



Equality and Fairer Scotland Budget Statement 2022-23









The year's Scottish Budget secures the opportunity to create a fairer and greener future for Scotland. The budget is being published at a time where we all feel the ongoing effects of COVID-19, however the impacts have made pre-existing inequality worse and are more harmful for some people. This budget supports our ambitious commitments in the Programme for Government to address this inequality.

We remain committed to ensuring that all of Scotland's people are able to fulfil their potential regardless of their background and characteristics. Within this year's budget we have made significant investment to address inequality, including the commitment to double the Scottish Child Payment, the boldest and most ambitious anti-poverty measure anywhere in the UK.

However, we know that issues relating to inequality are complex and can only be addressed by actions which cut across all our spending. This statement has therefore been developed to consider spending across all budget areas in relation to protected characteristics and socio-economic disadvantage.

We know equality, inclusion and realisation of human rights should underpin decision-making and delivery across all the work of government. The production of this Equality and Fairer Scotland Budget Statement is only one part of this and we have committed to further embed equality and human rights within all stages of the Scottish Government's budget process.

The need to ensure that the budget decisions we make are rooted in addressing inequality remains vital to achieving our shared ambition for a fairer and more equal Scotland.



Kate Forbes, Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Economy



Shona Robison, Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Housing and Local Government

Introduction

What is the Equality and Fairer Scotland Budget Statement?

The Equality and Fairer Scotland Budget Statement looks at the impact that the Scottish Budget might have on people in Scotland.

It assesses what the Scottish Government is proposing to spend public money on, whether this is likely to benefit some types of people more than others, and how it might help reduce inequality between different people.

The Equality and Fairer Scotland Budget Statement is published with the Scottish Budget every year.

What is inequality?

Inequality means that for some groups of people, parts of their lives are harder or worse than for other groups of people, such as finding a job or feeling safe. They may not see themselves represented in positions of power or they may feel discriminated against.

What groups of people are we talking about?

We have laws that say we have to think about the differences between people according to certain characteristics. These are:

- Age (e.g. children, older people)
- Disability (disabled people)
- Gender reassignment (trans people)
- Pregnancy and maternity (mothers)
- Race (e.g. Black Scottish, White Gypsy/Traveller)
- Religion or belief (e.g. Christians, Muslims, Sikhs)
- Sex (men, women)
- Sexual orientation (e.g. lesbian, gay and bisexual people)
- Socio-economic disadvantage (e.g. people with low incomes or wealth, people who live in a deprived area)

How is the Equality and Fairer Scotland Budget Statement completed?

People working on each of the nine main budget areas are asked to think about how the decisions they make about their budget for the coming year will affect different kinds of people.

Like last year, we asked people working in each area to complete a template as part of this work. This template looked at the impact that the budget could have on different key inequalities relevant to each area of government. The full templates can be found in Annex A.

This work was designed to help ensure the Scottish Government's decisions about budgets are not making existing inequality worse, but instead helping to promote equality between different groups of people.

Our analysis mainly looks at each characteristic one by one, but we understand that people's real life experiences are shaped by combinations of multiple characteristics. For example, the barriers, opportunities and life experience of a disabled, minority ethnic man may be very different from a disabled, White woman. We also asked people working in each area to think about this when completing their analysis.

About this document

This document summarises some of the main information from the templates completed by each budget area.

It also talks about:

- the context for the 2022-23 Scottish Budget
- the Scottish Government's priorities, which help it decide how public money should be spent
- how the budget is likely to affect different groups of people.



These are the major events and social issues that are particularly relevant to the 2022-23 Scottish Budget.



Climate emergency

We are facing a growing climate and nature emergency and an urgent need to reduce our carbon emissions.

COVID-19 pandemic



The COVID-19 pandemic has had many negative impacts on our <u>national outcomes</u>. We know that the impact of the pandemic has not been experienced equally. It has both highlighted the inequalities in our society and made them worse. Our <u>COVID</u> <u>Recovery Strategy</u> sets out our vision for recovery.

Child poverty



A quarter (24%) of children in Scotland were in relative poverty in 2017-20, and impacts of COVID-19 risk making this worse. Significant progress needs to be made in the years ahead to meet our national targets and achieve our mission to end child poverty.



