

# 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](http://www.povertyalliance.org)

## Seminar Schedule: Where and When

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