

## **Meeting of the Poverty and Inequality Commission**

**Thursday 12 May 2022**

**10:00 – 12:00**

**Virtual Meeting by Microsoft Teams**

### **Commission attendees**

Bill Scott, Chair

Professor Morag Treanor

Yvonne Blake

Linda Bamford

Shona Stephen

Lindsay Graham

Alex Cobham

Katie Schmuecker

Douglas White

### **Secretariat attendees**

Kathrine Hudson, Secretariat Manager

Rory Morrison, Analytical Manager

Orlaith McAree, Senior Participation Officer

Michele Barr, Secretariat/Administrator

### **External Attendee**

Julie Humphreys, Deputy Director, Tackling Child Poverty & Financial Wellbeing, Scottish Government

### **Apologies**

Lindsay Graham

## **1. Welcome and apologies**

Bill Scott welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were given for Lindsay Graham.

## **2. Tackling Child Poverty Programme Board**

Julie Humphreys, Deputy Director, Tackling Child Poverty & Financial Wellbeing, Scottish Government joined the Commission meeting to discuss the Scottish Government's Child Poverty Programme Board with Commissioners and to provide clarity on the remit of the board. The Commission agreed to propose amendments to the board's draft Terms of Reference by correspondence, following the discussion.

**External attendee Julie Humphreys left the meeting.**

### **3. Child Poverty Scrutiny 2020-21**

Katherine Hudson introduced the Child Poverty Scrutiny 2020-21 draft report. Commissioners had provided detailed comments on the scrutiny report in advance of the meeting. It was agreed that, following the discussion, the secretariat will make final amendments to the report which will be signed off by Bill Scott before being submitted to Scottish Government.

### **4. Scottish Government request for panel input on the Parental Transition Fund**

The Commission received a request from Scottish Government for input from the experts by experience panel on the Parental Transition Fund. It was noted that some members of the experts by experience panel would like to be involved with this piece of work. A joint meeting with the Commission and the panel will be set up and the secretariat will email Commissioners to look for volunteers to participate in the meeting alongside panel members.

### **5. 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. The Commission are in the process of contacting organisations to set up the first Cost of Living visits in June 2022 and will share Commissioner observations from these with Scottish Government and the public.

### **6. AOB**

- Next Commission Meeting will be on the 9 June 2022.
- The Commission met with the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Housing and Local Government on 4 May 2022 and will follow up the meeting with a letter to share feedback from the experts by experience panel on the Delivery Plan.
- The Commission received a request to speak at a meeting with a group of people from the Gypsy/Traveller community. Morag Treanor will attend on behalf of the Commission.
- The Commission has received a request from the Scottish Commission on Social Security to ask for the Commission's views on the draft regulations relating to Best Start Foods, Best Start Grants and the Scottish Child Payment.