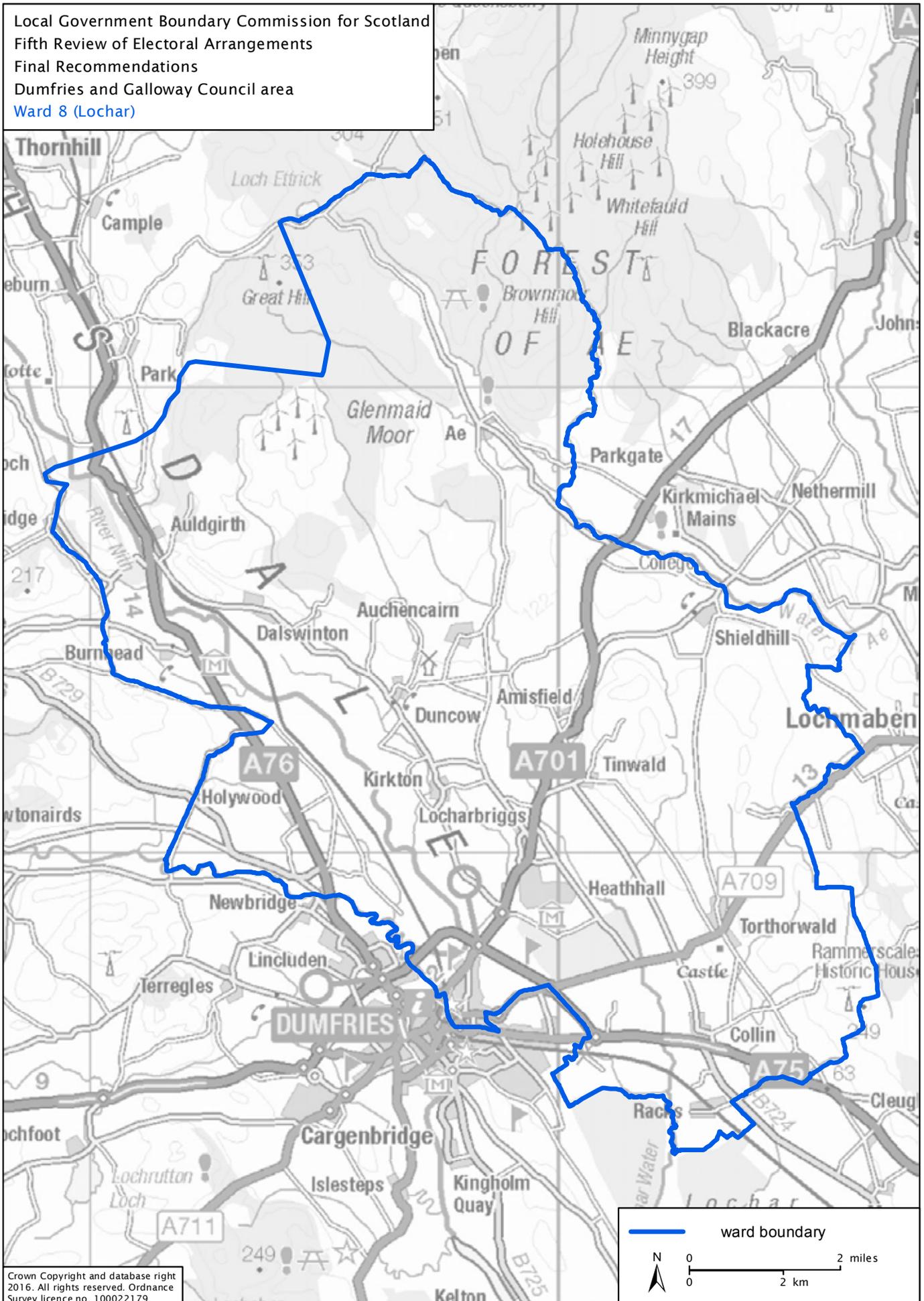


Lochar Ward 8 Profile



Lochar **Ward 8 Profile**

Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland
Fifth Review of Electoral Arrangements
Final Recommendations
Dumfries and Galloway Council area
[Ward 8 \(Lochar\)](#)



Key statistics - Main Settlements

Some details about main towns and villages in the Lochar Ward are given below:

Ae village is located on the edge of a 15,000 acre man-made conifer forest, and is approximately 9 miles (14 km) north of Dumfries, is home to one of the internationally renowned 7 Stanes mountain bike trails and has an approximate population of 200.

