Social Elective: Unemployment Statutory responses to poverty

Statutory response-> what the government and government departments are doing to deal with poverty and employment.

Statutory Agency	Response
1) a. Social Welfare Assistance and Benefits	 Unemployment assistance and benefit. Child benefit. One Parent Family Benefit. Family Income Supplement (FIS) Disability Allowance Blind persons pension State pension
1) b. Schemes to reduce expenditure for low income	 Local Authority housing and schemes i.e. Rental Subsidy Scheme, tenant purchase scheme, mortgage allowance scheme, affordable housing scheme, National Fuel Scheme Medical Cards Back to work allowance Back to education allowance
2) Combat Poverty Agency	 State run organisation. Aims to prevent and eliminate poverty and social exclusion. Established in 1986 Responsible for carrying out detailed research on the state poverty in Ireland. Provides advice to government on social and economic policy to aid the poor. Giving support to local anti-poverty social inclusion strategy (LAPSIS) Providing info on poverty and associated issues.



3) Community Development Programme	 Set up in disadvantaged areas with high unemployment. Receives government funding for staff and resources, Projects deal with women, children, people with disabilities, travellers and lone parents. Helps develop self-esteem, decision making skills and participation in the local community and tries to establish a sense of ownership within the community.
CLAR	 Regeneration programme aimed at disadvantaged rural areas with a low population. Helps provide access to basic services (water, sewage, road access, broadband communication).
PEACE Programme	 High unemployment levels in border counties due to troubles. Number of people suffering from poverty and social exclusion increased. PEACE aims to develop community infrastructure, education, training and support for vulnerable groups. Promotes peace and reconciliation.



Voluntary/ Community Response:

- Carried out by private individuals within communities
- Depends on businesses and individual contributions to provide services. It is generally locally based.

Voluntary	Description
Agency	
1) St. Vincent de Paul	 Worldwide Christian Organisation. Approx 9000 members nationwide. Base their decisions on immediate needs of the community. Financed by corporate and individual donations, internal contributions and limited government funding. Aim: Give support and friendship on a one to one basis. Encourage Self-Sufficiency. Work for social justice on a local and national level.
1) Simon Community	 National organisation Provide shelter & support to homeless in centres in Cork, Dundalk, Dublin and Galway. Raises public awareness and lobbies to implement long term changes in relation to poverty and homelessness in Ireland. Simon Community provides: Emergency Accommodation. Shelter. Homes and apartments Outreach services Work and training projects
Focus Ireland	 Day services and housing for homeless, Provides: coffee shops and housing advice centre, street outreach centres, Long term and short term accommodation for families, young people and single adults. Tenancy support and settlement programme which works to prevent homelessness and help people settle into their new homes after homelessness. Off the Street programme (medium term accommodation & support for U-18's). Focus Ireland Young Women's Aftercare Project provides accommodation for 18-25 year olds who have left state care or who are homeless.



