

## Rural Deprivation and Inequalities – making use of the SEP Index

November 2015

### Report by Head of Health Improvement

**The COG are asked to note progress in:**

- Developing and delivering a standard briefing and presentation for all agencies to use to raise awareness of the Highland SEP Index
- Consultation with partners to develop a plan of how to use the Highland SEP index to influence specific funding streams and programmes of work
- Exploration of the use of the Highland SEP index with specific funding streams

#### 1. Background

In March 2015 the Highland Community Planning Partnership Board asked the Health Inequalities theme group to develop a joint understanding of deprivation and inequalities in rural Highland. A report on this work was presented to the Community Planning Partnership Board in June 2015. The Board asked that further work be undertaken to determine how the outputs of this work could be used.

#### 2. Rural Deprivation and Inequalities

The work undertaken by the Health Inequalities theme group highlighted the 14 worst performing data zones in Highland using the SEP index and the 16 most fragile areas using the work previously undertaken by HIE and the Highland Council (Appendix 1). The CPP Board agreed that these areas should form the basis of targeted work on deprivation and inequalities in Highland.

#### 3. Promoting use of the SEP Index

The Health Inequalities theme group discussed how to promote use of the Highland SEP index at its meeting on 21 September 2015. It was agreed that work would need to be done in the first instance to raise awareness of the index and consult partners on how it could be used to help the CPP tackle inequalities in Highland.

As a result of discussions, the Health inequalities theme group are:

- developing a standard briefing and presentation on the Highland SEP index
- overseeing delivery of briefings to appropriate committees and groups within individual organisations

- designing a consultation exercise to capture partners thoughts on how the Highland SEP index can be used
- exploring the immediate use of the Highland SEP index in influencing funding streams for rurality and rural deprivation, including funding from the Scottish Funding Council through the Further Education Regional Board

#### **4. Conclusion**

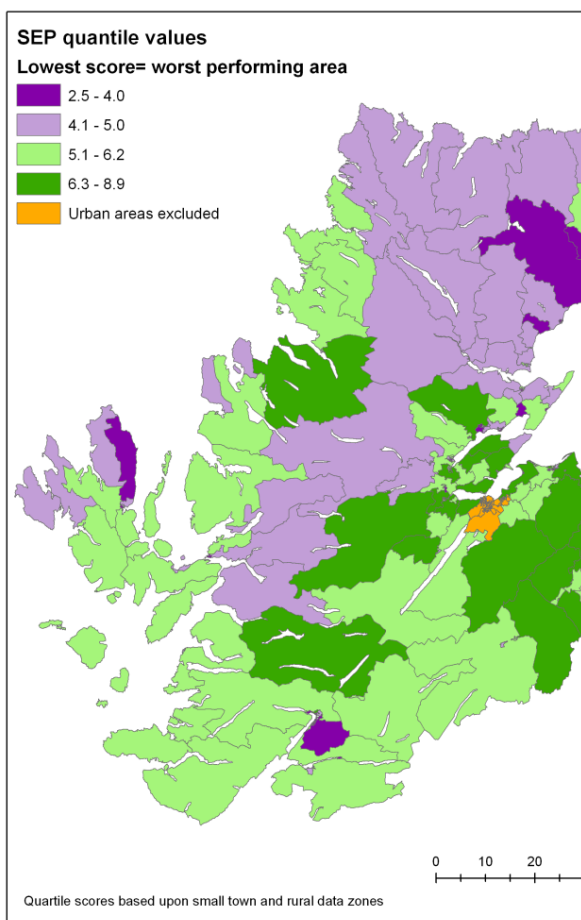
The health Inequalities theme group have considered the next steps in promoting and using the Highland SEP index and put in place a number of actions to progress this. This should provide the Chief Officers Group with assurance that this work is being taken forward across the partnership.

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## Appendix 1

**Table 1: SEP Index – Highland data zones ‘worst’ performing areas**



Data zone	Data zone name	2011 population	SEP INDEX	Urban Rural Classification
S01003 937	Seaboard South	745	2.7	Remote Rural Areas
S01003 924	Invergord on Strath Avenue	507	3.0	Remote Small Towns
S01003 968	Helmsdale & Kinbrace	864	3.0	Remote Rural Areas
S01003 978	Wick South Head	512	3.0	Remote Small Towns
S01003 722	Kinlochleven	896	3.1	Remote Rural Areas
S01003 736	Caol North East	799	3.1	Remote Small Towns
S01003 882	Nairn Moss-side	500	3.1	Remote Small Towns
S01003 928	Alness Firhill	840	3.1	Remote Small Towns
S01003 878	Ardersier	1089	3.2	Accessible Rural Areas
S01003 907	Dingwall Central	748	3.2	Remote Small Towns
S01003 969	Dunbeath	762	3.2	Remote Rural Areas
S01003 977	Wick Pultneytown South	491	3.2	Remote Small Towns
S01003 985	Wick Hillhead North	743	3.3	Remote Small Towns
S01004 001	Castletown	620	3.3	Remote Rural Areas

**SEP INDEX: Unweighted average of the four strategic objective scores.**

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Areas marked in orange excluded from Highland Council and HIE fragile areas

The table looks only at the data zones areas with a population total of 10,000.

**Table 2: Relationship between Highland Council fragile area scores in 121 rural data zones and SEP overall index values**

<b>Data zone</b>	<b>Data zone Name</b>	<b>Highland Council Fragility score (lowest =most fragile)</b>	<b>SEP overall index score</b>	<b>2011 population</b>
S01003969	Dunbeath	12.0	3.2	762
S01003968	Helmsdale & Kinbrace	13.0	3.0	864
S01003988	Melvich	16.0	4.5	490
S01003841	Duirinish	16.0	4.9	609
S01003846	Lochcarron	17.0	4.2	757
S01003959	Rosehall	17.0	4.2	747
S01003965	Rogart	17.0	4.8	576
S01003990	Durness	18.0	4.6	522
S01003871	Dunvegan & Waternish	19.0	4.3	771
S01003953	Aultbea	19.0	4.6	577
S01003963	Achiltibuie	19.0	5.2	474
S01003970	Stoer & Scourie	19.0	5.4	631
S01003911	Skye North East	20.0	3.9	626
S01003933	Poolewe & Badachro	20.0	5.4	701
S01003779	Skye East & Raasay	20.0	5.6	501
S01003973	Kinlochbervie & Achfary	21.0	4.5	450

The table looks only at the data zones areas with a population total of 10,000.