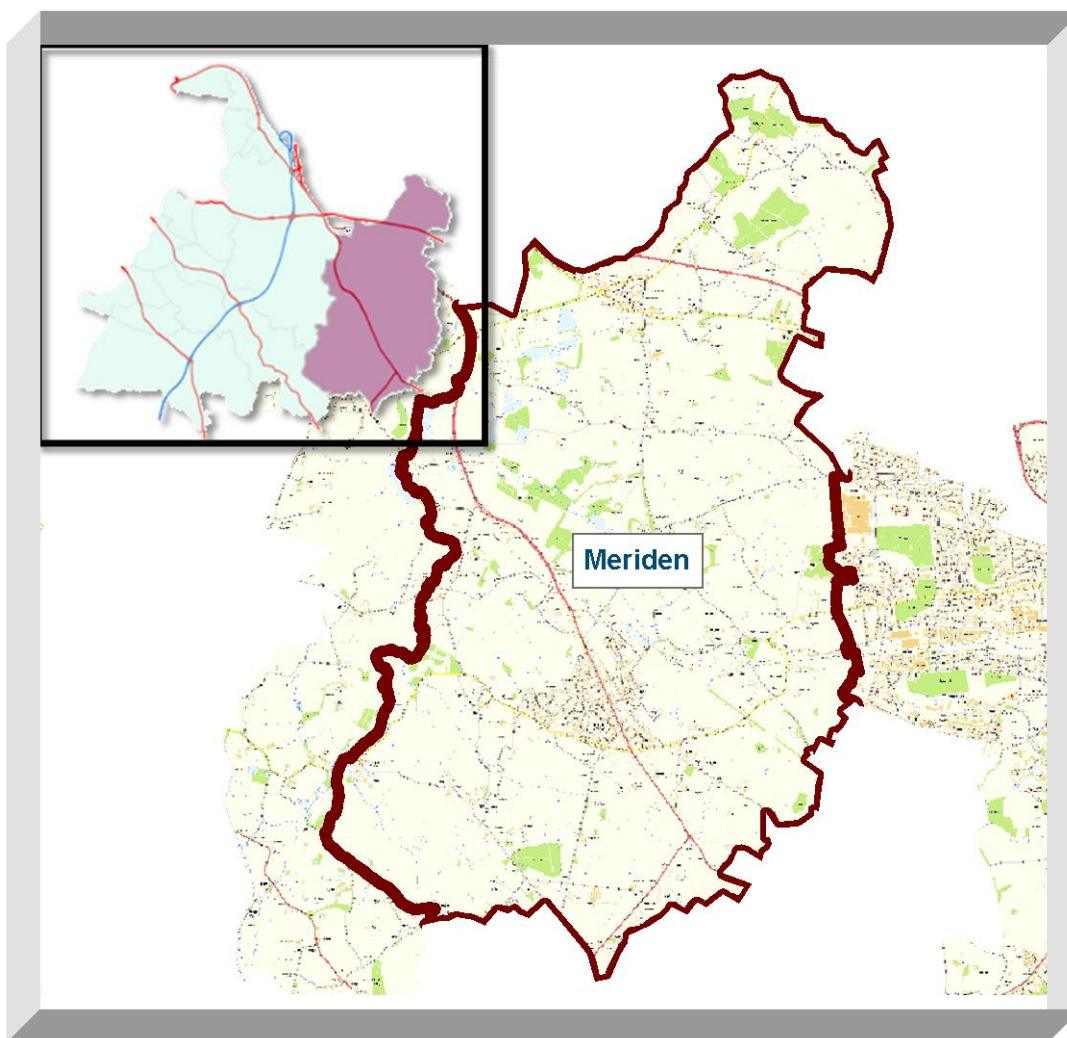


# 2016 Ward Profile:

# Meriden



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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:

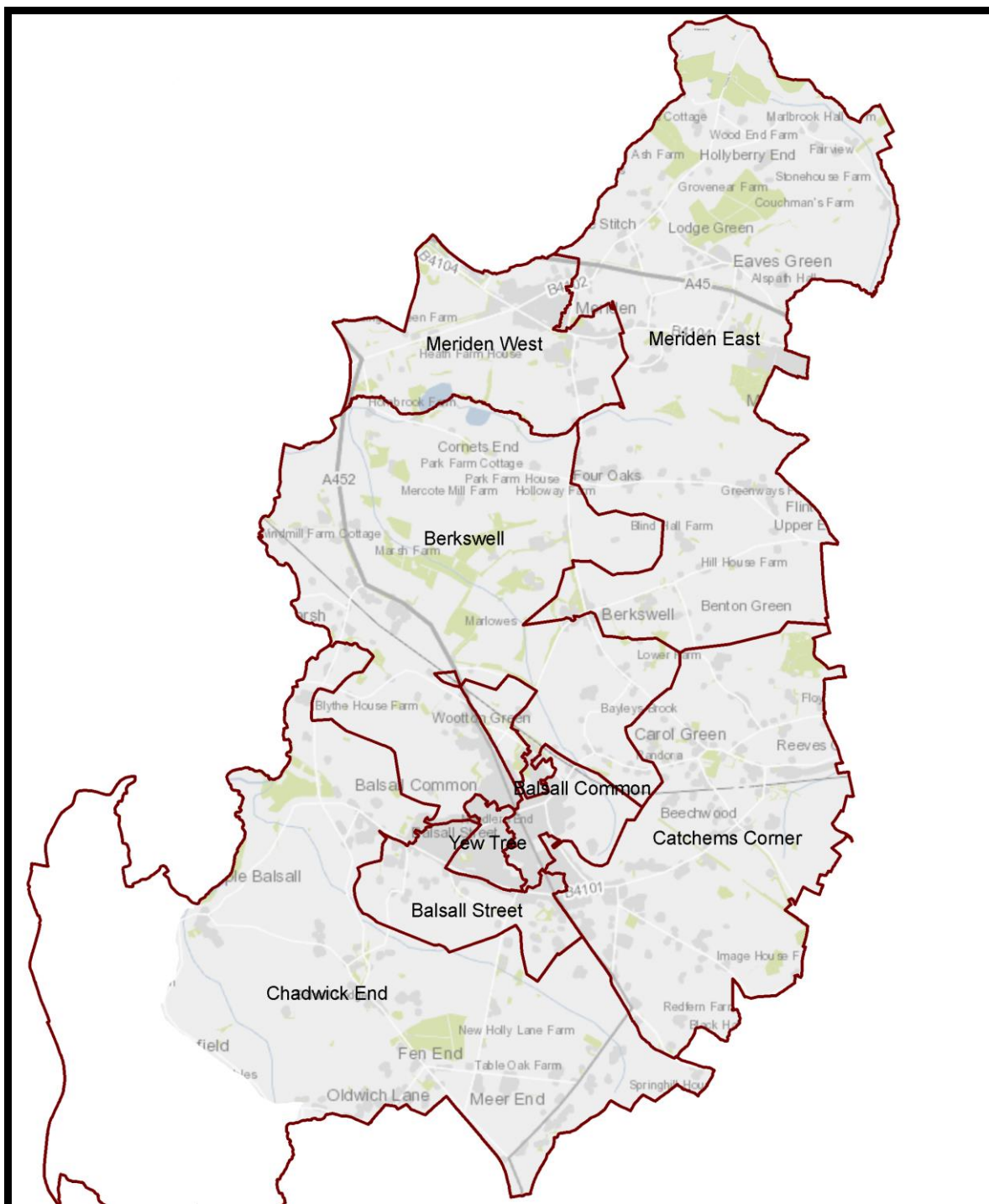
- Crime and anti-social behaviour rates (Crime Stats UK);
- Claimant unemployment (ONS/Nomis) and worklessness (DWP);
- Solihull Place Survey 2014 (SMBC);
- School attainment (Department for Education);
- Children in Poverty (DWP);
- Life expectancy and mortality rates (Public Health England);
- Index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

## MERIDEN 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.

## MERIDEN SUMMARY

Bordered to the south by Warwick, to the east by the relatively disadvantaged Coventry district of Tile Hill and to the north by rural North Warwickshire, Meriden is Solihull's most rural ward with a population density 90% lower than the Borough average. Although large swathes of the ward are agricultural, there are large commuter villages at Balsall Common and Berkswell which benefit from rail links to both Coventry and Birmingham as well as scattered rural villages including Meriden. Meriden is the only ward in Solihull which is in the Coventry rather than the Birmingham travel to work area, a fact which presents some challenges in terms of integrating the ward and ensuring that Meriden does not become isolated from the Borough's wider decision making framework. The LSOA map on page 2 illustrates the individual neighbourhoods within Meriden, based on the Office for National Statistics LSOAs. Chadwick End is the only LSOA that overlaps the Meriden ward boundary.

## POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHY

### Total Population and Households

	Meriden	Solihull	England
All usual residents	11,686	206,674	53,012,456
Household residents	11,642	205,087	52,059,931
Communal establishment residents	44	1,587	952,525
% of population in communal establishments	0.4%	0.8%	1.8%
Area (hectares)	5,093	17,829	13,027,843
Population density	2.3	11.6	4.1
Households with at least one usual resident	4,791	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 Meriden was 11,686 (5,758 males, 5,928 females). This equates to 2.3 residents per hectare, compared to the Solihull average of 11.6.

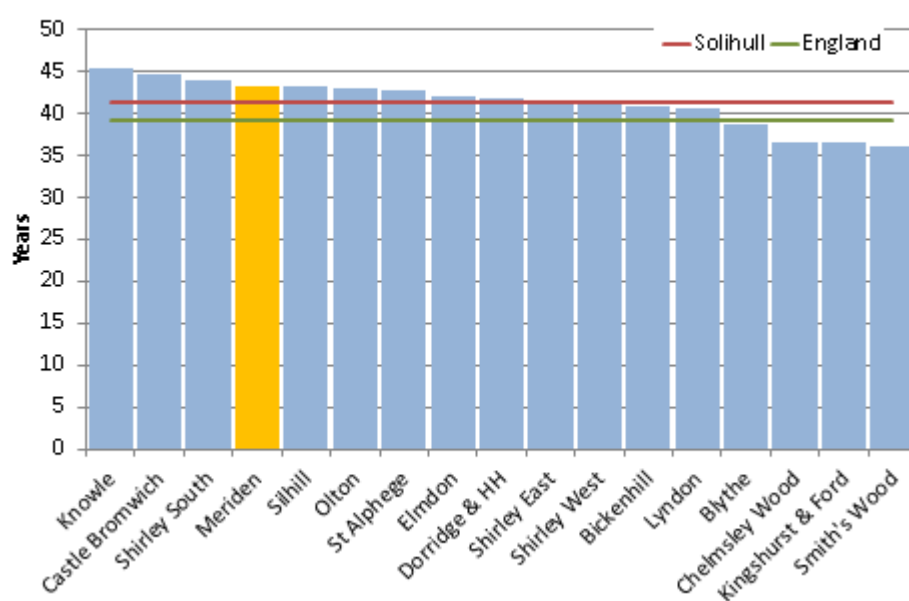
Subsequent modelled estimates by the ONS record the Meriden population as 12,121 residents in mid-2014 (5,939 males, 6,182 females). However, as the Census provides the most accurate picture this is used as the source for the more detailed population breakdowns that follow.

### Age Structure

	Count	% of Population		
	Meriden	Meriden	Solihull	England
Pre-School Children (0-4 years)	517	4.4%	5.6%	6.3%
School Age Children (5-15 Years)	1,605	13.7%	13.4%	12.6%
All Children (0-15 years)	2,122	18.2%	19.0%	18.9%
Young Adults (age 16-24 years)	1,047	9.0%	10.6%	11.9%
Mature working Age (25-64 years)	6,054	51.8%	51.3%	52.9%
Working Age Total (16-64)	7,101	60.8%	61.9%	64.8%
Retirement Age (65 year+)	2,463	21.1%	19.2%	16.3%
Older People (Age 85+)	270	2.3%	2.7%	2.2%
Average Age (years)		43.4	41.3	39.3
Source: ONS Census 2011				

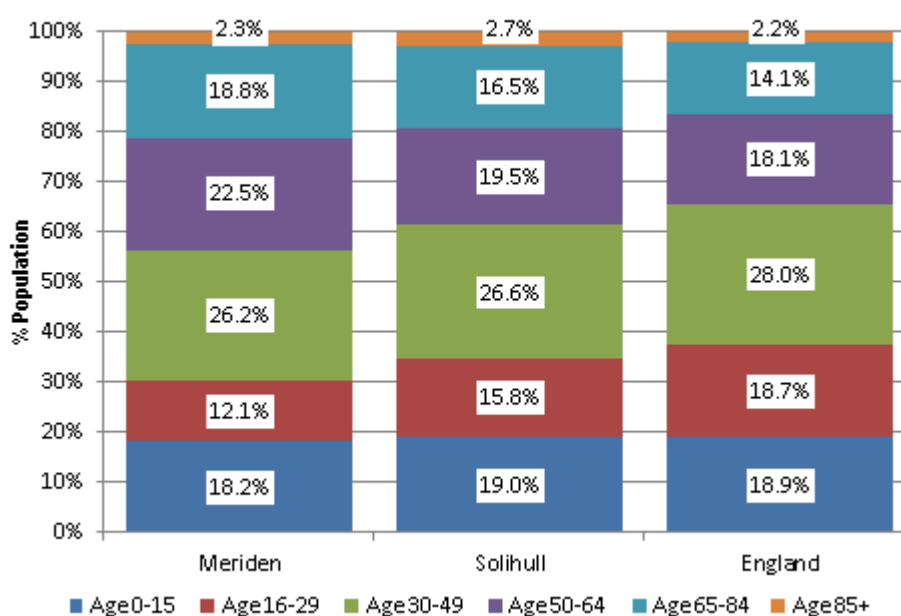
In 2011 the average age in Meriden was 43.4 years, significantly older than both the Solihull (41.3 years) and England (39.3 years) averages and 4<sup>th</sup> highest in the borough.

