Introducing

The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2016
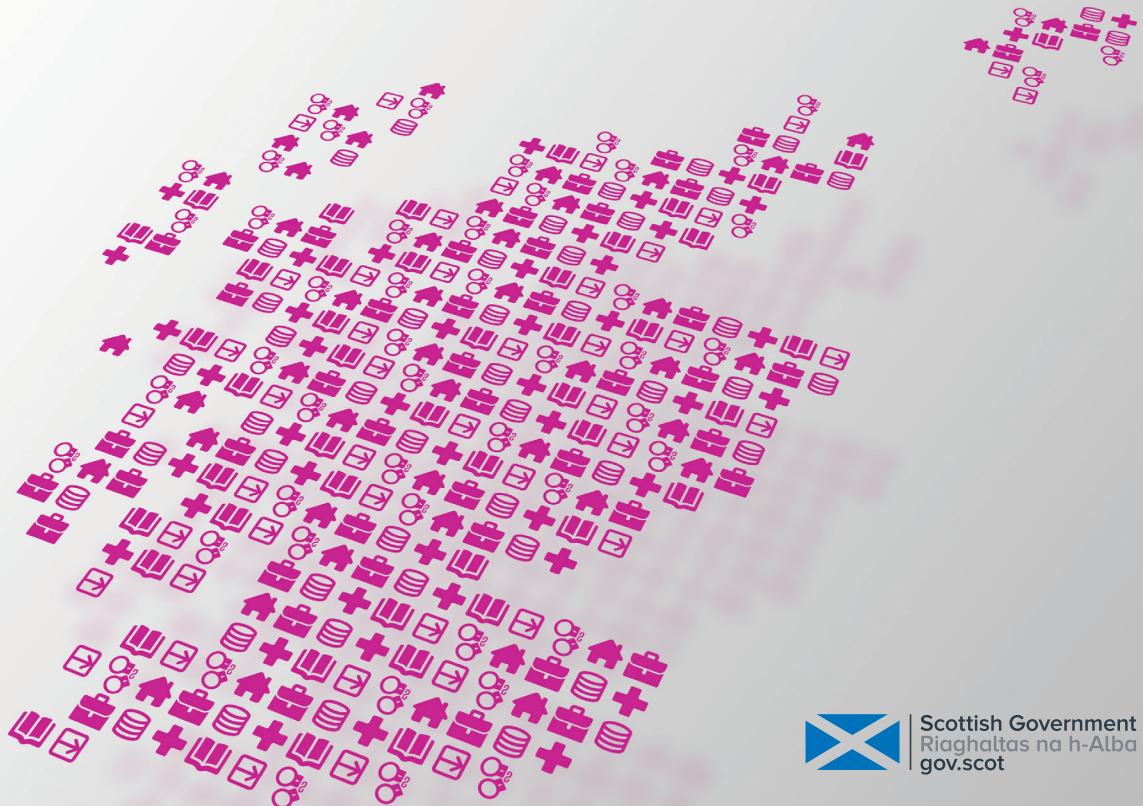
Introduction

This booklet introduces the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) 2016. SIMD is a tool for identifying areas of poverty and inequality across Scotland. It can help organisations invest in those areas that need it most.

This booklet explains how we built SIMD, it offers advice on what you can and can't do with SIMD, and it gives some headline findings. For example, it shows the places where SIMD has found long-lasting deprivation, or the council areas which have a greater share of deprived areas than in previous years.

The booklet also includes stories from people who live and/or work in some of the deprived neighbourhoods SIMD describes.

People who use SIMD tell us that being seen to live in a deprived area can be negative in itself. So, to help give a more balanced view, we asked people in deprived areas to tell us more about living and working there, the good and the bad. In every deprived community in Scotland we have visited, we found committed organisations and individuals working hard to make the place they call home better. We've included three sets of these local stories here.

Finally, we provide links for you to explore SIMD further, produce your own maps, and get more help if you need it.

We would like to thank all the organisations who helped us recognise the positive aspects in each of their communities. In particular, we thank the organisations and individuals who took the time to tell us their stories, giving us a fuller picture of places that inevitably have more than one side to them.

We also acknowledge the support and help received from councils, NHS teams and other organisations who have contributed to helping make the index itself.

