



Social and Economic Profile 2017

West Dunbartonshire Social and Economic Profile 2017

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Introduction

Welcome to the 2017 edition of the Social and Economic Profile. The Profile is designed as a comprehensive information source about West Dunbartonshire for use by service providers, planners, policy makers, business and enterprise, students, researchers and members of the public.

To West Dunbartonshire service providers, the profile is principally used as a resource for contextual information which informs the planning of current and future service provision. It helps support the Council's mission:

“To lead and deliver high quality services which are responsive to the needs of local citizens, and realise the aspirations of our communities”.

The Profile is designed to

- Provide up to date and locally-relevant information in one central resource
- Show trends in key indicators and provide commentary on what these might mean
- Provide information at a local level to inform decision making
- Help develop knowledge of the complex nature of setting targets and objectives
- Help identify emerging issues

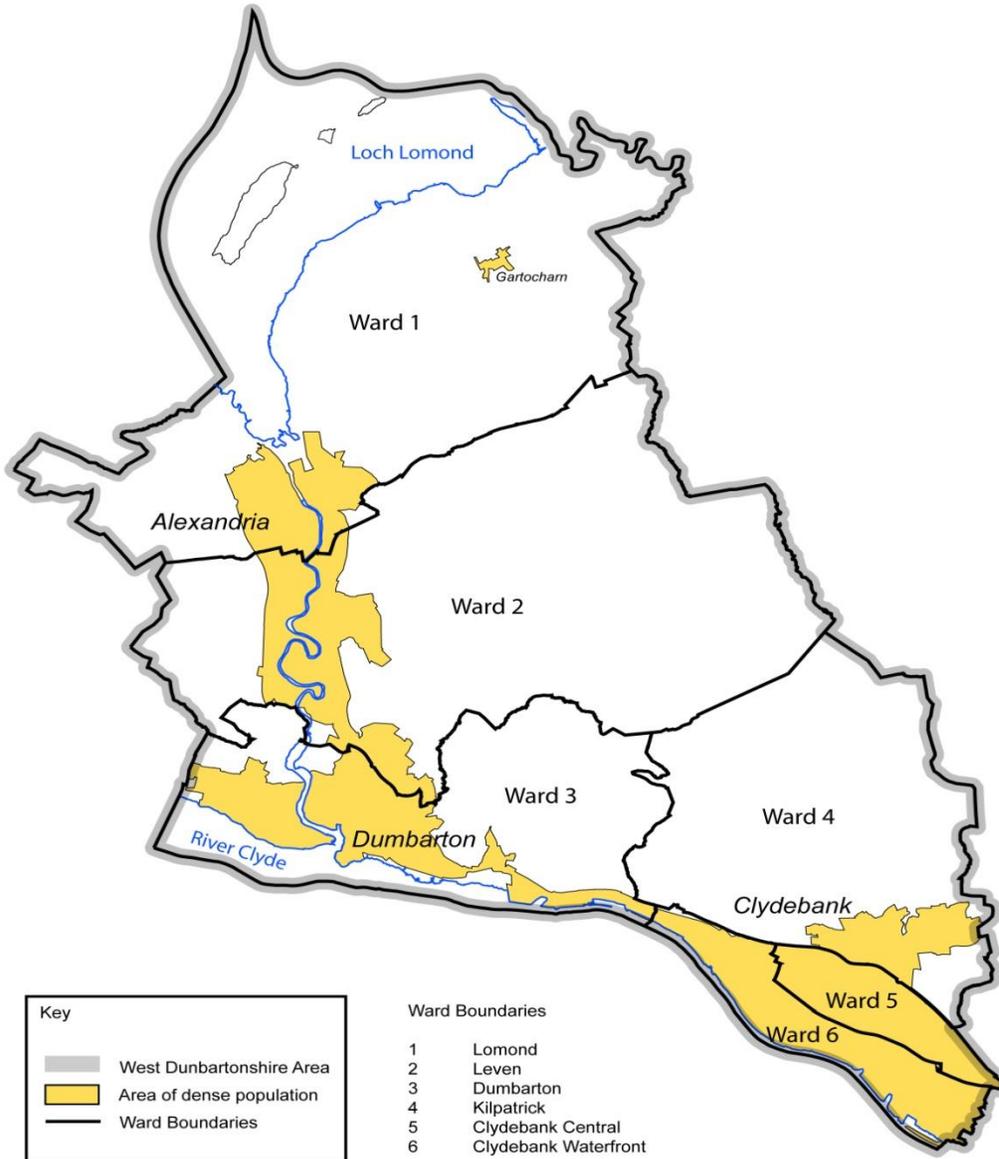
Equalities Impact Assessment

The Council is committed to ensuring that Equality Impact Assessments are carried out on relevant policies and decisions, and this profile is likely to be a key information source for use in ensuring that assessments are carried out in a robust fashion, informed by the most current data.

Environment Statement

West Dunbartonshire Council is committed to ensuring environmental sustainability, both as a service provider and figurehead employer in this area. The environmental section within this profile provides a wide range of information about the state of the environment in the local area together with key sustainability information relating to the council.

West Dunbartonshire Multi Member Ward Map



West Dunbartonshire Council OS Licence No. 100020790 2007

Our Population

Scotland

Each year the General Registrar for Scotland produces a series of mid-year population estimates. The 2015 mid-year population estimate for Scotland is 5,373,000¹ a rise of 25,400 since last year, and the twelfth consecutive rise in the Scottish population; putting the population at its highest ever.

In the year to 30th June 2015 there were more deaths than births for the first time in 9 years however we are seeing net inward migration increase to levels last seen in 2011, although they remain lower than the level for the UK as a whole.

The Scottish Government has set a target to match the average European (EU15) population growth over the period 2007-2017. This is important for Scotland's economic growth. The population estimates in this profile can be used to measure progress towards this target. At present the population of Scotland is growing faster than the average of the EU15 countries.



West Dunbartonshire Population

The 2015 population for West Dunbartonshire is 89,590²; a decrease of 0.1% from 89,710 in 2014. This decrease is due to a higher level of deaths than births being partly balanced by net in-migration. The population of West Dunbartonshire accounts for 1.7% of the total population of Scotland.

In West Dunbartonshire, 17.4% of the population are aged 16 to 29 years. This is smaller than Scotland where 18.2% are aged 16 to 29 years. People aged 60 and over make up 23.9% of West Dunbartonshire. This is smaller than Scotland where 24.2% are aged 60 and over.

Since 1989, West Dunbartonshire's total population has fallen overall. Scotland's population has risen over this period.

¹ <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/stats-at-a-glance/council-area-profiles>

² <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/stats-at-a-glance/council-area-profiles>

Your Community Area Profiles

New for 2016/2017 are [local profiles for the 17 Your Community areas in West Dunbartonshire](#); these are available on the Council website. They highlight differences in health and life circumstances across the area for a range of indicators organised under broad themes: population; cultural factors; environment and transport; social economic factors; education; poverty; and health. The profiles are intended to be a resource for local communities and to inform action at neighbourhood level.

Mid-Year Population Estimates for Multi-Member Wards 2016

Table 1 shows that only Ward 3 - Dumbarton and Ward 4 - Kilpatrick have shown any increase in their population since last year³.

Table 1

Multi Member Wards	Total 2016	Total 2015	Direction of Travel	Male 2016	Direction of Travel	Female 2016	Direction of Travel
1. Lomond	10951	11014	↓	5267	↓	5684	↓
2. Leven	18178	18146	↓	8699	↑	9479	↑
3. Dumbarton	17425	17442	↑	8377	↓	9048	↓
4. Kilpatrick	12934	12929	↑	6073	↑	6861	↓
5. Clydebank Central	14380	14864	↓	6901	↓	7479	↓
6. Clydebank Waterfront	15639	15671	↓	7494	↓	8146	↓

Population - Age and Sex

The age and sex composition of the population is one of the most important aspects of demographics as changes to different age groups will have different social and economic impacts. For example, increases in the number of elderly people in the population will place a greater demand on health and care services.

The median age⁴ in West Dunbartonshire is 42. For men in West Dunbartonshire it is 41 and for women it is 43, with 19% of males and 16% of females aged 16 and under. Sixty-five % of males and 61% of females are of working age and 16% of males and 22% of females of pensionable age. For every 100 females in the population there are 91 males.

³ https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files/statistics/scap/detailed_tables/2012-principal-scap-west-dunbartonshire.xls

⁴ <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files/statistics/population-estimates/mid-15-cor-12-13-14/15mype-cahb-tab7.xlsx>

The following charts demonstrate the breakdown of sex and age groups within the population⁵.

Estimated Population – Age Group Split (WD) 2015

Figure 1



Ageing

The fall over time in fertility, together with the simultaneous improvement in mortality, has reduced the relative size of the child population, and increased the relative size of the pensioner population. This upward shift in the average age of society is what is meant by the term “population ageing”. The ageing of the population has enormous economic implications; it has the potential to have an impact on all sectors of the economy and all aspects of economic activity.

The 2015 population estimates show a decline in the number of West Dunbartonshire residents aged 16 and under from 16,720 to 16,694, a 0.2% decrease. Over the same period there was an increase from 21,205 to 21,345 people aged 60 and over a 0.7% increase.

Land Area and Population Density

West Dunbartonshire is the 2nd smallest Local Authority in terms of land area at 159 sq. Km⁶. With a population of 89,590 it is the 8th smallest in Scotland but with 563 people per square kilometer the distribution of the population is fairly dense.

The 2015 estimate of the number of households in West Dunbartonshire is 42,571⁷. This is a 0.5 % increase in the 2014 figure of 42,353, compared to a 0.6 % increase in Scotland as a whole.

⁵ www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files//statistics/population-estimates/mid-15-cor-12-13-14/15mype-cahb-tab3.xlsx

⁶ <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/population/population-estimates/mid-year-population-estimates/archive/mid-2011-population-estimates/list-of-tables>

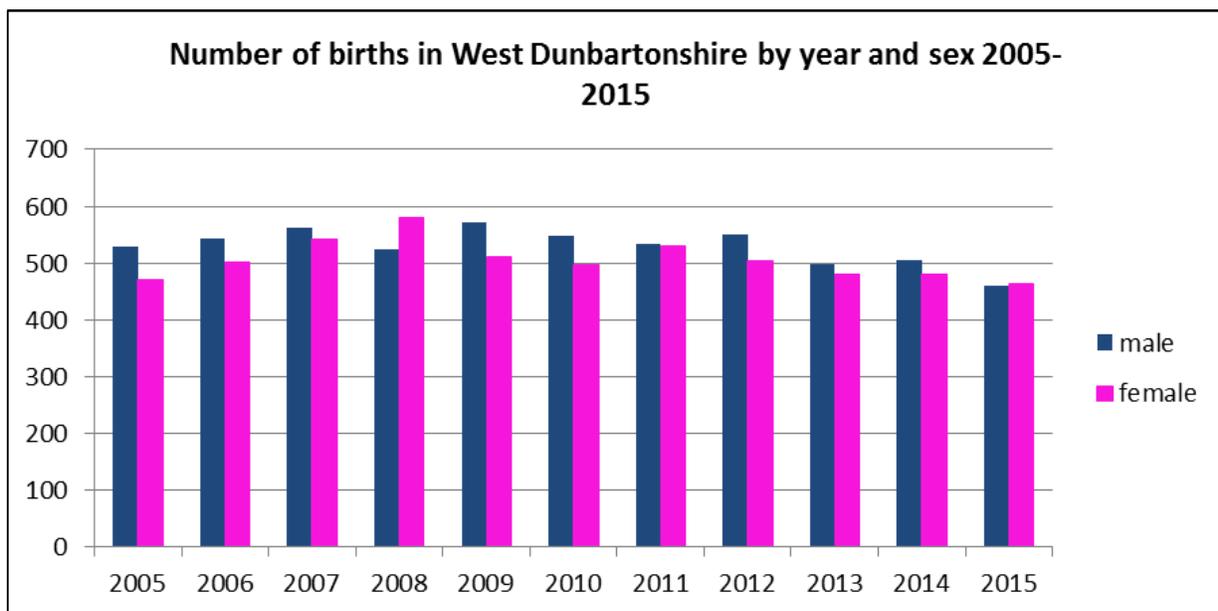
⁷ <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/stats-at-a-glance/council-area-profiles>

Almost half (48%) of the area's population live in the Clydebank area which means it has a population similar to a large urban town. Dumbarton and the Vale of Leven, which are classified as accessible small towns, are less densely populated. There is one area in the northern part of the Council area which falls within the boundary of Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park which is considered to be a rural area.

Births

In 2015 there were 924 babies born in West Dunbartonshire, 461 males and 463 females. This represents a 6.3% drop in the number of births from the previous year.

Figure 2⁸



Since the mid-1970s, there has been a trend towards having children at older ages, with women aged over 30 accounting for over half of all births in 2015⁹.

Country of birth of mother

Of the 924 births during 2015, 92% of mothers originated from United Kingdom, Isle of Man or the Channel Islands¹⁰. This is higher than the Scotland figure of 84%.

8 <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files/statistics/time-series/birth-2016/bt-4-births-by-sex-year-and-council-area-1991-to-current-year.xlsx>

9 <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files/statistics/time-series/birth-2016/bt-6-births-by-council-area-year-and-mothers-age-1991-to-current-year.xlsx>

10 www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files/statistics/vital-events-ref-tables/2015/section3/15-vital-events-ref-tab-3-9.xlsx

Table 2

% of births by Mother's country of origin	Scotland	West Dunbartonshire
United Kingdom, Isle of Man, Channel Islands	84%	92%
Irish Republic including Ireland, part not stated	1%	0%
Other European Union	7%	4%
Australia, Canada, New Zealand	0%	0%
India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Pakistan	2%	1%
West Indies, Belize, Guyana	0%	0%
Africa	2%	1%
Other Common- wealth	0%	0%
Other countries	4%	1%

Life Expectancy

By looking at life expectancy at birth we can objectively compare mortality rates over time, between areas and between countries. This is helpful in that it allows us to set public health, or health improvement targets based on what we've seen happen over the preceding years. This is even more helpful when used alongside other health related information such as that published in the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD).

Life expectancy for those born in 2013-15 in Scotland was 77.1 years for males and 81.1 years for females but with considerable variation between areas across the country. Female life expectancy was lowest in West Dunbartonshire. Females in East Dunbartonshire have the highest life expectancy and can expect to live for 83.5 years, 4.8 years longer than in West Dunbartonshire (78.7 years).

West Dunbartonshire has life expectancy rates that are statistically significantly worse than the Scottish average, with the second lowest life expectancy at birth of all Scottish Local Authorities¹¹. Based on the most recent figures available (2013-2015) female life expectancy at birth (78.7 years) is greater than male life expectancy (74.8 years), but both were lower than the Scottish average. Male life expectancy at birth in West Dunbartonshire is improving more rapidly than female life expectancy.

