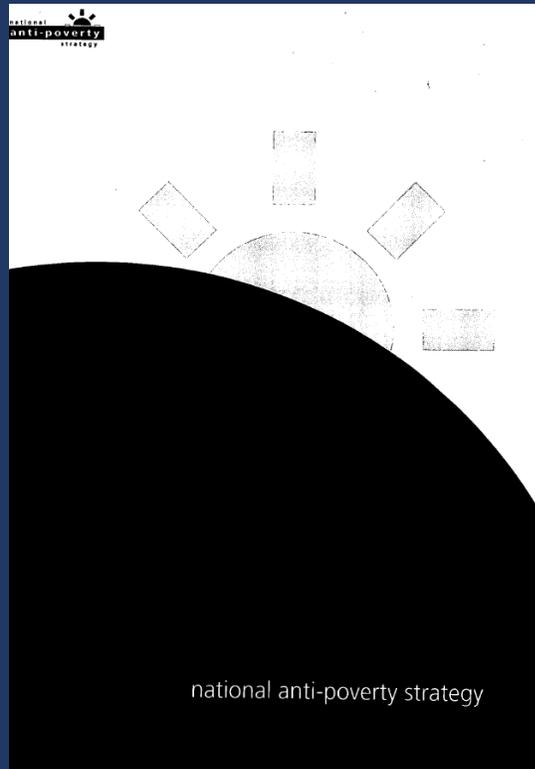


SOCIAL INCLUSION FORUM 2017

- Ambition
- Issues from regional meetings
- Challenge



20 YEAR ANNIVERSARY



The challenge involved in tackling poverty is a major one. It means bringing about significant change in Irish society. It requires putting poverty among the issues at the top of the national agenda. It involves the mobilisation of all sections of Irish society in building a fair society. It requires listening to and involving those who are directly affected by poverty. It means making difficult choices about priorities and policies. It challenges existing departments and agencies to develop new and more open and inclusive ways of doing things. Above all, given the deep-seated structural causes of poverty, it will require considerable effort over an extended period of time. If this is to be sustained a strategic approach is required. Thus the development and implementation of a strategy which involves all government departments and

