

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET – 16 DECEMBER 2009

SCOTTISH INDEX OF MULTIPLE DEPRIVATION 2009

Report by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To present to Cabinet for consideration the results of the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) 2009 as they relate to East Ayrshire.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation is the Scottish Government's tool for identifying small area concentrations of multiple deprivation across Scotland. It is relevant for the targeting of policies and resources aimed at tackling areas where there are concentrations of multiple deprivation.
- 2.2 The Scottish Government has used this method to track multiple deprivation since the first Index of Multiple Deprivation in 2004 and, taken together, the three indices (2004, 2006 and 2009) provide a series of snapshots in time of the concentrations of multiple deprivation across the country.
- 2.3 Scotland's Chief Statistician published the SIMD 2009 on 29 October 2009. The SIMD 2009 divides Scotland into 6,505 small geographical areas (called 'datazones'), with a median population size of 767. These are ranked from one (most deprived) to 6,505 (least deprived) using 38 indicators of deprivation across seven categories or 'domains', namely Income; Employment; Health; Education; Geographic Access to Services; Housing and Crime.
- 2.4 The SIMD 2004, 2006 and 2009 are all based on a consistent statistical geography (the datazone) which allows us to examine changes over time in the relative distribution of Scotland's deprived areas.
- 2.5 It is imperative to note that the rankings of the datazones within the index are relative and that a datazone with a more deprived rank in SIMD 2009 may not necessarily have become more deprived in absolute terms, rather its relative position to other areas has worsened.

3. SIMD 2009 RESULTS

- 3.1 The SIMD 2009 General Report contains a preliminary analysis of relative change in deprived areas between SIMD 2004, 2006 and 2009, and each of the SIMD domains. A 15% cut off is used to identify the highest concentrations of multiple deprivation in Scotland.
- 3.2 In interpreting the results of the SIMD it is important to note the following points:
 - In most cases, data from 2007 and 2008 has been used to inform the SIMD 2009, although some older data was used when nothing more recent was available. This means that the impact of the recent economic downturn is not

reflected within the statistics; however, this is unlikely to have a large effect on the relative difference across Scotland.

- As the SIMD is a relative measure, if one datazone moves out the most deprived 0-15% another datazone will move in. There are 976 datazones in the most deprived 0-15% nationally.
- The SIMD measures deprivation and not affluence, and all it can say about the areas ranked closer to 6,505 is that they are less deprived.
- If a local authority or other area has no datazones in the 0-15% most deprived this does not mean that there is no deprivation, only that there are no concentrations of multiple deprivation; for example, 64% of income deprived people in Scotland live outwith the most deprived areas.
- Not all people who are deprived live in deprived areas. The index measures concentrations of deprivation.
- Changes have been made to the methodology between versions of the SIMD; therefore, care is required when comparing over time.
- The index is relative and reflects that an area is more or less deprived than another area but not how much more deprived.

Changes since SIMD 2006

3.3 The following changes in methodology have been made in the calculation of SIMD 2009 which will impact on the results:

- **Income domain** – inclusion of tax credits data to pick up low income in work families;
- **Health domain** – change in codes used in alcohol and drug use indicators;
- **Education domain** – new indicator on Not in Education, Employment or Training to replace previous proxy;
- **Access domain** – new methodology for calculating travel times and change to weighting of sub domains; and
- **Housing domain** – no new data is available, therefore census data is used as in previous updates.

3.4 Despite the methodological changes, the SIMD 2009 is still comparable with the SIMD 2006. [Appendix 1](#) identifies the indicators used in the SIMD 2009.

3.5 Although there has been no change to the methodology used in respect of the crime domain, there has been a move from the calendar year to the financial year in SIMD 2009 in line with other published statistics.

3.6 There has been no change in the methodology used in the employment domain since SIMD 2004. Consequently, the employment domain can be directly compared with the previous results.

