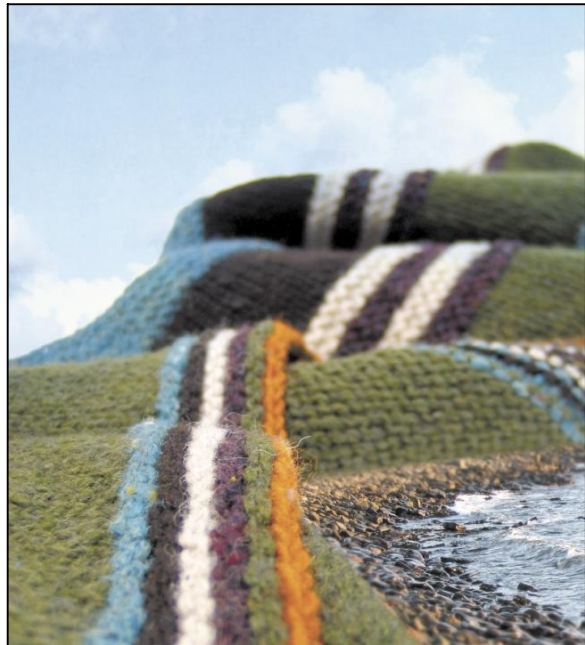


SUSTAINING SHETLAND



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Annual Monitoring of
Social, Economic,
Environmental and
Cultural Trends

Autumn 2007



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Cover photograph by Economic Development; Shetland Islands Council

INTRODUCTION

This document sets out social, economic, environmental and cultural data for Shetland, capable of measuring Shetland's quality of life and sustainability.

The Shetland Resolution was developed as part of the Long Range Forecast project in Shetland in late 2004. This was a first attempt at gathering the views of the Shetland public on the future of the islands for the next 20 or 30 years or so. This analysis will help public agencies in Shetland to work with business and communities towards that future.

Shetland Resolution

We shall work together for a future that's better and brighter. In particular, we aim to create a secure livelihood, look after our stunning environment and care well for our people and our culture.

We recognise that we can only succeed in any of these aims by succeeding in all of them.

In our economy,

- We want to be known for carefully crafted products and excellent service.
- We shall nurture creativity, build skills and encourage enterprise.
- We'll promote fine quality and unique origin because they're vital to our customers.
- We'll seek to create fulfilling, well-paid jobs for all, whatever their talent.
- We'll use the natural resources at our disposal responsibly and seek more control over them.
- Public sector resources will be used to stimulate a stronger private sector.

In our environment, we shall...

- Take pride in our heritage, natural or manmade, and respect it for its own sake;
- Recognise that our livelihood depends on our environment;
- Work with nature in all its diversity, not against it;
- Restore our environment where it has been damaged;
- Use the gifts of nature responsibly; and
- Play our part as responsible members of the world community.

In our community, we shall...

- Cherish and promote our traditions and our values;
- Keep Shetland's people safe and encourage them to be healthier;
- Foster confident, thriving communities across Shetland;
- Welcome visitors and new Shetlanders from wherever they may come;
- Promote justice and equality, here and overseas; and
- Expand knowledge, extend opportunities and improve access.

And...

We may be a small place, but if we're clever we can be more successful.

We may have few people, but we can welcome more.

We may be modest, but we can take pride in our achievements.

We may be remote, but we can be distinctive.

But in everything we do, we must seek excellence.

The Resolution is a statement about quality of life and sustainability to which Shetland can aspire. In order to ensure the words are used to guide policy development in Shetland, data is collated on an annual basis in order to measure and evaluate progress towards this aspiration.

This document provides baseline data, and, where possible, highlights trends. This set of information should help us observe whether things are improving or getting worse over time in certain areas and help us to compare and contrast the situation in Shetland with other places. These trends will help to inform policy and decision-making and provide Shetland with an informed picture of the effects of policy and decision on the islands.

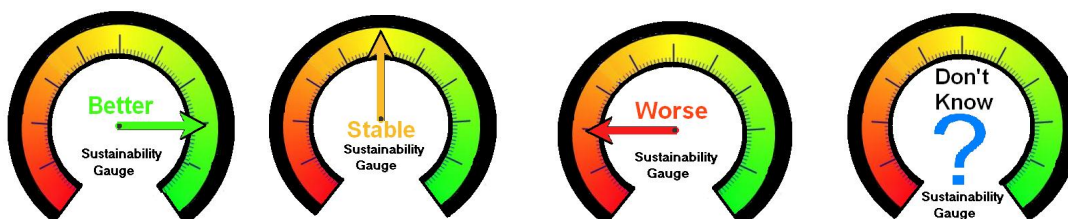
Indicators exist in ten key areas:

	Measure	Indicators
1	Population	Population Size & Structure
2	Health	Avoidable Deaths, Life Expectancy, Drug and Alcohol Use
3	Education	Opportunity, Participation, Attainment
4	Crime	Incidents of Crime and Fear of Crime
5	Housing	Quantity, Quality, Appropriateness and Affordability
6	Transport & Communications	Access to Services, Social Facilities, Employment and ICT
7	Natural Resources	Resource Usage and Impact
8	Economy	Economic Activity, Employment & Business Performance
9	Social Welfare	Income Levels and Costs of Living
10	Community	Breadth and Depth of involvement

These indicators are updated on an annual basis and the type of data available is improved, where possible, each year. Autumn 2006 was the first year in which data was collected in this format:

www.shetland.gov.uk/communityplanning

In this, the second year of publication, a sustainability gauge has been introduced to provide an indication of current sustainability in Shetland. The three categories 'Better', 'Worse' and 'Stable' correspond to the most recent information available, and provide a simple assessment on the changes seen in different indicators:



Some indicators are new and lack time series data needed to see if change has occurred, whilst some changes are difficult to interpret as 'better' or 'worse.' A 'Don't Know' gauge represents these areas.

As a result of this first publication a set of key priorities and targets for Shetland were developed. To achieve these everyone in Shetland will have a part to play, beginning with them being incorporated in the delivery plans of agencies.

Shetland Priorities and Targets; Agreed by Community Planning Board and Shetland Council 2007

We will continue to increase the Quality of Life in Shetland:

We will increase employment opportunities, by 1,000 full-time equivalents by 2025, and increase average personal and household income by 10% above 2005 in real terms¹

The Shetland economy is becoming more diversified. However there is a need to accelerate this process in order to provide a secure future. Key to this is increasing the opportunities for employment in the private sector. By stimulating the economy we will increase the sustainability of our community's critical services.

In order to ensure people are able to stay where they want, and move here:

We will increase the supply of housing to 12,000 by 2025²

Currently centralisation forces are in play. This is pressurising delivery of services in central areas, whilst delivery of services in more remote areas is requiring increased subsidy:

We will place more effort on stimulating demand for living in the remoter areas of Shetland by ensuring that the ratio of jobs to people and housing is the same³

Some will want to live in and around Lerwick to enjoy the benefits of a busy thriving town; others will prefer the alternative attractions of rural and remote locations. Different challenges will apply in different areas, and will require different solutions.

To make sure we are all able to enjoy living in Shetland as fully as possible:

We will be internationally renowned by ranking in the top 5% on a European stage⁴. To ensure that equal opportunities exist for all, no matter an individual's age, race, gender, faith, sexual orientation or disability and to decrease inequalities.

Shetland already ranks highly in Scotland for social welfare, health and safety. However, we are aiming to be high ranking on an international stage. We also recognise that not everyone in Shetland shares this good experience.

Shetland has a very attractive natural environment and a good reputation for caring for it, we will enhance that and:

We will be world renowned for being clean and green islands, decreasing out CO2 emissions by 30% by 2020⁵

Overall the retention of existing residents and attraction of new and returning population will depend on success across the above factors that affect quality of life. By maintaining and enhancing a society that appeals to people who are already here and in faraway places:

We will increase the population of Shetland to 25,000 by 2025⁶

¹ In line with Successful Highlands and Islands. Current FTE is 9,200 (2003)

² Current housing is 10,200 (2005)

³ Population ratio: 20:80 Peripheral/Central where Peripheral (Isles, Parish of Northmavine, Walls and Sandness Community Council Area), 2001 Census; Employment ratio: 12:88; Housing ratio: 15:85.

⁴ To be completed

⁵ The same as the UK's current commitment

⁶ In line with Successful Highlands and Islands. Current population is 22,000 (census, 2001)

Information covering the same ten key areas has been collected at a more local level, and communities are being involved to incorporate their views. These community profiles cover the following seven localities:

- North Isles
- Whalsay and Skerries
- North Mainland
- West Mainland
- Central
- Lerwick and Bressay
- South

And are available at <http://www.shetland.gov.uk/datashare//default.asp>

Thanks to all those involved in the development of these indicators and production of this year's report.

OVERVIEW

The Shetland Islands are the most northerly local authority area in the UK, 298 miles north of Edinburgh and 211 miles north of Aberdeen. Our closest neighbours are Orkney, the nearest part of which lies some 25 miles from Fair Isle and about 50 miles from the Shetland mainland. Shetland is only 228 miles from Torshavn in Faroe and a similar distance from Bergen in Norway. Shetland comprises more than 100 islands, 15 of which are inhabited, and the total population is around 22,000. We lie further north than Moscow and southern Greenland.

Population

- ◆ Shetland's population has fallen by 4% over the last twenty-five years, an average of around 35 people a year. However there are signs that this trend of decline may be levelling off and although the population dropped by 120 between 2005-06 it is likely that this can be attributed to the closure of the Radar Base at Saxa Vord.
- ◆ The trend towards centralisation of the population towards Lerwick and a 15-20 minute commute of Lerwick continues. Around 41% of the population now lives in Lerwick.
- ◆ Since 1991, Shetland's population aged over 65 has risen by 31% and the progression of an ageing population looks set to continue, with the population of over 50s increasing by 1.9% in the last year.
- ◆ In the 10 years between 1996 and 2006 there has been a net emigration from Shetland of 1,333 people, but the number of National Insurance registrations has steadily increased, particularly for individuals from EU accession and EEA states. The birth rate has been consistently higher than death rate.
- ◆ Research into population trends and future projection is being developed.

Avoidable Death and Life Expectancy

- ◆ Shetland's life expectancy is slightly above the Scottish average. Levels of avoidable deaths in Shetland are fairly stable at around 100 a year.
- ◆ Drug misuse is increasing, with a rise in use of more dangerous drugs such as heroin and cocaine, while the age of starting drug use is decreasing. The numbers of young people presenting with self-harm is also increasing.

Education

- ◆ Attainment levels in schools are high and well above the Scottish average, with 47% of pupils going on to higher or further education and a similar number into employment and training. Secondary school enrolment remains stable, while primary school enrolment continues to fall.
- ◆ An estimated 2500 working age adults in Shetland have low levels of literacy. For those without suitable skills for employment barriers to learning include access, lack of childcare and cost.
- ◆ The number of NEETs decreased by 20% in the last year, due to the way data was collated.

Crime

- ◆ Both reported offences and registered offences have been slowly increasing over the past few years, with a fairly large increase between the years 2004 and 2005. There has also been an increase in the amount of road accidents and offences.
- ◆ Between 95 and 99% of people feel the area they live in is safe or very safe. The proportion of people worried about becoming a victim of crime is lower in Shetland (30%) than the Northern constabulary area as a whole (47%).

Housing

- ◆ The number of houses continues to increase, however, build does not appear to be keeping up with demand, as the numbers waiting for social housing continue to increase, as does private house prices.
- ◆ Housing in the private sector appears to be of poorer quality than social rented stock for a variety of reasons. Just under half the population have problems heating their homes, while it is estimated a quarter are at risk from fuel poverty.
- ◆ The number of homeless presentations is fairly consistent. There were 193 in 2005/06.

Transport and Communications

- ◆ Vehicle ownership and inter-island ferry and bus usage in Shetland continues to rise, as does usage of external air and sea routes. The cost of fares is also increasing across the board.
- ◆ Shetland has high uptake of SDL and ADSL Internet connection.

Natural Resources

- ◆ Existing data available to measure the quality of the environment in Shetland, such as air and water quality, paint a good picture. However, further measures are required to ensure the situation is fully understood.
- ◆ Recycling opportunities continue to expand and diversify and new renewable energy possibilities are being explored.

Economy

- ◆ The Gross Regional Domestic Product per capita of Shetland is lower than the rest of the UK. Fisheries output, oil and the Council remain the three largest sectors in the economy, considerably higher than agriculture, tourism and knitwear.
- ◆ 85.2% of the working age population is in employment, with the public sector dominating. 14% of household income is derived from self-employment, compared to 8% for Scotland as a whole.

- ◆ Shetland continues to have one of the lowest unemployment rates in the country.

Shetland's population has fallen by 4% over the last twenty-five years, an average of around 35 people a year. However there are signs that this trend of decline may be levelling off and although the population dropped by 120 between 2005-06 it is likely that this can be attributed to the closure of the Radar Base at Saxa Vord.

The trend towards centralisation of the population towards Lerwick and a 15-20 minute commute of Lerwick continues. Around 41% of the population now lives in Lerwick.

Since 1991, Shetland's population aged over 65 has risen by 31% and the progression of an ageing population looks set to continue, with the population of over 50s increasing by 1.9% in the last year.

In the 10 years between 1996 and 2006 there has been a net emigration from Shetland of 1,333 people, but the number of National Insurance registrations has steadily increased, particularly for individuals from EU accession and EEA states. The birth has been consistently higher than death rate.

Research into population trends and future projection is being developed.

Social Welfare

- ◆ The average wage per week decreased by £30 between 2005 and 2006, falling below the Scottish average, whilst the cost of living is higher, particularly for essential items. This makes it particularly difficult for those on low income and/or national benefits, whilst uptake of national benefits is felt to be lower than entitlement.
- ◆ Fuel poverty remains high and decreasing numbers of registered child minders is restricting people's access to learning and employment opportunities.

Community

- ◆ Community groups and volunteering continue to flourish and there are signs of increased involvement in leisure activities.

POPULATION

What is measured

The total number of people resident in Shetland, population density, population of areas of Shetland and the ethnic population are measured using data from the census⁷. The next census is planned for 2011. For intervening years data is sourced from the General Register Office for Scotland (GROS) mid-year

⁷ Census, 2001. The next census will be carried out in 2011 with results not available until 2013. In the intervening period it is difficult to monitor and forecast population change with any degree of accuracy or certainty. Patient records and the GROS national population estimates and biennial forecasts provide useful information but they need to be interpreted with care as neither source can be considered to be a surrogate for the census.

estimates. Trends in the structure of the population are monitored through age and gender distribution levels. These are measured using the census and GROS mid-year estimates.

The total population of Shetland is a function of the number of births minus the number of deaths (the natural increase) and the difference between immigration and emigration (net migration).

- ◆ Births and deaths are monitored using GROS
- ◆ There is currently very little information on migration⁸, with estimates being made by GROS. The number of National Insurance numbers issued to people in Shetland can also provide an indication.
- ◆ A new study is being developed which will look at current population trends and future projections.⁹

Shetland's population level (See Figure 1)

- ◆ Current population estimates suggest that Shetland's usually resident population is currently fairly static, falling from 21,988 in 2001¹⁰ to 21,940 in 2004, rising to 22,000 in 2005¹¹, and falling again to 21,880 in 2006. The closure of the Radar base at RAF Saxa Vord in early 2006 resulted in the relocation of 72 service personnel and their families, a loss of 135 residents to Unst.¹²
- ◆ This compares to a population of 26,502 in Eilean Siar in 2001 decreasing by 152 to 26,350 by 2006 and a population of 19,245 in Orkney in 2001 increasing by 525 to 19,770 by 2006¹³.
- ◆ After decades of decline the population of Shetland, which had fallen to nearly 17,000 in the mid-1960s, rose by 35% between 1971 and 1981 as a direct result of oil related activity.
- ◆ In the early 1980s the population fell due to out migration after the end of oil construction activity. Shetland's usually resident population fell by 4% between 1981-1991, from 23,392 to 22,493.
- ◆ In the latter half of the 1980s and the early 1990s the population level became fairly stable. However, the 2001 Census recorded a ten-year decrease to 21,988¹⁴
- ◆ GROS estimate a decline in population to 19,553 by 2024. However, NHS Shetland predicts an increase to 22,214 by 2024 (but a decline in the proportion of young people).

Figure 1: Population, 2006¹⁵

⁸ Currently, there is no comprehensive system that registers migration in the UK, either moves to or from the rest of the world, or moves within the UK. Nationally, estimates are based on the National Health Service Central Register (NHSCR) for moves between health board areas within the UK, and the International Passenger Survey (IPS). There are problems with the NHSCR as there are thought to be problems with people not deregistering with a GP. Anecdotal evidence also suggests that migrant workers are less likely to register with a GP. The IPS contacts a small percentage of migrants for the survey, particularly for Scottish migrants, and therefore estimates derived from the IPS are subject to larger sampling and non-sampling errors and is considered less reliable than UK level estimates.

⁹ policy@shetland.gov.uk

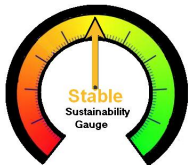
¹⁰ Census, 2001

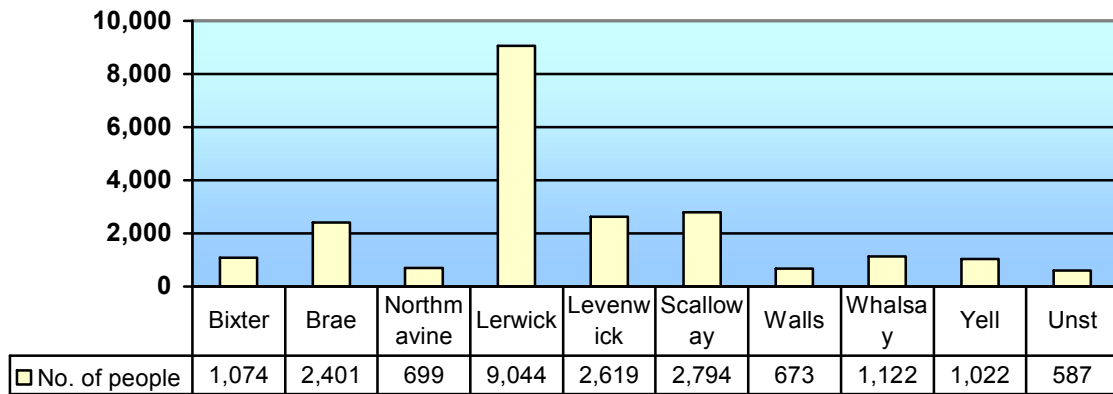
¹¹ GROS estimates, 2006

¹² Removal of Radar Base impact Analysis, 2005

¹³ GROS estimates, 2006

¹⁴ Census, 2001





Population density of Shetland

- ◆ Shetland has a fairly constant population density of 15 people per square kilometre. It is less densely populated than Orkney (at 19) but more dense than Argyll & Bute, Eilean Siar and Highland (at 8)¹⁶. Shetland's population density is much lower than that of Guernsey (950) and substantially lower than that of Scotland as a whole (65).
- ◆ The density of population within Shetland varies from 1571 people per square kilometre in Scalloway and 1328 in Lerwick to 5 in the North Isles, 6 in the North Mainland and 7 in the West Side¹⁷.

