

Quality of Life

Better or Worse?

The annual quality of life indicators report for South Gloucestershire

Autumn 2017



Quality of life indicators monitor those things that make an area a good place to live. This report measures and communicates important facts about South Gloucestershire and aims to demonstrate whether quality of life is getting better, worse or staying the same.

Contents

Most of the indicators have been monitored for several years making it possible to track change over time. There are also more recent indicators that show changes over the last few years. The report suggests there have been positive changes in some areas and identifies areas where further improvements are necessary. The indicators will be used by the council and its partners to identify and address priorities for the future.

Quality of life	3
Our place	4
Our economy	12
Our communities	17
Our health	22

Information about South Gloucestershire

Total administrative area: 53,664.7 hectares / 536.6 sq km (Cartesian Measure)

Wards: 35 (70 ward Councillors)

Population: 277,600 (Office for National Statistics mid-year estimates, 2016)

- **Males:** 137,900
- **Females:** 139,800
- **Children age (0-15 years):** 51,500 (18.6% of total population)
- **Working age (16-64 years):** 174,700 (62.9% of total population)
- **Pensionable age (65+):** 51,400 (18.5% of total population)

Population density: 5.2 persons per hectare / 517.3 persons per sq km

Households: 115,820
(Valuation Office Agency, June 2017)

Black and Minority Ethnic Population:
13,193 (5.0% of total population) (Census 2011)

Please note: the axis for some graphs do not start at zero so the differences over time can be seen more clearly



Quality of life



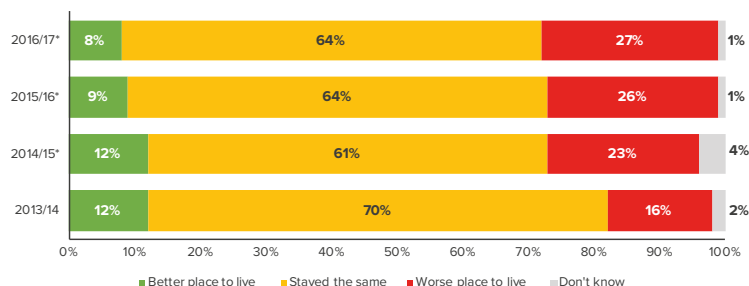
Quality of life

Has South Gloucestershire become a better or worse place to live?

Over a quarter of respondents (27%) to the 2016/17 Viewpoint Survey* believe South Gloucestershire has become a worse place to live in the past two years. Around two thirds of respondents feel it has remained the same (64%). The remainder feel as though it has become a better place to live (8%) or do not know whether it has become a better or worse place to live (1%).

The graph shows the results of the survey question over the last four years. It shows that despite annual fluctuations, the proportion of people who consider South Gloucestershire to be a better place to live has declined slightly. The proportion of people who consider South Gloucestershire to be a worse place to live has risen steadily since 2013/14.

Has South Gloucestershire become a better or worse place to live?



Source: South Gloucestershire Viewpoint 2013/14-2016/17*

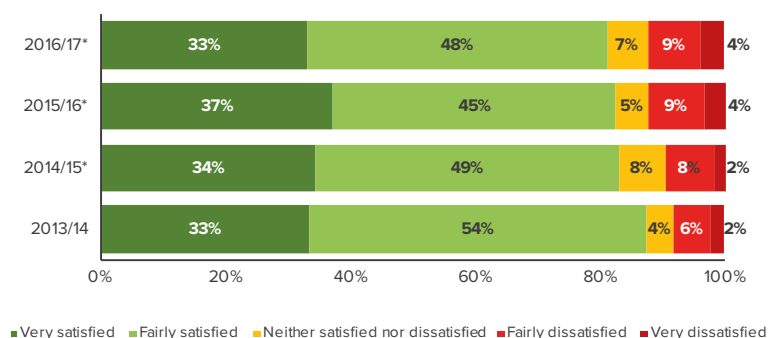
Residents' satisfaction with their local area as a place to live

To gauge satisfaction with the local area, the Quality of Life report uses data collected from surveys undertaken by the council over the past four years.

