

# State of Dorset

September 2018

for the Dorset Council area



Diversity



Economy



Older People



Deprivation



Children



Population



Health and Care



Crime



Natural and  
Historic  
Environment



Leisure and  
Culture

## **Introduction**

Welcome to the State of Dorset for the new Dorset Council area. Following Local Government Reorganisation, Dorset Council is due to come into effect on 1st April 2019, and covers the area previously under West Dorset District Council, Weymouth and Portland Borough Council, North Dorset District Council, East Dorset District Council and Purbeck District Council. The new area comprises a population of 375,100 which is around 49,600 fewer people than the Dorset County Council area.

This compendium of bulletins brings together statistical and contextual information relating to ten themes important to Dorset: Children, Crime, Deprivation, Diversity, Economy, Health and Care, Leisure and Culture, Natural and Historic Environment, Older People and Population.

These themes cover most aspects of life affecting people living or working in Dorset. In many ways they are inter-related with trends identified in one theme also appearing across the others. For this reason, the bulletins should be looked at as a whole rather than as discrete topics. For example, the increasing number of older people living in Dorset is a factor that directly appears in four of the bulletins and arguably indirectly affects a couple more.

We hope that the bulletins will help inform understanding of other reports and data analysis relating to the issues identified. Users may also find the bulletins useful sources of evidence when budget setting, writing funding applications, writing policies and identifying areas for further research.

The bulletins are by their nature snapshots of the situation in Dorset at a particular time and do not attempt to provide detailed explanations for the statistics or findings. If you require further information on a topic we would encourage you to look at the many other reports and data sources on Dorset Statistics.

It is hoped that by identifying Dorset's weaknesses and strengths, the new council and its partners will be able to work together for a strong and successful Dorset, enabling economic growth and promoting health, wellbeing and safeguarding.

**For DORSET STATISTICS, see**  
**<https://apps.geowessex.com/stats/>**

# State of Dorset

## Population

September  
2018



Dorset County Council  
for the Dorset Council area

*In this bulletin Dorset refers to the Dorset Council area coming into effect 1st April 2019 unless stated otherwise*

Change in Dorset's demographic make-up can have an impact on service demands and provision but can also affect housing demand and business needs.

Changes in our population are shaped by both natural change (births and deaths) and by migration into and out of Dorset.

By projecting future population change, we can plan to target services and resources to the places where they will be needed most.

Big Numbers Box

**0.3%pa**

projected total population change  
2016-2041

**375,100**

total  
population  
in 2017

**1.6%pa**

+65s projected  
population change  
2016-2041

**22,500**

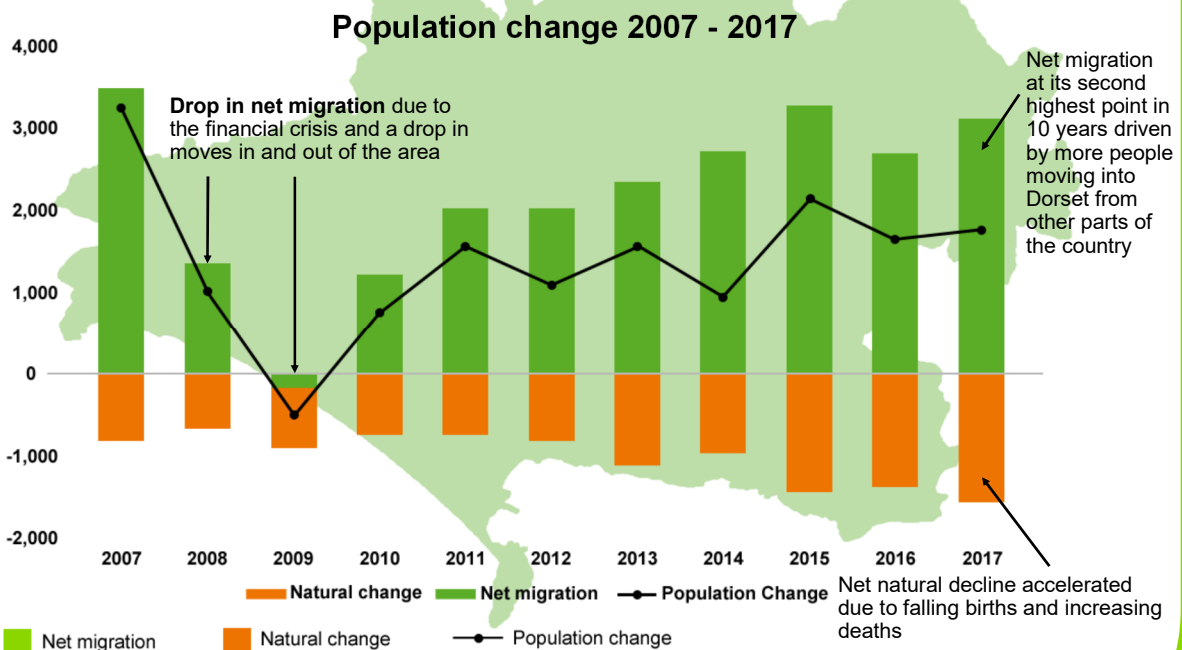
increase in +65s  
2007-2017, an  
increase of 2.5%pa

**1,400**

decrease in  
0-15yrs  
2007-2017

### Box 1: Population change in the Dorset Council area

- In the Dorset Council area, deaths outnumber births giving net decline in the natural population.
- Growth in Dorset's population therefore arises from positive net migration, with in migration normally greater than out migration each year.

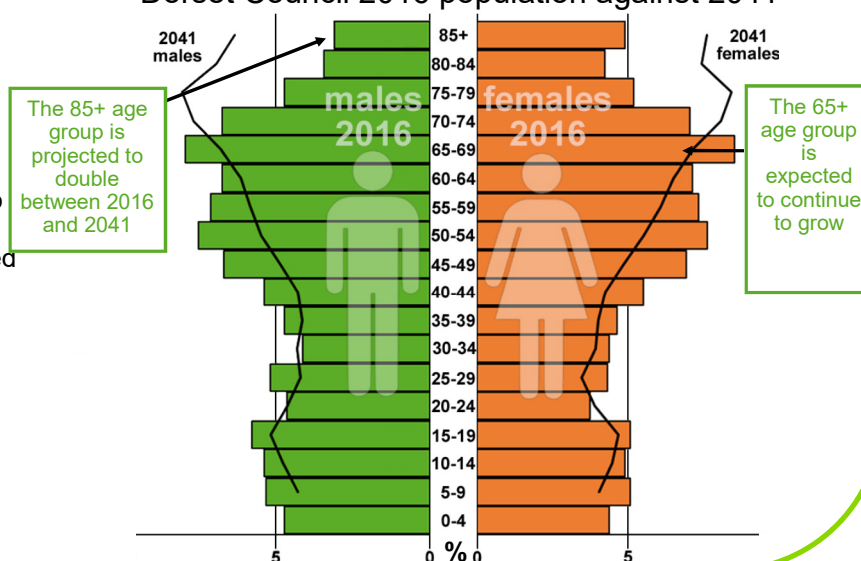


- Over the period 2007-2017, Dorset's population grew by 12,000, growth of about four per cent compared with eight per cent nationally.

