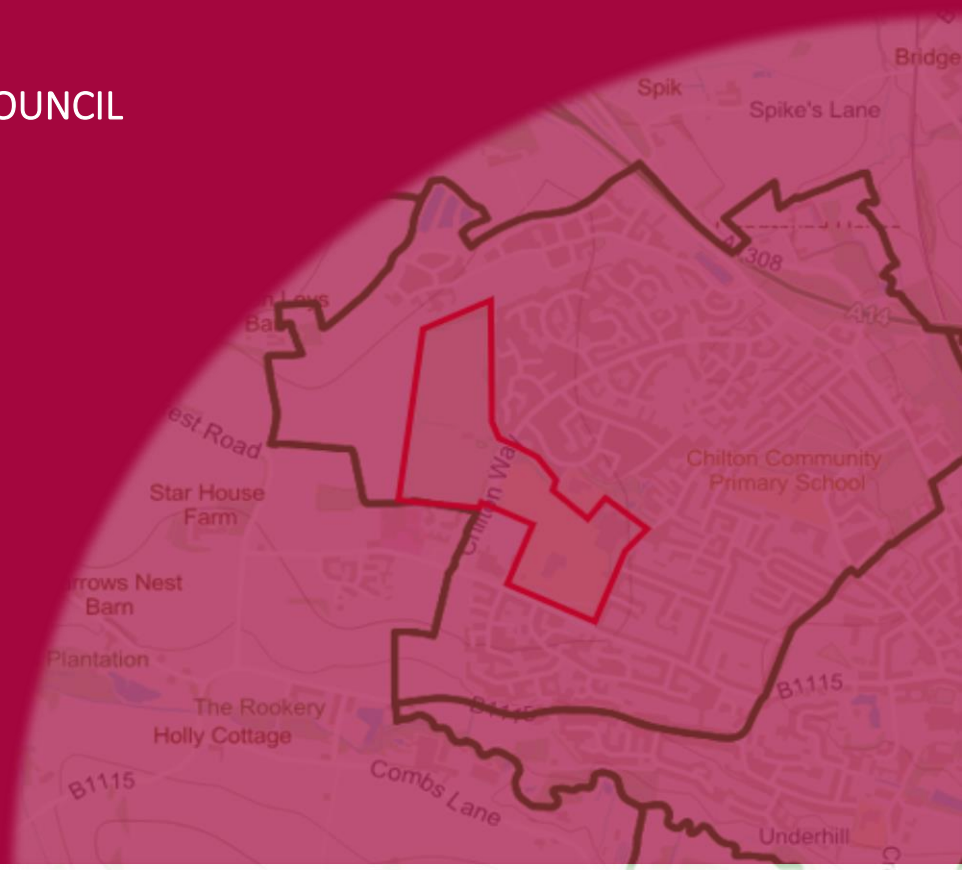


APPENDIX C:

HEALTH AND WELLBEING INEQUALITY STATISTICS FOR STOWMARKET AND SURROUNDING AREAS

MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL



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Overview

Stowmarket is situated within Mid Suffolk District Council approximately 20km from Bury St Edmunds, and 18km from Ipswich. It comprises four main wards in the town centre, surrounded by mainly larger rural wards.

