

DRAFT
SOUTH WEST FIFE

**LOCAL
STRATEGIC
ASSESSMENT**

2018



1. Overview

The Local Strategic Assessment provides an overview of how a Local Area is doing. It collates and updates a wide range of information to give key input for the refresh of Local Community Plans and input into the wider Fife-wide Strategic Assessment.

The South West Fife Area Local Community Plan sets out how public, private and voluntary organisations will work together with our communities to make South West Fife a better, cleaner, safer, stronger, more vibrant place to live and visit. It identifies three key priorities:

- Area Investment and Land Use
- Transportation & Community Links
- Access to Opportunity



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2. Local Assessment Findings

Local Community Plan

- Area Investment and Land Use
- Transportation & Community Links
- Access to Opportunity

Place

Least improvement needed

- Natural Space
- Feeling Safe

Most improved

- Public Transport

Most improvement needed

- Work and Local Economy
- Traffic and Parking
- Influence and Sense of Control

Community

Major issues for area

- Funding for public services
- NHS / Hospitals / Healthcare
- Increasing elderly population
- Economy, Education / schools
- Cost of living
- Poverty / inequality

Now seen as more of an issue for area

- Rural issues,
- Local lifestyles,
- Quality of local area and environment
- Access to local services

Local Outcomes

Poorest outcomes:

- Parts of Inverkeithing and Rosyth

Better outcomes:

- Crossford, Charlestown and Limekilns, Dalgety Bay

Least improvement:

- Kincardine East, Saline and Gowkhall

Profile

- Area characterised by decline of heavy industry
- Reliant on Forth and Kincardine Bridgeheads for connectivity to Edinburgh and the Central Belt of Scotland
- South West Fife is among the least deprived areas of Fife

People

- Many household types in South West Fife show positive change over time
- Hard-pressed and urban households are now doing better in the area compared to other similar households elsewhere in Scotland
- Suburban households continue to do well within the area

Horizons and strategic challenges

- Overall population is expected to grow at the fastest rate in Fife, with older people showing the second highest growth rate across Fife.
- Focus on economic development of the area, on sustainable place, green infrastructure and energy, and improvements to road, rail and river transport infrastructure
- Welfare reform changes will continue to impact on the area, although less severely than Fife overall
- Uncertainty over future local economic impact of Brexit

3. Profile



POPULATION		AREA
49,777 		216.9 SQ KM 15.8% of Area of Fife 13% of Fife's population
CHILDREN	WORKING AGE	OLDER PEOPLE
8,554	31,376	9,847
HOUSEHOLDS		65.9% owner occupied 11.8% social rented 10.0% private rented 28.1% live alone
23,847 		
79.6% with at least one car/van		
£615 median weekly income (before housing)		14.4% in poverty (before housing)
21.3% in fuel poverty		12.7% children in poverty
ECONOMY		MAIN EMPLOYMENT AREAS
70.3% Economically active of which 59.7 % Employed Full Time 20.1 % Employed Part Time		20.3% Education & Health 18.5% Wholesale Retail and Transport 23.0% Finance & Professional 9.2% Manufacturing
WELFARE AND BENEFITS		
1.0% Universal Credit	WELFARE REFORM CHANGES: Expected loss to local economy per year by 2020 £18.6 million per year £583 per working age adult	
1.4% Universal Credit (16-24)		
8.8% Employment deprivation		

Figure 3.1 – Overview Profile for the Area

The South West Fife area borders the major conurbation of Dunfermline to the west and south. It stretches from Kincardine at the Clackmannanshire/Falkirk borders in the west, to Aberdour in the east. In the south of the area are the main towns of Inverkeithing, Rosyth, and Dalgety Bay, while the West Fife villages make up the main settlements in the west. The area is characteristic of a history of declining heavy industry, such as coal mining and the dockyard at Rosyth, while the completion of the new Queensferry Crossing may provide opportunities for the area.

South West Fife is among the least deprived areas of Fife, with only 5 of 68 datazones in the area featuring in the 20% most deprived for Scotland (SIMD 2016). Across South West Fife area, 8.8% of the total population is income deprived (compared to 12.4% for Fife), and 8.8% of the working age population is employment deprived (compared to 11.0% for Fife).



Figure 3.2 – Bar code chart show relative deprivation in Area (top) compared to Fife (bottom), SIMD 2016

