



## Training course overview: Understanding poverty measurement, definitions and data

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### Overview

Debates about whether poverty exists in the UK and how to define and measure it have raged for decades. A multitude of data is available that helps quantify poverty, but that wealth of data can make finding the most useful and best supporting evidence difficult. By the end of this one-day course participants will have developed an understanding of what key poverty datasets tell us, how best to access data sources and how to use this knowledge to support the work that they do.

**Full day course (9.30am until  
3.45pm)**

**Upcoming dates:**  
Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2020.  
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2020.  
Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

**Location:**  
Virtual using Zoom.  
Virtual using Zoom.  
Virtual using Zoom or in person at a  
training venue in Wigan.

Where meetings are held in person lunch and refreshments will be provided at no additional cost to attendees.

### Who is this course for?

This course is for organisations and individuals who wish to strengthen the case for their work by presenting accurate and relevant data about poverty to funders, supporters and policy makers. It is suitable for third, public and private sector organisations. It is also suitable for researchers who wish to develop a baseline understanding of debates about how poverty is measured and commonly used datasets.

### Course content

The course will cover the following:

- Concepts of poverty – relative poverty versus absolute poverty
- Common measures of poverty used in the UK
- Recent trends in poverty in the UK
- Why is understanding poverty data and how we measure poverty important to your organisation?
- What does government data tell us about poverty levels in the UK?
  - Sourcing national poverty data
  - Effective use of national poverty data
  - Risk of poverty among different groups of the population
  - Limitations of national data.
- Understanding poverty at a regional and local level
  - Sourcing local poverty data
  - Effective use of local poverty data.

**Contact:** Graham Whitham on 07917644435 or [graham@gmpovertyaction.org](mailto:graham@gmpovertyaction.org)

### Prices:

- Students/small VCSE organisations with fewer than five employees: £60
- VCSE/Third sector organisations with more than five employees: £88

- Public sector organisations (including housing providers): £120
- Private sector organisations: £150.

**Facilitator:** The course will be run by Greater Manchester Poverty Action director and co-founder Graham Whitham. Graham is a leading expert on poverty in the UK and has a wealth of policy, research and campaigning experience from his time working as a senior policy advisor to Save the Children and Oxfam. Graham has been heavily involved in debates around how to measure poverty and has used poverty data to influence government policy at a Westminster and devolved government level. He has also represented the UK as a non-governmental expert on poverty internationally, been a keynote speaker at a number of academic conferences and represented both Oxfam and Save the Children in national, regional and local broadcast media.

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*Policy North Training delivers training in partnership with Greater Manchester Poverty Action.*



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#### **About Policy North Training**

Policy North Training has been established to increase the amount of training offered to Greater Manchester Poverty Action's network in 2020/21. Beyond 2020/21, as well as continuing to deliver training in Greater Manchester, Policy North Training will look to deliver training courses in other parts of the country to help increase the amount of revenue raised to support GMPA's activities.

#### **About Greater Manchester Poverty Action**

Greater Manchester Poverty Action (GMPA) is a not-for-profit organisation based in Greater Manchester that works to address poverty across the city region. We convene and network organisations from across the public, private and VCSE sectors to foster collaboration and innovation and to maximise the impact of efforts to address hardship and deprivation across Greater Manchester. We carry out research and we campaign for changes in policy both locally and nationally so that the structural and systematic causes of poverty are addressed.