

A Health and Well Being Guide to England



As the health and wellbeing boards get underway The MJ has teamed up with researchers Local Futures to produce a comprehensive guide to health and wellbeing within English Local Authority areas.

New figures show for the first time how all 324 local authorities are performing when it comes to tackling health inequalities in their areas. Most health data focuses on health conditions, such as mortality rates and other factors that affect health *outcomes*. But this new analysis looks also at the *determinants* of ill health, such as deprivation and housing conditions, assessing the scale of economic, social and environmental determinants within an area. By comparing performance on the two measures, the research helps identify the extent to which local authority areas are performing, in outcome terms, above (or below) what would be expected, based on their determinants score.

An important context for the guide is the recommendations of the Marmot Review, which proposed an evidence-based strategy to reduce health inequalities that would address the wider social and economic determinants of poor health. The Global Burden of Disease report also reaffirmed the important role of social determinants and recommended that a better understanding of determinants should be a priority for pub-

lic health.

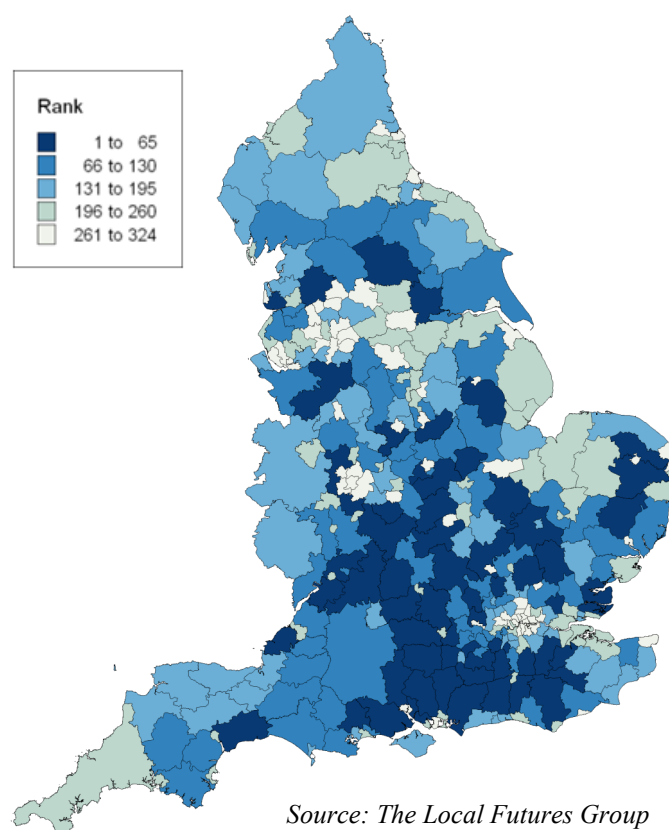
In this **first focus** we examine some of the main determinants of ill-health, at a local authority district level, with the summary findings presented on this page. The final Determinants Index is a composite score based on all of the measures used, the results of which are shown in the map and tables.

A large proportion of England's high performing Local Authority areas on our overall Determinants

Index are located within London's wider hinterland. With the exception of Rushcliffe, all of the top ten ranked places are in this 'circle', which includes parts of Oxfordshire, Gloucestershire, and up to Warwickshire. Rural parts of the Midlands also perform well. There are far fewer highly-performing areas in the north of England, with only the main 'commuter belts' of Leeds, Manchester and Preston recording high scores.

Lower performance is more preva-

lent in the north of England and especially within some of the major towns and cities, such as Nottingham, Stoke and Leicester. Local Authority areas across the M62 corridor perform poorly, as do parts of Tyneside and Teesside. Some of England's most peripheral areas – Cornwall, Lincolnshire, Norfolk and Co Durham also perform poorly on the Determinants Index.



Source: The Local Futures Group

Rank	Top 10 Local Authority areas on Determinants Score
1	Hart
2	Rushcliffe
3	South Oxfordshire
4	Waverley
5	South Northamptonshire
6	West Oxfordshire
7	Wokingham
8	Harborough
9	East Hampshire
10	Chiltern

Rank	Bottom 10 Local Authority areas on Determinants Score
315	Manchester
316	Birmingham
317	Newham
318	Kingston upon Hull
319	Barking and Dagenham
320	Leicester City
321	Wolverhampton
322	Stoke on Trent
323	Nottingham
324	Sandwell