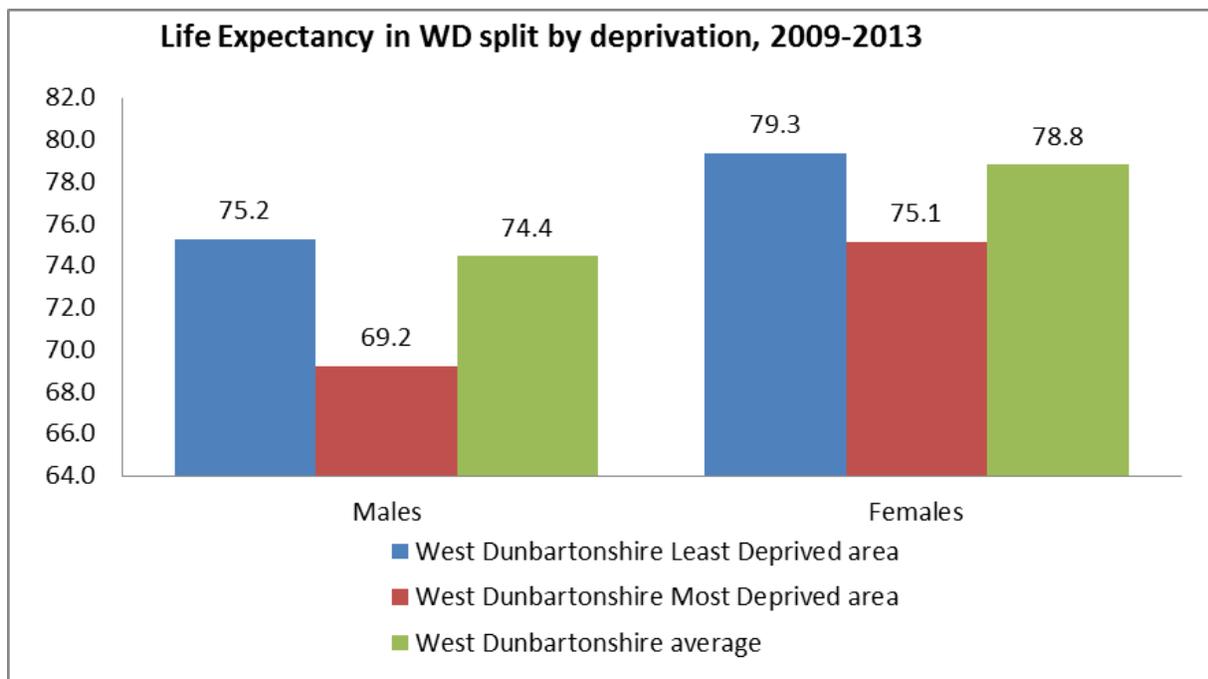
In West Dunbartonshire female life expectancy at age 65 (18.4 years) is greater than male life expectancy at age 65 (16 years). The overall picture however is showing some improvement, with the percentage change in life expectancy at birth in West Dunbartonshire improving by 5.6% for Males and 1.7% for females over the last 12 years.



¹¹ www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files/statistics/life-expectancy-areas-in-scotland/2013-2015/1315le-table2.xlsx

The effect that poverty has on life expectancy can be seen when comparing life expectancy rates in the least and most deprived areas of West Dunbartonshire. Figure 6¹² looks at life expectancy rates based levels of deprivation. The intention is to use the estimates to monitor the inequality gap between those living in the most and least deprived parts of the Council area, with the aim to improve the measurement of local level outcomes in support of Single Outcome Agreements. Figure 3 shows that men living in deprived areas have an inequality gap in life expectancy of 6 years and women of 4 years.

Figure 3



Note: Life expectancy estimates for 2011-2015 using the 2016 Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD 2016) will be available at a later date.

Deaths

The number of deaths¹³ in West Dunbartonshire increased from 1,043 in 2014 to 1,095 in 2015. Compared to Scotland (10.4) over the period 2013 to 2015, West Dunbartonshire (11.7) had a higher death rate. The main cause of death in West Dunbartonshire was cancer, followed by circulatory disease. Over the period 2013 to 2015 the overall death rate was lower for males than for females.

¹² www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/life-expectancy/life-expectancy-in-scottish-areas/life-expectancy-in-scottish-council-areas-split-by-deprivation/2009-2013-including-revised-estimates-for-2003-2007-to-2006-2010

¹³ www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files/statistics/council-area-data-sheets/west-dunbartonshire-factsheet.pdf

The death rate for men in West Dunbartonshire is 11.6 per 1,000 population compared to 10.4 for Scotland, for women the rate is 11.8 per 1,000 population compared to 10.5 for Scotland.

Fertility Rates

Fertility in West Dunbartonshire decreased from 58.3 births per 1,000 women aged 15 to 44 in 2014, to 55.1¹⁴ in 2015. For Scotland as a whole, the general fertility rate decreased from 54.7 births per 1,000 women aged 15 to 44 in 2014, to 53.2 in 2015.

Another way of expressing this is to use the total fertility rate. In 2015 the total fertility rate for West Dunbartonshire stood at 1.62 children per female. To ensure the population total remains the same this figure would need to be 2.1 and if we were looking to grow the population this would need to be 3 or above. Present day rates can be contrasted with the period 1955-60 (the baby boom) when the fertility rate was 4.91.

Migration

Historically, Scotland has been a country of net out-migration, with more people leaving to live elsewhere than moving into Scotland. However, since the 1960s, net out-migration greatly reduced, and from 1990 onwards Scotland has mostly experienced net migration gains. Scotland has now entered a period of net in-migration. In 2013-14 net migration rose to 17,600 and in 2014-15 it rose again by 10,400 to 28,000¹⁵.

The increase in population has not been shared equally across all Scottish regions and West Dunbartonshire has continued to experience steady net out migration in the last 30 years; on average in 2013-15 there was a net outflow of 151 people from West Dunbartonshire per year, meaning less people entered West Dunbartonshire (2,324 per year) than left (2,475 per year). The 16 to 29 year olds age group accounted for the largest group of in-migrants into West Dunbartonshire. The largest group of out-migrants was also the 16 to 29 year olds (34%).

The main reasons people give for leaving is that they are: moving their children to a new school area; moving for employment reasons; they have recently graduated and are moving to take up a job, or they have recently retired. The chart below shows the destination of people migrating from West Dunbartonshire¹⁶.

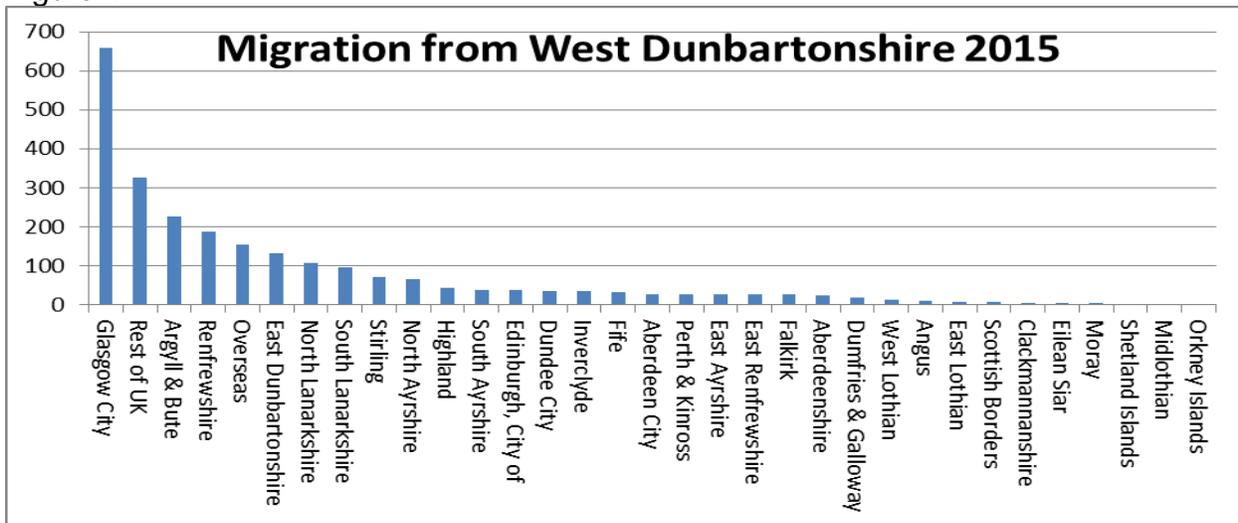
89 Syrians arriving under the Vulnerable Persons Scheme between 2015 and 2016 however they are not counted in the most recent population estimates as they arrived after June 2015.

¹⁴ www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files/statistics/vital-events-ref-tables/2015/section3/15-vital-events-ref-tab-3-16.xlsx

¹⁵ <http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files/statistics/migration/2016-july/a7-total-net-mig-Scotland-ruk-overseas-2001-02-latest-jul16.xlsx>

¹⁶ www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files/statistics/migration/local-area-migration2015.xlsm

Figure 4



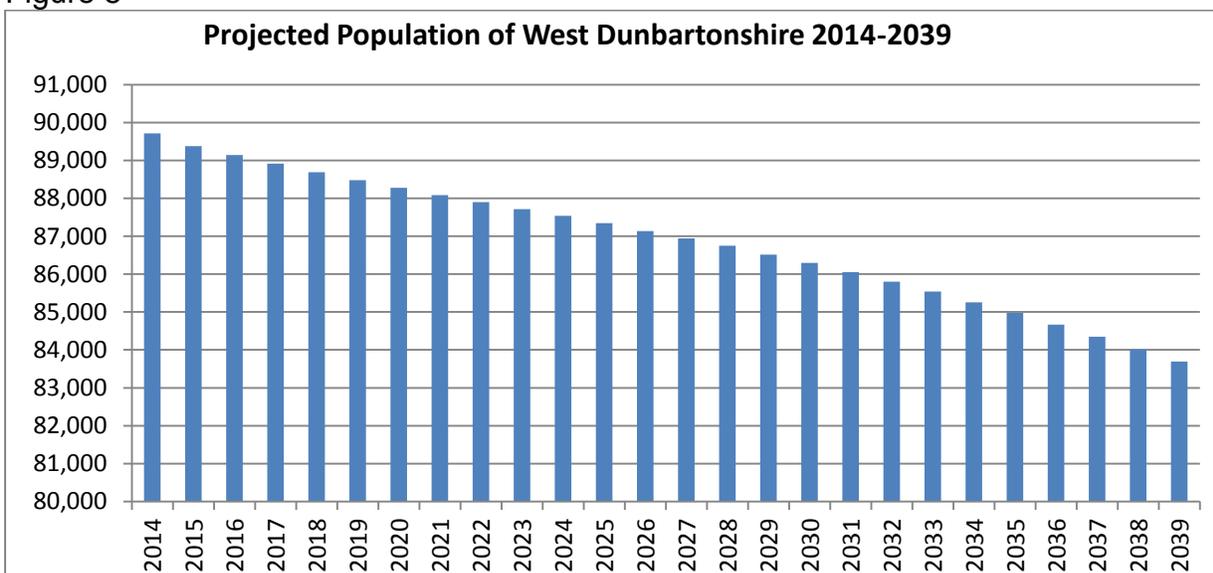
Population Projections

Organisations delivering services to communities need accurate information on the population, now and in the future, for policy development and service planning.

Figure 7 shows that by 2039 the population of West Dunbartonshire is projected to be 83,690, a decrease of 6.7 % from 2014. The population of Scotland is projected to increase by 7.5 % between 2014 and 2039.

Over the next 25 years, the age group that is projected to increase the most in West Dunbartonshire is 75+. This is the same as for Scotland as a whole. The population of under 16's in West Dunbartonshire is projected to decline by 12.1 %.

Figure 5

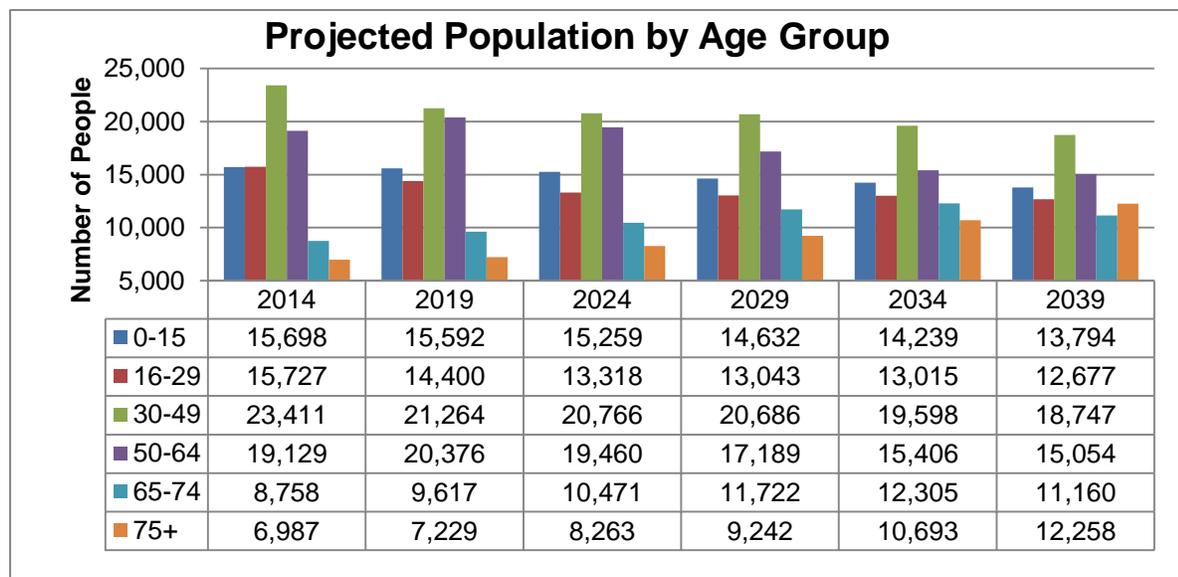


West Dunbartonshire’s population is forecast to decrease because it is thought that there will continue to be more deaths than births and there will be a continuation of population loss due to net out migration.

Projected Age Structure

As well as looking at the projected size of the population it is also interesting to look at the projected age structure of populations. This allows us to plan ahead designing services to the future needs of the population. By 2039 the age structure of the population is projected to be as shown below.

Figure 6

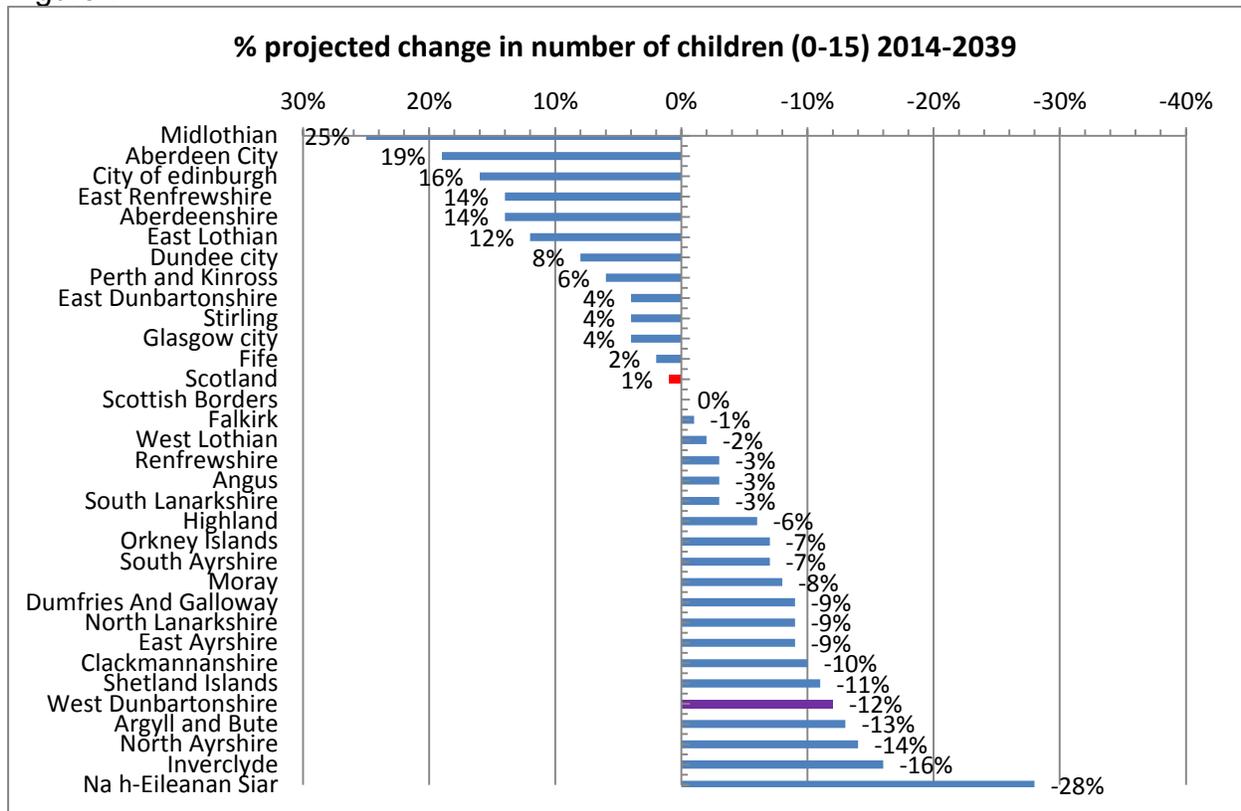


Projected Birth rates

West Dunbartonshire combines a low fertility rate with very small improvements in life expectancy. This together with the fact that the area loses more population than it gains through migration means that the population of West Dunbartonshire is projected to continue to decline over the next 25 years. National Records of Scotland has projected that in West Dunbartonshire there will be a % decrease in the number of births over the next 25 years¹⁷.

