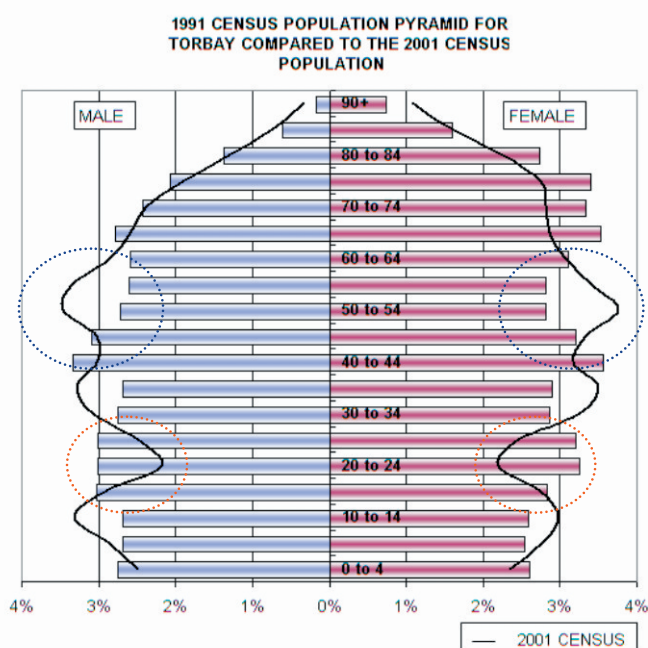


TORBAY'S AGEING POPULATION

It is well documented that Torbay has an older person bias in the population structure; and as a seaside resort, Torbay proves to be an attractive destination for older persons. Since 1991 the *over 50* population has increased by over 5,700, from 49,500 to 55,200 in 2001 (both dates relate to respective census), or as a proportion of the overall population, from 41.4% in 1991 to 42.6% in 2001. The biggest increase was in the 50 to 59 age group, accounting for just over 5,000 of the increase.

The change in population structure between census can easily be viewed in the below population pyramid –

The pyramid illustrates the 1991 population structure as a proportion of the total population, with the black line illustrating the 2001 population, again as a proportion of the total population:



Two key differences:

- The '*red*' dashed line highlights the change in the younger people population, both genders experiencing noticeable drops in their respective proportions between census.
- The '*blue*' dashed line highlights the change in the older people population, both genders have shown a noticeable increase in their respective populations in the 10 year period.

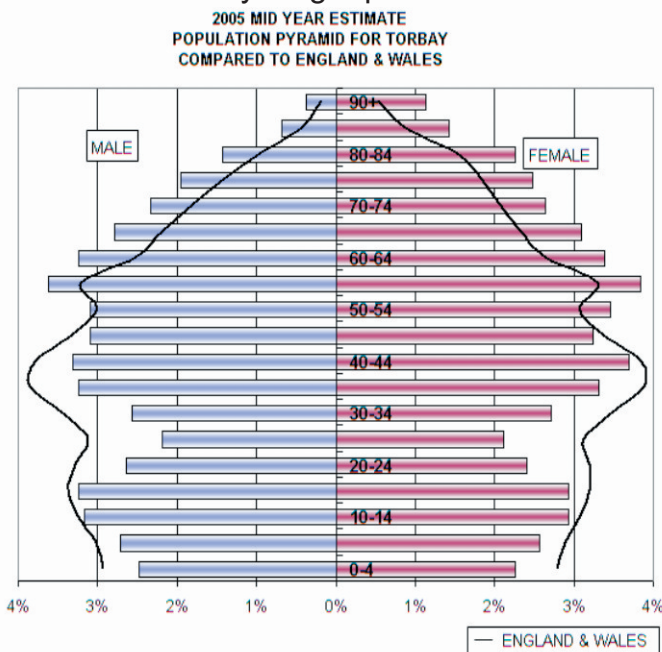
What happened in the 1990's to change the population structure so much? We can see that the respective population pyramid 'bulges' have phase shifted to represent the 10 year difference between censuses. However, there is also additional growth and noticeable decline in some of these age bandings. Are younger people leaving Torbay to continue their education at University? Or perhaps leaving the bay in search of better paid employment? How will this decline in younger adults affect our population in years to come? Despite a noticeable decline in the female population aged 65 to 84, we can clearly see growth in the 50 to 59 female population age bandings. To answer a simple 'why has this happened?' would constitute a specific thesis with a mass array of

variables to consider, different reasons for different people, for example, with the increase in house prices, people may have been able to sell the family homes outside the bay, and then use the money to purchase a property in the bay with equity to spare.

