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East Dunbartonshire Council

www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk

Population Projections 2016-based

Background

National Records of Scotland's 2016 based population projections for Council and NHS Board areas of Scotland are based on the 2016 mid-year population estimates. These projections concentrate on the population over the next 10 years to 2026, although projections have been produced for the next 25 years to 2041. However, the projection this far ahead becomes increasingly uncertain.

The main purpose of population projections is to provide estimates of the future population of areas in Scotland for use in resource allocation and local planning in a number of different fields such as education and health, for environmental scanning and for land use and transport models. These projections are used as inputs to Grant Aided Expenditure (GAE) funding allocations and looking at the implications of an ageing population.

It should be noted that population projections have some key limitations. A projection is a calculation showing what happens if particular assumptions are made about future fertility, mortality and migration. The assumptions are based on past trends and do not take account of any future changes that may occur as a result of policy initiatives but may reflect the past impact of policy and economic changes. These projections are not, therefore, forecasts of what the government expects to happen based on policy.

Methodology

For each area, the projected population is calculated by removing any special populations (such as prisoners and armed forces) from the previous year's population and then ageing on the remaining population. Local fertility and mortality rates are then applied to calculate the number of projected births and deaths. Rates to calculate migration within Scotland and the rest of the UK are also applied, before migrants to and from overseas are added and subtracted from the population. Finally, any special populations are added back in to give the final projected population. This is then repeated for each year of the projection.

Total Population Projections

The results of the 2016 based projections show the population of Scotland is projected to rise from 5.40 million in 2016 to 5.58 million in 2026, an increase of 3.2% over the next 10 years.

Most of Scotland's council areas are projected to increase in population over the next 10 years. The highest increases are projected for Midlothian (+13.3%), followed by East Lothian (+8.6%) and City of Edinburgh (+7.7%). However, not all of Scotland's council areas are projected to increase in population. A total of 8 council areas are projected to experience a decrease in population over this period. The largest decreases are projected for Na h-Eileanan Siar (-4.8%), Inverclyde (-3.8%) and Argyll and Bute (-3.4%). East Dunbartonshire's population is projected to increase by +4.7% between 2016 and 2026.

The council areas projected to decrease in population are concentrated in the west of Scotland. In contrast, the area around City of Edinburgh is projected to have a relatively large increase in population, with central and north eastern Scotland also projected to experience population increases.

All areas except Inverclyde and Shetland Islands are projected to experience population increases due to net migration over the next 10 years. This includes migration to and from overseas, the rest of the UK and within Scotland. The highest increases in population from net migration are in Midlothian (+10.9%), East Lothian (+8.3%) and East Renfrewshire (+7.9%). Over the next 10 years, East Dunbartonshire is projected to have an increase in population of +6.2% from net migration and a slight decrease in population of -1.2% from natural change.

Age Structure Projections

Half of council areas (16 in total) are projected to have an increased number of children over the next 10 years, with two thirds (21 councils) projected to experience an increase in their working age population. The pensionable age population is projected to increase in all but three areas, with only Dundee City (-3%), Na hEileanan Siar (-2%) and Glasgow City (-1%) seeing a decrease for this age group.

In East Dunbartonshire the number of children aged 0-15 is projected to increase by +8% by 2026. The proportion of working age population is projected to increase by +3% and the population of pensionable age is predicted to increase by +7% over the same time period, as shown in the table below.

Projected Percentage Change in Population 2016 to 2026			
	Children (0-15yrs)	Working Age	Pensionable Age
East Dunbartonshire	+8%	+3%	+7%
Scotland	+2%	+3%	+5%

Between 2016 and 2026, all council areas in Scotland are projected to experience an increase in their population aged 75 and over. The biggest increases for this age group are in Clackmannanshire (+48%) and West Lothian (+46%), while Dundee City (+10%) and Glasgow City (+3%) are projected to see the smallest rises. East Dunbartonshire is projected to have an increase of +31% in those aged 75 and over between 2016 and 2026.

Life Expectancy

Overall, life expectancy is projected to increase in all areas of Scotland for both males and females. The council areas with the highest projected life expectancy for males in 2025-26 are Orkney Islands (85.1 years) and East Dunbartonshire (83.8 years). For females, the council areas with the highest life expectancy was East Dunbartonshire (86.3 years) and Orkney Islands (86.0 years). Females born in Glasgow City in 2025-26, the area with the lowest life expectancy, could expect to live for 79.8 years.

Male life expectancy is also projected to increase faster than female life expectancy in all areas over the next 10 years. The largest increase for males over the next 10 years is found in Orkney Islands (4.7 years) and for females the Shetland Islands with an increase of 3.5 years.

Further Information

Further information, along with the full Population Projections for Scottish Areas (2016 based) document can be found on the National Records of Scotland website <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/>.