



DEBATE PACK

Number CDP-2018-0079, 23 March 2018

Social mobility and the economy

Summary

This debate pack has been prepared ahead of the debate on Social mobility and the economy, to be held in Westminster Hall on Wednesday 28 March at 9.30AM. This debate will be led by [Justine Greening](#) MP.

The Social Mobility Commission (SMC) published the [State of the Nation Report 2017](#) on 28 November 2017. The report warned that:

Britain is a deeply divided nation. Those divisions take many forms. Class, income, gender, race. In recent years, each has been the subject of much scrutiny. But one form of division that has received far less attention is that based on geography. In this, our Fifth Annual Report, we focus on this neglected place-based divide. [...]

In our previous annual reports we have focused on our country's lamentable social mobility track record. It has become obvious that the scale of the problem extends well beyond the bottom decile in society or the few thousand youngsters who miss out on a top university. There is a fracture line running deep through our labour and housing markets and our education system. Those on the wrong side of this divide are losing out and falling behind.

The House of Commons Library prepares a briefing in hard copy and/or online for most non-legislative debates in the Chamber and Westminster Hall other than half-hour debates. Debate Packs are produced quickly after the announcement of parliamentary business. They are intended to provide a summary or overview of the issue being debated and identify relevant briefings and useful documents, including press and parliamentary material. More detailed briefing can be prepared for Members on request to the Library.

Grahame Allen,
Lukas Audickas,
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1. Social Mobility Commission

1.1 The Commission

The Social Mobility Commission has a duty to promote social mobility in England and provides an independent scrutiny and advocacy role on social mobility in England. The Commission is required to publish an annual report assessing progress on improving social mobility in the United Kingdom – this is the annual “State of the Nation” report.¹

The Commission is an advisory non-departmental public body. It was established as the ‘Child Poverty Commission’ by the *Child Poverty Act 2010*. Its remit was expanded to include social mobility following the *Welfare Reform Act 2012*. Child poverty was removed from the Commission’s remit by the *Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016*, when it became the Social Mobility Commission.

The then Social and Mobility Child Poverty Commission published its first State of the Nation report in 2013. The most recent annual report for 2017 was published on 28 November 2017.

- [State of the Nation Report 2017](#)
- [State of the Nation Report 2016](#)
- [State of the Nation Report 2015](#)
- [State of the Nation Report 2014](#)
- [State of the Nation Report 2013](#)

The Commission also undertakes and publishes other research on social mobility throughout the year. A list of recent publications is provided on [its website](#). On 28 June 2017 it published [Time for Change: an assessment of government policies on social mobility 1997 to 2017](#).

At the beginning of December 2017, the four members of the Commission: Rt. Hon Alan Milburn (Chair), Baroness Gillian Shephard (Deputy Chair) David Johnson and Paul Gregg all stood down².

The Government suggested in December 2017 that the appointment of a new commission would begin “in due course”³. The appointment process is underway and a new Chair is expected to be appointed towards the end of June.

1.2 State of the Nation Report 2017

The [2017 State of the Nation Report](#) (page iii) warned that:

Britain is a deeply divided nation. Those divisions take many forms. Class, income, gender, race. In recent years, each has been the subject of much scrutiny. But one form of division that has received far less attention is that based on geography. In this, our Fifth Annual Report, we focus on this neglected place-based divide. [...]

¹ More information on the responsibilities of the Commission is provided on the [gov.uk website](#).

² [HC Deb 4 December 2017 c691](#) Urgent Question on the Social Mobility Commission

³ HC WPQ [117490](#) 11 December 2017

In our previous annual reports we have focused on our country's lamentable social mobility track record. It has become obvious that the scale of the problem extends well beyond the bottom decile in society or the few thousand youngsters who miss out on a top university. There is a fracture line running deep through our labour and housing markets and our education system. Those on the wrong side of this divide are losing out and falling behind.

Although the report itself is over 175 pages long, a [press release](#) distilled the key findings some of which are:

- London accounts for nearly two-thirds of all social mobility hotspots
- The Midlands is the worst region of the country for social mobility for those from disadvantaged backgrounds - half of the local authority areas in the East Midlands and more than a third in the West Midlands are social mobility coldspots
- Some of the worst performing areas such as Weymouth and Portland, and Allerdale, are rural, not urban
- Coastal and older industrial towns - places such as Scarborough, Hastings, Derby and Nottingham - are becoming entrenched social mobility coldspots
- Some of the richest places in England, such as West Berkshire, Cotswold and Crawley, deliver worse outcomes for their disadvantaged children than places that are much poorer such as Sunderland and Tower Hamlets
- Apart from London, English cities are punching below their weight on social mobility outcomes. No other city makes it into the top 20%

The report sets out various recommendations for local and central government. The [press release](#) again brings together the key recommendations:

- Every local authority should develop an integrated strategy for improving disadvantaged children's outcomes and Pupil Premium funds should be invested in evidence-based practice
- Local authorities should support collaboration between isolated schools, subsidise transport for disadvantaged young people in isolated areas and encourage Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEP) to follow the North East LEP's approach to improving careers support for young people
- Local authorities should all become accredited Living Wage employers and encourage others in their communities to do likewise
- Central government should launch a fund to enable schools in rural and coastal areas to partner with other schools to boost attainment
- Regional School Commissioners should be given responsibility to work with universities, schools and Teach First to ensure that there is a good supply of teachers in all parts of their regions

- The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy should match the Department for Education's £72 million for the opportunity areas to ensure there is a collaborative effort across local education systems and labour markets
- Central government should rebalance the national transport budget to deliver a more equal share of investment per person and contribute towards a more regionally balanced economy

1.3 Time for change

Time for Change: An assessment of government policies on social mobility 1997 to 2017

This [report](#) from the SMC notes how, over two decades, successive governments have made higher levels of social mobility public policy. It questions "how far those worthy political sentiments have been translated into positive social outcomes," examines the various policies pursued and assesses their impact. It also addresses what future policy agendas should include, and makes a series of recommendations to government.

The report is 85 pages long, but the [press release announcing it](#) gives this summary:

- government policies to improve social mobility have failed to deliver enough progress
- calls on current and future governments to learn lessons from mistakes and successes over the last 20 years
- warns that without major reform social and economic divisions within Britain's society are set to widen
- assigns rag ratings to government policies depending on how successful government has translated policy into social outcomes
- makes recommendations to government

The Commission's analysis looks at where progress has been made across the various life stages, from the early years, through schools, into training or further / higher education and then into work. The report gives each public policy pursued a rating – red, amber or green – based on its assessment of how successful it has been across the two decades as a whole.

