2008-Based Population Projections

Stirling Council Area

Stirling By Numbers

February 2010

BRIEFING NOTE:

Population Projections for Scottish Council areas (2008-based) produced by the General Register Office for Scotland (GRO (S))

Introduction

The General Register Office today published the results of its latest round of biennial population projections for sub-national areas in Scotland. These are calculated using population estimates from a base year, in this case 2008. The figures are then rolled forward on the basis of past trends in fertility, mortality and net migration for individual council and health board areas to the year 2033. **GRO assumes that past trends will continue, therefore they should not be seen as precise forecasts of the future population.** In many areas, including Stirling, migration is the most important component of population change. It is also important to note that projections become more uncertain the further ahead they go, especially for smaller council areas like Stirling.

Note that population projections make no allowance for the impact of national or local government policies therefore proposed housing developments or other policies are not considered when calculating population projections.

Stirling Council Area

Over the period from 2008 to 2033 Stirling's population is projected to increase by almost 7%, i.e. from 88,350 to 94,329. This is significantly lower than the expected rate of increase in the previous projection (2006-based - projected 12% to 2031). Stirling's increase represents the 14th highest increase in population amongst the 32 council areas.

- **Previous** projected population increase of 12% from 2006 to 2031 (87,810 to 97,954).
- **Latest** projected population increase of 7% from 2008 to 2033 (88,350 to 94,329).

Forth Valley Health Board Area

The population of the Forth Valley area is projected to increase by 13%, i.e. from 290,047 to 327,764 over the period from 2008 to 2033. All three local authorities show significant

projected increases with Clackmannanshire leading the way with 24%, followed by Falkirk (13%), and Stirling (7%).

- **Previous** projected population increase of 9% from 2006 to 2031.
- **Latest** projected population increase of 13% from 2008 to 2033.

Scotland

Scotland's total population is expected to increase by 7.3%, i.e. from 5.17 to 5.54 million over the period from 2008 to 2033. The 2006-based projections showed an increase of 5% to 2031. The difference between the projections is due in part to the higher starting point of the 2008 mid-year estimates and in part to the different assumptions made about fertility, mortality, and migration.

- Projected population increase of 4.4% from 2008 to 2020.
- Projected population increase of 7.3% from 2008 to 2033

Components of Population Change

The **main reason for the reduction in the projected population** (relative to the previous projection) is a reduction in the assumed net migration rate. The previous population projection (2006-based) projected a net migration of 250+ per annum to Stirling from within the UK and overseas, whereas the latest projection is 150 per annum. Natural change, which is the net of births and deaths, remains steady with a projected increase of 2.6% from 2008 to 2033.

Children, Working Age[1] and Pensionable[2] Age

Projected figures for the number of children, those of working age and pensionable age vary significantly across Scotland's local authorities, however Stirling's are very similar to the figures for Scotland as a whole.

<u>Stirling Council area</u>

For the Stirling Council area, the number of children aged 0-15 is projected to decrease by 1% from 2008 to 2033. The number of people of working age is projected to increase by 1% and

[1] Working age is 16-59 for women and 16-64 for men until 2010; between 2010 and 2020 working age becomes 16-64 for women. Between 2024 and 2026 working age for both men and women becomes 16-65 and changes again to 16-67 by 2046.

[2] Pensionable age is 65 for men, 60 for women until 2010; between 2010 and 2020 pensionable age for women increases to 65. Between 2024 and 2026 the pensionable age for both men and women increases to 66 and changes again to 68 by 2046.

the number of people of pensionable age to increase by 31%. The number of people aged 75+ is expected to increase by 92% from 2008 to 2033.

Scotland

For Scotland as a whole, the number of children aged 0-15 is projected to decrease by 2% from 2008 to 2033. The number of people of working age is projected to increase by 2% and the number of people of pensionable age to increase by 31%. The number of people aged 75+ is expected to increase by 84% from 2008 to 2033.

Main Growth Areas

A total of 19 of the 32 Council areas are expected to see increases in population over the projection period 2008 to 2033 as shown in Table 1 below (ranked in descending order of growth).

Table 1 – Councils showing projected increases

Rank	Council Area	Projected Increase (%) 2008-2033
1	East Lothian	34
2	Perth & Kinross	27
3	Clackmannanshire	24
4	West Lothian	23
5	Aberdeenshire	22
6	Highland	18
7	Edinburgh, City of	17
8	Scottish Borders	16
9	Falkirk	13
10	Orkney	12
11	Fife	10
12	South Lanarkshire	9
13	Angus	8
14	**Stirling**	**7**
15	Aberdeen city	4
16	Midlothian	3
17	North Lanarkshire	3
18	Moray	3
19	Glasgow	2

For a more detailed breakdown of the 2008-based projections visit: **http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/statistics/publications-and-data/popproj/2008-based-pop-proj-scottish-areas/index.html** or contact the person named below.

Sources: General Register Office for Scotland

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