

# Joint Meeting of CPGs on Poverty and Disability

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025

1pm – 2:30pm

## 1. Event details

**Venue:** Clerk Maxwell Room (T1.60-Committee Room 4), Scottish Parliament

**Online joining:** [Join the meeting here](#)

**Meeting ID:** 379 171 689 623

**Passcode:** G5s5SD66

## 2. Event Background

In Scotland, and more widely throughout the UK, poverty and disability are closely linked. 30% of families with a disabled person were in poverty in the three years to 2022/23, compared to 22% of families without a disabled person. Austerity policies pursued by successive UK Governments have increased this gap by five to eight percentage points in the last 10 years. Once the costs of disability are taken into account the poverty rate for households containing a disabled person reaches nearly 50%. There would seem to be no way to meaningfully reduce poverty, or meet Scotland's child poverty targets, without reducing poverty amongst disabled people and their families.

Austerity policies have not only reduced disabled people's income, they have also created casualties. Research shows that hundreds of deaths can be directly traced to the disability benefits assessment regime overseen by the DWP.

## 3. Agenda

<b>Welcome and introduction</b> Paul O'Kane MSP, Convener of the CPG on Poverty	13:00-13:10 (5 minutes)
<b>The attack on disabled people's human rights</b> John McArdle, Black Triangle Campaign	13:10-13:20 (10 minutes)
<b>The current picture for disabled people in Scotland</b> Tressa Burke, CEO, Glasgow Disability Alliance	13:20 – 13:40 (10 minutes)

<p><b>DWP policies and disabled people</b> Ellen Clifford, Campaigner</p>	<p>13:20 – 13:40 (10 minutes)</p>
<p><b>Q&amp;A and discussion</b> Chaired by Paul O’Kane MSP, Convener of the CPG on Poverty</p>	<p>13:40 – 14:15 (35 minutes)</p>
<p><b>What does this mean for poverty in Scotland?</b> Peter Kelly, Chief Executive, The Poverty Alliance</p>	<p>14:15 – 14:20 (5 minutes)</p>
<p><b>Closing remarks</b> Jeremy Balfour MSP, Convener of the CPG on Disability</p>	<p>14:20 – 14:30 (10 minutes)</p>