

Covid-19 Response Working Group

Thursday 13 August 2020

10:00-11:00

Virtual Meeting by Zoom video communications

Attendees Commission

Bill Scott

Morag Treanor

Katie Schmuecker

Lindsay Graham

Shona Stephen

Secretariat Attendees

Katherine Myant, Analytical Manager

Michele Barr, Secretariat/Administrator

Apologies

Katherine Hudson, Secretariat Manager

1. Welcome and apologies

Bill Scott opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Apologies were given for Katherine Hudson.

2. Update on progress with work on Scottish Welfare Fund

Update on meetings with SG and Aberlour, CPAG, Poverty Alliance, CAS, Trussell Trust

Morag Treanor updated on the meeting between Scottish Government officials and the above charities.

Update on Social Renewal Advisory Board and Financial Insecurity policy circle

Bill Scott provided an update to the group on the Social Renewal Advisory Board meeting and the Financial Insecurity policy circle meetings he had attended. The group discussed the recommendations provided to the Social Renewal Advisory Board from the Financial security policy circle and Access to food policy circle around the Scottish Welfare Fund.

Update on revised briefing paper

Katherine Myant talked through the revised briefing paper on the Poverty and inequality Commission's view on the role of the Scottish Welfare Fund during the COVID-19 crisis. The group discussed the findings of this paper.

3. Proposed next steps

Bill Scott led a discussion on the working group's next steps on the Scottish Welfare Fund. It was agreed that Katherine Myant will update the briefing paper and will incorporate aspects of the policy circles' recommendations to the Social Renewal Advisory Board around the Scottish Welfare Fund. Katherine Myant will draft a letter to be sent to the Cabinet Secretary for Social Security on the Scottish Welfare Fund and will circulate around the group with the updated briefing.

4. Future meetings and areas of focus

The group will discuss future meetings and areas the group would like to focus on at the next meeting.

5. AOB

- Date of next meeting is 27 August