Notes

Introduction
1 All payment scheme information mentioned throughout comes from www.gov.ie/en/category/social-welfare/. Payment information, rates and criteria may have changed marginally since data collection. Changes are likely to be marginal.
2 Primary carer simply means that the child or children concerned spend more time on average with the payment recipient.
3 The Tús initiative is a community work placement scheme providing short-term working opportunities for unemployed people. The work opportunities are designed to benefit the community and are provided by community and voluntary organisations in both urban and rural areas.

Chapter 1
1 De Valera had a particularly romanticised vision of what a new Ireland should and could look like, and this vision is perhaps best represented in the work of anthropologists Arensberg and Kimball (2001), who undertook a study of Irish culture in Clare in the early 1930s and developed a sociological ‘consensus’ model to describe how rural Ireland functioned. A classic work, it has nevertheless been heavily criticised for promoting too sympathetic a view of Irish rural life that takes no account of conflict or class structures.
2 Beveridge (1879–1963) was a British economist who was also a noted progressive and social reformer. See Williams and Williams (1987) for more.
3 This was a group established in law in 1982 with a remit to advise the Minister for Health on the development of social services and to promote greater accessibility, coordination and public awareness of social services and to perform certain other functions in relation to social services. These included the encouragement of the spread in local communities of knowledge and advice in relation to social services and the promotion of the establishment and development of voluntary social services in such communities and to provide for connected matters.
4 Celtic Tiger (Irish: An Tíogar Ceilteach) is a term referring to the economy of the Republic of Ireland from the mid-1990s to the late 2000s, a period of rapid real economic growth fuelled by foreign direct investment. The boom was dampened by a subsequent property bubble that resulted in a severe economic downturn.
5 The post-2008 Irish economic downturn in the Republic of Ireland coincided with a series of banking scandals, and followed the 1990s and 2000s Celtic Tiger period of rapid real economic growth fuelled by foreign direct investment, a subsequent property bubble that rendered the real economy uncompetitive, and an expansion in bank lending in the early 2000s. An initial slowdown in economic growth amid the international financial crisis of 2007–08 greatly intensified in late 2008 and the country fell into recession for the first time since the 1980s. Emigration, as did unemployment (particularly in the construction sector), escalated to levels not seen since that decade. See Donovan and Murphy (2013).
6 Child Benefit, also known as Children’s Allowance, is a monthly payment to the parents or guardians of children under 16 years of age. It is paid for children under 18 years of age if they are in full-time education, full-time training or have a disability and cannot support themselves. Child Benefit is not paid for any child dependent aged 18 or older, even if they stay in education or training.
7 Fuel Allowance is a payment under the National Fuel Scheme to help with the cost of heating your home during the winter months. It is paid to people who are dependent on long-term social welfare payments and who are unable to provide for their own heating needs. Only one Fuel Allowance is paid to a household.
Fuel Allowance is generally paid with your social welfare payment on the same day. You can choose to get Fuel Allowance paid weekly or to get your total allowance paid in 2 lump sums.

8 The Household Benefits Package is a package of allowances that helps with the costs of running a household. The package is available to everyone aged over 70 and to people under age 70 in certain circumstances. There are two allowances in the Household Benefits Package: the first concerns utilities and the second grants a free television licence.

9 Launched in 2012, Intreo was and is billed as being a single point of contact for all employment and income supports. Designed to provide a more streamlined approach, Intreo offers practical, tailored employment services and supports for jobseekers and employers alike. It arguably represents a ‘case management’ management approach to unemployment.

10 JobPath was billed as an approach to employment activation that caters mainly for people who are long-term unemployed (over 12 months) to assist them to secure and sustain full-time paid employment or self-employment.

11 Seetec Limited and Turas Nua Limited provide JobPath services in two contract areas based on the department’s divisional structure. Seetec covers the West, Midlands North, North East, North West, Dublin Central, Dublin North and Dublin South; Turas Nua covers Cork Central, South East, Mid-Leinster, Mid-West, South West and Midlands South. Turas Nua is a joint venture between Ireland’s national recruitment agency FRS Recruitment and leading employability and skills provider Working Links. They oversee the delivery of the Department of Social Protection JobPath scheme in the southern counties of Ireland. Seetec Employment and Skills Ireland deliver JobPath and Welcome to Work employability and skills programmes across Ireland. The Seetec Group claims to have over 30 years of expertise in working with people who are unemployed and states that it is fundamentally about ‘helping them to aspire, achieve and make sustainable positive changes to their lives through employment’.

