

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).

NEWS FROM THE EQUALITY TRUST

John Hood's response to the Autumn Statement was featured in the [New Statesman](#) and Duncan Exley was quoted in a [Newsweek](#) article on how inequality hurts society and damages the economy.

We also blogged on:

- [Whether businesses are about to tackle inequality](#)
- [The OECD research finding inequality harms the economy](#)
- [Tax cut plans helping the richest](#)
- [Regional inequality](#)

PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENTS

Major research by the [OECD](#) revealed a 'sizeable and statistically negative impact' of income inequality on growth.

The latest Ipsos MORI/Economist [issues tracker](#) showed concern about poverty and inequality is still at an all-time high.

[YouGov polling](#) found Brits want more redistribution, a higher National minimum Wage and a 50p rate of top income tax, but also social security cuts.

The [Fair Education Alliance](#) released a report card which showed richer pupils are four times more likely to attend the most selective universities.

Research from the [Scottish Public Health Observatory](#) found that the Living Wage is key for tackling health inequalities

[New US research](#) showed inequality is bad for the income growth of the poor, but not for that of the rich.

LOW AND HIGH PAY

Executive pay is a growing concern for the British public, found a [survey](#) by the Institute of Business Ethics.

UK oil and gas company BG Group cut share awards for its new chief executive following an [investor backlash](#).

[The Sun](#) revealed that 91 senior managers at the BBC earn more than Prime Minister's £142,500 salary.

Two thirds of care workers are on zero-hours contracts and more than 200,000 are paid below the minimum wage, found the [Burstow Commission](#).

All Holyrood staff, including contractors, will be paid the [Living Wage](#).

Low wages force Britain to spend £900m more on tax credits than planned, according to an [OBR](#) report.

LIVING COSTS

Research by the [Resolution Foundation](#) found that 2.2million working households with below-median income are spending a third or more of their disposable income on housing.

Based, on OBR forecasts, [The Times](#) suggested the cost of living crisis could continue until 2019.

The cost of childcare in Scotland is a "route to in-work poverty" for many parents, warned [Citizens Advice](#).

[Church Action on Poverty](#) called for action to end the 'Poverty Premium', whereby those on the lowest incomes pay the highest prices for food, fuel and finance.

POVERTY AND SOCIAL SECURITY

The Low Incomes Tax Reform Group and the Joseph Rowntree Foundation said the Autumn Statement's [income tax changes](#) will not help the working poor.

More than half of children born in the year 2000 have faced poverty, found the [Institute of Education](#)'s Millennium Cohort Study.

The [Archbishop of Canterbury](#) expressed shock at the scale of hunger in UK, with working families having to turn to food banks.