

Will Glasgow be part of Universal Basic Income experiment? Here's what you need to know All residents of Glasgow, Edinburgh, Fife, and North Ayrshire could be set to receive a monthly sum from the government

By [Kirsty McKenzie](#) 16:29, 28 DEC 2017 [News](#)



A Universal Basic Income (UBI) pilot scheme could be coming to Scotland, according to new reports.

A UBI plan would mean all residents receive an unconditional payment from the Government, regardless of their circumstances.

A trial of the system began at the start of this year in Finland and there could be plans for similar trials in Glasgow, Edinburgh and Fife in 2018, according to [Futurism](#).

Supporters of UBI believe that a small, unconditional offer of money could help encourage innovation and entrepreneurship, while others worry that it result in cash being diverted from the poorest to the better off.

Public funding has already raised £250,000 for the idea which will allow the respective cities to develop studies to see whether or not scheme is feasible.

The four cities have until March 2018 to submit their bids.

First Minister Nicola Sturgeon said: “It might turn out not to be the answer, it might turn out not to be feasible.

“But as work changes as rapidly as it is doing, I think its really important that we are prepared to be open-minded about the different ways that we can support individuals to participate fully in the new economy.”