No life stage gets a green rating; two are amber – Early Years and Schools – and two are red – Young People and Working Lives. Within each life stage there are individual policies rated successful, such as the focus on widening participation at university and on creating jobs, for example. But overall, only seven policies score a green while 14 score amber and 16 red.

In questioning why more has not been achieved, the report observes five key lessons and makes corresponding recommendations:

First, government efforts have been inconsistent and piecemeal, with effort varying by individual Minister, and the social mobility agenda has focused on children and education rather than young adults and the labour market. The Commission recommends future Prime Ministers ensure a single cross-departmental plan to deliver it.

Secondly, long-term progress has too often been sacrificed to short-term change, with almost continual structural reforms to all parts of the education system. The Commission recommends that in future each policy area there are ten-year targets to chart progress.

Third, dual-purpose policies (for example the extension of early years provision both enabling parents to return to work and raising pre-school attainment levels) are insufficiently focused on securing higher levels of social mobility. The Commission recommends that a social mobility test be applied to all new relevant public policy.

Fourth, governments have not been sufficiently committed to funding social mobility policies, with spending on older people given greater priority, and quantity prioritized over quality in provision of services. The Commission recommends redistribution of resources to address geographical, wealth and generational divisions, identified in future Budgets.

Fifth, governments have overly limited their scope of action, for example by absenting themselves from addressing progression in employment and elitism in the professions. They have additionally been too tentative in addressing market failures in local and regional economies. The Commission recommends that in future governments pursue a more activist agenda, working with councils, communities, employers and professions behind a shared national effort to improve social mobility.

The Commission's assessment concludes:

Our country has reached an inflection point. If we go on as we have been, the divisions that have opened up in British society are likely to widen not narrow. There is a growing sense in the nation that these divisions are not sustainable, socially, economically or politically. There is a hunger for change. The policies of the past have brought some progress, but many are no longer fit for purpose in our changing world. The old agenda has not delivered enough social progress. New approaches are needed if Britain is to become a fairer and more equal country. It is time for a change.

1.4 Social mobility Action Plan

The Department for Education's [Unlocking Talent, Fulfilling Potential](#), published in December 2017, sets out the Government's plans to improve social mobility at all stages of education.

The [announcement](#) by then Education Secretary Justine Greening set out the following four ambitions for the plan:

- **Ambition 1: Closing the word gap**

Boosting access to high quality early language and literacy, both in the classroom and at home, ensuring more disadvantaged children leave school having mastered the basic of literacy that many take for granted.

- **Ambition 2: Closing the attainment gap**

Raising standards for every pupil, supporting teachers early in their career as well as getting more great teachers in areas where there remain significant challenges.

- **Ambition 3: Real choice at post-16**

Creating world-class technical education, backed by a half a billion pounds in investment, and increasing the options for all young people regardless of their background.

- **Ambition 4: Rewarding careers for all**

Boosting skills and confidence to make the leap from education into work, raising their career aspirations. Building a new type of partnership with businesses to improve advice, information and experiences for young people.⁴

The document provides detailed information on the measures the Government are taking in area.

1.5 The future of the Social Mobility Commission

The Education Committee's Second Report of Session 2017–19 reported on [The future of the Social Mobility Commission](#) (HC 866, published 22 March 2018). Among the recommendations it makes are:

- the "*Commission should be given specific power to publish social justice impact assessments on both policy and legislative proposals*" and should be sufficiently resourced to do so;
- There should be a "*minimum membership of the Commission*";
- "*the name of the Commission be changed from the Social Mobility Commission to the Social Justice Commission*"; and
- "*a Minister in the Cabinet Office be given specific responsibility for leading cross-government work on social mobility*".

⁴ Department for Education, [Plan to boost social mobility through education](#), December 2017

2. Library briefings on the economy

The monthly Library publication, [Economic Indicators](#), brings together detailed analysis of economic data and topical issues.

[People claiming unemployment benefits by constituency](#) (formerly called *Unemployment by Constituency*) contains analysis of the latest labour market data, including at Parliamentary constituency level.

[The gender pay gap](#)

Published Monday, March 12, 2018 | Commons Briefing papers SN07068

This briefing paper provides statistics on the size of the gender pay gap in the UK, looks at some of the reasons why the gender pay gap arises and discusses the duty on large employers to report on the size of the gender pay gap in their workforce.

[Spring Statement 2018: A summary](#)

Published Tuesday, March 13, 2018 | Commons Briefing papers CBP-8255

A summary of Spring Statement 2018 and the Office for Budget Responsibility's forecasts for the economy and public finances.

[Spring Statement 2018: Background briefing](#)

Published Thursday, March 8, 2018 | Commons Briefing papers CBP-8249

The briefing sets out the background to Spring Statement 2018 which will take place on Tuesday 13 March 2018. The Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) will publish revised forecasts for the economy and public finances on the same day.

[Brexit: the exit bill](#)

Published Thursday, March 15, 2018 | Commons Briefing papers CBP-8039

After the UK leaves the EU it is expected to make a contribution towards the EU's outstanding financial commitments – spending that was agreed while the UK was a member. The issue was discussed in the first phase of Brexit negotiations under the title of the 'single financial settlement' (the settlement).

[NEET: Young People Not in Education, Employment or Training](#)

Published Monday, March 5, 2018 | Commons Briefing papers SN06705

794,000 people aged 16-24 were Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) in the final quarter of 2017, 11.2% of all people in this age group. This was a slight increase from the previous quarter and down 34,000 from the final quarter of 2016.

[The Trade Bill](#)

Published Wednesday, March 7, 2018 | Commons Briefing papers CBP-8073

This paper on the Trade Bill has been updated to take account of the Committee Stage.

[Women and the economy](#)

Published Wednesday, March 7, 2018 | Commons Briefing papers SN06838

This briefing paper looks at women's participation in the UK labour market and in business.

[UK trade with Ireland](#)

Published Wednesday, March 7, 2018 | Commons Briefing papers CBP-8173

Ireland is one of the UK's largest trading partners. This note gives some key statistics on UK-Ireland trade.

[Employment by Country of Birth and Nationality](#)

Published Tuesday, February 27, 2018 | Commons Briefing papers SN07056

This Commons Library briefing paper analyses data on employment in the UK by country of birth and nationality. The briefing compares data from 1997 to 2017 and explains how figures for employment by nationality can differ to those for employment by country of birth.

[Unemployment by ethnic background](#)

Published Tuesday, February 27, 2018 | Commons Briefing papers SN06385

The unemployment rate varies considerably among different ethnicities. This note looks at unemployment by ethnic background, including analysis by age group and gender.

Follow this link to [subscribe to the House of Commons Library weekly economic update](#).

Follow this link if you would like to subscribe to a [monthly email with the latest figures for people claiming unemployment benefits in your constituency](#).