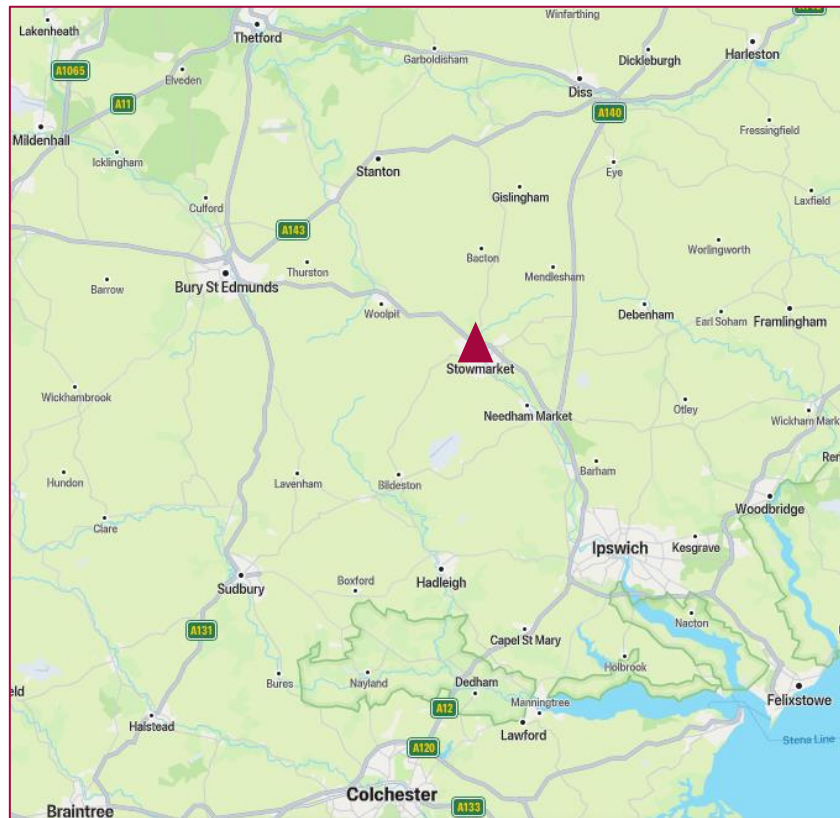


Figure 1: Site Location Plan

The Stowmarket Health, Education, and Leisure Facilities (SHELF) project is a proposed scheme creating a new sports and leisure pavilion, education, health, and wellbeing facilities in one hub. The proposed site is located to the northwest of Stowmarket, close to Stowmarket High School and Mid Suffolk Leisure Centre. As health provision evolves and becomes more holistic, this project is essential to meet the demands of the community and fulfil a gap in the current health and wellbeing services to Chilton, Stowmarket, and the surrounding rural areas.

This report aims to give reason for the choice of location within Stowmarket, and more specifically Chilton ward using a variety of health, wellbeing, economic, and environmental data.

