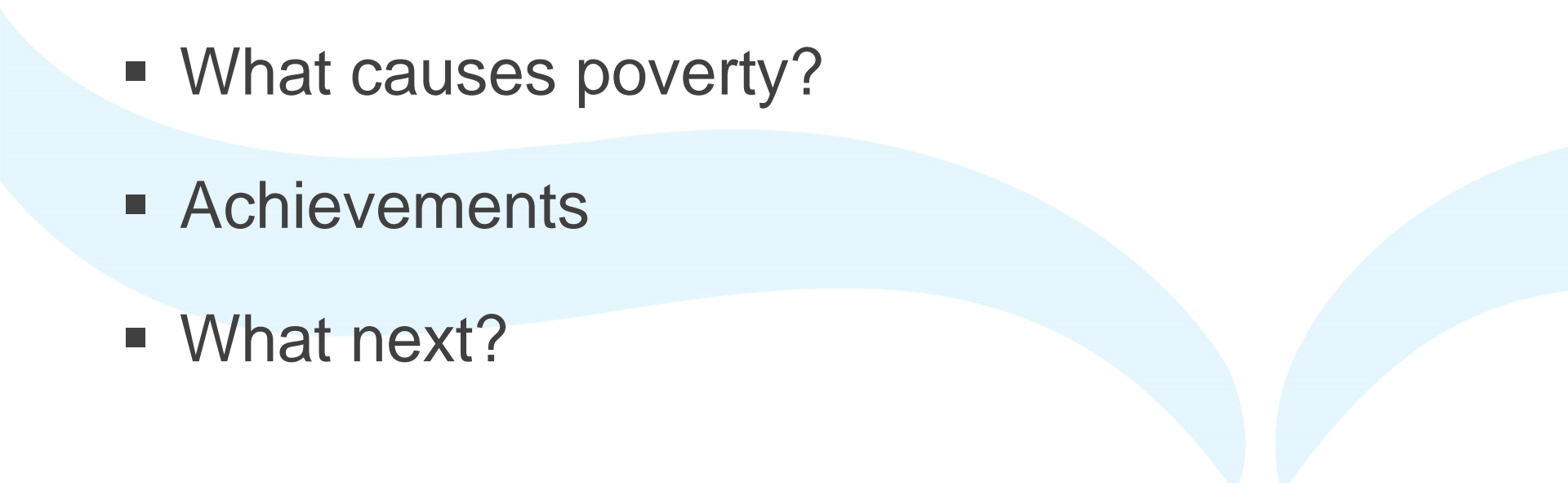


The Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017

New statutory responsibilities for Local Authority Areas



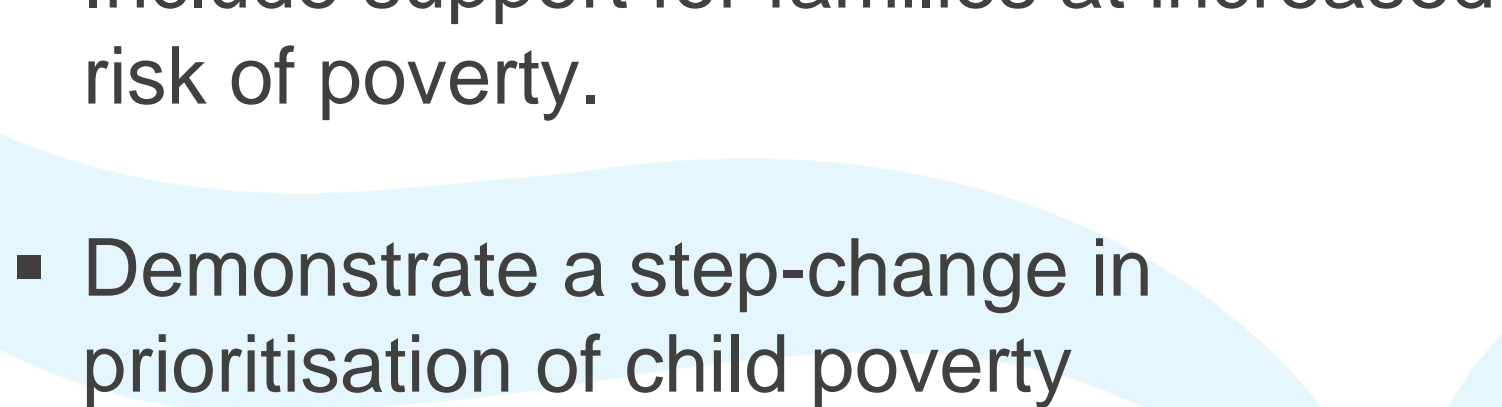
Outline

- The Act and new local duty
 - Child Poverty in GCC
 - Why important?
 - What causes poverty?
 - Achievements
 - What next?
- 

The Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017

- Re-introduces four statutory targets for reduction of child poverty by 2030
- Places a duty on Scottish ministers to publish child poverty action plans in 2018, 2022, and 2026, and to report on those plans annually.
- New local reporting duty

Local actions must

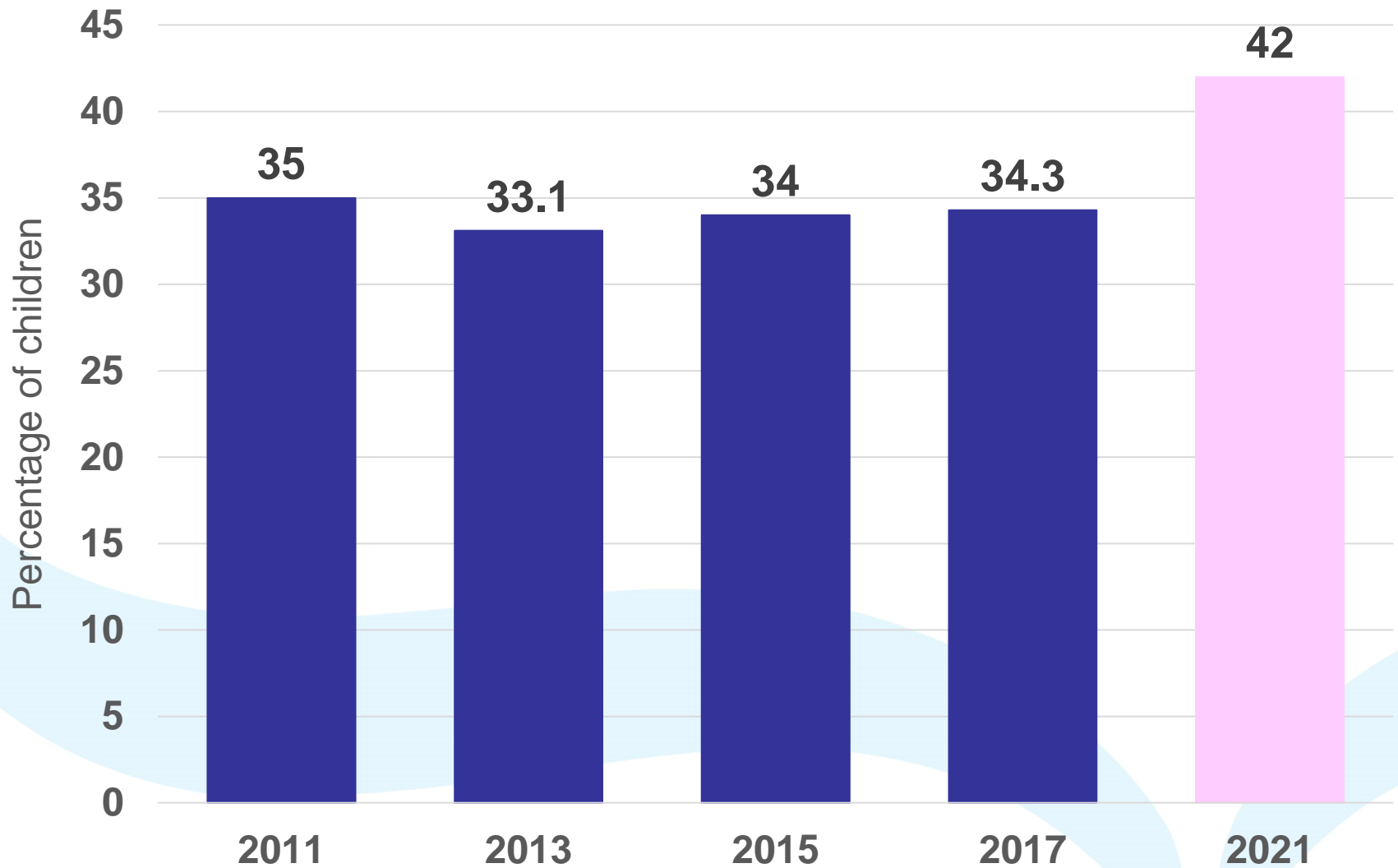
- Involve partners
 - Include income maximisation
 - Include support for families at increased risk of poverty.
 - Demonstrate a step-change in prioritisation of child poverty
- 

