



Report on Combat Poverty
led Consultation Process for
People Living in
Vulnerable Circumstances

To Inform

**Ireland's National Action Plan
Against Poverty and Social Exclusion
2006 – 2008**

February 2006

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Combat Poverty Agency would like to thank all those who took part in the consultation process and gave of their ideas and experience so generously.

Combat Poverty acknowledges the work of the Centre for Corporate Community who planned and undertook the consultations and prepared this report.

DISCLAIMER

The views expressed in this report are not necessarily those of the Combat Poverty Agency

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1. INTRODUCTION

In the context of its role in supporting consultation on the National Action Plan against Poverty and Social Inclusion 2006-2008 (NAP/Inclusion), the Combat Poverty Agency undertook to organise a consultation process focusing on the poverty issues affecting vulnerable groups. This was in agreement with the Office for Social Inclusion (OSI), Department of Social and Family Affairs, who have a lead role in co-ordinating the development of the next Irish National Action Plan against Poverty and Social Exclusion.

The purpose of the Combat Poverty-led consultation was to build on issues raised in the submissions and wide-ranging regional seminars that formed the broader NAP/Inclusion consultation process undertaken by the Office for Social Inclusion (OSI). Combat Poverty commissioned the Centre for Corporate Community to design, facilitate and report on this consultation process. Five consultation meetings/workshops were held.

Combat Poverty's particular interest was in ensuring the views of people and groups in particularly vulnerable situations informed the next NAP/Inclusion 2006-2008. Combat Poverty was also interested in initiating a process of engagement between statutory and voluntary sector organisations that could potentially be continued throughout the lifetime of the NAP/Inclusion plan.

The report of this consultation exercise is structured as follows. Section 2 sets out the methodology. Section 3 provides a summary of the key findings from the workshops. The content of each of the workshops (1 – 4) is summarised in the appendices, which also a list of attendees.

2. METHODOLOGY

The objective was to bring national statutory and voluntary representative agencies of different identified vulnerable groups together to discuss how best to inform the National Action Plan against Poverty and Social Exclusion 2006-2008. A broad range of organisations covering areas such as disability, older people, one-parent families, ethnic minorities and migrant workers, and homeless people were invited to an exploratory meeting on December 10th 2005.

The consultation process that followed picked up on the interest expressed in this meeting and the themes it identified as worthy of further exploration. Four three-hour participative workshops were designed and held between January and February 2006.

The workshops were as follows:

2.1 The opportunity to explore issues of relevance to **immigrants and migrant workers**.

2.2 **Homelessness and accommodation** and how existing strategies and policies on homelessness might be further integrated with NAP/Inclusion.

2.3 Assessing the **effectiveness of existing structures** in representing the needs, perspectives and voices of people in vulnerable circumstances.

2.4 Exploring the **multidimensionality of the experience of poverty** and the implications for policy-making and its implementation.

Each of the workshops was structured to promote discussion, participation and engagement between policy-makers and community and voluntary front-line organisations.

The specific format was as follows:

- Background to NAP/inclusion, OSI and Combat Poverty
- Generating Material Together

For workshops on Migrant Workers and Homelessness this was:

- How would you describe the development and achievements of this sector to date?
- What does society deny or find hard to take when it comes to the experiences of immigrants/homelessness?
- What do you think are the key policy issues to be addressed?
- What would a successful strategy on homelessness look like? What would it deliver?

For the workshop on structures this was:

- How would you characterise Irish public policy making?
- How best to engage with this context from the perspective of eliminating poverty and social exclusion?

- Holding 'political will', 'delivery/administration' 'vision for social change' in the one view – is it possible?

For workshop on multidimensionality this was:

- How Poverty is seen and understood currently?
 - How Poverty was seen and understood 15 years ago?
 - How Poverty was seen and understood 30 years ago?
- What is your best advice regarding participation in NAP/Inclusion and potential roles for OSI and Combat Poverty?
 - So what have we got and how useful was this exercise?

3. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Feedback from the sessions showed that the consultation process was positive and well received. It proved valuable to have a mixed audience of both statutory sector people and representatives of NGOs. Many of the participants that attended the earlier workshops attended again later, so that insights and a more substantial level of understanding were built up over the four sessions. Thinking from each of the sessions informed the planning for the next so there was a sense of cumulative shared insights.

The methodology employed was effective in creating a shared context for thinking. The challenge was to find ways to allow the representation of different perspectives and to engage in genuine dialogue between statutory and voluntary sectors.

These insights are grouped and summarised under the following headings:

- Moving from Consultation to Ongoing Engagement;
- Common Experience of NAP/Inclusion;
- Creating Conditions for Change;
- Policy Understanding and Content; and
- Wider Policy Context.

3.1. Moving from consultation to ongoing engagement

- The methodology provided an opportunity to engage in dialogue and promoted:
 - Getting a range of stakeholders involved;
 - Identifying a shared context;
 - Having a clear purpose;
 - Providing the context for an iterative process over a period; and
 - Having a capacity to work with difference.
- The experience of consultation under NAP/Inclusion is considered valuable but limited. It is very focussed on needs analysis, consensus and representativeness. To support a more sustained process throughout the period of NAP/Inclusion opportunities to identify both intended and unintended consequences arising from policy implementation, effectiveness and impact on the ground should be provided.
- A key challenge is to find mechanisms to include the needs and views of new and emerging groups of people living in vulnerable circumstances on an ongoing basis. Consultation processes and policy formation should be sensitive to changing demographics as they occur. The community and voluntary sector plays an important role in supporting the development of self-interest groups, for example, within migrant and immigrant communities.

3.2. Common Experience of NAP/Inclusion

- Over the last ten years of the National Anti-Poverty Strategy (NAPS) and NAP/Inclusion there is a track record of consultation as part of the policy-making process, some capacity and experimentation around inter-agency working, an acknowledgement of the need for joined-up thinking and putting the service user at the centre of service provision.

- There is a shared sense of frustration at the slow rate of change. The outcomes often do not reflect the energy, commitment, effort and resources invested in the consultation process, or in policy development.
- People's experience of NAPS and NAP/Inclusion and other social inclusion strategies is that there is no sanction to non-achievement of targets or goals. Equally, there is little capacity to acknowledge achievement. Therefore, the focus remains at problem identification and planning rather than building on lessons learned. The consequence is a shared loss of belief in the stakeholders' capacity for success.

3.3. Creating Conditions for Change

- Over the four sessions, the thinking around the locus of change shifted from an emphasis on the lack of political will on the part of politicians to an understanding of political will as an act of leadership that is inclusive of politicians, the party political system, public administration and civil society.
- If a proactive leadership is in a range of stakeholders, a critical component of all aspects of policy is where they interact. This was described as creating the conditions for innovation and a different brand of change. For example, such interaction might begin with designing a dialogue to address the following questions:
 - What kind of wealthy society do we want?
 - What choices do we have in this society?
 - What does society deny about poverty and social exclusion?
 - Why is the language of poverty now transformed into social inclusion?
 - What are the commonly held assumptions behind poverty, social exclusion, social inclusion and universal rights?

3.4. Policy Understanding and Content

- While the NESC report (*The Developmental Welfare State, No. 113, May 2005*) was welcomed and can be seen to be a tool for addressing the issues around a continuum of care and joined-up thinking, the concern was that a focus on the individual and family fails to address deep-rooted structural inequalities. An example of this is the trend for gender blind policy development that denies structural inequalities experienced by women.
- There needs to be two types of analysis working together to take account of the complexity of poverty and social inclusion. One that focuses on the community or society and the need for structural change and the other that focuses on the individual and family as the NESC report mentioned above does.
- There is a lack of confidence in the quality of the knowledge base upon which policy is being developed, monitored and implemented. The current focus is on financial accountability and lacks sufficient emphasis on high-level strategic outcomes.
- There is a view that what is researched and measured is what gets done. There was a consensus that policy implementation failed to live up to expectations because of a lack of joined-up thinking. The work that comes from enabling joined-up thinking is neither researched nor measured. The implication is that it is not valued. There is a

disjunction between the policy thinkers, policy makers and policy actors. There is a need for a circular communication between the 'players' at local and national levels with regard to policy development and implementation.

