

**Aberdeenshire Licensing Boards
Central Aberdeenshire Divisional Licensing Board
Supplementary Statement of Licensing Policy
Context and Profile of Aberdeenshire
30th November 2007 – 29th November 2010**

A Profile of Aberdeenshire

Aberdeenshire is a predominantly rural area in the north east of Scotland. Traditionally, it has been economically dependent upon the primary sector (agriculture, fishing, forestry) and related processing industries. Within the last 30 years, the emergence of the oil and gas industry and the development of the service sector have broadened Aberdeenshire's economic base, leading to rapid population growth.

Aberdeenshire extends to 6,313 sq km (2,437 sq miles), representing 8% of Scotland's overall territory. The landscape varies from mountainous Cairngorms, through rich agricultural lowlands to rugged coastline.

Aberdeenshire's population represents 4.5% of Scotland's total, standing at 233,443 (2006), a 2.8% rise since 2003, and a 50% increase since 1971. Major towns are Peterhead (17,673), Fraserburgh (11,972), Inverurie (11,495), Stonehaven (10,731), Westhill (10,252) Ellon (9,693), Banchory (6,533) and Portlethen (6,646). The population has a higher proportion of younger age groups than the rest of Scotland, reflecting employment-driven in-migration in recent decades.

Aberdeenshire is divided into six Areas for the purposes of administration and provision of services. These are Banff and Buchan, Buchan, Formartine, Garioch, Marr and Kincardine and Mearns.

Banff and Buchan has a population of 34,983. Fishing and agriculture are important industries, together with associated processing and service activity. The area is relatively self-contained, and in recent years has seen a small decline in population. It does, however, have marketable tourism assets in its spectacular coastline, attractive coastal villages and visitor attractions. Economic dependency, peripherality, and the future of the Common Fisheries/Agricultural Policies, are key issues.

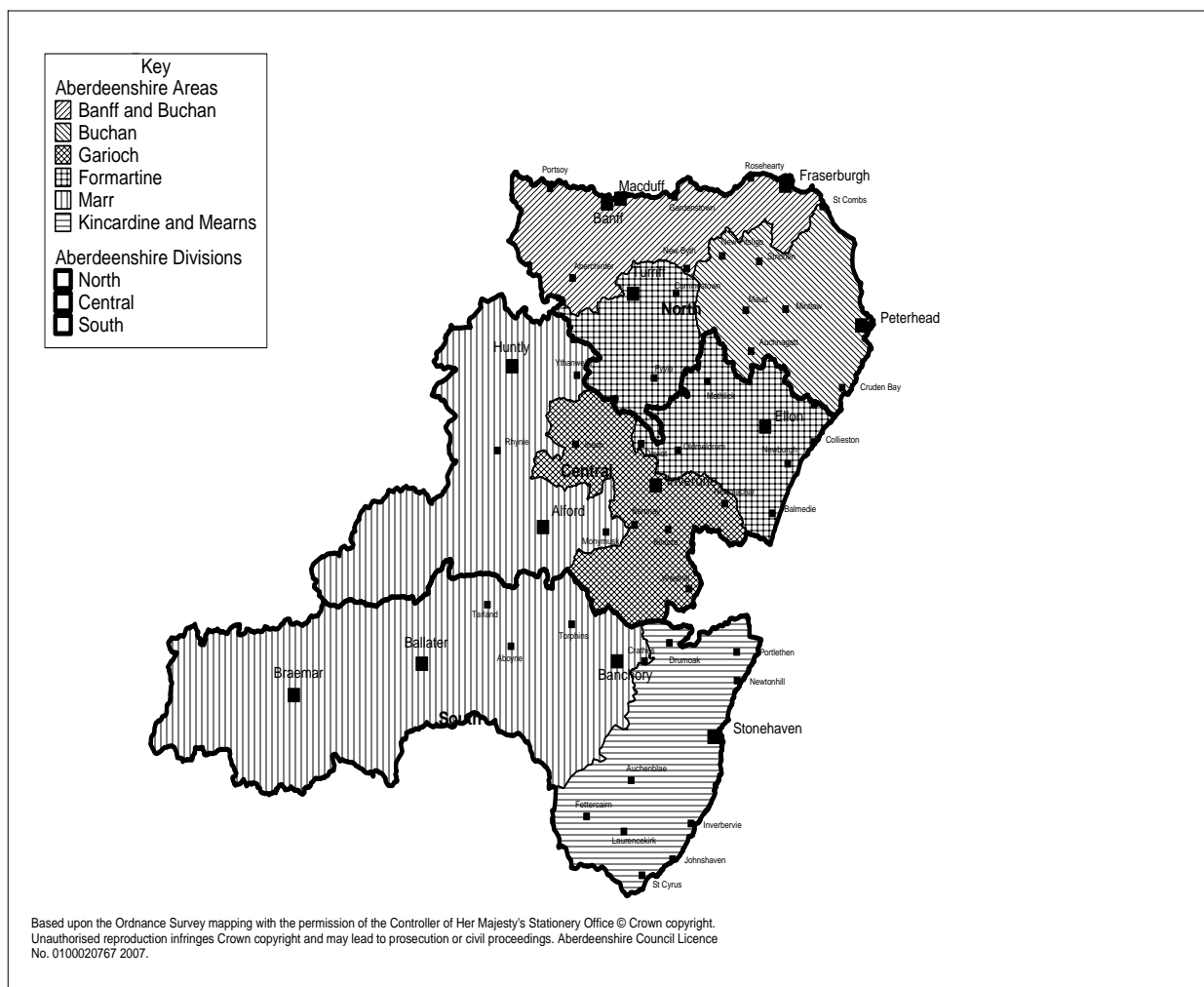
Buchan has a population of 38,684. Peterhead is the largest town in Aberdeenshire; the principal white fish landing port in Europe and a major oil industry service centre. Equally important is the nearby gas terminal at St. Fergus. Attempts are being made to counter the negative effects of several recent key company closures and economic threats. Inland, the area is dependent upon agriculture, and many villages have seen a decline in population and services. Issues affecting the Banff and Buchan area also apply here, as does the future of the oil and gas industry.