# SIMD is the official tool for finding the most deprived areas in Scotland

→ SIMD16 was published on 31 August 2016.

→ Previous SIMDs were published in 2004, 2006, 2009 and 2012.

SIMD...

… shows where Scotland's **most deprived areas** are, so organisations know where their work can have the biggest impact.

… is **a relative measure** of deprivation across small areas in Scotland.

… looks at **multiple deprivation**. 'Deprived' does not just mean 'poor' or 'low income'. It can also mean people have fewer resources and opportunities, for example in health and education.

| Income | Employment | Education | Health | Access to Services | Crime | Housing |
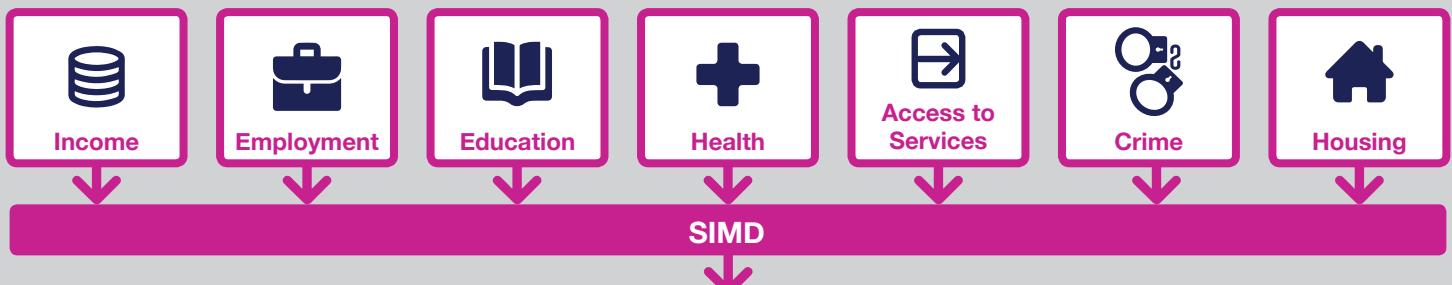
SIMD

1
the most deprived area...

SIMD Ranks

...to **6,976**
the least deprived area

How SIMD was made

→ We split Scotland into 6,976 small areas, called 'data zones', with roughly equal population.

→ Next, we looked at indicators to measure the different sides of deprivation in each data zone, like pupil performance, travel times to the GP, crime, unemployment and many others.

→ We then grouped these 38 indicators of deprivation into seven types, called 'domains'.

→ We combined the seven domains into one SIMD, ranking each data zone in Scotland from 1 (most deprived) to 6,976 (least deprived).

Focusing on small areas shows the different issues there are in each neighbourhood. These could be poor housing conditions, a lack of skills or good education, or poor public transport.

Here's an example of what a data zone looks like:
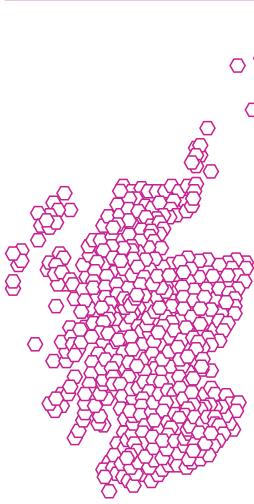
→ **5.3 million people**

→ **6,976 data zones**

→ **760 people per data zone**

You can find out about the data zone where you live, if you go online here http://simd.scot

Community Links

Andrew & Hazel (volunteers)

About Hillhouse

Hillhouse is a council-built housing estate on the western border of Hamilton in South Lanarkshire. The first houses in this area were built in the 1950s. A number of original families still reside in the area and the majority of people are from a working class background. People in the area are friendly, but only a small number of them are actively involved in their community; however, those that are, are dedicated. For example, their community council runs a successful gala day every year.

Donna Stevens has been a volunteer at the Hillhouse Food Co-operative for approximately two years. Donna lives near Hillhouse in an area of Hamilton locally known as Udston.

> SIMD shows that the Hillhouse area is one of the most deprived areas in Scotland. Unemployment, low income and low levels of skills and education are the main issues here.

"The area that I live in is relatively quiet and has friendly people and a good local bus service. But I don't think there is enough things for kids to do and have heard about dangerous things that have happened nearby so I am frightened to let my kids out."

