



THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE ■

Policy evaluation

Researching child poverty and inequality in the asylum and immigration system in the UK

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#CASEat25
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Centre for Analysis of Social Exclusion

Research at LSE ■

**Kerris Cooper
Kitty Stewart**

Does Money Affect Children's Outcomes? An update

CASEpaper 203

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REPORT

DOES MONEY AFFECT CHILDREN'S OUTCOMES? A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

Kerris Cooper and Kitty Stewart

This report examines whether money has a causal impact on children's outcomes. There is abundant evidence that children growing up in lower income households do less well than their peers on a range of wider outcomes, including measures of health and education. But is money important in itself, or do these associations simply reflect other differences between richer and poorer households, such as levels of parental education or attitudes towards parenting?

POLICY EVALUATION

‘Use of evaluation and modelling in government’ - Public Accounts Committee report - May 2022

“In December 2019, only 8% of the £432 billion spend on major projects had robust impact evaluation plans in place and 64% of spend had no evaluation arrangements”

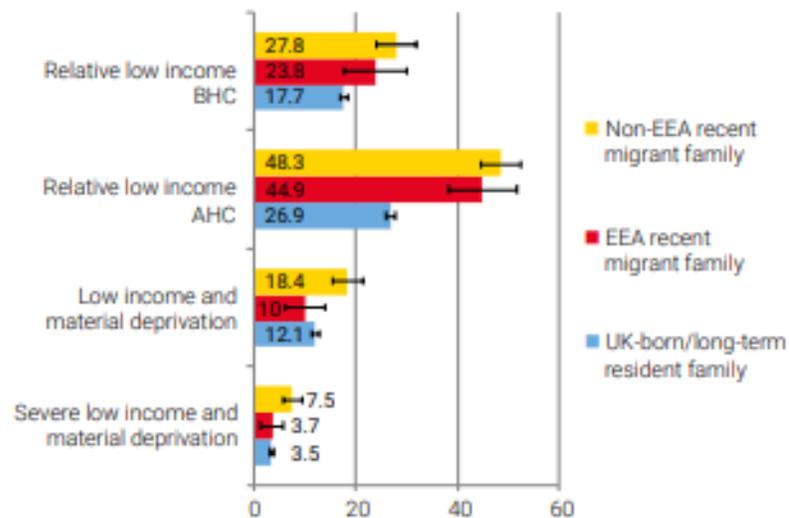
Dame Meg Hillier MP (chair of PAC) :

*"Government spends hundreds of billions of pounds of taxpayers' money on major projects with no evidence what is working or idea what to do when it isn't. **The Home Office describes its Rwanda refugee policy as ‘experimental and novel’ - so much that the Permanent Secretary sought a direction from the Minister to spend the money required, because it could not be shown that the programme will deliver its objectives with value for taxpayers' money. Now we are told that the terms of the agreement with the Rwandan government may trump transparency to the UK taxpayer. That is absolutely unacceptable. Facing intertwined crises in our environment, energy supply and cost-of-living, every penny counts.**"*

Poverty among children in recently arrived migrant families in the UK

Tania Burchardt, Polina Obolenskaya, Isabel Shutes and Polly Vizard

Children in migrant families who have arrived in the UK in the last 10 years, especially those from non-EEA countries, are at significantly higher risk of poverty than children in long-term resident or UK-born families. Gaps are evident in “before housing costs”, material deprivation, and severe low income with material deprivation measures of poverty. But they are even larger using an ‘after housing costs’ measure, which points to the important role played by high housing costs. In this piece, Tania Burchardt and colleagues discuss how holes in the social safety net are preventing children in recent migrant families from accessing their right to an adequate standard of living – a standard recognised by the UK through its ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.



Source: authors' analysis of Family Resources Survey and Households Below Average Income datasets 2013/14 to 2015/16.

Notes: Unweighted sample sizes: non-EEA = 1738; EEA = 558; UK-born/long-term resident family = 29,492.

CASE Research

Multidimensional child poverty and disadvantage:

Tackling 'data exclusion' and extending the evidence base on missing and 'invisible' children

A programme of research funded by the [The Nuffield Foundation](#) and led by CASE, May 2015 - March 2018.