## Average Age



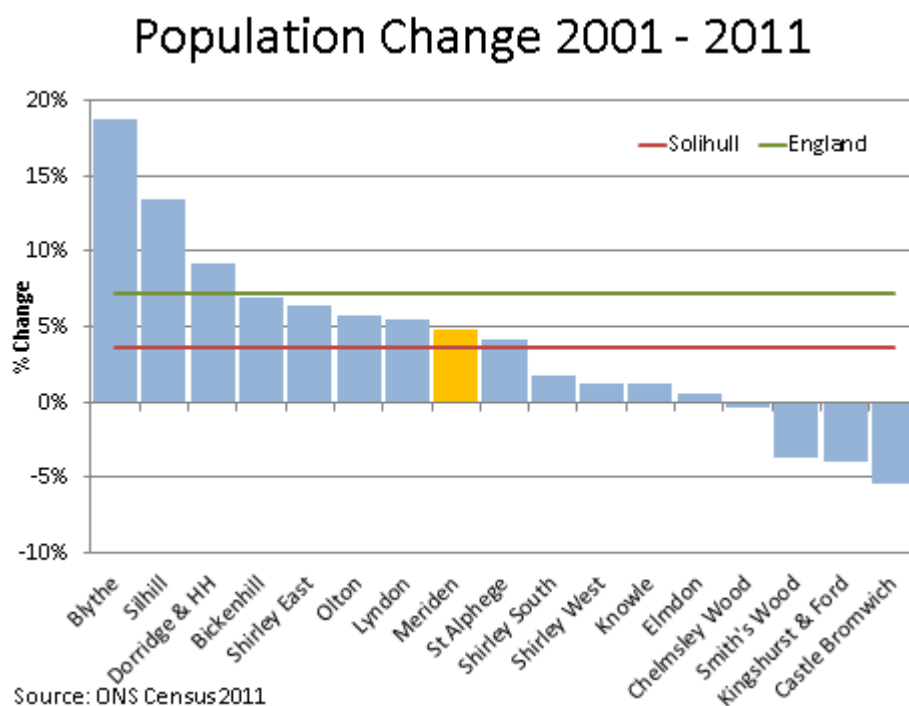
This above average age in Meriden is consistent with an age profile in which the ward has proportionally more residents aged 65 and over (20.6%) than the Solihull average (19.2%) and fewer in all age bands under the age of 50 years; most notably at just 12.1% of the total population Meriden has one of the smallest concentrations of young adults (aged 16-29 years) in the borough.

## Population 2011



## Population Change

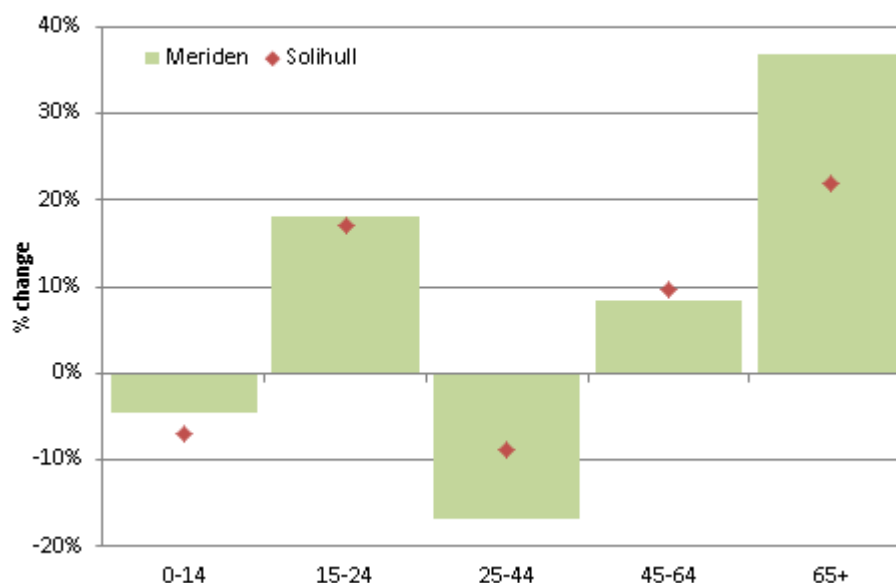
Between 2001 and 2011, the population of Meriden increased by +4.8% (+539 individuals) slightly more than the Solihull average of 3.6%.



By age group the pattern of population change in Meriden has been similar to that of the borough as a whole with a large increase in the 65+ population (+37%, 908 individuals), partially offset by falling numbers of children aged 0-14 years (-5%, -96 individuals) and 25-44 year olds (-17%, -478 individuals).



## Population Change by Broad Age Band 2001 - 2011



Source: ONS Census 2011

## Ethnicity, Origin and Language

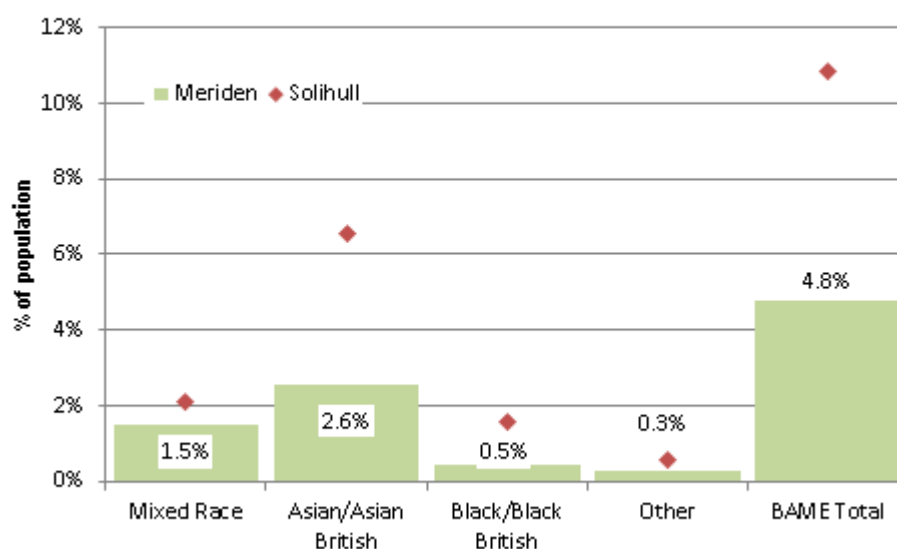
	Count	% of Population		
	Meriden	Meriden	Solihull	England
White Population	11,128	95.2%	89.1%	85.4%
Black & Asian Minority Ethnic Population (BAME)	558	4.8%	10.9%	14.6%
Born in UK	11,114	95.1%	92.6%	86.2%
Born Outside UK	572	4.9%	7.4%	13.8%
UK Passport	10,255	87.8%	82.1%	75.8%
Non-UK Passport	322	2.8%	4.0%	8.8%
No Passport	1,207	10.3%	14.6%	16.5%
English Main Language (age 3+)	11,268	98.8%	97.1%	92.0%
Speak English Well (age 3+)	122	1.1%	2.5%	6.3%
Cannot Speak English or Speak Well (age 3+)	12	0.1%	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.

The change in Meriden has been far less pronounced than across Solihull as a whole. The number of BAME residents increased by +94% (+270 individuals) in the ward between 2001 and 2011, with the White population increasing by +2% (+266 individuals). As a result the proportion of BAME residents has increased from 2.6% in 2001 to 4.8% in 2011, which alongside neighbouring Knowle, represents the smallest BAME population in the borough.

54% of the BAME population in Meriden are from an Asian or Asian British background, with this group representing 2.6% of the ward's total population compared to the Solihull average of 6.6%.

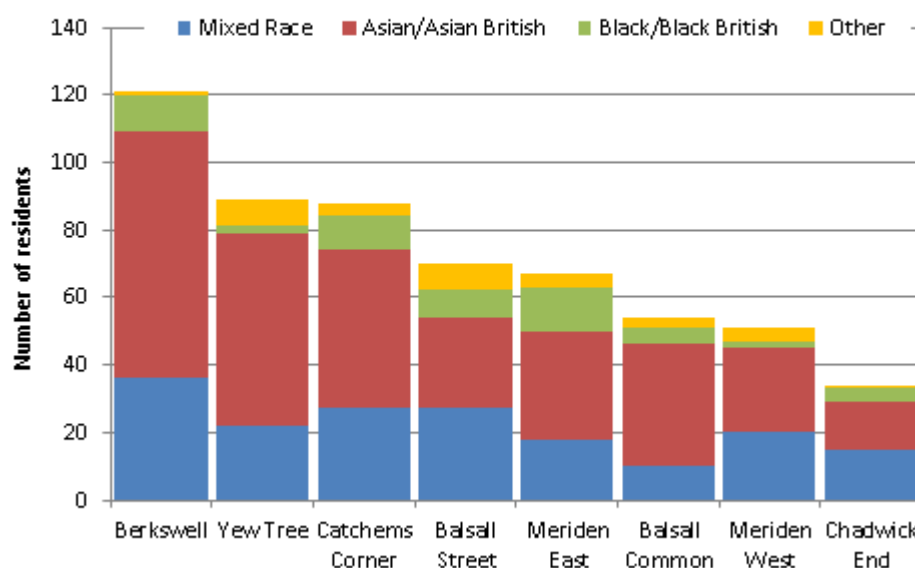
### Black and Asian Minority Ethnic (BAME) Population 2011



Source: ONS Census2011

At a local neighbourhood level all the LSOAs in Meriden have a below borough average BAME population, the largest being Berkswell (6.5% of the total population).

### Black or Asian Minority Ethnic Population (BAME) in Meriden



Source: ONS Census2011

At 4.9%, the number of Meriden residents born outside of the UK is much lower than both the Solihull (7.4%) and England (13.8%) averages. A large majority (75%) of the 572

Meriden residents born outside of the UK arrived prior to 2001, with just 10% arriving post 2007, compared to 13% for Solihull as a whole.

Nearly 99% of the Meriden population aged 3 years and over have English as their main language, with those that cannot speak English or speak English well representing just 0.1% of the total population.

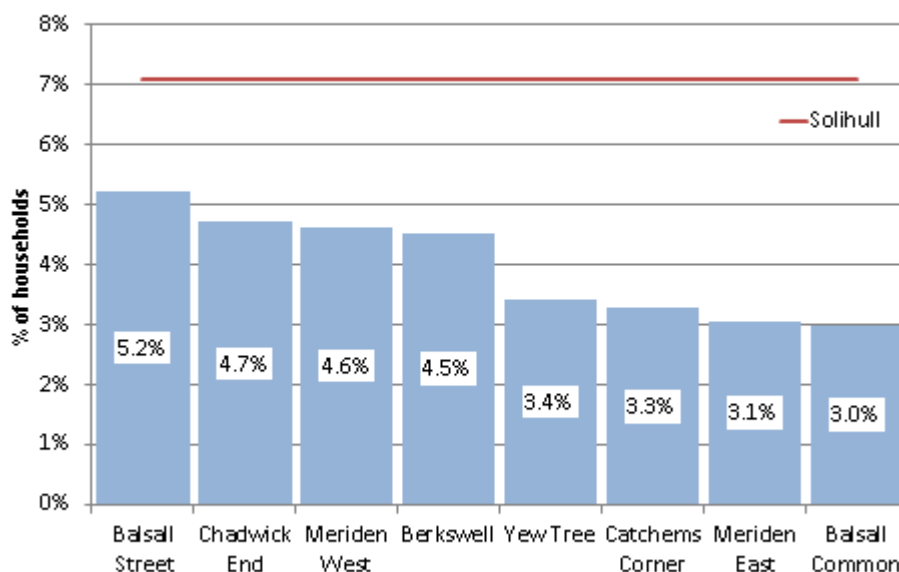
## Household Composition

	Count	% of All Households		
	Meriden	Meriden	Solihull	England
One Person	1,174	24.5%	29.2%	30.2%
One Family	3,378	70.5%	65.6%	61.8%
Other Households	239	5.0%	5.2%	8.0%
Total Aged 65+	1,262	26.3%	24.4%	20.7%
Of which Single	608	12.7%	13.9%	12.4%
All with Dependent Children	1,413	29.5%	30.2%	29.1%
Of Which Lone Parent	190	4.0%	7.1%	7.1%
All Households	<b>4,791</b>			
Source: ONS Census 2011				

Nearly 71% of Meriden's 4,791 households are occupied by one family, which like the borough as a whole is above the England average (62%). The ward has the 3<sup>rd</sup> smallest proportion of single person households in the borough. However, with the number of single person households increasing by 19% in Meriden between 2001 and 2011 compared to an increase of just +5% in the number occupied by a family the ward has seen a notable, albeit less pronounced than in other parts of the borough, shift in household composition from family to single person occupation. This has potentially significant implications for housing demand.

There are 303 lone parent households in Meriden of which 190 have dependent children, which represents 4% of all households, compared with the Solihull average of 7.1% and the 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest in the borough. All neighbourhoods in Meriden have a below borough average proportion of lone parent households with dependent children, with Balsall Street at 5.2% the highest concentration.

### Lone Parent Households with Dependent Children in Meriden



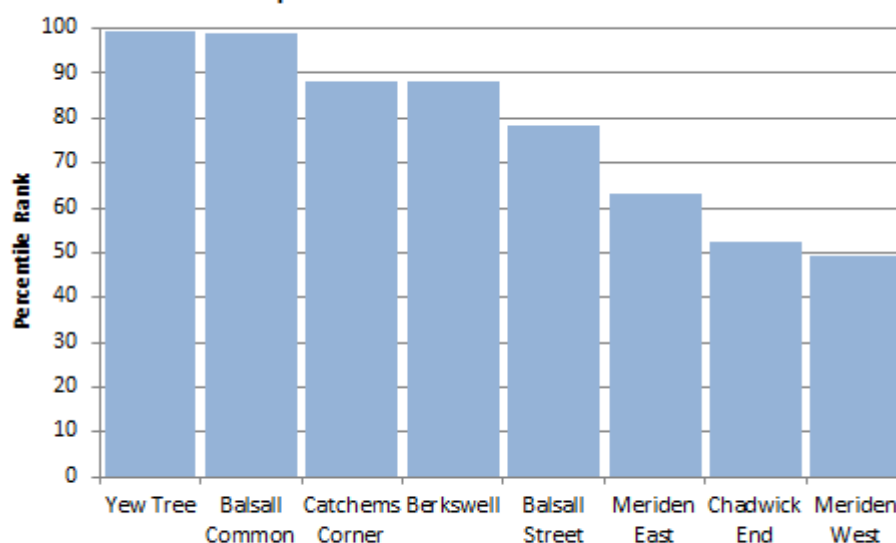
Source: ONS Census 2011

## 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.

Meriden is subject to relatively limited deprivation, albeit with a comparatively wide range between the most deprived LSOA in the ward (Meriden West 49<sup>th</sup> percentile) and the least (Yew Tree 99<sup>th</sup>).

