

Every child, every chance



The Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan
2018-22
Annex 4 – Children’s Rights and Welfare
Impact Assessment



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CRWIA front sheet – Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan

<p>Policy/measure</p> <p>A general description of the policy/measure</p>	<p>Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan (TCPDP)</p> <p>The first TCPDP sets out the Scottish Government action to be taken in the period 2018 – 2022 in order to make significant progress towards the interim and final targets outlined in the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017.</p> <p>The Delivery Plan makes clear the rationale for action and measures will be complemented by an analysis as to their impact.</p>
<p>Initiating department</p>	<p>Social Justice & Regeneration Division: Social Justice Strategy</p>
<p>Policy aims</p>	<p>To make significant progress towards the 2023/24 interim targets outlined in the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017.</p> <p>The 2030 targets are that, after housing costs (AHC), of children living in households in Scotland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fewer than 10% of children will live in relative poverty • Fewer than 5% of children will live in absolute poverty • Fewer than 5% of children will live in combined low income and material deprivation • Fewer than 5% will live in persistent poverty
<p>Timetable</p> <p>What is the time frame for a policy announcement/consultation/implementation?</p>	<p>The provisions within the Act outline that the Delivery Plan must be published by April 2018.</p> <p>A wide ranging public consultation was conducted between November 2017 and February 2018, in line with the requirements of the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017.</p> <p>The Delivery Plan will be published by the end of March 2018.</p>
<p>Date</p>	<p>09/11/2017</p>
<p>Signature</p>	<p>Andrew Fraser</p>

CRWIA Stage 1 Screening - key questions

1. What aspects of the policy/measure will affect children and young people up to the age of 18?

The core focus of the Act is to lift children, as defined in the Act as “*a person under the age of 16, or a person who is a qualifying young person for the purposes of Part 9 of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992*”, out of poverty.

The actions outlined within the Delivery Plan will therefore require to be linked to this policy goal, whether directly or indirectly.

2. What likely impact - direct or indirect - will the policy/measure have on children and young people?

Policies outlined within the Delivery Plan will have both a direct and indirect impact on children and young people.

For example, policies will be required that reach children directly, i.e. attainment gap funding will directly improve a child’s experience at school, whereas support to aid parents to move into and progress in employment will increase household income – indirectly improving a child’s life experience.

3. Are there particular groups of children and young people who are more likely to be affected than others?

The TCPDP has highlighted a number of ‘priority families’ with higher risks of poverty. These are larger families (3+ children), families with young mothers, families with a disabled adult or child, minority ethnic families, families with a child under 1 year old and lone parent families.

More detail is also provided in the Plan itself and in the Equality Impact Assessment.

4. Who else have you involved in your deliberations?

The Act requires consultation to be conducted on the Delivery Plan. with the following:

- The Poverty and Inequality Commission
- Local Authorities, or associations representing Local Authorities
- People and organisations working with or representing children
- The Scottish Parliament
- People and organisations working with or representing households whose income is adversely affected or whose outgoings are increased, because a member of the household has one or more protected characteristics
- People with lived experience of poverty.

Alongside the Poverty and Inequality Commission, relevant Parliamentary Committees and interest groups, the list of consultees is as follows:

Parent Focus Groups

3-D Drumchapel
Contact Scotland
Falkirk Council
Fife Gingerbread
Maryhill Women's Centre
One Parent Families Scotland (lone mothers and lone fathers' groups)
Poverty Truth Commission (focus group of parents)
Parents with disabilities

Children and Young People Focus Groups

The Children's Parliament
The Prince's Trust
Young Scot

Organisations

Aberlour Homes for Good Children in Scotland
Article 12
BEMIS
Big Lottery Scotland
British Red Cross
CEMVO Scotland
Church of Scotland
Circle
Citizens Advice Scotland
Action for Children
Community Care Providers Scotland

Organisations

Contact
Cyrenians
Falkirk Council
Geeza Break
Glasgow Disability Alliance
Home Start
Inclusion Scotland
Interfaith Scotland
Joseph Rowntree Foundation
Barnardos
LGBTI Youth
NG Homes
One Parent Families Scotland
Oxfam Resonate Together
Parent Network Scotland
Peek Project
Save the Children
People First
Radiant and Brighter
Scottish Refugee Council
Scottish Throughcare and Aftercare Forum
Scottish Women's Aid
SCVO
Shetland Islands Council
Star Project
Fife Gingerbread
Scottish out of School Care Network
Stepping Stones for Families
Who Cares Scotland
Children 1st Shelter

5. Will this require a CRWIA?	
Yes	
CRWIA Declaration	
CRWIA required	CRWIA not required
Yes	
Authorisation	
Policy lead	Date
Andrew Fraser	20 Feb 2018
Deputy Director or equivalent	Date
Lesley Fraser, Director, Social Justice & Regeneration	20 Feb 2018

CRWIA Stage 2 Scoping - key questions

1. What children's rights are likely to be affected by the policy/measure?

The TCPDP has a focus on the drivers of child poverty – income from employment; costs of living; income from social security. In addition, the plan focuses on longer-term actions to improve well-being and quality of life. The following articles refer to these priorities.

