

March
2017

State of Dorset Deprivation



Deprivation has a significant impact on health and wellbeing. Dorset's areas of deprivation are largely located in the most urban areas - in particular Weymouth & Portland - but many of Dorset's rural communities could also be considered deprived in terms of barriers to housing and essential services.

As the number of older people living in rural areas grows, the challenge of access to facilities and pressure on health and care services will accelerate.

Big Numbers Box

12 areas of Dorset in most deprived nationally

Dorset population living in rural areas **41%**

Lower end house prices

10 times higher than lower end earnings

67 areas in most deprived nationally for **access to housing and services**

23 areas in most deprived nationally for **education**

9 areas in most deprived nationally for **income**

16,000 workless households

4,000 children live in workless households

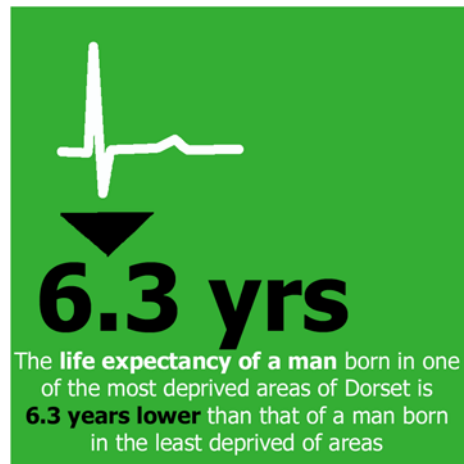
Box 1: Social deprivation

- There are twelve areas (out of a total of 249) in Dorset within the top 20% most deprived nationally for multiple deprivation, down from 13 in 2010¹.
- Nine of these are within the urban borough of Weymouth and Portland, two are in Christchurch and one in West Dorset.

12 areas in Dorset suffer high deprivation



- 23 of Dorset's neighbourhoods are in the 20% most deprived nationally in relation to education¹.
- 41% of Dorset's population lives in rural areas³. Barriers to housing and essential services are significant in Dorset reflecting rurality and distance from services. 67 Dorset neighbourhoods fall in the 20% most deprived nationally for this measure: 21 are in West Dorset and 20 in North Dorset¹.



- The gap in life expectancy between the most deprived and least deprived areas of Dorset is 6.3 years for men and 5.9 years for women².

Sources

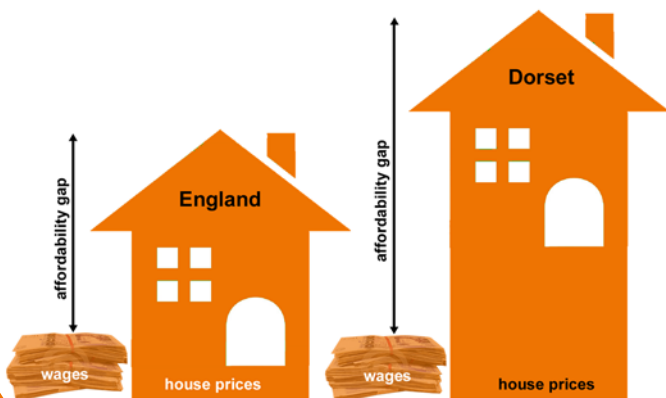
1 English Indices of Deprivation (2015), DCLG

2 Public Health Outcomes, 2012-2014

3 Census of Population, 2011

Box 2: Economic deprivation

- Nine neighbourhoods in Dorset fall into the top 20% nationally for income deprivation (up from five in 2010) - seven of these are in Weymouth and Portland¹.
- Weymouth and Portland residence based weekly earnings are £488 per week compared with £541 in Great Britain⁴.



Weekly earnings are lower for people living in Weymouth and Portland

- In Dorset, about 28,400 people including 4,000 children live in 16,100 workless households: 13% of Dorset households were workless compared to 15% nationally⁵.
- In 2015, lower end house prices were more than ten times higher than lower end earnings in Dorset - and even higher in Christchurch, East Dorset and Purbeck⁶.

Why does it matter:

Deprivation impacts heavily on both individuals and families and consequently on council services, as those likely to suffer deprivation rely more heavily on intervention and support from the public sector. Low income households will qualify for additional assistance for a range of council services such as Adult and Community Services and Children's Services.

Areas of high deprivation also correlate strongly with higher levels of certain types of crime such as anti-social behaviour, domestic violence and burglary.

Deprivation is also a key challenge to health and wellbeing with levels of obesity and other life-style related conditions higher amongst those living in deprivation.

For those suffering deprivation in rural areas, poor access to services can exacerbate problems they already face. Social isolation provides a challenge for the provision of council services.

Sources

4 Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (2016), ONS (full time gross weekly earnings)

5 Annual Population Survey (2015), ONS

6 Ratio of lower quartile house prices to lower quartile earnings (2015), DCLG