The **central objective** of this project is to improve understanding of multidimensional poverty and disadvantage as experienced by children and young people in Britain. The findings will address an important gap in the research literature by providing a new quantitative evidence base on four groups of children:

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Outputs from this programme

[Overview report \(Summary\)](#)
Child poverty and multidimensional disadvantage: Tackling "data exclusion" and extending the evidence base on "missing" and "invisible" children

[Overview report \(Full report\)](#)
Child poverty and multidimensional disadvantage: Tackling "data exclusion" and extending the evidence base on "missing" and "invisible" children

LIFELINE FOR ALL

MAY 2020

- Combined Home Office Migrant Journey data; local authority data supporting families with children; in-depth interviews with families and case file analysis of TCS service users
- Families experienced long-term poverty, cycles of homelessness, destitution & mounting debt
- Disproportionate impact on children in ethnic minority households & particularly challenging for single parents and those with a family member with a disability
- Cumulative effects of 'Hostile Environment' policies e.g. HO fees, Immigration Health Surcharge, legal aid, ten year route
- First estimate of numbers affected by NRPF restrictions on visa/leave to remain based on Migration Observatory analysis
- In 2016, 1.14m individuals inc. 142,496 children; in 2020, 1.35m inc. 169,826 children (in addition to undocumented children)

Source: <https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/information/professionals/resources/lifeline-for-all>



The
Children's
Society



Um, hang on Stephen. Why don't they - why aren't they - eligible for Universal Credit or for Employment Support

PM responding to questions by Stephen Timms MP on 'no recourse to public funds' restrictions at the Liaison Committee hearing in May 2020

(Source: <https://www.stephentimms.org.uk/latest-news/2020/5/27/stephen-secures-promise-from-boris-johnson-to-look-at-no-recourse-to-public-funds-condition>)

Social Cost Benefit Analysis of the no recourse to public funds (NRPF) policy in London

[Ellie Benton](#), [Jacob Karlsson](#), [Ilona Pinter](#), [Bert Provan](#), [Kath Scanlon](#) and [Christine Whitehead](#)

Published 23 March 2022

This report estimates the monetised social and economic gains (benefits) of removing of the No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) condition for certain household in England. It compares this to the costs of allowing them to be able to apply for welfare benefits and various public services paid for from public funds. This is in the form of a Social Cost Benefit Analysis and was prepared as an independent analysis for the Greater London Authority. The households in scope are households and families with visas statuses including the right to work, some of whom are on visa routes that could lead to long-term settlement in the UK. These includes holders of Tier 1, 2 or 5 visas who come to the UK to work and their dependents; those who are in the UK because of family links; dependents or others who are linked to the primary visa holder and those estimated to come via the Hong Kong British National Overseas scheme. The report estimates that there are approximately 362,000 households, including 106,000 households with children, would potentially be affected by lifting the NRPF condition. Access to public funds would be restricted by existing qualifying conditions limiting access to welfare benefits and other services to households in need of this public assistance. It found that, over ten years, removing the NRPF condition just for households with children and other vulnerable individuals would result in a net gain of £872 million. Removing the condition for all those on these visas would result in a £428 million net gain.

Paper Number CASEreport140:



[Download PDF - Social Cost Benefit Analysis of the no recourse to public funds \(NRPF\) policy in London](#)

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PHD RESEARCH

- **Research question:** ‘How do financial support and employment restrictions affect children within families receiving Asylum Support in the UK?’
- **Mixed methods approach:** analysis of HO administrative data; analysis of Understanding Society data; data from key informants; remote longitudinal qualitative interviews with children and young people and parents.
- **Outputs so far:** CASE briefing on administrative data (<https://sticerd.lse.ac.uk/dps/case/cb/casebrief41.pdf>); early dissemination to inform ongoing policy developments (e.g. Nationality and Borders Act passage, ONS work on inclusive data)

CONCLUSION

- Mixed methods approaches important to evaluate policies, esp where there are significant data gaps and other challenges
- Independent good quality research and analysis critical, esp when government investment is limited/not possible
- Even in hostile policy contexts, positive reforms are possible
- Considering immigration policy as part of evaluation of welfare and social security policies, and importantly within policy solutions