

End Child Poverty Coalition
c/o Child Poverty Action Group
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4th April 2025

Rt Hon Rachel Reeves MP
Chancellor of the Exchequer
11 Downing Street
London
SW1A 2AA

Dear Chancellor,

To mark the 8th anniversary of the implementation of the two-child limit to benefit payments

I am Rosie, the founder of Rosie's Corner – a service that provides pre-owned baby and children's clothing, shoes and equipment to families in need in West Northumberland. I set up this organisation to help alleviate the pressures for families living in poverty because I could see the impact that the two-child limit was having on local families.

I am also a member of the End Child Poverty Coalition, a group of over 130 child welfare groups, social justice groups, faith groups, trade unions and others who are campaigning for an end to child poverty in the UK.

As well as running Rosie's Corner, I am a single mum of three children and am impacted by the two-child limit. My third child was one of the first children to be impacted by this policy – they were born in May 2017. This policy has driven my family into deep poverty by eliminating £3,514 from my annual income.

I have found myself relying on credit cards and 'buy now pay later' for essential items like bills and fresh food, fruit and vegetables to feed three growing children. My children have missed out on extracurricular activities which inevitably would have had a positive impact on their education, social skills and self-confidence. During lockdown my children did not have access to many learning resources as I was not able to afford educational technology such as laptops and tablets. My son has additional needs and would benefit from learning at home using apps which he can use in school, however most are only available on certain devices which cost more money than I can afford. My son cannot keep up with his peers.

I am often juggling my money between essential bills and treats like days out. I do not drive or buy expensive clothing, and my children have never been abroad. I'm very good at budgeting my money but it is simply not enough.

The End Child Poverty Coalition has called for this government to scrap the two-child limit to benefit payments. We know this is the most cost-effective way to lift children out of poverty. This policy has to go, it cannot be scrapped for some families and not others as this would result in some of the most vulnerable families remaining in poverty – with no way to pull themselves out.



The government has rightly committed to tackling child poverty – and we look forward to the publication of the child poverty strategy. But, for families like mine, those supported by Rosie's Corner, and all the families impacted, this must include funding to scrap the two-child limit. We cannot wait any longer.

Yours sincerely

Rosie

Founder of Rosie's Corner, and member of the End Child Poverty Coalition

We stand with Rosie;

Joseph Howes, CEO of Buttle UK and Chair of the End Child Poverty Coalition

Calum Campbell, on behalf of the End Child Poverty Youth Ambassadors

Alison Garnham, Chief Executive of Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG)

Becca Lyon, Head of England, Save The Children UK

Alice Woudhuysen, Head of Campaigns & Public Affairs at Action for Children

Dr Philip Goodwin, CEO of The UK Committee for UNICEF (UNICEF UK)

Daniel Kebede, General Secretary, National Education Union

Helen Barnard, Director of Policy, Research & Impact, Trussell

Lynn Perry MBE, CEO, Barnardo's

Phillip Anderson, Strategic Director for External Affairs, National Children's Bureau

Jen Clark, UK's Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Lead, Amnesty International UK

Tom Lawson, CEO of Turn2us

Lord John Bird, Founder and Editor-in-Chief, Big Issue

Dr Carol Homden, CEO, Coram

Dr Mary-Ann Stephenson, Director of the Women's Budget Group

Silvia Galandini, Domestic Poverty Lead, Oxfam GB

Graham Whitham, CEO of Resolve Poverty

Ben Gilchrist, Chief Executive of Caritas Shrewsbury

Patrick O'Dowd, Director, Caritas Salford

Sabine Goodwin, Director, Independent Food Aid Network

Sophie Livingstone MBE CEO, Little Village baby bank

Louise Johns-Shepherd, Chief Executive, the Kids Network



Sarah Pugh, Chief Executive, Whizz Kidz

Jaine Stannard, Chief Executive, School-Home Support

Claire Burns, Director, CELCIS - the Centre for Excellence for Children's Care and Protection

Richard Lane, Chief Client Officer, StepChange

Simon Francis, Coordinator, End Fuel Poverty Coalition

Ruth Talbot, CEO of Single Parent Rights

Beth Farhat, Chair of the North East Child Poverty Commission

Craig Anderson OBE, CEO, Reuse Network

Stephanie Woodrow, Head of the Children's Mental Health Programme, Impact on Urban Health

Anela Anwar, Chief Executive, Z2K

Jennie White, CEO, Level Trust

Becca Bor, Coordinator Northern Ireland Anti Poverty Network

Dr Sami Timimi, Consultant Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist, The Royal College of Psychiatrists

Leigh Elliott, CEO, Children North East

Katherine Hill, Strategic Programme Manager, 4 in 10 London's Child Poverty Network

Katie Taylor, Head of Communities and Social Change, Toynbee Hall

Vivien Waterfield, Interim Chief Executive, Home-Start UK

Amy Woodhouse, CEO, Parenting across Scotland

Lisa Pearce, Interim CEO, Gingerbread

Yvonne MacNamara CEO Traveller Movement

Niall Cooper, Chief Executive, Church Action on Poverty

Mark Rowland, Chief Executive, Mental Health Foundation

Tom Allingham, Communications Director, Save the Student

Sara Cowan, Director, Scottish Women's Budget Group

Catherine Murphy, Executive Director, Engender

Satwat Rehman, CEO, One Parent Family Scotland

Richard Harries, Director of Caritas Westminster

Dr. Nick Owen MBE CEO, The Mighty Creatives

Sarah Mann, CEO, Friends, Families and Travellers

Diane Skelton, Head of Giving Poverty a Voice Programme, Atd 4th World



Martin Dorchester, Chief Executive, Includem

Joanna Reed, Executive Director, Bow Food Bank

Steph Capewell, Chief Executive, Love, Amelia

Claire Donovan, Director, End Furniture Poverty

Alan Markey, Chair, National Association of Welfare Rights Advisers (NAWRA)

Charlotte Rainer, Coalition Manager, Children and Young People's Mental Health Coalition

Harriet Morgan, CEO, Cambridge Women's Resources Centre Ltd

Will Snell, Chief Executive, Fairness Foundation

Martin Vodden, Chair of trustees, FoodWise

Emilie de Bruijn, Chair, Hartlepool Baby Bank

George O'Neill, Chief Executive Officer, Cardinal Hume Centre

Jess McQuail, Director, Just Fair