
Summary - Eradicating Child Poverty: The vital role of Scottish university research and innovation

Research and innovation from Scottish universities is integral to developing the solutions, new knowledge and improved understanding of how poverty impacts Scotland that are essential in delivering the Scottish Government's goal to eradicate child poverty.

How research and innovation is contributing to the eradication of poverty through delivery of policy and legislation



By informing the **development of the *Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017*** and **[supporting local authorities and health boards](#)** to meet their obligations.

Scottish Poverty and Inequality Research Unit, Glasgow Caledonian University

How research and innovation is contributing to the eradication of poverty across housing, health, adequate income, food, and community



By **[reducing fuel poverty](#)** through development of a heat battery which is energy efficient, sustainable, low-cost alternative to the traditional gas boiler.

University of Edinburgh, in collaboration with Sunamp

The **[Homelessness Monitor](#)** has provided evidence for a paradigm shift **in Scottish legislation on homelessness** meaning that people at risk of homelessness will be assisted before they reach crisis point.

Heriot Watt University



The research-informed **[Childsmile](#)** project has led to a **43% reduction in tooth decay** among 5-year-olds in Scotland.

University of Glasgow



The **[Food for Thought](#)** project contributing to policy around food in residential and foster care settings across Scotland and informed **policy adopted world-wide**.

University of Stirling



By providing evidence for the **[Living Wage](#)** business case which has **put £1bn back into the pocket of low paid workers in the UK**.

University of Strathclyde

By influencing policy to cancel **[school lunch debts](#)** in Scotland, benefitting over 30,000 children, and informing improvements to the **design and implementation of Universal Credit**

University of Glasgow



The **[Challenging Bullying and Poverty-Related Stigma](#)** project informed '**Choose Respect**' **national anti-bullying campaign**

University of the West of Scotland

The **[Digital Lifelines Scotland](#)** programme supports people retain better connections with their families and communities, reducing **drug related harm and its impact**.

Digital Health and Care Innovation Centre

FULL TEXT AT: www.sfc.ac.uk/research-innovation/research-impact/spotlight-eradicating-child-poverty

How research and innovation is contributing to the eradication of poverty across a child's lifetime



The [Opioids in Pregnancy](#) supports families to make **informed decisions around opioids** in pregnancy by exploring how exposure impacts on the health, education, and social outcomes of children and young people.

University of Dundee



By [uncovering evidence](#) that the cost of infant formula has grown exponentially in the last 18 months and informing policymakers and practitioners how best to **support food insecure parents and babies**.

Robert Gordon University



The [Early Language in Play Settings \(eLIPS\)](#) project provides a reliable method for screening for language difficulty creating the opportunity for earlier intervention to **reduce language inequalities**.

University of Dundee



The [Supporting numeracy in the classroom](#) project identified factors that affect children's numeracy learning, and developed strategies to improve attainment and **impact lifetime economic empowerment**.

Abertay University

Abertay University By informing the development of the **Scottish Government's national guidance for** local authority and school policies in a manner that supports [affordable, comfortable and sustainable school uniforms](#).

University of Aberdeen

By informing the Scottish Government's 2016 Act requiring Local Authorities to report on the [poverty-related attainment gap](#) and a National Improvement Framework.

University of Strathclyde



By running a longitudinal [study of youth transitions and crime](#) which has contributed to **34% fall in youth convictions** by underpinning a series of policy changes and incremental adjustments in the Scottish approach to youth justice.

University of Edinburgh

[Youth Skills and Entrepreneurship Development](#), Abriachan Forest Trust (AFT) supports participants to receive employability and entrepreneurial skills and demonstrates how youth entrepreneurs and land-based entrepreneurship can **empower local and marginalised youth**.

University of the Highlands & Islands and AFT