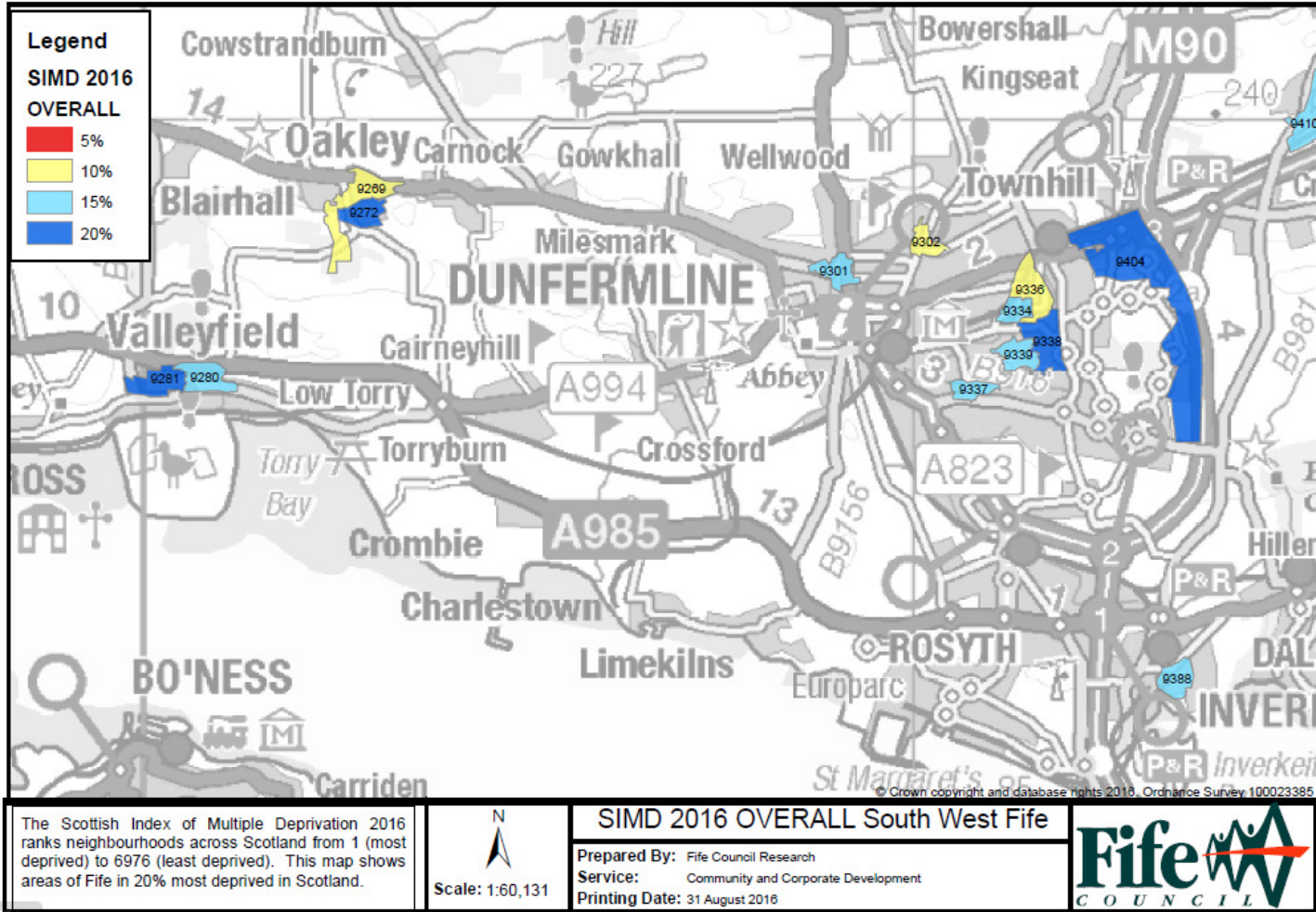


Figure 3.3 – Map highlighting the 5, 10, 15 and 20% most deprived datazones within the Area, SIMD 2016

4. Place

Place is an important element of Local Community Planning. Using the national Place Standard tool, local people were asked to consider aspects of the physical and social environment where they live and to paint a picture of the place and what needed to improve. Through comparing the results of Place Surveys in 2016 and 2018 we can get a picture of how the Area is changing, and use this snapshot as a background benchmark for any local use of the Place Standard within local communities across the Area.

In the South West Fife Area in 2018, a consistent picture emerges in relation to local people’s perception of place, compared to the results of the previous Place Survey in 2016.

Natural Space, and Feeling Safe continue to be identified as needing the least improvement in the South West Fife Area. Public Transport appears to have improved within the area since 2016.

Work and Local Economy, Traffic and Parking, and Influence and Sense of Control are identified as in need of the most improvement within the South West Fife Area.

Compared to other areas of Fife, South West Fife as a place is viewed positively in the main by local residents. Natural Space and Feeling Safe, the areas needing least improvement in the area, are also identified as needing least improvement across the majority of other areas across Fife.

Areas that are identified as in need of most improvement in South West Fife Area - Work and Local Economy, Traffic and Parking, and Influence and Sense of Control – are also viewed as being in need of improvement across other areas of Fife.

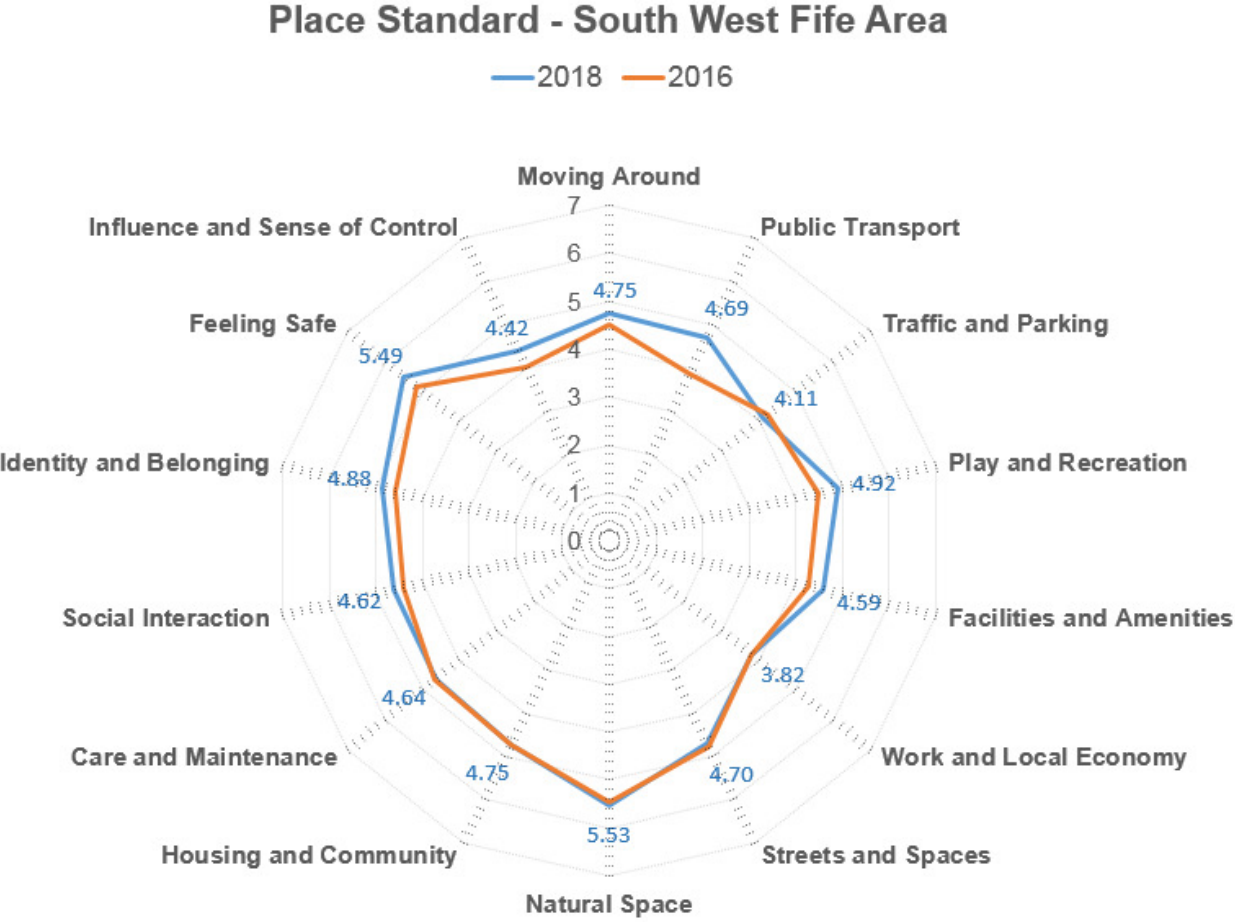


Figure 4.1 – Community perceptions of where improvement is needed in the area using the Place Standard, and how it has changed between 2016 and 2018. The outer part of the diagram (score 7) means little room for improvement, while the inner part (score 1) represents most need for improvement (Fife People’s Panel, Survey 29, 2018)
Note: given sampling variability and variation within each area we cannot at this stage say with any certainty if change between 2016 and 2018 has been significant.

