

The volatility of British politics seemed to be confirmed this month. The General Election resulted in a hung Parliament few had predicted. As commentators struggled to decipher the results, and the seemingly shifting sands of political opinion, the country was rocked by the Grenfell Tower disaster.

Few will be able to forget the desperate, hellish scenes. Fewer still can imagine the suffering of those affected. However, it is clear that Grenfell Tower has caused a nation to search its soul, and for good reason.

In Notting Dale, where the Grenfell Tower tragedy took place, there are almost twice as many people on Job Seekers' Allowance as there are in the borough as a whole. This is emblematic of inequality in London and the wider UK. A booming metropolis for the super-rich, and a place where huge numbers of people who live and work continue to fall through cracks in the safety net.

This isn't good enough, and it is clear that the public mood to tackle the vast economic and social inequality that disfigures our society, has hardened. All parties and politicians are going to have to listen and, more importantly, act.

The Equality Trust has not let up over this period. Wanda commented on [a major report](#) from the Social Mobility Commission that found that regional inequalities are once again widening, with the shocking revelation that the last 20 years of policy has barely improved social mobility. Our Pay Tracker report on excessive executive pay and pay inequality continues to have an impact, [being regularly cited](#) by prominent news outlets.

We continued to campaign for the enforcement of section 1 of the Equality Act, [and blogged with Koldo Casla of Just Fair](#) on the importance of this measure in reducing socioeconomic disadvantage and inequality.

Wanda [co-signed a letter](#) in the Guardian organised by the Runnymede Trust calling for the independent report into deaths in custody to be delayed no longer.

And finally our Local Groups and Activists Day was our best attended yet. We heard from groups about the extraordinary work they are doing across the length and breadth of the country to tackle inequality, and of their plans for the future. We left inspired, and we'd like to thank all those attended.

Catch up on May's blogs:

- ["Stay Woke" - Tackling Inequality US style](#)
- [Looking Forward to Cooperatives Fortnight](#)

LATEST LOCAL GROUP NEWS

There's lots of other great work going on in local equality groups across the country. [Find out more here...](#)

KEY DEVELOPMENTS AND REPORTS

[The UK wealth gap has widened](#) over the past decade, according to new research from the Resolution Foundation.

[Unicef UK](#) reported the UK is not yet meeting its obligations to UK children, with child poverty rates in particular still too high.

A shocking new report from the Social Mobility Commission showed that 20 years of social mobility policy [has failed to “level the playing field.”](#) It called for urgent action to repair a divided Britain. [The biggest ever study](#) of food banks, conducted by Oxford University, warns that their use is likely to increase.

[New research](#) suggests climate change would worsen inequality in the US if emissions are not reduced.

Property owners' £2.3tn windfall 'has created a huge [inequality](#) gap' according to research from the [Resolution Foundation](#).

A new report found that our [housing crisis](#) could threaten a million families with eviction by 2020. One in seven UK private tenants pays more than half income in rent, according to a [new study](#) by the LGA.

Low income families are being forced to walk a 'relentless financial tightrope' [according to a survey by Christians Against Poverty](#).

INEQUALITY IN THE NEWS

Campaigners in Glasgow [warned](#) that the city's new 'City Deal' must be used to help tackle poverty and inequality.

[“Value for money over value for people: how material politics can perpetuate inequality”](#) Mona Sloane wrote in response to the Grenfell Tower tragedy.

Our Executive Director, Dr. Wanda Wyporska [spoke to Cumberland Lodge](#) about inequality, social cohesion and the challenges facing young people.

[“Britain’s surprising election: austerity and inequality make for angry and unpredictable voters”](#) wrote Jonathan Hopkin of the LSE.

BEST INEQUALITY READS

["Has insecurity peaked?"](#) - an interesting blog from 'Flip Chart Rick' on how traditional measures of job 'insecurity' may no longer be sufficient.

[“Inequality: how we got here, and what should be done.”](#)

“People like us” [a fascinating article](#) on how our narrowing social circles create a more unequal world.

"The truth about housing wealth is that most of us didn't earn it." [An excellent article](#) from Ben Chu on the need for fairer, more progressive housing taxation.

And finally, the Guardian has launched [Inequality and Opportunity in America](#), a series of articles to bring forth voices from underserved communities. Make sure you keep your eyes peeled for this.

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!