

# The Network Newsletter: tackling social exclusion in libraries, museums, archives and galleries

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The Network's Website is at [www.seapn.org.uk](http://www.seapn.org.uk) and includes information on courses, good practice, specific socially excluded groups, as well as the newsletter archive.

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## Contents List

### Did you see ...?

- *CILIP Update* – page 2
- *Museums Journal* – page 2
- *BookBrunch* – page 3
- *RTTNews* – page 3

### Tackling social and digital exclusion – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

- *State of the Nation 2014: social mobility and child poverty in Great Britain* – page 4
- *Deprivation in education: final report* – page 6

### Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies

- *Vision for literacy 2025* – page 8
- *Social integration: a wake-up call* – page 9
- *Measuring poverty when inflation varies across households* – page 10

### And finally ...

- “Re-imagining public libraries in Moscow” – page 11

Abbreviations and acronyms – page 12

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## Did you see ...?

### ***CILIP Update***

The October issue<sup>1</sup> includes a number of interesting articles:

- Brief reports on the “Big Day”, which included the announcements of the winner of the CILIP Libraries Change Lives Award<sup>2</sup> and the recipients of the CILIP Honorary Fellowships, and a brief summary of William Sieghart’s speech<sup>3</sup> [pp6-7]
- A brief announcement of the grant from the Arts Council to support SCL in developing the fifth public library National Offer – Learning [p8] and a more in-depth look at this in relation to a CILIP Executive Briefing<sup>4</sup> being offered in November [pp16-17]
- Megan Dyson “All around the world – libraries, citizens, societies”, which reports on some of the sessions at the IFLA Conference in Lyon in August 2014, including highlighting the importance of social justice [pp42-43].

### ***Museums Journal***

The October issue<sup>5</sup> has some interesting pieces, eg:

- “Voxpop: are museums doing enough to prevent digital exclusion?” [p15]
- Geraldine Kendall “Tomorrow’s world”, which looks at ways of engaging people with science, eg the Wellcome Collection’s new youth studio [pp20-25]
- Simon Stephens “People power”, which, via the Artes Mundi exhibition and prize<sup>6</sup>, looks at the work of artists who collaborate closely with communities [pp26-29, 31]
- Gwendolyn Smith “Gender agenda”, which looks at some of the issues facing women who work in museums and galleries, especially when they also have families [pp32-35]

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<sup>1</sup> CILIP *Update*, October 2014. Further information at:

<http://www.cilip.org.uk/cilip/membership/membership-benefits/monthly-magazine-journals-and-ebulletins/cilip-update-magazine>.

<sup>2</sup> See: <http://www.cilip.org.uk/cilip/membership/membership-benefits/monthly-magazine-journals-and-ebulletins/cilip-update-magazine>.

<sup>3</sup> See: <http://www.cilip.org.uk/cilip/news/inspiring-member-achievements-and-important-decisions-cilip-s-big-day-and-agm>.

<sup>4</sup> “Re-imagining learning”, 13 November 2014, see: [www.cilip.org.uk/reimagining-learning](http://www.cilip.org.uk/reimagining-learning).

<sup>5</sup> *Museums Journal*, October 2014. Further information from:

<http://www.museumsassociation.org/museums-journal>.

<sup>6</sup> “Artes Mundi is an internationally focused arts organisation that identifies, recognises and supports contemporary visual artists who engage with the human condition, social reality and lived experience ... Founded in 2002 by Welsh artist William Wilkins, Artes Mundi is best known for its biennial international Exhibition and Prize which takes place in Cardiff. The exhibition is Wales’ biggest and most exciting contemporary visual art show. One of the shortlisted artists is awarded the prize of £40,000, the largest art prize in the UK and one of the most significant in the world.” Taken from:

<http://www.artesmundi.org/en/about-us>.

- Simon Stephens “Acting up”, in which he interviews the musician, actor and performance artist Mat Fraser, particularly looking at his recent performances of “Cabinet of Curiosities”<sup>7</sup> [pp36-39]
- Rebecca Atkinson “Supplementary schools”, which looks briefly at museums’ work with supplementary schools as a way of reaching new communities [p75]

### **BookBrunch**

In the July *Newsletter*<sup>8</sup>, we reported on the editorial in *Books for Keeps* which looked at diversity in children’s publishing.

