

Wokingham Borough Profile 2017/18

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Public Health Intelligence

This document is part of a suite of Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) documents. The others are:

Starting Well, Developing Well, Living and Working Well, Ageing Well and Places.

In addition there are three specific JSNA sections on the 3 Health and Wellbeing Priorities:

Reducing Social Isolation and Loneliness, Creating Physically Active Communities, Narrowing the Health Inequalities Gap

Early in 2019 an overarching summary JSNA report will be published.

1. Key messages

- Wokingham is an affluent borough, the least deprived borough in England, with a population of about 165,000.
- The population structure is somewhat different to the English age distribution. Currently there are fewer under 5s, but a marked increase in the number of children aged 5 – 9 years. This higher proportion, although smaller in magnitude, continues through the teenage years. This difference in year cohorts in children makes planning for school places challenging. The challenge will continue over the next decade as over 10,000 new households will be added to the population, many of which will be having children in numbers that are difficult to predict, as it will vary with the proportion of “family homes” developed.
- Post 18 the situation changes dramatically – the proportion of the population in their twenties and thirties is much lower than the England distribution. There are probably two main drivers for this – young adults leaving the borough to pursue Higher Education and entry level jobs elsewhere and the cost of housing being so high that people early in their career cannot afford to live in the borough.
- In middle age, we see another “bulge”, relatively more people in this age group, presumably as wealthier people move in, and local who have moved out come back when they can better afford to.
- The older age profile is similar to the England pattern.
- The population is projected to increase by roughly 1% per year, so that by 2037 it is estimated to reach 180,900.

- The greatest increase will be in the older population, specifically the over 85s.
- The population turnover in Wokingham is relatively high; in 2017 12,500 people moved in and 11,200 moved out; a 25% higher turnover rate than the England average. However there were only about 1,700 new GP registrations. 14% of the population were born outside of the UK.
- When last measured at the 2011 Census, 84% of the population were White British, with the next largest ethnic group being Asian at 7%. The highest concentration of people of Black or Minority Ethnicity (BME) is in those wards bordering Reading, where there is much greater diversity. The proportion of school pupils from BME increased from 20% in 2010 to 30% in 2017.
- Residents of Wokingham Borough enjoy amongst the highest life expectancies in the country, a full 2 years extra for both women and men. However there are internal inequalities with men from the most deprived 20% living 4.5 years less than those in the least deprived. For women the gap is wider, at 5.5 years.
- Healthy life expectancy (the average number of years a person would expect to live in good health) is also significantly higher than England’s, with Wokingham having the highest female healthy life expectancy in the country at 71 years of age, and the men are only slightly behind at 70.
- These findings are incredibly significant for future planning. Rather than an ageing population being seen as a need, there will be thousands of retired people who enjoy good health who can be an asset for the community.
- There were about 1800 babies born in 2016, and the average age of the mother was 30, same as England. However the proportion

children born to “older” mothers (over 35 years) was higher in Wokingham, at 29% than the national average of 22%.

- There were about 1200 deaths in 2016, giving the borough a much lower death rate (standardised mortality rate) than England. In practice this means over 200 fewer deaths per year than would be expected for the age structure. The death rate continues to decline.
- As with the national picture, the most common group of cause of death is the cancer group at 30%, closely followed by circulatory disease.
- Individual causes of death differ for men and women, nearly a fifth of women die of dementia (including Alzheimer’s disease), while 10% of men die of this cause. Much of this difference is because women live longer, and dementia is very strongly related to age. In men the most common single cause of death is coronary heart disease (heart attack and angina). None of the other individual disease groups account for more than 10% in either sex. Public Health England estimate that mortality rates for dementia will overtake heart disease for men by 2020.
- In 2016, 576 deaths in Wokingham were considered “preventable”, which was nearly half of all deaths in that year. Obviously everybody must die eventually but these people could potentially have lived longer had their experience through their life course been different. The behaviour which could in theory be changed includes smoking, diet, alcohol (and other substance) consumption and physical activity.
- Within Wokingham there is wide variation in death rate and life expectancy.
- 41% of the life expectancy gap (of 4 and a half years for men, and 5 and a half for women) between people living in the most deprived and least deprived areas of Wokingham was due to cancer. The

second main cause for the male gap was circulatory disease at 26%, followed by digestive disease at 11%. For women, the second main cause for the gap was respiratory disease at 18%, followed by circulatory disease at 15%.

- At ward-level, Hawkedon, Finchampstead South, Swallowfield and Winnersh wards had significantly higher mortality rates than the Borough (2012-2016).
- In 2017/18, 80% of people aged 16 to 64 in Wokingham were in employment and 82% were economically active; very similar to other least deprived areas.
- Less than 5% of working age adults are claiming benefits.
- Nearly 80% of houses are owned by the occupant (outright or mortgaged). 11% are privately rented and 7% are socially rented.
- At last Census (2011) 23% of households were occupied by people living alone. Coming at it from another way 9% of the population live alone. In the over 65s about a quarter live alone. 7% of household are occupied by lone parents.
- Although the rates of people statutorily homeless and those in temporary accommodation are only about half the national rate, they risen significantly since 2012/13.

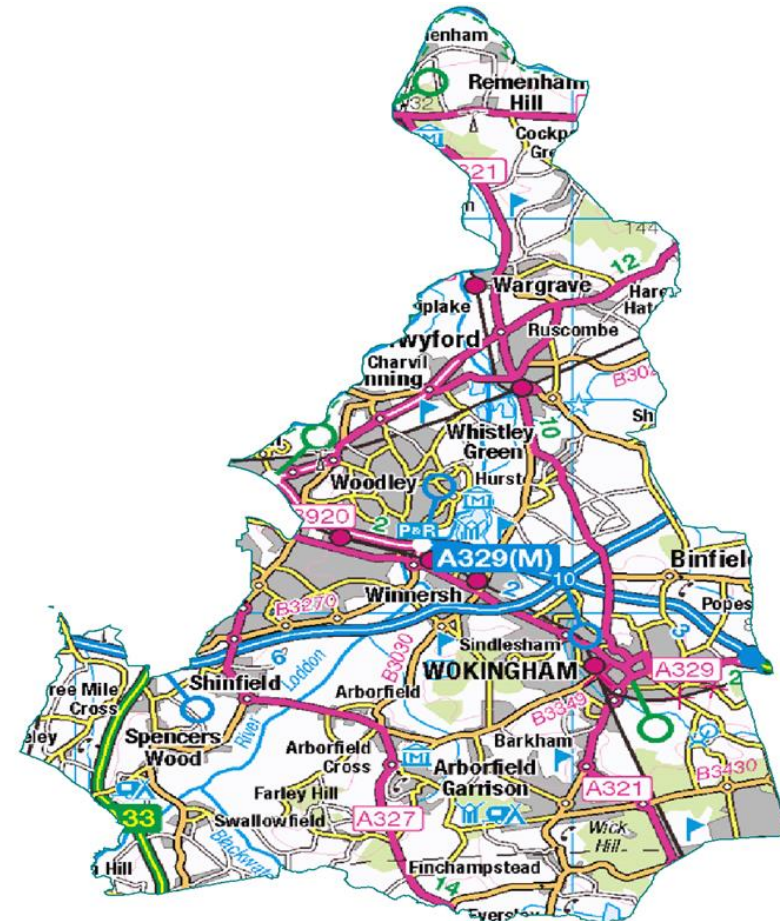
2. Introduction

Wokingham Borough is located in the centre of Berkshire and is a unitary authority based in the South-East of England. The Borough covers an area of 179 square kilometres and includes 25 electoral wards. A profile of each ward can be found at <http://jsna.wokingham.gov.uk/wokingham-borough-profile/wokingham-ward-profiles/>. The wards are further split into smaller geographical areas, or neighbourhoods, called Lower-layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs). Wokingham Borough has 99 LSOAs in total, and these lower-level geographies provide an opportunity to compare specific neighbourhoods within the Borough.

Map 1 illustrates the main towns and roads in the Borough. The Borough has one community hospital, 13 GP Practices, 24 pharmacies, 39 primary schools, 10 secondary schools and one Special Education Needs school.

Wokingham is the least deprived upper-tier authority in England and 83% of the Borough's neighbourhoods are in the least deprived 20% of the country ([Department of Communities and Local Government \(DCLG\) 2015](#)). Deprivation is recognised as one of the most influential factors on an individual's outcomes, including their health, wellbeing and ultimately life expectancy. Deprivation is not just associated with income or poverty, but can also be a measure of access to adequate education, skills and training, healthcare, housing and essential services. As Wokingham's low levels of deprivation means that the Borough would be expected to achieve higher levels of outcomes than England, this JSNA also includes a deprivation benchmark where possible. This includes 15 other local authorities that are predominantly based in the South of England and make up the 10% least deprived areas in the country.

