

# Social Inclusion Forum

25<sup>th</sup> May 2017

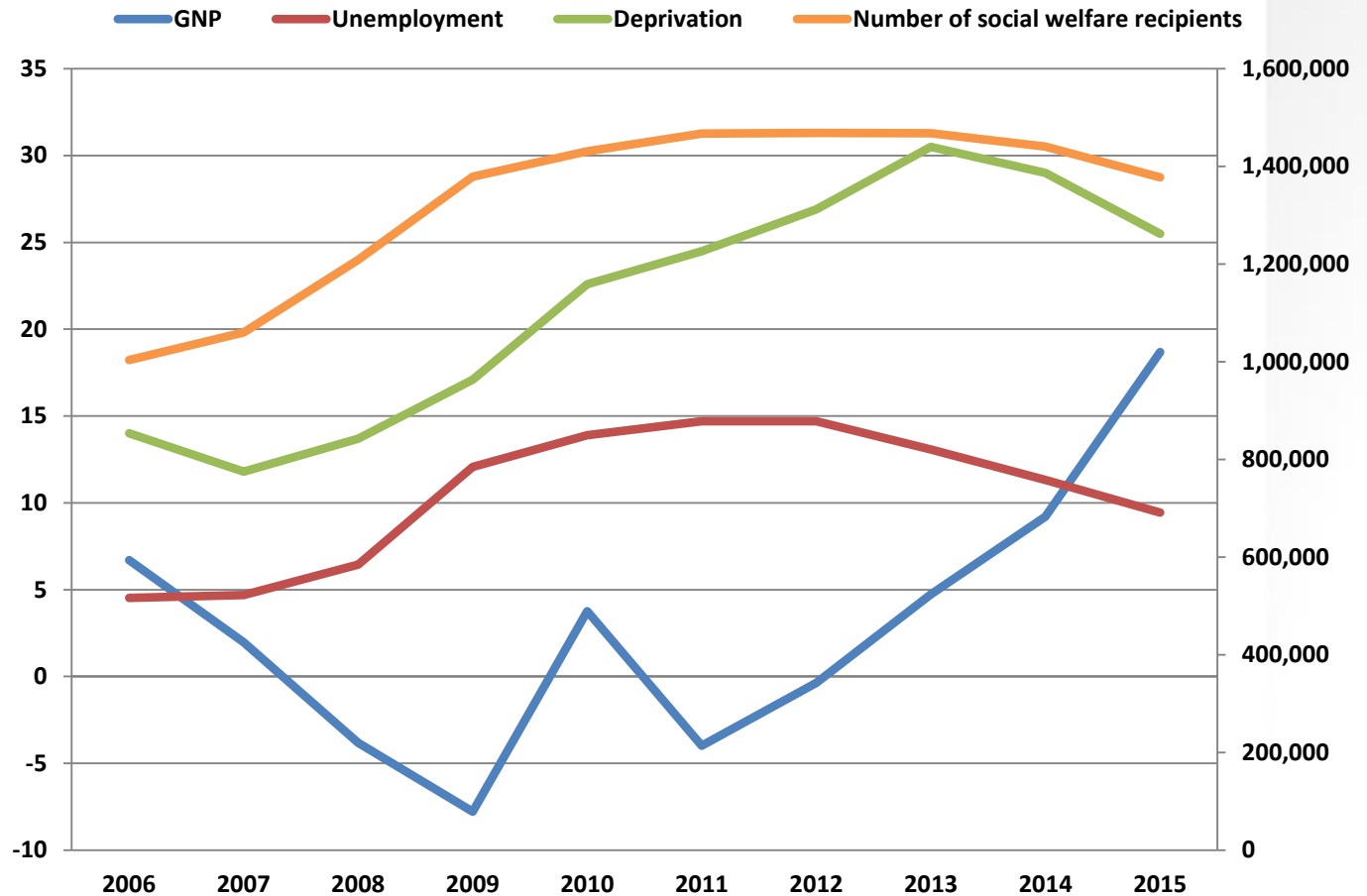
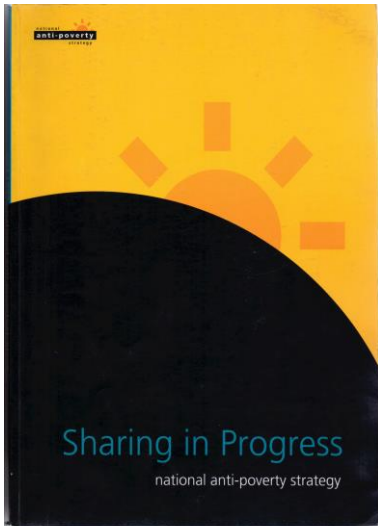
2017

Presentation by Joanne Mulholland  
Assistant Principal, Department of Social Protection

