

## 5 Assessing the needs (3): comparative data analysis

The **Data Annex** accompanying this report is based on the minimum data set identified in [A Commissioning Framework for Health and Wellbeing](#). It has also been augmented to include relevant information from a range of sources, including surveys (as described in [section 4](#)). The annex is divided into sections:

- [Demography](#), which includes population breakdowns (by age and certain characteristics such as ethnicity, disability and vulnerable groups) and forecasts for the same groups.
- [Social and environmental context](#), which includes certain economic data and educational attainment data.
- [Current known health status of the population](#), which includes data around chronic disease, obesity, mortality from different causes, teenage conceptions, various lifestyle information and uptake of screening and immunisation;
- [Current met needs of the population](#), discussed in [section 7](#);
- [Public voice](#), discussed in [section 10](#)

The following paragraphs briefly outline key points identified from the data in the annex and from a few other data sources. Reference is made, when appropriate, to the relevant paragraph number of the *Data Annex*. Where information forms part of a National Indicator the number is referred to in the title.

Benchmarking, or comparison with other places or between groups of people, helps us to identify whether the population of Gateshead is better off or worse off than other populations, in terms of health or living conditions.

Throughout this section, we provide many comparisons with the North East region in general and with England and, on occasion, with other countries. There are also comparisons with other English districts that have similar characteristics. Whilst the 'Place Survey' is primarily intended for use at a local level, national statistical neighbours and Tyne and Wear results are provided for benchmarking purposes. Statistical neighbour models provide one method for benchmarking progress. For each local authority (LA), these models designate a number of other LAs deemed to have similar characteristics. Gateshead is in the category of local authorities known as 'industrial and hinterlands'. If the district compares badly with the region, or England or other industrial and hinterlands areas, this suggests that there might be something we can do to improve the situation.

It is not only a matter of comparing Gateshead with other areas. There are also variations within the district that can indicate the need to adjust services in particular small areas. Comparisons are therefore made between wards across the borough, between small areas known as output levels and also between people in different socio-economic groups (using, for example, the Mosaic classifications, as described in [section 10.4](#)).

## 5.1 Demography

### Key points:

- The total population of Gateshead was 190,600 in 2008. In 2001 there were 84,300 households. ([Annex 1.1 – 1.3, 1.11](#))
- The dependency ratio (ratio of older people to people of working age) is expected to be about 33% in the next few years, higher than England's (30%). ([Annex 1.4.](#))
- The proportion of over 65s is projected to rise from 33,700 to 42,000 people by 2025. Even more dramatic is the expected rise in the population aged 85+, increasing to 4,600 by 2015, then to 6,600 people by 2025 (a 74% rise from 2008). There is wide variation across the borough in the proportions of the population of retirement age, ranging from under 15% to well over 25%. ([Annex 1.4 – 1.6, 1.9](#))
- The number of births in Gateshead has continued to rise since 2001. The rise in the number of births is due to a rise in the birth rate rather than a rise in the population of women of child-bearing age. The number of births in Gateshead is predicted to remain constant at 2,300 between 2010 and 2015. ([Annex 1.7.](#))
- There is wide variation across Gateshead in the proportions of the population aged 15 and under, ranging from under 15% to well over 20%. ([Annex 1.8](#))
- Gateshead has a far higher than national average proportion of low income families living in estate based social housing (24%, whilst England's is 6%) and far lower proportion of career professionals living in sought after locations (2% as compared to England's 11%). There is huge variation across the district. ([Annex 1.16.](#))
- Whilst parts of the district, particularly in the eastern half, are very much urban, there are also significant rural areas, with hamlets or isolated dwellings. ([Annex 2.2.](#))

## 5.2 Vulnerable groups

### Key points:

- There are around 290 children aged under 18 in looked after care in Gateshead, ranked 4<sup>th</sup> highest in the region. However, educational attainment in this group is comparatively good - 44% obtained GCSEs at grade A\*-G in 2008, compared to England's 43%, although this is significantly worse than the 92% of all children who gained those grades ([Annex 1.10, 2.6.](#))
- The proportion of households occupied by lone parents with dependent children varies across the district from below 5% to over 15%. The 2001 census reported that 7.7% of Gateshead's 84,300 households were so occupied. ([Annex 1.11](#))
- 18% of households in Gateshead are occupied by single older people (as at 2006), the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest in the region. The proportion varies across the district, from under 10% to over 20%. ([Annex 1.12.](#))
- Up to 1000 migrants (immigrants, asylum seekers, refugees and other migrants) were estimated as arriving in the borough in 2005/06. ([Annex 1.13](#))
- Black and ethnic minority populations are increasing (from 6,200 in 2001 to 11,200 in 2007, including 700 white Irish and 3,000 white 'other') but are still in relatively small numbers in specific parts of the Borough. The majority (over 70%) are of working age. Proportions of BME populations living in different areas of the district vary from below 2% to up to 30%. ([Annex 1.14](#))

