



## **Piecing It All Together**

# **Child Poverty Act 2010**

## **Child Poverty Needs Assessment**

**March 2011**

**Dudley Community Partnership  
Dudley Children's Partnership**



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### Introduction

Child poverty remains a persistent problem in many parts of the country. Child poverty – its causes and its consequences - corrodes life chances and is at the heart of social injustice and inequality. The Coalition Government has renewed the commitment to end child poverty by 2020, and the Child Poverty Act 2010, which received Royal Assent on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2010 (see: <http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/act26-03>) compels action to be taken by government at national and local levels.

At national level the Child Poverty Unit (a joint Department for Education, Department for Work and Pensions and Her Majesty's Treasury unit) will lead and coordinate the challenge of eradicating child poverty by 2020.

Part 1 of the Child Poverty Act identifies four income-related targets that the Government must meet by 2020, and requires the Government to publish a new UK-wide Child Poverty Strategy by March 2011. This strategy will set out the measures the Government proposes to take to ensure the targets are met and that children in the UK do not experience socio-economic disadvantage. Annual reports will monitor progress with the strategy and identify action required to meet the vision. The Act requires the strategy to be revised and refreshed every three years to 2020, to ensure that the most recent evidence and progress are taken into account.

Part 2 of the Child Poverty Act requires responsible local authorities and their partner authorities to cooperate to reduce, and mitigate the effects of, child poverty in their local areas. In summary responsible local authorities and their named partner authorities are required to:

- (a) Cooperate: The Act places a duty on responsible local authorities to put in place arrangements to work with partner authorities named in the Act to reduce, and mitigate the effects of, child poverty in their local area. The Act requires named partner authorities to cooperate with the local authority in these arrangements;
- (b) Understand needs: The Act places a duty on responsible local authorities to prepare and publish a local child poverty needs assessment. This will enable them to understand the characteristics of low income and disadvantaged families in their area, and the key drivers of poverty that must be addressed; and
- (c) Develop and deliver a strategy: The Act requires responsible local authorities and partner authorities to prepare a joint child poverty strategy for their local area, which should set out the contribution that each partner authority will make and should address the issues raised in the needs assessment.

## Measuring Success

The Act sets four challenging UK-wide targets to be met by 2020. These targets are based on the proportion of children living in:

- relative low income (whether the incomes of the poorest families are keeping pace with the growth of incomes in the economy as a whole) – the target by 2020 is less than 10%
- combined low income and material deprivation (a wider measure of people's living standards) – the target by 2020 is less than 5%
- absolute low income (whether the poorest families are seeing their income rise in real terms) – the target by 2020 is less than 5%
- persistent poverty (length of time in poverty) – the target is to be set in regulations by 2015.

Latest figures show that in Dudley approximately 14,830 children live in relative poverty representing 22% of all children. In order to meet the Child Poverty Act target we will need to develop strategy and actions that will lift 8,000 children out of relative poverty.

Ward by Ward there are significant statistical differences (See page 5) and the future use of resources will need to reflect these differences.

## The Needs Assessment

The statistical evidence and mapping in this document is the vital bed rock for decision making and should dictate the future focus of service delivery. The data reflects the disturbing circumstantial outcomes for children living in poverty. This broad assessment is designed to support and influence strategic planning. The Dudley Local Economic Assessment will also provide a source for informed planning. The two assessments should be read in conjunction with each other.

The next stage is to consider our combined partner plans that will necessarily need to be creative and carefully considered if we are to reduce our current child poverty figure by over 50% in the next few years.

If you have any further statistical evidence or questions regarding the Needs Assessment then please contact Trish Kilmurray. – [trish.kilmurray@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:trish.kilmurray@dudley.gov.uk) 01384 815258

If you have views regarding the development of our joint area strategic plan to both impact on the number of children living in poverty and mitigate the effects of child poverty then please contact Peter Cox. - [peter.cox@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:peter.cox@dudley.gov.uk) 01384 817855

**Percentage of Children in Poverty by Ward from NI 116 (2008).** Figures produced by HM Revenue and Customs.

Children in Poverty is measured by the number of dependant children (under 16) who live in households whose equivalised income is below 60% of the contemporary national median income. For the table below, national median income for full time employees was around £25,558. The equivalent measure for Dudley residents was around £23,057 (2008). This figure was anomalous and probably due to the fact that this measure is taken from a survey and subject to random fluctuations. It stood at £21,892 in 2007 and had dropped back to £21,942 in 2009.

To put this in context means those households with children in poverty in 2009 lived on less than £294.90 gross per week.

For children living in households in poverty where no parent is working, the main sources of income include Job Seekers Allowance, Incapacity Benefit, Income Support, Child Benefit, Housing or Council Tax Benefits.

<b>Dudley Wards</b>	<b>% Children in Poverty 2008</b>
St Thomas's	39.0%
Brockmoor and Pensnett	33.2%
Castle and Priory	32.9%
Netherton, Woodside and St Andrews	32.5%
Brierley Hill	29.9%
Cradley and Foxcote	27.8%
Lye and Wollescote	26.5%
St James's	25.4%
Belle Vale	24.9%
Quarry Bank and Dudley Wood	24.3%
Upper Gornal and Woodsetton	22.5%
Coseley East	22.4%
Halesowen North	19.4%
Gornal	18.6%
Hayley Green and Cradley South	16.4%
Pedmore and Stourbridge East	14.8%
Wollaston and Stourbridge Town	14.4%
Sedgley	13.9%
Amblecote	12.1%
Norton	11.2%
Wordsley	10.4%
Kingswinford South	9.7%
Kingswinford North and Wall Heath	7.4%
Halesowen South	5.9%
<b>Dudley</b>	<b>22.0%</b>
<b>England</b>	<b>20.9%</b>

N.B. Figures only include households that are actively claiming out of work benefits and are based upon reported income. Source: HMRC website accessed September 2010.

This needs assessment has been divided into six main areas; poverty statistics in Dudley, health, education, The Child Well Being Index, C4EO data and The Children's Healthy Lifestyles Survey.

It is by no means an exhaustive analysis of every available piece of data, as its initial purpose is to draw attention to the main areas of concern for children living in poverty in Dudley. Once decisions are made on what interventions are to be employed, further detailed analysis can take place in order to better direct service delivery, both geographically and by type of need.

There are many maps displayed throughout this assessment and the same geographical pattern will be witnessed by the reader, regardless of the data source. With the cessation of national indicators, local information has been used where possible. Local data is timelier than national data and the ability to drill down to much focussed areas of need is easier.

***Children from deprived neighbourhoods are far more likely to suffer limited lifetime chances.***

Their life expectancy at birth ranges from 74.4 years in Netherton & Woodside to 81.2 years in Norton, a difference of nearly 7 years (page 28). These children are more likely to become obese (page 31).

Educational attainment is lessened, with the percentage gaining 5 A\*-C grades at GCSE including maths and English ranging from 20.2% in an area within Brierley Hill to 91.1% within an area in Norton (page 32).

Children from deprived backgrounds are far more likely to become offenders and also become victims of crime (pages 24 to 26).

The correlation between deprivation and teenage pregnancy is very high. There are five wards with consistently high rates and these are all to be found in Dudley Central and Brierley Hill Townships (page 28).

And so the cycle repeats, with poor parenting skills perpetuated through the generations. These parents are more likely to live on benefits (page 21) and suffer from long term unemployment.

Poor parenting skills cannot be highlighted better than from the evidence taken from the Healthy Lifestyle Survey, where the children themselves tell us what life is like for them. Children in poverty have a poorer diet, poorer hygiene, exercise less, are more likely to smoke and drink alcohol, are more likely to know a drugs user and are less safe (page 59).

A lot of the direct causes of child poverty are known, but this needs assessment also aims to highlight some of the indirect causes and some of the outcomes.



### **Child Poverty Statistics (pages 16 - 21)**

In Dudley we have 22% of children living in poverty and this represents around 14,800 children. Within the West Midlands the figure is higher at 23.3% and for England the figure is lower at 21%. Nationally, Dudley lies within the third quartile and is typical of urban authorities. Within the Metropolitan districts, Dudley lies just above the cusp of the upper quartile. Our ranking nationally has dropped, indicating that child poverty in Dudley is rising at a faster rate than the average. Dudley has a lower proportion of lone parents in poverty and conversely a higher proportion of parental couples in poverty. The geographical pattern across the Borough is typical of our deprived areas and closely correlated with the Index of Multiple Deprivation.

### **Children's Social Care Data (pages 22 - 23)**

The number of children in need has risen swiftly during the past eight years. Both children in need and looked after children have increased by more than 60% since 2002/2003. The caseload had been declining until the baby P case in 2006, when increases were witnessed nationally. Again the geographical pattern is closely aligned to our areas of deprivation, with half the caseload coming from our five most deprived wards.

### **Crime Data (pages 24 - 26)**

Crime amongst younger people has seen a decline in recent years however the proportions of crime types have altered. Theft from shops and stalls has risen against this trend and now accounts for 24% of all crime types. It stood at 19% two years ago. The inference is that shoplifting has increased in line with the rising costs of commodities and falling spending power in the economy. As with defendants, victims have also declined, but the main crimes remain as assault and robbery of personal possessions. Geographical analysis shows that there is a much higher risk of being either a defendant or victim for young people living in deprived areas.

### **Health Statistics (pages 27 - 31)**

Life expectancy is closely linked to area. In Dudley seven of our comparatively deprived wards are in the bottom quintile nationally. Teenage pregnancy in Dudley is higher than the national rate and correlated with deprivation. The five wards with consistently high teenage pregnancy rates are also our five most deprived wards. Children in Dudley are becoming more overweight and obese at a faster rate than the national average. Children from families with low income below the poverty line are more likely to be overweight.

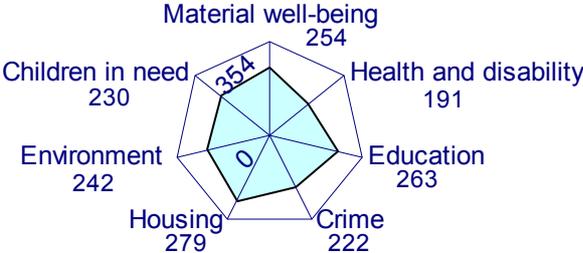
### **Education and Employment (pages 32 - 35)**

Educational attainment in Dudley has in recent years been growing at a faster rate than the national average. Although attainment is close to the national average, the rates across the Borough at GCSE range from 20.2% to 91.1% by super output area closely matching the pattern of affluence/deprivation. Most young people now go on to further education with the percentage in 2009 being 90% compared to just 62% in 2000. Conversely, worked based learning and full time employment has fallen

**Child Well Being Index (pages 36 - 47)**

This index maps out seven domains by super output area and allows more geographical analysis. It also allows us to compare relativity with other authorities.

**Child Well Being Index Domain Positions**



For instance in the radar chart above, the domains that feature for Dudley are housing, followed by education and material wellbeing. This is demonstrated by how close the blue area is to the perimeter, the more deprived the area is the closer it will be to the perimeter.

**C4EO Data Set (pages 48 - 56)**

This data set is based upon the national indicators which has now ceased. It is however; relatively up to date and has some use at least for the near future. It has value in that it allows comparisons to be made between our Borough and others in our family group. The inequality gap in achievement of a level 2 qualification at age 19 puts Dudley in the bottom quartile nationally. Schools providing extended services are around the national average. Take up of formal childcare by low income families is well below the average. Median earnings of employees in the area are well below the threshold of the bottom quartile.

**Healthy Lifestyles Survey (pages 57 – 60)**

This survey, run biannually is extremely robust with around 12,000 children and young people participating. Some aspects of health are the same for affluent children and children in poverty, but differences do exist for subjects such as a healthy diet, personal hygiene, physical activity, feeling safe and enjoying life. There are notable differences for young carers, who are more likely to suffer from a variety of issues. This group are far more likely to be bullied and misuse substances.



## Dudley's location

Dudley borough is a unitary local authority situated in the West Midlands. It forms part of the Black Country, an area made up of the metropolitan boroughs of Dudley, Sandwell and Walsall and the city of Wolverhampton.

The borough covers approximately 38 square miles or 98 square kilometres. Dudley is a predominantly urban area, however around 30% of the borough is made up of green spaces which includes approximately 1,700 hectares of green belt land.

The people of Dudley enjoy easy access to both urban areas and the countryside, with the city of Birmingham situated approximately 9 miles east of the borough. Rural Staffordshire and Worcestershire lie in close proximity to the west and south.

## Our population

The 2009 mid-year population estimate for Dudley borough was 306,600, a slight increase from the 2001 Census population which showed 305,200.

Dudley has one of the larger local authority populations, being 25<sup>th</sup> out of 326 English Local Authorities.

Source: 2001 Census / Mid-Year Population Estimates 2009, Office for National Statistics

## The age of our population

The 2009 mid-year population estimates show that 23.9% of Dudley's population is between the ages of 0 and 19 years, while 24.7% of the population are aged 60 years and over.

The percentage of people aged 60 years and over appears to be rising, from 20.5% in 1991 and 22.3% in 2001 to an estimated 24.7% currently.

Residents aged 80 years and over are estimated to account for 4.7% of the total borough population.

Source: 2001 Census / Mid-Year Population Estimates 2009, Office for National Statistics

## **The ethnic groupings of our population**

In 2001, 92.5% of people living in Dudley borough classed themselves as being White British.

In the 2001 Census count, Dudley's largest minority ethnic groups were: Pakistani (2.1%), Indian (1.6%) and Black Caribbean (0.78%).

The 2007 mid-year ethnic group population estimates show that the percentage of White British people in the borough is now 89.7%. They also show that there have been small increases in the populations of all minority ethnic groups. Groups that have seen the highest increases are Pakistani, Other White and Black African groups.

According to estimates the Pakistani and Indian community remain the largest minority ethnic groups in Dudley today at 2.6% and 1.7% respectively.

In terms of population distribution, certain neighbourhoods within the borough have larger Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) community groups living there. These include areas in the wards of St. Thomas's, Brierley Hill, and Lye & Wollescote.

The age profile of the BME population is younger than the age profile of the white population in the borough.

Source: 2001 Census / Mid-Year Ethnic Group Population Estimates 2007 (experimental statistics), Office for National Statistics

## **Our health and life expectancy**

In 2001 19.1% of Dudley's residents considered themselves to have a long term illness, health problem or disability that limited their daily activities or the work that they could do (this includes problems due to old age).

This is higher than the national figure of 17.9%, but is lower than the three neighbouring Black Country borough's whose equivalent figures are all above 20%.

As is the case nationally, females in Dudley have higher life expectancies than males; however life expectancy in the borough is increasing steadily for both sexes.

During 2000-2002, life expectancy for females was 80.3 years. This has increased to 81.9 years for the period 2006-2008. Similarly, life expectancy was 75.6 years for males in 2000-2002, but this increased to 77.2 years in 2006-2008.

Source: 2001 Census / Life Expectancy at birth by Local Authority in England and Wales 2006-2008, Office for National Statistics

## **Our education**

There are 110 schools in the Dudley borough. These are made up of:

- 78 primary schools
- 21 secondary schools
- 7 special schools
- 4 pupil referral units

In 2009 48.8% of Dudley pupils achieved 5 or more A\*-C GCSE grades including English and Maths which was the highest in the Black Country.

This was only slightly lower than the England figure of 49.8%. In three of the borough's secondary schools over 70% of pupils achieved 5 or more GCSE A\*-C grades including English and Maths.

The borough offers four further education institutions:

- Dudley College
- Halesowen College
- Stourbridge College
- King Edwards VI College, Stourbridge.

Although there is not a higher education institution in the borough, the universities of Wolverhampton, Birmingham, Aston, and Birmingham City are all within easy commuting distance.

Source: Department for Children, Schools and Families: <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/performance/tables/>

## **Our occupations**

The Annual Population Survey for the period April 2009 to March 2010 revealed that the most common occupation for people living in Dudley was manager and senior official (16.3%), followed by admin and secretarial (13.6%) and associate professional and technical trades (13.6%).

The survey provides data based on at least 510 economically active people in the borough, with the term 'economically active' referring to people aged 16 years and over who are active in the labour force (i.e. employed or proactively looking for and available to work) around the time of the survey.

The following table shows the percentage of people living in Dudley employed in each occupation group.

<b>Occupation group (examples in brackets)</b>	<b>% of economically active people (16+)</b>
<b>Managers and senior officials</b> (Corporate managers, senior officials, sales managers, office managers)	<b>16.3%</b>
<b>Professional occupations</b> (Chemists or physicists, engineers, teachers, health and legal professionals)	<b>11.2%</b>
<b>Associate professional and technical occupations</b> (Science technicians, midwives and paramedics, artists, authors, dancers)	<b>13.4%</b>
<b>Administrative and secretarial occupations</b> (Admin officers, receptionists, medical secretaries, market research interviewers)	<b>13.6%</b>
<b>Skilled trade occupations</b> (Gardeners, forge and welding workers, plumbers, bricklayers)	<b>11.4%</b>
<b>Personal service occupations</b> (Childminders, carers, dental nurses, beauticians)	<b>7.9%</b>
<b>Sales and customer service occupations</b> (Sales and retail assistants, call centre operators, market and street traders)	<b>6.1%</b>
<b>Process, plant and machine operatives</b> (Machine operatives, assemblers and bus, coach and taxi drivers)	<b>7.6%</b>
<b>Elementary occupations</b> (Farm workers, labourers in foundries, packers, bar staff and kitchen assistants)	<b>11.2%</b>

Source: Annual Population Survey March 2009 to April 2010, Office for National Statistics

Over time, the percentage of managers and senior officials has increased from 13.0% in 2004/2005 to its current value of 16.3%. Elementary occupations rose from 9.0% to 11.2%. Conversely, skilled trades fell from 15.8% to 11.4% and sales and customer service occupations fell from 10.9% to 6.1%.

## Our earnings

In 2009 the median gross annual pay of full time employees living in Dudley borough was £21,942.

Wages in Dudley had been increasing steadily since 2003. However, the median for 2009 is approximately £1,000 lower than Dudley's 2008 figure. Neighbouring Black Country authorities Walsall and Wolverhampton also saw a decrease on their previous year's figures.

To make a national comparison, the median earnings of full time employees living in Dudley has been over £2000 lower than the median earnings across England every year since 2003. The 2009 figures show that this gap has now widened to approximately £4,000 per annum.

The median gross annual pay of full time employees working in Dudley borough during 2009 was £21,397. This is only slightly lower than the above figure for employees who live in the borough.

The wages of people working in the borough continues to be the second lowest of the four Black Country boroughs for the third year in a row.

The 2009 England figure for wages of full time employees was £26,148. Since 2003, the gap between Dudley and England figures has widened and for employees working in Dudley this has increased to an approximate difference in pay of approximately £4,700 per year in 2009.

Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE) 2009, Office for National Statistics

## **Unemployment figures**

Unemployment can be measured by the number of people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) as a percentage of the working age population that live in that area.

Working age is defined as 16-64 years for males and 16-59 years for females. People who claim JSA must be out of work, capable of work, available for and actively seeking work during the week in which the claim is made.

As at April 2010, 5.6% of Dudley Borough's working age population were claiming JSA.

The number of people claiming JSA had been decreasing slowly since February 2007, when it was at 3.7%. Between October 2007 and July 2008, the percentage of people claiming JSA remained steady at around the 3% mark.

