

Rural and remoteness funding – Data and analysis

Background

1. In Academic Year (AY) 2010-11, SFC allocated £8 million in rural and remoteness funding, with 15 colleges receiving a share of this rural and remoteness premium, including the three land-based colleges.
2. SFC funding for the subsequent four years to AY 2014-15 did not include an explicit rural and remoteness premium, but the college / regional allocations were based on announcements from previous years and therefore the rural and remoteness premium was embedded in the overall funding allocations over the period AY 2011-12 to 2014-15. In AY 2015-16, Annex B from our funding announcements did include a rural and remoteness premium worth £8 million but we noted this was subject to review for AY 2016-17 onwards.
3. Had SFC continued to operate the same rural and remoteness premium used in AY 2010-11 (Table 5) and earlier years, the overall rural and remoteness allocation would have fallen from £8 million to under £6.7 million. This is because the rural and remoteness premium included a fixed cost / institutional element plus a variable grant based on student numbers from rural and remote areas. Student numbers (by headcount) from rural and remote areas in 2013-14 have almost halved from the peak in 2007-08.
4. Over the period AY 2012-13 to 2013-14 SFC agreed efficiency savings with larger colleges / regions but did not require rural and remote colleges to deliver similar efficiencies. Therefore our larger colleges / regions were asked to deliver 5% efficiencies whilst Borders and Dumfries & Galloway were not asked to deliver any additional efficiencies. Highlands & Islands were asked to deliver just under a 1% efficiency and North East Scotland College around 3.5%. This policy was in addition to the 'continuation' of the rural and remoteness premium.
5. Although the rural and remoteness premium would have fallen to £6.7 million due to a fall in the number of rural students, and rural colleges were not asked to deliver the same efficiencies as larger colleges, SFC is now budgeting £8.9 million (Table 1 below) in the final AY 2017-18 funding allocations to maintain access to education in rural and remote areas.
6. A comparison between 2010-11 and 2017-18 rural funding is shown below:

Table 1: Regional rural and remoteness premiums, 2010-11 and 2017-18

	2010-11 premium	2017-18 premium
SRUC	£890,410	£1,550,000*
North East	£823,907	£750,000
Highlands	£5,011,573	£4,988,517
Borders	£350,328	£463,652
Dumfries & Galloway	£531,441	£821,973
Dundee & Angus	£337,564	£350,000
	£7,945,223	£8,924,142

