# Tackling Health Inequalities Together

Mary Black Feb 2015



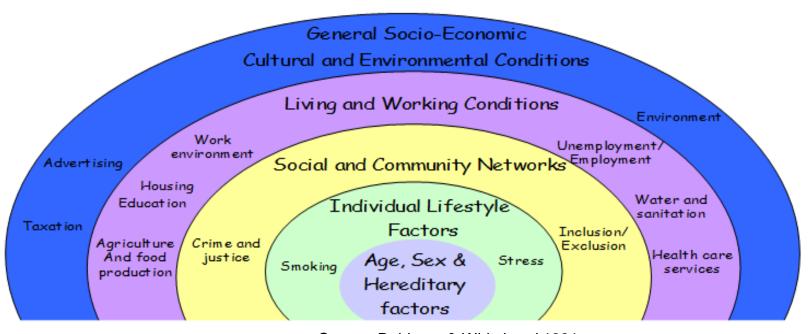
#### Context

- Belfast Strategic Partnership
- Central Importance
- Current Climate
- Risk of further marginalisation





## **Determinants** of Health

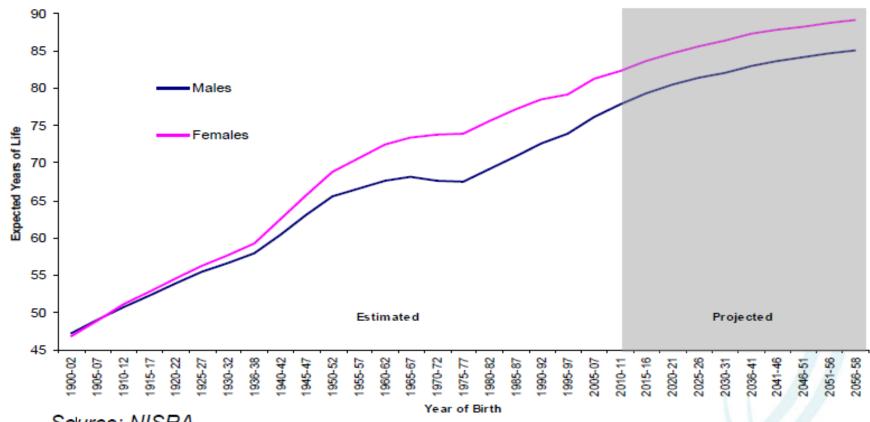


Source: Dahlgren & Whitehead 1991



### Life Expectancy

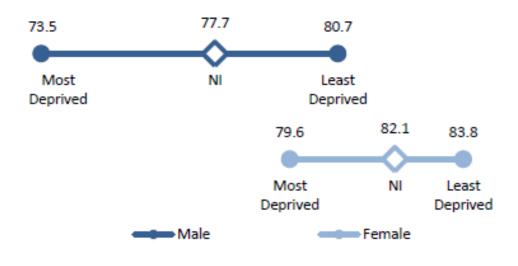
Expectation of Life at Birth, by Sex (1890-92 to 2056-58)



Source: NISRA

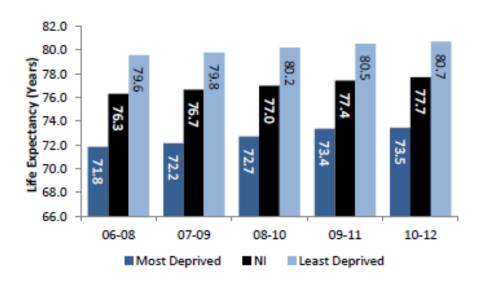


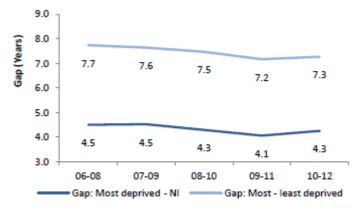
# Life Expectancy in years- between most and least deprived Northern Ireland 2010-2012