Follow this link to subscribe to a [daily email containing press articles reports and Parliamentary material about economics](#).

3. Background reading on social mobility

3.1 General reading

- The [Declining social mobility? Evidence from five linked censuses in England and Wales 1971–2011](#) (18 September 2017) paper looks at recent trends in inter-generational social mobility in England and Wales using data from the ONS Longitudinal Study, which links individual records from the censuses between 1971 and 2011. The report finds evidence of “a small but significant increase in social fluidity between 1950s and the 1980s for both men and women”.
- [CLOSER Learning Hub: Britain’s mobility problem](#) Children born into working class families are significantly less likely to move up the ladder than their peers from middle class homes. These inequalities have persisted for generations.
- Gov.uk, [2010 to 2015 government policy: social mobility](#) (May 2015) gives an overview of policy under the coalition government. See also the Government’s [Social Mobility Indicators](#).
- An [article by FullFact](#) (5 September 2014) summarises the different concepts of social mobility but notes some of the conflicting research findings.
- HM Government, [Opening Doors, Breaking Barriers: a Strategy for Social Mobility](#) (April 2011) gives an overview of the evidence on social mobility, with a particular focus on the different stages in people’s lives. Note this [criticism](#) of one of the graphs in the report.
- National Equality Panel, [Anatomy of Economic Inequality](#) (Jan 2010), Chapter 11.1
- Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, [Social Mobility: A Literature Review](#) (March 2011)
- OECD, [A Family Affair: Intergenerational Social Mobility across OECD Countries](#), published in *Economic Policy Reforms 2010: Going for Growth* (March 2010). (An extended version of this paper is available [here](#).)

3.2 Other recent analysis from the SMC

The [Social Mobility Index](#) (November 2017) provides some information on social mobility at the level of local authorities:

Using 16 indicators, the index assesses the education, employability and housing prospects of people living in each of England's 324 local authority areas. The index highlights where people from disadvantaged backgrounds are most and least likely to make social progress. A similar approach is taken in Wales, although we have had to use some different data so the index there is not comparable with that in England. The same is true of Scotland, where there is still less data available, and it is especially limited in measuring the prospects of those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Research published by the Commission since the 2016 State of the Nation Report includes:

- [Low pay and labour progression: the 'Great Escape'](#) October 2017
- [Social mobility challenges faced by young Muslims](#), September 2017
- [Low-cost home ownership schemes](#), July 2017
- [Social mobility barometer poll](#), June 2017
- [Home ownership access to first-time buyers in the UK](#), March 2017
- [The class pay gap within Britain's professions](#), March 2017
- [Low-income pupils' progress at secondary school](#), February 2017
- [Helping parents to parent](#), February 2017
- [Ethnicity, gender and social mobility](#), December 2016
- [Social and ethnic inequalities in post-16 choices](#), December 2016

4. Press Articles

[Sure Start funding halved in eight years, figures show](#), Anushka Asthana, The Guardian, 20 March 2018

[Expanding opportunities at school level in England is a government priority in name only](#)
Anne Beauvallet, LSE Blog, 19 March 2018

[Research reveals 'stark regional polarisation' in housing prices](#)
William Eichler, Local Gov, 19 March 2018

[Mortgages are now the most affordable since the mid-1990s, says Halifax](#)
Rupert Jones, The Guardian, 17 March 2018

[More than 40,000 fewer part-time students go to university due to tuition fees hike, study suggests](#)
Eleanor Busby, The Independent, 15 March 2018

[Fears over 'middle-class grab' on apprenticeships are valid, minister admits](#)
Jude Burke, FE Week, 13 March 2018

[Civil service fast stream favours private school applicants, says MP](#)
Peter Walker, The Guardian, 13 March 2018

[Today's problems of intergenerational inequality risk becoming tomorrow's big social mobility divide](#)
Fahmida Rahman, The Resolution Foundation, 12 March 2018

[Geography should not determine social mobility](#)
Nick Clegg, The Times, 12 March 2018

[Theresa May slammed for failing to appoint new social justice tsar - three months after predecessor quit over lack of progress](#)
Nicola Bartlett, The Mirror, 11 March 2018

[The BBC must lead the way on social mobility](#), Lord Hall of Birkenhead, The Times, 3 March 2018

[Disadvantaged children need a break – not a system stacked against them, Frances Ryan](#), The Guardian, 22 February 2018

[Helping gifted children is all very well – but what about the rest?](#), Dawn Foster, The Guardian, 20 February 2018

[Friday briefing: Millennials' home-owning dream 'collapses'](#), Martin Farrer, The Guardian, 16 February 2018

[Social mobility needs funding, not sound bites](#), Andy Forbes, The Times Educational Supplement (TES), 26 January 2018

[The Guardian view on social mobility: lost in Brexitland](#), The Guardian, 28 December 2017

[Justine Greening: More funding will not boost social mobility](#), Richard Vaughan, I News, 14 December 2017

[Rich school leavers twice as likely to go to university](#)
Gurpreet Narwan, The Times, 11 December 2017

[Figures show children worst hit by library cuts](#)
Alison Flood, The Guardian, 11 December 2017

[The real scandal about 'Marxist' Milburn](#)
Peter Hitchens, The Mail on Sunday, 10 December 2017

[Elevator malfunction: Britain ignores social mobility at its peril](#)
Bagehot, The Economist, 9 December 2017

[Eton leading the way on social mobility](#)
Peter Stanford, The Telegraph, 7 December 2017

[Here's how Theresa May can show she is still serious about social mobility](#)
James Kirkup, Spectator blog, 4 December 2017

[Fifth of UK population now in poverty amid worst decline for children and pensioners in decades, major report reveals](#)
May Bulman, The Independent, 4 December 2017

[Alan Milburn's resignation letter in full](#): 'I have little hope of the current government making the progress I believe is necessary to bring about a fairer Britain',
Henry Austin, The Independent, 2 December 2017

[Is social mobility in England still all about the North/South divide?](#)
Claire Milne, Full Fact, 1 December 2017

[If the poor are to rise, the rich have to fall](#)
Philip Collins, The Times, 1 December 2017

[Social mobility tsar warns aspiration gap between UK's rich and poor 'will take 80 years to close'](#)
Jack Maidment, The Telegraph, 28 June 2017

5. Press releases and speeches

[Plan to boost social mobility through education](#), Justine Greening,
Department for Education, 14 December 2017

[Peter Lampl: Social Mobility Action Plan Response](#)
Sutton Trust, 14 December 2017

[Dr Lee Elliot Major: Response to Milburn Resignation](#)
Sutton Trust, 3 December 2017