3.5. Wider Policy Context

- Participants suggested that the discussion about poverty and social exclusion is one-sided in that it focuses on the problems of people in vulnerable groups and fails to pay sufficient attention to the changing nature of Irish society. For example, the view that migrant workers are seen as units of labour rather than as long-term participants in Irish society.
- The impact of social partnership in addressing social exclusion was discussed. A partnership approach suggests a need for consensus – however, there can also be negative impacts to a consensual approach. A drive for consensus makes it difficult to hold an alternative view or analysis, thereby reducing stakeholders' capacity to foster change and innovation.
- Responses to not signing up to the last social partnership agreement highlighted intolerance for dissent and created a degree of uncertainty and exclusion.
- The failure to address the inclusion of Travellers in Irish society was articulated and illustrates the powerful role of public opinion in preventing progress on issues such as Travellers' accommodation, health and education.

APPENDICES

SUMMARY OF SESSION ONE: ISSUES OF RELEVANCE TO IMMIGRANTS & MIGRANT WORKERS

4.1. Policy

- Need for a housing/accommodation strategy that addresses specific needs of migrants and new communities and aims for integration rather than the ghettoisation, which is already happening on the ground.
- Policy of direct provision and the Habitual Residence Condition (HRC) need to be reformed. The HRC leads to reliance on assistance from charities, increased homelessness and child poverty.
- There is a need for a circular communication between the local and national with regard to policy development and implementation.
- Services and supports delivery needs to be integrated across Government Departments and State agencies reflecting joined-up thinking at a national level.

4.2. Integration and rights-based policy development

- A comprehensive rights-based policy with integration as its key focus is needed. Government reluctance or opposition to rights-based immigration policy is a major difficulty and challenge. Immigrants are seen as units of labour rather than as individuals participating in society. The focus of policy development should be linked to universal rights rather than to immigrant status and needs and should be towards integration of new communities in the future. Currently state policy on inward migration deals with it as if it were a temporary or short-term phenomenon.
- Society denies access to basic rights to immigrants and members of new communities – particularly in work, education, income, access to services, proper accommodation, family reunification and the right not to be discriminated against.
- Barriers to inclusion for immigrants should be identified.

4.3. Racism

- Society denies institutional and individual racism and discrimination, which is on the increase. Institutional racism needs to be addressed in relevant policies.
- Political leadership does not sufficiently challenge racism.
- Media coverage continually portrays immigrants or members of new communities in negative or stereotypical ways.

4.4. Access to Services

- Address barriers to information about rights, services and entitlements. Adapt existing services to better suit immigrant's needs.

4.5. Exploitation and Employment

- Migrant workers are exploited and need to be better protected against workplace exploitation. Need to enforce labour law and treat all workers equally.
- Domestic workers in particular suffer from workplace exploitation.
- Unions, employers and their networks need to play a more positive and active role in policy implementation.
- Need to review Employment Permits Bill to include spouses, access to jobs and holder of permits issues.
- Develop a system for recognising qualifications from outside Ireland.

4.6. Asylum Seekers

- The degree of exclusion of asylum seekers was consistently highlighted.

4.7. Language

- Important information about services and entitlements needs to be available in languages appropriate to user's needs.
- More and better opportunities to learn English in schools are needed. The need to improving language skills amongst immigrants and those in host communities should be a policy issue.

4.8. Education

- Irish education system needs to be proactive in adapting to the changing faces in schools communities. Ghettoisation is already a feature in schools and is creating problems for the future.

4.9. Public Participation

- There is limited funding and resources to support migrant workers and ethnic-led groups to engage and influence policy development. Need to support capacity building and the work of locally based community groups working with immigrants and new communities, and self-organising groups, so the voices of members of new communities, asylum seekers and migrants are heard.
- Support the development of self-representing organisations of migrant workers and new communities.