## Box 2: Age breakdown of population change

- Over the period 2007-2017, the number aged 65+ grew by 22,500 – up by 27%.
- However, the population of working age dropped by 9,100 in Dorset – and the number of children fell by 1,400.
- There was also a net loss of 15-19 year olds from Dorset to other parts of the UK, with net gains mostly among those aged 30+.
- Over the next 25 years, Dorset's population is projected to grow at a slower rate to the national average at about 0.3% per annum compared to 0.6%.
- Corresponding with the national trend, the greatest part of this growth is among those aged 65+, increasing at 1.6% pa.
- Dorset's working age population is expected to see a marginal decline over this period compared with marginal growth nationally.
- No growth is expected in the next 25 years for 0-15yr olds following the fall between 2007 and 2017 in this age group.

Dorset Council 2016 population against 2041



## What are we doing about it?

The council produces population projections which look forward 25 years and are revised on an annual basis. These projections can be used to anticipate local housing need and inform local plans which identify land for housing. The projections also help with school place planning - a growing population of children creates a demand for school places and support services. The ageing population can affect housing supply and demand by continuing to live in under-occupied homes, either from preference or because they require or requiring specially designed dwellings.

An ageing population has an impact on the economy as more employees move into retirement with a potential loss of skills from the workforce, unless employers up-skill other workers and train apprentices. The council works with partners to secure and deliver European Social Funds for initiatives to upskill the workforce and help people into employment. It also provides adult learning courses<sup>1</sup> and promotes the benefits of retaining and training older staff.<sup>2</sup> The Dorset Mentoring Scheme enables experienced business people to help fledgling companies by sharing their experience and mentoring through the early years.<sup>3</sup>

To support the growing number of older people, Dorset is helping people plan for their future care needs with a campaign: Prepare to Live Better. The council also provides advice and support to carers. Keeping fit and healthy into old age improves people's physical and mental wellbeing and reduces the demand for public services. Investing in green spaces and providing information through services like 'Live Well Dorset' can be much more cost effective than clinical interventions and other support.<sup>4</sup>

### Sources

- 1 <https://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/adultlearning>
- 2 Lifelong learning for an ageing workforce available at <https://apps.geowessex.com/stats/>
- 3 <http://www.dormen.org.uk/>
- 4 <https://www.livewelldorset.co.uk/>

2017 Mid-year estimates, ONS



September  
2018

# State of Dorset Children



Dorset County Council  
for the Dorset Council area

In this bulletin Dorset refers to the Dorset Council area coming into effect 1st April 2019 unless stated otherwise

Experiences in a child's early years lay a foundation for health and wellbeing and our services for children and families have an important role in building future resilience.

By identifying those most at risk of poorer outcomes later on, our resources can be targeted where they are needed most so that we can respond to risk and vulnerability.

The number of 0-4 year olds is expected to decrease slightly but the number of 5-15 year olds will increase from about 42,600 in 2016 to 44,500 in 2026 (0.5% pa).<sup>1</sup>

Big Numbers Box

**59,800**<sup>2</sup> total children

primary school children with a Special Educational Needs plan

**1.5%**

**449** children and young people in care in Dorset

**96%**

children leaving care go into suitable accommodation

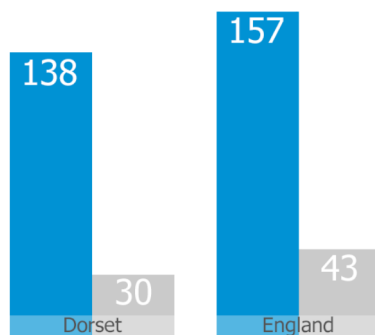
**138** child protection enquiries per 10,000 children

**58** looked after children in every 10,000 in Dorset

**30** child protection rate per 10,000 children

## Box 1: Vulnerable children

### Child protection: Dorset

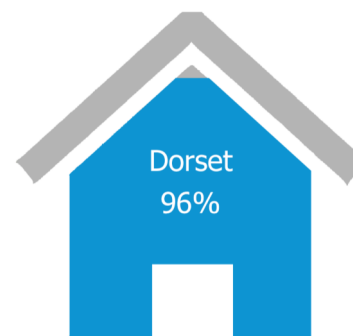


■ Enquiries (s47) ■ Child protection rate

- The child protection rate in 2018 was 30 per 10,000 children compared with 43 in England (2017).<sup>3</sup>
- The rate of looked after children was 58 per 10,000 children in 2017.<sup>3</sup>
- Suitable accommodation is not always available for children leaving care. In Q1 & Q2 2017/18, 96% of Dorset children leaving care went into suitable accommodation.<sup>3</sup>

- Vulnerable groups include:
  - those from deprived socio-economic backgrounds;
  - those with special educational needs;
  - children from particular ethnic groups.
- As of January 2018, 640 pupils are designated with a Special Educational Need defined as Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD).<sup>5</sup>
- In December 2017, there were 449 children and young people in care in Dorset.<sup>3</sup>

### % of children leaving care going into suitable accommodation



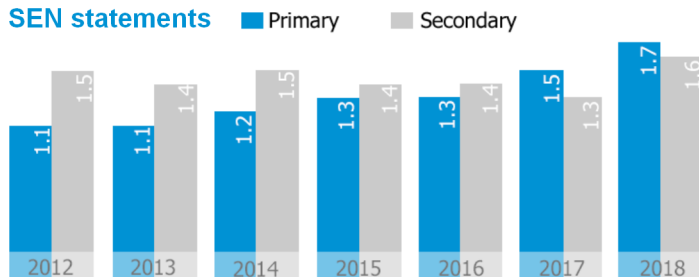
## Sources

- 1 Revised 2016-based trend population projections, ONS
- 2 2017 Mid-year estimates, ONS
- 3 Dorset County Council, Children's Services
- 4 Pupil Census January 2018, DCC

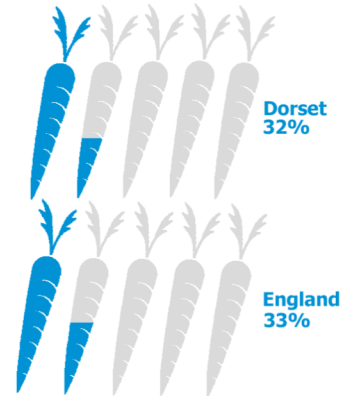
## Box 2: Education

- In 2017, 69% of children achieved a good level of development in the Early Years Foundation Stage, a fall of 1.3 percentage points on 2016.<sup>3</sup>
- Schools are now scored on pupil progress between KS2 and KS4 (Progress 8). A score below zero shows that pupils made less progress than the national average (England=0). Dorset scored -0.12 in 2017, down from 2016 but broadly in line with other South West local authorities.<sup>5</sup>
- 32% of pupils eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) in Dorset achieved five or more GCSEs at grades A\*-C including English and Maths compared with 33% nationally in 2015.<sup>3</sup>
- 14% of primary pupils claim Free School Meals, marginally below the national average.<sup>4</sup>

### SEN statements



### Pupils eligible for FSM achieving 5+ A\*-C GCSEs



- In 2017, 1.7% of primary school pupils had a statement of Special Educational Needs (SEN) or education, health and care plan, as did 1.6% of secondary school pupils.<sup>4</sup>

## What are we doing about it?

There is evidence to show that what a child experiences in early years, starting in the womb, affects health and wellbeing in later life. Early intervention is therefore key and cutbacks in spending on this for short term financial gain can lead to greater long term costs, both financial and social.<sup>6</sup>

By creating Family Partnership Zones, the council is working with partners and communities to ensure children get the right help, at the right time and in the right place, to prevent difficulties for families from becoming bigger problems. The idea is that organisations work together to ensure positive outcomes for children and young people and support them all the way from birth to getting a job.