*BookBrunch* on 22 September includes the speech<sup>9</sup> given by author James Dawson for the annual Patrick Hardy lecture, which takes the theme a stage further, and calls for publishers and authors to consider seriously diversity in children’s books:

“This leads onto my call to action, my *things to make and do* part of the lecture. Can we talk about monitoring? I can’t speak for every publisher, but my question is first, do you monitor the diversity of your authors and staff? And second, do you monitor the diversity of the characters in the books you publish?” [emphasis his]

Thought-provoking, and well worth reading.

### **RTTNews**

OK, you may not see this!

On 4 Nov 2014, *RTTNews*<sup>10</sup> published a piece headed “1 Out Of 4 Persons In EU At Risk Of Poverty Or Social Exclusion”<sup>11</sup>. It was based on a news release from Eurostat, which stated that:

“In 2013, 122.6 million people, or 24.5% of the population, in the EU ... were at risk of poverty or social exclusion. This means that these people were in at least one of the following three conditions: at-risk-of-poverty after social transfers ... (income poverty), severely materially deprived ... or living in households with very low work intensity ...” [p1]

“In 2013, more than a third of the population was at risk of poverty or social exclusion in five Member States: Bulgaria (48.0%), Romania (40.4%), Greece (35.7%), Latvia (35.1%) and Hungary (33.5%). On the

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<sup>7</sup> Mat Fraser’s keynote speech at the Museums Association Conference is now available for MA members to see at: <http://museumsassociation.org/video/29102014-cabinet-of-curiosities-how-disability-was-kept-in-a-box-mat-fraser>.

<sup>8</sup> *The Network Newsletter*, 159, July 2014, pp2-3, [http://www.seapn.org.uk/site\\_content\\_files/files/newsletter\\_ns\\_159.pdf](http://www.seapn.org.uk/site_content_files/files/newsletter_ns_159.pdf).

<sup>9</sup> See: [http://www.bookbrunch.co.uk/article\\_free.asp?pid=we\\_must\\_overcome\\_selfish\\_fears](http://www.bookbrunch.co.uk/article_free.asp?pid=we_must_overcome_selfish_fears).

<sup>10</sup> RTTNews is an Internet-based newswire service.

<sup>11</sup> See: [http://www.rttnews.com/2409596/1-out-of-4-persons-in-eu-at-risk-of-poverty-or-social-exclusion.aspx?type=gn&utm\\_source=google&utm\\_campaign=sitemap](http://www.rttnews.com/2409596/1-out-of-4-persons-in-eu-at-risk-of-poverty-or-social-exclusion.aspx?type=gn&utm_source=google&utm_campaign=sitemap).

contrary, the lowest shares of persons being at risk of poverty or social exclusion were recorded in the Czech Republic (14.6%), the Netherlands (15.9%), Finland (16.0%) and Sweden (16.4%).” [p2]

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## **Tackling social and digital exclusion – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government**

### ***State of the Nation 2014: social mobility and child poverty in Great Britain***

This new report<sup>12</sup> from the Social Mobility & Child Poverty Commission is their second ‘State of the Nation’ report.

As has been widely covered in the media, this report is something of a mixed bag. It recognises that there has been progress in a number of areas, eg:

“There have been big falls in the proportion of young adults who are not in full-time education or employment. The employment rate among lone parents with dependent children is at its highest ever level and the number of children in workless households has continued to fall to an all-time low. In addition, cost of living pressures have eased and the UK Government has taken some valuable steps to raise living standards, for example by freezing council tax and fuel duty ...” [p iii]

At the same time:

“Equally it would be wrong to overstate what has been achieved. There are clear signs that the economic recovery is not being matched by a social recovery. There are 600,000 more children in working households who are living in absolute poverty after housing costs than there were in 2009-10. Too many of the jobs that are being created in the economic recovery are low-income and high-insecurity. They are a dead-end not a road to social progress. There are five million low-paid workers in the UK and, despite the success of the National Minimum Wage in eradicating [extreme] low pay, the proportion has barely changed in two decades. Worse still, only one in five workers who were low-paid in 2002 had managed to escape low pay by 2012. Too many poor workless parents have simply gone on to become poor working parents.” [p iv]

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<sup>12</sup> *State of the Nation 2014: social mobility and child poverty in Great Britain. Presented to Parliament pursuant to section 8B(6) of the Child Poverty Act 2010.* Social Mobility & Child Poverty Commission, 2014. Available to download as a pdf (6030 kb) from: [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/365765/State\\_of\\_Nation\\_2014\\_Main\\_Report.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/365765/State_of_Nation_2014_Main_Report.pdf). Also available is the Summary: *State of the Nation 2014: social mobility and child poverty in Great Britain – report summary.* Social Mobility & Child Poverty Commission, 2014. Available to download as a pdf (1780 kb) from: [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/367461/State\\_of\\_the\\_Nation\\_-\\_summary\\_document.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/367461/State_of_the_Nation_-_summary_document.pdf).

