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# **Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) for Wirral 2015**

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Produced by Wirral  
Council Public Health  
Intelligence Team

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# Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) for Wirral 2015

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## Current Version: 3

Version History	Date	Author	Reviewer	Actions
0.1, 0.2	10/11/2015	Sarah Kinsella	John Highton Hannah Cotgrave	Reversed one map, typos & other minor amends.

## Report Overview

<b>Abstract</b>	Report explaining the measurement and distribution of deprivation in Wirral according to the latest Indices of Multiple Deprivation (2015)
<b>Intended or potential audience</b>	<b>External</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community &amp; voluntary sector organisations, particularly those working in areas of deprivation</li><li>• Councillors and Constituency Managers</li><li>• NHS colleagues (e.g CCG, CT etc...)</li></ul> <b>Internal</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• JSNA Bulletin</li><li>• DMT (plus other departmental DMTs)</li><li>• Wider Public Health team</li><li>• Relevant LA Heads of Service</li></ul>
<b>Links with other topic areas</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• This topic links with all topics where targeting of services based on deprivation or inequalities is customary</li></ul>

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## Introduction

The Indices of Deprivation (also known as the Index of Multiple Deprivation or IMD) is a measure of relative deprivation at a small area level covering all 32,844 [Lower Super Output Areas \(LSOAs\)](#) in England.

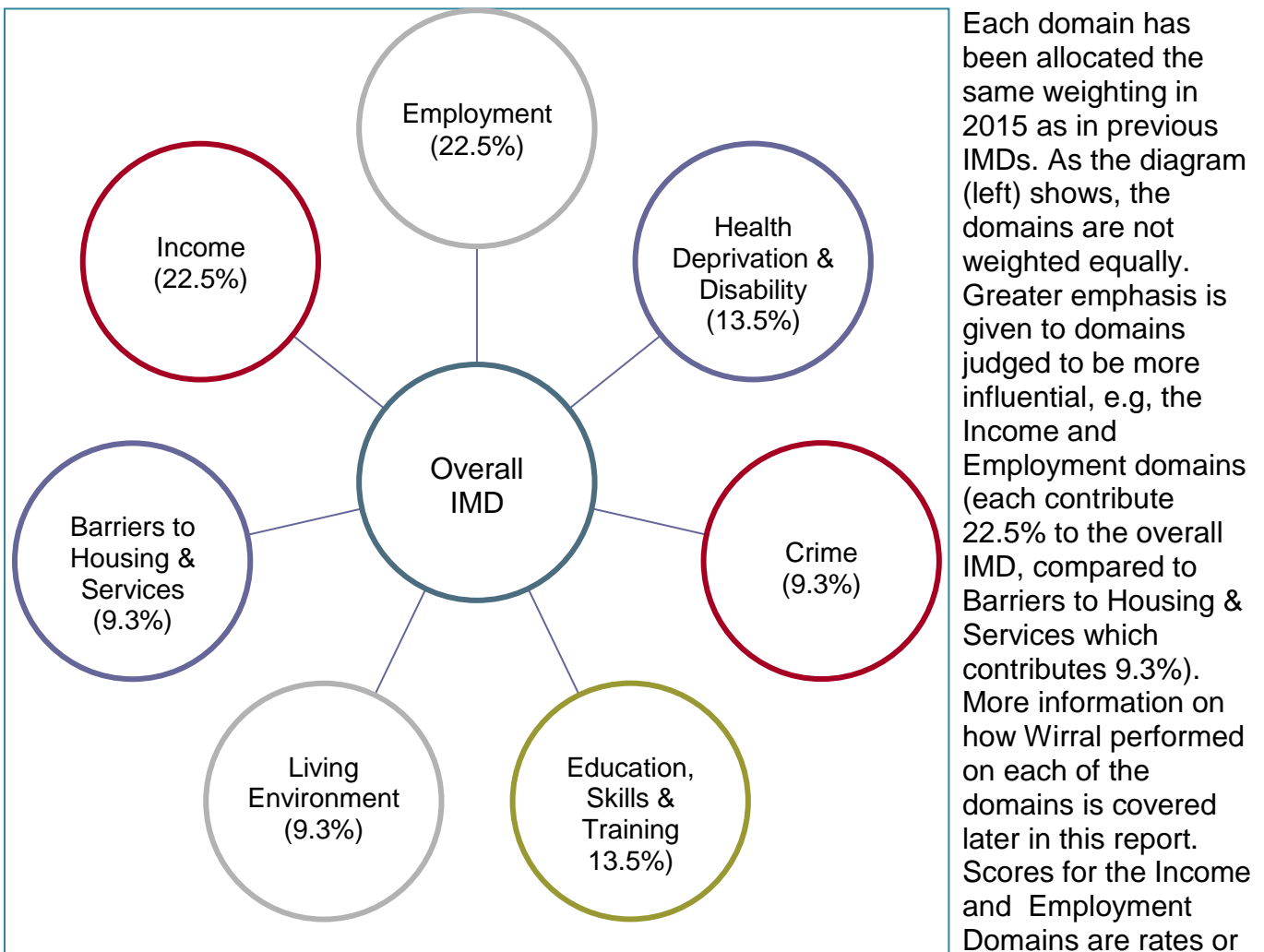
In other words, it measures how deprived an area is compared to all other areas of England. It is an important tool to identify disadvantaged areas so that policy makers can target limited resources where they are most needed.

The IMD was first calculated in 2000 and has been re-calculated every 2-3 years since (2002, 2004, 2007 and 2010). A briefing on the previous IMDs and how they related to Wirral is [available on the Wirral JSNA site](#). The 2015 update is broadly comparable to the 2010, 2007 and 2004 Indices (but not the 2002 and 2000 Indices, due to significant differences in calculation).

It is common to describe how deprived areas are by saying whether they fall into among the most deprived 10% or 20% of areas in England (although there is no definitive cut-off at which an area is described as 'deprived'). Deprivation covers a broad range of issues and refers to unmet need caused by a lack of resources of all kinds, not just financial resources.

The IMD attempts to capture deprivation in its broadest sense, using seven distinct 'domains'. These 'domains' (or different dimensions of deprivation) which together make up the overall IMD are shown in the diagram below:

**Figure 1: Seven domains which make up the Indices of Deprivation and their weighting**



Each domain has been allocated the same weighting in 2015 as in previous IMDs. As the diagram (left) shows, the domains are not weighted equally. Greater emphasis is given to domains judged to be more influential, e.g, the Income and Employment domains (each contribute 22.5% to the overall IMD, compared to Barriers to Housing & Services which contributes 9.3%). More information on how Wirral performed on each of the domains is covered later in this report. Scores for the Income and Employment Domains are rates or

proportions (e.g. in the Domain, an LSOA scoring 0.51 indicates that 51% of the population of that LSOA are classed as income deprived).

The scores for the remaining five domains are scores not rates (higher scores equate to higher levels of deprivation). Scores cannot be compared between domains as they have different minimum and maximum values and ranges. Domains can only be compared on rank.

IMD 2015 uses Lower Level Super Output Areas (LSOAs) as the main unit of geography and ranks them on each of the 7 domains mentioned above (plus the overall summary IMD).

Using LSOAs enables more detailed analysis and insight, compared to when wards were used (they have also not been subject to boundary changes, as wards often have). LSOAs average a population of around 1,500 people. There are 206 LSOA's in Wirral.

- LSOAs are ranked 1 to 32,844, with 1 being the most deprived and 32,844 being the most deprived.
- Local Authority districts are ranked 1 to 326, with 1 being the most deprived and 326 being the least deprived.

## National and regional summary

As was the case in previous IMDs, the 2015 IMD shows that most urban areas in England contain high levels of deprivation. These are often areas that have historically had large heavy industry, manufacturing and/or mining sectors which have declined over recent decades.

Middlesbrough, Knowsley, Kingston upon Hull, Liverpool and Manchester are the local authorities with the highest proportions of the population classed as living among the most deprived in England. It would appear that deprived neighbourhoods have become more common over the last decade.

