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**REPORT TO: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE  
SERVICES COMMITTEE ON 21 JUNE 2022**

**SUBJECT: SCOTTISH LOCAL AUTHORITIES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
INDICATOR FRAMEWORK REPORT 2020-21**

**BY: DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (ECONOMY, ENVIRONMENT AND  
FINANCE)**

**1. REASON FOR REPORT**

- 1.1 To inform committee of the performance of Moray Council in the Scottish Local Authorities Economic Development, Indicators Framework Report 2020-21.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section III (F) (2) of the Council's Scheme of Administration relating to the exercise of functions that promote economic development.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 **It is recommended that the Committee consider the performance of the Council's economic development activity and benchmarking against other local authorities through the Scottish Local Authorities Economic Development Group Indicator Framework Report.**

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The Scottish Local Authorities Economic Development Group (SLAED) is a network of economic development officials from across all 32 Scottish local authorities. SLAED exists to provide a national voice for local economic development in Scotland by linking the work of Scotland's 32 local authorities and bringing a collective influence to bear at national and European levels.
- 3.2 Each year, SLAED publishes an Indicator Framework Report, setting out data and information based on returns submitted by the 32 local authorities. The purpose of the SLAED Indicators Framework is to assist Local Authorities to:
- evidence and publicise the contribution that they make to Scotland's economy through their economic development activities; and

- provide a basis for collating consistent data which can be used to better understand impact and identify potential areas for improvement.

3.3 This report, covering the 2020-21 financial year, is the 9<sup>th</sup> annual report and covers the period which commenced during the first national lockdown. As a result, the data included must be viewed within the context of two significant events which have had a detrimental impact upon economic performance in Scotland; the Covid-19 pandemic, and the UK's exit from the European Union. These events have led to an increase in national unemployment, created new challenges in exporting goods and services, and resulted in a constricted labour market.

3.4 Local authorities have been pivotal in supporting businesses and local economies in navigating these crises. Through administering a range of grant funding programmes, local authorities across Scotland have awarded in excess of 91,000 grants, totalling in excess of £1 billion, to support businesses to survive.

3.5 Economic Development Officers are responsible for submitting an annual return for 8 of the indicators. The remainder are taken from national datasets that various Council departments update as part of their function. The full report has been uploaded to the Committee Management Information System (CMIS) along with the agenda.

3.6 The SLAED Indicator Framework includes a suite of 31 indicators, each of which will be expanded upon in the following sections, providing an overview of the performance of Moray's economy. Where relevant and available, comparison with data from previous years and against the Scottish average has been included.

#### 4. **INPUT INDICATORS**

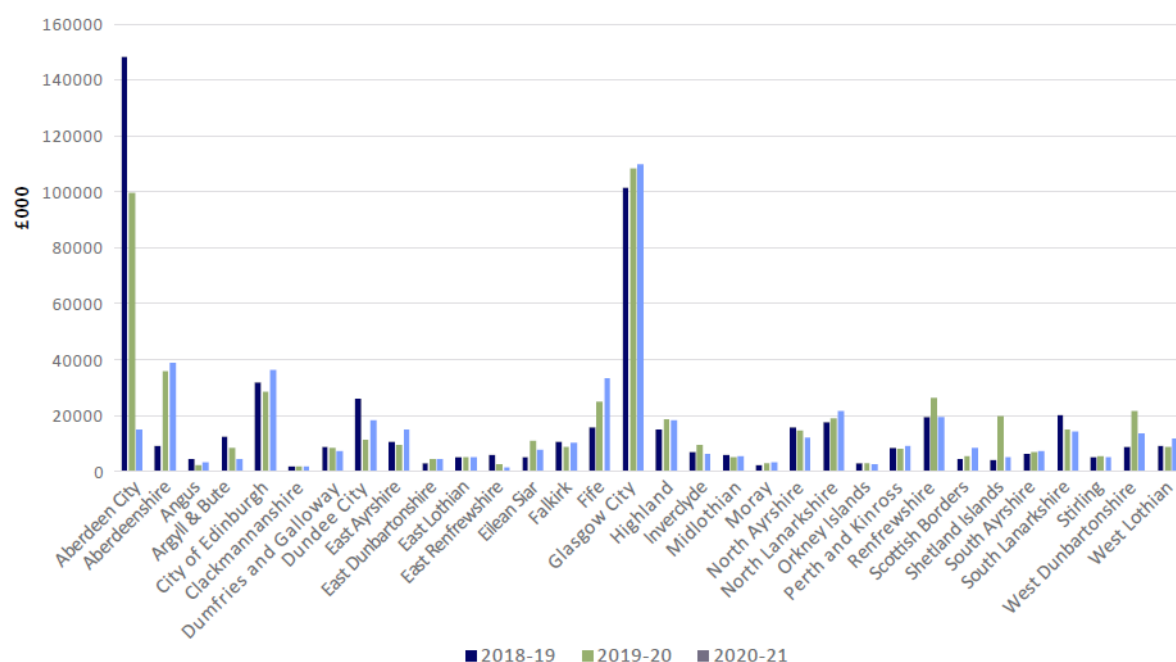
##### 4.1 **I1 Economic Development and Tourism Expenditure – estimated**

