



May 2016



AREA CHARACTERISTICS

AREA CHARACTERISTICS	LAND AREA	% OF SHIRE TOTAL	POPULATION DENSITY
Kincardine & Mearns	756 km ² (292 miles ²)	12.0	55.5 persons per km ²
Aberdeenshire	6316 km ² (2437 miles ²)	100.0	39.2 persons per km ²

Source: Aberdeenshire Council Estimates

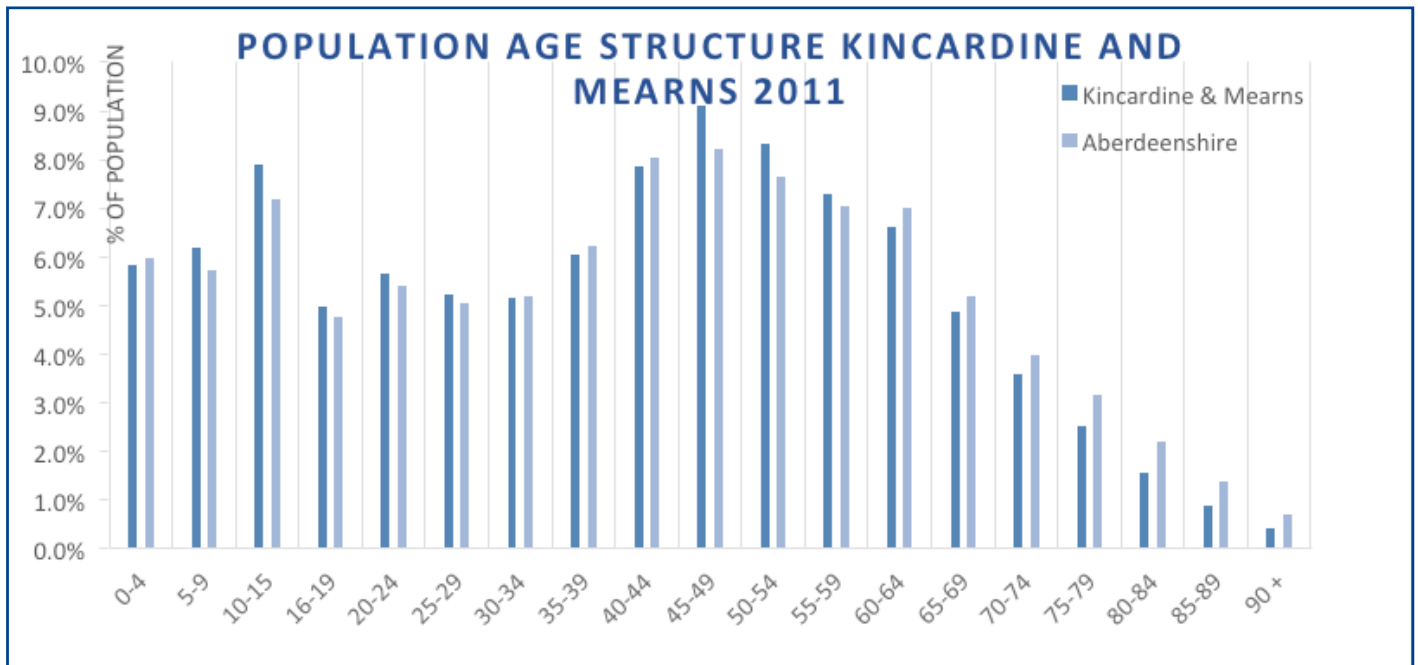
Kincardine and Mearns is one of the six administrative areas in Aberdeenshire. In terms of size, the area encompasses 756 sq km (292 square miles) and represents 12% of the council area, making this the third largest administrative area in Aberdeenshire. For population density, this measures at 55.5 persons per square kilometre, compared with 39.2 persons per square kilometre in Aberdeenshire as a whole, this is the third least densely populated administrative area and is most similar to Banff and Buchan and Buchan (57.2 persons per sq km). Stonehaven (11,370) is the largest settlement in Kincardine and Mearns, followed by Portlethen (8,200). In terms of its economy, the northern portion in particular is closely linked to the oil and gas industry in Aberdeen City.