### Overall Deprivation in Meriden Area 2015



Source: Index of Multiple Deprivation, DCLG 2015

## PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES

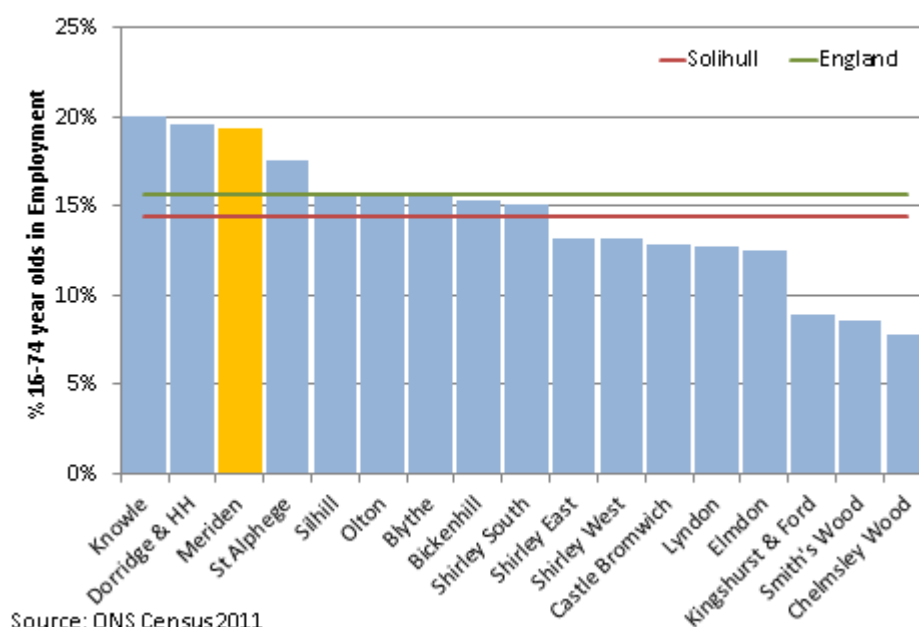
### Economic Activity and Employment

	Count	% 16-74 Population		
	Meriden	Meriden	Solihull	England
Economically Active	6,089	71.6%	70.8%	69.9%
of which Employed	5,654	66.5%	63.8%	62.1%
of which Unemployed	192	2.3%	4.2%	4.4%
Economically Inactive	2,414	28.4%	29.2%	30.1%
of which Retired	1,582	18.6%	16.2%	13.7%
of which Looking After Home or Family	254	3.0%	3.7%	4.4%
of which Sick or Disabled	169	2.0%	3.3%	4.0%
Source: ONS Census 2011				

At 72% the proportion of 16-74 year olds in Meriden that are economically active is slightly higher than the Solihull average (71%), while the employment rate is the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest in the borough.

Of the 5,654 16-74 year olds in employment in Meriden 59% work full-time and a further 21% work part-time for an employer, while at 19% the ward has the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest level of self-employment in the borough.

### Self Employment



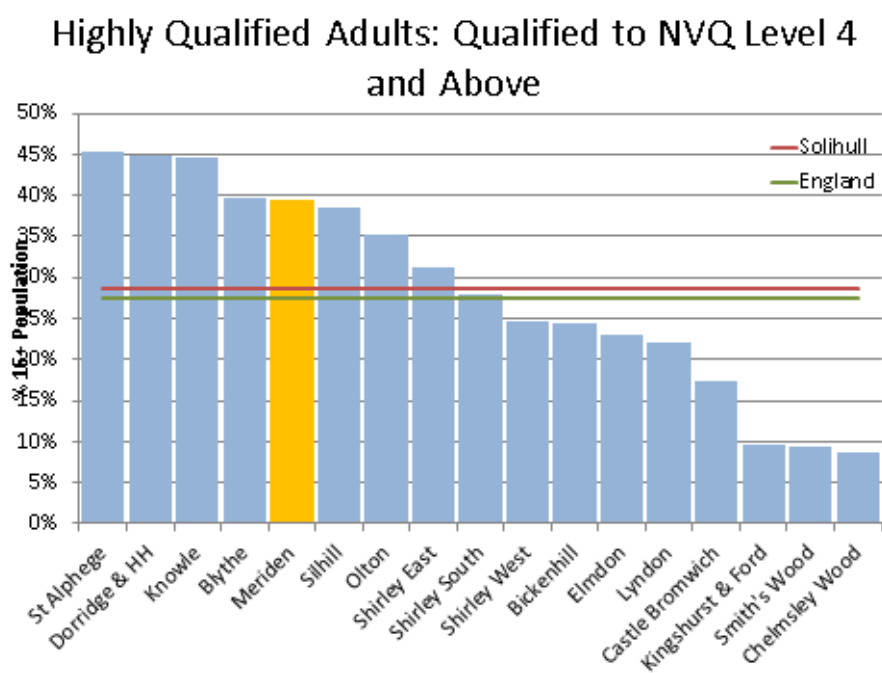
Since 2001 the proportion of Meriden residents working full-time has shrunk by four percentage points (from 71% to 64%), with part-time employment (+3 percentage points) and self-employment (+1 percentage points) increasing. This slight shift in the structure of employment is consistent with the pattern across Solihull.

27% of Meriden residents aged 16-74 years in employment work in the public sector, with financial & business services (21%) and wholesale & retail trades (14%) the next largest sectors. Between 2001 and 2011 the major shift in terms of employment was a fall in the proportion employed in manufacturing (from 15% to 9% of Meriden residents in employment) offset by an increase in the proportion in the public sector (from 22% to 27%). Transport, storage & communications, construction and to a lesser extent accommodation & food services have also become more significant over this period. The greater role of the public sector and the decline of manufacturing employment in Meriden are consistent with the pattern across Solihull.

## Adult Skills

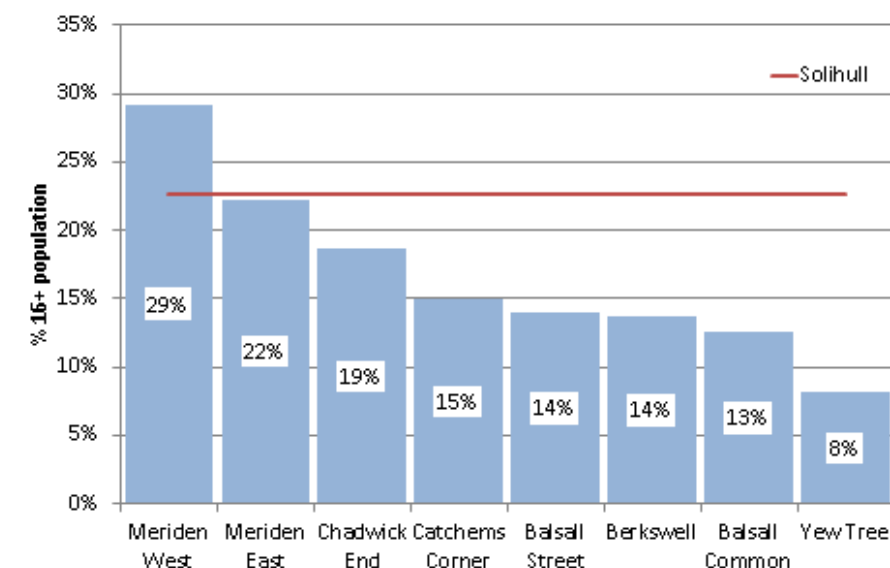
	Count	% 16-74 Population		
	Meriden	Meriden	Solihull	England
No Qualifications	1,586	16.6%	22.7%	22.5%
Maximum NVQ Level 1	2,605	27.2%	36.3%	35.8%
NVQ Level 4+	3,777	39.5%	28.5%	27.4%
Source: ONS Census 2011				

There are 2,605 adults aged 16 and over in Meriden who can be classified as having low skills (qualified to a maximum of NVQ level 1) of which 1,586 have no formal qualifications. Although at 17% of the adult population this is less than both the Solihull (22.7%) and England (22.5%) averages. At the other end of the spectrum, at nearly 40%, Meriden has the 5<sup>th</sup> highest proportion of the adult population qualified to NVQ level 4 (degree level or equivalent) and above in Solihull.



At a local neighbourhood level Meriden West is, at 29%, the only LSOA in the ward with an above Solihull average proportion of adults with no formal qualifications.

### Adult Population with No Formal Qualifications



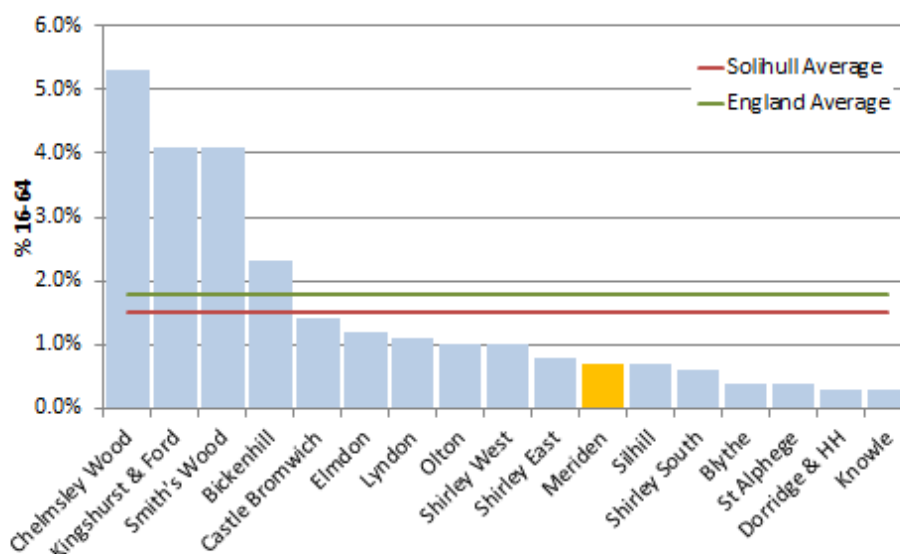
Source: ONS Census 2011

### 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 50 individuals in Meriden meeting this definition of unemployment equating to 0.7% of the working age population. This is below each of the Solihull (1.5%), England (1.8%) and West Midlands (2.1%) averages.

### Claimant Unemployment October 2015

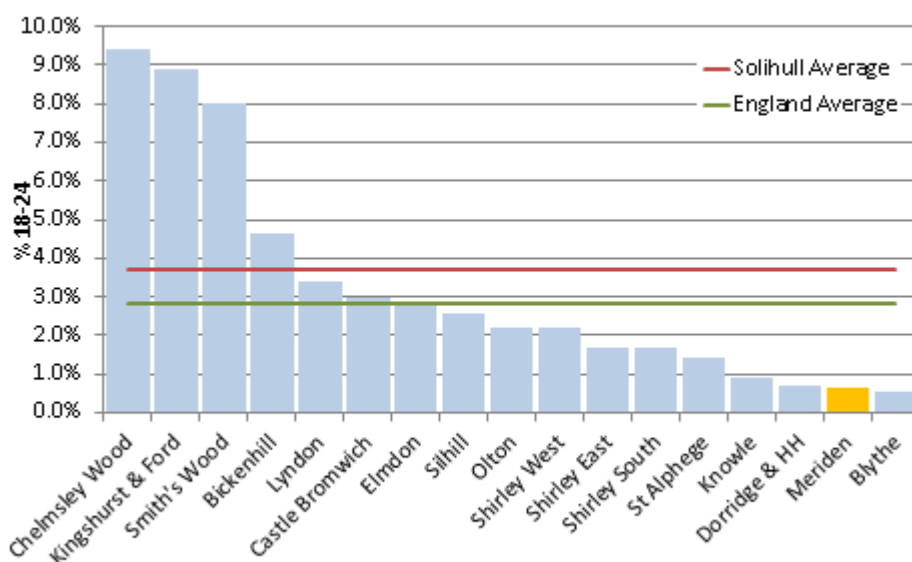


Source: ONS/Nomis

Just 10% of claimants in Meriden are aged 18-24 years (25 individuals), a much lower proportion than across Solihull as a whole (30%). The rate among this age group in Meriden is 0.6% compared to the averages of 3.7% for Solihull and 2.8% for England and the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest in the borough.

Claimant Unemployment - October 2015				
	Meriden Count	Rate		
		Meriden	Solihull	England
Aged 18-24	5	0.6%	3.7%	2.8%
Aged 25-49	25	0.7%	1.6%	1.8%
Aged 50+	20	0.8%	0.9%	1.4%
All Ages	50	0.7%	1.5%	1.8%
Source: ONS/Nomis				

18-24 Claimant Unemployment October 2015

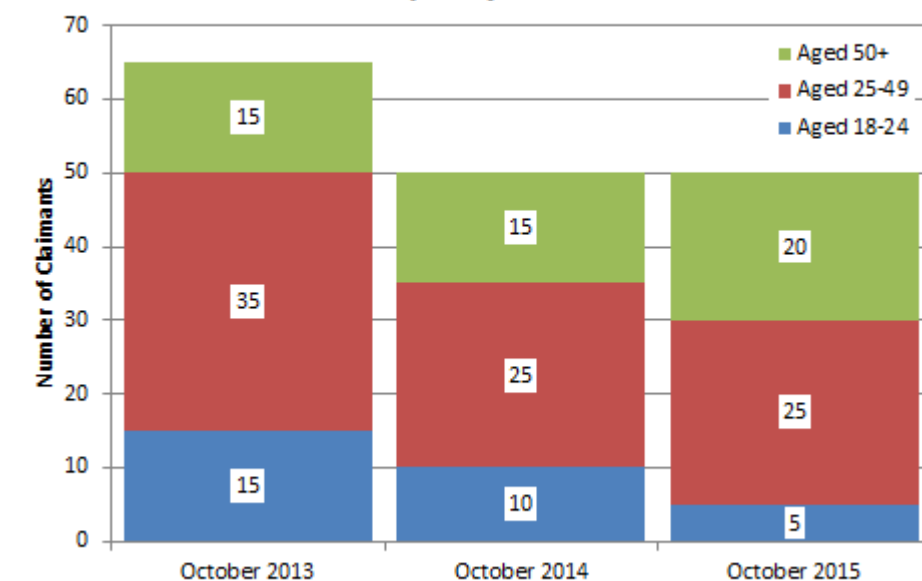


Source: ONS/Nomis

Claimant unemployment in Meriden has fallen by a total of -23% (-15 individuals) in the last two years, with the number of claimants aged 18-24 years falling by -67% (-10 individuals) over this period.



