

Social Inclusion Forum

25th May 2017

2017

Presentation by Anne Vaughan
Deputy Secretary, Department of Social Protection



An Roinn Coimirce Sóisialaí
Department of Social Protection

Plenary
 Children
 exclusion
 issues
 summary
 poverty
 report
 key
 policies
 questions
 final
 raised
 chaired
 submitted
 five
 Committee
 parallel
 community
 formally
 National
 Session
 Cabinet
 Government
 workshops
 Taoiseach
 Integration
 Social
 Inclusion
 Forum
 Government



Social Inclusion Forum Report 2016

National Action Plan for Social Inclusion 2007-2017

Report of Social Inclusion Forum 2016

"Growing an Inclusive Recovery"



An Roinn Coimirce Sóisialaí
Department of Social Protection
www.welfare.ie

Theme: Growing an Inclusive Recovery

Main points:

- Concern with interim poverty target
- Improve activation model to tailor to the individual's needs
- Regulations on precarious employment
- Adequate resourcing in local authorities for community & local development
- Effective regional & rural development strategies
- Crime & gangland culture
- Labour market & integration strategies - direct provision



Policy developments

BUDGET FACTSHEET An Roinn Cumracha Sóisialaí

**Main Social Welfare Changes and Rates of Payments
Budget 2017 – Department of Social Protection**
€19.85 billion to be spent in 2017 for 2.05m beneficiaries

- €5 increase in max. rate of all weekly payments for pensioners, carers, people with disabilities, widows, lone parents, jobseekers etc. 1.5 million beneficiaries
- Incapacity Pension eligibility will be extended to the self-employed from December 2017 and for Treatment Benefits, such as Dental, Optical and Hearing, from March 2017
- Lone parents package including new €300 Cost of Education Allowance
- More Dental and Optical Benefits for all insured employees and self-employed from October
- Proportionate increases for people in receipt of reduced rate payments and for qualified adult dependants
- 50,000 extra children to benefit from School Meals
- Reversal of cuts to Farm Assist & 500 additional places on the Rural Social Scheme
- €2 million for pre-activation supports for people with disabilities
- Young Jobseekers: full Back to Education Allowance, lower contributions to Rent Supplement
- Christmas Bonus of 85% will be paid in early December to 1.2 million recipients

Improvements in weekly pensions

- €5 increase in all maximum weekly pension payments including State Pension Contributory and Non-Contributory, Widow's, Widower's, Surviving Civil Partner's and Disability Pension with proportionate increases for those on reduced rates of payment.
- Proportionate increases in weekly payments for qualified adult dependants.

Improvements in weekly payments

- €5 increase in all maximum weekly benefits and allowances including Maternity/Paternity /Adoptive Benefits, Illness Benefit, Blind Pension, Carer's Benefit, Carer's Allowance, Disability Allowance, Incapacity Pension, One Parent Family Payment, Jobseeker's Benefit, Jobseeker's Allowance and Farm Assist with proportionate increases for people in receipt of reduced rate payments. This includes increases in employment programmes such as CE, TSS and Rural Social Scheme.
- Proportionate increases in weekly payments for qualified adult dependants.

ACTION PLAN FOR EDUCATION
2017

Action Plan For Housing and Homelessness

Rebuilding Ireland

Ireland – National Reform Programme 2017

National Reform Programme

Ireland

April 2017

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Roinn Cumracha Sóisialaí, Rialaitheolaíoch & Iomaíochas Náisiúnta
Department of Communications, Energy & Natural Resources

A Strategy to Combat Energy Poverty
2016-2019



Social Inclusion Monitor 2015

National Social Target for Poverty Reduction

Social Inclusion Monitor 2015

An Roinn Coimirce Sóisialaí
Department of Social Protection



Main findings:

- Continued improvement in poverty & living conditions
- Consistent poverty unchanged at 8.7% in 2015
- Consistent poverty among children fell to 11.5%
- Combined poverty fell to 33.7%
- Basic deprivation fell to 25.5%
- Slight but not statistically significant fall in at-risk-of-poverty
- Strong role of the social protection system



Annual Convention on Inclusive Growth 2017



Annual Convention for Inclusive Growth

Programme
24 April 2017 > MCE, Brussels

 #ACIG2017



Purpose: brings policymakers & civil society together to discuss EU actions to deliver inclusive growth

Theme: social inclusion of young people & solutions that exist for them to reach their full potential

Mix of plenary speeches, workshops & interactive sessions to exchange ideas & best practices on how to build a Social Europe with and for young people



SIF 2017 Workshops

1.

- Revision of the National Social Target for Poverty Reduction

2.

- Inclusive Labour Markets - Pathways to Work 2020

3.

- Access to Quality Services

4.

- Adequate Minimum Income

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