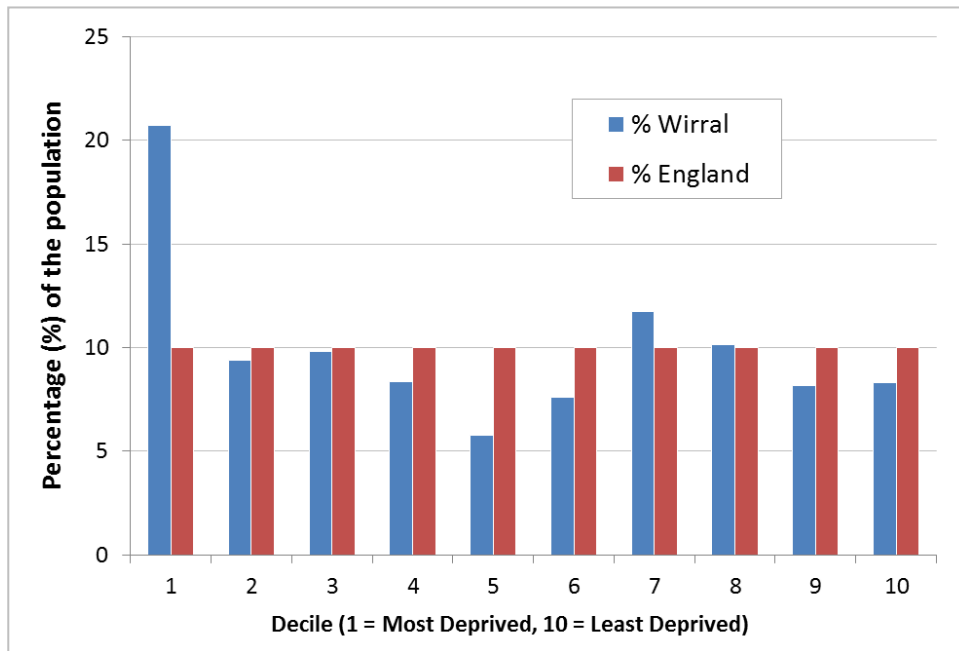
For example, the proportion of local authorities which have at least one neighbourhood in the most deprived decile (10%) has increased from just under half (49%) of local authorities in 2004, to 61% in 2015.

As with previous Indices, Merseyside stands out as containing large concentrations of deprived LSOAs (many of which are in Wirral).

## Wirral Summary

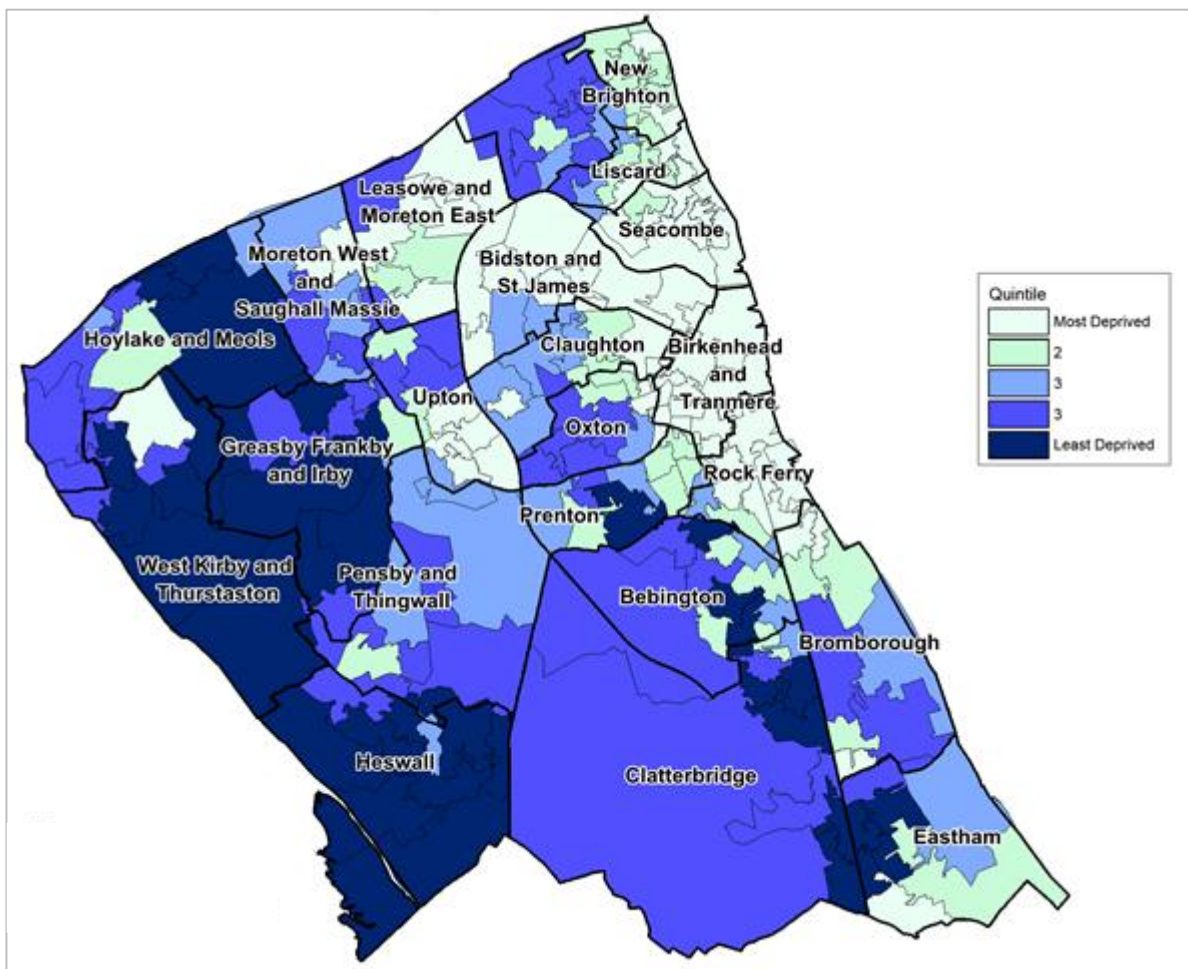
- Wirral was the 66th most deprived authority (of 326 authorities) in England according to the 2015 IMD (1 the being most deprived, 326 the least deprived). Wirral ranked 60<sup>th</sup> in the previous IMD in 2010.
- This ranking of 66, means Wirral is no longer classified as being one of the 20% most deprived authorities in England (as it was previous IMDs). This could mean that relative to other authorities, Wirral has become less deprived, or that other authorities in England have become more deprived (the IMD is a relative Index, areas are always judged in relation to one another, they are not compared historically)
- Although Wirral overall is no longer in the 20% most deprived of areas in England, many of the LSOAs within Wirral are classed as being amongst the most deprived in the country (and Wirral is only just outside the 20% most deprived, as the cut off was the 65<sup>th</sup> ranked authority, Wirral was 66<sup>th</sup>)
- There are 10 Wirral LSOAs which are classed as being in the 1% most deprived LSOAs in England. Eight of these were in Birkenhead Constituency, 2 were in Wallasey Constituency
- The overall number of Wirral LSOAs in the most deprived 20% of areas in England has decreased from 67 in the 2007 IMD, to 64 in 2010, to 62 in 2015. This appears to show a trend toward deprivation in Wirral being concentrated in fewer LSOAs over time
- The population of those Wirral LSOAs (n=62) classified as being amongst the 20% most deprived nationally is 95,585. In other words, almost one in three (30%) of the Wirral population live in areas classified as being amongst the 20% most deprived in England (see Figure 1 below)
- Wirral performs best on the Education & Skills and Living Environment domains, but these two only contribute 23% to the overall IMD
- Wirral performs particularly poorly on three domains (Income, Employment and Health & Disability). Two of these are heavily weighted on the IMD (Income and Employment contribute 22.5% each to the overall Index) hence Wirral's relatively poor ranking on the overall IMD 2015 (and previous IMDs)

**Figure 1: Percentage of the population of Wirral & England by deprivation decile, 2015**



As the chart shows, the proportion of the Wirral population living in LSOAs classed as being in the most deprived decile (or 10%) is more than double the national average. In Wirral, 21% of the population live in decile 1 compared to 10% in England overall. Wirral also has a smaller proportion of its population in the 'average' deciles (4, 5 and 6) and most affluent deciles (9 and 10).

