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A REPORT TO SUFFOLK COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

University of Suffolk

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**SUFFOLK**  
Community  
Foundation

Established in 2005, Suffolk Community Foundation is an independent, grantmaking charity. As the central platform for philanthropy in the county, we are part of a national network of community foundations whose aim is to improve the quality of life for local residents by encouraging local giving.

Over the past decade, the Foundation has become a major funder to Suffolk's voluntary and community sector. From providing funding to support a handful of community groups in 2005, we have now helped more than 2,500 local charities and community groups since our creation.



## Hidden Needs in Suffolk Five Years On (2011-2016)

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# Hidden Needs: Foreword from Suffolk Community Foundation



**SUFFOLK**  
Community  
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When our first Hidden Needs report was published in 2011, we anticipated that it would have a significant influence

on our ability to prioritise and direct our grant making towards the most pressing needs that our communities face. We also hoped that it would present a compelling case to help us develop and channel local philanthropy towards local issues. Looking back over the past five years, it is heartening to see that those ambitions have been rewarded.

The concept of 'hidden need', whereby affluence conceals deprivation is now widely understood, and yet, when first published, Hidden Needs created a stir. Shining a light on issues such as child poverty caused discomfort for some and disbelief for others. Today, we have moved on; we even have a countywide Poverty Strategy Group, made up of public and voluntary sector representatives, tasked with informing, educating and coordinating initiatives to tackle this injustice.

The call to revisit this work five years on has been universal. For the voluntary sector it has provided much needed evidence to support their work, helping raise valuable revenue from national funders, who are often unaware that Suffolk hosts the deprivation levels that it does. Perhaps surprisingly, the loudest call has come from the public sector who value the independent nature of the evidence and conciseness of the message. Against a challenging subject, the Hidden Needs report provides us all with sufficient accessible information that allows for more honest conversation, informed decision making and better leadership.

So how has Suffolk fared over the past five years? Well, it is a mixed report. Overall, Suffolk's deprivation levels have continued to rise with nearly half of our neighbourhoods becoming more deprived since 2010. As a county, we are facing increased pressure from an ageing population and a low birth rate. And although unemployment rates are low, so too are income levels, which remain below regional and national averages.

But there is optimism too. In 2011, the Hidden Needs report brought to local attention the findings of the Marmot Review (2011) which stated that Suffolk was amongst the worst scoring authorities, with more than 50% of five year olds not reaching a 'good' level of development. It went on to say that this placed the county in the company of many highly-deprived inner-city areas with similar weak outcomes on early childhood development. This poor start in life knocks onto a child's development at school and, as we know, Suffolk has underperformed in that area over the years too (probably as a consequence). With this research, we can report that data from the Department of Education suggests that there has been a significant improvement in Early Years provision with the county now reaching a 'good level of child development'. The county is now achieving comparable results with the Eastern region and England as a whole - an encouraging turnaround and an achievement that should go on to help improve school attainment in the coming years.

As a funder to the voluntary sector, we witness daily the challenges that our local charities and community groups face. On the one hand, the demand for their services continue to increase and on the other, public sector budget cuts simply mean that there is less money available 'in the system' to support these services. Trusts and Foundations are stepping in to breach this financial shortfall but it will only go so far; consequently there is a real danger and increasing evidence that our voluntary sector is shrinking at a time when it is most needed. Given the type of sustained deprivation that we have, the risk

for increasing unmet need and the distinct complexity of Suffolk's neighbourhoods, our voluntary sector has an essential role to play as we move forward. It remains a priority that we treasure this precious resource and direct our support to protect it.

Hidden Needs 2016 is accompanied by interactive online maps, allowing for further in-depth analysis of Suffolk's neighbourhoods. For further details, see page 8.

Finally, we would like to thank Professor Noel Smith, Dr Cristian Dogaru and the University of Suffolk for their commitment and meticulous input into producing this research. It is so exciting that Suffolk now has its own independent university, a key component in raising Suffolk's aspirations and achievements.

Stephen Singleton  
Chief Executive  
August 2016

Against a challenging subject, the Hidden Needs report provides us all with sufficient accessible information that allows for more honest conversation, informed decision making and better leadership.



# Executive Summary

Suffolk Community Foundation's first Hidden Needs report challenged assumptions which stereotyped Suffolk as a generally prosperous part of the UK. In particular, it contested popular notions that deprivation and disadvantage are problems of inner city areas and large housing estates. 'Hidden Needs 2016' revisits the original analysis five years on and makes the following findings:

- **Over 83,000 people in Suffolk live in income deprivation at the most minimal standard provided by welfare benefits.**

– an increase of around 5,000 people over the last five years. This represents 12 per cent of the county's population and includes nearly 20,000 children and 25,000 older people.

- **Deprivation goes beyond income and includes other forms of disadvantage.**

Suffolk, on average, has lower rates of multiple deprivation than England but it includes some of the country's most deprived neighbourhoods. Over 14 per cent of neighbourhoods in Ipswich and 12 per cent in Waveney are ranked among the most deprived 10 per cent in England.

- **There is a long term trend of increasing deprivation in Suffolk with 47 per cent of neighbourhoods becoming more deprived since 2010.**

Over the same period, only three other local authorities across England have worsened more than Suffolk (Derby, South Tyneside and Westminster). This downward trend suggests that it will become harder to increase and target resources to those most in need.

- **As the first Hidden Needs reported, county and district level statistics can obscure levels of deprivation in rural areas.**

While disadvantage is concentrated in and around towns in Suffolk, 28 per cent of income deprived people live in rural areas. Most rural neighbourhoods include people in poverty – this includes neighbourhoods ranked among the most

advantaged in England. With the additional costs associated with living in rural areas, and in the context of austerity, individuals in these households face particular risks.

- **Growth of Suffolk's population is slowing down compared to the rest of the East of England and the UK.**

The population is also growing progressively older: the proportion of younger people is declining and the proportion of pensioners increasing. This has long term implications: older people have greater demand of public services, and the relative proportion of people in employment to those in retirement will impact on Suffolk's overall economy.

- **International immigration into Suffolk has fallen and remains low.**

Migration into Suffolk by people from elsewhere in the UK is much more common. Only about 1 in 12 working-age migrants to the county are from overseas.

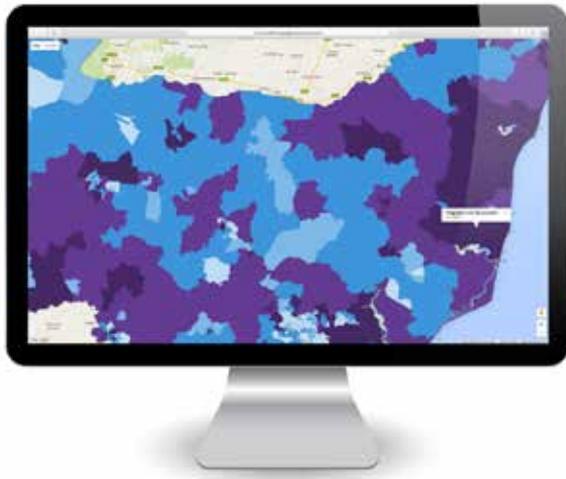
- **In 2016, the government introduced a new Social Mobility Index designed to estimate how a disadvantaged background affects a person's life chances at school and thereafter in the workplace.**

The index suggests that there is marked inequality of opportunity for children and young people across Suffolk. Ipswich, Waveney, Babergh and Forest Heath are placed in the least socially mobile 20 per cent of districts in England. Mid Suffolk is placed among the most socially mobile 20 per cent.

- **Suffolk is home to almost 20,000 children living in income deprivation** and children and young people's life chances are significantly different depending on where they live.
- **All districts include children living in income deprived households.** Half of all the county's income deprived children live in Ipswich and Waveney, especially Lowestoft and Kessingland. In 2015, 11 per cent of Suffolk neighbourhoods were ranked among the 20 per cent most deprived in England on this measure, up from 9 per cent in 2010.
- **There has been strong improvement in child development in Suffolk.** In 2010, the rate of children achieving a 'good' level of development at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage was one of the worst in the country. By 2015, however, rates for this in Suffolk were comparable to those in England.
- **One of the sharpest increases in deprivation relates to educational outcomes.** This includes GCSE results, and Suffolk falls behind the Eastern region and England in the proportion of children achieving five A\*-C grades. Children from poor households fare worst. Only 33 per cent of children eligible for free school meals attained five good grades compared with 70 per cent of pupils overall.
- **A long standing challenge facing Suffolk is the relatively low educational status of its adult population.** However, figures for 2016 show that 36 per cent of young people in Suffolk progress to higher education - comparable to rates in the region and England.
- **The first Hidden Needs report found that 7 per cent of young people in the county do not progress to any formal education, training or work.** This group faces extreme risk of disadvantage as they enter adulthood. Five years on, this has changed little (to 6 per cent) and Suffolk is lagging behind the region and England, where the reduction in young people in this situation has been faster.
- **Compared regionally and nationally, fewer people in Suffolk work in managerial and professional jobs and more are employed in less skilled and elementary occupations.** Average wages in Suffolk are lower than average wages in England. The combination of low pay and limited opportunity for career progression fuels sustained in-work poverty and can represent an obstacle for social mobility.
- **Compared with the rest of England, Suffolk fares well on measures of health deprivation: over half of neighbourhoods were ranked in the least deprived 40 per cent.** But this is also a measure where there has been marked decline: over half of neighbourhoods in Suffolk were ranked as being more deprived in 2015 than in 2010. From a low recorded disability rate a decade ago, compared regionally and nationally, the county now has a greater proportion of working-age adults with a disability. This raises the prospect of increasing medical and support needs at a time when health and social care services are already hard pressed.
- **Older people in Suffolk enjoy relatively good health.** A greater proportion of older people say that they are in good health compared with those in the region and England, and fewer defined themselves as being in bad health.
- **Suffolk depends on older carers.** The county has over 26,000 older people providing 20 hours or more unpaid care a week, and about 17,000 provide at least 50 hours of care.
- **In terms of income deprivation affecting older people, over 40 per cent of Suffolk's most deprived neighbourhoods have seen some improvement.** Income deprivation for older people is concentrated in or near urban hubs. However, older people are over represented among the rural poor. That is, while 30 per cent of all income deprived in Suffolk are older people, in rural areas this increases to 39 per cent.

# How to use the interactive maps

Most of the maps in this report are interactive. You will notice a webpage address in the caption of these maps.



You can access the maps either by entering the webpage address in your internet browser, or by using a QR Code reader app on your smartphone/tablet, pointed at the QR Code presented with each map.



The maps allow you to zoom in to specific neighbourhoods in Suffolk. Clicking on these areas will provide further information about these neighbourhoods.

Each pop-out window will give the name of the ward and then a breakdown of information for each Lower Layer Super Output Area (LSOA) which allows for better area comparison. Each ward may have more than one LSOA and therefore more than one set of data on the map.

A ward is an electoral district represented by one or more councillors. Each ward/division has an average electorate of about 5,500 but ward-population counts can vary substantially.

A Lower Layer Super Output Area is a geographical area encompassing 1,500 people, made up of an average of 600 households.





*The first Hidden Needs report, published in 2011, challenged assumptions which stereotyped Suffolk as a prosperous rural county with little of the type of deprivation associated with large urban areas. Through careful analysis of statistical data, it showed that, while many households in the county enjoy advantageous circumstances compared to those elsewhere in England, others face significant disadvantage and unmet need. Five years on, the recent publication of the updated Index of Multiple Deprivation has prompted a timely review of the original analysis.*

## Introduction: Hidden Needs five years on (2011-2016)

**The original report presented a complex picture of deprivation both concentrated in Suffolk's urban centres and also dispersed across rural areas.**

Five years on, analysis highlights Suffolk as a place with, for example, a relatively healthy population, a clean and safe environment, good care for the very young and economic stability for older people. Overall, deprivation in Suffolk continues to be less than in England. But the new analysis also shows that the same, complex picture of deprivation remains and, in some cases, has increased. Deprivation in disadvantaged neighbourhoods has not improved, more advantaged neighbourhoods have become less advantaged, wages are low, educational achievement is lagging behind the region, opportunities for progression for young people are hampered, and the county's progressively ageing population may have serious long term implications.

### Objectives

In 2011, Suffolk Community Foundation commissioned the University of Cambridge to undertake its first Hidden Needs report. The last decade – since the 2007 'credit crunch' – has been a period of unprecedented political and economic change in the UK. The original analysis reflects the context of the early period of these changes. Since then, data from the 2011 Census has become available and in 2015 an updated Index of Multiple Deprivation was released. Given both the period of fundamental change in public services and the availability of 'fresh' data, the Foundation commissioned the University of Suffolk to update the original work.

The overarching aim of this exercise is to help the Foundation and its partners take an evidence-based approach to improving the lives of Suffolk residents. It seeks to inform awareness of the extent, type and distribution of need and deprivation in the county, in a way that reflects:

- the varying incidence of deprivation between districts in the county;
- that disadvantage is in some places highly concentrated and localised within particular neighbourhoods of the county's towns;
- that many deprived individuals and households live in advantaged neighbourhoods, and may find it more difficult to gain access to support and services;
- the implications of the largely rural character of the county for analysing deprivation.

The topics addressed reflect the focus of the Foundation's activities. Therefore, for example, there is more attention to issues relating to children, families, disability and older people than to, for example, housing and crime, since the former are at the centre of the Foundation's grantmaking programme. This does not imply that issues that are treated less fully are considered less important dimensions of deprivation as a whole.

## Research methods

Using the 2015 Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD), the 2011 Census and a range of other data sources (listed in the appendix) analysis in Hidden Needs 2016 looks mainly at:

- changes between 2011 and 2015;

## Definitions

An important aspect of continuity between the first report and Hidden Needs 2016 is the focus on the same concepts of disadvantage and need. These remain as relevant today as they were in 2011.

### **Disadvantage, poverty and deprivation**

Disadvantage is understood as the position of those on the sharp end of the unequal distribution of material resources and power in society. Deprivation, in turn, is understood as having to go without the material resources, services or opportunities that are commonly considered the basic standard of a 'decent' life, because a lack of income, wealth or intangible resources like education inhibit access to them.

There are different ways of defining minimum incomes and basic material needs. The lowest minimum standard in Britain is that set by the welfare system, which allows around £73 per week for a single adult aged over 25, or £115 for a couple without children, plus housing costs. An alternative approach is to set a 'poverty line' relative to average incomes: a standard poverty line of this sort is 60 per cent of the national median (middle value) of income. This sort of standard sees poverty as reflecting inequality, not just failure to secure basic subsistence.

In this report, poverty is considered in terms of 'income deprivation' which is based on numbers of people claiming means-tested welfare benefits. This measure is used in the IMD and can be calculated for small areas and used to identify pockets of deprivation. While this measure enables consistent and detailed analysis, it is likely that it will not count many households and individuals who by other standards would be considered to be living in poverty.

- variation between Suffolk, the Eastern region and England; and
- variation between different districts and neighbourhoods in Suffolk.

### **Need**

One of the successes of the first Hidden Needs report was the wider understanding of 'need' which was formulated through consultation with specific population sub-groups. This report continues to define 'need' as:

- material want or income poverty;
- loneliness or social isolation;
- lack of access or limited access to services and opportunities.

Need may be experienced by individuals, communities, areas, businesses or sectors of the economy. For the purposes of this report, need is taken as arising from a condition or state of a household or person which means that it is hard to secure the basic necessities without external support. It thus reflects both the condition - which might be physical or mental ill health, caring responsibilities and so forth - and the disadvantage which means that the need cannot be met from private resources.

### **'Hidden Needs'**

A particular focus of the study is on 'hidden need', meaning:

- forms of deprivation or need that are not widely recognised or addressed;
- types of deprivation that are not recorded using the methods that are normally used to measure deprivation;
- aspects of deprivation that are difficult to locate geographically.

Over 83,000 people in Suffolk live in income deprivation – an increase of around 5,000 people over the last five years.

# Suffolk: a changing population

*Suffolk's needs reflect the profile of its population. This section introduces Suffolk's districts and considers the county's changing population, including the impact of immigration. Following long term trends Suffolk continues to become older, with a declining proportion of young people – although some districts buck these trends.*

Figure 1. Map of Suffolk, its districts and larger towns



## Suffolk and its districts

Suffolk is a non-metropolitan county bordered by Norfolk to the North, Cambridgeshire to the West and Essex to the South. It is divided into seven local authority districts: Babergh, Forest Heath, Ipswich, Mid Suffolk, St Edmundsbury, Suffolk Coastal and Waveney. The map above (Figure 1) shows the district boundaries and major towns. Throughout this report the 'East of England' refers to the region used in official statistics, which includes the counties of Bedfordshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Suffolk and Norfolk.

Suffolk's urban centres include: Ipswich; Felixstowe and Woodbridge in Suffolk Coastal; Lowestoft and Beccles in Waveney; Stowmarket in Mid Suffolk; Bury St Edmunds and Haverhill in St Edmundsbury; Mildenhall and Newmarket in Forest Heath; and Sudbury in Babergh.

Growth of Suffolk's population is slowing down compared to the rest of the East of England and the UK. The population is also growing progressively older.

Table 1. Estimated total population nationally, regionally and by district

Source: ONS, Population Estimates. Percentages rounded to one decimal place.

England	54,316,618
East	6,018,383
Suffolk	738,512
Babergh	88,845 (12.0%)
Forest Heath	62,812 (8.5%)
Ipswich	134,966 (18.3%)
Mid Suffolk	99,121 (13.4%)
St Edmundsbury	112,073 (15.2%)
Suffolk Coastal	124,776 (16.9%)
Waveney	115,919 (15.7%)

### Population growth and change

In 2014, the county's population stood at about 738,500.

As Table 1 shows, Forest Heath is the smallest district in terms of population and Ipswich is the biggest.





Suffolk's population is growing, but more slowly than regional and national trends. The first Hidden Needs report found between 2001 and 2009, Suffolk's population was growing at about the same rate as the East of England and faster than population growth in England. However, since 2009 the rate of growth in Suffolk has slowed down and the county's population has increased by only around 3 per cent compared with 4 per cent for England and 5 per cent for the East.

Across Suffolk's districts, population changes have been very different. For example, Waveney, Babergh and Suffolk Coastal are growing particularly slowly. Waveney's population increased by less than 1 per cent between 2004 and 2014 compared with over 9 per cent for the region. In contrast, Ipswich, Mid Suffolk, St Edmundsbury

and Forest Heath (with growth around 10-11 per cent) are growing faster than average for England.

Over time, Suffolk's population is becoming progressively older. This raises important issues in terms of need in Suffolk. Older people are likely to require greater access than others to particular services. Moreover, the relative proportion of economically active to economically inactive citizens will impact on the overall economy of the county. Suffolk's changing age profile is the consequence of two dynamics. On the one hand, the proportion of children and working age adults is steadily declining. On the other hand, the proportion of the population aged 65 and over is steadily increasing. Although to a degree this reflects national trends, these trends are played out in a more extreme form in Suffolk.

