

# HOUSING SUPPLY STRATEGY - CALL FOR EVIDENCE ANNEXES

## UKGDPR

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Water Lane

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Cheshire

SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113

Email: [casework@ico.org.uk](mailto:casework@ico.org.uk)

<https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/>

## An Overview of NI's Housing Stock

Historically, an overview of the Northern Ireland's housing stock was contained in the Censuses that were generally carried out at ten-yearly intervals. However, the statutory impetus for gathering much more detailed information on housing was provided by The Housing Executive Act, 1971. This legislation specifically tasked the Northern Ireland Housing Executive with regularly examining housing conditions and requirements. The first House Condition Survey was carried out in 1974 and provided a much more detailed picture of the housing stock, in terms of numbers, tenure, characteristics and condition. The Housing Executive subsequently completed a further 11 House Condition Surveys, the most recent of these in 2016.

The 1990's saw a step change in the quality of the evidence base underpinning planning for housing in Northern Ireland. This was driven primarily by the need to optimise the expenditure of increasingly scarce public sector resources – both for the construction of new dwellings and for improving the existing housing stock. In 1994, the Housing Executive published an estimate of the annual need for social housing in Northern Ireland using a modified version of a Net Stock Model developed by the Audit Commission. This model was regularly updated by the Housing Executive and formed a key component of the decision-making process that ultimately determined Northern Ireland's Social Housing Development Programme. Its latest iteration was completed in 2015<sup>1</sup>. However, although this model focusses on the need for social housing, its two decisive components are Census based estimates of future household formation and new build construction by the private sector. The NIHE is now reviewing its assessment of housing need and plan to publish Strategic Housing Market Analysis documents, which provide an assessment of cross tenure housing need, social housing need and for the first time, an assessment of intermediate housing need. These also include different housing need scenarios to ensure projections remain relevant across a long term time frame.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.nihe.gov.uk/Documents/Research/Housing-Market-Review-CURRENT/housing-market-review-2015-2018.aspx?ext=>.

Household formation rates are also the key driver of projections of overall future housing requirements (Housing Growth Indicators). These were produced for the first time by the Department for Regional Development as part of its Regional Development Strategy published in 2001. This Strategy provided the overarching strategic planning framework for new housing developments in Northern Ireland. However, in contrast to the Net Stock Model, the methodology underpinning the Housing Growth Indicators incorporated an estimate of Northern Ireland's total housing stock. Using essentially the same methodology, the Department for Infrastructure published its most recent 2016-based Housing Growth Indicators in 2019<sup>2</sup>.

A further significant improvement to the statistics on Northern Ireland's total dwelling stock emerged in 2015. The introduction of new building control procedures by Councils had led over time to improvements in data quality and availability with regard to dwelling completions in particular. This enabled Land & Property Services to produce for the first time, not only a consistent time series of quarterly statistics on new dwelling starts and completions, but also robust annual estimates of Northern Ireland's total dwelling stock going back to 2008 by District Council and dwelling type<sup>3</sup>. Table 1 sets out the estimates by District Council for the most recent 10 years.

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/publications/2016-based-housing-growth-indicators-hgis>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.finance-ni.gov.uk/publications/annual-housing-stock-statistics>

**Table 1: Housing Stock Statistics by Local Government District, 2011-2020<sup>4</sup>**

Local Government District	2011 Housing Stock	2012 Housing Stock	2013 Housing Stock	2014 Housing Stock	2015 Housing Stock	2016 Housing Stock	2017 Housing Stock	2018 Housing Stock	2019 Housing Stock	2020 Housing Stock
Antrim and Newtownabbey	56,130	56,350	56,695	57,228	57,618	58,276	58,827	59,436	60,186	60,915
Ards and North Down	68,491	68,694	69,060	69,392	69,770	70,252	70,982	71,842	72,963	73,800
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	80,689	80,627	80,858	81,373	81,857	82,489	83,447	84,398	85,507	86,665
Belfast	153,373	154,017	154,390	155,046	155,378	156,131	156,853	157,553	158,170	159,105
Causeway Coast and Glens	62,169	62,039	62,237	62,473	62,616	62,948	63,522	64,078	64,669	65,351
Derry City and Strabane	59,023	59,306	59,445	59,700	60,019	60,471	61,043	61,737	62,462	63,291
Fermanagh and Omagh	46,830	47,225	47,660	47,832	47,839	48,022	48,215	48,451	48,802	49,262
Lisburn and Castlereagh	55,156	55,370	55,995	56,697	57,259	57,990	58,946	59,764	60,830	61,638
Mid and East Antrim	57,283	57,393	57,720	58,061	58,305	58,686	59,032	59,377	60,050	60,747
Mid Ulster	51,127	51,048	51,482	51,877	52,272	52,646	53,229	53,838	54,685	55,522
Newry, Mourne and Down	66,376	66,451	66,803	67,699	68,200	68,615	69,176	69,854	70,647	71,516
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>756,647</b>	<b>758,520</b>	<b>762,345</b>	<b>767,378</b>	<b>771,133</b>	<b>776,526</b>	<b>783,272</b>	<b>790,328</b>	<b>798,971</b>	<b>807,812</b>

