



East Suffolk
Community
Partnerships

Bringing ideas to life



EASTSUFFOLK
COUNCIL

Deprivation and Inequalities in East Suffolk

**Community Partnership Board –
September 2023**

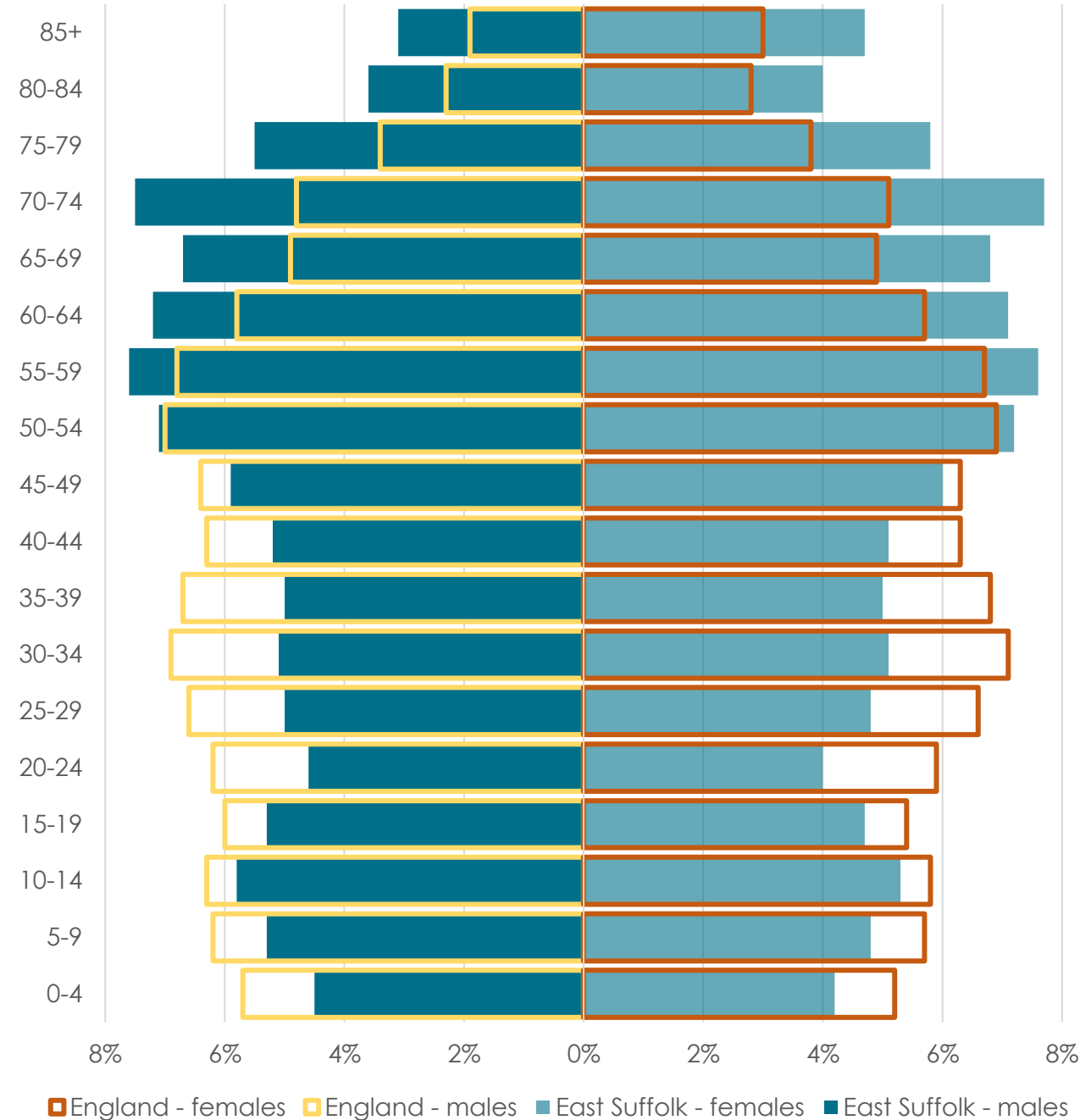
Population Age breakdown

The age pyramid shows the age breakdown of the population of East Suffolk against the national average

Most over-represented age group: **85+**

Most under-represented age group: **20-24**

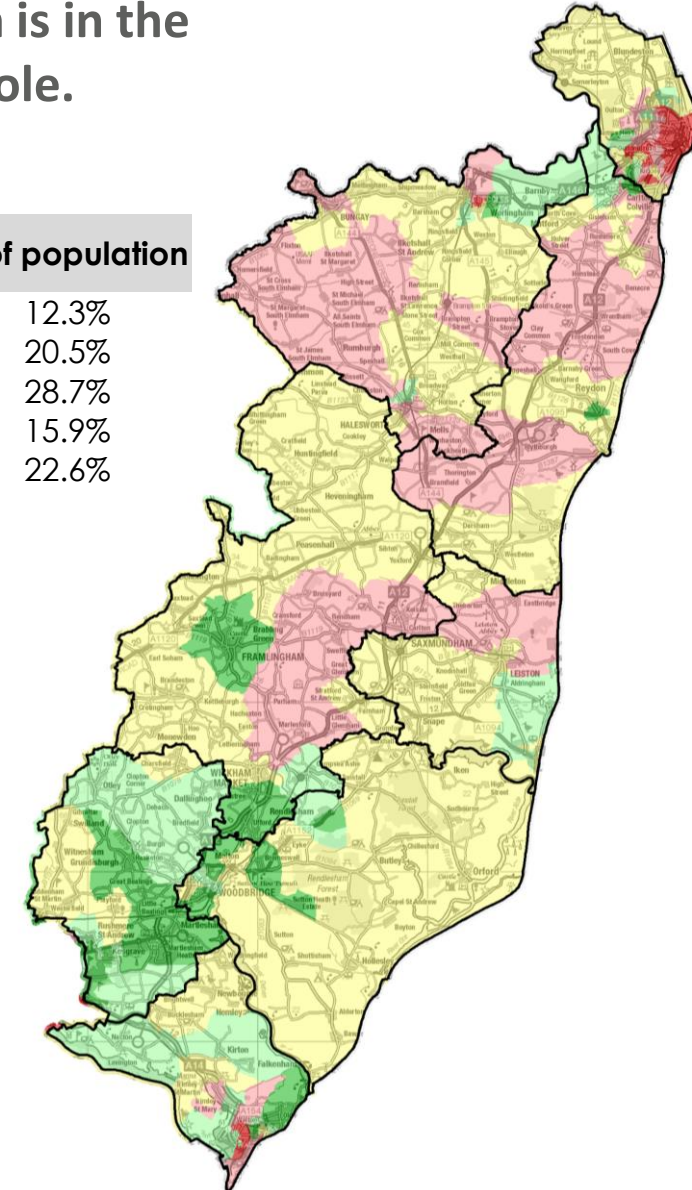
All groups below the age of 50 account for a smaller proportion of the East Suffolk population than they do across Great Britain as a whole



East Suffolk has an unusually varied deprivation profile - more of the population is in the least deprived quintile and in the most deprived quintile than in Suffolk as a whole.

- More than a fifth of the population (55,677 people or 22.6%) live in neighbourhoods in the **least deprived 20% of areas in England**
- But more than 30,000 people (12.5%) live in neighbourhoods in the **most deprived 20% of areas in England** (Core 20 areas)
- Relative deprivation is particularly high in Lowestoft, which includes **17 of the 20 most deprived LSOAs in East Suffolk**. Parts of Felixstowe (2 LSOAs) and Beccles (1 LSOA) are also in the 'Core 20'
- Relative deprivation has not changed - the **9 areas of Lowestoft in the 10% most deprived areas of England in 2015 remained there in 2019**. One area of Beccles moved into the 10% most deprived
- The domains of **deprivation relating to income, employment and children all over-index in East Suffolk**

IMD quintile	Population	% of population
1	30,298	12.3%
2	50,466	20.5%
3	70,700	28.7%
4	39,051	15.9%
5	55,677	22.6%



[Click here for more information about IMD](#)

Community Partnership

All

Ward

All

% of the population affected by income deprivation

11.3%

Suffolk average 10.2%

Population affected by income deprivation

27926

% of working people (aged 16-64) affected by employment deprivation

9.9%

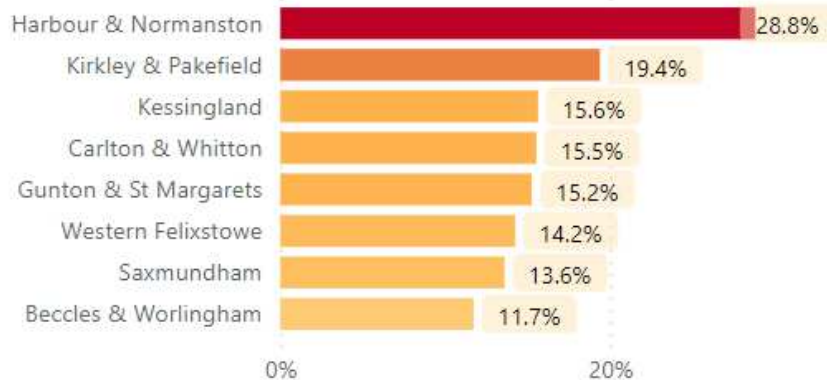
Suffolk average 8.3%

Working age population affected by employment deprivation

13663

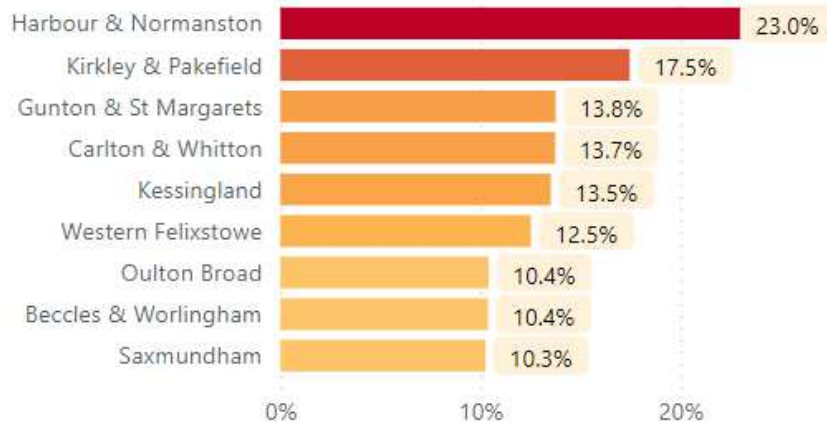
% of the population affected by income deprivation