¹⁷ <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files/statistics/council-area-data-sheets/west-dunbartonshire-factsheet.pdf>

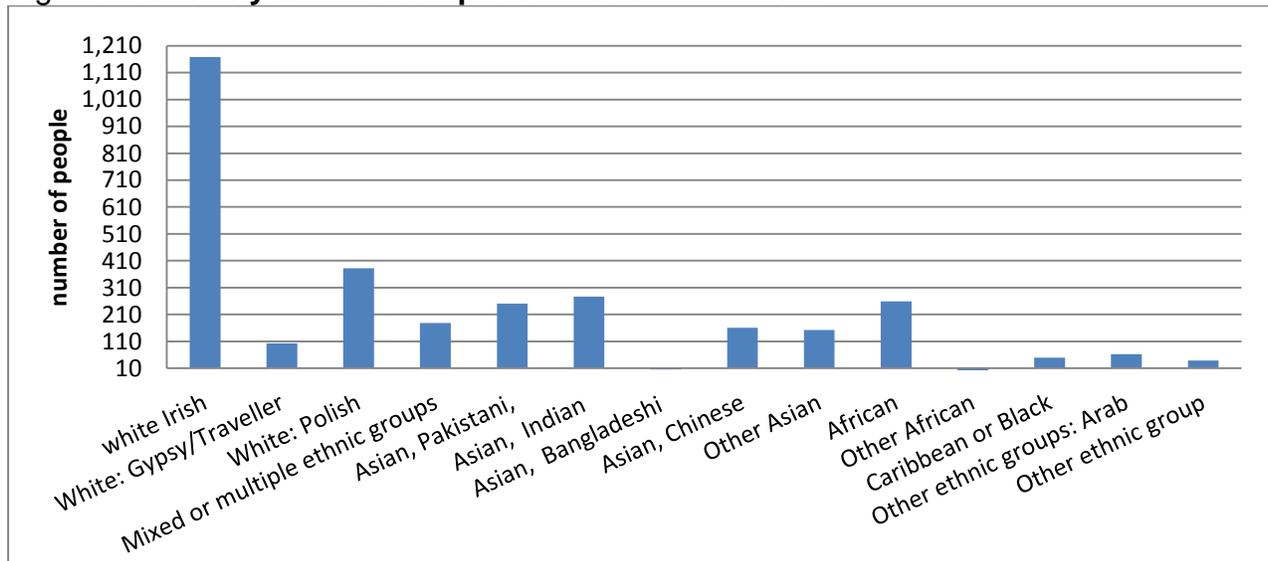
Figure 7



Equality and Protected Characteristics

The Black Ethnic Minority Population of West Dunbartonshire at the 2001 census was 0.7%, increasing to 1.5% at the 2011 Census. This compares to 4% for Scotland.

Figure 8: Minority Ethnic Groups West Dunbartonshire



Based on 2011 Census figures, the biggest ethnic group is white, which accounts for 89,306 people; this group includes white Scottish 84,344, white British 2813 and white Irish 1168. There are 102 Gypsy travellers, 382 white Polish, 497 white other and 178 mixed white. There are 845 Asian people, 251 Pakistanis, 277 Indians, 5 Bangladeshis, 160 Chinese, and 152 other Asian. There are also 261 people who are African, 30 Caribbean, 62 Arab and 100 other ethnic groups

Which ethnic groups have the poorest health?

Poor health is caused by a wide range of factors, including biological determinants such as age, sex, hereditary factors, and wider social determinants such as education, social position, income, local environment, and experiences of racism and discrimination¹⁸.

The social determinants of health are unequally distributed across ethnic groups, leading to unjust and preventable inequalities. There is a policy commitment in Scotland to address discrimination against minority ethnic groups and health inequalities¹⁹.

As the following analysis shows, ethnic groups have very different levels of health. Addressing the social determinants of health can play an important part in improving the health of the population of Scotland, reducing ethnic health inequalities.

Whilst people from minority ethnic groups generally have lower rates of mortality than the general population, rates of heart disease and diabetes vary by ethnic group. The Ministerial Task Force²⁰ for Health Inequalities notes that differences in health between ethnic groups are at least as large as rich and poor.

Most ethnic groups in Scotland reported better health than the 'White: Scottish group';

Across most ethnic groups, older men report better health than older women. Older Indian, Pakistani and Bangladeshi women report poor health; considerably worse health than older men in these ethnic groups;

Gypsy/Travellers in Scotland had by far the worst health, twice the 'White: Scottish' rate of 'health problem or disability' and over three and a half times the 'White: Scottish' rate of 'poor general health';

'White: Polish' people aged under 65 reported relatively good health, but those aged 65 or over reported relatively poor health;

The age-standardised rates of 'health problem or disability' by ethnic group in Scotland followed a similar pattern to the results for England and Wales;

Older Bangladeshi men in Scotland were relatively healthier than older Bangladeshi men in England and Wales.

18 <http://www.ethnicity.ac.uk/medialibrary/briefingsupdated/which-ethnic-groups-have-the-poorest-health.pdf>

19 <http://www.scotpho.org.uk/population-groups/ethnic-minorities/key-points>

20 <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/Doc/229649/0062206.pdf>

Sexual Orientation, Religion and Belief

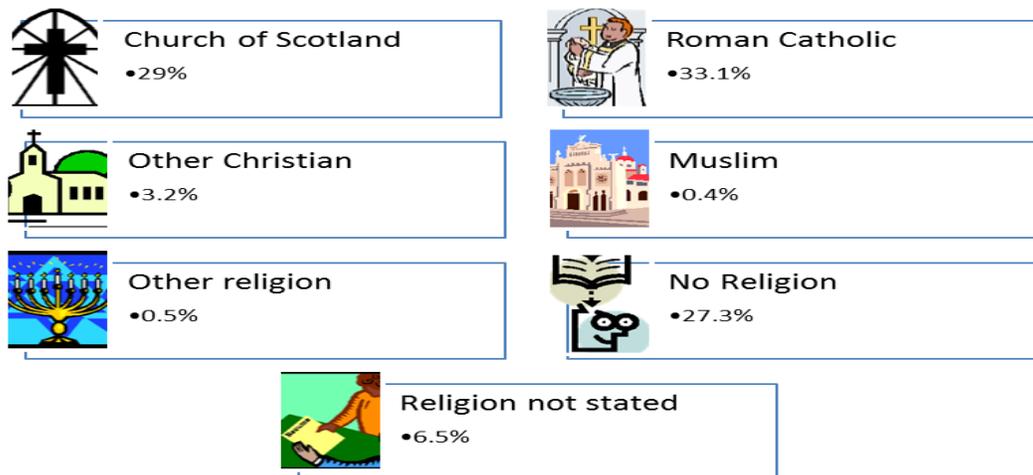
The Equality Act 2010 was introduced to help rationalise and strengthen the legislation on Equalities issues. The Act introduced the concept of 'protected characteristics' for example race, age and sex, and sex orientation.

Profiles before 2014 did not include information on Sexual Orientation. This is because this information is not gathered by the census; a UK survey carried out by the Office of National Statistics showed that 95% of people said they were heterosexual, 1% gay or lesbian, 0.5% bisexual, 0.5% other, the remaining 3% did not know or did not answer. A UK Treasury estimate in 2005 was of 6%. No information is available at a local level.

Religion and Belief

We know from the 2011 Census that Scotland became a less religious country in between the 2001 and the 2011 Census. In West Dunbartonshire there was an 8% reduction in the number of people who reported they had a religion. There was also a drop of 22% of people who recorded their religion as Church of Scotland and a drop of 1% in the number of people who described themselves as Roman Catholic. The 2011 Census shows that Christians make up 65.2%²¹ of faiths in West Dunbartonshire, this compares to 54 % of the population of Scotland who stated their religion as Christian.

Figure 9



In West Dunbartonshire, 29% of the population stated they belonged to the Church of Scotland compared to 32% for Scotland. The proportion of people who stated they were Roman Catholic in West Dunbartonshire was 33.1% compared to 16% for Scotland. The proportion of people who reported that they were Muslim in West Dunbartonshire was 0.4% compared to 1.4% for Scotland as a whole.

²¹ <http://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/ods-web/area.html>

Disability

The number of people in Scotland with a long-term activity-limiting health problem or disability was slightly lower in 2011 than in 2001. This is despite the fact that the number of people aged 65 and over increased by 10%. In West Dunbartonshire however this is not the case with 23.1% of the population reporting long-term activity-limiting health problems or disabilities as opposed to 22.7% in 2001²².

Marriages and Civil Partnerships, Divorces and Dissolutions

In Scotland in 2015, there were a total of 29,691 marriages compared to 29,069 marriages in 2014; there was a small decrease in same opposite marriages, and an increase in same sex marriages from 367 to 1,671.

There was a decrease in Civil Partnerships from 436 to 64 between 2014 and 2015, probably largely attributable to availability of same sex marriage²³.

In the same year there were 9,030 divorces, a continuing decrease in these figures and 81 dissolutions of civil partnerships in Scotland which is an increase on last year²⁴.

In West Dunbartonshire there were 353 marriages in 2015, compared to 358 in 2014.

There were no civil partnerships in West Dunbartonshire in 2015, compared to 5 in 2014; again this is probably related to the introduction of same sex marriage.

Deprivation in West Dunbartonshire

The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) 2016²⁵ provides an analysis of deprivation across Scotland based on 6,976 datazone areas across Scotland. The SIMD identifies small area concentrations of multiple deprivation across all of Scotland in a consistent way. This is achieved by dividing Scotland into datazones with roughly the same population size and characteristics. The average number of people living in each datazone is around 700.

The SIMD shows where Scotland's most deprived areas are so that organisations know where their work can have the biggest impact. The index ranks the datazones from most to least deprived based on 7 aspects of deprivation – Income, Employment, Health, Education, Access to services, Crime and Housing – as well as giving an overall picture for the area.

22 <http://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/ods-web/area.html>

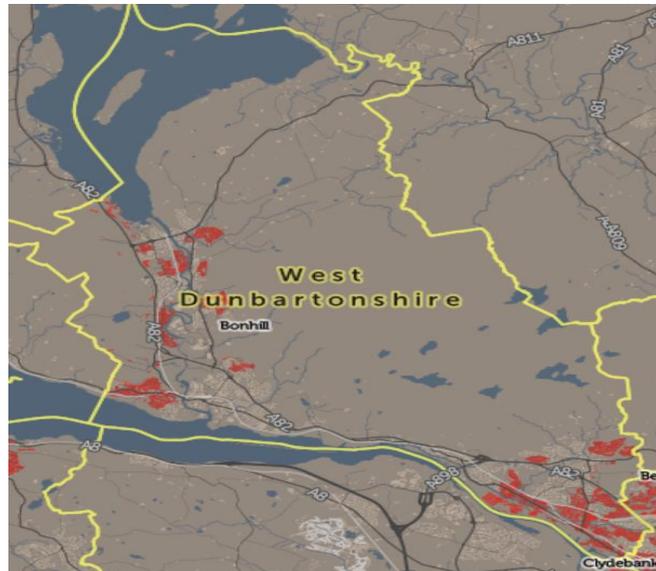
23 <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/stats-at-a-glance/council-area-profiles>

24 <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2016/03/6429/downloads>

25 www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/SIMD

The SIMD 2016 publication showed an increase for West Dunbartonshire in its share of the 20% most deprived datazones in Scotland compared to 2012. West Dunbartonshire has seen relatively large increases in its share of datazones in the most deprived areas, showing the biggest increase in relative deprivation from 2012.

For the purposes of SIMD 2016²⁶, West Dunbartonshire consists of 121 datazones. The datazone which is the most deprived in West Dunbartonshire is in the immediate geography of South Drumry; within the Community Council area of Linnvale and Drumry and the Multi member ward of Clydebank Central. The datazone which is the least deprived is in the immediate geography of Dumbarton East; within the Community Council area of Dumbarton East and Central and the Multi member ward of Dumbarton.



The map above displays in red the data zones within West Dunbartonshire that are ranked within the 20% most deprived in Scotland.

48 West Dunbartonshire data zones equating to 40% of all data zones in our area - are within the 20% most deprived. Our national share is 3.4% of all data zones in Scotland.

Housing

Families and Households

To ensure that the area has appropriate and adequate housing we assess the factors that are contributing to the change in households in West Dunbartonshire. We also use the information that we have to plan for the changes that are expected in future.

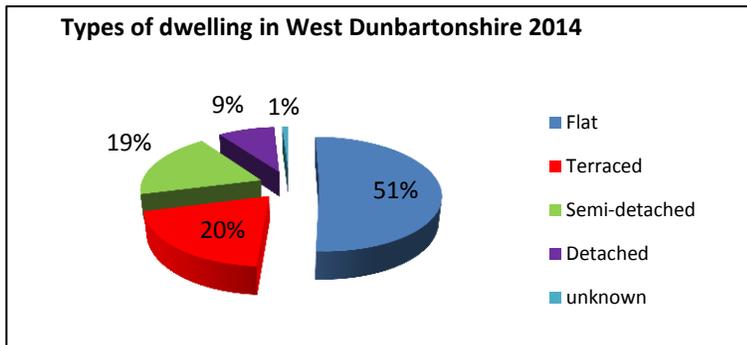


²⁶ www.west-dunbarton.gov.uk/council/key-statistics-and-data/scottish-index-of-multiple-deprivation/

The number of households in Scotland has been growing faster than the population (in 2015 Scotland's population was 5% higher than in 2005²⁷).

This is because more people are living alone and in smaller households. Average household size in Scotland fell from 2.21 people per household in 2005 to 2.17 in 2015.

Figure 10



In West Dunbartonshire in 2015 the figure was 2.09, 5.6% less than 10 years ago²⁸.

People are living in smaller households than in the past. Over the last 50 years, one-person households have gone from being the least to most common household type, and large households have become less common. This is partly due to changes in the way we live, and partly because Scotland's population is ageing and older people are more likely to live alone or in smaller household types.

By 2015, 36 % of households contained just one adult, with women slightly more likely to live alone than men (this varies with age). The changes in household composition mean that average household size has been declining for many years and has led to the number of households growing faster than the population. Average household size is smaller in Scotland (at 2.17 people per household) than in the other UK countries²⁹.

The 2015 estimate of the number of households in West Dunbartonshire is 42,571³⁰. This is a 0.5% increase in the 2014 figure of 42,353, compared to a 0.6% increase in Scotland as a whole. The proportion of these households receiving a single adult Council Tax discount is 39.1 %. For Scotland, this figure is 37.4 %.

