



# Community Planning Aberdeen



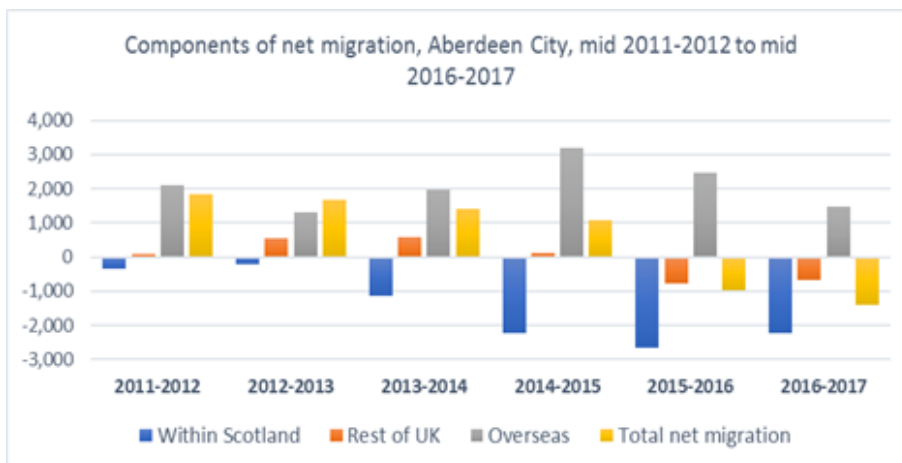
## Aberdeen City

**Population Needs Assessment 2018  
(Draft 11/10/2018)**

# OUR PEOPLE

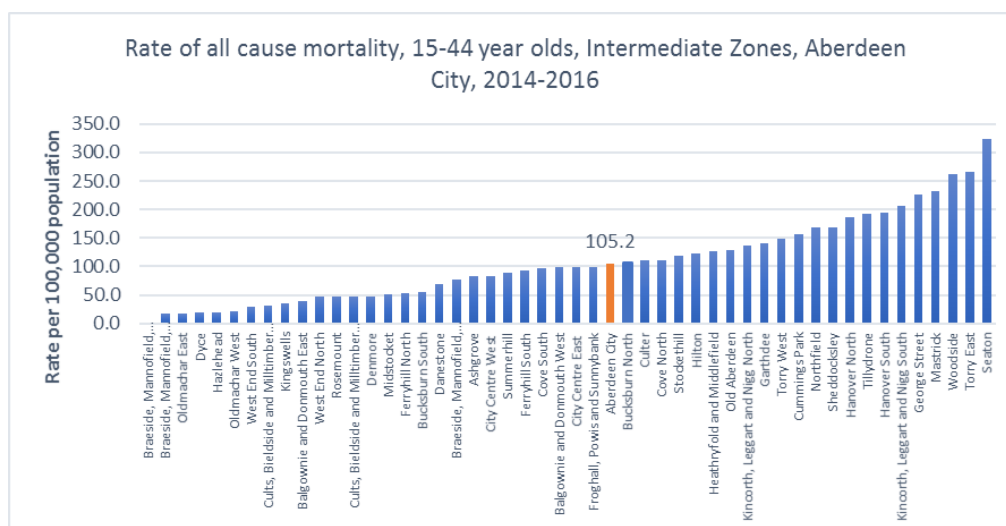
## Demography

- **Population:** Following an 11-year period of year-on-year increases, the population of Aberdeen has decreased in each of the last two years and is currently at 228,800 – a drop of 1,550 since 2015. The decrease in population has been driven by a combination of increased net out-migration (mainly from Aberdeen City to other parts of Scotland) combined with reduced net in-migration from overseas, resulting in overall negative net migration to the City (-2,385 between 2015 and 2017). However, the effect of this was mitigated by positive natural change in the City (i.e. there were more births than deaths) of 794. The recent decreases in population notwithstanding, population levels are still relatively high with an overall increase of 5.3% (11,500 people) since 1997.



- **Age structure:** Compared to Scotland, Aberdeen has a relatively young population. The median age in Aberdeen is 36 years compared to 42 years for Scotland. Comparison of broad age structures shows that Aberdeen has a higher proportion of working age people (69% compared to 64%) and a lower proportion of under 16 year-olds (15% compared to 17%) and people of pensionable age (16% compared to 19%) than does Scotland. Within Aberdeen, however, the age structure varies considerably by neighbourhood.
- **Ethnicity:** The City is also ethnically diverse. Recent figures (2017) from National Records of Scotland estimate that 24% of the City's population was born outside the UK (compared to 9.0% for Scotland). Of those, it is estimated that 60% are from EU countries and 40% from non-EU countries.
- **Population projections:** By 2026 the population of Aberdeen is projected to increase by 3.2% to 237,169, with the largest projected increase in the 75+ years age group (15.5%). In terms of size, however, the 25-44 year age group is projected to remain the largest age group and the 75+ years group the smallest. These estimates are based on the principle projection. Variant projections are also produced. Of these, the 'low migration' variant most closely matches our current situation. This projects that the population of Aberdeen City will fall by 0.3% between 2016 and 2026 giving an estimated population of 229,172.

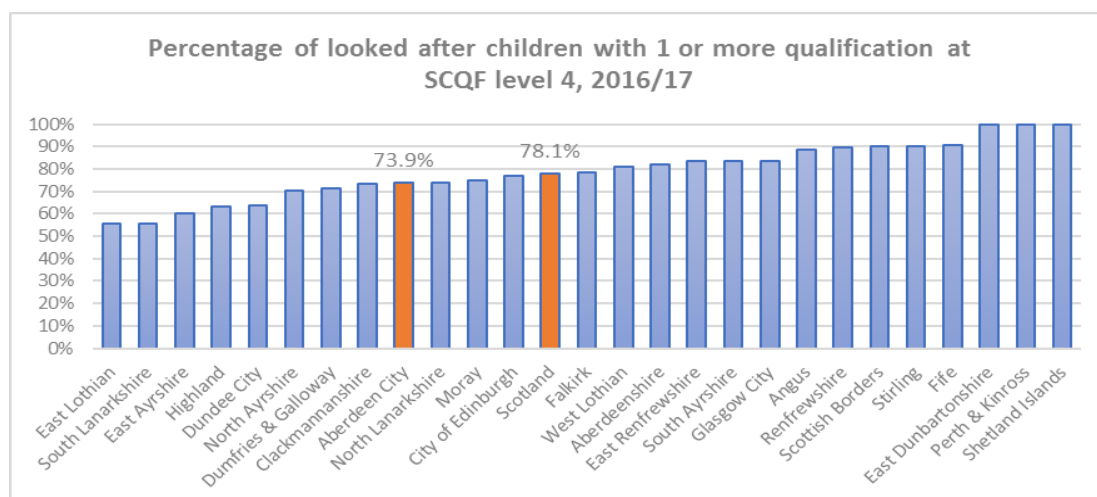
- **Births:** In 2017 there were 2,402 births in Aberdeen City – a decrease of 4.7% from 2,521 births in 2016. Between 2016 and 2017 the birth rate fell from 8.5 to 8.3 per 1,000 population and is the second lowest (behind Edinburgh City) in Scotland. Compared to 30 years ago, more births are now to older mothers.
- **Deaths:** In 2017 there were 2,130 deaths in Aberdeen City – essentially unchanged from 2,129 in 2016. While the mortality rate remained unchanged at 10.6 per 1,000 population in Aberdeen City, in Scotland the rate increased between 2016 and 2017 from 10.5 to 10.7 per 1,000 people.



- **Early deaths (15-44 years, all causes):** In 2014-2016 the average rate for all-cause mortality in 15-44 year olds was 105.2 per 100,000 population (compared to 102.2 for Scotland). There was considerable variation within Aberdeen with rates ranging from a low of 0.0 in Braeside, Mannofield, Broomhill and Seafield South to 322.9 per 100,000 population in Seaton.
- **Estimated life expectancy:** In 2014-2016 estimated life expectancy at birth was 80.8 years for females and 76.4 years for males. Both male and female life expectancy have decreased in each of the last three years and are now lower than average life expectancy for Scotland. Consistent with longer-term trends in Scotland, both male and female life expectancy have increased since 2001-2003, with the rate of increase being higher in males than females, thus narrowing the gap between male and female life expectancy. However, the rates of increase in this period were lower in Aberdeen City than for all other local authorities.
- **Estimated life expectancy by deprivation:** Estimated life expectancy is strongly associated with deprivation. Males in the most deprived quintile (SIMD 2016) in Aberdeen have a life expectancy of 72.0 years compared to 81.0 years for those in the least deprived quintile – a difference of 9 years. Females in the most deprived quintile have a life expectancy of 77.7 years compared to 84.1 years for those in the least deprived quintile – a difference of 6.4 years.
- **Healthy life expectancy:** In Aberdeen healthy life expectancy is 65.0 years for males and 67.4 years for females, giving expected periods of ‘not healthy’ health of 11.9 years for males and 13.8 years for females. Therefore, while females have a higher life expectancy than males, they also experience a longer period of ‘not healthy’ health than males. As with life expectancy, healthy life expectancy is strongly associated with deprivation with the expected period of ‘not healthy’ health increasing with increasing deprivation.

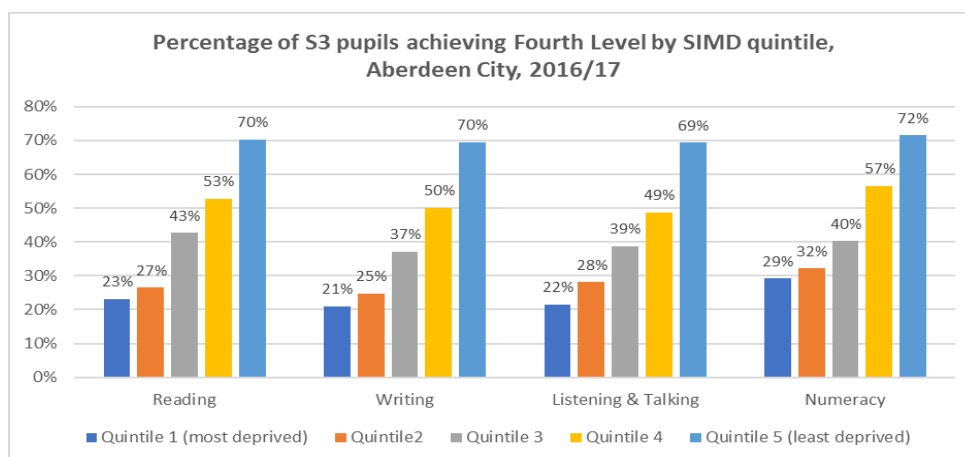
## Children

- Child population:** In 2017 there were 34,495 children (0-15 years) in Aberdeen City – 15% of the City’s population. Both the number and proportion of children varies by neighbourhood. In terms of numbers, Old Aberdeen has the smallest child population (300) while Cults, Bielside and Milltimber has the largest (2,149). Hanover has the smallest proportion of children (6.9% of the population) and Middlefield the largest (23.3%). 20% of households in Aberdeen City include children. Single parent families make up 20% of all households with children.
- Looked after children (LAC):** In July 2017 there were 590 looked after children in Aberdeen City – equivalent to 1.6% of the 0-17 years population. This is higher than the equivalent rate for Scotland of 1.4%. Almost half (49%) of LAC in Aberdeen live in foster care. While improved, the attainment outcomes for LAC are still lower than those for all pupils. In 2016/17 in Aberdeen City 74% of LAC left school with 1 or more qualification at SCQF level 4 (78% for Scotland). While attendance rates for LAC were the same in Aberdeen City and Scotland at 91%, the exclusion rate was higher in Aberdeen (244 compared to 169 per 1,000 pupils in Scotland).



- Child protection:** In 2017 there were 81 children on the Child Protection Register in Aberdeen City. Despite fluctuations, overall the number of children on the Register in Aberdeen City has fallen over the past 10 years. Similarly, the rate (per 1,000 population aged 0-15 years) has dropped from 4.4 to 2.4 in the 10 years from 2007 to 2017. In 2016-2017, 4.9% of child protection registrations were re-registered within 18 months – lower than Scotland at 6.5%.
- Child and adolescent mental health (CAMHS):** In 2017, a total of 1,212 CAMHS patients were seen in Grampian. Of these, 37.7% were seen within the target 18-week period, compared to 77.5% in Scotland. As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017, NHS Grampian employed 46.2 whole time equivalent clinical staff in child and adolescent mental health services per 100,000 population of 0 to 18 year-olds. This is the second lowest rate in Scotland.
- Early learning and childcare:** In June 2017, 91% of all eligible children in Aberdeen City in their immediate pre-school year and 82% in their ante pre-school year received free or funded early learning and children places. In 2016/17, 26% of eligible two year-olds received free or funded places.
- School and pupil numbers:** In September 2017 there were 13,923 primary school pupils and 8,667 secondary school pupils in Aberdeen City. 29.5% of primary pupils and 30.9% of secondary pupils in the City had additional support needs (compared to 23.5% and 29.3% respectively for Scotland). A fifth (20.3%) of school pupils in Aberdeen City do not have English as their main home language.

- Attendance and exclusions:** In 2016/17 average attendance rates in Aberdeen City schools were similar to those for Scotland as a whole, although there was variation between schools. For primary schools in the City, attendance rates ranged from a low of 90.9% to a high of 97.5%. For secondary schools, attendance ranged from 86.9% to 95.4%. **Exclusions:** In 2016/17 there was a total of 1,072 exclusions from schools in the City. This is equivalent to a rate of 47.6 (crude rate per 1,000 population), which is significantly higher than the rate for Scotland of 26.9.

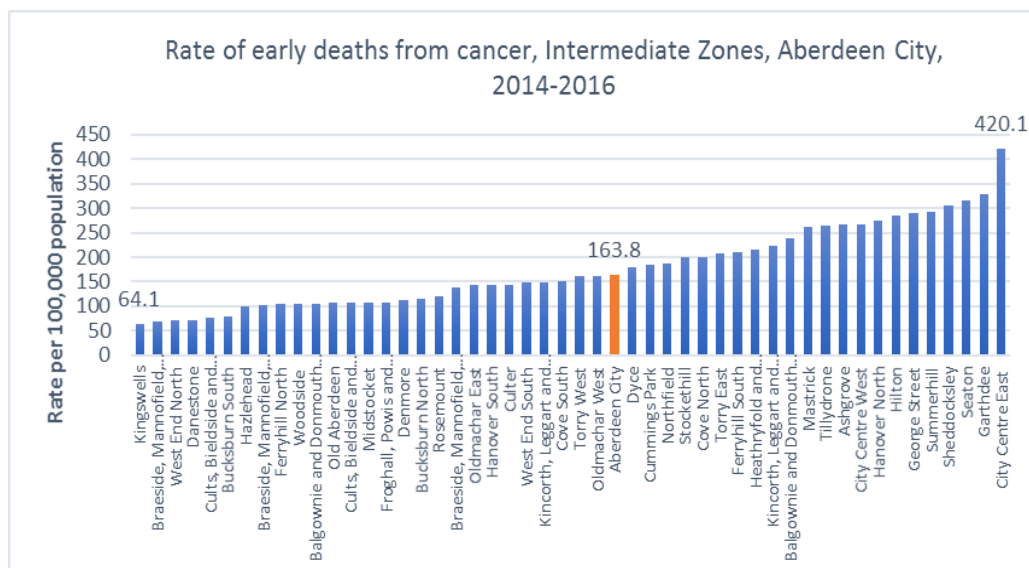


- Attainment – Achievement of Curriculum for Excellence (CfE) Levels:** In most subjects and stages, achievement of expected levels was lower in Aberdeen than Scotland. Achievement levels were also strongly associated with deprivation. In Aberdeen City, a smaller proportion of those in the most deprived 20% (SIMD 2016) achieved the expected level than those in the least deprived 20%. Trend data based on SCQF levels shows that attainment has improved with the percentage of pupils gaining 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 5 increasing from 47% in 2011-12 to 57% in 2016-17.
- Positive destinations/participation:** In 2017, 89.4% of 16-19 year-olds in Aberdeen City were participating in education (70.3%), employment (17.3%) or training (1.8%). This is lower than the rate for Scotland as a whole (91.1%), but 0.5% higher than in 2016.
- Free school meals:** In February 2018, 51.2% of primary school pupils and 10.4% of secondary school pupils were registered for free school meals, although there was substantial variation between schools. Almost a quarter of primary pupils and over a third of secondary pupils who were registered, did not take a FSM on the day of the survey.
- Breast-feeding:** The proportion of babies exclusively breast-fed at 6-8 weeks is higher in Aberdeen (36.8%) than in Scotland (28.1%). However, rates of breast-feeding vary substantially by neighbourhood from a low of 16% to a high of 66.0%.
- Teenage pregnancies:** The rate of teenage pregnancies has reduced significantly over the past 10 years but is still slightly higher in Aberdeen than Scotland (36.3 compared to 34.8 per 1,000 population). Rates varied across the City – ranging from 0 to 89.9 per 1,000 population.
- Smoking:** In 2013, 5% of 15 year-olds and 1% of 13 year-olds reported being regular smokers – the lowest rates of all local authorities. A more recent (2015) report at Scotland level shows that the use of e-cigarettes has increased substantially with 91% of 15 year-old smokers (boys and girls) having used e-cigarettes and 24% of non-smokers having used them.
- Child poverty:** In July-September 2017, an estimated 5,689 children (16.7%) in Aberdeen City were living in poverty (after housing costs) – down from 18.2% in 2015. Levels of child poverty varied by ward, ranging from a low of 5.9% to a high of 28.0%.

## Adults

- **Smoking:** It is estimated that over a fifth (21.1%) of adults in Aberdeen City smoke – lower than Scotland at 24.3%. Those in the most deprived areas are more likely than those in the least deprived areas to smoke (32% compared to 12%). In Aberdeen, 14.1% of women smoked during pregnancy (compared to 16.3% in Scotland). Rates of smoking during pregnancy ranged from a low of 0.0% to a high of 36.1%.
- **Alcohol:** In the period 2013-2016, 27% of adults in Aberdeen City were drinking above the guideline recommendations of 14 units per week. This is higher than the rate for Scotland of 25%. In 2016/17 there were 1,520 alcohol-related hospital stays in Aberdeen City. While the rate of stays has decreased over the past 10 years, it is still higher than that for Scotland (705.4 compared to 680.8 per 100,000 population). In 2016/17 there were 45 alcohol-related deaths in the City. In contrast to recent trends, and trends for Scotland as a whole, the alcohol-related mortality rate increased between 2011-2015 and 2012-2016 and it is now at its highest level since 2005-2009 and higher than the average rate for Scotland (23.1 compared to 22.0 per 100,000 population). The alcohol-related mortality rate varies across the City ranging from 0.0 to 91.2 per 100,000 population.
- **Drugs:** It is estimated that 1.9% of Aberdeen’s population have a problem drug use. The proportion of females with problem drug use is significantly higher in Aberdeen (1.4%) than in Scotland (1.0%). The number of drug-related deaths has increased dramatically in the last few years, from 26 deaths in 2014 to 54 deaths in 2017. In the last 10 years the number of female drug-related deaths has increased more than male drug-related deaths, with 17.4% of drug-related deaths in 2007 being female compared to 33.3% in 2017. At 0.17 per 1,000 population, Aberdeen has the 4<sup>th</sup> highest average annual rate of drug deaths (after Dundee City at 0.25, Glasgow City at 0.24 and Inverclyde at 0.22) of all local authorities in Scotland.
- **Obesity:** It is estimated that 25% of the City’s adult population is obese (classified as a BMI of 30+). This is lower than the rate for Scotland of 28%.
- **Dementia:** In 2017 there were an estimated 3,455 people with dementia in Aberdeen City and dementia and Alzheimer’s disease accounted for 10.4% of all deaths (221 deaths of which 150 were female and 71 were male).
- **Prescriptions for anxiety/depression/psychosis:** In 2016/17 35,342 people in Aberdeen City were prescribed drugs for anxiety, depression or psychosis. This is equivalent to 15.4% of the population – significantly lower than the proportion for Scotland of 18.5%. Consistent with trends in Scotland, the proportion of people receiving prescriptions for these conditions has increased significantly in recent years, from 12.5% in 2009/10 to 15.4% in 2016/17. The proportion of people receiving drugs for anxiety, depression or psychosis varied by Intermediate Zone, ranging from a low of 9.3% to a high of 22.0%.
- **Deaths from suicide:** In 2017 there were 23 probable suicides in Aberdeen City. Since peaking at 43 deaths in 2015, the number of probable suicides has decreased in each of the last two years. The rate of 13.9 per 100,000 population is the same as that for Scotland. Overall, the rate of deaths from suicide in Aberdeen City has decreased over the past 10 years (from 17.3 in 2002-2006), however there have been slight increases in the last two sets of figures.
- **Key diseases:** Cancer and circulatory diseases (such as coronary heart disease and stroke) together account for over half of all causes of death in Aberdeen City. In 2016, almost a third (31%) of male deaths and a quarter (25%) of female deaths were caused by cancer, and 27% of male deaths and 27% of female deaths were caused by circulatory diseases.

- Cancer:** In 2013-2015 there was an average of 1,192 new cancer registrations per year in Aberdeen (3-year rolling average). The rate of new cancer registrations in Aberdeen increased sharply between 2012-2014 and 2013-2015, bringing the rate to its highest level for more than 10 years. Both the rate of new cancer registrations and the rate of early deaths from cancer vary across the City.



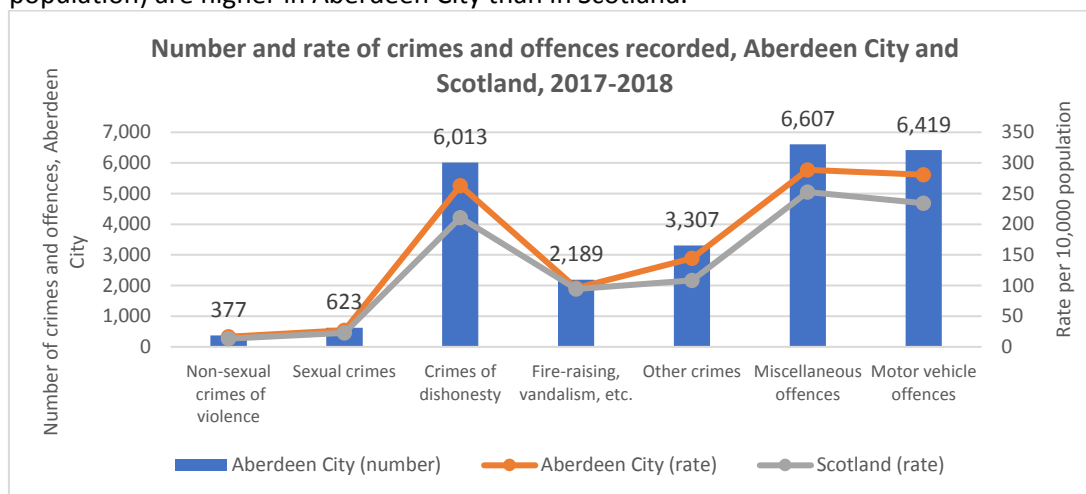
- Coronary heart disease (CHD):** Between 2014/15 and 2016/17 there were an average of 768 patients per year (3-year rolling average) hospitalised with CHD – equivalent to a rate of 423.1 per 100,000 population. This is significantly higher than the rate for Scotland of 386.9 per 100,000 population. Over the last 9 years, there have been year-on-year decreases in the rate of patients hospitalised with CHD in both Aberdeen and Scotland.
- Emergency hospitalisations:** Between 2014-2016 there were an average of 15,007 emergency hospitalisations per year (3-year rolling average) in Aberdeen City. Following a period of year-on-year decreases, the rate in Aberdeen City is now lower than the rate for Scotland (7,230.0 compared to 7,605.9 per 100,000 population). In Aberdeen City the rate ranges from a low of 4,894.9 to a high of 10,802.7 per 100,000 population.
- Patients aged 65+ years with multiple emergency hospitalisations:** In contrast with the declining rates for patients with emergency hospitalisations, the rate of patients aged 65+ years with multiple emergency hospitalisations has increased in Aberdeen City, from 5,092.0 per 100,000 population in 2010-12 to 5,306.6 per 100,000 population in 2014-2016. This upward trend is consistent with trends in Scotland as a whole.
- Social care:** In Aberdeen, in 2017 there were 470 people aged 65+ years with high levels of care need who were cared for at home (i.e. who received 10 and more hours of home care purchased or provided by the local authority). This equates to 26% of all people in this age group with high levels of care need – significantly lower than the Scottish average of 35.2%.

## OUR PLACE

- **Our place:** Aberdeen City covers an area of 186 square kilometres and has a population density of 1,232 persons per square kilometre. In terms of population size, it is the 8<sup>th</sup> largest local authority in Scotland. The City is made up of 37 neighbourhoods – 9 of which have been recognised as deprived (based on SIMD) and identified as Priority Localities.
- **Dwellings:** In 2017 there were 116,821 dwellings in Aberdeen City – an increase of 1,741 (1.5%) on the number of dwellings in 2016. Most (60%) are in Council Tax bands A-C, with 25% being in bands D-E and 15% being in bands G-H. The proportion of dwellings within each Council Tax band varies by neighbourhood. Over a third (37%) of dwellings have a single adult discount and 6% have 'occupied exemptions' (e.g. student households). Most (55%) dwellings are flats, 18% are terraced, 16% are semi-detached and 11% are detached. At the time of the 2011 Census, 57.3% of households in the City were owned, 24.2% were socially rented, 17.0% were privately rented and 1.4% were rent-free.
- **Social housing:** In Aberdeen City in 2017 the Local Authority's housing stock totalled 22,041 dwellings – equivalent to 83% of all social housing stock in the City (with the Housing Association managing the remaining 17% of social housing in the City) and 18.9% of all dwellings in the City. Of the Council stock, three-quarters (75.8%) were flats and a quarter (24.2%) were houses. Since 1998, the total housing stock owned by the Council has decreased by 25.1% - from 29,442 in 1998. At 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 there were a total 6,631 applicants on the housing register – a decrease of 209 from 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016. Of those on the register 4,360 (65.8%) were on the waiting list and 2,271 (34.2%) were on the transfer list.
- **Supported housing:** A range of supported housing is provided by the Local Authority including 1,939 sheltered housing dwellings, 110 very sheltered housing dwellings and 1,261 amenity housing dwellings.
- **Adult care homes:** In Aberdeen City in 2016 there were 64 adult care homes – 32 of which are run by the private sector and 32 of which are run by the voluntary sector. These provided a total of 1,789 registered places – 80% of which were in care homes for older people. The total number of residents was 1,627 (occupancy rate of 91%). Since 2006, the number of registered places in care homes has decreased by 14%.
- **Private rental sector:** Almost half (49%) of rental properties in Aberdeen City are two-bedroom flats with 1- bedroom flats being the next most common (36%). The average monthly rent for privately-rented properties in Aberdeen City has dropped from a high of £1,110 per month in Q4 of 2014 to a low of £736 in Q1 of 2018 – a drop of 33.7% in the period.
- **House sales:** In 2017, the average purchase price for a residential property in Aberdeen City was £200,983 – higher than the average price for Scotland of £172,779 and sixth highest of all local authorities. However, both the number of properties sold and the average price per property have decreased in the last two years. Since peaking at £220,786 in 2015, the average purchase price in Aberdeen City has decreased by 9%. There were 3,991 properties sold in 2017 – down almost 9% from the number of properties sold in 2015, but up slightly from the number sold in 2016.



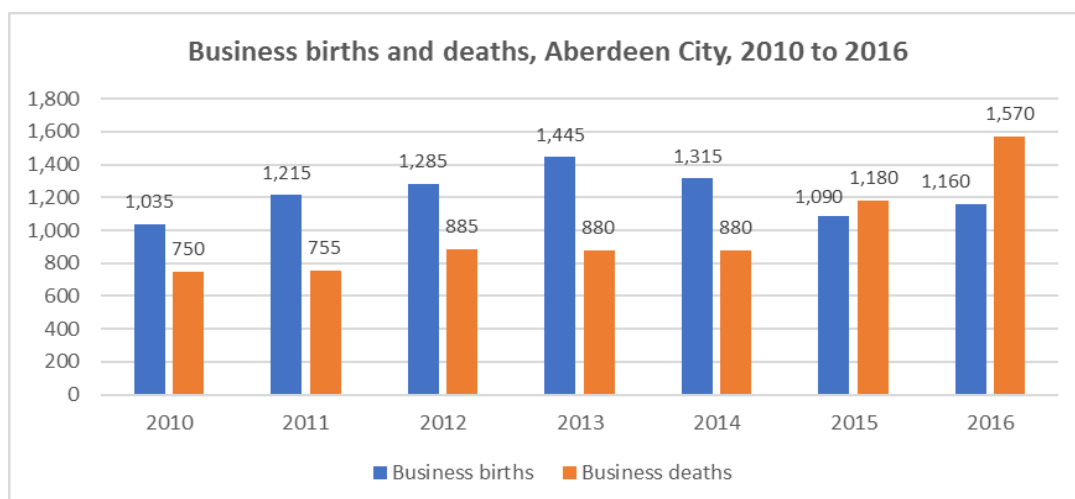
- **New builds:** A total of 671 new houses were supplied in 2016-17 in Aberdeen City. Of these, 518 were private new build completions, 28 were Housing Association new builds and 125 were as a result of conversions.
- **Crimes and offences:** In 2017/18 the most common crimes and offences recorded in Aberdeen City were Miscellaneous Offences (6,607) and Crimes of Dishonesty (6,013). Comparison with Scotland shows that, consistent with other large cities, rates of crimes and offences (per 10,000 population) are higher in Aberdeen City than in Scotland.



- **Accidental dwelling fires:** In 2016/17 there were 299 accidental dwelling fires in Aberdeen City. There were 2 fatal casualties and 21 non-fatal casualties. The rate of accidental dwelling fires is considerably higher in Aberdeen than in Scotland (259.8 per 100,000 dwellings compared to 191.3 in Scotland) and is the 6<sup>th</sup> highest out of all local authorities. Impairment due to alcohol/drugs was suspected to be a contributory factor to accidental dwelling fires in Aberdeen in 17% of cases – higher than the rate for Scotland of 14% and equal 6<sup>th</sup> highest of all local authorities.
- **Road safety:** In 2016 there were 175 road traffic accidents in Aberdeen City involving 210 casualties (of whom 10 were children). There were 3 fatalities and 63 serious injuries. While the total number of accidents where one or more people were injured has more than halved in the last 10 years (from 393 to 175), the number of people who were seriously injured has not – with serious injury occurring in almost a third of road traffic accidents (where one or more people were injured) in 2016 compared to 13% in 2006.
- **Climate change - CO<sub>2</sub> emissions:** In 2015 CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Aberdeen totalled 1,335.2 kt (down from 1,813.6 in 2005). Of this, 45% is attributed to industry and commerce, 30% to domestic use and 24% to transport. Between 2005 and 2015, per capita CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (kt CO<sub>2</sub>) have fallen in both Aberdeen and Scotland. In 2015 the per capita levels were slightly lower in Aberdeen than in Scotland (5.8 compared to 6.1).
- **Climate change - Flood risk:** 4 areas in Aberdeen has been identified as potentially vulnerable to flooding – Deeside, Peterculter, Bridge of Don and Denmore. Total annual average damages = £17,370,000 (equivalent to 80% of annual average damages for the North East Local Plan area).
- **Waste and recycling:** Between 2016 and 2017 the total amount of waste generated in Aberdeen City fell by 8.7%. In the same period, the proportion of household waste being recycled and being managed by other methods increased, while the proportion being sent to landfill decreased. In 2017, for the first time, more waste was recycled (44%) than went to landfill (36%).

## OUR ECONOMY

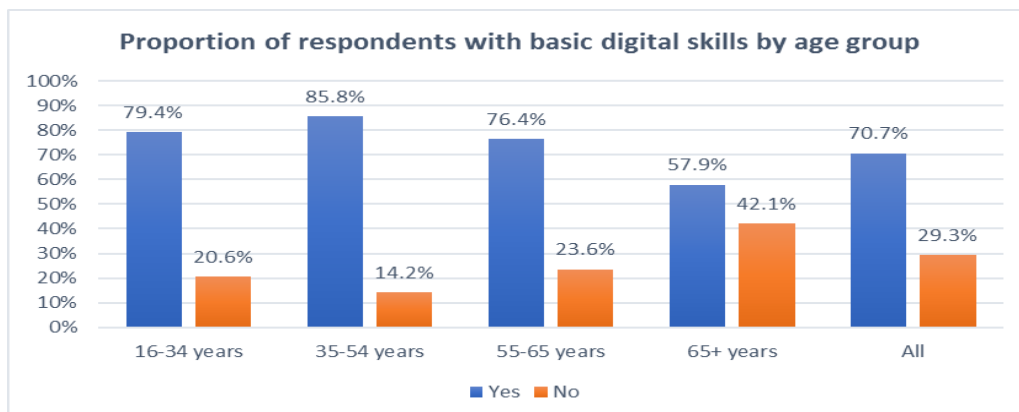
- Gross Value Added (GVA):** In 2016 Aberdeen City had a GVA of £10,607 million – equivalent to 7.9% of Scotland’s total GVA. Aberdeen was one of 4 local authorities which saw economic output decrease in 2016 (-2.2%). In 2016, Aberdeen City had the highest GVA per head ratio at £46,151 compared to £24,800 for Scotland. GVA per head fell by £3,715 between 2014 and 2016.
- Hotel rates:** Between December 2014 and Q1 of 2017, the average price for a hotel room in Aberdeen dropped from £92.87 to £60.56.
- Air passengers:** In 2016 there were 2.96 million air passengers through Aberdeen Airport. This is a drop of 20.4% on the numbers from 2014 (3.72 million).
- Oil and Gas:** Direct employment in Oil and Gas sector in the UK fell by 31.5% between 2014 and 2017 (UK figures only – not specific to Aberdeen).
- Universities:** Aberdeen is home to two major universities; University of Aberdeen and Robert Gordon University as well as a further education college, North East Scotland College. The total number of students in 2017/18 was 41,684 (includes full-time and part-time).
- Businesses:** In 2017, there were 9,715 VAT registered enterprises in Aberdeen City. Most (87.6%) had 0-49 employees, 4.8% had 50 to 249 employees and 7.6% had 250 or more employees.
- Business births and deaths:** In 2016 there were 1,160 new businesses in Aberdeen and 1,570 business deaths. The number of new businesses starting each year fell between 2013 and 2015, before increasing slightly between 2015 and 2016 (from 1,090 to 1,160). The fall in business births has been accompanied by a sharp rise in business deaths (from 880 in 2014 to 1,570 in 2016 – an increase of 78%). One-year survival rates of 2015 business births was 89% in Aberdeen compared to 90% in Scotland. Five-year survival rates of 2011 business births was 53.5% in Aberdeen compared to 45.6% in Scotland.



- **Average weekly wage:** In 2017 the median weekly wage in Aberdeen was £583.90 – second highest in Scotland (behind Edinburgh). Since 2014 the median weekly wage has dropped by 7.7% (compared to a 5.3% increase for Scotland).
- **Economic activity:** In 2017, 79% of Aberdeen’s working age population (16-64 years) was classified as economically active and 21% classified as economically inactive.
- **Unemployment:** In 2016 unemployment in Aberdeen reached 5.4% and for the first time in at least 10 years was higher than that for Scotland (4.8%). Unemployment fell between 2016 and 2017 and in 2017 was the same as Scotland (4.1%).
- **Claimant count:** In May 2018 there were 3,315 Claimants in Aberdeen City. This is equivalent to a rate of 2.1% of the working age population (16-64 years) which is lower than the rate for Scotland of 2.6%.
- **Workless households:** In 2016 there were an estimated 15,000 workless households (i.e. households where no-one aged 16 years or over is in employment) in Aberdeen City – 17.6% of all households.
- **Job density:** In 2016 there were an estimated 192,000 jobs in the City – equivalent to 1.19 jobs per person aged 16-64 years (compared to 0.8 for Scotland). The job density rate has fallen since 2014 when it was 1.26.
- **Employment:** Over a quarter (26.9%) of employees in Aberdeen City are in Professional Occupations compared to 20.7% in this category for Scotland. Compared to Scotland, Aberdeen City has a higher proportion of its workforce who are qualified to NVQ4 and above (51.7% in Aberdeen and 43.9% in Scotland). In 2016, the sector which provided the highest proportion of employee jobs in Aberdeen (as in Scotland) was Human Health and Social Work Activities (15.3% of all employee jobs). Other sectors which were high employers were Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities (13.0%) and Mining and Quarrying (13.0%).
- **Deprivation (SIMD 2016):** Based on overall rankings of deprivation (i.e. All Domains), Aberdeen performs relatively well in the SIMD with 113 (40%) of its data zones being in the 20% least deprived areas of Scotland. However, there are 22 (8%) data zones in the 20% most deprived areas of Scotland. While only 22 of the City’s 283 data zones are in the most deprived quintile (0-20%) for All Domains, 98 data zones (34.6%) are in the most deprived quintile for Housing, 73 (28.8%) are in the most deprived quintile for Crime and 67 (23.7%) are in the most deprived quintile for Education, Skills and Training.
- **Relative poverty:** In Scotland an estimated 19% of people are living in relative poverty and it is estimated that 59% of those in relative poverty are in working households (i.e. households where at least one person is working).
- **Food poverty:** According to the Trussell Trust, there were 170,625 3-day emergency supplies given to people in Scotland in 2017/18 (this included 55,038 children) which is an increase of 24,760 from the figure in 2016/17
- **Fuel poverty:** An estimated 28% of households in Aberdeen are in fuel poverty with 9% being in extreme fuel poverty.
- **Homeless applications:** In the year 2017-18, there were 1,708 applications under the Homeless Persons legislation in Aberdeen City Council. This is an increase of 13% (218 applications) on the number of applications in 2016-17 – the third highest rate of increase of all local authorities.

## OUR TECHNOLOGY

- Access to superfast broadband:** In 2017, 90% of premises in Aberdeen City had access to Superfast Broadband – an increase of 7% from the figure in 2015 and one of the highest rates in Scotland. Only two local authorities had a higher coverage (Clackmannanshire and East Dunbartonshire both had 91% coverage). No premises had access to Ultrafast Broadband.
- Average download speed:** The average download speed in 2017 for Aberdeen City was 26.4 Mbits/s. This is the 13<sup>th</sup> lowest of all local authorities in Scotland. (Ranges from a low of 17.6 Mbits/s in Orkney to a high of 71.2 Mbits/s in West Dunbartonshire.)
- Access to the internet:** In 2016, 84% of households in Aberdeen City reported having access to the internet – an increase of 2% from 2014 and similar to the rate for Scotland of 82%. The most common methods used for accessing internet for personal use were mobile phone/iPhone/smart phone (83%), laptop or PC (74%) and tablet (58%). Most (93%) reported using a method other than laptop or PC to access the internet. The most common reasons for using the internet were; to send and receive emails (85%), search for information (77%), buy goods or services (74%), use social media (70%) and internet banking (70%).
- Access to devices:** The 42<sup>nd</sup> City Voice questionnaire (January 2018) included questions on the use of technology. The respondents were initially asked “do you own or have easy access to a smartphone, tablet or laptop/PC”? Over three-quarters (78.5%) of respondents reported that they owned or had easy access to a laptop or PC, and 71.4% said they owned or had easy access to a smart phone. A smaller proportion (64.3%) reported owning or having easy access to a tablet. Approximately half (50.5%) of respondents reported owning or having easy access to all three devices and 90.2% of respondents owned or had access to at least one of the devices.
- Digital skills:** Based on responses to a series of questions relating to use of digital technology for a number of different tasks, 70.6% of respondents to the City Voice were identified as having Basic Digital Skills. While no significant difference in the proportion of those with Basic Digital Skills was found between males and females, there was a significant difference by age group. The proportion of those with Basic Digital Skills was highest in those aged 35-54 years (85.8%) and lowest in those aged 65+ years (57.9%).



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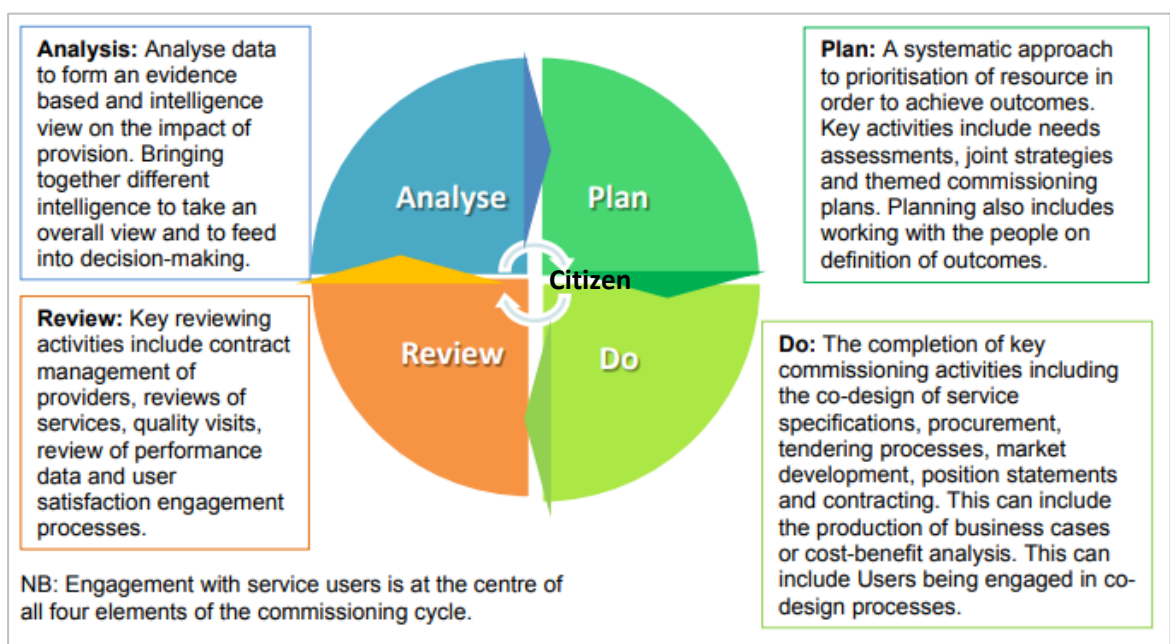
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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Context

The Council's Target Operating Model creates four new Council functions: Customer, Commissioning, Operations and Resource Management. The Commissioning function is responsible for how ACC fulfils its commitment to delivering the LOIP. The [Commissioning Committee](#) approves all commissioning activity, internal and external. It also approves the Council's strategic approach to joint and integrated commissioning across the public and private sectors to ensure that the needs of customers and citizens are met. The Committee has delegated authority under the four headings of the Commissioning Cycle.

### The Commissioning Cycle



The first stage of the Commissioning Cycle is Analysis which requires a regular Population Needs Assessment (PNA) to understand the needs which public bodies must address.

## 1.2 What is a Population Needs Assessment?

The Population Needs Assessment is a high-level analysis of key groups, priorities and challenges across public services, including service performance and information available on the customer perspective. The PNA will identify areas where more detailed analysis is required to ensure a greater understanding of existing and potential provider strengths and weaknesses, and opportunities for improvement.

The PNA will build upon the [Aberdeen City Strategic Assessment](#) which was carried out in 2015/16 to ensure the data is updated; aligned to the LOIP themes of Economy, People, Place and Technology; and addresses any identified gaps in the core data set.

The PNA will include aggregated data under the headings of Economy, People, Place and Technology. Whilst it is intended that the PNA will provide a comprehensive overview of the state of Aberdeen across a wide range of indicators, there will be areas which are identified as out of scope for the initial assessment. Where there is an identified need for more detailed analysis, this will be planned for the future. For example, data drilling down into specific communities, service provider or market.

### 1.3 Data used and limitations

Much of the data presented in this document comes from official statistics provided by the Scottish Government, National Records of Scotland, ScotPHO, ISD Scotland, Police Scotland and NOMIS. Additional data has been provided by Council services and Community Planning Partners.

In general percentages and rates presented have been rounded to one decimal point. Some of these (e.g. life expectancy) will have a degree of error associated with them because of the way they are generated. Technically, these results should be presented with their associated Confidence Interval (usually  $\pm x\%$ ). Differences are said to be statistically significant if confidence intervals do not overlap. However, for ease of presentation, confidence intervals are not shown. A degree of caution is therefore required when interpreting some of the data – particularly for smaller geographies such as neighbourhoods or intermediate zones where there is likely to be greater imprecision around estimates and confidence intervals are likely to be broader.

### 1.4 Consultation – Place Standard and Aberdeen City Voice

Within this Population Needs Assessment information on the Customer and Citizens perspective has been included. In most cases, this has been done using two sources, Place Standard and Aberdeen City Voice.

Place Standard is a tool which provides a framework to structure discussion about the place in which you live. The Aberdeen City online Place Standard data collection took place between 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018 – 8<sup>th</sup> May 2018. There were 324 completed surveys that were analysed and reported on. Aspects of that data have been used within this report. Further information on Place Standard can be found at <https://placestandard.scot/>.

The second source used is Aberdeen City Voice, Aberdeen’s citizens panel. There are over 1,400 citizens on the panel who have agreed to give their views on a range of issues. Full access to the questionnaires and reports can be found at [www.aberdeencityvoice.org.uk](http://www.aberdeencityvoice.org.uk).

### 1.5 Layout

The layout follows the LOIP themes – People, Place, Economy and Enabling Technology. Sections 2, 3 and 4 relate to People, with Section 2 giving a demographic overview of the City, Section 3 covering Children and Section 4 looking at Adults. Section 5 focuses on Place, Section 6 on the Economy and Section 7 on Enabling Technology.

# People

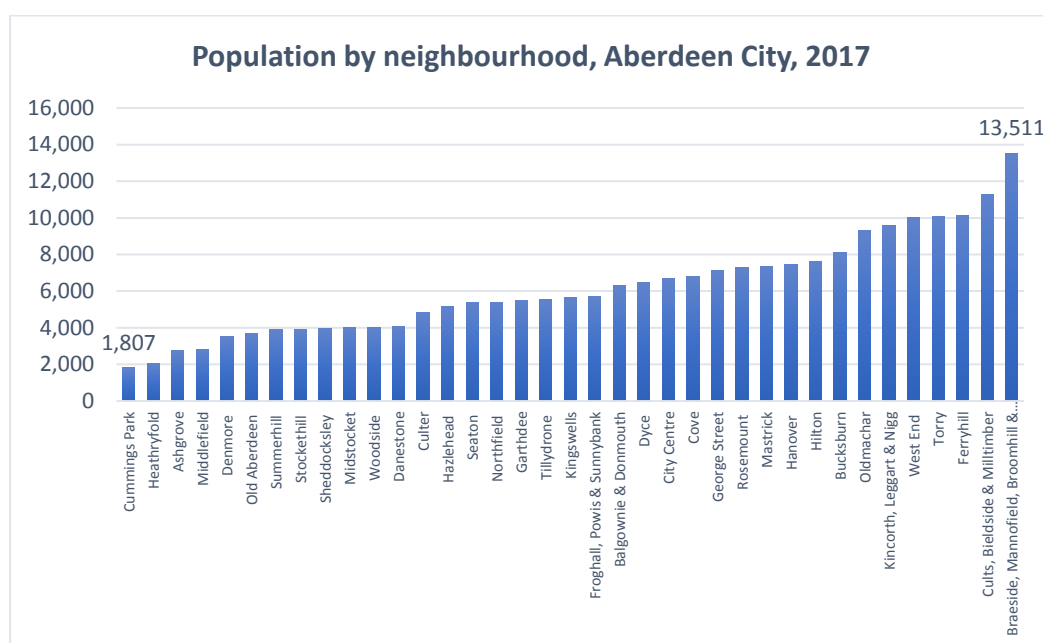
## 2. Demography

### 2.1 Population

On 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017 the population of Aberdeen City was estimated to be **228,800** [1]. This equates to 4.2% of Scotland's total population. In terms of population size, Aberdeen City is the 8<sup>th</sup> largest local authority in Scotland.

#### 2.1.1 Population by neighbourhood

The population varies considerably by neighbourhood, ranging from a low of 1,807 in Cummings Park to a high of 13,511 in Braeside, Mannofield, Broomhill and Seafield.

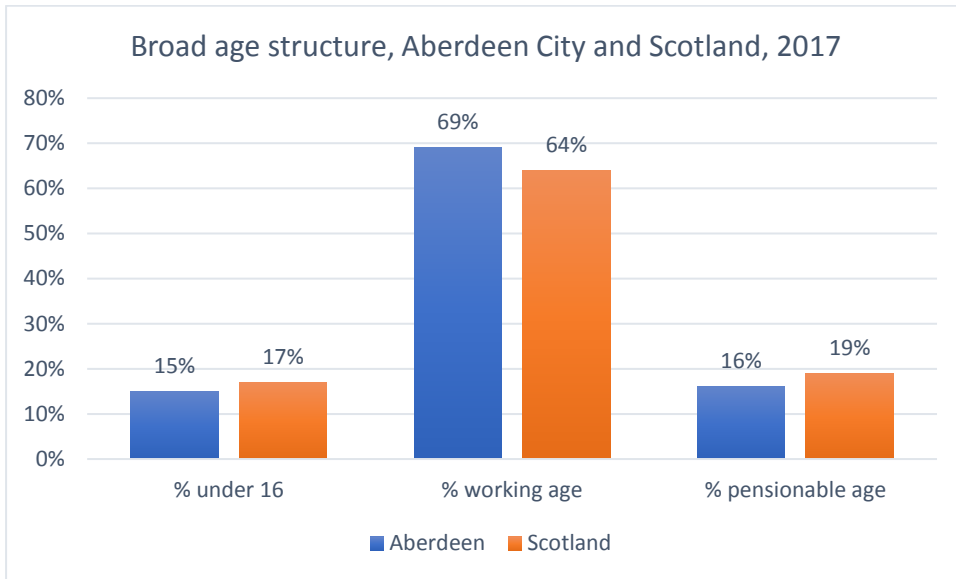


Source: National Records of Scotland, Small Area Population Estimates, 2017 [2]

### 2.2 Age and sex structure

In 2017, there were more females (50.2%) than males (49.8%) living in Aberdeen City. There were also more females (51.3%) than males (48.7%) living in Scotland overall.

Compared to Scotland, Aberdeen has a relatively young population with the median age in the City being lower than that for Scotland (36 years compared to 42 years). Aberdeen City has a higher proportion of its population in the working-age group than Scotland (69% compared to 64%) and a lower proportion of under 16 year-olds and people of pensionable age.

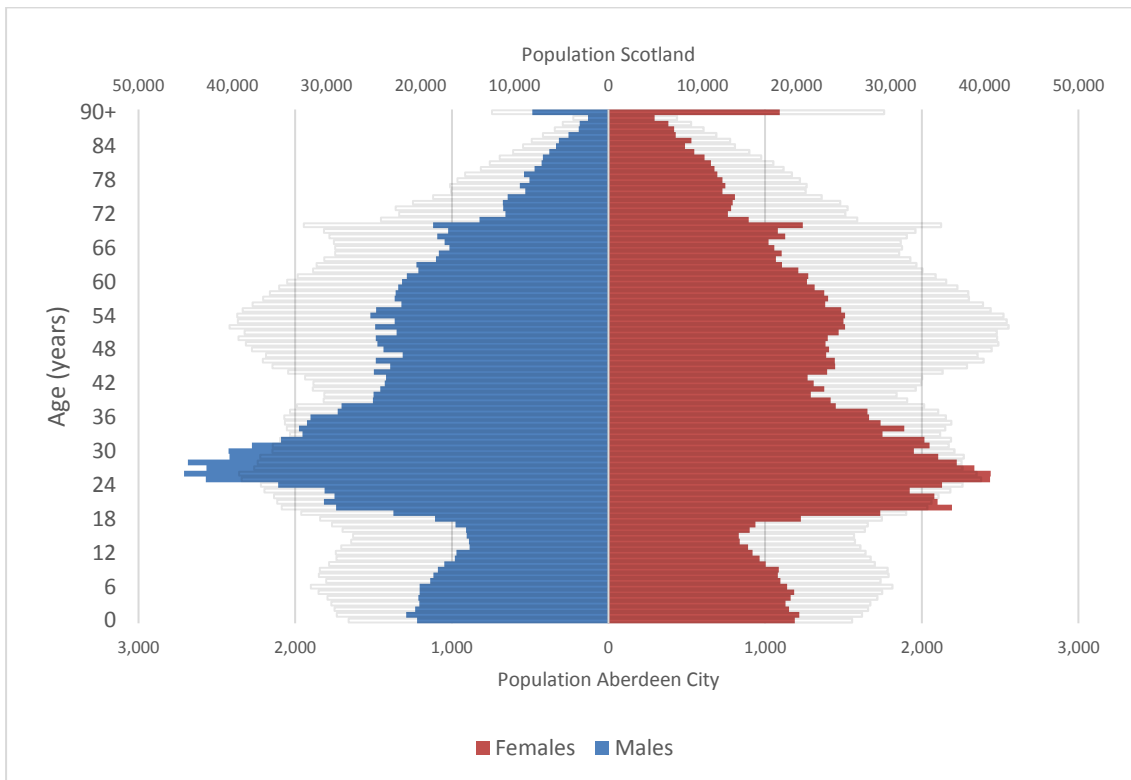


Source: National Records of Scotland, Mid-2017 Population Estimates [1]

Pensionable age: Pensionable age at 30 June 2017 was 65 for men and approximately 63 years and 361 days for women.

The population pyramid overlays the age and sex structure of the City onto that of Scotland (lightly shaded in the background) – highlighting the differences in the age structures between both areas.

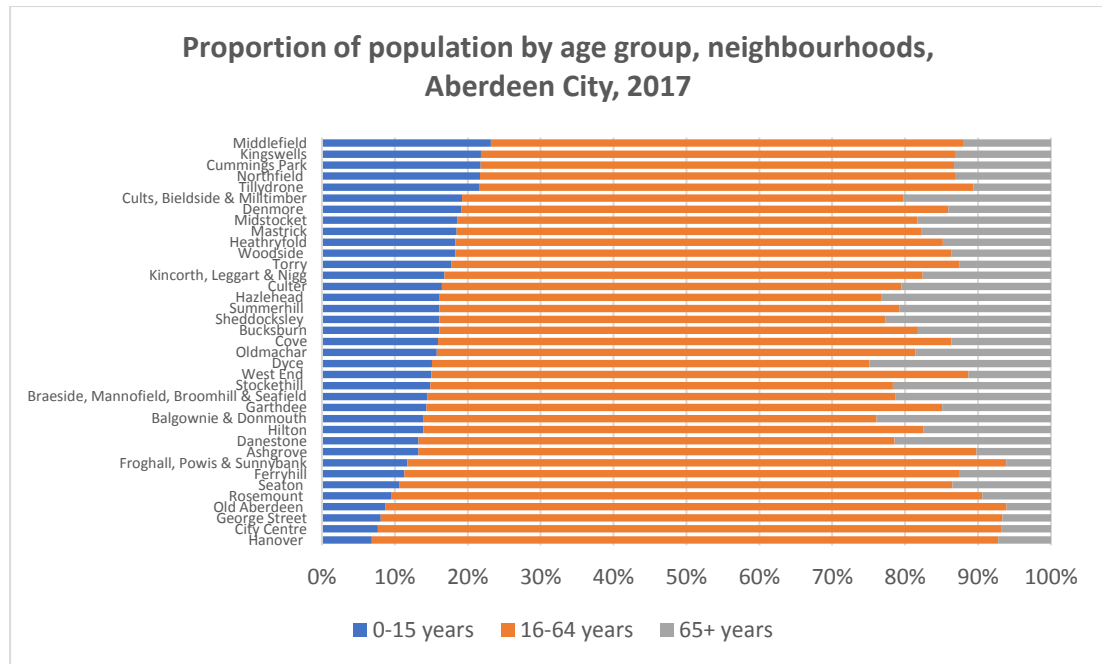
**Population pyramid, Aberdeen City and Scotland, 2017**



Source: National Records of Scotland, Mid-2017 Population Estimates, Scotland [1]

### 2.2.1 Age structure by neighbourhood

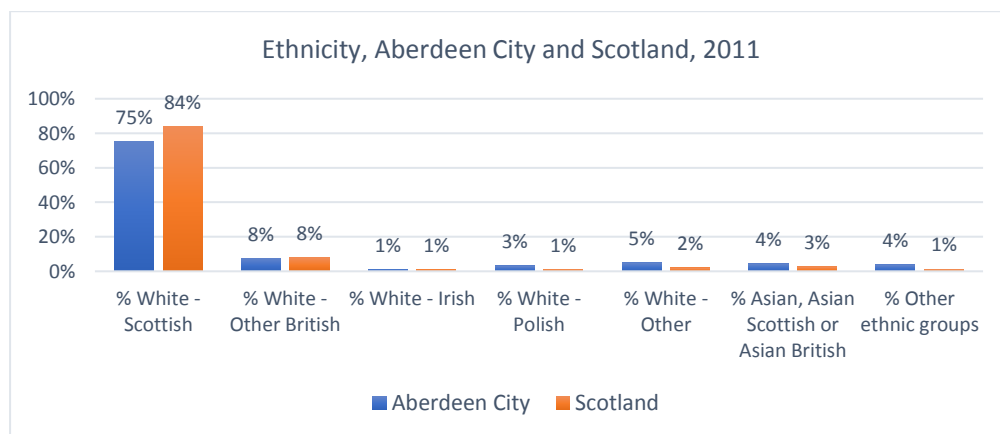
The age structure of the population varies by neighbourhood. The proportion of children (0-15 years) is lowest in Hanover and City Centre at 6.8% and highest in Middlefield at 23.2%. The working-age population is highest in Hanover, George Street, City Centre and Old Aberdeen (85-86%) and lowest in Dyce, Cults, Bieldside and Milltimber and Hazlehead (60%). The population aged 65+ years is highest in Dyce (24.9%) and lowest in Old Aberdeen, Froghall, Powis & Sunnybank, George Street and City Centre (6-7%) [2].



Source: National Records of Scotland, Small Area Population Estimates, 2017 [2]

### 2.3 Ethnic composition

Compared to Scotland, Aberdeen City has a more diverse ethnic composition. At the time of the 2011 Census, 75% of Aberdeen City's population classified themselves as White Scottish compared to 84% of the population of Scotland as a whole. The proportion of White Polish, White Other, Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British and Other ethnic groups was higher in Aberdeen City than in Scotland as a whole.

