

**Minutes of the fourth Steering Group Meeting**  
**2pm Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2017**  
**Boardroom, Colby House**

<b>Present: Name</b>	<b>Department / Organisation</b>
Dr Tracy Power (Chair)	NISRA
Brian Green	NISRA
Dr Jos IJpelaar	NISRA
Claire McCann	NISRA
Aidan Campbell	Rural Community Network
Paul Keatley (standing in for Dr Paul Caskie )	DAERA
Dr Stephen Donnelly	Dept. for Economy
Michael Gallagher	Derry City and Strabane Council
Joe Reynolds	The Executive Office
Karen McCullough (standing in for David Hughes)	Dept. of Education
Sharon McNicholl	Belfast City Council
Louise Scullion	Causeway Coast & Glens Council
Freda Magill	Ulster Farmers Union
Andrea Thornbury	NICVA
Glyn Capper	Dept. of Justice
<b>Apologies:</b>	
Teresa Canavan	Rural Development Council
Michelle Crawford	Dept. of Communities
Liz Loughran	Dept. for Infrastructure
Karen McCoy	Southern Health Trust
Tom Reid	Dept. for Infrastructure
Dr Eugene Mooney	Department of Health
Simon Hookham	Equality Commission

### (i) Welcome and introduction

Tracy Power opened the meeting, welcomed everyone present and initiated introductions.

### (ii) Minutes and Actions from Last meeting



Minutes - third  
meeting of NIMDM 20

Tracy Power asked if members were content with minutes from the previous meeting and updated the group on the actions. In respect of how students will be treated in the new indicator, the deprivation team confirmed that this will be investigated once the data are received and the aim will be to make the indicator as close to the DfE's definition of 'Economically Inactive' as possible.

### (iii) Draft Blueprint Document

Brian Green gave an introduction to the Blueprint Document, explaining the layout of the document and that only points which had been brought up by multiple respondents would be included in the blueprint. All consultation responses will however be addressed in a separate document. Tracy Power invited members to submit any comments on the 'Consultation Response Document' following the meeting, in the interests of time.

**Action: Any questions or comments that members have on the documents should be returned via correspondence by 14<sup>th</sup> April 2017.**

Michael Gallagher requested that a paragraph is added to the start of the Blueprint Document detailing the purpose of the deprivation measures and reminding people that the intention is to advance the understanding of deprivation.

**Action: Deprivation Team to add a paragraph around the purpose of the update.**

Jos Ijpelaar took the group through the main changes in each of the domains as a result of the consultation.

### Income Deprivation

Jos Ijpelaar advised the group that there have been further reassurances provided by DfC on the availability and access to the new data. He explained the main points which came up in the consultation regarding the Income Domain and advised that no changes would be made to the proposed indicator. The group agreed with this on the condition that no major issues arise with the DfC data.

**Action: Make clear the difference between the PfG poverty indicator the indicator used in the Income Domain**

#### Employment Deprivation

Jos Ijpelaar explained the main points which came up in the consultation regarding the Employment Domain and advised that no changes would be made to the proposed indicator. The group agreed with this, recognising the considerations associated with how the 'economically inactive' part of the indicator is defined.

#### Health Deprivation and Disability

Jos Ijpelaar explained the main points which came up in the consultation regarding the Health Domain and the rationale for removing two of the indicators that had been proposed, namely, 'Drug and Alcohol Related Deaths' and 'Potential years of Life lost'.

The group was asked if suicides should be taken out of the 'preventable Deaths' indicator, and if the mental health component of the Census long term illness and disability indicator should be taken out and moved to the Combined Mental Health Indicator. The group agreed that this seemed prudent and would help ensure that all the mental health data are reflected in the Mental Health Indicator.

**Action: Extract Census long-term mental health and add to the combined mental health indicator.**

**Action: Make clear the reasons for removing the Drug and Alcohol Related Deaths.**

#### Education, Training and Skills Deprivation

The main point arising from consultation responses was concern regarding the lack of Key Stage 2 and 3 data. Jos Ijpelaar reminded the group that the data were not available and asked if a change to the sub-domains would be a suitable solution in the circumstances. After a lengthy discussion, the steering group took the decision that there should be no sub domains and that all indicators should be combined using factor analysis.

**Action: Remove sub-domains in Education, Skills and Training Deprivation Domain and combine the indicators using factor analysis**

**Action: Ask expert group to outline the rationale for working age as 25-64**

**Action: Mention in Blueprint Document that a 'School- readiness' indicator is being developed for the Programme for Government**

#### Access to Services

Jos IJpelaar outlined the main points which came up in the consultation regarding the Access to Services Domain. Due to the large number of respondents raising Childcare as an issue, the Group agreed that 'Crèches and Day nurseries' should be added to the list of services. It was also agreed that the name of the domain should be changed from 'Proximity to Services' to 'Access to Services'.

The group also discussed how the three indicators in the domain should be weighted and agreed that it would be best to get input from the Expert Group regarding this.

**Action: Ask expert group about weights for the three indicators in the Access to Services Domain and/ or factor analysis**

**Action: Include a definition of 'Large Service Centres' in the Blueprint document.**

### Living Environment

Jos IJpelaar explained the main points which came up in the consultation regarding the Living Environment Domain and advised that no changes to the proposed indicators were required. The Group agreed with this but queried why 'Road Traffic Collisions' was included as an indicator

**Action: Ask Living Environment Domain Expert Group to outline the rationale behind the inclusion of the Road traffic Collision Indicator**

### Crime & Disorder

The group discussed the main issues raised in the consultation responses and agreed that a Theft indicator should be added.

**Action: Deprivation Team to check if Arson and Deliberate Fires in the Crime & Disorder Domain is double counted**

### Domain Weights

Members acknowledged the various preferences for the domain weights that had emerged through the consultation, noting that the comments needed to be considered in the context of the improvements that were being brought to a number of indicators within the domains. After a considered and lengthy discussion the Steering Group concluded that, on balance, the consultation responses had not provided a robust rationale for changing the domain weights from those that had been deployed in the 2010 measures.

### (iv) Next Steps

The Blueprint and supporting Consultation Responses documents will be published when finalised. The deprivation team will begin collecting the data with the aim of publishing the updated measures in Summer 2017.

(v) AOB

None.

(vi) Date of next Meeting

The next meeting will be planned for September 2017 following the publication of the results to discuss the recommendations and evaluate the project.

**Summary of actions**

Action 1	Any questions or comments that members have on the documents should be returned via correspondence by 14th April 2017.
Action 2	Deprivation Team to add a paragraph around the purpose of the update.
Action 3	Make clear the difference between the PfG poverty indicator the indicator used in the Income Domain
Action 4	Extract Census long-term mental health and add to the combined mental health indicator.
Action 5	Make clear the reasons for removing the Drug and Alcohol Related Deaths.
Action 6	Remove sub-domains in Education, Skills and Training Deprivation Domain and combine the indicators using factor analysis
Action 7	Ask expert group to outline the rationale for working age as 25-64
Action 8	Mention in Blueprint Document that a 'School- readiness' indicator is being developed for the Programme for Government
Action 9	Ask expert group about weights for the three indicators in the Access to Services Domain and/ or factor analysis
Action 10	Include a definition of 'Large Service Centres' in the Blueprint document.
Action 11	Ask Living Environment Domain Expert Group to outline the rationale behind the inclusion of the Road traffic Collision Indicator
Action 12	Deprivation Team to check if Arson and Deliberate Fires in the Crime & Disorder Domain is double counted