

Individual Submission 1
07/10/2022

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have lived with chronic illness all my life, starting with asthma from childhood. 32 years ago I was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis (Relapsing Remitting) and following from this I was diagnosed with Sarcoidosis. In 2014, after 10 years of remission from the symptoms of MS, I was in a car accident, which left me with persistent post traumatic headaches. As a consequence, my MS symptoms returned, plus constant pain, and I now have Secondary Progressive MS.

The reason I am writing this e-mail is to comment on how the social welfare system has both supported me and excluded me from being an effective member of society in Ireland.

All my life I have tried to make sure my chronic illnesses remained a secondary factor in how I lived my life, but in 2017, their impact forced me to accept I am disabled and can no longer be productive. I applied for Disability Allowance to give me some support to live. The income was valuable, and it also permitted me to have a part time job, doing market research. However, in 2019, even this was too difficult.

Fortunately, in July 2019 I was employed in [REDACTED] on a feasibility trial of a new therapy to help people living with MS with their cognitive problems. This job was for one day of the week and I was permitted to spread this workload over the full week. The only way I was able to fulfil the role. I was the voice of the patient in the trial, endeavouring to speak on behalf of my community, so the therapy was suitable for their needs. This was incredibly positive for me, strengthening my mental health, as I now was of value. I have trained with EUPATI, an EU organisation which trains people like me to be more effective in representing patients in research. Although the training was difficult, with significant negative impacts on my symptoms, I felt it was worth the pain.

When the pandemic started, and the Irish government decided to support workers with an income of €350 per week, I was delighted for them for the support they received, but could see people like me, in receipt of Disability Allowance, were considered less in the eyes of the state. The payment I received did not change. This proved that people who live with disability are considered second class, when compared with people who are healthy. The workers who lost their jobs, due to the pandemic, were like the disabled. An event they had no control of, had a material impact on their ability to work, just like me, when my illness had the devastating impact on my ability to work. Although the cause was different, the impact was the same, but they received more support, than I did.

In June 2021, I received a compensation payment, through the courts, for the pain and suffering (not loss of income)(the court system is more favourable to the party which does the injury, not the injured), which was a consequence of the car accident. Due to this, I was no longer able to get Disability Allowance, as this is a means tested payment. Even though this was to compensate me for the impact on my life of the accident, it now meant I no longer had an income, other than the approximately €[REDACTED] per month I was paid for my work as a [REDACTED]. If this settlement was as a result of getting Hepatitis C, or HIV, it would not be included. This money was used to purchase a vehicle which is suitable for me, an apartment to live in once my wife reaches retirement age, and to pay for medication not reimbursed by the HSE and treatment which I need, but cannot get, because of the long waiting lists in the HSE (I had to wait 4 years for an appointment with a Urologist).

We bought an apartment in Spain, which is accessible, and cost us €[REDACTED]. This is being assessed as income of €[REDACTED] per week, although, if we did rent this apartment in Spain, the maximum permitted rent, by law, is €[REDACTED] per week, and with the costs of renting this would reduce. In Ireland, we are renting a house,

which we can lose at any time. Also, if we did own a house, and sold it, so we could purchase a suitable house, €190,000 would not be included in the means test. The crazy thing is, it is not possible to purchase an accessible home, in Ireland, for this sum. Every way I turn, I am punished.

Because of this settlement I have to use this money to give me an income. In July, 2022, my work with [REDACTED] finished, and I applied for Illness Benefit, as I can no longer work, and I was shocked to be told the Disability Allowance I was in receipt of is not considered income, and the payment is only €[REDACTED]. Once again, being disabled, and not being able to work, because of disability, has pushed me further into poverty.

I have applied for Invalidity Pension and I am waiting on a decision from Social Welfare. In 2019, I did apply for Invalidity Pension, but was refused because I was working one day a week, in research, for a therapy which could help thousands of people in Ireland, and perhaps millions internationally. If I had applied for this pension, in the period I was not working (I did not know I should have done this), and it was awarded, I could then have applied for Partial Capacity Benefit, and worked for the one day a week, with no penalty. I did appeal this decision, all the way to the Ombudsman, with no success. The rules do not allow this to happen.

