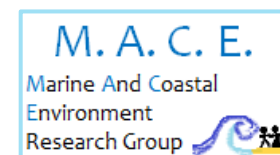# Social science of the Coast

Challenges and benefits of using coastal typologies to understand the sustainability of coastal places

By Paula Duffy

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University of St Andrews

Today…

- Why Scottish Coastal populations?
- Where does my research fit?
- My Research and Reflections.
- What does it show?
- Why does or could this matter?

So why Scottish Coastal populations?

- Growing recognition of the **social importance** of the coast...
  - UK policy research has shown concern that the **coastal places are facing 'decline'**
  - Much of the UK focus has been on England

- A Geographers perspective:
  - The potential of socio-demographic data to help understand coastal sustainability
  - The role of population in the process of **place-making**

"UK coastal areas 'pockets of deprivation'"

BBC NEWS

Coastal communities among worst off in UK, report finds

© 4 September 2017 | UK | 578

The decline of the busy port of Ardrossan in Ayrshire

The UK's coastal communities are among the country's worst off for earnings, employment, health and education, a report for the BBC has found.

Press release
£40 million to create jobs and boost visitors to the Great British Coast

From: Department for Communities and Local Government and Jake Berry MP
Part of: Coastal Communities Fund and Economic development in coastal and seaside areas
Published: 4 September 2017

Towns and cities along Britain's coastline set to benefit from thousands of new jobs and millions of pounds more in visitor spending.

Towns and cities along Britain's coastline are set to benefit from thousands of new jobs and millions of pounds more in visitor spending after the government announced the next round of the Coastal Communities Fund today (4 September 2017).

Coastal Communities Minister Jake Berry confirmed that the fifth round of funding for 2019 to 2021 will provide at least £40 million to help coastal areas in England further transform their economies and boost jobs in their local area. It will be open for applications in early 2018.

Creating a coastal typology…

▶ The Geography:

149 Localities (2010)

▶ Population limitations

1000 – 49,999 people

▶ Data

Scottish Census 2001-2011

▶ Multi-level Dynamic typology

  ▶ **1: Socio-economic and demographic data**

  ▶ **2: Population dynamics and diversity**

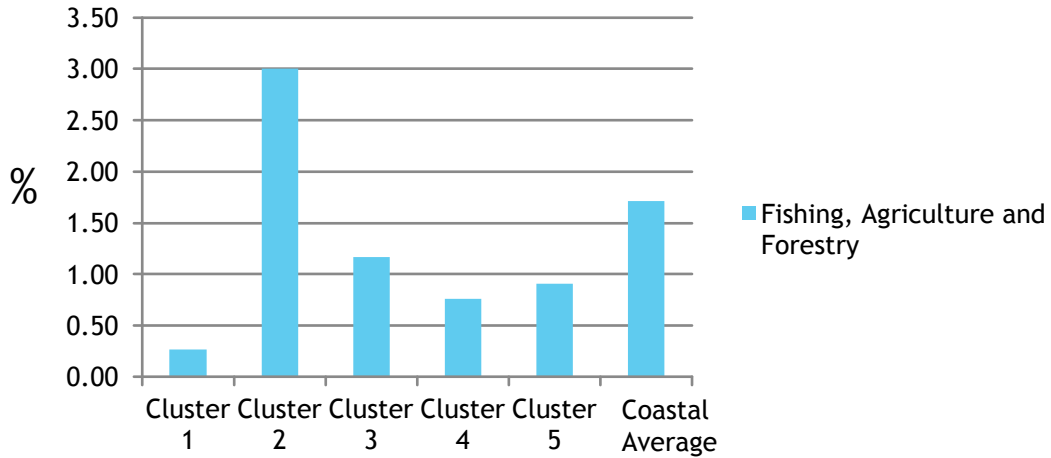| Level 1		Level 2	
Demographic 2	Socio-economic 6	Diversity 3	Diversification 3
Health 2	Mobility 5	Population Change 2	Isolation 1

Level 1:
Demographic and Socio-economic

With 3 dominant groups:

