Poverty and Inequality Commission and Experts by Experience Panel In-person Meeting

Tuesday 2 September 2025
10:00 – 16:00 pm
COSLA, Verity House, 19 Haymarket Yards, Edinburgh EH12 5BH

Commission attendees
Professor Stephen Sinclair
Professor Suzanne Fitzpatrick
Kim Dams
Louise Hunter
Doctor Ross McQueenie
Paul Fletcher
Doctor Peter Cawston
Taliah Drayak

Apologies
Rami Okasha

Members of the Commission's Experts by Experience Panel

Secretariat attendees
Katherine Hudson, Secretariat Manager
Rory Morrison, Analytical Manager
Órlaith McAree, Senior Participation Officer
Michele Barr, Secretariat Administrator

Observer
David Askew

1. Welcome and apologies

Stephen Sinclair, Chair of the Commission, welcomed Commissioners and members of the Experts by Experience Panel to the meeting. Stephen welcomed David Askew who had joined the meeting as an observer but will join the secretariat permanently on 16 September as the new Senior Policy Officer. Stephen provided apologies for Rami Okasha.

2. Small group discussions

Órlaith McAree introduced the first activity of the session, which involved small group discussions where Commissioners and Panel members were invited to identify and discuss one recommendation from the draft Child Poverty Delivery Plan advice that they felt was particularly important.

3. Child Poverty Delivery Plan Advice recommendations

Commissioners and Panel members discussed the tone of the advice before reviewing the draft Child Poverty Delivery Plan Advice recommendations, and prioritising areas requiring a further in-depth discussion. Commissioners and panel members discussed where amendments were needed to the draft recommendations.

Katherine Hudson outlined the next steps and timescales. The secretariat will make any further changes to the recommendations that are required and circulate a final version to the Commission for sign off. The final Child Poverty Advice recommendations will be sent to Scottish Government in early September. The final full report will be sent to Scottish Government in early October and published in October/November.

4. Gaps and areas for future work

Commissioners and panel members discussed whether there were any gaps in the draft recommendations and key messages, and any areas that the Commission should consider for future work.

5. AOB

Next online Commission meeting will be on 2 October 2025.