Map 1: Wokingham Borough



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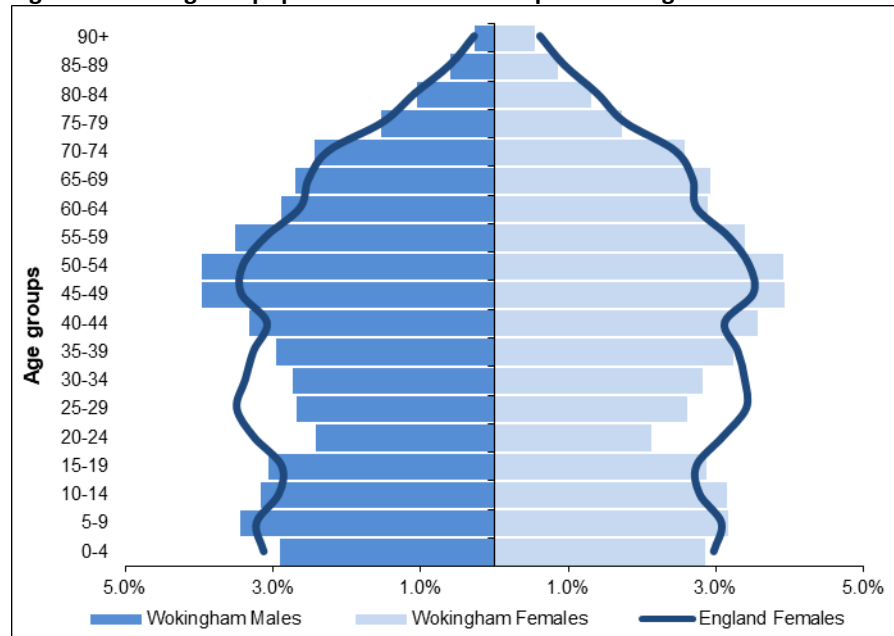
Map creator: WBC Public Health Intelligence
Date: November 2017

3. Population profile

3.1 Population structure

Wokingham Borough had an estimated population of 164,980 in 2017 ([Office for National Statistics \(ONS\) 2018c](#)). The Borough's age profile is similar to the national picture across many of the age groups, as shown in Figure 1. The largest difference is the smaller proportion of people in their 20s and early 30s in Wokingham and larger proportion of people aged 35 to 59. Wokingham's median age was 41.5 in 2017, compared to 39.8 in England.

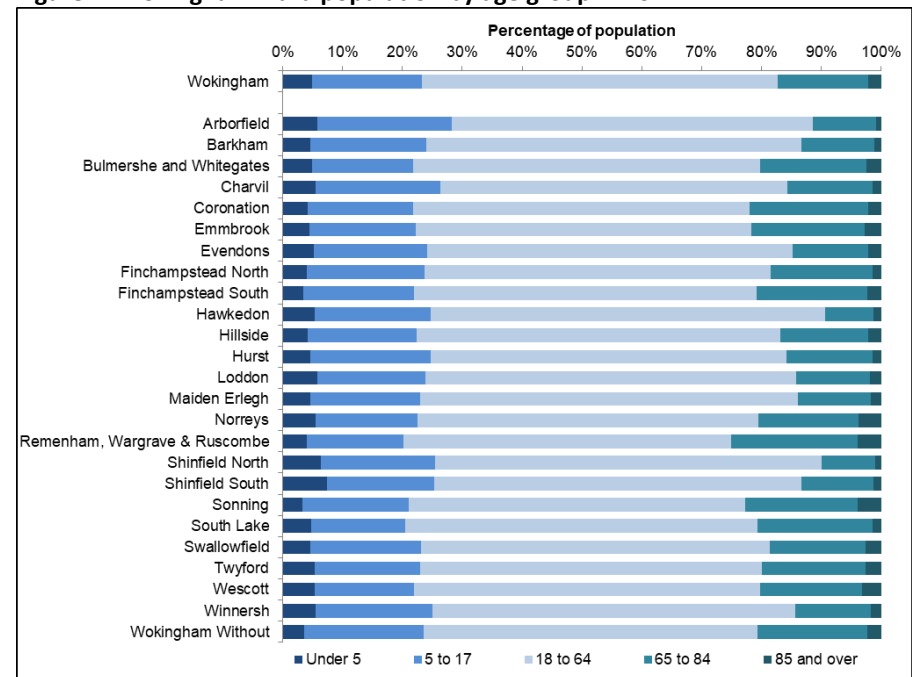
Figure 1: Wokingham population structure compared to England in 2017



Source: [Office for National Statistics \(2018c\)](#)

The age distribution within different Wokingham wards varies considerably, which will impact on the service and access needs of people living in different areas of the Borough. Figure 2 shows the age profile of the wards, highlighting the youngest and oldest age groups. Almost 25% of people living in Remenham, Wargrave & Ruscombe are aged 65 and over. In contrast, over 28% of people living in Arborfield are aged under 18.

Figure 2: Wokingham ward population by age group in 2017



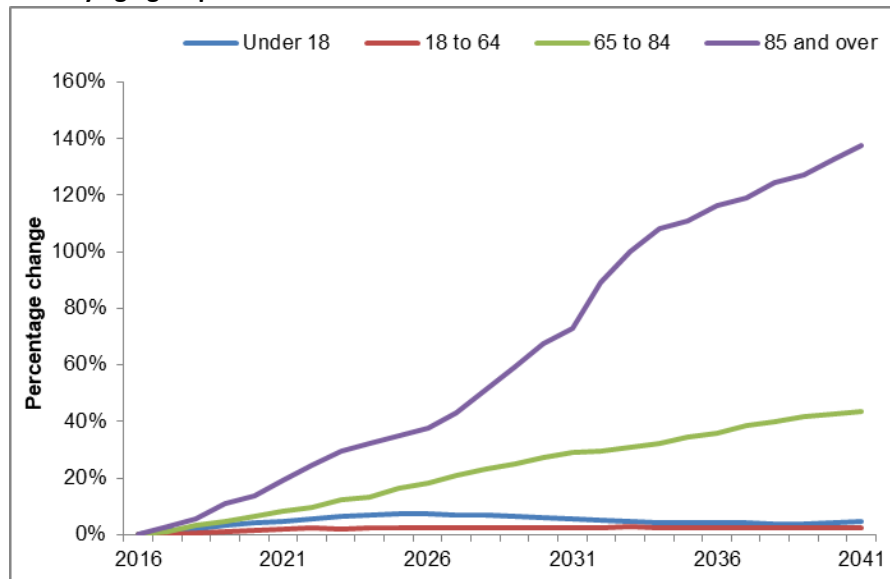
Source: [Office for National Statistics \(2018c\)](#)

The Borough's population is getting older with 18% of the population aged 65 and over in 2017, compared to 14% in 2007. This age group is expected to increase to 20% of Wokingham's population in 2027 and 23% in 2037 ([ONS 2018d](#)).

Wokingham's total population has increased by over 8% in the last 10 years (2007 to 2017) and is expected to reach 180,900 by 2037. This is an increase of nearly 10% on 2017's estimated population figures ([ONS 2018d](#)). The Borough's population has increased through natural change (more births than deaths), international migration and internal migration from other areas of England. More information about migration in Wokingham is included in section 2.3. It is important to note that population projection estimates do not include any increases from planned housing developments. It is therefore likely that Wokingham's population projections will be an underestimate, due to the significant number of new dwellings built and planned in recent years.

Figure 3 shows the estimated population change in Wokingham by age group from 2016 to 2041.

Figure 3: Percentage change in Wokingham resident population from 2016 to 2041 by age group



Source: [Office for National Statistics \(2018d\)](#)

In 2017, Wokingham Borough's population density was 922 people per square kilometre. This number has continued to increase since 2003, when there were 831 people per square kilometre ([ONS 2018c](#)). The Borough is more densely populated than England overall's figure of 424 per square kilometre.

Levels of population density vary across the Borough ([ONS 2017c](#)). A neighbourhood in Hawkedon ward has the highest density in Wokingham at 7,310 people per square kilometre. Other areas with significantly higher density include neighbourhoods within Loddon and Hillside wards. Remenham, Wargrave and Ruscombe ward has areas with the lowest population density in the Borough at 71 people per square kilometre.

GP registered population

There are 13 GP Practices in Wokingham. 164,433 people were registered with these Practices in December 2017, which was very similar to the Borough's resident population ([NHS Digital 2018](#)). These figures will always be slightly different as people living within Wokingham may not be registered with a GP Practice located in the Borough. In addition, people that live outside the area may be registered with Wokingham-based GP Practices. Table 1 shows the number of people registered with each of Wokingham's GP Practices in December 2017.