*includes £350,000 for Elmwood Campus from 2015-16

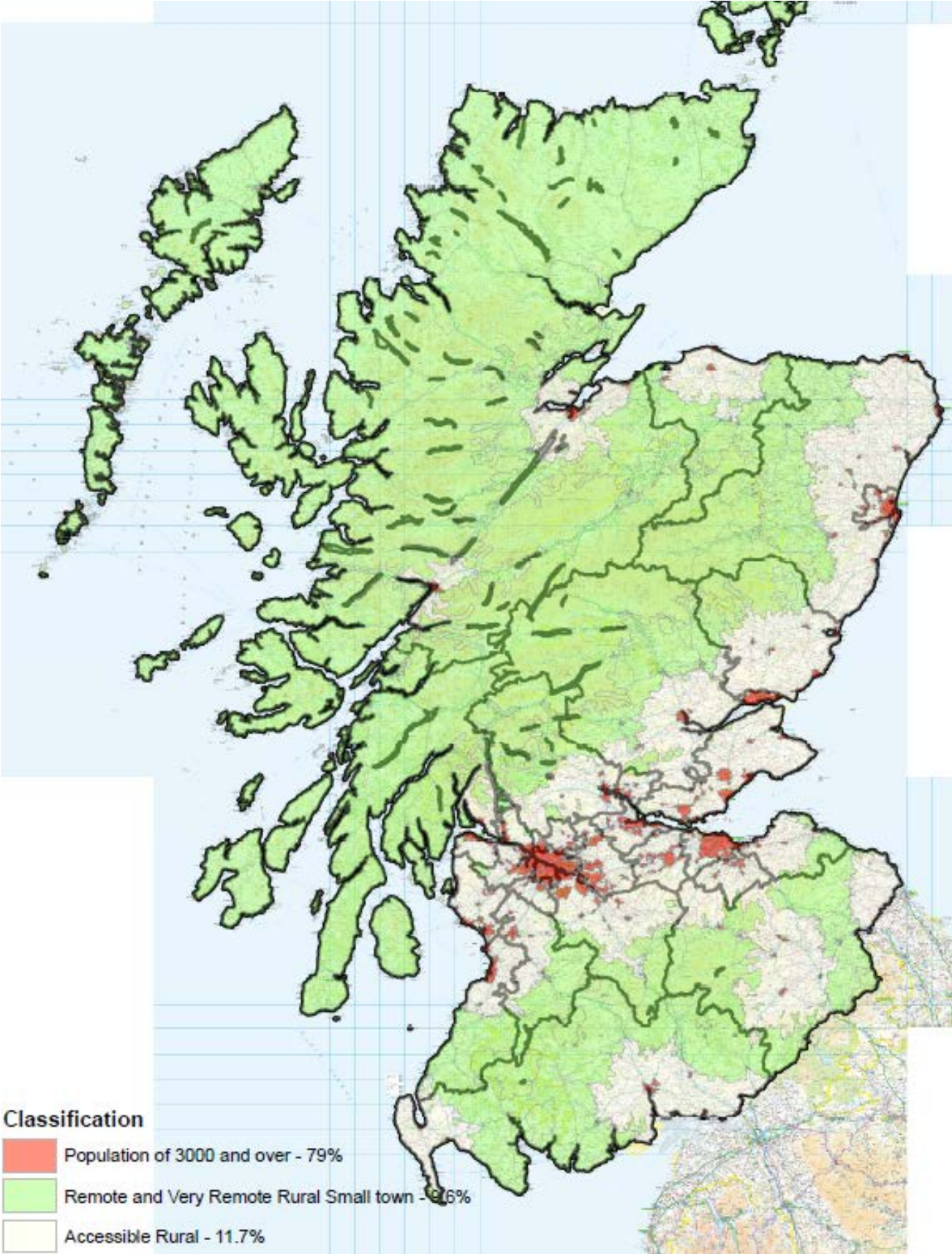
Criteria

Table 2 – Scottish Government Urban and Rural Classification

	urban rural classification	population bands	Drive time to a settlement of 10,000 or more	Scottish population in bands	proportion
1	Large Urban Areas	125,000+	n/a	1,853,524	34.7%
2	Other Urban Areas	10,000 to 125,000	n/a	1,868,047	34.9%
3	Accessible Small Towns	3,000 to 9,999	<=30 mins	494,499	9.2%
6	Accessible Rural Areas	<3,000	<=30 mins	624,990	11.7%
4	Remote small Towns	3,000 to 9,999	30 mins to 1 hr	115,525	2.2%
5	Very Remote small towns	3,000 to 9,999	over 1 hr	67,850	1.3%
7	Remote Rural Areas	<3,000	30 mins to 1 hr	170,242	3.2%
8	Very Remote Rural Areas	<3,000	over 1 hr	152,777	2.9%

Table 3: Rural populations by local authority (colour coded to highlight the local authority areas within each college region.)

