Making Rights Real, Scotland

Report to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) as part of 77th Session examination of the United Kingdom

13/01/2025

1.0 Background

1.1 Making Rights Real (www.makingrigtsreal.org.uk) is a small human rights NGO based in Scotland that supports grassroots communities who have been marginalised to name and claim their human rights. Founded in 2020, using a human rights-based approach, our main areas of work have been alongside women and girls' groups and members of the Gypsy Traveller[1] community in Scotland.

1.2 We do not work across the whole United Kingdon and focus our work on Scotland.

1.3 We have been working for over three years with community partners[2] to gather evidence of their concerns and highlight these in this report ahead of CESCR's examination of the UK at its 77th Session in February 2025. We hope the Committee will find this evidence that has come direct from human rights defenders we are working alongside helpful.

2.0 Our methodology

2.1 We use the PANEL principles and FAIR approach alongside communities that have been marginalised and are experiencing human rights concerns.[3] We support communities to carry out participatory action research to identify the issues for the community, to frame these in human rights terms, to identify the duty bearers responsible, and what the community wants to see change to realise their rights. We then support communities to measure the progressive realisation of rights through indicators set by the community using grassroots human rights monitoring and to participate with the duty bearer to advance progress.

3.0 Summary of Areas of Concern

3.1 The right to an adequate standard of living, including adequate food, clothing, and housing, and the continuous improvement of living conditions, is enshrined in Article 11(1) of the 1966 International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR).

3.2 The issues presented in this report reflect significant gaps in rights realisation, particularly in culturally appropriate accommodation, housing, healthcare, income and entitlement to social security benefits which provide enough to sustain the right to food, clothing and to heat a home, and participation of rights holders. These human rights violations are exacerbated and disproportionately experienced across marginalised groups, particularly women, disabled people and Gypsy Travellers, and multiple layers of discrimination and marginalisation intersect to compound the enjoyment of ESCR and other related rights.

[1] The Scottish Gypsy Traveller community is not a homogenous community, is diverse in nature and therefore the term of designation (officially Gypsy Traveller) can be disputed with some preferring Traveller and others preferring Gypsy Traveller, as is people's right to self- define. In this report, we use the term, Gypsy Traveller.

[2] Our community partners are three Gypsy Traveller communities in two Local Authority areas in Scotland including (tenants at Tarvit Mill in Cupar, Fife and in Double Dykes in Perth and Bobbin Mill in Pitlochry, Perth and Kinross), one tenant's group in Edinburgh (Cable's Wynd House) and two women's groups - in East Lothian (Fa'side Women and Girls Group) and Highland (North Highland Women's Wellbeing Hub).

[3] For explanations about PANEL and FAIR, see our website: https://makingrightsreal.org.uk/using-your-rights/

3.3 The failure of the Scottish Government to include the long-awaited Incorporation of Human Rights Bill in its Programme for Government in September 2024[4] represents a significant regression in the rights framework. The First Minister has broken promises to rights holders and civil society groups over the last decade to include a Bill which would enshrine economic, social and cultural rights (along with other Treaties) directly in Scots law.

3.4 This report calls on the CESCR to urge State parties to incorporate ESCR into legislation and to meet their obligations under the Covenant and ensure progressive rights realisation using the maximum available resources.

4.0 Right to Housing

Tinker Experiment and legacy of forced assimilation of Gypsy Travellers in Scotland - inadequate accommodation

4.1 There is widespread evidence of forced assimilation of Gypsy Travellers by the State into 'Tinker Experiment'[5] [6] [7] [8] [9] sites in Scotland. Despite direct campaigning by the rights holders most impacted and significant media interest on this issue, there has been little action by the State towards an apology, nor redress for the Tinker Experiments or the intergenerational trauma experienced by the victims involved.

4.2 The 113th Session of CERD in August 2024 made concluding observations and recommendations to urge the Scottish Government to address the forced assimilation of Gypsy Travellers and address issues in relation to inadequate accommodation for Gypsy Travellers in Scotland[10].