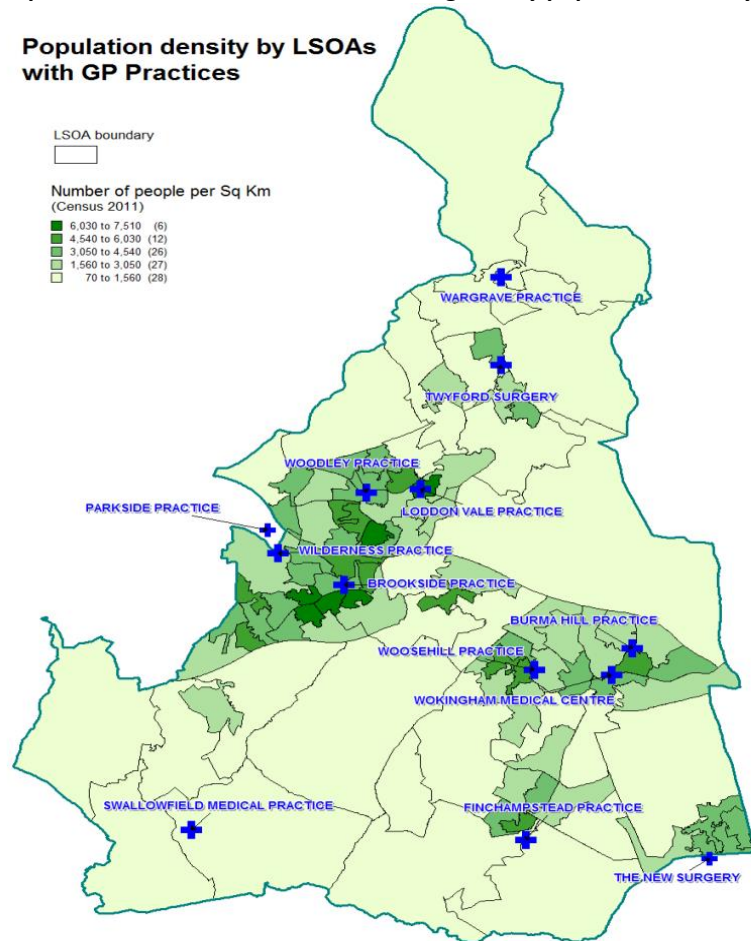
The practices are well spread geographically around the borough, although access can be difficult for those who do not have a car, as public transport, is quite limited. Map 2 shows the location of GP Practices in the Borough by population density.

Table 1: Registered population for GP Practices located in Wokingham Borough at December 2017

GP Practice	Persons
Swallowfield Medical Practice	11,852
Wokingham Medical Centre	23,262
Finchampstead Practice	15,513
Parkside Practice	14,748
Brookside Practice	26,921
Woodley Practice	12,031
Wargrave Practice	6,956
Loddon Vale Practice	15,441
Twyford Surgery	12,872
The New Surgery	7,217
Woosehill Practice	12,420
Wilderness Practice	2,237
Burma Hill Practice	2,963
Total	164,433

Source: [NHS Digital \(2018\)](#)

Map 2: Location of GP Practices in Wokingham by population density



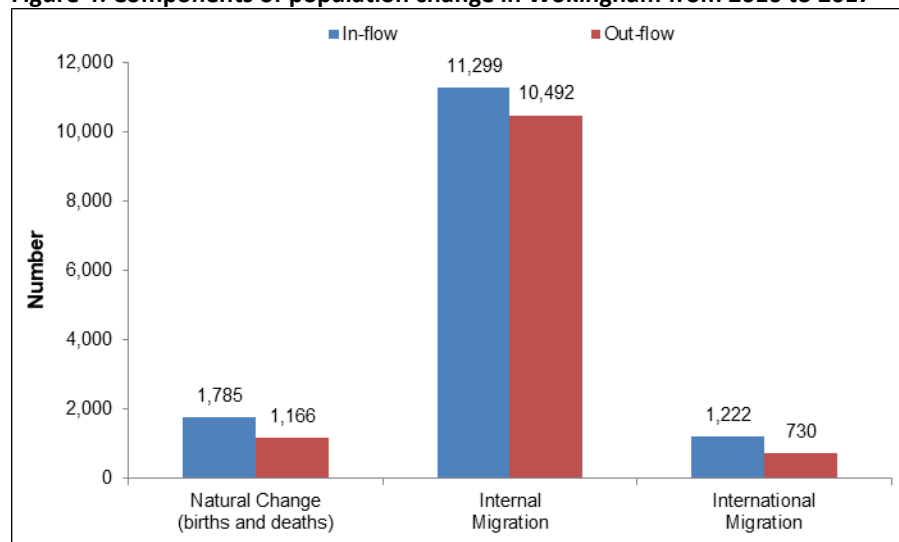
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Map creator: WBC Public Health Intelligence
Date: October 2017

3.2 Migration and mobility

In 2017, over 12,500 people moved into the Wokingham Borough, while 11,200 moved out. The main contributor to these changes was internal migration, where people move to or from other areas in the United Kingdom (ONS 2018c). Figure 4 shows the components of population change for 2016 and 2017 and how they impacted on the Borough’s overall population figures.

Figure 4: Components of population change in Wokingham from 2016 to 2017



Source: [Office for National Statistics \(2018c\)](#)

Wokingham’s population turnover from internal migration was 124 per 1,000 population in 2016, which was significantly higher than the England rate of 101 per 1,000 population. A high turnover can have an impact on provision of services and may also indicate a lack of social cohesion in an area. Higher turnover rates can also be a result of significant housing development in an area, providing an opportunity for more people to live in the Borough.

From 2016 to 2017, there were 1,679 new migrant GP registrations within Wokingham at a rate of 10 per 1,000 population (ONS 2018b). This was significantly lower than the England rate, although it has increased in recent years in line with the national picture. The number of people living in the Borough who were not born in the UK also increased to 23,000, which is 14% of the total population (ONS 2018b).

3.3 Ethnicity

The ethnicity of Wokingham Borough’s population was last calculated during the 2011 census. 11.6% of the Borough’s population were from a black or minority ethnic (BME) group in 2011, compared to 14.7% in England (ONS 2013). Table 2 provides a breakdown of Wokingham’s population by ethnic group and shows that the largest BME group in Wokingham was people from an Asian/Asian British background at 7.4%. In addition, 3.9% of the population were from white backgrounds other than British or Irish (ONS 2013).

The ethnic profile of neighbourhoods across the Borough varied in 2011, as shown in Map 3. The areas with the highest percentage of BME groups were in the west part of the Borough, bordering onto Reading. In Bulmershe and Whitegates ward, 31.6% of the population were from a BME or other minority ethnic group and 21.4% of people came from an Asian/Asian British background. Shinfield North had 30.7% of the population from a BME or other minority ethnic group, including 14.2% of people from an Asian/Asian British background. Shinfield North also had the highest proportion of people from a white background other than British and Irish (5.9%), as well as the highest proportion of people from a Black/Black British background (4.7%) (ONS 2013).

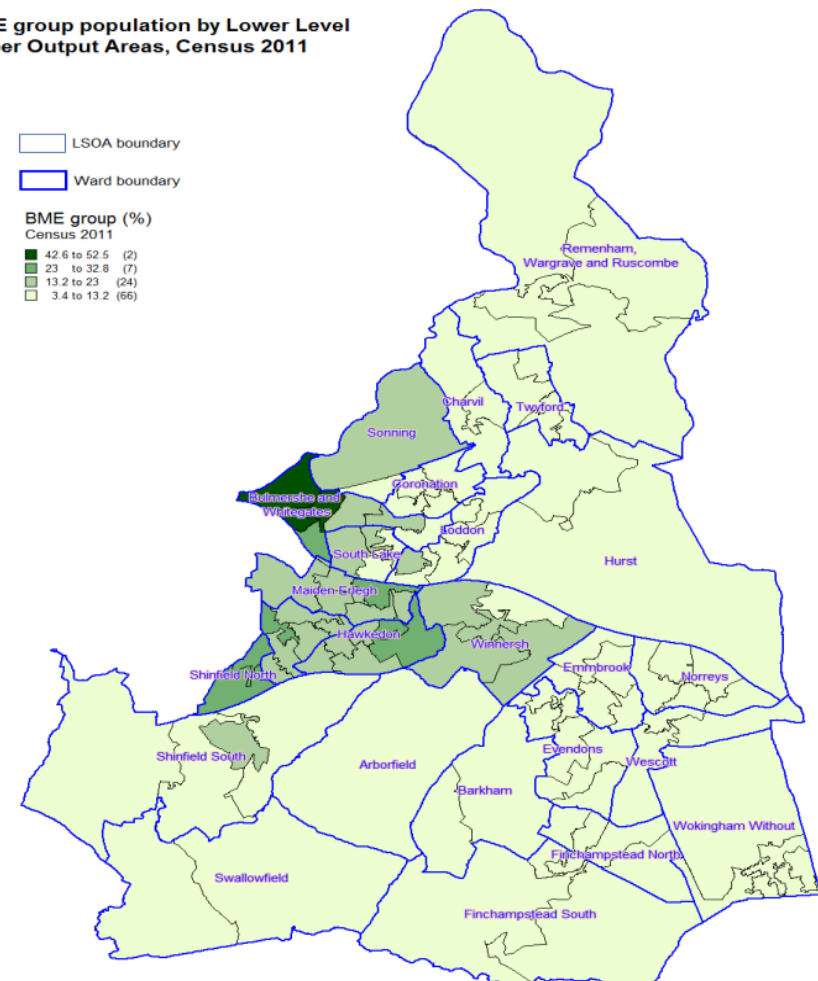
Table 2: Number of people in Wokingham by ethnic group (2011)

