



Highlands and Islands Enterprise  
Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd 's nan Eilean

# Management of Repopulation, with Long Range Lights

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# Today's Presentation

- Introduction
- The Highlands and Islands of Scotland
- Our development journey – a brief history
- What does the future hold?....and what's our response?
- Conclusions



# CHALLENGES FACING THE REGION



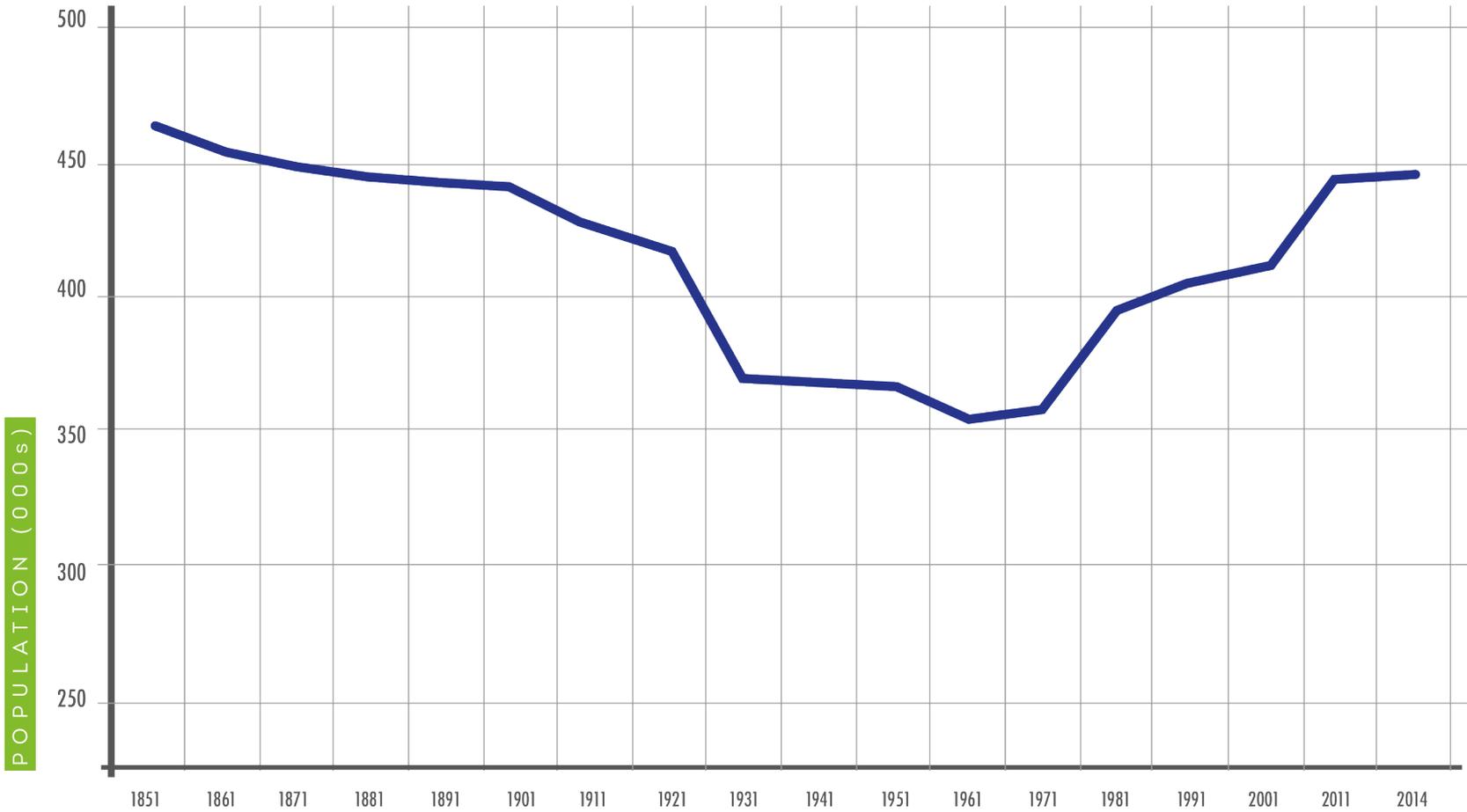
- REMOTENESS AND PERIPHERALITY
- INHOSPITABLE TERRAIN AND CLIMATE
- WATER CROSSINGS
- SPARSITY OF POPULATION
- FRAGILE RURAL ECONOMIES
  - LOW INCOMES
  - COST OF LIVING



