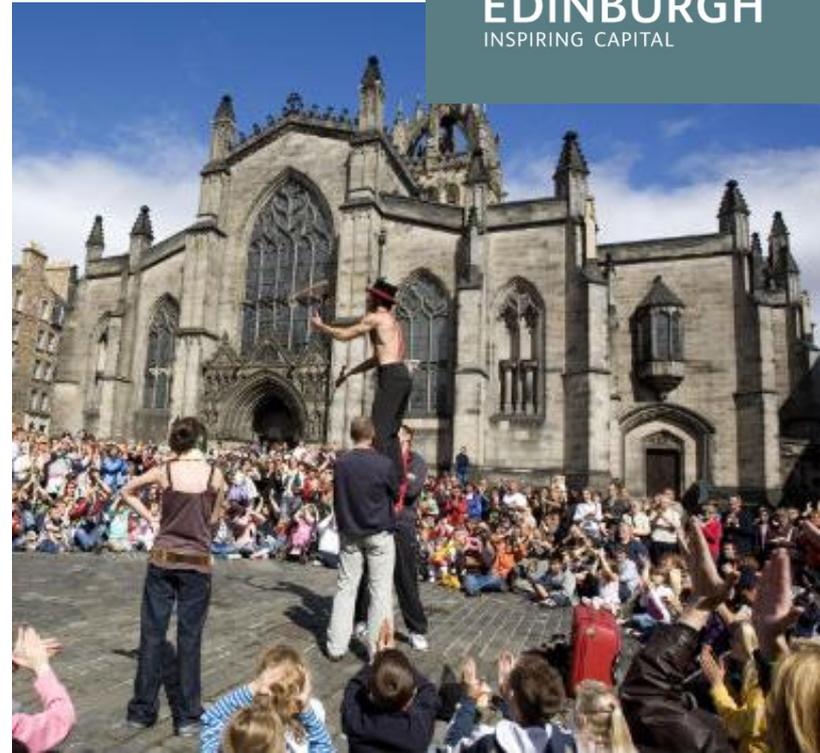
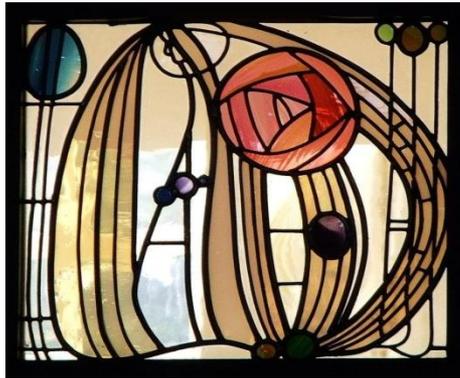


# More art than science? HIA as a partnership activity in Scotland

Dr Margaret Douglas  
Scottish Health and Inequalities  
Impact Assessment Network  
March 2016

