






WARD 19 – MEARNS STATISTICAL SUMMARY

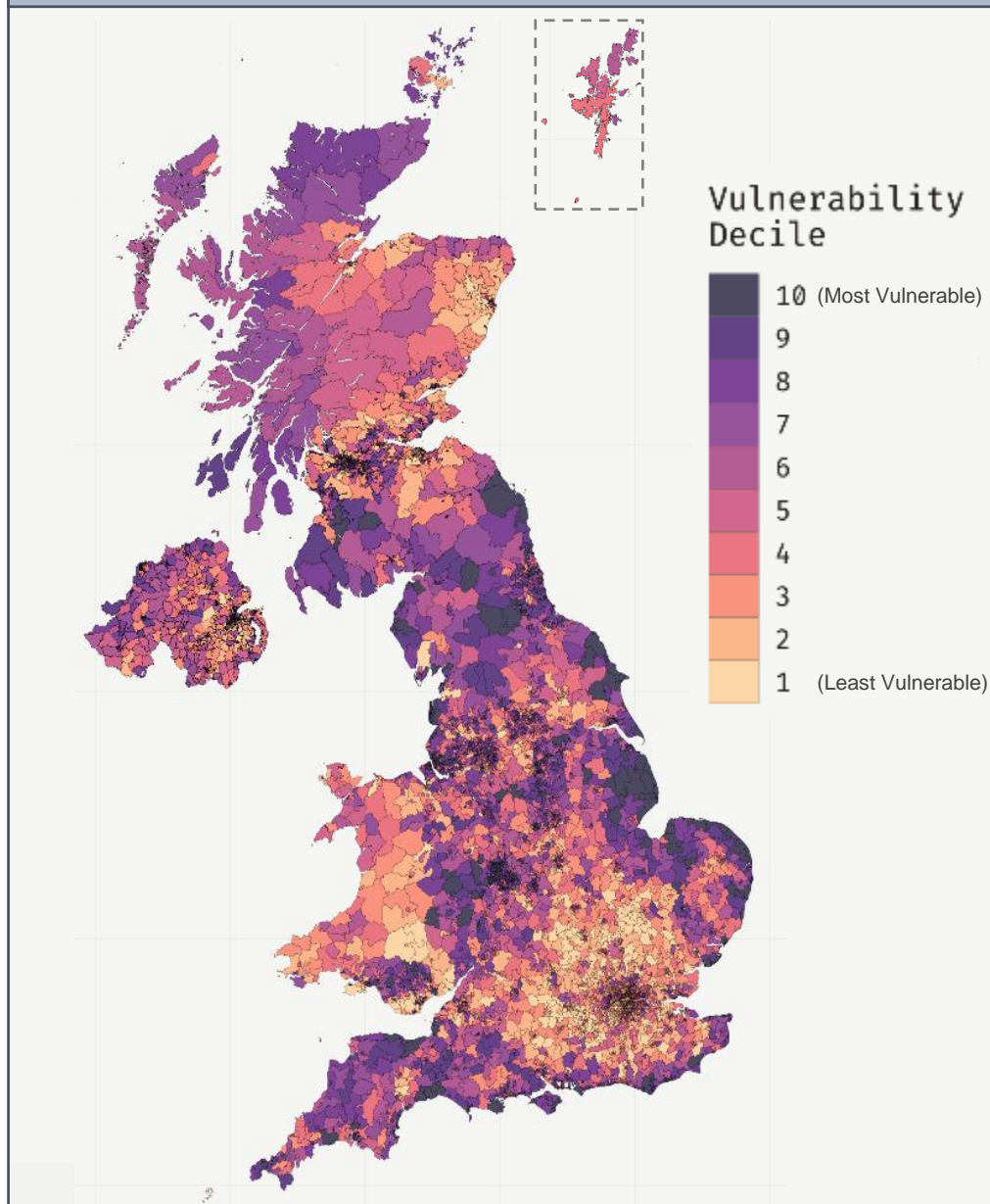
Overall Vulnerability per Theme (Aberdeenshire Context)	MMW Summary
<p>Overall COVID Vulnerability Spectrum (Based on 2 major studies)</p> <p>Less Vulnerable  More Vulnerable</p> <p>52.6</p>	<p>Ward 19 – Mearns – more or less remains tethered to the middle of the various vulnerability spectra when most relevant indicators are taken into account. This evidenced by the ‘slider’ graphs on the left, which place the Ward on a spectrum, from least vulnerable to most vulnerable. The Ward’s score per Theme is situated above the black markers in each graph. The closer the black marker is to the green side of the graph the less vulnerable that Ward is relative to all other Wards in Aberdeenshire.</p> <p>Overall COVID Vulnerability Spectrum – The Ward scored 52.6 (unchanged since the previous CIA report). This is the 10th lowest (i.e. 10th best) in Aberdeenshire. IZs in this Ward are generally less vulnerable than most other IZs in Aberdeenshire.</p>
<p>Overall Age Vulnerability Spectrum (Based on 2 indicators)</p> <p>Less Vulnerable  More Vulnerable</p> <p>42.1</p>	<p>Overall Age Vulnerability Spectrum – The Ward scored 42.1 (a slight improvement since the previous CIA report). This is the 8th lowest (i.e. 8th best) in Aberdeenshire. The Mearns & Laurencekirk IZ is home to a higher-than-average proportion of people aged 65+ with underlying health conditions (i.e. those in receipt of Attendance Allowance (AA) benefits); and a higher proportion of people aged 65+ relative to its populations. Fetteresso, Netherley & Catter is among the least vulnerable IZs in Aberdeenshire in this particular context.</p>
<p>Overall Health Vulnerability Spectrum (Based on 28 indicators)</p> <p>Less Vulnerable  More Vulnerable</p> <p>26.3</p>	<p>Overall Health Vulnerability Spectrum – The Ward scored 26.3 (a slight improvement since the previous CIA report). This is the 5th lowest (i.e. 5th best) in Aberdeenshire. Most pre-Covid health-related indicators suggest the general population within the Ward is relatively healthy. Overall, IZs associated with this Ward recorded 12 Covid-related deaths between March 1st and June 30th 2021, an increase of 8 deaths since the previous report (2 more in each of the 4 IZs). Taken together, IZs associated with this Ward accrued one of the lowest death rates per head of population in Aberdeenshire over that period.</p>
<p>Overall Economic Vulnerability Spectrum (Based on 15 indicators)</p> <p>Less Vulnerable  More Vulnerable</p> <p>52.6</p>	<p>Overall Economic Vulnerability Spectrum – The Ward scored 52.6 (a slight improvement since the previous CIA report). This is the 10th lowest (i.e. 10th best) in Aberdeenshire. Unemployment figures in the Ward appear to have plateaued after a steep rise from Jan to Aug 2020. Indeed, latest figures show a slight decrease. The number of people on Universal Credit appears to have recently followed suit. It may be this latter datapoint will prove more challenging to deflate than the claimant count as people experience varying degrees of financial hardship.</p>
<p>Overall Other Socio-Economic Vulnerability Spectrum (Based on 30 indicators)</p> <p>Less Vulnerable  More Vulnerable</p> <p>57.9</p>	<p>Overall Other Socio-Economic Vulnerability Spectrum – The Ward scored 57.9 (unchanged since the previous CIA report). This is the 9th highest (i.e. 9th worst) in Aberdeenshire. The area arguably suffers a bit in terms of the ‘remoteness’ indicators, e.g. average drive times to various local amenities, bus accessibility, and superfast broadband availability are relatively poor in the Ward relative to most others in the region.</p>
<p>100 = Most Vulnerable MMW in Aberdeenshire</p>	

