



Somerset Children and Young People's Plan

Needs Assessment Children and Young People's Directorate

(Published: July 2010)

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Background

The purpose of this document is to provide a comprehensive overview of the needs of children and young people within Somerset. It builds on previous needs assessments and analysis undertaken. The needs assessment is a key component of the strategic commissioning process and the resulting data will drive down to different geographical levels to aid effective decision-making and prioritisation. It draws on analysis carried out by our partners, feedback from inspections and service users, monitoring of the Local Area Agreement and National Indicators, and also serves to signpost to other service-specific needs assessments, audits and key documents. It seeks to identify key issues and areas for development as part of informing Somerset Children and Young People's Plan priorities and activities.

It should be acknowledged that this document is a continuous work in progress and provides a 'snapshot in time', with further data and information added at routine intervals. Furthermore, the Needs Assessment is not intended to detail the many facets of work or initiatives being undertaken in relation to the issues identified, but to focus instead on the evidence base around them.

In April 2009 Somerset Children's Trust published its second Children and Young People's Plan. The plan, and its accompanying activity monitoring document, details 15 specific priorities and 70 activities to improve the lives of children, young people and families within the county under the 5 Every Child Matters outcomes (Be Healthy; Stay Safe; Enjoy and Achieve; Make a Positive Contribution; Achieve Economic Wellbeing). In 2010, Somerset Children's Trust produced an Annual Review of its current Plan, which takes into account the key findings of this assessment of need and identifies the plans direction for the forthcoming year. For more information about Somerset's Children's Trust and the Children and Young People's Plan, please visit the website: www.six.somerset.gov.uk/somersetchildrenstrust.

Operationally, Somerset is divided into four areas, eight Local Service Teams and 41 Children's Centre catchment areas. In order to strengthen and inform service delivery, and to support this overarching assessment of need, profiles at these levels have also been developed and these can be accessed via the PMIT Active Site (see below). These profiles are designed to provide frontline area staff and managers with information specific to their role and location, to inform service provision and better understand the needs of children and young people.

The Performance and Management Information Team (PMIT) is responsible for the provision of performance and management information across the Children and Young People's Directorate. The Team's Active website (<http://www.six.somerset.gov.uk/ist/>) has been designed to bring together a range of performance and management information, statistical analyses, research material and information across a broad range of services to support strategic management, the monitoring of performance and service development. Performance information, updated routinely, can be accessed here throughout the year and should be considered alongside this Needs Assessment.

Layout

This Needs Assessment document begins by providing some local information about the county, including maps outlining the District, Area and Local Service Team operational boundaries.

The formal part of the document is structured under the five Every Child Matters (ECM) headings. Each section contains:

- A segment that introduces some context and relevant background information for Somerset;
- A list of Children and Young People's Plan priorities identified for the 2009-2011 period;
- Detailed information and data relevant to that particular section, with a summary box at the end.

Within this document, comparisons are often made to the national average or to statistical neighbours. Statistical neighbour models provide a method for benchmarking progress. For each Local Authority (LA), these models designate a number of other LAs deemed to have similar characteristics. These designated LAs are known as statistical neighbours, or are sometimes referred to as a 'family group'. Any LA may compare its performance (as measured by various indicators) against its statistical neighbours to provide an initial guide as to whether their performance is above or below the level that might be expected (Source: DCSF, April 2009).

Somerset's 10 Statistical Neighbours are Devon, Suffolk, Herefordshire, Shropshire, Cornwall, Dorset, Norfolk, Gloucestershire, East Sussex and Wiltshire.

For the complete set of National Indicators, please refer to the Appendix added to the end of this document, which provides latest performance according to the Local Authority Interactive Tool (May 2010).

Some themes are cross-cutting, including our focus on 'narrowing the gap' in outcomes between vulnerable and excluded children against a context of improving outcomes for all, and our commitment to ensuring the participation and engagement of children, young people and families within our services. As such, these elements feature in each ECM 'chapter' and provide an additional resource for the informed analysis of need within Somerset. At the end of each section, a summary box serves to highlight the key findings resultant from the data and information explored and uncovered earlier. Deprivation is acknowledged as a common link to so many factors across the five ECM outcomes and is considered in detail within Section 5 – Achieving Economic Wellbeing. A separate Child Poverty Needs Assessment is to be produced over the forthcoming year, in line with the statutory requirements of the Child Poverty Act 2010.

For information about workforce development, please refer to the Links/Sources page at the conclusion of this document for a link to Somerset's Workforce Development Strategy.

Every effort has been made to ensure the data contained within this document is accurate. If there are any figures that you would like to clarify, please contact PMIT at PMIT@somerset.gov.uk

Consultation and engagement with children, young people, parents and carers

Within Somerset we maintain and promote the engagement of children, young people, parents and carers in our services, and through their active participation, enhance service delivery and make a positive contribution to enhancing the lives of families within the county. Children, young people and parents are involved in planning and reviewing processes across the work of the Children's Trust and are routinely involved in Child Protection, Common Assessment processes, Children in Care and SEN review arrangements. The agencies that form the Children's Trust have consulted with children and young people on a wide range of issues to explore and identify what really matters to them – what they see as being the key priorities for the county and what issues most concern them. We have included highlight details under each of the Every Child Matters sections, from the annual Tellus survey of children and young people in school years 6, 8 and 10, which is used to gather their views and provides a valuable insight into their thoughts and opinions. A set of detailed briefing packs have also been developed to inform service delivery.

Somerset Children's Trust has agreed the following set of values for engagement and participation:

The Somerset Children's Trust believes that:

- All children, young people and their parents and carers have the right to be heard, and to have their views valued and acted upon;
- Services at all levels will be more effective when children, young people, parents and carers are involved in shaping the services they use, so that there are significant benefits to the quality of the services provided and the organisations themselves;
- Children, young people, parents and carers benefit greatly if they are enabled to participate effectively.

In order to achieve this, the Somerset Children's Trust will:

- Build capacity through supporting partners to involve children, young people, parents and carers in their organisations and to advocate good practice with external partners;
- Develop a culture which changes the balance of power between professionals, children, young people and parents;
- Provide a range of opportunities for children, young people, parents and carers individually and in groups;
- Ensure those most often excluded from activities are included;
- Ensure the availability of resources and training;
- Measure progress against the quality standards;
- Promote and celebrate success.

The Somerset Children's Trust recognises that:

- Participation is a developmental process that starts in early childhood and is built on throughout an individual's life;
- Children, young people, parents and carers can participate in a variety of contexts, as individuals, as members of a group, or as representatives from an organisation;
- The diverse perspectives, knowledge and skills that children, young people, parents and carers bring will enhance our services.

A Review of Participation across Somerset Children's Trust:

In the autumn of 2009, Learning South West was commissioned to undertake a review of participation across Somerset Children's Trust with a view to harnessing existing good practice, collating feedback more effectively and maximising current resources to enable children, young people and their families to participate in decisions which affect their lives.

The review identified many examples of good practice in relation to participation work in Somerset and a strong commitment to it from senior managers and Council members. This was evidenced by an approved Participation Strategy and standards framework and commitment to the Hear by Right Standards. However, it found limited evidence that participation was being developed consistently across the county. The following recommendations are being acted upon:

- The existing Participation Steering Group has been re-formed into a Strategic Participation Group made up of Somerset Children's Trust representatives, in order to:
 - demonstrate leadership,
 - ensure implementation of strategic priorities
 - maintain participation as a priority activity
 - ensure that good practice is promoted and developed through seminars, conferences and providers' meetings.
- A Participation Manager has been appointed (from May 2010) to co-ordinate participation work across the county and to ensure statutory and government requirements are being met.
- The Participation Manager's priorities are:
 - To ensure that children, young people and their parents/carers are engaged in commissioning exercises in order to influence the design and delivery of services
 - To develop processes to ensure that the indirect voice of children and young people is heard, through drawing together key messages from individual service reviews and translating these into issues for action.
 - To review the Somerset Children's Trust's Participation Strategy and standards framework to ensure they are fit for purpose and revise them as necessary.

Further information on participation can be found by visiting: Somerset's Participation and Engagement Strategy 2009-2012

http://www.six.somerset.gov.uk/somersetchildrenstrust/view_folder.asp?folderid=6043&depth=2&rootid=6030&level2id=&level1=&level2=6043

Local Context

The demography of Somerset informs service planning and delivery. A good understanding of who the children of Somerset are now, and who they will be in the future, underpins evidence-based decision making.

The county of Somerset is well known for its countryside, agriculture, food and tourism. Covering 3,452 square kilometres (*1,333 square miles*), it is home to roughly 10% of the South West's population. Divided into 5 districts, (South Somerset, West Somerset, Mendip, Taunton Deane and Sedgemoor), Somerset is the third most rural county in England, with over 50% of its population living in communities of less than 3,000 people. The county has a population of 525,796 – 269,918 females and 255,878 males (*2008 mid-year population estimates, ONS*). The settlement pattern is one of dispersal. Only about a third of the population reside in the county's four largest towns – Taunton (66,000), Yeovil (44,000), Bridgwater (35,000) and Frome (26,000) (*mid-2006 ward-level data ONS*). The average population density is 144 persons per sq km, compared to the South West average of 207 persons and a national average of 240 persons. Low population density presents challenges for the provision of appropriate transport infrastructure, the viability and accessibility of local services, and the range of employment opportunities.

Despite this, the population is growing relatively quickly, increasing by 7.1% between 1991 and 2001 (36% higher than the South West region and over two and a half times the England and Wales average). 58.2% of Somerset's population is of working age, compared with a national average of 62.2%. Like the rest of the South West region, Somerset has much higher levels of people aged 50 and over than the UK as a whole and a lower than average number of young people. There are also fewer 20-24 year olds than would be expected, most likely due to their moving away to study for higher education.

Somerset is home to approximately 118,740 children and young people aged 18 and under (*mid-2008 figures ONS*), accounting for 22.6% of the overall county population. While predictions are that the total Somerset population is currently increasing, the number of children and young people is expected to decline.

Somerset has 210,587 households that are becoming smaller, with the average household size of 2.38 in 1991 reducing to 2.31 persons per dwelling a decade later. This means that the demand for new housing and accompanying services is increasing at a greater rate than the levels of population growth.

Somerset has a small proportion of non-white residents – only 3.31% compared to a national average of 11.76% (*2007*). Mendip is the most diverse of the five districts, and West Somerset the least ethnically diverse.

The Government's standard measure of deprivation and inequality in England is the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD). The IMD covers a number of domains of deprivation, including disadvantage in education; income; employment; health and housing. Deprivation in Somerset is well below the national average, ranking the county 35th out of 47 sub-regions. The county's 'deprivation score' of 73.70 is lower than the national average (100) and the regional figure (81.82). At a district level, West Somerset has the highest level of deprivation, but also has the lowest 'inequality' score, which is designed to highlight any significant spatial differences in deprivation. Using this measure, it would appear that Taunton Deane has the highest level of inequality.

The 2008 Place Survey revealed that 86% of people living in Somerset are very or fairly satisfied with where they live, well above the national average of 78.6%.

Table 1: 0-19 Somerset Population Estimates

MALES																				
Age	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Somerset	2,842	2,911	2,786	2,773	2,845	2,835	2,865	2,761	2,662	2,925	3,150	3,257	3,455	3,371	3,738	3,945	3,800	3,870	3,823	2,969
Mendip	632	598	570	621	645	614	647	635	581	663	693	734	759	747	944	1,033	926	1,006	943	619
Sedgemoor	604	626	595	616	595	627	610	558	588	623	679	673	740	713	851	851	837	762	749	625
S. Somerset	852	909	843	805	865	837	850	820	812	898	954	1,010	1,070	1,028	1,004	1,022	1,011	1,051	1,045	915
Taunton	623	621	637	606	606	611	612	584	545	604	640	670	704	679	758	840	820	853	868	613
W. Somerset	131	157	141	125	134	146	146	164	136	137	184	170	182	204	181	199	206	198	218	197

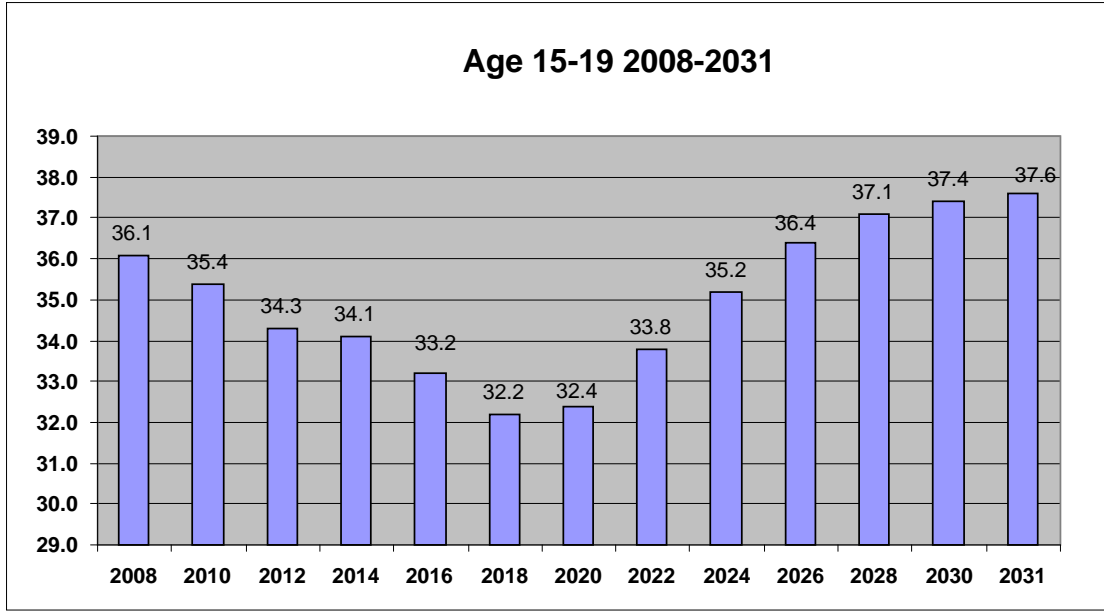
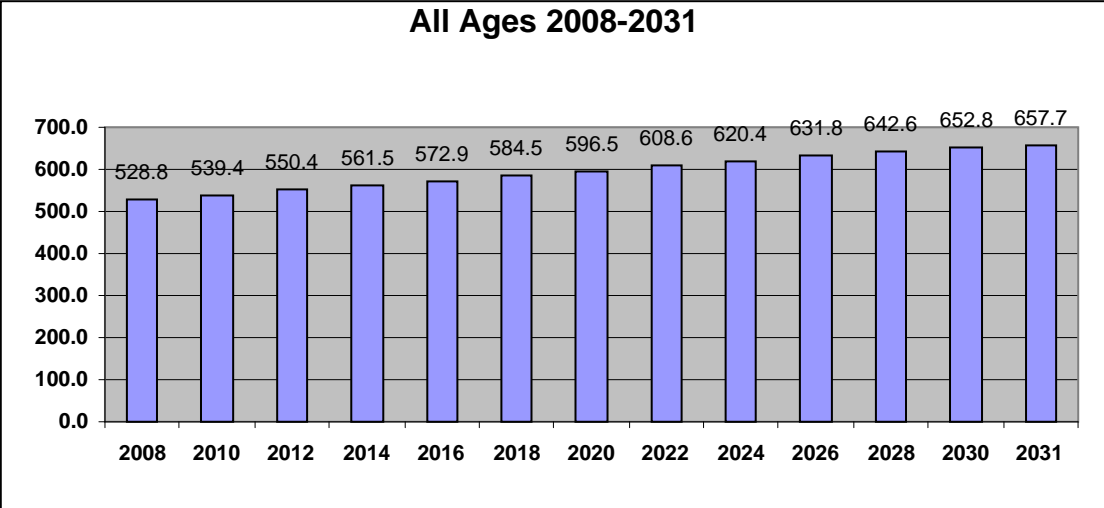
FEMALES																				
Age	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Somerset	2,790	2,789	2,746	2,697	2,683	2,704	2,693	2,628	2,692	2,908	3,132	3,212	3,201	3,120	3,272	3,485	3,426	3,570	3,447	2,640
Mendip	538	641	584	552	580	557	579	571	559	639	692	694	729	673	782	847	843	858	832	573
Sedgemoor	598	584	593	575	565	561	595	546	576	631	665	704	677	706	675	690	669	714	720	580
S. Somerset	851	847	809	840	852	852	827	818	838	895	965	967	954	925	966	1,016	1,010	1,047	989	739
Taunton	643	582	634	602	556	587	556	574	555	584	626	654	668	642	671	739	713	768	700	566
W. Somerset	160	135	126	128	130	147	136	119	164	159	184	193	173	174	178	193	191	183	206	182

Somerset Age Bands	Number	% of total Somerset population
0-4	27,862	5.3%
5-10	33,955	6.5%
11-15	34,056	6.5%
16-17	14,666	2.8%
13-19	48,476	9.3%
0-17	110,539	21.1%
0-18	117,809	22.5%
0-19	123,418	23.6%

	Somerset
Persons all Ages	523,471
Males All Ages	254,676 (49%)
Females All Ages	268,795 (51%)

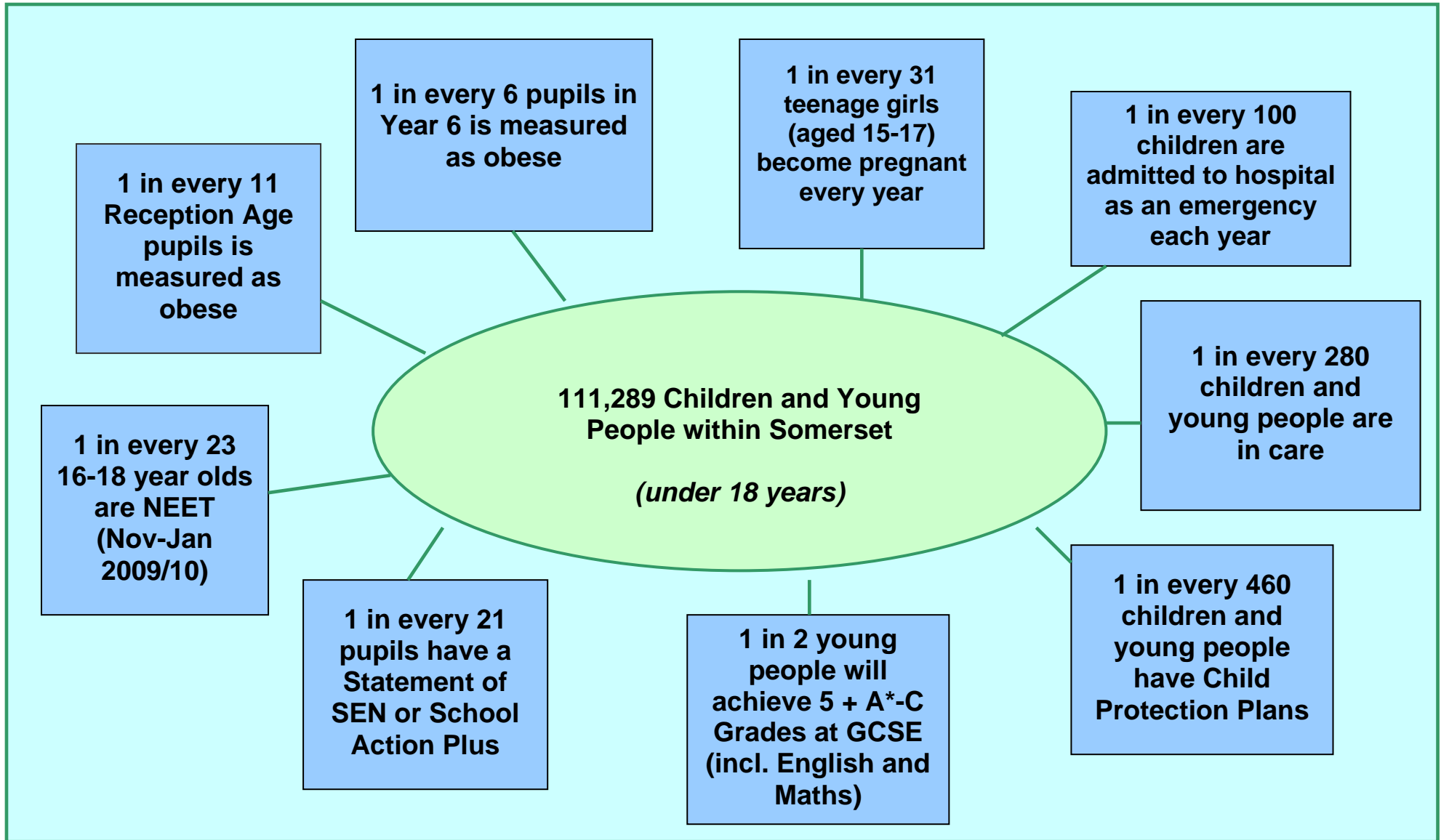
Source: ONS 2009 mid-year population estimates

Figure 1: Population Projections 2008 – 2031



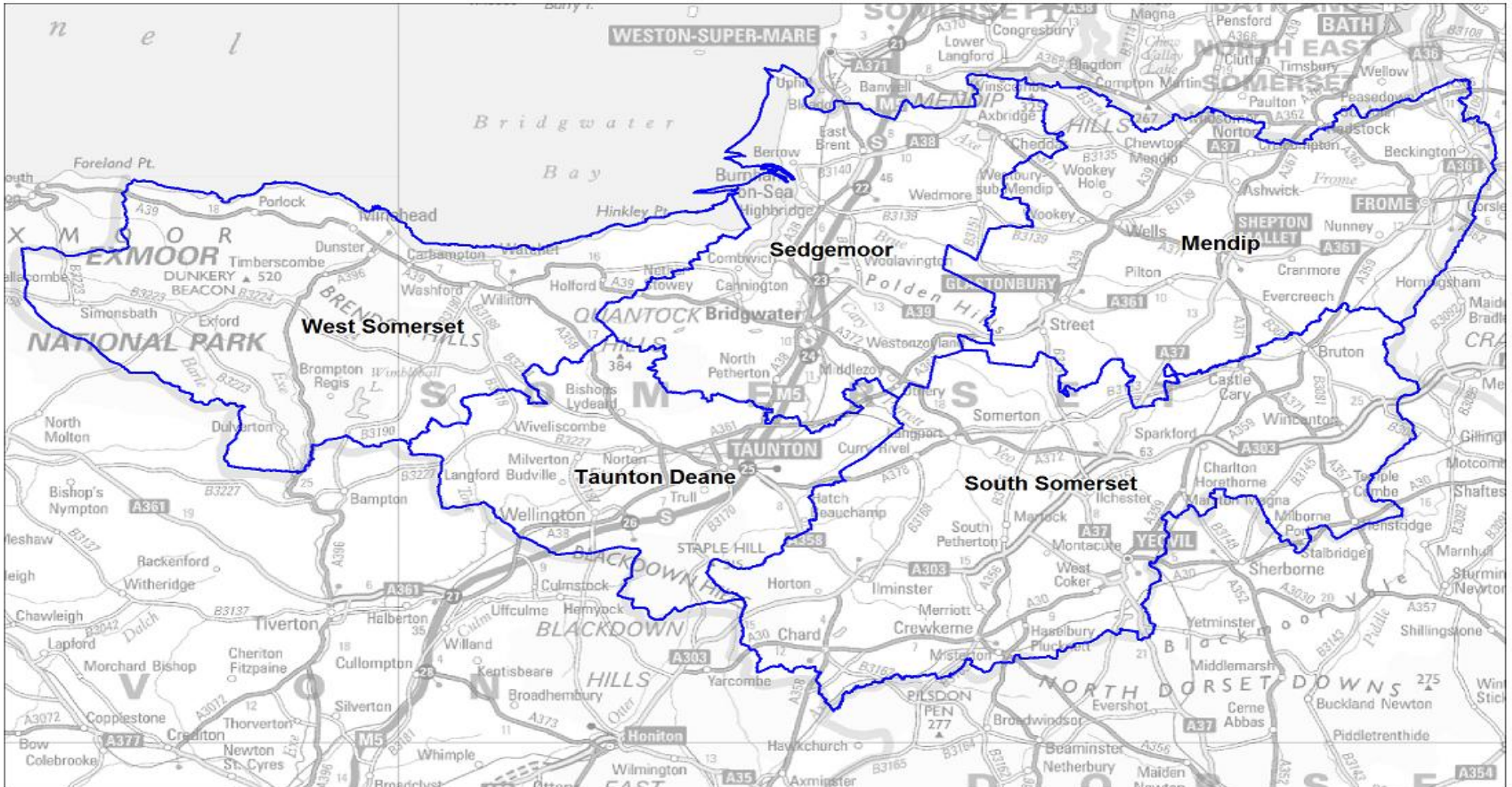
Based on 2006 Subnational Population Estimates

Figure 2: The Somerset Context



All figures valid as of January 2010

Figure 3: Somerset's Districts



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MENDIP AREA

LEGEND

-  Schools
-  PRUs
-  Children's Centres
-  Social Care Office
-  Area Boundary
-  Local Service Team

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SEDGEMOOR AREA

LEGEND

-  Schools
-  PRUs
-  Children's Centres
-  Social Care Office
-  Area Boundary
-  Local Service Team

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SOUTH SOMERSET AREA

LEGEND

-  Schools
-  PRUs
-  Children's Centres
-  Social Care Office
-  Area Boundary
-  Local Service Team

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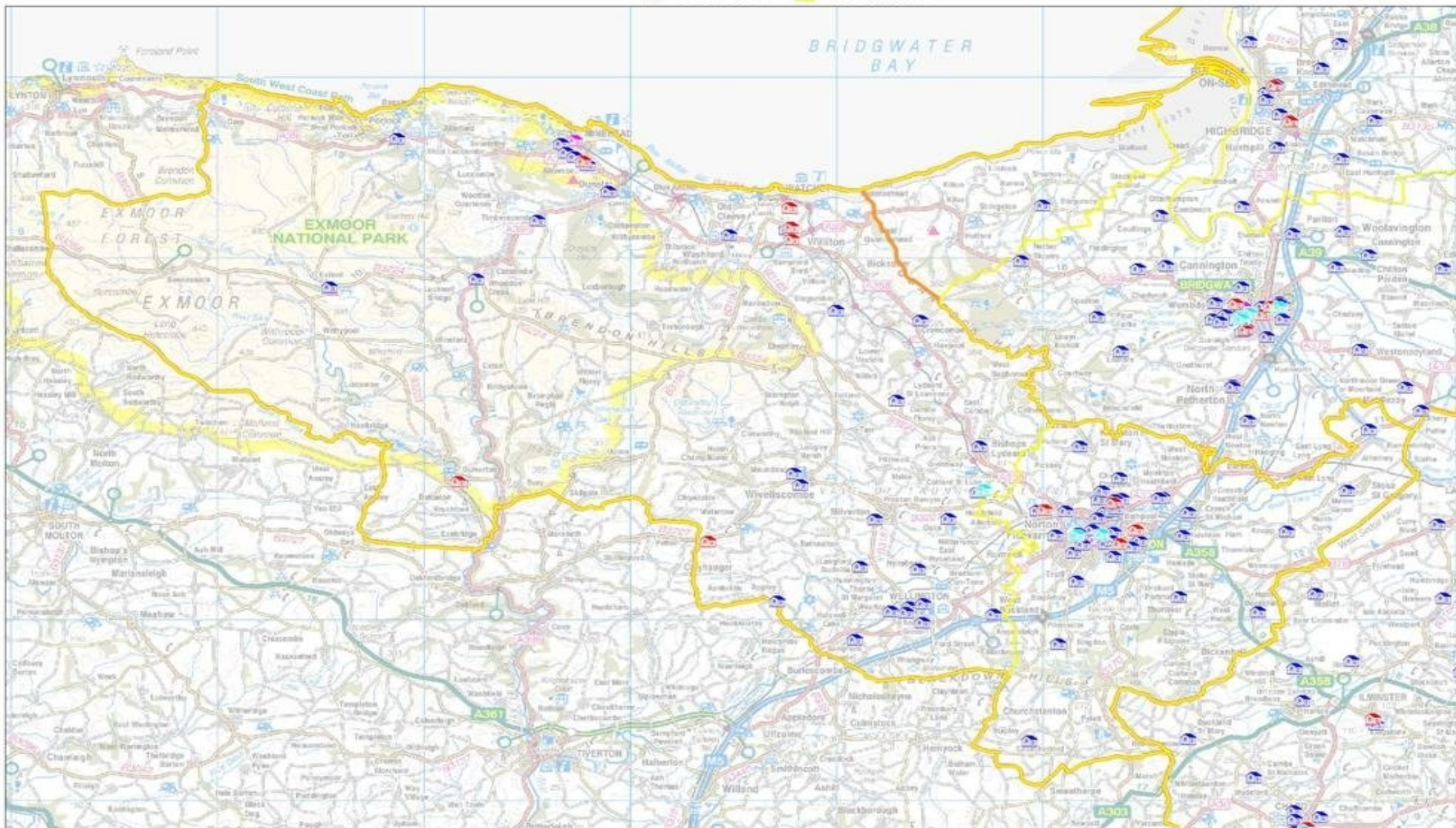


TAUNTON DEANE & WEST SOMERSET AREA

LEGEND

- | | |
|---|--|
|  Schools |  Social Care Office |
|  PRUs |  Area Boundary |
|  Children's Centres |  Local Service Team |

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Section 1 Being Healthy

National Drivers

The Government's Every Child Matters framework identifies five 'Being Healthy' aims of children and young people:

- Being physically healthy;
- Being mentally and emotionally healthy;
- Being sexually healthy;
- Being able to adopt healthy lifestyles;
- Choosing not to take drugs.