Article 1 defines a child as anyone under the age of 18. Note that the Scottish Government prefers to use the term 'children and young people'.

The main articles which the TCPDP will impact on are noted below,

Article 24

1. States Parties recognize the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to facilities for the treatment of illness and rehabilitation of health. States Parties shall strive to ensure that no child is deprived of his or her right of access to such health care services.

Article 26

1. States Parties shall recognize for every child the right to benefit from social security, including social insurance, and shall take the necessary measures to achieve the full realization of this right in accordance with their national law.

2. The benefits should, where appropriate, be granted, taking into account the resources and the circumstances of the child and persons having responsibility for the maintenance of the child, as well as any other consideration relevant to an application for benefits made by or on behalf of the child.

Article 27

1. States Parties recognize the right of every child to a standard of living adequate for the child's physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development.

2. The parent(s) or others responsible for the child have the primary responsibility to secure, within their abilities and financial capacities, the conditions of living necessary for the child's development.

3. States Parties, in accordance with national conditions and within their means, shall take appropriate measures to assist parents and others responsible for the child to implement this right and shall in case of need provide material assistance and support programmes, particularly with regard to nutrition, clothing and housing.

4. States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to secure the recovery of maintenance for the child from the parents or other persons having financial

responsibility for the child, both within the State Party and from abroad. In particular, where the person having financial responsibility for the child lives in a State different from that of the child, States Parties shall promote the accession to international agreements or the conclusion of such agreements, as well as the making of other appropriate arrangements.

Article 31

1. States Parties recognize the right of the child to rest and leisure, to engage in play and recreational activities appropriate to the age of the child and to participate freely in cultural life and the arts.

2. States Parties shall respect and promote the right of the child to participate fully in cultural and artistic life and shall encourage the provision of appropriate and equal opportunities for cultural, artistic, recreational and leisure activity.

2. How will the policy/measure affect children's wellbeing as defined by the wellbeing indicators?

Section 96(2) of Children and Young People (Scotland) Act lists the eight wellbeing indicators, sometimes referred to by the acronym SHANARRI:

- **Safe** – protected from abuse, neglect or harm at home, at school and in the community.
- **Healthy** – having the highest attainable standards of physical and mental health, access to suitable healthcare, and support in learning to make healthy and safe choices.
- **Achieving** – being supported and guided in learning and in the development of skills, confidence and self-esteem, at home, in school and in the community.
- **Nurtured** – having a nurturing place to live in a family setting, with additional help if needed, or, where this is not possible, in a suitable care setting.
- **Active** – having opportunities to take part in activities such as play, recreation and sport, which contribute to healthy growth and development, at home, in school and in the community.
- **Respected** – having the opportunity, along with carers, to be heard and involved in decisions that affect them.
- **Responsible** – having opportunities and encouragement to play active and responsible roles at home, in school and in the community, and where necessary, having appropriate guidance and supervision, being involved in decisions that affect them.
- **Included** – helping to overcome social, education, physical and economic inequalities, and being accepted as part of the community in which they live and learn.

The TCPDP impacts across all of the children's wellbeing indicators, providing a cross-portfolio response and setting out measures to immediately tackle child poverty and move to a preventative approach.

It will particularly impact on **Included** and **Nurtured** indicators, as tackling child poverty will ensure that children are able to fully participate in society. As targets

take account of housing costs the provision of high quality, affordable housing will play a key role.

It also impacts on the **Respected** indicator, as consultation responses from children and young people, and organisations representing their interests will play a key part in developing appropriate action.

3. How many children and young people are likely to be affected by the policy or measure?

2015-16 statistics for households living below average income¹ (HBAI) outline that 26% of children in Scotland live in relative poverty. The Institute for Fiscal Studies has, however, projected² increases to child poverty in Scotland, which may mean 29% of children in poverty by 2021.

