

THE EQUALITY TRUST

The latest monthly round-up of research and news around pay & income inequality.

Most of the information in this email was previously reported via our twitterfeed (@equalitytrust).

Are we winning..? It's a question we dared to entertain this month as the post-referendum political [consensus](#) seemed to shift towards the need for an economy and society that benefits us all.

New Prime Minister [Theresa May](#) set out her intention to make big business more accountable with workers on boards, binding votes on executive pay and possibly even action on pay ratios. Meanwhile, inequality has taken centre stage in the Opposition leadership race with [Jeremy Corbyn](#) listing it as one of the nation's five ills that must be tackled, and [Owen Smith](#)'s commitment to rewrite Clause IV to put equality at the heart of the party's constitution. To maintain this momentum across the spectrum, we also worked with the [Social Liberal Forum](#) on its 'Inequality Street' themed annual conference.

Of course, words don't always translate into policy, which is why we'll be keeping up the pressure on politicians to seal the deal with action and legislation that moves us closer to the more equal society we know we can be.

Taking the message across the country, our Acting Director John Hood appeared on [BBC Tees](#) responding to research which suggested parents in the North East do not spend enough time helping children with homework or getting them work experience. He argued that all parents are aspirational for their kids, and we cannot blame those struggling to afford school uniforms for not having the same time or connections as well-off families.

We also blogged on:

- [May, Pay and Fair Play](#)
- [A Moveable Beast: Why We Can't Be Complacent About High Inequality](#)
- [A Tipping Point? Inequality Seizes Centre Stage](#)
- [A Green Economy Must Be A Fair Economy First](#)

Stay tuned throughout August as we gear up for Rio with Olympics-themed inequality stats, and release eye-opening analysis of the 'housing haves' and the 'renting rest'. We also look forward to introducing our new Director!

LATEST LOCAL GROUP NEWS

A busy month with action on Brexit, Living Wage and Health Inequalities. [Full details here...](#)

KEY DEVELOPMENTS AND REPORTS

Analysis by the [Institute for Fiscal Studies](#) showed middle-income families are increasingly like lower-income families, with lower homeownership and greater reliance on social security.

Joseph Rowntree Foundation's annual [Minimum Income Standard](#) revealed that childcare costs are one of the biggest barriers to an acceptable standard of living for families.

The [UN](#) warned that the richest countries are failing to end poverty and inequality.

The [International Longevity Centre](#) called the UK's welfare state 'mediocre' and warned it is in need of reform.

The UK and Greece suffered the OECD's worst real wage falls since the crash, said the [TUC](#).

Millennials are set to become the first generation to earn less than their predecessors, showed the [Resolution Foundation](#).

INEQUALITY IN THE NEWS

A survey by the [Resolution Foundation](#) showed that the new higher minimum wage has not led to job losses.

A [Guardian](#) investigation revealed how courier giant Hermes pays some staff less than £6 per hour.

Philip Green "took out of BHS and Arcadia a fortune beyond the dreams of avarice," said a damning MPs' report on the [BHS](#) collapse.

Another MPs' report compared [Sports Direct](#) working conditions to a 'Victorian workhouse'.

BEST INEQUALITY READS

Chris Dillow blogged about how the costs of inequality are not just economic or social, but also political, pointing to evidence that inequality leads to [declining trust in politicians](#).

Economist [Mariana Mazzucato](#) called on Theresa May to reverse austerity and introduce a new industrial strategy if she is serious about tackling inequality.

We rely on donations to keep our campaign going. Please support our work by [signing up as a regular supporter or by making a one off contribution](#). You can also support our work by forwarding this bulletin to people you know who might be interested. Thank you!