Ward

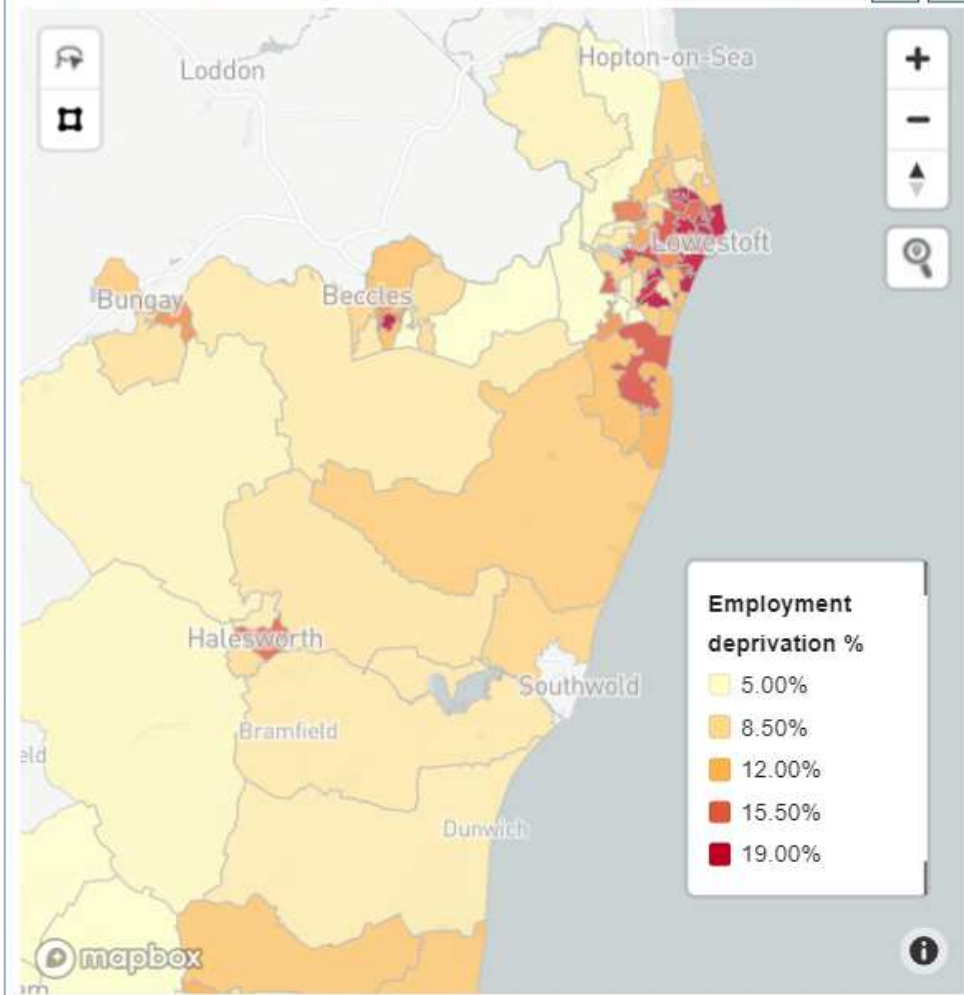


% of the working population affected by employment deprivation

Ward

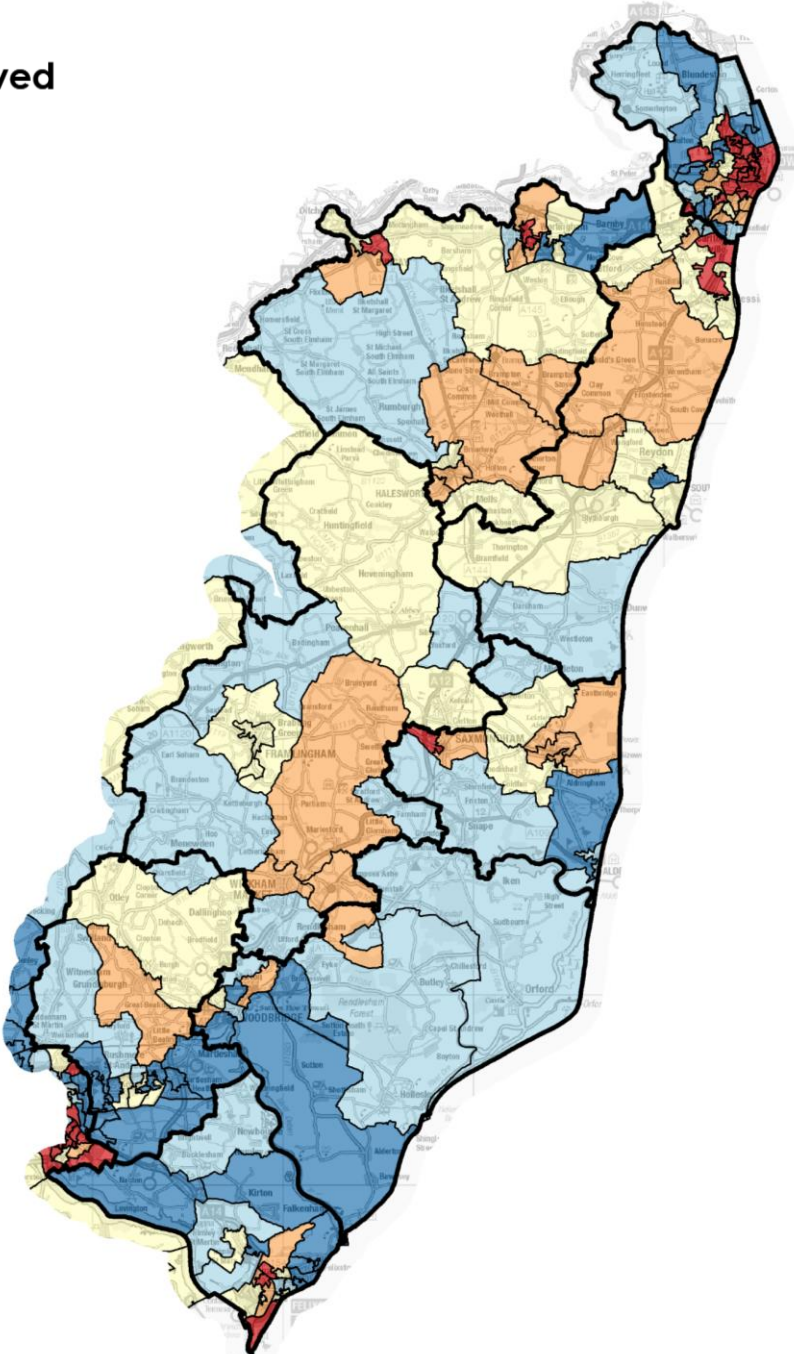
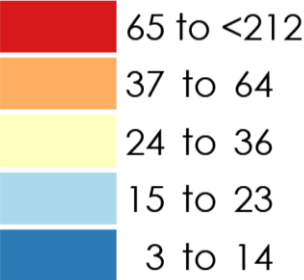


% of working people (aged 16-64) affected by employment deprivation



Deprivation Children

Children aged 0-15 income deprived



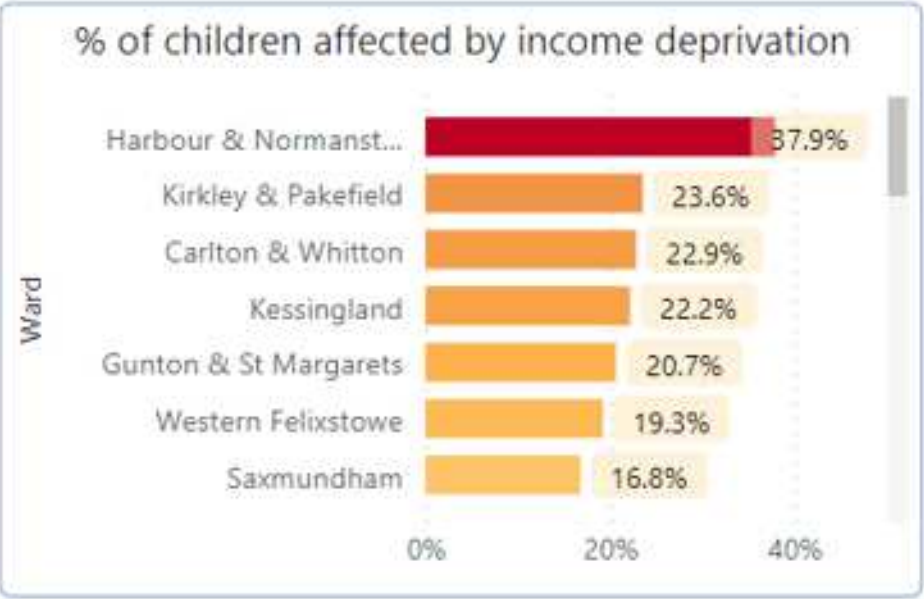
% of children affected by income deprivation

