

Child Poverty and Public Service Reform

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Glasgow has been at the forefront of tackling child poverty through the Child Poverty Pathfinder, Child Poverty Programme and the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP) 2024-34.



Significant learning has been generated on:

- What works in reducing child poverty.
 - Where system barriers exist.
 - The capacity required to deliver prevention at scale.
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Approach aligns with:

- Glasgow Community Planning Partnership (GCPP) LOIP.
 - Scottish Government Public Service Reform Strategy.
 - Focus on prevention, early intervention and whole-family support.
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Improvement Service review highlighted Glasgow's strengths:

- Strong political and senior leadership.
- Close partnership with Scottish Government.
- Investment in system change capacity.
- Effective use of data and intelligence.
- Strong partnership working across sectors.

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DWP Permissions and Proactive Outreach (Learn as we Help)

- ▶ Glasgow has used DWP data for several years to understand child poverty through the Understanding Child Poverty Report and Child Poverty Dashboard.
- ▶ Previous arrangements although hugely insightful only allowed analysis of poverty levels but frustratingly did not permit direct contact with affected households.
- ▶ Following joint work between the Child Poverty Programme, Financial Services and DWP, Glasgow now has permission to use household-level DWP data for proactive engagement with families in poverty.
- ▶ Current data identifies:
 - ▶ 13,117 families experiencing relative poverty.
 - ▶ 24,727 children living in those households.
 - ▶ 2,891 families with 6,265 children aged 0-5 in the ten booster wards.
 - ▶ Families average £135 per week below the poverty threshold.

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- ▶ Phase 1 prioritises proactive outreach to families with children aged 0-5 in booster wards and the partnership is committed to doing whatever it takes for these families (Gold Standard service)
- ▶ Objective:
 - ▶ Provide holistic whole-family support.
 - ▶ Intervene earlier.
 - ▶ Better understand barriers facing families.
 - ▶ Generate learning to inform future service design and reform.
- ▶ Core principle "**Learn as we help**" by combining support delivery with continuous evidence gathering with a view to informing and evidencing PSR

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Financial Inclusion Innovation

- ▶ Glasgow's Financial Inclusion (FI) model has historically focused on crisis support, debt advice and income maximisation.
- ▶ A 24-month co-design programme involving the advice sector and council officers developed a new preventative model.
- ▶ The redesigned model reflects Public Service Reform principles:
 - ▶ Prevention and early intervention.
 - ▶ Person-centred support.
 - ▶ Greater flexibility.
 - ▶ Enhanced integration across services.
- ▶ Initial focus is families with children aged 0-5 in booster wards.

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- ▶ Key features:
 - ▶ Citywide financial inclusion service maintained.
 - ▶ Dedicated early intervention and prevention resource.
 - ▶ Stronger No Wrong Door delivery model.
 - ▶ Improved outcomes framework and performance measures.
 - ▶ Targeted investment in specialist organisations.
- ▶ Glasgow Advice Partnership established as Strategic Lead Partner to coordinate delivery across the sector.
- ▶ £8.9m secured over three years through Glasgow Communities Fund and Whole Family Early Intervention Fund.
- ▶ Investment supports:
 - ▶ Ongoing crisis provision.
 - ▶ Early intervention support for families with young children.
 - ▶ A dedicated strategic body to modernise and coordinate the sector.
- ▶ Model is now live with Demonstrations of Change underway in Drumchapel and Govan, where Financial Inclusion services form part of a No Wrong Door collaborative supporting families.

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Questions?

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