



## AREA CHARACTERISTICS

AREA CHARACTERISTICS	LAND AREA	% OF SHIRE TOTAL	POPULATION DENSITY
Garioch	583 km <sup>2</sup> (225 miles <sup>2</sup> )	9.2	87.3 persons per km <sup>2</sup>
Aberdeenshire	6316 km <sup>2</sup> (2437 miles <sup>2</sup> )	100.0	39.2 persons per km <sup>2</sup>

Source: Aberdeenshire Council Estimates

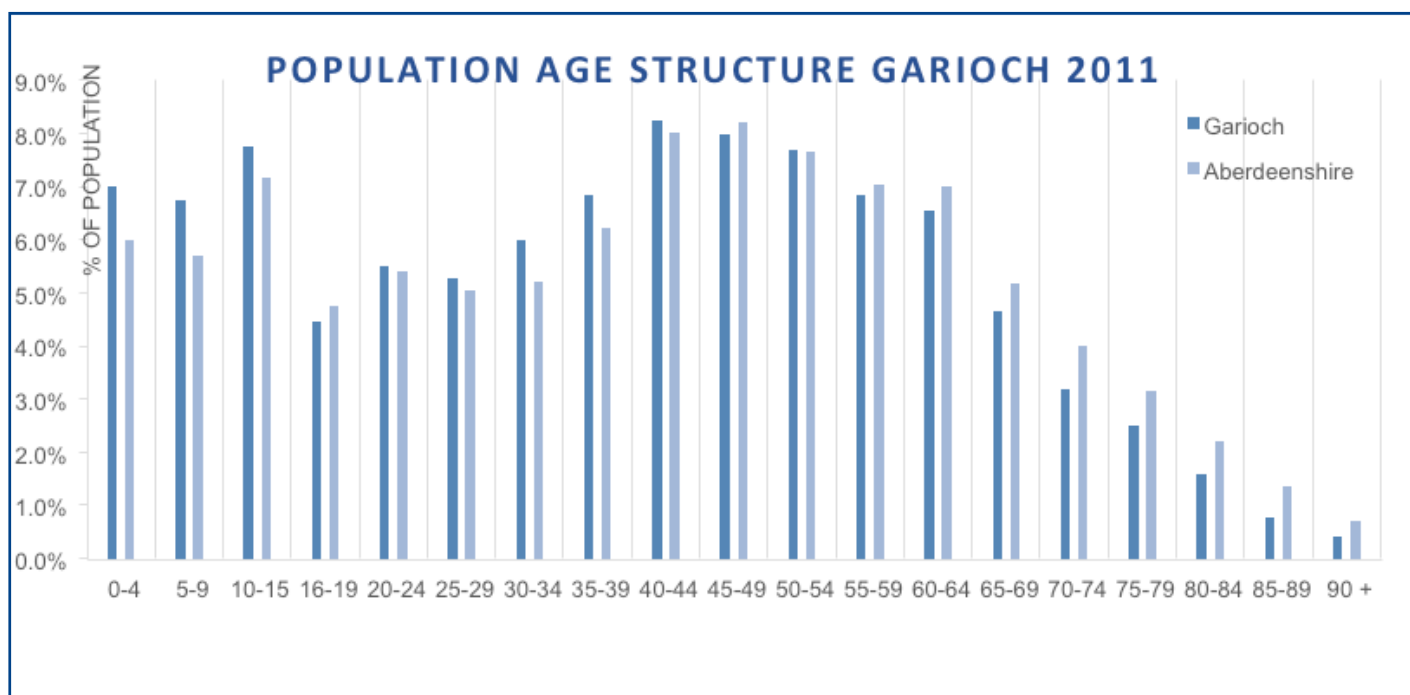
Garioch is one of the six administrative areas in Aberdeenshire. In terms of size, the area encompasses 583 sq km (225 square miles) and represents just over 9% of the council area, this is the smallest out of the six administrative areas, however, is not too dissimilar in size to Buchan. For population density this measures at 87.3 persons per square kilometre, compared with 39.2 persons per square kilometre in Aberdeenshire as a whole, this is by far the most densely populated administrative area and is reflective of its proximity to neighbouring Aberdeen City. Inverurie (12,760) and Westhill (11,600) are by far the two largest settlements with Westhill in particular being home to a number of firms linked with the oil and gas industry due to their proximity to and transport links with Aberdeen City.