15.2%

Suffolk average 13.6%

Children population affected by deprivation

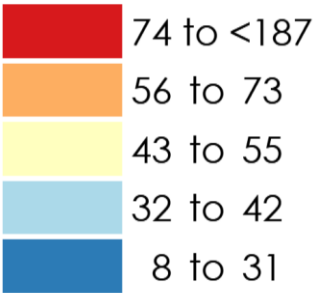
6322



Source: ONS 2021 Census population estimates and DCLG Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019. Map © Crown copyright and database rights 2021 Ordnance Survey 100023395

Deprivation Older people

People aged 60+ income deprived



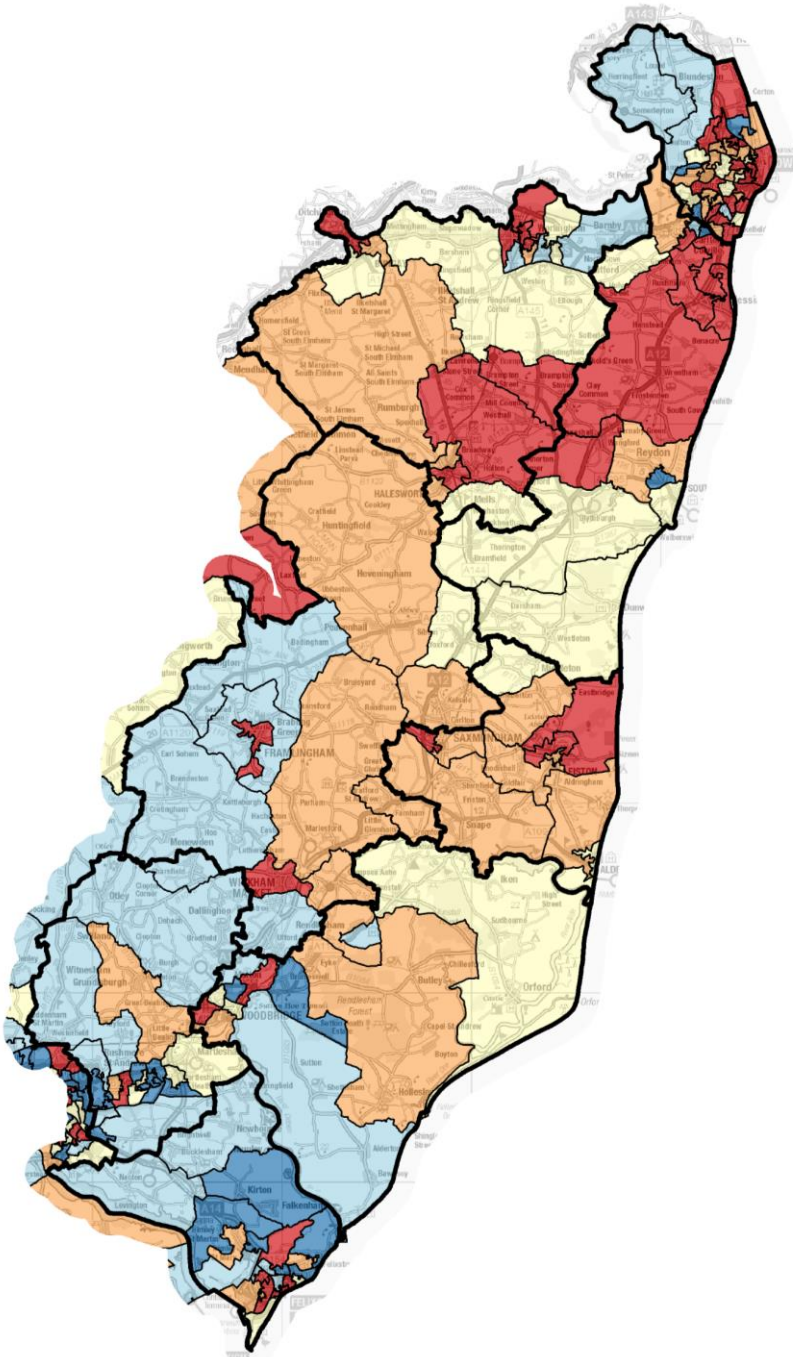
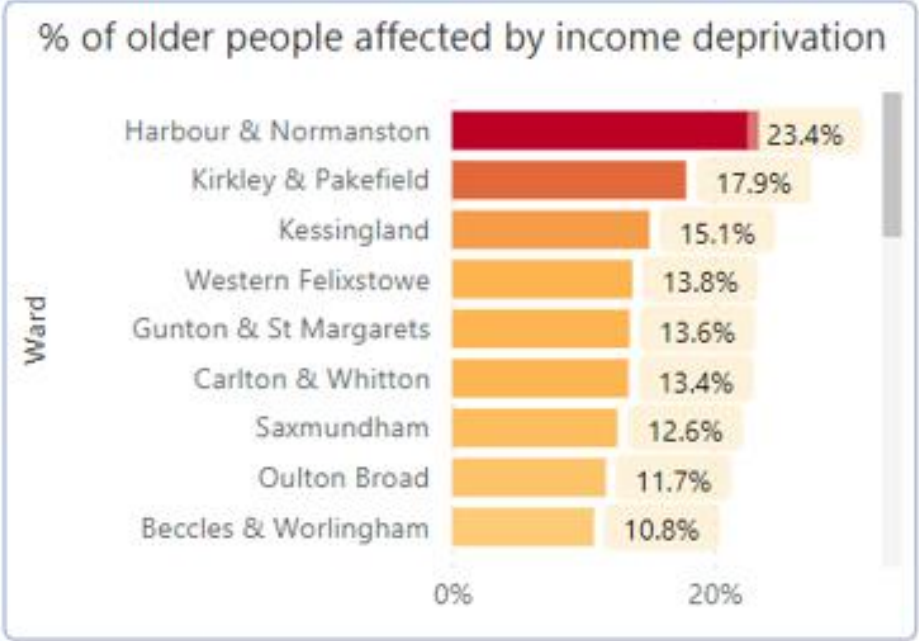
% of older people (aged 65 and over) affected by income deprivation

10.5%

Suffolk average 10.2%

Older population affected by income deprivation

7184



Sources: ONS 2021 Census population estimates and DCLG Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019. Map © Crown copyright and database rights 2021 Ordnance Survey 100023395

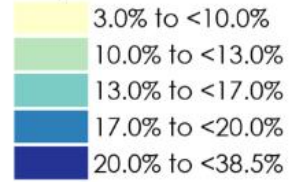


Parts of Lowestoft have the highest percentage of children eligible for free school meals in Suffolk...

