

# **Management Committee**

## **11 July 2017**

### **Multiple Deprivation Areas in the Borough - The Working with You Initiative**

#### **For Decision**

#### **Portfolio Holder(s)/ Briefholder**

Councillor Christine James, Social Inclusion

#### **Senior Leadership Team Contact:**

S Hill, Strategic Director

#### **Report Author:**

Jane Nicklen, Community Planning & Development Manager

#### **Statutory Authority**

The Localism Act, 2011 1972 and any other relevant statutory powers as applicable to specific projects relating to addressing deprivation factors.

#### **Purpose of Report**

1. To update the committee on the areas of multiple deprivation in the Borough and the Working with You initiative and to agree the extension of targeted activity to the Weymouth East ward.

#### **Recommendations**

2. Members are recommended to:
  - a. Approve officer support for the continuation of the Working with You initiative project in the priority areas of Littlemoor, Melcombe Regis, Underhill and Westham and to approve the publication of project updates for these areas.
  - b. Approve the extension of activity to include the Weymouth East ward, Local Super Output area of Rodwell and Chapelhay.

#### **Reason for Decision**

3. To ensure awareness of multiple deprivation in the Borough, to explain trends and to outline the community and multi-agency action that addresses the issues.

## Background and Reason Decision Needed

4. The Borough of Weymouth and Portland has featured in the English Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) since it was first published by the Government in 1997. The IMD provides a reliable national comparison that is well respected in funding bids and that is also useful to target resources and funds locally.

The IMD covers 7 domains of deprivation against which each area is assessed. These are:

- Income
- Employment
- Health Deprivation and Disability
- Education, skills and training
- Barriers to housing and services
- Crime
- Living Environment

The 2007 IMD included 8 Local Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in the Borough. These are areas smaller than a ward with an average population of about 3,000 residents. For example, the Melcombe Regis ward has 4 LSOAs – the Town Centre, Park District, Carlton Road and Lodmoor Hill.

5. The Index of Multiple Deprivation was refreshed in 2010 and also in 2015. In the five period between these publications there has been very little change in geographical areas of concern in the Borough with Littlemoor, Melcombe Regis, Underhill and Westham consistently featuring in the top 20% most deprived nationally. Appendix 1 shows where these wards feature in the national Index of Multiple Deprivation for 2015 when 9 Borough LSOAs (marked in red) feature in the top 20% most deprived nationally.
6. Appendix 2 shows the changes that have occurred in Weymouth and Portland between the Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2010 and 2015. The index is arranged so that the lower the figure, the more deprived an area is i.e. 1 is the most deprived, 1,000+ less deprived and so on.

Whilst some changes are subtle it is worth noting that:

- Littlemoor ward ranking has declined in the overall IMD – from 3044<sup>th</sup> to 2187<sup>th</sup> nationally.
- In Melcombe Regis the Local Super Output areas of the Park District has improved from 3548<sup>th</sup> to 4378<sup>th</sup> nationally. However the Town Centre and Carlton Road have declined:
  - Town Centre from 1721<sup>st</sup> to 1673<sup>rd</sup> nationally.
  - Carlton Road from 2128<sup>th</sup> to 2005 nationally
- Underhill ward ranking has markedly declined. The deprivation ranking has changed from 2386<sup>th</sup> to 1564<sup>th</sup> nationally. The key changes are to the deprivation indicators in the Local Super Output Area of Fortuneswell North.

- Westham East ward has improved its ranking slightly from 5117<sup>th</sup> to 5740<sup>th</sup> nationally.
  - Westham North ward ranking has declined from 3813<sup>rd</sup> to 3434<sup>th</sup> nationally.
  - Weymouth East ward has declined in its deprivation ranking from 4206<sup>th</sup> to 3694<sup>th</sup> nationally. The key changes are to the deprivation indicators in the Local Super Output Area of Rodwell and Chapelhay.
7. The Borough has experienced and continues to experience significant deprivation especially in comparison with the rest of Dorset. There are 12 areas in the county within the top 20% most deprived nationally for multiple deprivation and, of these, 9 are in the Borough.