Figure 2. Population change age 0 to 15: as a percentage of general population

Source: ONS, Population Estimates

### Aged 0 to 15 years

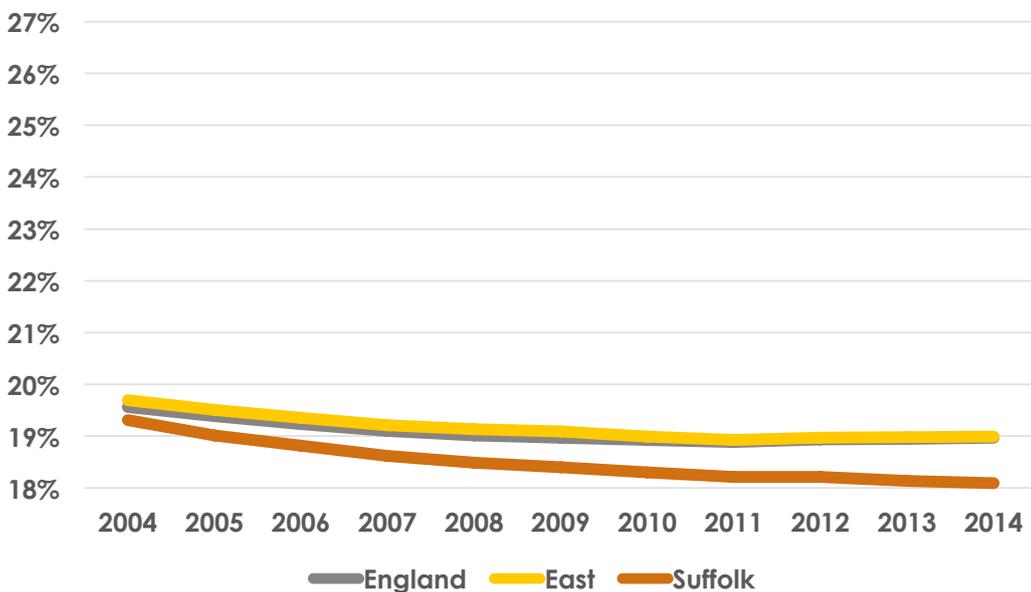
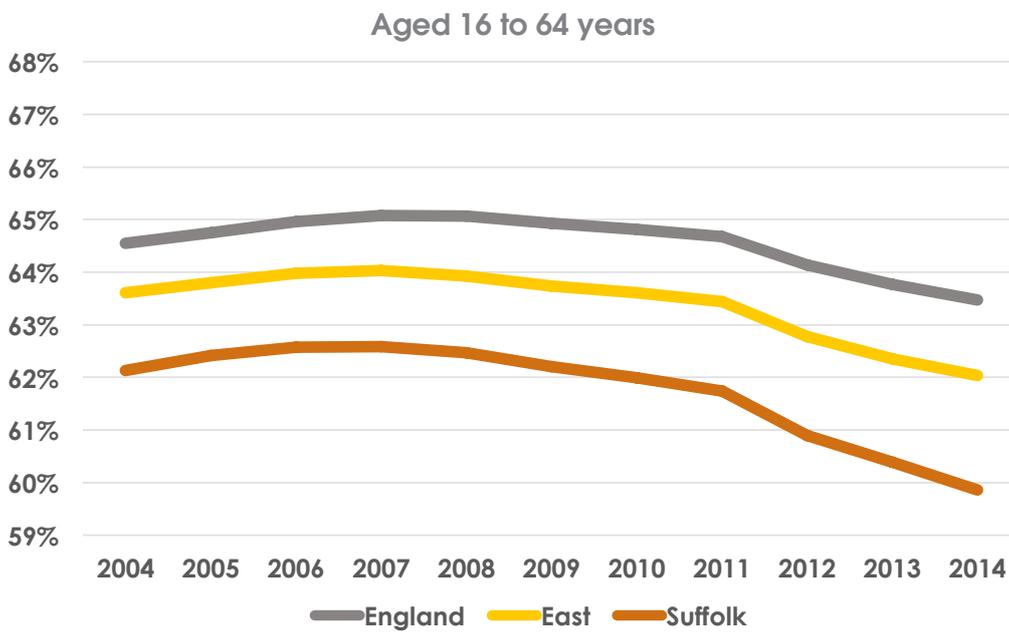




Figure 3. Population change age 16 to 64: as a percentage of general population

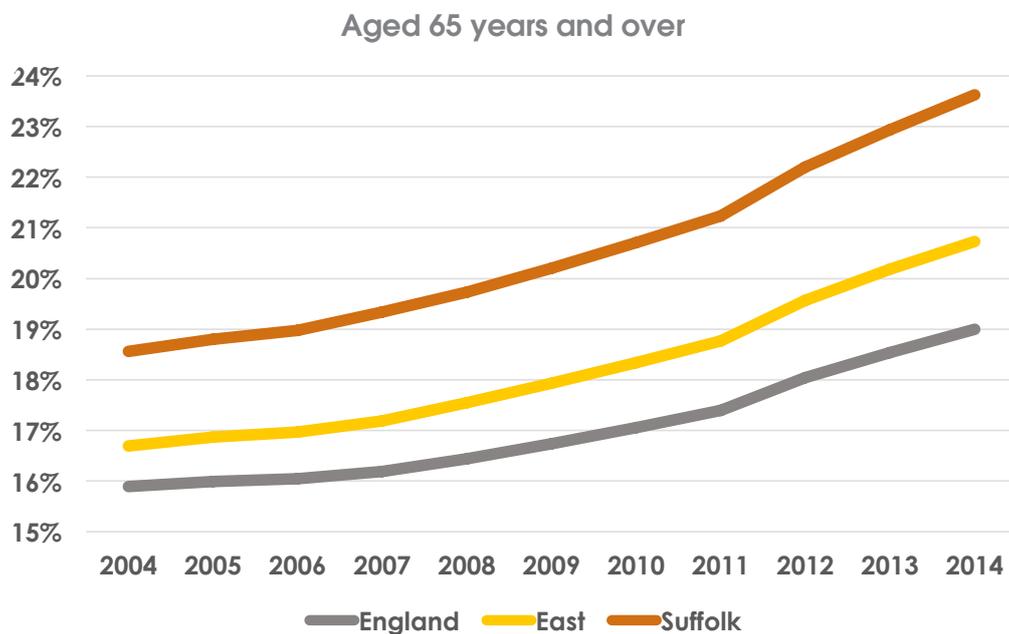
Source: ONS, Population Estimates



↓  
A DECREASE  
IN THE  
PROPORTION  
WORKING  
AGE

Figure 4. Population change age over 65: as a percentage of general population

Source: ONS, Population Estimates



↑  
SUFFOLK'S  
POPULATION  
IS BECOMING  
PROGRESSIVELY  
OLDER

# Suffolk's population is growing, but more slowly than regional and national trends.

Table 2 shows that the decrease in the proportion of children (1.2 per cent) in Suffolk has been twice that of England (0.6 per cent). Similarly, the proportion of working age adults has decreased at twice the rate as that for England (2.3 compared with 1.1 per cent). At the same time, the increase in the proportion of older people in the county is twice that for England (3.5 per cent compared with 1.7 for England). Variation across Suffolk

is considerable. Mid Suffolk has seen the sharpest fall in the proportion of children (1.9 per cent) and the biggest increase in the proportion of older people (7.3 per cent). In contrast, Ipswich's population of children has declined less than in other districts, the proportion of working age adults has increased, and the increase in older people is smaller than elsewhere.

Table 2. Changes in the proportion of age groups in Suffolk districts 2004-2014

Source: ONS, Population Estimates. Percentages rounded to one decimal place.

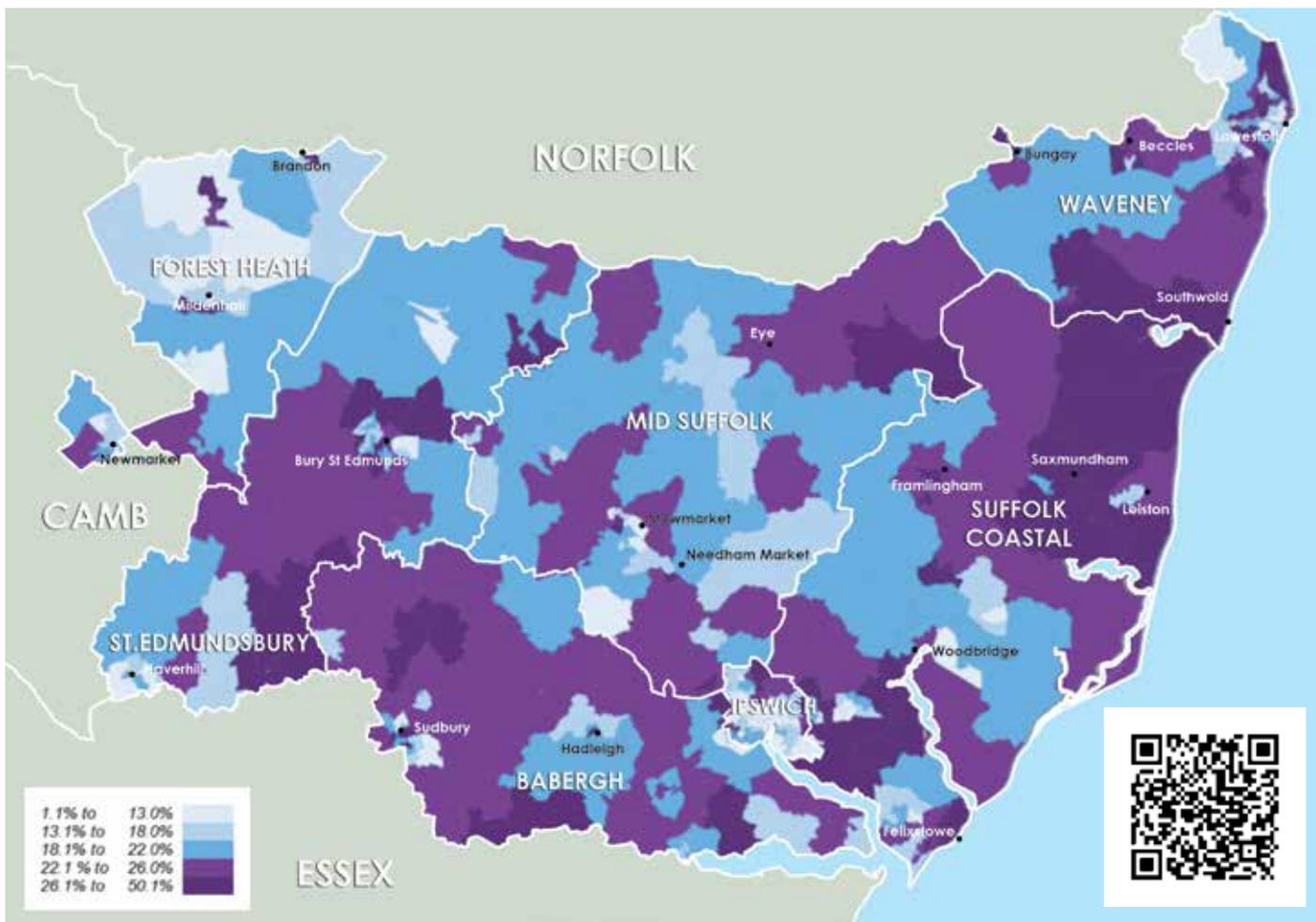
	Age 0 to 15	Age 16 to 64	Age over 65
England	-0.6%	-1.1%	1.7%
East	-0.7%	-1.6%	2.3%
Suffolk	-1.2%	-2.3%	3.5%
Babergh	-1.8%	-3.8%	6.6%
Forest Heath	0.3%	-2.7%	4.1%
Ipswich	-0.4%	0.7%	1.6%
Mid Suffolk	-1.9%	-2.9%	7.3%
St Edmundsbury	-1.2%	-3.1%	6.3%
Suffolk Coastal	-1.7%	-2.9%	6.0%
Waveney	-1.5%	-2.6%	4.4%

Overall, Ipswich and Forest Heath stand out as the more youthful centres of Suffolk. In Ipswich, this would have been helped by the presence of the university in the town. In other districts, there are a number of neighbourhoods with particularly high concentrations of older people. Figure 5 shows the concentration of people 65 years of age and older in Suffolk. Although Mid Suffolk has seen the biggest increase in the proportion of older people between 2004 and 2014, Suffolk Coastal and Waveney have bigger proportions of older people. Across these districts there are a number of neighbourhoods where

over a quarter of the population is aged 65 or over, including areas east of Ipswich around Nacton and Martlesham and large areas near the coast between Aldeburgh and Southwold. Although St Edmundsbury does not, as a district, have one of the largest proportions of older people it nevertheless includes pockets with high concentrations of older people, such as north of Bury St Edmunds and neighbourhoods in the south of the district, between Clare and Hawkedon and around Bridge Street and Lavenham.

Figure 5. Concentration of people over 65 years of age (Census 2011)

Source: Census 2011



An interactive map can be found at <http://tiny.cc/Suffolk-over-65>

Overall, Ipswich and Forest Heath stand out as the more youthful centres of Suffolk. In Ipswich, this would have been helped by the presence of the university in the town.

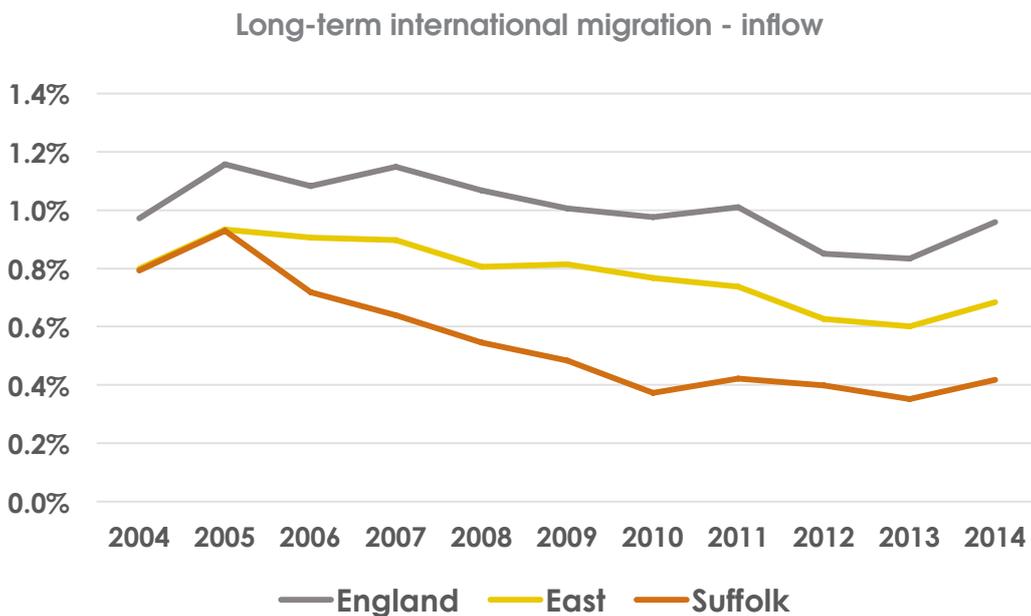
## Migration

Assessing the implications of migration is complex and, in the light of Brexit, uncertain as the country moves forward. Migrants can increase demand on local resources in terms of housing and public services, but this must be considered alongside migrants' potential contribution to the local economy in terms of supplying labour to businesses, paying taxes, consuming goods and so forth. In Suffolk, inward migration of younger people carries the prospect over time of helping to balance the county's ageing population.

The first Hidden Needs report suggested that international immigration into Suffolk had a significant impact on the county's population. However, over the decade, the rate of international immigration has fallen and has remained consistently lower than for the Eastern region, which in turn is lower than the rate for England. This means that, for the county as a whole, the impact of international immigration on population growth and age profile is limited.

Figure 6. Ten year trend: percentage of estimated population who are international immigrants

Source: ONS International Migration



↓  
OVER THE LAST  
10 YEARS  
THE ANNUAL  
INTERNATIONAL  
MIGRATION TO  
SUFFOLK HAS  
FALLEN

Within Suffolk, there is a distinct pattern of destinations for international migrants. Our analysis of the allocation of National Insurance Numbers to adults entering the UK shows that, consistently over the decade, Ipswich is the most common destination in Suffolk for international migrants, followed by Forest Heath, St Edmundsbury and Suffolk Coastal. For Ipswich, Forest Heath and St Edmundsbury, greater immigration can be associated with the younger, faster growing districts.

In fact, most inward migration to Suffolk is domestic migration. Over 90 per cent of working-age adults moving in to the county are from other areas of the UK. Among older people 95 per cent of migrants are from elsewhere in the UK. Inward migration predominantly involves working age people, which is helpful in the context of an ageing population.

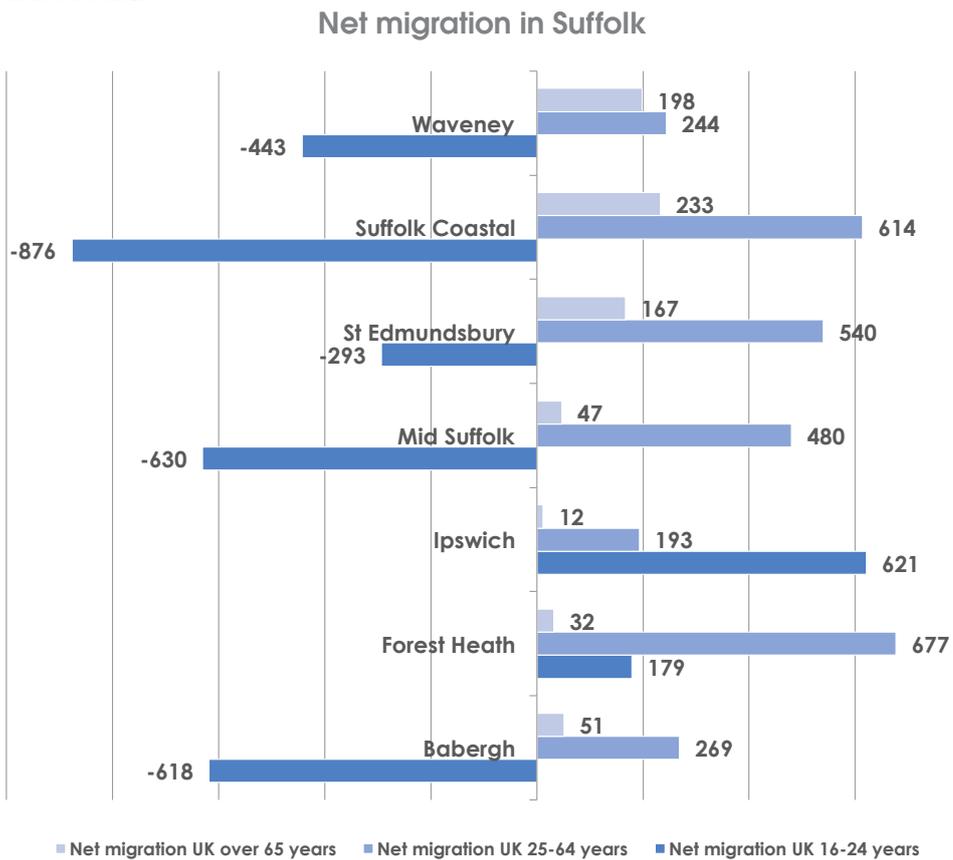
While the number of incomers to Suffolk is offset to a degree by the numbers leaving the county, it is still the case that more people migrate into the county than

leave. For working age people, on average across districts, for every 1 person who leaves, 2.3 move into Suffolk. As Figure 7 shows, there is variation across districts. In most districts, more young people aged 16-24 leave districts than move into districts. In contrast, in Forest Heath and Ipswich, the biggest increase from migration is by the 16-24 age group.

Among older people there is even higher inward migration relative to outward migration. For every 1 older person who leaves Suffolk, 2.7 older people move into county. Waveney, St Edmundsbury and Suffolk Coastal have the greatest net growth in older migrants. Mid Suffolk and Babergh have lower net growth – with a ratio as low as 1:2 in Mid Suffolk. This is interesting because Mid Suffolk and Babergh have also seen a bigger proportional increase in older people compared with other districts so it would seem that this has not been driven by inward migration but by an ageing indigenous population.