## POPULATION

POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS	ALL AGES	0-15	16-24	25-44	45-64	65+
Female	25,733	5,108	2,307	7,092	7,429	3,797
Male	25,147	5,408	2,506	6,632	7,307	3,294
% Ratio Female: Male	51: 49	49: 51	48: 52	52: 48	50:50	54:46
Garioch total	41,612	8,002	4,178	13,724	14,736	7,091
Aberdeenshire total	247,600	46,747	25,146	60,598	74,014	41,095
Area As % Of Shire' total	20.5	22.5	19.1	22.6	19.9	17.3

Source: national records for scotland, population estimates 2011. Information is aggregated from multi-member ward data

Using 2011 estimates, the population for Garioch is 50,880, this is the largest administrative area in terms of population size. Moreover, Garioch's population is divided by a 51:49 female to male gender ratio, the same as Banff and Buchan and Marr. This signifies that there are marginally fewer men and slightly more women in the area compared to Aberdeenshire as a whole.



The age structure of Garioch varies from Aberdeenshire in different ways. First, there are a significantly higher number of children (0-15) in Garioch compared to the Aberdeenshire average. Second, linking in with this, there are also significantly more adults aged between 30 and 44. Third, there are much less elderly people in Garioch compared to Aberdeenshire as a whole and this is to such an extent that this decreases from 55 upwards compared to the usual age of 60 in other administrative areas.

POPULATION OF MAIN TOWNS	2003	2012	2003-12 % CHANGE
Blackburn (Aberdeenshire)	1,560	2,980	91.0
Insch	1,590	2,320	45.9
Inverurie	10,830	12,760	17.8
Kemnay	3,610	3,830	6.1
Kintore	2,140	4,680	118.7
Kingseat (Aberdeenshire)	*	750	N/A
Newmachar	2,480	2,510	1.2
Westhill (Aberdeenshire)	10,010	11,600	15.9

\* Figure not available as population under 500

Source: National Records for Scotland, Population Estimates mid- 2012

Source: national records for scotland, population estimates mid- 2012

The largest town in Garioch is Inverurie (12,760), closely followed by Westhill (11,600) which is located just outside of the Aberdeen city boundary. All settlements over 500 people experienced population growth between 2003 and 2012, most notably this occurred in Kintore (118.7%) and Blackburn (91%) which both underwent a large growth in residents during this period.

## ECONOMY

INDUSTRY SECTORS	NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES	% OF AREA TOTAL	SHIRE %
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	40	0.1%	1.9%
Mining, quarrying & utilities	2,574	8.9%	5.3%
Manufacturing	2,452	8.5%	14.1%
Construction	2,713	9.4%	8.0%
Motor trades	457	1.6%	1.7%
Wholesale	976	3.4%	3.5%
Retail	2,886	10.0%	10.0%
Transport & storage (inc. postal)	1,000	3.5%	4.1%
Accommodation & food services	1,168	4.0%	6.4%
Information & communication	474	1.6%	1.0%
Financial & insurance	263	0.9%	0.7%
Property	203	0.7%	0.8%
Professional, scientific & technical	5,953	20.6%	12.4%
Business admin & support services	1,605	5.6%	5.5%
Public administration & defence	1,045	3.6%	3.7%
Education	1,468	5.1%	7.3%
Health	2,736	9.5%	10.0%
Arts, entertainment, recreation & other services	860	3.0%	3.9%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>28,873</b>		<b>28.5%</b>

Source: Business Register and Employment Survey 2014, NOMIS

Garioch employs the largest number of people in Aberdeenshire with approximately twice as many employees working within its jurisdiction compared to any other administrative area. The highest proportion of Garioch's employment is in the Professional, Scientific and Technical sector (20.6%) which dominates the area to the extent that the second highest proportion, Retail (10.0%) employs just under half of this amount. Garioch's economic profile demonstrates similar characteristics to Formartine, in that employment tends to be present in select industries with Health (9.5%), Construction (9.4%), Mining, Quarrying and Utilities (8.9%) and Manufacturing (8.5%) all employing a sizeable amount of the area's workforce.

Also, similarly to Formartine albeit to a greater extent, Garioch benefits from close proximity to Aberdeen City which is clear in the high numbers of Professional, scientific and technical workers, who are likely to work in a cluster of sub-sea engineering firms in Westhill, located close to the border

with Aberdeen City. In fact, this is in contrast to other wards including Banff and Buchan and Buchan which still employ percentages in Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing, however in Garioch this sector's employment figure stands at 0.1% which shows that the employment profile for administrative areas transform the closer the proximity to Aberdeen City.

