



**To: Jobs and the Economy Thematic Board**

**On: 16<sup>th</sup> February 2017**

**Report by:  
David Amos, Head of Policy and Commissioning**

**TITLE:**

**Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2016 Release: Renfrewshire results**

**1. Summary**

- 1.1 A new release of the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) was issued on the 31st August 2016 providing new data on relative deprivation across Scotland at local authority and small area level.
- 1.2 While one datazone within the Ferguslie Park area was ranked as the most deprived in the country, Renfrewshire as a whole saw its share of the most deprived areas nationally decrease.
- 1.3 The number of people in Renfrewshire identified as income and employment deprived decreased by 6% and 15% respectively on the 2012 release. These reductions were mirrored in Ferguslie Park where there were 6% fewer income deprived and 17% fewer employment deprived people identified.
- 1.4 This report highlights the key findings of the new release for Renfrewshire in terms of jobs and the economy, partnership engagement and current and planned programmes of work.

**2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 That the board notes the publication of SIMD 2016 and the summary information provided at a Renfrewshire and national level in the report; and
- 2.2 That it be noted that the SIMD 2016 information released will inform the development of Renfrewshire's Strategic Needs Assessment and Local Outcome Improvement Plan which will be developed in early 2017; and

2.3 That it be noted that information available from SIMD will inform service and corporate planning activities going forward, particularly in relation to the Tackling Poverty and Raising Attainment programmes of work.