### **Income & Employment**

Weymouth and Portland residence-based weekly earnings are £488 per week compared to £541 for Great Britain. 9 of the 12 neighbourhoods in Dorset in the most deprived 20% nationally for employment are in Weymouth and Portland.

### **Child Poverty**

Child poverty is assessed through income, disadvantage, life chances, hardship and lack of opportunity. A total of 2360 children in Weymouth and Portland, almost 1 in 4 live in poverty accounting for 25% of the Dorset total. The Borough has the third highest level s of child poverty in the south west. Almost half of children in Underhill ward live in poverty.

### **Health Deprivation & Disability**

The health of people in Weymouth and Portland is varied compared with the England average.

- 9% of Weymouth and Portland residents claim Disability Living Allowance compared to the 7% Dorset average.
- Life expectancy is 9.4 years lower for men and 5.9 years lower for women in the most deprived areas of the Borough compared to the least deprived areas.
- An estimated 23.9% of adults in the Borough smoke and 25.9% are obese.
- In Year 6, 17.2% of children are classified as obese just slightly lower than the England average.
- The rates of sexually transmitted infections, hospital stays for self-harm and drug misuse is greater than the England average.
- Key issues of concern are anxiety, depression, dementia care, smoking, type 2 diabetes, circulatory conditions and harm from road traffic conditions.

### **Crime**

1 in 8 (13% of Dorset total) of all anti-social behaviour incidents in Dorset occurs in Melcombe Regis. Weymouth and Portland has the highest crime total in the county. Violence against the person is twice the rate in Weymouth and Portland than for Dorset. Substance abuse and rough sleeping are also issues of concern in the Borough.

### **Education, Skills and training**

29% of Dorset's Job Seekers Allowance claimants are aged between 16 and 64 and the number of young claimants is increasing with short term claimants from Weymouth and Portland contributing most to this increase because of seasonal employment. The working population is aging and those aged 50+ are more likely to lack qualifications. Reskilling is important for those staying in work longer with an increased demand on numeric and IT skills. Young people need the skills to match job opportunities and quality apprenticeships are required locally.

### **Living Environment**

The living environment domain of the IMD assesses the immediate surroundings within and outside the home. The priority areas in the wards with most environmental issues are in Melcombe Regis LSOAs of the Town Centre, Carlton Road, Park District, Underhill ward LSOA Fortuneswell South and Westham East ward, LSOA of Knightsdale Road.

8. The council has a key role in promoting and facilitating the wellbeing of its residents bringing partners and residents to the table to work together. The Working with You community-centred initiative was launched in 2013 to promote this way of working and was originally managed by Weymouth and Portland Partnership. The communities work of the Partnership has now been taken over by the Community Planning and Development Team of the council.

“Working with You” is a way of collaborative working in the priority areas of the Borough. It puts communities at the heart of partnership working practice by working closely with them to ensure that their priorities and those identified through partners and statistical data are brought together, drilled down and jointly agreed before projects are developed to address them.

“Working with You” aims to deliver positive area improvements, build trust and respect between communities and service delivery organisations, build community capacity and address the financial “pinch” experienced by organisations through combining resources and building strong and sustainable communities.

The Working with You principles are:

- To improve the quality of life in all communities concentrating initially on areas facing multiple challenges.
- To deliver positive action.
- To place communities at the heart of partnership working practice.
- To encourage collaborative working at all levels and to achieve more through co-ordinated action.

9. Since inception, Working with You has run community events to identify and update community priorities, themed professional networking events and produced, circulated and updated project action plans for the four priority areas of the Borough. The project updates identify actions being undertaken or planned by partners to tackle deprivation indicators in the Borough. This helps to reduce duplication, promotes co-ordinated working and also identifies where gaps in activity exist so these can be addressed.