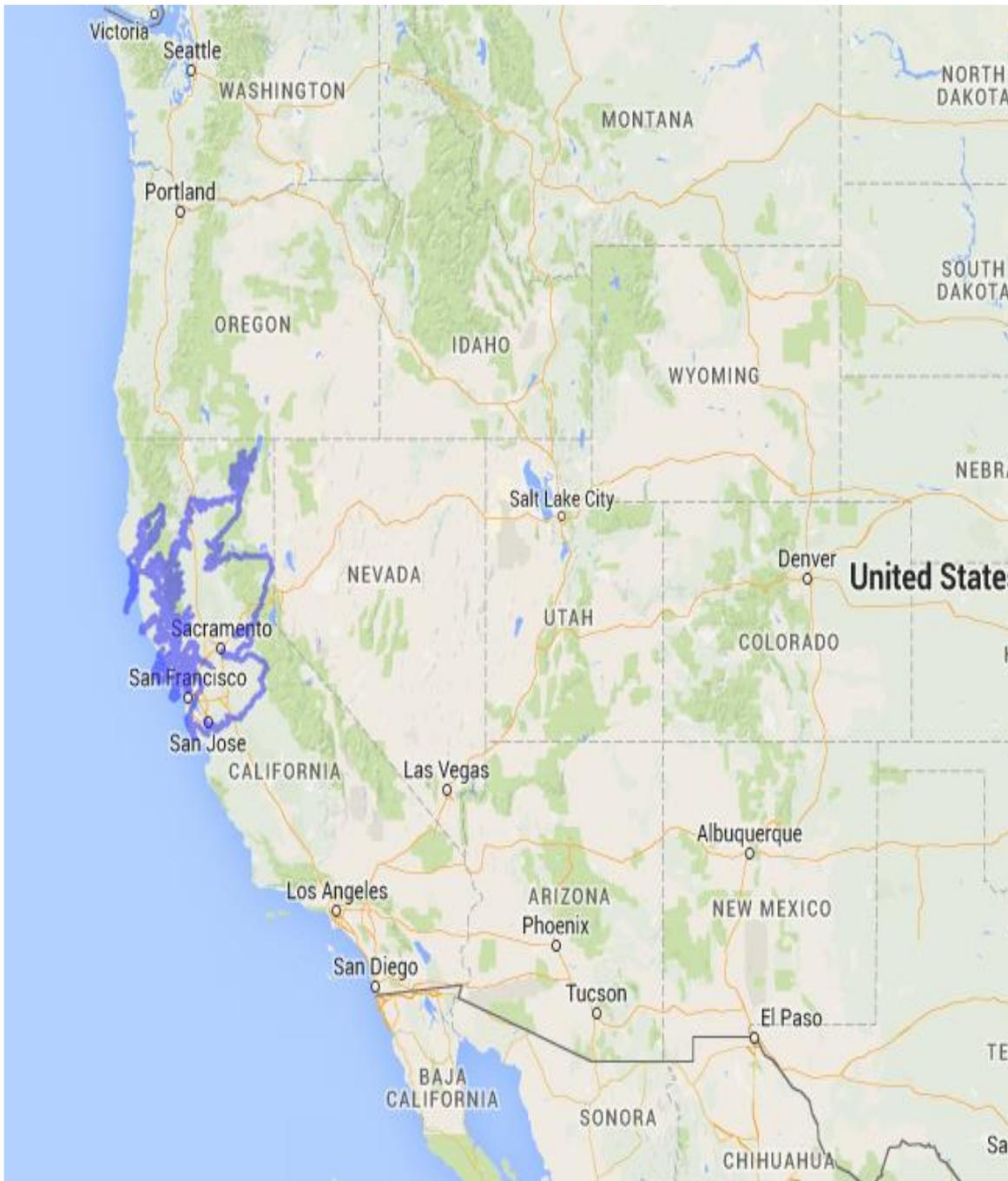


  
**EDINBURGH**  
INSPIRING CAPITAL





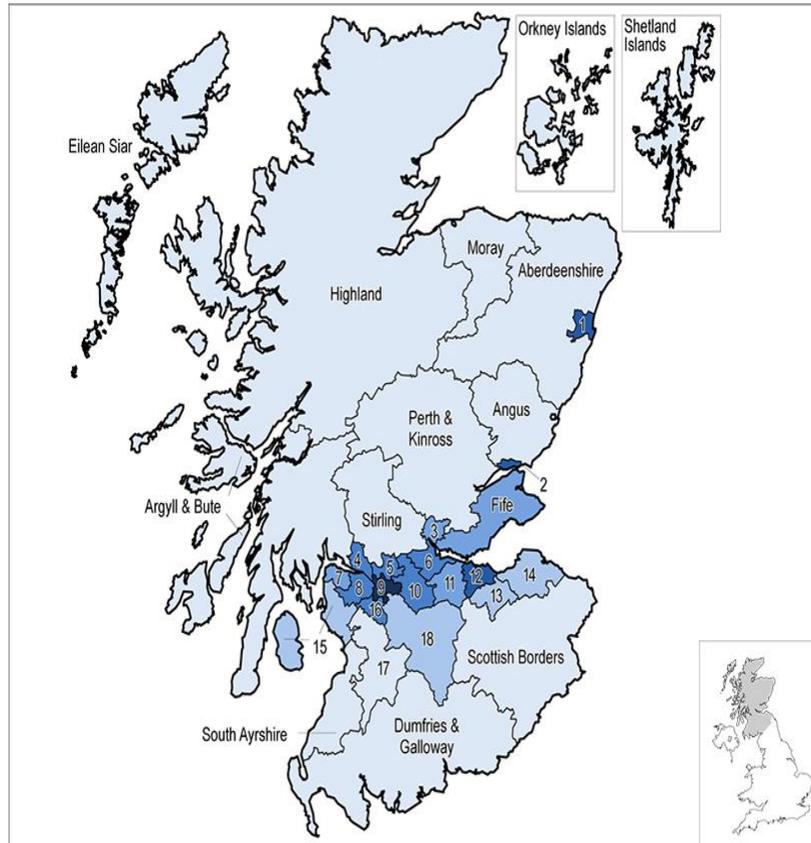
Mapsof.net



Mapfrappe



## Scotland population density: by council area, 2010



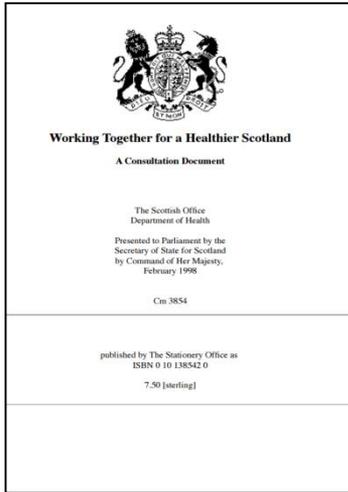
Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2012  
Contains National Statistics data © Crown copyright and database right 2012

Population density, 2010  
(people per sq km)



- Scotland population: 5.3 million
  - USA: 319 million
  - California: 39 million
- 
- Scottish Government – devolved responsibility for health

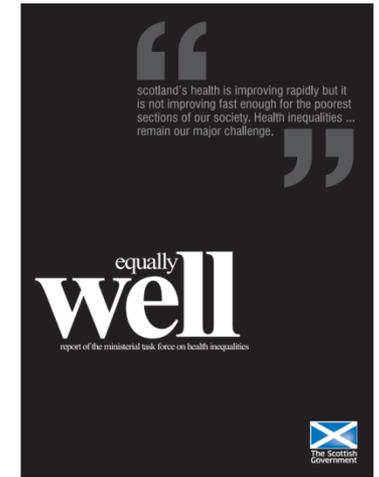
# HIA in Scotland



**1998** Green paper: 6 mentions of Health Impact Assessment



**1999:** 'The Public Health Strategy Group will promote the widespread use of Health Impact Assessment when formulating Government policies'



**2008:** 'Integrated impact assessment processes for public policies and programmes should be developed and implemented at national and local levels'



# But other SG departments less supportive....

*'The Scottish Government has no current intentions of putting Health Impact Assessments on a statutory footing .....*

*.... A number of planning authorities have, quite understandably, expressed concern about the challenges in implementing the new planning system. The introduction of Health Impact Assessments can only add to those challenges.'*

Letter from Chief Planner in 2008

# A cacophony of assessments...

**Environmental  
Assessment**

**Health Impact  
Assessment**

**Equality  
Impact  
Assessment**

**Strategic  
Environmental  
Assessment**

**Human Rights  
Impact  
Assessment**

**Carbon Impact  
Assessment**

**Business and  
Regulatory  
Impact  
Assessment**

# HIA in Scotland

- (some) policy support... but not a requirement
- No dedicated staff or other resource
- No HIA consultancies
- Environmental consultancies have no health professionals
- > 1000 people in various public health roles, mostly in the national health service