4. SIMD 2009: SUMMARY OF EAST AYRSHIRE RESULTS

4.1 The following information provides a summary of the key findings in respect of the overall SIMD Index:

National Share

- In SIMD 2009, 30 (3.1%) of the 976 datazones in the 15% most deprived datazones in Scotland were found in East Ayrshire, compared to 28 (2.9%) in 2006 and 28 (2.9%) in 2004.
- In SIMD 2009, 11 (3.4%) of the 325 datazones in the 5% most deprived datazones in Scotland were found in East Ayrshire, compared to 8 (2.5%) in 2006 and 7 (2.2%) in 2004.
- Of East Ayrshire's 8 datazones that were in the 5% most deprived in Scotland in SIMD 2006, all of them have remained in the 5% most deprived in 2009. Three new datazones have moved into the 5% most deprived for SIMD 2009: namely S01001312 (Catrine); S01001386 (Kilmarnock North); and S01001394 (Kilmarnock North).

Overall

- The most deprived datazone in the overall SIMD 2009 in East Ayrshire is S01001388 (Kilmarnock North) with a rank of 42.
- Over the three updates of the SIMD, the distribution of datazones for each decile of deprivation has remained similar, with the highest percentage of datazones in deciles one to four. Approximately 60% of the datazones in East Ayrshire make up the datazones in these four deciles.
- East Ayrshire has seen a consistent rise in the number of datazones in decile one, the 10% most deprived datazones in Scotland. In SIMD 2004, there were 13 datazones in decile one, 17 datazones in 2006 and 21 datazones in 2009.
- At a local level, 20% most deprived datazones in East Ayrshire are found in urban, densely populated areas such as around Cumnock and Kilmarnock. The 20% least deprived datazones are generally the larger, rural datazones, where populations are more sparse.
- Two datazones, SO1001275 (Patna) and SO1001296 (Cumnock), moved out of the 0-15% into the 15-20% most deprived and four datazones, SO1001292 (Netherthird); SO1001294 (Cumnock); SO1001301 (Lugar and Logan); and SO1001327 (Kilmarnock South) moved into the 0-15% from the 15-20% most deprived between 2006 and 2009.

4.2 The following communities have datazones which are in the 0-15% most deprived in the SIMD 2009:

- Auchinleck (3 datazones)
- Bellsbank (2 datazones)
- Catrine (1 datazone)
- Cumnock (1 new datazone)
- Cumnock-Netherthird (1 new datazone)
- Drongan (1 datazone)
- Galston (1 datazone)
- Kilmarnock Central (1 datazone)
- Kilmarnock North (8 datazones)
- Kilmarnock South (5 datazones, including 1 new datazone)
- Lugar and Logan (1 new datazone)
- Muirkirk (1 datazone)
- New Cumnock (1 datazone)
- Newmilns (1 datazone)
- Patna (2 datazones)

4.3 [Appendices 2a](#) (by area) and [2b](#) (by ranking) highlight the datazones which have been included in the 0-15% most deprived in the SIMD 2004, 2006 and 2009. [Appendix 3](#) ranks East Ayrshire's 154 data zones in ascending order and reflects the change in rankings and population between SIMD 2006 and SIMD 2009.

4.4 The table provided below reflects the total number of datazones (national share percentage shown in brackets) in the 0-15% most deprived for the overall SIMD and each of the domains in 2004, 2006 and 2009.

Year	Overall SIMD Index	Income	Employment	Health	Education	Housing	Access	Crime
2004	28 (2.9%)	27 (2.8%)	25 (2.6%)	29 (3.0%)	28 (2.9%)	0	16 (1.6%)	N/A
2006	28 (2.9%)	31 (3.2%)	31 (3.2%)	31 (3.2%)	27 (2.8%)	0	23 (2.4%)	23 (2.4%)
2009	30 (3.1%)	31 (3.2%)	29 (3.0%)	39 (4.0%)	30 (3.1%)	0	19 (1.9%)	22 (2.3%)

4.5 Relative to other local authorities, it is evident that:

- the number of datazones in the 0-15% most deprived in terms of the SIMD income domain has remained unchanged between 2006 and 2009;
- there has been a slight reduction in the number of datazones in the 0-15% most deprived in terms of the SIMD employment domain between 2006 and 2009;
- the biggest concentration of datazones in the 0-15% most employment deprived is seen in Kilmarnock. Smaller concentrations are also seen in Auchinleck, Cumnock, Galston, Kilmarnock and Catrine as well as other isolated areas throughout East Ayrshire;
- there has been an increase in the number of datazones in the 0-15% most deprived in terms of the SIMD education domain between 2006 and 2009;
- there are no datazones in the 0-15% most deprived in terms of the SIMD 2009 housing domain and the most deprived datazone in this regard is ranked 1,425, which sits in the 20-25% most deprived;
- 75% of the datazones in East Ayrshire have a housing rank less deprived than the overall SIMD median rank of 2,125; and
- there has been a reduction in the number of datazones in the most deprived 0-15% most deprived in terms of service access and crime between 2006 and 2009.