Through working with our partners to ensure that we all take a 'whole family approach', the council uses early intervention programmes, such as the Troubled Families programme, which aims to reduce demand and dependency on costly reactive public services by families experiencing complex issues, and deliver better value for the taxpayer.

The council works with partners to support parents and children in the early years through a range of Early Childhood Services. This includes information and advice; parenting support; group work activities; support to access childcare; help with preparing for school; and education and training opportunities.

Evidence suggests that smarter working with the whole family leads to improved outcomes and better value for money and, as some will need ongoing support, there needs to be a continuum of services to support vulnerable people over time.

### Sources

5 Dorset Achievement Update Summary, February 2018, Dorset County Council

6 C4E0 Grasping the Nettle: early intervention for children, families and communities

July  
2018

# State of Dorset Crime



Dorset County Council  
for the Dorset Council area

*In this bulletin Dorset refers to the Dorset Council area coming into effect 1st April 2019 unless stated otherwise*

In a national context, crime in the Dorset Council area is consistently very low, well below the average in England.

Although total recorded crime has risen by 14% this year compared to last year, this reflects a national trend and is partly due to improved crime recording practices and changes to Home Office recording standards.

Crime levels are usually higher across the summer months in Dorset.

Big Numbers Box

**518** serious sexual offences in Dorset last year

**80%** of sexual assaults are committed against women

anti-social behaviour incidents  
**10,030**

**1 in 7**

of all anti-social behaviour incidents in Dorset occur in **Melcombe Regis** in Weymouth

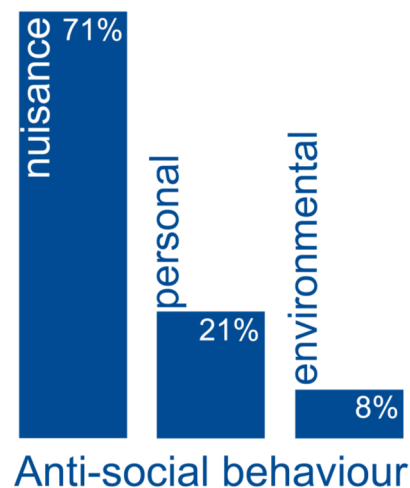
**2,037** domestic abuse incidents

Hate crime up by

**11%**

## Box 1: Dorset Community Safety Partnership Priorities<sup>1</sup>

- **Serious sexual offences**
- **Domestic abuse**
- **Anti-social behaviour**
- **Hate Crime**
- In 2017-18 there were 10,030 incidents of **anti-social behaviour** in the Dorset Council area.
- 71% of these were classified as nuisance, 21% personal and 8% environmental.
- Weymouth has the highest rate of anti-social behaviour across the Dorset Council area.
- Melcombe Regis ward accounts for 15% of all **anti-social behaviour** incidents in the Dorset Council area.
- There were 518 serious **sexual offences** in the Dorset Council area last year.
- There were 2,037 **domestic abuse** incidents in the Dorset Council area last year.



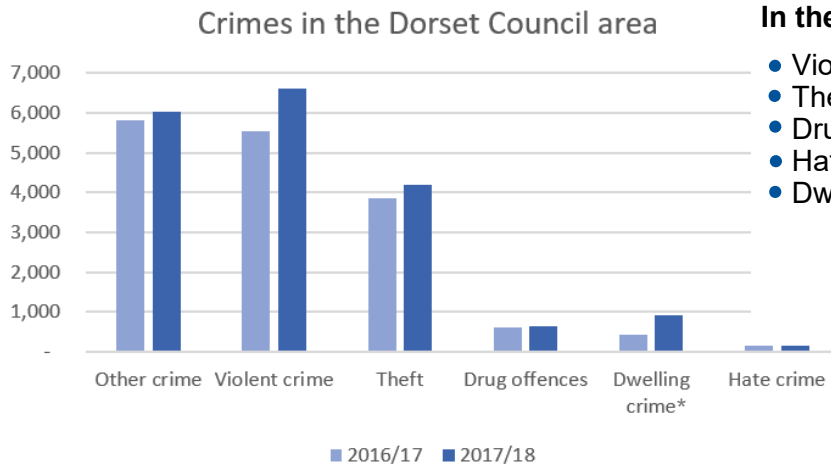
### Sources

1 Dorset Police statistics for the Dorset Council area

2 Comparing 2016/17 to 2017/18

## Box 2: Other Crime<sup>1</sup>

- Total crimes were higher this year than in previous years.



### In the last year<sup>2</sup>:

- Violent crime rose by 20%
- Theft rose by 9%
- Drug offences rose by 6%
- Hate crime rose by 11%
- Dwelling crime rose by 113%\*

- Compared to other areas, crime in the Dorset Council area is consistently low. Last year, Dorset had a lower crime rate than most council areas.

- Purbeck is the district with the lowest crime rate in Dorset...and Weymouth and Portland has the highest.
- The summer usually sees the most crime each year<sup>1</sup>. This could be because of the better weather over summer, the holidays and the longer daylight hours.
- Last year 85% of residents surveyed across Dorset said that they felt safe walking alone after dark.



## What are we doing about it?

The Dorset Community Safety Partnership (CSP) brings together local authorities, the police and other key partners to tackle crime and community safety issues. The CSP aims to reduce crime and the fear of crime; address risk, threat and harm to victims and local communities; and facilitate the strengthening of Dorset's communities in the delivery of local initiatives.

Crime and the fear of crime have a huge impact on the health and wellbeing of residents. The CSP undertakes annual assessments of local community safety issues and puts in place plans to address them. Current priority areas include domestic abuse, sexual violence and anti-social behaviour.

### Sources

<sup>2</sup> Comparing 2016/17 to 2017/18

\*Please note that the Home Office changed the definition of dwelling crime in 2017/18 to now include shed break-ins. Therefore the 2016/17 figures cannot be directly compared to the 2017/18 figures.



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# State of Dorset Deprivation



Dorset County Council  
for the Dorset Council area

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Deprivation has a significant impact on health and wellbeing. The Dorset Council 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. The English Indices of Deprivation divides the Dorset Council geography into 219 areas.

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

**10** areas of Dorset in most deprived nationally\*

Dorset population living in rural areas **46%**

Lower end house prices

**10** times higher than lower end earnings

**66**

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

**20**

areas in most deprived nationally for **education**

**7**

areas in most deprived nationally for **income**

**16,400**

workless households

**3,700**

**children** live in workless households

## Box 1: Social deprivation

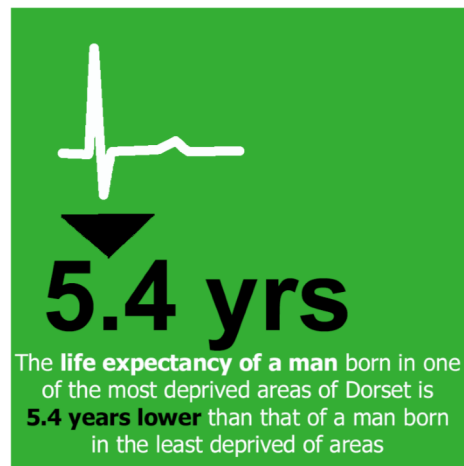
- There are ten areas (out of a total of 219) in Dorset within the top 20% most deprived nationally for multiple deprivation, down from 12 in 2010<sup>1</sup>.
- Nine of these are within the urban borough of Weymouth and Portland, one is in West Dorset.