UNEMPLOYMENT Q1 (JAN-MARCH) 2016	AVERAGE COUNT (JAN-MARCH)	AVERAGE RATE (JAN-MARCH) (%)	% OF SHIRE TOTAL
Garioch	345	1.0	18.2
Aberdeenshire	1,894	1.2	n/a
scotland	63,115	1.8	n/a

\* Monthly Average Claimant Rate for Job Seeker Allowance

Source: National Statistics 2014 (NOMIS). Information is aggregated from multi-member ward data

At the moment, Garioch possesses the third-lowest unemployment (Job Seekers Allowance (JSA)) rate out of the whole of Aberdeenshire. However, the area saw the joint third-highest percentage rate increase in the first quarter of 2016 with the number of claimants increasing by 0.3%. In addition, for the 12 months between March 2015 and March 2016, the rate increased by 0.6% over that period, along with Kincardine and Mearns (also 0.6%), the joint-highest rates in Aberdeenshire. This is reflective of the impact of the downturn in the oil and gas industry particularly on those areas which surround Aberdeen City.

## HOUSING

HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS	2005	2015	% CHANGE 2005-2015				
Housing Stock	18,745	23,134	23.4%				
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Recent Completions	409	367	258	310	369	351	412
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Anticipated Future Development	320	456	455	400	356	332	304

Source: Aberdeenshire Council Housing Land Audit 2016 ([www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/statistics/hla/](http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/statistics/hla/))

Garioch experienced the highest percentage change of its housing stock between 2005 and 2015 out of Aberdeenshire's six administrative areas. A rate of 23.4% is similar to that of neighbouring Marr (22.5%) and is approximately 7% higher than the lowest rates in Aberdeenshire which are present in Banff and Buchan (16.3%) and Formartine (16.6%).

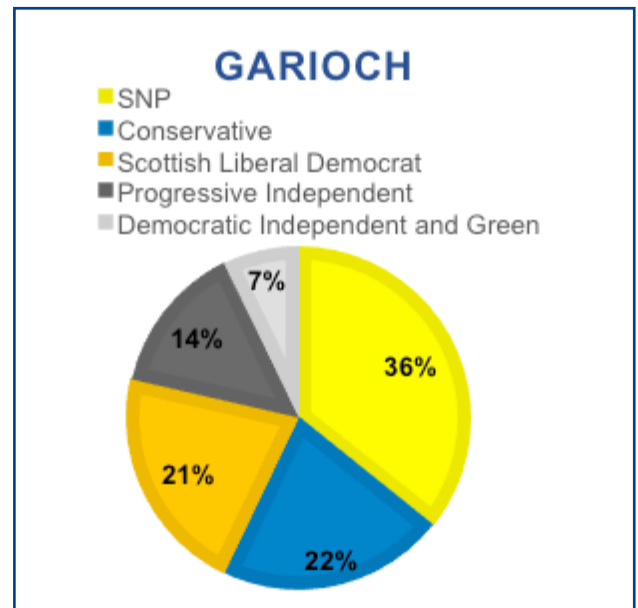
AVERAGE HOUSE PRICE 2013	GARIOCH	ABERDEENSHIRE
	£253,631	£218,663

Source: scottish neighbourhood statistics 2013, information is aggregated from multi-member ward data

Garioch's average house price is the second-highest out of the six administrative areas in Aberdeenshire. Similarly to the adjoining Marr (£254,631), the most expensive housing in the Shire is typically located in more south and western locations. This is in stark contrast to further north and east and in Banff and Buchan (£132,263) and Buchan (£159,977) where houses are on average £120,000 cheaper when compared to Garioch.