[Alan Milburn's resignation letter in full](#): 'I have little hope of the current government making the progress I believe is necessary to bring about a fairer Britain',
Henry Austin, The Independent, 2 December 2017

[Anne Milton: Good careers advice helps you to a rewarding career](#)
Department for Education, 7 November 2017

[Justine Greening: We can challenge the impossible](#)
Department for Education, 24 October 2017

[Education Secretary puts teachers at the heart of social mobility](#)
Department for Education, 24 October 2017

[Unpaid internships are damaging to social mobility](#)
Social Mobility Commission, 23 October 2017

[Low pay and progression in the labour market](#)
Social Mobility Commission, 19 October 2017

[Nick Gibb: The importance of vibrant and open debate in education](#)
Department for Education, 11 September 2017

[Young Muslims in the UK face enormous social mobility barriers](#)
Social Mobility Commission, 7 September 2017

[Justine Greening: we should not accept Britain as it has been](#): Sutton
Trust Social Mobility Summit 2017
Department for Education, 12 July 2017

[An analysis of 2 decades of efforts to improve social mobility](#)
Social Mobility Commission, 28 June 2017

[Social Mobility Employer Index announces top 50 UK employers who have taken the most action to improve social mobility within the workplace](#)
Social Mobility Commission, 21 June 2017

[Justine Greening speaks at Social Mobility Employer Index launch](#)

Department for Education, 21 June 2017

[Poll: half of Brits believe background determines success](#)

Social Mobility Commission, 15 June 2017

[Sir Peter Lampl responds to the Social Mobility Commission's Social Mobility Barometer](#)

Sutton Trust, 15 June 2017

[Government housing schemes have little impact on social mobility](#)

Social Mobility Commission, 3 June 2017

[Britain, the great meritocracy: Prime Minister's speech](#)

Department for Education, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street, and The Rt. Hon Theresa May MP, 9 September 2016

[New research uncovers 'class pay gap' in Britain's professions](#)

Social Mobility Commission, 26 January 2017

[Education Secretary announces 6 new opportunity areas](#)

Department for Education and The Rt Hon Justine Greening MP, 18 January 2017

[Social mobility in the Northern Powerhouse](#)

Social Mobility Commission, 15 December 2016

[Social inequalities and post-16 choices](#)

Social Mobility Commission, 5 December 2016

[Top firms to be ranked on social mobility](#)

Social Mobility Commission, 24 October 2016

6. Parliamentary material

6.1 Written questions

[Children: Disadvantaged: Written question - HL6050](#)

Asked by Lord Ouseley 05 March 2018

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the future prospects of children in the poorest and most deprived areas in England; and what assessment they have made of whether there has been any disproportionate loss of children's services in those areas.

Answered by: Lord Agnew of Oulton 19 March 2018

Although children from more disadvantaged areas often do less well on average than their peers from more affluent areas, significant progress has been made in recent years. The national index measuring the attainment gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers in key stage 4 narrowed by 10% overall since 2011. For key stage 2, the gap has narrowed by 10.5%. The department recently published plans to improve social mobility and support all children and young people, wherever they live, to fulfil their potential. The report, 'Unlocking Talent, Fulfilling Potential' was placed in the Libraries of both Houses.

Government reforms aim to create a culture in which skilled staff are able to operate in environments where strong practice is valued and developed to secure services that meet the needs of local children and families. Where children's services are not of an acceptable standard, the government will intervene to ensure that effective improvement plans are in place and delivered at pace.

Funding for children's services is un-ring fenced, as part of the wider local government finance settlement. This gives local authorities the flexibility to focus on locally determined priorities and, of course, their statutory responsibilities to children. Local authorities used this flexibility to increase spending on children and young people's services to around £9.2 billion in 2016/17. The Spending Review 2015 made more than £200 billion available to councils for local services, including children's social care, up to 2019/20.

A range of measures are available to assess how children are faring in all areas of the country, including the most deprived. These measures include area-based statistics such as the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI), progress and attainment data at key stages 2 and 4, and data on access to and success at university. The IDACI data can be found at this website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/english-indices-of-deprivation-2015>.

Education: Admissions: Written question - 131545

Asked by Ms Marie Rimmer (St Helens South and Whiston) 07 March 2018

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what steps his Department is taking to improve participation of students from under-represented areas in further or higher education.

Answered by: Mr Sam Gyimah 16 March 2018

Widening participation in further and higher education is a priority for this government and we want to continue to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to benefit from it, regardless of background or where they grew up. 'Unlocking Talent, Fulfilling Potential' published in December 2017 set out our plan for improving social mobility through education.

Whilst more disadvantaged 18 year olds are going to university than ever before we have, through our first guidance to the Office for Students (OfS), asked the OfS to encourage higher education (HE) providers to undertake outreach work with schools, and to focus particularly in those parts of the country with the greatest challenges, including in opportunity areas. These areas have been identified as those weakest in both the 2016 Social Mobility Commission's index and the Department for Education's data on school standards and capacity to improve.

In addition, the National Collaborative Outreach Programme run by the Higher Education Funding Council for England is supporting 29 consortia (including HE providers, further education (FE) colleges, schools, employers and others) to undertake outreach activities in geographical areas where the HE participation of young people is both low and much lower than expected based on GCSE-level attainment.

FE providers already fulfil a crucial role in driving social mobility by equipping or reskilling individuals with relevant labour market skills, providing routes into further study and often acting as a second chance at a basic education.

FE providers will play a key role in our reforms to technical education, leading to more and better opportunities for young people, whatever their background and ensuring that they are on a high quality route to employment.

A thriving careers system, that is accessible to everyone, is at the heart of our focus on social mobility. Our recently published careers strategy will support everyone, whatever their background, to go as far as their talents will take them and have a rewarding career.

Apprentices: Written question - 129657

Asked by Bambos Charalambous (Enfield, Southgate) 26 February 2018

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what steps the Government is taking to monitor access to apprenticeships by young people of all socio-economic backgrounds as part of its social mobility strategy.

Answered by: Anne Milton 06 March 2018

The department has set an ambitious targets to increase the proportion of apprenticeships started by people of black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) backgrounds and those with learning difficulties and/or disabilities by 20 per cent by 2020 (from a baseline average of 10 per cent during 2010-15 Parliament). We also want to increase the proportion of higher value apprenticeship starts for disadvantaged apprentices which includes young people.

We have set out how we will measure and report progress against these ambitions in our Apprenticeship Reform Programme Benefits Realisation document (March 2017) published at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/604401/Apprenticeship_Reform_Programme_-_Benefits_Realisation_Strategy.pdf. This includes statistical data including the apprenticeship level, age group, sector subject area, region and diversity characteristics.