10 areas in Dorset suffer high deprivation



Weymouth & Portland

West Dorset



- The gap in life expectancy between the most deprived and least deprived areas of Dorset is 5.4 years for men and 5.0 years for women<sup>2</sup>.

- 20 of Dorset's neighbourhoods are in the 20% most deprived nationally in relation to education<sup>1</sup>.
- 46% of Dorset's population lives in rural areas<sup>3</sup>. Barriers to housing and essential services are significant in Dorset reflecting rurality and distance from services. 66 Dorset neighbourhoods fall in the 20% most deprived nationally for this measure: 21 are in West Dorset and 20 in North Dorset<sup>1</sup>.

### Sources

1 English Indices of Deprivation (2015), DCLG

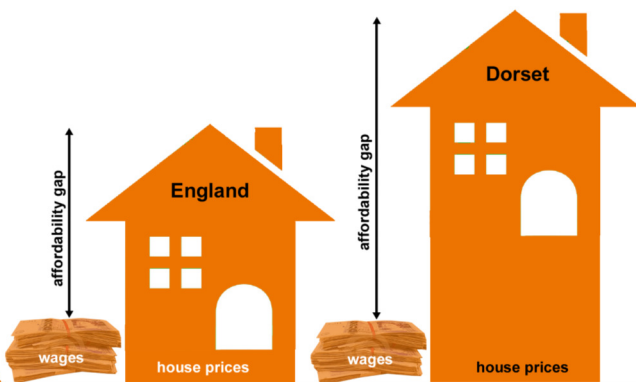
2 Dorset Health Profile 2017, Public Health England, 04 July 2017

3 Census of Population, 2011

\*Most deprived = an area falls within the top 20% nationally

## Box 2: Economic deprivation

- Seven neighbourhoods in Dorset fall into the top 20% nationally for income deprivation (up from five in 2010) - seven of these are in Weymouth and Portland<sup>1</sup>.
- Weymouth and Portland residence based weekly earnings are £511 per week compared with £553 in Great Britain<sup>4</sup>.



- In Dorset, about 20,400 people aged 16-64, plus 3,700 children live in 16,400 workless households. 16% of Dorset households were workless, in line with the national figure<sup>5</sup>.
- In 2017, lower end house prices were more than ten times higher than lower end earnings in Dorset - and even higher in East Dorset and Purbeck<sup>6</sup>.

## What are we doing about it?

Deprivation can be thought of as a lack of the basic necessities. It covers a wide range of factors that impact 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.

Deprivation is also a key challenge to health and wellbeing with levels of obesity and other lifestyle related conditions higher amongst those living in deprivation. One way that the council promotes healthy living is by providing information on local sports clubs, gyms, cycle routes and leisure activities.

Dorset's economic strategy and vision recognises the links between economic prosperity and health and wellbeing and the council aims to help create the right conditions for economic and jobs growth.

Early intervention can prevent problems from escalating. For example, by working with deprived families early on, the council's Troubled Families programme is intended to reduce demand for costly reactive public 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<sup>1</sup>. The council and its partners work together through the Dorset Community Safety Partnership to tackle crime.

### Sources

4 Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (2017), ONS (full time gross weekly earnings)

5 Annual Population Survey (2016), Households by combined economic activity status, ONS

6 Ratio of lower quartile house prices to lower quartile earnings (2017), DCLG

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2018

# State of Dorset Diversity



Dorset County Council  
for the Dorset Council area

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There are many definitions available for the term 'diversity' but they all cover the same fundamental issues. These include the recognition of differences, respecting those differences and appreciating the fact that different perspectives are valuable and can bring real benefits to society in general. There are nine protected characteristics within our strands of diversity.

- Age
- Disability
- Sex
- Religion & Belief
- Gender Identity
- Sexual Orientation
- Marriage & Civil Partnership
- Pregnancy & Maternity
- Ethnicity

Big Numbers Box

**28%** of Dorset's population is aged 65+

**105** females for every **100** males in Dorset

**1,866** living in a same sex relationship

Almost

**1 in 3** of

East Dorset's population is aged 65+

**One in five** of all residents have a health condition that limits their day to day activities

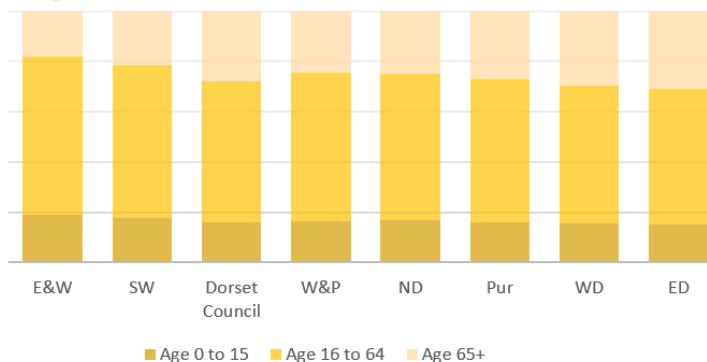
**4.4%** of Dorset's population are Black or Minority Ethnic

**5,266**

follow a non-Christian religion

## Box 1: Age & religion

### Age structure, 2017



• Dorset has a much greater proportion (**28%**) of the population aged 65 and over than England and Wales (**18%**).<sup>1</sup>

• Some districts have almost one in three residents aged 65 and over.<sup>1</sup>

• The five major non-Christian world religions Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, Judaism and Sikhism constitute **1%** of Dorset's residents' religious beliefs.<sup>2</sup>

- Dorset's main non-Christian religious groups are concentrated in Dorset's towns. Weymouth has just over **300** residents of Muslim faith. There are also concentrations around military establishments such as Blandford Camp where the Gurkhas and their families live who are predominantly Hindu in their religious belief.<sup>2</sup>

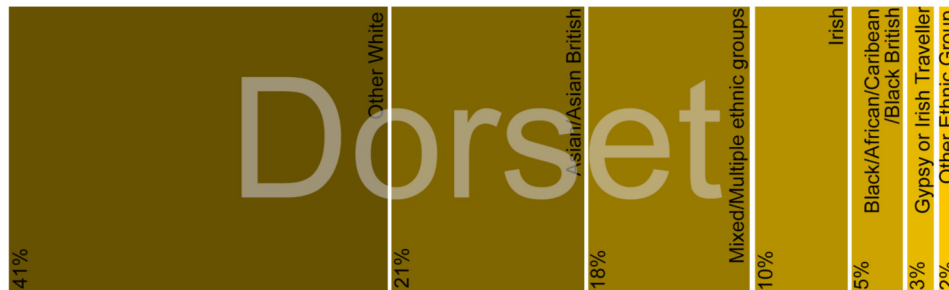
**Please note:** Robust statistical data at a Local Authority level on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity does not currently exist apart from data on couples living in a same sex relationship from the Census 2011 (see Big Numbers Box).

