

# Shetland in Statistics 2024



**SHETLAND**  
ISLANDS COUNCIL

# Shetland in Statistics

# 2024

No. 44



Published by:

Shetland Islands Council

Economic Development Service

Development Services Department

Solarhus, 3 North Ness Business Park

Lerwick, Shetland, ZE1 0LZ

© 2025 Economic Development Service, Shetland Islands Council

Contents		Page
Introduction		4
1 People	Population	5-6
	Births & Deaths	6-7
	Migration	7
2 Economy	Employment & Economic Activity	8-11
	Fish Catching	12-15
	Marine Protection	15
	Shellfish Aquaculture	16
	Finfish Aquaculture	17
	Fish & Shellfish Processing	18
	Agriculture	18-19
	Visitors/Tourism	20-23
	Oil & Gas	24-26
	Third Sector	27-28
3 Physical	Location Map	29
	Physical Characteristics Map	30
4 Weather/Climate		31-33
5 Transport	Internal Transport Services	34
	External Transport Services	35
	Vehicle Ownership/Schedule of Roads	35
	Lerwick Harbour	36
	Scalloway Harbour	37
6 Housing	Total Domestic Properties	38
	House Sales	38
	Building Completions/Planning Applications	38-39
7 Education	School Rolls & Staffing	40-42
	Further Education/Modern Apprenticeships	43
8 Health and Social Care	Staffing	44
	Hospital Activity	45
	Social Care	45
9 Recreation	Leisure Activities	46
	Leisure Centre & Swimming Pool Admissions	46
	Community Halls & Centres	46
10 Services	Fire Service	47
	Police Service	48
	Water and Wastewater Services	49
	Digital Connectivity	49

11 Energy	Electricity Generation & Distribution	50
	Energy Consumption	51
	Renewable Energy	52
	Plug-in Vehicles	52
	SIC Climate Change Programme	52
12 Conservation	Built Heritage	53
	Nature Conservation	53-54
	Wildlife	54
13 Politics & Local Government	General & Scottish Elections	55
	Council Members/Wards	55
	SIC Structure/Departments	55
	Community Councils	56
	SIC Finance	56
14 The Shetland Partnership		57

## Welcome to the 44th edition of Shetland in Statistics

First published in 1972, as a guide to record facts and figures about Shetland, the publication has grown and changed over the years, reflecting changes in the islands.

Shetland in Statistics now provides a body of work with statistics on Shetland's economy, climate, population and much more over many decades.

Whilst every care is taken in the production of this publication, Shetland Islands Council cannot accept responsibility for any errors or omissions therein.

Anyone wishing to use these statistics for anything but general interest should refer to the original source data, quoted throughout this booklet.

We hope you find the publication useful. If you have any comments or amendments please contact Shetland Islands Council Economic Development Department.

## 1 People

### Population

After decades of decline the population of Shetland, which had fallen to nearly 17,000 in the mid 1960s, rose by 31% between 1971 and 1981 as a direct result of oil related activity. Since the 1980s, the population has been fairly stable around 22,000 - 23,000.

Annual Mid-Year Population Estimates									
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Shetland	23,200	23,200	23,080	22,990	22,920	22,870	22,940	23,020	23,000

Source: National Records of Scotland: [Population, migration and households - National Records of Scotland \(NRS\)](#)

Population of Shetland By Area (based on Census)							
Area	1931	1961	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011
Brae*	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	756	660	856
Bressay	452	269	251	334	352	384	368
Burra	767	648	565	850 <sup>e</sup>	929	850	852
Cunningsburgh**	n/a	411	410	n/a	n/a	658	694
Delting	958	598	580	2,110	1,105	970	931
Dunrossness	1,089	857	848	1,591	1,502	1,471	1,484
Fair Isle	108	64	65	69 <sup>e</sup>	67	69	68
Fetlar	217	127	88	101	90	86 <sup>e</sup>	61
Foula	118	54	33	45 <sup>e</sup>	42	32	38
Gulberwick/Quarff	1,518	385	171	579 <sup>e</sup>	398	662	827
Lerwick	4,221	5,913	6,127	6,899	7,336	6,833	6,928
Muckle Roe	n/a	103	94	101	115	104	130
Nesting	822	434	380	506	512	570	624
Northmavine	1,343	816	696	898	878	841	741
Papa Stour	100	55	24	35 <sup>e</sup>	35 <sup>e</sup>	24	15
Sandsting	1,552	957	873	1,002	891	945	831
Sandwick	1,507	761	710	1,303 <sup>e</sup>	1,352	774	970
Scalloway***	n/a	n/a	n/a	1,160	802	1,129	1,479
Skerries	110	108	101	88 <sup>e</sup>	87	76	74
Tingwall	1,440	1,603	1,671	1,080	1,431	1,405	1,477
Trondra	91	20	17	88	117	133	135
Unst	1,341	1,151	1,127	1,140	1,055	720	632
Vaila	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Walls & Sandness	884	561	483	573	554	601	923
Whalsay	900	764	870	1,025	1,041	1,034	1,061
Yell	1,883	1,155	1,143	1,191	1,075	957	966
Total	21,421	17,814	17,327	22,768	22,522	21,988	23,167

<sup>e</sup> Estimated

\* From 1931 to 1981 the figures for Brae are included in the figures for Delting

\*\* In 1931, 1981 and 1991 the figures for Cunningsburgh are included in the figures for Sandwick

\*\*\* From 1931 to 1971 the 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

1981 Census – Resident population **excluding** absent households

1991 – 2011 Census – Resident population **including** absent households

Shetland Population Breakdown By Age & Sex															
Age Group	1991			2001			2011			2021			2023		
	M	F	Total												
0-4	830	797	1,627	669	659	1,328	741	648	1,389	551	516	1,067	526	495	1,021
5-9	815	743	1,558	813	721	1,534	712	614	1,326	667	650	1,317	651	624	1,275
10-14	903	837	1,740	820	822	1,642	711	739	1,450	761	654	1,415	768	723	1,491
15-19	831	790	1,621	700	605	1,305	792	659	1,451	669	593	1,262	711	627	1,338
20-24	838	757	1,595	645	546	1,191	671	624	1,295	591	535	1,126	520	417	937
25-29	883	785	1,668	695	656	1,351	653	600	1,253	675	584	1,259	639	586	1,225
30-34	857	792	1,649	792	778	1,570	707	696	1,403	690	701	1,391	719	700	1,419
35-39	917	795	1,712	883	843	1,726	782	751	1,533	669	637	1,306	701	697	1,398
40-44	933	787	1,720	802	772	1,574	836	834	1,670	695	713	1,408	687	713	1,400
45-49	767	713	1,480	862	767	1,629	952	889	1,841	817	715	1,532	666	745	1,411
50-54	614	556	1,170	888	737	1,625	833	796	1,629	806	854	1,660	833	825	1,658
55-59	500	491	991	715	660	1,375	824	769	1,593	890	853	1,743	868	876	1,744
60-64	439	454	893	537	516	1,053	842	715	1,557	782	748	1,530	812	785	1,597
65-69	415	474	889	420	448	868	601	629	1,230	708	701	1,409	703	716	1,419
70-74	295	439	734	335	406	741	450	463	913	695	636	1,331	613	639	1,252
75-79	261	396	657	260	407	667	304	383	687	458	527	985	546	528	1,074
80-84	165	314	479	139	277	416	204	287	491	290	352	642	347	417	764
85-89	72	182	254	78	188	266	102	194	296	153	212	365	162	236	398
90+	24	61	85	18	109	127	44	116	160	63	129	192	60	119	179
Total	11,359	11,163	22,522	11,071	10,917	21,988	11,761	11,406	23,167	11,630	11,310	22,940	11,532	11,468	23,000

Sources: 1991, 2001 and 2011 figures from population census. 2021 and 2023 figures from mid-year estimates National Records of Scotland: [Population, migration and households - National Records of Scotland \(NRS\)](#)  
 Census Data: [Scotland's Census](#).

### Births & Deaths

While there was a decline in the number of births in Shetland in 2023, in relation to the Scottish standardised birth rate, Shetland's rate is consistently higher.

Number of Births and Birth Rates per 1,000 Population					
Year	Shetland Number of Births by Sex			Standardised Birth Rate	
	Male	Female	Total	Shetland	Scotland
1991	172	152	324	16.3	13.2
2001	132	115	247	12.6	10.4
2011	131	111	242	11.7	11.1
2020	90	86	176	9.1	8.6
2021	106	94	200	10.3	8.8
2022	117	90	207	10.7	8.6
2023	96	81	177	9.2	8.4

Source: National Records of Scotland: [Births Time Series Data - National Records of Scotland \(NRS\)](#)

The 2021-2023 Life expectancy at birth in Shetland was higher for females (83.9 years) than for males (78.6 years), both of which were higher than the Scottish level. Of the 32 Scottish council areas, Shetland has one of the lowest standardised death rates.

Number of Deaths and Death Rates per 1,000 Population					
Year	Shetland Number of Deaths by Sex			Standardised Death Rate	
	Male	Female	Total	Shetland	Scotland
1991	124	110	234	10.7	12.0
2001	106	118	224	10.7	11.3
2011	103	128	231	10.2	10.1
2020	106	102	208	8.6	11.8
2021	148	109	257	10.6	11.7
2022	121	109	230	9.3	11.6
2023	140	112	252	10.1	11.6

Source: National Records of Scotland: [Deaths Time Series Data - National Records of Scotland \(NRS\)](#)

### Migration

Migration by Type (count) and Net Migration Rates (per 1,000 People)*					
Year	Shetland Migration by Type			Net Migration Rate (per 1,000)	
	In	Out	Net	Shetland	Scotland
2003/04	820	740	80	3.64	3.68
2011/12	690	760	-70	-2.9	2.4
2019/20	640	640	0	0.00	2.97
2020/21	860	710	150	6.54	4.10
2021/22	810	710	110	4.78	8.96

\*Migration by type rounded to the nearest 10 at council level and nearest 100 at national level; Migration estimates include asylum seekers and refugees, but exclude movements of prisoners and armed forces personnel

Shetland Total Net Migration Breakdown by Age (count)							
Age Group	2003/04	2011/12	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
0-15	63	-26	13	55	35	47	34
16-64	-11	-60	-82	-145	-27	105	79
65+	20	21	-12	-10	-8	-2	-7
Total	72	-65	-81	-100	0	150	106

Source: National Records of Scotland: [Local area migration - National Records of Scotland \(NRS\)](#)

Shetland Population by Country of Birth – based on Census				
	2011		2022	
	Count	%	Count	%
Scotland	18,691	80.7	18,470	80.4
England	3,057	13.2	3,101	13.5
Wales	151	0.7	149	0.6
Northern Ireland	72	0.3	65	0.3
Republic of Ireland	158	0.7	57	0.2
EU Member & Accession countries	538	2.3	589	2.6
Other countries	500	2.2	555	2.4
Total	23,167		22,986	

Source: National Records of Scotland: [Local area migration - National Records of Scotland \(NRS\)](#)

## 2 Economy

### Employment & Economic Activity

Employee Jobs in Shetland, excluding self-employed, government-supported trainees and HM Forces							
	2020	2021	2022	2023	Shetland %	Scotland %	GB %
Total Jobs	14,000	14,000	13,000	14,000	-	-	-
Full-time	9,000	9,000	8,000	8,000	57.1	67.3	68.8
Part-time*	5,000	5,000	5,000	6,000	42.9	32.7	31.2

\*Part-time posts are 30 or fewer hours per week

Source: ONS [Labour Market Profile - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](https://nomisweb.co.uk)

Shetland Employee Jobs by Industry*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Shetland %	Scotland %	GB %
B: Mining & quarrying	100	75	75	75	0.5	1.0	0.1
C: Manufacturing	1,000	1,250	900	800	5.7	7.0	7.5
D: Electricity, gas, steam & air conditioning supply	200	150	125	75	0.5	0.8	0.4
E: Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	100	100	100	100	0.7	0.8	0.7
F: Construction	1,250	1,250	1,250	1,250	8.9	5.1	4.8
G: Wholesale & retail trade, repair of motor vehicles/cycles	1,750	1,750	1,500	1,500	10.7	13.3	13.7
H: Transportation and storage	1,250	900	900	900	6.4	4.6	5.0
I: Accommodation and food service activities	700	800	800	1,000	7.1	8.8	8.0
J: Information and communication	200	175	200	200	1.4	3.2	4.6
K: Financial and insurance activities	40	35	35	35	0.2	3.3	3.3
L: Real estate activities	75	75	75	100	0.7	1.4	1.9
M: Professional, scientific and technical activities	450	450	500	450	3.2	7.3	9.1
N: Admin & support service activities	800	700	500	500	3.6	7.0	9.0
O: Public admin & defence; compulsory social security	900	1,000	900	900	6.4	6.5	4.7
P: Education	1,250	1,250	1,250	1,250	8.9	8.5	8.6
Q: Human Health and Social Work	2,250	2,500	2,000	2,000	14.3	16.2	13.5
R: Arts, entertainment and recreation	400	300	450	400	2.9	2.8	2.4
S: Other service activities	400	450	500	500	3.6	1.7	2.0

\* Data excludes farm-based agriculture, self-employed, government-supported trainees and HM Forces

Source: ONS [Labour Market Profile - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](https://nomisweb.co.uk)

Unemployment* - ONS model-based estimates									
	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011	2021	2022	2023	2024
Shetland %	3.8	5.3	3.6	1.4	3.6	2.5	2.0	2.2	1.8
Eilean Siar %	18.0	20.1	14.5	4.9	7.6	3.0	2.5	2.3	2.1
Highland %	-	-	-	3.1	5.3	3.5	2.8	2.5	2.2
Orkney %	3.9	9.0	5.5	2.2	4.3	3.2	1.8	1.7	3.0
Scotland %	5.5	13.5	9.0	4.2	8.2	3.9	3.4	3.5	3.2
Great Britain %	-	-	-	2.5	8.0	4.4	3.6	3.7	3.8

\* % figures are a proportion of economically active, aged 16-64

Source: ONS [Labour Market Profile - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](https://nomisweb.co.uk)

Economic Activity						
	2004	2011	2021	2022	2023	2024
Shetland (%) *						
Economically Active	86.3	82.0	73.7	76.1	84.3	85.9
In Employment	85.1	81.1	73.7	76.1	84.3	85.9
Employees	72.2	69.9	73.7	66.3	80.1	84.5
Self Employed	10.8	11.0	#	#	#	#
In Employment (%) *						
Eilean Siar	77.8	63.5	80.5	84.1	77.8	76.6
Highland	81.0	78.3	71.7	71.5	76.0	80.5
Orkney	83.4	79.3	72.9	87.5	88.3	86.3
Shetland	85.1	81.1	73.7	76.1	84.3	85.9
Scotland	72.6	70.5	73.2	74.4	74.7	74.5
Great Britain	72.6	69.9	74.9	75.6	75.8	75.5

# Sample size too small for reliable estimate

\* % figures are a proportion of economically active, aged 16-64

Source: ONS [Labour Market Profile - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](https://www.nomisweb.co.uk)

Number of New Business Start-ups*							
	2008	2011	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Aberdeen City	1,345	1,651	1,069	1,157	1,104	1,206	1,028
Aberdeenshire	1,327	1,493	1,064	1,193	1,229	1,225	1,060
City of Edinburgh	2,463	3,600	3,102	3,143	3,029	2,951	2,776
Glasgow City	2,535	4,066	4,487	4,213	4,195	4,450	3,864
Highland	915	1,200	1,196	1,462	1,452	1,329	1,285
Eilean Siar	89	143	122	147	139	134	128
Orkney	57	90	96	90	109	102	84
Shetland	63	128	84	134	128	131	110
Total Above	8,794	12,371	11,220	11,539	11,385	11,528	10,335
All Scottish Local Authorities	20,641	29,632	27,226	28,319	27,870	28,274	25,289
Business Start-up Rate - Number of business start-ups/(working age population/10,000)							
Shetland	37.8	85.6	60.4	96.4	92.2	94.3	79.0
Scotland	53.0	85.0	77.9	81.1	79.8	81.0	72.5

\*Business numbers reflect openings of first current accounts from banks small business product ranges. This represents businesses new to banking or previously operated through a personal account. Figures exclude businesses operating through personal accounts, those which have switched business accounts to a new bank, those without banking relationships or those banking with other institutions.