POPULATION

POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS	ALL AGES	0-15	16-24	25-44	45-64	65+
Female	21,067	3,768	2,087	5,330	6,449	3,433
Male	20,855	4,158	2,219	5,067	6,526	2,885
% Ratio Female: Male	50:50	48:52	48:52	51:49	50:50	54:46
Kincardine & Mearns total	41,922	7,926	4,306	10,397	12,975	6,318
Aberdeenshire total	247,600	46,747	25,146	60,598	74,014	41,095
Area As % Of Shire' total	16.9	17.0	17.1	17.2	17.5	15.4

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

Using 2011 estimates, the population for Kincardine and Mearns is 41,922, this is the second most populated administrative area with only Garioch (50,880) containing more residents, however this is more comparable to Formartine (41,612), another administrative area which borders Aberdeen City. Moreover, Kincardine and Mearns' population is divided by a 50:50 female to male gender ratio, which is the same as Buchan and Formartine and very similar to the Aberdeenshire average of 50.3% female and 49.7% male.



The age structure of Kincardine and Mearns varies from Aberdeenshire in different ways. First, there are more adults aged 45-59 (particularly in the 45-49 age group) than the Aberdeenshire average. Second, there are more children and teenagers living in Kincardine and Mearns compared to the Aberdeenshire average. This also extends to include young adults up until the age of 30, there is much less of an elderly population in Kincardine and Mearns compared to the Aberdeenshire average. From the age of 60 onwards, Kincardine and Mearns possesses significantly less residents in proceeding groups up until 90+.

POPULATION OF MAIN TOWNS	2003	2012	2003-12 % CHANGE
Auchenblae	*	540	n/a
Drumoak	710	860	21.1
Gourdon	630	750	19.0
Inverbervie	2,030	2,310	13.8
Johnshaven	690	670	-2.9
Laurencekirk	1,910	2,920	52.9
Newtonhill	3,120	3,040	-2.6
Portlethen	6,580	8,200	24.6
St cyrus	870	1,060	21.8
Stonehaven	10,190	11,370	11.6
* Figure not available as population under 500			

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

The largest town in Kincardine and Mearns is Stonehaven (11,370), Portlethen (8,200) is also a significant settlement and both benefit from railway stations with good connections to Aberdeen city. All settlements over 500 experienced population growth between 2003 and 2012 except Johnshaven which lost 2.9% of its population. Most notably Laurencekirk's population increased by 52.9% which is representative of its restored railway station and improved connectivity with Aberdeen City.

ECONOMY

INDUSTRY SECTORS	NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES	% OF AREA TOTAL	SHIRE %
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	116	0.7%	1.9%
Mining, quarrying & utilities	1,624	9.5%	5.3%
Manufacturing	2,944	17.3%	14.1%
Construction	947	5.6%	8.0%
Motor trades	185	1.1%	1.7%
Wholesale	677	4.0%	3.5%
Retail	1,254	7.4%	10.0%
Transport & storage (inc. Postal	686	4.0%	4.1%
Accommodation & food services	1,212	7.1%	6.4%
Information & communication	134	0.8%	1.0%
Financial & insurance	83	0.5%	0.7%
Property	46	0.3%	0.8%
Professional, scientific & technical	2,384	14.0%	12.4%
Business admin & support services	1,092	6.4%	5.5%
Public administration & defence	458	2.7%	3.7%
Education	1,446	8.5%	7.3%
Health	1,217	7.1%	10.0%
Arts, entertainment, recreation & other services	538	3.2%	3.9%
Total	17,035		11.9%

Source: business register and employment survey 2014, nomis

Kincardine and Mearns employs the second-highest (17,035) number of people in Aberdeenshire, however it is some way behind Garioch (28,873) which employs the highest. Similarly to the majority of Aberdeenshire's administrative areas, the highest proportion of Kincardine and Mearns' employment is in the Manufacturing sector which employs 17.3% of the area's workforce. This is closely followed by Professional, Scientific and Technical (14.0%) with Mining, Quarrying and Utilities (9.5%) also employing a significant amount of Kincardine and Mearns' workforce.

This is quite similar to Formartine's economy except Kincardine and Mearns employs a higher proportion in Mining, Quarrying and Utilities which alongside high percentages of Professional, scientific and technical workers indicates that there may be greater oil and gas employment in this area, particularly closer to Aberdeen City. Manufacturing; and Professional, Scientific and Technical sectors aside, Kincardine and Mearns' workforce is not as heavily concentrated in certain industries like Formartine, Garioch and Marr and is instead spread out across different sectors, more akin to Banff and Buchan and Buchan in this regard.

