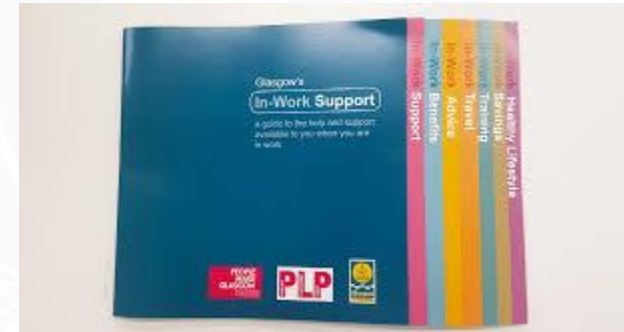
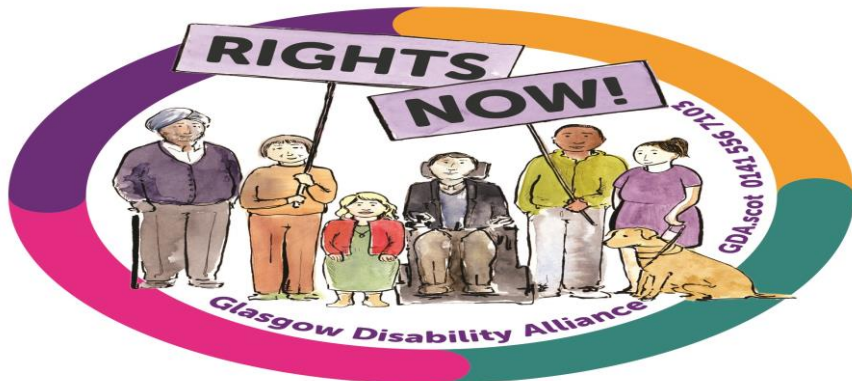


Councillor Richard Bell
City Treasurer
Glasgow City Council

Poverty Leadership Panel



Glasgow's work on a Universal Basic Income and a Living Wage.

Universal Basic Income

- Council has a longstanding interest in exploring the potential of UBI to impact positively on the citizens of Glasgow.
- We want to test its ability to address inequality and mitigate against poverty and deprivation.
- The Covid-19 pandemic has fueled our desire to explore UBI as part of a more effective response to the challenges.

- Glasgow wants to be at the front of the queue for piloting UBI and have led the approach to this in Scotland with three other councils.
- As part of a national steering group we looked in detail at the issues that would need to be addressed to facilitate a pilot.
- This work recommends that a pilot should take place in Scotland that meets the desired principles of UBI.

UBI Fundamental Principles

UBI Principle	Our Preferred Model Design
Basic	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sufficient to meet basic needs, however propose testing two payment levels
Regular	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CBI paid by bank transfer or equivalent• Regular payment (weekly, fortnightly or monthly options)• Given prospectively
Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individual payments for adults• Child payments to main parent/guardian, usually mother• For adults without capacity, payment made to guardian
Universal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Total population (within saturation site) with no means-testing or restrictions by income, age or individual characteristics
Unconditional	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No conditions or sanctions, CBI as a right

Pilot Design Recommendations

- Meets CBI principles: **universal**; **unconditional** (no requirement to search for work); **individual** (not to households); **periodic** (paid regularly); and **cash** payment
- Study should be **3 years** with additional **1 year preparatory** period
- Recommend testing **two levels of CBI payments** – a low level and high level
- For both, suspension of some existing income-related benefits is proposed, others related to **disability, housing, childcare and limited capability for work** would continue alongside CBI.

Age Range	Low CBI (per week)	High CBI (per week)
0 – 15 years	£84.54	£120.48
16 – 19 years	£84.54	£213.59
20 – 24 years	£57.90	£213.59
25 years – pension age	£73.10	£213.59
Pension age	£168.60	£195.90

Glasgow's Living Wage

- The Living Wage (TLW) is being pursued in Glasgow as one of the most effective ways to address in-work poverty and the Council pays it as our basic grade salary.
- When we first introduced TLW in 2009 the salary of our lowest paid employees increased by up to £1100 per year.
- We work closely with all employers in the City and actively encourage them to pay TLW.

- Last year around 400 employers with around 90,000 employees paid the Glasgow Living Wage (£9.30).
- This means that the employee is able to afford a good standard of housing, food, utilities, transport, health care and recreation.
- The Glasgow Living Wage is the most successful scheme of its kind in the country.

Questions

