

Test Valley

Profile

February 2016

Test Valley covers 62,758¹ hectares on the western-side of Hampshire. The borough contains a mixture of urban, semi-urban and rural areas, with a large proportion of residents living in the either Andover or Romsey and the surrounding areas, or in towns and villages scattered across the borough.

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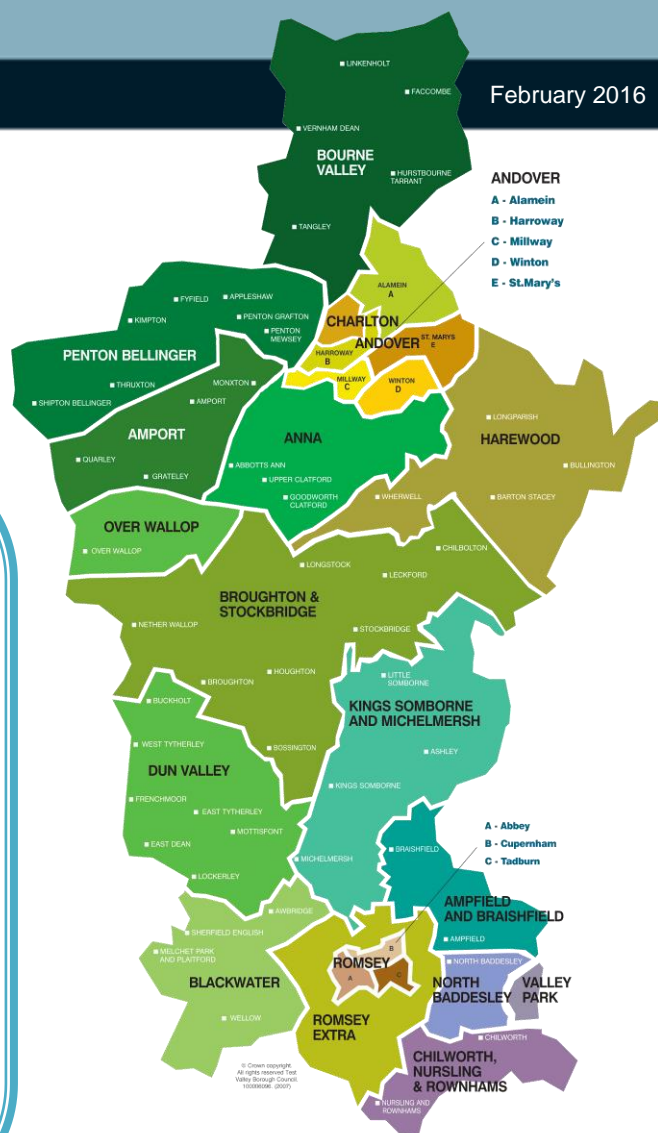
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Local democracy

Test Valley Borough Council consists of 48 elected Councillors representing 24 wards. 37 Borough Councillors are members of the majority Conservative Party, 9 Borough Councillors are members of the minority Liberal Democrat Party, and 2 Councillors are Independent.

Test Valley has 59 Parish areas. Each Parish Council comprises a number of elected (and possibly some co-opted) Councillors.

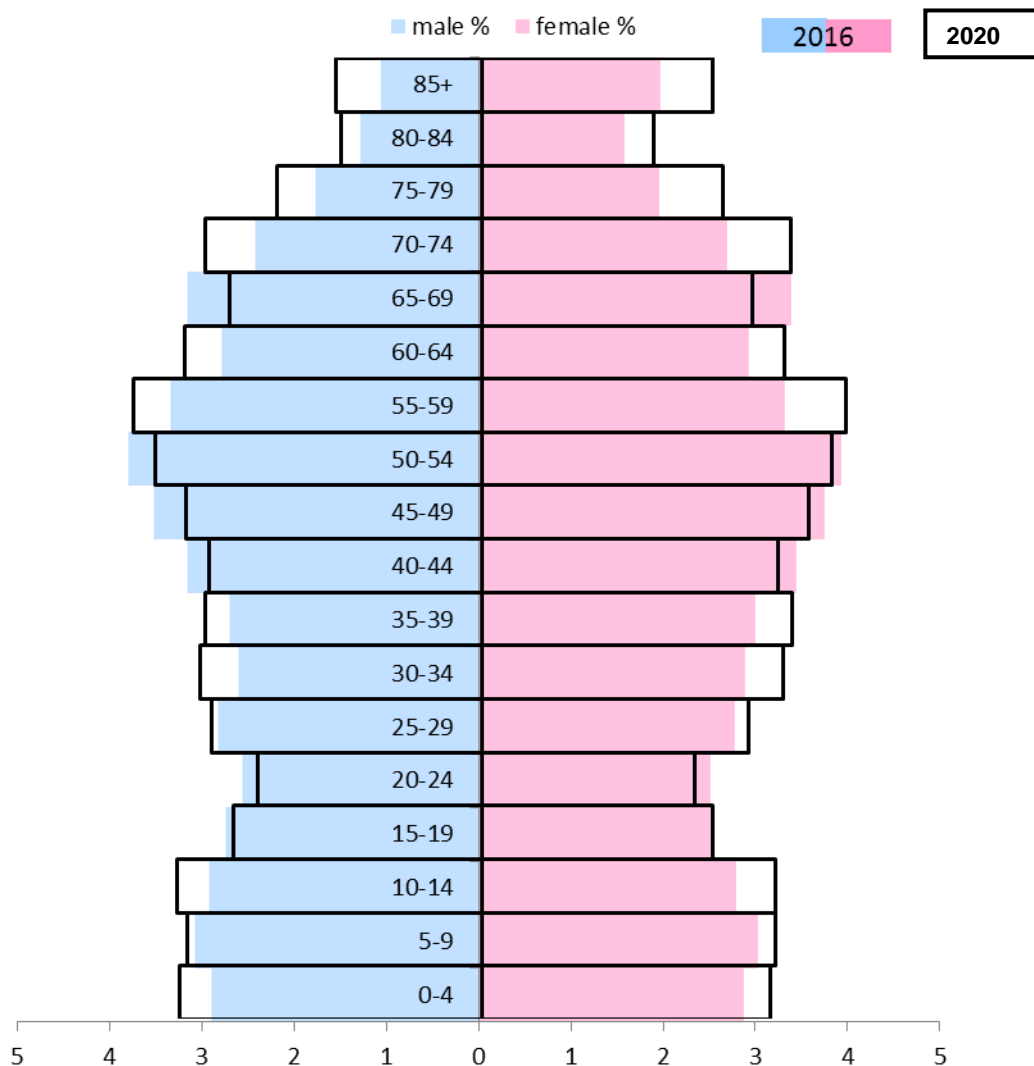
To find out who your elected representatives are, please visit our website:
<https://www.testvalley.gov.uk/aboutyourcouncil/electedrepresentatives/>

¹ Census 2011: Usual resident population.

