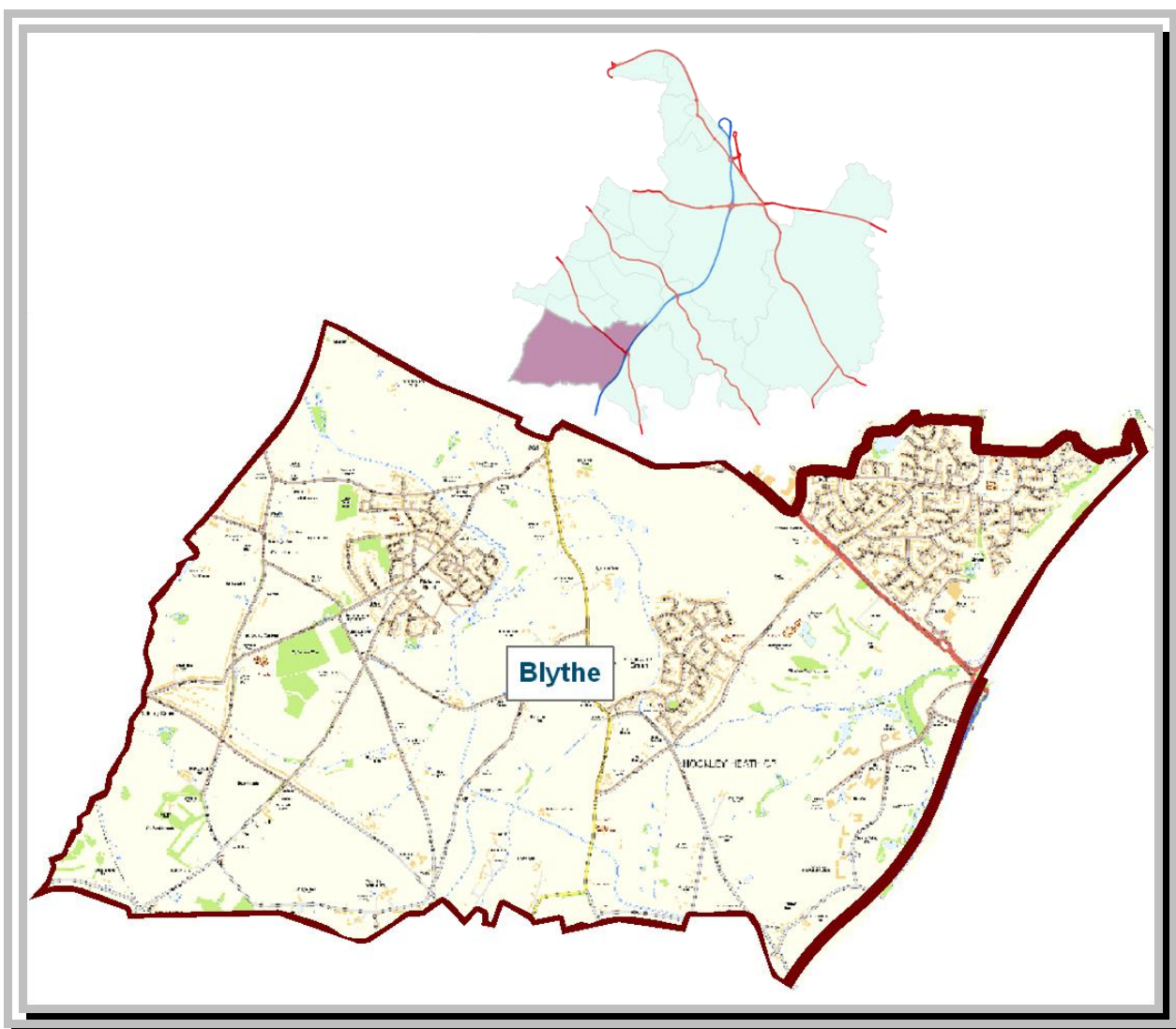


2016 Ward Profile:

Blythe



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WARD PROFILE FORWARD

Ward Profiles provide a snapshot of a ward's socio-economic circumstances and highlight specific issues and concerns at a local level.

This update still includes comprehensive coverage of the Census 2011 data first reported in the 2013 Ward Profile, as, in many instances, the Census remains the most detailed and accurate measure available at a ward level. The Census provides highly detailed information on the following themes:

- Population and demography;
- Households, living arrangements & family structure;
- Ethnicity, religion, origin & language;
- Employment and qualifications;
- Health and care;
- Housing and housing condition.

This update also draws on the latest available version of following data sets:

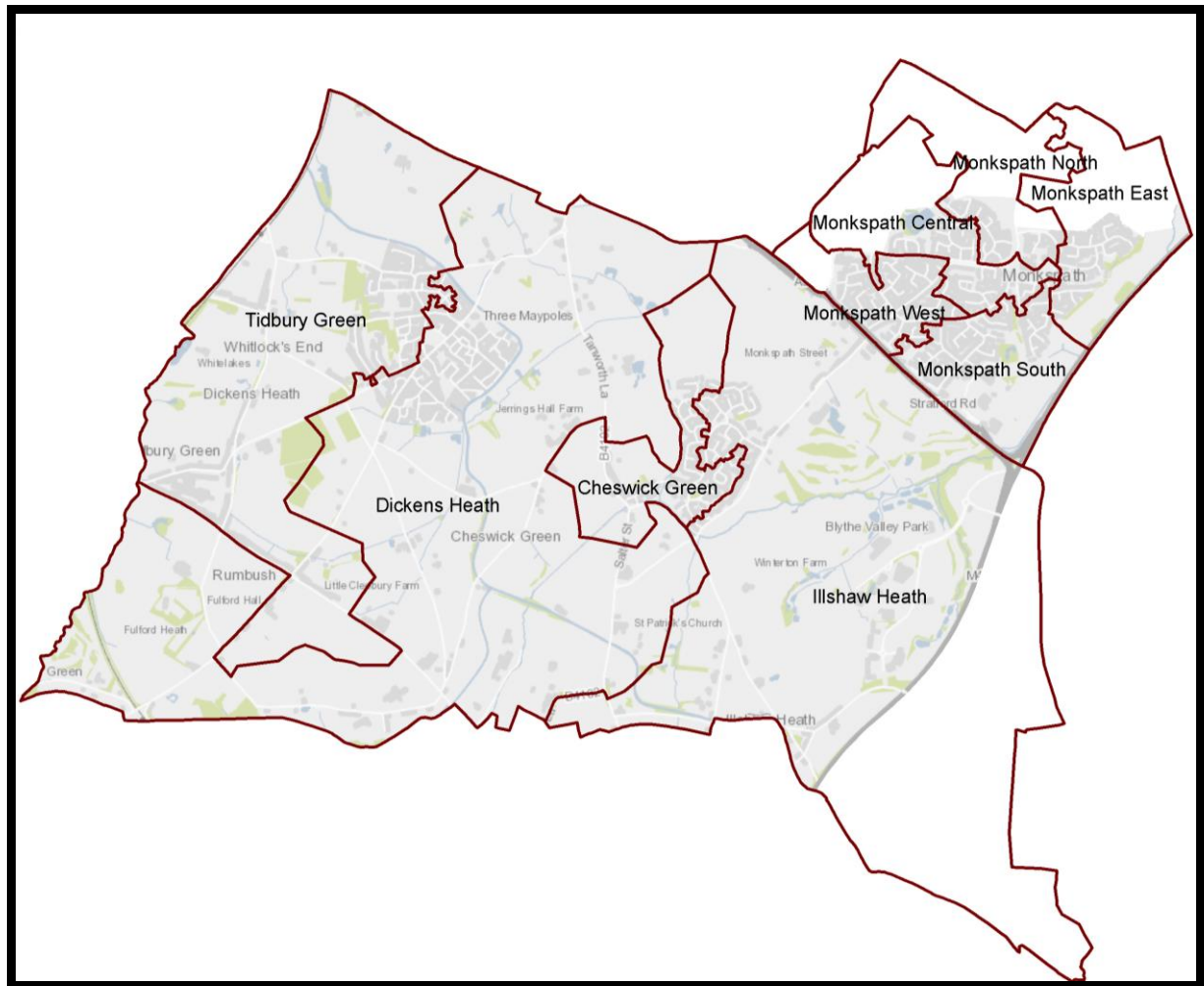
- Crime and anti-social behaviour rates (Crime Stats UK);
- Claimant unemployment (ONS/Nomis) and worklessness (DWP);
- Solihull Place Survey 2014 (SMBC);
- School attainment (Department for Education);
- Children in Poverty (DWP);
- Life expectancy and mortality rates (Public Health England);
- Index of Multiple Deprivation (ONS);
- Solihull Housing Register (SMBC).

Sub-borough data is available at a variety of levels. As well as the borough's 17 electoral wards, the majority of data is based on the standard Census geographies:

- Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) local neighbourhoods based on a minimum population of 1,000 and an average of 1,500 (134 in Solihull);
- Middle Layer Super Output Areas (MSOAs) containing an average of 7,200 persons (29 in Solihull).

Technical advice and support is available from the Solihull Observatory.

BLYTHE SUPER OUTPUT AREAS



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SOLIHULL CONTEXT

Solihull is a broadly affluent Borough in both the regional and national context, with generally above-average levels of school performance and low crime rates compared with the West Midlands key characteristics. Levels and extent of deprivation are limited with only 22 of the Borough's 134 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in the most 20% deprived areas in the country.

Solihull as an authority is, however, challenged by a prosperity gap, with performance indicators in the regeneration zone to the north of Birmingham International Airport significantly lagging the rest of the Borough. Geographically Solihull can be split into the northern area (including the regeneration zone), the urban west (including Solihull town centre), the rural east and the semi-rural south.

BLYTHE SUMMARY

Blythe is located in south Solihull with significant Green Belt land, bordered by the M42 motorway and commercial hub of Blythe Valley Business Park to the east, Bromsgrove to the west and Stratford district to the south. Blythe has a number of very distinct but broadly affluent communities, from established villages such as Cheswick Green, to modern estates such as Monkspath and the rapidly expanding Dickens Heath. In addition to Dickens Heath, Blythe has a number of key strategic development sites and the ward is likely to remain the focus for much of Solihull's additional new housing capacity.

The LSOA map on page 2 illustrates the individual localities within Blythe, based on the Office for National Statistics' LSOAs. A number of LSOAs in Monkspath overlap the Blythe ward boundary as does Illshaw Heath. Three parishes (Cheswick Green, Dickens Heath and Tidbury Green) provide an alternative segmentation of Blythe, although while socially significant, these new parishes are available as statistical entities elsewhere and are not used as measures in this report.

POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHY

Total Population and Households

	Blythe	Solihull	England
All usual residents	12,997	206,674	53,012,456
Household residents	12,938	205,087	52,059,931
Communal establishment residents	59	1,587	952,525
% of population in communal establishments	0.5%	0.8%	1.8%
Area (hectares)	1,345	17,829	13,027,843
Population density	9.7	11.6	4.1
Households with at least one usual resident	5,353	86,056	22,063,368
Average household size	2.4	2.4	2.4
Source: ONS Census 2011			

At the time of the 2011 Census the population of Blythe was 12,997 (6,449 males, 6,548 females). This equates to 9.7 residents per hectare, below the Solihull average of 11.6 and 5th lowest of the borough's 17 wards.

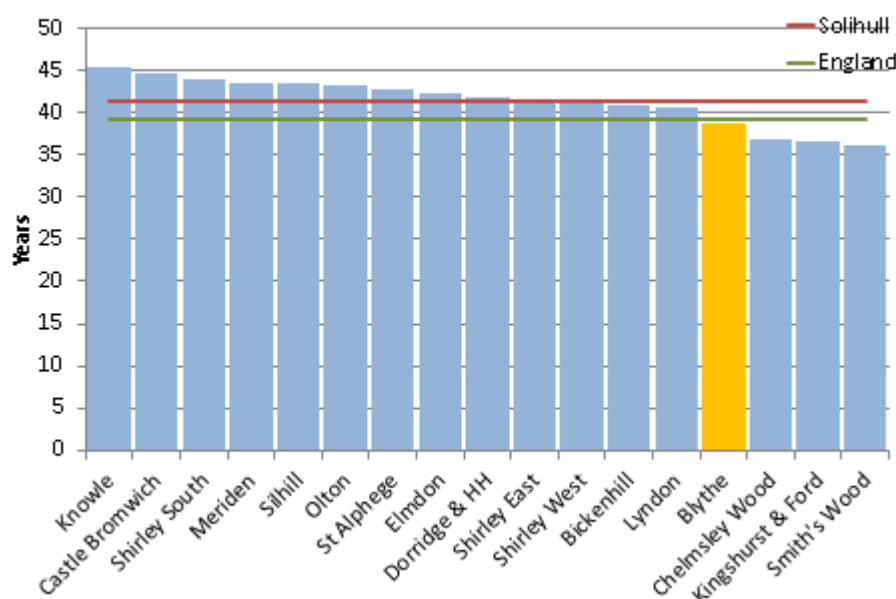
Subsequent modelled estimates by the ONS record the Blythe population as 13,460 residents in mid-2014 (6,691 males, 6,769 females). However, as the Census provides the most accurate picture this is used as the source for the more detailed population breakdowns that follow.

Age Structure

	Count	% of Population		
	Blythe	Blythe	Solihull	England
Pre-School Children (0-4 years)	779	6.0%	5.6%	6.3%
School Age Children (5-15 Years)	1,679	12.9%	13.4%	12.6%
All Children (0-15 years)	2,458	18.9%	19.0%	18.9%
Young Adults (age 16-24 years)	1,270	9.8%	10.6%	11.9%
Mature working Age (25-64 years)	7,544	58.0%	51.3%	52.9%
Working Age Total (16-64)	8,814	67.8%	61.9%	64.8%
Retirement Age (65 year+)	1,725	13.3%	19.2%	16.3%
Older People (Age 85+)	166	1.3%	2.7%	2.2%
Average Age (years)		38.8	41.3	39.3
Source: ONS Census 2011				

In 2011 the average age in Blythe was 38.8 years, substantially below that for Solihull as a whole (41.3 years) and 4th lowest in the borough.