Donna (volunteer)

Community Links have been working to tackle disadvantage in the Hillhouse area for a number of years.

They visited many local doorsteps at the beginning of their work where they had some great conversations with local people about their area and community. Since then, they have introduced the "Hillhouse Community Hub", where they offer weekly services such as the SELECT Employability Project, Hillhouse Food Co-operative and Hillhouse Community Cafe.

Community Links also support and co-ordinate additional local activities including cookery sessions, family activities during school holidays, Christmas parties, Easter events and local community events organised by other local groups and organisations. All of the local activities are community driven and made possible by local volunteers like Donna and Angela:

COMMUNITY LINKS

"I enjoy setting up the food co-op and meeting new people – it helps to motivate me to come out of the house."

Donna (volunteer)

"I find Community Links great to work with – they are very helpful and friendly. Volunteering gives me great satisfaction and support and has led to new friendships as well as a large boost in my confidence. Meeting new people through volunteering has got me out of the house because before I was very isolated."

Angela (volunteer)

How can I use SIMD?

Use SIMD for

✔ Comparing overall deprivation of small areas

✔ Comparing the seven domains of deprivation

✔ Comparing the proportion of small areas in a council that are very deprived

✔ Finding areas where many people experience multiple deprivation

✔ Finding areas of greater need for support and intervention

Do not use SIMD for

✘ Saying **how much more** deprived one area is from another – the difference between two ranks can be tiny or large

✘ Comparing ranks over time – changes are relative and may not reflect actual changes in the neighbourhood

✘ Comparing with other UK countries – each country measures deprivation slightly differently

✘ Identifying **all** people who are deprived in Scotland – not everyone who is deprived lives in a deprived area

✘ Finding affluent areas – lack of deprivation is not the same as being rich

Key findings in SIMD16

SIMD identifies deprived areas - not people.
The box below shows why.

Non-Deprived Area

Deprived Area

Non-Deprived Person
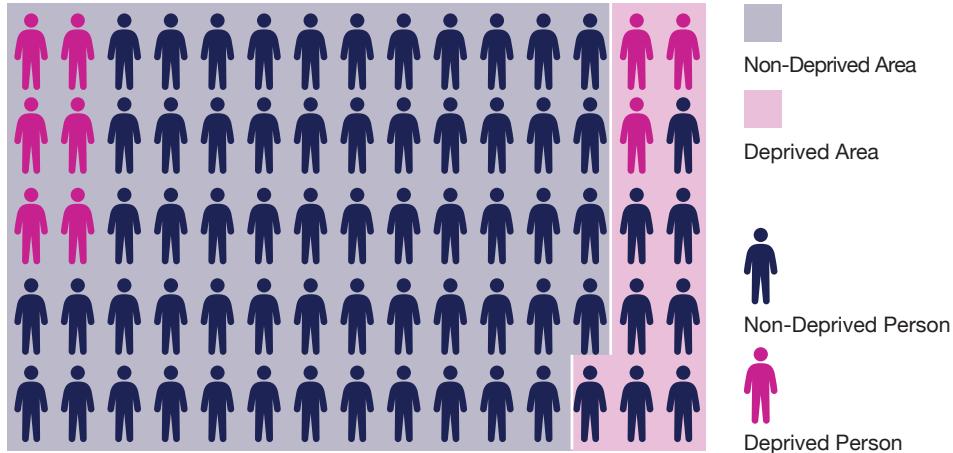
Deprived Person

Not all deprived people live in deprived areas: Two out of three people who are income deprived do not live in deprived areas.

Not everyone in a deprived area is deprived: Just under one in three people living in a deprived area are income deprived.

In this example, 'deprived' means among the 15% most deprived in Scotland.
We are using income deprived people as a proxy for people who are facing multiple deprivation.

There are no deprived data zones in these council areas (Shetland, Orkney, Western Isles), but there are still people experiencing deprivation.

About Levenmouth

The Levenmouth area in Fife covers the towns of Leven, Methil, Buckhaven, the Wemyss Villages, Kennoway, Windygates and parts of the Largo area.