In addition, we are currently undertaking the FE Learner and Apprentices survey, including approximately 6,500 apprentices, to collect detailed demographic and social mobility data along with information on barriers to learning.

[Education: Social Mobility: Written question - 128471](#)**Asked by Stephen Timms (East Ham) 20 February 2018**

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, with reference to his Department's paper, Unlocking Talent, Fulfilling Potential: a plan for improving social mobility through education, published in December 2017, what assessment he has made of the potential role for youth full-time social action in the proposed transition year.

Answered by: Anne Milton 23 February 2018

The government wants all young people who are able, to have the opportunity to achieve qualifications at level 3. Some school leavers are not yet ready for that step, and the department is developing a high quality offer for all young people including a transition offer for those who have the potential to study for a T level but who are not yet ready to do so.

The transition offer will be a flexible programme with a strong focus on mathematics and English and all suggestions are welcome for what could be included in the programme. The department has recently sought views through the public consultation on the implementation of T levels, including what other support should be considered as part of the programme, more details will be published in the spring.

[Social Mobility: Written question - 903981](#)**Asked by Jo Platt (Leigh) 08 February 2018**

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what steps his Department has taken to co-ordinate cross-Whitehall working to increase social mobility in response to the recommendations of the Social Mobility Commission report, State of the Nation 2017: Social Mobility in Great Britain.

Answered by: Nadhim Zahawi 21 February 2018

We welcome the Social Mobility Commission's annual reports to Parliament.

Social mobility is a cross-government priority. The government's Industrial Strategy, published in November, sets out a clear plan to boost prosperity and productivity by focusing on places and people. We are also boosting salaries through the introduction of the National Living Wage, creating more full-time, permanent jobs, and investing in affordable housing. Together, these policies will improve lives and tackle injustice in society.

In December, the department published 'Unlocking Talent, Fulfilling Potential', a plan for improving social mobility through education. Government departments across Whitehall were engaged in the policy development and drafting of this document. We are also investing £72 million in 12 Opportunity Areas, to focus effort on areas of the country with the greatest challenges and fewest opportunities. The Commission identified all 12 of these areas as social mobility coldspots in its 2016 Social Mobility Index.

Universities: Disadvantaged: Written question – 127802

Asked by Gloria De Piero(Ashfield) 08 February 2018

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, how many and what percentage of young people eligible for free school meals at 15 from (a) Ashfield constituency, (b) Nottinghamshire and (c) England entered higher education at a Russell Group university in each of the last three years for which data is available.

Answered by: Mr Sam Gyimah 20 February 2018

The department publishes information on the percentage of 15 year old pupils from state-funded and special schools by free school meal status who entered higher education (HE) by age 19 by local authority and region.

Figures for Nottinghamshire and England can be found in Table 2a of the following file:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/635104/SFR39-2017-MainTables.xlsx.

We do not publish information for progression to Russell Group universities on this basis. However, figures for the percentage of 15 year old pupils from state-funded and special schools by free school meal status who entered the most selective HE institutions by age 19 by local authority and region were published as part of the Social Mobility Index. The most selective institutions are defined as the top third of providers, ranked by the average Universities and Colleges Admissions Service tariff score.

Figures for Nottinghamshire and England for the latest three years are available in the Selective HE sheet of the following file:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/662507/SMI_2017_Final_v1.1.xlsx.

Data is not available at parliamentary constituency level.

Primary Education: Admissions: Written question - 125647**Asked by Tulip Siddiq (Hampstead and Kilburn) 30 January 2018**

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what assessment his Department has made of the effect of primary school starting age on (a) intellectual development, (b) social mobility and (c) results in (i) GCSE and (ii) A-level examinations.

Answered by: Nick Gibb 07 February 2018

Compulsory school age in England is five, although the School Admissions Code requires admission authorities to provide for the admission of all children from the September following their fourth birthday, which is when the majority of children begin school. Since all children in England generally start school at around the same age, it is not possible to compare them with another group of children receiving the same education but who started school at a different age, to assess what impact school starting age may have.

Evidence shows that early education has a beneficial impact on attainment in English and mathematics and that high-quality early education may help close the attainment gap between advantaged and disadvantaged children at the start of primary school.

(https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/455670/RB455_Effective_pre-school_primary_and_secondary_education_project.pdf).

DCLG: Social Mobility: Written question - 120451**Asked by Chris Ruane (Vale of Clwyd) 19 December 2017**

To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, what steps his Department has taken to improve social mobility in each of the last seven years.

Answered by: Mr Marcus Jones 29 December 2017

My Department is driving forward the devolution agenda in England. Across government we are making huge strides towards rebalancing the economy and empowering local government. 33 per cent of England's population now has a directly elected mayor, with new powers to create jobs, improve skills, build homes and make it easier to travel. Across the whole of England we are devolving over £9 billion between 2015 and 2021 to Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) through our Growth Deal programme to spend on their priorities for growth. We have also agreed City and Growth Deals in Scotland and Wales and are in the process of negotiating more, including in Northern Ireland, making sure all parts of the UK benefit from the benefits of devolution.

Our place-based Industrial Strategy sets out a bold vision for the future of the UK. We are strengthening the role of LEPs and agreeing new local industrial strategies that build on local strengths and deliver on economic opportunities. We have also committed to replacing EU Structural Funds when we have left the EU, delivering the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, which will be aimed at reducing inequalities between communities across all four nations.

My Department is also fixing the broken housing market, supporting first time buyers to get on to the housing ladder while ensuring the housing market works for all parts of our community, getting more of the right homes get built in the places people want to live. The reforms my Department has announced put us on track to raise housing supply by the end of the current Parliament to its highest annual level since 1970.

The Troubled Families Programme commits £920 million from my Department to make sure local services intervene early to support families with multiple problems, including for example those affected by domestic abuse, parental conflict, drug, alcohol or mental health problems and where children are in need of help. This programme makes sure children are in education, parents in work and families have better outcomes and are able to be socially mobile.

[MoJ: Social Mobility: Written question - 120459](#)

Asked by Chris Ruane (Vale of Clwyd) 19 December 2017

To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what steps his Department has taken to improve social mobility in each of the last seven years.

Answered by: Dr Phillip Lee 27 December 2017

At present, the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) is ranked as the UK's 14th most progressive employer for social mobility, according to the 2017 Social Mobility Foundation Employer Index.

MoJ embarked on a targeted programme of work to address the issue of social mobility following the publication of the Civil Service Talent Action Plan in March 2016.

The department has a Director General Champion of Social Mobility, and released its first Social Mobility Action Plan in November 2017.