Indicator I1 provides an estimate of the capital and revenue spend of the Council on Economic Development and Tourism activities, alongside a comparison of the total spend across Scotland.

2020/21	Total spend by Moray Council	Total spend in Scotland
Total expenditure	£3,267,000	£479,879,000
Capital spend	£228,000	£119,197,000
Revenue spend	£2,999,000	£360,682,000

From 2019/20 to 2020/21, the proportion of Moray's expenditure against the total across Scotland increased from 0.5% to 1.0%. The reduced figure for Scotland is largely resulting from the completion of the AECC within Aberdeen City in 19/20 and significant spend associated with this. Conversely, it is expected that Moray's expenditure against this indicator will increase substantially in future years as delivery of the Moray Growth Deal is

accelerated. The graph below highlights the variation in level of expenditure on economic development and tourism activities across Scottish Councils:



#### 4.2 I2 Economic Development Staffing – estimated

This indicator is a measure of the total number of FTE staff working on the delivery of the Council’s economic development services. Both locally and nationally there was an increase in staff numbers when compared with previous years. This was partially a result of the figure being inclusive of Business Gateway staff for the first time, where they were usually accounted for separately.

Year	Moray Council (FTE) Economic Development staff	Scotland (FTE) Economic Development staff
2020/21	29.3	1,353.3
2019/20	24.3	1,259.2
2018/19	24.3	1,300.3
2017/18	24.0	1,280.4
2016/17	25.6	1,262.2

In Moray, the increase also reflects the appointment of additional keyworkers in the Employability and Skills teams, on a temporary basis, to support delivery of Moray Pathways and the creation of the Local Employability Partnership.

### 5. ACTIVITY INDICATORS

#### 5.1 A1 Number of Attendees at Business Gateway Events

Indicator A1 provides a measure of activity delivered by Business Gateway and counts the number of people that attended Business Gateway events in 2020/21. As a result of Covid-19 restrictions, these events were held virtually rather than in person. These consist of workshops to develop business skills and training for start-up, and growth acceleration.

Year	Event Attendees
2020/21	340
2019/20	250
2018/19	2,269
2017/18	1,599
2016/17	1,452

As a result of social restrictions resulting from the pandemic, Business Gateway main event in Moray was cancelled, as was the case in 2019/20. This, along with other Covid-19 related factors, has resulted in the significant drop in event attendees locally. The transition to online events has also changed the way in which businesses can access Business Gateway support. Local businesses can now attend Business Gateway events in any council area, not just the one that they are registered in.

## 5.2 **A2 Number of Attendees at Business Events provided by the Council**

This indicator measures attendance at one-to-many business events, as opposed to the one-to-one support provided to businesses measured under indicator OP1.

Year	Event Attendees
2020/21	4,905
2019/20	1,893
2018/19	1,800
2017/18	1,499
2016/17	641

In 2020/21, there was a total of 8,779 attendees at business events provided by Councils across the whole of Scotland. Moray Council accounted for 4,905 of those, which was 55.9% of the total. This was a result of the online Moray Digital Doors Open Day event, held during the period, which allowed access to local heritage facilities.

## 5.3 **A3 Number of Companies Registered with Supplier Development Programme**

This indicator provides a measurement of local businesses that are engaged in public procurement activity, through counting the number of businesses in Moray that are registered with the Supplier Development Programme (SDP).

