

ANNUAL REPORT 2018/19



Over the last 12 months we published 21 papers and made 241 recommendations to Government. 70 have been accepted.



CONTENTS



Chairman’s foreword 3



Introduction from our Chief Executive 4

Our mission and values 7



Understanding the frontline 10



The CSJ Awards 12

Our influence 16



- Policy work 17
- Family 18
- Work and welfare 20
- Addiction 22
- Education 24
- Criminal justice 26
- Debt 28



Tracking our impact 30



In the news 32



The year ahead 36

Financial update 37

Partnering with us 38



Carolyn Harris MP
Deputy Leader of Welsh Labour

CHAIRMAN'S FOREWORD



This year marked 15 years of the Centre for Social Justice. Each of those 15 years has brought me immense pride at what the organisation has been able to achieve, and this year was no different. Since the organisation's inception we have sought to illustrate exactly what poverty is in the UK, as well as the true social justice policies that turn lives around.

The CSJ was set up to redefine the terms of the poverty debate and to provide the leadership needed to truly help the most disadvantaged in our country. When I set up the CSJ, back in 2004, "social justice" had become shorthand for welfare payments. Poverty was something that was defined exclusively by income.

Britain should be proud of the welfare state, and the safety net it provides. But it is not enough that we stop people from falling further. The most important way to ensure families move out of

poverty is through employment. For some their personal problems hold them back. Understanding these and finding solutions is what the CSJ exists to do.

The CSJ has led the way in showing that those trapped in poverty are effected by the five pathways to poverty; Debt, Family Breakdown, Drug, Alcohol and Gambling dependency, Educational Failure and Worklessness. Resolving these is the surest way to ensure they are able to hold down a job.

The CSJ's record of reform in government is second to none, from Universal Credit – the biggest Government reform for generations – to the design and enactment of the Modern Slavery Act 2015, to tackling the scourge of fixed odds betting terminals last year, we have a strong track record of standing up for the poorest. Yet this is just the beginning of the story.

To ensure our proposals for reform function well, we work closely with the voluntary sector who day in and day out solve so many of the five pathways at a local level. Thanks to their ingenuity we have been able to move the tectonic plates of government to direct support to those who need it most.

Yet there remains much still to do. A third of households in the poorest communities are on out of work benefits, 3.3 million people are struggling with severe personal debt 700,000 more than just two years ago, and 4,000 people a year are dying because of their drug addiction (the highest number since records began). Moreover, three-in-five young people from poor backgrounds do not achieve a C grade in GCSE Mathematics and English. The need for the CSJ has never been greater.

This state of affairs shows us that change is needed to transform the lives of those growing up in Britain's poorest neighbourhoods. The CSJ believe it is possible for the conditions of someone's birth not to affect their chances in life, and for people to be given a second-chance to make the most of their potential.

A more socially just society is in our sights. I hope you will join with us to make it a reality.

Rt Hon Iain Duncan Smith MP
Chairman

INTRODUCTION FROM OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE



Welcome to the Centre for Social Justice's Annual Report for 2018/19. At a time when so many people have said it simply isn't possible to get things done in politics, we have bucked the trend and proved them wrong. The hard work, endeavour and determination of our team and Alliance of poverty-fighting charities around the UK has made this possible, and as I look back on the last 12 months, I couldn't be prouder of what we have achieved.

Our organisation is one with the track record, dedication and ability to achieve significant impact and I am pleased to report that we have again gone from strength to strength to achieve even more for those we exist to serve.

Last year the CSJ:

1. **Put the Alliance at the heart of all we do.** Our team travelled tens of thousands of miles in our quest to unearth the best poverty fighting

approaches from around the UK. Dozens of charities fed directly into our policy work. I am also delighted to report that we have established a regional office in the East Midlands, which you can read more about on the pages that follow, to further enhance our work with small poverty fighting charities.

2. **Enhanced and invested in our Policy Units.** The creation of specific Policy Units focused on each of our Pathways has brought so much to the CSJ. Our Units have provided focus and paid dividends in terms of the impact we have been able to achieve. I am delighted to report that we now have all Policy Units up and running and thanks to the generosity of our supporters and partners we have also been able to add new staff to many Units to undertake more research and life-changing policy work.
3. **Delivered significant, award winning, impact.** Each of our Policy Units delivered significant impact which you can read about on the following pages. However, I would like to draw your attention to our Education Policy Unit's work on alternative provision and school exclusions, for which,

I am delighted to announce, we won Prospect Magazine's Social Policy think tank of the year Award. This accolade is a welcome boost for this work, which is far from over.

We could not have achieved this without our many friends and supporters who make our work possible. I am so grateful to each and every one of you for all that you do for our organisation and those we serve.

As we look to the future, it is clear that the political climate has the potential to be turbulent for months and years to come. It is our job to ensure that regardless of this, politicians in all parties keep a laser-like focus on those who need the most help and support.

Over the next 12 months we will harness the talents and ideas of the entire country and connect our backstreets with the corridors of power. We will make our country more socially just.

I look forward to working with you over the next year and beyond.

Andy Cook
Chief Executive





OUR MISSION AND VALUES

OUR MISSION

The Centre for Social Justice is an independent organisation that puts social justice at the heart of British politics.

We partner with 401 grassroot charities from Britain's poorest communities, as well as experts from across the world, to develop ambitious, evidence-based and experience-led reforms that tackle the root causes of poverty and social breakdown.

And we do not stop there. We take our reforms and, working closely with an extensive network of political, policy and media contacts, campaign for their successful implementation.

This is how we fight to transform people's lives by releasing them from poverty.

The CSJ's vision is for those living in the poorest and most disadvantaged communities across Britain to be given every opportunity to flourish and reach their full potential.

We bring this vision to life by seeking to influence the policies Government creates and the laws it makes, such that it does all it can to address the root causes of poverty. These are:

- Debt
- Family breakdown and dysfunction
- Drug, alcohol and gambling dependency
- Educational failure
- Worklessness

Our mission, therefore, is to place social justice at the heart of British politics.

