



# Office for Social Inclusion

An Oifig um Chuimsiú Sóisialta



**The Office for Social Inclusion**

**invites you  
to participate in a Consultation Seminar Series**

**on the development of  
Ireland's National Action Plan against Poverty and Social  
Exclusion 2006-2008 (NAP/inclusion).**

Regional seminars will be held as follows from 9.15 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. each day followed by a light lunch:

- |                      |             |                         |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| • Dublin             | 9 November  | Gresham Hotel           |
| • Carlow             | 22 November | Seven Oaks Hotel        |
| • Cork               | 23 November | Maryborough House Hotel |
| • Limerick           | 24 November | Lynch South Court Hotel |
| • Mullingar          | 29 November | Mullingar Park Hotel    |
| • Carrick-on-Shannon | 30 November | The Bush Hotel          |
| • Donegal            | 1 December  | The Mill Park Hotel     |

## What's the consultation for?

As part of an EU wide commitment to make a decisive impact on poverty and social exclusion by 2010 each Member State of the European Union (EU) is required to submit a two-year National Action Plan against Poverty and Social Exclusion (NAP/inclusion) to the EU Commission by July 2006. This will be Ireland's third NAP/inclusion and follows a previous Plan for 2003-2005 and is part of an ongoing process at EU level. An Implementation and Update Report outlining progress on the current plan (2003-2005) was submitted to the EU Commission on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2005.

The Government is currently in the process of preparing Ireland's next National Action Plan.

The aim and objectives of the consultation seminar series are:

**Aim:** To facilitate the participation of key stakeholders in the development and implementation of the third National Action Plan against Poverty and Social Exclusion (NAP/inclusion).

### Objectives:

To involve people living in poverty and the organisations which represent and work with them to contribute to the process of developing the third NAP/inclusion

To involve local and regional authorities and service providers in contributing to the process of developing the NAP/inclusion

## Who's the target audience?

Participation is welcome from any individual or group interested in contributing to the development of the NAP/inclusion. In particular:

- People affected by poverty and social exclusion
- Community and voluntary organisations working with people experiencing poverty or disadvantage
- National & local elected representatives
- Social partners at local and national level: employer bodies; trade unions; farming organisations; and the community & voluntary sector
- Local statutory or voluntary service providers in education, employment, regeneration, health, housing, childcare, social welfare, recreation/amenities, transport, utilities, infrastructure.

## **What are the key elements of the NAP/inclusion?**

The format for the next round of EU National Action Plans has not yet been decided. However, while it is not agreed, it is likely that the format will be similar to previous plans. The following objectives were set for the 2003-2005 plan:

- To facilitate participation in employment
- To facilitate access to resources, rights, goods and services e.g. income support, health, housing, education, care and transport
- To prevent the risks of exclusion
- To help the most vulnerable
- To mobilise all relevant bodies in tackling poverty

This consultation process is intended to give all relevant actors an opportunity to inform the development of Ireland's next NAP/inclusion. It is also intended that it will inform the negotiations of the social inclusion aspects of future National Partnership Agreements.

## **What opportunity is there to influence the third NAP/inclusion?**

By involving interested bodies and people in the development of the next NAP/inclusion, the Irish Government hopes to draw on the best possible range of experience, knowledge and expertise on preventing and reducing poverty and social exclusion.

## Format of the Seminar

Each seminar will be a half day (morning) followed by a light lunch. A number of workshops will be held on the following policy themes e.g. income supports, housing, health and care, education, employment and training, and rural and urban responses.

The workshops will examine the impact on the various vulnerable groups identified in the NAP/inclusion. These currently include Older People; Women; Children and Young People; Travellers; Prisoners and ex-prisoners; People with Disabilities; Migrants and Members of Ethnic Minority Groups; and People experiencing Urban Poverty and Rural Disadvantage.

New and emerging causes of poverty will also be considered briefly by each working group.

## QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

Over the next two years what are the most important things government and society can do:

- to support people who are most distant from getting paid work in accessing quality and sustainable paid employment;
- to guarantee adequate income and resources for people who cannot earn their

living or are retired to live with dignity;

- to improve access to quality services;
- to develop integrated and coordinated strategies at local and regional levels and especially in those urban and rural communities facing multiple disadvantages;
- to tackle discrimination leading to poverty for groups including people with disabilities, ethnic minorities and immigrants.