**Map 1: Deprivation according to the IMD 2015 in Wirral (overlaid with ward boundaries)**

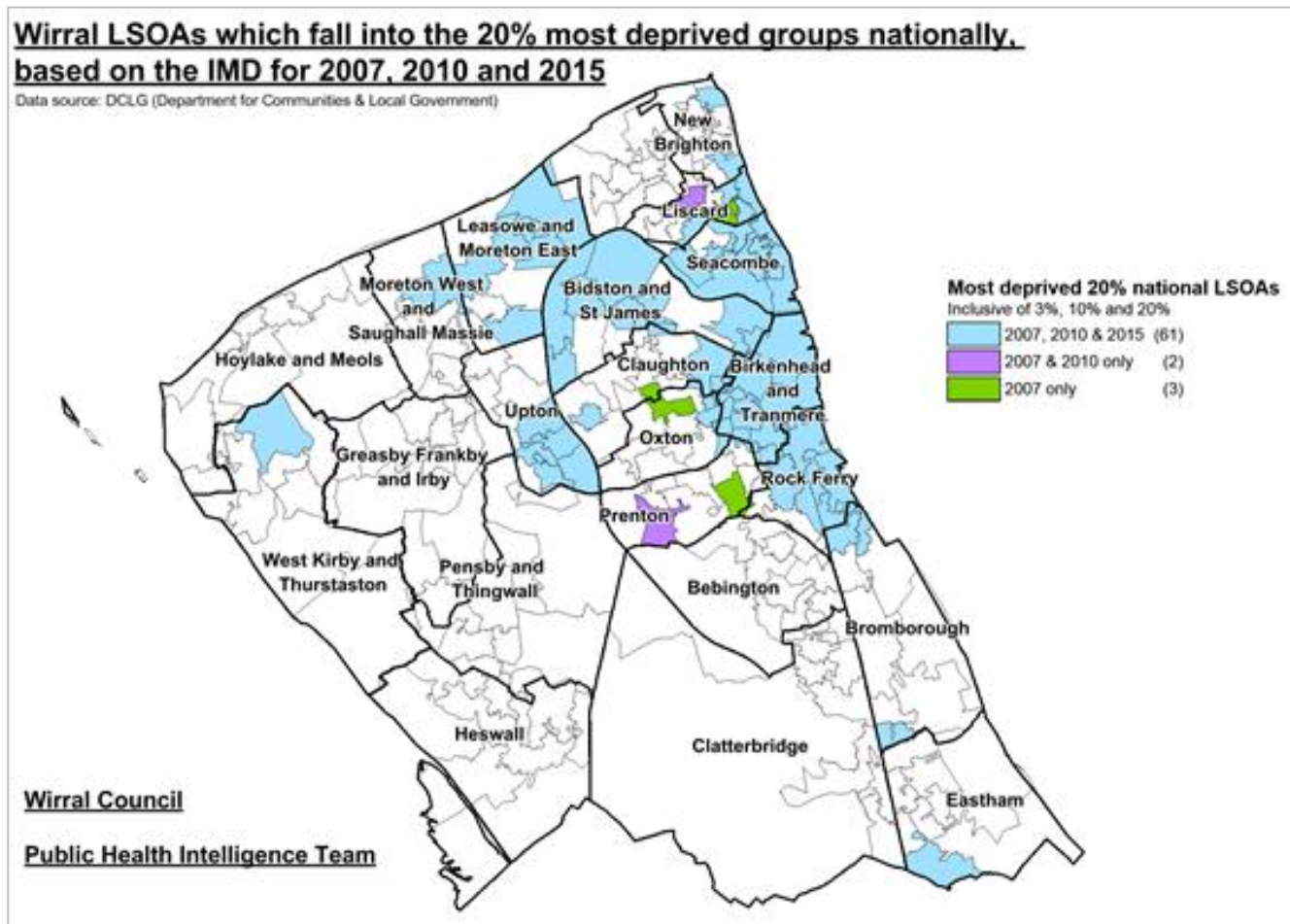


Map1 shows the distribution of deprivation in Wirral visually. As the map shows, the majority of the areas of acute deprivation (20% most deprived) are in Bidston & St. James, Birkenhead & Tranmere, Rock Ferry and Seacombe wards. Leasowe &

Moreton East ward also has significant areas of deprivation. There are also several areas in south and west Wirral (Acre Lane area of Bromborough, Mill Park estate in Eastham, Woodchurch estate in Upton and area around Anglesey Road in West Kirby) which fall into the

20% most deprived, but generally speaking, there is a north & east/west & south split in Wirral with regard to deprivation. The majority of the least deprived areas of Wirral are in Heswall ward (Gayton and Heswall) with some other pockets in West Kirby & Thurstaston ward (Caldy area), Hoylake ward and Greasby, Franky & Irby ward

**Map 2:** Change since the last IMD in 2010



As Map 2 shows, there have been relatively few changes between 2007, 2010 and 2015 in the deprivation of LSOAs in Wirral. There were just three LSOAs (in Prenton, Claughton & Liscard wards) which were classified as being amongst the 20% most deprived in 2007, which subsequently in 2010, were no longer classed as being in the 20%.

Between 2010 and 2015, a further two LSOAs dropped out of the 20% most deprived LSOAs in England. The majority of LSOAs classified as deprived in 2007, were still deprived in 2010 and are still deprived in 2015.

There were no new LSOAs which had become deprived enough to be amongst the 20% most deprived in England in 2015 or 2010 that were not already identified by the 2007 IMD. In other words, the distribution of deprivation appears to stay much the same.

Table 1 below shows deprivation by Wirral ward, both on the overall IMD (2015), plus each of the seven sub-domains of Employment, Income, Education & Skills, Health Deprivation & Disability, Barriers to Housign & Services, Crime and Living Environment.

## Deprivation by Wirral ward

**Table 1:** Overall IMD (score and rank) and seven sub-domains of the IMD (score only) by Wirral ward, 201

Ward	Rank of Ward	Overall IMD score (2015)	Employment Score	Income Score	Education & Skills Score	Health Deprivation & Disability	Barriers to Housing & Services	Crime	Living Environment
Birkenhead & Tranmere	1	61.32	0.33	0.40	48.56	2.06	14.36	1.13	38.38
Bidston & St James	2	55.47	0.32	0.39	51.15	1.99	16.59	0.58	20.59
Seacombe	3	52.40	0.29	0.35	42.94	1.63	11.30	0.62	39.59
Rock Ferry	4	50.77	0.29	0.34	41.51	1.92	13.60	0.52	24.91
Leasowe & Moreton East	5	36.09	0.22	0.26	34.40	1.30	10.89	-0.46	16.90
Liscard	6	34.09	0.19	0.23	27.17	1.07	6.62	0.16	38.21
Claughton	7	32.37	0.20	0.21	18.88	1.10	10.85	0.48	23.52
Upton	8	32.15	0.20	0.23	27.95	1.15	11.44	-0.08	15.76
New Brighton	9	29.00	0.18	0.19	16.57	0.94	6.33	0.24	38.03
Bromborough	10	27.73	0.17	0.18	22.17	0.87	14.30	-0.23	29.29
Moreton West & Saughall Massie	11	21.94	0.14	0.15	20.07	0.74	13.86	-0.44	13.01
Prenton	12	21.47	0.14	0.14	14.48	0.65	10.14	-0.12	25.08
Oxton	13	20.61	0.14	0.15	10.01	0.58	9.68	0.06	22.65
Eastham	14	15.21	0.11	0.11	12.60	0.41	9.84	-0.94	15.85
Bebington	15	14.96	0.11	0.11	8.50	0.29	7.90	-0.44	18.36
Pensby & Thingwall	16	14.20	0.11	0.11	6.80	0.42	12.46	-0.86	11.00
Wallasey	17	13.36	0.10	0.10	7.13	0.26	5.11	-0.5	21.14
Hoylake & Meols	18	11.16	0.09	0.08	3.98	0.26	5.54	-0.7	20.33
Clatterbridge	19	10.30	0.09	0.07	4.81	0.17	14.14	-1.40	9.79
West Kirby & Thurstaston	20	10.05	0.08	0.08	4.47	-0.08	15.45	-1.11	12.33
Greasby, Frankby & Irby	21	8.05	0.08	0.07	3.89	-0.05	11.82	-1.28	9.61
Heswall	22	5.81	0.06	0.05	1.76	-0.22	12.60	-1.19	10.30

As Table 1 shows, the most deprived ward in Wirral is Birkenhead & St. James ward, whilst the least deprived is Heswall. As the table also shows, deprivation is fairly consistent across the seven sub-domains (i.e if a ward scores poorly on one domain, it tends to score poorly on the others). Slight exceptions to this are the Barriers to Housing & Services and Living Environment domains – reasons for this are explored further in the more detailed information on these domains further on in this report (see pages 6 and 9 for more details).