Since August 2008, however, the number of people claiming JSA rose across both Dudley and England, yet the claimant rate for England (at 4.1%) remains consistently lower than its equivalent Dudley figure. Dudley's claimant rate peaked in September 2009 when it stood at 6.1%, and this was repeated in January and February 2010, however since then the rate has dropped to 5.6% at present.

Certain wards in the borough have a higher concentration of people claiming JSA. These are:

- Brierley Hill (8.8%)
- St. Thomas's (8.7%)
- Netherton, Woodside and St Andrews (8.0%)
- Cradley and Foxcote (7.3%)
- St. James's (7.2%).

As of April 2010, 47.6% of JSA claimants had been unemployed for more than six months, while 23.8% had been unemployed for more than a year.

Source: Jobseeker's Allowance Claimant Count, Office for National Statistics

## **Areas of deprivation**

The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) is a measure of deprivation across England.

Deprivation for small areas is measured using what are known as Super Output Areas. There are 202 Super Output Areas in Dudley and on average there are 1,511 people living in each Super Output Area.

The areas in the borough that are most affected by deprivation are in the wards of Castle and Priory, and St Thomas's.

Five Super Output Areas in Castle and Priory ward and three Super Output Areas in St Thomas's ward fall within the 10% most deprived areas in England. Both of these wards are in close proximity to Dudley town centre.

The two most deprived areas in the borough are Super Output Areas 755 and 761 around the areas of Wrens Nest and Priory. Other areas that fall within the 10% most deprived areas in England include parts of Netherton, Brierley Hill town centre, Lye town centre and an area adjacent to Halesowen town centre.

6.1% of the borough population live in areas that fall within the 10% most deprived in England. 20.1% of the borough population live within areas that fall within the 20% most deprived in England.

Super Output Area 845 near Pedmore is the least deprived area in the borough. Other areas in the Borough that are amongst the least deprived include Sedgley, Kingswinford, Stourbridge, Amblecote, Pedmore, Wollaston, and Hayley Green.

**NOTE:** The IMD information above is a basic summary of overall deprivation in Dudley. For a deeper analysis of deprivation in Dudley, or for more information on the 2001 Census, please [click here](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/council--democracy/statistics--census-information) (add link: <http://www.dudley.gov.uk/council--democracy/statistics--census-information>) or contact 01384 811561.

Source: Index of Multiple Deprivation 2007, Department for Communities and Local Government

# Child Poverty Statistics in Dudley Borough



## Basic Statistics

- There are 306,482 people living in Dudley Borough, 73,900 of which are children and young people aged 0 - 19 (mid year estimate 2008).
- At 29.8%, Castle and Priory is the ward with the highest percentage of young people aged 0-19 years. The ward with the lowest percentage is Pedmore and Stourbridge East with 20.5%
- The BME groups for 0 – 15 year olds in 2001 accounted for 11% of the total. ONS Estimates this to have risen to 14% in 2007. From the Pupil Census 2009 (43,293 schoolchildren), the vast majority are British (35,550). The next largest group are Pakistani (2,755). Mixed groups are one of the fastest growing with 1,663 pupils in Dudley schools.
- In 2009, 56% achieved 5 A\* - C GCSE's including Maths and English, with the gap between the national average and Dudley results narrowing from a negative 3.8% in 2003 to a positive 3.0% in 2010.

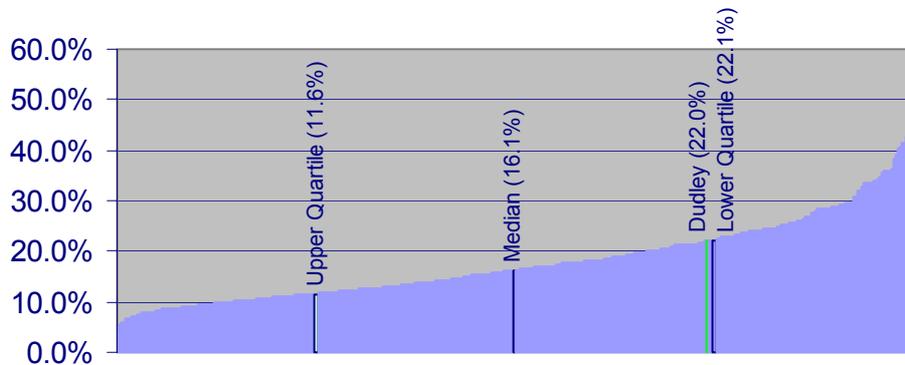
## NI 116 Percentage of Children in "Poverty"

Government Office Region	% of Children in "Poverty"
North East	24.0%
North West	22.8%
Yorkshire and the Humber	21.4%
East Midlands	18.4%
West Midlands	23.3%
East of England	16.1%
London	30.8%
South East	14.5%
South West	15.8%
England	20.9%

- Nationally it is thought that around 21% of children are living in poverty. This varies considerably across the nine government office regions. London Boroughs exhibit the highest levels, followed by the main industrial areas. The rural South and East have much lower levels.
- For the West Midlands this figure rises to 23% and **in Dudley we have 22%. This equates to around 14,830 children.** Within our parliamentary constituencies, Dudley North is the highest at 26.4%. Both Dudley North and Stourbridge rankings have deteriorated over the past three years.
- The wards within Dudley also vary, with the highest proportions seen in St Thomas's (39.0%), Castle & Priory (32.9%) and Brockmoor & Pensnett (33.2%). The lowest rates are to be found in Halesowen South (5.9%), Kingswinford North & Wall Heath (7.4%) and Kingswinford South (9.7%). Within the Black Country, Dudley (22.0%) is one of the better performing authorities against Walsall (28.4%), Wolverhampton (30.8%) and Sandwell (30.8%).

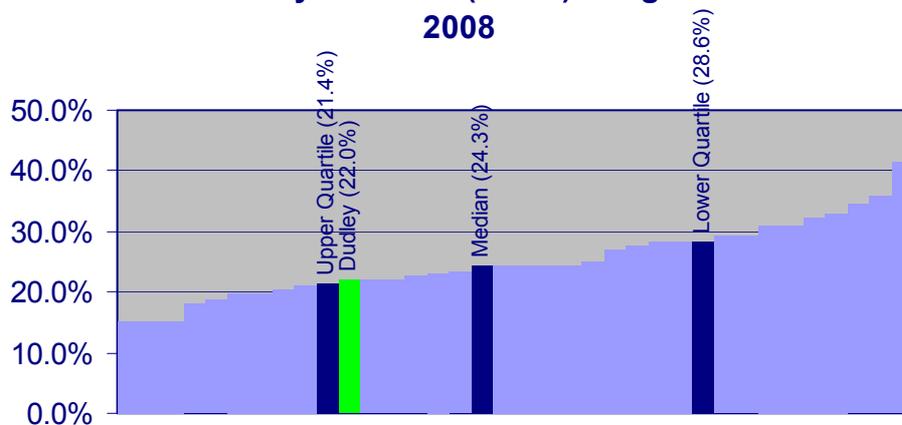
## NI 116 Percentage of Children in "Poverty"

**Child Poverty Quartiles (NI116) - English METS  
2008**



As this chart demonstrates, Dudley lies just within the 3<sup>rd</sup> quartile nationally. This is to be expected given the high correlation between urban and rural areas. In 2006 Dudley ranked 103<sup>rd</sup> out of 354, by 2007 Dudley ranked 99<sup>th</sup> and by 2008 the ranking had risen to 92<sup>nd</sup> where 1<sup>st</sup> is poor and 354<sup>th</sup> is good. This indicates that the rate in Dudley is worsening faster than the average.

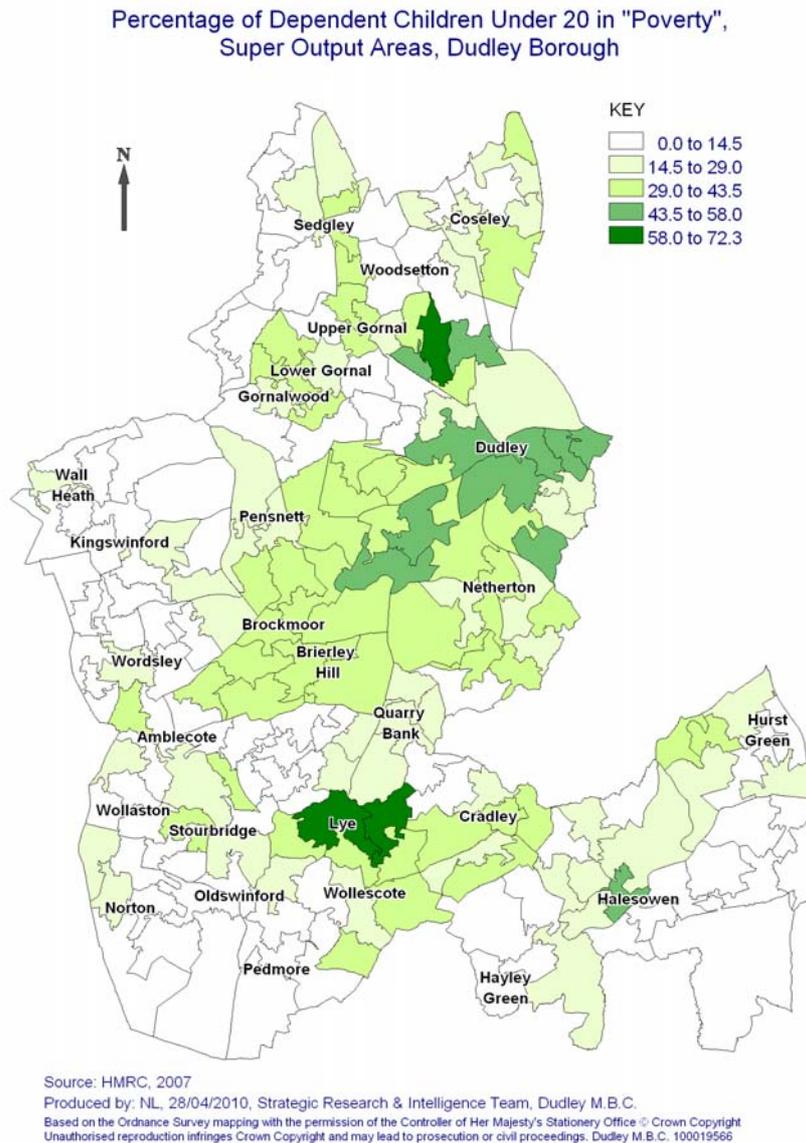
**Child Poverty Quartiles (NI116) - English METS  
2008**



When comparing Dudley to other Metropolitan districts, the authority lies just below the cusp of the top quartile. So in comparison, Dudley's children are not as deprived as three quarters of other METS.

NI 116 can also be broken down to family type. Data for Children in families in receipt of CTC (<60% median income) or IS/JSA is available for both couples and lone parents. In some authorities the proportions of lone parents top 83%, but in Dudley the figure is much lower at 62%. In fact, relatively speaking, Dudley has a very low proportion of lone parents in poverty and conversely a high level of parental couples in poverty.

## NI 116 Percentage of Children in "Poverty" – Geographical Analysis



*Number of children living in families in receipt of CTC whose reported income is less than 60 per cent of the median income or in receipt of IS or (Income-Based) JSA, divided by the total number of children in the area (determined by Child Benefit data).*

NI 116 is a national indicator available at Lower Super Output (LSOA) area level. This level of geography allows us to see where concentrations of children in poverty exist within Dudley Borough.

This pattern is commonly seen within the Borough, where some of the most deprived areas are in Castle & Priory, Dudley Town, St Thomas's, Sledmere & Tansley, Woodside, Lye & Stambermill and Halesowen West.

In one SOA within Castle & Priory Ward, approaching three quarters of children (72%) have been identified as living in poverty by this measure.

### Families in Poverty Characteristics

The previous map indicates where the highest prevalence of children in poverty exists within the Borough. To help better understand these families and more importantly, how they may be reached and helped, it is also important to know what characteristics they are more likely to have.

- In terms of household type, single parents are most at risk of poverty
- There is a greater likelihood of disabled people living in poverty. For example, 23% of individuals in families where at least one member is disabled are in poverty, compared with 16% of families with no disabled member (before housing costs).
- Relative poverty rates vary by ethnicity and are highest among those of Pakistani and Bangladeshi background at 52% before housing costs and 60% after housing costs.

Source: *State of the nation report: poverty, worklessness and welfare dependency in the UK May 2010*

### **Single Parent Households**

Across the Borough the proportion of single parent households varied considerably according to the 2001 Census. At SOA level the range was from 0.8% of households to 22.5%. There were seven SOAs where the proportions were above 15%. These were in the Trinity Road area of Amblecote, Central Drive Estate in Gornal, Kate's Hill in St Thomas', Downfield Drive Estate in Sedgley and three SOAs in Castle & Priory. These areas are typically comprised of local authority housing or registered social landlord housing. The housing type is that most suited to families with the majority being 2 or 3 bedroom semi or terraced. Some estates such as Castle & Priory are from the pre war period, whilst others like Central Drive and Downfield Drive are post war construction.

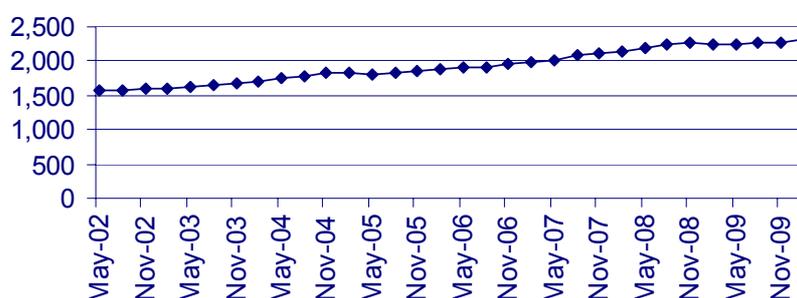
Although this data is now more than 9 years old, these areas are still ranked highly by NI 116 and therefore the pattern across the Borough has remained similar over time. Other areas that have yielded high numbers of lone parent claimants from NI 116 include two more SOAs in St Thomas's, Pensnett and Hawbush in Brierley Hill and an area around Lye Cross. These further areas have the same housing characteristics as those described in the paragraph above.

Across the Borough around 8,805 children in poverty live in single parent households with the remaining 6,030 living in couple households.

In the Castle & Priory area alone, there are estimated to be around 650 children in poverty in single parent households according to the NI 116 definition (*the proportion of children living in families in receipt of (means-tested) out of work benefits or in receipt of tax credits where their reported income is less than 60 per cent of median income*). Another 575 children in single parent households are estimated to be living in St Thomas's Ward

## Disability

**Numbers of Disabled Benefit Claimants in Dudley May 2002 to Feb 2010**



Information for disabled parents in the Borough is not readily available however; the current trend is for an increase in the numbers of disabled people claiming benefits. Obviously some of these will be parents. This graph from the ONS website clearly shows an increase in numbers. This can also be expressed as a proportion of resident population of area aged 16-64, which in Dudley has risen from 0.8% to 1.2%. The West Midlands figure is 1.1% and for the GB as a whole it is 1.0%

## Ethnicity

Census 2001 was the last time a population count took place upon which we can rely for accuracy. At that time, the only Bangladeshi community was to be found in Halesowen North and more specifically in Cockshot and Shell Corner. The Bangladeshi population totalled just 269 in 2001.

In 2008 the school population census showed that there were 101 Bangladeshi children schooling in the Borough. Most of these were resident in Dudley and mainly came from the same areas as the 2001 population. This suggests that the communities in Cockshot and Shell Corner are relatively settled.

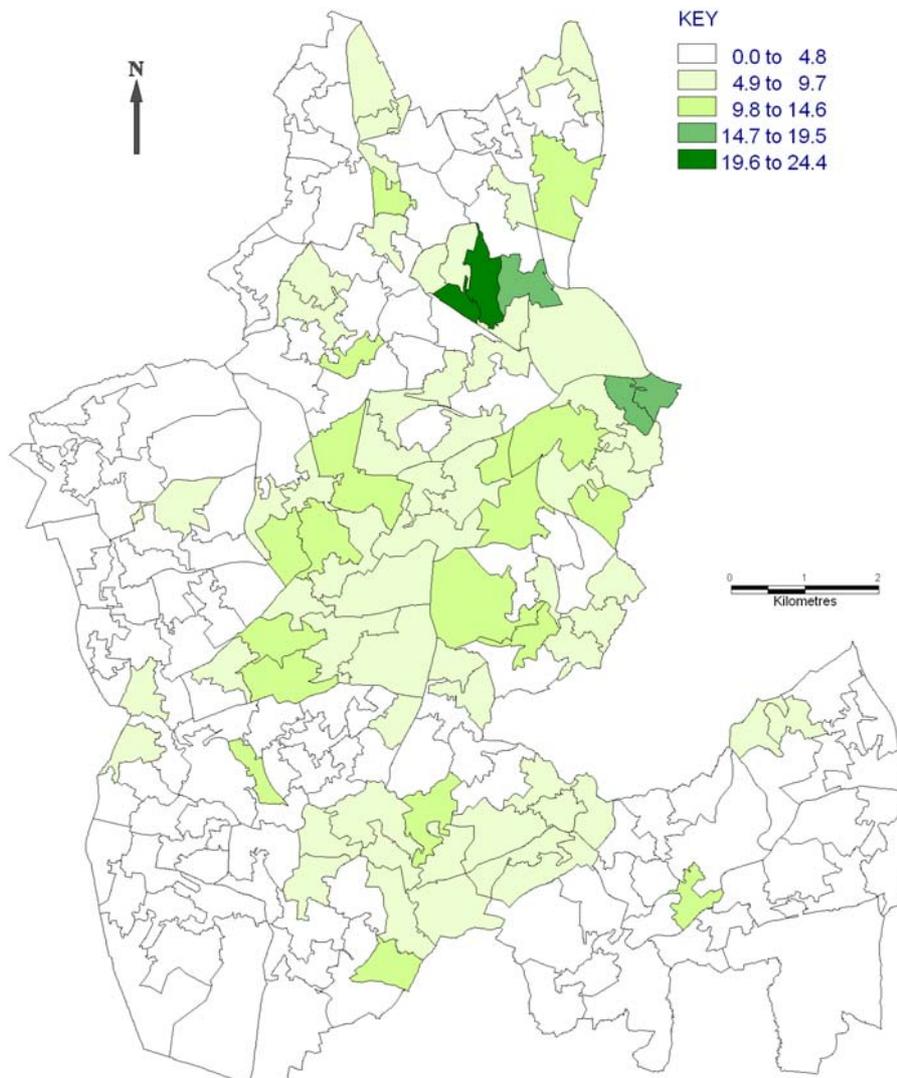
The Pakistani population was much higher at 6,242 people. The largest concentrations of this ethnic group were to be found in Lye & Wollescote (1,687) and St Thomas's wards (1,380). Smaller communities existed in Brockmoor & Pensnett, Halesowen North, Netherton & Woodside and St James's wards (pre 2004 wards).

The school population for children of Pakistani ethnicity was 2,690 in 2008. Around 1,000 come from St Thomas's area, with a further 700 from the Lye/Wollescote area. Again this is consistent with the 2001 communities.

It must be remembered that not all children who school in the Borough live in the Borough and conversely not all children who live in the Borough will school here. Dudley borders many other local authorities: Birmingham, Sandwell, Wolverhampton, Worcestershire, Shropshire and South Staffordshire. As some schools sit near these borders it is natural to find some trading across authorities. As a rough guide though, for every child schooling in another Borough, Dudley attracts two inwards, making the Borough a net gainer for pupils.