Financial Memorandum

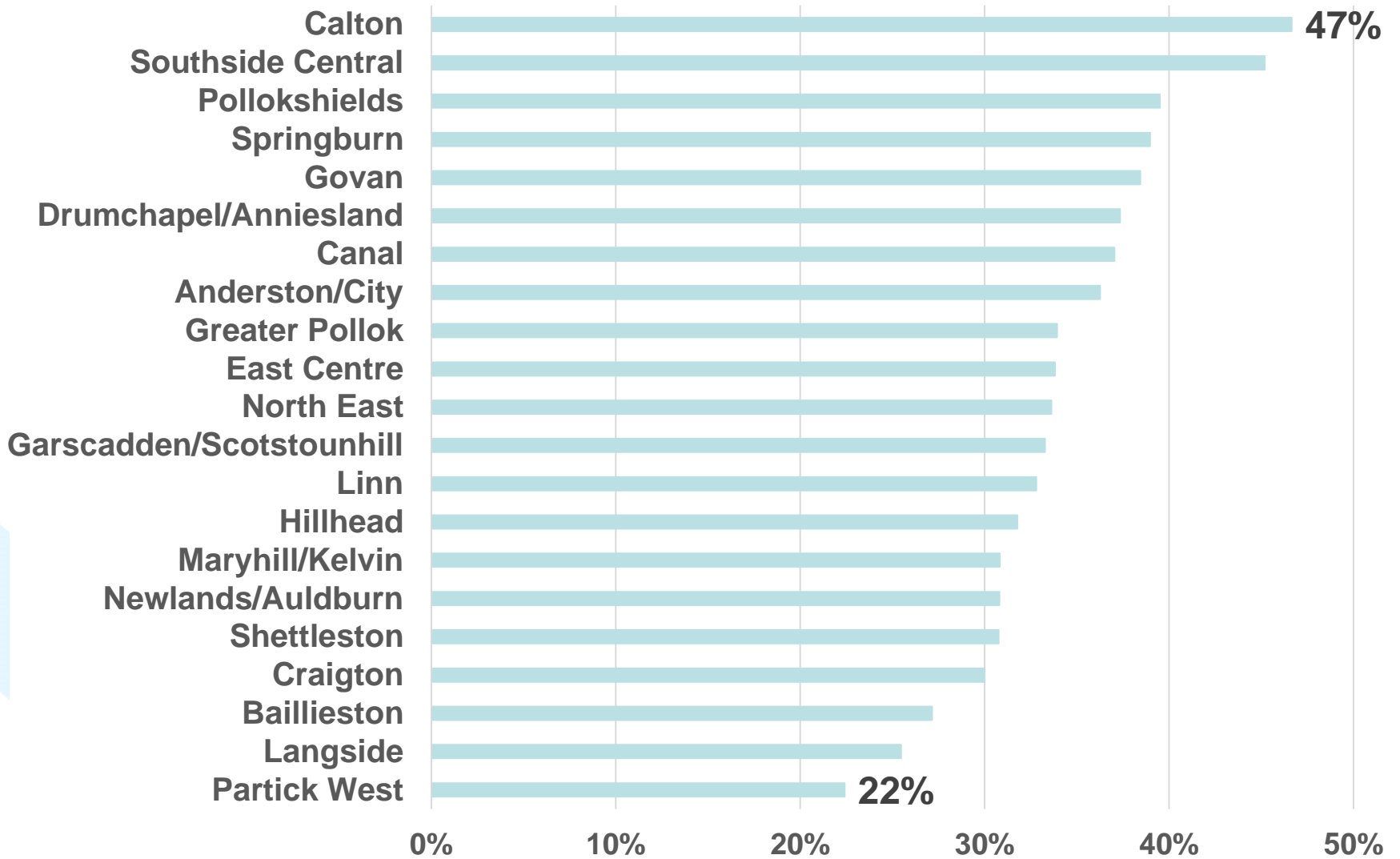
- £4, 750 per year for each local authority
- £2, 641 per year for each health board

Additional £50million Tackling Child Poverty Fund.