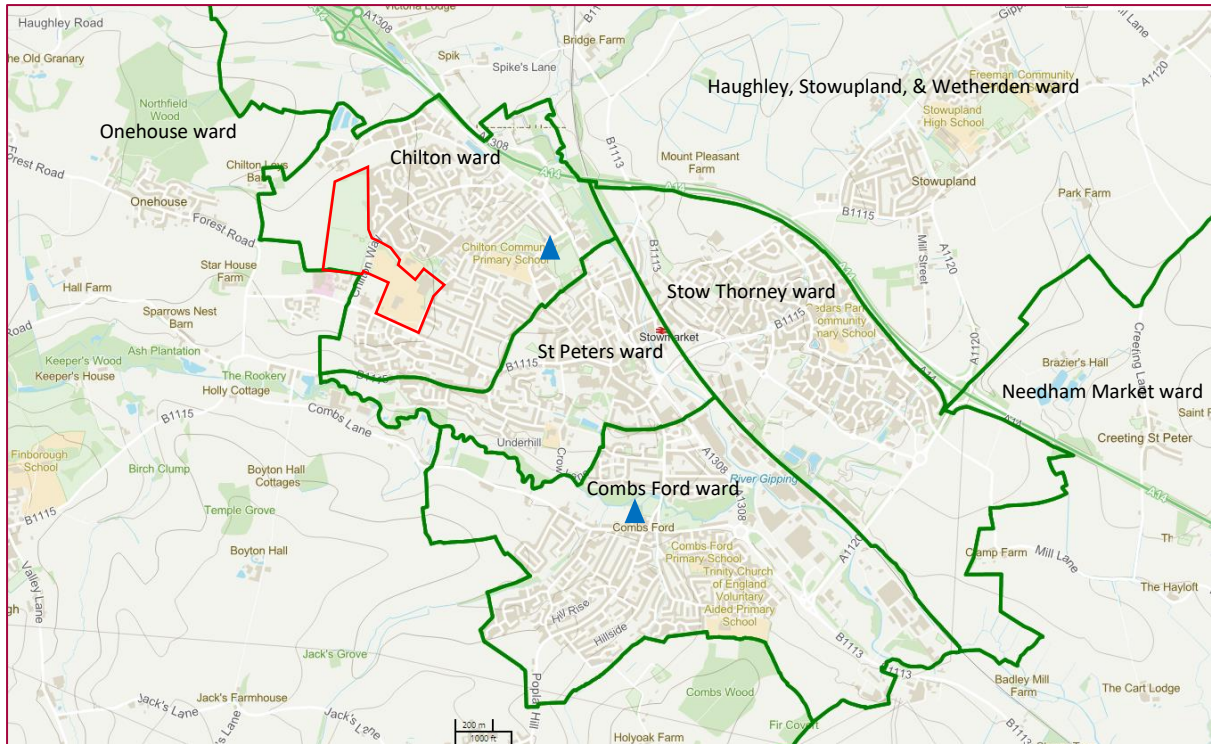


Figure 2: Site plan including red line boundary, wards, and GP practices (Stowhealth to the north, Combs Ford Surgery to the south)

The most recent available data found that there is increasing concern over the health and wellbeing inequality of Stowmarket and its surrounding rural areas.

A general increasing population coupled with a significant ageing population in the area may see an increased demand of current resources, and further inequality within and between communities. Child, adult, and elderly health data found the area is more deprived in most determinants than the Suffolk and England averages, with significant challenges surrounding childhood obesity, dementia, and frailty. Data available at a ward level found Chilton to experience greater health and wellbeing inequality than its neighbours, particularly surrounding obesity and mental health.

Data has been collated from Census 2011 and phase 1 release of Census 2021, Stowmarket Integrated Neighbourhood Team (INT): Place-Based Needs Assessment 2020, Suffolk Observatory, and Suffolk Police.

Population

Stowmarket INT which includes Stowmarket, Needham Market, and the surrounding rural areas has an estimated population of 40,000 in late 2020.

Census 2021 data for Mid Suffolk District detailed a population increase of 6.2% since 2011. There is a significant ageing population within the area; an increase in the over 65s since 2011 of 33.5%. Population projections by the INT only see this increasing, with a projected rise of 25.5% in the over 65s, and a 54.1% increase in the over 85s population from 2017-2028. This forecast of the over 85s is significantly higher than the Ipswich and East Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group (IESCCG) projection of 35.6%, highlighting the need for age-related healthcare in the immediate future.

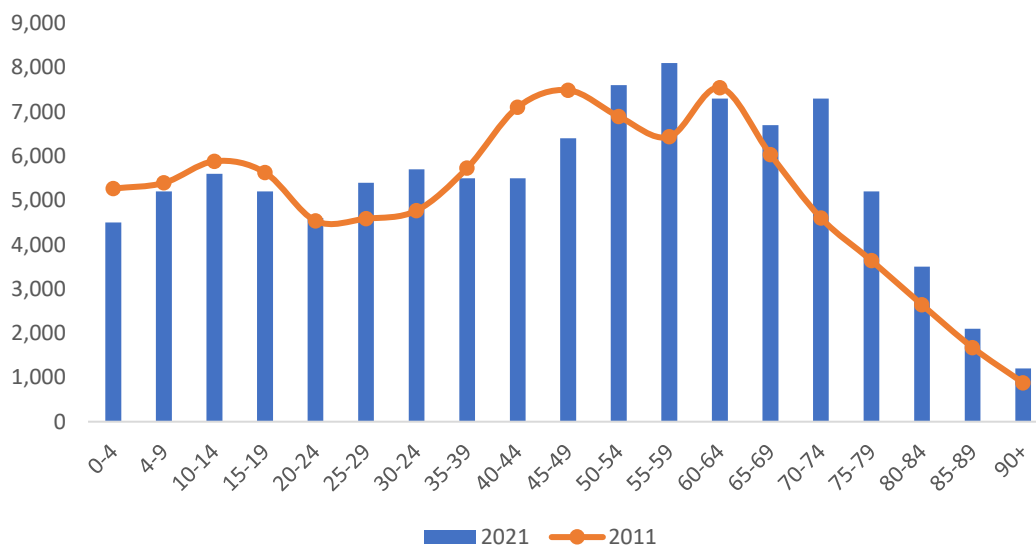


Figure 3: Population change in Mid Suffolk District from Census 2011 and 2021 data.