## Claimant Unemployment in Meriden



Source: ONS/Nomis

## Worklessness

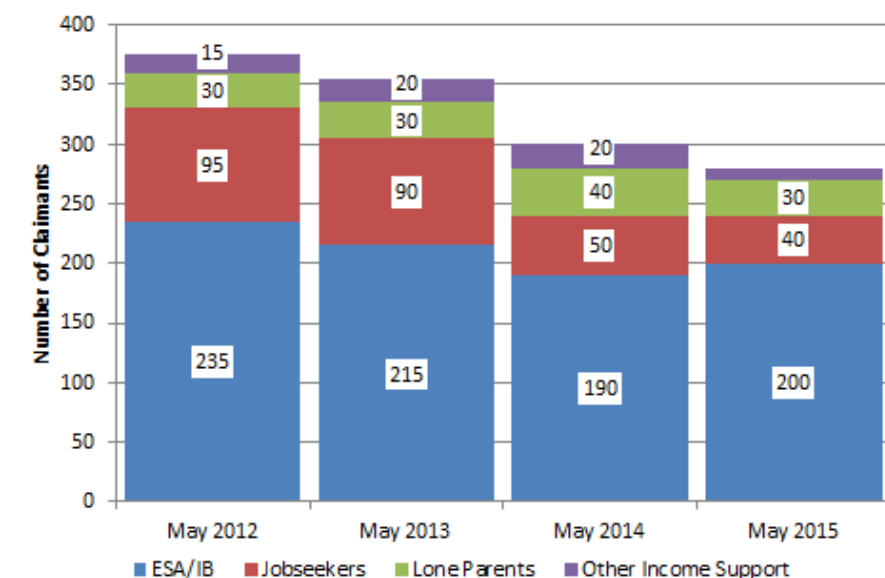
Worklessness is a broader labour market measure than claimant unemployment as it includes individuals who are not working but not required to seek work to be eligible for benefits. This includes significant numbers of those claiming a sickness benefit (Employment and Support Allowance or Incapacity Benefit). 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 280 people in Meriden claiming one of these out of work benefits, equating to 4.0% 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 71% of the total claimant count, followed by job seekers 14% and the two smaller categories lone parents on income support (11%) and others on income related benefits (4%).

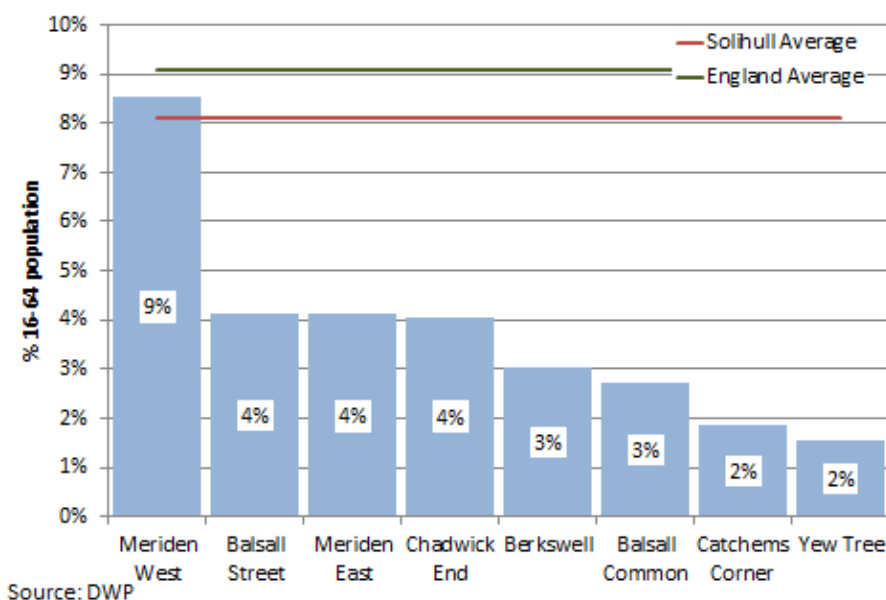
In common with the rest of the borough, the number of people claiming an out-of work benefit increased sharply in Meriden in the aftermath of the 2008/09 recession, but has been trending downwards over the last three years. The number of claimants is now 25% lower than in 2012 (-95 claimants). This reduction has been primarily driven by falling numbers of Jobseekers, although unlike some other parts of the borough, the numbers claiming ESA/Incapacity Benefit are also lower.

## Worklessness in Meriden



All LSOAs in Meriden have a below England average worklessness rate, ranging from 9% in Meriden West to less than 3% in both Catchems Corner and Yew Tree.

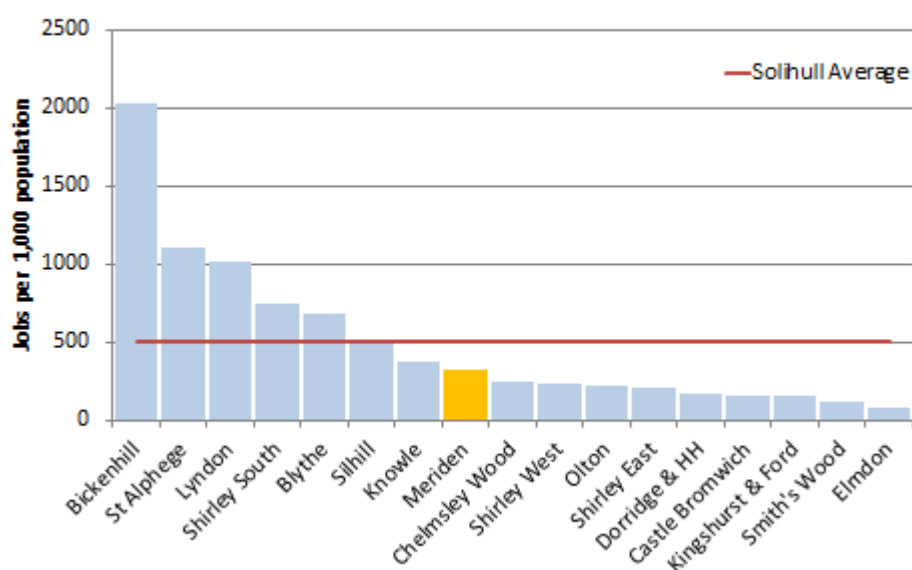
## Worklessness Rates in Meriden May 2015



## Workforce Jobs and Businesses

At the end of 2014 there were around 3,900 jobs based in Meriden. This equates to a jobs density of 322 per 1,000 residents, well below the Solihull average of 504 per 1,000. However, it should be noted that the Solihull average is skewed by a high concentration of jobs in a few select wards, most notably Bickenhill, and that Meriden represents a significant employment centre in the semi rural south and east of the borough.

## Jobs Density



Source: Business Survey & Employment Register

Meriden has a relatively broadly based employment profile, with no single dominant sector. Among the more prominent sectors locally are professional services (16% of all jobs based in the ward), accommodation & food services (14%) and business administration & support services (12%).

	Jobs in Meriden <sup>^</sup>	% Meriden Total
Professional, scientific & technical	600	16%
Accommodation & food services	500	14%
Business admin & support services	500	12%
Education	400	10%
Health	400	9%
Retail	300	7%
Manufacturing	200	6%
Construction	200	5%
Information & communication	200	5%
Wholesale	100	4%
Arts, entertainment, recreation & other services	100	3%
Property	100	3%
Transport & storage	<100	2%
Motor trades	<100	2%
Financial & insurance	<100	1%
Mining, quarrying & utilities	<100	1%
Public administration	<100	1%
<sup>^</sup> Jobs rounded to nearest 100		
Source: Business Register and Employment Survey		

The number of jobs in Meriden increased by around 13% (+400) between 2009 and 2014, in-line with the Solihull average (+12%), but well above that for England as a whole (+5%).

Data on the number of business is available at Middle Super Output Area (MSOA) level, with Meriden covered by two MSOAs - Berkswell and Meriden Villages (which also falls partially in Bickenhill ward). Collectively there are 1,075 businesses in these two MSOAs. Both of these MSOAs have a much higher concentration of businesses per head of population than the Solihull average, but have recorded below average growth since 2010 (+6% Meriden Villages, +3% Berkswell).

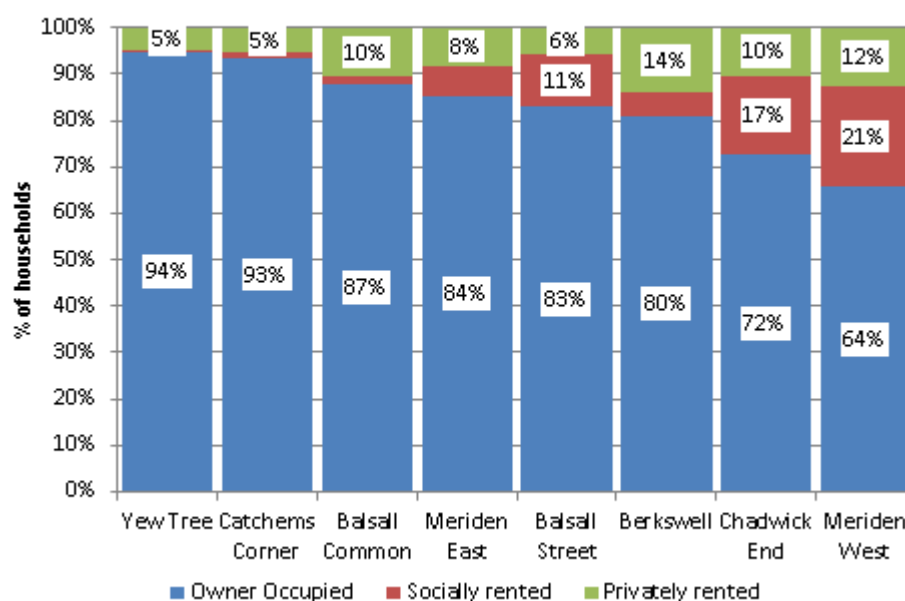
Area	Business Base 2015			Change 2010-2015	
	Count	% Solihull Total	Density (per 1,000)	Number	%
Meriden Villages	610	7%	93	+35	+6%
Berkswell	465	5%	60	+15	+3%
Solihull			44		+13%
England			47		+14%
Source: ONS UK Business Counts					

## Housing

	Count	% of Households		
	Meriden	Meriden	Solihull	England
Owner Occupied	3,946	82.4%	74.5%	64.1%
Socially Rented	363	7.6%	14.9%	17.7%
Privately Rented	427	8.9%	9.9%	16.8%
Whole House or Bungalow	4,391	88.8%	81.6%	77.5%
Flat, Maisonette or Apartment	450	9.1%	18.2%	22.1%
No Central Heating	47	1.0%	1.8%	2.7%
Overcrowding (bedrooms)	58	1.2%	2.7%	4.8%
Overcrowding (all rooms)	82	1.7%	4.5%	8.7%
Source: ONS Census 2011				

As with Solihull as a whole, a large majority of households in Meriden are owner occupied (82% compared with 64% across England as a whole). There are notable local differences in Meriden West where 21% of households are socially rented and 12% privately rented and in Chadwick End where 17% are socially and 10% privately rented.

### Households by Tenure in Meriden



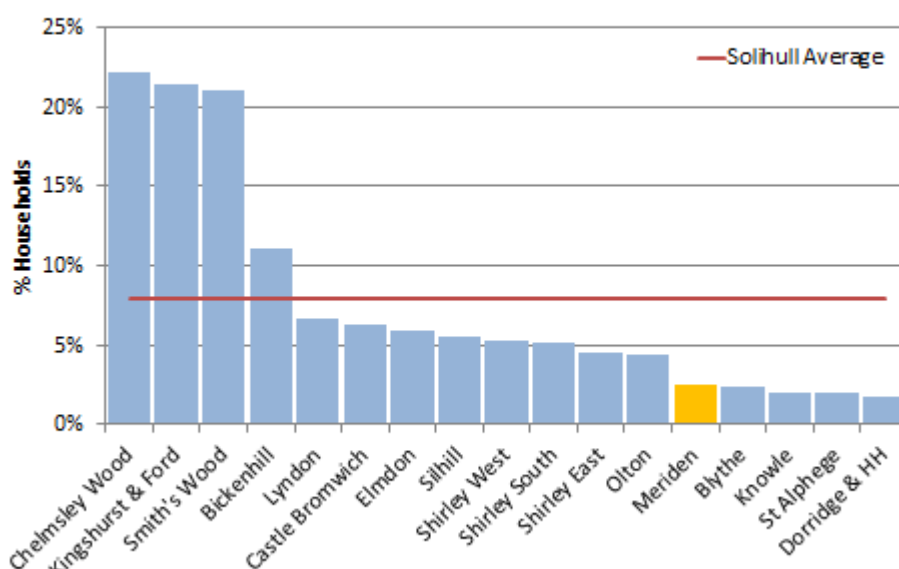
Source: ONS Census 2011

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 151 more private rented households in Meriden than in 2001, with the share of all households increasing from 6% to 9% over this period. Meriden was one of only six wards where the number of owner occupied households also increased (by +117), although this still resulted in a fall of four percentage points in the share of the total.

