



Lerwick & Bressay



Lerwick and Bressay sit either side of the Bressay Sound, creating a natural harbour in Lerwick which is busy year round with fishing vessels, ferries and more recently, increasing numbers of cruise ships.

Lerwick, Shetland's Capital town, is home to over a quarter of Shetland's population. A base for many businesses and services, it is also the main transport hub for buses and for the ferry to mainland Scotland. Lerwick is a vibrant community with many facilities including a hospital; health centre; leisure centre; community centre; the UK's most northerly music, cinema and creative industries centre; museum; supermarkets, shops, restaurants and services. Each year, various festivals with events throughout Shetland, attracts masses of visitors to Lerwick. Lerwick is home to a high school, two primary schools and UHI Shetland's Lerwick Campus.

The island of Bressay lies east of the sound, separated from Lerwick by a 5 minute ferry journey. Bressay has several community facilities, including a community hall, football pitch, and heritage centre. Bressay Development Limited's Speldiburn premise houses a Community Office, Café, Good As New shop, studio space and an NHS approved facility. Bressay hosts the UK's most Northerly ParkRun event, weekly, welcoming visitors from all over the world.

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



6,848 people live in Lerwick & Bressay, 30% of Shetland's population



15.1% of children are living in poverty, higher than the Shetland average of 11.6%

22.8% of the population are aged 65 and over, higher than the Shetland average of 21.8% and 5% more than 10 years ago



The cost of living is up to 13% lower than the Shetland average and up to 26% higher than the UK average



2 Sites of Special Scientific Interest



15.1% of the population are under 16 years old, lower than the Shetland average of 17.9% and 2.1% less than a decade ago



2 sites considered the best for Wildlife in Europe (international designations)

15% of the population report growing and eating their own produce, the Shetland average is 30%



2 Local Nature Conservation Sites



12% of the population claim out of work benefits, the Shetland average is 8.8%



The school roll is 1,597



53% of the population report being physically active on 5+ days per week, the Shetland average is 58%



96.9% of 16-19 year olds are in education, training or employment, the Shetland average is 97.4%

Median income is 3.1% lower than the Shetland average and 0.4% less than the Scottish average



18% of the population report feeling lonely, the Shetland average is 17%



17.9% of the population report drinking alcohol at a harmful or hazardous level, the Shetland average is 17.7%



The average house price is £196,493, the Shetland average is £178,000



Locality Profiles are intended to be useful for both communities and partners to provide detailed 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 profile for Bressay will also be made available soon.

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.