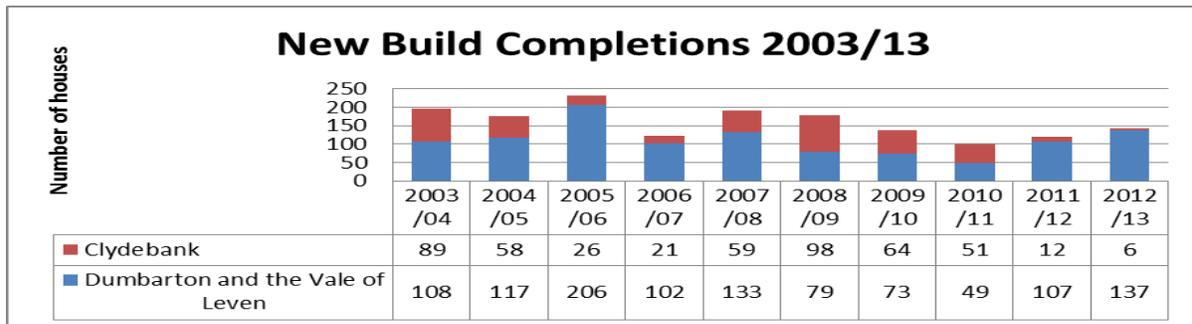
²⁷ <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files/statistics/household-estimates/house-est-15/15house-est.pdf>

²⁸ <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files/statistics/household-estimates/house-est-15/15house-est.pdf>

²⁹ <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files/statistics/household-estimates/house-est-15/15house-est.pdf>

³⁰ <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files/statistics/council-area-data-sheets/west-dunbartonshire-factsheet.pdf>

Figure 11



With regards to the dwellings in West Dunbartonshire, 96.5% are occupied, 3.3% are vacant and 0.2% are second homes. The proportions of dwellings in Scotland which are vacant and second homes are 3.1 % and 1.1 %, respectively²⁷.

The 2015 estimate of the number of dwellings in West Dunbartonshire is 45,056. This is an increase of 0.7 % from 2014 and compares to a 0.7 % increase across Scotland as a whole²⁷.

The most recent figures show that 51% of dwellings in West Dunbartonshire are flats; which are mostly concentrated in the Clydebank area; 20% are terraced, 19% are semi-detached and 9% are detached³¹.

Household Projections

The total number of households in West Dunbartonshire is projected to change from 42,106 in 2012 to 42,543 in 2037, which is an increase of 1 %. In Scotland as a whole, the projected number of households is set to increase by 17 % over the same 25 year period³².

In West Dunbartonshire, households headed by 60-74 year olds are projected to increase in number by 14%, and those headed by the 75+ age group are projected to increase in number by 70% between the years 2012 and 2037³³.

Households of the Future

In Scotland, the number of lone single person households is projected to increase by 35% over the next 25 years³⁴. In West Dunbartonshire, the number is projected to increase by 23%. At the same time, the number of larger households in West Dunbartonshire is projected to fall, with the number of households of 2 or more adults

³¹ <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files/statistics/council-area-data-sheets/west-dunbartonshire-factsheet.pdf>

³² <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files/statistics/household-projections/2012-based/2012-house-proj-publication.pdf>

³³ <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files/statistics/household-projections/2012-based/2012-house-proj-publication.pdf>

³⁴ <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files/statistics/council-area-data-sheets/west-dunbartonshire-factsheet.pdf>

with children decreasing by 34% over the 25 year period³⁵. The average household size is projected to decrease from 2.13 in 2012 to 1.93 in 2037.

Figure 11 shows that there has been an average of 191 new owner occupied houses constructed in West Dunbartonshire each year for the past 10 years. Over the period around 64% of private sector completions have been in Dumbarton and the Vale of Leven.

Figure 12

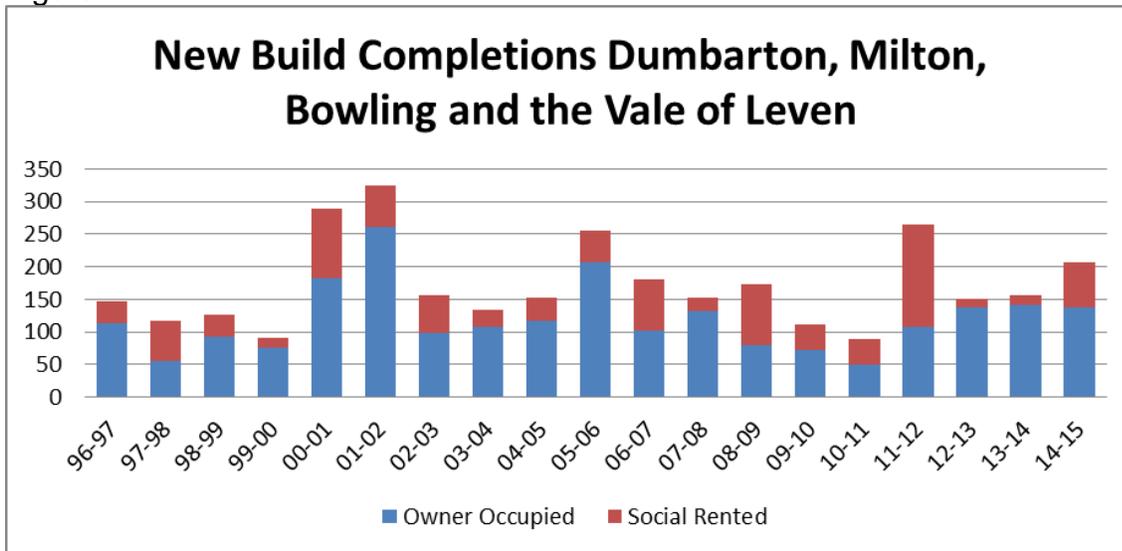
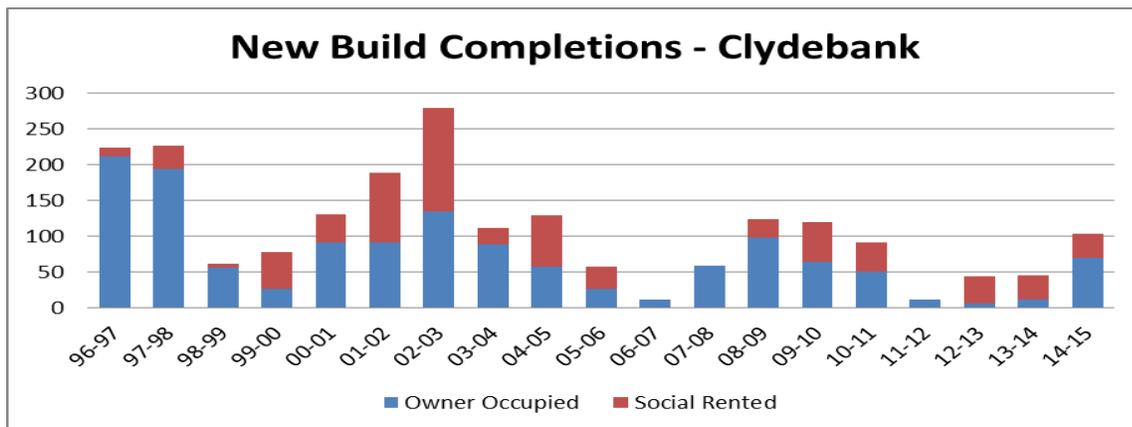


Figure 13



Tenure Distribution

West Dunbartonshire has around 45,056³⁶ dwellings; 10,748³⁷ of these homes are in WDC ownership. The regeneration of existing housing stock, of all tenures, is considered to be one of the key priorities for the Local Housing Strategy 2011- 2016

³⁵ <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files/statistics/council-area-data-sheets/west-dunbartonshire-factsheet.pdf>

³⁶ <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files/statistics/council-area-data-sheets/west-dunbartonshire-factsheet.pdf>

³⁷ Housing Stock figure 21/07/2015

and investment in this area is a major driver of the local economy. In 2015/2016 alone, the Council will invest almost £30m in its Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme for works to its own stock.

In addition, West Dunbartonshire Council has an agreed Resource Planning Assumption of £5.05M from the Scottish Government's Affordable Housing Supply Programme to support the building of new social housing during 2015, either through the Council's own new build programme or by housing association partners. This sum will be augmented by financial borrowing by the developing organisations.

Owner occupation now accounts for 56% of the housing stock in West Dunbartonshire. Social housing accounts for 37% of the total housing stock, with the remaining 7%³⁸ in the private rented sector.

Homelessness

In West Dunbartonshire, there were 1,122 incidences of homelessness in 2015/16, a reduction of 128 from the previous year and meeting the target set for the year. Together with a drop in youth homelessness for the third consecutive year, this represents a positive trend.

Our strategic and operational approach to tackling homelessness will continue to focus on prevention. This is the main focus of our approach, together with providing housing support, helping people to sustain their tenancies and developing appropriate housing options.

To help deliver this we are currently reviewing and updating our homelessness strategy which will cover the period 2017/20 which will further strengthen our partnerships with our advice and accommodation providers to ensure that we are properly equipped to continue reducing homelessness across West Dunbartonshire.

The pattern of people presenting as homeless in the main settlement areas within West Dunbartonshire is shown in table 3:

Number of people presenting as homeless

Table 3

Area	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	13/14	14/15	15/16
Clydebank	1,214	1216	1200	1050	835	760	816	812	676
Dumbarton	564	484	411	753	424	335	306	256	242
Vale of Leven	525	500	441	485	292	274	248	182	208
Total	2303	2200	2052	2288	1551	1369	1370	1250	1126

38 West Dunbartonshire Council Figures 2016

Homelessness is particularly prevalent among young people in West Dunbartonshire, as those aged 25 and under account for 31% of all homeless presentations. An age and gender profile of homeless presentations is included in table 4 below:-

Age and Sex of People Presenting as Homeless

Table 4

Age Group	2010/11		2011/12		2012/13	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
16/17	78	45	48	34	27	17
18/25	355	272	240	208	211	193
25/34	250	299	230	239	197	244
35/44	179	191	135	144	98	158
45/54	102	141	81	102	50	91
55/64	19	47	28	31	20	39
65+	21	18	16	15	11	12
All	1005	1013	778	773	614	754

Table 5

2013/14		2014/15	
Female	Male	Female	Male
29	29	27	28
191	194	181	146
188	202	163	208
117	155	102	156
83	97	62	80
23	38	35	36
5	19	11	15
636	734	581	669

Housing Strategy

The Local Housing Strategy 2017 – 2022: More Homes, Better Homes West Dunbartonshire published in November 2016 provides the strategic direction for housing services across all tenures and informs the future investment in housing and related services across West Dunbartonshire. It focuses on the following five themes:

- Housing Need and Demand;
- Promoting Good Quality Housing;
- Homelessness and Housing Options;
- Sustainable and Supportive Communities; and
- Addressing Particular Housing Needs.

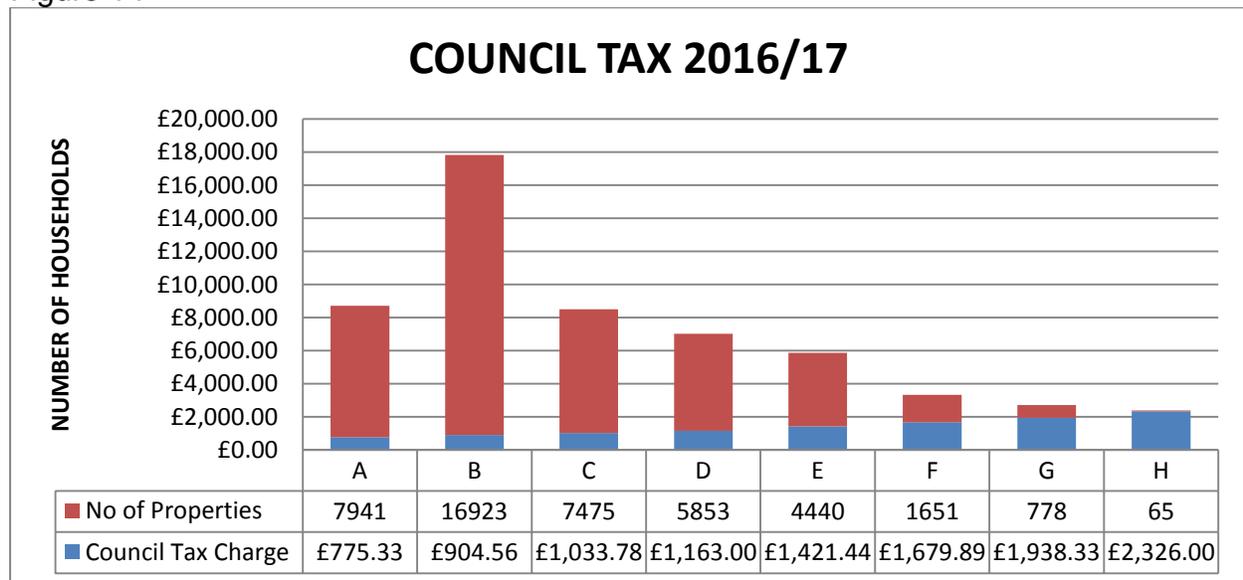
The strategy sets out how West Dunbartonshire Council and its partners plan to address the housing challenges, and take up the opportunities, presented over the five

year period 2017/18 – 2021/22. It introduces the Council’s ambitious *More Homes West Dunbartonshire* initiative to maximize the delivery of new affordable housing.

Council Tax

Figure 18 shows the total number of households in West Dunbartonshire by Council Tax band and Council Tax level for 2016/17. The total number of households is 45,126 and there has been no increase in Council Tax levels for the seventh year in a row. Average Council Tax in West Dunbartonshire is £1035.84.

Figure 14



Regeneration

The transformation of West Dunbartonshire’s key regeneration sites continues to be a major and long-term priority for the Council. The overall result will be inward investment, employment opportunities and an improved quality of life for our communities.



Aggreko

The priorities for these sites are detailed in the Council’s Proposed Local Development Plan, refreshed Economic Development Strategy and Infrastructure Investment Plan. The key sites are:

- Clydebank town centre and waterfront;
- Carless:

- Bowling Basin and Harbour;
- Exxon, Bowling;
- Dumbarton town centre and waterfront;
- Lomondgate and the Vale of Leven Industrial Estate; and
- Alexandria town centre.

During 2015/16 a number of activities helped to progress the regeneration of these sites. Significantly, an allocation of £12.4m for the Regeneration Capital Fund was approved by the Council to accelerate development and regeneration through-out the area. This Fund will help support a number of important projects that are outline below.

Major proposals for the regeneration of Queens Quay in Clydebank were granted planning permission in principle in March 2016. These include over 1,000 homes, retail, leisure, office and public realm uses. Plans are also being progressed for an 84 bed care home and new health centre on the site and the possibility of a district heating scheme. Towards the town centre the Council is progressing plans with Sustrans to invest £4.3m in improving Glasgow Road and Dumbarton Road to create better connections between the town centre and the waterfront whilst providing an enhanced setting for the town's civic buildings. The former Playdrome site in the town centre has been marketed to developers to provide new facilities on the site and the new £22m leisure centre at Queens Quay which replaces the Playdrome will be opened in early 2017.

The Exxon City Deal project at Bowling has funding of £27.897m over the next seven years. This would see the transformation of the former Exxon Mobil site and improved road access along a section of the A82 trunk road. A detailed project business case will be presented to the Council for approval in February 2017.

Both the Queens Quay and Exxon Mobil sites represent significant brownfield former industrial sites in West Dunbartonshire, amounting to nearly 200 acres, which the Council is seeking to regenerate.

Progress has been made by Scottish Canals to enhance and restore the existing built heritage at Bowling Basin. A second phase of works to provide business space within the lower historic railway arches is close to completion and works to enhance the entrance area are imminent. The Council is now in discussions with Scottish Canals regarding the delivery of a number of major elements of their proposals including housing and roads and bridge infrastructure which have now received planning consent.

Progress with the new town centre office development for completion by January 2018 and the development of proposals for a waterfront walk and cycle way from the town centre to the Rock and Castle are key activities that the Council has progressed in Dumbarton in the past year. This investment and previous expenditure on the new town centre road access has helped stimulate recent private sector development plans along the waterfront by Turnberry, Culross and Lidl who are all now at planning application stage.