## The seven sub-domains of deprivation in Wirral

### Income deprivation

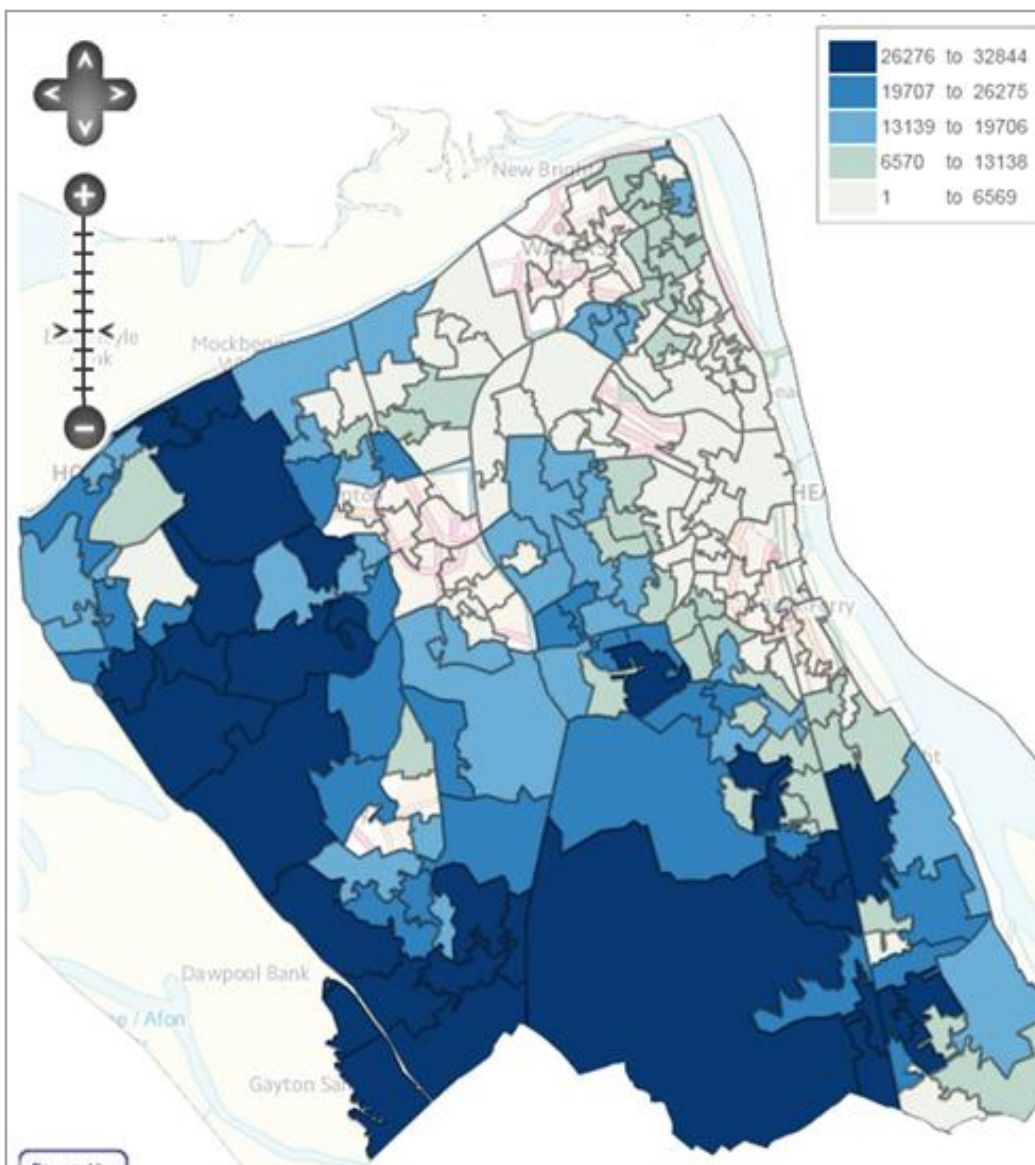
Income deprivation is a measure of families being on very low incomes whether they are in or out-of-work. The score in the Income (and Employment) Domains is actually a rate. So for example, a score of 0.59 in Birkenhead East Float indicates that 59% of residents in that LSOA are income deprived.

Wirral had 60 (out of a total of 206) LSOAs ranked as being amongst the 20% most Income deprived areas in England on the 2015 IMD (see Map 3 below which shows Wirral LSOAs ranked in National Quintiles or five equal bands of 20%).

There were 109 LSOAs in England in 2015 where more than half the population (50%) of the area was classed as living in income deprivation. Wirral had 7 LSOAs where more than 50% of residents were classed as being income deprived (see right of map for list of these LSOAs).

Those LSOAs that are classified as being the most deprived 20% of areas in England are shown in the lightest colour, the least deprived – or most affluent – areas are shown in the darkest colours (Most deprived = 1, Least Deprived = 32,844).

**Map 3:** Income deprivation domain: LSOAs by Rank in Wirral (1= Most Deprived)



**Notes:** This domain is calculated using families who fall into the following categories: Income based ESA claimants; Jobseeker's Allowance claimants; Pension Credits claimants; Child or Working Tax Credits claimants (not already claiming one of the above benefits) whose income (excluding housing benefit) is below 60% of the median before housing costs and Asylum seekers in receipt of subsistence support, accommodation or both. Performance on this domain is so poor, it negatively affects the overall performance of Wirral on the whole IMD.

**Table 2:** Ten most deprived LSOAs in Wirral on the Income domain of the IMD (2015)

LSOA code	LSOA name	Overall IMD Rank (1 = most deprived)	Income Score (rate)	Income Rank (1 = most deprived)
E01007133	Birkenhead East Float	133	59%	9
E01007122	Bidston St James East	36	58%	10
E01007274	Seacombe Ferry	100	56%	21
E01007293	Lower Tranmere	108	54%	36
E01007127	Birkenhead West	56	51%	87
E01007124	Beechwood North	346	50%	102
E01007289	Tranmere Woodward	270	50%	107
E01007123	Bidston St James West	460	49%	128
E01007220	Egremont Central	288	48%	137
E01007128	Birkenhead Central	94	48%	153