The Department for Children, Schools and Families' Strategic Objective (DSO) is to secure the well-being and health of children and young people (DSO1).

This is supported by the following Public Service Agreements (PSAs):

- PSA 12 improve the health and well-being of children and young people.
- PSA 25 reduce the harm caused by alcohol and drugs.

Somerset Children and Young People's Plan 2009-2011 Being Healthy Priorities

1. Improve the mental and emotional health and wellbeing of young people through early intervention;
2. Reduce teenage conception rates and the incidence of sexually acquired infections in young people;
3. Reduce health inequalities.

Links to Somerset's Sustainable Community Strategy

Aim 6: Being Healthy People are healthy and everyone has the information and support to be able to make the best choices about their lifestyle. There is little difference between individuals' health and life expectancy from one community to another. There is a range of health services to meet differing needs, including those who find it difficult to connect with services. People requiring care or support have good information and help that is responsive to their needs and gives them greater choice, convenience and ownership.

Challenge 18: Reduce health inequalities;

Challenge 19: Tackling high risk health issues.

Introduction

NHS Somerset commissions health services for the local population.

The average life expectancy for men is 79 years and 83 years for women. Many residents will live to these ages, and beyond, with relatively low risk of significant illness affecting their lives. However, pockets of deprivation do exist across the county, mainly in the larger towns but also in rural West Somerset where around a fifth of children live in households dependent on benefits. Life expectancy is known to be lower within deprived areas.

Early death rates from heart disease and stroke are lower than the England average and has fallen over the last decade. The estimated proportion of adults who smoke or binge drink is also lower than the England average. Despite this, there are approximately 860 deaths due to smoking each year and around 1,200 hospital admissions for alcohol-related conditions in Somerset.

The 2001 Census indicated that 18% of people in Somerset have a long-term limiting illness, health problem or disability that limits their daily activities or work. This is similar to regional and national averages. The areas of West Somerset and Sedgemoor have the highest rates of long-term limiting illness at 21% and 18% respectively. 4% of children in the county have a limiting long-term illness compared with an average of 4.3% nationally.

In general, children are among the healthiest members of the population with falling perinatal and infant death rates. However, there is increasing evidence of the effects of poor health status in infancy and their relationship to health outcomes later in life, including premature death, and so the health of children must be prioritised. In addition, there are particular groups of children who are at greater risk of experiencing health inequalities and poorer health outcomes. These include children in care; children from black and minority ethnic groups; gypsy and traveller children; young offenders; homeless young people; asylum-seeking children, and children with learning disabilities.

Health in Infancy

Smoking during pregnancy

A healthy life begins in pregnancy. It is known that maternal smoking during pregnancy is a key cause of low birth weight. It is equally important to note that the smoking of any household member after birth prejudices a child's health. The 2010 Health Profiles for Somerset indicate that 17.9% of pregnant women were smoking at the time of delivery, which is higher than the England average of 14.6%.

Life expectancy at birth

Table 2: Life expectancy at birth (January 2006- December 2008)

Local Authority	Females	Males
Somerset	83.5	79.6
Sedgemoor	83.07	78.28
South Somerset	83.72	79.60
Mendip	83.24	79.39
West Somerset	84.30	79.30
Taunton Deane	82.86	78.89
England	82.02	77.93
South West	83.09	79.00

Source: ONS, 2009

Life expectancy figures for local areas and regions are presented above.

Female life expectancy in the county ranges from 82.86 (Taunton Deane) to 84.30 (West Somerset). All districts are above the England average and most are above the South West average, bar Taunton Deane and Sedgemoor.

Male life expectancy in Somerset ranges from 78.28 (Sedgemoor) to 79.60 (South Somerset). At a District level, all areas are above the England average of 77.93. However Taunton Deane and Sedgemoor again score below the South West regional average.

Infant Mortality

Traditionally, infant and childhood mortality has been seen as a major indicator of the health of a nation. Over the Twentieth Century, infant and childhood mortality rates in England have dropped significantly in response to a variety of factors and interventions that include improve living conditions, diet and sanitation, birth control, advancements in medical science and the availability of health care. Despite this, inequalities have not reduced and important differentials exist by father's social class, birth weight, mother's country of birth, marital status of parents, sex and multiple birth status. It is also known that one of the major determinants of infant mortality is social deprivation. Low income groups have higher rates of children born with low birth weight and infant mortality compared with higher income groups.

Low birth weight is linked to poor health later on in life and delayed physical and intellectual development in childhood and adolescence. Inequalities in the early years of life can therefore have a critical impact on long-term wellbeing. Research has shown that mortality rates for both infants and children in the 1-3 age group are highest for mothers in the under-20 age bracket. This is of particular relevance given the high rates of teenage pregnancy nationally and within Somerset.

- *Infant mortality rate is the number of deaths at ages under one year, per 1,000 live births;*
- *Perinatal mortality rate is the number of stillbirths plus number of deaths at ages under 1 week per 1,000 live births and stillbirths.*

Since 1995, Somerset has averaged 34 perinatal deaths each year, ranging from 29 (2002) to 45 (1997). Somerset has a perinatal mortality rate (6.4 per 1,000 births in 2004-06) below both the South West rate of 6.9 and the national rate of 8.0.

Since 1995, Somerset has averaged 22 infant deaths a year, ranging from 17 (2006) to 26 (2001). The county has an infant mortality rate (4.3 per 1,000 live births 2004-06) very similar to that of the South West (4.4) and below that of the national rate (5.0).

Source: Strategy to Reduce Health and Social Inequalities in Somerset (2010-2015)

Causes of infant deaths in Somerset

Public health departments receive detailed information about stillbirths, perinatal and infant deaths occurring in the Somerset area. The breakdown of causes of infant death in all areas of Somerset are similar to causes found elsewhere and we are confident that there is no evidence for an increased incidence in particular causes of infant death in any areas of Somerset.

Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (or 'cot' death) remains one of the main causes of infant mortality and accounts for about a quarter of all deaths between 1 month and 1 year of age in England and Wales. This is important because cot deaths are potentially preventable. Thanks to public health campaigns informing parents about how to reduce the risks, the numbers of cot deaths fell by 69% between 1988 and 1992. A key risk factor is parents smoking in the home and during pregnancy. It has been estimated that around 60% of cot deaths could be avoided if no women smoked during pregnancy.

Source: South West Public Health Observatory 2008

Somerset implemented the new Child Death review process in April 2008. In 2008/09, 29 child deaths were reported in Somerset, the majority of which were neonatal deaths (17). Many of these babies were born before the expected date of delivery. The Child Death Overview Panel determined that none of the deaths during this timeframe were preventable, although 2 neo-natal deaths were deemed to have been potentially preventable. Statistically there would be an expectation that there would be more deaths amongst boys than girls and this is reflected in local figures.

Please refer to the Annual Report of the Child Death Overview Panel (2008/09) for further details.

Immunisation

Immunisation remains one of the greatest successes in protecting children's health. It is very important that population ('herd immunisation') is maintained around 95% to ensure the protection of very young children, pre-immunisation, and the few children who are unable to receive vaccine, such as those with childhood cancer.

94% of children in Somerset aged 1 at the end of 2008 had received vaccination against Diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, polio, haemophilus influenzae type b, meningitis C and pneumococcal disease. The national rate in 2007/08 was 91%. *Please see Table 3 (Immunisations 2007/08) overleaf for full details.*

MMR uptake rates at 24 months of age has improved after a dip below 85%, and the latest quarter shows 89% uptake of the primary course. 80% of 5 year olds had received a full course of vaccinations. The national rates in 2007/08 were 85% and 74%.

Source: Strategy to Reduce Health and Social Inequalities in Somerset (2010-2015)

Table 3: Immunisations 2007/08

Vaccination			Somerset	England
By 1 st birthday	DtaP/IPV/Hib	Primary	93.7%	91.3%
	Men C	Primary	93.4%	90.3%
	PCV	Primary	90.0%	83.7%
By 2 nd birthday	DtaP/IPV/Hib	Primary	96.1%	93.6%
	MMR	Primary	85.2%	84.6%
	Men C	Primary	95.8%	93.2%
By 5 th birthday	DTP	Primary	95.7%	92.6%
	DTPPol	Booster	85.0%	77.5%
	Hib	Primary	94.5%	91.2%
	MMR	1 st dose	89.7%	87.0%
	MMR	1 st and 2 nd dose	79.5%	73.6%

Breastfeeding

It is recommended by the Government and the World Health Organisation (WHO) that babies should be exclusively breastfed for the first six months of life, with continued breastfeeding to two years and beyond. If all babies were breastfed, even for at least three months, there would be a huge improvement in health and a cost saving to the NHS. The reduction in gastroenteritis (sickness and diarrhoea) alone would save more than £50 million every year in the UK. Babies who are not fed their mother's milk are twice as likely, as those who are, to be admitted to hospital with a chest infection within their first seven years. They are also more likely to become obese and develop diabetes. Breastfeeding is also good for mothers' health; the longer a woman breastfeeds, the greater her protection from breast cancer.

In Somerset, as throughout the United Kingdom, nine out of 10 women who stop breastfeeding before their baby is six weeks old would have liked to have breastfed for longer. If these women had received consistent, accurate information and support, the vast majority of them indicate that they would have happily continued to breastfeed their babies.

NI 53: Prevalence of breastfeeding at 6 – 8 weeks from birth

The breastfeeding initiation rate in Somerset is good at 76% cent, higher than the national average of 69%. Currently around 34% of mothers are breastfeeding when the baby is six weeks old.

Source: Annual Public Health Report (2008/09): The Health and Wellbeing of Children and Young People in Somerset

Childhood Obesity and Healthy Lifestyles

Childhood obesity

Obesity levels are rising for children and young people and this trend has been recognised as one of the major public health issues of our time in England. In response to this, the Government developed a Public Service Agreement target to 'halt the year on year rise in obesity among children under 11 by 2010 in the context of a broader strategy to tackle obesity in the population as a whole'. NHS Somerset takes part in the National Child Measurement Programme where children in Reception and Year 6 routinely have their height and weight measured and their Body Mass Index calculated.

NI 55: Obesity in Primary School Age Children in Reception Year

Whilst obesity among primary school age children in Reception Year saw a reduction from 10% (summer 2006) to 8% (summer 2008), latest summer 2009 data indicates a rise to 8.7%. At an area level, Sedgemoor has the highest percentage of Reception Year obesity (9.80%) of all the 4 areas within Somerset, also surpassing the national average of 9.6%. Taunton Deane has the lowest percentage obese at Reception Year (7.16%), although by Year 6 this figure has increased significantly to 17.3%, surpassing the county average.

Figure 8: Obesity among primary school age children in Reception Year (2007-2009)

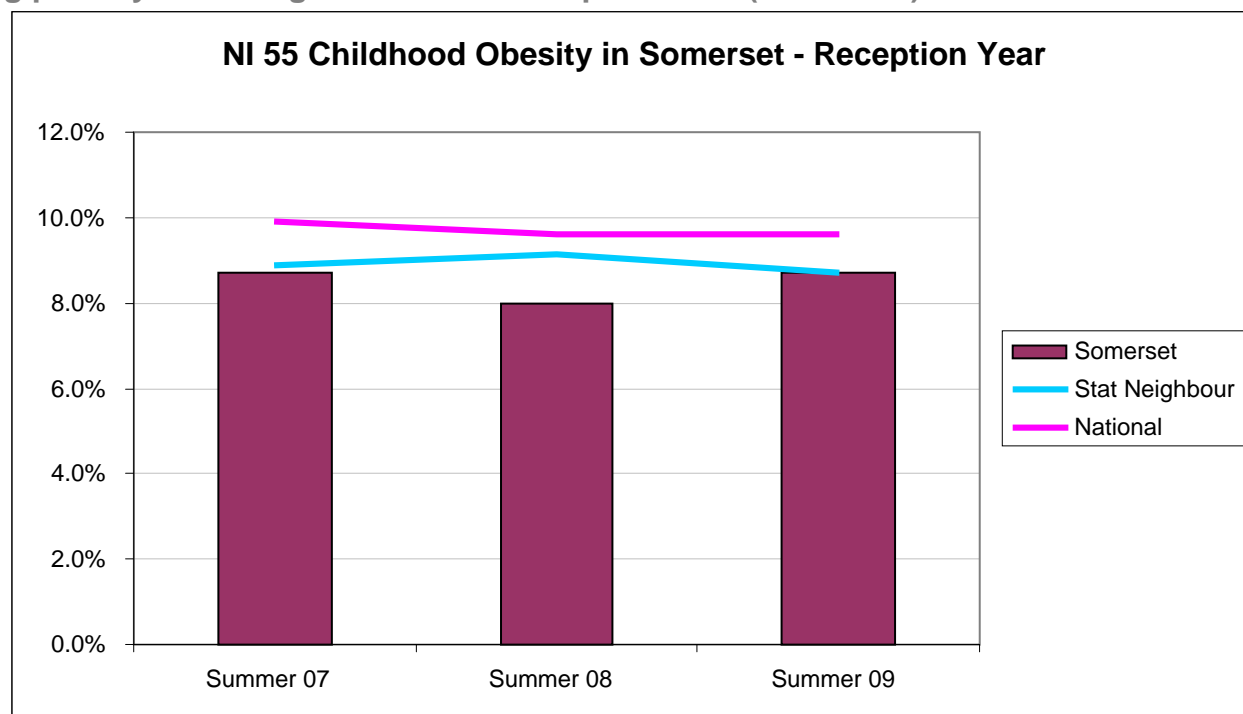


Table 4: Obesity among primary school age children in Reception Year (Summer 2009)

Local Service Team	% overweight	% obese
Somerset	14.90%	8.70%
Mendip	15.00%	9.30%
Sedgemoor	15.00%	9.80%
South Somerset	14.40%	8.50%
Taunton Deane	15.60%	7.20%
West Somerset	14.20%	8.00%

Table 5: Percentage of Obese Pupils in Reception Classes

Children's Centre	% obese (Summer 2007)	% obese (Summer 2008)	% obese (Summer 2009)
Burnham	6	9	9
Cheddar	9	11	7
Highbridge	9	10	11
Eastover	16	13	10
Nether Stowey	8	8	n/a
Hamp	6	11	8
Sydenham	12	10	11
Victoria	6	5	14
Woolavington	13	10	10
Coker	12	5	10
Castle Cary	5	8	7
Mudford	7	8	10
Wincanton	7	n/a	16
Yeovil	14	11	11
Yeovil West	9	10	9
Chard	10	9	12
Crewkerne	8	7	7
Ilchester	11	9	6
Ilminster	13	9	5
Langport	7	7	6
Coleford	5	8	11
Frome	7	9	13

Hayesdown	5	4	9
Shepton Mallet	14	n/a	6
Chilcompton	9	9	8
Glastonbury	10	n/a	10
Street	8	7	7
Wells	4	9	8
Halcon	18	7	6
Trull and South Taunton	8	7	8
Creech St. Michael	7	8	n/a
Hollies	4	8	10
Lyngford	7	6	6
Norton Fitzwarren	9	8	6
Alcombe	11	11	10
Dulverton	15	n/a	n/a
Bishops Lydeard	11	n/a	6
Watchet	10	n/a	n/a
Wellington	12	7	9
Williton	14	n/a	16
Wiveliscombe	6	10	n/a

The HENRY (Health Exercise Nutrition for the Really Young) programme is being developed in Children's Centres with the highest levels of obesity in Reception Year, allowing practitioners to work with parents to enhance their ability to provide an optimally healthy environment for their babies and young children.

NI 56: Obesity in Primary School Age Children in Year 6

NI 56 has been included as a priority for Somerset's Local Area Agreement. Although obesity among Year 6 pupils is below the 2009 national average of 18.3%, performance has shown a steady increase over recent years and remains a key priority for the county.

Figure 9: Obesity among primary school age children in Year 6 (2007-2009)

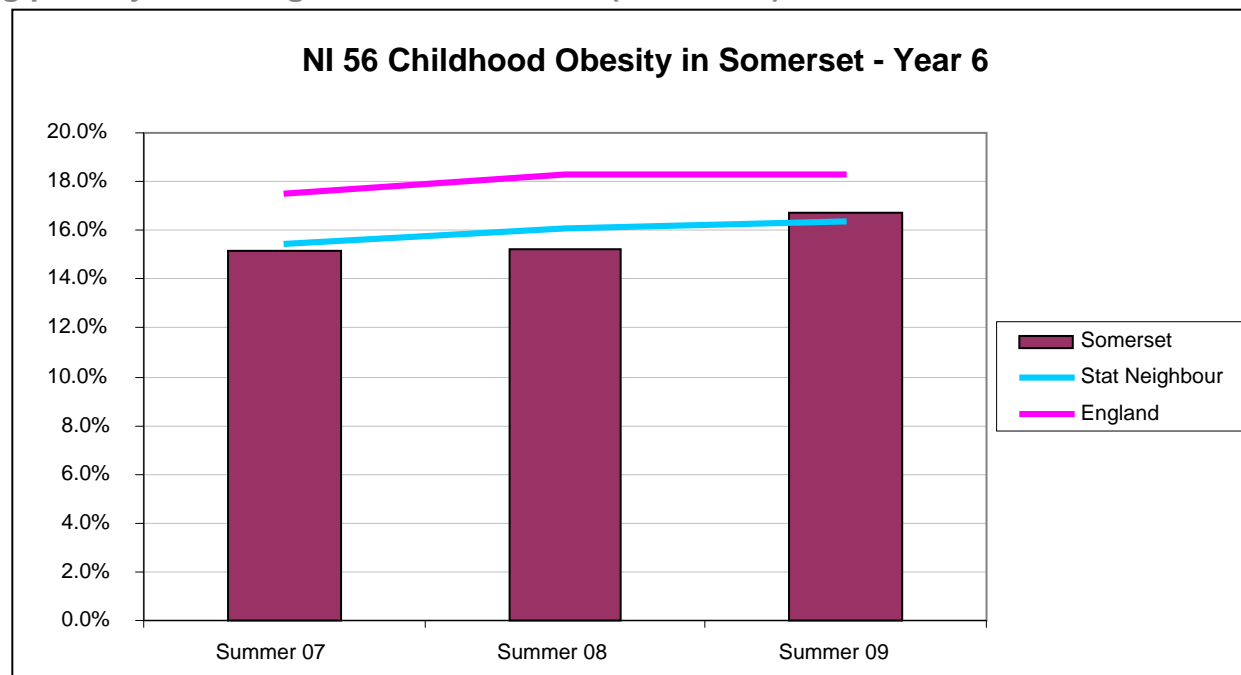


Table 6: Obesity among primary school age children in Year 6 (Summer 2009)

	% overweight	% obese
Somerset	14.10%	16.70%
Mendip	14.40%	16.60%
Sedgemoor	16.00%	16.90%
South Somerset	11.90%	17.10%
Taunton Deane	14.30%	17.30%
West Somerset	16.30%	12.60%

National Child Measuring Programme Participation

The overall participation rate in the National Child Measuring Programme (NCMP) in Somerset has improved slightly since 2008.

Table 7: National Child Measuring Programme Participation

School Year	Reception	Year 6	Overall
2008/09	93.9%	90.0%	91.9%
2007/08	95.8%	85.1%	90.1%

Although the uptake rate for Reception decreased by around 2% between 2007/08 and 2008/09, it should also be noted that the Somerset team comfortably exceeded their Reception and Year 6 targets in both years. The team was the fourth best performing in the South West in both years, and measured more children than any of the top three Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) in both years (in 07/08, the team measured about the same number of children as the top two PCTs combined, and in 08/09 they measured 25% more children than the top two combined). No South West PCT of comparable size performed as well as Somerset, and most similar sized South West PCTs were 5%-10% behind Somerset's performance for Reception uptake. In terms of Reception alone, the team was the third best performing in the South West in 2008/09 and beat the South West and England averages in both years. The overall uptake rate achieved by the team rose from 90.1% to 91.9%.

The NCMP have evidence that suggests that a lower participation rate tends to lead to an underestimation of prevalence of obese children for Year 6. Hence, the increase in participation rate in Somerset for 2008/09 (Summer 2009) might account for some of the apparent increase in obesity prevalence in Year 6. There are still a few schools that choose not to participate. NHS Somerset is working hard to increase the participation rate across Somerset for the forthcoming year.

Fruit and vegetable consumption

The NHS Plan (2000) estimates that eating at least 5 portions of a variety of fruit and vegetables a day could reduce the risk of death from chronic diseases such as heart disease, stroke and cancer by up to 20%. Tellus 4 (2009) indicates, from the responses provided by a sample of children and young people across the county that 40% had eaten 3-4 portions of fruit and vegetables the previous day, and 21% had eaten 5 or more, both of which are higher than the national average results. Only 7% of those surveyed said they'd eaten no portions of fruit and vegetables the previous day, compared to 9% nationally.

National Healthy Schools

Healthy Schools is a national priority. Within Somerset, 100% of schools are engaged in the National Healthy Schools programme and, as of April 2010, 94% of schools had achieved National Healthy Schools Status (NHSS), exceeding the March 2011 target of 85%. To attain the status, the school must be able to evidence that they meet 41 criteria grouped under the four themes of Personal, Social, Health and Economic Wellbeing education (PSHEe): Healthy Eating, Physical Activity and Emotional Health and Wellbeing. Since September 2008, Somerset has been participating in the NHS South West Healthy Schools Plus (HS+) pilot, which seeks to tackle some of the most pressing issues and reduce health inequalities. As of March 2010, 29% of schools were engaged in the programme. The overall South West target is for 50% of all schools to be working at Healthy Schools Plus level by March 2011.

Table 8: National Healthy Schools Progress

	March 2009	April 2010
Somerset	79%	94%
Mendip	72%	91%
East Mendip	61%	80%
West Mendip	83%	96%
Sedgemoor	79%	92%
North Sedgemoor	82%	91%
South Sedgemoor	76%	92%
South Somerset	79.5%	98%
South Somerset (East)	72%	95%
South Somerset (West)	87%	100%
Taunton & West Somerset	74.5%	91%
Taunton	78%	94%
West Somerset, Wellington & Wiveliscombe	71%	88%

Free School Meals

10.29% of Somerset's pupils are claiming Free School Meals (AY 2009/10), compared to 8.65% the previous academic year. It is believed that more pupils are eligible for free school meals but have not made a claim and are therefore not counted in the statistic. Children and young people eligible for free school meals are often used as a proxy measure for deprivation or low family income.

Source: DFES/DCSF PLASC/School Census January 2010

Dental Health

Dental decay is generally preventable. National surveys have shown dramatic improvements in children's dental health over the past thirty years. The prevalence of dental decay in Somerset is approaching that of England, with an average of 1.48 teeth with treated or untreated decay and marked inequalities exist: the most disadvantaged children in Somerset are most likely to have experienced dental decay whilst many children have none.

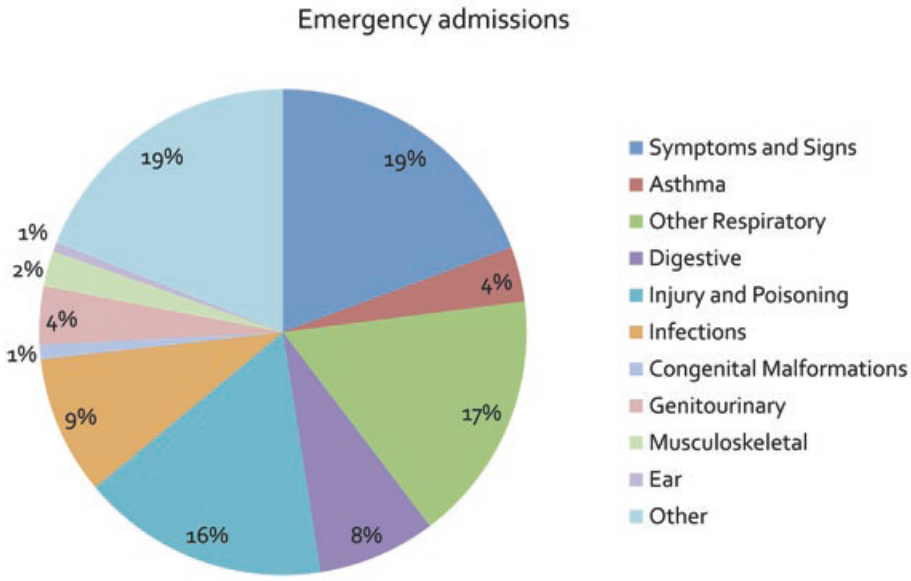
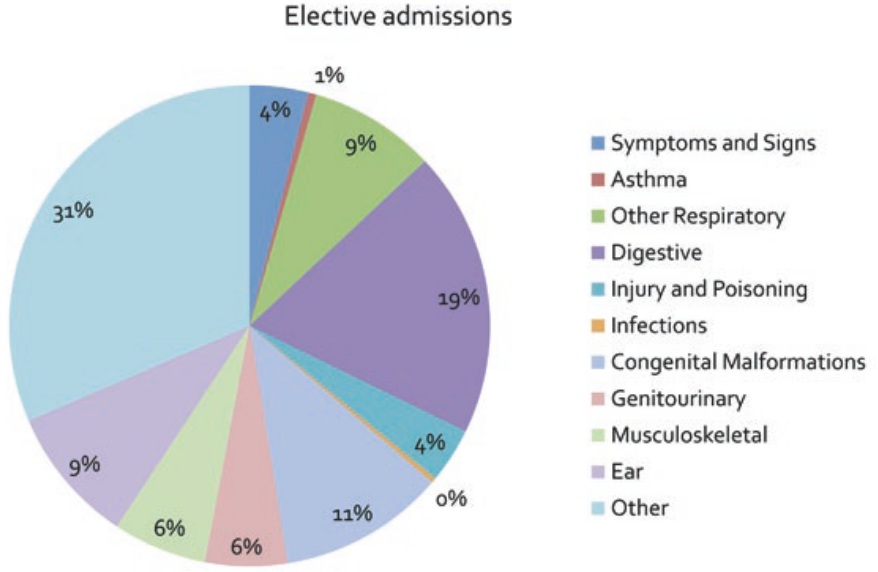
Source: Annual Public Health Report (2008/09): The Health and Wellbeing of Children and Young People in Somerset

Hospital admissions

About 11 per 1,000 Somerset children are referred to hospital in a year. This is lower than the national average. 12 per 1,000 are admitted to hospital – also lower than the national average. However, 10 per 1,000 are admitted as an emergency and this is nearly 3% higher than the national average. *Please see Figure 10 (Reasons for hospital admission 2008) overleaf for details.*

Source: Annual Public Health Report (2008/09): The Health and Wellbeing of Children and Young People in Somerset

Figure 10: Reasons for hospital admission 2008



Teenage Conceptions, Pregnancies and Sexually Transmitted Infections

The UK has the highest rate of teenage conceptions in Western Europe and one of the highest rates of teenage conceptions in the developed world. Teenage pregnancy was identified as a social and health issue for England in the 1999 Teenage Pregnancy Report. There is evidence that teenage mothers are more likely to have prematurely born children, which are consequently at greater risk of low birth weight and infant mortality. Being a teenage mother can also have an impact on a person's life chances. Becoming a mother in the teenage years can have long-term negative implications, such as poor educational attainment and employment opportunities for young mothers and increased mortality and morbidity for both mother and child. Teenage mothers are also more likely to be single parents, unemployed and both economically and socially deprived.

NI 112: Under 18 Conception Rate

The Government set a target to 'decrease by 50% the number of under 18 conceptions' from the baseline in 1998 by 2010. The national rate per 1,000 under-18 year old women in 1998 was 46.6%.