Population

The population of the borough is estimated to be 123,162², and has increased by around 12.2%, or 13,361 residents, since 2001³. By 2020 the population is estimated to rise by 3.9%, or 4,762 people, to 127,924.

Test Valley population pyramid 2016-2021



The population pyramid above shows the age and gender breakdown of the population of Test Valley.

² Hampshire County Council, Small Area Population Forecast, 2015.

³ Census 2001: Usual resident population.

In 2016, 22.8% of Test Valley residents were **young people (0-19)**. By 2021 the proportion of the population represented by young people is expected to remain the same.

Young adults (20-39) in 2016 made up 21.9% of the population. By 2021 this percentage is expected to remain the same.

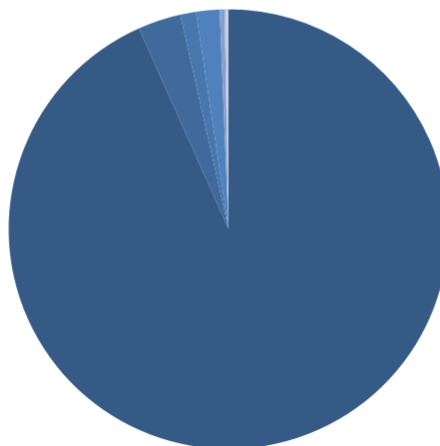
Middle aged residents (40-64) represent 34.0% of the borough population. By 2021 this percentage is expected to fall by 1.6% to 32.4%

In 2016, those **aged 65 and over** represented 21.3% of the population; this is expected to rise by 1.5% by 2021. The proportion of those **aged 85 and over** currently stands at 3.0%; by 2021 this percentage is expected to rise to 3.8%.

These figures highlight that across Test Valley the population is forecast to age, which reflects the national trend. Further information on the ageing profile of Hampshire can be seen in the report by Hampshire County Council, 'A demographic profile of Hampshire 2007-2014'.⁴

Ethnicity

Ethnicity of Test Valley residents



White British	White Other	Asian	Mixed	Black	Arab	Other
93.2%	2.8%	1.3%	2.0%	0.4%	0.1%	0.2%

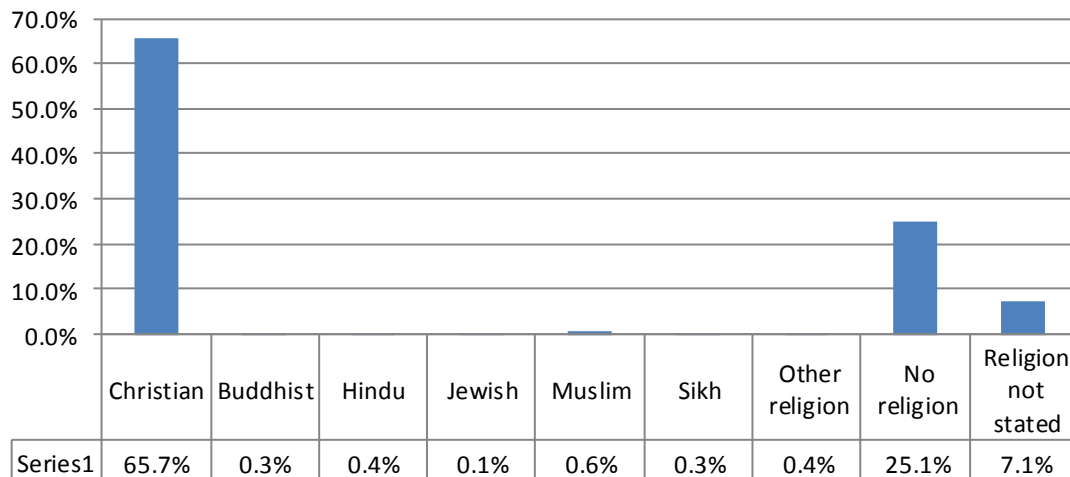
According to the 2011 Census, 93.2%⁵ of Test Valley's resident population are White British. This includes those describing their ethnicity as English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British. Those in other ethnic groups, which are shown in the pie chart above, increased from 4.3% to 6.8% between 2001 and 2011.ⁱ

⁴ Hampshire County Council: A demographic profile of Hampshire, 2007-2014.

⁵ Census 2001 and 2011: Ethnicity.

Religion

Religion in Test Valley



In 2011 the majority of Test Valley residents (65.7%) classified themselves as Christian. This has fallen 12.4% from the 2001 figure, but is still higher than the English average of 59.8%.

In 2011, the second largest group in Test Valley was those who said they had no religion (25.1%). This is higher than the 2001 figure by 10.9%, but is still lower than the national average of 27.2%.

Of the groups who do adhere to a religion, Muslims were the second largest group in Test Valley (0.6%) in 2011 (twice the 2001 figure of 0.3%). The national average is 2.3%.⁶

⁶ Census 2001 and 2011: Religion.

Deprivation

The English Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015 is designed to identify areas where communities lack resources and are in need. To do this, seven factors are considered, which are:

- Income deprivation;
- Employment deprivation;
- Health deprivation and disability;
- Education deprivation;
- Barriers to housing and services;
- Crime;
- Living environment deprivation.

The map on the following page shows the deprivation scores for Test Valley. The Indices of Multiple Deprivation are calculated at the level of Lower-layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs), of which there are 71 in Test Valley. 55 of these areas are in the 40% least deprived areas in England. 8 of these areas in the top 40% most deprived areas in England, of which 1 is in the top 20% most deprived areas. This area covers King Arthurs Way in Andover's Alamein ward. This means that, whilst overall the borough is an affluent area that experiences low levels of deprivation, there are pockets of deprivation throughout the borough.