## Current Dudley MBC Benefits Data

Households With Dependent Children Claiming Council Tax / Housing Benefit as a Percentage of All Houesholds, Dudley Borough



Source: Revenues, Dudley M.B.C., December 2010

Produced by: NL, 13/01/2011, Strategic Research & Intelligence Team, Dudley M.B.C.

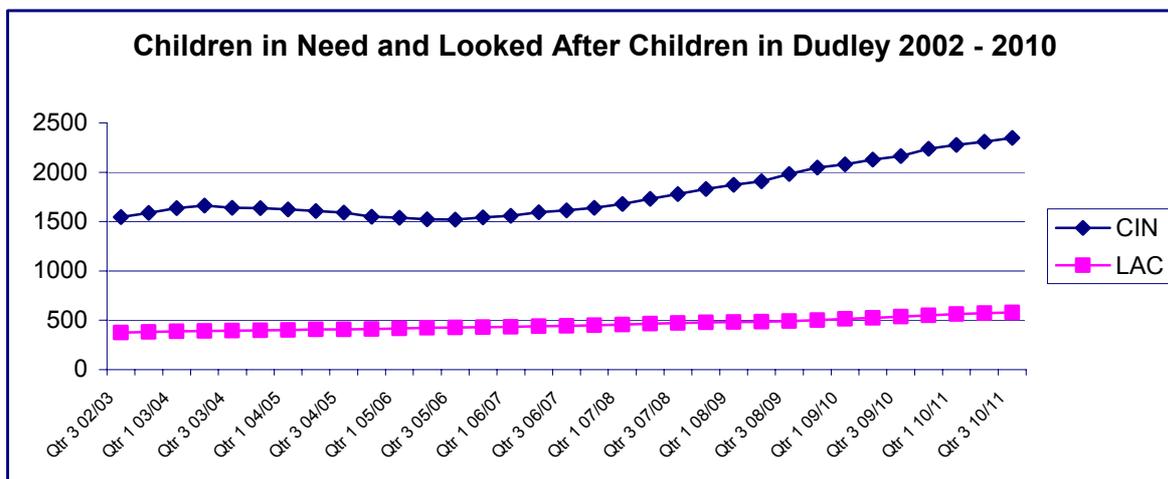
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As national measures disappear, Local Authorities increasingly have to rely upon local information. The benefit of this is that the data is very much timelier. However, local data does not allow for comparisons between authorities as reporting mechanisms are often not comparable.

This map has been constructed using benefits data from December 2010 and illustrates concentrations of households with dependant children and claims for Council Tax or Housing Benefit. The usual pattern of deprivation across the Borough is seen, with Castle and Priory and St Thomas's Wards featuring highest.

## Dudley MBC Children’s Social Care Data

At December 2010, there were 2,506 ‘Children in Need’ in Dudley. ‘Children in Need’ are those children who have an open referral to the DMBC Children and Families Directorate. They may be awaiting assessment or receiving a service which could include financial assistance, social work or support for a child with disabilities amongst others.



Source: Children’s Performance and Development Team

The graph shows that the number of Children in Need in Dudley has increased notably over the last 8 years (up by 62% since Q3 2002-03). The number of Looked After Children has also increased over this time, at a similar rate (up 63%). As of Q3 2010-11, CLA made up 25% of all “Children in Need”, which is close to the average for the period. The caseload had been declining in Dudley, but the Baby ‘P’ case in quarter 2 2006/07 was almost certainly instrumental in the subsequent rise in figures, which has been witnessed nationwide. Another peak occurred in the 2008/09 figures which is chronologically aligned to the recent recession period. It is simple conjecture that the recession has led to this rise, as poverty is not recorded as a primary reason for need (n. b. this peak is not evident on the chart as the data has been exponentially smoothed so that the trend is more defined).

As well as Children Looked After, Children in Need include children on the child protection register. As of October 2010, this stood at approximately 209 children. The majority are therefore living at home with their family. These families receive support to prevent the children from being placed on the child protection register, or taken into care. The reasons for a child being defined as Children in Need can be varied. Often the family will be in acute stress and receive family support.

A number of prevalence and incidence studies have highlighted the link between poverty and some forms of child maltreatment, especially neglect, emotional and physical abuse. While the research shows an association between neglect and poverty, it does not mean that poverty causes neglect or abuse - the majority of families living in poverty do not maltreat their children and parent effectively.

(Source NSPCC website accessed 10<sup>th</sup> Feb 2011)

**Numbers of Children in Need, Looked After Children and Child Protection Plans by Ward from September 2010.**

<b>Data as at 31/12/2010 Where Ward Identified</b>	<b>Children in Need</b>	<b>Looked After Children</b>	<b>Child Protection Plans</b>
Amblecote	73	12	5
Belle Vale	72	26	5
Brierley Hill	115	32	12
Brockmoor and Pensnett	119	56	14
Castle and Priory	188	65	29
Coseley East	88	28	9
Cradley and Foxcote	80	17	13
Gornal	77	18	5
Halesowen North	60	21	5
Halesowen South	30	4	2
Hayley Green and Cradley South	37	22	1
Kingswinford North and Wall Heath	53	5	5
Kingswinford South	56	3	0
Lye and Wollescote	110	28	22
Netherton Woodside and St Andrews	208	61	16
Norton	44	4	2
Pedmore and Stourbridge East	45	8	2
Quarry Bank and Dudley Wood	84	28	9
Sedgley	49	16	2
St James's	107	28	14
St Thomas's	230	100	37
Upper Gornal and Woodsetton	104	20	7
Wollaston and Stourbridge Town	37	13	1
Wordsley	35	7	1
<b>Dudley Borough</b>	<b>2101</b>	<b>622</b>	<b>218</b>

The geography of children in need is highly correlated with deprivation. Half of the child protection plan caseload comes from 5 wards; Brierley Hill, Brockmoor & Pensnett, Castle & Priory, Lye & Wollescote and St Thomas'. This proportion is also true of looked after children, where the same 5 wards generate 50% of demand (December 2010). The vast majority become looked after as a result of abuse or neglect at home.

## **Dudley MBC and West Midlands Police Crime Data**

### **Offenders**

Crime amongst younger people has seen a decline in recent years. This is in line with crime patterns overall. The total number of detected crime amongst 10 – 19 year olds resident in the Borough fell from 2,166 in 2007/08, to 1,983 in 2008/09 and to 1,947 in 2009/10.

The top three detected crimes for children and young people in this age bracket have been; theft from shop or stall, assault occasioning actual bodily harm and possession of cannabis. The latter is primarily found in the older ages of 15 – 19 year olds. Most crime types have seen a decrease over the past three years, but theft from shops and stalls has risen against the trend. There were 418 of these crimes in 2007/08, falling to 366 in 2008/09, but in 2009/10 this rose to 470. Expressed as a percentage of all crime, this has risen from 19% in the first two years to 24% in the last year. The inference here may be that the recession has led to this increase as less spending power is available in the economy and inflation rises.

For the younger offenders aged 10 – 14, over 50% of all crime is attributable to theft from shop/stall or assault occasioning actual bodily harm. For the older 15 – 19 year olds, crime diversifies.

Offending is strongly linked to age. Offending is most prevalent amongst young people and younger adults, and picks up again on a “Think Family” approach. From 10 years, the risk of offending rises markedly to reach the Dudley average by age 12. At this age, a Dudley resident is more likely to offend than at age 37. Offending climbs sharply throughout teenage years, peaking between 17 and 20 years (extract from the Safe and Sound Needs Assessment 2011).

### **Victims**

As with the decrease in the number of defendants, victims have fallen from 2,112 in 2007/08 to 1,839 in 2008/09 and 1,671 in 2009/10.

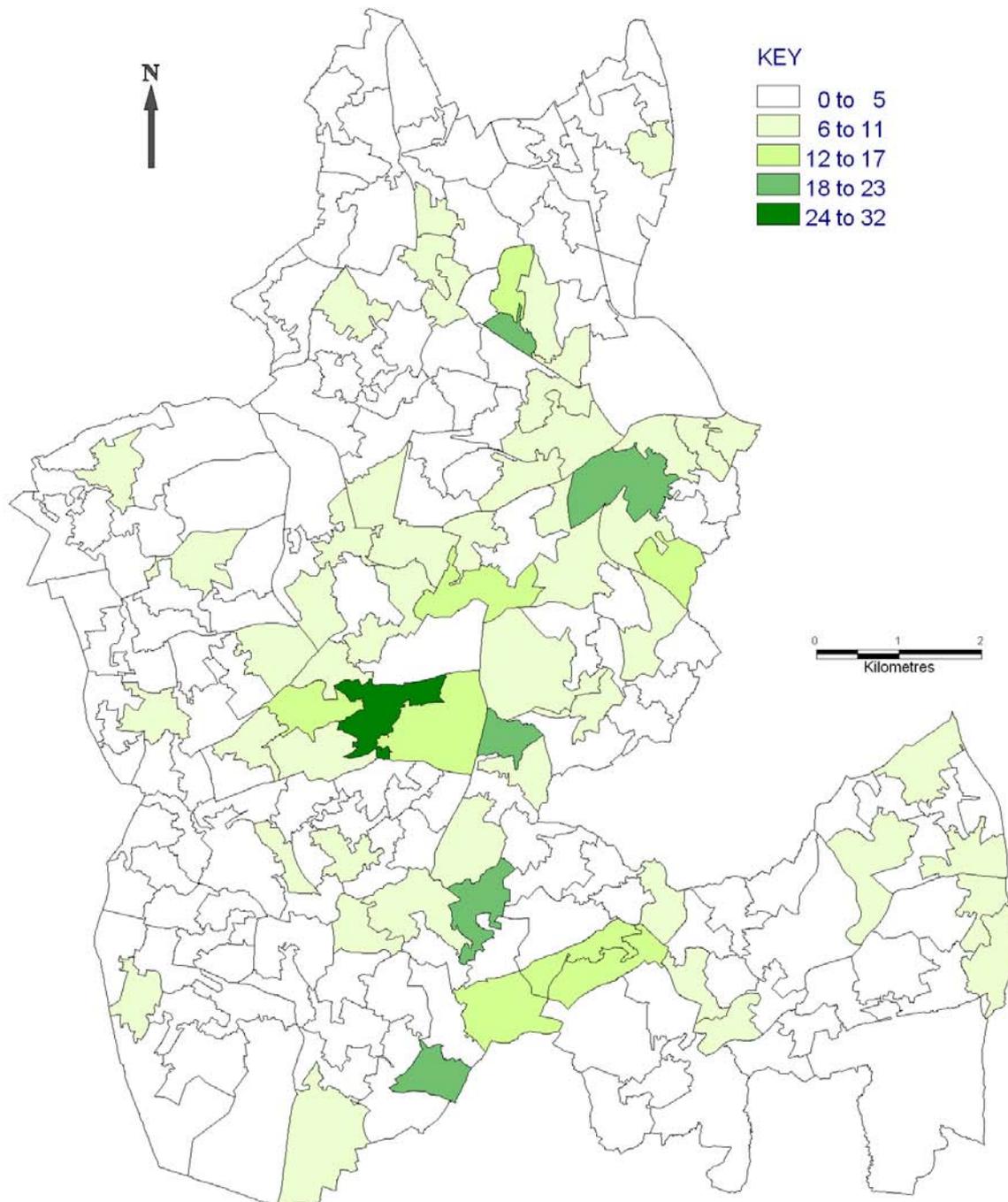
Two crime types stand out as the most common amongst young victims. These are assault occasioning actual bodily harm and robbery of personal property. Both the younger age bracket of 10 – 14 and the older age bracket of 15 – 19 see similar proportions of this crime type.

Vulnerability to crime and disorder is strongly linked to age. Teenagers and young adults are most vulnerable to crime. Rates of victimisation rise sharply at age 14 and climb rapidly until 18 years. The peak age for vulnerability falls between ages 18 and 31 when Dudley residents are 1.8 times more likely to be a victim of crime than the average (extract from the Safe and Sound Needs Assessment 2011).

### **Geographical Analysis**

The maps on the next two pages show the concentrations of both defendants and victims by home address. As with all other datasets in this needs assessment, the pattern of deprivation is evident with a higher chance of being either a perpetrator or a victim for those living in deprived neighbourhoods.

Number of Defendants Aged 10-17 Referenced  
by Location of Home Address, Super Output Areas,  
Crimes Occurring Sep 2009 - August 2010

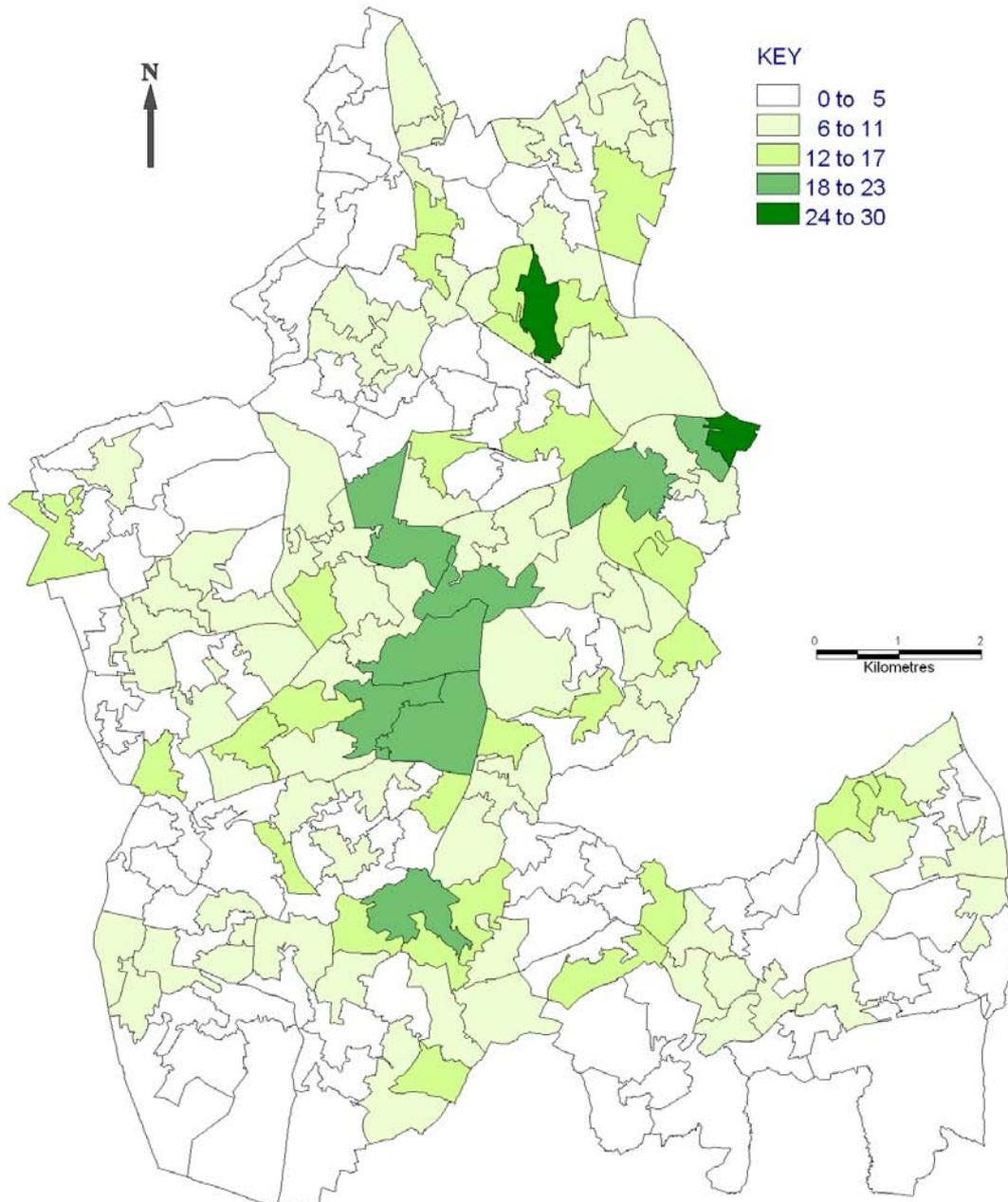


Source: Safe & Sound, Dudley Community Safety Partnership

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Number of Victims Aged 0-17 Referenced  
by Location of Home Address, Super Output Areas,  
Crimes Occurring Sep 2009 - August 2010



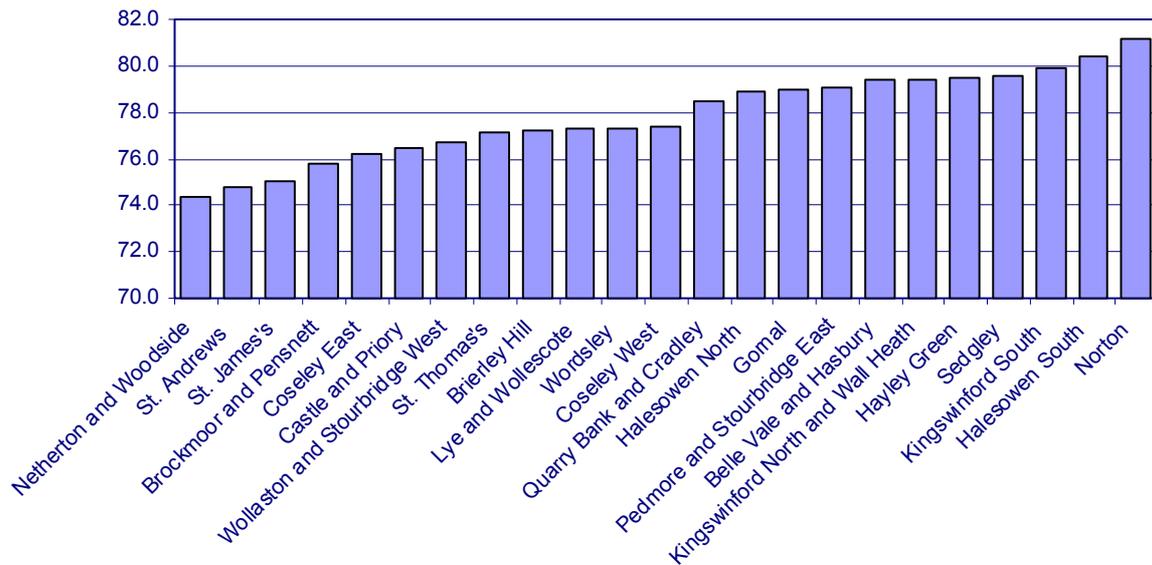
Source: Safe & Sound, Dudley Community Safety Partnership

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## Life Expectancy at Birth

**Life expectancy at birth for all persons, by ward in England and Wales, 1999 to 2003 (experimental statistics)**



Source – Office for National Statistics

As the chart above demonstrates, there are differences in life expectancy across the Borough. This amounts to a difference of seven years between the highest and lowest expectancy. The lowest is seen in Netherton & Woodside at 74.4 years, with the highest in Norton at 81.2 years.