**Lessons learned from the current NAP/inclusion demonstrate the need for targets to be outcome focused, specific, realistic and achievable.**

## Other aspects of the consultation process

- A public advertisement in national newspapers has invited submissions
- An on-line web-based consultation questionnaire is also available on the OSI website – [www.socialinclusion.ie](http://www.socialinclusion.ie).

The closing date for this stage of the consultation process is 18 October 2005.

## Further information

*Further information on the NAP/inclusion, poverty and social inclusion may be found on the OSI website [www.socialinclusion.ie](http://www.socialinclusion.ie) or you may call the Office for Social Inclusion on 353 1 7043851. Documents of particular relevance are also on the website.*

Consultation seminar series on NAPs/inclusion

**BOOKING FORM (Please use CAPITAL LETTERS)**

Title                      First Name                      Surname  
\_\_\_\_\_

Job title (role in organisation) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Tel \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

A light lunch of soup and sandwiches will be served following the seminar which will be a half-day in duration.

**Please indicate special requirements:**

Vegetarian  Coeliac  Sign Interpretation

Please indicate other particular needs:

**Social Care/Travel:** For those who require support, out of pocket childcare and travel expenses may be refunded on completion of claim forms and subject to prior agreement with Office for Social Inclusion staff.

**Places will be limited at each regional seminar so *advance booking* is essential. Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis.**

**You will be contacted about your booking only in the event of places being unavailable, otherwise assume your booking is confirmed.**

Please indicate your preferred venue choice and workshop preferences overleaf.

Enquiries to Darren Malone Tel. 01 7043596 or e-mail [osi@welfare.ie](mailto:osi@welfare.ie)

## BOOKING FORM

I wish to attend (please tick) the following half-day seminar (9.15am – 1pm)

09 <sup>th</sup> November	Gresham Hotel, O'Connell St., Dublin	_____
22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Seven Oaks Hotel, Athy Rd., Carlow	_____
23 <sup>rd</sup> November	Maryborough House Hotel, Douglas, Cork	_____
24 <sup>th</sup> November	The Lynch South Court Hotel, Limerick	_____
29 <sup>th</sup> November	Mullingar Park Hotel, Dublin Rd., Mullingar	_____
30 <sup>th</sup> November	The Bush Hotel, Carrick-on-Shannon	_____
01 <sup>st</sup> December	The Mill Park Hotel, Donegal Town	_____

**It is proposed that a number of workshops will be held covering the following themes. Depending on numbers attending and demand for individual workshops not all of these themes may be covered at every regional seminar.**

My workshop preferences in order of choice (1, 2, 3) (please number) are:

Income Supports \_\_\_\_\_

Housing \_\_\_\_\_

Health and Care \_\_\_\_\_

Education \_\_\_\_\_

Employment and training \_\_\_\_\_

Rural and urban responses \_\_\_\_\_

Other Policy areas: sports, culture, legal services, transport \_\_\_\_\_

Cross-cutting issue: gender \_\_\_\_\_

Please note these workshops will explore the above Policy themes as they impact on the various vulnerable groups identified in the National Action Plan against Poverty and Social Exclusion 2003 -2005 and include Older People; Children and Young People; Women; Travellers; Prisoners and ex-prisoners; People with Disabilities; Migrants and Members of Ethnic Minority Groups; and People experiencing Urban Poverty and Rural Disadvantage.

Please return form to Darren Malone, Office for Social Inclusion, Floor 5 Aras Mhic Dhiarmada, Store St., Dublin 1. FAX 01 7043032
--

The closing date for receiving bookings for each seminar is as follows:

Dublin	01 <sup>st</sup> November
Carlow	14 <sup>th</sup> November
Cork	15 <sup>th</sup> November
Limerick	16 <sup>th</sup> November
Mullingar	21 <sup>st</sup> November
Carrick-on-Shannon	22 <sup>nd</sup> November
Donegal	23 <sup>rd</sup> November