

# Child Poverty

- *Definitions*
- *Update on performance and work undertaken*
- *Next steps*
- *Welfare change implications*

# Child Poverty - Definitions

- *Relative low income (below 60% of median)*
- *Absolute low income*
- *Combined low income and material deprivation*
- *Persistent poverty (at least 3 of last 4 years)*
- *Severe poverty (below 50% of median)*

# Major Risk Factors

- *Worklessness*
- *Lone Parent Households*
- *Housing tenure*
- *Households with a disabled adult*
- *Parents aged under 25*
- *Ethnicity*
- *Household size*

# Latest Performance

- *70% of City children live in families that receive financial support from Government*
- *34,000 families claiming either Child Tax Credit or Working Tax Credit*
- *5,250 people in Nottingham claiming Income Support for Lone Parents*
- *Worklessness affects more children than low income*
- *Unemployment rate now stands at 6.6% (14,700), an increase of 16.1% from March 2011*
- *Long term unemployment is increasing*



## Work undertaken

- *Existing strategies in place to:*
  - *Secure financial inclusion*
  - *Provide family support*
  - *Support employment and skills*
  - *Provide early intervention*

*As well as emerging work regarding complex and troubled families.*

## Work undertaken in Aspley

- *Aspley chosen as focus as a result of child poverty needs assessment.*
- *Identified the 50 families within Aspley that have highest needs (based on public spend proxy).*
- *Identified interventions taking place to support these families, focusing on levels of prioritisation, focus and coordination across services.*
- *Concluded that these essential features were currently lacking, with apparently vulnerable families accessing predominately universal support.*

## Next Steps

- *Comprehensive work being undertaken by Tim O'Neill to provide support for complex and troubled families.*
- *This provides the foundations of co-ordinated family support, building on the existing family support strategy.*
- *Good engagement has taken place between Family Community Teams and Working Links to engage parents back into work.*
- *Need to locate child poverty strategy between efforts to target families and work to engage people (parents) into work.*

# Welfare Changes

- *March 2012 Welfare Reform Act to save £18bn by 2014/15 through:*
  - *Up-rating all benefits to CPI rather than RPI*
  - *Reducing eligibility to tax credits*
  - *Freezing child benefit*
  - *Transferring lone parents to JSA when youngest is aged 5*
  - *Abolishing EMA*
  - *Reducing mortgage interest*
  - *Transferring IB to ESA*
  - *Reducing winter fuel payments*



## Other changes

- *Housing benefits in social housing to be limited*
- *Imposition of benefits cap at £26k*
- *Disability Living Allowance replaced by Personal Independence Payments*
- *Creation of Universal Credit to replace JSA, ESA, IS, Housing Benefits, Child Tax Credit, Working Tax Credit*
- *UC to be paid as a single monthly payment to a household*

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