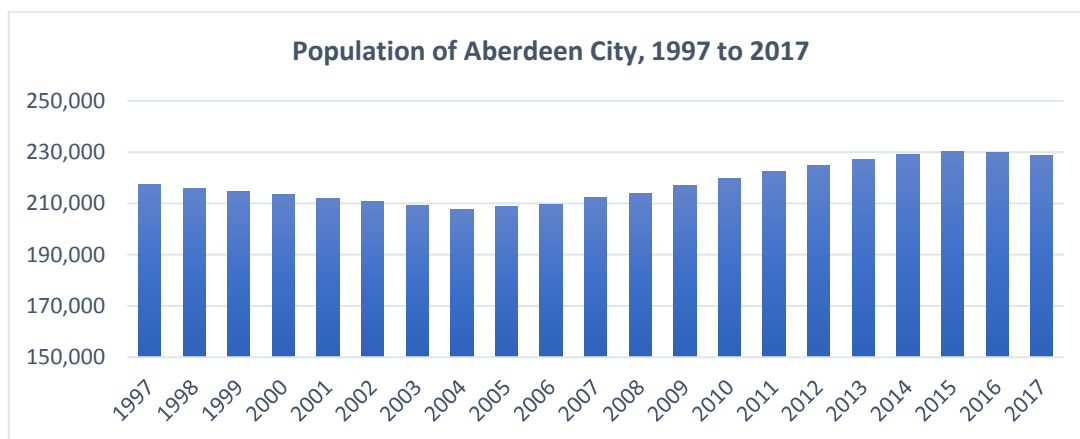


Scotland's Census 2011, Area Profiles [3]

More recent figures from National Records of Scotland (year ending June 2017) estimate that 24% of Aberdeen City’s population was born outside the UK compared to a figure of 9.0% for Scotland. Of those born outside the UK in Aberdeen, it is estimated that 60% are from EU countries and 40% from non-EU countries [4].

## 2.4 Population change

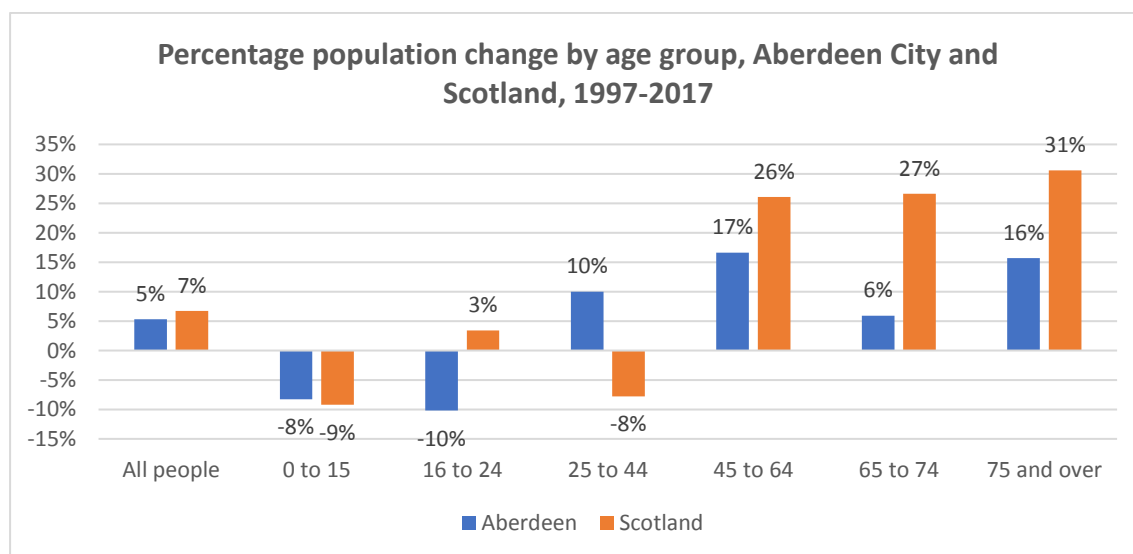
Aberdeen’s population fell slightly in both 2016 and 2017. The small decreases seen in both 2016 (-0.2%) and 2017 (-0.5%) follow an 11-year period of year-on-year population increases. Since 1997, the population has increased by 5.3% (11,500 people). In Scotland the population increased by 0.4% between 2016 and 2017 [5].



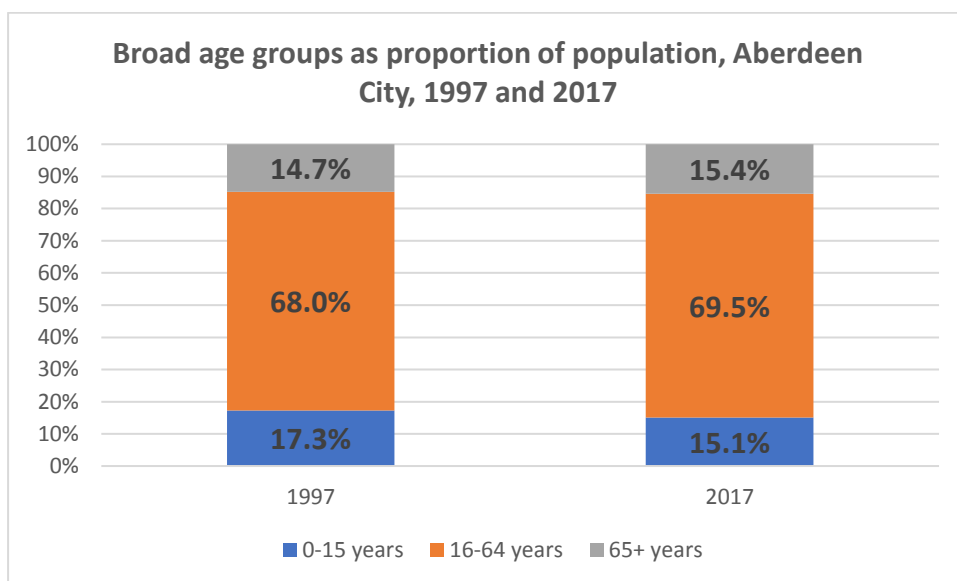
Source: National Records of Scotland, Population Estimates Time Series Data [5]

### 2.4.1 Population change by age group

Population change has not been consistent across all age groups. The largest percentage increases in population between 1997 and 2017 were in the 45-64 year age group (17%) and the 75+ years age group (16%) – although in both cases the rate of increase was lower in Aberdeen than in Scotland. In contrast, the number of people in the 16-24 year age group and the 0-15 year age group decreased over the period (-10% and -8% respectively).



Source: National Records of Scotland, Population Estimates Time Series Data [5]



Source: National Records of Scotland, Population Estimates Time Series Data [5]

## 2.5 Components of population change

Population change is calculated from two main components; (1) natural change (births minus deaths) and (2) net migration (the sum of migration to/from Scotland and internal migration). It also includes other changes (e.g. changes in prisoner and armed forces population) although these tend to make up a smaller proportion of changes. In Aberdeen City, while there was a positive natural change between mid-2016 and mid-2017 (354), there was negative net migration (-1,416) over the period. In contrast, in Scotland there was negative natural change and positive net migration [1]

### Components of population change, Aberdeen City and Scotland, mid-2016 to mid-2017

	Population 2016	Natural change	Net migration	Other changes	Population 2017	Total change	Percentage change
	n	n	n	n	n	n	%
<b>Aberdeen City</b>	229,840	354	-1,416	22	228,800	-1,040	-0.5
<b>Scotland</b>	5,404,700	-3,810	23,855	55	5,424,800	20,100	0.4

Source: National Records of Scotland, Mid-2017 Population Estimates, Scotland [1]

n = number, % = percent

The negative net-migration in Aberdeen City for 2016-2017 indicates that more people moved out of the City than moved into it. The table below gives a breakdown of the migration figures for Aberdeen City for 2016-2017. It shows the figures for in-migration and out-migration as well as net-migration. Within-Scotland migration (i.e. people moving to and from Aberdeen City from other parts of Scotland) makes up the largest component of migration, accounting for 53.6% of all people moving into the City and 65.1% of people moving out of the City. Within Scotland migration was also the largest contributor to the negative net migration experienced in the City. Net migration between Aberdeen City and the Rest of the UK was also negative. Only net migration between Aberdeen and Overseas was positive.



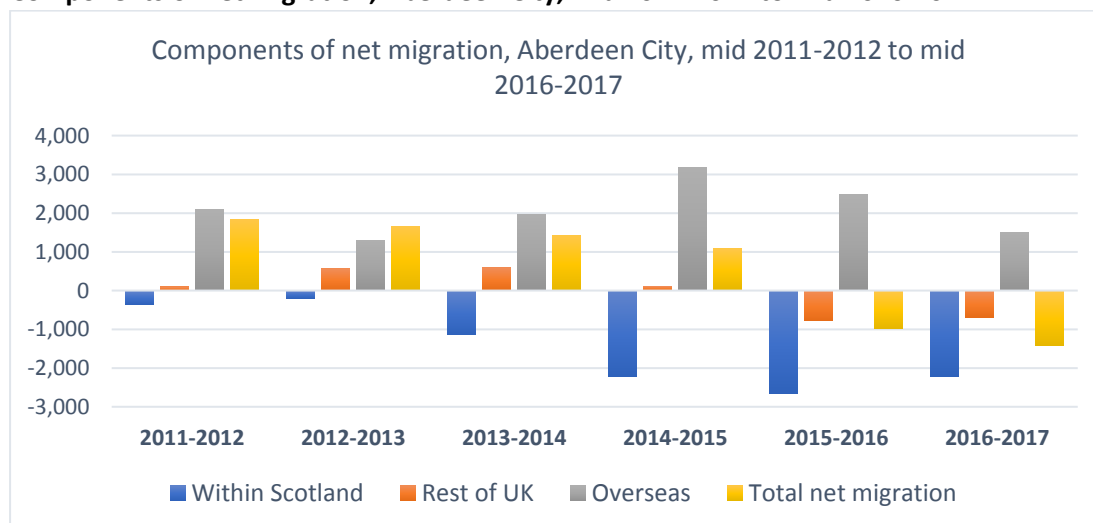
### Components of migration, Aberdeen City, mid-2016 to mid-2017

		Aberdeen City 2016-2017
<b>In-migration</b>	<i>Within Scotland</i>	6,074
	<i>Rest of UK</i>	2,078
	<i>Overseas</i>	3,182
	<b>Total</b>	<b>11,334</b>
<b>Out-migration</b>	<i>Within Scotland</i>	8,296
	<i>Rest of UK</i>	2,763
	<i>Overseas</i>	1,691
	<b>Total</b>	<b>12,750</b>
<b>Net-migration</b>	<i>Within Scotland</i>	-2,222
	<i>Rest of UK</i>	-685
	<i>Overseas</i>	1,491
	<b>Total</b>	<b>-1,416</b>

Source: National Records of Scotland, Mid-2017 Population Estimates, Scotland [1]

The figure below shows the contribution of different components of **net** migration to Aberdeen City for 2011-2012 to 2016-2017. The chart shows the changing patterns of net migration, in particular it highlights the increased levels of negative net migration from Aberdeen to other areas of Scotland in recent years. It also shows that levels of net overseas migration, while still positive, have more than halved since their peak in 2014-2015.

### Components of net migration, Aberdeen City, mid 2011-2012 to mid 2016-2017

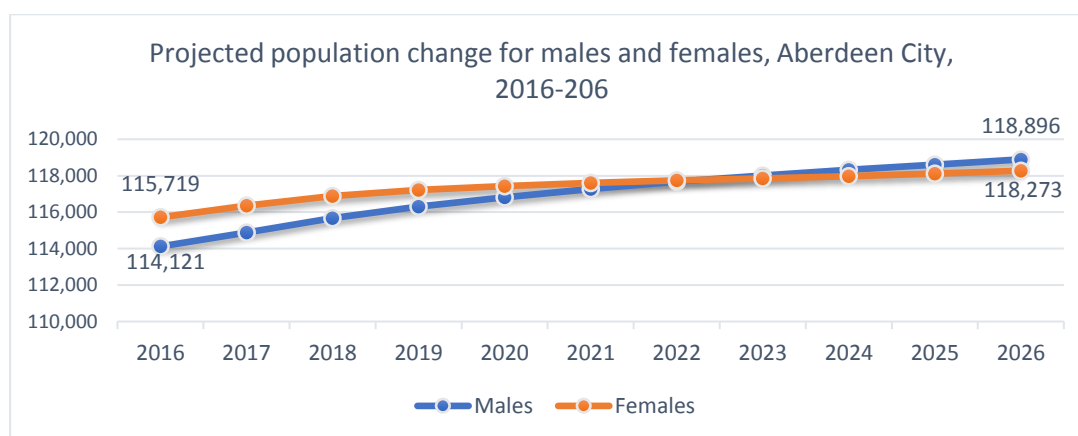


Source: National Records of Scotland, Mid-year Population Estimates, Scotland [1]

## 2.6 Population projections (2016-based)

By 2026 the population in Aberdeen City is projected to increase by **3.2%** from 229,840 in 2016 to **237,169** in 2026. The rate of increase in Aberdeen is the same as that for Scotland as a whole. (Note: NRS now tend to focus on 10-year projections rather than 25-year projections as these are more stable, and also new projections are released every two years).

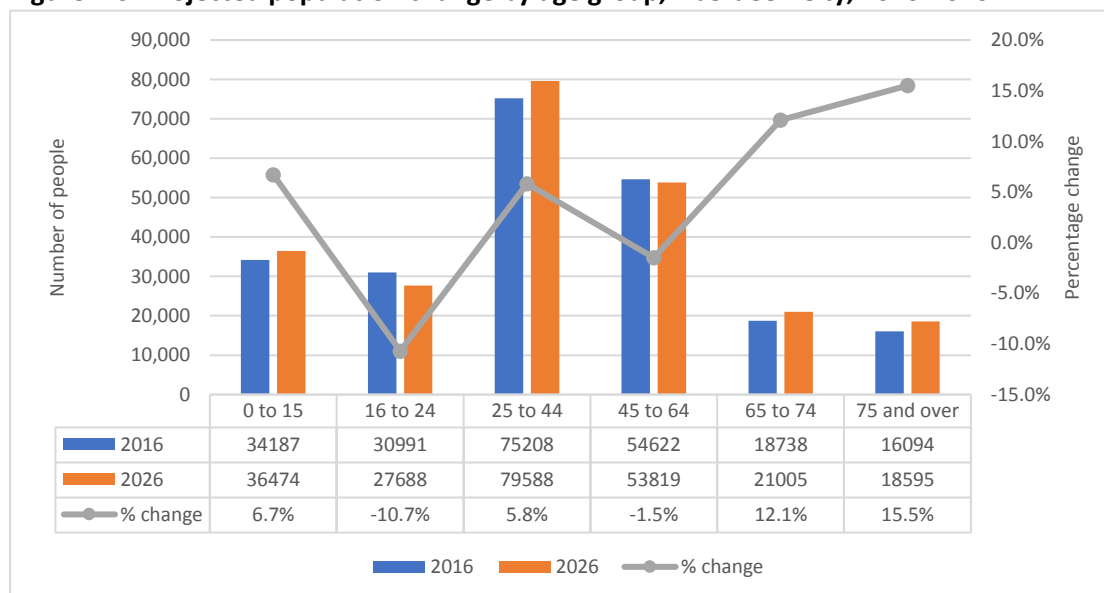
**Projected change by gender:** The projected increase is higher for males (4.2%) than for females (2.2%). This would mean that by 2026, the number of males in Aberdeen City would, in contrast to recent trends, be higher than the number of females [6]



Source: National Records of Scotland, Population projections for Scottish Areas (2016-based) [6]

**Projected change by age group:** The projected change is not consistent across all age groups. Continuing the trends of the past 30 years, between 2016 and 2026, the 16 to 24 age group is projected to see the largest percentage decrease (-10.7%) and the 75 and over age group is projected to see the largest percentage increase (+15.5%). In terms of size, however, 25 to 44 years is projected to remain the largest age group with the 75+ years group projected to remain the smallest group.

**Figure 2.6: Projected population change by age group, Aberdeen City, 2016-2026**



Source: National Records of Scotland, Population projections for Scottish Areas (2016-based) [6]

**Comparison with previous projections:** A point to note is that the 2016-based projections for Aberdeen City are lower than previous projections. The 2014-based projected population in Aberdeen City for 2026 was 248,990 compared to a projected population of 237,169 using the 2016-based projections – **equivalent to 4.7% lower than the previous projection.** (Note: - population decreased in 2017 due to negative net migration. Likely

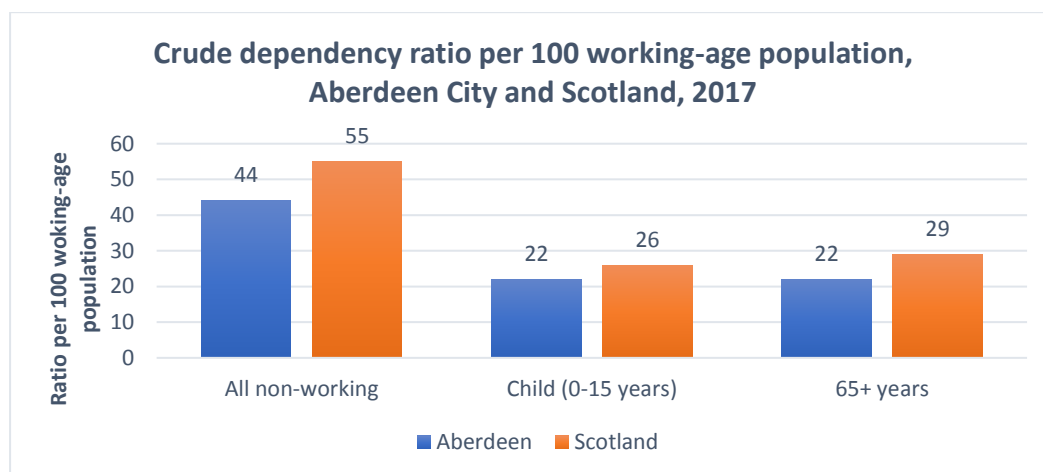
therefore (unless there's a substantial increase in positive net migration over the next year) that the next projections will be lower again – i.e. there will be a smaller population increase than currently projected.)

**Variation projections:** NRS also produces variant projections based on alternative assumptions for future fertility, mortality and migration to give an indication of the uncertainty of demographic behaviour, particularly for long-term projections. The variant which most closely matches our current situation is the 'low migration' projection. This estimates that the population of Aberdeen will fall by 0.3% between 2016 and 2026 giving an estimated population of 229,172 [6].

## 2.7 Population dependency ratio

Dependency ratios provide simple summary measures of age composition, with respect to relative numbers of people in 'dependent' and 'productive' groups. A crude dependency ratio can be calculated by looking at the ratio of the non-working age population (under 16 years and 65+ years) compared to the working-age population. On this basis in 2017 Aberdeen City had a dependency ratio of 44 'dependents' per 100 working-age people. The dependency ratio for those of a pensionable age was 22 per 100 working-age people and for children it was also 22 per 100 working-age people.

Dependency ratios are lower in Aberdeen than in Scotland. The ratio of non-working/working-age population is 55 per 100 working age population in Scotland. The child dependency ratio is 26 per 100 working age population and the pensionable age is 29 per 100 working age population.

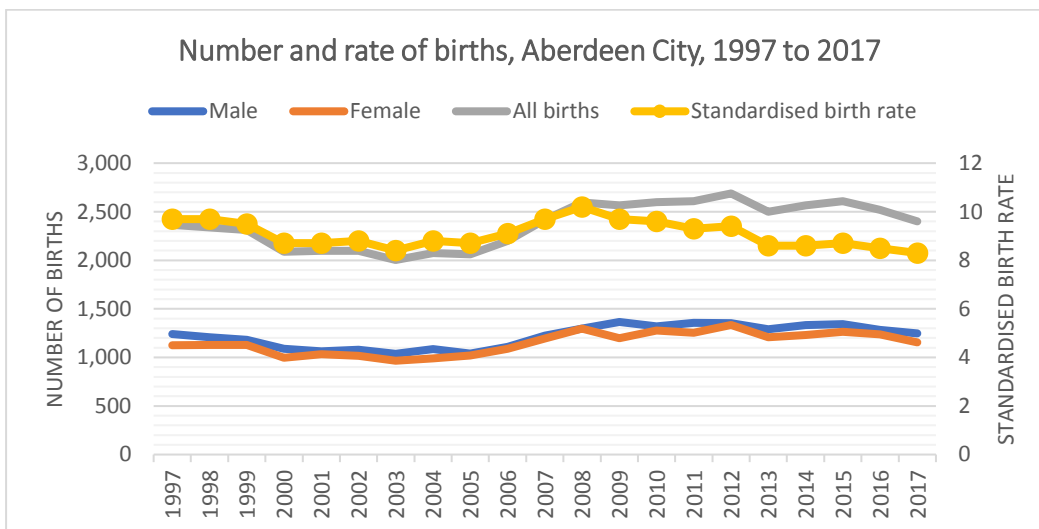


Source: Population estimates from National Records of Scotland, Mid-2017 Population Estimates [1]

## 2.8 Births

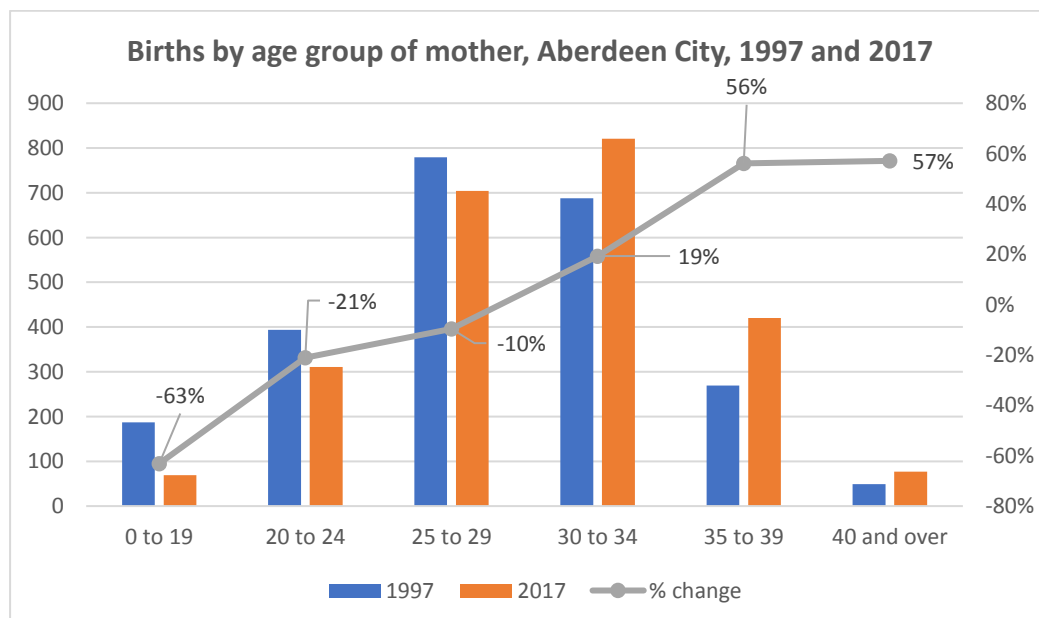
In 2017, there were 2,402 births in Aberdeen City. This is a decrease of 4.7% from 2,521 births in 2016. Of these 2,402 births, 1,154 (48.0%) were female and 1,248 (52.0%) were male. In Aberdeen City, the standardised birth rate decreased from 8.5 per 1,000 population in 2016 to 8.3 in 2017. In comparison, the rate in Scotland overall decreased from 10.1 to

9.7. Aberdeen City has the second lowest birth rate of all local authorities (only City of Edinburgh is lower at 7.2) [7].



Source: National Records of Scotland, Vital Events Reference Tables [7]

**Age group of mother:** Compared to 20 years ago, more births are to older mothers. The number of births to women aged 10-19 years, 20-24 years and 25-29 years has decreased, while the number of births to women aged 30-34 years, 35-39 years and 40 years and over has increased. In 2017, the most common age group of mothers in Aberdeen City was 30 to 34 years (821 births), a change from the 25 to 29 year age group in 1997. The least common age group of mothers in Aberdeen City was 0 to 19 (69 births), which is a change from the 40 and over age group in 1997.



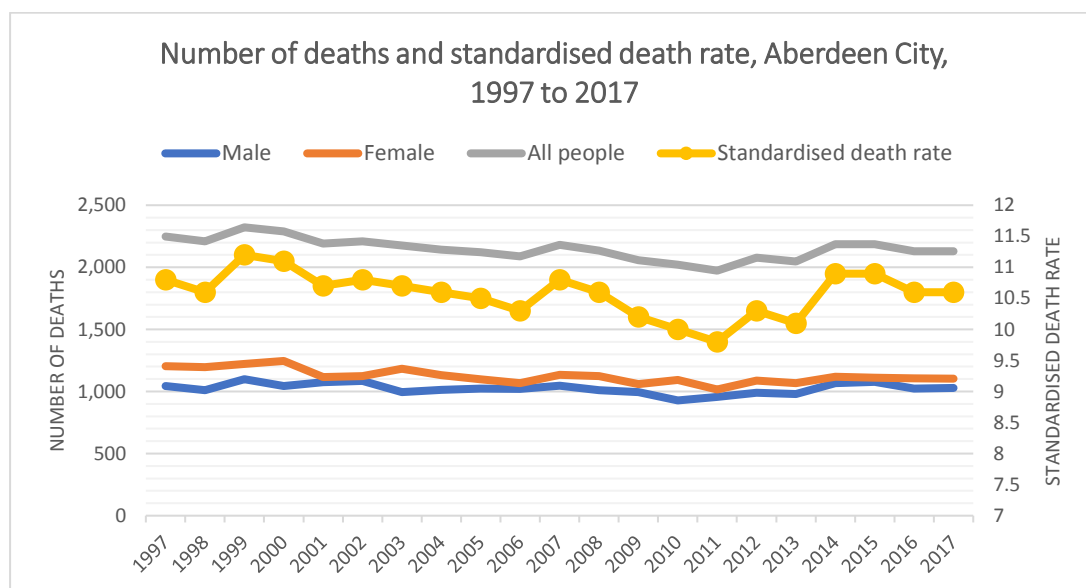
Source: National Records of Scotland, Vital Events Reference Tables [7]

**Country of birth of mother:** Of the 2,402 births in Aberdeen City in 2017, 1,517 (63.2%) were to mothers from the UK. There were 449 births to mothers from European Union countries,

269 births to mothers from Commonwealth countries and 166 to other countries (mother's country not stated for 1 birth) [7].

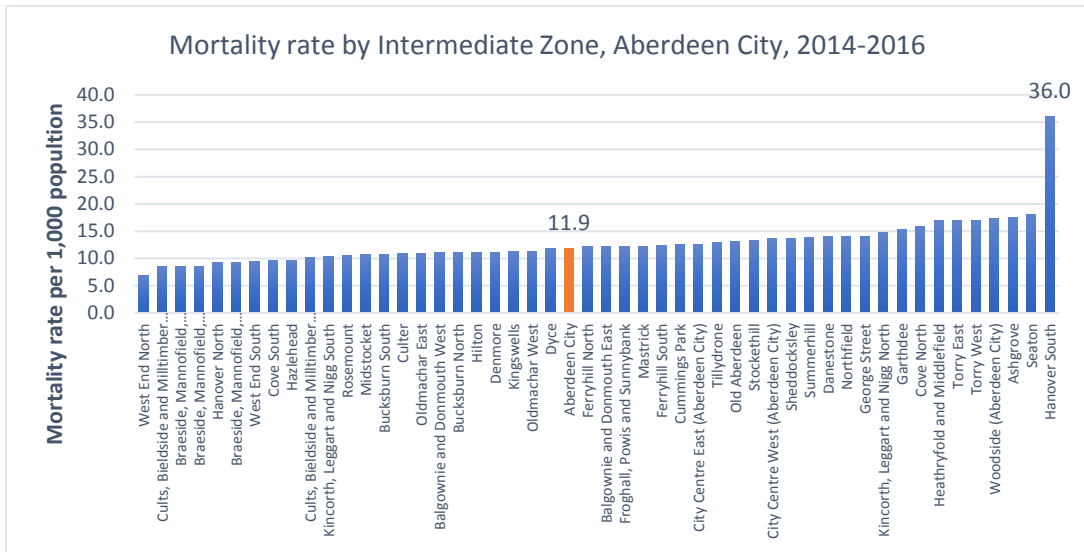
## 2.9 Deaths

**All causes:** In 2017, there were 2,130 deaths in Aberdeen City. This is essentially unchanged from 2,129 deaths in 2016. Of these 2,130 deaths, 1,102 (51.7%) were female and 1,028 (48.3%) were male. In Aberdeen City, the standardised death rate in 2016 was 10.6 per 1,000 population and remained the same in 2017. In comparison, the rate in Scotland overall increased from 10.5 to 10.7 [7].



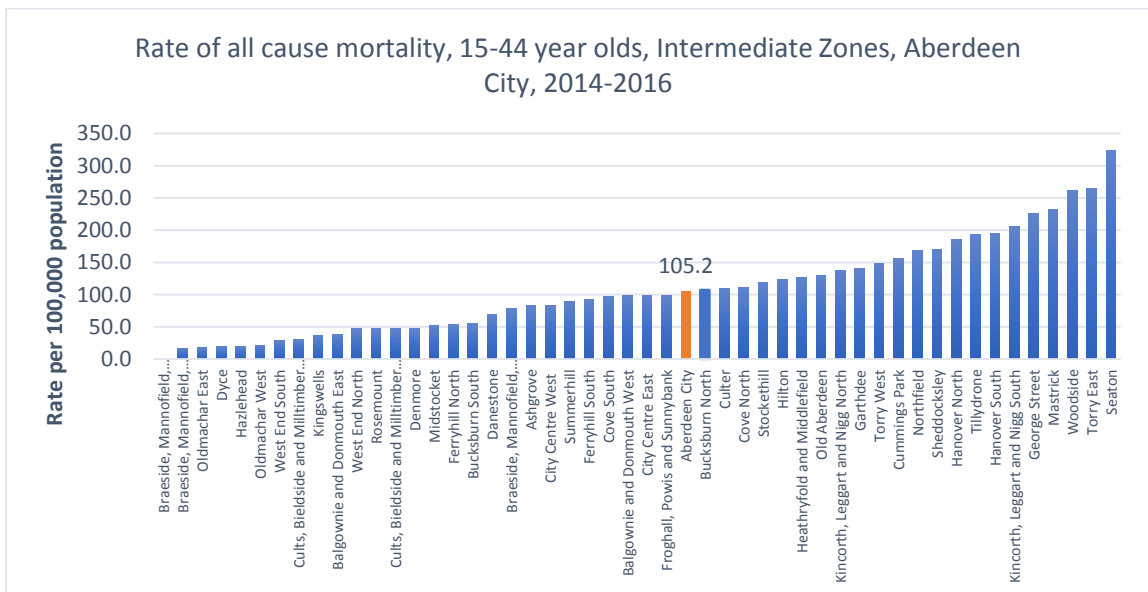
Source: National Records of Scotland, Vital Events Reference Tables [7]

**By Intermediate Zone:** Mortality rates vary considerably across the City. For the period 2014-2016 the average mortality rate (directly age-sex standardised per 1,000 population; 3-year aggregates) ranged from 6.8 in West End North to 36.0 in Hanover South (Intermediate Zones). The mortality rate in Hanover South was twice as high as the next highest rate (18.1 in Seaton) and over three times as high as the average rate for the City as a whole (11.9 per 1,000 population) [8].



Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles [8]

**15-44 year-olds (all cause):** In the period 2014-2016 the average mortality rate (directly age-sex standardised per 100,000 population; 3 year aggregates) for Aberdeen City was 105.2 (compared to 102.2 for Scotland). Again, however, there was considerable variation across the City ranging from 0.0 in Braeside, Mannofield, Broomhill and Seafield South to 322.9 per 100,000 population in Seaton.

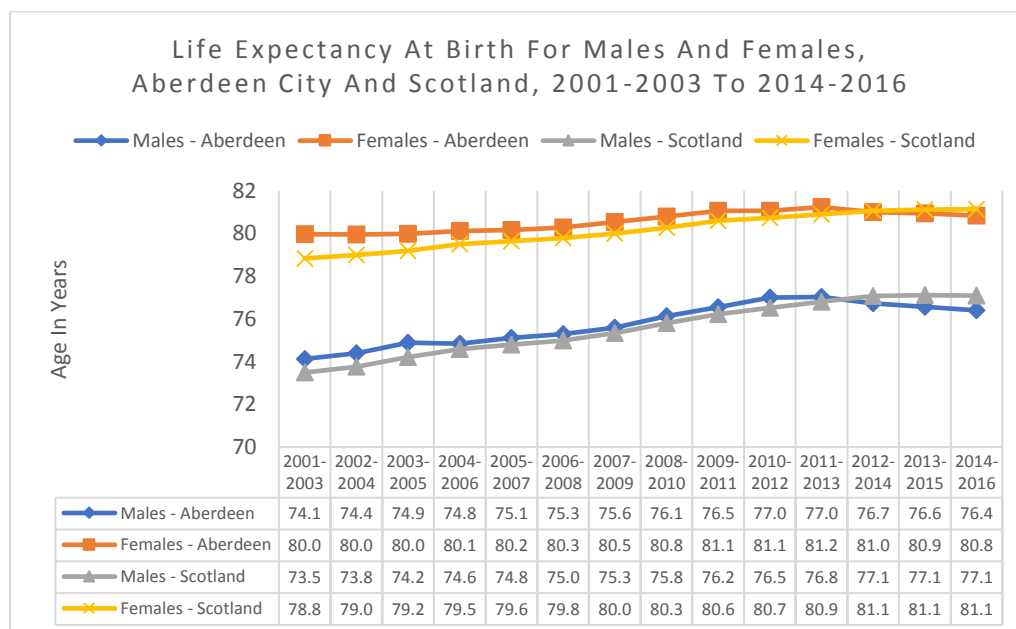


Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles [8]

## 2.10 Life expectancy

Estimated life expectancy at birth is higher for women than for men. In 2014-2016 life expectancy at birth for females in Aberdeen was 80.8 years and for males it was 76.4 years. Both male and female life expectancy have decreased slightly in each of the last three years. Since 2001-2003, male life expectancy has increased by 2.3 years and female life expectancy by 0.8 years. The higher increase for males has resulted in a closing of the gap between male and female life expectancy from 5.9 years to 4.4 years. However, rates of increase

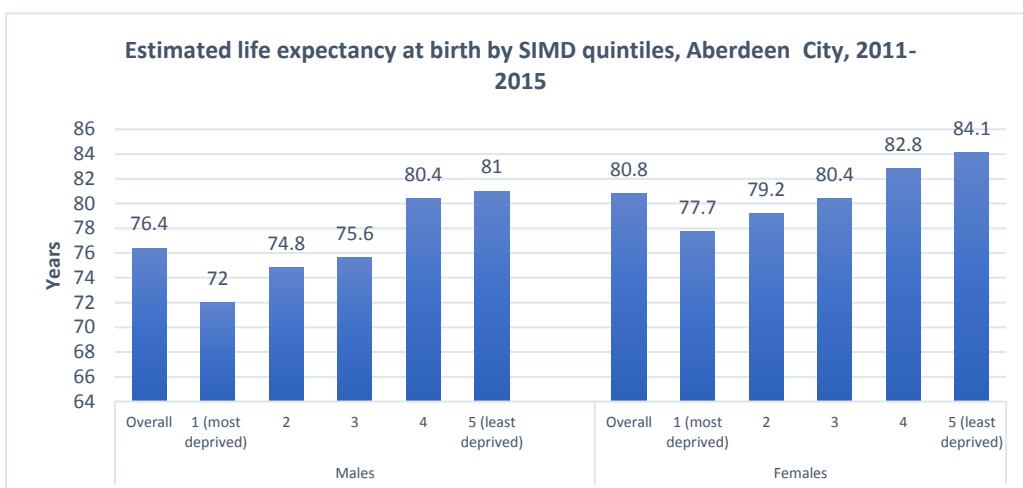
over this period have been lower in Aberdeen City than for all other local authority areas in Scotland. Life expectancy at birth in Aberdeen is now lower than average life expectancy for Scotland as a whole [9] . **(Note:** It should be remembered that life expectancy is an estimate – and as such is subject to a margin of error. Also, some experts believe that life expectancy is beginning to plateau across the UK [10]).



Source: National Records of Scotland, Life Expectancy for Administrative areas within Scotland, 2014-2016 [9]

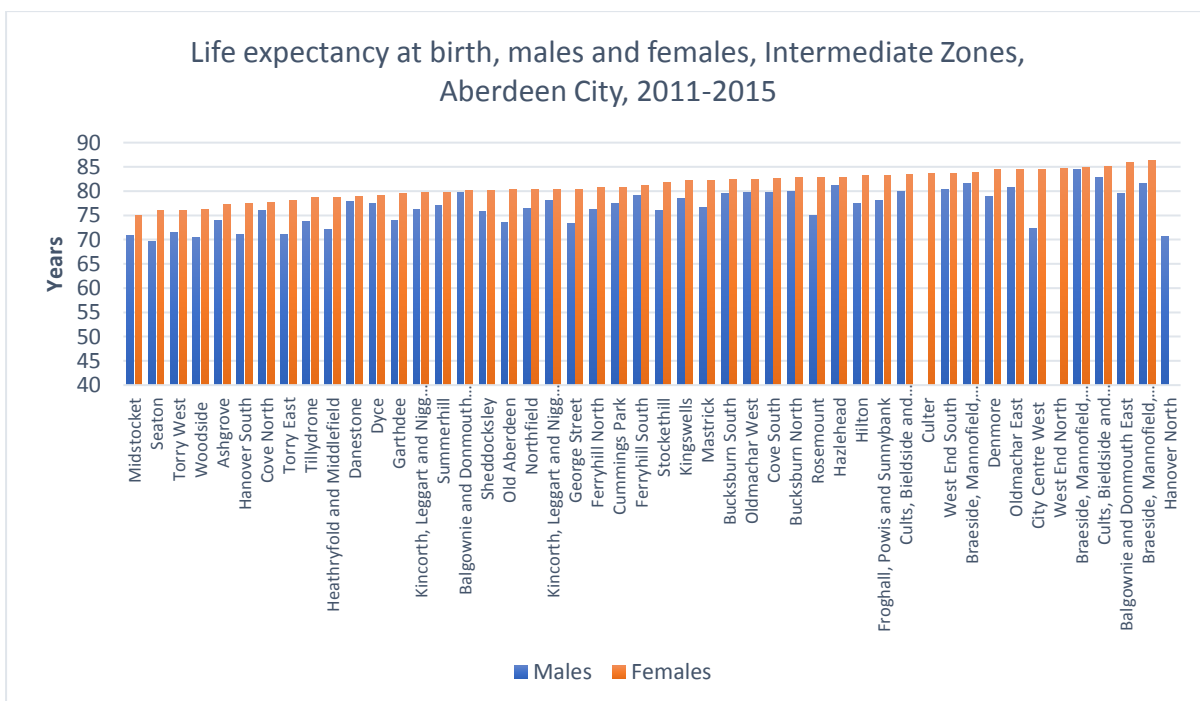
**Life expectancy at 65-69 years:** Life expectancy at age 65-69 years was also higher for females (19.7 years) than for males (16.9 years) in 2014-16. Again, male life expectancy at age 65-69 years has increased more rapidly than female life expectancy at age 65-69 years between 2001-03 and 2014-16 [9].

**Life expectancy by level of deprivation (SIMD 2016):** In Scotland as a whole, life expectancy is strongly associated with level of deprivation. In Aberdeen City life expectancy for men in quintile 1 (most deprived) was 72.0 years compared to 81.0 years for men in quintile 5 (least deprived) – **a difference of 9.0 years**. For women, the difference in estimated life expectancy was less marked, at 77.7 years for women in quintile 1 compared to 84.1 years for women in quintile 5 - **a difference of 6.4 years** [9].



Source: National Records of Scotland, Life Expectancy for Administrative areas within Scotland, 2014-2016 [9]

The relationship between estimated life expectancy and deprivation means that for both males and females there are important differences in estimated life expectancy at birth depending on where you live in Aberdeen City. The most recent data available for smaller geographies (Intermediate Zones) is for the period 2011-2015. For **males**, estimated LE at birth ranges from a low of 69.7 years in Seaton to a high of 84.5 years in Braeside, Mannofield, Broomhill & Seafiel North – a **difference of 14.8 years**. For **females** it ranges from a low of 74.9 years in Mastrick to a high of 86.3 years in Braeside, Mannofield, Broomhill & Seafiel East – a **difference of 11.4 years** [8].



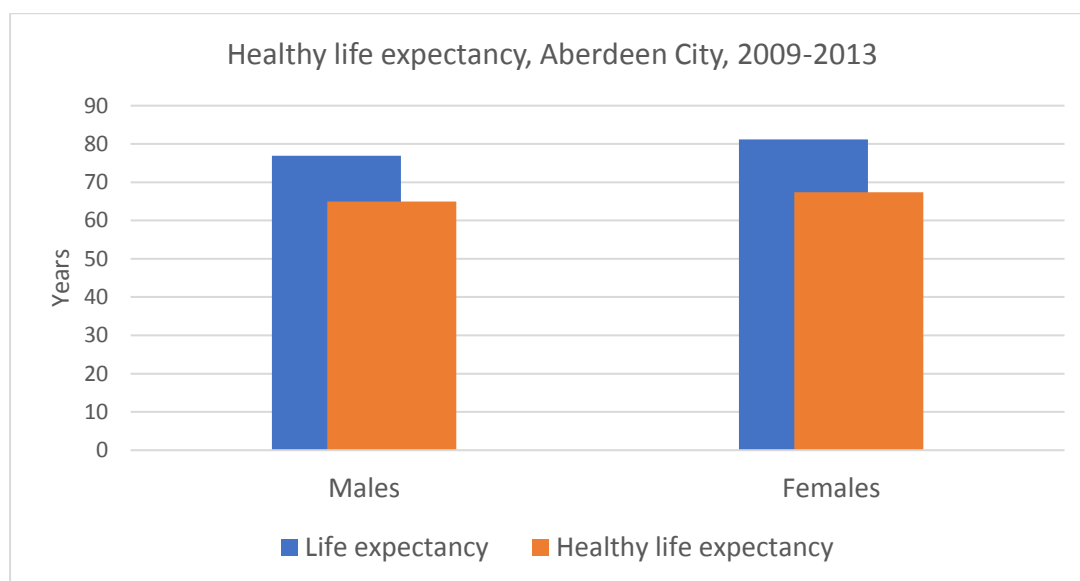
Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles [8]



## 2.10.1 Healthy Life Expectancy

While Life Expectancy (LE) counts total years of expected life regardless of level of health, Healthy Life Expectancy (HLE) represents the number of years that an individual can expect to live in good health. Information on HLE at local authority level uses self-assessed health from the Census and is therefore not available on a frequent basis. The most recent HLE estimates for Aberdeen are for the 5-year period 2009-2013. *(Note: HLE is generally presented in relation to LE. The LE estimates given below cover a different time period to those in the previous section and therefore will not match).*

For the period 2009-2013, **males** in Aberdeen City had a LE at birth of 76.9 years and a HLE of 65.0 years, giving an expected period of **'not healthy' health of 11.9 years**. For **females** in Aberdeen City, life expectancy at birth was 81.2 years and healthy life expectancy was 67.4 years, giving an expected period of **'not healthy' health of 13.8 years**. So, while women have a higher life expectancy, they also experience a longer time in 'not healthy' health than men. This pattern is consistent with Scotland as a whole – although both LE and HLE are slightly higher in Aberdeen City than in Scotland for both males and females. In Scotland men have an expected period of 'not healthy' health of 13.5 years. For women the figure is 15.6 years [11].



Source: ScotPHO, Healthy Life Expectancy: Local Authorities [11]

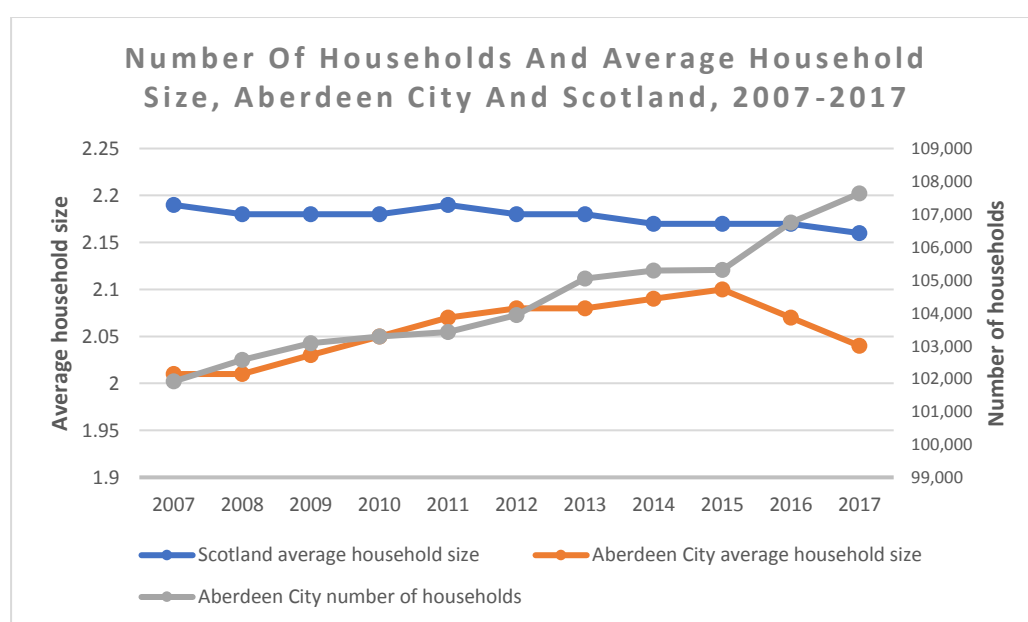
As with life expectancy, healthy life expectancy is strongly associated with deprivation. While no data is available at local authority level, in Scotland, the expected period of 'not healthy' health increased with increasing deprivation. For males the estimated period of 'not healthy' health ranged from 9.9 years in the least deprived quintile to 17.7 years in the most deprived quintile. The length of time a female could expect to spend in 'not healthy' health ranged from 11.3 years for a woman in the least deprived quintile to 21.0 years in the most deprived quintile. Another way of saying this is that a woman born in the least deprived quintile could expect to live 13% of her life in 'not healthy' health compared to a woman in the most deprived quintile who could expect to live over a quarter (27%) of her life in 'not healthy' health [12].

## 2.11 Households

In 2017, there were **107,635** households in Aberdeen City an increase of 0.8% from 106,749 households in 2016, and the same as the rate of increase for Scotland as a whole. Since 2007, the number of households in Aberdeen has increased by 5.6% - lower than the average rate for Scotland of 6.2% [13].

### 2.11.1 Household size

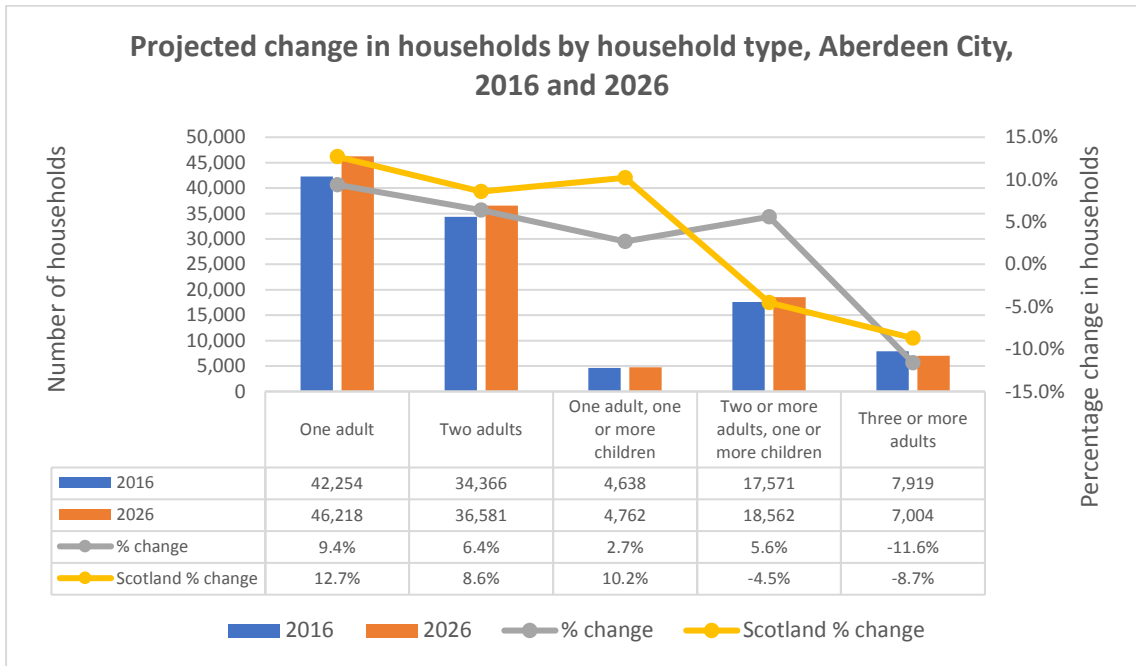
In 2017 the average household size in Aberdeen City was 2.04 – equal lowest (along with Argyll and Bute) of all local authorities in Scotland. The average household size for Scotland is 2.16. While relatively low, Aberdeen City is one of the few local authorities (including City of Edinburgh and Glasgow City) which has seen an overall increase in average household size over the past 10 years. However, unlike both Edinburgh and Glasgow, average household size has decreased sharply in Aberdeen over the past 2 years, from 2.10 in 2015 to its current level of 2.04 [13].



Source: National Records of Scotland [13]

### 2.11.2 Household projections

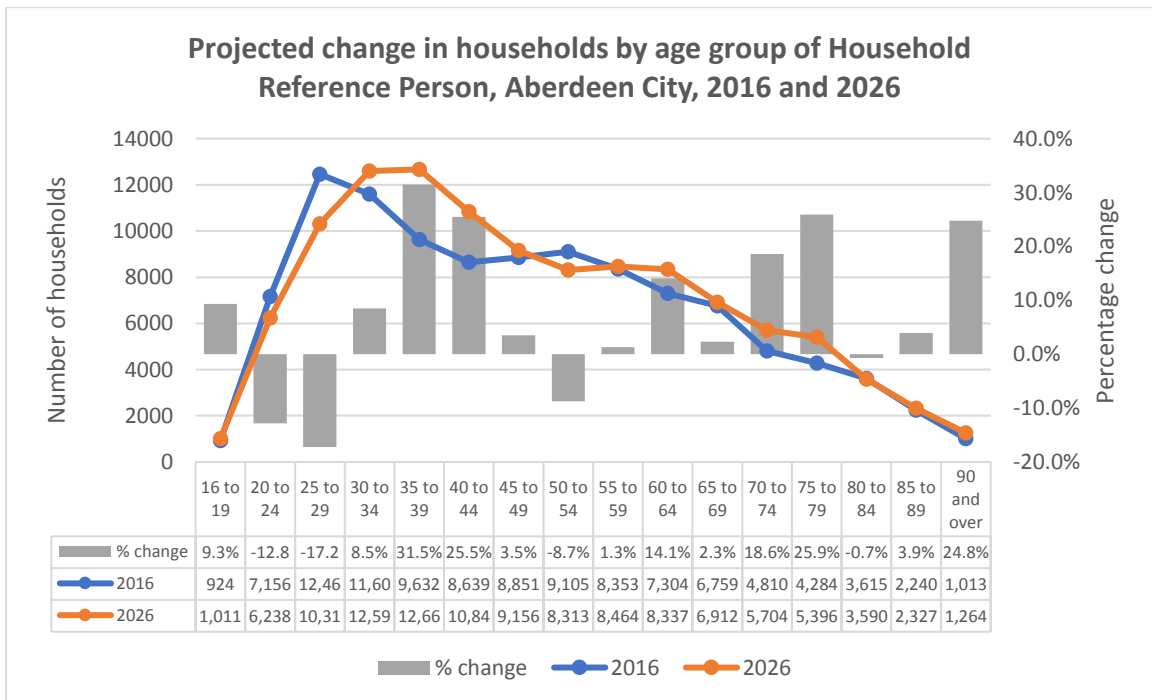
Between 2016 and 2026, the number of households in Aberdeen City is projected to increase from 106,749 to 113,128. This is a 6.0% increase, which compares to a projected increase of 6.4% for Scotland as a whole. In 2026, the household type “One adult” is projected to remain the most common (40.9%) and the household type “One adult, one or more children” is projected to remain the least common (4.2%) in Aberdeen City. Between 2016 and 2026, the household type “Three or more adults” is projected to see the largest percentage decrease (-11.6%) and the household type “One adult” is projected to see the largest percentage increase (+9.4%) [14].



Source: National Records of Scotland, Household Projections for Scotland, 2016-based [14]

### 2.11.3 Household projections by age group of Household Reference Person

Between 2016 and 2026, the 25 to 29 age group is projected to see the largest percentage decrease (-17.2%) and the 35 to 39 age group is projected to see the largest percentage increase (+31.5%). In terms of size, however, 35 to 39 years is projected to become the largest age group of a Household Reference Person (HRP), compared to 25 to 29 years in 2016.

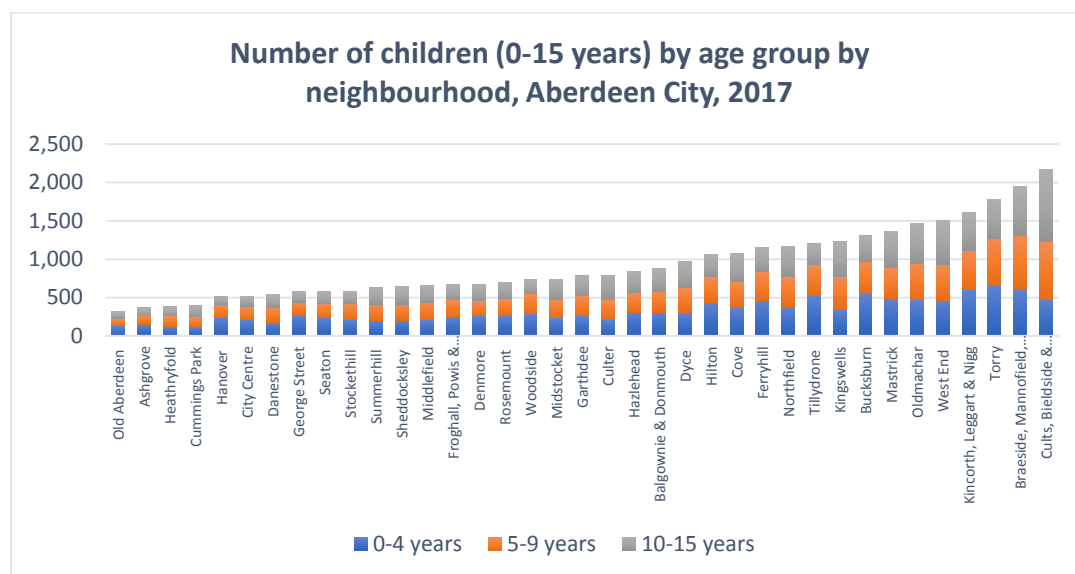


Source: National Records of Scotland, Household Projections for Scotland, 2016-based [14]

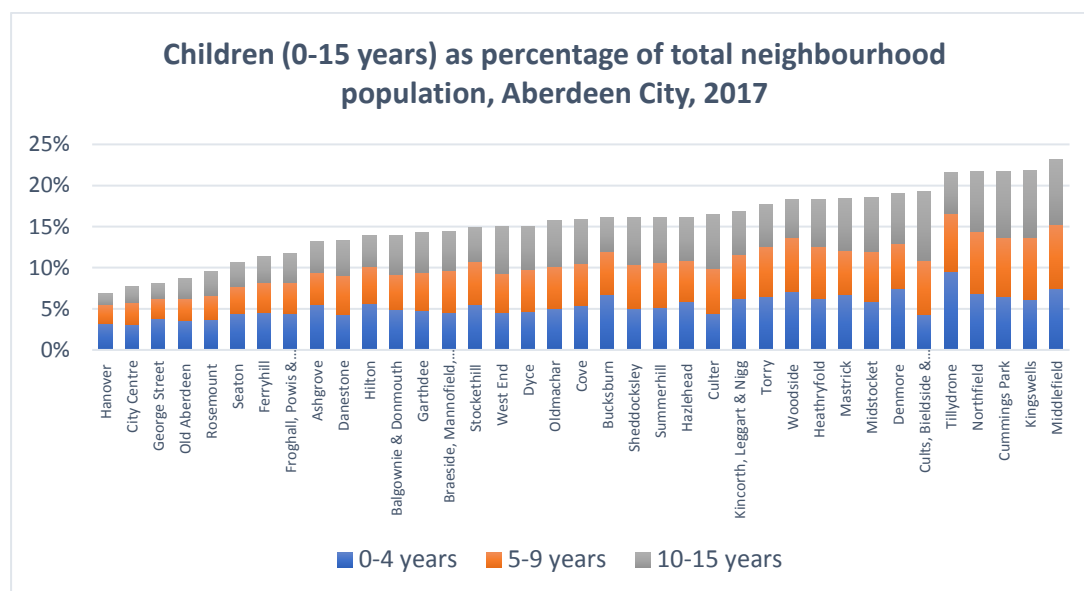
### 3. Children

#### 3.1 Overview – number of children by smaller age groups

In 2017, there were 34,495 children (0-15 years) in Aberdeen City [2]. The number and proportion of children varies by neighbourhood. In terms of numbers, Old Aberdeen has the smallest child population (322) while Cults, Bieldside and Milltimber has the largest (2,169). Hanover has the smallest proportion of children (6.8% of the population of the neighbourhood) and Middlefield the largest (23.2%).



Source: National Records of Scotland, Small Area Population Estimates, 2017 [2]



Source: National Records of Scotland, Small Area Population Estimates, 2017 [2]

20% of households in Aberdeen City include children. Single parent families make up 4% of households in the City (equivalent to 20% of all households with children) [15].