Violence against women and girls

There have been several high-profile murders of women this year, although violence against women and girls is a longstanding issue in our society. It damages health and wellbeing, limits freedom and potential, and is a violation of fundamental human rights.



Brexit

The UK's exit from the EU, and the deal agreed by the UK Government, is already having a range of negative impacts for Scotland.



National priorities

National Performance Framework

The Scottish Budget directs spend in a way that promotes the 11 national outcomes in the National Performance Framework (NPF), as well as its overall purpose:

"to create a more successful country with opportunities for all of Scotland to flourish, through increased wellbeing and sustainable and inclusive economic growth."



Programme for Government

Every year, the Programme for Government sets out the Scottish Government's aims for the coming year. The budget then allocates money to support these goals. The <u>2021-22 Programme for Government</u> focuses on supporting Scotland out of the pandemic, and towards a better future. It commits to:

- Establish a Caring Nation: setting out a new vision for health and social care
- Create a Land of Opportunity: supporting young people and promoting a fairer and more equal society
- Secure a Net Zero Nation: ending Scotland's contribution to climate change, restoring nature and enhancing our climate resilience, in a just and fair way
- Create an Economy that Works for All of Scotland's People and Places: putting sustainability, wellbeing and fair work at the heart of our economic transformation
- Living Better: supporting thriving, resilient and diverse communities
- Establish Scotland in the World: championing democratic principles, at home and abroad

Scottish Government and Scottish Green Party Shared Policy Programme

This <u>agreement</u> sets out priority areas for action, including affordable homes, a new deal for tenants, steps to accelerate our response to the climate emergency, reform of public services, and ensuring that the people of Scotland are given a say on the country's constitutional future.





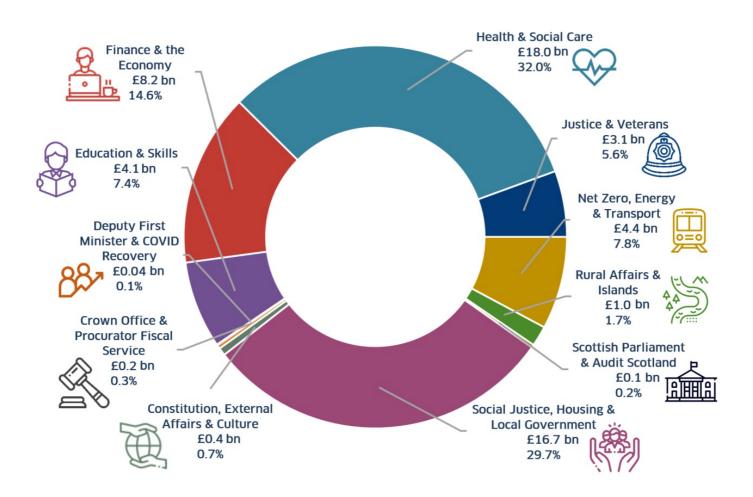
) The Scottish Budget 2022-23

This budget is for the 2022-23 financial year, which runs from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.

After it is published by the Scottish Government, the Scottish Parliament examine it and then vote on whether it should be changed, or created as the government have proposed.



As the graph below shows, Health and Social Care and Social Justice, Housing and Local Government (which includes social security payments) are the two biggest areas of spend this year. Each of these make up just under a third of the total Scottish Budget. For more information about this year's key changes in spend and how these impact on equality, see <u>Chapter</u> <u>1 of the Scottish Budget 2022-23</u>.



A lot of the budget goes straight to a range of public bodies. They then decide how to use this funding, including thinking about the impact on equality. The Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service and the Scottish Parliament and Audit Scotland have separate budget lines in the Scottish Budget. These are shown in the graph above. Most public bodies are required to produce a mainstreaming report to show how they use their funding to tackle inequality. For example, more information about how funding for the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service impacts on equality can be found on <u>their website</u>.

Where does the money in the Scottish Budget come from?

For public services that the Scottish Government controls, it receives funding linked to a population share of related UK Government spending. The Scottish Budget also includes money collected from taxes that Scottish Government controls, as well as money that the Scottish Government borrows.

2022 Resource Spending Review

The Scottish Budget is agreed on each year. However, the Scottish Government knows that many organisations find it helpful to know what their funding will be for a longer period of time, so that they can plan for delivery and reform. We published a <u>Capital Spending Review</u> in February 2021 and in 2022 we will complete a Resource Spending Review to provide multi-year spending plans for budget areas. Resource spending is money that is spent on administration and the day-to-day delivery of services and programmes, such as school meals, concessionary bus passes and most public sector staff salaries.