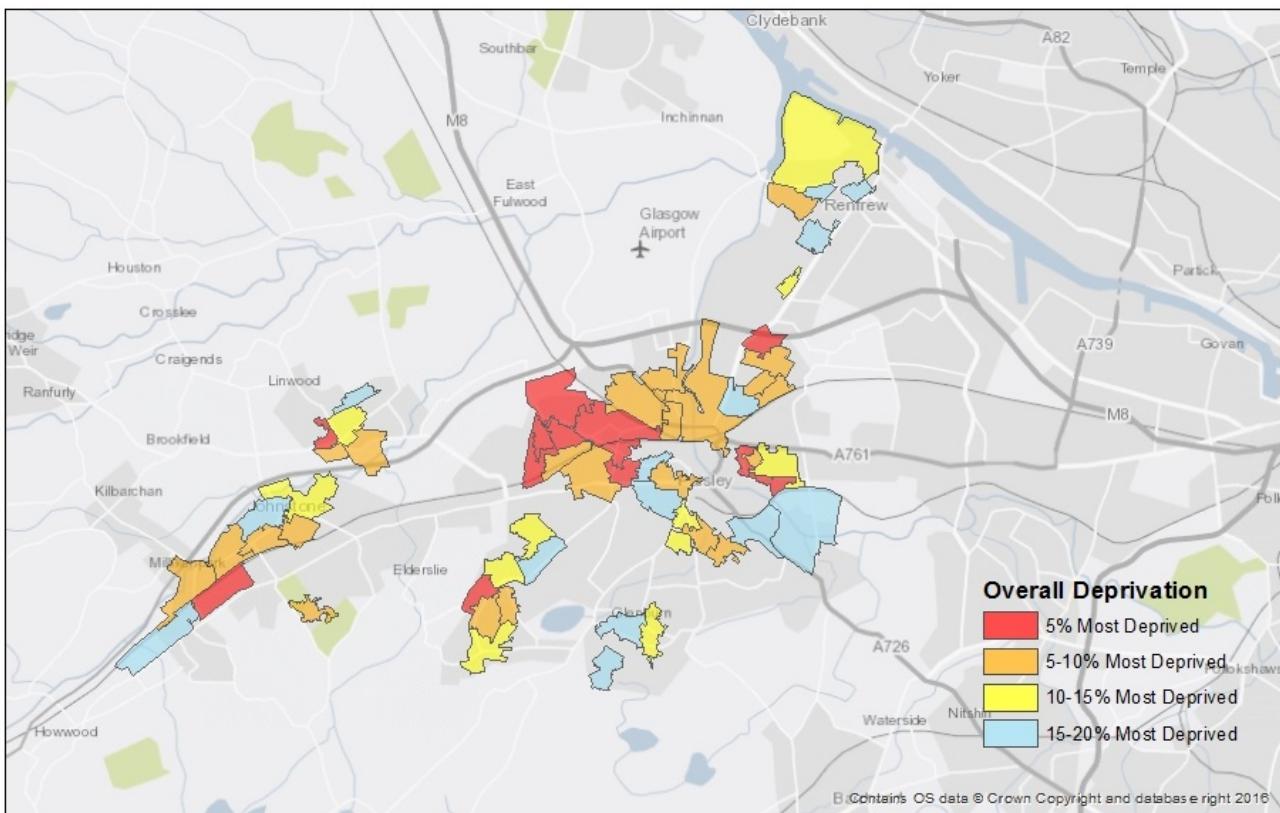
### 3. **Background**

- 3.1 The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) is designed to allow the comparison of deprivation across small areas in each Local Authority to improve planning and targeting of resources. The index uses a broad definition of deprivation looking at traditional measures such as income and employment but also looking at health, education, housing, access to services and crime. It gives more weight to scores on income and employment followed by health and education and then housing, access and crime.
- 3.2 The index does not provide any information on absolute levels of deprivation or on how much more deprived one area is from another. The statistical differences between ranks will vary and a large difference in rank may not equate to a large difference in deprivation. It also does not necessarily indicate areas of affluence. Low levels of deprivation across the domains may not equate to high levels of income.
- 3.3 It is important to note that the SIMD identifies deprived areas not people. Not all deprived people live in deprived areas and nationally two out of three people who are income deprived do not live in areas identified as the most deprived. The converse is also true: not everyone in a deprived area is deprived. Just fewer than one in three people living in a deprived area are income deprived at a national level.
- 3.4 The data used in the SIMD 2016 release covers a wide time period ranging from averaged ratios over 2011-14 for some health indicators to August 2015 data for some income data. The release does not give a current picture of relative deprivation but uses the latest data available in each domain when the release was compiled. A large proportion of the data therefore significantly predates recent projects such as the Tackling Poverty Programme.

### **Overall Deprivation**

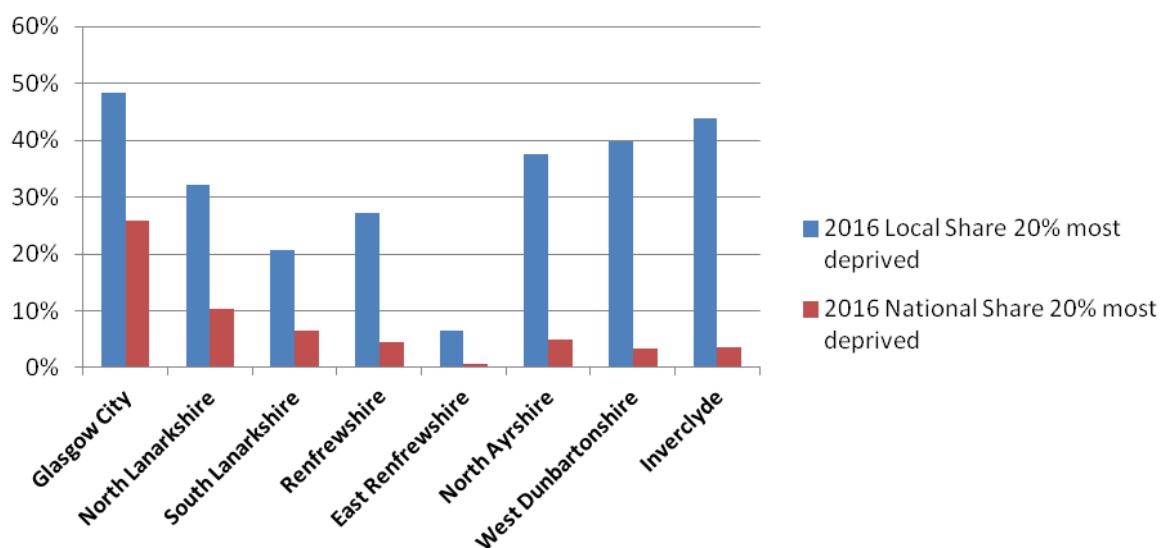
- 3.5 Renfrewshire's share of the nationally most deprived datazones has decreased on the 2012 release. Renfrewshire now has 3.7% of Scotland's 5% most deprived datazones (down from 4.3% in 2012) and 4.4% of the 20% most deprived datazones (down from 4.6% in 2012). While boundary changes to the datazones make any detailed comparison with 2012 impossible it is possible to say that our overall share of the most deprived areas has decreased in the 2016 release.

Figure 1 – Overall deprivation in Renfrewshire



- 3.6 In comparison with other authorities in the West of Scotland, Renfrewshire does not have a significant share of the most deprived areas. Glasgow City has by far the largest share of the most deprived areas with 46.1% of the 5% most deprived areas nationally and 25.8% of the 20% most deprived.