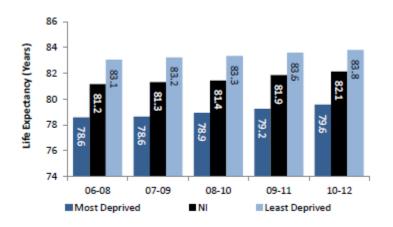
### Male Life Expectancy – gaps

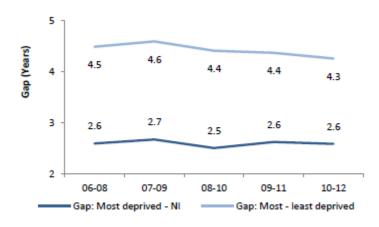






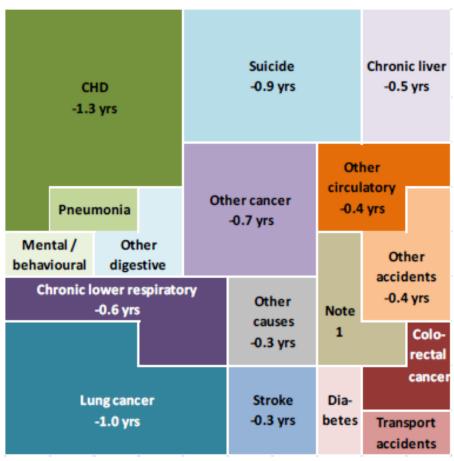
### Female Life Expectancy - gaps







### What drives the gap in men?



Causes for which mortality is higher in the most deprived areas (-7.6 years)

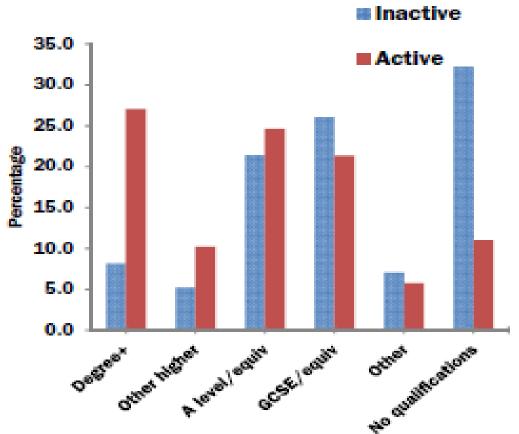


### **Poverty**

- Socioeconomic conditions pre dispose
- 22% children live in poverty (NIPSA 2014)
- 44% of households living in fuel poverty (NIHE 2009)
- 10% fall in income in NI compared to 7% in the UK (new Policy Inst. 2014)



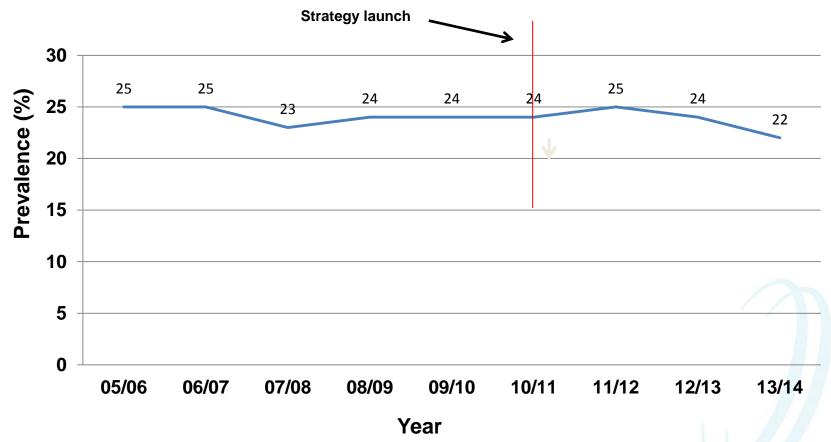
### Qualifications by Economic Activity, July - December 2014



Source: LFS Quarterly Supplement: July - September 2014 Public Health

Agency

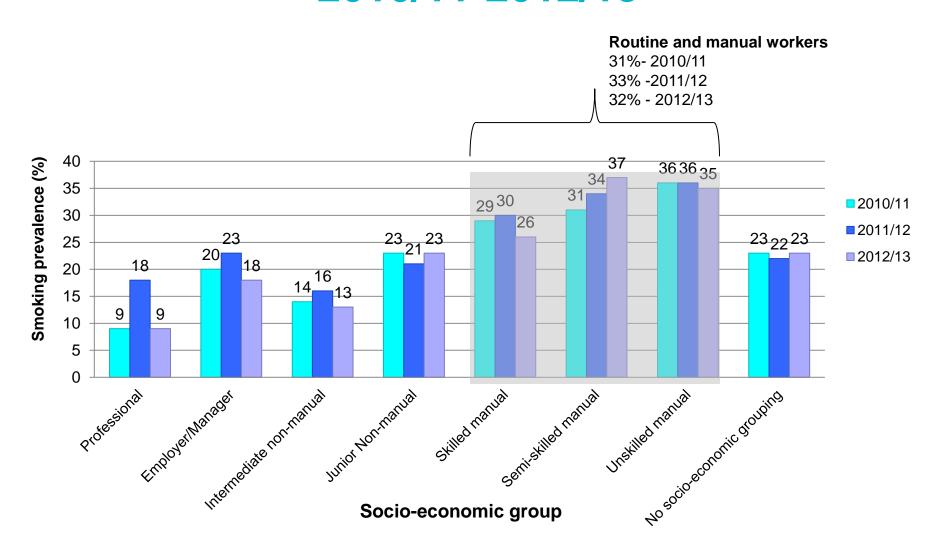
### Smoking prevalence in Northern Ireland 2005/06-2013/14.