Shetland Central

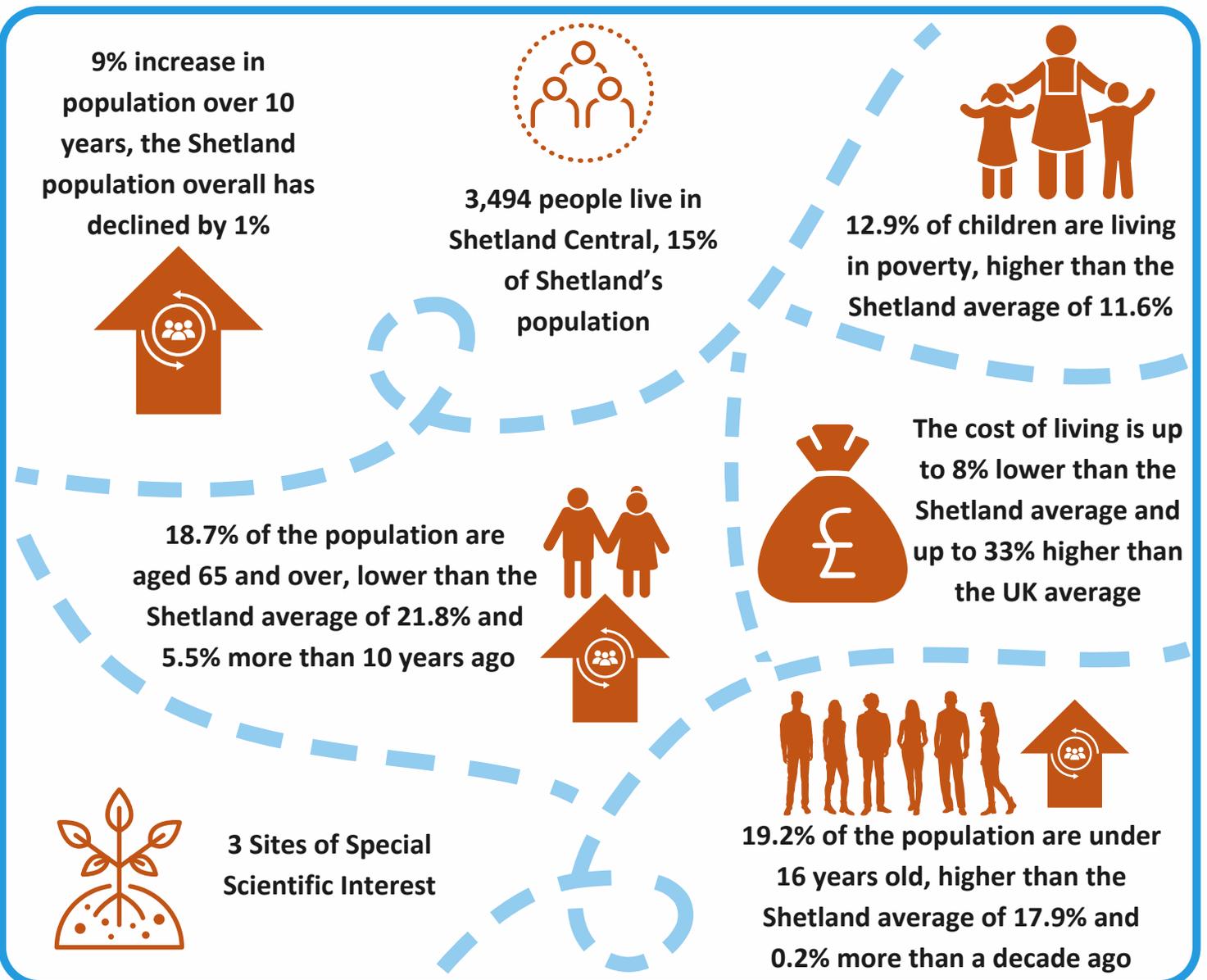


Covering Whiteness and Weisdale, Scalloway, Burra, Trondra, Tingwall and Girdsta, the Shetland Central Locality contains a variety of communities, with a growing population. A rich agricultural area, there is abundant farming land; aquaculture and fisheries play an important part too.

Some communities have little infrastructure, whereas others have a range of facilities. The main settlements are accessible by bus, approximately 10-20 minutes by car from Lerwick. There are four primary schools, in Hamnavoe, Tingwall, Scalloway and Whiteness.

Shetland's Ancient Capital, Scalloway, has well established childcare, a health centre, swimming pool, shops, grocers, hairdressers, restaurants, caravan park and a museum. The harbour, home to the Scalloway Fish Market, plays an important role in fisheries, aquaculture and the oil and gas industries. UHI Shetland's Scalloway campus is also key to the marine industries.

The islands of Trondra, and East and West Burra are linked by bridge, encompassing boat marinas, harbour, farms, beaches and arts and crafts studios. The airport linking the outer isles is located in Tingwall, as is a garden centre. In Whiteness and Weisdale there are shops, craft studios, a gallery, a restored mill and Shetland's largest woodland.





3 sites considered the best for Wildlife in Europe (international designations)

34% of the population report growing and eating their own produce, the Shetland average is 30%



6 Local Nature Conservation Sites



9.1% of the population claim out of work benefits, the Shetland average is 8.8%



The school roll is 426



64% of the population report being physically active on 5+ days per week, the Shetland average is 58%



97.5% of 16-19 year olds are in education, training or employment, the Shetland average is 97.4%

Median income is 13.2% higher than the Shetland average and 17.1% more than the Scottish average



20% of the population report feeling lonely, the Shetland average is 17%

14.4% of the population report drinking alcohol at a harmful or hazardous level; the Shetland average is 17.7%



The average house price is £207,583, the Shetland average is £178,000



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Shetland North



Shetland North, located north of Girda, takes in three areas: Delting, Northmavine and Nesting & Lunnasting. There are 2 health centres, as well as a multitude of community groups and businesses. Rural shops can be found throughout the areas.