53	Peripheral fishing & port towns
40	Industrial roots
53	Linked later life localities

Coastal localities by cluster group

ORKNEY

SHETLAND

OUTER HEBRIDES

Skye

SCOTLAND

Mull

Islay

Arran

ENGLAND

Population size
- > 20,000
- 10,000 - 20,000
- 3,000 - 10,000
- < 3,000

Cluster group
- Military families
- Peripheral fishing & port towns
- Industrial roots
- Historic university town
- Linked later life localities

0   50   100 km

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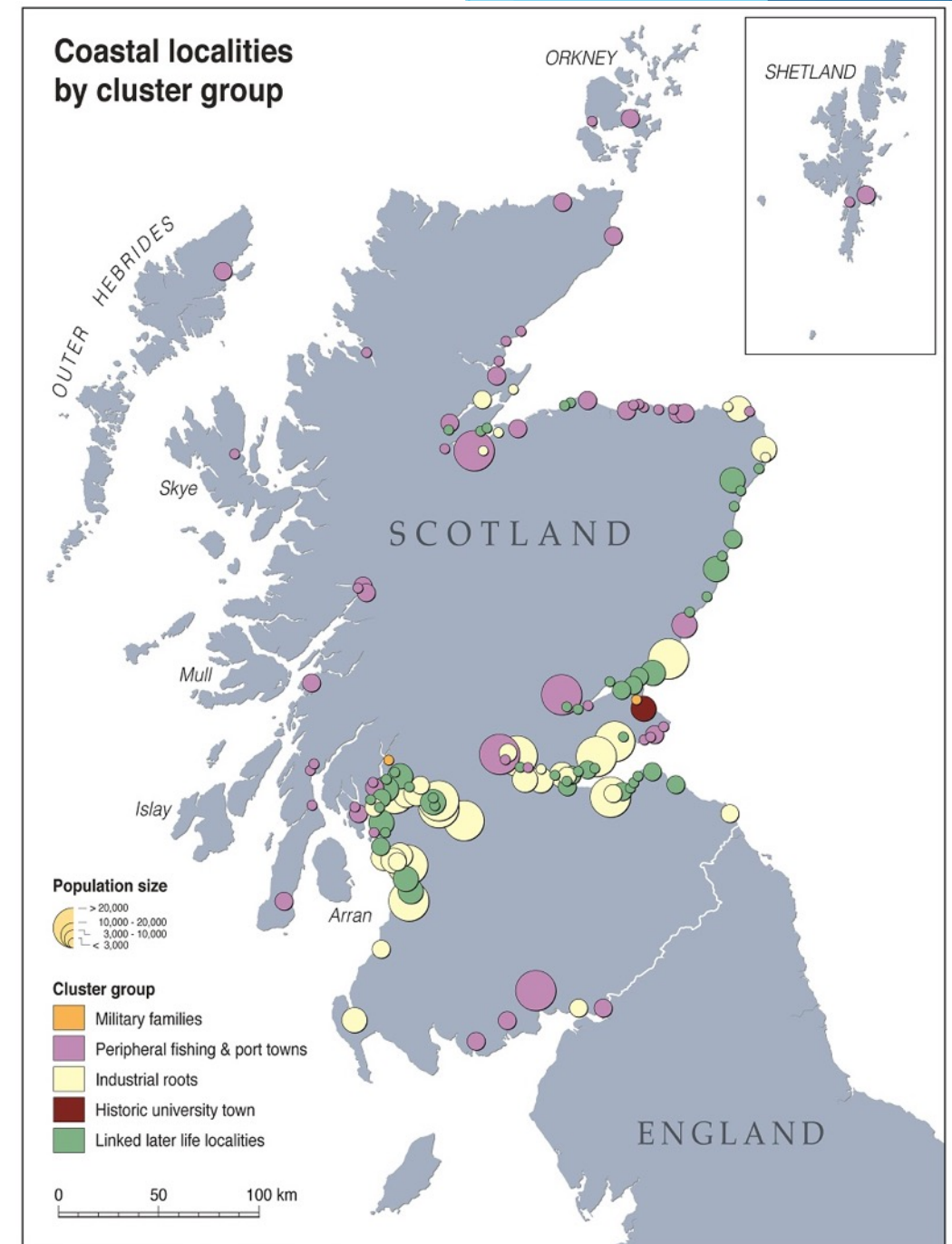
Peripheral Fishing and Port Towns

