

## **EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

**DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE – 21 OCTOBER 2003**

### **CENSUS 2001 POPULATION INFORMATION FOR SMALL AREAS**

#### **Report by Director of Development Services**

## **1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1** To highlight differences in population statistics published from Census 2001 for “wards” used for Census data and Council electoral wards.

## **2 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1** It is proposed to circulate profiles of key statistics derived from the 2001 Census for “wards” as defined by the General Register Office for Scotland (GROS). Since these statistics were compiled the GROS has released more detailed information for the smallest geographical unit on which data is collected, “output areas”. Using this information it has become apparent that the definition of “wards” used by the GROS [known as Census Area Statistics (CAS) wards] does not correspond precisely to electoral wards. This report sets out the differences in population statistics for each definition of ward, and reviews the implications for the use of statistics based on CAS wards.

## **3 DIFFERENCES IN POPULATION STATISTICS FOR CENSUS WARDS AND ELECTORIAL WARDS**

- 3.1** The attached table shows 2001 Census population figures for “wards” as defined by the GROS, and figures for electoral wards. The table shows the differences in the population estimates and the percentage difference.
- 3.2** Generally the differences are not so great as to result in statistical profiles for wards based on the Census definition presenting a significantly different picture of the population features of the area from the picture which would be presented from figures precisely matched to electoral ward boundaries. Statistics published by other organisations will generally utilise the Census definition of wards. Although, technically it would be possible to compile all statistics available through the 2001 Census (to relate precisely to electoral wards) this is a complex process and could only be justified when the precision of the data is critical. This extra degree of precision might be considered justified, for example, for use in calculating the distribution of programme funding or the allocation of other resources involved in the delivery of Council programmes where the differences in the data would have a significant impact.

**3.3** The statistical profiles which have been prepared for wards will use the Census definition. The profiles will, however, note the population difference between Census wards and electoral wards so that this can be taken into account in using the small area statistics.

#### **4 LEGAL AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

**4.1** There are no legal or financial implications arising from this report.

#### **5 RECOMMENDATION**

**5.1** It is recommended that the Committee note the differences in published population figures from the 2001 Census for wards as defined by the General Register for Scotland and electoral wards.

**Stephen Chorley**  
**Director of Development Services**  
**14 October 2003**  
**SC/JR**

#### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Nil

For further information on the content of the report contact Margo Houston, Technical Support, Policy and Projects Section on 01563 576766

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**TABLE 1**

<b>Ward No</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>Electoral Ward Total</b>	<b>CAS Ward Total</b>	<b>Difference In Population</b>	<b>% Difference In Population</b>
1	STEWARTON EAST AND DUNLOP	3723	3643	80	2.15
2	STEWARTON CENTRAL	4025	4035	-10	-0.25
3	KILMAURS AND STEWARTON SOUTH	3790	3882	-92	-2.43
4	NORTH KILMARNOCK, FENWICK AND WATERSIDE	4908	4846	62	1.26
5	CROSSHOUSE, GATEHEAD AND KNOCKENTIBER	3392	3418	-26	-0.77
6	ALTONHILL, HILLHEAD AND LONGPARK	3966	4200	-234	-5.90
7	ONTHANK	3657	3495	162	4.43
8	KILMARNOCK CENTRALWEST	3444	3553	-109	-3.16
9	KILMARNOCK CENTRAL EAST	3566	3278	288	8.08
10	NORTH NEW FARM LOCH AND DEAN	3931	3886	45	1.14
11	SOUTH NEW FARM LOCH CROOKEDHOLM, MOSCOW, GALSTON WEST AND HURLFORD NORTH	3398	3494	-96	-2.83
12	NEWMILNS	3722	3707	15	0.40
13	GRANGE / HOWARD	3369	3301	68	2.02
14	KILMARNOCK CENTRAL SOUTH	3768	3673	95	2.52
15	RICCARTON	3657	3813	-156	-4.27
16	SHORTLEES	3727	3698	29	0.78
17	BELLFIELD	4254	4036	218	5.12
18	HURLFORD	3647	3800	-153	-4.20
19	GALSTON EAST	4343	4662	-319	-7.35
20	DARVEL	3598	3404	194	5.39
21	MAUCHLINE	3681	3738	-57	-1.55
22	CATRINE, SORN AND MAUCHLINE EAST	3708	3691	17	0.46
23	MUIRKIRK, LUGAR, LOGAN	3593	3563	30	0.83
24	DRONGAN, STAIR AND RANKINSTON	3433	3449	-16	-0.47
25		4149	4231	-82	-1.98

<b>Ward No</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>Electoral Ward Total</b>	<b>CAS Ward Total</b>	<b>Difference In Population</b>	<b>% Difference In Population</b>
26	OCHILTREE, SKARES, NETHERTHIRD AND CRAIGENS	3742	3750	-8	-0.21
27	AUCHINLECK	3630	3512	118	3.25
28	CUMNOCK WEST	3615	3695	-80	-2.21
29	CUMNOCK EAST	3581	3576	5	0.14
30	PATNA AND DALRYMPLE	3971	3963	8	0.20
31	DALMELLINGTON	3456	3462	-6	-0.17
32	NEW CUMNOCK	3791	3781	10	0.26
		120235	120235		

Source: Census 2001, Output Geographies/CAS Wards - General Register Office for Scotland