The Irish Social Welfare system, for people with chronic illnesses or disabilities, which have the impact of not being able to work, pushes us into further exclusion from society. To get the full benefit of the system, I need to live alone, in rented accommodation, and not even do an hour of paid work. It is pushing us aside.

My wife was in receipt of Carer's Benefit, to help me around the house and to live, but now the two years has passed, and she is applying for Carer's Benefit. This will probably be refused, because of the court settlement. As a result, she will have to work full time again, and I will need to arrange a carer to come during the day. Who will pay for this, I don't know, but given my experience, it will have to come from the court settlement. A stranger will have to come into my home, to help me.

Being disabled is bad. I am in continuous pain, suffer from reducing mobility, and my cognition is declining all the time. It is very hard to live like this. My only hope was the work I was doing in [REDACTED] to help my community, by using this negative as a positive force for change. The Irish government doesn't support this. It wants me to do nothing, to hide away, and not disturb the healthy. There is nothing inclusive about this, and I fear this e-mail will change nothing. Perhaps a few tweaks here and there, but the structure will remain the same.

The system must change, otherwise people like me will continue to be excluded. Not using our illnesses for positive change, but draining resources as we get further disabled, because of long waiting lists, declining mental health due to our exclusion from society.

I have tried to be positive. I want to be a force for positive change, but every time I do something which can benefit society, I am punished. There is no way I can continue with this. My only choice is to sit on the couch all day, wondering what I did wrong to justify this exclusion. Now, in the face of the spiralling costs, due to inflation, I worry that I will not be able to heat our home, charge my mobility scooter or stairlift, and the car will remain parked, because I cannot afford to fuel it. With the increased costs, I won't even be able to afford the TV license, and I cannot read a book from the library, due to my cognitive problems. I have only enough money to feed myself, and pay for the medicine the HSE won't pay for. My rent is €[REDACTED] per month, and my income is €[REDACTED] per month. Do you think €[REDACTED] per month is enough income to live on?

There is no support for me for rent, I tried and failed to get support. I cannot get Household Benefit, due to the crazy Mean's Test method, and now I will have to use the balance of my settlement to help me exist. It is not possible. There is nothing inclusive about this system.

Yours in hope there will be a change,



, Co. Galway

Individual Submission 2

06/09/2022

Question: What progress do you feel has been made in reducing poverty and social exclusion since publication of the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 in January 2020?

Very little, the cost of living has reduced social inclusion further and others who havent experienced it in the past will experience it going forward

Question: In your experience, what has worked well in reducing the number of people in Ireland experiencing poverty and social exclusion?

It hasnt been reduced it us increasing.

Question: And in your experience, what has not worked so well or is challenging in reducing the number of people in Ireland experiencing poverty and social exclusion?

The high cost of living and little or no promotion of the roadmap.

Question: What would you like to see prioritised in terms of moving people out of poverty and social exclusion, up to the end of the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 in 2025.

Homelessness to be declared a national crisis and promote the roadmap in tbe national media.

Question: If there are any specific aims, ambitions, commitments or targets in the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 that you would like to comment on, please provide details. This can include identifying gaps in what is included in the Roadmap, or any other comments you may have.

It is easy to write something, but ot has not delivered, not once jave I heard it mentioned in any debate by any party.

Question: The Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 includes 7 high-level goals. Please indicate below which of these goals are most relevant to your participation in the Mid-Term Review.

Provide income security for older people;

Reduce poverty among people with disabilities – help them to maximise their ability;

Build inclusive communities – encourage active citizenship;

Ensure that all people have access to quality services

Question: Which county are you located in?

Kildare

Question: Are you responding on a personal basis or on behalf of an organisation?

Both

Which organisation are you responding on behalf of?

-

Individual Submission 3
08/09/2022

Question: What progress do you feel has been made in reducing poverty and social exclusion since publication of the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 in January 2020?

none our social welfare system discourages people from working.

Question: In your experience, what has worked well in reducing the number of people in Ireland experiencing poverty and social exclusion?

Education and making people on the dole work, put them on schemes, its better for them in every way.

Question: And in your experience, what has not worked so well or is challenging in reducing the number of people in Ireland experiencing poverty and social exclusion?

To much depending on social welfare and afraid to work.

Question: What would you like to see prioritised in terms of moving people out of poverty and social exclusion, up to the end of the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 in 2025.

