



**Citizen's Basic
Income Network
Scotland**

An introduction to Citizen's Basic Income

What is a Citizen's Basic Income?

Imagine if you received an income that wasn't coming from an employer. Every citizen gets one, and it is not withdrawn if your circumstances change. You get a payment your entire life, from the day you are born. The money is for you to spend as you choose. This is a Basic Income: a guaranteed income for every citizen, that is enough to live on.

Who are Citizen's Basic Income Network Scotland?

We are a charity campaigning for a Basic Income in Scotland. We support a network of Basic Income advocates - providing training and a platform for discussion. We lend our expertise to government and share the stories of people who would benefit from a Basic Income.

Why do we need a Citizen's Basic Income?

A Citizen's Basic Income would tackle the **problems of the present...**

A Basic Income would eliminate poverty and reduce inequality.

Everyone would have a secure foundation to support them as they build the life they choose. We could prioritise our mental health, physical health and living a fulfilling life. A widespread improvement in quality of life will have long term benefits such as a reduction in crime.

Today in Scotland we see widespread inequality caused by the UK government's cuts.

Many people on the lowest incomes are made to choose between heating and eating. The benefits system uses inefficient, undignified testing and pushes people into work with low wages and poor conditions. The contribution of those working as unpaid carers is ignored. Basic Income is a practical alternative to current broken systems.

... and the **problems of the future.**

Advances in technology have widespread benefits: from online learning opportunities to automating simple tasks at work. This should mean we have more time to spend on personal development and with loved ones. However, at the moment we are still consumed by the need to work unsatisfying jobs for low wages. New technology is revolutionising many industries. Unfortunately, this is a threat to many people's job security. We should support people to learn new skills and keep pace with a rapidly changing world, not punish them with redundancy.

To ensure Scotland is ready for the future we need to encourage people to be innovative. People should be able to return to education and know they can still pay their bills and feed their families. They should be able to start a business or spend time volunteering without worrying about their financial security. A Basic Income would allow you to invest in yourself, and it would create a more inclusive society where everyone is free and able to fulfil their potential in the way they want to.

What do we need to do to make it happen?

The Scottish Government is currently exploring how we could introduce Basic Income in four areas across Scotland; Glasgow, Edinburgh, North Ayrshire and Fife. To make Basic Income a reality we need to understand it and introduce others to the concept. We need to make it known why, as individuals, we need a Basic Income.

How can you help?

Now is the time to join the discussion and shape the future of Basic Income in Scotland. We provide events, training and support so people like you can speak with confidence about Basic Income in your community. If you would like to find out more or get involved please get in touch via team@cbin.scot.



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Citizen's Basic Income Network Scotland is a Scottish
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