# Scottish Health and Inequalities Impact Assessment Network

- Running since 2001
- Coordinator one day per week, no other dedicated funding
- Now part of Scottish Public Health Network
- Aim to promote and support HIA and inclusion of health in other impact assessments
- Evidence based guides to HIA of specific sectors
- General HIA guidance
- Training
- Support and advice to colleagues



# Networking on a shoestring

- Aim for better policies – not just better assessment
- Integration of assessments
- Proportionate use of resources and methods
  - Do a scoping workshop, other evidence if it will inform decision
- Build into mainstream roles and other processes
- Partnership approach

# HIA steps

Proposal



Screening

↓  
Scoping

↓  
Appraisal

Decision



↓  
Recommendations

↓  
Monitoring

# South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture



- Not for profit charitable company - manages sports centres, outdoor recreation facilities, museums, libraries, arts venues and community halls formerly managed by South Lanarkshire Council – 9 million attendances per year
- Grant funding from council and other sources
- Lanarkshire Health Board approached SHIAN asking for support to do an 'HIA of SLIC activities' to inform decisions about funding cuts
- Is this an HIA?
- What is the proposal to be assessed?

# What we did



SOUTH LANARKSHIRE  
Leisure & Culture

- Set up a group
- Scoping workshops with SLLC staff
- Local profile
- Service data
- Literature review
- Rapid appraisal to consult users of facilities
- Analysed and summarised impacts
- Generated recommendations
- Drafted report

# Who did the work



SOUTH LANARKSHIRE  
Leisure & Culture

- Set up a group - LHB, SLLC, SHIIAN
- Health profile - LHB, SHIIAN
- Service data - SLLC, SHIIAN
- Scoping workshops with SLLC staff – SHIIAN, SLLC
- Literature review - SHIIAN
- Rapid appraisal to consult users of facilities - SLLC, SHIIAN
- Analysed and summarised impacts - SHIIAN, LHB, SLLC
- Generated recommendations - SHIIAN, LHB, SLLC
- Drafted report – SHIIAN, LHB, SLLC

