

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Greater Manchester Poverty Action urges all parties to make poverty a priority ahead of general election

Greater Manchester Poverty Action (GMPA) welcomes the Prime Minister's announcement of a general election. The nonprofit urges all political parties to include ending poverty across the country as a priority in their manifestos.

Graham Whitham, GMPA Chief Executive said:

"For far too long, the government has not prioritised supporting people on low incomes, and inaction at a national level has caused an alarming rise in poverty. It is a national disgrace that more than one in five people live in poverty across the UK.

"We would like to see the next government demonstrate a clear strategic plan to resolve poverty and commit to urgent policy changes that protect and support low-income households, such as permanent, ring-fenced funding for local welfare schemes, an end to the abhorrent two-child benefits cap and an Essentials Guarantee that ensures our social security system protects people from going without the essentials.

"At GMPA, we are clear that local action has a central role to play in a national mission to end poverty. This means government empowering local authorities and their partners to play a key part in preventing and reducing poverty in their areas.

"We're ready to work with whoever forms the next government to make this a reality."

Ends

Notes to editor:

Media contact

Graham Whitham, CEO, 07917 644435, graham@gmpovertyaction.org
Hollie Griss, Communications and Media Officer, hollie@gmpovertyaction.org

Who are Greater Manchester Poverty Action?

Greater Manchester Poverty Action (GMPA) is a recognised leader on poverty in the UK and exists to end poverty in Greater Manchester and beyond. We deliver independent, evidence-based activities to address socio-economic disadvantage. These focus on maximising the financial resources available to households, amplifying the voices of people with lived experience, and working with our network to achieve meaningful change.