Auldgirth is a village on the A76 trunk road. The village features a play park, local restaurant and has a village hall. The population of Auldgirth and District Community Council area is 437

Collin is a small village just outside Dumfries off the A75 trunk road. It is located on the Lochar Water. It lies 5.3 km east of Dumfries, and 20km north west of Annan. A Council managed Gypsy/ Traveller site is located within the village at Thistle Grove. The village also has a primary school, small play area and has an approximate population of 600.

Dalswinton is located about 6 miles north west of Dumfries and has an approximate population of 70. It has a village hall and small church. To the east of the village a wind farm has been built with a capacity of 30MW.

Heathhall and **Locharbriggs** expanded greatly to become a major suburb of Dumfries. Locharbriggs is located 2 miles (3.2 km) northeast of Dumfries near the Lochar Water. It was one of several villages that stood on the edge of the Lochar Moss which was largely reclaimed in the 19th Century. Locharbriggs is perhaps best known for the quarrying of distinctive red sandstone which has been used for buildings in towns and cities including Dumfries, Glasgow and Edinburgh. Heathhall has an approximate population of 3,225 and Locharbriggs 1,600.

Holywood lies to the north of Dumfries adjacent to the A76 trunk road and has a Primary School and village hall and has an approximate population of 90.

Kirkton is a small village between Auldgirth and Dumfries. It is located near the River Nith and has a church and village hall and has an approximate population of 290.

Torthorwald is located 6 kilometres (3.7 mi) east of Dumfries on the A709 road to Lochmaben and has an approximate population of 190 with a Village Hall and local hotel.

Primary Schools

Ae Primary School	18
Amisfield Primary School	31
Collin Primary School	29
Duncow Primary School	39
Heathhall Primary School	301
Holywood Primary School	59
Locharbriggs Primary School	124

Secondary School

Dumfries High School	757
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Burial Grounds

- Holywood
- Kirkmahoe
- Portrack (closed)
- St Blane's, Kirkton
- Tinwald
- Torthorwald
- Trailflat (closed)

Parks and Open Spaces

- Edinburgh Road, Dumfries
- Marchmount, Dumfries
- Bloomfield, Dumfries
- Woodgrove, Dumfries
- The Grove, Heathhall
- Bushby Avenue, Heathhall
- Downs Way, Heathhall
- Barnett Road, Heathhall
- Martinton Road, Heathhall
- Green Court, Locharbriggs
- Burnscarthgreen, Locharbriggs
- Auchencrieff Road, Locharbriggs
- Wellington Crescent, Kirkton
- Amisfield

- Ae Village
- Linns Road, Torthorwald
- Roucan Court, Collin
- Rockele Drive, Collin
- Hollywood
- Kennedy Park, Auldgirth

NHS Facilities

- Lochthorn Medical Centre

Police Scotland Facilities

- Dumfries and Galloway Divisional Headquarters, Cornwall Mount, Dumfries

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Facilities

- There are no facilities based directly in the Ward

The nearest Stations are:

Dumfries, Lockerbie or Thornhill

Key Council/Partner Projects

Improvements at Locharbriggs Primary School

Improvements at Locharbriggs Primary School include a significant refurbishment at the school which will see around a £1.8 million investment starting in 2022. It will see the removal of the tower block, upgrades to the electrical and mechanical systems, formation of new reception area, altered configuration and better utilisation of some internal spaces and significant building fabric improvements. It is anticipated that the construction phase will be around 15 months on site.

New Dumfries High School

The Development is planned to replace the current Dumfries High School as part of the Scottish Government LEAP funding scheme. The project itself is still in the very early stages with a view to the school being open for use at the end of 2025. Works have progressed to date around engagement with school users to establish the good practices currently on offer in the school, with a view to capturing these within a design brief. Further works will progress in the early part of 2022 to develop a file of specification to pass to a designer to start working on a design concept for the replacement school. It is hoped the plans first drafts will be available in mid 2022.

Thistle Grove Travellers Site

Dumfries & Galloway Council's Gypsy/Traveller site at Thistle Grove, Collin does not meet the Scottish Governments current minimum physical standards. As a result a working group has been conducting an options appraisal to allow members to make an informed decision on potential works to the site.

Strategic Housing Investment Plan

Hunterspark, Heathhall –

Works to deliver 63 affordable homes are underway, having commenced on site earlier this year. This project is being delivered jointly between Springfield Development and Cunninghame Housing Association to provide properties for social rent. A range of house types are being built, including fully accessible bungalows that will be suitable for wheelchair users. The project is currently ahead of programme and a phased handover will allow some of the homes to be occupied at an early stage.

Former College, Heathhall –

This brownfield site is being developed to deliver 75 affordable homes within walking distance of existing local services. A phased approach to delivery is being taken, with 15 homes already allocated to tenants. The remaining properties will also be handed over to Loreburn Housing Association by the contractor for occupation at the earliest opportunity. Site completion is anticipated for April 2022.

Lochar Moss Recycling/Reuse plant

The Council is investing around £11 million in the Dumfries Zero Waste Park project ('DZWP') to develop a waste facility for Dumfries and the wider region. It will incorporate the adjacent Ecodeco Mechanical Biological Treatment plant and will receive waste and recycling from across the Stewartry, Nithsdale and Annandale and Eskdale. The park will include a modern new Household Waste Recycling Centre, buildings for bulking and potentially sorting household recycling, food waste, bulky waste and electrical goods. Refuse collection crews and vehicles will be based there as well as an office and welfare facility for the Council's waste service.

Construction is expected to start next year and take 11 months. It will eventually include a Re-use centre run by a third sector partner, similar to the Re-Use shop at Stranraer and is designed to be flexible to any future changes in legislation or market conditions.

Public Health Improvement

The Public Health Improvement (PHI) workforce is part of the Community Health and Social Care Directorate. One PHI team works regionally, in partnership with Health and Social Care, Third Sector, Local Authority and communities to agree strategic direction and lead on action to deliver a regional plan to improve population health and wellbeing. With a focus on reducing health inequalities, the regional PHI plan includes poverty and inequalities; food insecurity; mental health and wellbeing; tobacco, alcohol and drug use prevention and harm reduction; physical activity/reablement; diet and healthy weight; housing and homelessness; workplace health; children and young people's health and wellbeing; digital equality.

All other PHI practitioners are being located within 8 Home Teams developing across the region and will be focusing activity on early intervention and prevention with vulnerable communities and individuals; delivering and developing the Community Link Service; proactively engaging with colleagues, communities and partners to build and strengthen a 'community led' regional approach to PHI using community development methodology; and providing support for specific actions within the PHI Regional Plan and priority PHI issues.

NHS Home Teams

Home Teams will be fully integrated, multi-disciplinary teams placed at the heart of the community who will work closely with people, their family, friends, carers and the wider local community and services to enable people to live healthy and active lives and live at home for longer.

They will support people within their community to live at home, close to their home or in a homely setting, preventing hospital admission where appropriate or safely bring them home from hospital earlier. A "Home First" approach is the default position for everyone. Home Teams will also ensure that people are at the heart of any decisions and will encourage people to improve and maintain their health and wellbeing through good conversations.

Community Councils:

- Ae Community Council – Established
- Auldgirth and District Community Council – Established
- Heathhall Community Council – Established
- Hollywood and Newbridge Community Council – Disestablished
- Kirkmahoe Community Council – Established
- Locharbriggs Community Council – Disestablished
- Tinwald Parish Community Council – Established
- Torthorwald Community Council – Established

The following sources of funding have been drawn down in the ward

- Regionwide Community Fund Projects
- CARS monies
- DGC Town Centre Investment
- Windfarm Community Benefit Funding - approx. £70k annually available
- Borderlands
- Area Committee Funding
- National Lottery Funding
- South West Environmental Action Trust

Elected Members

Clr Linda Dorward (Scottish Labour Party)
Linda.Dorward@dumgal.gov.uk

Clr Ivor Hyslop (Scottish Conservative & Unionist Group)
Ivor.Hyslop@dumgal.gov.uk

Clr Maureen Johnstone (Scottish Conservative & Unionist Group)
Maureen.Johnstone2@dumgal.gov.uk

Clr Tracey Little (Scottish National Party)
Tracey.Little@dumgal.gov.uk

MPs, MSP, and MSYPs List

MP Alister Jack MP
(Conservative and Unionist Party)
alister.jack.mp@parliament.uk
Tel. 020 7219 2994

MP David Mundell MP
(Conservative and Unionist Party)
david.mundell.mp@parliament.uk
Tel. 020 7219 4895

MSP Oliver Mundell MSP
Scottish Conservative and Unionist
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Tel. 0131 348 5631

Nithsdale MSYPs

Ellie McConnachie
Ellie@dgyouthcouncil.com

Lochar Ward Youth Councillor

Riley True
Riley@dgyouthcouncil.com

Lochar Ward Youth Councillor

Briony Thomson
Briony@dgyouthcouncil.com

Lochar

Current statistics are for year 2020 (latest statistics available)

*Trend is 10 year trend

Population 11,979



Poverty and Inequalities Data



Education and Skills

Percentage of population by Ward with no qualifications

14.5%

Regional average 15%



Employment

Employment deprived as % of working age population

4.9%

Regional average: 8.5%

Claimant Count Unemployment (all ages)

265

Regional average: 402

Child Poverty



Percentage of children in receipt of free school meals

11%

Regional Average: 19.25%

Child Poverty

16%

Regional average: 39.1%



Housing

Homelessness applications

5

Regional average: 6.5

Temporary accommodation tenancies

2

Regional average: 13.5

Full report and sources can be found here

<https://www.dumgal.gov.uk/media/23800/Report-Poverty-and-Deprivation-in-Dumfries-and-Galloway-2020/pdf/Poverty-and-Deprivation-Position-Report.pdf?m=637424348890330000>

The following statistical information is sourced from the Improvement Service's Community Planning Outcome Profiling tool

Employment and Economic Growth

% of adults receiving out of work benefits



% of children living in poverty



Rate of depopulation



	Current	Trend*	Current	Trend*	Current	Trend*
Nunholm	15.6%	+30.3%	13.9%	+39%	93%	+0.2%
Locharbriggs	13.3%	+34.6%	17.4%	+20.6%	111.5%	+6.5%
Heathhall	7.5%	+33.3%	14.3%	+144%	102.6%	+7.7%
Collin	5.6%	+49.2%	12%	-29.6%	60.5%	-33.2%

Education



Positive Destinations

The percentage of school leavers who, within three months of leaving school, enter higher education, further education, employment or training.



Educational Attainment

(Average number of National 5 Qualification attained)

	Current	Trend*	Current	Trend*
Nunholm	97.2%	+17.6%	5.77	-2.7%
Locharbriggs	100%	+21.6%	5.30	+2.6%
Heathhall	82.6%	-11.4%	5.95	+4.4%
Collin	94%	+0.7%	5.75	+0.4%

Health and Wellbeing



Rate of death

For persons under the age of 75, per 100,000 head of population

Unplanned Hospital Admissions

Accident and Emergency attendances per 100,000 head of population

	Current	Trend*	Current	Trend*
Nunholm	389	-29.2%	29294	+38.8%
Locharbriggs	407	-15.4%	27386	+20.4%
Heathhall	267	-3.0%	27695	+17.8%
Collin	268	-30.5%	26893	+19.2%



Safer, Stronger Communities

Number of crimes per 100,000 head of population



	Current	Trend*
Nunholm	415	-62.2%
Locharbriggs	234	-45.9%
Heathhall	141	-50.5%
Collin	172	-43.2%

*10 year trend