We can monitor the change via the census every 10 years, but what other information do we have?

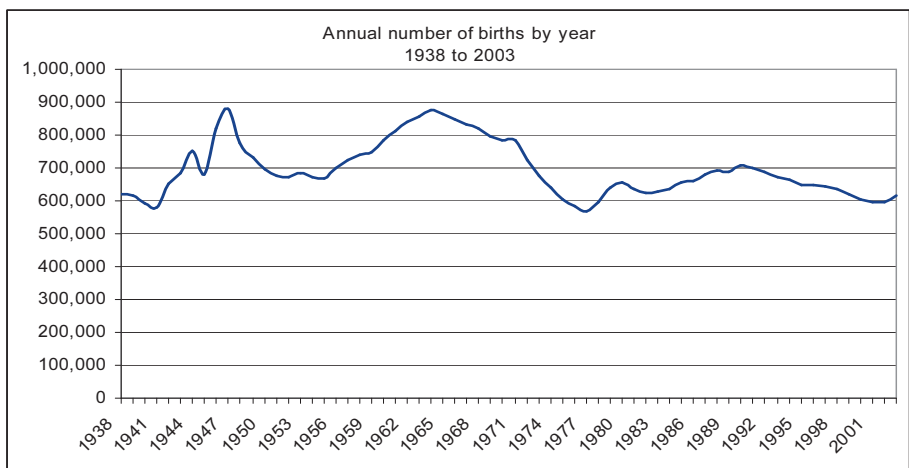
ONS produce a series of Mid Year Estimates (MYE) for local authorities (the latest are for 2005). The MYE allow a year on year comparison of the population, with the estimates possibly re-calculated retrospectively following publication of census results.

When comparing Torbay with the national picture using the 2005 MYE, it is clear to see the aforementioned bias in the older population is significantly higher than the national average, and that there is a deficit in younger persons:



With Torbay having such a larger proportion of its population aged 50 and over, what can we expect in the future?

Looking at the national trend, the below graph plots the number of live births per year for England & Wales, we can see the distinctive baby boom post WWII, and then the graduated peak in births from 1956 to 1972, peaking in 1965. Using this base, gives us an expected increase, nationally, of persons turning 50 between 2006 and 2022, with the peak in 2015.



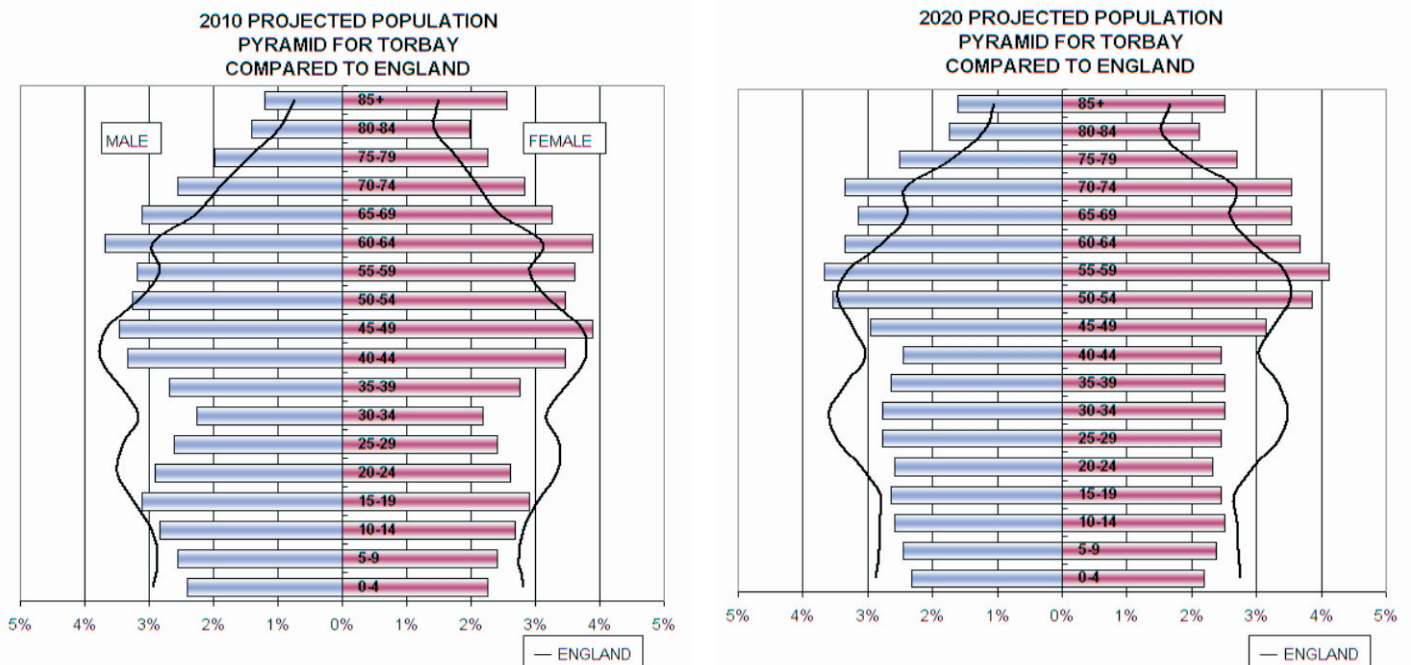
With Torbay having a higher proportion of older people now, can we expect this trend to continue and have an even higher proportion of older people in years to come?