Each hamlet has unique identities, with infrastructure and facilities varying throughout. The main settlements are: Nesting, Vidlin, Voe, Brae, Muckle Roe, Mossbank, North Roe, Ollaberry, Sullom, Eshaness and Hillswick. There is a school in Brae for primary and secondary pupils, and primary schools in Lunnasting, Mossbank, Nesting, North Roe, Ollaberry and Urafirth. Shetland North is vital to the oil and gas industries, with crofting, fishing and aquaculture also playing an important part.

Brae is the largest village in the area which comprises many facilities such as a supermarket, leisure centre, hotels and restaurants and the UK's most northerly chip shop. The North Mainland has a caravan park, wildlife sanctuary, and lays claim to the oldest kirk in Shetland, Lunna Kirk, and Ronas Hill, Shetland's highest hill.

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



3,251 people live in Shetland North, 14% of Shetland's population



10.7% of children are living in poverty, lower than the Shetland average of 11.6%

19.4% of the population are aged 65 and over, lower than the Shetland average of 21.8% and 5.8% more than 10 years ago



The cost of living is up to 8% higher than the Shetland average and up to 55% higher than the UK average



18 Sites of Special Scientific Interest



19.1% of the population are under 16 years old, higher than the Shetland average of 17.9% and 0.1% less than a decade ago





8 sites considered the best for Wildlife in Europe (international designations)

47% of the population report growing and eating their own produce, the Shetland average is 30%



13 Local Nature Conservation Sites



8.3% of the population claim out of work benefits, the Shetland average is 8.8%



The school roll is 505



49% of the population report being physically active on 5+ days per week, the Shetland average is 58%



98.9% of 16-19 year olds are in education, training or employment, the Shetland average is 97.4%

Median income is 6.6% lower than the Shetland average and 3.4% less than the Scottish average



18% of the population report feeling lonely, the Shetland average is 17%



13.6% of the population report drinking alcohol at a harmful or hazardous level; the Shetland average is 17.7%



The average house price is £160,333, the Shetland average is £178,000



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Shetland South

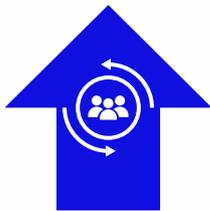


Shetland South ranges from Gulberwick to Sumburgh, and includes the UK's most remote island, Fair Isle. There are clusters of communities, from growing townships to smaller villages. There is a public transport bus route from Lerwick to Sumburgh Airport, which links into the Fair Isle ferry at Grutness. Buses also connect with other settlements, as do taxis throughout the area.

The main settlements are: Gulberwick, Quarff, Cunningsburgh, Sandwick, Levenwick, Bigton, Scousburgh, Dunrossness and Sumburgh. Shetland South has numerous archaeological, heritage and protected natural environment sites. Industries include agriculture, crofting, marine and construction. Shetland's main airport in Sumburgh provides employment opportunities, connecting Shetland with mainland UK, Kirkwall and seasonally, Norway. The airport supports the operation of Oil and Gas Industries flights, lifeline NHS services and HM Coastguard.

There is a junior high school in Sandwick, and primary schools in Cunningsburgh, Dunrossness and Fair Isle. There is a Health Centre in Levenwick and a swimming pool in Sandwick. Community facilities include shops, post offices, café restaurants, social clubs, youth and community centres, Churches, visitor centres and artist studios. There are many community events, including the Cunningsburgh Show, Shetland's largest agricultural show.