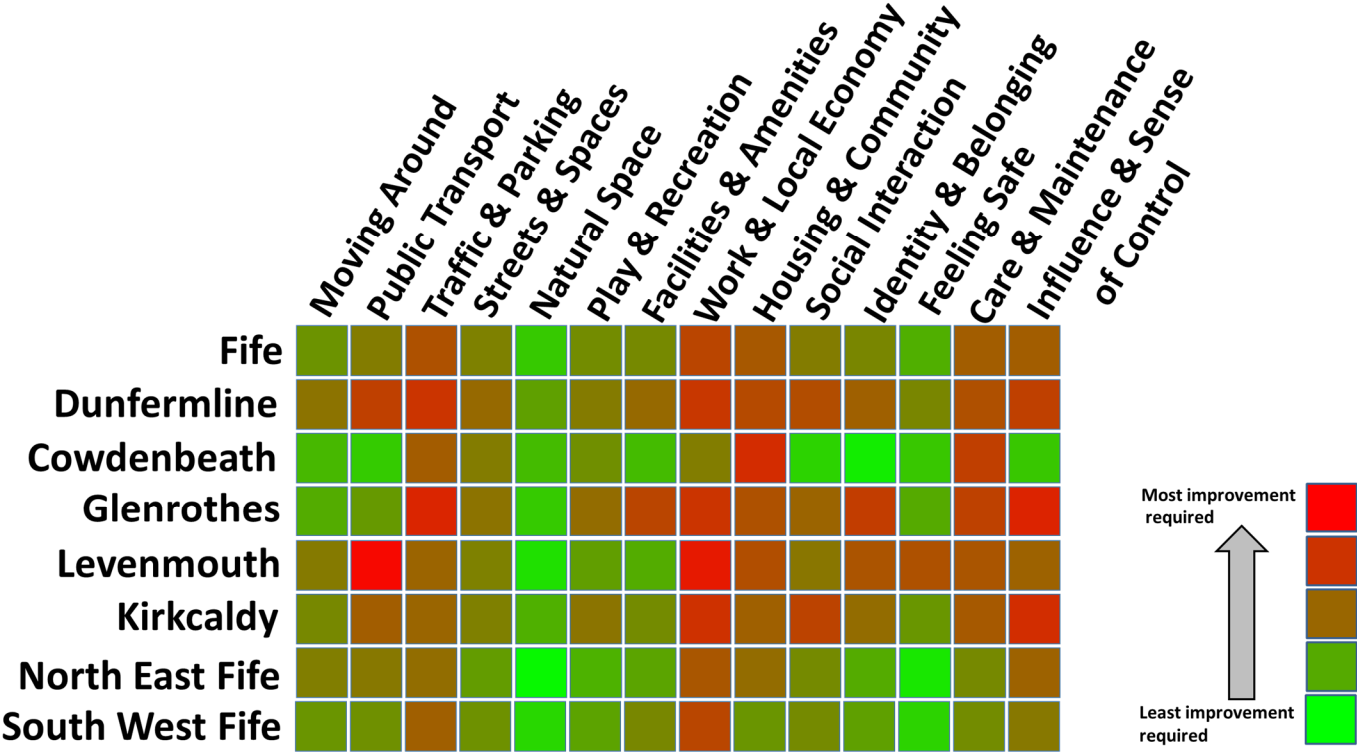


Figure 4.2 – Colour shaded diagram of how different aspects of Place are viewed across Fife (Place Standard, Fife People’s Panel, Survey 29, 2018)

5. People

Simply looking at where people live only gives part of the picture. We want to understand how well different groups of people are doing compared to others in the area and throughout Scotland. Suburbanites are doing well within the area, and relative to other similar types of households elsewhere in Scotland. Urbanites are on the whole doing well within the area and compared to other similar households elsewhere, as are those in urban areas.

Constrained City dwellers are doing less well within the area, and doing less well than similar types of households elsewhere in Scotland.

