



Annual Report, 2022 - 2023

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Our main campaign achievements this year

It has been another busy year at Jubilee Scotland. We have been involved with a number of campaigns in the period March 2022 - April 2023, and we have many achievements to celebrate.



Debt Justice for Zambia

In October our Executive Director Line Christensen spoke at a meeting for the Scottish Parliament's Cross Party Group on International Development on the topic of 'Prospects for Debt Justice in Zambia'. Eugene Kalibika joined the meeting online from Zambia, as the former director of Caritas he was able to give an insight into the impact of the economic crisis on people in Zambia. Shona Rhiach joined the meeting online in her role as UK director to the IMF.

Jubilee Scotland made the case for large-scale debt cancellation to support economic recovery in the global south with specific action points for MSPs and recommendations for next steps.

As a result of the meeting, these recommendations were sent to Neil Gray, MSP, Minister for Culture, Europe and International Development (The Scottish Government). This letter was drafted by [Scotland's International Development Alliance](#) (who organised the meeting) and Jubilee Scotland, and was sent to the Minister on behalf of Sarah Boyack (MSP, Convenor CPG on International Development), Maggie Chapman MSP, Karen Adam MSP, John Mason MSP and Alasdair Allan MSP.

We were also able to suggest specifics for Sarah Boyack to raise with her Labour colleagues in Westminster in November 2022. One of these recommendations was for the UK to act on the evidence that has been submitted to the House of Commons International Development Select Committee for their inquiry into debt relief in low-income countries.

In March 2023 the UK's International Development Select Committee released their report into debt. The Committee's recommendations to the UK government include that:

"The UK Government should consult on the introduction of legislation to compel or incentivise participation of private creditors in the Common Framework, such as those proposed by the World Bank. This should include proposals either:

- a) to prevent low-income countries facing debt distress from being sued by private creditors for a sum greater than that those creditors would have received had they participated in the Common Framework; or
- b) to make debt restructuring agreements binding for all private creditors, if the agreement is supported by at least two-thirds of private creditors."

While the committee does not have the power to make this happen, Jubilee Scotland is excited to see these recommendations from the committee. The UK government has to respond to their recommendation by 10th of May 2023, and we are hopeful that this can result in a meaningful step forward for debt justice.

We would like to thank Sarah Boyack, who chaired the Cross Party Group meeting on debt, for her efficiency in making a plan of action and the other MSPs (Labour, SNP and Greens) for their engagement.

Read more about the meeting here: '[Debt justice for Zambia and beyond](#)' by Scotland's International Development Alliance.

Climate Justice



In November we took part in a march with an estimated 10,000 people in Edinburgh highlighting climate justice and the interconnection with debt justice, human rights and the cost of living crisis. Alongside [Global Justice Now](#) and other partners we created a protest outside HSBC calling on the bank and all private creditors to cancel the debt and stop squeezing money from countries already paying the high price for climate change.

Read more about our [march for Debt Justice](#).

Debt Justice & Loss and Damage



Ahead of COP27 the Scottish Government hosted a Loss and Damage conference in Edinburgh. Jubilee Scotland's Executive Director was invited to speak at the conference, and presented the case for debt relief as a key component in the mission to tackle climate adaptation and Loss and Damage in vulnerable countries.

A Synthesis Report from the conference, 'Addressing Loss and Damage: Practical Action' was published by the Scottish Government with debt justice featuring prominently in the First Minister's foreword:

'...it is clear that finance for loss and damage should not generate or compound debt for those it aims to support, leaving developing countries less able to respond to future climate impacts. Communities are already paying in loss of land, jobs, cultures, ecosystems and lives. Our support must break, not reinforce, this cycle.'

We are proud that our submission featured in [their report](#) and we welcome that Scotland was one of a number of countries to pledge money towards a vital Loss and Damage Fund at COP27. A hard won victory for activists and advocates the world over.

Read more here: [A Win for Debt Justice on Loss and Damage](#).

Scotland Against Public Private Partnerships (PPPs)

Our main focus in the past year has been to push for an alternative to the way public infrastructure is financed and managed in Scotland. Among the many activities we have undertaken, a few stand out as important achievements:

Position paper & meetings on the issue

During the past year we have been working with the Scotland Against PPPs Task Force to develop advocacy strategies and a position paper. Thank you to all who contributed to this.

This position paper has been the basis for meetings with MSPs from Scottish Labour, the SNP, the Scottish Greens and the Scottish Conservatives. We have also met with local councilors, the Scottish Futures Trust and major trade unions such as EIS, GMB and Unison.

In all meetings we have been able to discuss our concerns about PPPs and ideas for an alternative. We have used every meeting as an opportunity to hear from stakeholders and understand how they see the opportunities and challenges on the issue.