Better supports in the community, help with getting jobs, without loosing all their benefits, less money spent on salaries to people that are having big wages, writing glossy documents and not helping on the ground.

Question: If there are any specific aims, ambitions, commitments or targets in the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 that you would like to comment on, please provide details. This can include identifying gaps in what is included in the Roadmap, or any other comments you may have.

I would invite you down to St. Munchins community centre meet the people that we talking about and take it from there.

Question: The Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 includes 7 high-level goals. Please indicate below which of these goals are most relevant to your participation in the Mid-Term Review.

Extend employment opportunities to all who can work;

Provide income security for older people;

Build inclusive communities – encourage active citizenship;

Ensure that all people have access to quality services

Question: Which county are you located in?

Limerick

Question: Are you responding on a personal basis or on behalf of an organisation?

Personal

Individual Submission 4
13/09/2022

Question: What progress do you feel has been made in reducing poverty and social exclusion since publication of the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 in January 2020?

NA

Question: In your experience, what has worked well in reducing the number of people in Ireland experiencing poverty and social exclusion?

NA

Question: And in your experience, what has not worked so well or is challenging in reducing the number of people in Ireland experiencing poverty and social exclusion?

Non-religious, minority-religion and LGBTI+ people are socially-excluded in key State-funded services such as education and health that are allowed impose an ethos that discriminates against children, young people and families - in education this discrimination has been criticised by the UNCRC. This causes real distress for parents, who often have no choice because of the failure of the State to deliver on the provision of multi-denominational schools. Parents are coerced into pretending to practise a religion so their children will fit in or else witness them being excluded and made to feel other in their school. LGBTI+ young people are in an environment where they know the ethos of their State-funded school considers their future relationships to be an abomination, and where the teaching of RSE will not be inclusive and affirming for them. In healthcare, the State funds religious bodies to deliver State healthcare while allowing them to impose a religious ethos in that delivery.

Question: What would you like to see prioritised in terms of moving people out of poverty and social exclusion, up to the end of the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 in 2025.

Ensure that the provision of key State services for all citizens is contingent upon that delivery being absolutely required to be non-discriminatory and fully inclusive of all citizens as a condition of funding. No private organisation that discriminates against women in its structures and decision-making, or against any citizens on the nine equality grounds, should be in receipt of State funding or contracts to deliver services to citizens.

Question: If there are any specific aims, ambitions, commitments or targets in the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 that you would like to comment on, please provide details. This can include identifying gaps in what is included in the Roadmap, or any other comments you may have.

I have identified gaps in previous questions - State funding and contracts to deliver key services to citizens - such as education and healthcare - must absolutely be conditional on those services being delivered in a secular, fully inclusive manner, without any discrimination and with full inclusion of all citizens, including non-religious, minority religion and LGBTI+ citizens.

Question: The Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 includes 7 high-level goals. Please indicate below which of these goals are most relevant to your participation in the Mid-Term Review.

None of these

Question: Which county are you located in?

Wicklow

Question: Are you responding on a personal basis or on behalf of an organisation?

Personal

Individual Submission 5
27/09/2022

Question: What progress do you feel has been made in reducing poverty and social exclusion since publication of the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 in January 2020?

Honestly very little to no progress has been made.

Question: In your experience, what has worked well in reducing the number of people in Ireland experiencing poverty and social exclusion?

As a person with a disability my family and i struggle financially to meet the cpnstantly rising living costs. I believe social exclusion is consistantly rising. I returned to adult education and the college is inaccessible to a wheelchair user.

Question: And in your experience, what has not worked so well or is challenging in reducing the number of people in Ireland experiencing poverty and social exclusion?

NA

Question: What would you like to see prioritised in terms of moving people out of poverty and social exclusion, up to the end of the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 in 2025.

Ratify the opional protocol so when the government yet again violate our basic human rights to access inclusion and equality we will have a way to seek help from the EU

Question: If there are any specific aims, ambitions, commitments or targets in the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 that you would like to comment on, please provide details. This can include identifying gaps in what is included in the Roadmap, or any other comments you may have.

I use a wheelchair i am actively doing a level 6 course in barely accessible college, i have little to no employment opportunities

Question: The Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 includes 7 high-level goals. Please indicate below which of these goals are most relevant to your participation in the Mid-Term Review.