4.3 *"Forced assimilation of Gypsy/Traveller communities in Scotland*

> *53. The Committee is concerned about reports that the causes and consequences of the forced assimilation of Gypsy/Traveller communities in Scotland have not yet been adequately addressed by the State party, notably the government of Scotland (arts. 5 and 6).*
>
> *54. The Committee recommends that the State party, including the government of Scotland, adopt all measures necessary to tackle the causes and legacy of the forced assimilation of Gypsy and Traveller communities and ensure that members of these communities are able to participate in all relevant initiatives in this regard."*

Gypsy Traveller accommodation in Bobbin Mill, Pitlochry

4.4 Gypsy Travellers at Bobbin Mill in Pitlochry, which was one of the original Tinker Experiment sites have long endured the legacy of forced assimilation in their experiences of poor-quality accommodation, only gaining access to hot water and electricity in 2009. In human rights monitoring carried out by residents in 2023, residents expressed grave concerns about the

[4] https://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/viewpoint/24711868.the-scottish-government-turned-back-marginalised/
[5] https://www.thenational.scot/news/24031536.cultural-genocide-scotlands-gypsy-traveller-community/
[6] https://bylines.scot/lifestyle/history/the-tinker-experiment/
[7] https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m001p77p
[8] https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18117533.scandal-tinker-experiment-demands-apology-scotlands-treatment-gypsy-travellers/
[9] https://blog.historicenvironment.scot/2023/06/persecution-of-gypsy-travellers-in-scotland/
[10] https://documents.un.org/doc/undoc/gen/g24/152/87/pdf/g2415287.pdf

lack of action on their accommodation issues and their enjoyment of the right to standardised accommodation.

4.5 Every resident (out of four participating) experienced:

- Inadequate heating
- Dampness / mould
- Sewage / draining issues
- Problems with the fabric of the building
- Mice / rat infestations.

Comments by residents included:

> *"Generally [we have a] very poor standard of accommodation that requires urgent repairs if not complete overhaul – needs demolished altogether, and official apology issued."*
>
> *"There hasn't been a lot of involvement regarding any future plans for Bobbin Mill. Had to fight tooth and nail to get any present issues dealt with."*
>
> *"Poor heating system, poor insulation, poor window quality. Too expensive to heat my home. There is no heating system! Four windows were broken by youths shouting, "dirty t**k!" What are radiators? No electricity, water!"*

4.6 Tenants also experience poor connectivity and digital exclusion at Bobbin Mill, since the Local Authority does not provide a suitable broadband connection, undermining the community's cultural rights. The community is also concerned that a suitable community meeting space is not provided by the Local Authority, despite providing free community meeting space facilities and Wi-Fi on their other Gypsy Traveller site. Tenants at Bobbin Mill have expressed that this reflects an ongoing legacy of exclusion and discrimination against their cultural rights following the Tinker Experiment.

4.7 We welcome CESCR's call, in the List of Issues for this session, for State parties to report on digital inclusion and urge CESCR to comment on the digital exclusion experienced by Gypsy Travellers at Bobbin Mill. *"42. Please provide information on measures taken to facilitate everyone's access to the right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress, including ensuring access to the Internet and digital literacy training specifically for disadvantaged and marginalized individuals and groups, aiming at closing the digital divide, as well as measures to safeguard the right to privacy and cultural identities.*[11]*"*

4.8 Tenants at Bobbin Mill have written to the Scottish Housing Regulator about the standard of their accommodation, the lack of digital access and inequality experienced in Perth and Kinross Council's approach to providing community meeting spaces to maintain cultural rights. The SHR is now investigating these complaints as part of their Serious Concern Process.

4.9 Making Rights Real welcomed that SHRC reported in its *NHRI Input to the List of Themes for the Combined twenty-fourth to twenty-sixth periodic reports submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UK) under article 9 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination* that "Gypsy/Traveller communities

[11] List of issues in relation to the seventh periodic report of United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, section 42 on cultural rights https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=E%2FC.12%2FGBR%2FQ%2F7&Lang=en

experience significant barriers to culturally appropriate housing including due to stigma and discrimination.[12]" We urge the CESCR to address this issue also.

Gypsy Traveller accommodation in Double Dykes, Perth

4.10 In a resident-led grassroots human rights monitoring project over three years[13] residents at Double Dykes Gypsy Traveller site in Perth, have highlighted breaches of ICESCR Article 11(1), which recognises the right to culturally appropriate accommodation.