COVID Vulnerability Indices - Two Major Studies

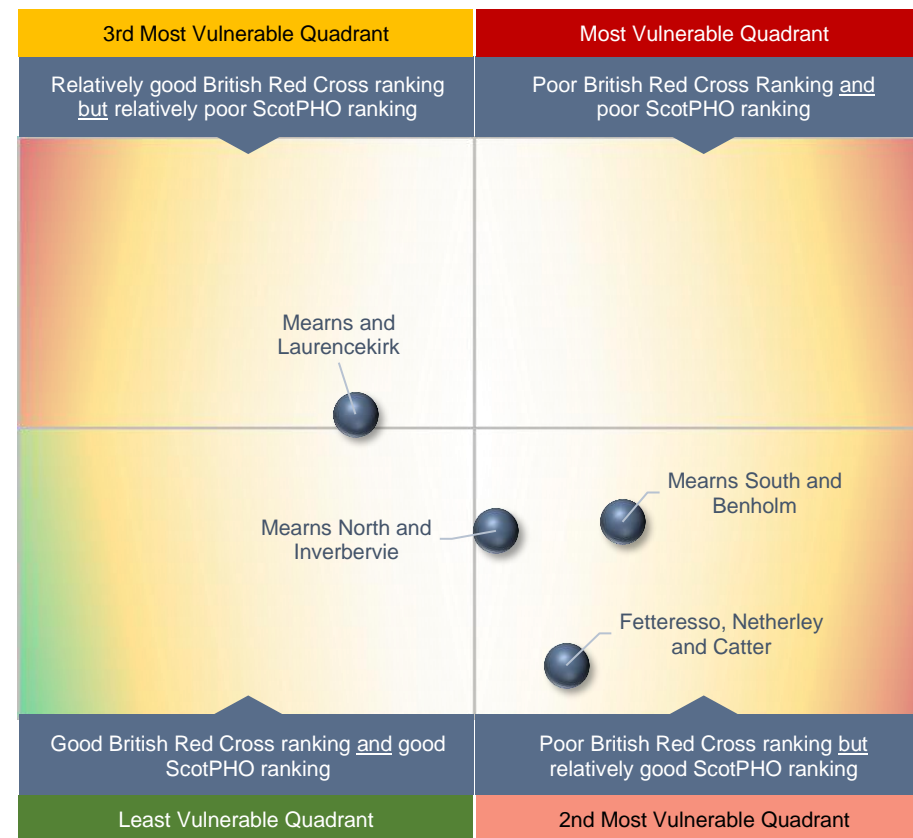
100 = Most Vulnerable MMW in Aberdeenshire



COVID Vulnerability Rankings - Aberdeenshire Intermediate Zones in a UK Context



COVID-19 Vulnerability Indices - British Red Cross (Oxford Analytics) and ScotPHO



Summary

The chart above aims to place the MMW's Intermediate Zones on a scale based on two major Covid-specific studies conducted last year – one from the Scottish Public Health Observatory (ScotPHO), the other from the British Red Cross. These were based on dozens of indicators encompassing health and other socio-economic datasets.

