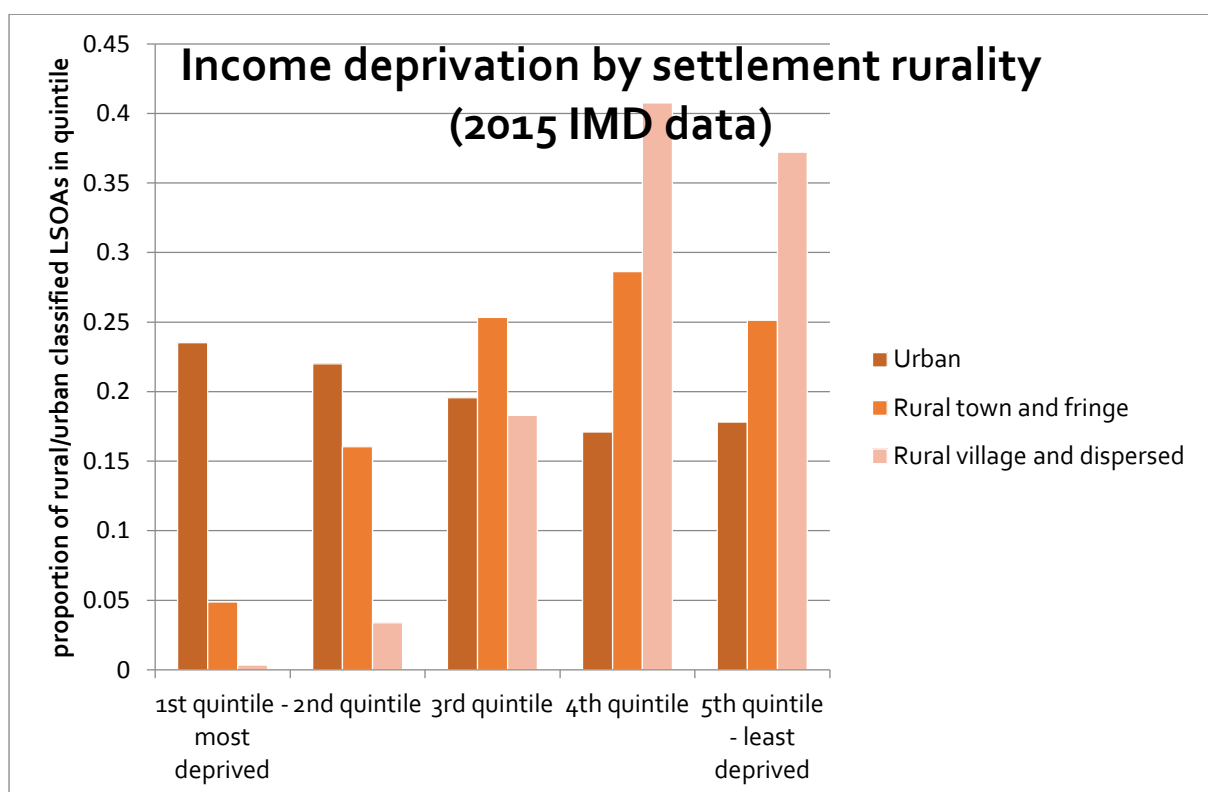


Income deprivation by settlement rurality

When looking at the social mix of people living in the most rural settlements, there is a strong feeling among many that the needs of the poorest are not being met by the provision of sufficient affordable housing, and that this is threatening the sustainability of these rural communities. Using income deprivation data taken from the 2015 Indices of Multiple Deprivation, the following bar chart clearly demonstrates that a divide between the most rural settlements and urban settlements does exist, with a very small fraction of the most rural Lower Super Output Areas being within the most income deprived quintile. The proportions of LSOAs moving to the least income deprived quintiles progressively increases for rural areas, but remains relatively static for urban areas.



Obviously the situation is a complex one, with arguments from many angles relating to the cause and effect of this type of community segregation. I hope however that this vignette of social segregation between rural and urban communities will help to inform the discussion.

Source: Department for Communities and Local Government, Indices of Deprivation 2015

If you have any comments or suggestions, please contact dan.worth@sparse.gov.uk