In terms of housing condition just 1.0% of households in Meriden do not have central heating, less than both the Solihull (1.8%) and England averages. Evidence from the Census also suggests that Meriden also has very few problems in terms of overcrowding. 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 1.2% of households in Meriden have an occupancy rating of -1 in relation to the number of bedrooms, below both the Solihull (2.7%) and England (4.8%) averages.

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 116 households had a Meriden address representing 2% of all households in the ward.

## Households on Housing Register – September 2015



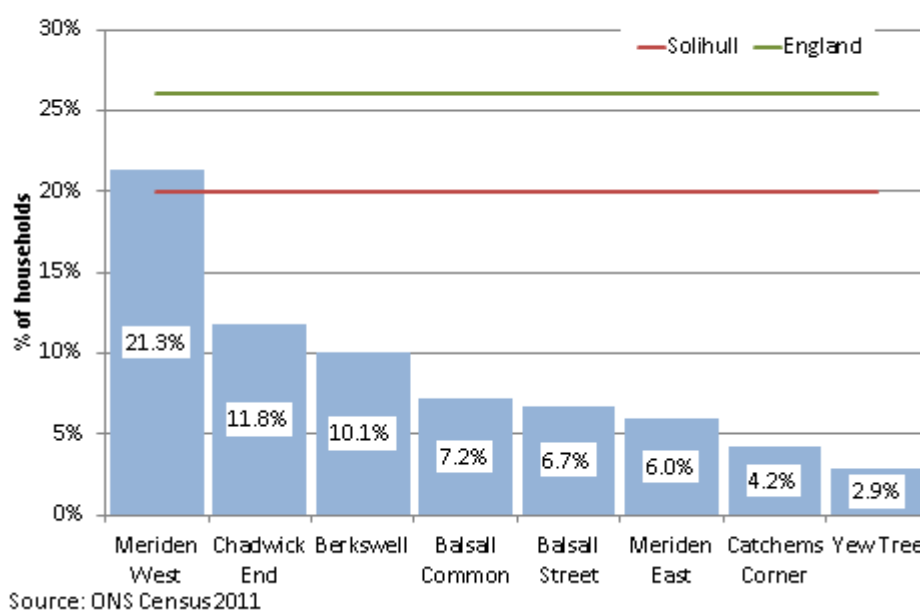
Source: Solihull Community Housing, Solihull Observatory

## Transport

	Count	% of households		
	Meriden	Meriden	Solihull	England
No Cars or Vans	419	8.7%	19.7%	25.8%
2 or More Cars or Vans	2,766	57.7%	40.8%	32.0%
Average Cars or Vans per Household		1.73	1.34	1.16
Source: ONS Census 2011				

In common with Solihull as a whole, households in Meriden have a greater level of access to a car or van than the England average. On average households in Meriden have 1.7 cars or vans per household compared to the England average of 1.16, with just under 9% of households having no car or van compared to the England average of 26%. As with most measures relating to affluence, access levels are lower in the Meriden West neighbourhood where 21% households have no car or van.

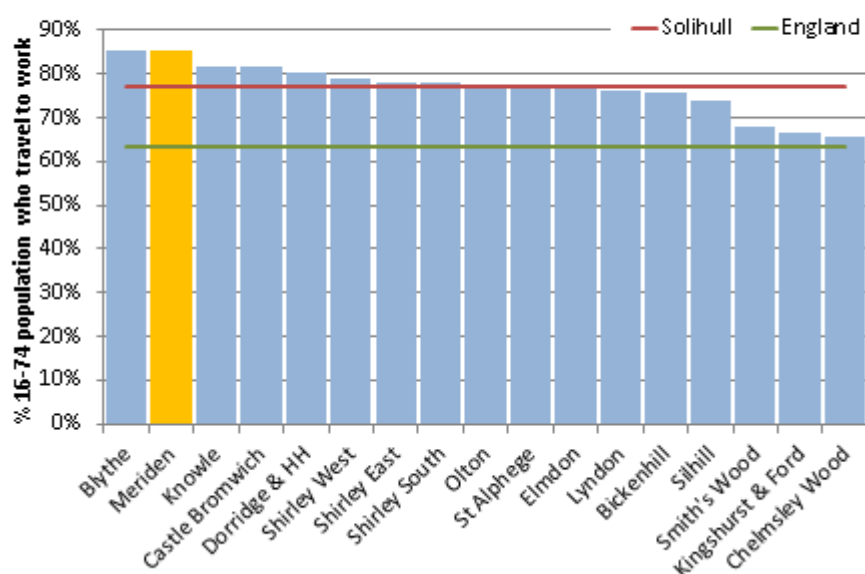
## Households with No Access to Car or Van in Meriden



	Count	% 16-74 in Employment Work Who Travel to Work		
	Meriden	Meriden	Solihull	England
Private Vehicle	4,539	85.4%	77.1%	67.0%
Public Transport	417	7.8%	14.5%	17.9%
Bicycle or Foot	334	6.3%	7.9%	14.5%
Source: Census 2011				

Alongside location of employment and availability of public transport, high levels of car ownership are a contributory factor in the way in which people travel to work. Over 85% of Meriden residents who travel to work do so in a private vehicle (e.g. car, van, motorcycle), the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest level in the borough.

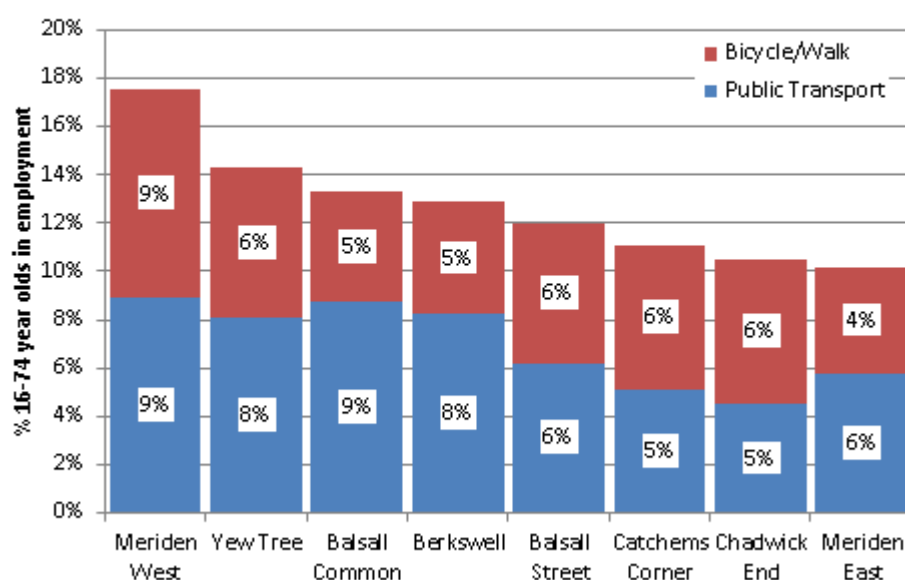
### Travel to Work in Private Vehicle (e.g. Drive Car, Motorcycle etc)



Source: ONS Census 2011

Public transport is less frequently used (8% compared to the England average of 18%), while far fewer Meriden residents walk to work or cycle (6% compared to 15% for England). At a neighbourhood level the proportion who travel to work by public transport, walking or cycling ranges from 18% in Meriden West to just 10% in Meriden East.

### Travel to Work by Public Transport, Walking or Cycling



Source: ONS Census 2011



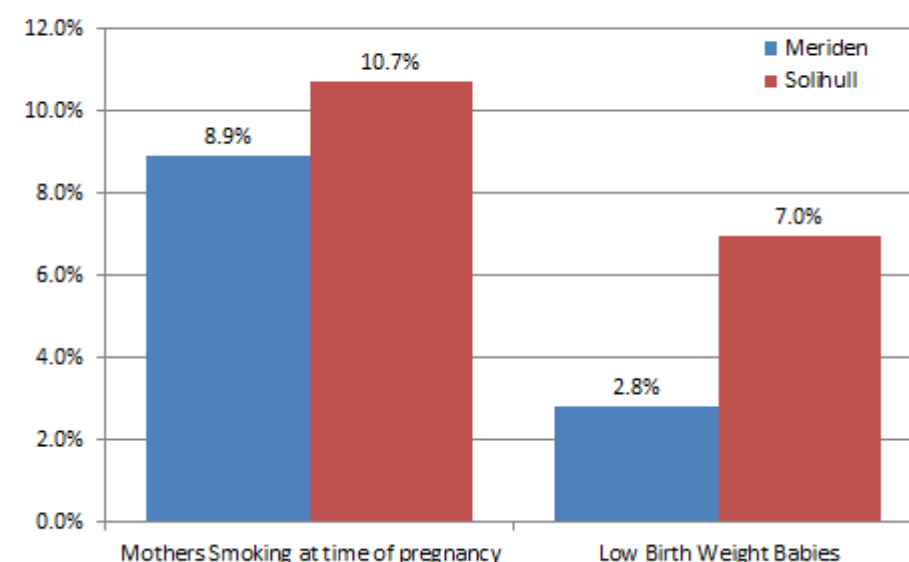
## A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

### 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 Meriden smoke at time of delivery, just below the Solihull average (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 3% of babies born to mothers living in Meriden are classified as being low birth weight babies, proportionally far fewer than the Solihull average (7%).

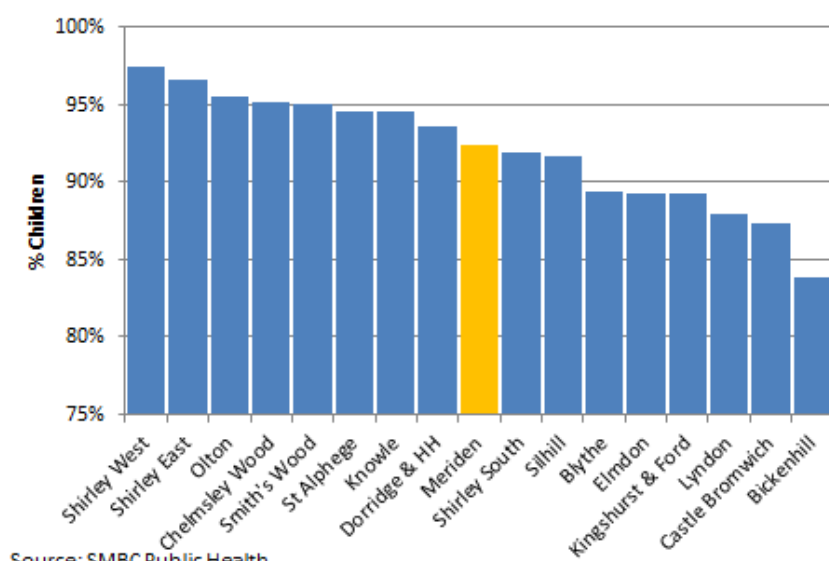
### Maternal and Child Health Indicators



Source: SMBC Public Health

Levels of childhood immunisation in Meriden are consistent with the Solihull average, with for instance 93% of children in the ward receiving the first MMR dose at 24 months.

### Immunisations: MMR 1<sup>st</sup> Dose at 24 Months

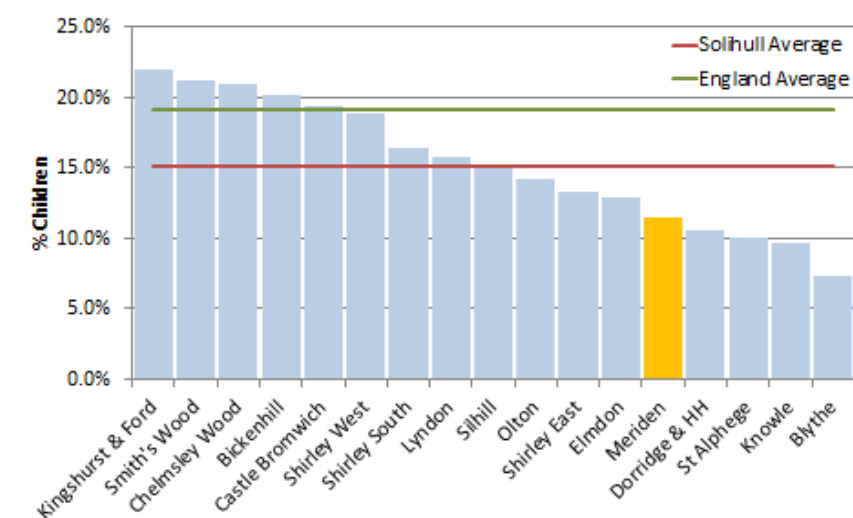


Source: SMBC Public Health

The proportion of children in Meriden who are classified as having excess weight or as being obese are consistently below the Solihull average. For instance in year 6 less than 12% are classified as being obese compared to the Solihull average of 15% and 19% for England as a whole.

	Excess Weight		Obese	
	Reception	Year 6	Reception	Year 6
Meriden	14.7%	25.1%	4.0%	11.5%
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



Source: Public Health England

## Education

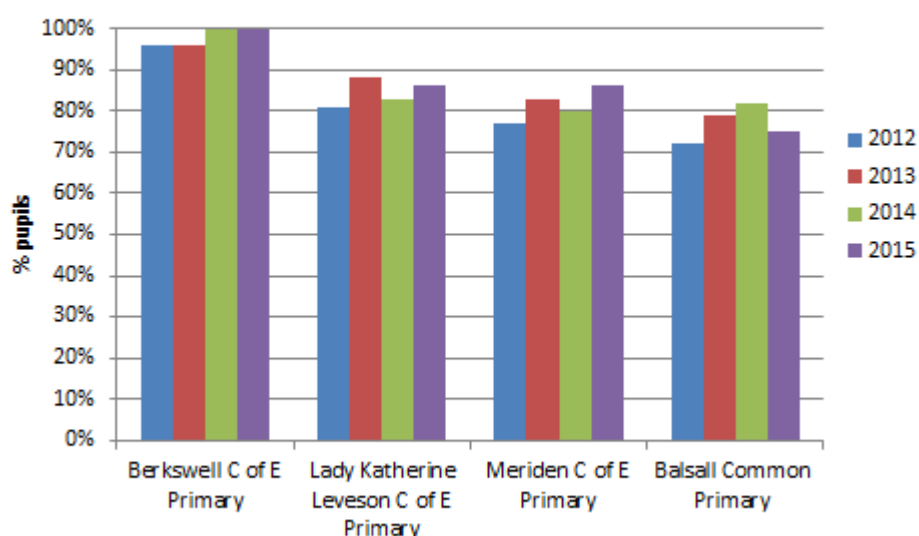
The majority of children in the Meriden area attend one of the following primary schools: Berkswell Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School, Balsall Common Primary School, Meriden Church of England Primary School or Lady Katherine Leveson Church of England School. The table below shows some of the key performance measures for these schools, highlighting some fairly large differences between the four schools. For instance in 2015 the proportion of pupils achieving level 4 and above in reading, writing & maths ranges from 100% at Berkswell to 75% at Balsall Common, although it should be noted, in the case of the latter, the average key stage 2 points score per pupil is above the England average.