## Employment

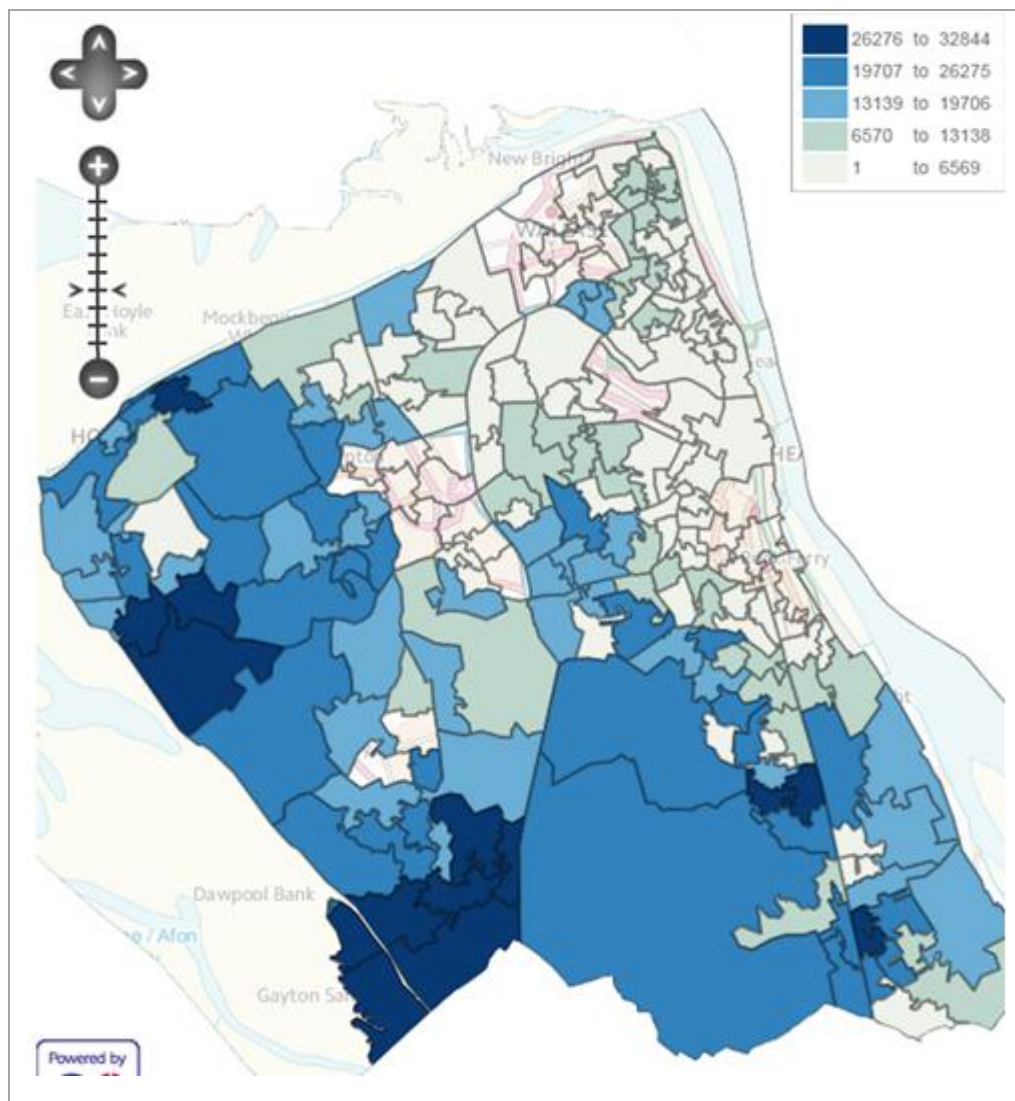
The Employment domain of the IMD measures involuntary exclusion of working age people from the labour market, i.e. those who would like to work but are unable to do so. Worklessness is regarded as a deprivation in its own right and not simply a driver of low income, because participation in the labour market brings a number of other social and psychological benefits.

Like the Income domain, the Employment Domain Score is actually a rate or proportion. So for example, in Birkenhead East Float, 59% of residents in these areas are employment deprived. This LSOA was also the most deprived area in Wirral on the previous (2010) IMD and has actually worsened (its score was 0.51, meaning 51% of residents were Employment Deprived). Birkenhead East Float was actually the number 1 most employment deprived LSOA in England in 2015, out of 32,844 LSOAs

Map 4 below shows the distribution of this domain (by England rank) in Wirral. The lightest coloured areas are the 20% most deprived of areas nationally for this measure.

Wirral has 75 LSOAs which fall into this category (ranked 0 to 6,569), so almost one in three of all LSOAs in the borough are classed as being employment deprived. Performance on this domain is so poor, it negatively affects the overall performance of Wirral on the whole IMD.

**Map 4:** Employment deprivation domain: LSOAs by Rank in Wirral (1= Most Deprived)



**Notes:** This domain is calculated by summing the following seven indicators: Jobseeker's Allowance claimants (both contribution-based and income based); Incapacity Benefit claimants aged 18-59/64; Severe Disablement Allowance claimants aged 18-59/64; Employment & Support Allowance claimants aged 18-59/64 and Carers Allowance claimants. Map 4 indicates that Wirral performs poorly on this domain, with only 12 LSOAs classed as belonging to the least deprived 20% of areas nationally (darkest blue colour on the key).

**Table 3:** Ten most deprived LSOAs in Wirral on the Employment domain of the IMD (2015)

LSOA code	LSOA name	Overall IMD Rank (1 = most deprived)	Employment Score (rate)	Employment Rank (1 = most deprived)
E01007133	Birkenhead East Float	133	58%	1
E01007122	Bidston St James East	36	46%	28
E01007293	Lower Tranmere	108	46%	29
E01007274	Seacombe Ferry	100	45%	35
E01007129	Birkenhead South	96	44%	45
E01007128	Birkenhead Central	94	44%	53
E01007126	Hamilton Square	294	42%	73
E01007207	Moreton North	410	40%	109
E01007289	Tranmere Woodward	270	40%	111
E01007127	Birkenhead West	56	40%	135

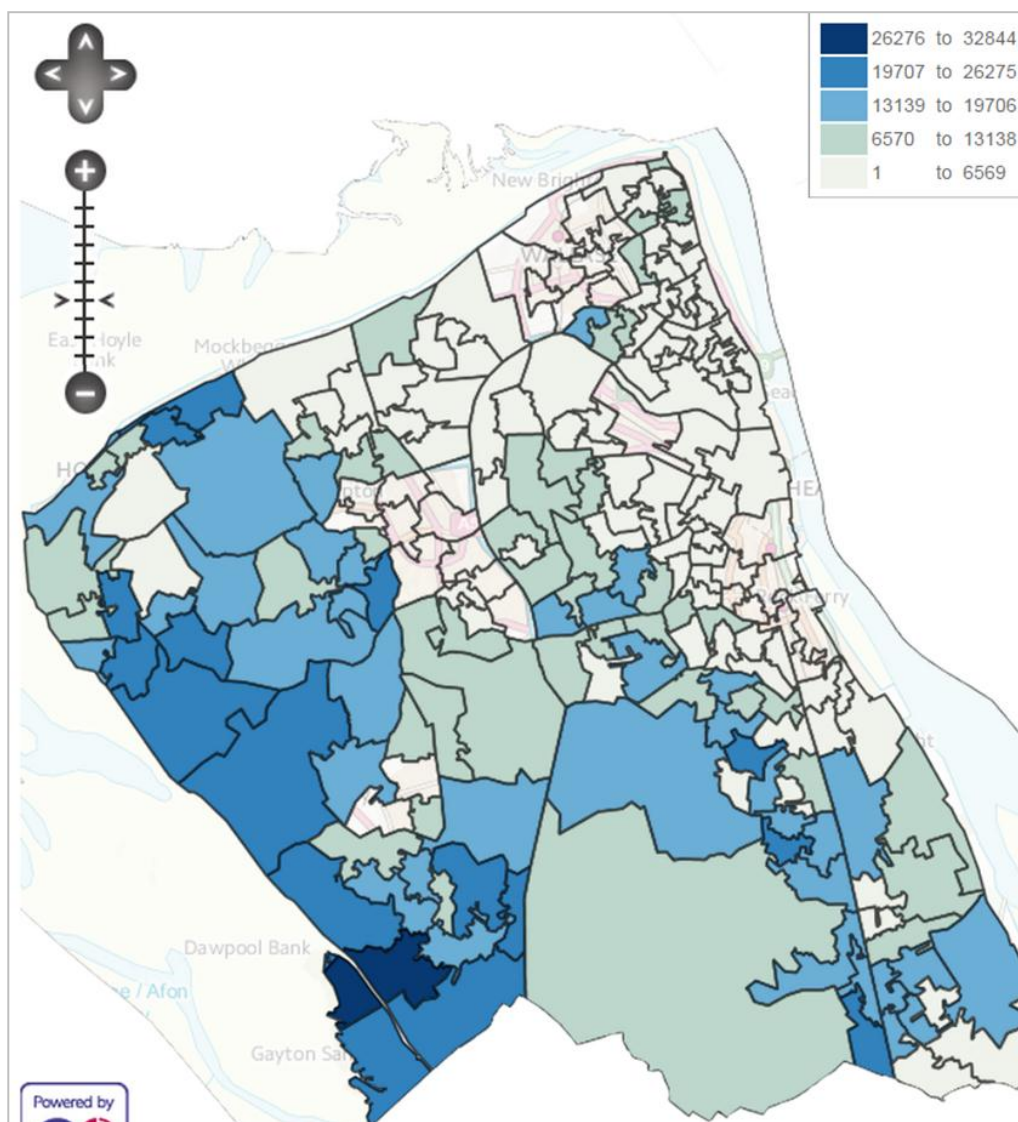
## Health and Disability

This domain makes up 13.5% of the overall IMD and measures premature death and the impairment of quality of life by poor health and disability, taking into account both physical and mental health. Health deprivation and disability is included as one of the seven domains because ill health limits an individual's ability to participate fully in society. This domain captures *unexpected* deaths or levels of ill health by using age and gender standardised data (meaning any trends seen are not due to age).