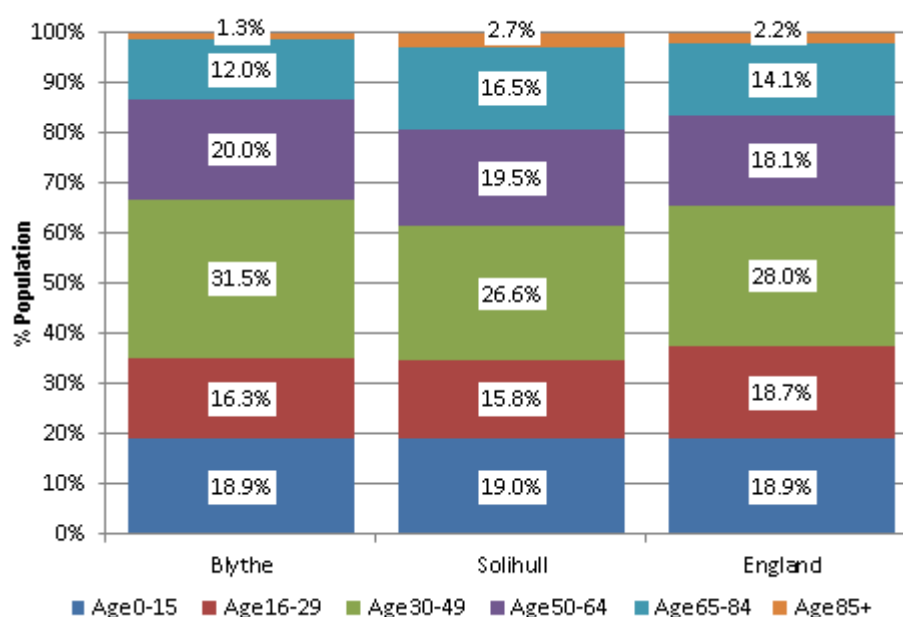
Average Age of Resident Population



Source: ONS Census 2011

This above below average age is most evident in the fact that Blythe has the smallest proportion of residents aged 65+ in the borough (13.3% compared to 19.2% for Solihull). Although the proportion of children aged 0-15 years is in line with the Solihull average, there are relatively far more people aged 30 to 49 years in Blythe (31.5% compared to 26.6% for Solihull) and a slightly higher proportion of those aged 16-24 years.

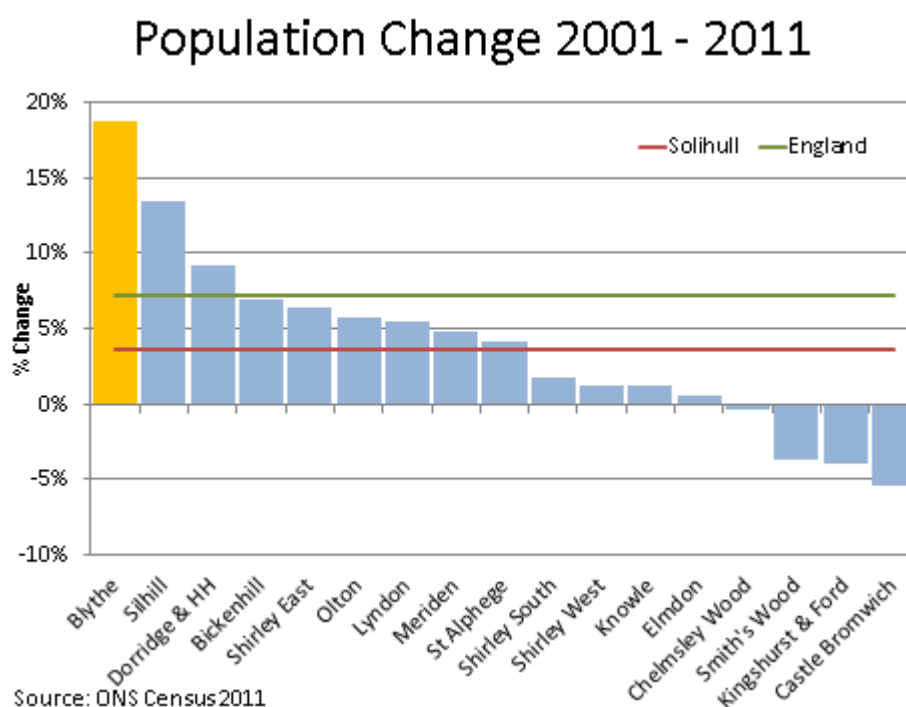
Population 2011



Source: ONS Census 2011

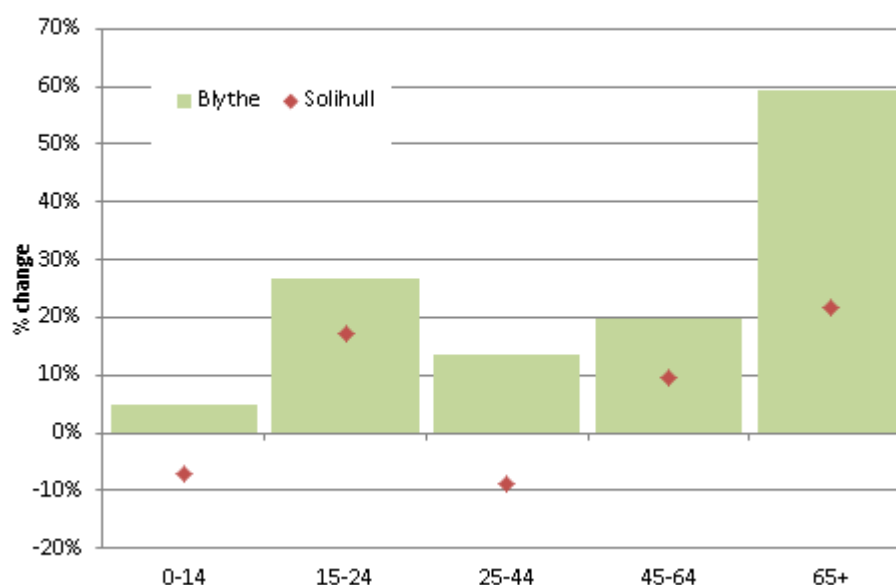
Population Change

Between 2001 and 2011, the population of Blythe increased by nearly 18% (1,957 individuals) compared to the Solihull average of 3.6% and by far the largest of any ward in the borough. This reflects the development of Dickens Heath over this period and the +27% (+1,141) increase in households over this period.



Unlike Solihull as a whole the population of Blythe increased across all broad age bands, with the increase proportionally largest among those aged 65 years and over (+59% compared to +22% for the borough). As a result the average age in Blythe increased by 1.7 years between the two Census periods (from 37.1 to 38.8 years). It should also be noted that Blythe was the only ward in Solihull which recorded an increase in the population aged 25-44 years over this period.

Population Change by Broad Age Band 2001 - 2011



Source: ONS Census 2011

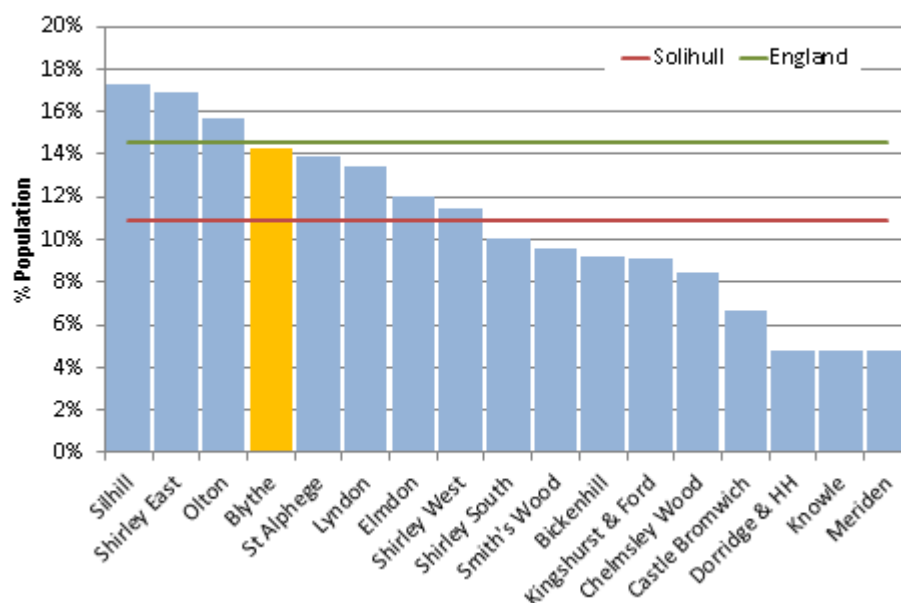
Ethnicity, Origin and Language

	Count	% of Population		
	Blythe	Blythe	Solihull	England
White Population	11,147	85.8%	89.1%	85.4%
Black & Asian Minority Ethnic Population (BAME)	1,850	14.2%	10.9%	14.6%
Born in UK	11,693	90.0%	92.6%	86.2%
Born Outside UK	1,304	10.0%	7.4%	13.8%
UK Passport	11,499	88.5%	82.1%	75.8%
Non-UK Passport	737	5.7%	4.0%	8.8%
No Passport	870	6.7%	14.6%	16.5%
English Main Language (age 3+)	12,068	96.1%	97.1%	92.0%
Speak English Well (age 3+)	401	3.2%	2.5%	6.3%
Cannot Speak English or Speak Well (age 3+)	91	0.7%	0.5%	1.7%
Source: ONS Census 2011				

The population of Solihull is becoming increasingly diverse, with the number of residents from a Black or Asian Minority Ethnic (BAME) background increasing by +108% between 2001 and 2011, representing 10.9% of the population compared with 5.4% 10 years earlier.

Blythe has the 4th highest percentage of residents from a BAME background in the borough, with the proportion increasing from 7.7% to 14.7% between 2001 and 2011. Over this period the number of residents from a White ethnic group in Blythe increased by +10% (+1,047 individuals) compared with a fall of -2% across the borough as a whole, whereas the BAME population increased by +118% (+1,002 individuals).

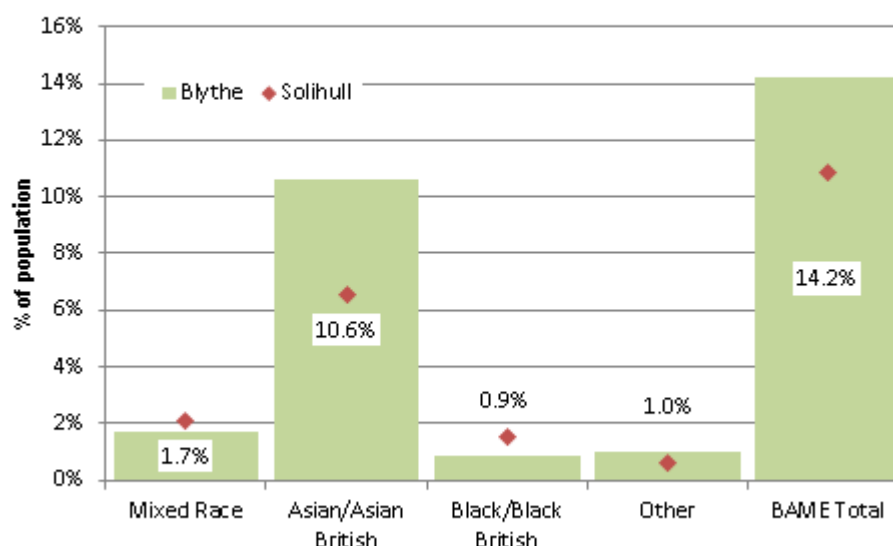
Black and Asian Minority Ethnic Population 2011



Source: ONS Census2011

Around 75% of the BAME population in Blythe are from an Asian or Asian British background and this is the only BAME group in which the ward has proportionally a much higher representation than the borough as a whole.

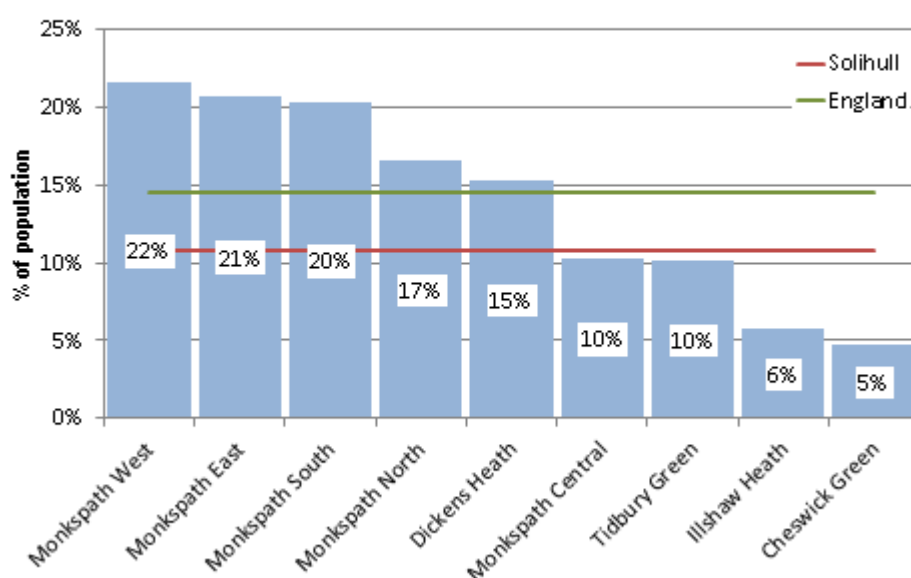
Black and Asian Minority Ethnic (BAME) Population 2011



Source: ONS Census2011

At a local neighbourhood level the BAME population in the Blythe area ranges from over 20% in each of Monkspath West, East and South to 6% in Illshaw Heath and 5% in Cheswick Green.

Black or Asian Minority Ethnic Population (BAME) in Blythe Area



At 10%, Blythe has the 2nd highest proportion of residents born outside of the UK in Solihull, although this is still significantly below the England average (13.8%). A large majority (64%) of the 1,304 Blythe residents born outside of the UK arrived prior to 2001, although compared with the rest of the borough a higher proportion (16% compared to 13%) have arrived post 2007.

96% of the Blythe population aged 3 years and over have English as their main language, with those that cannot speak English or speak English well representing just 0.7% of the total population.