In 2016/17, the majority of respondents to the Viewpoint Survey* said they were satisfied with their local area as a place to live (81%). One third of these respondents were very satisfied (33%) and almost half of respondents were fairly satisfied (48%). Only 13% of respondents were dissatisfied with their local area.

The graph shows that panel members' satisfaction with the local area has decreased slightly over the last four years but has remained at over 80%.

Proportion of residents satisfied with their area as a place to live



Source: South Gloucestershire Viewpoint 2013/14-2016/17*
 * South Gloucestershire Viewpoint is the council's citizens panel. It is a panel of about 1,400 residents who are randomly selected to broadly represent the population of the district. It is made up of those who wish to regularly take part in research and members will have a greater exposure to council activities and communications than the general public. The 2016 Autumn Viewpoint survey received 794 responses. In 2014 adjustments to the methodology of the Viewpoint surveys (including a panel refresh) will have had an influence on the response rates. As a result, the trends shown for this year need to be viewed as indication of the general direction of travel rather than direct comparisons to previous years.

Our place

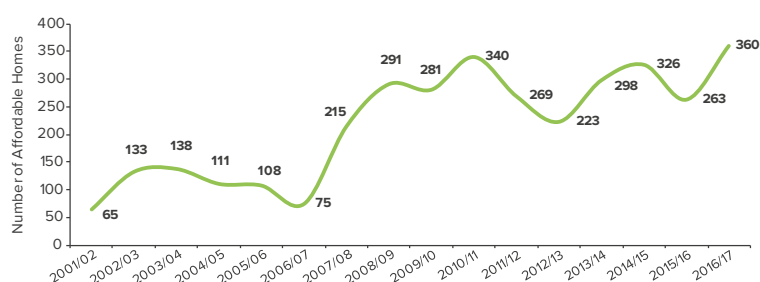
Number of Affordable Homes delivered

In 2016/17 360 Affordable Homes* were delivered, which is slightly below the target of 375 homes but is our highest ever level, and 100 units more than last year.

Of these, 237 were for Social Rent, 70 were for Affordable Rent and 53 were for Intermediate Affordable Housing.

Since April 2001, a total of 3,496 Affordable Homes have been delivered in South Gloucestershire.

Number of Affordable Homes delivered in South Gloucestershire



Source: South Gloucestershire Council, Environment and Community Services
 *Information and definitions can be found in the National Planning Policy Framework, DCLG, March 2012 available at the following website: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/60777/2116950.pdf

Total homes completed

In 2016/2017, 1,630 new homes were completed on sites across South Gloucestershire, nearly 50% more than last year. Of these, 1,373 were on large sites of 10 homes or more and the remainder were completed on small sites of fewer than 10 homes.

Since April 2006, 10,866 new homes have been completed in South Gloucestershire.

Number of homes completed in South Gloucestershire 2006 - 2017



Source: South Gloucestershire Council, Environment and Community Services





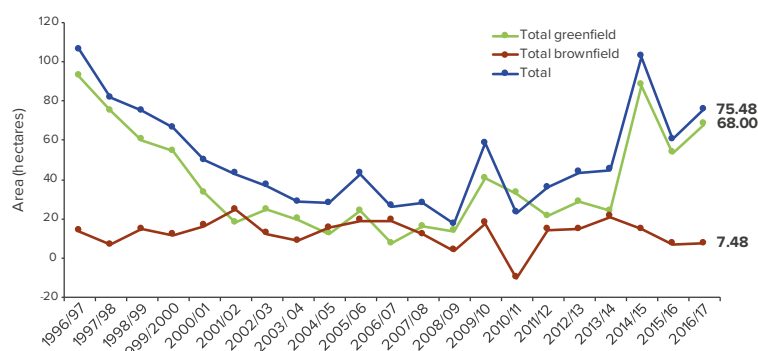
Development on greenfield and brownfield land

Since April 1996, a total of 1,072.65 hectares of land has been developed in South Gloucestershire.