At Lomondgate, planning permissions have been achieved for a 54 bed extension to the Premier Inn and 58 residential units at area 5 and an additional 52 residential units have been built in this year.

A recent review of Lomondgate by Strathleven Regeneration CiC showed that, by April 2016, Lomondgate had delivered £99m of private sector investment, 692 full-time equivalent jobs, 344 homes completed, 390,000 ft² of employment floorspace, approximately £745,000 in Council Tax contributions per annum, £7.5m invested in road infrastructure, drainage and services and 68.9 acres of land developed or in development. Nearby, the Council as continued to support the Business Improvement District (BID) at the Vale of Leven Industrial Estate to complete their Improvement Plan for the area by June 2017.

The Mitchell Way area in Alexandria is a key regeneration site, owned by WDC. A preferred bidder was selected for the site in March 2016 to deliver a foodstore (25,000 square feet) with 145 car parking spaces as a first phase and a three storey development facing Bank Street and Mitchell Way as a second phase - comprising of 10 retail units and 24 residential units. As part of wider works the Council has instructed the demolition of 30-40 Mitchell Way and a number of other redundant properties in the town centre, to enable future development and improvements to the town centre.

The Council is working in partnership with Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Authority and Scottish Enterprise to deliver actions from the Balloch Charrette. A notional allocation of £1.2m has been set aside by the Council from the Regeneration Fund towards the creation of public squares within the Main Street and adjacent to the train station.

Education

Educational Services continue to implement a number of improvement initiatives designed to make an impact on the quality of the education services being delivered to West Dunbartonshire's children and young people. These principally focus around the national agendas of closing the attainment gap between our most deprived and least deprived young people, and addressing the needs of Developing Scotland's Young Workforce of the future.

Scotland's education system has changed to meet the needs of learners in the 21st century and to reflect Curriculum for Excellence where children will be learning across different subject areas and contexts from the age of 3 to 18. As a result of this there have been significant changes to the Senior Phase which means that this is the first time we have reported attainment in the format used below. New National qualifications have replaced the old qualifications used in the old system. The Senior Phase is the stage of education at which young people move from the Broad General Education where they experience learning across all subject areas and contexts and gain experiences and qualifications that prepare them for the next stage of their life – be that directly into employment or to further study.

Attainment – SQA Exam Performance

Pupils' performance in Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) examinations is measured by the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) levels shown in table 6 below. The SCQF has been created to bring together all Scottish mainstream qualifications into a single unified framework.

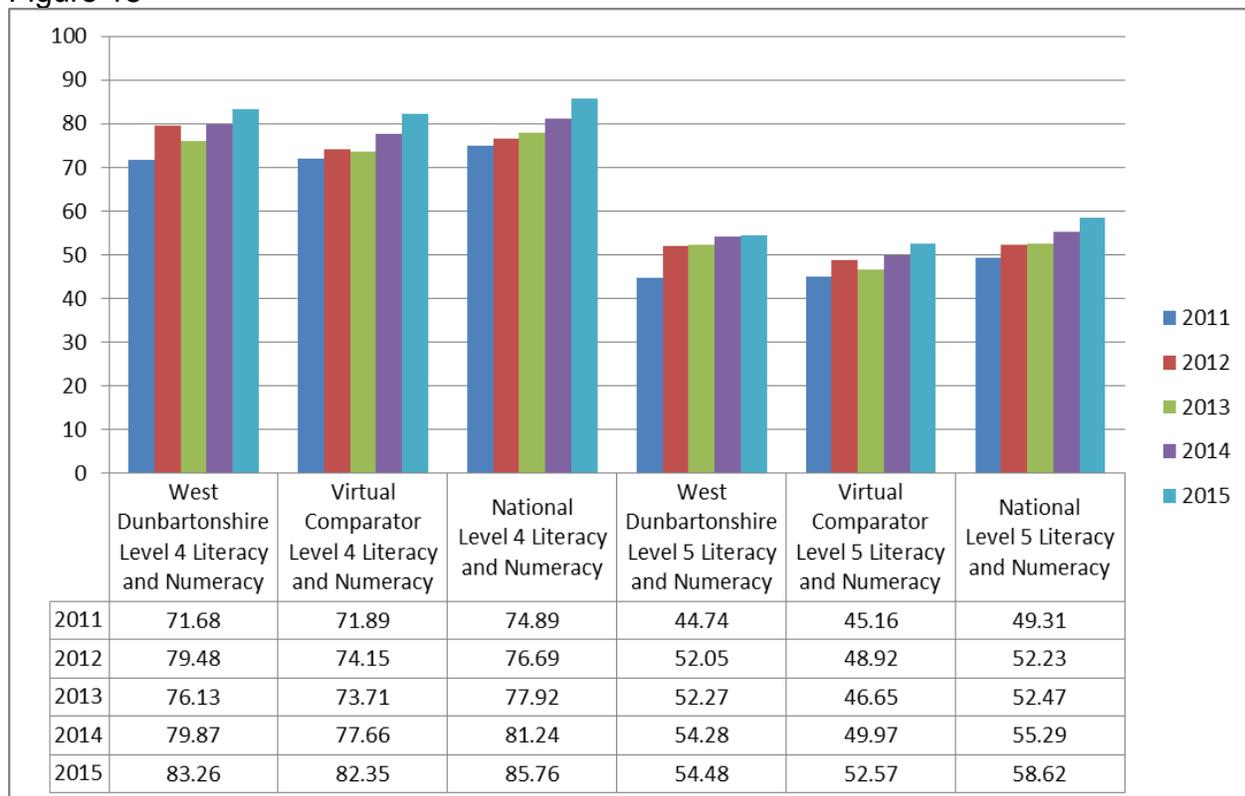
Table 6

	Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) levels:
Level 7	Advanced Higher, Scottish Baccalaureates, SVQ 3
Level 6	Higher, Skills for Work Higher, NPA Level 6, NC Level 6, SVQ 3
Level 5	National 5, Skills for Work National 5, NPA Level 5, NC Level 5, SVQ 2
Level 4	National 4, Skills for Work National 4, NPA Level 4, NC Level 4, SVQ 1
Level 3	National 3, Skills for Work National 3, NPA Level 3, NC Level 3
Level 2	National 2
Level 1	National 3

A National Measure on attainment levels in the Curriculum for Excellence is Attainment in Literacy and Numeracy. Our performance in this measure can be seen in Figure 19. Performance at both SCQF Level 4 and 5 in 2015 improved on performance in 2014, is higher than our Virtual Comparator, but remains below the National figures.

Attainment in Literacy and Numeracy

Figure 15



School Data

In school session 2016-17 West Dunbartonshire had 33 primary schools, 5 secondary schools, 3 special schools and 20 Early Education and Childcare centres. At the end of that session two primary schools merged so there will be only 33 primary schools from the start of the 2015-16 school session.

Pupil/Teacher Ratios (at September 2016)

Table 7

	West Dunbartonshire	Scotland
Primary	16.3: 1	16.6: 1
Secondary	12.2: 1	12.2: 1
Special	3.9: 1	3.6: 1

School Roll

School rolls in West Dunbartonshire secondary schools continue to decline, but for the sixth year in succession there was an increase in the primary pupil roll compared to the previous year. Overall, the total number of West Dunbartonshire school pupils rose to 12,448, the highest it has been since 2009 (figure 20).

Figure 16

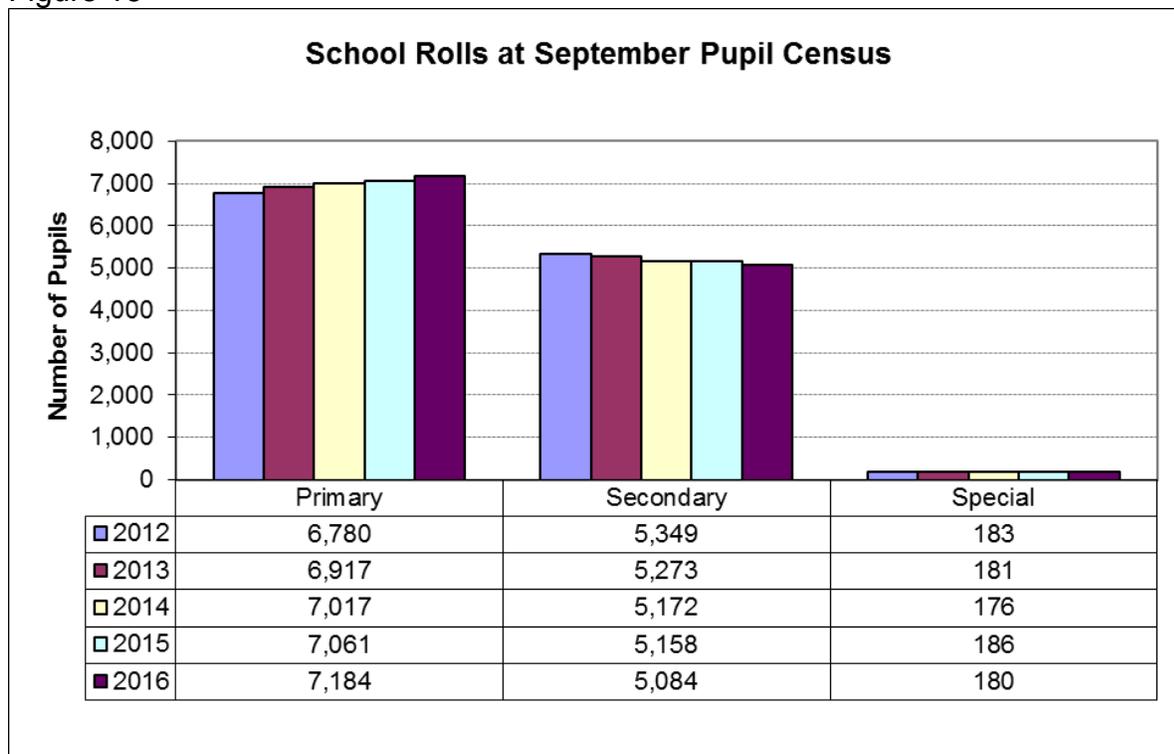


Table 8: Percentage of Pupils Entitled to and Taking Free School Meals (Mar 2016)

Sector	% Entitled to free meals	% Uptake of those entitled
Primary (P4-P7)	28%	89%
Secondary	24%	75%
Special	56%	100%

School Leavers Destinations

Over the last ten years young people in positive destinations have increased by 6.4% from its low of 83% in 2005/06 to 89.4% in 2014/15.

In August 2015, Skills Development Scotland (SDS) published the first participation measure for 16 – 19 year olds in Scotland, a publication identified as ‘experimental statistics - data being developed’. The measure reports on the learning, training and work activity of 16-19 year olds in Scotland. As part of this development work for the participation measure it was agreed SDS would continue to supply school leaver destination data to the Scottish Government’s Education Analysis Unit (SGEAS) for their annual national statistics publication and to update Insight, the online benchmarking tool for Scottish local authorities and secondary schools.

The analysis is based on data recorded about leavers from the shared data set held on the SDS customer support system (CSS). Leavers that were identified as having moved out with Scotland are excluded.

The 2014/15 cohort includes leavers from publicly funded secondary schools who left school between 1st August 2014 and 15th September 2015. In the future the school leaver cohort will be based on leavers who left school between the third Wednesday of September and the third Tuesday in September the following year.

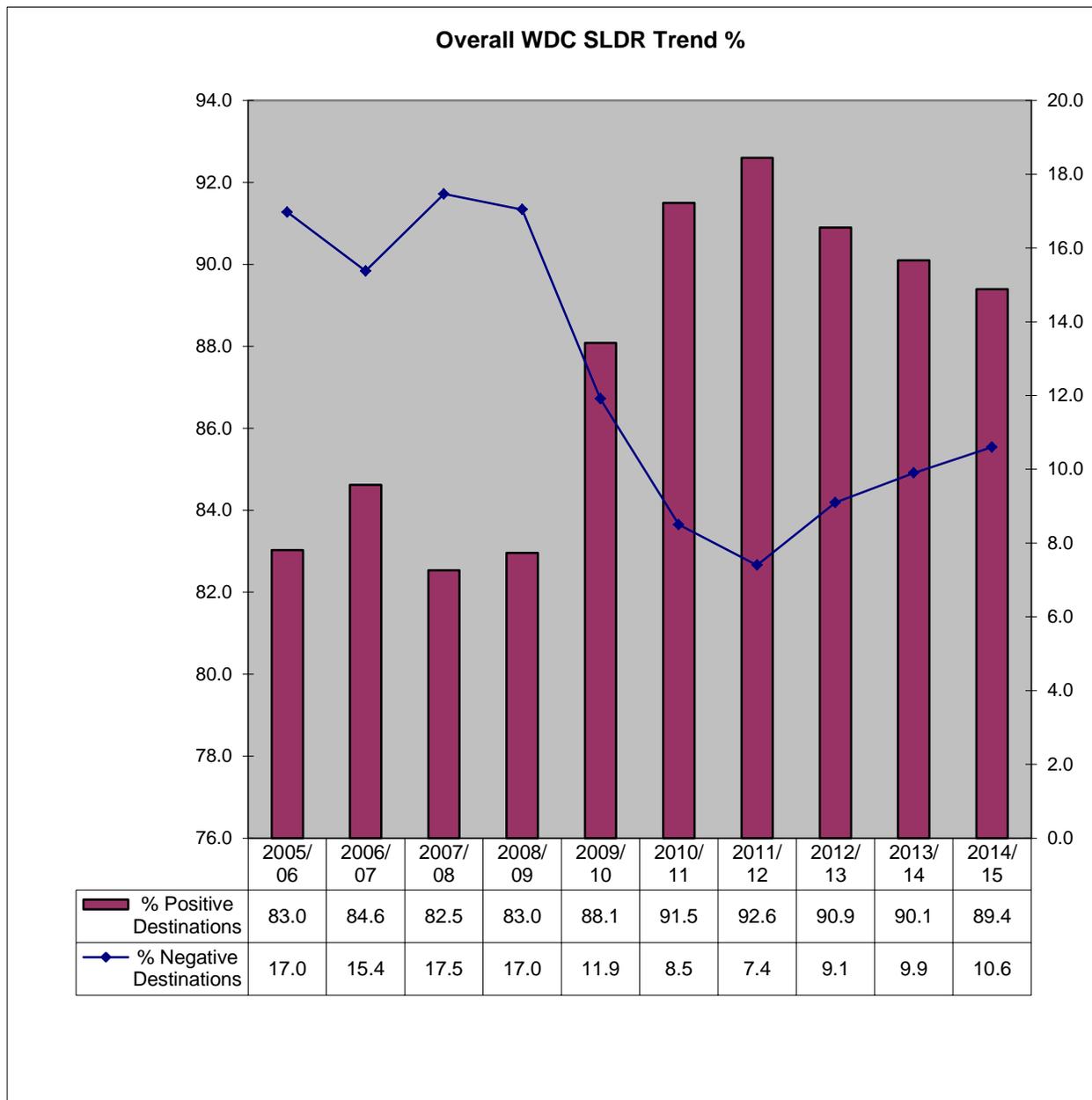
Young people in positive destinations have decreased by 0.7% from 90.1% in 2013/14 to 89.4% in 2014/15.

Young people in higher education decreased by 3.3% from 36.9% in 2013/14 to 33.6% in 2014/15.

Young people in further education there was an increase of 1.3% from 28.5% in 2013/14 to 29.8% in 2014/15.

The number of young people in training increased by 1.9% in 2014/15.