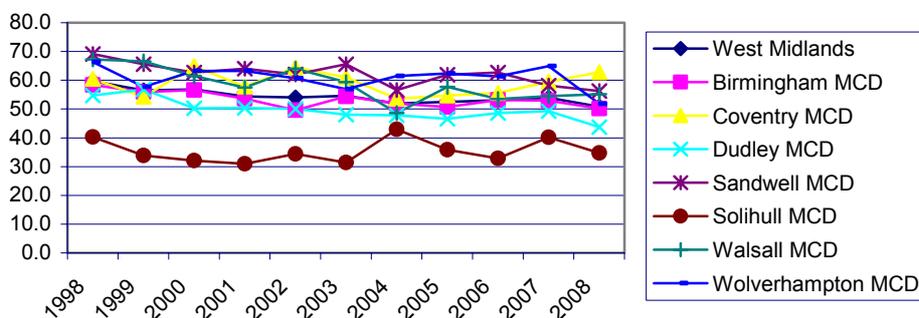
The lowest seven wards are in the bottom quintile nationally, with Norton being the only ward in the top quintile.

There is a clear link to deprivation here, with people being born in less affluent areas having a lower life expectancy, whilst those born in more affluent areas look forward to a longer life.

For Males, life expectancy varies from 71.5 years in Netherton & Woodside to 80.2 years in Norton. For females life expectancy varies from 77.1 in St Andrews to 82.7 in Bella Vale & Hasbury. The variance is therefore higher for males than for females.

## Teenage Pregnancy

**Under 18 Conception data - Rates per 1000 Females aged 15 - 17**

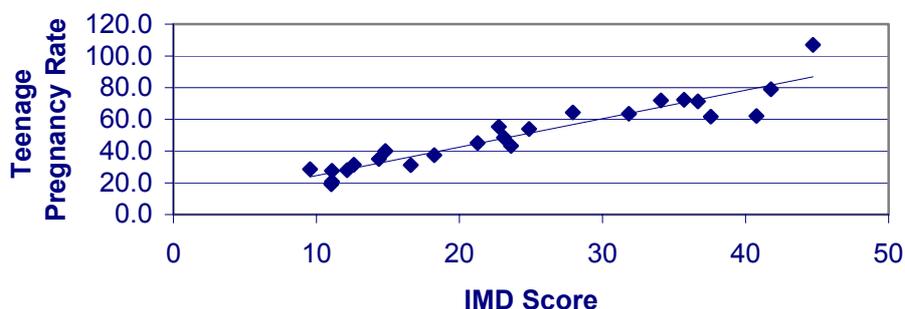


Source: - Office for National Statistics and Teenage Pregnancy Unit

Nationally the rate for Dudley of 43.7 is above the England average of 40.4. Of the Local Authorities reporting this measure in 2008, Dudley was 66th out of 153. Within the West Midlands, teenage pregnancy is relatively low in Dudley Borough, although it is recognised that rates vary considerably across the wards.

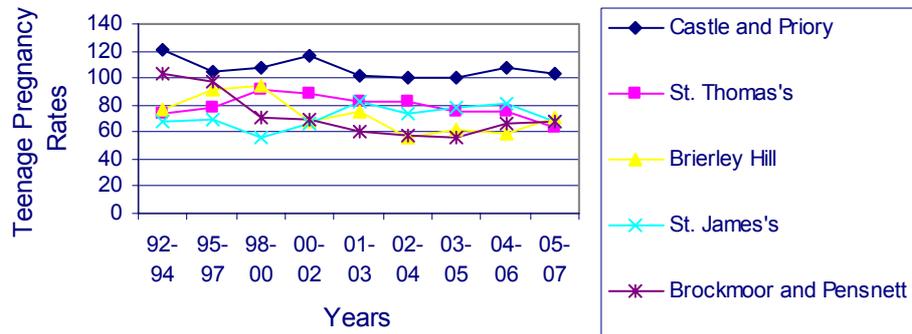
'Hotspot' wards with a rate among the highest 20% in England had a 2004-06 under-18 conception rate equal or higher than 53.4 per 1000 females aged 15-17. These included Brierley Hill (59.2), Brockmoor & Pensnett (65.9), Castle & Priory (107.2), Coseley East (53.8), Halesowen North (55.6), Lye & Wollescote (62.0), Netherton & Woodside (56.8), St Andrews (58.1), St James's (80.4) and St Thomas's (75.6). This data is just at a point in time and wards will fall in and out of the 'hotspot' category due to natural fluctuations. All of these wards however have had consistently high rates over the time period except Halesowen North.

**Correlation between Teenage Pregnancy Rates and IMD Scores for Wards**



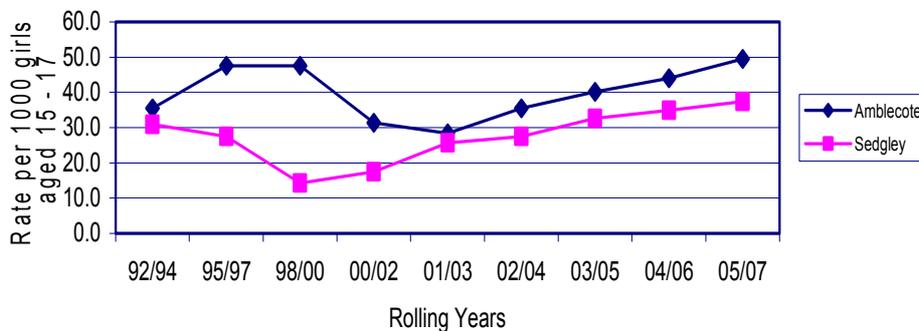
Teenage Pregnancy and Deprivation are very highly correlated as can be seen on the chart above (R squared value of 0.88). The more deprived the ward, the higher the teenage pregnancy rate. This data for teenage pregnancy has been averaged over the years 1992 to 2007 and the IMD score is from the English Indices of Deprivation from 2007. The higher the IMD score, the more deprived the area is.

### Wards with Consistently High Teenage Pregnancy Rates 1992 - 2007



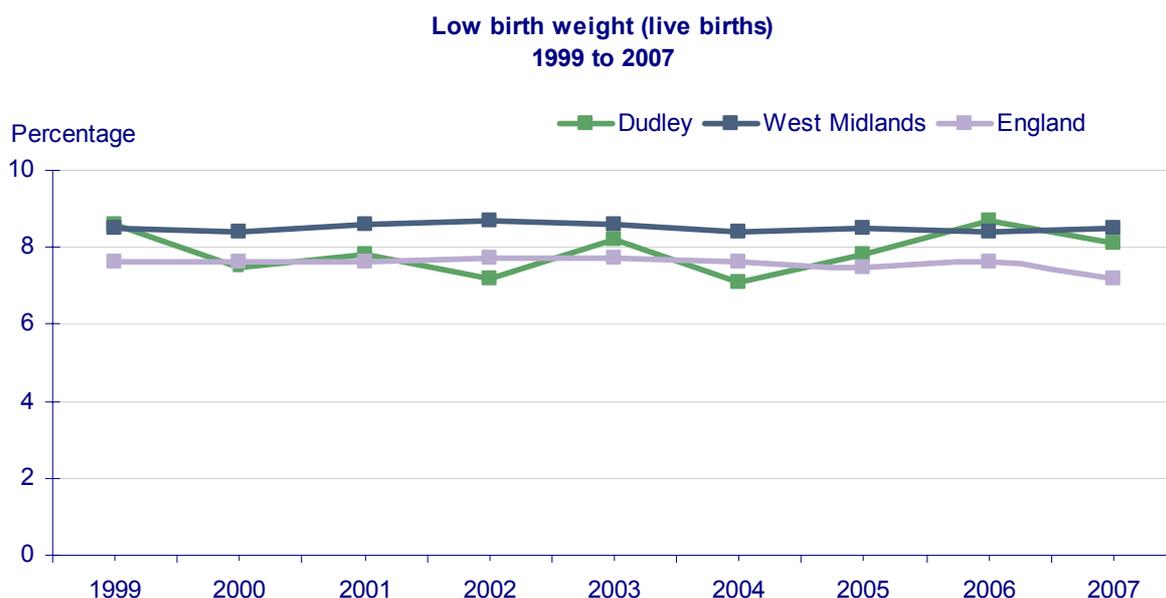
Data at ward level is captured over a two year period in order to achieve a more robust data set. This data is subject to random fluctuations, which make trend analysis very difficult. Over the years however, where data has been available, the wards in the above chart have all averaged out at having above 70 girls per thousand becoming pregnant during each year. Every one of these wards has seen a decline in numbers since 1992-1994 and some of this is certainly due to interventions that have occurred in these areas.

### Dudley Wards with Rising Teenage Pregnancy Rates



Most wards have enjoyed a decrease in rates, however in Amblecote and Sedgley there has been an upward trend in recent years. This could be due to natural fluctuations in the data, or maybe a growing culture in these areas. Neither ward has been identified as a 'hotspot', but it is recommended that these wards be monitored as they are now at their highest rates since teenage pregnancy data has been available.

## Low Birth Weight Data



Source: Neighbourhood Statistics, ONS

The chart shows low birth weights per thousand live births. This is an indirect indicator of child poverty because children who are poor are also at greater risk of being born small. Low birth weight not only raises the risk of infant mortality but has both short and long term implications for child health. Low birth weight also provides an indication of the social and financial situation of pregnant women.

A 'choppy' trend on the chart may reflect relatively small numbers of children born with a low birth weight and so it is sensible to look at the trend over several years rather than get caught up on one particular year.

## Childhood Obesity

Underweight		Healthy Weight		Overweight		Obese	
Reception	Year 6	Reception	Year 6	Reception	Year 6	Reception	Year 6
2.0%	1.7%	74.7%	62.8%	11.9%	15.4%	11.4%	20.1%

The above table provides the prevalence of underweight, overweight and obese children in Dudley from 2007/2008. In reception, 74.7% of children have a healthy weight. By year 6 this has dropped to 62.8%.

149 Local Authority Councils in England reported on this measure and Dudley ranked 66<sup>th</sup> highest for reception class children being either overweight or obese. By year 6 the rank had risen to 45<sup>th</sup>. This means that children in Dudley are becoming more overweight and obese at a faster rate than the average

For Dudley this represents a 12.2% point increase between starting (23.3%) and finishing (35.5%) primary school. The average for all authorities was a 10% point increase.

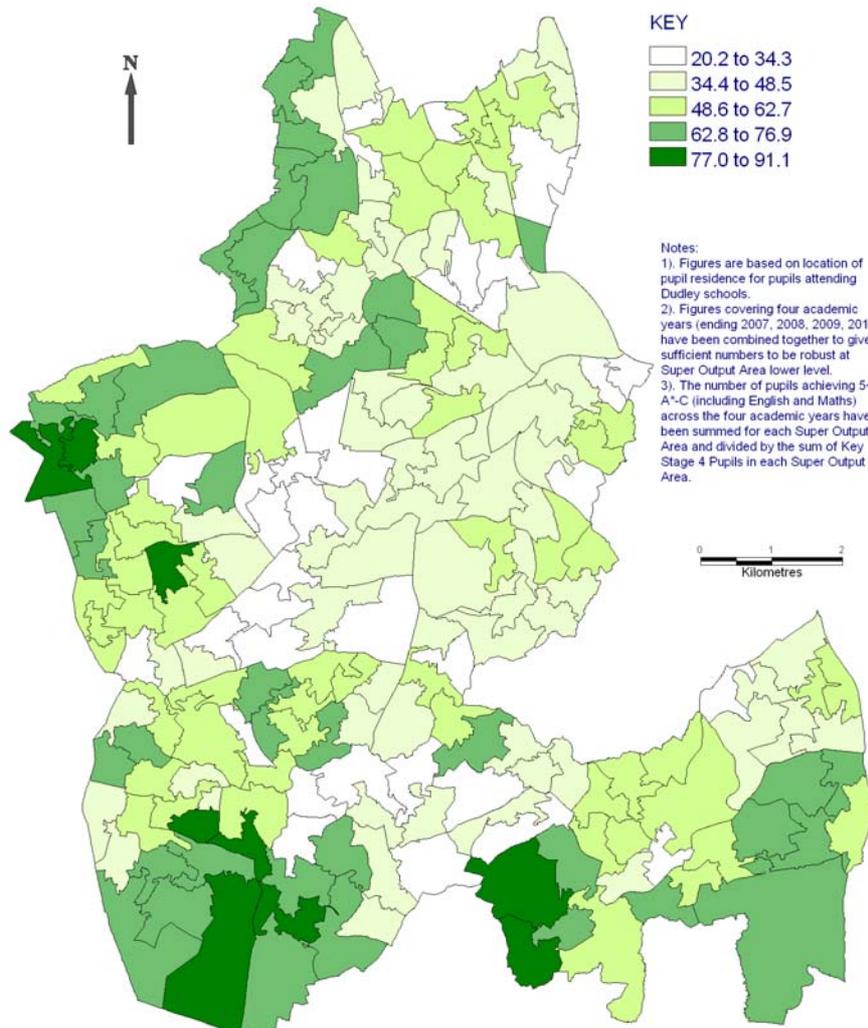
Nationally, the largest increase was seen in Medway which rose from 17.9% to 35.9% being either overweight or obese. The lowest increase was in St Helens, where it rose from 32.5% to 34.2%, an increase of just 1.7% points.

Within the Black Country, the increase seen in Dudley (12.2%) compares well against Sandwell (16.8%), Walsall (16.1%) and Wolverhampton (13.1%).

The link between poverty and obesity is a debatable one, but the Millennium Cohort Study from the Institute of Child Health, University College London states that 'Children from families with income below the poverty line (60 per cent of national median adjusted for family size) were more likely to be overweight or obese than children from families on or above this line'



Percentage of Pupils Achieving 5+ A\*-C at Key Stage 4  
(including English and Maths), Academic Years Ending 2007-2010,  
Super Output Areas, Dudley Borough



Source: Performance & Development Team, Directorate of Children's Services, Dudley M.B.C.  
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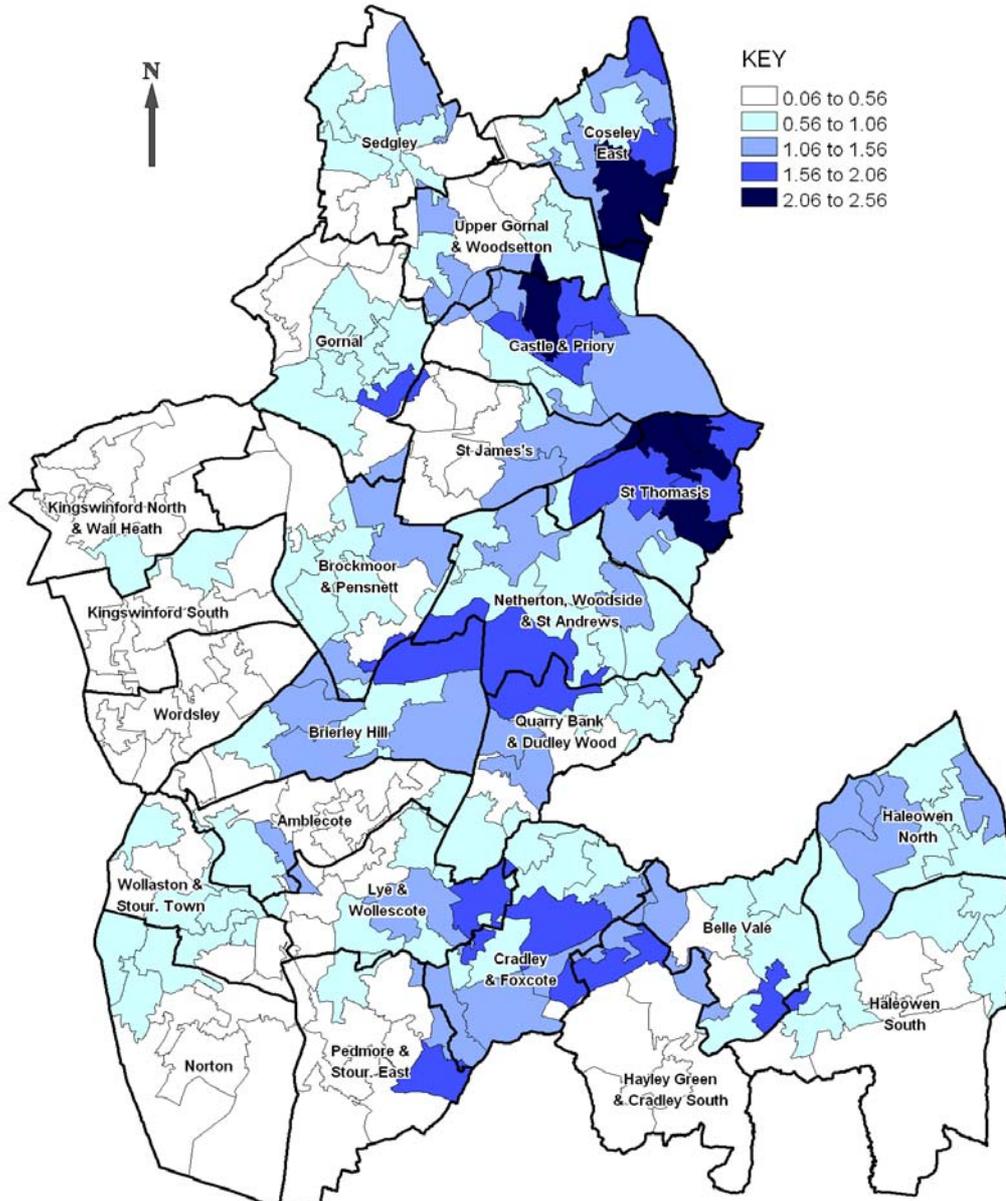
Attainment at GCSE level in Dudley has, in recent years mirrored the national upward trend, but in 2010 it exceeded the national level. This means that in Dudley attainment has grown at a faster rate than for the all England average. Attainment across Dudley does vary, from 21% in one school to 68% in another, gaining 5 A\*-C including maths and English.

The map above shows attainment by the home address of the pupil drawn from 4 years data. The image may be thought of as a photographic negative of the map of deprivation, showing a clear link between affluence/poverty and attainment.

