

Update of Measures of Spatial Deprivation
Public consultation event
11am, Monday 2 November 2009

Welcome by Gerry McConville

- (i) Overview by Dr David Marshall
Head of Demography and Methodology Branch
- (ii) Update to Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure by
Dr David Marshall and Miss Cathryn McBurney
Presentation outlining proposed changes with two breaks to
take questions
- (iii) Summary

Claire Hackett closed the event.

Summary of Questions

Q1. Regarding modelling benefit take-up, what can NISRA do to include people entitled to but not claiming benefits? What lobbying can NISRA do to boost the sample size of relevant surveys?

Q2. Please provide more information on the decision not to develop a child-specific deprivation measure, as OFMDFM claim to target to eliminate child-based poverty in 2 years.

Q3. Although Housing Benefits are included, there are low income families who may not qualify for Housing Benefit. How are they to be counted now that Tax Credits are unavailable?

Q4. Without tax credits some people may be missed. If a person receives tax credits they cannot receive Housing Benefit.

Q5. Why can NISRA not access the HMRC data?

Q6. Are people who are not economically active counted?

Q7. What can NISRA and other groups do to ensure that all required data for the calculation of deprivation measures is made available? For example Steps to Work data is unavailable.

Q8. Is there any count of persons with obesity and diabetes? Are these included in existing indicators? GPs may prescribe exercise by referral for conditions such as obesity, heart disease and high blood pressure.

Q9. Are NIHE waiting lists considered for persons with disabilities who require specialist houses?

Q10. Does the prescription data use the GP surgery address or a patient's home address? There are areas without a local GP.

Q11. How is information accumulated for an area with no primary school?

Q12. Is access to early years provision considered? i.e. educational provision for children aged 0-5 years. SureStart has outcomes-based data for 0-5 year olds.

Q13. What if a deprived area suffers from a problem or has a source of data than other areas do not – how can this be measured across all of NI? E.g. SureStart available in some areas and not others.

Q14. Deprivation for 0-5 year olds is not being measured – how could this be done?

Q15. How is access to services identified? E.g. Interface areas – there may be a leisure centre nearby but a portion of the community will not use it.

Q16. Would it be possible to create an access to services domain rather than a proximity to services domain?

- The majority of people who use Falls leisure centre do not live in the Falls area.
- Similarly nobody in the Suffolk area will use the Andersonstown leisure centre.
- Issues to consider with 'access' include chill factors, waiting lists and public transport. This could be addressed in a further-reaching review.

Q17. It is surprising that Translink will not provide public transport data for the deprivation measure – are the public not entitled to this information?

Q18. Is this domain based entirely on NIHE data? How is that relevant to all of Northern Ireland – in particular to homeowners?

Q19. Is the HCS a sample survey?

Q20. Have NISRA considered the concentration of houses of multiple occupancy as a possible indicator?

Q21. At a ward level, how do you correct for differing concentrations of affluence/deprivation within a ward?

Q22. What is the response rate for the House Condition Survey?

Q23. Have NISRA considered the effects of imprisonment in a community? There were large numbers of political prisoners during

the conflict in Northern Ireland in areas such as West Belfast. Although data is difficult to come by it may be possible to consider health indicators, employment and pension data, access to services, prisoners, housing, deaths to consider an Index of the Troubles.

Q24. How is vehicle theft measured? If a car is stolen from an area and abandoned in another area, where is the crime attributed to?

Q25. Does the crime need to be reported to the PSNI to be included? An incident will not be recorded as ASB if a car is found and reported abandoned – will this be included?

Q26. Has NISRA considered trying to measure where the people who commit the crimes are coming from via prosecutions or convictions data?

Q27. Who decided the domain weights?

Q28. Why are the domain weights rounded figures?

Q29. Is family size considered in the deprivation measures?
