



Meeting of the Poverty and Inequality Commission

Thursday 1 September 2022

10:00 – 12:00

Hybrid Meeting - Teams/Scottish Government building, Norton Park, 57 Albion Road, Edinburgh EH7 5QY

Commission attendees

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

Apologies

Katie Schmuecker

Secretariat attendees

Kathrine Hudson, Secretariat Manager
Rory Morrison, Analytical Manager
Michele Barr, Secretariat/Administrator

1. Welcome and apologies

Bill Scott welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were given for Katie Schmuecker.

2. Equality Evidence Strategy Consultation

The Commission have been asked to respond to the Scottish Governments consultation on its next Equality Evidence Strategy (covering actions during the period 2023-25). Commissioners discussed the draft consultation response and were asked to provide final comments to the secretariat by 13 September 2022, in advance of the formal closure of the written consultation which has now been extended to 7 October.

3. Request to PIC to propose an action for SNAP on the right to an adequate standard of living

The Commission discussed SNAP which is Scotland's National Action Plan for Human Rights. The SNAP Secretariat had asked the Poverty and Inequality Commission to consider one of the draft actions under the Right to an Adequate Standard of Living theme, and suggest revised wording to be considered by the Leadership Panel on 28 September. The Commissioners discussed and identified recommendations that it would like to propose to SNAP. The discussion on poverty-related SNAP action will be taken to the next Experts by Experience panel meeting on the 6 September.

4. Experts by Experience Panel evaluation

Orlaith McAree provided an update to the Commissioners on the panel mid-point evaluation. The Commissioners discussed the evaluation feedback on the Panel and Panel Evaluation. Commissioners also wanted to offer more clarity on the impact that the Panel is having on both the work of the Commission and on Scottish Government policy and will share this with the Panel at its next meeting. It was also noted that the Scottish Fuel Poverty Advisory Panel have requested to meet with the Commission's Experts by Experience panel.

Commissioners agreed they would like to interact more with Panel members and to deliver more joint work with the Panel.

5. PIC standing orders

Commissioners considered the Commission draft standing orders and made suggested changes and approved the quorum and decisions. Linda Bamford will share a relevant template from another organisation she is involved with that could be adapted by the Commission for related business in the future.

6. Intersectionality: next steps

Katherine Hudson introduced the paper on the Intersectional Analysis Strategy – next steps. One of the challenges in developing a strategy on intersectional analysis is how to move beyond the theoretical to identify how to deliver it in practice. Commissioners discussed the next steps and agreed to the approach proposed. Alex Cobham and Morag Treanor volunteered to lead on the work.

7. Budget/Risk Register/Work Programme

The Commissioners discussed the budget/risk register and work programme. Commissioners discussed the work programme and were asked to flag if there was potential research work they would like to carry out with the Commission budget, the Commissioners were asked to send further details of potential ideas by email and will agree priority areas for research at the next Commission meeting on the 29 September.

8. AOB

- The next Commission meeting will be on the 29 September 2022.

- Commissioners agreed that the Cost of Living visits should continue.
- Lindsay Graham presented a paper on the shortage of infant formula milk.
- Commission to speak with the Children and Young Peoples Commissioner and invite Flora Douglas and team to come to a future meeting with Commissioners.