

Access Programme Partnership

L&W LEARNING AND
WORK INSTITUTE

Forum for Adult Learning **NI** ECORYS 

L&W SEFYDLIAD DYSGU A GWAITH
LEARNING AND WORK INSTITUTE

 Scotland's Learning Partnership



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



Setting the scene 1

2013-14 – 23% of children in Northern Ireland in poverty

(Department for Social Development, Households Below Average Income Index)

2011 census – 16-74 year olds → 45% males unemployed
→ 49% females unemployed

2010 Multiple Deprivation Measure

- 46% population of Belfast live in most deprived Super Output Areas in Northern Ireland
- 8 out of 10 most deprived wards are in Belfast

Setting the scene 2

Social Mobility

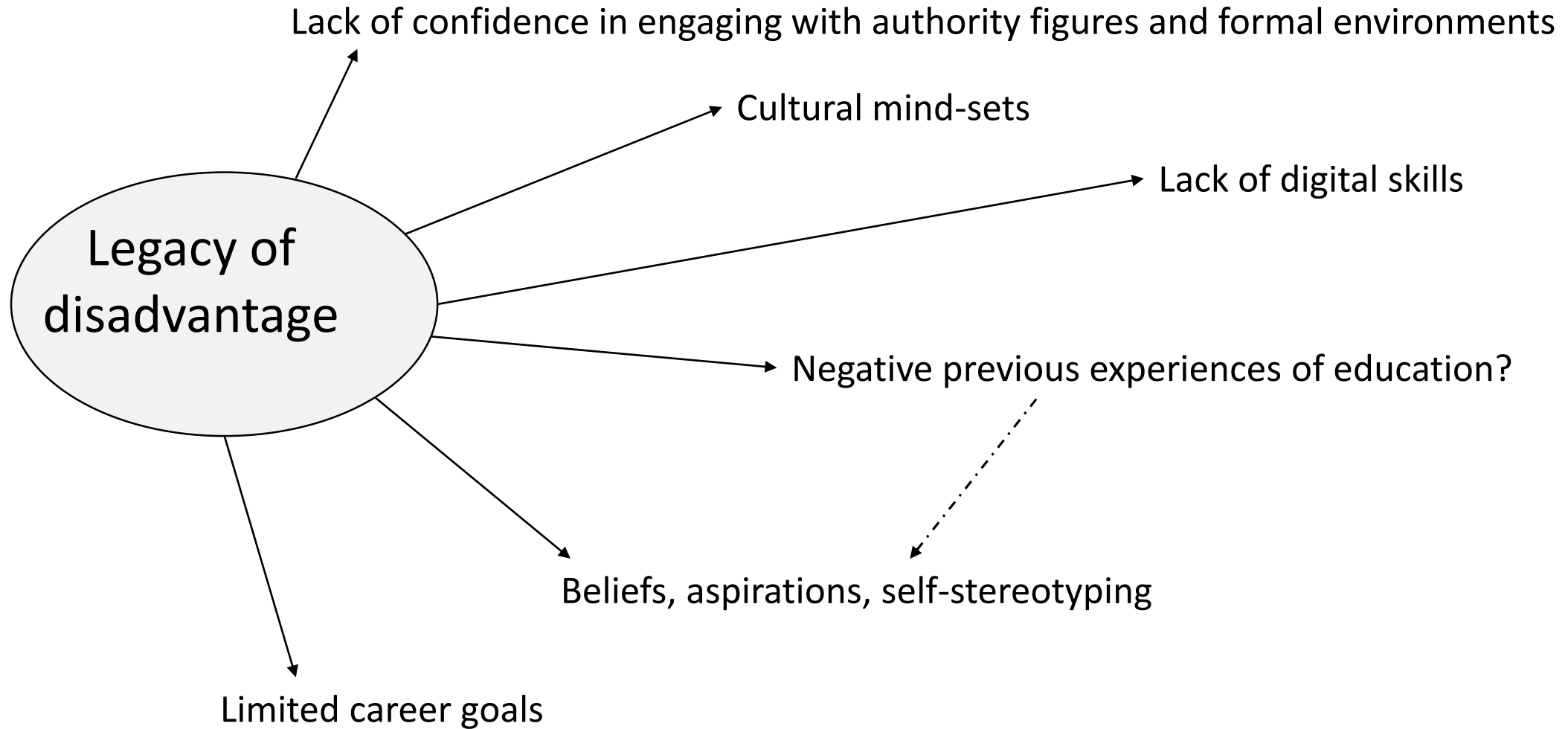
Why is Higher Education important to enable social mobility?