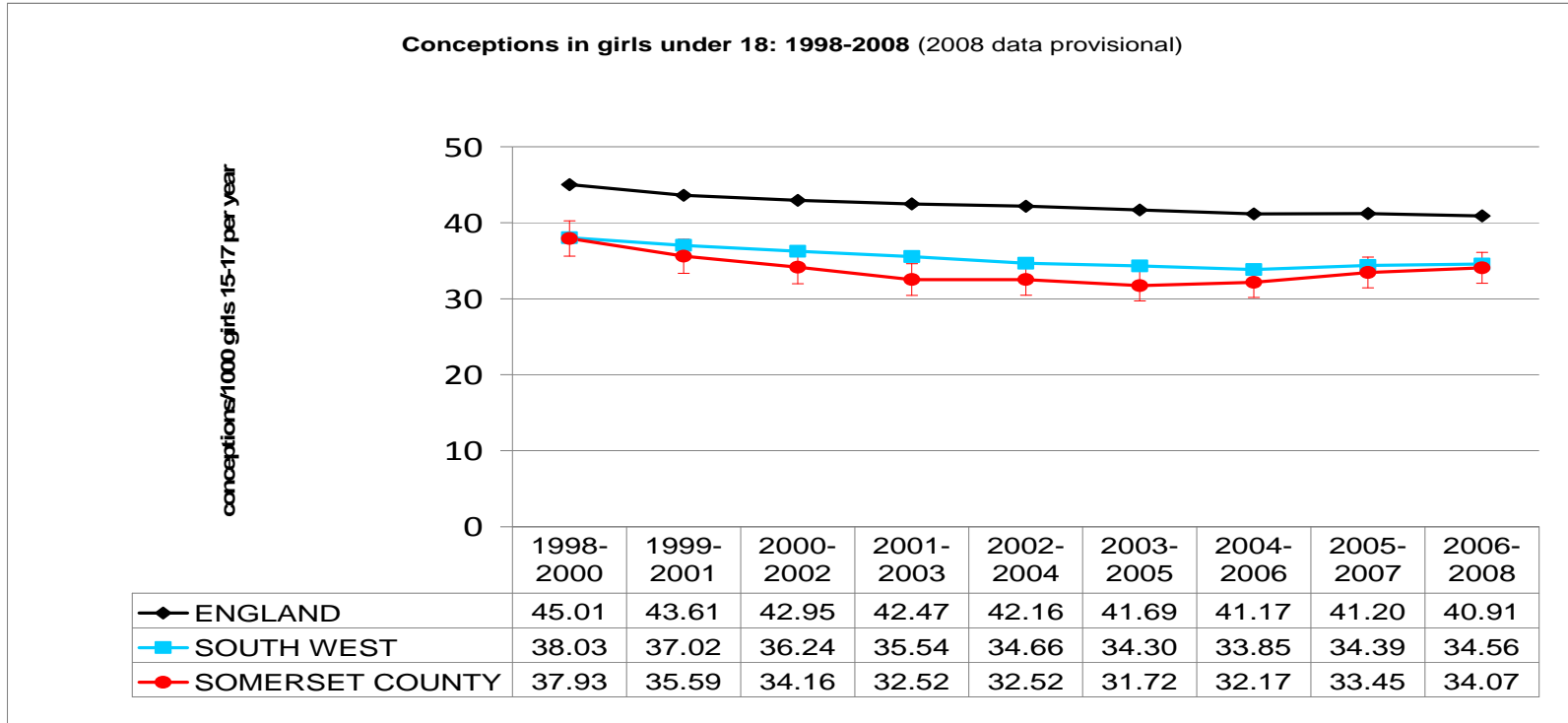
Provisional performance for the 2008 Calendar Year was released in February 2010 and shows the rate per 1,000 population, aged 15-17, as reducing from 35.9 to 33.4 - a 14% reduction when compared to the 1998 baseline rate. Reducing the under 18 teenage pregnancy conception rate continues to be a high priority for Somerset. A six point Teenage Pregnancy Strategy is being implemented and we continue to develop local initiatives with schools, colleges, the NHS and local communities to change behaviour by providing advice and information about sexual health risks, teenage pregnancy and how to access local services. .

Table 9: Teenage Pregnancy Rates

Rates per 1,000 female population aged 15-17

Area of Usual Residence	2005 – 2007			2006 – 2008			% Change in Rate
	Number	Rate	% leading to abortion	Number	Rate	% leading to abortion	
England	119,272	41.2	49	118,286	40.9	50	-9.1
South West	9,961	34.3	49	10,038	34.6	50	-8.3
Somerset	1,069	33.3	47	2,318	32.2	47	-10.1
Mendip	217	29	47	224	29.4	50	-2.3
Sedgemoor	233	35.4	47	243	37.0	43	-22.8
South Somerset	331	34.3	47	347	36.2	46	-1.4
Taunton Deane	235	35.3	48	231	34.7	50	-13.5
West Somerset	53	30.1	43	51	29.7	45	-18.7

Figure 11: Trends in under 18 conceptions (1998 – 2008)



2005-07 aggregated ward data released by the Office for National Statistics shows Taunton Deane Lyngford as having the highest rate in Somerset at 83.0 per 1,000 girls under 18. *Please see Table 10 overleaf for details.*

Termination of Pregnancy

The number of terminations of pregnancy in Somerset has remained fairly consistent year on year. The percentage of under-18 conceptions leading to legal abortion (2006-08) remained as it stood between 2005-07 at 47%. It previously recorded at 49% (2004-2006). Nationally, and also for the south west region, this percentage stands at 50% - a percent increase on previous figures.

At an area level, terminations of pregnancy are greatest within Mendip and Taunton Deane, where 1 in 2 teenage conceptions result in legal abortion. Rates are lowest within Sedgemoor, at 43%.

Table 10: Wards with the highest rates of under 18 conceptions 2005 – 2007 (Top 25)

Mendip	Sedgemoor	South Somerset	Taunton Deane	West Somerset
Frome Welshmill (6) Rate: 65.4	Bridgwater, Victoria (2) Rate: 81.8	Yeovil East (5) Rate 66.8	Lyngford (1) Rate 83.0	Minehead, Alcombe East (8) Rate 62.1
Glastonbury St Benedict's (15) Rate: 53.9	Bridgwater, Sydenham (4) Rate: 72.8	Yeovil Central (7) Rate: 64.2	Taunton Eastgate (3) Rate: 78.8	Minehead North Ward (20) Rate: 49.6
Stratton (16) Rate: 53.6	Highbridge Ward (9) Rate: 62.0	Yeovil West Ward (12) Rate: 56.9	Pyrland and Rowbarton (10) Rate: 59.0	
Frome Keyford (17) Rate: 52.3	Bridgwater, Quantock (21) Rate: 49.1	Ilminster Ward (13) Rate: 55.9	Halcon (11) Rate: 57.4	
Shepton East (23) Rate: 47.9	Bridgwater, Hamp (24) Rate: 47.8	Yeovil South (18) Rate: 52.0	Blackbrook and Holway (14) Rate: 54.2	
St Cuthbert (Out) North & West Ward (25) Rate: 46.5		Chard Combe Ward (22) Rate: 48.8	Taunton, Fairwater (19) Rate: 50.2	

Hospital Deliveries

Please see Table 11 overleaf for rates of Under 18 and Under 16 hospital deliveries.

Sexually Transmitted Infections

It is known that sexually transmitted infections are on the rise across the South West, in line with the UK, with particular concern for chlamydia amongst young people – those most common sexually transmitted infection amongst 15-24 year olds, with an estimated 10% of sexually active young people having the infection.

NI 113: Prevalence of Chlamydia in under 25 year olds

2008/09 saw 15.8% of Somerset's target population screened for chlamydia (a total of 9,748 screens), narrowly missing the 17% target.

The 2009/10 target of screening 25 % of all 15 - 24 yr olds amounts to 15,725 returned screens. December 2009 reports 11.7% (7260 screens). Screening continuing at this rate will result in end of year 21%. Many programmes are struggling to meet the ambitious target and the Somerset programme ranks 5th in the region and 53rd nationally. The programme is hopeful of good results from its mail shot this year which will link with the imminent national sexual health communications campaign. The focus of work this year is to embed chlamydia screening into core services to develop a sustainable service and maximise performance against next year's 35% target.

The rate of those tested showing positive test results was 8.8% at the end of 2008/9, and 8.3% at the end of September 2009.

Table 11: Under 18 and Under 16 Hospital Deliveries to March 2009

Under-18 Hospital Deliveries – estimated rates per thousand to March 2009			
District	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Mendip	11.3	17.0	14.3
Sedgemoor	13.3	17.7	23.2
South Somerset	16.3	18.6	18.3
Taunton Deane	16.2	18.6	20.2
West Somerset	13.6	26.1	8.8
SOMERSET	14.4	18.5	18.3
Local Service Team	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
East Mendip	13.06	19.08	16.5
North Sedgemoor	9.94	8.88	11.9
South Sedgemoor	16.94	23.05	31.1
South Somerset (East)	20.21	20.22	24.1
South Somerset (West)	14.20	16.88	11.6
Taunton	18.06	20.41	24.6
West Mendip	11.52	14.82	13.0
West Somerset, Wellington & Wiveliscombe	14.59	20.50	10.2

Under 16 Hospital Deliveries – estimated rates per thousand to March 2009			
District	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Mendip	2.6	3.9	3.5
Sedgemoor	0.9	3.8	4.7
South Somerset	2.2	3.6	2.6
Taunton Deane	1.8	2.8	2.4
West Somerset	1.8	0.0	1.8
SOMERSET	1.9	3.4	3.2
Local Service Team	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
East Mendip	1.64	4.05	3.5
North Sedgemoor	1.24	0.00	2.5
South Sedgemoor	0.76	6.12	6.2
South Somerset (East)	1.89	3.80	4.4
South Somerset (West)	2.76	3.47	0.7
Taunton	1.94	2.65	3.4
West Mendip	4.05	3.81	3.4
West Somerset, Wellington & Wiveliscombe	1.74	1.71	0.8

School based Health Services

Significant work has been undertaken for the establishment of school based health services building on existing clinics. Somerset's Children and Young People's Plan sets out the aim for all secondary schools to have on-site services by March 2011. A Somerset toolkit for school based health clinics, based on an established Somerset model, has been written and disseminated, reflecting national guidance.

As of March 2010, 21 schools either have an established service or are working towards one. This includes 13 that are up and running and 8 who are working towards a clinic. Good progress has been made with an increase of 11 more schools engaged since April 2009. The remaining secondary schools will be approached during 2010/11.

It should be noted that these health clinics are holistic, covering all health issues affecting young people, and should not be seen as being solely sexual health clinics.

Substance Misuse

Estimated figures, taken from the Local Alcohol Profiles for England, suggest that worrying numbers of Somerset citizens are engaging in hazardous drinking (i.e. drinking above recognised sensible levels). These estimates suggest that approximately 19% of Somerset's population engage in hazardous drinking and about 4% of the population engages in harmful drinking. Alcohol not only impacts on health during life, but also on life expectancy.

'On The Level' provides the specialist (Tier 3) young people's substance misuse treatment service for Somerset and sees young people across the county on an outreach basis. Tier 2 (targeted) Substance Misuse workers are based in the county's Local Service Teams. Since April 2008, there has been a single provider for the adult treatment system working with adults aged 18 and over.

Somerset also has a targeted service for young people with substance misuse issues, including children in care, which operates out of the county's Local Service Teams.

A Young People's Substance Misuse Needs Assessment was produced in 2009. Key highlights from this document are summarised below:

- Cannabis and alcohol are the two drugs most likely to prove problematic for young people in Somerset;
- The National Drug Treatment Monitoring System returns indicate that Somerset ranks second out of 15 Drug and Alcohol Teams in the South West for the proportion of its young clients using cocaine, amphetamines and solvents;
- The needs assessment found that the main stimulant drug used is amphetamine;
- Young people in treatment are slightly more likely to be white and male;
- Over 64% of young people in treatment are in the 16-17 year old age group;
- Data in the needs assessment suggests that alcohol is more likely to be associated with mental health problems in younger people than in adults;
- A high proportion of anti-social behaviour is alcohol related;
- The most commonly diagnosed mental health disorder among young people is hazardous drinking;
- Young people report taking more risks with personal safety when drunk (and alcohol is a potential contributory factor in the rising teenage pregnancy rates);
- Young people with dual diagnosis are more likely to use alcohol as their main drug than any other drug.

Source: Somerset Young People's Substance Misuse Needs Assessment (November 2009)

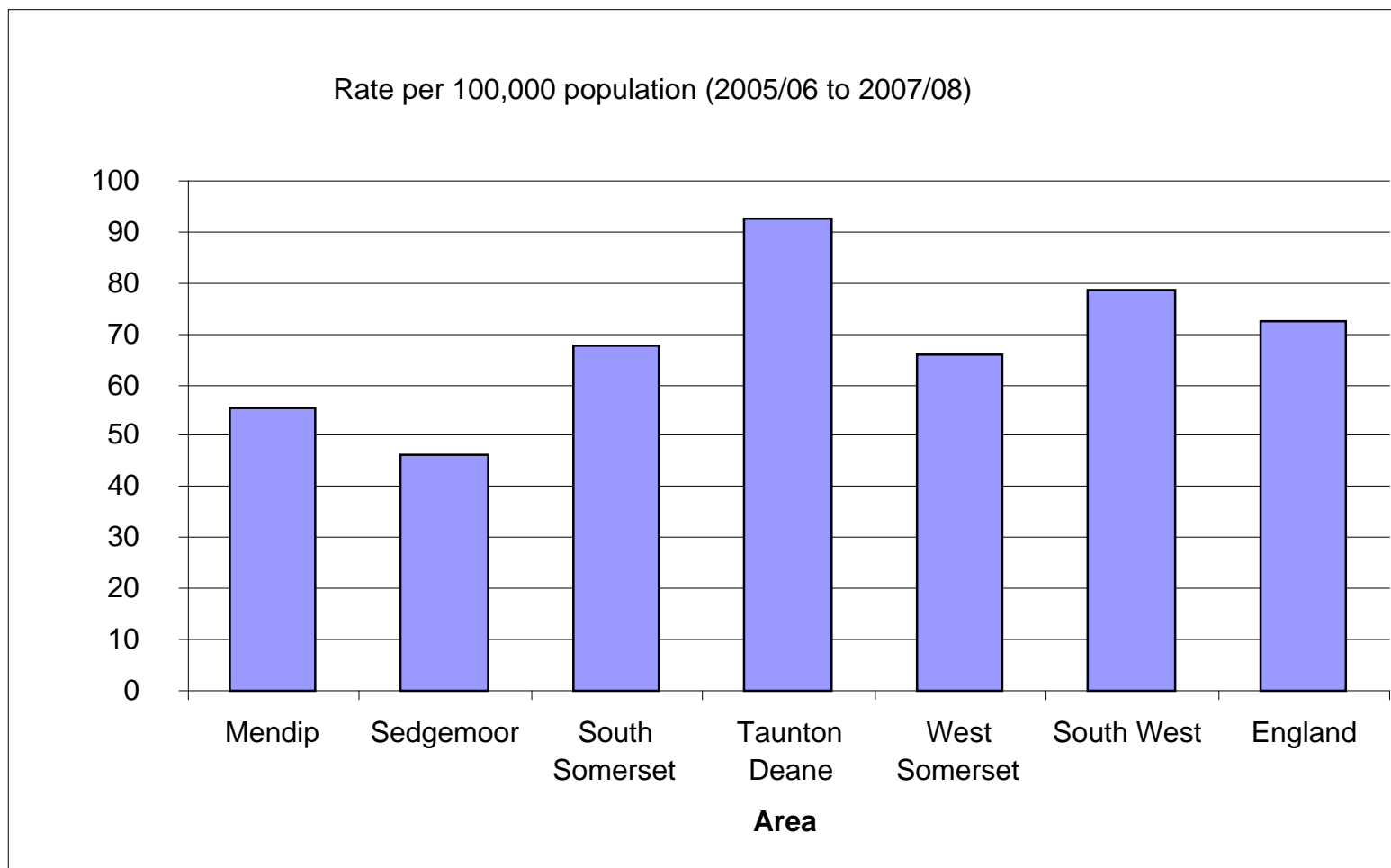
One of the conclusions that this piece of work came to was that there is a correlation between areas experiencing multiple forms of deprivation and areas where those young people at highest risk of substance misuse are likely to be concentrated. However, it would appear that the pattern of referral to substance misuse services (both targeted and specialist) does not support this statement. This discrepancy between areas of highest need and referrals will be explored further as part of the work in 2010/11 on service re-alignment. This will be a major piece of work in the coming year as national funding allocations for young people's substance misuse services are facing significant reductions from 2011/12 onwards.

Tellus 4 (2009) results reveal that more children and young people in Somerset admit to having had a whole alcohol drink before (52%) than is the average nationally (42%). Furthermore, only 62% of those questioned said they'd never had an alcoholic drink in the previous four weeks, compared to 68% nationally.

When we consider the rate of admission to hospital with alcohol-specific conditions amongst those aged under 18 years, this shows a concerning picture for Taunton Deane in particular, with a rate that exceeds not only that observed in other areas of Somerset and the South West more generally, but which exceeds the all England average. *Please refer to Figure 12 below*

Source: Local Alcohol Profiles for England, 2008/09

Figure 12: Under 18 years admissions to hospital with alcohol specific conditions



Child and Adolescent Mental Health

A survey of the mental health of children and young people in Great Britain, carried out in 2004 by the Office for National Statistics, estimates that 1 in 10 children aged 5 – 16 years have a clinically recognised mental disorder.

Between December 2008 and April 2009, an assessment – commissioned by the CAMHS Advisory Group - was carried out of the needs of children and young people living in Somerset for emotional health and wellbeing services (Tiers 1 & 2). The aim of the assessment was to ascertain how well services meet the identified need. It was intended to build upon and complement the Tiers 3 & 4 needs assessment undertaken in 2007, which focused on specialist mental health services.

Mapping conducted each year by the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) identifies the number of patients receiving care through the service and breaks this data down by type of mental disorder. However, this data is limited to those receiving intervention within the NHS and does not provide an estimate of the overall prevalence of mental disorders among children and young people in Somerset.

For full details, please refer to the Needs Assessment for Emotional Health and Wellbeing Services (Tiers 1 & 2 CAMHS) – April 2009.

NI 50: Emotional health of children

NI 50, which measures the emotional health of children (*the percentage of children who enjoy good relationships with their family and friends*) is derived from the national Tellus Survey. The Tellus 4 (2009) result for Somerset of 55.0% is a decline of 3.5% from the previous year's result. The South West figure stands at 56.2% (-6.5% change) and the England figure is 56.0% (-6.6% change).

NI 51: Effectiveness of CAMHS services

Following the latest CAMHS mapping for 2009/10, performance is on track regarding the effectiveness of child and adolescent mental health services self-assessment score of 16/16 to be achieved at the end of the LAA and the interim target of 15/16 has now been achieved.

Narrowing the Gap

The health of Children in Care

88.5% of children continuously looked after for 12 months up until end of September 2009 received their annual health assessment and had their teeth checked by a dentist, which is higher than 2009/10 National Average of 85.9%. However only 71% are showing as having immunisations up-to-date, which is lower than both national and statistical neighbour averages.

**Table 12: Health care of children looked after
(Year ending 30 September 2009)**

Local Authority	Number				Percentages			
	number looked after for at least twelve months	children whose immunisations were up-to-date	children who had their teeth checked by a dentist	children who had their annual health assessment	children whose immunisations were up-to-date	children who had their teeth checked by a dentist	children who had their annual health assessment	PAF Indicator C19 ¹ (average percentage)
England	43,200	36,100	37,300	36,800	83.7	86.4	85.4	85.9
South west	3,250	2,700	2,825	2,700	83	87	83	85
Statistical Neighbours (not incl. Somerset)	3,155	2,775	2,815	2,750	88	89	87	88
Herefordshire	105	105	100	95	99	93	89	91
Shropshire	130	120	120	110	94	93	86	90
Norfolk	640	590	585	555	92	92	87	89
Suffolk	515	505	470	490	98	92	96	94
East Sussex	350	330	320	310	95	92	89	91
Cornwall	310	280	270	240	90	87	77	82
Devon	375	305	335	340	82	89	90	90
Dorset	185	180	150	135	98	80	73	76
Gloucestershire	300	170	265	285	56	88	94	91
Somerset	250	175	225	215	71	91	86	89
Wiltshire	245	190	200	190	79	83	77	80

This indicator was previously known as C19 within Ofsted's Performance Assessment Framework: The average of the percentages of children looked after at 30 September who had been looked after continuously for at least 12 months who had their teeth checked by a dentist during the previous 12 months and had an annual health assessment during the previous 12 months. In previous years this indicator also included immunisations. The figures shown here reflect the revised definition.

NI 58: Emotional and behavioural health of looked after children

2008/09 was the first time we had to report performance against Strength and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) for all children aged 4 - 16 (inclusive) who have been in care for at least twelve months on 31st March, to be completed by young person's primary carer. Total Difficulties Score, has a numerical value from 0 - 40 for each relevant child and the mean value of the child level SDQ scores then becomes the National Indicator score reported.

The 2008/09 score for Somerset revealed the emotional and behavioural health of looked after children to stand at 16.7. This is higher than the average for England, the South West region and that of Somerset's statistical neighbours.

Table 13: Emotional and behavioural health of looked after children

Average score for children looked after at 31 March for whom a Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) was completed, by Local Authority (Year ending 31 March 2009)

	Percentage of eligible children for whom an SDQ score was submitted	Rank	Average Score (NI58)	Rank
England	65		13.9	
South West	72		14.6	
Statistical Neighbours	71		15.2	
Dorset	50	9	17.9	11
Herefordshire	76	5	17.0	10
Somerset	61	7	16.7	9
East Sussex	73	6	16.1	8
Suffolk	45	10	16.0	7
Cornwall	89	3	15.9	6
Devon	77	4	15.6	5
Shropshire	57	8	15.3	4
Wiltshire	32	11	14.7	3
Norfolk	93	2	14.3	2
Gloucestershire	100	1	8.1	1

Being Healthy Summary

Strengths

- The breastfeeding initiation rate in the county is good at 76% (2008); higher than the national average of 69%.
- 94% of Somerset schools have achieved National Healthy Schools Status (April 2010), ahead of the March 2011 target of 85%.
- 21 of the county's secondary schools either have an established health clinic or are actively working towards one.
- Performance is on track regarding the effectiveness of child and adolescent mental health services self assessment score of 16/16 to be achieved at the end of the Local Area Agreement.
- More children and young people consume their 'five a day' fruit and vegetables in Somerset than nationally.

Areas for development

- The 2010 Health Profiles indicate that 17.9% of pregnant women in Somerset were smoking at the time of delivery, higher than the England average of 14.6%.
- Results from the National Child Measuring Programme (Summer 2009) indicate that 14.9% of Somerset's reception age children are overweight (8.7% obese), and 14.1% of Year 6 children are overweight (16.7% obese). This is an increase on previous figures.
- The target for reducing the under 18 conception rate (NI 112) in Somerset will not be achieved as it was a previously agreed Government target to reduce rates by 50%, based on 1998 performance. Despite this, provisional performance for the 2008 Calendar Year was released in February 2010 and shows the rate per 1,000 population, aged 15-17, as reducing from 35.9 to 33.4 and a 14% reduction when compared to the 1998 baseline rate.
- Problematic use of alcohol and cannabis make up the majority of referrals to the young people's specialist drug service, On The Level, and to the targeted substance misuse service.
- Fewer children in care are recorded as having their immunisations up to date than national and statistical neighbour averages.

Section 2 Staying Safe

National Drivers

The Government's Every Child Matters framework identifies five 'Staying Safe' aims for children and young people:

- Being safe from maltreatment, neglect, violence and sexual exploitation;
- Being safe from accidental injury and death;
- Being safe from bullying and discrimination;
- Being safe from crime and anti-social behaviour in and out of school;
- Having security, stability and are cared for.

The Department for Children, Schools and Families Strategic Objective is to safeguard the young and vulnerable (DSO2).

This is supported by the following Public Service Agreements:

- PSA 13 - improve children and young people's safety.
- PSA 14 - increase the number of children and young people on the path to success.
- PSA 23 - make communities safer.

Somerset Children and Young People's Plan 2009-2011 Staying Safe Priorities

1. Improve safeguarding by strengthening arrangements for the effective protection of children and young people, and reduce the number of accidents and injuries suffered by children and young people at home or on the roads:
2. Improve placement stability for children in care, whilst developing the effective early interventions and preventative strategies for those on the cusp of care;
3. Reduce incidents of bullying (including racist, homophobic and cyber bullying) and discrimination in schools, colleges and local communities.

Links to Somerset's Sustainable Community Strategy

Aim 5: Staying Safe People of all ages feel safe in their homes and on the streets and roads of Somerset. There are strong and positive relationships between people of all ages and from different backgrounds. People take great care when driving and there are few road accidents. The number of crimes and offences committed in Somerset is low. Vulnerable people of all ages and backgrounds feel secure and action is taken to protect them when it is needed.

Challenge 14: Community safety;

Challenge 15: Mutual respect and understanding;

Challenge 16: Road safety;

Challenge 17: Domestic abuse.

Introduction

The overall effectiveness of safeguarding services in Somerset is good. The Somerset Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) actively promotes awareness of safeguarding in the county and provides good leadership on safeguarding matters. It has operated for four years – a period that has seen considerable expansion of the wider safeguarding agenda. Child protection and safeguarding remain as very high profile areas of work and the LSCB is a statutory body with responsibility for co-ordinating this multi-agency work.

The Somerset Local Safeguarding Children Board has been in existence for nearly four years. During this time it has established a strong reputation as the strategic group overseeing multi-agency safeguarding and child protection work in the county. There are now in excess of 40 representatives on the Board from agencies and organisations working in Somerset and it is because of the sustained involvement and commitment from these partners that the LSCB is able to operate as successfully as it does. When Lord Laming recommended that LSCBs should be independently chaired, the decision was taken in the spring of 2009 that an Independent Chair should be recruited. An independent Chair was appointed to the role in June 2009.

On average there are approximately 420 Children Looked After and in recent months, numbers subject to Child Protection Plans has significantly increased. Based on May 2010 data, Somerset figures (rate of 27.5 per 10,000 population) remain lower than the national average (31.0) but are now higher than that of our statistical neighbours (26.0).

On average 20-30 adoption orders and special guardianships are granted each year. There are roughly 245 foster carer households caring for 75% of children in care.

The Children and Young People's Directorate have 9 residential units in the county caring for the most vulnerable young people:

- Highgrove (based in Taunton);
- Corams (based in Wellington);
- Wembdon (based in Bridgwater);
- West End Cottage (Chedzoy in Bridgwater);
- Yeovil Children's Centre;
- Mendip Children's Centre (Frome);
- The Elms (Curry Rivel) – for young people aged 11-18 with disabilities;
- Beechtrees (Wellington) – for young people aged 11-18 with disabilities;
- The Lodge (Taunton) – for young people aged 11-18 with severe disabilities.

Somerset County Council's Adoption Services are judged to be 'Good' by Ofsted. Every judgement within the inspection report (published in May 2008) was either 'Good' or 'Outstanding'. Our inspections for Fostering and Private Fostering were also judged 'Good'.

Children’s Residential Units – Quality of Provision

The April 2010 update reveals that 37.5% of the county’s Residential Units are rated as good or better, below the 70.5% nationally and the 75% average of our statistical neighbours . This is showing as a drop in performance when compared to the August 2009 figure when the proportion of providers judged good or better in Somerset was 70%.

Table 14: Residential Units Performance Profile (April 2010)

Children’s Home Performance Profile	Inspected Services	Number Inspected	Local Area	Statistical Neighbours	England
Overall Effectiveness Grade	Children’s Home	8	37.5%	75.0%	70.5%
1. Being Healthy	Children’s Home	5	40.0%	90.9%	77.5%
2. Staying Safe	Children’s Home	8	75.0%	81.3%	77.7%
3. Enjoying and Achieving	Children’s Home	2	100%	93.3%	82.9%
4. Making a Positive Contribution	Children’s Home	4	25.0%	75.0%	69.0%
5. Achieving Economic Wellbeing	Children’s Home	3	33.3%	72.0%	64.1%

>80%
65-79.99%
50-64.99%
<50%

Safeguarding – Children in Care and Vulnerable Groups

Children in Need

Local Authority records indicate that, as at 31st March 2009, there were a total of 2,894 Children in Need in Somerset. This figure included 400 Children Looked After and 230 children that were the subject of a Child Protection Plan. Children in Need are classified by a primary need code. The 2009 snapshot shown below suggests that by far the largest majority of children (just over one third) had been classified as 'Children in Need' due to experiences of 'abuse or neglect'. Analysis of data at an area level revealed that Taunton Deane and Sedgemoor have particularly high levels of children in need.