There is also a stark warning:

“2020 could mark a watershed between an era in which for decades there have been rising living standards shared by all and a future era where rising living standards bypass the poorest in society. If that comes to pass the economic recovery will not have produced a social recovery. Social mobility, having flatlined in the latter part of the last century, would go into reverse in the first part of this century. The United Kingdom would become a permanently divided nation. That bleak outlook is reinforced by analysis for the Commission which shows that even world-beating performance on employment levels, hours and wages would not enable the child poverty targets to be hit given current public spending plans and the current design of the tax and benefit system.” [p v]

The six chapters in the report look at “The 2020 challenge” (the largest of which is “to prevent Britain becoming a permanently divided society” [p1]); early years; educating the next generation; moving from school to work; moving up the income ladder; “moving into the top” – universities and the professions. Each of these is illustrated from examples from Scotland, Wales and the English regions.

Each topic includes a section on what has worked and not worked for the period 2010-2015, plus what the Commission expects by 2010; these are interesting in terms of possible ‘shape’ of future provision, and include, for example:

- “The UK Government should have refocused policy to ensure that 85 per cent of children are school ready by age five, with robust indicators in place to measure progress against a ten year plan to improve accessibility, quality and affordability of childcare;
- The Scottish and Welsh Governments should have introduced a measure to assess the ‘school readiness’ of their children and the Welsh Government should have increased the focus on numeracy and literacy within childcare provision;
- Childcare providers should routinely be using qualified staff to teach their most deprived children;
- Local authorities should be meeting parents’ demand for childcare by having sufficient high quality and affordable childcare;
- Parenting groups, providers and governments should have launched a national parenting programme and ensured more even access amongst parents to information services.” [p xix]
  
- “The UK Government should have devolved responsibility for increasing youth employment to local areas;
- The UK Government should have fully implemented a new ‘UCAS’ system to make access to vocational education and training easier and clearer for young people;
- All local authorities should be tracking 100 per cent of young people in their area to ensure they make a smooth transition from school and should be delivering a ‘Day One’ intervention and re-engagement service to get unemployed young people straight back into jobs, education or training. Long term unemployment should be ended;

- More employers should be working closely with schools, employing young workers and half of employers with more than ten employees should be offering high quality apprenticeships to young people;
- The number of poorly performing Further Education colleges and apprentice providers should have been halved and funding should have been stopped for college departments that have not improved between inspections, following the views of the Further Education Commissioner.” [p xxiii]
- “Government, parents and employers to have shared responsibility to enable families to move up the income ladder – Government must ensure incentives are right and ensure that those who ‘do the right thing’ are not in poverty, more parents must move into work and employers must pay better;
- The Government to have championed Britain becoming a Living Wage nation by 2025 at the latest – and employers have made progress towards achieving it – with the top social policy priority being to end working poverty ...
- The Government working with local authorities and business to have made progress on tackling the poverty premium by reducing cost pressures on low income families, including energy costs and housing;
- The Government to have reworked the 2020 child poverty targets and agreed new measures to which it is 100 per cent committed and a new timescale for achieving them.” [p xxv]
- “The UK Government and universities should use the opportunity afforded by an expansion in student numbers cap to significantly close the access gap so that by 2020 they are aiming to admit 5,000 more students from a free school meals background and by Russell Group universities aiming to admit 3,000 more state school students who have the grades but currently do not get the places;
- The UK Government and universities should have increased the proportion of Widening Participation funding being used to support strategic partnerships with schools. By 2020 a quarter of access funding should support outreach activity including strategic engagement with schools. A social-mobility friendly postgraduate loans system should be put in place;
- Universities should be focussed on improving the employability skills of students and the UK Government should develop a more robust way of measuring universities’ success in this;
- All leading employers in the professions should be fully implementing the Champion tier principles from the Social Mobility Compact by 2020;
- Professional employers should have ended the practice of unpaid internships with the Government legislating to achieve this if necessary.” [p xxviii]

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### ***Deprivation in education: final report***

“The Welsh Government commissioned the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) to carry out a research study which

replicates the research undertaken for the report on deprivation and education published by the Department for Children, Schools and Families (2009) [13].” [p3]

The evidence found for Wales, and shown in this report<sup>14</sup>, is immensely important, and there are also parallels that can be drawn for the rest of the UK.