During 2016/17, 75.48 hectares of land were developed. The development over the last few years can be attributed to major new housing schemes in the communities of the Bristol North and East Fringes including sites at Charlton Hayes and Emersons Green. In addition there have been major new employment completions at Severnside.

2016/17 saw the continued development at Emersons Green and Severnside employment areas, and the redevelopment of a large former vacant employment site at Armstrong Way in Yate for industrial and warehouse purposes, together with continued housing developments in the Bristol North Fringe, Emersons Green, Yate and Thornbury.

Development on greenfield and brownfield sites (hectares)



Source: South Gloucestershire Council, Environment and Community Services

Ratio of average house price to average earnings

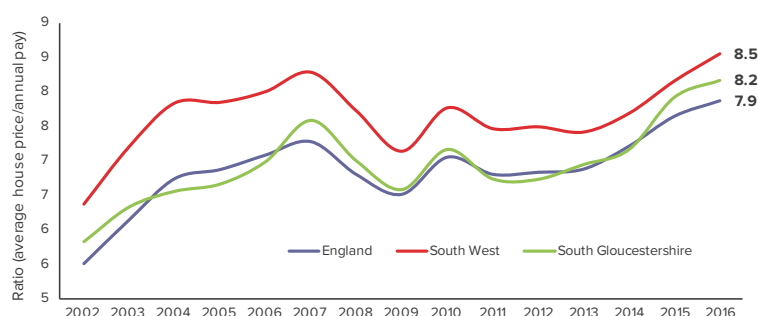
This indicator provides a broad measure of house affordability by illustrating the difference between average salary* and average house price**. In December 2016, the average price paid for a residential property in South Gloucestershire was £243,000 (increasing from £230,000 in 2015), which is 8.2 times the average pay (£29,752).

The graph shows that over the last year, the gap between average house price and salary has increased in South Gloucestershire, the South West and England.

In South Gloucestershire in 2016, the gap between average salary and house price was lower when compared with the rest of the South West, but greater than England. This suggests that housing is more affordable in South Gloucestershire when compared to the South West average.

The average house price in the South West was £228,950 (8.5 times the average salary) and in England the average house price was £224,000 (7.9 times the average salary).

Ratio of average house price to average earnings



Source: *Median gross annual pay (residents) for a full-time workers. Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings, 2002-2016 (Office of National Statistics)
** Median house price for all properties sold in 2002-2016 (ONS, House Price Statistics for small areas)



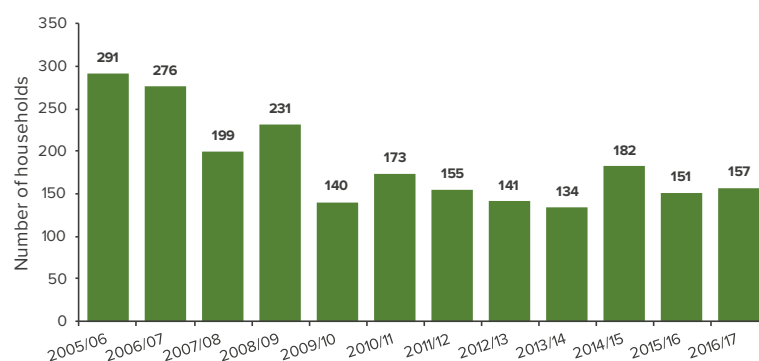
Number of homeless households accepted by the council

The graph shows that 157 households were accepted as homeless in 2016/17, meaning the council had a statutory duty to re-house them. This is an increase on the 151 households accepted as homeless in 2015/16.

The biggest cause of homelessness continues to be eviction from private rented sector housing, followed by young people being asked to leave by their parents and relationship break-up (including domestic violence). Most homeless households are families with children, although 9% are single people. There continues to be a challenging housing market with most private sector rents being higher than housing benefit levels, although some households also face additional difficulties that support is available for.

The Council will continue to work with households who face homelessness and is committed to helping them find housing solutions that are sustainable.