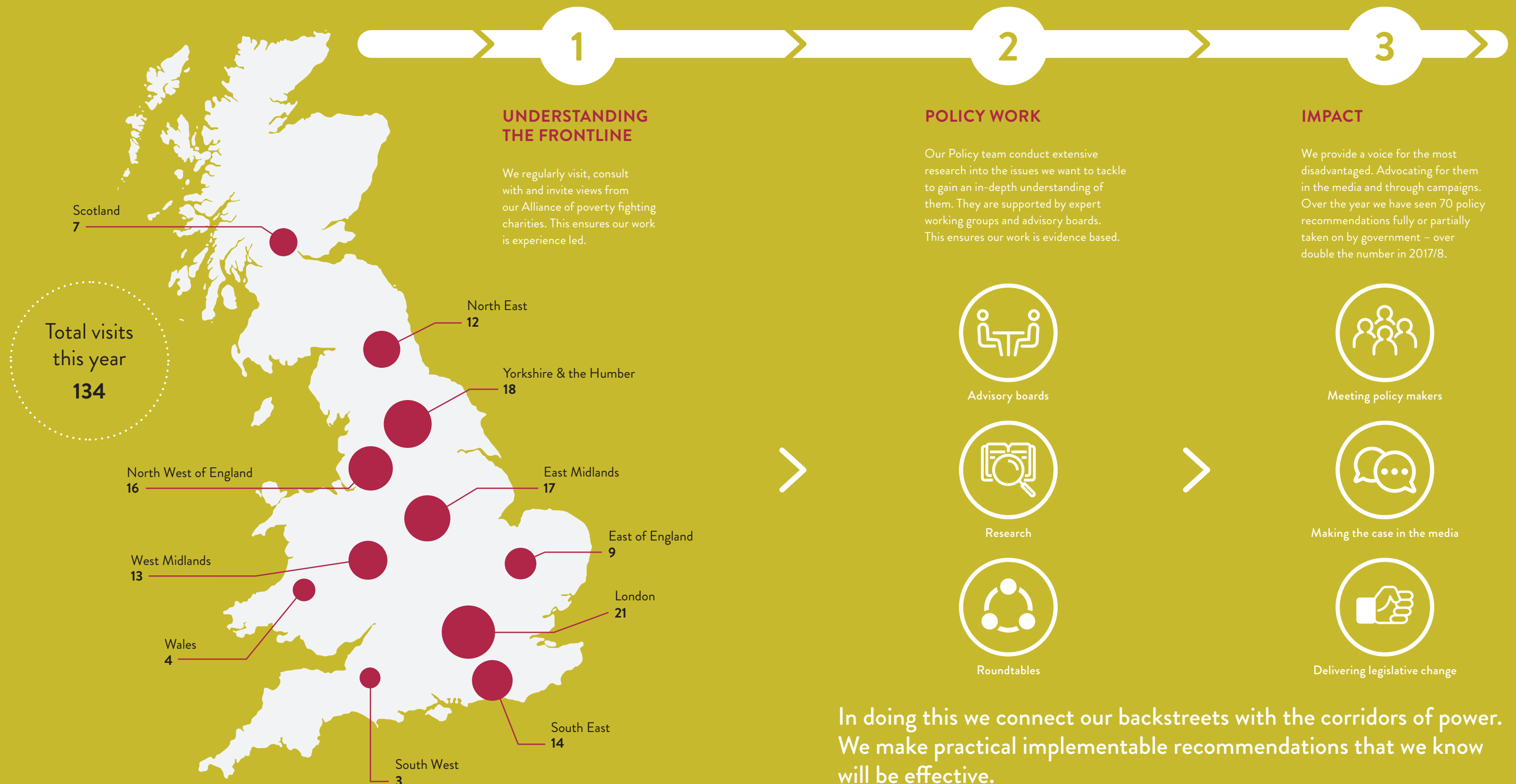
OUR VALUES

Seven core values underpin all that we do. We:

1. Are ambitious about transforming people's lives.
2. Do not believe poverty is only about money, but also people's quality of life and their opportunities to make the most of their potential.
3. Tackle the root causes of poverty, not the symptoms.
4. Are focused on what works.
5. Are committed to following the evidence wherever it leads.
6. Serve the interests of the poorest in Britain.
7. Believe that prevention is better than cure.

HOW WE WORK

Our work follows a three stage process:



In doing this we connect our backstreets with the corridors of power. We make practical implementable recommendations that we know will be effective.

UNDERSTANDING THE FRONTLINE

The CSJ is inspired and nourished by its unique relationship with the CSJ Alliance: a group of frontline, poverty-fighting charities and social enterprises.

These organisations are spread across the length and breadth of Britain, acting as our “eyes and ears” on the ground. These small and innovative ventures are highly effective and truly understand the nature of poverty and social breakdown.

“The Alliance tackle the underlying root causes of poverty, not just the symptoms, in their bid to transform lives.”

The CSJ draws heavily from the Alliance’s experience, meaning Government can be sure that the reforms we suggest are based on what has been road tested and proven to work on the ground. This helps Government develop effective strategies to alleviate the suffering of the poorest and prevents policies being developed which are detached from reality.

THE CSJ’S OFFER TO FRONTLINE CHARITIES AND SOCIAL ENTERPRISES

The CSJ benefits hugely from the input of frontline charities to their policy work. We are also deliberate in seeking to support these charities directly in the work they do to take people out of poverty. To achieve this, the CSJ has established a clear offer to frontline organisations that become part of our Alliance:

CORE OFFER
Open to all members

INFLUENCE GOVERNMENT
Contribute to policy work on national issues through surveys, roundtables & working groups

REGULAR BRIEFINGS
Receive briefings on Government policy, research and funding opportunities

CHANCE TO NETWORK
Connect and collaborate with other charities, businesses and philanthropic leaders through our national conference

ADVANCED OFFER
Opportunities to apply for high performing members

RAISED PROFILE
Quoted in CSJ reports, speak at high-profile events and represent the CSJ Alliance in the media

WIN A CSJ AWARD
Win £10,000 and the opportunity to be profiled in front of political and philanthropic leaders