Table 15: Somerset Children in Need 31st March 2009 by Primary Need Code

Need Code	Description	Number	% of Children in Need
N1	Abuse or neglect	1,003	34.7%
N2	Child's disability	534	18.5%
N4	Family in acute stress	377	13.0%
N5	Family dysfunction	316	10.9%
N3	Parental illness or disability	309	10.7%
N0	Need code yet to be determined	241	8.3%
N6	Socially unacceptable behaviour	50	1.7%
N9	Cases other than Children in Need	42	1.5%
N8	Absent parenting	22	0.8%
N7	Low income	0	0.0%

Analysis at ward level reveals that the highest number of Children in need are situated within Bridgwater Sydenham (134) and Taunton Halcon (128), followed by Bridgwater Hamp (108). These same three wards also contain the highest number of children looked after.

Children in Care

Although the number of children in care within Somerset increased to 400 at the end of March 2009, Somerset's rate per 10,000 remains lower than the 2007/08 national (26.5) and statistical neighbour average (22.4) outturn. In recent months the number of children in care has increased to 420.

Figure 13: Children Looked After in Somerset (2002-2009)

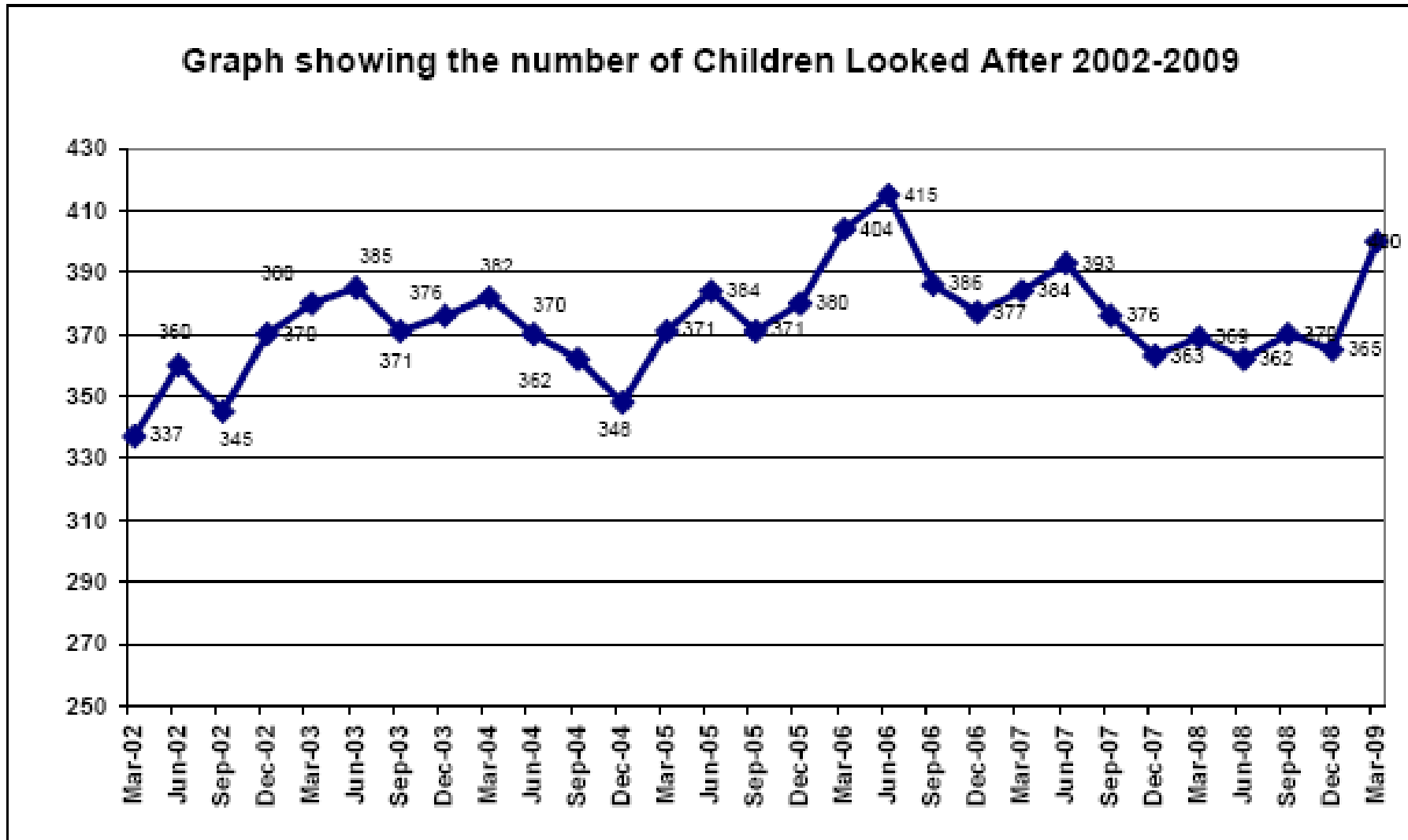
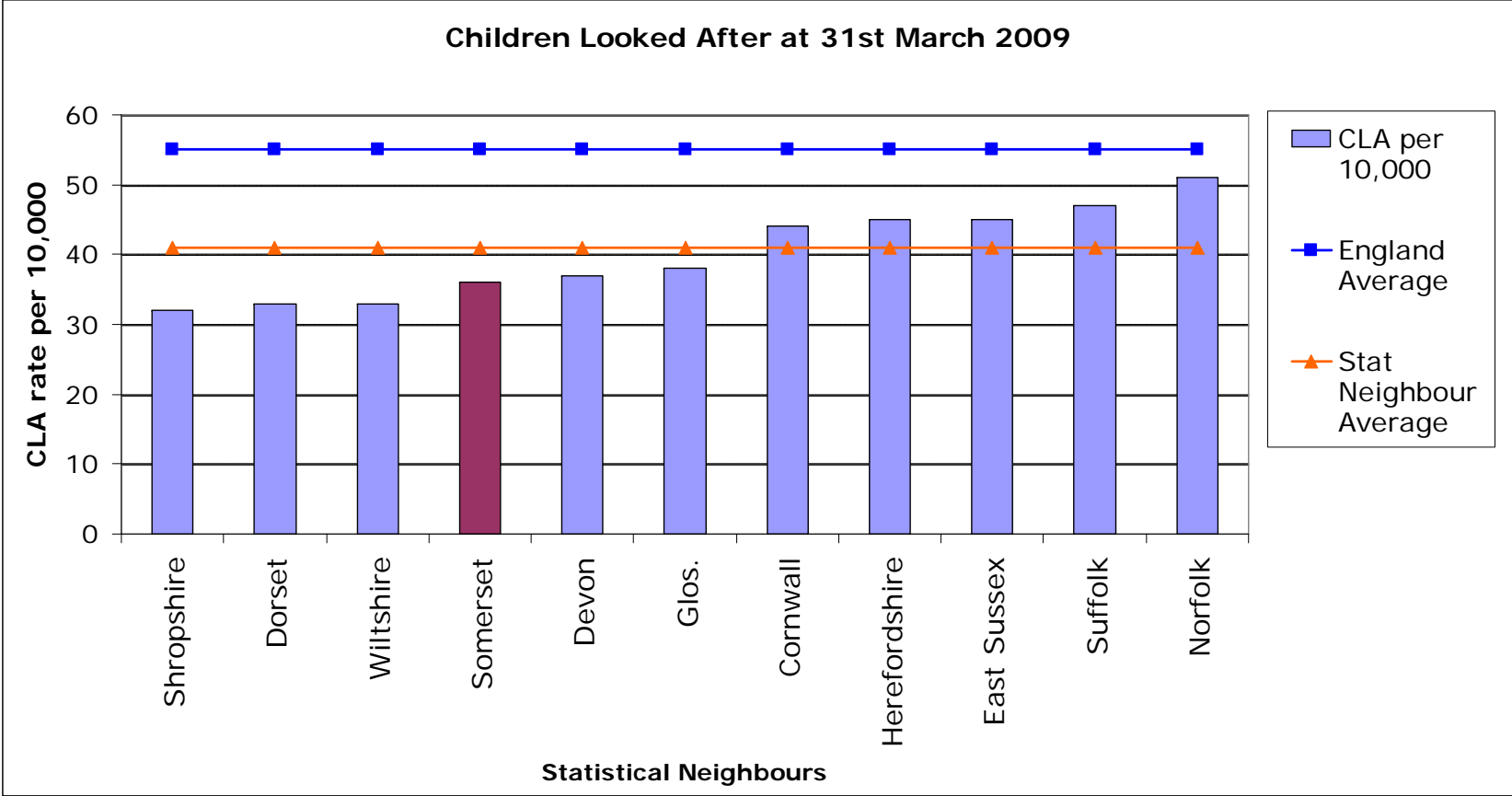


Figure 14: Children Looked After (at 31st March 2009)



Child Protection

The number of children subject to a Child Protection Plan in Somerset has increased, although remains below the national average. An analysis of child protection cases shows a clear correlation with deprivation. The rate of children with a Child Protection Plan (per 10,000 population aged 0-17) is higher in areas that are more deprived, in particular parts of Taunton, Bridgwater and Yeovil.

Figure 15: Children subject to a Child Protection Plan in Somerset (2007 – 2009)

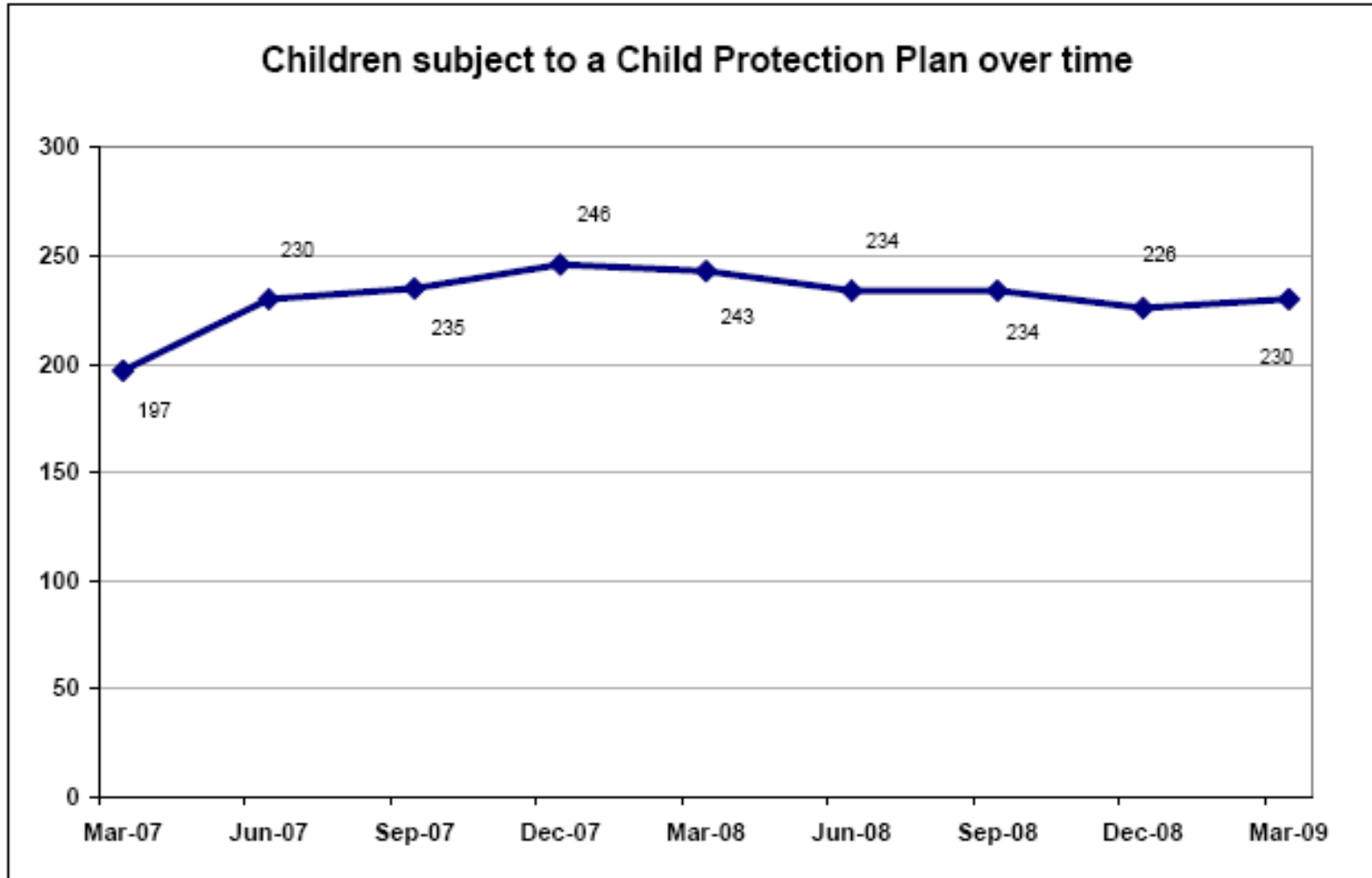
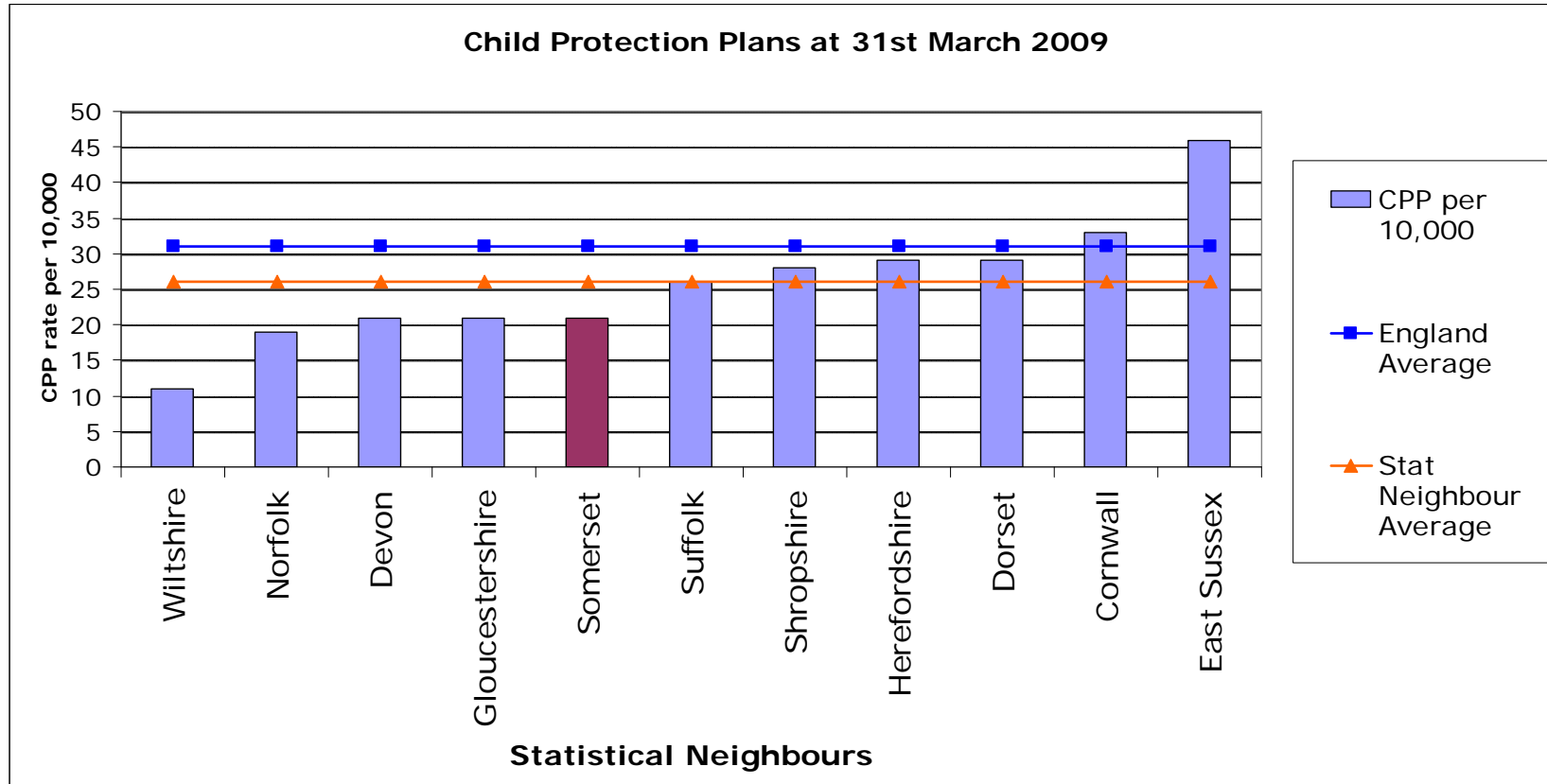


Figure 16: Child Protection Plans (at 31st March 2009)



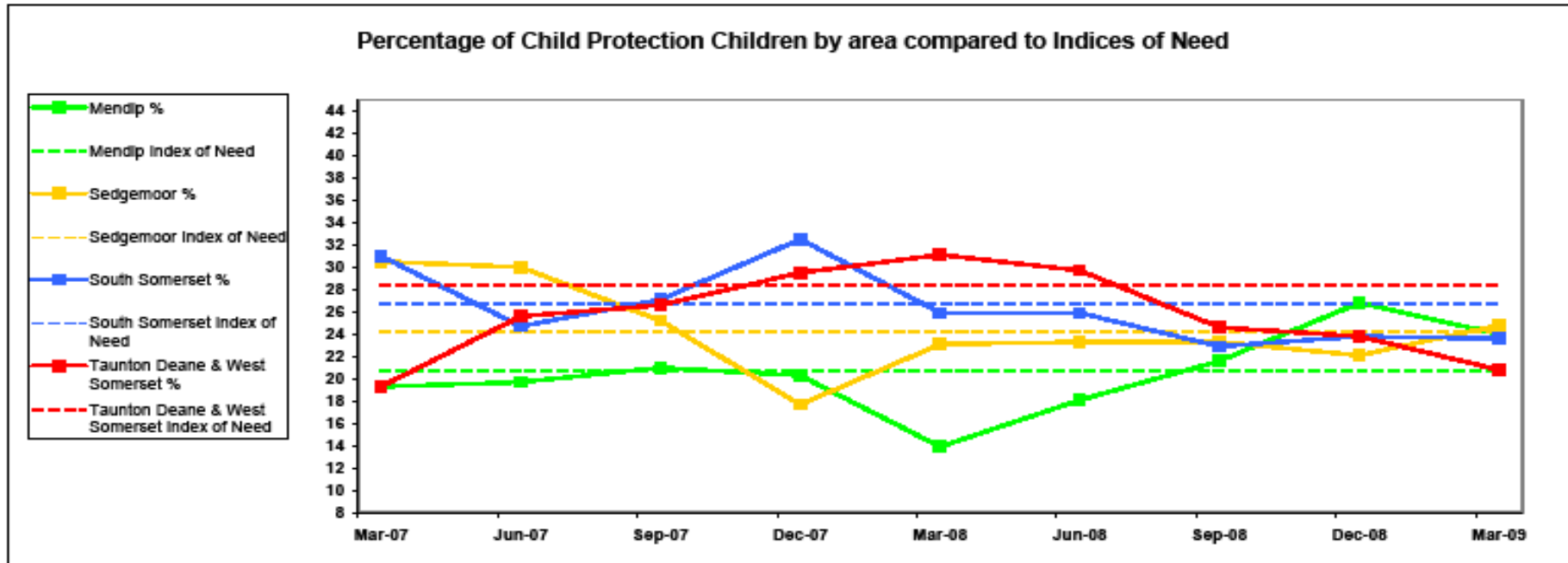
NI 64: Child Protection Plans lasting 2 years or more

11.9% of Child Protection Plans in Somerset lasted two years or more (2008/09), significantly higher than the national figure of 6.0% and family group average of 5.5%. It is important to acknowledge that this high figure relates to a small number of children from a smaller number of large families with complex issues. Each case has been audited and a satisfactory outcome was achieved which justified the duration with a plan (registered).

NI 65: Percentage of children becoming the subject of a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time

The Somerset figure of children subject to a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time stood at 8.2% (2008/09), below that of the national average (13.5%). The statistical neighbour average is 15.4%.

Figure 17: Percentage of Child Protection Children by area compared to indices of need



% of CP children by area

AREA	31-Mar-07	30-Jun-07	30-Sep-07	31-Dec-07	31-Mar-08	30-Jun-08	30-Sep-08	31-Dec-08	31-Mar-09
Mendip	19.3	19.7	21.0	20.3	13.9	18.1	21.6	26.8	24.0
Sedgemoor	30.5	30.0	25.2	17.7	23.1	23.3	23.3	22.1	24.8
South Somerset	31.0	24.7	27.1	32.5	25.9	25.9	22.9	23.8	23.6
Taunton & W Som	19.3	25.6	26.6	29.5	31.1	29.7	24.6	23.8	20.8

Area	Index of Need	Children U18
Mendip	20.7	25,107
Sedgemoor	24.2	23,794
South Somerset	26.7	33,211
Taunton & W Som	28.4	29,362

Stability of Placements

Placement stability is associated with better overall outcomes. The Annual Performance Assessment (2008) of services for children and young people in Somerset County Council stated that 'longer-term stability of placements for children in care is not as good as that of similar councils' and identified it as an important area for development and is a commissioning priority for the county. Although stability of placements, in terms of both number and length, has improved within Somerset, rates of moves remain above the national average making this a continuing area for development.

NI 62: Number of placements

In 2007/08, 14.9% of children in care in Somerset had three or more placements during the year (compared to a national average of 11%). This figure improved to 14.3% in 2008/09, although it remains above the national average of 10.7% and family group average of 10.3%.

NI 63: Length of placements

During 2007/08, 59.6% of children in care aged under 16 had been continuously looked after in the same placement for two years or more (below the national average of 66.5%). Data for 2008/09 revealed this figure to have increased within Somerset to 61.5% (although this too remains below the national average of 67.0% and family group average of 65.7%).

Serious Case Reviews

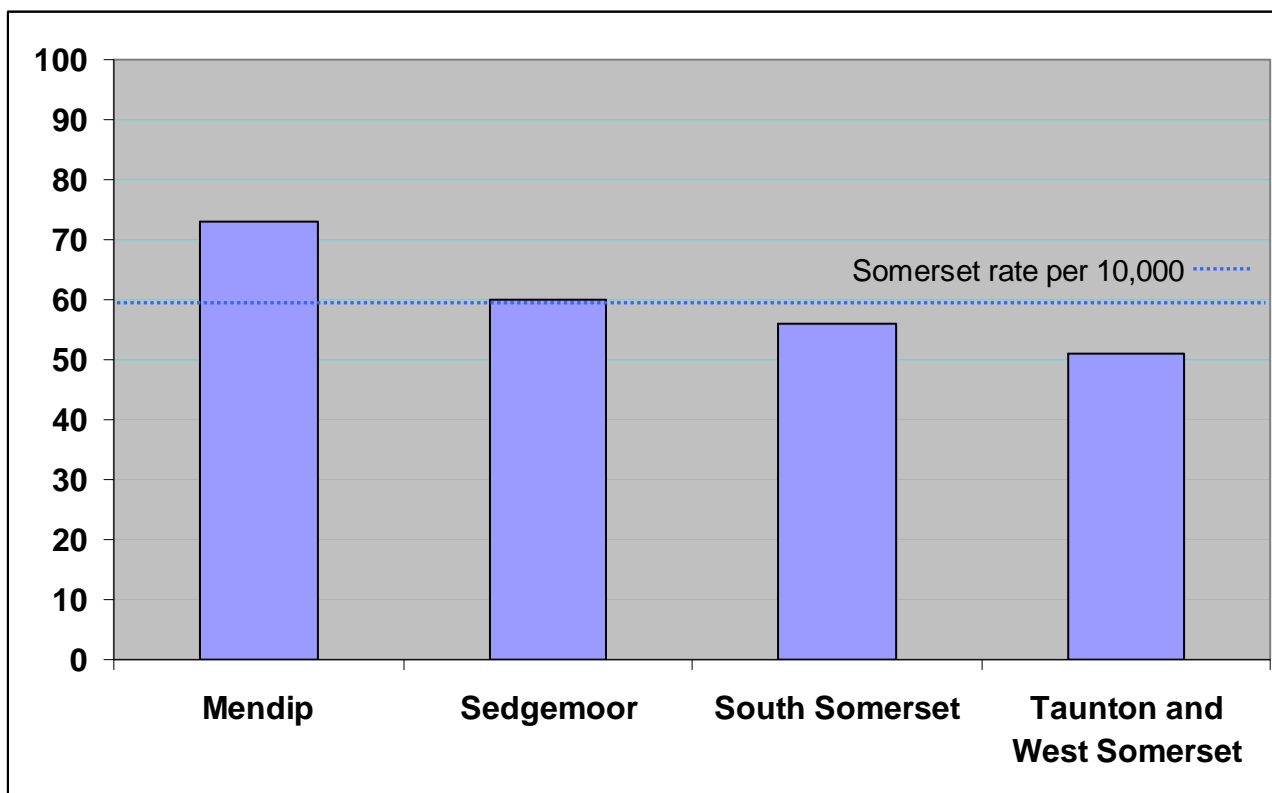
In respect of Serious Case Reviews for the Local Safeguarding Children's Board, Somerset is the only Authority in the South West to achieve a rating of 'Good'. There have been three recently commissioned SCRs in the county. These are independent reports when there are serious concerns about cases involving significant safeguarding issues on the part of any of the key agencies operating within Somerset. The three Serious Case Review outcomes have included one judged as adequate, and a further two judged as good with some outstanding features, demonstrating sustained improvement. Some specific changes in practice as a direct result of Serious Case Reviews are as follows:

- Definitions of different types of meetings to be published and incorporated into LSCB training, including arrangements for hospital discharge meetings.
- Child Protection training to be provided to Turning Point by the LSCB.
- Develop a multi-agency understanding about consultation with CSC at an early stage where there may be uncertainty about the appropriateness of referral.
- PCT and Hospital Trusts to ensure that shaken baby information is provided to new parents within 5 days of birth and again at 11 to 14 days.
- Development and implementation of protocol relating to working with parents who are "difficult to engage" or non-compliant.

Common Assessment Framework (CAF)

In Somerset we want to identify children/young people with additional needs earlier and help them before things reach crisis point by co-ordinating a holistic understanding of their needs. The most important way of doing this is for everyone whose job involves working with children/young people to be prepared to help if something's going wrong. The common assessment is a key way to help people to do this. It is a tool to identify needs all of children and young people not just the needs that individual services/professionals are most interested in. It also encourages the use of a common language. All local authorities are expected to implement the CAF. The number of CAFs are increasing in Somerset, with a total of 661 completed during 2009/10. The figures below provide a breakdown of CAFs completed by area, lead professional (Top 10) and age.