Number of households accepted by the council as homeless



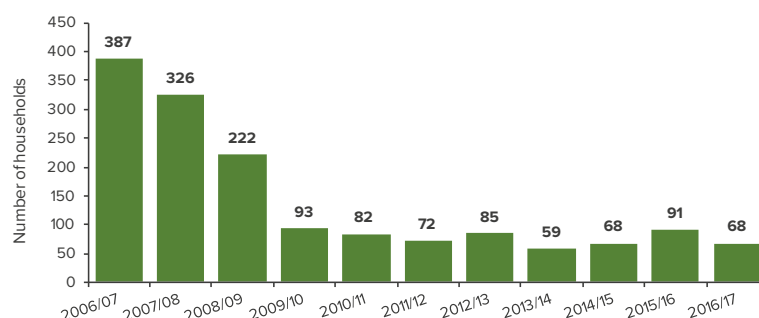
Source: South Gloucestershire Council, Children, Adults and Health

Number of households in temporary accommodation

At the end of the financial year 2016/17, there were 68 households in temporary accommodation which represents a 25% decrease on the previous year (91).

This decrease is due to a combination of factors, including an increase in the number of households whose homelessness was prevented through being helped into alternative accommodation. This in turn corresponds to a reducing rate of admissions to emergency accommodation. Move-on for households in temporary accommodation to settled housing was also improved through amendments made to the rehousing policy which were successfully implemented during the year. This boosted the number of households receiving offers and, combined with a good supply of new homes delivered through the affordable housing programme, meant that the number of properties available to homeless households went up.

Households in temporary accommodation



Source: South Gloucestershire Council, Children, Adults and Health



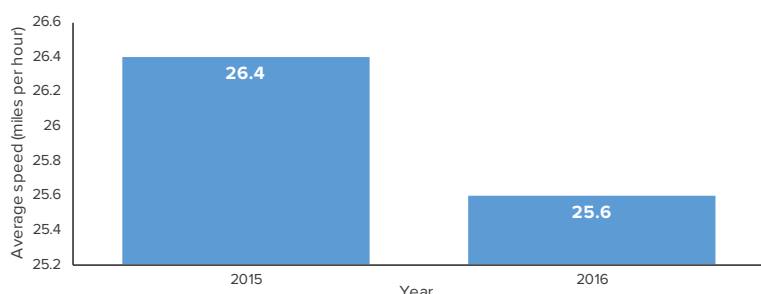
Congestion

Following a change in the way the Department for Transport reports congestion statistics, a new measure of congestion on South Gloucestershire's locally managed A roads has been adopted. The previous average journey time measure (expressed as minutes per mile) has been replaced by a measure of average speed in miles per hour. The data has only been collected for 2 years, therefore it is a little early to draw conclusions from the figures.

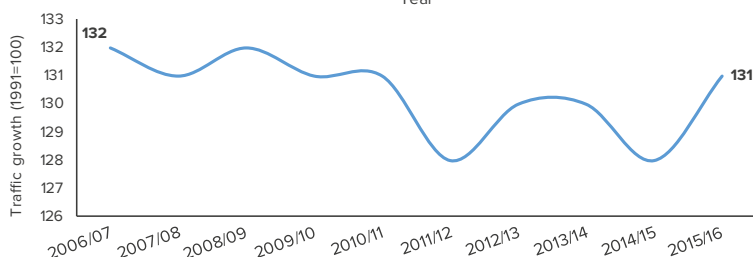
In 2016, there was a 3.0% reduction in average speed when compared to the previous year, suggesting that there has been an increase in congestion in South Gloucestershire.

General traffic levels within South Gloucestershire marginally increased in 2015/16, but again over the period from 2006/7 to 2015/16 have remained broadly constant.