### Composition of households with children, Aberdeen City and Scotland, 2016

Type of household	Aberdeen City	Scotland
Single parent	4%	5%
Small family	12%	12%
Large family	4%	5%
<b>All households with children</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>22%</b>
Households without children	80%	78%

Source: Scottish Household Survey, Annual Report 2016 – Local Authority Tables [15]

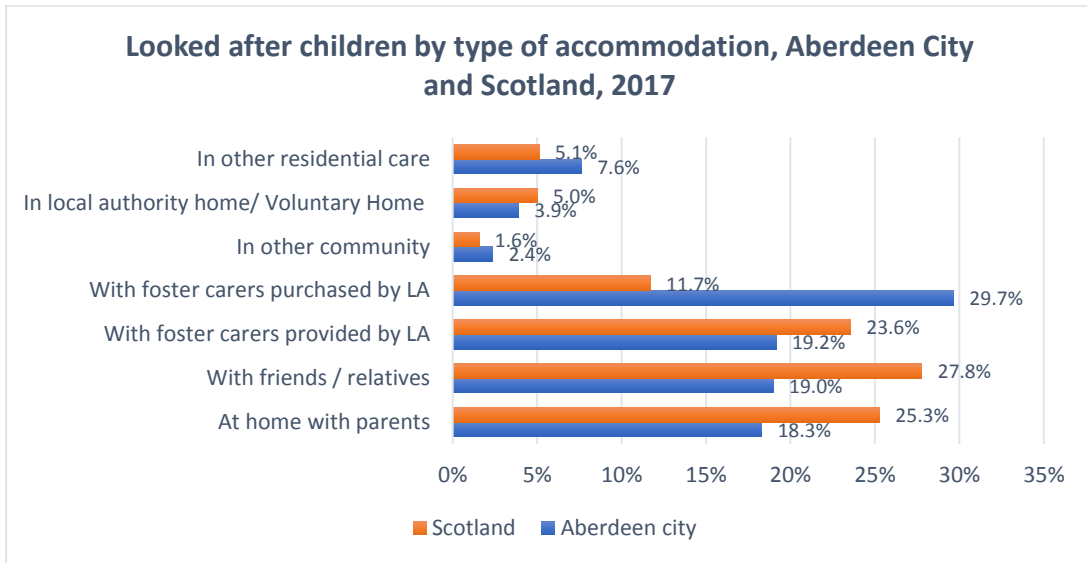
## 3.2 Looked after children

Local authorities have a responsibility to provide support to certain children and young people, known as 'looked after children'. A child may become looked after for a number of reasons; including neglect, abuse, complex disabilities which require specialist care, or involvement in the youth justice system.

On 31<sup>st</sup> July 2017 there were 590 looked after children (LAC) in Aberdeen City – equivalent to 1.6% of the 0-17 years population. This is slightly higher than the equivalent rate for Scotland of 1.4%. Most (60%) looked after children are boys, and over a quarter (29%) are under 5 years old. Six percent of looked after children are known to be from an ethnic minority group and 27% are known to have a disability [16].

There are several types of care setting in which looked after children or young people could be looked after, including at home (where a child is subject to a Compulsory Supervision Order and continues to live in their normal place of residence), foster care, residential unit or school, a secure unit, with prospective adopters, or in kinship care (where they are placed with friends or relatives).

Foster care is the most common setting for looked after children in Aberdeen City. At 48.9%, the proportion of looked after children in foster care is higher in Aberdeen City than in Scotland (35.3%). In contrast, Aberdeen has a lower proportion of looked after children at home with parents (18.3% compared to 25.3%) and in kinship care (19.0% compared to 27.8%) than does Scotland. The proportion of children in residential care is similar in Aberdeen and Scotland (11.5% compared to 10.1%).



Source: Children's Social Work Statistics 2016/17 [16]

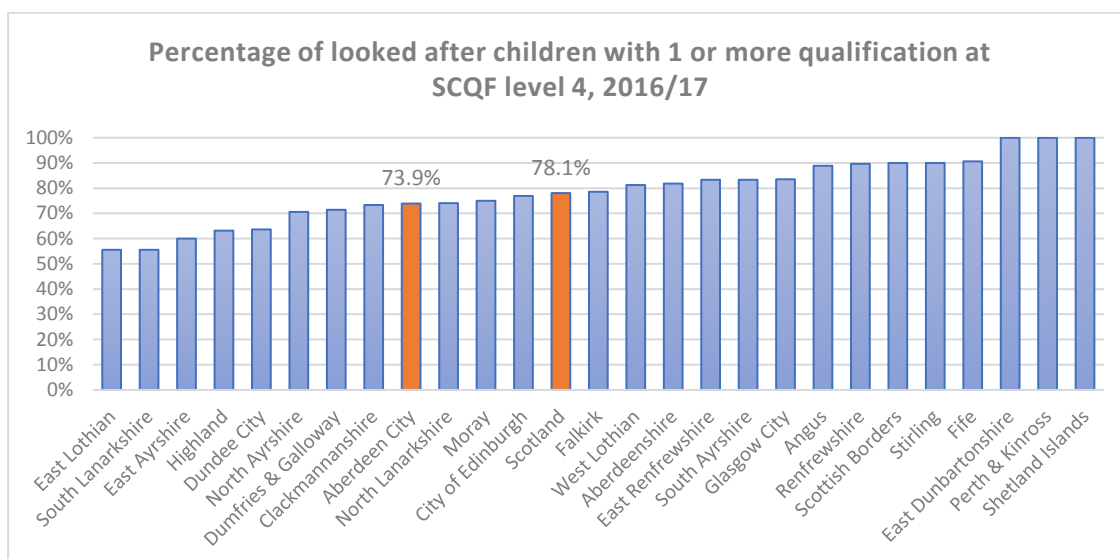
### 3.2.1 Educational outcomes for looked after children

Findings from the Scottish Government report on Education Outcomes for Looked After Children 2015/16 [17] indicate that looked after children with the most positive education outcomes are those:

- In foster care settings rather than in other care settings
- With fewer care placements in the year
- Who have been looked after for the whole year rather than just part of it

**LAC leaver attainment:** While there has been an improvement in leaver attainment over the past few years, the outcomes for looked after children are still considerably lower than those for all pupils. For example, in Scotland in 2016/17 only 44% of looked after children left school with 1 or more SCQF at level 5 compared to 86% of all pupils. Part of the reason for this is that looked after children tend to leave school at earlier ages. In 2016/17 almost three quarters (72%) of looked after school leavers were aged 16 and under (i.e. they left school at the earliest point they could) compared to just over one quarter (28%) of school leavers more generally [17].

Levels of attainment vary for looked after children across Scotland. Figures for 2016/17 show that in Aberdeen City 74% of looked after children left school with 1 or more qualification at SCQF level 4 compared to the average of 78% for Scotland. This is the 9<sup>th</sup> lowest rate of all local authorities in Scotland (data for children who have been looked after for the full year. In Scotland the rate of children who were looked after for part of the year was lower at 65%) [18].



Source: Scottish Government, Education Outcomes for Looked After Children 2016/17 [18]

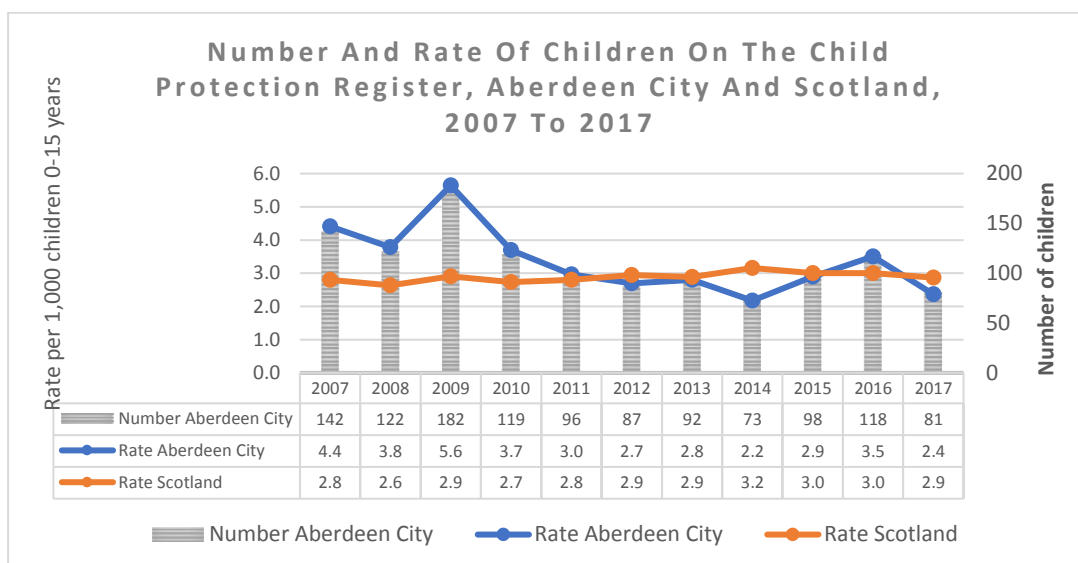
**Positive destinations:** Again, while improved, the outcomes for looked after children are worse than those for all pupils. In Scotland in 2016/17, 76% of looked after children had positive destinations compared to 93% of all pupils. In Aberdeen City the figure was slightly lower than the Scottish average at 74% (both figures based on 9-month follow-up survey and children who were looked after for the full year. Children looked after for part of the year had worse outcomes – only 64% in positive destinations for Scotland) [18].

**Attendance and exclusions:** In 2016/17 attendance rates for looked after children were the same in Aberdeen City and Scotland at 91%. However, the exclusion rate (per 1,000 pupils) was higher in Aberdeen (244 per 1,000 pupils compared to 169 per 1,000 pupils in Scotland). In Aberdeen, as in Scotland, the exclusion rate was higher in males (330 per 1,000 pupils) than females (112 per 1,000 pupils) [18].

### 3.3 Child protection

In 2017, there were 2,631 children on the Child Protection Register in Scotland, most (53%) of whom were under 5 years old. In Aberdeen City there were 81 children on the Child Protection Register. Despite fluctuations, overall the number of children on the Register in Aberdeen City has fallen over the past 10 years. Similarly, the rate (per 1,000 population aged 0-15 years) has dropped from 4.4 to 2.4 in the 10 years from 2007 to 2017. In Scotland the rate has remained relatively stable over the past 10 years and in 2017 was 2.9 [16].

Between 31<sup>st</sup> July 2016 and 31<sup>st</sup> July 2017, there were 164 registrations (80% of case conferences) and 201 de-registrations.



Source: Children’s Social Work Statistics 2016/17 [16]

In 2016-2017, 4.9% of child protection registrations were re-registered within 18 months – lower than the figure for Scotland of 6.5%. The proportion of re-registered children has decreased substantially in each of the last 2 years, from 10.7% in 2014-2015 to 5.8% in 2016-2016 to the current level of 4.9% [19].

### 3.4 Wellbeing

Information on wellbeing is provided through the Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle and Substance Use Survey (SALSUS). Emotional and behavioural problems are measured using the Goodman Strengths and Difficulties (SDQ) questionnaire and mental wellbeing is measured using the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale (WEMWB). Each measure provides a total score. The most recent Scotland level data is from 2015 [20], with the most recent local authority level data being for 2013 [21].

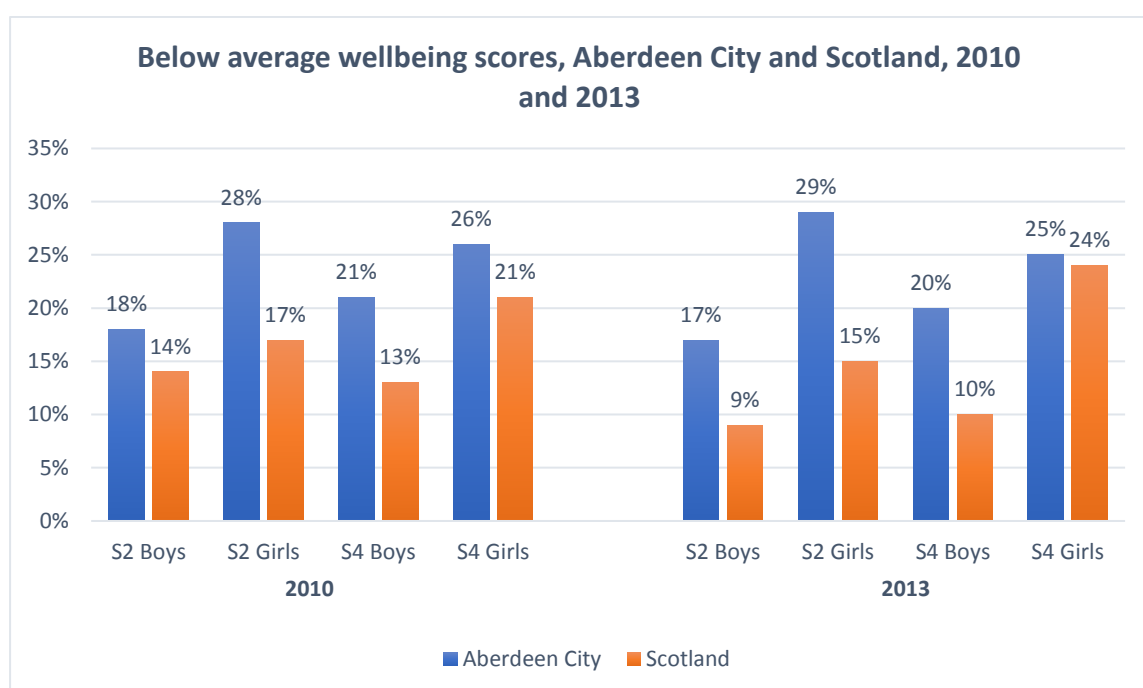
Data from 2013 suggests levels of wellbeing in young people in Aberdeen are similar to those in Scotland as a whole. In 2013 the mean total difficulties score (SDQ) for S4 pupils in Aberdeen City was 12.6 compared to 12.9 for Scotland. Mean scores for both Aberdeen and Scotland increased between 2010 and 2013 (from 12.3 and 12.1 respectively) suggesting a slight worsening of emotional problems over this period. Scotland level data suggests that S4 girls seem to be suffering poorer mental health and wellbeing than other groups (i.e. S4 Boys, S2 Boys and S2 Girls).

In the 39<sup>th</sup> City Voice questionnaire panellists were asked about Education and Children’s Services and what areas they see as a priority for improving services for children. 53% of respondents and 63% of respondents with children identified mental health as a priority issue [78].

In 2013, the mean mental wellbeing score (WEMWB) for S4 pupils in Aberdeen City was 47.7 compared to 47.6 for Scotland. Between 2010 and 2013 the mean mental wellbeing score for S4 pupils decreased (got worse) in both Aberdeen (from 48.9) and Scotland (from 49.7) [21].



Mental wellbeing scores are also available broken down into 'below average', 'average' and 'above average' mental wellbeing for S2 and S4 pupils. In 2013 in Aberdeen, the proportion of girls (at both S2 and S4) who had 'below average' mental wellbeing scores was higher than the proportion of boys with below average scores. This is consistent with trends for Scotland. Overall, however, the proportion of children with below average scores was higher in Aberdeen than in Scotland. For S2 Boys, S2 Girls and S4 Boys, the proportion of children with below average scores in Aberdeen was approximately twice as high as the respective groups in Scotland. Comparison with 2010 data shows that the proportion of S2 Boys, S4 Boys and S4 Girls with below average wellbeing scores had decreased slightly (by 1% in each case) by 2013, while the proportion of S2 girls with below average scores had increased by 1%.



Source: Ipsos MORI, Aberdeen City WEMWBS analysis [22]

### 3.5 Children and mental health services

The NHS in Scotland provides mental health services for children and young people with a wide range of mental health conditions including Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), anxiety, behaviour problems, depression and early onset psychosis. This treatment is provided through Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMH) services. These services, which are mainly outpatient and community based, are provided by a range of staff including psychiatrists, mental health nurses, clinical psychologists, child psychotherapists, occupational therapists and other allied health professionals.

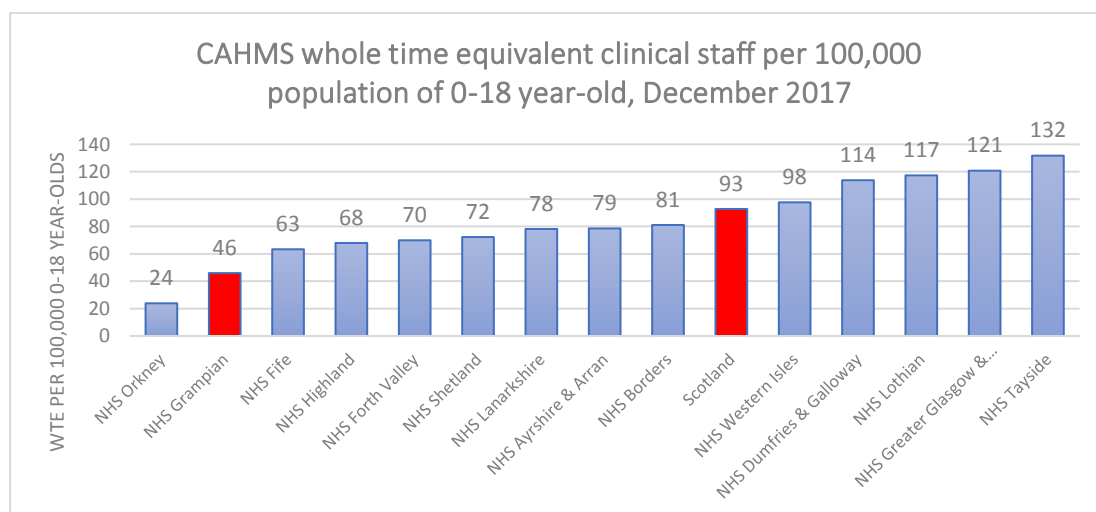
The Scottish Government requires the NHS in Scotland to measure the time people wait for treatment and this includes people waiting for CAMH services. The Scottish Government has

set a standard for the NHS in Scotland to deliver a maximum wait of 18 weeks from a patient’s referral to treatment for specialist CAMH services from December 2014.

In 2017, a total of 1,212 CAMHS patients were seen in Grampian. Of these, 37.7% were seen within the 18-week period, considerably lower than the Scottish rate where over three-quarters (77.5%) of these patients were seen within 18 weeks [23].

In the period January to March 2018, there were 833 referrals to CAMHS in Grampian, of which 739 were accepted (rejected referrals are where the CAHMS reviews the referral and sign-posts the young person to another service or back to their GP). This equates to a total referral rate of 7.5 per 1,000 people under 18 years and accepted referral rate of 6.6 per 1,000 people under 18 years. These are lower than the equivalent rates for Scotland of 8.4 and 6.7 per 1,000 people under 18 years. Compared to the same time-period last year (i.e. January to March 2017), both the number and rate of referrals has increased in Grampian. The total referral rate for January to March 2017 was 7.0 and the rate for accepted referrals was 5.8 per 1,000 people under 18 years [24].

Delivery of good quality and timely mental health services depends on having the required number of staff in the right post. As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017, NHS Grampian employed 46.2 whole time equivalent clinical staff in child and adolescent mental health services per 100,000 population of 0 to 18 year-olds. This is the second lowest rate of CAMHS staff in Scotland; only NHS Orkney employs fewer equivalent staff (24) [25].



Source: ISD Scotland, CAHMS characteristics of the workforce at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017 [25]

### 3.6 Early learning and childcare provision

Local Authorities have a duty to secure Early Learning and Childcare (EL&C) for all children in the nursery term following their third birthday until they start primary school. There is also a duty to provide early learning and childcare for two year-old children who are looked after or whose parents are on specific benefits. Aberdeen City Council provides free places in nursery classes in local authority primary schools. It also commissions early learning and childcare from the private, independent and voluntary sectors. In June 2017, 91% of all

eligible children in Aberdeen City in their immediate pre-school year and 82% in their ante pre-school year received free or funded early learning and childcare places in the city. Approximately 25% of the population of 2 year-olds are eligible for funded EL&C places. In 2016/17 26% of eligible two years received free or funded early EL&C places.

#### Early learning and childcare provision, Aberdeen City, 2010 and 2017

	2010	2017	Percentage change
School nurseries operated by ACC (places)	2,938	3,566	+21.4%
Day nurseries (places)	2,089	2,330	+11.5%
Crèches (places)	344	197	-42.7%
After school clubs (places)	1,409	1,627	+15.5%
Breakfast clubs (places)	989	1,111	+12.3%
Playgroups (places)	509	300	-41.1%
Childminders (places)	907	793	-12.6%
Holiday playschemes (places)	1,197	1,155	-3.5%

Source: Aberdeen City Council, Nurtured Audit 2017 [26]

### 3.7 Education - Schools

**Schools:** In Aberdeen City there are 48 primary schools (although the list includes Countesswells which isn't built yet) and 12 secondary schools. There are also 7 special schools, giving a total of 67 schools in the City [27].

**Pupils:** In September 2017 there were 13,923 primary school pupils and 8,667 secondary school pupils in Aberdeen City. There were also 143 pupils enrolled in Special School/SEN Units. The total number of pupils was **22,733** [27].

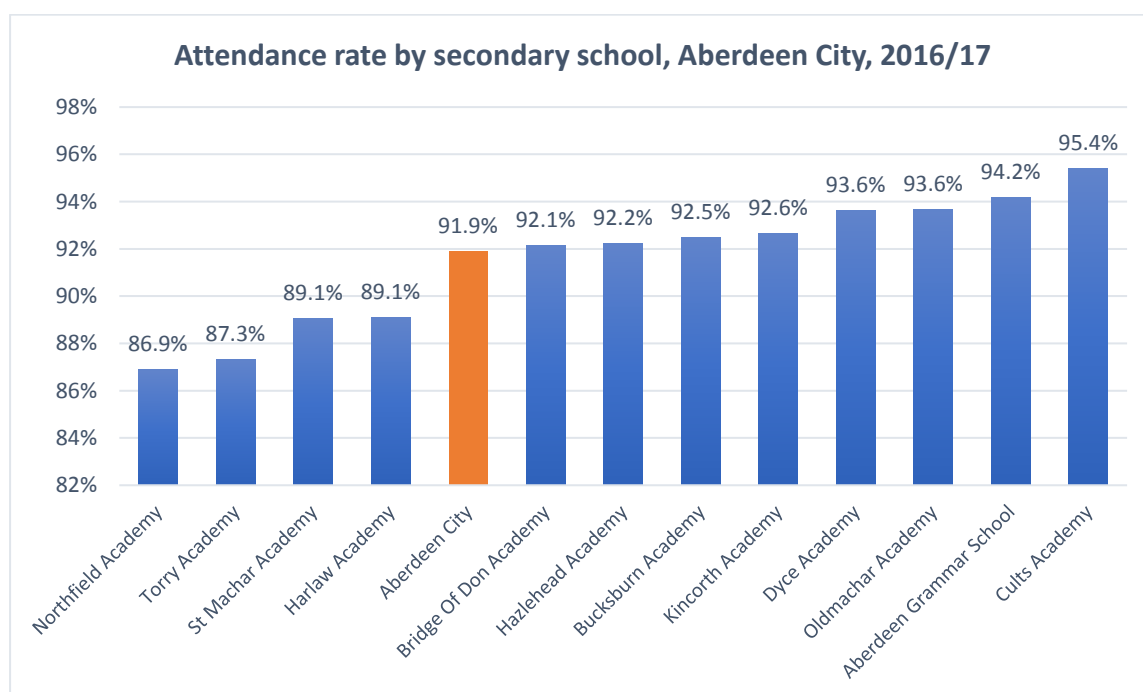
**Additional support needs:** In 2017, 29.5% of primary pupils and 30.9% of secondary pupils in Aberdeen City had additional support needs. These figures are higher than the Scottish rates of 23.5% and 29.3% respectively [27].

**Ethnicity:** 70.2% of primary school pupils in Aberdeen City were classified as White-UK, 13.8% were classified as White-Other and 14.6% were classified as Minority Ethnic. The ethnicity of 1.3% of primary school pupils was not known/not disclosed. In contrast to recent trends, the proportion of Minority Ethnic and White-Other pupils in Aberdeen City schools has decreased slightly in the past year while the proportion of White -UK has increased (from 67.3% to 70.2%). A fifth (20.3%) of school pupils in Aberdeen City do not have English as their main home language. The main three home languages (other than English) are Polish, Arabic and Russian [27].

#### 3.7.1 Attendance and exclusions

In 2016/17 average attendance rates in Aberdeen City schools were similar to those for Scotland as a whole. For primary schools in the City the attendance rate was 94.7% (compared to 94.9% for Scotland) and for secondary schools in the City the attendance rate

was 91.9% (compared to 91.2% for Scotland). There was, however, some variation in attendance rates by school. For primary schools in the City, attendance rates ranged from a low of 90.9% (Manor Park School) to a high of 97.5% (Airyhall School). For secondary schools, attendance ranged from 86.9% (Northfield Academy) to 95.4% (Cults Academy) [28].



Source: Scottish Government, Attendance and Absence 2016/17 [28]

**Exclusions:** In 2016/17 there was a total of 1,072 exclusions from schools in the City. This is equivalent to a rate of 47.6 (crude rate per 1,000 population), which is significantly higher than the rate for Scotland of 26.9 [29]. (Note: exclusion data at school level is not available.)

### 3.7.2 Attainment – Achievement of Curriculum for Excellence (CfE) Levels

Data on achievement against expected levels (Early Level, First Level, Second Level, Third level or better and Fourth Level) is given at four stages – P1, P4, P7 and S3 – in four areas: reading, writing, listening and talking and numeracy.

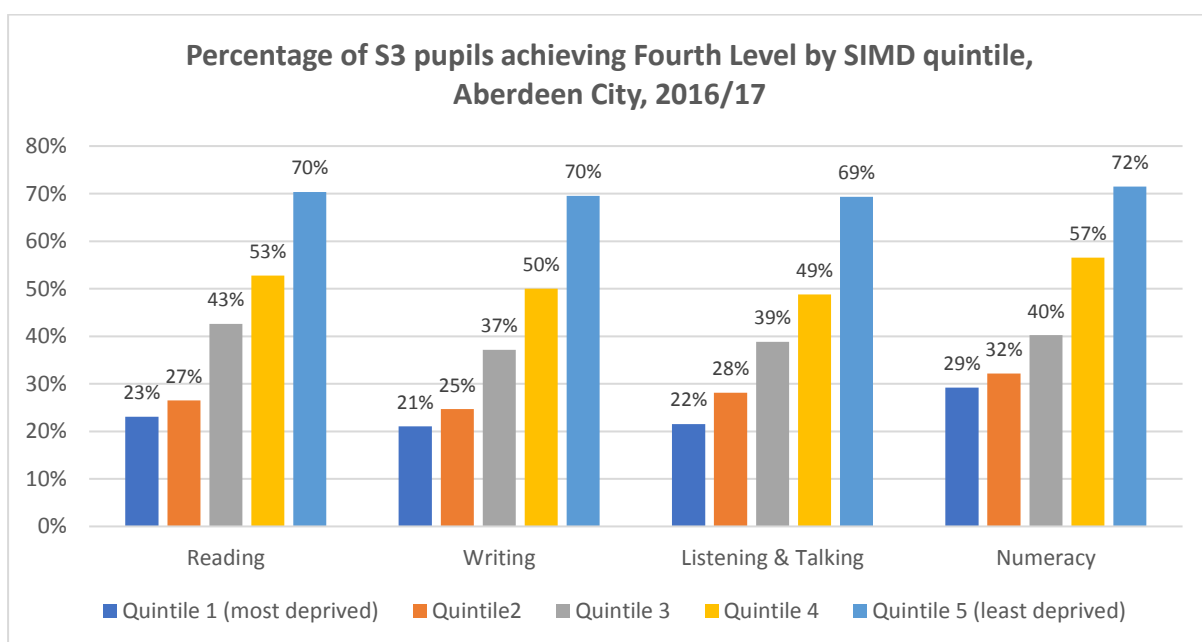
In almost every stage and area, the proportion of pupils in Aberdeen City achieving the expected level is lower than the equivalent proportion for Scotland as a whole. The only exception to this is 'listening' where the proportion of P4 and P7 pupils achieving the expected standard is the same in Aberdeen City as in Scotland [30]. (It should be noted that the CfE statistics are classified as experimental rather than Official/National Statistics. There is discussion at national level around whether these will be replaced or supplement the Scottish National Assessment Framework which has been implemented in the current academic year.)

### Percentage of pupils achieving expected levels, Aberdeen City and Scotland, 2016/17

	Reading		Writing		Listening		Numeracy	
	Aberdeen City	Scotland	Aberdeen City	Scotland	Aberdeen City	Scotland	Aberdeen City	Scotland
<b>P1 -Early Level</b>	75%	80%	73%	77%	82%	85%	80%	83%
<b>P4 -First Level</b>	75%	77%	70%	71%	83%	83%	74%	75%
<b>P7 -Second Level</b>	72%	76%	66%	69%	81%	81%	69%	70%
<b>S3 -Third Level or better</b>	85%	90%	82%	89%	86%	91%	82%	88%
<b>S3 - Fourth Level</b>	48%	51%	46%	48%	47%	51%	51%	56%

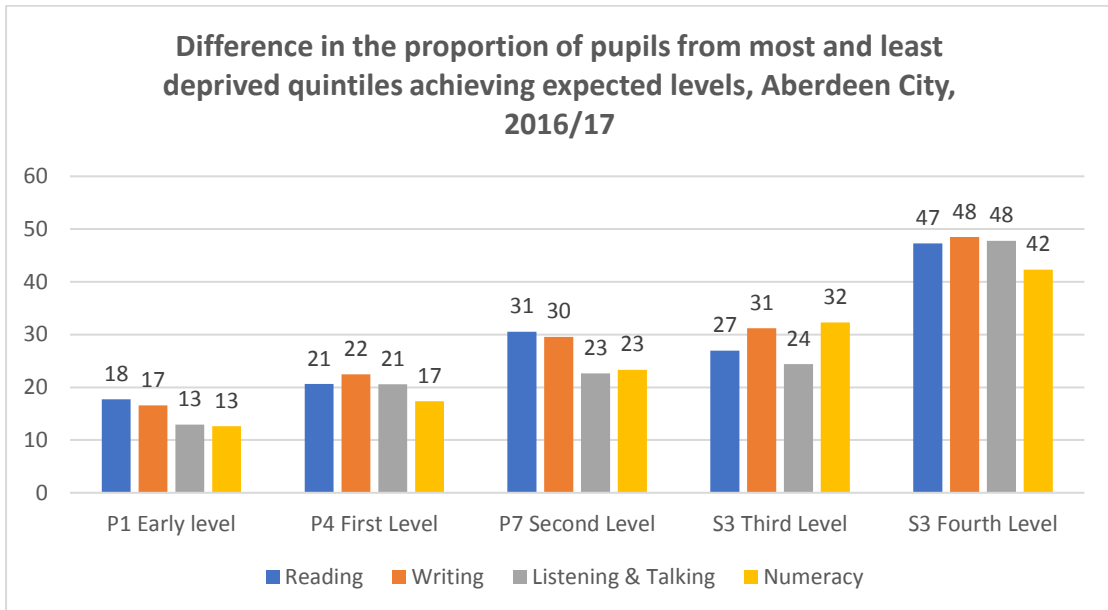
Source: Scottish Government, Achievement of Curriculum for Excellence Datasets [30]

Achievement of expected levels also varies by deprivation. In Aberdeen City in all subject areas, a smaller proportion of those in the most deprived 20% (SIMD 2016) achieved the expected level than those in the least deprived 20%. This is particularly evident when considering the percentage of S3 pupils achieving Fourth Level, for example only 23% of S3 pupils from the most deprived quintile achieved Fourth Level reading compared to 70% of pupils from the least deprived quintile.



Source: Aberdeen City Council, Business Intelligence and Performance Management [31]

The gap between most and least deprived seems to widen as children progress. For example, the percentage of P1 children achieving early level reading is 65.8% for those in the most deprived quintile compared to 83.6% for those in the least deprived quintile – a difference of almost 18; for P4 pupils (First level) the difference between most and least deprived is 20.6 and for P7 pupils (Second Level) the difference is 30.5.

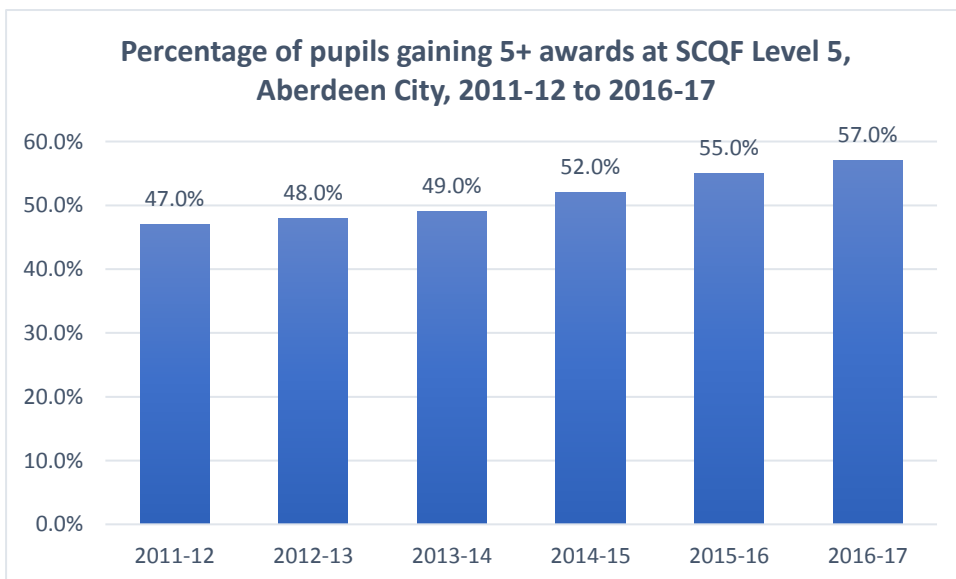


Source: Aberdeen City Council, Business Intelligence and Performance Management [31]

#### Attainment: Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF)

As a relatively new (and experimental) statistic, CfE data does not allow comparison with previous years. To examine information on trends in pupil attainment, it is useful to look at SCQF data.

In 2016/17, 85.3% of pupils in Aberdeen City achieved a qualification at SCQF Level 5 or above, compared to 78.4% in 2011/12. In the same period, the proportion of pupils gaining 5 or more qualifications at SCQF Level 5 increased from 47.0% to 57.0% [19]. As in Scotland, the proportion of pupils from deprived areas gaining 5 or more qualifications at SCQF Level 5 or above is lower than that for all pupils (30.0% compared to 57.0%).

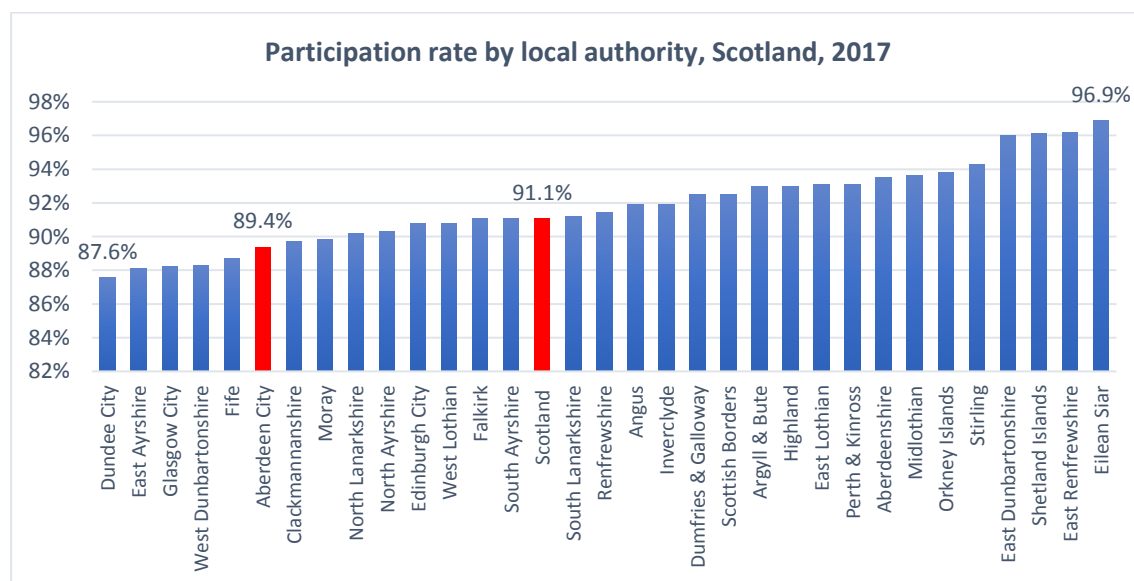


Source: Improvement Service, Local Government Benchmarking Framework [19]

### 3.7.3 Positive destinations/participation

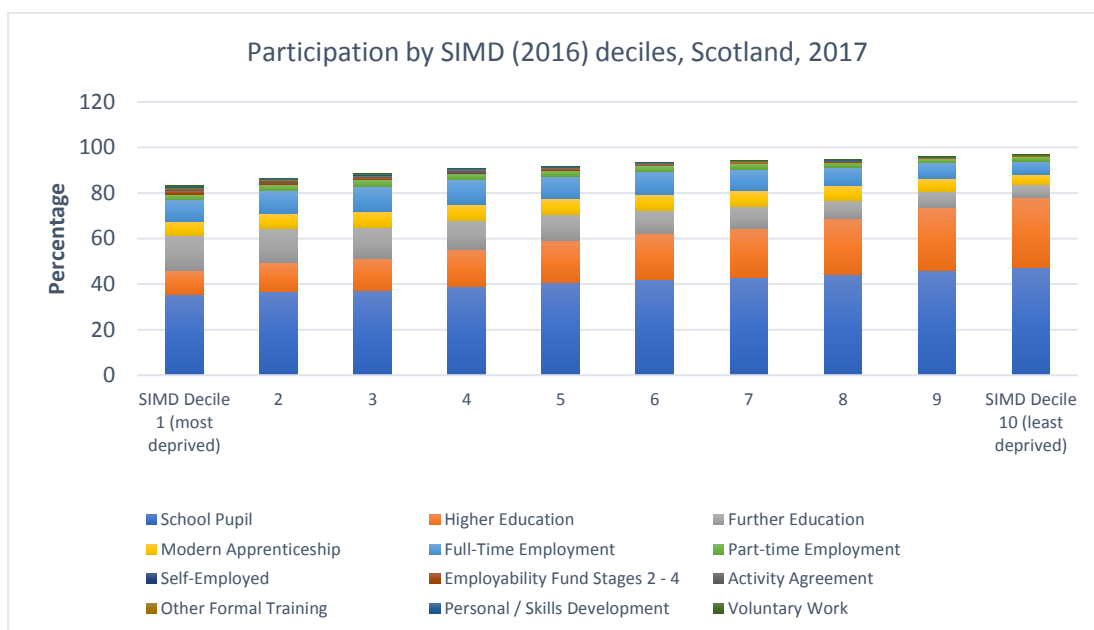
The Scottish Government’s ‘Opportunities for All’ commitment offers a place in learning or training to every 16-19 year-old who is not in employment, education or training. The ‘Annual Participation Measure’ has replaced school leaver destination data as the source of the indicator, “increase the proportion of young people in learning, training or work”. Unlike the school leaver destination data, the Annual Participation Measure includes all 16-19 year-olds.

Data from the 2017 Annual Participation Measure Report indicates that **89.4%** of 6,862 16-19 year-olds in Aberdeen City were participating in education (70.3%), employment (17.3%) or training (1.8%). This is lower than the rate for Scotland as a whole (91.1%), but 0.5% higher than in 2016. **3.9%** of 16-19 year-olds in Aberdeen were identified as not participating (i.e. those unemployed seeking employment and others unemployed and not seeking) and **6.7%** had an unconfirmed status. Rates of ‘non-participation’ and ‘unconfirmed’ were higher in Aberdeen City than in Scotland (3.7% and 5.3% respectively). The proportion of females participating in Aberdeen City is higher than males (90.6% compared to 88.4%). This is consistent with Scotland (91.6% compared to 90.5%). Rates of participation varied across Scotland, ranging from low of 87.6% in Dundee City to a high of 96.9% in Eilean Siar. Aberdeen City had the sixth lowest participation rate of all local authorities [32].



Source: Skills Development Scotland, Annual Participation Measure 2017 (Supplementary Tables) [32]

In Scotland, participation rates decrease with increasing deprivation (SIMD 2016 deciles), with 83.2% of those from the 10% most deprived areas participating compared to 96.8% of those in the 10% least deprived areas. There were also differences in the type of participation by deprivation. For example, those from the least deprived areas were more likely than those from the most deprived areas to enter higher education (30.5% compared to 10.5%), while those from the most deprived areas were more likely than those from the least deprived areas to enter further education (15.4% compared to 5.7%).



Source: Skills Development Scotland, Annual Participation Measure 2017 (Supplementary Tables) [32]

**Apprenticeships:** In July 2018 there were 57 apprenticeships within Aberdeen City Council (mainly Craft and Grounds) – higher than the figure of 46 in July 2017.

### 3.8 Free School Meals (FSM)

In February 2018, 51.2% of primary school pupils in Aberdeen were registered for FSM in mainstream local authority schools. All P1-P3 primary school pupils are entitled to free school meals. The proportion of P4-P7 pupils who were registered for FSM varied by school, ranging from a low of 2.5% to a high of 36.3%. At secondary school level, a total of 10.4% of pupils were registered for a FSM, although again there was variation between schools with the proportion of pupils registered ranging from a low of 2.8% to a high of 29.7%. At Aberdeen City’s special schools 24.3% of pupils were registered for a FSM. The table below shows the number and percentage of school pupils registered for free school meals in Aberdeen City, together with the percentage of pupils who were registered for a FSM and present on the day of the survey who took a FSM. Almost a quarter of primary pupils and over a third of secondary pupils who were registered, did not take a FSM on the day of the survey [33].

#### Pupils registered for free school meals, Aberdeen City, 2018

Year	Number of pupils registered for FSM	Number registered as percentage of school roll	Registered and present who took a FSM
Primary	7,120	51.2%	77.0%
Secondary	800	10.4%	61.8%
Special	34	24.3%	96.9%

Source: Scottish Government, School Meals Data set 2017 [33]



**Free breakfasts:** Aberdeen City Council currently runs a free breakfast service at seven primary schools in areas of the city with high levels of deprivation. The Table shows the schools and the average number of pupils attending free breakfast in September 2017.

**Average number of pupils attending free breakfast, September 2017**

School	September 2017	School Roll 2017/18	Percentage of roll attending club
Heathryburn School	56	280	20.0%
Kittybrewster School	24	276	8.7%
Riverbank School	32	392	8.2%
St Peters RC School	52	259	20.1%
Tullos School	44	335	13.2%
Walker Road School	34	425	8.0%
Woodside School	23	342	6.7%

Source: Aberdeen City Council

**Clothing Grants:** In 2016/17 a total of 2,135 clothing grants were awarded to pupils in Aberdeen City. Clothing grants were awarded to pupils in almost all local authority schools in the City with the number of grants awarded varying substantially by school.

**Clothing grants awarded, Aberdeen City, 2015/16 and 2016/17**

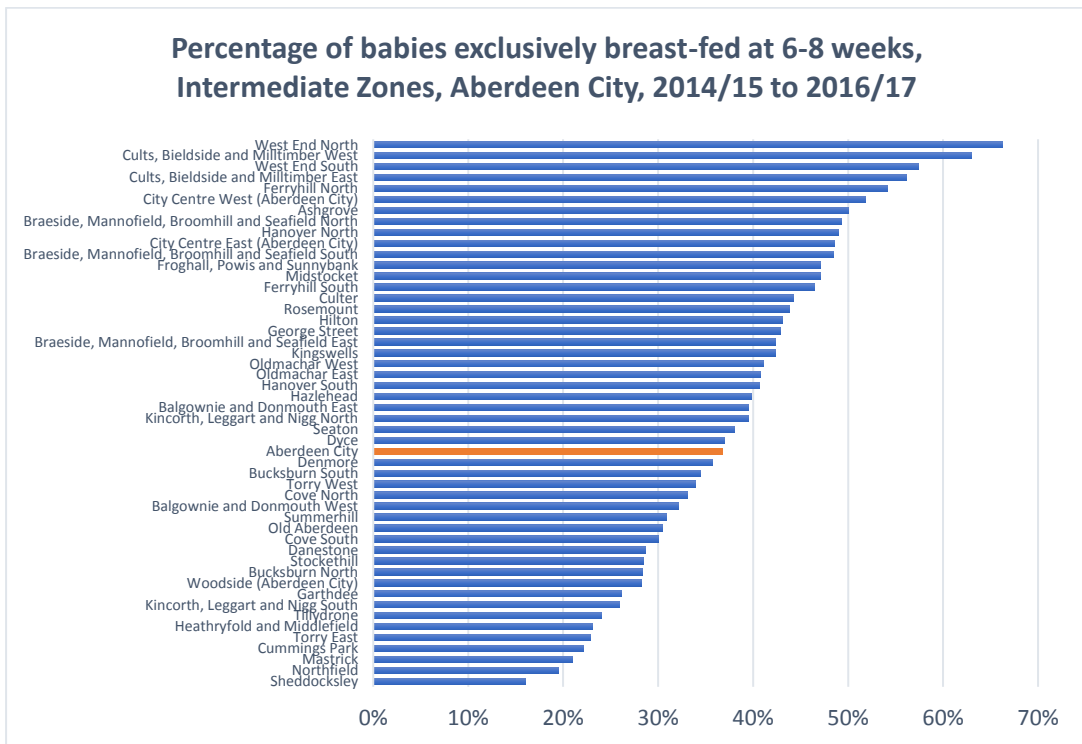
Sector	2015/16		2016/17	
	No. of Grants Awarded	% of Total	No. of Grants Awarded	% of Total
Primary	1,287	62.6%	1,365	63.9%
Secondary	735	35.7%	743	34.8%
Special	23	1.1%	18	0.8%
Independent schools	12	0.6%	9	0.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,057</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>2,135</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Aberdeen City Council, Education and Children's Services

### 3.9 Child health

#### 3.9.1 Breast feeding

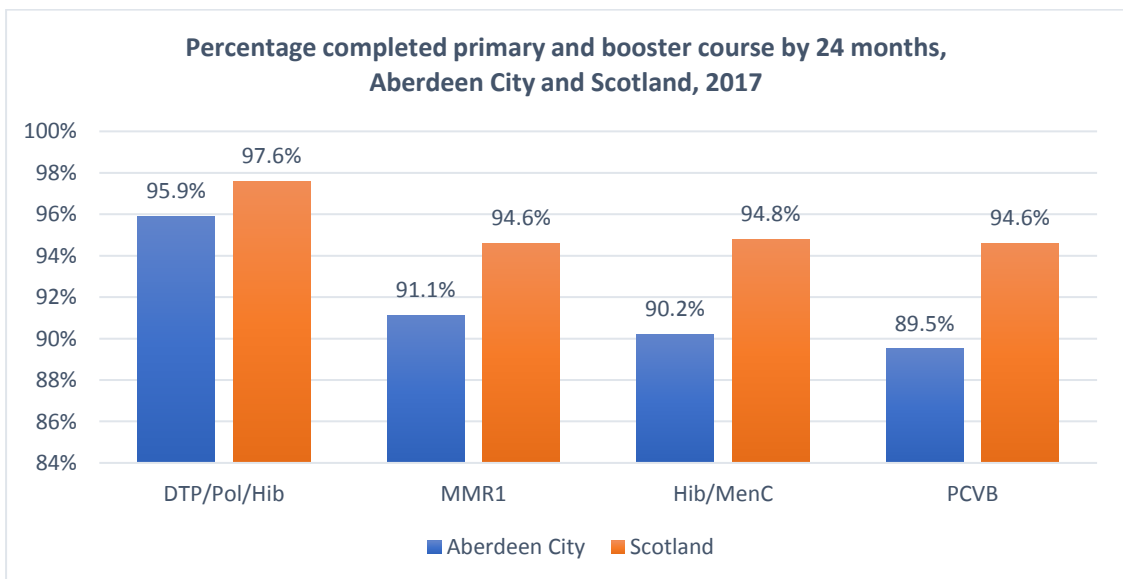
In 2014/15 to 2016/17 (3-year aggregate), 36.8% of babies in the City were exclusively breast-fed at the time of their 6-8 week review. This is significantly higher than the Scottish average of 28.1%. Breast-feeding rates varied across the City – from a low of 16% in Sheddocksley to a high of 66.0% in West End North [8].



Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles [8]

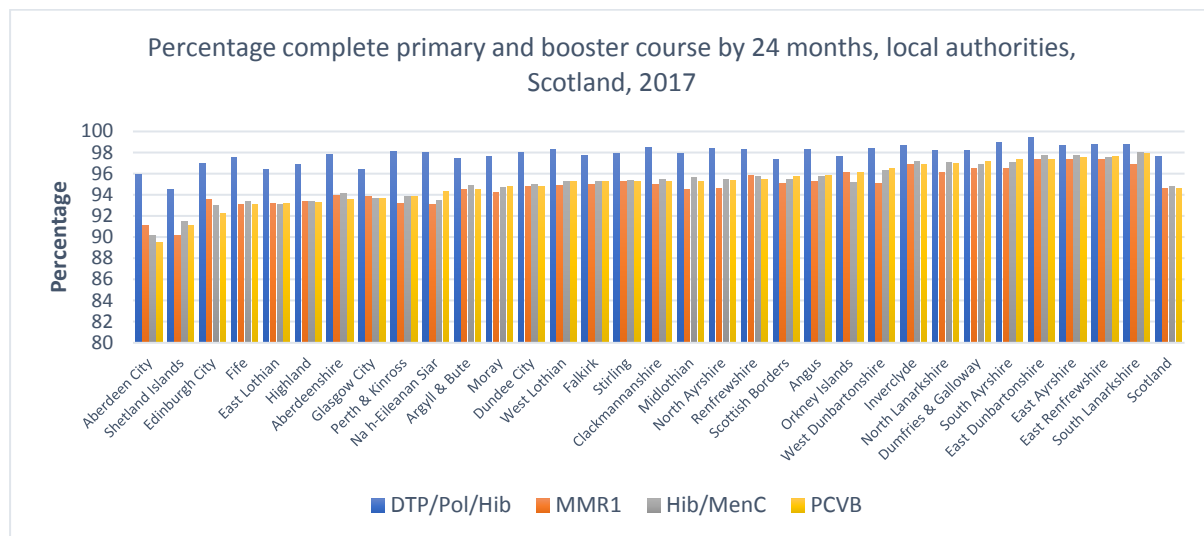
### 3.9.2 Immunisation

In Scotland there is a national target for 95% of children to complete courses of routine childhood immunisations (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Polio, Hib (DTP/Pol/Hib), Men C and Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV)) by 24 months of age. Rates of babies who have completed the primary and booster courses for these immunisations by 24 months are lower in Aberdeen City than in Scotland [34].



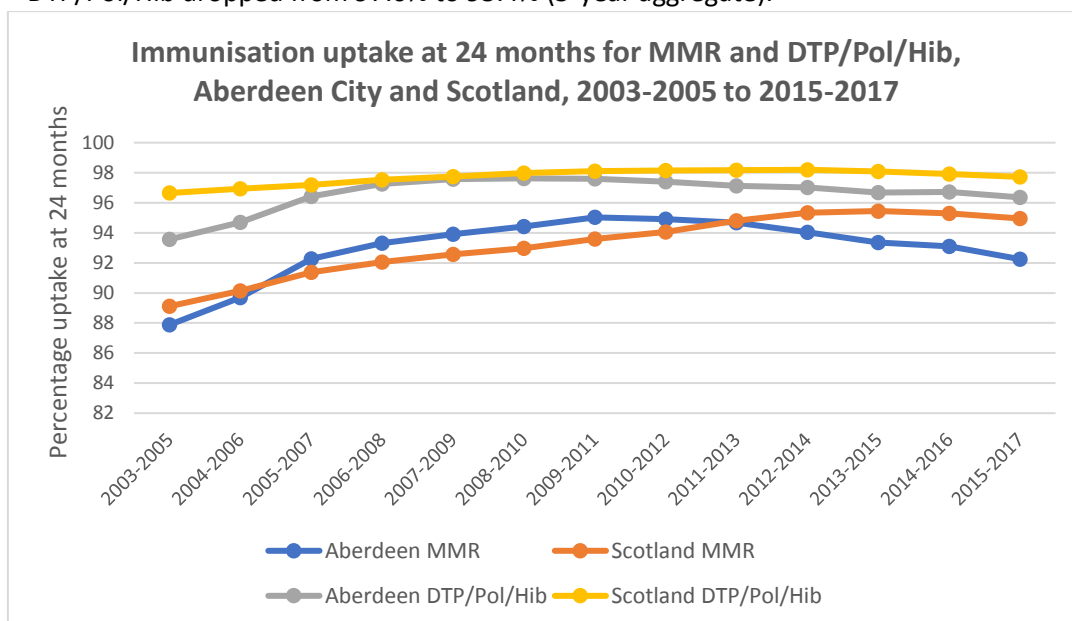
Source: ISD Scotland, Childhood Immunisation Statistics [34]

For Hib/MenC and PCVB uptake rates at 24 months are the lowest of all local authorities, and for DTP/Pol/Hib and MMR1 uptake rates are the second lowest of all local authorities.



Source: ISD Scotland, Childhood Immunisation Statistics [34]

In Aberdeen, 24-month uptake rates for DTP/Pol/Hib (also known as the 5-in-1 vaccine), and particularly for MMR, have been decreasing in recent years. Between 2009-2011 and 2015-17, the uptake of MMR dropped from 95% to 92.3% (3-year aggregate) and the uptake of DTP/Pol/Hib dropped from 97.6% to 95.4% (3-year aggregate).

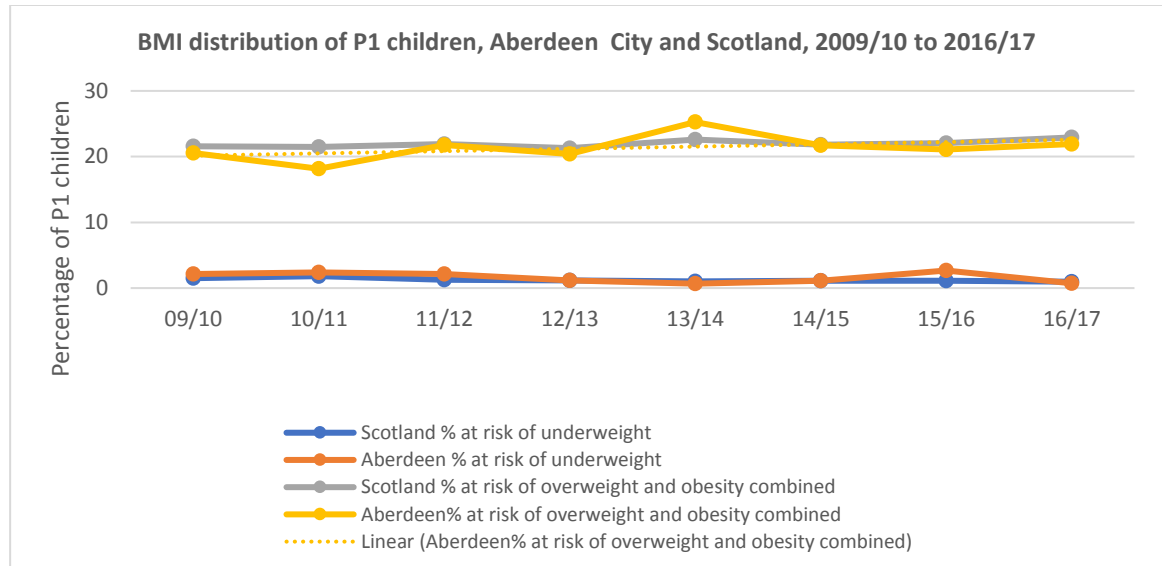


Source: ScotPHO Children and Young People Profile [21]

### 3.9.3 Healthy weight

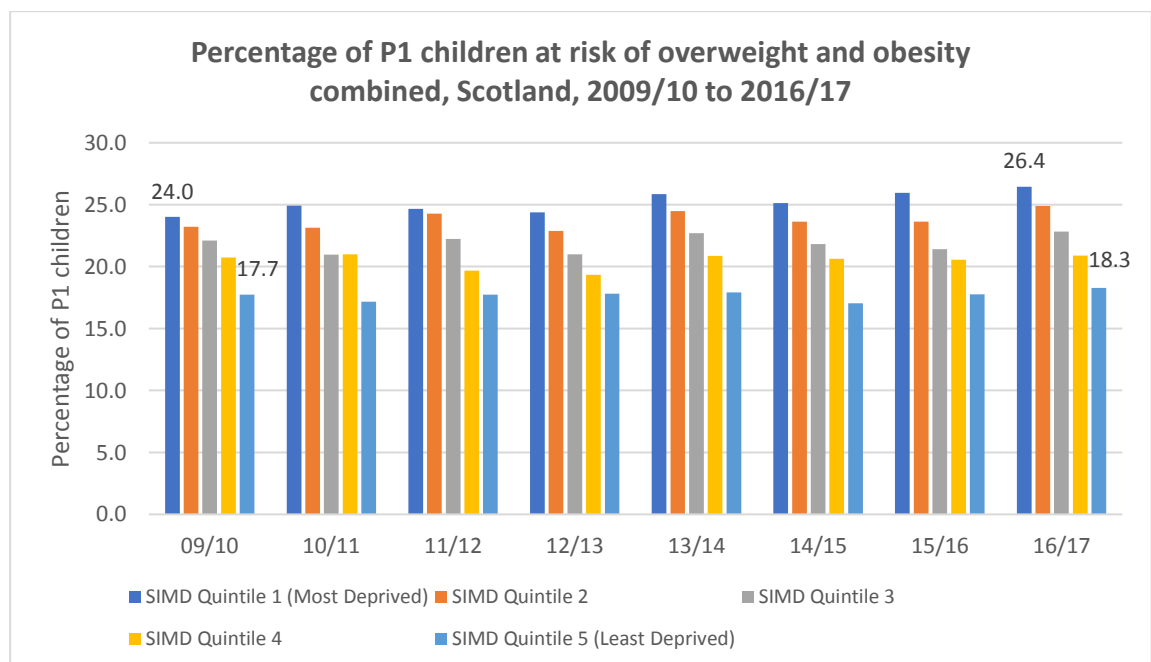
Children’s weight and growth is an important marker of their general nutrition and physical health. Child growth references are widely used as a tool for detecting children who are not growing properly or who are under- or over-weight.