Percentage of population in each Urban Rural Classification - Council Areas, 8-fold											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
Council Area	Population	Large urban	Other urban	Accessible small towns	Remote small towns	Very remote small towns	Accessible rural	Remote rural	Very remote rural	proportion from rural categories 4,5, 7 & 8	
Aberdeen City	228,990	93.1	0.0	5.3	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Aberdeenshire	260,500	0.0	30.3	11.9	7.0	0.0	37.1	12.5	1.2	20.7	
Angus	116,660	7.6	53.6	11.8	0.0	0.0	25.5	1.5	0.0	1.5	
Dundee City	148,260	99.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
East Ayrshire	122,150	0.0	41.7	21.8	7.3	0.0	21.1	8.1	0.0	15.4	
North Ayrshire	136,450	0.0	71.4	18.9	0.0	0.0	5.4	0.0	4.4	4.4	
South Ayrshire	112,510	0.0	68.7	4.2	5.9	0.0	17.2	4.0	0.0	9.9	
Clackmannanshire	51,190	0.0	39.8	46.2	0.0	0.0	14.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Falkirk	157,640	0.0	89.6	2.0	0.0	0.0	8.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Stirling	91,580	0.0	53.3	13.1	0.0	0.0	28.7	3.8	1.1	4.9	
East Lothian	102,050	23.4	11.7	24.0	15.0	0.0	23.1	2.8	0.0	17.8	
Edinburgh, City of	492,680	96.3	0.0	2.6	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Midlothian	86,210	0.0	69.2	15.1	0.0	0.0	15.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Scottish Borders	114,030	0.0	25.3	21.6	5.9	0.0	35.6	11.5	0.0	17.5	
Dumfries & Galloway	149,940	0.0	29.0	17.6	7.6	0.0	26.2	19.5	0.1	27.2	
Highland	233,100	0.0	30.2	4.2	7.9	8.0	11.7	14.0	23.9	53.8	
Moray	94,750	0.0	24.7	18.9	14.2	0.0	28.9	12.8	0.6	27.6	
Orkney Islands	21,590	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	33.2	0.0	0.0	66.8	100.0	
Perth & Kinross	148,880	1.2	31.9	9.8	11.1	0.0	32.6	12.0	1.4	24.4	
Eilean Siar	27,250	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	27.0	0.0	0.0	73.0	100.0	
Shetland Islands	23,230	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	30.3	0.0	0.0	69.7	100.0	
Argyll & Bute	87,660	0.0	18.0	0.0	0.0	31.6	7.0	5.2	38.3	75.1	
Renfrewshire	174,230	76.0	10.0	9.1	0.0	0.0	4.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Inverclyde	79,860	0.0	86.1	11.9	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
West Dunbartonshire	89,730	48.8	49.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
East Renfrewshire	92,380	87.2	0.0	9.3	0.0	0.0	3.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Glasgow City	599,650	99.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
East Dunbartonshire	106,730	60.3	26.6	7.6	0.0	0.0	5.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
North Lanarkshire	337,950	1.8	78.8	11.5	0.0	0.0	8.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
South Lanarkshire	315,360	18.7	59.7	10.7	0.0	0.0	9.1	1.8	0.0	1.8	
Fife	367,260	0.0	64.3	17.3	0.0	0.0	18.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
West Lothian	177,150	0.0	78.8	11.1	0.0	0.0	10.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Scotland	5,347,600	34.5	35.1	9.3	2.2	1.3	11.7	3.2	2.9	9.5	



Funding Allocations to regions / colleges

Table 4: Rural population of Highlands region

	% of population considered rural	Remote small towns	Very remote small towns	remote rural	very remote rural
Western Isles	100	0	27	0	73
Shetland	100	0	30.3	0	69.7
Orkney	100	0	33.2	0	66.8
Argyll & Bute	75.1	0	31.6	5.2	38.3
Highland	53.8	7.9	8	14	23.9
Moray	27.6	14.2	0	12.8	0.6
Perth & Kinross	24.5	11.1	0	12	1.4

Table 5: Rural and remoteness premium by college 2010-11

College	College rural / remoteness classification	Total rural and remoteness element 2010-11
Aberdeen College	Non remote	£0
Adam Smith College	Non remote	£0
Angus College	Remote	£337,564
Anniesland College	Non remote	£0
Ayr College	Non remote	£0
Banff & Buchan College of Further Education	Remote	£823,907
The Barony College	Remote	£300,756
Borders College	Remote	£350,328
Cardonald College	Non remote	£0
Carnegie College	Non remote	£0
Central College Glasgow	Non remote	£0
Clydebank College	Non remote	£0
Coatbridge College	Non remote	£0
Cumbernauld College	Non remote	£0
Dumfries & Galloway College	Remote	£531,441
Dundee College	Non remote	£0
Edinburgh's Telford College	Non remote	£0
Elmwood College	Remote	£325,538
Forth Valley College	Non remote	£0
Glasgow Metropolitan College	Non remote	£0
Glasgow College of Nautical Studies	Non remote	£0
Inverness College	Remote	£500,704
James Watt College of Further & Higher Education	Non remote	£0
Jewel & Esk College	Non remote	£0
John Wheatley College	Non remote	£0
Kilmarnock College	Non remote	£0
Langside College	Non remote	£0
Lews Castle College	Island	£752,316
Moray College	Remote	£470,816
Motherwell College	Non remote	£0
North Glasgow College	Non remote	£0
Oatridge College	Remote	£264,116
Perth College	Remote	£417,555
Reid Kerr College	Non remote	£0
South Lanarkshire College	Non remote	£0
Stevenson College	Non remote	£0
Stow College	Non remote	£0
North Highland College	Very remote + island	£1,668,832
Thurso Campus		£599,313
West Highlands Area		£1,069,519
West Lothian College	Non remote	£0
Orkney College	Island	£551,802
Shetland College of Further Education	Island	£649,548
Sector Total		£7,945,223