	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%
Balsall Common	75%	29.2	93%	91%	87%
Berkswell	100%	32.6	100%	100%	100%
Lady Katherine Leveson	86%	29.3	95%	100%	95%
Meriden	86%	30	86%	97%	90%

Source: Department for Education 2015

In all four schools the proportion of pupils achieving level 4 and above in reading, writing & maths increased between 2012 and 2015.

**% Pupil achieving level 4+ in reading, writing and maths at KS2 – Meriden**

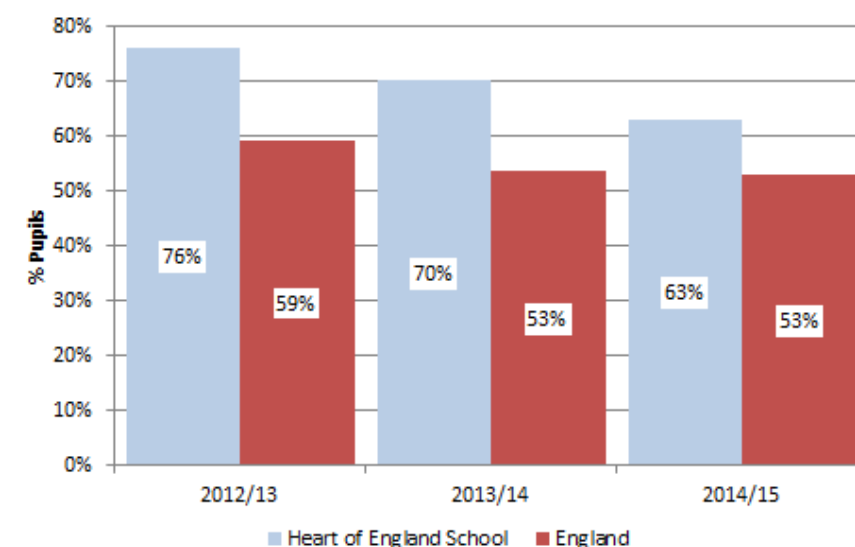


Source: Department for Education

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 34<sup>th</sup> out of 151 Local Authorities (top quartile) in the country.

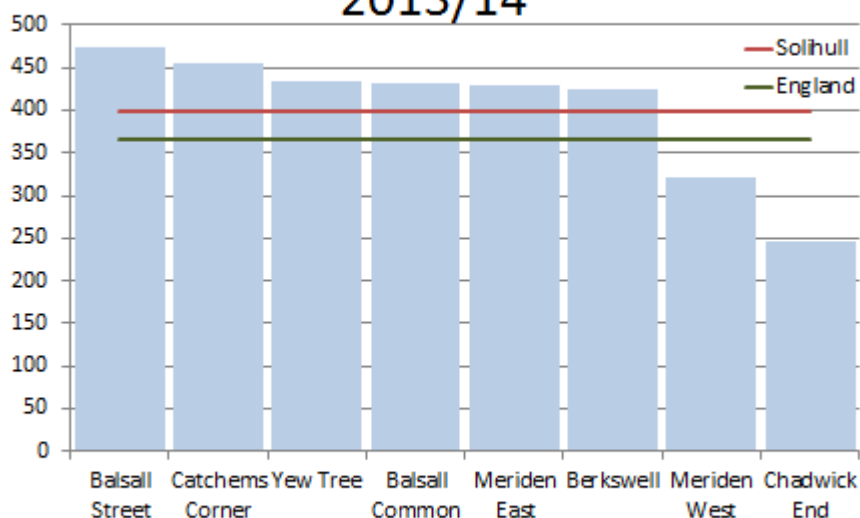
The majority of pupils in Meriden attend Heart of England, which at 63% has a higher proportion of pupils achieving 5 A\*-C grade GCSEs including English and Maths than both the Solihull and England averages, although results have fallen in each of the last two years.

**Pupils Achieving 5+ A\*-C GCSEs inc English & Maths at Heart of England School**



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 per pupil in Meriden in 2013/14 was 414, above both the Solihull (399) and England (366) averages. With the exception of Chadwick End and Meriden West all LSOA neighbourhoods in Meriden recorded an average point score above the Solihull average.

## Average KS4 per Pupil in Meriden Area 2013/14



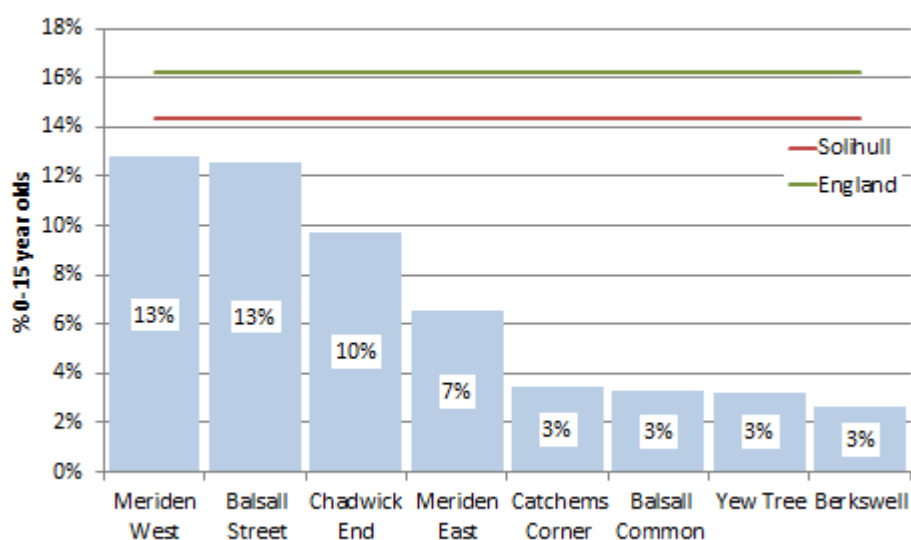
Source: Department for Education

## Children in Poverty

Data from the Department of Work and Pensions identifies 150 children under the age of 16 in Meriden who live in an out of work benefit household. This represents 7% of all children in the ward, below both the Solihull (14%) and England (16%) averages.

All LSOAs in Meriden have a below average proportion of children living in an out of work benefit household, ranging from around 13% in Meriden West and Balsall Street to less than 5% in each of Catchems Corner, Balsall Common, Yew Tree and Berkswell.

## Children Aged 0-15 Years Living in Out of Work Benefit Households in Meriden



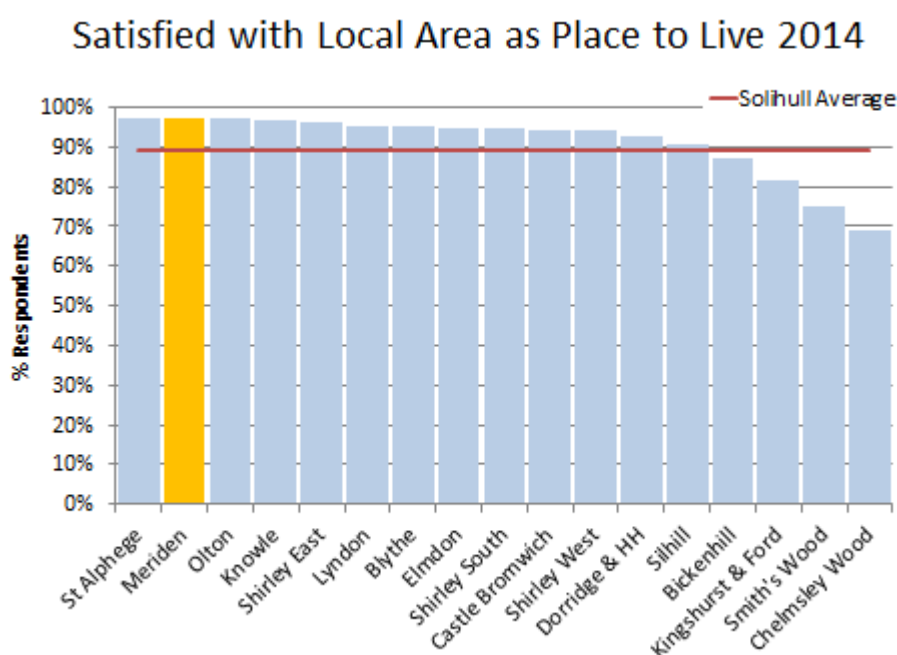
Source: Department of Work and Pensions 2014

The number of children in an out of work benefit household in Meriden marginally increased by +3% (+5 children) between 2012 and 2014, contrasting with falls for Solihull (-11%) and across England as a whole (-15%).

## STRONGER AND SAFER COMMUNITIES

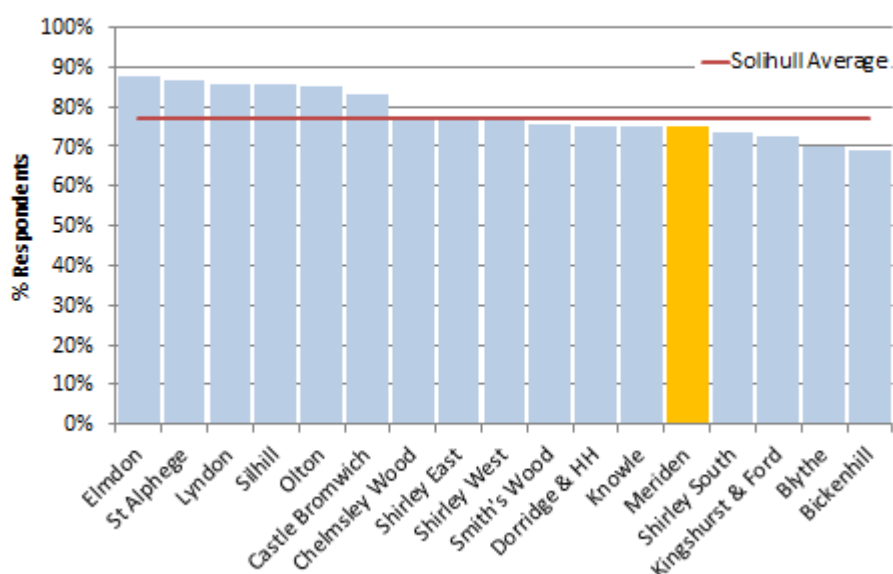
### Community Cohesion, Participation and Satisfaction

97% of Meriden respondents to the 2014 Place Survey indicated that they are satisfied with their local area as a place to live one of the most positive responses in the borough.



75% of Meriden respondents to the 2014 Place Survey think that people from a different background get on well together in their local area with just 3% disagreeing with this assertion. This is broadly in-line with the borough average, although it should be noted a high proportion of those from Meriden say that people from their local area are all from the same background.

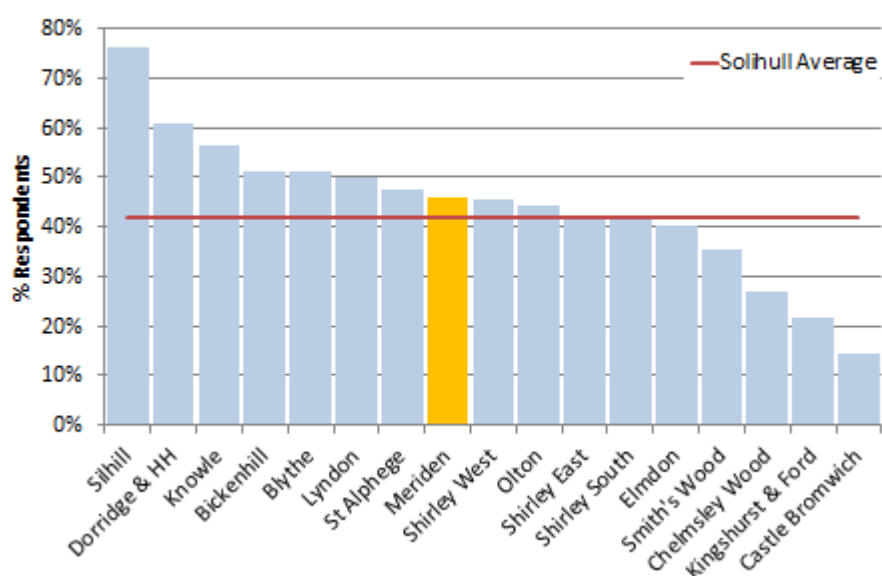
### Agree People from Different Backgrounds Get on Well Together in Local Area 2014



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. 46% of Meriden respondents to the Place Survey indicated that they had given unpaid help over the last 12 months to any group, club or organisation (40% at least once a month, 6% less often) slightly above the Solihull average of 42%. Alongside this formal volunteering, 67% of Meriden respondents said that they had helped in their community on an informal basis (e.g. helping a neighbour, litter picking etc.), which is also higher than the Solihull average of 61%.