Extend employment opportunities to all who can work;

Ensure work pays – fair pay, fair conditions for workers;

Provide income security for older people;

Support families – reduce child poverty;

Reduce poverty among people with disabilities – help them to maximise their ability;

Build inclusive communities – encourage active citizenship;

Ensure that all people have access to quality services

Question: Which county are you located in?

Cavan

Question: Are you responding on a personal basis or on behalf of an organisation?

Personal

Individual Submission 6

29/09/2022

Question: What progress do you feel has been made in reducing poverty and social exclusion since publication of the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 in January 2020?

Increase in the minimum wage from Budget but this doesn't match the rise in heating and electricity bills

Question: In your experience, what has worked well in reducing the number of people in Ireland experiencing poverty and social exclusion?

increasing social welfare benefits, more education and awareness

Question: And in your experience, what has not worked so well or is challenging in reducing the number of people in Ireland experiencing poverty and social exclusion?

increase in food bills, heating and electric

Question: What would you like to see prioritised in terms of moving people out of poverty and social exclusion, up to the end of the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 in 2025.

People to come off the housing list. Bring down the cost of living.

Question: If there are any specific aims, ambitions, commitments or targets in the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 that you would like to comment on, please provide details. This can include identifying gaps in what is included in the Roadmap, or any other comments you may have.

NA

Question: The Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 includes 7 high-level goals. Please indicate below which of these goals are most relevant to your participation in the Mid-Term Review.

Extend employment opportunities to all who can work;

Ensure work pays – fair pay, fair conditions for workers;

Reduce poverty among people with disabilities – help them to maximise their ability;

Ensure that all people have access to quality services

Question: Which county are you located in?

Roscommon

Question: Are you responding on a personal basis or on behalf of an organisation?

Personal

Individual Submission 7
30/09/2022

Question: What progress do you feel has been made in reducing poverty and social exclusion since publication of the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 in January 2020?

very little progress has been made and if anything both individuals and the country and future generations have become poorer and more excluded since 2020. The failure by this Government to adequately right-size PUP payments and target them effectively gave rise to huge waste and 1) meant we borrowed more than necessary and 2) that there is less available by way of support to households that really need the support.

Question: In your experience, what has worked well in reducing the number of people in Ireland experiencing poverty and social exclusion?

This is very difficult to say - I am not at all sure that any measure is working effectively anymore. You have deliberately excluded volunteers from so many services within the community that you lack the capability to ensure support penetrate communities and reach people who are most in need. This is entirely contrary to the co-funded anti-poverty work on EU programmes of the 1990's. Moreover, this approach has added to alienation both of people who may need support and of those people in the community who would previously have been active in channeling such support to families that needed it. It has led to an erosion of trust. You closed the Combat Poverty Agency, got rid of volunteers from MABS and are doing the same with CIS.

Question: And in your experience, what has not worked so well or is challenging in reducing the number of people in Ireland experiencing poverty and social exclusion?

As above, the 'corporatisation' of what were previously local and volunteer-led organizations was a terrible mistake and has lost much goodwill towards the State and these previously volunteer-led organisations. You have adopted an arms length approach to the agencies under your aegis - simply saying these are matters for the Agencies - yet nothing is measured or evaluated. Again, having closed the Combat Poverty Agency you were never again able to adequately research or evaluate any of your Department's initiatives. The dominant approach is closed, civil-service led and sterile. The innovation and vibrancy once there in many of the locall-led initiatives is absent and the money spent is not having any material impact.

Question: What would you like to see prioritised in terms of moving people out of poverty and social exclusion, up to the end of the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 in 2025.

Much greater engagement of the communities and individuals concerned

An approach grounded in sociological research -

More CBA

More INDEPENDENT evaluation

Formation of steering committees - based on partnership and involving social partners and external experts - i.e. from different European jurisdictions to measure and monitor what works.

Question: If there are any specific aims, ambitions, commitments or targets in the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 that you would like to comment on, please provide details. This can include identifying gaps in what is included in the Roadmap, or any other comments you may have.

NA

Question: The Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 includes 7 high-level goals. Please indicate below which of these goals are most relevant to your participation in the Mid-Term Review.

Extend employment opportunities to all who can work

Build inclusive communities – encourage active citizenship

Question: Which county are you located in?

