



justfair

Just Fair
Turning the tide
Our strategy
for 2023-25

March 2023

Welcome

All of us deserve to live well and flourish, with our human rights respected, protected, and fulfilled.

Unfortunately, this is not the reality for many of us living in the UK.

We know that protecting economic, social, and cultural rights (ESCR) is essential in creating a fairer and more just society. That is why for over 10 years Just Fair has championed these rights, and focused on those who are disproportionately affected by rights violations.

In collaboration with partners across the UK and internationally, we bring social justice and human rights together, leading ground-breaking research and campaigns to ensure that UK law, policy and practice complies with domestic and international human rights obligations.

We are proud to be at the forefront of a growing movement for the better recognition and protection of ESCR in the UK.

Now is the time for us to concentrate our efforts on where we can have the greatest impact. This strategy sets out our approach to strengthening our work on ESCR in the UK, and to building a stronger, more united civil society with the capacity and confidence to call for the fulfilment of ESCR.

Together we will turn the tide.



Jamie Burton KC
Chair

About us

Just Fair is a civil society organisation which works to bring social justice and human rights together by championing economic, social, and cultural rights in the UK.

Our vision

is for a fairer and more just society for all.

Our values and principles shape everything we do.

Our values

Human rights

We believe in the inherent dignity and equality of all people. All of us deserve to live well and flourish, with our human rights respected, protected, and fulfilled.

We recognise that people may experience multiple forms of discrimination, and we challenge all forms of inequality, including structural inequalities. Equality and human rights are both aims in themselves, and tools for improving people's lives.

Accountability

We work in an open, honest, accountable, and transparent way with all of our stakeholders. Our work is of a high standard and is informed by the best expertise, knowledge, and evidence. We take responsibility for our actions and believe that others should also be held accountable for their actions and obligations to uphold human rights.

Solidarity

We stand in solidarity with all who are subject to injustice. We have a responsibility to strive for the realisation of human rights for all of us. We seek to demonstrate our mutual commitment and obligations to each other and work to strengthen our collective voice.

Our mission

is to lead and inspire work to respect, protect and fulfil economic, social, and cultural rights in the UK.

Principles for our work

Inclusiveness

Everyone has a contribution to make and the right to participate in decision-making that affects their lives. We actively work alongside and engage people from diverse backgrounds and different perspectives in our work.

Partnership

We believe we can achieve more by working with others than we can alone. We aim to work collaboratively with a wide variety of people and organisations who share our values.

Political independence

We do not affiliate to or support any political party. We seek to influence people from all political parties in the pursuit of our mission.

A better UK

We want to live in a more just and compassionate UK, where everyone is guaranteed the basic requirements of a dignified and flourishing life.

Right now, people are experiencing soaring levels of poverty, a health service in crisis, a social security system no longer fit for purpose, poor working conditions, restrictions on the right to strike and discrimination at work and in education, healthcare, and housing.

These are all human rights issues.

The UK Government has already committed to fulfilling our basic rights - to food, water, healthcare, a home, decent work, an education, and more - under international law. However, it is falling well short of meeting these obligations, and successive UK Governments have rebuffed calls from the United Nations to incorporate these rights into domestic law.

But the tide is turning, as more and more of us recognise the need for permanent, lasting solutions to poverty and inequality.

We believe economic, social, and cultural rights are key to achieving this change; and creating a more resilient and just society that meets the needs and protects the rights of us all.

The UK Government and public authorities must be held to account on their existing human rights obligations. These rights must also be effectively enshrined into domestic law, so the UK Government and public authorities would have to act to ensure people have an adequate standard of living, and everyone can enforce their own rights, live well and flourish.

We are working to make life in the UK better for all of us. Help us get there faster.

Our unique role

We are the only UK-wide civil society organisation focusing on everyday human rights – economic, social, and cultural rights - in the UK. We are specialists in ESCR policy, research, and practice, and have an established track record, extensive networks, and strong partnerships.

How we work

Our goal is for ESCR to be incorporated into domestic law, and for the UK Government and public authorities to be effectively held to account in relation to their human rights obligations.

If we are successful, these rights will be better respected, protected and fulfilled, and everyone will be guaranteed the basic requirements of a decent life in which they can thrive, with dignity.