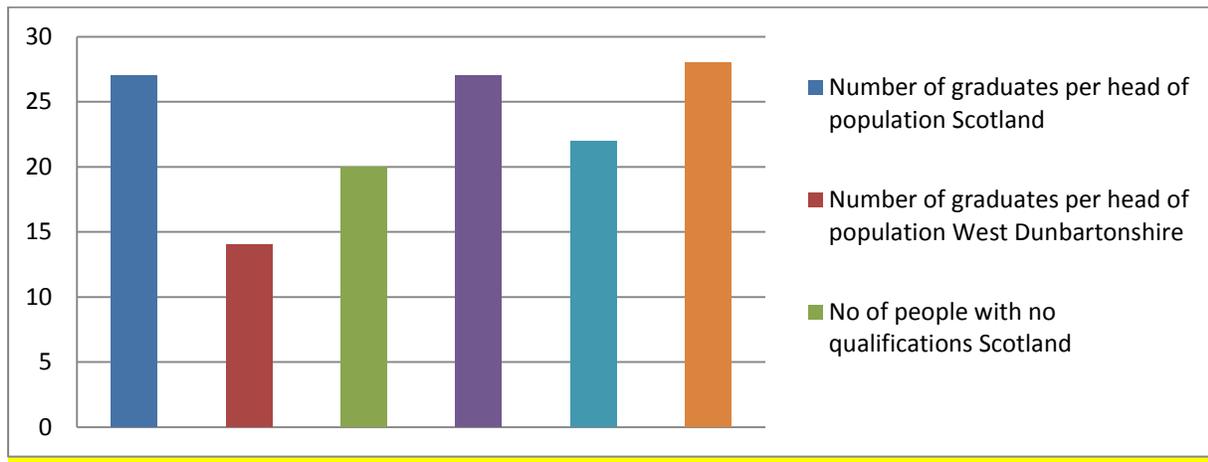
Figure 17: Positive Destinations Platted Against Negative Destinations



In 2015 the Scottish Government introduced a new Participation Measure to replace the previous measures. It is intended to identify what young people aged 16-19 are doing and the impacts of learning and training decisions on their learner journey.

Increasing opportunities for lifelong learning coupled with improving educational attainment continue to be central to long term workforce planning in the area. Increasing economic growth from industries requiring high levels of both technical and professional skills relies on a better educated and more skilled workforce (Figure 22).

Figure 18: Number of Graduates



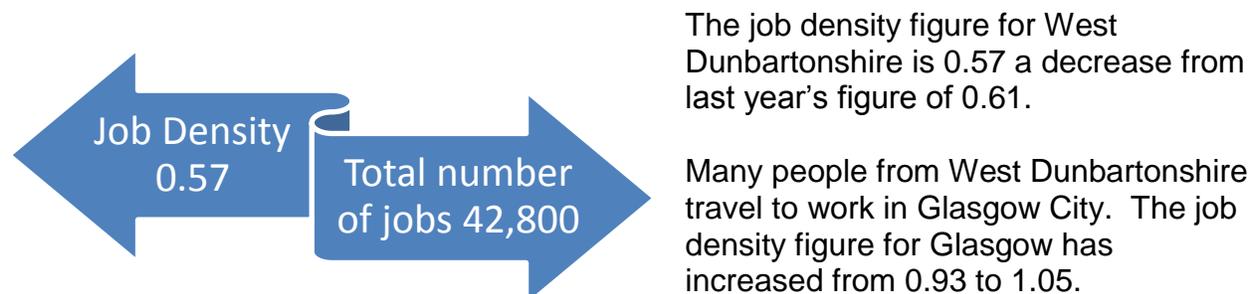
The economic prospects of those who possess degree level qualifications continue to outstrip those with no qualifications, both in average earnings and employment rate.

Inequalities

The number of people who were in employment in West Dunbartonshire to September 2016 was 42,800 representing 73.6% of the working age population. This represents a 6.7% increase on last year's figures of 40,100.³⁹ These figures reflect the some improvement in the Scottish Economy since year.

The Job density figure shown represents the ratio of total jobs to working age population. Total jobs include employees, self-employed, government supported trainees and HM forces. A job density figure of 1.0 would mean there was a job for every working person, anything less than 1 means there are fewer jobs than needed.

Figure 19: Job Density



This may have a positive impact on West Dunbartonshire's workforce, who depends on Glasgow for employment

³⁹ https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157435/subreports/ea_time_series/report.aspx

Employment and Equality

The Recession affects different groups in different ways.

At a Scotland level the aggregated unemployment level for non-white ethnic groups continues to be twice that White ethnic groups. Employment rates are also lower. Employment rates for disabled people also continue to lack well behind.

Table 9

	WDC	Scotland
Overall employment rate	72%	73%
Employment rate ethnicity: White groups	69%	74%
Employment rate ethnicity: Black groups	100%*	59%
Disabled	43%	44%
Over 50	36%	40%

Data shows similar gaps to Scotland, apart from for Black groups which is the opposite of the national picture, however the figure of 100%* above is an estimated based on a very small sample of people so it should be treated with caution, especially as the figure has varied widely in the year up to the publication of these latest figures from July 2016.

There have been improvements for people over 50 and disabled people.

Unemployment

The level of unemployment at September 2016, the most recent figure, was 6.2% compared to 4.9% for Scotland and the UK, the figure represents a 17.6% decrease in unemployment levels within West Dunbartonshire compared with period last year.⁴⁰

Welfare and Benefits

The Department of Work and Pensions statistics for working age people for the year up to February 2016. There are 840 less people claiming out of work benefits in West Dunbartonshire than in the previous year a reduction of 8.5%. Table 10 gives this year's figures which show that 19.2% of the working age population derive some or all of their income from benefits.

⁴⁰ https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157435/subreports/ea_time_series/report.aspx?

Table 10: Claimants of Key Benefits 2016

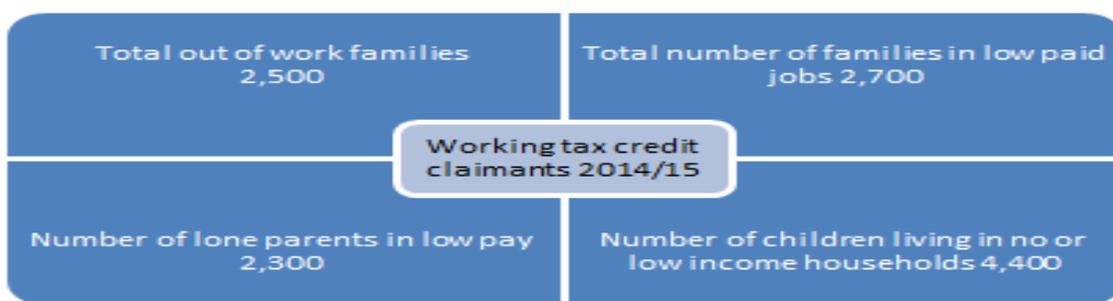
	West Dun.	West Dun. (%)	Scotland (%)	GB (%)
Total Claimants	11,220	19.2	13.7	11.8
By Statistical Group				
Job Seekers	1,610	2.8	1.8	1.5
ESA/Incapacity	6,220	10.7	7.9	6.2
Lone Parents	910	1.6	1	1.1
Carers	1,240	2.1	1.6	1.6
Others On Income Related Benefits	200	0.3	0.2	0.2
Disabled	900	1.5	1	1
Bereaved	130	0.2	0.2	0.2
Out-Of-Work Benefits	8,940	15.3	10.8	9

The figures are improving and there has been a narrowing of the gap between West Dunbartonshire and Scotland overall.

Child and Working Tax Credits

H. M .Revenue and Customs records the number of families in receipt of tax credits. This is the recommended proxy indicator of child poverty levels in local areas. The most recent information⁴¹ shows that 7,300 families in West Dunbartonshire were in receipt of child and working tax credits, a decrease of 200 on the previous period (Figure 20).

Figure 20: Working Families tax Credit



Of this group there were 2,700 working families who would be described as experiencing in-work poverty, a reduction of 100 families from the previous year.

41 <http://www.HM Revenue and Customs, Child and Working Tax Credits, Finalised annual awards, 2014/15, Geographical analysis.>

Digital Inclusion

Digital inclusion is the ability of individuals and groups to access and use information and communication technologies.

There is no one measure of digital inclusion but Scottish Household Survey data contains a number of measures at the Scotland and West Dunbartonshire level.

Many UK government services can now be accessed from the gov.uk website where services from 34 departments and 331 agency and public body websites have been merged into one, with the aim of making these digital services so easy to use that it is the preferred way of accessing them.

Services provided by Local Authorities have also become increasingly accessible by digital means but there is less take up of these services online in West Dunbartonshire compared to Scotland.

Figure 21: 4 Year % Average Use of Council Website

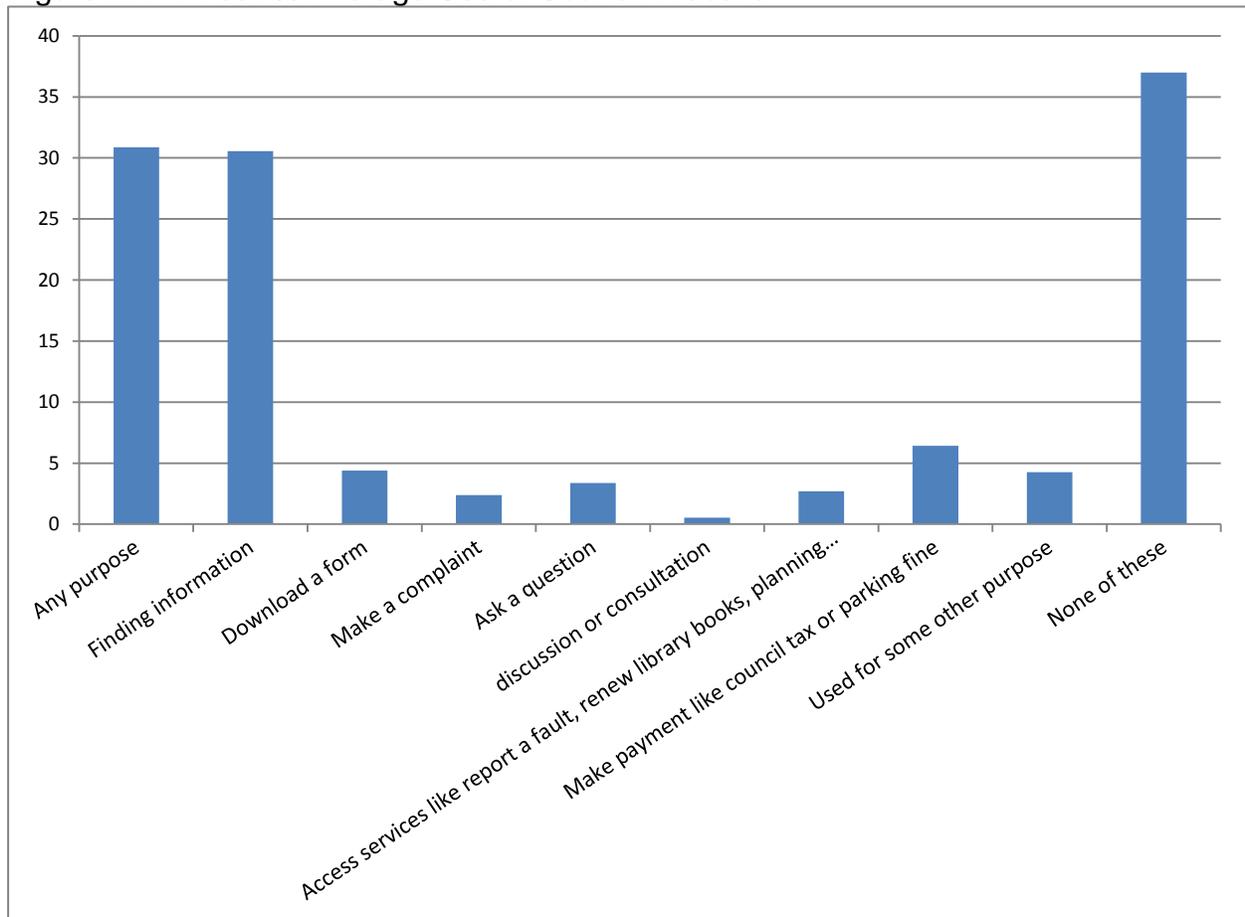


Figure 22: Proportion of Adults Who Use the Internet

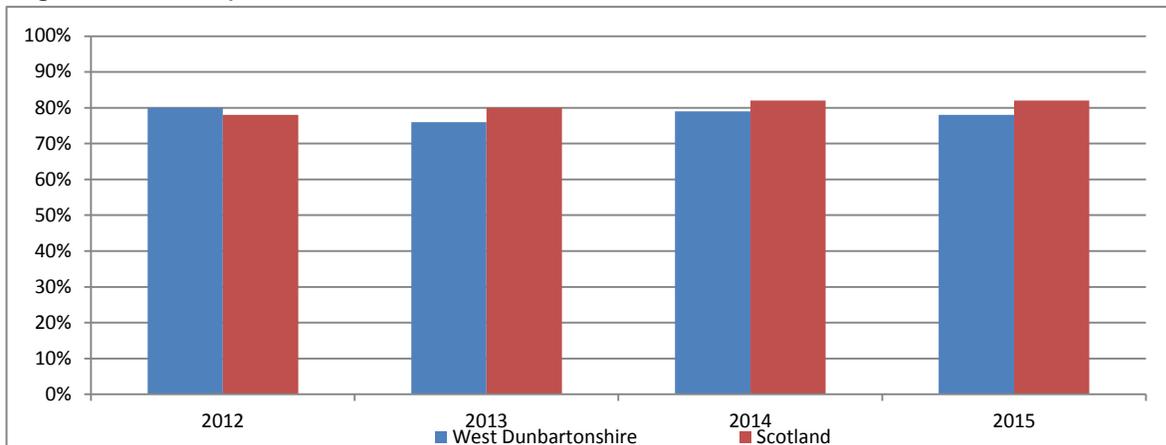
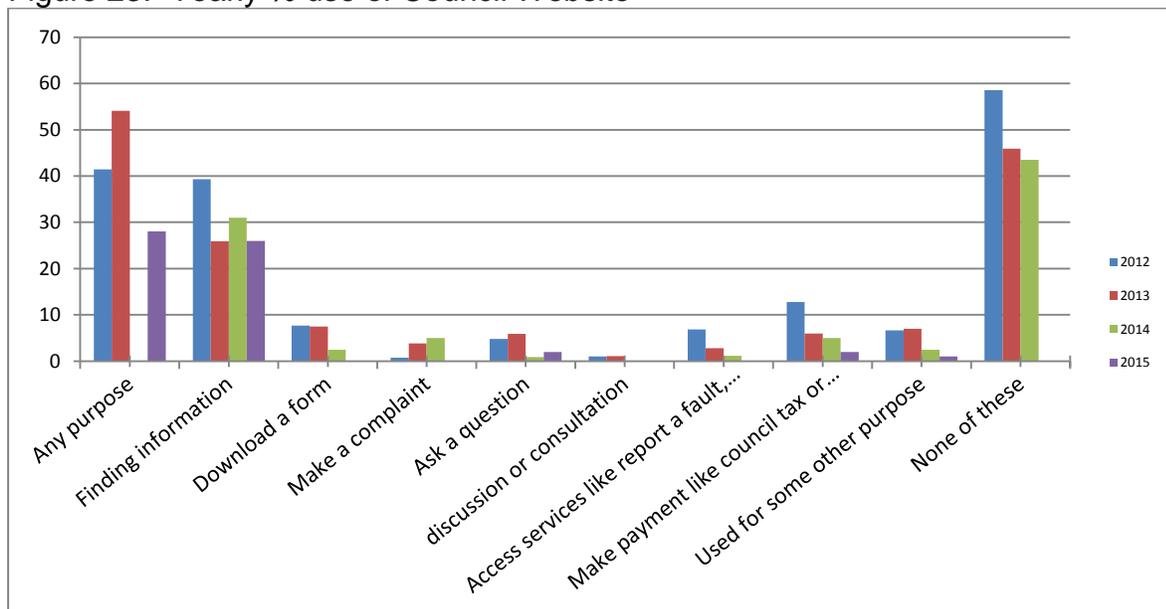


Figure 25

Figure 23: Yearly % use of Council Website



Digital exclusion and social exclusion are interrelated, and appear to be reinforcing; age, gender and socio-economic status are all factors that contribute to digital exclusion, with research based on the Scottish Household Survey⁴² showing a clear correlation between digital exclusion and social deprivation.