As Map 5 shows, Wirral performs particularly poorly on this domain in 2015 (as it did in 2010), with only 1 LSOA in Heswall ward out of all 206 LSOAs in Wirral appearing in the top 20% of areas in England. By contrast, Wirral has 97 LSOAs which are ranked in the bottom 20% of areas in England on this domain – this is almost half of all the LSOAs in Wirral. When the last IMD was calculated in 2010, 90 LSOAs were classified as being in the bottom 20% - meaning that a further 7 LSOAs have moved into the bottom quintile (or 20%).

Birkenhead East Float and Bidston St. James East were respectively the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> most deprived LSOAs (on this domain) in England (out of a total of 32,844 LSOAs). Performance on this measure is so poor, it affects the overall ranking of Wirral on the IMD.

**Map 5:** Health Deprivation & Disability deprivation domain: LSOAs by Rank in Wirral (1= Most Deprived)



### Notes:

This domain uses as indicators; Years of Potential Life Lost; Comparative Illness and Disability Ratio; Acute morbidity (age and sex standardised rate of emergency admission to hospital) and prevalence of Mood and Anxiety Disorders. Map 5 shows that most of Birkenhead and Wallasey Constituencies fall into the 20% most deprived of areas in England on this measure, with a few exceptions. Even the west of Wirral fares poorly however, and poor performance on this measure does affect Wirral's overall ranking on the IMD.

**Table 4:** Ten most deprived LSOAs in Wirral on Health Deprivation & Disability domain of the IMD (2015)

LSOA code	LSOA name	Overall IMD Rank (1 = most deprived)	Health Deprivation & Disability Score	Health Deprivation & Disability Rank (1 is most deprived)
E01007133	Birkenhead East Float	133	3.16	3
E01007122	Bidston St James East	36	3.08	5
E01007126	Hamilton Square	294	2.97	16
E01007293	Lower Tranmere	108	2.97	17
E01007207	Moreton North	410	2.74	39
E01007274	Seacombe Ferry	100	2.69	49
E01007127	Birkenhead West	56	2.59	63
E01007124	Beechwood North	346	2.56	74
E01007129	Birkenhead South	96	2.53	86
E01007121	Bidston Moss	385	2.45	108

## Education, Skills and Training

This sub-domain makes up 13.5% of the overall IMD and measures the extent of deprivation in terms of education, skills and training relating to not only children and young people, but adults too.

The sub-domain captures both the attainment of qualifications by young people and the existing skills and qualifications (or lack of) in the resident working age adult population.

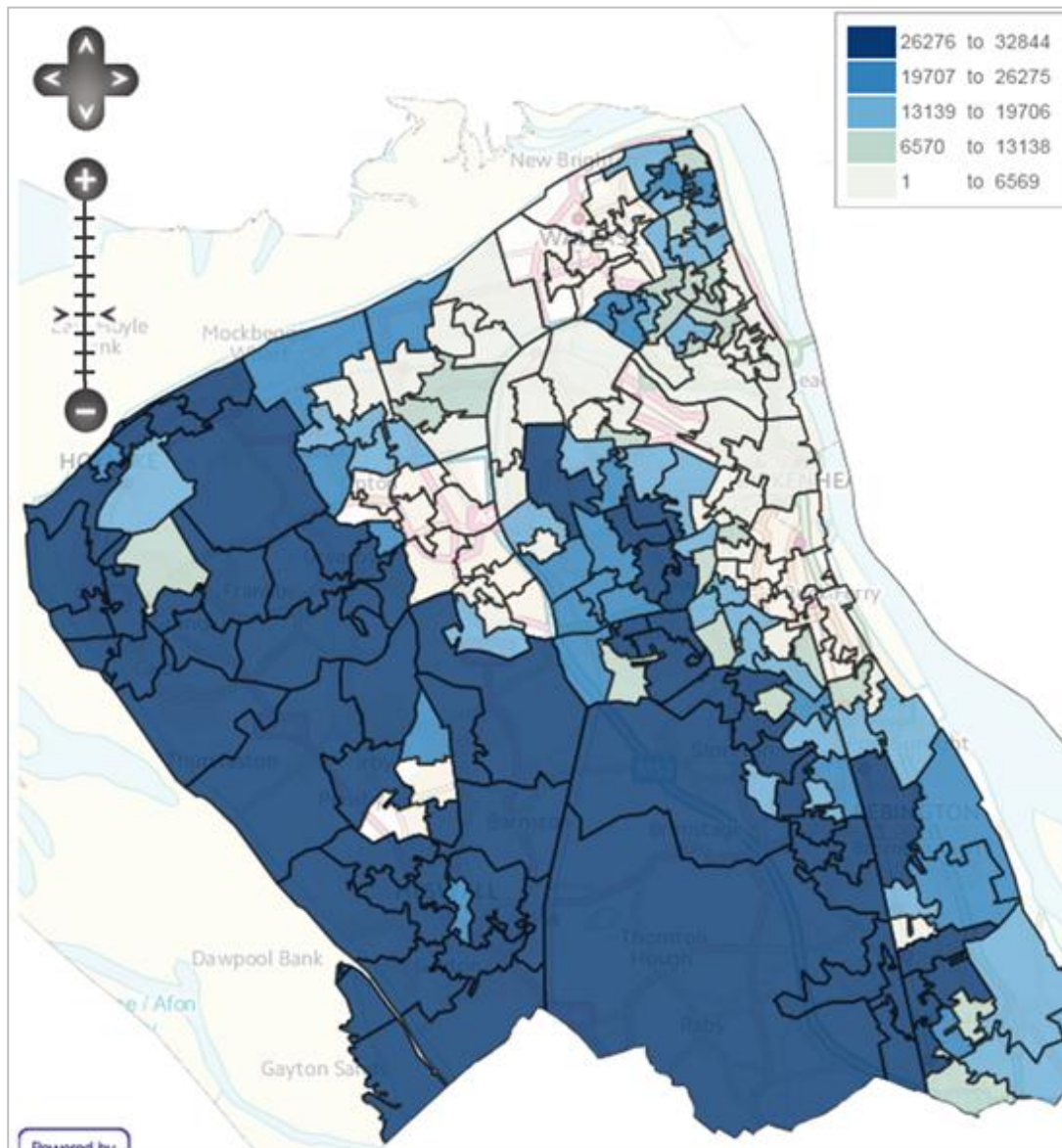
There were 47 Wirral LSOAs in the most deprived 20% nationally on this domain (there were 41 in 2010) and 67 in the least deprived quintile (62 in 2010). It is interesting to note however, that Wirral performs slightly better on this domain, than on the overall IMD.

For example, the poorest performing LSOA on this sub-domain is Bidston St James East, with a ranking of 271 (out of 32,844 LSOAs in England). Although this is still a poor performance on this domain (i.e it is the worst performing LSOA in Wirral), compared to that same LSOAs ranking on the *overall* IMD – where it ranked of 36 out of 32,844 LSOAs (where 1 is the most deprived LSOA in England), a ranking of 271 is not quite so poor.

This suggests that this domain is performing better on education, skills and training than its overall IMD ranking. In turn, this could indicate that in the future, deprivation in Wirral may improve, as education is a well-established route out of poverty.

In contrast with the majority of the other sub-domains of the IMD, there are many LSOAs in the east of Wirral (Birkenhead Constituency) which fall into the 20% best performing LSOAs in England. The only other domain where Wirral performs as well as this is the Barriers to Housing & Services domain.

**Map 6:** Education, Skills and Training domain: LSOAs by Rank in Wirral (1= Most Deprived)



Notes: This domain is calculated using; attainment at Key Stage 2; Key Stage 3 & Key Stage 4; Secondary school absence; Staying on in education post 16; Entry to higher education; the proportion of adults aged 25-54 with no or low qualifications and English language proficiency. Map 6 shows a fairly extreme picture, with many LSOAs falling into the most and least deprived quintiles, but relatively few falling into the 3 middle quintiles, suggesting increasing polarisation on this domain.