Key overall findings include:

- “Pupils eligible for FSM [free school meals] are more likely to be absent from school than non-FSM pupils. In secondary schools the absence rate of FSM pupils is around double that of non-FSM pupils between Years 8 and 11
- Pupils eligible for FSM have, on average, lower attainment than other pupils throughout their progression in the education system in Wales. The gap in attainment identified at Foundation Phase remains at the end of Key Stage 2 and the gap widens further in secondary education
- The attainment gap at GCSE has decreased over time but the attainment of FSM pupils at GCSE remains comparatively low.”<sup>15</sup>

There are also some specific findings of interest, for example:

- “White British pupils eligible for FSM are more concentrated than non-FSM pupils in the more deprived areas of Wales.
- The ethnic groups with the highest percentage of pupils eligible for FSM are Gypsy/Gypsy Roma and Black African. However these groups are relatively small.
- A relatively high proportion of Bangladeshi, Black African and pupils from Other Black backgrounds live in the 30 per cent most deprived areas regardless of their FSM status.
- Pupils with special educational needs (SEN) in mainstream education are disproportionately eligible for FSM. Pupils with a statement of SEN are more than twice as likely to be eligible for FSM compared with pupils with no SEN.
- The relationship between SEN and eligibility for FSM varies by type of SEN. Eligibility for FSM is particularly high for pupils with behavioural, emotional and social difficulties; moderate learning difficulties; and severe learning difficulties.” [p13]

Very useful background.

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<sup>13</sup> *Deprivation and education: the evidence on pupils in England, Foundation Stage to Key Stage 4*. DCSF, 2009. Available to download as a pdf (1240 kb) from: [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/222172/DCSF-RTP-09-01.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/222172/DCSF-RTP-09-01.pdf).

<sup>14</sup> Rose Cook, Simon Rutt and David Sims. *Deprivation in education: final report*. NFER, 2014. Available to download as a pdf (1510 kb) from: <http://learning.wales.gov.uk/docs/learningwales/publications/141013-final-report-en.pdf>.

<sup>15</sup> Taken from: [http://www.nfer.ac.uk/publications/WGDE01/WGDE01\\_home.cfm](http://www.nfer.ac.uk/publications/WGDE01/WGDE01_home.cfm).

## Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies

### ***Vision for literacy 2025***

The National Literacy Forum<sup>16</sup> presented its *Vision for literacy*<sup>17</sup> in Parliament at the end of October.

The document sets out “the key steps Government needs to take during its next three terms for it to meet the ultimate goal: *for all children born this year to have the literacy skills they need to succeed by the time they finish secondary school.*”<sup>18</sup> [emphasis theirs]

It begins by very briefly setting the scene:

“The UK is the only economically developed country where 16 to 24-year-olds have the lowest literacy skills of any age group in society ... In England 14.9% of adults aged 16-65 lack functional literacy skills. This equates to 5.1 million people ...

The UK’s literacy gap undermines our economic competitiveness and sustainability. It creates obstacles to fairness across society. It is at the heart of economic and cultural inequalities and is creating a divided society. We cannot afford to allow this to continue. We must act now.

The challenge is intergenerational and closely linked to poverty. Up to 40% of the adult population in the UK’s most deprived wards lack the literacy skills expected of an 11-year-old.” [p2]

In order to tackle this:

“An intergenerational pattern can only be broken by a sustained campaign which lasts a generation. Chopping and changing in literacy policy has undermined the sustained policy push which is needed. Literacy needs to become an all-party consensus issue. It needs to be elevated beyond party politics. Government needs to lead this campaign but the whole of society must play its part.” [p3]

To achieve this massive change, the National Literacy Forum has recommended four areas as ‘Pathways to Literacy’. These are:

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<sup>16</sup> The Forum includes: Arts Council, Barnado’s, Beanstalk, BITC, Booktrust, Booker Prize Foundation, Campaign for Learning, CLPE, The Communication Trust, I CAN, National Literacy Trust, NIACE, Publishers Association, Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists, Save the Children, Springboard for Children, The Reading Agency, and UKLA.

<sup>17</sup> National Literacy Forum. *Vision for literacy 2025*. National Literacy Trust, 2014. Available to download as a pdf (1900 kb) from:

[http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/assets/0002/3984/Vision\\_for\\_Literacy\\_2025.pdf](http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/assets/0002/3984/Vision_for_Literacy_2025.pdf).