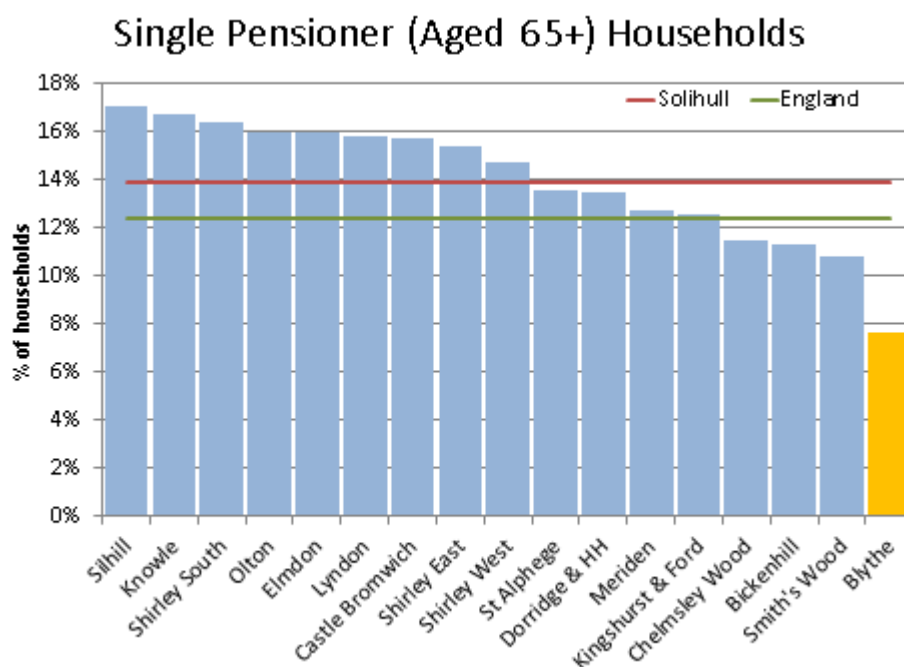
Household Composition

	Count	% of All Households		
	Blythe	Blythe	Solihull	England
One Person	1,431	26.7%	29.2%	30.2%
One Family	3,620	67.6%	65.6%	61.8%
Other Households	302	5.6%	5.2%	8.0%
Total Aged 65+	806	15.1%	24.4%	20.7%
Of which Single	406	7.6%	13.9%	12.4%
All with Dependent Children	1,670	31.2%	30.2%	29.1%
Of Which Lone Parent	271	5.1%	7.1%	7.1%
All Households	5,353			

Source: ONS Census 2011

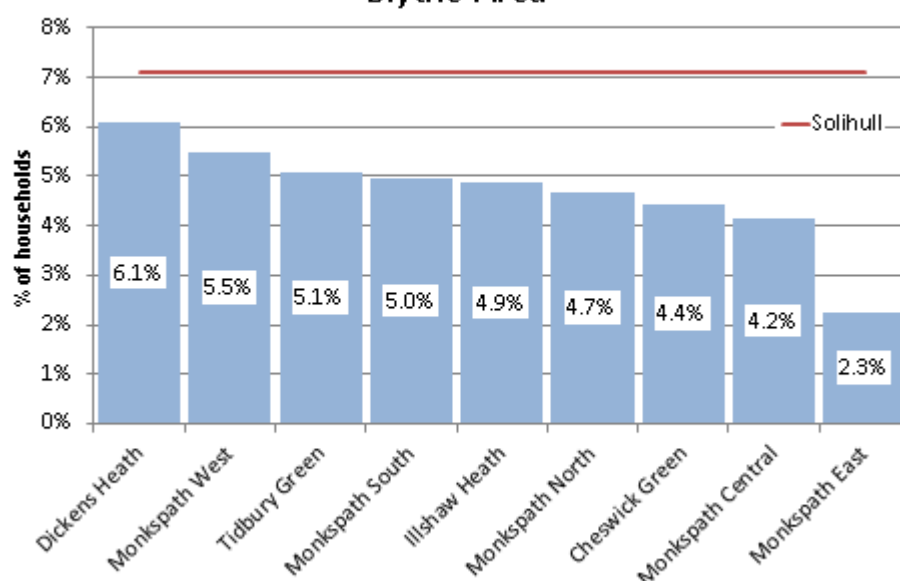
Nearly 68% of Blythe's 5,353 households are occupied by one family, which like the borough as a whole is above the England average (62%). Single person households are less

common in Blythe than across Solihull as a whole, but have increased from 21% of all households in 2001 to 27% in 2011. At 19% of all households Blythe has the highest proportion of households occupied by a single person under the age of 65 outside of the North Solihull regeneration wards. By contrast Blythe has the smallest proportion of pensioner households in the borough (7.6% of all households compared to the Solihull average of 13.9%).



There are 405 lone parent households in Blythe of which 271 have dependent children. This represents 5.1% of all households compared with the Solihull average of 7.1%. All of Blythe's LSOA neighbourhoods have a smaller proportion of lone parent households with dependent children than the Solihull average, with Dickens Heath (6.1%) having the largest concentration in the ward.

Lone Parent Households with Dependent Children in Blythe Area



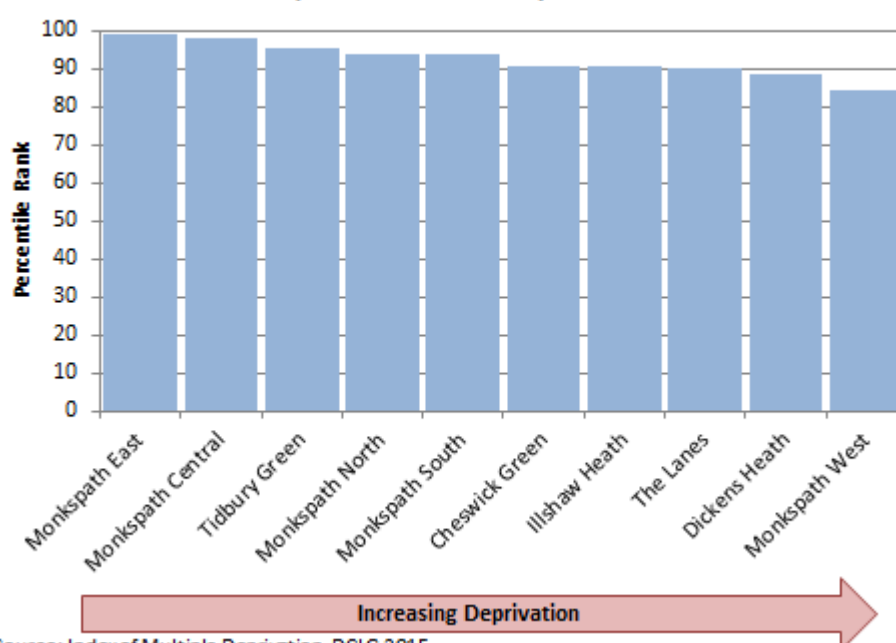
Source: ONS Census 2011

Deprivation

The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) provides a useful snapshot of the degree to which the local population is exposed to social and economic disadvantage.

As the chart below shows residents of Blythe are subject to low levels of deprivation, with the most deprived LSOA Monkspath West on the 84th percentile (in the 16% least deprived neighbourhoods in the country).

Overall Deprivation in Blythe Area 2015



Source: Index of Multiple Deprivation, DCLG 2015

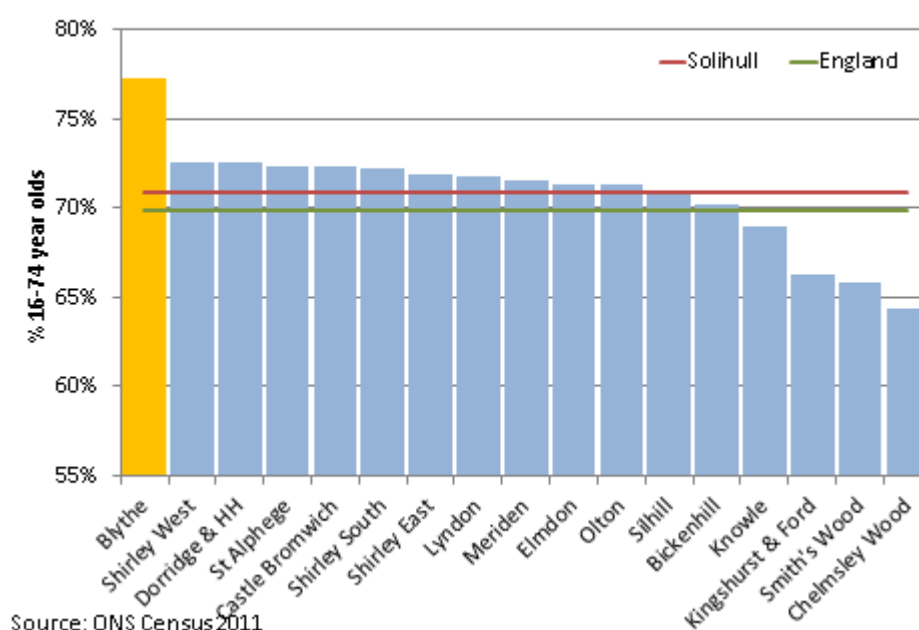
PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES

Economic Activity and Employment

	Count	% 16-74 Population		
	Blythe	Blythe	Solihull	England
Economically Active	7,634	77.3%	70.8%	69.9%
of which Employed	7,087	71.7%	63.8%	62.1%
of which Unemployed	272	2.8%	4.2%	4.4%
Economically Inactive	2,248	22.7%	29.2%	30.1%
of which Retired	1,380	14.0%	16.2%	13.7%
of which Looking After Home or Family	285	2.9%	3.7%	4.4%
of which Sick or Disabled	120	1.2%	3.3%	4.0%
Source: ONS Census 2011				

At 77% Blythe has by far the highest level of economic activity among 16-74 year olds in the borough. The employment rate of 72% is also significantly higher than either the Solihull (64%) or England (62%) averages.

Economic Activity



Of the 7,087 16-74 year olds in employment in Blythe, 65% work full-time for an employer, 19% work part-time (the lowest in the borough) and 16% are self-employed. Unlike the borough, where part-time work has become increasingly common, this split in terms of type of employment remained relatively unchanged between 2001 and 2011.

Over a quarter (26%) of Blythe residents aged 16-74 years in employment work in the public sector an increase on the 21% recorded in 2001. Transport, Storage & Communications

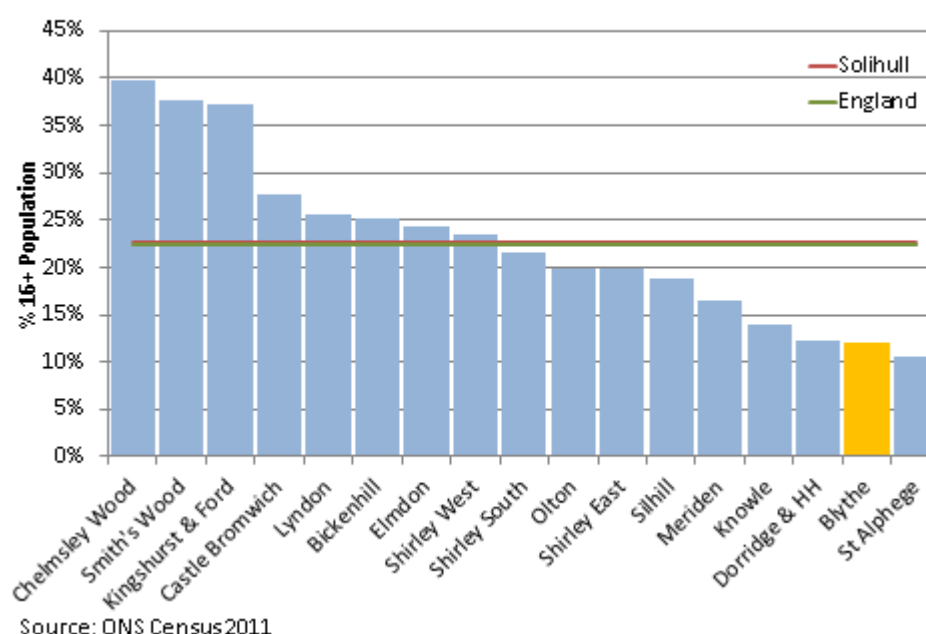
(from 6% to 9% of the total) and construction (from 6% to 8%) have also become more important sources of employment for Blythe residents. By contrast the proportion of people employed in manufacturing has shrunk from 14% to 9%. However, both this and the greater role of the public sector are consistent with the pattern across Solihull.

Adult Skills

	Count	% 16-74 Population		
	Blythe	Blythe	Solihull	England
No Qualifications	1,273	12.1%	22.7%	22.5%
Maximum NVQ Level 1	2,610	24.8%	36.3%	35.8%
NVQ Level 4+	4,185	39.7%	28.5%	27.4%
Source: ONS Census 2011				

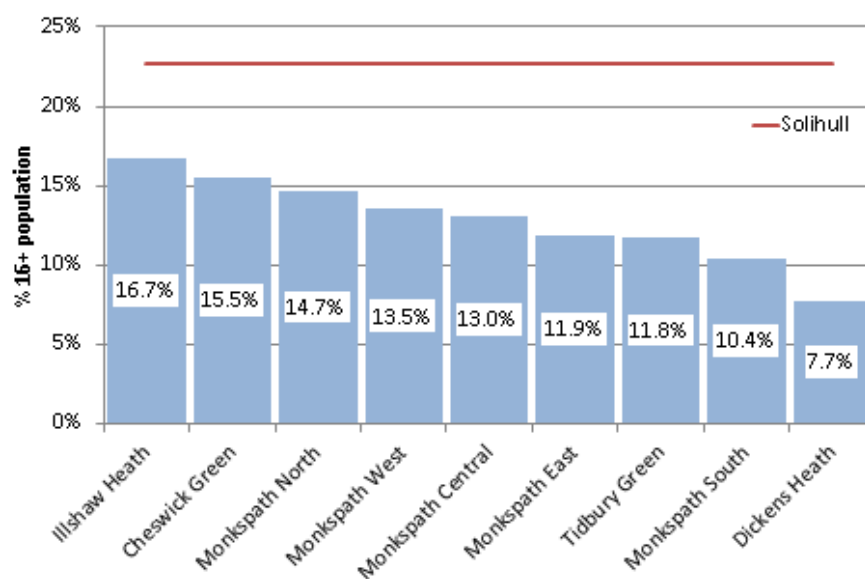
There are 2,610 adults aged 16 and over in Blythe who can be classified as having low skills (qualified to a maximum of NVQ level 1) of which 1,273 have no formal qualifications. This means that just 12% of the adult population in Blythe have no formal qualifications, substantially below both the Solihull (22.7%) and England (22.5%) averages and the 2nd lowest level in the borough. At the other end of the spectrum, at nearly 40%, a much larger proportion of the Blythe population is qualified to NVQ level 4 (degree level or equivalent) and above, than in either Solihull (28.5%) or England (27.4%).

Adults with No Formal Qualifications



All LSOA neighbourhoods in the Blythe area have a smaller proportion of adults with no formal qualifications than the Solihull average, with the rate ranging from nearly 17% in Illshaw Heath to less than 8% in Dickens Heath.

Adult Population with No Formal Qualifications

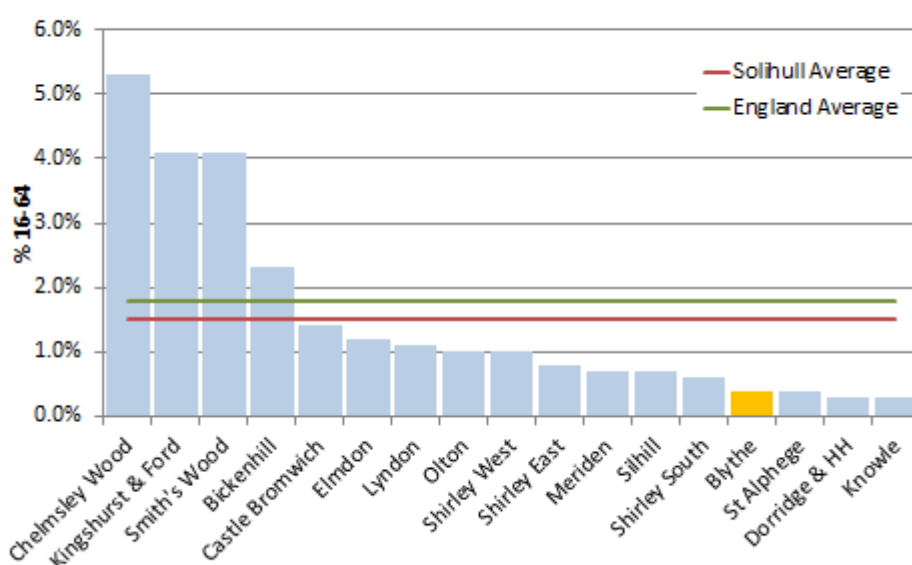


Claimant Unemployment

Claimant unemployment comprising Jobseekers Allowance (JSA) claimants and, since June 2015, Universal Credit claimants not in employment, measures the number of people not in work and actively seeking employment.

In October 2015 there were 40 individuals in Blythe meeting this definition of unemployment equating to 0.5% of the working age population. This is well below the Solihull (1.5%), England (1.8%) and West Midlands (2.1%) averages and the 4th lowest rate in the borough.