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# POPULATION



SOURCE: NATIONAL RECORDS FOR SCOTLAND (NRS)



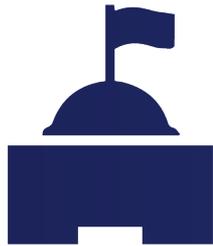
## DRIVERS OF CHANGE

1965



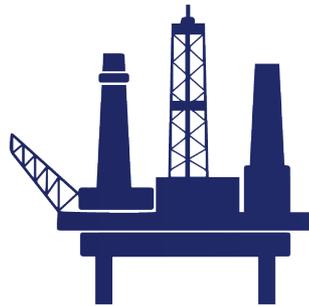
Establishment of  
Highlands and Islands  
Development Board  
(HIDB)

1975



Local  
government reform

1970's



Exploitation of  
North Sea oil

1970/80/90's



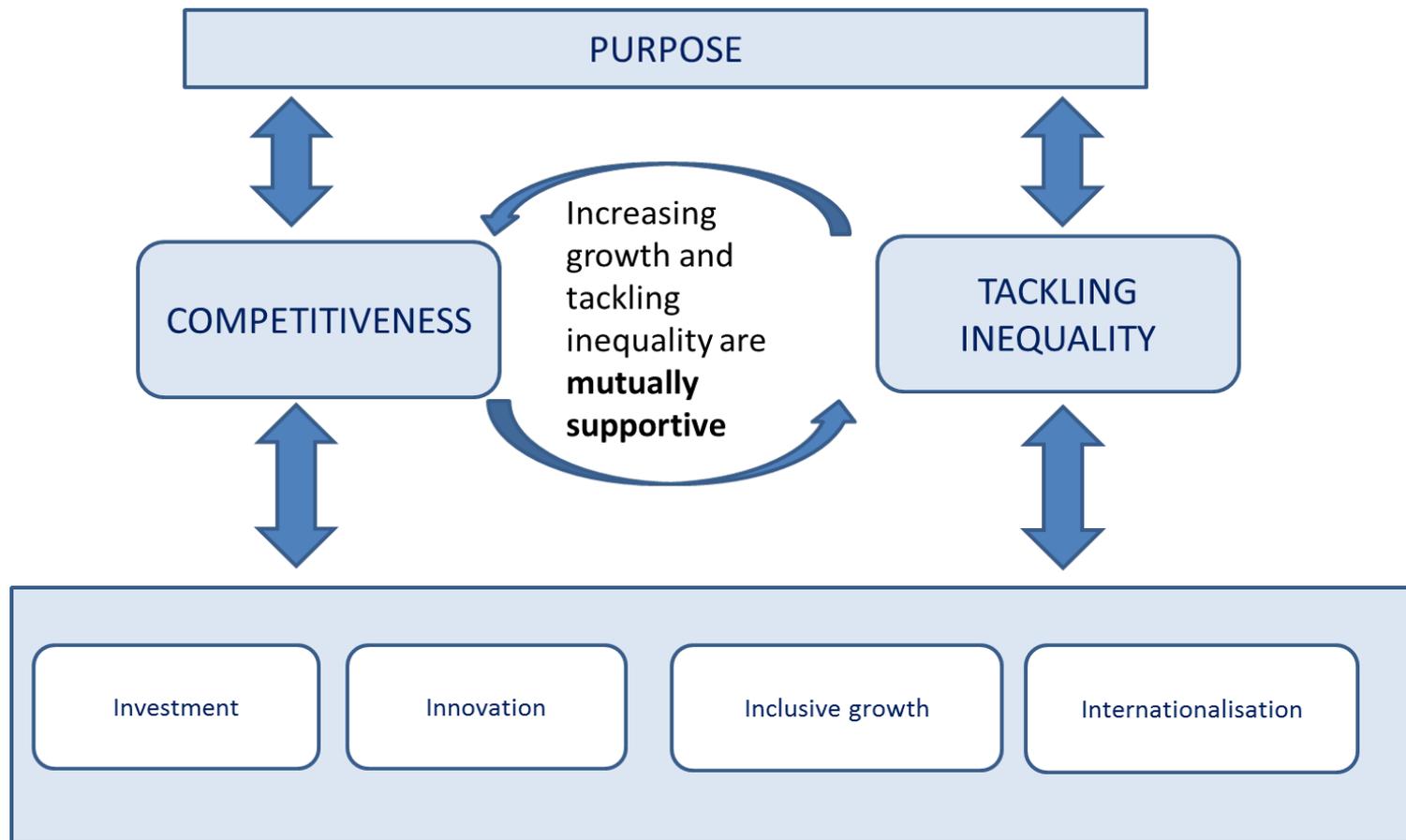
Upgrading of  
transport  
infrastructure