This accounts for 260,000 children in Scotland in 2015-16, with a possible increase to 290,000 children by 2021 unless action is taken.

The Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 aims for significant reductions in child poverty by 2023 and 2030. In 2030, fewer than 10% of children should be living in relative poverty. The TCPDP provides a platform for a range of ambitious actions for action over the period to 2022.

4. What research evidence is available?

Considerable research evidence is available which sets out the challenge, in terms of numbers of children in poverty, the variation dependent on locality/region and by protected characteristics. Much of this is set out in the accompanying EQIA.

Research is also available which outlines potential approaches which could assist in meeting the ambitious targets. A sample of the available range is outlined below.

National poverty statistics are published annually by the Scottish Government and set out the numbers of children living in poverty in Scotland;

<http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/03/2213>

Poverty equality analysis;

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Social-Welfare/IncomePoverty/CoreAnalysis/povertyanalysis>

Experimental statistics were published in November 2017 providing local level data on the numbers of children and young people living in material deprivation by local authority area. The report was entitled - 'Children in families with limited resources across Scotland 2014-2016'

<http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/11/9758/downloads>

¹ Poverty and Income Inequality in Scotland: 2015/16 -

<http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/03/2213>

² IFS Living standards, poverty and inequality in the UK: 2017-18 to 2021-22

<https://www.ifs.org.uk/publications/10028>

End Child Poverty published figures (January 2018) on the level of child poverty in each constituency, local authority and ward in the UK.

<http://www.endchildpoverty.org.uk/poverty-in-your-area-2018/>

Independent Advisor on Poverty and Inequality, The Life Chances of Young People in Scotland, A Report to the First Minister – and accompanying analysis;

<http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/07/1451>

<http://www.gov.scot/astrongstartevidencereview>

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation's comprehensive report, UK poverty: Causes, costs and solutions, presents the evidence for their strategy to solve UK poverty.

<https://www.jrf.org.uk/report/we-can-solve-poverty-uk>

<https://www.jrf.org.uk/report/uk-poverty-causes-costs-and-solutions>

5. Has there been any public or stakeholder consultations on the policy/measure?

A wide ranging public consultation was conducted between November 2017 and February 2018, in line with the requirements of the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017.

The Scottish Government engaged with a range of organisations representing children, young people and parents, as well as groups of children, young people and parents themselves. In order to engage effectively and authentically with children, we also commissioned the Children's Parliament to convene a number of discussion groups within schools, including those within SIMD 1 and 2 areas to ensure the voices of children with lived experience of poverty were included. For young people, we commissioned Young Scot to co-design and run an engagement session with young people – again, efforts were made to ensure this was a diverse group and included a number of care-experienced young people. In addition, the Prince's Trust convened a group of young people to discuss key issues around child poverty: their client group is predominantly young people from disadvantaged communities.

Consultation has also been conducted with relevant Parliamentary Committees.

The consultation seeks to establish the key areas of focus for the Delivery Plan and the actions required to influence change. The full list of consultees is outlined in Stage 1.

6. Has there been any estimate of the resource implications of the policy/measure?

Costs associated with the development of the TCPDP and associated publication costs were outlined within the Financial Memorandum produced as part of the Bill process.

Resource implications associated with delivery of actions are set out within the Plan, wherever possible.

CRWIA Stage 3 Data Collection, Evidence Gathering, Involvement of/Consultation with Stakeholder Groups - key questions

1. What does the evidence tell you?

The evidence is clear that poverty levels vary, depending on a number of factors.³ We have used the evidence based to identify priority families within the TCPDP as follows:

- Larger families (3+ children)
- Families with young mothers
- Families with a disabled adult or child
- Minority ethnic families
- Families with a child under 1 year old
- Lone parent families

A recent JRF report⁴ highlighted that there are clear links between poverty and other issues such as mental health and educational attainment. For example, the Growing Up in Scotland study has found that children in the lowest income households are more likely to experience the following negative outcomes than those in the highest income households:

	Highest income (top fifth)	Lowest income (bottom fifth)
Longstanding illness/disability by age 3	14%	19%
General health during first 4 years assessed as 'fair' or 'bad' (as opposed to 'good')	12%	26%
Below average vocabulary ability at age 5	20%	54%
Below average problem-solving ability at age 5	29%	53%
High social, emotional or behavioural difficulty at age 8	3%	18%
Lowest level of life satisfaction at age 8	19%	29%

³ <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Social-Welfare/IncomePoverty/CoreAnalysis/povertyanalysis>

⁴ <https://www.jrf.org.uk/report/poverty-scotland-2017>

As well as being harmful to children and families, child poverty brings significant economic costs. A 2013 study found that the high levels of child poverty cost the UK at least £29 billion a year. This included the cost of policy interventions, long term losses to the economy, lower educational attainment and poorer mental and physical health.

