

## **Annex A - Quick reference – Key Messages**

### **Using Ranks and Scores**

Deprivation Ranks for Super Output Areas range from the rank 1 the most deprived area, to rank 890, the least deprived area.

It is not possible to draw any conclusions about how much more or less deprived two areas are from assessing ranks alone.

The deprivation domain scores have a meaningful interpretation for the Census Output Area and Super Output Area Income and Employment Domains and the Income Deprivation Affecting Children and Income Deprivation Affecting Older People measures.

The indicator scores for the Census Output Area Proximity to Services scores can be interpreted as the expected minimum travel time by car to a given service.

### **Using the Multiple Deprivation Measure and Domains**

When targeting a specific form of deprivation it may be more appropriate to focus on one deprivation domain, while the multiple deprivation measure may be more appropriate when targeting deprivation in a more general sense.

### **Using Area Based Measures**

The NIMDM measures spatial concentrations of deprived people; not all deprived people live in deprived areas.

The deprivation measures are best included in policies with a spatial element, rather than those purely designed to target individuals.

The choice of geographical unit impacts on the number of areas included in a programme due to varying levels of deprivation within an area.

It is recommended that the urban-rural classification of areas is taken into account when identifying areas of need.

It is recommended that the Census Output Area measures are also considered when identifying concentrations of deprivation in rural areas.

### **Defining Eligibility Criteria**

NIMDM should not be used in isolation when determining eligibility criteria for the allocation of funding.

A single point along the deprivation distribution does not exist at which all areas experiencing more deprivation are classed as deprived and areas experiencing less deprivation are not.

It is likely that the difference between the level of deprivation in the least deprived area that meets the eligibility criteria and the most deprived area that does not will be marginal.

Relatively few areas experience the highest levels of deprivation. Within a group of areas eligible for funding, the levels of deprivation are likely to vary greatly and varying levels of government intervention may be required.

### **Monitoring Progress against Targets**

The NIMDM results can be used to identify the most deprived areas in NI, while a relevant indicator is chosen to monitor the progress in the most deprived areas.

Inequality gaps can be monitored by identifying the most deprived areas in NI and measuring the difference in a given indicator between the most deprived areas as a group and the NI average.

### **Choice of Multiple Deprivation Measures 2001, 2005, and 2010**

A number of points should be considered when choosing the appropriate NIMDM; the time period that is the focus of the analysis, the geographical level at which the analysis takes place and the availability of data sources, and whether the study is a longitudinal or cross sectional.

### **Comparing NIMDM 2005 and NIMDM 2010**

A number of factors should be considered when comparing the NIMDM 2005 and 2010 results including;

- population changes
- similarity of domain components
- meaning of changes in ranks

Changing population has an effect on deprivation concentrations recorded between two periods if the characteristics of those entering (or leaving) an area differs from the existing (or remaining) population.

The Employment Deprivation Domain contains the most similar components of all the domains in the 2005 and 2010 measures and as such the ranks and scores can be compared between years.

It is important when comparing ranks between years to emphasise the relative nature of the measure, indicating that an area has become *relatively* more deprived, or *relatively* less deprived.

## **Regression Analysis**

It is recommended that the only scores appropriate for inclusion in regression analysis are the Income, Employment, Income Deprivation Affecting Children and Income Deprivation Affecting Older People scores.

It is recommended that ranks are only included in a linear regression analysis when grouped and entered in the form of dummy variables.

It is recommended that the correlations between domains of deprivation, and the component indicators are examined before including into a regression analysis.

## **UK Measures of Multiple Deprivation**

Similarities between the 4 measure of multiple deprivation in England, Scotland, Wales and NI include the relative nature of the measures, and the domain methodology.

Differences include the year of reference, geographical units and data sources.

It is not possible to directly compare deprivation indices across nations, using deprivation ranks, scores, or otherwise.

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