Figure 7. Net migration: difference between inflow and outflow, by age group

Source: Census 2011



**16-24**  
 YEAR OLDS -  
 LARGEST AGE  
 GROUP  
 MIGRATING  
 INTO IPSWICH  
 & FOREST H.

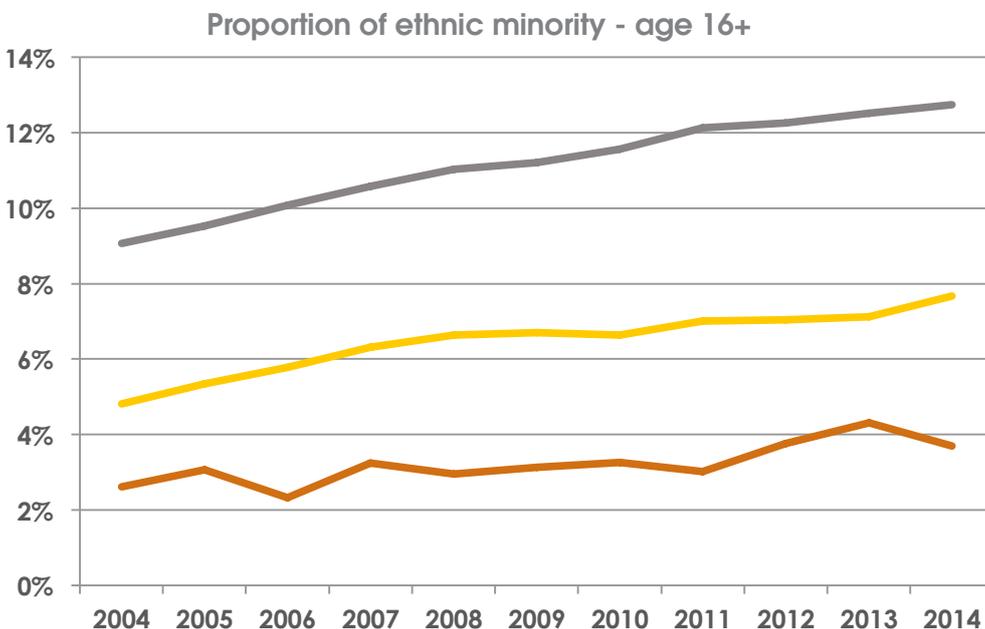
### Ethnicity

The lower rate of international migration into Suffolk is reflected by the ethnic composition of the county. Suffolk is less ethnically diverse than the region or England generally. Over 95 per cent of the population is white, compared with 90 per cent in the East and 85 per cent in England. Ipswich and Forest Heath, the most common destination of international migrants in Suffolk are also the most diverse

districts in the county – but even these have a lower proportion of non-white people than in England overall. Figure 8 shows that the proportion of the black and minority ethnic population has changed little in Suffolk over the last decade while, by contrast, in the region and in England generally there has been a steady increase.

Figure 8. Black and ethnic minority population age 16 and over

Source: Annual Population Survey



↓  
 SUFFOLK IS LESS  
 ETHNICALLY  
 DIVERSE THAN  
 THE REGION  
 OR ENGLAND

— England  
 — East  
 — Suffolk

*Suffolk, overall, has lower rates of multiple deprivation than England but it includes some of the country's most deprived neighbourhoods. There has been a long term trend of increasing relative deprivation in the county – often meaning that more deprived neighbourhoods are not improving and that more advantaged neighbourhoods are becoming less advantaged.*



## Key deprivation measures

### About the Index of Multiple Deprivation

The first Hidden Needs report examined deprivation rates in Suffolk using the 2010 Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD). This report revisits this analysis using the 2015 IMD. The IMD is produced at intervals by the Government to rank over 32,000 neighbourhoods across England in terms of their relative deprivation. Deprivation is measured using 37 indicators across seven domains.

#### THE SEVEN DOMAINS ARE:

- **Income deprivation**
- **Employment deprivation**
- **Health deprivation and disability**
- **Education, skills and training deprivation**
- **Crime**
- **Barriers to housing and services**
- **Living environment deprivation**

Statistics about the ranking of neighbourhoods are published for each of these domains. In addition, an overall deprivation ranking is also calculated based on all the domains. Results for each domain are based on other statistical datasets. This means that there is a lag between the time when the information for these datasets is collected and the publication of the IMD. For example, most indicators in 2015 IMD relate to the year 2012/13.

'Neighbourhoods' in the IMD are represented by 'Lower Layer Super Output Areas', a geographical area encompassing about 1,500 people. The IMD gives every neighbourhood a score and a ranking. This means that the IMD gives absolute statistics for neighbourhoods, e.g. how many people in a particular neighbourhood experience income deprivation. It also gives the relative ranking of neighbourhoods. For example, a neighbourhood is said to be 'in the 10 per cent most income deprived in England' if the proportion of its population experiencing income deprivation is among the highest 10 per cent in England.

## IMD results for Suffolk

Suffolk has 441 neighbourhoods; of those 21 are among the 10 per cent most deprived in England and these are all found in Ipswich and Waveney. Kirkley ward in Waveney includes the 10th most deprived neighbourhood in England. Some 52 neighbourhoods are among the 20 per cent most deprived.

Suffolk experiences less deprivation than other areas of England. For example, if deprivation was evenly distributed, we would expect to see 10 per cent of Suffolk's neighbourhoods among the 10 per cent most deprived in England, and 50 per cent of its neighbourhoods in the least deprived 50 per cent in England. In Suffolk, though, around 5 per cent of neighbourhoods are among the 10 per cent most deprived and over 58 per cent of are among the least deprived 50 per cent. Clearly, however, individuals in deprived neighbourhoods can experience profound hardship and disadvantage. Furthermore, being disadvantaged in an otherwise affluent area potentially compounds that disadvantage if it means that resources and appropriate opportunities are not targeted to

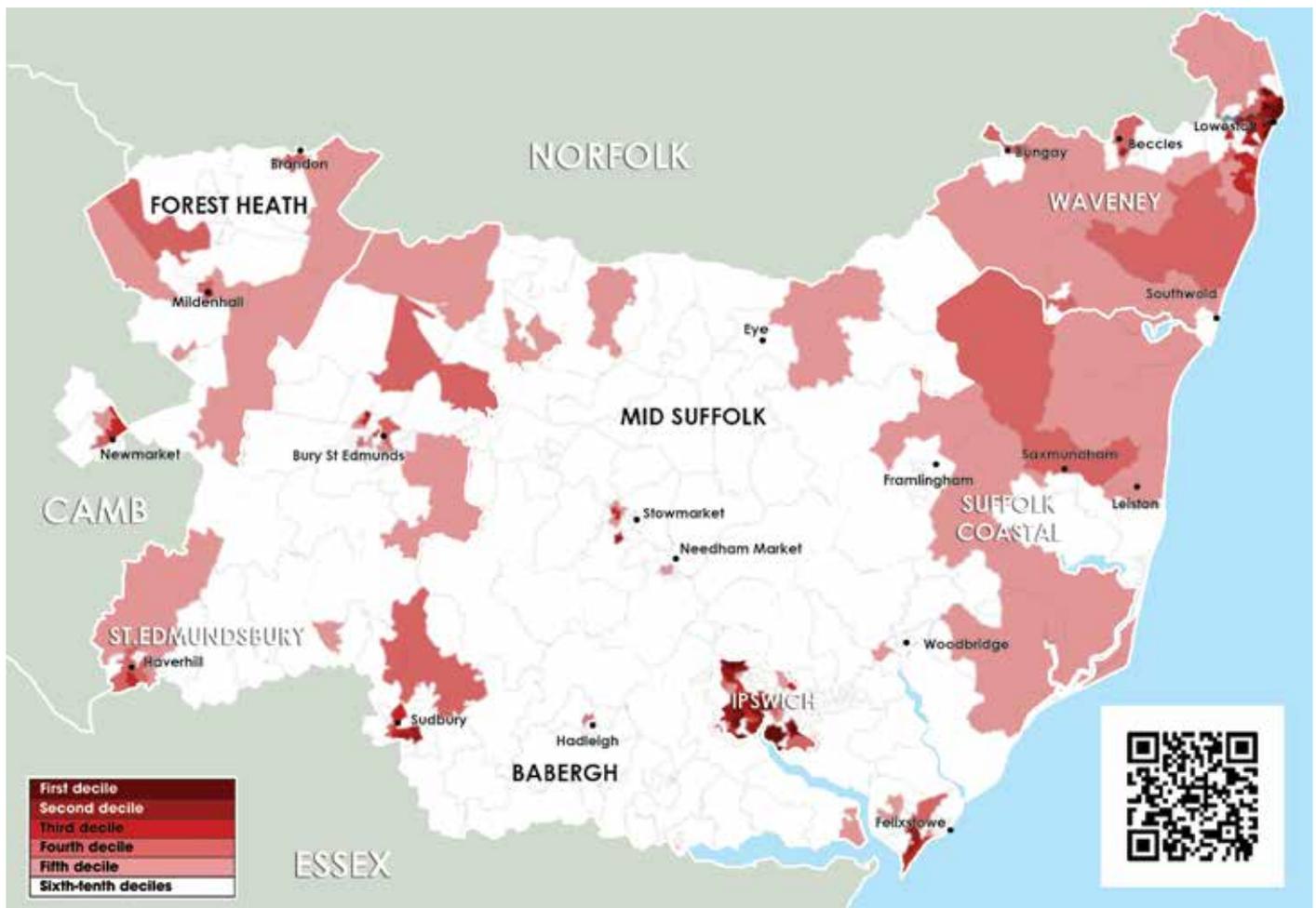
support those individuals to manage and address their circumstances.

The map below (Figure 9) shows the most to least deprived neighbourhoods. As in 2010, neighbourhoods among England's most deprived 10 per cent are concentrated in Ipswich and Waveney. Included among the most deprived 20 per cent are neighbourhoods found in parts of:

- Beccles and Bungay
- Lowestoft, Kessingland and around Wrentham
- Leiston and areas between Kelsale and Heveningham
- Felixstowe
- Ipswich
- Stowmarket
- Sudbury and areas between Little Waldingfield and Bridge Street
- Haverhill
- Newmarket
- Mildenhall
- Brandon
- Bury St Edmunds

Figure 9. Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015: ranking of local concentrations of deprivation in Suffolk relative to England

Source: IMD 2015, IMD overall score



Note: The map depicts in red, neighbourhoods that are among the 50% most deprived across England, by decile, from 1st decile (10% most deprived) to 5th decile (50% most deprived); the interactive map is here: <http://tiny.cc/IMD-2015>

Table 3. Index of Multiple Deprivation: percentage of Suffolk neighbourhoods by deprivation decile group 2010 & 2015

Source: IMD 2015, IMD overall score. Percentages rounded to one decimal place.

	2010	2015
10% most deprived	3.3%	4.8%
10-20% most deprived	4.5%	7.0%
20-50% most deprived	25.1%	29.9%
50% least deprived	67.1%	58.3%

The IMD suggests that deprivation in Suffolk has been increasing since at least 2007. Between 2010 and 2015, across all of England, only three local authorities have worsened more than Suffolk (Derby, South Tyneside and Westminster). In Suffolk, this decline in ranking has

been experienced by both neighbourhoods which were more deprived and those which were more advantaged (less deprived) in 2010. In fact, most change has happened to more advantaged neighbourhoods. Table 4 shows that things have worsened for 17 per cent of neighbourhoods ranked in the most deprived neighbourhoods in 2010. However, 36 per cent of the most advantaged neighbourhoods have seen some decline – and this increases for neighbourhoods in the middle of the ranking. Rather than being concentrated in any particular district, the decline in deprivation ranking is widespread across Suffolk (Figure 10).

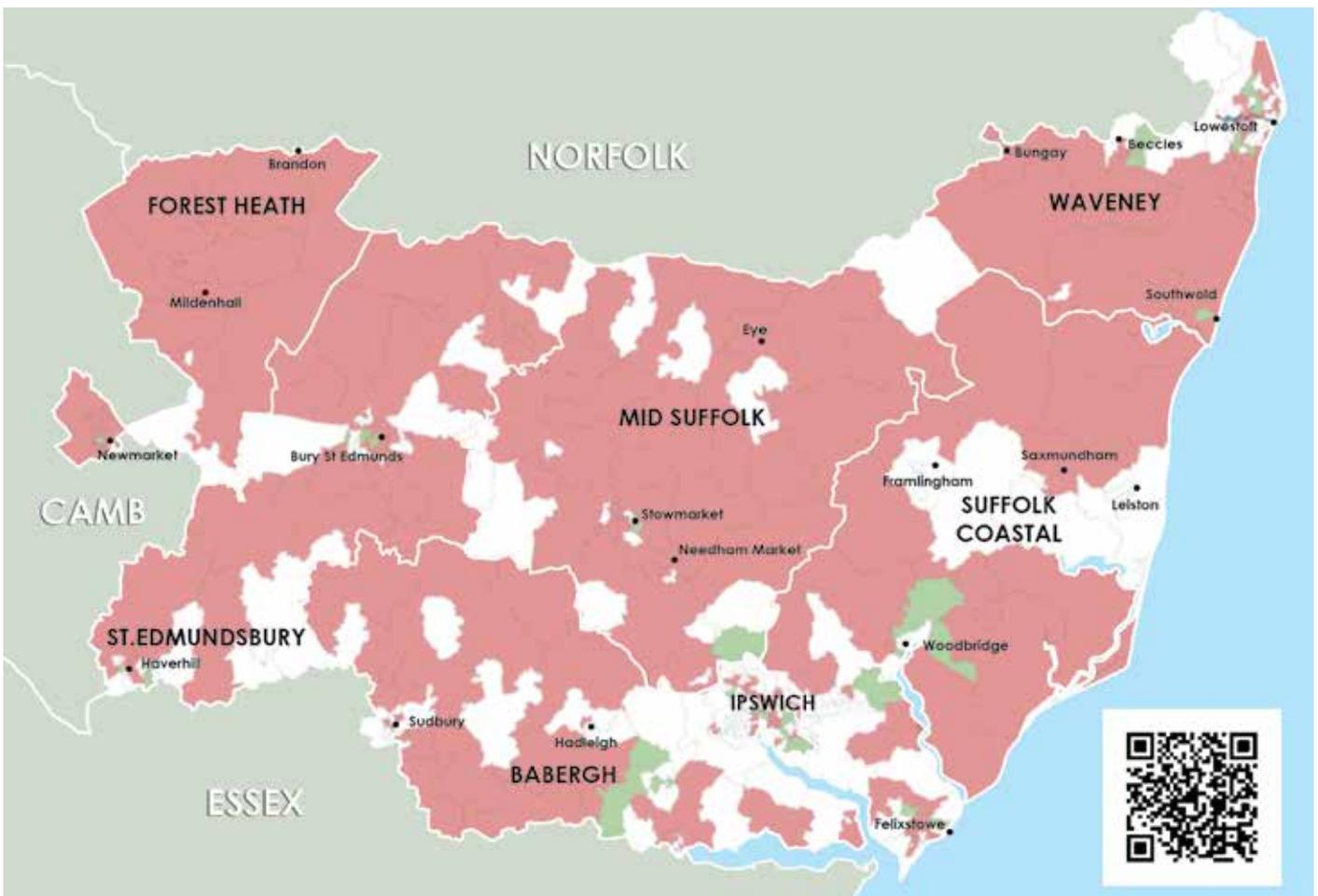
Decile change 2010 to 2015	1st quintile (20% most deprived in 2010)	2nd quintile	3rd quintile	4th quintile	5th quintile (20% least deprived in 2010)
Negative change	16.7%	37.3%	56.0%	60.1%	35.5%
No change	77.8%	47.5%	34.0%	32.8%	58.0%
Positive change	5.5%	15.2%	10.0%	7.2%	6.5%

Table 4. Proportion of Suffolk neighbourhoods within each IMD 2010 quintile that experienced change in 2015 of at least a decile

Source: IMD 2010 and IMD 2015. Note: percentages represent proportions within column (2010 quintiles). Percentages rounded to one decimal place.

Figure 10. Index of Multiple Deprivation: change in ranking 2010-2015 by at least one decile

Source: IMD 2015



Note: Neighbourhoods that experience change in overall relative deprivation are shown either in red (negative change), green (positive change) or, white (no change). Interactive map: <http://tiny.cc/IMD-change>

The causes of increasing deprivation in Suffolk are complex. The IMD reports on the relative ranking of all neighbourhoods in England - so a drop in ranking can mean that circumstances in neighbourhood X have deteriorated, or it can mean that circumstances in other neighbourhoods have improved more than they have in neighbourhood X.

The complexity also reflects the fact that the overall IMD ranking is based on a number of different indicators and domains. For example, in terms of the IMD's domain of living environment deprivation - and specifically measures of the outdoor environment, based on air quality and road traffic accidents - 60 per cent of

Suffolk neighbourhoods are reported to have improved between 2010 and 2015. However, in terms of the majority of domains on the 2015 IMD, more neighbourhoods have been ranked as being more deprived than have been ranked as being less deprived. For domains relating to health, education and the quality of housing over half of neighbourhoods are ranked as more deprived.

Relatively few neighbourhoods have seen a change in ranking in terms of income deprivation. Even so, in 2015 there were 83,372 people in Suffolk who were income deprived, including 19,980 children and 24,973 older people.

Table 5. Deprivation rates by population group and district

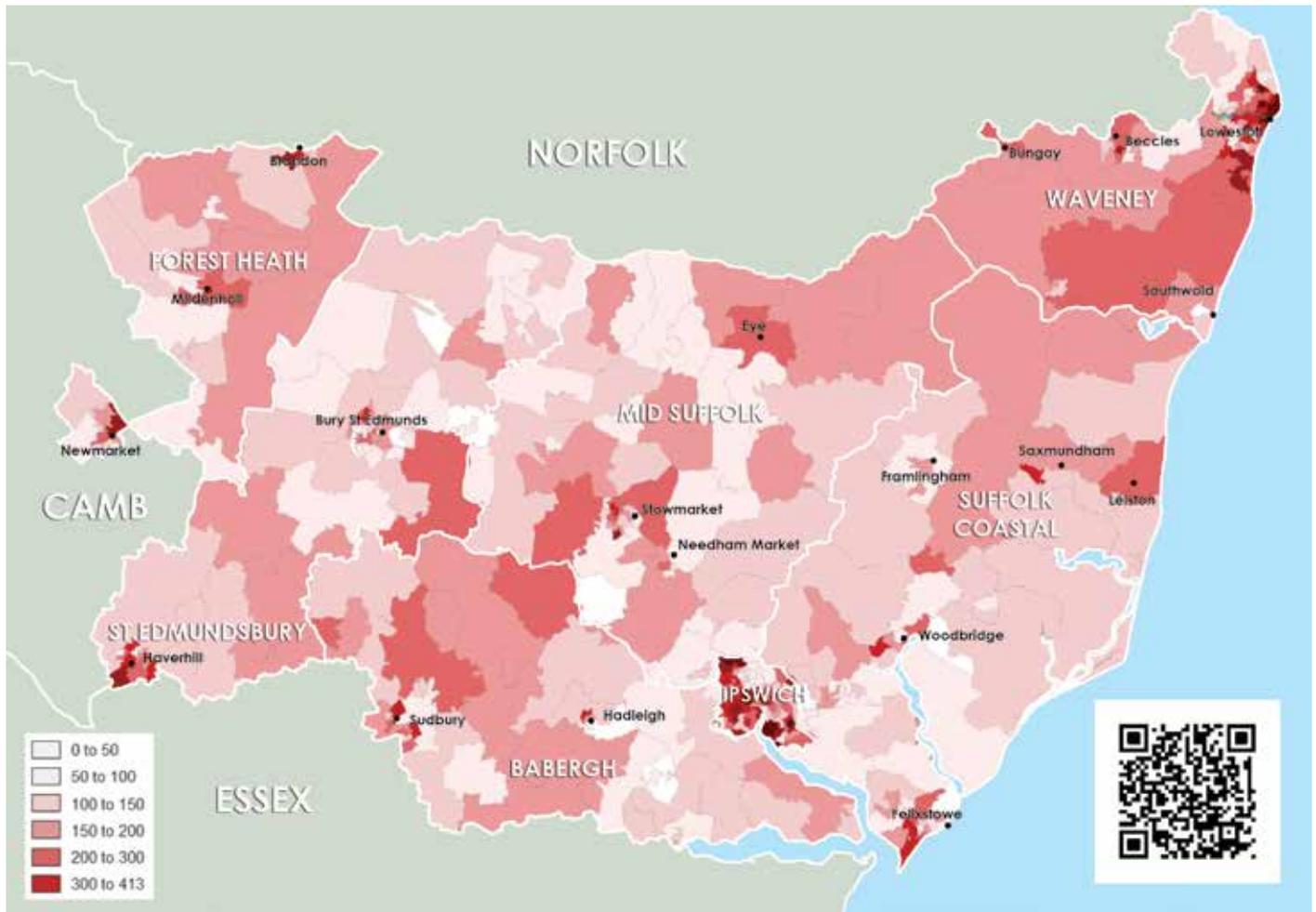
Source: IMD 2015. Percentages rounded to one decimal place.