Whilst deprivation is lower than average in Test Valley, approximately 2,300 children live in poverty.⁷

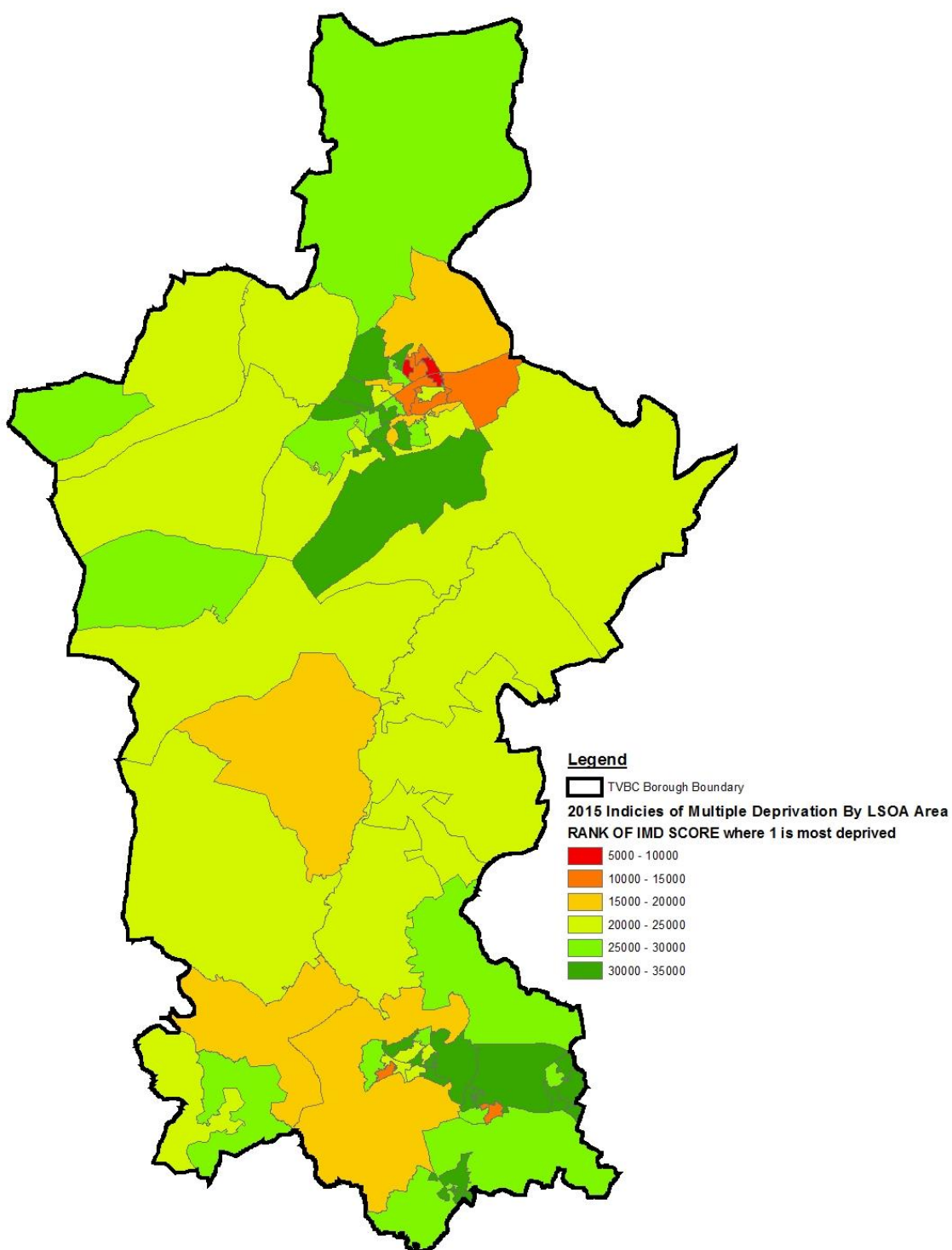
Test Valley Borough Council have produced a set of 24 ward profiles, which contain further information on deprivation at ward level. These profiles are available on our website: www.testvalley.gov.uk/mylocalarea.

Alternatively, deprivation ranks are available on the Department for Communities and Local Government's mapping tool: <http://dclgapps.communities.gov.uk/imd/idmap.html>

⁷ Public Health England: Test Valley Health Profile, 2014.



**Map Showing Indices of Multiple Deprivation
(IMD 2015) Within Test Valley by
Lower Super Output Area**



Housing

While developing our Corporate Plan 2015-2019, our residents identified that the availability of affordable housing was the issue of greatest importance to them. Investing in Test Valley as a great place to live, where the supply of homes reflects local needs, is one of the Council's four Corporate Plan priorities.

A large proportion of Test Valley's dwellings are located in the two major towns of Andover and Romsey and their surrounding areas. However, housing is also found in numerous towns and villages across the borough, as well as in small hamlets and more isolated parts of the countryside. It is estimated that, in total, there are 52,599 dwellings in Test Valley.⁸

According to the Office for National Statistics, the average household price in Test Valley in 2014 was £244,000.⁹ In December 2014, the Land Registry calculated the average household price for Hampshire as £233,000, and for the South East as £239,000.¹⁰

Test Valley average property prices (based on the sale of 1,723 properties)	
All dwelling types	£244,000
Detached	£375,000
Semi-detached	£232,500
Terrace	£200,000
Flat	£138,000

Of the 13 local authorities in Hampshire, Test Valley has the fifth highest average house price.¹¹

In 2013, a study was conducted which estimated the likely proportion of households within Test Valley who, based on existing incomes, are unable to afford to purchase a home. The Test Valley average is 38.4%, but affordability varies across the borough.¹²

⁸ Hampshire County Council: Small Area Population Forecast, Dwellings Forecast, 2016.

⁹ ONS: House Price Statistics for Small Areas in England and Wales, 1995 to 2014.

¹⁰ Land Registry: Linked Open Data, 2016.