Built on coal mining, Levenmouth had employment guaranteed from the 1800s up until the late 1970s, when the decline started. Methil Docks saw some upturn in the mid 1980s with the manufacture and repair of steel platforms and jackets for the oil industry. This has been advantageous in providing skilled opportunities but is an industry that can experience cyclical downturns.

MyBUS is a Social Enterprise that provides an accessible community transport service, and other services like a lunch club, gardening, painting and shopping. Their base is Scoonie Bowling Club and they make the pavilion and the bowling green available to the community.

MyBUS is run by 18 volunteers and two staff from all backgrounds and ages from 17 to 89. Many of the volunteers are unemployed and seeking to increase skills and employability through involvement with the organisation. Both MyBUS employees started as volunteers.

SIMD shows that parts of the Levenmouth area are among the most deprived in Scotland, with particular issues with low income, education, and crime.

"One of the first projects was clearing up Leven Beach, we removed shopping trolleys, bikes and various other objects in the river mouth and on the beach. The Leven Beach part of the Fife Coastal Path is now an award-winning beach.

"The area seems to be a lot cleaner with less fly tipping and older people in general seem to be happier with their lot. This is possibly a slanted view as social isolation and loneliness is what we address on a daily basis and the results are so rewarding."

Mary from My Bus

"I like the people and the area, this is like one big family at MyBUS."

Angela (volunteer)

"I like about the area that it's quiet, and there's a close-knit community. I have access to the beach and glen, it's great for walks with the dog."

Margaret (lunch club member)

Key findings in SIMD16

Deep-rooted deprivation – these areas have been consistently among the 5% most deprived in Scotland since SIMD 2004.

Inverness Merkinch (Highland)

Whitfield (Dundee City)

Raploch (Stirling)

Greenock (Inverclyde)

Paisley Ferguslie (Renfrewshire)

Glasgow City:

Parkhead West and Barrowfield

Barlanark

Central Easterhouse

Dalmarnock

Govan and Linthouse

Keppochhill

Wyndford

Craigneuk Wishaw
(North Lanarkshire)

Altonhill (East Ayrshire)
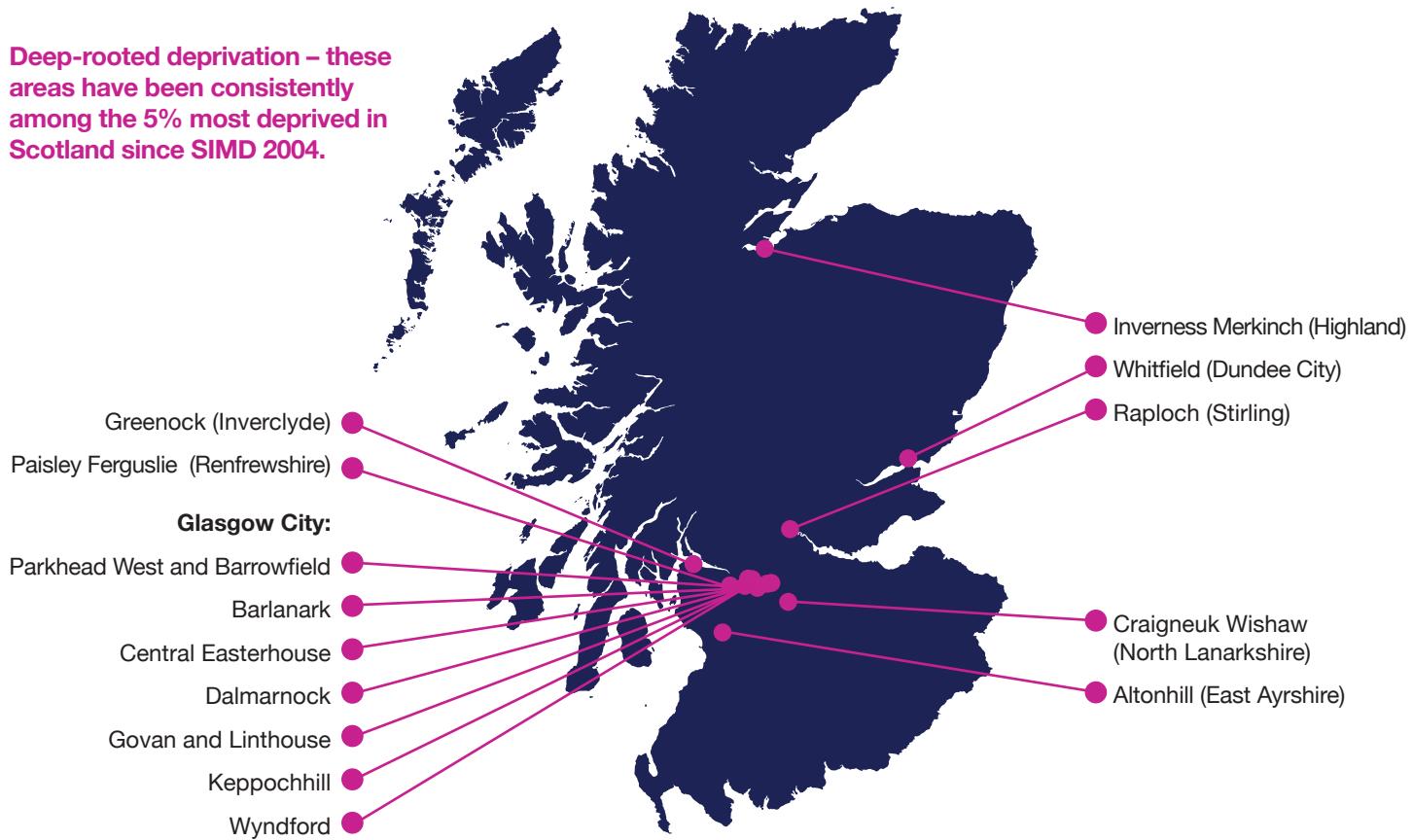
Eleven council areas now have a larger share of the 20% most deprived data zones in Scotland compared with SIMD 2012. Ten council areas now have a smaller share.