2. What further data or evidence is required?

There is a substantial evidence base, which provides national and local estimates of poverty and inequality.

However further evidence will be required at a local level to develop effective solutions dependent on needs assessed in that area.

3. Has there been any consultation on the development of the proposal(s)?

As outlined in Stage 2, a wide ranging consultation has been undertaken with individuals and groups representing the interests of children and young people; with particular focus being paid to groups at greater risk of poverty.

As part of this consultation process participants have been asked to consider the key areas of focus within the Plan, and to consider potential actions.

This complements consultation with key stakeholders and with relevant Parliamentary Committees.

4. Should children and young people be further involved in the development of this policy? Are there particular groups of children and young people whose views should be sought?

The consultation has been robust and has involved key organisations representing and bringing together groups of young people to discuss the issues.

These have included;

- Young Scot
- The Children's Parliament
- The Prince's Trust

Additional engagement will be arranged as required.

5. Should other stakeholders and experts be further involved in the development of this policy?

Stakeholders representing children and young people, alongside parents at higher risk of poverty will provide key insight into developing the individual actions of the plan, as appropriate.

CRWIA Stage 4 Assessing the Impact and Presenting Options - key questions

1. What likely impact will the policy have on children's rights?

The TCPDP will likely have a positive impact on children's rights and well-being, in a range of ways. It aims to improve parental access to fair work, reduce costs of living for families, provide greater help via social security and improve children and family quality of life.

Ultimately, the TCPDP aims to move children out of poverty and improve their lives.

2 How will the policy/measure contribute to the wellbeing of children and young people?

The TCPDP has a two-fold approach to tackling child poverty. First, it tackles the key drivers of child poverty. Second, it seeks to improve the wellbeing and quality of life of children and families – via targeted actions – so that children growing up in poverty now do not become parents in poverty in 2030.

3. Are some children and young people more likely to be affected than others?

Yes. The TCPDP identifies priority families at higher risk of child poverty and targets actions at them. These are larger families (3+ children), families with young mothers, families with a disabled adult or child, minority ethnic families, families with a child under 1 year old and lone parent families.

Children either living in poverty or at increased risk of living in poverty will benefit from the actions outlined within the Delivery Plan. However, given the approach, it is likely that in some cases all children will stand to benefit.

4. Resource implications of policy modification or mitigation

Costs associated with each action are set out in the TCPDP where possible.

5. How does the policy/measure promote or impede the implementation of the UNCRC and other relevant human rights standards?

The Child Poverty Bill will be implemented in a way which complements children's rights under the UNCRC, specifically the following articles:

- Article 2: Non-discrimination
- Article 3: Best interests of the child
- Article 4: Protection of rights
- Article 6: Life, survival and development
- Article 12: Respect for the views of the child
- Article 24: Health and health services
- Article 26: Benefit from Social Security
- Article 27: Adequate Standard of Living
- Article 31: Engage in Play & Recreational Activities

CRWIA Stage 5

Recommendations, Monitoring and Review - key points

1. Record your overall conclusions from the CRWIA

The TCPDP is intended to reduce poverty and inequality for children across Scotland, and secure their socio-economic rights in particular. It pays particular focus to those with protected characteristics and to those families at higher risk of poverty and disadvantage.

Poverty negatively impacts on the life chances of children and young people and can negatively impact on outcomes in later life.

Poverty levels vary greatly across Scotland, with certain groups at a higher risk of poverty. A concerted effort must be made to assist these groups to move out of poverty. Therefore, the Delivery Plan requires to have both a geographical focus and a focus on priority families.

Efforts to tackle poverty and inequality, where they are targeted or where they are applied more generally, will have positive impacts on children and young people.

Key Issues Through Consultation with Children and Young People

The main recommendations made by children and young people, through consultation facilitated by the Children's Parliament, Young Scot and the Prince's Trust focussed around the themes identified by the Poverty and Inequality Commission. They also specifically noted that they wish for continued engagement, and for ideas to be listened to and taken into consideration.