We agreed with the Scottish Parliament that a <u>Resource Spending Review</u> <u>Framework</u> would be published so that people can have their say on the priorities and principles for this review. The framework includes an equality assessment and asks for views on this (see question 5).

Budget areas

Constitution, External Affairs & Culture

Budget purpose:

Enhance Scotland's reputation, increase prosperity and wellbeing, and promote Scotland as a great place to live, visit, work, study, and do business.

Primary national outcomes:



Communities International

Culture

Key human rights:

- Right to take part in cultural life
- Right to freedom of expression
- Right to an adequate standard of living

Impact on Equality & Fairer Scotland:

Spend on culture and heritage enables funded organisations to deliver an active programme of cultural activity and events that take into account the preferences and circumstances of groups on lower incomes and who experience structural disadvantage, in order to improve access and inclusion. The International Development Fund budget will increase from £10 million to £11.5 million. The £500,000 budget for the former Small Grants pilot programme will be reoriented towards the new Women and Girls Empowerment Fund. This aims to promote women and girls' equality and support their rights, including seeking to provide more funding directly in-country to smaller local civil society organisations. £980,000 is allocated to the Migration Strategy Fund and £1 million to the Humanitarian Emergency Fund.



Support the delivery of the COVID Recovery Strategy, establish and support the COVID-19 Scottish Public Inquiry, co-ordinate policy on elections, freedom of information, inter-governmental relations, Cabinet business and the legislative programme, build Scotland's resilience to hazards and threats, and support participation and public service reform.

Primary national outcomes:



Communities

Key human rights:

- Right to free elections
- Right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion
- Right to freedom of expression
- Right to an adequate standard of living
- Right to non-discrimination in the exercise of all of these rights

Impact on Equality & Fairer Scotland:

£3.15 million of spend on 2022 local government elections will help to progress equality of participation in democracy. It will aim to increase voter registration and active participation in elections by under-represented groups, including young people and non-UK citizens. This spend will also fund trials of a potential digital solution to enable people with sight loss to vote independently and in secret, as well as new data collection on the diversity of election candidates.

This budget will support the establishment of the COVID-19 Scottish Public Inquiry which is expected to take a person-centred, human rights based approach. Evidence, monitoring and co-ordination will continue to underpin cross-government work on COVID-19 response and recovery with a strong equality focus.



Change children and young people's lives for the better in and beyond educational settings and ensure that all children and young people are able to reach their full potential.

Primary national outcomes:

Education

Children & Young People

Key human rights:

- Right to education
- Right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion
- Right to an adequate standard of living
- Sustainable Development Goal 4: Quality Education

Impact on Equality & Fairer Scotland:

This spend is targeted to tackle differences in development and attainment for people experiencing disadvantage. It will deliver the expanded statutory entitlement of funded early learning and childcare hours to make sure that all children get the best possible start in life. We will also continue to invest in the Scottish Attainment Challenge to give children and young people from the most deprived backgrounds the best life chances.

The Higher Education Student Support budget will continue to provide bursaries and access to student loans and free tuition for young people and adult learners. This will help them to access education and support them into future employment.



Support sectors and businesses in their transition out of the pandemic into recovery. Support and strengthen the labour market, promote fair work practices and investment in a diverse workforce, and support investment in low carbon businesses and infrastructure. Co-ordinate an outcomes-focused approach including the focus set out in the NPF, and set public pay, pension and tax policy.

Primary national outcomes:

Economy

International

Fair Work & Business



Environment

Key human rights:

- Right to work (and to work in just and favourable conditions)
- Right to an adequate standard of living
- Rights for women, minority ethnic groups, disabled people, children

Impact on Equality & Fairer Scotland:

Spend on fair work and employability policies aims to reduce employment barriers for people with protected characteristics or experiencing socioeconomic disadvantage. It also helps to tackle the causes of child poverty by supporting parents into fair employment.

Investment to protect and support businesses aims to advance equality and reduce socio-economic disadvantage.

We continue to pursue a more equal and fairer Scotland when delivering core Scottish Government functions such as the Scottish Budget. We will continue to use our powers over income tax in a progressive manner, aiming to protect taxpayers on low incomes and raise revenue to fund highquality public services for all.



