
Report To:	Policy & Resources Executive Sub-Committee	Date:	2 June 2020
Report By:	Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources	Report No:	RMcG/LP/062/20
Contact Officer:	Gerard Malone	Contact No:	01475 712710
Subject:	Emergency Package to Prevent Child Poverty Crisis – Notice of Motion by Councillor Jackson		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Sub-Committee of the receipt of a Notice of Motion by Councillor Jackson, countersigned by Councillor Clocherty, submitted in terms of Standing Order 22 in the following terms:
- 1.2 “i A study by IPPR (Scotland) has reported that nearly half of families with children in Scotland are struggling to make ends meet through the current Covid-19 crisis. The report states that 300,000 households with children in Scotland (49%) are struggling to make ends meet or in serious financial difficulty, that the coronavirus pandemic is having a devastating impact on family finances.
- ii Over 100 children’s charities, faith groups, academics, think tanks, poverty campaigners and trade unions support a direct financial boost for all families living on low incomes to support them through the coronavirus crisis. Signatories include the STUC, Scottish Women’s Aid, Scottish Association for Mental Health, Joseph Rowntree Foundation, IPPR, Barnardo’s, Poverty Alliance, Child Poverty Action Group in Scotland and One Parent Families Scotland.
- iii The latest Scottish index of multiple deprivation (SIMD) ranked Greenock town centre and east central the most deprived part of the country and the latest figures from the National Records of Scotland ranked Inverclyde local authority as having the highest Covid-19 death rate in the country.
- iv Inverclyde families are at a higher risk of falling into financial hardship. Inverclyde Council ask that the Scottish Government support calls to step in to provide new payments to financially starved households, that in addition to support provided by the UK Government, that through the powers already available to the Scottish Government, the First Minister fund an emergency package to prevent a child poverty crisis, to provide a new payment of £250 to every child in families in serious financial difficulty.”

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 The Sub-Committee is asked to consider the Notice of Motion by Councillor Jackson.