**Reporting Template**

Building on our learning and evidence to date and following engagement with our External Reference Group, we have identified a number of key strategic themes which we would like to test, which are noted below:

* **Increasing earned incomes by supporting and providing opportunities for parents and carers, to enter, sustain and progress in work**. This includes through the likes of employability support and the provision of essential infrastructure such as childcare and transport.
* **Reducing the costs of living and maximising incomes from social security to allow families to live dignified lives and meet their basic needs.** This includes through the likes of social security, affordable homes, and advice services.
* **Delivering holistic and whole family support to improve outcomes and wellbeing and enable families to better engage with other services that directly increase their incomes.** This includes through action focused on preventing families falling into poverty and wider community-based support.
* **Supporting children and young people to reach their full potential and to break the cycle of poverty in the longer term.** This includes through the likes of early years support, education, and post-school transitions.

Across all of these themes we have also identified the need to retain a sharp focus on addressing the needs of the families at greatest risk of poverty, (including the six priority family groups identified: lone parent families; families with a disabled adult or child; larger families with three or more children; minority ethnic families; families with children under the age of one; and families with mothers under the age of 25) and to give consideration to other inequalities including the deeply gendered nature of child poverty and the challenges associated with living in rural areas.

**Annex A provides some links that may useful in supporting your response**.

We would welcome your views on these themes and the cross-cutting focus on addressing the needs of families at greatest risk of poverty - in particular:

1. Do you think these are the right themes to focus on?

1. Are there other key strategic themes we should consider?

As you think about each theme, noting the plan must set out measures for the purpose of meeting the 2030 child poverty targets, we would also be keen to hear your views on any or all of the following questions:

1. What is working well and what actions should Scottish Government and partners either continue to do or to do more of?
2. Are there policies, actions or approaches that the Scottish Government and/or partners should either stop or do differently?
3. Are there new policies, actions or approaches that Scottish Government should consider implementing?
4. How can Scottish Government and partners work differently to ensure seamless, integrated supported for families? What prevents this?
5. What more can we do to understand the challenges being faced by the family at greatest risk of poverty, including the six priority families identified to ensure their specific and interconnected needs are met?

1. What targeted action could be taken to tackle inequalities faced by marginalised groups, to help raise their incomes and improve their outcomes? This could include specialist support for one or more groups.
2. Please use this text box to enter anything else you feel is relevant that we may have missed, this may include any research, evaluation or findings from consultations that you have undertaken which are relevant to this call for evidence. You can attach any published reports, research on lived experience of poverty, or internal pieces of work you may hold along with your submission

**Annex A**

**BACKGROUND MATERIAL**

**LEGISLATION**

* [Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2017/6/contents) set out statutory requirements for delivery plans, engagement and consultation, and meeting four income-based targets

**DELIVERY PLANS, ANNUAL REPORTS AND LOCAL REPORTING**

* [*Best Start, Bright Futures,*](https://www.gov.scot/publications/best-start-bright-futures-tackling-child-poverty-delivery-plan-2022-26/) the second tackling child poverty delivery plan covers the period 2022-26.
* Scottish Ministers report annually on progress against targets and in implementing delivery plans. The most recent report was published in June 2023: [Tackling child poverty delivery plan: progress report 2022 to 2023 - gov.scot](https://www.gov.scot/publications/tackling-child-poverty-delivery-plan-annual-progress-report-2022-2023/).
* Local authorities and Health Boards are required to jointly produce annual Local Child Poverty Action Reports. These set out action taken and planned to contribute to meeting the targets. You can access them here: [Local Child Poverty Action Reports | Improvement Service](https://www.improvementservice.org.uk/products-and-services/inequality-economy-and-climate-change/local-child-poverty-action-reports#:~:text=The%20Child%20Poverty%20%28Scotland%29%20Act%202017%20places%20a,action%20to%20tackle%20child%20poverty%20at%20local%20level.)

**DATA & EVIDENCE**

* Poverty & income equality data - [Poverty and Income Inequality in Scotland 2020-23](https://data.gov.scot/poverty/)
* An evidence overview on the six family priority types: [In-work poverty amongst priority family types - Tackling child poverty priority families overview - gov.scot](https://www.gov.scot/publications/tackling-child-poverty-priority-families-overview/pages/in-work-poverty-amongst-priority-family-types/)
* [Tackling child poverty - progress report 2023-2024: annex B - focus report on other marginalised groups at risk of poverty - gov.scot](https://www.gov.scot/publications/tackling-child-poverty-progress-report-2023-2024-annex-b-focus-report-marginalised-groups-risk-poverty/)
* [Tackling child poverty delivery plan 2022-2026 - annex 6: what works - evidence review - gov.scot](https://www.gov.scot/publications/annex-6-evidence-review-works/)

The [Tackling child poverty - place-based, system change initiatives: learnings - gov.scot](https://www.gov.scot/publications/learnings-place-based-system-change-initiatives-tackle-child-poverty/) report provides early evidence and learning from a range of initiatives that aim to tackle child poverty through working in partnership to provide holistic, person-centred support for parents and families.