

ANTI POVERTY STRATEGY CONSULTATION

BREAKDOWN OF MAIN POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE RESPONSES TO PROPOSALS ON USE OF BROAD RANGE OF STATISTICAL INDICATORS AND RESEARCH EVIDENCE

POSITIVE

| Summary of <u>main emerging views</u> received on: USE OF BROAD RANGE OF STATISTICAL INDICATORS TO MONITOR PROGRESS IN REDUCING POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION IN NI | |
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| Summary of comments on existing indicators | Approximate Level of Support: |
| Support the useage of a broad range of indicators to monitor progress, with some indicating the need for improvement – too complex; must be more quantifiable and span economic and social areas. | 25 |
| Consistent with comments on the Regional Action Plan proposal. Some highlight the need to be consistent with EU NAPs for Social Inclusion format and an element of consistency with those identified for the UK, which would facilitate / enable comparisons between UK regions and other EU States to be made, eg data on family income & poverty should be as well developed as those in GB, and GB poverty targets should apply equally to NI. | 2 |
| <p>Some limitations highlighted concerning existing geographical research / indicators, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has potential to exclude small pockets of deprivation in high income areas, eg Taughmonagh / Upper Malone. • Fails to incorporate needs of particular groups of people living in rural areas • Use of ward levels ineffective in identifying level of disadvantage of individuals <p>+</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple deprivation indicators excludes | 23 |

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| <p>disadvantaged groups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The use of Relative poverty as an indicator may not be an effective measure as long as the gap between the rich and poor continues to widen. • Consensual poverty would need to be continuously defined, and even then would fail to capture information necessary to measure financial / material poverty at individual level, and will not identify social exclusion at any level. • Evidence that overall reduction in employment differential between Catholics and Protestants has been questioned. • Calls for all s75 NI Act groups should be included, not only Catholics and Protestants. | |
| <p>Summary of comments Suggesting new Indicators / Research should be carried out</p> | <p>Approximate Level of Support:</p> |
| <p>Suggestions for new indicators, to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘soft’ indicators used in European community Initiatives relating to social inclusion and employment • Social Capital measurements, eg Morrissey M Research to Identify Key Indicators to Measure Social Capital in Neighbourhoods 2004; or Community Evaluation NI proposal. • Fuel poverty should be key indicator • Indicators on financial exclusion, eg those used by Treasury concerning bank disclosure of lending and investment in deprived communities involving baseline study to measure investment flows and access to financial services. • School-going population with special needs. • Accessibility and mobility indicators • Early Years indicators, eg “The proportion of children aged 0-14 years availing of high quality care, play and education opportunities”. • People receiving one or more benefits <p>Suggestions for new research to be developed include:</p> | <p>25</p> |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis of Government expenditure, including infrastructure, to ensure balanced towards most disadvantaged • Access to training and job opportunities for people who do not have access to a car, similar to studies in GB. | |
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NEGATIVE

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| <p>Summary of <u>main emerging views</u> received on: USE OF BROAD RANGE OF STATISTICAL INDICATORS TO MONITOR PROGRESS IN REDUCING POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION IN NI</p> | |
| <p>Summary of comments.</p> | <p>Approximate Level of Support:</p> |
| <p>None specific</p> | |