

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE:	Education, Culture and Sport
DATE:	18th February 2010
DIRECTOR:	Annette Bruton
TITLE OF REPORT:	Analysis of Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2009, education, skills and training domain
REPORT NUMBER:	ECS/10/10

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To report on the rise in the number of data zones in the bottom 15% in the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2009, education, skills and training domain

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that the Committee:

- Note the contents of this report.
- Instruct offices to contribute to the draft anti-poverty strategy particularly in relation to identifying further actions required.
- Receive a further report outlining the strategy for closing the gap in attainment.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications for the Council or any Services of the Council arising from this report. The financial implications of addressing poverty in the city were referred to in "Achieving our Potential: Tackling Poverty and Income Inequality in Aberdeen City".

The results of previous SIMDs have been used in the allocation of funding, in particular the Fairer Scotland Fund and its predecessor, the Community Regeneration Fund.

4. SERVICE & COMMUNITY IMPACT

The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) will enable Services to identify the nature and distribution of deprivation in the city. This will assist them in achieving the key principles set out in the Community Plan, the

Single Outcome Agreement and Vibrant, Dynamic & Forward Looking – e.g. tackling inequality, 'closing the gap', and improving the quality of life in our most disadvantaged communities.

5. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no other direct implications arising from this report.

6. REPORT

Background

The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) presents a picture of multiple deprivation across Scotland. The Scottish Government has used this method to track multiple deprivation since the development of the first Index of Multiple Deprivation in 2004. 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. Although the SIMD as it currently stands has only been in existence since 2004 there is a long history of indices being produced and used both in central and local government. The benefits over previous approaches that the SIMD provides include regular updates, the opportunity to incorporate the most recent and appropriate data into these updates and a stable base geography so that change can be measured over time.

The picture painted in this most recent update to the Index is based mainly around data from 2008 and while the economic situation has changed since then it is still a valid picture of the distribution of deprivation. Whilst the recession will have had a rapid impact on employment and incomes, some of these changes may be relatively short term. Investigations were carried out to look at the impact of including more recent unemployment data in the Index but the effect on the overall distribution was negligible. Full details of this analysis are available on the SIMD web pages. The index also looks beyond the economic situation and covers a range of other life circumstances of the people of Scotland including income, employment, health, and education, access to services, housing and crime which take longer to change.

This report focus on the Education Domain which is one of a number of domains that contributes to the SIMD

Methodology

Education Skills and Training Domain

<i>2006 Weight</i>	<i>SIMD 2006 Education Indicator</i>	<i>SIMD 2009 Education Indicator</i>
0.21	School pupil absences (SG 2003/4-2004/5)	No change from SIMD 2006 (SG 2006/7-2007/8)
0.31	Pupil performance on SQA at stage 4 (SG 2002/3-2004/5)	No change from SIMD 2006 (SG 2005/6-2007/8)
0.24	Working age people with no qualifications (2001 Census)	No change in indicator or data from SIMD 2006 (2001 Census)

0.16	17-21 year olds enrolling into higher education (HESA (2002/3-2004/5))	No change from SIMD 2006 (HESA 2005/6-2007/8)
0.07	People aged 16-18 not in full time education (DWP 2005, HESA 2004/5)	<u>CHANGED INDICATOR</u> People aged 16-19 not in full time education, employment or training (School Leavers 2006/7-2007-8, DWP 2007 and 2008)

Changes over time in methodology

Several indicators within this domain have changed between SIMD 2004 and SIMD 2006. There has also been a change to one indicator between SIMD 2006 and SIMD 2009. This domain does not provide counts of people who are education deprived and as a result is combined using Factor Analysis. The weights used change with each version of the SIMD. The domains used the best indicators available at the time to identify education deprived areas so analysis over time can be carried out on this basis.

Absolute change cannot be measured using this domain, however individual indicators can be used. The two indicators that have been updated with the largest weights are school pupil absences and Pupil performance on SQA at stage 4 (tariff scores) which together make up half the weight of the domain.

The SIMD provides a **relative measure** of deprivation. Changes in other parts of Scotland can affect the rankings of Aberdeen's data zones even when there has been little or no change in the actual incidence of local deprivation.

National Change over time in the Education Domain

Glasgow has the highest proportion (40%) of its datazones in the 15% most deprived on the Education domain, followed by Dundee City (30%). Both have seen small falls since SIMD 2006.