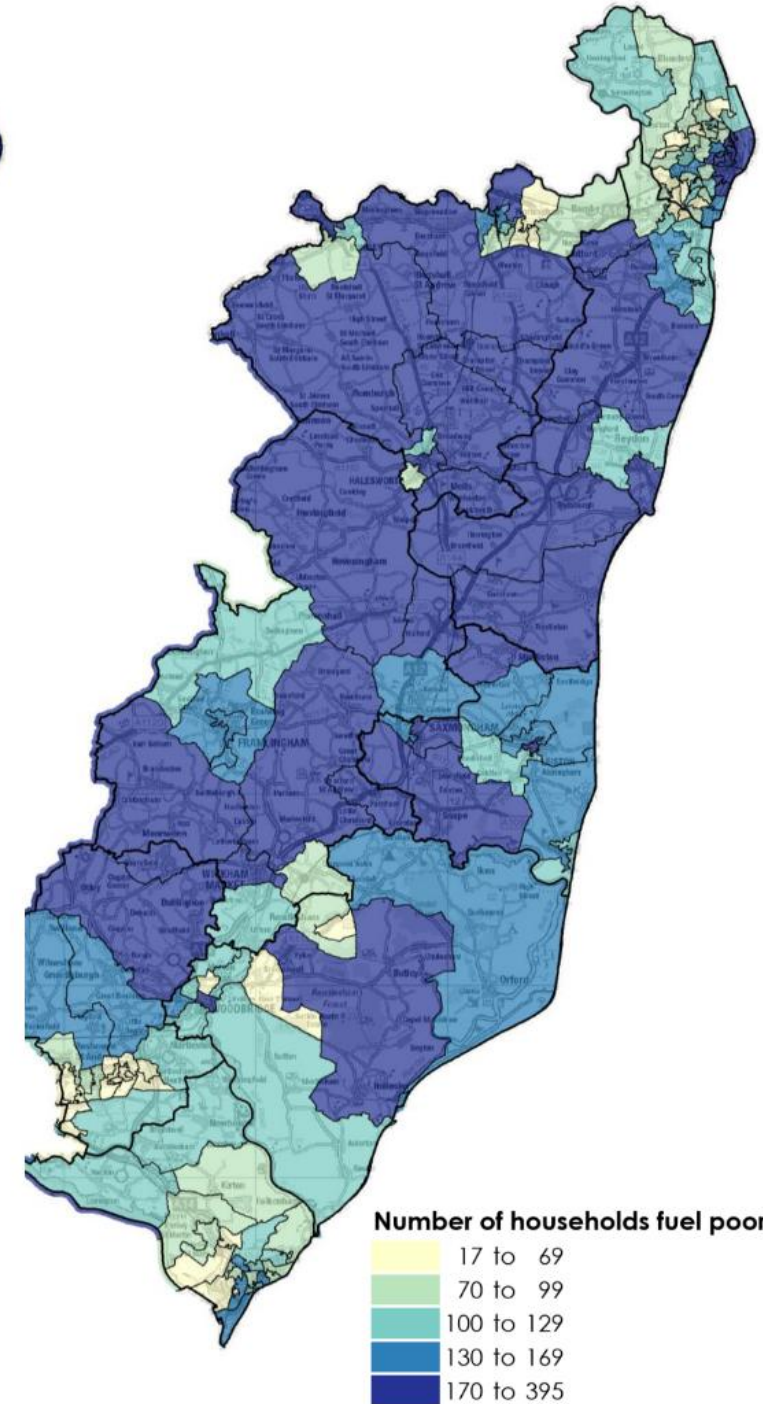
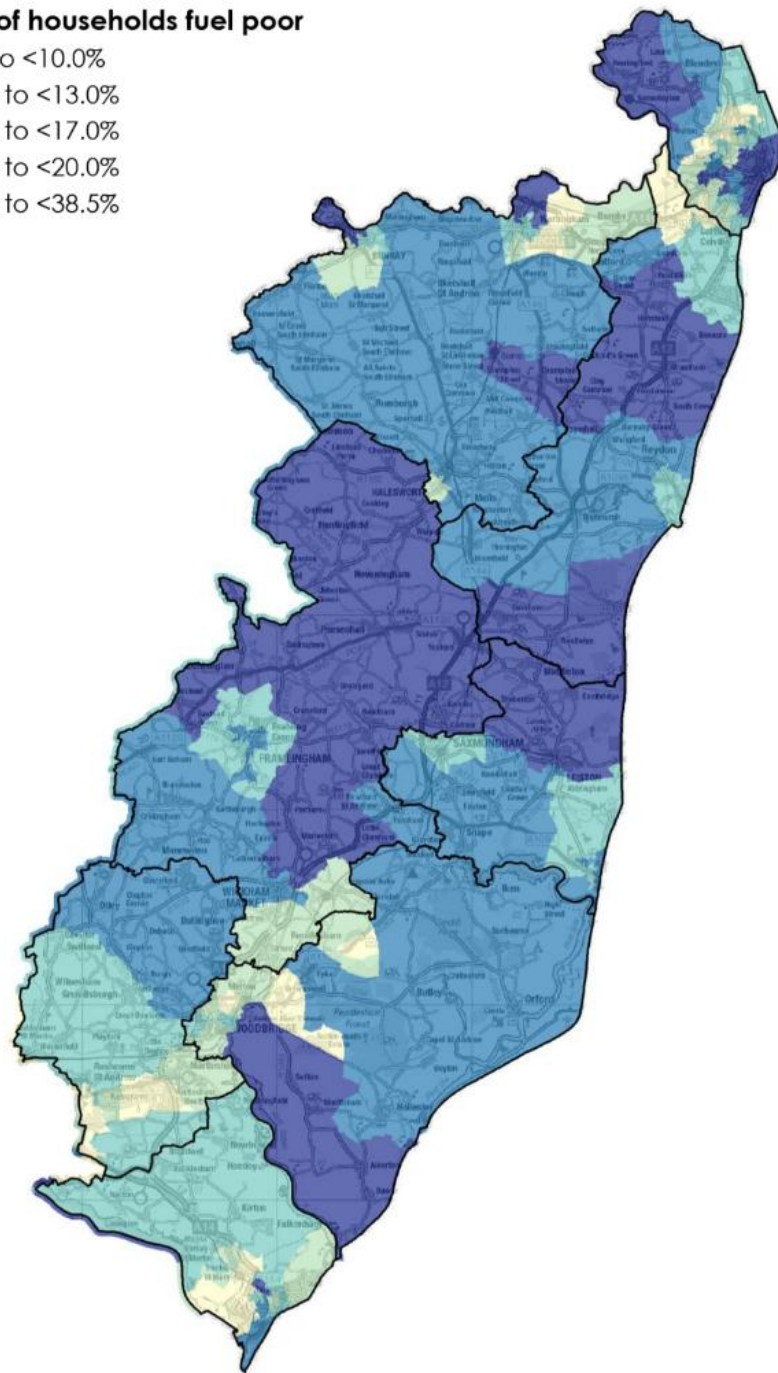
- IDACI (IMD) measures the proportion of all children aged 0 to 15 living in income deprived families – **6,322** children (**15.2%**) were living in families who were income deprived in 2019.
- By March 2021, **7,419** children in East Suffolk were living in relative low income (data from DWP and HMRC)
- **40% of children in Gunton West, Lowestoft Central, Pakefield North, and Lowestoft Harbour and Kirkley** receive free school meals and therefore live in absolute poverty – as the threshold for free school meals (£7,400) is so low

Deprivation Fuel poverty

Proportion of households fuel poor



Community Partnership	Number of households	Number of households in fuel poverty	% of households in fuel poverty
Aldeburgh, Leiston & Saxmundham	7,879	1,426	18.1%
Beccles, Bungay & Halesworth	15,483	2,468	15.9%
Felixstowe Peninsular	16,262	2,164	13.3%
Framlingham & Wickham Market	7,017	1,388	19.8%
Kesgrave & Martlesham	14,431	1,322	9.2%
Lowestoft & Northern Parishes	30,301	5,547	18.3%
Carlton Colville, Kessingland & Southwold	9,805	1,373	14.0%
Melton, Woodbridge & Deben Peninsula	10,821	1,404	13.0%
East Suffolk	111,999	17,092	15.3%



Employment and education Benefit claimants

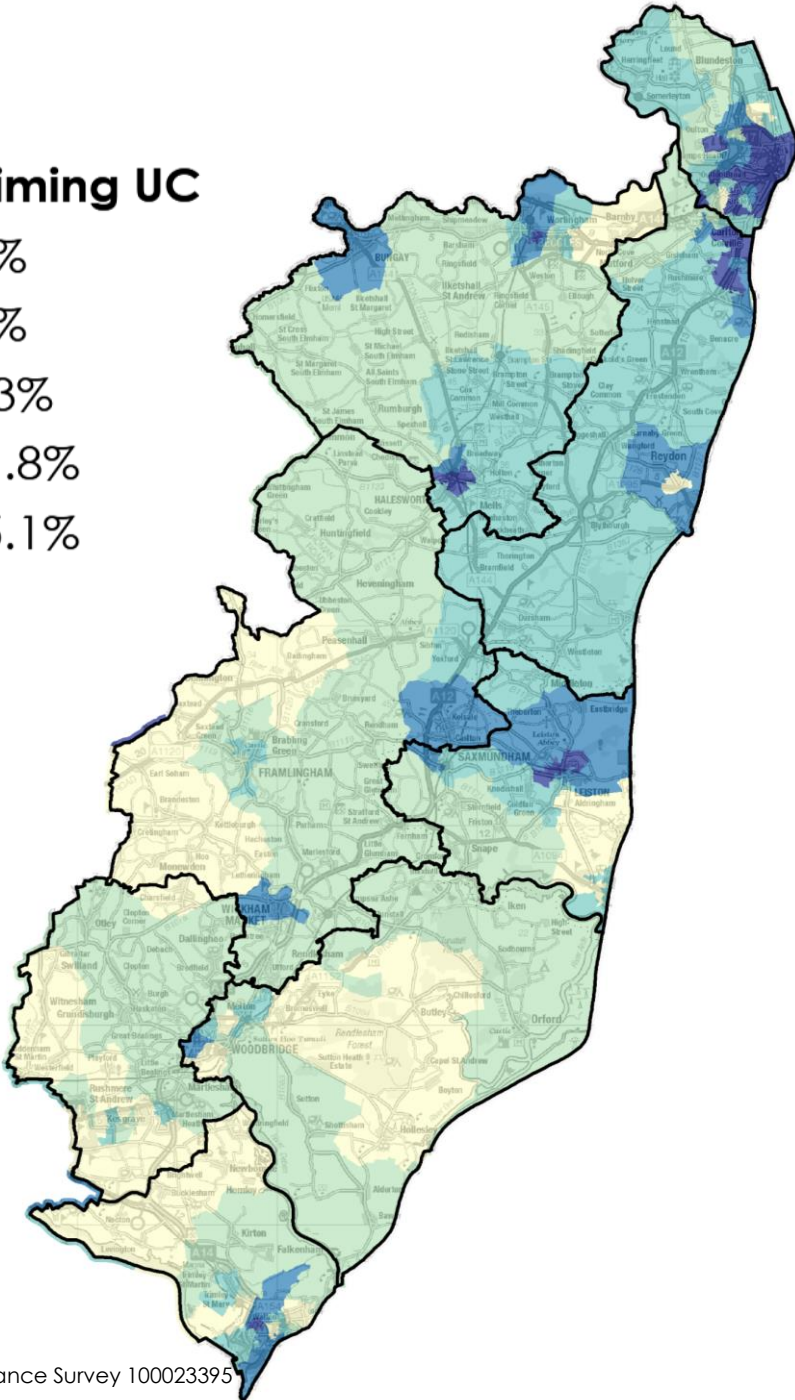
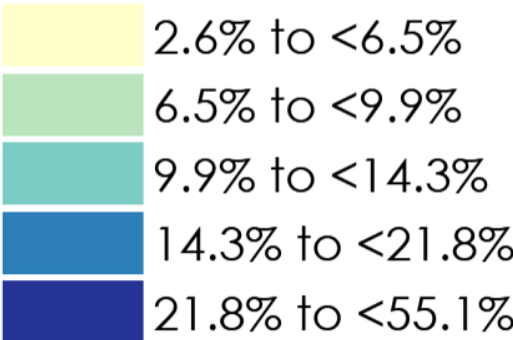