4.11 The Double Dykes Travellers' site remains plagued by inadequate housing conditions despite incremental improvements. A 2024 survey revealed:

- Mould and Damp: 83% of respondents reported these issues, slightly reduced from 87.5% in 2022, but still far above acceptable levels.
- Sewage and Drainage: Persistent problems affected 67% of households.
- Heating Issues: Increased from 50% in 2022 to 83% in 2024.
- Infestations: Mice and rats remain pervasive, with 83% of households affected.

4.12 Residents have described their homes as hazardous to health, with one stating*, "I'm using bleach and mould remover and got scarring on my lungs. Is that from the mould?"* These conditions violate ICESCR's requirements for adequate housing that protects inhabitants from health threats and structural hazards.

4.13 The persistent issues at Double Dykes highlight failures in providing housing free from health hazards. The presence of mould, dampness, and sewage problems violates the obligation to ensure safety, habitability, and adequate infrastructure.

4.14 Whilst the site is now being redeveloped with significant investment from the Scottish Government and Perth and Kinross Council, people have been living with substandard accommodation over many years and remain concerned about the way they were able to participate in discussions over site improvements.

4.15 Tenants in Double Dykes have written to the Scottish Housing Regulator about the standard of their accommodation, and ways they were able to participate. The Regulator is now investigating their complaints as part of their Serious Concern Process.

Gypsy Traveller accommodation in Tarvit Mill, Cupar

4.16 A community of 100+ Gypsy Travellers living at Tarvit Mill - a Local Authority provided Gypsy Traveller site in Fife - are experiencing human rights violations regarding their accommodation and living conditions. They have been advocating for recognition about the way they have been treated regarding the development of their site - which has left families in poor quality temporary accommodation for over a year.

4.17 Tenants wrote to the Scottish Human Rights Commission[14], who have met with tenants as part of wider Spotlight work examining Gypsy Travellers' experiences of human rights failures in Scotland. We welcome this action.

[12] *NHRI Input to the List of Themes for the Combined twenty-fourth to twenty-sixth periodic reports submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UK) under article 9 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination* (SHRC: May 2024) https://www.scottishhumanrights.com/media/2651/cerd-list-of-issues.pdf

[13] *Our Human Rights Matter: Human Rights Monitoring Report by Residents of Double Dykes Traveller Site, Perth* (Aug 2023) https://makingrightsreal.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/FINAL-DD-Report-Aug23.pdf

[14] https://www.scottishhumanrights.com/projects-and-programmes/spotlight-projects/cultural-recognition-of-scotlands-gypsy-travellers/

4.18 Tenants also wrote to the Scottish Housing Regulator (SHR) - about failings in their right to culturally accessible accommodation - who have investigated and upheld tenants' complaints, finding serious failings in the way Fife Council has managed the site[15] and requiring improvements, which the Regulator will independently monitor. We strongly support this action by the SHR, and their willingness to enable the participation of Gypsy Travellers in their investigatory process.

4.19 What the Regulator has not done, is link these failures explicitly to the right to accommodation (CESCR, article 11(1)) or other specific human rights instruments, which tenants had articulated in their complaint. This highlights a gap in the law and in regulatory systems whereby duty bearers are not equipped to respond to rights holders' specific human rights issues in human rights terms. This inhibits rights holders from directly naming and claiming their human rights and accessing justice / redress using the human rights framework.

4.20 We would urge that the Committee recommends the regulatory and monitoring frameworks in Scotland explicitly link human rights instruments to the laws, structures and processes governing duty bearers in Scotland.

4.21 Funding for the site improvements at Tarvit Mill comes from the Scottish Government's Gypsy Traveller Accommodation Fund and Fife Council. Tenants wrote to the Minister for Equalities in the Scottish Government who wrote back to tenants saying, "*While I am sorry to hear about their concerns and that some of the points raised previously remain unresolved, the matters raised are the responsibility of Fife Council.*"

4.22 We ask the CESCR recommends that the Scottish Government take responsibility for the strategic failures in overseeing the allocation and use of funds, ensuring that the right to culturally accessible accommodation is maintained consistently for Gypsy Travellers in Scotland, particularly where funding has been provided by the Scottish Government.