HOST POLITICIANS
Host MPs as part of our “Understanding Poverty Challenge”

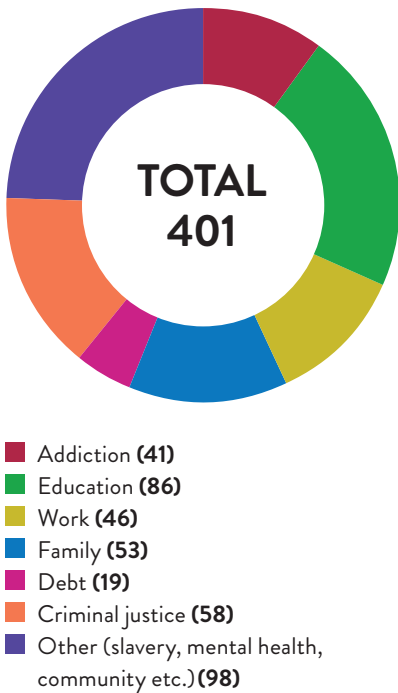
WHAT IS THE CSJ POVERTY FIGHTING ALLIANCE?

The CSJ’s poverty-fighting Alliance is a group of 401 charities working on the frontline in the fight against poverty. They help some of the most vulnerable people in society escape from poverty, working with offenders and gang members to children in care and those with addiction and mental health problems. They tackle the underlying root causes of poverty not just the symptoms in their bid to transform lives.

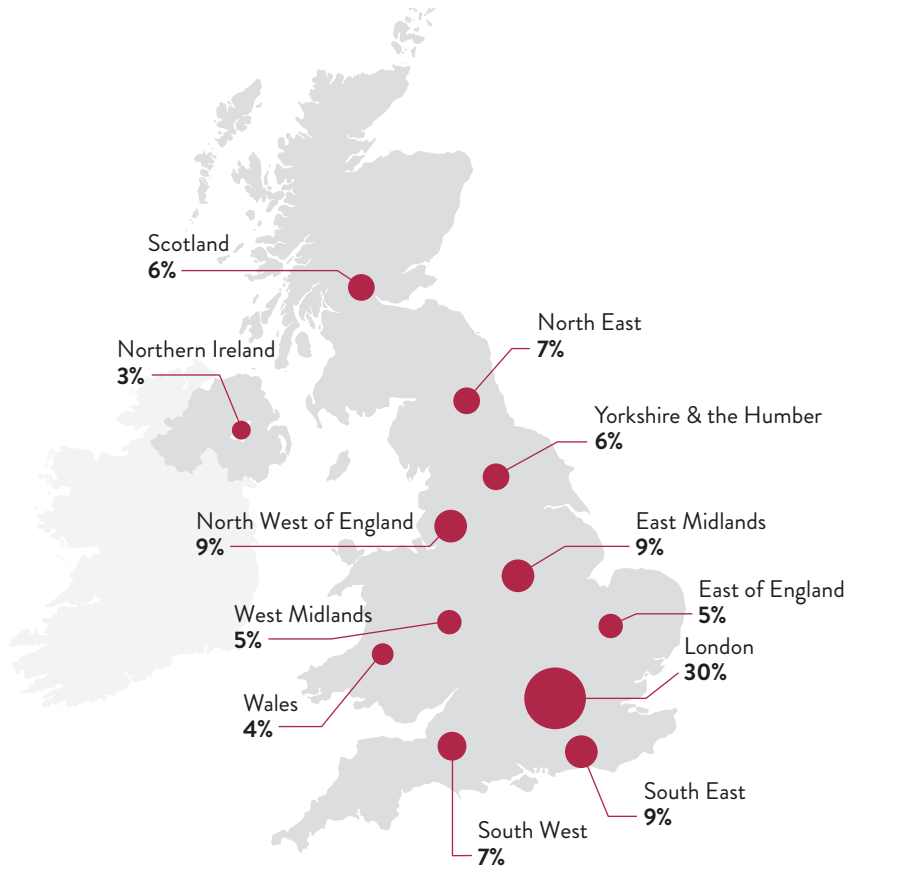
REGIONAL EXPANSION

To further enhance our knowledge of what is going on in different parts of the country, and to deepen our relationships with Alliance charities, we pledge to establish a presence in different regions across the UK. We are very excited to report that we established our first regional office in the East Midlands in early 2019. This is just the start in what will be an exciting phase of development for the Alliance and the wider organisation.

The CSJ Alliance is made up of charities working in a huge range of different sectors



THE ALLIANCE: WHERE ORGANISATIONS ARE BASED



THE CSJ AWARDS



This year saw us celebrate 15 years of the CSJ Awards. It is an annual, high-profile, high-impact event in the Westminster calendar at which the CSJ showcases, rewards and celebrates grassroots charities and voluntary organisations from across the UK. We award their development of effective and innovative ways of addressing a variety of entrenched social issues.

These organisations often work with some of the most disadvantaged people in the country, who are facing complex and challenging issues.

Each winning organisation receives a prize of £10,000 and the rare chance to have their work profiled at the Awards ceremony in London to an audience of around 400 individuals including high-ranking politicians, celebrities, major philanthropists, leaders from the private and voluntary sector, and the media. It also provides the chance for these key influencers to witness the most effective grassroots methods for turning lives around in disadvantaged communities throughout the UK.

The recipients of these awards too often go unnoticed, despite their remarkable work and the perseverance of the individuals involved. It is crucial that the unique voice of this sector is heard in Westminster, and that their work is supported more broadly. In addition to the prize money, the contacts that the CSJ Awards help recipients to make has an important and lasting effect on their work, and the CSJ continues to work with the winners to help them achieve more impact and profile their work.