The black circles in the chart represent each Intermediate Zone (IZ) associated with the Ward. The closer the black circle is to the top-right of the chart, the more vulnerable it is in the context of Aberdeenshire ('Most Vulnerable Quadrant').

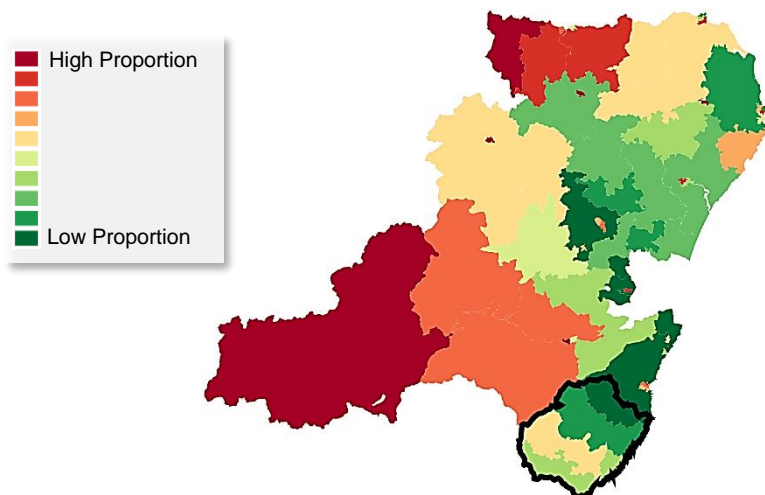
IZs in this Ward are generally less vulnerable than most other IZs in Aberdeenshire. Those in the bottom-right portion of the chart are vulnerable in so far as a relatively large proportion of people were reportedly self-employed (potential 'hit' during lockdown). Rankings unchanged.

Demographics & Age-Related Vulnerability

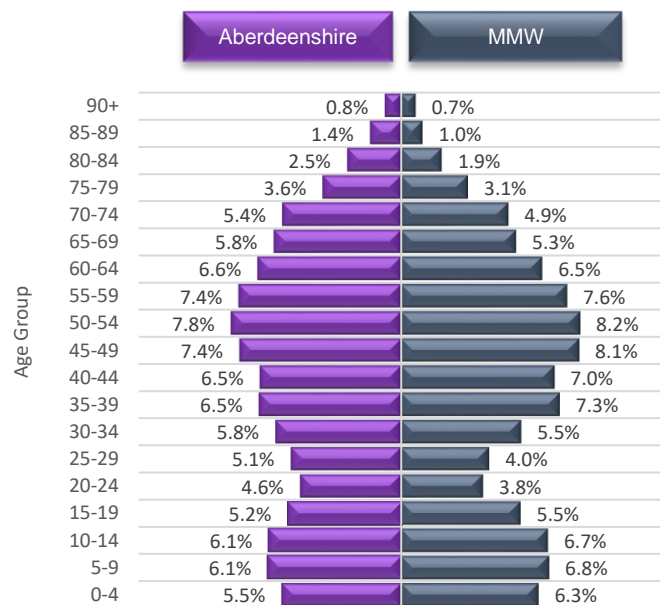
100 = Most Vulnerable MMW in Aberdeenshire



Map of Multi-Member Ward Intermediate Zones – 65+ population (2019)



Percentage of population per age group, Aberdeenshire and MMW (2019)



Pensionable Age (65+ yrs)



3,159 (17%)

Working Age (16-64yrs)



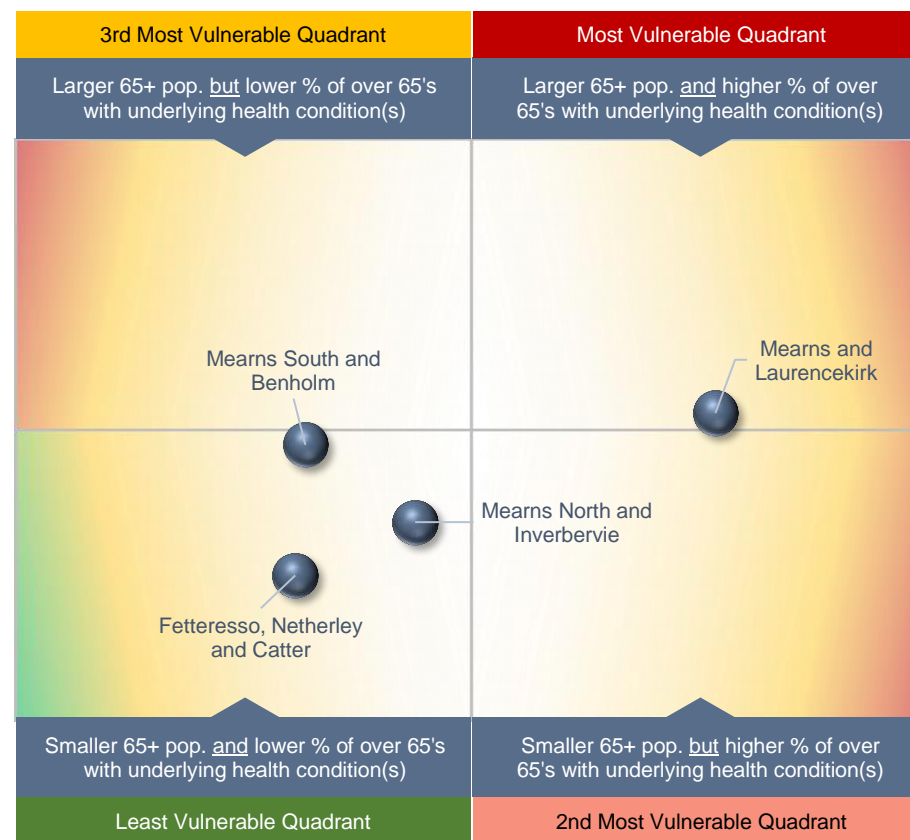
11,677 (62%)