4.23 Similarly, we call for a national investigation into the application of Gypsy Traveller Site Standards, and a participatory review of these standards to ensure they meet the right to housing.

4.24 We also call for the Scottish Government to review and enhance tenancy rights of Gypsy Travellers, so they meet the Scottish Secure Tenancy (SST), which is the common standard for social housing tenants in Scotland. Currently, Gypsy Traveller tenants on Local Authority sites are afforded an occupancy agreement which does not contain the same rights as an SST.

4.25 We also call for an increase in the number of quality sites for Gypsy Travellers in Scotland, so the community can maintain their accommodation and cultural rights.

4.26 Access to legal justice for Gypsy Travellers in Tarvit Mill who are seeking redress over failures in their right to accommodation has been extremely difficult. Making Rights Real has not yet been able to find legal representatives to support the community in accessing justice, despite the Scottish Housing Regulator's findings of serious failures by Fife Council. This is a systemic issue which highlights racial injustice and discrimination in the legal system. CERD 113th Session commented on this, with the Committee remaining "*concerned that the reforms of the legal aid system have restricted access to justice for individuals belonging to ethnic mi-*

[15] https://www.housingregulator.gov.scot/about-us/news/regulator-finds-serious-failings-in-fife-council-gypsytraveller-site/

norities in areas that affect them the most, such as family, housing, immigration and social welfare law (CERD Para 49)." This echoes the obstructive experiences we have had in securing legal support for Gypsy Travellers in Scotland.

4.27 The concerns outlined by communities we are working alongside are echoed in a recent report by the Scottish Women's Budget Group which highlights voices of Gypsy Traveller women in Scotland. As one participant said, "*It's been 30 years and nothing worthwhile has been done… they waste money on things that's useless to us.*"[16] In one finding, the report highlights that the reduction in provision of culturally appropriate housing for the Gypsy/ Traveller community and the failure to identify the level of need suggests that there are ongoing human rights breaches in relation to this.

Social housing standards in Cables Wynd House Edinburgh

4.28 Tenants in social housing provided by the City of Edinburgh Council have carried out participatory human rights monitoring over three years to measure the realisation of housing rights.

4.29 In a report being launched in January 2025, their research underscores violations of ICESCR Article 11(1), as prolonged delays in repairs, lifts consistently breaking down, and the worsening prevalence of mould infringe upon the right to continuous improvement of living conditions. Residents' experiences of neglect and inadequate responses from duty-bearers contravene obligations to provide effective remedies.

4.30 The Cables Wynd Residents Group's findings reveal an alarming deterioration in repair response times:

- Waiting Times: In 2024, 50% of residents had been waiting over two months for repairs, and 27% had been waiting over a year, compared to 28% waiting over six months in 2022.
- Prevalence of Mould: Increased from 37.5% in 2022 to 53.1% in 2024.

4.24 The emotional toll of disrepair was significant. One resident expressed, *"Constant worry about what will go wrong next makes me feel really low. It's a nightmare. The house feels like it's crumbling around us."* Such delays and conditions undermine the Covenant's commitment to continuous improvement of living conditions.

5.0 Right to Healthcare

Access to healthcare for women in North Highland

5.1 North Highland Women's Wellbeing Hub has carried out participatory action research into issues in healthcare access and quality in North Highland which violate ICESCR Article 12, which obliges states to ensure the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health. The lack of accessible maternal and gynaecological care highlights systemic failures to uphold the rights of women[17].

5.2 Women in Caithness reported severe inadequacies in healthcare, particularly in obstetrics and mental health services:

[16] https://www.swbg.org.uk/content/publications/MECOPP-Report-final.pdf
[17] https://www.channel4.com/news/the-struggle-for-womens-healthcare-in-the-scottish-highlands

Obstetric Care: Long journeys to Inverness (up to 5 hours each way) during labour, births in emergency settings, and insufficient pain relief have caused trauma. One woman recounted, *"Friends of ours...she was three days in agony, and they ended up giving her an emergency c-section anyway. She cannot step foot back into Raigmore* [the hospital in Inverness] *now."*

Mental Health: Poor maternal healthcare contributed to post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other mental health challenges. Women reported that "a lack of dignity" and "extreme stress" during pregnancies exacerbated their mental health struggles.