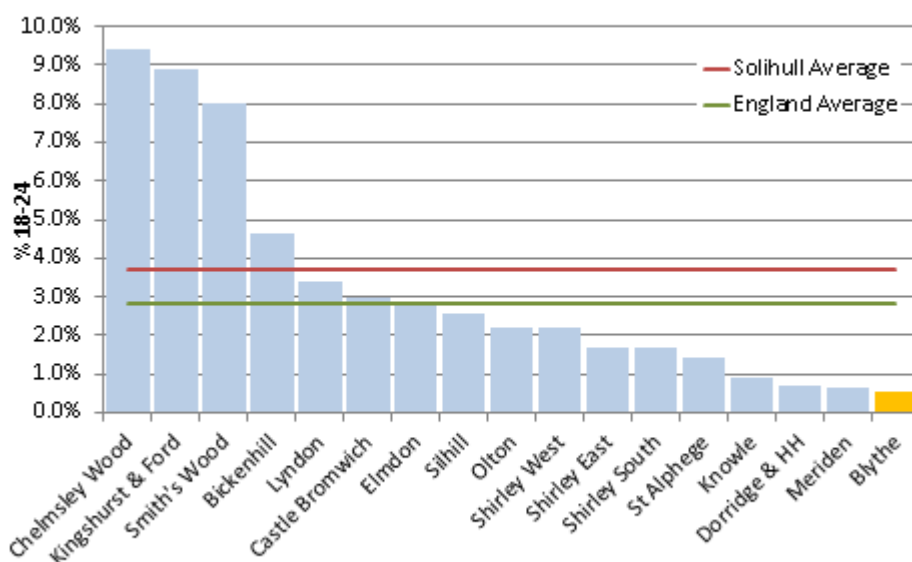
Claimant Unemployment October 2015



13% of claimants in Blythe are aged 18-24 years (5 individuals) with the rate among this group 0.6% compared to the averages of 3.7% for Solihull and 2.8% for England. Blythe is one of the few wards in the Borough where Claimant Unemployment rates are similar across all age ranges.

Claimant Unemployment - October 2015				
	Blythe Count	Rate		
		Blythe	Solihull	England
Aged 18-24	5	0.6%	3.7%	2.8%
Aged 25-49	25	0.5%	1.6%	1.8%
Aged 50+	10	0.4%	0.9%	1.4%
All Ages	45	0.5%	1.5%	1.8%
Source: ONS/Nomis				

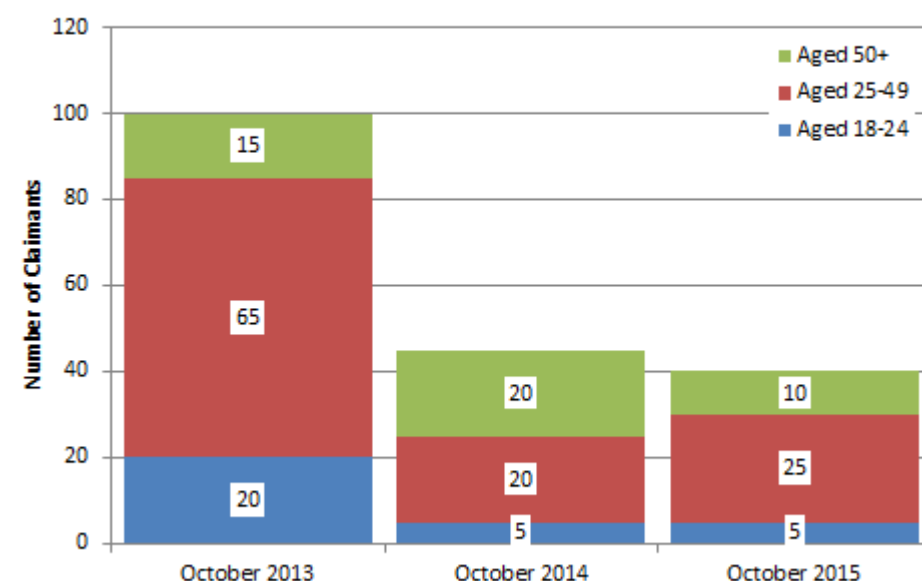
18-24 Claimant Unemployment October 2015



Source: ONS/Nomis

Claimant unemployment in Blythe has fallen by a total of -60% (-60 individuals) in the last two years, with the number of claimants aged 18-24 years falling by -75% (-15 individuals) over this period.

Claimant Unemployment in Blythe



Source: ONS/Nomis

Worklessness

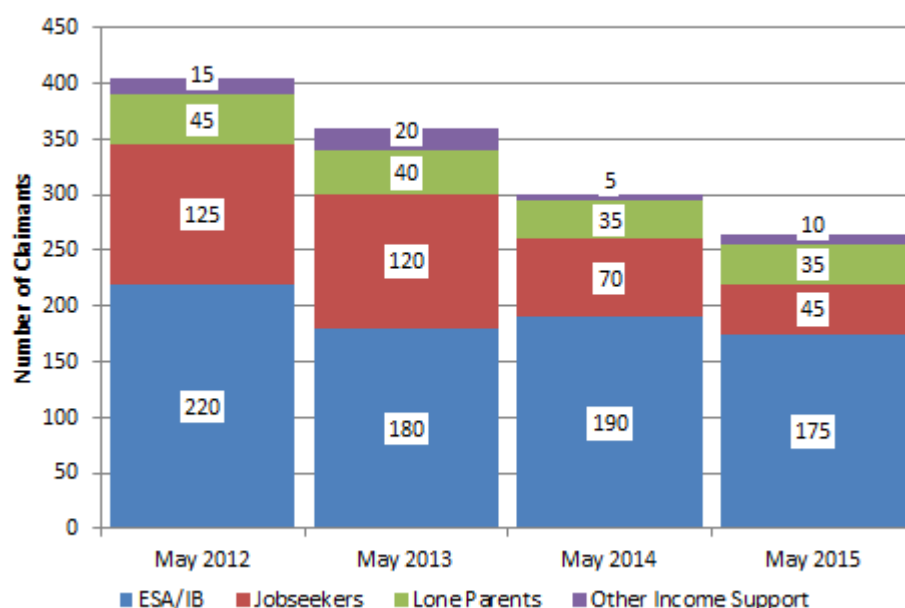
Worklessness is a broader labour market measure than claimant unemployment as it includes individuals who are not working but not required to seek work to be eligible for benefits. This includes significant numbers of those claiming a sickness benefit (Employment and Support Allowance or Incapacity Benefit). The total number of people workless comprises those claiming Jobseekers Allowance, Employment and Support Allowance/Incapacity Benefit, as well as Lone Parents and others on income support.

In May 2015 there were 265 people in the Blythe area claiming one of these out of work benefits, equating to 3.0% of the working age population, compared with the Solihull average of 8.1% and the rates of 9.1% for England and 10.4% for the West Midlands.

Employment Support Allowance (ESA) and Incapacity Benefit claimants constitute 66% of the total claimant count, followed by job seekers 17% and the two smaller categories lone parents on income support (13%) and others on income related benefits (4%).

In common with the rest of the borough, the number of people claiming an out-of work benefit increased sharply in Blythe in the aftermath of the 2008/09 recession, but has been trending downwards over the last three years. The number of claimants is now 35% lower than in 2012 (-140 claimants). This reduction has been primarily driven by falling numbers of Jobseekers, although the numbers claiming ESA/Incapacity Benefit and Lone Parents on Income Support are also lower.

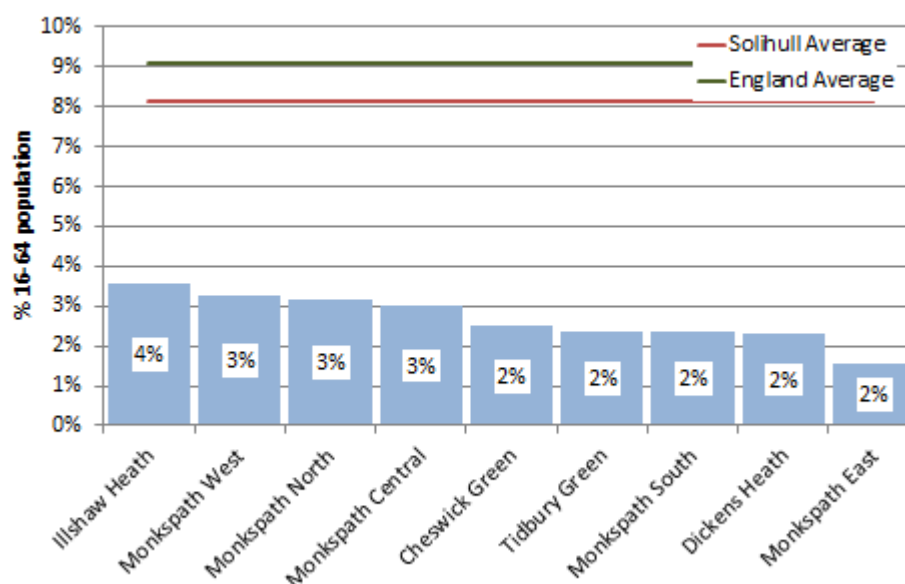
Worklessness in Blythe



Source: DWP

All LSOA neighbourhoods in Blythe have a worklessness rate below 5%.

Worklessness Rates in Blythe May 2015

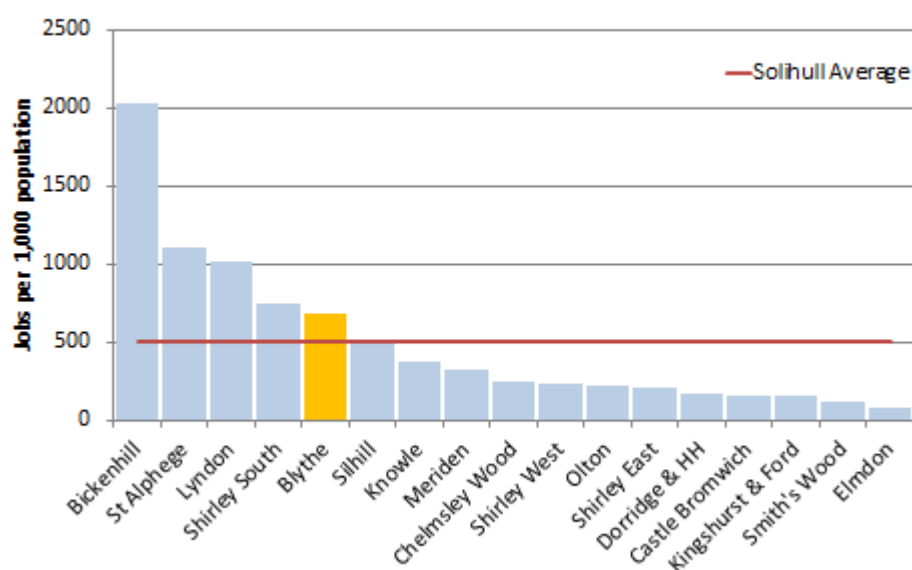


Source: DWP

Workforce Jobs and Businesses

The presence of Blythe Valley Business Park means that, the Blythe ward is a significant employment centre in Solihull. At the end of 2014 there were an estimated 9,200 jobs located in Blythe (9% of the Solihull total), equating to a jobs density of 683 jobs per 1,000 residents, compared to the Solihull average of 504 per 1,000.

Jobs Density



Source: Business Survey & Employment Register

14% of all jobs in Blythe are in the information & communication sector, with accommodation & food services, retail, construction, professional services and transport & storage also prominent in the ward.

	Jobs in Blythe [^]	% Blythe Total
Information & communication	1,300	14%
Accommodation & food services	1,200	13%
Retail	1,100	12%
Construction	1,000	11%
Professional, scientific & technical	1,000	11%
Transport & storage	1,000	11%
Education	600	6%
Arts, entertainment, recreation & other services	400	4%
Wholesale	300	4%
Health	300	4%
Property	300	3%
Motor trades	200	2%
Business admin & support services	200	2%
Financial & insurance	200	2%
Manufacturing	200	2%
Mining, quarrying & utilities	<100	0.2%
[^] Jobs rounded to nearest 100		
Source: Business Register and Employment Survey		

The number of jobs in Blythe increased by around 25% (+1,800) between 2009 and 2014, a substantially higher rate of growth than either the Solihull (+12%) or England (+5%) averages.

Data on the number of business is available at Middle Super Output Area (MSOA) level. The majority of the Blythe ward falls within the Blythe Parishes MSOA. There were 620 businesses in this MSOA equating to 66 per 1,000 population, the 5th highest concentration of business in Solihull.

The number of business in the Blythe Parishes MSOA increased by 10% between 2010 and 2015, broadly in-line with the Solihull (+13%) and England (+14%) averages.

Area	Business Base 2015			Change 2010-2015	
	Count	% Solihull Total	Density (per 1,000)	Number	%
Blythe Parishes	620	7%	66	+55	+10%
Solihull			44		+13%
England			47		+14%

Source: ONS UK Business Counts

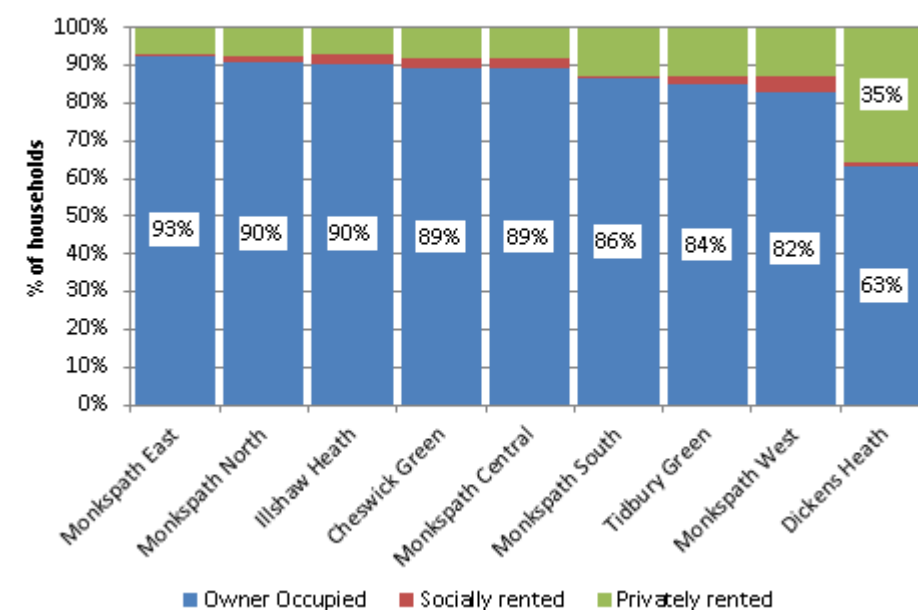
Housing

	Count	% of Households		
	Blythe	Blythe	Solihull	England
Owner Occupied	4,309	80.5%	74.5%	64.1%
Socially Rented	96	1.8%	14.9%	17.7%
Privately Rented	908	17.0%	9.9%	16.8%
Whole House or Bungalow	4,490	81.5%	81.6%	77.5%
Flat, Maisonette or Apartment	1,009	18.3%	18.2%	22.1%
No Central Heating	51	1.0%	1.8%	2.7%
Overcrowding (bedrooms)	79	1.5%	2.7%	4.8%
Overcrowding (all rooms)	298	5.6%	4.5%	8.7%

Source: ONS Census 2011

As with Solihull as a whole, a large majority of households in Blythe are owner occupied (81% compared with 64% across England as a whole). The only significant local variation on this is the Dickens Heath LSOA neighbourhood where privately rented accommodation accounts for 35% of all households, the highest concentration of private rented housing in the borough (out of 133 LSOAs).