- Aberdeen City and North Ayrshire have seen large increases in the percentage of datazones in the 15% most education deprived. Aberdeen City increased from 11% to 15%, North Ayrshire increased from 16% to 21%.
- The datazones moving into the 15% most deprived on the education domain have all seen a worsening in performance on at least one of the three indicators that are comparable with SIMD 2006. 91% got worse on at least two indicators and 45% on three.
- Of the datazones that moved out of the 15% most education deprived, 54% improved on two of the three indicators that are comparable with SIMD 2006 and 40% improved on all three. This demonstrates that areas have seen real as well as relative improvements.
- 10% of the datazones in Scotland have fallen in the 15% most education deprived on all three updates of the SIMD. 36% of the datazones in

Glasgow and 19% of the datazones in Dundee City have appeared in the 15% most education deprived on the three updates to the SIMD.

Aberdeen City Change over time in the Education Domain

Comparison with SIMD 2006:

There was an increase in the number of deprived data zones in the Education, Training & Skills domain. In SIMD 2009, 40 Aberdeen data zones were in the most deprived 15% of Scottish data zones in that domain, up from 28 in SIMD 2006. (See Appendix 1 for details)

At the individual domain level, the largest increase was in Education, Skills & Training, where the number of deprived data zones rose from 28 in SIMD 2006 to 40 in SIMD 2009. Along with North Ayrshire and South Ayrshire, Aberdeen had one of the highest increases in deprived data zones in this domain between SIMD 2006 and SIMD 2009. The 40 deprived data zones account for 15% of all data zones in Aberdeen (i.e. the local share) and 4% of all deprived data zones in Scotland (i.e. the national share).

It should be noted that there was an alteration to the methodology for the Education, Skills & Training domain in SIMD 2009. The SIMD 2006 indicator 'People aged 16-18 not in full-time education' was replaced by 'People aged 16-19 not in full-time education, employment or training' and uses slightly different data sources. This means that care needs to be taken when comparing the SIMD 2009 Education, Skills & Training domain with the same domain in SIMD 2006.

The deprived data zones in the Education, Skills & Training domain are mainly located in the St Machar Academy and Northfield Academy catchment areas, each of which has 16 data zones among the most deprived 15% of data zones in Scotland for that domain. The other eight deprived data zones are located in the Torry Academy, Kincorth Academy and Aberdeen Grammar School zones – see Figure 1.

Figure 1: Most deprived data zones in Education, Skills & Training domain

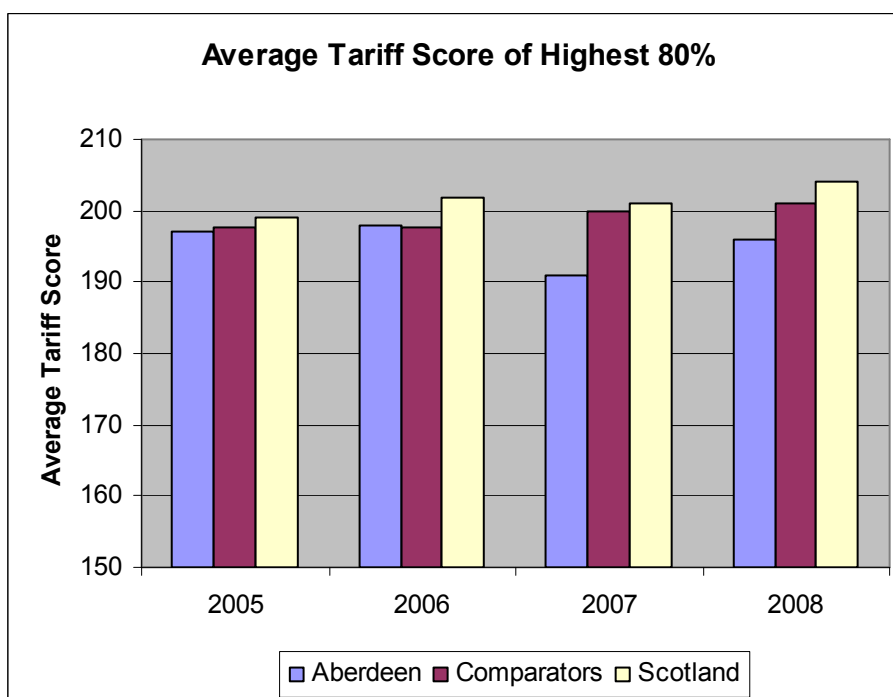
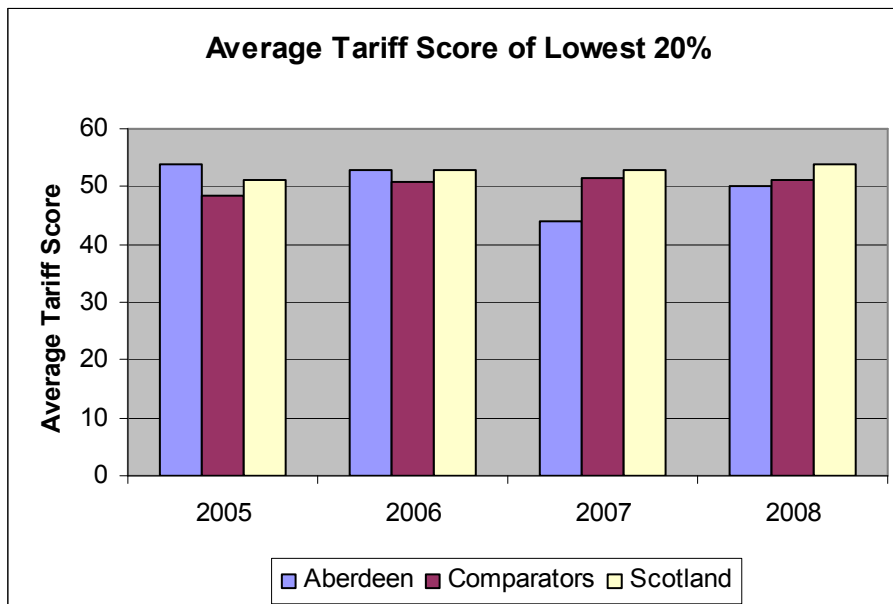
Secondary School Zone	MD 0-5% in Scotland	MD 5-10% in Scotland	MD 10- 15% in Scotland	All data zones in MD 0-15%
St Machar Academy	3	9	4	16
Northfield Academy	2	5	9	16
Torry Academy	-	1	4	5
Kincorth Academy	-	1	1	2
Aberdeen Grammar School	-	-	1	1
Total	5	16	19	40