Galway

Question: Are you responding on a personal basis or on behalf of an organisation?

Would prefer not to say

Individual Submission 8
30/09/2022

Question: What progress do you feel has been made in reducing poverty and social exclusion since publication of the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 in January 2020?

Absolutely no progress can be seen on the ground. If anything I feel it has gone backwards as funding is not being made available to organisations that support me

Question: In your experience, what has worked well in reducing the number of people in Ireland experiencing poverty and social exclusion?

Funding made available for organisations to support young people with disabilities into education training or employment for example mg ability programme

Question: And in your experience, what has not worked so well or is challenging in reducing the number of people in Ireland experiencing poverty and social exclusion?

No funding available for my service to continue to support me in employment

Question: What would you like to see prioritised in terms of moving people out of poverty and social exclusion, up to the end of the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 in 2025.

ABILITY PROGRAMMES

Question: If there are any specific aims, ambitions, commitments or targets in the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 that you would like to comment on, please provide details. This can include identifying gaps in what is included in the Roadmap, or any other comments you may have.

Please continue to fund my life line which is the ability programme, it is the only programme to date that has offered me the trailed support I need

Question: The Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 includes 7 high-level goals. Please indicate below which of these goals are most relevant to your participation in the Mid-Term Review.

Extend employment opportunities to all who can work;
Build inclusive communities – encourage active citizenship;
Ensure that all people have access to quality services

Question: Which county are you located in?

Limerick

Question: Are you responding on a personal basis or on behalf of an organisation?

Personal

Individual Submission 9

02/10/2022

Question: What progress do you feel has been made in reducing poverty and social exclusion since publication of the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 in January 2020?

None that affect me only constant struggle for my mentor in my ability project to try keep funding to support me

Question: In your experience, what has worked well in reducing the number of people in Ireland experiencing poverty and social exclusion?

Ability Projects

Question: And in your experience, what has not worked so well or is challenging in reducing the number of people in Ireland experiencing poverty and social exclusion?

My key worker always having to fight for funding for their job to help me stay in my job

Question: What would you like to see prioritised in terms of moving people out of poverty and social exclusion, up to the end of the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 in 2025.

ABILITY PROJECTS

Question: If there are any specific aims, ambitions, commitments or targets in the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 that you would like to comment on, please provide details. This can include identifying gaps in what is included in the Roadmap, or any other comments you may have.

KEEP FUNDING ABILITY PROJECTS

Question: The Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 includes 7 high-level goals. Please indicate below which of these goals are most relevant to your participation in the Mid-Term Review.

Extend employment opportunities to all who can work;

Reduce poverty among people with disabilities – help them to maximise their ability

Question: Which county are you located in?

Limerick

Question: Are you responding on a personal basis or on behalf of an organisation?

Personal

Individual Submission 10
03/10/2022

Question: What progress do you feel has been made in reducing poverty and social exclusion since publication of the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 in January 2020?

No progress and it got worse! You left people with disabilities to live in EXTREME POVERTY with 208 disability allowance weekly payments with which they are supposed to pay their rents and meet the high electricity bills and food skyrocketing. And the department of social protection even sent rent review letters to then cut the rent supplements payments in half considering my disability allowance as means and leaving me unable to pay my rent. My only income is the disability allowance and my rent supplement was cut without any explanation! I will put the case on court.

Question: In your experience, what has worked well in reducing the number of people in Ireland experiencing poverty and social exclusion?

I didn't see any real action towards reducing the number of people living in poverty. They were made unable to pay rents and bills.

Question: And in your experience, what has not worked so well or is challenging in reducing the number of people in Ireland experiencing poverty and social exclusion?

The department of social protection abuses people with disabilities cutting their payments without a reason and they neglect the huge amounts of documents that a person with disability send them by their request.

Question: What would you like to see prioritised in terms of moving people out of poverty and social exclusion, up to the end of the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 in 2025.

The department of social protection abuses people with disabilities cutting their payments without a reason and they neglect the huge amounts of documents that a person with disability send them by their request.

Question: If there are any specific aims, ambitions, commitments or targets in the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 that you would like to comment on, please provide details. This can include identifying gaps in what is included in the Roadmap, or any other comments you may have.