Households by Tenure in Blythe Area

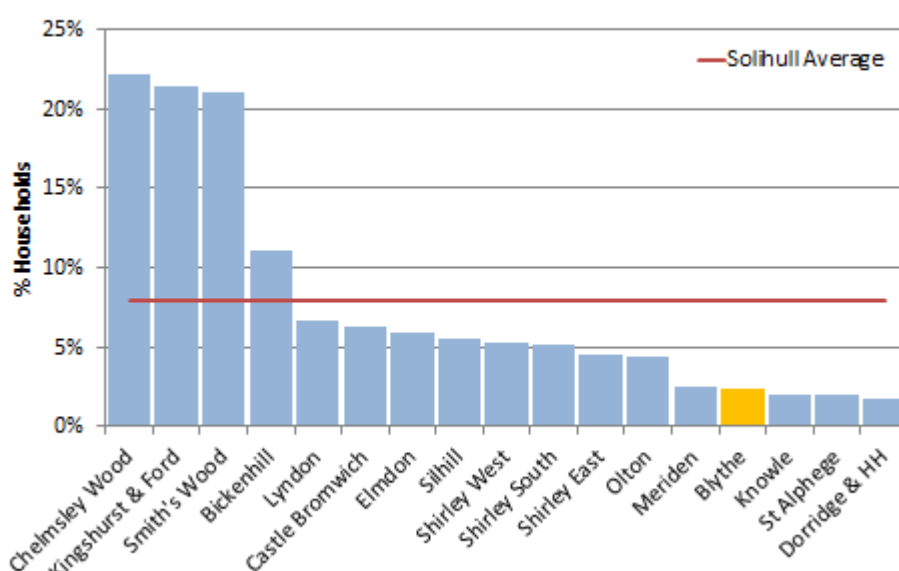


A significant feature in both the ward and the borough has been the substantial increase in the number of privately rented households between 2001 and 2011. There are 675 more private rented households in Blythe than in 2001, with the share of all households increasing from 6% to 18%. The number of owner occupied households increased by +398 over this period, but the share of the total shrank from 93% in 2001 to 80%.

In terms of housing condition just 1% of households in Blythe do not have central heating, below both the Solihull (1.8%) and England (2.7%) averages. Evidence from the Census also suggests that there are relatively few problems with overcrowding in Blythe. The Census provides an occupancy rating to assess the level of under-occupancy or overcrowding at a local level. For example, within this occupancy rating, a value of -1 implies that there is one room too few and that there is overcrowding in the household. It relates the actual number of rooms to the number of rooms 'required' by the members of the household (based on an assessment of the relationship between household members, their ages and gender). On average just 1.5% of households in Blythe have an occupancy rating of -1 in relation to the number of bedrooms compared with the Solihull average of 2.7% and the England average of 4.8%. However, when all rooms are taken into consideration the proportion of overcrowding in Blythe is above the Solihull average (5.6% compared to 4.5%). The majority (67%) of these households are in Dickens Heath, which suggests that this measure is linked to the design of new build apartments.

At the end of September 2015 there were just over 8,300 households on the Solihull Housing Register considered to be in some degree of housing need as defined by the Council's Allocations Policy and had a local connection. Of these 129 households had a Blythe address, which at 2% of all households, represents the 4th lowest rate in Solihull.

Households on Housing Register – September 2015



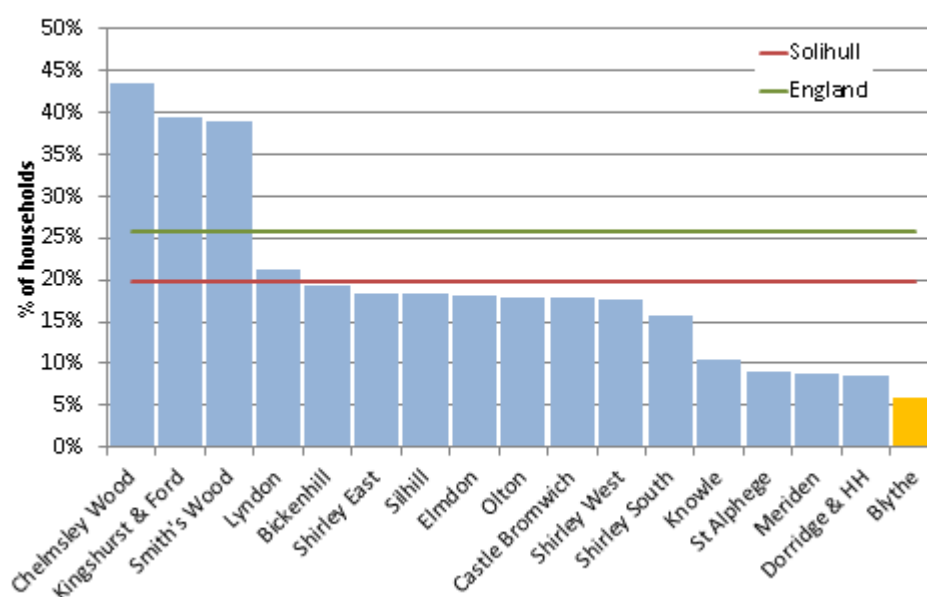
Source: Solihull Community Housing, Solihull Observatory

Transport

	Count	% of households		
	Blythe	Blythe	Solihull	England
No Cars or Vans	317	5.9%	19.7%	25.8%
2 or More Cars or Vans	2,997	56.0%	40.8%	32.0%
Average Cars or Vans per Household		1.68	1.34	1.16
Source: ONS Census 2011				

In common with Solihull as a whole, households in Blythe have a greater level of access to a car or van than the England average. On average households in Blythe have 1.68 cars or vans per household compared to the England average of 1.16, with just 6% of households having no car or van (the lowest in the borough) compared to the England average of 26%.

Households with No Access to Car or Van



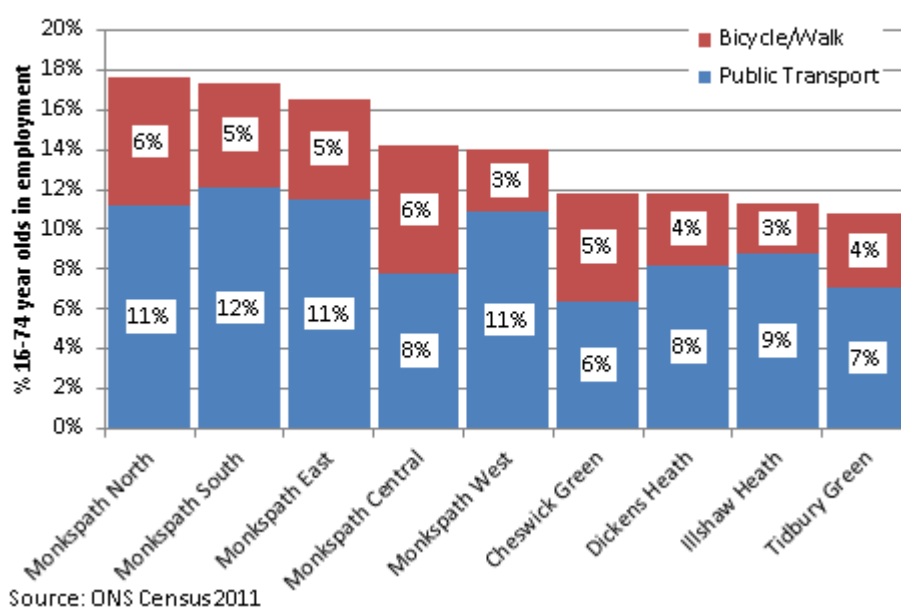
Source: ONS Census 2011

	Count	% 16-74 in Employment Work Who Travel to Work		
	Blythe	Blythe	Solihull	England
Private Vehicle	5,863	85.4%	77.1%	67.0%
Public Transport	642	9.3%	14.5%	17.9%
Bicycle or Foot	321	4.7%	7.9%	14.5%

Source: Census 2011

Along with location of work and availability of public transport, high levels of car ownership are a contributory factor in the way in which people travel to work. 85% of Blythe residents who travel to work do so in a private vehicle (e.g. car, van, motorcycle), above both the Solihull (77%) and England (67%) averages. Travel by public transport is the 2nd lowest in the borough (9% compared to the England average of 18%), while far fewer Blythe residents walk to work or cycle (5% compared to 15% for England). All LSOA neighbourhoods in Blythe have above England average levels of travel to work by private vehicle, although perhaps unsurprisingly use of public transport and walking or cycling are more common in the Monkspath area, which is closer to the town centre and better served by bus services, than in the more rural areas of the ward such as Tidbury Green and Illshaw Heath.

Travel to Work by Public Transport, Walking or Cycling



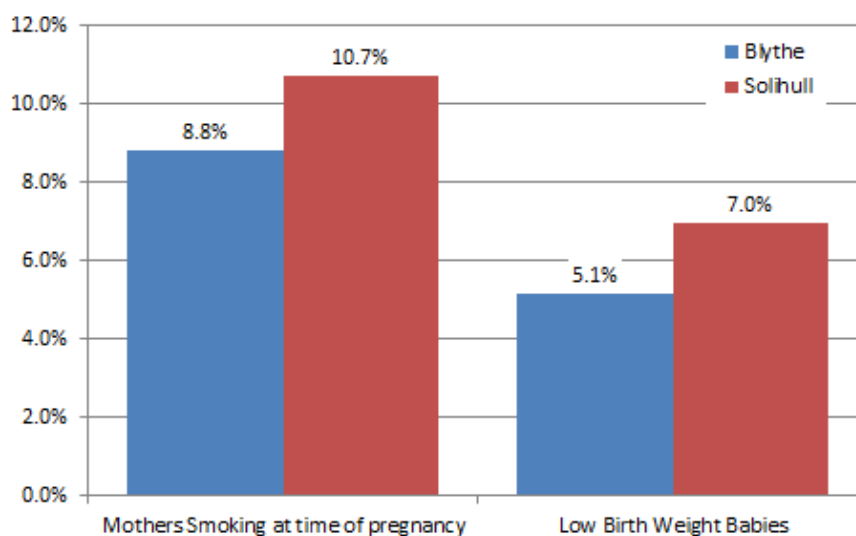
A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Health

Smoking during pregnancy can cause serious pregnancy-related health problems. These include complications during labour and an increased risk of miscarriage, premature birth, low birth-weight and sudden unexpected death in infancy. Around 9% of mother's in Blythe smoke at time of delivery compared to the Solihull average of just under 11%.

Low birth weight births are a useful indicator of maternal and infant health at a small area level. There are multiple reasons for low birth weight births, including premature delivery, young maternal age, poor maternal health, maternal smoking status and multiple gestations (birth). Around 5% of babies born to mothers living in Blythe are classified to being low birth weight babies, slightly below the Solihull average (7%).

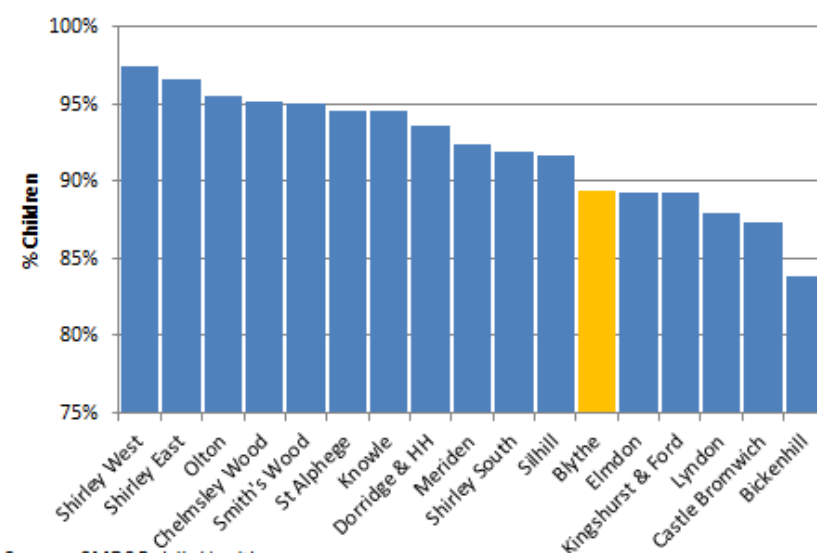
Maternal and Child Health Indicators



Source: SMBC Public Health

A large majority of children in Blythe receive their early years immunisations, although levels are towards the lower end of the spectrum in respect of both MMR first dose at 24 months and MMR 2nd dose at five years. At 24 months 89% of children in Blythe receive the first MMR dose ranges, with the range across all 17 wards in the borough being from 97% to 84%.

Immunisations: MMR 1st Dose at 24 Months

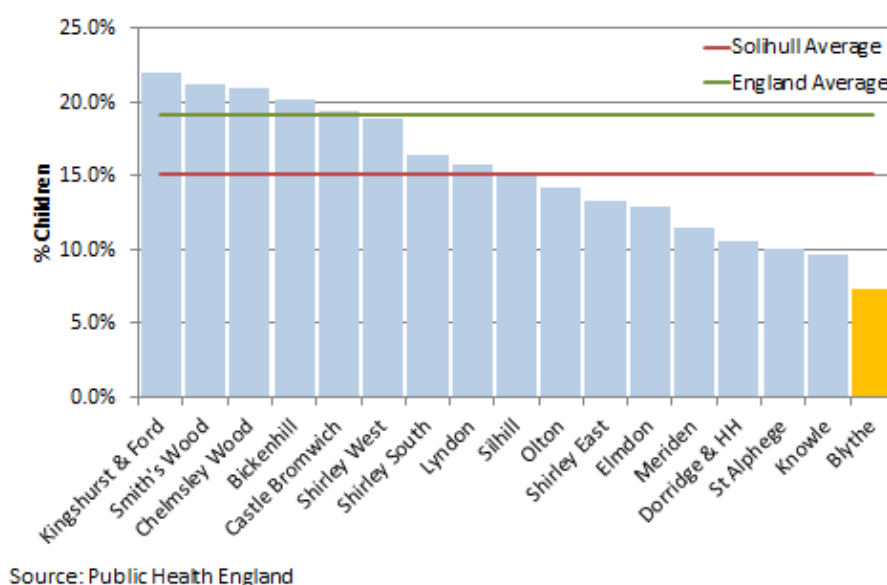


Source: SMBC Public Health

The proportion of children in Blythe who are classified as having excess weight or as being obese is notably lower than both the Solihull and England averages. For instance in year 6 (aged 10-11 years) just 7% of children from Blythe are classified as being obese compared to the Solihull average of 15% and the England average of 19%.

