



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Social Justice and Social Security Committee

Kirsty Doull (CELCIS)
Alison Gillies (Child Poverty
Action Group in Scotland)
Micheleine Kane (Scottish
Kinship Care Alliance)
Gill Westwood (Peebles and
District Citizens Advice
Bureau)

EH99 1SP

Social Justice and Social Security
Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh

Via email only

Email: SJSS.committee@parliament.scot

4 October 2023

Dear Gill,

Kinship Care

Thank you again for contributing to the Committee's work on Kinship Care. The Committee has been following up on its report on Kinship Care published on [22 September 2022](#).

Recent correspondence between the Committee and the Scottish Government and COSLA can be found [here](#).

The Scottish Government announced on [29 August](#) that there would be a new national allowance for foster and kinship carers. The weekly allowances, which will be backdated to 1 April 2023, are:

- 0 to 4 year-olds: £168.31
- 5 to 10 year-olds: £195.81
- 11 to 15 year-olds: £195.81
- 16-years-old and over: £268.41.

From last year's evidence sessions, which informed the Committee's report, CELCIS' submission highlighted a [2021 survey from the Fostering Network](#), which found significant differences in allowance rates between local authorities. The ranges were between:

- £77.96 to £200 per week for children aged 0-4
- £96.40 to £200 per week for children aged 5-10
- £120.00 to £240.40 per week for children aged 11 to 15
- £125.86 to £266.75 per week for children aged 16+.

The Committee is interested in your views on the National Allowance rate and any observations around its implementation thus far.

A response would be appreciated by 30 October to inform a forthcoming evidence session with the Scottish Government being held on 9 November.

You can watch the evidence session on [Scottish Parliament TV](#). The Official Report of the meeting when available can be found [here](#).

This letter is also copied to Natalie Don MSP, Minister for Children, Young People and Keeping the Promise.

Yours sincerely,



Collette Stevenson MSP
Convener
Social Justice and Social Security Committee