Fishing, Agriculture and Forestry

%

3.50
3.00
2.50
2.00
1.50
1.00
0.50
0.00

Cluster 1, Cluster 2, Cluster 3, Cluster 4, Cluster 5, Coastal Average

■ Fishing, Agriculture and Forestry

Economic Status

Employed Part-Time 15%

Self employed 9%

■ Employed Part-Time
■ Employed Full-time
■ Self employed
■ Students
■ Unemployed
■ Homemaker
■ Long Term Sick
■ Retired and Other

Age profile

■ 0 to 15
■ 16 to 24
■ 25 to 44
■ 45 to 64
■ over 65
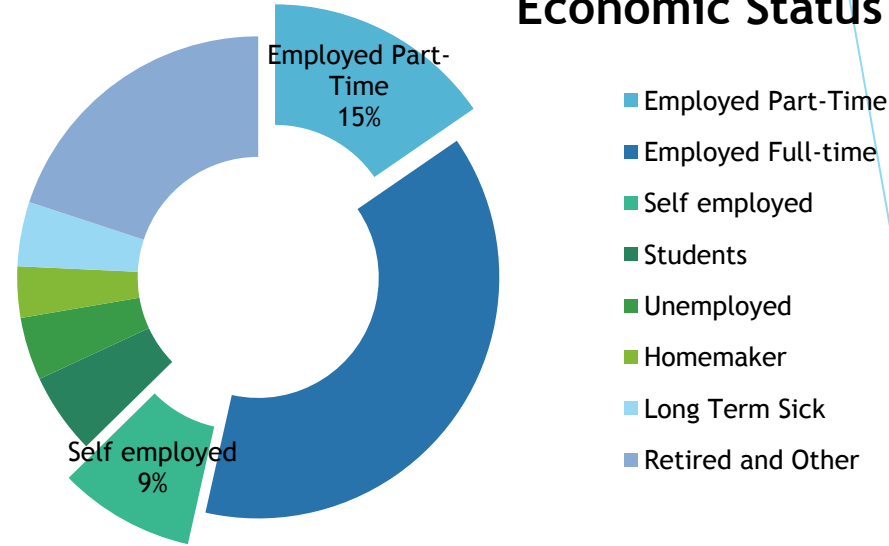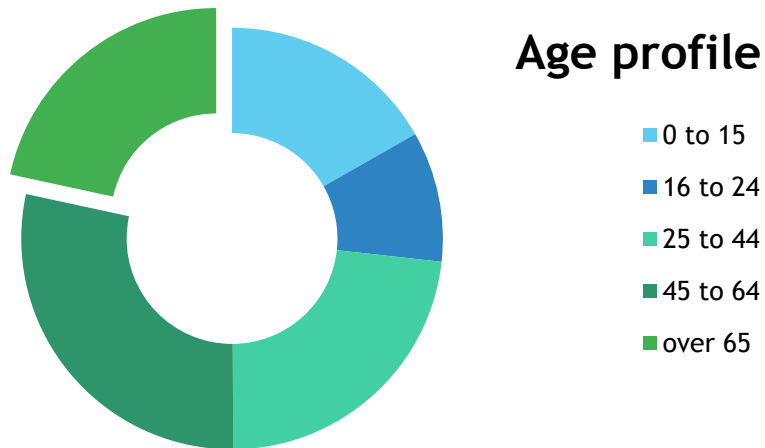
Peripheral Fishing and Port Towns