<sup>4</sup> Source: <https://www.finance-ni.gov.uk/publications/annual-housing-stock-statistics>

Unfortunately, however, these key annual statistics, invaluable as they are, do not provide additional important insights into Northern Ireland's housing stock: its tenure composition in particular, but also in relation to age of existing stock, dwelling size and location in terms of the urban/rural spectrum. It would be possible to update tenure estimates from other sample-based household surveys, such as NISRA's Continuous Household Survey<sup>5</sup>. However, this would introduce a further level of statistical inconsistency. Indeed, there is no evidence to suggest that broad patterns in terms of tenure, size and location have changed significantly since 2016. In particular, there is no indication that the rapid rise of the private rented sector that characterised the period 2006-2011 has been repeated in the 2016-2020 period. Therefore, although the overall number of dwellings obviously increased between 2016 and 2020 and there will have been changes in terms of the absolute size of its various components, there is no evidence to suggest a significant divergence *in proportional terms* from those based on the 2016 House Condition Survey. At this point in time, therefore, pending completion of the next House Condition Survey, the evidence suggests that a combination of LPS figures and HCS figures are used to provide the most up to date and robust overview of Northern Ireland's housing stock

Table 2.

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<sup>5</sup> <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/statistics/find-your-survey/continuous-household-survey>

**Table 2: Northern Ireland's Stock: Key Characteristics 2006-2016<sup>6</sup>**

	<b>2006</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>Total Stock</b>	705,000 (100%)	760,000 (100%)	780,000 (100%)
<b>Urban</b>	493,800 (70%)	490,600 (65%)	502,900 (65%)
<b>Rural</b>	211,200 (30%)	269,400 (36%)	277,100 (36%)
<b>Owner Occupied</b>	468,900 (66.5%)	469,100 (61.7%)	494,700 (63.4)
<b>Private Rented (and others)</b>	80,900 (11.5%)	125,400 (16.5%)	136,000 (17.4%)
<b>Housing Executive</b>	93,400 (13.3%)	110,800** (14.6%)	85,300 (10.9%)
<b>Housing Association</b>	21,500 (3.1%)		35,600 (4.6%)
<b>Vacant</b>	40,300 (5.7%)	54,700 (7.2%)	28,500 (3.7%)
<b>Pre-1919</b>	113,800 (16.1%)	87,700 (11.5%)	81,600 10.5%
<b>1919-44</b>	71,000 (10.1%)	68,100 (9.0%)	67,600 (8.7%)
<b>1945-64</b>	141,400 (20.1%)	134,000 (17.6%)	126,200 (16.2%)
<b>1965-80</b>	169,300 (24.0%)	169,500 (22.3%)	189,400 (24.3%)
<b>Post-1980</b>	209,500 (29.7%)	300,700 (39.6%)	315,200 (40.4%)
<b>Bungalow</b>	159,900 (22.7%)	160,000 (21.1%)	163,800 (21.0%)
<b>Terraced House</b>	225,400 (32.0%)	209,800 (27.6%)	220,700 (28.3%)
<b>Semi-detached house</b>	141,300 (20.0%)	165,200 (21.7%)	179,600 (23.0%)
<b>Detached House</b>	122,400 (17.4%)	158,500 (20.9%)	164,000 (21.0%)
<b>Flat/Apartment</b>	56,000 (8.0%)	66,500 (8.7%)	51,900 (6.7%)

<sup>6</sup>Source: NIHE: *House Condition Survey 2016, Main Report*, Table 3.1.

