

The Local Government Challenge: The picture from Scotland

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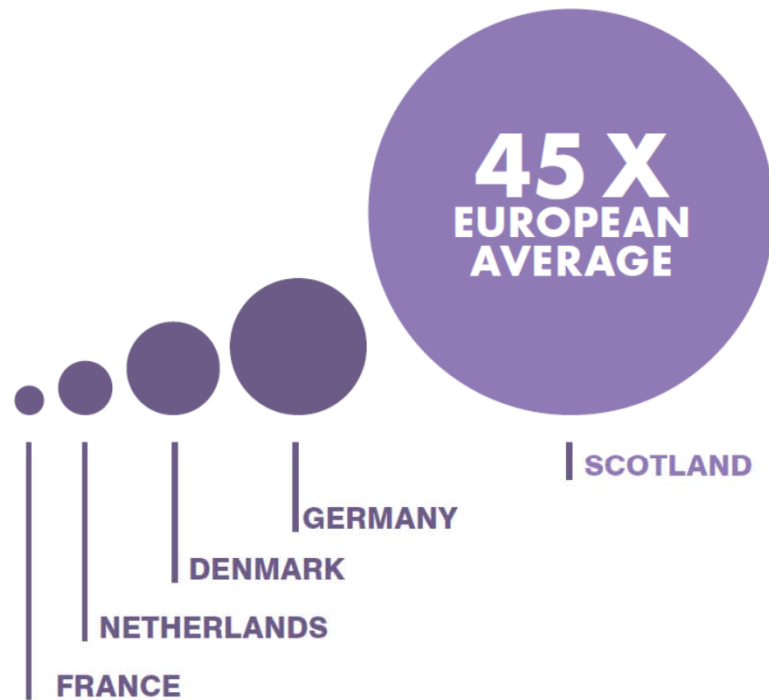


Local Government in Scotland

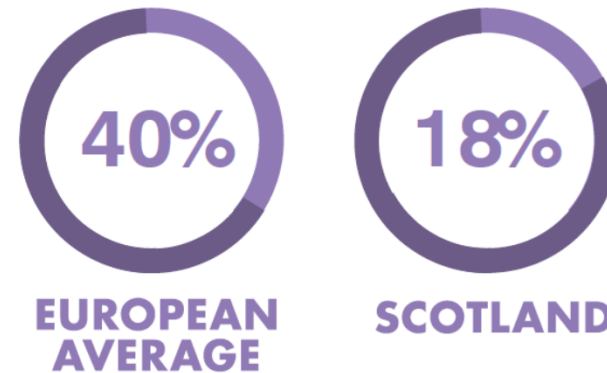
- 32 Unitary Authorities – identical functions
- Net revenue expenditure - £11.9bn
- Over 220,000 employees
- <20% expenditure from local taxation
- No constitutional right to local government
- 50 year reduction in services

Scotland and Europe...

AVERAGE SCALE (Km²)