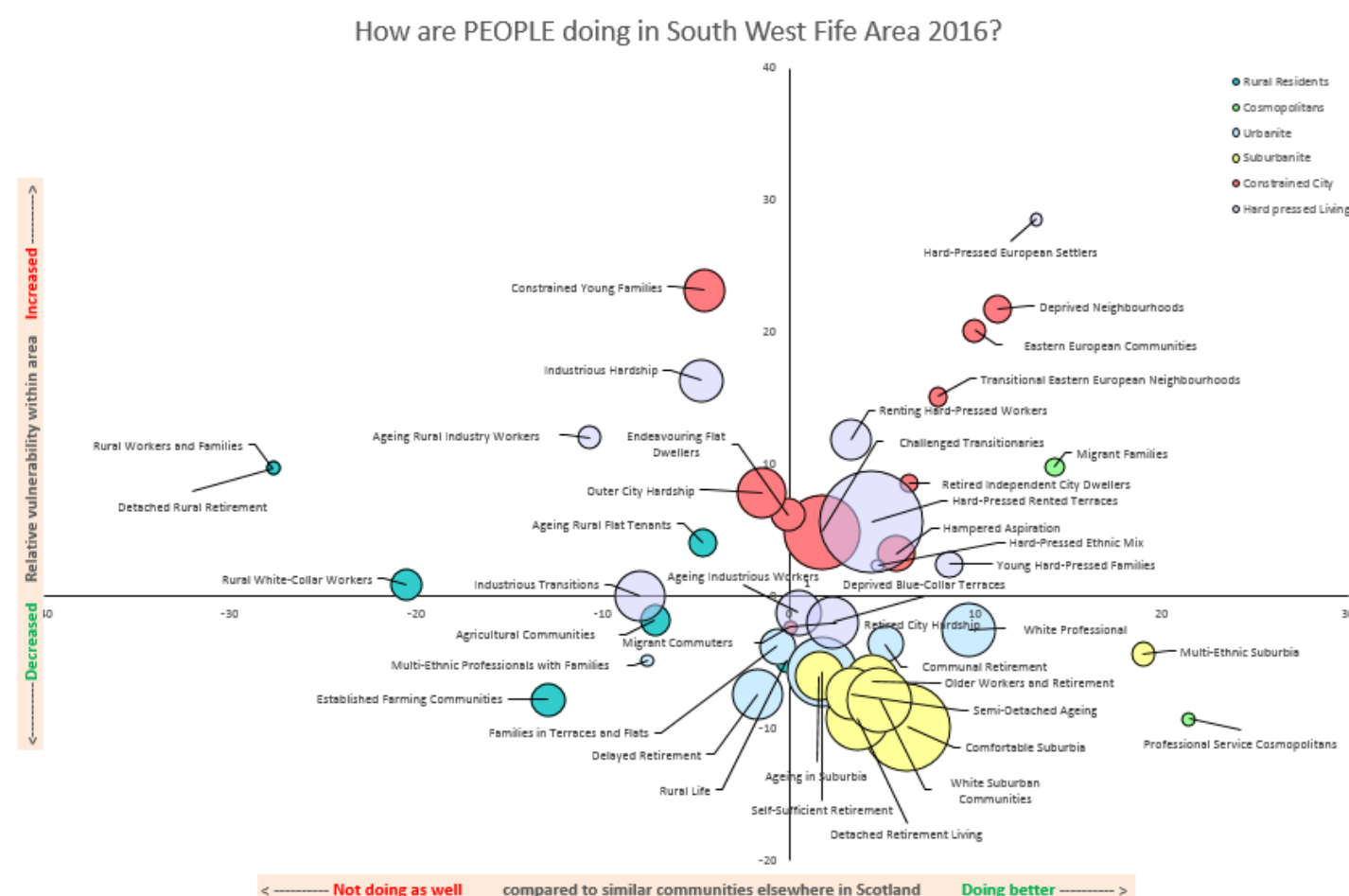


Figure 5.1 – How different types of people are doing within the area (based on Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2016 and 2011 Census Output Area Classification)

While there has been little change for households in the South West Fife Area overall, a number of household types show significant positive change between 2012 and 2016.

South West Fife's rural households continue to do less well than other rural households elsewhere in Scotland, although agricultural communities and ageing rural flat tenants are now doing better than they were in 2012.

Cosmopolitan households are doing particularly well compared to other similar households elsewhere in Scotland.

Urbanite households are now doing a little better relative to other similar households elsewhere in Scotland, particularly multi-ethnic professionals with families, and white professionals.

There has been little change in the relative position of suburban households within the area compared to the rest of Scotland.

While there is little change for constrained city dwelling households as a whole, the following household types have seen the most positive change: retired independent city dwellers, eastern european communities and deprived neighbourhoods.

Within the Hard-pressed households type, a positive change is seen between 2012 and 2016 for the category overall and for many household types within this category, particularly, hard-pressed european settlers, industrious hardship and renting hard-pressed workers.

Community Category	RPG	Change
Rural	-11.6	
Ageing Rural Flat Tenants	-4.6	↑
Agricultural Communities	-7.2	↑
Detached Rural Retirement	-27.7	
Established Farming Communities	-12.9	
Rural Life	-0.1	
Rural White-Collar Workers	-20.5	
Rural Workers and Families	-27.7	
Cosmopolitan	12.5	↑
Migrant Commuters	0.1	
Migrant Families	14.2	↑
Professional Service Cosmopolitans	21.4	↑
Urbanites	2.8	↑
Communal Retirement	5.2	↑
Delayed Retirement	-1.7	
Families in Terraces and Flats	-0.6	↑
Multi-Ethnic Professionals with Families	-7.6	↑
Self-Sufficient Retirement	1.8	
White Professionals	9.6	↑
Suburbanites	4.9	
Ageing in Suburbia	1.6	
Comfortable Suburbia	6.3	
Detached Retirement Living	3.6	
Multi-Ethnic Suburbia	19.0	
Older Workers and Retirement	4.4	
Semi-Detached Ageing	3.3	
White Suburban Communities	4.8	
Constrained City Dwellers	1.8	
Challenged Transitionaries	1.8	
Constrained Young Families	-4.5	↑
Deprived Neighbourhoods	11.2	↑
Eastern European Communities	9.9	↑
Endeavouring Flat Dwellers	-0.1	
Hampered Aspiration	5.7	
Outer City Hardship	-1.5	↑
Retired City Hardship	0.1	
Retired Independent City Dwellers	6.4	↑
Transitional Eastern European Neighbourhoods	8.0	↑
Hard-pressed living	1.5	↑
Ageing Industrious Workers	0.5	↑
Ageing Rural Industry Workers	-10.7	↑
Deprived Blue-Collar Terraces	2.3	↑
Hard-Pressed Ethnic Mix	4.8	
Hard-Pressed European Settlers	13.3	↑
Hard-Pressed Rented Terraces	4.4	
Industrious Hardship	-4.7	↑
Industrious Transitions	-8.0	
Renting Hard-Pressed Workers	3.3	↑
Young Hard-Pressed Families	8.6	
South West Fife Area	2.1	

Figure 5.2 – How different people are doing within the area between 2012 and 2016 (based on Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation and 2011 Census Output Area Classification)

RPG is Relative to Peer Group Index, zero is same, negative is less favourable, positive is better. Colours show red as poorest performing to green, best performing.

Change shows direction of change from 2012 to 2016, no arrow indicates no significant change.

6. Community

Insights into how communities are faring are a critical input when considering local places.

We asked local people about a range of issues, particularly whether they saw this as a major issue, a minor issue, or not an issue in their local area.

Funding for public services, NHS / Hospitals / Healthcare and increasing elderly population are seen as the major issues for both South West Fife and Fife. Economy and Education / schools are also seen as major issues for the area, followed by Cost of living and Poverty / inequality.

Compared to two years ago, the majority of issues are less of an issue than they were two years ago. This includes Climate change / flooding, Cost of living, Economy and Migration / changing population. Rural issues, Local lifestyles, Quality of local area and environment, and Access to local services are now seen as more of an issue than they were two years ago. There has been little change in how NHS / Hospitals / Healthcare and Low pay / fair wages are seen as a major issue for South West Fife area.