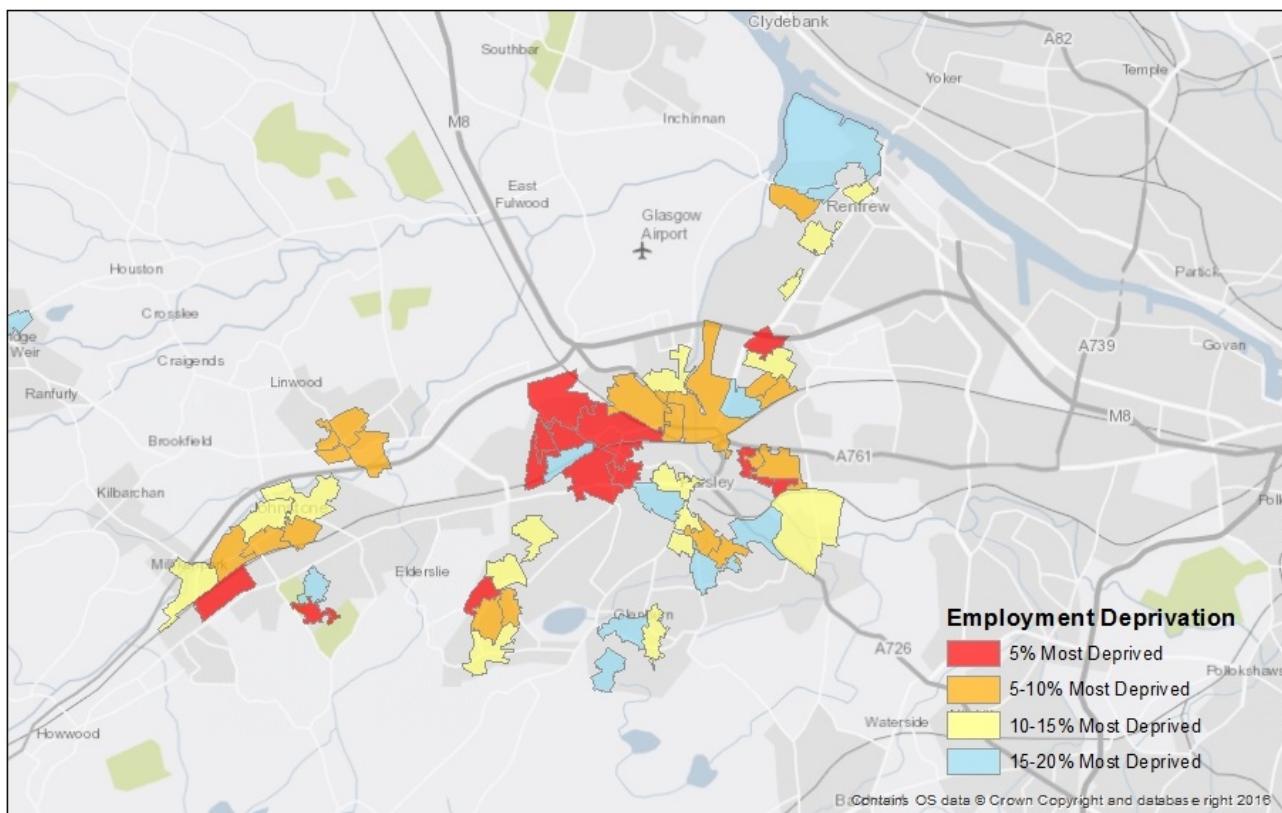
Figure 2 – Comparison



## Income and Employment Deprivation

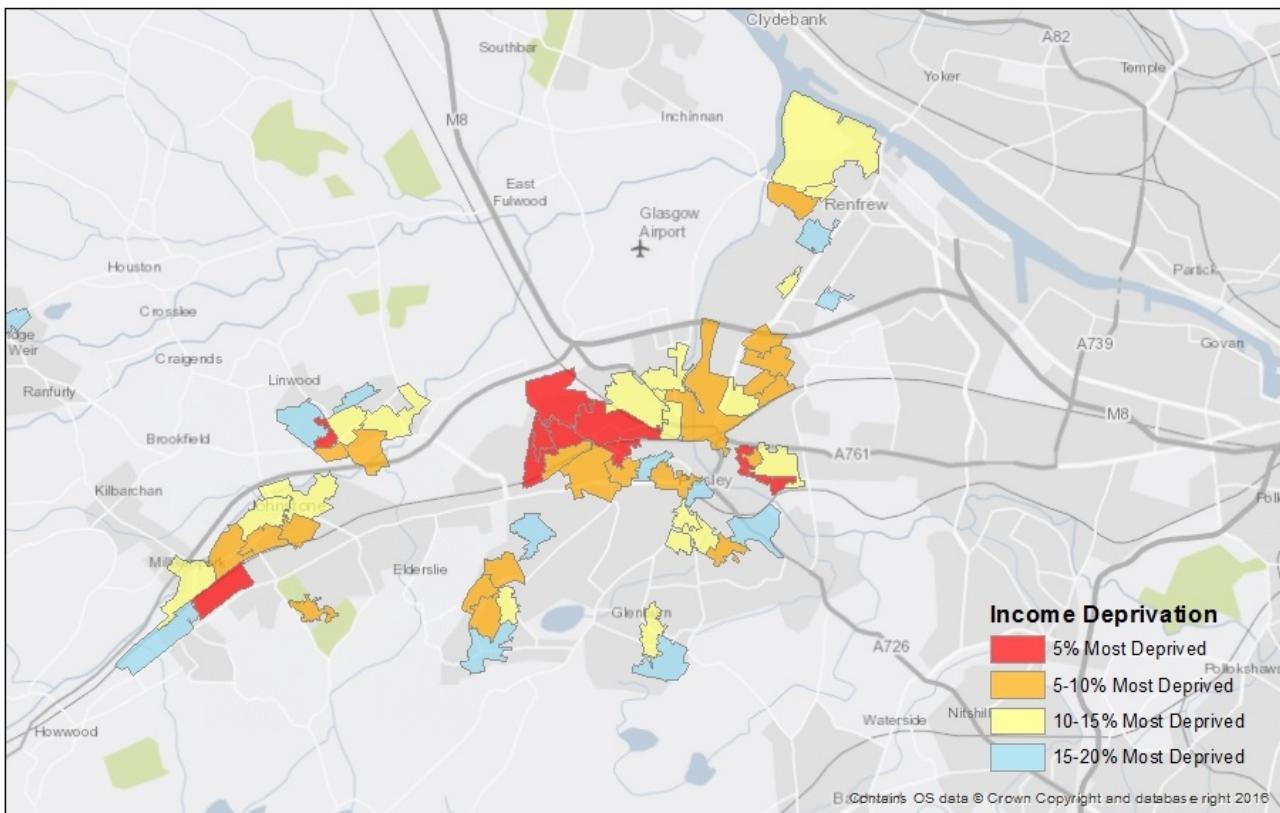
3.7 In the two key domains of income and employment the number of people categorised as in deprivation by the release has decreased by 6% in the income domain and by 15% in the employment domain. While welfare reform at a UK level has led to changes in the eligibility of claimants to benefits used to calculate the income domain, the methodology used to calculate the employment domain has remained the same.

Figure 3 – Employment deprivation



- 3.8 The employment domain relates to the claimant count of working age unemployment averaged over 12 months, working age incapacity benefit claimants or employment and support allowance recipients, and working age severe allowance claimants.
- 3.9 Renfrewshire has 14 datazones in the most employment deprived 5% which equates to a local share of 6.2% i.e. 1 in 16 datazones in Renfrewshire suffers the severest employment deprivation. Five of these 14 datazones are situated in Paisley Ferguslie, three in Paisley North West, one in Johnstone South East, Johnstone South West, Paisley East, Paisley Foxbar, Paisley Gallowhill & Hillington, Paisley North East.

Figure 4 – Income deprivation



- 3.10 The income domain relates to the number of adults (aged 16-59) receiving Income Support, income based Employment and Support allowance, the number of adults (all ages) receiving Jobseeker's Allowance, number of adults (aged 60+) receiving Guaranteed Pension Credit, number of children (aged 0-15) dependent on a recipient of IS, JSA or ESA, number of adults (all) not in paid employment receiving Universal Credit and number of adults and children in Tax Credit Families on low incomes.
- 3.11 Renfrewshire has 10 datazones in the most income deprived 5% which equates to a local share of 4.4% i.e. 1 in 25 datazones in Renfrewshire suffers the severest income deprivation. Five of these 10 datazones are situated in Paisley and one each in Linwood South, Johnstone South West, Paisley East, Paisley North East and Paisley North West.

## Next Steps

- 3.12 The SIMD dataset will be a key resource in the needs assessment underpinning the development of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan and future refreshes of the Council Plan. SIMD data is already used in assessing the attainment gap and the new data will inform future work as part of the Attainment Challenge. Work is

planned with partner agencies and the third sector to map service provision against areas identified in the SIMD in relative deprivation.

- 3.13 The Council's Geographic Information System (GIS) platform allows us to make data tailored for Renfrewshire available over the internet through a StoryMap. An SIMD StoryMap has been set up and made available to support planning work within the Council and in partner agencies.

Renfrewshire Story Map:

<http://arcg.is/2eu0US9>

**Author:** Danny McAllion, Data Analytics and Research Manager  
[danny.mcallion@renfrewshire.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:danny.mcallion@renfrewshire.gcsx.gov.uk)  
0141 618 6809