1. The Child Poverty Scotland Bill

The method of tackling the underlying causes as opposed to focusing only on the individual causes of poverty is a valuable task for society. If the targets are met this would be a considerable change for children in Scotland.

Recording levels of persistent poverty will provide a clear picture of the long term effects of this type of poverty compared to the effects of intermittent poverty. Long term poverty ultimately causes a greater impact in the life of a child, and can therefore severely hinder their chances in life.

An issue would be the targets set for the percentage of levels of poverty, and why this target would not be 0%. Of course this would be an incredibly ambitious goal, though surely the task of eradicating poverty should be an ongoing process.

Another point worth underlying is the BHC report as this would give more in depth information about how household cost can affect family budget for an extended period of time.

Our academic group has also highlighted the necessity to perhaps not report on a single year change of income and rather measure families’ income on an extended period of time these would help to measure inconsistency of income and families falling in and out of poverty.

Steve Johnson

21 March 2017