In 2016/17, height and weight measurements were recorded for 1,909 Primary 1 children in Aberdeen City. Of these, 77.4% were classified as 'healthy weight' – slightly higher than the figure for Scotland of 76.1%. 21.9% of P1 children in Aberdeen City were classified as being at risk of overweight and obesity (compared to 22.9% in Scotland), and 0.7% as being at risk of underweight (compared to 1.0% for Scotland). While there have been fluctuations, the underlying trend in Aberdeen City is of increasing proportions of P1 children at risk of overweight or obesity [35].



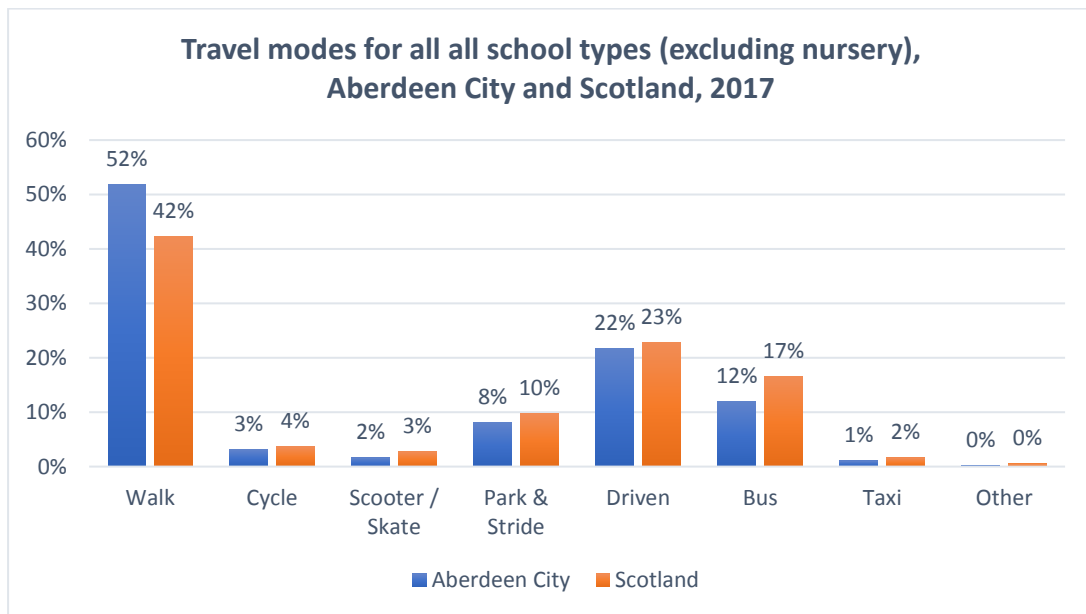
ISD Scotland, Primary 1 Body Mass Index Statistics [35]

Obesity is strongly associated with deprivation. In Scotland (no local data available), a higher proportion P1 children from the most deprived areas (based on SIMD quintiles) are at risk of overweight or obesity than those from the least deprived areas (26.4% compared to 18.3% in 2016/17). Over the last few years, the gap between most and least deprived P1 children has widened.



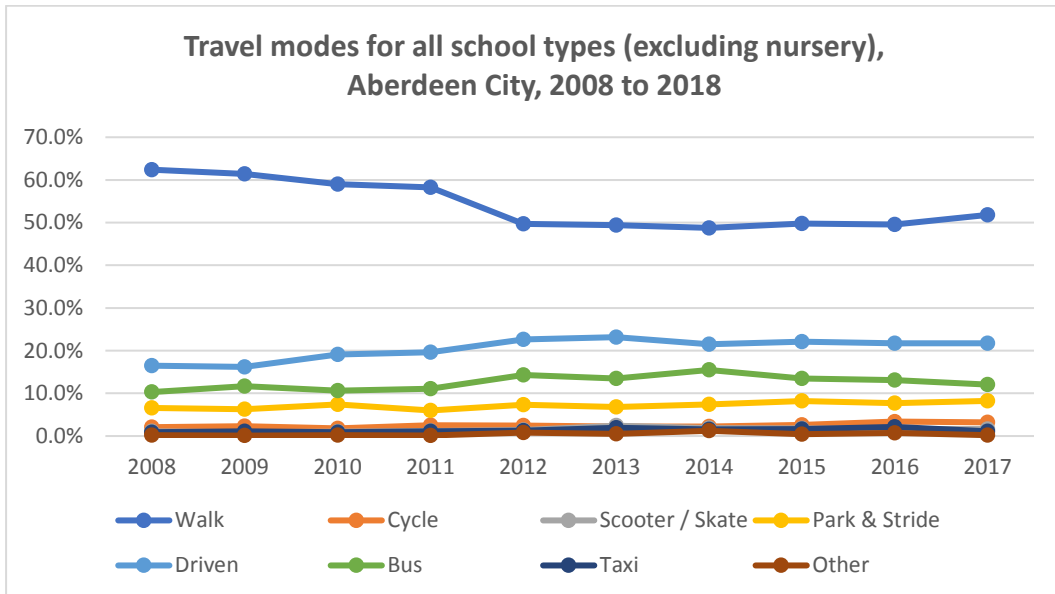
### 3.9.4 Physical activity

**Active travel to school:** Information on how children travel to school is available from the Hands Up Survey [36]. In 2017, 81.9% of primary school pupils (number = 11,400), 71.6% of secondary school pupils (number = 6,205), 10.5% of SEN pupils (number = 15) as well as 1,897 nursery pupils, completed the survey. In 2017, the most common mode of travel to school (excluding nursery) in Aberdeen City was walking (52%), followed by being driven (22%) and bus (12%). Just over 8% of children in the City used Park and Stride, 3.2% cycled to school and 1.7% used scooters or skates. The proportion of children who walked to school in Aberdeen was higher than the proportion for Scotland (42%) and the highest of all local authorities.



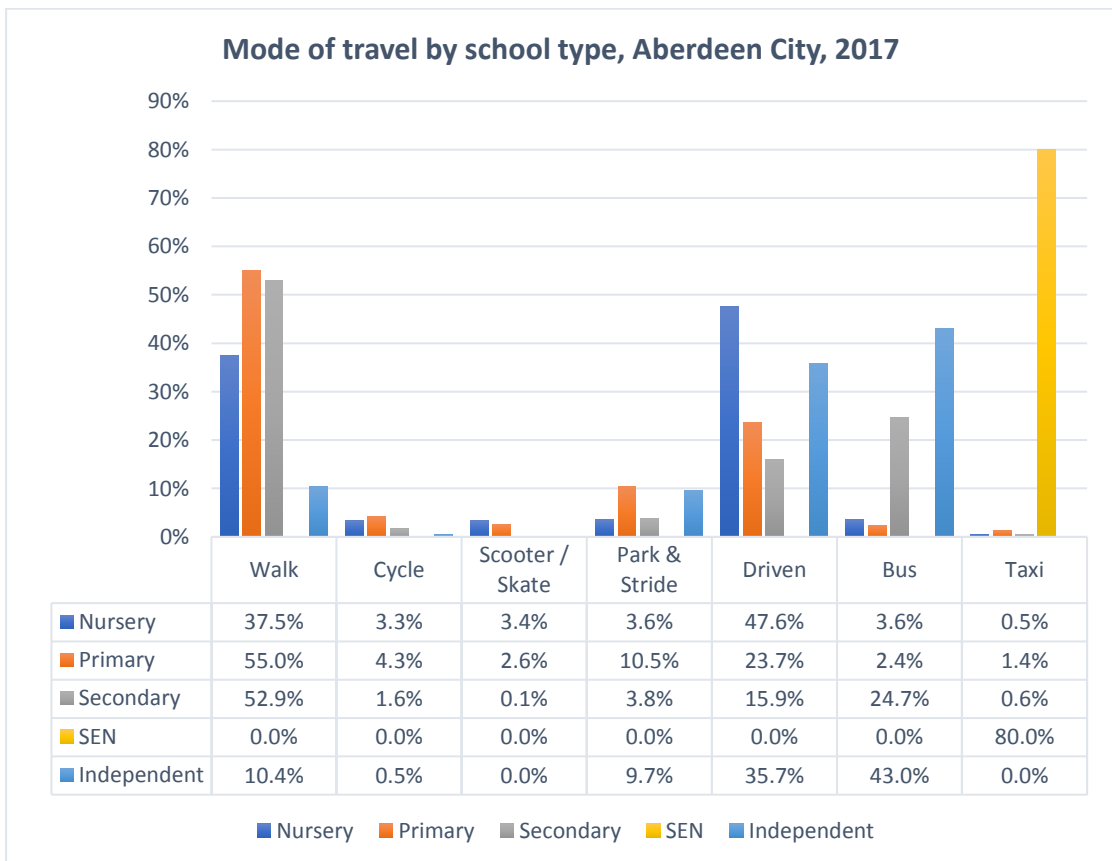
Source: Sustrans, Hands Up Survey 2017 [36]

While relatively high, the proportion of children who walk to school has fallen by approximately 10% since the first survey in 2008, with a noticeable drop between 2011 (58.3%) and 2012 (49.7%). However, between 2016 and 2017 there was a slight increase (49.5% to 51.8%). Since 2008 the proportion of children who are driven to school has increased from 16.5% to 21.8%. While there has been an overall increase in the proportion of children who travel to school by bus (from 10.3% in 2008 to 12.0% in 2018), the proportion using the bus has decreased each year since 2014 when it was at 15.5%. Since 2008, the proportion of pupils cycling to school has increased (from 2.1% to 3.2%) as has the proportion of children using park and stride (from 6.6% to 8.2%).



Source: Sustrans, Hands Up Survey 2017 [36]

Mode of travel varies by type of school. In 2017, nursery children were most commonly driven to school (47.6%) and pupils at SEN schools most commonly travelled by taxi (80.0%). The most common modes of travel for pupils at independent schools were bus (43.0%) and being driven (35.7%). Walking was the most common mode of travel for both primary (55.0%) and secondary (52.9%) pupils. The next most common mode of travel for primary pupils was being driven (23.7%) while for secondary pupils it was taking the bus (24.7%).

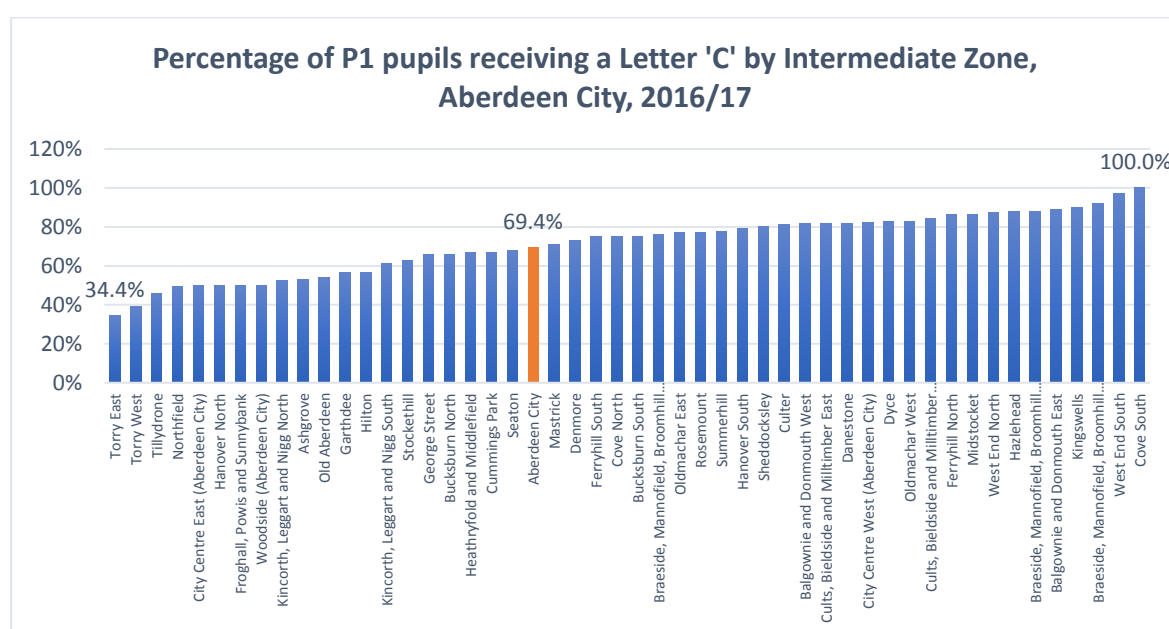


Source: Sustrans, Hands Up Survey 2017 [36]

### 3.9.5 Dental health

In September 2017, 89.5% of children in Aberdeen City were registered with an NHS dentist. This is lower than the average rate for Scotland which was 93.8%. (Note: this is only for NHS dentists – data does not include registrations with private dentists. There is currently no shortage of NHS dentists in the City <sup>1</sup>.)

Information on dental health is available through the National Dental Inspection programme where pupils in P1 and P7 are given a basic dental inspection. Those with ‘healthy’ teeth are given a letter ‘C’ (no obvious decay experience but should continue to see the family dentist on a regular basis). In 2016/17, 69.4% of P1 pupils in Aberdeen received a letter ‘C’ – significantly lower than the average rate for Scotland of 70.9%. The proportion of P1 pupils receiving a letter ‘C’ ranged from a low of 34.4% in Torry East to a high of 100% in Cove South [8].

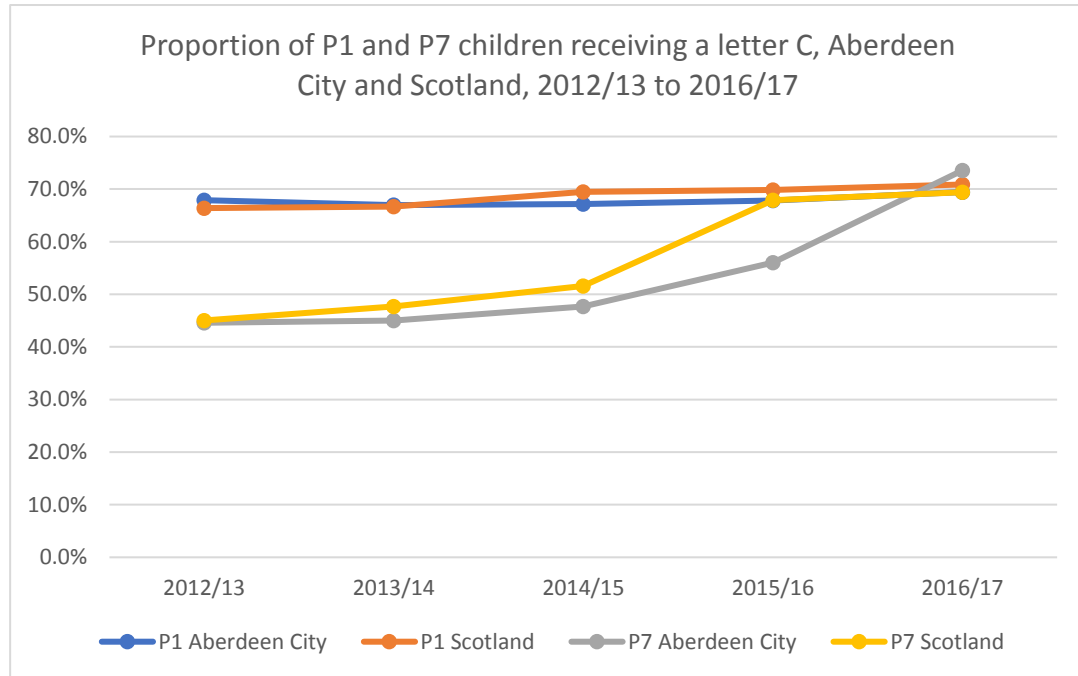


Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles [8]

While the proportion of P7 children who received a letter C was significantly higher in Aberdeen than Scotland (73.4% compared to 69.4%), there was again substantial variation across the City with proportions ranging from a low of 45.4% in City Centre West to a high of 100.0% in West End North.

<sup>1</sup> As a consequence of significant investment in dental services during the past ten years, Aberdeen City has seen significant increases in NHS dental registration and is currently in the fortunate situation of having sufficient capacity for NHS dental registration and treatment within independent general dental practices. As of 10th August 2018, 28 dental practices within Aberdeen City have confirmed they are accepting new patients for NHS care. For both adult and child patients, registration must be actively requested, and will be activated once the patient is examined at the dental clinic. NHS Grampian also provides an online and telephone information and advice service to help with dental registration [118].

Between 2012/13 and 2016/17, the proportion of P7 children in Aberdeen City with no obvious decay (i.e. who received a letter C) increased significantly, from 44.6% to 73.5%. The proportion of P1 children in Aberdeen City with no obvious decay also increased, from 67.9% to 69.4%.



Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles [8]

### 3.9.6 Smoking

Data on smoking is limited. Previously SALSUS (Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle And Substance Use Survey) published prevalence rates by local authority. The most recent data is from 2013. SALSUS is a self-completion survey administered by teachers in a mixed ability class, under exam conditions. In 2013, of the 3,991 13 and 15 year-old pupils eligible to take part in the survey, 819 pupils (21% of all eligible pupils and 57% of those sampled) participated [37].

In 2013 in Aberdeen, 5% of 15 year-olds and 1% of 13 year-olds reported being regular smokers. At that time Aberdeen City had the lowest reported rate of smoking in school children across all local authority areas in Scotland [8]. A more recent (2015) report at Scotland level shows that, while smoking prevalence has dropped slightly in 15 year-old girls (but not boys), the use of e-cigarettes has increased substantially with 91% of 15 year-old smokers (boys and girls) having used e-cigarettes and 24% of non-smokers having used them [38].

### 3.9.7 Alcohol and drugs

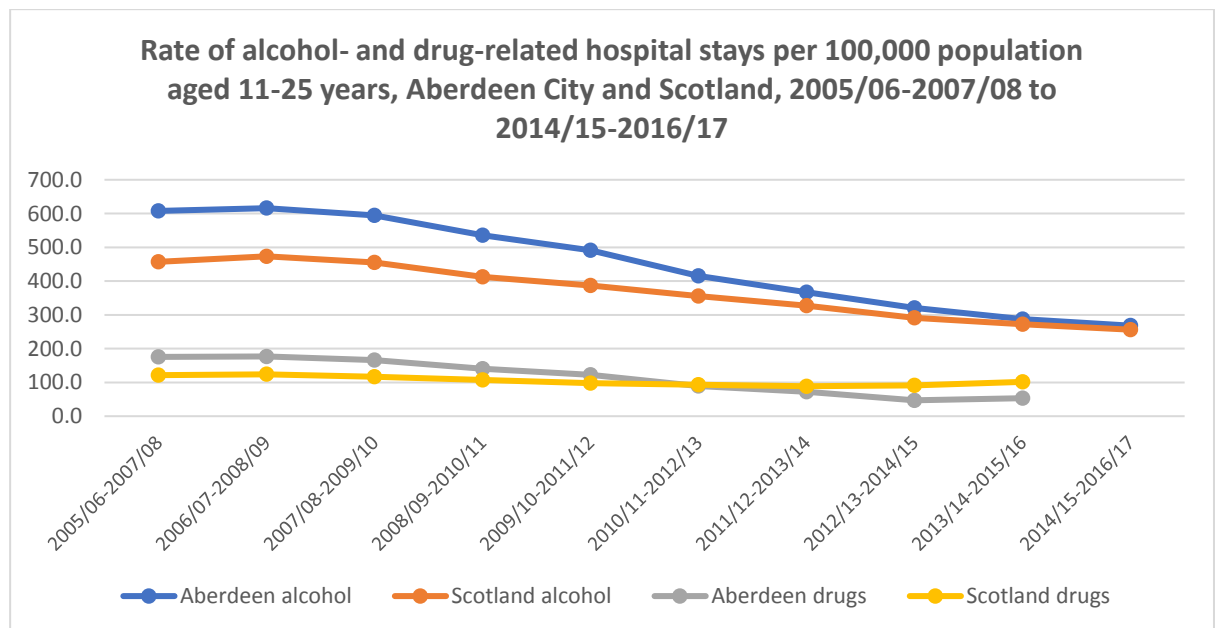
Information on alcohol and drug use is also available from SALSUS with the most recent data for the City being 2013.



**Alcohol use:** In 2013 in Aberdeen City, 25% of 13 year-olds reported they had had an alcoholic drink (a ‘proper alcoholic drink – a whole drink, not just a sip’). This is 7% lower than the figure for Scotland and a fall of 11% from the figure in 2010. The proportion of 15 year-olds who reported ever having had a drink was considerably higher at 65%. However, again this was lower than the rate for Scotland (-4%) and lower than the figure for 2010 (-7%). The proportion of 15 year-old girls (66%) and boys (64%) who reported ever having had an alcoholic drink was similar. Overall, 15% of 15 year-olds (13% of boys and 17% of girls) reported having had a drink in the week prior to the survey. This was 19% lower than the equivalent figure for 2010 and 4% lower than the figure for Scotland [37].

**Drug use:** In 2013 in Aberdeen City, 2% of 13 year-olds reported having used or taken one or more of the drugs named in a list provided, even if only once. This is a drop of 1% from 2010 and 3% lower than the equivalent rate for Scotland. The proportion of 15 year-olds who reported having used or taken one or more of the drugs named in the list was higher at 12%. This is a decrease of 5% from 2010 and 6% lower than the figure for Scotland. A higher proportion of 15 year-old boys than girls reported ever having used drugs (14% compared to 10%). 7% of 15 year-olds reported that they had used drugs in the last month – 4% lower than in 2010 and 2% lower than the figure for Scotland. Again, the proportion of 15 year-old boys who had used drugs in the last month was higher than the proportion of girls (10% compared to 5%) [37].

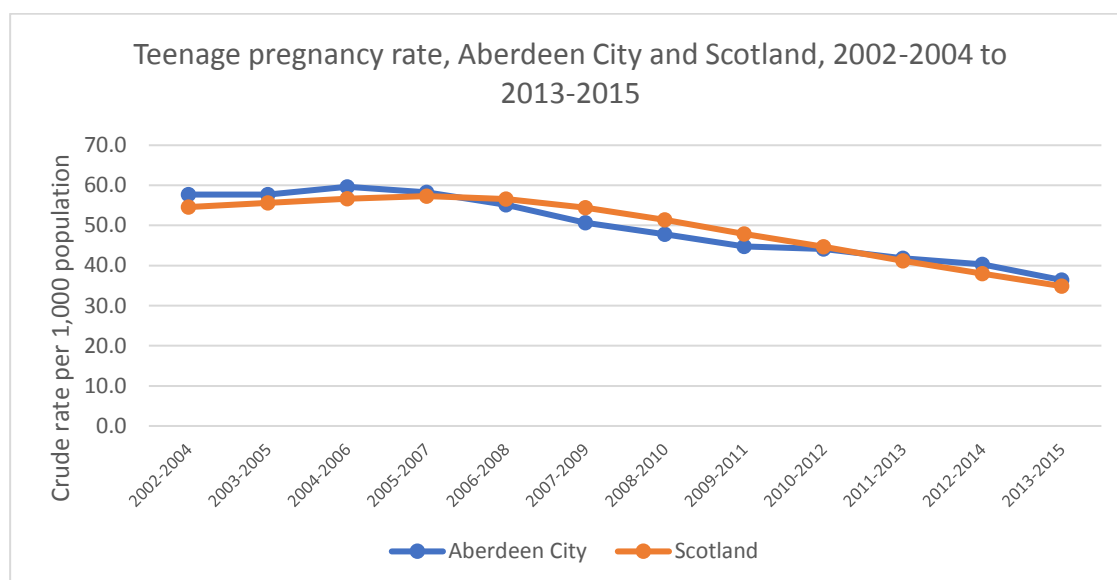
**Alcohol- and drug-related hospital admissions 11-25 years:** In 2014 (3 year rolling average 2013/14 to 2015/16 financial years) there were 149 alcohol admissions for people aged 11-25 years. This equates to a rate of 288.7 per 100,000 population (age-sex standardised rate) compared to the equivalent rate for Scotland of 271.4. There were 27 drug related hospital stays in Aberdeen City for the same age group and period, equivalent to a rate of 53.4 per 100,000 population (age-sex standardised rate, 3-year aggregate) – significantly lower than the rate for Scotland of 101.4. Rates of both alcohol- and drug-related hospital stays for people aged 11-25 years have decreased in the last 10 years [21].



Source: ScotPHO Children and Young People Profile [21]

### 3.9.8 Teenage pregnancies

In the period 2013-2015, the average rate for teenage pregnancies in Aberdeen City was 36.3 (crude rate per 1,000 population; 3-year aggregates) compared to 34.8 for Scotland. In Aberdeen City, as in Scotland, the rate of teenage pregnancies has reduced significantly in the last 10 years [8].



Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles [8]

In Scotland, teenage pregnancies are strongly associated with deprivation. In 2015, the pregnancy rate in Scotland was 32.4 per 1,000 women in the under 20 age group; however, rates varied depending on where a woman lived. Those living in the areas of highest deprivation had pregnancy rates five times higher than those in the least deprived areas (62.1 compared to 11.6 per 1,000) [39]. Within Aberdeen, the number of teenage pregnancies varies across the City. In most Intermediate Zones in the city there were no teenage pregnancies in 2013-2015. However, in Torry West (89.9 per 1,000 population), Torry East (83.5), Mastrick (77.5), Northfield (70.3) and Heathryfold and Middlefield (67.0) the rates were higher than the average rate for the City [8].

### 3.10 Child poverty

According to Child Poverty Action Group in Scotland, more than 1 in 4 children in Scotland are officially recognised as living in poverty. Children are considered as living in poverty if they live in households with less than 60% of median household income. This is the key measure used by UK, Scottish Government and by the EU. Using this measure the latest (2015/16) official data shows that a lone parent family with two children (aged 5 and 14) is living in poverty if they are living on less than £297 per week (after housing costs have been deducted) and a two-parent family with two children (aged 5 and 14) is living in poverty if they are living on less than £401 a week (after housing costs have been deducted).

The Centre for Research in Social Policy calculates estimates of child poverty each year for the End Child Poverty Coalition ([www.endchildpoverty.org.uk](http://www.endchildpoverty.org.uk)). Estimates of child poverty levels are available at Local Authority and ward level.

In July-September 2017 an estimated 5,689 children (16.7%) in Aberdeen City were living in poverty (after housing costs). This is a decrease from the previous figures (October-December 2015) when 18.2% of children in Aberdeen City were estimated to be living in poverty [40].

There was considerable variation in levels of child poverty between different City wards – the proportion of children living in poverty after housing costs ranged from a low of 5.9% in Hazlehead/ Ashley/ Queen’s Cross to a high of 28.0% in Tillydrone/Seaton/Old Aberdeen. Comparison with data from October-December 2015 shows rates of child poverty have remained broadly similar in most wards, however, some have shown relatively large decreases (e.g. Kincorth/Loirston, Lower Deeside) and others have increased (e.g. Midstocket/Rosemount) [40].

**Percentage of children in poverty (after housing costs), Aberdeen City and Wards, July to September 2017 and October to December 2015**

Local Authority and wards	Oct-Dec 2015	July to September 2017	
	Percentage	Percentage	Number
<b>Aberdeen City</b>	<b>18.18%</b>	<b>16.72%</b>	<b>5,689</b>
Hazlehead/Ashley/Queens Cross	5.91%	5.87%	142
Bridge of Don	6.27%	6.17%	176
Lower Deeside	10.01%	6.25%	164
Midstocket/Rosemount	12.34%	15.27%	235
Airyhall/Broomhill/Garthdee	12.47%	12.42%	265
Dyce/Bucksburn/Danestone	13.31%	12.24%	340
Kingswells/Sheddocksley	17.60%	14.79%	473
Kincorth/Loirston	20.09%	14.61%	410
Hilton/Stockethill	24.53%	22.76%	588
Torry/Ferryhill	25.36%	22.03%	684
George St/Harbour	25.46%	24.35%	304
Northfield/Mastrick North	29.35%	27.13%	1,119
Tillydrone/Seaton/Old Aberdeen	27.59%	28.03%	730

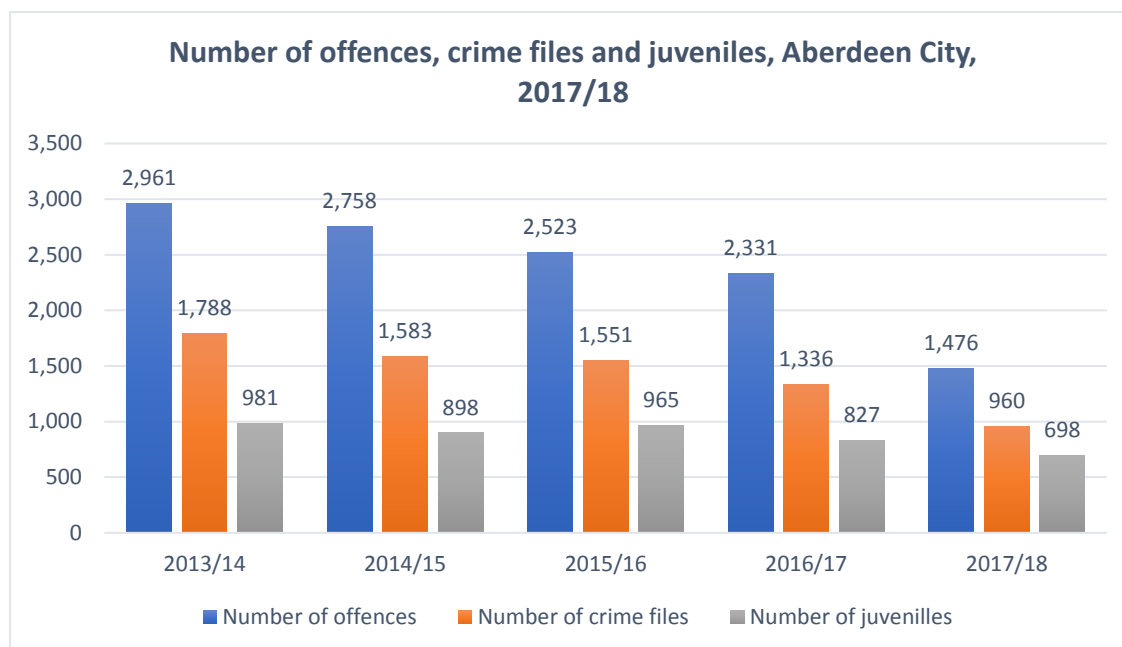
Source: End Child Poverty [40]

### 3.11 Juvenile Crime

In 2017/18 there were 1,476 offences and 960 crimes files in which the accused was aged 8-17 years. The total number of individuals identified as accused was 698, of whom 428 (61.3%) were aged 8-15 years and 270 (38.7%) were aged 16-17 years. Most (65.0%) juvenile offenders were male. The most common type of offences committed by 8-15 year-olds was Miscellaneous offences and for 16-17 year-olds was Crimes of Dishonesty [41].

Most (79%) juvenile offenders only appear on one crime file, with 136 offenders appearing on more than one crime file.

Both the number of offences and crime files and the number of offenders has decreased in recent years. Between 2013/14 and 2017/18 the number of offences has decreased by 50%, the number of crime files has decreased by 46% and the number of offenders has decreased by 29%.



Source: Police Scotland, Comparative Report on Juvenile Offenders, 2017/18, Aberdeen City Local Authority Area [41]

### 3.11.1 Children referred to the Children’s Reporter

In 2017/18 there were 331 children who were referred to the Children’s Reporter. Of these 81 were referred for an offence – a decrease of 9 from the number referred for an offence in 2016/17 [42].

### 3.12 Play and recreation

The Place Standard questionnaire asks respondents about play and recreation. When asked to rate this question from 1 – 7, where 1 = lots of room for improvement and 7 = very little room for improvement, the mean score for this question was 4.48 for Aberdeen City [43].

As well as providing a score, respondents were asked to provide some further information on why they rated their answer the way they did. Some comments provided on this section included:

- *Vastly improved, evidence of money being spent by the city but also very encouraged by local community groups. These groups should be encouraged to continue and build on the successes to date.*
- *I think activities for teenagers are few and far between. Has been some trouble and anti-social behaviour in certain parts. More facilities are now being built. Makro area developed and gym there too.*

- *The only park which I am aware of is dire. We had a skatepark but no more. There really should be more for children to do in our area.*
- *Hazlehead Park is great but difficult to access without a car. The Duthie Park is also excellent. We are very lucky to have such good facilities.*

## 4. Adults

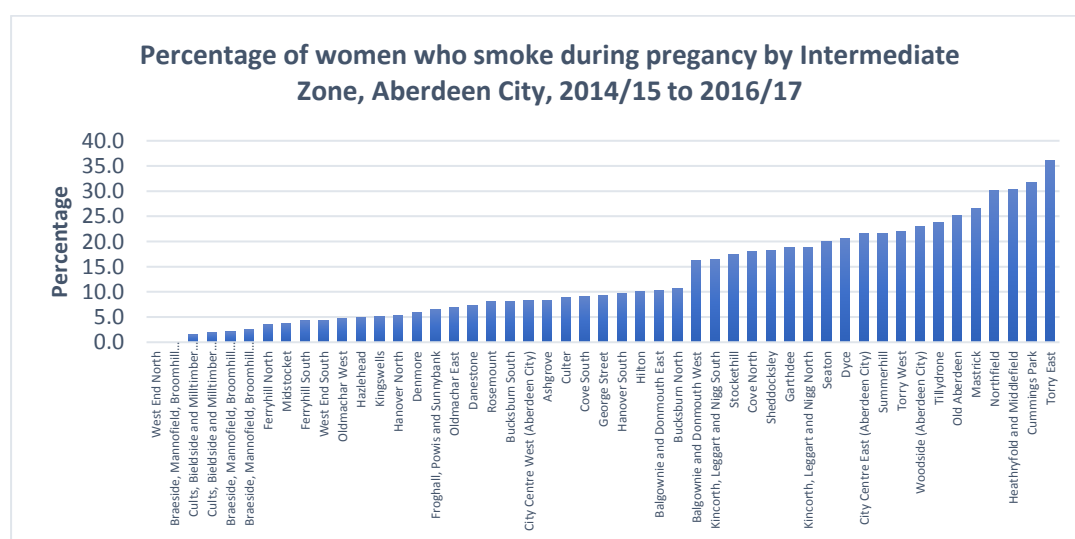
### 4.1 Health behaviours

#### 4.1.1 Smoking

**Smoking prevalence:** Information on smoking prevalence is available from the Scottish Household Survey (SHS – ScotPHO Profile). In 2015, smoking prevalence in Aberdeen City was estimated at 21.1% - slightly higher than the prevalence estimates for Scotland of 20.6% but lower than estimates for 2013 of 24.3% [8]. Smoking is strongly associated with deprivation (SIMD 2016). While there are no specific figures for Aberdeen City, in Scotland in 2016 smoking prevalence was higher in more deprived areas (32% in most deprived quintile compared to 12% in least deprived quintile) and higher in males than in females (38% for males in most deprived quintile compared to 33% for females in most deprived quintile) [44].

**Smoking cessation:** In 2015/16, 5.3% of smokers (16+ years) made a quit attempt with an NHS smoking cessation service (note this percentage relates to quit attempts and not individuals – an individual may have made more than one quit attempt). This rate is significantly lower than the rate for Scotland of 7%. At 12-week follow-up, 25.7% were still successfully quit – significantly higher than the equivalent rate for Scotland of 22.6%. The successful quit rate was strongly associated with deprivation. At 4-week follow-up, the successful quit rate was 28.6% for those in the most deprived quintile compared to 40.6% for those in the least deprived quintile [45].

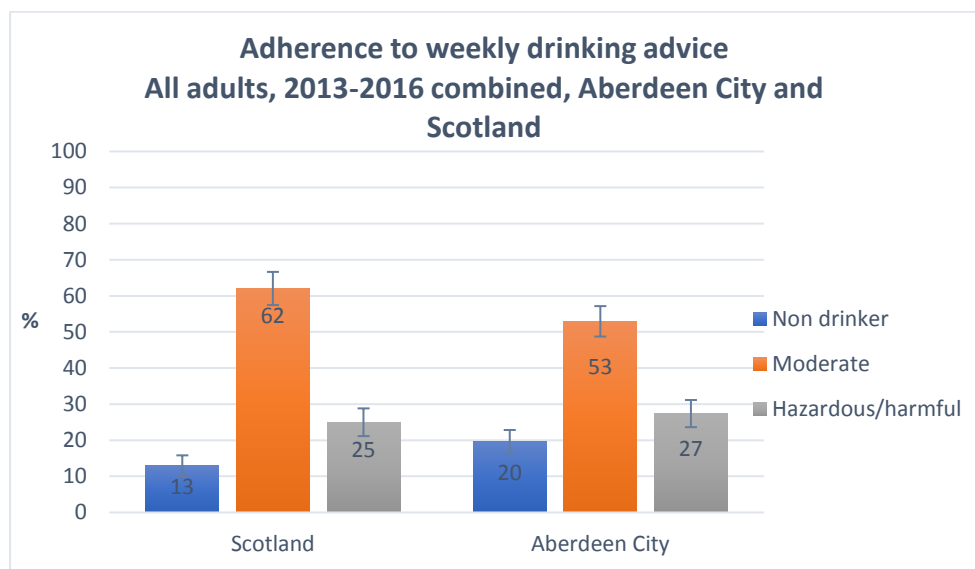
**Smoking during pregnancy:** Overall the rate of women who smoke during pregnancy (i.e. *women with a known smoking status recorded as ‘current smoker’ at first antenatal appointment*) is significantly lower in Aberdeen City than in Scotland (14.1% compared to 16.3%). However, there is considerable variation across the City. Rates range from a low of 0.0% in West End North to 36.1% in Torry East [8].



Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profile [8]  
Percentage - 2014/15 to 2016/17 financial years; 3-year aggregates

## 4.1.2 Alcohol

**Hazardous/harmful drinking:** In the period 2013-2016, 27% of adults in Aberdeen City were drinking above the guideline recommendations of 14 units per week. This is higher (although not significantly so) than the rate for Scotland of 25%. The proportion who were drinking above recommended guidelines was higher in males (31%) than in females (20%).



Source: Scottish Health Survey: Results for Local Areas 2013/2014/2015/2016 [46]

### Health Impact Assessment of the Aberdeen City Licensing Board

No Health Impact Assessments (HIAs) have previously been conducted in alcohol licensing for Aberdeen City. As such this HIA study involved the local Licensing Forum to identify areas for exploration on the views of vulnerable communities who are not normally consulted in alcohol licensing procedures. Equally to better understand alcohol licensing's impact on Aberdeen City. The following is a snap-shot of views captured:

**“So, problem drinking is done from supermarkets, local shops (not pubs). If you are only needing a bit of milk and a loaf of bread you cannae get it without passing alcohol [Community member]”**

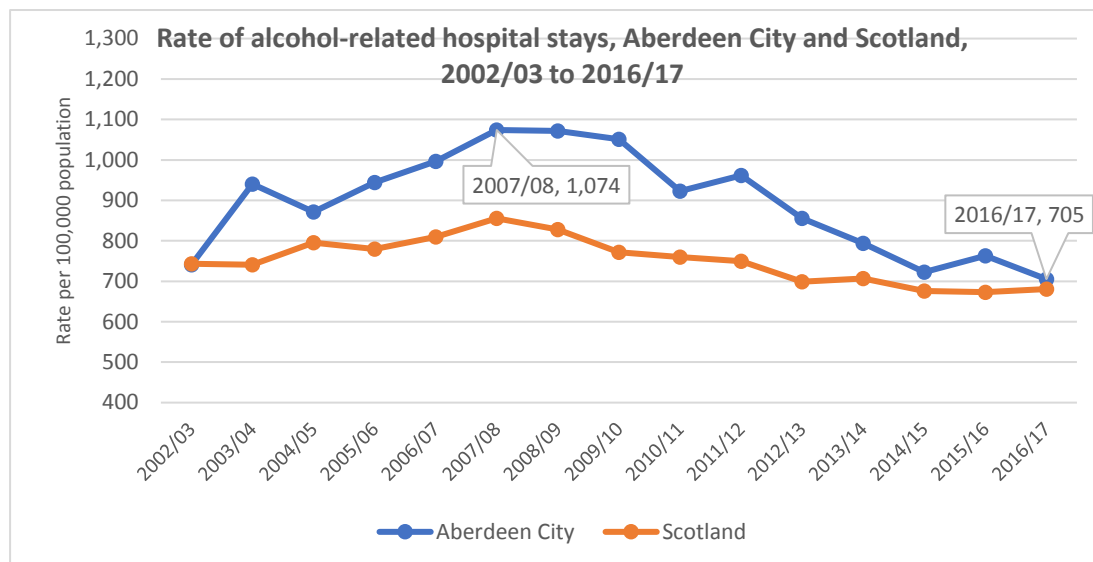
**“What I would be suggesting is that whoever is dealing out the alcohol at the fete or whatever; who's selling it should have to meet the same standard that might be expected of a pub [Staff]”**

**“It gets extremely overwhelming for people, and alcohol gives an easy way of escape really. People go from being in a situation to be quite isolated initially [Homeless support social worker]”**

**“We had it up in front of us – for across the road to get a licence. But what we got really angry about, by the time it came here, by the time they had a meeting, it was too late [Community Council member]”**

Based on the study, a series of agreed recommendations from the Forum have now been put to the Licensing Board with the aim of shaping the next Statement of Licensing policy due in 2018 [115].

**Alcohol-related hospital stays:** In 2016/17 there were 1,520 alcohol-related hospital stays in Aberdeen City. This equates to a rate (age-sex standardised) of 705.4 per 100,000 population. While still higher than the rate for Scotland (680.8 per 100,000 population), rates of alcohol-related hospital stays have fallen considerably over the past 10 years [8].

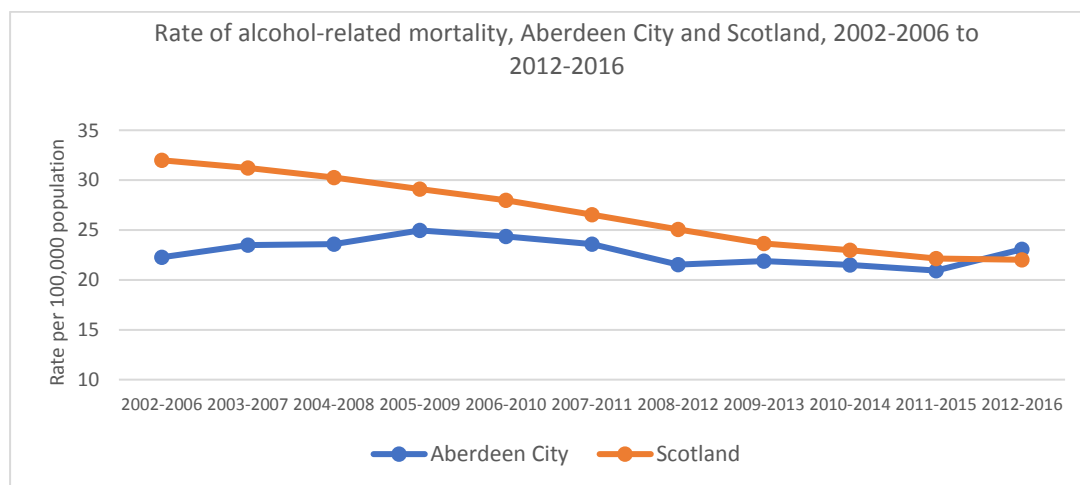


Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profile [8]

\*Age-sex standardised rate per 100,000 population

Based on Intermediate Zone data, rates of alcohol-related hospital stays vary across the City. Rates range from a low of 178.1 per 100,000 population in Cove South to a high of 2,023.7 per 100,000 in Tillydrone [8].

**Alcohol-related mortality:** Between 2012 and 2016 there were an average of 45 deaths per year (5-year rolling average) in Aberdeen City where alcohol was the underlying cause. Following a period of relative stability, and in contrast to trends for Scotland where the rate of alcohol-related mortality continues to fall, in Aberdeen City the rate increased between 2011-2015 and 2012-2016 and it is now at its highest level since 2005-2009. The rate of alcohol-related mortality in Aberdeen City is now slightly higher than the average rate for Scotland (23.1 per 100,000 population compared to 22.0 per 100,000 population) [8].

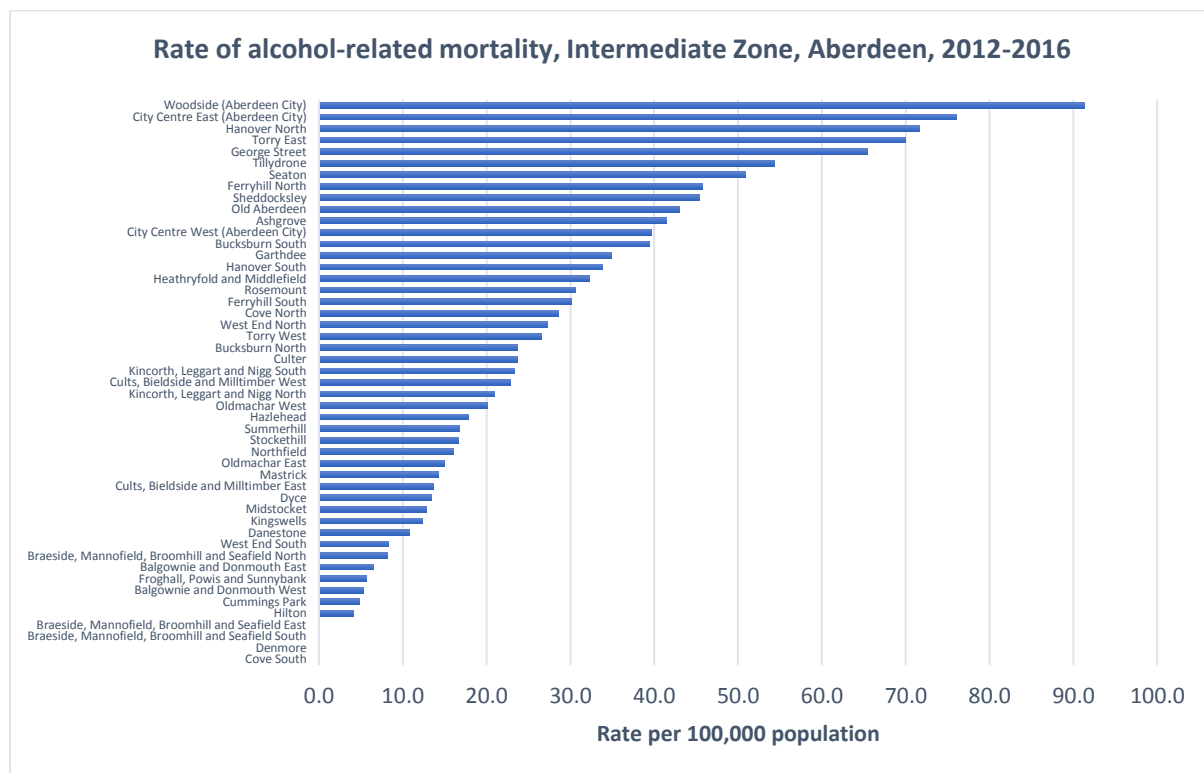


Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profile [8]

\*Age-sex standardised rate per 100,000 population (5-year aggregate)



The rate of alcohol-related mortality varies across the City (based on Intermediate Zones). In 2012-2016, the average alcohol-related mortality ranged from 0.0 to 91.2 per 100,000 population [8].



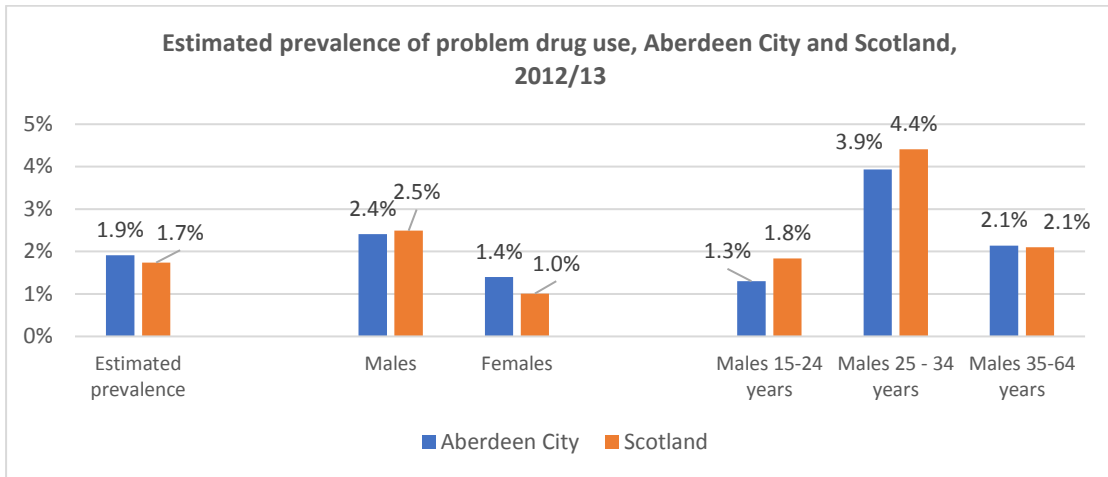
Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profile [8]

\*Age-sex standardised rate per 100,000 population (5-year aggregate)

#### 4.1.3 Drug use

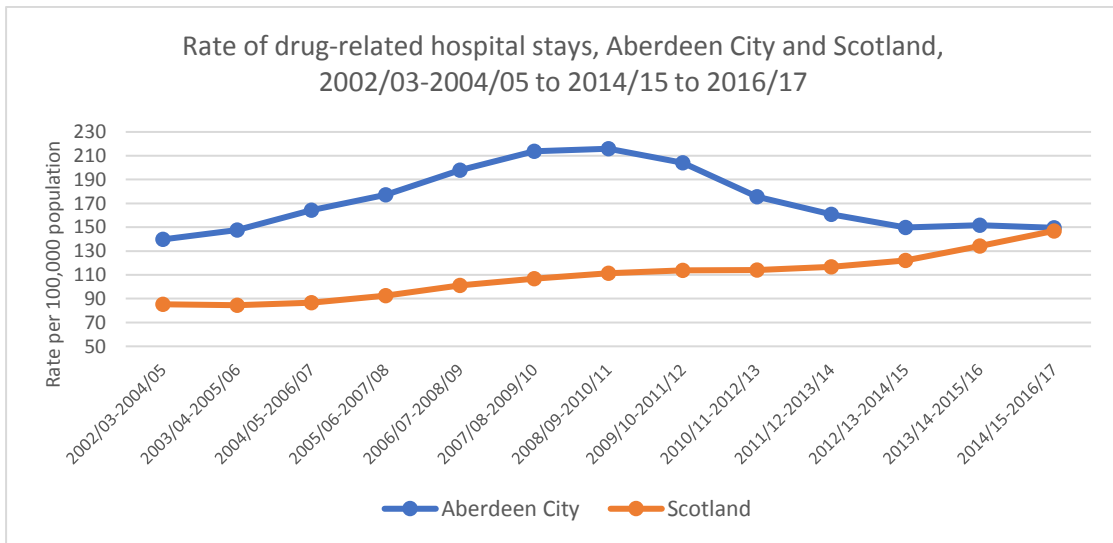
**Problem drug use<sup>2</sup>:** In 2012/13, 3,100 people in Aberdeen City (aged 15-64 years) were estimated to have a problem drug use. This equates to a rate of 1.9% – higher than the average rate for Scotland of 1.7%. Estimated prevalence of problem drug use was higher in males (2.4%) than females (1.4%). For males (no data available for females) estimated prevalence was higher in the 25-34 year age group (3.93%) than either the 35-64 year age group (2.14%) or the 15-24 year age group (1.30%). The estimated prevalence of problem drug use was significantly higher in females in Aberdeen than in Scotland [47].

<sup>2</sup> Problem drug use has been defined as the problematic use of opioids (including illicit and prescribed methadone use) and/or the illicit use of benzodiazepines, and implies routine and prolonged use as opposed to recreational and occasional drug use.



Source: ISD Scotland, Estimating the national and local prevalence of problem drug use in Scotland, 2012/13 [47]

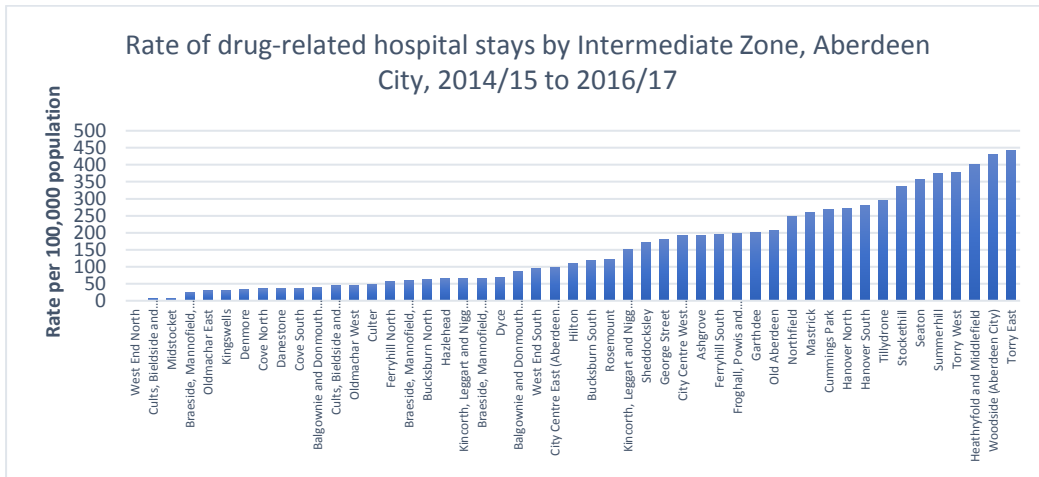
**Drug-related hospital stays:** between 2014/15 and 2016/17 (3-year rolling average) there were an average of 358 drug-related hospital stays per year in Aberdeen City. This equates to a rate (age-sex standardised) of 149.5 per 100,000 population. Since peaking in 2008/09-2010/11, the rate of drug-related hospital stays in Aberdeen has fallen and is now similar to the average rate for Scotland of 146.9 per 100,000 population [8].



Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profile [8]

\*Age-sex standardised rate per 100,000 population (3-year aggregate)

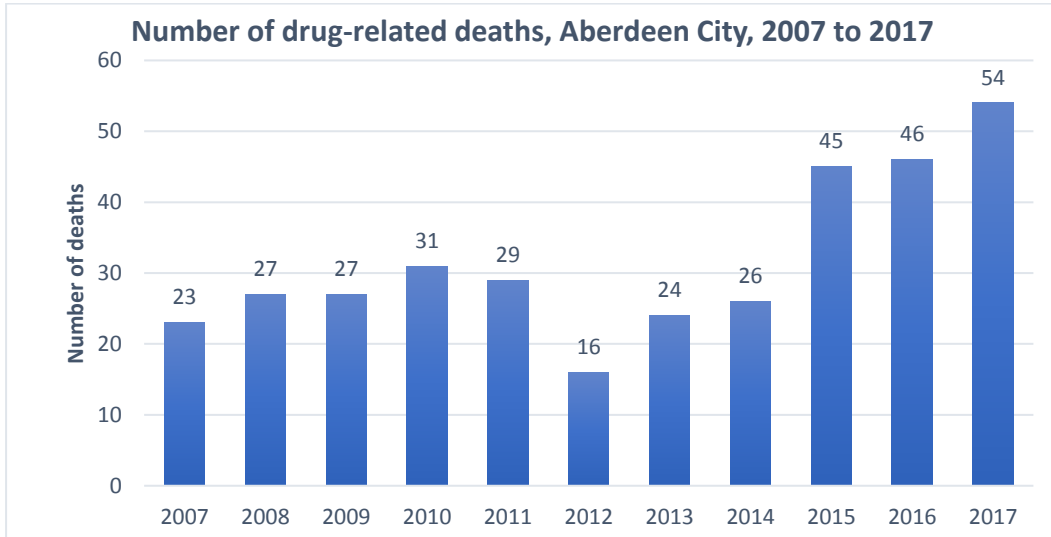
The rate of drug-related hospital stays varies considerably across the City, ranging from a low of 0.0 per 100,000 population in West End North to a high of 442.8 in Torry East (based on Intermediate Zones) [8].



Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profile [8]

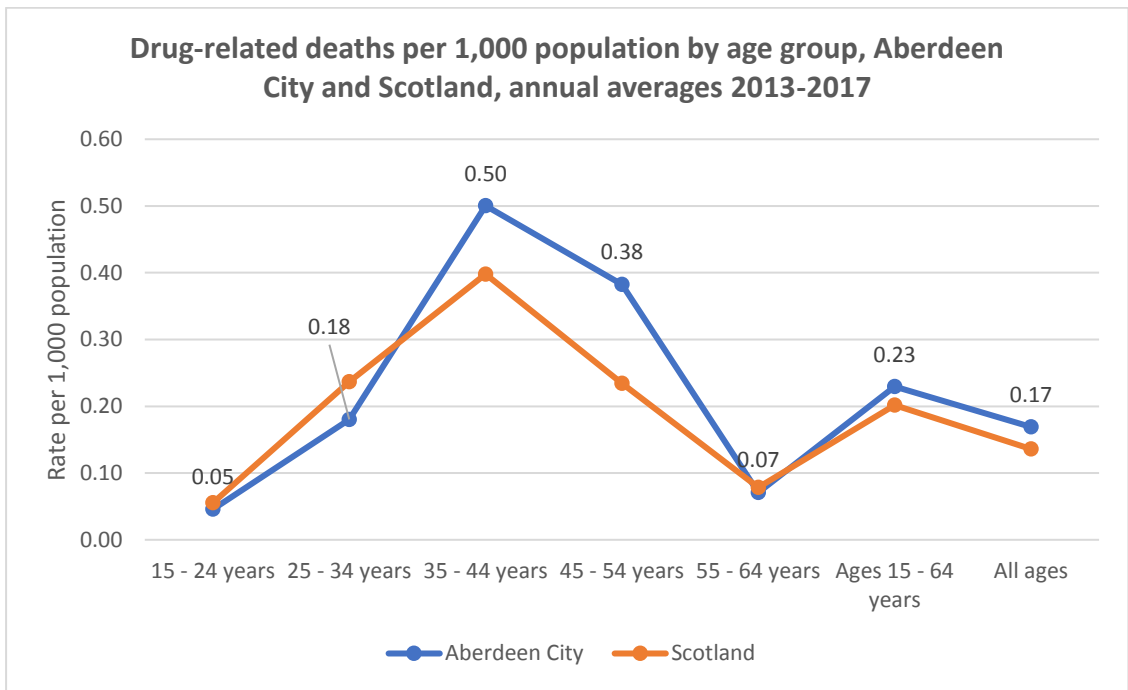
\*Age-sex standardised rate per 100,000 population (3-year aggregate)

**Drug-related mortality:** In 2017 there were 54 drug-related deaths in Aberdeen City. In the last few years there has been a notable increase in the number of drug-related deaths in the City each year with the number of deaths more than doubling since 2014. Information on deaths by gender shows that over the last 10 years the number of female deaths has increased more than the number of male deaths. In 2007, of the 23 deaths in Aberdeen City, 19 were male and 4 were female. In 2017, of the 54 deaths 36 were male and 18 were female (i.e. 33.3% of drug-related deaths in 2017 were female compared to 17.4% in 2007). Almost all deaths (52 out of 54) were classified as accidental poisoning [48].



