



# **How have family households in Scotland changed over time 2001 – 2011?**

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Parenting across Scotland

# Origins of the report



- Evidence Request Bank
- The evidence request

# Households and families



- Increase in number of households
  - single person households now most common type
  - households with children now a smaller proportion of total households
- Lone parent households stable as a proportion of households but numbers have increased
- Minority ethnic population up by percentage points

# Households and families



- Single person households
  - connectedness
  - intergenerational work
- Households with dependent children tend to have fewer children
- Minority ethnic households
  - larger numbers but concentrated in certain areas
  - what do we know?
  - not homogeneous either in culture or needs

# Family formation and dissolution



- Levels of marriage relatively stable but cohabitation more common
- Average age of getting married older
- Average age of giving birth across population higher
- Higher number of births to unmarried parents
- Level of divorce lower

# Family formation and dissolution



- Average age of giving birth higher
  - but wide variation across demographic
  - grandparent care
- Divorce lower
  - cohabitation
  - dissolution in cohabiting couples?
  - family shape

# Children in need of care



- Looked after children
  - 16,231 looked after children, an increase of 49% since 2001
  - majority looked after at home, less staying in residential care
- Kinship care
  - just over 1% of children in Scotland in kinship care arrangements
  - nearly four times as many in 2011 as in 2001

# Children in need of care



- Children and Young People (Scotland) 2014
  - extension of duties to looked after children
  - prevention duty
  - kinship care orders
- Grandparents
  - more grandmothers with long term health conditions looking after children
  - what are the implications
  - how do we best support?

# Families affected by disability



- 20% of people with a long-term health condition or disability
  - majority of those households did not contain dependent children
  - 136,625 households with dependent children
- Carers – numbers remained stable but hours providing care increased
  - how do we best support unpaid carers?
  - how is this reflected in Carers (Scotland) Bill?

# Families affected by disability



- Lack of evidence and data around families affected by disability
  - more likely to be living in poverty, relationship breakdown rates higher, difficulties with work and childcare
  - how do we assess needs and respond?
- Unpaid carers
  - increasing hours of unpaid care
  - implications for policy and practice

# Parental working patterns



- Differences in male/female work patterns
  - women far more likely to work part-time, especially true for women with children
  - lone mothers more likely to be in part-time work than lone fathers
- Women still far more likely than men to be economically inactive because of looking after the home or family
  - Proportion of men undertaking this role increased from 1% to 3% over the period

# Parental working patterns



- Differences in male – female working patterns
  - what does this mean for how we support women to enter and remain in the labour market
  - childcare - Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 and beyond
  - working practices?
- Higher proportions of lone parents working
  - but what effect has recent policy changes had?
- Lone fathers
  - how do we best support their needs?

# What next?



- As many questions as answers
  - if family shape is changing, are asking the right questions?
- Gaps in evidence and data
  - what more do we need to know?
- Further interrogation of data
- Summaries and infographics?

# Thank you



- Evidence request bank
- <http://evidencerequestbank.org/>
- Sarah Rodgers
- Lesley Kelly
- Lynn Jamieson
- Karen Seditas