

Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)

As assessors, we are often told by applicants that their project is working in areas of deprivation. It is often difficult to know whether the applicant's idea of deprivation is accurate, especially when compared to other areas. A useful tool is the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) which we at the Foundation are now able to access through our DIGITS grants database, using the postcode of the project to access information about the relative deprivation of the area the project is based or works in.

The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation identifies small area concentrations of multiple deprivation across all of Scotland by recording the levels of deprivation for small geographic areas called data zones. The first Index (SIMD 2004) was published in June 2004 and was based on 31 indicators, however, the updated SIMD 2006 contains 37 indicators in seven domains: Current Income, Employment, Health, Education Skills and Training, Geographic Access to Services, Housing and a new Crime Domain. The data zones, which have an average population size of 769, are ranked from most deprived (1) to least deprived (6,505) on each of the individual domains and these rankings are combined to provide an overall SIMD ranking. The result is a comprehensive picture of relative area deprivation across Scotland.

In future, with each application we send you to assess, you will also receive an SIMD printout (see overleaf) based on the postcode of the project. This is intended to give you more information about the local area and help you in your assessment, particularly regarding the strength of need for the project.

Note that sometimes the information provided by the applicant is not comprehensive enough for us to be able to identify the beneficiary postcode (i.e. the area in which the group is *working*) and the project's office or contact postcode will be used instead. This could be in a different data zone (or the project might work across multiple data zones) which might mean that the SIMD report doesn't reflect the precise area of benefit accurately.

This information is only intended to offer further insight into the application which you are assessing and should not be the exclusive basis of your scores or recommendations.

More information about the SIMD can be found on the Scottish Executive's website at www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/SIMD/Overview.

If you don't receive an SIMD report with an application, contact Jen on 0141 225 6670, assessors@scottishcf.org. We're also happy to answer any questions you may have about the report or any aspect of an application.

How to use the report

The most useful information on the report is the ranking of most to least deprivation on the right hand side and the overall score at the bottom of the first column of boxes. However, if the project which you are assessing is specifically dealing with a single issue (for example working to tackle health issues) then looking at the score for that particular category may help you establish whether there is a strong local need for the service.

Post Code: G227QW

Data Zone	SO1003653	Local Authority	LA Code:	00QS			
Intermediate Geography		LA Name:	Glasgow City				
Code:	S02000701						
Name:	IZ One Hundred and Eight						
Wards	00QS23	Milton					
2001 Census							
Total Population:	786						
Working Age Population (men 16-64, women 16-59)	470						
Indices of Social Deprivation							
Category	Score	National rank (1: 6,505)	Deprived Most Least				
Income	46.60	99	█	□	□	□	□
No. of Current Income Deprive	319						
Employment	42.10	50	█	□	□	□	□
No. of Employment Deprived	185						
Health	2.08	56	█	□	□	□	□
Education, skills and training	1.77	115	█	□	□	□	□
Housing	86.68	18	█	□	□	□	□
Geographic Access and Telecommunications	15.37	3346	□	□	█	□	□
Crime	1043.00	746	█	□	□	□	□
Overall Score	77.46	50	█	□	□	□	□
Percentage Change		0%					

As can be seen from the report on the left, this area has many indicators of deprivation with 6 of the 7 categories in the "most deprived" range. Overall, it ranks as the 50th most deprived of 6,505 Scottish data zones. However, the "geographic access and telecommunications" category is a middling score so if the application was towards a community transport service based on the perceived lack of buses etc., the assessor might want to probe why there is felt to be a need for this in order to establish "strength of need for service".

The percentage change underneath the overall score relates to the area's change in position between 2004 and 2006.

In the report on the right, it is obvious that this is a far more affluent and privileged area in most categories, however it is probably very rural as the "geographic access and telecommunications" category is in the most deprived zone. So again, if this area were looking at a community transport project, there may well be a need. However, a project trying to get unemployed, income deprived, criminals into training in this area, might not have researched its client base too well!

Remember, the report is just another source of information and shouldn't exclusively determine your scores or recommendation.

Post Code: IV363TZ

Data Zone	SO1004307	Local Authority	LA Code:	00QX			
Intermediate Geography		LA Name:	Moray				
Code:	S02000815						
Name:	IZ Eight						
Wards	00QX09	Finderne					
2001 Census							
Total Population:	1060						
Working Age Population (men 16-64, women 16-59)	868						
Indices of Social Deprivation							
Category	Score	National rank (1: 6,505)	Deprived Most Least				
Income	2.60	5962	□	□	□	□	█
No. of Current Income Deprive	27						
Employment	1.90	6432	□	□	□	█	□
No. of Employment Deprived	16						
Health	-1.76	6434	□	□	□	█	□
Education, skills and training	-0.34	4116	□	□	█	□	□
Housing	17.71	2782	█	□	□	□	□
Geographic Access and Telecommunications	39.64	1017	█	□	□	□	□
Crime	143.00	5427	□	□	□	█	□
Overall Score	6.41	5556	□	□	□	█	□
Percentage Change		4%					