2% increase in population over 10 years, the Shetland population overall has declined by 1%

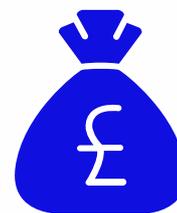


4,494 people live in Shetland South, 20% of Shetland's population



10.7% of children are living in poverty, lower than the Shetland average of 11.6%

19.6% of the population are aged 65 and over, lower than the Shetland average of 21.8% and 5.8% more than 10 years ago



The cost of living is up to 8% lower than the Shetland average and up to 33% higher than the UK average



9 Sites of Special Scientific Interest



19.6% of the population are under 16 years old, higher than the Shetland average of 17.9% and 2.9% less than a decade ago



6 sites considered the best for Wildlife in Europe (international designations)

30% of the population report growing and eating their own produce, the Shetland average is 30%



10 Local Nature Conservation Sites

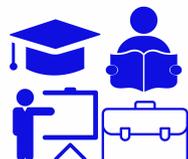


5.9% of the population claim out of work benefits, the Shetland average is 8.8%



60% of the population report being physically active on 5+ days per week, the Shetland average is 58%

The school roll is 401



95.5% of 16-19 year olds are in education, training or employment, the Shetland average is 97.4%

Median income is 23.4% higher than the Shetland average and 27.7% more than the Scottish average



19% of the population report feeling lonely, the Shetland average is 17%



20.8% of the population report drinking alcohol at a harmful or hazardous level; the Shetland average is 17.7%



The average house price is £205,400, the Shetland average is £178,000



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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.