John Burton

Hui Spring

R. De Rosa

REGIONAL MEETINGS

Before

- Regional Meetings
- Focus Group with people linked to homeless organisation

Follow-up

- More regional meetings
- Focus group with unemployed people



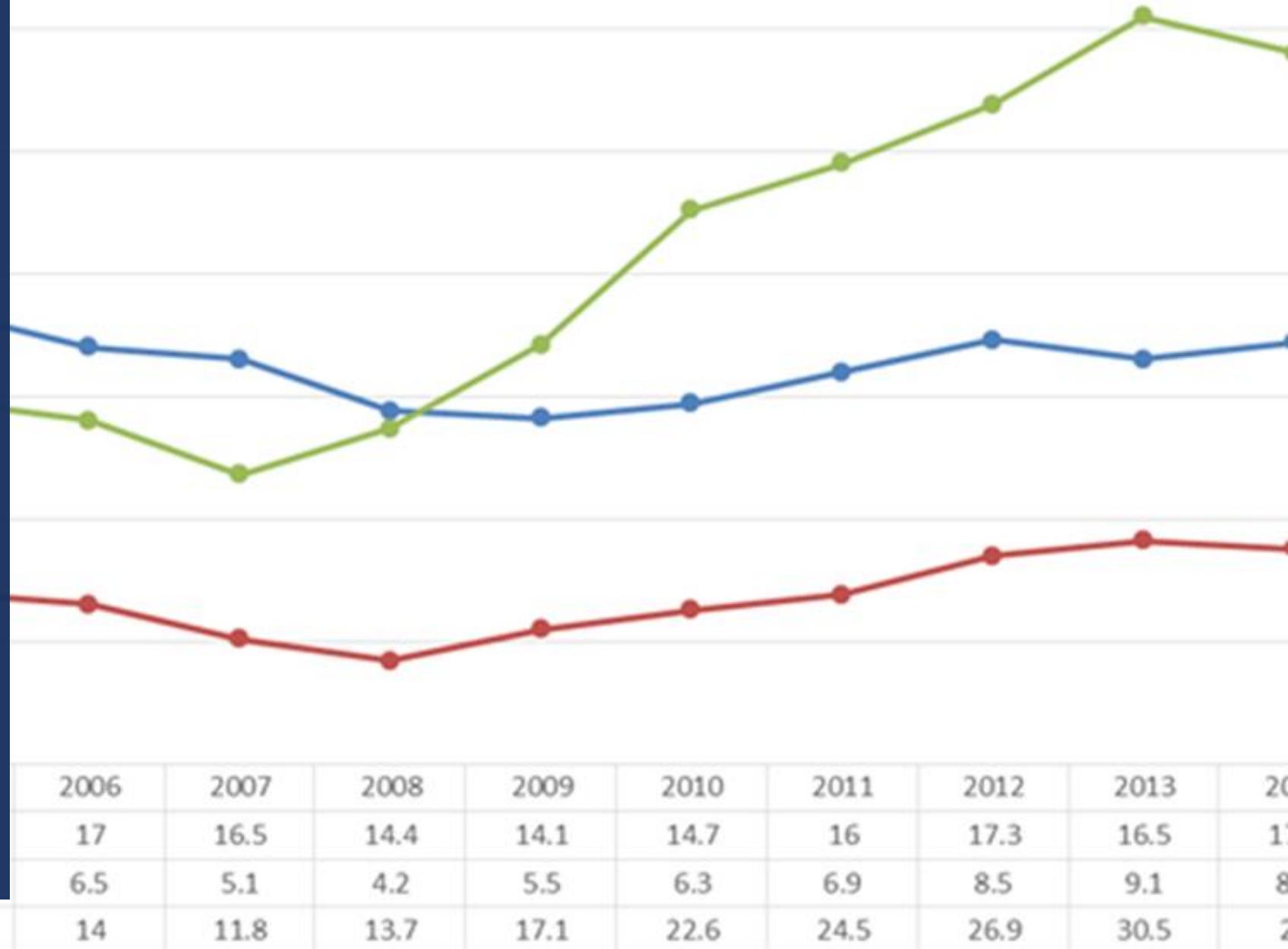


NEW NATIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION

- WELCOME INITIAL CONSULTATION
- A NUMBER OF CONCERNS – REDUCTION IN AMBITION, ‘CITIZEN’
- RIGHTS-BASED, PUBLIC SECTOR DUTY & SOCIAL INCLUSION PROGRAMMES
- IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

WE KNOW WHAT THE ISSUES ARE.....

- Income
- Services
- Work
- Participation



(60%

erty

POVERTY

'How do we break the cycle of poverty and crime for young people? A young person gets €100 on the dole but can make multiples of that selling drugs – how are we supposed to tackle that?'



DECENT INCOME & GOOD QUALITY JOBS

- **Labour Market Activation – over-emphasis & model**
- **Precarious Work**
- **Social Welfare**
- **Pensions**