	Income Deprivation, all people (% rate)	Employment Deprivation among working-age adults (% rate)	Income Deprivation affecting older people (% rate)	Income Deprivation affecting children (% rate)
Babergh	9.5%	8.1%	10.6%	12.4%
Forest Heath	9.9%	7.5%	14.2%	12.4%
Ipswich	16.3%	13.0%	17.5%	21.9%
Mid Suffolk	8.0%	6.7%	10.2%	9.8%
St Edmundsbury	9.0%	8.1%	10.4%	11.4%
Suffolk Coastal	8.5%	7.9%	9.9%	10.4%
Waveney	16.4%	15.1%	15.2%	22.6%
Suffolk	11.4%	9.8%	12.4%	15.0%
East	11.9%	9.8%	13.2%	16.4%
England	14.6%	11.9%	16.2%	19.9%

Between 2010 and 2015, across all of England, only three local authorities have worsened more than Suffolk.

Figure 11. Counts of income-deprived people in Suffolk

Source: IMD 2015



Interactive map: <http://tiny.cc/income-deprivation>

Income deprivation – and multiple deprivation generally in Suffolk – tends to be concentrated in and around the county’s towns (see Figure 11). There is a risk that this can give a misleading view of a lack of deprivation and disadvantage in rural areas. Given the very rural nature of Suffolk, the following section looks at this situation more closely.

Deprivation in Suffolk is concentrated in urban areas but more dispersed and less visible in rural areas. Even the most advantaged, remote rural neighbourhoods are shared with people living in poverty – and hardship for those on a low income is exacerbated by the barriers to accessing services and the higher additional costs associated with living in the countryside.



## Rural Suffolk

### Suffolk's rural population

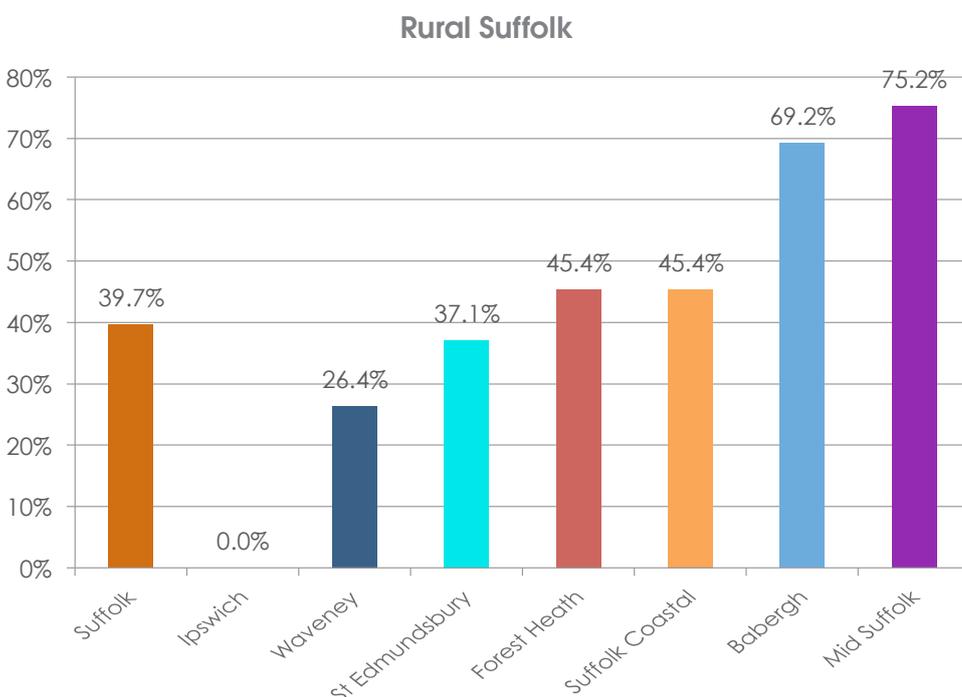
While less than 20 per cent of the population of England and Wales live in rural areas, almost 40 per cent of Suffolk's population is rural.

Apart from Ipswich, every district in Suffolk has a disproportionately high rate of rural residents compared to England, rising to 69 per cent in Babergh and 75 per cent in Mid Suffolk. Rurality is pertinent to the issue of need because rural households are exposed to a series of potential, additional challenges including extra transport costs, particular housing needs (such as higher domestic fuel costs) and access to essential services, educational choices and employment opportunities.

Rural Suffolk has a slightly older population than urban areas of the county, but the difference is not extreme. In urban areas, 54 per cent of the population is under 30, compared with 50 per cent in rural areas; 20 per cent of urban residents are 65 or older compared with 22 per cent of rural residents. Looking at the working age population, the unemployment rate in rural areas is less than in urban areas, as is the rate of adults with a disability or long term health problems.

Figure 12. Proportion of people living in rural areas

Source: Census 2011



**40%**  
OF SUFFOLK'S POPULATION IS RURAL. IT COSTS UP TO 25% MORE TO REACH THE SAME LIVING STANDARD AS URBAN COUNTERPARTS

## Rural share of deprivation

Overall, on average, rural neighbourhoods in Suffolk experience less deprivation than urban neighbourhoods. However, area-based statistics can obscure and under-represent rural deprivation. Urban areas with high deprivation are, correctly, the obvious focus for strategic intervention, but under-playing rural deprivation can potentially mean that efforts to address deprivation become exclusively focused on urban areas.

Rural deprivation can be hard to identify as it is more dispersed than urban deprivation and may not show up on national deprivation measures. As the first Hidden Needs report showed, the wide dispersal of rural households with income deprivation means that they are often 'hidden' within more affluent neighbourhoods. Rural households also face a series of additional costs. Research suggests that people living in rural villages and hamlets need to be able to spend between 15 and 25 per cent more than their urban counterparts in order to be able to afford the same, minimum socially acceptable standard<sup>1</sup>. This means that income deprivation in rural households has an even greater impact than it does in urban ones. In terms of income deprivation in Suffolk, no rural neighbourhoods fall into England's most deprived 20 per cent, compared with over 14 per cent of urban neighbourhoods. Nevertheless,

because deprivation is dispersed, 28 per cent of all people living in income deprivation in Suffolk live in a rural area. The numbers here are substantial: 23,100 of those in rural neighbourhoods are income deprived including nearly 5,000 children and 10,000 older people.

Higher concentrations of income deprivation in rural areas tend to be close to larger rural settlements, typically market towns. As such larger concentrations can be found in or around Brandon in Forest Heath; Little Waldingfield (north of Sudbury) and Hadleigh in Babergh; Eye in Mid-Suffolk; Bungay and Kessingland in Waveney; and Saxmundham and Halesworth in Suffolk Coastal.

Importantly, however, those experiencing poverty are also found in more remote rural locales and more advantaged areas – meaning that disadvantaged people in Suffolk often live closely to and share the same neighbourhoods as those whose circumstances are different. This includes some of the county's neighbourhoods ranked as being among England's most advantaged (least deprived) 10 per cent. For example, neighbourhoods around Capel St Mary in Babergh, Great Barton in St Edmundsbury, Thorndon in Mid Suffolk and the hinterlands of Framlingham are all ranked in the top 10 per cent in England but each also include between 65 and 85 people living in income deprivation.

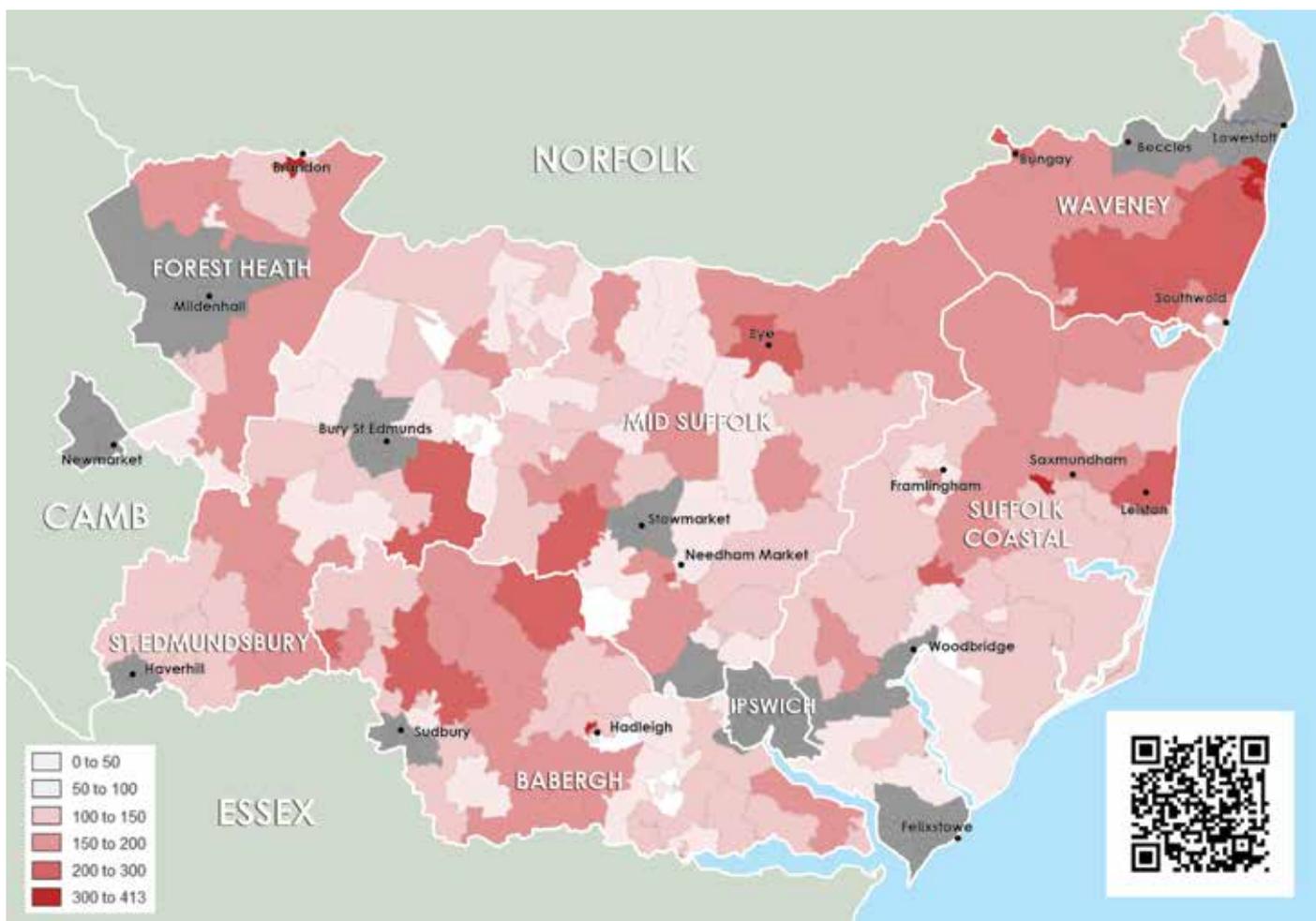
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<sup>1</sup> Smith, N., Davis, A. and Hirsch, D. (2010) A minimum income standard for rural households. York: Joseph Rowntree Foundation and Commission for Rural Communities <http://www.jrf.org.uk/publications/minimum-income-rural-households>



Figure 13. Counts of income-deprived people in rural Suffolk

Source: IMD 2015



Note: Urban areas are marked with grey. Interactive map: <http://tiny.cc/income-deprivation>

There are a number of IMD domains where Suffolk's rural neighbourhoods appear among England's 10 per cent most deprived:

- **Education:** 8 per cent of rural neighbourhoods are among the most deprived in terms of children's education (taking into account children's performance and attendance in school and progression to higher education). While this is lower than the rate for urban neighbourhoods on this measure it nevertheless represents a sharp increase from a little over one per cent in 2010.
- **Housing:** In 2015, 24 per cent of rural neighbourhoods were ranked among the most deprived in terms of the quality of housing stock, measured in terms of the proportion of houses without central heating and

those which fail to meet the Decent Homes standard. Between 2010 and 2015 there has been a dramatic change in results for Suffolk on this measure: while in 2010 only 3 rural neighbourhoods were among England's most deprived, in 2015 there were 39 such neighbourhoods. A change in the Government's methodology for measuring housing conditions may account for some of this sharp increase.

- **Accessibility:** Rural Suffolk is particularly deprived in terms of geographical barriers to services (road distances from neighbourhoods to post offices, primary schools, GPs, and supermarkets or general stores). The issue of accessibility is considered further below.

More generally, rural Suffolk includes a substantial share of the county's disadvantaged groups.

8 per cent of rural neighbourhoods are among the most deprived in terms of children's education.

Table 6. Disadvantaged groups; percentage living in rural areas of Suffolk

Source: Census 2011.

Group	% of group in rural Suffolk
Adults with disabilities or long term illness	36%
Adults with no qualifications	37%
Social rented housing tenants	30%
Households with no car	23%

Compared to urban areas, rural neighbourhoods have seen the sharpest increase in deprivation according to the 2015 IMD. In 2010, 89 per cent of rural neighbourhoods were in the least deprived half of neighbourhoods in England,

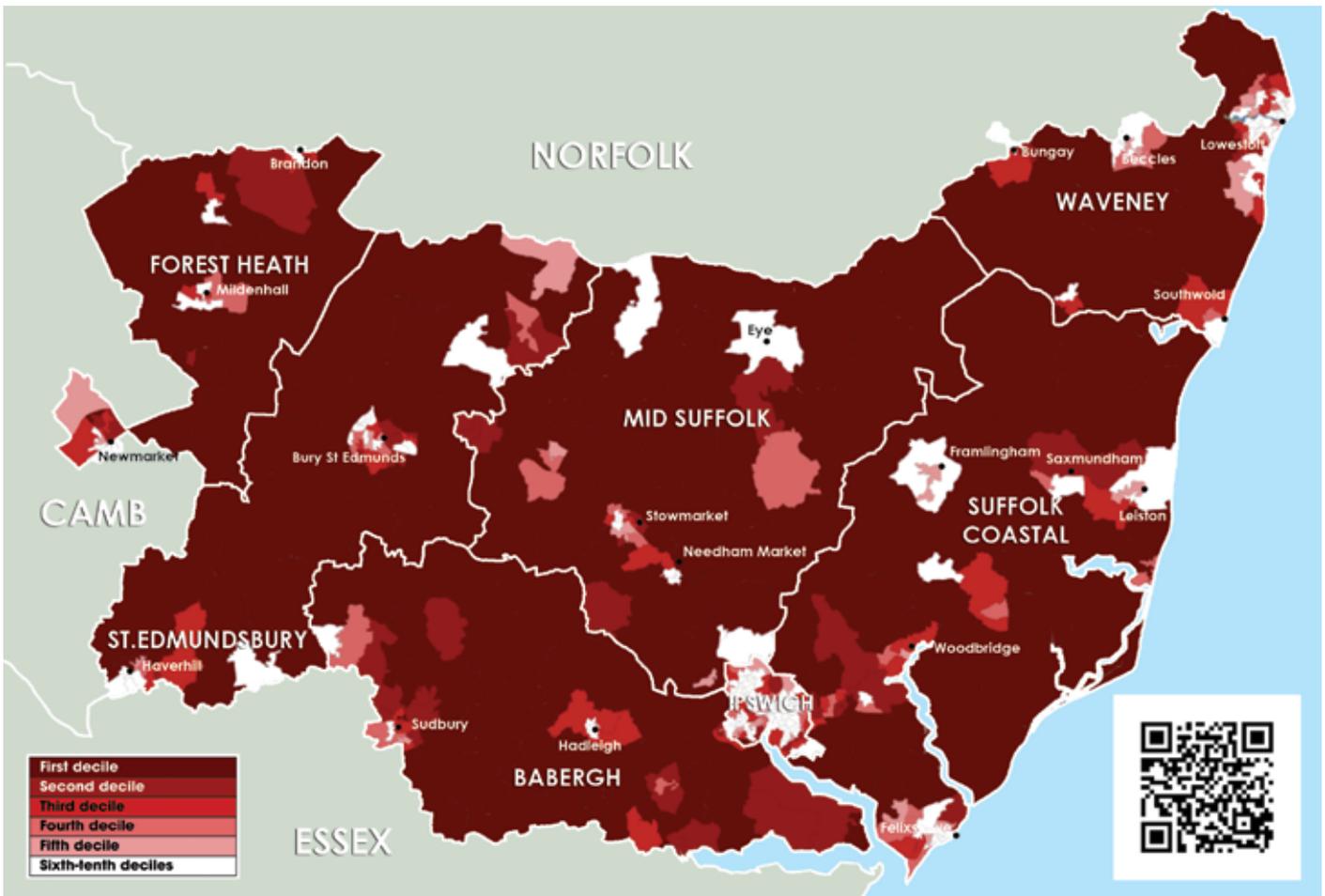
### Accessibility

Lack of access to key services and opportunities can represent a tangible sense of social exclusion. The IMD ranks more than half of Suffolk’s rural neighbourhoods as among the 10 per cent most geographically deprived in England in 2015 and nearly 70 per cent are in the 20 per cent most deprived. Although there has been marginal improvement on this measure – from 58 per

cent of neighbourhoods in the most deprived 10 per cent in 2010 to 56 per cent in 2015 - the map below highlights widespread barriers to accessing services and opportunities. In this context it is worth noting that the 2001 Census found that around 14,000 households in rural Suffolk did not own a car and in 2011 this had changed little, dropping to just over 13,000.

Figure 14. Index of Multiple Deprivation: measure of Geographical Barriers to Services

Source: IMD 2015



Note: The map depicts in red neighbourhoods that are among the 50% most deprived across England in terms of geographical barriers, by decile, from 1st decile (10% most deprived) to 5th decile.

Interactive map: <http://tiny.cc/IMD-geographical-barriers>

Analysis of the 2015 Index of Multiple Deprivation highlights the relationship between accessibility and poverty. Of the 25,000 older people in Suffolk experiencing income deprivation, nearly 8,000 live in the most geographically deprived 20 per cent of neighbourhoods in England. Of the 20,000 children in income deprived households, 5,400 live in the 20 per cent most geographically deprived neighbourhoods.

The first Hidden Needs report highlighted a decline in rural services. The recent Community Action Suffolk Rural Services Survey 2015/16 (based on responses from 395 parishes) repeats similar surveys undertaken in 2008 and 2011. This found that there has been further decline in rural access for a number of services, including youth clubs, banks and bus services. However, access to other services has remained stable or improved – for example, post offices and general stores.

Table 7. Availability of selected services in parishes in rural Suffolk

Source: Community Action Suffolk Rural Services Survey 2015/16

Service	2008	2011-12	2015-16
Youth organisations	44%	27%	25%
Banking facilities	39%	31%	25%
Schedules bus service	73%	68%	61%
Post office	26%	24%	28%
General store	26%	27%	26%
GP	50%	69%	56%
Affordable housing	24%	44%	40%



## Rural Communications

Since the publication of the first Hidden Needs report, the 'Better Broadband' for Suffolk programme has been launched, funded by local councils, central government and BT. According to the programme, access to superfast broadband has increased from 50 per cent of premises across Suffolk in 2012 to 85 per cent in 2015. The programme aims to increase coverage to 97 per cent by 2018/19.

The 2016 Community Action Suffolk Rural Services Survey reported that broadband was unavailable for 8 per cent of rural parishes. While 18 per cent of parishes said that they had good or excellent broadband, over 50 per cent

described their service as poor. The survey report suggests that there has been no change in satisfaction over the last five years. Responses were similar about mobile phone coverage.

Respondents to the survey highlighted a number of potential impacts of poor communications in rural areas, the most common concerns being that slow broadband speeds have affected children and young people's access to educational resources, and that slow speeds have prevented businesses starting up and reduced the sustainability of existing businesses.

Table 8. Rural communications in Suffolk

Source: Community Action Suffolk Rural Services Survey 2015/16

	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Unavailable
Broadband coverage in general*	2%	16%	22%	51%	8%
Mobile phone coverage in general**	2%	13%	28%	48%	9%

Number of parishes responding = \*303; \*\*286.



*Deprivation and barriers to social mobility across childhood - from early years to the point of progression into higher education and work - shapes individuals' life chances and the prosperity of the county. Suffolk is home to almost 20,000 children living in income deprivation and the statistics suggest that children's and young people's life chances are significantly different depending on where they live in the county.*

# Children & young people

## Income deprivation affecting children

Income deprivation affecting children has increased in Suffolk over the last five years. The IMD's income deprivation measure is based on the proportion of children in a neighbourhood who live in a household which has a low income from employment or which claims out-of-work benefits.