The change in the Education, Skills & Training domain is largely due to a single indicator, "Pupil performance on SQA at stage 4".(Tariff Scores) Of the other four indicators, one is based on 2001 Census data and, therefore, did not change between SIMD 2006 and SIMD 2009; while another has a very low weighting. The remaining two indicators are based on measures that did not change significantly in the periods covered by SIMD 2006 and SIMD 2009.

An analysis of the tariff scores reveals that:

- There is no significant upward or downward trend in the average tariff scores of the highest 80% in Aberdeen, Scotland or Comparator Authorities.
- There is no significant upward or downward trend in the average tariff scores of the lowest 20% in Aberdeen, Scotland or Comparator Authorities.
- There is no significant difference between the average tariff scores of the lowest 20% in Aberdeen and Scotland 2005-2008.
- The average tariff scores of the highest 80% are significantly higher for Scotland than for Aberdeen for 2005-2008
- In 2005, the average tariff score of the lowest 20% in Aberdeen was higher than Scotland and Comparator Authorities.
- By 2008, the average tariff score of the lowest 20% in Aberdeen was lower than Scotland and Comparator Authorities.
- The average tariff score of the highest 80% in Aberdeen did not increase between 2005 and 2008.
- The average tariff score of the highest 80% in Scotland and Comparator Authorities increased between 2005 and 2008.

The difference between the average tariff score of the lowest 20% and the highest 80% has increased more in Aberdeen than Scotland or Comparator Authorities between 2005 and 2008.



While the increase in deprived data zones in the Education, Skills & Training domain is mainly attributable to pupil performance, it should be remembered that the SIMD measures the relative change in performance rather than the absolute change, i.e. it does not necessarily indicate an actual deterioration in performance. The pupil performance measure can also be subject to erratic swings, as the number of children being examined at stage 4 in any particular year is likely to be a small subset of a data zone's total population.

Data zones that have been highlighted in appendix 1 are similar to the areas identified in research undertaken in relation to closing the gap. The main findings of this research were:

Research Evidence

There has been much research into the links between the many factors associated with living in deprivation and educational attainment. These include:

- personal factors e.g. additional support needs, health problems, difficulties with literacy,
- family circumstances e.g. low income, parental educational attainment and aspirations, domestic violence, parental ill health,
- social factors e.g. lower cultural and social capital, less opportunities for out of school activities,
- many children living in deprivation experience a combination of multiple risk factors

Being in receipt of free school meals, living in an area of deprivation, being looked after and moving schools between the start of S1 and the end of S4 were all associated with slower progress between S1 and S4 and lower attainment at the end of S4. Children in Aberdeen who experience these things tend to be concentrated in a small number of secondary schools.