Children (0-15yrs)



3,969 (21%)

Age Vulnerability / Underlying Health Condition per Intermediate Zone (65+ Age Group)



Summary

The Ward remains situated towards the less vulnerable end of the spectrum in Aberdeenshire in terms of certain age-specific vulnerability indicators. The Mearns & Laurencekirk IZ is just about located in the top-right portion of the chart (the 'Most Vulnerable Quadrant'). This is because it is home to a higher-than-average proportion of people aged 65+ with underlying health conditions (i.e. those in receipt of Attendance Allowance (AA) benefits); and a higher proportion of people aged 65+ relative to its populations. Fetteresso, Netherley & Catter is among the least vulnerable IZs in Aberdeenshire in this particular context.

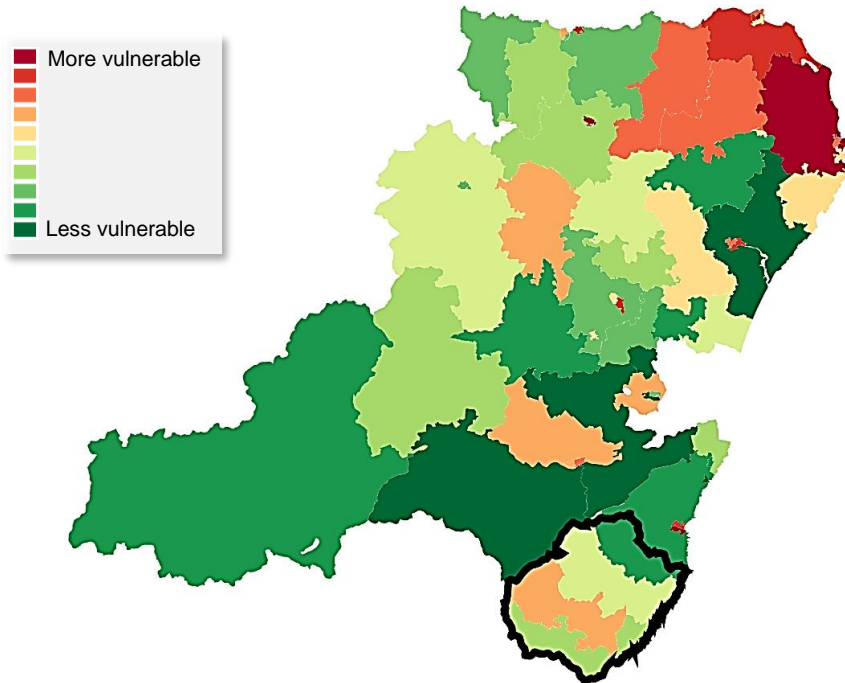
Within the Ward, AA rates range from 5.4% in Fetteresso, Netherley & Catter to 10.4% in Mearns & Laurencekirk. Across the Council area rates range from 2.3% to 12.3%, so these IZs straddle the mid-range, with Mearns & Laurencekirk more towards the higher end of the spectrum. The other IZs contain a proportionately low number of people aged 65+.

General Health / COVID Proxy Health Indicators

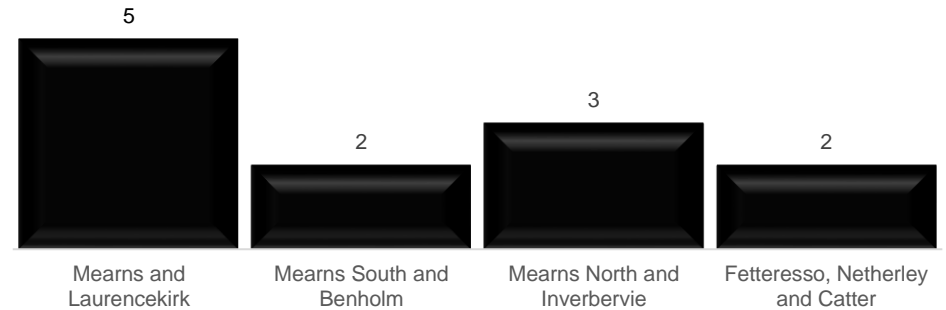
100 = Most Vulnerable MMW in Aberdeenshire



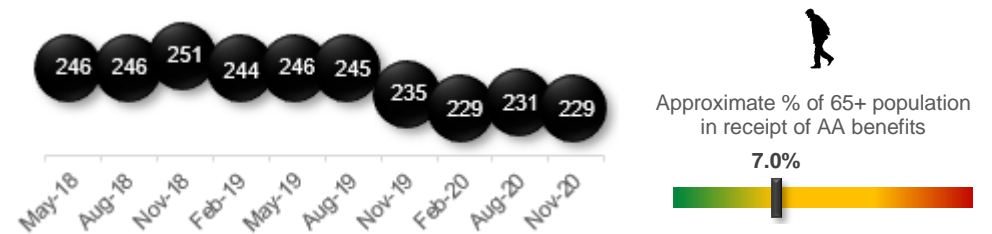
Map of Multi-Member Ward Intermediate Zones – Overall Health Ranking