## Unauthorised School Absence

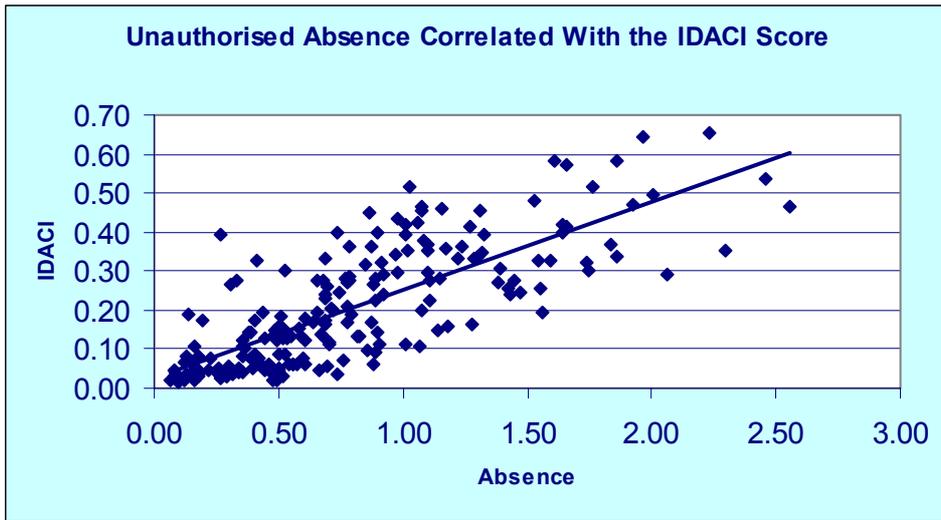


Percentage of Unauthorised School Absences (Spring 2010)  
All Pupils Schooling and Residing in Dudley Borough  
by SOA (overlaid with 2004 Ward Boundaries)



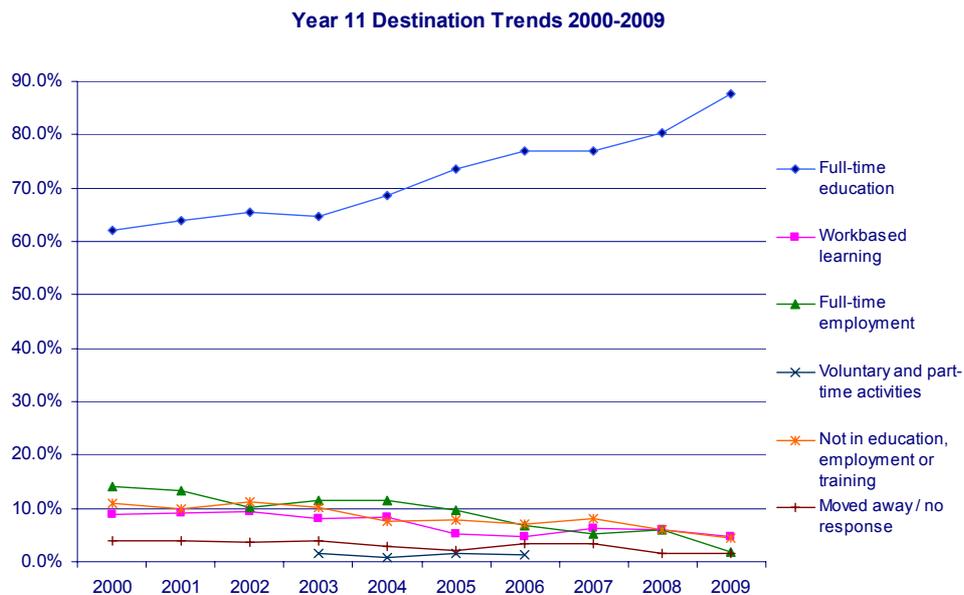
Source: childrens services - attendance data (spring term 2010).  
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There is a clear link between attendance and attainment. The areas where we see the highest unauthorised absence in the map above also match to a large degree, the areas of low attainment and areas of deprivation. The same pattern is witnessed when looking at authorised absence although the correlation is slightly weaker.



The correlation between unauthorised absence and the Income deprivation affecting children index is high at 0.79, where 1 is a perfect correlation.

### Year 11 Destinations

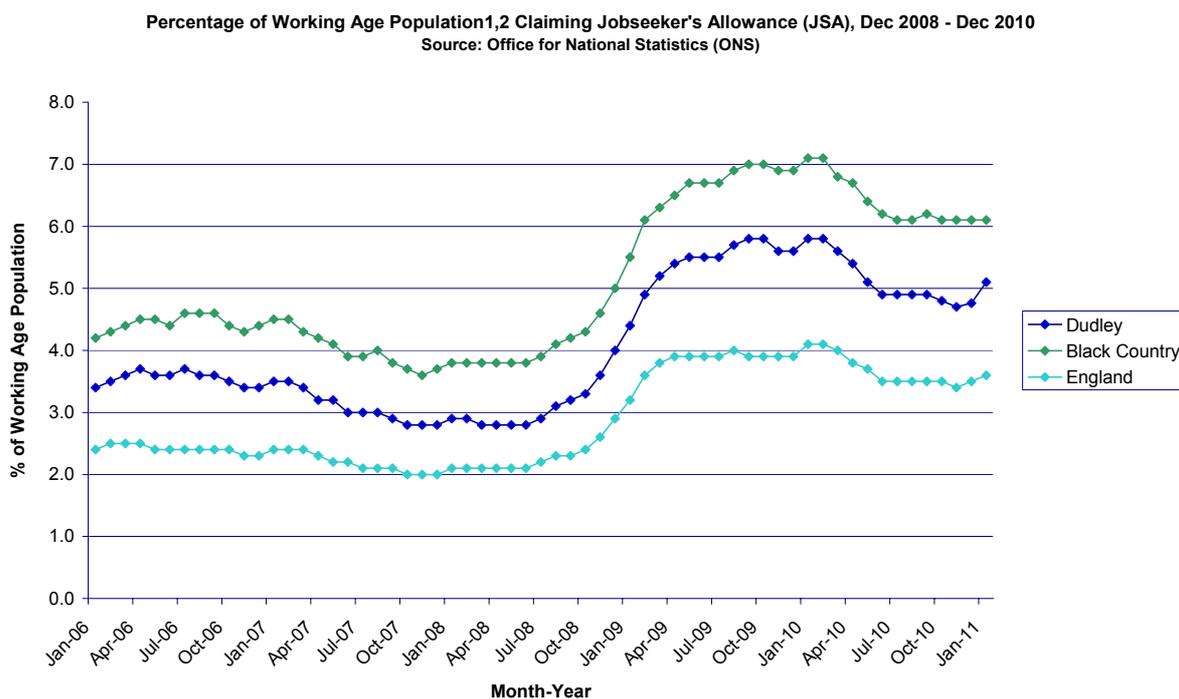


Since the year 2000, there has been a consistent upward trend with regard to year 11 students continuing in full time education. The figure was 62% in 2000 and at the last count in 2009, it stood at 89.6%. This trend of more 16 year old school leavers is in line with regional and national trends.

Conversely, worked based learning fell from 9% to 4.6%, full time employment from 14% to 1.8% and not in education, employment or training fell from 11% to 4.5%.

The trend of more 16 year old school leavers staying in full-time education has continued, in line with regional and national trends.

## Unemployment



From the chart above, the pattern of unemployment in Dudley can be compared to the Black Country and England. Generally speaking local conditions follow the national and regional trends.

The effects of the recession can clearly be seen with the national rate increasing from a low of 2.0% in October/December 2007 to a high of 4.1% in January/February 2010, a rise of 2.1 percentage points. In Dudley during the same period, the rate increased from 2.8% to 5.8%, a rise of 3.0 percentage points. For the Black Country, the rate increased from 3.6% to 7.1%, a rise of 3.5 percentage points. This clearly illustrates how the effects of the recession hit harder locally, as the gap widened. In effect the unemployment rate for Dudley more than doubled during this period representing a rise from 5,456 to 11,220 people.

Since February 2010, rates have been on the decrease, indicating a recovery from recession. In November 2010 the rate for Dudley had fallen to 4.7% (9,077 people). The latest data however, from December 2010 (4.8%) and January 2011 (5.1%) suggests an upturn in the unemployment rates and may be an early sign of a double dip recession. In Dudley this recent rise has been sharper than the England average rise, but the Black Country as a whole seems to be holding at 6.1%.

Certainly, the effect of public spending cuts are yet to be felt and this trend may continue as more public sector employees are made redundant. Some of these public sector employees will almost certainly be parents so it would be prudent to continue monitoring the situation and bear this in mind when trying to evidence whether interventions have been effective or not.

The Child Well-being Index (CWI) is produced at Lower Super Output Area level (LSOAs) and is made up of seven domains. Summary measures of the CWI are presented at local authority district and county council levels. The CWI is based on the approach, structure and methodology that were used in the construction of the ID 2007. The seven domains included in the CWI are:

- Material well-being
- Health
- Education
- Crime
- Housing
- Environment
- Children in need.

This is an index of child well-being rather than an index of deprivation, mainly because it contains variables that are not strictly related to deprivation. Child well-being is generally represented by how children are doing in a number of different domains of their life.

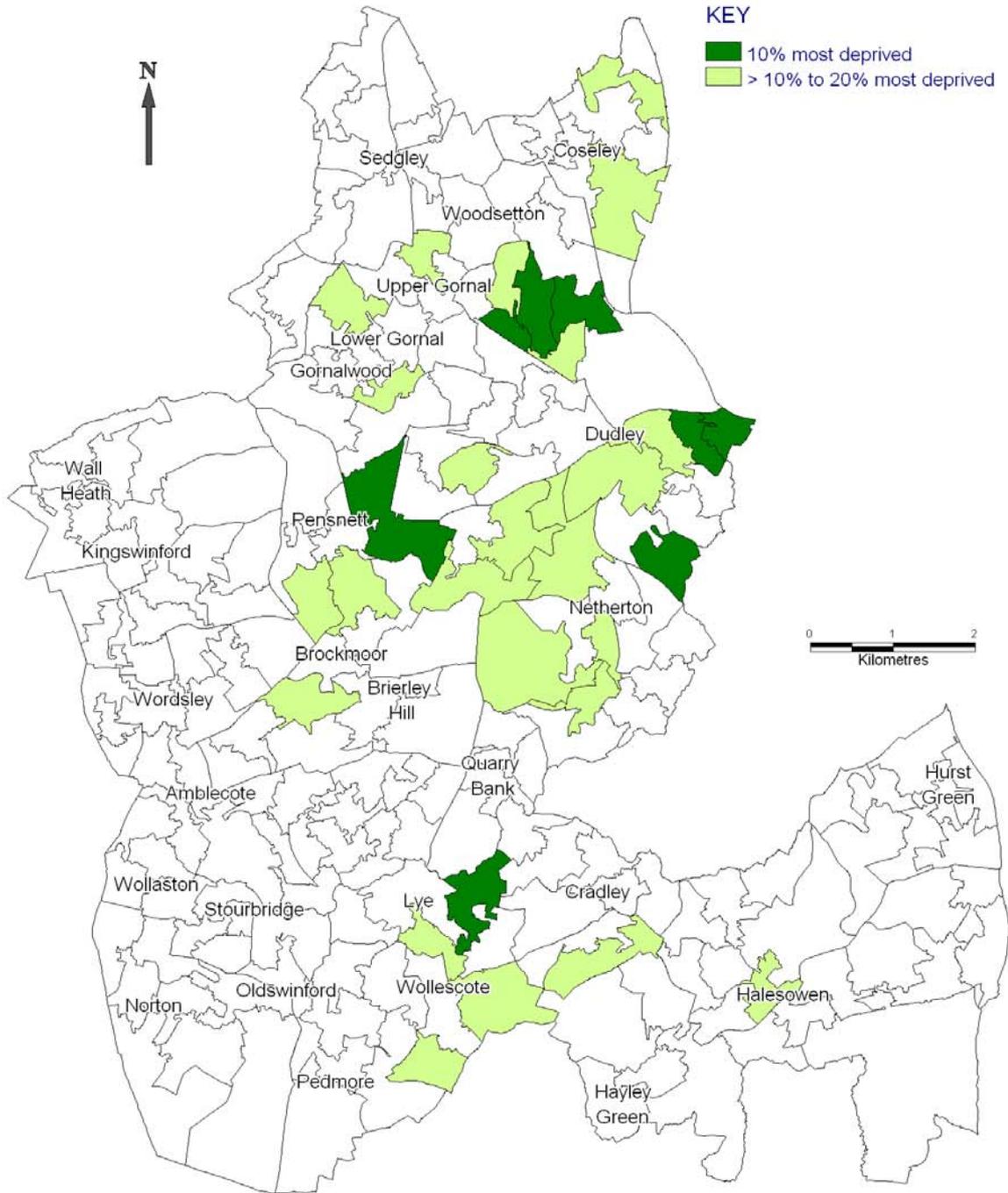
At national and international level these domains have included those covered in the CWI. There are no comprehensive national sources of data on other domains of well-being that could have been included – subjective well-being, relations with family and friends, civic participation, behaviour and risks for children (except for data on accidents). Such data can only be derived from surveys, which are not large enough to generate results reliable at local authority level and below. There are also no national, comprehensive data on child abuse and neglect, or other groups of children in special circumstances (travelers' children, asylum seekers' and refugees' children and children of new migrants). The small numbers of these children make it difficult to undertake statistically robust analysis at small area level.

Nevertheless this index covers the major domains of a child's life that have an impact on child well-being and that are available for LSOAs in England.

In the following map the index has been inverted. As with previous maps, the areas of low well-being coincide with the areas of poverty from NI116. This is because both mechanisms share some data sources and because of the strong correlations between material deprivation and other types of deprivation. In fact the IDACI (the child related section on the IMD) also shows the same pattern.

On subsequent pages, the domains that make up the index are also inversely mapped. These include; material well being, health and disability, education, crime, housing, environment and children (at risk of being) in need

## Super Output Areas in the 20% Most Deprived in England, Child Well-Being Index, Dudley Borough

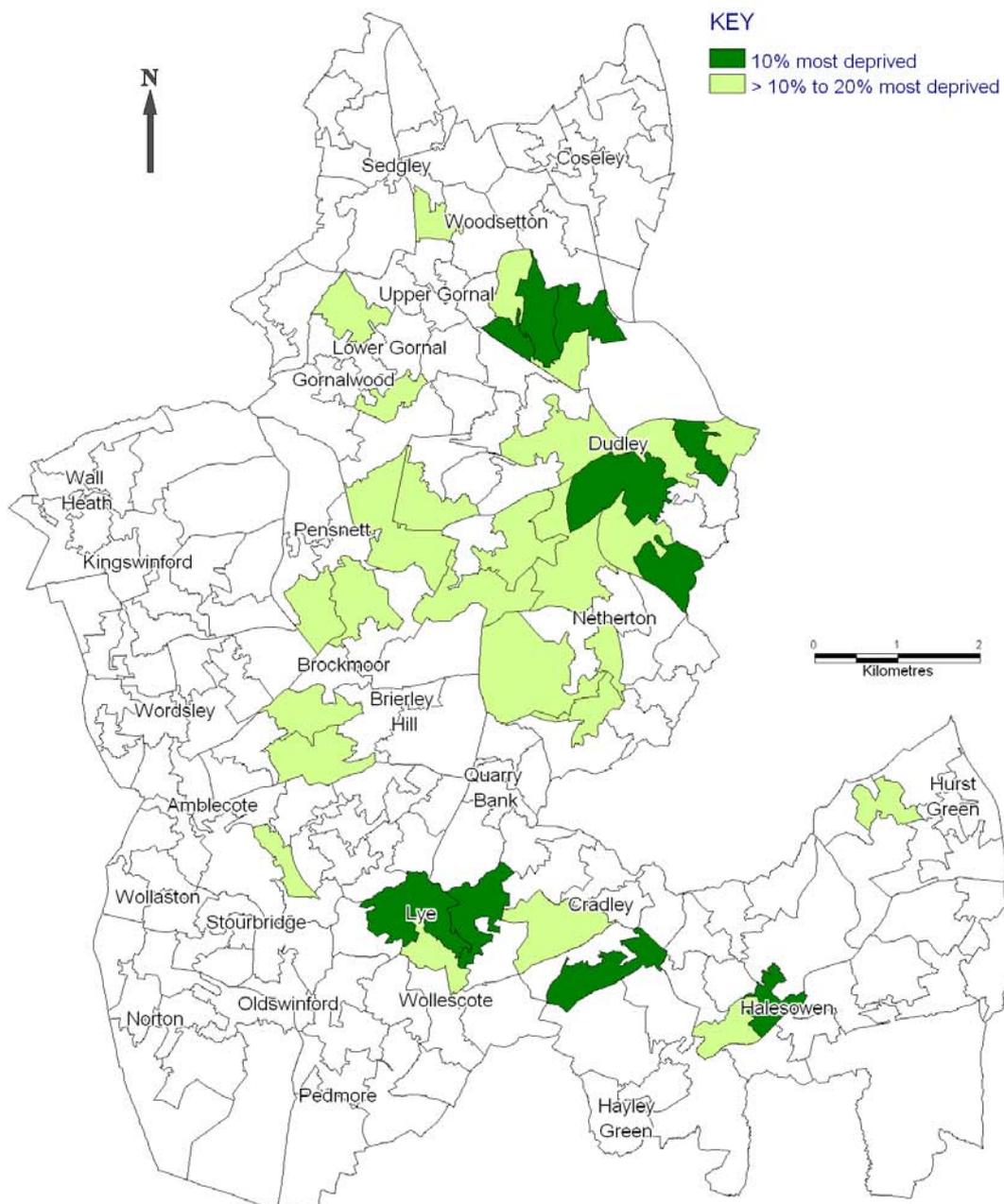


Source: Child Well-Being Index 2009, Department for Communities and Local Government

Produced by: NL, 01/09/2010, Strategic Research & Intelligence Team, Dudley M.B.C.

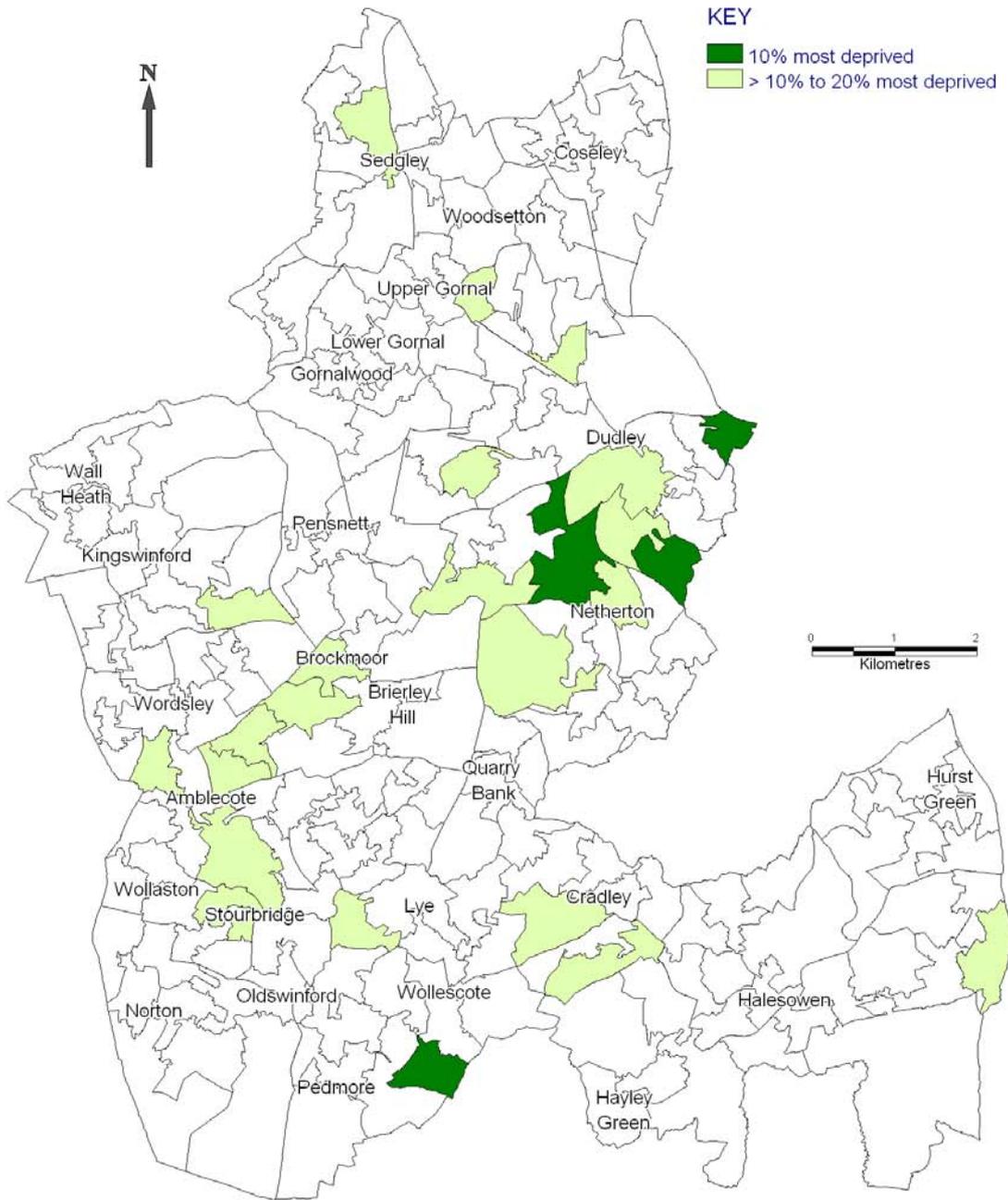
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### Super Output Areas in the 20% Most Deprived in England, Material Well-being Domain, Child Well-Being Index, Dudley Borough