Characteristics of the bottom 20%

The analysis of the characteristics of the bottom 20% has been well established by numerous studies. A recent paper “Missing Out A report on children at risk of missing out on educational opportunities” summaries the main characteristics of the bottom 20%:

- a higher proportion of males than in the population as a whole;
- over twice the proportion of pupils registered to take free meals;
- a higher proportion of looked-after children;
- a higher proportion of pupils with undeclared ethnicity;
- a higher proportion of pupils recorded as having an Individualised Educational Programme (IEP)

The development of the Single Outcome Agreement between the City Council and the Scottish Government has provided a basis for setting poverty and inequality as a strategic priority. Critical to the delivery of this commitment is the development of an Anti-poverty Strategy that is cross cutting across all policy areas. A draft policy “Achieving Our Potential: Tackling Poverty and Income Inequality in Aberdeen City”. The draft requires further detailed consideration in order to develop appropriate and priority actions prior to it being finalized and published. This policy highlighted a number of issues and current activities.

Early Years and Early Intervention

Issue

Poverty begins to have an effect on a child's future very early on in their lives. Good early years intervention can help to combat some of these disadvantages. Early years provision has been shown in particular to give children from disadvantaged backgrounds a better start in school, including enhancing the child's social and emotional development.

Current Activity

Aberdeen Early Years and Childcare Partnership

An Early Years and Early Intervention framework is currently being developed by Aberdeen City Council, in close consultation with partner organisation. The framework which defines early years as pre-birth to 8 years old recognises the right of all young children to high quality relationships, environments and services. These needs have been interpreted broadly and encompass play, learning, social relationships and emotional and physical wellbeing.

Curriculum for Excellence

Curriculum for Excellence is the new national framework for our schools to ensure that our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens. Wide-ranging action is needed across the education and wider children's services to improve the educational experience of all children, especially those most at risk of disaffection and underachievement and of leaving school with few or no qualifications. Learning experiences have to be transformed to ensure they are tailored to individual needs and are designed to enable every child to develop their potential regardless of their personal circumstances.

16+ Learning Choices

To ensure we support all young people to have more choices and more chances in life it is essential that we encourage all young people approaching statutory school leaving age to stay in learning choices post 16 to support them to achieve long term and sustainable employability where they can reach their full potential and contribute positively to their communities. The Partnership is working with Secondary and Special Schools to ensure that every young person has an appropriate, relevant and attractive offer of learning made to them, well in advance of their school leaving date.

3R's Project

The 3Rs Project is a key step in the regeneration of Aberdeen City Council's schools estate. The initial phase will see 2 secondary schools replaced, 7 new primary schools built and one refurbished, and the incorporation of two special schools within the new developments. The 3Rs Project is being implemented through a Public Private Partnership (PPP) using a Non-Profit Distributing Organisation, with support from the Scottish Government. All schools will be

seen as community schools, and community facilities and other Council and public services will be delivered from the buildings.

Education and Lifelong Learning

A family's lack of income has a significant impact on the education of their children. Even a good school and committed teachers can't fully compensate for the stress that living in poverty places on a family or for the social exclusion, poor housing, or a lack of books or a computer at home. This lack of resources means poor children face an uphill struggle just to have the same type of learning environment as their peers. Furthermore, a great deal of informal education takes place outside the school – at home and in the wider community, something disadvantaged children often miss out on. A fundamental element of this approach is to develop a culture of aspiration and positive expectation in our citizens through high quality education and learning experiences, investment in skills development, expansion of modern apprenticeships and a continued commitment to the More Choices, More Chances agenda, making sure that our young people leave school with positive destinations.

In Aberdeen City at the time of the 2001 Census there were approximately 42,000 adults who had no recognised educational qualifications. Many people with literacies learning needs face complex difficulties where poverty is compounded by unemployment, lack of qualifications, health issues, housing difficulties and lack of self confidence. Many individuals may never have been employed or have not been in employment for a considerable period. Breaking down the structural barriers that prevent individuals from maximising their potential is at the core Aberdeen City Council's drive to eradicate poverty. There are a number of specific projects and initiatives taking place across the City to support the drive to eradicate poverty and increase levels of literacy

Current Activity

Free School Meals

The purpose of free school entitlement is to improve children's health, their readiness to learn and to contribute to eradicating child poverty. Increasing the number of children receiving a free school meal will have a positive impact on all children and families but particularly on those who are economically disadvantaged. Currently parents or carers are eligible to claim for free school meals if they are in receipt of a range of benefits including Income Support Benefit, Income Based Job Seekers Allowance, Child Tax Credit and have an income below £16,040 (09). From August 2009 families in receipt of the maximum Working Tax Credit will also become eligible for free school meals

Out of School Care

Aberdeen supports the provision of out of school care for working parents including those living in living in disadvantaged circumstances and regeneration areas, and for children with additional support needs. All provision is supported to become sustainable but subsidies are available to all out of school care

services that support families on low incomes or for families actively seeking work.