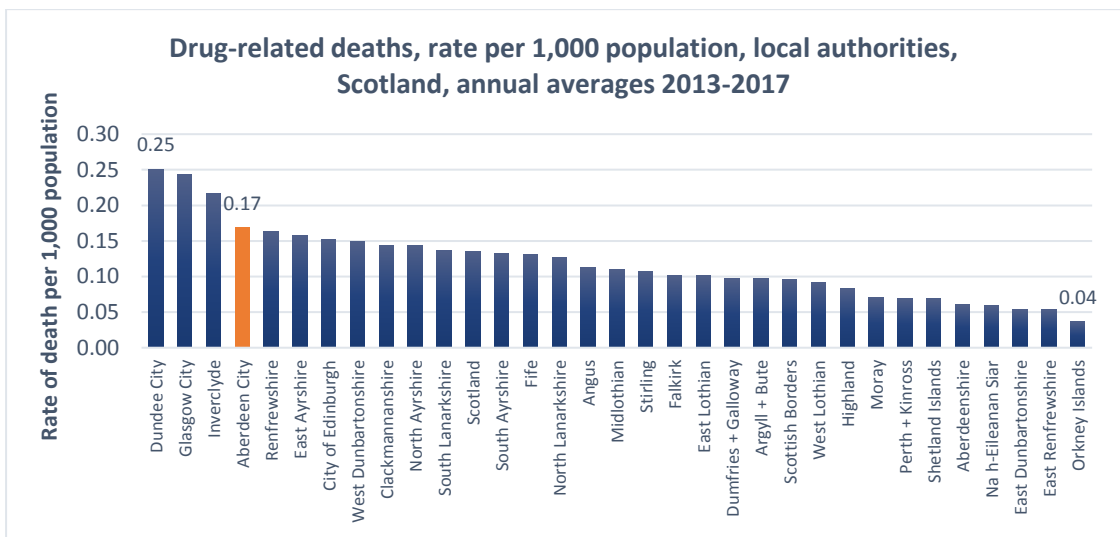
Source: National Records of Scotland, Drug-related deaths in Scotland, 2017 [48]

For the period 2013-2017, the average annual rate of drug-related deaths was higher in Aberdeen City than in Scotland (0.17 per 1,000 population compared to 0.14 per 1,000 population). In both areas drug-related mortality was highest in the 35-44 year age group.



Source: National Records of Scotland, Drug-related deaths in Scotland, 2017 [48]

Aberdeen City has the 4<sup>th</sup> highest average annual rate of drug-related deaths (after Dundee City at 0.25, Glasgow City at 0.24 and Inverclyde at 0.22) of all local authorities in Scotland [48].



Source: National Records of Scotland, Drug-related deaths in Scotland, 2017 [48]

**Viral Hepatitis C:** Injecting drugs is known to be an important risk factor for Viral Hepatitis C. In Scotland around 34,500 people are infected with Viral Hepatitis C – of whom only around half have been diagnosed [49]. Although the precise number of those in Aberdeen City infected by Viral Hepatitis C is not known it is important that Aberdeen City residents have the opportunity to know their Blood Borne Virus (Hepatitis B,C and HIV) status, creating opportunities for testing and referral into therapy as appropriate. New therapies are highly effective for Hepatitis C.

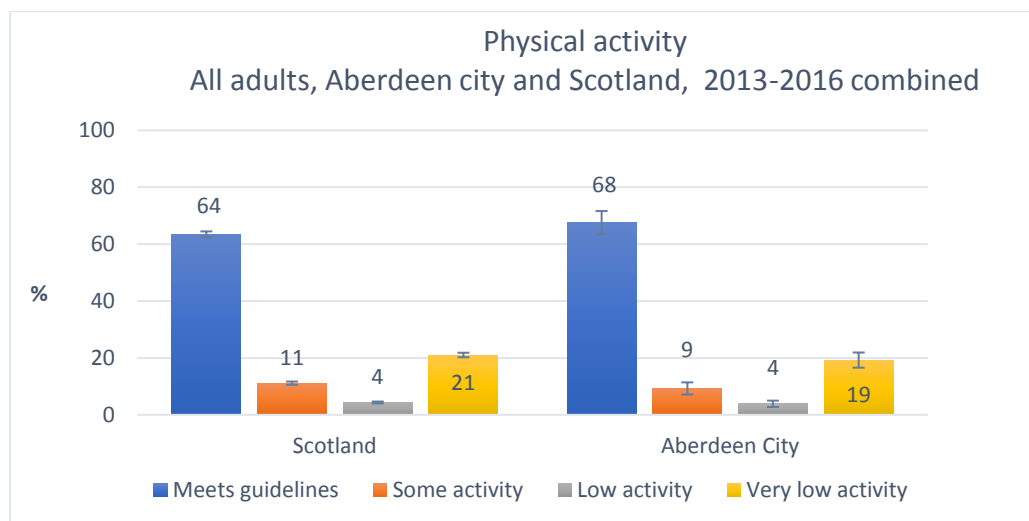
#### 4.1.4 Lifestyle

**Active travel to work:** The proportion of people who reported ‘actively’ travelling to work is significantly higher in Aberdeen City than in Scotland. In 2015, 22.1% of people in Aberdeen City either walked or cycled to work compared to the Scottish average of 14.9%. Aberdeen had the second highest rate of all local authorities – only City of Edinburgh was higher (26.4%) [8].

**Physical activity:** Based on the Scottish Household Survey, in 2016 the proportion of people who reported undertaking some form of physical activity (including walking) in the last 4 weeks was significantly higher in Aberdeen City (85%) than in Scotland (79%). Walking (at least 30 minutes) was the most commonly reported form of activity for both areas (70% for Aberdeen City and 67% for Scotland). When walking is excluded, the proportions of people undertaking physical activity was similar in Aberdeen and Scotland (53% compared to 51%) [15].

Interestingly, when this question was included in the 42<sup>nd</sup> City Voice questionnaire, the findings were very similar to the findings from the Scottish Household Survey, with 84% reporting that they had taken part in some form of physical activity (including walking) in the last 4 weeks. Again, walking was the most common activity with 70% of respondents choosing this option

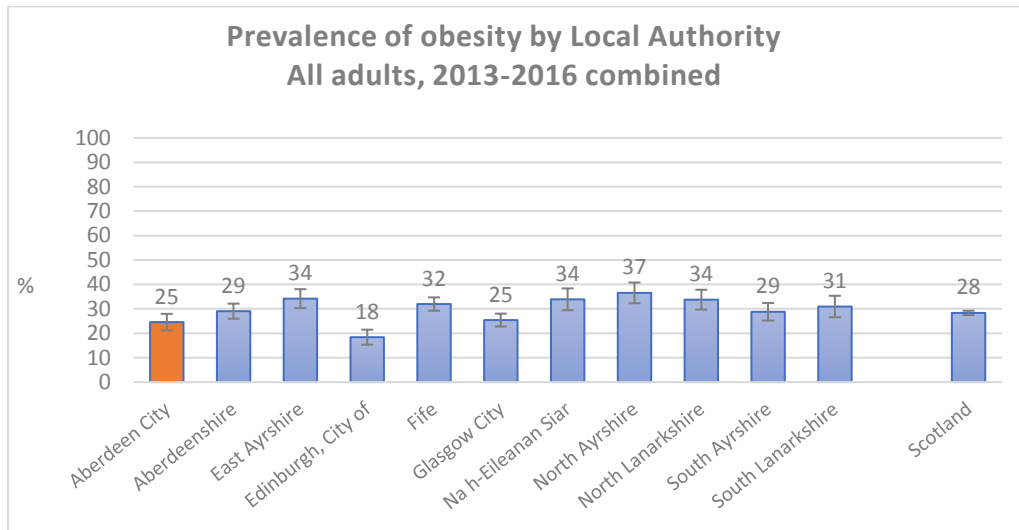
Based on Scottish Health Survey data (2013-2016 combined), an estimated 68% of adults in Aberdeen City meet the recommended guidelines for physical activity (i.e. 150 mins/week of moderate physical activity, 75 mins vigorous physical activity, or an equivalent combination of these). This is higher than the equivalent rate for Scotland of 64% [46].



Source: Scottish Government, Scottish Health Survey, results for local areas 2013/14/15/16 [46]

**Healthy eating/obesity:** In Scotland in 2016, 65% of adults aged 16 and over were overweight, including 29% who were obese. There was a significant increase between 2003 and 2008, where prevalence of overweight (including obesity) rose from 62% to 65%. Rates have stabilised since.

Data from the Scottish Health Survey (2013-2016 combined) estimates that 61% of the population of Aberdeen City are classified as overweight (including obesity) with 25% being classified as obese (i.e. they have a BMI of 30+) [46].



Source: Scottish Government, Scottish Health Survey, results for local areas 2013/14/15/16 [46]

## 4.2 Health

### 4.2.1 General health

**Self-rated health:** Information on self-rated health was collected in the 2011 Census. When asked “How is your health in general?” 85.7% of people in Aberdeen rated their health as either very good (54.3%) or good (31.4%), slightly higher than the corresponding Scottish figures (52.5% and 29.7%). 10.4% rated their health as fair and the remaining 3.9% rated it as bad or very bad. However, those in the older age group (65+ years) were less likely than those in the younger age groups to rate their health as good or very good (58.1% of those aged 65+ years compared to 98.2% of 0-15 year-olds and 88.7% of 16-64 year-olds) [3].

More recently, data from the Scottish Health Survey for the period 2013-2016 combined showed that 77% of people in Aberdeen rated their health as good or very good – higher than the respective rate for Scotland of 74% [46].

In the 42<sup>nd</sup> City Voice questionnaire, panellists were asked to rate their health. Almost three quarters (73%) of respondents to this question rated their health as very good (25%) or good (47%). Only 6% rated their general health as bad (5%) or very bad (1%). Similar to the findings from the Scottish Health Survey [78].

**Long-term illness:** The 2011 Census also collected information on the presence of a long-term health problem or disability. People were asked “Are your day-to-day activities limited because of a health problem or disability which has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months?” In Aberdeen, 7% of people reported a health problem or disability which limited activities ‘a lot’ and 9.0% which limited activities ‘a little’. Both these figures are slightly

below comparative figures for Scotland of 9.6% and 10.1%. Again, the proportion of people whose activities were limited was highest in the 65+ year group, with 24.6% saying their activities were limited 'a lot' and 26.5% saying their activities were limited 'a little' [3].

A similar question in the Scottish Health Survey asked about limiting long-term illnesses. In Aberdeen (2013-2016 combined data), 28% reported having a limiting long-term illness with a further 15% reporting having a non-limiting long-term illness (compared to 32% and 15% respectively for Scotland). 57% reported having no long-term illness – higher than the rate for Scotland of 53% [46].

**Long-term illness and general health:** There is a strong association between the presence of a long-term illness and general health. In 2011 Census, only 14.4% of those with a long-term illness who reported their activities as being limited 'a lot' said that their health was good or very good, while 39.1% reported their health as fair and 46.4% reported their health as bad or very bad [3].

#### 4.2.2 Mental health

**Dementia:** In 2017 dementia and Alzheimer's disease accounted for 11.3% of all deaths in Scotland (the second most common cause of death). Between 2016 and 2017 the number of deaths from dementia and Alzheimer's disease rose by 17.6% to 6,549 (although part of this increase will be due to a change in methodology in how deaths are recorded).

In Aberdeen City in 2017, dementia and Alzheimer's disease accounted for 10.4% of all deaths (221 deaths of which 150 were female and 71 were male) [7].

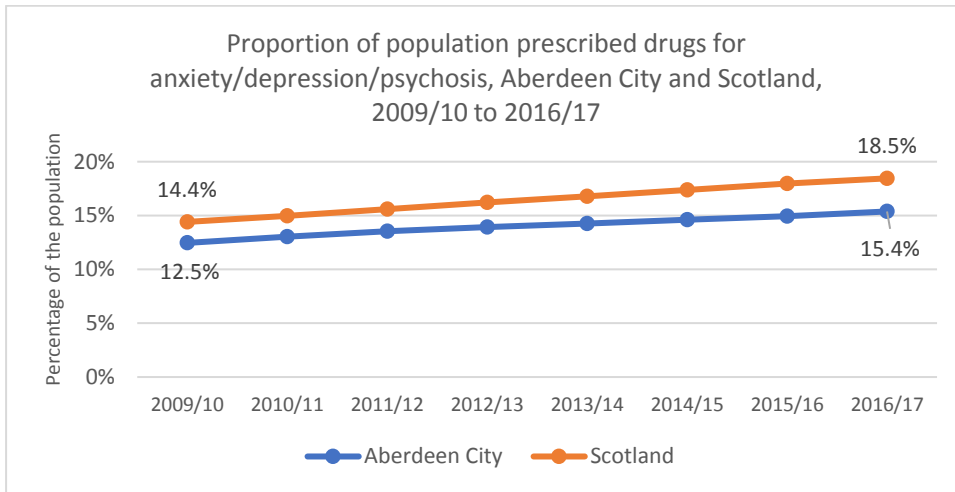
According to Alzheimer's Scotland, in 2017 there were an estimated 3,455 people with dementia in Aberdeen City (equivalent to 1.5% of the population). Most people with dementia are 65 years or over (approximately 96% at Scotland level) [50].

It is estimated that 0.7% of patients in Quality and Outcomes Framework (QoF) registered GP practices in Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership area have a diagnosis of dementia (2015/16) [51].

**Prescriptions for anxiety/depression/psychosis:**

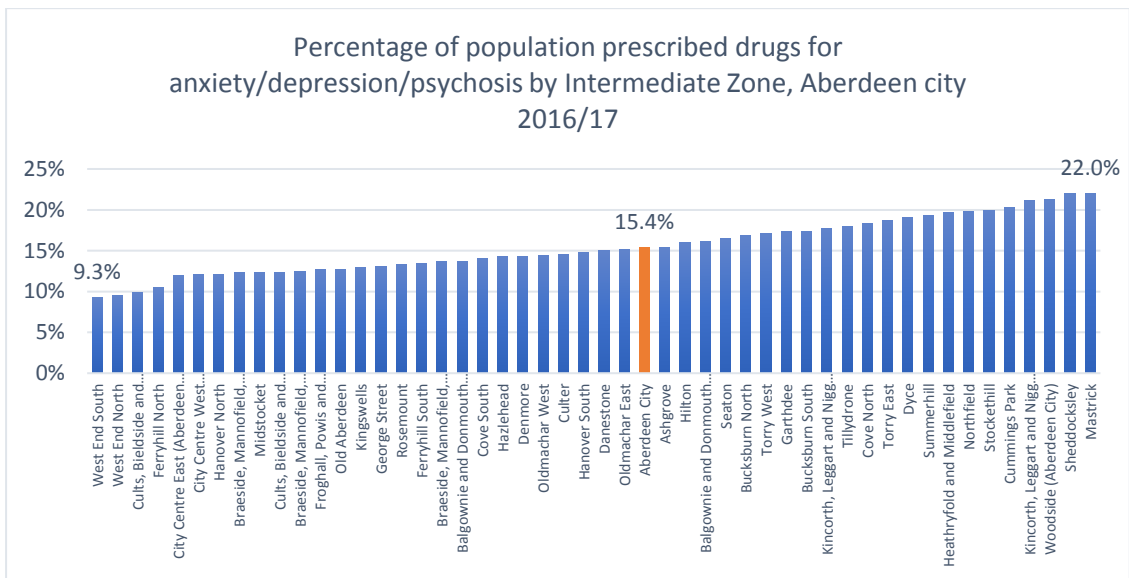
In 2016/17 (financial year) 35,342 people in Aberdeen City were prescribed drugs for anxiety, depression or psychosis. This is equivalent to 15.4% of the population – significantly lower than the proportion for Scotland of 18.5%. The proportion of people receiving prescriptions for these conditions has increased significantly in recent years, from 12.5% in 2009/10 to 15.4% in 2016/17. A similar trend has been seen in Scotland [8].

The 41<sup>st</sup> City Voice questionnaire asked panellists questions relating to mental health. Panellists were asked how likely they would be to talk to someone if they had a mental health issue – for example a family member, a friend, or a work colleague. 60% of respondents reported they were likely or very likely to talk to someone if they had mental health issues.



Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles [8]

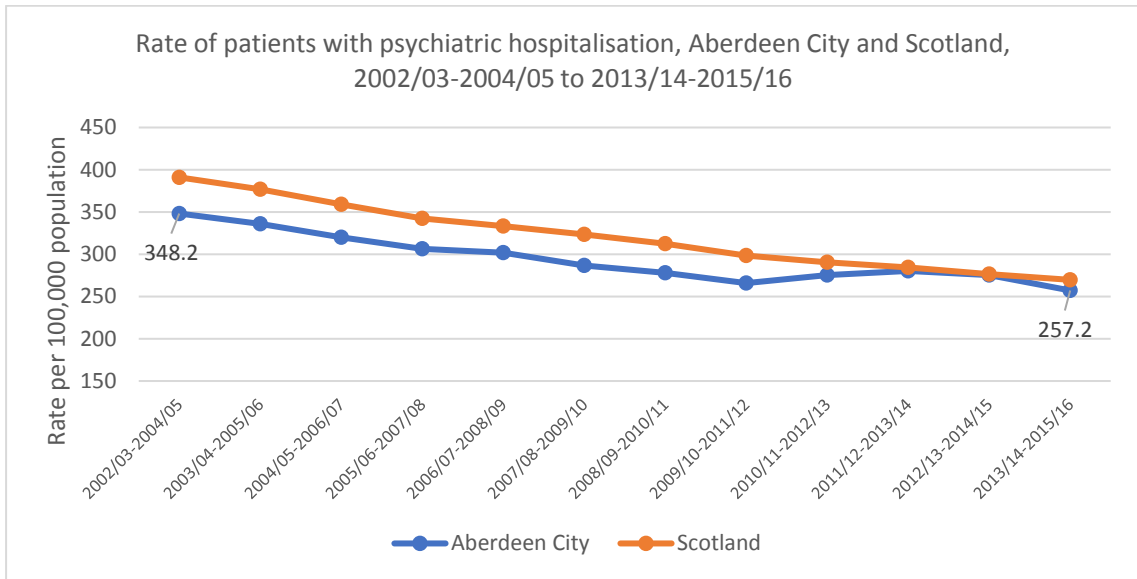
The proportion of people receiving drugs for anxiety, depression or psychosis varied by Intermediate Zone, ranging from a low of 9.3% in West End South to a high of 22.0% in Mastrick [8].



Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles [8]

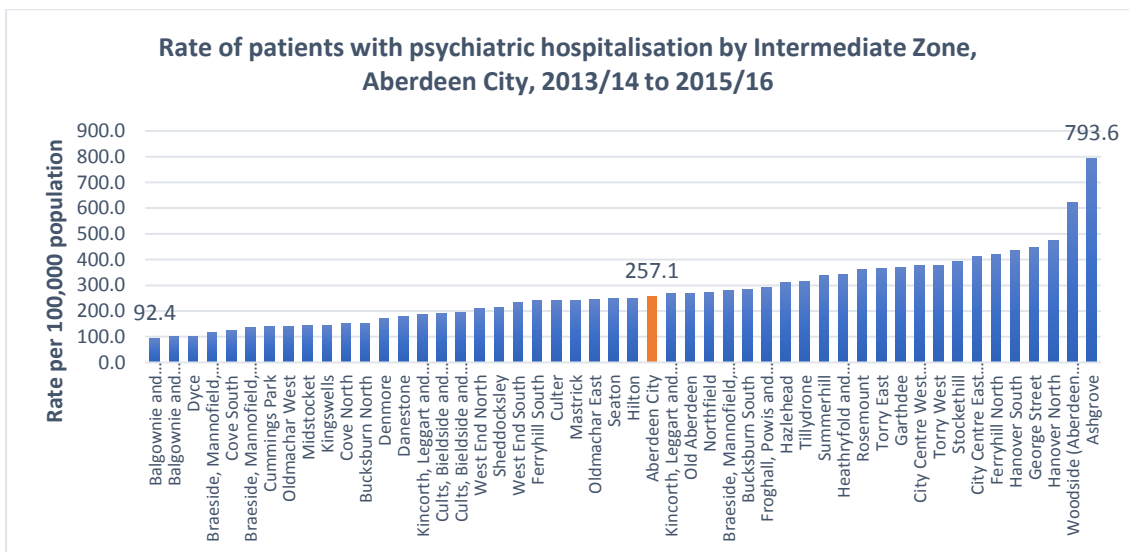
**Patients with psychiatric hospitalisation:** Between 2013/14 and 2015/16 there were an average of 571 patients per year who were hospitalised with a mental health condition. This is equivalent to a rate (age-sex standardised, 3-year aggregates) of 257.1 per 100,000 population – slightly lower than the rate for Scotland of 269.7 per 100,000 population. The rate of patients with psychiatric hospitalisation has decreased over the past 10 years from 348.2 per 100,000 population in 2002/03-2004/05 [8].





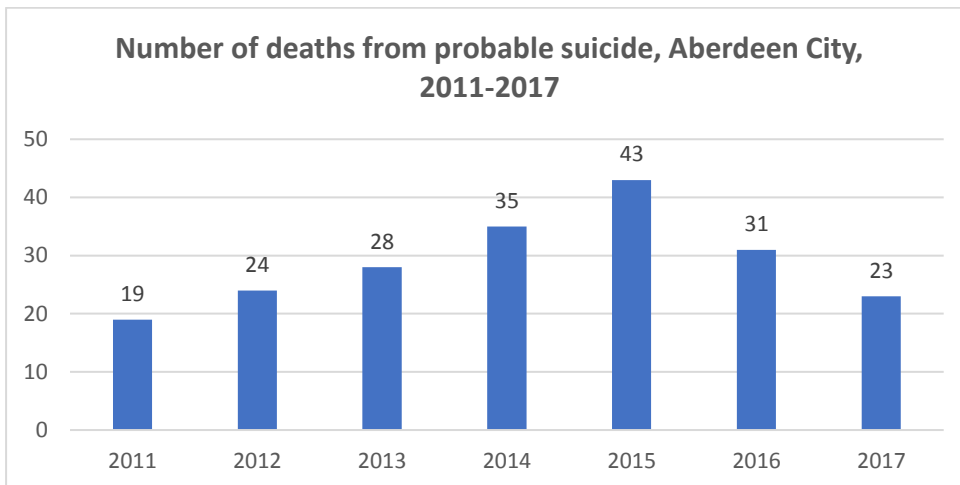
Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles [8]

The rate of psychiatric hospitalisations varied by Intermediate Zone, ranging from a low of 92.4 per 100,000 population in Balgowrie and Donmouth East to a high of 793.6 Ashgrove [8].



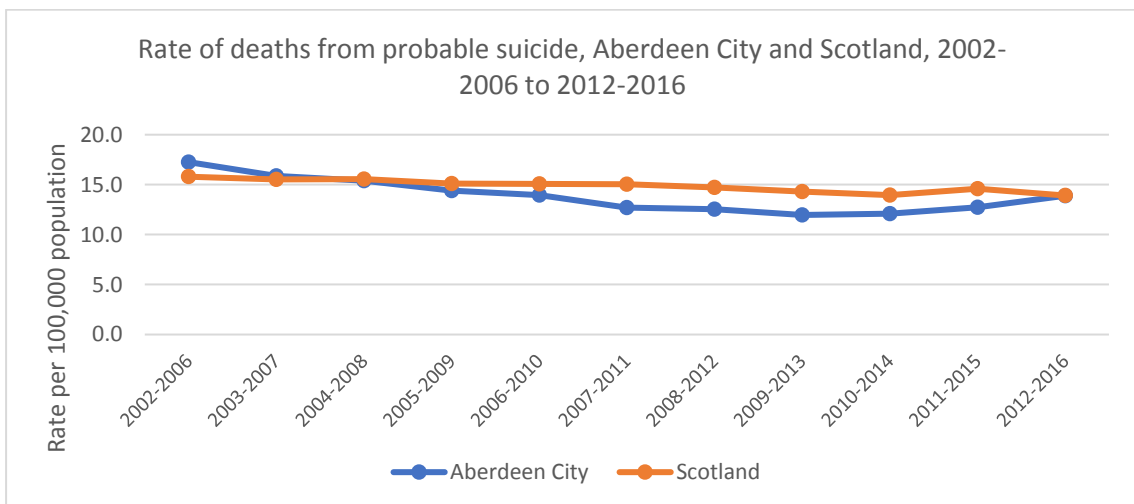
Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles [8]

**Deaths from suicide:** In 2017 there were 23 probable suicides in Aberdeen City. Since peaking at 43 deaths in 2015, the number of probable suicides has decreased in each of the last two years [52].



Source: National Records of Scotland, Probable Suicides: Deaths which are the Result of Intentional Self-harm or Events of Undetermined Intent [52]

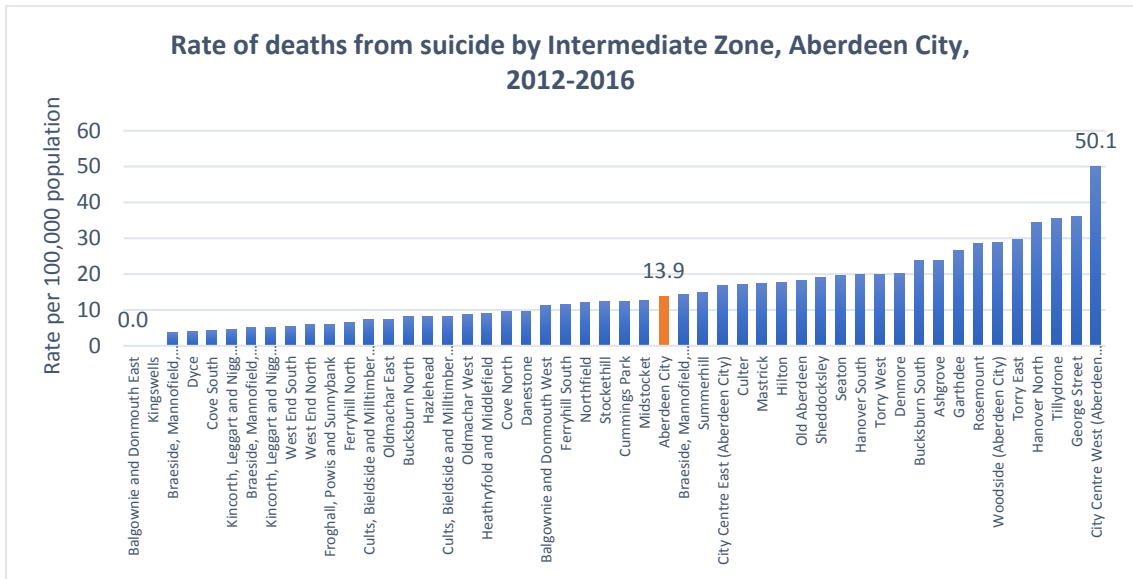
The rate of deaths from probable suicide at 13.9 per 100,000 population (age-sex standardised, 5-year aggregates, 2012-2016) is the same as that for Scotland. Overall, the rate of deaths from suicide in Aberdeen City has decreased over the past 10 years (from 17.3 per 100,000 population in 2002-2006), however there have been slight increases in the last two sets of figures [8].



Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles [8]

While local level data is not available, in Scotland in 2016 a higher number of males (517) than females (211) had deaths recorded as probable suicide. Hanging (358) and poisoning (201) were the two most common methods recorded. The most common age for male probable suicides was 50-54 years and for females it was 45-49 years [53].

In 2012-2016 in Aberdeen City the rate of deaths from probable suicide ranged from a low of 0.0 per 100,000 population in both Balgownie and Donmouth East and Kingswells, to a high of 50.0 per 100,000 population in City Centre West [8].



Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles [8]

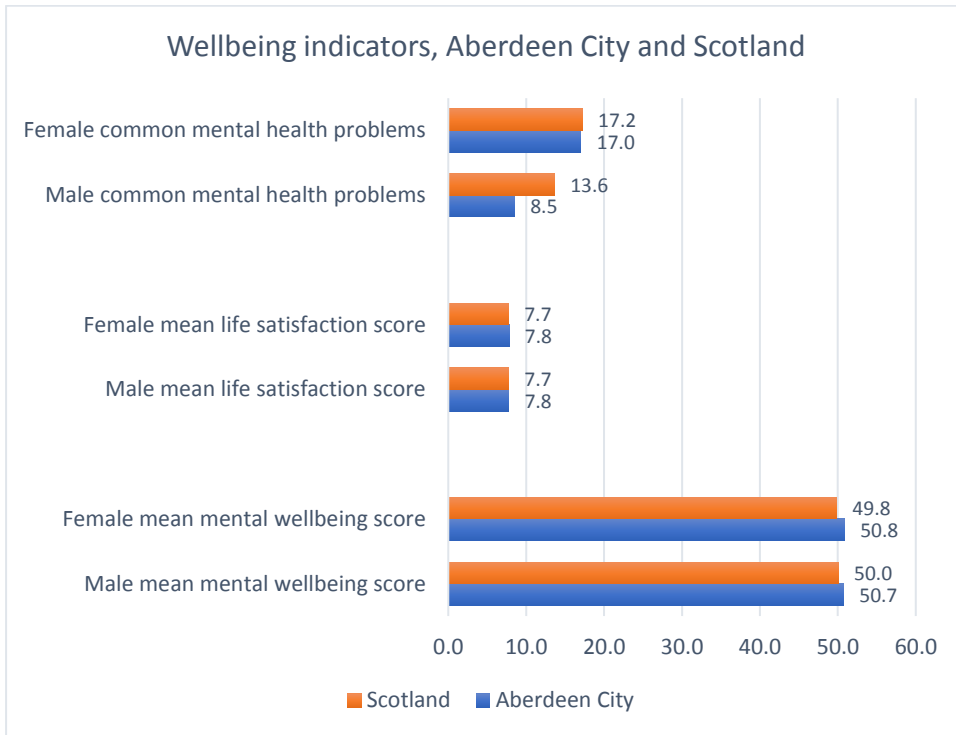
### 4.3 Wellbeing

The Scottish Health Survey provides information on several ‘wellbeing’ indicators (2013-2016; 4-year aggregate).

Based on the Warwick Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale (WEMWBS), the mean wellbeing scores for males (50.7) and females (50.8) in Aberdeen City are similar to the respective scores for Scotland (50.0 and 49.8).

When asked ‘how satisfied are you with life nowadays?’, the mean score for both males and females in Aberdeen City was 7.8. Again, these were similar to the mean scores for males and females in Scotland which was 7.7.

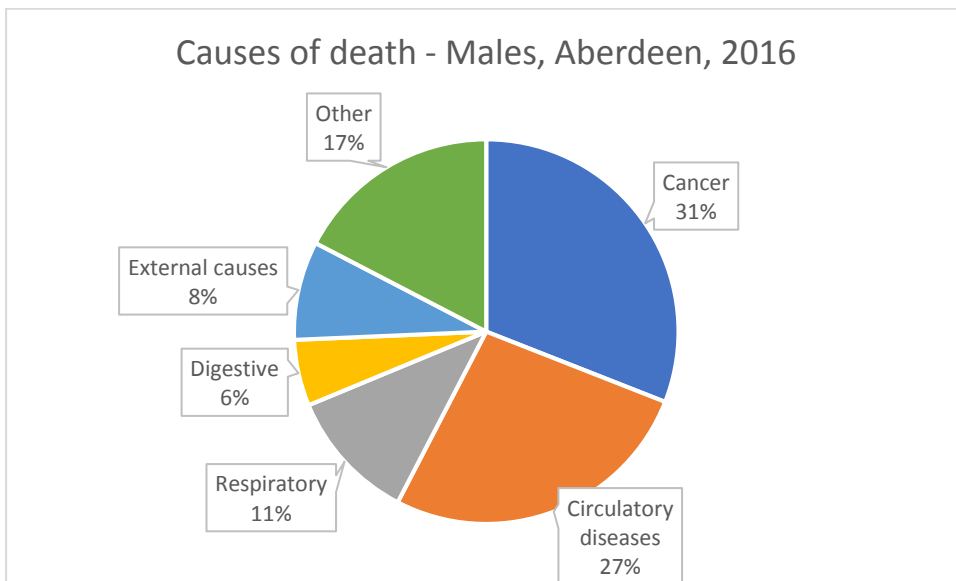
Based on self-reported responses to the General Health Questionnaire, an estimated 17.0% of females and 8.5% of males in Aberdeen City have common mental health problems. The higher female rate is consistent with the pattern for Scotland as a whole. While the proportion of females with common mental health problems is similar in Aberdeen City and Scotland (17.0%), the rate of males with common mental health problems is lower in Aberdeen than in Scotland (13.6%).



Source: ScotPHO Mental Health Profile (Scottish Health Survey, 2013-2016; 4-year aggregate) [54]

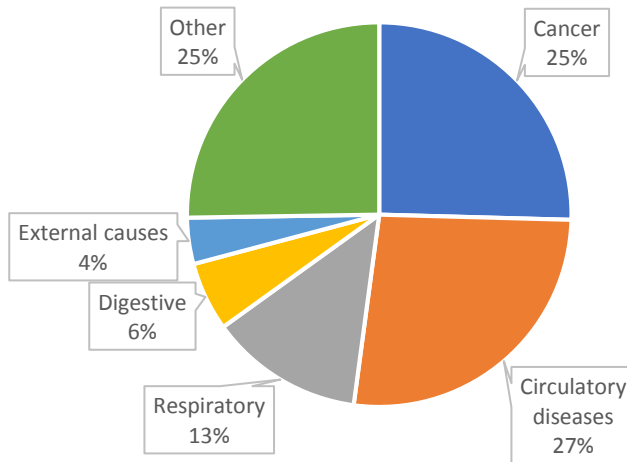
#### 4.3.1 Key diseases

Cancer and circulatory diseases (such as coronary heart disease and stroke) together account for over half of all causes of death in Aberdeen City. In 2016, almost a third (31%) of male deaths and a quarter (25%) of female deaths were caused by cancer, and 27% of male deaths and 27% of female deaths were caused by circulatory diseases [7].



Source: National Records of Scotland, Vital Events Reference Tables 2016, Section 6: Deaths – Causes, [7]

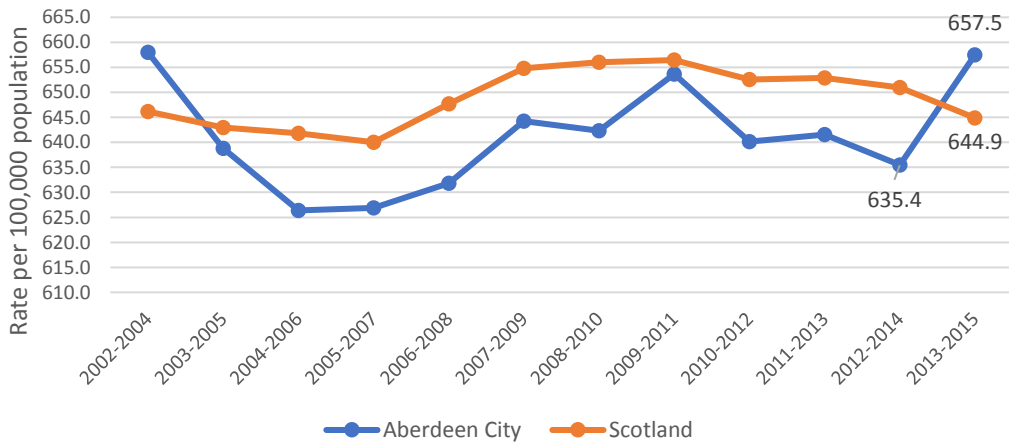
### Causes of death, Females, Aberdeen, 2016



Source: National Records of Scotland, Vital Events Reference Tables 2016, Section 6: Deaths – Causes [7]

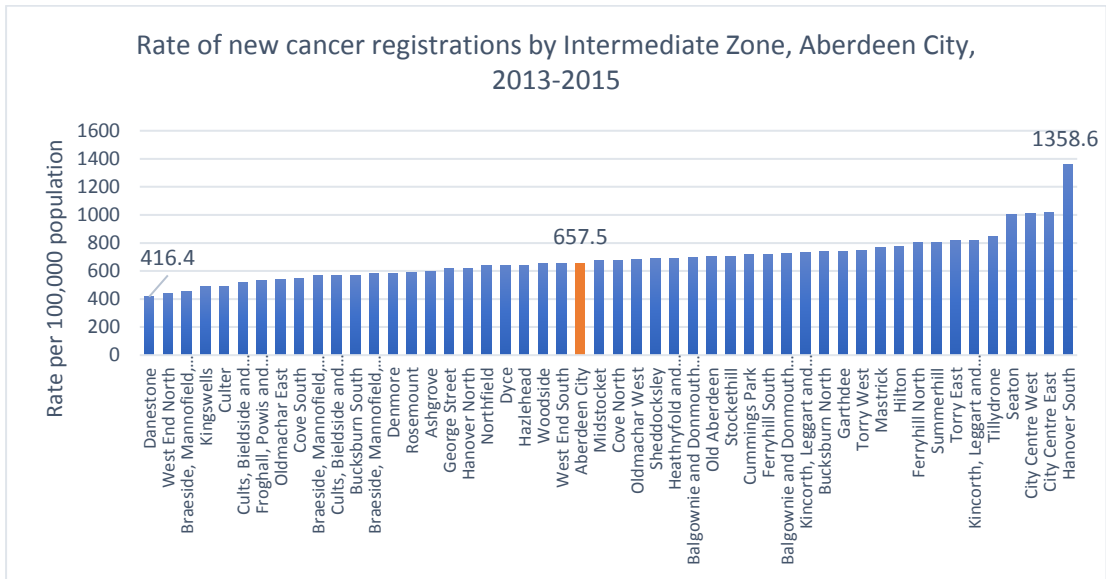
**Cancer – new registrations:** Between 2013 and 2015 there were an average of 1,192 new cancer registrations per year (3-year rolling average) in Aberdeen City. This is equivalent to a rate (age-sex standardised) of 657.5 per 100,000 population which is higher than the equivalent rate for Scotland of 644.9. The rate of new cancer registrations in Aberdeen increased sharply between 2012-2014 and 2013-2015, bringing the rate to its highest level for more than 10 years [8].

### Rate of new cancer registrations, Aberdeen City and Scotland, 2002-2004 to 2013-2015



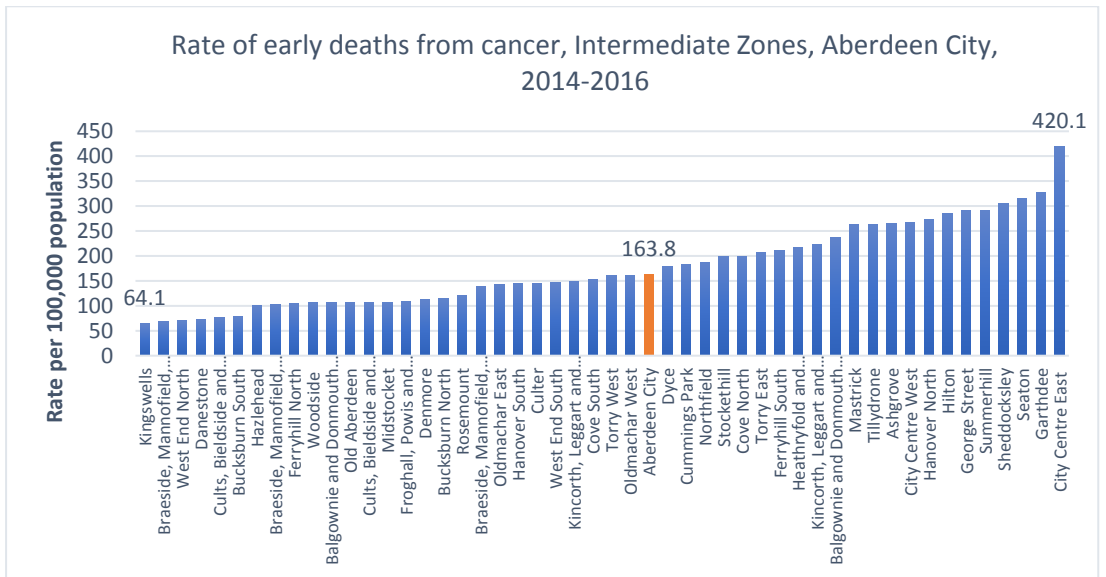
Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles [8]  
Rate per 100,000 population, directly age-sex standardised

The rate of new cancer registrations varies across the City (Intermediate Zones) ranging from a low of 416.4 per 100,000 population in Denmore to a high of 1,358.6 per 100,000 population in Hanover South [8].



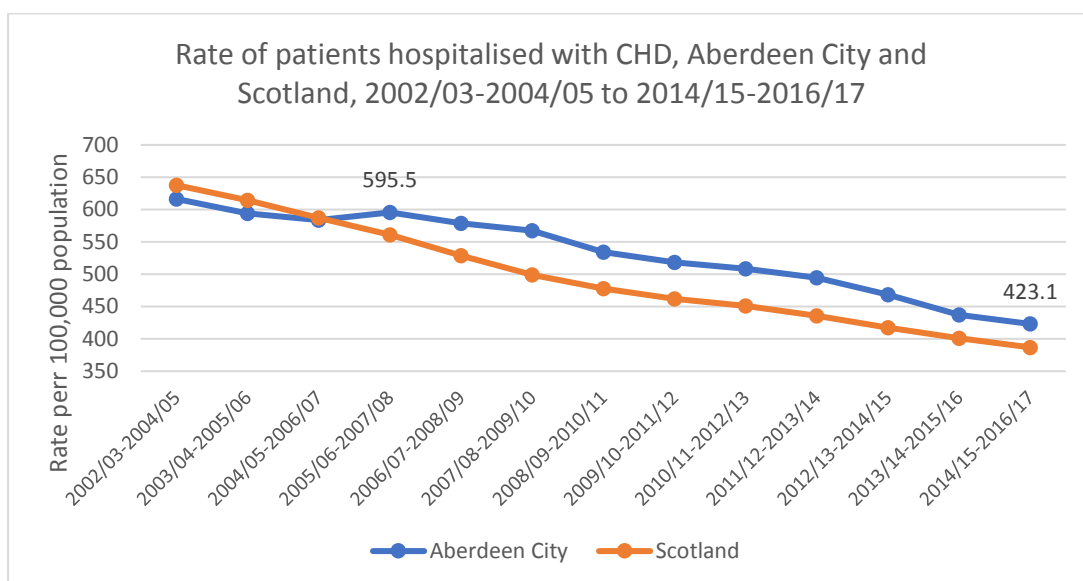
Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles [8]  
Rate per 100,000 population; directly age-sex standardised

**Cancer – early deaths (<75 years):** Between 2014 and 2016 there were an average of 283 early deaths per year (3-year rolling average) from cancer. This is equivalent to a rate (age-sex standardised) of 168.3 per 100,000 population – slightly higher than the equivalent rate for Scotland of 163.8 per 100,000 population. Rates of early deaths ranged from a low of 64.1 per 100,000 population in Kingswells to a high of 420.1 per 100,000 population in City Centre East [8].



Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles [8]  
Rate per 100,000 population; directly age-sex standardised

**Coronary heart disease (CHD) – hospitalisations:** Between 2014/15 and 2016/17 there were an average of 768 patients per year (3-year rolling average) hospitalised with CHD – equivalent to a rate of 423.1 per 100,000 population. This is significantly higher than the rate for Scotland of 386.9 per 100,000 population. Over the last 9 years, there have been year-on-year decreases in the rate of patients hospitalised with CHD in both Aberdeen and Scotland [8].



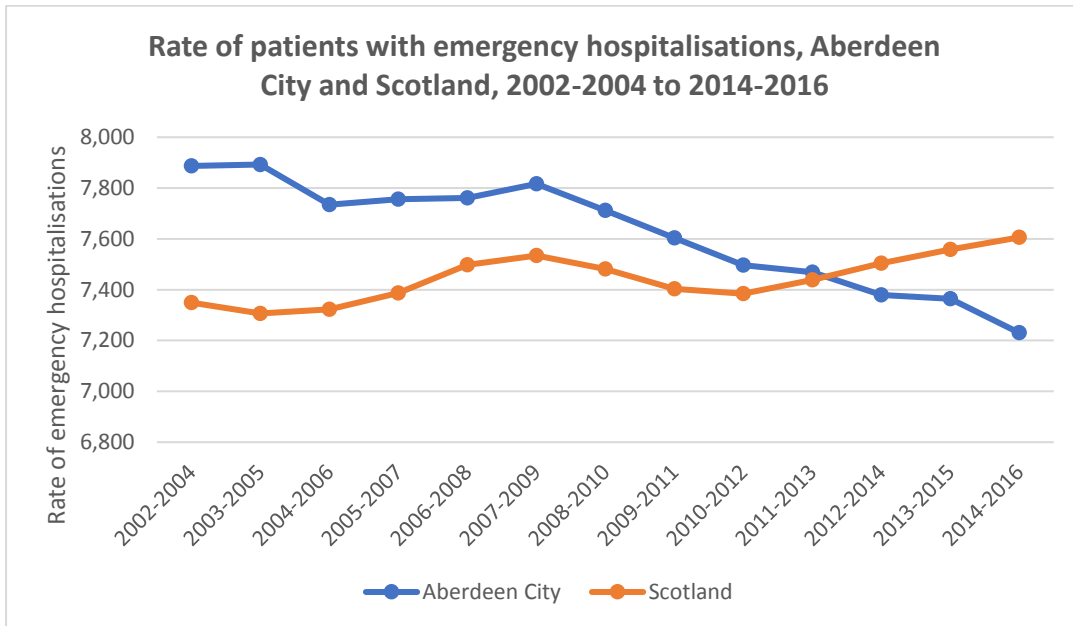
Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles [8]  
 Rate per 100,000 population; directly age-sex standardised

The rate of patients hospitalised with CHD varied across the City (Intermediate Zone), ranging from a low of 192.0 per 100,000 population in City Centre East to a high of 609.0 per 100,000 population in Tillydrone [8].

**CHD – early deaths (<75 years):** Between 2014-2016 there were an average of 79 early deaths per year (3-year rolling average) due to CHD in Aberdeen. This is equivalent to a rate of 48.0 per 100,000 population which is slightly lower than the rate for Scotland of 53.2 per 100,000 population. Overall, the rate of early deaths from CHD has fallen in the last 12 years – from 87.4 in 2002-2004 to its current level of 48.0 per 100,000. The rate of early deaths from CHD varied across the city, ranging from a low of 0.0 per 100,000 population in West End North to a high of 139.3 per 100,000 population in Northfield [8].

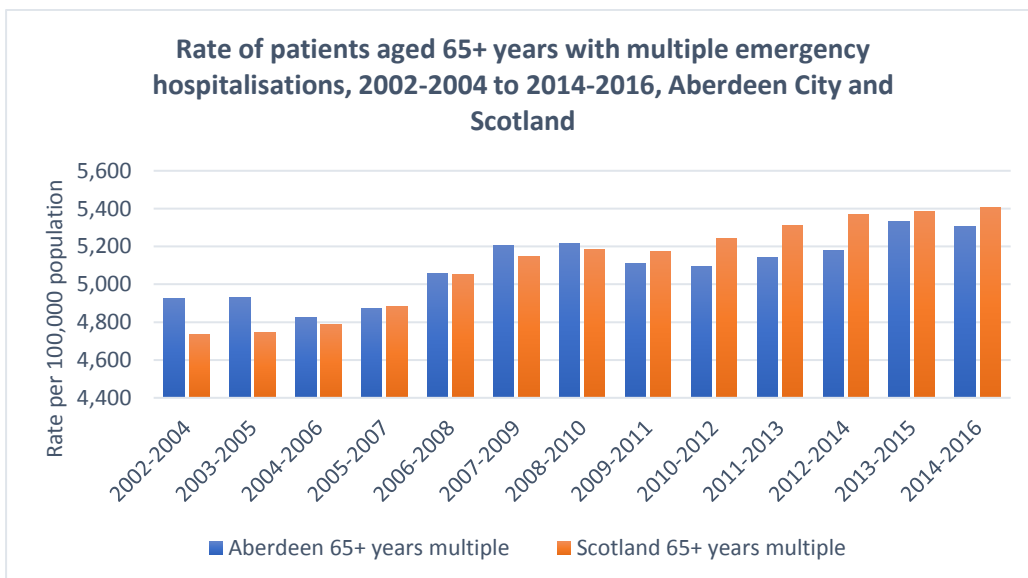
#### 4.3.2 Hospitalisations

**Patients with emergency hospitalisations:** Between 2014-2016 there were an average of 15,007 emergency hospitalisations per year (3-year rolling average) in Aberdeen City. Following a period of year-on-year decreases in rates of patients with emergency hospitalisations, the rate in Aberdeen City is now lower than the rate for Scotland (7,230.0 per 100,000 population compared to 7,605.9 per 100,000 population). In Aberdeen City the rate ranges from a low of 4,894.9 per 100,000 population in Kingswells to a high of 10,802.7 per 100,000 population in Heathryfold and Middlefield (Intermediate Zones) [8].



Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles [8]  
 Rate per 100,000 population; directly age-sex standardised; 3-year aggregates

**Patients aged 65+ years with multiple emergency hospitalisations:** In contrast with the declining rates for patients with emergency hospitalisations, the rate of patients aged 65+ years with multiple emergency hospitalisations has increased in Aberdeen City, from 5,092.0 per 100,000 population in 2010-12 to 5,306.6 per 100,000 population in 2014-2016. This upward trend is consistent with trends in Scotland as a whole. In Aberdeen City the rate ranges from a low of 3,076.9 per 100,000 population in Hanover North to a high of 8,275.8 per 100,000 population in Garthdee (Intermediate Zones) [8].

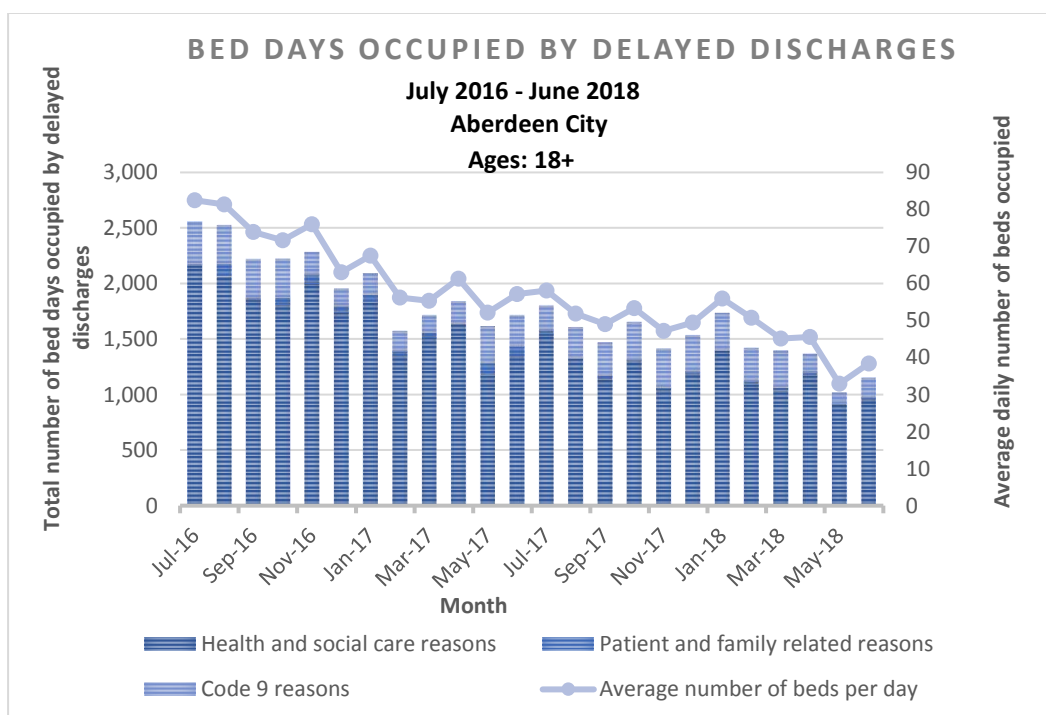


Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles [8]  
 Rate per 100,000 population; directly age-sex standardised; 3-year aggregates



**Delayed discharges<sup>3</sup>:** June 2018 there were a total of 1,152 bed days occupied by delayed discharges (18+ years) in Aberdeen City – an average of 38 per day. Of these, 745 (64.7%) were occupied by individuals aged 75+ years. The most common principle reason for the delayed discharge was ‘health and social care reasons’ (84.5%), followed by ‘Code 9’ (i.e. complex) reasons (15.5%) and ‘patient and family-related reasons’ (1%).

Since July 2016, both the total number of bed days occupied by delayed discharge and the average number of beds per day have more than halved (from 2,557 and 82 respectively). Since July 2016, the proportion of bed days occupied by people aged 75+ years has also decreased (79.7% in July 2016 compared to 64.7% in June 2018) [55].



Source: ISD Scotland, Health and Social Care, Delayed Discharges [55]

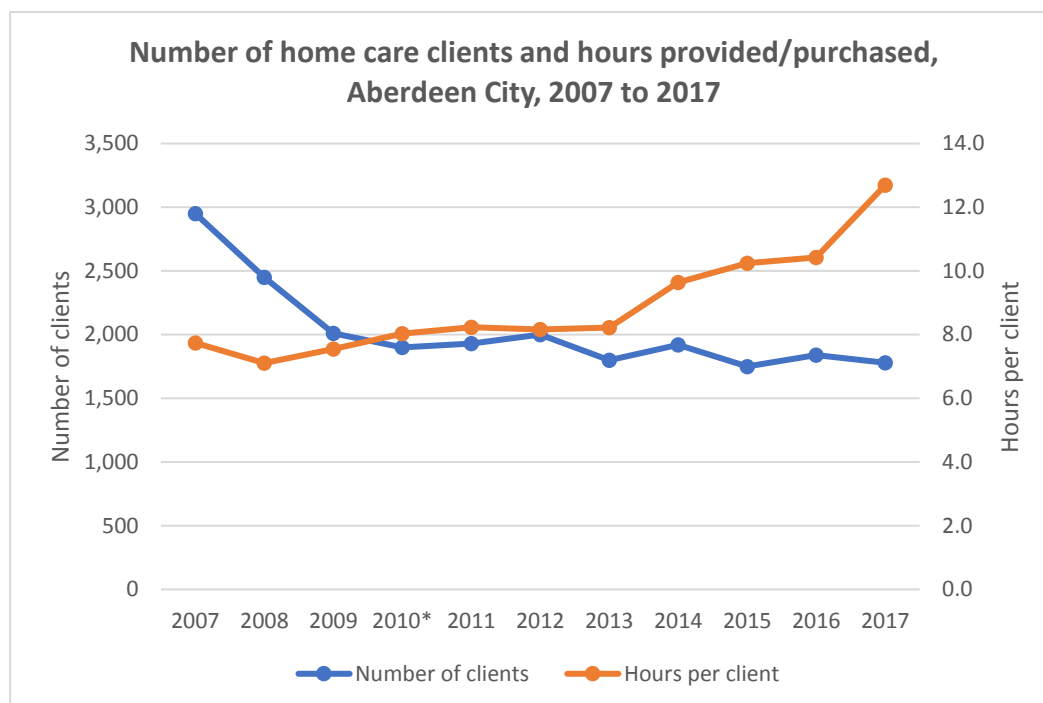
#### 4.4 Social care

##### 4.4.1 Home care

All home care figures relate to a census week that is usually the last week in March. In 2017, there were 1,780 people in Aberdeen City who received home care. The average number of care hours per client was 12.7 hours (compared to 11.7 hours for Scotland). The majority (83.7%) of those who received home care were aged 65 years or over, with 39.9% being 85+ years. Less than one percent of those receiving home care were aged 0-17 years and 15.7% were aged 18-64 years [56]. Of the 1,780 people receiving care at home, 11% received less than 2 hours, 18% received between 2 and 4 hours, 36% received between 4 and 10 hours and 35% received more than 10 hours of care.

<sup>3</sup> A delayed discharge is a hospital inpatient who is clinically ready for discharge from inpatient hospital care and who continues to occupy a hospital bed beyond the ready for discharge date.

Between 2007 and 2017 the number of clients receiving home care in Aberdeen City has reduced from 2,950 to 1,780 – a drop of 39.6%. In the same period, the average number of hours per client has increased from 7.7 hours to 12.7 hours.



Source: Scottish Government, Social Care Datasets, 2017 [56]

**People aged 65 years and over with high levels of care who are looked after at home:** In Aberdeen, in 2017 there were 470 people aged 65+ years with high levels of care need who were cared for at home (i.e. who received 10 and more hours of home care purchased or provided by the local authority). This equates to 26% of all people in this age group with high levels of care need – significantly lower than the Scottish average of 35.2%. The proportion who were cared for at home increased slightly between 2015 and 2017 (from 24.9% in 2015) [8].

## 4.5 Groups with special needs

### 4.5.1 Autism

In Scotland the prevalence of people with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) has been estimated at 1.035%. In Aberdeen City, this translates to an estimated 2,379 people with autism (2016-based population) [57].