Change map (by council region)

- **Decrease in Deprivation**
- **Increase in Deprivation**
- **No change in Deprivation**

Council areas with the largest decrease:
→ Aberdeen City
→ Clackmannanshire

Council areas with the largest increase:
→ West Dunbartonshire
→ Midlothian
→ North Ayrshire
→ South Ayrshire
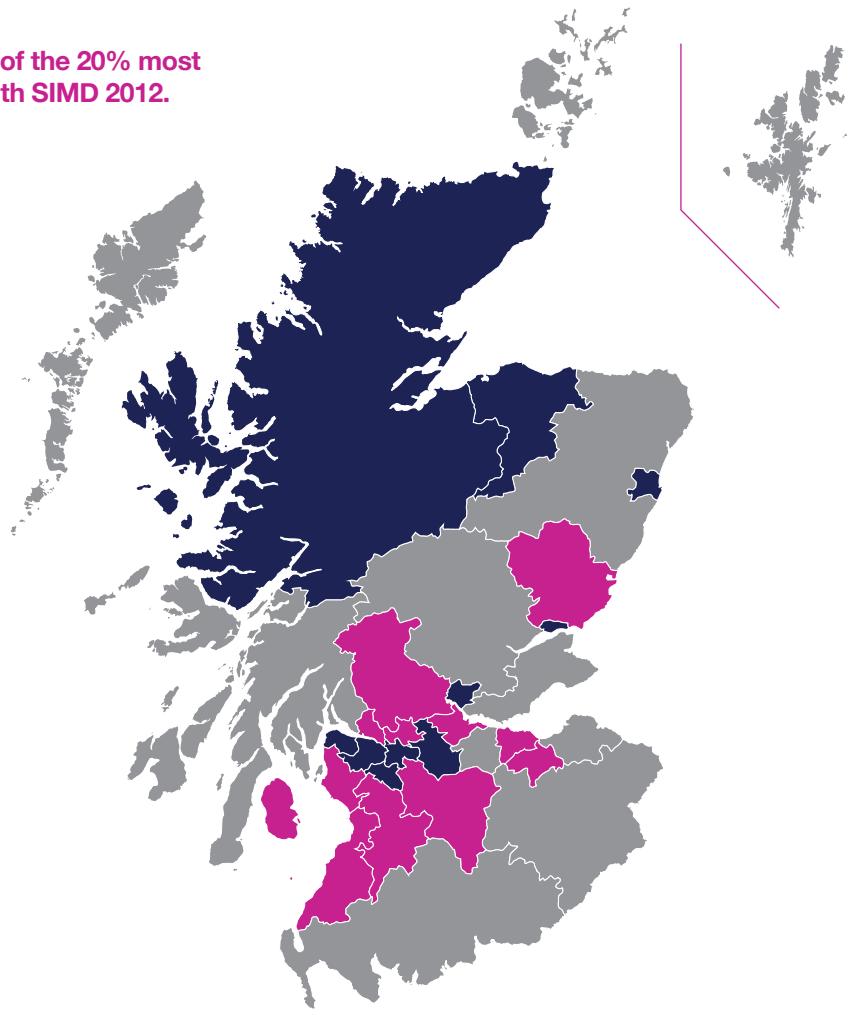
People who live in the most deprived areas are most likely to experience conditions which limit their opportunities in life.

