

Summary of Scottish Government analysis on Welfare Reform (Published and Planning to Publish)

Policy Area	Analysis	Progress
General Welfare Reform Mitigation		
	<p>Ongoing: Household Tracking Study</p> <p>SG commissioned research study on impact of welfare over time in diverse range of households. Began Summer 2013 and continues for 3 years with annual reviews.</p>	<p>Research began in July 2013. Will run, in the first instance, until 1 September 2014. Subject to satisfactory performance and need for the research, the project may be continued until 1 September 2016. The first wave of interviews will be complete by December 2013, with reporting in February 2014.</p>
	<p>Complete: Gender Impacts</p> <p>Analysis on how the UK changes have specific gender impacts and what this means for Scotland.</p>	<p>Published in August 2013</p>
	<p>Complete: Move to Monthly payments</p> <p>This paper examines what recent evidence and literature says about the potential impacts of a move to monthly benefit payments for claimants. It also looks at the types of budgeting support that would be helpful for claimants.</p>	<p>Published in May 2013</p>
	<p>Complete: Expenditure cuts</p> <p>This note examines where the UK Government has cut the welfare budget as part of their wider fiscal consolidation plans, since the June 2010 Budget, in the period to 2014/15. This paper also looks to assess how much of these cuts are likely to come from welfare payments made in Scotland.</p>	<p>Published in March 2013</p>

Policy Area	Analysis	Progress
	<p>Complete: Impact on families</p> <p>This paper summarises some of the key changes to the UK benefits system which may impact on families in Scotland.</p>	Published in February 2013
	<p>Complete: Move to Online claims</p> <p>This paper examines what the research evidence says about digital participation and the potential impacts of an online delivery of Universal Credit.</p>	Published in December 2012
	<p>Complete: Move to Household payments</p> <p>This paper examines the current literature around household behaviours and interactions with the benefits system, in order to inform analysis around the potential impacts of Universal Credit and a move to household benefit payments.</p>	Published in October 2012
Local Authorities / Local Support Services		
	<p>Ongoing: Local authority-led Pilots</p> <p>Scottish Government and DWP led pilots with progress being assess via “Link and Learn” meetings and reports delivering progress.</p>	Local Authorities are continuing to monitor the progress of their pilots. Expect to publish a report on the pilots by the end of the year.
Health		
	<p>Ongoing: ScotPHO report to be published to estimate the effect of welfare reforms and economic downturn on health.</p>	Ongoing. Baseline report published in October 2013 with initial report expected late next year.

Policy Area	Analysis	Progress
Housing	<p>A programme of research and analysis has been developed to monitor and evaluate the UK welfare reforms affecting housing.</p> <p>The key areas where the evidence will be developed are: number and type of tenants affected, tenant finances and behaviours, landlord finances and behaviours, and housing market dynamics. Four key strands of work will be taken forward to provide evidence in each of these areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analysis of national datasets: analysis and reporting from data sources currently available (e.g. SG housing statistics, DWP data). 2. Regular data gathering with landlords in Scotland to examine number of tenants affected and landlord rent arrears. 3. Synthesis of learning from research and information gathering available. 4. Carrying out further research in Scotland to explore impact of reforms in more detail: case study approach in selected number of Scottish local authorities. 	<p>National data monitoring A variety of DWP data on HB claimants, HB spend and DHPs are currently available, with updates available in quarter four 2013. These data directly capture the impact of HB Reform. National survey data will be used to monitor lets and transfer, number of one bedroom properties, supported accommodation funded through housing budgets, evictions and rent arrears. Some data are currently available, with more data becoming available in late 2013. These data will allow a benchmark to be established on these topics and subsequent data will monitor the impacts of HB reform.</p> <p>Data gathering with landlords COSLA report published on SG website. Scottish Housing Regulator report published on SHR website. SHR intend to carry out further surveys on a quarterly basis throughout 2013-14.</p> <p>Synthesis of research evidence To be commissioned via the CAS framework agreement by end November 2013.</p> <p>Further research Focus of case study work will be informed by emerging evidence from previous three activities. Scoping the focus of this work will begin early 2014.</p>

Policy Area	Analysis	Progress
Scottish Welfare Fund		
	<p>Report due on progress of SG supported fund in Autumn 2013.</p> <p>SG commissioned qualitative assessment of the interim SWF arrangements, due to report in March 2014.</p>	<p>IT problems have caused some delays; we will publish the data as soon as they are judged to be ready – in line with the Code of Practice for Statistical Publications.</p> <p>Currently (November 2013) interviewing representatives from third sector support organisations. Interim report due December 2013.</p>
Passported Benefits		
	Monitor take up/expenditure of PB's as Personal Independence Payments and Universal Credit are introduced.	Ongoing.
Council Tax Reduction Scheme		
	Data on CTR scheme to be published before the end of the year.	A statistical publication on the CTR scheme is due to be published in December 2013.