In 2015 just over 11 per cent of neighbourhoods in Suffolk were in the most income deprived 20 per cent of neighbourhoods in England - an increase from 9 per cent in 2010. There is considerable 'churning' of these poor

neighbourhoods - some becoming more deprived, others becoming less deprived. At the same time, many of Suffolk's more advantaged neighbourhoods saw an increase in the proportion of children living in income deprivation.

*Table 9. Index of Multiple Deprivation measure of Income Deprivation Affecting Children: number and proportions of neighbourhoods in Suffolk*

*Source: IMD 2015. Percentages rounded to one decimal place.*

	2010 %	2015 %	% Improving	% Dropping
1st quintile (most deprived 20%)	9.1%	11.5%	17.5%	27.5%
2nd quintile (21%-40%)	16.1%	14.5%	31.0%	39.4%
3rd quintile (41%-60%)	21.3%	24.9%	36.2%	26.6%
4th quintile (61%-80%)	32.4%	27.6%	40.6%	35.6%
5th quintile (least deprived 20%)	21.1%	21.5%	16.1%	50.5%
Total	100%	100%	-	-

In 2015 there were almost 20,000 income deprived children in Suffolk - 15 per cent of all children in the county. In Ipswich and Waveney, 1 in 5 children live in income deprived households. Within districts, income deprived households with children tend to be concentrated in or near urban

centres - Ipswich, Felixstowe, Leiston, Lowestoft and Kessingland, Haverhill and Newmarket, for example. But such neighbourhoods are also found in more rural locales - such as around Little Waldingfield in Babergh and Brook Street in Babergh.

Table 10. Income-deprived children in Suffolk

Source: Population Estimates; IMD 2015

	Total number of children (0-15 years)	Number of children in income deprivation	% of children in income deprived household
<b>Suffolk</b>	<b>133,408</b>	<b>19,979</b>	<b>15%</b>
Babergh	15,772	1,953	12.5%
Forest Heath	11,661	1,442	11.6%
Ipswich	26,465	5,795	21.5%
Mid Suffolk	17,689	1,732	9.9%
St Edmundsbury	20,386	2,318	11.5%
Suffolk Coastal	21,565	2,234	10.5%
Waveney	19,870	4,505	22.7%

**15%**  
OF ALL CHILDREN ACROSS THE COUNTY LIVE IN INCOME DEPRIVED HOUSEHOLDS

## Social mobility

In 2016, the Government published a new Social Mobility Index (SMI). This estimates the chances of how well a person from a disadvantaged background will do at school and thereafter in the workplace. It does this by looking at a number of measures including the proportion of children receiving free school meals; the proportion of nurseries and schools in an area rated outstanding or good by Ofsted; and educational outcomes. Measures for social mobility in adulthood include wages, the proportion of managerial and professional jobs in an area, home ownership and house prices. Results are published on a scale of 1 to 10, where '1' refers to the least (potentially) socially mobile 10 per cent in England

and '10' refers to the most socially mobile 10 per cent in the country. The results for Suffolk are contrasting (see Table 11). In terms of the overall SMI measure, Ipswich and Waveney are placed in the bottom 10 per cent districts in England for social mobility. Together with Babergh and Forest Heath, four Suffolk districts are in the least mobile 20 per cent districts in England. In contrast, Mid Suffolk is placed among the most socially mobile 20 per cent of English districts. If the SMI is a good predictor of social mobility, this means that children and young people's life chances in Suffolk are significantly different depending on where they live.

Table 11. 2016 Social Mobility Index (SMI) deciles by district

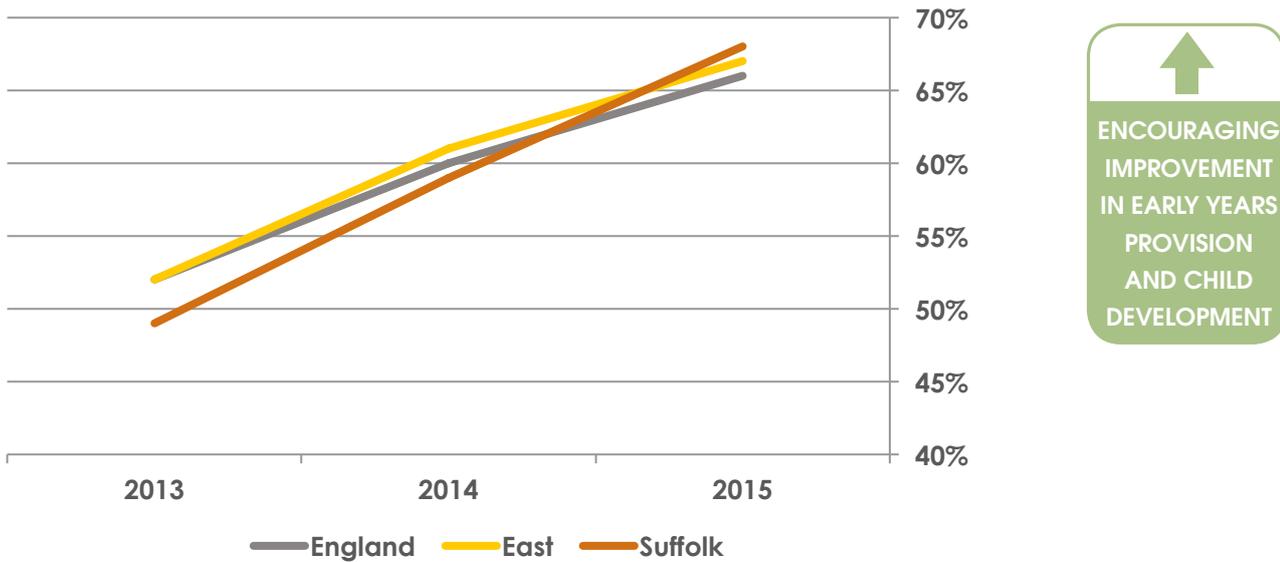
Source: Child Poverty Commission, Social Mobility Index

	SMI overall	Early Years	School	Youth	Adulthood
Babergh	2	7	1	7	2
Forest Heath	2	7	2	5	1
Ipswich	1	5	1	8	2
Mid Suffolk	9	9	5	9	7
St Edmundsbury	5	6	7	7	1
Suffolk Coastal	7	5	6	8	9
Waveney	1	6	1	3	2

Looking in terms of life stages on the SMI, Suffolk's districts generally appear to do better in terms of Early Years provision (i.e. number of disadvantaged children accessing good or outstanding nurseries and achieving a good level of development at the end of the Early Years Foundation stage). Indeed, Department of Education data suggests that there has been an established trend of significant improvement in Early Years provision and child development in the county. In the Early Years Foundation Stage, a 'good level of development' is defined in terms of children achieving prescribed goals

in terms of personal, social and emotional development; physical development; communication and language; and mathematics and literacy. Over the last decade Suffolk has tended to lag behind regional and national rates of the number of children achieving a good level of development but in recent years the county has caught up with the East and England in this regard. There is still work to be done - especially in terms of addressing the still relatively low proportion of disadvantaged children attaining good development - but this remains a significant achievement.

Figure 15. Children achieving a good level of development at the end of Early Years Foundation Stage: regional and national trends



Other outcomes for pre-school aged children in Suffolk are also positive compared to regional and national trends. In particular, instances of low birth weight (a predictor of developmental problems and poorer health in later life) and attendance at A&E departments for 0-4 year olds in the county are well below average rates in the Eastern region and England.

Results for Suffolk for 'Youth' on the Social Mobility Index are also relatively good (though note the discussion below). Social mobility ranking for 'School' and

'Adulthood' outcomes are lower. In terms of Adulthood outcomes, Suffolk Coastal is ranked among the top 20 per cent - and this chimes with findings about higher wages in this district than elsewhere in Suffolk. Otherwise, however, five of Suffolk's seven districts are ranked among England's least mobile 20 per cent on this measure. Together these findings indicate that opportunities for social mobility fostered through early years are not yet being extended into adulthood.

### Educational achievement

The low social mobility ranking for school provision in Suffolk is reflected in the IMD measure of educational deprivation for children and young people (based on statistics related to Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4 attainments, secondary school absence, staying in education post-16 and entry to higher education). Of all IMD domains, this is where the sharpest increase in deprivation is recorded in Suffolk between 2010 and 2015. While in 2010 around 18 per cent of the county's

neighbourhoods rated among the 20 per cent most deprived in England, in 2015 this number climbed to over 30 per cent. Almost 70 per cent of Suffolk neighbourhoods dropped position in the IMD ranking by at least a decile (10 per cent banding) between 2010 and 2015. Nearly 73 per cent of the least deprived neighbourhoods in 2010 dropped by a decile or more by 2015, compared with about 31 per cent of the most deprived neighbourhoods (Table 12).

In 2015, there were almost 20,000 income deprived children in Suffolk - 15 per cent of all children in the county.

Table 12. Index of Multiple Deprivation: number and proportion of neighbourhoods in Suffolk by Children and Young People subdomain

Source: IMD 2015. Percentages rounded to one decimal place.

	2010 %	2015 %	% Improving	% Dropping
1st quintile (20% most deprived)	18.1%	30.4%	7.5%	31.2%
2nd quintile (21%-40%)	18.1%	25.6%	5.0%	80.0%
3rd quintile (41%-60%)	22.0%	21.3%	11.3%	74.2%
4th quintile (61%-80%)	28.4%	17.5%	5.6%	80.8%
5th quintile (81% to 100%)	13.4%	5.2%	5.1%	72.9%
Total	100%	100%	7.0%	69.2%

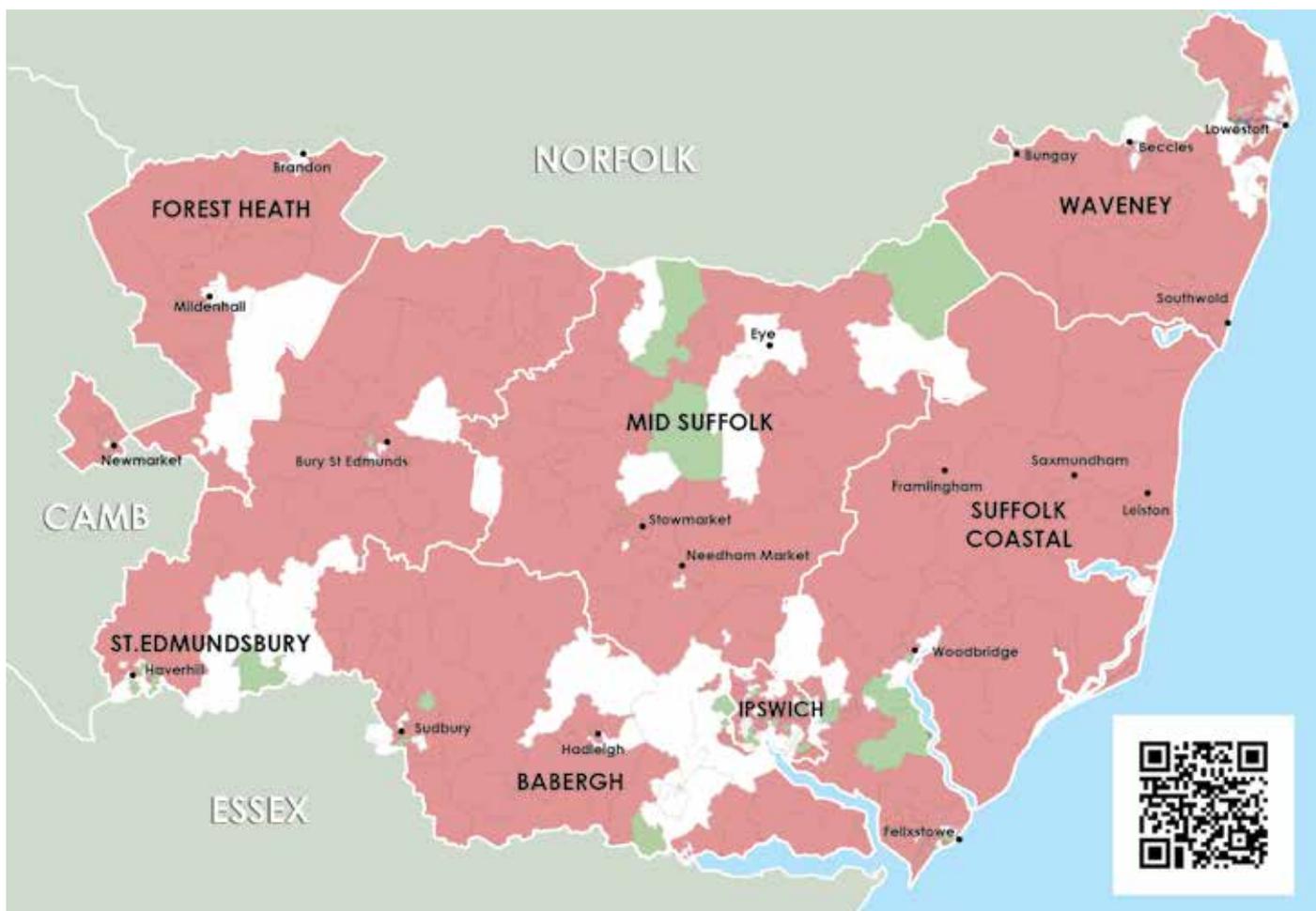
Note: % improving or dropping represents proportion of neighbourhoods from each 2010 quintile that either improved or dropped by at least one decile between 2010 and 2015.

Figure 16 shows the geographical distribution of change in educational deprivation in Suffolk. The map displays decile change (change in overall ranking in England by more than 10 per cent). The ranking position of some neighbourhoods fell by as much as five or six deciles, meaning that some of

the least educationally deprived neighbourhoods in 2010 were among some of the most deprived neighbourhoods in England in 2015 – this includes, for example, particular neighbourhoods in wards in Pakenham (St Edmundsbury) and Red Lodge (Forest Heath).

Figure 16. Index of Multiple Deprivation: geographical distribution of change in educational deprivation (children and young people) from 2010 to 2015

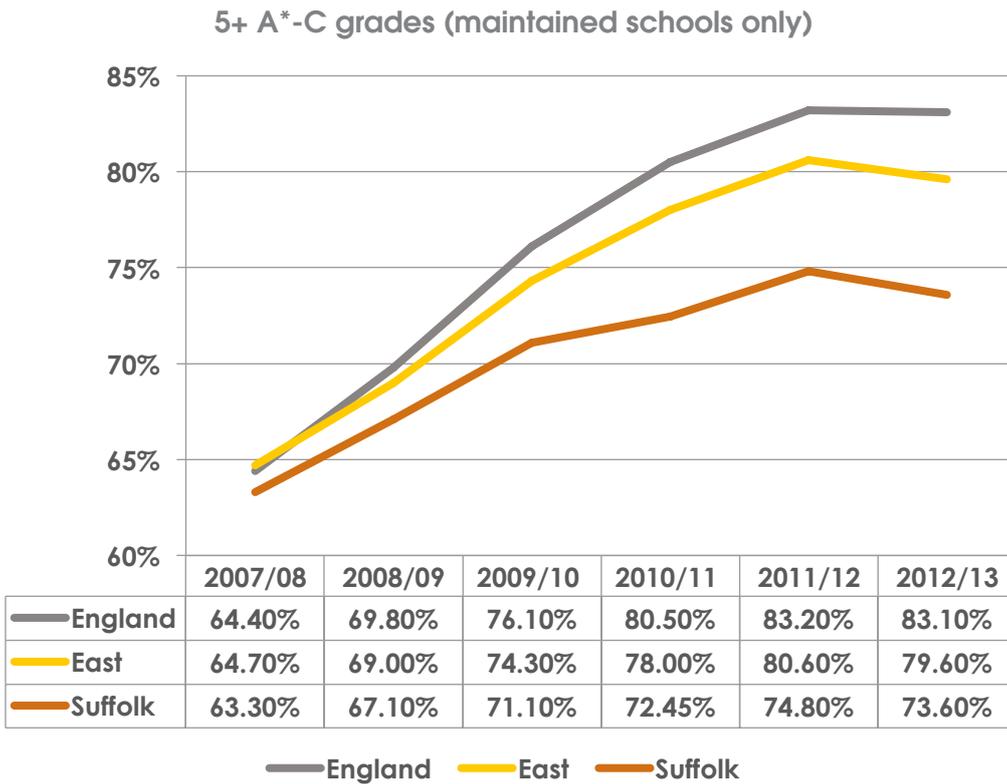
Source: IMD 2015



Note: The map depicts neighbourhoods that experienced change in relative deprivation of Children subdomain by at least a decile since 2010, either negative (red) or positive (green). Neighbourhoods depicted in white did not change in ranking by more than a decile. Interactive map: <http://tiny.cc/IMD-children-change>

Figure 17. Proportion of children achieving 5+ A\*-C grades (maintained schools)

Source: Department of Education



The IMD’s educational deprivation measure takes into account GCSE results. Suffolk has consistently underperformed in GCSE results compared with regional and national rates, and this gap has widened in recent years. Children from poorer households are particularly disadvantaged: less than a third of pupils eligible for free

school meals achieve five good GCSEs (see Table 13). However, this underperformance in the county cannot be simply understood only in terms of income poverty. That is, children in poverty in Suffolk do less well than children in poverty in schools elsewhere.

Only 33 per cent of children eligible for free school meals attained five good GCSEs compared with 70% of pupils overall.

Table 13. Percentage of pupils achieving 5+ A\*-C grades in 2014/2015

Source: Department of Education. Percentages rounded to one decimal place.

Percentage achieving 5+ A*-C grades	England	East	Suffolk
All pupils	67%	67%	63%
Eligible for free meals	42%	38%	33%
All other pupils	70%	70%	67%

Looking within Suffolk, performance in GCSEs differs considerably. In some districts - including Mid Suffolk, St Edmundsbury, Suffolk Coastal and Babergh - GCSE results are comparable or better than outcomes regionally and

nationally. In contrast, rates of achievement in Waveney, Ipswich and Forest Heath, however, are substantially below rates for the East and England generally.

Table 14. Revised GCSE and equivalent results in Suffolk: 2013 to 2014

Source: Population Estimates; IMD 2015

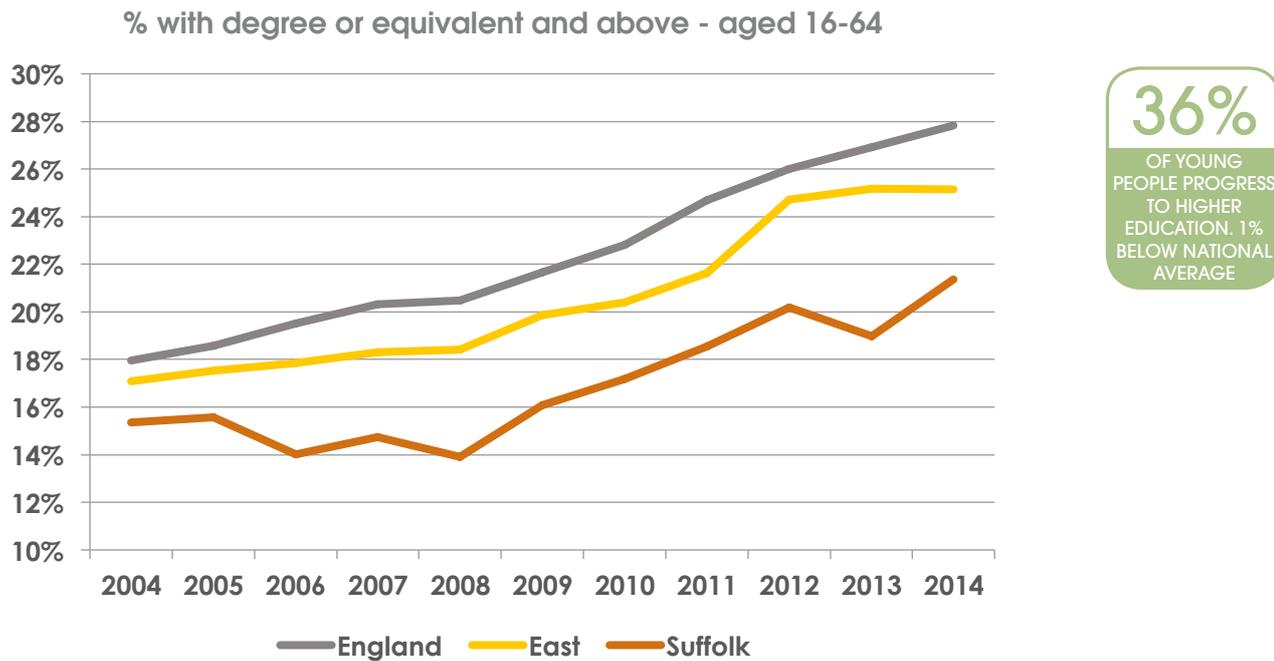
	Number of eligible pupils*	5+ A*-C grades	5+ A*-C grades inc. English and mathematics GCSEs	5+ A*-G grades	5+ A*-G grades inc. English and mathematics GCSEs	A*-C in English and mathematics GCSEs
<b>England</b>	556,002	65.8%	56.8%	93.5%	91.2%	59.1%
<b>East</b>	63,701	65.5%	57.2%	93.8%	92.0%	59.7%
<b>Suffolk</b>						
Babergh	847	66.4%	55.0%	96.1%	94.7%	56.1%
Forest Heath	357	53.8%	43.4%	95.2%	90.5%	44.8%
Ipswich	1,458	53.9%	43.7%	89.5%	87.1%	45.3%
Mid Suffolk	1,229	68.8%	60.9%	95.4%	94.6%	64.0%
St Edmundsbury	1,123	69.0%	57.7%	93.8%	92.1%	58.5%
Suffolk Coastal	1,181	67.2%	56.1%	96.2%	92.0%	57.7%
Waveney	1,243	51.2%	42.2%	89.9%	86.8%	45.5%

\*Pupils at the end of Key Stage 4 of the academic year.



