

Annex 5 – Summary of known areas of agreement and dispute

Explanatory note

Table 1 provides a summary of the engagement Fife Council has undertaken with key agencies and key infrastructure providers during the preparation of the Evidence Report and the areas of agreement/dispute identified by these stakeholders. Table 2 provides a more detailed summary of the engagement Fife Council has undertaken with other groups/interest parties and how this has informed the Evidence Report. Please note Table 2 is to be read in conjunction with Annex 4.

Sections A5.1-A5.3 provide more detailed information on the areas of agreement/dispute relating to housing, and sections A5.4-A5.16 provide a summary of the areas of dispute raised by various community councils across Fife.

Table 1: Stakeholder Engagement

| Stakeholder | Summary of Engagement Activity | Outcome | Areas of agreement/dispute |
|----------------------------|--|--|---|
| Homes for Scotland | Fife Council has engaged with Homes for Scotland, as a key stakeholder, extensively throughout the preparation of the Evidence Report with regular discussions taking place as work progressed. More details can be found within Annex 9, 10, and 11. | This work has informed the housing sections of the Evidence Report including the associated annexes. | <p><u>Areas of dispute</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Homes for Scotland raised one area of dispute relating to existing housing need and the associated LHLR (Local Housing Land Requirement). This is described in more detail within paragraphs A5.2 and A5.3 of this Annex. |
| Key Agency Group (general) | Fife Council has worked collaboratively with the Key Agency Group in partnership with Architecture and Design Scotland throughout the preparation of the Evidence Report. A series of workshops have been held to identify and understand the issues that need to be addressed by the new Local Development Plan | This work has informed all topic areas of the Evidence Report and helped develop its place-focussed format | <p>This section highlights the areas of agreement, dispute and further evidence required to inform the Evidence Report highlighted by the key agencies forming part of the Key Agency Group. Most of this feedback was collated from the Key Agency Group workshops conducted on the 5th and 7th of December 2023.</p> <p><u>Further evidence required</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The identification of locations/infrastructure at risk of coastal flooding/erosion and more detailed evidence on shoreline management was raised. This |

Table 1: Stakeholder Engagement

| Stakeholder | Summary of Engagement Activity | Outcome | Areas of agreement/dispute |
|-------------|--------------------------------|---------|---|
| | | | <p>information is provided within the flooding and coastal erosion sections of the Kirkcaldy, Levenmouth, North East Fife, and South and West Fife localities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ More detailed information on flooding and flood risk management was sought. This information is provided within the flood risk sections of the seven localities. ➤ Finer detail was sought on greenhouse gas emissions by transport mode. Whilst this has not been explicitly outlined within the main body of the Evidence Report, information on greenhouse gas emissions by sector have been provided at Fife-wide level (see Figure 4.9). Also, information on transport usage and carbon emissions have been provided at Fife-wide level (see Fig 4.16). Furthermore, Fife’s Local Transport Strategy (2023-33) provides a full breakdown of the proportion of |

Table 1: Stakeholder Engagement

| Stakeholder | Summary of Engagement Activity | Outcome | Areas of agreement/dispute |
|-------------|--------------------------------|---------|---|
| | | | <p>journeys made per transport mode in Fife.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The identification of priority habitats and species was discussed. This information is provided within the biodiversity sections of the seven localities. ➤ More information on play sufficiency/access to greenspace was sought. This information is provided within the open space/play space sections of the seven localities. ➤ The impacts of vacant and derelict land on communities was discussed. Whilst this has not been explicitly outlined within the main body of the Evidence Report, Fife’s Vacant and Derelict Land Audit 2022 provides more detailed information on the percentage of the population situated within 500m of derelict sites and the number of vacant/derelict sites within the 15% most deprived data zones |

Table 1: Stakeholder Engagement

| Stakeholder | Summary of Engagement Activity | Outcome | Areas of agreement/dispute |
|-------------|--------------------------------|---------|--|
| | | | <p>(link provided within the vacant and derelict land sections of the seven localities)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Information on active travel infrastructure including the identification of key barriers to active travel was thought important. This information is provided within the green and blue network sections of the seven localities. ➤ Data on health inequalities was discussed. This information has been provided at Fife-wide level (paragraphs 4.12 to 4.17). Key health statistics per locality have also been included e.g., life expectancy and percentage of the population living with a long-term physical health condition (see the introductions to each of the seven localities). ➤ Employment sector demand data was raised as an issue. This information is provided within the |