4.10. Data collection

- There is a need to collect accurate data on the experiences of immigrants and migrant workers to inform evidence-based policy development

SUMMARY OF SESSION TWO: HOMELESSNESS AND HOW EXISTING STRATEGIES & POLICIES MIGHT BE FURTHER INTEGRATED WITH NAP/Inclusion

5.1. Nature of Homelessness

- Hidden homelessness needs to be uncovered. More accurate data is needed to identify and quantify hidden homelessness e.g. child poverty and in particular the circumstances of children who are living in B&Bs and homeless by way of their parents homelessness.

There is a need in planning to take account of the changing profile of homelessness i.e. people from new communities and members of the Travelling community.

5.2. Diversity of Needs

- Needs of certain groups of homeless not being met – migrant workers (particularly the Polish community), new communities, people with disabilities, ex-prisoners and sex offenders, single parents, children and young people, people with mental health problems and single men.
- Policy and services should develop to reflect this diversity of needs.

5.3. Focus for Support Services

- Support services should focus on areas of highest risk as well as on homelessness prevention e.g. mental health, addiction, family support needs and mediation services.

5.4. Definition of Homelessness

- The definition of homelessness should be clear and agreed by all local authorities. The criteria for going on to, remaining on, and being taken off a local authority's housing list should be clear and agreed by all local authorities. At a local level supports need to be available in the private rented sector also.

5.5. Service Provision Priorities

- Improvements in service provision should prioritise long-term permanent housing.
- Where emergency housing and accommodation is necessary, it should be short term, with an emphasis on assessment of need and putting together supports required to enable people to move out of homelessness and emergency provision.

- The targets for social housing given in the NESC report *Housing in Ireland: Performance and Policy, No. 112, 2004* should be adopted and the funding needed to implement these provided.
- There is a need to break the cycle of homelessness surrounding the prison system. There is a specific need to look at how to address the issue of re-accommodating sex offenders and other prisoners on release from prison.

5.6. *Public Participation and Consultation*

- While it is a challenge, ways must be found to involve homeless people both in consultation and in monitoring implementation. Consultation with homeless service users should be an established principle rather than an *ad hoc* process, particularly at local level.
- There is a need for more opportunities to go beyond consultation. The Combat Poverty process to further enhance the consultation around NAP/Inclusion is an example of giving attention to the elements of joined-up thinking. It is about:
 - Getting a range of stakeholders together;
 - Identifying a shared context;
 - Having a clear purpose;
 - Having an iterative process over a period; and
 - Having a capacity to work with difference.
- Consultation is considered valuable but limited. It is overly focussed on needs analysis, consensus and representativeness. The hope is that consultation will be sustained throughout the period of NAP/Inclusion. Such a sustained process might include opportunities to identify unintended consequences arising from policy implementation and effectiveness and impact on the ground.

SUMMARY OF SESSION THREE: STRUCTURES FOR REPRESENTING NEEDS, PERSPECTIVES AND VOICES OF PEOPLE IN VULNERABLE CIRCUMSTANCES

Characteristics of Irish Public Policy Making

6.1. European Influence

Irish social policy is influenced by the European context. Our social policies are recognised abroad as being progressive and forward thinking. However, our track record in implementing existing social policy is poor, fragmented, and very slow.

6.2. No shared vision

There is no shared vision around what kind of wealthy society we want to be. This is a critical debate and currently there is no real momentum around having it.

6.3. Poverty is not a political priority

Some held the view that poverty is not prioritised within social partnership or by government. Concepts of society and economy have become conflated. The economy is there to serve society but it often feels like it is the other way around.

6.4. Poverty is invisible

Poverty is either invisible to, or tolerated by, the majority. The complex causes and circumstances of poverty are not generally understood. The public lack awareness of poverty issues. There is no consensus as to what the starting point for dealing with poverty is or should be. Our political system, with its oppositional electoral cycle, can lead to mixed messages about poverty in Irish society. It can also lead to assumptions that all political parties are agreed as to what poverty is and what needs to be done about it. This is not the case.

6.5. Need to raise public awareness

There is a need to raise social consciousness about poverty in Ireland - the media is generally unhelpful in this regard, tending as it does, to highlight poverty issues in a one-dimensional and negative way.

6.6. Gap between policy and implementation on the ground

The vision for Irish society can alter and change quite quickly but issues of practical implementation of social policy are much slower to change.