Improve population health and tackle health inequality.

Primary national outcomes:

Health

Children & Young People



Human Rights

Key human rights:

- Right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health
- Right to an adequate standard of living
- Right to a healthy environment
- Right to benefit from healthy ecosystems that sustain human wellbeing
- Right to access to information
- Right to participation in decision-making
- Right of access to justice

Impact on Equality & Fairer Scotland:

The Health and Social Care budget has the potential for significant positive impacts for people with protected characteristics and those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage. Spend on mental health, on tackling alcohol, drugs, tobacco and obesity, and on workforce is likely to help tackle inequality and improve the population's health. The budget funds a number of groups to provide a wide range of equality expertise and lived experience to support policy development and service design.



Keep our communities safe and secure, support veterans, and manage justice in its different forms: civil, criminal and administrative.

Primary national outcomes:

Communities



Human Rights

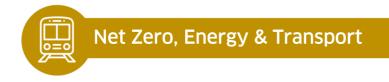
Key human rights:

- Right to liberty and security of person
- Right to a fair trial
- Right to freedom from punishment without law

Impact on Equality & Fairer Scotland:

Funding for justice partners, such as Police, is 78% of this budget (£2.5 billion). This will contribute to preventing crime, reducing re-offending and ensuring an effective system of civil law. It includes investment in Legal Aid, which is an important source of access to justice for individuals. This helps to protect and support various groups – including women, children, the LGBT community and older people – from crime, accidental harm and civil disputes.

Along with our Recover, Renew and Transform work, this spend will maintain and develop an accessible and effective justice system that can help to tackle inequality. It is for justice partners to allocate their budgets in line with equality law.



Make sure that Scotland's economy achieves net zero carbon emissions. Protect and enhance our environment, natural resources and transport infrastructure. Support public transport, roads, accessible transport and active travel and lead on strategic infrastructure planning.

Primary national outcomes:

Economy

Poverty

Children & Young People

Environment

Key human rights:

- Right to an adequate standard of living
- Right to a healthy environment
- Right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health

Impact on Equality & Fairer Scotland:

Continued investment in public transport will make sure that those groups of people who are more reliant on public transport can continue to access key services, employment and education. For example, women, older people, younger people and those on lower incomes use bus services more. This budget also supports lifeline air and ferry services, which are essential for island communities. There will be more funding for walking, cycling and wheeling which is important in changing travel behaviours and making low cost, accessible travel available for everyone. More active travel will also have a positive impact on health inequality.

This budget also funds work to address the twin challenges of decarbonising our energy supply and tackling fuel poverty. This is particularly important for groups such as disabled people, older people, lone parents and those on lower incomes who are more affected by fuel poverty and energy costs.



Support rural, island and coastal communities in Scotland, as well as Scottish Government's overarching ambition to tackle climate change and biodiversity loss.

Primary national outcomes:

Economy

Communities

Fair Work & Business

Environment

Key human rights:

- Right to protection of property
- Right to an adequate standard of living
- Right to take part in cultural life
- Right to a healthy environment

Impact on Equality & Fairer Scotland:

This budget addresses issues around rural disadvantage through supporting traditional rural industries, including agriculture and fishing, and through direct funding to community groups to support rural development. This spend does not tend to reduce inequality for groups with protected characteristics. However, it will help support the incomes of those on who would otherwise make losses in these industries.

Financial support for farmers may help keep food prices affordable although evidence on this is limited. More broadly, there is currently limited data on the impacts of this budget on groups experiencing disadvantage.



Create a fairer Scotland, tackle poverty and especially child poverty, deliver affordable housing, and promote equality and human rights.

Primary national outcomes:

Communities

Human Rights

Children & Young People

Poverty

Key human rights:

- Right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence
- Right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion
- Right to an adequate standard of living
- Right to a health environment
- Right to social security and social protection
- Right to non-discrimination

Impact on Equality & Fairer Scotland:

The £10 million child poverty budget will drive progress on tackling child poverty. It supports equality for women with children and a focus on priority families, including minority ethnic and single parent families and families where someone is disabled. Increased expenditure on social security will go towards doubling the Scottish Child Payment to £20 per week, bringing the total investment for this to £197 million. It will also deliver Child Bridging Payments for children on low incomes.