Shetland's population by area (See Table 1)

- ◆ The centralisation of the population continues, with substantial increases in recent times in Quarff, Gulberwick, Tingwall and Trondra, as well as Bressay and Sandwick/Cunningsburgh.
- ◆ Rural areas with particular decline in population are Delting, most of the Outer Isles, Northmavine, Yell and Unst. The closure of RAF Saxa Vord, Unst, in early 2006, has seen the loss of one fifth of the islands population.

Table 1: Population by Area 1971- 2001¹⁸

	1971	1981	1991	2001	10 Yr % pop change	20 Yr % pop change
Bressay	258	334	352	384	9	15
Burra	565	850*	929	850	-9	0
Delting	718	2,211	1,976	1,734	-12	-22
Dunrossness	907	1,591	1,502	1,471	-2	-8
Fair Isle	65	69*	67	69	3	0
Fetlar	96	101	90	86	-4	-15
Foula	33	45*	42	32*	-24	-29
Gulberwick/Quarff	171	579*	398	662	66	14
Lerwick	6,028	6,899	7,336	6,830	-7	-1
Nesting	426	506	512	570	11	13
Northmaven	734	898	878	841	-4	-6

¹⁶ GROS estimates, 2006

¹⁷ GROS estimates, 2006

¹⁸ Census, 2001

*estimated

**from 1931 to 1971, the population figures for Scalloway are included in the figures for Tingwall

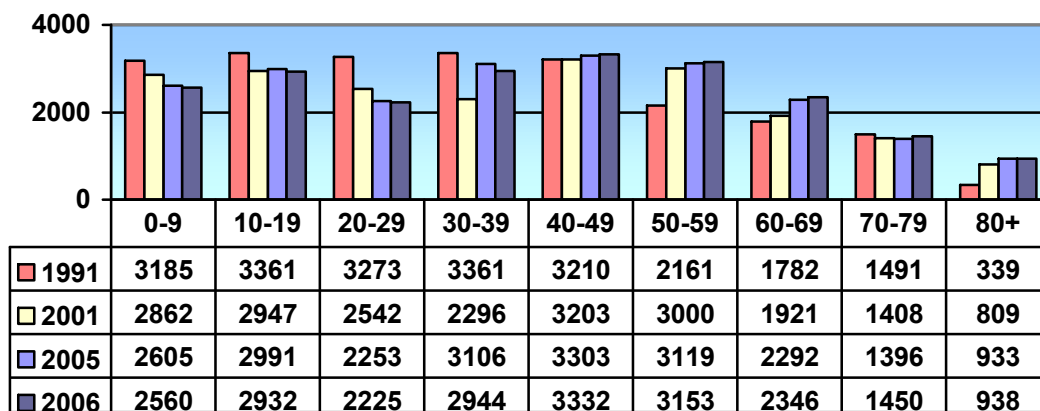
Populations were enumerated on a slightly different basis at the 1981 and 1991 Censuses, and are therefore not strictly comparable

Papa Stour	24	35*	35*	24	-31	-31
Sandsting	912	1,002	891	945	-6	-6
Sandwick/Cunningsburgh	1,120	1,303*	1,352	1,432	10	10
Scalloway**	N/a	1,160	802	812	1	-30
Skerries	100	88*	87	76	-13	-14
Tingwall	1,680	1,080	1,431	1,722	24	64
Trondra	17	88	117	133	14	43
Unst	1,163	1,140	1,055	720	-32	-37
Walls and Sandness	516	573	554	601	8	5
Whalsay	871	1,025	1,041	1,034	-1	1
Yell	1,178	1,191	1,075	957	-11	-20
Total	17,582	22,768	22,522	21,988	-2	-3

Age breakdown of the Shetland population (See Figure 2)

- ◆ Since 1991 there has been a gradual increase in the proportion of older people relative to younger people within the Shetland population; a trend that is replicated across Scotland¹⁹. Between 1991 and 2006 the under 50 population has decreased by 14.6%, falling 1.9% between 2005 and 2006. Between 1991 and 2006 the over 50 population has increased by 36.6%, rising 1.9% between 2005 and 2006.²⁰

Figure 2: Age structure of the Shetland population 1991-2006²¹



- ◆ There is anecdotal evidence that younger members of this age group are moving to Shetland for an improved quality of life. The population study will provide accurate information.
- ◆ The total proportion of young people in Shetland is slightly higher than the national average²². For example the proportion of residents aged 0-19 was 25% compared to the Scottish average of 23%. However, the proportion continues to decrease, particularly age ranges 0-9 and 20-29 and on many of the islands of Shetland this proportion was below these levels, for example, in Fetlar and Yell only 20% were aged 0-19²³.

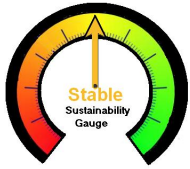
¹⁹ GROS, 2006

²⁰ Figure 2.

²¹ Census and GROS, 2001/2006

²² Census, 2001

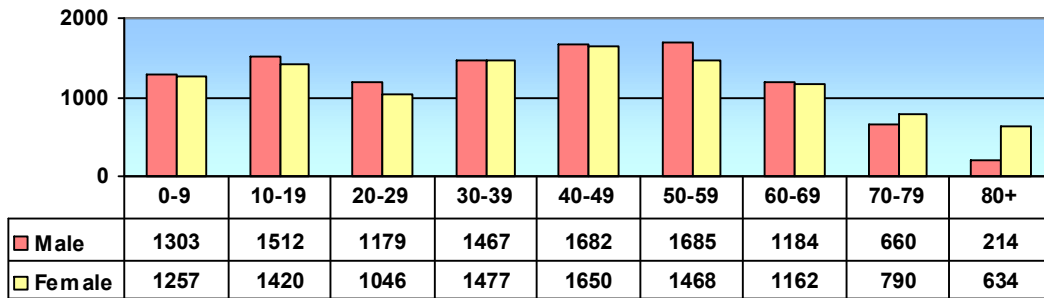
²³ Census, 2001



Gender breakdown of the Shetland population (See Figure 3)

- ◆ In 2006 the ratio of males to females was fairly even with 10,976 males (50.16% of the total population) and 10,904 females (49.84% of the total population)²⁴.

Figure 3: Gender breakdown of the Shetland population, 2006²⁵



- ◆ From the age of 70 females make up 62% of the population, because females living longer than males. There are a higher proportion of males between the ages 0-59.
- ◆ Scotland as a whole has a higher proportion of females, with a higher proportion of males in the population up to 30.

Births, deaths and natural population increase

- ◆ Shetland's birth rate is steadily higher than the death rate: between 1995 and 2005 there were an average of 29.6 more births than deaths a year. The 2006 natural increase of 78 has now brought the average up to 34.
- ◆ In the year 2005-06 there were 183 registered deaths (down 12 on the previous year) and 261 births (up 38)²⁶.
- ◆ The 2005/06 natural increase of 78 was well above the Scottish average, which, in 2006, experienced a natural increase for the first time since 1998.



Immigration and emigration

- ◆ In the 10 years between 1996 and 2006 there has been a net emigration from Shetland of 1,333 people. 2004-05 was the only year of net immigration, of 32. 2005-06 saw a net emigration of 166²⁷.
- ◆ This is unlike the trend in Orkney and Eilean Siar where net immigrations of 194 and 100 respectively were seen for the year 2005-06.
- ◆ Numbers of national insurance number registrations is steadily increasing, from 20 to 100 a year between 2001/02 and 2004/05 compared to 25 a year in Orkney. Applications are from individuals from EU accession and EEA states²⁸.
- ◆ The data suggests that locals and UK citizens are moving away but incoming EU accession and EEA citizens are keeping population numbers higher than they may have been.



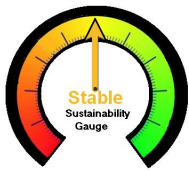
²⁴ GROS, 2006

²⁵ GROS, 2006

²⁶ GROS, 2005/06

²⁷ GROS, 2006

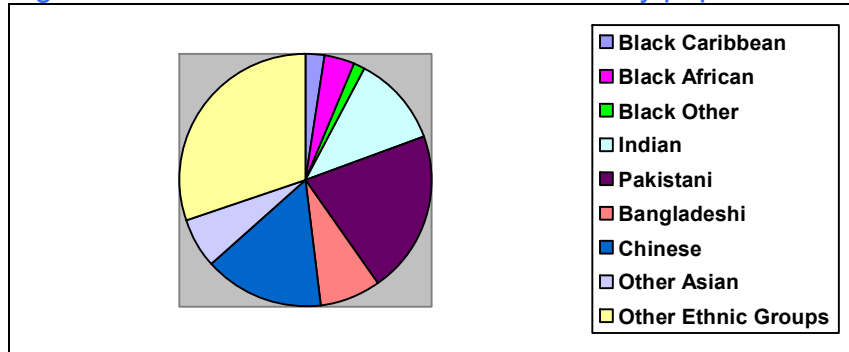
²⁸ HIE Economic Update, 2007



Population Ethnicity (See Figure 4)

- ◆ Data from the 2001 census shows Shetland has a very low black and ethnic minority population, just 1%. However, between 1991 and 2001 the population of Shetland decreased but, the black and ethnic minority population doubled over the 10-year period.
- ◆ When the census 2001 figures are broken down by ethnic group, it can be seen that although low numbers are involved, Shetland has a diverse black and ethnic minority population, with all census categories represented.

Figure 4: Shetland's black and ethnic minority population²⁹



LIFE EXPECTANCY AND AVOIDABLE DEATHS³⁰

Shetland's life expectancy is slightly above the Scottish average but below the EU average. Levels of avoidable deaths in Shetland appear to be decreasing.

Drug misuse is increasing, with a rise in use of more dangerous drugs such as heroin and cocaine, while the age of starting drug use is decreasing. The numbers of young people presenting with self-harm is also increasing.

What is measured

The General Register Office for Scotland measures average life expectancy for men and women.

Rates of deaths considered to be avoidable are available from NHS Shetland (cancer, coronary heart disease, stroke and suicide) and the Northern Constabulary (deaths resulting from car accidents).

Indicators of other health issues, such as drug and alcohol misuse include hospital discharges, while some issues such as obesity, have no indicators as of yet.

'Your Voice' is a questionnaire being used to collect information including people's healthiness and sense of wellbeing.

Life expectancy

- ◆ Shetland's life expectancy continues to increase. Life expectancy at birth (2003/05) was 75.3 years for men (an increase of 1.1 year from 2002/04) and 81.0 for women (an increase 0.7 years from 2002/04)³¹.
- ◆ This is above the Scottish average of 74.2 for men and 79.2 for women, but below the Orkney averages of 76.3 for men and 81.4 for women.



²⁹ Census, 2001

³⁰ "Undetermined death" covers all accidental deaths with undetermined cause/intent, as defined by GROS

³¹ GROS, 2006

- ◆ The overall life expectancy for males and females was 78.1 years.
- ◆ This is just below the EU average of 78.5, below countries such as Germany (79.4), Finland (79.0) and Iceland (81.2) and above other European countries such as Bulgaria (72.6) and Latvia (71.3).³²

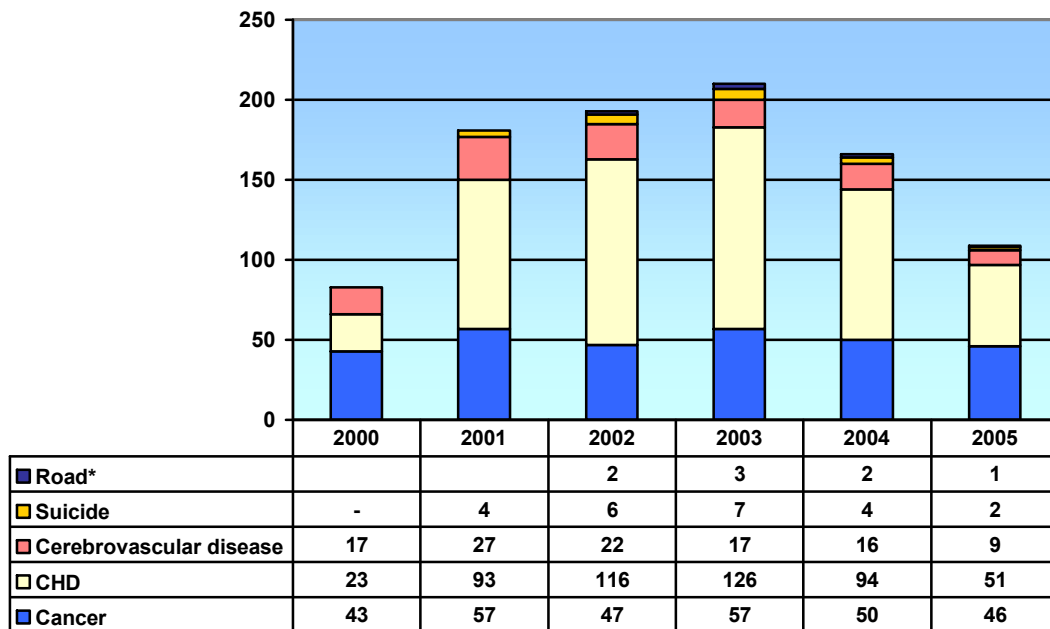


Rates of avoidable deaths³³ (see Figure 5)

CHD

- ◆ The incidence of Coronary heart disease (CHD) in Shetland has decreased in recent years, from 256 incidents and a standardised rate (per 100,000 population) of 5328.6 in 2002, to 147 incidents and a standardised rate of 2745.4 in 2005.³⁴
- ◆ Incidence of CHD for men has been greater decreased in comparison to women, although men still have greater incidence.
- ◆ The number of deaths accountable to CHD increased from 89 in 2000, to 126 in 2003, and then fell to 51 in 2005. The mortality rate (per 100,000 population) fell from 3455.3 in 2003, to 1525.0 in 2005.³⁵
- ◆ CHD accounted for 26.2% of total deaths in 2005, higher than the Scottish average of 19%.³⁶

Figure 5: Rates of avoidable death³⁷



Cerebrovascular disease

- ◆ Incidence of cerebrovascular disease³⁸ has fluctuated between 58 and 36 cases, and a standardised rate (per 100,000 population) of 211.8 and

³² NHS, 2007

³³ With all these figures, numbers are small, making assessment of trends difficult.

³⁴ NHS health board, 2007

³⁵ NHS health board, 2007

³⁶ GROS, 2006

³⁷ NHS Shetland and Northern Constabulary

³⁸ Cerebrovascular disease is any disease affecting an artery within the brain, or supplying blood to the brain

118.9, in the last decade, reaching an all time low of 24 cases, and a rate of 82.0 in 2005.³⁹

- ◆ Cerebrovascular disease mortality has been falling since 2001, from 27 deaths in 2001 to 9 deaths in 2005. Before 2001 the mortality rate was greater for females, but since 2001 it has been fairly equivalent for both sexes.⁴⁰
- ◆ Cerebrovascular disease accounted for 4.6% of total deaths in 2005.

Cancer

- ◆ Deaths from cancer average at 51 for the past decade, with 46 deaths in 2005.⁴¹
- ◆ In 2005 cancer accounted for 24% of all deaths, while in Scotland the figure higher at 27%.⁴²
- ◆ The crude rate (per 100,000 population) for 2005 was 235.1 for males and 182.8 for females. The male rate is lower than the Scottish average of 310.9, but the female rate is higher than the Scottish average of 282.3 for females.⁴³

Road accidents

- ◆ The number of people who have died as a result of a car accident has remained low (between 1 and 3), with 2 in 2004/05, 1 in 2005/06 and 1 in 2006/07.

Suicide

- ◆ Suicide rates have decreased from 7 suicides in 2003, to 4 in 2004, to 2 in 2005 and to 1 in 2006.

Drug and Alcohol Misuse

- ◆ There is evidence that drug use in Shetland is on the increase. The number of new drug users registering with the Shetland Community Drugs Team (SCDT) has increased from 22 in 2004/05, to 31 in 2005/06, to 50 in 2006/07.⁴⁴
- ◆ Of all the NHS board areas the largest rise in discharges with a diagnosis of drug misuse between 2001/02 and 2005/06 was seen in NHS Shetland, which saw an increase from 6 to 24 discharges within 5 years⁴⁵.
- ◆ In recent years more dangerous drugs have been becoming more widespread. There has been an increase in the use of heroin, cocaine, crack and methamphetamine, while there has been a decrease in the use of cannabis, ecstasy and valium. In the past year the Shetland Community Drugs Team have seen a drop of a 1/3 in the use Cannabis.⁴⁶
- ◆ Three quarters of SCDT's new clients in 2006/07 declared heroin as their main problem drug, up from half the previous year.⁴⁷

³⁹ Scottish health board, 2007

⁴⁰ NHS health board, 2007

⁴¹ NHS health board, 2007

⁴² GROS, 2006

⁴³ NHS health board, 2007

⁴⁴ Shetland Community Drugs Team, 2007

⁴⁵ Drug misuse information Scotland, 2006

⁴⁶ Shetland Community Drugs Team, 2007

⁴⁷ Shetland Community Drugs Team, 2007



- ◆ The average age clients start using is falling. The SCDT found a trend present in drug use for females, in that females tend to start using drugs at a younger age however present themselves for help at a lower age.⁴⁸
- ◆ The average age of SCDT clients in 2006/07 was 26, down from 28 the previous year, while the average age of newly registered clients was 19.⁴⁹
- ◆ There were 146 alcohol related discharges from hospital in 2004/05, a rise of 38 a year since 1999 to 2005⁵⁰.
- ◆ In a recent Shetland survey of 820 10-18 year olds: 8% were smokers; 50% were drinkers and 10% were drug takers⁵¹.
- ◆ In 2002, numbers of 13 and 15 year olds drinking alcohol more frequently than once a fortnight was consistently higher than the Scottish average⁵².
- ◆ Sheriff Graeme Napier has expressed "significant concern" as to how easy it was for youngsters in Shetland to get access to alcohol.⁵³
- ◆ Nearly 4,500 adults in Shetland smoke; an average of 20% of the population. 6.2% below the Scottish average of 26.2%⁵⁴.
- ◆ The smoking rate varies between different areas of Shetland. Brae and Lerwick have the highest rate at 29%, with Whalsay the lowest at 15%.
- ◆ With the introduction of the smoking ban, the number of clients attending the drop in clinics in Lerwick increased rapidly⁵⁵.
- ◆ The 2004 Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle and Substance Use Survey (SALSUS) estimated that 6% of 13-year-olds and 19% of 15-year-olds were regular smokers, with up to a quarter of 15-year-old girls smoking.⁵⁶ The most up-to-date information on child smokers in Shetland is from 2002, and shows similar figures.
- ◆ Although it is an offence to sell tobacco to children under 16 the 2002 SALSUS survey showed that 70% of regular smokers under the age of 16 in Shetland had obtained cigarettes from shops.

Obesity

- ◆ NHS Shetland estimate that over half the population of Shetland are at risk from the effects of being overweight and obese⁵⁷.