However, people who live in areas up to 40% most deprived may also experience difficulties.

$\rightarrow$

What is local share?

The charts on the right show the proportion of data zones in each area which are among the most deprived. This **local share** is calculated by dividing the number of deprived data zones in the area by all data zones in this area. We use local shares to compare areas.

For example, the local share of the 40% most deprived data zones in Moray is the number of data zones in Moray that are among the 40% most deprived in Scotland (22 data zones) divided by the number of all data zones in Moray (126). This results in a local share of 17%.

Area	Most deprived 20%	Most deprived 21-40%
Glasgow City	48%	17%
Inverclyde	44%	13%
West Dunbartonshire	40%	26%
North Ayrshire	38%	23%
Dundee City	37%	21%
East Ayrshire	33%	25%
North Lanarkshire	32%	28%
Renfrewshire	27%	19%
Clackmannanshire	24%	26%
South Lanarkshire	21%	27%
Fife	19%	20%
South Ayrshire	18%	26%
West Lothian	16%	28%
Falkirk	15%	27%
City of Edinburgh	14%	15%
Stirling	12%	16%
Midlothian	11%	37%
Argyll and Bute	9%	18%
Dumfries and Galloway	8%	26%
Aberdeen City	8%	20%
Highland	8%	18%
Angus	7%	15%
East Renfrewshire	7%	9%
Perth and Kinross	6%	12%
Scottish Borders	6%	15%
East Dunbartonshire	5%	17%
East Lothian	5%	27%
Aberdeenshire	2%	7%
Moray	1%	17%
Na h-Eileanan an Iar		19%
Orkney Islands		17%
Shetland Islands		3%

Local share of most deprived 20%

Local share of most deprived 21-40%

These council areas contain the most data zones with deprivation, but still have areas that are not deprived.
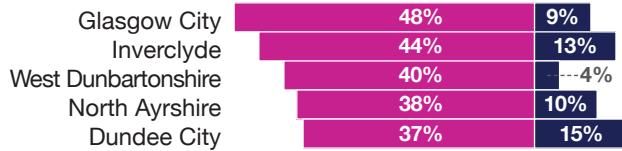
|	Local share of most deprived 20%	Local share of least deprived 20%
Glasgow City	48%	9%
Inverclyde	44%	13%
West Dunbartonshire	40%	4%
North Ayrshire	38%	10%
Dundee City	37%	15%

These council areas contain the most data zones without deprivation, but there are still some deprived areas.

	Local share of most deprived 20%	Local share of least deprived 20%
Aberdeenshire	2%	36%
Aberdeen City	8%	40%
City of Edinburgh	14%	42%
East Dunbartonshire	5%	53%
East Renfrewshire	7%	60%

■ Local share of most deprived 20%   ■ Local share of least deprived 20%
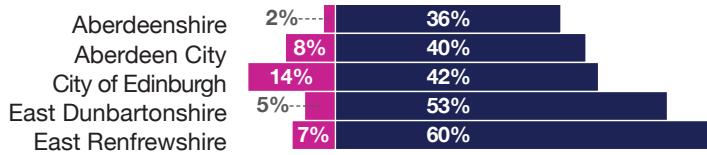
Deprivation is not only about low income but also poor health.
The same areas that show income deprivation also show health deprivation.

