Poverty and Social Exclusion Survey 2011
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Objectives

- Measurement
  - Poverty
  - Social exclusion
  - Standards of living
- Analysis
- Dissemination/engagement

Relative poverty

“People are relatively deprived if they cannot obtain, at all or sufficiently, the conditions of life - that is, the diets, amenities, standards and services - which allow them to play the roles, participate in the relationships and follow the customary behaviour which is expected of them by virtue of their membership of society.”

(Townsend, 1993)

Measuring poverty

- Direct measure of poverty
- Consensual or democratic definition
- Material goods and social activities
- Continued development
- Re-base the measure

- The Poor and the Poorest (1965)
- Poverty in the UK (1979)
- Poor Britain (1983)
- Breadline Britain (1990)
- Poverty and Social Exclusion (1999)
- Northern Ireland PSE (2003)

Measuring social exclusion

- “Social exclusion is a complex and multi-dimensional process. It involves the lack or denial of resources, rights, goods and services, and the inability to participate in the normal relationships and activities, available to the majority of people in a society, whether in economic, social, cultural or political arenas.”

(Levitas et al 2007 – for CLG)
Bristol Social Exclusion Matrix

Levitas et al (2007)

Standard of living

- Material well-being across the spectrum (Fergusson et al 2001)
  - Ownership restrictions
  - Social participation
  - Economising behaviour
  - Financial problems
  - Self-assessed standard of living
  - Self-assessed adequacy of income

- Score individuals from ‘severe hardship’ to ‘very good’ standard of living

Methods and timescales

Focus groups 12 focus groups Late 2010

Perceptions Survey N = 3200 (Scotland = 500) 2011 q1

Main Survey N = 4800 hhlds/7250 indivs (Scotland = 1500 indivs) Linkage to administrative data on tax and benefits 2011 q3/q4

Qualitative research Britain: 72 individuals NI: 100 individuals 2011

Analyses

- Current poverty and change over time
- National analyses
- Review official measures and targets
- Social group and location
  - Ethnicity a key focus
- Intra-household relationships
- Inter-relationships between poverty, exclusion and living standards
- Thematic analyses
- NI specific issues

Dissemination and engagement

- Website – www.poverty.ac.uk
  - Follow us on Twitter (!)
- Outputs
  - Research reports etc.
  - Broadcast documentaries
  - ‘Narrowcasting’ – iTunes U, YouTube, OpenLearn
- Engagement
  - Give your views on ‘necessities’
  - Re-analyse data – visualisation tools