It is now common for employers to both advertise for workers online and expect applications to be filled in on line. The House of Lords Digital Skills Committee concluded in February 2015 that almost everyone in the workforce will soon need, as a minimum, the skills identified as the ability to use digital technology purposefully and confidently to communicate, find information and purchase goods/services, to do their role.

⁴² Digital Participation and Social Justice in Scotland, Carnegie UK September 2016

Child Poverty

Evidence shows that growing up in poverty can have a profound and lasting impact on children's lives and futures – experiencing income poverty and material deprivation in childhood often leads to poorer outcomes for children later in life.



In Scotland overall Child material deprivation decreased in 2014/15.⁴³

Moves into employment, especially for those in lower income households, led to increases in household income. This, combined with low inflation, meant fewer children lacking the basic necessities.

The effects of child poverty should not be underestimated; experiencing child poverty can undermine the health, wellbeing and educational attainment of children. For example:

- Children from higher income families significantly outperform those from low income households at ages 3 and 5. By age 5 there is a gap of ten months in problem solving development and of 13 months in vocabulary.
- Three year olds in households with incomes below £10,000 are two and a half times more likely to suffer chronic illness than children in households with incomes above £52,000.
- There are strong links between the experience of child poverty and poor mental health. One study shows that children living in low-income households are nearly three times as likely to suffer mental health problems than their more affluent peers

As well as being harmful to children and families child poverty has a wider cost for society. A 2013 study found that the high levels of child poverty in the UK are currently costing the country at least £29 billion a year. This includes the cost of policy interventions, long term losses to the economy, lower educational attainment and poorer mental and physical health.

According to HMRC figures there was a decrease of 200 in the number of children living in no or low income households between 2013/14 and 2014/15 to 4,400 in West Dunbartonshire.

In West Dunbartonshire around 26.5% of children are living in low income households.

⁴³ www.gov.scot/Publications/2015/06/7453/10

Households in Fuel Poverty

A household is considered to be in fuel poverty if it is required to spend more than 10% of its disposable income (including housing benefit or income support for mortgage interest) on all household fuel use.

On the latest data West Dunbartonshire's rate is lower than the Scottish average and in comparison to most other areas in Scotland (Figures 23 and 24)⁴⁴

Figure 24

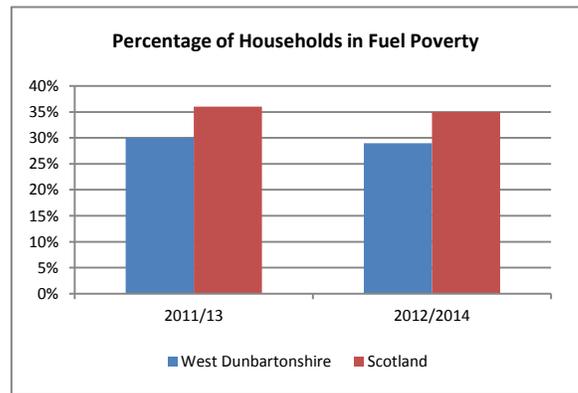
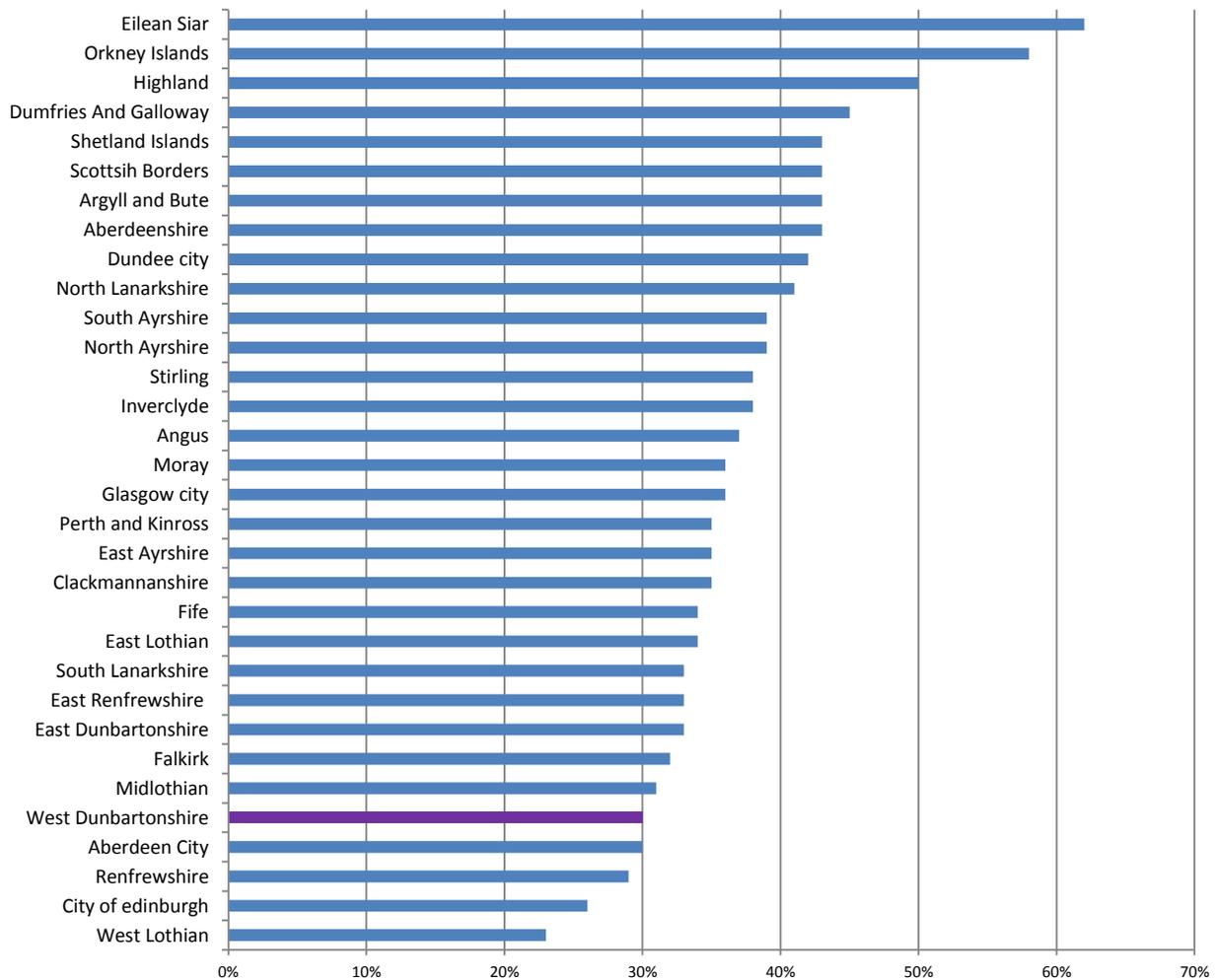


Figure 25: Fuel poverty levels by Local Authority



⁴⁴ Scottish Housing Condition Survey Data
<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/SHCS/keyanalyses>

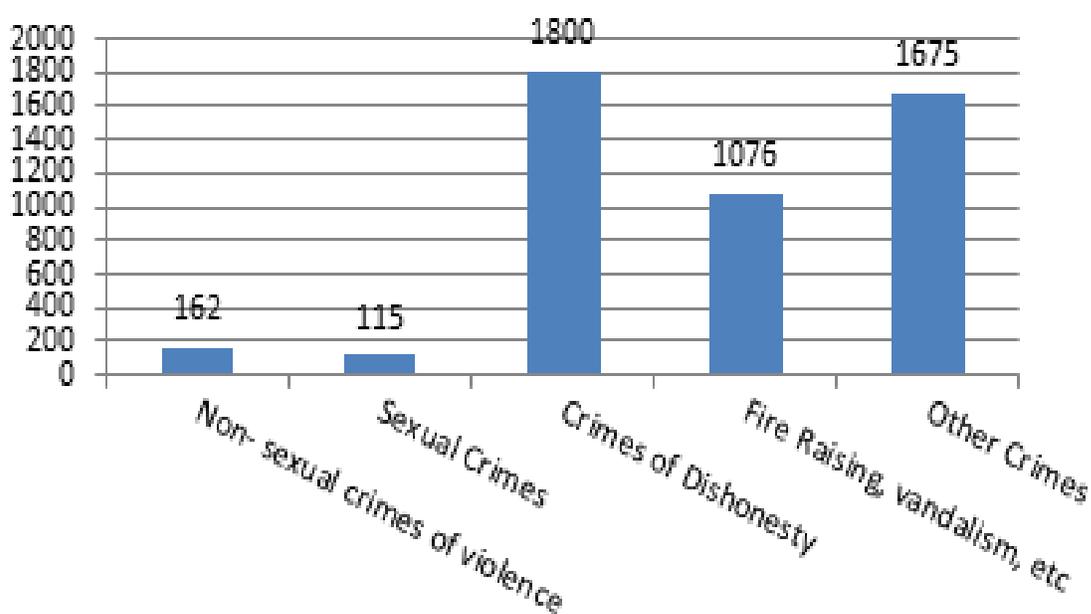
Community Safety

Crimes and Offences

Figure 25 shows the headline crimes and offences figures in West Dunbartonshire for 2015/16. The overall index of Crime shows that West Dunbartonshire scores 122 against a figure for Scotland of 100, that is to say that West Dunbartonshire has 22% higher rate than Scotland, and this is a decrease from 30% more in 2012/2013⁴⁵⁴².

In common with Scotland overall, recorded crime continues to decline.

Figure 26: Recorded crimes in West Dunbartonshire 2015/16



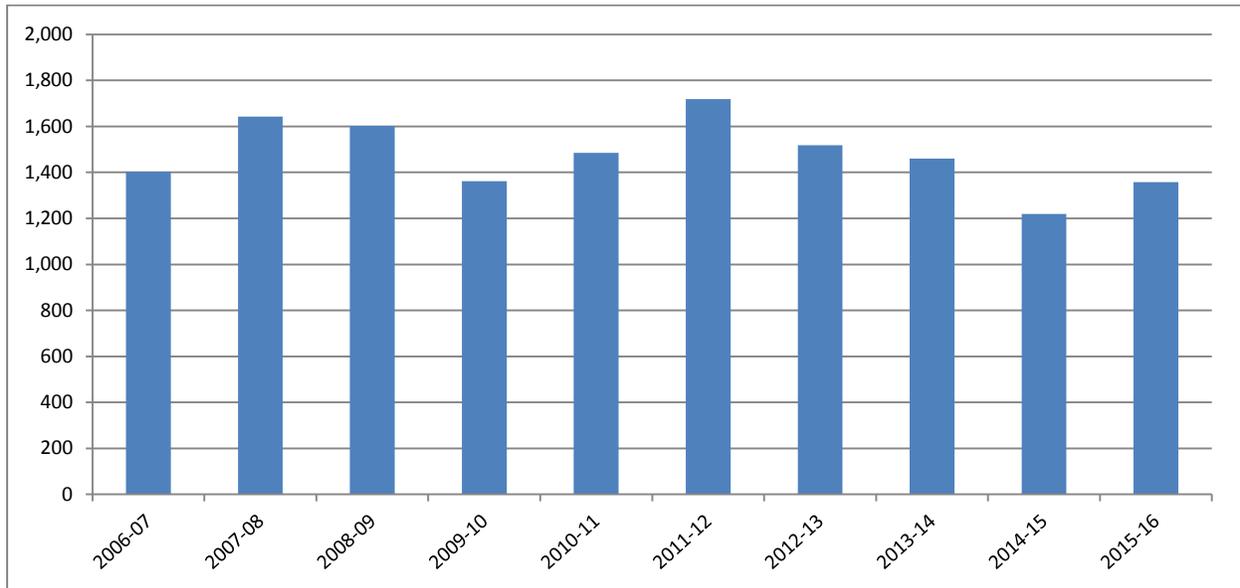
Domestic Abuse

West Dunbartonshire continues to have one of the highest levels of reported domestic abuse in Scotland, and in common with the rest of Scotland and the UK the vast majority of this is perpetrated by males. Domestic abuse can have serious negative consequences for adults and children alike.

It is widely acknowledged that many incidents of domestic abuse go unreported. Data from self-reported experience of domestic abuse via the West Dunbartonshire the Citizens Panel Survey, is in line with the patterns of variation shown by this data.

⁴⁵ <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0050/00506122.pdf>

Figure 27: Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by Police Scotland



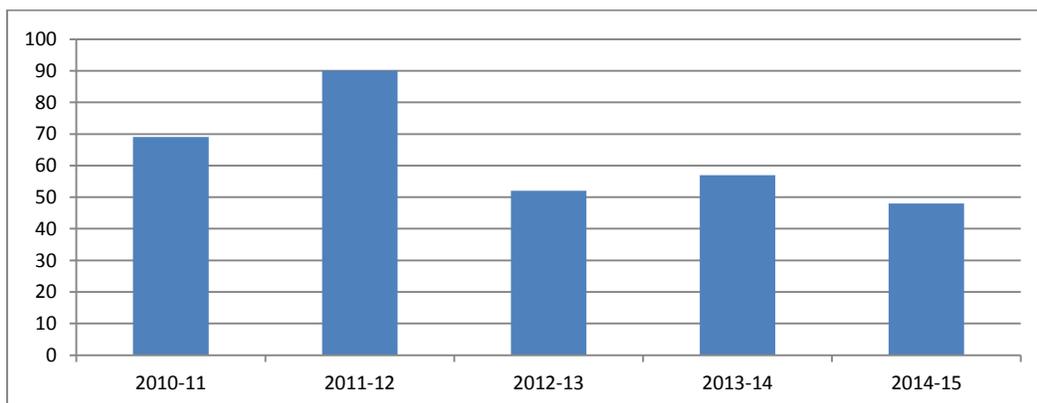
Hate Incidents

Racist incidents reported to the Police in West Dunbartonshire have declined since 2010/11 (Figure 28).

2% of 867 respondents to a Citizens Panel survey carried out in 2016 reported having experienced some form of identity based harassment and over two thirds of this group say they did not report it.

Among this small subsample, the main reasons for harassment included disability, age, religion/belief, race and gender. The incident typically occurred in a public place or at work, was verbal in nature and less than a third reported the incident because of concerns that it would not make any difference or because of a fear of reprisal.

Figure 28: Racist Incidents reported to Police Scotland in West Dunbartonshire



Our Local Environment

Landscape

Despite its small size, the landscape of West Dunbartonshire is diverse, with the Kilpatrick Hills, Bromley and Carman Muirs forming the backdrop to urban areas contained within the valleys of the Rivers Clyde and Leven. West Dunbartonshire is made up of 6 landscape character types: raised beach, rolling farmland, green corridors, drumlin foothills, moorland hills & ridges and rugged moorland hills. The dominant landscape is moorland.

Over 40% of the land is classified as open countryside, representing a notably higher proportion than many other local authority areas in Scotland, and there are sizable areas of native woodland and freshwater, not least Loch Lomond. The northern part of the Council area falls within the Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park which is one of only two national parks within Scotland.



The total area of West Dunbartonshire is 159 km²; the area within the National Park is 57 km².

Designations

Loch Lomond is designated as a National Scenic Area. At a local level the Kilpatrick Hills have been designated a Local Landscape Area within West Dunbartonshire Council's Local Development Plan. The boundary of the Local Landscape Area is wider than that of the previous Regional Scenic Area.