Average speed when travelling on South Gloucestershire A roads



Source: Department for Transport and South Gloucestershire Council



Proportion of people cycling

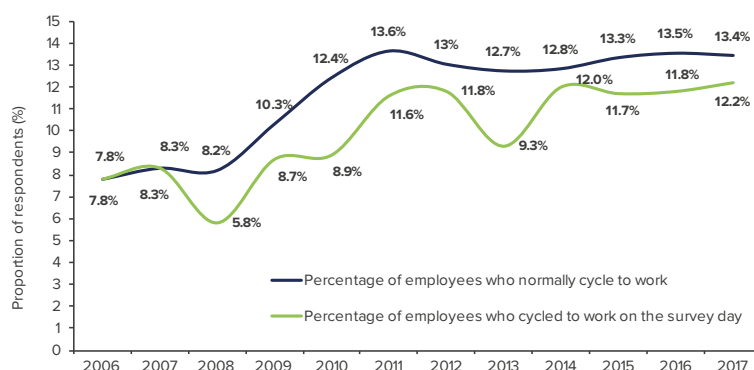
The proportion of people cycling to work is measured in a snapshot survey undertaken by South Gloucestershire Council each year. The survey asks employees from a number of major employers within South Gloucestershire how they normally travel to work and how they travelled on the actual day of the survey.



In 2017, the proportion of people who say they normally cycle to work marginally decreased (13.4%) when compared to the 2016 figure (13.5%). Whilst those who cycled to work on the day of the survey increased to its highest ever level of 12.2%, perhaps reflecting the weather on the day of the survey.

Both indicators show a clear increase in the importance of cycling as a mode of travel to work since 2006. The difference between the figures for 'travelling to work normally' and 'travelling to work today' can be attributed to a range of factors such as weather on the day of the survey or other commitments that mean they could not travel by bike that day.

Proportion of people who cycle to work



Source: Travel to Work Survey 2017 (South Gloucestershire Council, STTY Programme).

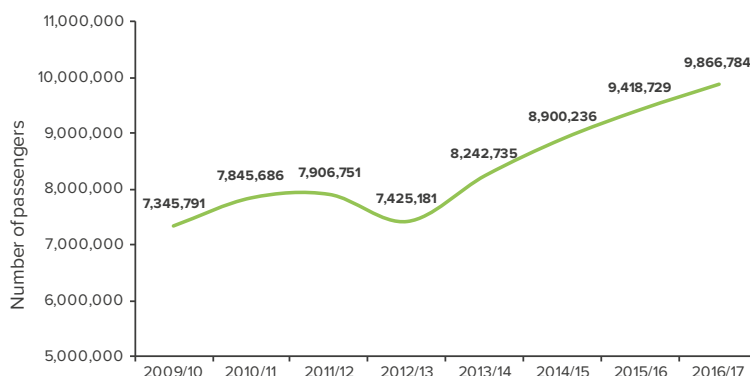
Bus patronage

The graph shows the number of passengers boarding buses in South Gloucestershire. The figures include cross-boundary services where the journey starts in South Gloucestershire (for example Yate to Bristol) but does not include those originating outside the district (for example Bristol to Yate).

In 2016/17, just under 9.9 million journeys were made by bus. This is a 4.8% increase on the previous year, where just over 9.4 million journeys were made by bus, and continues the overall trend of increasing bus use in recent years.

Over the last year there has been continued work aimed at increasing bus use and improving the customer experience. These include continued investment by local bus companies in improved vehicles and services. There has also been ongoing investment by South Gloucestershire Council in supporting the bus service network and improving infrastructure. Investment in improved infrastructure, including new bus lanes and bus stops, as part of the MetroBus scheme are currently benefitting the local bus network in advance of MetroBus services starting in early 2018.