4.6 However, there is a more noticeable increase in the number of datazones reported to be in the 0-15% most deprived with regard to health:

- East Ayrshire is one of four Local Authorities to have seen large increases in the percentage of their datazones in the 0-15% most deprived on the health domain. These changes are apparent even when using the old codes for the alcohol and drugs indicators; therefore, it is not this change driving the increase and shows a relative worsening over time.
- Over a quarter of the datazones in East Ayrshire are among Scotland's 0-15% most health deprived.

4.7 With regard to the health domain, there are similarities in relation to progress in respect of some of the health indicators in our Single Outcome Agreement (SOA), although a direct comparison between the indicators cannot be made.

Consequently, the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Board has agreed to review and take forward actions to address identified issues and areas for improvement as part of the SOA Improvement Plan.

- 4.8 A summary of results for the SIMD 2009 as they relate to East Ayrshire is provided at [Appendix 4](#) and a Glossary of Terms is included at [Appendix 5](#). In addition, a series of maps will be made available on the Members Information Portal.
- 4.9 Further and more detailed analyses of the SIMD 2009 and the domains will be co-ordinated through the multi-agency Community Planning Research, Information and Performance Group, the results of which it is proposed will be made available to members at a future meeting of Cabinet.
- 4.10 In addition, it is proposed that a seminar is arranged for Elected Members in the New Year, which will provide an opportunity for further analysis and review of the SIMD 2009. In this regard, an invitation has been extended to the Office of the Chief Statistician at the Scottish Government to lead this session and details of the arrangements will be confirmed for members in due course.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The SIMD is relevant for the targeting of policies and resources aimed at tackling areas where there are concentrations of multiple deprivation.

6. COMMUNITY PLANNING/POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 A new joint statement by the Scottish Government and COSLA, namely 'Equal Communities in a Fairer Scotland', confirms the ongoing commitment of the government at national and local levels to tackling high levels of deprivation in geographical communities.
- 6.2 Within this statement it is highlighted that: "regardless of how SIMD is used as a tool for planning investment and the deployment of services, we view the communities in the 15% most deprived datazones as representing the best overall summary of geographically concentrated deprivation across the country".
- 6.3 More detailed analyses of the SIMD 2009 will be essential to informing the priorities to be taken forward in East Ayrshire as part of the Four Yearly Review of the Community Plan and the thematic Action Plans.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 Cabinet is requested to:
 - i) note the results of the preliminary analysis of the SIMD 2009; and that further work will be carried out to analyse and interpret the data in detail bringing forward Cabinet reports as appropriate;
 - ii) note that the Community Planning Partnership Board will review and take forward actions in respect of the SIMD 2009 as part of the Single Outcome Agreement Improvement Plan;
 - iii) agree to participate in a seminar for Elected Members in the New Year to which representatives from the Office of the Chief Statistician would be invited; and
 - iv) otherwise, note the content of the report.

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10 December 2009

List of Background Papers

1. Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2009 General Report:
www.scotland.gov.uk/simd2009report
2. Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2009, Technical Report:
www.scotland.gov.uk/simd2009technical
3. Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2009, Statistical Compendium:
www.scotland.gov.uk/simd2009compendium
4. Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2009, Guidance Leaflet:
www.scotland.gov.uk/simd2009leaflet
5. Equal Communities in a Fairer Scotland: A Joint Statement by the Scottish Government and COSLA, 29 October 2009

Any person wishing to inspect the above background papers or to seek further information on this report should contact Gwen Barker, Community Planning and Partnership Manager, (Tel: 01563 554602).

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