- Just 30% of Irish travellers live beyond their 60<sup>th</sup> birthday ([Inclusion health](#))
- 23.9% of the population have a limiting long term illness. ([Annex 3.37](#))
- 40 per 1,000 working age population claiming benefits or allowances for mental or behavioural problems (ranked 4<sup>th</sup> highest in the region). ([Annex 3.72.](#))
- Proxy measures for numbers with physical disability include disability living allowance recipients (see employments and benefits issues above) and Blue Badge parking permits (33 per 1000 population, compared to England's 45 in 2007). ([Annex 3.38](#) and [3.43.](#))
- Whilst Gateshead has a similar percentage to the North East of people registered blind or partially sighted (under 0.25%, lower than England's 0.30%), the percentage registered as partially sighted (0.36%) is the highest in the North East. The percentage of people registered as deaf or hard of hearing is the second highest in the North East and is higher than England's (0.7% compared to 0.4%). ([Annex 3.39](#) and [3.41.](#))
- It is estimated that 5136 people in Gateshead have mild to moderate learning disability. An estimated 653 people aged 18+ have severe learning disability. ([Annex 3.42.](#)) People with learning disabilities are 58 times more likely than the general population to die prematurely ([Inclusion health](#))
- Of claimants of disability living allowance who are aged up to 24 years, those with learning disabilities amount to 15% of that total and those with 'other mental health causes' amount to 10 % of that total ([Disability Living Allowance](#))
- Of the 239 people who live with family carers, 54% live with a carer over the age of 60 and 16% live with a carer over the age of 75. ([Learning Disability Age](#))
- 5% of children aged 5 to 10 years (nearly 1000 children) experience mental health disorders. This rises to 12% of children aged 11 to 15 years (nearly 1400 children).([The mental health needs of children and young people in Gateshead Children's Trust](#))
- In 2008, 10% of secondary school pupils said they felt afraid to go to school because of bullying 'often or every day'.(an increase from 5% in 2004) ([2008 Exeter Health Related Behaviour Questionnaire, Director of Public Health Annual Report](#)) Bullying is experienced by 65% of lesbian, gay and bisexual young people ([Annex 3.91.](#))
- In 2008, 22% of Year 8 boys said they had been a victim of violence or aggression in the area where they live (an increase from 15% in 2004) ([2008 Exeter Health Related Behaviour Questionnaire, Director of Public Health Annual Report](#) )
- Almost 1200 people aged 18-64 are estimated to have [autistic spectrum disorder](#).

### **5.3 Employment and benefits issues**

#### **Key points:**

- 7% of the working age population is in employment in Gateshead, not significantly different from the North East or England averages. Median average weekly earnings are third highest in the North East, though lower than England's. ([Annex 2.13](#), [2.19](#)).

- A higher proportion of working age people in Gateshead is on out-of-work benefits than the average in North East and England. However, Gateshead's proportion has fallen at a faster rate than England's between 2000 and 2009. ([Annex 2.14.](#))
- 13% of working age people in Gateshead claim IB or ESA (higher than the North East 12% and England's 7%). However, Gateshead's proportion has fallen at a faster rate than England's between 2000 and 2009. ([Annex 2.15](#) and [2.20.](#))
- The number of people claiming Disability Living Allowance is small compared with the total number of people claiming Incapacity Benefit or Employment or Support Allowance. There were 70 claimants in February 2009 (0,1%). ([Annex 2.16.](#))
- In April 2009, over 6000 people were claiming jobseekers' allowance (5.2%, which is higher than England's 4.1% but lower than most other industrial and hinterlands local authorities). The proportions of claimants vary across Gateshead and are far higher in some of the north east parts of the district. ([Annex 2.17.](#))
- Refugees and asylum seekers might be forbidden to work ([SoTW Mental Health Needs Assessment](#))

#### **5.4 Low income and socioeconomic disadvantage**

##### **Key points:**

- 49% of children in Gateshead are in low income families (similar to the North East average and higher than England's 42%). This equates to 15,600 children living in low income families. This is a reduction of 22% since 2003 (compared to the North East 20% and England's 15% reductions). Half of these children live in families receiving workless benefits and half live in families receiving tax credits. Between 2003 and 2008 there has been a 22% reduction in the number of children living in families dependent on income support in Gateshead. ([Annex 2.4.](#))
- Over half of children living in families receiving workless benefits live in lone parent households. There are 2,800 lone parents in Gateshead claiming benefits (a higher proportion of the working age population than England's). The proportion is falling over time in Gateshead, but at an identical rate when compared to England. The inequality gap is therefore remaining constant over time. ([Annex 2.4,](#) [2.18.](#))
- Within small areas, the proportion of children living in families receiving workless benefits or tax credits varies from under 5% to over 70%. ([Annex 2.4.](#))
- Wards where the proportion of children in low income families is highest are Dunston and Teams, Lobley Hill and Bensham, Bridges, Felling, Saltwell, Deckham and High Fell, areas concentrated in Central and East Gateshead. ([Annex 2.4.](#))
- In terms of health disadvantage, 54% of Gateshead's population live within the 20% most disadvantaged areas in England; in terms of employment disadvantage, 52% live within the 20% most disadvantaged areas. In terms of overall disadvantage (multiple deprivation), 35% live within the 20% most disadvantaged areas in England. There is wide variation between areas across the district. ([Annex 2.1.](#))

- 1250 males aged 16 or under claim disability living allowance, 340 because of learning disability or other mental health causes. Corresponding figures for females aged 16 or under are 630 in total, with 110 because of learning disability or other mental health causes. ([Disability Living Allowance](#)) ([Annex 3.38](#).)