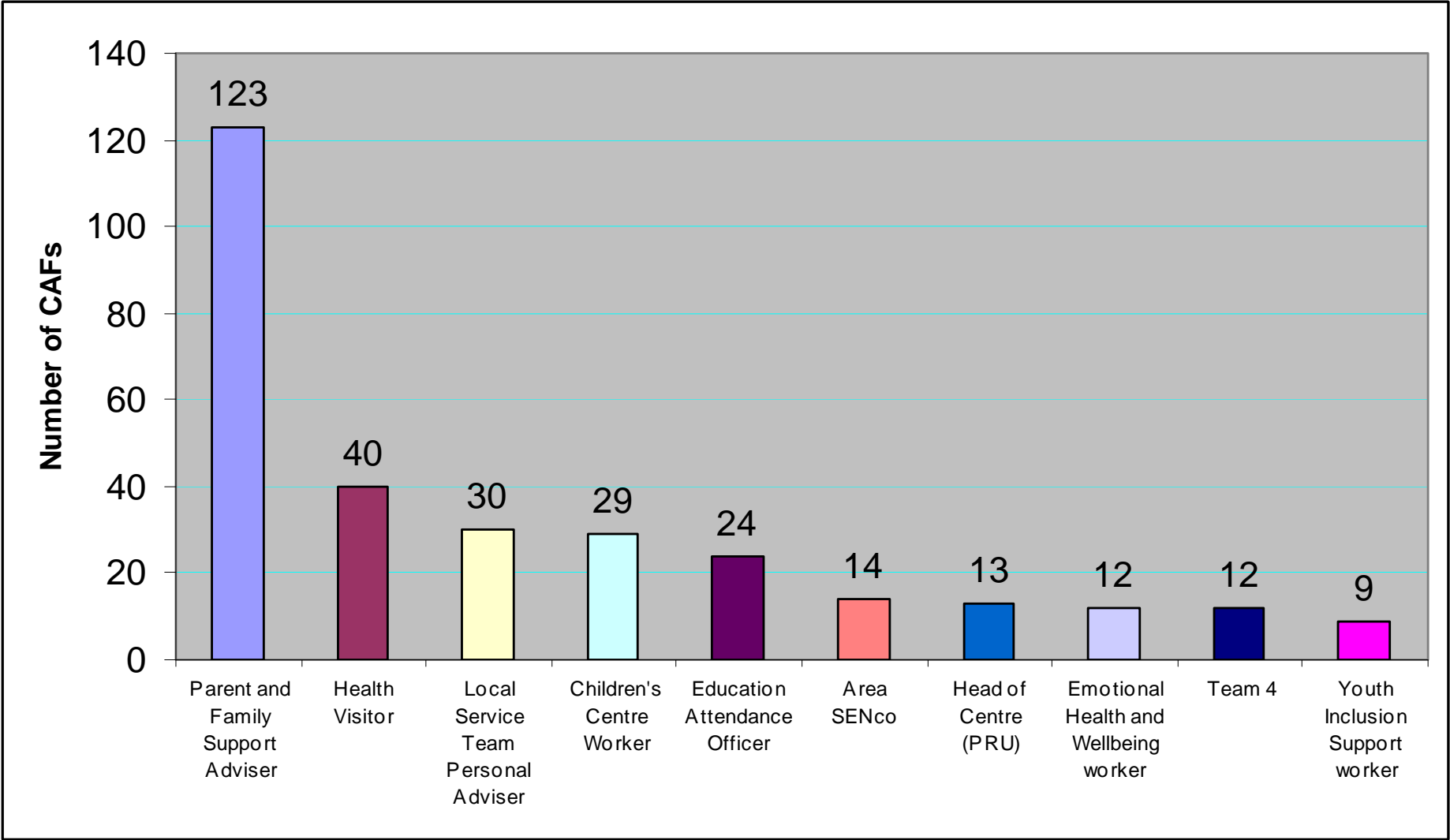
Figure 18: Area breakdown of Common Assessments (2009/10): Rate per 10,000



Numbers of Common Assessments undertaken in each area (2009/10)

Mendip	Sedgemoor	South Somerset	Taunton and West Somerset
184	143	185	149

Figure 19: Top 10 Lead Professionals involved in CAFs (2009/10)



Disability

There is continued growth in the prevalence of children with severe and complex disabilities, and there are rising numbers of children with autistic spectrum disorders. Increased survival across the age range is the main reason for the growth, especially of very premature/extreme low birth weight infants.

NI 54: Parental Experiences of Services Provided to Disabled Children (2009/10)

NI 54 comes from a national survey of the parental experiences of services for disabled children. The data is collected centrally through a questionnaire to parents asking for their views of health, education and care and family support services for their disabled children as experienced in the preceding twelve months and is conducted by British Market Research Bureau. The framework for the questionnaire is the Aiming High for Disabled Children core offer standards on information, transparency, assessment, participation and feedback. The Somerset overall score (2009/10) was 62, higher than both the national and statistical neighbour average.

Aiming High for Disabled Children

The Government wants disabled children to be a priority, both nationally and locally.

Aiming High for Disabled Children (AHDC): Better support for families, launched in May 2007, is the transformation programme for disabled children's services delivered jointly by the Department for Children, Schools and Families and by the Department of Health,

The table below gives actual and projected figures for the Somerset County Council Aiming High programme. Of particular note, when viewed in comparison with 2008/09, there is a continued decline of overnight care and shifts to various forms of daytime provision. Furthermore, there is a substantial increase in group-based activities – at the heart of the Aiming High programme.

2010/11 projections are based on existing trends and, more specifically, spending plans for the Aiming High grant. There is planned growth in all forms of provision, including residential based services, but especially in activities. Direct payments are also expected to rise.

Table 16: Aiming High Categories

Service Category	Actuals					2010/11 Projections
	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	Change	% Change (08/09-09/10)	% Change (09/10 – 10/11)
Total Nights Care Provided	9,109	8,061	7,259	-802	-10	+12
Total Hours Day Care Provided	48,245	38,365	38,889	+524	+1	+23
Total Hours Activities Provided	2,838	3,300	6,721	+3,421	+104	+101
Total Hours Service Provided *	51,083	41,665	45,610	+3,945	+9	+35
Children receiving Direct Payments	127	156	202	+46	+29	+24
Children receiving a Short Break Service	326	307	510	+203	+66	+76

* Day care + activities

Bullying and Racial Incidents

NI 69: Children who have experienced bullying

NI 69, which measures the number of children who have experienced bullying via the annual Tellus Survey, suggests that the 2009 Somerset figure stands at 32.3%, which is a large reduction of 23.2% on the previous year's data. This result is largely in line with the South West figure (32.0%), but remains greater than that of England (28.8%).

Bullying is highlighted as an issue for young people in Somerset through the annual Tellus Survey. Of those Somerset children and young people who participated in the Tellus 4 (2009), 51% answered 'Yes' to the question 'Have you ever been bullied at school'. This compares to 46% nationally. 27% answered 'Yes' to the question 'Have you ever been bullied when you are not in school', higher than the national figure of 21%.

It should be noted that no direct comparisons can be made between the proportion who reported bullying in Tellus 3 (2008) and Tellus 4 (2009) because the question structure and wording changed.

Only 20% said their school deals with bullying 'Very Well', compared to 25% nationally, although 38% felt their school deals with it 'Quite Well', higher than the national average of 33%. Recent Ofsted reports support this view, suggesting that young people's perceived fear of bullying may be greater than the reality.

The number of Permanent exclusions for bullying-related incidents (which include verbal abuse, threatening behaviour and physical assault) have fallen in both primary (-75%) and secondary (-29%) phases.

Cyberbullying

Cyberbullying is when one person or a group of people aim to threaten, tease or embarrass someone else by using a mobile phone, the internet or other technologies.

There have been a number of studies looking at the extent of cyberbullying amongst children and young people. Research carried out by the Anti-Bullying Alliance found that 22% of 11-16 year olds had been a victim of cyberbullying specifically. As new technologies permeate further into our lives from a younger age, this looks set to increase further.

Some of the features that make cyberbullying particularly worrying are:

- It can occur at any time of the day or night and can intrude into spaces that were previously regarded as safe and personal;
- The audience may be very large and reached rapidly;
- People who cyberbully may attempt to remain anonymous – the bully may never be in the same physical space as the victim;
- The probability of being bullied online is substantially higher for those who have been the victims of school bullying.

Source: Somerset Community Safety Strategic Assessment (January 2010)

Racist Incidents

Racist incidents reported to the Local Authority are increasing, in conjunction with a growing ethnic minority population in Somerset schools. In 2008/09, 145 racist incidents were reported by schools. The data indicates that both the victims and the instigators of the incidents are more likely to be male, with derogatory name calling/insults being the most commonly reported incident.

Hate Crime

Between April 2008 and March 2009, 386 hate crimes were reported to the police in Somerset (Source: Avon and Somerset Constabulary) 50% of these crimes involved harassment, 27% involved physical violence and 11% involved criminal damage. Taunton Deane has the highest prevalence of hate crime in the county relative to population size, with Sedgemoor and West Somerset having the lowest. Two thirds of all hate crimes reported to the police occur around Somerset's largest towns: Taunton 22%; Yeovil 19%; Bridgwater 15% and Frome 10%.

78% of offenders and two out of three victims of hate crime are male. Male victims are more likely to be in their 20s and female victims in their 30s. However, offenders – both male and female – are most likely to be in the 11-20 years age group. The vast majority of offenders are white and most of these are White British, although White Irish and White Other are also present within the offender population.

Racially-motivated Hate Crime

The majority of victims of reported incidents of hate crime are non-white British. It is likely that migrants are particularly vulnerable to hate crime. 48% of female and 71% of male victims are non-white British. Relative to the size of the BME population in Somerset, these figures are massively skewed, suggesting that many of the hate crimes reported to the police are racially motivated. 'White Other' is the single largest non white ethnic group in Somerset and this would include migrant workers from the A8 EU states.

Members of the gypsy and travelling communities are particularly at risk. 4% of recorded victims were gypsies or travellers. Indeed, there is much evidence of profound inequality experienced by this community. The Commission for Racial Equality, in their report 'Common Ground' (2006), identified that in England life expectancy is ten years lower than the national average; Gypsy and Traveller mothers are twenty times more likely than mothers in the rest of the population to have experienced the death of a child; and in 2003 less than a quarter of Gypsy children obtained five GCSEs at A*-C grades, compared to the national average of just over half.

Source: Somerset Community Safety Strategic Assessment (January 2010)

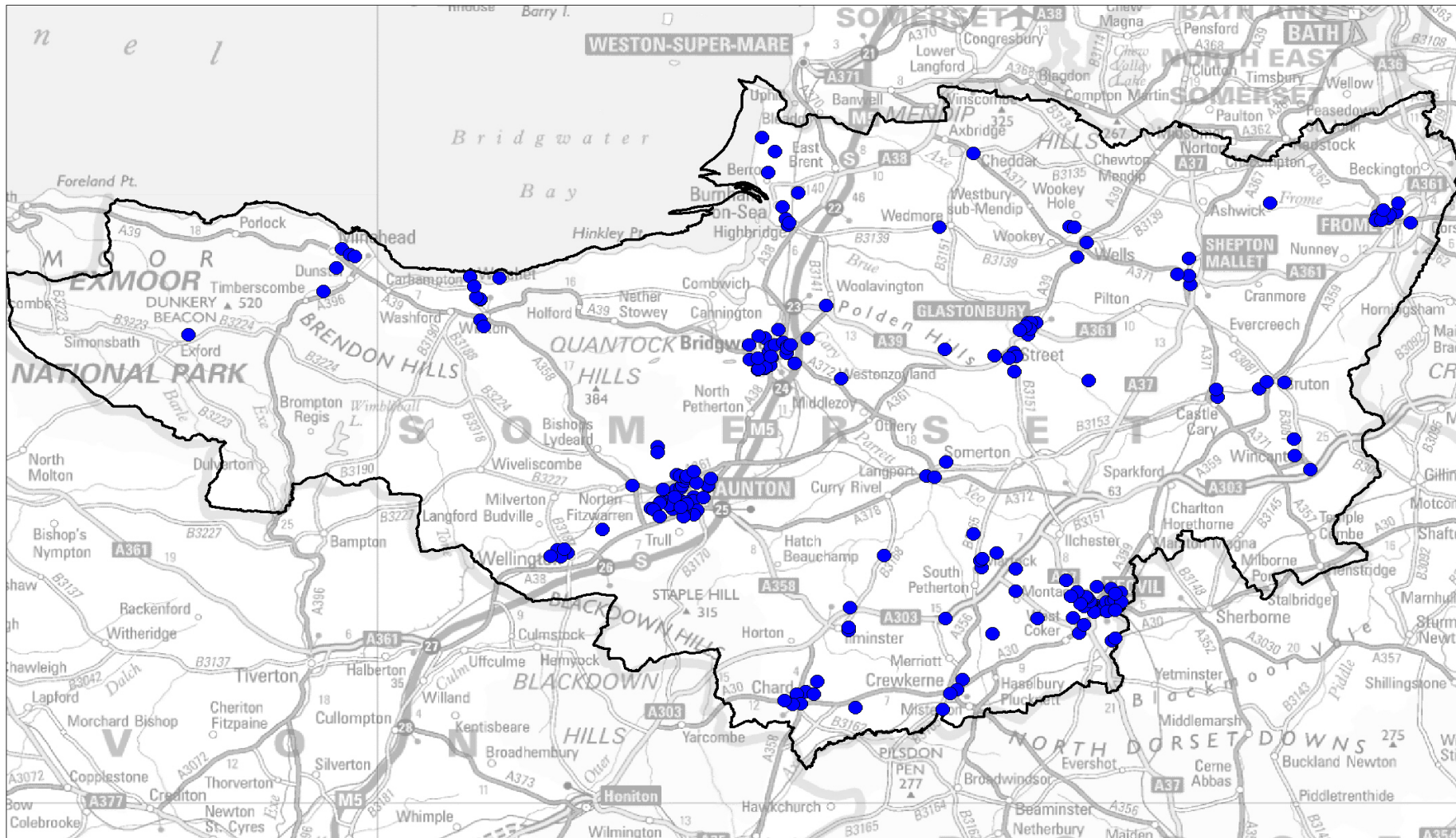
Violence Against 0-18 year olds

Data on violent attacks against a person (VAP) was analysed to look specifically at incidents affecting pupils en route to/from school. This analysis presented a number of challenges, and many assumptions had to be applied to the data which may limit its accuracy, for example, extracting only offences that happened during the hours directly before and after school, and where the victim was a school pupil. However, the analysis provides a useful insight and suggests that:

- 65% of VAP victims are male;
- The most prominent age group is between 13 and 15;
- As seen on the map below, the majority of incidents occur in urban areas.

Figure 20: VAP incidents (2008/09)

Map of Somerset showing the location of VAP incidents during 2008/09



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Safety on the roads and in the home

Road Safety

Somerset is a rural county with an extensive network of single carriage 'A' roads on which residents depend. The impact of rural accidents is likely to be greater than urban accidents because of the speeds involved. Children are often vulnerable to road casualties outside of schools and the number of children killed or seriously injured (KSI) in road accidents is deemed a useful indicator of how safe children are from accidental injury and death.

NI 48: Children killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents

In order to meet the target of 50% reduction, the number of children killed and seriously injured on Somerset's roads will have to come down from the baseline average of 34 to 17 or fewer by 2010.

The number of children aged 0-15 killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents in Somerset is relatively low, meaning that some fluctuation is inevitable. 2008 saw the number of KSI fall to 8 from a previous yearly figure of 28, but 2009 saw a rise to 23, meaning the target has not been met. This figure is made up of 2 fatalities and 21 serious injuries.

Table 17: Children killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Somerset	20	21	33	24	20	28	8	23

Source: Somerset Road Safety Partnership, April 2010

With regards to the number of young people in the 16-24 year age group injured on Somerset road, this figure has fallen for the third year running, as have the overall number of children injured and the overall accident rates.

Domestic Abuse

1 in 4 women experience domestic violence in their lifetime and between 1 in 8 to 1 in 10 women experience it annually. Less than half of all incidents are reported to the Police, though the Police still receive one domestic violence call every minute in the UK. A victim will, on average, be abused 35 times before making the first call. The estimated cost of domestic violence to society in monetary terms is £23 billion per annum. This figure includes an estimated £3.1 billion as the cost to the state and £1.3 billion as the cost to employers. The human suffering cost is estimated at £17 billion.

Research has shown that there is significant risk to children caused by domestic violence. This acknowledgement has prompted an amendment to The Children Act 1989, reflecting the fact that children who live with domestic violence represent up to two thirds of cases seen at Child Protection Conferences. There is a great deal of variation on the possible effects on children experiencing domestic violence: anxieties, social withdrawal, regression in developmental abilities, aggressive behaviour, poor performance in school and psychosomatic illnesses are but a few.

In Somerset we are witnessing an increase in the number of domestic abuse incidents reported. It is known that domestic abuse has more repeat victims than any other crime. The 2008 Home Office British Crime Survey indicated that repeat victimisations accounts for two thirds of all incidents of domestic violence and 21% of victims have been victimised three times or more. Within Somerset, 9% of victims of domestic abuse have been abused more than once in the last 12 months. 24% of victims experience physical violence and 40% experience verbal abuse. Based on cases where the perpetrator is recorded (77% of the total), we believe that 71% of victims experience abuse from their ex or current partner.

The tables overleaf show the total number of incidents of domestic violence dealt with by the Police (by policing district) during 2009 referred to Somerset Direct because there are children who are members of the household:

Table 18: Incidents of domestic violence with children present (2009)

G District			F District		
Month (2009)	Incidents	Children Present	Month (2009)	Incidents	Children Present
January	213	114	January	241	134
February	233	156	February	208	120
March	237	140	March	232	127
April	208	113	April	272	149
May	234	118	May	251	115
June	263	155	June	257	130
July	273	164	July	274	142
August	252	149	August	254	128
September	231	148	September	240	140
October	235	127	October	215	133
November	223	150	November	242	134
December	233	141	December	245	126

Staying Safe Summary

Strengths

- No Serious Case Reviews had to be undertaken during 2009 as a result of good safeguarding practice which includes earlier identification of risk met by effective and proportionate interventions. The LSCB have continued to audit rigorously the Serious Case Reviews and IMR recommendations arising from previous reviews. The work has been commended by the Government Office South West as an exemplary piece of work, setting a very high benchmark for future SCRs.
- The Child Death Review process works well and has resulted in a number of key recommendations to agencies, which will save children's lives, and which have been implemented both locally and in the South West as well as attracting national interest.
- The Common Assessment Framework (CAF) continues to be embedded across Somerset, with an emphasis on ensuring consistent high quality.

Areas for development

- The proportion of the county's Residential Units rated good or better by Ofsted (as of April 2010) has dropped below the national and statistical neighbour average;
- Although stability of placements, in terms of both number and length, has improved within Somerset, rates remain above the national average and make this a continuing priority for development;
- NI 69, which measures the number of children who have experienced bullying via the annual Tellus Survey, suggests that the 2009 Somerset figure stands at 32.3%, compared to 55.5%. Whilst this result is largely in line with the South West figure (32.0%), it remains greater than that of England (28.8%) and is deserving of further attention.
- Whilst the number of young people in the 16-24 year age group injured on Somerset's roads has fallen for the third year running, the number of children aged 0-15 killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents in Somerset has increased during 2009.

Section 3 Enjoying and Achieving

National Drivers

The Government's Every Child Matters framework identifies five 'Enjoying and Achieving' aims for children and young people:

- Being ready for school;
- Attending and enjoying school;
- Achieving stretching national educational standards at primary school;
- Achieving stretching national educational standards at secondary school;
- Achieving personal and social development and enjoying recreation.

The DCSF Strategic Objectives are to achieve world-class standards in education (DSO3); and to close the gap in educational achievement for children from disadvantaged backgrounds (DSO4).

This is supported by the following Public Service Agreements:

- PSA 10 raise the education achievement of all children and young people.
- PSA 11 narrow the gap in educational achievement between children from low-income and disadvantaged backgrounds and their peers.

Somerset Children and Young People's Plan 2009-11 Enjoying and Achieving Priorities

1. Increase levels of attainment and the rate of progress of all children and young people to improve outcomes at Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4, as well as reducing the gap in attainment between vulnerable groups (including those looked after, travellers and other under achieving minority ethnic groups) and their peers;
2. Improve the behaviour and attendance of children and young people;
3. Develop integrated and sustainable educational and recreational provision.

Links to Somerset's Sustainable Community Strategy

Aim 4: Enjoying and Achieving Somerset is a great place to live and to raise children. Everyone feels able to develop and improve their skills and life opportunities, free from poverty and discrimination. People have high aims for themselves and their families. They have confidence in the high quality of all learning opportunities available and can enjoy a broad and stimulating range of cultural activities that enhance their quality of life. People have choice and control over their lives, whatever their age, situation and background; and independent living is promoted and supported.

Challenge 10: Raising achievement and fulfilling aspirations;

Challenge 11: Tackle disengagement from learning.

Background

Table 19: Number of Schools and Pupils by District (2010)

Phase	District	Number of Schools	Number of Pupils		
			M	F	All
Primary	Mendip	50	3,522	3,822	7,344
	Sedgemoor	45	3,993	4,093	8,086
	South Somerset	68	5,309	5,443	10,752
	Taunton Deane	43	3,839	3,970	7,809
	West Somerset	14	700	707	1,407
	Somerset	220	17,363	18,035	35,398
Middle	Mendip	2	596	655	1,251
	Sedgemoor	2	588	585	1,173
	South Somerset	2	381	414	795
	Taunton Deane	0	0	0	0
	West Somerset	3	564	580	1,144
	Somerset	9	2,129	2,234	4,363
Secondary	Mendip	5	2,533	2,615	5,148
	Sedgemoor	7	3,005	3,206	6,211
	South Somerset	10	4,247	4,303	8,550
	Taunton Deane	7	2,783	2,937	5,720
	West Somerset	1	627	657	1,284
	Somerset	30	13,195	13,718	26,913
Special	Mendip	2	31	54	85
	Sedgemoor	2	30	97	127
	South Somerset	2	52	80	132
	Taunton Deane	2	28	88	116
	West Somerset	0	0	0	0
	Somerset	8	141	319	460
All Somerset Schools	Mendip	59	6,682	7,146	13,828
	Sedgemoor	56	7,616	7,981	15,597
	South Somerset	82	9,989	10,240	20,229
	Taunton Deane	52	6,650	6,995	13,645
	West Somerset	18	1,891	1,944	3,835
	Somerset	267	32,828	34,306	67,134

Source: DCSF Schools Census January 2010

Table 20: Ethnicity breakdown by Year Group (2010)

	NI	N2	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Total
ABAN	0	3	10	13	11	6	12	7	9	10	8	7	3	7	1	0	0	107
AIND	1	2	19	18	18	13	14	17	11	8	8	7	3	3	1	3	0	146
AOTH	1	2	23	19	16	13	21	16	26	18	18	14	25	17	2	1	0	232
APKN	0	0	2	2	2	0	1	1	1	2	4	0	1	1	1	0	0	18
BAFR	0	1	13	6	3	4	9	8	7	9	8	8	7	14	4	1	0	102
BCRB	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	2	4	5	2	0	0	0	16
BOTH	0	3	0	1	1	1	0	2	0	3	3	3	3	2	1	0	0	23
CHINE	1	1	8	6	7	13	9	7	12	2	13	12	13	10	4	2	0	120
MOTH	0	5	42	40	23	27	31	35	30	24	28	27	14	15	4	2	0	347
MWAS	0	6	41	33	38	29	32	21	21	20	22	26	20	12	4	5	0	330
MWBA	0	3	9	17	16	9	16	15	9	13	18	12	12	8	4	2	0	163
MWBC	0	1	13	20	23	20	11	27	22	22	19	19	24	27	6	1	0	255
NOBT	0	25	9	13	3	5	3	0	2	11	11	13	16	19	3	3	0	136
Not Known	32	9	33	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	74
OOTH	0	0	14	12	9	11	18	14	14	18	9	10	6	10	1	4	0	150
REFU	0	0	4	3	2	5	6	5	10	12	21	22	13	12	4	1	0	120
WBRI	122	422	4,995	4,896	5,055	4,672	4,829	5,041	5,167	5,120	5,244	5,009	5,252	5,470	1,047	738	15	63,094
WIRI	0	0	2	3	3	4	4	9	5	8	7	7	6	9	1	0	0	68
WIRT	0	0	2	5	3	5	3	1	2	0	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	27
WOTH	8	21	117	135	105	126	105	106	125	85	120	92	122	109	20	11	0	1,407
WROM	1	6	18	22	20	19	22	16	15	22	15	9	4	9	1	0	0	199
Total	166	510	5,374	5,264	5,358	4,983	5,147	5,348	5,489	5,407	5,580	5,303	5,551	5,756	1,109	774	15	67,134

Source: Capita EMS System (January 2010 Census)

Key

ABAN – Bangladeshi

BAFR – African

MOTH – Any Other Mixed Background

NOBT – Not obtained

AIND – Indian

BCRB – Black Caribbean

MWAS – White Asian

REFU – Refused

AOTH – Other Asian Background

BOTH – Other Black Background

MWBA – White/Black African

OOTH – Any other Ethnic Group

APKN – Pakistani

CHNE – Chinese

MWBC – White/Black Caribbean

WBRI – British

N1 & N2 = Nursery Classes, R = Reception Classes

Pupil ethnicity is only required by the DfES for pupils in year 1 and above

NB Percentage calculations may reflect rounding up/down

Raising levels of educational attainment has been a central plank of national policy for the past decade.

Every year, over 67,000 children are educated in Somerset's 267 schools (220 Primary; 9 Middle; 30 Secondary and 8 Special Schools). There are 9 resource bases for severe and complex speech and language needs (5 resource bases for hearing, 2 for autism and 2 for generic special educational needs). 1,181 children and young people have statements of Special Educational Need – one of the lowest rates in England. 2,664 children of school age were in receipt of additional School Action Plus funding as of January 2009.

In addition, Somerset has 13 Pupil Referral Units, including a Virtual Classroom and 4 Link Education Centres. 33 Children's Centres have also been established across the county, specifically developed in response to local need and are designed and located in such a way as to be accessible to all children under 5 and their families. This number is set to increase to 41 by March 2010.

Pupils aged 5-16 in maintained schools must be taught the national curriculum. This is divided into four 'Key Stages' that generally depend on children's ages:

Table 21: Numbers in Year Group (2010)

Year Group	Reception	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Age of pupils	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Key Stage	Foundation Stage	KS1	KS1	KS2	KS2	KS2	KS2	KS3	KS3	KS3	KS4	KS4
Numbers in Year Group	5,374	5,264	5,358	4,983	5,147	5,348	5,489	5,407	5,580	5,303	5,551	5,756

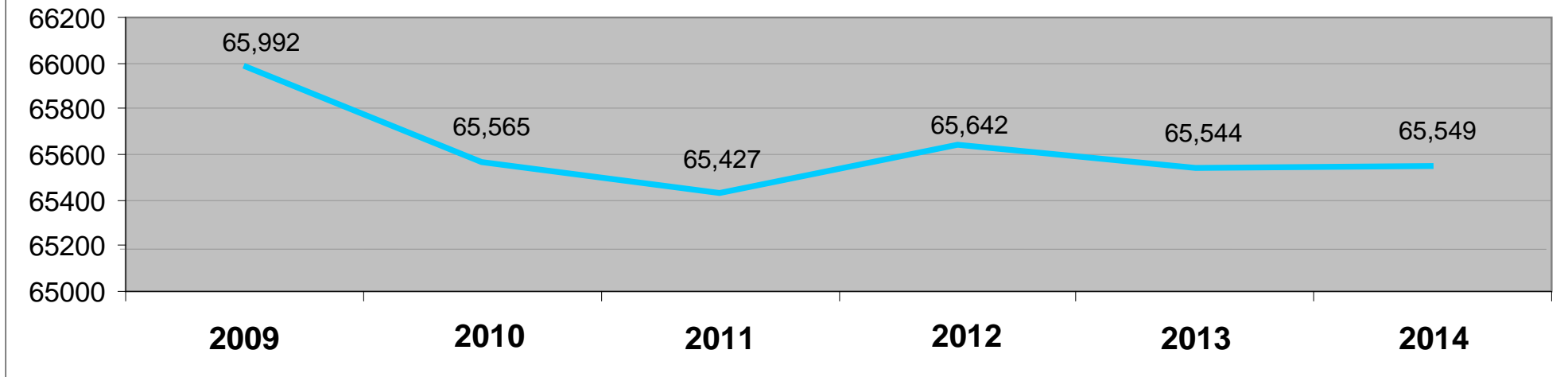
Source: DCSF Schools Census January 2010

The number of pupils of primary school age (4 – 10) in Somerset has been decreasing annually from a peak in 1998. Forecasts issued in 2007 show a further fall equivalent to about 26 classes of 30 pupils in 2010. There are now signs of a modest recovery of primary age pupils for 2011 and beyond.

67,134 children and young people were registered on the school roll in January 2010. A breakdown by ethnicity is presented on the previous page, although there will be a slight under-estimate of minority ethnic groups as some pupils choose to be recorded as White British.

There are 5 colleges delivering post-16 provision within Somerset: Bridgwater College, Richard Huish College, Somerset College, Strode College and Yeovil College.

Population Forecast Somerset Mainstream Schools (2009 – 2014)



Although there is currently no university within the county, it is recognised that the development of higher education is of great importance to Somerset’s future economic wellbeing and also to the life opportunities of its residents. Provisional approval was granted in 2009 for new university centres to be created across Somerset through the Somerset Universities Partnership Project, made up of the County Council, 5 Further Education Colleges and 2 universities. The centres will make use of advanced technologies, such as virtual and e-learning, making it easier for people in work or those with other responsibilities to continue with their education.

The number of young people in Somerset that progress on to higher education is in line with the national average, but there are significant variations within the county. Wards with the greatest levels of deprivation have the lowest rates of participation. It is known that more children than average want to get a job at 16 and less than the national average want to go to university (*Somerset County Council Organisational Assessment 2009*)

The following are Independent Schools within Somerset: All Hallows School (Shepton Mallet); Bruton School for Girls (Bruton); Chilton Cantelo School (Yeovil); Edington & Shapwick School (Bridgwater); Hazlegrove Preparatory School (Yeovil); King’s College (Taunton); King’s Hall (Taunton); King’s School (Bruton); Mark College (Highbridge); Millfield Preparatory (Glastonbury); Millfield School (Street), Perrott Hill School (Crewkerne); Queen’s College (Taunton); Taunton Preparatory School; Taunton School; The Park School (Yeovil); Wellington School (Wellington); Wells Cathedral Junior School; Wells Cathedral School.

The LA Area 14-19 data pack reveals that in 2007, 11% of the county’s 17 year olds were in independent schools. This proportion is 4% greater than the regional average and almost double the national average.