5.3 These gaps contravene the Covenant's obligations for duty bearers to provide accessible healthcare and to uphold dignity and choice in maternal care.

5.4 Making Rights Real supported North Highland Women's Wellbeing Hub to reflect their issues in human rights terms to present breaches to the Minister for Health, and to contact the Scottish Human Rights Commission, who investigated their concerns as part of a wider investigation[18] into human rights concerns in the Highlands and Islands, sparked by the economic, social and cultural rights issues raised by NHWWH.

5.5 Despite there being a women's health plan in Scotland, no health board has allocated funding specifically to implement recommendations.

6.0 Right to Adequate Standard of Living

Cost-of-Living Crisis and Women's Rights – East Lothian

6.1 The Scottish Women's Budget Group (SWBG) has worked with Making Rights Real and members of Fa'side Women and Girls Group (FWGG) in East Lothian over two years, to use gender budgeting tools to look at how the current cost of living crisis is impacting women and girls in the East Lothian area and how gender blind approaches to decision making are impacting on women and girls being able to access their human rights.

6.2 The current cost-of-living crisis does not impact everyone equally. Issues such as austerity, wage stagnation, rising inflation, and the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, all impact women more because of pre-existing structural inequalities. Rising costs have hit individuals on the lowest incomes the hardest.

6.3 This disproportionately impacts women as they are more likely to experience poverty throughout their lifetime with lower levels of savings and wealth in comparison to men, as well as being unable to increase paid work due to caring responsibilities. Where women have different characteristics or social identities (race, class, ethnicity, sexuality, disability, women living in rural areas, on low incomes for example), inequality is increased and is experienced like a double, triple or quadruple whammy.

6.4 The research of 278 women and in girls in the Fa'side area found that disabled households, single mothers and single households are most impacted by the cost-of-living crisis:

- 36% of survey respondents struggle to manage food costs

[18] https://www.scottishhumanrights.com/projects-and-programmes/spotlight-projects/economic-social-and-cultural-rights-in-the-highlands-and-islands/

- 50% struggle to manage energy costs
- 31% struggle with housing costs
- 32% struggle with transport costs
- 44% struggle with childcare costs
- 55% struggle with social care costs

6.5 Duty bearers such as East Lothian Council, the Scottish Government and UK Government are breaching a host of human rights for women and girls including:

- Art 1, 23, 25 & 27 of the UN Declaration of Human Rights
- ICESCR (International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights)
- CRPD (Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities)
- UNCRC (UN Convention on the Rights of the Child)
- CEDAW (Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women)

6.6 The research conducted in East Lothian highlights how austerity, wage stagnation, and inflation disproportionately affect women, particularly single mothers and disabled women:

Food and Energy Insecurity: 64% of single parents struggle to afford food, and 70% struggle with energy costs. Many skip meals to feed their children.

Childcare Barriers: Limited affordable childcare prevents women from accessing better employment opportunities. One respondent stated, *"I'd go back to work, but childcare costs would leave me with nothing."*

6.7 Findings from our report emphasises the importance of incorporating gender-based budgeting to address systemic inequalities:

- Unequal resource allocation: traditional budgeting overlooks women's specific needs, exacerbating economic inequities.
- Impact of cost-of-living crisis: gender-blind approaches have worsened challenges for women, particularly single parents and caregivers.
- Rights-based framework: budgeting processes should promote equality, transparency, and participatory approaches, addressing barriers faced by marginalised groups.
- Income thresholds set by the State for accessing financial support can create a poverty trap which disproportionately impacts women.

6.8 These challenges undermine the right to an adequate standard of living and gender equality, as articulated in ICESCR and CEDAW (Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women) and we urge the Committee to seek action to compel redress on these issues.