Ethnic Group	Number of people	Percentage of population
White	136,525	88.4%
- White: British	129,119	83.6%
- White: Irish	1,367	0.9%
- White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller	291	0.2%
- White: Other White	5,748	3.7%
Mixed/multiple ethnic groups	3,182	2.1%
- Mixed: White and Black Caribbean	890	0.6%
- Mixed: White and Black African	337	0.2%
- Mixed: White and Asian	1,273	0.8%
- Mixed: Other Mixed	682	0.4%
Asian/Asian British	11,438	7.4%
- Asian/Asian British: Indian	5,331	3.5%
- Asian/Asian British: Pakistani	2,865	1.9%
- Asian/Asian British: Bangladeshi	222	0.1%
- Asian/Asian British: Chinese	1,203	0.8%
- Asian/Asian British: Other Asian	1,817	1.2%
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British	2,093	1.4%
- Black British: African	1,203	0.8%
- Black British: Caribbean	712	0.5%
- Black British: Other Black	178	0.1%
Other ethnic group	1,142	0.7%
- Other ethnic group: Arab	500	0.3%
- Other ethnic group: Any other ethnic group	642	0.4%

Source: [Office for National Statistics \(2013\)](#)

Map 3: Proportion of Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) groups by LSOA (2011)

BME group population by Lower Level Super Output Areas, Census 2011

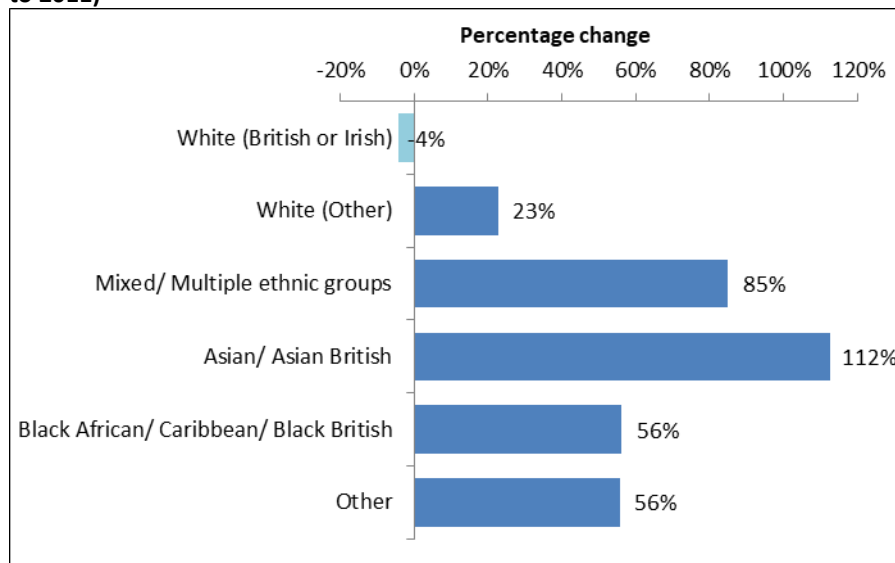


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Date: November 2017

The proportion of Wokingham’s population from minority ethnic groups has steadily increased from 2001 to 2011. While the number of people from a White British or Irish background has decreased by 4% over this time, all other ethnic groups have increased in number. The most notable is Asian/ Asian British which has increased by 112% over the 10-year period. This is shown in Figure 5.

Figure 5: Percentage change in Wokingham’s population by ethnic group (2001 to 2011)



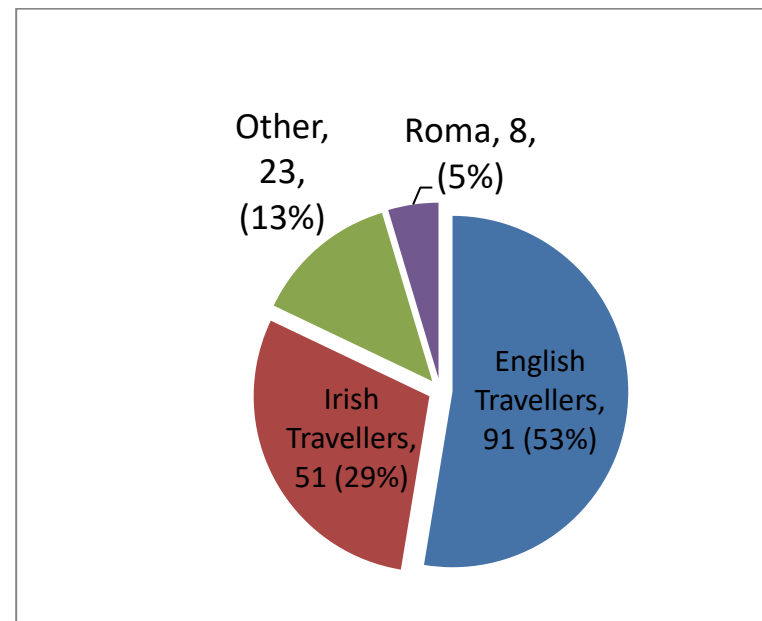
Source: [Office for National Statistics \(2013\)](#)

The proportion of school pupils from minority ethnic groups has also increased in Wokingham from 20% in 2010 to 30% in 2017 ([Department for Education 2017](#)).

Gypsy, Roma and Traveler (GRT) ethnicity is a broad concept and not all Gypsies, Roma and Travelers identify with one another and the term GRT is used to describe a diverse ethnic group and diverse lifestyles.

By their very nature they are a transient community, and difficult to quantify, but the Council monitors sites, which gives an idea of the population. In 2017 there were 29 known sites/yards containing 123 pitches. Some of the sites are occupied by a single dwelling. A snapshot count of the traveler communities was conducted in February 2018, recorded 173 people, but we know this is an underestimate. Results of the count are shown in Figure 6.

Figure 6: Distribution of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller ethnicity in Wokingham, numbers and percentage, February 2018 snapshot



Source: *Wokingham Council’s own data, unpublished*

3.4 Life expectancy

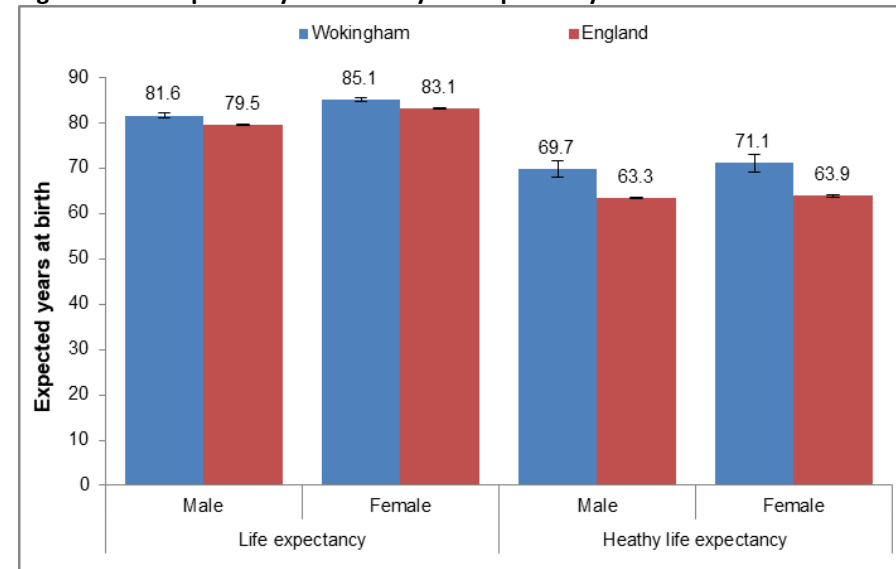
Wokingham Borough continues to have one of the highest life expectancies in England for both men and women. In 2014-16, boys born in Wokingham were expected to live to 81.6 years, which is 2.1 years longer than the national average. Girls born in Wokingham were expected to live to 85.1 years, which is 2.0 years longer than the national average ([Public Health England \(PHE\) 2018c](#)).

However, despite Wokingham being one of the least deprived local authorities in England, there are still inequalities in life expectancy within the Borough. Men living in the most deprived areas of Wokingham are expected to live 4.5 years less than those living in least deprived areas. The gap for women is higher at 5.5 years ([PHE 2018c](#)). The life expectancy gap between Wokingham's most and least deprived areas is attributable to different causes of death and this will be explored further in section 3.6.

Healthy life expectancy is a measure of the average number of years a person would expect to live in good health based on contemporary mortality rates and prevalence of self-reported good health. The Borough's healthy life expectancy is also significantly higher than England's, with Wokingham having the highest female healthy life expectancy in the country. A summary of Wokingham's life and healthy life expectancy is shown at Figure 6.