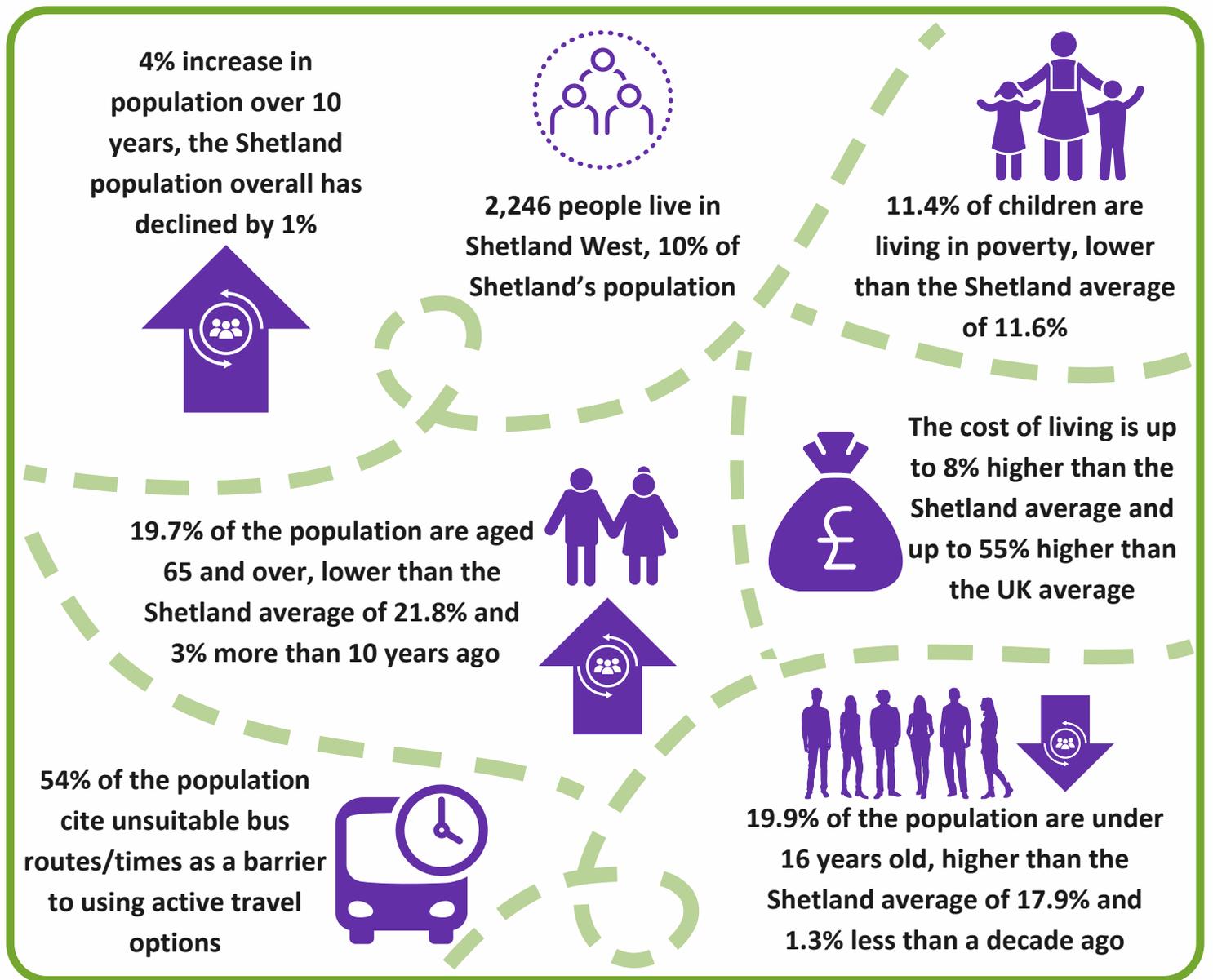
Shetland West



Shetland West spans from Tresta to Sandness, Aith to Skeld and includes the remote islands of Foula and Papa Stour. The coastline varies from dramatic cliffs to long, sea lochs, or 'voes', reaching far into a landscape of heathery hills and green crofts. There is a ferry service to Papa Stour, and ferry and air services to Foula.

The main settlements are: Tresta, Bixter, Aith, Reawick, Skeld, Walls and Sandness. A strong crofting community, aquaculture is also important, with many fish and shellfish farms and inshore fishing boats. Textiles also play a significant role here. The area is served by a Junior High School in Aith and Primary schools in Skeld, Walls and Sandness.

Facilities include health centres in Walls and Bixter, and there is a shop, pier, marina and leisure centre in Aith. There are shops in Bixter and Walls, as well as a veterinary surgery in Bixter. In Sandness there is a textiles mill. There are several piers, marinas, and a range of community run facilities throughout the area. Shetland West is also home to Michaelswood in Aith, and Da Gairdins located in Sand.





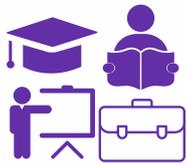
5 sites considered the best for Wildlife in Europe (international designations)

5 Local Nature Conservation Sites



17 Sites of Special Scientific Interest

The school roll is 301



97.9% of 16-19 year olds are in education, training or employment. The Shetland average is 97.4%

Median income is 1.9% lower than the Shetland average and 1.6% more than the Scottish average



The average house price is £175,450, the Shetland average is £178,000



16% of the population report feeling lonely, the Shetland average is 17%



36% of the population report growing and eating their own produce, the Shetland average is 30%