Health Boards — SIMD — Income Domain — Health Domain

Health Boards	SIMD	Income Domain	Health Domain
Greater Glasgow and Clyde	37%	38%	37%
Ayrshire and Arran			
Lanarkshire			
Fife			
Tayside			
Forth Valley			
Lothian			
Dumfries and Galloway			
Highland			
Borders			
Grampian	4%	5%	3%
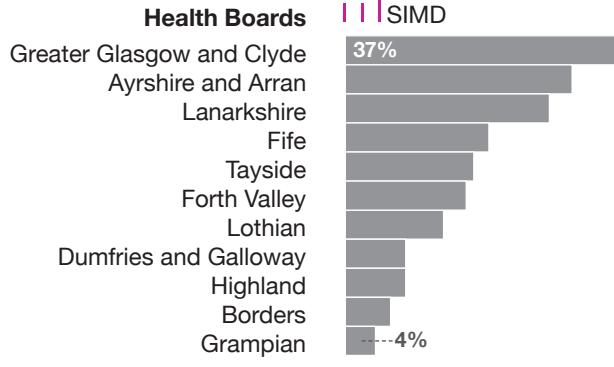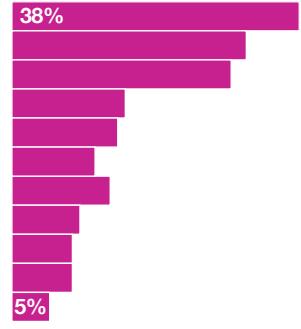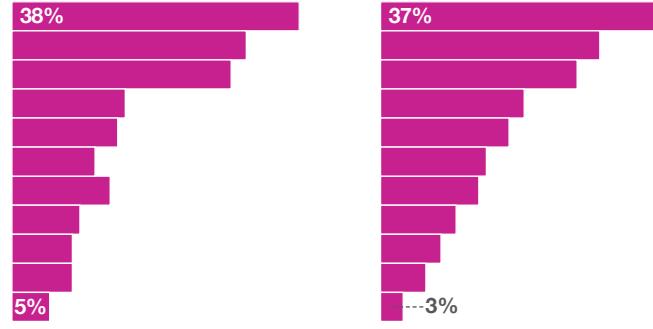
All: local share of 20% most deprived.
Health boards with a local share of 0% are omitted.

Case Study
Frontline Fife

About Sinclairtown

Sinclairtown is a neighbourhood of Kirkcaldy on the Firth of Forth in Fife. The area has seen many improvements over the years and is a relatively quiet and peaceful place to live.

Frontline Fife Homelessness Services is a registered Scottish charity which works with communities and partners in this area and across Fife.

Their mission is to end homelessness through taking preventative action and by supporting those who are at risk or in need of a secure home to enable them to live independently.

Frontline Fife support many of their clients while in temporary accommodation. The majority of properties are shared tenancies owned by the local authority.

"Tenants who live in the flats are carefully assessed and have usually come from emergency homeless accommodation. Issues vary, but include relationship breakdowns, mental health and addiction issues. The flats are surrounded by a mix of private and local authority properties with a high number of owner occupied homes. There are a variety of local amenities within a 10 minute walk, including independent shops, pubs and cafés – there is even a beach within walking distance! Alternatively, Kirkcaldy town centre is only a 20 minute walk, and bus links into town and the surrounding areas are good."

Vikki (caseworker)

Many of the clients find that they can transform their lives with the appropriate support and that they look forward to "being at home". Often, as a part of their support, Frontline Fife helps them to build community links so they feel part of the community. This also helps to build community cohesion.

SIMD shows that the main issues in the area around Sinclairtown are unemployment and living on a low income.

Ian said this about his experience while staying in supported temporary accommodation in the Sinclairtown area of Kirkcaldy:

"The area I live in now is very quiet and I'm not worried about being out and about in the area. Though I don't like going out in the dark. I was worried about going out where I lived before. I heard about Frontline Fife through a friend who had been helped by them. I was really stressed and didn't want to do anything. I have epilepsy.

"Since I moved into my new flat and have got help from Frontline Fife my stress levels are much lower and I now feel motivated. My worker is friendly and helpful, but not pushy. I'm not from this area, so I've found it really helpful to get support to find out what is going on in my community and I'm now looking to do some volunteer work."