14.7%

of adults in receipt
of Universal Credit
in East Suffolk

Highest CP: Lowestoft 24.5%
Lowest CP: Kesgrave & Martlesham 6.5%

% adults 18-64 claiming UC



Source: DWP, June 2023 provisional data applied to 2021 Census estimates of working age adults. Map © Crown copyright and database rights 2023 Ordnance Survey 100023395

Health and social care

Life expectancy

	Life expectancy at birth for males	Life expectancy at birth for females
East Suffolk	80.4	83.8
Suffolk	80.7	84.1
England	79.4	83.1

Highest and lowest life expectancy in East Suffolk

Melton Ward (Melton, Woodbridge & Deben Peninsula CP)	84.5	90.0
Harbour & Normanston Ward (Lowestoft and NP CP)	75.1	79.9

9.4 years



difference in Life Expectancy at birth between Harbour & Normanston, and Melton Wards

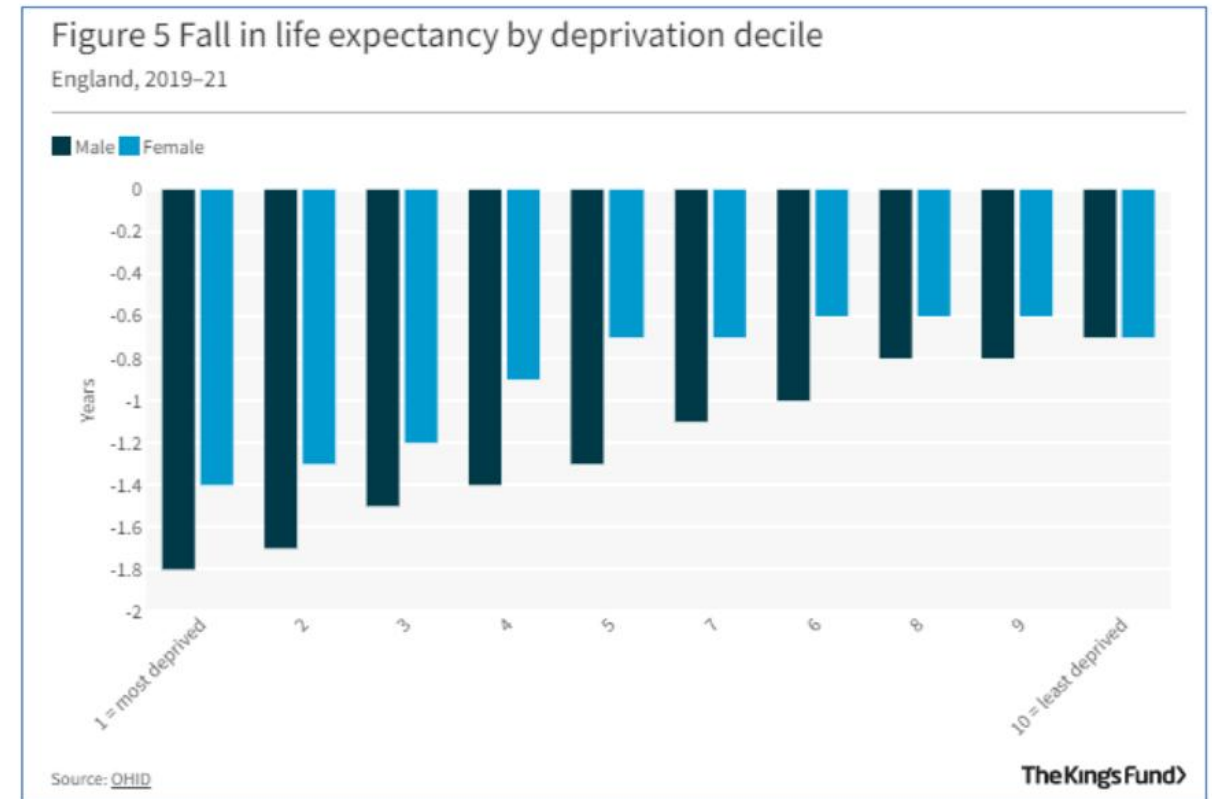
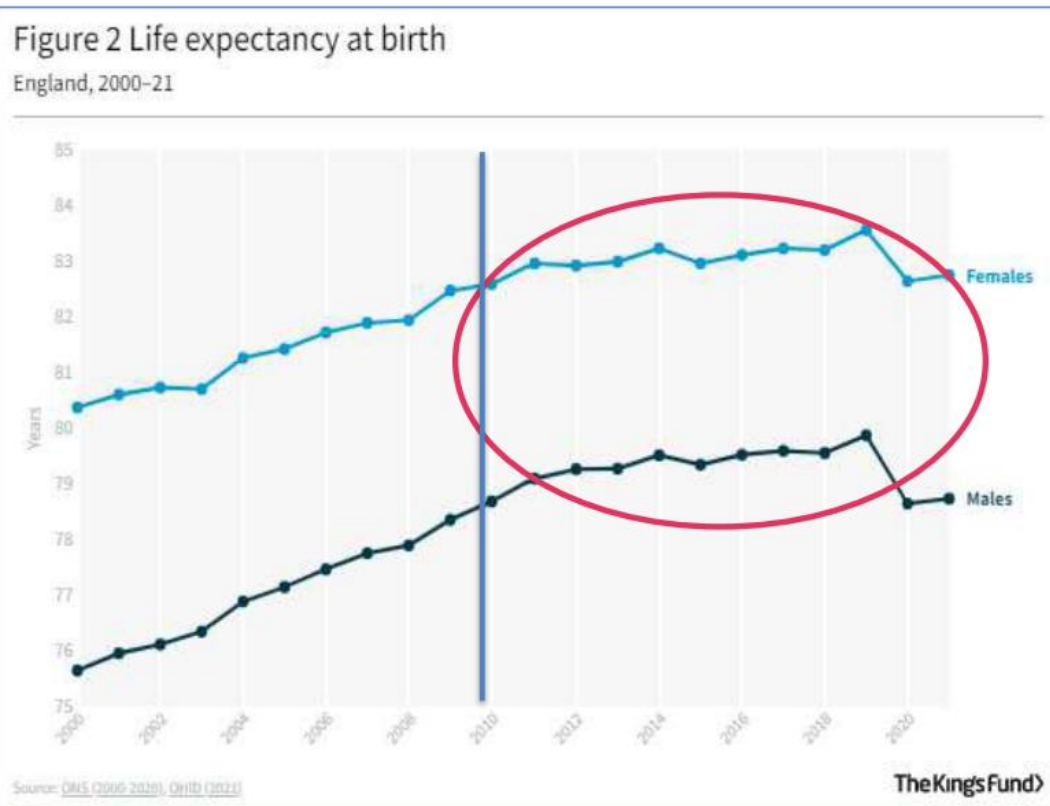
10.1 years



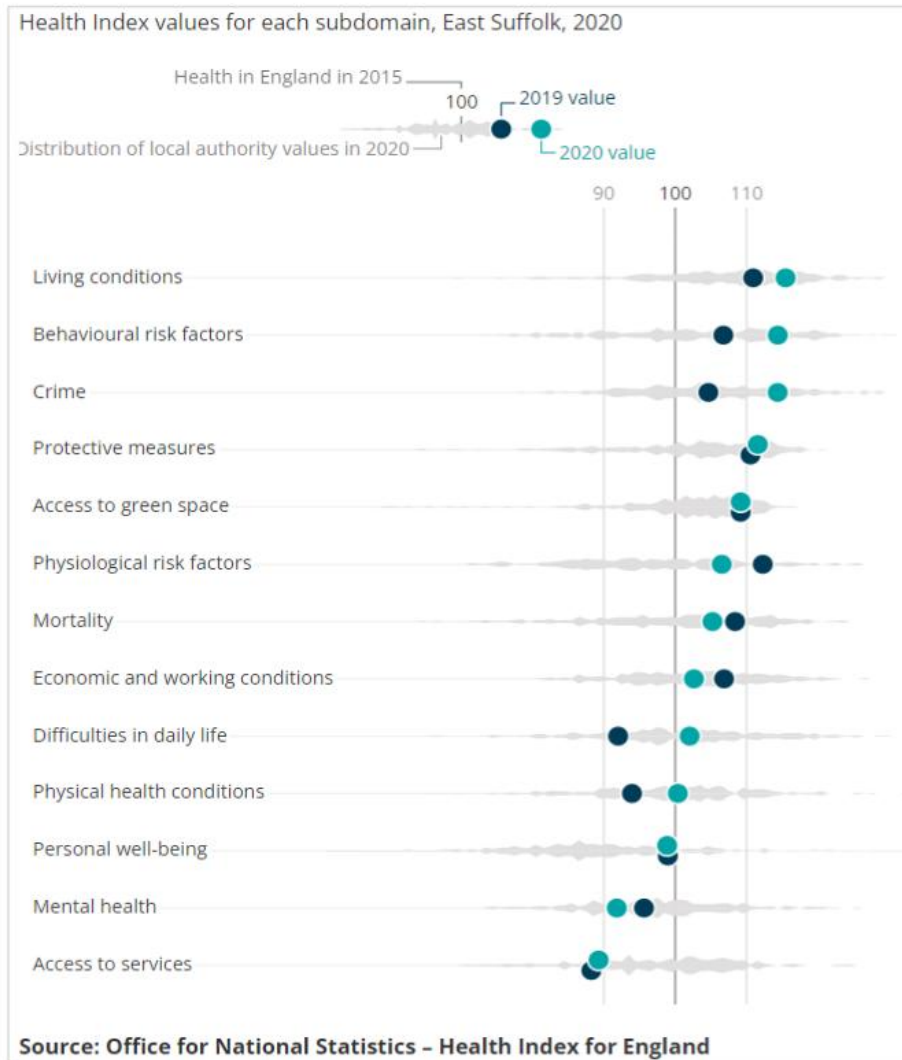
difference in Life Expectancy at birth between Harbour & Normanston, and Melton Wards