Table 1: Stakeholder Engagement

| Stakeholder | Summary of Engagement Activity | Outcome | Areas of agreement/dispute |
|-------------|--------------------------------|---------|--|
| | | | <p>employment sections of the seven localities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Information on community wealth building and the creation of a wellbeing economy was discussed. This information is provided at Fife-wide level (see paragraphs 4.157 and 4.158). Information has not been provided at locality level as this would be more appropriate for the site assessment process. ➤ Opportunities for renewable technologies was sought. This information is provided at Fife-wide level (see Paragraphs 4.103 – 4.111). Also, the H100 Fife hydrogen project is detailed paragraph 9.32. Opportunities for renewable technologies at locality/individual site level have not been provided as this will be considered through site assessment process. ➤ Information on future housing market changes was discussed. Information |

Table 1: Stakeholder Engagement

| Stakeholder | Summary of Engagement Activity | Outcome | Areas of agreement/dispute |
|------------------------|---|--|---|
| | | | <p>on existing and future housing needs are provided within Annex 9.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ More detailed information on local retail provision was discussed. A full breakdown of land use types within Fife's town centres is provided (see Tables 5.2, 6.2, 6.3, 7.2, 8.2, 9.2, 10.3, 40.4 and 10.5). |
| NatureScot | <p>Fife Council has and will continue to engage with NatureScot on matters relating to Nature Networks. This includes providing input on the Nature Networks pilot mapping project.</p> | <p>This work informed the Green and Blue Network Audit and subsequently the green and blue networks sections of the Evidence Report.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ NatureScot will provide their feedback in mid-March 2024. |
| NHS Fife | <p>Fife Council undertook early engagement with NHS Fife to acquire baseline health data including locality health statistics and estate plans.</p> | <p>This work has informed the health and wellbeing sections of the Evidence Report.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ NHS Fife raised no issues with the content of the evidence report (13/12/2023) |
| Public Health Scotland | <p>Fife Council has engaged with Public Health Scotland through Key Agency workshops and will continue</p> | <p>This work has informed the health and wellbeing sections of the Evidence Report.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Public Health Scotland provided written confirmation that overall, they are satisfied with the content of the Evidence Report however they would |

Table 1: Stakeholder Engagement

| Stakeholder | Summary of Engagement Activity | Outcome | Areas of agreement/dispute |
|---|---|--|--|
| | to engage with them as the new Local Development Plan progresses. | | have welcomed more detail on public health matters (04/03/2024). Nevertheless, they were happy to note that reference is made to ongoing dialogue with health colleagues throughout the further development of the new Local Development Plan (see Paragraph 4.22 of the Evidence Report). |
| Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) | Fife Council engaged with SEPA throughout the preparation of the Evidence Report. This engagement involved identifying the expectations for the Evidence Report; sourcing key flooding data; and recognising surface water management opportunities within the green and blue networks of Fife. | This work has informed both the flood risk and blue and green network sections of the Evidence Report. | ➤ SEPA will provide their feedback in mid-March 2024. |
| Scottish Water | Fife Council engaged with Scottish Water throughout the preparation of the Evidence Report. This | This work has informed the water supply, flooding, and green and blue network | ➤ Scottish Water provided written confirmation that they are satisfied with the content of the Evidence |

Table 1: Stakeholder Engagement

| Stakeholder | Summary of Engagement Activity | Outcome | Areas of agreement/dispute |
|---------------------------|---|---|---|
| | <p>engagement involved identifying the expectations for the Evidence Report; discussing water and wastewater capacity across Fife; sourcing key data such as GIS data on water supply and wastewater treatment capacity; and recognising surface water management opportunities within the green and blue networks of Fife.</p> | <p>sections of the Evidence Report.</p> | <p>Report relating to water infrastructure (06/03/2024).</p> |
| <p>Transport Scotland</p> | <p>Fife Council collaborated with Transport Scotland during the preparation and adoption of the Local Transport Strategy for Fife (2023-2033). This work included collaboration with STANTEC to produce a road, rail and public transport capacity report (2023).</p> | <p>This work has informed the transport infrastructure sections of the Evidence Report.</p> | <p>Agree that Transport Scotland has been engaged in the preparation of the Evidence Report through the Key Agency Group LDP collaborative offer. The workshops have been informative and engaging. However, at this time, while the findings may be acceptable, there appears to be gaps in the evidence and Transport Scotland cannot confirm the implications of the transport modelling. They acknowledge the amount of work Fife Council has undertaken.</p> |