### Sources

- 1 Mid-year population estimates (2017), ONS
- 2 Census 2011, ONS

## Box 2: BME

### Residents of Dorset who are not 'White British'

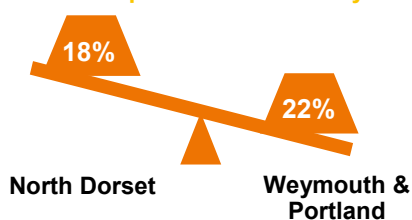


- Dorset has much lower levels (**4.4%**) of Black and Minority ethnic (BME) residents than the country as a whole (**19.5%**).<sup>2</sup>
- The highest proportion of Dorset's BME population are classified as 'White Other' who make up approximately **41%** of Dorset's BME population.<sup>2</sup> This classification includes people who identify as white but who do not have UK national identity (English, Welsh Scottish, Northern Irish and British). An example would be Polish.

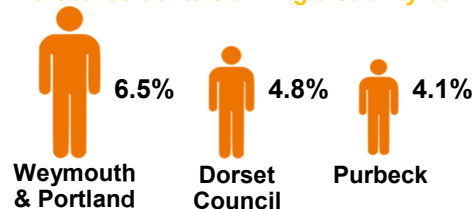
## Box 3: Disability

- One in five of Dorset's population consider that they have a long term health problem or disability.<sup>2</sup>
- Another method for looking at the number of residents with a disability is to consider those claiming either Disability Living Allowance, Personal Independence Payments or Attendance Allowance.<sup>3</sup>

% of Dorset residents with long-term health problem or disability



% of Dorset residents claiming disability benefits



## What are we doing about it?

The council is committed to equality of opportunity, promoting diversity and eliminating discrimination. The recognition and respect of differences, and appreciating different perspectives along with the valuable benefits they can bring to society is fundamental.

We believe that people have a fundamental right to fair treatment regardless of their age, disability, ethnicity or race, gender identity, sex, sexual orientation, religion or belief. We aim to support diversity by the way we deliver our services, employ people and in our role as community leaders.

We undertake research with residents to identify needs, so that, if necessary, we can tailor services to meet those needs. We also publish workforce profiles which provide an accurate picture of the makeup of the workforce within each local authority. It allows us to consider how our activities as employers affect our staff with different protected characteristics. It also enables us to identify future work which will assist us in continuing to support our employees.

### Sources

3 Stat-Xplore, Department of Work and Pensions, November 2017 & 2017 Mid-year estimates, ONS



September  
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# State of Dorset Economy



Dorset County Council  
for the Dorset Council area

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The UK has a productivity gap with output per hour below the average for the rest of the G7 major industrialised countries. In Dorset, for every hour worked we produce almost 16% less than the UK average.

Big Numbers Box

19,900 businesses

£1.3bn Value of Dorset's productivity gap

143,000 employees

36% of workforce aged 50+

11,000 expected employment growth by 2027

£501

18% self-employed

36% workers in high productivity employment

weekly pay for full-time employees working in Dorset

Expected fall in the working age population over the next 10 years

6,400

## Box 1: Businesses

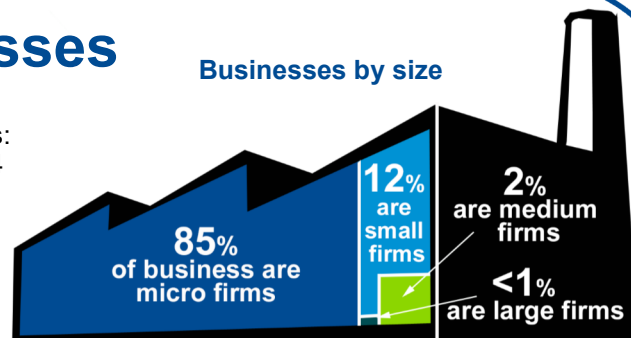
### Businesses by size

- Although business survival is good, we have fewer than average business births: 79 to every 10,000 residents aged 16-64 compared with 107 in England<sup>1</sup>.

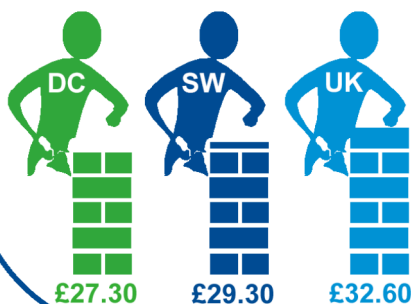
- And we have smaller business units: just 7.2 employees per business unit compared with 9.5 in England<sup>2</sup>.

- Whilst large firms represent less than one per cent of Dorset's business stock, they employ about a fifth of the workforce. Ensuring the availability of suitable employment land like the Dorset Innovation Park to offer larger sites and units gives local firms the chance to expand and relocate here, rather than leave the area. It also offers choice to new businesses considering a move to Dorset, bringing new jobs with them.

- Our businesses are less competitive than the national average, although North Dorset moved up 39 places in rank from 2013: the 4th highest climber nationally<sup>4</sup>.



### GVA per hour worked<sup>3</sup>



- Whilst we have above national average representation of advanced engineering and of manufacturing as a whole, we have low representation of businesses in high productivity sectors<sup>2</sup> and also below average representation in high R&D spending sectors<sup>5</sup>.

- Self-employment is high in Dorset: about 18% of economically active residents compared with 14% in England<sup>6</sup>.

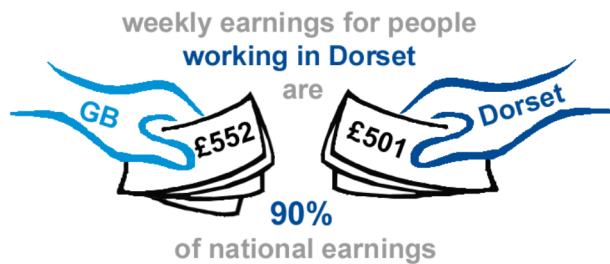
## Sources

- 1 Business Demography 2016, ONS
- 2 UK Businesses 2017 and BRES 2016, ONS
- 3 GVA per hour worked (provisional) 2004-2016, ONS
- 4 UK Competitiveness Index 2016, Centre for International Competitiveness

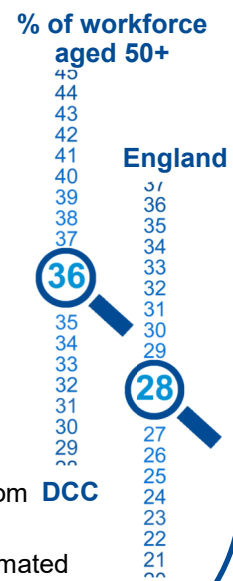
- 5 UK Gross domestic expenditure on research and development: 2015, ONS
- 6 Census of Population 2011, ONS
- 7 Local Procurement: Making the most of small business, one year on, Federation of Small Businesses

## Box 2: People

- Employment is expected to grow by more than 11,000 in Dorset over 2017-27<sup>8</sup> - but most of this new employment will be part time.
- Manufacturing, health, retail, education and hospitality are all big employers in Dorset.
- 45% of skills required by employers over the next decade are for level 4 and above.
- 10 neighbourhoods in Dorset are in the most deprived 20% nationally for employment<sup>9</sup> - nine of these are in Weymouth & Portland.



- Earnings are below average. Median gross weekly pay for full time employees was £501 for Dorset workers compared with £552 in Great Britain<sup>10</sup>.



- 36% of the Dorset workforce is aged over 50 compared with 28% in England<sup>11</sup>. Older workers have experience and skills and, as more people retire, other workers need training to fill the gaps.
- Over the next decade (2016-2026), the population in Dorset aged 16-64 will shrink by 0.3% per annum. That's a net loss of over 6,400 people in this age group. The dependency ratio, which is the number of people aged 65+ compared to the number of people of working age, is expected to increase from 497 per 1000 in 2016 to 613 per 1000 in 2026<sup>12</sup>.
- Around 4,700 apprenticeships were started in Dorset in 2015/16<sup>13</sup>. It is estimated that for every £1 of public monies spent on apprenticeships, an economic benefit of £21 is created<sup>14</sup>.