UNEMPLOYMENT Q1 (JAN-MARCH) 2016	AVERAGE COUNT (JAN-MARCH)	AVERAGE RATE (JAN-MARCH) (%)	% OF SHIRE TOTAL
Kincardine and mearns	320	1.1	16.9
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

Presently, Kincardine and Mearns possesses the third-highest unemployment (Job Seekers Allowance (JSA)) rate out of the whole of Aberdeenshire. The area also experienced the joint third-highest percentage rate increase in the first quarter of 2016, with the number of claimants increasing by 0.3%, the same as Garioch. However, for the 12 months between March 2015 and March 2016 the rate increased by 0.6% over that period, the same as Garioch (0.6%), and the joint-highest rates in Aberdeenshire. This is reflective of the impact of the downturn in the oil and gas industry with this hitting North Kincardine and Stonehaven and Lower Deeside (both 0.6%) more than Mearns (0.4%).

HOUSING

HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS	2005	2015	% CHANGE 2005-2015				
Housing stock	16,091	19,147	19.0%				
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Recent completions	273	284	234	263	279	329	223
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Anticipated future development	223	335	348	345	356	382	375

Source: aberdeenshire council housing land audit 2016 (www.Aberdeenshire.Gov.Uk/statistics/hla/)

Kincardine and Mearns experienced the third-lowest percentage change in its housing stock between 2005 and 2015 out of Aberdeenshire's six administrative areas. A rate of 19% has much in common with Buchan (19.2%) also this is approximately 3% higher than the lowest, Banff and Buchan and just over 4% lower than the highest, Garioch (23.4%).

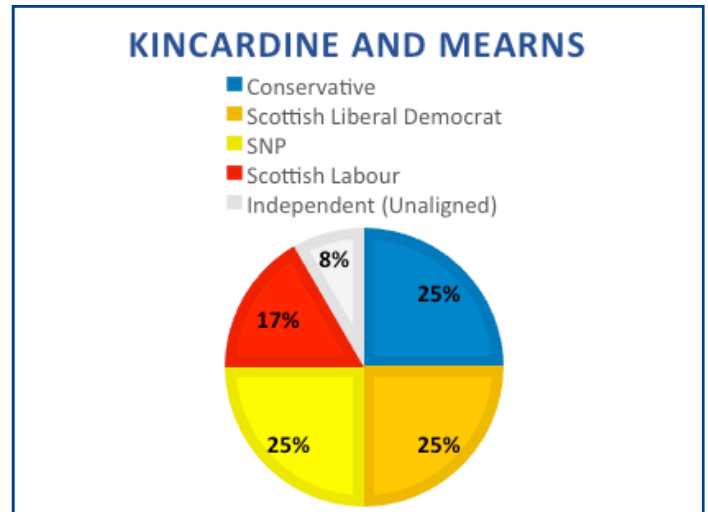
AVERAGE HOUSE PRICE 2013	KINCARDINE AND MEARN'S ABERDEENSHIRE
£218,663	£234,868

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

Kincardine and Mearns' average house price is the third-highest out of the six administrative areas in Aberdeenshire. However, this is some £20,000 on average less than the two highest administrative areas Marr (£254,896) and Garioch (£253,631) and over £15,000 more than Formartine. Whereas this is over £100,000 on average higher than Banff and Buchan (£132,263) and £75,000 on average higher than Buchan (£159,977).

SERVING KINCARDINE AND MEARNNS

Kincardine and Mearns area committee is composed of three multi-member wards: North Kincardine, Stonehaven and Lower Deeside and Mearns. Politically, this area is overseen by 12 councillors: 3 Conservative, 3 Scottish Liberal Democrat, 3 SNP, 2 Scottish Labour and 1 Unaligned Independent. The current area chair is Carl Nelson (Conservative) and the vice-chair is Peter Bellarby (Scottish Liberal Democrats). The area is also served by 22 primary schools, 3 secondary schools, 1 special need school, 2 public swimming pools, 6 public libraries and 5 GP surgeries.

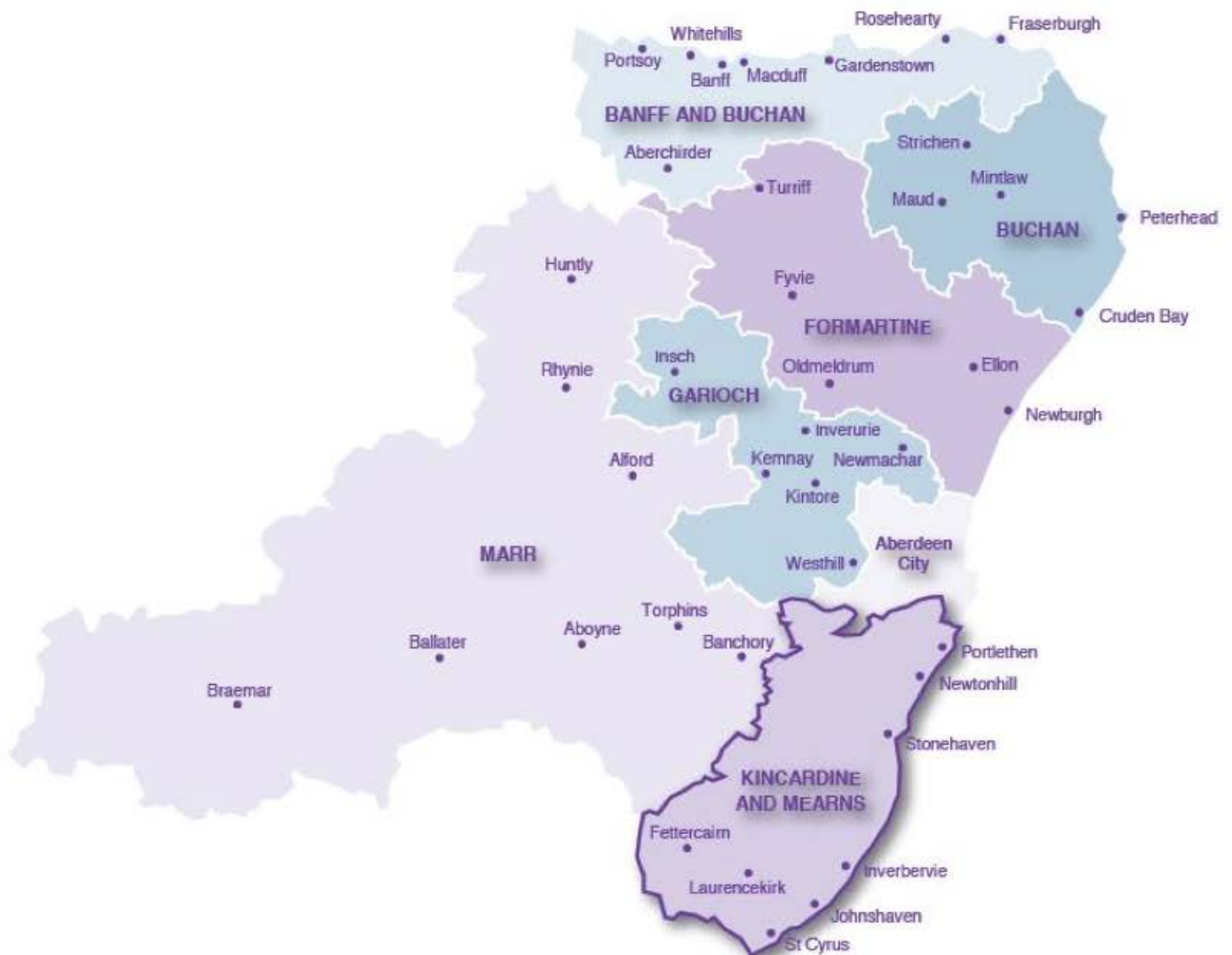


SERVICES AND FACILITIES	KINCARDINE & MEARNNS	ABERDEENSHIRE
Primary schools	22	150
Secondary schools	3	17
Special needs schools	1	4
Public swimming pools	2	23
Public libraries	6	37, plus 4 mobile
Gp surgeries	5	36

Facilities refer to publically owned services

Source: www.Aberdeenshire.Gov.Uk/media/4696/20150227aberdeenshireservices.Pdf

ABERDEENSHIRE'S ADMINISTRATIVE AREAS: KINCARDINE AND MEARN'S



Aberdeenshire Statistics

www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/statistics

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