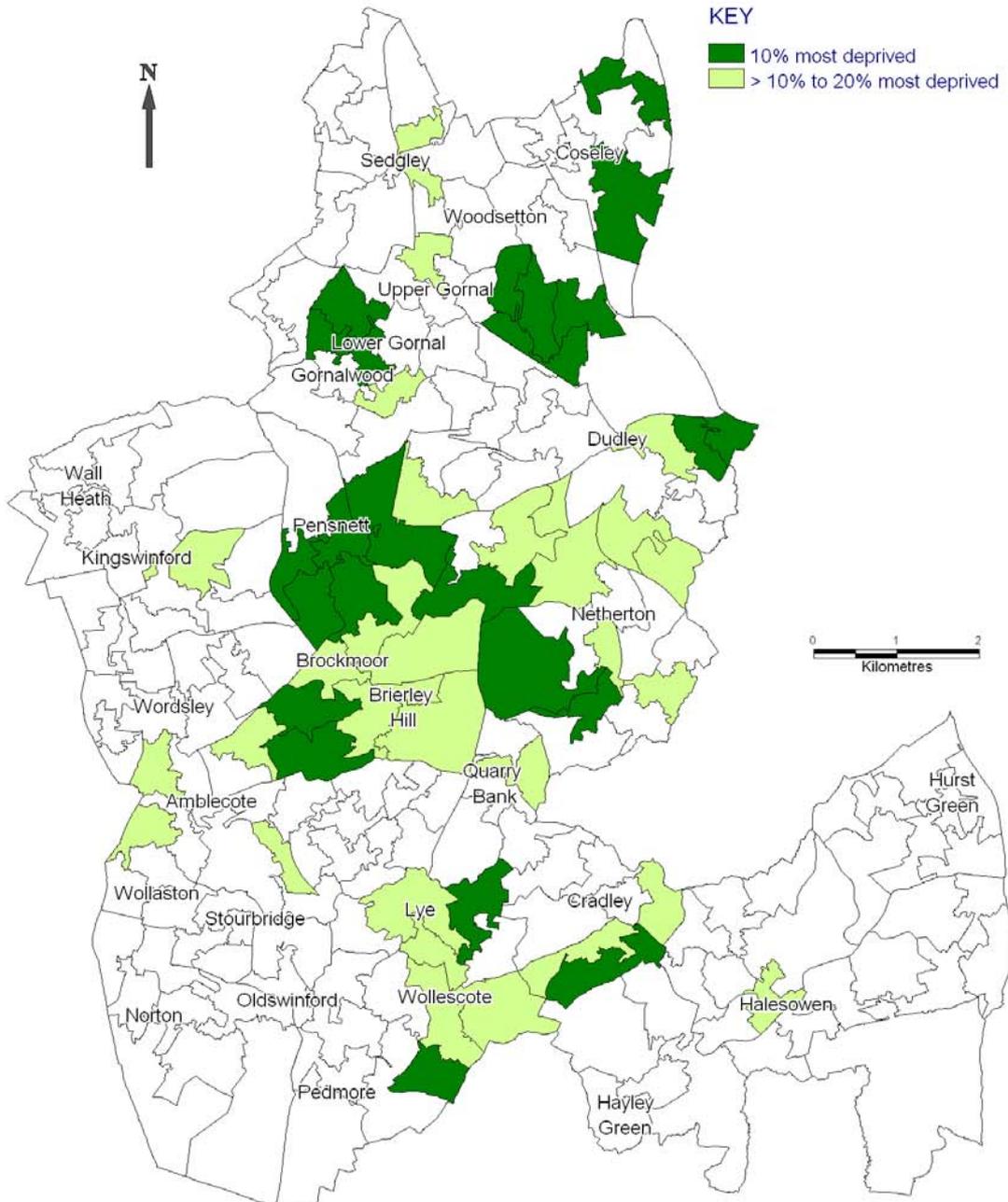
Source: Child Well-Being Index 2009, Department for Communities and Local Government  
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## Super Output Areas in the 20% Most Deprived in England, Health and Disability Domain, Child Well-Being Index, Dudley Borough



Source: Child Well-Being Index 2009, Department for Communities and Local Government  
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## Super Output Areas in the 20% Most Deprived in England, Education Domain, Child Well-Being Index, Dudley Borough

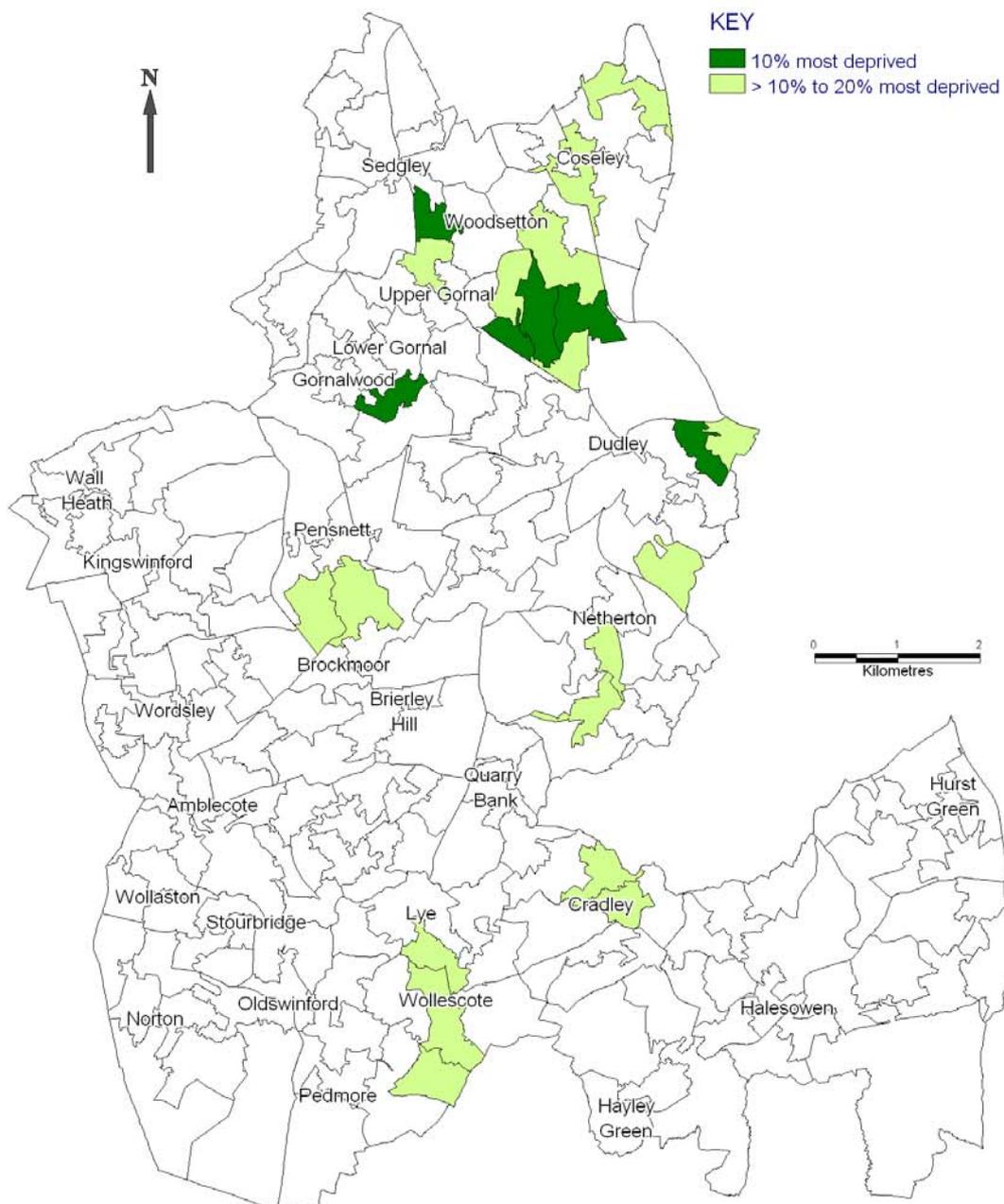


Source: Child Well-Being Index 2009, Department for Communities and Local Government

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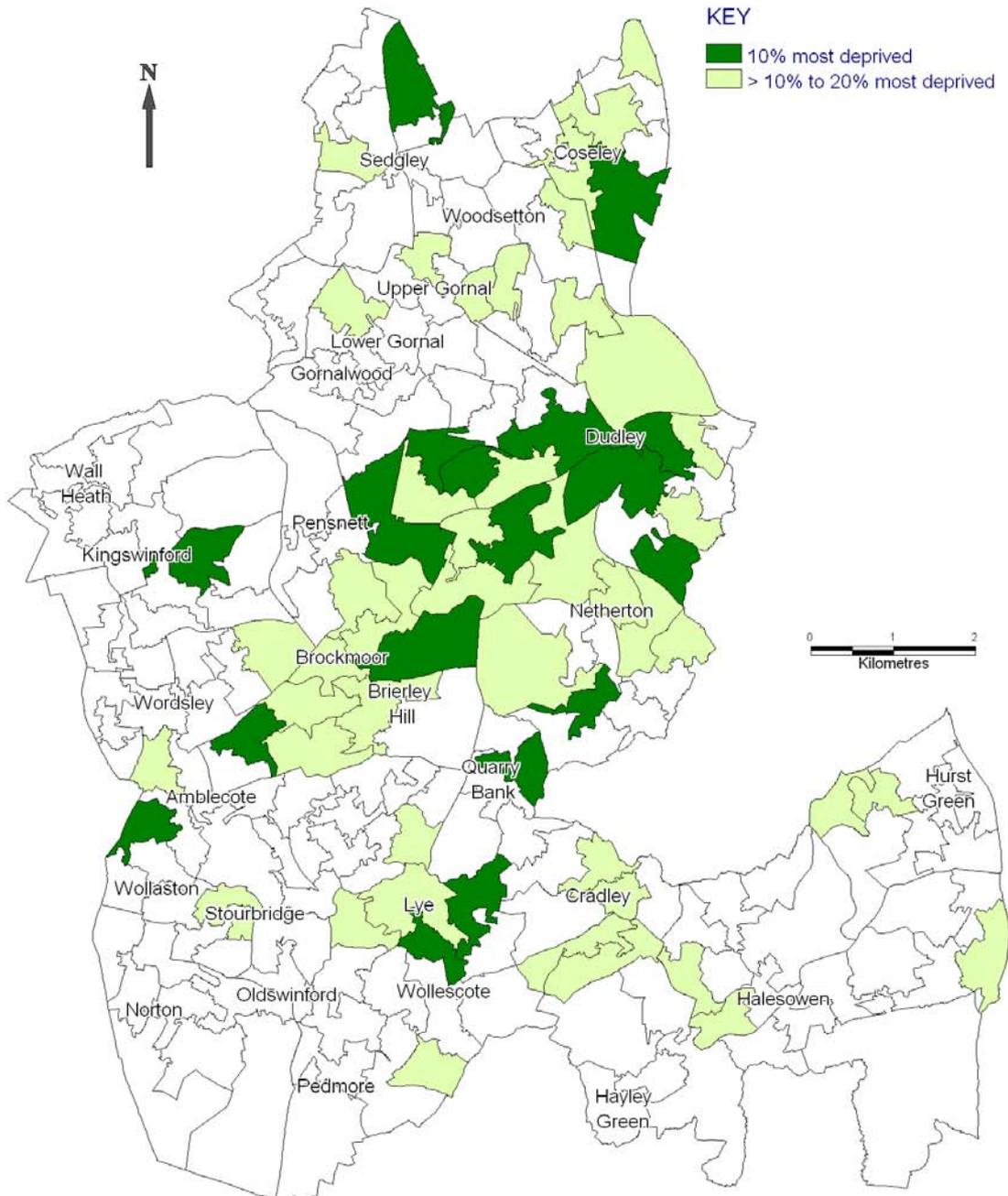
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## Super Output Areas in the 20% Most Deprived in England, Crime Domain, Child Well-Being Index, Dudley Borough



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## Super Output Areas in the 20% Most Deprived in England, Housing Domain, Child Well-Being Index, Dudley Borough

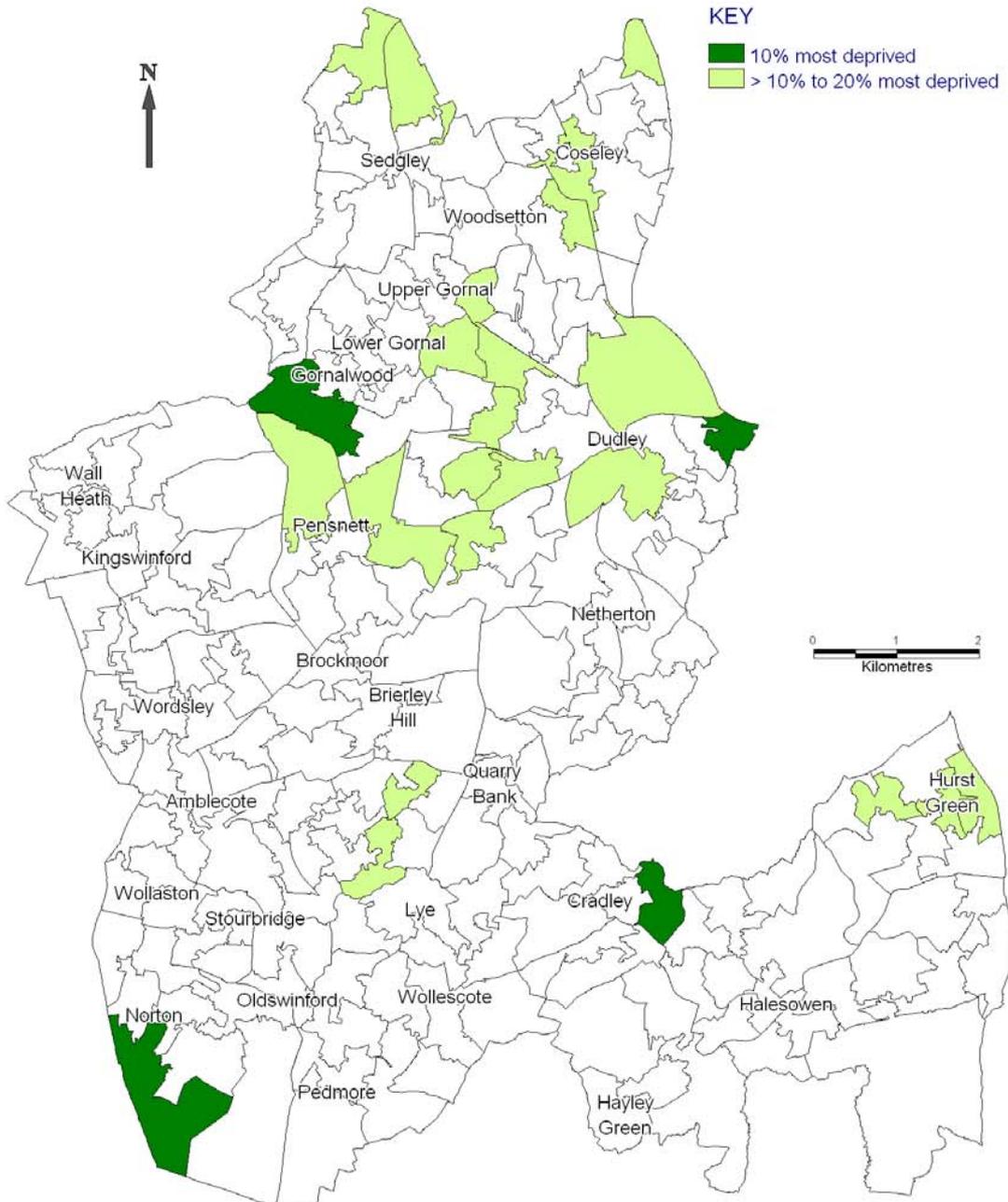


Source: Child Well-Being Index 2009, Department for Communities and Local Government

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## Super Output Areas in the 20% Most Deprived in England, Environment Domain, Child Well-Being Index, Dudley Borough

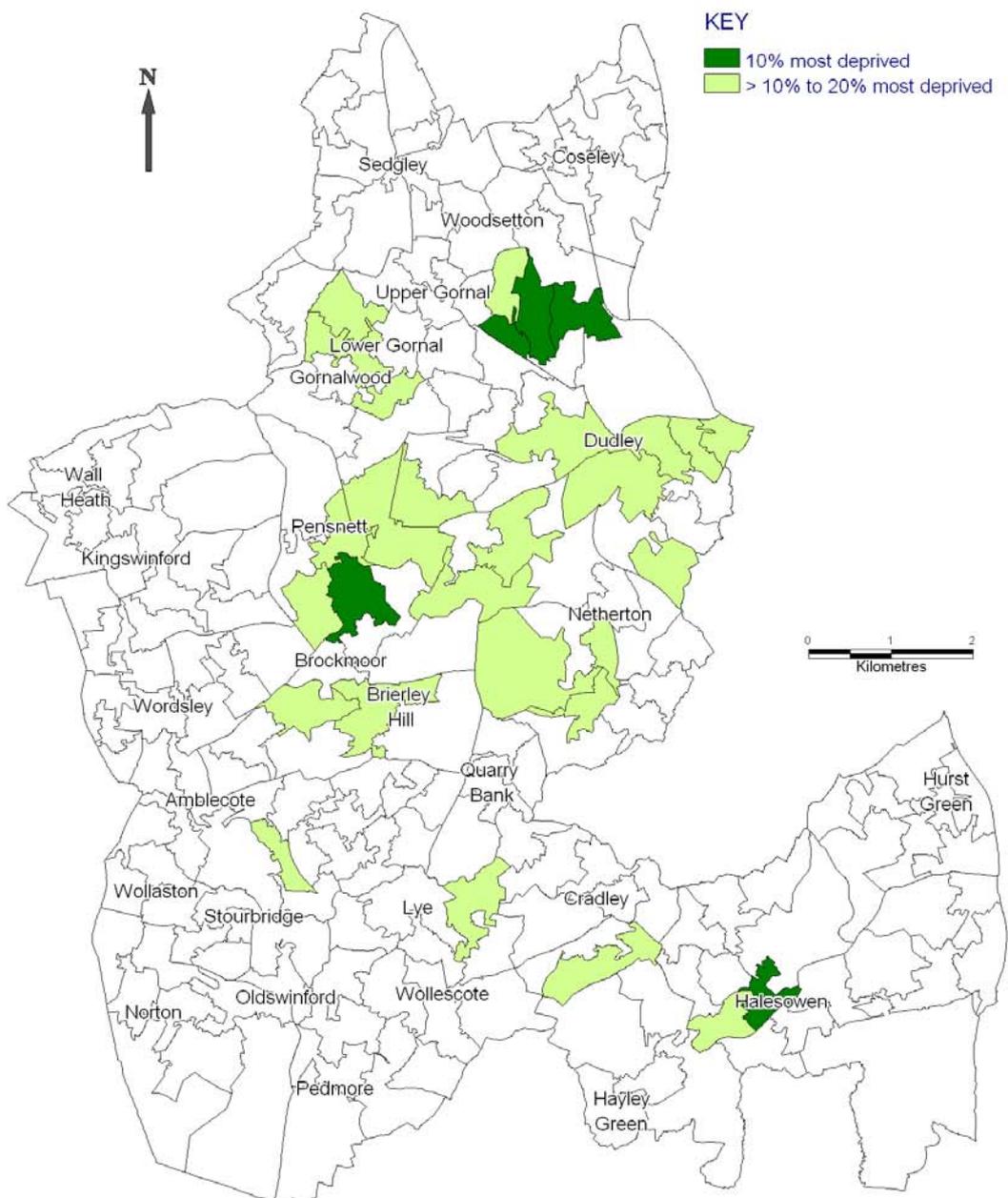


Source: Child Well-Being Index 2009, Department for Communities and Local Government

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### Super Output Areas in the 20% Most Deprived in England, Children In Need Domain, Child Well-Being Index, Dudley Borough



Source: Child Well-Being Index 2009, Department for Communities and Local Government  
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## The Domains

### Material well-being

The purpose of this domain is to capture the proportion of children experiencing income deprivation in a small area. This domain has antecedents within the Indices of Deprivation for England. In those Indices a separate 'Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index' (IDACI) was published alongside the IMD 2007. The IDACI comprised the percentage of children under 16 living in families reliant on various means tested benefits. The material well-being domain for CWI is the same as the IDACI 2007.