Quality of Provision

The quality of Early Years and educational provision in Somerset is good overall and is continuing to improve.

Children's Centres

NI 109: Delivery of Sure Start Children's Centres

During 2009/10, work has been undertaken to ensure an additional 8 Children's Centres have been designated. There are now 41 Children's Centres delivering services across Somerset. However, 7 of the 8 (Phase 3) Centre buildings are yet to be completed.

The development of a network of Children's Centres is at the heart of the Every Child Matters agenda. The Centres within Somerset have been specifically developed in response to local need and are designed and located in such a way as to be accessible to all children under 5 and their families. In order to inform service delivery and to provide more detailed information about local area demographics, we have developed Children's Centre profiles for all 41 identified areas in Somerset (*available via the PMIT Active Site or on request*).

Somerset's Ofsted Performance Profile for April 2010 shows Early Years provision to be broadly in line with statistical neighbour and national averages. The percentage of nurseries judged 'Good' or better by Ofsted is a potential area for improvement.

Table 22: Percentage of childcare providers judged 'Good' or 'Outstanding' by Ofsted as of April 2010

	Somerset	Statistical Neighbour	National Average	
Childminders	67.8%	68.2%	63.2%	Our figure based on 429 childminders inspected
Childcare - Domestic	100%	78.6%	74.7%	Our figure based on 3 settings inspected
Childcare - Non Domestic	71.4%	72.9%	68.4%	Our figure based on 336 settings inspected
Nursery judged	n/a	n/a	96.0%	Our figure based on 0 settings inspected

Schools

The standard of primary provision is broadly in line with statistical neighbour and national averages. The number of secondary schools within Somerset rated good or better by Ofsted improved to 59% (April 2010), from 53.8% (August 2009). Despite this, performance remains below the national average (62.6%) and that of the county's statistical neighbours (68.7%). Sixth form provision within the county was judged to be at 81.8% rated good or better as at August 2009, but the April 2010 update reveals that performance here has fallen to 63.6%, which is below the national average of 67.3% and that of our statistical neighbours (70.6%). Similarly, in relation to Special School provision, performance has fallen from 62.5% (August 2009) to 50% (April 2010), which is below both national and statistical neighbour averages (82.5% and 73.6% respectively).

Table 23: Proportion of schools judged good or better by Ofsted up until end of 2008/09 AY:

	Somerset	Statistical Neighbour	National Average
Primary	63.6%	64.8%	65.9%
Secondary	53.8%	67.9%	62.1%
Special	50.0%	71.8%	82.4%
Sixth Form	63.6%	70.0%	67.0%
Pupil Referral Units	69.2%	71.7%	68.4%

As of December 2009, 2 Somerset schools were subject to Notice to Improve and 3 were subject to Special Measures.

Pupil Referral Units (PRUs)

Local Authorities have a statutory duty to make arrangements for the provision of suitable education for children of compulsory school age who, by reason of illness, exclusion from school or otherwise, will not receive a suitable education without those arrangements. PRUs manage a range of pupil needs, including pupils with medical needs, mental health needs, phobic needs, eating disorders and pupils with social and emotional difficulties. Somerset currently has 13 Pupil Referral Units, including the Virtual Classroom and 4 Link Education Centres.

Table 24: Pupil Referral Unit Performance Profile

PRU Performance Profile	Inspected Services	Number Inspected	Local Area	Statistical Neighbours	England
Overall Effectiveness Grade	Pupil Referral Unit	13	69.2%	74.4 %	69.4 %
1. Being Healthy	Pupil Referral Unit	13	84.6%	74.4 %	75.7 %
2. Staying Safe	Pupil Referral Unit	13	92.3%	90.7 %	85.0 %
3. Enjoying and Achieving	Pupil Referral Unit	24	79.2 %	86.4 %	80.0 %
4. Making a Positive Contribution	Pupil Referral Unit	13	53.8%	58.1 %	63.8 %
5. Achieving Economic Wellbeing	Pupil Referral Unit	13	69.2%	76.7 %	67.7 %



The above table shows that, according to latest April 2010 Ofsted Performance Profile, 69.2% of PRUs were judged good or outstanding by Ofsted, compared to National Average of 69.4% and statistical neighbours of 74.4%.

Educational Achievement

The academic performance of children and young people in Somerset continues to improve overall, but at rates below the national average, making it a primary priority for Somerset.

Early Years Foundation Stage

NI 72: Achievement of at least 78 points across the Early Years Foundation Stage

NI 72, which focuses on the achievement of at least 78 points across the Early Years Foundation Stage, with at least 6 in each of the scales in Personal Social and Emotional Development and Communication, Language and Literacy, revealed Somerset to be ahead of the National Average with 53% achievement (2008/09 AY) and steadily increasing year-on-year.

Table 25: NI 72 County Figures

	2006/07 AY	2007/08 AY	2008/09 AY
Somerset	45.2%	51.9%	53.0%
England Average	46.0%	49.0%	52.0%
Stat Neighbour Average	48.9%	52.1%	54.0%
Regional Average	48.0%	52.0%	53.2%
Mendip*	45.1%	55.0%	56.4%
Sedgemoor	42.4%	52.0%	55.4%
South Somerset	43.3%	51.0%	52.0%
Taunton Deane	54.2%	54.0%	51.3%
West Somerset	25.1%	36.0%	50.6%

NI 92: Narrowing the gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile and the rest

The increase in achievement at Early Years Foundation Stage is set alongside a narrowing of the gap to just 30.7% (down from 32.7% in 2008), although more focus is needed within the Mendip district.

Table 26: NI 92 County Figures

	2006/07 AY	2007/08 AY	2008/09 AY
Somerset	34.0%	32.7%	30.7%
England Average	37.2%	35.6%	33.9%
Stat Neighbour Average	34.8%	33.3%	31.7%
Regional Average	34.2%	33.4%	31.6%
Mendip*	35.5%	31.5%	35.9%
Sedgemoor	38.0%	33.6%	33.0%
South Somerset	35.4%	31.9%	26.7%
Taunton Deane	32.8%	33.4%	29.6%
West Somerset	35.5%	38.6%	27.4%

* Please note: there were some data quality issues for 1 school in Mendip which may skew the results presented in the tables on page 67.

Key Stage One

At Key Stage One, the proportion of pupils achieving Level 2+ in the teacher assessments remained similar to last year, with a little improvement in writing (83.1% achieved Level 2+ compared with 82.3% in 2008). However, there was an improvement in the Level 3+ in speaking/listening, writing (up 1.3%) and science (up 3.4%).

Key Stage Two

The performance of primary education can set the tone for the rest of a young person's educational life, and then into the labour market. Within Somerset Mendip and Taunton Deane consistently stand out for their performance at Key Stage 2.

NI 73: Achievement at level 4 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage 2

The proportion of pupils achieving Level 4+ in the core subjects at Key Stage 2 are in line with national data and reflected changes nationally, with a dip in English results overall by 2 percentage points compared with one point nationally. However, whereas nationally the results for English dipped at Level 3+, in Somerset the English results rose to 31 per cent. Results in mathematics also rose, but less than the 4% achieved nationally.

Table 27: NI 73 (% of pupils achieving Key Stage 2 Level 4+ English and Maths)

	2006/07 AY	2007/08 AY	2008/09 AY
Somerset	71.5%	72.7%	70.9%
England Average	71.0%	73.0%	72.0%
Stat Neighbour Average	71.5%	72.6%	71.1%
Regional Average	72.0%	73.0%	72.0%
Mendip	71.6%	73.1%	71.1%
Sedgemoor	67.4%	70.7%	71.0%
South Somerset	72.7%	73.7%	70.6%
Taunton Deane	77.0%	72.5%	72.5%
West Somerset	61.1%	64.9%	62.7%

Key Stage Four

NI 75: Achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths

Achievement at GCSE level has been improving markedly on a national basis over the past decade. While performance in Somerset has also improved, this has not been at the rate seen elsewhere and the County has started to lag behind.

There has been a strong focus on improving results at Key Stage 4, particularly in relation to our four national challenge schools. All four schools improved, although one did not exceed 30% but improved from 11% 5+ A*-C grades including English and Maths to 26%. However, two schools fell below the 30% target (including English and Maths), although their overall 5+ A*-C was unchanged from 2008. Schools are identifying the reasons for the decline, which at St Augustine's related to the disappointing performance of eight pupils in the top set in mathematics.

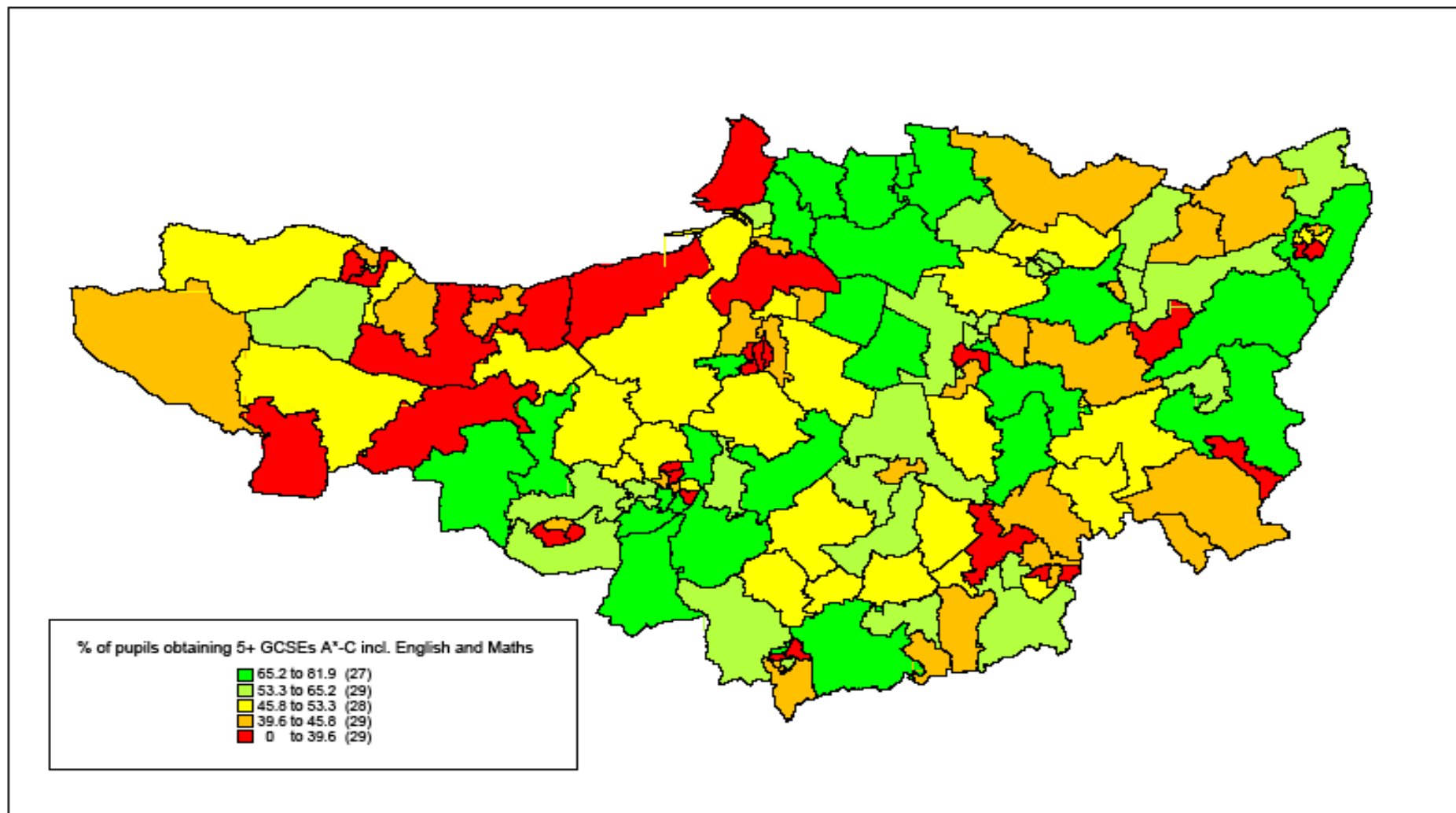
Overall, 16 schools improved on their 5+ A*-C grades including English and Maths and 3 maintained their 2008 results. The overall improvement in 5+ A*-C including English and Maths was only 2.3% (up to 49%). A number of relatively high achieving schools did not maintain their previous standard and reasons for this are being investigated.

Table 28: NI 75 (5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE including English and Maths (End of Key Stage 4))

	2006/07 AY	2007/08 AY	2008/09 AY
Somerset	46.8%	46.7%	49.0%
England Average	46.3%	47.6%	49.8%
Stat Neighbour Average	48.5%	50.4%	52.7%
Regional Average	47.2%	49.3%	51.8%
Mendip	48.6%	49.4%	50.7%
Sedgemoor	42.1%	38.9%	48.7%
South Somerset	46.8%	47.9%	48.0%
Taunton Deane	51.2%	51.4%	49.2%
West Somerset	42.2%	40.1%	43.1%

Figure 22 below shows the percentage of young people obtaining 5+ GCSEs (A*-C, including English and Maths) living in each ward in Somerset. Data is based on the pupil's home address and does not necessarily reflect on the schools in that area as many children and young people do not attend their nearest school. Also, the map does not account for the progress pupils make in terms of value added.

Figure 22: GCSE attainment at ward level (2008/09 AY)



Behaviour and Attendance

Behaviour

NI 86: Secondary schools judged as having good or outstanding standards of behaviour

In relation to the number of secondary schools judged as having good or outstanding standards of behaviour, Somerset has improved to 82.1% for the 2008/09 Academic Year, ahead of the national average of 78.6%.

Of the 7 secondary schools inspected, 86% were judged to have good or outstanding standards of behaviour.

Of the 4 middle schools inspected, 100% were judged to have good or outstanding standards of behaviour.

NI 114: Rate of permanent exclusions

The rate of exclusions in Somerset schools has significantly improved.

The number of permanent exclusions has reduced from 121 exclusions (rate of 0.18) for 2006/07, and 112 exclusion (rate of 0.16) for 2007/08, to 70 exclusions for 2008/09, which, at a rate of 0.10, is better than the national rate of 0.11.

Table 29: Permanent Exclusions (2007/08 and 2008/09 comparison)

Area / Local Service Team	2007-08		2008-09		Change in number 2007-08 to 2008-09	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Change	%
East Mendip	6	0.08	4	0.06	-2	-33
West Mendip	8	0.12	6	0.09	-2	-25
Mendip	14	0.10	10	0.07	-4	-29
North Sedgemoor	7	0.10	3	0.05	-4	-57
South Sedgemoor	27	0.30	19	0.21	-8	-30
Sedgemoor	34	0.22	22	0.14	-12	-35
South Somerset East	19	0.18	15	0.15	-4	-21
South Somerset West	14	0.14	5	0.05	-9	-64
South Somerset	33	0.16	20	0.10	-13	-39
Taunton	14	0.14	9	0.09	-5	-36
West Somerset	16	0.21	7	0.09	-9	-56
Taunton & West Somerset	30	0.17	16	0.09	-14	-47
County Resources:						
Special Schools	1	0.22	2	0.43	+1	+100
Pupil Referral Units						
County Totals	112	0.16	70	0.10	-42	-38

Note: The rates given in the tables above are the rate per 100 of all children on the school roll in that Area/LST.

Table 30: Number of Fixed Term Exclusions (2007/08 and 2008/09 comparison)

Area / Local Service Team	2007-08		2008-09		Change in number 2007-08 to 2008-09	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Change	%
East Mendip	320	4.4	347	4.9	+27	+8.4
West Mendip	408	6.0	342	5.0	-66	-16.2
Mendip	728	5.2	689	5.0	-39	-5.4
North Sedgemoor	341	5.1	182	2.8	-159	-46.6
South Sedgemoor	479	5.3	533	6.0	+54	+11.3
Sedgemoor	820	5.2	715	4.6	-105	-12.8
South Somerset East	623	6.0	525	5.1	-98	-15.7
South Somerset West	667	6.6	594	6.0	-73	-10.9
South Somerset	1290	6.3	1119	5.5	-171	-13.3
Taunton	893	9.0	788	8.1	-105	-11.8
West Somerset	579	7.5	516	6.7	-63	-10.9
Taunton & West Somerset	1472	8.4	1304	7.5	-168	-11.4
County Resources:						
Special Schools	362	78.9	253	54.1	-109	-30.1
Pupil Referral Units	85		39		-46	-54.1
County Totals	4757	7.0	4119	6.1	-638	-13.4

Note: The rates given in the tables above are the rate per 100 of all children on the school roll in that Area/LST.

The number of days lost to fixed term exclusions has decreased by 14.8% over the 2008/09 academic year:

Table 31: Days Lost to Fixed Term Exclusions (2007/08 and 2008/09 comparison)

Area / Local Service Team	2007-08	2008-09	Change in number 2007-08 to 2008-09	
	Number	Number	Change	%
East Mendip	636	783	+147	+23.1
West Mendip	783	700	-83	-10.6
Mendip	1,419	1,483	+64	+4.5
North Sedgemoor	761	405	-356	-46.8
South Sedgemoor	1,167	1,316	+149	+12.8
Sedgemoor	1928	1721	-207	-10.7
South Somerset East	1344	1128	-216	-16.1
South Somerset West	1531	1172	-359	-23.4
South Somerset	2875	2300	-575	-20.0
Taunton	1629	1445	-184	-11.3
West Somerset	1168	919	-249	-21.3
Taunton & West Somerset	2797	2364	-433	-15.5
County Resources:			+0	
Special Schools	651	448	-203	-31.2
Pupil Referral Units	207	103	-104	-50.2
County Totals	9,875	8,417	-1,458	-14.8

Attendance

Somerset has met its overall absence targets and the percentage of half days missed in primary schools reduced to 4.95% in 2007/08 and 5.32% in 2006/07. Performance for 2008/09 AY is broadly in line with 2007/08 at 5.02% - better than National Average of 5.46 and statistical neighbour average of 5.14. In secondary schools overall absence has continued to reduce to 6.72% for 2008/09 AY compared to 7.58% for 2007/08 and 7.62% in 2006/07. This is again better than the national (7.24%) and statistical neighbour (6.96%) average.

NI 87: Secondary School Persistent Absence Rate

The overall persistence absence rate for the county improved from 5.8% (2007/08) in secondary to 4.9% (2008/09). The DCSF threshold for persistent absence in 2008/09 is 6.2% (it was 7% in 2007/08), putting 10 Somerset Secondary Schools in the PA category. However, due to increased national expectations, there are increasing numbers of PA secondary schools, putting Somerset in the 'universal' category for support. The LA now has a robust cross-cutting Attendance Strategy, involving staff from all parts of the Directorate. This has enabled earlier identification and targeted work with pupils with poor attendance and their families.

Narrowing the Gap

Narrowing the gap between the performance of pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN) and their peers is a key priority. The 2009/10 School Census revealed that 9,965 pupils receive School Action (action to meet learning difficulties in school). During the same time period, 2,315 were in receipt of School Action Plus support – where their special educational needs cannot be met through School Action. The number of children with SEN statements (2009/10) stood at 955 and is falling. This places the total number of children and young people with SEN status at 13,235.

Table 32: Special Educational Need Status

SEN Status	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	Notes
School Action	8,473	9,059	9,965	All figures from the January school census
School Action Plus	1,807	2,183	2,315	
Statements	1,089	1,012	955	
Total with SEN status	11,369	12,254	13,235	
Statements or School Action Plus only	2,896	3,195	3,207	These categories are usually reserved for children with more severe disabilities.
Children with Statements or on School Action Plus with more severe disabilities	873	874	910	These figures excluded children with Behaviour, Emotional or Social Difficulties (BESD), Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD), Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLD), and Speech, Language or Communication Needs (SLCN). Children in these groups would rarely have disabilities severe enough to meet the threshold criteria of the Children with Disabilities social care teams.

There is continuing work between the School Improvement Service and SEN teams to improve performance and effective data collection with schools targeting individual pupils/students.

NI 104: The SEN gap – achieving Key Stage 2 English and Maths threshold

The SEN 'gap' in 2009 increased by 0.8%, compared to the 2008 figure, and is now above the England average. Revised guidance on identifying SEN pupils to schools was circulated in January 2010 and work is taking place with School Improvement to revise the NI104 Action Plan to focus directly on raising the achievement of children with SEN in Key Stage 2.

NI 105: The SEN gap – achieving 5 A*-C GCSE inc. English and Maths

The Somerset SEN 'gap' remains below the England average, though above our target for 2009. Work is taking place with School Improvement to revise the NI105 Action Plan to focus directly on raising the achievement of children with SEN in Key Stages 3 and 4.

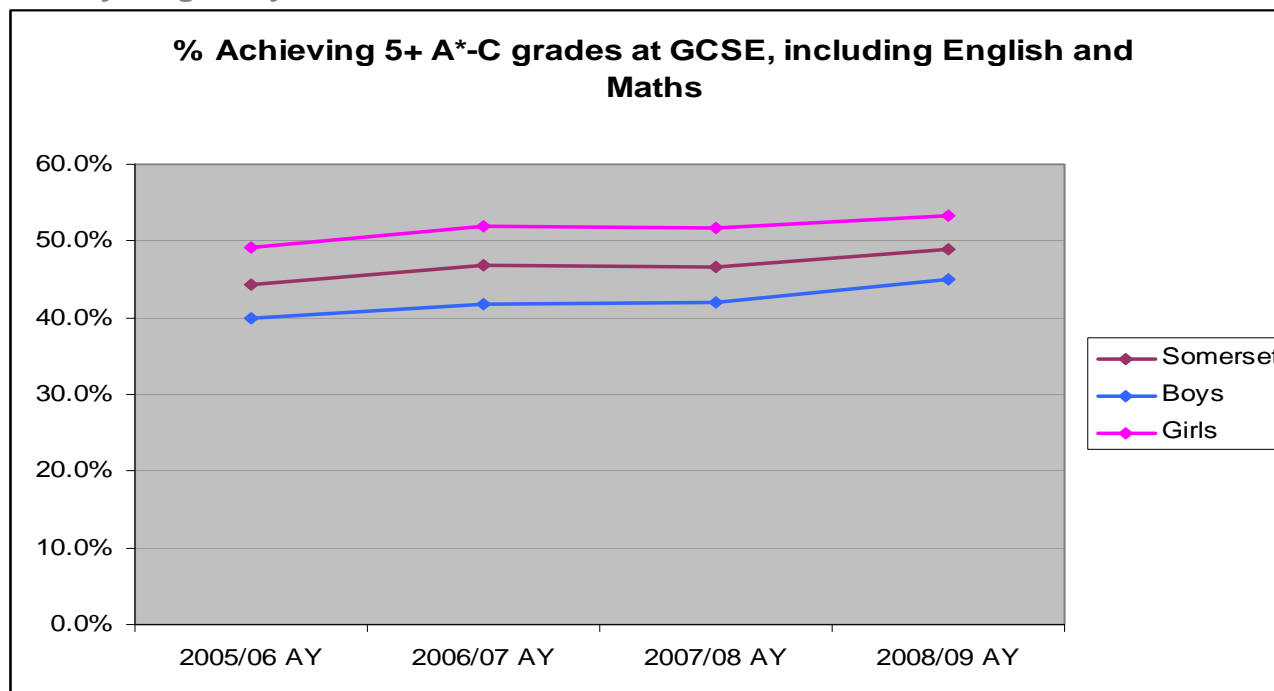
Table 33: NI 104 and NI 105 County Figures

NI 104 The SEN gap – achieving Key Stage 2 English and Maths threshold	AY 2006/07	AY 2007/08	AY 2008/09
Somerset	52.7%	50.6%	52.1%
National Average	51.8%	51.0%	50.9%
Stat Neighbour Average	53.0%	52.2%	-
Regional Average	52.1%	51.0%	50.8%
Mendip	60.9%	55.7%	51.4%
Sedgemoor	57.2%	47.8%	54.3%
South Somerset	53.6%	51.3%	51.8%
Taunton Deane	58.1%	59.3%	50.1%
West Somerset	50.6%	44.1%	(TDWS)

NI 105 The SEN gap – achieving 5 A*-C GCSE inc. English and Maths	AY 2006/07	AY 2007/08	AY 2008/09
Somerset	44.8%	43.3%	45.0%
National Average	44.4%	45.7%	46.5%
Stat Neighbour Average	45.8%	47.4%	-
Regional Average	44.9%	46.4%	46.4%
Mendip	49.0%	47.2%	45.3%
Sedgemoor	42.1%	39.8%	47.8%
South Somerset	43.4%	37.3%	41.0%
Taunton Deane	49.4%	46.7%	48.6%
West Somerset	37.9%	35.1%	(TDWS)

The **achievement gap** between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers has reduced from the 2006/07 academic year and is now 20.8% for Key Stage 2 (better than the national average of 24.25%), and 27% for Key Stage 4 (in line with the national average).

Figure 23: Achievement at Key Stage 4 by Gender



With regards to the educational improvement of children in care:

Performance at Key Stage 1 has shown significant improvement compared to last year:

- Reading 50.0% for 2009, compared to 12.5% in 2008 (national average 57%);
- Writing 37.5% for 2009, compared to 12.5% in 2008 (national average 50%)
- Maths 80.0% for 2009, compared to 12.5% in 2008 (national average 62%).

Similarly for Key Stage 2, notable improvement is evident based on the provisional results for English (NI 99) Maths (NI 100) and Science.

- English 53.3% for 2009, compared to 44.4% in 2008 (national average 46%)
- Maths 53.3% for 2009, compared to 22.2% in 2008 (national average 44%)
- Science 60.0% for 2009, compared to 55.6% in 2008 (national average 60%)

There are 37 children who are in the GCSE cohort and the following performance is noted:

- The percentage of children in care who sat at least one GCSE exam is 67.6% (25/37);
- 64.9% (24/37) of children in care have achieved 1 GCSE at A*-G, lower than 69.6% achieved last year. The national average last year was 65.6%;
- 16 children in care achieved 5 GCSEs A*-G, which is 43.2% compared to 34.8% last year. The national average last year was 43.4%.
- 24.3% of children in care (9 children) obtained 5 GCSE A*-C, up from 4.3% last year and above the national (13.9%) and statistical neighbour averages for last year. This is a National Indicator (NI 101), although there is some discrepancy as to whether it should include English and Maths - which will affect the final figure.

Attendance for children in care for 2008 was very good. The percentage of children who had been looked after for 12 months continuously who missed a total of 25 days schooling for any reason during the previous school year has improved significantly over recent years. In 2002/3, performance was poor at 19.8%, but improved consistently each year through to 2006/7 where it peaked at 8.5%, amongst the best in the country. Most recent performance for 2009/10 reporting (2008/09 academic year) is 12.1% - the same as for the 2006/07 academic year.

Ethnicity *(Please refer to page 62 for latest available ethnicity information)*

The number of children and young people from minority ethnic groups has more than doubled over the last 7 years, rising at a rate of about 300 pupils per year. This increase has continued over 2009/10, although at a slightly slower rate (approximately 180 additional children and young people). The total figure is now 3,648. The true figure is likely to be slightly higher than this as some children and young people from minority ethnic groups are recorded as White British.

For the overall school population, the percentage from minority ethnic groups is now 5.48%. For Years 7-11 the figure is 4.84%, whilst for years Reception – 6 it is 5.93% (Reception alone is 6.12%). The Reception figure is slightly lower than last year, which suggests that the minority ethnic population in Somerset is stabilising at between 6 and 6.5%, but the overall number will continue to rise as the primary age population moves into the secondary age range.

Somerset's minority ethnic population is made up of many small groups, rather than one large one, but the 'White – Other' group is the largest (2.06% of the total school population), although this comprises children and young people from many different national backgrounds. Groups that are increasing in size include: Bangladeshi, Indian and most 'Mixed' (dual or multiple heritage) groups.

The Localities with the largest populations from minority ethnic groups are South Somerset East (7.2%), Taunton (6.9%) and East Mendip (6.2%). However, there are higher than Somerset average numbers of specific minority ethnic groups in several other localities. For example: North Sedgemoor (Bangladeshi children and young people); South Sedgemoor ('Mixed' White and Black Caribbean and Gypsy Roma children and young people); South Somerset West ('Mixed' White and Asian, 'Mixed' White and Black Caribbean and Gypsy Roma children and young people).

Source: Senior Adviser, Equalities and Diversity (November 2009)

Faith

There are very few children and young people in Somerset County Council schools from religions other than Christianity. However, there are now 269 Muslim children and young people in schools (0.40% of the school population). The largest number of Muslim children and young people are in the following localities:

- South Somerset (East) – 67 children and young people (0.66%);
- Taunton – 62 children and young people (0.64%);
- North Sedgemoor – 43 children and young people (0.65%).

There are mosques in Yeovil and Taunton.