The Plan sets out the department's ambition in seven key aims, based on the seven sections of the Employer Index: 1) Working with young people, 2) Routes into work, 3) Attraction, 4) Recruitment and selection, 5) Data collection, 6) Progression and 7) Internal / external advocacy.

Each aim is underpinned by associated actions that will promote greater socio-economic diversity and increase opportunities for social mobility across the department.

Recent steps taken to date to improve social mobility can be found at Annex A.

[PQ120459 - ANNEX A](#) (Word Document, 14.42 KB)

[DfE: Social Mobility: Written question - 120455](#)

Asked by Chris Ruane (Vale of Clwyd) 19 December 2017

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what steps her Department has taken to improve social mobility in each of the last seven years.

Answered by: Mr Robert Goodwill 22 December 2017

Improving social mobility is the Department for Education's priority. We want to make sure that everyone has the opportunity to fulfil their potential. Since 2010, the department has successfully implemented ambitious reforms which are transforming opportunities for our children

and young people throughout their educational journey. For example, there are now 1.9 million more children in good and outstanding schools than in 2010, record numbers of young people in education or training and more disadvantaged pupils going to university.

The Secretary of State for Education and Minister for Women and Equalities recently published a plan, 'Unlocking Talent, Fulfilling Potential', which sets out plans to improve social mobility through education. The plan will deliver targeted action on the people and places that need it most, focusing £800 million of government investment on overcoming barriers to opportunity.

[Social Mobility: Written question - HL3901](#)

Asked by Lord Ouseley 05 December 2017

To ask Her Majesty's Government how they (1) assess, (2) evaluate, and (3) effectively manage, improvements in social mobility.

Answered by: Lord Agnew of Oulton 19 December 2017

Tackling social mobility is the department's priority. We use a range of measures to assess our progress towards giving all young people the best start in life, regardless of their background.

Thanks to these measures, we can already evaluate some of our successes. Raising school standards is key to social mobility and we know that there are 1.9 million more children in good or outstanding schools than in 2010. The attainment gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers – another core measure of our progress – has narrowed since we introduced the Pupil Premium in 2011. This is now worth around £2.5 billion per year. Young pupils from disadvantaged areas are also entering universities at record rates, providing another key measure of success.

Through the department's Opportunity Areas program, we use an Index developed by the Social Mobility Commission to identify 12 areas of the country with some of the greatest challenges. We will be targeting £72 million of investment over three years in these areas to improve outcomes for disadvantaged young people at every level of the education system.

In order to continue the department's work in effectively managing improvements in social mobility we have recently published 'Unlocking Talent, Fulfilling Potential' - an ambitious strategy that sets out an agenda for action from early years' education to university and vocational education. A copy of this report has been placed in the Libraries of both Houses.

[DfE Social Mobility Commission: Written question - 117489](#)

Asked by Angela Rayner (Ashton-under-Lyne) 05 December 2017

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, which recommendations the Government adopted from the Social Mobility Commission's State of the Nation Report (a) 2015, (b) 2016 and (c) 2017.

Answered by: Mr Robert Goodwill 11 December 2017

We welcome the Social Mobility Commission's State of the Nation annual reports. They are wide-ranging, valuable pieces of work that support this government's commitment to social mobility.

The Commission's analysis has been an important input to the department's work on social mobility.

We are investing £72 million in 12 Opportunity Areas in order to focus effort on areas of the country with the greatest challenges and fewest opportunities. All 12 of these were social mobility coldspots identified by the Commission in its Social Mobility Index published in 2016.

Social mobility is the department's priority and we are making good progress across a range of areas. We will be spending around £6 billion per year on childcare and early education support by 2019-20. The attainment gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers has narrowed since we introduced the Pupil Premium – now worth around £2.5 billion per year - in 2011. Young pupils from disadvantaged areas are now also entering universities at record rates.

[Department for Education Social Mobility: Written question - 7216](#)

Asked by Lyn Brown (West Ham) 04 September 2017

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, with reference to page 38 of the Social Mobility Commission Report, Time for Change: an assessment of government policies on social mobility 1997-2017, what assessment she has made of the effect of (a) economic and (b) geographic isolation on social mobility.

Answered by: Mr Robert Goodwill 09 September 2017

Tackling social mobility is at the heart of the government's ambition to make Britain a country that works for everyone.

We recognise that where you are born, and the circumstances into which you are born, can still too often determine where you get to in life. In some parts of the country, there is entrenched disadvantage, with less access to good school places or employment opportunities. This can act as barriers to social mobility.

But we are not prepared to accept Britain as it has been. That is why last year we launched our £72 million Opportunity Areas programme, which brings together local businesses, schools and councils in 12 social mobility 'coldspots' across the country to create better opportunities for the children, young people and adults who live there, and to learn lessons about what works in these areas.

6.2 Oral questions

Social Mobility

HC Deb 19 March 2018 cc5-8

Mr Marcus Jones (Nuneaton) (Con):

3. What steps he is taking to improve social mobility. [904426]

Michelle Donelan (Chippenham) (Con):

8. What steps he is taking to improve social mobility. [904433]

Mr Simon Clarke (Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland) (Con)

16. What steps he is taking to improve social mobility. [904443]

The Secretary of State for Education (Damian Hinds): Since 2010, there are 1.9 million more children in good or outstanding schools and more disadvantaged children are going on to university. Our plans to make further progress include £72 million for 12 opportunity areas and £50 million on improving early language and literacy.

Mr Jones: Youth unemployment in my constituency has fallen by 72% since 2010. If we are to build on that progress, will my right hon. Friend set out how we can support the schools that are underperforming, so that young people, wherever they live, have the best opportunity to make the most out of their lives?

Damian Hinds: My hon. Friend is right to highlight the dramatic falls in unemployment and youth unemployment. In his constituency, there have been over 7,000 apprenticeship starts since 2010. He is absolutely right that it is very important that all schools are able to share in the improvements in education outcomes, and it is very important that the support is there to do that.

Michelle Donelan: Breakfast is the most important meal of the day, and I strongly welcome the £26 million to support breakfast clubs. Wiltshire is not a deprived county, but it has pockets of deprivation, with some of my schools having two thirds of pupils on pupil premium. Would the Minister please clarify to the House how exactly deprivation areas will be determined?

Damian Hinds: The definition of areas of deprivation will include the opportunity areas that I mentioned a little earlier, as well as other areas according to the IDACI—income deprivation affecting children index—methodology. I cannot say off the top of my head exactly what the implication of that is for Chippenham, but I will be very happy to stay in touch with my hon. Friend.

Mr Clarke: Literacy underpins social mobility, and since 2013, the National Literacy Trust has run a fantastic hub in Middlesbrough. Will the Minister join me in paying tribute to the hub's work and in

particular my constituent Allison Potter? It has contributed to narrowing the early years development gap in the schools that it works with from 24.8% in 2013 to just 8.5% last year.