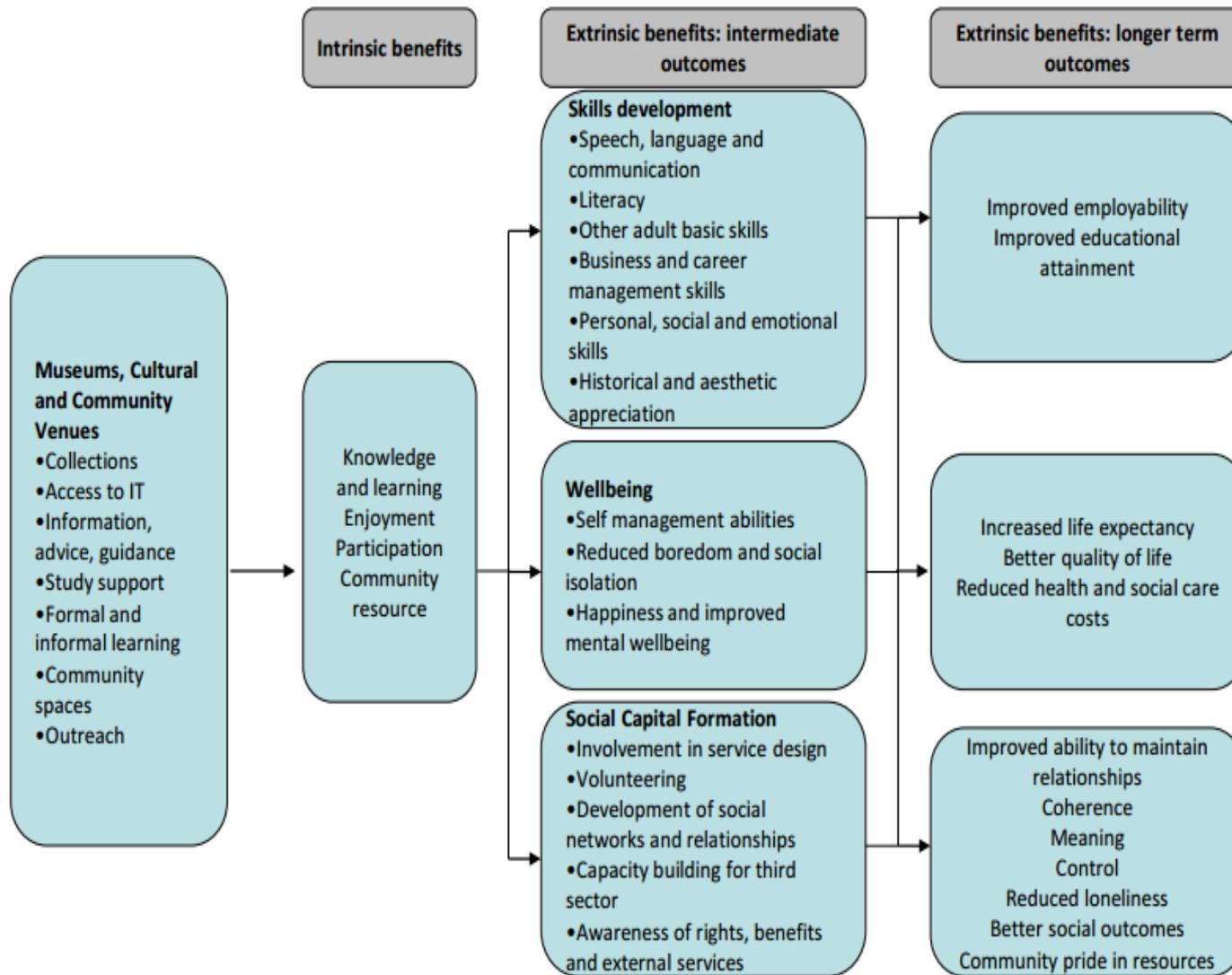
# Areas of impact



SOUTH LANARKSHIRE  
Leisure & Culture

- Some relate to specific service
  - Physical activity
  - Learning and skills development
  - Bibliotherapy
- Some generic to all community venues
  - Social capital
  - Opportunities for integration of other services
  - Importance of staff attitudes and approach

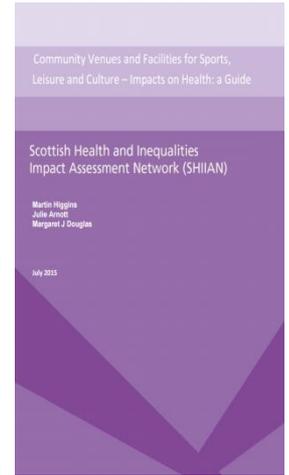




Assumptions: museums , cultural and community venues are accessible to a range of users – barriers identified and removed; there is support to access and use resources provided; heritage and installations made accessible and relevant and adapted to feedback; active engagement of local people; space available for community use

# Outcomes

- A national resource
- Better links between LHB and SLLC
- Further work on integration of services
- Further assessments of proposed plans
- Health Management Plan
- Understanding of facilities as community resource



# Conclusion

- Improving policy for health - with little resource
- How far to compromise on best practice?
- Partnership approach
  - Adds resource
  - Use of expertise
  - Share skills
  - Can influence minds as well as actions
  - Relationships as important as expertise





<http://www.scotphn.net/networks/scottish-health-and-inequalities-impact-assessment-network-shian/introduction/>

Scottish Health and Inequalities Impact Assessment Network