Year	Companies Registered with SDP
2020/21	129
2019/20	117
2018/19	60
2017/18	36

Locally, there has been growth in the number of companies registered with SDP in recent years, highlighting that an increasing number of local firms are aware of the opportunities afforded through public procurement.

However, Moray underperforms in this measure against all other local authorities, other than the three which are island based. This demonstrates the need to expand current awareness raising activities to ensure more businesses are engaged. The Community Wealth Building (CWB) approach being developed will assist with this, through coordinating the supplier development support available for local businesses across public sector anchors.

## 6. **OUTPUT INDICATORS**

### 6.1 **OP1 Number of Businesses Supported by Council Economic Development Activity**

This indicator shows the number of businesses which were directly supported on a one to one basis, as opposed to those recorded in indicator A2.

An amended data collection template was trialled for 2020/21 to assist in collating the data for an online SLAED indicator dashboard. However, many Councils were not able to provide the requested breakdowns for business support, and in some cases did not have capacity to respond due to administering Covid-19 support.

Year	Businesses Supported
2020/21	0
2019/20	253
2018/19	13
2017/18	71
2016/17	6

It is important to note that Covid-19 financial support for businesses is not covered under this indicator. Council economic development and business support teams were redeployed to administer Covid-19 grants, therefore day to day assistance, as counted in this indicator, was limited or temporarily suspended. During 2020/21, Moray Council administered and paid out Covid-19 Business Support Funds to a value of £33,540,176. This provided a vital lifeline for the local business community.

### 6.2 **OP2 Number of Business Gateway Support Unique Customer Accounts**

This indicator shows the support delivered by Business Gateway through the number of business accounts that have received support. Each account is recorded only once even if support has been provided on multiple occasions.

Year	Unique Customer Accounts
2020/21	689

2019/20	746
2018/19	804
2017/18	929

Local data shows a year on year decrease in the number of businesses supported. This follows the trend nationally, where there has also been a slight decrease in the number of businesses supported overall.

### 6.3 **OP3 Number of Companies Assisted by Scottish Development International**

This is a measure of support delivered to local businesses by Scottish Development International (SDI) to provide assistance with export activity. There was a significant year on year reduction in the number of businesses supported nationally, which could be reflective of the additional barriers companies are facing as a result of Covid-19 and Brexit. This reduction was replicated locally.

Year	Unique Customer Accounts
2020/21	21
2019/20	31
2018/19	32
2017/18	45
2016/17	43

To support the work of SDI, additional export support is available locally through Business Gateway. This 1-2-1 consultancy provision is designed to help mitigate the impacts of Brexit and was launched as part of the Economic Recovery Plan. This provided support to 16 businesses, with a total of 29 days of support delivered through the programme, up to March 2021.

### 6.4 **OP4 Number of Unemployed People that have Participated in Council Funded or Operated Employability Activities**

This indicator provides a measure of the total number of people who have participated in employability activities funded and/or operated by the Council. Employability services cover a range of activities and support aimed at addressing economic inactivity and unemployment.

Year	Participants
2020/21	198*
2019/20	480
2018/19	712
2017/18	716
2016/17	423

\*The data above has been incorrectly recorded. The correct number of participants for 2020/21 is 198, though this has been reported as 27.

This was still a significant reduction in the number of unemployed people who participated in employability activities in Moray during the year. Moray Training had been offering support through the Employability Fund but this

was disbanded during Covid-19 and employment support services were also stopped due to the pandemic.

## 6.5 **OP5 Percentage of Immediately Available Employment Land**

OP5 is a measure of all land that is fully serviced and immediately available for business use. It provides an assessment of Council performance in being prepared for supporting business expansion and attracting inward investment.

Year	Employment Land
2020/21	34.8%
2019/20	24.2%
2018/19	49.0%

Moray is currently performing slightly below the Scottish average, which sits at 39.2%. However, further expansion or development of industrial units in Speyside and the East of Moray is being progressed as part of the Economic Recovery Plan activity.

## 6.6 **OP6 Number of Businesses Participating in Supplier Development Programme**

The data used in this indicator is provided directly by the SDP and counts the number of businesses that are active following registration with the programme.

Year	Business Participants
2020/21	11
2019/20	24
2018/19	24

There was reduced participation from Moray businesses in comparison to the previous year, which was reflected among many similar sized local authorities. However, as this indicator data is collected nationally, it does not always capture the full extent of participation in SDP events from Moray businesses.