We believe we have the greatest impact through working together, and so we work collaboratively with other activists and organisations.

Our focus for the next three years will be on:

- continuing to be a thought leader and advocate for ESCR and
- building a stronger, more united civil society across the UK that is confident to use ESCR in their work.

Together we will develop a broader movement of communities working on and for positive change.

We will do this by playing three, interconnected roles:



1. Convenor

We will bring activists and organisations together to respond to events and opportunities using ESCR. Thinking and acting strategically, we will continue to build a broad ESCR movement.



2. Capacity builder

We will support activists and organisations to use ESCR to tackle rights violations and achieve their own campaign goals. This will involve building their capacity to use these rights in their own work, offering training, bespoke approaches, tools, skills, and confidence building.



3. Advocate

We will advocate for the role of ESCR in building a better UK. We will encourage activists and organisations to use ESCR as a tool for change in their own work and campaigns, catalysing and championing their efforts.

The difference we want to make

If we are successful, ESCR will be better respected, protected and fulfilled, and people will better enjoy these rights across the UK, creating a fairer and more just society for all.

Specifically:

In the short term:

1. Civil society activists and organisations will be more confident and have more capacity to use ESCR as a tool for change.
2. There will be a broader movement of communities working on and for positive change in ESCR.
3. Rights holders will be more confident and have more capacity to know their rights and assert their own power.
4. The UK Government and public authorities will be more effectively held to account on their **existing** ESCR obligations.

In the medium to long term:

1. ESCR will be effectively incorporated into domestic law across the UK.
2. The UK Government and public authorities will be more effectively held to account on their ESCR obligations.
3. People can routinely access, exercise, and claim their ESCR.
4. Everyone living in the UK enjoys their ESCR.



Theory of change

Impact



Everyone living in the UK enjoys their economic, social and cultural rights, creating a fairer and more just society for all.



Long term outcomes

People can routinely access, exercise, and claim their ESCR.



ESCR will be effectively incorporated into domestic law across the UK.

The UK Government and public authorities will be more effectively held to account on their ESCR obligations.

CEILING OF ACCOUNTABILITY

Short term outcomes

Rights holders will be more confident and have more capacity to know their rights and assert their power.



There will be a broader movement of communities working on and for positive change in ESCR.

Civil society activists and organisations will be more confident and have more capacity to use ESCR as a tool for change.

The UK Government and public authorities will be more effectively held to account on their **existing** ESCR obligations.

Activities

Act as a thought leader and advocate for ESCR, undertaking specialist monitoring, research, campaigns, advocacy and communications.

Work with civil society activists and organisations as a convenor, capacity builder and advocate.



Problems

Structural and systematic discrimination and inequality disproportionately impacts specific groups of people and their capacity to exercise their own power.

Access to everyday rights such as housing, health, education, food and social security is not recognised, incorporated or implemented in the UK.

Many people do not have the ESCR knowledge or skills to claim their rights/hold rights-bearers to account.

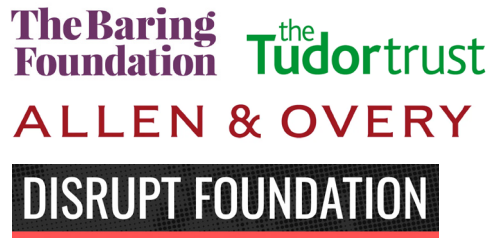
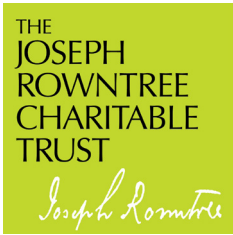


ESCR are not adequately respected, protected and fulfilled across the UK.

We are in an uncertain and divided UK where human rights are under threat.

Our funders

We would like to thank all our funders and supporters including



justfair

c/o Doughty Street Chambers,
54 Doughty Street,
London, WC1N 2LS
www.justfair.org.uk

Send an email

Info@justfair.org.uk

Follow us on Twitter

[@JustFairUK](https://twitter.com/JustFairUK)

Like us on Facebook

[JustFairUK](https://www.facebook.com/JustFairUK)

Registered as
Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in the UK
Charity number: 1141484
Company number: 07394478