OUR 2019 AWARDS SAW THE FOLLOWING ORGANISATIONS CELEBRATED AS WINNERS

<p>Maxie Richards Addiction Award</p> <p>Amy's Place</p> 	<p>Family Award</p> <p>Safe Families for Children</p> 	<p>Criminal Justice Award</p> <p>Tempus Novo</p> 
<p>Education Award</p> <p>West London Zone</p> 	<p>Employment Award</p> <p>Fife Employment Access Trust</p> 	

With thanks to

OUR HOST
Carol Walker

OUR PRESENTERS

Carolyn Harris MP
Rt Hon David Gauke MP
Baroness Michelle Mone
Lawrence Dallaglio, OBE
Tom Newton Dunn

OUR JUDGES

Brian Linden
Richard MacKay
Lily Lewis
Eleanor Wolfson
Julia Immonen
Carolyn Harris MP
Edward Astle
John McCrohan
Tom Newton Dunn

15
YEARS
OF



£750,000 awarded
in prize money
.....
360 outstanding
organisations shortlisted



Hundreds of thousands
of lives changed
.....
75 award winning organisations



THE CSJ
AWARDS

OUR INFLUENCE

The CSJ is recognised as expert across the party political spectrum. Our recommendations are both highly credible and implementable. We were proud to win the Prospect Magazine UK Social Policy Think Tank of the year Award.

“The CSJ hold us politicians to account for how we are thinking about those most vulnerable and disadvantaged in society. They not only challenge, but present workable ideas to help us release the brilliance that’s out there. Throughout my time in Government I valued their insight and contribution.”

**RT HON SIR DAVID LIDINGTON MP,
FORMER DEPUTY
PRIME MINISTER**

“I don’t always agree with CSJ, but it stands out as sharp, relevant and having a truly impressive impact. It has a great ability to analyse issues that matter in Britain today and making Government do something about them.”

**PETER KELLNER, JOURNALIST,
POLITICAL COMMENTATOR,
AND FORMER PRESIDENT
OF YOUNGOV**

“The CSJ has shown a willingness to bring MPs together from across different parties on important issues that matter. I welcome their cross party approach to achieving change and their work as one of Westminster’s leading think tanks.”

**STEVE MCCABE MP,
LABOUR PARTY**



“For 15 years the CSJ has been at the heart of political life, helping to develop policy. The Lib Dems don’t always agree with the CSJ’s views, but we greatly respect the influence it has achieved in such a short time.”

**RT HON SIR VINCE CABLE MP,
FORMER LEADER OF
THE LIBERAL DEMOCRATS**

“Social justice is at the root of so many of the campaigns that I have worked on since I first became an MP, and indeed before that. I have been honoured to work alongside the CSJ over the past year, promoting their work and finding common goals as we all seek to fight injustice, tackle poverty and help our communities break the cycle of devastation caused by unemployment, low incomes, crime, addiction and debt. The CSJ really are making a difference to the lives of real people and I look forward to continuing to work with them to improve outcomes for these people by tackling the causes of social injustice.”

**CAROLYN HARRIS MP,
DEPUTY LEADER OF
WELSH LABOUR**

POLICY WORK

Through our research we have identified five pathways to poverty:



POLICY UNIT: FAMILY

The UK has some of the highest levels of family breakdown in the world, but it's the inequality around family breakdown that should concern policy makers the most.

If you're a poor child in the UK today, you're overwhelmingly more likely to see your parents separate and your family break apart than the middle-class child down the road. By the age of five almost half of children in our poorest areas have seen their families break apart compared to only 16 per cent of children in middle class homes. Your chances of seeing your family break apart shouldn't be defined by birth or circumstance, but too often they are.

The price tag for family breakdown has been estimated at £51bn, but this is a fraction of the likely overall cost in lost productivity alone. There is a 42 per cent gap in employment rates between couple families and lone parents; just under half of lone parent families are out of work compared to around 6 per cent of couple families.

We now have the highest ever number of children being

taken into local authority care, where family has broken down completely. Since 2010 the number of children taken into care has grown by almost a fifth and for older children there has been an increase of over three quarters.

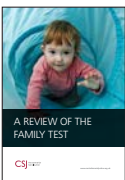
THIS YEAR THE CSJ PUBLISHED SEVERAL MAJOR REPORTS ON FAMILY INCLUDING:



'Why Family Matters'. The Centre for Social Justice conducted a large scale exercise in polling and analysis to determine the impact that family breakdown had on other social problems. Among the findings we discovered family breakdown doubles a child's chances of educational failure and more than doubles their chances of future homelessness.



'12 by 24'. Working jointly with the charity First Star Academies, the CSJ looked at improving the pathways for



children in the care system to enter university – currently only 6 per cent do compared to almost half of the general population.

'A Review of the Family Test'. In co-operation with an MP and Peer, the CSJ requested to see how every department was applying the Family Test (as they are meant to do) in passing legislation. We discovered highly variable and patchy application across departments.



IMPACT

Our major recommendation around a Gold Standard for universities working with Care Leavers has been adopted by government. The Gold Standard is being delivered by the National Network for the Education of Care Leavers.

Marriage has been included as a core part of Relationships and Sex Education in schools following CSJ lobbying of the Department for Education's consultation over the last 12 months.

Working with MPs to include amendments on relationship support in the 'No Fault Divorce' Bill.

POLICY UNIT: WORK AND WELFARE

Work remains the best route out of poverty and with employment at record levels there is much to be pleased about. But there is also much work to be done.

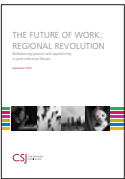
Children in households where two adults are in full-time work only have a one per cent chance of being in financial poverty compared with more than a 64 per cent chance for children in two-parent households where no adult works. If a parent is employed, this raises the chance of leaving financial poverty in that household by around 40 per cent and reduces the chance of re-entering financial poverty by around 50 per cent.

While some people claim that work is not always a route out of poverty, it is still the best and most reliable route that there is. Many people need more hours and better pay, but the alternative – a life on benefits – offers no such prospects.

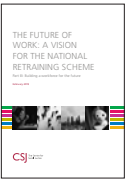
It is only by entering work, finding hours and progressively better employment that people can work their way out of poverty. The evidence is clear that being

unemployed and dependent on the welfare state for a significant period of time can have damaging and lasting implications.