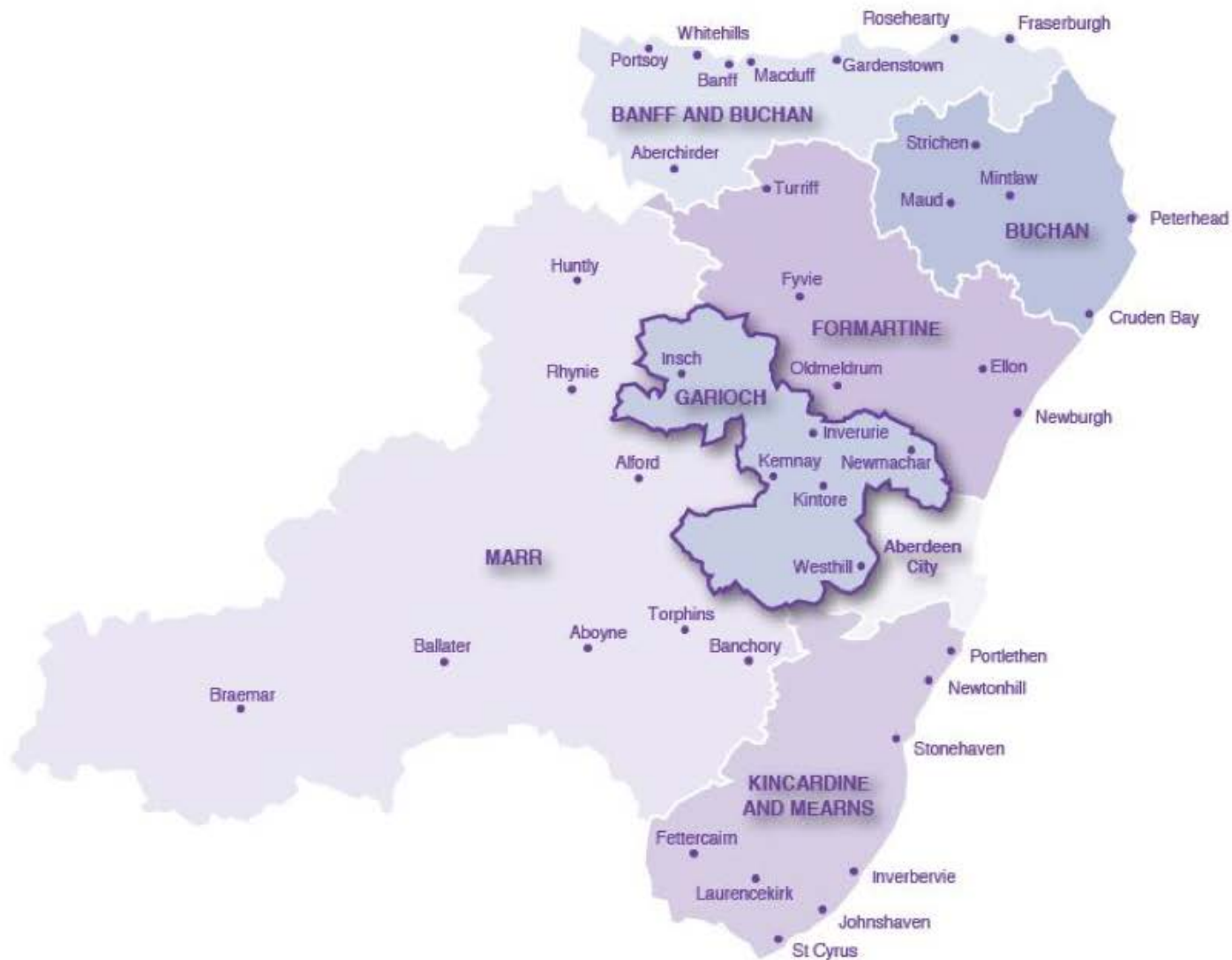
## SERVING GARIOCH

Garioch area committee is composed of four multi-member wards: West Garioch, Inverurie and District, East Garioch and Westhill and District. Politically, this area is overseen by 14 councillors: 5 SNP, 3 Conservative, 3 Scottish Liberal Democrat, 2 Progressive Independent and 1 Democratic Independent and Green. The current area chair is Fergus Hood (Scottish Liberal Democrat) and the vice-chair is Martin Ford (Democratic Independent and Green). The area is also served by 26 primary schools, 3 secondary schools, 1 special needs school, 2 public swimming pools, 6 public libraries and 4 GP surgeries.



SERVICES AND FACILITIES	GARIOCH	ABERDEENSHIRE
Primary Schools	26	150
Secondary Schools	3	17
Special Needs Schools	1	4
Public Swimming pools	2	23
Public Libraries	6	37, plus 4 mobile
GP Surgeries	4	36
Facilities refer to publically owned services		
SOURCE: <a href="https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/4696/20150227aberdeenshireservices.pdf">https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/4696/20150227aberdeenshireservices.pdf</a>		

## ABERDEENSHIRE'S ADMINISTRATIVE AREAS: GARIOCH



**Aberdeenshire Statistics**

[www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/statistics](http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/statistics)

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