Over £8 million will support organisations tackling inequality and discrimination and advancing the realisation of human rights in Scotland. £10 million from our Ending Homelessness Together Fund and £3.44 billion for affordable and social homes will directly address socio-economic inequality. £11 million will be spent on supporting home adaptations for housing association tenants, helping address housing inequality for disabled people.

Funding for local authorities is allocated with a needs-based formula and local authorities decide how to spend this.



Impacts on different groups of people

This section looks at which parts of the Scottish Budget are particularly important for people with the characteristics set out in the introduction.

It responds to the inequalities discussed in the Equality and Fairer Scotland Budget Statement templates, and so it only includes a selection of key budget responses.



Socio-economic disadvantage

- Social security assistance and welfare payments will reach over £4 billion this includes £197 million for the Scottish Child Payment, which will be doubled to £20 per week and extended to under 16s.
- £23.6 million for Fair Start Scotland, to fund employment support for people in the most deprived areas.
- Up to £200 million to support educational recovery from the pandemic and accelerate progress in tackling the poverty related attainment gap.
- £304 million for bus services, which are particularly important to people on lower incomes.
- Over £2 million for activities linked to our national plan on ending the need for food banks.
- £831 million for affordable housing and £10 million for our Ending Homelessness Together Action Plan.
- An additional £250 million for drug treatment and support over the next five years, including £100 million in residential rehabilitation.
 Problematic drug use and drug deaths are more common in the most deprived communities.
- £11.5 million on the International Development Fund, whose projects aim to reduce poverty in our partner countries.
- Continued progressive use of income tax powers, aiming to protect taxpayers on low incomes and raise revenue to fund high-quality public services for all.



- Budget for the expansion of funded early learning and childcare, plus £3 million for the early phases of a school age childcare system and £10 million towards holiday childcare for low income families.
- £24 million for measures to help with the cost of the school day, over £40 million to continue expanding free lunches to all primary pupils, and over £21 million for free lunches during the school holidays.
- £45 million in employment support for young people who face longterm scarring effects from the pandemic.
- £10 million of the Tackling Child Poverty Fund to support families in the six priority groups most likely to be in child poverty.
- Up to £40 million for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services and at least £15 million for community mental health services for children and young people.
- £110 million for free bus travel for young people under the age of 22.



Older people

- Over £1.6 billion for social care and integration, including laying the groundwork for the establishment of a National Care Service.
- £11 million capital investment to help registered social landlords provide housing adaptations for their older (and disabled) tenants.
- Free bus travel for people aged 60 or over.
- Funding to promote flexible working, which will support workers over 50 who may take on more caring responsibilities.
- Funding for Historic Environment Scotland to develop digital delivery methods which allow visitors to access historic sites in new ways.
- £10 million to tackle social isolation and loneliness across all age groups in this parliamentary session.



- Over £2 billion for the delivery of more complex disability assistance payments.
- Funding to implement A Fairer Scotland for Disabled People: Employment Action Plan.
- Free bus travel for disabled people.
- Extra support for unpaid carers, with a total of £357 million on Carer's Allowance and our Carer's Allowance Supplement.
- Expected total spend on mental health in excess of £1.2 billion.
- £53.3 million to deliver life-changing financial awards to those in receipt of Independent Living Fund Scotland support.



- Spend on Scotland's Census 2022, which will for the first time include a voluntary question on trans status or history for those over 16 and provide the first official estimate of the trans population in Scotland.
- Funding to implement a national strategic framework for improving gender identity services.
- Implementation of the Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Act 2021 and development of a new hate crime strategy.
- Over £298,000 for respectme, Scotland's anti-bullying service.
- Funding for the hate crime charter to ensure transport is free from hate crime, bullying and harassment.
- A range of investment in work to advance equality for trans people, including supporting a new working group for non-binary people.



- Funding for Scottish Prison Service and other agencies who will continue to transform the female custodial estate to address the specific needs of women, including pregnant women.
- Expansion of funded early learning and childcare.
- Investment from the Tackling Child Poverty Fund to support lone parents and those with a child under one, as two of our priority family groups.
- Funding to improve perinatal and infant mental health, including up to £8 million to improve statutory services and up to £3 million to develop integrated infant mental health services.