Formartine has a population of 38,782. Formartine has experienced rapid population growth, particularly around Ellon and Oldmeldrum, and in the southeast where development has spread outwith Aberdeen. By contrast, the area around Turriff retains strong dependency on the traditional agricultural economy. The area's coastline and rural environment also offer recreational potential.

Garioch has a population of 46,391. Centred on Inverurie, a traditional rural market town, Garioch has also experienced rapid growth due to its proximity to Aberdeen. Significant growth in population, services and employment is anticipated in the A96 corridor and in Westhill. The area is largely agricultural, but is also strongly affected by the City's economy and the oil and gas sector. Garioch holds growing potential for tourism in its environment and archaeological heritage.

Marr has a population of 34,397. To the west, the spectacular mount environment of the Cairngorms National Park sustains a well-developed tourist industry based on heritage and outdoor pursuits. Forestry and livestock farming are key industries, particularly in remoter areas. To the east, Marr has experienced population growth due to its strong commuter links with the City.

Kincardine and Mearns has a population of 40,205. Transport links with Aberdeen have encouraged very rapid population growth, especially to the north of the area. Existing settlements such as Portlethen and Stonehaven have greatly expanded, along with industrial activity. The southern part is more self-contained, with the fertile Mearns area sustaining a strong agricultural economy. Small-scale tourism activity exists along its attractive coastline and former fishing villages.



The Central Aberdeenshire Divisional Licensing Board

The Central Divisional Board consists of eight members of Aberdeenshire Council with a quorum of four Members.

The current members of the Board are:

<p>Hazel Al-Kowarri 38 Bremner Way Kemnay Inverurie AB51 5FW 01467 642984 (home) 07769823346 (mobile)</p>	
<p>Allan Hendry Fraoch Eilean Lodge 18 Holdings Balmedie AB23 8WU 01358 743091 (home) 07733228547 (mobile)</p>	
<p>Richard Cowling 42 Nether Blackhall Inverurie AB51 4EW 01467 670896 (home) 07770331371 (mobile)</p>	
<p>Mark Cullen 8 Souter Circle Westhill AB32 6WG 01224 744316 (home)</p>	

<p>Joanna Strathdee-Chair Claremonte Littlejohn Street Huntly AB54 8HL 01466 799353 (home) 07801900842 (mobile)</p>	
<p>James Gifford Hillhead of Ardo Whitecairns Aberdeen AB23 8XJ 01651 869493 (home) 07767497856 (mobile)</p>	
<p>Richard Stroud The Old Manse Bellabeg Strathdon AB36 8UX 019756 51724 (home) 07711491750 (mobile)</p>	
<p>Ronald McKail 17 Brimmond Drive Westhill AB32 6SZ 01224 742095 (home) 07767 663787 (mobile)</p>	

The Board is supported by a Clerk, a Depute Clerk and administrative support staff.

The Clerk is Neil McDowall, Director of Law and Administration

The Depute Clerk is Shirley Watt.

The Central Aberdeenshire Local Licensing Forum

Each Council (not licensing Board) must establish a Local Licensing Forum for their area. The Forum is supposed to be representative of the community as a whole and not individuals or organisations. The role of the Forum is to advise the Licensing Board on general matters of policy and not individual cases.

Aberdeenshire Council has appointed 3 Local Licensing Forums, one for each divisional Licensing Board area.

The Central Divisional Licensing Board and the Central Local Licensing Forum will meet together at least once a year. The Central Local Licensing Forum will meet more often, at least four times per year, in public.

In formulating its Policy Statement, the Central Licensing Board has taken account of the views, advice and recommendations of the Central Local Licensing Forum.

The Central Licensing Forum consists of the following members:

**Representative of Grampian Police, Central Aberdeenshire Division,
Divisional HQ, Blackhall Road, Inverurie, AB51, 3QD;
Representative of Grampian Fire & Rescue Service, 19 North Anderson
Drive, Aberdeen, AB15 6DN;
Licensing Standards Officer – to be appointed;
Convener of the Central Aberdeenshire Divisional Licensing Board;
Patricia Florence, Bridge Bar, 12 Bridge Street, Ellon AB41 9AA
Kenneth Florence, Pitmedden Bar, Pitmedden, Ellon AB41 7NX
Jennie Biggs, Tocher Croft, Meikle Wartle, Inverurie AB51 5BS
Kim Shearer, The Quarry House, Ythanbank, Ellon AB41 7TL
Paul MacLennan, The Colquhonnies Hotel, Strathdon AB36 8UN
Paul Allan Robinson, Tillybrachtie, Rhynie, Huntly AB54 4JA
Alistair Duffis Strachan, Millfield, Turriff AB53 5UX
Alasdair Neil Cable, The Butchers Arms, 14 West High Street, Inverurie
AB51 3SA**