## 7. **OUTCOME INDICATORS**

### 7.1 **OC1 Gross Value Added per Capita**

Gross Value Added (GVA) is used to assess the relative economic health and wealth of areas. It measures the value of goods and services produced in an area per head of population. GVA tends to be higher in areas with more business diversity or where there are significant sectors that are highly capital intensive, such as oil and gas.

Year	GVA in Moray	GVA in Scotland
2019	£36,356	£42,122

In previous years, the data included in this indicator was provided for NUTS3 regions, so reporting for Moray was based on the data for Inverness, Nairn, Moray, Badenoch and Strathspey. However, the data included in the most recent report, for 2019, is now broken down by local authority. It demonstrates that GVA per capita in Moray is below the Scottish average, though Moray outperforms many other similar sized local authorities.

## 7.2 OC2 Gross Weekly Earnings

This indicator measures the median gross weekly earnings of full-time employees within Moray, on both a residence-based and workplace-based basis. The residence-based data accounts for people living in Moray, regardless of the council area in which they work. The workplace-based data includes those that work in Moray, regardless of the council area in which they reside.

### Residence Based

Year	Moray	Scotland
2020	£565.80	£622.00
2019	£561.60	£577.70
2018	£527.20	£562.70
2017	£497.90	£547.70
2016	£498.70	£536.60

### Workforce Based

Year	Moray	Scotland
2020	£579.00	£622.40
2019	£569.90	£576.70
2018	£549.80	£563.20
2017	£498.10	£547.30
2016	£491.80	£535.00

On both measures, the median salaries in Moray are below those of the Scottish average. While the gap had been closing, it has grown significantly in the past year. Gross weekly earnings have grown in the majority of local authority areas, though appear to have stagnated across the north east, in Moray, Aberdeen, and Aberdeenshire. This may be linked to the downturn in the oil and gas industry, caused by reduced demand for fuel early in the pandemic. It should be noted that the data does not account for the salaries of members of the armed forces or the self-employed.

## 7.3 OC3 Employment Rate

The employment rate is calculated from the number of people aged 16-64 that were in employment in 2020/21 as a percentage of the total 16-64 population.

Year	Employment Rate in Moray	Employment Rate in Scotland
2020/21	72.7%	72.8%
2019/20	76.4%	74.5%
2018/19	74.4%	74.5%
2017/18	73.8%	74.3%



2016/17	73.5%	73.4%
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The employment rate for Moray was almost identical to that of the Scottish average, though both had fallen from the previous year as the impacts of furlough and social restrictions were felt early in the pandemic. However, in Moray the employment rate fell by 3.7% on the previous year, where it had only fallen by 1.7% across Scotland. This was likely influenced by the structure of the economy, where Moray has a higher proportion of people employed in the sectors that were most exposed to the effects of Covid-19 (manufacturing, construction, retail and wholesale, accommodation and food services, arts, entertainment and recreation), than the national average.

#### 7.4 OC4 New Business Starts per 10,000 Working Age Population

This indicator assists in measuring the level of entrepreneurial activity within the local authority area. It counts the number of business births per 10,000 of the 16-64 year old population (excluding sole traders).

Year	Business Starts in Moray	Business Starts in Scotland
2020	38	51
2019	45	62
2018	50	59
2017	48	64
2016	50	62

The historic trend of Moray having fewer start-ups than across Scotland was maintained in 2020, with both seeing a similar decrease in the level of business births throughout the first year of the pandemic. Much like the impact on other sectors of the economy, this is likely to be reflective of the barriers to entrepreneurship caused as a result of Covid-19.

#### 7.5 OC5 Business Survival Rate (3 Year)

OC5 measures the number of business start-ups in an area in terms of their three-year survival rate, though again excluding sole traders.

Year	Moray 3 Year Survival Rate	Scotland 3 Year Survival Rate
2017-2020	58.7%	55.9%
2016-2019	63.2%	56.5%
2015-2018	63.3%	56.0%
2014-2017	63.0%	60.0%
2013-2016	64.9%	62.1%

Moray has had a consistently higher survival rate than for Scotland overall, which remains the case. However, the pandemic has so far had little impact overall on the sustainability of businesses across Scotland, with only a 0.7% decrease in the business survival rate. At a local level, it appears Moray businesses have felt the impacts of the pandemic more acutely, with the business survival rate falling by 4.5%. This suggests that Moray businesses lack the resilience to survive economic shocks of the magnitude seen since

the start of the pandemic. The business support measures developed via the Economic Recovery Plan have been targeted towards building business resilience and sustainability to address this.

