

Aberdeenshire
COUNCIL



ABERDEENSHIRE LICENSING BOARD

Local Area Profile

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1. Introduction

The Aberdeenshire Licensing Board Local Area Profile was compiled to set out the demographic of the local area and to provide a tool which may be useful for gambling operators in the course of a licensing application, to assist in identifying the risks this may pose to the licensing objectives. Through reference to this area profile, operators should be able to identify any risks which arise out of their premises' surroundings and then take the appropriate steps to try and reduce the impact this has. The Gambling Commission's Licence Conditions and Codes of Practice (LCCP) formalised operators' requirement to consider local risks and carry out a risk assessment when applying for a new premises licence in 2016, and it is hoped this document is a useful reference point for assessing local circumstances.

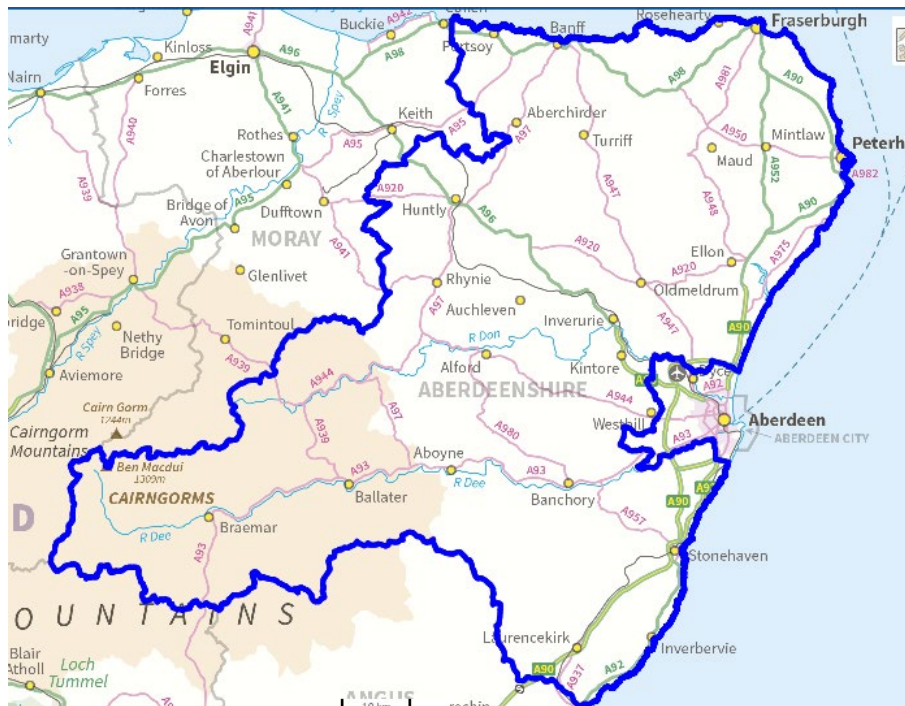
The Aberdeenshire Licensing Board is a Licensing Authority under the Gambling Act 2005 and are responsible for determining policy as well as the administration, consideration and determination of gambling licensing applications and gaming permits. The Aberdeenshire Licensing Board's Gambling Policy is reviewed every three years and known as the 'Gambling Act 2005- s.349 Statement of Principles'. The current policy has just been subject to review and the Board is set to adopt the 2022-2025. This can be viewed on the Council's website.

The Board's Statement of Policy is drafted with close regard to the licensing objectives of the Gambling Act, the Gambling Commission's Guidance to Licensing Authorities, as well as the views of the consultees to the Statement of policy, and it is within this document that operators can find guidance on Aberdeenshire licensing policy and the licensing objectives of the 2005, Gambling Act.

Within Aberdeenshire there are currently a total 258 gambling licences. Of this 229 are lottery licences and 29 are for gambling premises.

2. The Local Area

Below is a map which shows the area in which Aberdeenshire and subsequently the Aberdeenshire Licensing Board covers:



A useful tool for gambling operators when looking to obtain information on the local area is the interactive map available on the Aberdeenshire Council Website. Access to this resource can be found if you follow the link below:

<https://gis.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/maps/map.aspx?geolocate=true&resolution=2&initialDialog=localKnowledgeDialog>

The online interactive map allows operators to zone in on the exact location of their premises, whilst the Local Knowledge sidebar provides in depth information on the closest local facilities. This includes primary and secondary schools, local leisure facilities such as community centres, libraries and swimming pools and local health centres and hospitals. This can be useful for operators to be able to indefinitely and understand the type of services which surround their premises, who is, or is likely to be using them (children, vulnerable adults etc), and any risks which may arise out of their premises being situated in such a location. It is hoped a greater understanding of the character of the local area will help reduce or help mitigate any risks it may pose to the licensing objectives.