LOCAL TAX REVENUE AS % OF TOTAL REVENUE



AVERAGE POPULATION



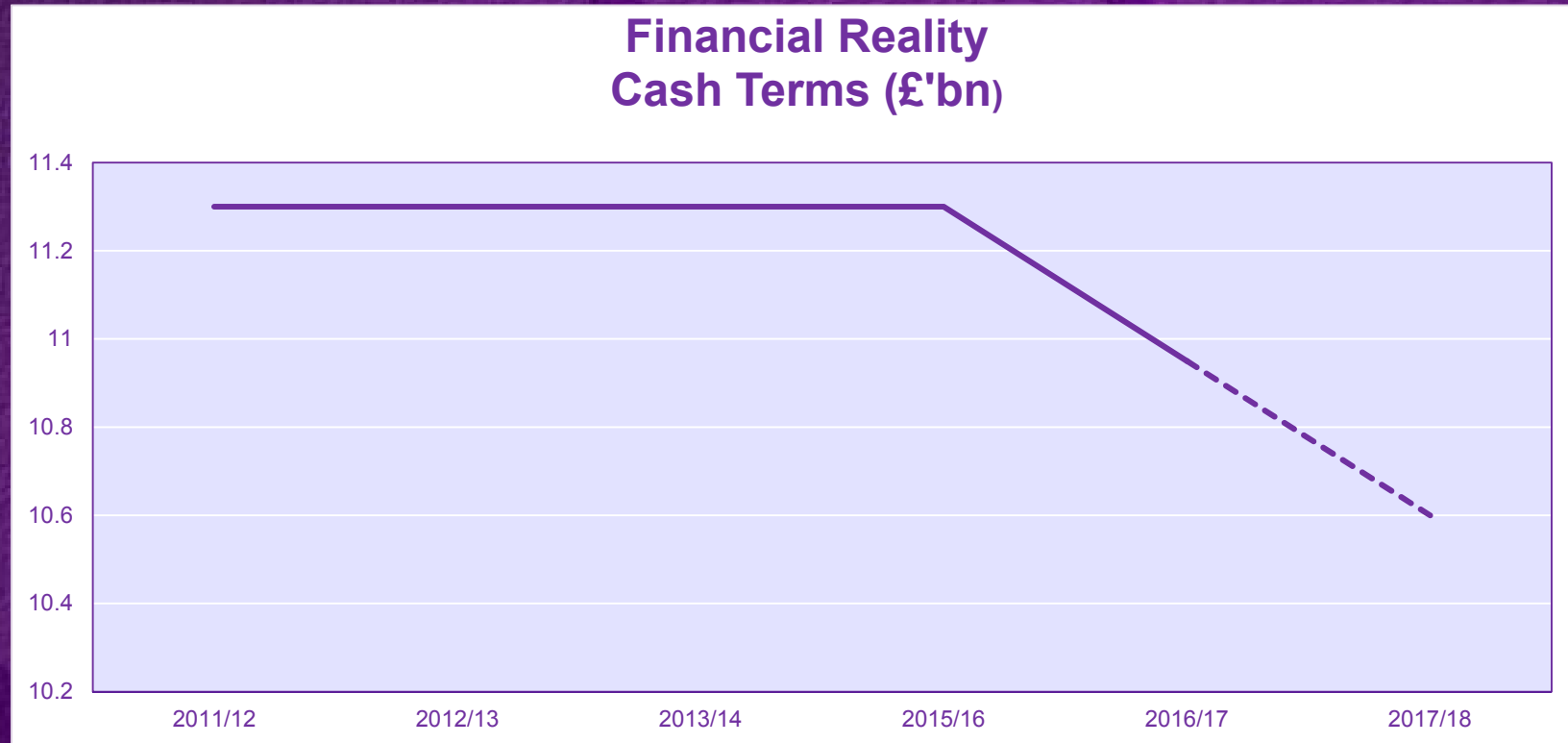
Just for Comparison

- Norway: 19 counties and 434 municipalities (population 4,676,305)
- Finland: 20 regions and 342 municipalities (population 5,255,068)
- Denmark: 98 municipalities and 5 regions (population 5,515,575)

Scottish Local Government – Challenges

- Demographic change – doing more with less
- Continuous Elections
- Brexit
- Local Government Voice
- Public Sector Reform

Local Government Settlement



* Adjusted to discount the impact of removal of Police and Fire from 13/14

Local Government's Role

- Leading Place
 - Community Planning
 - City Region Deals
 - Our Islands Our Future
 - Shared Services
- Commission On Strengthening Local Democracy

The Commission on Strengthening Local Democracy

- 50 years of centralisation has not tackled the biggest problems that Scotland faces
- Scotland is wealthy and strong, but inequalities are unacceptable and unsustainable
- Improving outcomes locally requires a radical new approach to how we 'do democracy'

Moving Forward- The Future

- Role of Local Government
- Leading Public Sector Reform
- The Local Government Family
- Promoting Asymmetry
- Empowering Communities

Questions?