Health

Adult Health

Obesity prevalence in Stowmarket is significantly higher than England at 12.2% and 10.1% comparatively. Most notably, Stowhealth Surgery based in Chilton Ward and Combs Ford Surgery based in Combs Ford Ward have a 13.5% and 13.3% prevalence respectively.

The percentage of people with diabetes in Stowmarket is slightly lower than England, at 6.4% and 6.9% comparatively.

Mental health statistics, inferred from depression prevalence, was found at 10.1%, lower compared to England at 10.8%. Variation exists between wards, for example, Stowhealth surgery based in Chilton Ward has a significantly higher figure of 12.1%.

Severe mental illness including conditions such as schizophrenia and bipolar disorder have similar prevalence in Stowmarket INT and IESCCG at 0.8% and 0.9% respectively, but lower than England at 1.0%. Again, variation exists between wards, with Combs Ford Surgery based in Combs Ford Ward reporting a prevalence of 1.1% in 2018-2019.

Stowmarket has an asthma prevalence of 8.1% in comparison to 6% in England generally, which has been found as a comorbidity with obesity in recent qualitative data from One Life Suffolk.

Elderly Health

Stowmarket INT has a significantly higher prevalence of dementia compared to England at 1.2% and 0.8% respectively. This figure may be compounded in future with the significant ageing population in the area.

Stowmarket INT residents have a significantly higher rate of frailty than England, which have been inferred from emergency admissions across multiple conditions such as pneumonia, heart failure, and sepsis.

Stowmarket residents have a slightly higher rate of hospital admissions relating to falls compared to Suffolk, at 14.3 per 1000 and 14.0 per 1000 respectively.

Stowmarket INT found a higher prevalence of osteoporosis in those over 50 compared to IESCCG and England, at 1.0% compared to 0.8% and 0.8% respectively. Variations across the wards have been found, with Stowhealth GP practice reporting a 1.4% osteoporosis prevalence compared to Combs Ford Surgery at 0.5%, although some reporting limitations exist with the current electronic reporting system.

When considering the above data for elderly health together with forecasts of significantly increasing ageing populations in the area, it can be suggested that these figures are likely to become compounded in future.

Children's Health

Considering the adult obesity prevalence of 12.2% in Stowmarket, the data for childhood obesity is significantly higher, with 26.4% of children classed as overweight or obese. Research from NHS National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) has found that up to 79% of children who are obese in their teens are likely to remain obese as adults. The data from this programme also found a tangible link between children that are classed as overweight or obese and adults registered to a GP practice classed as obese. Childhood obesity is associated with many diseases and health conditions such as Type 2 diabetes.

Data from IESCCG area show there is a higher rate of admissions for children and young people under 10 years old with diabetes compared to England, at 133.0 per 100,000 compared to 78.5 per 100,000.

IESCCG also has a higher rate of hospital admissions for self-harm for those aged 10-24 compared to England, at 479.4 per 100,000 compared to 426.9 per 100,000.