<sup>18</sup> Taken from:

[http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/news/6216\\_charity\\_coalition\\_secures\\_cross\\_party\\_commitment\\_to\\_tackle\\_the\\_uk\\_s\\_literacy\\_crisis](http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/news/6216_charity_coalition_secures_cross_party_commitment_to_tackle_the_uk_s_literacy_crisis).



1. Improve early language and literacy provision in homes and early years settings, with the creation of “a cross-departmental Early Years Minister to drive forward an integrated education, health, welfare and business approach to childcare and early years policy ...” [p5] Includes a case-study from Bookstart Corner.
2. More effective teaching of reading, writing and spoken language skills in schools. This includes the recommendation that: “Government should invest in new support for teachers, school leaders and governors to make decisions about the best ways of teaching literacy skills by giving them access to evidence of effectiveness of approaches, resources and interventions. This should include the creation of a Royal College of Teachers.” [p7] Includes a case-study from a primary school.
3. Universal access to reading materials and programmes is required to ensure that children read for enjoyment, with the recommendation that: “Government should instruct Ofsted to examine the reading for pleasure strategy in every school inspection, to include consideration of school library provision.” [p9] Includes a case study from the Summer Reading Challenge.
4. Partnerships between education and business need to be enacted to ensure that all school leavers have literacy fit for employment, with the recommendation that: “Government should encourage the creation of Local Brokers to build links between schools and their local business community, focussing on business volunteering to support young people’s literacy and employability skills.” [p11] Includes a case study from the NLT “Words for Work” programme.<sup>19</sup>

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### ***Social integration: a wake-up call***

This is the second report<sup>20</sup> from the Social Integration Commission:

“The Commission has three main aims:

- 1) Explore the nature and extent of social contact between people of different ages, ethnicities and social grades
- 2) Assess the impact of social division on the UK economy and society
- 3) Make practical and affordable recommendations across key policy areas

We will publish our initial findings in June 2014 and share our recommendations in January 2015.”<sup>21, 22</sup>

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<sup>19</sup> Source: ASCEL *Update*, Oct 2014.

<sup>20</sup> *Social integration: a wake-up call*. Social Integration Commission, 2014. Available to download as a pdf (1720 kb) from: <http://socialintegrationcommission.org.uk/a-wake-up-call-social-integration-commission.pdf>.

The first report, *How integrated is modern Britain?*<sup>23</sup>:

“... revealed the degree of poor social integration which persists alongside the growing diversity of the British population. In particular we highlighted that a lack of integration is an issue for all groups ...

This second report forms a vital bridge between the evidence in our first report highlighting the degree of poor integration and the programme of action we will advocate in report three.” [p3]

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### ***Measuring poverty when inflation varies across households***

JRF have just published this report<sup>24</sup> which “looks at trends in relative and absolute poverty measures after accounting for households’ differing inflation experiences.”<sup>25</sup>

The report:

“... considers alternative measures of poverty that allow for the fact that low-income households may experience a rate of inflation higher or lower than the average in any given year.

Official measures of changes in poverty implicitly assume that price changes affect all households equally. If this assumption fails then conventional analyses may over- or understate changes in living standards at different parts of the income distribution.” [p1]

The key finding is that:

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<sup>21</sup> Taken from: <http://socialintegrationcommission.org.uk/index.php>.

<sup>22</sup> The Social Integration Commission is sponsored by The Barrow-Cadbury Trust, British Gas, and The Challenge (“The Challenge is the UK’s leading charity for building a more integrated society. We work on a local level to connect people together across all ages and walks of life. We run youth and community programmes that have the central aim of mixing diverse groups of people with each other.” See: <http://www.the-challenge.org/>).

<sup>23</sup> *How integrated is modern Britain?* Social Integration Commission, 2014. Available to download as a pdf (5150 kb) from: [http://socialintegrationcommission.org.uk/SIC\\_Report\\_WEB.pdf](http://socialintegrationcommission.org.uk/SIC_Report_WEB.pdf).

<sup>24</sup> Abi Adams and Peter Levell. *Measuring poverty when inflation varies across households*. JRF, 2014. Available to download as a pdf (829.76 kb) from: <http://www.jrf.org.uk/sites/files/jrf/poverty-inflation-households-full.pdf>. Summary report available to download as a pdf (224.82 kb) from: <http://www.jrf.org.uk/sites/files/jrf/poverty-inflation-households-summary.pdf>.