1980/90/00's



Upgrading of telecoms  
infrastructure

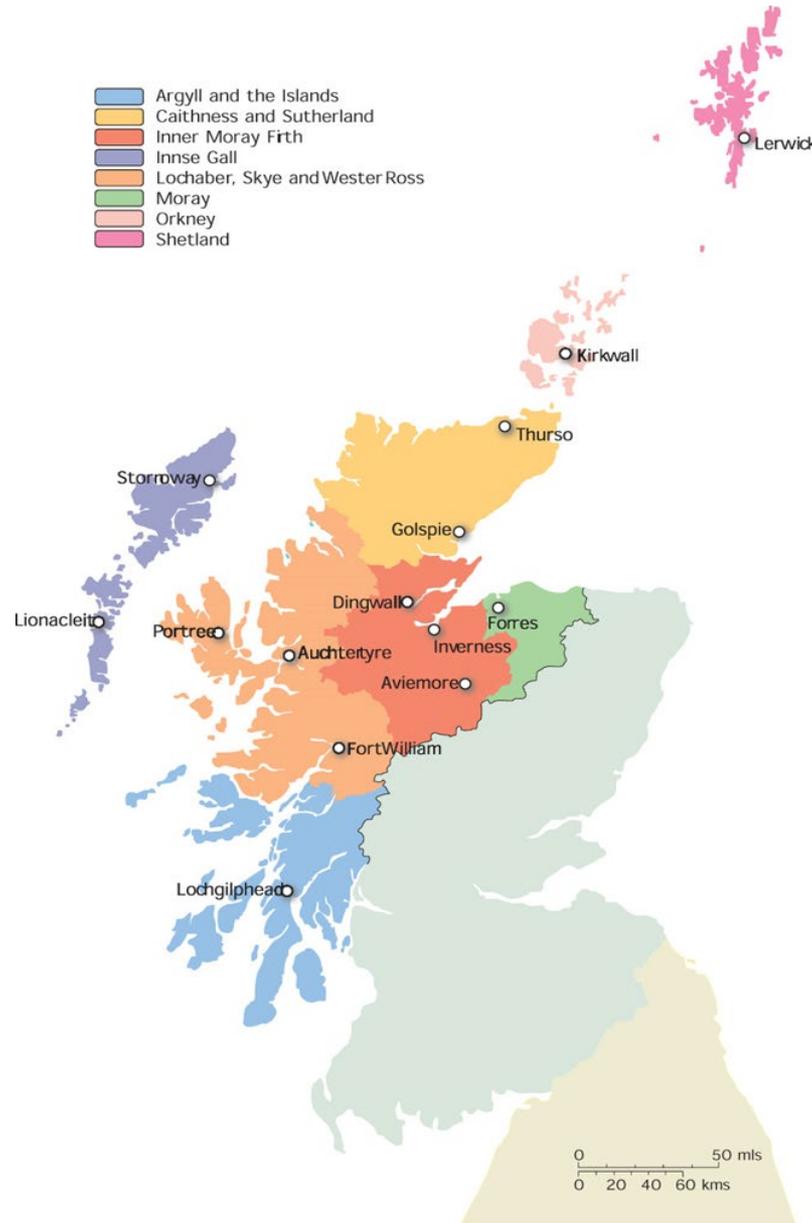
# Scottish Economic Strategy



# HIE's Priorities



- Argyll and the Islands
- Caithness and Sutherland
- Inner Moray Firth
- Innse Gall
- Lochaber, Skye and Wester Ross
- Moray
- Orkney
- Shetland