Over the last 5 years life expectancy rates have increased at a greater rate than healthy life expectancy nationally. This means that people are living more years in poor health ([PHE 2018b](#)). However, this trend is not evident in Wokingham, as the number of years in poor health has reduced over the same period. During 2014-16, boys born in Wokingham were estimated to live 12 years in poor health, compared to 16 years nationally. Girls in Wokingham were estimated to live 14 years in poor health, compared to 19 years nationally ([PHE 2018c](#)).

Figure 7: Life expectancy and healthy life expectancy at birth in 2014-2016

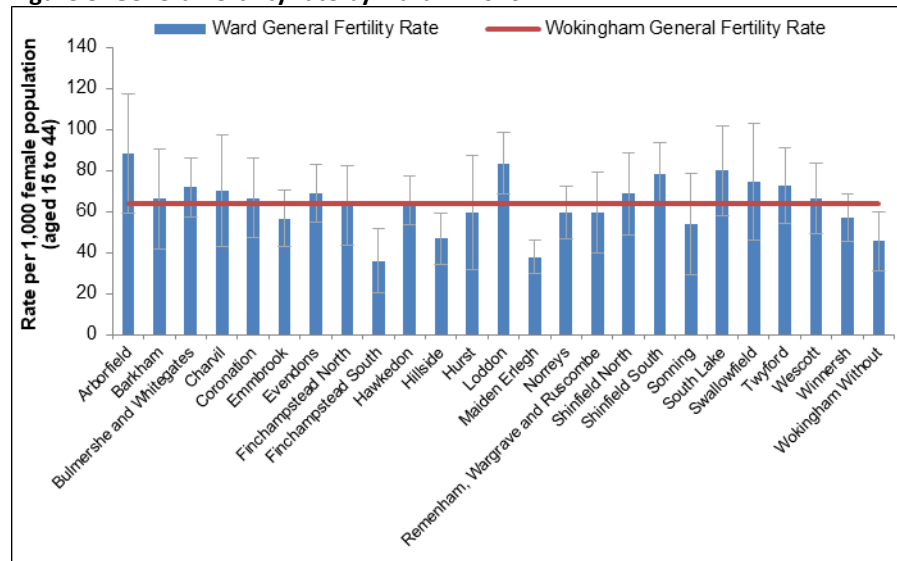


Source: [Public Health England \(2018c\)](#)

3.5 Births and fertility

There were 1,809 live births in Wokingham during 2016, at a rate of 62.3 live births per 1,000 females aged 15 to 44 years ([ONS 2017a](#)). This is known as the general fertility rate. Wokingham's general fertility rate is similar to England's and has not changed significantly in the last 5 years. General fertility rates vary across Wokingham with Arborfield and Shinfield South wards having significantly higher fertility rates in 2016 compared to the Wokingham average. Finchampstead South, Maiden Erlegh and Wokingham Without wards were significantly lower. General fertility rates by ward are shown at Figure 7.

Figure 8: General fertility rate by ward in 2016

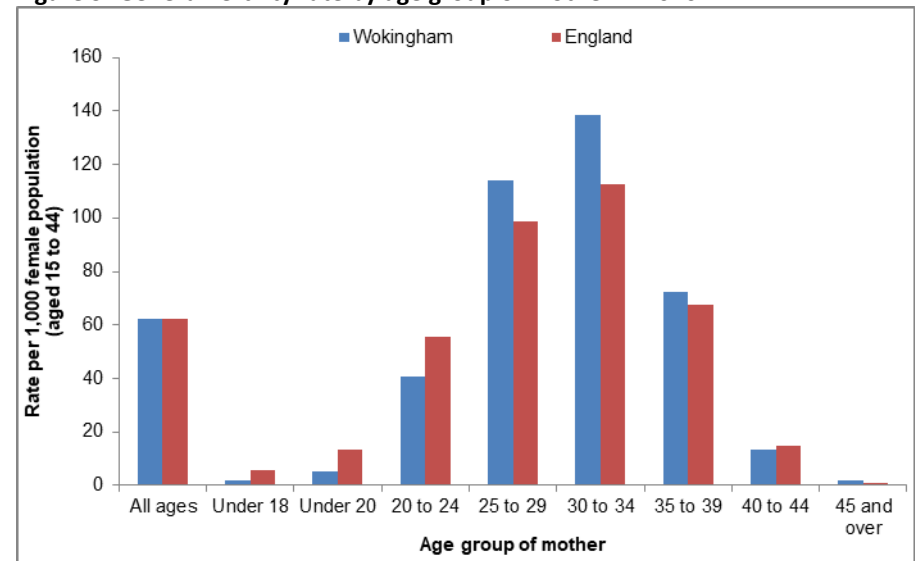


Source: NHS Digital (2017); Annual Birth Extract ©, re-used with the permission of NHS Digital. All rights reserved.

A population's fertility rate can also be compared by estimating the total number of children born or likely to be born to a woman in her lifetime based on the age-specific fertility rates in the population. This is called total fertility rate. Wokingham's total fertility rate was 1.93 in 2016, compared to 1.81 in England ([ONS 2017a](#)).

The average age of mothers who gave birth in 2016 was 30.7 years in Wokingham, compared to 30.5 years in England. The proportion of women who had babies at an older age (aged 35 and over) was also higher in Wokingham at 29% of all births, compared to 22% in England. In contrast, the proportion of younger mothers (aged 24 and under) was lower at 9.6% of all births in Wokingham, compared to 18.5% in England ([ONS 2017a](#)). Figure 8 shows the general fertility rate by mothers' age group in 2016.

Figure 9: General fertility rate by age group of mother in 2016



Source: [Office for National Statistics \(2017a\)](#)

The proportion of births to mothers from Black and Minority Ethnic Groups has significantly increased in Wokingham over the last four years. In 2016/17, 17.6% of births in Wokingham were to mothers from Black and Minority Ethnic Groups. Although this was significantly lower than the England figure of 23.3%, this proportion has continued to increase and compares with 13.6% of births in 2013/14 ([PHE 2018a](#)).

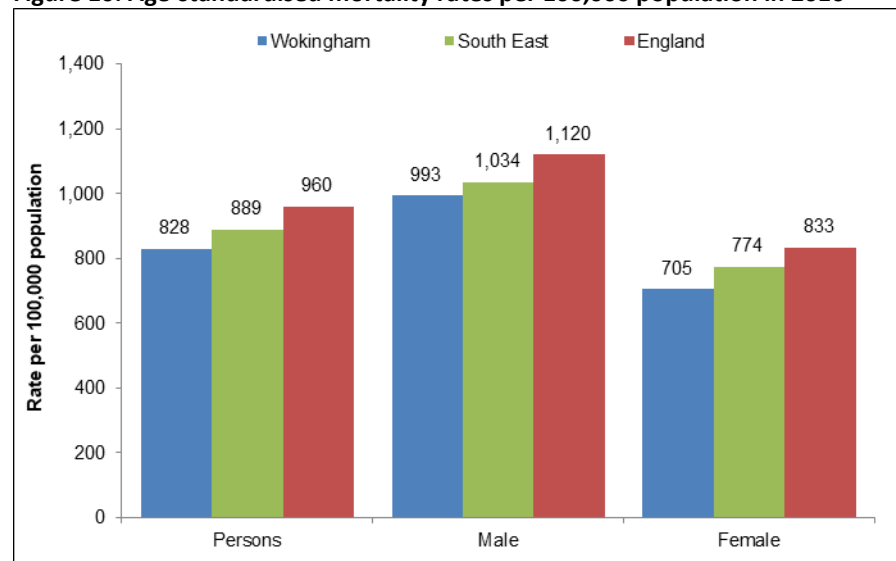
During 2014-16, there were 30 stillbirths in Wokingham at a rate of 5.5 per 1,000 live births. This figure was comparable with the national rate of 4.5 per 1,000 live births and has not significantly changed over the last five years ([PHE 2018a](#)).

3.6 Mortality

1,194 deaths were registered in Wokingham for 2016. The Borough's age-standardised mortality rate of 828 per 100,000 population was significantly lower than England's and was also a 2% reduction on 2015's figures.

Male age-standardised mortality rates are significantly higher than female rates both nationally and locally. Figure 9 shows how the Borough's rates compare to England and South East England for both men and women ([ONS 2017b](#)).