THIS YEAR THE CSJ PUBLISHED SEVERAL MAJOR REPORTS ON WORK AND WELFARE INCLUDING:



‘The Future Of Work: Regional Revolution’. The report sets out the existing and growing divide between the south east of England and the rest of the country. It proposes a number of policy solutions to kick start regeneration and growth, particularly outside of the capital.



‘The Future Of Work: A Vision For The National Retraining Scheme’. Life long learning will be key to employment with the onset of technological change and longer working lives. This paper proposed



the idea of an Individual Learner Account to ensure that people are prepared for whatever uncertainty the job market holds.

‘The Future Of Work: Technology And Artificial Intelligence’. The advance of technology and artificial intelligence means that our future working lives will look very different from today. This paper looks at what this will mean and how we can prepare for it.



IMPACT

£1.7 billion invested into Universal Credit at the Budget in November. This came after a concerted campaign by the CSJ including a joint letter to the chancellor signed by dozens of MPs and peers.

Major acceptance by the landmark Augar Review to reconsider funding for Further Education, increase partnerships between colleges and universities, and change funding structures for high value courses.

Justice ministers began work with the Department for Work and Pensions looking to extend Universal Credit into prisons to ensure ex-offenders are not left unsupported on their first day out of prison.

POLICY UNIT: ADDICTION

In July 2018 the CSJ established its first permanent Addiction Unit in our policy team to ensure that progress is made on this too often ignored subject.

Addiction profoundly weakens British society. 1.6 million people are dependent on alcohol in England alone. One in five children under the age of one lives with a parent who drinks hazardedously, and one in forty with a parent who is addicted to drugs.

About 40,000 children have been taken into care because of their parents’ substance misuse. Addiction fuels family breakdown and worklessness, crime and poor

mental health, destroying lives and undermining communities.

Despite well-known solutions, it is a problem that successive governments have failed to resolve in any significant way. In 2007, the Centre for Social Justice’s Breakthrough Britain report shattered a consensus which held little ambition for those with an addiction except that they be ‘managed’ on substitute drugs.

The work laid bare a failing drug treatment system which left many thousands of addicts trapped in state-sponsored dependency and offered little help to those with other addictions. It established that addiction to drugs, alcohol, or gambling was a sure pathway to poverty and that only the select few could access the help they needed to break free.

THIS YEAR THE ADDICTION UNIT BEGAN SEVERAL STREAMS OF WORK INCLUDING:



‘The State Of The Nation’. We began a year-long review of the addiction treatment sector, looking at funding, commissioning structures and shortfalls in provision.



‘Cannabis — The Case Against Legalisation’. We published a major review of the evidence around the potential legalisation of cannabis. We opposed any change in the law, suggesting treatment sentences in addition, and will keep watch on new emerging evidence.



‘Road to Recovery’. We continued to apply pressure on changes to the law around Fixed Odds Betting Terminals and began work into the wider gambling ecosystem and how to protect problem gamblers.



IMPACT

Along with several other organisations, MPs and the minister Tracy Crouch, we successfully campaigned for the change in Fixed Odd Betting Terminal stakes to be brought forward by 12 months to April 2019.

A Private Member’s bill on the decriminalisation of Cannabis was defeated in the House of Commons directly citing CSJ work on the topic.

We hosted our first ever roundtable of former drug dealers to ensure that real frontline experience was included at the heart of the debate around drug supply, addiction and treatment.

POLICY UNIT: **EDUCATION**

Educational failure can have a crushing impact on a child’s future – too often it prevents them reaching their potential. This constitutes a social injustice and economic threat as we deprive our country of considerable and diverse talent.

We know that too many of the poorest children start school a long way behind their better off classmates, with some of the worst cases unable to even respond to their own names on starting school. And yet we know that once at school a child from one of our poorest areas is 27 times more likely to attend a school rated ‘inadequate’ than a child in one of our wealthiest areas.

We also know that too many children leave school unprepared for work and adult life: last year nearly 40 per cent of children left school without five good GCSEs including English and Maths. For some children reality is bleaker still.

In the worst English local authorities more than 70 per cent of children on free school meals

(a commonly used metric for income poverty) did not achieve these grades.

In response to this, our education system is currently undergoing extensive and widespread reform, the full effects of which will not be felt for some time. But there is work to do now and so the CSJ has been looking at a number of different areas to tackle.

THIS YEAR THE CSJ HAS PUBLISHED SEVERAL MAJOR REPORTS INCLUDING:

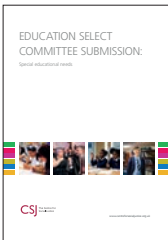


‘Providing the Alternative’. A land mark year-long look at the area of exclusion and alternative provision of education, seeking to understand and reverse the trend for dreadful educational outcomes among this cohort.



‘A Bright Start’. A partnership with Save the Children UK to look at the barriers to high quality childcare for low income families, including through complexity, and increasing support for vulnerable families.

- Multiple Submissions to the Education Select Committee including higher education, special educational needs and lifelong learning.



IMPACT

The Timpson Review of school exclusions endorses most of the 23 recommendations from the CSJ report on Alternative Provision and government in turn endorses all of Timpson’s recommendations in principle.

The CSJ began spearheading a three year-long project to see through the recommendations of the Timpson Review and our own recommendations on exclusion.

Government has announced increased availability of the Flexible Support Fund for upfront childcare costs when moving into work on Universal Credit – a key recommendation of our early years work.

POLICY UNIT: CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Social justice and criminal justice go hand in hand. Not only does crime disproportionately affect poorer communities, but those who have committed crime are also far more likely to suffer from the causes of social breakdown such as drug abuse, poor literacy and worklessness.

Moreover, criminal sentences – whether prison or its alternatives – provide a unique opportunity to intervene in the often chaotic lives of those involved in criminal activity.

By creating a just society where crime rates are low and the public feel confident about their safety, community cohesion and pride in local neighbourhoods can flourish.

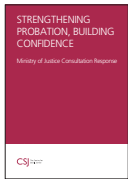
The rehabilitation of offenders needs to be at the heart of an effective criminal justice system. Embedding rehabilitation across the criminal justice system can provide the basis on which the root causes of offending can be tackled, helping to reduce the volume and severity of offending and ultimately improving lives and enabling a reduction in the size of the prison population.