Mental Health (See Table 2)

- ◆ Recent research into deprivation and social exclusion found that 75% of respondents who are deprived and/or socially excluded experienced anxiety and depression. This was found to be as a result of the daily pressures of making ends meet and feelings of isolation. Some living with deprivation were reaching crisis point, with serious mental health issues, suicidal thoughts and/or a dependency⁵⁸.
- ◆ The contracted client group is supported by Shetland Youth Information Services (SYIS), which is mainly engaged in counseling. In 2006 there

⁴⁸ Shetland Community Drugs Team, 2007

⁴⁹ Shetland Community Drugs Team, 2007

⁵⁰ NHS Shetland

⁵¹ Young Person's Drugs Worker, Research Study, July 2006

⁵² Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle and Substance Use Survey, 2002

⁵³ Alcohol Profile UK, 2006

⁵⁴ Scottish Executive Statistics, 2007.

⁵⁵ Scottish Executive Statistics, 2007.

⁵⁶ NHS Shetland annual report, 2007

⁵⁷ NHS Shetland annual report, 2007

⁵⁸ Research into Deprivation and Social Exclusion in Shetland, 2006



were 17 contracted clients, 5 of whom identified self-harm issues. Up to the end of June in 2007 there had been 8 clients with one presenting with self-harm.⁵⁹

- ◆ Hard figures for SYIS's more chaotic and vulnerable group are difficult to collate, but experienced workers recognize that the incidence of self-harm is higher in this group.⁶⁰
- ◆ The rate of death caused by self-harm has increased rapidly since the mid 80s, and is higher than the Scottish average: 23.7 for 2000-04 compared to 17 for Scotland.

Table 2: Deaths caused by intentional self-harm and events of undetermined intent.

Year	1980-84	1985-89	1990-94	1995-99	2000-04	2005 (single year)
Number of deaths	19	9	17	23	26	2
Rate	15.7	8.1	15.0	20.2	23.7	9.1

EDUCATION

Attainment levels in schools are high and well above the Scottish average, with 47% of pupils going on to higher or further education and a similar number into employment and training. Secondary school enrolment remains stable, while primary school enrolment continues to fall.

An estimated 2500 working age adults in Shetland have low levels of literacy. For those without suitable skills for employment barriers to learning include access, lack of childcare and cost.

The number of NEETs (Young People not in Education, Employment or Training) decreased by 20% in the last year, due to the way data was collated.

What is measured

The state of education in Shetland is measured by opportunity (availability of different types of education, participation rates and pupil to teacher ratios); attainment (of school pupils and estimate of the number of adults with low levels of literacy and desire to access educational opportunities (from a survey of learning of 55 respondents from across Shetland)).

Opportunity⁶¹ (See Figure 6-10)

- ◆ There are 29 pre-school centres, providing places for all 3 and 4 year olds.
- ◆ The nursery school roll increased slowly between 1996 and 2005 but there has been a marked decrease between the years 2005 and 2006.
- ◆ There are 33 primary schools and none have a ratio of pupils to available places of over 100%.
- ◆ The primary school roll in Shetland has seen an overall fall since 1981. The roll fell from 1941 in 2005 to 1846 in 2006.

⁵⁹ Shetland Youth Information Service, 2007

⁶⁰ Shetland Youth Information Service, 2007

⁶¹ Figures from SIC, Education and Social Work



- ◆ In 2006 there was an average of 9.9 pupils per primary teacher, which is well below the Scottish average of 16.3 pupils per teacher.
- ◆ There are 9 secondary schools, in none of which is the ratio of pupils to available places over 100%.
- ◆ The school roll has been fairly stable over the last 15 years as more young people stay on at school.
- ◆ The number of secondary teachers in Shetland has fluctuated either side of 200, but remains fairly steady.
- ◆ In 2006 on average there were 8.3 secondary pupils per teacher. This is again lower than the Scottish average of 12.0 secondary pupils per teacher.
- ◆ There are two further education colleges, Shetland College and the North Atlantic Marine Centre. Shetland College has seen an increase in student enrolments in recent years, particularly in part-time courses.
- ◆ In the year 2006/07 1358 people took part in SIC Adult Learning classes (an increase of 206 on the previous year.) The scheme involved 56 evening class tutors and 32 volunteer literacy tutors.

Figure 6: Nursery Education Roll⁶²

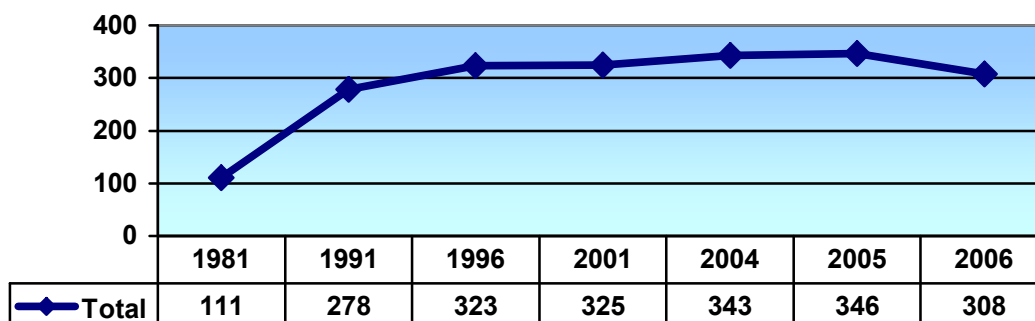


Figure 7: Primary School Roll, 1971-2006⁶³

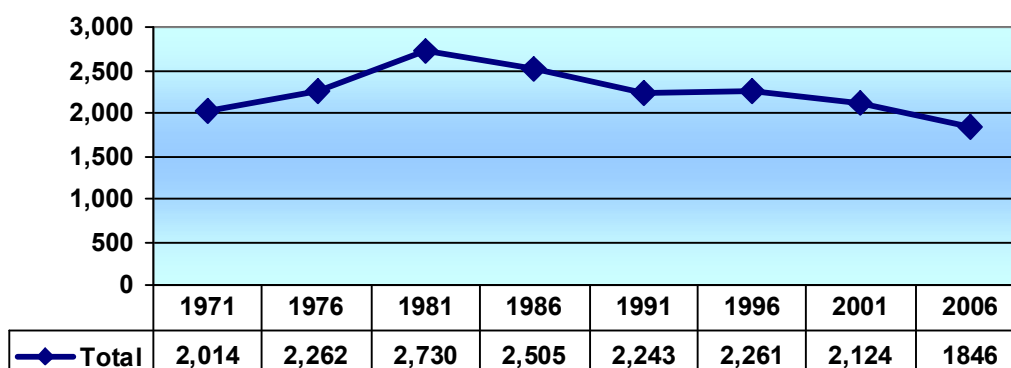


Figure 8: Secondary School Roll, 1971-2006⁶⁴

⁶² SIC, Education and Social Work

⁶³ SIC, Education and Social Work

⁶⁴ SIC, Education and Social Work

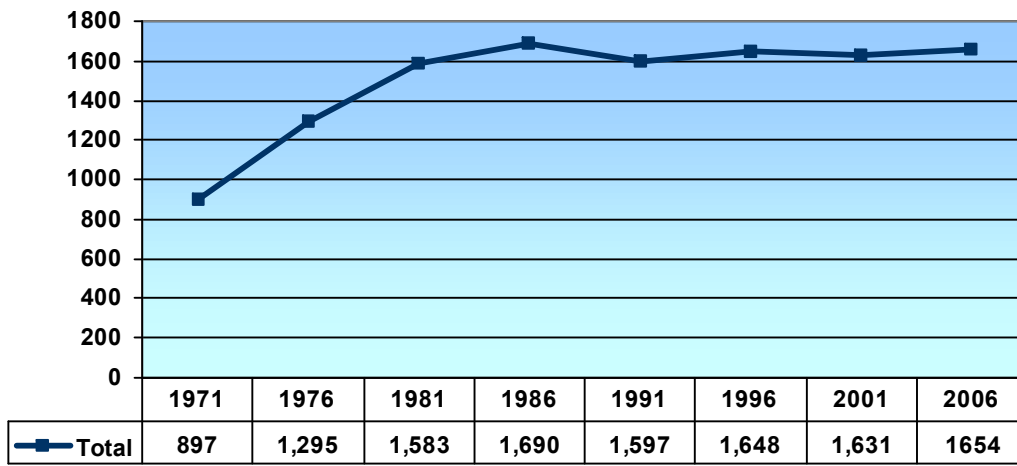


Figure 9: Students Enrolled in Shetland College, 1996-7 to 2004-05⁶⁵

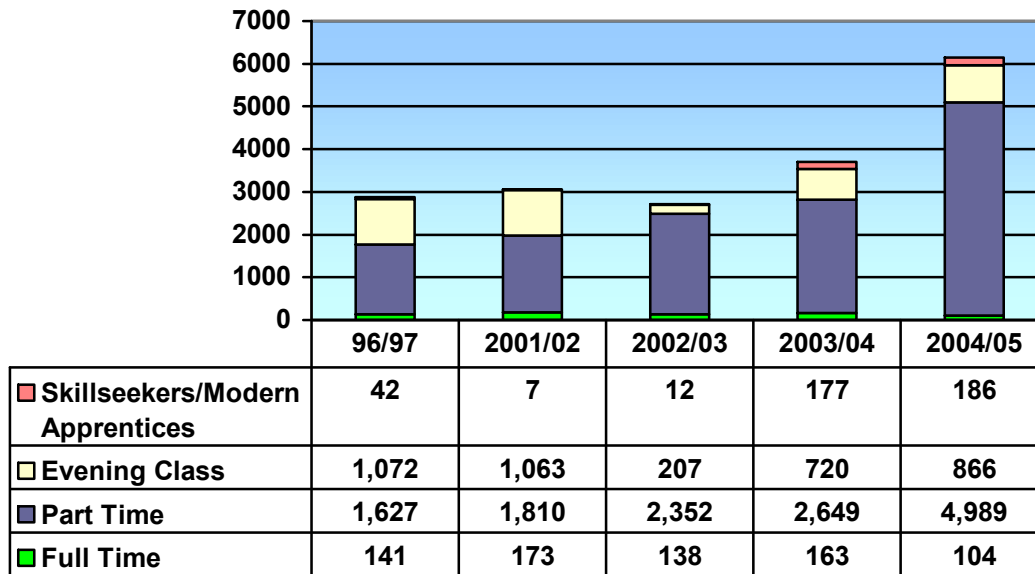
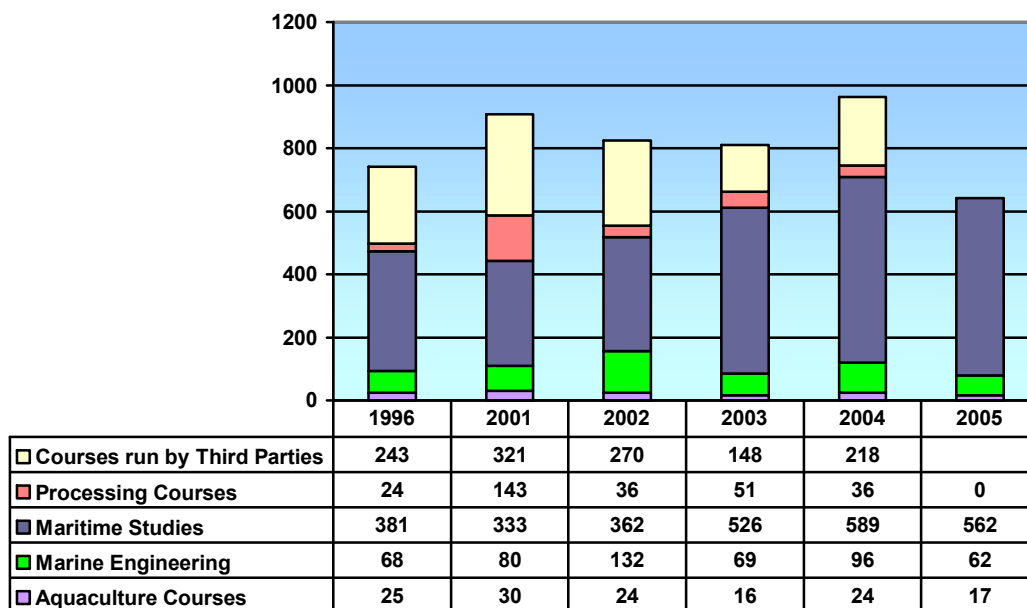
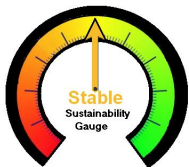


Figure 10: Students Enrolled in North Atlantic Maritime Centre, 1996 to 2005⁶⁶



⁶⁵ Shetland college, 2007

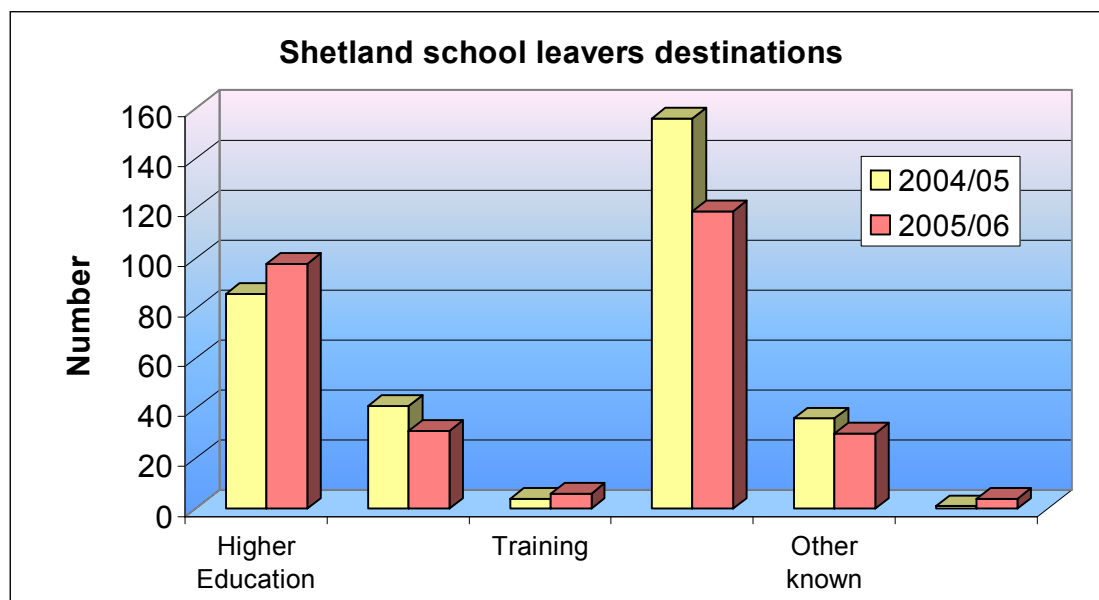
⁶⁶ NAFC, 2007



Attainment (see Figure 11)

- ◆ The Adult Literacy Partnership estimates that approximately 2500 working age adults in Shetland may have low levels of literacy.
- ◆ The percentage of S4 group achieving 5+ awards at SCQF level 4 (Standard Grade General or better) has declined from 90% to 85% from 2003 to 2005, but still remains above the Scottish average of 76%⁶⁷.
- ◆ Those achieving 5+ awards at SCQF level 5 (Standard grade credit or better) has remained steady between 43% and 45%, and well over the Scottish average of 34%, during this period⁶⁸.
- ◆ There are an estimated 80 young people in Shetland between the ages of 15-18 who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) compared to 100 last years⁶⁹.

Figure 11: School Leavers' Destinations 2004 - 2006⁷⁰



Desire to access educational opportunities

- In 2004 a survey found the following barriers to learning in Shetland: personal lifestyle; confidence; financial; provision; and motivation⁷¹.
- The survey also suggested that awareness of learning providers and groups in Shetland is not high.
- A recent study into deprivation and social exclusion in Shetland concluded that *'Learning tends to be seen as a luxury: something that people would like to participate in, to improve their employability, for enjoyment, and for confidence, but not a priority. In general access (via transport, childcare or cost) is difficult, although health and self-confidence are also important.... [However learning] is very often the single most important factor in assisting people to improve opportunities and access to a better life'*⁷².

⁶⁷ Scottish executive statistics, 2007

⁶⁸ HIE economic update, 2007

⁶⁹ Scottish Executive figures

⁷⁰ Careers Scotland, 2007

⁷¹ Barriers to Learning Within Shetland Report, Adult Literacy, 2004

⁷² Research into Deprivation and Social Exclusion in Shetland, 2006

CRIME

Both reported offences and registered offences have been slowly increasing over the past few years, with a fairly large increase between the years 2004 and 2005. There has also been an increase in the amount of road accidents and offences.

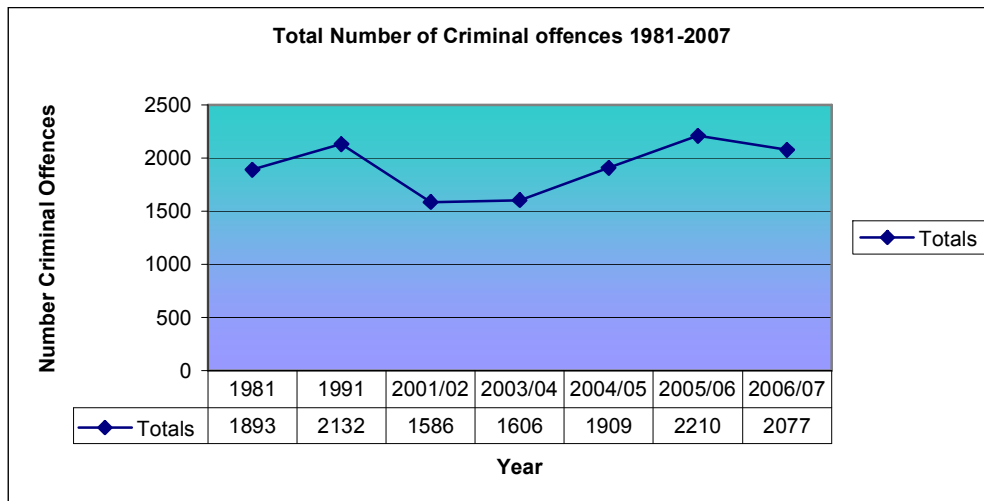
Between 95 and 99% of people feel the area they live in is safe or very safe. The proportion of people worried about becoming a victim of crime is lower in Shetland (30%) than the Northern Constabulary area as a whole (47%).

What is measured

Crime levels are measured using crime rate figures from Northern Constabulary, whilst fear of crime is measured using a survey undertaken by the Northern Constabulary on a two yearly basis.

Crime levels (See Figure 12 and Table 3)

- Crime levels in Shetland appear to be rising; however the low numbers of incidents, particularly for serious crimes, make analysis less meaningful. Crime in Shetland tends to happen in peaks and troughs as it depends on groups of people so there can be a spate of crime⁷³.



- The number of criminal offences has increased fairly steadily since 2002, rising from a total of 1586 offences in 2001/02 offences to a total of 2077 offences in 2006/07⁷⁴..
- The total number of crimes has been increasing since 2002/03, and increased considerably (by 22%) between 2004/05 and 2005/06. There have been increases in theft, malicious mischief, and dangerous driving.
- However, the clear up rate has recently averaged between 65% and 70%, and for the year ending 31 March 2007 it was 71.1%⁷⁵.

⁷³ Northern Constabulary annual report, 2006

⁷⁴ Northern Constabulary annual report, 2007 (subject to change)

⁷⁵ Northern Joint Police Board, Crime Situation, 2007

- ◆ The total number of road accidents also increased noticeably between 2004/05 and 2005/06, by 20%, although there was only one death in 2005/06.
- ◆ In 2004 there were 31 reported incidents of domestic abuse, increasing to 53 in 2005⁷⁶. National research shows there are many more cases of domestic abuse than reported.