<https://www.nihe.gov.uk/Documents/Research/HCS-2016-Main-Reports/HCS-Main-Report-2016.aspx>

\* Due to rounding columns may not always add to the total stock or 100%

\*\* Housing Executive and housing association figures combined due to small sample size



However, the Housing Market Symposium Report<sup>7</sup> published in 2018, also highlighted that there continued to be a number of inconsistencies in terms of estimating what constitutes the total **viable** housing stock that may at least partially explain differences in the overall 2016 stock figures produced by LPS (776,500) and used by the 2016-based Housing Growth Indicator methodology, and the comparable 2016 House Condition Survey ones (780,000). In many ways this relatively small differential is of little importance and may to a large extent reflect different interpretations of what constitutes a viable dwelling in terms of condition, but it may also reflect differences in what is included in the overall estimates. For example, whether purpose-built student housing, houses in multiple occupation, second homes for business purposes or for use as holiday homes are included or, for example, where the cut-off point for inclusion is set along the spectrum of supported/more specialist housing (from sheltered dwellings up to and including care homes). In addition, estimates of the number of (viable) empty dwellings differ significantly between the 2016-based HGI figure of (57,000) and the 2016 HCS figure of (28,500).

At this stage of development of the Housing Supply Strategy these details are not of great significance. However, if as expected the Strategy will address supply issues in a variety of housing contexts (tenure, location, condition) by means of a range of mechanisms, then a consistently defined view of not only the total housing stock, but also its component parts is highly desirable. A robust and statistically consistent evidence base is also an important component of estimates of future housing need and demand. In Northern Ireland, planning for housing at the strategic level and the evidence that underpins this complex process is the responsibility of a number of organisations, including the Department for Communities, the Department for Infrastructure, the Housing Executive, 11 District Councils and NISRA. A range of work is ongoing in all these organisations to continually improve the statistical evidence base. A key element of the Call for Evidence therefore is how best to ensure there is statistical and methodological consistency that would significantly improve the process of planning for future housing supply/requirements (including

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<sup>7</sup> <https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/publications/housing-market-symposium-report>

housing need), particularly in a post-pandemic context where the relationship between economic factors (the labour market in particular), Government policy and household formation rates has become an even more critical consideration than in the post Global Financial Crisis period.

Letter to ECNI



**From:** Director of Housing Supply Policy

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**Date: 04 February 2021**

Dr Evelyn Collins CBE  
Chief Executive  
Equality Commission for Northern Ireland

Via email: [information@equalityni.org](mailto:information@equalityni.org)

Dear Dr Collins

**HOUSING SUPPLY STRATEGY**

1. You may be aware that the Communities Minister announced in her statement to the Assembly on 3rd November that officials would commence work on the development of a fundamental Housing Supply Strategy, as a key part of her housing programme to help meet Programme for Government commitments to reduce housing stress and increase housing supply. I am writing to you to request some early input from ECNI to the formative stages of the development of this strategy.
2. Minister set out her ambition that this strategy will provide a framework for delivery of the right volume and types of homes to meet changing patterns of demand, in the context of societal, environmental and demographic change, and deliver on objective housing need. It will examine the significant and deep-rooted barriers to increasing supply, including the likes of infrastructure, finance, carbon reduction and skills and capacity constraints. The Strategy will have mixed tenure at its heart, ensuring stable, secure and sustainable communities for everyone.