Likewise, prisons demand our attention, following the recent rise of deaths in custody, and with gang-related violence increasing, it is vital that we work with communities upstream before sentences and prisons become part of the equation at all.

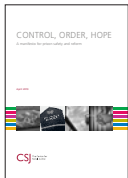
THIS YEAR THE CSJ PUBLISHED SEVERAL MAJOR REPORTS ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE INCLUDING:



‘It Can Be Stopped – A proven blueprint to stop violence and tackle gang and related offending in London and beyond’. This paper revisited our 2009 paper *Dying to Belong* and asked questions as to why the government has been so slow to implement the changes that we know have been effective in stopping violent crime around the world.



‘Strengthening Probation, Building Confidence’. We submitted this paper to the review of the probation service in 2018, asking for a reunification of services and recognising PbR as conceived was unfit.



‘Control, Order, Hope: A manifesto for prison safety and reform’. A landmark report including 58 recommendations to totally overhaul the prison service including sections on employment, family and drugs.

IMPACT

Key CSJ policy recommendations around children affected by parental imprisonment were incorporated in the latest Farmer Review and accepted by government.

Government adopted two of our three key recommendations on probation, calling for the reunification of probation services and a movement away from PbR/Reducing Reoffending as measures.

Northamptonshire is implementing a Community Initiative to Reduce Violence as recommended in *It Can Be Stopped*. Stop and search usage is also increasing again following research in the paper and a major CSJ push.

POLICY UNIT: FINANCIAL INCLUSION AND DEBT

Almost nine million people across the UK struggle with problem debt. The personal cost of this debt can be overwhelming, hitting people’s mental health, their performance at work, and placing a strain on personal relationships.

But serious personal debt is not just a consequence of poverty, it also causes poverty by damaging people’s and families’ ability to help themselves. Any government must consider how new services can be developed to help people avoid serious personal debt and the damage it can cause.

We must consider the root causes of problem debt amongst low-income households in the UK through the lens of their financial capability. For too many years the issues of Financial Inclusion,

Financial Education, Financial Capability, Financial Resilience, Affordable Credit and Debt Advice have been studied, funded and provided in separate silos.

Tackling problem debt requires a new positive vision and a holistic approach centred around meeting the wants, needs and choices of people and families. This starting point then makes it possible to design and deliver the range of financial products and services required by low-income households.

“In July 2019 we established the CSJ’s first permanent Debt & Financial Inclusion policy unit within the organisation.”

*If you would like to support and contribute to this new policy unit, please get in touch with our Development Director:
Alex.LeVey@centreforsocialjustice.org.uk*



... AND SO MUCH MORE...



THE CSJ HOUSING COMMISSION

While the full causes and consequences of the tragedy remain unclear, the fire that engulfed Grenfell Tower in 2017 shone a spotlight onto the quality of social and affordable housing provision in this country and the living conditions of the poorest.

In March 2018, the CSJ established a Commission to address this and has been asked to report its findings back to government. In July 2018 it published its first interim report, Social Housing and Employment, which sets out how the Government can unlock the potential of housing associations to provide life-changing skills programmes for disadvantaged residents.

In October 2018 it published its second interim report, A Social Justice Housing Strategy, which advanced a comprehensive plan to turbocharge the supply of truly affordable housing in England.

In March 2019 it published its third interim report, Putting Down Roots, which proposed radical improvements to security for both renting families and private landlords, through the repeal of Section 21 of the Housing Act 1988 and the establishment of specialist housing courts.

The Commission’s Final Report will be published in the coming months, presenting a package of ambitious housing policy reforms to equip any Prime Minister with the means to drive change for people living in poverty and achieve social justice.



COMMUNITY

The vote to leave the European Union was a vote to restore a sense of home. Far from parochial and myopic, a sense of home fosters other important values. It is through a secure connection to families, institutions and places, that people develop norms of reciprocity such as obligation, sacrifice and loyalty.

This year-long study seeks to re-orientate a focus on human assets, contribution and wellbeing, as opposed to human deficiency, passivity and lack. There is much more to human flourishing than paying the bills, but we need our libraries, village halls and youth clubs, to restore a sense of home across this great nation.



MODERN SLAVERY

The Centre for Social Justice has a proud heritage of tackling modern slavery. Its ground-breaking report It Happens Here paved the way for the Modern Slavery Act. Since then, the UK has seen the biggest criminal investigations of human trafficking in its history and put the language of slavery back into politics.

But several years on it is time to revisit the issue, ensure the changes are bearing fruit, and look at how to push the area forward. Working jointly with modern slavery charity Justice and Care, the CSJ has established a new joint Modern Slavery Unit which will be placing the issue back at the heart of Westminster in the years ahead.

TRACKING OUR IMPACT

TWO EXAMPLES OF MANY SUCCESSES

EXCLUSION AND ALTERNATIVE PROVISION

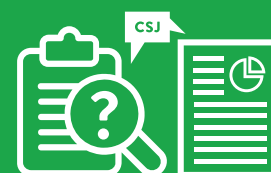
Too many children are excluded from education and the opportunities it offers. We have sought to address this.



The CSJ visited numerous charities and schools and realised the growing problem of inappropriate exclusion and poor-quality alternative provision.



Following a year-long study the CSJ launches the report *Providing the Alternative*, publishing a series of major proposals.



Education Select Committee launches its own inquiry into the issue and the Government commissions the Timpson review of exclusion – CSJ has heavy input into both.



The Timpson Review, echoing the majority of CSJ recommendations, is fully accepted by government.



The CSJ establishes a three year project to ensure that these and other proposals are seen through to completion.

INVESTMENT IN UNIVERSAL CREDIT

Universal credit can be a life changing reform but it is crucial that it is adequately funded.



In advance of the November budget the CSJ facilitates a meeting between the Chancellor and a group of over 30 Conservative MPs at which the issue of welfare investment is raised.



The CSJ reissues previous work looking at the level of welfare spending originally intended for Universal Credit before the cuts of 2015.