Table 3: Crime rate figures: Breakdown for crime type⁷⁷

Crime	2002/3	2003/4	2004/5	2005/6
Assaults	22	15	20	8
Rapes	2	1	4	1
Indecent assaults	2	3	2	8
Theft by housebreaking	18	16	15	23
Theft	129	85	125	152
Theft of motor vehicles	13	18	16	14
Theft by shoplifting	5	9	21	20
Fraud	58	54	22	40
Culpable & reckless fire-raising	3	3	10	12
Malicious mischief, vandalism etc	224	290	230	308
Dangerous drugs	91	135	107	113
Carrying offensive weapons	12	4	20	19
Petty assault	134	155	167	154
Breach of the peace	188	206	217	236
Drunkenness	44	30	47	48
Reckless & careless driving	32	35	28	43
Driving when unfit through drink & drugs	2	3	1	6
Driving with excess blood alcohol	58	58	49	35
Driving whilst disqualified	6	7	4	8
Total number of road accidents involving death or injury	27	33	38	45
Number of persons killed in road accidents	2	3	2	1
Number seriously injured in road accidents	13	4	8	12
Number of persons slightly injured in road accidents	24	42	43	56
Total number of Criminal offences	669	706	700	851
Total number of road accidents	145	148	160	192

Fear of crime

- ◆ The Northern Constabulary reported that the number of people who rated the area within 15 minutes of their home as safe or very safe rose from 96% in 2003 to 99% in 2005. The 2005 questionnaire 'Your Voice' found the number to be 95%.
- ◆ The number 'Your Voice' respondents claiming to be slightly worried about becoming a victim of crime has increased from 28% in Autumn 2005 to 33% in Spring 2007, and the number very worried from 1% to 2%.⁷⁸ As many respondents saw rubbish and littering as a major concern in their area as those concerned about drugs.⁷⁹
- ◆ Northern Constabulary found data fairly consistent with 'Your Voice'; 30% of respondents (within the Shetland Islands Area Command) were *very worried* or *slightly worried* about becoming a victim of crime. This is a drop from 40.3% in 2003 and compares with 47% of respondents in the Northern Constabulary area as a whole⁸⁰.

⁷⁶ Northern Constabulary

⁷⁷ Northern Constabulary Annual Report, 2006

⁷⁸ Your Voice 2005/07

⁷⁹ Your Voice, 2005

⁸⁰ Northern Constabulary *Excellence in Community Policing Survey*



HOUSING

The number of houses continues to increase, however, build does not appear to be keeping up with demand, as the numbers waiting for social housing continue to increase, as does private house prices.

Housing in the private sector appears to be of poorer quality than social rented stock for a variety of reasons. Just under half the population have problems heating their homes, while it is estimated a quarter are at risk from fuel poverty.

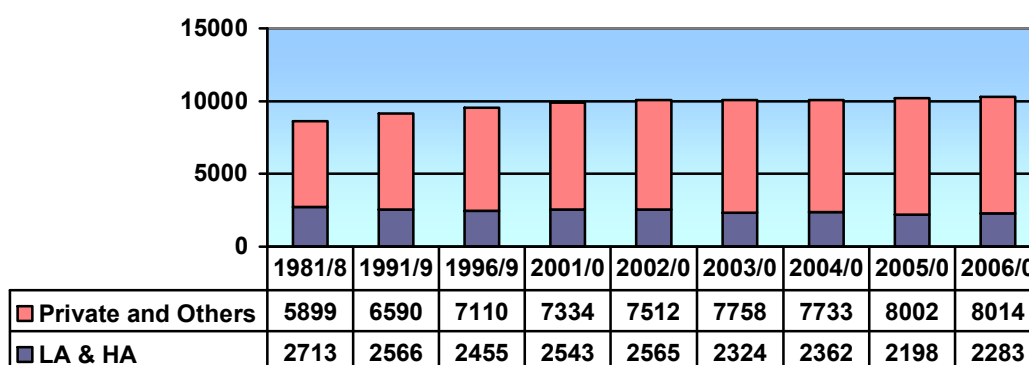
The number of homeless presentations is fairly consistent. There were 193 in 2005/06.

What is measured

Housing is measured by the quantity of housing available in Shetland (the number of homes and type); quality of housing (from both the National and Local Housing Condition Survey; and appropriateness and affordability of housing (cost of private housing and local authority rents, compared to average income; the supply versus demand ratio and homelessness figures).

Quantity of housing (See Figure 13, 14 and Table 4)

Figure 13: Ownership of Dwelling Houses in Shetland, 1981-2005⁸¹



- ◆ The number of local authority/housing association properties has fluctuated, increasing 3.9% between 2005/06 and 2006/07.
- ◆ The number of private and other housing has generally increased; up 0.15% between 2005/06 and 2006/07.
- ◆ As of April 2005 council tax discount for empty properties fell from 50% to 10%, pushing more people to have second homes evaluated as being uninhabitable. This accounts for a lowered net increase of private dwellings in 2006/07.
- ◆ Demand for socially rented housing is steadily high, (received by HHA and SIC, who share a housing register) with 908 applications in 2006-07, a decrease from 1155 the previous year. 38 council social rented properties were sold in 2006/07, a decrease of 11 from the previous year.⁸²

⁸¹ Assessors Office

⁸² Local Housing Strategy, 2006/07

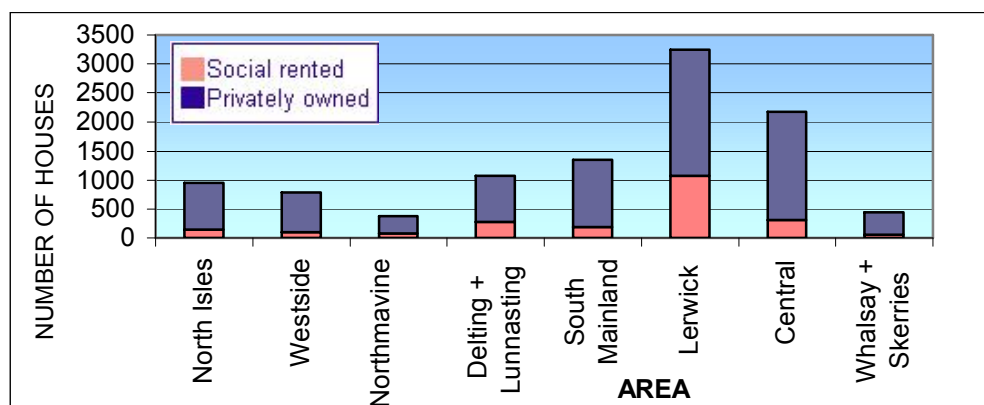
- ◆ The number of Shetland Islands Council Social Rented properties allocated in the year 2006/07 was 179.⁸³
- ◆ The average probability of being offered any type of SIC housing varies greatly between areas. For example between July 2004 and June 2006 the statistical probability of being offered a council house was 0% in Aith, 2% in Lerwick, 5% in Sandwick, 15% in Bigton, 31% in South Nesting, 64% in Skeld, 77% in Vidlin and 88% in Firth. In Fetlar, Burravoe, Uyeasound and Brough (Whalsay) there is more than 100% probability, because of existing voids⁸⁴.
- ◆ Results from the 2001 census are used to quantify homes by type. The private rental market accounted for 7.27%, in line with Scotland as a whole. The social rental market was 25.83%, slightly lower than the Scottish figure of 27.15%. The number of properties that are owned, at 63.37%, was in line with Scotland as a whole, at 62.59%⁸⁵.

Table 4: Number of homes by type⁸⁶

Tenure	Shetland	Scotland
Total number of households (with residents)	9,111	2,192,246
% Owned	63.37	62.59
% Rented from council	22.88	21.57
% Other social rented	2.95	5.58
% Private rented (unfurnished)	3.67	3.1
% Private rented (furnished)	3.6	3.61
% Living rent free	3.52	3.55

- ◆ The majority of social rented homes are located in Lerwick while the majority of private homes are spread between Lerwick and Central Shetland.

Figure 14: Housing ownership by area⁸⁷



Quality of housing

- ◆ The Scottish Executive have defined that in order to meet The Scottish Housing Quality Standard (SHQS) dwellings must be:
Compliant with the tolerable standard;

⁸³ SIC, Local Housing Strategy Update, 2006/07

⁸⁴ Average of the statistical probability of being offered any type of SIC accommodation between July 04 and March 06 (based on number of void properties and number of times each area was selected)

⁸⁵ Census, 2001

⁸⁶ Census, 2001

⁸⁷ Assessors Office, 2006



- Free from disrepair;
- Energy efficient;
- Provided with modern facilities and services;
- Healthy, safe and secure.

The Local House Condition Survey, 2005/06 estimated 90% of Shetland's private sector housing (6,800 homes) failed to meet SHQS. Approximately £15.66 million would be required to bring this housing up to standard⁸⁸.

- ◆ The Scottish Local House Condition Survey in 2005/06 estimated that 3.7% of Shetland's private sector housing (a total of 282 homes) fell Below the Tolerable Standard (BTS). The local study estimated the value higher, at 356⁸⁹.
- ◆ The local study also estimated that 47% of households in Shetland had difficulties in heating their home⁹⁰. It is thought this is mainly due to a combination of poor weather and high fuel costs along with the need to make improvements to the energy efficiency of homes, particularly in the private sector. And that 23.9% (1,824) of households in Shetland are at risk of fuel poverty⁹¹. Fuel costs exceed 10% of income in 1,824 homes, 20% of income in 526 homes, and 30% of total income in 191 homes⁹².
- ◆ Properties occupied by residents over 60 years have worse energy ratings than average and the elderly are at greater risk of fuel poverty⁹³.
- ◆ Condensation problems affect an estimated 14.7% of all Shetland housing, particularly detached, older stock,⁹⁴ but only an estimated 10% of all Scottish housing.⁹⁵
- ◆ 75% of 'Your Voice' respondents agreed somewhat or strongly with the statement: If I were buying a new house, I would be prepared to pay 10% more at the outset for energy-saving equipment and features⁹⁶.
- ◆ The social rented stock in Shetland continues to be of a high standard. Planned maintenance programmes of approximately £3m per year are continuing to maintain the standard of the housing stock.⁹⁷.

Appropriateness/ Affordability of housing (see Table 5)

- ◆ At August 2007, it is estimated that house prices are being procured at 14% above the asking price.⁹⁸
- ◆ 331 private properties were sold in Shetland in 2005, an increase on 32 on the previous year.
- ◆ Mean house price in Shetland has increased 44%, from £52,587 to £75,727 between 2001 and 2005, half the increase seen in Orkney.

⁸⁸ SIC, Local House Condition Survey, 2005/06

⁸⁹ SIC, Local House Condition Survey, 2005/06

⁹⁰ Scottish House Condition Survey, *Fuel Poverty in Scotland*, 2004

⁹¹ A household is in fuel poverty if, in order to maintain a satisfactory heating regime, it would be required to spend more than 10% of its income on all household fuel use, where 'satisfactory heating regime' is defined as one that achieves 21° C in the living room, and 18° C in other occupied rooms

⁹² SIC, Local House Condition Survey, 2005/06

⁹³ SIC, Local House Condition Survey, 2005/06

⁹⁴ SIC, Local House Condition Survey, 2005/06

⁹⁵ Scottish House Condition Survey, 2004

⁹⁶ Your Voice, 2007

⁹⁷ Scottish Housing Quality Standard submissions from SIC Housing, 2006/07

⁹⁸ Local Housing Strategy, 2006/06 update subject to change – data incomplete for this area



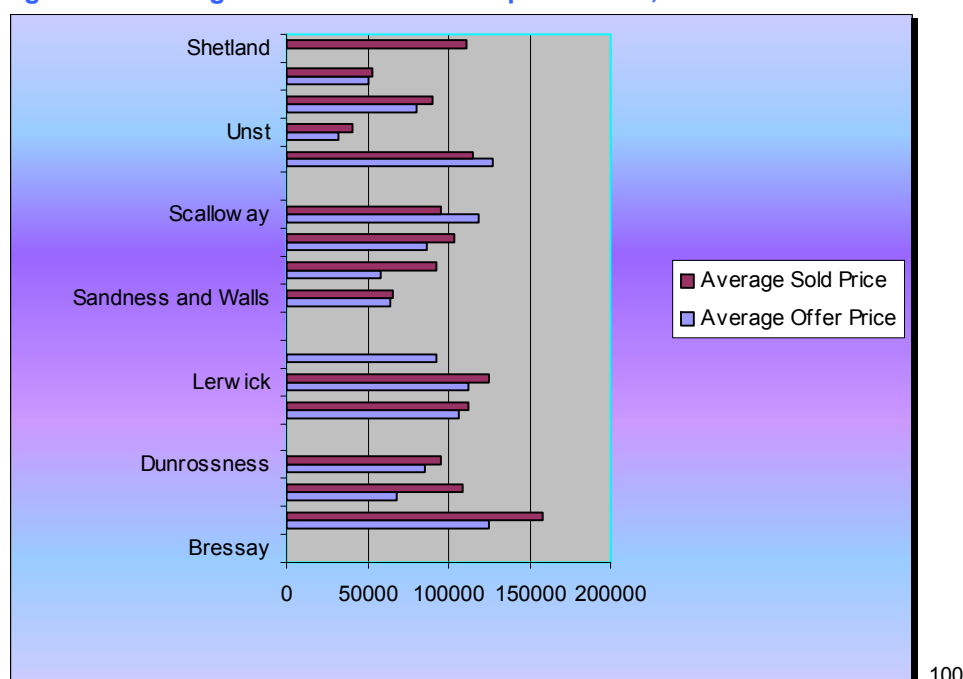
- ◆ It is generally recognised that external forces are driving the housing market, with people from the UK mainland wishing to move to Shetland. A fall in the house market in the UK may, therefore, have a knock-on effect on the Shetland market.
- ◆ The price of land is going up with house sites in the central mainland selling for as much as £40,000.
- ◆ The average income of households in Shetland is just under £33,000⁹⁹.

Table 5: Average sales prices for private property in Shetland by area

Area	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Outer Isles	£10,200	£22,000	£27,550	£18,550	-	£30,050	-
North Isles	£27,559	£26,077	£24,389	£35,610	£40,500	£37,730	£46,556
West Mainland	£37,112	£42,245	£42,577	£30,684	£62,278	£66,084	£71,498
South Mainland	£39,318	£42,880	£41,753	£41,342	£49,073	£66,911	£70,975
North Mainland	£39,601	£54,172	£46,843	£61,780	£55,131	£56,539	£60,437
Central Mainland	£54,328	£65,268	£59,324	£73,849	£78,557	£75,595	£86,253
Lerwick	£63,933	£66,518	£65,531	£71,717	£75,078	£82,159	£83,971
Shetland	£50,748	£54,657	£54,587	£61,945	£66,623	£67,600	£75,727

- ◆ The highest average sales price for 2006 was in the Central Mainland, closely followed by Lerwick. The lowest was in the North Isles, Yell and Unst predominantly.

Figure 15: Average Private House sales prices CCA, 2006



- ◆ It is increasingly difficult for first time buyers to purchase their first home. Applications for social housing remain high.

⁹⁹ Shetland Face to Face Household Survey

¹⁰⁰ Housing Department, SIC;

Data gathered from house sales in Shetland August 2006 - December 2006

Figure 16: Top 5 most expensive areas based on asking price

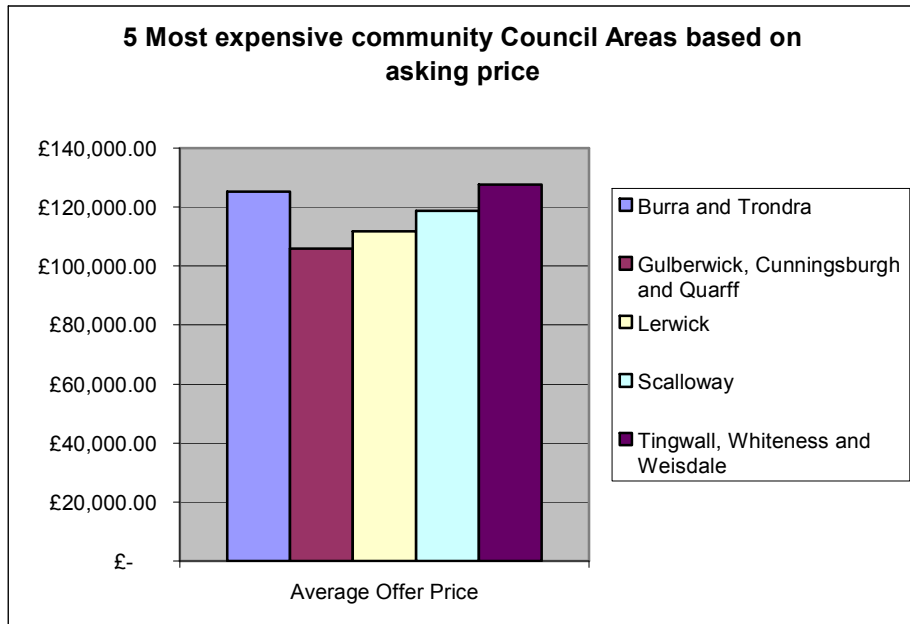
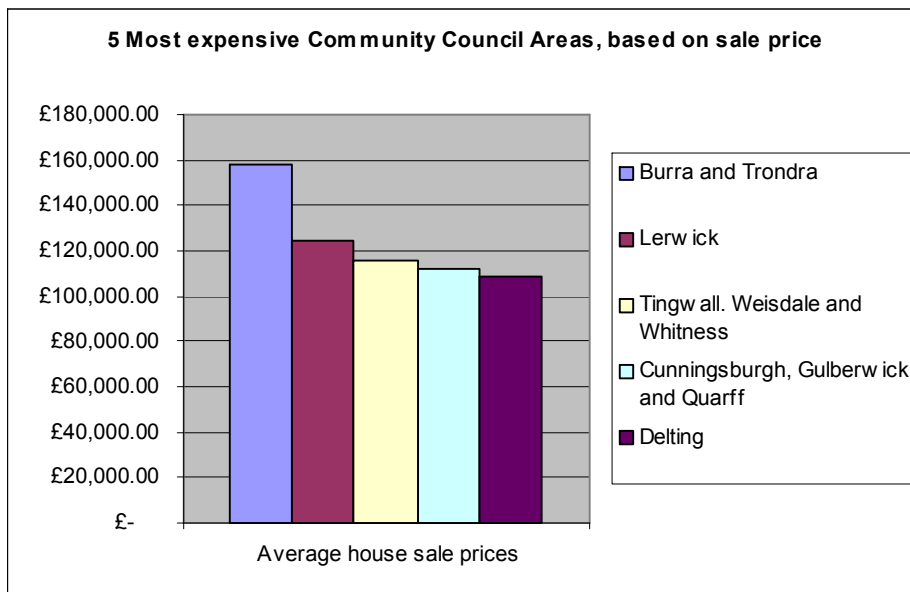
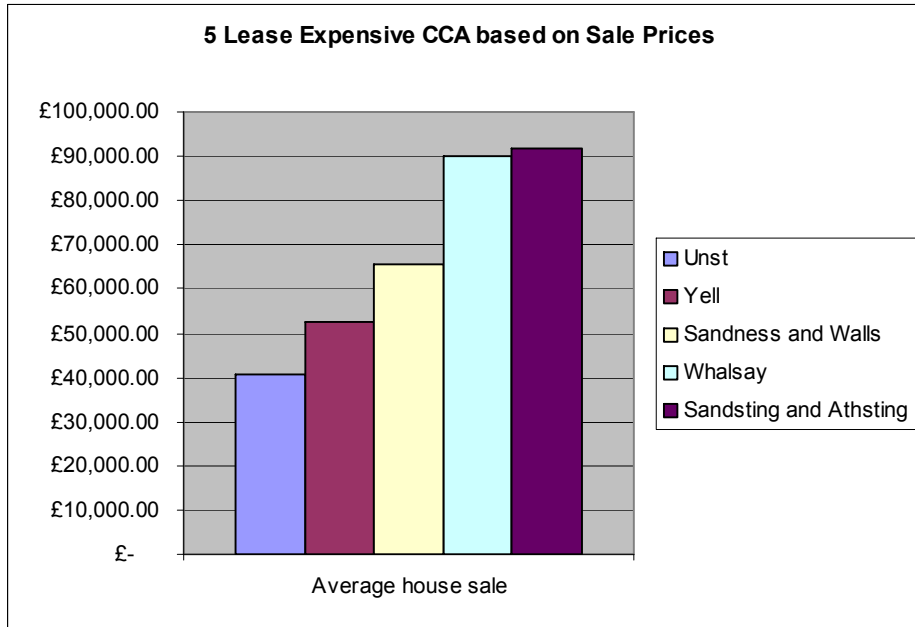