3. We firmly believe the Strategy has the potential to provide a firm foundation for the delivery of a wide range of positive social and economic outcomes, such as improving the health and wellbeing of our citizens, especially for those who are most vulnerable in our society, and creating job opportunities within the construction and wider housing-related industries. Moreover, the delivery of quality and affordable homes in the right locations and within attractive and sustainable communities is central to attracting and maintaining more global economic investment in NI.
4. We recognise that equality considerations are front and centre to achieving the Minister's housing ambitions. During these initial stages of its development, the DfC Housing Supply Strategy has continued to be informed by the comprehensive report as prepared for the Commission by Dr Alison Wallace<sup>8</sup>, together with the subsequent ECNI statement, *'Key Inequalities in Housing and Communities'*. In combination, both documents make clear the inequalities, barriers and differences in housing experience across communities in Northern Ireland, while also identifying where gaps in data continue to exist.
5. Through the Housing Supply Strategy, the Department is keen to work in partnership with key stakeholders including the Commission in identifying and remedying these inequalities in housing experience. One of the early stages in the process has to involve the gathering of robust evidence, along with the identification of data gaps.
6. This pre-consultation data gathering exercise will be delivered through a wider 'Call for Evidence' document which we aim to publish by the end of March this year. In relation to equality, we consider that the context of this for the Call for Evidence will include, but not be restricted to, a consideration of the nine Section 75 grounds (i.e., sex/gender, religious belief, political opinion, race/ethnic origin, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, age and dependancy). For example, socio-economic status will feature along with poverty and social exclusion.
7. The Department is cognisant of the key findings contained within the Wallace Report and the Commission's statement, but is also aware that both documents may have become somewhat dated as they have been overtaken by unforeseen recent events, not least a global pandemic from 2020 onwards.
8. How the pandemic may have impacted on the accessibility, adequacy and sustainability of local housing, and in turn inequalities in housing demand and supply, is a matter that the Department would be keen to explore further with the Commission, and including the extent to which the Commission's statement is seen to remain current.
9. In that Statement a number of key inequalities related to housing were identified. We have summarised these as an annex to this letter. The Department would be keen to engage with the Commission in order to ascertain the extent to which these inequalities may have grown or shrunk over the last five years.

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**8 Housing and Communities' Inequalities in Northern Ireland, Alison Wallace, June 2015**

10. In relation to available data, it was recognised in both the Commission's Statement and the Wallace Report that although considerable amounts of information can continue to be accessed through a variety of sources, there remain significant data gaps. Specifically, the Wallace report states the following:

*'There was an overall paucity of data relating to some equality groups, namely people of different sexual orientation, political opinion and transgender people; and weaknesses in understanding of the housing conditions and preferences of people from minority ethnic and migrant groups, of disabled people, and of the impact of the housing market downturn and housing debt more widely. Further understanding the precise influence of equality attributes on housing outcomes where people hold multiple identities is required.'*

11. More generally, the Commission identified data gaps relating to the following Section 75 grounds:

- Gender / Gender Identity
- Religion
- Race
- Political opinion
- Sexual Orientation

12. Once more, the Department would welcome opportunities to discuss how these gaps may be closed, with reference to both quantitative and qualitative techniques, and including those occasions where numbers in particular groups may be small (e.g., minority ethnic groups and migrants).

13. The Wallace report has also highlighted an issue that the Department has recognised for some considerable time in order to genuinely understand the extent of inequality. That is, the need to move beyond breakdowns by single factors (e.g. religion) and univariate analyses in order to control for all other extraneous variables when considering the extent of inequalities (i.e. *'Further comprehensive analysis to isolate the effect of religion on housing waiting times should be undertaken using time series data, at different scales and controlling for other attributes, and this analysis should include barriers to the delivery of new supply in different locations.'* (p.103)

14. Through its initial Call for Evidence, the Department would like to explore opportunities for utilising multivariate analyses, and once more, initial discussions around these issues with the Commission would be most welcome.

15. I would be grateful if you would be willing to meet myself and my team to discuss these issues at your earliest convenience. Please contact me at the email address above and I would be happy to set up a meeting.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "David Polley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping 'D' and a stylized 'P'.

David Polley

○ **ACCESSIBILITY**

- Applicants from Catholic 'reference person households' (RPHs) continue to experience the longest waiting times for social housing.
- Access to appropriate accommodation for Irish Travellers is limited.
- Households with a younger Household Reference Person (<35 yrs) who are in receipt of the Local Housing Allowance may find it more difficult to obtain private rented homes than older (>35 yrs) households.
- Single male RPHs are more likely than single female RPHs to present as homeless to NIHE.
- Female RPHs appear more likely to live in rented accommodation, including social housing, than male RPHs. (However, as there is a lack of data regarding the housing preferences of household reference persons, it is not possible from this information alone to conclude if these differences represent an inequality.)

○ **ADEQUACY**

- Homes of minority ethnic people and migrant groups may be vulnerable to racial attacks.
- Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual (LGB) people can feel harassed and unsafe in their own homes and neighbourhoods.
- Trans people are at high risk of being the victim of hate crimes, including crimes against the person and property-related crimes.
- Migrant workers are vulnerable to becoming subject to tied accommodation with poor conditions and overcrowding.
- Minority ethnic people, especially Roma, Irish Travellers, Asian, Black and Other ethnic groups, experience overcrowding more often than the general population and White people.
- People with a learning disability are not always afforded an opportunity to live independently.
- Many people with disabilities live in homes that are not adequate to meet their disability-related needs.
- Households with an older reference person (>60 yrs) are more likely to live in non-decent homes and homes that require adaptations than those aged under 60 years old.
- Those without dependent children, living in the private rented sector, are more likely to live in non-decent homes.