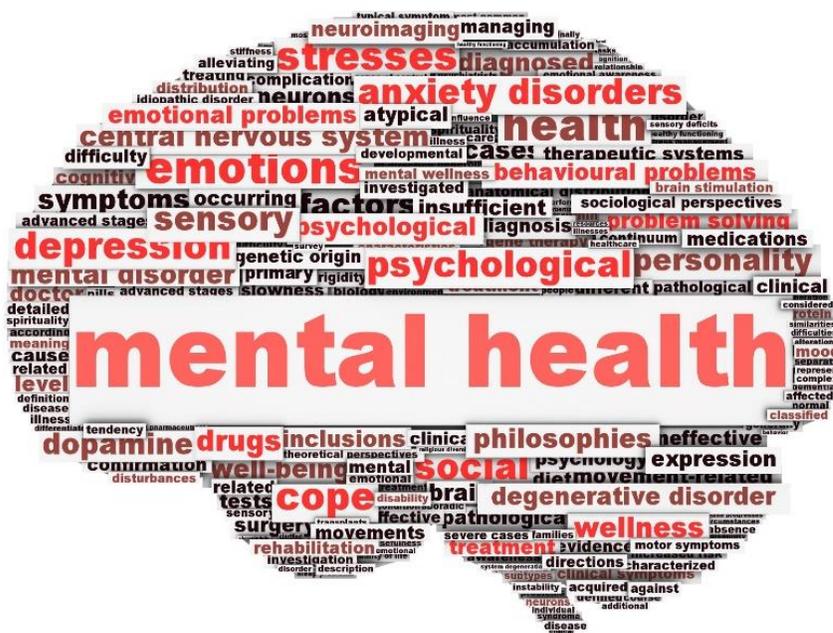


‘What people need are ‘proper’ jobs – not more schemes’