Senior CSJ staff appear in multiple media outlets, campaigning for UC investment.



In the weeks before the budget, the CSJ co-ordinates a letter from dozens of Conservative MPs and Peers seeking increased investment in the flagship programme.



Major investment announced in the Autumn budget.

IN THE NEWS

Through hundreds of appearances in various media forums, the CSJ has provided a voice for those most disadvantaged and developed a social justice narrative to tackle the root causes of poverty.

Q1

Through 133 appearances in various media forums, the CSJ has provided a voice for those most disadvantaged and developed a social justice narrative to tackle the root causes of poverty. Key news stories are as follows:

Telegraph: ‘Increase Stop and Search powers in capital, Duncan Smith demands.’

Mr Duncan Smith, the CSJ’s chairman and founder, told the Mail: “Stop and search does two things. It tells the gangs they cannot move their guns and drugs around, making their lives much more difficult. People claim, “it’s not fair”, but who are the communities affected by this the most? It’s the poorest communities in our country. It means shops close, people don’t go on the street, kids who want nothing to do with the gang feel threatened.”

Inside Housing: ‘CSJ report calls for “incentives” for housing

associations to help tenants into work.’

Andy Cook, chief executive of the CSJ, said: “The fact that so many social renters are out of work is a great social injustice. Children in workless households are five times more likely to be living in poverty than children in working families. They are almost twice as likely as children in working families to fail at every stage of their education. At the moment housing associations are incentivised to boost supply, which is absolutely right, but they have the potential to be

the catalysts for change too. The vast majority of those currently unemployed want to take control of their own lives. They want the sense of purpose and responsibility and the workplace community a job provides.”

“Children in workless households are five times more likely to be living in poverty than children in working families.”

Andy Cook, CEO, CSJ



Q2

Through 70 appearances in various media forums, the CSJ has provided a voice for those most deprived and developed a social justice narrative to tackle the root causes of poverty. Key debate influencing news stories are as follows:

CAPX: ‘Ignore the hysteria. Universal Credit is working.’

Andy Cook, CSJ CEO: “Claimants on UC are almost 7% more likely to have been in work at any point within six months of claiming when compared to claimants on the old system... the test-and-learn model being deployed by the DWP will allow for changes to be made as we learn which areas of UC need improvement. More money needs to be invested in UC, to replace the cuts made by George Osborne in the 2015 budget, that is right and fair.”



SKY News: ‘Work is the surest route out of poverty.’

Edward Davies, CSJ Policy Director, discussed the roll-out of Universal Credit and the impact on livelihoods in an interview on Sky News.

The Sunday Times: ‘Drug overdoses in prison soar as more staff are caught smuggling.’

Andy Cook, CSJ CEO, said the figures on drugs in prison are “deeply concerning” and demanded ministers “get a grip”. “Drugs are at the heart of this, fuelling violence, suicide and

completely undermining the likelihood that prisoners will be able to turn their lives around”.

Q3

Through 75 appearances in various media forums, the CSJ has provided a voice for those most disadvantaged and developed a social justice narrative to tackle the root causes of poverty. Key news stories are as follows:

Legalising cannabis will mean one million youngsters would try it and 100,000 people would become addicted to the drug, think tank warns

- Legalising cannabis would create a million new users under 25, a report claims
- The Centre for Social Justice calls on the Government to resist decriminalisation
- A YouGov poll showed nearly three quarters of people have never used cannabis
- Canada became the second country in the world to legalise cannabis possession

By DANIEL MARTIN POLICY EDITOR FOR THE DAILY MAIL
PUBLISHED: 22:02, 7 December 2018 | UPDATED: 00:13, 8 December 2018

The Telegraph: ‘Legalising cannabis is far too great a risk to take when young minds are at stake.’

Andy Cook, CSJ CEO: “Research carried out by the CSJ last year showed that legalisation would mean more than a million new users under 25, a sharp uptake in frequency among existing users, and hundreds of thousands of people gripped by addiction... we must refocus the cannabis debate on educating about the harms and investing in treatment. This approach – rather than legalisation – is what offers the chance of helping keep a lid on use and preventing an explosion in addiction.”

The Independent: ‘Robbery and drug crimes committed by children rise for the first time in years.’

Rory Geoghegan, CSJ Head of Criminal Justice: “We shouldn’t



be surprised to see increases in categories like weapons and drugs, as police work harder to tackle serious youth violence and the growing number of robberies. We know that many of those young people will have been excluded from school, and with school exclusions on the rise there is a growing need for government to overhaul exclusions and alternative education so as to break the link between educational failure and crime.”

The Times: ‘We need to make it easier for new dads to be hands-on with their babies.’

Tracey Crouch MP: “In December the Centre for Social Justice (CSJ) published a report titled Testing Times, supporting fathers during the perinatal period and early parenthood... Given the well-understood positive outcomes of a father’s engagement in their child’s development, it is only right

that we have the infrastructure and systems in place to support them.”

Q4

Through 44 appearances in various media forums, the CSJ has provided a voice for those most disadvantaged and developed a social justice narrative to tackle the root causes of poverty. Key news stories are as follows:

The Daily Telegraph: ‘Time to get a grip on knife crime.’

The Rt Hon Iain Duncan Smith MP, CSJ Chairman: “To begin to tackle the increase in violent attacks our municipal leaders must accept responsibility. Stop and search, properly used, works. It is good that the Government has committed to more police on the

streets and is increasing resources, but that alone won’t solve this.”

The Times: ‘School exclusions are too often a one-way ticket to the scrap-heap.’

Robert Halfon, House of Commons Education Select Committee Chairman: “As a recent report by the CSJ makes clear, teachers must be supported to identify complex needs early and commission the right support. Continuous professional development should be right at the core of this, as should efforts to encourage cross-pollination between mainstream and alternative schools.”

Conservative Home: ‘A private rental shake-up would improve security and change lives.’

Andy Cook, CSJ CEO: “The lack

of security in the private rented sector is making it even harder for people to address the pathways to poverty. The CSJ Housing Commission will continue to work with the Government in the coming months to ensure that we can achieve all we can from private sector reform in England and balance the needs of both tenants and landlords.”

