

# NLC Equality Outcome 3 – Tackling Poverty

## Proposed Outcome

Increase in uptake of benefits and other welfare support for identified priority groups through accessing the services of the Tackling Poverty Team. (In particular young adults, lone parents, women, disabled people and Muslim people)

## Equality Evidence/Reasoning

The cost-of-living crisis has impacted across the board, however, young single adults have been significantly affected, as have families/lone parents in regard to income, cost of living and access to childcare/employment.

The *Is Scotland Fairer* Report stated that:

- Poverty rates are highest for single women with dependent children (36.2%) and single men without dependent children (35.6%), some 16 percentage points higher than for the total adult population. Poverty rates are also higher for single female pensioners (23.1%) compared to single male pensioners (17.9%), though both have rates higher than pensioner couples (11.1%).
- Levels of poverty and child poverty among ethnic minorities in Scotland remain worse than for White British people. In 2019/20, 36.9% of ethnic minority adults were in poverty compared with 17.5% of White British adults.
- Ethnic minority adults remain more likely to be in poverty and have seen no improvement since the last report in 2018
- The poverty rate for Muslim adults has remained persistently higher than the rate for non-religious adults. In 2017–2022, the poverty rate for Muslim adults was 63.1%.
- Households containing a disabled person are more likely to be financially vulnerable (meaning household savings would cover less than a month of income at the poverty line), particularly in recent years.
- In August 2022, 7 in 10 families in Scotland where someone is disabled had cut back on essential expenditure.

**We would like to invite you / your organisation to comment on this proposed outcome by completing the questionnaire linked below, or you can access this via the QR Code.**

**The questionnaire will be 'live' until 20 December. We will then gather all views submitted and finalise our outcomes and related actions and measures before publishing in April 2025.**

**If you would like more information or would like to comment in a different way, then please email [equality@northlan.gov.uk](mailto:equality@northlan.gov.uk)**

**Link to Questionnaire:** <https://forms.office.com/e/hLJg4XaLqT>

NLC Equality Strategy - Equality  
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