## 7.6 OC6 Claimants in Receipt of Out-of-Work Benefits

OC6 shows the percentage of working age people claiming either Job Seekers Allowance or Universal Credit, at both a Moray and Scotland level.

Year	Moray Working Age People Claiming Unemployment Benefits	Scotland Working Age People Claiming Unemployment Benefits
2021	5.1%	6.1%
2020	2.7%	3.3%
2019	2.6%	3.1%
2018	2.0%	2.6%

While there remains a lower proportion of people in Moray claiming unemployment benefits than in Scotland, the rate for both has increased significantly. Factors resulting from the pandemic, such as increased redundancies, failing businesses, and a lack of employment opportunities, are likely to have influenced this increase.

## 7.7 OC7 Working Age Population with Low/No Qualifications

This indicator shows the percentage of people aged 16-64 that possess either no formal qualifications, or qualifications at SCQF (Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework) level 4 or below.

Year	Moray Working Age Population with Low or No Qualifications	Scotland Working Age Population with Low or No Qualifications
2020	8.5%	9.7%
2019	11.6%	11.6%
2018	11.2%	11.6%
2017	12.2%	10.8%
2016	12.8%	11.9%

In Moray, the percentage of people with low or no qualifications has been on a downward trajectory and is now below the overall rate for Scotland.

## 7.8 OC8 Town Vacancy Rate

The Town Vacancy Rate provides a measure of vacant retail units in Moray's main town centres (Elgin, Forres, Lossiemouth, Keith, and Buckie) as a percentage of the total available retail units. This can be used to assess the relative vibrancy of town centres.

Year	Moray Town Centre Vacancy Rate	Scotland Town Centre Vacancy Rate
2021	10.9%	9.2%
2020	6.9%	11.7%

2019	6.9%	10.0%
2018	9.9%	11.5%
2017	11.9%	10.2%

The rate of growth in vacancy rates in Moray is significant, and demonstrates the likely failure of numerous businesses in the retail sector as a result of the lack of consumer demand. Nationally, the decrease in vacancy rate overall must be analysed in the context of only 25 of the 32 local authorities having capacity to provide a return for this data. Therefore, the reduction may not be fully representative of the town centre landscape across Scotland.

### 7.9 OC9 Number of Business Gateway start-ups that are Trading

This is a measure of the number of start-up businesses supported by the local Business Gateway branch that have begun trading.

Year	Moray Start-Ups that are Trading	Scotland Start-Ups that are Trading
2020/21	91	6,117
2019/20	155	8,964
2018/19	120	9,083
2017/18	128	9,129
2016/17	132	8,983

Like many of the other indicators linked to entrepreneurial activity, there has been a sharp decline in this indicator, as a result of reduced business activity throughout the early stages of the pandemic.

### 7.10 OC11 Leverage of External Funding

The purpose of this indicator is to assess the value of external funding leveraged in as match to the Council's own financial contribution towards project delivery. This usually includes funding through the European Union, Scottish Government, UK Government, alongside grant funding and private investment.

Year	Moray Funding Leverage per £1 of Investment	Scotland Funding Leverage per £1 of Investment
2020/21	£1: £2.22	£1: £2.37
2019/20	£1: £2.77	£1: £1.91
2018/19	£1: £1.29	£1: £1.63
2017/18	£1: £2.66	£1: £1.71
2016/17	£1: £3.69	£1: £1.54

Moray has often outperformed the amount of leverage recorded at a national level. However, in 2020/21, Moray has fallen below the average for Scotland overall, with £2.22 leveraged for every £1 of Council investment. Relative performance in leveraging funding is challenging to measure because each local authority will be delivering projects and accessing investment at different times. Dundee City Council, Perth and Kinross Council, and Orkney Islands Council all saw significant growths in their level of leveraged funding in

2020/21, which has accounted for much of the overall increase across Scotland.

**7.11 OC12 Number of Planned New Jobs from Completed Inward Investment Projects and Number of Planned Safeguarded Jobs**

This indicator provides a measure of job creation and job protection resulting from inward investment activity, as a result of support provided through SDI.

