

May
2019

State of Dorset Deprivation



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 the former borough of 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**

12,900

workless households

20

areas in most deprived nationally for **education**

2,800

children live in workless households

7

areas in most deprived nationally for **income**

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 2010¹.
- Nine of these are within the former borough of Weymouth and Portland, one is in the former West Dorset District area.

10 areas in Dorset suffer high deprivation



Weymouth & Portland

West Dorset

- 46% of Dorset's population lives in rural areas³. 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: in the former council areas, 21 are in West Dorset and 20 in North Dorset¹.

Life expectancy gap for males in Dorset



Most deprived area

Least deprived area

- The gap in life expectancy between the most deprived and least deprived areas of the former Dorset County Council area is 6.0 years for men and 5.2 years for women².
- 20 of Dorset's neighbourhoods are in the 20% most deprived nationally in relation to education¹.

Sources

1 English Indices of Deprivation (2015), DCLG

2 Dorset Health Profile 2018, Public Health England, 03 July 2018

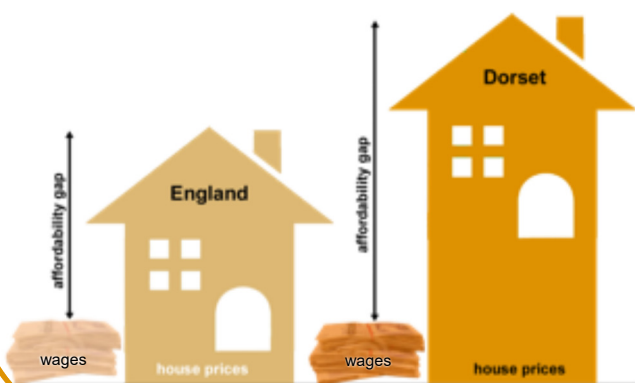
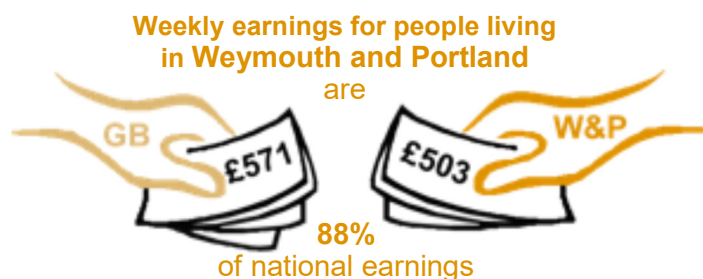
3 Census of Population, 2011

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

Box 2: Economic deprivation

In the former local authority areas:

- Seven neighbourhoods in Dorset fall into the top 20% nationally for income deprivation (up from five in 2010) - seven of these are in the former borough of Weymouth and Portland¹.
- Weymouth and Portland residence based weekly earnings are £503 per week compared with £571 in Great Britain⁴.



- In Dorset, about 15,400 people aged 16-64, plus 2,800 children live in 12,900 workless households. 12% of Dorset households were workless, slightly below the national figure⁵.
- In 2017, lower end house prices were more than ten times higher than lower end earnings in Dorset - and even higher in the former local authority areas of East Dorset and Purbeck⁶.

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 burglary¹. The council and its partners work together through the Dorset Community Safety Partnership to tackle crime.

Sources

4 Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (2018), ONS (full time gross weekly earnings)

5 Annual Population Survey (2017), Households by combined economic activity status, ONS

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