7.0 Specific rights violations for protected minority groups

Issues from CERD 113th Session

7.1 There are human rights violations experienced by the Gypsy Traveller communities we are working alongside, which we raised with CERD at the 113th session, which we urge the CESCR to also consider and comment on:

7.2 Poverty: *"The Committee is concerned about the high levels of poverty, unemployment, wage disparities and overrepresentation in low-paid or precarious jobs experienced by members of ethnic minorities, in particular Gypsies, Roma, Travellers."*[19]

7.3 Right to Housing which is culturally acceptable: Gypsy Travellers have a Right to Adequate Housing (Article 11.1 of ICESCR) which includes the right to housing which is culturally adequate. The UN states that "Housing is not adequate if it does not respect and take into account the expression of cultural identity." The Committee has underlined that the right to adequate housing should not be interpreted narrowly. Rather, it should be seen as the right to live somewhere in security, peace, and dignity. The characteristics of the right to adequate housing are clarified in the Committee's general comments No. 4 (1991) on the right to adequate housing."

> *"Despite the steps taken by the State party, the Committee remains concerned about the shortage of sites for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities and about the inadequate conditions and dangerous locations of many of the existing sites" (CERD Para 41)*
>
> *"The Committee recommends that the State party, including the governments of Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales, ensure the provision of adequate and culturally appropriate accommodation for Gypsy, Traveller and Roma communities and create more sites and stopping places for these communities." (CERD Para 42)*

7.4 Health *"The Committee is concerned about the adverse impact of structural inequalities in the social determinants of health and the access to affordable and quality health care of persons belonging to ethnic minorities, in particular Gypsies, Roma, Travellers."*

7.5 Access to Justice: The Committee *"remains concerned that the reforms of the legal aid system have restricted access to justice for individuals belonging to ethnic minorities in areas that affect them the most, such as family, housing, immigration and social welfare law." (CERD Para 49)*

8.0 Human rights monitoring and human rights budgeting

Addressing the Implementation Gap

8.1 In all the community action research we have carried out with communities, there is an implementation gap between what State parties say they will do in policy papers and strategic plans to advance human rights, versus how these policies are experienced by rights holders in practice.

8.2 What we often encounter when highlighting human rights breaches, through the publication of reports and resources, is that duty bearers may not know they are duty bearers and are not measuring what matters to rights holders, nor are they measuring the progressive realisation of rights (Articles 2-5) in any systematic way.

8.3 Human rights indicators in the National Performance Outcomes are scant and could be developed so that rights holders could assess progress on rights.

[19]CERD 113th Session concluding observations accessed via https://documents.un.org/doc/undoc/gen/g24/152/87/pdf/g2415287.pdf

8.4 Disaggregated data which would highlight how different groups experience their human rights, is not routinely kept or shared by public authorities, nor is it easy to "follow the money" and highlight accountability for financial decision making. Budgets are often opaque, or do not explain how decisions which impact on people's enjoyment of human rights have been taken.

8.5 Human rights budgeting is not developed enough in practice across public authorities, nor is gender-based budgeting, despite incredible efforts by civil society to try to influence this budget-setting methodology.

8.6 These gaps make it difficult for communities and rights holders to truly monitor, and influence how progressive realisation is measured in Scotland.

9.0 Questions and Recommendations for CESCR

We request that CESCR asks the state parties to:

- Incorporate ESCR and other Treaties into legislation.
- Meet their obligations under ICESCR and ensure the progressive rights realisation using the maximum available resources.
- Ensure the regulatory and monitoring frameworks in Scotland explicitly link human rights instruments to the laws, structures and processes governing duty bearers in Scotland.
- Act on an apology and redress for victims of the Tinker Experiments in Scotland.
- Act to improve accommodation and security of tenure rights for Gypsy Travellers in Scotland.
- Ensure that regulatory systems for public services in Scotland embed human rights obligations and schemes of redress for rights holders to enable adequate access to justice on human rights concerns.
- Centre human rights in their services, planning and financial decision making in Scotland.

10.0 Conclusion

The findings in our submission underscore the urgent need for progressive realisation of human rights as enshrined in ICESCR and other international instruments. Marginalised communities in Scotland, including Gypsy Travellers, low-income residents, and women, continue to face systemic barriers to realising their rights to adequate housing, healthcare, and economic security. Duty-bearers must act decisively, leveraging maximum available resources to address these disparities and fulfil their human rights obligations.

Making Rights Real will continue to monitor progress and support communities to hold authorities accountable for upholding the rights of marginalised groups.