

## KEY STAGE 4

# How do charities tackle social issues?

## What are social issues?

You may have already discussed social issues in Lesson 1 of First Give. As a reminder, a social issue is a problem that affects many members of society. For example:

- ◆ Poverty
- ◆ Mental health issues
- ◆ Climate crisis
- ◆ Physical health issues
- ◆ Racism
- ◆ Homelessness



# Individual responsibility

Read the story below or listen to it [here](#).

“Jack is 18. He lives at home with his dad and his little sister who is 7. His dad is not well and Jack is responsible for caring for his dad and his sister. He is also the only one bringing in a weekly income from his job.

Recently at work, they have been making people redundant as they can't afford to keep all of the staff on. Jack finds out that he is being made redundant with no notice. As of next week he will not have a wage.

He tries to find another job, and he applies for benefits. He is unable to receive any money for another six weeks and there aren't any jobs that he's qualified for. He doesn't want to worry his dad, so he doesn't say anything.

The stress and anxiety get too much for him, and during an argument at home he shouts at his dad and his little sister, slams the door and leaves. He steals a bottle of cider from the local off license and sits in the park to have a drink. He doesn't want to go home.”

**This story features a range of social issues. Look at the scale below. Select where you would place yourself on the scale.**

It is Jack's fault that these issues occurred, and society should not have to take responsibility for his mistakes.

Jack is not responsible for all of the problems in his life. He can help himself if he is given support.

Jack is not responsible for any of the problems in his life – he should have been given support sooner.



**Write one paragraph to explain why you put your cross where you did.**

Blank space for writing a paragraph explaining the choice on the scale.

# Societal responsibility

Below are three examples of groups within society that provide support for people affected by the social issue of unemployment.

## Government

The Government in the UK provides a weekly amount of money (Universal Credit) to people who are unemployed. They are usually required to be looking for a job while they receive this payment.

## Charities

A range of charities provide different services for unemployed people. For example, the Shaw Trust mentor people on how to be successful at a job interview and The REFA charity gives career advice to ex forces personnel.

## Individuals

Some individuals donate to or fundraise for charities like those mentioned above. Others volunteer to mentor and help people who need support directly. Sometimes individuals join or even set up campaigns to change the help that the Government offer the unemployed.

**Choose your own social issue – either from the case study or something completely different. Using the internet, research what those same groups are doing to help people affected by your social issue.**

**TIP** Include actual examples if you can find them.

## My social issue

## Government

## Charities

## Individuals

## Who should be involved?

Select all the groups below that you think should be involved in tackling your chosen social issue (choose as many as you want)

Individuals

Family

Schools/Colleges

Faith groups

Government

Charities

In one sentence, explain why you think that.