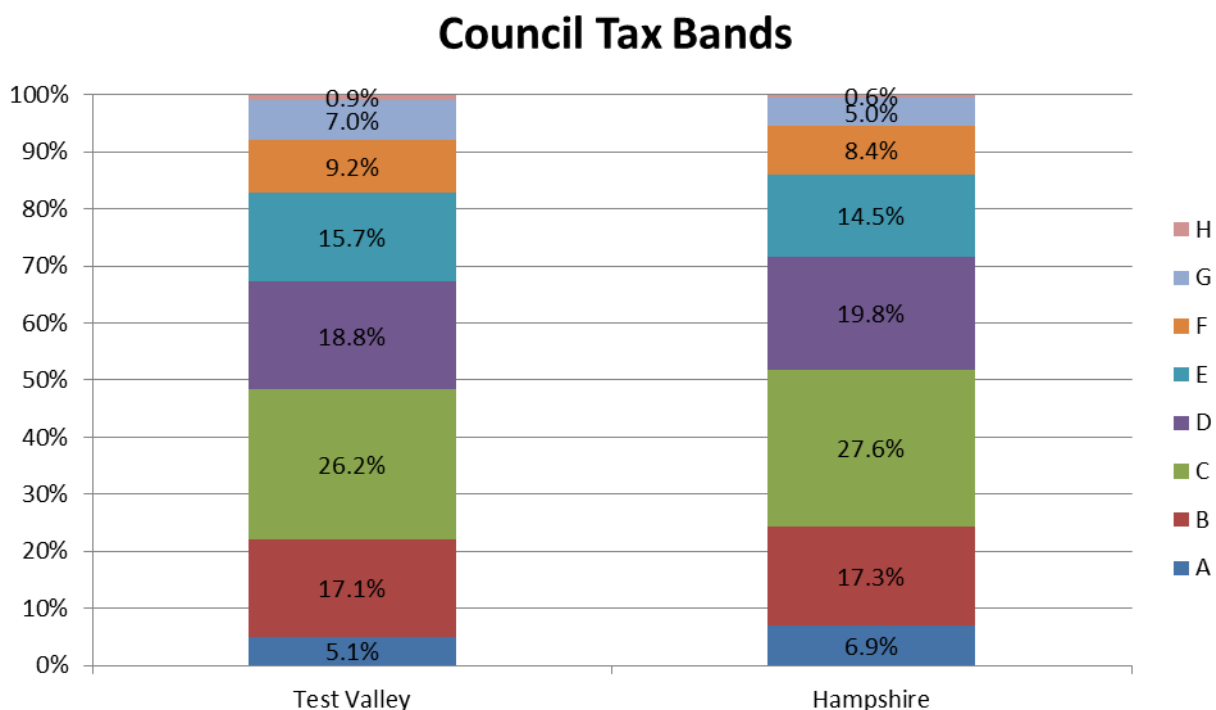
¹¹ ONS: House Price Statistics for Small Areas in England and Wales, 1995 to 2014.

¹² Test Valley Borough Council: Strategic Housing Market Assessment, 2014.

Households unable to afford market housing without subsidy	
Area	% of households
Andover • Alamein, Charlton, Harroway, Millway, St Mary's, Winton	40.4%
North – rural • Amport, Anna, Bourne Valley, Harewood, Over Wallop, Penton Bellinger	38.2%
Central – rural • Blackwater, Broughton and Stockbridge, Dun Valley, King's Somborne and Michelmersh	39.4%
Romsey • Abbey, Cupernham, Romsey Extra, Tadburn	41.5%
South – rural • Ampfield and Braishfield, Chilworth Nursling and Rownhams, North Baddesley, Valley Park	31.3%

The cost of housing in Test Valley is higher than both the county and South East average which means that affordability of housing for young people, older people and families is a concern. However, whilst finding suitable locations for affordable housing in rural areas can be challenging, the borough has continued to attract major housing development at a number of sites across Test Valley.

Council Tax Bands



The chart above shows the percentage of properties in each Council Tax Band for Test Valley¹³ with a comparison to the Hampshire averages.

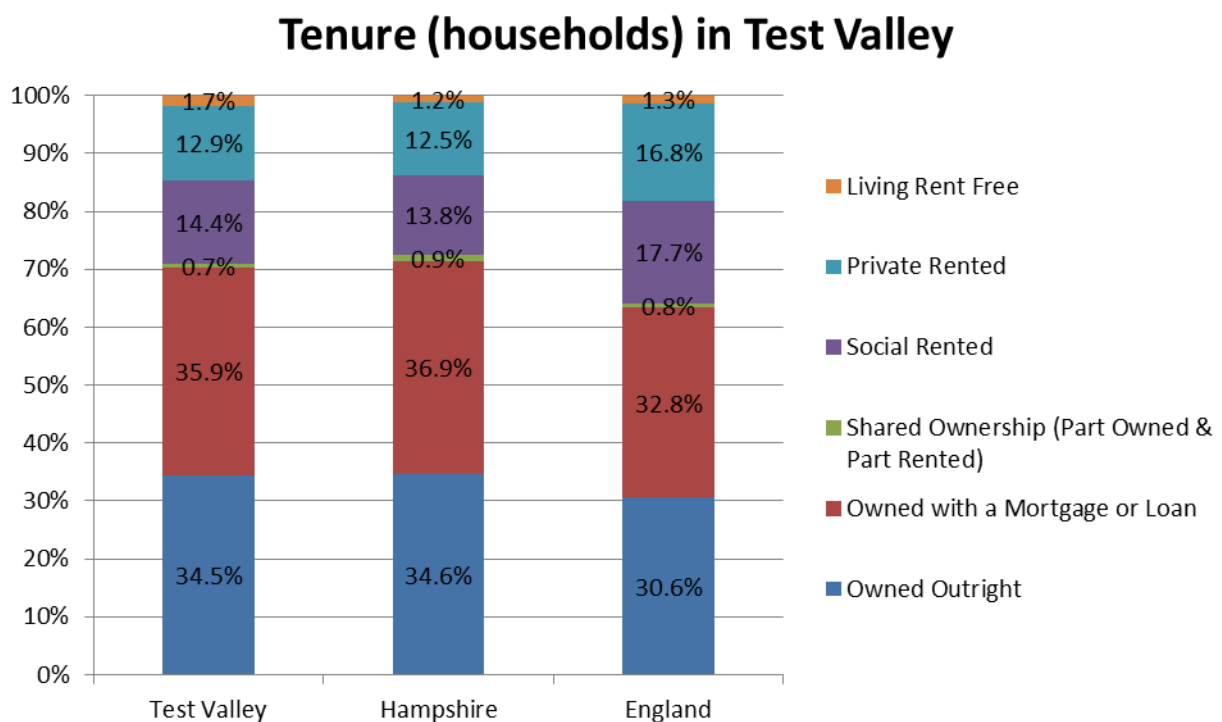
22.2% of Test Valley properties are at the lower end of the property market (Bands A and B). This is lower than the Hampshire average of 24.2%. This suggests that it may be more difficult for first time buyers or people on low incomes to purchase a home in Test Valley than in other areas of the county.