Trends in Child Poverty GCC

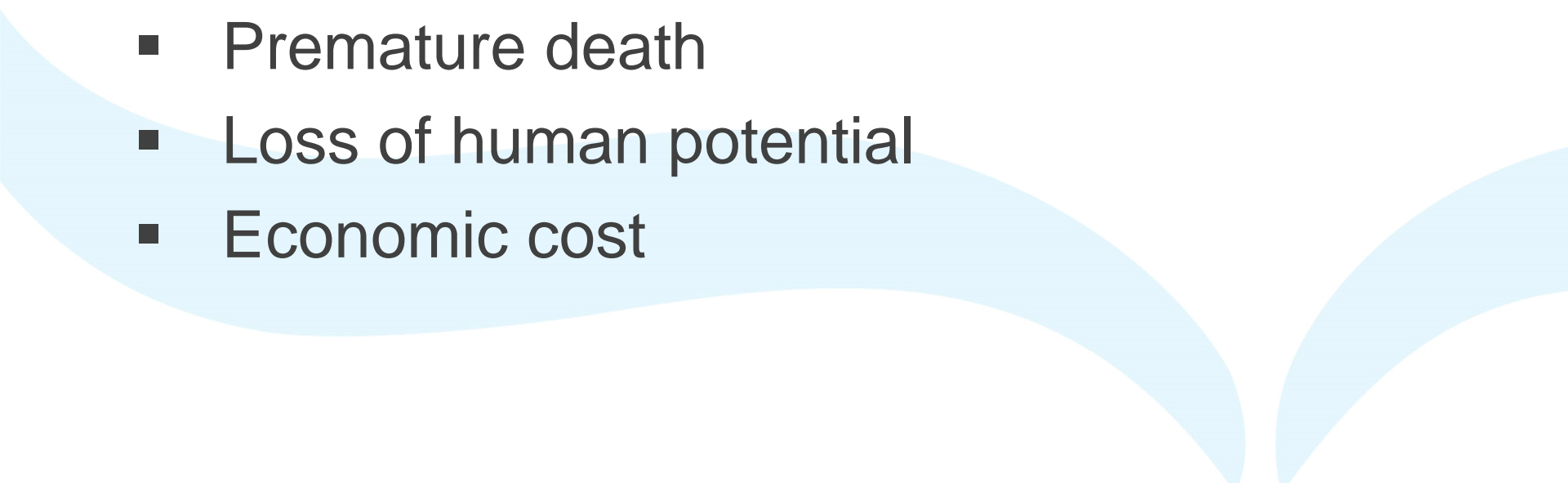


Child poverty GCC wards



Source: End Child Poverty

Why does it matter?

- Cognitive Development
 - Child Welfare
 - Injury
 - Mental Health
 - Premature death
 - Loss of human potential
 - Economic cost
- 

“Our public services are now facing their most serious challenges since the inception of the welfare state. The demand for public services is set to increase dramatically over the medium term - because of our failure up to now to tackle the causes of disadvantage and vulnerability, with the result that huge sums have to be expended dealing with their consequences.”

The Christie Commission report 2011

Causes of poverty

“The causes of child poverty are often confused with its consequences. Child poverty is not caused by individual behaviours but by a complex blend of structural issues relating to the macro-economic and political factors governing the labour market, employment and social security.”

Treanor M. Actions to prevent and mitigate child poverty at a local level.

Causes of child poverty

Insufficient income from employment

Insufficient income from social security

Costs of living

Skills and qualifications

accessibility

generosity

Lack of good quality jobs

Lack of minimum income standard

Housing

childcare

transport

Other basic necessities

As Employers

As Service Providers

As Partners/Advocates

EXAMPLES OF ACTIONS TO INCREASE INCOMES

Living Wage, secure employment

Provision of money advice services

Citizen's income

EXAMPLES OF COST REDUCING ACTIONS

Flexible working opportunities.

Responding to Cost of School Day

Affordable housing.

EXAMPLES OF MITIGATION ACTIONS

Investment in staff development

Inequalities sensitive service provision.

Advocate proportionate universalism.

What we have done to reduce Child Poverty

- Child Poverty (PLP) Poverty working group
- Cost of School Holidays
- Cost of School Day
- Automation of School Clothing Grant and increase in take up and value
- Lone parents group
- NHS-funded CPAG post.

Child Poverty

Glasgow City Council Budget

Invest to Improve

- Increase School Clothing grant from £52 per child to £70 - additional cost £490k per annum
- Extend Free School Meals to all primary school children up to P4 cost - £1.5m
- Holiday Activity Programme £2m
- Financial and Digital Inclusion £2m support for UC rollout and Disability Benefits take up campaign

Glasgow Community Planning Partnership role

- Develop and influence “Asks” of Employers/Business
- Families in Private Rented Sector affected by Benefit Cap
- Financial Inclusion – children and families
- Build on existing partnerships and resources to reduce child poverty