6.7. Poverty should not be seen in isolation

Social policy on poverty should not be seen in isolation. Poverty is connected to issues of race, education, health, physical ability, etc. (Example given of race riots in Paris).

6.8. Language of poverty is changing

Increasingly, the language of social policy from the community/voluntary sector is rooted in a more rights-based equality context and approach.

6.9. More resources needed

The structures that exist for representing the needs, perspectives and voices of people in vulnerable circumstances need to be better resourced. Greater investment in expertise, community/voluntary sector organisations, capacity-building and training initiatives are needed.

6.10. Gap between social research and policy outcome

There is a gap between social research and social policy formulation – most often there is no clear outcome or follow-up. Researchers should formulate recommendations arising from their research in consultation with policy makers. Policy-makers need structured processes to assist policy development based on social research.

6.11. Structures are outdated

Structural changes on a grand scale are needed. The public service needs to be reformed but the Irish political system works against this kind of long-term government-led structural change. Power needs to be decentralised to local government. Shorter-term commitments or steps towards long-term systemic or structural change should be identified for the civil service to work towards.

6.12. Systems need radical reform

The welfare system needs radical reform to become more flexible and responsive to users' needs and to eradicate two-tiered systems. It should be possible for those in vulnerable circumstances, such as lone parents and people with disabilities, to supplement income through welfare.

6.13. Targets are good but not enough on their own

Targets are important for focussing on implementation. However, we should be wary of over-emphasising targets that can lead to narrow approaches to the issue and loss of perspective on the bigger picture.

6.14. Over reliance on consensus can slow progress

There is an overemphasis on the need for consensus within Irish social policy making often resulting in inaction e.g. the lack of consensus on the needs of women in the home compared to women working outside the home contributed to lack of progress with regard to childcare issues.

6.15. Vulnerable groups must be consulted

Consulting with vulnerable groups can be challenging but is necessary. Unintended outcomes or glitches can arise from macro policy development e.g. Welfare to Work policies. It is absolutely necessary to consult vulnerable groups to find out what the problems are and how they can be addressed.

6.16. Needs of vulnerable groups are not mainstreamed

Social policy tends to benefit those who contribute most to society i.e. those who are not in poverty or vulnerable circumstances. The particular needs of vulnerable groups are not mainstreamed into policy formulation e.g. child poverty.

How to improve structures for eliminating social exclusion and poverty

6.17 Consult at the local level

Local consultation is critical to national policy development especially with regard to policy implementation.

6.18 Rights-based discourse

Use of the rights-based discourse frees us from consensus. It is empowering and positive for people in vulnerable circumstances. Local people need to be trained to use the rights instruments available to them e.g. estate management, housing agendas.

6.19 Need to involve people in vulnerable groups in consultation and participation

People in vulnerable circumstances must be consulted as service users or receivers and in terms of policy development and policy implementation. Need to encourage people in vulnerable circumstances to participate in the political system by voting.

6.20 Make consultation more creative

Use technology, reward systems or proven models to make consultation more affective. Use rewards or incentives for participating in consultation, acknowledging people's commitment. E-technology (mobile phones and internet) should be explored as a creative way of engaging those in vulnerable groups. E-technology can be used to enable consultation for people with language or literacy issues. Participants can be invited to train in e-technology methods. Support for the

preparation of 'shadow reports', like CEDAW/UN process offers a model for use in Ireland.

6.21 More resources

Need for greater resources and funding to enable community/voluntary organisations to transfer practice into policy, to network and make links. Many community/voluntary organisations do not have policy officers nor do they engage in contributing to policy.

6.22 Principles of consultation

We should not be too anxious about being representative. There is a need to ensure consultation is a two-way process. Consult in the space between strategies and action plans. Find processes and points of connection where service providers and service users can be in easy contact.

6.23 Act with integrity

Consultation should avoid setting up false hopes or expectations. It is important that those consulted know if consulters reserve the right to make their own decisions at the end of the process. It is important that the limits or parameters, within which consultation takes place, are negotiated and the outcomes for consultation are clear.