Continued improvements in health care and the breakdown of health and social inequalities combined with life expectancy increasing could arguably lead one would to naturally assume this to be true.

Quite obviously no one can truly see what will happen in the next 10 to 20 years, but best estimates show that Torbay can expect a marked increase in the older population. ONS unconstrained linear population projections give a best estimate to the future population.

The latest population projections show that the proportion of people aged 50 and over is set to increase, and over 50% of the total population in projected to be aged 50 and over by the year 2024.

The following two population pyramids illustrate the projected Torbay population compared to the England projection for two specific years in the near future:



Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS)

Note: the scale of the above population pyramids are slightly different to previous ones to allow quick visual comparison between the two specific years.

The above graphs show that Torbay's population is expected to maintain an older bias, noticeably higher than the national average.

This older bias continues through the projection period (2004 to 2029). The nation is an ageing one, with the approximated average age set to increase over the next few years:

Average age	2004	2010	2020
England	38.9	39.6	41.1
Torbay	43.4	44.0	45.7

Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Consultation and Research Team, Torbay Council

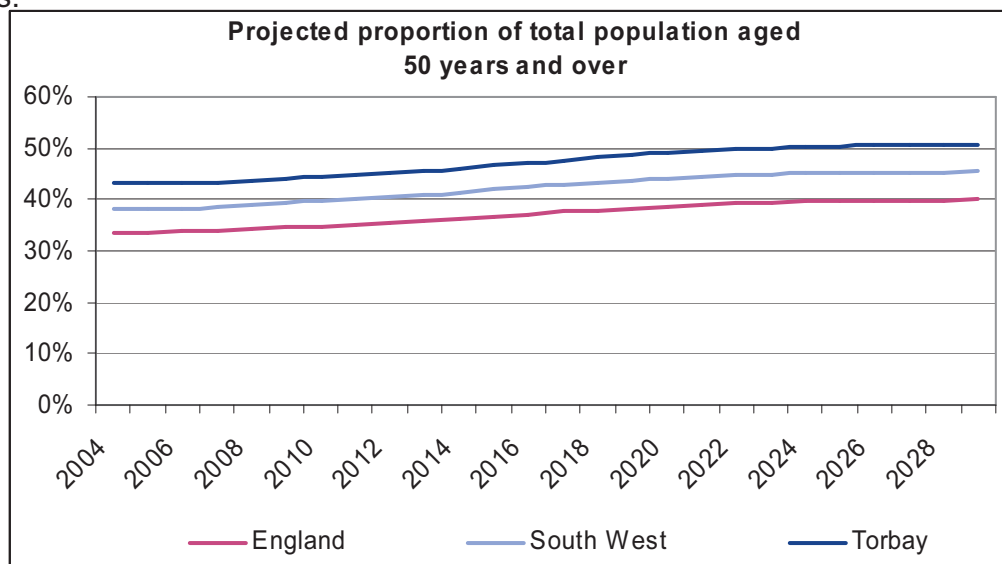
The 2004 based 2006 Sub National Population Projections, (2004 SNPP) were released by ONS in October 2006 and supersede previous projections. There are known factors taken into account when calculating the projections; namely the naturally changing population – i.e. births & deaths. However, the biggest variable is migration. Determining the levels of migration by gender and quinary age banding is arguably subjective. Torbay Council in partnership with Torbay Primary Care Trust participated in the consultation process for the 2004 SNPP. Whilst we accept the methodology and good work carried out by colleagues at the Office for National Statistics, further research is being undertaken in partnership to allow more local migration patterns to be incorporated in future population projections.

