

THE EQUALITY TRUST

NEWS FROM THE EQUALITY TRUST

We launched our new campaign, [Make My Council Fair](#), to help people tackle inequality and poverty where they live. For more details and to support the campaign, visit [our website here](#).

We blogged on:

- [Fairer Flying](#)
- [A Household Budget – how the Budget can better tackle housing](#)
- [Our response to the Budget 2015](#)
- [Budget Likely to Increase Inequality](#)
- [Tackle Inequality and Poverty Where You Live](#)
- [Up, up and away: The rise of the 1%](#)
- [Local Groups Day 2015 and our new locally-focused campaign](#)
- [There's nothing natural about inequality](#)
- [Inheritance facts](#)

PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENTS

[Ipsos Mori](#) polling shows public concern about poverty/inequality has risen to take fifth place among the top issues facing the country.

Analysis by the [TUC](#) found that regional economic inequalities have increased since the recession.

A new report from the [OECD](#) warned that skills investment for the young and unemployed is vital to prevent inequality being the legacy of the financial crisis.

A promotion blockage risks permanently reducing the earnings of a generation, according to [Resolution Foundation](#) analysis.

The [Resolution Foundation](#) called for greater accountability in decisions about £108bn in government tax reliefs.

Well-off families create a 'glass floor' to ensure their children's success, said the [Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission](#).

[NEF](#) analysed the achievements of local Fairness Commissions.

Official figures from the [ONS](#) showed the least wealthy 10% are 17 times as likely to find property debt a "heavy burden" as the wealthiest 10%.

LOW AND HIGH PAY

Polling by [Lansons](#) found only 44% of workers think they are fairly paid, and 28% believe senior leaders are overcompensated.

Polling by [Populus](#) showed 67% of consumers want workers on boards to be mandatory, 68% want top: average pay ratios capped at 10:1, and 75% want bonuses capped at 50% of salary.

The wage bill for the [BBC](#)'s top earners rose by 22%, while average BBC staff pay rose by just 2%.

Dividend payments are excessive and undermine long-term growth, said the [Bank of England](#)'s Chief Economist.

[Bank of Finland](#) research suggested that the EU's bonus cap is effective at reining in risk-taking.

[IPSA](#) confirmed the 10% MP pay rise to £74,000, while public sector pay is frozen at 1%.

[Ikea](#) became the first large national retailer to commit to paying its UK staff the Living Wage.

LIVING COSTS

Studies by the [ONS](#) revealed 1.46 million families in the UK cannot even afford a day out together.

New planning rules will make it harder to build subsidised low-cost housing, according to a [Local Government Association](#) survey.

Higher debts may deter poor students from university, warned the [Sutton Trust](#).

POVERTY AND SOCIAL SECURITY

[IFS](#) analysis showed the majority of poor children live in working families.

Lower benefit caps will exclude poor families from large parts of England, [Shelter](#) research found.

The [OBR](#) said raising the minimum wage is a "completely hopeless" way of reducing poverty, because the richest 50% will get half the cash gains.

[JRF](#) has invited proposals to review evidence on the relationship between poverty and stress, low level anxiety and depression:

A [ResPublica](#) report made the case that UK income levels severely limit access to natural beauty.

An inquiry into poverty and inequality by a [Welsh Assembly committee](#) found 1 in 5 people living in poverty in Wales.

We rely on donations to keep our campaign going. If you found this bulletin interesting and informative, please consider supporting 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 in our work. Thank you!