3. Aberdeenshire Profile - Economy

Aberdeenshire is a predominantly rural area located in the North East of Scotland which covers 6,339 km² and includes area within the Cairngorm Mountains, agricultural lowlands and a variety of coastal landscapes. Due to this, Aberdeenshire is traditionally economically dependent on the primary sectors of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing. Over the last 50 years the Oil and Gas industry has played a key role in repositioning the economic focus of Aberdeenshire.

As of 2019, the top 5 employment sectors within Aberdeenshire were Manufacturing (12.1%), Professional, Scientific & Technical (7.1%), Health (10.1%), Retail (9.1%) and Education (8.1%). The percentage of unemployment claimants as a proportion of residents aged between 16-64 in Aberdeenshire had risen over the last five years from 1.5% in 2017 to 4% in 2021. This figure was on a steady incline between 2017 and 2020, rising only 0.3%, with the most significant increase in unemployment claimants occurring within the last year, increasing from 1.8% to 4%. This is likely a result of the COVID pandemic and the impact this has had on employment. Despite this, Aberdeenshire is still well below the overall proportion of unemployment rates in Scotland which is currently at 7.4%. Furthermore, the median household income in Aberdeenshire was £37,853 as of 2020, which again is significantly higher than the figure for Scotland overall which is a median household income of £30,666.

In terms of housing, the average house price in Aberdeenshire as of 2020 was £212,540. This figure has seen a 6% increase in over the past 10 years. New homes built in Aberdeenshire has equated to 6% of the overall new home built in Scotland between 2015-19, with a further 6,382 new homes projected to be built between 2020 and 2024. The top areas for new homes in Aberdeenshire over the last ten years has been Inverurie, Peterhead, Portlethen and Westhill.

4. Aberdeenshire Profile - People

The population of Aberdeenshire as of 2019 was 261,210 people. This figure accounts for 5% of the population of Scotland. Between 2009 and 2014 has seen the population of Aberdeenshire steadily increase, with a more gradual growth between 2014 and 2019. In terms of the age structure of the population, in 2009 19% of the population was aged 0-15, 65% of the population was aged 16-64 and the remaining 16% of the population was aged 65+. There has been little change in the composition of the age structure of Aberdeenshire population, with the figures in 2019 being as follows: 19% of the population was aged 0-15, 62% of the population was aged between 16-64 and the remaining 20% of the population being aged 65+. The only difference in population make up is the increase in percentage of residents aged over 65, reflective of Aberdeenshire residents living longer.

Aberdeenshire is currently home to 150 Primary Schools, attended by 21,002 pupils, 17 Secondary Schools, who educate a further 14,464 children of secondary school age and 4 Special Schools which are attended by an additional 210 pupils. The administrative area with the largest share of the population is Garioch, which is home to 55,985 residents.

5. Aberdeenshire Profile- Place

There are six administrative areas in Aberdeenshire: Banff and Buchan, Buchan, Formartine, Garioch, Kincardine and Mearns and Marr. Within these administrative areas, there are twelve large towns, the most populated of these being Peterhead with 19,270 residents and the least populated being Banff with 4,100. The overall population density of Aberdeenshire is 41 people per km².

The Scottish Government has developed the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation as a way of identifying deprived areas in Scotland. Of the 6,676 data zones in Scotland, 340 of these are in Aberdeenshire. 9 of these zones are within the 20% of the most deprived areas in Scotland, this equates to 2.7% of Aberdeenshire overall data zones being in the 20% most deprived in Scotland. Of the 1,395 data zones considered in the most deprived, Aberdeenshire contributes to 0.7% of the national share of deprivation. The lowest ranked data zone in Aberdeenshire was within Fraserburgh, at Fraserburgh Harbour and Broadsea. However, 28% of Aberdeenshire's data zones fell within the 20% of least deprived zones in Scotland and are found across the Shire but notably include areas in Fraserburgh. This is indicative that some of the most and least deprived areas within Aberdeenshire are within close proximity of each other. The highest-ranking data zone is located in Stonehaven.

Aberdeenshire as a rural area does not perform so well in regard to access, this includes drive times to services, public transport and average broadband speeds. 50% of the data zones in Aberdeenshire are considered within the 20% most deprived areas in Scotland for access of the above facilities and services. Aberdeenshire Council is part of a number of projects hoped to improve the transportation services in the Shire in a sustainable way. Aberdeenshire continues to focus on making a valuable contribution to carbon emission reduction targets and to climate change adaptation. Aberdeenshire Council has a target of a 75% reduction in emissions by 2030 and a Net Zero by 2045.

6. Further Information

For further information of Gambling Licences and Gaming Permits, information on the licensing process and how your application is available:

<https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/licensing/licences-and-permits/gambling-gaming-and-lotteries/>

For further information on the Areas and Towns, including Area specific and town profiles and strategic assessment and facts and figures on the area:

<https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/statistics/areas-and-towns/#shire>

For further information on Aberdeenshire's economy, deprivation, employment, income, services and facilities:

<https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/statistics/economy/>