Chapter 2

1 While it is true that liminality can be constructed and seen as overtly negative, it must also be acknowledged that this view devolves on the researcher’s own analysis and interpretation of the data. It is equally possible to view or construct liminality in a far more positive way. As an example, an article by Wilhoit (2017) constructs routine liminality, via the daily commute as ‘sacred time’, thus demonstrating the multiple applications of the concept.

2 Widow’s or Widower’s pension.

3 A popular Irish field sport.

4 In Ireland, a person is generally considered to be long-term unemployed after a continuous period of 12 months has elapsed since their previous employment.

5 It didn’t help that Martin was one of the interviewees I met in a community setting and that the office I interviewed him in was right across the hall from an office occupied by an official from the DSP.

6 A food delivery service.

7 A well-known nightspot.

8 A children’s play centre.

9 For various examples, see Batty and Flint (2013); Chase and Walker (2013); Shildrick and MacDonald (2013); Tyler (2013, 2018, 2020); Baumberg (2014, 2016); Jensen (2014); Walker (2014); Garthwaite (2015a, 2015b, 2016); Jensen and Tyler (2015); Runswick-Cole and Goodley (2015); Patrick (2016, 2017, 2019); Seabrook (2016); Wincup and Monaghan (2016); Armstrong (2017); Crossley (2017, 2018); Scambler (2018); Tyler and Slater (2018); Redman (2019); Welfare Conditionality (2019); Lister (2021).
Chapter 3

1 Carer’s Allowance is a payment to people on low incomes who are looking after a person who needs support because of age, disability or illness (including mental illness).
2 Of Cork city.
3 Persons aged between 18 and 24 receive a reduced rate of JA. This increases at age 25 before reaching the full adult rate at age 26.
4 Academics in Ireland have since entered this space. See Devereux and Power (2019).
5 Fine Gael is the Irish political party in power at the time writing. It was founded in 1933 by Eoin O’Duffy, W.T. Cosgrave and Frank MacDermot.
6 Fine Gael TD and Tánaiste at the time of writing, Leo Varadkar.
7 The National Learning Network provides training and specialist support to people who, for a variety of reasons, may find it difficult to gain employment.
8 Turas nua is a ‘results-driven’ actor, the presence of which reflects a broader structural shift towards neoliberal, managerialist reforms within the welfare sphere. This undoubtedly fuels the organisation’s own performativity culture. To give a brief sense of how this works, a recent publication by the Irish National Organisation for the Unemployed (2019: 2) states: ‘An initial payment is made to the contractor when they complete a Personal Progression Plan for each client. If the unemployed person takes up a job for at least 30 hours per week, the JobPath provider receives another payment if the person remains in employment for 13 weeks. Further “job sustainment” payments may be made when the person remains in employment after 26 weeks, 39 weeks and a final payment after 52 weeks.’

Chapter 4

1 The Welfare Conditionality project ran from 2013 to 2018 in the UK during which time interviews with 481 people living in Bath, Bristol, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Greater Manchester, Inverness, London, Peterborough, Sheffield and Warrington were conducted. Following initial interviews, participants were interviewed twice more over time, to explore the long-term effects of conditionality. See www.welfareconditionality.ac.uk
2 An online food delivery platform.

Chapter 6

1 The ash cloud was caused by eruptions from the Eyjafjallajökull volcano in Iceland. Although relatively small for volcanic eruptions, they caused enormous disruption to air travel across Western and Northern Europe over an initial period of six days in April 2010. Additional localised disruption continued into May 2010.
2 This combination of the word ‘Romanian’ with the slur ‘gypos’ suggests that this expression by the participant is aimed at the Romany Gypsy community. While it makes for uncomfortable reading, it is kept for authenticity of voice.
3 Of Cork city.
4 A suburb of Cork City.

Chapter 8

1 See Welfare at a social distance for example: https://www.distantwelfare.co.uk/
2 Information accurate at the time of writing.

Conclusion

1 I am deeply aware that this is a somewhat simplistic narrative and, as such, is being and needs to be problematised, particularly with respect to how the British post-war welfare state was funded; see Bhambra (2020).