HEALTH

- Access to quality, affordable physical and mental health services

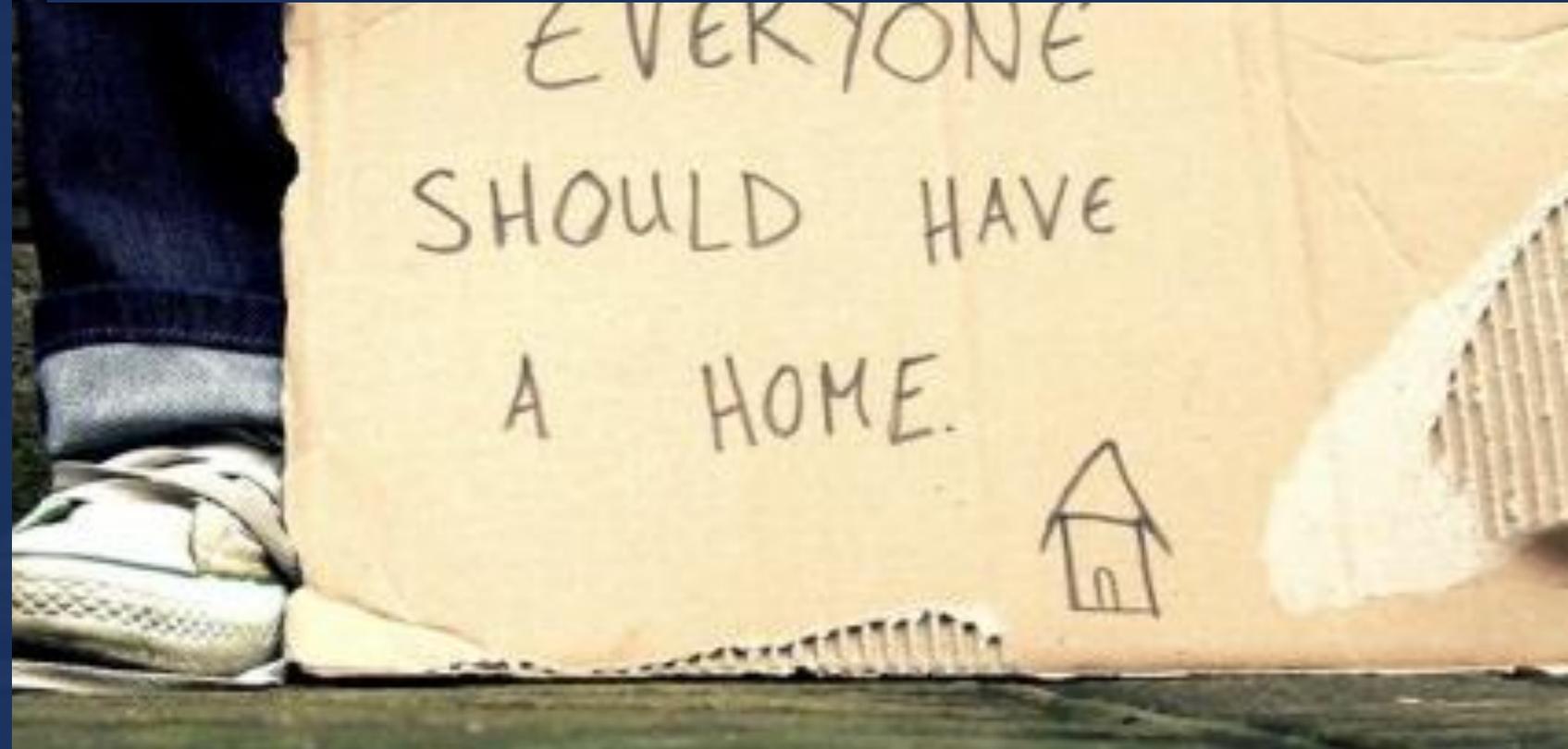


‘Every group and community is affected by mental health and suicide. Access to mental health supports are crucial’

HOMES

- Social Housing
- Traveller Accommodation
- Homelessness

'Our people, our children are still living in dire circumstances. Our only choice is to try to find private rented accommodation and with the levels of discrimination, that is impossible.'



'You feel like you're on a roundabout, you can't get out of the system. There's nowhere to rent, you're not even in the running for private rented housing even with HAP because they don't want someone with "issues".'



COMMUNITY SAFETY INVEST IN COMMUNITY GARDAÍ

Community Gardaí should get to know the people in the community and they should be visible.

RURAL AREAS

- Access to services
- Transport
- Isolation
- Crime

Even if there was a job – and that's a long-shot, how is someone in a rural area supposed to get to that job. Even if there was public transport available, how is someone on minimum wage supposed to afford it?

Someone needs to speak for island communities. We are always forgotten. There is no access to services for any stage on the lifecycle. The island communities are disappearing.





THE CHALLENGE

- RECOGNISE RIGHTS
- MOBILIZE THE WHOLE OF GOVERNMENT
- INVEST SERIOUS RESOURCES IN SERVICES, QUALITY OF WORK AND INCOME
- ENSURE ALL POLICIES PROMOTE INCLUSION
- ENSURE PLANS ARE ADAPTED TO DELIVER TARGETS

THE CHALLENGE

TO ENSURE A WHOLE OF GOVERNMENT APPROACH



Like slavery and apartheid, poverty is not natural. It is man-made and it can be overcome and eradicated by the actions of human beings.

— Nelson Mandela —

AZ QUOTES

The Plan must be about rights and a plan to resource and vindicate those rights over a planned period.

- The right to an adequate income to live life with dignity
- The right to quality employment
- The right to participate in decisions that affect our lives
- The right to housing, childcare, education, health and other services which allow a decent life
- The right to accommodation and housing