The majority of properties in Test Valley (60.7%) are in the middle range of the property market (Bands C-E). Again, this is slightly lower than the Hampshire average of 61.9%.

17.1% of Test Valley properties are at the higher end of the property market, which is higher than the Hampshire average of 14.0%.

Household tenure¹⁴

Household tenure refers to the financial arrangements under which residents occupy their homes.



70.4% of Test Valley residents own their own home, either outright or with a mortgage or loan. This is lower than the Hampshire figure of 71.5%, but higher than the English figure of 63.5%.

The proportion of residents who share ownership of their property with a Housing Association is similar across Test Valley, Hampshire and England.

¹³ Test Valley Borough Council: Revenues Service, Council Tax Band figures, 2015.

¹⁴ Census 2011: Tenure.

The proportion of Test Valley residents who rent their property from a Housing Association is 14.4% (Test Valley Borough Council does not own any socially rented property). This is higher than the percentage of Hampshire residents who socially rent their home (13.8%), but lower than the percentage of all people living in England (17.7%).

The percentage of people privately renting their home is similar across both Test Valley and Hampshire (12.9% and 12.5% respectively). However, both these figures are both lower than the national figure, which stands at 16.8%.

Rooms, bedrooms and central heating¹⁵

98.5% of all households in Test Valley have central heating, with just 1.5% of households not having central heating.

The average household size in Test Valley is 2.4 people, with the average household having six rooms. The average number of bedrooms per household is three.

Homelessness

Levels of statutory homelessness (which refers to those people who are legally entitled to be housed by their local authority) in Test Valley are lower than the English average, at 1.3% compared to 2.4%.¹⁶

New housing

Providing new housing for the growing population and ensuring that an appropriate proportion of this housing is affordable are both important issues for the borough.

A number of new neighbourhoods have been developed over the past few years. These include:

- There is a new housing development at **Augusta Park**, which will comprise of 2,500 dwellings, to the north east of Andover. 1,154 homes were occupied by the end of September 2015, with 40% of the houses being affordable units.
- Planning permission has been granted at **Picket Twenty** for a total of 1,200 homes (40% affordable), along with associated community facilities and infrastructure. 714 homes were occupied as of September 2015.
- **Picket Piece** is a new neighbourhood of approximately 1,000 dwellings (of which 40% are affordable) to the east of Andover. 167 homes were occupied by the end of September 2015.
- **Abbotswood** is the development of a new neighbourhood of approximately 800 dwellings to the north of Romsey, of which 40% will be affordable. Occupations reached 556 by the end of September 2015. The development also includes a local

¹⁵ Census 2011: Rooms, Bedrooms and Central Heating.

¹⁶ Public Health England: Test Valley Health Profile, 2014.

centre, community facilities, open space, highway and transport improvement works, landscaping, and contributions towards enhanced education provision.

There are a number of additional major housing developments which are planned or are underway across the borough:

- **Hoe Lane** is a proposed development of approximately 300 dwellings to the west of North Baddesley. The Revised Local Plan 2011-2029 stipulates that development will be permitted subject to the provision of affordable homes totalling 40% of all dwellings, community and education facilities, public open space, highway and transport works, enhancement of local woodland, and landscaping.
- **Whitenap** is a proposed new development of approximately 1,300 dwellings, together with a range of facilities, is proposed to the south of Romsey. Under the Revised Local Plan 2011-2029, development will be permitted subject to the provision of affordable homes totalling 40% of all dwellings, community and education facilities (including a primary school, community hall and multi-use local centre), public open space, highway and transport works, enhancement of local woodland, and landscaping.

Local economy

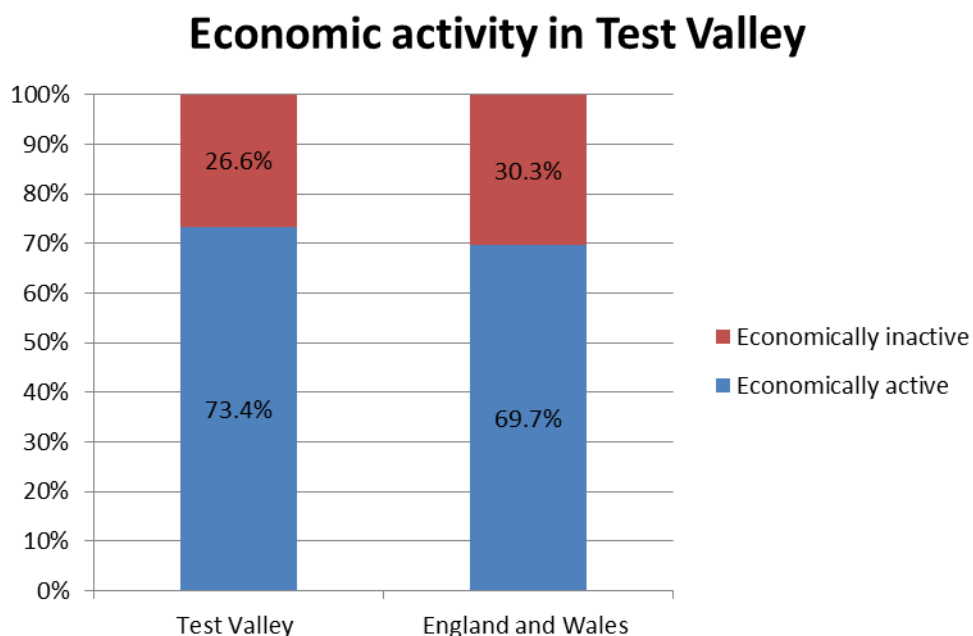
While developing our Corporate Plan 2015-2019, our residents identified that supporting the local economy is one of the most important issues for them. Investing in Test Valley as a great place to work and do business is one of the Council's four Corporate Plan priorities.

Andover has a high degree of self-containment with many residents living and working in the town. It is home to a number of major employers, including Stannah, Twinings, Lloyds Banking Group, BeWiser, Simplyhealth, the British Army Headquarters, and the Co-op and Ocado distribution centres.

The economy in southern Test Valley experiences a significant amount of inward and outward commuting. Inward commuting is as a result of the high value employment opportunities in this area such as University of Southampton Science Park and Adanac Park, which is home to the Ordnance Survey.

The tourism sector is also strong in Test Valley, benefiting from the diverse natural environment, as well as a number of museums, gardens and other attractions.