NA

Question: The Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 includes 7 high-level goals. Please indicate below which of these goals are most relevant to your participation in the Mid-Term Review.

Extend employment opportunities to all who can work

Ensure work pays – fair pay, fair conditions for workers

Provide income security for older people

Support families – reduce child poverty

Reduce poverty among people with disabilities – help them to maximise their ability

Build inclusive communities – encourage active citizenship

Ensure that all people have access to quality services

Question: Which county are you located in?

Dublin

Question: Are you responding on a personal basis or on behalf of an organisation?

Personal

Individual Submission 11
06/10/2022

Question: What progress do you feel has been made in reducing poverty and social exclusion since publication of the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 in January 2020?

Very little when it comes to disabled people or families with a disabled loved one. Disability Allowance is a poverty level payment, far less than PUP was during the pandemic, yet disability comes with extra costs such as higher utility bills, special items and/or equipment for daily living, wheelchair accessible vehicles which cost more than an average car, insurance for same is more, too. The list goes on. If a disabled person is unable to work, they cannot survive on the meagre Disability Allowance. This is discrimination of society's most vulnerable. Same goes for family carers providing 24/7 care for a disabled loved one.

Question: In your experience, what has worked well in reducing the number of people in Ireland experiencing poverty and social exclusion?

PUP during the pandemic was the last decent measure to help guard against poverty during a time of crisis. Disabled people, or families with a disabled loved one in the home, face levels of poverty and social exclusion on a daily basis. There is nothing being done to help in these areas for PROFOUNDLY disabled people who are unable to work or are indeed incapacitated requiring 24/7 care.

Question: And in your experience, what has not worked so well or is challenging in reducing the number of people in Ireland experiencing poverty and social exclusion?

Disability Allowance and Carers Allowance are at poverty level payment margins. Disabled people, or families with a disabled loved one in the home, face levels of poverty and social exclusion on a daily basis. There is nothing being done to help in these areas for PROFOUNDLY disabled people who are unable to work or are indeed incapacitated requiring 24/7 care. There is a fight for every service, there is a lack of specialists, consultants, respite, housing options, care options for such families. Ireland is failing tremendously in this regard. Our most vulnerable and they are failed the worst.

Question: What would you like to see prioritised in terms of moving people out of poverty and social exclusion, up to the end of the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 in 2025.

Fix all mentioned in the previous answer. (There is a fight for every service, there is a lack of specialists, consultants, respite, housing options, care options for such families. Ireland is failing tremendously in this regard. Our most vulnerable and they are failed the worst.) Hire more specialists and consultants. Built more regional purpose built respite centres for the profoundly disabled. Give family carers an option to relinquish care of their profoundly disabled child when they reach adulthood and the parents grow older and are then broken themselves. Lastly, assure they have a pension waiting for them for all the years they saved the State billions by doing the caring work themselves.

Question: If there are any specific aims, ambitions, commitments or targets in the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 that you would like to comment on, please provide details. This can include identifying gaps in what is included in the Roadmap, or any other comments you may have.

The profoundly disabled. Those who cannot work. Those who are incapacitated enough to require 24/7 care. They are always forgotten...or more apt, they are ignored. Disability schemes only focus on those who are capable enough to live on their own. What of those who cannot? Are they not worthy, too?

Question: The Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 includes 7 high-level goals. Please indicate below which of these goals are most relevant to your participation in the Mid-Term Review.

Provide income security for older people

Reduce poverty among people with disabilities – help them to maximise their ability

Ensure that all people have access to quality services

Question: Which county are you located in?

Wexford

Question: Are you responding on a personal basis or on behalf of an organisation?

Personal

Individual Submission 12

07/10/2022

Question: What progress do you feel has been made in reducing poverty and social exclusion since publication of the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 in January 2020?

NA

Question: In your experience, what has worked well in reducing the number of people in Ireland experiencing poverty and social exclusion?

NA

Question: And in your experience, what has not worked so well or is challenging in reducing the number of people in Ireland experiencing poverty and social exclusion?

NA

Question: What would you like to see prioritised in terms of moving people out of poverty and social exclusion, up to the end of the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 in 2025.

Th continuation of the Ability programmes nationwide which supports people with disabilities back into education, training and employment which therefore reduces the amount of people affected by poverty and social inclusion.