Cumulative COVID-19 Deaths (1st March 2020 to 30th June 2021)



Attendance Allowance: Cases with Entitlement (Aged 65+ with Underlying Health Condition)



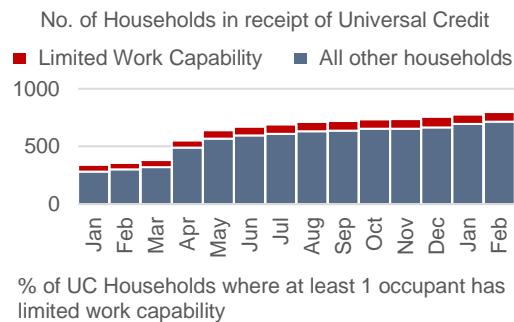
Summary

Most pre-Covid health-related indicators suggest the general population within the Ward is relatively healthy, certainly in keeping with Aberdeenshire averages. Overall, IZs associated with this Ward recorded 12 Covid-related deaths between March 1st and June 30th 2021, an increase of 8 deaths since the previous report (2 more in each of the 4 IZs). Taken together, IZs associated with this Ward accrued one of the lowest death rates per head of population in Aberdeenshire over that period. Mearns & Laurencekirk was the only IZ in the Ward to record a higher-than-average death rate. (Aberdeenshire recorded a total of 253 COVID-related deaths between March 1st and June 30th 2021, an increase of 136 since the previous report.)

Consequently, Mearns & Laurencekirk's health ranking is the worst in this Ward but not so in the context of Aberdeenshire as a whole. The AA rate is relatively high in this IZ (10.4%) relative to both the Ward average (7.0%) and the Aberdeenshire IZ average (7.7%).

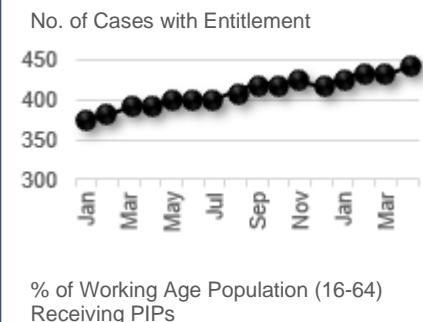
Relatively recent benefits related to disability/ill-health (PIP payments) are on the rise throughout the Ward and hundreds of additional households receive Universal Credit compared to at the beginning of the pandemic. However, the rate of PIP payments remains comparatively low in an Aberdeenshire context despite the rise in numbers. (They are rising in most other IZs.)

Universal Credit (UC) Jan 2020 to Feb 2021



10.3%

Personal Independence Payments (PIP)



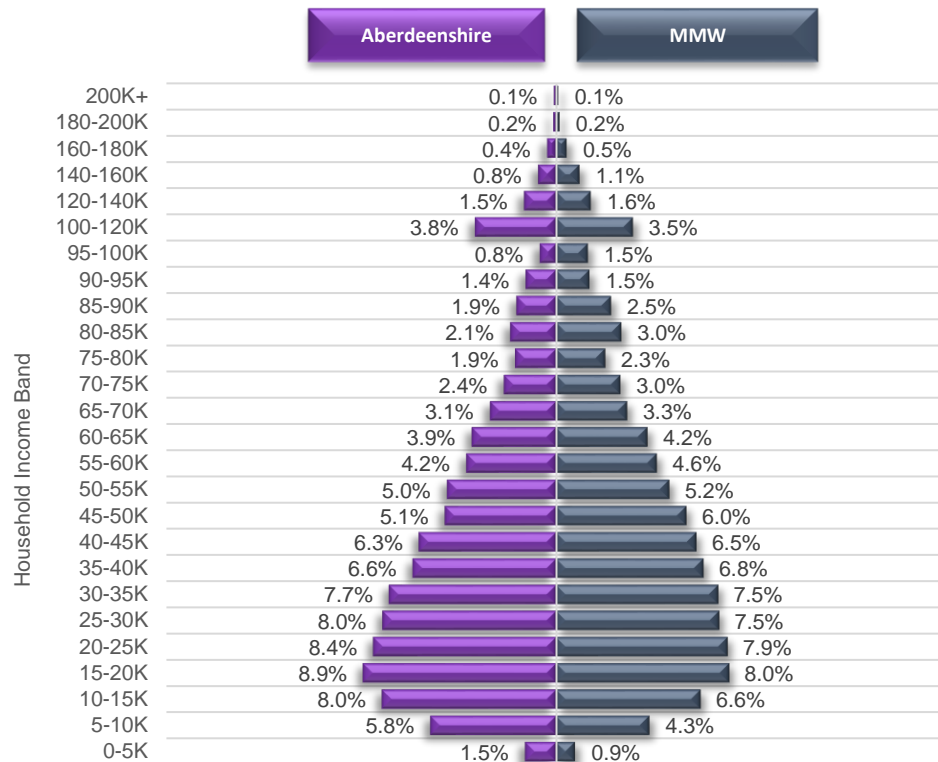
3.8%

Economic Indicators (1 of 2)