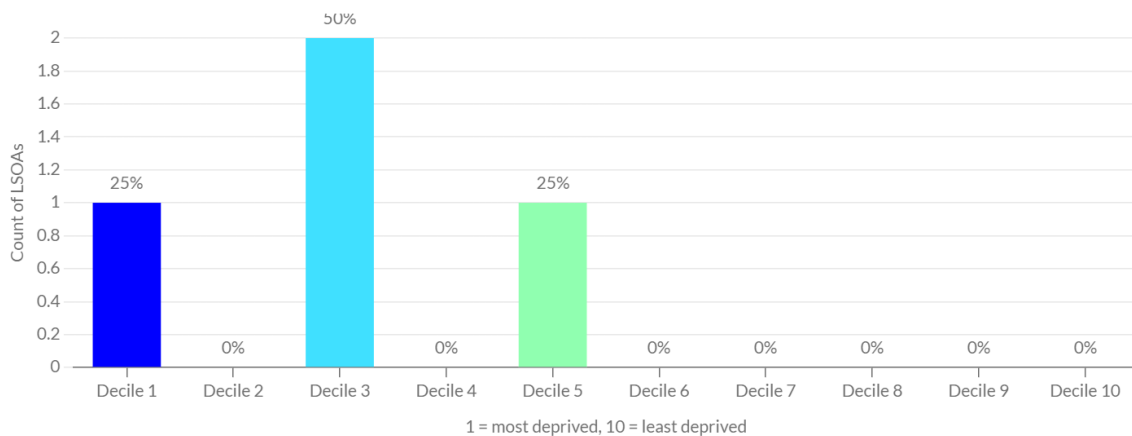
Employment

Suffolk Observatory indicate 7.3% of 16-18 year olds were classified as Not in Education, Employment, or Training (NEET) in the Stowmarket South area in Jan 2021, more than twice the rate for Mid Suffolk. Stowmarket North and Stowupland NEET rate was 4.2% with significant yearly fluctuations, but generally above the mid Suffolk average.

Data available at a district level indicate the percentage of economically inactive people over 16 years old in Mid Suffolk in mid 2022 is lower than both the Suffolk and England rates, at 37.4%, 40.9%, and 36.6%. It should be noted that this statistic includes retired people as well as the unemployed.

The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) indicates a wide variation in classifications across the area, with the most and next most deprived areas indicated around Stowmarket Town Centre, specifically those around Stowhealth GP Surgery based in Chilton Ward and Combs Ford GP Surgery based in Combs Ford Ward.

IMD data for Chilton (2019) found children and young people to be in the 5 most deprived deciles.



Source: MHCLG



Figure 4: IMD deciles for children and young people in Chilton ward in 2019. Decile 1 is most deprived, decile 10 least deprived. Source: MHCLG via Suffolk Observatory.

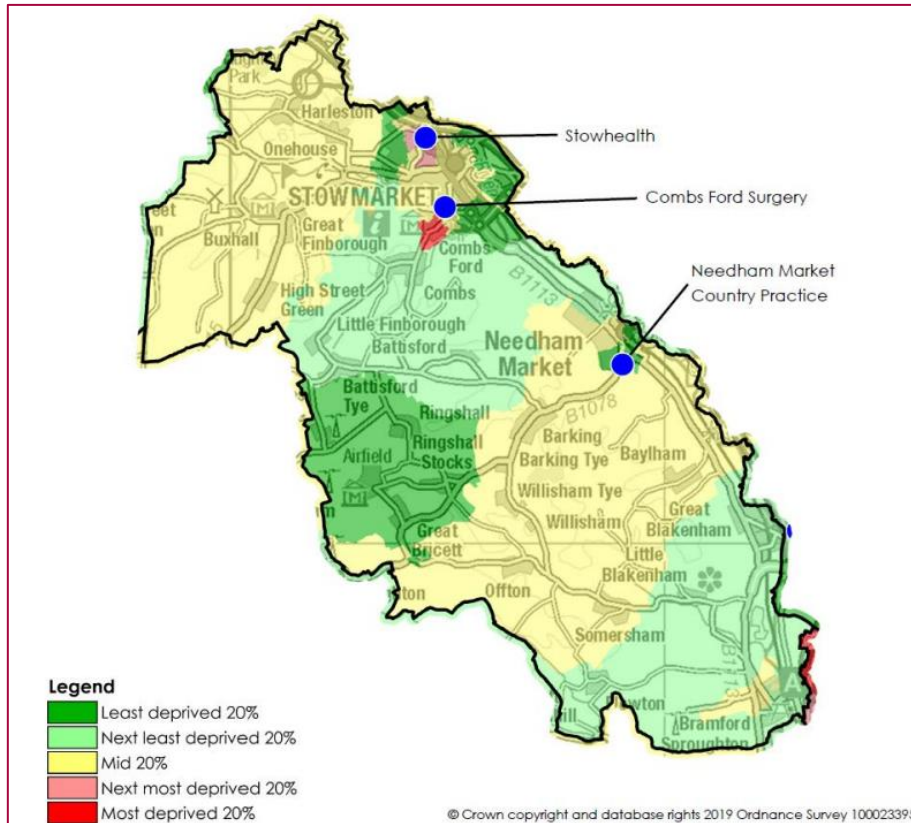


Figure 5: IMD 2019 classifications across Stowmarket. Source: Suffolk Observatory/INT