Source: BankSearch

Business Registrations: VAT and/or PAYE Registered Private Sector Businesses - Shetland					
	2011	2021	2022	2023	2024
No. business registrations	1,365	1,625	1,655	1,665	1,650
Of which small businesses (0-49 employees)	94%	95%	95%	95%	95%

Source: [Sub-Scotland Economic Statistics Database - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot)

<b>Share of Private Sector Jobs (%)</b>					
<b>Small business (0-49 employees)</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>
Shetland	61.8	62.6	63.2	64.5	64.9
Scotland	35.2	36.5	36.8	36.8	36.2
Island & remote rural areas	62.3	60.5	60.5	60.8	61.2
Mainly rural areas	50.3	50.0	50.6	50.1	50.0
Urban and substantial rural areas	34.6	36.7	37.0	37.1	36.4
Larger cities	24.6	26.5	26.6	26.8	26.2
<b>Abroad-owned businesses</b>					
Shetland	10.2	13.7	13.8	11.4	10.8
Scotland	15.7	18.9	18.9	19.4	20.3
Island & remote rural areas	6.6	10.6	10.8	10.2	9.7
Mainly rural areas	11.3	13.2	12.7	13.4	14.5
Urban and substantial rural areas	17.9	20.8	20.6	21.3	22.2
Larger cities	17.1	21.3	21.8	22.2	22.8
<b>EU abroad-owned businesses</b>					
Shetland	6.3	7.8	7.8	4.0	5.0
Scotland	5.8	6.7	6.8	6.9	7.0
Island & remote rural areas	2.0	3.3	3.8	2.9	2.5
Mainly rural areas	3.5	4.2	4.0	4.2	4.4
Urban and substantial rural areas	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.6	7.3
Larger cities	6.4	8.2	8.5	8.4	8.6

c = disclosive figure

Source: [Sub-Scotland Economic Statistics Database - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot)

<b>Gross Value Added (balanced) per head of population at current basic prices (£)</b>								
	1998	2001	2011	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Shetland	16,740	18,625	29,776	35,384	32,707	33,391	34,101	37,174
Highlands & Islands	12,291	14,007	20,770	u	u	u	28,613	u
Scotland	13,785	15,454	21,823	27,319	25,869	27,722	30,634	33,419
United Kingdom	15,388	17,443	23,455	29,930	28,402	30,546	33,521	36,103
<b>Gross Domestic Product per head of population at current market prices (£)</b>								
	1998	2001	2011	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Shetland	18,275	20,465	32,523	38,901	35,643	36,582	37,815	40,844
Highlands & Islands	13,752	15,785	23,431	u	u	u	32,036	u
Scotland	15,406	17,370	24,713	30,932	28,996	31,330	34,560	37,192
United Kingdom	17,076	19,389	26,271	33,502	31,491	34,088	37,372	39,845

u = figure has been suppressed due to uncertainty

Sources: GVA: [Regional gross value added \(balanced\) per head and income components - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk); GDP: [Regional gross domestic product: all ITL regions - Office for National Statistics](https://ons.gov.uk); Shetland data: [Regional gross domestic product: local authorities - Office for National Statistics](https://ons.gov.uk)

Gross Weekly Pay - Fulltime Workers (£) (Median)						
	2002	2011	2021	2022	2023	2024
Eilean Siar	383.00	436.10	670.70	562.30	748.20	738.30
Highland	339.70	458.00	605.70	666.50	711.10	733.20
Orkney	#	427.40	563.00	662.30	767.50	767.30
Shetland	367.30	545.20	670.80	671.60	916.40	782.60
Scotland	369.30	487.20	619.90	641.30	709.40	740.00
Great Britain	392.70	500.20	612.20	644.70	689.70	729.80

# Sample size too small for reliable estimate

Source: ONS [Labour Market Profile - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](https://www.nomisweb.co.uk)

2023 Household Average Annual Income by Area (£) (Median)													
Shetland Areas	Households	0-10k	10-20k	20-30k	30-40k	40-50k	50-60k	60-70k	70-80k	80-90k	90-100k	100k+	Median Income
Central Mainland	1,784	95	291	305	254	221	169	122	86	69	61	111	£37,845
Lerwick & Bressay	3,466	249	678	639	495	404	294	202	139	108	93	165	£33,219
North Isles	1,236	144	311	249	170	124	81	51	33	24	20	29	£26,262
North Mainland	1,405	109	287	265	202	163	117	79	53	41	34	55	£31,980
South Mainland	1,662	72	231	255	225	206	166	125	93	77	70	142	£42,191
West Mainland	835	56	161	159	126	102	73	49	33	25	20	31	£33,116
Central Mainland - Burra & Trondra, Scalloway, and Tingwall, Whiteness & Weisdale; North Isles - Unst, Yell, Fetlar, Whalsay, and Skerries; North Mainland - Northmavine, Nesting & Lunnasting, and Delting; South Mainland - Dunrossness, Sandwick, and Gulberwick, Cunningsburgh & Quarff; West Mainland - Sandness & Walls, and Sandsting & Aithsting													
Wider Areas	Shetland	Orkney	Highland	Scotland	United Kingdom								
Total households	10,507	10,668	110,614	2,529,632	28,491,961								
Mean Income	£41,833	£42,239	£44,067	£41,878	£44,844								
Median Income	£34,251	£34,468	£36,143	£33,095	£36,440								
Mode Income	£17,500	£17,500	£17,500	£17,500	£17,500								
Lower Quartile	£19,635	£19,646	£20,487	£18,225	£20,193								

Source: CACI Paycheck 2022

## Fish Catching

Fish Landings in Shetland*										
	Whitefish		Shellfish		Herring		Mackerel		Other Pelagic	
	Tonnes	£ '000	Tonnes	£ '000	Tonnes	£ '000	Tonnes	£ '000	Tonnes	£ '000
1971	17,688	1,058	770	159	22,453	584	190	3.3	114	2.1
1981	52,175	4,386	695	328	871	57.2	826	49.6	0	0
1991	18,858	12,261	1,005	1,402	41,961	3,991	38,092	4,784	4,908	273
2001	12,481	12,777	1,234	1,634	12,087	2,977	23,895	10,312	10,373	500
Change in data collection method – from UK only vessels to landings by UK and Foreign vessels										
2011	13,480	24,676	1,965	4,647	9,440	4,608	44,136	56,113	2,146	1,120
2021	16,555	35,206	2,457	5,637	10,713	7,002	19,116	22,606	5.9	2
2022	17,110	40,174	2,484	6,735	12,625	9,168	22,570	27,772	4.9	1
2023	19,840	45,780	2,397	6,632	9,523	6,461	32,552	41,095	7.0	2

\*1971-2001 figures: total landings by UK vessels only; 2011-2022 figures: total landings by UK and foreign vessels

Included in Whitefish Total*										
	Cod		Haddock		Monkfish		Sandeels		Whiting	
	Tonnes	£ '000	Tonnes	£ '000	Tonnes	£ '000	Tonnes	£ '000	Tonnes	£ '000
1971	498	35.3	13,834	856	40.6	2.3	0	0	3,646	190
1981	915	309	5,089	1,396	134	78.2	40,733	1,174	4,839	1,308
1991	2,220	2,740	2,132	2,447	1,544	3,545	8,248	393	2,365	1,437
2001	2,313	3,106	3,340	2,768	1,696	3,753	1,264	55	1,362	1,001
Change in data collection method – from UK only vessels to landings by UK and Foreign vessels										
2011	2,631	5,743	2,728	3,425	1,846	6,210	0	0	1,794	2,149
2021	1,922	6,637	2,795	4,752	2,390	6,844	0	0	2,816	4,117
2022	2,176	8,081	4,200	6,347	2,418	7,523	0	0	2,301	3,530
2023	3,439	11,261	5,766	8,101	2,360	7,976	0	0	2,272	2,909

\*1971-2001 figures: total landings by UK vessels only; 2011-2022 figures: total landings by UK and foreign vessels

Source: [Sea fisheries statistics - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/resources/documents/2023/04/Sea-fisheries-statistics-gov.scot)

Weight and Value of Catch by Species for 2023 (UK and Foreign Vessels)					
Species	Weight (Tonnes)	Value (£ '000)	Species	Weight (Tonnes)	Value (£ '000)
Cod	3,439	11,261	Herring	9,523	6,461
Gurnard	32	18	Mackerel	32,552	41,095
Haddock	5,766	8,101	Other Pelagic	7	2
Hake	532	1,776			
Lemon Sole	195	1,246	Edible Crab	266	724
Ling	1,176	2,022	Velvet Crab	138	511
Megrim	900	3,802	Scallops	1,319	3,209
Monkfish	2,360	7,976	Squid	272	1,313
Plaice	486	1,117	Whelks	323	334
Pollack	109	362	Other Shellfish	79	541
Saithe	2,051	2,316			
Skates & Rays	202	202	Total Demersal	19,840	45,780
Whiting	2,272	2,909	Total Pelagic	42,082	47,558
Other demersal	320	2,672	Total Shellfish	2,397	6,632
			<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>64,319</b>	<b>99,970</b>

Source: [Supporting documents - Scottish Sea Fisheries Statistics 2023 - gov.scot](https://www.gov.scot/resources/documents/2023/04/Supporting-documents-Scottish-Sea-Fisheries-Statistics-2023-gov.scot)

All Fish Landed in Shetland by Month 2023						
	Demersal		Pelagic		Shellfish	
Month	Tonnes	£	Tonnes	£	Tonnes	£
Jan	1,527	3,722,932	12,444	14,895,429	146	472,898
Feb	1,298	2,651,122	315	363,893	234	503,660
Mar	1,625	3,448,660	0	770	265	572,503
Apr	1,365	3,131,583	0	659	204	458,435
May	1,633	3,771,429	1	2,705	222	564,393
June	1,757	4,143,633	75	159,306	239	638,293
Jul	1,433	3,972,189	183	282,712	158	317,673
Aug	2,100	5,094,375	3,489	2,531,206	158	424,628
Sept	1,487	3,648,284	6,385	4,585,728	177	394,742
Oct	1,751	4,523,735	8,424	11,034,000	178	402,417
Nov	1,900	4,015,389	7,514	9,732,353	225	583,917
Dec	1,287	2,736,436	2	8,665	183	533,539
Month not known	677	181,854	3,251	3,773,358	8	27,518
Total	19,840	45,041,621	42,082	47,370,784	2,397	5,894,616

Source: Marine Analytical Unit, Marine Directorate, Scottish Government

Average Quay Price per Tonne (£) - Shetland							
	1981	1991	2001	2011	2021	2022	2023
Cod	337.31	1,236.31	1,570.87	2,181.88	3,460.37	3,721.78	3,216.86
Haddock	274.25	1,143.52	961.40	1,247.73	1,705.02	1,513.93	1,379.75
Whiting	270.31	583.52	830.47	1,207.85	1,464.41	1,538.26	1,256.57
Monkfish	584.69	2,487.35	2,833.34	3,379.73	2,861.96	3,231.68	3,283.49

Source: Marine Analytical Unit, Marine Directorate, Scottish Government

Total Wetfish Landed in Shetland*								
	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011	2021	2022	2023
Tonnes	40,445	53,872	103,819	58,836	69,202	46,390	52,310	61,922
Value (£)	1,647,400	4,492,453	21,308,400	26,566,000	86,517,000	64,817,000	77,115,000	93,338,000

\*1971-2001 figures: total landings by UK vessels only; 2011-2022 figures: total landings by UK and foreign vessels

Source: [Sea fisheries statistics - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/resources/information/sea-fisheries-statistics)

Landings by Shetland Vessels Outwith Shetland								
	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011	2021	2022	2023
Tonnes	3,322	28,805	38,953	61,210	51,171	93,116	85,528	101,864
Value (£)	382,056	2,741,617	8,077,129	23,075,860	48,525,688	87,098,892	80,237,281	92,889,536

Source: Marine Analytical Unit, Marine Directorate, Scottish Government

Total Fish Landings by Scottish Port*										
	1991		2001		2011		2021		2023	
	Tonnes	£ '000								
Shetland	104,824	22,710	60,070	28,201	71,167	91,165	48,847	70,454	64,319	99,970
Peterhead	119,256	81,130	76,501	57,994	128,295	154,549	152,297	174,218	181,227	207,542
Scrabster	-	-	-	-	15,761	32,281	17,509	34,898	16,276	33,289
Fraserburgh	25,051	20,697	40,395	31,529	25,907	50,122	14,155	30,197	16,262	33,417
Lochinver	6,133	8,211	8,609	12,044	19,533	33,921	9,085	12,794	8,381	16,155
Ullapool	62,089	9,818	9,025	10,279	6,738	15,959	11,224	21,261	12,702	25,474
Ayr	17,022	12,558	7,990	6,881	13,554	13,000	4,929	11,603	7,298	12,502
Kinlochbervie	10,483	11,944	8,655	10,372	6,534	12,487	5,673	10,202	6,156	13,716
Campbeltown	5,478	7,887	5,505	8,768	6,044	15,139	4,089	12,616	3,600	14,992
Stornoway	5,984	9,569	4,368	9,518	3,108	9,445	2,880	12,429	3,071	15,099
Orkney	1,086	1,942	3,063	4,166	3,945	7,580	2,634	8,684	2,056	9,037
Eyemouth	5,385	7,603	2,737	3,893	2,213	6,944	1,850	7,082	1,958	8,461
Oban	4,685	7,391	5,161	8,846	3,160	7,836	2,337	9,929	2,450	13,026
Anstruther	2,346	3,178	1,137	1,884	1,401	4,589	1,444	5,527	1,568	7,013
Mallaig	9,792	14,005	8,251	10,937	4,421	10,127	1,392	4,843	1,818	7,500
Portree	-	-	2,841	7,756	1,968	7,887	1,109	8,219	1,308	9,415
Buckie	2,658	3,601	2,563	3,695	1,014	3,273	1,144	3,340	979	3,960
Aberdeen	32,996	26,427	22,532	16,049	1,269	3,990	1,023	4,534	789	4,468
<b>Total</b>	<b>415,268</b>	<b>248,671</b>	<b>269,403</b>	<b>232,812</b>	<b>316,032</b>	<b>480,294</b>	<b>283,621</b>	<b>442,830</b>	<b>332,218</b>	<b>535,036</b>

\*1971-2001 figures: total landings by UK vessels only; 2011-2023 figures: total landings by UK and foreign vessels

Source: [Sea fisheries statistics - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](http://www.gov.scot)

Distribution of Licensed Vessels by Shetland District									
	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011	2021	2022	2023	
Creek 1 – South Mainland	13	11	3	17	18	14	15	15	
Creek 2 – Lerwick/Bressay	13	17	7	40	41	92	91	101	
Creek 3 – Whalsay	49	33	21	42	30	42	42	43	
Creek 4 – Out Skerries			4	9	6	5	4	4	
Creek 5 – Yell/Fetlar/Unst	29	14	5	23	14	12	11	13	
Creek 6 – Northmavine	14	7	4	9	5	5	5	4	
Creek 7 – Central Mainland	-	-	5	14	11	22	24	24	
Creek 8 - West Mainland	30	28	10	26	22	25	24	24	
Creek 9 – Scalloway/Burra/Trondra	68	45	32	55	28	30	30	28	
<b>Total</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>256</b>	

Source: Marine Analytical Unit, Marine Directorate, Scottish Government

Shetland Licensed Vessel Size - as at 31 <sup>st</sup> December				
	80ft and over	40-79.9ft	Under 40ft	Total
1971	0	64	152	216
1981	8	52	95	155
	Over 24m	Over 10m-24m	10m and Under	Total
1991	10	49	30	89
2001	27	31	177	235
2011	17	26	132	175
2021	23	22	202	247
2022	23	20	203	246
2023	23	20	213	256

Source: [Sea fisheries statistics - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/resources/consultations-petitions-and-statements/sea-fisheries-statistics-2023/)

Employment in the Shetland Fishing Industry – Total number of posts, regularly and irregularly employed								
	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011	2021	2022	2023
Catching	636	542	486	598	433	469	585	431

Source: [Sea fisheries statistics - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/resources/consultations-petitions-and-statements/sea-fisheries-statistics-2023/)

### Marine Protection

The Marine Directorate is responsible for marine and fisheries compliance in Scottish waters. It operates 3 Marine Protection Vessels, 2 inshore boats and 18 coastal offices, which carry out vessel inspections. These inspections can take place whilst vessels are in port, in coastal waters, territorial waters (inside 12nm) or ex territorial waters (12-200nm).

Boardings of Vessels in Scottish Waters 2023 - By vessel nationality and location of boarding					
	In Port	Coastal	Territorial waters	Ex territorial waters	Total
Denmark	-	4	18	17	39
Faroe	-	-	2	2	4
France	29	49	17	17	112
Germany	-	3	4	4	11
United Kingdom	343	1,200	556	124	2,223
Ireland	-	5	16	11	32
Lithuania	-	-	1	1	2
Netherlands	-	-	8	8	16
Norway	3	63	38	28	132
Spain	44	52	10	9	115
Sweden	-	1	4	4	9
Unlicensed/recreational	-	-	10	-	10
Total	419	1,377	684	225	2,705

Source: [Marine and fisheries compliance: boardings of vessels in Scottish waters - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/resources/consultations-petitions-and-statements/marine-and-fisheries-compliance-boardings-of-vessels-in-scottish-waters-2023/)

## Shellfish Aquaculture

The annual Scottish Shellfish Farm Production Survey collates regional data on the production of Mussels, Pacific oyster, Native Oyster, Queens and Scallops. Of these species, Shetland produced Mussels and a very small amount of Pacific Oyster (around 3,000 shells) in 2023. With data showing that historically Shetland does not produce any significant volume of other species, only data on mussel production is presented for the tonnage and value produced per year.

