?

- 130
- 150
- 180
- 200

Family poverty in Bedford Borough

How many people were helped at a special, 2 hour, food distribution session at Bedford Salvation Army on 22nd December?

- 130
- 150
- **180**
- 200

Family poverty in Bedford Borough

How many children (approximately) are living in poverty in Bedford Borough?

- 4,000
- 5,000
- 6,000
- 7,000

Family poverty in Bedford Borough

How many children (approximately) are living in poverty in Bedford Borough?

- 4,000
- 5,000
- 6,000
- **7,000 (6,955)**

Child poverty rate in Bedford Borough is 18.1% (ie 1 in 6 children)

Family poverty in Central Bedfordshire

How many children are living in poverty in Central Bedfordshire?

- More than in Bedford Borough
- The same as in Bedford Borough
- Less than in Bedford Borough

Family poverty in Central Bedfordshire

How many children are living in poverty in Central Bedfordshire?

- **More than in Bedford Borough**
- The same as in Bedford Borough
- Less than in Bedford Borough

7,475 children in Central Bedfordshire live in poverty (ie 12.8% of children)

Anti-poverty action in Bedfordshire

Bedfordshire

4 anti-poverty conferences (1997, 2001, 2003 and 2005)

Bedford Tackling Poverty Together Group (2000 – 2010)

Quarterly newsletter - *Poverty News* (2002 – 2012)

Child poverty seminar (2007)

Child poverty research – *Child poverty in Bedfordshire* (2009)

Bedfordshire Child Poverty Network (2008 – 2009)

Anti-poverty action in Bedfordshire

Bedford Borough

Poverty conference (1998)

Child Poverty Action Group (1998 – 2012)

Adoption of child poverty indicator in Local Area Agreement (2009)

Child Poverty Needs Assessment (2011)

Poverty Task Force (2010 - 2012)

Central Bedfordshire

Adoption of child poverty indicator in Local Area Agreement (2009)

Child Poverty Needs Assessment (2011)

Child Poverty Strategy (2011)

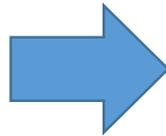
Child Poverty Task Group (2010 - 2014)

Anti-poverty action in Bedfordshire

Current situation

Bedford Borough

?



IPAG

Central Bedfordshire

?

Issues for IPAG to address?

Discuss briefly on your tables

Write any specific ideas for action on post-it notes

Stick on IPAG flip chart