The **post Covid reduction in life expectancy** is not distributed equally
 While the **impact of the cost-of-living crisis** is unclear, if it does reduce life expectancy, that effect will be magnified in more deprived communities (based on previous changes to life expectancy during austerity)



While many aspects of health in East Suffolk are good, some aspects are worse than in the rest of Suffolk, and England



Data from the ONS Health Index compares a range of health indicators to England. **East Suffolk's Health Index score improved in 2020** (from 2019). It scored **best on living conditions and behavioural risk factors** (among the best 25% authorities in England).

Some of East Suffolk's lowest scores are for indicators for mental health, access to services (linked to rurality), levels of disability, and high numbers of children with social, emotional and mental health needs.

Aggregated GP data for East Suffolk indicates a statistically **significantly higher prevalence of depression** in the registered population compared to England (13.8% vs 12.7%). Around 2,650 people registered with East Suffolk GPs have a **dementia diagnosis**.



Looking at health data in more detail suggests that key areas of concern include:



The rate of hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries in children and young people under the age of 5 (144.4 per 10,000) are **statistically higher** than England.

The rate of emergency hospital admissions for intentional self-harm (217.7 per 100,000) are **statistically higher** than England.



1 in 4 reception age children are overweight or obese (24.0%) - **statistically higher** than England (22.3%).

1 in 5 patients report a long-term musculoskeletal problem (such as arthritis) (24.0%) - **statistically higher** than England (22.3%).

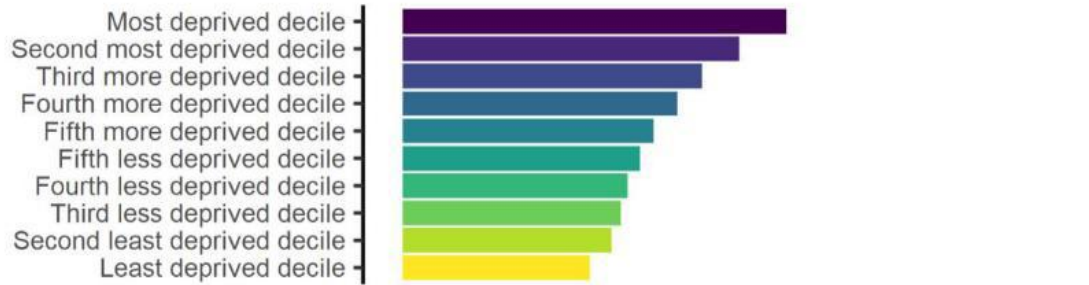


East Suffolk is **statistically similar** compared to England in relation to a range of **health risk behaviours, alcohol use, smoking and physical activity**

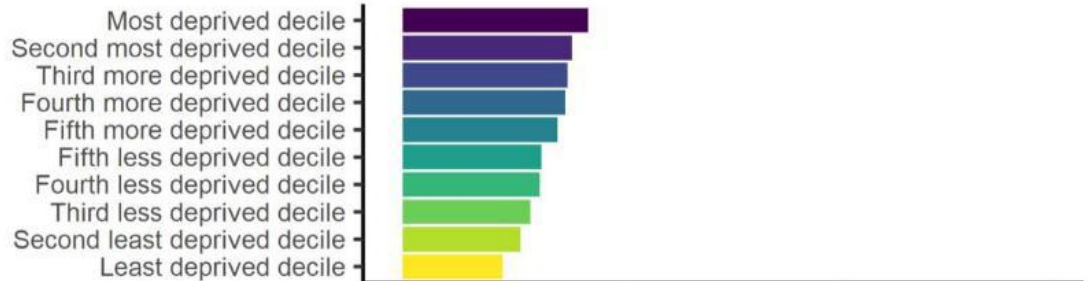
As deprivation increases, so does the proportion of people with risky health behaviour so behaviour change **opportunities are likely to be greater in the core 20 most deprived communities.**

Physical Inactivity

Physically inactive adults (19+; 2020/21)



Smoking prevalence in adults (18+; 2019)



0% 20% 40% 60%
Percentage of adults

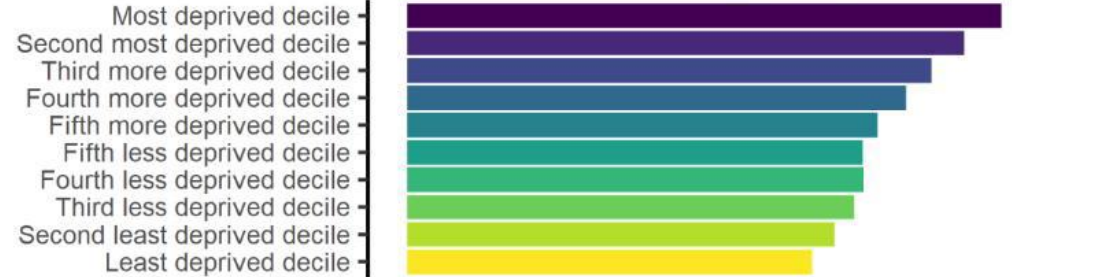
Smoking

Obesity

Adults (18+) classified as overweight or obese (2020/21)



Not meeting the recommended '5-a-day' on a 'usual day' (16+; 2019/20)

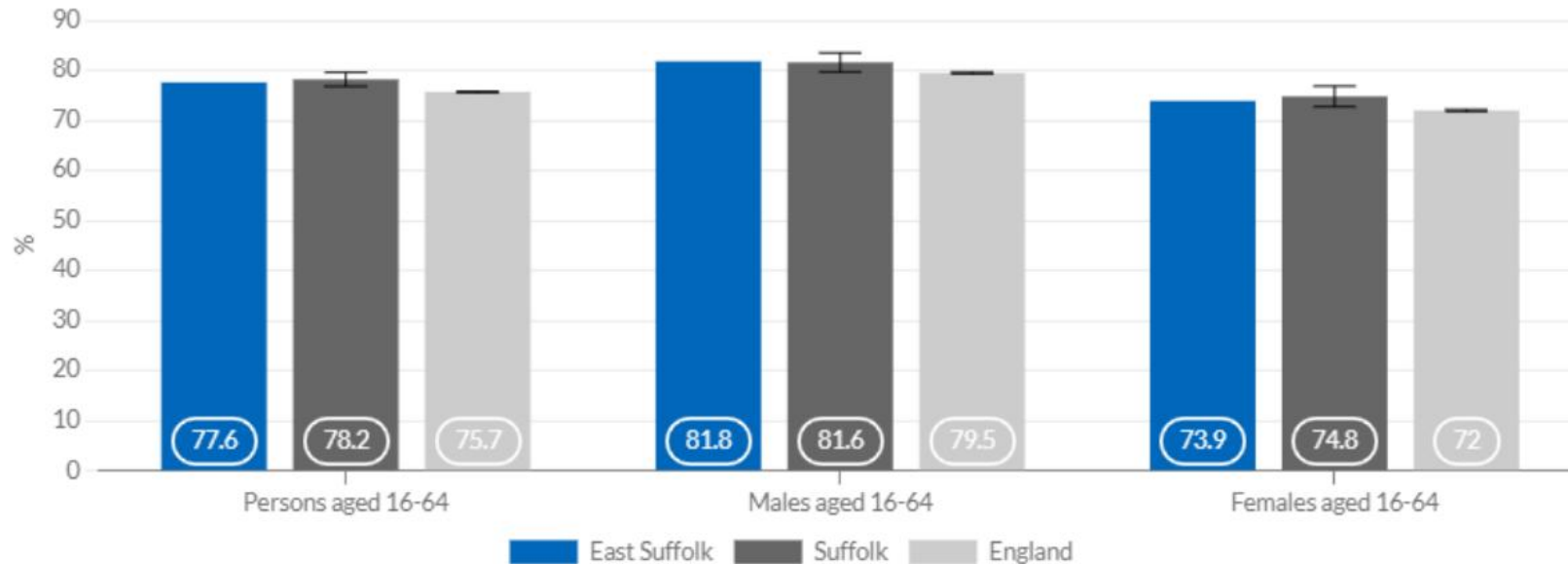


0% 20% 40% 60%
Percentage of adults

Poor Diet



Employment rate by gender (2022-06)