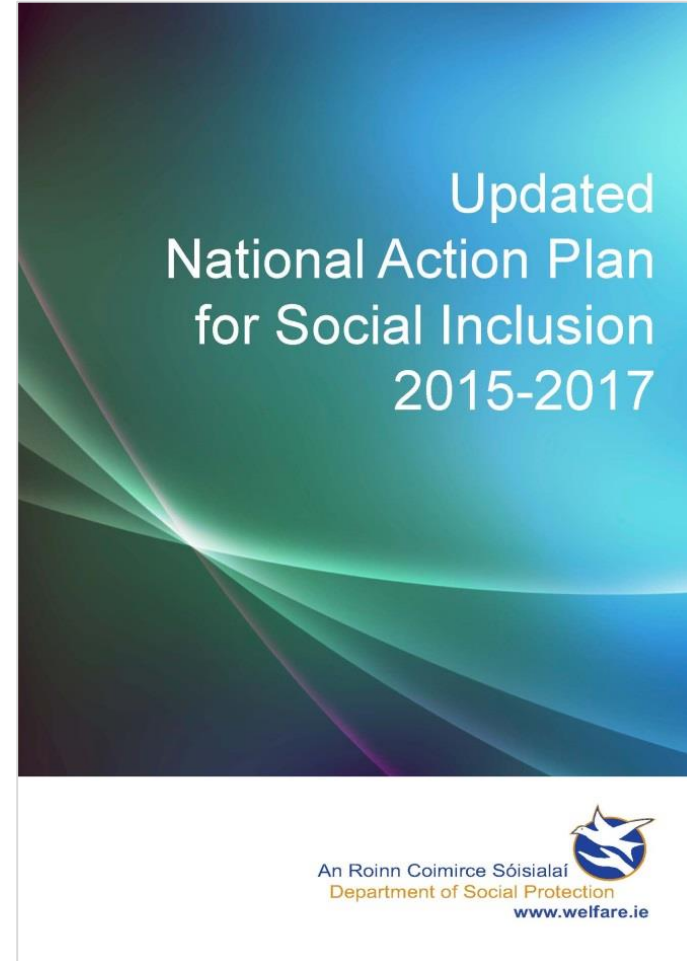


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Department of Social Protection

# National Action Plan for Social Inclusion



# Updated National Action Plan for Social Inclusion



# Monitoring, implementation & institutional structures

National Social Target for Poverty Reduction

## Social Inclusion Monitor 2014

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Department of Social Protection  
www.welfare.ie



Research Briefing

## Social impact assessment of the welfare and income tax measures in Budget 2017

November 2016


This briefing presents a social impact assessment of the main welfare and tax measures in Budget 2017. It includes the increase in the national minimum wage and revised rent limits for housing support payments. It also includes the Christmas Bonus payable in December 2016.

Social impact assessment is an evidence-based methodology which estimates the likely effects of policies on household incomes, families, poverty and access to employment.

The assessment was prepared by the Department of Social Protection. It is based on the tax/welfare microsimulation model SWITCH developed by the Economic and Social Research Institute.

Responsibility for the analysis rests solely with the Department of Social Protection.

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**Main findings**

- Average household incomes increase by 1 per cent (€9.20 per week) as a result of Budget 2017.
- The bottom two income quintiles gain most, with smaller gains among the middle and top quintiles. The bottom quintile gains over three times that of the top quintile.
- Social welfare measures primarily benefit the bottom two quintiles. The weekly payment increase for pensioners results in the bottom quintile gaining 0.3 per cent. The other welfare measures, including the rate increase for working-age adults, benefit those in this quintile by 0.9 per cent.
- Income tax measures, though spread across all quintiles, are most beneficial to middle and higher income groups (0.6 per cent).
- Non-earning households gain most from Budget 2017. Non-earning lone parents and couples with children gain the most at 4.5 and 4.2 per cent respectively.
- Other family types that experience above average gains include non-earning couples and singles with no children, retired couples and singles, and earning lone parents.
- The population at-risk-of-poverty rate falls by 0.8 percentage points so social transfers continue to perform strongly in reducing poverty.
- The bottom quintile benefits most from the increase to rent limits for housing support payments. There is a negligible impact (c. 0.01 per cent) from the increase to the minimum wage.
- Compared to the previous year, Budget 2017 has a stronger progressive pattern with bigger gains for the bottom quintile and smaller gains in the remainder.

# EU and international developments

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**SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
GOALS**



# National Action Plan for Social Inclusion - next steps

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- Prepare the Social Inclusion Forum Report 2017;
- Prepare the biennial Social Inclusion Report for 2015/2016;
- Review the National Action Plan for Social Inclusion 2007-2017;
- Consult further with relevant stakeholders;
- Initiate work on the new National Action Plan for Social Inclusion



# New National Action Plan for Social Inclusion

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- Structure: Active inclusion? Life-cycle & communities?
- Time period: 4 year? 10 year?
- Targets: headline consistent poverty? Child consistent poverty? Irish contribution to the Europe 2020 poverty target? Supporting indicators?
- Monitoring, implementation & institutional structures?



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THANK YOU



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