

# 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).

So – we’re leaving. The majority vote for ‘Brexit’ in the EU referendum is one of the most significant political events in many of our lifetimes, triggering such an avalanche of events that news of the Prime Minister tendering his resignation barely made the front pages.

It is impossible to predict at this early stage what the ramifications will be for UK inequality, but it is clear that the [divisions in our society](#) played a significant role in producing the result. Whether you supported Leave or Remain, we all need to redouble our efforts to ensure that whoever leads the main parties, and whoever forms the next government has inequality right at the top of their agenda. To this end the Equality Trust will continue to work tirelessly for a more just and equal country.

In spite of recent events, throughout this month we’ve continued to challenge inequality and push for measures for its reduction. Earlier in the month, we had an article in the [New Statesman](#) challenging the concept of ‘Tax Freedom Day’, a cynical wheeze that demonises the taxes that pay for public goods we all need. And our annual [Wealth Tracker](#) continues to be influential, cited in a new [Fabians report](#) calling for a one-off wealth tax on the super-rich.

We also blogged on:

- [“Tax Freedom Day”, But for Who?](#)
- [Business Must Be Fair To Be Trusted And To Succeed](#)
- [The Equality Euros: football and UK inequality](#)
- [Local Groups Day 2016: An Inspiring Day](#)
- [Inequality and Brexit](#)
- [Brexit and Inequality: It's not about globalisation](#)
- [We're Failing Families: worrying new inequality and poverty figures](#)

## **LATEST LOCAL GROUP NEWS**

The highlight in June was the annual gathering of local group representatives in London on Saturday 18th June. [And here's what happened...](#)

## **KEY DEVELOPMENTS AND REPORTS**

New [Government data](#) shows inequality remains stuck at a high level and 200,000 more children are in poverty.

Increased inequality could explain productivity problems, the [OECD](#) advised.

The [Scottish Commission on Human Rights](#) reported poverty and inequality in Scotland to the UN as human rights issues.

The number of British [millionaire](#) households increased by 12% in the last year.

[The Fabians](#)' report called for the UK's super-rich to pay a one-off wealth tax.

A new [UCL](#) study found that inequality reduces happiness on average.

Cutting benefits makes people less likely to find work, found a study by [Oxford City Council](#) and the DWP.

## **INEQUALITY IN THE NEWS**

The [UN](#) warned that poorer children are disproportionately affected by austerity measures.

[Sports Direct](#) boss Mike Ashley admitted his company had failed to pay the minimum wage to some staff.

The [City of London](#) 'elite' blamed inequality for Brexit.

Big [investment houses](#) warned their clients that the gulf between rich and poor could spark further anti-establishment backlash.

## **BEST INEQUALITY READS**

Harry Smith, an academic at Edinburgh's Heriot-Watt University, wrote about how our cities suffer when [public spaces become private](#), with an example of a London playground that costs £18 per child.

In the Guardian, John Harris wrote that [Brexit](#) is about class, inequality and feeling excluded from politics.

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