Speaking engagements & articles

This year we have produced a range of different content, in order to get the word out about our campaign and the problems with PPPs:

- Our Executive Director appeared on the Common Weal Policy Podcast on the episode '[Financing Failure](#)', where she explained why we are campaigning against PPPs
- We have written and published a number of [PPP articles for the Jubilee Scotland website](#).
- We have written a number of articles to feature in the newsletters and on the websites of our allies:

Stop Climate Chaos Scotland; the Common Weal Newsletter; Scotland's International Development Alliance and Reform Scotland.

- Our Executive Director spoke about PPPs in the context of the Wellbeing Economy at an event organised by Edinburgh University's student Forum for Global Human Rights
- The Task Force managed to get an article about PPPs in the Herald Scotland - a huge win for advancing public understanding of the issue, [read the article here](#).

Poll and petition

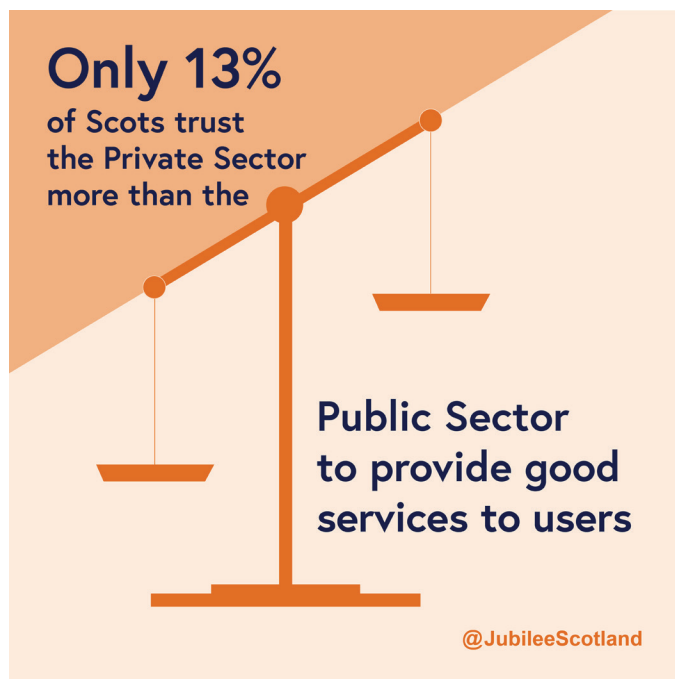
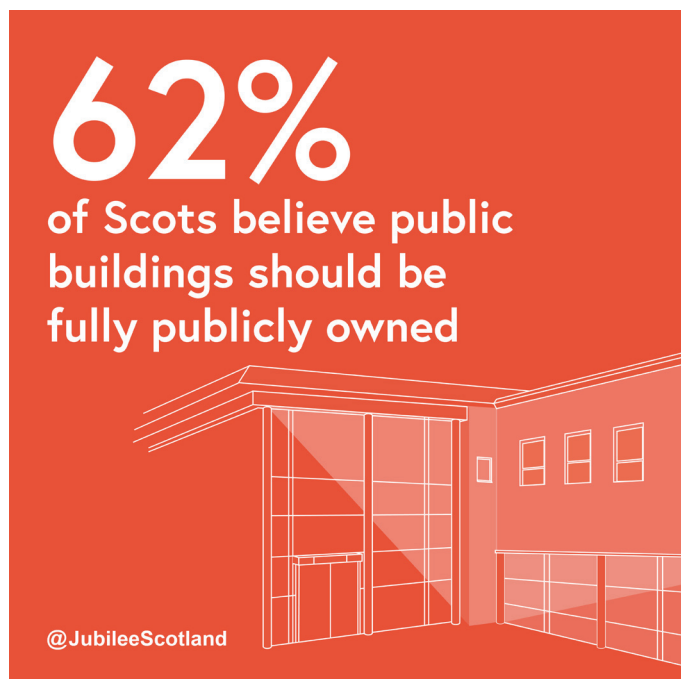
In order to illustrate the public support for our PPP campaign, we commissioned a poll and submitted a petition to the Scottish Parliament.

The poll showed significant support among Scottish respondents for the PPP issue to be addressed:

- 62% believe that public buildings such as schools, hospitals and community centers should be fully publicly owned.
- 67% think that it is important to address that the Government uses a scheme where private companies can make large profits from designing, building and managing public infrastructure.

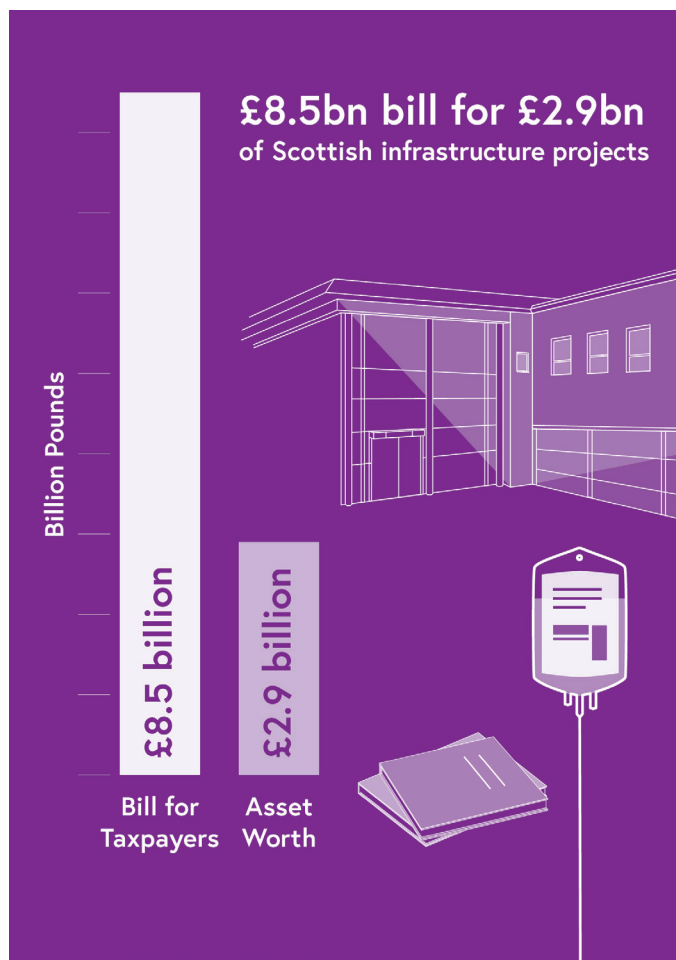
The polling results also showed that there is a lack of trust in the private sector among respondents:

- Only 13% trust the private sector more than the public sector to provide good services to users.
- Only 16% trust the private sector more than the public sector to provide good value for money.
- Only 15% trust the private sector more than the public sector to offer fair working conditions and salaries to maintenance staff and cleaners.
- Only 15% trust the private sector more than the public sector to offer accountability and transparency.
- Only 12% believe that private companies should be responsible for financing infrastructure if that means higher overall costs.



Based on these polling results Jubilee Scotland submitted a [petition](#) to the Scottish Parliament, asking for Scotland to abolish the use of PPPs. The petition collected signatures from the public, and we ended up getting 391 signatures - thanks in part to the wonderful illustrations and the animated video ([watch on the Jubilee Scotland website](#)) we were able to share on social media. Thank you to our own Katelynne Kirk for the illustrations and Cristina Ertze from BitterBlue Productions for the animation.

Working Group at Parliament



Our Future is Public

Our Executive Director was invited to the Our Future Is Public conference in Chile for the launch of the [History RePPPeated II report](#).

The report featured our case study on the high cost of PPP hospital parking in Scotland during the height of the Covid pandemic alongside six other case studies. The report evidenced PPPs failing in Liberia, India, Spain, Mexico, Peru and Nepal in a range of sectors such as education, water and transport.

The conference in Chile brought together advocates and experts working to abolish PPPs around the world, and we were very excited to have Jubilee Scotland represented there.

The conference resulted in the [Santiago Declaration](#), which Jubilee Scotland has signed on to, and the conference also inspired us to start planning a webinar launch of the History RePPPeated report. We are currently working on this with allies.

On the 23rd of March 2023 we hosted a Working Group meeting at Parliament on the issue of PPPs and the need for an alternative way of financing public infrastructure in Scotland.

The meeting was co-sponsored by four MSPs: Ross Greer (Greens), Miles Briggs (Conservatives), Katy Clark (Labour) and Paul McLennan (SNP). We owe them all a huge thank you for sponsoring the meeting, and thereby establishing the possibility to address the issue with cross-party support. The meeting saw MSPs, local councilors, Parliament staff, trade union staff, campaigners and members of our own task force come together.

It was a very interesting meeting, which made it clear that there is a huge appetite for finding an alternative to PPPs. It was decided that we will collaborate to get the issue onto the working programme of a committee and host another Working Group meeting in the Autumn.



Debt Justice for Sri Lanka

Jubilee Scotland's next campaign will be 'Debt Justice for Sri Lanka'. The focus is to push for global financial system change through legislative action which we hope will mean progress for all countries facing debt crisis. This past year, we have created a strong proposal for our campaign, and have been meeting with Scottish, UK based and international allies about possible paths forward and ways to collaborate.

We are very grateful to all those who supported our Big Give campaign in December 2022. Through generous donations we have raised over £2,000 to support the 'Debt Justice for Sri Lanka' campaign. We cannot thank you enough!

Our other work

Throughout the year, we have been working with many other groups and allies on issues and campaigns:

- Attended Eurodad conference in Brussels
- Our Executive Director stepped in as SCCS International group co-chair
- We supported independent researcher with COP26 appraisal to ScotGov
- Added Jubilee Scotland's name to campaign calling for debt cancellation for Ukraine
- Worked with Debt Justice on our quest for cancellation with BlackRock via MP letter-writing and IDC enquiry briefing
- Participated in monthly Global Debt Coordination meetings
- Participated in Eurodad climate finance working group calls
- Participated in bi-weekly UK debt coalition meetings
- Attended webinar on 'The Power of Big Finance'
- Attended All Coalition meeting and AGM for Stop Climate Chaos Scotland
- Attended SIDA's Annual Conference 2022 and Spring Conference 2023
- Attended launch event for report on fiscal measures for climate justice
- Attended CAN-International and Debt Justice online consultation on debt and climate
- Attended the African Climate Dialogues - Loss & Damage Session
- Attended civil society meeting with UK IMF director Shona Riach
- Signed on to open letter requesting for consultation on IMF Comprehensive Surveillance Review
- Signed Jubilee Scotland up as a member of the CPG on International Development
- Signed on to Statement for Global Week of Action for Justice and Debt
- Signed on to letter on debt to G7 Finance Ministers
- Signed on to letter asking for new issuance of SDRs for Global Crisis Relief
- Amplified campaigns from allies on social media
- Responded to the Members Bill Consultation on the proposed Freedom of Information Bill (by Katy Clark, MSP, Scottish Labour)
- Responded to the Members Bill Consultation on the proposed Wellbeing and Sustainable Development (Scotland) Bill (by Sarah Boyack, Scottish Labour)

News within the organisation

Throughout the year, we have been working with many other groups and allies on issues and campaigns:

- Tess Humble, who joined the Board of Directors in March 2021, has stepped back. We would like to take this opportunity to thank her for the excellent work she did with Jubilee Scotland in her time on the Board.
- Emily Macpherson who joined Jubilee Scotland in July 2021 as our Communications and Administration Assistant, moved on to a new job in August 2022. We wish Emily all the best with her new role, and would like to thank her for the great work she did in her year with Jubilee Scotland.
- The Jubilee Scotland team welcomed Katelynne Kirk as Campaign, Communication and Admin Assistant in September 2022. Since then she has helped design and implement the communications strategy for campaigns and the overall organisation. Katelynne has also looked after the administrative side and the running of the office. You can get in touch with her by contacting katelynne@jubileescotland.org.uk
- Amalie Kristensen, joined Jubilee Scotland for an internship in August 2022. She is a student at Aalborg University (Denmark). Amalie has worked with us on campaigns and the administrative side of the organisation. She is currently writing her Master's thesis which is focused on Loss and Damage, and continues to be affiliated with Jubilee Scotland as our Loss and Damage Focal Point.
- Our Executive Director, Line K. Christensen, had her last day with Jubilee Scotland on 31st of March 2023. Line joined the team in March 2019. She will be moving on to a job with SCIAF. Jubilee Scotland would like to thank Line for the wonderful job she has done while leading the organisation.
- Our Fundraising and Campaign Officer, Rosa Balliero joined us on the 2nd of May 2023. She has taken the helm, leading the organisation as we progress our Scotland Against PPPs campaign and work towards new, exciting projects.

Thank You

Our work this year has been made possible by the generous support from funders:

- Our PPP campaign is funded by the Friends Provident Foundation. We are very thankful for the support given by them!
- We also owe a huge thank you to our membership organisations and all our individual donors who support the work of Jubilee Scotland.

Get involved

There are many ways to get involved with Jubilee Scotland's work:

Join our mailing list:

Stay up to date on the latest developments and opportunities to take action. Sign up on our website, or email us about it.

Promote our campaigns via social media:

Follow us on Twitter and Instagram under the handle @JubileeScotland and LinkedIn @Jubilee Scotland

Join our board as an individual:

We are always looking for individuals willing to donate their time and skills. Read more about this on our website (under About us → Jobs and Volunteering)

Take action:

Check out our website for the latest debt justice campaigns, or talk to us about whether there are any volunteer opportunities in campaigns we are running.

Write for our website:

If there's a debt justice issue that you're particularly interested in then write about it and we shall feature your piece on our website.

Become a member:

Organisations can join Jubilee Scotland as members. Contact us to hear more about membership fees and how we can collaborate. Member organisations can nominate a representative to our board and have a say in the running of the organisation and its campaigns.

If you have questions about any of these ways to get involved, email us at mail@jubileescotland.org.uk