E.g. Stornoway, Lerwick, Nairn, Oban, Anstruther and Fort William

These places have been characterised with higher employment in fishing/water and construction SICs than the coastal average. Part Time and Self-employment are above coastal average perhaps reflecting the artisan fishing and smaller fleets that occupy these harbour towns. This is consistent with high SOC grade3 which indicates skilled trade. There is evidence of deprivation with higher than coastal average scores for deprived in 2 dimensions at household level. The population is ageing with more 'one person households' than found elsewhere.
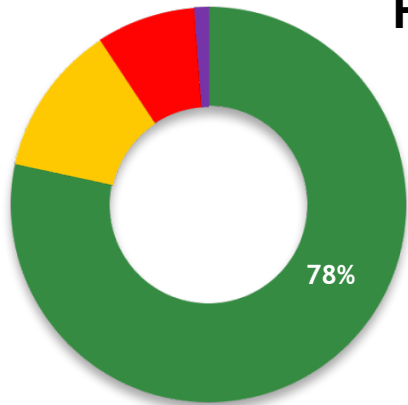
Linked Later-life Localities

Age

- 0 to 15
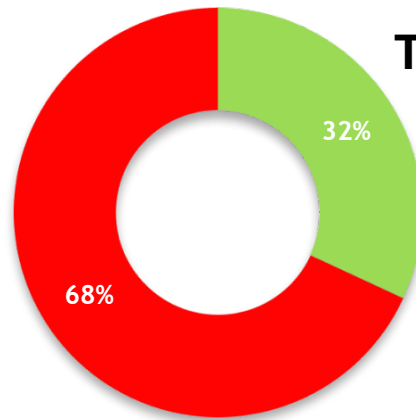- 16 to 24
- 25 to 44
- 45 to 64
- over 65

Deprivation Indicator

- No Deprivation
- 1 Dimension
- 2 dimensions
- 3 or more dimensions

Housing tenure

78%
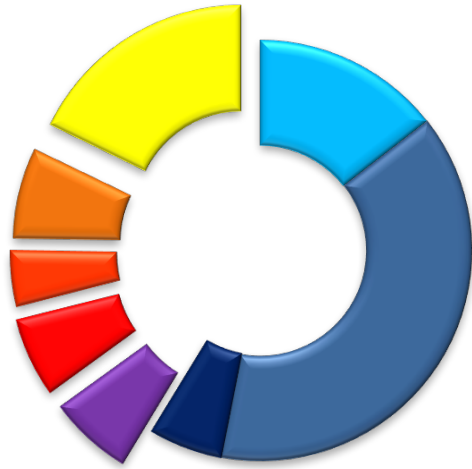
- Owned
- Social Rented
- Private Rented
- Other

Distance Travelled to Work

32%

68%

- Less than 10Km
- More than 10Km
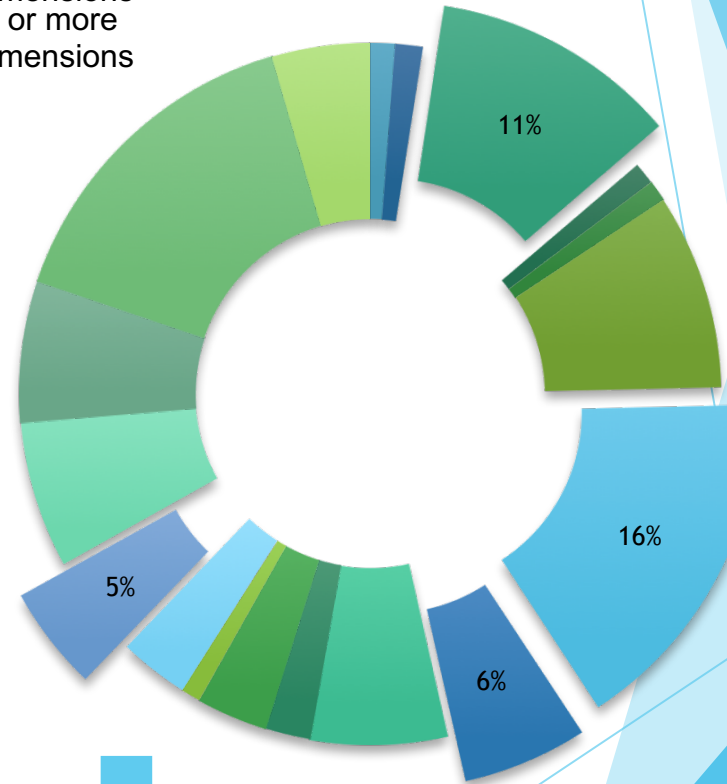
Industrial Roots