Figure 18. Estimates of rates of people with educational qualification: degree equivalent and above (population age 16 to 64)

Source: Annual Population Survey



### Young people

A long standing challenge facing Suffolk is the relatively low educational status of its working age population. A clear trend, illustrated in Figure 17, is that the rate of Suffolk’s workforce with higher education qualifications lags behind rates elsewhere.

However, current participation in higher education in Suffolk is on par with regional and national trends. An average of 36 per cent of young people progress to higher education – a comparable rate to the Eastern region and only a little below the UK rate of 37 per cent.

Participation rates in higher education are greater in rural than in urban areas, averaging 40 per cent in rural wards compared with 31 per cent in urban ones. Neighbourhoods where fewer young people progress to higher education are often surrounded by areas with high participation rates. This is illustrated in Figure 19: areas in dark green show neighbourhoods where over half of young people go to university. This includes, for example, parts of Ipswich and areas north and east of Ipswich

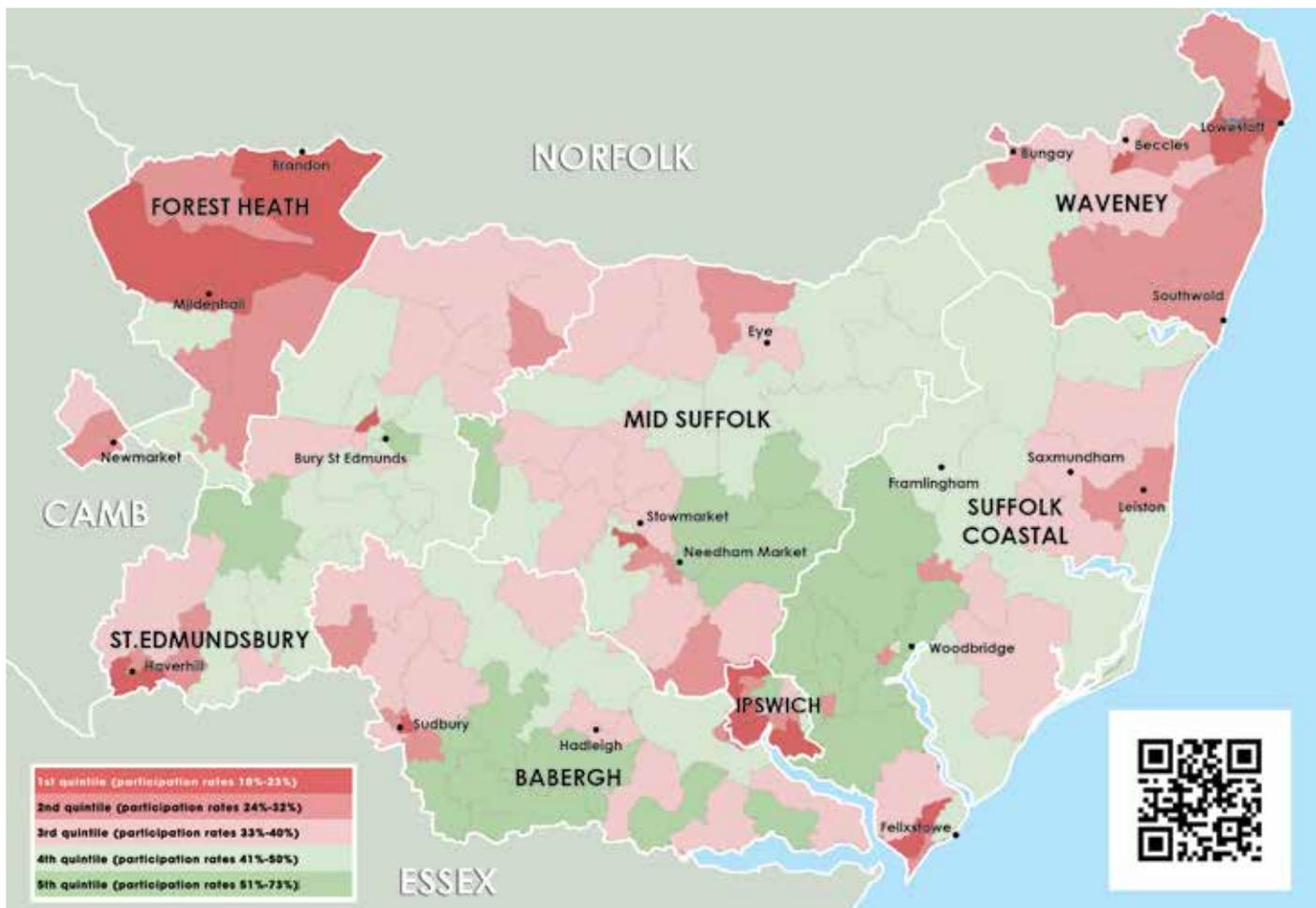
from Debenham to Nacton; neighbourhoods around Leavenheath in Babergh; and parts of Bury St Edmunds, Thurston and around Lidgate and Depden in the west of St Edmundsbury. Areas in dark red show neighbourhoods where less than a quarter progress on to higher education. These include, for example, areas in or around many of the urban hubs - Mildenhall, Brandon, Haverhill, Sudbury, Ipswich, Felixstowe, Halesworth and Lowestoft. They also include more rural neighbourhoods such as around Broome in Mid Suffolk, around Wrentham in Waveney and Tuddenham in Forest Heath.

Some young people do not progress to any formal education, training or work. This ‘NEET’ group (Not in Education, Employment or Training) are at extreme risk of disadvantage as they enter adulthood. Compared with the East of England and England overall, Suffolk has a higher proportion of NEET young people, and the difference has widened in recent years. In 2014, over 1,300 of all 16-18 year olds were disconnected from work and further education.

Participation rates in higher education are greater in rural than in urban areas, averaging 40 per cent in rural wards compared with 31 per cent in urban ones.

Figure 19. Young people's participation in higher education

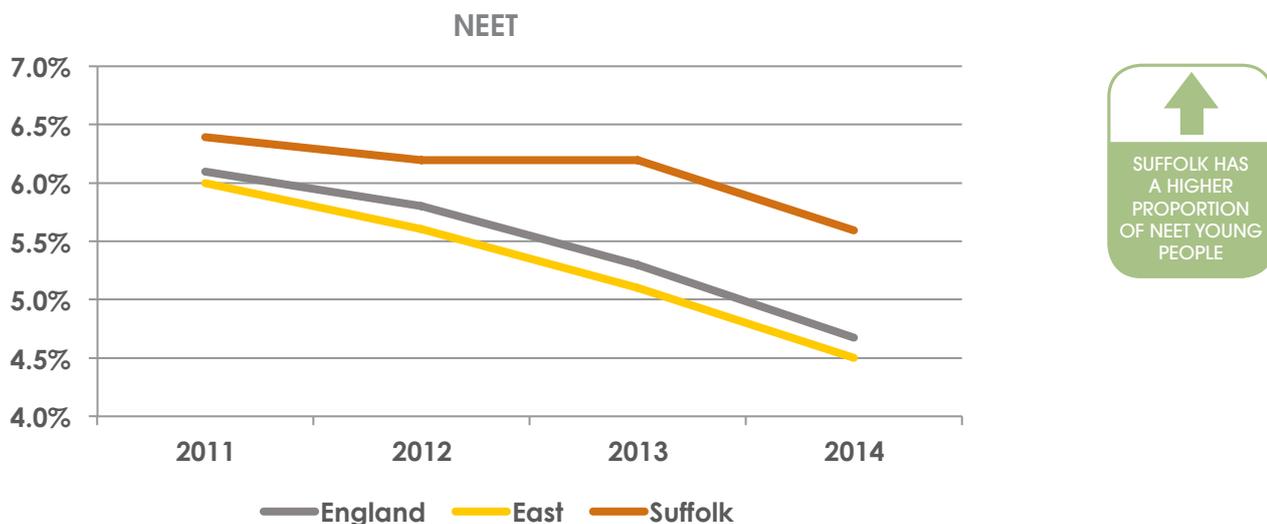
Source: Polar 3 (HEFCE, 2016)



Note: Data is presented by quintiles calculated across England and Wales: dark red represents areas with lowest rates of participation in higher education (10% to 23%) while dark green represents areas with highest participation rates (over 53%). Note: the participation rates are presented at electoral ward level rather than the smallest LSOA geographical unit. Interactive map: <http://tiny.cc/HE-participation>

Figure 20. Young people Not in Education, Employment or Training - comparison with regional and national levels

Source: Children Health Profile (2016)



Suffolk has low overall unemployment, but there are relatively fewer high quality jobs than elsewhere in England and there is long term trend for low wages in the county. The combination of low pay and limited opportunity for career progression fuels sustained in-work poverty and can represent an obstacle for social mobility.



# Employment

## Economic activity

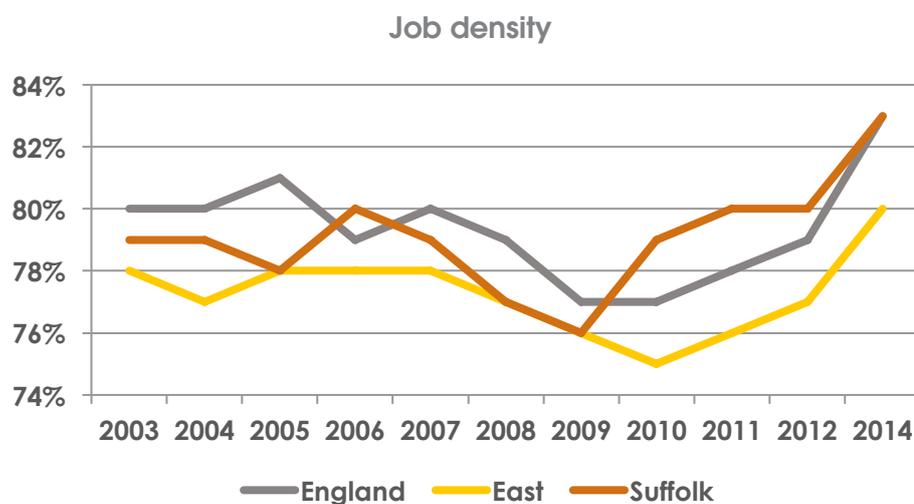
Suffolk generally has a buoyant employment market. Figure 21 and Figure 22 look at ‘job density’ in Suffolk – measured by estimating the number of jobs in an area relative to the number of working age adults in that area.

On this measure, job opportunities in Suffolk have been consistently better than in the region as a whole, and broadly similar or better than for England generally. Within

Suffolk, job density is markedly and consistently greater in Ipswich and St Edmundsbury than in other districts.

Figure 21. Job density: Suffolk, the East and England

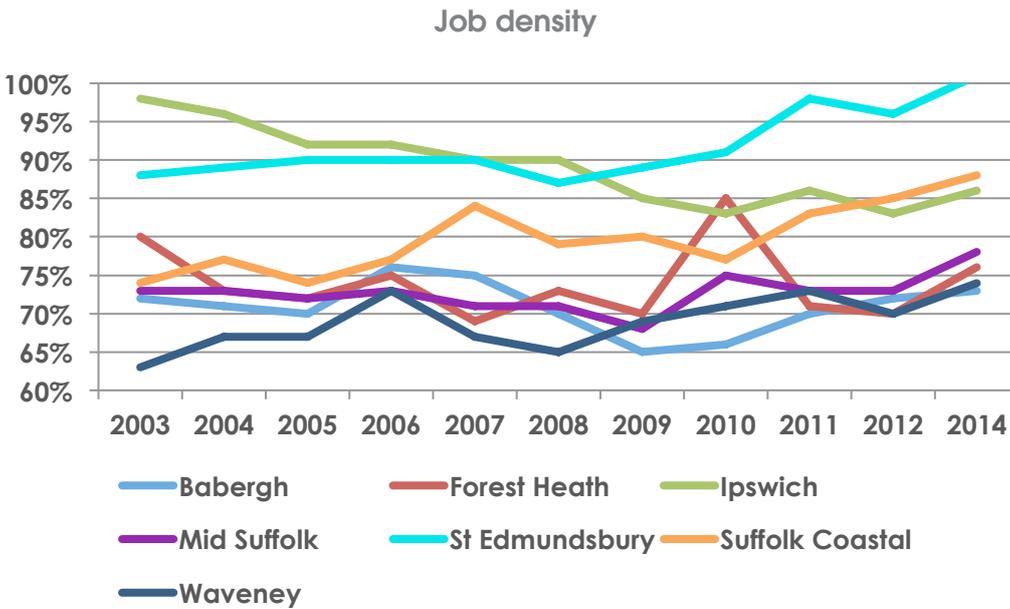
Source: Based on data released by ONS through NOMIS.



↑  
JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN SUFFOLK BETTER THAN THE REST OF REGION

Figure 22. Job density; Suffolk districts

Source: Based on data released by ONS through NOMIS.



Given this, it is unsurprising that Suffolk has a low unemployment rate. Generally, over the last decade there has been less unemployment in Suffolk than in England or the region. This is reflected in the low take up of key benefits, such as Job Seekers Allowance. However, as Figure 22 suggests, these overarching statistics for Suffolk mask contrasts within the county. Despite its high job density, Ipswich also has high unemployment compared with the rest of the county. Based on the most recent reliable

figures (2014), the unemployment rate in Ipswich is 6.7 per cent, marginally more than the rate for England. Even higher – at nearly 9 per cent – Waveney’s unemployment rate is substantially greater than regional and national trends. In contrast, pulling the county’s overall unemployment below average are Babergh, Mid Suffolk, St Edmundsbury, Forest Heath and Suffolk Coastal which all have very low rates of unemployment.

Figure 23. Ten year trend (2004-2014) of rates of unemployment

Source: Annual Population Survey, 2016

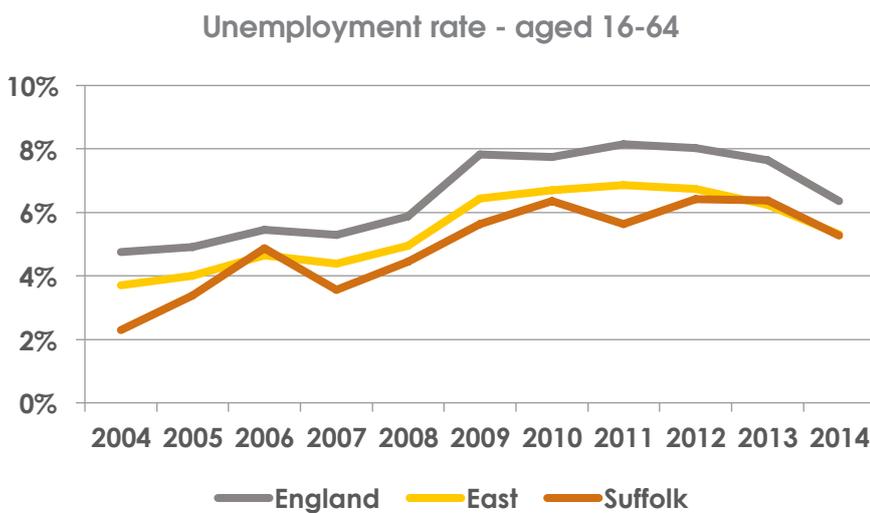
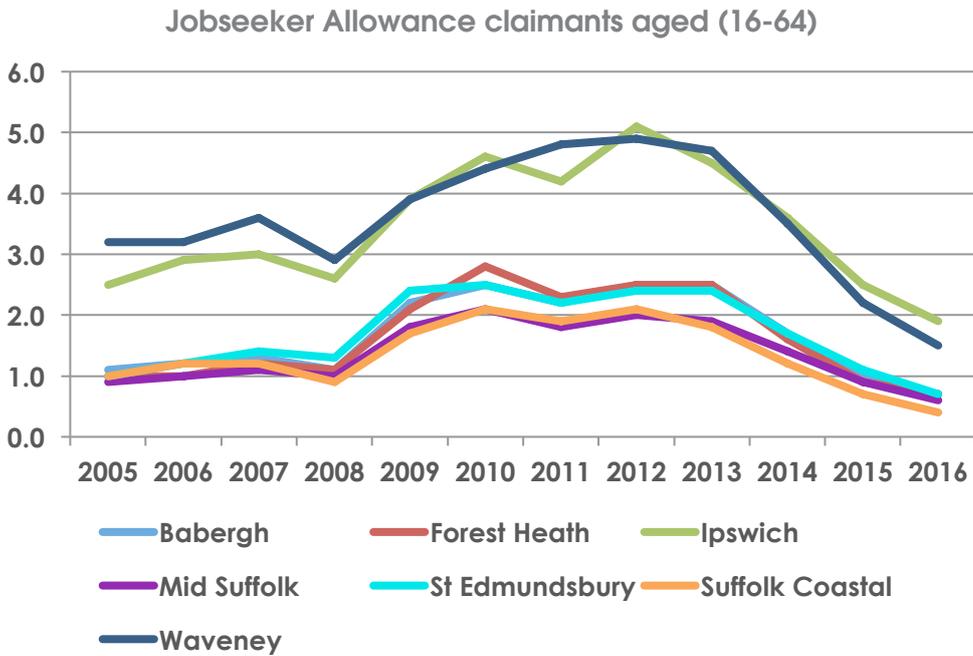