Table 1: Stakeholder Engagement

| Stakeholder | Summary of Engagement Activity | Outcome | Areas of agreement/dispute |
|-------------|--------------------------------|---------|--|
| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LTS/LDP strategic transport modelling has been undertaken by Stantec, however Transport Scotland has not been engaged or involved in this work and has not had time to fully understand or interpret the data and its findings. Therefore, Transport Scotland is unaware if there are any gaps in the information, if it is sufficient or how this information has been used to inform the Evidence Report in relation to the strategic transport network. It is mentioned in the infrastructure sections for the different Fife localities without any explanation. • The Evidence Report does not include any information on the Strategic Transport Projects Review recommendations or the Climate Change ambition to reduce car kilometres by 20% by 2030. It also does not mention or link to the National Transport Strategy 2 including the sustainable travel and investment hierarchies as detailed on page 54 and 55 of the LDP Guidance. These were discussed at the LDP workshops and are |

Table 1: Stakeholder Engagement

| Stakeholder | Summary of Engagement Activity | Outcome | Areas of agreement/dispute |
|-------------|--------------------------------|---------|--|
| | | | <p>important to determine the implications for any future spatial strategy</p> <p><i>Fife Council response: Much of this is implicit in the Evidence Report as part of the overall picture in terms of tackling the climate emergency and the emphasis on Living Well Locally.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The LDP Guidance details on page 55, the Evidence Report should present a commitment to produce a proportionate transport appraisal. Paragraphs 4.91 and 4.134 of the Evidence Report detail transport modelling work is to be carried out. However, this text is recommended to be amended to make it clear that a proportionate transport appraisal will be undertaken after the Gate Check to inform the Proposed Plan spatial strategy in accordance with Development Planning Transport Appraisal Guidance (DPMTAG). <p><i>Fife Council response: the site assessment criteria will be amended to reference DPMTAG. The criteria in Stage 2A will also be amended to reference NTS2.</i></p> |

Table 1: Stakeholder Engagement

| Stakeholder | Summary of Engagement Activity | Outcome | Areas of agreement/dispute |
|---|---|--|--|
| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is also noted that for a place-based approach, the LDP Guidance details a separate template should be completed for transport. Transport appears to be incorporated within each Fife locality and is only mentioned briefly. <p><i>Fife Council response: There are separate sections covering all types of infrastructure at both a Fife-wide level and at the level of individual localities. Whilst the guidance suggests having a separate section for Transport, in reality there is relatively little to say at the Evidence Report stage as most of the detail associated with transport and other infrastructure relates to site-specific matters covered at the Proposed Plan stage.</i></p> |
| Digital Scotland Superfast Broadband (DSSB) | Fife Council attempted to engage with DSSB, however DSSB advised to liaise with Fife Council's Business and Employability Services as they are the Council lead re. digital infrastructure. | Fife Council's Policy and Place Team engaged with Business and Employability Services to gather key data to inform the digital infrastructure sections of the Evidence Report. | There are no known areas of disagreement. |

Table 1: Stakeholder Engagement

| Stakeholder | Summary of Engagement Activity | Outcome | Areas of agreement/dispute |
|--|--|--|--|
| Scottish & Southern Energy Networks (SSEN) | Fife Council engaged with SSEN during the preparation of the Evidence Report to discuss capacity issues. SSEN also delivered various CPD events. | This work has informed the energy infrastructure sections of the Evidence Report. | SSEN have extremely limited presence within Fife. As such, any infrastructure capacity issues would have limited impact on the new Local Development Plan. |
| Scottish Gas Network (SGN) | Fife Council has and will continue to engage with SGN to discuss gas network capacity across Fife and the transition to net zero. | SGN have provided Fife Council with confidential capacity and investment reports which have been used to inform the Evidence Report. | SGN provided written confirmation that they are satisfied with the content of the Evidence Report relating to gas infrastructure (26/10/2023). |
| SP Energy Networks (SPEN) | Fife Council has and will continue to engage with SPEN to discuss infrastructure capacity across Fife. SPEN also delivered various CPD events. | This work has informed the energy infrastructure sections of the Evidence Report. | SPEN provided written confirmation that they largely agree with the content of the Evidence Report with some minor amendments suggested (01/03/2024). These have been addressed. |