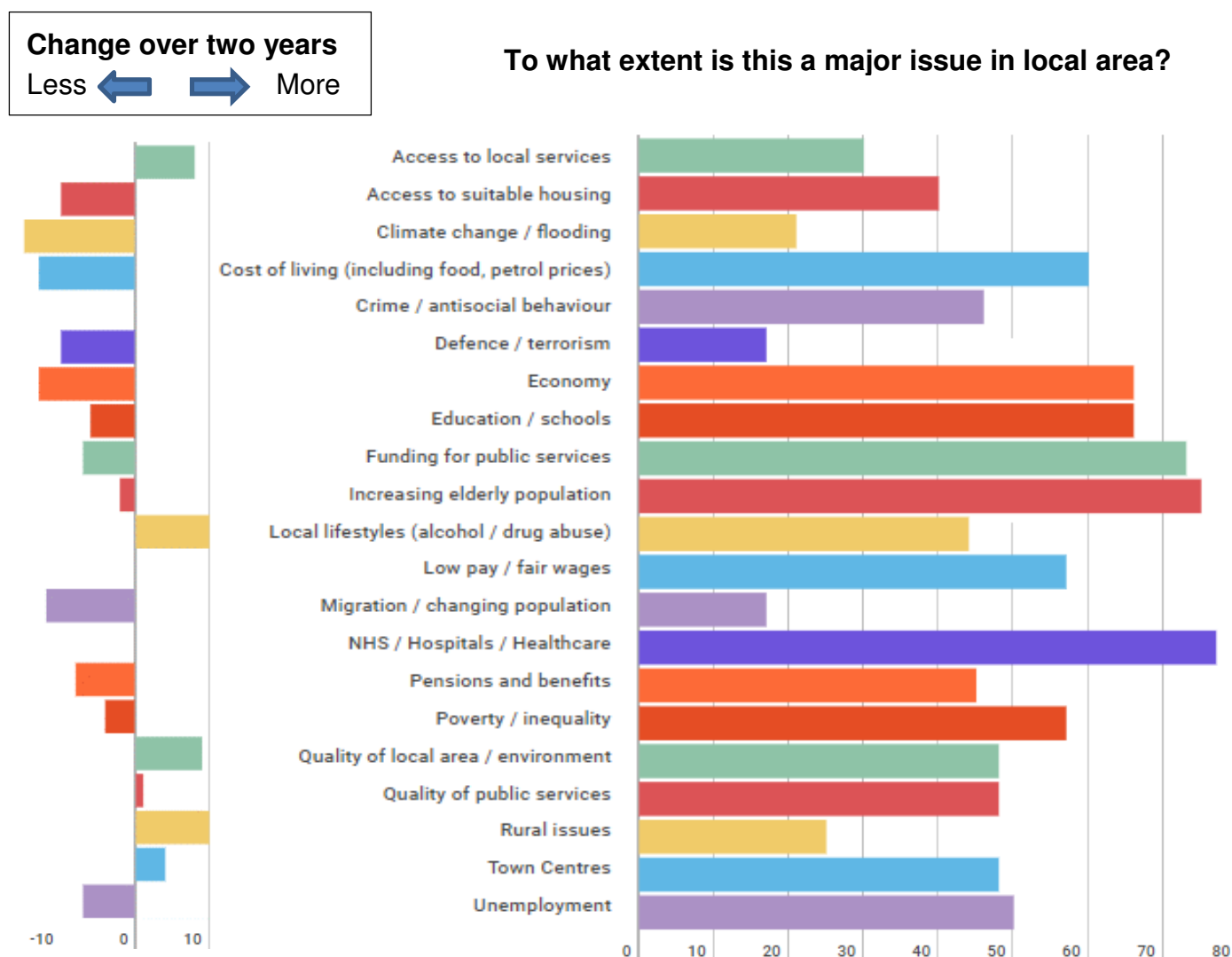


Figure 6.1 – Community perceptions of what is a major issue in the area (Fife People's Panel, Survey 28, 2017)

As with all areas of Fife, the majority of local people in South West Fife Area would like more involvement in decisions that the Council makes that affect their local area. 30% of people in South West Fife Area feel that they can influence decisions that affect their local area (27% for Fife).

Within South West Fife Area, more than half of local people believe the Council does its best with the money that is available, provides high quality services, is good at letting local people know about the kind of services that it provides, and is good at letting local people know how well it is performing.

The perception is that the Council is less good at addressing the key issues affecting the quality of life in local neighbourhoods and designing services around the needs of those who use them.

South West Fife Area generally has more positive perceptions of the Council than Fife except in relation to the provision of high quality services, being good at listening, and designing services around the needs of users.

Within the area, fewer people believe that the Council is good at listening to local people's views before it takes decisions.