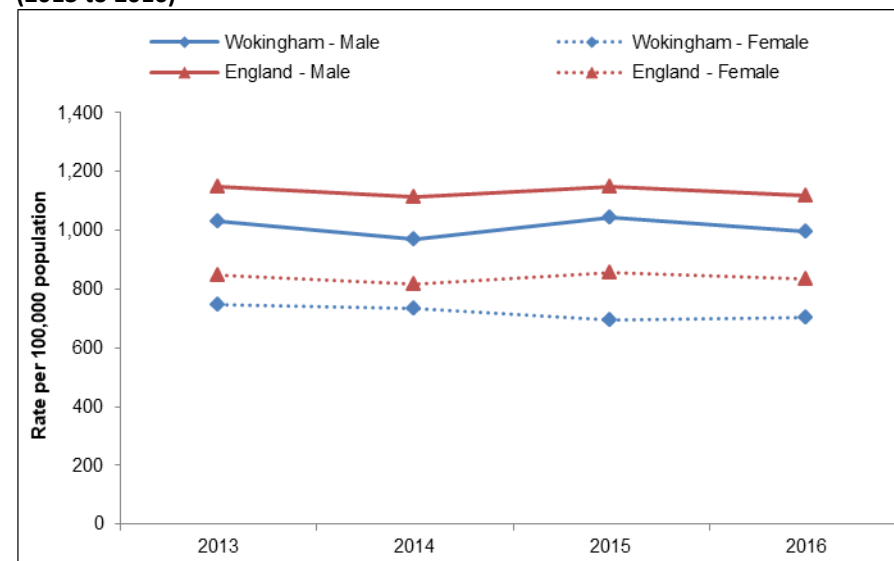
Figure 10: Age-standardised mortality rates per 100,000 population in 2016



Source: [Office for National Statistics \(2017b\)](#)

Figure 10 provides a summary of the trends in age-standardised mortality rates in Wokingham and England and shows that the Borough's rates have consistently been below the national figures for both men and women.

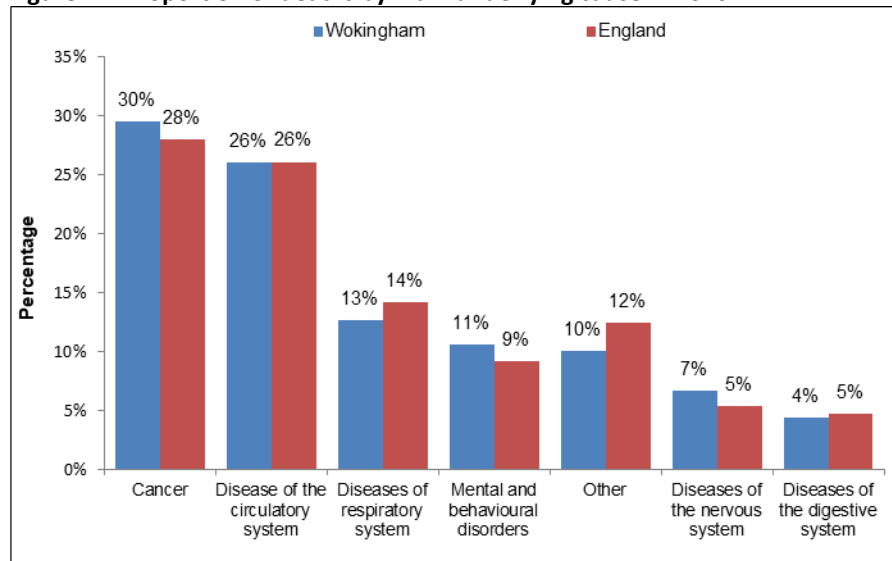
Figure 11: Age-standardised mortality rates per 100,000 population by gender (2013 to 2016)



Source: [Office for National Statistics \(2017b\)](#)

In 2016, the most common cause of death in Wokingham was cancer at 30% of all deaths, followed by circulatory disease (26%) and respiratory disease (13%) ([ONS 2017d](#)). This reflects the national picture, as shown in Figure 11.

Leading causes of death differ between men and women and have also changed over time. In 2016, the main single cause of death for men in Wokingham was ischaemic heart disease (this term is the same as coronary heart disease) and for women it was Alzheimer's and dementia ([ONS 2017d](#)). Table 3 provides a summary of the five main causes of death by gender in Wokingham.

Figure 12: Proportion of deaths by main underlying cause in 2016

Source: [Office for National Statistics \(2017b\)](#)

Table 3: Leading causes of deaths for men and women in Wokingham (2016)

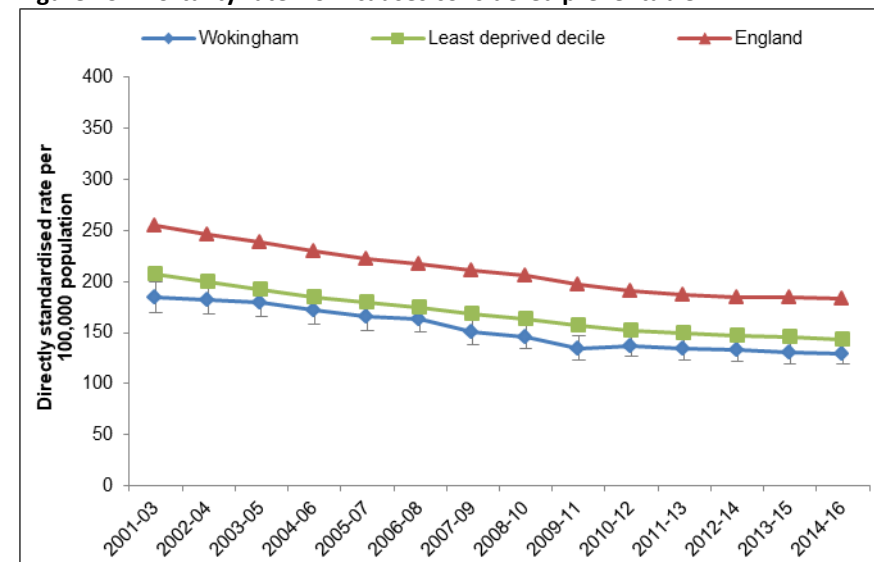
Underlying cause of death for men	Number of deaths	% of total deaths
Ischaemic heart diseases	79	13%
Dementia and Alzheimer disease	57	10%
Cerebrovascular diseases	39	7%
Chronic lower respiratory diseases	36	6%
Malignant neoplasm of colon (bowel)	28	5%

Underlying cause of death for women	Number of deaths	% of total deaths
Dementia and Alzheimer disease	113	19%
Cerebrovascular diseases	44	7%
Ischaemic heart diseases	43	7%
Influenza and pneumonia	42	7%
Malignant neoplasms of breast	33	5%

Source: [Office for National Statistics \(2017d\)](#)

Mortality rates from dementia and Alzheimer's disease have steadily increased in England since 2006 and this is expected to continue. In contrast, mortality rates from heart disease have fallen. PHE estimate that mortality rates for dementia will overtake heart disease for men by 2020. Dementia and Alzheimer's disease will then become the leading cause of death for both men and women in England ([PHE 2018b](#)).

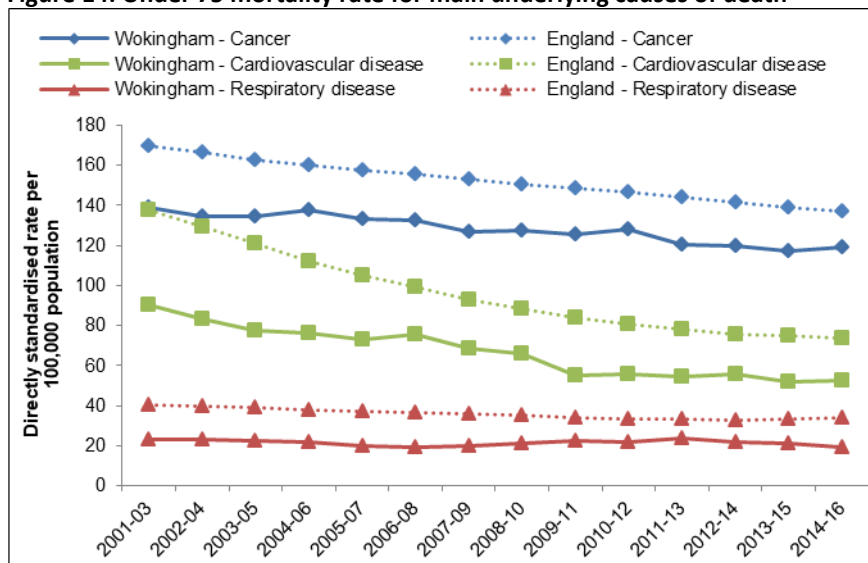
Behavioural risk factors, such as smoking, poor diet, alcohol consumption and low physical activity, are accountable for approximately 40% of total deaths in England ([Global Burden of Disease 2016](#)). These deaths are therefore preventable and could be avoided by public health awareness and interventions. In 2016, 576 deaths in Wokingham were considered preventable, which was 48% of all deaths in that year. This was an age-standardised rate of 130 per 100,000 population, which was significantly better than the England rate of 193 per 100,000, as shown in Figure 12.

Figure 13: Mortality rate from causes considered preventable

Source: [Public Health England \(2018c\)](#)

Premature mortality describes deaths of people aged under 75 years old. In 2016, 29% of deaths in Wokingham were for people aged under 75, compared to 32% in England. There has been a steady reduction in premature deaths both locally and nationally. Figure 13 shows the trend in under 75 mortality rates for the three main contributors to premature death – cardiovascular disease, cancer and respiratory disease. Since 2001-03, cardiovascular disease has had the most noticeable decline in mortality rates for Wokingham and England ([PHE 2018c](#)).