10. The council's community development team has produced project updates for the wards of Littlemoor, Melcombe Regis, Underhill and Westham and these are available in the Member's Room, will be placed on Dorsetfor you and are available on request. There is also a project update covering projects that are taking place in all four areas. It should be noted that the content of these updates is reliant upon information provided by partners which is not always forthcoming.
11. Issues surrounding mental health support in the area have been highlighted by many partner agencies and the team are working with various agencies to help identify gaps in service through a multi-agency workshop that is being planned with partners from public health and the locality Clinical Commissioning Group. Co-ordinating work on deprivation is an important aspect of the council's social responsibility role.
12. Officers are seeking approval to extend this way of working to Weymouth East ward concentrating primarily on the Rodwell and Chapelhay LSOA. This is because this neighbourhood features in the most recent national Index of Multiple Deprivation and has shown a decline between 2010 and 2015. More concentrated efforts are also required to address the problems on the LSOA of Fortuneswell North in Underhill ward on Portland. Appendix 2 acts as a reference source for this request.

## **Implications**

### **8. Corporate Plan**

This report has implications for all priorities in the Corporate Plan.

### **9. Financial**

Allocation of council resources in relation to projects listed in this report is not quantified

### **10. Equalities**

Action to address the Indices of Multiple Deprivation will have a positive impact in relation to local people with protected characteristics under The Equality Act, 2010.

### **11. Environmental**

Action to address positive improvements to the living environments in areas of multiple deprivation will deliver positive improvements to the health and wellbeing of local residents.

### **13. Economic Development**

Action to address economic wellbeing including the provision of a year round economy and improved education, skills and training will deliver positive benefits for Borough residents.

### **14. Human Resources**

Work relating to this report is undertaken within existing staff resources.

### **15. Consultation and Engagement**

Consultation that has informed this report is as follows:

- Community consultations for residents in the priority areas in 2013

- Community lunches for volunteers from local community and voluntary groups and organisations, (139 people), held in each priority area in 2014 and more recently on:
  - July 2016 at Weymouth Community Safety Centre in Westham – 57 attendees
  - February 2017 at St Aldem’s Church Hall – 43 attendees
  - May 2017 at St Aldem’s Church Hall – 36 attendees
- Professional networking events on themes effecting the priority areas:
  - January 2015 (Introduction to programme) – 53 attendees)
  - November 2015 (environmental and community work) projects – 57 attendees
  - February 2016 (young people’s mental health, legal highs prevention and awareness) – 54 attendees
  - March 2016 (self harming and mental health in young people/Prevent) – 40 attendees
  - May 2016 (health and wellbeing) – 57 attendees
  - September 2016 (Evaluation event)– 37 attendees
  - February 2017 (community life) – 37 attendees

These activities have informed working practice and provide evidence of the key themes of importance and work focus in the Borough.

## 16. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Map of Multiple Deprivation in Weymouth and Portland, Index of Multiple Deprivation, 2015

Appendix 2 – Weymouth wards and Local Super Output area in the top 20% most deprived nationally over all and by domain

## 14 Background Papers

- Working with You project updates, 2017
- Dorset statistics on Dorsetforyou at: <https://apps.geowessex.com/stats/>
- Public health England health profile for Weymouth and Portland, 2016 at: <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/health-profiles/data#page/1/ati/101/are/E07000053>
- Dorset Child Poverty Strategy 2014-2020: [https://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/media/190774/Reducing-child-poverty-in-Dorset/pdf/Reducing\\_child\\_poverty\\_in\\_Dorset.pdf](https://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/media/190774/Reducing-child-poverty-in-Dorset/pdf/Reducing_child_poverty_in_Dorset.pdf)
- Resolution Foundation, A poverty of information: <http://www.resolutionfoundation.org/app/uploads/2015/10/Child-poverty-briefing.pdf>

## Footnote

Issues relating to financial, environmental, economic and equalities implications have been considered and any information relevant to the decision is included within the report.

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