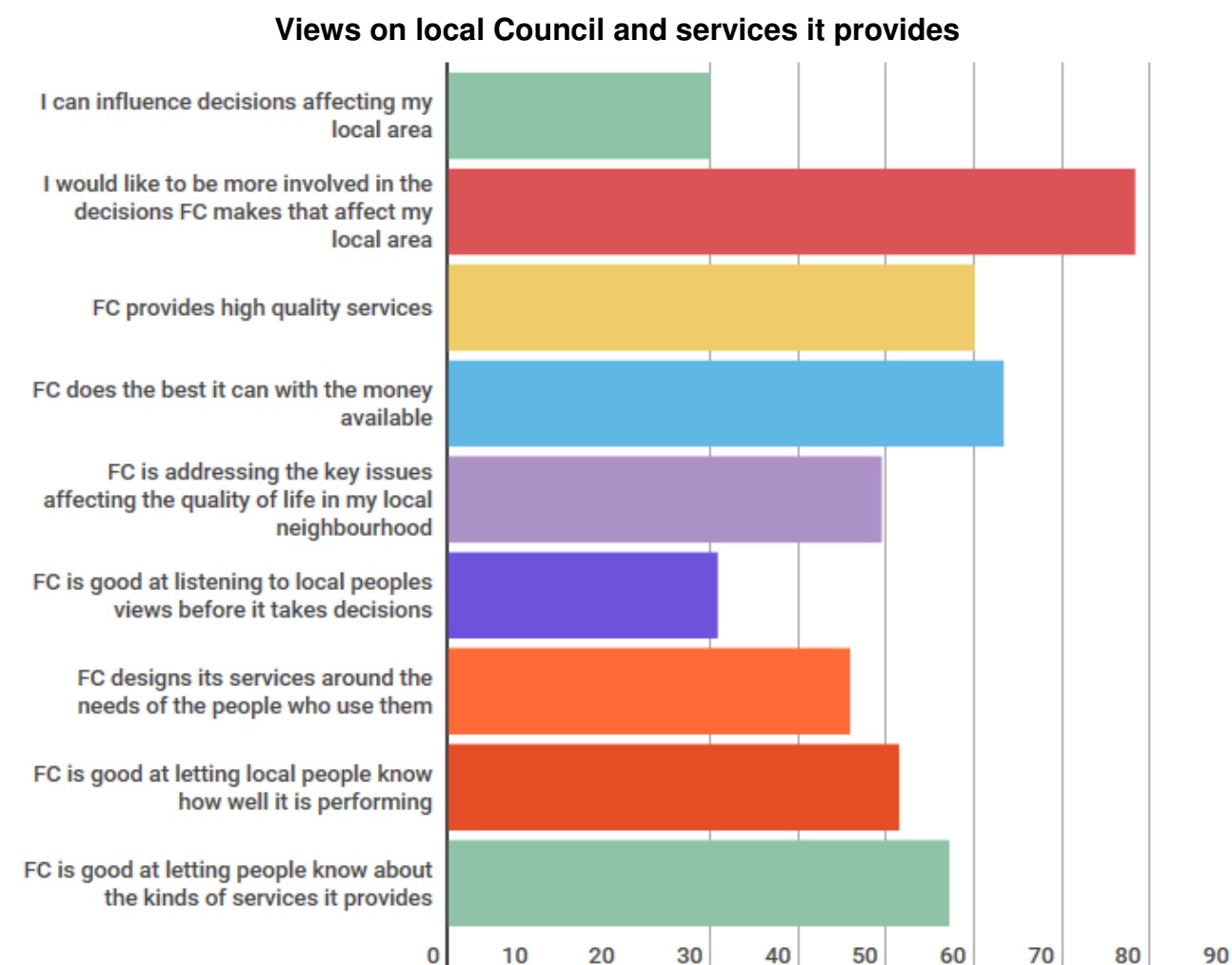


Figure 6.2 – Views on local Council and services it provides (Fife People's Panel, Survey 30, 2018)

7. Local Outcomes

Local community planning requires a good understanding of differences within and between neighbourhoods. The table below shows the overall pattern of outcomes for neighbourhoods in the area, and whether local neighbourhoods are improving over time.

