

in combined low income and material deprivation and 16% of children would be in persistent poverty. The key reason for these projected rises was seen as the announced UK Government cuts, primarily the benefit freeze and the two child limit on tax credits.

The 2017 Act set into law four targets relating to ending child poverty, which the Scottish Government committed to trying to achieve by 2030. The targets for children living in households in Scotland are that:

less than 10% of children live in relative poverty (relative poverty is less than 60% of average household income for the year taking account of the size and composition of the household);

less than 5% of children live in absolute poverty (absolute poverty is less than 60% of average household income for the financial year beginning 1 April 2010);

less than 5% of children live in combined low income and material deprivation (low income is defined as less than 70% of average household income for the year, material deprivation is when families are unable to afford three or more items out of a list of basic necessities);

less than 5% of children live in persistent poverty (persistent poverty is where a child has lived in relative poverty for three out of the last four years).

These are all measured after housing costs are deducted. The Act also sets out interim targets which are to be met in the financial year beginning 1 April 2023.

The Scottish Government produced its national Child Poverty Action Plan and, in June 2019, all 32 Scottish Council areas produced their own local Child Poverty Action Plans and are required to review on an annual basis.

The Argyll & Bute Child Poverty Action plan can be found [here](#)

families to maximise their opportunities and income. This has been supported by the Council Advice web page allowing people to access a range of services.

Ongoing risk assessment on the short and long term impact of Covid-19 and the impacts on poverty in Argyll & Bute and subsequent inequalities.

11. PUBLIC & USER INVOLVEMENT & ENGAGEMENT

No user involvement in the writing of this report but communities are consulted through the delivery of actions.

12. CONCLUSIONS

The report contains a link to the plan. The review will note a breadth of work undertaken in a multi-agency approach. The plan remains ambitious seeks to build on the work delivered annually. Covid-19 has impacted on the mode of some of the work planned but has also provided opportunities to achieve other areas of work in the shorter term.

13. DIRECTIONS

Directions required to Council, NHS Board or both.	Directions to:	tick
	No Directions required	x
	Argyll & Bute Council	
	NHS Highland Health Board	
	Argyll & Bute Council and NHS Highland Health Board	

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