Mussel Production by Scottish Marine Region								
	2014		2021		2022		2023	
Marine Region	Tonnage	Value (£)*	Tonnage	Value (£)*	Tonnage	Value (£)*	Tonnage	Value (£)
Argyll & Clyde	755	1,119,665	497	482,090	501	508,014	433	483,228
Outer Hebrides	411	609,513	389	377,330	720	730,080	383	427,428
West Highlands, Moray Firth & North Coast	598	886,834	854	828,380	707	716,898	801	893,916
Shetland	5,919	8,777,877	6,850	6,644,500	7,164	7,264,296	8,694	9,702,504
Scotland	7,683	11,393,889	8,590	8,332,300	9,092	9,219,288	10,311	11,507,076

\*Average prices (real) have been adjusted for inflation based on 2023 price estimates

Figures for Argyll & Clyde and the West Highlands, Moray Firth & the North Coast have been merged for commercial confidentiality

Source: [Scottish shellfish farm production surveys - gov.scot](https://www.gov.scot/publications/shellfish-farm-production-surveys/pages/2-introduction.aspx)

Mussel Production (Tonnes) & Shetland Production as a Percentage of Total Scottish Production										
	2001		2011		2021		2022		2023	
	Table	On-growing	Table	On-growing	Table	On-growing	Table	On-growing	Table	On-growing
Shetland	822	0	4,567	178	6,850	2,302	7,164	2,431	8,694	2,085
Scotland	2,988	4	6,996	282	8,590	3,253	9,092	2,506	10,311	2,526
Percent	27.5%	0%	65.3%	63.1%	79.7%	70.8%	78.8%	97%	84.3%	82.5%

Active and Producing Shellfish Farm Sites 2023 (all species)						
Region	Highland	Orkney	Shetland	Strathclyde	Western Isles	All Scotland
Active	57	2	148	47	40	294
Producing	27	2	99	23	18	169

Shetland - No of Shellfish Businesses / Employment (all species)					
	2001	2011	2021	2022	2023
No, of Businesses	37	29	24	23	24
Full-time Staff	21	61	55	59	58
Part-time Staff	37	46	26	22	21
12Casual Staff	27	15	20	13	12
Total Staff	85	122	101	94	91

Source: [Scottish shellfish farm production surveys - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/shellfish-farm-production-surveys/pages/2-introduction.aspx)

## Finfish Aquaculture

Manpower and Production by Region											
Region	Year	Staff		Annual Prod. (Tonnes)	Prod. (T/man)	Grilse		Pre-salmon		Salmon	
		F/T	P/T			Tonnes	Mean Wt. (kg)	Tonnes	Mean Wt. (kg)	Tonnes	Mean Wt. (kg)
Shetland	1991	202	102	10,614	35	826	2.8	4,322	3.1	5,466	3.9
	2001	227	52	39,745	142	4,905	3.7	16,441	4.3	18,269	4.4
	2011	189	22	35,493	168	4,611	4.7	16,071	5.1	14,693	4.5
	2021	276	10	43,770	148	15,644	5.7	14,074	5.6	14,052	6.4
	2022	270	18	39,258	136	11,908	4.8	13,423	5.7	13,927	5.1
	2023	294	18	33,414	107	9,991	4.8	9,974	5	13,359	5.8
Scotland	1991	1,014	272	40,593	32	7,449	2.1	13,577	2.6	19,567	3.2
	2001	1,066	191	138,520	110	42,066	3.8	54,473	4.7	40,754	4.5
	2011	923	90	158,018	156	35,146	4.6	55,959	5.0	66,606	4.8
	2021	1,441	54	205,393	137	93,346	5.0	51,349	4.6	60,664	5.7
	2022	1,426	82	169,194	112	65,163	4.4	52,738	4.8	51,158	5.2
	2023	1,418	62	150,949	102	64,854	4.7	31,073	4.6	54,932	5.9

Survival and Production in Smolt Year Classes										
Region	Yr. Smolts put to Sea	Smolt Input (000's)	Harvest in Year 0		Harvest in Year 1		Harvest in Year 2		Total Harvest	
			No. (000's)	%	No. (000's)	%	No. (000's)	%	No. (000's)	%
Shetland	1991	4,013	-	-	2,012	50.1	1,135	28.3	3,147	78.4
	2001	17,398	123	0.7	6,465	37.2	7,973	45.8	14,561	83.7
	2011	11,206	49	0.4	4,911	43.8	2,709	24.2	7,669	68.4
	2020	10,072	84	0.8	5,246	52.1	2,735	27.2	8,065	80.1
	2021	10,090	0	0	4,850	48.1	2,303	22.8	7,153	70.9
	2022	10,571	0	0	4,042	40.1				
	2023	8,938	30	0.3						
Scotland	1991	20,227	0	0	8,864	43.8	4,675	23.1	13,539	66.9
	2001	48,643	557	1.1	23,528	48.4	15,619	32.1	39,704	81.6
	2011	42,733	109	0.3	21,502	50.3	11,283	26.4	32,894	77.0
	2020	52,492	323	0.6	29,697	56.6	9,796	18.7	39,816	75.9
	2021	51,131	16	0.03	25,777	50.4	9,382	18.3	35,175	68.7
	2022	55,261	79	0.1	20,734	37.5				
	2023	48,845	30	0.06						

Salmon Production by Scottish Marine Region								
Marine Region	2014		2021		2022		2023	
	Tonnage	Value* £ '000						
Argyll & Clyde	34,976	173,271	36,085	194,065	31,236	221,713	28,997	218,637
Orkney	13,029	64,546	24,407	131,261	18,786	133,343	17,265	130,178
Outer Hebrides	33,775	167,321	31,069	167,089	31,114	220,847	24,036	181,231
North Coast & West Highlands	50,873	252,025	70,062	376,793	48,800	346,382	47,237	356,167
Shetland	46,369	229,712	43,770	235,395	39,258	278,653	33,414	251,942
Scotland	179,022	886,875	205,393	1,104,604	169,194	1,200,939	150,949	1,138,155

\*Average prices (real) have been adjusted for inflation based on 2022 price estimates

Source: [Scottish fish farm production surveys - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/resources/consultations-petitions-and-statements/scottish-fish-farm-production-surveys/)

## Fish & Shellfish Processing

Food Standards Agency Approved Fish and Shellfish Establishments, Shetland (January 2025)	
Activities approved	No. of approved establishments
Fisheries products processing plant – Auction Hall	2
Fisheries products processing plant (caught fish or aquaculture)	9
Live bivalve molluscs purification centre	1
Live bivalve molluscs dispatch centre	7

Source: [Approved Establishments Register](#) | [Food Standards Scotland](#)

## Agriculture

Main and Minor Holdings - Shetland							
	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011	2021	2024
<b>Land Use (ha):</b>							
Tillage	1,410	1,062	740	437	257	344	251
Grassland & Crops	8,407	8,400	14,304	22,016	26,789	28,854	29,558
Rough/Common grazing	129,019	133,160	130,943	124,021	121,934	117,506	110,857
Total area rented	38,130	36,046	36,781	43,060	42,479	40,930	48,355
Total area owned	28,161	30,368	33,840	35,622	38,432	41,027	40,514
No of holdings	2,439	2,240	2,311	2,076	2,035	1,750	1,628
No of common grazings	93	93	100	141	160	155	163
<b>Area Under Crops (ha):</b>							
Grass (Ex. Rough grazing)	6,998	7,338	13,563	21,580	26,531	28,510	29,386
Barley & oats	857	511	214	50	108	68	42
Turnips & swedes	134	103	106	40	11	11	10
Kale & cabbage	73	34	30	15	6	3	5
Potatoes	256	232	144	53	17	12	11
Vegetables for human consumption	x	x	20	17	5	7	2
Stockfeeding Crops	x	x	94	89	65	115	90
All other crops	17	25	11	41	20	16	12
<b>Livestock</b>							
Beef cows & heifers	2,492	1,896	2,129	2,172	2,440	2,298	2,169
Dairy cows & heifers	791	593	655	617	602	389	300
Total cattle	6,945	5,103	5,701	5,756	5,245	4,792	4,353
Breeding ewes & gimmers	x	x	210,630	215,480	150,847	147,650	149,074
Total sheep	264,779	297,558	387,468	393,686	280,364	289,566	289,643
Pigs	9	83	28	112	135	116	112
Poultry	12,950	8,672	4,428	4,972	5,426	4,868	3,473
Goats & kids	x	x	82	47	58	69	98
Horses & ponies	x	x	564	829	1,328	1,023	979
<b>Employment</b>							
F/T & P/T employees	222	205	244	336	240	344	313
F/T & P/T occupiers	439	763	864	781	531	563	518
Others (including occupiers less than half time and casual/seasonal labour)	584	412	1,364	1,473	1,355	1,196	1,107
Total workforce	1,245	1,380	2,472	2,590	2,126	2,103	1,938

x - data not available

Source: Scottish Government Rural Payments and Inspections Division (SGRPID)

Scottish Government & EU Assistance (£) - Shetland						
	1986	1991	2001	2011	2021	2023
Less Favoured Area	Old schemes, not comparable to current	Old schemes, not comparable to current	1,920,000	2,560,000	2,571,513	2,620,698
Basic Payment			Apart from LFA above, old schemes, not comparable to current	Apart from LFA above, old schemes, not comparable to current	6,754,814	6,790,533
Beef Support					229,410	225,499
Sheep Upland Support					187,107	184,117
Crofting Agricultural					451,160	479,530
Scottish agricultural capital					165,091	n/a
Agri-environment climate					250,493	365,155
Financial reimbursement					32,759	n/a
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,220,000</b>	<b>4,900,000</b>	<b>6,970,000</b>	<b>9,130,000</b>	<b>10,642,347</b>	<b>10,665,532</b>

Source: Scottish Government Rural Payments and Inspections Division (SGRPID)

Livestock Imports & Exports - Shetland							
	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011	2021	2023
<b>Imports</b>							
Cattle	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	75	143	70
Horses	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	92	31	49
Pigs	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	6	114	179
Sheep	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	648	666	943
<b>Exports</b>							
Cattle	1,974	2,066	2,117	1,031	1,983	1,338	1496
Horses	417	407	239	232	200	133	124
Pigs	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Sheep	43,464	60,542	99,404	114,251	92,569	55,109	102,381

Source: Lerwick Port Authority

	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011	2021	2023
<b>Animal Produce</b>							
Registered slaughterhouses/abattoirs	9	8	4	3	1	1	1
Sheep slaughtered	8,417	9,592	8,712	3,520	n/a	3,497	3,643
Cattle slaughtered	485	278	339	76	n/a	367	306
Pigs slaughtered	0	0	33	167	n/a	211	206
Wool production (est. kg)	218,000	245,000	337,000	323,220	300,487	322,437	301,129
Milk - No. of Dairy units	23	23	16	7	n/a	2	2
Milk production (litres)	1,428,975	2,069,550	2,584,564	2,410,045	n/a	1,410,540	1,222,428

Sources: Shetland Livestock Marketing Group (SLMG); Wool production: Shetland Wool Brokers & Jamiesons of Shetland; Milk: Shetland Farm Dairies

Animal Sales - No. of Animals Sold Through SLMG Auction Ring					
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Cattle Throughput	525	545	757	737	654
Sheep Throughput	44,973	52,549	67,858	74,816	76,579
Ponies Throughput	70	41	64	78	58

Source: Shetland Livestock Marketing Group (SLMG)

Food Standards Agency Approved Meat and Animal Produce Establishments, Shetland (January 2025)	
Activities approved	No. of approved establishments
Egg packing centres	2
Dairy products processing plant	1
Slaughterhouse, cutting, meat preparation and processing plant	1

Source: [Approved Establishments Register](#) | [Food Standards Scotland](#)

## Visitors/Tourism

Shetland visitor surveys were carried out in 2017, 2019 and 2024. These surveys captured independent visitors, travelling through Holmsgarth Ferry Terminal or Sumburgh Airport, and did not include cruise ship passengers. While the 2017 and 2019 interviews were undertaken over 12 months (Jan – Dec) the 2024 interviews took place over the peak months of April to October only. The data below is mainly from the 2024 report, which adjusted some 2017 and 2019 data to show Apr - Oct visits only for comparison.

Note, figures detail number of ‘visits’ rather than number of ‘visitors’ as some visitors may make more than one trip over the course of the year.

Visits* - Number of Visits, Full Year and Peak Months						
Purpose of Visit	Total Full Year Visits (Jan - Dec)			Apr - Oct Visit Breakdown		
	2017	2019	2024 <sup>#</sup>	2017	2019	2024
Leisure	38,096	40,865	45,025	58%	53%	56%
VFR**	8,791	16,827	18,743	10%	18%	18%
Business	26,374	22,436	25,199	30%	27%	24%
All visits	73,262	80,128	88,967	57,738	50,134	70,576

<sup>#</sup>2024 total visits (Jan-Dec) based on total departing passenger numbers provided by travel operators with visit type based on the 2024 calibration survey for peak months and 2019 data for off-peak months

On Island Total Visit Spend* (excludes Travel to and from Scottish Mainland and package holiday costs)							
Purpose of Visit	2017 and 2019 Visit Spend				2024 Visit Spend		
	2017 Full Year		2019 Full year		2024 April - Oct		2024 Off peak <sup>#</sup>
	£(M)	%	£(M)	%	£(M)	%	£(M)
Leisure	13.08	56	21.27	60	28.18	69	-
VFR**	1.68	7	5.50	15	5.83	14	-
Business	8.45	37	9.02	25	6.59	16	-
Peak/off peak total	-	-	-	-	40.59	-	9.71
Full year total	£23,212,893		£35,788,072		£50,309,650		

<sup>#</sup>2024 off peak spend was estimated by applying the 2024 peak average spend per person to the ratio of off peak average spend per person in 2019.

Visits* - Average Number of Nights Stay and Average On Island Spend <sup>#</sup>						
Purpose of Visit	Stay - Av. No. Nights			Av. Spend/trip - £		
	2017	2019	2024	2017	2019	2024
Leisure	6.6	5.6	5.9	343.32	520.52	706.62
VFR**	6.8	6.9	7.8	191.48	326.66	434.54
Business	9.3	5.1	8.2	320.40	402.04	381.22
All visits	7.3	5.8	6.9	316.99	448.28	590.00

<sup>#</sup> 2024 data is based on April - Oct only and 2017/2019 data is full year.

Number of Times Visited Shetland* (%) (Apr - Oct visits)						
	All Visits			2024 – Visit type breakdown		
	2017	2019	2024	Leisure	VFR**	Business
First Time	48	54	55	73	24	32
Repeat	52	46	45	27	76	68

Origin of Visits to Shetland* (%) (Apr - Oct visits)						
Place of Residence	All visits			2024 – Visit type breakdown		
	2017	2019	2024	Leisure	VFR**	Business
Scotland	41	39	42	21	63	73
Rest of UK	33	32	28	34	22	19
Europe	15	16	15	22	4	7
North America	5	7	9	14	3	1
Other Overseas	5	7	7	9	8	1

Likelihood to Recommend/Overall Satisfaction/Return Visit* (Mean Score out of 10)			
	2017	2019	2024
Would recommend Shetland as a holiday or short break destination	9.1	9.2	9.4
Overall satisfaction with your visit to Shetland	Not asked	9.1	9.2
Would return to Shetland for a leisure visit in the next 5 years	7.9	7.8	8.0

The inspiration for 2024 leisure visits were broadly the same as 2017 and 2019, as were the top leisure visit attractions and activities.

2024 Leisure Visits - Motivation / Inspiration* (Apr - Oct visits)			
Key reasons to visit	%	Inspiration for visiting	%
The scenery and landscape	67	TV, Literature and Film	51
Shetland is a place I always wanted to visit	65	Digital	51
The wildlife (e.g. wild birds, otters and orcas)	59	Recommendations	44
The history, culture and heritage	47	Printed Information	17

2024 Leisure Visits - Top Five Attractions Visited and Leisure Activities Undertaken* (Apr - Oct visits)			
Attraction Visited	%	Activity Undertaken	%
Sumburgh Head	67	Walking	93
Shetland Museum and Archives	62	Scenery	83
St Ninian's Isle and Beach	58	Nature	79
Iconic location from Shetland TV series	52	Shopping	71
Jarlshof	51	Sports	17

\*Excludes cruise ship passengers \*\*VFR = Visiting Friends and Relatives

Sources: [Shetland Visitor Survey – Shetland Islands Council](#)

## Cruise Visitors

Cruise Ships Visits to Lerwick Harbour										
	1981	1991	2001	2011	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Cruise Ship Arrivals	x	21	42	50	91	99	2	18	94	129
Cruise Ship Passengers	3,564	5,240	11,601	30,747	90,336	76,233	1,499	8,642	58,450	123,903

x - data not available

Source: Lerwick Port Authority

Cruise Ships Visits to Shetland Islands Council Ports						
	Fair Isle	Scalloway	Foula	Papa Stour	Baltasound	Fetlar
2022	2	1	0	2	1	2
2023	24	0	6	4	12	3
2024	17	1	8	6	8	6

Source: SIC Marine and Air Operations

Cruise Ship Passenger Nationality (Lerwick Harbour)						
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
American	30,198	21,763	18	4	20,618	40,529
Australian	3,256	2,619	59	1	640	3,945
British	22,623	18,495	933	8,582	14,222	15,510
Canadian	4,241	2,607	4	2	1,446	5,845
Dutch	1,605	1,476	125	0	541	4,433
French	1,143	848	4	1	577	2,302
German	14,773	16,922	21	6	15,851	37,537
Italian	1,266	1,132	1	5	969	3,009
Spanish	1,059	1,329	1	0	441	1,602
Other	10,172	9,042	333	41	3,145	9,191
<b>Total</b>	<b>90,336</b>	<b>76,233</b>	<b>1,499</b>	<b>8,642</b>	<b>58,450</b>	<b>123,903</b>

Source: Lerwick Port Authority

Economic Impact of Tourism Visitors - Indexed to 2023 prices (£'000)							
Visitor Type	2012	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Staying visitor	44,890	56,200	54,880	21,950	34,190	53,050	58,180
Day visitor	1,421	3,343	3,032	127	460	2,371	4,829
All Visitor Types (£'000)	46,311	59,543	57,912	22,077	34,650	55,421	63,009

Source: Global Tourism Solutions (UK) Ltd STEAM Report

Paid Accommodation Supply													
Accom. Type	1981	1991	2001	2011		2020		2021		2022		2023	
	Beds	Beds	Beds	No.	Beds								
Hotels	573	595	544	37	776	45	802	48	853	36	760	35	756
Guest houses /B&Bs	306	429	369	50	382	17	195	18	205	14	139	14	139
Self-Catering	271	538	322	168	1,034	204	1,300	205	1,306	197	1,205	197	1,211
Hostels	81	217	390	8	501	13	542	13	547	13	552	13	591
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,231</b>	<b>1,779</b>	<b>1,625</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>2,693</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>2,839</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>2,911</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>2,656</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>2,697</b>