# Supporting Businesses / Sectors

## LIFE SCIENCES



## ENERGY



## TOURISM



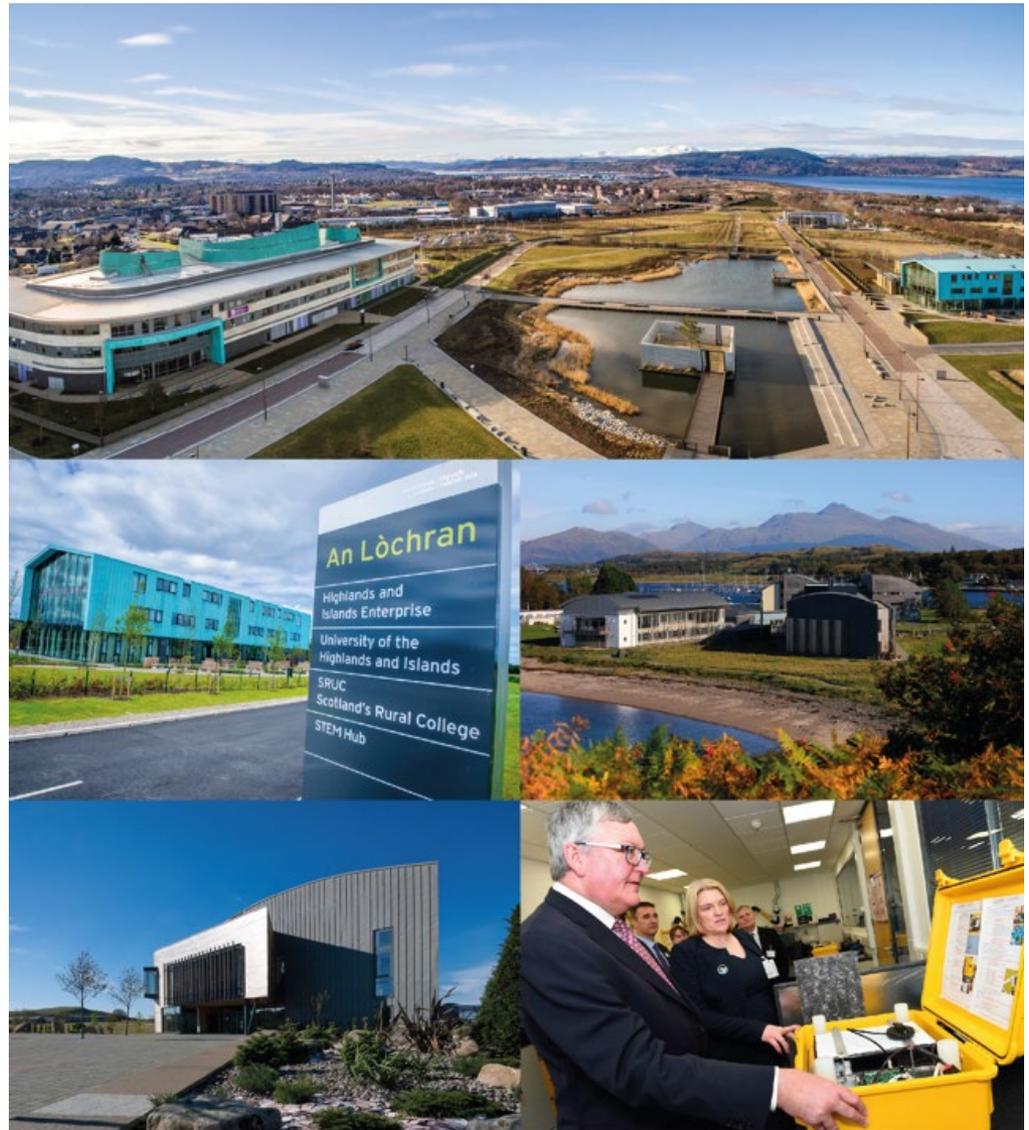
# Community Investment – Talla na Mara



# Enabling Infrastructure -Transport



# Education



# Enabling Infrastructure - Digital



# Recent Population trends – a closer look

**Table 1: Population Change across the Highlands and Islands, 2001 to 2018**

	Population 2001	Population 2011	Population 2018	Change 2001- 2018	Change 2001-2011	Change 2011-2018
Outer Hebrides	26,450	27,690	26,830	1.4%	4.7%	-3.1%
Argyll & Bute	91,300	88,930	86,260	-5.5%	-2.6%	-3.0%
Shetland Islands	21,960	23,240	22,990	4.7%	5.8%	-1.1%
Highland	208,920	232,730	235,540	12.7%	11.4%	1.2%
<i>Lochaber, Skye &amp; Wester Ross</i>	36,933	39,146	39,339	6.5%	6.0%	0.5%
<i>Caithness and Sutherland</i>	38,426	39,808	38,267	-0.4%	3.6%	-3.9%
<i>Inner Moray Firth</i>	133,561	153,776	157,934	18.2%	15.1%	2.7%
Moray	87,000	93,470	95,520	9.8%	7.4%	2.2%
Orkney Islands	19,220	21,420	22,190	15.5%	11.4%	3.6%
<b>Highlands and Islands (LA based)</b>	<b>454,850</b>	<b>487,480</b>	<b>489,330</b>	<b>7.6%</b>	<b>7.2%</b>	<b>0.4%</b>
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>5,064,200</b>	<b>5,299,900</b>	<b>5,438,100</b>	<b>7.4%</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>2.6%</b>