Damian Hinds: Indeed. Improving literacy is vital to improving social mobility, and our plans for a centre of excellence and a national network of English hubs will help with that. I am happy, of course, to pay tribute to the fantastic work done by the National Literacy Trust in its Middlesbrough hub and to my hon. Friend's constituent.

Stephen Twigg (Liverpool, West Derby) (Lab/Co-op): Three years ago, I launched the Liverpool to Oxbridge Collaborative to support the most academic students in schools in my constituency to give them the option of applying to either Oxford or Cambridge. What are the Government doing to support areas, particularly with high social and economic need such as Liverpool, to aim high for all their young people?

Damian Hinds: This goes to the heart of the Office for Fair Access and what the Office for Students will do, but it is also really important that universities—particularly selective universities—continue to redouble their efforts to make sure that they are reaching out directly, so that they are tapping into the full range of talents that are on offer throughout our country.

Layla Moran (Oxford West and Abingdon) (LD): If the Secretary of State is serious about improving access to top universities for students from poorer backgrounds, why is he not doing more to enact the findings on the National Audit Office report on higher education, which urged the Government to do more to provide high-quality, independent careers advice to 13 and 14-year-olds?

Damian Hinds: The hon. Lady is entirely right to identify the importance of independent careers advice. That goes for applications to university, for subject choice and for considering technical and vocational—as well as academic—routes, and that is why we are putting so much focus on it.

Dr Roberta Blackman-Woods (City of Durham) (Lab): The Secretary of State must understand that if we are to achieve social mobility, our schools have to be adequately funded. Because of funding cuts, Durham County Council is closing a school—the only school—in a disadvantaged village in my constituency. The young people there will feel undervalued, as will the community, so what will the Secretary of State do to ensure that that school stays open and that those children are given a real chance in life?

Damian Hinds: I totally acknowledge that it can be very unsettling and upsetting when a school closes like that. Of course, I am happy to discuss the particular case with her, but it remains the case that across

the system we are holding the core schools budget constant in real per pupil terms.

Alan Mak (Havant) (Con): Having worked with Magic Breakfast for over five years, I share the welcome from my hon. Friend the Member for Chippenham (Michelle Donelan) for today's Magic Breakfast and school breakfast club funding. In addition to the money, will my right hon. Friend encourage partner schools to collaborate and share best practice to tackle social mobility challenges?

Damian Hinds: I pay tribute to my hon. Friend and constituency neighbour for all he has done on breakfast over an extended period, particularly with his Magic Breakfast connection, and I share his desire to make sure that best practice is shared across borders.

Carol Monaghan (Glasgow North West) (SNP): Scottish students from the most-deprived backgrounds are supported by a comprehensive financial package, including free tuition and bursaries, resulting in Scotland having the lowest university drop-out rate in the entire UK. Will the Secretary of State give serious consideration to mirroring the support given to Scottish students, including by abolishing the extortionate student fees, here in England?

Damian Hinds: The important things to note are that with our university financing system more young people, including from disadvantaged backgrounds, than ever are able to go to university, that universities are properly funded and that there is no cap on ambition.

Tracy Brabin (Batley and Spen) (Lab/Co-op): Social mobility is improved when families have access to Sure Start and children's centres, yet, in a damning report, the National Audit Office has revealed that the Government have cut spending on Sure Start by 50% in real terms since 2010, and we are still waiting for the long-overdue consultation on the future of children's centres. Will the Secretary of State tell us whether he believes that these cuts are good for social mobility and on what date he will publish the consultation?

Damian Hinds: The hon. Lady is entirely correct in identifying the importance of early years for children's development, social mobility and narrowing the gap, which is one reason we are putting so much more effort and money into early years and childcare, including through the extensions of eligibility for the two-year-old offer, which I think, bizarrely, she voted against last week.

[Social Mobility](#)

HC Deb 11 Dec 2017, c 3-4

James Cartlidge (South Suffolk) (Con): 1. What steps her Department is taking to enhance social mobility. [902843]

Nigel Huddleston (Mid Worcestershire) (Con): 22. What steps her Department is taking to enhance social mobility. [902865]

The Secretary of State for Education (Justine Greening): We have made significant and ambitious reforms to the education system since 2010. We have expanded childcare provision, raised school standards, transformed apprenticeships and increased university access. We will continue to drive social mobility through the whole education system and beyond into careers. Equality of opportunity is essential to make our country one that works for everyone, not just the privileged few.

James Cartlidge: In light of the excellent news that we have seen the best improvement in reading standards in our schools for 15 years, not least due to the excellent work of the Minister for School Standards, my right hon. Friend the Member for Bognor Regis and Littlehampton (Nick Gibb), does my right hon. Friend the Secretary of State agree that no single measure can boost social mobility more than this kind of dramatic improvement in education standards?

Justine Greening: Absolutely, I do. In fact, it was put forward in the teeth of opposition from many Opposition Members. Last week's international reading results showed not only that reading in England has improved for pupils from all backgrounds, but crucially that low-performing pupils are gaining the most rapidly. Just 58% of pupils reached expected reading standards in the first national phonic screening check in 2012. That figure is now 81%. There has been no welcome from the Opposition for this progress.

Nigel Huddleston: Does the Secretary of State agree that the recent Social Mobility Commission report showed that social mobility is an issue not just for inner cities but for our shire counties, including Worcestershire? Is that not further justification for a fairer funding formula to redress some of the relative underfunding of so many of our rural schools?

Justine Greening: My hon. Friend is right. This was an important funding reform to ensure that all children are invested in properly. On opportunity areas, we are focusing our effort on areas of the country with the greatest challenges and the fewest opportunities. We have invested £72 million in opportunity areas, some in rural areas. My hon. Friend is absolutely right to flag up the fact that talent is spread evenly, but opportunity is not. We are determined to change that.

Mr Speaker: One Member of the House is so keen to demonstrate her commitment to equality that she is wearing what I will call a rainbow pullover, with the rainbow symbol of equality. I am referring to the hon. Member for Wakefield (Mary Creagh), to whose contribution we look forward with eager anticipation.

Nic Dakin (Scunthorpe) (Lab): Sixth form colleges are well recognised for their role in delivering social mobility, yet that is now at risk with an underfunding of £1,200 per student, compared with 11 to 16 funding. Will the Secretary of State act to address this before it is too late?

Justine Greening: As the hon. Gentleman will know, we are putting more money into making sure that post-16 education is consistently gold standard, regardless of whether young people follow academic or technical education routes. I am sure he will have welcomed the announcement in the Budget a couple of weeks ago, of extra premiums for maths students.