No. = No. of Establishments; Beds = No. of bed spaces

Sources: 1981-2001 – VisitShetland; 2011-2023: Global Tourism Solutions (UK) Ltd STEAM Report

Annual Visitor Numbers for Shetland Visitor Attractions							
Visitor Attraction	2001	2011	2019	2021	2022	2023	2024
Bressay Heritage Centre	[x]	1,200	651	532	905	1,104	1,373
Fair Isle	[x]	[x]	1,233	936	876	563	1,226
Fetlar Interpretive Centre	[x]	1,022	1,732	1,227	1,616	--	1,313
Hermaness NNR	1,600	6,000	8,160	6,432	9,906	11,970	13,237
Hoswick Visitor Centre	6,500	11,404	20,096	11,263	17,291	20,078	18,800
Island of Noss	757	1,655	2,239	851	936	1,597	1,739
Jarlshof*	10,790	13,761	22,439	0	18,480	27,176	28,535
Old Haa	2,000	3,631	5,456	2,238	4,237	4,695	6,133
Quendale Water Mill	1,744	3,681	3,512	1,476	2,908	2,981	3,371
Scalloway Museum	[x]	9,182	23,826	2,093	10,927	15,399	14,910
Shetland Crofthouse Museum	3,969	4,305	3,905	0	3,642	3,718	5,385
Shetland Distillery Company	Opened 2009	[x]	1,225	291	518	480	233
Shetland Museum and Archives	34,367	87,403	65,832	10,887	33,263	43,924	51,512
Shetland Textile Museum	[x]	[x]	3,727	1,574	3,275	4,804	[x]
Tangwick Haa Museum	2,823	4,792	11,626	0	3,461	6,585	9,769
Unst Boat Haven	3,553	4,161	4,143	2,424	2,641	3,596	3,070
Unst Heritage Centre	2,980	3,262	4,921	2,322	3,317	4,394	4,643

Note: 2020 - 2022 figures were impacted by Covid restrictions and the cost of living crisis

[x] No data; \* Jarlshof was a seasonal site until 2022, after which it opened year round

Source: Moffat Centre Visitor Attraction Barometer

## Oil & Gas

### Sullom Voe Terminal

The Sullom Voe Terminal is situated at Calback Ness on a site of approximately 400 hectares (1,000 acres) on the shores of Sullom Voe, 46km (29 miles) north of Lerwick. Historically operated by BP Exploration Operating Company on behalf of companies participating in the regional pipeline groups, the terminal's operation was passed to mature asset specialist EnQuest in late 2017.

The terminal has a throughput design capacity of 1.2 million barrels of crude oil per day, and reached a peak in 1984 with a total receipt of 439,434,656 barrels (58,328,785 tonnes). Although throughput has declined in recent years, the terminal remains strategically important for the UK energy sector, with the capacity to handle output from oilfields to the west and East of Shetland, and reconfigure parts of the terminal to develop renewable energy and decarbonisation opportunities.

### UK Port Traffic

While the tonnage of port traffic has decreased since the peak of the oil industry, Sullom Voe Terminal still handles millions of tonnes of cargo every year. In 2023, it ranked 19<sup>th</sup> on a list of UK ports for total tonnage, 11<sup>th</sup> for Oil and Gas traffic and 8<sup>th</sup> for Crude Oil shipments. In a Scottish ports context, Sullom Voe was 4<sup>th</sup> for total tonnage and 3<sup>rd</sup> for oil and gas traffic.

UK Total Port Traffic 2023 (Foreign & Domestic)			UK Bulk Fuel & Crude Oil Ports 2023		
Port	'000 Tonnes	%UK Traffic	Port	'000 Tonnes	%UK Traffic
London	51,595	11.9	Milford Haven	34,033	20.1
Grimsby & Immingham	45,971	10.6	Southampton	18,249	10.8
Milford Haven	34,681	8.0	Grimsby & Immingham	16,689	9.9
Southampton	30,616	7.0	Tees & Hartlepool	15,840	9.4
Liverpool	28,551	6.6	Forth	15,222	9.0
Tees & Hartlepool	24,021	5.5	London	13,259	7.8
Felixstowe	22,526	5.2	Liverpool	9,932	5.9
Dover	19,225	4.4	Rivers Hull & Humber	9,479	5.6
Forth	18,521	4.3	Clyde	7,107	4.2
Belfast	18,437	4.2	Medway	6,240	3.7
Medway	13,599	3.1	<b>Sullom Voe</b>	<b>5,351</b>	3.2
Rivers Hull & Humber	10,403	2.4	UK Total	169,265	
Clyde	8,594	2.0			
Bristol	8,537	2.0	UK Crude Oil Tonnage Only 2023		
Hull	8,167	1.9	Tees & Hartlepool	11,124	15.1
Port Talbot	6,718	1.5	Southampton	10,929	14.8
Glensanda	5,827	1.3	Rivers Hull & Humber	9,479	12.9
Manchester	5,654	1.3	Forth	8,843	12.0
<b>Sullom Voe (SV)</b>	<b>5,355</b>	<b>1.2</b>	Milford Haven	8,350	11.3
All UK Ports	434,873		Liverpool	7,599	10.3
All Scottish Ports	54,925		Clyde	5,709	7.7
<b>% Scottish Traffic</b>	<b>9.7%</b>		<b>Sullom Voe</b>	<b>5,351</b>	7.3
			UK Total (Crude Oil only)	73,745	

Source: [Port and domestic waterborne freight statistics: data tables \(PORT\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/port-and-domestic-waterborne-freight-statistics-data-tables-port)

Sullom Voe Terminal - Oil Throughput (Tonnes)								
	1978	1981	1986	1991	2001	2013	2022	2023
Brent Pipeline	856,991	23,116,490	38,692,099	20,263,701	13,368,931	4,085,132	1,211,549	847,886
Ninian Pipeline	92,186	15,545,240	16,875,047	15,576,512	5,994,252	1,258,300	962,812	1,271,513
Schiehallion	-	-	-	-	5,441,468	162,741	0	0
Clair	-	-	-	-	-	551,364	3,506,589	3,270,338
SGP (Laggan)	-	-	-	-	-	-	59,291	38,021
Total	949,177	38,661,730	55,567,146	35,840,213	24,804,651	6,057,537	5,740,241	5,427,758

Sullom Voe Terminal - Average Barrels Per Day								
	1978	1981	1986	1991	2001	2013	2022	2023
Brent Pipeline	177,526	478,094	800,134	419,864	277,732	84,327	25,011	17,559
Ninian Pipeline	23,439	317,083	346,513	322,592	124,520	25,979	19,927	26,262
Schiehallion	-	-	-	-	110,966	3,110	0	0
Clair	-	-	-	-	-	10,427	66,193	61,733
SGP (Laggan)	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,227	785
Total	200,965	795,177	1,146,647	742,456	513,218	123,843	112,358	106,340

Sullom Voe Terminal - Total Barrels ('000s)								
	1978	1981	1986	1996	2001	2013	2022	2023
Brent Pipeline	6,391.0	174,504.3	292,048.8	176,442.3	101,372.2	30,779.2	9,129.1	6,409.2
Ninian Pipeline	679.7	155,735.5	110,640.2	108,654.8	45,450.0	9,482.4	7,273.2	9,585.6
Schiehallion	-	-	-	-	40,502.6	1,135.3	0	0
Clair	-	-	-	-	-	3,806.0	24,160.3	22,532.7
SGP (Laggan)	-	-	-	-	-	-	447.7	286.5
Total	7,070.7	330,239.8	402,689.0	285,097.1	187,324.8	45,202.9	41,010.3	38,813.9

Sullom Voe Terminal - Tankers Using Port									
	1979	1981	1986	1991	2001	2006	2013	2022	2023
Oil	270	432	654	423	295	199	87	68	60
Gas	0	0	112	45	12	11	0	0	0

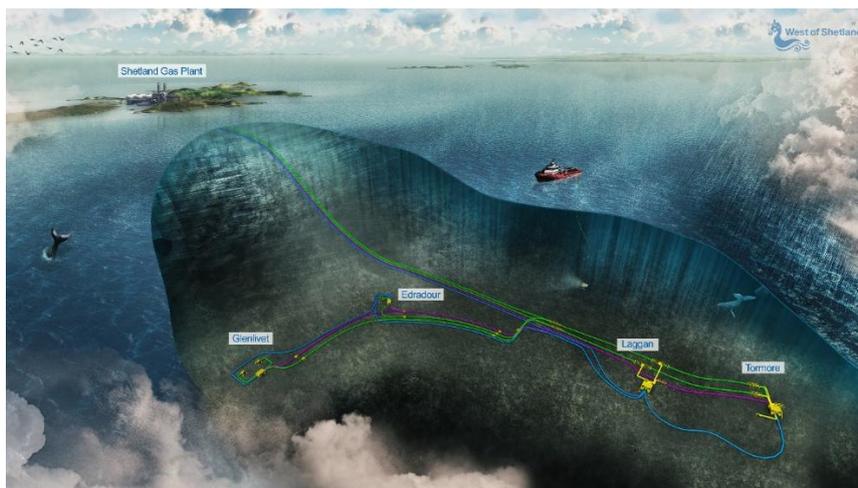
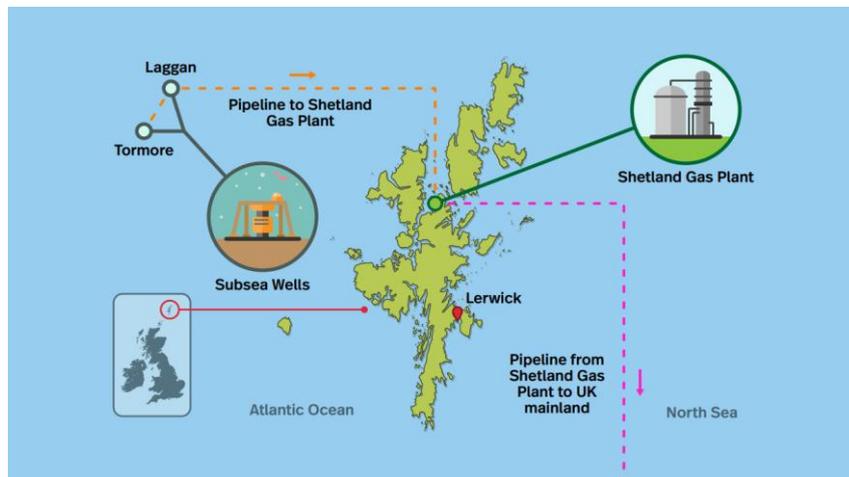
Sullom Voe Terminal - Gas Throughput (Tonnes)							
	1982	1986	1991	2001	2008	2022	2023
Brent Pipeline - Propane	174,889	476,742	89,961	32,479	8,443	0	0
Brent Pipeline - Butane	128,624	375,641	57,906	22,647	6,847	0	0
Ninian Pipeline - Propane	176,805	346,478	260,536	57,746	11,322	0	0
Ninian Pipeline - Butane	115,072	254,621	190,250	41,542	10,412	0	0
Total Propane	351,694	823,220	350,497	90,225	19,765	0	0
Total Butane	243,696	630,262	248,164	64,189	17,259	0	0

Source: Enquest – Sullom Voe Terminal

## Shetland Gas Plant, Operated by TotalEnergies

TotalEnergies' West of Shetland gas development encompasses the Laggan, Tormore, Edradour and Glenlivet offshore fields, and the onshore Shetland Gas Plant. Designed to withstand harsh weather conditions, the development involved the drilling of subsea wells in deep waters west of Shetland and the installation of the longest subsea pipeline network ever seen on the UK continental shelf.

The gas from the wells is processed at an onshore facility located next to the Sullom Voe Oil Terminal. Under development from 2010 onwards, first gas from West of Shetland was produced in February 2016.



Safety	2021	2022	2023
Lost-time injury*	0	0	0
Total Recordable Incident Rate**	0	0	0
First Aid Cases	0	1	0

\*Accident that has caused physical injury that prevents the person from returning to work the following day

\*\*Number of recordable injuries per million Man hours worked

Operations	2021	2022	2023
Delivered Production (kBOEpd)*	37.1	29	18.8
Site Manhours	366,364	390,113	378,917
Average number of persons on site per day	95	90	98
Local Personnel	49%	51%	50%

\*Gas production expressed as *thousands of barrels of oil equivalent per day*

Source: Total Energies E&P UK

## Third Sector

There is a strong tradition of volunteering in the isles, and almost all community and social activity in the rural areas relies on volunteers. Over 650 third sector organisations are registered with Voluntary Action Shetland (VAS), Shetland's third sector interface, of which 271\* are charities registered with OSCR. However, VAS are also aware of voluntary and community organisations not registered with them, which means that the total number of third sector organisations in Shetland will be more than those registered.

\*Source: [OSCR | Register Search](#) for Shetland based charities as at February 2025

The third sector is important to Shetland, socially and economically. The Shetland Partnership reflects this, including third sector, community, local and national government organisations. This partnership is responsible for the design and delivery of The Shetland Partnership Plan. [Shetland Partnership – Shetland Partnership](#).

The scale, and vast range, of the third sector and volunteering in Shetland makes it impossible to present a full picture of all organisations/the sector. The data in this section presents just a flavour of the scale of this sector.

## Volunteering Rates

The Scottish Household Survey records formal volunteering rates (unpaid help to organisations or groups) annually and informal volunteering rates (unpaid help, not via an organisation or group, to other people or places, excluding relatives) every two years. Due to methodological changes during Covid, the last comparable dataset for informal volunteering is 2018.

Volunteering Rates (volunteers aged 16 or over) - volunteered in last 12 months							
Formal volunteering						Any volunteering – formal, informal or both	
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2018	2022
Eilean Siar	26%	Very low response rate due to Covid. Local Authority levels below reporting threshold	40%	22%	30%	46%	31%
Highland	26%		31%	29%	20%	58%	53%
Orkney	34%		42%	22%	26%	60%	63%
Shetland	47%		48%	44%	36%	71%	75%
Scotland	26%	26%	27%	22%	18%	48%	46%

Source: Scottish Household Survey, [Scottish Household Survey: publications - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](#)

## Saltire Awards

Saltire awards are national awards designed to recognise and reward those aged 12-25 years volunteering in their community. Awards are presented annually to individuals who complete 10 to over 500 hours volunteering. Both the volunteer and the organisation they are volunteering with need to be registered with Saltire to gain awards, therefore the numbers below do not represent all young volunteers in Shetland, just those registered with Saltire.

Saltire Awards (Awarded to young volunteers registered with Saltire)				
	Volunteers Registered	No. achieving Saltire Award	Total voluntary hours completed by all Awardees	No. of Groups, schools and organisations helped
2018	954	136	17,765	56
2019	1098	127	20,730	50
2020	999	141	14,940	50
2021	963	128	2,910	24
2022	859	67	10,500	25
2023	835	118	11,000	43
2024	814	164	17,000	45

Source: Voluntary Action Shetland - [Saltire Awards | Voluntary Action Shetland](#)

## Grant Funding Secured

Third sector organisations in Shetland attract grant funding from many local, national and international sources, with hundreds of funding organisations. The table below outlines some of the larger local and national funding organisations, along with a few other funding organisations for which data is easily accessible online.