Economic activity



73.4% of Test Valley residents aged 16-74 are economically active.

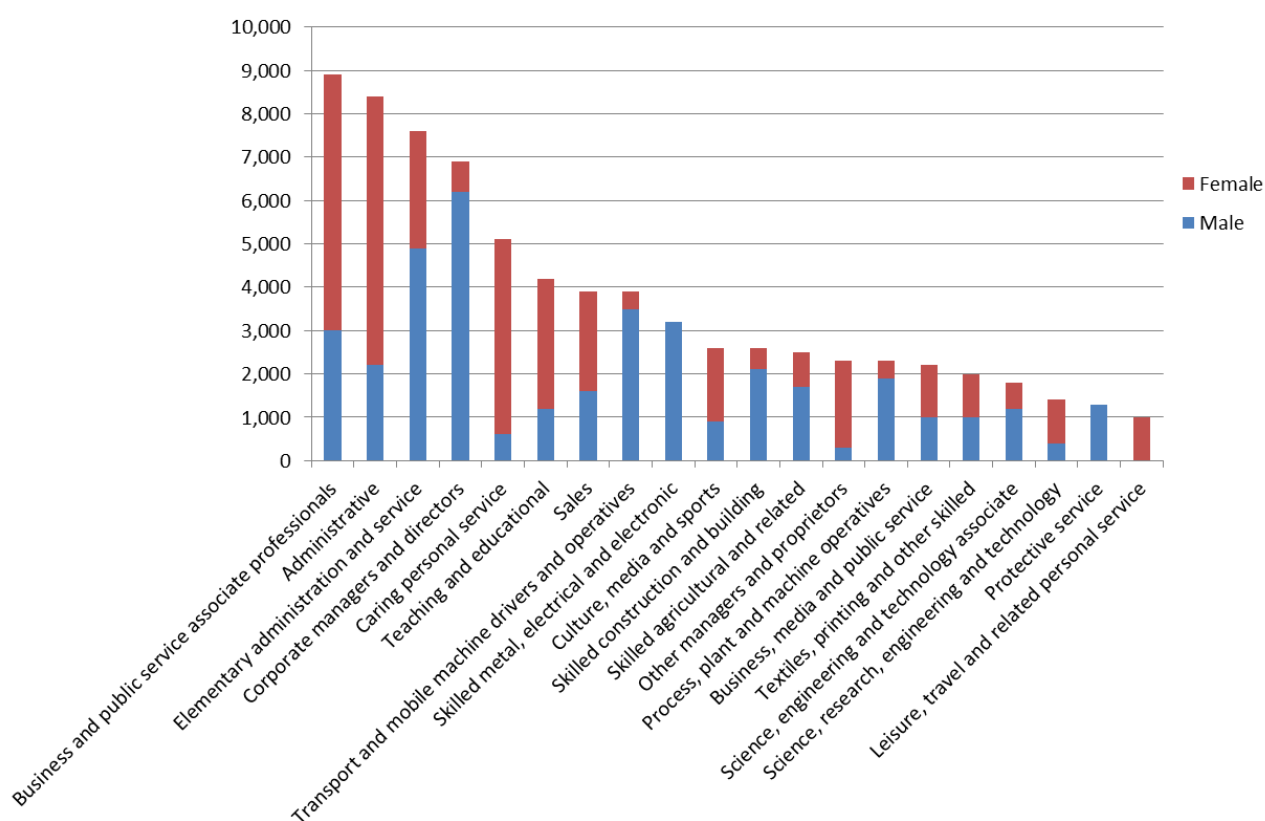
- A large proportion (42.8%) of residents are in full-time employment.
- 14.7% are in part-time employment.
- 10.7% of residents are self-employed.
- 2.5% are unemployed but economically active (meaning they are actively seeking work).
- 2.6% are full-time students.

The remaining 26.6% of residents aged 16-74 in Test Valley are economically inactive.

- 15.5% of Test Valley residents are retired.
- 3.4% are students.
- 4.0% are looking after home or family.
- 2.4% are long-term sick or disabled.
- 1.3% are economically inactive for other reasons¹⁷.

Job roles

Test Valley workforce by occupation/profession/trade



The graph above shows the number of Test Valley residents working in specific job roles, rounded to the nearest 100.¹⁸

There are several job roles for which the number of Test Valley employees are unknown. These are:

- Health professionals;
- Health and social care associate professionals;
- Customer service occupations;
- Elementary trades and related occupations;
- Secretarial and related occupations.

¹⁷ Census 2011: Economic activity.

¹⁸ Nomis: Annual population survey – workplace analysis, 2015.

Income

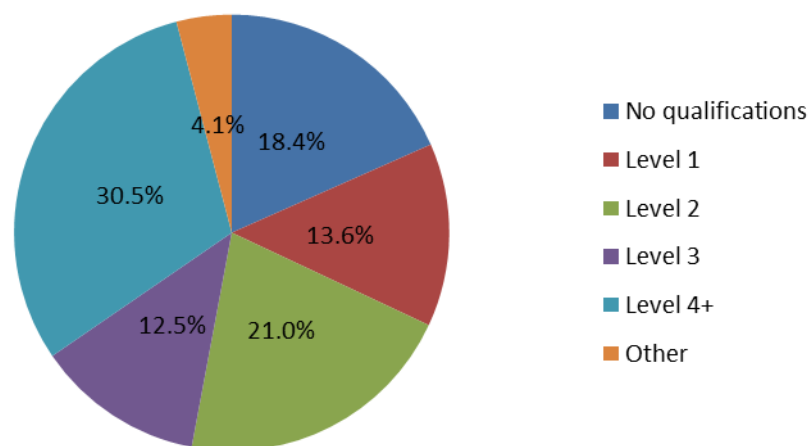
There are approximately 26,000 men who live in Test Valley who work full time, and their average weekly pay is £641.40. This is £2.00 higher than the Hampshire average, and £66.80 higher than the English average. There are not enough men working part time to provide an accurate average weekly wage.

There are approximately 12,000 women who live in Test Valley and work full time. Their average weekly pay is £508.80, which is £132.60 less than for men working full time. However, the average weekly pay for women working full time is £14.40 and £34.70 higher than the Hampshire and English averages respectively.