- £980,000 of Migration Strategy Funding to help safeguard EU citizens' rights and to support work on wider migration policy issues.
- Implementation of the Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Act 2021 and development of a new hate crime strategy.
- Funding for a public inquiry to ensure that the circumstances surrounding the death of Sheku Bayoh are examined in a public and transparent manner.
- Funding for a new ethnicity pay gap strategy and for a hate crime charter to ensure transport is free from hate crime, bullying and harassment.
- Funding to address housing inequality for people of minority ethnicities, including the £20 million Gypsy/Traveller Accommodation Fund (2021-26), £10 million on the Ending Homelessness Together Fund and £122,575 for the Scottish Refugee Council's Ending Homelessness for New Scots Project.
- Ongoing funding for work with the Scottish Refugee Council around proactive or on-demand translation of election information materials.



- Funding for new data collection on the diversity of candidates at the May 2022 local government elections, including data on religion and belief.
- Fair work funding will support people of different religions and beliefs, including through using the Workplace Equality Fund to support projects that tackle workplace barriers.
- Implementation of the Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Act 2021 and development of a new hate crime strategy, plus funding for a range of measures to prevent crime, including religiously aggravated crime.
- Funding for the hate crime charter to ensure transport is free from hate crime, bullying and harassment.



- Lone parents and low income mothers will experience a positive impact from tackling child poverty spend, including the increased spend on the Scottish Child Payment and Child Bridging Payments.
- Spend on fair work, which includes funding to continue the support for Women Returners, to support the promotion of fair work principles including the Real Living Wage, living hours and work place equalities, and to support and promote flexible working practices.
- A new £500,000 International Development Women and Girls Empowerment Fund.
- Subsidised bus services, which are particularly important for women, a new Community Bus Fund and £150 million on active travel will support projects addressing women's safety concerns around cycling.
- £100 million over the next three years for frontline violence against women and girls services and prevention work, including £19 million for the Delivering Equally Safe Fund each year.
- £1.7 million for suicide prevention, which particularly affects men.



- Spend on Scotland's Census 2022, which will for the first time include a voluntary question on sexual orientation for those over 16 and help address evidence gaps.
- Funding for respectme, Scotland's anti-bullying service, which aims to give children and young people practical skills and confidence to deal with all types of bullying behaviour.
- Investment in self-harm services is likely to positively benefit this group, who experience higher rates of self-harm.
- Implementation of the Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Act 2021 and development of a new hate crime strategy.
- Funding for the hate crime charter to ensure that people of different sexual orientations feel comfortable and safe using public transport.
- Funding for new data collection on the diversity of candidates at the May 2022 local government elections, including data on sexual orientation.



Further resources & contact

Read the Scottish Budget 2022-23 at: https://www.gov.scot/isbn/9781802017114

<u>Scottish Parliament</u> also provide useful resources to help you understand the Scottish Budget.

Contact us

We very much welcome feedback on this Equality and Fairer Scotland Budget Statement.

You can contact:

- Liz Hawkins at <u>liz.hawkins@gov.scot</u>
- The Chair of the Equality Budget Advisory Group (Dr Angela O' Hagan) via the Secretariat, Jude Telford at <u>MainstreamingEIHR@gov.scot</u>

Further resources



- National Performance Framework website: <u>nationalperformance.gov.scot</u>
- Report on <u>Scotland's Wellbeing: The Impact of COVID-19</u>
- Report on COVID-19: Impact on Equality
- <u>Race Equality: Immediate Priorities Plan</u>
- Equality Data Improvement Programme
- Equality Budget Advisory Group



- Equality Evidence Finder: equalityevidence.scot
- You can find more evidence about equality <u>on the Scottish</u> <u>Government website.</u>



© Crown copyright 2021

OGL

This publication is licensed under the terms of the Open Government Licence v3.0 except where otherwise stated. To view this licence, visit **nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3** or write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: **psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk**.

Where we have identified any third party copyright information you will need to obtain permission from the copyright holders concerned.

This publication is available at www.gov.scot

Any enquiries regarding this publication should be sent to us at The Scottish Government St Andrew's House Edinburgh EH1 3DG

ISBN: 978-1-80201-715-1

Published by The Scottish Government, December 2021

Produced for The Scottish Government by APS Group Scotland, 21 Tennant Street, Edinburgh EH6 5NA PPDAS977746 (12/21)

www.gov.scot