



Closing the health divide as part of the growth agenda

Gap in life expectancy



The life expectancy gap between the most and least deprived areas of the borough for males in 2010/12 was 7.8 years. This gap reduced to 6.2 years in 2013/15.

The male life expectancy at birth is 80.5 years, which is higher than the England average of 79.3 years.

The gap for females between the most and least deprived areas of the borough was 4.5 years in 2010/12. This reduced to 3.9 years in 2013/15.

The female life expectancy at birth in Merton is 84.2 years, which is higher than the England average of 83 years.

Fuel poverty



In 2016 an estimated 10.6% of households (8,384) were fuel poor in Merton. This is similar to London (10.1%) and lower than England (11%). Fuel poverty is rising in Merton and as this is closely linked to income higher levels will be found in the East of the borough.

Crime rate



Crime is higher in the East of Merton (6.5 notifiable offences per 1,000 population) compared to 5.2 per 1,000 population in the West.

Unemployment



As of July 2017 unemployment claimant rates in Merton (1.8%) are lower than London (2%) and England (1.9%). However in East Merton this rises to 2.4% compared to 1% in the West of the borough.

Maximise the potential for prevention

Alcohol related harm

In 2015/16 there were 2,980 admissions to hospital for alcohol related conditions (broad definition). Wards in the East of the borough have higher rates of admissions compared to wards in the west.



Smoking



Around 23,500 adults aged 16+ in Merton smoke, this equates to 14.7% of the adult population.

Research has shown that people living in deprived areas are more than twice as likely to smoke. Prevalence ranges from 14.2% in Cannon Hill to 25.1% in Cricket Green.

Overweight or obese



A total of 94,300 (59%) adults in Merton are either obese or overweight. This is lower than London and England.

Prevalence ranges from 11.4% in Hillside (West Merton) to 27.3% in Pollards Hill (East Merton).

Physical activity

In 2015/16 an estimated 30,500 adults are physically inactive with 18% of adults doing less than 30 minutes of physical activity a week.



Outdoor spaces



Around 17% of the population use outdoor space for exercise and/or health reasons. This is slightly lower than both London and England averages. This is despite Merton having over 65 parks.

Giving every child the best start in life

School Readiness



(proportion of children achieving a good level of development at age 5)

This is higher than London (62%) and England (69.3%).

This differs throughout the borough ranging from 48% in Longthornton in the East to 74.3% in Hillside (West Merton).

Obese and overweight aged 4-11



Variation in the borough in obese and overweight in reception year is from 10% in Village ward (West Merton) to 26.4% in Pollards Hill (East Merton).

In year 6 the range is from 22% in Village ward (West Merton) to 42% in Pollards Hill (East Merton).

Obesity is more common in Black and Minority Ethnic Groups (BAME) and poorer communities in the East of the borough.

Parental problems



Of the 2,690 children in receipt of services as Children in Need in 2015/16, around 1,000 were due to abuse, neglect or family dysfunction.



1 in 4 women experience domestic violence in their lifetime

Immunisations



Childhood immunisations have increased in Merton however we are below the national target.

MMR for 2 doses in Merton is 80% in 2015/16. However wide variation occurs within GP practices within the borough.

Child poverty



Around 6,500 children under 16 years old in Merton are living in poverty, in 2014.

Promoting independence and recovery

Falls



In 2015/16 there were 757 emergency admissions due to falls in people aged 65 and over. This is a rate of 2,960 per 100,000 population, higher than both London and England.

Mental Health treatment



50% of patients in Merton complete psychological therapy treatment and move to recovery. Higher than London (48.4%), however recovery rates in Merton are declining.

Common Mental Health Disorders

An estimated 24,000 adults aged 16-74 years had a common mental disorder in 2015. Which makes up 16% of the adult population. However only 10,617 have been formally diagnosed with depression. Therefore a large proportion could be living with undetected mental health conditions.



2,775 adults are in contact with specialist mental health services (2015/16). This represents a rate of 1,758 per 100,000 population, significantly lower than London and England.

Aging population



The ageing population in Merton means that the prevalence of many conditions will rise. Between 2017 and 2025 the number of people aged 65 and over will increase by 13% from 25,200 to 28,400.

Delayed transfer of care



3.6 adults per 100,000 population experienced a delayed transfer of care. This is lower than England but higher than Merton's comparator boroughs.

MORE INFORMATION



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www.merton.gov.uk/health-social-care/publichealth/jsna.htm