“Stop and search, properly used, works. It is good that the Government has committed to more police on the streets and is increasing resources, but that alone won’t solve this.”

Rt Hon Iain Duncan Smith MP,
CSJ Chairman



THE YEAR AHEAD



EDUCATION

- Alternative Provision
- Life-long learning
- Apprenticeships
- Character education
- Higher education and access



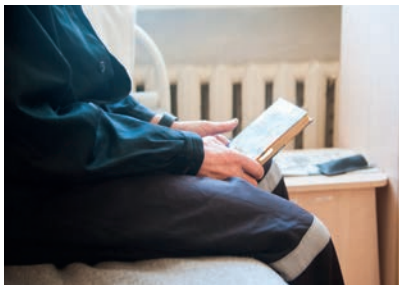
WORK AND WELFARE

- Immigration
- Ageing
- Disability
- Universal Credit
- Northern Powerhouse



FAMILY

- Government Office for Family
- Data Observatory
- Care Leavers



CRIMINAL JUSTICE

- Gangs
- Vulnerable youth
- Prisons



ADDICTION

- State of the Nation
- Gambling and regulation



DEBT

- State of the Nation



CROSS-UNIT WORK

- Housing & Employers
- Final Housing Commission
- Communities
- Poverty Data Map
- Scotland: State of the Nation
- Modern Slavery
- Children's services

For more information on any of this work, please contact our Policy Director: Edward.Davies@centreforsocialjustice.org.uk

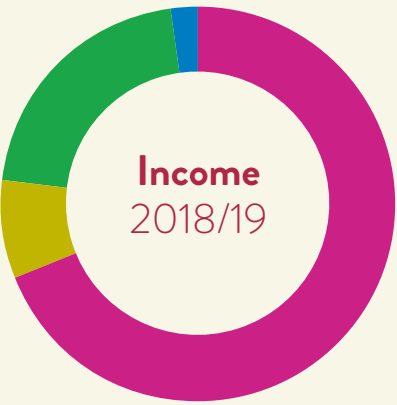
FINANCIAL UPDATE

2018/19 IN NUMBERS...

In 2018/19 the Centre for Social Justice received contributions of £2,054,306 from 111 different sources. This represents a 29% growth from 2017/18. Our expenditure grew by 31% from

£1,476,684 in 2017/18 to £1,935,982 in 2018/19, with a 65% growth in our policy function. This growth has enabled the organisation to deliver more impact than ever before – as

outlined throughout this annual report – as we continue in our mission to put social justice at the heart of British politics.



PRIVATE DONORS

£1,414,336 (69%)
Number of sponsors: 77

CORPORATE

£165,470 (8%)
Number of sponsors: 15

TRUSTS & FOUNDATIONS

£429,500 (21%)
Number of sponsors: 11

CHARITIES

£45,000 (2%)
Number of sponsors: 8

POLICY

£1,016,260 (52%)

We published 21 papers and began work on 14 more. We made 241 recommendations to Government, with 70 accepted and/or being considered; appeared before five select committees and gave four evidence submissions; ran seven roundtables; polled over 12,000 members of the public to gain their views on various issues.

IMPACT

£257,150 (13%)

70 recommendations fully or partially accepted by Government; hosted 135 different meetings and briefings for Ministers and MPs; achieved an average of 80 media appearances/mentions per month; with Secretaries of States, Ministers and senior backbench MPs

taking part in policy discussions and events; over £2.5billion invested into policy areas that we campaigned for.

CORE COSTS

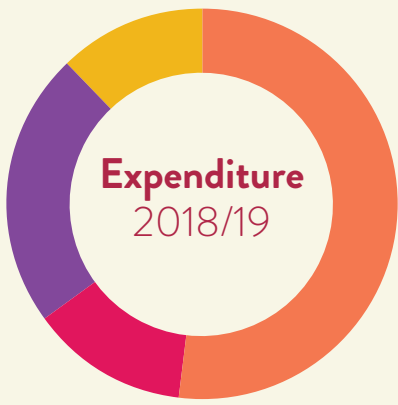
£437,981 (23%)

Expenditure to support 19 members of staff to deliver all that we do.

ALLIANCE

£224,592 (12%)

We made 134 visits to Alliance charities across the UK, gaining evidence from 52 charities for specific reports; saw over £200,000 invested in our Alliance catalysed by the Awards; positioned 28 Alliance representatives on high level panels/roundtables; saw national press coverage on two of our five award winners.



PARTNERING WITH US

The CSJ is proud to have made an impact in the fight against poverty and social breakdown. The job, however, is far from done.

Despite being one of the richest countries in the world, poverty is endemic throughout Britain. A third of households in the poorest communities are on out of work benefits, 2.6 million people are struggling with severe personal debt and 4,000 people per year are dying because of their drug addiction.

This is unacceptable and reform is needed to transform the lives of those growing up in Britain's poorest neighbourhoods. The CSJ is well equipped for and committed to helping solve these deep-rooted social injustices.

The CSJ is a not-for-profit organisation and we pride ourselves on our independence. Our work involves persuading the Government to change its policies and laws, and therefore we do not take any Government money.

Instead, we are reliant on the contributions of individual private supporters, corporate sponsors and trusts and foundations, who share our commitment to putting social justice at the heart of British politics.

None of what we do would be possible without the great generosity of our supporters. We would be deeply grateful if you would consider joining us in the fight against poverty.

If you would like to hear more, or contribute to the CSJ's work, please do contact our Development Director:
Alex.LeVey@centreforsocialjustice.org.uk

The Centre for Social Justice

Kings Buildings
16 Smith Square, Westminster
London, SW1P 3HQ
t: +44 (0) 20 3150 2326
Twitter: @csjthinktank
www.centreforsocialjustice.org.uk





THE CENTRE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

Kings Buildings
16 Smith Square
Westminster
London, SW1P 3HQ
t: +44 (0) 20 3150 2326
Twitter: @csjthinktank
www.centreforsocialjustice.org.uk