6.4% of the population claim out of work benefits, the Shetland average is 8.8%



61% of the population report being physically active on 5+ days per week, the Shetland average is 58%



17.9% of the population report drinking alcohol at a harmful or hazardous level; the Shetland average is 17.7%



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Whalsay & Skerries



Whalsay and Skerries are island communities that lie off the east coast of the Shetland mainland. Both are accessed by roll-on-roll-off ferries. The Whalsay ferry runs regularly 7 days a week and the journey takes 30 minutes. The Skerries ferry runs 6 days a week, with journeys taking 90 minutes or 2.5 hours depending on departure point.

Whalsay is a proud fishing community, home to a fleet of locally owned fishing vessels as well as plenty of smaller boats and sea craft. There are high levels of employment in the public sector as well as private businesses, such as aquaculture. Crofting is also an important way of life. Whalsay is one of the more densely populated of the Shetland Islands. Much of the infrastructure has been built up through community fund-raising, it has a harbour; nursery, primary and secondary schools; health centre & dental surgery; residential care home; leisure centre; heritage centre; boating club; pub; youth centre; café; snooker club, all-weather pitch, golf course and several other community run facilities. Many of these were built over 50 years ago.

Skerries is popular with birdwatchers and visiting yachts, with around 35 permanent residents. It has a community hall, two shops with one housing the post office, a kirk and a new waiting room at the pier (built by the Skerries Development Group in partnership with Shetland Islands Council).