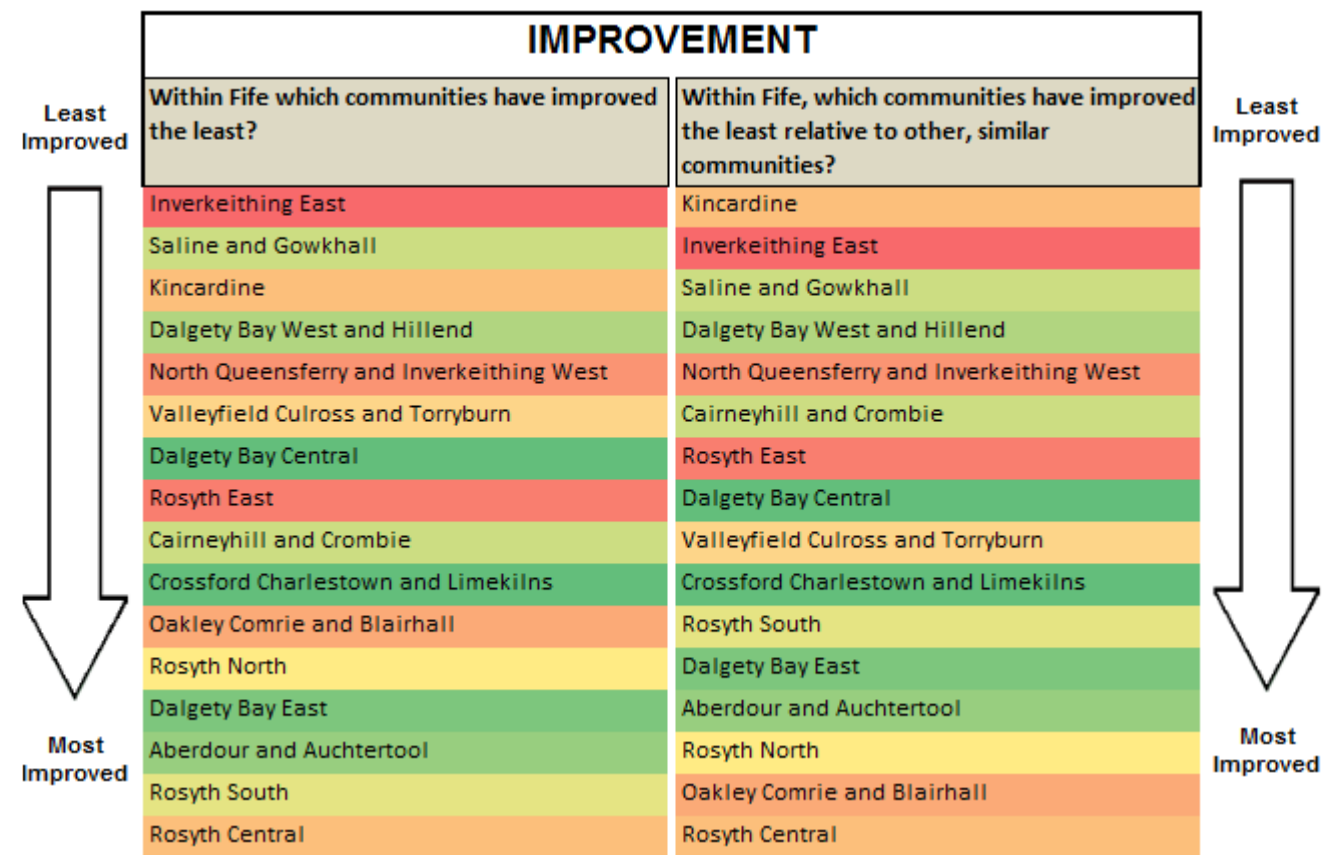
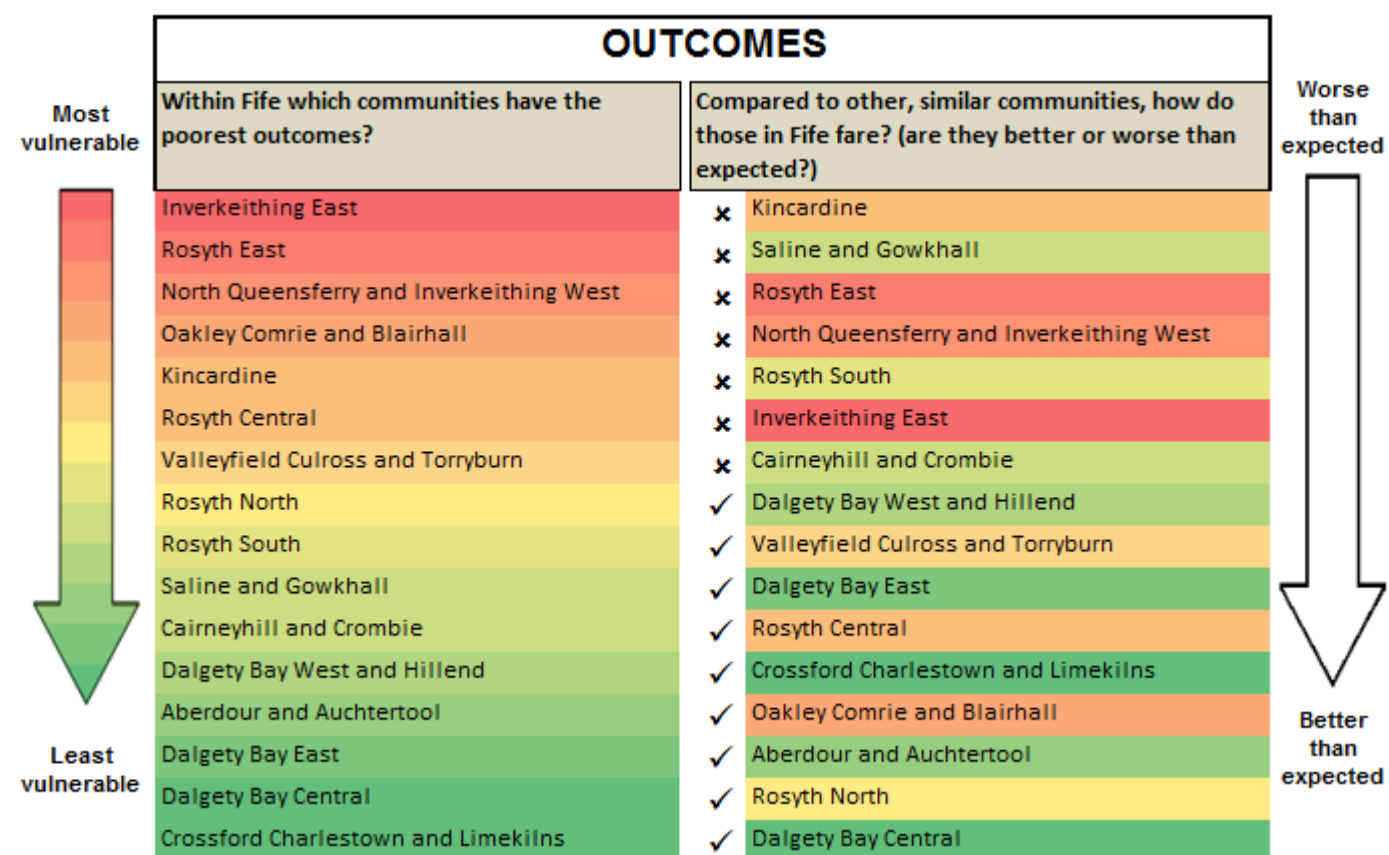
It identifies how different neighbourhoods within the area are faring in relation to key life outcomes. This includes outcomes across early years, older people, safer and stronger communities, health and wellbeing, employment and economy.

The neighbourhood with the poorest outcomes in the South West Fife Area continues to be Inverkeithing East. Rosyth East, and North Queensferry and Inverkeithing West also are among those with the poorest outcomes. Areas with better life outcomes continue to include Crossford, Charleston and Limekilns, and Dalgety Bay.

Kincardine continues to do worse than expected compared to similar neighbourhoods elsewhere in Scotland. Saline and Gowkhall and Rosyth East are among those doing worse than expected. Cairneyhill and Crombie shifts from doing better to doing worse than expected. Dalgety Bay Central and Rosyth North continue to better than expected compared to other similar communities elsewhere in Scotland.

Neighbourhoods showing the least improvement in life outcomes include Inverkeithing East, Saline and Gowkhall and Kincardine. The greatest improvement in life outcomes is seen in Rosyth Central and South, and Aberdour and Auchtertool.

Kincardine and Inverkeithing East, and Saline and Gowkhall have improved less than expected compared to similar neighbourhoods elsewhere in Scotland, while Rosyth Central and North, and Oakley Comrie and Blairhall have improved more than expected.



Figures 7.1 and 7.2 – How different neighbourhoods are doing on key life outcomes relative to other comparable areas (Improvement Service, Community Planning Outcomes Profile Tool 2018)

8. Horizons

It is nearly impossible to predict the future, however it is possible to identify challenges which are already on the horizon.

Demography

Over the next 25 years, South West Fife Area's population is estimated to increase by around 4,600 (9%) to reach 54,400. This is the highest percentage increase in overall population across all the Fife areas. Children numbers are estimated to gradually increase over the next 25 years by just under 1,000 (11%). Numbers of working age people are estimated to reduce over the next 20 years, before recovering slightly, to show an overall loss of around 1,400 people (5%) at the end of the 25-year period. Most of this area's population growth is expected to take place in the older people age group, with a steady increase estimated for the next 20 years, before levelling off at around 15,000 for the remaining period. This will result in an increase of around 5,100 (52%) in older people numbers, and will result in the second highest growth rate across Fife for this age group.

Across the South West Fife area the 20 primary schools are generally operating within capacity. There may be local capacity pressures at a couple of schools but across the area pupil numbers are expected to decrease in the short to medium term. Pupil numbers at the one high school are expected to increase and may increase further to require additional capacity at the school depending on the outcome of a public consultation to rezone multiple catchments to match pupils and places across Dunfermline and West Fife (June 2018).