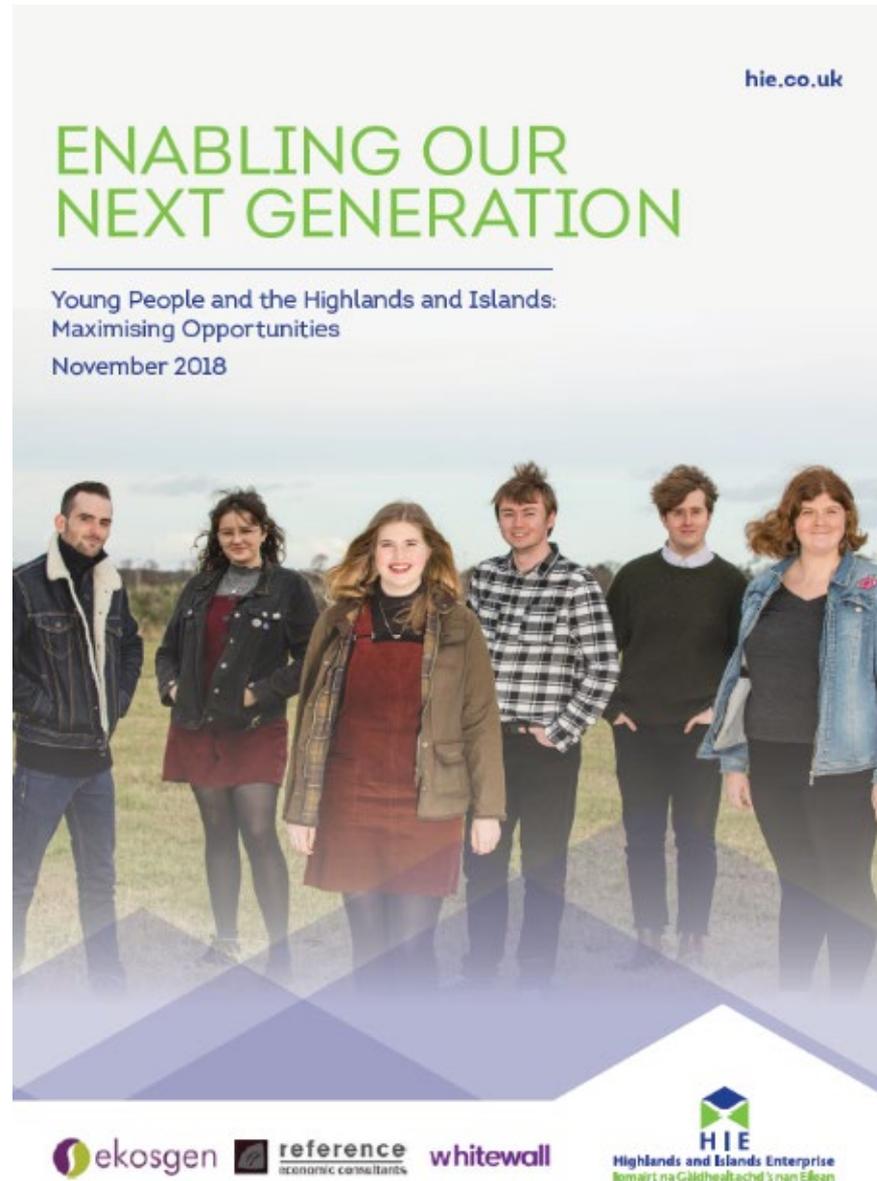
# Population Projections

	2016-2041 change
<b>Local Authorities</b>	
Outer Hebrides	-14.0
Argyll and Bute	-9.9
Shetland	-2.2
Orkney	-2.2
Highland	1.4
Moray	8.1
<b>Sub Highland Areas</b>	
<b>Caithness and Sutherland</b>	
Sutherland	-11.9
Caithness	-21.1
<b>Lochaber, Skye and Wester Ross</b>	
Ross and Cromarty	8.7
Skye and Lochalsh	11.8
Lochaber	-5.9
<b>Inner Moray Firth</b>	
East Ross	-13.8
Mid Ross	12.2
Nairn	6.6
Badenoch and Strathspey	-5.3
Inverness	11.2

## Dependency ratios

	2011	2018	2041 - projection
Outer Hebrides	62.7	71.1	94.5
Argyll and Bute	61.4	68.2	95.0
Shetland Islands	55.3	61.6	78.8
Highland	57.3	63.3	83.7
<i>Lochaber, Skye &amp; Wester Ross</i>	<i>59.1</i>	<i>65.0</i>	<i>*</i>
<i>Caithness and Sutherland</i>	<i>61.5</i>	<i>69.0</i>	<i>*</i>
<i>Inner Moray Firth</i>	<i>55.8</i>	<i>61.6</i>	<i>*</i>
Moray	57.9	62.1	79.8
Orkney Islands	58.0	65.4	89.0
<b>Highlands and Islands</b>	<b>58.4</b>	<b>64.4</b>	<b>85.0</b>
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>52.0</b>	<b>55.7</b>	<b>69.9</b>

# The Importance of Young People



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## ENABLING OUR NEXT GENERATION

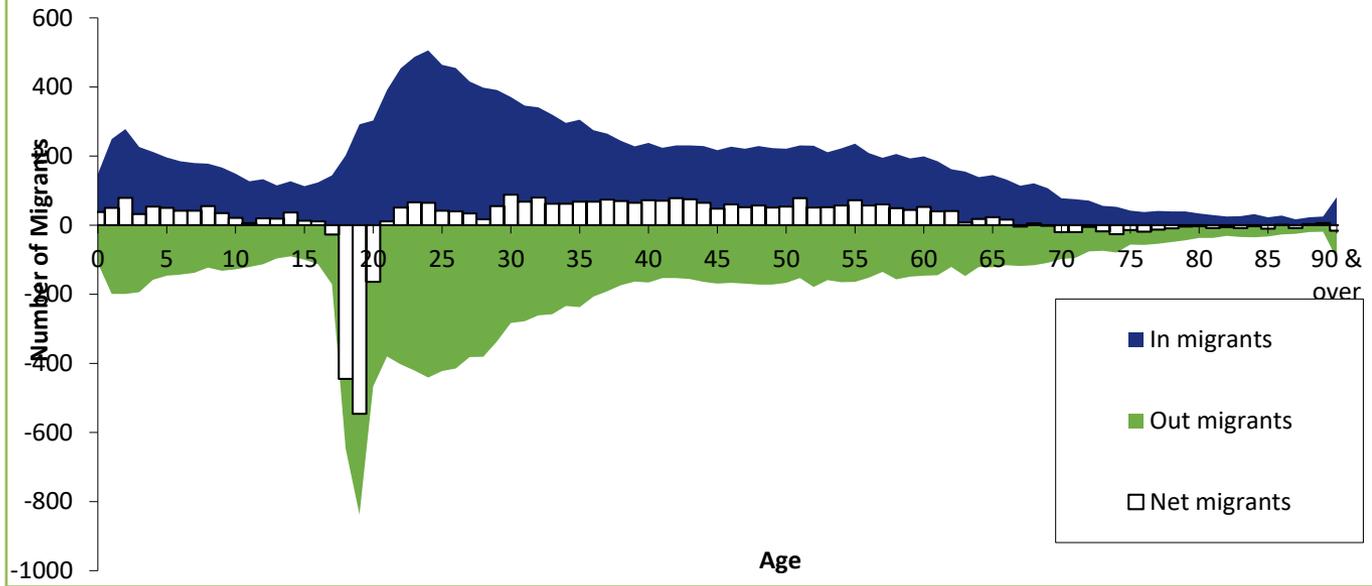
Young People and the Highlands and Islands:  
Maximising Opportunities  
November 2018

