

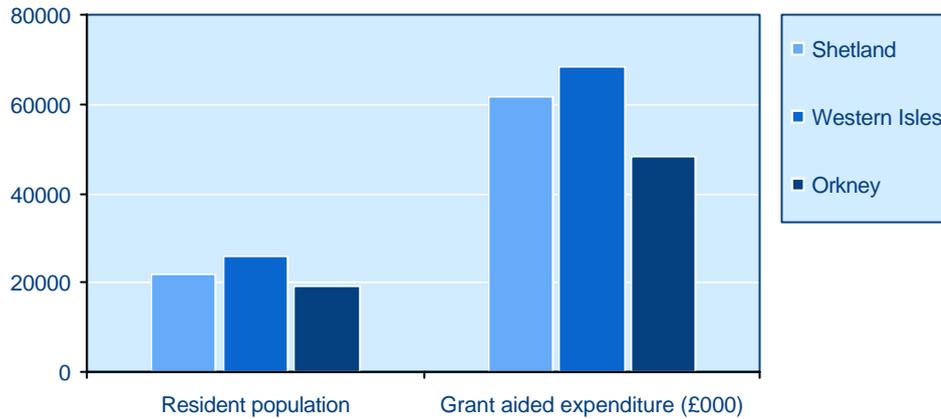


Orkney Islands Council's Annual Performance Report 2004/05

The 2004/05 Level of Grant Aided Expenditure for the Three Island Authorities

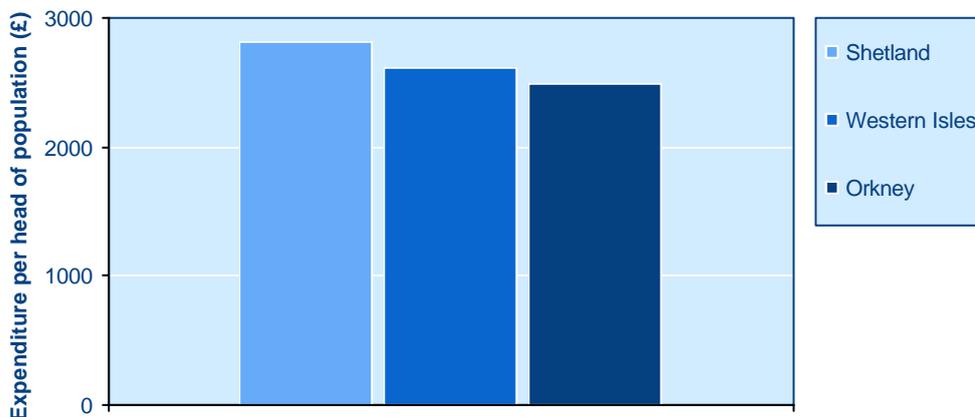
Although the Council's performance cannot be wholly attributed to the level of resources available to it, it must be recognised that resource levels do play a significant role; Orkney Islands Council believes that its resource levels are both historically and currently inadequate. To illustrate this point, the chart below compares the resident populations and levels of grant aided expenditure received from the Scottish Executive in 2004/05, across the councils in Orkney, Shetland and the Western Isles.

Resident Population v Grant Aided Expenditure (£000) 2004/05



As can be seen, Orkney's level of grant aided expenditure is very low in comparison with the other two island councils. When translated into grant aided expenditure per head of population, the chart below shows that the councils in Shetland and the Western Isles have significantly greater resources available to them to provide services for local people.

Grant Aided Expenditure per head of resident population 2004/05



Despite this inequity, Orkney's Band D Council Tax for 2004/05 was £940, only marginally higher than Shetland at £936, and the Western Isles at £911.