Figure 24. JSA claimant rates (aged 16 to 64): Suffolk districts



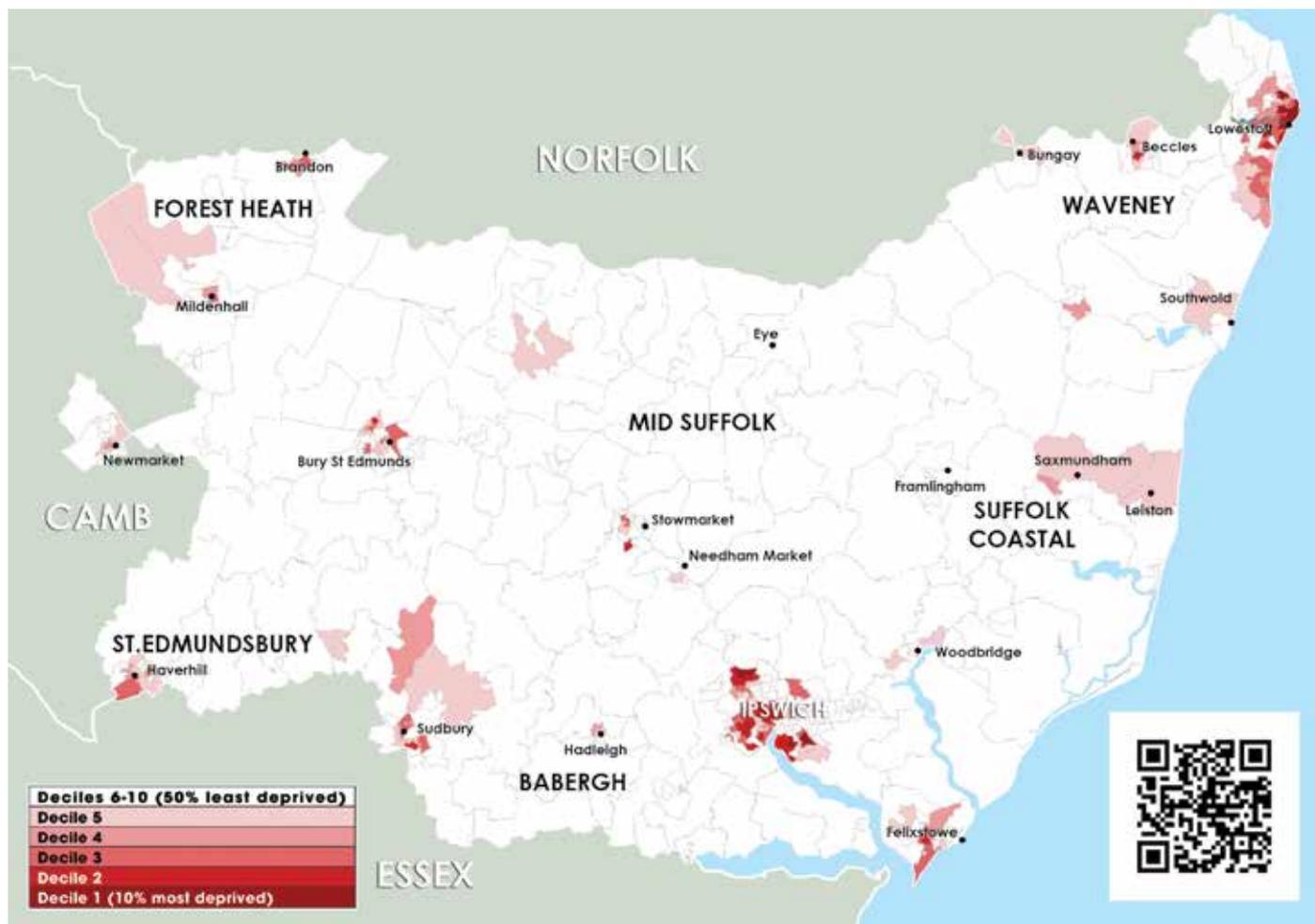
In all districts, benefit claimants are concentrated in some neighbourhoods and not others. Figure 25 maps neighbourhoods by the proportion of benefit claimants in them. In Waveney, there is a high rate of benefit claimants in Lowestoft, Kessingland and Beccles, but fewer in other neighbourhoods. The map also shows that in districts with generally low unemployment there are also neighbourhoods with a high claimant rate. For example, in Suffolk Coastal,

this includes areas around Leiston and Felixstowe. Higher claimant rates are found in or around Suffolk’s urban hubs – in addition to Ipswich and Lowestoft this includes Brandon, Mildenhall, Bury St Edmunds, Haverhill, Stowmarket and Saxmundham. But this is not always the case, and we also see higher rates too in more remote areas such as around Stanton in St Edmundsbury, around Bridge Street in Babergh, and around Kelsale in Suffolk Coastal.



Figure 25. Unadjusted Means-tested Benefits Rate

Source: Fenton, 2014



Interactive map: <http://tiny.cc/UMBR-Suffolk>

Wages in Suffolk have remained persistently lower than average wages regionally and nationally for more than the last decade.

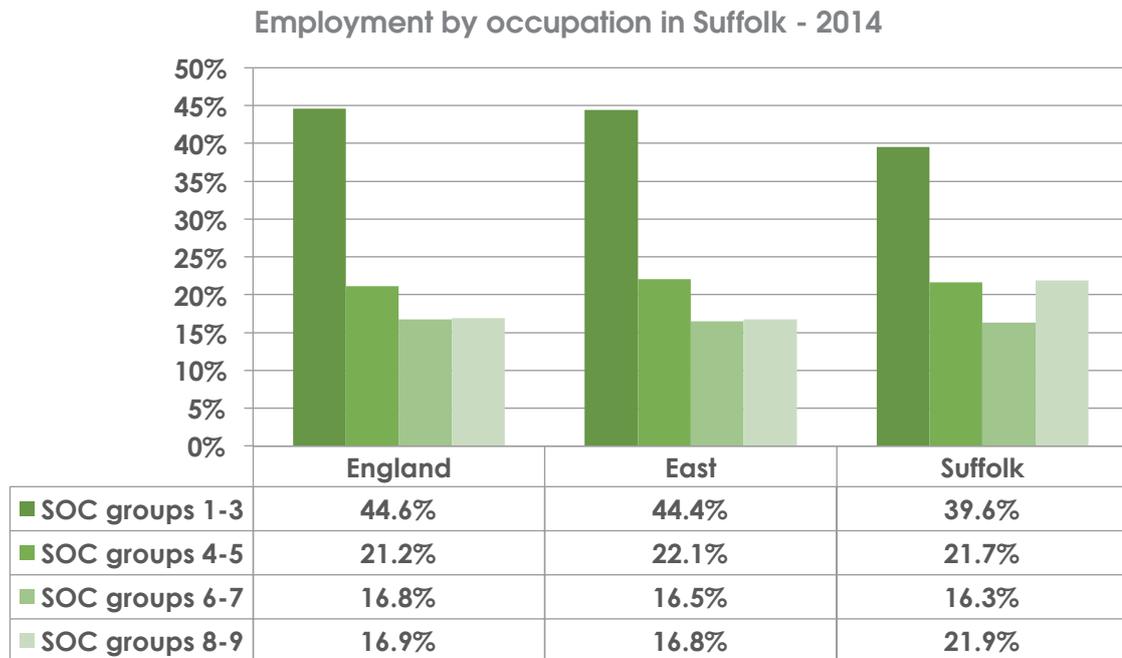
## Types of employment and wages in Suffolk

Low unemployment is not always the same as economic prosperity. Although Suffolk has a history of high employment, jobs are disproportionately concentrated in lower waged job sectors. Compared regionally and nationally, a smaller proportion of people in Suffolk work in managerial and professional jobs and a larger proportion

are employed in less skilled manual and elementary occupations (Figure 26). As Figure 26 suggests, this reflects long term trends for the county. Among districts, Suffolk Coastal has the highest rate of managerial and professional workers, while Forest Heath has the highest rate of workers in less skilled manual and elementary job roles.

Figure 26. Employment by Standard Occupation Classification (SOC)

Source: Annual Population Survey (2016)



SOC groups 1-3: Group 1: managers, directors and senior officials; Group 2: professional occupations; Group 3: associate prof & tech occupations

SOC groups 4-5: Group 4: administrative and secretarial occupations; Group 5: skilled trades occupations

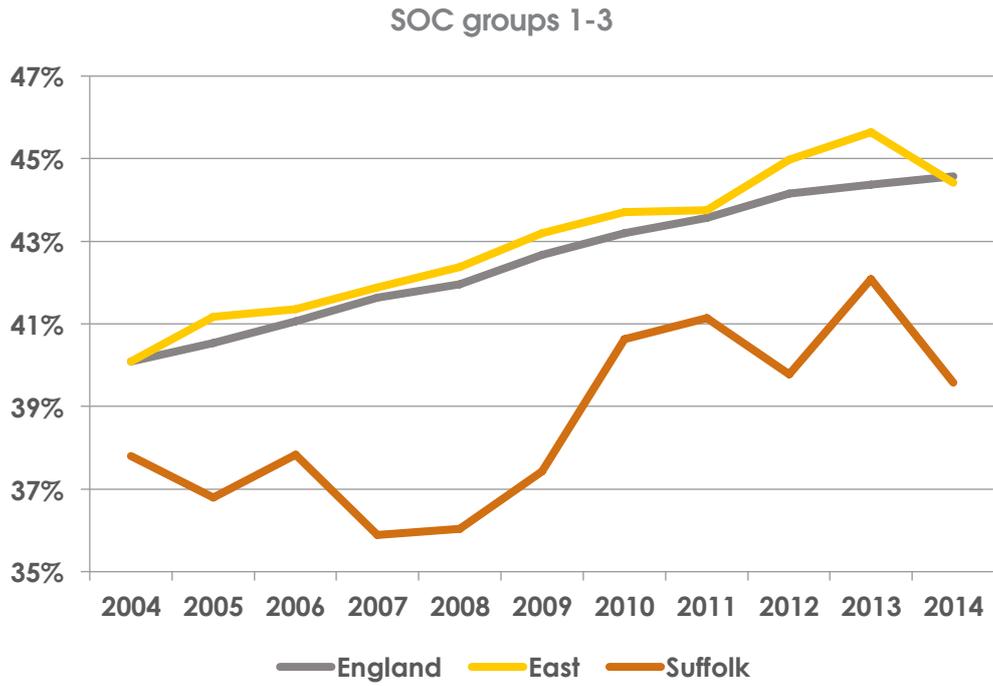
SOC groups 6-7: Group 6: caring, leisure and other service occupations; Group 7: sales and customer service occupations

SOC groups 8-9: Group 8: process, plant and machine operatives; Group 9: elementary occupations

Compared regionally and nationally, a smaller proportion of people in Suffolk work in managerial and professional jobs and a larger proportion are employed in less skilled manual and elementary occupations.

Figure 27. Employment by Standard Occupation Classification: ten year trend

Source: Annual Population Survey (2016)



↓  
WAGES IN SUFFOLK HAVE REMAINED PERSISTENTLY LOW

The first Hidden Needs study reported that the county lagged behind the region and nation in terms of wages and this is evident again five years on. Wages in Suffolk have remained persistently lower than average wages regionally and nationally for more than the last decade.

Within the county, Forest Heath has fared worse on pay during the period, followed by Waveney and Ipswich. Over the same timescale, wages in Suffolk Coastal and Babergh have been higher, reflecting more typical rates of pay for the region.

Figure 28. Gross weekly pay (£ median)

Source: Annual Population Survey, 2016

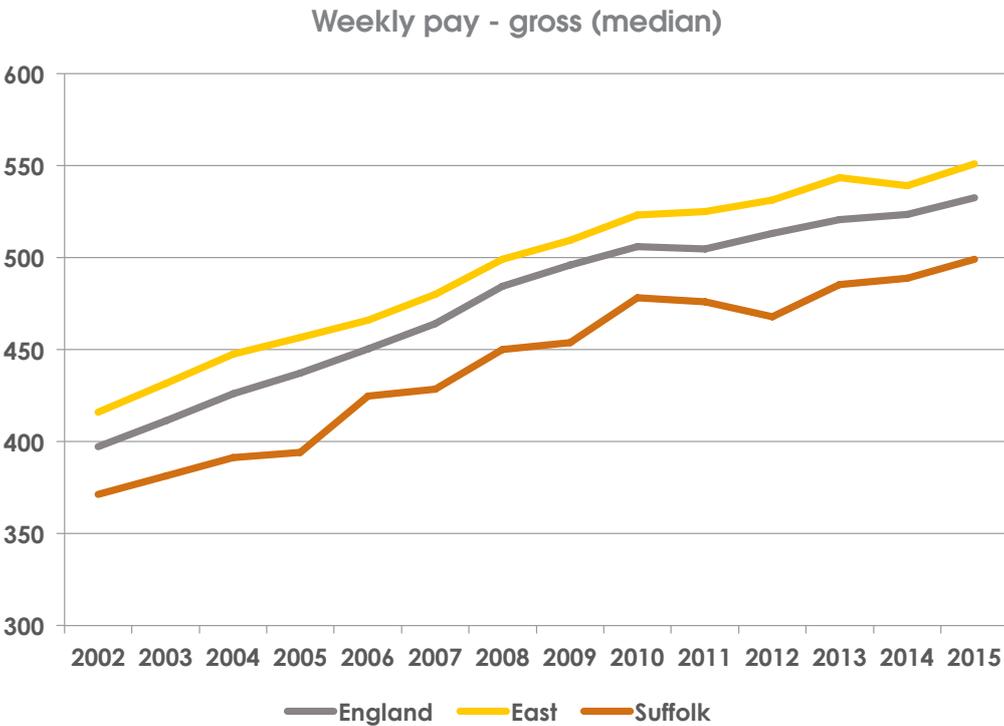


Table 15. Average earnings from employment for full-time workers (2015)

	Median (gross £ /week)
Babergh	539.2
Forest Heath	422.7
Ipswich	483.3
Mid Suffolk	512.3
St Edmundsbury	508.9
Suffolk Coastal	552.0
Waveney	477.1
<b>Suffolk</b>	<b>499.0</b>
<b>East</b>	<b>551.0</b>
<b>England</b>	<b>532.6</b>



*Suffolk enjoys good health on IMD measures, though there has been a sharp decline over the last five years. From a low disability rate a decade ago, compared regionally and nationally, the county now has a slightly greater proportion of working-age adults with disabilities. The prospect of increasing health and support needs at a time when health and social care services are under increasing pressure raises implications for the county.*

## Age, health and disability

**The growing population of older people in the county also report good health compared nationally, and income deprivation among older people has remained fairly stable with some improvement. Nevertheless, over 26,000 older people in Suffolk provide upwards of 20 hours of unpaid care a week and nearly 25,000 experience income deprivation.**

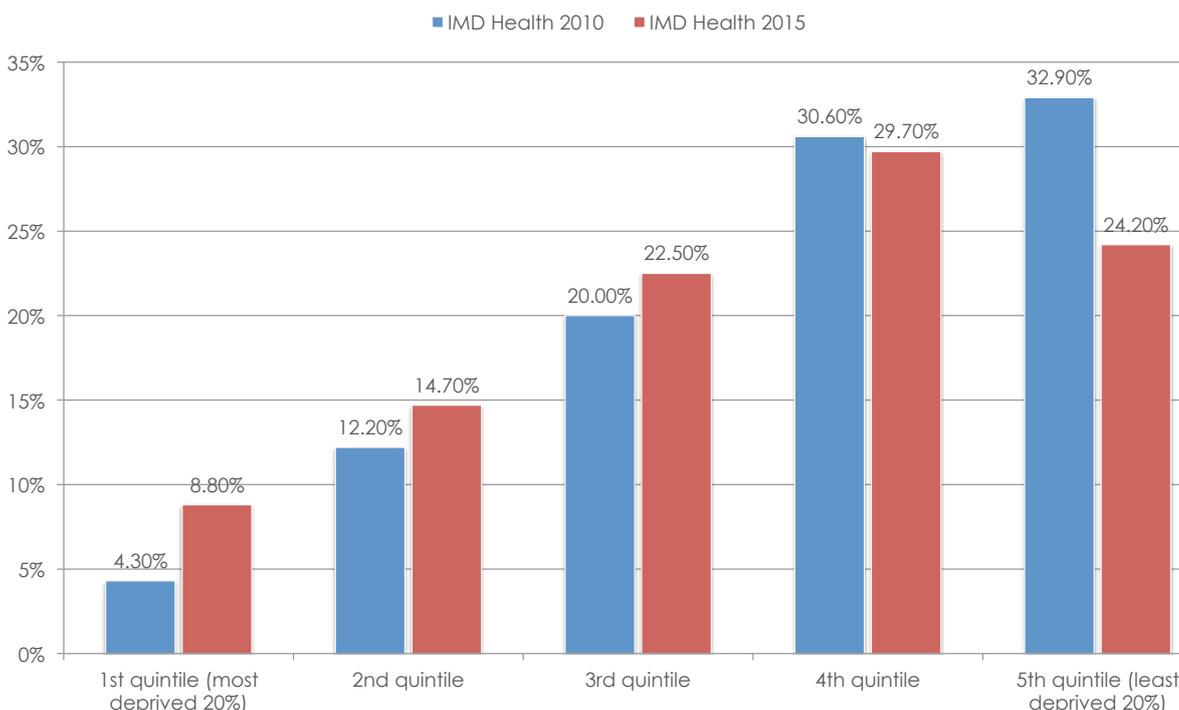
### Index of Multiple Deprivation: findings for health

The IMD assesses health deprivation in relation to rates of premature death; concentration of people with disabilities and poor health; the rate of emergency hospital admissions; and mental health. Compared with the rest of England, Suffolk fares well on this measure.

In 2015, less than 9 per cent of neighbourhoods in Suffolk were ranked among the 20 per cent most deprived neighbourhoods in the country (see Figure 29). Well over half of neighbourhoods were ranked in the least deprived 40 per cent.

With regards to health deprivation - over half of neighbourhoods in Suffolk were ranked as being more deprived in 2015 than they were in 2010. The most deprived neighbourhoods in 2010 saw least change.

Figure 29. Index of Multiple Deprivation: change in health and disability deprivation in Suffolk from 2010 to 2015



However, this is also an IMD domain where Suffolk is reported to have experienced one of its sharpest increases in relative deprivation over the last five years. Over half of neighbourhoods in Suffolk were ranked as being more deprived in 2015 than they were in 2010. The most deprived neighbourhoods in 2010 saw least change. Among the least deprived neighbourhoods in 2010, nearly 56 per cent saw a decline in health ranking by 2015.

Of the 30 neighbourhoods which dropped by 3 deciles or more in the IMD ranking for health, 9 were in Forest Heath and 13 in Waveney. In the former, neighbourhoods experiencing the biggest change included parts of Mildenhall and those from Brandon down to Gazeley; in Waveney these included neighbourhoods along Suffolk's border with Norfolk, from Bungay and into Lowestoft.

### Working-age people with long-term health problems and disabilities

Suffolk has seen a steady increase in the proportion of working-age people with long-term health problems or disabilities - from a point well below national and regional rates to a point comparable with national figures. Indeed, in 2014, the Annual Population Survey suggested that the rate of people with long-term health issues and disabilities

in Suffolk had surpassed national and regional rates. Over the decade there has been much variability in disability rates across districts. However, the trend has been for Waveney and Ipswich to have the highest rates: in 2014, around a quarter of working age adults were disabled in these areas.

Table 16. Percentage of working-age adults who are disabled under the Equality Act or have work-limiting disabilities, 2014

Source: Annual Population Survey. Percentages rounded to one decimal place.

England	18.8%
East	18.1%
Suffolk	20.4%
Babergh	16.4%
Forest Heath	16.9%
Ipswich	24.9%
Mid Suffolk	17.6%
St Edmundsbury	14.0%
Suffolk Coastal	23.1%
Waveney	25.7%

While the Annual Population Survey measures disability in terms of people who define themselves as having long term physical or mental health conditions, statistics about Disability Living Allowance (DLA) give an indication of the rate of people with high support and mobility needs. Figure 29 shows a trend where the proportion of DLA claimants in Suffolk is above the rate for the region but below the rate

for England. Within Suffolk, the rate of claimants in most districts was below the national figure with the exception of Waveney and Ipswich, where rates are much higher. This means that these two districts are not only home to a bigger proportion of people with ill health or disability more generally defined but also to a bigger proportion of disabled people with higher needs.