Grant Awards to Third Sector Organisations in Shetland 2023/24		
Funding Body	2022/23 (£)	2023/24 (£)
Shetland Charitable Trust	9,004,656	9,458,993
Shetland Community Benefit Fund	382,739	252,274
Shetland Islands Council - Coastal Communities Fund	775,600	737,008
Shetland Islands Council - Community Grant Schemes	407,935	515,147
Scottish Gov. - Community Led Local Development	212,150	229,178
Scottish Gov. - Islands Programme	340,600	799,820
Scottish Gov. - Place Based Investment Programme	108,000	75,000
Scottish Gov. - Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund for Adults Sources: 2022/23: <a href="#">Shetland - Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund for adults: projects awarded funding - gov.scot</a> ; 2023/24: <a href="#">Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund for Adults Year 3 – Monitoring and Reporting Summary</a>	71,420	71,811
Highlands & Islands Enterprise	480,384	188,127
BBC Children in Need*	1,000	120,000
Co-operative Group*	23,380	23,049
Corra Foundation*	0	78,857
Creative Scotland: <a href="#">Awards Listings   Creative Scotland</a>	458,694	441,399
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation*	0	200,000
Foundation Scotland*	0	5,000
Historic Environment Scotland	159,282	0
National Lottery - Community Fund*	576,536	78,440
National Lottery - Heritage Fund*	10,000	0
NatureScot - Peatland Action (Shetland)	96,288	98,265
People's Health Trust*	0	5,654
R S Macdonald Charitable Trust*	12,052	43,009
Rank Foundation*	0	8,317
Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations*	0	4,824
Shared Care Scotland: <a href="#">Funded projects   Shared Care Scotland</a>	82,405	£72,375
STV Children's Appeal	11,000	1,500
Tesco Community Grants: <a href="#">What we've funded (tescostrongerstarts.org.uk)</a> note: calendar year (Jan-Dec) funding	9,450	9,500
The Robertson Trust: <a href="#">News and blogs   The Robertson Trust</a>	24,000	362,000
VisitScotland	41,600	130,650
Total**	£13,289,171	£14,010,197

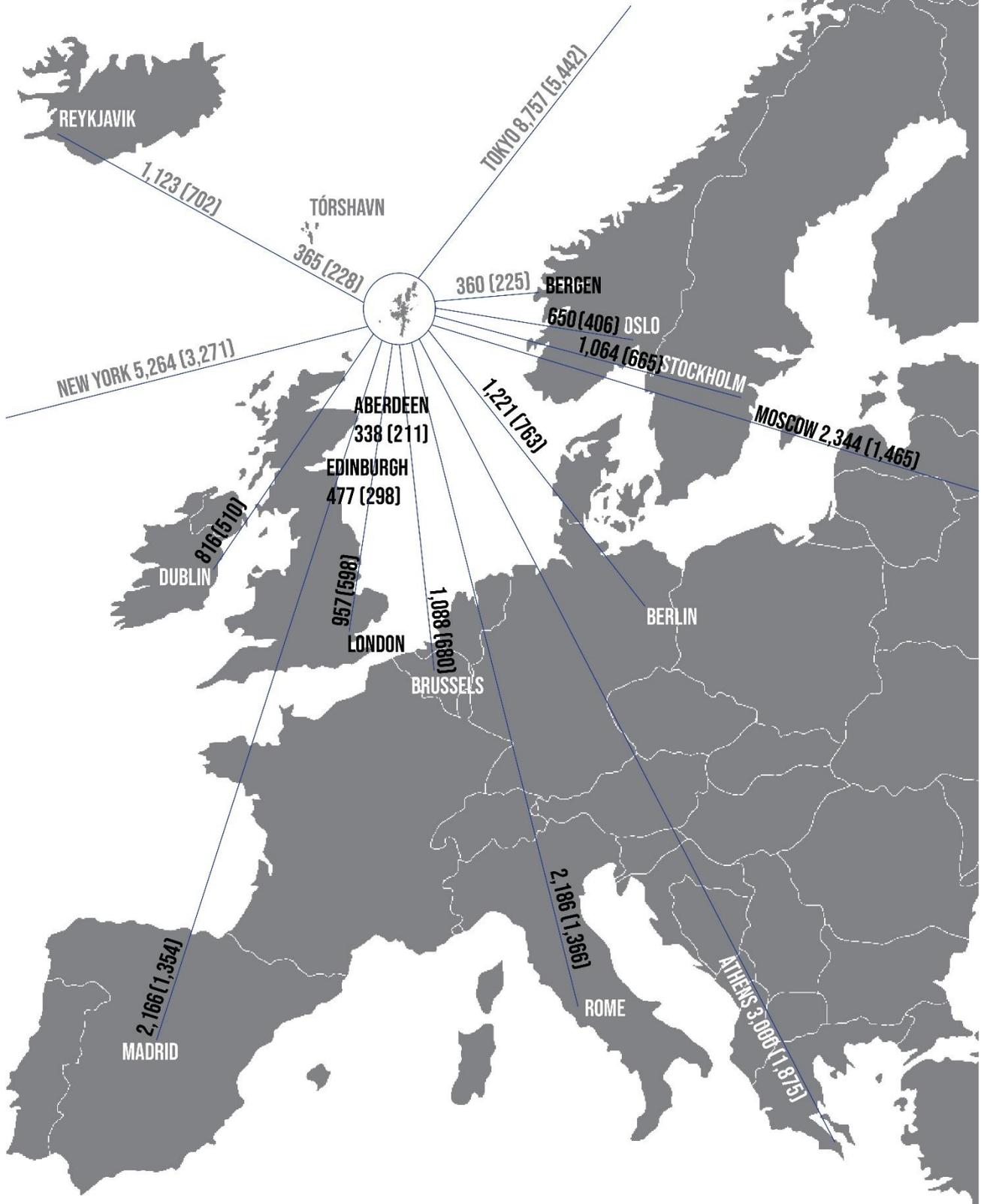
Sources: Online (links provided), \*[360Giving GrantNav \(threesixtygiving.org\)](#), SIC, and individual funding orgs

\*\* Accounting for a fraction of the total organisations supporting local third sector groups, this total only gives an indication of the scale of annual grant income generated by this sector. The actual annual total will be higher.

### 3 Physical - Location Map

## APPROXIMATE DISTANCES FROM SHETLAND

In kilometres (statute miles)



Physical Characteristics Map

### Shetland: Physical Characteristics

Distance by road in kilometres (miles) from Lerwick:

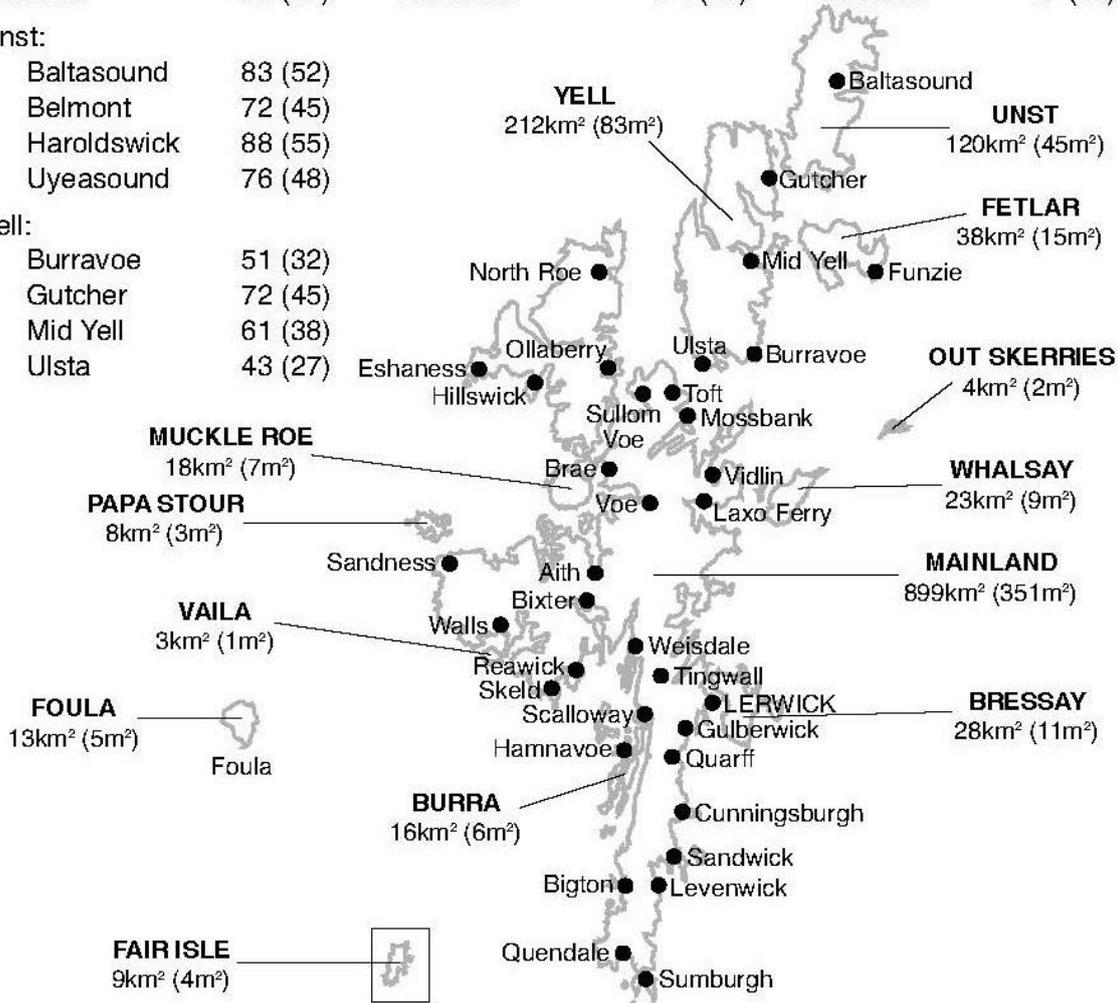
Aith	34 (21)	Laxo Ferry	35 (22)	Scalloway	13 (8)
Bigton	30 (19)	Levenwick	28 (18)	Skeld	40 (25)
Bixter	27 (17)	Mossbank	43 (27)	Sullom Voe	46 (29)
Brae	35 (22)	North Roe	61 (38)	Sumburgh	40 (25)
Cunningsburgh	18 (11)	Ollaberry	53 (33)	Tingwall	10 (6)
Eshaness	62 (39)	Quarff	11 (7)	Toft Ferry	43 (27)
Girlsta	16 (10)	Quendale	38 (24)	Vidlin	38 (24)
Gulberwick	6 (4)	Reawick	38 (24)	Voe	29 (18)
Hamnavoe, Burra	16 (10)	Sandness	46 (29)	Walls	40 (25)
Hillswick	56 (35)	Sandwick	24 (15)	Weisdale	17 (11)

Unst:

Baltasound	83 (52)
Belmont	72 (45)
Haroldswick	88 (55)
Uyeasound	76 (48)

Yell:

Burravoe	51 (32)
Gutcher	72 (45)
Mid Yell	61 (38)
Ulsta	43 (27)



Total Area of Shetland: 1,468 square kilometres (567 square miles)\*

Total Length of coastline: approx 2,702 kilometres (1,697 miles)\*\*

\* Ordnance Survey, 1988

\*\* Dr Lorraine Gray, 2007

Number of islands: 100+

Number of inhabited islands: 15

#### 4 Weather/Climate

Observations are recorded in Shetland by staff employed by the Meteorological Office in Lerwick. There are also Auxiliary Synoptic Stations in Fair Isle and Foula. Observations from the Lerwick Observatory began in 1921, although the first full year of recordings were 1922. The following data was recorded at the Lerwick Observatory (60°08'N, 01°11'W; Wind vane 93m above sea level).

Temperature (°C)						
	2023		Mean (°C)		Extreme Daily Values (°C)	
	Monthly Average (°C)		(1931-2023)		(1922-2023)	
Month	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max (Year)	Min (Year)
Jan	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max (Year)	Min (Year)
Feb	6.6	2.2	5.5	1.5	12.8 ('47)	-8.9 ('52 & '59)
Mar	7.5	3.5	5.4	1.2	11.7 ('45)	-7.4 ('10)
Apr	5.4	0.7	6.3	1.9	13.3 ('61)	-8.3 ('47)
May	8.5	4	8.1	3.1	16.1 ('42)	-5.7 ('68)
Jun	10.5	6.4	10.4	5.3	20.7 ('92)	-2.9 ('23)
Jul	15.1	9.9	12.7	7.7	23.3 ('58)	-0.6 ('51)
Aug	15	10.5	14.2	9.6	23.4 ('91)	3.5 ('65)
Sept	15.2	10.7	14.4	9.9	22.1 ('97)	2.3 ('28)
Oct	14.4	10	12.8	8.5	19.4 ('53)	-0.6 ('54)
Nov	10.3	6.1	10.3	6.4	17.2 ('55)	-3.3 ('48)
Dec	7.7	3.3	7.8	3.8	14.0 ('22)	-5.7 ('62)
Year	6.1	1.7	6.3	2.2	12.8 ('13)	-8.2 ('61)

Sunshine and Rainfall (Monthly Totals)								
	Sunshine (hours/month)				Rainfall (mm/month)			
Month	2023	Mean (1931-2023)	Extreme/Month (yr)		2023	Mean (1931-2023)	Extreme/month (yr)	
			Max (yr)	Min (yr)			Max (yr)	Min (yr)
Jan	21.9	24.8	57.7 ('98)	8.1 ('54)	185.8	130.3	302.4 ('15)	29.0 ('41)
Feb	27.0	52.4	90.7 ('75)	23.2 ('83)	132.2	101.3	249.9 ('89)	10.8 ('86)
Mar	110.6	89.7	135.7 ('31)	52.9 ('80)	120.6	97.0	206.0 ('94)	19.0 ('31)
Apr	166.2	133.6	194.1 ('66)	64.2 ('44)	65	68.6	146.5 ('85)	2.2 ('74)
May	117.0	163.7	271.5 ('48)	74.5 ('33)	43.6	57.2	131.2 ('15)	7.4 ('08)
Jun	187.9	149.4	239.5 ('55)	80.5 ('14)	31.8	58.3	134.0 ('90)	9.5 ('82)
Jul	135.3	121.7	228.0 ('47)	75.5 ('57)	138	67.8	156.1 ('88)	21.0 ('55)
Aug	114.8	121	228.5 ('38)	74.3 ('70)	53.8	79.8	184.2 ('14)	0.7 ('47)
Sept	126.0	98	136.7 ('04)	63.1 ('98)	141	103.8	181.3 ('82)	28.0 ('31)
Oct	66.1	66.3	136.2 ('16)	40.7 ('82)	133	123.6	247.8 ('81)	29.2 ('46)
Nov	40.3	33.5	59.2 ('00)	10.5 ('83)	144	133.8	236.3 ('73)	49.2 ('68)
Dec	20.2	15.7	34.3 ('10)	4.0 ('82)	185.8	136.7	274.2 ('99)	49.0 ('33)
Year	1133.1	1069.8			1374.6			

Wind Speed (Knots)						
	Mean		Max hourly mean speed		Highest Gust	
	2023	1922-2023	2023	1922-2023 Speed (yr)	2023	1922-2023 Speed (yr)
Jan	15.3	17.5	42	66 ('00)	62	95 ('61)
Feb	18.7	16.5	43	56 ('57)	62	83 ('57)
Mar	12.7	16.2	40	53 ('67)	44	77 ('67)
Apr	13.6	13.7	33	55 ('57)	48	78 ('57)
May	13.9	12.3	30	46 ('09)	41	65 ('82)
Jun	10.7	11.9	23	50 ('00)	32	75 ('00)
Jul	10.1	11.2	28	39 ('64)	40	61 ('64)
Aug	9.7	11.1	31	45 ('05)	40	68 ('05)
Sept	14.4	13.5	35	59 ('68)	49	87 ('63)
Oct	16.8	15.3	41	58 ('65)	58	90 ('80)
Nov	13.7	15.9	39	54 ('05)	60	78 ('98)
Dec	16.1	16.7	53	58 ('11)	73	87 ('66)

Climatic Conditions 2023 (days)							
	Rain	Hail/ice pellets	Snow/sleet	Air frost	Thunder	Gales	Fog
Jan	27	3	4	4	0	6	0
Feb	19	2	0	2	1	9	0
Mar	21	1	12	13	0	1	1
Apr	16	4	3	0	0	1	0
May	20	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jun	10	0	0	0	0	0	1
Jul	23	0	0	0	0	0	3
Aug	21	0	0	0	0	1	1
Sept	26	0	0	0	0	1	2
Oct	27	2	0	0	0	5	0
Nov	29	2	3	0	0	5	0
Dec	29	2	8	9	0	8	0
Total	268	16	30	28	1	37	8

Rain: Precipitation 0.2mm or more recorded in the 24 hour period commencing 0900hrs GMT

Hail/ice pellets: Solid precipitation, of which the outer parts are clear ice observed at any time of day

Snow/sleet: Snow or sleet observed at any time of day

Air frost: Minimum air temperature less than 0.0°C at any time of day

Thunder: Thunder heard at any time of day

Gales: Mean wind speed greater than or equal to 39.2mph (34knots) for at least 10 minutes

Fog: Visibility less than 1000 meters at 0900hrs GMT

Extreme Values 2023		
Value	Date / Month	Measure
Max Temperature	15 Jun	22.5°C
Min Temperature	12 Mar	-6.5°C
Sunniest day	8 Jul	16.1 hours of sunshine
Sunniest month	Sep	126 hours of sunshine
Wettest Day	1 Jul	31.0 mm rainfall
Wettest Month	Jan	185.8 mm rainfall
Driest Month	Jun	31.8 mm rainfall
Highest Wind Gust	27 Dec	73 knots
Windiest Month	Feb	9 gale days

Source: The Met Office, Lerwick

Ozone Values (Dobson Units)							
	Monthly mean			Lowest Daily Value		Highest Daily Value	
	2022	2023	1981-2023	2022	2023	2022	2023
Jan	323	318	338	282	238	355	383
Feb	376	312	359	294	229	473	380
Mar	373	398	382	326	325	461	484
Apr	388	368	385	347	305	480	421
May	374	356	376	317	321	425	400
Jun	346	348	357	311	304	385	380
Jul	342	360	342	312	331	395	373
Aug	324	327	322	281	291	363	368
Sept	290	292	297	247	255	319	342
Oct	308	294	287	249	261	375	369
Nov	323	328	292	288	267	359	373
Dec	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Average	342	336	340	296	284	399	388

-- December values are not available due to low elevation of the sun in mid-winter

Sources: <https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/data/ozone-data.php>; Historical monthly mean data: The Met Office, Lerwick

## 5 Transport

### Internal Transport Services

Inter-Island Ferries								
Route	Passengers				Vehicles – Domestic & Commercial			
	2020	2022	2023	2024	2020	2022	2023	2024
Bressay	123,151	172,334	182,284	184,134	53,357	65,785	70,210	72,711
Skerries	2,505	4,477	4,579	4,818	1,006	2,090	2,177	2,220
Unst/Fetlar	79,161	139,107	136,960	141,833	49,130	76,858	76,236	78,801
Whalsay	98,119	144,320	154,360	156,197	59,171	78,018	80,561	83,836
Yell	162,438	242,827	259,072	260,553	99,980	137,536	145,704	150,291
Fair Isle	13	234	246	313	19	36	39	48
Papa Stour	2,006	3,354	3,700	4,655	990	1,295	1,450	1,692
Foula	83	110	112	118	4	4	24	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>467,476</b>	<b>706,763</b>	<b>741,313</b>	<b>752,621</b>	<b>263,657</b>	<b>361,622</b>	<b>376,401</b>	<b>389,621</b>

Note: All ferry routes are operated by Shetland Islands Council apart from Foula, which is operated by BK Marine  
Source: Shetland Islands Council, apart from Foula service which was BK Marine