SUMMARY OF SESSION FOUR: MULTIDIMENSIONALITY OF POVERTY EXPERIENCE & IMPLICATIONS FOR POLICY-MAKING & IMPLEMENTATION

7.1. Put the individual at the heart of it

There is an overall lack of joined up thinking. We need to put the customer or the client at the centre of the system. There needs to be a continuum of care that responds holistically to the needs of the individual and the family.

7.2. What the real issues are

We know what the problems are – the question is how to deal with them. Good policy, goodwill and targets are not the problems. Change brought about by adding to our public services or structures is not what is needed. We must not focus only on the individual. Implementation is important but the critical problems are to do with structural inequality and an outdated public service.

7.3. Structural inequalities

There are structural inequalities embedded in the political system and at the heart of Irish society e.g. women are more likely than men to live in poverty. The trend is to make policies gender blind e.g. women's health, women's education, unequal pay rates etc. have all been written about and understood in policy terms, and yet the issues remain.

7.4. Gender

Society is in denial about gender disadvantage. Key documents such as NESC's Developmental Welfare State Report (*The Developmental Welfare State, No. 113, May 2005*) are not just gender neutral, they are gender blind.

7.5. Voices of community and voluntary sector not heard

Consultation has been an integral part of policy development in recent years but this is being rolled back in some areas – things are being done for and not with. Key community/voluntary organisations and agencies are concerned not to offend policy makers and politicians. A consequence of this is that there is not enough hard-edged advocacy.

7.6. Consultation and representation

Proper visibility, representation and participation of people in vulnerable circumstances in policy development, monitoring and implementation is critical.

7.7. Need for longer-term planning cycles

Bringing solutions to issues of social inclusion beyond the count down to the next election is a challenge. Longer-term planning frameworks are needed to get beyond the problem of short-term political thinking. The National Development Plan for infrastructure development is an example of longer-term thinking.

7.8.Reform the Public Service

Radical reform of the public service is needed. The civil and public service needs to be modernised and reformed to be able to respond to the demands of more joined-up service delivery. Public services need to change their mindset to serve people who are vulnerable at different times in their life. Being 'poor' or 'vulnerable' are not necessarily permanent states for an individual.

7.9. Demographic effect

The public service is not sufficiently responsive or flexible to adapt to the requirements of a rapidly changing society e.g. changing demographics and attitudes. Policy adapts either too slowly or not at all to these changes reflecting older paradigms e.g. rule against cohabitation for lone parents.

7.10. Use Tools and Indicators

All policies should be proofed for gender, race, poverty and inequality.

7.11. Integration

Integration is not considered enough – it should be lead by the Department for Social and Family Affairs. Ghettos will happen by default as a consequence of what we are *not* doing now in terms of proactive housing, education and other policies.

7.12. We choose who we make poor

Results and outcomes of current policies show that we choose who we make poor - women, children, travellers, those who suffer from mental health problems. For example the concept of gender blind policy often disadvantages women or, from a policy point of view, Travellers experience continuous discrimination.

7.13.Lack of accountability

There are no sanctions when policies are not implemented. No one other than the client or the customer suffers as a result. Systems are needed to address why change did not happen, who is responsible for it not happening and what is going to happen to those who are responsible for it not happening.

7.14. How change is influenced

The community/voluntary sector needs to be more politically astute. Need the organisational capacity to change and adapt and participate fully in political and policy development processes as well as getting more active around getting vulnerable people to vote. Need more resources to allow staff to concentrate on policy development and monitoring policy implementation.

7.15 Engage strategies for getting people to vote

A lot of people living in vulnerable circumstance do not vote. Strategies need to be developed and implemented using current experience to encourage socially excluded people to vote.

7.16. Need for space and interaction

Thinking space is a critical component of innovation. Innovative responses to challenges within the public service and the community/voluntary sector are needed. The new Office of Minister for Children is a good example.