### 4.5.2 Volunteering

In 2016, 25% of people in Aberdeen reporting providing unpaid help to an organisation or group over the last 12 months. A higher proportion of females (29%) than males (22%) volunteered. The proportion of people who reported volunteering has reduced in the past few years, from 29% in 2014, 36% in 2015 to 25% in 2016 [15].

### 4.5.3 Carers

Data from the 2011 Census indicated that in Aberdeen there were 15,571 people in the city who provided unpaid care (equivalent to 7% of the population in 2011). Of these, 9,342 (60%) provided from 1-19 hours of unpaid care per week, 2,574 (17%) provided 20 to 49 hours and 3,655 (23%) provided 50 or more hours per week [3].

### 4.5.4 Literacy

While a complete absence of reading or writing ability is not thought to be a major issue, low or insufficient literacy and numeracy abilities are believed to be more widespread than previously thought. It is estimated that 23% of adults in Scotland may have low literacy and numeracy skills and another 30% may find their skills inadequate to meet the demands of the 'knowledge society' and the 'information age'. Three factors have been identified as being strongly associated with low literacy and numeracy skills:

- having left education at 16 or earlier
- being on a low income
- being in a manual social class group.

Source: Scottish Government, Adult Literacy and Numeracy in Scotland [58] (Note: 2001 report so dated).

### 4.5.5 Adult learners

<b>Adult learners in Aberdeen City, January to December 2017</b>	
Number of adult enrolments on activities	<b>971</b>
Number of individual adult participants	<b>517</b>
Number of participants from the 15% most deprived areas	<b>60</b>

Source: Aberdeen City Council

## 5. Place

### 5.1 Geography of Aberdeen

The City of Aberdeen covers an area of 186 square kilometres and has a population density of 1,232 persons per square kilometre [1]. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> highest population density of all local authorities (after City of Glasgow at 3,555, Dundee City at 2,486 and City of Edinburgh at 1,949 persons per square kilometre).

Approximately 60% of the land area is rural<sup>4</sup> and 40% is urban [59]. Almost 99% of the City's population (2016-based) live in urban areas.

In terms of population size, Aberdeen City is the 8<sup>th</sup> largest local authority in Scotland [1].

Dwellings per hectare: Aberdeen City has an average of 6.32 dwellings per hectare. The number of dwellings per hectare varies considerably by local authority with large city authorities such as Glasgow City (17.76), Dundee City (12.46) and City of Edinburgh (9.43) having the highest number of dwellings per hectare. In Scotland the average is 0.33 dwellings per hectare [13].

#### 5.1.1 Communities

**Neighbourhoods:** The City contains 37 neighbourhoods – small area geographies that are used (by Community Planning) to differentiate between different areas of the City. (Note: the neighbourhood boundaries do not match official administrative data boundaries. As a result, official data may not be available at neighbourhood level. Intermediate Zones approximate neighbourhood boundaries.)

**Priority localities:** The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivations (SIMD) is the Scottish Government's official tool for identifying small area concentrations of multiple deprivation across Scotland. Nine of Aberdeen's neighbourhoods are recognised as deprived on this basis: Torry, Tillydrone, Seaton, Woodside, Middlefield, Cummings Park, Northfield, Heathryfold and Mastrick.

**Wards:** There are 13 multi-member wards in the City.

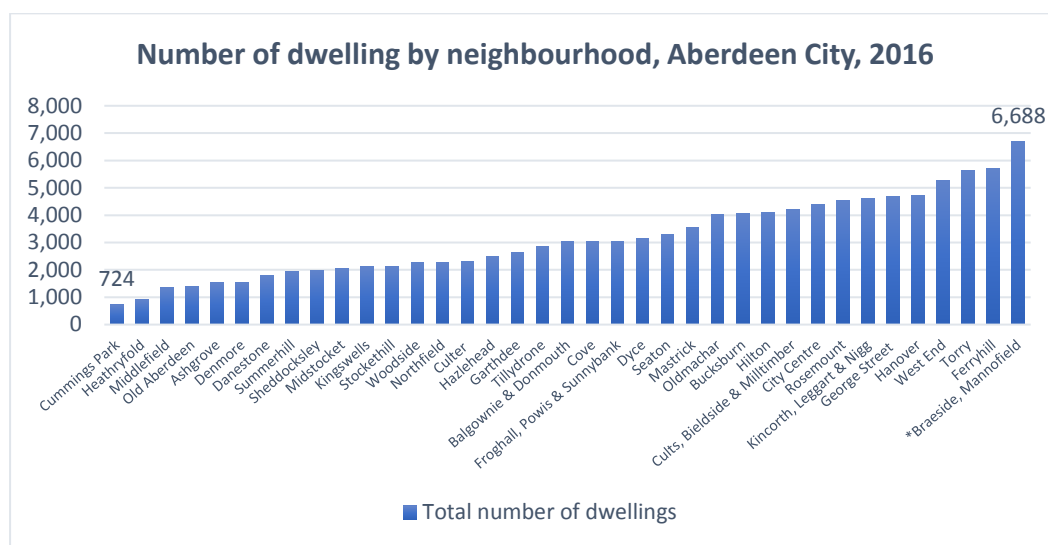
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<sup>4</sup> Based on National Records of Scotland definition. Settlements within local authorities are based on the density of addresses calculated for all postcodes. Aberdeen has 3 settlements (Aberdeen, Kingswells and Peterculter) which contain 98.6% of the City's population. Rural areas are defined as land outside settlements of a given size [119].

## 5.2 Dwellings<sup>5</sup>

In 2017 there were **116,821** dwellings in Aberdeen City. This was an increase of 1,741 (1.5%) on the number of dwellings in 2016. Between 2007 and 2017, the number of dwellings in the City increased by 6.8% (7,396 dwellings) – slightly higher than the increase seen in Scotland of 6.3% [13].

**Dwellings by neighbourhood (2016):** The total number of dwellings within each neighbourhood ranges from a low of 737 dwellings in Cummings Park to a high of 6,664 dwellings in Braeside, Mannofield, Broomhill & Seafield [60].

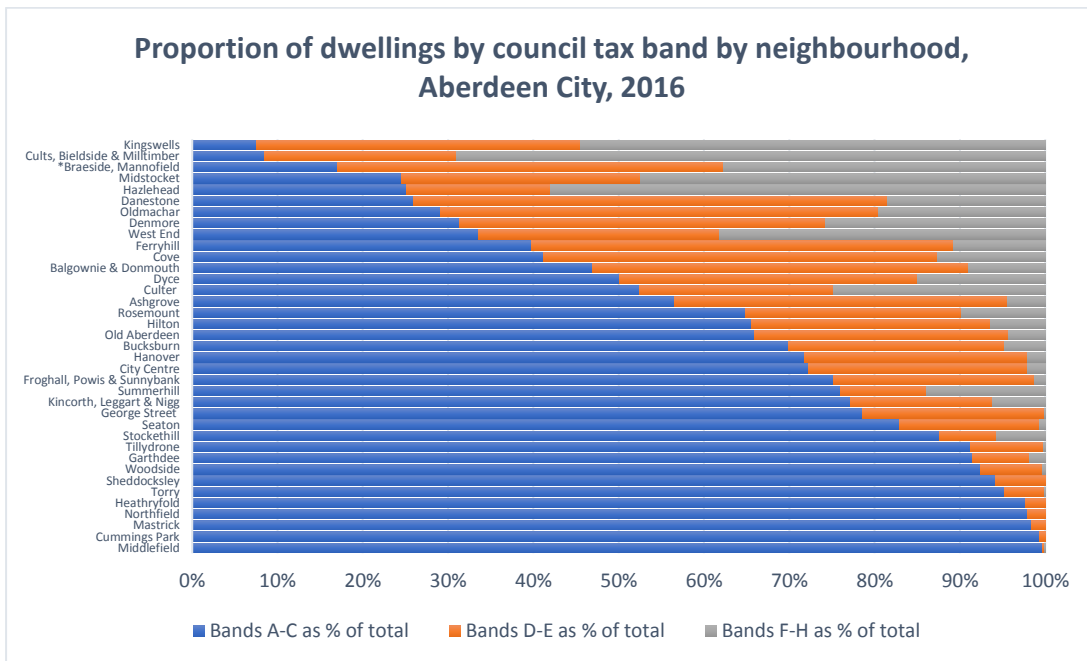


Source: National Records of Scotland, Small area statistics on households and dwellings [60]

### 5.2.1 Council tax band

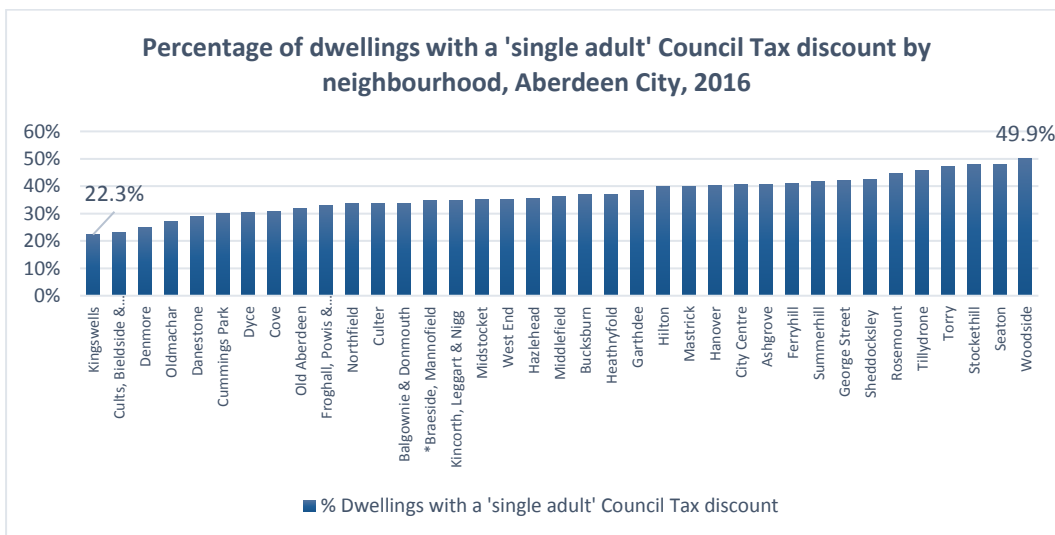
Dwellings are placed in one of eight Council Tax bands A-H with band H being the most expensive. Most dwellings in Aberdeen City (60%) are in bands A-C, with 25% being in bands D-E and 15% being in bands F-H. The proportion in each category is similar to respective proportions in Scotland as a whole (60%, 27% and 13% respectively). The proportion of dwellings within each council tax band varies substantially by neighbourhood. For example, the proportion of dwellings in bands A-C ranges from a low of 7.5% in Kingswells to a high of 99.7% in Middlefield [60].

<sup>5</sup> While 'household' refers to people living together in a dwelling, 'dwelling' refers to the accommodation itself, e.g. a house or a flat. The number of dwellings will not necessarily match the number of households as, for example, some dwellings may be vacant or more than one household may live in a single dwelling.



Source: National Records of Scotland, Small area statistics on households and dwellings [60]

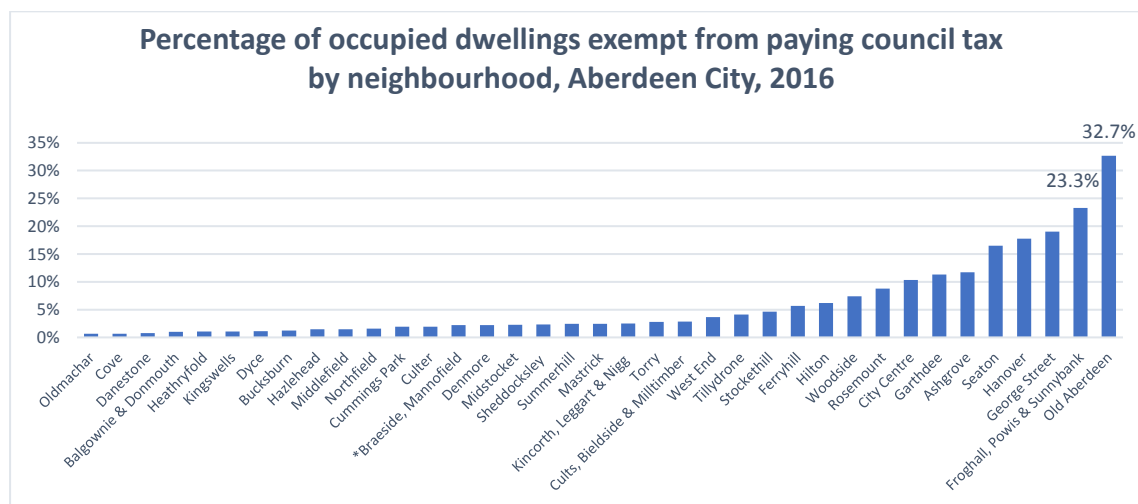
**Single adult discount:** Single adult discounts are given to dwellings where one adult lives alone, with children or with another adult who is exempt from paying Council Tax (e.g. student). Of the 115,080 dwellings in Aberdeen City, 42,903 (37.3%) have a single adult discount. At a neighbourhood level, the proportion of dwellings with a single adult Council Tax discount ranged from a low of 22.3% in Kingswells to a high of 49.9% in Woodside [60].



Source: National Records of Scotland, Small area statistics on households and dwellings [60]

**'Occupied exemptions':** 'Occupied exemptions' relate to dwellings which are occupied but the occupants are exempt from paying Council Tax. Most of these are all-student households, although other types of dwelling such as armed forces accommodation are included in this category. In Aberdeen City, 6,857 (6.0%) dwellings had 'occupied exemptions'. While this rate is relatively high compared to Scotland (2.9%), it is consistent with the rate in other council areas which have major universities including; Dundee City (7.1%), Glasgow City (6.7%), City of Edinburgh (6.5%) and Stirling (4.2%). For most other

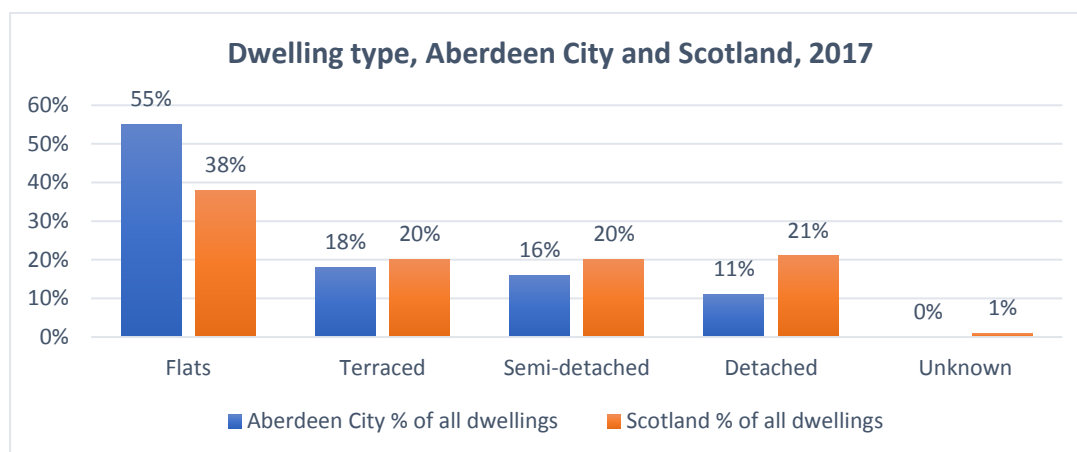
local authorities, the rate of 'occupied exemptions' is around 1%. In most neighbourhoods of the City the proportion of dwellings exempt from paying Council Tax is relatively low and considerably less than the average for Aberdeen City of 6%. However, there are several neighbourhoods where the proportion is much higher than the average rate for the City. In particular, Old Aberdeen (32.7%) and Froghall, Powis & Sunnybank (23.3%) have a high proportion of exempt dwellings [60].



Source: National Records of Scotland, Small area statistics on households and dwellings [60]

## 5.2.2 Dwelling type

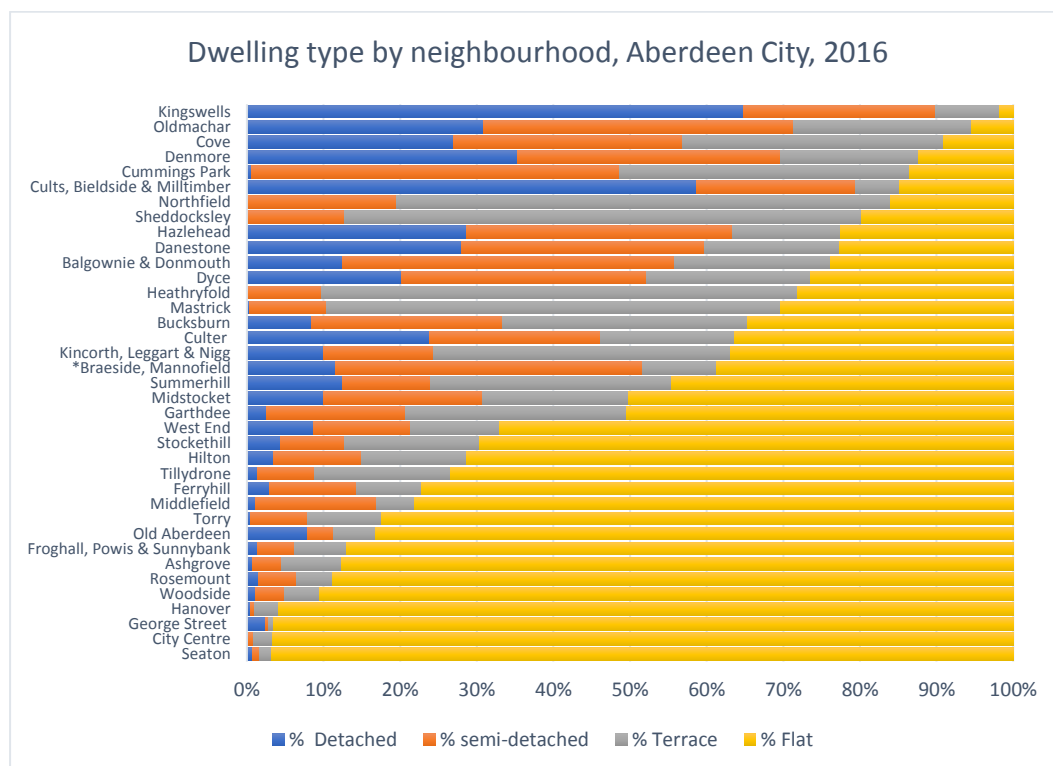
Flats are the most common dwelling type in Aberdeen City, making up 55% of all dwellings compared to 38% for Scotland. Terraced (18%) and semi-detached (16%) dwellings are the next most common, with detached houses (11%) making up the smallest proportion of the City's dwellings [13].



Source: National Records of Scotland, Estimates of Households and Dwellings in Scotland, 2017 [13]

While flats are the most common dwelling type overall in the City, there are differences depending on where you live. For example, in Kingswells (64.8%) and Cults, Bieldside and Milltimber (58.6%) most of the dwellings are detached properties, while in Sheddocksley

(67.5%), Northfield (64.5%), Heathryfold (62.2%) and Mastrick (59.3%) most dwellings are terraced houses.



Source: National Records of Scotland, Small area statistics on households and dwellings [60]

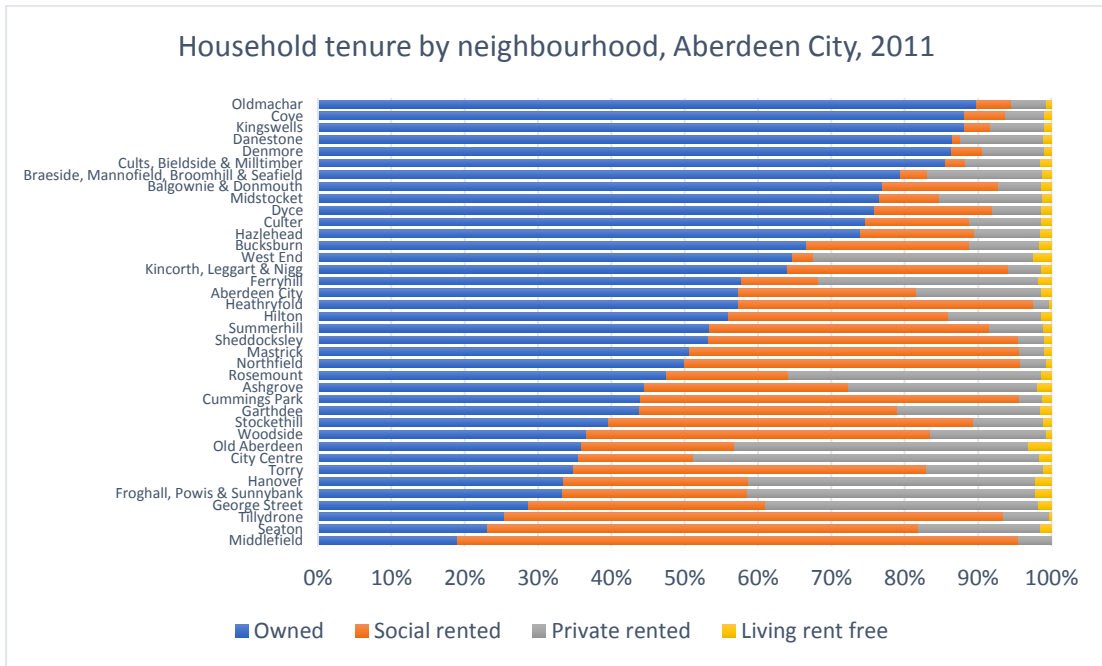
**Dwellings by occupancy:** Ninety-five percent of the City’s dwellings are occupied (compared to 96% for Scotland). Of those that are not occupied, almost 80% (4,544) are classified as vacant and 20% (1,175) are classified as second homes. Over the past year there has been a sharp increase (30%) in the number of vacant dwellings from 3,484 in 2016 [13]. The proportion of unoccupied dwellings varies by neighbourhood. The neighbourhood with the highest percentage of unoccupied dwellings is Middlefield (9.8%), while the neighbourhood with the lowest percentage of unoccupied dwellings is Northfield (1.3%) [2].

### 5.3 Household tenure

At the time of the 2011 Census, 57.3% of households were owned, 24.2% were socially rented, 17.0% were privately rented and 1.4% were rent-free. Compared to Scotland, Aberdeen had a lower proportion of owned households (62.0% in Scotland) and a higher proportion of privately rented households (12.4% in Scotland). The proportion of social rented households was similar (24.3% in Scotland) [3].

Household tenure varied by neighbourhood. For example, in Oldmachar, Cove and Kingswells almost 90% of households were ‘owned’ whereas over three-quarters (78.5%) Middlefield were socially rented. Almost half (47.1%) of households in the City Centre were privately rented [3].



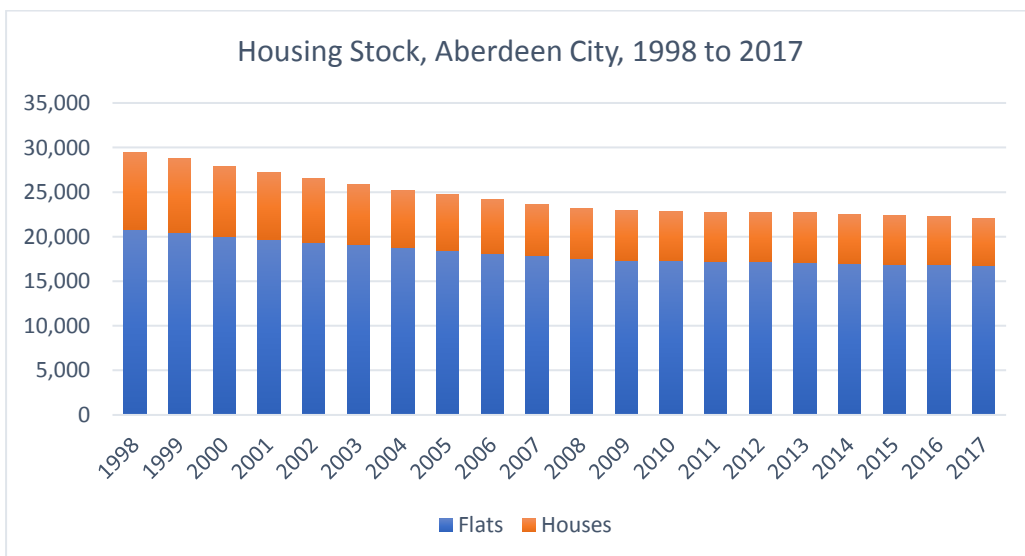


Source: Scotland's Census, 2011 [3]

#### 5.4 Social housing

**Housing stock:** In Aberdeen City in 2017 the Local Authority's housing stock totalled 22,041 dwellings – equivalent to 83% of all social housing stock in the City (based on 2016 data) and to 18.9% of all dwellings in the City [61]. Housing Associations, also known as Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) manage 4,476 dwellings, equivalent to 17% of social housing in the City.

Of the Council stock, three-quarters (75.8%) were flats and a quarter (24.2%) were houses. Since 1998, the total housing stock owned by the Council has decreased by 25.1% - from 29,442 in 1998. The number of houses has decreased more than the number of flats (-38.2% compared to -19.7%) [61].



Source: Scottish Government, Housing Statistics Annual Key Trends [61]

**Shortage of affordable housing:** At 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 there were a total 6,631 applicants on the housing register – a decrease of 209 from end March 2016. Of those on the register 4,360 (65.8%) were on the waiting list and 2,271 (34.2%) were on the transfer list [61].

In the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017, there were 1,774 vacancies of which 1,696 were re-let. Of those which were re-let, 698 (41%) were let to homeless households.

Housing associations also provide social rented accommodation and mid-market rentals which are set at 80% of Local Housing Allowance. Historically, there has been a buoyant private rental market in Aberdeen, however current market conditions suggest that this option is more affordable [62].

Aberdeen City Council is working with developers to provide new build affordable housing to buy (Low Cost Home Ownership). The Local Housing Strategy identifies an affordable housing target of 342 homes per year in 2018/19, 2019/20 and 385 per year in 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23 [62].

## 5.5 Supported housing and care homes

### 5.5.1 Supported housing

A range of supported housing is provided by the Local Authority. As at July 2018, there were 313 applicants awaiting sheltered housing.

#### Local Authority provision of supported housing, Aberdeen City, 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017

		Number of dwellings	
	Type of housing	2007	2017
<b>Housing for older people</b>	Sheltered housing <i>(of which are wheelchair adapted)</i>	2,161 (37)	1,939 (223)
	Very sheltered housing	103	110
	Amenity/medium dependency housing	277	1,261
	Dwellings with a community alarm	1,076	2,573
<b>Housing for people with physical disabilities</b>	Adapted for wheelchair use	-	293
	Ambulant disabled	-	86
	Other adapted	-	1,900

Source: Scottish Government, Housing for Older People and those with disabilities [61]

In addition to this housing associations (RSLs) provide sheltered, very sheltered and extra care housing. This includes:

- 335 sheltered housing properties
- 118 supported by enhanced housing management services
- 170 very sheltered or extra care (89 very sheltered and 81 extra care)

The local authority commissions support for 298 tenancies from social landlords.

There are also 322 private retirement homes where home owners can purchase the support that they require.

**Supported Housing for adults with a disability:** people with a learning disability and/or mental health issues can access specialist housing with support in the City.

#### Technology Enabled Care (TEC)

TEC is used to support people living in amenity, sheltered and very sheltered housing provided by both the local authority and housing associations. It is also available in supported housing services for people with by mental health and learning disability services to improve independence for service users and provide additional support to service providers. Where appropriate upgrades have been installed enabling responses to be provided remotely by support provides instead of staff being located on site.

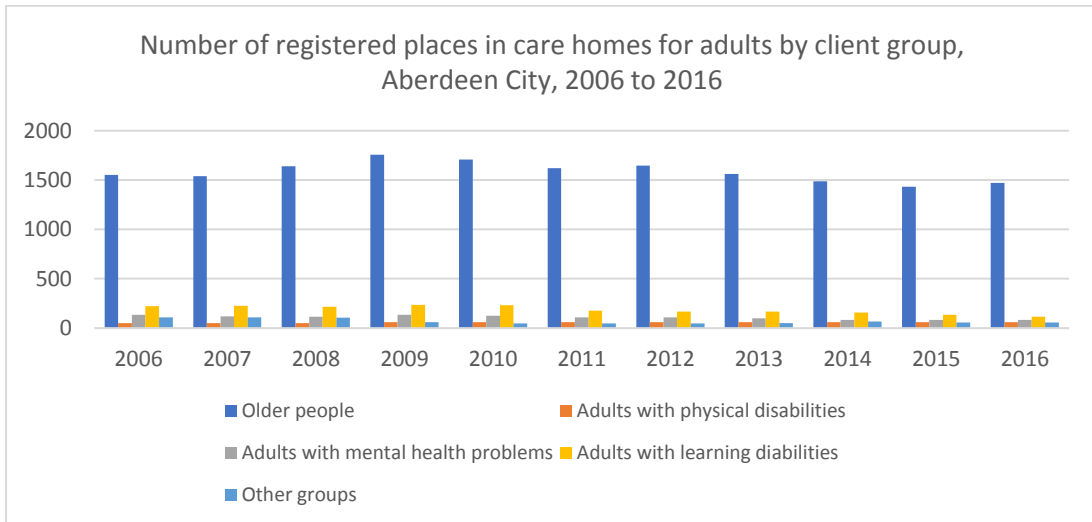
TEC improves the quality of life for older people and people with specific needs by enabling them to maintain their independence and help them to live longer in their own homes. It can reduce unplanned hospital admissions, enable timely discharge from hospital and avoid admission to residential care or nursing homes [62].

### 5.5.2 Adult care homes

In Aberdeen City in 2016 there were 64 adult care homes – 32 of which are run by the private sector and 32 of which are run by the voluntary sector. No care homes in the City are run by the local authority/NHS. Almost half of the care homes in the City are for Older people (31 care homes) with the next largest number of care homes being for adults with learning difficulties (18 care homes). There are 8 care homes for adults with mental health problems, 4 care homes for adults with physical difficulties and 4 care homes for ‘other’ groups.

In 2016 there were a total of 1,789 registered places in adult care homes – 80% of which were in care homes for older people. The total number of residents was 1,627 (occupancy rate of 91%).

Since 2006 the number of adult care homes has decreased by a third (from 96 in 2006) with the number of registered places decreasing by 14% in the same period. The largest proportionate decrease in number of registered places has been in care homes for the adults with learning disabilities (-48%) and ‘other’ (-47%). Registered places in care homes for adults with mental health problems have decreased by 39% and places for older people have decreased by 5%. The number of places for adults with physical disabilities has increased by 22% [63].



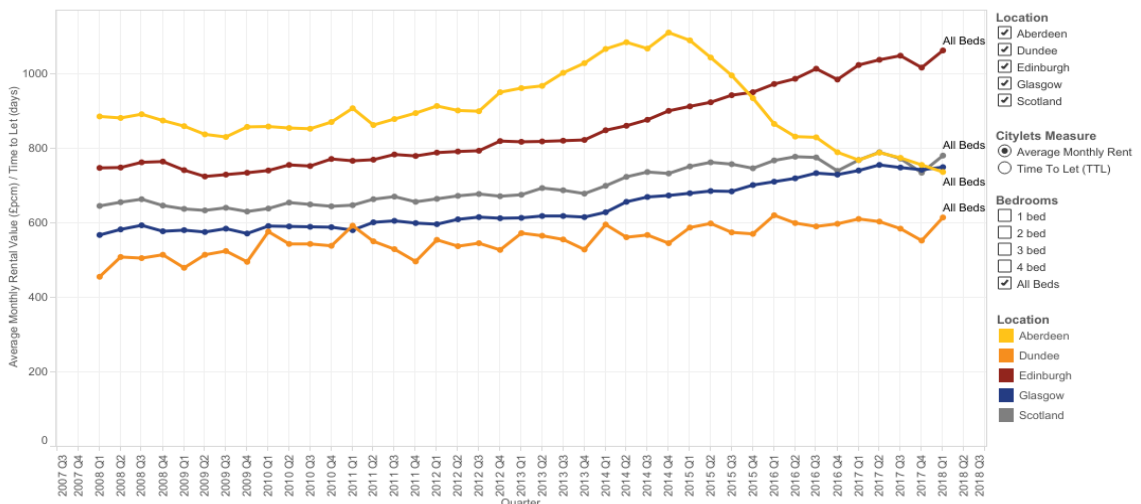
Source: ISD Scotland, Care Home Census for Adults in Scotland [63]

## 5.6 Private rented sector

Almost half (49%) of rental properties in Aberdeen City are two-bedroom flats with 1-bedroom flats being the next most common (36%). The average monthly rent for privately-rented properties in Aberdeen City has dropped from a high of £1,110 per month in Q4 of 2014 to a low of £736 in Q1 of 2018 – a drop of 33.7% in the period. This contrasts with the continuing upwards trends for monthly rent seen in other cities. Prior to the downturn at the end of 2014, the average monthly rent in Aberdeen was the highest in Scotland. Average rental prices in Aberdeen City are now slightly lower than those for Scotland as a whole. In the same period the average time to let increased from 22 days to 58 days [64].

### Average monthly rent by city, 2007 to 2018

Citylets - Quarterly Statistics



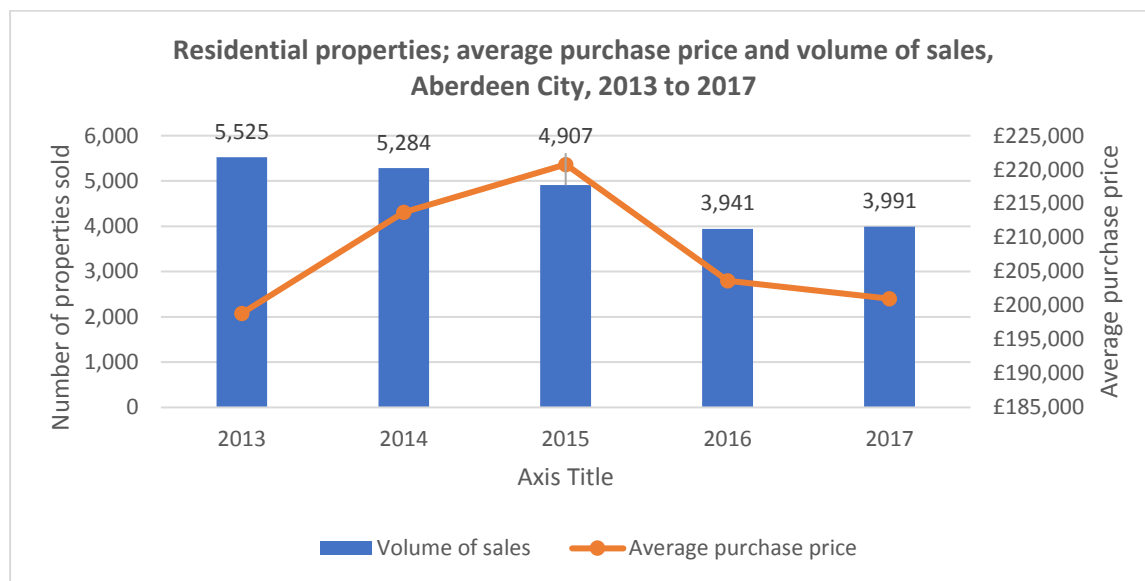
Information, charts and indices may be reproduced citing "Source: Citylets".

For more historical or granular data, please contact us at <https://www.citylets.co.uk/research/reports/contact-us.aspx>

Source: Citylets Datahub [64]

## 5.7 House sales

Both the number of properties sold and the average price per property have decreased in the last two years. In 2017, the average purchase price for a residential property in Aberdeen City was £200,983 – higher than the average price for Scotland of £172,779 and sixth highest of all local authorities. However, since peaking at £220,786 in 2015, the average purchase price in Aberdeen City has decreased by 9%. There were 3,991 properties sold in 2017 – down almost 9% from the number of properties sold in 2015, but up slightly from the number sold in 2016 [65].

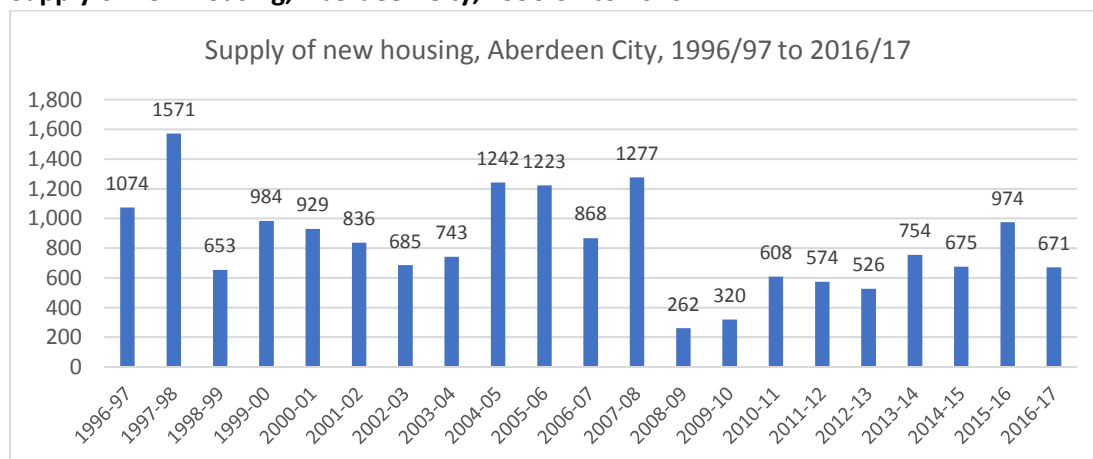


Source: Registers of Scotland, Calendar year market review [65]

## 5.8 New builds

A total of 671 new houses were supplied in 2016-17 in Aberdeen City. Of these, 518 were private new build completions, 28 were Housing Association new builds and 125 were as a result of conversions. The number of new houses supplied each year has fluctuated considerably over the past 20 years [66].

### Supply of new housing, Aberdeen City, 1996-97 to 2016-17



Source: Scottish Government, Housing statistics for Scotland – supply of new housing [66]

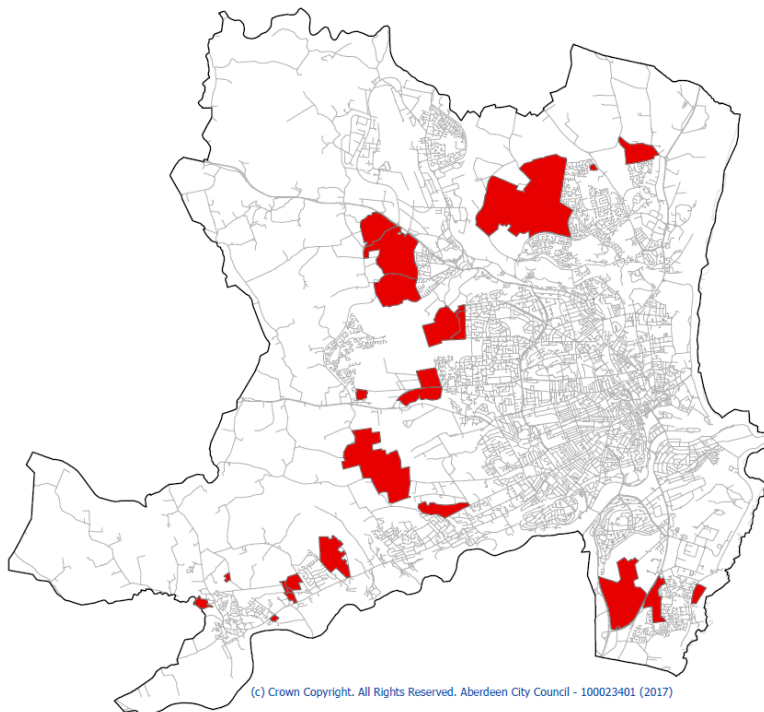
## 5.9 Planned developments

The Aberdeen Local Development Plan was adopted on 20 January 2017. The Plan shows what land is being allocated to meet the City's development needs over the next 10-20 years and it sets out the planning policies that will apply in promoting the sustainable growth of the City over this period. It plans for 8,000 homes to be built between 2017 and 2026, and a further 7,000 to be built between 2027 and 2035.

Many of the sites have a phased delivery and a full list of the sites and their planned release can be found in the Local Development Plan [67].

This map below provides an indication of where major developments are planned.

### Planned housing developments in Aberdeen



## 5.10 Crime

In Scotland, crimes and offences are classified into 7 groups:

- **Group 1 – Non-sexual crimes of violence** (includes murder, culpable homicide, attempted murder and serious assault, robbery and assault with intent to rob, and 'other' crimes including threats and extortion and possession of a firearm with intent to endanger life).
- **Group 2 – Sexual crimes** (includes rape and attempted rape, sexual assault, crimes associated with prostitution and other sexual crimes).
- **Group 3 – Crimes of dishonesty** (includes housebreaking, theft, shoplifting, fraud).
- **Group 4 – Fire-raising and vandalism etc.**

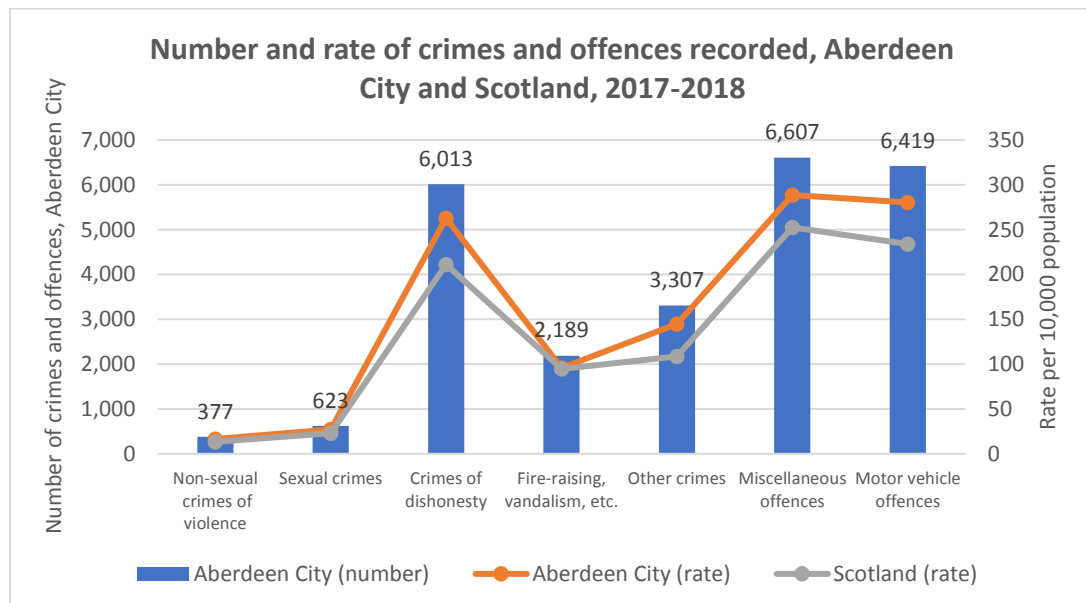
- **Group 5 – Other crimes** (includes crimes against public justice, handling offensive weapons, drug-related and ‘other’ including offences relating to serious organised crime).

The final two groups come under the category of ‘offences’ rather than ‘crimes’.

- **Group 6 – Miscellaneous offences** (includes common assault, breach of the peace, drunkenness and other disorderly conduct and ‘other’).
- **Group 7 – Motor vehicle offences** (includes dangerous and careless driving, driving under the influence, speeding, unlawful use of vehicle, vehicle defect offences, seatbelt and mobile phone offences and ‘other’).

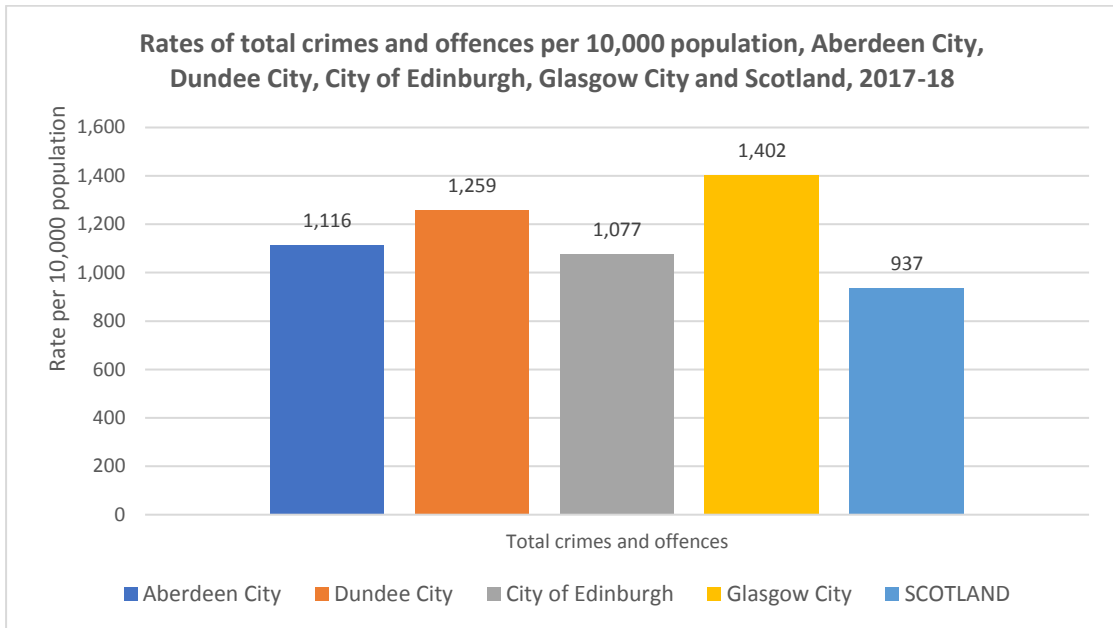
Further information on classifications can be found on the Scottish Government website for Recorded Crimes in Scotland [68]

In 2017/18 the most common crimes and offences recorded in Aberdeen City were Miscellaneous Offences (6,607) and Crimes of Dishonesty (6,013). Comparison with Scotland shows that rates of crimes and offences (per 10,000 population) are higher in Aberdeen City than in Scotland in every category.



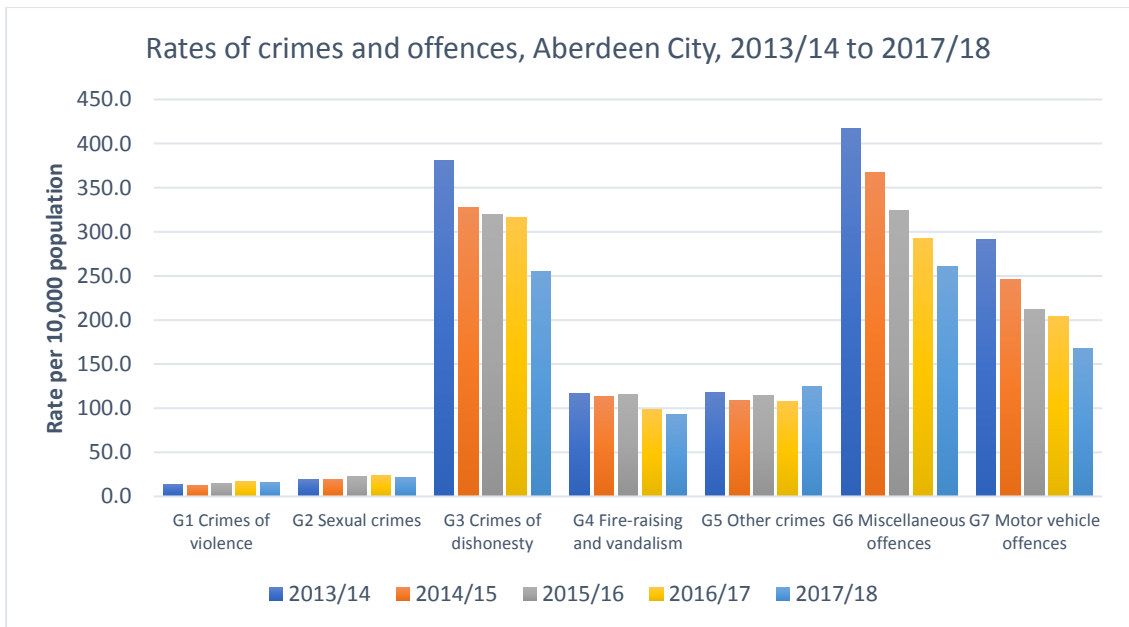
Source: Scottish Government, Recorded Crime in Scotland, 2018-18 [68]

The pattern of higher rates of crimes and offences in Aberdeen City (compared to Scotland) is consistent with the pattern found in other large city authorities, with the rate of total crimes and offences being higher in Glasgow City, City of Edinburgh and Dundee City than in Scotland.



Source: Scottish Government, Recorded Crime in Scotland, 2018-18 [68]

Over the past 5 years, the rates (per 10,000 population) of Crimes of Dishonesty, Fire-raising and Vandalism, Miscellaneous Offences and Motor Vehicle Offences have decreased. Rates for Crimes of Violence, Sexual Crimes and Other Crimes have increased slightly over the period, although rates of both Crimes of Violence and Sexual Crimes fell between 2016/17 and 2017/18.



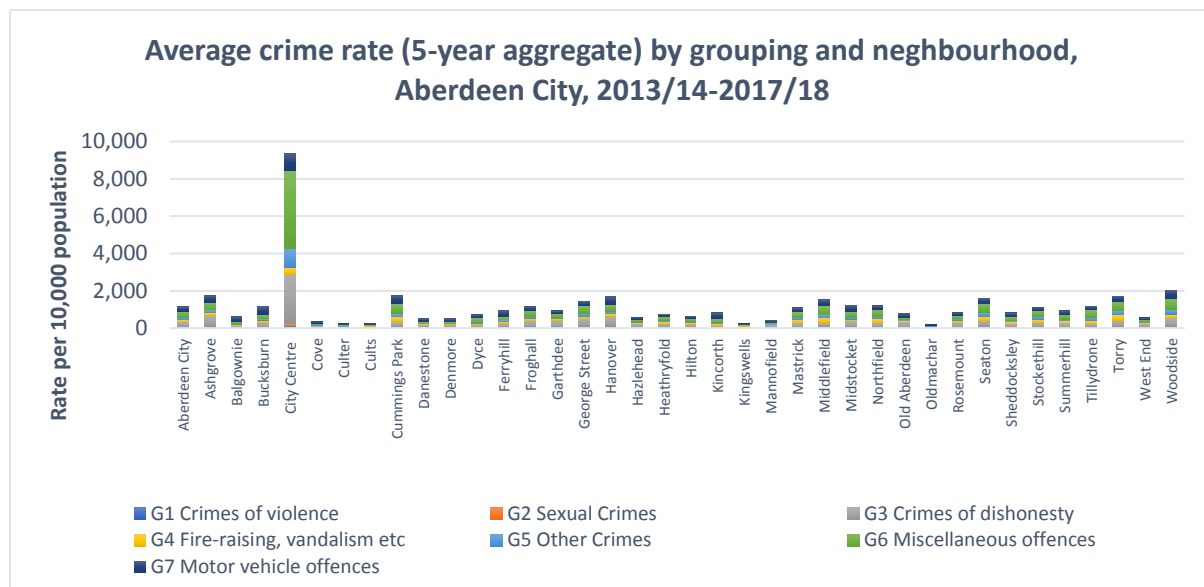
Source: ScOMIS [69]

### 5.10.1 Crimes and offences by neighbourhood

Rates of crime and offences in different neighbourhoods of the City are compared using 5-year aggregate data (2013/14-2017/18). The rates for crimes/offences are highest in the City Centre for every category. Consistent with findings for the City as a whole, the most

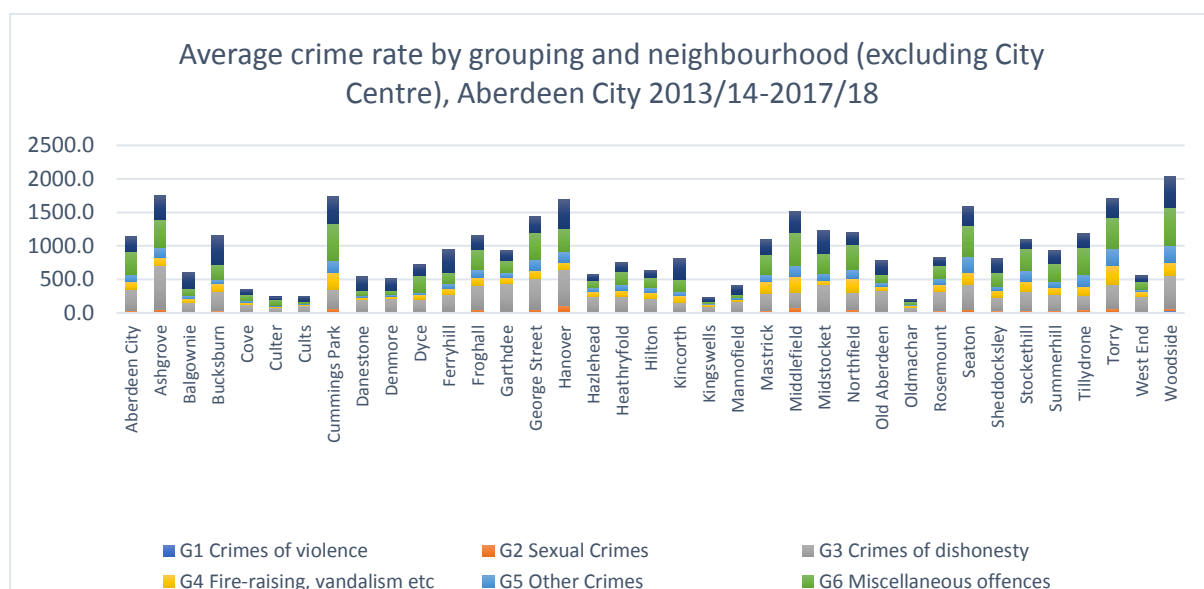


commonly recorded are Miscellaneous Offences (4,152.6 per 10,000 population) and Crimes of Dishonesty (2,667.9 per 10,000 population). The next most common are Other Crimes (1,036.7), Motor Vehicle Offences (921.3), Fire-raising, vandalism etc. (343.1), Crimes of Violence (123.0) and Sexual Crimes (107.6).



Source: ScOMIS [69]

Given the disparity between the City Centre and other neighbourhoods in the City, to more easily allow comparison between neighbourhoods, the City Centre is not included in the chart below. In some areas of the City such as Kingswells, Oldmachar and Cults, the overall rates of recorded crimes/offences are relatively low, while in other areas such as Woodside, Ashgrove and Cummings Park they are considerably higher.



Source: ScOMIS [69]

While Miscellaneous Offences and Crimes of Dishonesty remain the most commonly recorded crimes/offences in most neighbourhoods, the rates for other categories of crimes/offences varies. For example, the rate of Crimes of Violence in Hannover is more

than twice the average rate for the City (33.6 per 10,000 population compared to 14.8 per 10,000 population). Similarly, the rate of Sexual Crimes in Hanover is more than 4 times the rate for the City (87.5 compared to 21.3). The table below shows the neighbourhoods with the highest rates within each category of crime/offence.

**Neighbourhoods with the highest rates for each crime/offence category, Aberdeen City, 2013/14-2017/18**

Category of crime/offence (rate for Aberdeen City)	Neighbourhood (rate per 10,000 population)	Neighbourhood (rate per 10,000 population)	Neighbourhood (rate per 10,000 population)	Neighbourhood (rate per 10,000 population)
Crimes of Violence (14.8)	City Centre (123.0)	Woodside (33.6)	Torry (26.4)	Middlefield (26.1)
Sexual crimes (21.3)	City Centre (107.6)	Hanover (87.5)	Middlefield (52.8)	Cummings Park (41.4)
Crimes of dishonesty (319.9)	City Centre (2,667.9)	Ashgrove (647.1)	Hanover (531.6)	Woodside (491.2)
Fire-raising, vandalism etc. (107.5)	City Centre (343.1)	Torry (291.9)	Cummings Park (246.1)	Middlefield (235.9)
Other Crimes (114.5)	City Centre (1,036.7)	Woodside (247.1)	Torry (243.6)	Seaton (240.0)
Miscellaneous Offences (332.4)	City Centre (4,152.6)	Woodside (574.9)	Cummings Park (559.6)	Middlefield (495.2)
Motor Vehicle Offences (224.1)	City Centre (921.5)	Woodside (459.6)	Bucksburn (432.8)	Hanover (428.4)

Source: ScOMIS [69], Rate per 10,000 population; 5-year aggregate 2013/14-2017/18

**Domestic Abuse:** Provisional<sup>6</sup> figures for 2017/18 show there were 2,757 incidents of domestic abuse recorded in Aberdeen City. This is an increase of 244 (9.7%) on the figure of 2,513 for 2016/17. In 2017/18, 51.8% of domestic abuse incidents resulted in a crime report, lower than the figure of 58.1% in 2016/17 [70]. In 2016/17, the rate of domestic abuse in Aberdeen City was 110 per 10,000 population compared to 109 per 10,000 population in Scotland [71].

**Criminal Justice Social Work:** In 2016-17 there were 1,414 Criminal Justice Social Work Reports submitted in Aberdeen City; equivalent to a rate of 81.4 per 10,000 population<sup>7</sup> compared to a rate of 78.1 in Scotland. In the same period there were 1,203 Community Payback Orders in Aberdeen City; equivalent to a rate of 53.2 per 10,000 population compared to 41.8 in Scotland. In 2016-17, 69 Diversion from Prosecution Cases Commenced in Aberdeen City giving a rate of 4.0 per 10,000 population compared to a rate of 5.2 in Scotland [72].

<sup>6</sup> The management information data for crime recorded in 2017/18 are provisional, because these are highly likely to experience re-classification and/or no-criming as investigations proceed.

<sup>7</sup> Based on National Records of Scotland mid-year population estimates for 16-70 year-olds.