Figure 17: 5 most expensive CCA areas in Shetland for house sale



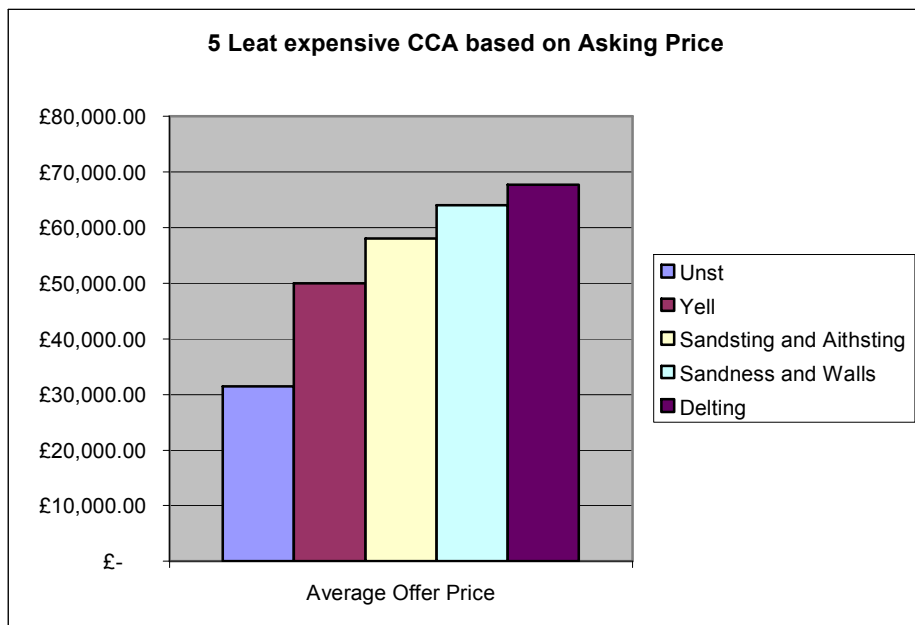
- ◆ As can be seen from figure 16 and 17, the asking price does not necessarily compare to the sale price.
- ◆ Burra and Trondra remain top rank of the most expensive areas, with house sales going for 25% above the asking price
- ◆ Rankin 2nd in the most expensive CCA area is Lerwick with the average house sale going for 13% above the asking price
- ◆ Gulberwick , Cunningsburgh, and Quarff are 3rd with houses selling for 7% above the asking price
- ◆ 4th is Tingwall, Whiteness and Weisdale with houses going for 15% **below** the asking price, however it still remains in the top 5 of the most expensive areas
- ◆ Lastly it is Delting, with houses selling for on average 42% above the asking price.

Figure 18: 5 least expensive CCA in Shetland for house sale



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Figure 19: 5 least expensive CCA in Shetland for asking price



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◆ The only change between the asking price and house sales within the 5 least expensive community council areas is that Delting is listed as one of the least expensive Community Council Areas based on Asking Price, however it does not feature on the least expensive when relating to house sales, Whalsay takes its place.

¹⁰¹ Housing Department, SIC;

Data gathered from house sales in Shetland August 2006 - December 2006

¹⁰² Housing Department, SIC;

Data gathered from house sales in Shetland August 2006 - December 2006

Table 6: total number of Dwellings in Council tax bands, years 07, 06, 05¹⁰³

Total number of dwellings on valuations list(Excluding free - standing lock -ups)

	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H	TOTAL
Council tax base 2007	3,096	1,781	2,549	1,573	1,073	196	44	1	10,313
Council Tax base 2006	3,149	1,781	2,517	1,524	1,023	183	41	1	10,219
Council Tax base 2005	3,170	1,774	2,499	1,502	991	180	39	2	10,157

- ◆ Band A - Property up to the value of 27,000
- ◆ Band B – Property value between 27,001 and 35,000
- ◆ Band C – Property value between 35,001 and 45,000
- ◆ Band D – Property value between 45,001 and 58,000
- ◆ Band E – Property Value between 58,001 and 80,000
- ◆ Band F – Property Value between 80,001 and 106,000
- ◆ Band G – Property Value between 106,001 and 212,000
- ◆ Band H – above 212,000

Since April 2006 until end of March 2007, there have been a total Of 142 new property builds throughout Shetland. 34 of these were Hjalatland housing Association builds. Of these 108 private builds, the majority of them were to be found in bands, D, E and F.¹⁰⁴

There are also deletions of property stock, which can be due to¹⁰⁵

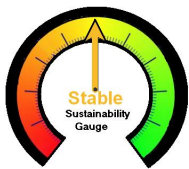
- Winter or summer let, which means the property moves from the council tax on to the valuation role
 - Demolition Work
 - Property becomes uninhabitable
- ◆ The potential fragility of the Shetland economy, the declining population and the concentration of job opportunities and new house building in the areas around Lerwick means negative equity is a real prospect in many areas¹⁰⁶.
 - ◆ The Council's rent levels increase to cover inflation only while Hjalatland housing association set an annual Minimum Increase on existing rents of Inflation plus 1%.

¹⁰³ Finance, Shetland Islands Council 2007(based on 1991 valuations)

¹⁰⁴ Shetland and Orkney Assessors Office, 2007

¹⁰⁵ Shetland and Orkney Assessors Office, 2007

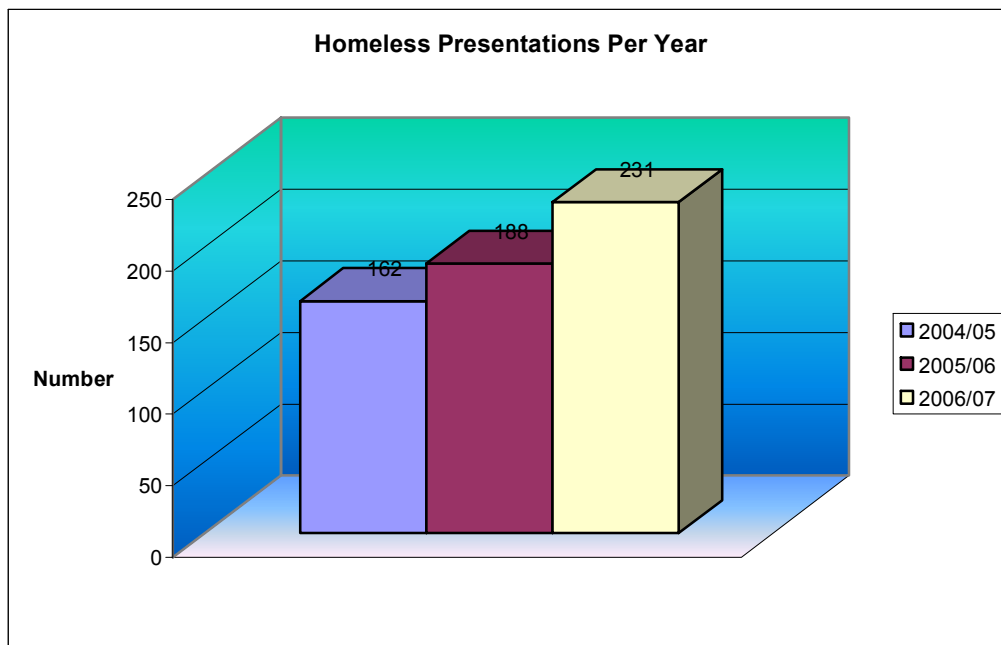
¹⁰⁶ SIC Population and Housing, 2001-16



Homelessness¹⁰⁷ (See Figure 20 and 21)

- ◆ 184 households were assessed as homeless or potentially homeless during the year 2003/04, falling to 169 in the next year, then rising to 193 in 2005/06¹⁰⁸.
- ◆ 37% of 'Your Voice' respondents did not think homelessness was an issue in Shetland¹⁰⁹.
- ◆ The biggest group to become homeless are males above the age of 25 (24.4%), whilst 59 (30.6%) involve children. Refer to Figure 16.

Figure 20: Homeless presentations¹¹⁰



- ◆ As can be seen from figure 15, Homeless presentations have been increasing on a yearly basis, with an increase of 69 in 2 years.

¹⁰⁷ A Person is defined in current legislation as homeless or threatened with homelessness when that person is: without any accommodation in which they can live with their family
Or - unable to gain access to their accommodation.

Or - at risk of domestic violence by living in their accommodation.

Or - they may have accommodation but it is 'unreasonable'; or is overcrowded and a danger to health.

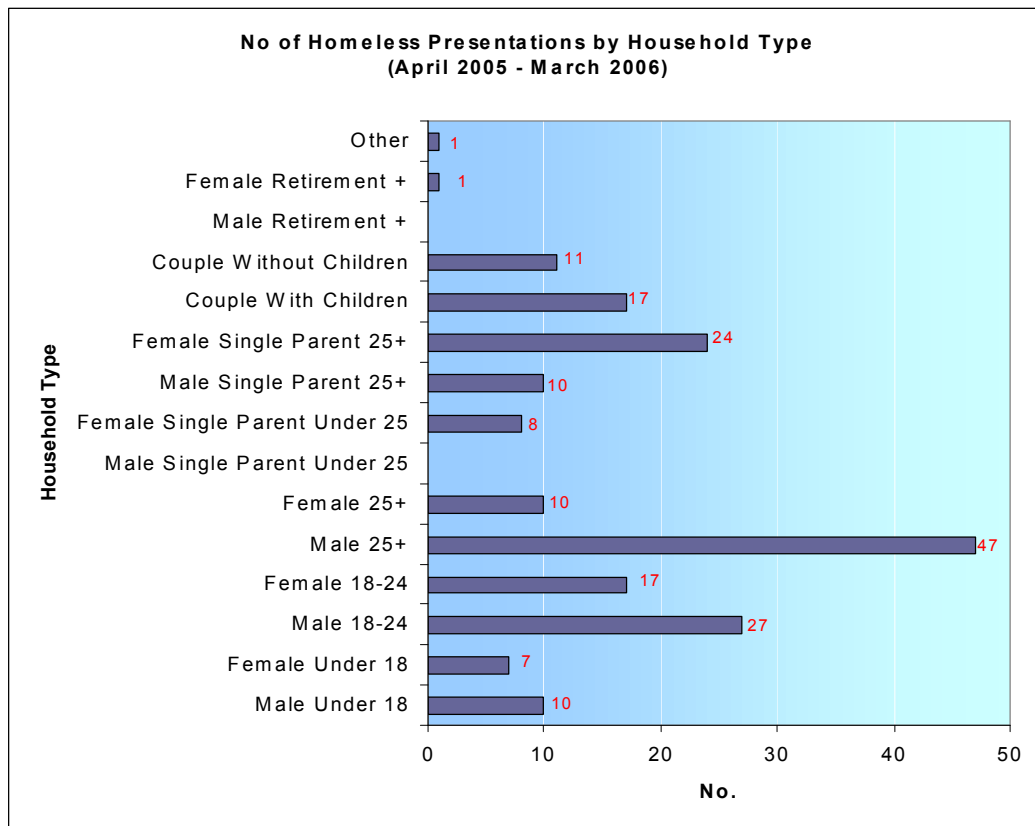
Or - their only accommodation is a caravan or boat and they have nowhere to park it. (SIC Housing leaflet).

¹⁰⁸ SIC Housing, 2007

¹⁰⁹ Your Voice, 2006

¹¹⁰ SIC Local Housing Strategy, 2006 update

Figure 21: Number Homeless Presentations 2005 - 2006



One reason for the increase in homeless presentations could be attributed to the fact that as the demand on affordable housing in Shetland increases, more people may be finding it difficult to access a decent permanent home that meets their needs in terms of size, location and affordability. A further contributing factor to this, the Council has also increased legal obligations to provide accommodation to everyone who is homeless, although in some cases this is only for a short period of time whilst other housing options are investigated. These increasing pressures place further stress on Shetland's housing market, and provide some possible explanation of why the number of people who registered as homeless increased in 2006/07.

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Vehicle ownership and inter-island ferry and bus usage in Shetland continues to rise, as does usage of external air and sea routes. The cost of fares is also increasing across the board.

Shetland has high uptake of SDL and ADSL Internet connection.

What is measured

Availability, accessibility, usage and cost of internal transport is measured by the numbers of private cars, taxis, buses and ferries; number and frequency of bus and ferry routes; cost of internal transport journeys and usage levels for internal transport.

Availability, usage and cost of external transport are measured by number of external air and sea routes; cost of external transport journeys; and usage levels for external transport.

Broadband access can partly be used as a measure of progressive electronic communications. Other measures are under development.

Availability, accessibility, usage and cost of internal transport (see Figure 17 and 18, and Table 6 and 7)

- ◆ The number of private cars and light goods vehicles continues to rise, increasing 16.7% from 2000 to 2005, while the number of public transport vehicles remains fairly steady.
- ◆ The number of taxis has remained stable at around 76, over the past six years¹¹¹, standing at 77 registered vehicles in 2006¹¹².
- ◆ In 2006 Shetland had 56 private hire cars licensed¹¹³.

Table 7: Number of vehicles licensed in the Shetland Islands on 31st December¹¹⁴

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Private Cars and Light Goods	10,378	10,806	11,135	11,430	11,697	12,114
Public Transport Vehicles	81	81	74	73	75	83
Others	1,473	1,514	1,626	1,688	1,754	1,753
Total	11,932	12,401	12,835	13,191	13,526	13,950

- ◆ Bus usage continues to increase, except in the town where there was a 9.3% drop in passengers between 2001 and 2005. Between 2001 and 2005 there has been a 4.8% increase in total passengers. The

¹¹¹ SIC Transport, 2005

¹¹² Scottish Executive Statistics, 2006

¹¹³ Scottish Executive Statistics, 2006

¹¹⁴ Shetland Datashare, 2007



Scalloway/Burra service has seen a 44% increase and the Yell service a 43% increase.

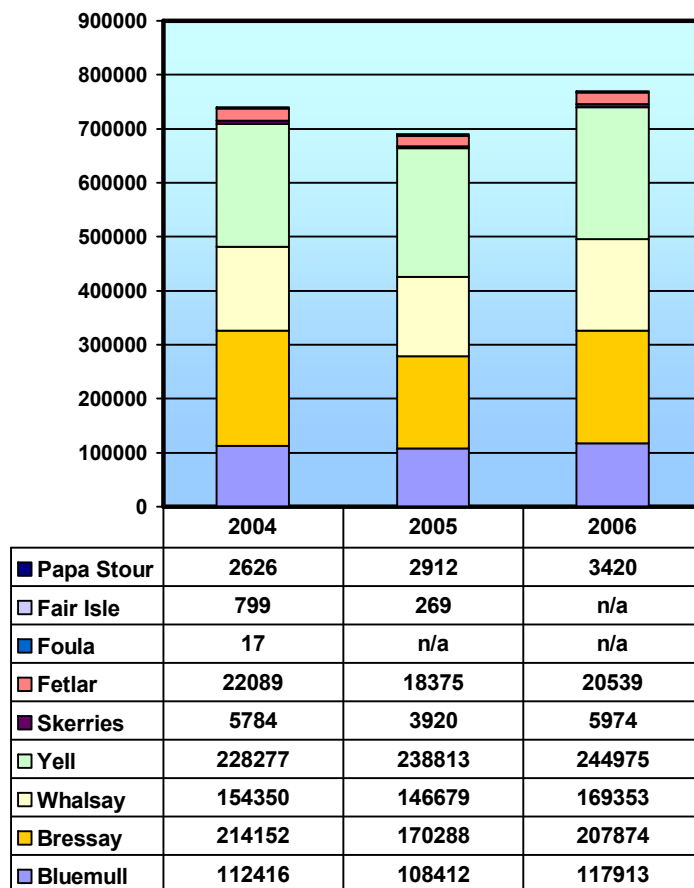
- ◆ The cost of internal transport journeys by bus continues to increase¹¹⁵.
- ◆ In 2006 a return trip between Sumburgh and Lerwick was £4.20, increasing to £4.40 in 2007. A return trip between Sandness and Lerwick was £6.10 increasing to £6.90., and a return trip between Haroldswick and Lerwick was £8.80, increasing to £11.30

Table 8: Bus services usage¹¹⁶

Route	2001	2003	2005
South Mainland	92758	93797	98770
North Mainland	73240	71116	70997
Laxo/ Vidlin	6977	7881	6770
West Mainland	44018	41982	48612
Scalloway/ Burra	42154	54302	60738
Lerwick Town Service	117639	113039	106781
Yell	4936	4653	7062
Unst	1638	1950	2159
Total	383360	388720	401889

Figure 22: Inter-Island Ferry Usage: Passengers¹¹⁷

- ◆ The number of passengers on the inter-island ferries has increased from a total 750,510 in 2004 to 770,048 in 2006 (a 7.6% increase).
- ◆ The total number of vehicles has increased from 336,424 in 2004 to 348,764 in 2006 (a 3.7% increase).