	Excess Weight		Obese	
	Reception	Year 6	Reception	Year 6
Blythe	15.3%	19.9%	6.3%	7.3%
Solihull	19.3%	28.1%	7.5%	15.1%
England	22.5%	33.5%	9.4%	19.1%

Childrens Weight: % Year Six Pupils Classified as Obese



Education

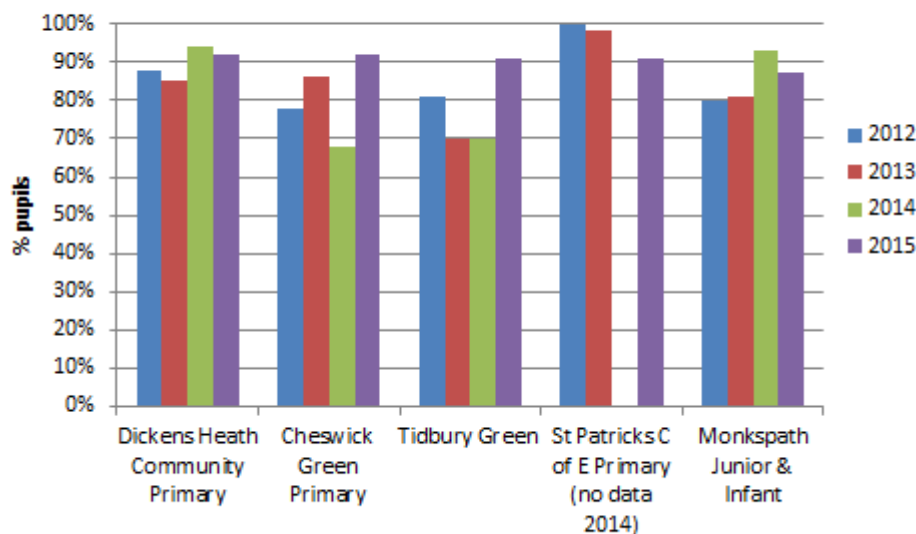
The majority of children in the Blythe area attend one of the following primary schools: St Patrick's CofE Primary Academy, Dickens Heath Community Primary School, Monkspath Junior and Infant School, Cheswick Green Primary School or Tidbury Green School. All of these exceeded the England average in terms of average Key Stage 2 points per pupil and the percentage of pupils achieving level 4 or above in reading, writing & maths.

	Level 4+ Reading, writing & maths	Average point score per pupil	% pupils making expected progress		
			Reading	Writing	Maths
England	80%	28.8	91%	94%	90%
Solihull	83%	29.6	91%	93%	88%
Cheswick Green	92%	30.7	100%	90%	86%
Dickens Heath	92%	29.9	89%	94%	96%
Monkspath	87%	30	97%	100%	95%
St Patricks	91%	31.5	94%	100%	82%
Tidbury Green	91%	30.1	100%	100%	100%

Source: Department for Education 2015

It is notable that at St Patrick's Primary is the only one of these schools where the proportion of pupils achieving level 4 and above in reading, writing & maths fell between 2012 and 2015, although at 91% in 2015 the percentage remains substantially above the national average.

% Pupil achieving level 4+ in reading, writing and maths at KS2 - Blythe

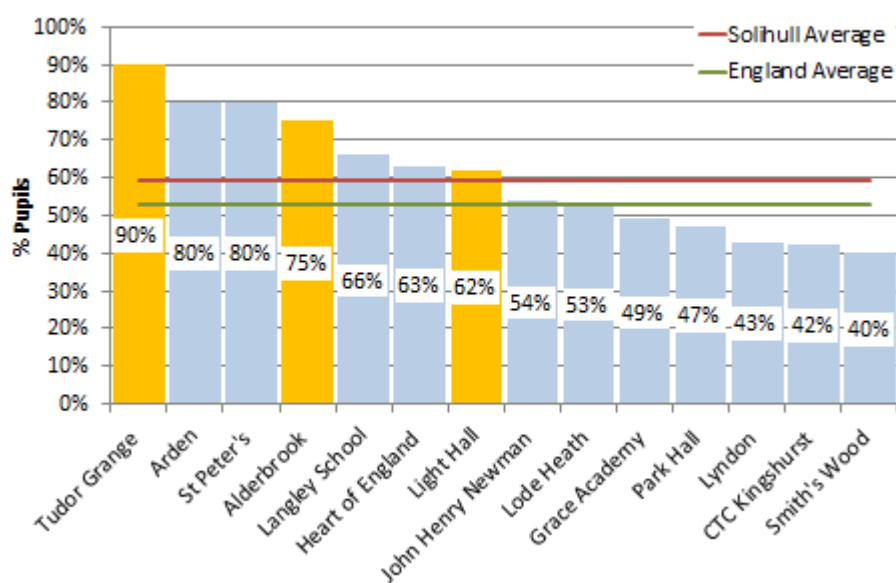


Source: Department for Education

At a Borough level pupil attainment at Key Stage 4 (16 years) in Solihull is good, albeit with a significant spread at individual school level. Provisional results for 2014/15 show that, with 60% of pupils attending a Solihull school achieving at least 5 A*-C grade GCSEs including English and Maths compared to the England average of 53%, the borough's schools rank joint 34th out of 151 Local Authorities (top quartile) in the country.

The majority of pupils in Blythe attend Light Hall School Specialist Mathematics and Computing College, Alderbrook Leading Edge School and Arts College or Tudor Grange Academy. Provisional results at these three schools for 2014/15 show that the proportion of pupils achieving at least 5 A*-C grade GCSEs including English and Maths ranges from 90% at Tudor Grange to 62% at Light Hall, with all three above both the Solihull and England averages.

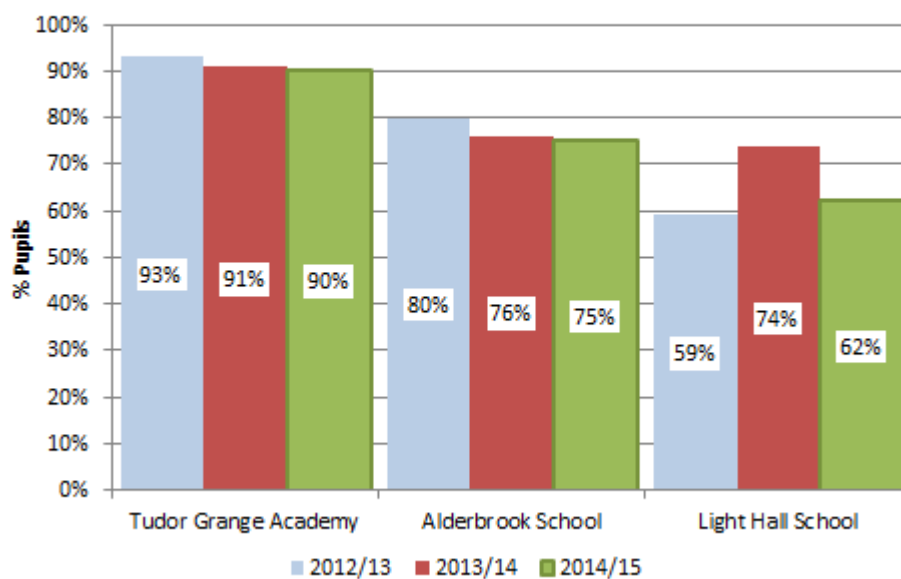
Pupils Achieving 5+ A*-C GCSEs inc English & Maths Provisional Results 2014/15



Source: Department for Education

The proportion of pupils achieving 5+ A*-C GCSEs including English & Maths has fallen slightly in each of the last two years at both Tudor Grange and Alderbrook, although this is consistent with the pattern both nationally and across Solihull as a whole. By contrast Light Hall is one of only three schools in the borough with better results in 2014/15 than in 2012/13.

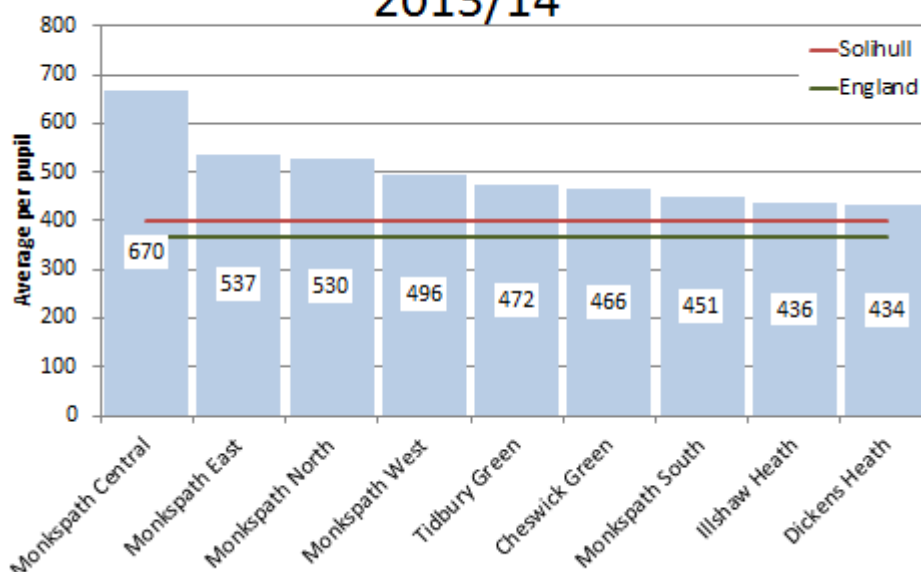
Pupils Achieving 5+ A*-C GCSEs inc English & Maths



Source: Department for Education

School attainment at Key Stage 4 (KS4) can also be measured by the average score per resident pupil at LSOA, regardless of school attended, with the latest data from 2013/14 academic year. The average KS4 score among pupils living in Blythe in 2013/14 was 487, much higher than both the Solihull (399) and England (366) averages. As the chart below shows average scores per pupil were above average in all Blythe LSOA neighbourhoods.

Average KS4 Score per Pupil in Blythe Area 2013/14



Source: Department for Education

Children in Poverty

Data from the Department of Work and Pensions identifies 115 children under the age of 16 in Blythe who live in an out of work benefit household. This represents 4% of all children in the ward, below both the Solihull (14%) and England (16%) averages. This low level of children in poverty is evident across all Blythe LSOA neighbourhoods.

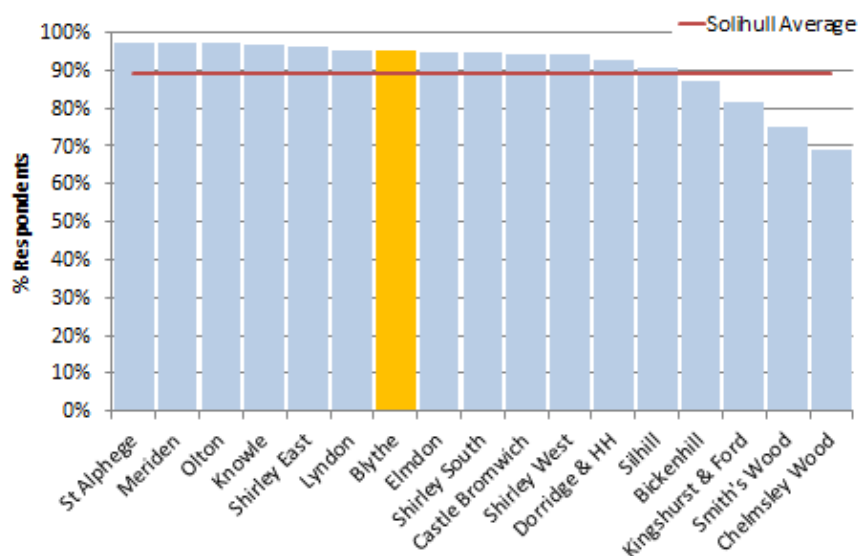
The number of children in an out of work benefit household in Blythe fell by -18% (-25 children) between 2012 and 2014, slightly above both the Solihull (-11%) and England (-15%) averages.

STRONGER AND SAFER COMMUNITIES

Community Cohesion, Participation and Satisfaction

95% of Blythe respondents to the 2014 Place Survey indicated that they are satisfied with their local area as a place to live compared to just 2% who are dissatisfied, which is more positive than the Solihull average (89% satisfied, 5% dissatisfied).

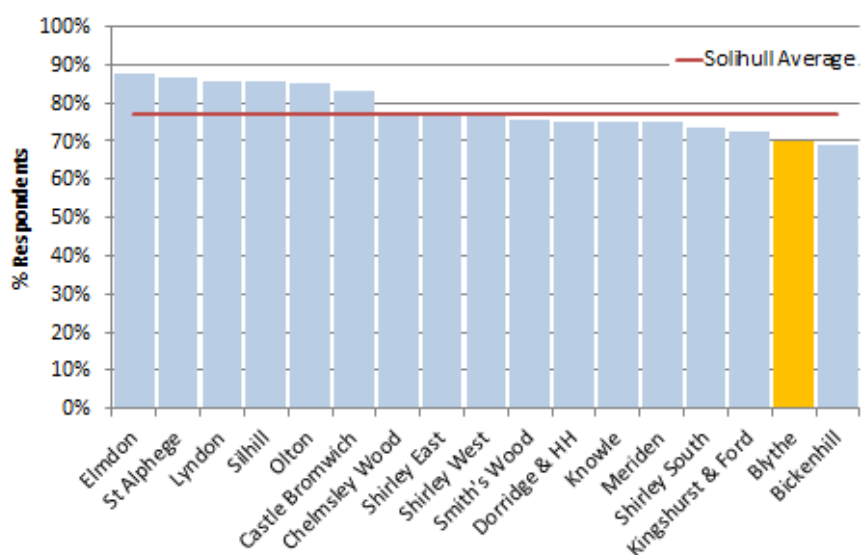
Satisfied with Local Area as Place to Live 2014



Source: SMBC Place Survey 2014

70% of Blythe respondents to the 2014 Place Survey think that people from a different background get on well together in their local area with 5% disagreeing with this assertion. This is a slightly less positive response than across Solihull as a whole (77% agree, 9% disagree), although it should be noted that a relatively high proportion of Blythe respondents (18%) say that people from their local area are all from the same background.

Agree People from Different Backgrounds Get on Well Together in Local Area 2014

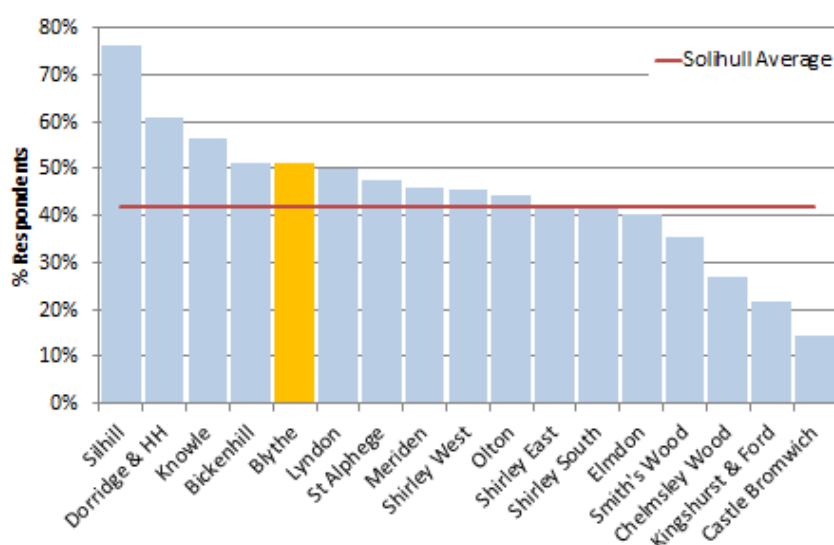


Source: SMBC Place Survey 2014

Community participation is a core element of thriving communities and in this respect the evidence across Solihull as a whole is mixed. 51% of Blythe respondents to the Place Survey indicated that they had given unpaid help over the last 12 months to any group, club

or organisation (32% at least once a month, 20% less often) above the Solihull average of 42%. Alongside this formal volunteering, 79% of Blythe respondents said that they had helped in their community on an informal basis (e.g. helping a neighbour, litter picking etc.), which is again higher than the Solihull average of 61%.