Source: Senior Adviser, Equalities and Diversity (November 2009)

Travellers

At the end of May 2010, the CLG (Communities and Local Government) released the number of Gypsy and Traveller caravans in Somerset following the count in January. The number of caravans in the County has increased by 16% since the last count in July 2009 (445 to 516). The majority of this increase has been seen in Mendip where caravan numbers have increased by 50% (156 to 234). The rate of caravans per population is far higher in the district than the national and regional average.

District	Number of Caravans (January 2010)	Rate per population
England	18,355	0.04
South West	2,587	0.05
Somerset	516	0.10
Mendip	234	0.20
Sedgemoor	80	0.07
South Somerset	51	0.03
Taunton Deane	141	0.13
West Somerset	10	0.03

Table 34 below records the number of recorded travellers in Somerset schools over the last 4 years. Although it suggests that there has been a significant increase in the total figures over this time period, this is in part attributable to better referral rates by schools to the county's Traveller Education Service.

As is common nationally, analysis of the issues faced by Traveller children and young people in Somerset reveals that their progress between key stages is less than the Somerset average, their end of key stage attainment is markedly lower than the Somerset average, there is lower than average representation on Gifted and Talented registers, attendance is lower than average and fixed term exclusions are higher.

Table 34: Numbers of Recorded Travellers in Somerset Schools

School Year		Total Number of Recorded Travellers in Somerset Schools
2005-06	GYPSY	231
	NT *	56
	IRISH	8
	CIRCUS	7
	SHOW	50
	ALL	352
2006-07	GYPSY	310
	NT	89
	IRISH	31
	CIRCUS	10
	SHOW	54
	ALL	494
2007-08	GYPSY	332
	NT	103
	IRISH	38
	CIRCUS	7
	SHOW	42
	FESTIVAL	4
	ALL	526
2008-09	GYPSY	373
	NT	108
	IRISH	36
	CIRCUS	16
	SHOW	35
	FESTIVAL	4
	ALL	572

* NT = New Age Traveller

Service Children

Central Government has acknowledged that it has a moral obligation to ensure service personnel and their families are not disadvantaged as citizens by Service life. In 2008, the Command Paper “The Nation’s Commitment: Cross-Government Support to our Armed Forces, their Families and Veterans” identified 47 commitments, four relating to education and skills of young people, and two relating to childcare and children’s centres.

There are over 900 Service children identified by the Annual Pupil Census as attending maintained schools in Somerset. However, the identification of Service Children is not robust nationally, and it is expected that the actual number is likely to be greater. These young people have issues surrounding gaining admission to school, a lack of continuity of their education and often, absent parent(s), most likely in a war zone.

There are two service bases in Somerset: at RNAS Yeovilton with 3,000 stationed there and 500 at the Royal Marine camp at Norton Fitzwarren. However, Bruton Sexey’s, a maintained boarding school, caters for a significant number of boarders from service families.

Access to schools is more difficult for Service children due to the frequency and short notice postings of their parents. From February 2009, as part of the Fair Access Protocol, admission authorities are now allowed to exceed admission numbers for Armed Forces children. In addition, Service families must now be given greater flexibility in terms of which address will be considered for applications in advance of a family move. However, the Service Families Federation has found a higher percentage of Armed Forces families continue to experience difficulty in accessing their preferred school, due to the time of their move, and in terms of continuity of studying the same subjects.

There is little evidence that Armed Forces children underachieve compared to their peers, except at Key Stage 4 where high level of mobility impacts on continuity of courses.

Children with SEN receive learning support, continuity of which can be undermined by mobility. In particular, children with a SEN statement are particularly affected by their parents’ mobility, as it can take time for statements to transfer.

Access to flexible and affordable childcare is difficult for many Service families because of dislocation from any extended family, the remote location of many service bases, and the absence of one parent, often for an extended period.

RNAS Yeovilton has its own childcare on site (Yeovilteenies), and strong links with a local pre-school in Ilchester. Children’s Centres were put in place in Norton Fitzwarren and Ilchester to support the Armed Forces communities with easy access for service families. The Children’s Centre at Norton Fitzwarren also has childcare on site so that the families of service personnel and local residents can access local childcare. Barnardo’s deliver family support services on behalf of Somerset County Council at Brock House Children’s Centre in Norton Fitzwarren and have developed close links with the welfare officers at Norton Manor Camp. In March 2010, a Project Worker was appointed through the Children’s Centre to support the families of 40 Commando, offering guidance on how to support children during the stressful times when one or both parents are deployed to conflict zones.

Enjoying and Achieving Summary

Strengths

- At the Early Years Foundation Stage, Somerset is ahead of the national average with 53.5% achieving at least 78 points (2008/09 AY). This figure has been steadily increasing year-on-year, and is set alongside a narrowing of the gap between the lowest achieving 20% and the rest (from 32.7% in 2008 to 30.7% in 2009);
- The achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers has reduced from the 2006/07 academic year and is now 20.8% for Key Stage 2 (better than the national average of 24.25) and 27% for Key Stage 4 (in line with the national average).
- 82.1% of secondary schools were judged to have either good or outstanding standards of behaviour within Somerset, ahead of the national average of 78.6% (2008/09 AY) and the rate of exclusions have significantly improved;
- The overall persistent absence rate in secondary schools improved from 5.8% (2007/08) to 4.9% (2008/09);

Areas for development

- Although sixth form provision within the county was judged to be at 81.8% rated good or better as at August 2009, the February 2010 update reveals that performance has fallen to 63.6%, which is below the national average of 67% and that of our statistical neighbours (70%). Similarly, in relation to Special School provision, performance has fallen from 62.5% (August 2009) to 50% (February 2010), which is below both national and statistical neighbour averages (82.4% and 71.8% respectively).
- Although the proportion of pupils achieving 5+ A*- C grades including English and mathematics has improved, the rate of improvement is less than achieved by our statistical neighbours or nationally. Raising secondary achievement as a whole is a key priority for the county.
- The importance of developing strategies to meet the unique needs of service children, in line with the recommendations of the Command Paper "The Nation's Commitment: Cross-Government Support to our Armed Forces, their Families and Veterans", is recognised as an emerging priority area.

Section 4 Making a Positive Contribution

National Drivers

The Government's Every Child Matters framework identifies five 'Positive Contribution' aims for children and young people:

- Engaging in decision making and supporting the community and environment;
- Engaging in law-abiding and positive behaviour in and out of school;
- Developing positive relationships and choosing not to bully or discriminate;
- Developing self-confidence and successfully dealing with significant life changes and challenges;
- Developing enterprising behaviour.

The Department for Children, Schools and Families' Strategic Objectives are to ensure young people are participating and achieving their potential to age 18 and beyond (DSO5) and to keep children and young people on the road to success (DSO6);

This is supported by the following Public Service Agreements:

- PSA 14 - increase the number of children and young people on the path to success.
- PSA 16 - Increase the proportion of socially excluded adults in settled accommodation and employment, education or training.
- PSA 22 - deliver a successful Olympic and Paralympics games with a sustainable legacy and get more children and young people taking part in high quality sport and games.

Somerset Children and Young People's Plan 2009-11 Making a Positive Contribution Priorities

1. Encourage young people to take a greater role in their community through volunteering and active citizenship;
2. Increase the opportunities for accessing positive activities for children and young people;
3. Continue to reduce rates of offending by children and young people, including Children Looked After.

Links to Somerset's Sustainable Community Strategy

Aim 1: Making a Positive Contribution People of all ages and walks of life are valued. They support others in their local communities and provide leadership on important issues. Communities are forward looking and determine what happens in their area. Organisations work well together in partnership and everyone is proud to live in Somerset and to promote its benefits to others.

Challenge 2: Widen and strengthen the involvement of local people in their communities.

Background

In 2009, Learning South West was commissioned to undertake a review of participation across Somerset Children's Trust with a view to harnessing good practice, collating feedback more effectively and maximising current resources to enable children, young people and their families to participate in decisions which affect their lives. The review was carried out by Malcolm Rittman during the autumn, with the final report received in December. The review found that there is some well-formed and sustained work with children and young people who are actively engaged in developing and improving services.

The Authority has a depth of experience in the engagement and participation of children and young people. Participation work undertaken within the county occurs in three ways:

1. The direct participation in the life of communities and democratic/political activity;
2. The direct participation within services to bring improvement and development;
3. The indirect participation whereby individual service users articulate their views in reviews and the messages from these individual responses are collated to draw out key messages and issues for action at service, community and wider political level.

Somerset has a good reputation for involving young people. Ofsted noted in X that 'young people have many opportunities to contribute to decision making at county and local level and receive very good support'.

More recently, in November 2009, Somerset was selected as the Association of European Regions (AER) 'Most Youth Friendly Region 2009', and was praised for:

- Developing an impressive number of different actions under each of the assessed topics;
- Covering a broad range of activities;
- Including disadvantaged groups in society;
- Implementing a variety of innovative and creative projects, and
- Including young people at an early stage in management structures.

In December 2009, Somerset County Council's Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme won a national award for the innovative ways in which student engagement has been ensured.

Despite these successes, some areas for further development have been identified. It is acknowledged that Children's Trust organisations must work to better evidence that planning for the participation and engagement of children and young people is being developed consistently throughout the county, and that better systems be put in place to enable Managers to be confident that work in local services is influenced and informed by their active involvement. This should be set in the context that there has been a loss of some key posts through the termination of short term funding and posts frozen due to the current financial situation. This requires services to work smarter and explore other ways to ensure the voice of children and young people is being heard.

Engagement in Positive Activities and Volunteering

Positive Activities

NI 110: Young people's participation in positive activities

NI 110 measures young people's participation in positive activities via the annual Tellus Survey. Tellus4 (2009) recorded this to be at 70.6%, which is higher than both the South West (68.1%) and the England (65.8%) average. Despite this, Somerset saw a decrease of 4.1% when compared to the Tellus 3 results (2008) where this was recorded at 74.7%.

Results from the 2008 Place Shaping Survey revealed that 48% of respondents felt that activities for teenagers were considered a key priority and most in need of improving. However, the Place Survey is based on the views and perceptions of adults aged 18 plus. Out of those who stated that activities for teenagers needs improving, only 70 were aged 18-24 and the majority of those responding were those in the higher age ranges or households without children, so the results should be set in context.

Somerset engaged in a 2008 South West Regional survey to find out the level of young people's current engagement in positive activities. Over 5% of 13-19 year olds in Somerset took part in this survey and 69% of them stated they are engaged in one or more positive activities. This survey is currently being repeated for 2010, with results due in the spring.

In 2008/09, the internet site AWSOM (*Activities Within Somerset for young people*) had 6,702 searches and recorded 539 users visiting the pages where information is available about sources of funding for youth activities.

NI 88: Percentage of schools providing access to extended services

At of May 2010, 98% of schools within Somerset were providing the Full Core Offer of provision for children, in line with the regional and national averages. In September 2008, when 45% of schools were providing extended schools provision, there was a focused effort to make sure that as many of Somerset's schools as possible were providing extended services. Consequently, Somerset has improved greatly over the last year and is consistently performing as well or better than regional and national averages.

Table 35: Extended School progress (May 2010)

	Somerset	Mendip	Sedgemoor	South Somerset	Taunton & West Somerset
Total	98%	100%	100%	99%	94%
Primary	98%	100%	100%	100%	93%
Secondary	97%	100%	100%	92%	100%
Special	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Volunteering

UK Youth Parliament

In 2009/10, 6,980 young people voted in the Somerset UK Youth Parliament elections, voting in 3 Members of Youth Parliament for the county and 3 Deputies. This is an increase of 1,906 votes when compared to the previous year, 2008/09.

Table 36: Voting in Somerset UK Youth Parliament election (2009/10)

Local Service Team	votes issued	votes used	%
Mendip East	2940	296	10.07%
Mendip West	1895	981	51.77%
Sedgemoor North	1420	574	40.42%
Sedgemoor South	4445	571	12.85%
South Somerset East	4940	1011	20.47%
South Somerset West	4100	1432	34.93%
Taunton Deane	5140	1212	23.58%
West Somerset	2990	823	27.53%

Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a voluntary, non-competitive programme of practical, cultural and adventurous activities, designed to support the personal and social development of young people aged 14 to 24 years. It offers an individual challenge and encourages young people to undertake constructive, challenging and enjoyable activities in their free time. It has three progressive levels - Bronze (for those 14 and over), Silver (for those 15 and over) and Gold (for those aged 16 and over). Somerset County Council hold the Operating Licence for the scheme within Somerset and support units throughout the County to offer the award to young people. There are currently 56 Duke of Edinburgh Centres county-wide, the majority of which are within Secondary Schools.

The best operating authority in the South West on most indicators, the scheme attracted 2,223 new starters during 2008/09 and saw 874 participants achieve an award during the same time period.

Play

Particularly for younger children, play is a key driver for childhood development. Key messages that have emerged from consultation with children and young people undertaken by Barnados about play reveal the following key messages around attitudes to play:

- Children are aware of the benefits of playing outside and enjoy it;
- Children are prevented from playing outside as much as they'd like because of bad weather, by adults or fears of bullying;
- When playing outside children receive more negative messages about their play than positive ones from parents and adults;
- Children think it is important that adults are educated about the value of outdoor play, but are unsure about how this could be achieved.

Key messages emerging from parents are:

- Parents are supportive of the ideas of encouraging children and young people to play outside more;
- Parents opinions of what stops children and young people from playing outside are similar to those the children identified;
- The key issue for parents is safety – this was mentioned almost every time they were asked to identify problems.

NI 199: Children and young people's satisfaction with parks and play areas

NI 199, which measures children and young people's satisfaction with parks and play areas, revealed a satisfaction rate of 52.0% in Somerset for 2009. This is largely in line with the South West average of 51.9%, but below that of England (54.1%). Despite this, it is a 5.9% improvement on previous year's data.

Play Builder Scheme

The first national Play Strategy for England was published in December 2008 and set out the Government's plans to improve and develop play facilities for children throughout the country. As a result, the Department for Children Schools and Families launched Play Builder grants that would invest significant funding in play as part of a three-year programme from 2008-2011. Somerset County Council, with support from Barnados, was awarded Play Builder Status in April 2008, and was among the first Local Authorities in the country to achieve this status. By the end of 2011 Somerset will have received around £1.1m Play Builder capital and £45k revenue to develop play areas, making them more innovative and adventurous, inclusive, attractive for girls and aimed at 8-13 year olds.

Year 2 is now complete and the final year of the programme is running. Due to the change in Government, sites are aimed to be completed by December 31st 2010 to enable a 3 month contingency period.

Year 1 sites: Mendip: Windmill Hill, Glastonbury; Glastonbury Skate Park;

Year 2 sites: Mendip: Goss Drive, Street; Sedgemoor: East Huntspill; South Somerset: Yew Tree Park, Yeovil. Jocelyn Park, Yeovil. Vision Flagship Playspace, Merriot. Taunton Deane: Oake Village. Lyngford Park. Hamilton Gault. West Somerset: Crowcombe.

Year 3 sites: Mendip: Hillmead, Shepton Mallet. Stratton on Fosse. Sedgemoor: North Petherton. Chambert Avenue, Bridgwater. South Somerset: Wincanton. Happy Valley, Crewkerne. Furzehill, Chard. Taunton Deane: Greenway Rec. Taunton Green. West Somerset: Barnes Close, Dulverton.

Play Rangers

Play Ranger Sessions is a service funded by Sedgemoor, West Somerset, Mendip and Taunton Deane District Councils with Big Lottery money. The service works in public spaces within communities, to enable children to play freely outdoors, encouraging them to use the sessions in the way that they choose, which might include den building, sports, nature trails and adventurous play. The Children's charity Barnardo's South West manages the Play Ranger service, and all project workers are trained and police checked. Play Rangers work with children over the age of 5 in their leisure time and are found in the following areas:

Mendip	Sedgemoor	Taunton Deane	West Somerset
Street – The Batch	Highbridge – Apex Park	Hamilton Gault	Minehead – King George V Park
Coleford Playing Field	Bridgwater – Mansfield Park	Taunton Green - Wellsprings	Stogursey – Burgage Park
Frome, The Dippy on the Mount	Woolavington Playing Field	Greenway Rec	

NI 57: Children and young people's participation in high-quality PE and sport

This indicator relates to the percentage of children and young people aged 5-16 years participating in at least 2 hours of physical activity a week within curriculum time. The October 2009 survey revealed the Somerset figure to stand at 84%, higher than the national average.

Table 37: Participation in PE and sport

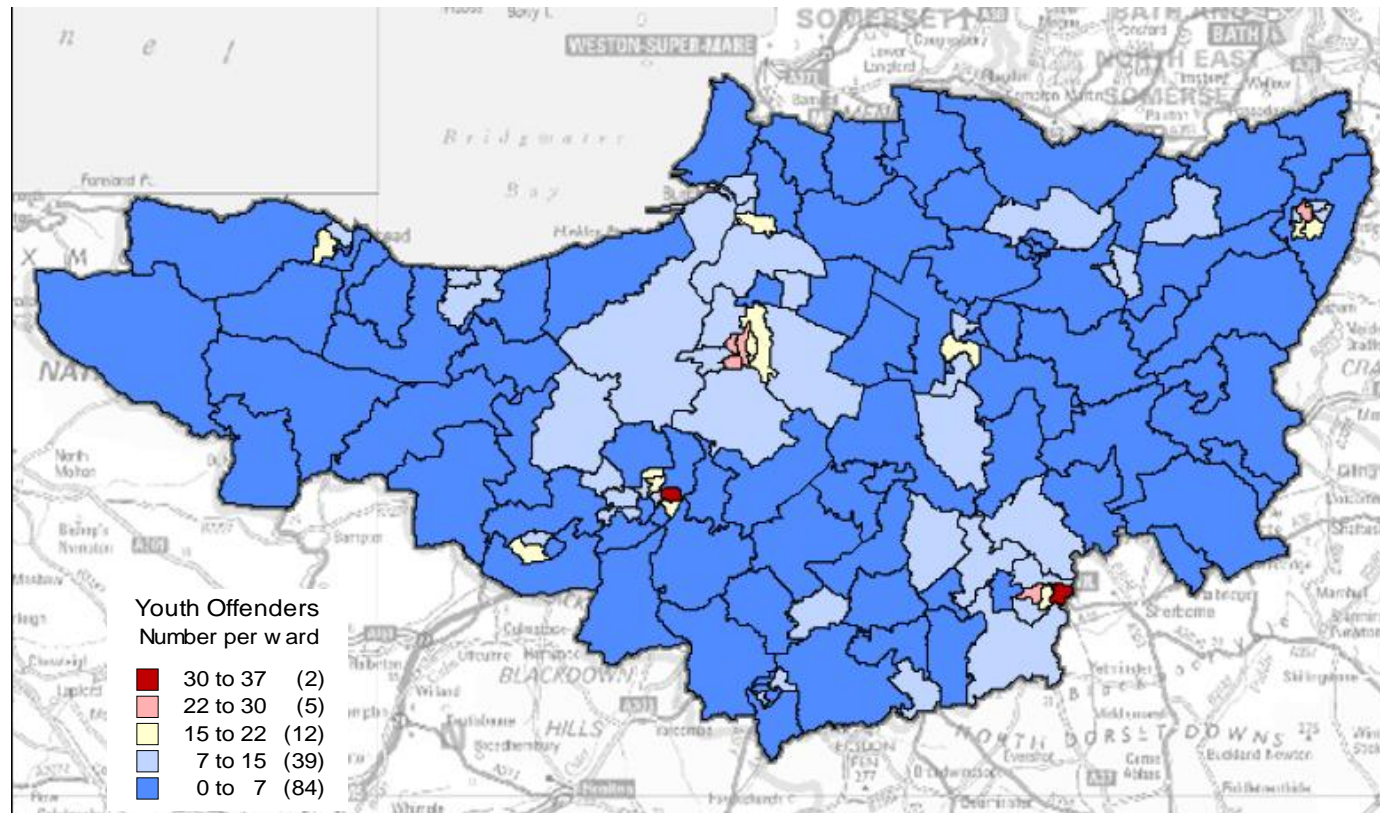
	NI 57: Years 1-11 taking part in at least 2 hours of PE and Sport in curriculum time (2009)		Years 1-11 taking part in 3 hours or more PE and Sport both in curriculum time and out of school (2009)
Somerset	84%	50,153/59,943	52%
National Average	81%		51%
Neighbour Average	85%		54%
Herefordshire	94%	18,692/19,914	56%
Cornwall	89%	54,208/60,838	54%
Devon	89%	73,640/82,482	61%
Dorset	89%	40,750/45,925	60%
Shropshire	88%	29,222/33,382	48%
Norfolk	85%	79,521/93,229	48%
East Sussex	85%	47,783/56,262	44%
Gloucestershire	82%	58,006/70,479	55%
Wiltshire	82%	44,264/54,255	62%
Suffolk	77%	63,527/82,185	55%

Crime and Youth Offending

Somerset's overall crime score is well below the national average. In 2009, there were 36.29 offences per 1,000 population in Somerset, compared to 42.05 in the South West and 45.22 nationally. Between 2008 and 2009, the total number of offences committed per 1,000 people decreased by 6.10% which is slightly above the rate of decline seen in the South West and in Great Britain as a whole. Taunton Deane has the highest crime rates and West Somerset the least of the county's five districts. The greatest reduction in crimes over the last year occurred in South Somerset (9.99% reduction in total offences).

According to Somerset Youth Offending Team (YOT) records, a total of 2,946 offences were committed by 1,180 young people in 2008/09. By far the most common offences committed were 'Violence against the Person' (23.6%), 'Theft and Handling Stolen Goods' (19.8%) and 'Criminal Damage' (17.2%). Drug offences were the seventh most common offence type, accounting for 3.5% of offences committed in 2008/09. In terms of geographical location, the largest number of youth offenders (37 in total) resided in the Taunton Halcon ward, followed by Yeovil East (32) and Yeovil West.

Figure 24: Location of Young Offenders 2008/09 (all offences) – ward level



The number of first time entrants to the Youth Justice System, defined as young people aged 10-17 who receive their 1st substantive outcome, has fallen from 966 (2006/07 CY) to 824 (2007/08 CY). By 2008/09 this number had fallen dramatically to 603. Restorative Justice measures may be partly responsible for the reduction in the number of young people entering the criminal justice system.

Use of Custody by Somerset Youth Courts

The Somerset custody rate of 1.8% is well inside the Youth Justice Board's target of a maximum of 5%. The Chair of the Youth Justice Board has written to congratulate Somerset on this achievement (June 2010).

NI 19: Rate of proven re-offending by young offenders

The recidivism rate is measured by counting offences by a sample of young offenders. The figures vary at a national level in surprising ways. Our local figures are robust and show a slight reduction from the 2005 baseline of 1.32 to 1.31 (2008/09).

NI 43: Young people receiving a conviction in court who are sentenced to custody

For Somerset we have maintained a custody rate of around 2.5% for the last four years. Our performance compares favourably with the National Average, which is around 6% of all court cases ending in custody.

NI 44: Ethnic composition of young people on youth justice system disposals

Ethnic disproportionality in the Criminal Justice System is not a problem in Somerset, with very small numbers of ethnic minority young offenders coming to Court and a general under-representation in the Criminal Justice System. The rate of offending by young people from the ethnic minorities in Somerset is lower than that of the proportion of young people in the general population.

Narrowing the Gap

There has been a marked improvement against the performance indicator measuring the offending of Looked After Children. The rate has improved from 4.2 in 2007/08 to 2.9 in 2008/09. Despite this, CLA offending continues to be a priority for Somerset as rates continue to be high when compared to both national and statistical neighbour averages. We continue, through the Reducing the Offending of Looked After Children (ROLAC) Group, to focus on initiatives to target CLA who were given a final warning/reprimand/caution or were convicted during the year.

Making a Positive Contribution Summary

Strengths

- NI 110 measures young people's participation in positive activities via the Tellus Survey. Tellus4 (2009) recorded this to be at 70.6%, which is higher than both the South West (68.1%) and the England (65.8%) average.
- 97% of Somerset schools were providing the full core offer of extended schools provision as of March 2010.
- SASP coaches deliver weekly high quality PE and Sports programmes in 90 primary schools, 20 DASH clubs, 42 after school clubs and 16 children's centres countywide.

Areas for development

- NI 199, which measures children and young people's satisfaction with parks and play areas, revealed a satisfaction rate of 52.0% in Somerset for 2009. This is largely in line with the South West average of 51.9%, but below that of England (54.1%). Despite this, it is a 5.9% improvement on previous year's data.
- Despite a marked improvement in the rates of the offending of Children Looked After, rates continue to be high when compared with both national and statistical neighbour averages.

Section 5 Achieving Economic Wellbeing

National Policy Drivers

The Government's Every Child Matters framework identifies five 'Economic Wellbeing' aims for children and young people:

- Engaging further in education, employment or training on leaving school;
- Being ready for employment;
- Living in decent homes and sustainable communities;
- Having access to transport and material goods;
- Living in households free from low income.

The Department for Children, Schools and Families' Strategic Objectives are to ensure young people are participating and achieving their potential to age 18 and beyond (DSO5) and to keep children and young people on the road to success (DSO6);

This is supported by the following Public Service Agreements:

- PSA 9 - Halve the number of children in poverty by 2010-11, on the way to eradicating child poverty by 2020.
- PSA 14 - Increase the number of children and young people on the road to success.
- PSA 16 - Increase the proportion of socially excluded adults in settled accommodation and employment, education or training.

Somerset Children and Young People's Plan 2009-2011 Achieving Economic Wellbeing Priorities

1. Ensure young people have full access to independent information, advice and guidance in order to make informed choices about a range of learning and employment opportunities;
2. Ensure young people have access to an appropriate range of learning and development opportunities that prepare them for further learning and for working life;
3. Reduce the number of children and young people living in poverty.

Links to Somerset's Sustainable Community Strategy

Aim 3: Ensuring Economic Wellbeing Somerset is a place with high value and secure jobs and people are confident that their children have good career prospects. Working people are well skilled and wish to improve what they can offer. Somerset has a national reputation for quality and innovation based on our excellence in a wide range of sectors. New enterprises that will benefit the local environment are encouraged and people choose to buy locally provided food, goods and services. New building development is well planned and makes the most of economic opportunity.

Challenge 7: Broaden and strengthen the local economy;

Challenge 8: Plan for new sustainable communities to be built in Somerset;

Challenge 9: Invest in the Somerset workforce.

Background

Economic data consistently shows Somerset's overall economic performance lagging behind national and regional levels, with the county scoring 40.84 on its economic scale 'score (when Great Britain = 100). The relatively slow pattern of recent growth and relatively low levels of business productivity reflects an under-representation of fast growth sectors and a high concentration of business activity in low value added sectors. It is also a reflection of the productivity gap between the South West region and London and South East England. Despite its location advantages and accessibility to other growth areas, Somerset has seen a low rate of inward investment over the past decade.

Somerset's economy continues to be dominated by the small business sector, with around 86% of businesses in the county employing ten or less members of staff. Just over 100 firms (0.5% of the business population) employ over two hundred people. However, it should be noted that these relatively small number of large firms employ almost a quarter of the overall Somerset workforce. The employment centres of manufacturing and distribution, hotels and catering are over-represented in Somerset compared with regional and national averages. Over one sixth of employees work in the manufacturing of a wide-range of goods. Tourism is an important element of the South West's economy and is of particular importance in West Somerset and parts of Sedgemoor.

Somerset tends to have a low proportion of higher-skilled occupations. Latest data shows that 37.5% of employees were in either managerial, professional, associate professional or technical occupations compared with regional and national averages of 42.3% and 43% respectively.

The 2008 Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE) shows that average annual earnings for full-time workers in Somerset is £26,471. This is some way below the regional and national averages of £28,348 and £31,323 respectively. Within Somerset earnings vary between the five districts. Mendip and Sedgemoor have the highest average earnings. This may be attributable to some residents commuting to nearby Bristol, Bath or Weston Super Mare.

Between April 2008 and March 2009, 83% of Somerset's working age population was defined as economically active, compared to 78.9% nationally. 66.4% of the 208,900 employee jobs (2007 Annual Business Inquiry data) were full-time and 33.6% part-time. The proportion of full-time jobs was above the regional figure of 65.4%, but below the national figure of 69.0%. 10.9% of the working age population was self-employed.

Somerset had 0.85 jobs per working age resident in 2007, which is comparable with the national average. However, in Sedgemoor and West Somerset, this figure fell to 0.7 reflecting their rural nature and higher levels of commuting out of these districts for work. The density of 1.0 in Taunton Deane reflects Taunton's role as the largest town and administrative centre of Somerset.

In common with other parts of the UK, unemployment has risen since mid-2008. The overall unemployment rate in January 2009 was 2.2% - the highest since February 2000 and the first above 2% since March 2000. Unemployment is generally concentrated in the major urban centres of Taunton, Yeovil and Bridgwater.