¹¹⁵ SIC Transport, 2007

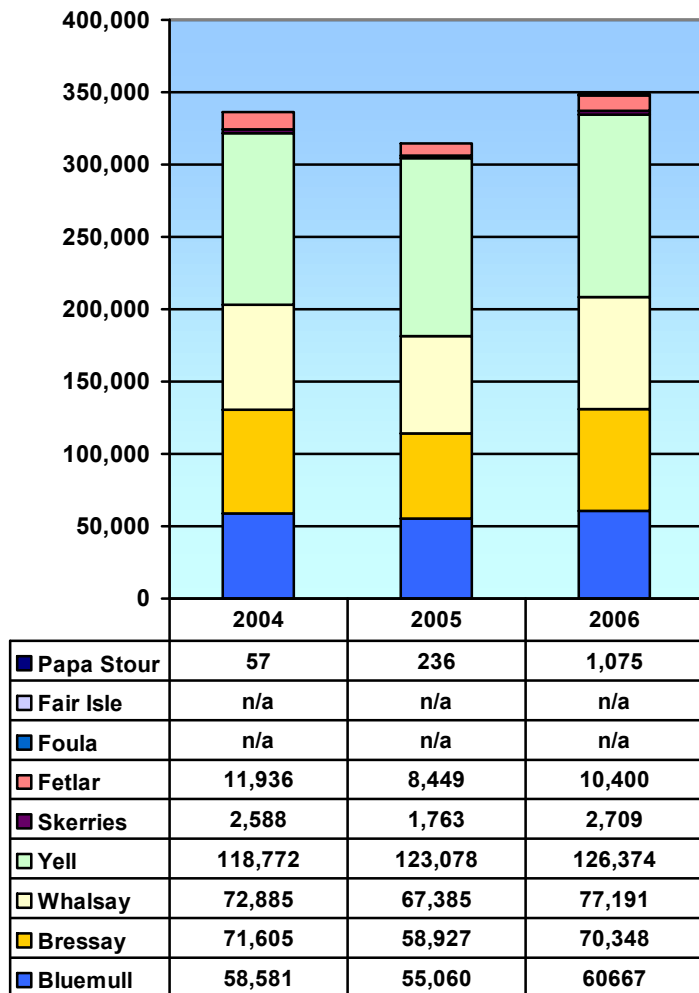
¹¹⁶ Shetland Datashare, 2006

¹¹⁷ SIC Transport, 2007

Figure 23. Inter-Island Ferry Usage¹¹⁸: Vehicles

◆ The total number of vehicles has increased 27%, from 278,925 in 2001 to 354,853 in 2005. Again, vehicles on the Yell crossing in particular have increased from 100,889 in 2001 to 130,258 in 2005, a 29% increase.

◆ Fares for passengers range between £2.70 and £3.10 single adult fare, with concessions available for children and concessionary SIC holders and reductions available when bulk-buying tickets. Return fares for vehicles range between £9 and £142. Travel between Yell and Unst or Fetlar and Unst to Fetlar is free of charge.



◆ A recent study into deprivation and social exclusion in Shetland concluded that *'the greatest issue in terms of access in Shetland is people's inability to afford to run a car (or two cars if a partner has the car each day). Although the public transport system is appreciated, it delivers for full-time commuters and is not able to alleviate access issues for those without a car sufficiently for people to feel they are able to access opportunities. This restricted people's ability to learn; find employment or better employment; purchase more healthy food at a reasonable cost; take part in community events and access social opportunities, for example. Reliance on others for transport is common, hindering people's feeling of independence and increasing humiliation.*

This form of exclusion is predominantly felt by women with family responsibilities, particularly those living in remote areas of Shetland, young people, and those with a disability. For the former, lack of childcare and transport to access childcare in other areas augments isolation. For the latter the situation can be particularly acute as they are physically unable to access any public transport¹¹⁹.

¹¹⁸ SIC Transport, 2007

¹¹⁹ Research into Deprivation and Social Exclusion in Shetland, 2006

It is important to note that any change to transport schedules should consider those who rely on it as their sole means of transport and those who may want to but cannot due to the departure and arrival times. Meaning that schedules routes do not suit early hour workers, late evening workers and shift workers for example.



Availability, usage and cost of external transport (see Figure 19 and 20, and Table 8-10)

- ◆ Flights to Sumburgh operate to and from Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Inverness, Kirkwall, Fair Isle and London, Stanstead. There are connections through Aberdeen, Inverness, Edinburgh and Glasgow to many UK destinations including London (Heathrow & Gatwick), Birmingham and Manchester.
- ◆ There are five weekday services to Aberdeen from Sumburgh (with three flights on Saturday and four on Sunday), and two daily flights to Inverness, via Orkney, Edinburgh and Glasgow¹²⁰.
- ◆ Loganair is looking to increase the number of flights it operates from Sumburgh to Aberdeen and Edinburgh in the near future¹²¹.
- ◆ Between 15th June and 25th September, 2007 Atlantic Airways operates a flight to Stansted, London twice weekly, and web fares start at £161¹²².
- ◆ The Air Discount Scheme was launched on 18 May 2006 and provides a 40% reduction on airfares from eligible areas (including Shetland) to Glasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen or Inverness¹²³.

Table 9: 'Costs from' for return flights (economy) from Shetland to Scottish Mainland according to the length of time booked ahead, including figure with air discount scheme applied in brackets¹²⁴

Sumburgh to....	Aberdeen	Edinburgh	Glasgow	Inverness	Orkney
1 day	£344.00 (£220.00)	£382.00 (£142.00)	£382.00 (£142.00)	£318.00 (£202.00)	£194.00 (£126.00)
1 week	£324.00 (£208.00)	£362.00 (£230.00)	£362.00 (£164.00)	£298.00 (£190.00)	£180.00 (£120.00)
1 month	£86.00 (£64.00)	£362.00 (£164.00)	£362.00 (£164.00)	£298.00 (£126.00)	£62.00 (£58.00)
6 months	£86.00 (£48.00)	£132.00 (£110.00)	£132.00 (£128.00)	£80.00 (£76.00)	£62.00 (£48.00)
11 months	£86.00 (£48.00)	£132.00 (£110.00)	£132.00 (£128.00)	£80.00 (£76.00)	£62.00 (£48.00)

- ◆ The total number of airport passengers has fallen since 1991, as Sumburgh passenger numbers decline and Scatsta numbers rise. The airport at Scatsta, operated by the oil industry, has seen an increase in passengers from 15,000 in 1991 to 255,000 in 2006¹²⁵.
- ◆ There has also been an increase in numbers employed at the airport during this period, from 11 to 100.

¹²⁰ British Airways website, Summer 2006
¹²¹ Aberdeen airport news, 2006/07
¹²² Atlantic Airways, 2007
¹²³ British airways, 2007
¹²⁴ British airways, 2007
¹²⁵ Shetland datashare, 2007

- ◆ Total passenger numbers at Sumburgh Airport have fluctuated over the years, generally decreasing from 1991, but increasing slightly in the past two years. In 1991 the airport had 433,000 passengers but in 2004 this had reduced to 110,000 passengers. This is due to the decline in helicopter passengers through the airport, which declined from 214,000 in 1991 to 18,000 in 2003. Passenger numbers were 133,000 in 2006. Some of this increase may be attributable to the Air Discount Scheme.

Table 10: Airport passengers (000s)¹²⁶

Year	1991	1996	2001	2003	2004	2005	2006
Scatsta	15	79	247	230	229	239	255
Sumburgh	433	401	137	113	110	124	133
Total	448	480	384	343	339	363	388

- ◆ The cost of a sea journey to Aberdeen with Northlink is under half the price of a journey to Faroe or Bergen with Smyril Line for both families and single adults.

Table 11: Cost of sea journeys¹²⁷

	Cost for a family of 4, with cabin, in August (single)	Cost for 1 adult, no cabin, in August (single)
Aberdeen (Northlink)	£179.50	£20.80
Faroe (Smyril line)	£370.00	£43.00
Bergen (Smyril line)	£370.00	£43.00

- ◆ Ferry fares between Aberdeen and Lerwick vary by the season, ranging from £20.80 to £31.80 for adults (single passage) and £10.40 to £15.90 for children (aged 5-15). Infants travel for free. Cars cost between £84.70 and £113.80 (single passage). Cabins cost between £53.90 and £107.80 (single passage), although cheaper berths in shared 2- and 4-berth cabins are also available¹²⁸.
- ◆ The number of accompanied car journeys on the Lerwick-Aberdeen route has increased in recent years, from 11,521 in 1999 to 17,255 in 2005, a 50% increase¹²⁹. The number of passenger journeys has grown even more dramatically, from 62,170 to 101,933, a rise of over 64%.
- ◆ There has been a steady increase in the number of passengers to and from Shetland on Smyril Line, from 1999 to 2004, with a decrease in 2005.

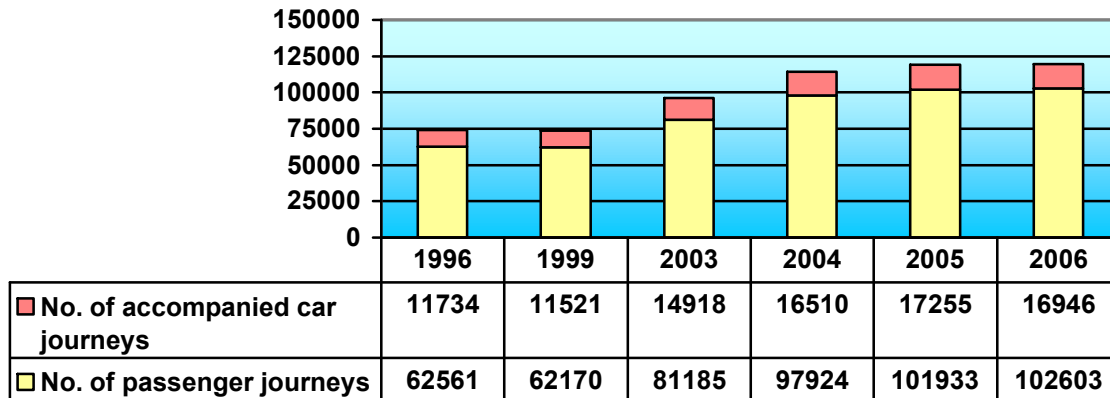
¹²⁶ Shetland Datashare, 2007

¹²⁷ Northlink and Smyril Line, 2007

¹²⁸ Northlink, 2007

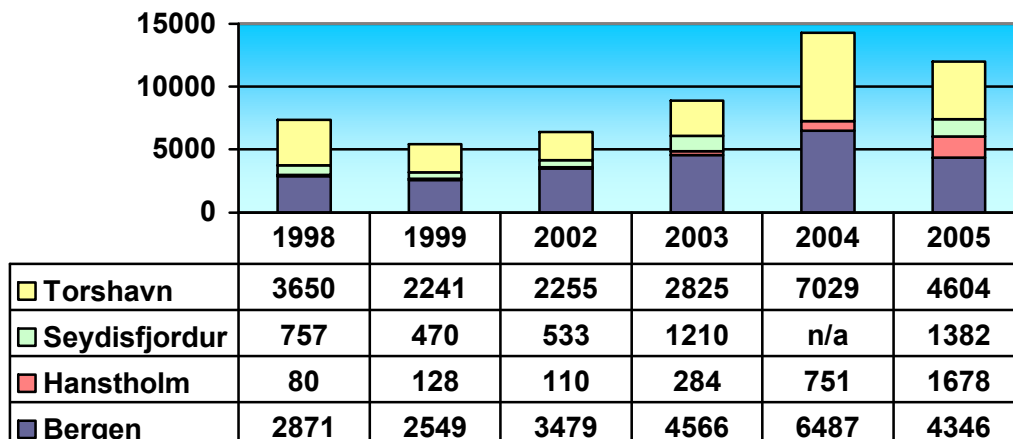
¹²⁹ Shetland in Statistics, 2006

Figure 24: P&O and Northlink passengers¹³⁰



- ◆ The number of passenger journeys has increased 26.4% since 2003. Passengers increased between 2005 and 2006, but to a lesser extent at 0.66%.
- ◆ The number of accompanied car journeys has also been increasing since 2003, but fell by 1.8% between 2005 and 2006.

Figure 25: Smyril Line passengers, inbound and outbound Lerwick, 1998-2005



- ◆ Results from the 2005 questionnaire 'Your Voice' found the main reason people choose air travel rather than the ferry is that air travel is faster, while the main reason people choose to travel by ferry is that it is cheaper.¹³¹

Electronic Communications

- ◆ BT found Shetland and Aberdeenshire to be the first local authority areas in Britain to have more than half their homes and businesses connected to ADSL¹³². In May 2007 Shetland had 50.7% uptake¹³³.
- ◆ Just under 49% of 'Your Voice, spring 2007' respondents with a computer said that they used ADSL Broadband to connect to the internet, a further

¹³⁰ Shetland in Statistics, 2006

¹³¹ Your Voice questionnaire, 2005

¹³² ADSL stands for *Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line*, which can provide faster digital data transmission over local telephone network wires.

¹³³ UK Broadband user group, 2007



24% used an other broadband connection and 20% used a standard modem.¹³⁴

- ◆ Shetland Broadband has commissioned the initial stages of its Shetland Wide Area Network. This service offers DSL Internet connectivity, private networking and other specialist services without the need of a telephone and will initially be available in Lerwick, Scalloway and Gulberwick¹³⁵.

¹³⁴ Your Voice, 2007

¹³⁵ Shetland Broadband, 2006/7

NATURAL RESOURCES

Existing data available to measure the quality of the environment in Shetland, such as air and water quality, paint a good picture. However, further measures are required to ensure the situation is fully understood.

Recycling opportunities continue to expand and diversify and new renewable energy possibilities are being explored.

What is measured

The quality of the natural environment is measured by air and coastal water quality (fresh water results require further analysis to produce a useful indicator); marine and terrestrial litter, recycling of waste and energy consumption. Biodiversity has been identified as an important natural resource, therefore initial indicators have been identified for its measurement however further study is necessary.

Shetland and its European Ranking

◆ In a recent survey conducted by the Federation of Small businesses, entitled Index of success 2007, Shetland was listed 5th in the Scottish regional ranking. Orkney was 4th.¹³⁶ The indicators used to measure this were income, mortality, education and employment.

On further Investigation it can be estimated that of the 24 FSB indicator countries (excluding less developed countries), Shetland would sit between Finland and the Netherlands (or 9th). It is important to state that all of the countries measured are part of the OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development), not the full European Union.¹³⁷ However this gives the Shetland Council and the Shetland Citizens a solid foundation from which to build.

Natural environment (see Table 11 and 12)

◆ Shetland's air quality meets all the criteria set by the national air quality standards.

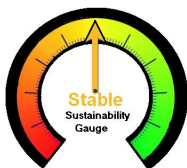
Table 12: Air quality and pollutant objectives outlined in the NAQS¹³⁸

Pollutant	Concentration	Measured as
Benzene	16.25 µg/m ³	Running annual mean
	3.25 µg/m ³	Running annual mean
1,3-butadiene	2.25 µg/m ³	Running annual mean
Carbon monoxide (CO)	10 mg/m ³	Running 8 hour mean
Lead	0.5 µg/m ³	Annual mean
	0.25 µg/m ³	Annual mean
Nitrogen dioxide (NO ₂)	200 µg/m ³ not to be exceeded more than 35x a year	1 hour mean
	40 µg/m ³	Annual mean
Particulate (PM ₁₀)	50 µg/m ³ not to be exceeded more than 35x a year	24 hour mean
	40 µg/m ³	Annual mean
	50 µg/m ³ not to be exceeded more than 7x a year	24 hour mean
	18 µg/m ³	Annual mean

¹³⁶ FSB Scotland Index of Success, 2007

¹³⁷ FSB Scotland Index of Success, 2007

¹³⁸ SEPA



Sulphur dioxide (SO ₂)	125 µg/m ³ not to be exceeded more than 3x a year	25 hour mean
	350 µg/m ³ not to be exceeded more than 24x a year	1 hour mean
	266 µg/m ³ not to be exceeded more than 35x a year	15 minute mean

- ◆ Coastal Water Quality Standards Criteria are set in bandings between A and D, with A as the highest quality and C and D representing unsatisfactory results. Most of Shetland's coastline is A, with improvements in general quality from 2004 to 2005 and a decrease in the amount of unsatisfactory coastal areas in Shetland.

Table 13: Coastal water quality standards¹³⁹

All waters Class A unless otherwise classified (most of Shetland's coastline)

	Class	2005	2004
Total Length (km)	B	48.1	44.5
Total Length (km)	C	4.2	5.2
Total Length (km)	D	0.2	0.2

- ◆ Biodiversity is one of Shetland's natural assets. Initial indicators to measure biodiversity have been identified¹⁴⁰:
 - trends in populations and productivity of seabirds, croftland and moorland birds;
 - seals;
 - marine fish (probably shellfish and perhaps other taxa);
 - marine benthos (probably impacts of aquaculture);
 - condition of protected natural heritage sites;
 - extent of land managed under agri-environment schemes;
 - trends in grazing pressure;
 - trends in area of cropped land;
 - changes in phenology (timing of biological events) in relation to climate change;
 - energy consumption;
 - waste (production, management and recycling)

- ◆ Shetland has 81 Site's of Specific Interest (SSSI's) making up 11.6% of land area, 3 National Nature Reserves, 1 Ramsar Site (wetland conservation and sustainability) 12 Special protection areas and 7 National scenic areas. There are also 346 listed buildings and 369 ancient monuments.

Shetland's consumption of global resources

The ecological footprint is a sustainability indicator, which expresses the relationship between humans and the natural environment. The ecological footprint accounts for the use of natural resources by a region's population. It is a 'snapshot' measure and typically refers to average annual consumption. To indicate environmental sustainability, the ecological footprint (demand) is compared with the global availability of resources (supply). Results are usually presented on a per capita basis using a standardised unit of area - the global hectare (gha). The average amount of resources available per capita is known as an 'earthshare'. To calculate an earthshare, the total available land and sea area of the planet is divided equally among the current global population. It is estimated that the current earthshare is 1.9 gha. If everyone lived within their earthshare, we would achieve One Planet Living with an equitable sharing of resources.

- ◆ Shetland's ecological footprint is currently 5.39 global hectares per capita¹⁴¹. In comparison, in 2001, Scotland's residents' ecological footprint

¹³⁹ SEPA

¹⁴⁰ Work is being done to develop results for this year. Various bodies and agencies including SEPA, SNH, SEERAD, Shetland Biological Records Centre, SOTEAG and the NAFC Marine Centre will be involved.

¹⁴¹ This measures the amount of nature's resources Shetland consumes in a given year
 †SIC energy, 2007



was 5.35 gha per capita. If everyone on the planet consumed as much as an average Shetland resident, an additional 1.8 Earths would be required to sustainably support global resource consumption.

Waste and Recycling (see Table 13)

- ◆ Shetland is involved with various projects to clean up waste, such as 'Fishing for Litter' and the Voar Redd Up, while recycling is increasing.
- ◆ A cleanliness index monitoring system is used to measure terrestrial litter, where a higher score represents a better result¹⁴². In 2005/06 Shetland's score was 76, an increase from 75 in 2004/05.
- ◆ The annual Voar Redd Up, supported by the Shetland Amenity Trust, has been increasing in size since it was first started in 1987.