Inter-Island Flights									
	1981	1991	2001	2011	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Tingwall Airport Traffic									
Passengers	12,180	15,453	4,747	5,181	1,227	2,300	2,886	2,913	2,840
Aircraft Movements	2,815	2,917	2,394	1,539	1,054	1,175	1,315	1,243	1,190
Small Airfield - Passengers									
Fair Isle	841	2,048	2,030	3,316	775	1,442	1,921	1,910	1,905
Foula	1,175	n/a	1,296	1,299	450	858	1,013	1,003	935
Papa Stour	n/a	n/a	238	127	2	0	-	-	-
Skerries	271	900	840	484	-	-	-	-	-

Source: CAA [UK airport data | Civil Aviation Authority \(caa.co.uk\)](https://www.caa.co.uk/uk-airport-data)

Bus Services - Number of Passengers				
Bus Route	2021*	2022*	2023	2024
Lerwick Town Service	41,252	60,271	68,277	79,259
Lerwick to Scalloway	39,686	52,099	62,806	67,870
Lerwick to North Mainland	45,915	60,646	63,288	62,839
Lerwick to South Mainland	74,803	120,372	134,813	136,476
Lerwick to West Mainland	31,728	38,906	45,871	45,988
Central Mainland and Bressay Feeders & Shoppers	6,457	9,262	8,541	9,411
North Mainland Feeders & Shoppers	3,570	4,425	4,355	5,536
South Mainland Feeders & Shoppers	10,542	10,951	9,662	9,797
West Mainland Feeders & Shoppers	10,444	10,303	12,685	10,371
Yell Services	19,723	22,031	20,219	19,467
Unst Services	17,135	19,170	14,722	16,663
Fetlar Services	751	664	704	795
<b>Total</b>	<b>302,006</b>	<b>409,100</b>	<b>445,943</b>	<b>464,472</b>

\*Notes: 2021 figures: impacted by COVID travel restrictions; 2022 figures: Government scheme for free bus travel for under 22s introduced 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022, COVID travel restrictions only fully lifted April 2022

Source: SIC Transport Planning

## External Transport Services

### Ferry

Northlink Ferries Carrying 2023 and 2024								
Route	Total Passengers		Total Cars		Total Coaches		Total commercial vehicle lane meterage	
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024
Aberdeen - Kirkwall	35,804	39,883	5,261	5,815	4	6	140,243	147,181
Aberdeen - Lerwick	141,636	144,595	26,104	26,426	103	116	343,871	350,286
Kirkwall - Lerwick	20,077	21,414	3,606	4,127	43	51	32,556	33,171
Stromness - Scrabster	207,163	210,329	58,774	56,410	289	580	90,913	100,108
<b>Total</b>	<b>404,680</b>	<b>416,221</b>	<b>93,745</b>	<b>92,778</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>753</b>	<b>607,582</b>	<b>630,746</b>

Source: [NorthLink Statistics](#) | [NorthLink Ferries](#)

### Air

Sumburgh Airport Traffic									
	1981	1991	2001	2011	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Passengers (Terminal & Transit)	541,761	473,626	168,281	143,731	113,951	182,320	246,390	258,478	287,211
Aircraft Movements	34,188	29,168	11,165	12,228	10,839	16,699	17,715	17,426	17,116
Freight (Tonnes)	3,488	1,448	981	315	169	189	199	179	194

Source: Pre 2011, Highlands & Islands Airports Ltd. 2011 onwards CAA [UK airport data](#) | [Civil Aviation Authority \(caa.co.uk\)](#)

## Vehicle Ownership/Schedule of Roads

Vehicles Licensed in Shetland on 31 <sup>st</sup> December									
Type/Year	1976	1981	1991	2001	2011	2020	2021	2022	2023
Private & Light Goods	5,076	7,048	8,933	10,806	13,556	14,300	14,600	15,200	15,429
Goods/Crown & Exempt*	640	801	310	251	1,481	1,700	1,800	--	--
Heavy Goods Vehicles	Transport Scotland changed how it recorded goods vehicles in 2022							300	309
Public Transport	171	164	121	81	108	100	100	100	139
Motorcycles**	397	545	287	271	495	500	500	600	624
Other Vehicles	826	831	967	992	153	200	200	1,100	1,110
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,110</b>	<b>9,389</b>	<b>10,618</b>	<b>12,401</b>	<b>15,793</b>	<b>16,800</b>	<b>17,200</b>	<b>17,300</b>	<b>17,611</b>

\*Goods vehicles exclude heavy goods that are exempt from tax; Crown and Exempt include vehicles in the special concessionary group; \*\*Includes all two wheeled motor vehicles

Source: Transport Scotland - [Scottish Transport Statistics 2024](#) | [Transport Scotland](#)

Schedule of County Roads	Km	Miles
A Class Roads	223.9	139.1
B Class Roads	162.7	101.1
C Class Roads	198.4	123.3
Unclassified Roads	493.7	306.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>1078.7</b>	<b>670.3</b>

Source: SIC Roads Service

## Lerwick Harbour

Shipping in Lerwick Harbour									
	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011	2019	2020	2021	2023
General	316	418	738	796	763	605	558	592	622
Oil Tankers	51	140	114	105	78	83	54	62	67
Oil Rig Tenders	79	1,556	888	319	571	344	199	240	256
Other Vessels	489	430	522	1,277	1,246	1,302	1,181	1,006	1,353
Yachts – Cruising		112	366	415	531	541	82	144	557
Yachts – Racing						35	0	0	41
British Fishing*	1,440	677	1,606	829	630	393	439	294	601
Local Fishing	-	-	-	-	-	1,621	1,668	1,777	1,340
Foreign Fishing	1,580	246	216	103	207	311	220	53	165
Total	3,955	3,579	4,450	3,844	4,026	5,068	4,401	4,168	5,002

\*Excludes local fishing fleet

Tonnage Handled in Lerwick Harbour									
	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011	2019	2020	2021	2023
General Cargo Imports	45,760	200,077	226,715	409,088	453,272	407,090	339,362	441,353	421,231
General Cargo Exports	48,849	57,471	98,335	325,055	327,614	402,498	362,120	382,311	401,223
Oil Related Imports	342	288,999	238,684	211,681	17,903	13,647	24,417	5,962	8,346
Oil Related Exports	0	421,807	315,996	203,685	81,310	62,524	30,104	54,218	46,397
Total	94,951	968,354	879,730	1,149,509	880,099	885,759	756,003	883,844	877,197

Weight of containers excluded

Foreign Fishing Vessels in Lerwick Harbour									
	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011	2019	2020	2021	2023
Denmark	374	117	66	23	22	47	32	26	7
Faroe	242	14	19	6	0	0	5	0	0
France	16	13	18	8	9	96	54	11	2
Germany	3	1	22	8	1	3	1	1	0
Iceland	215	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ireland	0	0	20	20	60	0	7	9	7
Netherlands	12	0	7	1	1	9	0	0	0
Norway	551	96	50	30	105	0	119	4	148
Russia	60	0	1	1	0	160	0	0	0
Sweden	100	1	7	5	9	4	2	2	1
Other*	7	2	6	1	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1,580	246	216	103	207	319	220	53	165

\*Includes foreign vessels from Bulgaria, Finland, Greenland and Poland

Lerwick Port Authority Revenue (£000)									
1971	1981	1991	2001	2011	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
49	2,100	4,576	5,762	9,064	11,653	9,487	10,008	12,016	15,387

Source: Lerwick Port Authority

## Scalloway Harbour

Shipping in Scalloway Harbour (No. of Vessels)								
	1986	1991	2001	2011	2020	2021	2022	2023
UK Commercial	11	0	61	13	160	149	127	145
Foreign Commercial	100	103	158	34	218	240	89	58
Oil-related	5	1	37	71	0	0	0	0
UK Fishing	163	207	68	99	55	73	50	108
Foreign Fishing	17	28	12	20	1	0	2	3
Yachts	9	33	1	5	0	0	2	2
Salmon Cages	0	0	87	40	22	50	2	6
SIC Vessels	0	0	15	6	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	46	7	0	2	12	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>514</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>334</b>

Cargo Handling in Scalloway Harbour (Tonnes)								
	1986	1991	2001	2011	2020	2021	2022	2023
Imports	5,037	6,351	20,405	2,937	5,187	14,017	10,260	3,292
Exports	16,120	893	25,616	19,695	8,830	8,509	9,840	16,122
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,157</b>	<b>7,244</b>	<b>46,021</b>	<b>22,632</b>	<b>14,017</b>	<b>22,526</b>	<b>20,100</b>	<b>19,414</b>

Scalloway Harbour Revenue (£)							
1986/87	1991/92	2000/01	2011/12	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
160,838	202,598	218,086	592,325	1,093,666	1,389,490	1,280,813	882,288

Source: SIC Port Operations

## 6 Housing

### Total Domestic Properties (recorded annually 1<sup>st</sup> April)

1976	1981	1991	2001	2011	2020	2021	2022	2023
7,287	8,612	9,156	9,877	10,674	11,366	11,432	11,492	11,567

Source: Assessor & Electoral Registration Office, Lerwick

### House Sales

House Sales – Median Residential Property Price (£)							
	2004	2011	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Aberdeen City	75,000	155,000	157,500	160,763	150,000	140,000	146,000
Aberdeenshire	95,000	190,000	195,000	200,000	215,000	210,161	212,000
Eilean Siar	55,000	87,250	123,000	126,000	137,000	150,000	148,000
City of Edinburgh	138,000	175,563	240,000	250,000	270,000	269,995	272,000
Glasgow City	92,653	113,000	149,535	160,000	172,500	173,000	180,000
Highland	89,500	140,000	175,000	186,000	200,000	203,000	210,000
Orkney	63,375	110,000	152,500	171,533	195,750	185,000	191,250
Shetland	60,000	115,025	150,000	165,000	177,500	181,600	185,000
Scotland	86,000	129,950	162,100	171,429	183,317	185,000	190,000

Number of House Sales							
	2004	2011	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Shetland	313	302	254	301	275	232	271

Source: Registers for Scotland: [House price statistics - Registers of Scotland \(ros.gov.uk\)](https://ros.gov.uk)

### Building Completions/Planning Applications

The following tables display information regarding homes that have been constructed (completed) and those that have been granted planning permission, as well as business and Industry planning applications approved. Data for the financial years presented has been selected to show the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, and subsequent economic conditions, in 2020/21 and 2021/22, in relation to historic construction rates.

House Build Completions																
Building Type	2011/12			2019/20			2020/21			2021/22			2022/23			
	A	P	Total													
South Mainland	0	22	22	0	17	17	0	2	2	12	10	22	0	10	10	
Lerwick & Bressay	20	6	26	0	3	3	27	3	30	0	3	3	6	1	7	
Central Mainland	0	12	12	24	14	38	0	11	11	0	7	7	0	6	6	
West Mainland	10	3	13	0	5	5	0	1	1	0	3	3	0	6	6	
North Mainland	2	14	16	0	12	12	0	1	1	0	9	9	0	3	3	
North Isles	6	10	16	0	4	4	0	1	1	0	3	3	0	5	5	
Total	38	67	105	24	55	79	27	19	46	12	35	47	6	31	37	

A = Affordable housing (constructed by Shetland Islands Council and Hjaltland Housing Association)

P = Private housing (constructed by private sector developers or individual house builders)

Source: SIC Planning

Total Number of Housing Planning Permissions Approved						
	2013/14	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
South Mainland	45	25	21	14	21	10
Lerwick & Bressay	14	48	14	7	132	9
Central Mainland	25	23	87	6	19	27
West Mainland	6	6	11	13	2	15
North Mainland	16	5	20	9	5	14
North Isles	6	7	7	11	5	3
Total	112	114	160	60	184	78

Source: SIC Planning

All Business & Industry Planning Applications Approved						
	2013/14	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Use Class 4 – Business	8	8	3	5	1	1
Use Class 5 – General Industry	7	8	4	0	3	2
Use Class 6 – Storage & Distribution	5	3	3	1	1	0
Total	20	19	10	6	5	3

Source: SIC Planning

## 7 Education

### School Rolls & Staffing

Local Authority Nursery School Roll								
	1981	1991	2001	2011	2021	2022	2023	2024
Aith Junior High	0	0	22	12	26	25	16	18
Baltasound Junior High	0	0	15	14	13	13	12	10
Bell's Brae	0	64	44	49	33	40	37	36
Brae High	51	60	27	20	28	37	29	32
Bressay	0	0	8	4	Closed 2014			
Cunningsburgh	-	-	-	22	21	26	19	20
Dunrossness	0	33	25	25	19	32	29	26
Fair Isle	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0
Fetlar	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Foula	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1
Happyhansel	0	0	13	14	9	15	8	6
Isles Haven	Opened 2013				23	22	*see below	
Lerwick Pre-School	Opened 2017 but run privately until 2022				18			
Lerwick ELC	*Isles Haven and Lerwick Pre-School amalgamated in 2023 to Lerwick ELC						27	41
Lunnasting	Opened 2009			9	9	12	6	10
Mid Yell	0	0	16	22	8	15	10	10
Mossbank	0	23	17	12	12	17	16	14
Papa Stour	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sandwick Junior High	0	38	26	24	17	24	20	17
Scalloway	0	0	18	20	32	34	26	23
Skeld	0	0	7	7	3	2	2	0
Skerries	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Sound	60	60	40	38	35	50	41	37
Tingwall	-	-	-	-	26	28	16	15
Urafirth	0	0	8	6	14	10	4	7
Whalsay Junior High	0	0	19	12	17	23	19	16
Whiteness	0	0	17	19	17	20	16	13
Total	111	278	325	331	364	466	353	352

Primary School Roll									
	1976	1981	1991	2001	2012	2021	2022	2023	2024
Aith Junior High	63	52	61	90	56	116	110	102	107
Baltasound Junior High	100	106	85	54	41	43	48	51	53
Bell's Brae	790	501	357	376	308	295	291	269	254
Brae High	68	171	139	105	102	153	141	137	125
Bressay	38	20	28	42	10	Closed 2014			
Burravoe	31	36	32	19	12	10	9	9	5
Cullivoe	23	24	18	12	24	10	9	7	10
Cunningsburgh	74	77	50	59	82	68	70	79	79
Dunrosness	152	209	146	138	100	95	90	85	89
Fair Isle	9	11	8	17	6	2	3	5	4
Fetlar	6	15	7	4	4	1	0	0	0
Foula	4	7	4	2	3	4	4	5	4
Gruting	11	9	Closed 1984						
Hamnavoe	65	107	96	63	44	86	76	74	70
Happyhansel	40	48	57	48	40	37	33	30	27
Haroldswick	33	21	25	Closed 1997					
Lunnasting	22	38	21	31	20	24	28	33	36
Mid Yell Junior High	76	65	48	49	46	33	30	30	32
Mossbank	-	136	70	73	31	42	45	45	46
Nesting	14	26	11	29	16	21	18	16	15
North Roe	16	23	20	12	7	14	17	16	16
Ollaberry	12	16	36	22	14	22	17	18	18
Olnafirth	30	46	31	28	13	Closed 2014			
Papa Stour	0	5	4	2	0	0	0	0	0
Quarff	19	23	15	12	Closed 2003				
Sandness	7	15	13	12	7	18	12	15	12
Sandwick Junior High	81	96	69	86	97	99	100	82	84
Scalloway	136	150	117	83	104	144	144	143	146
Skeld	26	36	14	18	23	14	9	7	0
Skerries	12	11	9	4	3	0	0	0	0
Sound	-	292	354	339	308	236	228	234	217
Tingwall	43	52	50	62	68	82	84	86	72
Urafirth	29	37	29	29	12	23	25	21	21
Uyeasound	27	16	9	17	Closed 2011				
Whalsay Junior High	149	146	125	98	83	99	94	94	87
Whiteness	56	87	85	89	82	67	63	65	61
Total	2,262	2,730	2,243	2,124	1,766	1,858	1,798	1,758	1,690

Secondary School Roll*									
	1976	1981	1991	2001	2011	2021	2022	2023	2024
Aith Junior High	65	61	61	83	102	102	107	116	117
Anderson High	770	915	878	820	899	972	1,011	989	1,012
Baltasound Junior High	58	75	33	37	26	29	30	26	26
Brae High	68	164	211	265	220	148	153	164	175
Mid Yell Junior High	58	48	44	47	37	49	47	42	38
Sandwick Junior High	87	121	144	173	169	123	94	82	82
Scalloway Junior High	129	132	179	129	Closed 2011				
Skerries Junior High	6	5	2	7	4	Closed 2014			
Whalsay Junior High	54	62	45	70	57	47	50	57	60
Total	1,295	1,583	1,597	1,631	1,514	1,470	1,492	1,476	1,510

\*From 2004, figures are taken from the September school roll, prior to that figures were taken from the January school roll

Local Authority Nursery & School Staffing*									
	1971	1981	1991	2001	2012	2021	2022	2023	2024
Nursery Teachers	**	**	**	16	16	8	11	10	10
Primary Teachers	91	164	140	176	156	160	156	151	150
Secondary Teachers	88	142	189	206	176	159	158	159	156
Total	179	306	329	398	348	327	325	320	316

\*Numbers are based on full time equivalent rather than head count, and have been rounded up

\*\* Information not available

Source: Schools, SIC

## Further Education/Modern Apprenticeships

Shetland UHI was founded in August 2021, from the merger of The North Atlantic Fisheries College, Shetland College and Train Shetland. The new college is a partner of the University of Highlands and Islands.

