

Yell, Unst & Fetlar



Yell, Unst and Fetlar are all different in character. Known for unique plant and birdlife, the islands are rich in archaeology, including Viking finds. They are home to a number of beaches, including an award winning Blue Flag beach in Yell. Crofting and farming are important across the isles, as is fishing and aquaculture, with fish landing at Cullivoe.

Unst is the most northerly island in Britain, with a National Nature Reserve at Hermaness. Fetlar is known as the Garden of Shetland due to its fertile soil, and is famous for birdlife including the Red Necked Phalarope. Yell is the second largest island in Shetland, is part of the Carbon Neutral Islands project, and has nationally important nature reserves such as the RSPB's Lumbister site.

There are a range of community run facilities, including 4 heritage centres between the islands. Unst also has the community managed Gardiesfauld Youth Hostel. There are 5 shops in Yell, 1 in Fetlar and 3 in Unst. There are health centres in Unst and Yell, with a Health Care Support Worker in Fetlar. There are schools in Yell and Unst for primary and secondary pupils, with a further 2 primary schools across the islands. Unst and Yell also have leisure centres. Communities put on events throughout the year.

Buses run from Lerwick to the ferry terminal at Toft, the access point to the islands, with buses to all the isles running Monday to Saturday. Ferries to and between the three isles take from 10-25 minutes, depending on departure point and arrival destination.

7% decrease in population over 10 years, the Shetland population overall has declined by 1%





1,542 people live in Yell, Unst & Fetlar, 7% of Shetland's population



9.1% of children are living in poverty, lower than the Shetland average of 11.6%

31.3% of the population are aged 65 and over, higher than the Shetland average of 21.8% and 7.2% more than 10 years ago



The cost of living is up to 13% higher than the Shetland average and up to 62% higher than the UK average

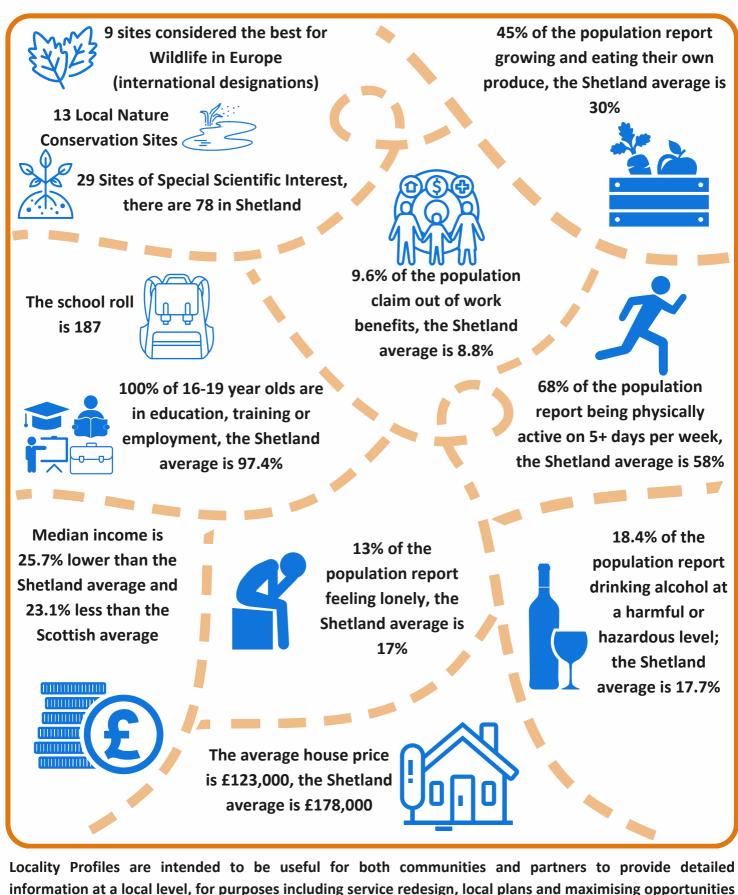


52.5% of the population are aged 16-64, lower than the Shetland average of 61% and 6.4% less than a decade ago





16.2% of the population are under 16 years old, lower than the Shetland average of 17.9% and 0.8% less than a decade ago



information at a local level, for purposes including service redesign, local plans and maximising opportunities to seek external funding to support community development. Profiles have been created for each of the 7 localities in Shetland. Statistics should be treated with caution due to small numbers, and figures can fluctuate significantly. A separate profile for Fetlar is also available.

Data Sources: CACI Paycheck 2022; Highlands and Islands Enterprise - Minimum Income Standard 2016; Improvement Service 2023; National Records Scotland (NRS) Population estimates 2021; NHS Shetland Population Health Survey 2021; Scottish Government: House Prices - Residential Properties Sales and Price 2022; Shetland Islands Council Local Development Plan 2014 Appendix III Environmental Baseline; Shetland Islands Council 2023; Skills Development Scotland, Annual Participation Measure 2023. Definitions, full details and links can be found on the Shetland Partnership website.