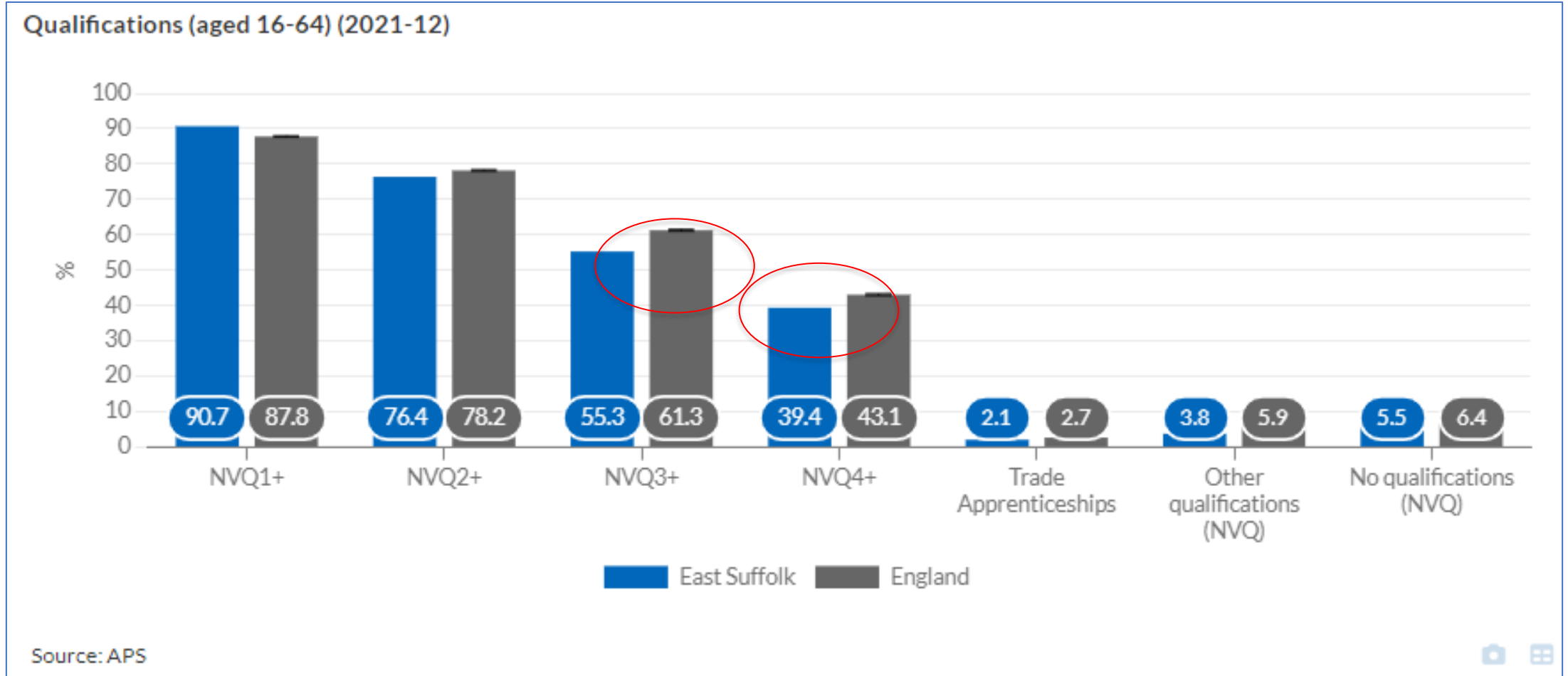


Source: APS

Employment rates in East Suffolk are higher than for England – and remained resilient during the pandemic

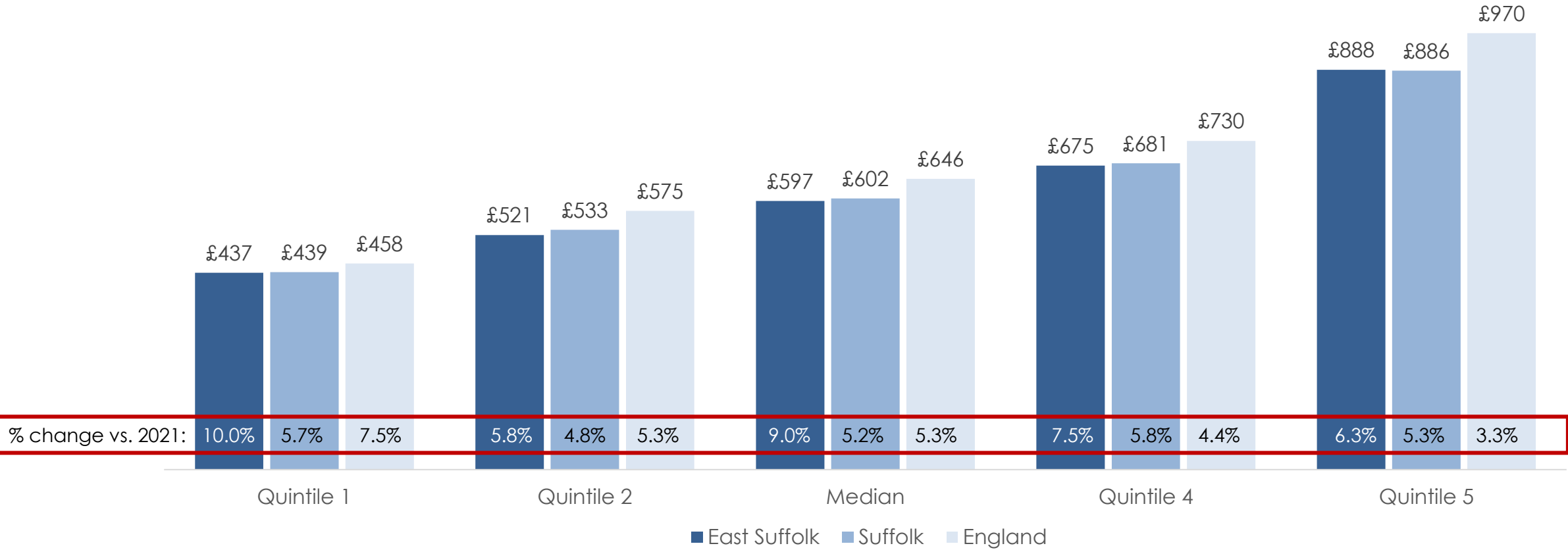


East Suffolk has lower levels of people with NVQ 3 & 4 qualifications than England as a whole....



Employment and education Income

Gross weekly full-time pay by quintile, East Suffolk residents vs. Suffolk & England, 2022