ekosgen reference whitewall

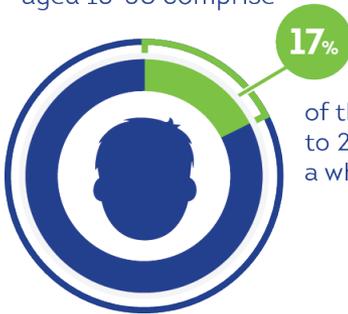
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### In, out and net migration by single year of age, 2015-2017, Highlands and Islands



There is a deficit of young people in the region: those aged 15-30 comprise



17% of the population, compared to 21% across Scotland as a whole.



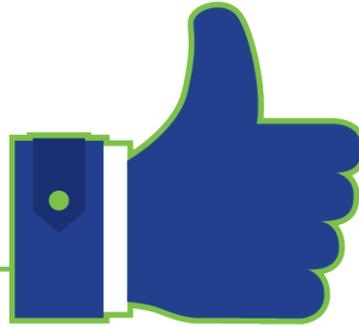
Outward migration of young people from the region is particularly concentrated within the 15-19 age group.



55%

of young people are committed to staying in the region up from 43% in 2015.

69%



of young people feel that those who stay are lucky to be able to work or study locally, up from 62% in 2015.



of young people are proud to be associated with their community, up from 78% in 2015.

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## 87% OF YOUNG PEOPLE THINK THAT LIFE IN THE HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS REQUIRES MAKING COMPROMISES ON SOME ASPECTS OF LIFE.

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**Top five general compromises young people perceive people generally have to make:**

**79%** More difficult and expensive transport and travel

**76%** Fewer job opportunities and choices

**65%** Limited access to services, amenities, events, leisure facilities

**62%** Fewer career progression opportunities

**61%** Fewer college/university courses on offer



# Influences on Population Retention / Attraction

## Macro Influences

- Brexit
- COVID

## Regional Influences

- Relative economic opportunities – work, education
- Connectivity – physical, digital
- Housing – especially for young people
- Culture, heritage, community

## Place Based Policy Responses

- Continue capital investment and economic development approaches, tailored and intensified in areas of acute need
- Strategic focus on young people
- Enhancement of social infrastructure – building community confidence, capability and capacity
- Development and promotion of specific migration policies

And..

- Multi agency, partnership approach
- Alignment / synergy with national policy responses

## National Policy Responses

- Creation of Population and Migration Taskforce in Scottish Government
- More detailed understanding of population trends and issues
- National talent attraction work – Scotland is Now <https://www.scotland.org/>

## Conclusions – Keys to success

1. Catalyst for action was “crisis” – something HAD to change
2. Being ambitious and taking risks
3. A broad approach to regional development – business, community, people, infrastructure
4. An organisation rooted in our communities
5. Strong and effective partnership working – locally, nationally, internationally
6. The work is never complete...always new challenges!

Questions?

Thank You

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