Crime

Stowmarket crime rates appear to be lower than the Suffolk average with 62 crimes per 1000 persons compared to 71 crimes per 1000, however there is significant geographical variation with crime and anti-social behaviour rate 12 times higher mainly in the four wards of the Town Centre.

The crime maps available from Suffolk Police detail a regularly concentrated reported crime rate in Chilton ward over most months in the past year.

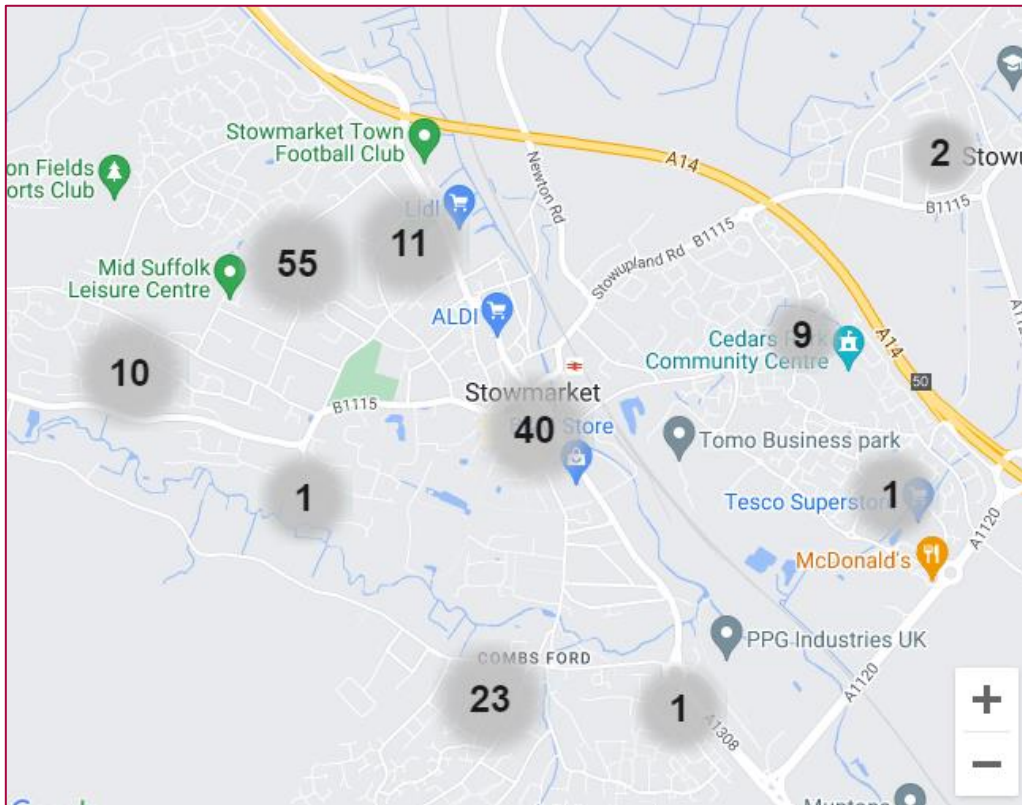


Figure 6: Suffolk Police crime map during September 2022 across Stowmarket

Transport

Stowmarket is located 20km from Bury St Edmunds, and 18km from Ipswich, the two closest hospitals. If health services are unavailable in Stowmarket, travel to Ipswich Hospital or West Suffolk Hospital takes 20 and 30 minutes by car respectively.