Question: If there are any specific aims, ambitions, commitments or targets in the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 that you would like to comment on, please provide details. This can include identifying gaps in what is included in the Roadmap, or any other comments you may have.

A main aim should be long term funding of the Ability programmes nationwide, the evaluation has highlighted the importance of such programmes and work that was done to support nearly 2000 people are families. The programmes should not have to fight every year for funding for programme provision, meet the people where they are at with programmes and service delivery that we know works.

Question: The Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 includes 7 high-level goals. Please indicate below which of these goals are most relevant to your participation in the Mid-Term Review.

Extend employment opportunities to all who can work;

Ensure work pays – fair pay, fair conditions for workers;

Reduce poverty among people with disabilities – help them to maximise their ability

Question: Which county are you located in?

Limerick

Question: Are you responding on a personal basis or on behalf of an organisation?

Both

Individual Submission 13
07/10/2022

Question: What progress do you feel has been made in reducing poverty and social exclusion since publication of the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 in January 2020?

In absolute economic terms the gap may be reduced but socially, I feel, people seem to feel more impoverished. While we continue to measure predominantly quantitatively and with monetary indicators only, we may never address the hidden dimensions of poverty

Question: In your experience, what has worked well in reducing the number of people in Ireland experiencing poverty and social exclusion?

Frontline services, such as Family Resource Centres, Citizens Information Centres and local community based supports have helped people navigate systems and processes which are ever complicated and have barriers at every stage. During COVID community responses were the most effective at reaching where the state services could not. Local Development Companies staff were also very good.

Question: And in your experience, what has not worked so well or is challenging in reducing the number of people in Ireland experiencing poverty and social exclusion?

Cost of living crisis - COVID; digital divide; increasing level of red tape & complications to access services which are very slow with many inefficiencies throughout; lack of availability of public services since COVID has further isolated people; remote working may be good for some but for people who need face to face services but are passed from one place to the next. This causes the most distanced people to become further distanced

Question: What would you like to see prioritised in terms of moving people out of poverty and social exclusion, up to the end of the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 in 2025.

Childcare - reducing the cost and increasing the availability is key to reducing poverty, especially childhood poverty

More community workers who can link people to services and who work in a responsive & non-bureaucratic way; targeted measures with a special emphasis on youth, community and children/families

Question: If there are any specific aims, ambitions, commitments or targets in the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 that you would like to comment on, please provide details. This can include identifying gaps in what is included in the Roadmap, or any other comments you may have.

Use of more well being indicators - In Bhutan, the government have been using wellbeing indicators for many years which take account of how people feel, hidden dimensions of exclusion and indeed the quality of the environment (considering climate change at the same time)

Question: The Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 includes 7 high-level goals. Please indicate below which of these goals are most relevant to your participation in the Mid-Term Review.

Extend employment opportunities to all who can work;

Support families – reduce child poverty;

Build inclusive communities – encourage active citizenship;

Ensure that all people have access to quality services

Question: Which county are you located in?

Wexford

Question: Are you responding on a personal basis or on behalf of an organisation?

Both

Individual Submission 14
07/10/2022

Question: What progress do you feel has been made in reducing poverty and social exclusion since publication of the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 in January 2020?

Increase payments

Question: In your experience, what has worked well in reducing the number of people in Ireland experiencing poverty and social exclusion?

Many courses

Question: And in your experience, what has not worked so well or is challenging in reducing the number of people in Ireland experiencing poverty and social exclusion?

A lot of social payments

Question: What would you like to see prioritised in terms of moving people out of poverty and social exclusion, up to the end of the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 in 2025.

Salary increase. Make more working spaces

Question: If there are any specific aims, ambitions, commitments or targets in the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 that you would like to comment on, please provide details. This can include identifying gaps in what is included in the Roadmap, or any other comments you may have.

NA

Question: The Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 includes 7 high-level goals. Please indicate below which of these goals are most relevant to your participation in the Mid-Term Review.

Extend employment opportunities to all who can work;

Ensure work pays – fair pay, fair conditions for workers

Ensure that all people have access to quality services

Question: Which county are you located in?

Wexford

Question: Are you responding on a personal basis or on behalf of an organisation?

Would prefer not to say

Individual Submission 15
08/10/2022

Question: What progress do you feel has been made in reducing poverty and social exclusion since publication of the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 in January 2020?