100 = Most Vulnerable MMW in Aberdeenshire



Median Household Income per Income Band - Percentage of Households (2019)



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Median Household Income (2019)



£40,749

£40,749

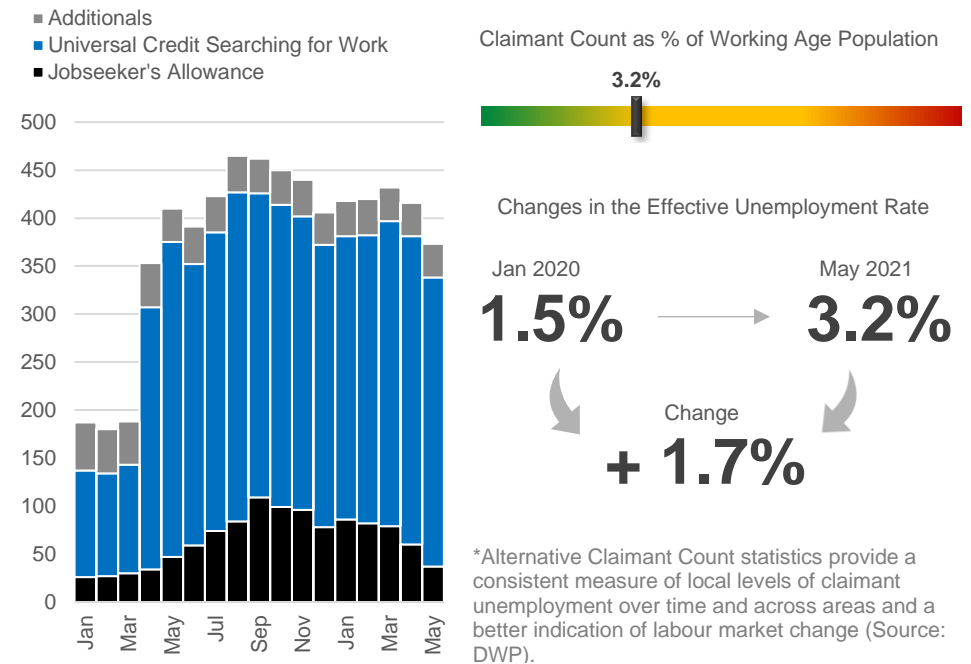


% of Households Earning <£20k (2019)

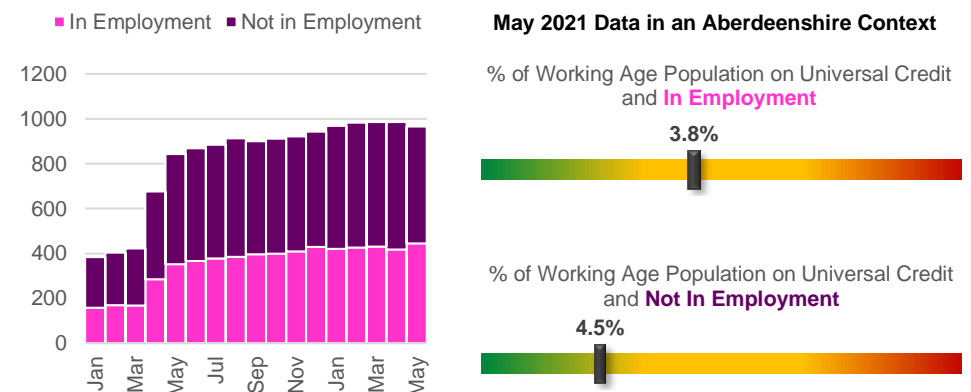
19.8%

19.8%

Alternative Claimant Count* per Benefit Group - 'Unemployment Rate' (Jan 2020 to May 2021)

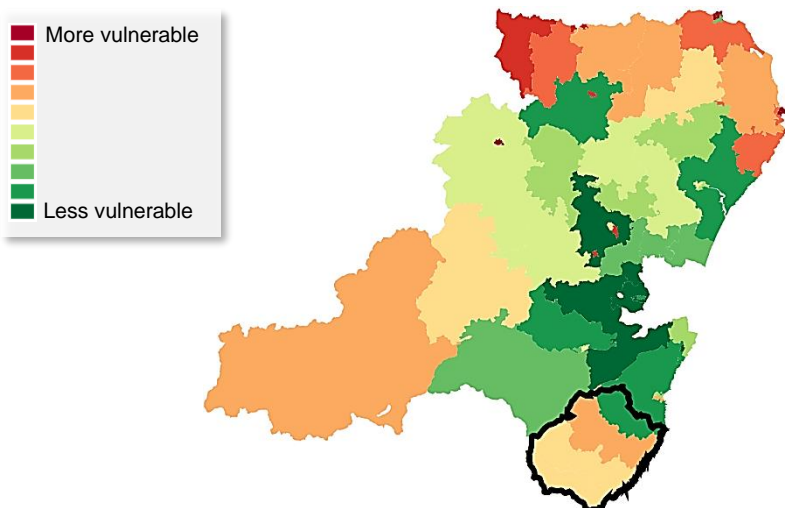


People on Universal Credit - In Employment & Not in Employment (Jan 2020 to May 2021)