Table 14: Voar Redd Up Statistics¹⁴³:

	Organisations	Volunteers	Bags	Tonnes
1988	60	400	5000	20
1996	125	2800	10000	60
2001	151	3616	10500	60
2005	181	3674	12000	71
2006	185	3787	12000	75
2007	201	4072	12000	55.5

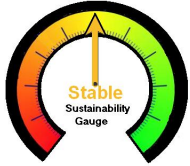
- ◆ Marine litter is considered a significant problem in Shetland waters and its beaches. KIMO has calculated that every tonne of marine litter costs fishing fleets £1,300 in lost time (e.g. cleaning nets)¹⁴⁴. This is before adding in loss of catches, damage to gear or disposal. KIMO recently launched the 'Fishing for Litter' campaign, encouraging fishermen to land litter by-catch, thus helping clear up the North Sea. In 2004, 450 tonnes of litter had been collected¹⁴⁵.
- ◆ From April 2005 - March 2006, Shetland Islands Council recycled/composted 10.9 % of municipal waste.
- ◆ In 2005 4 tonnes of aluminium cans, 18 tonnes of agri-plastics and 1.7 tonnes of Christmas cards were collected, processed and sent for recycling. Shetland Amenity Trust also salvaged an estimated 100 tonnes of building materials from landfill and expanded glass recovery from 300 to 600 tonnes.
- ◆ Kerb side collection of glass and cans was rolled out to 4500 households in Lerwick and Scalloway in 2004–05. There are approximately 40 recycling points in Shetland, giving a ratio of 1 per 150 households, well over the 1/250 set as the original aim. However, these points tend to be concentrated in more densely populated areas making recycling more awkward for those living in remote areas. Also there is little recycling diversity out with Lerwick, as recycling points tend to be bottle banks or aluminium banks only.

¹⁴² SIC, Waste Services

¹⁴³ Shetland Amenity Trust, 2007

¹⁴⁴ KIMO, 2007

¹⁴⁵ Save the North Sea project results, 2004



Energy (see Table 14)

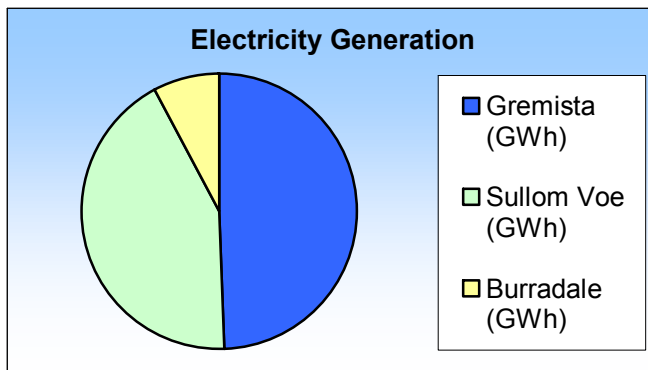
- ◆ The local electricity grid is supplied by Scottish Hydroelectric (SHE) from the oil fired Gremista Power Station and from excess energy produced by gas turbines at the Sullom Voe Terminal. SHE is investigating the future of energy supply, such as the laying of sub-sea cables, which would enable concurrent laying of a fibre optic cable link to the mainland. A cable link would reduce pollution in the islands and lessen Shetland's reliance on imported fuel¹⁴⁶.
- ◆ Shetland relies on oil and waste gas for 93% of its energy production and this is not sustainable in the longer term. Reliance on oil must be reduced and the use of local resources, including renewable technologies, maximised.

Table 15: Electricity generation ('000s)¹⁴⁷

	1971/72	1981/82	1991/92	2001/02	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
Units Generated (GWh)	32.32	143.54	170.02	230.60	231.28	225.88	217.06
Maximum demand (mw)	11.69	36	41.2	45.2	48.6	47	48.1

- ◆ Shetland now generates 6 times more electricity than in the year 1971/72 and maximum demand has increased around 4 fold, but generation is now fairly stable.
- ◆ Electricity generation in 2006/07 was the lowest it has been since 1999/00. There are a number of reasons for this, including reductions in island demand from Fish Processing, loss of Saxa Ford, increase in District Heating Scheme take up, private renewable generation and a probably a milder winter with less snow and by default less heating load being used.¹⁴⁸

Figure 26: Breakdown of electricity generation in 2006/07¹⁴⁹



- ◆ In 2005 Gremista emitted 91,221 tonnes of CO₂ and Sullom Voe emitted 49,689 tonnes of CO₂.¹⁵⁰
- ◆ The estimated total CO₂ emissions for the housing stock in Shetland are an average of 14 tonnes per property per year.¹⁵¹

¹⁴⁶ SIC energy structure plan

¹⁴⁷ SIC, infrastructure, 2007

¹⁴⁸ Operations Manager Shetland, 2007

¹⁴⁹ Gremista PowerStation/Burradale windfarm/Sullom Voe, 2007

¹⁵⁰ Electricity generation in Shetland, SIC Infrastructure, 2007

¹⁵¹ SIC, Local House Condition Survey, 2005/06

- ◆ Since 2003 two businesses have been assisted with projects to develop renewable energy engineering and 12 community halls and 2 heritage centres have been assisted with projects that allow them to make use of renewable energy¹⁵².
- ◆ The 5-turbine windfarm at Burradale has a total output of 6.68MW, which can power 2000 homes and saves 6,200 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions per year¹⁵³.
- ◆ Burradale generation continues to rise, though at a decreased rate, increasing over 7-fold between 2000/01 and 2003/04, then a further 7.6% between 2003/04 and 2006/07.

¹⁵² economic policies, 2003-07

¹⁵³ Burradale Windfarm, 2007

ECONOMY

The Gross Regional Domestic Product per capita of Shetland is lower than the rest of the UK. Fisheries output, oil and the Council remain the three largest sectors in the economy, considerably higher than agriculture, tourism and knitwear.

85.2% of the working age population is in employment, with the public sector dominating. 14% of household income is derived from self-employment, compared to 8% for Scotland as a whole.

Shetland continues to have one of the lowest unemployment rates in the country.

What is measured

The state of the economy in Shetland is measured by the level of economic activity in Shetland (overall GVA¹⁵⁴ and GDP¹⁵⁵, public and private sector spending and the value of key sectors); employment (number of jobs, employment rates, employment by sector; percentage of people out of work for more than a year; percentage of women economically active; and percentage of people in permanent training); and business performance (number of new business start-ups; number and scale of business failures; and business profitability).

Economic activity (see Figure 21 and Table 14)

- ◆ The combined total output of all economic sectors in the Shetland economy in 2005 was calculated to be £705,705,000¹⁵⁶. The same survey calculated Shetland's Gross Regional Domestic Product to be £333,403,150. This equates to a GRDP per capita of £15,245¹⁵⁷.
- ◆ This compares with a GRDP per capita for the UK of £18,515 and Guernsey of £23,769, in 2003.
- ◆ In 2003 the value of the Shetland economy was £456mn. Combined fisheries output was the largest sector, with £243.1 million (fish catching, fish processing and salmon farming), continuing to rise since at least 1996. The council is the third largest sector, after oil, with a value of £127 million, decreasing from a high of £150.5 million in 2001. In contrast, the economic output of traditional agriculture and knitwear industries are much lower and fairly stable at £13.1 and £2.5 million respectively. The value of tourism has also been fairly stable, 1996-2003.
- ◆ During the period 2000 to 2004 Shetland's GDP fell by 0.4% and this was the greatest decrease recorded in Scotland during this period.¹⁵⁸ The decrease was a result of decline in throughput at the Sullom Voe oil terminal and the closure of a number of salmon farms.

¹⁵⁴ Gross value added (GVA) provides a more realistic indication of an areas productivity. It is a measure of the market value of all the final goods or services produced after the deduction of input costs incurred in the production process (excluding wages and capital investment costs).

¹⁵⁵ Gross Domestic Product (GDP) provides an indication of areas productivity. It is the market value of all the final goods and services produced, and can be broken down into sectors.

¹⁵⁶ Economic survey, University of Aberdeen Business School and AB Associates Ltd, 2005

¹⁵⁷ Shetland Regional Accounts, 2005

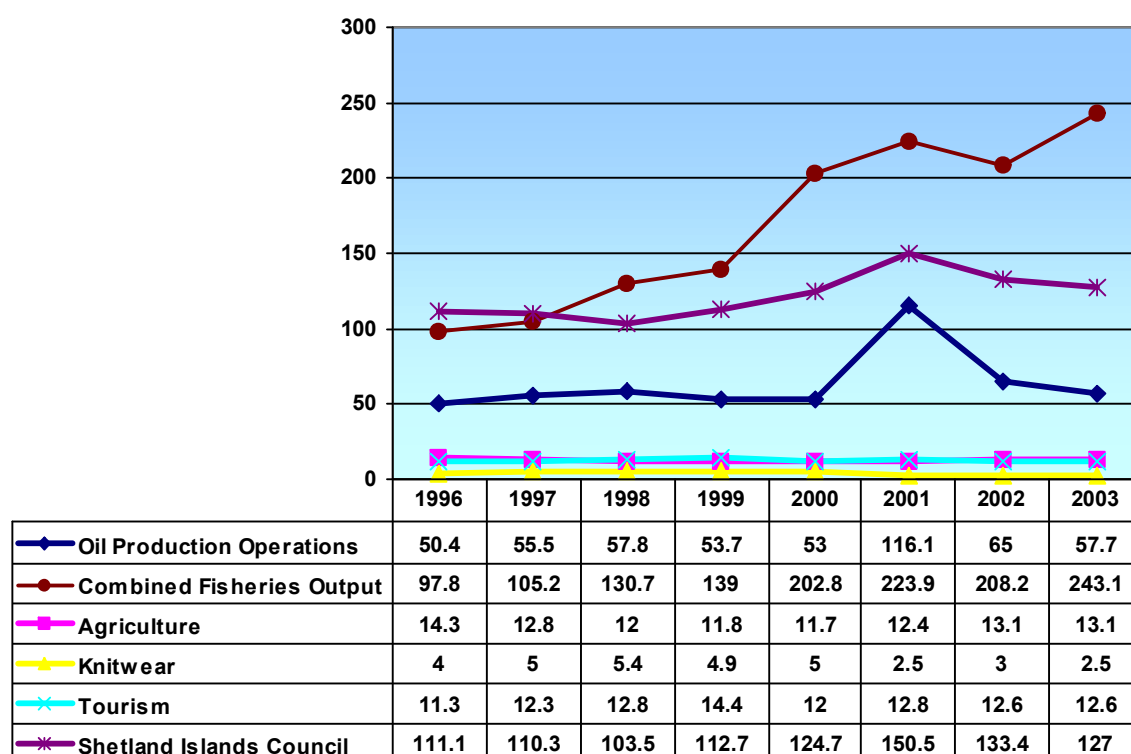
¹⁵⁸ National planning framework for Scotland, 2006

- ◆ GVA is lower in Shetland compared to Scotland, most noticeably in Manufacturing where GVA per full time employee in Scotland is more than double of that in Shetland.

Table 16: GVA per full time employee. ¹⁵⁹

GVA per full time employee for the year 2004 (£)			
	Manufacturing	Construction	Services
Shetland	25,876	37,789	27,950
Scotland	52,962	38,574	28,821

Figure 27: Value of key sectors of the Shetland Economy, 1996-2003¹⁶⁰



Employment (see Figure 23 and Table 15)

- ◆ In the year 2005 13,300 jobs were recorded in Shetland; an increase of 30 from 2003.¹⁶¹ Of these 8,200 were full time and 5,100 part time.
- ◆ Between July 2005 and June 2006, 86.0% of the working age population were in employment, compared to 75% in Scotland. 73.9% were employees while 10.2% were self-employed.
- ◆ As of May 2006, 83.4% of working age women was economically active, compared to the Scottish average of 75.2%.
- ◆ Within Shetland, currently (2007) there are 11,500 individuals currently in employment. 5,500 are Female and 6,000 are male employees.

¹⁵⁹ HIE, economic update 2007

¹⁶⁰ Fraser of Allander Institute

¹⁶¹ Nomis, Official Labour Market Statistics, 2006



- ◆ There are 1,400 economically inactive individuals, 700 of whom are seeking further employment and 700 of whom do not want a job.¹⁶²
- ◆ Shetland has a higher percentage deriving income from self-employment than Scotland as a whole and a much lower percentage from social security benefits.
- ◆ Proportions employed in the different industries are fairly similar for Shetland and Scotland. Shetland has a higher proportion (10.0%) employed in transport and communications than Scotland (5.4%) while Scotland has a higher percentage (18.5%) employed in Finance, IT and other business activities, and services (82.0%) than Shetland (6.2% and 75.1% respectively).¹⁶³

Figure 28: Employment by sector, 2005¹⁶⁴.

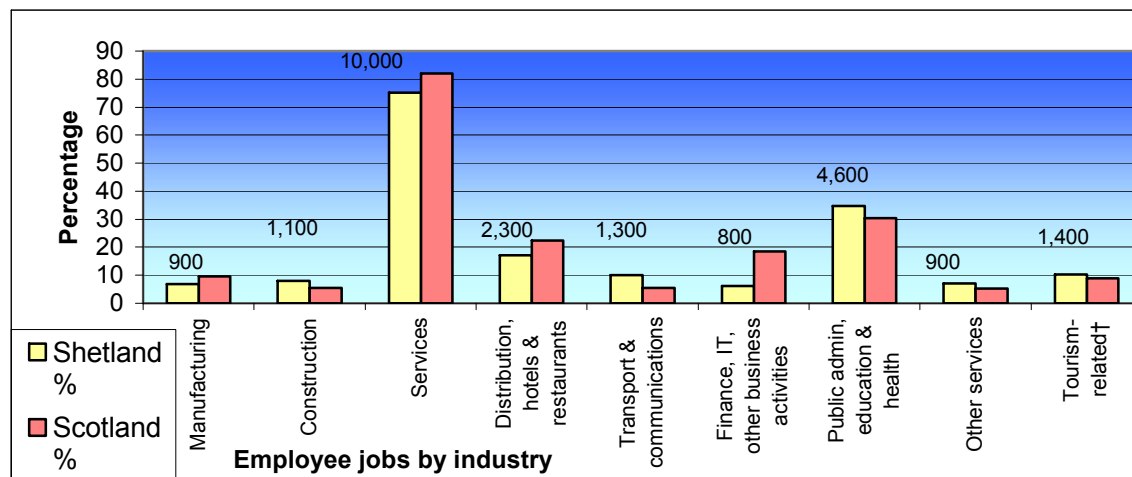


Table 17: Employment by occupation (July 2005 - June 2006)¹⁶⁵

	Shetland Islands (numbers)	Shetland Islands (%)	Scotland (%)
Soc 2000 major group 1-3	3,400	29.8	39.8
1 Managers and senior officials	1,500	12.7	12.7
2 Professional occupations	1,000	8.9	12.9
3 Associate professional & technical	1,000	8.3	14.2
Soc 2000 major group 4-5	3,200	27.5	23.4
4 Administrative & secretarial	1,400	12.3	12.4
5 Skilled trades occupations	1,700	15.2	11
Soc 2000 major group 6-7	1,800	16	16.7
6 Personal service occupations	1,100	9.9	8.3
7 Sales and customer service occs	700	6.1	8.3
Soc 2000 major group 8-9	3,100	26.7	19.9
8 Process plant & machine operatives	1,300	11.5	7.8
9 Elementary occupations	1,700	15.1	12.1
Total	11,400	100	100

- ◆ The main differences between Shetland and Scotland employment by occupation are seen in Soc 2000¹⁶⁶ major groups 1-3 and 8-9. `Scotland

¹⁶² Nomis Official Labour Market Statistics, 2007

¹⁶³ Nomis, Official Labour Market Statistics, 2006 (See Figure 19)

¹⁶⁴ Nomis, Official Labour Market Statistics, 2006

(Figures on the graph show the number of individuals in each industry for Shetland.)

¹⁶⁵ Nomis, Official labour market statistics

has 14.2% employed in-group 3 (associate professional & technical) while Shetland has only 8.3%. Shetland has 11.8% employed in process plant and machine operatives (group 8) while Scotland has only 7.8%.

Sectors

Oil¹⁶⁷

- ◆ Employment figures in 2006 for Sullom Voe terminal show 323 full time and 27 part time employees, and 138 full time and 4 part time employees at SIC Ports and Harbours at Sella Ness.
- ◆ Figures also show that there are 97 full time and 14 part time jobs in Lerwick, which are wholly or partially oil-related.
- ◆ Scatsta airport currently employs 100 people and deals with 255,000 passengers and over 11,000 aircraft movements.
- ◆ In 2005 Sullom Voe handled 8.2% of all foreign and domestic oil & gas traffic in the UK.

Fishing¹⁶⁸

- ◆ In January 2007 a total of 19 boats in the whitefish fleet employed 110 people directly, which is a slight increase on previous years, although employment remains lower than it was in 2003. After a period of depression, the whitefish industry appears to have picked up and the target of 25+ vessels may well be achieved in the next 4 years.
- ◆ Processing operations, which focus on high quality fish products, employ approximately 55 people. Lerwick Fish Traders' current expansion project is likely to employ a further 50 people.
- ◆ The latest figures for aquaculture employment show 207 full time and 67 part time jobs in the sector. The industry is becoming increasingly diverse, with production of mussels, oysters and cod. It is expected that figures for 2005-2006 will show increased employment.

Agriculture^{169, 170}

- ◆ In 2005 the Agriculture sector comprised of 303 employees, 511 occupiers and 1,578 'others' (including occupiers less than half-time, spouses of occupiers and casual/seasonal labour).
- ◆ In 2006 there were 1,972 holdings in Shetland, totaling 80,854 hectares. This can be compared to 2,076 holdings totaling 78,235 hectares in 2000, which suggests the average size of holdings has increased.
- ◆ Figures from the Meat Hygiene Service show that 5,391 sheep were slaughtered in Shetland in 2005, up from 3,520 in 2001, but down from 8,712 in 1991, while 282 cattle were slaughtered in 2005, up from 76 in 2001, but down from 339 in 1991.

Tourism

- ◆ Shetland Visitors survey recorded a total of 104,241 visitors to Shetland in 2006 and estimates direct expenditure of £16.43 million¹⁷¹.

¹⁶⁶ Soc 2000 = Standard Occupational Classification 2000

¹⁶⁷ Economic policies 2003-07

¹⁶⁸ Economic policies 2003-07

¹⁶⁹ Economic policies 2003-07

¹⁷⁰ Economic report on agriculture, 2007

¹⁷¹ Shetland visitors survey, 2005/06

- 59,924 arrived by air and sea, of which 24,744 were holiday travelers and 22,099 were business travelers.
 - 44,327 arrived by liner and yacht.
- ◆ During 2005 Visit Shetland recorded 1740 bed spaces occupied by tourists to the islands, which is above the average for the past 20 years. Accommodating tourists accounted for 372 jobs in 2003 (a 29% decrease since 1991).
 - ◆ In 2005 Lerwick Port Authority recorded 48 cruise liner arrivals and 17,532 cruise liner passengers¹⁷². In 2006 only 43 cruise liners visited, but passenger numbers rose by 45% to approximately 25,470.¹⁷³ 46 cruise liners are due for 2007¹⁷⁴.

Other industries

- ◆ Those employed and self-employed in the knitwear sector fell by 33% between 1999 and 2004, from 128 to 86, while the number of home knitters fell from 960 to 750.

Income (see Table 16)

Table 18: Sources of household income

	Shetland ¹⁷⁵ 2003, %	Western Isles ¹⁷⁶ 2003, %	Scotland ¹⁷⁷ 2003/4, %
Wages and Salaries	68	70	65
Self Employment	14	8	8
Investments	5	1	2
Pensions	11	14	13
Social Security Benefits & other	2	7	12
Total	100	100	100

Business performance

- ◆ In 2006 there were 111 new start-ups in Shetland, an increase of 31% on 2005 (85 start-ups) but almost the same as 2004 (109 start-ups)¹⁷⁸.
- ◆ There is currently no information available on number and scale of business failures and data is awaited on business profitability.