Ian (client)

Key resources | Contact

Interactive mapping: http://simd.scot

→ find out how deprived an area is and show the results on a map

SIMD webpages: www.gov.scot/SIMD

→ **Data** – download all SIMD indicator data
→ **Analysis** – read the key findings
→ **Guidance** – learn how to use SIMD
→ **Technical notes** – understand how SIMD is constructed

Statistics Scotland: http://statistics.gov.scot/

→ download SIMD ranks and other data for further analysis

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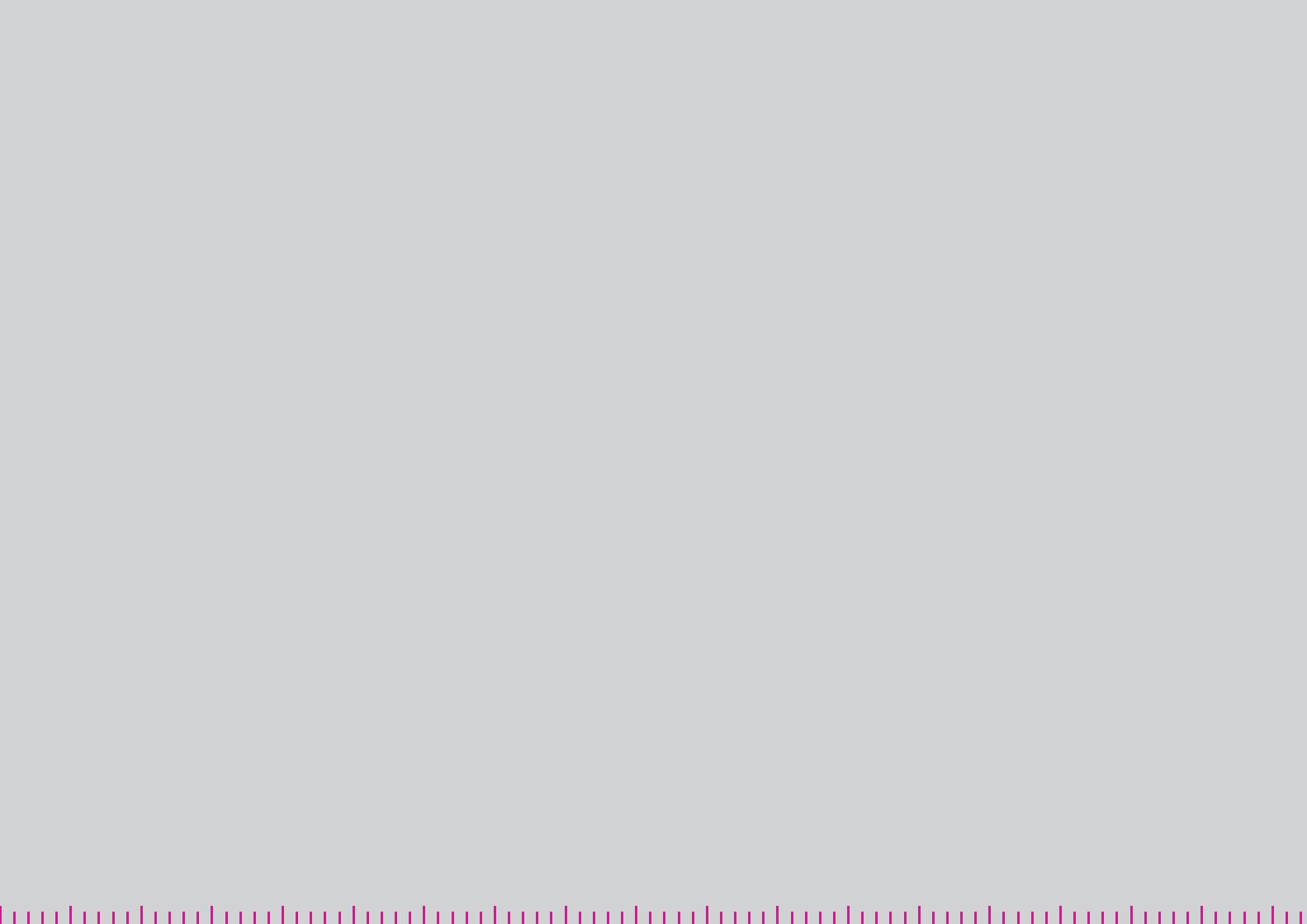
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