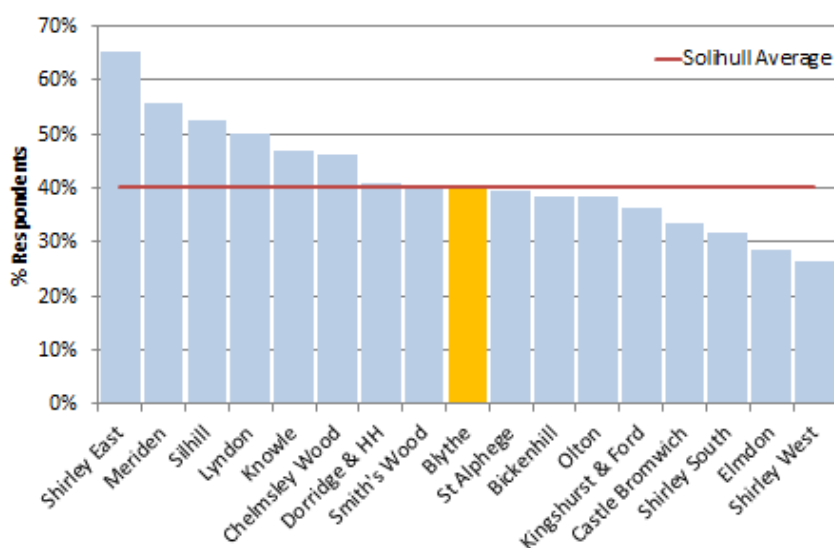
Take Part in Formal Volunteering 2014



Source: SMBC Place Survey 2014

In terms of the local decision making process, the Place Survey results suggest that there are some perceived barriers to participation. Just 40% of respondents from Blythe agree that they can influence decisions in their local area, compared to 48% who disagree, although this is broadly in-line with the Solihull average (40% agree, 50% disagree).

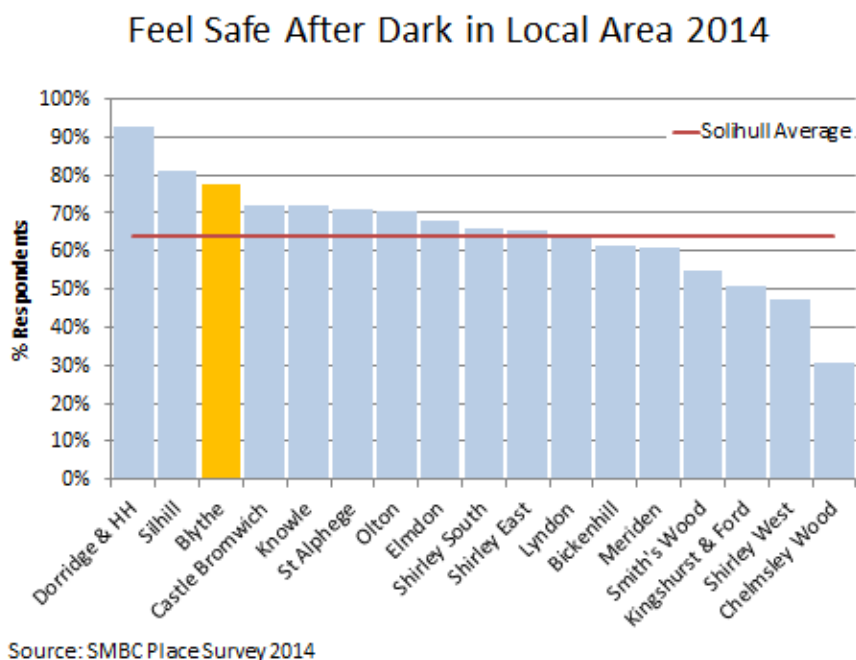
Agree Can Influence Decisions in Local Area 2014



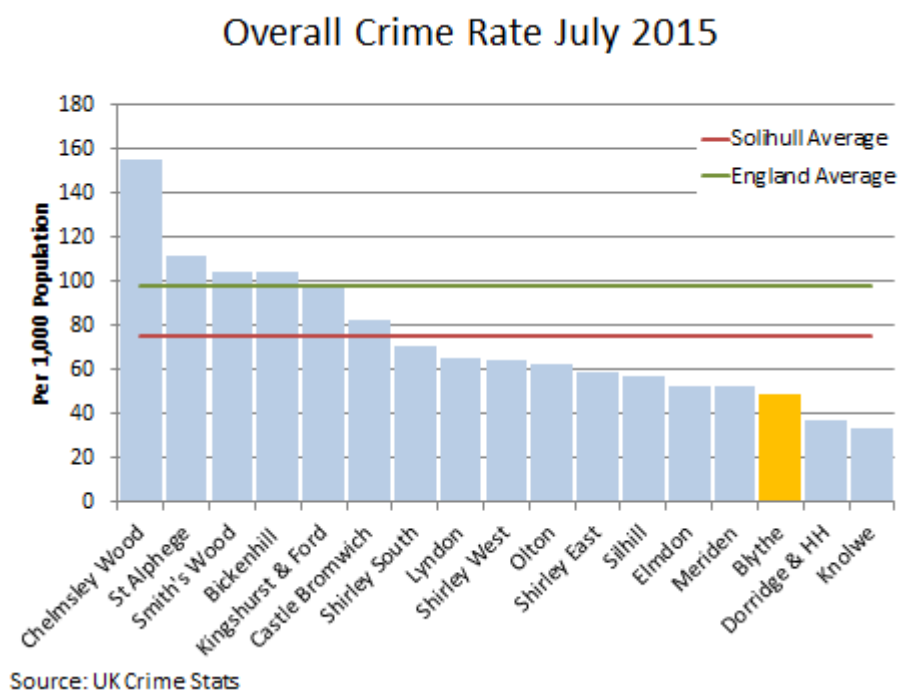
Source: SMBC Place Survey 2014

Crime

78% of Blythe respondents to the Place Survey 2014 say that they feel safe in their local area after dark (18% very safe, 60% fairly safe) compared to just 5% who feel unsafe. This is more positive than the Solihull average (64% safe, 18% unsafe) and 3rd highest in the borough.



In the year to July 2015 there were a total of 633 reported crimes in Blythe equating to a rate of 48.7 per 1,000 residents. This is below the Solihull average of 74.9 per 1,000 and 3rd lowest among the 17 wards in the borough.

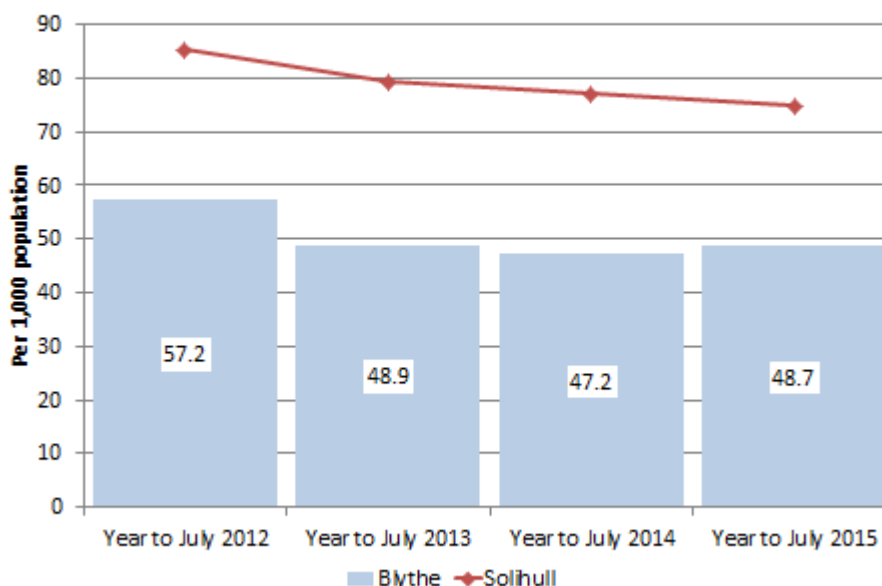


The rate in Blythe is below the Solihull average for all crime types except vehicle crime (10.2 compared to 9.1 per 1,000), which is the 3rd highest in the borough.

	Count year to July 2015	Rate per 1,000 population	
		Blythe	Solihull
All Crimes	633	48.7	74.9
ASB	175	13.5	21.2
Vehicle	132	10.2	9.1
Shoplifting & Other Theft	116	8.9	14.3
Violent	76	5.8	10.5
Criminal Damage & Arson	54	4.2	7.1
Burglary	52	4.0	7.2
Weapons & Public Order	15	1.2	2.3
Other	7	0.5	0.7
Drugs	5	0.4	1.4
Robbery	#	0.1	1.0
# Data suppressed (less than 5)			
Source: UK Crime Stats			

The total number of reported crimes in Blythe in the year to July 2015 is -15% lower than the equivalent 12 month period in 2012. Over this period the total number of reported crimes across Solihull as a whole fell by -12%.

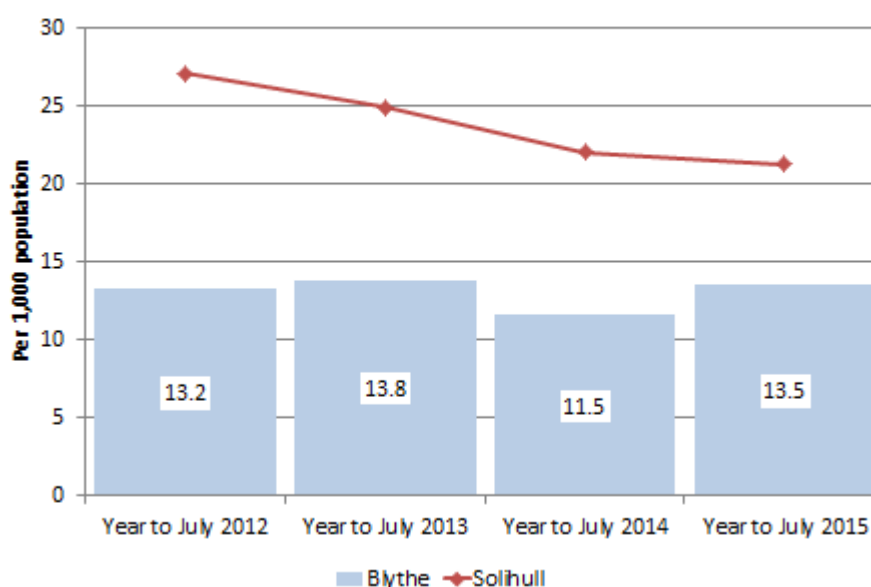
Change in Overall Crime Rate in Blythe



Anti-Social Behaviour

There were 175 reported incidents of Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) in Blythe in the year to July 2015. This equated to 13.5 per 1,000 residents compared to the Solihull average of 21.2 per 1,000. The number of ASB incidents in Blythe increased between 2012 and 2015, albeit by less than 2%.

Change in ASB Rate in Blythe

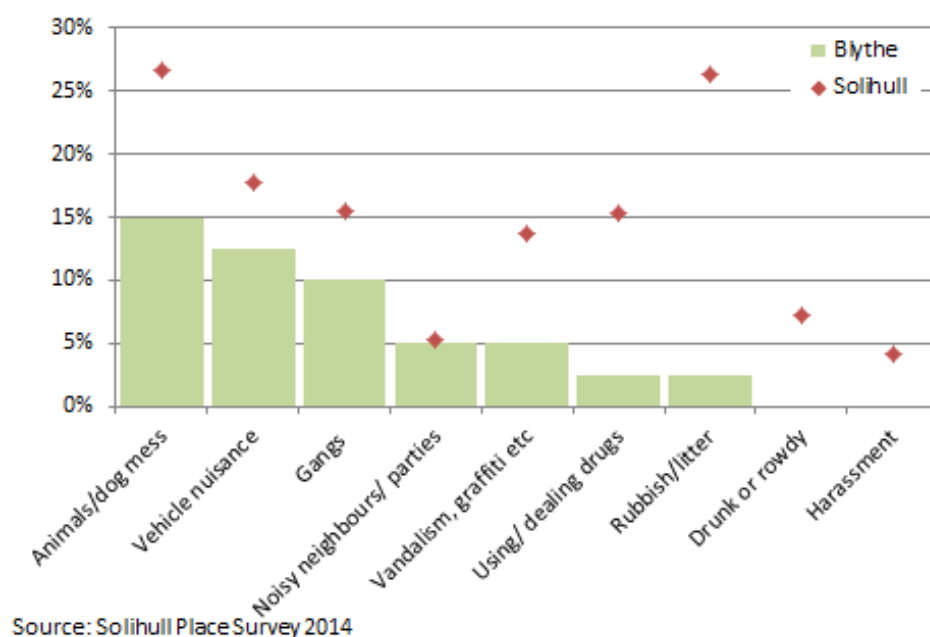


Source: UK Crime Stats

Respondents to the 2014 Place Survey were asked whether there is a problem with nine types of anti-social behaviour in their local area. In Blythe 15% of respondents felt that uncontrolled animals or dog mess is a problem in their local area, with vehicle nuisance and gang hanging about the streets also cited by 10% or more of respondents.

Blythe had a lower response rate than the Solihull average for each of the surveyed types of ASB.

Problem with ASB in Local Area by Type of ASB



HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES

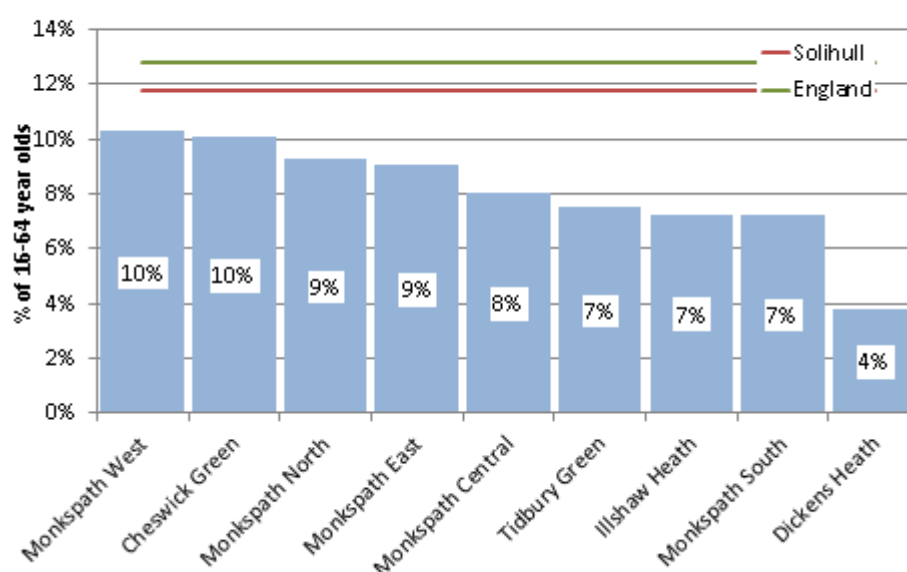
The Health of the Population and Carers

	Count	% of Population		
	Blythe	Blythe	Solihull	England
Day-to-Day Activities Limited a Little or Lot	1,455	11.2%	17.9%	17.6%
Health Bad or Very Bad	357	2.7%	5.2%	5.5%
Provides Unpaid Care	1,368	10.5%	11.7%	10.2%
Source: ONS Census 2011				

The majority (89%) of Blythe residents indicated in the 2011 Census that their health was either very good or good. There were 357 residents who feel their health is either bad or very bad, although with this equating to just 2.7% of the population self-reported ill health is considerably below both the Solihull (5.2%) and England (5.5%) averages.