The most prevalent form of deprivation in Somerset relates to barriers to housing and services. 14% of the county's LSOAs are within the most deprived 10% in England in this domain.

Migrant workers are a transient population and are therefore difficult to count – a nationally recognised problem. There are only estimates available for the number of migrant workers in any given area which are likely to be under-estimates due to the fact that these account only for individuals who register for work and not for families. Numbers of migrant workers are increasing significantly across all areas of Somerset, as is also the case across the South West. Between 2003/04 and 2005/06, numbers increased by 153% (from 1,255 to 3,175) based on National Insurance registration data. Mapping in South Somerset and Mendip indicate that the main groups of migrant workers are Polish, Portuguese and Filipino, with the majority (over 90%) aged between 18 and 44 years.

Tellus 4 (2009) results indicated that only 52% of young people questioned think they will go on to university / higher education in the future, compared to 62% nationally.

Education, Employment and Training

NI 117: 16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)

The proportion of young people participating in education, employment or training within Somerset is consistently higher than for similar areas and nationally, as identified within the APA 2008. The NEET figure for the key quarter (November 2009-January 2010) stood at 4.4%, comparing very favourably with the South West average of 5.6% and the National average of 6.4%. Although Somerset has seen an increase on the 2008/9 figure of 3.8%, it is still one of the lowest rates in the country. There has been a national rise in NEETs as a result of rising unemployment due to the current economic conditions. NEET continues to be a priority, especially for vulnerable groups (Care Leavers, Young Offenders, and Teenage Parents).

September Guarantee

The 2009 September Guarantee offer of a learning opportunity to all 16 and 17 year olds within Somerset surpassed last year's performance, with 98.5% of 16 year olds (2008: 98.3%) and 98.1% of 17 year olds (2008: 97.6%). These figures compare favourably with national and regional percentages.

Table 38: 16-18 year olds participating in learning

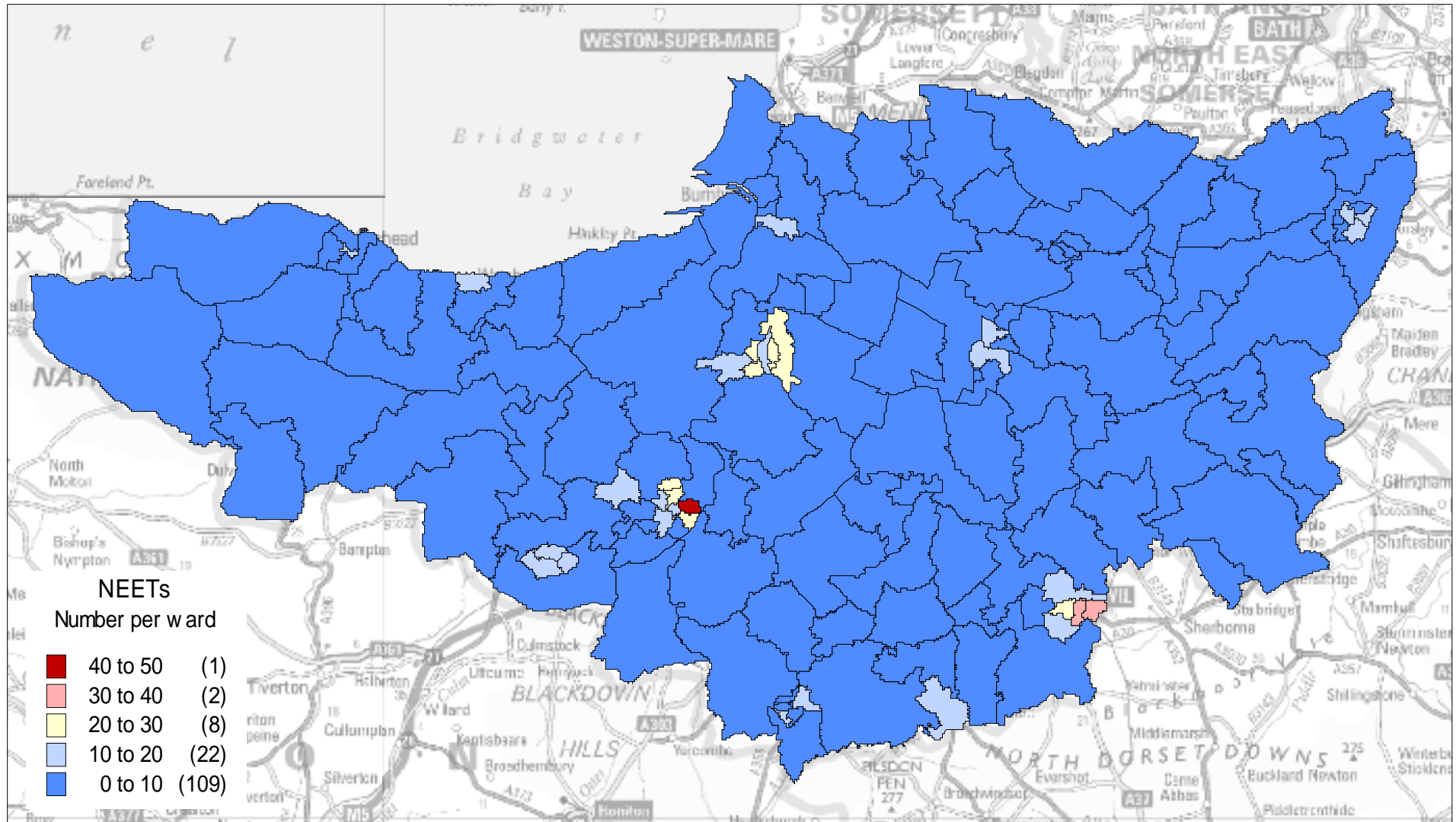
	September 2009			Change in the Year	
	16-18 year olds in learning	16-18 total cohort	% in learning	% in learning September 2008	% change in year
Somerset	14,846	17,507	84.8	82.7	2.6
South West	118,571	172,886	68.6	65.4	4.9
England	1,133,386	1,779,559	63.7	59.8	6.5

Table 39: County NEET Figures

	November 2009	December 2009	January 2010	Average
	% NEET	% NEET	% NEET	% NEET
Somerset	4.6	4.4	4.1	4.4
Mendip	5.0	4.9	4.2	4.7
South Somerset	4.5	4.2	4.1	4.3
Sedgemoor	4.3	4.3	4.0	4.2
Taunton	4.9	4.7	4.7	4.8
West Somerset	4.1	4.2	3.4	3.9

In terms of geographical profile, the largest number of NEETs (as at July 2009) were situated within the Taunton Halcon ward (50 in total) (see Figure 25 below). At the small area level, the largest number of NEETs were to be found within the Lower Super Output Areas of Taunton Deane (Taunton Halcon North) (23 in total) and Taunton Deane (Taunton Halcon West) (18).

Figure 25: Number of NEETS by ward (July 2009)



Source: Connexions Somerset

Table 40: Take up of 14-19 Learning Diplomas

LA Name	All Diploma Learners	Proportion of learners by line of learning				
		Construction and the Built Environment	Creative Media	Engineering	IT	Society, Health and Development
Somerset	69	0	100	0	0	0
Shropshire	16	0	0	0	100	0
Gloucestershire	17	0	0	0	100	0
Suffolk	36	0	0	100	0	0
Dorset	78	41	35	0	24	0
Wiltshire	114	10	71	19	0	0
Cornwall	140	0	100	0	0	0
Norfolk	226	66	34	0	0	0
East Sussex	325	18	22	15	45	0

Somerset performed better than expected in securing approval to offer diplomas. Following Gateway 4, the county is now very well placed to offer a range of diplomas across the county from September 2011.

Higher education

Tellus 4 (2009) results indicated that only 52% of young people questioned think they will go on to university/higher education in the future, in comparison to 62% nationally. This may be, in part, due to the fact that there is currently no university within Somerset.

Narrowing the Gap

NI 45: Engagement by young people who offend in suitable education training and employment

This National Indicator relates to the proportion of young people supervised by Youth Offending Teams who are actively engaged in suitable full-time education, training or employment. The performance on this measure has improved dramatically over the past year with the introduction of the team from Connexions into the YOT.

The expectation for 2009/10 was that 78% of young people should be on full-time education, training or employment at the end of their order with the YOT. The result was that 79.3% were in full-time education, training or employment. This is an improvement from the previous year and the result is better than that of England as a whole (73.3%). The target for this financial year (2010/11) is 81%.

NI 148: Care leavers in education, employment or training

Performance against this indicator was disappointing for 2008/09, at 56.4% - behind the national (63.0%) and statistical neighbour (65.8%) averages.

For 2009/10, 71.1% of care leavers in Somerset were in education, employment or training; an improvement of 14.7% when compared to the previous year.

NI 79: Achievement of a Level 2 qualification by the age of 19

Performance in relation to NI 79 has shown a steady increase. For the 2006/07 AY, this figure stood at 75.3%, increasing to 76.7% for 2007/08 and is now showing as 77.6% for the 2008/09 AY. This is higher than the national average of 75.9%.

NI 80: Achievement of a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19

Performance in relation to NI 80 stands at 52.5% for the 2008/09 AY.

NI 81: Inequality gap in the achievement of a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19

Somerset's performance in relation to NI 81 is behind the national average of 24.6% for the 2008/09 AY, at 31.5%, making it a key area for attention.

Child Poverty

Significant progress has been made nationally in tackling child poverty over the last decade. However, it is clear that further action is needed if the 2020 vision and targets, now set in legislation in the Child Poverty Act 2010, are to be met. The Child Poverty Act introduces new duties on local authorities and their named partner authorities to cooperate to put in place arrangements to work to reduce and mitigate the effects of child poverty in their local area; to publish a local child poverty needs assessment; and to prepare a joint child poverty strategy.

NI 116: Proportion of children in poverty

NI116 has been revised to include information on the number and proportion of children living in families in receipt of out-of-work benefits and/or families whose household income is less than 60% of the median national income. Previously, the indicator measured the number of children living in families who claimed out-of-work benefits. Covering both in-work and out-of-work families, the revised indicator gives a more comprehensive measure of the level of child poverty. Latest 2007 data from the Department for Work and Pensions indicates that 15.5% of children are living in poverty within Somerset, below the England average of 22.4% and the statistical neighbour average of 15.7%. At a district level, rates are highest within rural West Somerset and within Sedgemoor. South Somerset has the lowest proportion of children in poverty at 13.5%.

NI 118: Take up of the Childcare Element of the Working Tax Credit within Somerset

Parents in work for over 16 hours per week can claim up to 80% of their registered childcare costs through the childcare element of the working tax credit. The amount covered tapers off as the level of income increases. The purpose of this tax credit is to enable lower income families to work. Somerset has seen the second greatest improvement in the South West since the baseline date of 2004/05 (13%). The current level of take-up stands at 16.27%, below that of the national average (17.76%).

Table 41: The Childcare Element of the Working Tax Credit (2004 – 2008) – statistical neighbour comparison

Authority	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
England	14.48 %	15.85 %	16.95 %	17.76 %
Cornwall	12.32 %	13.58 %	14.62 %	15.66 %
Devon	11.88 %	13.16 %	14.61 %	15.52 %
Dorset	11.98 %	13.24 %	14.33 %	15.26 %
East Sussex	13.33 %	14.50 %	15.77 %	16.67 %
Gloucestershire	16.34 %	16.94 %	17.51 %	17.96 %
Herefordshire	14.55 %	15.74 %	16.90 %	17.90 %
Norfolk	10.33 %	11.52 %	12.76 %	13.47 %
Shropshire	13.77 %	15.26 %	16.84 %	17.46 %
Somerset	12.85 %	14.13 %	15.52 %	16.27 %
Suffolk	10.85 %	12.06 %	12.79 %	13.72 %
Wiltshire	14.92 %	16.01 %	17.25 %	18.48 %

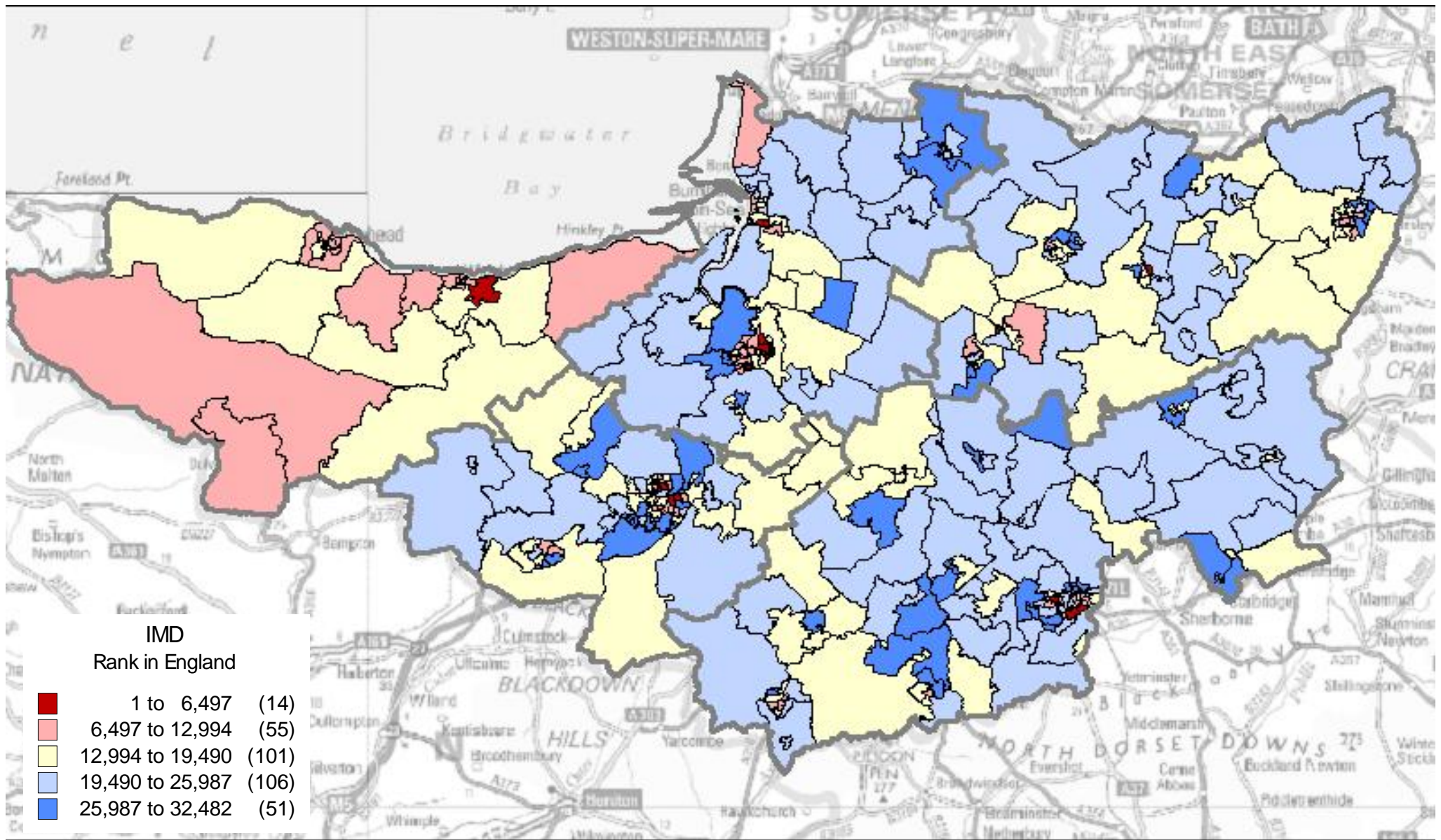
Table 42: The Childcare Element of the Working Tax Credit 2007/08

Rank	Authority	Families receiving Working Tax Credit & Child Tax Credit or Child Tax Credit above the Family Element	Families benefiting from help with childcare costs	The number of working families benefiting from the childcare element of Working Tax Credit as a percentage of the number of working families receiving more than the Family Element of Child Tax Credit
	England	1937.03	344.03	17.76%
1	Wiltshire	15.48	2.86	18.48%
2	Gloucestershire	19.99	3.59	17.96%
3	Herefordshire	7.27	1.30	17.90%
4	Shropshire	10.94	1.91	17.46%
5	East Sussex	18.18	3.03	16.67%
6	Somerset	20.84	3.39	16.27%
7	Cornwall	24.40	3.82	15.66%
8	Devon	30.34	4.71	15.52%
9	Dorset	13.89	2.12	15.26%
10	Suffolk	25.15	3.45	13.72%
11	Norfolk	32.23	4.34	13.47%

Indices of Deprivation

The Indices of Deprivation (ID) 2007 published by the Department of Communities and Local Government, present the deprivation scores and ranks for 32,482 Lower Super Output Areas in England. There are seven domain indices: Income; Employment; Health Deprivation and Disability; Education, Skills and Training; Barriers to Housing and Services; Living Environment; and Crime. The overall Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) is made up of the seven domain indices and measures multiple deprivation. According to the IMD 2007, few areas within Somerset have high levels of multiple deprivation. Only two areas rank amongst the top 10% most deprived areas in England: Sedgemoor 008C (Bridgwater Sydenham Central), and Taunton Deane 009E (Taunton Halcon North). Figure 26 illustrates the pattern of deprivation in Somerset according to the IMD 2007. As can be seen, the highest concentrations of deprivation are located within areas of Taunton, Bridgwater and Yeovil. In addition, there are pockets of multiple deprivation in the market towns of Highbridge, Glastonbury, Williton and Shepton Mallet. (Source: *Local Area Profile for YP Needs Assessment, 2009*)

Figure 26: Index of multiple deprivation 2007 – LSOA Level



Child Wellbeing Index

The Child Wellbeing Index, published by the Department of Communities and Local Government in January 2009, represents the first attempt to create a small area index exclusively for children in England. Child wellbeing is generally represented by how children are doing in a number of different domains in their life. Each of the Local Authorities and 32,482 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in England have assigned a score and rank for the Child Wellbeing Index and seven domain indices.

At the Local Authority level, Somerset ranks highly for all of the domains (see Table 43 below). In the overall Child Wellbeing Index, it ranks as the 37th highest Local Authority in the country, out of 149, for child wellbeing.

However, the Local Authority average scores and ranks mask some significant variations in levels of child wellbeing across Somerset's local areas. There are two areas in particular that perform poorly for child wellbeing in Somerset: Sedgemoor 008C (Bridgwater Sydenham Central), which ranks amongst the lowest 4% in England, and Taunton Deane 004A (Taunton Lyngford Central), which ranks amongst the lowest 10%. In total, 14 areas rank amongst the 20% lowest in England for child wellbeing. These areas are located within Bridgwater, Taunton, Yeovil and Highbridge.

Table 43: Child Wellbeing Index 2009 Local Authority Rank

	Somerset Rank (Out of 149)
Child Wellbeing Index	37
Domains:	
• Material Wellbeing	30
• Health and Disability	41
• Education	56
• Crime	27
• Housing	68
• Environment	63
• Children in Need	30

Housing and Homelessness

The 2009 Comprehensive Area Assessment for Somerset highlighted housing as a significant concern for the county, revealing that 'there is a serious shortage of homes which Somerset people can afford'. The average house price in Somerset was £205,733 in the last quarter of 2009, compared to £173,404 in the South West and £223,986 nationally. Within the county, West Somerset district has the highest average house prices. It is the only one of Somerset's districts to have a proportion of unfit dwelling stock which is greater than the national average. Sedgemoor is the most affordable place to live in Somerset, with an average house price of £188,384, and an affordability index above the national average.

The Choice Based Letting service was set up countywide to give local people a bigger choice of homes to rent in a wider area and helps the councils within Somerset to make the best use of the homes available. Whilst the county is good at preventing people from becoming homeless, the numbers of people who live in temporary accommodation in some areas remains high.

A key focus for Somerset is ensuring that care leavers are placed in suitable accommodation in order to improve their life chances. The percentage of care leavers aged 19 living in suitable accommodation stood at 89.1% for 2008/09, narrowly below the national average and also lower than that of our statistical neighbours (90.3%). The range of accommodation available to care leavers aged 16 and 17 is improving, but for those post-18 there are some young people for whom there are few options. Relationships continue to be built with District Councils, Housing Associations and private sector landlords. Meetings have been held with the Supporting People Team and joint initiatives are being developed to improve the housing options available for over 18s.

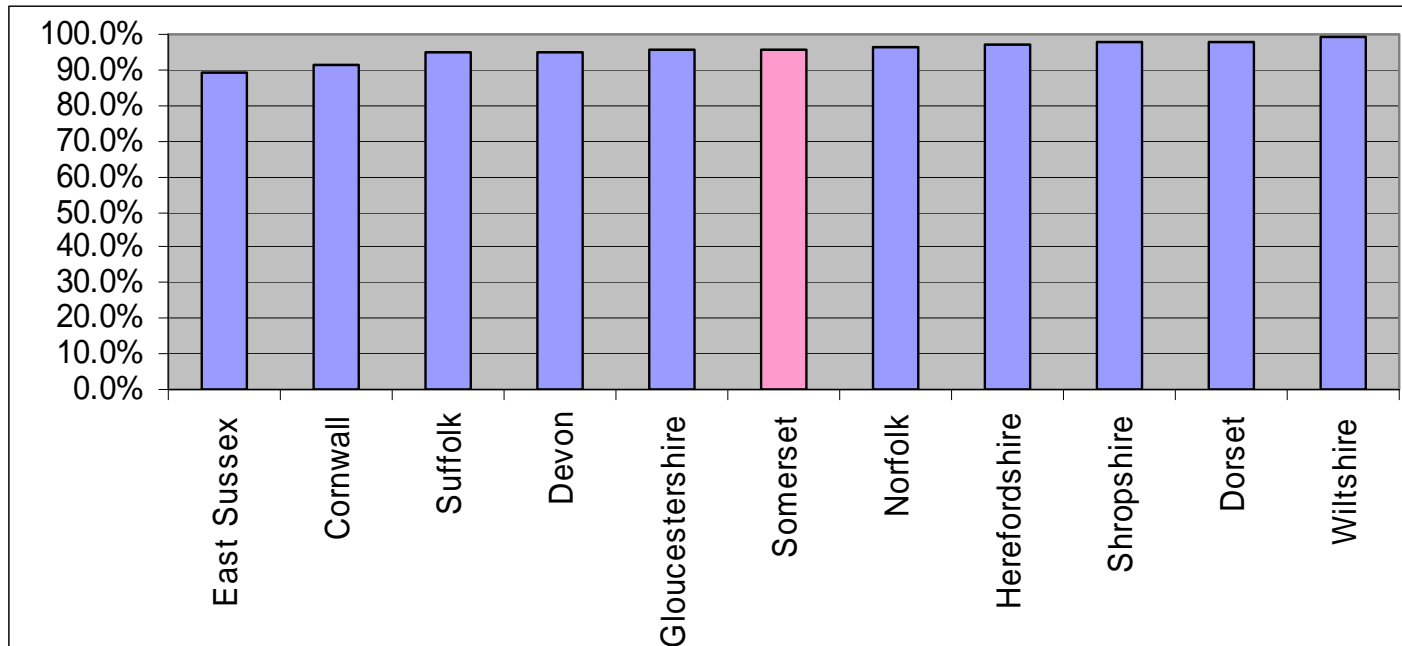
Narrowing the Gap

NI 46: Young offenders access to suitable accommodation

Somerset continues to perform well in relation to NI 46, with 95% of young offenders in suitable accommodation at the end of their order.

As of April 2010, this National Indicator is no longer being reported on, as it has been dropped as part of the *Putting the Frontline First: Smarter Government* initiative.

Figure 27: Percentage of young offenders with access to suitable accommodation – statistical neighbour comparison 2008/09



NI 147: Care leavers in suitable accommodation**Table 44: Care Leavers in Suitable Accommodation**

	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
Somerset	88.6%	93.1%	89.1%	97.4%
National Average	87.3%	88.4%	89.6%	-
Stat Neighbour Average	91.3%	93.8%	90.3%	-

A key focus for Somerset is ensuring that care leavers are placed in suitable accommodation in order to improve their life chances. The percentage of care leavers aged 19 living in suitable accommodation stood at 97.4% for 2009/10 (an 8.3% improvement when compared to 2008/09). At the time of writing, benchmarking data detailing the national average and that of the county's statistical neighbours was not yet available. A joint commissioning project is underway focused on further improving accommodation and support for 16/17 year old homeless young people and care leavers.

Implications of Southwark Judgement:

Under the 1989 Children Act, the Local Authority has a duty to provide help for families in order to promote the welfare of children/young people who are in need. Children/young people in need are those whose health and welfare may suffer significantly without support. Young people can be in need for a number of reasons, ranging from their families having temporary difficulties preventing them from coping, to them being at risk of abuse or neglect from which they require protection. Whatever the reason, in promoting the welfare of children in need, we seek to work in partnership with parents in coming to any decision about the young persons care.

If a young person who is over 16 presents as homeless Children's Social Care have a duty to accommodate that young person **unless**:

1. That young person is not homeless because they can reasonably be expected to return home.
2. That young person does not want to be accommodated as a Child in Care, which incorporates the full CiC process, including CiC reviews etc.
3. That young person has been living independently without anyone caring/taking parental responsibility for him/her.

With regard to 2 and 3, homeless 16 and 17 year olds would have priority under the homeless legislation (by virtue of Article 3 of the Homeless Priority Need for Accommodation (England) Order 2002) and can be referred to the housing department under Part 7 of the Housing Act 1996.

Achieving Economic Wellbeing Summary

Strengths

- NEET figures within Somerset are amongst the lowest in the country at 4.4% (2009/10), despite the national rise in NEETs as a result of rising youth unemployment due to the current economic climate;
- The 2009 September Guarantee of a learning opportunity to all 16 and 17 year olds in Somerset surpassed last year's performance and compare favourably with national and regional percentages;
- 2007 data from the Department for Work and Pensions indicates that 15.5% of children are living in poverty within Somerset (*dependent on out of work benefits*). Whilst this is below the England average of 22.4% and the statistical neighbour average of 15.7%, reducing child poverty remains a priority area for the county.

Areas for development

- The proportion of care leavers engaged in education, employment or training was behind the national average and that of the county's statistical neighbours for 2008/09 (*2009/10 data shows an improvement of 14.7%*);
- The current level of take-up of the Childcare element of the Working Tax Credit stands at 16.3%, below the national average of 17.76% (2007/08);
- Whilst the range of accommodation available to care leavers aged 16-17 is improving, more work needs to be done in improving the housing options available to over 18s within Somerset;
- The implications of the Southwark Law Lords Judgement are likely to provide an added pressure on services within the county.

Links / Sources

BEING HEALTHY

BEING HEALTHY	
2009 Health Profile - Somerset	Contact:
Annual Public Health Report 2008/09 (The health and wellbeing of children and young people in Somerset)	Contact: Trudi Grant
Annual Report Child Death Overview Panel (2008/09)	Contact: Kate Gates
Teenage Pregnancy Dataset and Reports	Contact: Julie Husband
Somerset Teenage Pregnancy website	Contact: Julie Husband
Somerset Young People's Substance Misuse Needs Assessment – November 2009	Contact: Amanda Payne
Local Alcohol Profiles for England	
Somerset Tier 1/2 CAMHS Needs Assessment – April 2009	Contact: Sue Singleton
Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) – October 2008	Contact: Caroline Gamlin
STAYING SAFE	
Children's Social Care Profile Pack	
Aiming High	
Somerset Community Safety Strategic Assessment (January 2010)	Contact: Lucy Macready
SEN Profile	Contact: Jon Padfield
ENJOYING AND ACHIEVING	
School Population Forecast	
School Census	
Somerset Children's Centre Profiles	
MAKING A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION	
ACHIEVING ECONOMIC WELLBEING	
Local Authority Area 14-19 Data Pack, December 2009	
Somerset 14-19 County and Area Profiles	Contact: Nicky Turner, PMIT
SERVICE MANAGEMENT	
Somerset Intelligence Network (SINe)	Contact: JGamon@somerset.gov.uk
Somerset Local Area Profile (for Somerset Young People's Substance Misuse Needs Assessment 2009)	Contact: Amanda Payne (DAAT)
The State of Somerset: An economic, social and environmental audit of Somerset (February 2010)	Contact: Local Futures Group, London
Direct Gov One Place website	
Somerset Children and Young People's Plan	Contact: Caroline Fry
Children and Young People's Directorate Performance and Management Information Team Active Site	Contact: Malcolm Riches
Children and Young People's Workforce Development Strategy – Consultation Report	Contact: Vicky Thomas
'Have Your Say Too' – Somerset Children's Fund Consultation (February 2008)	Contact: Barnados South West
Somerset Children's Trust website	Contact: Caroline Fry

For further information, please contact:

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