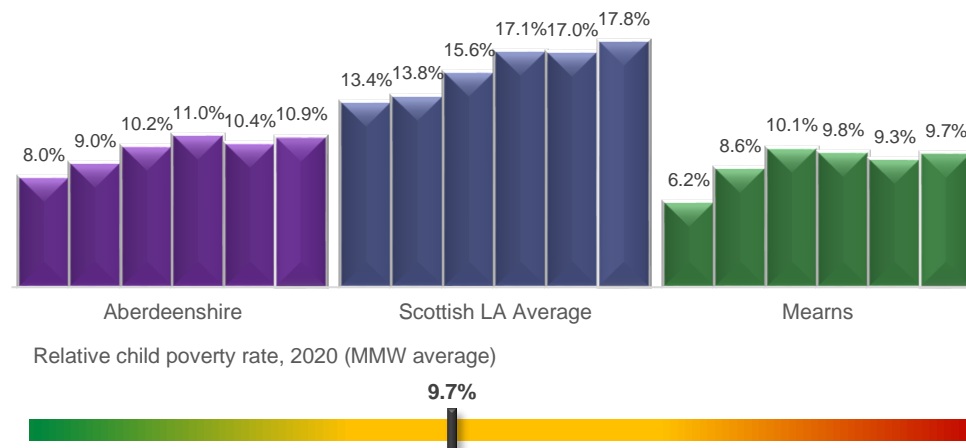
Economic Indicators (2 of 2)

Map of Multi-Member Ward Intermediate Zones - Overall Economic Ranking



Percentage of Children in Low Income Families (Relative Poverty), 2015 to 2020

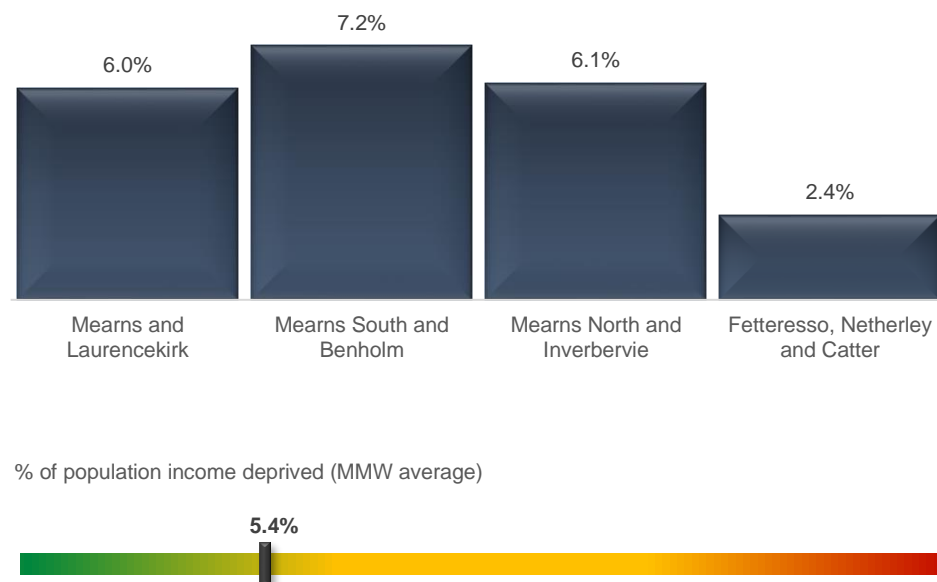
Each bar in the graph represents a single year, 2015 to 2020



Pension Credit Benefits - Proxy Indicator for 'Pensioner Poverty' (November 2020)



Percentage of People Income Deprived per MMW Intermediate Zone (SIMD 2020)



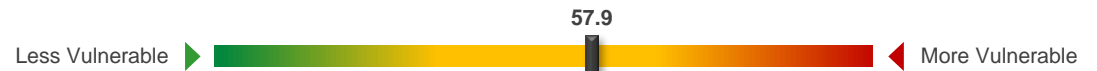
Summary

Most economic indicators in this Ward are generally in keeping with the Aberdeenshire averages. The proportion of households earning less than £20,000 is generally towards the lower end of the spectrum, and median household income is slightly above average. Fetteresso, Netherley & Catter's inclusion significantly improves this Ward's economic ranking. This IZ is among the most affluent (or economically resilient) in Aberdeenshire based on the various indicators used in this section. It has one of the lowest unemployment rates in the Shire and one of the lowest rates of income deprivation in Scotland. Income deprivation in the other three IZs is generally average or just above average.