Economy

Following the closure of Longannet, the focus for economic development of the area is on sustainable place, green infrastructure and energy, investing in the area's people and communities. The National Planning Framework (NPF3) is looking to establish an energy corridor from Longannet to Methil. A Strategic Transport appraisal is exploring future improvements to road, rail and river transport infrastructure within the areas closest to the former power station site. This links to wider issues about transport, connectivity and the need for affordable and accessible public transport to improve local people's access to services, facilities, employment and other opportunities. In relation to the longer term economic recovery of the area, the River Forth will be a priority both for industrial development, such as a sub-regional business park serving the upper Forth area, and as a leisure and tourism asset for Scotland, building on initiatives such as CruiseForth.

Welfare reform changes, including managed migration to Universal Credit, will continue to impact on local people and the local economy. £18.6 million will be lost from South West Fife's local economy by 2020, as a result of welfare reform changes (both pre and post 2015 reforms). That's a loss of £583 per working age adult in the area compared to £655 for Fife. Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay is least affected by the changes.

Considerable uncertainty remains about the economic impact of Brexit with impact unclear and difficult to predict until agreement is reached on fundamental issues such as trade, movement of people, or governing legislation. As Fife is heavily dominated by public sector industries, Brexit may have less of an effect compared to areas more reliant on private sector manufacturing, financial and knowledge industries. Labour supply for specific industries in Fife, such as agriculture, hospitality and lower skilled processing occupations, will experience more limited availability, as greater restrictions will be placed on EU workers that have traditionally filled these roles over the last decade (although these industries form a small part of the overall Fife workforce). It is likely that alternative funding sources will need to be secured to replace funding previously available through the EU.

Environment

The Fife Pilgrim Way heritage project will see a new long distance walking route through inland Fife. Starting at Culross and North Queensferry, the 104 km/64 mile path takes in spectacular views of the Highlands, the Coast, Forth and Tay Estuaries and the Lomond Hills. It passes medieval landmarks, industrial landscapes and historic picturesque villages on its way to St. Andrews.

Technology

The Digital Scotland rollout programme is extending fibre broadband across Fife. Dunfermline and West Fife have 97.8% superfast and fibre coverage. There has also been investment in improving mobile coverage.

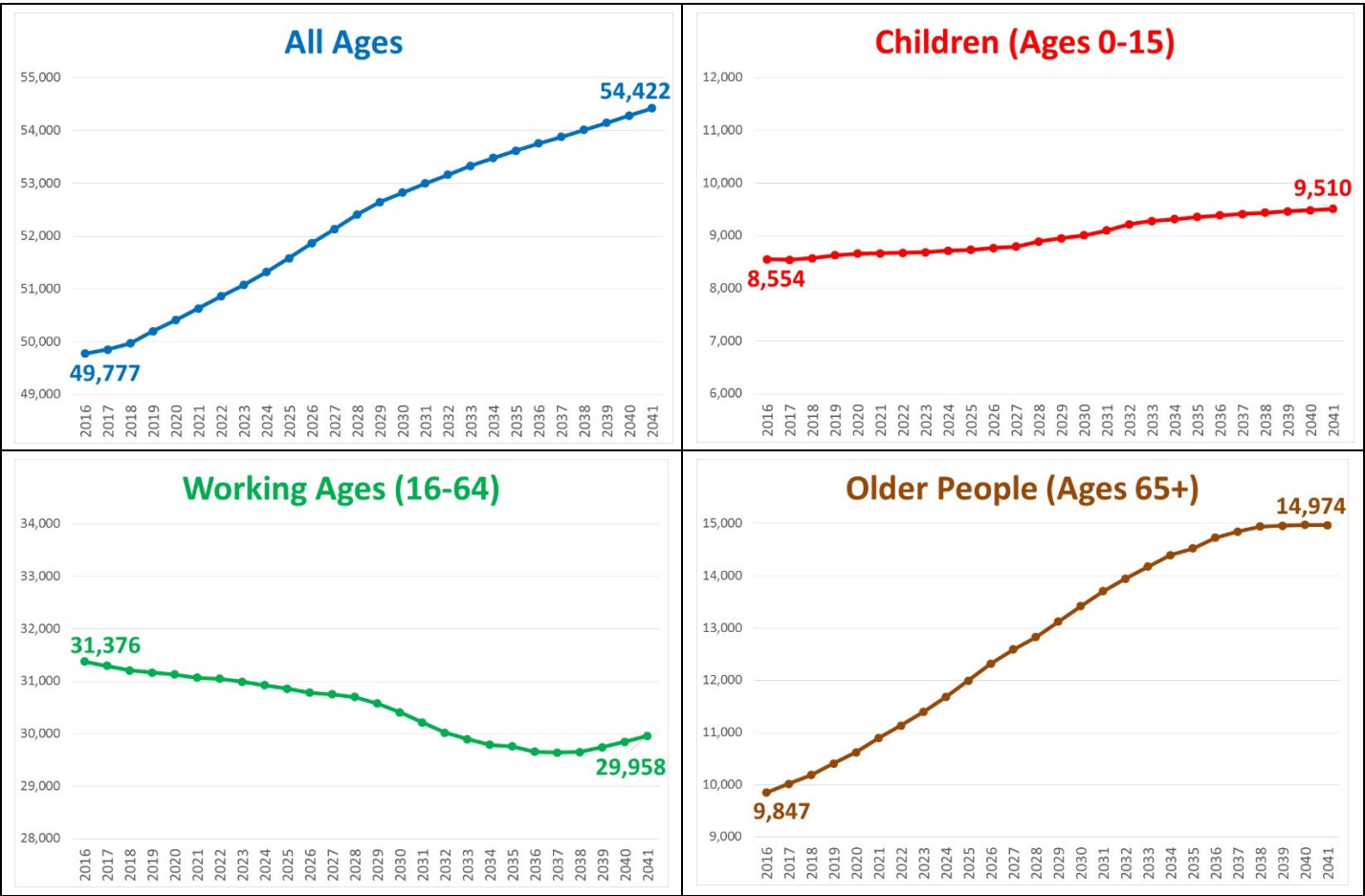


Figure 8.1 – Projected change in population of the area over the period 2016 to 2041 (Fife Council Research)



Figure 8.2 – Local impact of welfare reforms (2016, CRESR, Sheffield Hallam University)