Figure 30. Proportion of people (all ages) claiming Disability Living Allowance

Course: Department of Work and Pensions, 2016

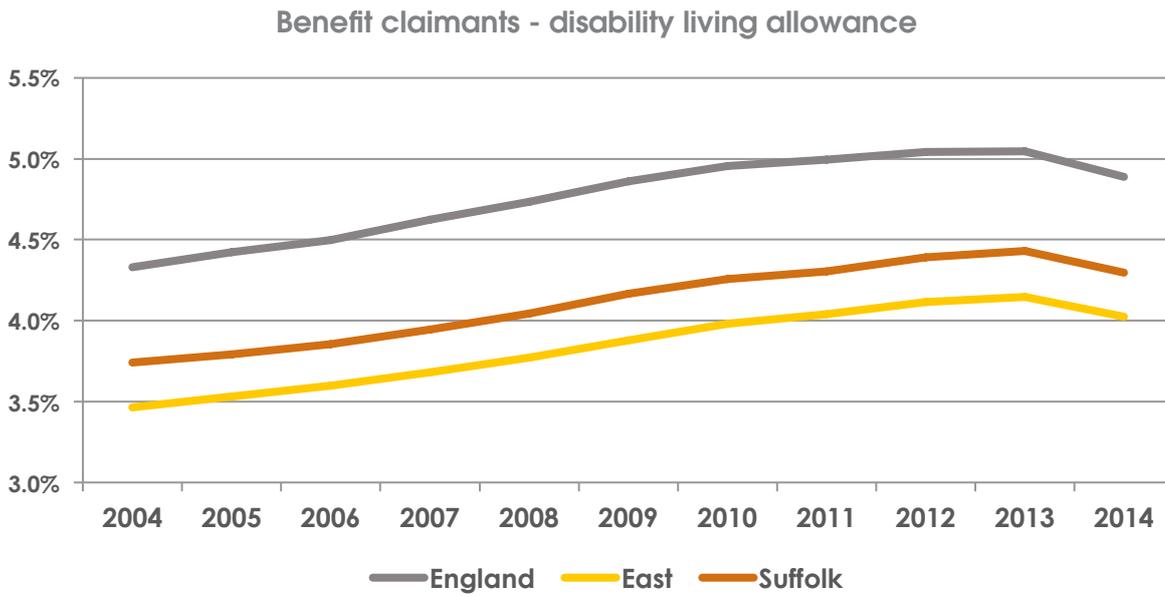
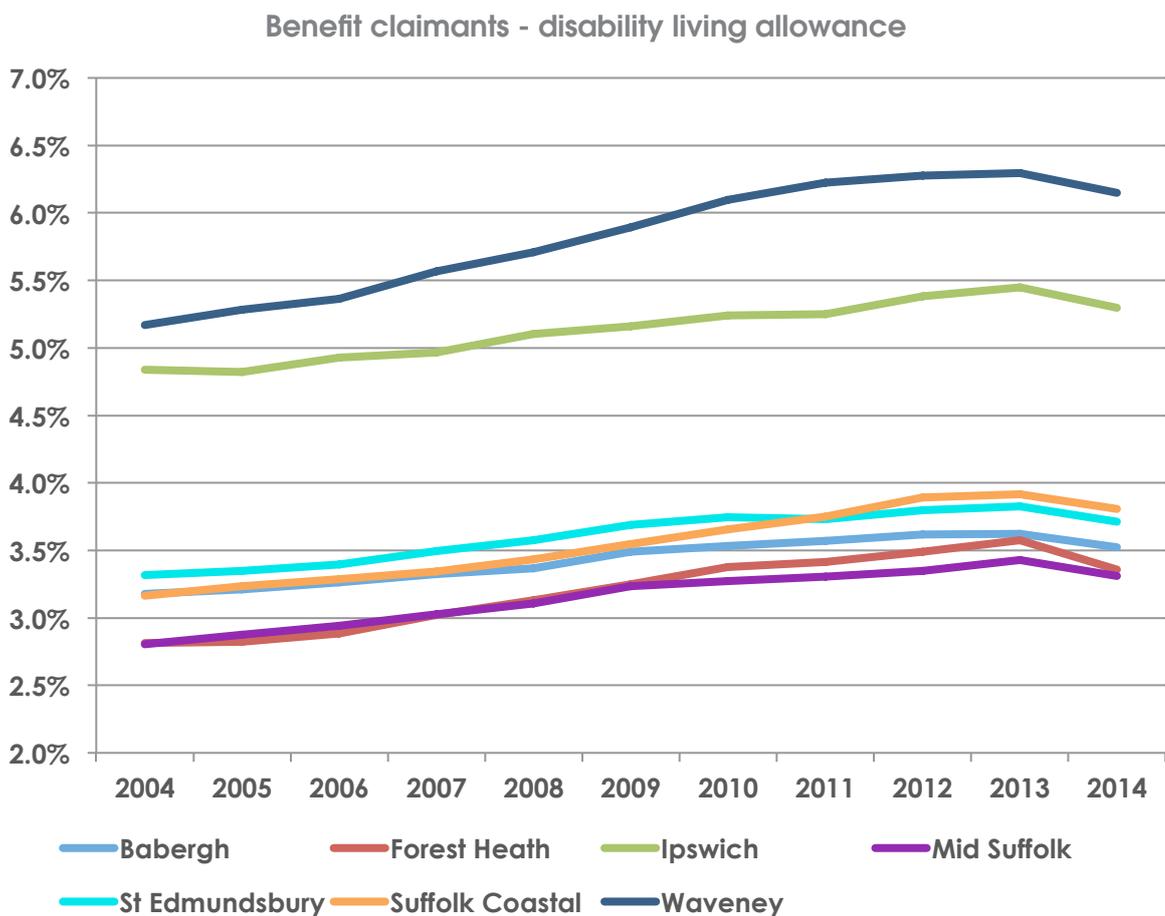


Figure 31. Proportion of people (all ages) claiming Disability Living Allowance in Suffolk



### Older people with long-term health problems and disabilities

Like the IMD findings for health, the 2011 Census suggests that older people in the county enjoy relatively good health. A greater proportion of older people in most districts defined themselves as being in good health compared with those in the region and in England, and fewer defined themselves as being in bad health (see

Table 17). While 25 per cent of older people in England said that health limited their activities a lot, the same is true of just 21 per cent of older people in Suffolk. Older people in the county were also more likely to say that their activities were not limited by health at all: 52 per cent compared with 48 per cent for England.



Table 17. Census 2011: self-defined health for respondents aged 65 and over

Source: Census 2011.

	Very good or good health	Fair health	Bad or very bad health
Babergh	58%	32%	9%
Forest Heath	52%	35%	13%
Ipswich	49%	37%	13%
Mid Suffolk	57%	33%	10%
St Edmundsbury	56%	33%	11%
Suffolk Coastal	58%	32%	10%
Waveney	52%	35%	13%
<b>England</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>14%</b>
East	54%	34%	12%
<b>Suffolk</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>11%</b>

**52%**  
OF OLDER PEOPLE SAY THEIR ACTIVITIES ARE **NOT LIMITED** BY HEALTH COMPARED TO 48% NATIONWIDE

Suffolk is consistent with national trends in terms of the proportion of older people who provide unpaid care for others. The 2011 Census found that 13.7 per cent of older people in Suffolk were carers. This is almost identical to rate of older carers in the East (13.8 per cent) and in England (13.8 per cent). Across Suffolk there is some variation, from 13 per cent in Babergh to over 14 per cent

in Waveney and Suffolk Coastal. Although the rate of older carers might not be particularly high in relative terms, it still means that in Suffolk in 2011 there were in excess of 26,000 older people providing 20 hours or more unpaid care a week, and about 17,000 who provided at least 50 hours of care.

### Income deprivation affecting older people

Income deprivation affecting older people in Suffolk has remained fairly constant over the last five years, with some improvement. Income deprivation in the IMD is based on the proportion of adults aged 60 or over receiving Income Support, income-based Jobseekers Allowance, income-based Employment and Support Allowance or Pension Credit (Guarantee). In terms of this measure, around only 6 per cent of neighbourhoods in Suffolk were among the most deprived 20 per cent in England and this figure has not changed between 2010 and 2015.

Income deprivation for older people in Suffolk is particularly found in neighbourhoods in or near urban hubs – including, among other places, Ipswich, Felixstowe, Lowestoft, Mildenhall, and between Stowmarket and

Needham Market. However, older people are over represented among the rural poor. That is, while 30 per cent of all income deprived people in Suffolk are older, among income deprived people in rural areas this increases to 39 per cent. It is also important to note that this includes some the county’s neighbourhoods ranked as being among England’s most advantaged (least deprived) 10 per cent. For example, neighbourhoods around Capel St Mary in Babergh, Great Barton in St Edmundsbury, Thorndon in Mid Suffolk and the hinterlands of Framlingham are all ranked in the top 10 per cent in England but each also include between 65 and 85 people living in income deprivation.

Table 18. Number and proportion of neighbourhoods in Suffolk by the Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index subdomain

Source: IMD 2015. Percentages rounded to one decimal place.

	2010 %	2015 %	% Improving	% Dropping
1st quintile (most deprived 20%)	6.3%	6.1%	42.9%	0.0%
2nd quintile (21%-40%)	17.9%	15.6%	35.3%	11.4%
3rd quintile (41%-60%)	20.8%	23.8%	30.4%	17.4%
4th quintile (61%-80%)	33.3%	31.7%	25.2%	21.1%
5th quintile (least deprived 20%)	21.5%	22.7%	28.4%	28.4%

## Isolation and living alone

Low income, disability and health problems increase the risk of social isolation. The dispersed nature of rural neighbourhoods and accessibility problems associated with living in rural areas also exacerbate risks for isolation. Given the rural character of the county, these issues are particularly pertinent to Suffolk. Of course, however, the single greatest risk is living alone. Over a third of older people in Suffolk live alone. This increases to a half of those aged over 74. Older women are much more likely to live alone than men – twice as likely among those aged over 74.

A marginally greater proportion of older people in Suffolk live alone compared with England. While the rate of older people living alone has declined in England, it has increased in Suffolk – from 31 per cent in 2001 to 35 per cent in 2011. The increase has been steeper for those aged over 74 - from 42 per cent in 2001 to 50 per cent in 2011.

Isolation and loneliness can have a significant effect on older people’s health and well-being in numerous ways. For example, lack of human contact and emotional support can make it difficult to maintain mental health.

Single people can find it more difficult than couples to take part in social activities outside the home. It can be more difficult to maintain a healthy diet for those shopping for food and preparing meals for one. In these ways, isolation risks undermining older people’s quality of life and their ability to maintain independent living – and, in turn, it can also result in greater demand on public services.

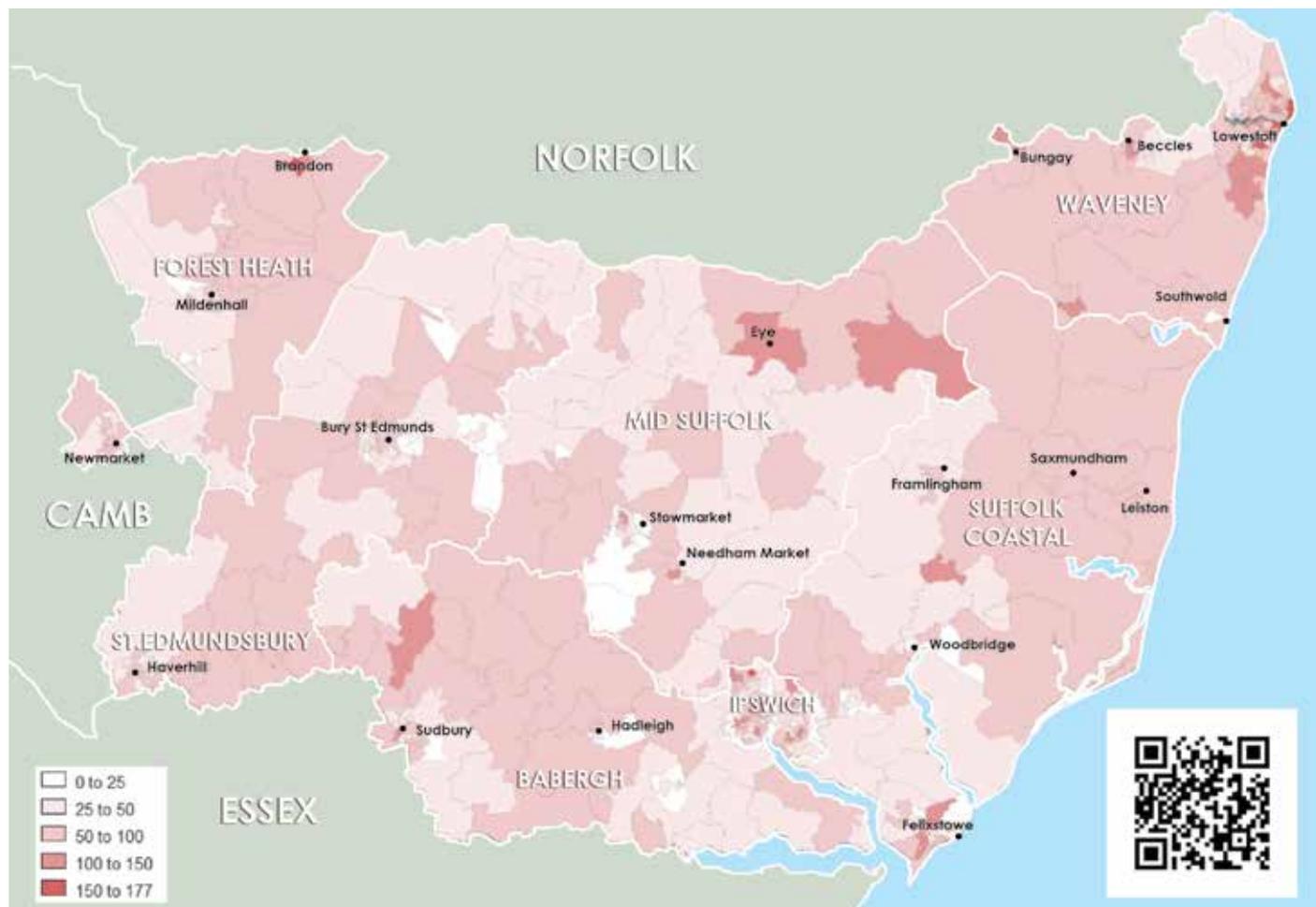
Table 19. Numbers and proportions of older people living alone, by sex

Source: Census 2011. Percentages rounded to one decimal place.

	Number	% living alone
<b>People of retirement age</b>		
Total	166,461	35.0%
Women (60 and over)	101,865	41.9%
Men (65 and over)	64,596	24.2%
<b>People aged 75 and over</b>		
Total	65,223	50.3%
Women	37,208	64.2%
Men	28,015	31.7%

Figure 32. Number of income-deprived older people

Source: IMD 2015



Interactive map: <http://tiny.cc/elders-counts-2015>



## Five years on: taking the long view

### Suffolk now

**Analysis for this report presents a picture of the unique dynamics of disadvantage and deprivation in Suffolk. Disadvantage in the county should not be overstated: on average, compared to England, it continues to be less deprived and more advantaged. The environment is good – with clean air and safe roads. Good care is taken of young children and improvement in child development rates are impressive.**

Older people in the county enjoy relatively good health and, while there has been some increase in health deprivation, the same can still be said of the general population. Poverty among older people is not rising and may be decreasing.

Equally, however, disadvantage in Suffolk should not be understated. The county includes some of England's most deprived neighbourhoods. There is deep and persistent poverty and disadvantage in and around Lowestoft and Ipswich - but none of the county's districts are without some degree of deprivation. Deprivation in Suffolk is clustered around the county's towns, where there is more likely to be concentrations of poverty and deprivation. It is also dispersed in rural areas, where additional living costs and accessibility barriers exacerbate disadvantage.

Analysis of the IMD highlights two particular aspects of deprivation in Suffolk. First, it is a place where often disadvantage and advantage sit side by side. Deprived neighbourhoods are found next to prosperous ones. Advantaged neighbourhoods include poor households living alongside neighbours in very different circumstances.

Second, the 2015 IMD indicates a gradual deterioration in the county's fortunes. There is little change and some increase in the proportion of neighbourhoods which were among the most deprived five years ago. The seriousness of persistent and deepening disadvantage is not difficult to consider. At the same time, more advantaged neighbourhoods have seen a sharper deterioration. This does not mean that places which were prosperous five years ago have now become deprived – it usually means that they have become slightly less advantaged. Arguably, however, this still carries implications for those most in need in the county. It means that there is a risk that deteriorating circumstances in advantaged neighbourhoods – such as increased barriers to services and poor rates of educational achievement – will be felt more keenly by deprived households than by their more secure and better off neighbours. If so, this would fuel widening inequality at the neighbourhood level. In more general terms, declining prosperity and increasing disadvantage widely across neighbourhoods, irrespective of affluence, might indicate that it will become harder to increase and target resources to those most at need.

## Long term visions

The long term trends identified in this research also raise questions about what the future might look like for Suffolk. The county is becoming older: this has been a consistent trend. The population is healthy and living longer, the proportion of children is declining, and younger adults are leaving the county. This is likely to mean there will be much higher demand on health and social care services in the future. At the same time, the relative proportion of working-age adults will further decline - and with it the county's capacity to generate commerce and taxes and to have enough workers to be able to provide care. Inward migration (domestic and international) may go some way to redress the balance but it probably will not make a major difference unless immigration increases from its current, low rate.

Suffolk Community Foundation has a history of supporting a wide range of people in the county, from children to older people. Reflecting this, the research highlights how the dynamics of deprivation in Suffolk mediate life chances across the life course. As mentioned, circumstances for the very young and older people in the county appear stable and deprivation generally is less than in other areas of England. Many children and young people in Suffolk have excellent life chances: they grow up in relative affluence, achieve good GCSEs, progress to university and secure well-paid, professional or managerial jobs. According to the Government's new Social Mobility Index, some children from disadvantaged backgrounds in the county have a high chance of being helped to do well in school and to go on to get good jobs.

However, this is influenced by where children live. While some districts in Suffolk are rated as being among the best in the country for social mobility, others are ranked as offering the slimmest chances of social mobility. Analysis in this report suggests that some children in the county do not have the same opportunities as others and face poor life chances. They grow up in income deprivation and face barriers to accessing educational and extra-curricular choices. They do not achieve good GCSEs. They progress neither to higher education nor to any education,

training or employment. When they enter work they have low paid jobs, with restricted options for finding alternative, higher quality employment. Moreover, as the research further suggests, such contrasting life opportunities do not only vary by district but can also vary from neighbourhood to neighbourhood. Either way, this points to a long term vision of increasing inequality in the county.

The first Hidden Needs report couched its conclusion in what we can now understand as the 'early days' of austerity. The first report noted major cuts to public spending and the growing emphasis on the role of the private, voluntary and independent sectors in the delivery of services. Five years on it is clear that, rather than being a temporary response to recession, austerity has driven a fundamental change in public services and triggered a new era of welfare in Britain. Public services have a reduced role, increasingly shifting from direct provision of services to facilitation of services. Expectation on the voluntary and community sector to have a greater role in service provision has become an established feature of the new era. As such, demand on the voluntary and community sector has increased - but often without the funding necessary to meet that demand.

Successfully meeting needs in the context of growing demand and shrinking and scarce resources necessitates creativity and innovation. Given the type of sustained deprivation identified in this research, and the risks for increasing unmet need and inequality in the future, such creativity and innovation are vital for Suffolk. The community and voluntary sector has the advantage here of being likely to be able to be more 'fleet of foot' than large public services and to often be in a better position to offer responsive, tailored help to meet local needs. This potential for tailored, cost effective responses to local need is also predicated on community and voluntary services having good local knowledge. Certainly, such local expertise is essential for understanding the distinct complexity of Suffolk's neighbourhoods and, hence, for developing tangible, targeted strategies to tackle disadvantage and address unmet need in the county.

Demand on the voluntary and community sector has increased – but often without the funding necessary to meet that demand.

# APPENDIX

## DATA SOURCES

### **NOMIS**

Most of the data used in this report were obtained through NOMIS, a service provided by the Office of National Statistics (<https://www.ons.gov.uk/>), providing access to UK labour market statistics (<https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/>).

Data obtained through NOMIS are:

- Annual Population Survey/Labour Force Survey
- Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings
- Census of Population
- Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) Benefits
- Jobcentre Plus Vacancies
- Jobs density
- Jobseekers Allowance
- Population Estimates
- UK Business Counts

### **Index of Multiple Deprivation**

Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) data was obtained from the Department for Communities and Local Government's Official Statistics sites:

- English indices of deprivation 2015 (for IMD 2015): <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/english-indices-of-deprivation-2015>
- English indices of deprivation 2010 (for IMD 2010): <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/english-indices-of-deprivation-2010>

### **International migration**

Data on migration was obtained from ONS – International Migration: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/internationalmigration>

### **Child Health Profile**

Data published by Public Health England: <http://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/child-health-profiles/data>.  
Data obtained from Child Health Profile are:

- NEET
- Low birth weight of term babies

### **Social Mobility Index**

Data published by the Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/social-mobility-index>

### **Educational Attainment**

Data published by the Department of Education:

- GCSE: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-gcses-key-stage-4>
- Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFD) profile: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-early-years-foundation-stage-profile>

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