Family Centres

Family centres support and empower the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children and families to improve their circumstances and move towards sustainable engagement with their communities. A range of statutory and voluntary support services working in partnership, contribute to improve family cohesion through the promotion of confidence building and emotional independence.

Family Information Service

The Family Information Service (FIS) provides comprehensive up-to date information and guidance on services for children and families in Aberdeen, including childcare, education and family support. The holistic support provided by FIS enables parents, carers and families to provide children with a positive start in life.

Education, Skills and Training Deprivation

The following table shows the Aberdeen data zones in the most deprived 0-5%, 5-10%, and 10-15% bands in Scotland. The 15-20% band is also shown to indicate the data zones that are just outside the 15% cut-off.

	Data Zone	Neighbourhood	Rank - Aberdeen (out of 267)		Rank - Scotland (out of 6,505)	
			2006	2009	2006	2009
Most Deprived 0-5%	S01000209	Middlefield	2	1	67	49
	S01000196	Northfield	3	2	72	62
	S01000208	Middlefield	7	3	315	99
	S01000198	Middlefield	8	4	337	174
	S01000199	Woodside	14	5	600	225
Most Deprived 5-10%	S01000156	Froghall, etc	10	6	528	330
	S01000203	Tillydrone	1	7	60	374
	S01000179	Seaton	38	8	1154	385
	S01000187	Cummings Park	33	9	1099	421
	S01000210	Woodside	6	10	182	429
	S01000195	Tillydrone	9	11	376	433
	S01000192	Seaton	39	12	1162	447
	S01000175	Hilton	191	13	5276	452
	S01000189	Cummings Park	5	14	153	487
	S01000185	Seaton	47	15	1295	520
	S01000204	Heathryfold	16	16	670	525
	S01000181	Cummings Park	11	17	576	549
	S01000194	Woodside	30	18	1044	582
	S01000193	Northfield	20	19	791	585
	S01000052	Torry	22	20	845	612
S01000030	Kincorth, etc	41	21	1192	614	
Most Deprived 10-15%	S01000217	Tillydrone	4	22	141	673
	S01000168	Mastrick	59	23	1485	700
	S01000057	Torry	43	24	1234	712
	S01000165	Ashgrove	73	25	1850	751
	S01000071	Torry	58	26	1482	772
	S01000074	Torry	28	27	939	781
	S01000134	Mastrick	29	28	1014	803
	S01000197	Northfield	17	29	699	830
	S01000219	Tillydrone	12	30	578	845
	S01000149	George Street	84	31	2066	880
	S01000148	Mastrick	24	32	897	882
	S01000182	Northfield	35	33	1124	890
	S01000190	Northfield	27	34	937	915
	S01000142	Mastrick	50	35	1335	933
	S01000163	Mastrick	62	36	1582	942
	S01000180	Northfield	32	37	1092	943
	S01000060	Torry	13	38	590	958
S01000037	Kincorth, etc	67	39	1658	959	
S01000213	Woodside	54	40	1388	966	

1) Continued on next page

Education, Skills and Training Deprivation (Continued)

	Data Zone	Neighbourhood	Rank - Aberdeen (out of 267)		Rank - Scotland (out of 6,505)	
			2006	2009	2006	2009
			Most Deprived 15-20%	S01000178	Northfield	52
S01000207	Seaton	26		42	934	1034
S01000183	Froghall, etc	16		43	670	1058
S01000212	Heathryfold	34		44	1116	1082
S01000069	Torry	88		45	2165	1090
S01000157	Stockethill	66		46	1653	1095
S01000135	George Street	25		47	914	1114
S01000040	Kincorth, etc	46		48	1290	1223
S01000055	Torry	42		49	1228	1251
S01000033	Kincorth, etc	31		50	1076	1253
S01000098	City Centre	85		51	2087	1264
S01000122	Summerhill	91		52	2245	1266
S01000028	Kincorth, etc	37		53	1133	1278
S01000167	Mastrick	51		54	1347	1296
S01000044	Garthdee	23		55	885	1299

- Notes:
1. Data zones in italics were not in the most deprived 15% in SIMD 2006
 2. Seven data zones in most deprived 15% in SIMD 2006 had improved to higher bandings in SIMD 2009

7. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

Kevin Stelfox
Principal Officer Education Research
kstelfox@aberdeencity.gov.uk
01224 523883

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS