Social Policy



**Free Contraception Scheme**

Women and people with a uterus aged 17 to 25 can get contraception for free.

The costs covered include:

* GP or doctor’s appointments
* prescriptions given by your doctor
* your choice of contraception
* fittings and removals of implants and IUDs or IUSs
* any check-ups or other follow up care needed
* emergency contraception (morning after pill)

**Implementation of Policy**

* Social Policy can take many forms. It can mean promises in political party manifestos or the programme for government.
* Social policy becomes the laws and regulations, national strategies, funding plans, government circulars and the budget.
* Each government inherits existing policies and can change them or introduce new ones

What does Social Policy look like?

* Social policy touches all of our lives. Its fundamental concerns are about human need, social justice, and individual and collective wellbeing.
* Addresses issues and needs in society such as education housing, welfare, health and care gender equality, and the environment.
* Social policy can be influenced by civil society through lobbying and campaigns.
* How policy is actually implemented in practice can be different to the written intention of government or a public body.
* Shortcomings or loopholes between formal policies and how things work in practice are sometimes referred to as implementation gaps.
* Implementation depends on how much **effort, emphasis** and **funding** is given to a policy.

**Example of Social Policy**