8% decrease in population over 10 years, the Shetland population overall has declined by 1%



1,065 people live in Whalsay & Skerries, 5% of Shetland's population



9.2% of children are living in poverty, lower than the Shetland average of 13% (in 2021)



25.7% of the population are aged 65 and over, higher than the Shetland average of 21.8% and 4.3% 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



1 site considered the best for Wildlife in Europe (international designations)

18.7% of the population are under 16 years old, higher than the Shetland average of 17.9% and 1.6% less than a decade ago





3.1% of the population claim out of work benefits, the Shetland average is 8.8%

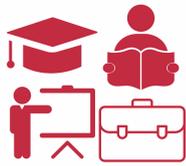
46% of the population report growing and eating their own produce, the Shetland average is 30%



The school roll is 170



4% of the population report feeling lonely, the Shetland average is 17%



100% of 16-19 year olds are in education, training or employment, the Shetland average is 97.4%

63% of the population report being physically active on 5+ days per week, the Shetland average is 58%

Median income is 22.2% lower than the Shetland average and 19.5% less than the Scottish average



75% of the population rate their general health as 'good' or 'very good', this is the joint highest in Shetland, where the average was 69.9%



16.7% of the population report drinking alcohol at a harmful or hazardous level; the Shetland average is 17.7%

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Yell, Unst & Fetlar

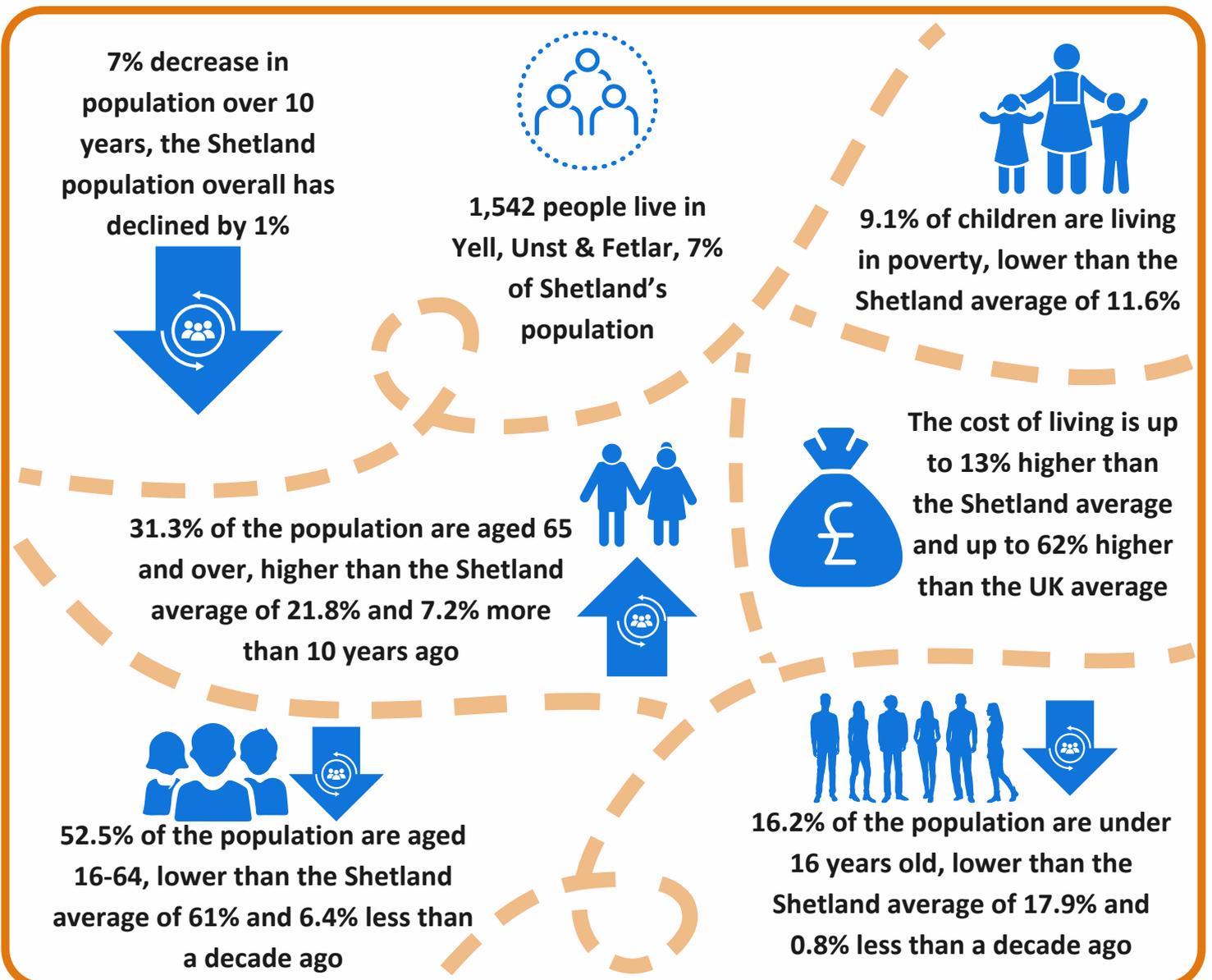


Yell, Unst and Fetlar are all different in character. Known for unique plant and birdlife, the islands are rich in archaeology, including Viking finds. They are home to a number of beaches, including an award winning Blue Flag beach in Yell. Crofting and farming are important across the isles, as is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





9 sites considered the best for
Wildlife in Europe
(international designations)

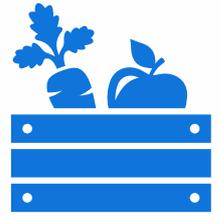
13 Local Nature
Conservation Sites



29 Sites of Special Scientific Interest,
there are 78 in Shetland

45% of the population report
growing and eating their own
produce, the Shetland average is

30%



9.6% of the population
claim out of work
benefits, the Shetland
average is 8.8%

The school roll
is 187



68% of the population
report being physically
active on 5+ days per week,
the Shetland average is 58%



100% of 16-19 year olds are
in education, training or
employment, the Shetland
average is 97.4%

Median income is
25.7% lower than the
Shetland average and
23.1% less than the
Scottish average



13% of the
population report
feeling lonely, the
Shetland average is
17%



18.4% of the
population report
drinking alcohol at
a harmful or
hazardous level;
the Shetland
average is 17.7%