**Table 5:** Ten most deprived LSOAs on the Education, Skills & Training domain

LSOA code (2011)	LSOA name	Overall IMD Rank (1 = most deprived)	Education, Skills and Training Score	Education, Skills and Training Rank (1 = most deprived)
E01007122	Bidston St James East	36	80.72	271
E01007127	Birkenhead West	56	77.97	382
E01007133	Birkenhead East Float	133	75.41	467
E01007289	Tranmere Woodward	270	72.80	596
E01007124	Beechwood North	346	71.34	668
E01007293	Lower Tranmere	108	68.05	915
E01007274	Seacombe Ferry	100	67.61	948
E01007207	Moreton North	410	64.10	1228
E01007123	Bidston St James West	460	61.94	1452
E01007121	Bidston Moss	385	61.90	1458

## Barriers to Housing and Services domain

This domain makes up 9.3% of the overall IMD and measures geographical barriers relating to and financial accessibility of housing and key local services (e.g issues relating to access to housing such as affordability). It is the domain on which Wirral performs best in the 2015 IMD.

Barriers to Housing & Services is included as a domain because accessibility of suitable housing and local amenities are significant determinants of quality of life. Those who cannot afford to be owner occupiers, live in overcrowded homes or are classed as homeless are deprived of the safety and stability of a home appropriate to their needs. Individuals who have to travel long distances to key services are also disadvantaged.

As Map 7 shows, the distribution of housing and services related deprivation in Wirral shows a very different pattern to that of the other domains. There is no obvious east/west split and if anything, some areas of the south and west appear more disadvantaged than the north and east.

To put this into context however, this is a domain in which Wirral performs well, there are only 2 LSOAs which fall into the 20% most deprived areas of England (Caldy South and Bidston Hill North) and this is due to reasons of affordability (parts of Caldys have some of the most expensive property prices in the North-West and England), rather than over-crowding for example.

Further, it is unlikely that residents experience the effects of the kind of deprivation described by this domain in the same way as those experiencing deprivation on some of the other domains such as income and employment. For example, Caldys residents may be far from services, but the impact of this will be mitigated by high levels of car ownership in the area.

There are clusters of areas ranking poorly on this domain in wards such as Rock Ferry for example, and their low ranking is likely to be due to factors such as over-crowding and homelessness, rather than extreme house-prices, as is the case in the west of Wirral. Thus there are several different areas of Wirral which perform poorly on this domain, but for differing reason







**Table 7:** Ten most deprived LSOAs on the Crime domain (IMD 2015)

LSOA code (2011)	LSOA name	Overall IMD Rank (1 = most deprived)	Crime Score	Crime Rank (where 1 is most deprived)
E01007129	Birkenhead South	96	1.788	262
E01007292	Higher Tranmere	495	1.778	271
E01007155	Birkenhead Park East	1527	1.656	440
E01007128	Birkenhead Central	94	1.621	494
E01007179	Egerton North	1297	1.481	795
E01007220	Egremont Central	288	1.448	872
E01007131	West Tranmere	856	1.407	1018
E01007122	Bidston St James East	36	1.406	1031
E01007275	Egremont South	3036	1.246	1720
E01007293	Lower Tranmere	108	1.159	2215

## Living Environment

This domain makes up 9.3% of the overall IMD and measures the quality of individuals immediate surroundings including housing quality, air quality and road traffic accidents.

There were 40 LSOAs which ranked in the bottom 20% of areas in England on this domain in 2015 (compared to 52 in the last IMD in 2010, suggesting an improvement).

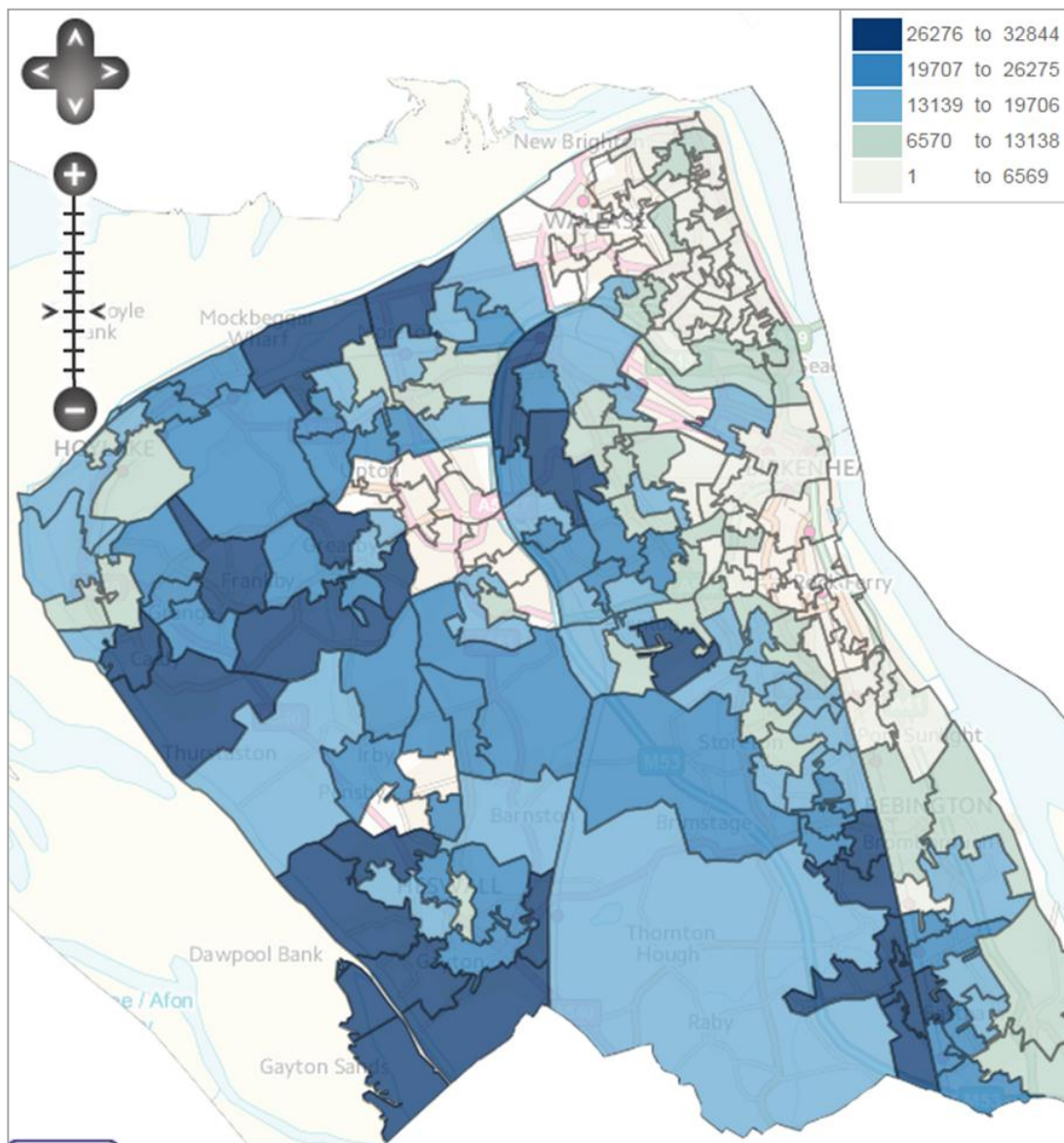
As the map (over page) shows, the majority of areas ranking in the bottom 20% on this domain were in the east of the borough, although there were some pockets of deprivation in west Wirral, notably the Woodchurch estate, but also around Pensby. As was the case in the 2010 IMD, there were no Wirral LSOAs which ranked in the bottom 1%, 3% or 5% nationally on this domain.

Table 1 at the beginning of this report showed that the wards of New Brighton, Seacombe and Liscard fared poorly on this domain, despite (in the case of New Brighton & Liscard), not being amongst the most deprived wards in Wirral either overall, or on the other sub-domains.

It is likely that the poor performance on this measure is due to the large proportion of older, Victorian terraced properties in these areas of the borough. In addition, a significant proportion of housing in this area is privately rented, which of all the categories of housing (owner occupier, socially rented, privately rented), is well documented as being the most likely to be in poor condition.

A further factor is a large number of HMO (Houses of multiple occupation) in areas such as New Brighton, which also are more likely than average to be in poor condition, have poor levels of thermal insulation etc... All of these factors are taken into account in the Living Environment domain and so are highly likely to be contributing to some wards poor performance in this domain.