#### The Indicators

- Children aged 0-15 in households claiming Income Support (Source: DWP, 2005)
- Children aged 0-15 in households claiming Income-Based Job Seekers' Allowance (Source: DWP, 2005)
- Children aged 0-15 in households claiming Pension Credit (Guarantee) (Source: DWP, 2005)
- Children aged 0-15 in households claiming Working Tax or Child Tax Credit whose equivalised household income (excluding housing benefits) is below 60 per cent of the median before housing costs (Source: HMRC, 2005)
- Children aged 0-15 in households claiming Child Tax Credit (who are not eligible for Income Support, Income-Based Job Seeker's Allowance, Pension Credit or Working Tax Credit) whose equivalised income (excluding housing benefits) is below 60 percent of the median before housing costs (Source: HMRC, 2005).

### Health

Health is a clear contributor to the overall well-being of children. Ideally this should be a positive measure of health status. However because of shortages of data of this type at local level, this domain focuses on illness, accidents and disability, as represented by the use of health services and the uptake of disability benefits.

#### The Indicators:

- All emergency admissions to hospital for children aged 0-18 as a proportion of all children aged 0-18 in each LSOA (Source: Hospital Episode Statistics for England, 2005/6)
- All outpatient hospital attendances for children aged 0-18 as a proportion of all children aged 0-18 in each LSOA.(Source: Hospital Episode Statistics for England, 2005/6)
- The proportion of children aged 0-16 receiving Disabled Living Allowance (Source: DWP, 2005).

### Education

The Education Domain includes a variety of education outcomes including attainment, school attendance and destinations at age 16.

#### The Indicators:

- Two year rolling average points score at Key Stage 2 derived from test score Source: PLASC (2004-2005), NPD (2004-2005)
- Two year rolling average points score at Key Stage 3 derived from test score Source: PLASC (2004-2005), NPD (2004-2005)
- Two year rolling average capped (best of 8 GCSE and/or equivalent vocational qualifications) points score at Key Stage 4 Source: PLASC (2004-2005), NPD (2004-2005)
- Secondary school absence rate – based on two year average of school level absence rates allocated to local area using PLASC. Source: PLASC and DfES absence rate data (2004-2005)
- Proportion of children not staying on in school or non-advanced further education or training beyond the age of 16, average of 2004 and 2005. Source: Child Benefit (2002-2005)

- Proportion of those aged under-21 not entering higher education (4 year average, 2002-2005). Source: Universities and Colleges Admission Service (UCAS), Higher

## **Crime**

The Crime Domain represents a measure of personal or material victimisation. Due to lack of available data on the impact of crime on children, the Crime Domain uses overall police recorded crime data relating to four major volume crime types that have major effects on individuals and communities. In order to provide a child focus to the domain, each of the four component indicators has been weighted according to the proportion of the 'at-risk' population that is aged 0-15.

### **The Indicators:**

- Burglary rate (four recorded crime offence types, police force data for April 2004-March 2005, constrained to Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) level)
- Theft rate (five recorded crime offence types, police force data for April 2004-March 2005, constrained to CDRP level)
- Criminal damage rate (ten recorded crime offence types, police force data for April 2004-March 2005, constrained to CDRP level)
- Violence rate (14 recorded crime offence types, police force data for April 2004-March 2005, constrained to CDRP level).

## **Housing**

Children spend a great deal of their lives at home. Therefore the house that they live in can have a profound impact on their well-being. The only source of housing data at LSOA level is the 2001 Census. Four indicators have been selected to represent the housing circumstances of children and, as a result of preliminary analysis, they are represented in two sub-domains.

### **The Indicators:**

#### **Access to housing:**

- Overcrowding: occupancy rating. Source: Census table CAS053.
- Shared accommodation: people living in shared dwellings, aged 0 to 15 as a proportion of all children 0-15 in each LSOA. Source: Census table CAS054
- Homelessness: concealed families containing dependent children as a proportion of all families with dependent children. Source: Census table CAS011

For the overcrowding indicator, the counts of households comprising couples, lone parents, and other types of household containing dependent children living in accommodation with at least one room too few is summed across the tenures and expressed as a proportion of all households to give a rate of 'overcrowded' households containing dependent children.

#### **Quality of housing**

- Lack of central heating: children aged 0 to 15 years old living in accommodation without central heating as a proportion of all children aged 0 to 15. Source: Census table CAS054
- After exponential transformation these two sub-domains were combined into a single housing domain using equal weights.

## **Environment**

The Environment Domain captures aspects of the environment that affect children's physical well-being (health, exercise and safe, independent mobility). Indicators of the potential of the natural environment to provide children with play spaces that enhance their personal, cognitive and social development are incorporated. As a result of preliminary analysis the indicators were divided into two sub-domains.

### **The Indicators:**

#### **Environmental quality**

- Air quality: combined air quality indicator. Source: Geography Department at Staffordshire University
- The natural environment: percentage of green space and woodland

- The number of bird species. Source: European Environment Agency's CORINE Land Cover (CLC) database; British Trust for Ornithology bird breeding atlas
- Road safety: severity-weighted accidents per 1000 children aged under-16 Source: Department for Transport.

#### **Environmental access**

- Availability of opportunities for sports and leisure: average number of different types of sports and leisure facility within walking distance for children aged 11 to 16. Source: Ordnance Survey Points of Interest
- Distance to school: average road distances to primary and secondary schools for children aged 4 to 10 years and 11 to 16 years. Source: PLASC (2005) and Edubase (2005).

#### **Children (at risk of being) in need**

This domain is about children who are in various kinds of need. The Children in Need Survey (2005) (CiN), from the Department for Children, Schools and Families,



## **C4EO Data – Effective Area Wide Poverty Strategy Data Set**

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### **C4EO Data – Effective Area Wide Poverty Strategy Data Set**

Funded by the DCSF, C4EO has been established to help transform outcomes for children, young people and their families. It will do this by identifying and coordinating local, regional and national evidence of ‘what works’ to create a single and comprehensive picture of effective practice. Using this information, the Centre will offer support to Local Authorities and their Children’s Trust partners, working with them to help improve services. The C4EO website contains numerous statistical datasets and this section has been constructed using the effective area wide poverty strategy data set.

#### **Statistical Neighbours**

Statistical Neighbours are the ten other Local Authorities that, for any single local authority, have the greatest similarity of values for a given set of socioeconomic indicators.

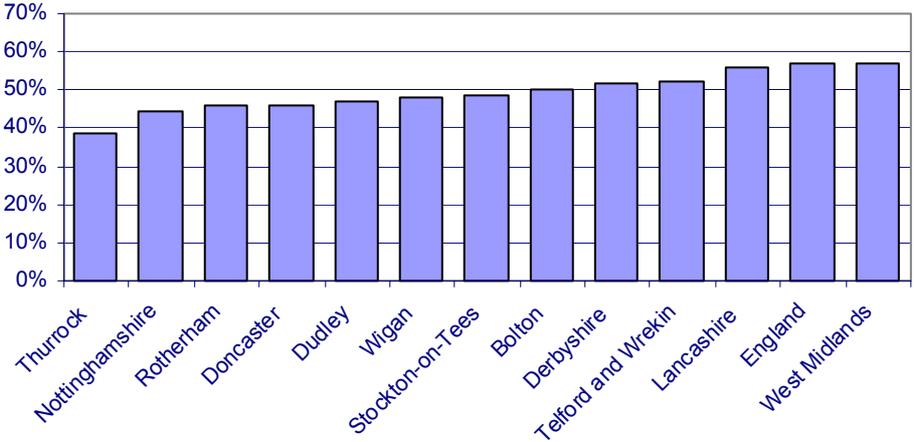
#### **The purpose of statistical neighbours**

Each Local Authority can compare its performance against other Local Authorities deemed to have similar socio-demographic characteristics (its statistical neighbours) rather than comparing itself with local authorities that share none (or few) of its characteristics.

#### **NI 72 Achievement of at least 78 points across the Early Years Foundation Stage with at least 6 in each of the scales in Personal Social and Emotional Development and Communication, Language and Literacy (linked to take-up of child care).**

43% of children in this category attained the requisite levels in Dudley in the year 2008/2009. Dudley had the lowest score out of its statistical neighbours. Nationally, the upper quartile boundary was 56% and the bottom quartile boundary was 47%. Data however is only available for 147 authorities.

**NI 82 Inequality gap in the achievement of a Level 2 qualification by the age of 19 (linked to the proportion of children in poverty)**



This indicator reports the percentages of young people who were in receipt of free school meals at academic age 15 who attain level 2 qualifications by the age of 19. At the moment significantly fewer young people in receipt of free school meals at the academic age of 15 achieve L2 qualifications by the age of 19 than their peers who were not in receipt of free school meals at academic age 15. The Dudley figure of 47% is in the bottom quartile nationally.

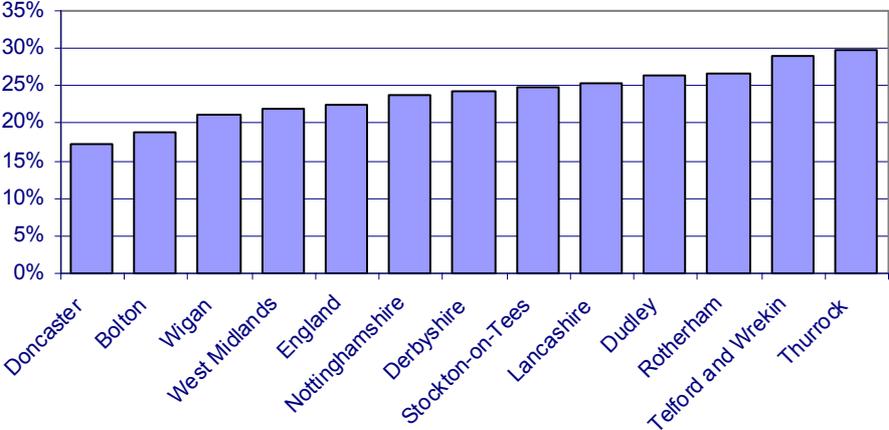
**NI 88 Percentage of schools providing access to extended services (linked to take up of child care)**

The percentage of schools providing access to the full core offer of extended services. Schools include primary, middle and secondary schools, nursery schools and special schools, including academies. The full core offer of extended services involves providing access to:

- A varied range of activities including study support activities for primary and secondary schools, combined in primary schools with childcare, 8am-6pm, all year round in line with demand;
- Parenting and family support;
- Swift and easy referral to specialist services such as speech therapy;
- Community use of school facilities to a level and in a way that meets the needs of the pupils, their families and the community

87% of Dudley schools met this standard in 2008/2009. This is close to the median, for the 151 authorities who reported on this measure.

**NI 102: Achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving the expected level at Key Stages 2 and 4 (linked to the proportion of children in poverty)**



The gaps in achievement at stages 2 and 4 appear to be quite high for Dudley pupils, but this seems to improve by age 19, as seen in NI 82 on the previous page.

**NI 116 Children in families in receipt of IS/JSA or whose income is <60% of median income (linked to the proportion of children in poverty).**

	(%) 2006	(%)2007	Number (2006)	Number (2007)
<b>Dudley</b>	<b>21.20</b>	<b>22.10</b>	<b>14240</b>	<b>14860</b>
England	20.80	21.60	2298385	2397645
West Midlands	22.89	23.97	279100	293650
Bolton	23.70	25.20	15005	16015
Wigan	18.10	18.70	12250	12720
Doncaster	22.30	22.60	14555	14720
Rotherham	21.70	22.70	12440	13080
Stockton-on-Tees	21.00	21.40	8780	9030
Telford and Wrekin	23.30	24.40	8950	9375
Thurrock	20.10	20.40	7165	7485
Derbyshire	15.40	15.90	24365	25180
Lancashire	18.20	19.00	45840	47745
Nottinghamshire	16.30	16.90	26130	27270

Whilst it is difficult to make assumptions based upon two years data, there does appear to be a consistent upward trend in the amount of children in poverty. In Dudley between 2006 and 2007 there has been a four and a quarter percent rise in children in poverty and this equates to a further 640 children. This trend is expected to continue due to the recent recession.

## NI 112: Under 18 conception rate (linked to the proportion of children in poverty)

1998		1999		2000		2001		2002		2003	
Number	Rate										
291	54.7	302	56.8	272	50.2	278	50.3	284	50.1	272	48.0

2004		2005		2006		2007		2008		1998-2008	
Number	Rate	% change in rate									
271	47.8	266	46.6	282	48.7	290	49.3	255	43.7	-20.1%	

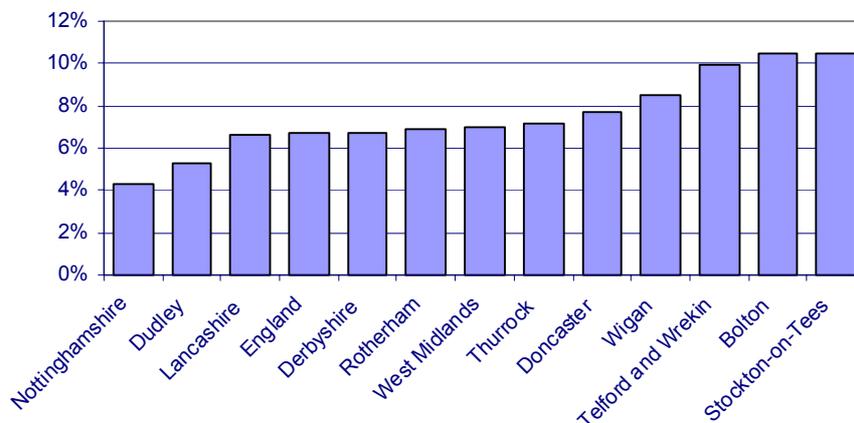
There is a national target to reduce the under 18 conception rate by 50% by 2010 (compared to the 1998 baseline rate) as part of a broader strategy to improve sexual health. It is measured by the rate of conceptions per 1,000 girls aged 15-17

In Dudley, the rate has consistently fallen over the past 10 years and now stands at its lowest (46.7%).

The rate does however vary across the Borough and some wards have seen significantly higher rates than the England average. These are; Brierley Hill, Brockmoor & Pensnett, Castle & Priory, Lye & Wollescote, St Andrews, St James's and St Thomas's. This data is for the 3-year periods 2000-2002, 2001-2003, 2002-2004 and 2003-2005 (The Association of Public Health Observatories)

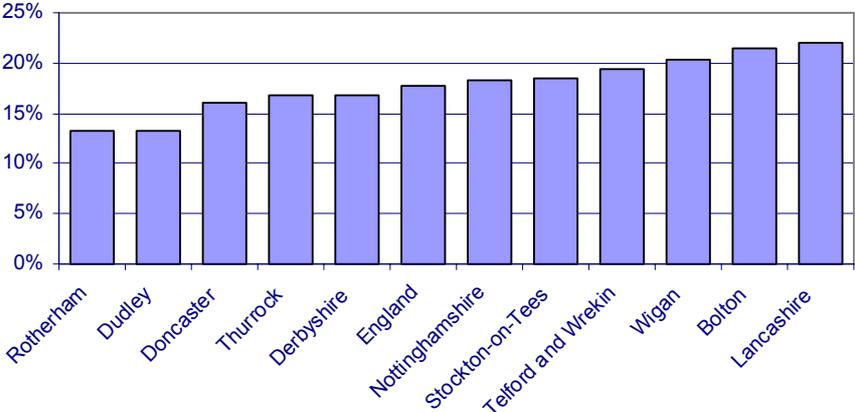
## NI 117 - 16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, training or employment (NEET) (%) (2008)

Non-participation in education, employment or training between the ages of 16 and 18 is a major predictor of later unemployment, low income, depression, involvement in crime and poor mental health.



Within our statistical neighbours, Dudley has a relatively low proportion of 16 – 18 year olds who are not in education, training or employment. Nationally the Dudley figure of 4.3% lies on the border between the top and second quartiles.

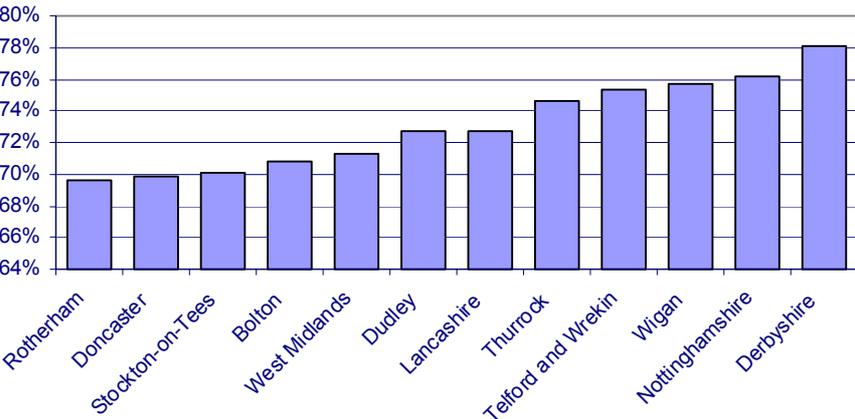
**NI 118 - Take up of formal childcare by low-income working families (%) (2008)  
(linked to take-up of child care)**



Success will be an increase in the numbers benefiting from the childcare element of WTC. Such an increase and an upward trajectory of the childcare element figures will demonstrate that childcare is flexible and affordable for parents and will also ensure that the children from low income/poor families are not deprived of the early education and/or the Extended Schools/formal childcare provision that is enjoyed by more affluent peers and which has a positive impact on outcomes and attainment

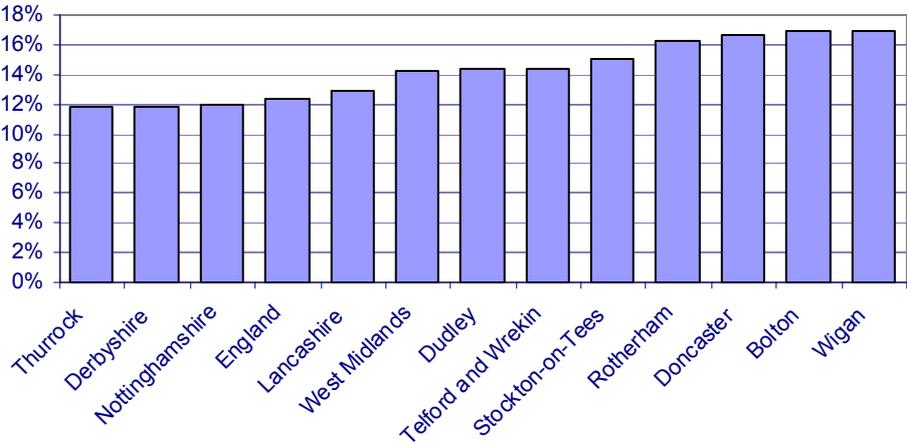
Dudley has a relatively low rate compared to its statistical neighbours with a figure of 13.3%. This is below the threshold of the bottom quartile of 15.7%. However this is based upon data for only 150 local authorities.