LIST OF WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

ATTENDEES 9TH DEC 2005 – EXPLORATORY MEETING

1. Eric Conroy INOU - Irish National Organisation of the Unemployed.
2. Marie Kennedy National Children's Office
3. Frances Byrne One Parent Exchange Network
4. Carole Sullivan Equality Authority
5. Bob Carroll National Council on Ageing and Older Persons
6. Eamonn Moran Office for Social Inclusion
7. Mary Lloyd Family Support Agency
8. Fiona McGaughrey National Consultative Committee on Racism and Interculturalism
9. Itayi Viriri Irish Refugee Council
10. Joan O'Flynn Combat Poverty Agency

ATTENDEES 20TH Jan 06 – IMMIGRANTS & MIGRANTS WORKERS

1. Jennifer Wallace National Consultative Committee on Racism and Interculturalism
2. Fidele Mutwarasib Immigrant Council of Ireland
3. Helen Lowry Migrant Rights Centre Ireland
4. Fiona Joyce –Student Migrant Rights Centre Ireland
5. Mags Brehony Irish Refugee Council
6. Pat Geurin Irish Refugee Council
7. Paul Ginnell European Anti Poverty Network
8. Crea Nolan Longford Women's Link
9. Joan O'Flynn Combat Poverty Agency
10. Helen Johnston Combat Poverty Agency
11. Isabela Litewska Combat Poverty Agency
12. Joe Kinsella HSE/ASU
13. Vincent Edwards Equality Authority
14. Stephen Hanna Office Social Inclusion/ Dept. of Social & Family Affairs
15. Gerry Mangan Office Social Inclusion/ Dept. of Social & Family Affairs
16. Alice Davis Lir/Little Flowers

ATTENDEES 25TH Jan 06 – HOMELESSNESS

1. Derval Howley Housing Authority
2. Rosarie McCarthy National Disability Authority
3. Karen Murphy Irish Council for Social Housing
4. Anna Kavanagh Mental Health Ireland
5. Robin Hanan European Anti Poverty Network
6. Patricia O'Connor National Drugs Strategy
7. Michael Gavin TRAIL – Transitional Housing for Ex-Prisoners
8. Mary O'Reilly Dept. of Health/Social Inclusion Unit
9. Alice Davis Lir/Little Flowers
10. Eddie Matthews Health Services Executive/Office Social Inclusion
11. Frank Mills Health Services Executive/Office Social Inclusion
12. Cathy Barron Office Social Inclusion/ Dept. of Social & Family Affairs

18. Ciaran Diamond	Office Social Inclusion/ Dept. of Social & Family Affairs
12. Helen Johnston	Combat Poverty Agency
13. Julie Smyth	Combat Poverty Agency
14. Barbara Walshe	Combat Poverty Agency
15. Sharon Keane	Combat Poverty Agency
16. Joe Kinsella	Health Services Executive/ Asylum Seekers Unit
19. Camille Loftus	One Parent Exchange Network
20. Gerard Walker	National Economic Social Forum
21. Martin Malicki	Polish Chaplaincy Office
23. Caroline McGrath	Focus Ireland

ATTENDEES 6TH FEB 2006 – STRUCTURES

1. Catherine McGuire	Irish Business & Employers Confederation
2. Paul Ginnell	European Anti Poverty Network
3. Orla Walsh	Institute of Public Health
4. Camille Loftus	One Parent Exchange Network
5. Fidelma Joyce	Combat Poverty Agency
6. Helen Johnston	Combat Poverty Agency
7. David O'Brien	Probation & Welfare Service
8. Dee O'Donnell	Independent Consultant
9. Deidre Dunworth	Office of Minister of Health & Children

ATTENDEES 9TH FEB 2006 – MULTIDIMENSIONALITY

1. Brid O'Brien	Pavee Point
2. Fidele Mutwarasibo	Immigrant Council of Ireland
3. Orla Walsh	Institute Of Public Health
4. Pauline O'Connor	National Drugs Strategy
5. Frances Byrne	One Parent Exchange Network
6. Andrew Nugent	Dept. of an Taoiseach
7. Gerry Mangan	Office Social Inclusion/ Dept. of Social & Family Affairs
8. Annie Dillon	National Women's Council
9. Barbara Walshe	Combat Poverty Agency
10. Orlaigh Quinn	Office Social Inclusion/ Dept. of Social & Family Affairs