Table 2: Other engagement

| Other groups/interested parties | Summary of engagement | Outcome |
|--|---|---|
| Association of Scotland's Self-Caterers (ASSC) | Fife Council Planning Services undertook engagement with Fife Council Housing Services and ASSC to discuss the potential need for short term let control areas (STLCA) in Fife and what issues they hope this will address. | This work and discussions have informed the localised housing issues sections of the Evidence Report (see Paragraphs 4.79 – 4.80 and 10.59 – 10.68 relating to North East Fife). Annex 12 provides more detailed information. |
| Children and young people (under 18s) | <p>Fife Council undertook various engagement with children and young people during the preparation of the Evidence Report including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Obtaining views about the play opportunities within their area through the Play Sufficiency Assessment online survey and in-person play sessions with primary schools, secondary schools and community clubs. ➤ The 'Children of fife we need your help' survey which afforded children the opportunity to comment on the places they live. ➤ Various workshops with primary schools across Fife to capture the views of primary school children as part of the Living Well Locally project. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ This work informed the Play Sufficiency Assessment (adopted November 2023). ➤ This work has informed the Living Well Locally Case Studies. |

Table 2: Other engagement

| Other groups/interested parties | Summary of engagement | Outcome |
|---|--|--|
| | More details can be found within Annex 4. | |
| Community councils | Fife Council conducted an online survey to obtain views from community councils about the quality and opportunities for outdoor play in Fife. More details can be found within Annex 4. | This work informed the Play Sufficiency Assessment (adopted November 2023). |
| Disabled persons | Fife Council conducted an online survey to obtain views on the issues disabled persons face within the places they live and visit across Fife. More details can be found within Annex 4. | This work identified key issues relating to accessibility (see paragraphs 1.33 to 1.36). |
| Fife's Businesses and Organisations | Fife Council conducted an online survey to obtain views from Fife's businesses and organisations on the issues they face operating in their area. | This work has informed the economy sections of the seven localities. |
| Fife Coast and Countryside Trust (FCCT) | <p>Fife Council engaged with FCCT on the Nature Networks pilot project.</p> <p>Also, Fife Council collaborated with FCCT to develop the assessment and audit processes for the Open Space Audit (ongoing) and the Play Sufficiency Assessment.</p> | <p>This work informed the Green and Blue Network Audit and subsequently the green and blue networks sections of the Evidence Report.</p> <p>Fife's Play Sufficiency Assessment was published in November 2023 as a result of Fife Council's collaboration with FCCT.</p> |

Table 2: Other engagement

| Other groups/interested parties | Summary of engagement | Outcome |
|---------------------------------|--|---|
| Fife Equalities Forum | <p>Fife Council conducted a workshop with the Fife Equalities Forum which aimed to give an overview of the Local Development Planning process, to discuss how members can get involved in the preparation of new Local Development Plan, and to obtain views on accessibility and quality of place within Fife. More details can be found within Annex 4.</p> | <p>This work identified key issues relating to accessibility (see Page 1.33 to 1.36).</p> |
| General public | <p>Fife Council undertook various engagement with the general public throughout the preparation of the Evidence Report including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Obtaining views on the quality and opportunities for outdoor play in Fife through the Play Sufficiency Assessment Online Survey. ➤ Obtaining views on the places people live and visit within Fife through the 'Have your say on the future of Fife's places' online survey. ➤ Obtaining views on the neighbourhoods people live within through the 20 Minute Neighbourhood Case Study Survey. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ This work informed the Play Sufficiency Assessment (adopted November 2023). ➤ This work has informed the infrastructure sections of the Evidence Report. ➤ This work has informed the Living Well Locally Case Studies. |