Year	Moray Planned New Jobs	Moray Planned Safeguarded Jobs
2020/21	0	0
2019/20	64	0
2018/19	12	0
2017/18	19	0
2016/17	0	0

Over 50% of Council's had no planned new job in 2020/21, as was the case in Moray.

**7.12 OC13 Number of Unemployed People that have Progressed to Employment from Participation in Council Funded/Operated Employability Activities**

OC13 tracks the progression of people who have participated in Council employability services, who have then successfully moved into employment from being unemployed.

Year	Moray Employment Progression	Scotland Employment Progression
2020/21	54*	7,271
2019/20	42	11,304
2018/19	62	15,328
2017/18	157	16,469
2016/17	83	17,020

\*The data above has been incorrectly recorded by SLAED. The correct number of participants for 2020/21 is 54, though this has been reported as 105.

There is a continuing downward trend in this indicator nationally. However, employability services in Moray proved successful in increasing the number of unemployed people supported back into work year on year. A suite of new employability services were launched as part of the Economic Recovery Plan, so this trend may continue for 2021/22.

It is important to note that this indicator only captures those who are supported into employment and not those who progress into other positive destinations, such as education and training.

## 8. **INCLUSIVE GROWTH INDICATORS**

### 8.1 **IG1 Gross Value Added per hour worked and per job filled**

These indicators are recommended for use for the Office for National Statistics (ONS) to measure productivity.

	Year	Moray	Scotland
GVA per hour worked	2019	£33.50	£33.60
GVA per job filled	2019	£49,701	£52,252

Previously, as was the case for OC1, data for these indicators was recorded for Inverness, Nairn, Moray, Badenoch and Strathspey. It is now recorded at a local authority level, so for this year the data is Moray specific. Following this transition there has been minimal change in the GVA per hour worked, which remains broadly similar to the Scottish average. However, Moray's performance for GVA per job filled is below the Scottish average, where it had previously been similar when recorded at a regional level.

### 8.2 **IG2 Underemployment**

Underemployment is defined as a person aged 16 and over who is in employment and would like to work longer hours in their existing job, work an additional job, or find a different job with more hours.

Year	Moray Underemployment	Scotland Underemployment
2020	10.4%	8.1%
2019	8.8%	7.1%
2018	6.2%	7.4%
2017	8.4%	8.0%

In the last two years, there have been more people in Moray who are seeking work with more hours than the national average. It would be expected for this rate to fall, both locally and nationally, in the years ahead due to the lack of supply in the labour market as we have begun to emerge from the pandemic.

### 8.3 **IG3 5 year % change in median income vs lowest quintile**

IG3 is a crucial indicator in assessing the level of inequality in the Moray economy. It measures the percentage change in gross weekly earnings over a five-year period between earners in the lowest quintile and median earners.

Year	Moray	Scotland
2016/21	-9.7%	-2.6%
2015/20	6.1%	-4.3%
2014/19	6.1%	-4.3%
2013/18	0.1%	-3.1%

Between 2016 and 2021, Moray has successfully reduced the inequality gap between median earners and those in the lowest quintile. Only Falkirk Council and East Ayrshire Council had reduced their earning gap by a larger

percentage over this period. However, it should be noted that data for IG3 is survey based and therefore subject to a large margin of error at a local authority level compared to nationally.

#### 8.4 **IG5 Percentage of Employees earning less than Living Wage**

This indicator measures the proportion of employees who are 18+ that are earning less than the Living Wage. This is calculated using gross hourly earnings, excluding any overtime.

Year	Moray	Scotland
2020	21.5%	15.1%
2019	24.0%	16.9%
2018	27.4%	19.4%
2017	24.9%	18.4%

Moray remains above the national average for this indicator, though the rate has continued on a downward trend and the gap is closing. Data is gathered using sample surveys and apportioned locally so is not always statistically accurate at a local level.

#### 8.5 **IG6 Percentage of Participation in Education, Employment & Training by 16-19 year olds**

IG6 provides a measure of the percentage of 16-19 year olds that remain in positive destinations, meaning they are participating in either education, employment or training.

Year	Moray	Scotland
2021	91.8%	92.2%
2020	93.5%	92.1%
2019	91.3%	91.6%
2018	91.2%	91.8%

For this measure Moray had been performing above the national average, but this rate has fallen by 1.7% in 2021, and now sits slightly below the rate for Scotland as a whole. This may be a result of there being reduced employment opportunities locally as a result of the pandemic.