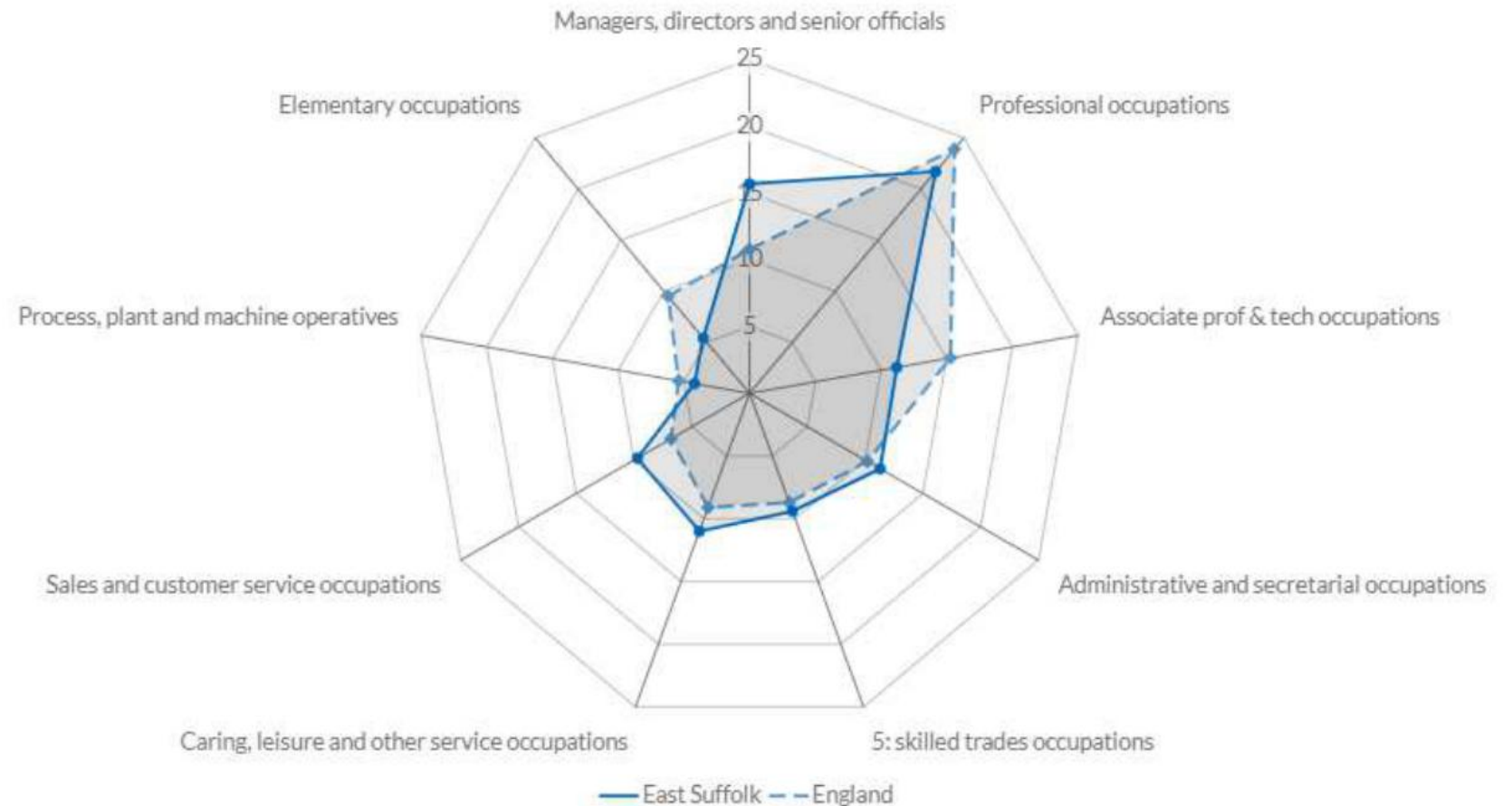


Source: ONS, Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings, 2020. (Note – we focus on weekly pay rather than annual pay, as the latter relates to employees who have been in the same job for more than a year. Therefore, the weekly pay data provides a better idea of differences and changes over 2020 than the annual pay data would.)



These lower skill and pay levels are only partially reflected in employment patterns – more people are in sales and caring occupations, but fewer people in elementary occupations. East Suffolk has fewer people in professional occupations, and associated professional and technical roles, but more people in managerial roles, than the England average.

Percentage employment by major group (2021-12)



Source: APS



- Cost of Living Referrals – 996 to 30th August
- 70+ projects identified through series of workshops, against four priority themes:
 - **Money**
 - **Food and Essentials**
 - **Energy and Fuel**
 - **Housing**
- 12 priority projects identified (18 delivered)
- Almost £1 million secured - including £228k from UKSP Fund, £124k from SCC for Cost-of-Living Community Grants, **£100k from the Community Partnership Board** and £53k from 2022/23 Councillor Enabling Communities Budgets

MONEY ROADSHOWS

WORRIED ABOUT THE RISING COST OF LIVING?

Come to our Money Roadshows for free professional advice on how to Ease the Squeeze, including:

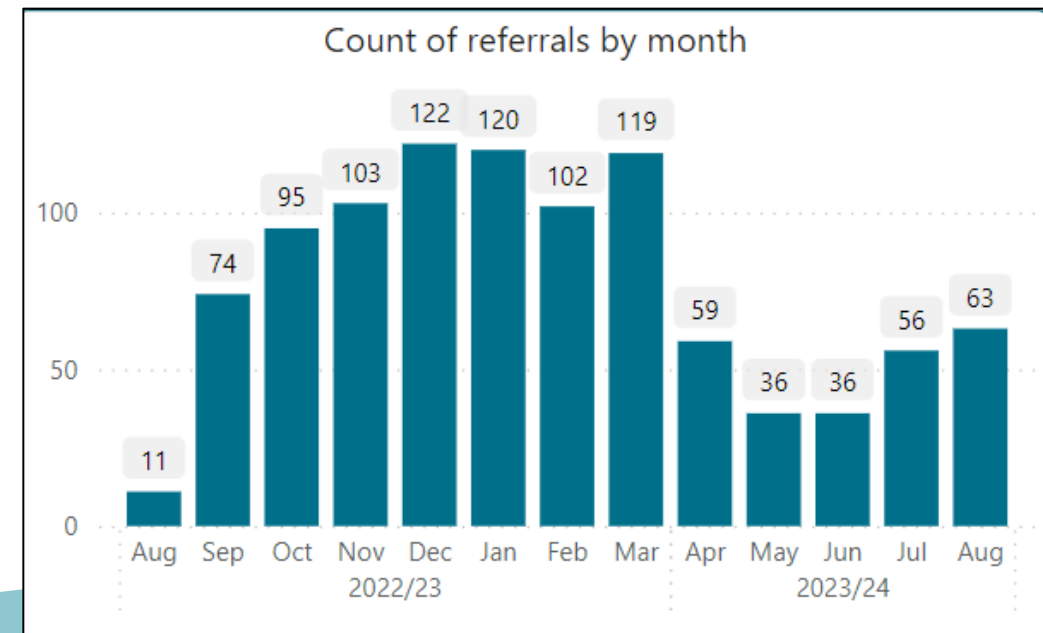
- Money saving tips
- Dealing with rising fuel costs
- Benefits advice
- Financial support and dealing with debt

Find out exactly what support is available for you and how to access it.

FOR INFORMATION, INCLUDING PRACTICAL SUPPORT, FUNDING AND ADVICE, VISIT WWW.EASTSUFFOLK.GOV.UK/SQUEEZE OR CALL 0333 016 2000

Have a confidential chat with a professional or arrange to speak with them at a more convenient time.

See overleaf for venues and times.



Ease the Squeeze Programme Overview

Project	Progress
1. Network of Warm Rooms	32 Warm Rooms funded Winter 2022/23, planning underway for 2023/24 'Warm Welcomes'
2. Food Network Coordinator	FNC post currently out to advert with CAS
3. Community Pantries	Second round of grants now live (four pantries funded to date)
4. Handyperson Project	Project is live and Warm Homes team are taking referrals
5. Cooking on a Budget Classes	Programme to be rolled out from September through schools
6. Cooking Equipment	Stock of microwaves, hobs, slow cookers available
7. Comfort Food	13 Comfort Food Cafes funded in 2022/23 [project now paused]
8. ID Document Fund	Funding being allocated by Community Help Hub as needed
9. Field to Fork Kits / Growing Spaces	15 Growing Spaces funded / 1,600 Growing Kits allocated to families
10. Winter Warmth Packs	280 packs provided during winter 2022/23
11. Digital Projects	Laptops in Warm Rooms, Data/Sim cards through Good Things Foundation
12. School Uniform Banks	Grants now live – 5 applications to date



What does all of this data tell us?



Population

Slow population growth and rapid population ageing will bring challenges

East Suffolk is less diverse than other areas

Many health outcomes remain good – but some indicators relating to children (e.g. mental health, obesity, injury) are less good and mental health/intentional self harm



Deprivation & Inequalities

More than 30,000 people live in the most deprived 20% of areas in England. Inequalities remain deep and entrenched in some areas - and are likely to be exacerbated by the cost-of-living crisis

Deprivation affecting children is particularly high in some areas

East Suffolk has the widest socio-economic disparity in Suffolk – this can be associated with poor outcomes, lack of aspiration and the ‘politics of envy’



Education, skills & Economy

Educational outcomes could be better; adult skill and wage levels remain relatively low, particularly for women

While there are lots of positive indicators relating to the economy, the combined shocks of the pandemic, Brexit, global inflation and national recession are likely to make economic conditions challenging

So, what else can we do?



- **Take every opportunity to address inequalities** - with a focus on particular groups in specific places e.g. low income families in the Harbour and Normanston ward in Lowestoft
- Focus on the things which cause **early and preventable deaths** e.g. smoking and managing blood pressure
- Incentivise **behaviour change** so people are more active, eat better, stop smoking and manage long term conditions
- Continue to **support individuals, households and businesses through difficult economic conditions**
- Consider what the East Suffolk **workers of tomorrow** need to be skilled at and, in an area with an older and un-diverse population, where those workers are going to come from
- Help people to maximise their **life opportunities and increase their aspirations**
- Lead **prevention and early intervention activity** – informed by data - and push for a shift in investment at local, Suffolk and ICS (x2) level
- Seek out **those with lived experience to shape what we do** (e.g. Healthwatch Poverty Community Champions)
- Continue to be **brave and innovative** – pilot/experiment but understand what works – and stop what doesn't
- **Work better together** to maximise reach – we can't achieve our ambitions alone
- Stick to our principle of **sustainable change** – not 'sticking plasters'

Examples - What's already happening?



- Ease the Squeeze Cost of Living programme, East Suffolk Community Help Hub, Cost of Living referral process, financial inclusion work
- Food Poverty/Network work with Community Action Suffolk through the Collaborative Communities Board
- Outreach into communities – St Andrew's and Bridge View (Lowestoft), Bungay Community Support, joint sessions/work with Citizens Advice
- Prevention work with our two ICS health systems including Cold Homes and Making Every Contact County pilot with James Paget University Hospital (Norfolk & Waveney ICS) and the proposed Be Well bus (Suffolk and NE Essex ICS)
- 3 Counties 'Partnership for East Coast Communities' (PECC) – opportunity for a deep dive in Lowestoft
- Successful £150k bid with Public Health/Norfolk and Waveney ICB for funding for a 'Healthy Heart' CVD programme in Lowestoft
- UKSP fund programmes – Employment, Skills, Business Support, Towns/Communities (ends 2025)
- Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF)/CP Board Project – Community/Business Hubs in rural areas
- Healthy Behaviours Programme (SCC/all Districts/Boroughs, ICSs) – Smoking, Physical Activity, Healthy Weight
- Emerging focus on 'Inclusive Investment' – ensuring that investment benefits the Core 20 cohort
- Work to establish East Suffolk as an 'Age Friendly Community'