The themes and key actions are noted below;

Increasing Incomes and Reducing Costs

- The cost of the school day, including trips, uniform costs and travel
- The cost of heating and electricity for low income families
- The cost of travel for families; both to school and for recreation

Work and Earnings

- Apprenticeships should be better paid and more accessible
- Removal of zero hour contracts
- Create flexible working for parents
- Increase the minimum wage for 16 year olds
- More support for people with learning conditions to be offered by employers
- More support to start a business

Social Security

- Put more money towards benefits

Housing

- Build more social housing
- Provide shelters for people without homes

Improving Quality of Life and Helping Families Mitigate The Impacts of Poverty

- Help young people and families with activity expenses
- Better access to mental health support for people in deprived areas
- Provide money management skills in school
- Provide greater support for those who do not have food
- Ensure children have access to a computer and the internet
- Schools to focus on a range of career pathways, provide larger library stocks, and to provide preloaded 'food cards' for children to pay for lunches
- Provide greater support to communities affected by poverty

2. Recommendations

Robust monitoring should be undertaken to ensure that reductions in child poverty levels across Scotland are evenly distributed amongst those groups at greater risk of poverty.

The Delivery Plan should consider both **geographical** requirements and the requirements of **high-risk groups**. Policies should be developed to be **inclusive** and ensure that groups over-represented in poverty are lifted out.

Delivery Plan actions developed should pay cognisance to the issues raised in consultation and seek to address them, or where action cannot be taken immediately, pledges made to consider them further.

3. How will the policy/measure be monitored? Date and agreed process for monitoring and review

On publication the Delivery Plan will be presented to Parliament for scrutiny, accompanied by a statement from the Cabinet Secretary for Communities, Social Security and Equalities.

Scottish Ministers must set out in the delivery plan the changes, if any, they have made in the delivery plan as a result of any recommendations made by the Poverty and Inequality Commission. The Poverty and Inequality Commission have also published their advice provided to Ministers.

Annual Progress Reports will be presented to Parliament for scrutiny and published by Scottish Ministers, these reports must outline progress towards meeting the targets and in implementing the relevant delivery plan. Where the measures taken have not delivered sufficient progress towards meeting the targets, the progress report must describe how Scottish Ministers propose to ensure sufficient progress is delivered in future.

A final report and report on the interim targets will also be published in the reporting year following the target date. These must set out, if the targets have not been met, why each has not been met.

A refreshed Child Poverty Measurement Framework will also be updated and published alongside the Delivery Plan. This provides a richer set of measures and will be reported on annually, outlining clearly where performance has improved or worsened.

4. Date and agreed process for Child Rights and Wellbeing Impact Evaluation

Annual reporting forms a key component of the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act, through this, annual reports on progress towards the 2030 targets must be published by Ministers.

The first annual report will be published in 2019, within 3 months of the end of the annual reporting year.

Interim and Final reports must also be published in financial years beginning 1 April 2024 and 1 April 2030 respectively.

Final CRWIA - Web publication of Child Poverty Delivery Plan CRWIA

Child Poverty Delivery Plan CRWIA Date of publication	
Executive Summary	The Delivery Plan covering the period 2018 - 2022 is the first due under the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017. It sets out actions to contribute to meeting the interim and final targets outlined within the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017.
Background	<p>The Child Poverty (Scotland) Bill was introduced on 9 February 2017 in response to UK Government changes to the Child Poverty Act 2010: these changes removed the UK 2020 child poverty targets and amended the remit of the Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission. The Bill was passed unanimously in the Scottish Parliament in November 2017 and enacted as the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 in December.</p> <p>The Act sets in statute four income based targets to be met by 2030/31, and interim targets, based on the same measures, to be met by 2023/24. The targets are largely focused on the income of the household, however also considers housing costs, as well as wider costs of living; captured through the material deprivation measure.</p> <p>The 2030 targets are that, of children living in households in Scotland—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) less than 10% live in relative poverty, (b) less than 5% live in absolute poverty, (c) less than 5% live in combined low income and material deprivation, (d) less than 5% live in persistent poverty <p>Income and Poverty Statistics 2015/16 indicate rising poverty in Scotland and a mixed picture in the UK compared to the previous year. More than one in four children in Scotland (26%) were living in relative poverty after housing costs (AHC), an increase of 4 percentage points, compared with 30% at a UK level. In-work poverty (AHC) has continued to rise and 70% of children in poverty now live in working households – up 4 percentage points on the previous year.</p> <p>The Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS, November 2017) has projected that an additional 1.3 million children will be in relative poverty in the UK in 2021-22 compared to 2015-16: rising from 30% to 37%, or from 4 million to 5.2 million children in poverty. Scotland level child poverty projections by IFS suggest that, on an AHC basis, relative child poverty will rise to 29% by 2021 (compared to 23.2% in 2015) and absolute poverty will rise to 25%, compared to 22.4% in 2015.</p>