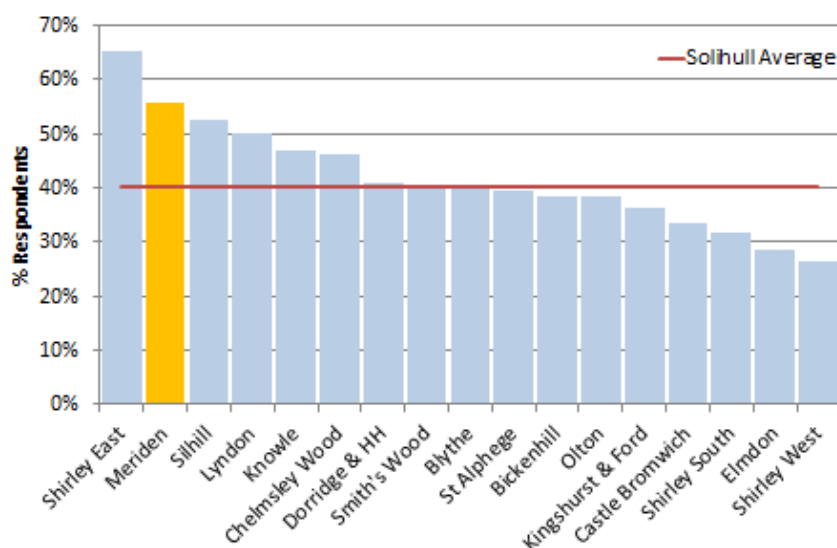
### Take Part in Formal Volunteering 2014



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 across Solihull as a whole. Meriden is one of the few wards where more people agree that they can influence local decisions (56% than disagree 36%).

Agree Can Influence Decisions in Local Area 2014

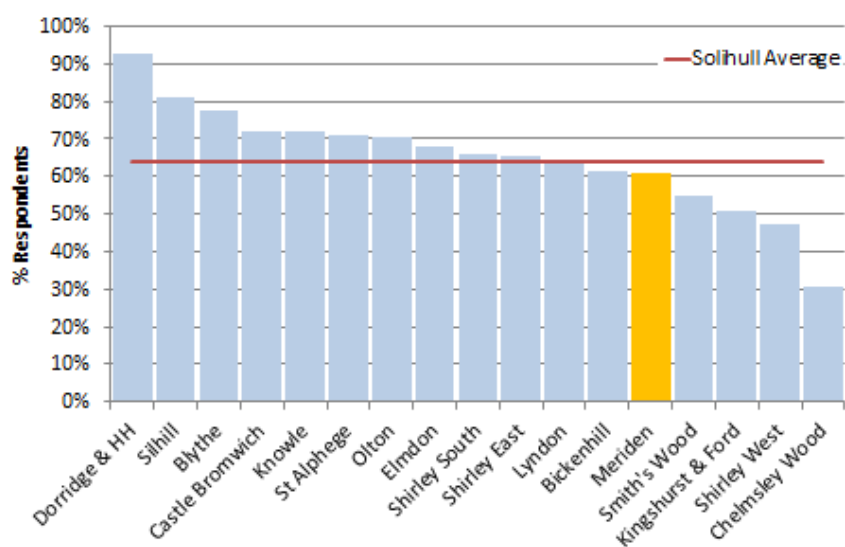


Source: SMBC Place Survey 2014

## Crime

61% of Meriden respondents to the Place Survey 2014 say that they feel safe in their local area after dark (19% very safe, 42% fairly safe) compared to 22% who feel unsafe. This is slightly below the Solihull average (66% safe, 20% unsafe).

Feel Safe After Dark in Local Area 2014

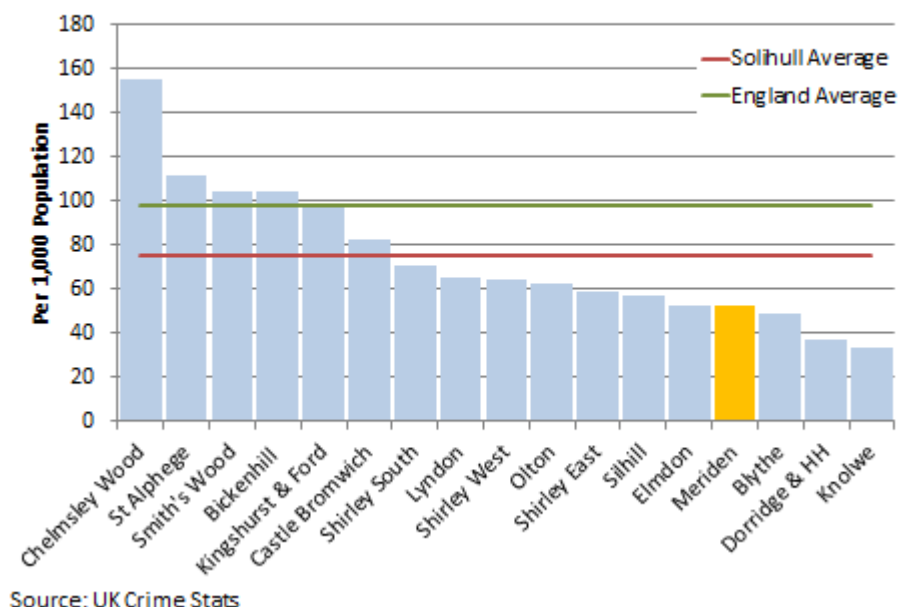


Source: SMBC Place Survey 2014



In the year to July 2015 there were a total of 614 reported crimes in Meriden equating to a rate of 52.5 per 1,000 residents. This is below the Solihull average of 74.9 per 1,000 and 4<sup>th</sup> lowest among the 17 wards in the borough.

### Overall Crime Rate July 2015

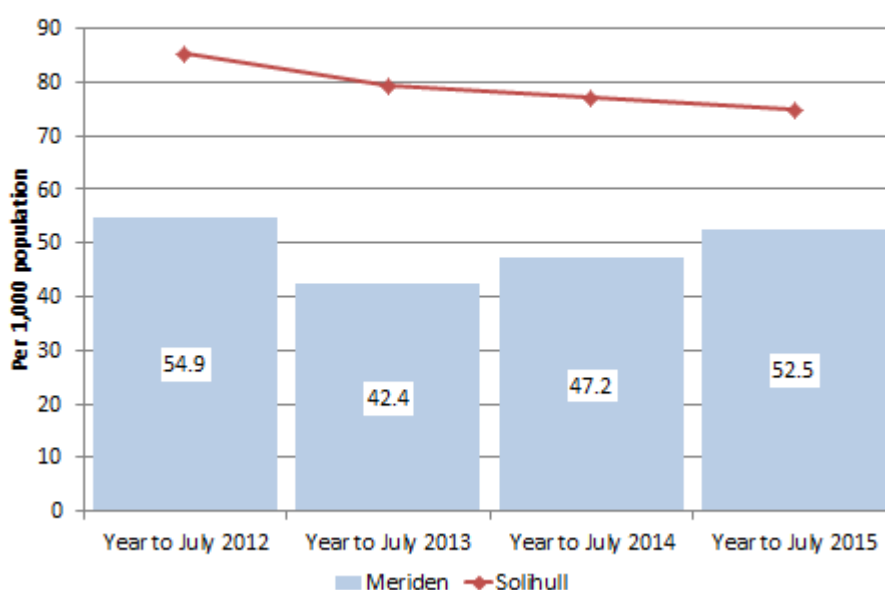


The rate in Meriden is below the Solihull average for all crime types except shoplifting & other theft and burglary.

	Count year to July 2015	Rate per 1,000 population	
		Meriden	Solihull
All Crimes	614	52.5	74.9
Shoplifting & Other Theft	182	15.6	14.3
Vehicle	100	8.6	9.1
ASB	99	8.5	21.2
Burglary	94	8.0	7.2
Violent	74	6.3	10.5
Criminal Damage & Arson	37	3.2	7.1
Weapons & Public Order	14	1.2	2.3
Robbery	7	0.6	1.0
Drugs	5	0.4	1.4
Other	#	0.2	0.7
# Data suppressed (less than 5)			
Source: UK Crime Stats			

The total number of reported crimes in Meriden in the year to July 2015 is -4% 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 Meriden

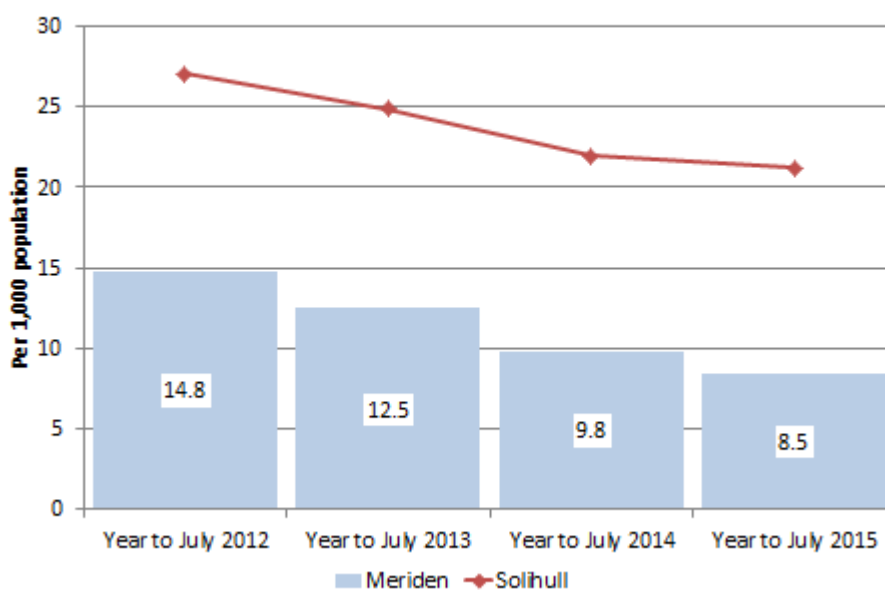


Source: UK Crime Stats

### Anti-Social Behaviour

There were 99 reported incidents of Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) in Meriden in the year to July 2015, equating to 8.5 per 1,000 residents, the 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest rate in the borough. The number of ASB incidents in Meriden has fallen by nearly 43% compared with 2012.

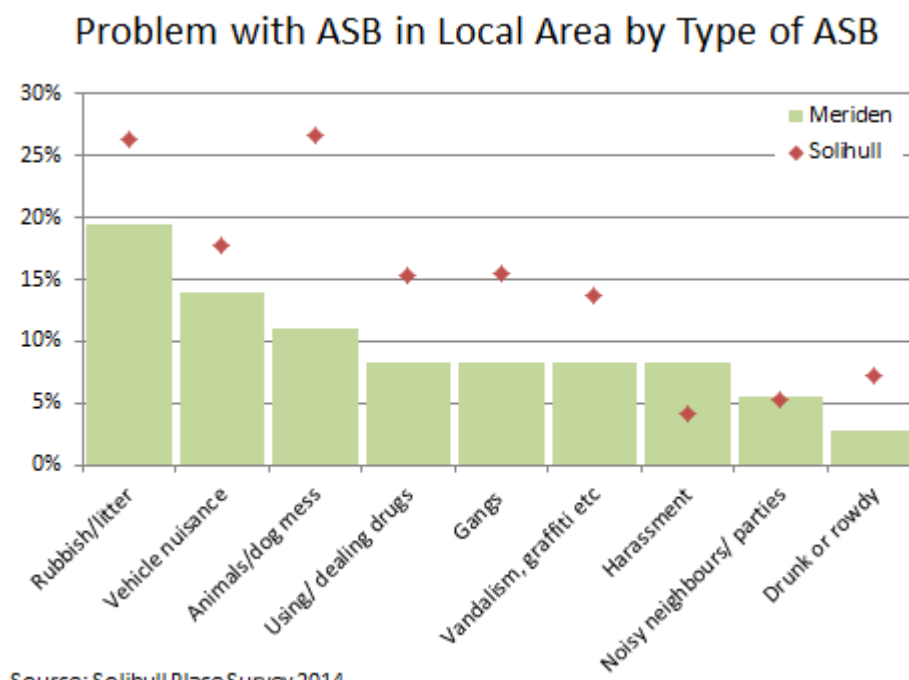
### Change in ASB Rate in Meriden



Source: UK Crime Stats

Respondents to the Place Survey were asked which of nine types of anti-social behaviour are a problem in their local area. Relatively few respondents from Meriden cited any of

these, with rubbish & litter lying around (19%), vehicle nuisance like joyriding or abandoned cars (14%) and uncontrolled animals or dog mess (11%) the only ones cited as a problem by more than 10% of respondents.



## HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES

### The Health of the Population and Carers

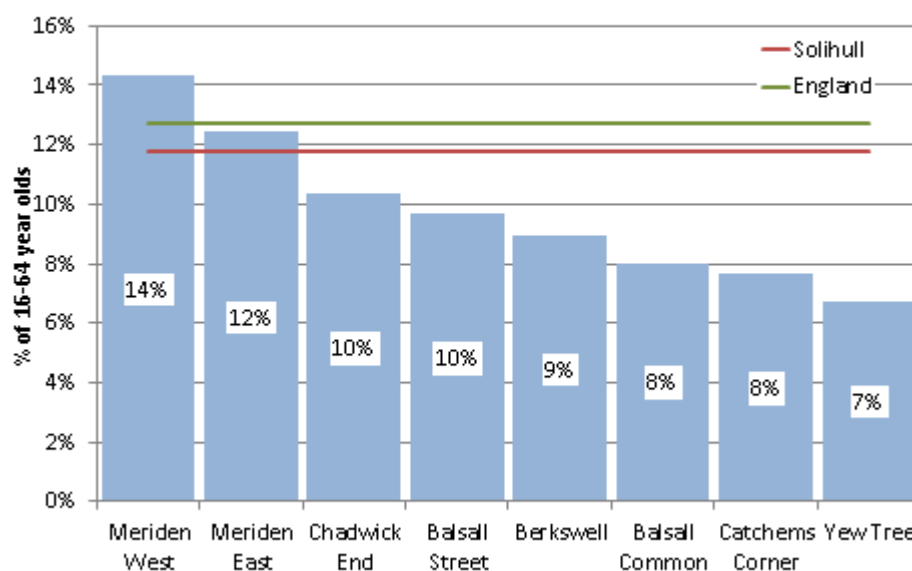
	Count	% of Population		
	Meriden	Meriden	Solihull	England
Day-to-Day Activities Limited a Little or Lot	1,847	15.8%	17.9%	17.6%
Health Bad or Very Bad	489	4.2%	5.2%	5.5%
Provides Unpaid Care	1,451	12.4%	11.7%	10.2%
Source: ONS Census 2011				

The majority (85%) of Meriden residents indicated in the 2011 Census that their health was either very good or good. There were however 489 residents who feel their health is either bad or very bad, equating to 4.2% of the population below both the Solihull (5.2%) and England (5.5%) averages.