**Map 9:** Living Environment domain: rank of LSOAs in Wirral



Notes: This domain uses as indicators; Housing in poor condition (proportion of social and private homes failing to meet the decent homes standard); Houses without central heating; Air quality (measure based on emissions rates for four major pollutants) and Road traffic accidents (measure of road traffic accidents involving injury to pedestrians and cyclists in the resident and workplace population).

**Table 8:** Ten most deprived LSOAs on the Living Environment domain (IMD 2015)

LSOA code (2011)	LSOA name	Overall IMD Rank (1 = most deprived)	Living Environment Score	Living Environment Rank (1 = most deprived)
E01007129	Birkenhead South	96	53.51	1680
E01007217	Liscard Central	8252	53.41	1693
E01007234	Magazine Promenade	9320	49.85	2298
E01007276	Poulton North	8735	49.48	2367
E01007216	Liscard South	8079	48.99	2462
E01007296	Tranmere Well Lane	1888	47.96	2665
E01007130	Tranmere North	3565	47.55	2769
E01007127	Birkenhead West	56	46.00	3099
E01007233	Earlston Gardens East	8577	44.95	3338
E01007277	Town Hall	1938	44.89	3358

## Summary information about all 7 domains

Table 9 below shows the number of LSOAs which are classed as falling into either: the 1%; the 10% or the 20% most deprived of areas in England on each of the seven domains.

**Table 9:** Number of Wirral LSOAs classified as being amongst the 1%, 10% and 20% most deprived nationally, by IMD 2015 domain

IMD Domain	Number of LSOAs		
	In most deprived 1%	In most deprived 10%	In most deprived 20%
Income	15	44	60
Employment	14	53	75
Education, Skills & Training	1	23	47
Health Deprivation & Disability	21	68	97
Barriers to Housing & Services	0	1	2
Crime	0	15	30
Living Environment	0	8	40

As Table 9 shows, Wirral performs particularly poorly on three domains (Income, Employment, Health Deprivation & Disability and Income), with a large number of LSOAs (out of the Wirral total of 206) falling into the most deprived 1%, 10% and 20% nationally.

Wirral performs fairly well or is similar to England averages on the remaining four domains of Barriers to Housing and Services, Crime, Living Environment and Education. These domains are less heavily weighted than the Income, Employment and Health & Disability domains however.

As the IMD is heavily weighted toward the Income and Employment domains (together they make up 45% of the overall IMD), this goes a long way to explaining the poor performance of the borough on the overall IMD (despite it no longer being one of the 20% most deprived areas in England, it is only just outside the bottom 20%).

## Final Notes

It is important to remember that the Index of Multiple Deprivation is a *relative* not an absolute measure of deprivation. In other words, it is a snapshot comparing deprivation across areas at a particular point in time. For example, even if significant improvements are made on levels of deprivation across the country, somewhere will still always be in the bottom 10% or 20%. It does not tell us how individual areas may have improved, only how they fare in comparison to all other areas of England at that moment in time. It is not recommended as a way of monitoring trends over time, even if there is a temptation for it to be used in this way.

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## Further reading

The English Indices of Deprivation (2015). Available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/english-indices-of-deprivation-2015>

## Appendix

**Table 10:** List of most deprived 1%, 3%, 5%, 10% and 20% most deprived LSOAs (n=62) in Wirral by overall IMD (2015) ranking

LSOA code	LSOA name	Ward	IMD Score	IMD Rank (1 is most deprived)	% deprivation (national rank)
E01007122	Bidston St James East	Bidston and St James	79.393	36	1%
E01007127	Birkenhead West	Birkenhead & Tranmere	78.201	56	1%
E01007128	Birkenhead Central	Birkenhead & Tranmere	75.655	94	1%
E01007129	Birkenhead South	Birkenhead & Tranmere	75.578	96	1%
E01007274	Seacombe Ferry	Seacombe	75.468	100	1%
E01007293	Lower Tranmere	Rock Ferry	74.959	108	1%
E01007133	Birkenhead East Float	Bidston & St James	74.255	133	1%
E01007289	Tranmere Woodward	Rock Ferry	70.052	270	1%
E01007220	Egremont Central	Liscard	69.496	288	1%
E01007126	Hamilton Square	Birkenhead & Tranmere	69.424	294	1%
E01007124	Beechwood North	Bidston and St James	68.481	346	3%
E01007121	Bidston Moss	Bidston and St James	67.65	385	3%
E01007273	Seacombe St Pauls	Seacombe	67.583	389	3%
E01007207	Moreton North	Leasowe & Moreton East	67.259	410	3%
E01007123	Bidston St James West	Bidston & St James	66.347	460	3%
E01007292	Higher Tranmere	Birkenhead & Tranmere	65.789	495	3%
E01007204	Leasowe Central	Leasowe & Moreton East	65.22	521	3%
E01007303	Woodchurch Leisure Centre	Upton	64.101	603	3%
E01007131	West Tranmere	Birkenhead & Tranmere	60.884	856	3%
E01007290	Tranmere Esplanade	Rock Ferry	60.275	907	3%
E01007291	Tranmere Lairds	Birkenhead & Tranmere	59.089	1008	5%
E01007270	Poulton South	Seacombe	57.463	1166	5%
E01007295	Tranmere Urban Village	Rock Ferry	57.26	1196	5%
E01007272	Seacombe West	Seacombe	56.99	1228	5%
E01007278	Seacombe Library	Seacombe	56.676	1267	5%
E01007179	Egerton North	Prenton	56.382	1297	5%
E01007215	Egremont Promenade South	Liscard	56.031	1341	5%
E01032903	New LSOA	Bidston & St James	55.491	1404	5%
E01007155	Birkenhead Park East	Clughton	54.607	1527	5%

E01007138	New Ferry East	Bromborough	53.113	1709	10%
E01007304	Woodchurch East	Upton	53.038	1727	10%
E01007296	Tranmere Well Lane	Rock Ferry	51.938	1888	10%
E01007277	Town Hall	Seacombe	51.649	1938	10%
E01007162	Noctorum Central	Cloughton	51.584	1948	10%
E01007175	Egerton Park	Rock Ferry	51.573	1952	10%
E01007119	Beechwood South	Bidston & St James	50.429	2152	10%
E01007257	Woodchurch North	Upton	50.329	2167	10%
E01007209	Moreton Sandbrook	Leasowe & Moreton East	49.461	2320	10%
E01007269	Seacombe Docks	Seacombe	49.349	2334	10%
E01007238	Victoria Parade	New Brighton	47.582	2679	10%
E01007227	Lingham Park East	Moreton West & Saughall Massie	47.134	2760	10%
E01007120	Bidston Hill North	Bidston & St James	46.806	2824	10%
E01007228	Lingham Park West	Moreton West & Saughall Massie	46.322	2912	10%
E01007275	Egremont South	Seacombe	45.69	3036	10%
E01007125	Bidston St James South	Bidston & St James	44.185	3370	20%
E01007249	Woodchurch Central	Upton	43.628	3517	20%
E01007210	Leasowe East	Leasowe & Moreton East	43.568	3530	20%
E01007130	Tranmere North	Birkenhead & Tranmere	43.376	3565	20%
E01007176	Rock Ferry West	Rock Ferry	42.529	3773	20%
E01007294	Tranmere Parklands	Birkenhead & Tranmere	41.628	4022	20%
E01007300	Woodchurch North East	Upton	41.431	4083	20%
E01007271	Poulton East	Seacombe	39.992	4499	20%
E01007218	Egremont North	Liscard	39.889	4537	20%
E01007239	Oxton North East	Birkenhead & Tranmere	39.073	4780	20%
E01007139	New Ferry West	Bromborough	38.341	5026	20%
E01007136	Bromborough South	Bromborough	37.971	5145	20%
E01007168	Eastham South	Eastham	37.203	5377	20%
E01007232	Egremont Promenade North	New Brighton	36.391	5636	20%
E01007205	Leasowe West	Leasowe & Moreton East	36.012	5761	20%
E01007214	Liscard Mill Lane	Liscard	35.974	5781	20%
E01007244	Oxton East	Oxton	34.209	6445	20%
E01007263	Newton North	West Kirby & Thurstaston	34.077	6496	20%