Academic attainment is the strongest predictor of occupational class, with more pronounced differentials between each successive grade of educational attainment than between class, origin groups or any other factor.

Moriarty et al. 2017

http://www.niassembly.gov.uk/globalassets/documents/raise/knowledge_exchange/presentations/series6/moriarty250117ppt.pdf

Challenges



Partnership – Access Programme Pilot

Falls Women's Centre (FWC)

Three groups:

- 1) CertHE in Health and Social Care progressing towards Degree – independent learners, study group
- 2) Access Module in People, Work and Society progressing towards Stage 1 (QCF 4) studies – additional support structures for introductory module at Stage 1
- 3) New intake for Access Modules – bespoke arrangement with face-to-face tutor support and support services input throughout

Partnership – Community Partner

Women's Centre

Women's Centre promotes to their network

I.T. Skills preparatory course at FWC

Use of I.T. suite, childcare provision

Life coaching, personal support and group administration

Group monitoring along with University tutor

Programme evaluation meeting with the University

Partnership – University Partner

The Open University

Open University information session and registration

Study Skills Builder – 4 week course by the OU

Open University tutor and study support sessions at the Women's Centre

Career Service and Learner Support – transferable skills, employability, learning outcomes

Progression work

Evaluation with study group

Celebration Event

Challenges of partnerships

Division of costs? - Current instability of funding in the community sector

Shared vision for the project but divergent goals/priorities?

Realistic or unrealistic expectations

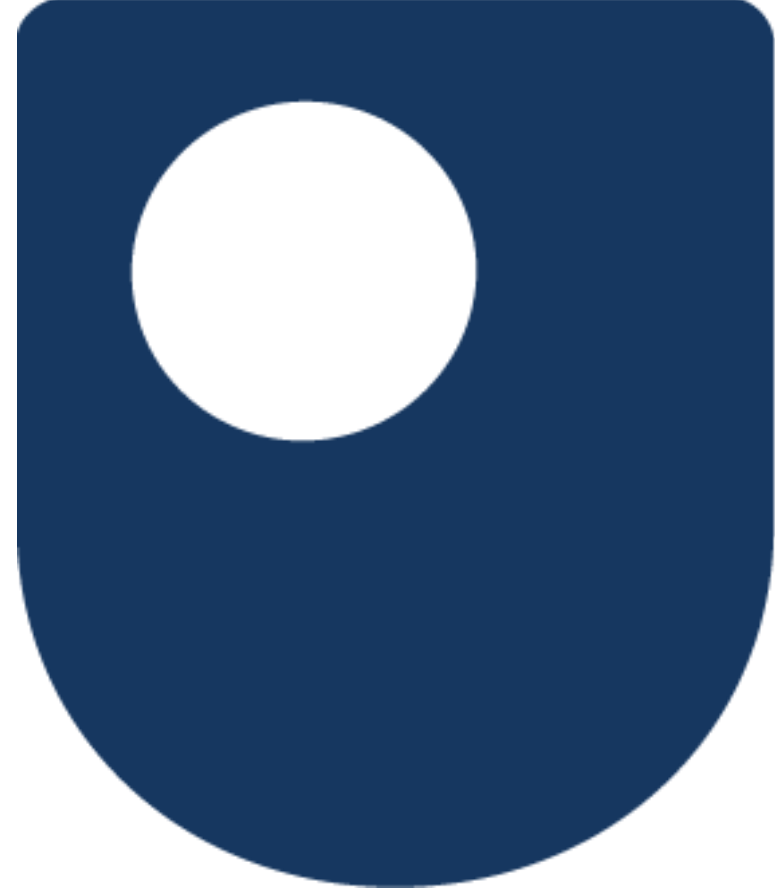
A true partnership in design, approach and evaluation or a pooling of remits to meet funding requirements?

Willingness to learn from the partnership – iterative approach to shaping the project

Opportunities and impact



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NKajoOABJvI>



**The Open
University**