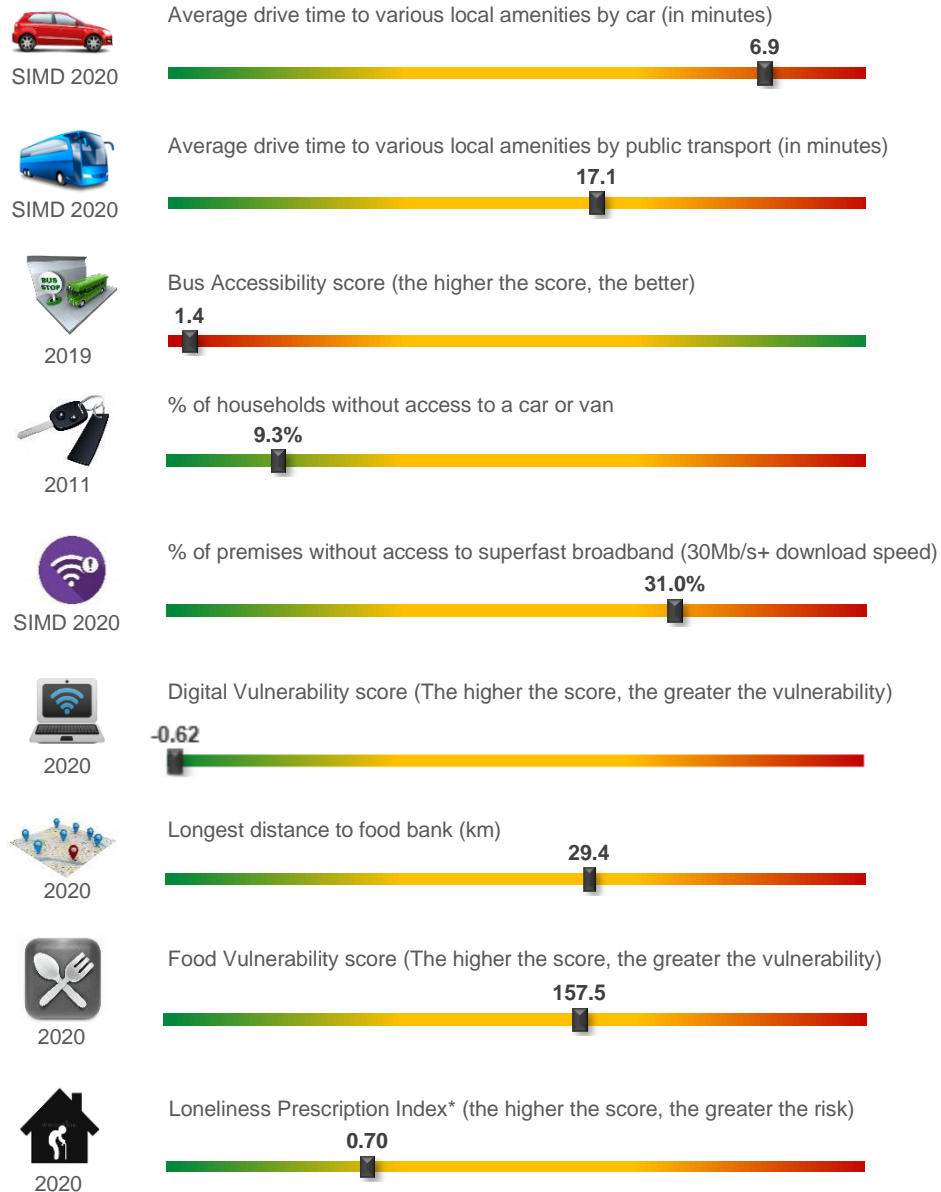
Unemployment figures in the Ward appear to have plateaued after a steep rise from Jan to Aug 2020. Indeed, latest figures show a slight decrease. The number of people on Universal Credit appears to have recently followed suit. It may be this latter datapoint will prove more challenging to deflate than the claimant count as people experience varying degrees of financial hardship.

The indicators on the next page are generally in keeping with the Aberdeenshire averages. The area arguably suffers a bit in terms of the 'remoteness' indicators, e.g. average drive times to various local amenities, bus accessibility, and superfast broadband availability are relatively poor in the Ward relative to most others in the region.

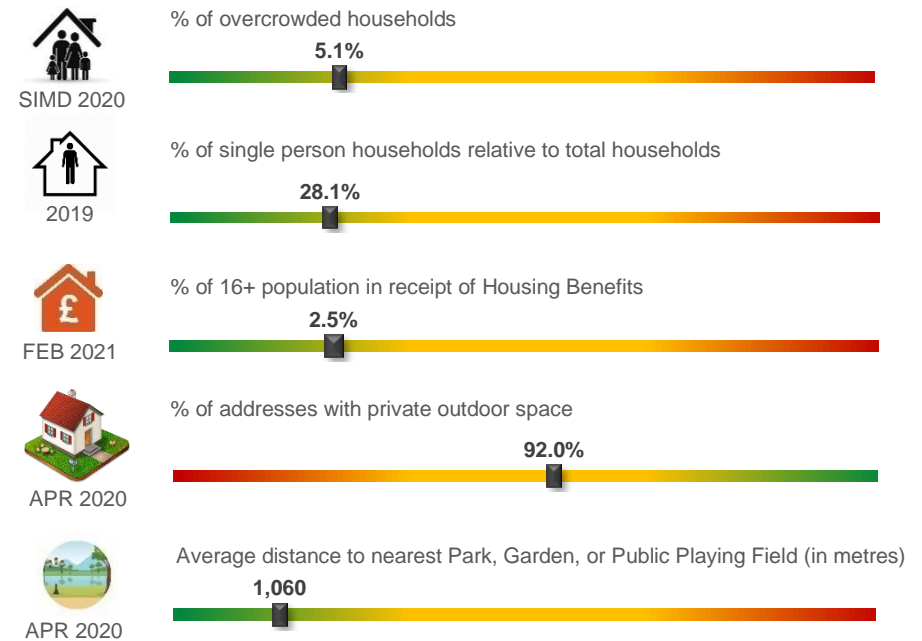
Other Socio-Economic Data



Geographic Access / Digital Connectivity / Food Vulnerability / Loneliness Proxy



Housing / Environment



At Risk Sectors / Workers