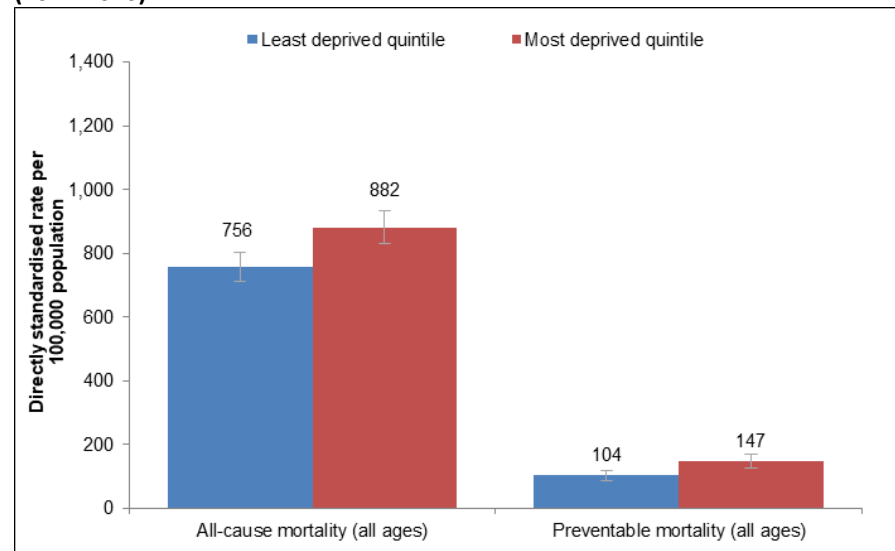
Figure 14: Under 75 mortality rate for main underlying causes of death



Source: [Public Health England \(2018c\)](#)

While Wokingham’s mortality rates are significantly lower than national rates, there are still differences within the Borough. Figure 14 shows that people living in the least deprived quintile of the Borough had a significantly lower all-cause mortality rate and preventable mortality rate than people living in the most deprived quintile (Open Exeter 2017).

Figure 15: Mortality rates in Wokingham by most and least deprived quintiles (2012-2016)

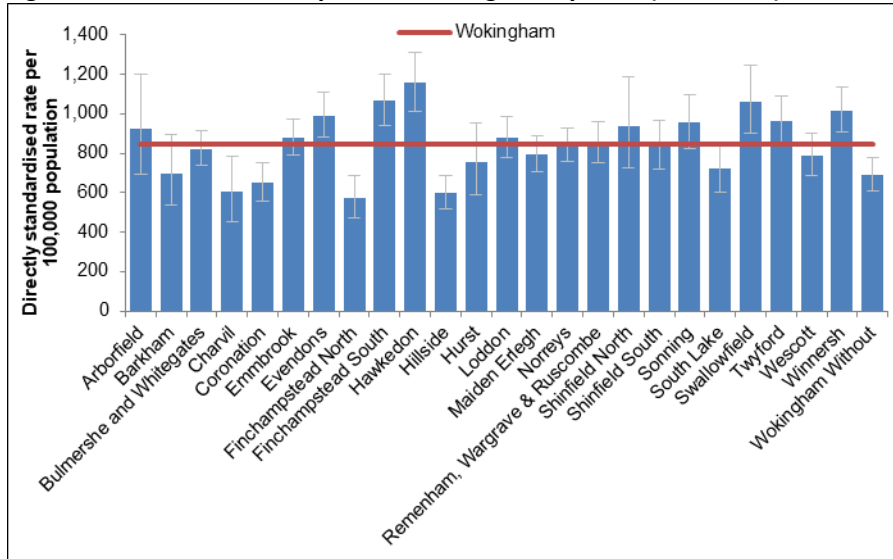


Source: [Open Exeter \(2017\)](#); [Primary Care Mortality Data](#) ©, re-used with the permission of NHS Digital. All rights reserved.

The difference in Wokingham’s mortality rates and life expectancy within the Borough can be attributed to specific causes of death. Analysis of deaths in 2012-14 indicate that 41% of the life expectancy gap between people living in the most deprived and least deprived areas of Wokingham was due to cancer. The second main cause for the male life expectancy gap was circulatory disease at 26%, followed by digestive disease at 11%. For women, the second main cause for the gap was respiratory disease at 18%, followed by circulatory disease at 15% ([PHE 2016](#)).

Differences in mortality rates are also visible at a ward-level, as shown in Figure 15. From 2012-2016, Hawkedon, Finchampstead South, Swallowfield and Winnersh wards had significantly higher mortality rates than the Borough.

Figure 16: All cause mortality rate in Wokingham by ward (2012-2016)



Source: Open Exeter (2017); Primary Care Mortality Data ©, re-used with the permission of NHS Digital. All rights reserved.

4. Socioeconomic profile

4.1 Deprivation

The Index of Multiple Deprivation, commonly known as the IMD, is the official measure of relative deprivation for small areas (LSOAs) in England. As mentioned previously there are 99 Lower Super Output Areas in the borough, and they are based broadly on population, so sparsely populated areas such as Wokingham Without cover more area than urban areas. Deprivation is not just associated with income or poverty and the IMD combines information from seven different domains to produce an overall relative measure of deprivation. The domains are combined using the following weights:

- Income Deprivation (22.5%)
- Employment Deprivation (22.5%)
- Education, Skills and Training Deprivation (13.5%)
- Health Deprivation and Disability (13.5%)
- Crime (9.3%)
- Barriers to Housing and Services (9.3%)
- Living Environment Deprivation (9.3%)

The overall IMD score for Wokingham in 2015 was 5.59, making it the second least deprived local authority in England and the least deprived upper tier local authority in the country.

No neighbourhoods in the Borough rank in the 20% most deprived areas in England. Two neighbourhoods rank in the 40% most deprived areas nationally and these are parts of Wokingham Without and Norreys wards. 65 (66%) of the 99 LSOAs in the Borough were in the 10% least deprived areas nationally and 82 (83%) were in the least deprived 20% ([DCLG 2015](#)).

IDACI measures the proportion of children aged 0 to 15 living in income deprived families and IDAOPI measures people aged 60 or over who experience income deprivation. In Wokingham there are no neighbourhoods (LSOAs) that fall in the 20% most deprived in the England for IDACI or IDAOPI. 62 out of the 99 LSOAs fall in the 20% least deprived in the country for IDACI and 72 for IDAOPI ([DCLG 2015](#)).

Child Poverty

In 2015, 19.9% of children aged 15 and under in England were living in poverty. Wokingham's proportion was significantly lower at 6.8%. This was 2,176 children in total ([PHE 2018a](#)).

Fuel Poverty

A household is considered to be fuel poor if it has higher than typical energy costs and would be left with a disposable income below the poverty line if it spent the money required to meet those costs. Fuel poverty is distinct from general poverty, as not all poor households are fuel poor, while some households not normally considered poor could be pushed into fuel poverty if they have high energy costs. Living at low temperatures is strongly linked to a range of negative health outcomes, such as increased risk of cardiovascular diseases, respiratory diseases and mental health conditions. Fuel poverty is therefore an important factor for a population's health.

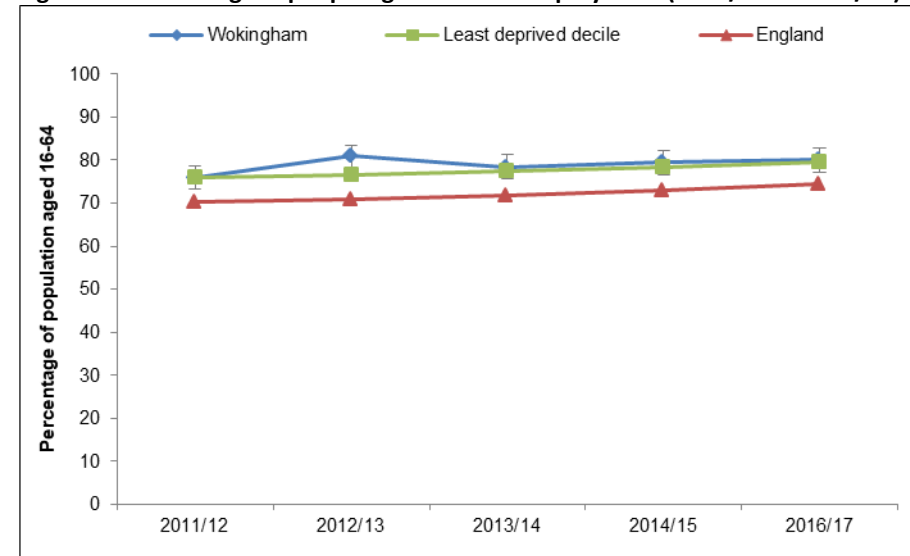
In 2015, 7.1% of households in Wokingham experienced fuel poverty, which was 4,446 households. In comparison, 11% of homes in England and 8.1% of homes in the least deprived decile group were fuel poor ([PHE 2018c](#)).

4.1 Employment and Benefits

Employment

In 2017/18, 80% of people aged 16 to 64 in Wokingham were in employment and 82% were economically active ([ONS 2018a](#)). Wokingham's employment rate has continued to be higher than the national rate and is similar to other local authorities in the least deprived decile group.