How does Torbay’s ageing population compare to others in the country? The following table gives a quick ‘rank’ by proportion of resident population age banding. It shows that despite an ageing population, other local authorities in the country will have larger proportions of older people in their populations. For example, in 2020 using current projections, Torbay will have the 28th highest proportion of residents aged 85 and over, compared to currently being the 11th highest.

Age Group	2005 MYE	2020 SNPP
50+	40	53
55+	24	48
60+	19	48
65+	21	48
70+	21	47
75+	18	37
80+	16	32
85+	11	28

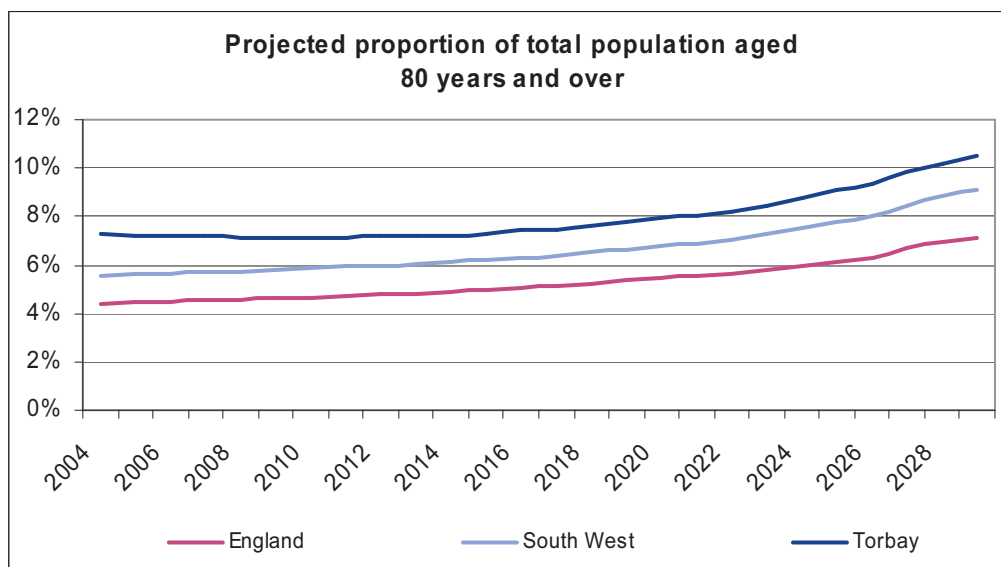
Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Consultation and Research Team, Torbay Council

Projected growth of the 50 and over population compared to the national and regional averages:



Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Consultation and Research Team, Torbay Council

Projected growth for the 80 and over population:



Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Consultation and Research Team, Torbay Council

Table of projected population in Torbay by age group ('000s)

Year	ALL People	50+	55+	60+	65+	70+	75+	80+	85+
2004	132.5	57.1	48.4	38.4	29.9	22.2	15.6	9.6	4.6
2005	134.1	57.9	49.1	39.1	30.2	22.3	15.6	9.7	4.8
2006	135.6	58.6	49.7	39.7	30.4	22.5	15.7	9.8	5.0
2007	137.0	59.5	50.6	40.9	30.8	22.8	15.8	9.9	5.1
2008	138.4	60.5	51.4	41.9	31.4	23.1	15.9	9.9	5.1
2009	139.9	61.4	52.1	42.6	32.0	23.3	15.9	10.0	5.2
2010	141.3	62.5	53.0	43.5	32.8	23.7	16.1	10.1	5.3
2011	142.7	63.7	53.9	44.2	33.5	24.0	16.3	10.2	5.4
2012	144.1	65.1	54.9	45.2	34.9	24.5	16.7	10.4	5.5
2013	145.5	66.5	55.9	46.0	35.9	25.1	17.0	10.5	5.6
2014	146.9	67.7	56.8	46.8	36.7	25.8	17.4	10.6	5.7
2015	148.3	69.3	58.0	47.7	37.6	26.6	17.8	10.8	5.8
2016	149.7	70.7	59.2	48.6	38.4	27.4	18.1	11.1	5.9
2017	151.1	72.1	60.4	49.4	39.1	28.5	18.4	11.3	6.0
2018	152.5	73.5	61.7	50.3	39.9	29.5	19.0	11.6	6.1
2019	153.9	74.8	63.1	51.3	40.7	30.4	19.7	12.0	6.2
2020	155.3	76.0	64.5	52.3	41.4	31.1	20.4	12.3	6.4
2021	156.7	77.5	66.0	53.6	42.4	31.9	21.2	12.6	6.6
2022	158.0	78.6	67.4	54.8	43.1	32.6	22.3	13.0	6.9
2023	159.3	79.5	68.6	56.0	44.0	33.3	23.2	13.5	7.1
2024	160.6	80.6	70.0	57.4	45.0	34.1	24.0	14.1	7.4
2025	161.8	81.4	71.1	58.7	45.9	34.7	24.6	14.7	7.7
2026	163.1	82.3	72.4	60.1	47.0	35.4	25.2	15.3	7.9
2027	164.2	83.0	73.5	61.4	48.1	36.1	25.8	16.2	8.1
2028	165.4	83.6	74.3	62.5	49.2	36.8	26.3	16.9	8.5
2029	166.5	84.5	75.2	63.7	50.4	37.6	26.9	17.5	8.9
2004 to 2029 change	25.7%	48.0%	55.4%	65.9%	68.6%	69.4%	72.4%	82.3%	93.5%