For female part time workers, of which there are approximately 15,000, the average weekly pay is £158.50. Female part time workers living in Test Valley earn, on average, £21.30 less than the Hampshire average and £13.30 less than the English average. However, the average number of hours worked by woman employed part time is lower in Test Valley than across Hampshire and England. This means that the average pay per hour is higher for part time female workers in Test Valley than the county and national averages.¹⁹

Qualifications

Qualifications in Test Valley



No qualifications	No academic or professional qualifications.
Level 1	1+O level passes, 1+CSE/GCSE any grades, NVQ level 1, Basic/Essential skills, NVQ Level 1.
Level 2	5+O level passes, 5+GCSEs (grades A*-C), 1 A level, 2-3 AS levels, City and Guilds Craft, Apprenticeship, NVQ level 2.
Level 3	2+A levels, Higher School certificate, NVQ level 3, City and Guilds Advanced Craft, BTEC National.
Level 4+	Degree (e.g. BA, BSc) higher degree (e.g. MA, PhD, PGCE), NVQ levels 4 and 5, qualified teacher, nurse or accountant status, BTEC Higher.
Other qualification	Level unknown, vocational/work-related qualifications, foreign qualifications.

¹⁹ Nomis: Annual survey of hours and earnings, 2015.

Test Valley residents are generally well qualified, with just 18.4% of the population aged 16-74 holding no formal qualification. This is similar to the Hampshire figure (18.5%), but lower than the average for England (22.5%).

The highest qualifications held by 47.1% of Test Valley residents are school and/or college level qualifications (levels 1-3).

30.5% of residents hold university level qualifications (level 4+); this is higher than both the Hampshire average (29.7%) and the English average (27.4%).²⁰

Benefits

The introduction of Universal Credit means that data regarding benefit claimants is not currently complete. This profile will be updated with Universal Credit claimant information as soon as possible.

The Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) is payable to people under pensionable age who are available for, or actively seeking, work. The total number of claimants is updated on a regular basis – please follow the link for the most recent claimant count for Test Valley: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157309/report.aspx> Please note that this information does not include claimants of Universal Credit who are claiming benefits principally for the reason of being unemployed.

²⁰ Census 2011: Qualifications.

Environment

While developing our Corporate Plan 2015-2019, residents highlighted the importance of Test Valley's parks, countryside and woodland. Investing in Test Valley as a great place to enjoy the natural and built environment is one of the Council's four Corporate Plan priorities.

The North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty covers much of the borough north of Andover. The River Test, one of the country's most important chalk water courses, runs through the centre of Test Valley, and to the south west, the New Forest National Park extends into the borough. Designated nature conservation areas can be seen in the map on the following page.

More information about the numerous public parks and green spaces in Test Valley can be found on our website:

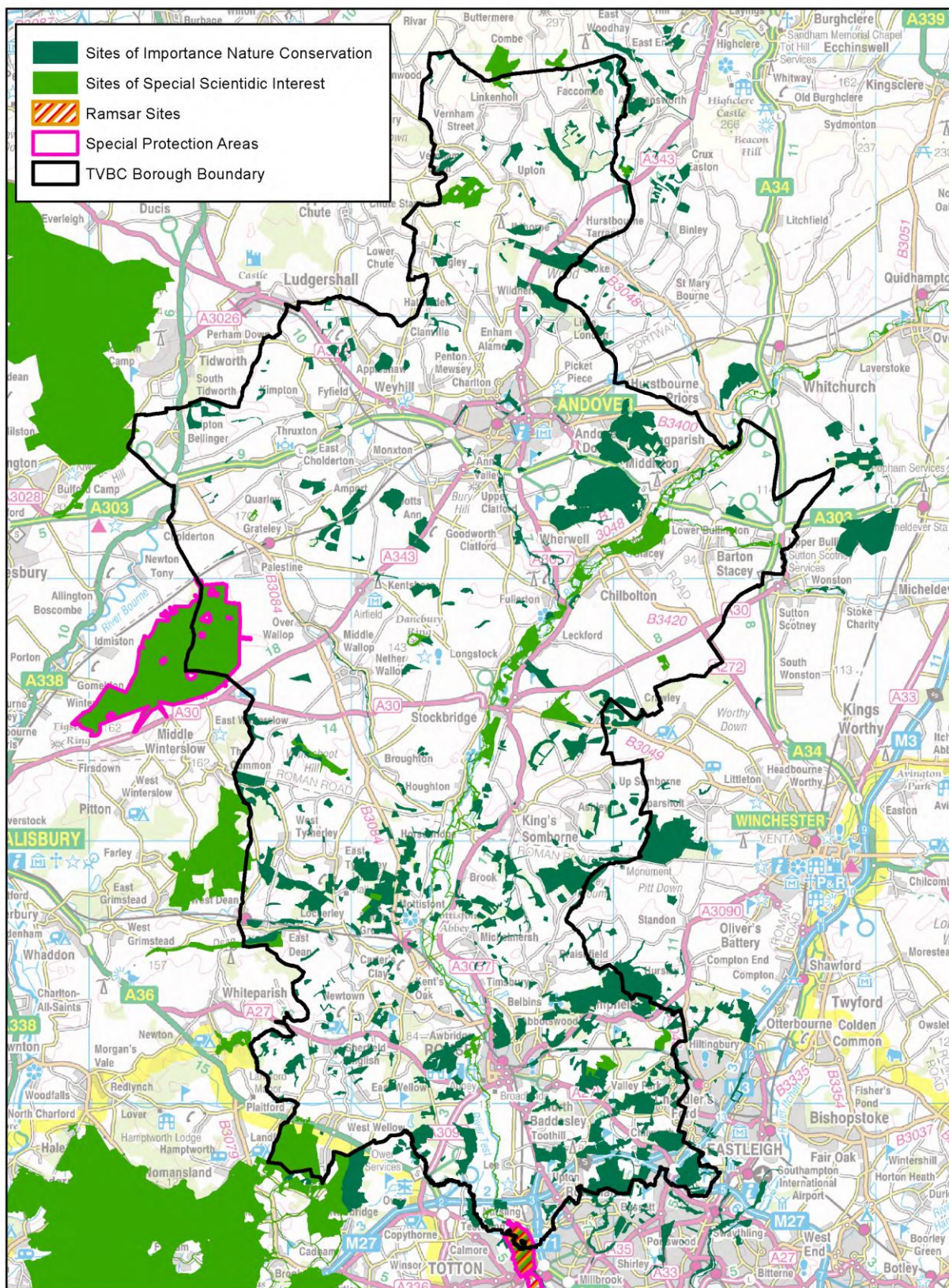
<http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/resident/communityandleisure/parksandgreenspaces/>

Information about the Local Nature Reserves in Test Valley can also be found on our website:

<http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/resident/communityandleisure/naturereserves/nature-reserves/>

In general, the borough has a high quality built environment, with 38 architectural and historical conservation areas, nearly 2,500 listed buildings and 96 protected ancient monuments. More information on the 38 conservation areas can be found on our website:

<http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/resident/planningandbuildingcontrol/heritage/conservationareas/>



Nature Conservation Areas 2016

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Scale: NTS | Date: February 2016

Test Valley
Borough Council

Communities

While developing our Corporate Plan 2015-2019, our residents expressed the belief that it is important for the Council to help communities improve their area and address issues important to them. Investing in Test Valley as a great place to contribute to and be part of a strong economy is one of the Council's four Corporate Plan priorities.