- In social housing, single household reference persons are the most likely to live in non-decent housing. Overall, those who are separated or divorced are more likely to live in non-decent homes but these findings may be related to other characteristics (such as age and/or dependents), or to life trajectories.

- **SUSTAINABILITY**

- Households with dependent children, particularly lone parent RPHs who live in the private rented sector, are more likely to experience relative poverty after housing costs have been deducted.
- In the private rented sector, households represented by a female reference person are at greater risk of relative poverty after housing costs have been deducted than those households with a male reference person.



## Data from a range of government sources

**Housing Stress**

- On 31 March 2020 there were 38,745 applicants on the social housing waiting list. Of these applicants, 27,745 were in 'housing stress'.
- In 2019-20 11,323 households were accepted as statutorily homeless.
- There is a need to have a clear definition of housing stress vis-à-vis a person's vulnerability.

**Poverty**

- In May 2020 for the period April 2018 to March 2019 statistics demonstrate that around 350,000 (19%) people in NI lived in relative income poverty (Before Housing Costs), including approximately 107,000 (24%) children.
- The percentage of people in NI *in relative income poverty* (After Housing Costs) in this period was 20%.
- 16% of people (approximately 303,000) in NI live in absolute income poverty (before housing costs). This can be further broken down to 21% of children (92,000), 12% of pensioners (34,000) and 16% of the working age population (176,000).
- The percentage of people in NI *in absolute income poverty* (after housing costs) in this period was 18%.
- The long-term trend shows that children are at a higher risk of living in poverty than the overall NI population in both relative and absolute measures.

**Housing Costs and Poverty by Tenure**

- The highest housing costs (for 'All Tenures excluding Owned Outright') over the time series, were in 2007/08 (£82 per week); the 2018/19 figure stands at 18% below that level (£67 per week).
- Comparing different tenures for the same time period (2007/08 to 2018/19), average housing costs for Owning with a Mortgage is currently approximately 55% lower, Private Rented sector 10% lower and Social Rented sector 15% higher.
- The highest housing costs in 2018/19 (£97 per week) are associated with the Private Rented sector compared with £75 for Social Rented and £40 for Owned with a Mortgage.

### ***Composition and Percentage of Individuals in Relative Low Income by Housing Tenure***

- Of those individuals in relative low income Before Housing Costs, 38% live in homes which are Owned Outright, 24% live in the Private Rented sector, 21% live in the Social Rented sector and 18% live in homes owned with a mortgage.
- On an After Housing Costs basis, the figures are 31% in private rented, 28% Owned Outright, 24% in the Social Rented sector and 18% Owned with a Mortgage.
- In 2018/19 individuals living in the Social Rented sector were at the highest risk of relative poverty, both BHC and AHC.

### ***Fuel poverty***

- As per the House Conditions Survey 2016, the rate of fuel poverty in NI is 22 per cent. There are three factors which impact on fuel poverty: income; energy cost; and the energy efficiency of the home.
- The Affordable Warmth Scheme was introduced in September 2014. The scheme is targeted at fuel poor households in the private sector. A total of 2,594 homes was improved in 2019/20 at a cost of £12.3m.
- The Boiler Replacement Scheme is a DfC scheme, administered by NIHE. Between 2012–13 and 2019–20, 43,627 grants were approved amounting to £29 million.
- Challenges for any of these schemes include: ensuring that they reach the most vulnerable in society; that they align with the pathway towards Net Zero Carbon emissions; that they offer value for money.

### ***Financial well-being***

- In the 2019–20 NI Housing Statistics, households with the highest housing costs were in the private rented sector, at £97 per week, compared to estimates of £82 in the social rented sector and £46 for those buying with a mortgage.
- Those buying with a mortgage had the highest estimated average weekly household income of £1,052, followed by those who owned outright (£732) and private renters (£581). The social rented sector had the lowest estimated average weekly income of £411.
- For those buying with a mortgage, the majority of their estimated average income was generated from wages and salaries at 79%. In comparison, for social renters, social security benefits (46%) made up the largest proportion of income, with 27% generated through wages and salaries.
- The annual percentage change in claimant numbers for Universal Credit increased by +156.7% this year, with the highest numbers in March to May 2020 linked to the pandemic.
- The UK Strategy for Financial Wellbeing is the ten-year framework which helps achieve the vision of everyone making the most of their money and pensions. The Money and Pension Service (MaPS) will play a key role in achieving this

vision. The strategy outlines five main themes: Financial Foundations; Creating a Nation of Savers; Credit Counts; Better Debt Advice; and Future Focus.