The average house price
is £123,000, the Shetland
average is £178,000



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Shetland

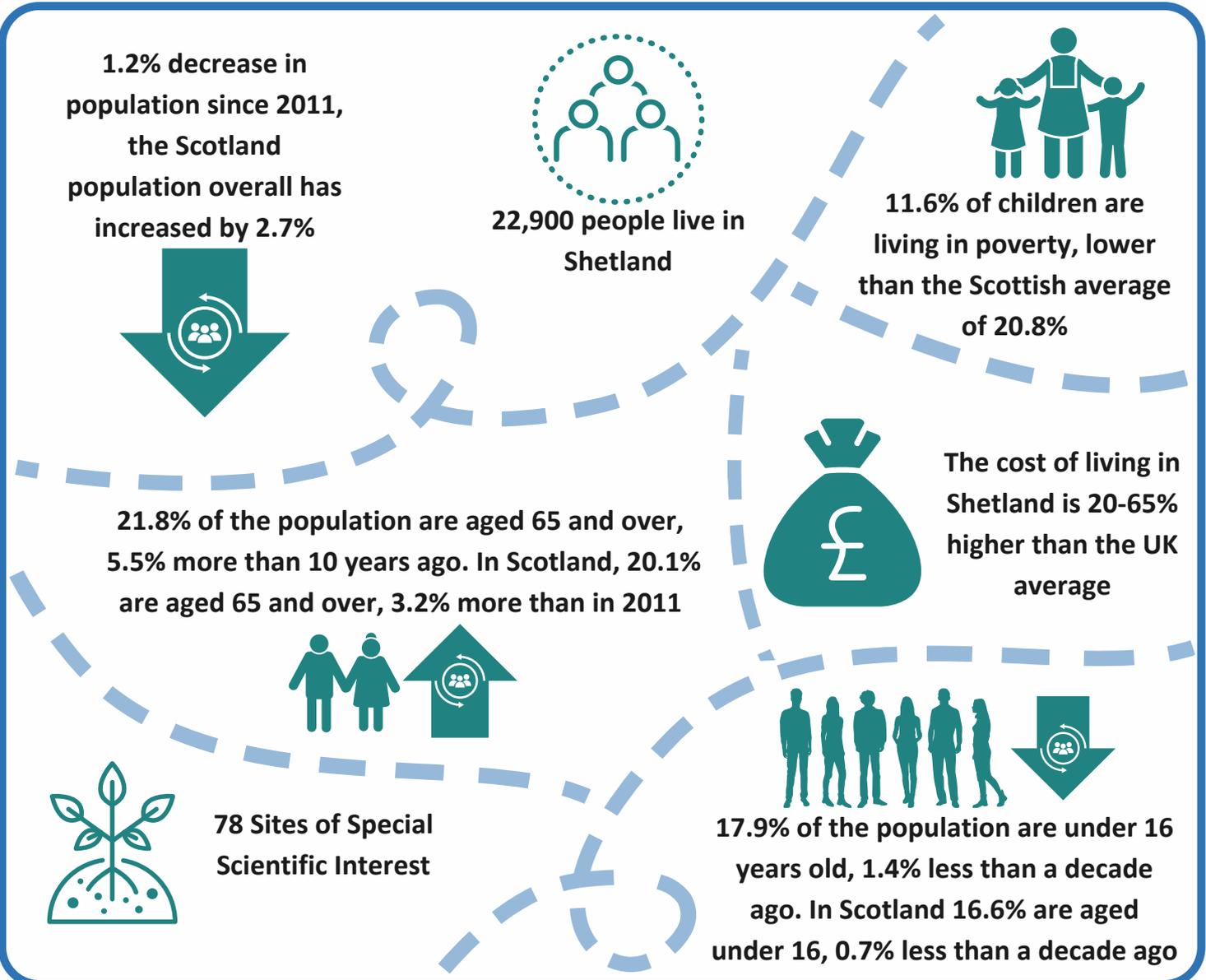


Shetland is an archipelago in the North Sea, sitting at a latitude of 60 degrees north. There is a population of 22,900, with communities spread throughout. Shetland is known for its unique culture, with its own dialect; for its wildlife, beautiful coast, varied landscape, geology and heritage; and events such as the Up Helly Aa Fire Festivals, Shetland Wool Week and the Shetland Folk Festival. Volunteering is important to communities across Shetland.

There are 7 localities within Shetland; Shetland Central, Shetland North, Shetland South, Shetland West, Lerwick and Bressay, Yell, Unst & Fetlar, and Whalsay & Skerries. For each locality there is a separate profile with information specific to those areas, with additional profiles for the smaller isles.

Infrastructure and facilities vary throughout Shetland. There are 29 Schools, including 2 high schools, 4 junior high schools and 23 primary schools. Shops range from local stores to larger chain supermarkets; and there are an abundance of community facilities, including 47 community halls. Health centres can be found across all localities as well as leisure centres.

Transport around Shetland includes bus routes, ferries to the islands and flights to two of the remote islands. Getting to and from Shetland is by overnight ferry from Aberdeen or Kirkwall, or by flight (leaving and arriving at Sumburgh Airport).





32 sites considered the best for Wildlife in Europe (international designations)

30% of the population report growing and eating their own produce



49 Local Nature Conservation Sites



8.8% of the population claim out of work benefits, the Scottish average is 14.8%



58% of the population report being physically active on 5+ days per week

The school roll is 3587



97.4% of 16-19 year olds are in education, training or employment. The Scottish average is 94.3%

17% of the population report feeling lonely, the Scottish average, based on the Scottish Household Survey is 35%



17.7% of the population report drinking alcohol at a harmful or hazardous level, the Scottish average, based on the Scottish Health Survey, is 23%

Median income is £34,251, this is 3% higher than the Scottish average of £33,095



The average house price is £178,000, around the Scottish average of £180,000



Locality Profiles are intended to be useful for both communities and partners to provide detailed information at a local level, for purposes including service redesign, local plans and maximising opportunities to seek external funding to support community development. This Shetland Profile includes the data at a Shetland level, compared to Scotland where possible. The Profiles created for each of the 7 localities compare to the Shetland figures where possible.

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