



Meeting of the Poverty and Inequality Commission

Thursday 5 August 2021

10:00 – 12:30

Virtual Meeting by Microsoft Teams

Attendees

Bill Scott, Chair
Professor Morag Treanor
Lindsay Graham
Linda Bamford
Katie Schmuecker
Yvonne Blake
Shona Stephen
Douglas White

Secretariat attendees

Katherine Hudson, Secretariat Manager
Rory Morrison, Analytical Manager
Orlaith McAree, Senior Participation Officer
Michele Barr, Secretariat/Administrator

Apologies

Alex Cobham
Rosie Whelan, Team Leader, Fair and Inclusive Workplace Unit, Scottish Government

External attendees

Anna Ritchie Allan, Executive Director, Close the Gap
Mark Mitchell, Research Associate, Fraser of Allander Institute
Russell Gunson, Director, IPPR Scotland
Robert McGregor, Policy Manager, COSLA
Pamela Smith, Employability Partnership Manager, Improvement Service
Graeme Hendry, Senior Partnership and Delivery Manager, Foundation and Graduate Apprenticeships, Skills Development Scotland
Daniela Cabral, Learning and Work Institute
Helen Martin, Head of Secretariat, Fair Work Convention
Pam Amabile, Policy Manager, Tackling Child Poverty Unit, Scottish Government
Claire McCrum, Team Leader, Tackling Child Poverty Unit, Scottish Government
Amy Stuart, Head of Employability Improvement and Design, Scottish Government
Gayle Mackie, Head of Labour Market Analysis Unit, Scottish Government
Spencer Thompson, Economic Adviser, Communities Analysis, Scottish Government

1. Welcome and apologies

Bill Scott welcomed everyone to the meeting, apologies were given for Alex Cobham and Rosie Whelan.

10:00-12:00

2. Discussion: Work and Earnings. (10:00-12:00)

The Commission and external attendees discussed what contribution action on work and earnings should make to reaching the child poverty targets.

External attendees left the meeting.

12:00-12:30

3. Commission business as usual

Budget/Risk Register/Work Programme

The Commissioners discussed the budget/risk register and work programme. Commissioners provided comments to be updated on the risk register. Katherine Hudson updated Commissioners on the Commission's work programme. She noted that a review of evidence is about to be commissioned looking at the impact of Covid-19 on disadvantaged young people in collaboration with the UK Social Mobility Commission. Bill Scott has accepted the invite to join Scottish Government's Minimum Income Guarantee Steering Group. Morag Treanor will substitute for Bill at the first meeting of the group in August.

4. AOB

- Rory Morrison updated Commissioners on the invite the Commission received to speak at the Scottish Parliament Social Justice and Social Security Committees Business Planning Day on 25 August. Bill Scott, Lindsay Graham and Morag Treanor will attend on behalf of the Commission.
- Órlaith McAree provided an update to the Commissioners on the recruitment of the experts by experience for the Commission's participation panel.
- The next Commission meeting will be on the 2 September 2021.