## What are we doing about it?

The council manages investments in digital and physical connectivity through projects like Superfast Dorset. This project involves the council working with contractors to upgrade the communications infrastructure across the area that will enable most people and businesses to get superfast broadband speeds (24Mbps+).

Dorset County Council, working with Purbeck District Council and the Local Enterprise Partnership, has supported the establishment of an enterprise zone located between Dorchester and Wareham called Dorset Innovation Park. The initial phase to create 20 new employment units alongside the existing advanced engineering businesses already in situ, is complete. Dorset Innovation Park Enterprise Zone is an advanced engineering cluster of excellence for the South West, building on strengths in marine, defence and energy.

By means of local procurement, the council can add to social and environmental wellbeing as well as economic value, for example through contracts with firms that ensure sustainable working practices and those offering quality Apprenticeships.

### Sources

- 8 LEFM 2017/Dorset County Council
- 9 English Indices of Deprivation (2015), DCLG
- 10 Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (2017), ONS
- 11 Census of Population (2011), workplace statistics
- 12 2016-based trend population projections, 2018-2028, Dorset County Council
- 13 The Localism Dashboard, Education and Skills Funding Agency
- 14 The Economic Impact of Apprenticeships, 26/11/2014, Centre for Economic and Business Research

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2018

# State of Dorset Health and Wellbeing



Dorset County Council  
for the Dorset Council area

*In this bulletin Dorset refers to the Dorset Council area coming into effect 1st April 2019 unless stated otherwise*

Dorset residents are generally healthy, have a high life satisfaction rating and feel that the things they do in their lives are worthwhile. The growing number of older people will increase demand for health and social care services so it is important to use local evidence to anticipate need and target service provision as effectively as possible.

Health and wellbeing influences - and can be influenced by - most aspects of our lives including how and where we live, our behaviours, our work and our leisure activities. Health behaviours impact on both physical and mental health - and many people may be affected by more than one health behaviour. Healthy populations live longer, are more productive and save more thus making a contribution to economic progress as well as maintaining personal wellbeing.

Big Numbers Box

**10,100** people aged 65+ living with dementia by 2025

**28%** Dorset year 6 children overweight or obese

**2,037** domestic abuse incidents in Dorset last year

**Over 1 in 2** Dorset adults overweight or obese

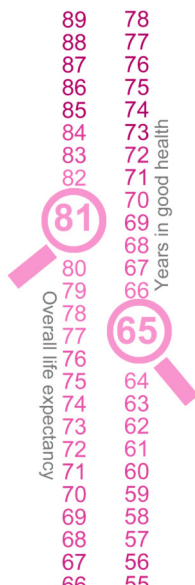
Every **£1** invested in drug treatment returns **£2.50** in health & crime savings

**16-18 years** difference between healthy and overall life expectancy

Smoking prevalence in Dorset **14%**

## Box 1: Health

### Male life expectancy in Dorset

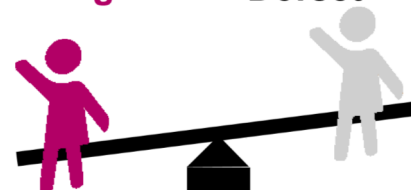


- Healthy life expectancy is the number of years a person would be expected to live in good health. In Dorset, there is a difference of 16 years between healthy life expectancy and overall life expectancy for men, and 18 years for women.<sup>1</sup>

- 62% of adults in Dorset are classified as overweight or obese; similar to the national average and a great concern due to the life-threatening conditions it can lead to.<sup>2</sup>

% year six children who are overweight or obese

**34% England**      **28% Dorset**



- 28% of year six children and 21% of children in reception are overweight or obese, but these are better than the national average.<sup>2</sup>

- Incidence of 'skin cancer' in those under 75 is above the average in Dorset at 28.0 incidences per 100,000 people compared with 18.9 in England.<sup>3</sup>

- Smoking prevalence continues to fall both nationally and locally. 14% of adults in Dorset currently smoke compared to 16% in England.<sup>2</sup>

- The rate of people killed and seriously injured on the roads continues to be above average, possibly due to Dorset's high proportion of rural roads<sup>5</sup>. Nationally more than half of all fatal collisions occur on rural roads.<sup>6</sup>

### Sources

1 Health state life expectancy at birth and at age 65 by local areas, UK, 2015-2016, ONS  
2 PHE Public Health Outcome (PHOF) Indicators, 2014/16 data  
3 <http://www.ncin.org.uk/skin/laua/atlas.html> [Accessed 03/01/18]  
4 PHE Public Health Outcome (PHOF) Indicators, 2016 data

5 PHE Public Health Outcome (PHOF) Indicators, 2013/15 data  
6 <https://www.rospa.com/road-safety/advice/road-users/rural/> [Accessed 23/01/18]

## Box 2: Mental health

- By 2025, we expect to see more than 11,000 people aged 65 or over living with dementia locally, with the greatest increase among those aged 75+ in line with population growth.<sup>7</sup> It is likely that an additional 3,000 carers will be needed to cope with this increase.<sup>8</sup>
- Nationally, one in ten children and young people need support or treatment for mental health problems.<sup>9</sup>
- 75% of mental health problems in adult life (excluding dementia) start by the age of 18.<sup>9</sup>
- During the course of a year, almost one in four of us will suffer from some form of mental health condition.<sup>10</sup>

### People aged 65+ with dementia



## Box 3: Substance abuse

### The Toxic Trio Substance abuse



- In Dorset, admission rates for alcohol related harm continues to rise year on year.<sup>11</sup>
- The number of young people taking illicit substances continues to drop although patterns of use are continually developing.<sup>12</sup>
- In Dorset, for every £1 invested in adult drug treatment services, a social return of £4 is generated.<sup>13</sup>
- Domestic abuse, mental ill-health and substance misuse have been termed a 'Toxic Trio' commonly found in families where harm to children has occurred. 2,037 domestic abuse incidents were reported in Dorset last year.<sup>14</sup>

## What are we doing about it?

Public Health Dorset aims to improve and protect the health and wellbeing of the population across Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole with an emphasis on reducing inequalities in the health of those living and working in our local communities.

Working as part of Dorset councils we want to help as many people as possible stay healthier for longer. This involves coordinated action across the whole health and care system. In taking a strategic approach to our work we support Dorset Health and Wellbeing Board, Bournemouth and Poole Health and Wellbeing Board and the Accountable Care System for Dorset.

The council works to support people in making healthy lifestyle choices and leading active lives. The Live Well Dorset service, funded by Dorset's councils, is just one of the ways in which this support is provided.<sup>15</sup>

### Sources

7 PHE modelled prevalence estimates

8 <https://www.dementiastatistics.org/statistics-about-dementia/human-and-financial-impact/>

9 Pan Dorset Local Transformation Plan: Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing, 31/10/17

10 Government's response to the five year forward view for mental health, 9 January 2017

11 PHE Public Health Outcome (PHOF) Indicators, 2015/16 data

12 Alcohol and Drugs Strategy 2016-2020, Public Health Dorset

13 Alcohol and drugs prevention, treatment and recovery: why invest?, Public Health England, 12/02/18

14 Dorset Police: <https://www.dorset.police.uk/>

15 <https://www.livewelldorset.co.uk/>



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# State of Dorset Leisure and Culture



Dorset County Council  
for the Dorset Council area

*In this bulletin Dorset refers to the Dorset Council area coming into effect 1st April 2019 unless stated otherwise*

Participation in arts and culture makes communities feel safer and stronger, adds to health and wellbeing and reduces social isolation,<sup>1</sup> but funding cuts are a significant threat to culture and leisure activities, particularly in the third sector.