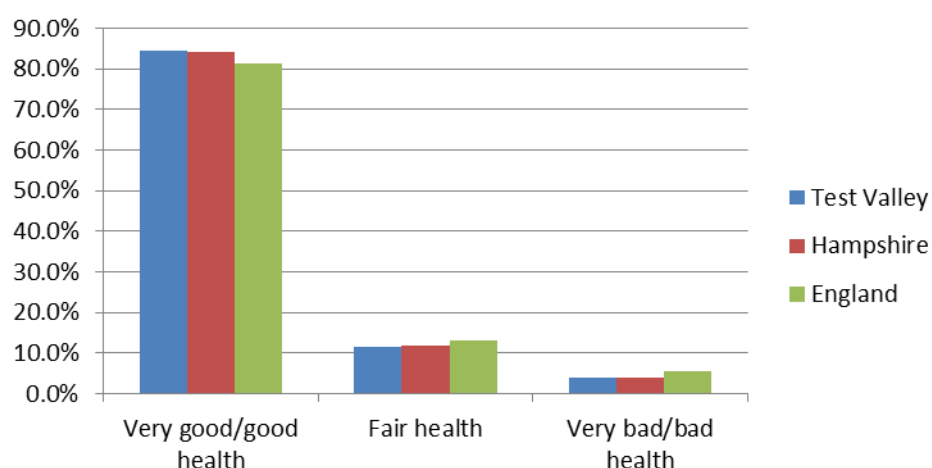
Test Valley has many diverse and different communities, ranging from small rural communities to larger urban ones. Many of our communities are extremely independent and are very active in organising services and events, which give people a sense of belonging.

The Test Valley Community Information Directory²¹ recorded 469 separate community groups in Test Valley in 2015, which demonstrates that there are good levels of volunteering in the borough.

Test Valley is well served by community-based support schemes for older people (including lunch clubs, carer groups, transport schemes and illness support groups). Sport and leisure groups are also numerous, as are structured activities for children (for example, Scouts and Guides).

Health

Health of Test Valley residents



84.6% of Test Valley residents feel that they are in very good or good health. This is higher than the average for both Hampshire (84.1%) and England (81.4%).

Just 3.8% of resident feel that their health is either bad or very bad, which is lower than the Hampshire average of 4.0% and the English average of 5.5%.²²

²¹ Test Valley Community Services, 2015.

²² Census 2011: General health.

2.4% of Test Valley residents have a long-term health problem or disability. This is lower than both the Hampshire average (2.6%) and the English average (4.0%).²³ However,

6.4% of residents feel that their health limits their day-to-day activities a lot, and 8.8% feels it limits their day-to-day activities a little. Both these figures are lower than the Hampshire averages (6.7% and 9.1% respectively) and the English averages (8.5% and 9.4% respectively).²⁴

The infant mortality rate in Test Valley is lower than across England as a whole, as is the rate of smoking related deaths, and deaths caused by cardiovascular disease and cancer. However, Test Valley's suicide rate is slightly higher than the English average, and a far greater proportion of people are killed and seriously injured on Test Valley's roads than the national average.

The life expectancy at birth for males born in Test Valley is 81.3 years. This is 1.8 years higher than the average for England. The female life expectancy at birth is 84.3 years, which is 1.1 years more than the national average.²⁵

14.3% of Year 6 children in Test Valley are classified as obese, which is lower than the English average of 19.1%. 20.6% of adults are classified as obese, which is 2.4% lower than the English average.²⁶

Three work streams have emerged from 2014's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment²⁷, each of which is aimed at tackling specific age-related public health issues.

- "Starting Well" aims to tackle high levels of emergency admissions for children, as well as to improve healthy eating, reduce accidents, and identify families at risk of poorer health and emotional wellbeing.
- "Staying Well" focuses on improving the lifestyles of families and adults, and aims to address Test Valley's main lifestyle contributors to poor health (namely smoking, obesity, alcohol consumption and poor diet) and the most common health problems in the area, namely circulatory disease, cancer and respiratory problems.
- "Ageing Well" concentrates on improving independence and reducing isolation for Test Valley's ageing population, which is increasing faster than the national average, and often involves the clinical managing of at least two or three long term health conditions. This is likely to be the biggest challenge facing health providers in Test Valley.

For further information on health in Test Valley, please see the 2014 Health Profile which has been produced by Public Health England:

www.apho.org.uk/resource/view.aspx?RID=142436

Whilst only available for Hampshire as a whole, the Marmot Indicators 2015 provide information on health inequalities across the county:

<http://admin.instituteofhealthequity.org/Content/FileManager/Indicators2015/LocalPDFs/marmot-indicators-for-local-authorities-in-england-2015-hampshire.pdf>

²³ Census 2011: Economic activity.

²⁴ Census 2011: Long-term health problem or disability.

²⁵ Office for National Statistics: Life expectancy at birth, 2012-14.

²⁶ Public Health England: Test Valley Health Profile, 2015.

²⁷ Hampshire County Council: Test Valley Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, 2015.

More information

The information in this profile has been prepared by Test Valley Borough Council's Policy Team. If you would like further information about a specific area or data set, please contact the Policy Team on 01264 368000 or policyteam@testvalley.gov.uk, and we will be happy to work with you to provide a more detailed profile.

The Policy Team have also developed a set of 24 ward profiles, which can be found on our website:

<http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/resident/communityandleisure/workingwithcommunities/mylocalarea/>

Other sources of demographic information include:

- Hampshire Hub: <http://www.hampshirehub.net/>
 - Neighbourhood Statistics: <https://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/>
 - Nomis Labour Market Statistics: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/>
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