Economic Status

- Employed Part-Time
- Employed Full-time
- Self employed
- Students
- Unemployed
- Homemaker
- Long Term Sick
- Retired and Other

Deprivation Indicator

- No Deprivation
- 1 Dimension
- 2 dimensions
- 3 or more dimensions
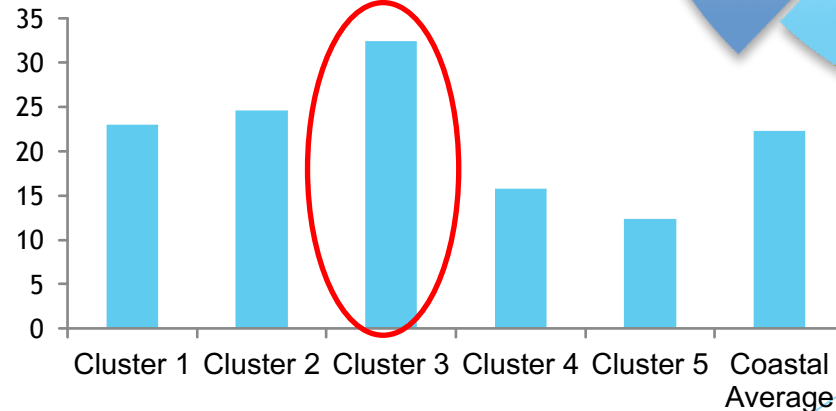
Industry

11%

16%

5%

6%

- Fishing, Agriculture and Forestry
- Mining and Quarrying
- Manufacturing —
- Electricity Gas Etc
- Water and Waste Management
- Construction
- Wholesale, Retail and Auto Repair —
- Transport and Storage —
- Accomodation and Food Services
- Info/communication
- Finance and Insurance
- Real Estate
- Professional, Scientific and technical
- Admin and support services
- Defence, Public admin ansd Social security
- Education
- Health and social work
- Other

Educational Attainment

- No Qualifications
- Level 1
- Level 2
- Level 3
- Level 4

Housing: Social Rented (% of All Households)

| | Cluster 1 | Cluster 2 | Cluster 3 | Cluster 4 | Cluster 5 | Coastal Average |

Level 2: Population Dynamics and Diversity

Military Families

Peripheral Fishing and Port Towns

Industrial Roots

Historic University Town

Linked Later Life Localities

+

Population change overall

Population change by Age

Diversity
Religion, Ethnicity
Country of Birth
(Static and Dynamic)