Open Spaces and the Green Network

Open and green spaces in West Dunbartonshire, such as parks, playing fields and woodlands form the green network and link to similar networks in other authority areas. The Rivers Leven and Clyde form the spine of the green network. These river corridors and key green network locations such as the Dalmuir wedge, the Saltings and Overtoun are linked through the urban area; connecting to the Kilpatrick Hills and the Muirs to the west of the Vale of Leven, by way of paths, burns and habitat corridors including the Forth & Clyde Canal and the national cycle route.

West Dunbartonshire Council also maintains over 400 hectares (ha) of open space and over 100 hectares of public parks. In proportionate terms, this represents a large

amount of ground maintained. The majority of residents in West Dunbartonshire live within 300m of an area of open space over 1 hectare in size.

West Dunbartonshire's industrial past has left a legacy of vacant, derelict and contaminated land, with a number of large sites remaining undeveloped for many years. The most recent survey of vacant and derelict land in Scotland recorded 198 Hectares of derelict and urban vacant land in West Dunbartonshire, between 94 sites. Two sites have been designated as contaminated land under the 1990 Environmental Protection Act. These sites are at Carless, Old Kilpatrick and adjacent to the Kilbowie roundabout in Clydebank.

Biodiversity

International Designations

Much of the northern shore line of the Inner Clyde estuary is designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) under the EU Birds Directive. The Inner Clyde SPA contains extensive intertidal flats that support large numbers of wintering wildfowl, including an internationally important wintering population of redshank (*Tringa totanus*) which are the qualifying interest under the Directive.



Redshank

The site is also designated under the [Ramsar](#) Convention on Wetlands of International Importance.

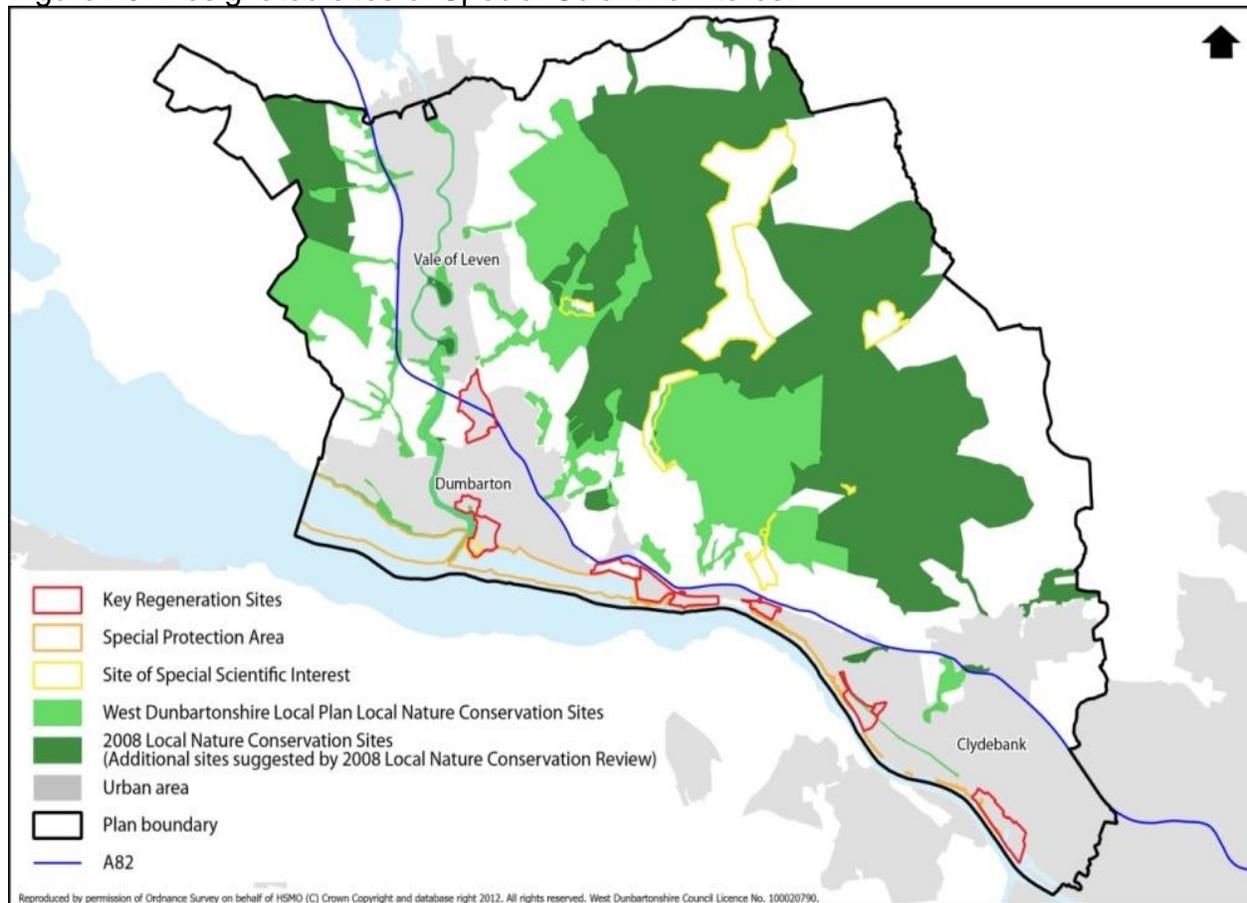
Upstream of the River Leven, the Endrick Water Special Area of Conservation is an important habitat for Atlantic salmon and river lamprey. The River Leven is the main outflow for Loch Lomond and acts as a critical wildlife corridor. Loch Lomond is designated as a Special Protection Area under Ramsar. Loch Lomond Woods are designated as a Special Area of Conservation.

National Designations

16 local Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) exist, 8 within the National Park and 8 out with the National Park area, reflecting the importance of the flora, fauna, and habitats of the area. Loch Lomond is designated as a National Nature Reserve.

Please see figure 31, Designated sites map (outwith Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park)

Figure 29: Designated sites of Special Scientific interest



Local Designations

The Saltings at Old Kilpatrick was designated as West Dunbartonshire’s first Local Nature Reserve (LNR) in recognition of the high natural heritage interest its value for education and informal enjoyment of nature by the public, and there are proposals for further LNRs at Brucehill Cliffs and Faifley Knowes.

The Council has identified 48 Local Nature Conservation Sites (LNCS) – these are sites that are recognised on account of certain local important features of habitat, plant or animal communities or geology. Duntocher Burn and the River Leven are major wildlife corridors in the area and host Local Nature Conservation Sites. West Dunbartonshire Council has a Local Biodiversity Action Plan which can be found [here](#).

Under the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004, all public bodies in Scotland are required to further the conservation of biodiversity when carrying out their responsibilities. The Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2011, further requires public bodies in Scotland to provide a [publicly available report](#), every three years, on the actions which they have taken to meet this biodiversity duty.

Soils

The soils found in the West Dunbartonshire area are dominated by mineral soils, with some peaty soils present. The peat resources are located to the north east of the area and have protected status through ecological designations. Carbon-rich soils within the Kilpatrick Hills are an important habitat and also function to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by taking in and locking up carbon.

Water

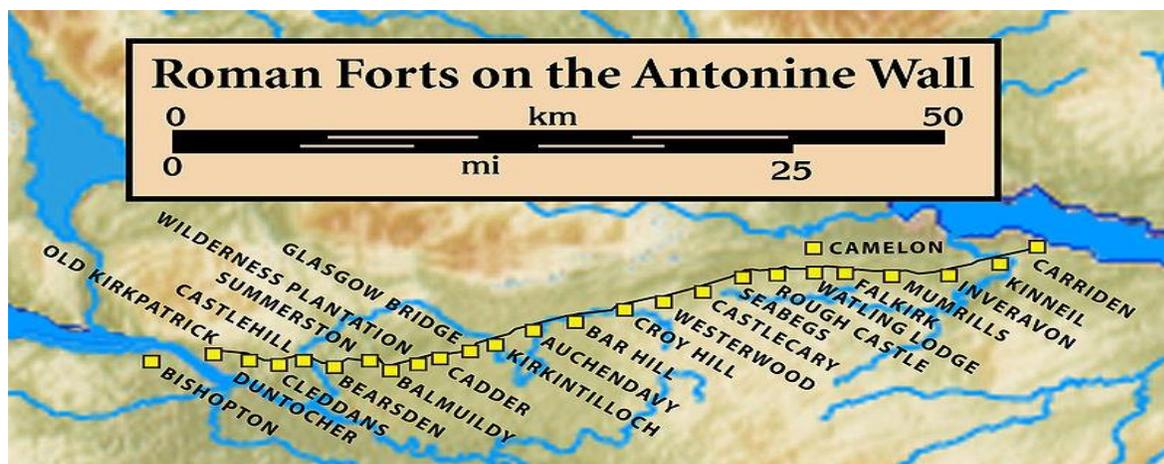
Each river, loch, estuary or coastal area may be split into several management units called water bodies, with a classification produced for. Fourteen water bodies within West Dunbartonshire have been assessed regarding their water quality; 4 are classified as poor, 6 as moderate and 4 as good. Further information can be found [here](#).

The nature of West Dunbartonshire's topography and urban form, along the Rivers Leven and Clyde, means the area is prone to flooding from these water courses and their tributaries, including the Knowles and Gruggies Burns. The Council completed flood alleviation works on the Knowle Burn in 2014.

Historic and Cultural Heritage

In addition to the above natural heritage features, there are also valuable built heritage interests. The Antonine Wall is the most significant amongst a number of important archaeological sites within West Dunbartonshire and was awarded UNESCO World Heritage Site status in 2008. While designation as a World Heritage Site confers no additional statutory protection, inscription recognises the international, cultural and archaeological significance of the Antonine Wall. A buffer zone seeks to protect the setting of the Antonine Wall. There are 25 scheduled ancient monuments in area 5 which are within the national park; the list of monuments also includes parts of the Antonine Wall (10 sites) and Forth & Clyde Canal (3 sites).

Figure 30



The West Dunbartonshire Council area has sixteen category 'A' listed buildings, in total there are 141 listed buildings and eighteen of these sites feature on the Buildings at Risk Register.

Air Quality

Air quality in West Dunbartonshire Council is monitored throughout the year through nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) levels. The majority of the NO₂ monitoring is carried out using passive diffusion tubes which are dispersed over the entire Council area. In addition we have two automatic monitoring stations which monitor NO₂ continually: one at Kilbowie Roundabout in Clydebank and the other in Glasgow Road, Dumbarton.

There are no areas within West Dunbartonshire Council which currently breach the National Air Quality Objective.

Air quality information is published on the [Council's website](#).

Waste Management

West Dunbartonshire's waste management performance has significantly improved as a direct result of the Council's implementation of a range of recycling and waste diversion initiatives and service delivery improvements since 2004.

Legislation, policy and national aspirations changed culminating in the publication of the Scottish Government's Zero Waste Plan 2010, the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012 and the CoSLA/Scottish Government's Charter for Household Recycling in Scotland 2016.



Scotland's Zero Waste Plan set out the Scottish Government's vision for a zero waste society where waste is kept to a minimum and is seen as a valuable resource. This includes the following targets:

- Achieving a 60% household waste recycling/composting/reuse rate by 2020
- Achieving a 70% of all waste recycling/composting and preparing for re-use rate by 2025
- Landfilling no more than 5% of municipal waste by 2025.

The Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012 plays a key role in helping Scotland reach its ambitious targets.

- All businesses and organisations are now required to present key recyclable material for separate collection.
- Businesses producing over 5kg of food waste per week require to present it for separate collection

- Local authorities are now required to provide a basic recycling service to all households from
- A ban is now applied on any metal, plastic, glass, paper, card and food collected separately for recycling going to incineration or landfill.

Further details on other aspects of this legislation can be found [here](#).

In 2015/16, West Dunbartonshire's waste management information showed that;

24.7% of biodegradable municipal waste collected that was landfilled

13.4% of municipal waste collected that was composted

45.2% of municipal waste that was collected was landfilled

47.1% of total household waste was recycled

Charter for Household Recycling in Scotland

In 2016, the Council, as a signatory to the Charter, declared its intent to provide services that deliver local and national benefits, encouraging high levels of citizen participation in waste prevention, recycling and reuse.

The Council has therefore committed to;

- Improve household waste and recycling services to maximise the capture of, and improve the quality of, resources from the waste stream, recognising the variations in households types and geography to endeavor that its services meet the needs of all of its citizens.
- Encourage its citizens to participate in recycling and reuse services to ensure that they are fully utilised.
- Operate services so that staff are safe, competent and treated fairly with the skills required to deliver effective and efficient resource management on behalf of its communities.
- Develop ,agree ,implement and review a Code of Practice that enshrines the current best practice to deliver cost effective high-performing recycling services and inform its citizens and community partners about the Charter and Code of Practice

Litter

Since the introduction of the Council's Litter Control Strategy in 2003, the area of West Dunbartonshire has shown steady environmental improvement. Using the Nationally recognised Local Environmental Audit and Management System (LEAMS), West Dunbartonshire has annually scored higher than the acceptable standard of 67, scoring 75 in the year 2013/14 and 96.1 in 2014/15.

These continuous improvements are due to a combination of improved cleaning schedules, enhanced use of machinery, education and enforcement powers used to combat litter, fly-tipping and dog fouling. The Council also has a robust policy for dealing with graffiti.

Over the next two years, a national campaign entitled "Clean up Scotland" is taking place across the country. West Dunbartonshire Council will be fully supporting this and encouraging community clean ups and litter picks.

An educational programme has been ongoing for the last 10 years and involves the team working with Waste Management to promote and educate all P4 pupils across the local authority. The litter staff also offer experiential learning to all P7 pupils which includes workshops on litter control and educates on the dangers of littering, i.e. needles, broken glass etc.

Climate Change

West Dunbartonshire Council is committed to reducing its climate change impact, and remaining compliant with the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, which introduced targets and legislation to reduce Scotland's CO₂ emissions by at least 80 % by 2050. The Act additionally placed duties on public bodies, requiring them to, in exercising their functions:

- (a) Contribute to carbon emissions reductions targets;
- (b) Contribute to climate change adaptation;
- (c) Act sustainably.

In order to do its part in contributing to these targets, the Council has committed to reducing its corporate CO₂ emissions by 15% by 2019/20 (over a 2012/13 baseline), and given current modelling, is confident it will meet this target.

The Council is also working with the local community to reduce area wide Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions. West Dunbartonshire's area wide emissions were 4.6 tonnes of CO₂ per capita in 2014, well below the target of 5.4 tonnes of CO₂ per capita which was to be reached by 2016/17.

In addition to reducing emissions, the council is also acting to ensure that West Dunbartonshire is prepared for the effects of the changing climate, many of which are already being experienced. The Council is undergoing the Adaptation Scotland 5 Steps to Managing your Climate Risks throughout 2016 and 2017 and has implemented a range of successful projects, including the Knowle's Burn Flood Alleviation scheme.

Table11: Carbon Dioxide Emission levels

Source	Tonnes of CO ₂ e			
	2015/16	2014-2015	2013-2014	2012-2013
Grey Fleet *	378	396	468	471
Diesel	2,355	2,691	2,468	2,401
Electricity	12,807	14,488	13,723	13,593
Natural Gas	4,833	4,816	4,899	5,051
Gas Oil (Fleet)	116	105	133	131
Kerosene	0	2	15	15
Gas Oil (buildings)	1,824	2,126	2,729	3,544
Petrol	107	135	212	111
Municipal Waste and Recycling (all WDC)	9,975	6,473	7,077	7,431
Water	154	177	168	190
Total	32,549	31,409	31,892	32,938
*Council staff using their own vehicles for business				
Source WDC Sustainability Officer 2016				

Getting in Touch

If you have any suggestions for items that you think should be included in future profiles, or if you have any queries about the content of this profile please contact us via:

wdcpp@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

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