

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE INDEPENDENT REVIEWER ON SOCIAL MOBILITY AND CHILD POVERTY**

1. On 18 August 2010 Alan Milburn was appointed as the Government's Independent Reviewer on Social Mobility. The appointment was established as an unpaid position for the period of this Parliament.
2. The Government has since announced its intention to amend the Child Poverty Act 2010 to extend the remit of the Child Poverty Commission (established in that legislation) to include social mobility and life chances and create a new Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission.
3. As the new Commission will take time to establish in law, Alan Milburn has been asked to include child poverty as part of the Independent Reviewer's role in the interim. Once the new Commission has been established and the acting Chair appointed, the role of the Independent Reviewer will cease to exist.
4. Alan Milburn's existing terms of reference on social mobility will remain unchanged. He will review the effectiveness of the Government's actions and the contribution made by civil society, employers, community groups and other non-state parties to improving social mobility.
5. It is also expected that Alan Milburn will help to raise awareness and understanding of social mobility.
6. Departmental responsibilities within the Coalition Government with regard to the new Commission are clearly outlined in the Written Ministerial Statement 'Social Mobility and Social Justice' laid by the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions. The reporting arrangements for the Independent Reviewer will also reflect this statement.
7. In undertaking this work, Alan Milburn will assess the effectiveness of the policies set out in the social mobility strategy, in particular a range of educational issues including the Foundation Years, educational inequalities, access to resources and access to further and higher education and the professions.
8. Alan Milburn will:
  - Make recommendations on ways to assess, effectively and fairly, whether there is progress towards the goal of the United Kingdom becoming more socially mobile. This should address the need to evaluate progress in the short-to medium-term (up to five years) as well as long-term measures.
  - Gather evidence from all relevant government departments on the progress in implementing actions in the Social Mobility Strategy, to be agreed by the Home Affairs Committee, and the impact of that action on social mobility.

- Gather evidence from institutions in civil society on their efforts to improve social mobility
  - Gather evidence on the views and experiences of social mobility experts, including their feedback on Government policy and approach
9. In addition to his work on social mobility, Alan Milburn will look at how the Government is working towards meeting the 2020 targets and the other duties in the Child Poverty Act 2010, and how it is seeking to achieve progress against its interim indicators on child poverty.
  10. In undertaking this work, Alan Milburn will also consider the issues raised in the national Child Poverty Strategy published on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2011.
  11. Alan Milburn will be supported by officials from the Cabinet Office and the Child Poverty Unit and be able to draw on an expert advisory group which he will appoint.
  12. Alan's work in this role will also include laying the ground for the new Commission, which is expected to include providing advice to the Government on the Commission's structure and operation.