

***ACTIVATION:
WHAT'S HAPPENING FOR
UNEMPLOYED AND JOBLESS
HOUSEHOLDS?***



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ESRI & DSP Research Brief



- 'Work and Poverty in Ireland 2004-2010'
- High rate of jobless households: structural problem
 - ▣ Inadequately addressed during Celtic Tiger years
- Jobless households influencing factors:
 - ▣ never worked;
 - ▣ unskilled manual / service class;
 - ▣ no educational qualification;
 - ▣ have a disability;
 - ▣ lives or parenting alone.

Policy Implications identified

- Addressing jobless households > unemployment
- Labour market activation: means of exiting poverty in the long term?
- Broader range of services required
- Change models need > Live Register; risk of LTU
 - ▣ Broader definition of unemployment?
- Concerns raised re child poverty and jobless households
 - ▣ Funding to local communities where joblessness high cut!
- Social transfers important in addressing poverty
 - ▣ How to ensure smoother welfare to work journey?

Current Developments



- Department of Social Protection:
 - ▣ DSP + FAS Employment & Community Services + Supplementary Welfare system
- Pathways to Work
- Intreo model being rolled-out
- Review of Employment Support Schemes

“Pathways to Work” – Five Strands

- “more regular and on-going engagement with people who are unemployed
- greater targeting of activation places and opportunities
- incentivising the take-up of opportunities
- incentivising employers to provide more jobs for people who are unemployed, and
- reforming institutions to deliver better services to people who are unemployed.”
(p5)

“Pathways to Work” – Four Goals

- 75,000 of those currently LTU ⇒ work by 2015;
- Average duration of new unemployed ⇒ < 12 months (21+months);
- ‘Employers’ ⇒ increasing proportion of vacancies filled by DSP ES from LR to 40%;
- ‘For the Tax-Payer’ ⇒ "will contribute to the Department of Social Protection meeting its target of achieving control savings on expenditure on welfare payments of which a significant proportion is expected to be in respect of working age payments." (p9)

Intreo



- Intreo the name for the National Employment and Entitlement Service.
- The 'Intreo' process consists of five main elements:
 - ▣ An integrated 'one-stop-shop' reception service
 - ▣ A single decisions process
 - ▣ An integrated activation/employment service process
 - ▣ Social Contract – Rights and Responsibilities
 - ▣ Employer Engagement

Programmes Available Post Review

- Work Programmes
 - ▣ Combined Community Employment & Tús
- Internships
 - ▣ JobBridge
- Training and education
 - ▣ BTEA; Combined Part-time option; Combined TESG/TATs/LES Mediation; AFSP
- Self-employment supports
 - ▣ BTWEA; STEA;

Will jobless households reduce?

- Changes underway are focusing on the Live Register: *how* transferable will the model being developed be?
- Work has a role to play in addressing social exclusion *but* it must be decent work.
- Activation will only succeed in supporting people to get back to work *if* the services are person centred and seek to meet their needs.
- Equality and social inclusion principles are critical.

INOU

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- Thank you for listening