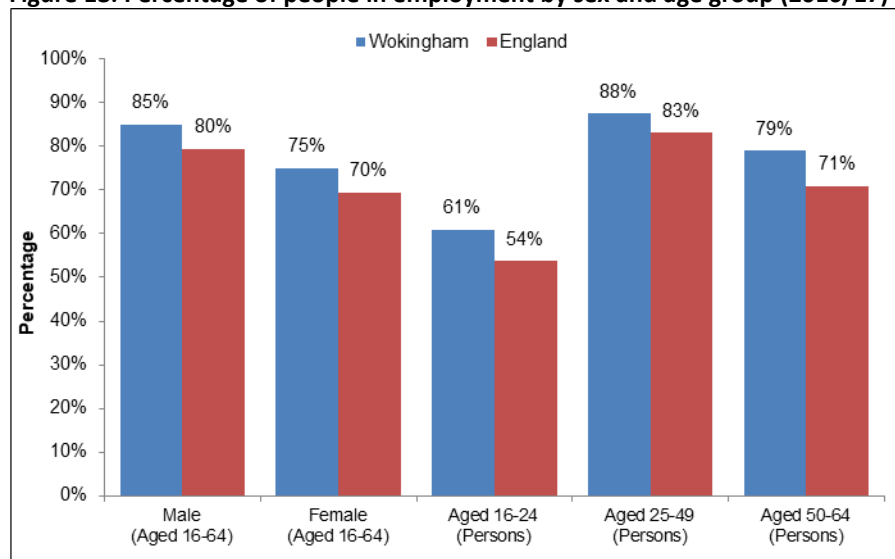
Figure 17: Percentage of people aged 16-64 in employment (2011/12 to 2016/17)



Source: [Public Health England \(2018c\)](#)

The proportion of people in employment does differ by sex and age group in Wokingham, as shown in Figure 17. Wokingham's employment rates are consistently higher than the national figures for each of these groups.

Figure 18: Percentage of people in employment by sex and age group (2016/17)



Source: [Public Health England \(2018c\)](#)

Full-time workers in Wokingham were paid an average of £669 per week in 2017, compared to £597 in the South East of England and £553 in England ([ONS 2018a](#)). The average weekly wage for men in Wokingham was significantly higher than women, at £801 and £575 respectively.

61% of people employed in Wokingham have an occupation that is classified in one of the three highest groups in the Standard Occupation Classification (SOC2010). These typically include people who are managers, directors, senior officials, or who have professional, associate professional or technical occupations. In comparison, 51% of the South East's workforce are classified in these groups and 46% of Great Britain as a whole. Further detail of the Borough's employment by occupation is shown in Table 5 ([ONS 2018a](#)).

Table 5: Percentage of people in employment by occupation (2017/18)

Occupation Group	Wokingham	South East England	Great Britain
1: Managers, Directors and Senior	14%	12%	11%
2: Professional Occupations	28%	23%	20%
3: Associate Professional and Technical	19%	16%	15%
4: Administrative and Secretarial	9%	10%	10%
5: Skilled Trade Occupations	8%	10%	10%
6: Caring, Leisure and Other Service	7%	9%	9%
7: Sales and Customer Service	7%	7%	8%
8: Process Plant, Machine Operatives	3%	5%	6%
9: Elementary Occupations	6%	9%	11%

Source: [Office for National Statistics \(2018a\)](#)

Unemployment and Benefits

Wokingham's unemployment rate has steadily decreased from 4.5% in 2010/11 to 2.5% in 2017/18. This mirrors the South East region and England trends over the same time-period ([ONS 2018a](#)).

The number of 16-17 year olds not in employment, education or training (NEET) or whose activity was unknown as at the end of 2016 was 4.4%, lower than national (6.0%) and least deprived comparator (5.5%). Nonetheless there appears to be a high prevalence of low level mental health issues amongst those who are unable to secure and keep employment or have a unsuccessful outcomes from training.

There were 3,600 workless households in Wokingham between January and December 2017, which equates to 7.7% of all households. A workless household is one where at least one person of working age lives there, but no-one within the household is economically active. Wokingham's proportion of workless households was significantly lower than both the South East and Great Britain figures, at 11.0% and 14.5% respectively ([ONS 2018a](#)).

In November 2016, 4.6% of Wokingham’s working-age population were claiming benefits, compared to 8.3% in the South East and 11.0% in Great Britain. 68% of claimants in Wokingham received a main out of work benefit ([ONS 2018a](#)). Table 6 provides a further breakdown of benefit claimants.

Table 6: Percentage of population aged 16-64 receiving benefits (Nov 2016)

Benefit Claimant Groups	Wokingham		South East England (%)	Great Britain (%)
	Number	%		
Total Claimants	4,640	4.6%	8.3%	11.0%
Main out of Work Benefits*	3,170	3.2%	6.1%	8.4%
- Job Seekers	440	0.4%	0.7%	1.1%
- ESA and Incapacity Benefits	2,270	2.3%	4.4%	6.1%
- Lone Parents	410	0.4%	0.8%	1.0%
- Carers	720	0.7%	1.3%	1.7%
- Others on Income Related Benefits	50	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%
- Disabled	550	0.6%	0.8%	0.8%
- Bereaved	190	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%

* Main out of work benefits includes job seekers, ESA and incapacity benefits, lone parents and others on income related benefits

Source: [Office for National Statistics \(2018a\)](#)

Housing and Homelessness

The 2011 Census showed that there were 60,332 households in Wokingham. Nearly 80% of these houses were owned by the occupant, whether outright or with a mortgage or loan. 11% were privately rented and 7% were socially rented ([ONS 2013](#)).

The dwelling stock data from the Department of Communities and Local Government for the same year (2011) showed that there were 62,470

dwellings, i.e. about 2000 more dwellings than households. Since then the number of dwellings has increased each year, to 64,730 in 2016, of which 58,130 were in private ownership. Over these 5 years the number of council-owned dwellings decreased by approximately 300, and the number of housing association dwellings increased by a similar amount.

The average house price in Wokingham in August 2018 was £428,491, this compares to the UK average of £232,797 ([UK House Price Index 2018](#)). The high prices effect who comes to live in the borough, for instance making it difficult for “key workers” in the public sector (e.g. health and social care staff) and is likely to account for the relatively lower than expected population in their 20s and 30s.

The pattern of housing tenure across the Borough varied across wards, with over 90% of households owned by their occupants in Finchampstead North and South Lake ward, compared to 59% in Shinfield North. Social renting was much higher in Shinfield North and Norreys wards, at 18% and 16% respectively. Private renting was highest in Arborfield and Shinfield North wards at over 18% ([ONS 2013](#)).

In 2011, nearly 23% of households in Wokingham were occupied by people living alone. This equated to 14,084 people (9% of the population). 44% of these households were people aged 65 and over living alone, which made up 26% of the total population aged 65 and over. While this does not equate to loneliness, older people living alone are significantly more likely to be socially isolated and unable to access support or services easily. Bulmershe and Whitegates and Twyford wards had the highest proportion of one-person households aged 65 and over.

Over 7% of households in Wokingham Borough were occupied by lone-parent families in 2011 and this also differed across areas of the Borough. Shinfield North had the highest proportion of lone-parent family households at just under 13% ([ONS 2013](#)).

During 2015/16, 97 households in Wokingham were identified as statutorily homeless. This means that they are unintentionally homeless, in priority need and the local authority accepts responsibility for securing accommodation for them. This equates to a rate of 1.5 per 1,000 households, which is significantly lower than the national rate of 2.5 per 1,000 households.

On 31st March 2016, 55 households were living in temporary accommodation provided under homelessness legislation in Wokingham. This was a rate of 0.9 per 1,000 households and also significantly lower than the national figures. Both of these indicators have increased significantly in Wokingham since 2012/13 ([PHE 2018c](#)).

A great deal of new housing has been built in recent years, and this growth will continue for the next several years. Most of the new housing will take places in the four Strategic Development Locations (SDLs) as detailed below.

Table 7: Estimated number of new homes in the Strategic Development Locations

Name of SDL	Projected new homes	Affordable homes (approx)	Completion date
South of M4	>2,500	680	2027
Arborfield Garrison	>3,000	500	2025
North Wokingham	1,300	500	2025
South Wokingham	2,300	200	2034

Source: Planning, Wokingham Council

Health Profiles

Public Health England produces locality health profiles each year; these are useful summaries of some key statistics on population health for the borough and selected comparators (national and regional). The Wokingham Locality Profile 2017 is here: <http://fingertipsreports.phe.org.uk/health-profiles/2017/e06000041.pdf>

A detailed analysis of health data relating the patients registered with a General Practice in Wokingham is contained in the very comprehensive document Wokingham Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) Locality Profile 2017. You can find a link to this document on this page: <http://jsna.wokingham.gov.uk/wokingham-borough-profile/wokingham-clinical-commissioning-group-ccg/>. Please note from 1 April 2018 the 4 CCGs in the west of Berkshire came together to form Berkshire West CCG. This means that in future years a profile for Wokingham alone will not be produced.

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