Cultural and recreational activities can help people access the natural environment through healthy lifestyles. Sport is evidenced to result in significant savings to health costs and yet there are concerns that many of Dorset's young people are physically inactive.

Big Numbers Box

**£425m**

Value of creative industries to the Dorset LEP area

**62%**

Of Dorset's adults are overweight<sup>3</sup>

**43%**

Of older people say the accessibility of venues is important

**76%**

Of older people say that arts & culture is important to making them feel happy

**4x**

Return on investment: £1 invested in the Arts Development Company secures £4 of external investment

**£1m**

Estimated annual boost to the local economy from the Ironman Weymouth event

## Box 1: Health and wellbeing value

- Arts and cultural intervention can have a positive impact on specific health conditions such as dementia, Parkinson's and depression.<sup>1</sup> More generally, 60% of older people say that arts and culture is important in making them feel healthy.<sup>2</sup>
- Levels of wellbeing are generally reported to be higher amongst those with higher arts and culture engagement.<sup>1</sup>
- Students who study art subjects are more employable and more likely to stay in employment than graduates from other disciplines and children from low income families who take part in arts at school are three times more likely to get a degree.<sup>1</sup>
- Nearly half of older people (43%) say that accessibility is an important factor when they choose arts venues to attend.<sup>2</sup>
- Overall 76% of people aged 65+ say that arts & culture is important to making them feel happy. And nearly as many (69%) say that arts and culture is important in improving their overall quality of life.<sup>2</sup>



### Sources

1 Create, Arts Council England, December 2015

2 <http://www.comresglobal.com/polls/arts-council-england-older-people-poll/> [Accessed 03/07/18]

3 <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/physical-activity>

## Box 2: Engagement & Economic Value

- Adult engagement with the arts is highest in the South West and growing. 60% of people in the SW prefer to engage with the arts in person rather than online, compared to 54% nationally.<sup>4</sup>
- Last year 39% of people in the SW attended a live music event compared to 31% nationally. Carnivals are also very popular in the SW, with 19% of people saying they attended one in the last year, compared to only 10% nationally.<sup>4</sup>
- 33% of adults in the SW had used a public library service at least once in 2016/17. This is a decline on 6 years ago when it was 39%, and slightly below the national average.<sup>4</sup>
- The value of Creative Industries is about £425m pa in the Dorset LEP area.<sup>5</sup> GVA of the Creative Industries increased by 3.6% between 2014 & 2015 in the UK.<sup>6</sup>
- The number of businesses in the Creative Industries in Dorset has been growing rapidly. Between 2010 and 2017 there has been a 27% increase, compared to 8% for all industries.<sup>7</sup>
- The Creative Economy has grown by a quarter since 2010, at a rate faster than the whole of the UK economy, which grew 17.4%<sup>6</sup>
- For every £1 invested in the Arts Development Company by the council there is a return of £4 secured in external investment into the area.<sup>8</sup>

**60% of people prefer to engage with the arts in person**



## What are we doing about it?

Leisure centres provide affordable access to exercise classes, gym equipment, sports facilities and swimming. There are currently 9 in Dorset, overseen by local authorities, with many more operating independently. By using public money in this way, demand for expensive health interventions can reduce as the public stay fit and healthy both physically and mentally.

The councils in Dorset support local sports clubs through providing advice such as how to set up a club, fund it, and train staff. Sometimes grants are available to cover some of the costs.

The council supports local events such as the IRONMAN triathlon which came to Weymouth in 2016 and 2017 with plans for an event in 2018. Over the year, visits to Dorset by the entrants and their supporters adds more than £1million to the local economy.

Community facilities such as skate parks and public green spaces, which may have outdoor gym equipment, are other examples of councils providing leisure facilities for public use.

The council recognises the benefits that arts and culture bring to people, including improved health and wellbeing, as well as economic gains. The council supports the arts and culture by providing free access to books, learning and local history via libraries and also financial support for the Arts Development Company. Work is currently taking place on a three year business and creative industries growth project with the Dorset Growth Hub called Culture+. This has been funded by the EU with a further £482,000 from Arts Council England.

### Sources

4 Taking Part 2016/17: South West, Arts Council England

5 aGVA dataset from Annual Business Survey 2014, ONS

6 DCMS Sectors Economic Estimates, August 2016, Department for Culture, Media and Sport

7 UK Businesses 2017, Local Units, ONS, 2015

8 The Arts Development Company

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# State of Dorset

## Natural and Historic Environment



Dorset County Council  
for the Dorset Council area

In this bulletin Dorset refers to the Dorset Council area coming into effect 1st April 2019 unless stated otherwise

Dorset's natural and historic environment makes a huge contribution to health and personal wellbeing.

Dorset's natural systems provide a wide range of essential goods (food, fuel, productive soil, clean air and water) and beneficial services (pollination, flood alleviation, climate regulation and tranquillity). These are taken for granted, but they need a combination of public, private and voluntary action to maintain them.

The contribution of our natural and historic environment to the economy is often overlooked.

The high quality natural environment that is so cherished by people living and working in Dorset means that we work hard to deliver mechanisms such as the Dorset Heathlands Planning Framework to ensure that development is led sustainably.

Big Numbers Box

**66%** Reduction in waste sent to landfill in Dorset in the last 10 years

**6%** Of energy production from renewable sources

**5%** Of all nationally protected ancient monuments are in Dorset

**90%**

Of Dorset residents said that the environment was an important factor in their decision to live in Dorset.

**54%** Of county covered by Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty designation

Low carbon economy growth faster than the wider economy by **4x**

### Box 1: The Natural Environment

- 90% of the DCC Dorset area's residents surveyed said the environment was an important, very important or crucial factor in their decision to live in Dorset. In addition, businesses report a demonstrable positive impact from both the Jurassic Coast and the AONB.<sup>1</sup>
- Dorset contains part of England's only natural World Heritage Site and two Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, covering 54% of the Dorset Council area.<sup>2</sup>
- Whilst making up only two per cent of the area of England, Dorset holds five per cent of its nationally protected ancient monuments. However, a quarter of these are 'at risk'.<sup>3</sup>
- All of the Dorset coast (excluding the town seafronts) is recognised in national or international designations for its unique landscape, scenic quality, wildlife and geological formations.<sup>2</sup>



### Sources

- 1 'Dorset's Environmental Economy', Ash Futures for Dorset County Council, Dorset AONB, Jurassic Coast WHS, Dorset LNP, 2015
- 2 Dorset Databook 2011, Dorset County Council (recalculated)
- 3 The National Heritage List for England (NHLE), Historic England, [Searched 29/11/17]
- 4 The Clean Growth Strategy, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy, 12/10/2017
- 5 Dorset Waste Partnership
- 6 Public Health and Landscape, Creating healthy places, Landscape Institute, November 2013



## Box 2: Economy and wellbeing

- DCC Dorset's environmental economy is worth between £0.9bn and £2.5bn per annum, about 8-10% of the overall economy. It also supports between 17,000 and 61,000 jobs in the economy.<sup>1</sup>
- The low carbon economy has the potential to grow by 11% per year between 2015 and 2030 - four times faster than the rest of the economy.<sup>4</sup>
- The amount of waste sent to landfill in the Dorset County Council area has dropped by around 66% in the last 10 years and continues to decline year on year.<sup>5</sup>
- The physical and mental health benefits of access to nature are well documented, as are the negative impacts of environmental inequality. Improving access to green infrastructure therefore offers the potential to extend these benefits, particularly in areas where access is poor.
- The landscape can reduce the need for expensive public health interventions. Local public health spending on the landscape can be 27 times more cost effective than clinical interventions.<sup>6</sup> Greater wellbeing also contributes to higher productivity and economic gain.