Table 2: Other engagement

| Other groups/interested parties | Summary of engagement | Outcome |
|--|---|--|
| | More details can be found within Annex 4. | |
| Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpersons | Planning Aid Scotland (PAS) was commissioned by Fife Council to undertake consultation with the Gypsy/Traveller community within Fife to identify accommodation and service needs, aspirations and land use issues including access to temporary and permanent sites. More details can be found within Annex 4 and Annex 9. | This work has informed the specialist housing need sections of the Evidence Report (see Annex 9 for more detailed information). |
| Parents and Carers | Fife Council conducted an online survey to obtain views from parents and carers about the quality and opportunities for outdoor play in Fife. More details can be found within Annex 4. | This work informed the Play Sufficiency Assessment (adopted November 2023). |
| College/Universities | Fife Council engaged with Fife College and the University of St Andrews to obtain data on student accommodation needs. | This work has informed the specialist housing need sections (see Table 4.5) and the localised housing issues within North East Fife section of the Evidence Report. Annex 9 provides more detailed information on specialist housing need and Annex 12 provides more detailed information on localised housing issues. |

Housing Need & Localised Housing Issues (Annexes 9 & 12)

A5.1 Fife Council Housing Services has been consulted on this annex and agrees with its content. Homes for Scotland received drafts of all the housing annexes for comment. Whilst comments were received, these primarily focussed on the indicative Local Housing Land Requirement annex and technical paper and did not cover the content of this Housing Need annex. No areas of dispute have been raised in relation to these annexes.

Local Housing Land Requirement (Annexes 10 & 11)

A5.2 Final housing need reports have been received from Homes for Scotland, although these were received after the deadline for final Evidence Report content. However, the overall need identified for Fife (North) and Fife (Central & South) did not change from that identified in the draft reports.

A5.3 Given the significant difference in the housing need figures prepared by Fife Council and Homes for Scotland, it is unlikely that agreement can be reached on existing need and the associated Local Housing Land Requirement. The Council will continue dialogue with Homes for Scotland in preparing the new LDP

Community Councils' Responses to Evidence Overview – January 2024

A5.4 Community Councils were invited to review an evidence overview of their area and give us their views. The following Community Councils responded:

- Leuchars Community Council
- Royal Burgh of Burntisland Community Council
- Thornton Community Council
- Charlestown, Limekilns and Pattiesmuir Community Council
- Freuchie Community Council

Leuchars Community Council Areas of Disagreement - Evidence Overview

A5.5 The Community Council is disappointed with the report. It was unable to feedback in detail on the report due to the lack of evidence gathered for either Leuchars or Tay Bridgehead.

- In general, the report reads as if it is prepared by someone who isn't familiar with the area as if only St. Andrews, Cupar and Anstruther are worthy of further work and consideration. The unique nature of Leuchars as mentioned in the Scotland's Town Partnership website is ignored. They describe Leuchars as a dependent to interdependent town, with a population of 3,000 split between residents in Ministry of Defence (MoD) housing and non-MoD housing, it represents a unique community in Tay Bridgehead.
- There is no mention of the significant military presence in Leuchars, it's impact on the local and wider Tay Bridgehead/St Andrews economy.
- The close relationship between Tay Bridgehead and Dundee for health, employment and education needs to be explored in more detail as does the interconnection to St Andrews. Tay Bridgehead is key a crossroads between these two urban areas and should be evidenced.
- The overview is too generic with regard to rural communities.
- There is no attempt to evidence the rural poverty, isolation, and lack of access to services that are available in larger urban centres in South Fife.

A5.6 Fife Council response: The evidence overview sent to the community councils for comment is brief in nature and not fully representative of the wealth of information, data, and analysis in the Evidence Report. It will have more detail with regards to geographic areas the community council feels are not evident in the overview. There is also more detail with regard to rural issues including poverty.