Unemployment

- ◆ During the past 30 years, Shetland has benefited from one of the lowest unemployment rates in the country. Recently this peaked at 2.2% in April 2004 and fell to 1.3% in January 2007¹⁷⁹.
- ◆ The rate tends to rise in winter months due to a reduction in tourism and primary some industries.
- ◆ The unemployment rate for Orkney in January 2007 was 1.7% and the Highland's and Islands average was 2.4%¹⁸⁰.

¹⁷² Shetland in Statistics, 2006

¹⁷³ Lerwick Port Authority, 2006

¹⁷⁴ Lerwick Port Authority, 2007

¹⁷⁵ Shetland Face to Face Household Survey

¹⁷⁶ Roberts, D. (2005) The Western Isles Regional Accounts 2003, University of Aberdeen

¹⁷⁷ Office of National Statistics, Family Resources Survey 2003/4

¹⁷⁸ Scottish Clearing Bankers quarterly statistics

¹⁷⁹ HIE Economic update, 2007

¹⁸⁰ HIE Economic update, Orkney, 2007

- ◆ As of May 2006, 25 people had been out of work for more than a year. This equates to 11.3% of all people seeking Job Seekers Allowance¹⁸¹.

¹⁸¹ Nomis, Official Labour Market Statistics, May 2006

SOCIAL WELFARE

The average wage per week decreased by £30 between 2005 and 2006, falling below the Scottish average, whilst the cost of living is higher, particularly for essential items. This makes it particularly difficult for those on low income and/or national benefits, whilst uptake of national benefits is felt to be lower than entitlement.

Fuel poverty remains high and decreasing numbers of registered child minders is restricting people's access to learning and employment opportunities.

What is measured?

Assessment of social welfare in Shetland is measured by the cost of living, average wage levels, deprivation and average benefit levels; the percentage of families in fuel poverty; the availability of childcare; and pension arrangements available.

Income and the cost of living (see Table 19 and Figure 28)

- ◆ The average income of households in Shetland is just under £33,000, or £2750 a month (gross)¹⁸². Households with children had the highest average income, over £48,000; households without children had an average income of over £36,000; and retiree households had a much lower level of average income, just over £15,000¹⁸³. High-income averages can mask poverty and make this more difficult to identify and tackle¹⁸⁴.
- ◆ The Gross weekly pay for Shetland full time workers fell from £448.40 in 2005 to £418.50 in 2006, while the Scottish average increased from £392.70 to £432.00¹⁸⁵. This has remained.
- ◆ The Gross Weekly pay per residence in Shetland is £399.40 whereas it is £431.40 on the Scottish Mainland.
- ◆ The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) 2006 shows that 8.8% of the Shetland population is income deprived, an increase from 6.79% (1572 individuals) from SIMD04¹⁸⁶.
- ◆ A study in 2005 found that mean expenditure for 26 categories of household expenditure in Shetland, totalled £1203.77 per month or £14,445 per annum. Of this monthly expenditure, housing cost £99.79¹⁸⁷.
- ◆ The cost of living in Shetland in 2005 was 0.3% higher than the Scottish average while areas such as Aberdeen, Orkney, and the Western Isles had lower cost of living percentages than the Scottish Urban Average¹⁸⁸.
- ◆ Essential items such as food was considerably higher than the Scottish Urban Average whilst housing and motoring expenses were lower.
- ◆ The cost of essential items makes it more difficult for households on national benefit to make ends meet than in other parts of the country¹⁸⁹.

¹⁸² Shetland Face to Face Household Survey

¹⁸³ Shetland Regional Accounts 2003

¹⁸⁴ Research into Deprivation and Social Exclusion in Shetland

¹⁸⁵ Nomis, Official Labour Market Statistics, May 2006

¹⁸⁶ SIMD website. NB. SIMD06 uses 2004 figures, and SIMD04 uses 2001 figures

¹⁸⁷ Shetland Regional Accounts 2005

¹⁸⁸ Rural Scotland Price Survey 2003

¹⁸⁹ Research into Deprivation and Social Exclusion in Shetland

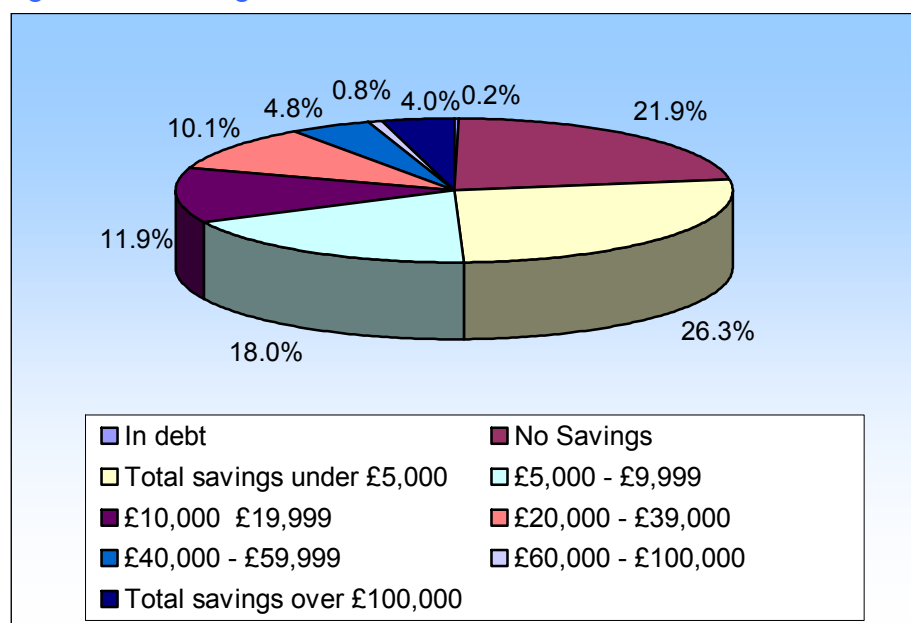


Table 19: Cost of living (figures presented as percentages)

	Food	Housing	Other Goods & Services	Motoring Expenditure	Road Fuel	Total
Shetland	117	83.4	104.2	92.1	95.7	100.3
All Scotland	108.2	86.2	99.3	84.3	106.3	97.7
Scottish Urban Av.	100	100	100	100	100	100
Aberdeen	102.7	88.1	98.9	92.9	101.9	96.8
Orkney	119	79.2	93.5	84.3	94.5	96.4
Western Isles	121.2	81.1	102.6	91.6	95.2	99.9

- ◆ Shetland's saving profile shows that although 21.9% claimed to have 'no' savings, 21% said they had savings in excess of £20,000. Only 0.2% claimed to be in debt.

Figure 29: Savings Profile, 2005/06¹⁹⁰



Benefits (see Table 20 and 21)

- ◆ Shetland continues to have a low percentage of the working age population claiming key benefits, when key benefits are defined as Job Seekers Allowance, at 2% of the population¹⁹¹. The rate of those eligible may be higher as the complicated national benefit system is a hindrance to people claiming benefits¹⁹².
- ◆ The Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) is payable to people under pensionable age who are available for, and actively seeking, work of at least 40 hours a week. In April 2007 there were 192 JSA claimants; 147 were male and 45

¹⁹⁰ Local House Condition Survey, 2005/06

¹⁹¹ Jobcentre Plus, May 2006

¹⁹² Research into Deprivation and Social Exclusion in Shetland



were female. The majority were between 25 and 49 years. This is a 16.5% decrease from 230 in August 2006¹⁹³.

Table 20: Benefits Claims¹⁹⁴

	Shetland Islands (numbers)	Shetland Islands (%)	Scotland (%)
Total claimants	1,400	10.4	17.1
Job seekers	210	1.6	2.6
Incapacity benefits	740	5.5	9.6
Lone parents	160	1.2	2
Carers	70	0.5	1.1
Others on income related benefits	40	0.3	0.4
Disabled	110	0.8	0.9
Bereaved	70	0.5	0.4

Table 21: Age breakdown of JSA claimants¹⁹⁵

	Shetland Islands (%)	Scotland (%)
Aged 18-24	24	28.6
Aged 25-49	50.5	52.2
Aged 50 and over	24.5	16.7

Deprivation and Social Exclusion

- ◆ Recent research into deprivation and social exclusion in Shetland concludes, in relation to income and employment that *'Despite the apparent absence of poverty in Shetland, a large number of people are in debt and a significant number are struggling to make ends meet. The relatively high cost of living for essential items means that nationally decided benefit levels do not go so far.'*
- ◆ *Individuals in Shetland particularly prone and vulnerable to deprivation and social exclusion are:*
 - *Young people whose parents are not able to ensure they are able to access opportunities and grow up feeling a part of the community within which they live;*
 - *Adults who have low self-esteem and/or poor mental health.*
 - *Those who are physically disabled or with a long-term illness and their carers, when they do not receive adequate support.*
 - *Those looking after a young family without access to their own transport, particularly those living in remote areas of Shetland;*
 - *Older people unable to access opportunities that would enable them to feel a part of the community.*
- ◆ *There is also evidence of social exclusion for ethnic minority individuals in Shetland, whether cultural or as a result of employer barriers, and of degrees of social exclusion for white incomers to Shetland¹⁹⁶.*
- ◆ It is estimated that 23% of households in Shetland are fuel poor¹⁹⁷. This is almost double the Scottish average of 13%. Shetland has the third highest

¹⁹³ Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics, 2007

¹⁹⁴ National Statistics, 2007

¹⁹⁵ National statistics, 2007

¹⁹⁶ Research into deprivation and social exclusion in Shetland



fuel poverty level in Scotland, with Orkney and the Western Isles at 31% and 34% respectively¹⁹⁸.

- ◆ There is currently no data available on numbers of people in occupational pension schemes or those with no arrangements. In August 2006, 1000 people in Shetland were claiming Pension Credit¹⁹⁹. 1000 were also claiming a year previously, while 940 claimed in 2005²⁰⁰. Local professional opinion indicates there is a low uptake of this benefit locally.

Childcare

- ◆ There is a lack of registered childminders throughout Shetland and there are still gaps in provision, particularly for the 0-3yr age group. Lack of childcare can be influential in restricting people's access to employment opportunities.
- ◆ Recent research into Deprivation and Social Exclusion confirmed that lack of transport to available childcare restricts opportunities.
- ◆ The Shetland Childcare Partnership produced a report highlighting the main priorities for Childcare in Shetland up to 2012. A few examples are, but are not limited to,
 - ◆ To Improve the Sustainability of Childcare in Shetland,²⁰¹
 1. Encouragement of employers to contribute
 2. Improvement of business management skills of childcare providers
 3. Encouraging providers to work toward sustainability
 - ◆ To Improve the Affordability of Childcare in Shetland;²⁰²
 1. Supporting the provision of best value Childcare in Shetland
 2. Ensuring Providers are Aware of all assistance to them
 3. Ensuring Childcare is affordable for all families in Shetland
 4. Ensuring families are aware of all assistance available to them
 5. draw attention to the cost of not providing childcare
 - ◆ The following childcare options are available in Shetland:
 - 39 registered Childminders (10 non-active)
 - 1 Playgroup (non-commissioned), Whalsay
 - 3 Day Care; Unst, Mossbank, Abacus
 - 7 Partner Providers
 - 21 Nursery Classes
 - 1 Out of Nursery Care, Peerie Foxes (private, provides day care and out of hours)
 - 4 Out of School Clubs
- ◆ There are currently 661 preschool education places in Shetland, a drop of 7% since 2003.²⁰³
- ◆ There are currently 181 other preschool childcare places, a drop of 18% since 2003.²⁰⁴

¹⁹⁷ A household is in fuel poverty if, in order to maintain a satisfactory heating regime, it would be required to spend more than 10% of its income on all household fuel use, where 'satisfactory heating regime' is defined as one that achieves 21° C in the living room, and 18° C in other occupied rooms

¹⁹⁸ Scottish House Condition Survey, *Fuel Poverty in Scotland*

¹⁹⁹ Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics, 2007

²⁰⁰ Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics, 2007

²⁰¹ Shetland Childcare Partnership, 2012

²⁰² Shetland Childcare Partnership, 2012

²⁰³ Feasibility Study in relation to Childcare in early years in Lerwick Primarily and Shetland as a whole, July 2007



- ◆ There are currently 63 registered childcare providers in Shetland; a drop of 17% since 2003.²⁰⁵
- ◆ 77% of this decrease is due to fall in the number of childminders.²⁰⁶
- ◆ Access to high quality Childcare was felt to be relevant issue for many parents within Shetland, highlighting that there was felt to be a lack of available child minders, with a child perhaps being on several waiting lists. Furthermore not all parents can afford to pay for private childcare.²⁰⁷

Children's welfare

- ◆ The number of children referred for child protection increased from 42 for the year April 2004 – March 2005, to 58, 2005-06, and 74 in 2006-07²⁰⁸.
- ◆ The number of children on the Child Protection Register during the same period fluctuated between 11 and 13.

Disability

- ◆ In June 2006 the total learning disabled population in Shetland was 181²⁰⁹.
- ◆ 107 (59%) in this population were below the age of 25, 66 (36.5%) were between the ages 25-65 and 8 (4.5%) were above 65 years.
- ◆ The number of disability living allowance claimants has steadily increased since 2002, from 590, to 740 in 2005 and o 760 in 2006²¹⁰.
- ◆ 45 individuals (25%) were receiving supported accommodation care, and this is estimated to rise to 90 in the next 10 years.
- ◆ 51 (28%) were receiving regular day service and this is estimated to rise to 115 within 10 years.
- ◆ An estimated 11.4% of private sector households have at least one member with a long-term illness or disability (this figure includes vision and hearing disabilities)²¹¹.



²⁰⁴ Feasibility Study in relation to Childcare in early years in Lerwick Primarily and Shetland as a whole, July 2007

²⁰⁵ Feasibility Study in relation to Childcare in early years in Lerwick Primarily and Shetland as a whole, July 2007

²⁰⁶ Feasibility Study in relation to Childcare in early years in Lerwick Primarily and Shetland as a whole, July 2007

²⁰⁷ Feasibility Study in relation to Childcare in early years in Lerwick Primarily and Shetland as a whole, July 2007

²⁰⁸ Child Protection Statistics, 2007

²⁰⁹ SIC Social Care, 2006

²¹⁰ Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics, 2007

²¹¹ Local House condition survey, 2005/06

COMMUNITY

Community groups and volunteering continue to flourish and there are signs of increased involvement in leisure activities.

What is measured?

Democracy is measured through the number of people registered on the electoral role and the number of votes cast in recent political elections in Shetland. Community involvement is measured by number of community groups and volunteering. Other elements of community are measured by attendance at sports and cultural facilities. A study into barriers to participation and opportunity provides a current assessment of community cohesion and inclusion.

Democracy/Community Influence

- ◆ The total electorate at Community Council elections has increased from 16,298 to 17,168 between 2002 and 2006²¹².
- ◆ In 2003 the average turnout over the Islands was 57.6%,²¹³ increasing to 58.9% in the 2007 election²¹⁴. This remains lower than the Orkney figure of 60.4%²¹⁵.
- ◆ Turnouts for the 2007 Shetland Islands Council elections ranged between 51.3% for Lerwick North and 64.1% for the North Isles²¹⁶.

Community Involvement/Condition of Voluntary and Community Sector

- ◆ 36% of 'Your Voice' respondents were working as a volunteer in their community and 46% were involved in a community group in their area²¹⁷.
- ◆ There are over 600 community groups in Shetland. Shetland has the greatest number of, and greatest income from, charities per 10,000 resident population in Scotland. Nearly three times the average for Scotland and Shetland's charities have the highest income per 10,000 resident population²¹⁸.
- ◆ In 2000 an audit of the third sector in Shetland estimated the total income of Shetland's 'Third Sector' was valued at £14,700,000.²¹⁹
- ◆ In 2005 there were 200 Charities in Shetland. 107 were working for the benefit of the elderly.
- ◆ In 2005/06 the Grant's Unit within the Educational and Social Care Department of the Shetland Islands Council awarded 296 grants to community groups, rising to 349 in 2006/07²²⁰.

Sport and Cultural Recreation

- ◆ Attendance at all Shetland pools has decreased over the past three years, from 15,901 per 1,000 population in 2004/05, to 15,496 in 2006/07²²¹.

²¹² Shetland Islands Council, 2006

²¹³ Shetland Islands Council, 2003

²¹⁴ Shetland Islands Council, 2007

²¹⁵ Orkney Islands Council, 2007

²¹⁶ Shetland Islands Council, 2007

²¹⁷ Your Voice, 2006

²¹⁸ Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator

²¹⁹ Shetland Social Economy Audit, 2007

²²⁰ SIC, Grants Unit, 2007 (NB. This is not all council grants)

²²¹ Shetland Recreational Trust, 2006/07

- ◆ Attendance at indoor sport facilities (ex. pools) increased from 17,126 per 1,000 population (2004/05) to 19,171 in 2005-06, falling to 17,120 in 2006/07²²².
- ◆ Attendance at the cinema in 2005 was 20,078, and was 13,797 to August in 2006²²³. From 20th January 2007 to 12th July 2007 there have been a total of 12, 299 Garrison Theatre Film Attendances.²²⁴
- ◆ The number of visits to libraries expressed per 1,000 populations was 176,527 in 2006/07. The number of borrowers from libraries (expressed as a percentage of the population) has decreased, from 41.6% in 2003/04 to 35.4% in 2005/06 and to 35.1% in 2006/07²²⁵.
- ◆ The number of learning centre and learning access point users (expressed as a percentage of the population) has steadily increased from 10.1% in 2003/04, to 21.1% in 2005/06, to 26.0% on 2006/07²²⁶.
- ◆ The number of times learning access terminals are accessed has fluctuated, falling from 1,307 in 2004/05 to 1,254 in 2006/07²²⁷.
- ◆ In 2006 there were a total of 55 community halls and centres and 8 youth centres throughout Shetland.

Community Cohesion and Inclusion

- ◆ During 2005/06 32 people took part in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes. In 2006/07 this increased to 92, including 30 Polish, 15 Thai and from over 20 countries. 35 individuals from within this group took part in certificated classes, which incorporated UK citizenship materials.²²⁸
- ◆ There will be an estimated 100 enrolments to ESOL classes in 07/08.²²⁹
- ◆ 35 people took part in certificated classes, which incorporate UK citizenship material.

A 2007 research project into how black and ethnic minority people access services and opportunities within Shetland found²³⁰:

- 11% (5) of the sample were involved with community groups
- 16% (7) of younger people and men were involved with sport locally
- 2 participants (4%) took part in volunteering in a formal setting.
- Another 11% (5) of participants said they took part in informal volunteering, such as helping out neighbours, friends.
- 88% (38) had taken part in English language classes as a form of learning.
- Some 25% (11) had gone on to take part in other college courses, such as the communications course and computer courses.

People who have lived in Shetland for a long period of time were less likely to take part in any type of learning, particularly English language classes.

²²² Shetland Recreational Trust, 2006/07

²²³ SIC, Islesburgh

²²⁴ Shetland Arts, 2007

²²⁵ SIC, Education and Social Work, 2006/07

²²⁶ SIC, Education and Social Work, 2006/07

²²⁷ SIC, Education and Social Work, 2006/07

²²⁸ Adult Learning, SIC, 2007

²²⁹ Adult Learning, 2007

²³⁰ Inclusion Project, 2007