Fr Gregory Boyle Homeboy Industries in California. Freedom Writers Erin Gruwell Goalcast on successful models. Hypnotherapeutic modality skills unlock trapped trauma coping dysfunctional mindset impairing learning causing addictive perceptual distortive filter interacting. Rapid Recode & Rapid Transformation by Christopher M Duncan of Conscious Educational Company Queensland, Australia & Dr Sian & Marisa Peer of RTT offer rapid tools for local charities. Transformative income generation education IRealsummits.com - richflix, millionaireflix, Rethink Academy learn show poor & illness sufferers to generate income legally online to change circumstances. TV diet failing to inspire too much entertainment no regulatory obligation of mental health positive content for tv license model is seeking extra funds failing to observe social media filfills their gap. Trauma resolution & impact education & investment education state funded absent, haphazard & inconsist or inadequately funded & unscaled.

Question: In your experience, what has worked well in reducing the number of people in Ireland experiencing poverty and social exclusion?

Community inclusion. The problem is its lack of scale & haphazard strategy. The strategy is too intellectually based and not subconscious based which is the dominant characteristic of human behaviour. Community providers work but evidence is with inadequate funding it hasn't worked well, the evidence is in many parts of Ireland. Culture has improved largely thanks to international broadcast media & social media

Question: And in your experience, what has not worked so well or is challenging in reducing the number of people in Ireland experiencing poverty and social exclusion?

Lack of funding at sufficient scale. A key aspect is the modrl of mental health is crisis based. Waiting lists and over emphasis on medication is a key problem. Medication is only appropriate for a percentage of people but is being misused in the absence of adequate numbers of psychologists & inadequately regulated psychotherapy standards of effectiveness. Counselling is a pseudoscience modality it is simply friendship not a psychotherapy. It is not a proper substitute for psychotherapy. There is no substitute other than automated psychotherapy using mp3 & videos & videoconferencing. Quality rapid psychotherapy is vastly safer & more permanent than psychological based medication for trauma outside of the percentage of those than do need it.

Question: What would you like to see prioritised in terms of moving people out of poverty and social exclusion, up to the end of the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 in 2025.

I have offered the names & organisation in Answer 1. These feature on my [REDACTED] & fb [REDACTED] . I don't require to be anonymised & am happy & consent gor my relies to be published & shared. I think psychotherapy needs to be largely state funded, mafe free to all but the well off with independent client outcome tracking to ensure contracted psychotherapists & psychologists are performing abpve a standard of transformation results with suspension supervision from active list & reactivation & contract non renewal & deactivation from the psychotherapy association register for poor performance. Training of guidance counsellors, teaxhers, gardai, nurses & doctors are key societal infrastructure pillars that need insurance by the state in respect of providing the service free to avoid waiting lists & apply in conflict situations to de escalate and transform dysfunctional interactions in society.

Question: If there are any specific aims, ambitions, commitments or targets in the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 that you would like to comment on, please provide details. This can include identifying gaps in what is included in the Roadmap, or any other comments you may have.

Mindset bias is a key problem with poor understanding by politicians & broadcasters of transformation power of high impact psychotherapeutic media content & psychotherapy to change lives. Social media of

that nature is largely ignored by broadcast media who yet criticise one side of social media yet ignore good side who behave like "economic victims" of social media rather than learn and apply its positive content to broadcast content. Broadcast content Management is engagement with public seems poor in engagement. I compare it to parent media & child viewer or paternalistic. The regulator & dept of culture do not take community health seriously enough with a sort of "lazzes-faire" attitude & closed minimalist Audience Council. It suffers from mindset bias. Psychotherapy is seen as "soft". There is little understanding of psychotherapy in society except podcasts have started to address this gap which are key to social inclusion & social justice. [REDACTED]

Question: The Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025 includes 7 high-level goals. Please indicate below which of these goals are most relevant to your participation in the Mid-Term Review.

Extend employment opportunities to all who can work;

Ensure work pays – fair pay, fair conditions for workers;

Support families – reduce child poverty;

Build inclusive communities – encourage active citizenship;

Ensure that all people have access to quality services

Question: Which county are you located in?

Longford

Question: Are you responding on a personal basis or on behalf of an organisation?

Personal