<sup>25</sup> Taken from: [http://www.jrf.org.uk/publications/measuring-poverty-inflation?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=JRF+Newsletter+-+October+2014&utm\\_content=JRF+Newsletter+-+October+2014+CID\\_5a7d068ed1c57da492dbfedafbae3d47&utm\\_source=Email%20marketing%20software&utm\\_term=new%20study%20for%20JRF%20reveals](http://www.jrf.org.uk/publications/measuring-poverty-inflation?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=JRF+Newsletter+-+October+2014&utm_content=JRF+Newsletter+-+October+2014+CID_5a7d068ed1c57da492dbfedafbae3d47&utm_source=Email%20marketing%20software&utm_term=new%20study%20for%20JRF%20reveals).

“Taking these differences into account, absolute poverty was 0.5 percentage points higher in 2013–14 than the standard measures suggest, implying 300,000 additional people in absolute poverty.”<sup>26</sup>

This is a significant increase in the number of people likely to be living in absolute poverty.

In addition, JRF have also just published *Poverty and the cost of living: an evidence review*<sup>27</sup>. This report:

“... reviews the literature on the links between poverty and the cost of living. It looks at how this relationship differs between types of goods, markets and population groups, and considers the policy options.” [p4]

Key findings include:

- “Essential goods and services that people need to participate in society take up a relatively larger share of low-income budgets. These costs have risen relatively sharply in recent years.
- People on low incomes are less likely to be ‘active consumers’, switching suppliers and shopping around. This is partly due to a lack of access to ‘enabling goods’ that give consumers advantages such as a bank account or internet access.
- Regulators are increasingly using the concept of ‘consumer vulnerability’ – a more dynamic and flexible concept than that of ‘disadvantaged groups’. However, there are concerns over how it can be used in practice, and how poverty and low income fit into this framework.”<sup>28</sup>

Both these reports are valuable for thinking through the impact that poverty is having on many of our communities.

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## And finally ...

### “Re-imagining public libraries in Moscow”

This is interesting:

“Moscow is looking to revitalize its libraries and make them relevant to citizens’ lives today. By converting these key community resources into centers of information, culture, education and leisure, the city wishes to

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<sup>26</sup> Also taken from: [http://www.jrf.org.uk/publications/measuring-poverty-inflation?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=JRF+Newsletter+-+October+2014&utm\\_content=JRF+Newsletter+-+October+2014+CID\\_5a7d068ed1c57da492dbfedafbae3d47&utm\\_source=Email%20marketing%20software&utm\\_term=new%20study%20for%20JRF%20reveals](http://www.jrf.org.uk/publications/measuring-poverty-inflation?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=JRF+Newsletter+-+October+2014&utm_content=JRF+Newsletter+-+October+2014+CID_5a7d068ed1c57da492dbfedafbae3d47&utm_source=Email%20marketing%20software&utm_term=new%20study%20for%20JRF%20reveals).

<sup>27</sup> Adam Tinson, Peter Kenway, Sabrina Bushe and Tom MacInnes. *Poverty and the cost of living: an evidence review*. JRF, 2014. Available to download as a pdf (389.11 kb) from: <http://www.jrf.org.uk/sites/files/jrf/Cost-of-living.pdf>. Summary report available to download as a pdf (224.70 kb) from: <http://www.jrf.org.uk/sites/files/jrf/Cost-of-living.pdf>.

<sup>28</sup> Taken from: <http://www.jrf.org.uk/publications/cost-of-living-poverty>.

strengthen cultural engagement and attract new users.

Currently the city has 453 libraries for its 11.5 million residents. There are more than 2.5 million registered users – 700,000 readers are in the age range 15-30, 800,000 readers are under 14. At the end of 2013 attendance was over 18 million, with 500 million depository items loaned.

However, in a city with a harsh climate, usage could be higher and library authorities are keen to strengthen existing and target new audiences. These include:

- pensioners
- working-aged population
- parents with children
- special needs groups
- teenagers
- youth (including students)
- migrants.

Moscow is looking for inspiring solutions to help redefine the traditional relationship with public libraries and make them places of both formal and informal learning, where people can interact, discover, exchange ideas and be inspired. Self-organising groups will be welcomed alongside other initiatives that meet the needs of the local community.”<sup>29</sup>

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## Abbreviations and acronyms

BITC = Business in the Community

CILIP = Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals

CLPE = Centre for Literacy in Primary Education

IFLA = International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions

JRF = Joseph Rowntree Foundation

UKLA = UK Literacy Association

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<sup>29</sup> Source: email from Frances Hendrix to lis-pub-libs, 8 Nov 2014.