

Achieving Our Potential?

Combating Poverty in a Recession

A series of discussion
seminars across
Scotland organised by
the Poverty Alliance

January – March 2009



the
**POVERTY
ALLIANCE**

WORKING TOGETHER TO COMBAT POVERTY

Combating poverty in a recession

As Scotland enters recession, there is a real danger that the limited progress made in the fight against poverty is lost. Unemployment is increasing, fuel and food prices have risen dramatically and the decline in child poverty has stalled. Against this background the Scottish Government and COSLA have recently launched a new framework - *Achieving our Potential* - for tackling poverty and inequality. But with economic problems mounting, what are the prospects for an anti-poverty strategy based on the assumption of growth?

A new approach to tackling poverty

Achieving our Potential sets out a new approach to tackling poverty. There is an emphasis on tackling low incomes and a greater focus on income inequality. In line with the concordat between Scottish Government and Scottish Local Authorities there is also more emphasis on the role of local actions to tackle poverty. This series of **free** seminars organised by the Poverty Alliance will look at what the prospects are for tackling poverty in the current economic climate. The discussion will focus on:

- **The latest trends:** what is happening with poverty and social exclusion across Scotland, and what may change
- **The new Framework:** what does it mean for the fight against poverty in Scotland, and can it be delivered in the midst of a recession
- **Local and national action:** how can we take action locally and nationally to ensure that progress in the fight against poverty is maintained

Who Should Attend?

Community and voluntary organisations, community workers, policy officers in local authorities, trade union activists, academics – anyone who wants to contribute to the fight against poverty in Scotland. For more information about the Poverty Alliance visit: www.povertyalliance.org

Seminar Schedule: Where and When

Date	Location	Venue	Time
29 January	Glasgow	Renfield St. Stephen's Church Centre	10 am – 12 noon
5 February	Edinburgh	SYHA Central Hostel(Leith Walk)	10 am – 12 noon
12 February	Wishaw	North Lanarkshire Volunteer Centre	10 am – 12 noon
19 February	Hamilton	CVS Centre	10 am – 12 noon
3 March	Inverness	Spectrum Centre	2 pm – 4 pm
4 March	Elgin	Cooper Park Library	2 pm – 4 pm
5 March	Aberdeen	Aberdeen Foyer	2 pm – 4 pm
12 March	Glasgow	Centre for Inclusive Living Brooke Street, Bridgeton	10 am – 12noon

Additional information:

- A pack of materials, including a copy of the new strategy document, an analysis of on the latest poverty trends in Scotland and a briefing paper on the new Framework, will be provided to all participants
- Maps for venues and other details will be sent to participants one week before the seminar
- Tea and coffee will be provided on arrival, lunch will not be provided

Registration Form

I wish to attend the Poverty Alliance Seminar

on..... (date) at(location)

Name _____

Organisation _____

Address _____

Tel _____

Email _____

Any requirements such as disabled access, a signer, loop system, etc. Yes () No ()

If yes
please specify _____

Please return this form to:

Poe McHugh
The Poverty Alliance
162 Buchanan Street
Glasgow, G1 2LL

Fax it to: 0141 353 0686
Email it to: poe.mchugh@povertyalliance.org