Isolation

Emerging Case studies
Evidence of communities and mobility
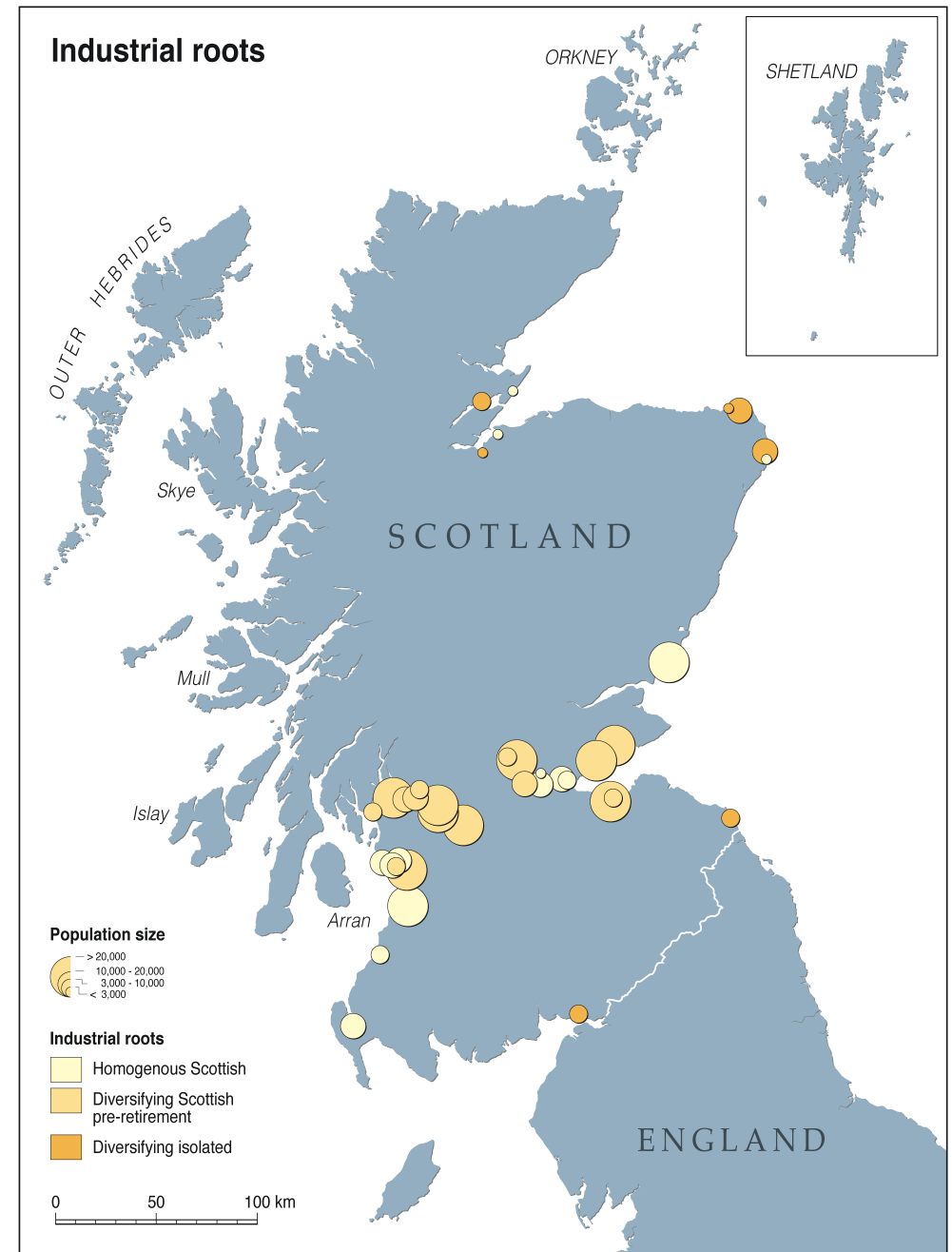

- ▶ Challenges of using census data
  - ▶ 10 year intervals
  - ▶ Not designed to understand Coastal communities and how communities see themselves
  - ▶ Limited data within Scotland context for mobility

- ▶ **3 North East Scotland** case studies →
  - ▶ Peripheral Fishing and Port Town – BANFF
  - ▶ Industrial Roots – PETERHEAD
  - ▶ Linked Later-life Localities - CRUDEN BAY

Peterhead

"I was recruited from my town [in Lithuania] to come, I was first living in a house with others, 3 Lithuanians like me, and a Latvian but now people that come always know someone, a brother, a cousin, a friend, so I don't think it's the same now, they come and have to sign up down the road. I think they [the locals] think why we would want to do this, but it is, how you say it, same fish different sea"

"I will say it is like some of us are here to make a home, but it is not a home yet, but more than in Spain that was always just going to be 2 years. If you asked me before [BREXIT] I'd have said yes."

Industrial roots

ORKNEY
SHETLAND
OUTER HEBRIDES
Skye
SCOTLAND
Mull
Islay
Arran
ENGLAND

Population size
- \> 20,000
- 10,000 - 20,000
- 3,000 - 10,000
- < 3,000

Industrial roots
- Homogenous Scottish
- Diversifying Scottish pre-retirement
- Diversifying isolated

0   50   100 km

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Why Does or Could this matter?

- Scotland's coasts are **dynamic** places

- Social processes such as **mobility** are occurring at new and changing scales

  - Local and national planning needs to respond

- Sensitive planning will **fit** with the different needs of coastal places

  - Some types of coastal place have particular challenges e.g. overlooked ex-

    industrial or ageing communities.

THANK YOU… Any Questions ?

▶ Please feel free to contact me : PD49@St-Andrews.ac.uk

▶ Acknowledgements ….

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