% Reduction in amount of  
Waste going to landfill in Dorset



## Box 3: Energy

- Climate change will continue and whilst CO<sup>2</sup> emissions in Dorset are falling, in line with the government's targets for 2020<sup>7</sup>, further reductions are required to meet tougher emission targets for 2050<sup>8</sup>. The Paris Agreement aims to limit warming to well below 2°C and to pursue efforts to limit it to 1.5°C.
- Renewable energy production has increased in Bournemouth, DCC Dorset and Poole from 0.95% of local energy consumption in February 2011 to 5.5% in March 2016. However, Dorset still lags behind Cornwall and Devon who continue to lead on renewable energy generation in the SW.<sup>9</sup>

Renewable energy % of  
consumption



## What are we doing about it?

The council is committed to reducing its carbon footprint. As our buildings make up a significant proportion of this, renewable energy solutions have an important role to play in our overall strategy, alongside energy efficiency measures.

The Dorset Waste Partnership promotes recycling by running promotional campaigns and providing incentive schemes for composting bins and 'real' nappies.

The Dorset AONB is hosted by the council and undertakes projects such as 'Stepping into Nature' which is helping to deliver health and wellbeing benefits for Dorset's older people, including those living with dementia.

We employ a team of Rangers who work to conserve Dorset's natural environment and keep public rights of way open. There is also an apprentice scheme to help young people kick-start a career in environmental conservation.

The council's Natural Environment Team manage the Dorset Biodiversity Protocol. This scheme ensures that protected species which may be affected by planning applications are protected from harm by agreeing a particular methodology to avoid impact or on-site mitigation.

### Sources

7 UK local authority and regional carbon dioxide emissions national statistics: 2005-2014, Department of Energy & Climate Change.

8 The Carbon Plan: Delivering our low carbon future, Department of Energy & Climate Change, 2011.

9 Renewable energy - A local progress report for England, Regen SW, 2016.



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# State of Dorset Older People



Dorset County Council  
for the Dorset Council area

In this bulletin Dorset refers to the Dorset Council area coming into effect 1st April 2019 unless stated otherwise

The number of older people living in Dorset will continue to grow, adding to increased demand for health and care services.

Over the next decade, the number of those aged 85+ is expected to increase by 29%.<sup>1</sup>

Big Numbers Box

**375,100** Total population  
in 2017

Aged 65+  
in Dorset **28%**

In England  
& Wales **18%**

**1.8%** pa

Growth in those  
aged 65+ over  
next decade

**81** years

Life expectancy males

**85** years

Life expectancy females

## Box 1: Population Change

In the last year:

- Overall the population of Dorset has increased by 0.5% (1,800).<sup>2</sup>
- Deaths outnumbered births by about 1,500 so Dorset's net natural population declined.<sup>2</sup>
- Migration gives a net gain of around 3,100. Around 24,400 people moved into Dorset from other parts of the UK and around 21,800 moved out. International migration gave a net gain of around 500.<sup>2</sup>
- The greatest net migration gain is of children and those aged 60-69 whereas there is a net loss of 15-24 year olds.<sup>2</sup>

Age profile 2017



- Over the next ten years (2016 to 2026), the percentage of Dorset residents aged 65+ is expected to grow by 1.6% per annum. That's an increase of 18,500 people - and over a fifth of these (3,800) will be aged 85+.<sup>1</sup>
- This isn't happening in Dorset alone but in Dorset we have a higher starting point. 28% of our population is aged 65+ (106,100) compared with 18% in England & Wales.<sup>2</sup>

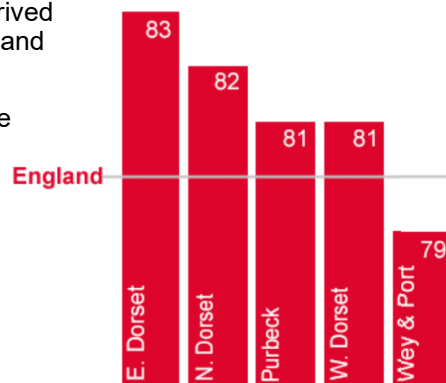
### Sources

- 1 Revised 2016-based trend population projections, ONS
- 2 2017 Mid-year estimates, ONS
- 3 Life expectancy at birth (2014-16), ONS

## Box 2: Life Expectancy

- Increased life expectancy and continuing migration - largely from other parts of the UK - account for the growing population of older people.
- Life expectancy at birth for both males (81.1 years) and females (84.5) is above the national average (England males 79.5 years and females 83.1).<sup>3</sup>
- Life expectancy varies throughout Dorset, with Weymouth and Portland slightly below England.
- The life expectancy gap between Dorset's most and least deprived areas is 5.4 years for males and 5.0 years for females.<sup>4</sup>
- Healthy life expectancy is the number of years a person would be expected to live in good health. In Dorset, there is a difference of 16 years between healthy life expectancy and overall life expectancy for men, and 18 years for women.<sup>5</sup>

Male life expectancy by district



## What are we doing about it?

Over the next decade many more of us will move into the 65+ and 85+ age groups. More family members will find themselves acting as informal carers: in 2011 the Census identified 43,000 unpaid carers in Dorset, an increase of 18% since 2001. Demand for formal care workers will also grow – and it's already very difficult to recruit people, particularly in rural areas. Dorset has been working with councils across the South West to promote caring as a career under the banner 'Proud to Care'.

Staying fitter for longer improves people's physical and mental wellbeing. Dorset's councils maintain green spaces, fund services such as 'LiveWell Dorset'<sup>6</sup> and support 'Prevention at Scale' through a multi-agency Sustainability and Transformation Plan. Information and advice for all has been enhanced via on-line resources, including a Carers Hub, but other formats are still provided. Dorset has launched a 'Prepare to Live Better' campaign, encouraging people to plan ahead by thinking about future needs and maintaining independence, how technology and equipment might help and building financial stability.

As older people live longer, feelings of loneliness and isolation can develop when they are supported to remain in their own homes. The availability of housing for younger people can also be impacted. The county council produces population projections going forwards 25 years to anticipate housing need and inform local plans, including demand for specialist provision for older people. We work with developers to encourage and support the building of accessible and affordable housing options.

### Sources

4 Dorset Health Profile 2017, Public Health England, 04 July 2017

5 Health state life expectancy at birth and at age 65 by local areas, UK, 2015-2016, ONS

6 <https://www.livewelldorset.co.uk/>

DCC Adult Social Care Annual Report:

<https://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/care-and-support-for-adults/making-it-real-pdfs/dorsets-local-account-for-adult-social-care-services.pdf>