

## Briefing: 2016-Based Subnational Population Projections

### Cumbria & Districts: May 2018

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On 24<sup>th</sup> May 2018 the Office for National Statistics (ONS) published 2016-based population projections for local authorities; known as the Subnational Population Projections (SNPPs). This briefing presents the 2016-based SNPPs for Cumbria and districts.

**Key Points:** The SNPPs project that:

#### **All Ages**

- **By 2021:** Cumbria's population to decrease by 2,500 persons (-0.5%), only decrease amongst all 27 counties in England, (England average +3.2%). Barrow-in-Furness, Copeland and South Lakeland populations to decrease by (-2.4%, -2.1% and -0.3%); the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> greatest proportional decreases of all 326 district/unitary authorities in England. Carlisle and Allerdale populations to increase (+0.6% and +0.2%), Eden population to remain unchanged (0%).
- **By 2041:** Cumbria's population to decrease by 18,300 persons (-3.7%), only decrease amongst counties (England +12.1%). Barrow-in-Furness, Copeland, South Lakeland, Allerdale and Eden populations to decrease (-10.9%, -10.3%, -2.2%, -1.6%, and -1.1%); 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 16<sup>th</sup> greatest proportional decreases of all district/unitary authorities. Carlisle population to grow (+0.5%).

#### **Children & Young Persons Population (0-15 Year Olds)**

- **By 2021:** Cumbria's 0-15 population to increase by 100 persons (+0.1%), all counties projected to increase but Cumbria's increase is smallest amongst all counties (England +4.7%). 0-15 population to decrease in Barrow-in-Furness, South Lakeland, Eden and Copeland (-1.5%, -1%, -0.9% and -0.6%); 6<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 14<sup>th</sup> greatest proportional decreases of all district/unitary authorities. 0-15 population in Carlisle and Allerdale to rise (+2.3% and +0.8%).
- **By 2041:** Cumbria's 0-15 population to decrease by -9,300 persons (-11.3%), greatest decrease amongst counties (England +2.9%). 0-15 population to decrease across all Cumbrian districts. Copeland, Barrow-in-Furness, South Lakeland and Eden projected greatest proportional decreases (-16.4%, -15.7%, -12.6% and -10.9%); 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> greatest proportional decreases of all district/unitary authorities.

### ***Working Age Population (16-64 Year Olds)***

- **By 2021:** Cumbria's 16-64 population to decrease by 10,300 persons (-3.4%), greatest projected decrease of all counties (England +1.3%). All Cumbrian districts follow county-wide trend. Copeland projected greatest proportional decrease in 16-64 year olds (-5.3%), followed by Barrow-in-Furness, Eden and South Lakeland; 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> greatest proportional decreases of all district/unitary authorities.
- **By 2041:** Cumbria's 16-64 population to decrease by 47,400 persons (-15.8%), greatest projected decrease of all counties (England +3.6%). All Cumbrian districts follow county-wide trend. Copeland projected greatest proportional decrease in 16-64 year olds (-21.5%), followed by Barrow-in-Furness, Eden, South Lakeland, Allerdale and Carlisle; all six districts within top 20 proportional decreases of all district/unitary authorities, ranked 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.

### ***Older Adult Population (65+ Years)***

- **By 2021:** Cumbria's 65+ population to increase by 7,700 persons (+6.6%). All counties projected to increase but Cumbria's increase is smallest of all counties (England +8.3%). All Cumbrian districts follow county-wide trend, greatest proportional increase in Eden (+9.4%). All district/unitary authorities projected to increase but Barrow-in-Furness's increase is 3<sup>rd</sup> smallest of all district/unitary authorities.
- **By 2041:** Cumbria's 65+ population to increase by 38,400 persons (+32.7%). All counties projected to increase but Cumbria's increase is smallest of all counties (England +51.7%). All Cumbrian districts follow county-wide trend, greatest proportional increase in Eden (+41.5%). All district/unitary authorities projected to increase but increases in Barrow-in-Furness, Copeland, South Lakeland and Allerdale rank 1<sup>st</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> smallest of all district/unitary authorities.

### ***Broad Age Profile***

- **Overall:** Cumbria's projected proportion of residents aged 65+ is much larger than the national average due to Cumbria's current age profile being older than the national average and the impact of the county's large projected decreases in numbers of 0-15 and 16-64 year olds.
- **By 2021:** Cumbria's 65+ proportion to increase to 25.2%; 6<sup>th</sup> greatest proportion of all counties (England 18.8%). All Cumbrian districts to have greater 65+ proportions than national average. South Lakeland projected to have the greatest 65+ proportion (29.3%); 12<sup>th</sup> greatest proportion of all district/unitary authorities.

- **By 2041:** Cumbria's 65+ proportion to increase to 32.4%; 5<sup>th</sup> greatest proportion of all counties (England 24.2%). All Cumbrian districts projected to have greater 65+ proportions than national average. Eden and South Lakeland to have greatest 65+ proportions (both 36.9%); joint 14<sup>th</sup> greatest proportions of all district/unitary authorities.

**Background:** Every two years the Office for National Statistics (ONS) produces long-term population projections for local authorities (LAs) in England; known as the Subnational Population Projections (SNPPs). The SNPPs provide indicative figures relating to the size and structure of the future resident population in each LA over the next 25 years. The ONS SNPPs are based on the assumption that the average observed levels of fertility, mortality and migration in each LA over the five years prior to the projections will continue into the future. The ONS also make small adjustments to the SNPPs to fit with national population projections.

On 24th May 2018, the ONS published 2016-based SNPPs. These projections took the mid-2016 population as base and projected this population forward based on assumed levels of fertility, mortality and migration observed over the five years to mid-2016 (2011/12 to 2015/16). A full description of the methodology used to produce the 2016-based SNPPs is available via the following link:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/methodologies/subnationalpopulationprojectionsqmi>

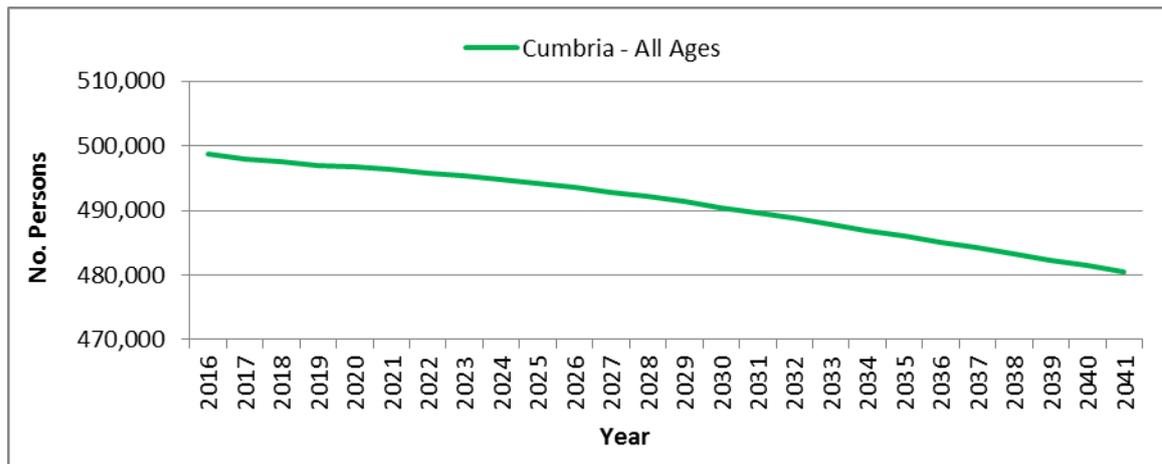
**Caveats:** The SNPPs are trend-based, making assumptions about future fertility, mortality and migration levels based on past trends, usually over a five-year reference period. They give an indication of what the future population structure might be if recent demographic trends continued. **They are not forecasts and take no account of policy or development aims that have not yet had an impact on observed trends.** The SNPPs provide projections at a local authority level and do not reflect how projections may vary across communities within the local authority. All demographic projections become increasingly uncertain the further into the future they project. This is due to the inherent uncertainty of demographic behaviour.

## Subnational Population Projections (SNPPs)

### All Ages

Figure 1 displays the mid-2016 population estimates for Cumbria and the county's projected population each year from 2016 to 2041; based on the 2016-Based SNPPs.

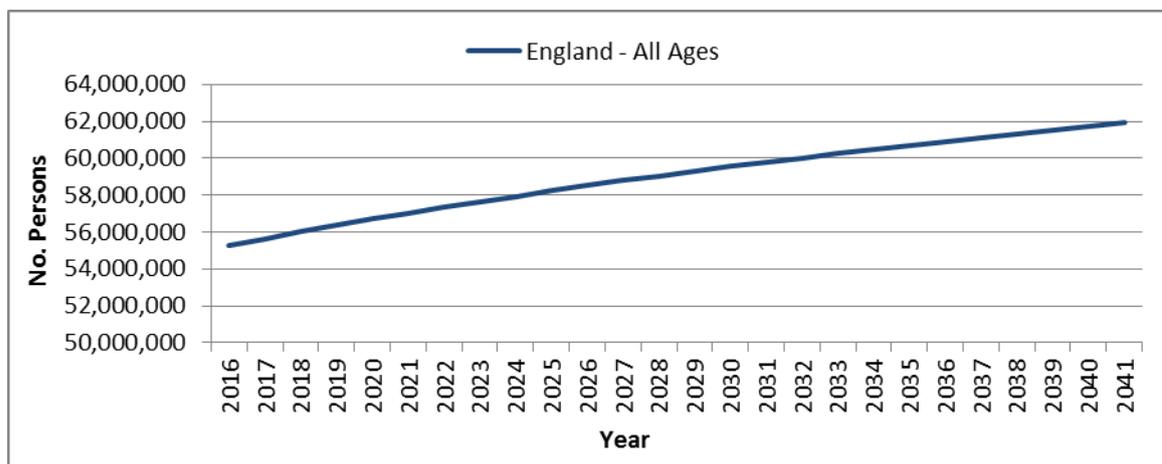
Figure 1: Cumbria: Projected Population: 2016-2041: All Ages



Source: 2016-Based SNPPs, Office for National Statistics

The SNPPs project that Cumbria's population will decrease steadily to 2041. In contrast, England's population is projected to increase steadily to 2041 (figure 2).

Figure 2: England: Projected Population: 2016-2041: All Ages



Source: 2016-Based SNPPs, Office for National Statistics

Figure 3 displays the mid-2016 population estimates for England, Cumbria and districts alongside respective projected population figures five years into the projection period (2021) and at the end of the 25 year projection period (2041); based on the 2016-Based SNPPs.

Figure 3: Projected Population: 2016-2021 & 2016-2041: All Ages

	Population			Numerical Change		Proportional Change	
	2016	2021	2041	2016-2021	2016-2041	2016-2021	2016-2041
England	55,268,100	57,030,500	61,952,100	1,762,500	6,684,100	3.2	12.1
Cumbria	498,800	496,300	480,500	-2,500	-18,300	-0.5	-3.7
Allerdale	97,100	97,300	95,500	200	-1,600	0.2	-1.6
Barrow-in-Furness	67,500	65,900	60,200	-1,600	-7,300	-2.4	-10.9
Carlisle	108,400	109,100	109,000	700	600	0.6	0.5
Copeland	69,300	67,800	62,200	-1,500	-7,100	-2.1	-10.3
Eden	52,600	52,700	52,100	0	-600	0.0	-1.1
South Lakeland	103,800	103,500	101,600	-300	-2,200	-0.3	-2.2

Source: 2016-Based SNPPs, Office for National Statistics

#### By 2021:

It is projected that Cumbria's total population will decrease by 2,500 persons (-0.5%); this is **the only projected decrease of the 27 counties** in England and contrary to national projections (England +3.2%). Barrow-in-Furness, Copeland and South Lakeland are projected to experience decreases in their populations of -2.4%, -2.1% and -0.3% respectively; **the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> greatest proportional decreases respectively of all 326 district/unitary authorities** in England. Carlisle and Allerdale are projected to experience very small increases in population (+0.6% and +0.2%), while Eden's population is projected to be stable (0% change).

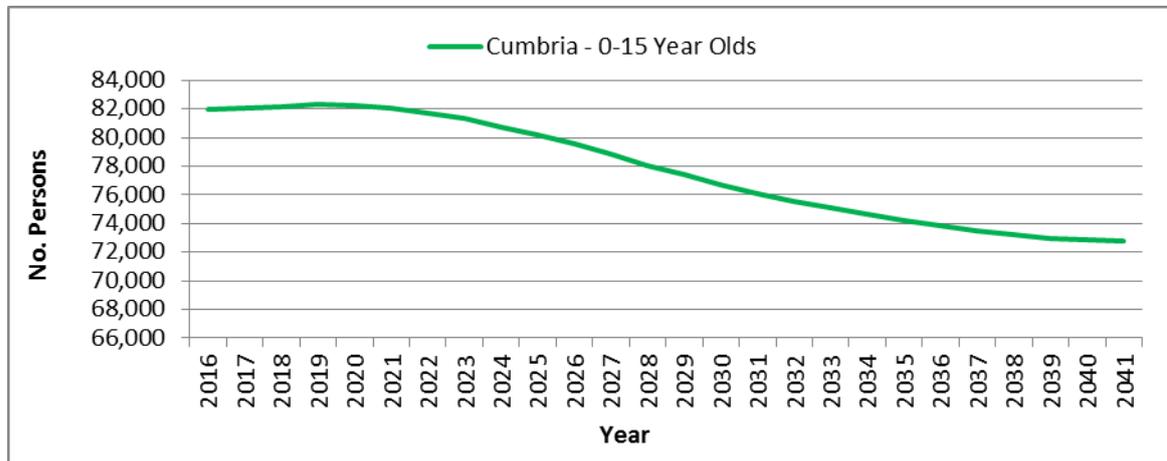
#### By 2041:

It is projected that Cumbria's population will decrease by 18,300 persons (-3.7%); again, this is **the only projected decrease of counties** in England and contrary to national projections (England +12.1%). Barrow-in-Furness, Copeland, South Lakeland, Allerdale and Eden are all projected to experience decreases in their populations (-10.9%, -10.3%, -2.2%, -1.6%, and -1.1% respectively); **the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> greatest proportional decreases respectively of all 326 district/unitary authorities** in England. Carlisle's population is projected to experience a very small increase (+0.5%).

### Children & Young People Population (0-15 Year Olds)

Figure 4 displays the mid-2016 population estimates for Cumbria and the county's projected population from 2016 to 2041 in relation to residents aged 0-15 years; based on the 2016-Based SNPPs.

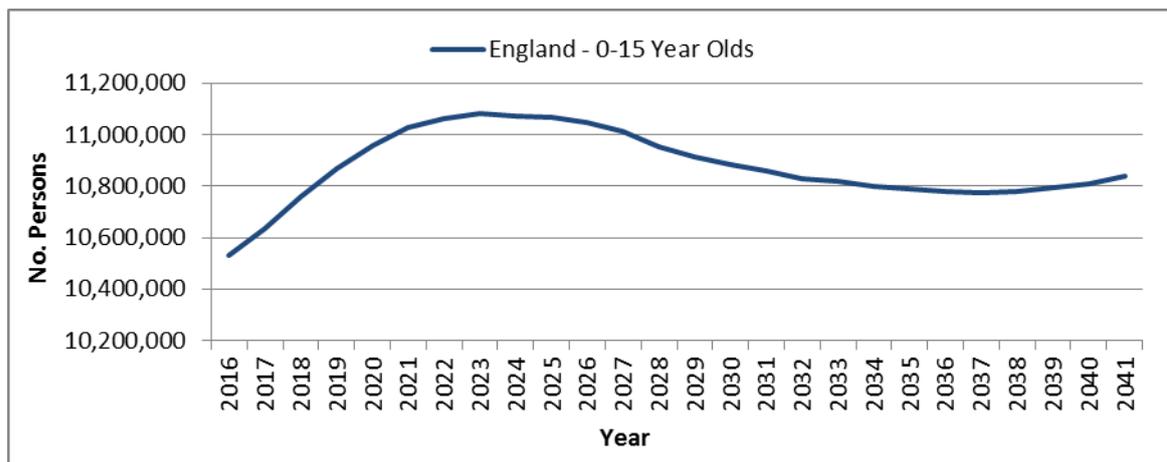
Figure 4: Cumbria: Projected Population: 2016-2041: 0-15 Year Olds



Source: 2016-Based SNPPs, Office for National Statistics

It is projected that the number of 0-15 year olds in Cumbria will show little change between 2016 and 2021, before steadily decreasing from 2022 onwards. Nationally, it is projected that the number of 0-15 year olds will increase to 2023, decrease slightly from 2024 to 2036, and then increase again from 2038 to 2041 (see figure 5).

Figure 5: England: Projected Population: 2016-2041: 0-15 Year Olds



Source: 2016-Based SNPPs, Office for National Statistics

Figure 6 displays the mid-2016 population estimates for England, Cumbria and districts alongside respective projected population figures for 2021 and 2041 in relation to 0-15 year olds; based on the 2016-Based SNPPs.

Figure 6: Projected Population: 2016-2021 & 2016-2041: 0-15 Year Olds

	Population			Numerical Change		Proportional Change	
	2016	2021	2041	2016-2021	2016-2041	2016-2021	2016-2041
England	10,529,100	11,028,000	10,838,100	498,900	309,000	4.7	2.9
Cumbria	82,000	82,100	72,700	100	-9,300	0.1	-11.3
Allerdale	15,900	16,100	14,300	100	-1,700	0.8	-10.4
Barrow-in-Furness	11,900	11,700	10,000	-200	-1,900	-1.5	-15.7
Carlisle	19,100	19,600	18,100	400	-1,000	2.3	-5.5
Copeland	11,600	11,600	9,700	-100	-1,900	-0.6	-16.4
Eden	8,000	7,900	7,100	-100	-900	-0.9	-10.9
South Lakeland	15,400	15,300	13,500	-200	-1,900	-1.0	-12.6

Source: 2016-Based SNPPs, Office for National Statistics

#### By 2021:

The number of 0-15 year olds in Cumbria is projected to increase by 100 persons (+0.1%). While all counties in England are projected to experience increases in the number of 0-15 year olds, Cumbria's projected increase is **the smallest projected increase of all counties** and much lower than the projected national increase (England +4.7%). The number of 0-15 year olds is projected to decrease in Barrow-in-Furness, South Lakeland, Eden and Copeland (-1.5%, -1%, -0.9% and -0.6%); the **6<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 14<sup>th</sup> greatest proportional decreases respectively of all 326 district/unitary authorities** in England. The 0-15 year old populations of Carlisle and Allerdale are projected to rise slightly (+2.3% and +0.8%).

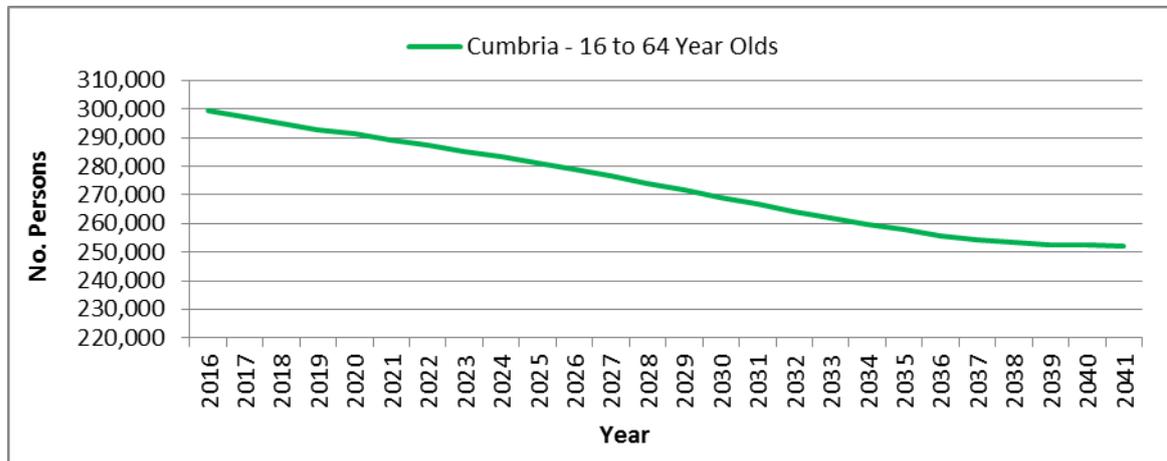
#### By 2041:

The number of 0-15 year olds in Cumbria is projected to decrease substantially by -9,300 persons (-11.3%); this is **the greatest projected decrease of all counties in England** and contrary to the projected national trend (England +2.9%). The number of 0-15 year olds is projected to decrease across all of Cumbria's districts by 2041, with Copeland, Barrow-in-Furness, South Lakeland and Eden projected to experience the greatest proportional decreases (-16.4%, -15.7%, -12.6% and -10.9%); the **2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> greatest proportional decreases of all 326 district/unitary authorities** in England.

### Working Age Population (16-64 Year Olds)

Figure 7 displays the mid-2016 population estimates for Cumbria and the county's projected population from 2016 to 2041 in relation to residents aged 16-64 years; based on the 2016-Based SNPPs.

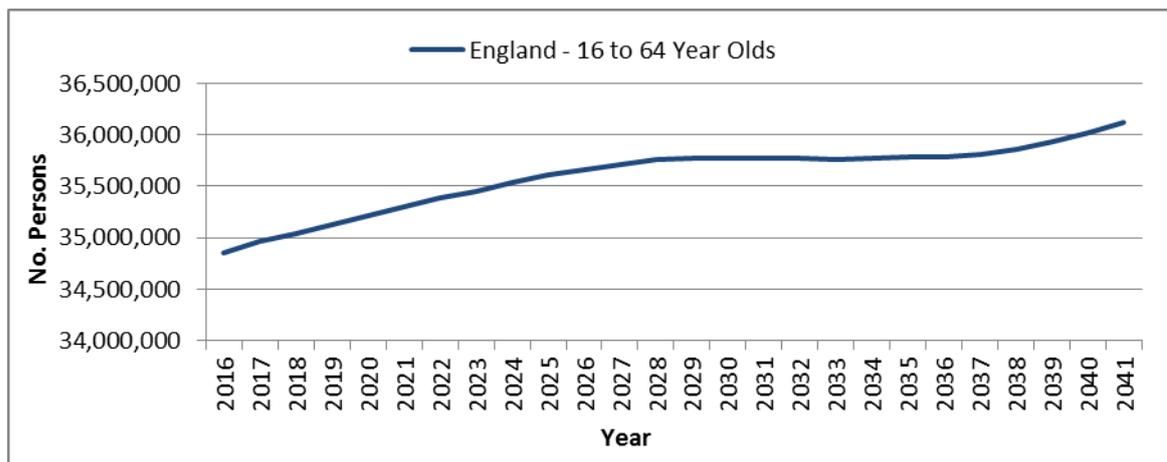
Figure 7: Cumbria: Projected Population: 2016-2041: 16-64 Year Olds



Source: 2016-Based SNPPs, Office for National Statistics

It is projected that Cumbria's 16-64 year old population will decrease each year to 2041. In contrast, the 16-64 year old population of England is projected to increase to 2027, plateau between 2028 and 2038, and then increase again from 2039 to 2041 (see figure 8).

Figure 8: England: Projected Population: 2016-2041: 16-64 Year Olds



Source: 2016-Based SNPPs, Office for National Statistics

Figure 9 displays the mid-2016 population estimates for England, Cumbria and districts alongside respective projected population figures for 2021 and 2041 in relation to 16-64 year olds; based on the 2016-Based SNPPs.

Figure 9: Projected Population: 2016-2021 & 2016-2041: 16-64 Year Olds

	Population			Numerical Change		Proportional Change	
	2016	2021	2041	2016-2021	2016-2041	2016-2021	2016-2041
England	34,856,100	35,298,500	36,120,400	442,400	1,264,300	1.3	3.6
Cumbria	299,500	289,300	252,200	-10,300	-47,400	-3.4	-15.8
Allerdale	58,200	56,700	50,500	-1,500	-7,700	-2.5	-13.2
Barrow-in-Furness	41,300	39,500	33,000	-1,900	-8,300	-4.6	-20.2
Carlisle	66,700	65,100	59,000	-1,600	-7,700	-2.3	-11.6
Copeland	42,500	40,300	33,400	-2,200	-9,100	-5.3	-21.5
Eden	31,000	29,900	25,700	-1,200	-5,300	-3.8	-17.1
South Lakeland	59,800	57,900	50,600	-1,900	-9,200	-3.2	-15.4

Source: 2016-Based SNPPs, Office for National Statistics

#### By 2021:

The number of 16-64 year olds is projected to decrease by 10,300 persons (-3.4%) across Cumbria. This is **the greatest projected decrease of all counties in England** and contrary to the projected national trend (England +1.3%). All of Cumbria's districts follow the county-wide trend. Copeland is projected to experience the greatest proportional decrease in the number of 16-64 year olds (-5.3%), followed by Barrow-in-Furness, Eden and South Lakeland; the **3<sup>rd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> greatest proportional decreases of all 326 district/unitary authorities** in England.

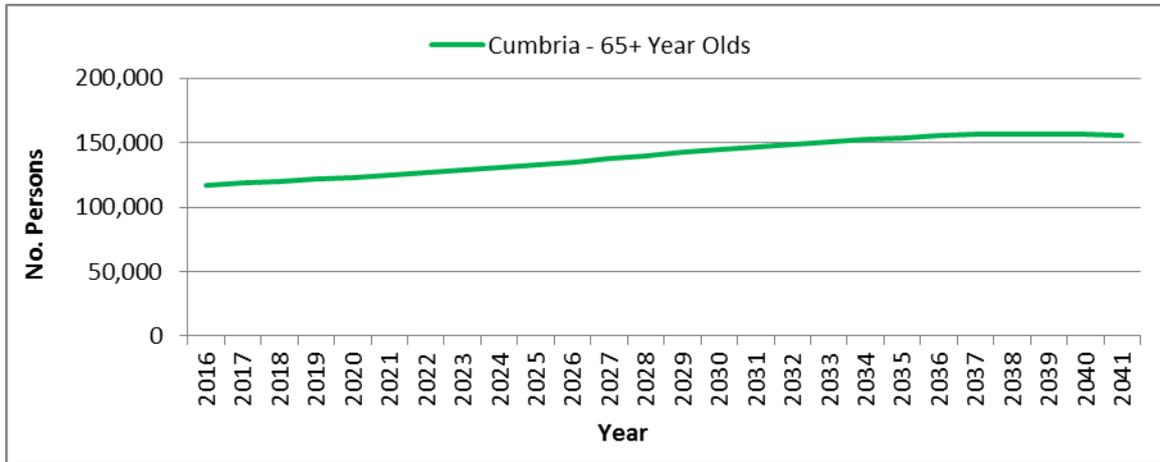
#### By 2041:

The number of 16-64 year olds is projected to decrease by a substantial 47,400 persons (-15.8%) across Cumbria. Again, this is **the greatest projected decrease of all counties in England** and contrary to the projected national trend (England +3.6%). All of Cumbria's districts follow the county-wide trend. Copeland is projected to experience the greatest proportional decrease in the number of 16-64 year olds (-21.5%), followed by Barrow-in-Furness, Eden, South Lakeland, Allerdale and then Carlisle; **all six districts feature within the top 20 proportional decreases of all 326 district/unitary authorities in England, ranked 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> respectively.**

### Older Adult Population (65+ Years)

Figure 10 displays the mid-2016 population estimates for Cumbria and the county's projected population from 2016 to 2041 in relation to residents aged 65+ years; based on the 2016-Based SNPPs.

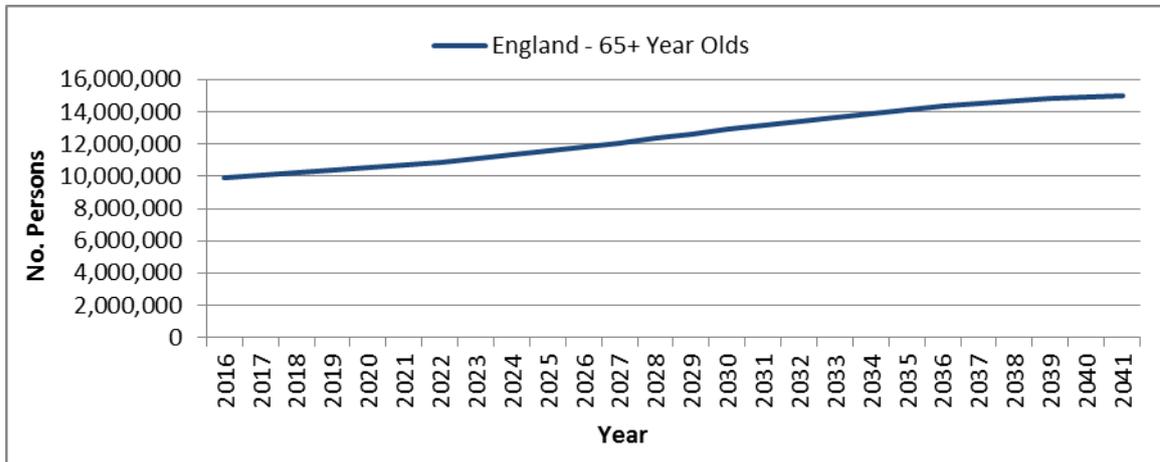
Figure 10: Cumbria: Projected Population: 2016-2041: 65+ Years



Source: 2016-Based SNPPs, Office for National Statistics

It is projected that Cumbria's population of residents aged 65+ will increase each year until 2039 with very small decreases in 2040 and 2041. England's population aged 65+ is projected to rise each year to 2041 (figure 11).

Figure 11: England: Projected Population: 2016-2041: 65+ Years



Source: 2016-Based SNPPs, Office for National Statistics

The 65+ population is projected to increase steadily across all of the county's districts to 2036, with some small decreases towards the very end of the projection period.

Figure 12 displays the mid-2016 population estimates for England, Cumbria and districts alongside respective projected population figures for 2021 and 2041 in relation to the number of residents aged 65+; based on the 2016-Based SNPPs.

Figure 12: Projected Population: 2016-2021 & 2016-2041: 65+ Year Olds

	Population			Numerical Change		Proportional Change	
	2016	2021	2041	2016-2021	2016-2041	2016-2021	2016-2041
England	9,882,800	10,704,100	14,993,600	821,300	5,110,700	8.3	51.7
Cumbria	117,200	124,900	155,600	7,700	38,400	6.6	32.7
Allerdale	23,000	24,500	30,700	1,500	7,700	6.6	33.7
Barrow-in-Furness	14,300	14,800	17,200	500	2,900	3.3	20.0
Carlisle	22,600	24,400	31,900	1,800	9,300	8.0	41.3
Copeland	15,200	16,000	19,100	900	3,900	5.6	25.7
Eden	13,600	14,900	19,200	1,300	5,600	9.4	41.5
South Lakeland	28,600	30,400	37,500	1,800	8,900	6.2	31.1

Source: 2016-Based SNPPs, Office for National Statistics

#### By 2021:

The number of residents aged 65+ is projected to increase by 7,700 persons across Cumbria (+6.6%). While all counties in England are projected to experience increases in the number of residents aged 65+, Cumbria's projected increase is this is **the smallest projected increase of all counties** and lower than the projected national increase (England +8.3%).

All of Cumbria's districts follow the projected county-wide trend with projected increases in residents aged 65+, with the greatest proportional increase in the number of residents aged 65+ projected to be in Eden (+9.4%). Notably, all district/unitary authorities in England are projected to experience increases in the number of residents aged 65+, however, Barrow-in-Furness's projected increase in residents aged 65+ is the **3<sup>rd</sup> smallest proportional increase of all 326 district/unitary authorities**.

### By 2041:

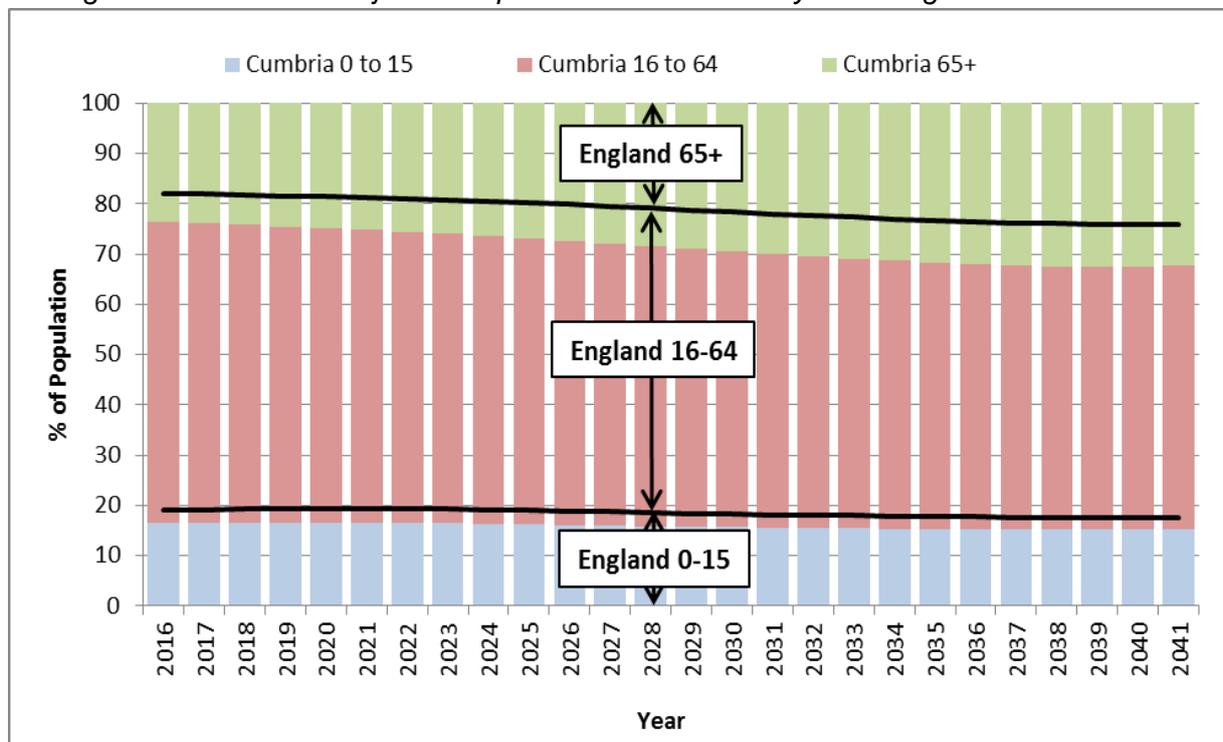
The number of residents aged 65+ is projected to increase by 38,400 persons across Cumbria (+32.7%). Again, although all counties in England are projected to experience increases in the number of residents aged 65+, Cumbria's projected increase is **the smallest projected increase of all counties** and lower than the projected national increase (England +51.7%).

Once more, all of Cumbria's districts follow the above projected county-wide trend, with the greatest proportional increase in the number of residents aged 65+ projected to be in Eden (+41.5%). However, all district/unitary authorities in England are projected to experience increases in the number of residents aged 65+ and the projected increases in residents aged 65+ in Barrow-in-Furness, Copeland, South Lakeland and Allerdale rank **1<sup>st</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> smallest of all 326 district/unitary authorities** in England.

### Broad Age Profile

Figure 13 provides the projected proportion of residents in each broad age band from 2016 to 2041 for Cumbria, with England proportions overlaid using black lines.

Figure 13: Cumbria: Projected Population: 2016-2041: By Broad Age



Source: 2016-Based SNPPs, Office for National Statistics

Despite Cumbria having the smallest projected increase in the number of residents aged 65+ of all counties in England and a lower projected increase in the number of residents in this age group when compared to the national average, **the projected proportion of residents aged 65+ within Cumbria is much larger than the national average**. This is due to Cumbria's current age profile being older than the national average and also the impact of the county's large projected decreases in the number of residents aged 0-15 and 16-64 years.

Figure 14 provides the estimated proportion of residents by broad age band in 2016 and the projected proportion of residents by broad age band in 2021 and 2041 for England, Cumbria and districts.

Figure 14: Projected Population: 2016, 2021 & 2041: % Persons by Broad Age

	0-15 Years			16-64 Years			65+ Years		
	2016	2021	2041	2016	2021	2041	2016	2021	2041
England	19.1	19.3	17.5	63.1	61.9	58.3	17.9	18.8	24.2
Cumbria	16.4	16.5	15.1	60.1	58.3	52.5	23.5	25.2	32.4
Allerdale	16.4	16.5	15.0	59.9	58.3	52.9	23.7	25.2	32.2
Barrow-in-Furness	17.6	17.8	16.7	61.2	59.8	54.8	21.2	22.4	28.5
Carlisle	17.6	17.9	16.6	61.5	59.7	54.1	20.8	22.4	29.3
Copeland	16.8	17.1	15.7	61.3	59.3	53.7	21.9	23.6	30.7
Eden	15.2	15.1	13.7	59.0	56.7	49.4	25.8	28.2	36.9
South Lakeland	14.8	14.7	13.3	57.6	55.9	49.8	27.5	29.3	36.9

Source: 2016-Based SNPPs, Office for National Statistics

#### By 2021:

The proportion of residents aged 65+ is projected to increase to 25.2% in Cumbria; this is the **6<sup>th</sup> greatest projected proportion of all counties** in England and much higher than the projected national proportion (18.8%). All of Cumbria's districts are projected to have greater proportions of residents aged 65+ than the national average by 2021. South Lakeland is projected to have the greatest proportion of residents aged 65+ across the county (29.3%); the **12<sup>th</sup> greatest proportion of all 326 district/unitary authorities** in England.

## By 2041:

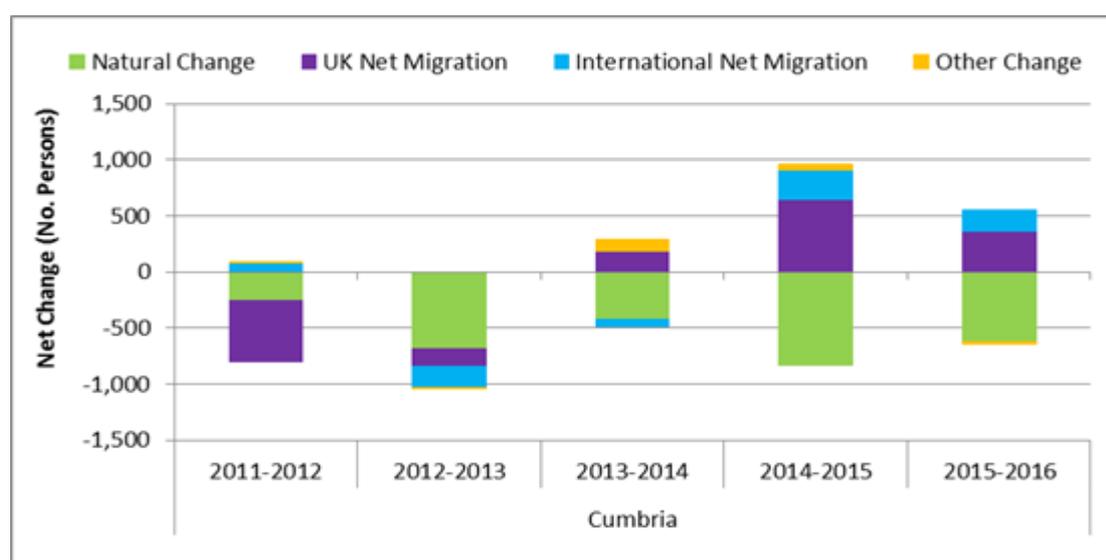
The proportion of residents aged 65+ is projected to increase to 32.4% in Cumbria; this is the 5<sup>th</sup> greatest projected proportion of all counties in England and much higher than the projected national proportion (24.2%). Again, all of Cumbria's districts are projected to have greater proportions of residents aged 65+ than the national average. Eden and South Lakeland are projected to have the greatest proportions of residents aged 65+ across the county (both 36.9%); the joint **14<sup>th</sup> greatest proportions of out of all 326 district/unitary authorities** in England.

## Components of Change

It is the combined effect of changes in the number of births, deaths and migrants that determine overall population change. These factors are known as the 'components of change'. As stated earlier in this briefing, the 2016-Based SNPPs take the population of each local authority at mid-2016 as their starting point. This population is projected forward a year at a time to 2041 by ageing the population on from the previous year, adding the projected number of births, subtracting the projected number of deaths and adjusting for projected in and out migration to/from other parts of the UK and overseas. The projected components of change are based on past trends observed in each local authority over the five years to 2016.

Figure 15 examines the net impact of each component of change between mid-2011/12 and mid-2015/16 for Cumbria, as it is these demographic trends that were projected forward within the 2016-Based SNPPs.

Figure 15: Cumbria: Mid-2011/12 to Mid-2015/16: Components of Change



Source: Office for National Statistics, 'Other Change' refers to effect of changes to prisoner, armed forces and their overseas based dependent populations.

The green bar in figure 15 shows the net impact of natural change (births minus deaths). Between mid-2011/12 and mid-2015/16, Cumbria's natural change was negative (the green bars are below zero). This shows that there were more deaths than births. Overall, between mid-2011/12 and mid-2015/16, there were 24,300 births in Cumbria and 27,100 deaths; resulting in a net natural decrease of -2,800 persons.

The purple bar shows the net impact of internal migration (to and from other parts of the UK). Between mid-2011/12 and mid-2015/16, an estimated 83,900 people moved into Cumbria from other parts of the UK and an estimated 83,400 people moved out from Cumbria to other parts of the UK resulting in a net increase of 500 persons.

The blue bar shows the net impact of international migration (to and from overseas). Between mid-2011/12 and mid-2015/16, an estimated 7,100 people moved into Cumbria from overseas and an estimated 6,800 people moved out from Cumbria to overseas resulting in a net increase of 300 persons.

### **Implications**

The population of Cumbria is projected to decline while the county's age profile becomes older. This has clear implications for the service provision of Cumbria County Council and partners.

A decreasing population in Cumbria would increase the challenges in the future of providing services in the second largest county in England to a relatively small, dispersed and reducing population. Instances of national funding models based on population will further disadvantage Cumbria compared to more densely populated areas of the country.

Fluctuating numbers of 0-15 year olds will have implications for the provision of services to support children and young people across the county. However, it is important that the SNPPs are not confused with the pupil projections produced by Cumbria County Council's School Organisation Team. Pupil projections project forward individual year groups for individual schools based on the current number of existing pre-school and school aged children within each school catchment area. Pupil projections allow for levels of parental preference across school catchment areas and are able to quickly incorporate developments that may impact on the school age population of particular catchment areas before these impacts are observable in SNPPs (e.g. the development of a new housing estate).

A declining working age population could constrain future economic performance by impacting on the availability of labour and skills for those businesses already

operating within the county and for those proposing to grow or relocate here. This in turn may put pressure on business costs as firms compete for staff in a decreasing pool of labour which could affect economic output and investment decisions. Whilst the rising state retirement age may mitigate some of the impact by increasing the number of older workers who remain economically active, this is likely to be minimal in comparison to the projected declines. However, as the SNPPs project forward past trends, they do not take into account the role major economic developments can have in attracting working age people from other parts of the UK and overseas to locate in Cumbria. This is particularly relevant at a time when major developments such as nuclear new build are proposed for the county.

The increasing number of residents aged 65+ and the ageing profile of the population are also likely to increase demand for health services and services designed to support and care for older vulnerable adults, potentially increasing the size of labour force required to supply this provision; which may prove particularly challenging alongside the large projected decreases in the county's working age population.

Furthermore, the types of new dwellings required within the county will need to reflect the needs of Cumbria's changing future population and economy. However, it should also be noted that the SNPPs do not directly provide projected dwelling requirements. Instead, the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) apply household membership rates (informed by the Census and Labour Force Survey) to the SNPPs to produce household projections associated with the SNPPs.

It is anticipated that DCLG will produce 2016-Based household projections towards the end of 2018. These household projections will provide information about the number, size and type of households that may be needed to support the population structure projected by the 2016-Based SNPPs given recent trends in household formation.

As stated within the caveats of this briefing, the SNPPs provide projections at a local authority level and do not reflect how these may vary across communities (such as school catchment areas) within the local authority. Furthermore, they give an indication of what the future population might be if recent trends continued, taking no account of developments that have not yet had an impact on observed trends.

**Further Information:** For further briefings and summaries regarding the recent population trends and future population projections please visit the Cumbria Intelligence Observatory website:

<https://www.cumbriaobservatory.org.uk/population/population-further-information/>

Alternatively, please contact the Performance & Intelligence Team at Cumbria County Council:

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