Sir Vince Cable (Twickenham) (LD): Since the Secretary of State was the only member of the Cabinet to get a pass mark from the Social Mobility Commission, will she now cement her reputation by intervening to stop the catastrophic decline in apprenticeship starts?

Justine Greening: I will set out a social mobility action plan later this week. On the right hon. Gentleman's claims about apprenticeships, starts remain on track to reach 3 million by 2020. There have already been 1.1 million since May 2015. Rather than talking them down, it would be better if he talked our education system up.

Robert Halfon (Harlow) (Con): I congratulate the Minister for School Standards on the incredible work done on young children's reading. On social justice, will my right hon. Friend consider providing 30 hours of free childcare for foster children, in line with those of working parents, by dropping the eligibility earnings cap for free childcare to £65,000 from the existing £100,000 mark?

Justine Greening: The 30 hours free childcare policy has been incredibly popular with parents. Nine out of 10 say they very much like it and welcome it. We are actively looking at the issue my hon. Friend mentions in relation to foster children.

Justin Madders (Ellesmere Port and Neston) (Lab): As chair of the all-party group on social mobility, I am very concerned to read the Social Mobility Commission's report and the subsequent comments from the outgoing chair. Will the Secretary of State, or one of her ministerial team, agree to meet the all-party group to discuss where we go from here?

Justine Greening: I hope the hon. Gentleman will be able to welcome the plan I will set out later this week. I think the time has come for us all to move on from talking about the problem, which we have done a lot for many, many years, to deciding that we have it within us to work together up and down the country to now tackle it.

Tracy Brabin (Batley and Spen) (Lab/Co-op): I agree with the right hon. Member for Harlow (Robert Halfon). Last week the Minister for Children and Families used the 30 hours of free childcare as an example of the Government's commitment to social mobility. He knows that foster children are some of the most vulnerable, often starting school having already fallen behind their peers, and that many would benefit from access to high-quality early years education. Why have they been excluded from the 30-hours offer, and will the Secretary of State tell us when this discrimination will end?

Justine Greening: I am pleased that the hon. Lady implicitly recognises that the 30-hours policy is a good thing, which, ideally, would be

extended to more children. As I just said to my right hon. Friend the Member for Harlow (Robert Halfon), we will be looking at that.

6.3 Debates

[Rail Connectivity](#)

HC Deb 19 Jan 2018 cc1250-8

[Social Mobility \(Wales\)](#)

HC Deb 19 Dec 2017 cc320-344WH

[Education and Society](#)

HL Deb 08 Dec 2017 cc1283-1366

[Urgent Question on the Social Mobility Commission](#)

HC Deb 4 Dec 2017 cc691-700

[Budget Statement](#)

HL Deb 04 Dec 2017 cc883-952

[Inequalities debate](#)

HL Deb 30 Nov 2017

[Social Mobility](#)

HC Deb 11 Jul 2017 c 35-62WH

[Social Inequality \(Children's Centres\)](#)

HC Deb 11 Jul 2017 cc27-35WH

[Education and Local Services](#)

HC Deb 27 Jun 2017 c 477-564

HC Deb 26 Apr 2017 c 503-527WH

[Technical and Further Education Bill](#)

HC Deb 19 Apr 2017 c713-731

[Higher Education: Loans](#)

HL Deb 5 Apr 2017 c1101-1118

[Social Mobility Commission: State of the Nation Report](#)

HC Deb 23 Mar 2017 c 1000-1031

[Intergenerational Fairness](#)

HC Deb 28 Feb 2017 c 230-266

[Social Mobility](#)

HL Deb 20 Feb 2017 c 3-4

7. Further reading

7.1 Reports

[The future of the Social Mobility Commission](#)

House of Commons Education Committee, Second Report of Session 2017–19, HC 866, 22 March 2018

[The economic circumstances of different generations: the latest picture](#),

Jonathan Cribb, Andrew Hood and Robert Joyce, Institute for Fiscal Studies, 29 September 2016

[Report of the Future of Work Commission](#), Future of Work Commission,

[The Lost Part-timers](#), Claire Callender, John Thompson, Sutton Trust, 15 March 2018

[Forgotten Learners: building a system that works for mature students](#), MillionPlus, 14 March 2018

[The early years workforce: a fragmented picture](#), Education and Policy Institute, 14 March 2018

Book: *Hired: Six Months Undercover in Low-Wage Britain* by James Bloodworth, Atlantic Books, March 2018

[Social Mobility Action Plan Summary](#), Ministry of Justice, 21 February 2018

[Unpaid, Unadvertised, Unfair](#), Rebecca Montacute, Sutton Trust, 30 January 2018

[Improving social mobility through education \(policy paper\)](#), Department for Education, 14 December 2017

[Inequalities in later life](#), Centre for Aging Better, 6 December 2017

[UK Poverty 2017](#), Helen Barnard, The JRF Analysis Unit, 4 December 2017

[Better Apprenticeships](#), Alison Fuller, Chiara Cavaglia, Guglielmo Ventura, Lorna Unwin, Sandra McNally, Sutton Trust, 30 November 2017

[The class ceiling: Increasing access to the leading professions](#) APPG on Social Mobility, 2017

[Time for change: an assessment of government policies on social mobility 1997 to 2017](#), Social Mobility Commission, 28 June 2017

7.2 Library briefings

[Higher education tuition fees in England](#) House of Commons Library, 6 March 2018

[Review of Post-18 Education and Funding](#) House of Commons Library, 6 March 2018

[School meals and nutritional standards \(England\)](#) House of Commons Library, 8 February 2018

[Widening participation strategy in higher education in England](#) House of Commons Library, 24 January 2018

[Social Mobility in Wales](#), House of Commons Library, 14 December 2017

[Recent policy developments: Grammar schools in England](#), House of Commons Library, 5 July 2017

[Early Intervention](#), House of Commons Library, 26 June 2017

[Oxbridge 'elitism'](#), House of Commons Library, 19 June 2017

[Part-time undergraduate students in England](#), House of Commons Library, CBP-7966, 13 June 2017

[Millennials](#), House of Commons Library, 11 April 2017

[Grammar school statistics](#), House of Commons Library, 10 March 2017

[Recent policy developments: Grammar schools in England](#), House of Commons Library, 9 March 2017

[Participation in higher education: Social Indicators page](#), House of Commons Library, 8 February 2017

[Social Mobility Committee Report](#), House of Lords Library, 12 December 2016

[Education and social mobility](#), House of Commons Library, 21 November 2016

[Government Plans to Promote Social Mobility](#), House of Lords Library, 21 October 2016

[Support for disadvantaged children in education in England](#), House of Commons Library, 6 July 2015

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