1,847 Meriden residents feel that they have a health condition or disability that limits their day to day activities to some extent (of these 734 feel that their activities are limited a lot). This equates to 15.8% of the population, slightly below both the Solihull (17.9%) and England (17.6%) averages. The impact of deprivation on this measure is most clearly seen just among the working age population (16-64 year olds), where the Meriden average of 9.8% masks significant local neighbourhood variations. The proportion of 16-64 year olds

who feel that their day to day activities are limited rises to 14% in Meriden West (the most disadvantaged LSOA in the ward), but is in single figures in more affluent areas.

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

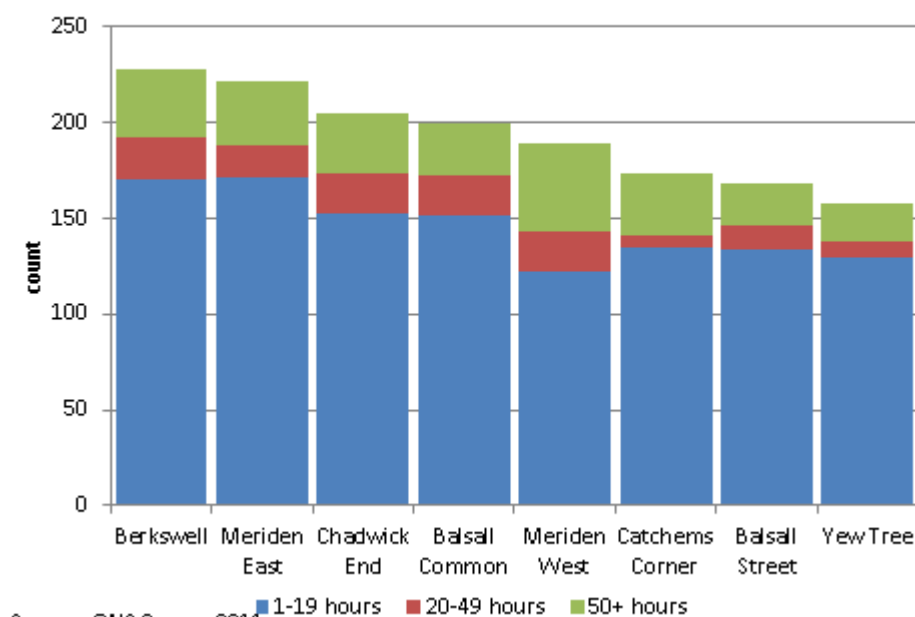


Source: ONS Census 2011

There are 1,451 people in Meriden who provide unpaid care for a relative, friend or neighbour, equating to 12.4% of the population, in-line with the Solihull average (11.7%) but above that for England (10.2%). 16% of carers in Meriden provide care for 50 hours or more a week. The number of carers in Meriden increased by 16% (+204 individuals) between 2001 and 2011, compared to an increase of 15% in Solihull and 11% in England.

At a neighbourhood level Meriden East (14%) has the highest proportion of carers in Meriden, although Meriden West is also notable because a high proportion of carers in this LSOA care for 50 hours or more per week (24% of all carers). This fits with the pattern across the borough with carers in less affluent areas more likely to do so on a full time basis than elsewhere.

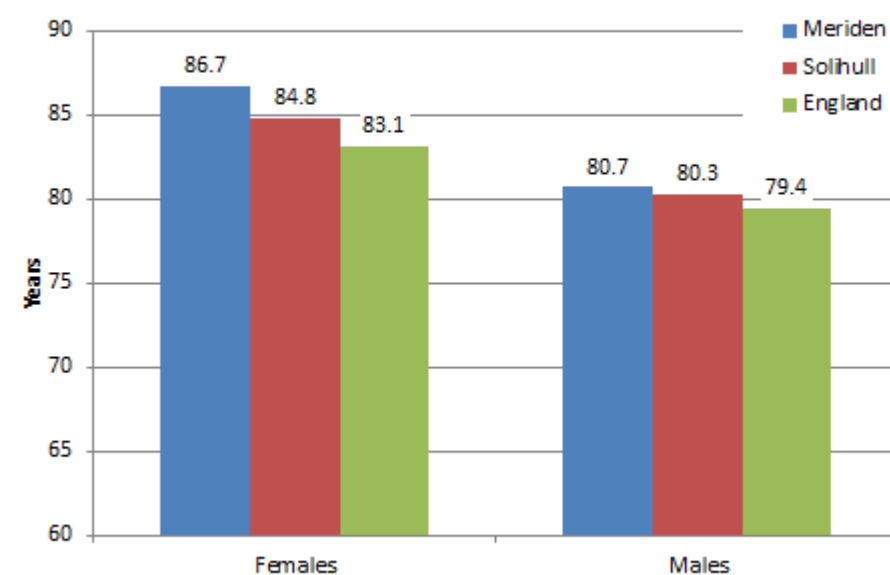
## Carers in Meriden



## Life Expectancy and Mortality

The average life expectancy at birth in Meriden is 86.7 years for females and 80.7 years for males both higher than the England average.

### Life Expectancy at Birth 2011-2013



Source: SMBC

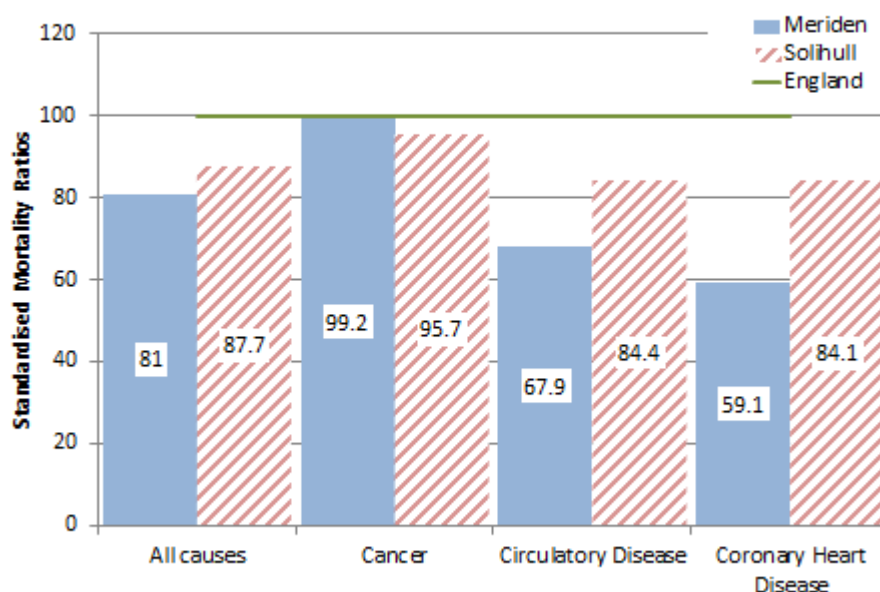
By using standardized mortality rates (SMRs) it is possible to compare the extent both of premature mortality (deaths under the age of 75 years) and the major causes of premature

mortality. The level of premature mortality from all causes in Meriden is 8% lower than the Solihull average, and 19% below that for England as a whole.

Cancer accounts for around 51% of all premature deaths in Meriden, circulatory disease 20% and Coronary Heart Disease (CHD) 10%. Meriden has a higher rate of premature deaths from cancer than Solihull as a whole, although the rate is in-line with the England average. By contrast early deaths from circulatory disease and CHD are far less common than the Solihull average.

	<b>Premature Deaths (under Age 75) 2008-2012</b>			
	Meriden Count	<b>Standardised Mortality Ratios</b>		
		Meriden	Solihull	England
All Causes	171	81	87.7	100
Cancer	88	99.2	95.7	100
Circulatory Disease	34	67.9	84.4	100
Coronary Heart Disease	17	59.1	84.1	100
Source: Public Health England – Local Health				

### Premature Mortality (Deaths Under Age of 75 Years)



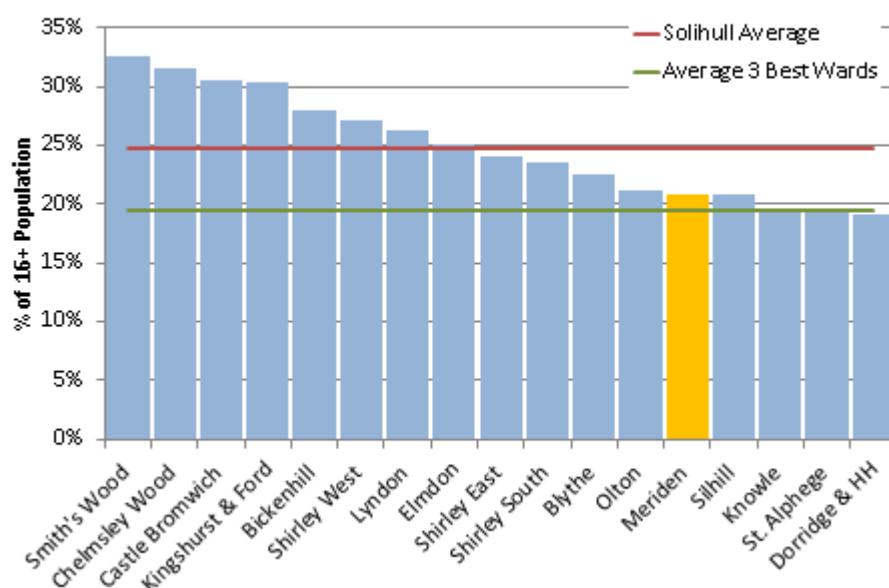
Source: Public Health England – Local Health

## 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 Meriden it is estimated that 21% 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 5<sup>th</sup> lowest in the borough. By way of context the average for the best three wards in the borough is 19%.

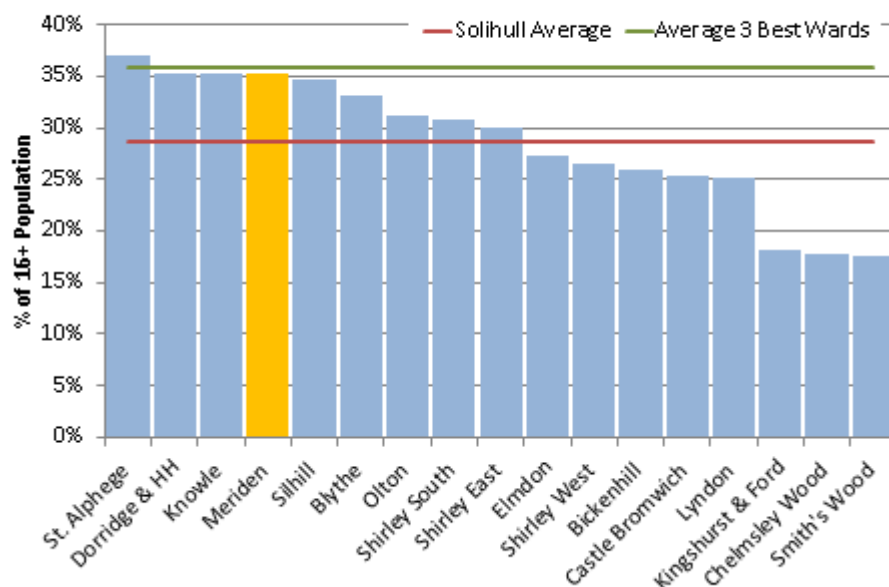
## Obesity in the Adult Population



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 Meriden, it is estimated that 35% of adults meet this criteria, compared to nearly 29% across Solihull as a whole. On this measure the rate in Meriden is just -2% below the average for the best three wards in Solihull.

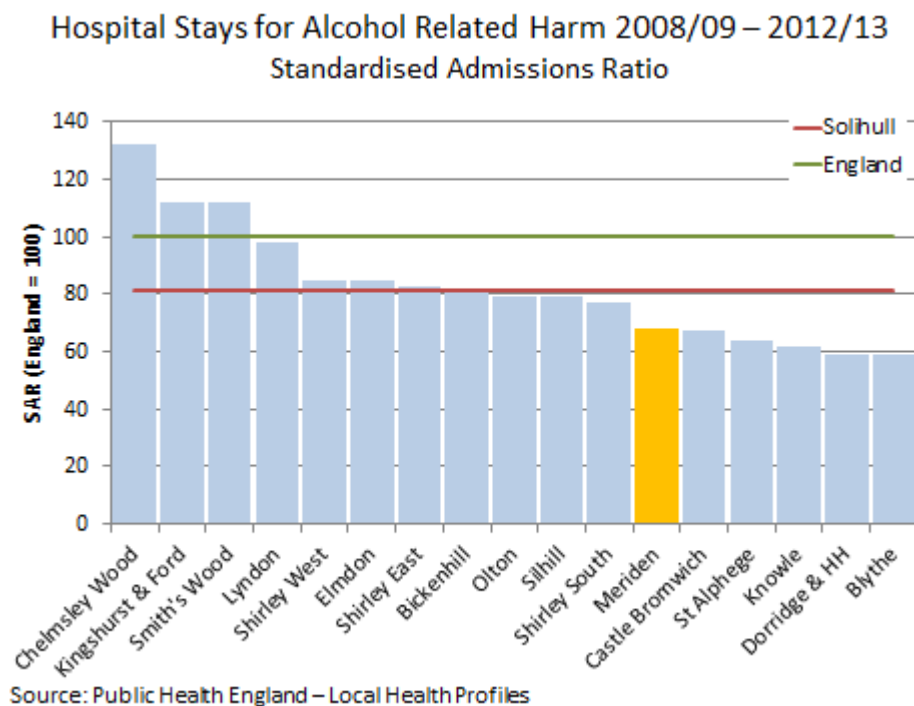
## Healthy Eating in the Adult Population



Source: Association of Public Health Authorities

On average it is estimated that over 22% of the adult population of Meriden 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), the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest rate in the borough and 28% above the rate in the best three wards in the borough.

Between 2008/09 and 2012/13 there were over 950 stays for alcohol related harm attributable to Meriden residents. This equates to a Standardised Admissions Ratio of 67.7, below both the Solihull and England averages.





## WARD CONTACTS AND KEY INFORMATION

### Ward Members

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