A society that leaves no one behind

A PLAN NOT A REPORTING SYSTEM

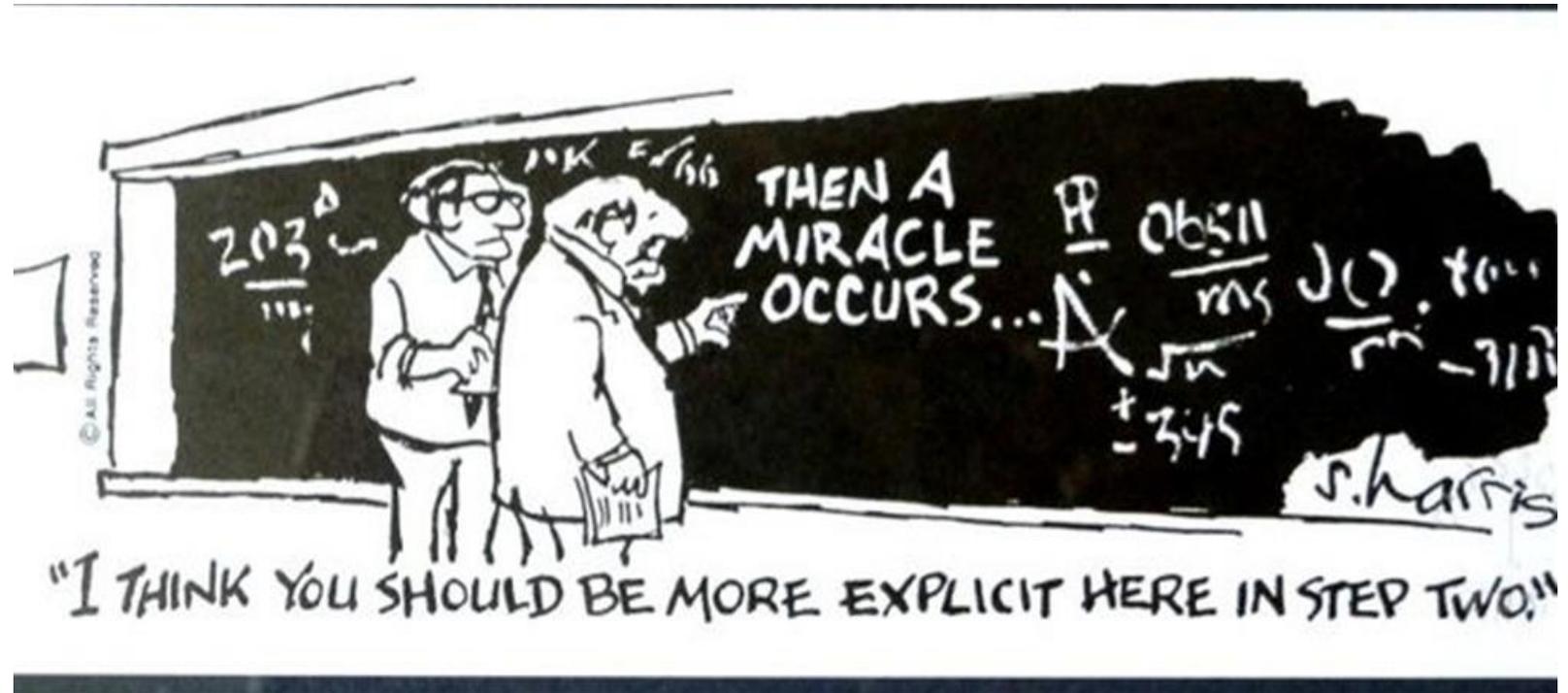
INVEST IN SOCIAL INCLUSION

BROADEN THE TAX BASE - FAIRER
TAX SYSTEM – BRING IRELAND UP
TO EU AVERAGE TAX TAKE



“...IT MEANS MAKING DIFFICULT CHOICES ABOUT PRIORITIES AND POLICIES...”

- Proofing and impact assessment need to be a tool for policy planning and evaluation, not just a reporting system
- All Government approach – not just one Department or Unit
- No policy is ‘too important’ or ‘too sensitive’ to proof/assess
- Targets need action plans



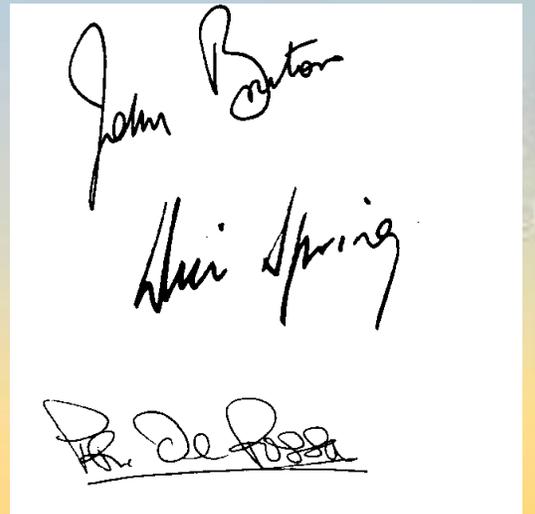
“...IT REQUIRES LISTENING TO THOSE WHO ARE DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN POVERTY & THEIR ORGANISATIONS...”

- Genuine consultation at all stages of planning and delivery
- Rebuild supports for communities to represent themselves and take control of their own lives
- More time for consultation, faster feedback and delivery

‘Services are better if the people who are using them can participate in decisions about how they are designed and delivered’



A strategy to address poverty and social exclusion...’means bringing about significant change in Irish society....putting poverty among the issues at the top of the national agenda’



John Burt
Helen Spring
P. De Rosa