Number of Students Enrolled				
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Full time courses	80	72	70	56
Part time courses*	1,619	1,629	1,986	1,828
Total	1,699	1,701	2,056	1,884

\*Duration of part time courses range from under 10 hours to up to full time

Student Outcomes (%)						
	Full time students			Part time students		
	Completed successfully	Partial success	Withdrew	Completed successfully	Partial success	Withdrew
2019/20	71.3	11.3	17.5	93.3	2.8	3.9
2020/21	58.3	18.1	23.6	83.7	11.4	4.9
2021/22	70.0	12.9	17.1	89.6	7.2	3.2
2022/23	69.6	8.9	21.4	93.7	4.1	2.2

UHI Staffing – Number of Permanent Full-Time Teaching Staff			
2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
18	17	37	29

Source: UHI - [About us - Performance Indicators](#)

Modern Apprenticeships in Shetland						
	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
New enrolments (starts)	204	225	178	171	155	182
Already in training	329	371	383	342	357	329
Achievement rate, as a % of all leavers	76%	91%	79%	81%	81.1%	81.3%
Scottish average achievement rate, as % of all leavers	76%	77%	76%	72%	72.7%	76.0%

Source: Skills Development Scotland - [Modern Apprenticeships statistics - Skills Development Scotland](#)

## 8 Health and Social Care

Shetland has one hospital, located in Lerwick, and 10 GP surgeries throughout Shetland. There are also 4 NHS dental clinics in the islands.

### Staffing

NHS Shetland Staffing												
	1986	1991	2001	2011	Dec 2016		Dec 2021		Dec 2023		Dec 2024	
					HC	WTE	HC	WTE	HC	WTE	HC	WTE
Administrative Services	43	59	73	119	162	131.4	237	193.9	225	182.4	231	188.5
Allied Health Professionals	-	-	-	-	44	36.7	55	47.2	54	44.4	61	49.2
Medical & Dental	36	42	49	24	39	34.4	70	51.1	72	49.9	76	52.2
Medical & Dental Support	-	-	-	55	54	43	53	42.7	49	39.4	48	37.8
Nursing & Midwifery	194	251	212	186	238	189.7	272	222.9	282	231.0	275	224.0
Support Services	139	147	86	131	96	77.4	97	76	90	67.5	92	69.4
Other Services*	-	-	-	-	44	39.8	72	59.5	79	67.7	87	78.0
Total**	412	499	420	515	672	552.4	851	693.3	844	682.3	870	699.1

\*Includes Healthcare Science, Therapeutic Services and Personal & Social Care

\*\*HC totals may not add up as staff can have a job across two job groups, so are counted once in each group but only once in the total

HC = Headcount; WTE = Whole Time Equivalent

Source: [NHS Scotland workforce | Turas Data Intelligence](#)

General Practice Staffing - Shetland						
	General Practitioners				Nurses	
	HC	Est. WTE	HC/10,000 patients	WTE/10,000 patients	HC	WTE
2019	28	25	12.4	11.1	17	17
2022	26	16	11.8	7.3	Not reported	
2023	26	17.2	11.3	7.5	40	18.0
2024	26	10.4	11.4	4.5	33	13.3

General Practice Staffing - March 2024								
	General Practitioners						Nurses	
	GP HC	GP WTE	HC/10,000 patients	WTE/10,000 patients	Locum WTE as % of GP WTE	Practices using locum	HC	WTE
Eilean Siar	30	21.7	11.1	8.0	28.6%	66.7%	24	18.9
Highland	368	299.7	10.9	8.8	8.8%	82.8%	203	133.1
Orkney	44	30.9	19.7	13.9	4.2%	83.3%	27	18.9
Shetland	26	10.4	11.4	4.5	95.4%	80.0%	33	13.3
Scotland	4,438	3,453.1	7.4	5.8	10.1%	84.6%	2,447	1,710.3

HC = Headcount; WTE = Whole Time Equivalent

Source: [Annual Report | Turas Data Intelligence](#) - General Practice Workforce Survey

## Hospital Activity

<b>Gilbert Bain Hospital</b> (Board of Treatment - NHS Shetland)							
	2012/13	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24*
Inpatients							
Day Cases	2,071	2,632	2,467	1,326	1,980	2,147	2,131
Elective Inpatients	309	280	290	194	307	200	183
Emergency Inpatients	2,259	1,956	1,859	1,646	1,756	1,851	1,748
Transfers	90	221	257	310	244	280	274
<b>All Inpatient Episodes</b>	<b>4,729</b>	<b>5,089</b>	<b>4,873</b>	<b>3,476</b>	<b>4,287</b>	<b>4,481</b>	<b>4,336</b>
Outpatients							
<b>All Outpatient attendances</b>	<b>15,407</b>	<b>13,156</b>	<b>14,171</b>	<b>10,649</b>	<b>13,180</b>	<b>13,006</b>	<b>13,412</b>

\*Provisional Figures

Source: [Publications and data - Hospital care - Primary and secondary care - Our areas of work - Public Health Scotland](#)

## Social Care

Services are provided by the SIC Social Care Service, except where stated							
	1984/5	1990/1	2001/2	2011/2	2021/2	2022/3	2023/4
Local Authority beds for older people	44	54	56	130	131	131	131
Voluntary Sector beds for older people*	56	56	86	16	16	16	16
Day care places for older people**	-	-	26	95	98	98	98
Shetland Welfare Trust day care places for older people	25	25	66	-	-	-	-
Day care places for adults with learning disabilities	-	-	-	-	77	77	77
Places in hostel for adults with learning disabilities	6	16	5	9	-	-	-
Supported living for adults with learning disabilities	-	-	20	32	39	40	40
Places in Children & Young Peoples Residential Services	10	10	5	8	12	12	12
Places for mentally/physically disabled children – respite care	0	0	6	6	5	5	5
Meals delivered	45,107	54,800	40,585	38,116	25,334	27,794	29,460
Care at home – clients receiving domestic tasks	584	576	573	301	261	283	187
Care at home – clients receiving personal care***				264	398	384	290
Homes connected to community alarm system	0	482	731	677	693	698	674

\*Voluntary sector beds: 16 are provided by Church of Scotland, and the remainder up to 2011/12 were provided by The Shetland Welfare Trust

\*\*The Church of Scotland provide 10 of the day care places for older people

\*\*\*Data from 2011 onwards - Food preparation classed as personal care by Scottish Government

## 9 Recreation

### Leisure Activities

Shetland.org has a range of information on outdoor: [Outdoors and adventure | Shetland.org](https://www.shetland.org/outdoors-and-adventure), and indoor: [Leisure and things to do | Shetland.org](https://www.shetland.org/leisure-and-things-to-do), facilities/activities throughout the isles, as well as heritage sites: [History and heritage | Shetland.org](https://www.shetland.org/history-and-heritage).

### Leisure Centre & Swimming Pool Admissions\*

Facility	2022/3	2023/4
Clickimin Leisure Complex	207,615	215,828
North Mainland Leisure Centre	24,540	23,325
Scalloway Pool	17,808	15,420
South Mainland Pool	13,829	13,313
Unst Leisure Centre	11,757	10,807
West Mainland Leisure Centre	27,672	23,145
Whalsay Leisure Centre	20,545	21,221
Yell Leisure Centre	8,318	8,245
Total Admissions	332,084	331,304

\*Admission figures do not include spectators or school PE activity

Admission data collection changed in April 2022, therefore comparable historic data is not available

Source: Shetland Recreational Trust

### Community Halls & Centres

There is a network of community halls and centres located throughout the isles which act as hubs for local communities and are host to a wide range of activities through the year. In addition to the list below, there are also a number of clubs, church halls and other buildings used by local communities.

<b>Lerwick &amp; Bressay</b>	<b>West Mainland</b>	<b>North &amp; Outer Isles</b>	<b>Central Mainland</b>
Bressay Hall	Aith Hall	Fetlar Hall	Bridge End Hall - Burra
Islesburgh Community Centre	Bixter Hall	Skerries Hall	Hamnavoe Hall - Burra
Lerwick Town Hall	Gruting Community Centre	Baltasound Hall - Unst	Trondra Hall
North Staney Hill Hall	Sandness Hall	Haroldswick Hall - Unst	Scalloway Hall
Sound Hall	Skeld Hall	Uyeasound Hall - Unst	Whiteness & Weisdale Hall
	Walls Hall	Isbister Hall - Whalsay	Tingwall Hall
		Symbister Hall - Whalsay	
<b>North Mainland</b>			
Brae Hall	<b>South Mainland</b>	Burravoe Hall - Yell	<b>Outdoor Education Centres</b>
Eshaness Community Centre	Bigton Hall	Cullivoe Hall - Yell	Bridge End - Burra
Hillswick Hall	Boddam Hall	East Yell Hall - Yell	Voxter - Brae
Lunnasting Hall	Carnegie Hall	Mid Yell Hall - Yell	
Mossbank Hall	Cunningsburgh Hall	Sellafirth Hall - Yell	<b>Youth Centres</b>
Muckle Roe Hall	Fair Isle Hall	North Ness Hall - Yell	Brae
North Nesting Hall	Gulberwick Hall	West Sandwick Hall - Yell	Cunningsburgh Village Club
North Roe & Lochend Hall	Levenwick Hall		Germatwatt - Walls
Ollaberry Hall	Quarff Hall		Livister - Whalsay
South Nesting Hall			Sandveien – Lerwick
Sullom & Gunnister Hall			Sandwick
Voe Hall			Scalloway
			Unst

Source: Community Planning & Development, SIC

## 10 Services

### Fire Service

There are 14 retained fire stations located in Shetland, 2 multi-pump stations in Lerwick and Brae and 12 single pump stations in Bixter, Bressay, Fair Isle, Fetlar, Hillswick, Sandwick, Scalloway, Sumburgh, Unst, Walls, Whalsay and Yell.

At 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024, Fire Scotland had a core of 9.5 whole-time staff based in Lerwick and 118 on call staff throughout its 14 Shetland stations. As well as crewing, the whole-time staff deliver activities which support Shetland's Local Fire and Rescue plan and contribute to the wider Shetland Community Plan.

Scottish Fire & Rescue Service - Incidents Attended, Shetland						
Incident Type		2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Fire - Building	Chimney Fire	10	14	5	7	4
	Derelict Building	1	-	-	-	-
	Dwelling	12	25	14	16	23
	Non Residential	6	5	6	2	3
	Other Residential	1	4	-	2	2
Fire - Outdoor	Grassland, woodland and crops	2	6	6	4	2
	Other outdoors (including land)	-	3	4	1	1
	Outdoor equipment and machinery	4	1	6	4	2
	Outdoor structures	3	6	2	6	2
	Refuse	4	4	2	2	3
Fire - Vehicle	Aircraft	-	-	-	-	-
	Boats	1	1	1	2	-
	Road Vehicle	3	13	5	9	9
Special Service	Animal Assistance	-	2	1	1	-
	Flooding / Water Rescue	2	3	2	3	4
	Hazardous Materials	-	-	1	3	-
	Humanitarian	3	3	3	2	1
	Inter-Agency	10	11	4	23	8
	Other Non-Fire	6	1	1	-	13
	Securing Scene	-	-	2	1	4
	Vehicle	9	8	15	10	13
False Alarm	Due to Apparatus	94	100	106	97	58
	Good Intent	31	33	27	30	52
	Malicious	5	2	5	-	2
Total Incidents - Shetland		207	245	218	225	206

Source: Fire Scotland

## Police Service

There are 3 police stations in Shetland, in Lerwick, Brae and Yell. In 2023/24 there were 467 crimes per 10,000 population, which was lower than the Scottish average.

Crimes and Offences Recorded by Police Scotland / Detection Rates - Shetland Islands											
Crime Gp	Number of crimes & offences recorded							Detection Rate (%)			
	1996/7	2001/2	2011/12	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24
Gp 1	5	12	17	14	26	25	24	100	42	40	63
Gp 2	13	19	17	58	62	59	47	85	92	34	70
Gp 3	347	216	163	74	82	118	99	60	49	27	32
Gp 4	247	261	124	76	66	78	56	62	32	33	16
Gp 5	111	127	78	172	131	164	187	100	90	76	84
Gp 6	453	314	425	195	179	297	209	98	96	82	90
Gp 7	470	561	304	353	361	391	450	100	98	89	98
Total	1,646	1,510	1,128	942	907	1,132	1,072				

Gp 1 – Non sexual crimes of violence

Gp 2 – Sexual crimes

Gp 3 – Crimes of dishonesty

Gp 4 – Fire-raising/vandalism etc.

Gp 5 – Other crimes

Gp 6 – Miscellaneous offences

Gp 7 – Motor vehicle offences

Number of Crimes Per 10,000 Population														
	2006/7	2012/13	2020/21			2021/22			2022/23			2023/24		
	Gp 1-7	Gp 1-7	Gp 1-5	Gp 6	Gp 7	Gp 1-5	Gp 6	Gp 7	Gp 1-5	Gp 6	Gp 7	Gp 1-5	Gp 6	Gp 7
Abn City	2,441	1,834	495	220	280	537	265	235	502	237	175	516	249	204
Abnshire	1,648	977	234	102	176	245	121	232	236	123	185	234	119	195
Eilean Siar	1,073	634	194	116	177	162	135	182	219	140	169	183	97	250
Edinburgh	2,464	1,442	482	214	135	477	224	176	502	205	173	552	221	161
Glasgow	2,839	3,083	577	363	263	582	370	245	628	355	268	640	335	295
Highland	1,903	1,469	302	150	308	306	161	270	331	175	289	373	183	348
Orkney	777	749	130	82	143	130	80	177	181	93	274	184	96	228
Shetland	949	658	172	85	154	160	78	158	194	130	171	180	91	196
Scotland	2,006	1,537	415	228	212	405	234	208	419	222	195	441	224	206

Source: [How we are performing - Police Scotland](#)

## Water and Wastewater Services

Water Supplied - Megalitres (1 Megalitre = 1,000,000 litres)									
	1976	1981	1991	2001	2012	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total supplied	2,627	4,964	4,691	4,104	3,914	4,395	4,133	4,184	4,383
Av daily demand	7.19	13.60	12.85	11.24	10.72	12.04	11.32	11.46	12.01

Microbiological Quality at Water Treatment Works							
	1991	2001	2012	2021	2022	2023	2024
Percentage compliance	97.20	99.94	100	100	100	100	100

Networks						
		1999	2008	2012	2022	2024
Water connections	Domestic	9,502	9,939	12,458	11,374	11,712
	Non-domestic	1,119	1,187	1,387	1,268	1,261
Sewer connections	Domestic	6,701	6,938	10,841	8,204	8,091
	Non-domestic	712	761	1,301	772	not available
Length of water mains (km)	In-use public	1,005	1,017	1,080	1,071	1,072
Length of sewers (km)	In-use public	365	372	309	312	313

New (Replacement) Mains					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Water (km)	10.1	1.3	12.4	3.8	6.8
Sewer (km)	4.1 (since 2019)			0	1.0

Treatment					
	1999	2002	2012	2021	2024
Wastewater treatment plants (Inc. septic tanks)	60	64	80	81	81
Water treatment works	18	18	10	10	10

Source: Scottish Water, Lerwick

## Digital Connectivity

To check broadband, 3G and 4G coverage across Shetland, follow the links below.

Broadband coverage: [View broadband availability - Ofcom Checker title](#)

3G and 4G coverage: [View mobile availability - Ofcom Checker](#)

Source: Ofcom

## 11 Energy

### Energy Sources

Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks are the electricity system operator on Shetland. 50% of Shetland's electricity is currently supplied by the diesel-fired Lerwick Power Station, 30% by the gas-fired Sullom Voe Terminal Power Station and around 20% small independent and community based renewable generators. These renewable sources are mainly from wind power generation but also include a small but important mix of solar, tidal and micro hydro generators.

Note: The contribution by SVTPS excludes energy used within the Sullom Voe Terminal.

Source: Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks: [Shetland Energy - SSEN](#)

Since 1991, the Lerwick Energy Recovery Plant's residual waste heat has been sold to a district heating scheme in Lerwick. It supplies 1,281 properties of which 1,140 are domestic housing. The other 141 properties are commercial and public buildings including the Gilbert Bain hospital, Clickimin Leisure Complex, Lerwick Schools, libraries and other public buildings, SIC offices and commercial businesses. There is capacity in the network to connect many more customers. The current installed capacity of the District Heating Scheme is 15,000 kWhrs and the energy use of customers currently supplied is around 40,000 MWhrs per year.