#### 8.6 **IG7 Percentage of premises unable to access 10Mbit/s broadband**

This indicator provides an indication of the local level of digital inclusion. It measures the percentage of premises which are unable to access 10Mbit/s broadband.

Year	Moray	Scotland
2021	7.1%	4.2%
2020	7.0%	4.2%
2019	7.3%	4.8%
2018	9.2%	6.1%

Moray has a consistently higher percentage of properties without access to sufficient broadband speeds, than Scotland as a whole. This is true of the majority of rural local authorities, due to the higher cost of infrastructure provision. The Scottish Government's R100 programme is targeted towards addressing this issue, with the North Lot (which includes Moray) awarded to BT in December 2020. This has become even more of a priority issue to resolve since the start of the pandemic, due to the increased number of people now remote working from home.

### 8.7 **IG8 Percentage of premises able to access Superfast Broadband**

Conversely to IG7, this indicator reports on the percentage of premises which have access to superfast broadband, with minimum speeds of 30Mbit/s. Again, this provides a measure of digital inclusion, as connectivity is essential for local economies to remain competitive.

Year	Moray	Scotland
2021	84.3%	90.1%
2020	84.6%	93.3%
2019	84.2%	89.6%
2018	83.0%	91.1%

As with the previous indicator, the Moray percentage remains below the Scottish average. The R100 scheme is focussed upon providing full fibre connectivity, with minimum speeds of 30Mbit/s, so this percentage should increase in years ahead as the network is rolled out.

### 8.8 **IG9 Percentage of Good or Very Good Life Satisfaction**

This is a new indicator for 2020/21 and reflects the increasing focus within Scotland around creation of wellbeing and inclusive economies. The data is collated from the ONS Wellbeing Survey.

Year	Moray	Scotland
2020/21	79.6%	76.3%

Moray records a higher rate of positive life satisfaction among residents than the Scottish average. Only 6 local authorities record a higher percentage than Moray, with all but one of those also being largely rural areas, demonstrating the benefits of living in a rural environment.

### 8.9 **IG10 CO2 emissions per capita**

Like IG9, this is also a new indicator for 2020/21. It is included in the Indicator Framework Report to account for the increased focus upon improving wellbeing and tackling the climate change emergency.

Year	Moray CO2 per capita	Scotland CO2 per capita
2019	6.5 tCO2	5.7 tCO2

Using the 2019 data, Moray produced a higher level of CO2 emissions per capita, than Scotland as a whole. This may be linked to the scale of the manufacturing sector in Moray and associated transport logistics. Supporting communities and private enterprises in the transition to net zero will be key in reducing emissions across the area.

## **9. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

### **(a) Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP))**

Effective monitoring and review of economic activity supports the corporate plan priority of promoting economic development and growth, as well as the LOIP priority of a growing and sustainable economy.

### **(b) Policy and Legal**

There are no policy and legal issues arising directly from this report.

### **(c) Financial implications**

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

### **(d) Risk Implications**

There are no risk implications arising directly from this report.

### **(e) Staffing Implications**

There are no additional staffing implications arising directly from this report.

### **(f) Property**

There are no property issues arising directly from this report.

### **(g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact**

The SLAED Indicator Framework Report provides essential data for monitoring the socio economic health of Moray and has implications in assessing equality of opportunity for people from vulnerable and disadvantaged backgrounds.

### **(h) Climate Change and Biodiversity Impacts**

There are no biodiversity issues arising directly from this report. However, indicator IG10 records CO2 emissions per capita, which is a critical performance measure in the Council's transition towards reaching net zero.



**(i) Consultations**

Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance), the Head of Economic Growth and Development, and Principal Climate Change Officer have been consulted and their comments included in the report.

**7. CONCLUSION**

- 7.1 The SLAED Indicator Framework Report demonstrates the scale of impacts upon the Moray economy as a result of Brexit and the COVID-19 pandemic. The Moray Growth Deal and range of measures proposed within the Economic Recovery Plan have been targeted towards addressing and mitigating against these impacts. Future Indicator Framework Reports from SLAED will help demonstrate the effectiveness of these measures and the speed of economic recovery.

Author of Report: Chris Muir, Senior Officer Economic Strategy and Development

Background Papers: SLAED Indicators Framework Report 2020-21

Ref: