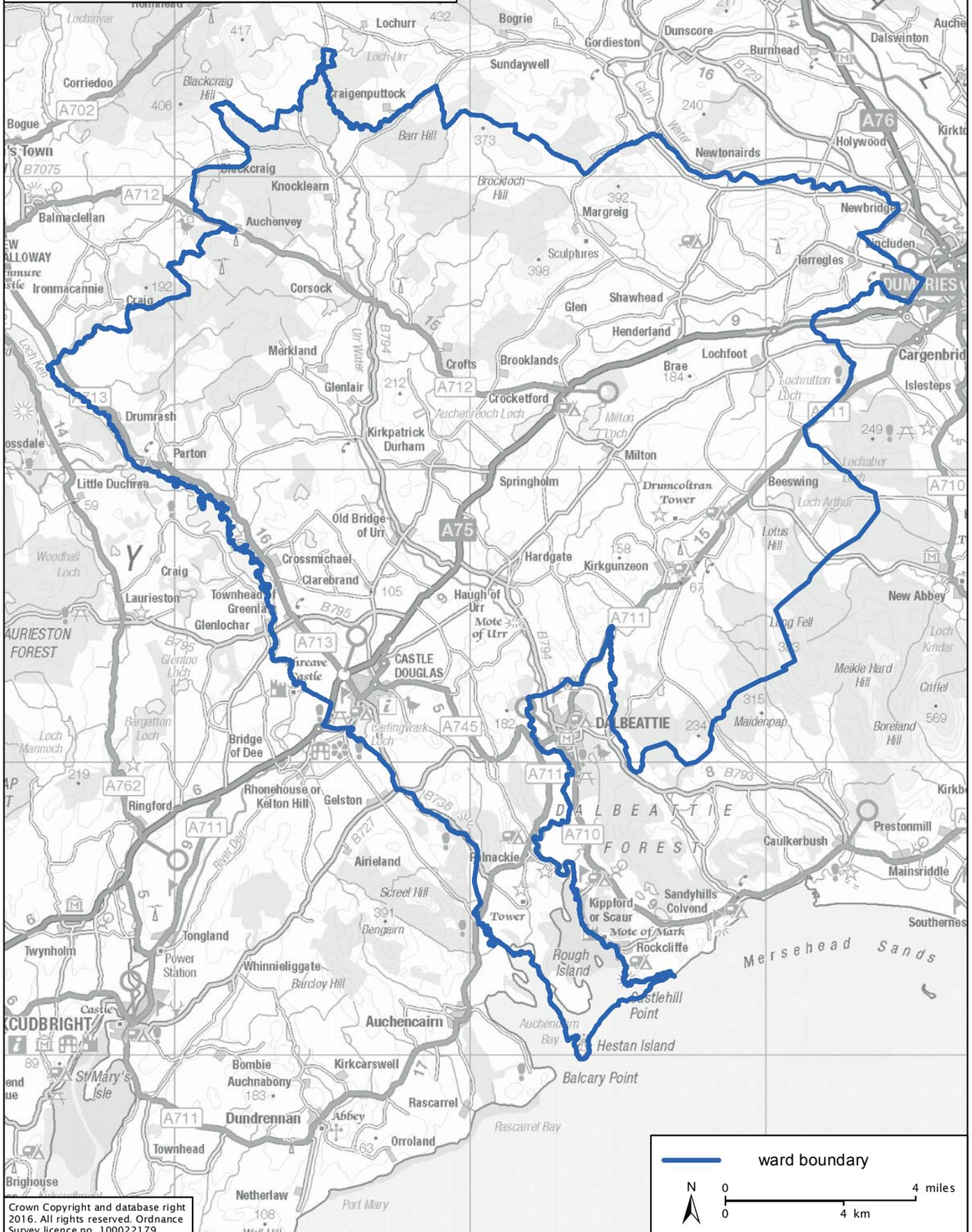


# Castle Douglas and Crocketford **Ward 4 Profile**



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Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland  
Fifth Review of Electoral Arrangements  
Final Recommendations  
Dumfries and Galloway Council area  
Ward 4 (Castle Douglas and Crocketford)



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## Key statistics - Main Settlements

Some details about the main towns and villages in the Castle Douglas and Crocketford Ward are given below.

**Castle Douglas** is identified as a District Centre within the Stewartry Housing Market Area. It serves as a market town for the surrounding area and has a number of shops, services and other facilities, including tourist attractions. It is an important strategic location for employment and contains business and industrial land within the town and just off the A75 to the north. The population in 2011 was 4,174. The town is bypassed by the A75, which creates a boundary to the north and west, has open countryside to the east and Carlingwark Loch to the south. The loch is important to the setting of the town providing an attractive gateway when approached from the south. This area is also important for biodiversity as it is a part of Threave. The town is also characterised by a series of small hills such as Erne, Dunmuir and Garden Hill which provide visual enclosure and setting.

**Crossmichael** is identified as a Local Centre in the Stewartry Housing Market Area. It is located adjacent to Loch Ken, on the A713 between Castle Douglas and New Galloway. The settlement has a number of facilities including a primary school, shop / post office and public house. The focal point of the settlement is the eighteenth century parish church to the northern end of the village, the setting of which should be protected from development. Crossmichael also lies within the Galloway Hills Regional Scenic Area, this landscape designation is an important consideration when considering future development.

**Springholm** is identified as a Local Centre in the Stewartry Housing Market Area. It has a range of facilities including shops, a hall and a public house. Springholm is located on the A75 with development fronting this on either side. The older core of the settlement consists of a long ribbon of development with additional residential development to the west at Reoch Park. Construction of houses at Cameronian Place has also expanded the town.

**Palnackie** is identified as a Local Centre in the Stewartry Housing Market Area. The settlement contains a number of facilities including a primary school and shop, as well as other businesses. Palnackie is an historic port town located within the East Stewartry Coast National Scenic Area, an indicator of the local landscape quality and a factor

when considering future development. A Palnackie Village Design Statement has been prepared for the village and this should be taken into account when designing any new development.

## Primary Schools

Castle Douglas Primary School	38
Crossmichael Primary School	96
Kirkgunzeon Primary School	26
Palnackie Primary School	11
Lochrutton Primary School	27
Hardgate Primary School	63
Shawhead Primary School	22
Springholm Primary School	60

## Secondary School

Castle Douglas High School	496
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## Customer Service Centre

- Castle Douglas Customer Service Centre and Library
- Castle Douglas Town Hall

## Burial Grounds

- Castle Douglas Cemetery, Castle Douglas Crossmichael Cemetery
- Kelton Cemetery, Castle Douglas Parton Cemetery, Castle Douglas Lochrutton Cemetery, Dumfries
- Kirkpatrick Durham Cemetery, Castle Douglas Urr Cemetery, Haugh of Urr, Castle Douglas Corsock Church Yard, Castle Douglas
- Kelton Cemetery, Castle Douglas Kirkland Cemetery, Gelston
- Kirkpatrick Durham Churchyard, Castle Douglas Urr Churchyard, Haugh of Urr, Castle Douglas

## Parks and Open Spaces

- Parks and Open Spaces Anderson Ave, Castle Douglas
- Birkland Road Park, Castle Douglas Dee Ave, Castle Douglas
- Douglas Terrace, Castle Douglas Lochside Park, Castle Douglas Market Hill, Castle Douglas Whitelaw, Castle Douglas Cullgruff Woods, Crossmichael Loch Ken, Crossmichael Templand, Crossmichael

- Craigadam Woodland, Crocketford Maiden Row, Crocketford
- Haugh of Urr Kirkpatrick Durham Kirkgunzeon Lochfoot
- Glen Road, Palnackie Kirkennan View, Palnackie Springholm

#### NHS Facilities

- Gardenhill Medical Centre
- Castle Douglas Community Hospital

#### Police Scotland Facilities

- Castle Douglas Police Station

#### Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Facilities

- Castle Douglas Fire Station

## Key Projects

### Galloway Glens Landscape Partnership

The Galloway Glens Landscape Partnership is connecting the people living and working in the area with its heritage and landscape in a drive to secure a prosperous future for the communities around the Water of Ken and River Dee, right from their source to the sea.”

The region, based on the Ken and Dee catchment and linked by the waterway, has reinvented itself throughout history and includes a wide range of habitats and land uses. The primary settlements of Castle Douglas and Kirkcudbright are linked to a more rural environment heading north through what is locally termed ‘the Glenkens’.

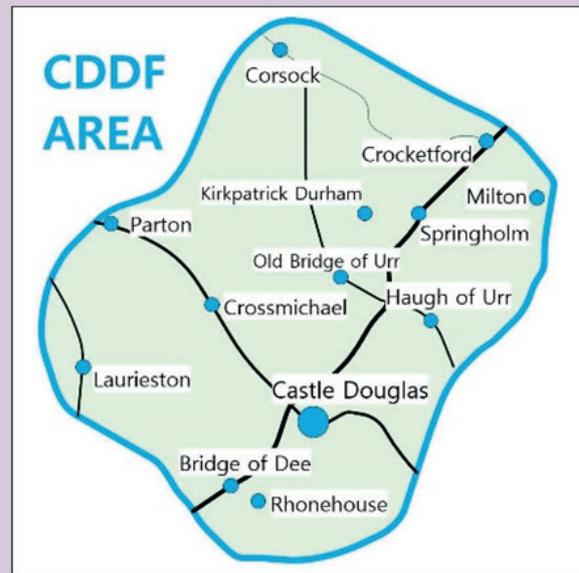
Now better known as an area of farming, forestry, energy generation, attractions such as ‘the Dark Sky Park’ and a relaxed pace of life, it cannot be forgotten that this region has been at the cutting edge of progress in a number of sectors throughout history. This includes the development of a pioneering hydroelectric scheme, the birthplace of James Clerk Maxwell and S.R. Crockett, a significant role in Robert the Bruce’s story and Covenanter activity, inspiring Robert Burns and a whole range of other points of international significance.

The Galloway Glens Landscape Partnership resulted from local interest in the area and a wish to better understand the heritage contained therein, making use of the unique natural and built heritage of the area to encourage sustainable communities now and into the future.

The Partnership consists of a range of organisations including, amongst others, Dumfries & Galloway Council, local community organisations, The Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere, Forestry Commission Scotland and Historic Environment Scotland.

The Galloway Glens Scheme is an initiative of Dumfries & Galloway Council’s Environment Team and runs until 2023. For more information, visit [www.gallowayglens.org](http://www.gallowayglens.org)

### Castle Douglas Development Forum



Castle Douglas Development Forum (CDDF) serves the people of Castle Douglas and the surrounding areas. It exists to promote wellbeing, regeneration, and education. Established in 2012, CDDF is now a two tier Scottish Incorporated Charitable Organisation SCO43639 and a Government recognized Community Anchor Organisation. The catchment area for CDDF includes the market town of Castle Douglas and the outlying villages and agricultural communities of the Ken/Dee valley to Parton and Corsock, the Urr Valley to Haugh of Urr and Milton and the parish of Kelton to Gelston and Bridge of Dee. Its numerous projects include The Heart of Galloway Visitor Centre, The CD Journal community newspaper, civic events, The Producers’ Market, Men’s Shed, the EcoCD group and the Town Shop , a very successful charity shop where all income is put back into events run for the town. Using its network of contacts and supporters, CDDF were able to react with speed, setting up an area-wide foodbank within days of the first Covid-19 lockdown in 2020. This has since become the Stepping Stones foodbank, community resource and pop up facility. CDDF currently have two Circus/ physical theatre freelance artists ‘in residence’ for a year to help develop a richer

creative cultural scene for the town as part of the What We For Now project overseen by The Stove. This is part of a nationwide network - Culture Collective - coordinated by Creative Scotland. CDDF has two ambitious projects in the pipeline: the building of the Stewarty's first Inclusive Playpark as soon as possible, requiring major community fund raising, and a longer-term project involving a Community Asset Transfer to bring the Lochside Caravan Site and Carlingwark Outdoor Activity Centre into community ownership. The aims are to improve these key facilities while generating surpluses to support other community initiatives.

### **The IT Centre**

The IT Centre help people to use technology to help to improve their everyday lives, maintain independence, reduce rural and social isolation and to help lift people out of poverty by helping to build confidence and improving digital skills". They refurbish donated devices to give to those in need working with local partnerships including foodbanks. We help people to set up, use their devices and gain confidence whilst learning new skills. They help people to apply for benefits online, setup and maintain their universal credit accounts, search for and apply for jobs online, access public services, online form filling, keep in touch with friends & family, shop online and a whole lot more. They provide weekly 1-2-1 appointments and we also offer help by telephone or remotely for those who don't wish or are unable to engage face to face. They have also been successful in obtaining 2 yr funding from TSDG Mental Health & wellbeing fund to provide digital art classes in Castle Douglas and in Balmaclellan at The Smiddy to help people to come together again in small groups to learn something new to alleviate anxiety, depression and stress.

### **Threave Rovers' Community Development Work**

In October 2021, Threave Rovers' signed a Service Level Agreement with CDHS and the Council to run the sports facilities out of hours at the High School. This includes the indoor games hall, 3 grass pitches and a floodlit MUGA. Unfortunately, the MUGA has been unusable for around the last 5 years as the surface needs replaced. They are working with the Council to get the surface re-laid with a 3G surface. They are currently at the tendering stage with the completion date of the project being July 2022.

### **Loch Ken Trust**

#### **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/re-ablement; 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.

#### **Active Travel**

Beeswing Loch Arthur Farm shop footpath link to Greenknowe

## Community Asset Transfers – Transfer of Ownership

- Hearse House, Crossmichael

## Community Asset Transfers – Long Term Leases (>10 years)

- Castle Douglas Community Centre
- Birkland Park Land (Football Pitch)

## Community Councils and Community Associations:

- Beeswing Community Council - Disestablished
- Buittle Parish Community Council – Established
- Castle Douglas Community Council – Established
- Corsock and Kirkpatrick Durham
- Crossmichael and District Community Council – Established
- Irongray Community Council – Established
- Kirkgunzeon Community Council - Disestablished
- Lochrutton Community Council – Established
- Parton Community Council – Established
- Terregles Community Council – Established
- Urr Community Council – Disestablished

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

- Coastal Community Fund Projects
- Regionwide Community Fund Projects
- DGC Town Centre Investment
- Windfarm Community Benefit Funding - approx. £20k annually available

## Elected Members

### Councillor Iain Howie

(Independent Group)

### Councillor Pauline Drysdale

(Scottish Conservative and Unionist Group)

### Councillor John Young

(Scottish National Party)

## MPs, MSP, and MSYPs List

### MP Alister Jack MP

(Conservative and Unionist Party)

alister.jack.mp@parliament.uk

Tel 0207 219 2994

### MSP Finlay Carson MSP

(Scottish Conservative and Unionist)

Finlay.carson.msp@parliament.scot

Tel 0131 348 5890

### MSP Emma Harper

emma.harper.msp@parliament.scot

Tel 01387 255334 or 0131 3486965

### Stewartry MSYP

Alasdair Marshall

Alasdair@dgyouthcouncil.com

### Castle Douglas and Crocketford Ward Youth Councillor

Anya McCreddie

Anya@dgyouthcouncil.com

### Castle Douglas and Crocketford Ward Youth Councillor

Harvey Sutton

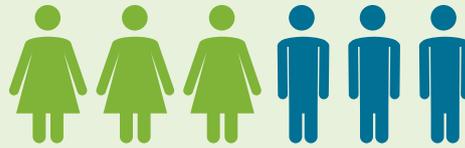
Harvey@dgyouthcouncil.com

# Castle Douglas and Crocketford

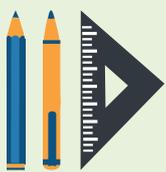
Current statistics are for year 2020 (latest statistics available)

\*Trend is 10 year trend

**Population 8,677**



## Poverty and Inequalities Data



### Education and Skills

**Percentage of population by Ward with no qualifications**

**19.2%**

Regional average 15%



### Employment

**Employment deprived as % of working age population**

**12.5%**

Regional average: 8.5%

**Claimant Count Unemployment (all ages)**

**640**

Regional average: 402

### Child Poverty



**Percentage of children in receipt of free school meals**

**25%**

Regional Average: 19.25%

**Child Poverty**

**34%**

Regional average: 39.1%



### Housing

**Homelessness applications**

**16**

Regional average: 6.5

**Temporary accommodation tenancies**

**38**

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



(inverse indicator)

	Current	Trend*	Current	Trend*	Current	Trend*
Castle Douglas	16.4%	+53.6%	19.5%	+18.1%	94.0%	+2.0%
Dalbeattie Rural	6.3%	+45.9%	13.7%	-4.5%	105.0%	+4.9%
Glenkens	13.5%	61.1%	23.4%	+80.7%	97.7%	0.6%

## 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*
Castle Douglas	99.3%	+6.5%	5.81	+7.2%
Dalbeattie Rural	88.2%	+7.4%	5.66	-2.7%
Glenkens	92.5%	-4.4%	5.69	+0.8%

## Health and Wellbeing



### Rate of death

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

	Current	Trend*
Castle Douglas	411	+10.0%
Dalbeattie Rural	280	-26.8%
Glenkens	320	-4.4%

### Unplanned Hospital Admissions

Accident and Emergency attendances per 100,000 head of population



	Current	Trend*
Castle Douglas	25,533	+38.5%
Dalbeattie Rural	22,414	+25.9%
Glenkens	20,583	+16.1%

## Safer, Stronger Communities

Number of crimes per 100,000 head of population



	Current	Trend*
Castle Douglas	367	+24.0%
Dalbeattie Rural	146	-15.3%
Glenkens	247	+68.6%

\*10 year trend