1,455 Blythe residents feel that they have a health condition or disability that limits their day to day activities to some extent (of these 587 feel that their activities are limited a lot). This equates to 11.2% of the population, again below both the Solihull (17.9%) and England (17.6%) averages. Among just the working age population the proportion with a limiting health condition or disability in Blythe shrinks to 7%, ranging from just over 10% in both Monkspath West and Cheswick Green to under 4% in Dickens Heath.

Day to Day Activities Limited by Health Condition or Disability Among Working Age Population

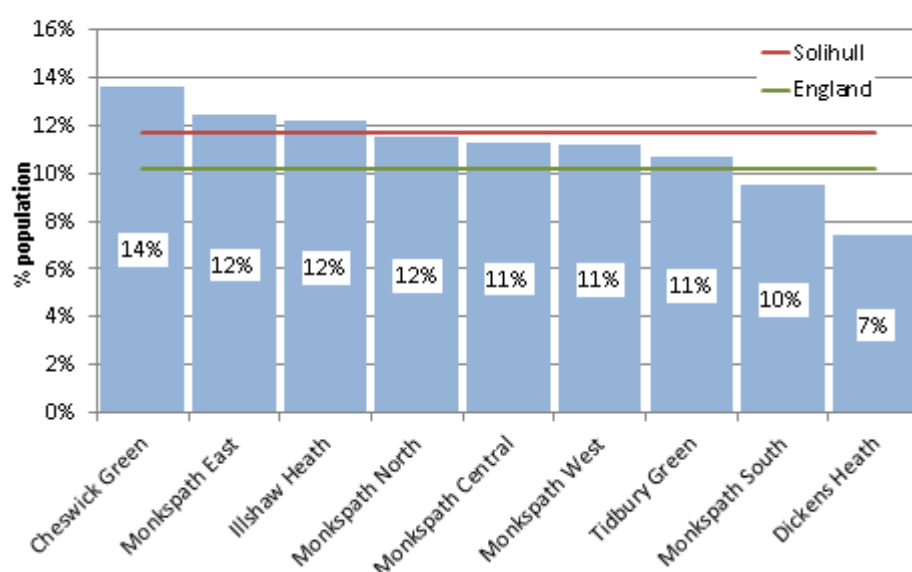


Source: ONS Census 2011

There are 1,368 people in Blythe who provide unpaid care for a relative, friend or neighbour, equating to 10.5% of the population, below the Solihull average (11.7%), but slightly above that for England (10.2%). 16% of carers in Blythe provide care for 50 hours or more a week. The number of carers in Blythe increased by 25% (+272 individuals) between 2001 and 2011, compared to an increase of 15% in Solihull and 11% in England, although given the overall increase in the population in this ward the proportion of the population who are carers was largely unchanged.

At LSOA neighbourhood level Cheswick Green (14%) has the highest proportion of carers in Blythe, with Dickens Heath the lowest at 7% of the total population.

Carers Population in Blythe Area

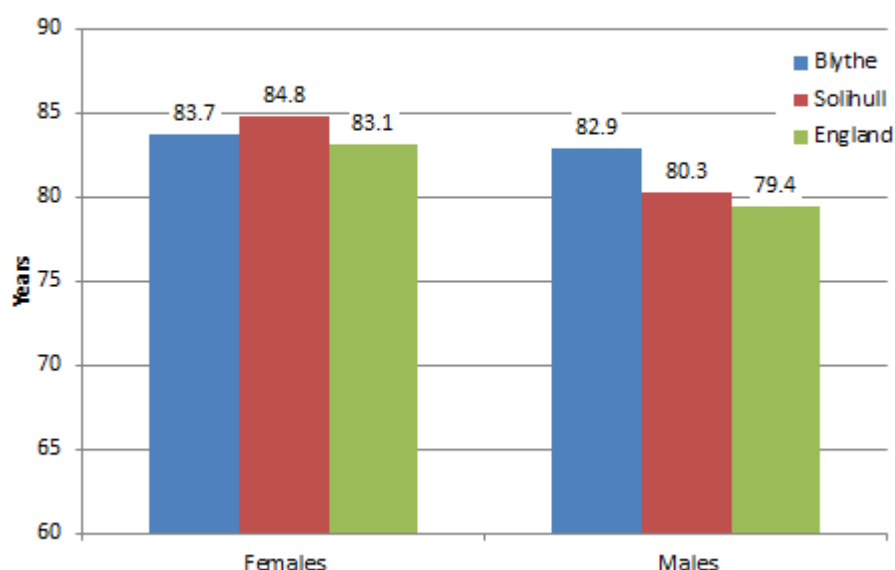


Source: ONS Census 2011

Life Expectancy and Mortality

The average life expectancy at birth in Blythe is 83.7 years for females and 82.9 years for males both higher than the England average.

Life Expectancy at Birth 2011-2013



Source: SMBC

By using standardized mortality rates (SMRs) it is possible to compare the extent both of premature mortality (deaths under the age of 75 years) and the major causes of premature

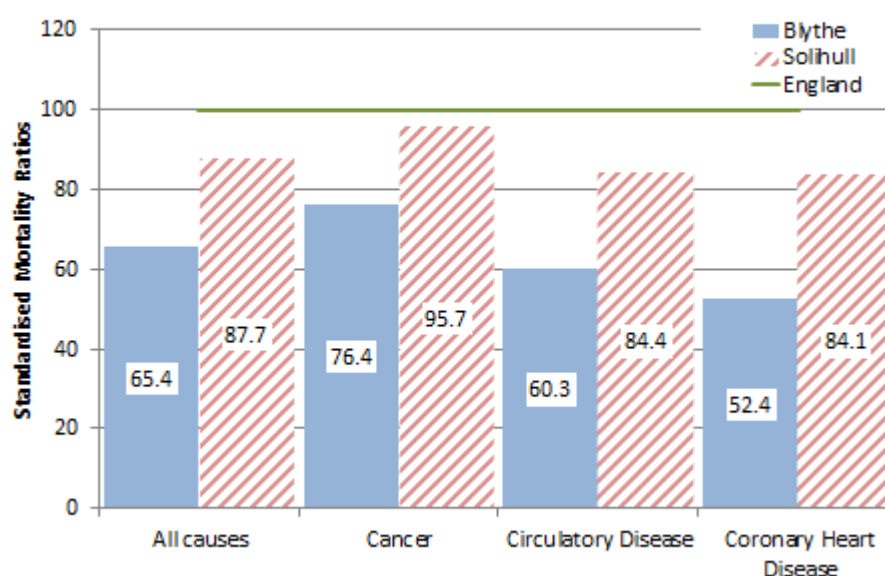
mortality. The level of premature mortality from all causes in Blythe is 25% lower than the Solihull average and 35% below that for England as a whole.

Cancer accounts for around 48% of all premature deaths in Blythe, circulatory disease 21% and Coronary Heart Disease (CHD) 10%. Blythe has a significantly below average rate of premature deaths from all of these major causes.

	Premature Deaths (under Age 75) 2008-2012			
	Blythe Count	Standardised Mortality Ratios		
		Blythe	Solihull	England
All Causes	124	65.4	87.7	100
Cancer	59	76.4	95.7	100
Circulatory Disease	26	60.3	84.4	100
Coronary Heart Disease	13	52.4	84.1	100

Source: Public Health England – Local Health

Premature Mortality (Deaths Under Age of 75 Years)



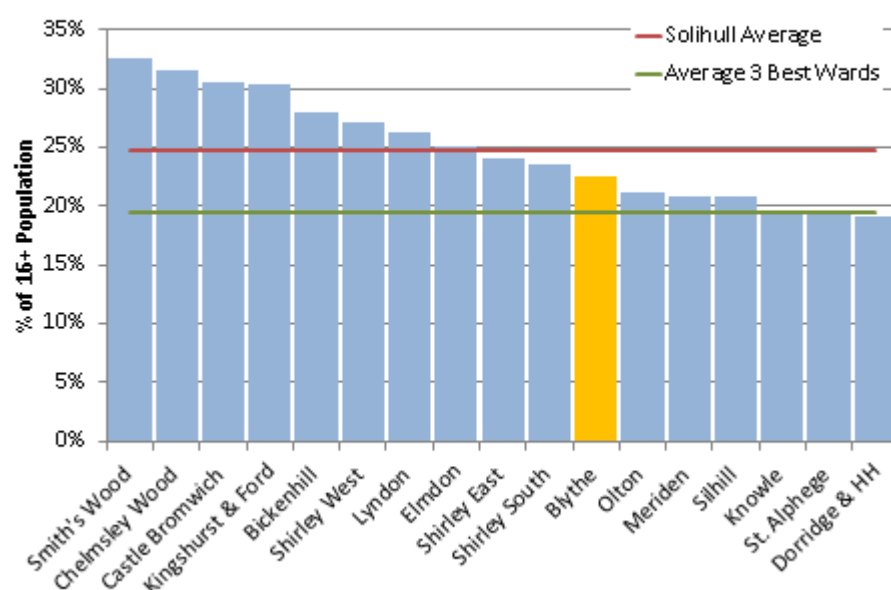
Source: Public Health England – Local Health

Healthy Lifestyles

Data from the NHS Association of Public Health Observatories provides some insight into lifestyle factors which contribute to the health of the adult population and some of the local variations in life expectancy and mortality in Solihull.

In Blythe it is estimated that 23% of adults aged 16 years and over are obese (defined as having a Body Mass Index of 30+), below the Solihull average of 25% and 7th lowest in the borough. By way of context the average for the best three wards in the borough is 19%.

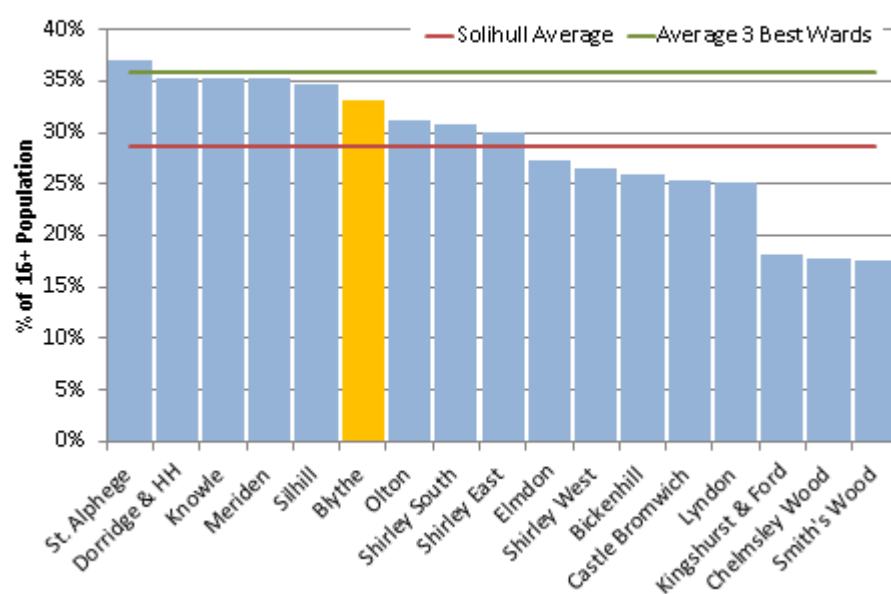
Obesity in the Adult Population



Source: Association of Public Health Authorities

There is a strong link between obesity and the extent to which adults eat a healthy diet, defined for measurement purposes as consuming five or more portions of fruit and veg per day. In Blythe, it is estimated that 33% of adults meet this criteria, compared to nearly 29% across Solihull as a whole. On this basis the healthy eating rate in Blythe is -8% below the average for the best three wards in Solihull.

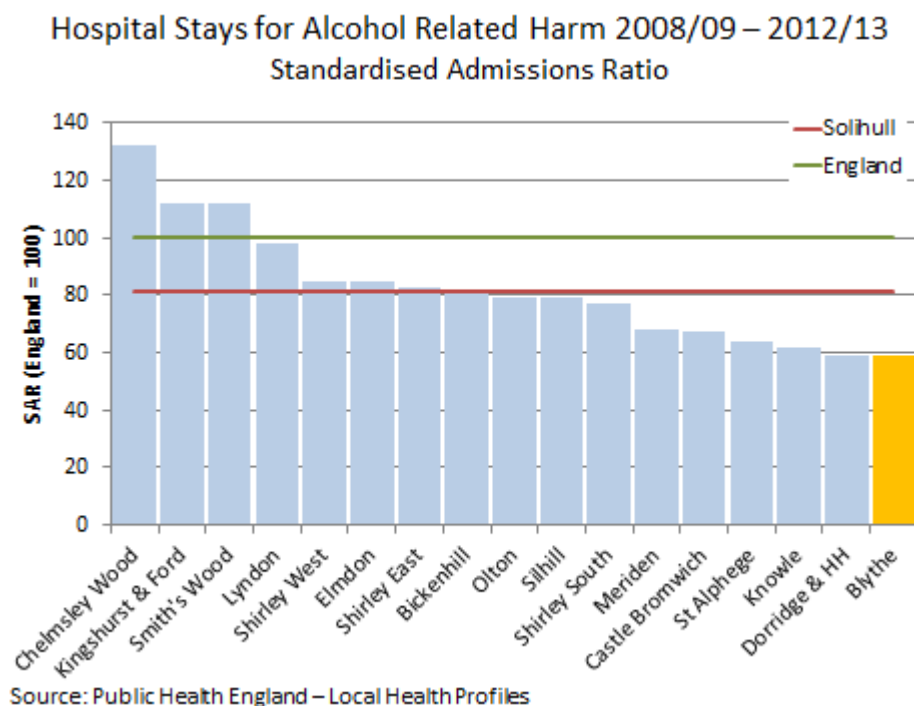
Healthy Eating in the Adult Population



Source: Association of Public Health Authorities

On average it is estimated that 21% of the adult population of Blythe binge drink (defined as men drinking eight or more units of alcohol on the heaviest drinking day in the previous seven days and women six or more), slightly less than the Solihull average, but 18% above the rate in the best three wards in the borough.

Between 2008/09 and 2012/13 there were 764 hospital stays for alcohol related harm attributable to Blythe residents. This equates to a Standardised Admissions Ratio of 58.7, the lowest in the borough.



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