Over the next 25 years, Torbay’s resident population is projected to grow by 25.7%, or just over 1,300 residents per year.

The following table gives a comparative for Torbay with the national, for the proportion of projected residents by age group:

Year	50+		60+		70+		80+	
	England	Torbay	England	Torbay	England	Torbay	England	Torbay
2004	33.6%	43.1%	21.0%	29.0%	11.5%	16.8%	4.4%	7.2%
2005	33.7%	43.2%	21.1%	29.2%	11.5%	16.6%	4.4%	7.2%
2006	33.8%	43.2%	21.3%	29.3%	11.6%	16.6%	4.5%	7.2%
2007	34.0%	43.4%	21.8%	29.9%	11.6%	16.6%	4.5%	7.2%
2008	34.2%	43.7%	22.1%	30.3%	11.7%	16.7%	4.6%	7.2%
2009	34.5%	43.9%	22.4%	30.5%	11.8%	16.7%	4.6%	7.1%
2010	34.8%	44.2%	22.7%	30.8%	11.9%	16.8%	4.7%	7.1%
2011	35.1%	44.6%	22.9%	31.0%	11.9%	16.8%	4.7%	7.1%
2012	35.5%	45.2%	23.0%	31.4%	12.0%	17.0%	4.8%	7.2%
2013	35.9%	45.7%	23.2%	31.6%	12.2%	17.3%	4.8%	7.2%
2014	36.3%	46.1%	23.4%	31.9%	12.4%	17.6%	4.9%	7.2%
2015	36.8%	46.7%	23.6%	32.2%	12.6%	17.9%	5.0%	7.3%
2016	37.2%	47.2%	23.8%	32.5%	12.9%	18.3%	5.0%	7.4%
2017	37.6%	47.7%	24.1%	32.7%	13.3%	18.9%	5.1%	7.5%
2018	38.0%	48.2%	24.3%	33.0%	13.7%	19.3%	5.2%	7.6%
2019	38.3%	48.6%	24.6%	33.3%	14.0%	19.8%	5.4%	7.8%
2020	38.7%	48.9%	24.9%	33.7%	14.2%	20.0%	5.5%	7.9%
2021	39.0%	49.5%	25.3%	34.2%	14.4%	20.4%	5.5%	8.0%
2022	39.3%	49.7%	25.6%	34.7%	14.6%	20.6%	5.6%	8.2%
2023	39.5%	49.9%	26.0%	35.2%	14.8%	20.9%	5.8%	8.5%
2024	39.6%	50.2%	26.4%	35.7%	15.0%	21.2%	6.0%	8.8%
2025	39.7%	50.3%	26.8%	36.3%	15.2%	21.4%	6.1%	9.1%
2026	39.8%	50.5%	27.2%	36.8%	15.3%	21.7%	6.3%	9.4%
2027	39.8%	50.5%	27.6%	37.4%	15.5%	22.0%	6.7%	9.9%
2028	39.9%	50.5%	27.9%	37.8%	15.7%	22.2%	6.9%	10.2%
2029	40.0%	50.8%	28.2%	38.3%	16.0%	22.6%	7.1%	10.5%

Source: 2004 based, 2006 Sub National Population Projections, Office for National Statistics

Will the older person bias continue past the projection period? With migration becoming ever easier and for as long as Torbay continues to be a popular retirement destination; then one would assume yes, but time will tell.

The consequence of an ageing population opens a Pandora's Box of questions and associated implications on future service delivery. Further work is clearly needed for specific service areas and strategies dependent on the older population.

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