

NIMDM Update

Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development

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- **Background to NIMDM 2010**
- **Business Case for updating the NIMDM 2010**
- **Current Position**

Background



Spatial measures of deprivation in Northern Ireland have been around since 1970s. Have been pivotal to:

- the targeting of resources to the most deprived areas; and
- monitoring the spatial impact of policy interventions

Wide variety of uses, including:

- Allocation of resources (internationally)
 - International Fund for Ireland (1990 & 2000)
 - European Structural Funds (Peace II & III)
- Government Departments
 - allocating funds, monitoring impact, targeting areas
 - Neighbourhood Renewal, DHSSPS Resource Allocation & Health Inequalities Grant Allocation (District Councils)
- Community and Voluntary Sectors
 - Funding applications, developing programmes
- Academia for Social science research



Most recent (and current) multiple deprivation measure in NI, which relates to 2010:

- was developed 'in-house' by NISRA using established 'Noble' methodology
- was overseen by a cross-departmental/ cross organisational Steering Group, comprising
 - NI Government departments
 - NI Housing Executive
 - Rural Development Council
 - NICVA
 - Equality Commission
 - SOLACE
- was largely based on 2008 data from administrative systems plus 2001 Census



NIMDM 2010 - Components

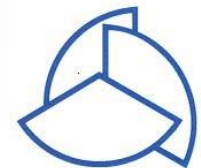
- **7 Domains of deprivation:**
 - Income & Employment (25% each)
 - Health & Education (15% each)
 - Proximity to Services (10%)
 - Environment & Crime (5% each)
- Weights were originally agreed by NI Executive in 2001 and ratified through consultations associated with NIMDM 2005 and NIMDM 2010
- Overall Multiple Deprivation Measure & separate Domain Measures were published



Business Case for updating the NIMDM 2010



An Agency within the Department of
**Finance and
Personnel**
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Northern Ireland
**Statistics &
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Agency

Business Case for updating NIMDM 2010

- Representations by key stakeholders, including:
 - MP (June 2014)
 - Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development (December 2014)
 - MLAs - Private Members motion (September 2015) + AQ (October 2015)
 - New councils
 - NICS Departments via Statistics Co-ordinating Group
- UK context
 - England: Updated measure published in September 2015
 - Wales: Updated measure for Wales published in November 2015
 - Scotland: Update of the 2012 based measure is currently underway, with publication anticipated in late 2016



Business Case for updating NIMDM 2010

- **Review of Public Administration**
 - 11 new councils came into effect in April 2015
 - Transfer of Community Planning responsibilities
 - Have indicated a need for updated small area deprivation measures
- **The availability of updated and/or new data sources**
 - NIMDM 2010 largely based on information relating to 2008
 - Updated and/or new information sources will have become available over past 7 years (e.g. 2011 Census)



Business Case for updating NIMDM 2010

- Recommendations from the NIMDM 2010
 - 36 in total
 - Opportunity to explore what work has been advanced, or remains to be advanced, in respect of each of these
- The importance of the information
 - Recent survey of NI Departments showed that all use this measure for resource allocation
 - Most also use it for policy evaluation



Current Position



- Cross-Departmental agreement (via the Statistics Co-ordinating Group - SCG) that NISRA should initiate an update of the NIMDM 2010
- Work has started - anticipate project will take 18 months to complete with results expected mid 2017
- Anticipated costs - in the region of £200k



- Key Activities to date include
 - Getting experienced NISRA personnel in place
 - Development of Business Case
 - Development/ sign-off of high level project plan - SCG
 - Establishment of Steering Group + Domain Expert Groups
 - Initiation of consultation on output geography
 - Capturing Rural concerns from:
 - Meetings of Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development
 - Private Members Motion (September 2015)
 - Recommendations from NIMDM 2010



- We want a comprehensive and fully inclusive update, with collective ownership for the outcome
 - All key stakeholders will be actively encouraged to engage with the work
 - Avenues will include: Steering Group; Domain Expert Groups, Consultation events, Committee Presentations etc.
- Project plan comprises 5 key phases
 - Methodological preparation, including Domain Expert Groups + geography consultation (*Winter 2015/ Spring 2016*)
 - Preparation of Consultation materials (*Summer 2016*)
 - Consultation Events (*Autumn 2016*)
 - Finalising methodology after consultation (*Winter 2016*)
 - Producing and publishing new measure (*Summer 2017*)



- Key Rural concerns include:

Current method underestimates full extent of deprivation in rural areas

Concentrations of spatial deprivation are more easily identified in urban areas than in rural areas

Socio-economic characteristics of the population in rural areas (which are larger) varies to a greater extent than in urban areas. Clusters of deprived households or concentrations of deprivation can be missed.

Spatial approach doesn't target individuals – as such deprivation can exist among relative affluence



- Key Rural concerns include:

Proximity/ Access to services – weighting?

- Proximity to services not the same as access to services
- Less than adequate public transport, longer travel times
- Lack of employment opportunities forcing emigration among young people - resulting in population ageing
- Poor/ inadequate broadband speed

Need to reflect on expenditure as well as income

- Higher cost of living in rural areas - car ownership more essential
- Higher rates of food and fuel poverty
- Rural dwellers may be less likely to take up benefits
- Rural dwellers with assets (land/ buildings) may not be entitled to benefits despite no or little income



Questions / Discussion

