

# Amendment by the Conservative Group

## City of Edinburgh Council

30 May 2019

### Item 9.16 – Motion by Councillor Rae – Funding for Action on Poverty

Council:

Delete all and replace with:

Council notes:

- 1) that the European Aid to the Most Deprived fund makes £3.5m available to the UK for “lifting at least 20 million people out of the risk of poverty and social exclusion” by the end of 2020 and that this scheme was specifically intended to assist asylum seekers;
- 2) that although the deadline to secure funding this year has passed Edinburgh’s share of a UK sum of £600,000 would be approximately £6,000;
- 3) the ongoing work of the Edinburgh Poverty Commission towards addressing poverty and that considerable efforts still need to be made to improve the outcomes achieved with the large sums of public funding spent by a number of partner agencies on this work in Edinburgh;
- 4) that the UK Government has decided to use the Fund to support vulnerable 16-24 year olds who have entered the UK through a resettlement schemes, been granted refugee status, or identified as victims of modern slavery; and notes that the fund will still provide £2.9 million for this cause.

Council therefore considers that the UK Government’s proposed use for the fund is the correct one and, while Edinburgh should receive any funding directly resulting from this objective, diverting money from vulnerable young people to other purposes is not appropriate.

Council further notes the wider context that the Scottish Government now has substantive responsibility for welfare, including the power to create new benefits and top-up reserved benefits, and has the tax powers to fund any spending accordingly and that poverty alleviation should be considered in this devolved policy context.

**Moved by** Councillor Cameron Rose

**Seconded by** Councillor Callum Laidlaw