<p>Scope of the CRWIA</p>	<p>The CRWIA has looked at available evidence, published both through the Scottish Government and through key stakeholders and trusted partners. The key findings of this evidence has underpinned the need for action, and outlined the disparity geographically and between different groups in Scotland.</p> <p>The Consultation which has been undertaken to support the CRWIA has been robust and has included the views of children and young people. This has highlighted key issues for consideration in improving the lives and experiences of children and young people, and for wider society.</p>
<p>Children and young people's views and experiences</p>	<p>The main recommendations made by children and young people, through consultation facilitated by the Children's Parliament, Young Scot and Princes Trust, focussed around the themes identified by the Poverty and Inequality Commission. They also specifically noted that they would like continued engagement, and for their ideas to be listened to and taken into consideration.</p> <p>The themes and key actions are noted below:</p> <p><u>Increasing Incomes and Reducing Costs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The cost of the school day, including trips, uniform costs and travel • The cost of heating and electricity for low income families • The cost of travel for families; both to school and for recreation <p><u>Work and Earnings</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apprenticeships should be better paid and more accessible • Removal of zero hour contracts • Create flexible working for parents • Increase the minimum wage for 16 year olds • More support for people with learning conditions to be offered by employers • More support to start a business <p><u>Social Security</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Put more money towards benefits <p><u>Housing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build more social housing • Provide shelters for people without homes <p><u>Improving Quality of Life and Helping Families Mitigate The Impacts of Poverty</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help young people and families with activity expenses

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better access to mental health support for people in deprived areas • Provide money management skills in school • Provide greater support for those who do not have food • Ensure children have access to a computer and the internet • Schools to focus on a range of career pathways, provide larger library stocks, and to provide preloaded 'food cards' for children to pay for lunches • Provide greater support to communities affected by poverty
Key Findings	<p>The actions in the TCPDP aim to reduce child poverty towards the levels of the interim and final targets. A headline objective set out in the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act is to reduce relative child poverty to 10% or lower by 2030. This would mean significant numbers of children lifted out of low incomes, securing their socio-economic and other rights.</p> <p>For children still experiencing low income in 2030, the experience of poverty should be shorter and less damaging to life chances, because employment is fairer and more sustainable, costs of living are more manageable, and poverty is shallower because children are better supported by the social security system. In addition, the TCPDP aims to support children's quality of life, thereby enhancing well-being.</p> <p>The TCPDP specifically responds to the concerns of children and young people mentioned above, where devolved powers allow.</p>
Conclusions and Recommendations	<p>The TCPDP will serve to focus efforts to reduce poverty and inequality for children across Scotland. It will pay particular attention to those with protected characteristics and to those families at higher risk of poverty and disadvantage.</p> <p>Poverty negatively impacts on the life chances of children and young people, and can negatively impact on outcomes in later life; thus perpetuating a cycle of poverty and disadvantage within communities.</p> <p>Poverty levels vary greatly across Scotland, however certain groups are at a higher risk of poverty, and therefore a concerted effort must be made to assist these groups to move out of poverty.</p> <p>Efforts to tackle poverty and inequality, where they are targeted or where they are applied more generally, will have positive impacts on children and young people.</p>

	<p><u>Recommendations</u></p> <p>The actions in the TCPDP have been developed so as to be comprehensive and impactful. Robust monitoring and evaluation will be needed to ensure that implementation is effective in advancing equality. There will also be a need to retain the focus on quality of life and well-being, going forward. Implementation will also need to consider both geographical requirements and the requirements of our priority families.</p> <p>Delivery Plan actions must pay cognisance to any issues raised in consultation and seek to address them, or where action cannot be taken immediately, to consider further what alternative measures might be appropriate.</p>	
Monitoring and review	<p>Annual reporting forms a key component of the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act, through this, annual reports on progress towards the 2030 targets must be published by Ministers.</p> <p>The first annual report will be published in 2019, within 3 months of the end of the annual reporting year.</p> <p>Interim and Final reports must also be published in financial years beginning 1 April 2024 and 1 April 2030 respectively.</p>	
CRWIA Declaration		
CRWIA required	CRWIA not required	
Yes		
Authorisation		
Policy lead	Date	
Andrew Fraser	22 March 2018	
Deputy Director or equivalent	Date	
Lesley Fraser, Director, Social Justice & Regeneration	22 March 2018	



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