**NI 151 - Overall Employment Rate (APS) (%) (Q01 2009) (Linked to parental employment)**



This indicator measures a local area's contribution towards the aspiration to achieve full employment and, in combination with the indicator measuring the numbers of people on out of work benefits (152), helps to measure progress on reducing worklessness. The figure of 72.7% for Dudley is very close to the median value of 73.3%.

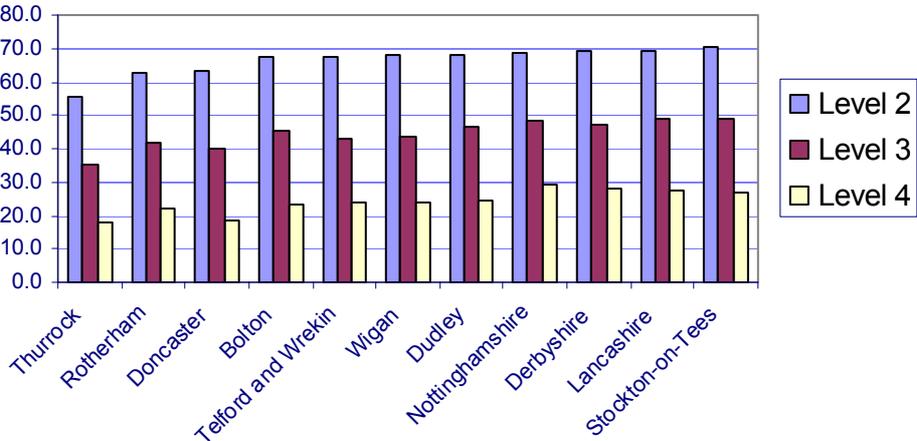
**NI 152 - Working age people on out of work benefits (%) (Q02 2009)**



This indicator measures the percentage of the working age population who are claiming out of work benefits. Working age benefits include the main out-of-work client group categories (unemployed people on Jobseekers Allowance, Lone Parents on Income Support, Incapacity Benefits customers, and others on income-related benefits) and exclude the carer, disabled and bereaved client groups who are not subject to activation policies in the same way as other groups. The working age population is defined as the sum of females aged 16-59 plus males aged 16-64. Data are presented as a rolling average of 4 quarters to account for seasonal variation

Dudley has a rate of 14.4% for NI 152. This is similar to the average amongst the statistical neighbours, but nationally lies within the third quartile.

**NIs 163, 164 and 165 – Proportions of population aged 19-64 for males and 19-59 for females qualified to at least Level 2, 3, 4 or higher (linked to increased skills levels).**



**Qualified to level 2 and above**

People are counted as being qualified to level 2 and above if they have achieved at least either 5 GCSEs grades A\*-C (or equivalent, i.e., O levels, CSE Grade 1s), two A/S levels, or any equivalent or higher qualification in the Qualifications and Credit Framework.

**Qualified to level 3 or above**

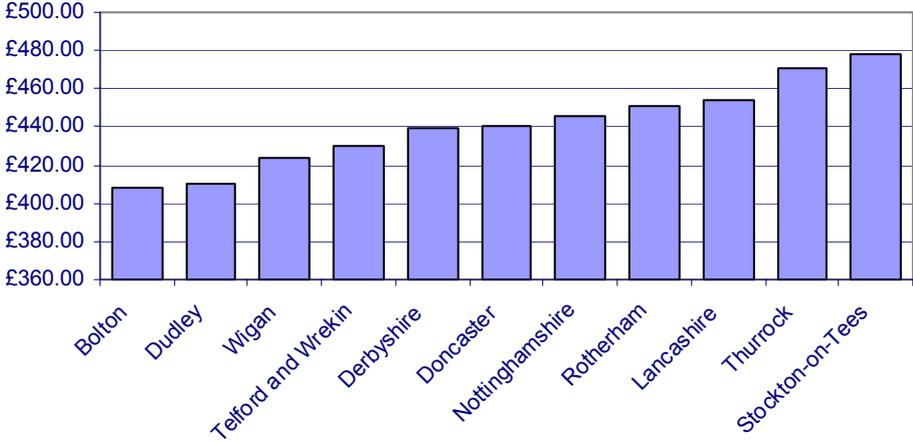
People are counted as being qualified to level 3 or above if they have achieved either at least 2 A-levels grades A-E, 4 A/S levels graded A-E, or any equivalent (or higher) qualification in the Qualifications and Credit Framework.

**Qualified to Level 4 and above**

Holding qualifications equivalent to National Qualifications Framework (NQF) levels 4-8. Level 4-6 qualifications include foundation or first degrees, recognised degree-level professional qualifications, teaching or nursing qualifications, diploma in higher education, HNC/HND or equivalent vocational qualification. Qualifications at level 7-8 include higher degrees, and postgraduate level professional qualifications.

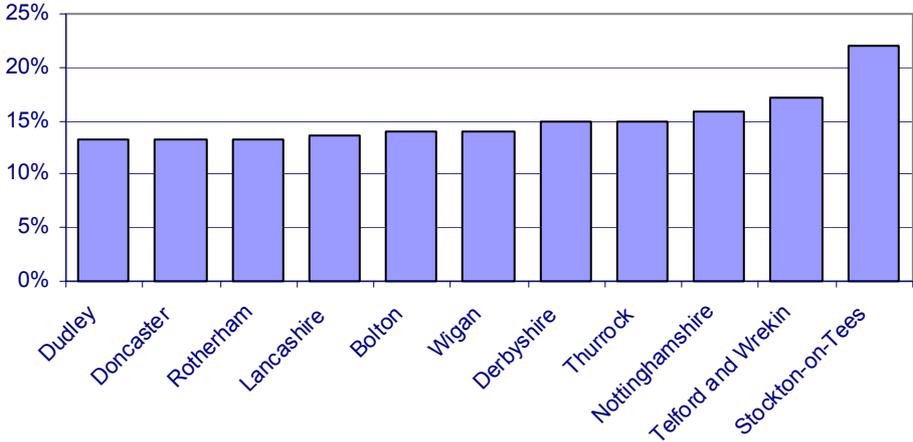
Dudley residents appear to be slightly better qualified than the average for its statistical group. Nearly seven out of ten people are qualified to at least level 2 (68.2%). Approaching half are qualified to level 3 (46.8%) and almost a quarter are qualified to level 4 (24.7%). Nationally, all of these levels are in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quartile, for the 151 authorities reporting.

**NI 166 - Median earnings of employees in the area (Earnings) (2010)**



This indicator of average earnings uses median gross weekly pay of full-time employees on a workplace basis. In April 2010, the figure for Dudley stood at £409.80. This equates to around £21,368 per annum, or about £11 per hour. Dudley employees have long been known to have very low pay rates compared to other areas. In 2009 the figure stood at £399.10, well below the bottom quartile of £430.30.

**NI 174: Skills gaps in the current workforce reported by employers (linked to increased skills levels).**



Skills gaps: skills gaps exist where employers report having employees who are not fully proficient at their job. The source of the data is the National Employer Skills Survey (NESS) commissioned by the Learning and Skills Council (LSC), Department for Innovation, University and Skills (DIUS) and Sector Skills Development Agency (SSDA).

Skills gaps in Dudley are reported to be relatively low. The figure of 13.2% in 2008 was the lowest in the statistical group and above the best quartile level value of 14%.

**NI 187: Tackling fuel poverty – % of people receiving income based benefits living in homes with a low energy efficiency rating**

	Low	High
Doncaster	12.06	16.91
Telford and Wrekin	4.06	19.33
Dudley	3.71	29.46
Lancashire	6.08	34.58
Wigan	5.11	35.04
Nottinghamshire	7.52	35.69
Bolton	5.56	39.29
Rotherham	2.74	41.29
Stockton-on-Tees	0.87	55.59

The indicator measures the proportion of households on income related benefits for whom an energy assessment of their housing has been carried out, living in homes with

- (i) Low energy efficiency - a SAP rating of less than 35
- (ii) High energy efficiency - a SAP rating of 65 or more

The energy efficiency of a house can be measured using the Standard Assessment Procedure (SAP). The procedure calculates a number between 1 and 100. Low numbers generally indicate a house that has low levels of insulation and an inefficient heating system whereas numbers closer to 100 indicate a very energy efficient house. SAP is the Government’s recommended system for energy rating of dwellings. SAP is being used as a proxy for fuel poverty in households of people claiming income based benefits, given the link between income poverty and fuel poverty.

**Fuel poverty** is the requirement to spend more than 10% of household income to maintain an adequate level of warmth and includes non-heating fuel use.

**Adequate level of warmth** follows World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines of 21°C in main living areas and 18°C in other areas.

**Income based benefits** – the sub-population claiming income related benefits include all people claiming at least one of the following; Income Support, Council Tax Benefit, Housing Benefit, Income based Job Seekers Allowance, Pension Credit or Tax Credits (with an income below a certain threshold). Include all households which include someone claiming one of the above.

**Housing** – all households in both private and social sectors.

The survey is based on an annual, random sample SAP survey of households inhabited by people claiming income based benefits.

There are a relatively low proportion of Dudley households with a low or high energy rating.



In Dudley MBC there is a long history of using the Health Related Behaviour Questionnaire (HRBQ) as a tool to give children and young people a voice. The data provided by the biennial surveys provides a wealth of information to inform service planning and helps to measure outcomes for children and young people. The HRBQ has been organised around the five key outcomes for Every Child Matters (ECM) and supports the priorities identified in the Dudley Children and Young People's Plan (DCYPP) which are:

- **Be Healthy** - For all children and young people to have the best start in life and be supported to be as physically, sexually, mentally and emotionally healthy as possible; and encouraged to follow healthy lifestyles.
- **Stay Safe** - For all children and young people to feel safe and protected from bullying and discrimination.
- **Enjoy and achieve** - Achieving stretching national educational standards at primary school and secondary school.
- **Make a positive contribution** - For all children and young people to have the support and take responsibility for engaging in law-abiding and positive behaviour in and out of school and engaging in decision-making and supporting the community and environment.
- **Achieve economic well-being** - Engage in further education, employment or training on leaving school.

The report from which some of the following findings were taken was prepared for Dudley Directorate Children's Services and Dudley NHS Primary Care Trust by Angela Balding and David Regis of the Schools Health Education Unit, Exeter.

### Sample

This biennial survey has been run in Dudley since 1997 and participation has grown throughout the last decade to the point where, in 2010 participation exceeded 90%. Years 5 and 6 in junior schools and years 8 and 10 in senior schools participate and in 2010 the sample size was 12,755. This is an extremely robust sample size and allows for some detailed analysis both by geography and type of need. The sample sub divides quite evenly so that there are more than 3,000 in each year group.

### Comparisons between children who are the most and least affluent

For this exercise, ten primary schools were chosen, five of which had averaged the lowest attainment in the Borough. The other five had averaged the highest attainment over the three year period chosen. The poorer attaining schools all sit within deprived areas of the Borough and conversely, the five higher attaining schools sit within affluent areas.

Primary schools were chosen, as their intake is more discreet than secondary schools. So, we can be more certain that the children live in the area close to the school. This enables us to analyse quality of live by residence rather than by place of education. Care was taken not to include any school whose intake is diverse, for

instance some faith schools take children from a wider geography and in some cases across ward or even Borough boundaries.

This sample elicited 732 responses, evenly split between high and low achieving schools. All the schools in the sample were larger in size, so that the chance of bias was minimised.

Below are some of the findings, highlighting where there are notable differences between children living in affluent areas and children living in deprived areas.

**Percentage of children answering questions from the 2010 Healthy Lifestyles Survey**

Question	Deprived	Affluent
Had no breakfast	21	9
Had no fruit or vegetables	13	6
Has asthma	16	15
Wash hands	89	93
Clean teeth	74	82
Find it easy to be active	87	90
Enjoy activity	79	87
Drink alcohol	17	16
Parents know they drink alcohol	64	79
Smoke cigarettes	9	1
Know a drugs user	19	7
Feel safe playing	80	88
Have been bullied	36	23
Fear going to school because of bullying	32	23
Others fear going to school because of them	9	2
Enjoy lessons	61	67
Happy playing	74	82
Think it important to go to school	93	97
Been absent from school caring for somebody	23	10

For some aspects of life, there is very little difference between affluence and poverty. For instance the survey data suggest that the incidence of having asthma or an accident is no different for the two groups. There are however, suggestions that some aspects of life are quite different for the two groups.

**Healthy Diet**

With regard to a healthy diet, the first two questions asked what the child had eaten before lessons on the day of the survey and how many portions of fruit or vegetables they had eaten on the day before the survey. The percentages represent those that answered that they had had nothing to eat **or drink** before lessons or had not eaten any fruit or vegetables. Studies show that kids who eat a healthy, nutritious breakfast every morning are better able to concentrate, are more energetic, are able to grasp new concepts more easily and typically score better on tests. In one school, over one third of children had not had anything to eat or drink before lessons. It is highly

likely that these children lose concentration and behaviour deteriorates to the point where the whole class is disrupted.

### **Hygiene**

Two questions around personal hygiene are displayed in the table. The first asked if the child had washed their hands before eating lunch, with 93% of the affluent group answering yes compared to 89% of the deprived group. A more notable difference was witnessed with the question about brushing teeth; 82% of the affluent group had brushed their teeth at least twice the previous day, compared to 74% of the deprived group. Not only has research shown that people who learn good habits as children are far more likely to carry them into adulthood, but taking bad habits into adulthood will cause gum disease and this has been linked to all manner of serious conditions including diabetes, strokes, heart disease and low birth weight babies (BBC News website accessed on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2011).

### **Physical Activity**

Questions were asked around whether the child found it easy to be active and if they enjoyed physical activity. Whilst there was very little difference for ease of activity between affluent and deprived groups, in some parts of the Borough the percentage of children that said they found it quite or very easy to exercise fell as low as 71% and this was in a deprived area. When looking at enjoyment of physical activity, the difference is greater between the two groups and fell again to 71% in one area, again deprived in nature. In the UK, around 27 per cent of children are now overweight and research suggests the main problem is a continual reduction in the amount of exercise children take.

### **Substance Misuse**

The percentage of children who said that they do not drink alcohol is virtually the same for both groups. The difference however is when the question is asked as to whether their parents know that they drink, 64% of the deprived group said that their parents/carers always know, compared to 79% of the affluent group. The incidence of smoking is higher in the deprived group, with a high of 22% of year 5 and 6 children having tried cigarettes in one school within a deprived area. The largest difference for this section was with children having knowledge of a drugs user. Children answered that they were fairly certain or sure that they knew one. The high of 37% of children knowing a drug user came from a school in a deprived area.

### **Feeling Safe**

Generally, children feel safe during school playtimes, although the lowest percentage of 66% was witnessed in one school. There is however more of a difference when looking at the incidence of bullying with 23% of the affluent group reporting that they had been bullied at or near school in the last 12 months compared to 36% for the deprived group. This is substantiated by the fear of going to school because of bullying. When the question about others fearing going to school because of them, the percentages were generally low, however in one school, nearly one fifth of pupils reported that this was true. Bullying can affect the emotional well-being of children and young people as well as their achievement in school.

## Enjoying Life

The results about enjoying lessons represented those who answered that they enjoyed all or most of them. Those answering that they often or always enjoyed playing accounted for the results about feeling safe during school playtimes. The vast majority of children think it important to go to school regularly, with a high of 100% compared to a low of 70% witnessed in individual schools. One area certainly worthy of further investigation is the young carers group. In the deprived group, 23% of children had spent some time after school the previous day caring for family or babysitting, compared to 10% of the affluent group. This suggests that some children may be taking on more adult responsibilities at a young age. This ranges from 7% to 36% across the Borough with an average of 16%.

## Substance Misuse amongst Secondary School Pupils

A considerable amount of analysis of secondary school results has been undertaken for the Substance Misuse Issues of Children and Young People in Dudley 2010 Needs Assessment. Some of the main findings are worthy of note here and are displayed in the following table.

Healthy Aspect	Not Drunk in Past 7 Days	Drunk in Past 7 Days	Never Taken Cannabis	Taken Cannabis in the Last Month
Had no breakfast	16%	27%	16%	28%
Had no lunch the previous day	12%	22%	12%	18%
Had no fruit or vegetables the previous day	12%	21%	12%	22%
Has asthma	16%	21%	15%	20%
Had an accident that needed treatment	35%	53%	35%	60%
Had been a victim of violence or aggression	8%	24%	8%	39%
Carry a weapon for protection	7%	26%	7%	40%
Think it important to go to school regularly	86%	69%	86%	63%
Had been absent from school caring for somebody	11%	23%	11%	27%
Satisfied with their life	82%	73%	82%	69%

As with the primary school results, some cross analysis has taken place to ascertain the effects of substance misuse upon the quality of life of our secondary school pupils. Analysis by geographic area is much more problematic as intakes for different schools vary considerably. What the data does tell us however is that substance misuse brings with it a whole host of other problems. There is strong evidence that this is linked to areas of deprivation and the most noticeable effects are upon the vulnerability of these children. Substances misusing young people are far more likely to have had an accident, been a victim of aggression or violence and carry a weapon for protection. The saddest statistics to come out of the secondary results are for the outcomes of young carers. Not only are they more likely to be misusing substances, maybe as a coping mechanism, but they are far more likely to be bullied. Quite simply, enjoyment of life and its outcomes are diminished.



**Road Safety** – Don McDougall Dudley MBC

**Crime Data** – Deborah Wright Community Safety

**Health Statistics** – Angela Moss Dudley PCT

**Teenage Pregnancy** – Rachel Allen Dudley MBC

**Children in Need** – Stephen Bridgwater Dudley MBC

**Educational Attainment** – Andrew Kinsella Dudley MBC

**Economic Data** – Wayne Dutton Dudley MBC

**Geographical Analysis** – Neil Langford and Clair Blunn Dudley MBC

**Substance Misuse of Young People** – Audrey Heer Dudley MBC

**Benefits Data** – Sharon Whale Dudley MBC

**Absence Data** – Keith Bates and Robin Finney Dudley MBC