Royal Burgh of Burntisland Community Council Areas of Disagreement - Evidence Overview

A5.7 The Community Council deems the presentation superficial and lacking urgency and solutions. The Community Council does agree with much that is included in the Evidence Overview they were asked to comment on. The following specific comments were made:

- **Green networks and their enhancement** – the Community Council felt that this is focussed entirely on Kirkcaldy and does not mention reducing pesticide use or opportunities to improve and expand woodlands and natural grasslands or encouraging rewilding.
- **Water quality** – water quality is an essential priority which is being failed.
- **Forth Green Port** – There is no mention of the Forth Green Freeport which will impact on Burntisland. The Community Council queries how Burntisland can have 100% port occupancy when much of the docks area is derelict.

A5.8 Fife Council response: The evidence overview sent to the community councils for comment is brief in nature and not fully representative of the wealth of information, data, and analysis in the Evidence Report. It will have more detail with regards to the towns other than Kirkcaldy. The Forth Green Freeport is addressed in more detail in the Evidence Report.

A5.9 Fife Council response: The occupancy rate in safeguarded employment areas which includes Burntisland Dockyard was informed using Assessors data and at the time (May 2022) there were no vacant units. This does not mean that Bi-Fab who have now moved out of the location was not using the premises or land. The data shows there is a lack of the suitable premises across Fife and this is something that needs to be considered further in the new Local Development Plan.

Thornton Community Council Areas of Disagreement - Evidence Overview

A5.10 There was no comment on the quality of the Evidence Overview.

- **Green networks & enhancement** – The Community Council feels that the evidence report has overlooked Thornton in the commentary on Green Networks.
- **The Levenmouth Rail Project** is having a negative impact on the community in terms of accessing nature and connecting to other settlements such as Coaltown of Balgonie and Coaltown of Wemyss.
- **Flooding** – the River Ore has not been mentioned and should be as flooding is a serious concern in Thornton. This affects people and properties but also emergency services accessing the area when flooding is present.

A5.11 Fife Council response: The evidence overview sent to the community councils for comment is brief in nature and not fully representative of the wealth of information, data, and analysis in the Evidence Report. It will have more detail with regards to Thornton and other towns within the Glenrothes locality. It also has more coverage of issues including connectivity between settlements, green networks, and flooding.

Charlestown, Limekilns and Pattiesmuir Community Council Areas of Disagreement - Evidence Overview

A5.12 The Community Council finds the survey to be shallow and believe they will add little value to the development of the new Fife Plan. They are disappointed that the survey did not appear to address key issues for Fife's future under NPF4.

A5.13 They suggested the following areas that the survey might have covered re-publishing the main points of previous Fife Plan and asking for residents' comment on how / what / where they would like to see it changed or implemented. They believe this should include:

- Areas of Green Belt
- Current approach to mandatory housing build quotas
- Policy for urban green space
- Types of housing needed
- Safe and effective routing into and out of housing areas for pedestrians, cyclists, motor users and public transport to places of work as well as leisure facilities
- Adequate provision and access for essential services such as education, health care, emergency services, and local shopping.

- Drawing out the main areas of NPF4 and seeking comment, ideas and advice from residents on how its ideas and requirements might be best applied or implemented in Fife. The list of NPF4 Policy Areas provides a powerful prompt for discussion with residents, local communities, relevant 4th sector agencies and local businesses.

A5.14 Fife Council response: The evidence overview sent to the community councils for comment is brief in nature and not fully representative of the wealth of information, data, and analysis in the Evidence Report. It will have more detail with regards to the points raised by the community council, for example, NPF4 policy areas and the previous Local Development Plan's effectiveness. The Evidence report stage is concerned with sufficiency of evidence for plan preparation; the next stage will include a call for content and ideas for the new LDP.

Freuchie Community Council Areas of Disagreement - Evidence Overview

A5.15 The Community Council feel that the Evidence Report Overview in relation to North East reflects the views of the Community Council.

- The Community Council believe that the use of Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) data in the Evidence Report is not helpful in reflecting the real picture in North East Fife. It is estimated that those living in rural areas typically need to spend 10 to 20% more on everyday requirements than those in urban areas. This can lead to pockets of rural poverty, often hidden.

A5.16 Fife Council response: The Council acknowledges there could be hidden pockets of rural poverty. SIMD is an area-based measure of relative deprivation; not every person in a highly deprived area will themselves be experiencing high levels of deprivation. Data zones in rural areas tend to cover a large land area and reflect a more mixed picture of people experiencing different levels of deprivation.