

REPORT

To: CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE		Subject: SCOTLAND'S POPULATION 2008 REGISTRAR GENERAL'S ANNUAL REVIEW OF DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS
From: HEAD OF CENTRAL SERVICES		
Date: 18 August 2009	Ref: MS/RM	

1. Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to advise of the publication of the Registrar General's Annual Review of Demographic Trends entitled "Scotland's Population 2008", a copy of which has been placed in the Members' Library.

2. Background

The 2008 Review assesses, also, the impact of the Local Electoral Administration and Registration Services (Scotland) Act 2006 which was the first major reform of registration since 1965.

3. The Review

The main part of the review contains information about Scotland's population and about the number of births, marriages and deaths – and other vital events such as civil partnerships.

The review shows that Scotland's population rose (by around 24,300) for the sixth year running to 5,168,500 on 30 June 2008 which is the highest population since 1981.

Two changes are particularly worth highlighting. Births and deaths can now be registered anywhere in Scotland, rather than only in the registration districts where the person lived, or where the event took place. In 2008 almost 5,900 events (about 1 in 20) of all births and deaths were registered in a place which would not have been allowed before the Act.

The arrangements for people to change their name were speeded up and the number of applications increased by almost one half between 2006-2007.

4. Recommendations

Members are asked to note the publication of the Registrar General's Annual Review of Demographic Trends entitled "Scotland's Population 2008".

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Head of Central Services

Members seeking further information on the contents of this report are asked to contact John Fleming, Head of Central Services on Ext. 2228.