### 5.10.2 Feel safe in community

In 2016, an estimated 95% of people in Aberdeen City rated their neighbourhood as a very (55.3%) or fairly (39.7%) good place to live. While most people thought their neighbourhood had stayed the same (63%) or got better (14%) over the past three years, 20% thought that it had worsened over this period. The most commonly reported neighbourhood problems were rubbish or litter lying around (26%) and animal nuisance such as noise or dog fouling (25%). A higher proportion of those in social housing than those in owner occupied housing reported these problems were very/fairly common (45% and 39% respectively). Other problems reported as very/fairly common by those in social housing were drug misuse or dealing (35%), neighbour problems (34%) and groups/individuals harassing others (33%) [15].

An estimated 85% of people in the City said they felt safe when walking alone in their neighbourhood at night and 98% felt safe in their home at night [15].

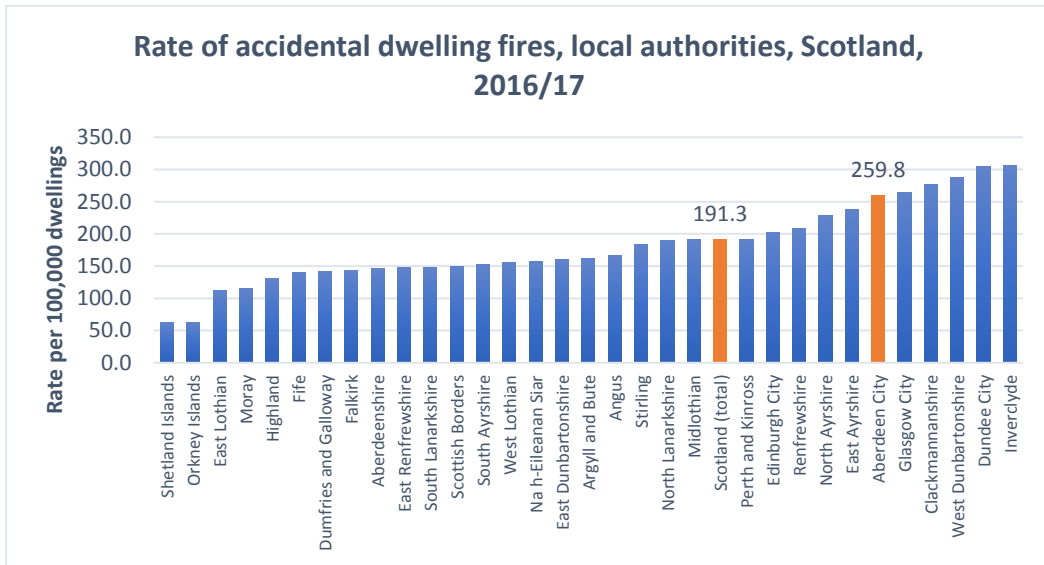
In City Voice 42 (January 2018) 85.5% of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed with the statement that they feel safe in the neighbourhood where they live [78]. Similarly, in the Place Standard Survey (Spring 2018), in response to the question 'Do I feel safe?', a mean score of 5.02 was returned. (Scoring is on a scale from 1 to 7 where 1 means there is a lot of room for improvement and 7 means there is little room for improvement) [43].

### 5.11 Dwelling fires

In 2016/17 there were 350 dwelling fires in Aberdeen City. Of these 51 (44.3 per 100,000 dwellings) were deliberate and 299 were accidental (rate of 259.8 per 100,000 dwellings) – 2 fatal casualties and 21 non-fatal casualties [73].

The rate of accidental dwelling fires is considerably higher in Aberdeen than in Scotland (259.8 per 100,000 dwellings compared to 191.3 in Scotland) and is the 6<sup>th</sup> highest out of all local authorities [73].

Impairment due to alcohol/drugs was suspected to be a contributory factor to accidental dwelling fires in Aberdeen in 17% of cases – higher than the rate for Scotland of 14% and equal 6<sup>th</sup> highest of all local authorities [73].

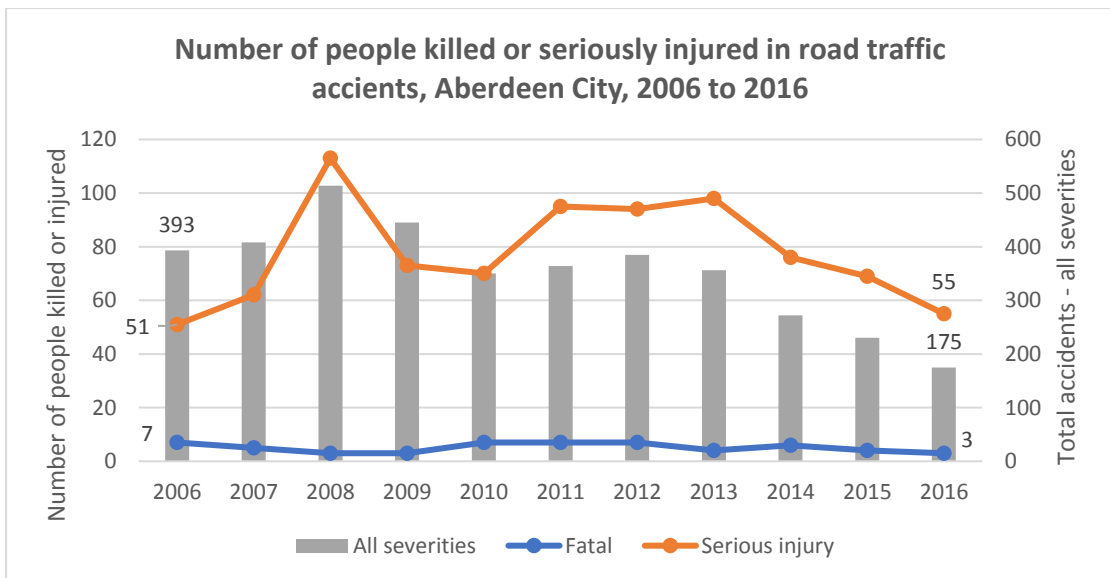


Source: Scottish Fire and Rescue Services, Incident Statistics, 2016-17 [73]

## 5.12 Road safety

In 2016 there were 175 road traffic accidents in Aberdeen City involving 210 casualties (of whom 10 were children). There were 3 fatalities and 63 serious injuries [74].

While the total number of accidents where one or more people were injured has more than halved in the last 10 years (from 393 to 175), the number of people who were seriously injured has not, with serious injury occurring in almost a third of road traffic accidents (where one or more people were injured) in 2016 compared to 13% in 2006 [74].



Source: Transport Scotland, Reported Road Casualties in Scotland 2016 [74]

Provisional figures for 2017 suggest that the number of accidents where one or more people were injured has fallen further, from 175 in 2016 to 149 in 2017. They also suggest a reduction in the number of serious injuries (down to 30) and fatalities (down to 2).

### 5.13 Travel/transport

**Car or van availability:** In 2011, 44.9% of households in the city had access to a car or van with a further 23.8% having access to two or more cars or vans. 31.4% of households did not have access to a car or van [3].

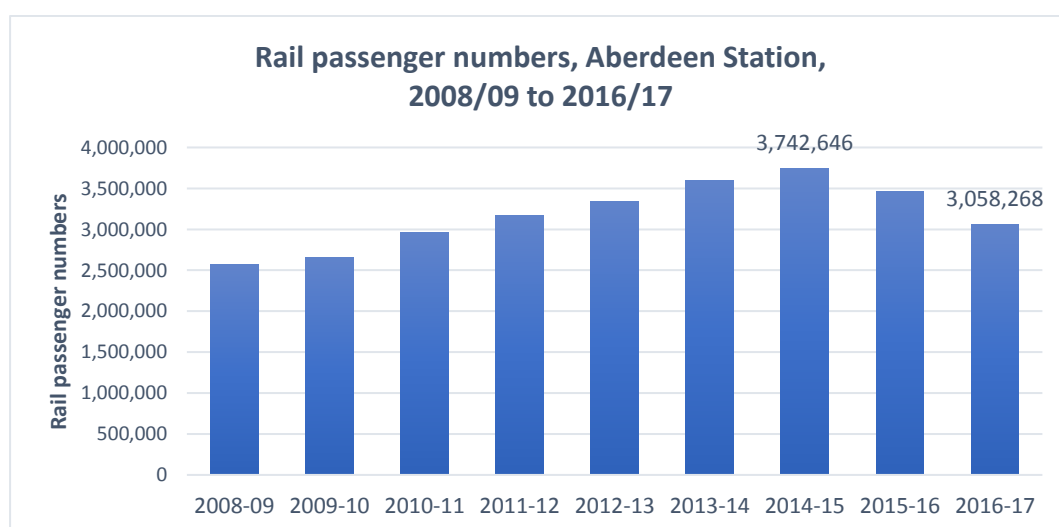
**Travel to work/study:** In 2011, 50.4% of people (16-74 years who were in employment or studying) used the car (either as driver or passenger) to travel to work, 28.2% walked and 15.5% used the bus. Only 1.9% cycled to work or study [3].

In City Voice 42 (2018), when asked about car ownership, 82.2% of respondents reported having at least one car or van with 28.5% having two cars and 4.3% having 3 or more cars in their household.

Driving a car was the most common mode of travel for work/place of education with 25.2% of respondents choosing this option (and a further 2.3% as passengers). Walking (13.7%) and bus (9.4%) were the next most common choices. 1.8% of respondents reported cycling to work/place of education. When asked to rate their perception of getting around Aberdeen by various modes of transport, over half of respondents rated walking (65.7%) and car (58.7%) as easy. Public transport was rated as easy by 45.9% of respondents. Cycling was the mode of transport most commonly rated as difficult (32.2% of respondents) [78].

**Car club:** Aberdeen's car club was launched in 2012 and currently has 12 cars. A Car Club is an organisation that owns a number of cars which are shared amongst its members [75].

**Rail passenger numbers:** in 2016/17 there were 3,058,268 rail passengers (i.e. total entries and exits) through Aberdeen Station. This is a decrease of 684,378 from the number of passengers in 2014/15 [76]. Aberdeen is the 5<sup>th</sup> busiest station in Scotland (after Glasgow Central, Edinburgh, Glasgow Queen Street and Paisley Gilmour Street).



Source: Office of Rail and Road, Estimates of Station Usage [76]

### 5.13.1 Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route

The AWPR is a major transport infrastructure project which will significantly improve travel in and around Aberdeen and the North East of Scotland. The £745m investment of the AWPR is just one of a number of transport infrastructure projects in the pipeline which will significantly improve road safety and accessibility, reduce congestion and grow the local economy - ensuring the North East remains a competitive business location.

### 5.13.2 Berryden Corridor improvement scheme

The £26.4million Berryden Corridor improvement scheme is designed to help traffic move around the city better and work alongside the improvements already delivered by the new crossing over the River Don which opened in 2016, the Diamond Bridge [77].

## 5.14 Environment

### 5.14.1 Open space

The open space audit 2010 [59] has identified 3,471 hectares (ha) of open space in the City (not including private gardens and sites under 0.2 hectares). This equates to 15.2 hectares per 1,000 people (based 2017 population).

The largest category of city's open space are woodlands (801 ha or 23 %) followed by open semi-natural grounds (760 ha or 22%). The third largest category is Golf Courses (617 ha or 17%). Not all the Golf courses are publicly accessible. Almost a fifth (649 ha or 19%) of the city's green/open spaces is amenity space. Public Parks and Gardens account for 6% (222 ha) of the total green spaces.

Urban greenspace is being lost to development and other pressures. Conversely, it is also being created on former greenfield sites as urban areas expand. The open space audit 2010 results show that open spaces in the city are not evenly distributed. The poorest quality parks and green/open spaces are found in the city's regeneration areas. Northfield, Hilton and Stockethill are lacking in provision of green/open space. The open space audit is currently under review. Updated results will be available March/April 2019 replacing 2010 results. The figures may change [59].

**Greenspace:** An estimated 62% of people in Aberdeen live within a 5-minute walk of their nearest green space with a further 18% living within a 6 to 10-minute walk. 47% report visiting their nearest green space at least once a week. 78% report being satisfied or fairly satisfied with their nearest green space [15]. In City Voice 42 (January 2018) – 25% of respondents reported visiting green space at least once or twice a week and 70% reported being satisfied or fairly satisfied with their local green space [78].

Aberdeen has four Sites of Special Scientific Interest, four Local Nature Reserves, one Special Area of conservation and a number of Local Nature Conservation Sites.

**Natural heritage (biodiversity):** natural heritage is the diversity of natural life and the habitats and landscapes they create. It supports or delivers functions that are critical to the quality of life of Aberdeen’s current and future residents. With a few exceptions, biodiversity trends are not routinely monitored in the city. However, a habitat survey is underway by Aberdeen City Council and North East Biological Records Centre which should identify habitat change, loss of nature conservation sites and loss of connectivity between habitats [59].

**Outdoors:** 58% make a visit to the outdoors at least once a week with a further 12% visiting the outdoors at least once a month [15].

**Food Growing:** Aberdeen has 496 Council owned allotment plots of varying sizes at 21 sites across the city. There are currently 91 people on the waiting list for a Council allotment. However, the distribution of Council allotment sites is uneven with 72% of allotment growing space being located in the south of the city [59]. In addition to this there are also a few sites in private ownership [79].

### 5.14.2 Climate change - CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) is the main greenhouse gas and accounts for over 80% of greenhouse gas emissions in the UK. In 2015 CO<sub>2</sub> emissions<sup>8</sup> in Aberdeen totalled 1,335.2 kt (down from 1,813.6 in 2005). Of this, 45% is attributed to industry and commerce, 30% to domestic use and 24% to transport.

Between 2005 and 2015, per capita CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (kt CO<sub>2</sub>) have fallen in both Aberdeen and Scotland. In 2015 the per capita levels were slightly lower in Aberdeen than in Scotland (5.8 compared to 6.1) [80].

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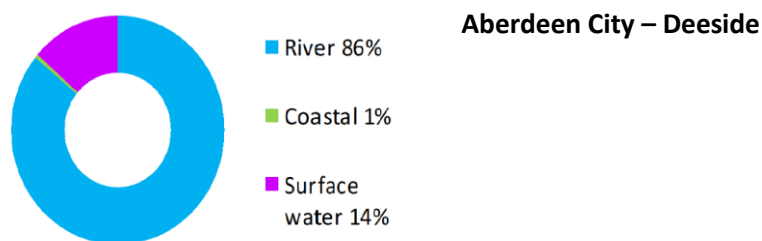
<sup>8</sup> Future legislation from the Scottish Government seeks to set higher targets, being a 90% reduction by 2050 and working towards net zero [116].

### 5.14.3 Climate change - Flood risk

Scotland has been separated into 14 Local Plan Districts for flood risk management purposes. These districts are based on river catchments and coastal areas which cross administrative and institutional boundaries. SEPA, working with others, has produced a Flood Risk Management Strategy for each Local Plan District. The latest Flood Risk Management Strategy produced by SEPA for the North East Local Plan District identifies 4 areas in Aberdeen City that are potentially vulnerable to flooding – Peterculter, Bridge of Don, Denmore, and Deeside.

Average annual damages for each area:

- Aberdeen City – Deeside: £12 million (River 86%, Coastal 1% and Surface Water 14%)
- Aberdeen City – Bridge of Don: £4.5 million (River 81%, Coastal <1%, Surface Water 19%)
- Aberdeen City – Denmore: £570,000 (89% River)
- Aberdeen City – Peterculter: £300,000 (River 94%, Surface Water 6%)



Source: Scottish Environmental Protection Agency, North East Local Plan District [81]

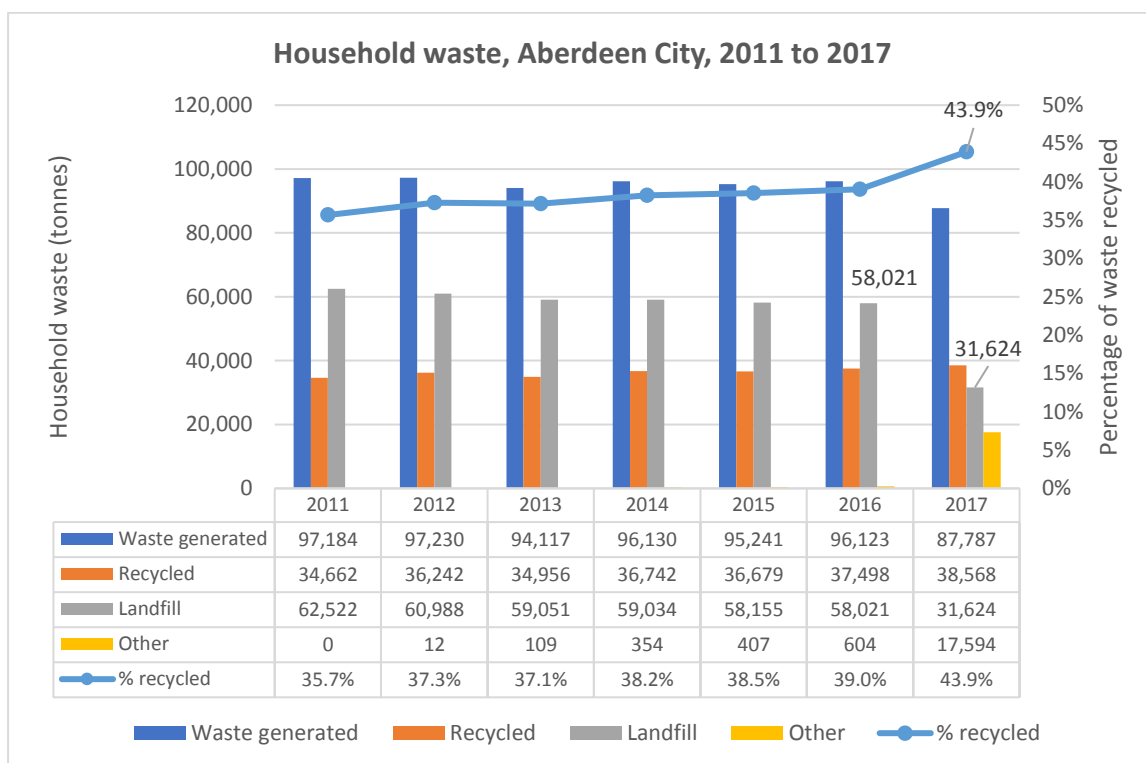
The total average annual damages for the North East local plan area = £21,746,500. The total average annual damages for Aberdeen City = £17,370,000. This means that 80% of average annual damages for flooding in the North East are within Aberdeen City.

### 5.14.4 Waste and recycling

In 2017, 87,797 tonnes of waste were generated in Aberdeen City. Of this, 44% was recycled, 36% went to landfill and 20% was managed by other methods. In Scotland, 45% of waste generated went to landfill with 46% being recycled and 9% being managed by other methods [82].

Between 2016 and 2017 the total amount of waste generated in Aberdeen City fell by 8.7% (from 96,123 tonnes to 87,797 tonnes). In the same period, the proportion of household waste being recycled and being managed by other methods increased, while the proportion being sent to landfill decreased [82]. In 2017, for the first time, more waste was recycled than went to landfill.

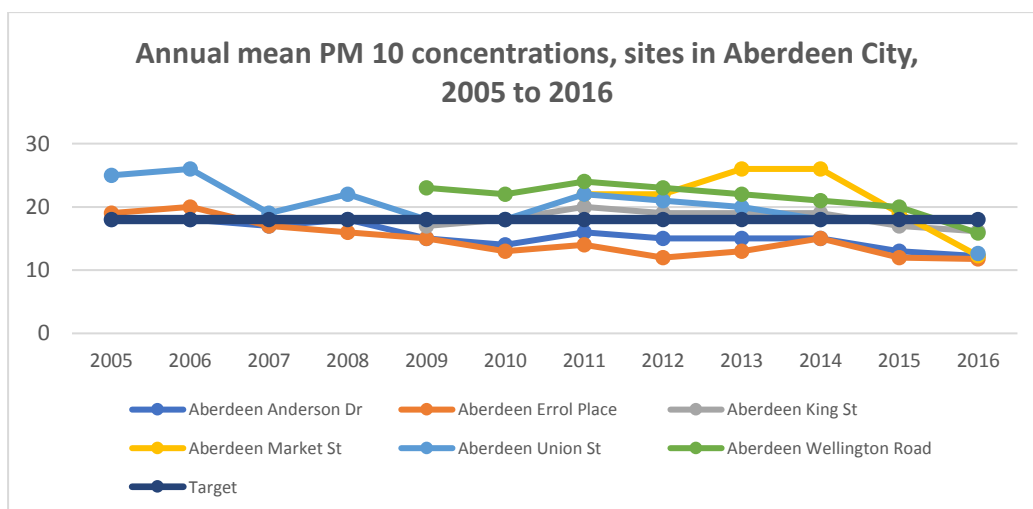




Source: Scotland’s Environment, Summary data on Scottish waste generation and management [82]

#### 5.14.5 Air pollution – particulate matter (PM10) concentrations

Particulate pollution can harm the human respiratory and cardiovascular systems and is linked to asthma and mortality. Current targets focus on particles less than 10µm in diameter (PM10), the greatest source of which is combustion. One of the Air Quality Strategy (AQS) objectives for PM10 was to achieve an annual mean of 18µg/m3 by 2010. In 2011 this target was met at only 2 monitoring stations in Aberdeen. However, by 2016, all 6 monitoring stations met the target [83].



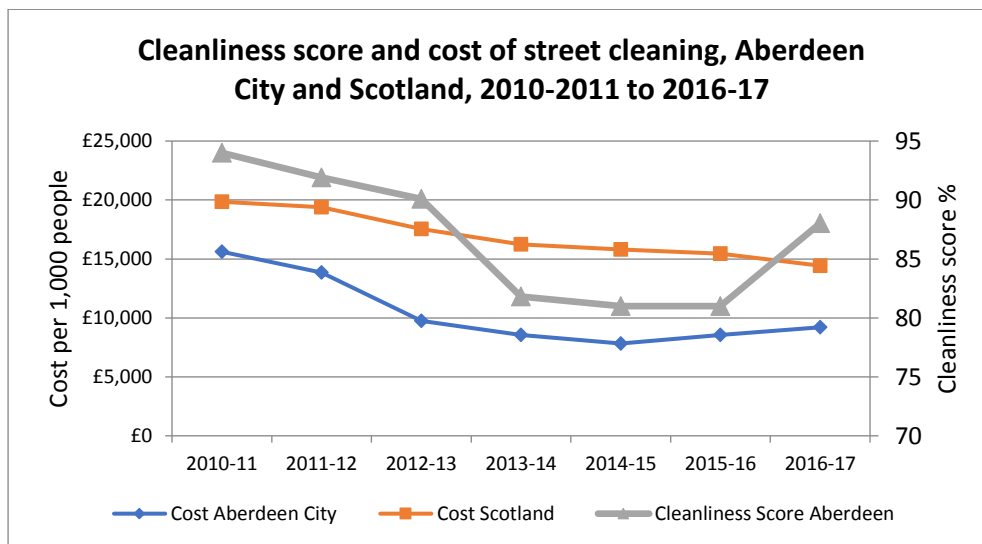
Source: Scottish environment statistics online, Air Quality [83]

### 5.14.6 Cleanliness score

In 2016-2017 Aberdeen City had a Street Cleanliness Score of 88% (i.e. percentage of streets at an acceptable A or B grade standard). This was lower than the average score for Scotland (94%) and the lowest score of all local authorities in Scotland. However, it is an increase of 7% from the 2015-2016 score [84].

In 2016-17 Aberdeen City Council spent £9,211 per 1,000 people on street cleaning. This was the 6<sup>th</sup> lowest amount of all local authorities and lower than the average for Scotland of £14,431 per 1,000 people. Since 2013-14 the amount of money spent on street cleaning has increased from £8,061 per 1,000 people – an increase of 14.3% [19].

In 2014-17 68.7% of Aberdeen’s residents were satisfied with local street cleanliness compared to 72.3% for Scotland. Since 2013-16, the proportion of satisfied residents has risen in Aberdeen (from 66%) and decreased in Scotland (from 73.7%) [19].



Source: Scottish Improvement Service, Local Government Benchmarking Framework [19]

## 6. Economy

### 6.1 Overview of Aberdeen's economy

The North East of Scotland has a long-established record as one of the most productive regions in Europe. Productivity within the city is very high, with a large number of value-adding primary, service and manufacturing industries. The city has consistently outperformed in economic terms, with Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire contributing £18bn, and the region contributing over 12 per cent of total Scottish GVA in 2016, of which Aberdeen City, the urban hub of the region, contributed £10.6bn, driven by the oil and gas sector.

Aberdeen City had one of the largest working age population of any Scottish local authority areas in 2017, with 69% of the population aged 16-64 [1]. It has had consistently higher employment rates than the Scottish average. In 2017, 32.4% of Aberdeen City enterprise employment was located within Primary industries and Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities industries, compared to 14.0% of Scottish enterprise employment. Both sectors have very high levels of energy industry employment in the region, with approximately double the amount of employment within these combined industries than the national average.

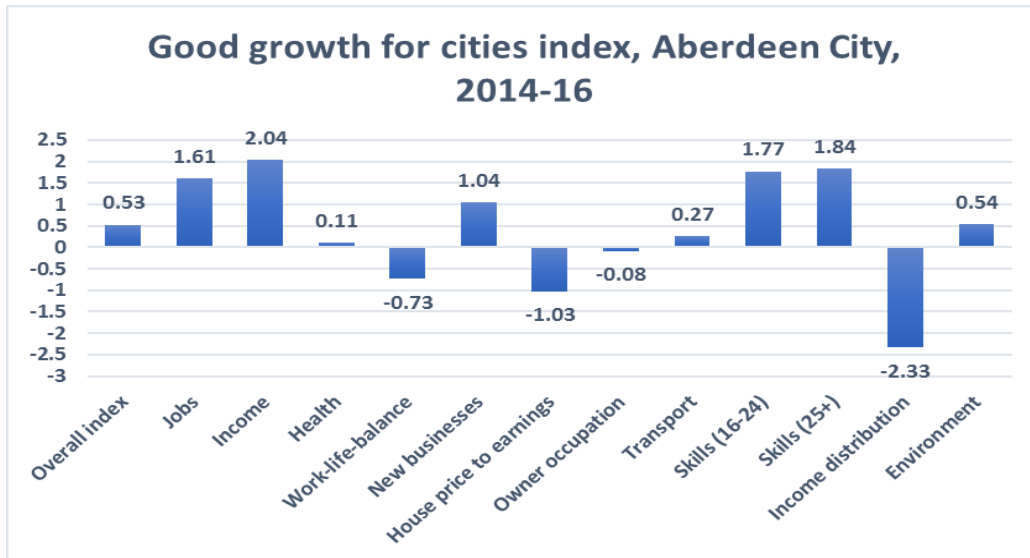
Since 2015 the city and region has experienced a downturn in the economic fortunes of the oil and gas sector which has had induced effects across the economy of the North East. This has reduced employment rates, dampened GVA and earnings growth, reduced business creation, increased office vacancy rates, lowered house prices and lowered hotel occupancy rates. However, the region still performs well above that of the Scottish average and there are signs that the economy is beginning to recover as performance against these measures is showing improvement.

Earnings and disposable income have been consistently higher than the national average, largely a result of the region's status as a global Oil & Gas centre. House prices are higher in the city than the Scottish average but have fallen in the region since the downturn in the oil and gas sector. In October 2014, the average house price in Aberdeen City was £199,285 compared to the Scottish national average £134,807. By December 2017, the average house price in Aberdeen City was £163,567 compared to the Scottish national average of £146,078.

Ernst and Young provide evidence on the number of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) projects that Aberdeen has attracted each year [85]. The evidence suggests that the city has remained resilient during the economic downturn in the oil and gas sector. Aberdeen is in 8<sup>th</sup> place in the league of UK cities of FDI projects with 14 projects in 2017.

#### 6.1.1 Good growth for cities index

Based on the good growth for cities index (2014-2016), Aberdeen has the second highest rating in Scotland after Edinburgh (Score of 0.53 on the overall index compared to 0.72 for Edinburgh). The index measures the current performance of a range of the largest UK cities against 10 indicators. While Aberdeen scores well for Income, Skills, Jobs, New Business and Environment, it scores poorly for Income Distribution, House Price to Earnings, and Work-life Balance [86].

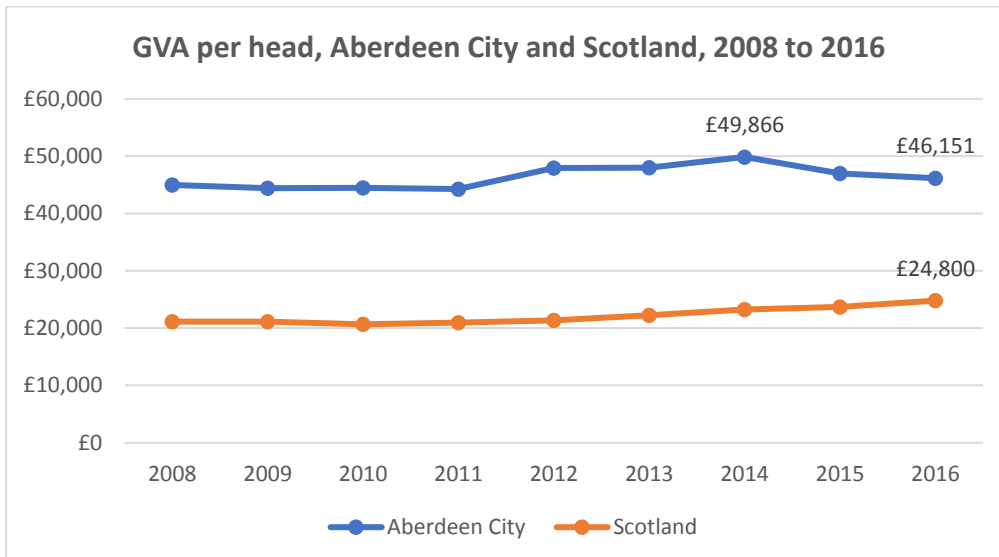


Source: PWC, Good Growth for Cities Index 2014-2016 [86]

### 6.1.2 Gross Value Added (GVA)

In 2016 Aberdeen City had a GVA of £10,607 million – equivalent to 7.9% of Scotland’s total GVA (third highest behind Glasgow at £20,371 million and Edinburgh at £19,942 million). Aberdeen City was one of 4 local authorities which saw economic output decrease in 2016 - Aberdeen City (-2.2%), Aberdeenshire (-1.4%), Na h-Eileanan Siar (-1.1%), and West Dunbartonshire (-0.7%) all saw economic output decline [87].

In 2016, Aberdeen City had the highest GVA per head ratio at £46,151 compared to £24,876 for Scotland. GVA per head fell by £3,783 between 2014 and 2016 in Aberdeen City.



Source: ONS [88]

## 6.2 Key Sectors

Scotland’s Economic Strategy recognises the importance of key industries in the continued growth of the country. The Strategy has identified six sectors where Scotland has a distinct

comparative advantage – Food and Drink (including fisheries and agriculture), Creative Industries (including digital), Sustainable Tourism, Energy (including renewables), Financial and Business Services, and Life Sciences.

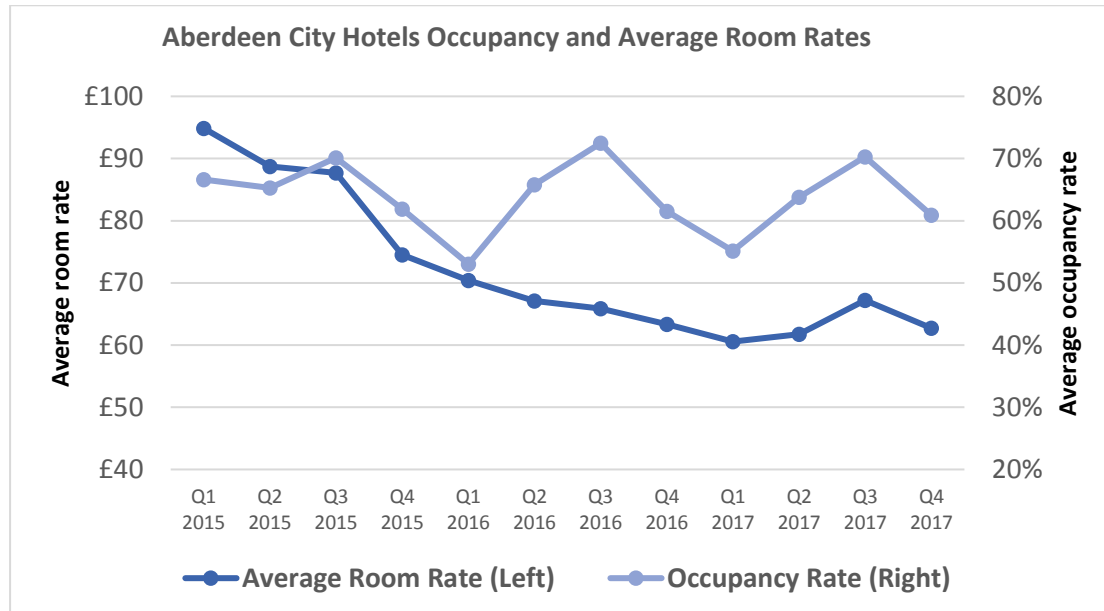
The table below gives an overview of statistics for five of these key sectors in Aberdeen City.

	No. of enterprises 2017	Total turnover 2015 (£, M)	GVA 2015 (£, M)	GVA per head 2015 (£)	Employment 2016
Tourism	535	486.9	269.5	24,379	10,000
Energy	715	16,911.3	8,388.9	266,404	28,000
Food & Drink	-	272.3	60.5	56,422	1,250
Life Sciences	30	108.4	60.3	82,872	500
Creative Industries	855	458.9	306.8	73,258	4,550

Source: Scottish Government Growth Sector Statistics, Local Authority Area Database [89]

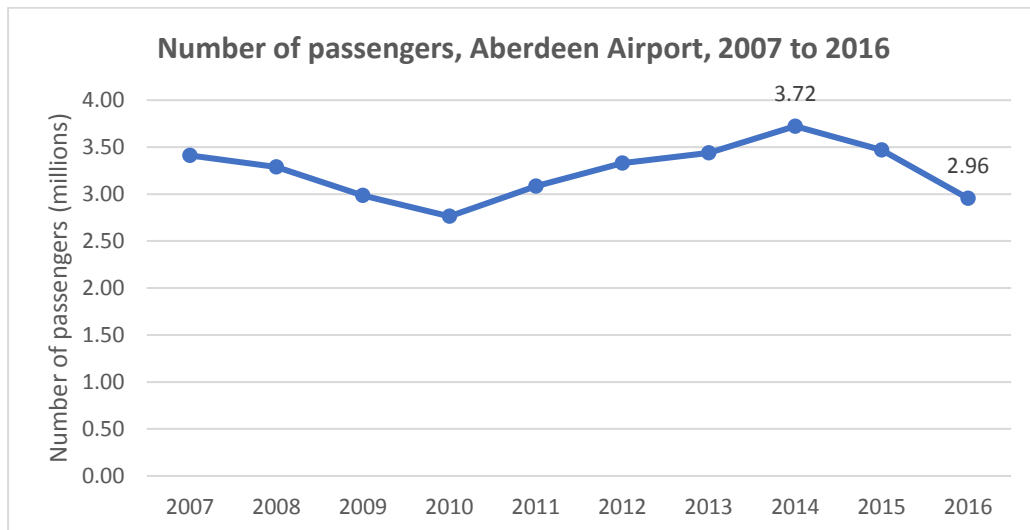
### 6.2.1 Tourism

**Hotel rates:** Between December 2014 and Q1 of 2017, the average price for a hotel room in Aberdeen dropped from £92.87 to £60.56. Hotel occupancy rates also fell from an annual average of 66% in 2015 to 62.5% in 2017.



Source: Aberdeen City Council using AM:PM/LJ Research [90]

**Air passengers:** In 2016 there were 2.96 million air passengers through Aberdeen Airport. This is a drop of 20.4% on the numbers from 2014 (3.72 million) [91].



Source: Transport Scotland, Scottish Transport Statistics [91]

**Number of tourists:** The tourism sector is a very diverse industry, with a range of sub-sectors such as accommodation providers (hotels, camping sites and other), restaurants, bars, travel agents, museums and other recreational and cultural activities. Hospitality and cultural activities are the main cornerstones of the industry, but a range of sub-sectors such as retail and transport also benefit greatly from tourism.

In 2016, combined spending by day visitors and overnight visitors was £630 million. With improved facilities for cruise ships in Aberdeen, and a world-class exhibition centre opening soon, the volume and value of day and overnight visitors is set to increase. Industry chiefs have predicted tourism in the North-east will generate £1 billion a year by 2023 as visitor numbers in Aberdeen soar [92].

Aberdeen is the commercial and cultural hub of the North East of Scotland. This year it has attracted a weekly footfall in its city centre of around 470,000 a week, down from 486,000 in 2017 and 562,000 in 2016. Union Street alone has around 100,000 footfall a week [93].

In 2017, visitor numbers to Scotland rose by 17% to 3.2 million compared with 2016. There were 1.9 million visits by European tourists and spending by these visitors from Europe increased by 36% to £1.1bn. In contrast, across the UK as a whole, the number of European visitors increased by 1% while spending fell by 1%.

60% of GB tourists drove to the North East with 15% travelling by train and 13% flying. Around half of GB residents stayed in a hotel or a B&B on their tourist visit with a further third staying with a friend or a relative. In 2016, the top visitor attraction in Aberdeen was Duthie Park with 843,081 visitors [94].

The top overseas markets were Germany, Italy, the USA and France.

## 6.2.2 Oil and Gas

Since 1970, direct taxes from the production of oil and gas have totalled more than £330bn to end 2014.

The oil and gas sector has remained resilient in a difficult period for the North East economy since the fall in the oil price since 2015 and the subsequent downturn in the sector. Latest estimates show that the UK offshore oil and gas industry supports more than 302,000 jobs. This latest employment estimate is 160,000 lower than the peak of more than 460,000 jobs in 2014. The pace of contraction in employment, however, slowed considerably to 4.2% between 2016-17, compared with 15.6% from 2015-16 and 19.4% from 2014-15.

The 302,000-plus jobs are spread across the country, with almost 60 per cent in England, 38 per cent in Scotland and the remainder across Northern Ireland and Wales [95]. This suggests there are 115,000 jobs in Scotland supported by the oil and gas industry. Aberdeen City Council estimates around 86,000 jobs could be supported by the sector in the North East.

In the last few years, capital investment, production, tax receipts, employment, average earnings and capital investment have all fallen but there are signs that the oil price is rising and that the bottom of the downturn has been reached, with optimism for the future increasing with key stakeholders in the industry.

### 6.3 Universities

Aberdeen is home to two major universities, University of Aberdeen and Robert Gordon University as well as a further education college, North East Scotland College. The total number of students in 2017/18 was 41,684 (includes full-time and part-time).

<b>Further &amp; higher education student numbers, 2017/18</b>			
<b>Name of Institution</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Full time</b>	<b>Part time</b>
University of Aberdeen	14,793	12,814	1,979
Robert Gordon University	15,338	10,379	4,959
North East Scotland College	11,553	6,736	4,817

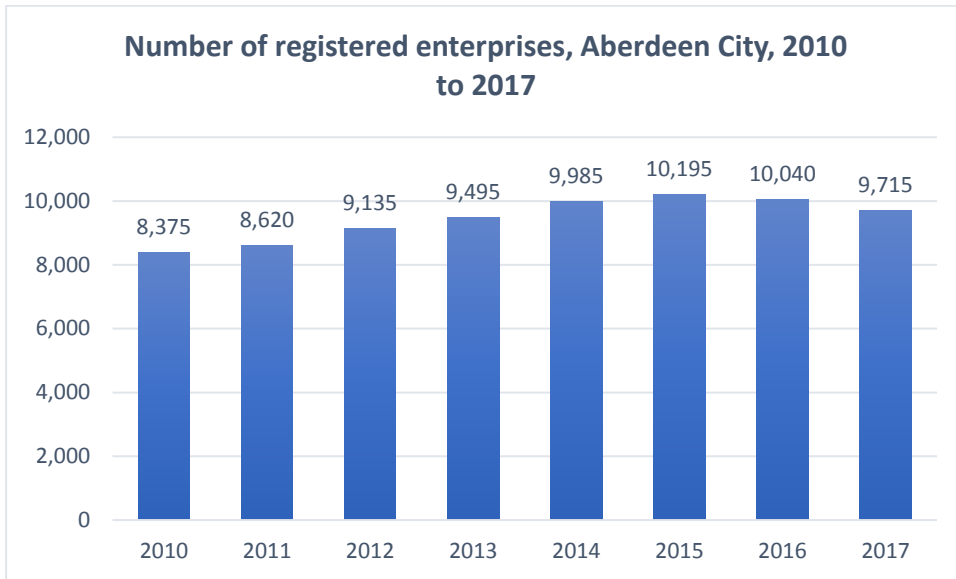
Source: Aberdeen University, Robert Gordon University, North East Scotland College

### 6.4 Businesses

#### 6.4.1 Business Count

In 2017, there were 9,715 VAT registered enterprises in Aberdeen City. Most (87.6%) had 0-49 employees, 4.8% had 50 to 249 employees and 7.6% had 250 or more employees [96]

The number of VAT registered enterprises in Aberdeen has decreased in the last two years - from 10,195 in 2015 to 9,715 in 2017.



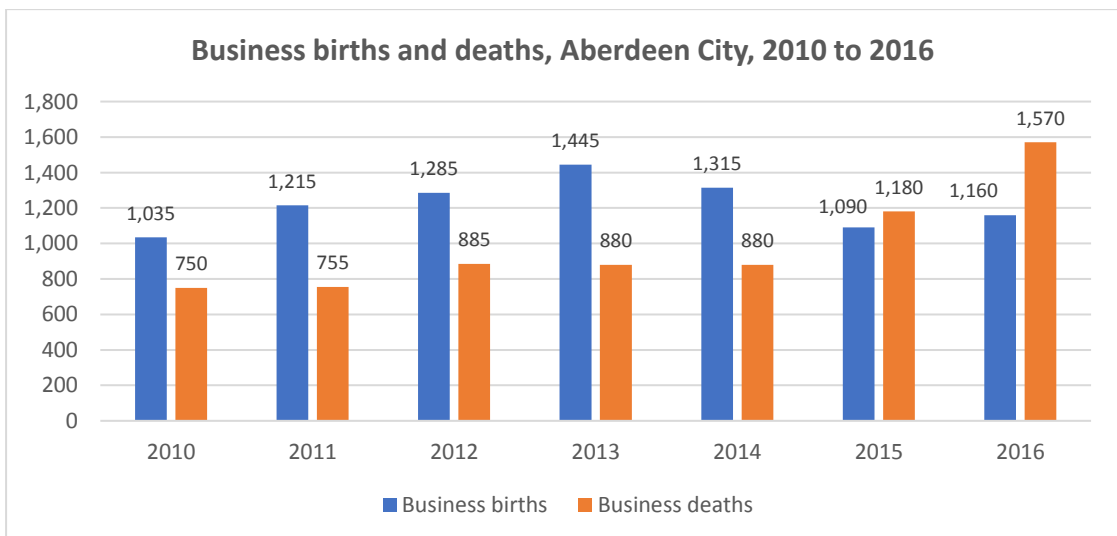
Source: Scottish Government, Businesses in Scotland [96]

As at March 2017, there were an estimated 365,600 private sector enterprises operating in Scotland, of which almost half (176,400) were VAT registered businesses [97]. No local authority break-downs are available for the number of non-registered businesses.

#### 6.4.2 Business births and deaths

The number of new businesses starting each year fell between 2013 and 2015, before increasing slightly between 2015 and 2016 (from 1,090 to 1,160). The fall in business births has been accompanied by a sharp rise in business deaths (from 880 in 2014 to 1,570 in 2016 – an increase of 78%).

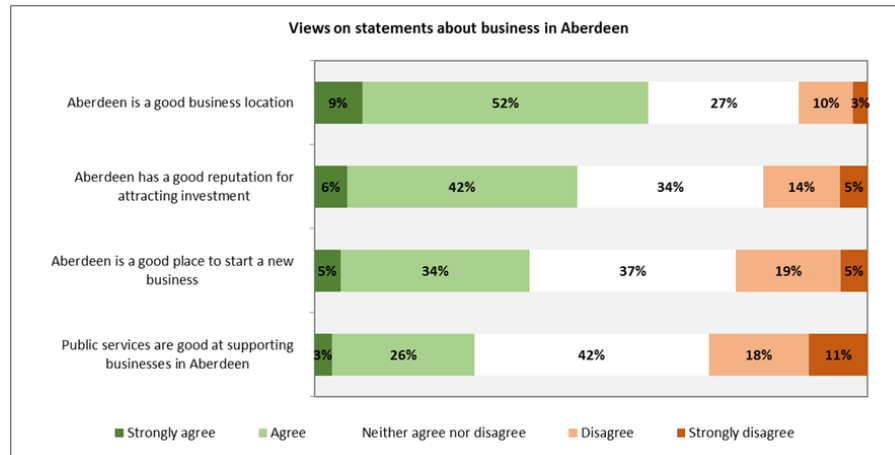
One-year survival rates of 2015 business births was 89% in Aberdeen compared to 90% in Scotland. The five-year survival rates of 2011 business births was 53.5% in Aberdeen compared to 45.6% in Scotland [98].



Source: ONS Business Demography [98]

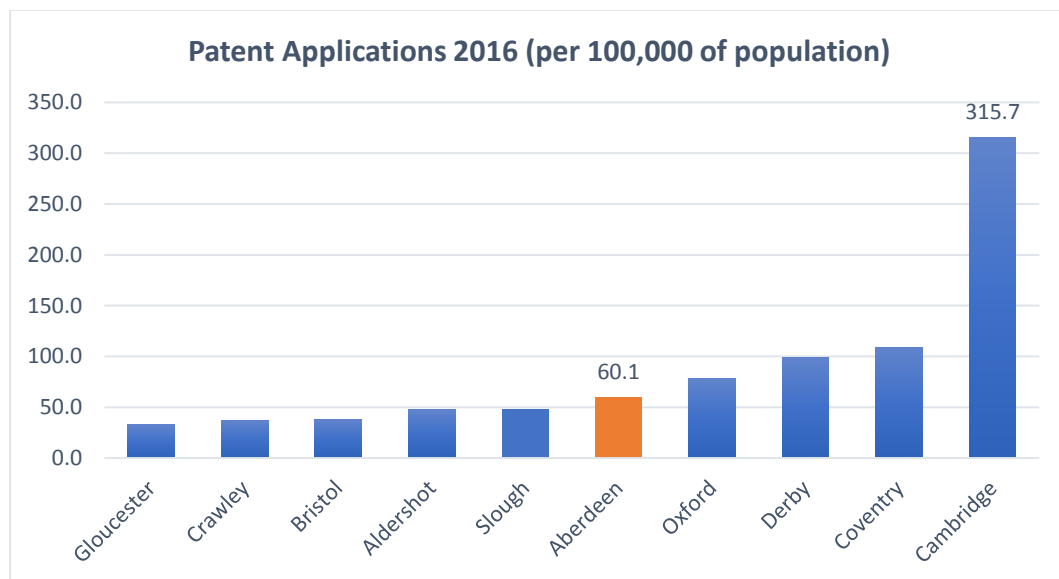


In City Voice 48, respondents were asked their views about business in Aberdeen. 9% of respondents strongly agreed that Aberdeen is a good business location, with a further 52% agreeing. 34% of respondents agreed that Aberdeen is a good place to start a new business [78].



### 6.4.3 Innovation

Although an imperfect measure, patent data is widely used to measure innovation. While patents do not cover all forms of innovation – they exclude process innovations, trademarks and creative innovations - it can act as a proxy. Figures obtained by the Centre for Cities has revealed that in 2016 there were 60.1 patent applications per 100,000 population in Aberdeen City – the fifth highest rate of any UK city [99].



Source: Centre for Cities, Cities Outlook 2018 [99]

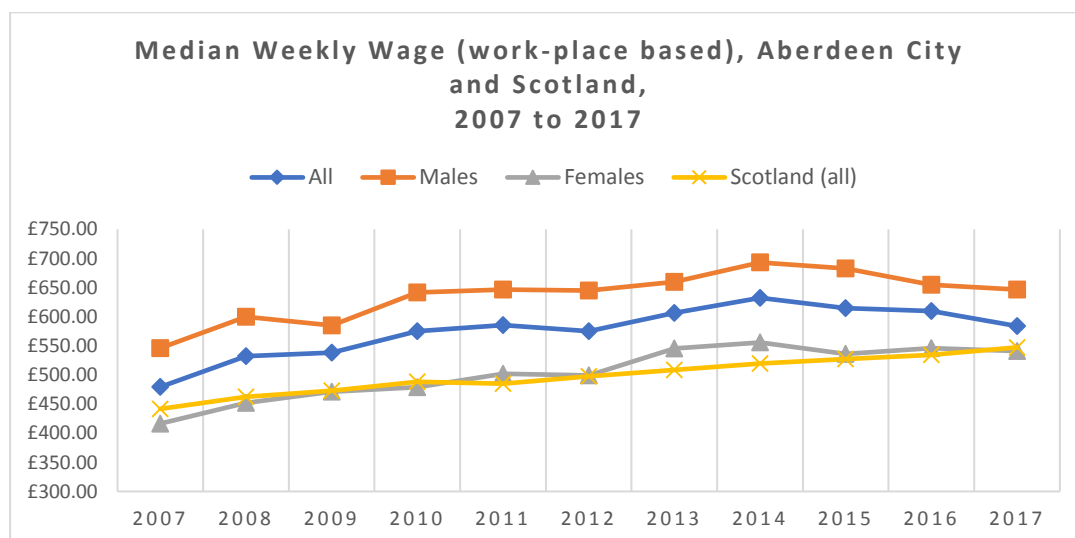
## 6.5 Income and earnings

### 6.5.1 Average weekly wage by place of work

In 2017, the median weekly wage (excluding overtime) for a full-time worker who works in Aberdeen City was £583.90 – higher than the figure for Scotland of £547.30. Only City of Edinburgh has a higher median weekly wage at £598.50 for people who work there. In Aberdeen (as in Scotland as a whole) the median wage was higher for males (£646.30) than females (£540.80). The gap between male and female earnings is higher in Aberdeen than in Scotland (16.3% compared to 14.1%).

In contrast to trends for Scotland, since 2014 the median weekly wage in Aberdeen has fallen - from £632.30 in 2014 to £583.90 in 2017 (7.7%). The fall in weekly wage has been higher in males than in females with male earnings reducing from £693.00 in 2014 to £646.30 in 2017 (a drop of 6.7%) and female earnings falling from £555.70 in 2014 to £540.80 in 2017 (a drop of 2.7%).

The gap between male and female earnings has reduced – from 23.7% in 2007 to 16.3% in 2017. This is consistent with trends in Scotland where the gap between male and female earnings dropped from 20.8% to 14.1%.

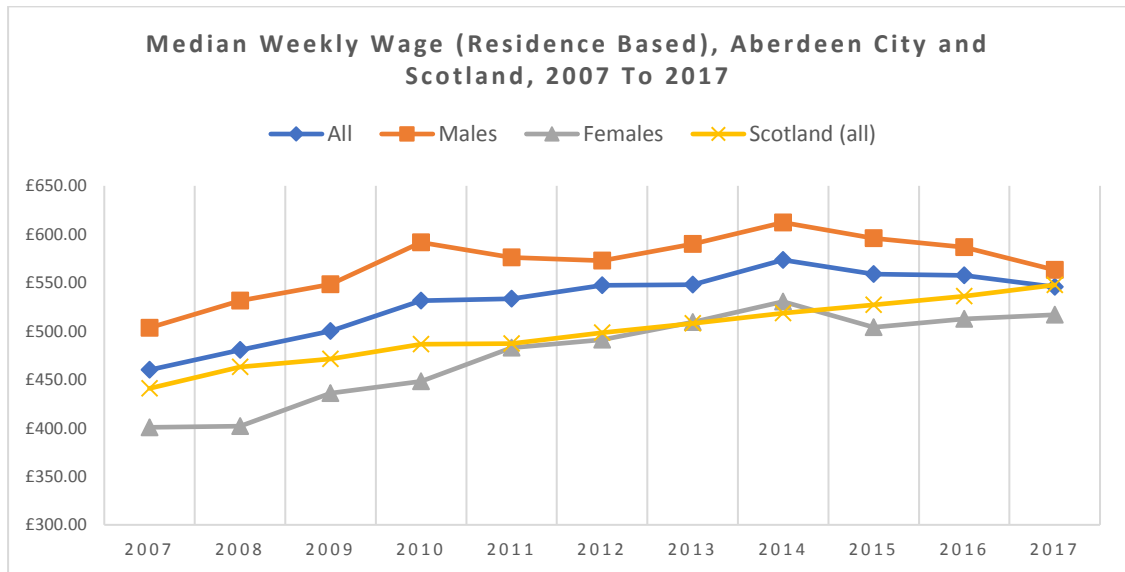


Source: NOMIS, Labour Market Profile [100]

### 6.5.2 Average weekly wage by place of residence

Wages for people who live in the City are lower than those who work in the City. The median weekly wage for a full-time worker who lives in Aberdeen is £545.60 (compared to £583.90 for those who work in the City). This is lower than the figure for Scotland of £547.30. Again, the median weekly wage was higher for males (£563.20) than females (£516.90). (Note: Situation reversed in Aberdeenshire – higher residence based than work-place base wages - £566.10 compared to £514.6)

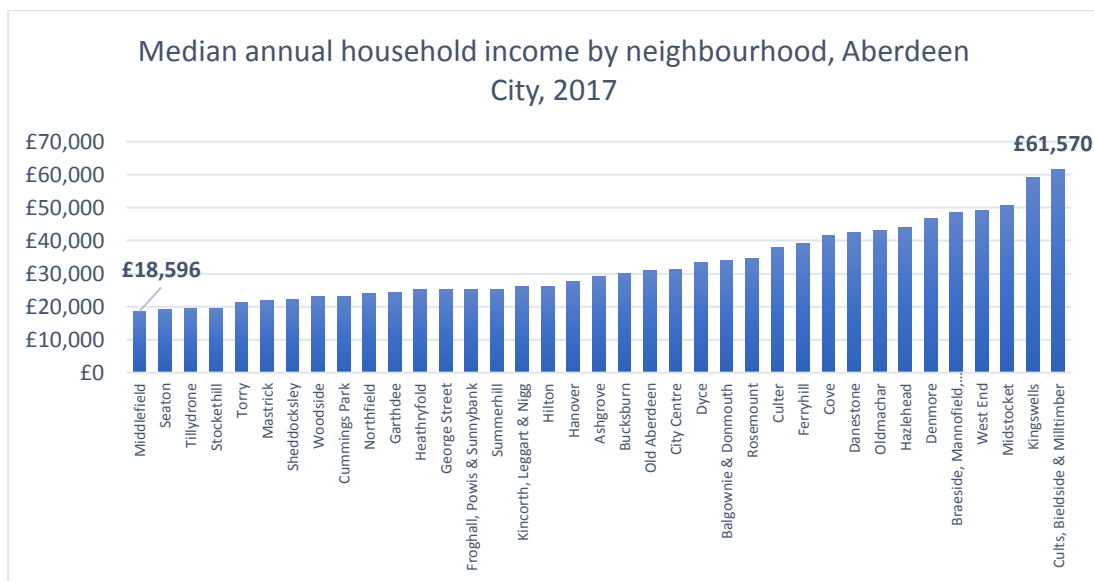
As with work-place based wages, the median weekly wage decreased between 2014 and 2017, with the drop being higher for males than females. Between 2007 and 2017 the gap between male and female wages fell from 20.4% to 8.2%.



Source: NOMIS, Labour Market Profile [100]

### 6.5.3 Annual household income

Information on annual household income is available from CACI Paycheck data. In 2017 the median household income for Aberdeen City was £31,672. This is higher than the respective figure for Scotland of £28,342 and 6<sup>th</sup> highest out of all local authorities in Scotland. There was considerable variation in annual household income by neighbourhood, ranging from a low of £18,596 in Middlefield to a high of £61,570 in Cults, Bieldside and Milltimber [101].

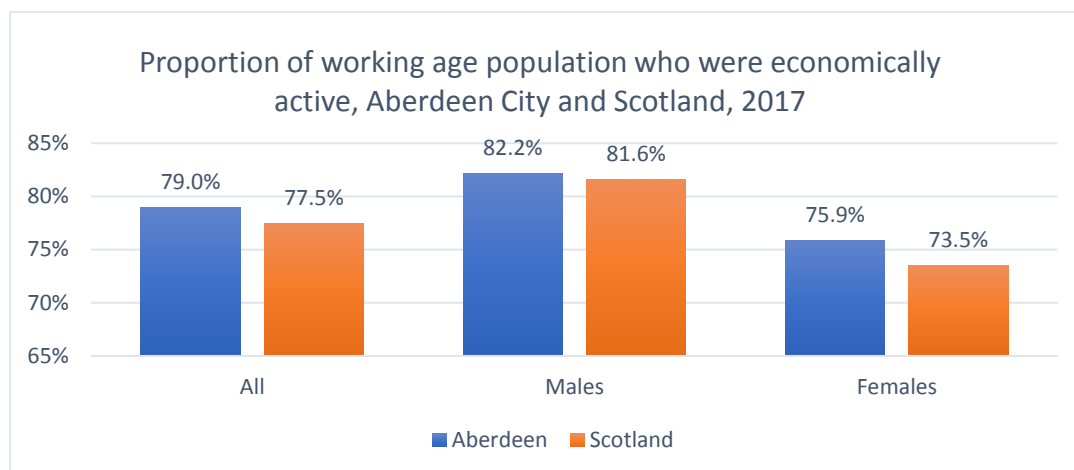


Source: CACI paycheck 2017 [101]

## 6.6 Labour market

### 6.6.1 Economically active

**Economically active:** In 2017, 79% of Aberdeen’s working age population (16-64 years) was classified as economically active – slightly higher than the rate for Scotland of 77.5%. A higher proportion of males (82.2%) than females (75.9%) were economically active [100].



Source: NOMIS, Labour Market Profile [100]

**Employed:** Of those who were economically active, 76.1% were in employment and an estimated 4.1% were unemployed (note: the figures don’t add up to 79% as the unemployment rate is a model-based estimate). A higher proportion of males (78.0%) than females (74.2%) were in employment. Of those who were in employment, 75.2% were in full-time positions. Again, males were more likely than females to work full-time (89.7% compared to 59.5%) [100].