Source: Shetland Heat Energy and Power

### Electricity Generation & Distribution

Electricity Generation - Shetland		
Year	Units generated (Kilowatt hours)	Maximum demand (Megawatts)
1971/2	32,319,000	11.69
1981/2	143,539,222	36.0
1991/2	170,023,850	41.2
2001/2	230,600,000	45.2
2012/3	214,185,500	44.7
2021/2	185,054,300	38.5
2022/3	173,627,000	37.7
2023/4	176,768,700	38.32

Electricity Distribution (Km) - Shetland								
	1971	1981	1991	2001	2012	2021	2023	2024
33,000 Volt overhead lines	24.7	98.0	128.3	167.3	175.7	172.7	172.7	162.7
33,000 Volt underground cables	0.0	3.7	11.6	10.7	12.0	23.5	23.5	33.5
11,000 Volt overhead lines	705.9	756.2	843.0	812.2	845.5	842.1	842.1	840.0
11,000 Volt underground cables	15.1	65.5	99.3	110.8	120.4	128.53	128.53	135.0
Low Voltage overhead lines	340.1	345.6	324.5	227.4	227.4	226.1	226.1	226.1
Low Voltage underground cables	18.9	65.6	122.7	219.0	242.0	264.0	264.0	280.0

Source: Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks, Lerwick Power Station

## Energy Consumption

Electricity Consumption Rates - Shetland									
	No. of meters (000s)			Total consumption (GWh)			Mean consumption (kWh/meter)		
	Domestic	Non-Domestic	Total	Domestic	Non-Domestic	Total	Domestic	Non-Domestic	Mean - All meters
2005	16.3	1.8	18.1	107	102	210	6,608	55,430	11,573
2011	17.1	1.8	19.0	104	93	196	6,064	50,192	10,355
2021	16.7	1.9	18.6	95.3	82.4	177.6	5,697	44,142	9,556
2023	16.8	1.8	18.7	88.6	82.3	170.9	5,266	44,776	9,155

Mean Domestic Consumption (kWh per household)					Domestic Electricity Smart Meters Installed		
	2007	2011	2021	2023		2023 (%)	2024 (%)
Eilean Siar	8,283	7,527	6,619	6,022	Eilean Siar	9	16
Highland	7,782	6,952	5,637	5,154	Highland	28	35
Orkney	9,515	8,591	7,585	6,979	Orkney	9	12
Shetland	11,349	10,401	9,047	8,344	Shetland	7	10
Scotland	5,186	4,692	3,787	3,429	Scotland	43	51
Great Britain	4,662	4,339	3,720	3,449	Great Britain	55	63

Sources: [Regional and local authority electricity consumption statistics - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/regional-and-local-authority-electricity-consumption-statistics)  
[Smart meter statistics - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/smart-meter-statistics) – Q1 reports (March)

Total Final Energy Consumption*								
	2005		2011		2021		2022	
	ktoe	GWh	ktoe	GWh	ktoe	GWh	ktoe	GWh
Eilean Siar	51.0	593.1	48.3	561.7	46.4	539.6	47.0	546.6
Highland	607.2	7,061.7	605.5	7,042.0	602.5	7,007.1	637.0	7,408.3
Orkney	40.5	471.0	35.6	414.0	39.1	454.7	38.8	451.2
Shetland	50.1	582.7	46.0	535.0	44.2	514.0	45.9	533.8
Scotland	14,961	173,996	13,213	153,667	12,041	140,037	12,031	139,921
Great Britain	152,127	1,769,237	130,142	1,513,551	120,892	1,405,974	118,286	1,375,666

\*Estimates produced from combining gas, electricity and transport consumption figures for local authority areas  
ktoe = Thousands of tonnes of oil equivalent                      GWh = Gigawatt Hour

Source: [Sub-national total final energy consumption data - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/sub-national-total-final-energy-consumption-data)

Carbon Dioxide Emissions from Shetland Based Energy Facilities (Tonnes)						
	2007	2011	2016	2021	2022	2023
Lerwick Energy Recovery Plant	30,170	20,850	14,190	12,558	19,085	26,060
Lerwick Power Station	80,020	79,040	79,710	72,934	59,858	71,021
SVT Power Station	260,000*	267,720	211,740	180,810	167,947	163,396
SVT Refinery	100,450	170,130	100,310	28,970	25,528	59,986
Shetland Gas Plant	Opened 2016		235,230	127,788	122,989	115,669

\*SVT Power Station figure for 2008 as no 2007 data

Source: SEPA Scottish Pollutant Release Inventory: [Scottish Pollution Release Inventory \(sepa.org.uk\)](https://www.sepa.org.uk/pollution-release-inventory)

## Renewable Energy

Shetland has a number of small independent and community owned renewable systems installed in domestic, public and community buildings - including wind, solar, tidal, hydro, biomass, heat pump and air source. While there is no record of all these systems, the table below outlines the larger systems installed, which are recorded on the Renewable Energy Planning Database.

With the 103 turbine Viking windfarm becoming operational on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024, the installed capacity of renewables in Shetland rose by 443,000 Kilowatts.

Systems Recorded on the Renewable Energy Planning Database - Shetland (Oct 2024)						
	Commercial		Community		Total	
	No	KW	No	KW	No	KW
Wind	3	449,700	1	4,500	4	454,200
Solar			1	10	1	10
Tidal	2	1,900			2	1,900
Total	5	451,600	2	4,510	7	456,110

No: Number of renewable projects

KW: Installed capacity in Kilowatts

Source: [Renewable Energy Planning Database: quarterly extract - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/renewable-energy-planning-database-quarterly-extract)

## Plug-in Vehicles

Licensed Plug-in Vehicles Registered in Shetland*	2009	2011	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Cars - Battery electric	1	1	20	33	87	122	145
Cars - Plug in hybrid	0	0	29	34	49	58	77
Cars - Range extended electric	0	0	1	2	1	0	1
Light Goods Vehicles - Battery electric	0	1	5	5	7	17	18
Light Goods Vehicles - Plug in hybrid	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
Motorcycles - Battery electric	0	1	0	0	0	1	2
Motorcycles - Plug in hybrid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1	3	55	74	145	199	244

\* All figures to 31<sup>st</sup> December. Vehicles allocated to a local authority according to the postcode of the registered keeper. This is the keeper's address for privately owned vehicles or the company's registered address for a company owned vehicle. The address does not necessarily reflect where the vehicle is located.

Source: [Vehicle licensing statistics data tables - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/vehicle-licensing-statistics-data-tables) – Table VEH0142

Number of Public Electric Vehicle Charge Points Across Shetland				
2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
14	16	21	26	33

Source: [EV charging stations in Shetland Islands Area - ChargeFinder](https://www.chargefinder.co.uk/ev-charging-stations-in-shetland-islands-area)

In 2020, Shetland Islands Council set up a Climate change Programme, you can find more about the work being done here: [What are we doing? – Shetland Islands Council](https://www.shetland.gov.uk/what-are-we-doing/)

## 12 Conservation

### Built Heritage

Shetland currently has one Historic Marine Protected Area - Out Skerries Historic MPA, as well as 337 listed buildings, 392 scheduled monuments and 4 designated gardens and landscapes, detailed below.

	Listed Buildings				Scheduled Monuments	Gardens & Landscapes
	Category A	Category B	Category C	Total		
Bressay	1	10	3	14	8	1
Delting	0	10	4	14	20	
Dunrossness	3	17	9	29	69	
Fetlar	1	2	4	7	13	1
Lerwick	3	56	46	105	16	
Lerwick Landward	0	1	1	2	-	
Nesting	0	14	8	22	46	1
Northmavine	0	10	8	18	38	
Sandsting	1	7	6	14	40	
Tingwall	2	7	29	38	25	
Unst	2	9	11	22	51	1
Walls & Sandness	1	12	10	23	52	
Yell	1	10	18	29	14	
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>4</b>

Source: Historic Environment Scotland [Search \(historicenvironment.scot\)](https://www.historicenvironment.scot/)

Sites & Monuments			
The current number of records in the Historic Environment Record is: 10,142			
Broch	146	Longhouse	121
Burnt Mound	379	Military Remains	1089
Chambered cairn	162	Souterrain	30
Fishing Station	46	Wheelhouse	20

Source: Shetland Islands Council

### Nature Conservation

Statutory Conservation Sites in Shetland		
2 National Nature Reserves (NNR):	Hermaness (Seabird colony)	980.3ha
	Noss (Seabird colony)	313.0ha
78 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI):		
Geology: 33 sites	Marsh & Meadow: 7 sites	Rare Plants: 9 sites
Geomorphology: 7 sites	Limestone Grassland: 1 site	Seabirds: 18 sites
Montane Habitats: 1 site	Sand Dune Flora: 3 sites	Moorland Birds: 15 sites
Serpentine Vegetation: 4 sites	Trees & Woodland: 3 sites	Wildfowl: 2 sites
Other Heathland: 5 sites	Intertidal Habitats: 5 sites	Cliff Vegetation: 2 sites
Peatland: 5 sites	Aquatic Flora & Fauna: 8 sites	Mammals: 4 sites
Note: Some sites are notified for more than one feature of interest		
12 Special Protection Areas, covering 17 of the ornithological SSSIs, have been designated under EC Birds Directive		
3 Special Protected Areas in Marine Environment and 2 Nature Conservation Marine Protected Areas		
A further 12 sites comprising 11 SSSIs and 1 non-SSSI area have been designated as Special Areas of Conservation under the EC Habitats Directive		

Source: NatureScot: <https://sitelink.nature.scot/>

Shetland is also a designated UNESCO Global Geopark: [Geopark Shetland | Shetland.org](#); [Shetland | UNESCO in the UK](#)

Total area covered by statutory conservation sites is 19,843 Hectares, which represents 13.5% of the total area of Shetland.			
Approximate area coverage:			
Foula: 2 sites	100%	Noss: 1 site	100%
Papa Stour: 1 site	79%	Fetlar: 6 sites	70%
Fair Isle: 1 site	66%	Unst: 15 sites	21%
Mainland & Uninhabited Islands: 43 sites (1 shared with Yell)	9%	Yell: 8 sites (1 shared with Mainland)	4%
Muckle Roe: 1 site	0.1%		

Source: NatureScot

## Wildlife

Latest Population Estimates for Selected Species*		
Species	Est. Population	Est. Proportion of UK population
Red-Necked Phalarope <sup>1</sup>	79 pairs	80-90%
Whimbrel (Tang Whaup) <sup>1</sup>	396 Pairs	97%
Great Skua (Bonxie)	1,020 - 1,360 Pairs	70%
Arctic Skua (Scootie Alan)	295 Pairs	41%
Red-Throated Diver (Raingoose) <sup>1</sup>	400 Pairs	40%
Arctic Tern (Tirrick)	7,164 Pairs	22%
Fulmar (Maalie)	151,790 Pairs	43%
Black Guillemot (Tystie)	12,295 Adults	31%
Shag (Skarf)	3,060 Pairs	12%
Puffin (Tammie Norrie)	30,334 Pairs	10%
Gannet (Solan)	34,900 - 36,600 Pairs	12%
Grey Seal (Selkie)	3,000 – 3,500 Adults	2%
Otter (Dratsie)**	500-1,000 Individuals	5-10%
Common Seal (Selkie)	3,200 Adults	8%

\*Figures based on the latest breeding estimates available and are estimates of the proportion of UK population. Recent events such as Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (Bird Flu) may have negatively impacted seabird figures, especially Great Skua and Gannet populations.

\*\*There has not been a Shetland wide otter survey for many years, this figure is a very rough estimate

Sources: <sup>1</sup> birds: RSPB

Seabirds: [Seabirds Count](#)

Mammals: NatureScot

## 13 Politics & Local Government

### 2024 General Election Results in the Orkney and Shetland UK Parliamentary Constituency

Percentage Turnout: 60.74%

Candidate Elected: Alistair Carmichael (Scottish Liberal Democrats)

Source: [UK Parliamentary Election - 4 July 2024 – Shetland Islands Council](#)

### 2021 Scottish Parliamentary Election Results in the Shetland Constituency

Percentage Turnout: 66.0%

Candidate Elected: Beatrice Wishart (Scottish Liberal Democrats)

Source: [Scottish Parliamentary Election 2021 – Shetland Islands Council](#)

### Shetland Islands Council Members/Wards 2022-2027

Ward 1 - North Isles Turnout: Uncontested seat Candidates Elected: Duncan Simpson Ryan James Andrew Thomson By-election to fill vacant North Isles seat 04/08/2022: Turnout: 46.2% Candidate Elected: Robert William Thomson	Ward 5 - Lerwick North & Bressay Turnout: 39.0% Candidates Elected: Stephen Leask Gary Robinson Arwed Wenger
Ward 2 - Shetland North Turnout: Uncontested seat Candidates Elected: Emma Louise MacDonald Andrea Isabel Manson Tom Morton – Resigned 31/10/24 By-election to fill vacant seat 24/01/2025: Turnout: 39.6% Candidate Elected: Andrew Hall	Ward 6 - Lerwick South Turnout: 44.8% Candidates Elected: John Finlay Sinclair Fraser Dennis Leask Neil Pearson Cecil Laing Smith
Ward 3 - Shetland West Turnout: 56.5% Candidates Elected: Liz Boxwell John Robert Leask – Resigned 29/08/2022 By-election to fill vacant seat 17/11/2022: Turnout: 37% Candidate Elected: Mark Robinson	Ward 7 - Shetland South Turnout: 55.4% Candidates Elected: Alex Armitage Allison Duncan Robbie McGregor Bryan Peterson
Ward 4 - Shetland Central Turnout: 44.9% Candidates Elected: Catherine Hughson Moraig Lyall Davie Sandison Ian Scott	Further information on all elected members: <a href="#">Councillors – Shetland Islands Council</a>  Maps detailing electoral wards: <a href="#">SIC Ward Maps [May 2022] – Shetland Islands Council</a>

Source: [Local Council Elections 2022 – Shetland Islands Council](#)

### Shetland Islands Council Structure/Departments

Management Structure: [About Your Council – Shetland Islands Council](#)

Contact information: [Contact us – Shetland Islands Council](#)

## Community Councils

There are 18 community councils in Shetland, with a total of 163 seats. The most recent elections took place in October 2022, with no seats contested and 77% of seats filled. Due to a current scheme review, the next election is postponed for 1 year, to October 2025, to allow the council term and review process to run concurrently.

Shetland Community Council Seats as at 24 <sup>th</sup> November 2022							
Community Council	Total seats	Quorum	Vacancies	Community Council	Total seats	Quorum	Vacancies
Bressay	8	3	0	Sandness & Walls	10	4	0
Burra & Trondra	8	3	2	Sandsting & Aithsting	8	3	0
Delting	12	4	6	Sandwick	8	3	0
Dunrossness	12	4	4	Scalloway	9	3	5
Fetlar	6	3	0	Skerries	5	3	0
Gulberwick, Quarff & Cunningsburgh	10	4	4	Tingwall, Whiteness & Weisdale	9	3	2
Lerwick	16	6	5	Unst	9	3	0
Nesting & Lunnasting	8	3	0	Whalsay	7	3	3
Northmavine	9	3	2	Yell	9	3	5

Source: [notice-of-uncontested-elections-2022 \(shetland.gov.uk\)](https://www.shetland.gov.uk/notice-of-uncontested-elections-2022)

## Shetland Islands Council Finance

Shetland Islands Council Service and General Fund Expenditure:	2019/20 £'000	2020/21 £'000	2021/22 £'000	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000
Corporate & Executive Services	12,394	12,189	13,601	14,389	14,145
Development Services	16,186	11,909	12,188	16,646	19,821
Children's Services	45,190	45,779	48,735	57,014	59,936
Community Health & Social Care	20,289	21,960	21,648	27,494	32,306
Infrastructure Services	25,989	25,252	22,134	33,846	37,523
<b>Total Services Net Expenditure</b>	<b>120,048</b>	<b>117,089</b>	<b>118,306</b>	<b>149,389</b>	<b>163,731</b>
Cost Pressures & Contingency	(165)	0	(2)	24	(3)
Covid-19	0	2,039	3,544	914	0
Crown Estate Unallocated	(1,009)	(1,360)	(1,572)	(1,608)	0
Economic Development Investment Income (net)	(1,343)	(910)	(1,139)	(864)	(1,143)
Financing Costs	1,385	1,354	1,352	1,375	1,446
Fund Manager Fees	1,007	1,142	1,596	1,503	1,212
Interest in Revenue Balances	(53)	(4)	(14)	(299)	(428)
Other Unallocated Funds	0	0	(125)	0	0
Recharges to Other Funds	(4,354)	(3,459)	(3,854)	(4,090)	(3,564)
Valuation Joint Board	0	0	0	0	526
<b>Total Net General Fund Expenditure</b>	<b>115,516</b>	<b>115,891</b>	<b>118,092</b>	<b>146,344</b>	<b>161,777</b>
<b>Financed by:</b>	<b>2019/20 £'000</b>	<b>2020/21 £'000</b>	<b>2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>2023/24 £'000</b>
Grant Funding (incl. Specific grants)	(55,412)	(73,776)	(61,795)	(68,227)	(88,273)
NNDR	(25,925)	(17,182)	(26,690)	(35,155)	(24,302)
Council Tax	(9,643)	(10,106)	(10,285)	(10,254)	(10,914)
Draws on Reserves (Sustainable)	(21,881)	(14,562)	(20,725)	(28,803)	(29,036)
Draws on Reserves (Unsustainable)	(2,518)	0	0	(4,135)	(12,433)
Other Specific Reserves	(137)	(265)	1,403	230	3,181
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>(115,516)</b>	<b>(115,891)</b>	<b>(118,092)</b>	<b>(146,344)</b>	<b>(161,777)</b>

Source: SIC Finance

Note: Information has been extracted from Draft Outturn report presented annually to SIC Committee

Details of SIC Council Tax charges and bands: [Council Tax – Shetland Islands Council](#)

## 14 The Shetland Partnership

The [Shetland Partnership](#) is made up of a wide range of partners and community bodies who work together to develop and deliver Shetland's Partnership Plan, which identifies a shared vision and priorities for everyone to work towards to improve the lives of everyone in Shetland.

The Shetland Partnership's shared vision is:

"Shetland is a place where everyone is able to thrive; living well in strong, resilient communities; and where people and communities are able to help plan and deliver solutions to future challenge"

A range of data is gathered in relation to this plan, which can be found online:

Shetland Partnership Plan annual reports	<a href="#">Annual Reports – Shetland Partnership</a>
Shetland Partnership Plan Latest data on indicators	<a href="#">Indicators – Shetland Partnership</a>
Shetland Partnership Locality Profiles	<a href="#">Locality Profiles – Shetland Partnership</a>
NHS Shetland Population Health Survey (Nov21-Aug22)	<a href="#">Population Health Survey – Healthy Shetland</a>