If families have no or limited access to their own transportation, public transport would take significantly longer, with train or bus travel around 1 hour for either hospital, not accounting for the limitations in accessibility for those with mobility or additional needs. This also doesn't account for travel to the relevant train/bus stations and the limitations in timetables to get to early or late health appointments.

Census 2011 data available for Chilton ward found that Chilton had more households without cars or vans than the Suffolk average at 19.9% and 17.9% respectively. Even households with one car or van may struggle with their own transport to health appointments at alternative locations due to other users in the household.

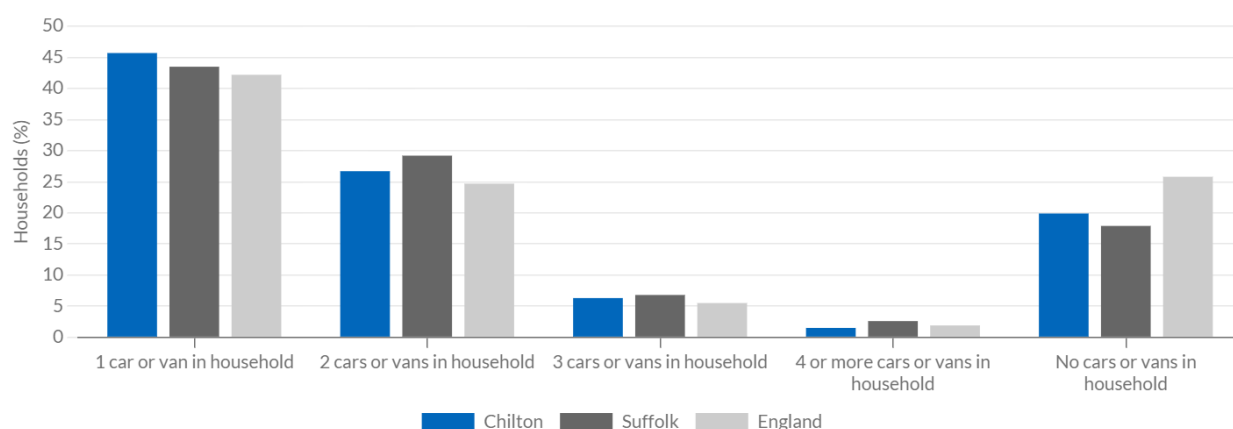


Figure 5: Cars or vans available to members of households in Chilton. Source: ONS via Suffolk Observatory

Chilton Ward

Reported data from Stowhealth GP Surgery indicate a significant inequality in Chilton ward compared to the wider area. The table below details the clear inequalities when compared to averages in England, IESCCG, and even compared to Stowmarket as a whole.

Determinant (%)	Stowhealth	Stowmarket INT	IESCCG	England
Asthma	8.7	8.1	6.6	6.0
Cancer	3.1	3.4	3.5	3.0
COPD	2.3	2.0	1.8	1.9
Dementia	1.2	1.2	1.0	0.8
Depression	12.1	10.1	10.8	10.7
Diabetes	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.9
Heart Disease	3.3	3.6	3.6	3.1
Heart Failure	1.4	1.2	1.2	0.9
Obesity	13.5	12.2	11.5	10.1
Serious Mental Health	0.9	0.8	0.9	1.0
Smoking	15.4	14.9	16.1	16.7
Stroke	2.1	2.1	1.8	1.8

Acronyms

Acronym	Full Term	Definition
IESCCG	Ipswich and East Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group	Clinically-led statutory NHS body responsible for planning and commissioning health care services in the area. This is now called NHS Suffolk and North East Essex Integrated Care Board.
IMD	Index of Multiple Deprivation	Measure of relative deprivation for small geographical areas. Combines data domains: Income, Employment, Education, Skills and Training, Health and Disability, Crime, Barriers to Housing Services, Living Environment.
INT	Integrated Neighbourhood Team	Team comprising several professions including adult/child social care, health, council, police, mental health.
NCMP	National Child Measurement Programme	Programme that measures the height and weight of children in reception (aged 4-5) and in year 6 (aged 10-11), to assess overweight and obesity levels.
NEET	Not in Education, Employment, or Training	A person who is unemployed and not receiving education or vocational training.