



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Social Justice and Social Security Committee

The Rt Hon Ian Murray MP
Secretary of State for Scotland
UK Government

The Rt Hon Liz Kendall MP
Secretary of State for Work and Pensions
UK Government

8 April 2025

Dear Secretaries of State,

Tackling child poverty

Thank you for offering to provide a joint submission to the Committee on the measures the UK Government is taking to eradicate child poverty in Scotland.

I understand you are seeking for a few additional weeks to respond to the Committee. I am happy to extend the deadline for response to 2 May.

Regarding the focus of your submission, it would be helpful if you could answer the following questions:

- The Committee notes that there is a mix of reserved and devolved policy areas that impact on child poverty and therefore asks how the UK Government is working with the Scottish Government to tackle child poverty in Scotland and ensure that reserved and devolved policies are working in the same direction of reducing poverty.
- Could you please provide confirmation of the publication date for the UK child poverty strategy?
- The UK Government's [impact assessment](#) indicates that its welfare reforms will increase child poverty, estimating an additional 50,000 children will be in poverty following the reforms. Could you please confirm what the UK Government is doing to mitigate that?
- The Scottish Government recently published [modelling](#) illustrating the impact on child poverty in Scotland of a range of policy measures that could be taken by the UK Government – such as abolishing the 2-child limit and benefit cap

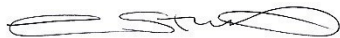
Contact: Social Justice and Social Security Committee, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP. Email SJSS.committee@parliament.scot. We welcome calls through Relay UK and in BSL through Contact Scotland BSL.

among others. The Committee would be interested in the UK Government's view of whether such measures would be an effective way to address child poverty and what the impact on UK child poverty rates would be were they to be adopted across the UK.

- Would the UK Government have any comments to make on the [briefing](#) produced by Changing Realities, *Cuts can't fix child poverty: it's time for a new approach*?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



Collette Stevenson MSP
Convener
Social Justice and Social Security Committee