

The Indices of Deprivation 2007 (ID2007) were released in December 2007 to update the previous indices, which were published in 2004. The indices are used widely to analyse patterns of deprivation and to identify areas that would benefit from special initiatives or programmes.

This information note highlights some of the main findings from the Indices of Deprivation 2007 as well as relative change since 2004.

Medway is ranked 150th most deprived borough overall in 2007, a decline from 160th in 2004, indicating that the borough is now relatively more deprived.

In ID 2007, 5 SOAs are ranked in the 10% most deprived nationally and 16 SOAs are ranked in the 20% most deprived.

Medway's worst ranking SOA is in River ward, this area is ranked in the most deprived 4% of SOAs nationally.

Three SOAs in the worst 10% nationally are in Gillingham North and one is in Chatham Central. These SOAs are affected most by income deprivation - including child and elderly poverty, 'education, training and skills' deprivation then employment deprivation.

Of the 16 SOAs ranked in the most deprived 20% nationally, three are in Luton & Wayfield and three are in Chatham Central.

A little over 37,000 residents of Medway are 'income deprived'. Just over '13,000' are employment deprived.

Twenty two percent of children and 17% of elderly people live in low-income households.

In 2004, one SOA was ranked in the 10% most deprived and 11 were ranked in the 20% most deprived nationally.

Just over three quarters of Super Output Areas (SOAs) in Medway have a more deprived ranking for multiple deprivation in 2007 than in 2004.

Medway fairs worst on 'education training and skills', the living environment, crime and child poverty for low ranking SOAs in 2007. In 2004 the living environment was the weakest theme in Medway.

Change between IMDs

Medway ranked 150 out of 354 Local Authorities nationally, this is a slightly worsened position to 2004 when Medway ranked 160. Seventy six percent of SOAs in Medway are relatively more deprived in 2007 than in 2004. The SOAs which have fallen the most number of rankings are located in Watling, Peninsula, Strood Rural, Strood North and Strood South.

	2007		2004		Change	
	10% most deprived	20% most deprived	10% most deprived	20% most deprived	10% most deprived	20% most deprived
Multiple deprivation	5	16	1	11	4	5
Income	6	22	3	21	3	1
Employment	3	16	1	10	2	6
Health & disability	1	6		3	1	3
Education skills & training	10	40	11	35	-1	5
Barriers to housing & services	6	19	1	5	5	14
Crime	10	27	2	15	8	12
Living environment	14	38	14	38	0	0
Child poverty	4	27	4	23	0	4
Elderly poverty	6	19	5	21	1	-2

Income

Income deprivation affects 37,230 people in Medway. That represents 15% of the population claiming income related benefits.

Medway ranked 61 out of 354 Local Authorities nationally, this is a slightly worsened position to 2004 when Medway ranked 66 for income.

Areas in Gillingham North, Chatham Central, River, Strood South, Luton & Wayfield and Twydall appear to be the most relatively income deprived.

Employment

Employment deprivation affects 13,031 people in Medway. That represents 8.6% of the working age population being involuntarily excluded from the labour market.

Medway ranked 65 out of 354 Local Authorities nationally; this is a slightly worsened position to 2004 when Medway ranked 74 for employment.

Areas most affected are Luton & Wayfield, River, Gillingham North, Chatham Central, Strood South and Twydall. The most deprived SOA in Medway is located in River ward; it is ranked in the 2% most deprived nationally.

Income and Employment deprivation are seen to be the most significant measures of deprivation. These two domains together account for 45% of the overall multiple deprivation index.

Health and disability

The health domain appears to be the least significant domain in Medway in terms of deprivation when taking all SOAs into account. However there are still a number of areas in Medway ranked in the most deprived nationally. One SOA in River ward is ranked in the 10% most deprived nationally and a further five SOAs are ranked in the most deprived 20% nationally – in Gillingham North, Chatham Central and Twydall.

Health deprivation measures rates of poor health, early morbidity and disability covering all age ranges.

Education, Skills and Training

'Education training and skills' is Medway's weakest domain taking all SOAs into account. This measures educational deprivation of child and young people as well as skills and qualifications of adults.

Ten SOAs are ranked in the 10% most deprived nationally for education. Of these Gillingham North, Princes Park and Strood South each contain two SOAs in the most deprived 10% nationally. The lowest ranking SOA for this measure located in Chatham Central is ranked just outside the lowest 1% of SOAs nationally. Forty SOAs fall in the 20% most deprived SOAs nationally for this measure.

Barriers to Housing and Services

This domain measures distances required to travel to access key services and issues relating to access to housing such as affordability and overcrowding.

'Barriers to Housing and Services' is not one of Medway's worst ranking domains however it is the domain that has deteriorated the most between ID2004 and 2007. There are five extra SOAs ranked in the most deprived 10% nationally in 2007 and fourteen more ranking in the 20% most deprived nationally.

Areas suffering 'barriers to housing and services' are: Cuxton & Halling, Hempstead & Wigmore, Lordswood & Capstone, Peninsula and Strood Rural. A number of these are outlying areas which clearly suffer poor access to key services.

An SOA in Strood Rural is ranked in the 2% most deprived SOAs nationally.

Crime

This measure of crime relates to four major types of crime: burglary, theft, criminal damage and violence.

Crime appears to be a problem in a number of centrally located wards with Chatham Central, Gillingham North, Strood South and River affected the most. Many areas have a relatively worsened position between the IMDs with 8 more SOAs falling in the most deprived 10% nationally for crime.

Living Environment

This domain focuses on deprivation relating to the indoor environment in terms of quality of housing and the outdoor living environment in terms of air quality and road safety.

On the living environment measures Medway has 14 SOAs in the 10% most deprived and 38 in the 20% most deprived SOAs nationally.

Areas affected are widespread including Chatham Central, Gillingham North and South, Luton & Wayfield, Rochester East and Strood South.

Child Poverty

The Child poverty index is a sub-category of the income domain. It represents the proportion of 0-15 year olds living in income deprived households.

Poverty affects 11,666 (22%) children in Medway. Areas most affected are within Chatham Central, Gillingham North, Strood South and Luton & Wayfield.

Elderly Poverty

The Elderly poverty index is a sub-category of the income domain. It represents the proportion of elderly aged 60 and over living in low income households.

Poverty affects 7,651 (16.8%) elderly people in Medway. Areas most affected are in Chatham Central, Gillingham North, Princes Park, River, Rochester East and Luton & Wayfield.

Source – Indices of Deprivation 2007, DCLG.

More detailed deprivation information is available in a second deprivation information note on the [Development Plans and Research 'Facts and Figures'](#) webpage.

Background information on the Indices of Deprivation is available on the [Communities and Local Government](#) website.

Use [Neighbourhood.statistics Boundary Viewer](#) to identify on a map where Super Output Areas lie within Medway (select SOA to view map).

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Index of Multiple Deprivation 2007 – super output areas in Medway