- During the pandemic, and right across NI, the increase in people needing to use food banks, fuel vouchers, baby banks, etc., highlighted the significant need for people living on low incomes.

### ***Unemployment***

- The latest NI seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the period September–November 2020 was estimated from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) at 3.3%.
- Youth unemployment (16-24) for the period September–November 2020 was estimated from the LFS at 9.6%. This is in comparison with a figure of 5.8% in Sept.–Nov. 2019. Youth unemployment (16-24) is significantly higher than any other age group, the next highest being among the 25-34 age group at 3.1%.
- Regarding future projections of unemployment, forecasters indicate that there could be a period of four to five years before the NI economy returns to pre-pandemic levels of output. Within this the possibility of 60,000 people moving into unemployment has been highlighted (which would increase the unemployment to rate to approximately 13%). There are particular concerns around youth unemployment and underemployment.

### ***Economic inactivity***

- The economic inactivity rate (the proportion of people aged 16 to 64 who were not working and not seeking or available to work), was 27.2% in Sept.–Nov. 2020. The largest group of economically inactive people were those 16-24 where the rate is 48.7%.
- In total between Sept–Nov 2020, there were 318,000 economically inactive people in the 16-64 age range. 134,000 (42%) of this cohort are male and 184,000 (58%) are female.
- There are significant sub-regional differences in economic inactivity across District Council areas. Fermanagh and Omagh District Council has the highest economically inactive rate at 33.1%, followed by Belfast City Council area (30.5%), and Derry City and Strabane District (30.4%). The rate is lowest in Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council area at 17.4%. (LFS Jan–Dec 2019)
- Looking ahead, forecasters are highlighting that the impact of Covid-19 poses a risk that economic inactivity will increase further. Many of the jobs impacted are low wage and low qualifications.
- The largest group within the economically inactive stock are people classed as long-term sick/disabled (NI 34.4%, UK 24.8% (LFS April–June 2020).
- The proportion of the working age population who are economically inactive and looking after the family/home is only marginally lower in NI compared to the UK (NI 19.8%, UK 20.0%). One of the biggest issues for this group was access to affordable childcare.

The University of Ulster Economic Policy Centre in 2016 stated that a significant change in economic inactivity cannot be achieved without a reduction in the number of people who are classed as being long-term sick and an improvement in the disabled employment rate. The largest impact on the overall inactivity rate would be achieved from an increase in the employment rate amongst the over 50s, single people and people with a low level of qualification.

### ***Intergenerational poverty and joblessness***

A culture of worklessness can develop in some areas where large proportions of the population have never worked. At the time of the 2011 Census more than one in four of the 16-74 population had never worked before in 30 of NI's 36 Neighbourhood Renewal areas and where the head of household is inactive, the chances of other household members working is only 31%. This can have profound implications on life opportunities.

### ***Multiple Deprivation***

The NI Multiple Deprivation Measure (NIMDM) 2017 provides a mechanism for ranking areas in order of most to least deprived. Belfast City Council area, followed by Derry City and Strabane District have the highest percentage of their Super Output Areas in the top 100 in NI at 29% and 27% respectively. Multiple deprivation in some areas is more pronounced than in other areas.

### ***Disability***

- Overall, 21.7% of respondents aged 16-64 in NI (Apr-Jun 2017) reported a long-term illness and a disability. In the UK overall the figure was 17.4%.
- The labour market status of persons with or without a disability aged 16-64 illustrates that 58.9% of those with a disability are inactive, 38.9% are in employment and a further 2.2% are unemployed.
- The highest qualification of persons with or without a disability aged 16-64 illustrates that 26.8% of those with a disability have no qualifications, while 10.1% of those without a disability have no qualifications. However, 43.4% of those with a disability have A level or equivalent, other higher or a degree/equivalent, 15% having a degree. This compares to 65% of those without a disability with qualifications of A level and above and 32.1% having a degree.