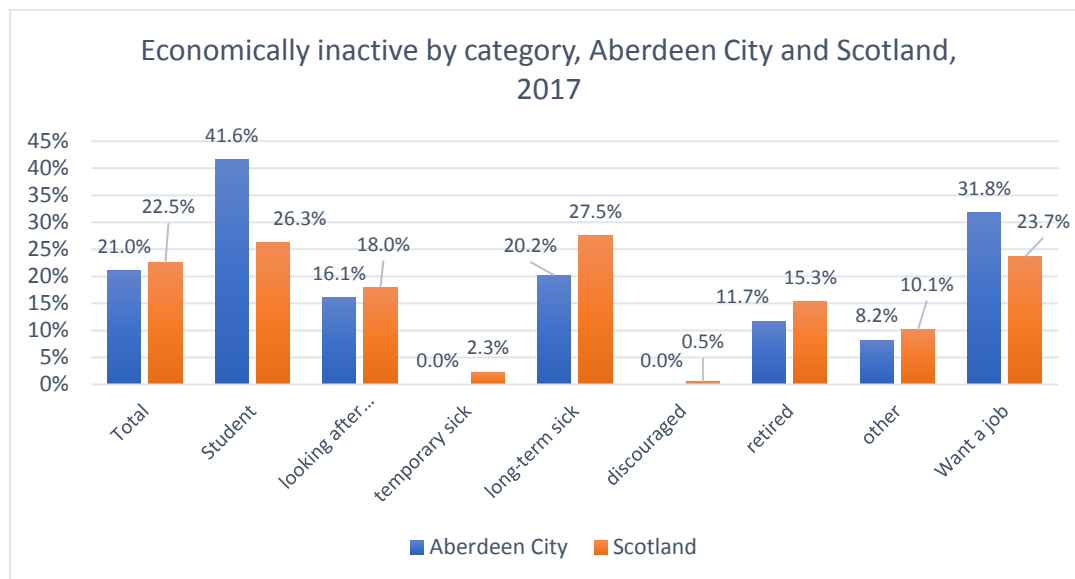
**Graduate employment:** 44.8% of those in employment in Aberdeen are graduates. This is higher than the rate for Scotland (35.6%) and the fifth highest rate of all local authorities [100].

**Underemployment:** This relates to people who would like either more hours in their existing job, an additional job to supplement their existing job or another job with more hours. In 2017 there were an estimated 10,900 people in underemployment in Aberdeen – equivalent to 8.9% of those in employment – slightly higher than the rate for Scotland of 8.0% and the 9<sup>th</sup> highest of all local authorities. Since 2015 the rate of underemployment has increased by 3.9% in Aberdeen, compared to a decrease of 1.2% in Scotland [102].

### 6.6.2 Economically inactive

In 2017, 21% of Aberdeen’s working age population (16-64 years) were classified as economically inactive – slightly lower than the rate for Scotland of 22.5%. Students made up the highest proportion of this group (41.6%), followed by long-term sick (20.2%) and those looking after the family home (16.1%). Those who were retired accounted for 11.7% of those who were economically inactive. Compared to Scotland, Aberdeen has a higher proportion of students and a lower proportion of long-term sick, retired and looking after

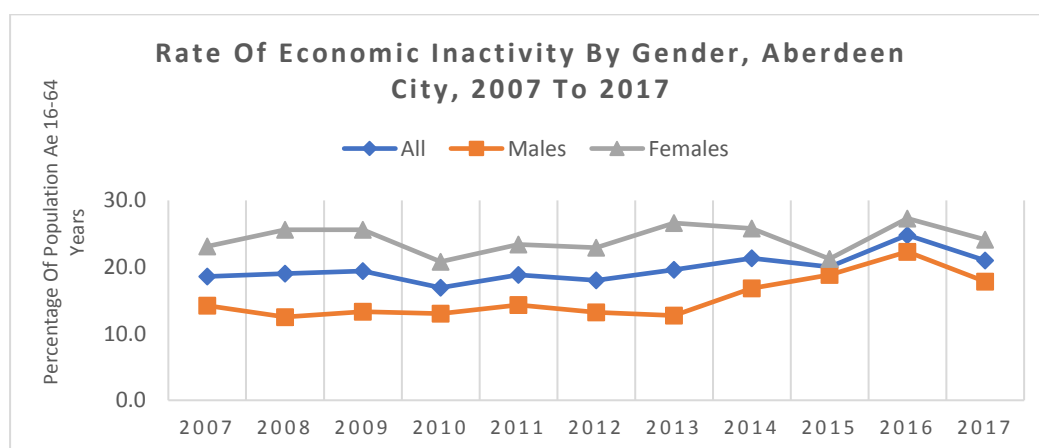
the family home. Aberdeen also has a higher proportion of economically inactive people who would like a job (31.8% in Aberdeen compared to 23.7% in Scotland) [100].



Source: NOMIS, Labour Market Profile [100]

Note: figure for Total are as % of 16-64 year population and figures for other categories are % of economically inactive.

A higher proportion of females than males are economically inactive (24.1% compared to 17.8% of population aged 16-64 years). The rate of males who are economically inactive has increased substantially in recent years from 12.7% in 2013, peaking at 22.3% in 2016 before dropping back to 17.8% in 2017. For females the rate dropped between 2013 and 2015 (from 26.6% to 21.2%). Between 2015 and 2016 the rate increased before falling again between 2016 and 2017 [100].



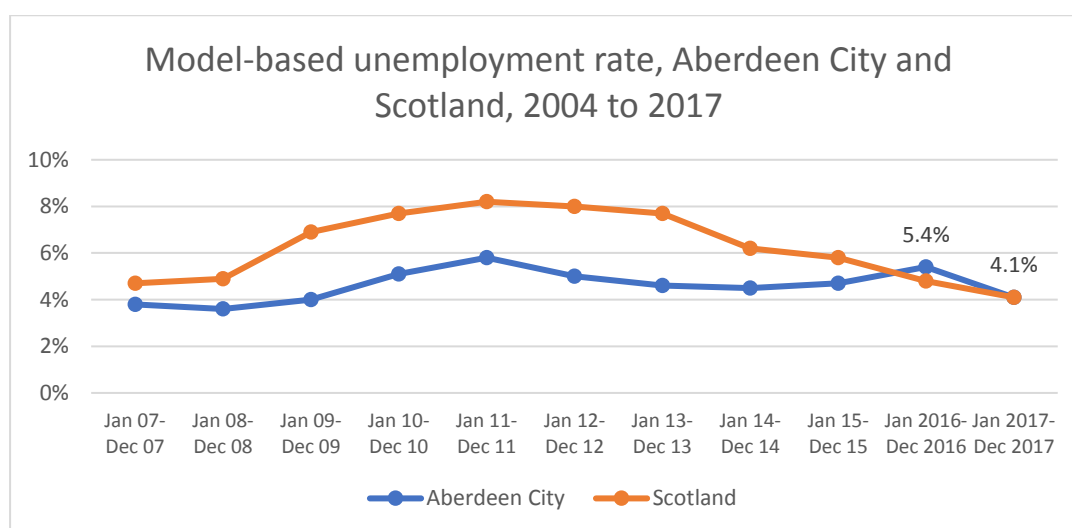
Source: NOMIS, Labour Market Profile [100]

### 6.6.3 Unemployment

Two main measures are used to provide unemployment figures. The first is The **Annual Population Survey** which is a residence-based labour market survey. Because unemployed people form only a small percentage of the population, estimates for local authorities were often unreliable. To improve estimates for local authority areas, model-base estimates were

developed. The second measure is the **Claimant Count**. This counts the number of people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance plus those who claim Universal Credit and are required to seek work and be available for work. This replaces the number of people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance as the headline indicator of the number of people claiming benefits principally for the reason of being unemployed. As an administrative count, the claimant count is very useful as provides reliable figures for all those who are claiming unemployment-related benefits. The main draw-back of the claimant count is that it only includes those who are claiming unemployment-related benefits - not all those who are unemployed will necessarily want to, or be able to, claim these benefits and will therefore be excluded from the count. As a result, the claimant count is likely to under-estimate actual unemployment levels.

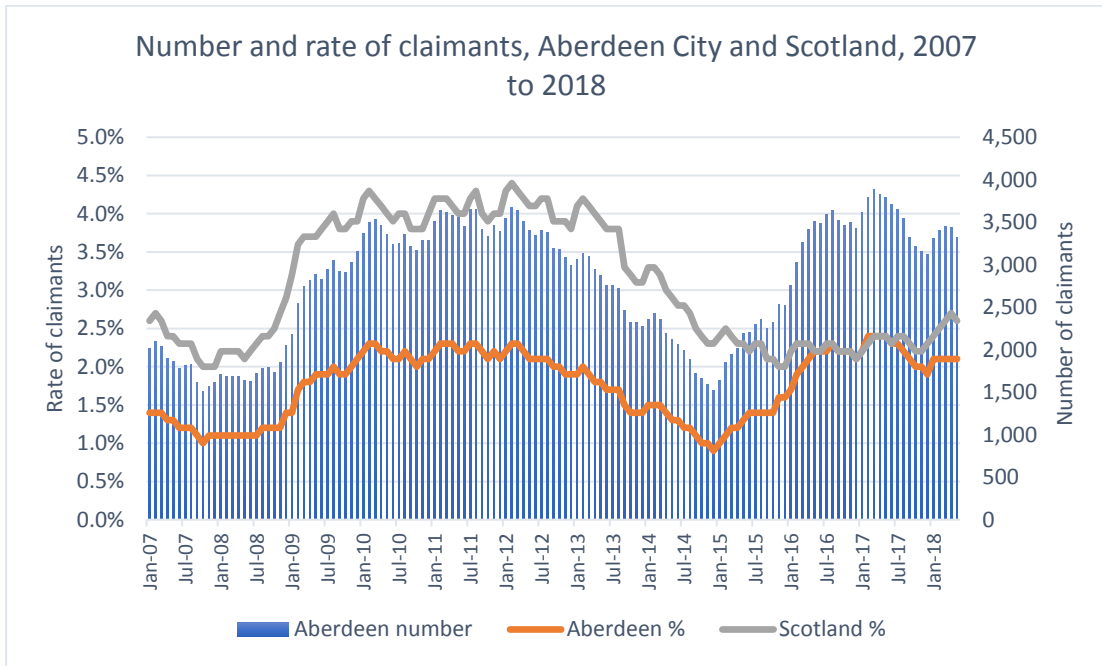
**Model-based estimates:** In 2016 unemployment in Aberdeen reached 5.4% and for the first time in at least 10 years was higher than that for Scotland (4.8%). Unemployment fell between 2016 and 2017 and in 2017 was the same as Scotland (4.1%) [100].



Source: NOMIS, Labour Market Profile [100]

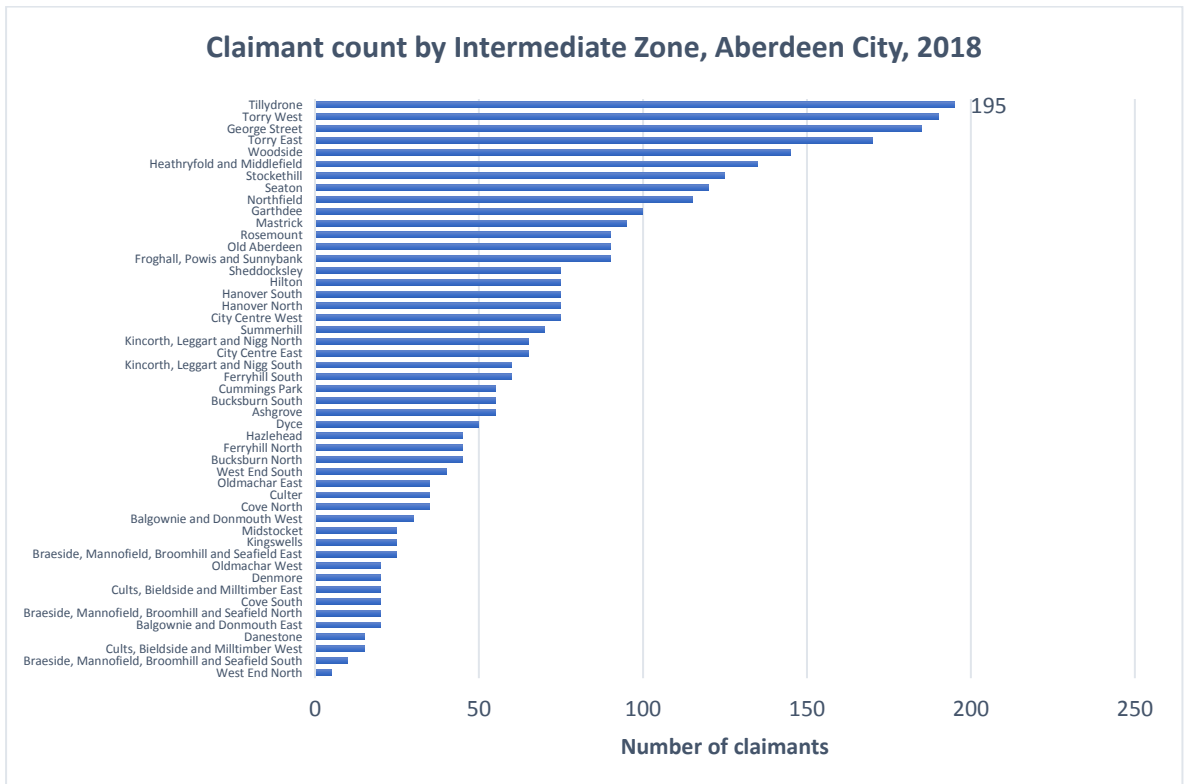
**Claimant count:** In May 2018 there were 3,315 Claimants in Aberdeen City. This is equivalent to a rate of 2.1% of the working age population (16-64 years) which is lower than the rate for Scotland of 2.6%. In Aberdeen City there were more male than female claimants (70.9% compared to 29.1%) [100].

Between 2007 and 2014 the trends for claimant count rates were similar in Aberdeen and in Scotland, although the rates themselves were consistently lower in Aberdeen. However, while the claimant count rate continued to fall in Scotland, at the start of 2015 the claimant count rate in Aberdeen began to increase - by mid 2016 the claimant count rates in Aberdeen were similar to Scotland. However, following a drop in claimant numbers during 2017, the rate in Aberdeen City is now lower than the rate for Scotland.



Source: NOMIS, Labour Market Profile [100]

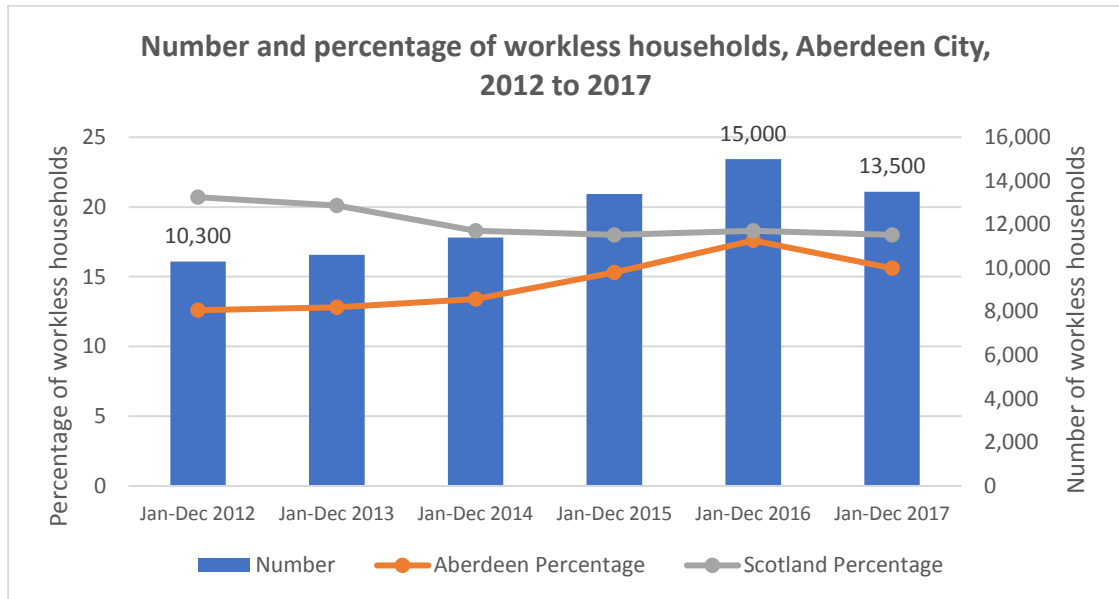
The number of claimants varied by Intermediate Zone – from 5 in West End North to 195 in Tillydrone.



Source: NOMIS, Labour Market Profile [100]

**Workless households:** In 2017 there were an estimated 13,500 workless households (i.e. households where no-one aged 16 years or over is in employment) in Aberdeen City –

equivalent to 15.6% of all households. This is lower than the average figure for Scotland of 18.0% and lower than the figure for last year of 17.6%.



Source: NOMIS, Labour Market Profile [100]

#### 6.6.4 Employment

**Job density:** In 2016 there were an estimated 192,000 jobs in the City – equivalent to 1.19 jobs per person aged 16-64 years. Although still considerably higher than the rate for Scotland of 0.80, the number of jobs and the job density rate have fallen since 2014 from 203,000 jobs and a job density of 1.26 [100].

**Employee jobs:** In 2016 the rate of full time employee jobs was higher in Aberdeen City (70.6%) than in Scotland (66.7%) [100].

**Employee jobs by sector:** In 2016, the sector which provided the highest proportion of employee jobs in Aberdeen (as in Scotland) was Human Health and Social Work Activities (15.3% of all employee jobs). Other sectors which were high employers were Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities (13.0%) and Mining and Quarrying (13.0%). With the exception of these two sectors and Transportation and Storage, the percentage of employees in each of the other sectors was lower in Aberdeen City than in Scotland [100].

The Aberdeen Place Standard questions asked respondents their views on ‘work and local economy’. This question had a mean score of 4.08 on a scale from 1 to 7 where 1 means there is a lot of room for improvement and 7 means there is very little room for improvement. Comments from respondents included:

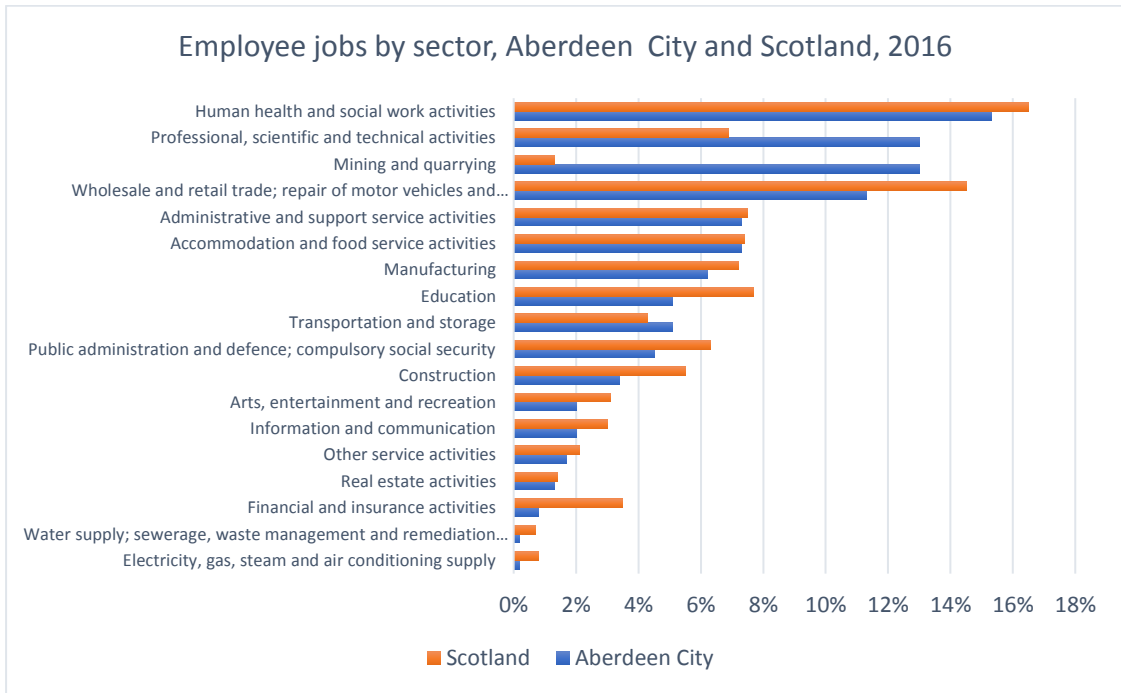
*“It is very difficult to run a small business in Aberdeen. Lots of jobs have been lost recently due to the problems in the oil industry. Restaurants and shops have closed down.”*

*“Aberdeen is still a one-horse town, and although that is picking up there are far more experienced people than jobs, so opportunities are minimal.”*

*“Good economy though still recovering from the oil and gas downturn”*

*“we run a successful business. there is lots of support from various agencies and good liaison with schools” [43].*

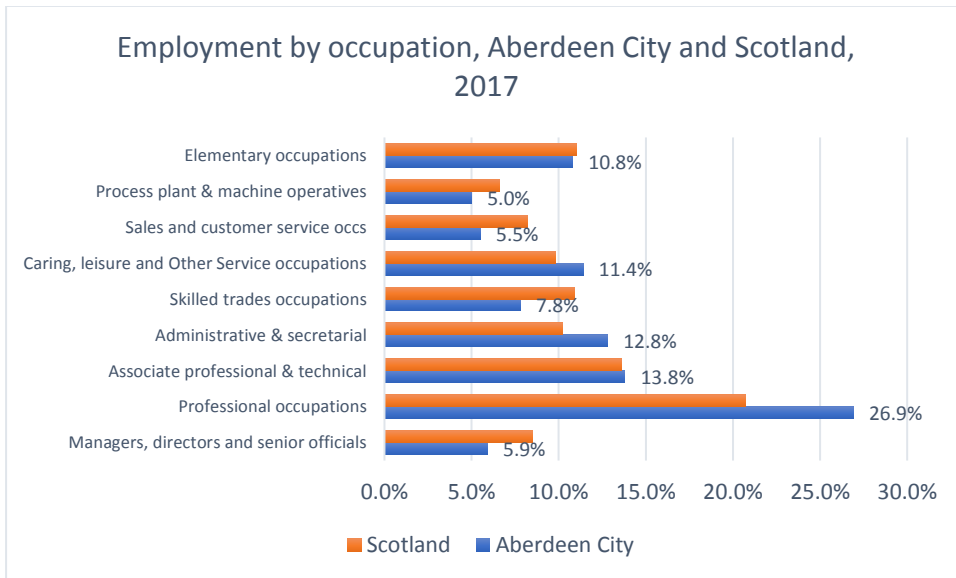




Source: Nomis, ONS Business Register and Employment Survey, (Labour Market Profile) [100]

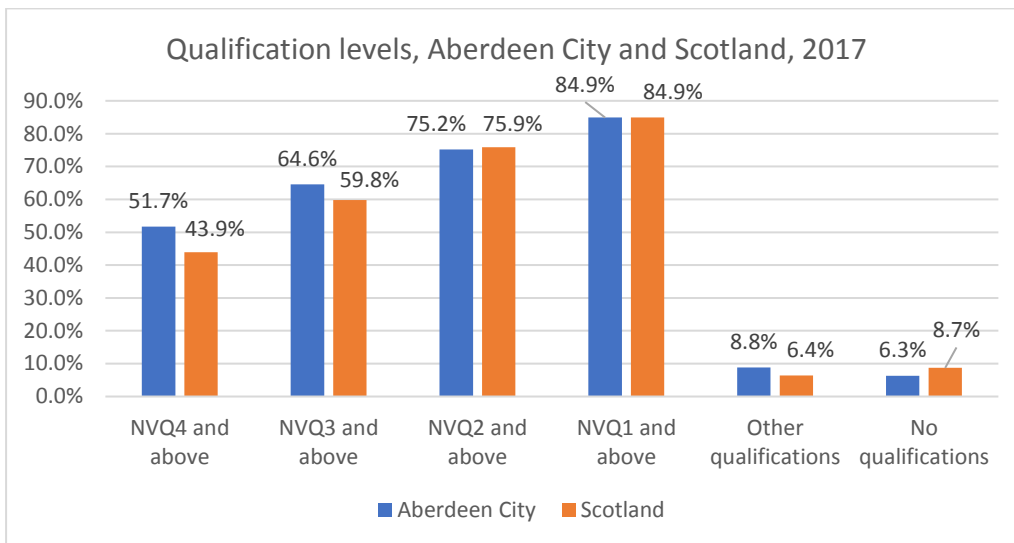
#### 6.6.5 Employment by occupation

Over a quarter (26.9%) of employees in Aberdeen City are in Professional Occupations compared to 20.7% in this category for Scotland as a whole. The next highest occupational sectors in Aberdeen are Associate Professional and Technical (13.8%), followed by Administrative and Secretarial (12.8%) [100].



Source: Nomis, ONS Annual Population Survey, (Labour Market Profile) [100]

**Qualification level:** Compared to Scotland, Aberdeen City has a higher proportion of its workforce who are qualified to NVQ4 and above (51.7% in Aberdeen and 43.9% in Scotland). Aberdeen also has a lower proportion of employees with no qualifications (6.3% in Aberdeen compared to 8.7% in Scotland) [100].



Source: Nomis, ONS Annual Population Survey, (Labour Market Profile) [100]

## 6.7 Deprivation – SIMD 2016

The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) identifies small area (data zones) concentrations of multiple deprivation across the whole of Scotland. There are 283 data zones in Aberdeen City.

To calculate the SIMD, 38 indicators are used to measure different aspects of deprivation in each data zone. All indicators are then grouped into seven categories or 'domains'. These are: income; employment; health; education, skills & training; housing; access to services; and crime. These seven domains are then combined into one overall score which is used to rank each data zone.

Based on overall rankings of deprivation (i.e. All Domains), Aberdeen performs relatively well in the SIMD with 113 (40%) of its data zones being in the 20% least deprived areas of Scotland. However, there are 22 (8%) data zones in the 20% most deprived areas of Scotland – the population in these data zones totals 18,171. (It should however be remembered that not everyone in a deprived data zone is deprived, and not everyone who is deprived lives in a deprived data zone).

The 20% most deprived data zones are located in Torry, Middlefield, Northfield, Seaton, Tillydrone, Woodside, Mastrick, Sheddocksley and George Street neighbourhoods. Aberdeen City has no data zones in the 5% most deprived areas of Scotland. The Table below shows the number and population of the data zones in Aberdeen City that fall within the most deprived data zones in Scotland.

**Number and population of data zones in Aberdeen City that fall within the 20% most deprived data zones in Scotland**

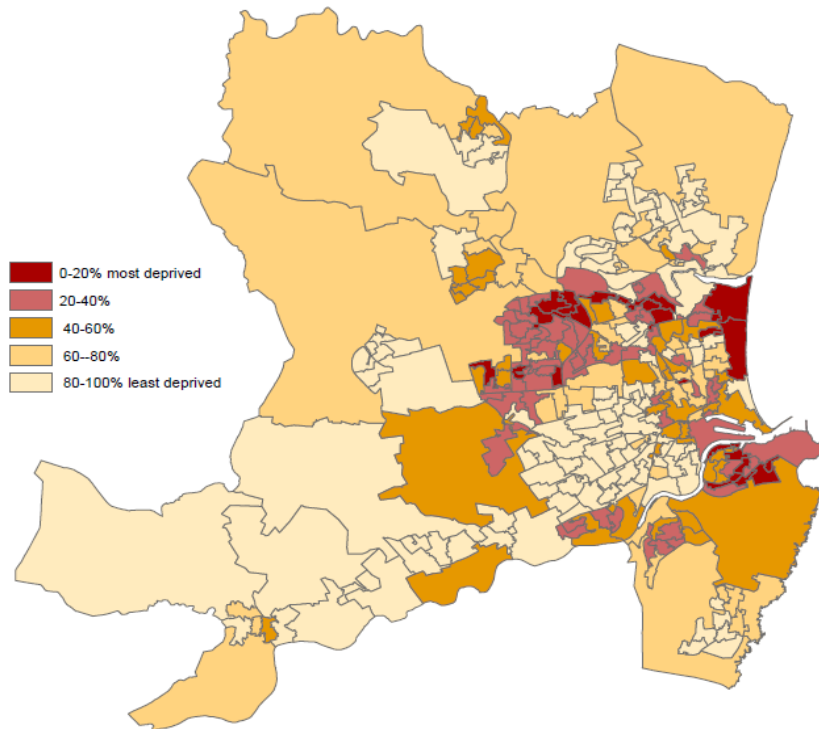
	MD 0-5% in Scotland	MD 5-10% in Scotland	MD 10-15% in Scotland	MD 15-20% in Scotland	All data zones in MD 0-20%
Number of data zones	0	3	6	13	<b>22</b>
Population of data zones	0	2,214	5,365	10,496	<b>18,075</b>
% of Aberdeen City Population*	0.0%	1.0%	2.3%	4.6%	<b>7.9%</b>

Source: Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) 2016 [103],

\* Population based on 2016 small area population estimates published by the National Records of Scotland. Total population in Aberdeen City was 229,840

Deprivation is unevenly distributed across the City. The map below shows the level of deprivation for Aberdeen City's data zones using SIMD 2016 quintiles. (*Note: each quintile contains 20% of Scotland's data zones.*)

**SIMD Level of deprivation by data zone, Aberdeen City, SIMD 2016 quintiles**

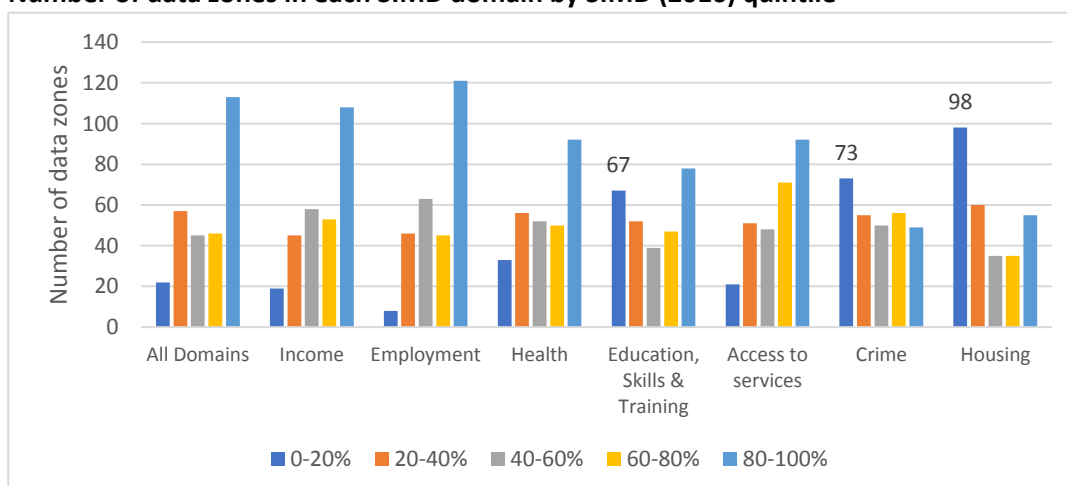


### Location of most deprived data zones, by neighbourhood

	2011 Data Zone	Neighbourhoods
Most deprived 5-10%	S01006634	Torry
	S01006684	Woodside
	S01006636	Torry
Most deprived 10-15%	S01006667	Seaton
	S01006724	Northfield
	S01006729	Middlefield
	S01006727	Middlefield
	S01006666	Seaton
	S01006677	Tillydrone
Most deprived 15-20%	S01006707	Mastrick
	S01006676	Tillydrone
	S01006726	Middlefield
	S01006633	Torry
	S01006711	Sheddocksley
	S01006704	Mastrick
	S01006675	Tillydrone
	S01006645	George Street
	S01006629	Torry
	S01006674	Seaton
	S01006632	Torry
	S01006627	Torry
	S01006685	Woodside

A more detailed examination of deprivation in Aberdeen City can be carried out by looking at individual domains. The chart below shows the number of Aberdeen City's data zones within each individual domain split by deprivation quintile. So, for example, while only 22 of the City's 283 data zones are in the most deprived quintile (0-20%) for All Domains, 98 data zones (34.6%) are in the most deprived quintile for Housing, 73 (28.8%) are in the most deprived quintile for Crime and 67 (23.7%) are in the most deprived quintile for Education, Skills and Training.

### Number of data zones in each SIMD domain by SIMD (2016) quintile



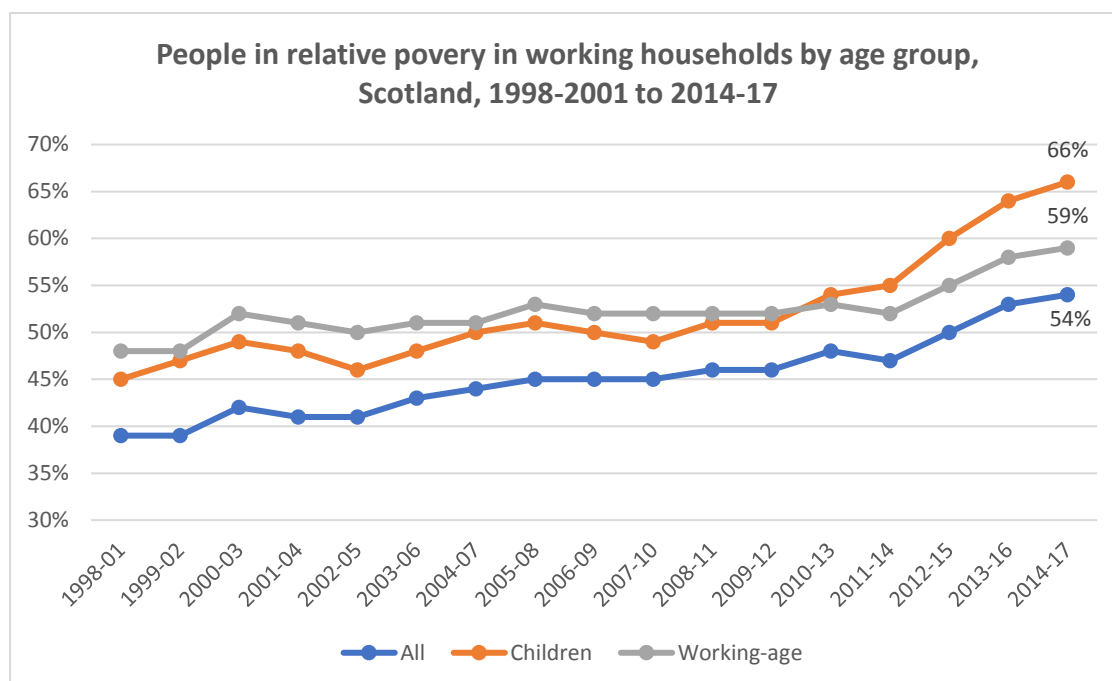
Source: Scottish Government, SIMD 2016 [103]

## 6.8 Poverty

### 6.8.1 Relative poverty

According to the Scottish Government's Poverty and Income Inequality Report for 2014-17, both poverty rates and income inequality in Scotland appear to be rising. In 2014-17 an estimated 19% of people in Scotland were living in relative poverty (i.e. below 60% of UK median income), and the top 10% of the population had 24% more income in 2014-17 than the bottom 40% combined (compared to 21% more income in 2013-16) [104].

**In-work poverty:** The proportion of people in relative poverty (after housing costs) who are in working households is increasing. In Scotland in 2014-17 an estimated 59% of those in relative poverty were in working households (i.e. at least one adult in employment). The proportion of children in relative poverty in working households has increased from 52% in 2009-12 to 66% in 2014-17 [104].



Source: Scottish Government, Poverty and Income Inequality in Scotland, 2014-17 [104]

### 6.8.2 Financial inclusion team

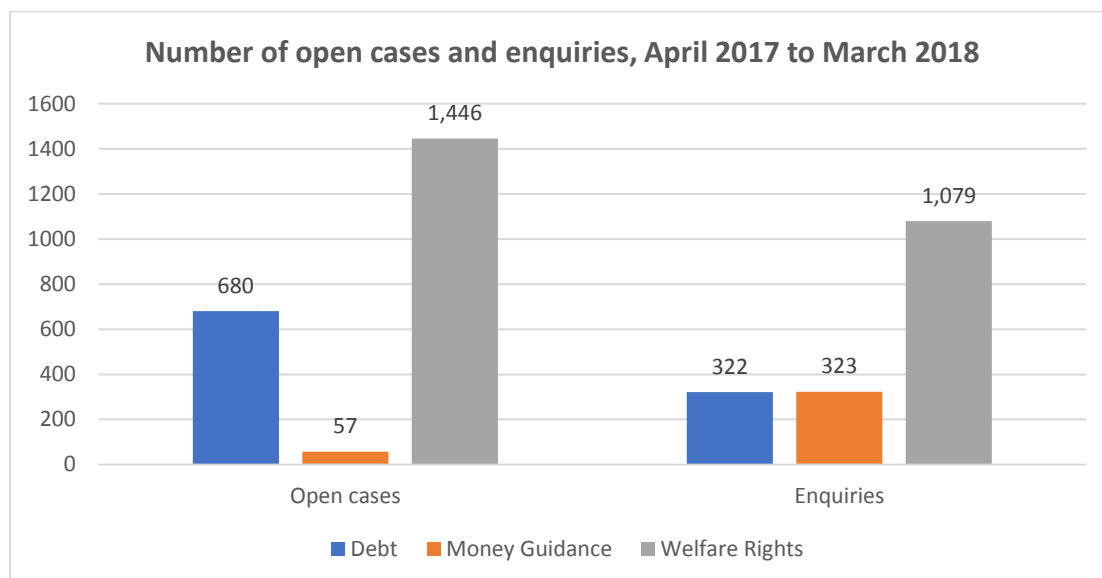
The Financial Inclusion Team (FIT) offer specialist advice and advocacy on all aspects of Social Security benefits, Council Tax, Housing Benefits and Tax Credits, representation at appeal tribunals and support with money, budgeting and debt advice. Information is provided separately for enquires and cases. Enquiries are usually dealt with on the same day with no follow-up being required, while cases require on-going work with the client to achieve resolution. In the year to end March 2018, FIT dealt with 1,724 enquiries and 2,183 open cases.

Help provided is classified into three categories; debt, money guidance and welfare rights. For both enquires and open cases, advice/help was most commonly requested in relation to welfare rights (62.6% of enquires and 66.2% of open cases).

### Count of open cases and enquiries, April 2017 to March 2018

	April 2017 to March 2018	April 2017 to March 2018
Matter Category	Open cases	Enquiries
Debt	680	322
Money Guidance	57	323
Welfare Rights	1446	1079
	<b>2183</b>	<b>1724</b>

Source, ACC Financial Inclusion Team [105]



Source: ACC Financial Inclusion Team [105]

Only six months of data is currently available for year to end March 2017 (October 2016 to March 2017) so it is not possible to do a full comparison. However, available data suggests that the total number of enquiries and cases were lower in 2017/18 than in 2016/17.

	Enquiries		Cases	
	April 2017 to March 2018	October 2016 to March 2017	April 2017 to March 2018	October 2016 to March 2017
Debt	322	203	680	404
Money Guidance	323	84	57	23
Welfare Rights	1079	764	1446	924
<b>Report Total</b>	<b>1724</b>	<b>1051</b>	<b>2183</b>	<b>1351</b>

Source: ACC Financial Inclusion Team [105]

### 6.8.3 Food Poverty

Food Poverty can be defined as the inability of individuals or households to obtain an adequate and nutritious diet, either because they cannot afford healthy food or there is a lack of shops to buy food in the area that are easy to reach. Two key mechanisms to address this are food banks and the direct provision of meals.

According to the Trussell Trust, there were 170,625 3-day emergency supplies given to people in Scotland in 2017/18 (this included 55,038 children) which is an increase of 24,760 from the figure in 2016/17 [106].

While The Trussell Trust is the most commonly cited source for data on food insecurity, a Scottish Government report by the Independent Working Group on Food Poverty suggests that the numbers given are likely to under-estimate the number of people who are food insecure – firstly because there are other providers of emergency food supplies, and secondly because it is known that many people who are struggling to afford food do not use foodbanks [107].

There are a number of food banks operating outside the Trussell Trust network in Aberdeen City [108]:

- Community Food Initiatives North East (CFINE)
- Bethany Christian Trust
- The Cyrenians
- Instant Neighbour - estimated that they would be giving out 6,500 food parcels in 2017 which is an increase of 30-35% on the total of 5,000 for the previous year.
- Somebody Cares
- Integrate Aberdeen
- St Vincent de Paul Society
- Salvation Army

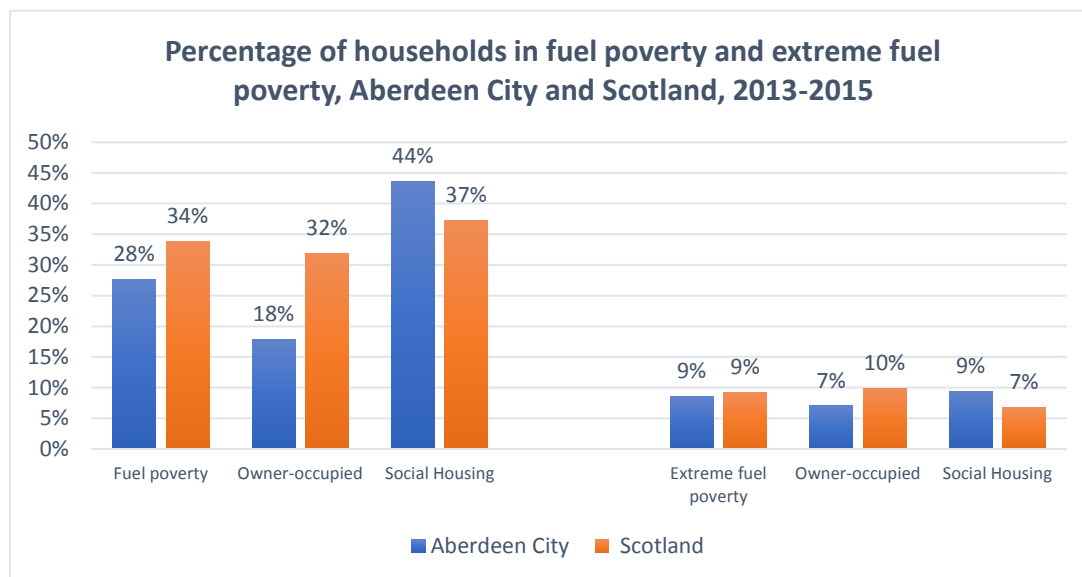
The 42<sup>nd</sup> Aberdeen City Voice asked respondents a series of questions relating to food security. Almost 8% of respondents reported that there was a time during the last 12 months when they were worried they would not have enough food to eat and 3% reported that their household had run out of food at some time over the last year [78].

### 6.8.4 Fuel poverty

A household is considered as being in fuel poverty if, to heat their home to a satisfactory standard, they need to spend more than 10% of their household income on fuel. Extreme fuel poverty indicates that a household would have to spend more than 20% of its income to maintain a satisfactory heating regime.

In Aberdeen City an estimated 28% of households are in fuel poverty – lower than the average rate for Scotland of 34%. The proportion of the City's households in fuel poverty is higher in social housing (44%) than owner-occupied housing (18%). The disparity between social housing and owner-occupied housing is greater in Aberdeen than in Scotland where

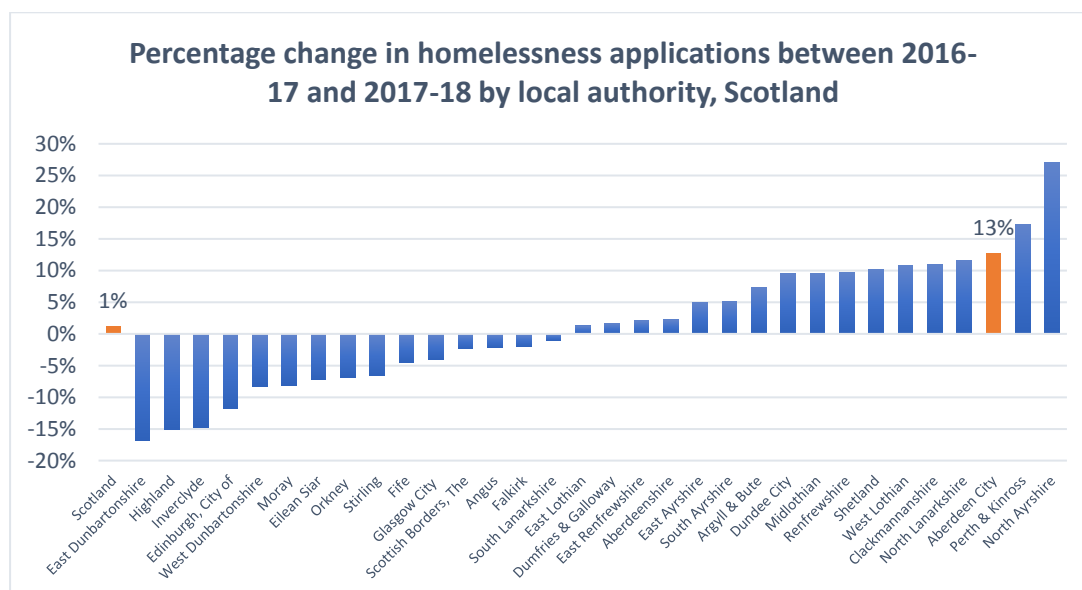
the respective figures are 37% and 32%. Extreme fuel poverty is estimated to affect 9% of households in Aberdeen – the same as the rate for Scotland as a whole. Again, there are differences between social housing households and owner-occupied households [109].



Scottish House Condition Survey (2013-15) [109]

### 6.8.5 Homelessness

In the year 2017-18, there were 1,708 applications under the Homeless Persons legislation in Aberdeen City Council. This is an increase of 13% (218 applications) on the number of applications in 2016-17 – the third highest rate of increase of all local authorities. In Scotland the number of homelessness applications increased by 1% for the same period [110].



Source: Scottish Government, Homelessness in Scotland: 2017-18 [110]

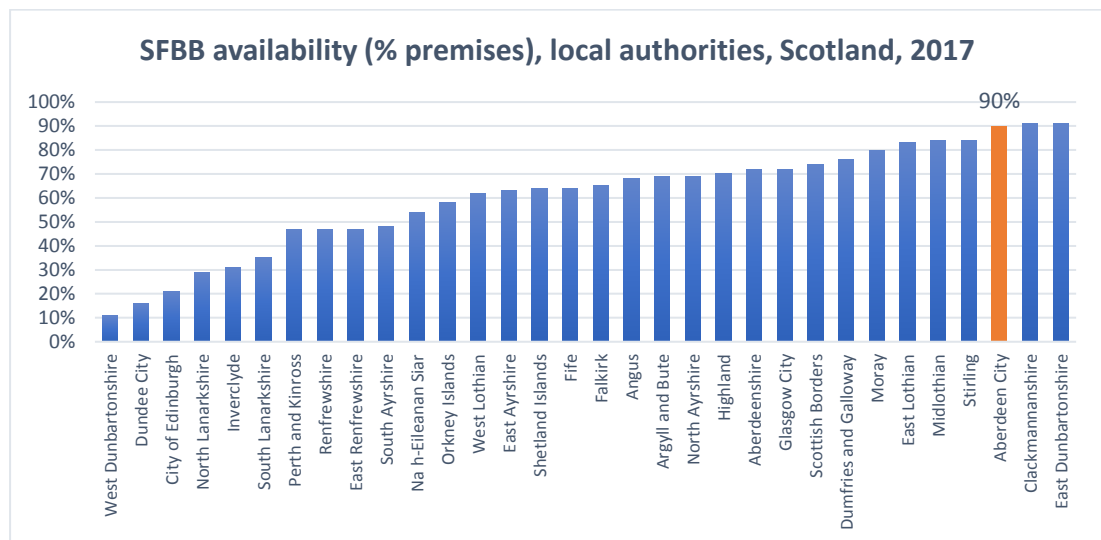


## 7. Technology

### 7.1 Connectivity

#### 7.1.1 Access to superfast broadband

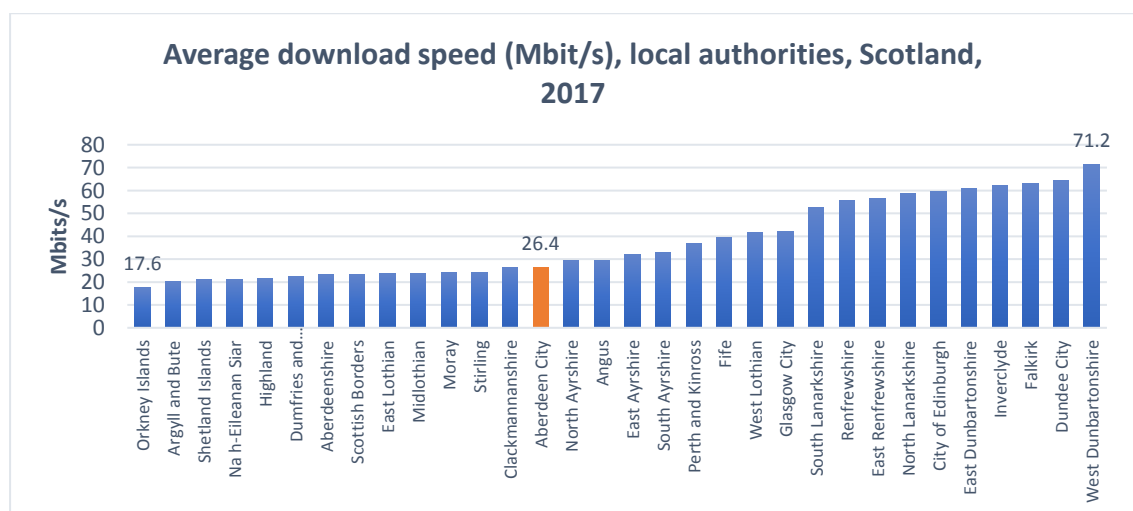
In 2017, 90% of premises in Aberdeen City had access to Superfast Broadband (SFBB) – an increase of 7% from the figure in 2015 and one of the highest rates in Scotland. Only two local authorities had a higher coverage (Clackmannanshire and East Dunbartonshire both had 91% coverage). No premises had access to Ultrafast Broadband [111].



Source: Ofcom Connected Nations 2017 [111]

#### 7.1.2 Average download speed

Average download speed in 2017 for Aberdeen City was 26.4 Mbits/s. This is the 13<sup>th</sup> lowest of all local authorities in Scotland. (Ranges from a low of 17.6 Mbits/s in Orkney to a high of 71.2 Mbits/s in West Dunbartonshire.) [111]



Source: Ofcom Connected Nations 2017 [111]

### 7.1.3 Mobile coverage

In 2017 99.5% of premises in Aberdeen City had Outdoor 4G coverage (compared to 82.6% for Scotland) [111].

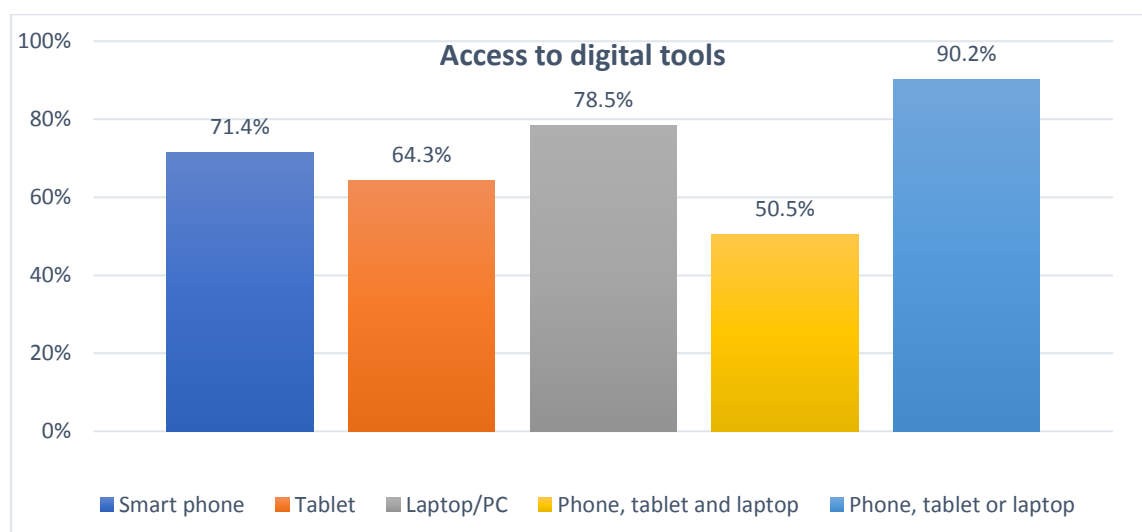
### 7.2 Access to internet

In 2016, 84% of households in Aberdeen City reported having access to the internet – an increase of 2% from 2014 – similar to the rate for Scotland of 82%. The most common methods used for accessing internet for personal use were mobile phone/iPhone/smart phone (83%), laptop or PC (74%) and tablet (58%). 93% reported using a method other than laptop or PC to access the internet [15].

The most common reasons for using the internet were; to send and receive emails (85%), search for information (77%), buy goods or services (74%), use social media (70%) and internet banking (70%) [15].

### 7.3 Access to devices

The 42<sup>nd</sup> City Voice questionnaire (January 2018) included questions on the use of technology. The respondents were initially asked “do you own or have easy access to a smartphone, tablet or laptop/PC?” Over three-quarters (78.5%) of respondents reported that they owned or had easy access to a **laptop or PC**, and 71.4% said they owned or had easy access to a **smart phone**. A smaller proportion (64.3%) reported owning or having easy access to a **tablet**. Approximately half (50.5%) of respondents reported owning or having easy access to all three devices and 90.2% of respondents owned or had access to at least one of the devices [78].



Base = 837

Source: Community Planning Aberdeen, 42<sup>nd</sup> Aberdeen City Voice [78]

## 7.4 Digital skills

City Voice panellists were also asked a set of questions about their use of digital technology for a number of different tasks. In each case panellists were asked ‘could you do this?’ Response options were; ‘I could do this if I was asked’, ‘I couldn’t do this if I was asked’ or ‘I have no idea what you’re talking about’. For most tasks, a relatively high proportion (more than 70%) reported that they could do the tasks if asked. The exceptions were ‘create something new from existing online images, music or video’ where 51.9% said they could do this, and ‘using any advance digital function’ where less than a quarter (24.5%) said they could do this. Only a small percentage of respondents answered that they had no idea what the question was asking [78].

Digital skills category		I could do this if I was asked to	I couldn't do this if I was asked to	I have no idea what you are talking about
Managing information	Use a search engine to look for information	91.1%	5.2%	3.7%
	Download/save a photo	82.1%	16.0%	1.9%
	Find a website you have visited before	92.7%	5.6%	1.7%
Communicating	Send a message via email on online messaging	94.5%	4.1%	1.4%
	Make comments/share information online	85.4%	12.0%	2.6%
Transacting	Buy items or services from a website	89.6%	8.8%	1.7%
	Buy and install apps on a device	77.6%	19.2%	3.2%
Problem solving	Solve a problem you have with a device using online help	74.6%	22.7%	2.7%
	Verify sources of information you found online	72.7%	23.6%	3.6%
Creating	Complete online application forms which include personal details	86.6%	11.4%	2.0%
	Create something new from existing online images, music or video	51.9%	44.1%	4.0%
Security	Protect yourself from fraud by recognising a secure website	81.4%	15.4%	3.2%
	Recognise a suspect email so not open to online fraud or viruses	83.2%	14.0%	2.7%
Advanced	Use any advance digital function (e.g. programming)	24.5%	70.8%	4.8%

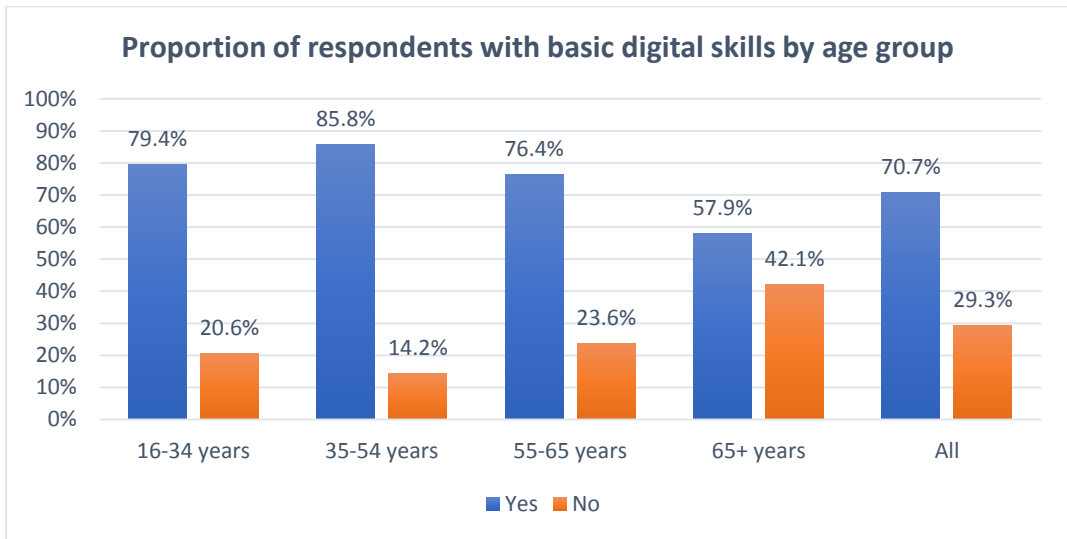
(Base = multiple)

Source: 42 Aberdeen City Voice [78]

**Basic Digital Skills:** The tasks specified in the first five categories (managing information, communicating, transacting, problem solving and creating) are taken from the [Basic Digital Skills](#) [112] measure. This is a tool developed specifically to measure the level of digital skills of adults across the UK. Based on this tool, those who could do one task in each of the five skills categories are classified as having “Basic Digital Skills”. On this basis, 70.6% of respondents were identified as having Basic Digital Skills.

**Age group:** While no significant difference in the proportion of those with Basic Digital Skills was found between males and females, there was a significant difference by age group. The

proportion of those with Basic Digital Skills was highest in those aged 35-54 years (85.8%) and lowest in those aged 65+ years (57.9%).



Base = 731

Source: 42nd Aberdeen City Voice [78]

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