Source: Continuous Household Survey; 05/06-09/10. Northern Ireland Health Survey 10/11-13/14.



### Smoking prevalence by socio-economic group 2010/11-2012/13



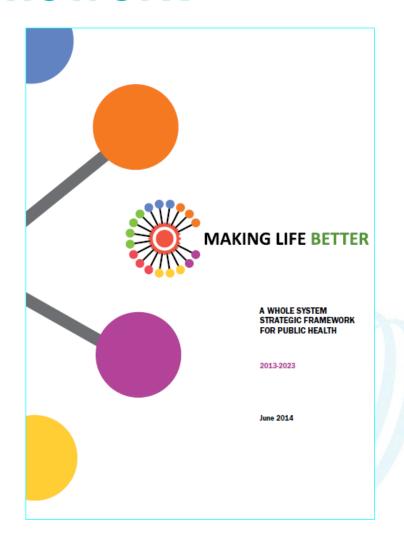
Source: Northern Ireland Health Survey 2010/11-2012/13



#### **Public Health Framework**

#### **Vision**

All people are enabled and supported in achieving their full health and wellbeing potential



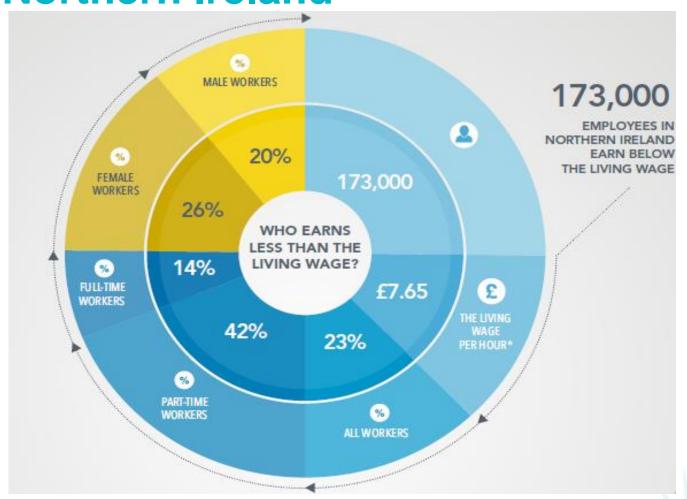


### **Making Life Better Themes**

- Give Every Child the Best Start
- 2. Equipped Throughout Life
- Empowering Healthy Living
- 4. Creating the conditions
- 5. Empowering Communities
- Developing Collaboration
  Public Health
  Agency

  Improving

### **Economic Analysis of the Living Wage** in Northern Ireland



Source: Patolid Epophinics report for NICVA CEE: An Economic Analysis of the Living Wage in Northern Ireland 2012

Improving Your Health and Wellbeing

### The Living Wage and Health

- The Living Wage is an hourly rate that aims to ensure a minimum acceptable standard of living: £7.85 in NI this year
- 173,000 (23%) NI employees earn less worst part of the UK
- 26% of women and 20% of men
- Sales & customer service worst affected



### Living Wage: Societal impacts

- The average wage increase for those affected is £1,300
- Benefit to treasury: reduced welfare costs and increased tax revenue
- Benefit to society: 1,200-2,500 more jobs in NI
- Benefit to local economy: greater spending power



### Living Wage: Health impacts

- In London, LW associated with better mental wellbeing
- In Scotland, LW predicted to be the most powerful way of increasing life expectancy, and would reduce health inequalities
- In USA, LW increased life-expectancy; reduced depression, alcohol consumption, activity-limiting illness



### A Strategic Approach

- Government
- Strategic Partnership
- Early Years
- Direct Programmes





### Conclusion

"All of us are smarter than any of us"

Warren Bennis Old Dogs, New Tricks 1999