The number of passengers boarding buses in South Gloucestershire



Source: South Gloucestershire Council, Environment and Community Services



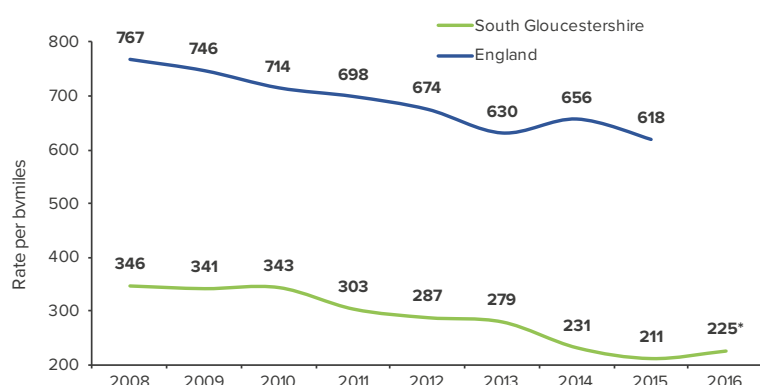
Number of people killed or injured on roads in South Gloucestershire

In 2016, the number of people killed or seriously injured on roads within South Gloucestershire was 48 (made up of 5 fatalities and 43 serious casualties), which is a decrease on the previous year (50) and the second lowest number since the Council became a unitary authority in 1996.

The total number of road casualties (i.e. people slightly injured, as well as those killed or seriously injured) was 571, which is an increase from the 2015 figure of 522.

The graph shows that the road casualty rate in South Gloucestershire remains considerably lower than the national average. Data for 2015, the latest available nationally, showed that South Gloucestershire had the lowest casualty rate of the 152 local authorities in England.

Comparison of casualty rates per billion vehicle miles for South Gloucestershire and England



Source: South Gloucestershire Council, Department for Transport
 *Calculated by dividing total casualty numbers for 2016 (571) by the estimated 2016 traffic flow for South Gloucestershire as shown in Department for Transport table TRA8901 (2533 mv miles).

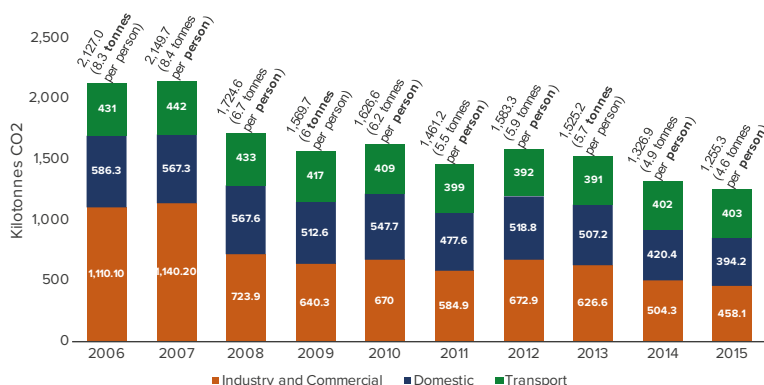
Please note: the latest available data for England is 2015.

CO₂ emissions in South Gloucestershire

The South Gloucestershire Partnership is committed to reducing CO₂ emissions arising from local road transport, industrial, commercial and domestic sources. The South Gloucestershire Climate Change Strategy has a target to reduce CO₂ emissions by 80% to 414.6 Kilotonnes (kt) by 2050. This includes interim targets to reduce CO₂ emissions by 35% by 2020 and by 50% by 2025. The targets are set against a 1990 baseline emissions figure of 2,073.3kt.

Each year the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy provides a breakdown of CO₂ emissions by local authority area. In 2015 (the most recently available data), emissions totalled 1,255.3kt which is 39% lower than in 1990.

Data for 2015 shows a 5% reduction in emissions when compared to the previous year. This latest reduction closely reflects the national situation, where there was a reduction of 4% between 2014 and 2015. According to the latest statistical release, the main drivers of the decrease in UK emissions in 2015 were a change in the fuel mix for electricity generation, with a decrease in the use of coal and more use of nuclear and renewables. Annual emissions are also influenced by factors such as weather conditions, local and national policies as well as the wider economy and new development.



Source: UK Government National Statistics.

Please note: The South Gloucestershire Climate Change Strategy targets and the local area emissions data presented relate to the 'subset' of total local area emissions which is deemed to be within the scope of influence of Local Authorities. It excludes emissions from motorways, diesel railways, EU Emissions Trading System sites and Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry.



Our place

Proportion of energy produced from renewable sources

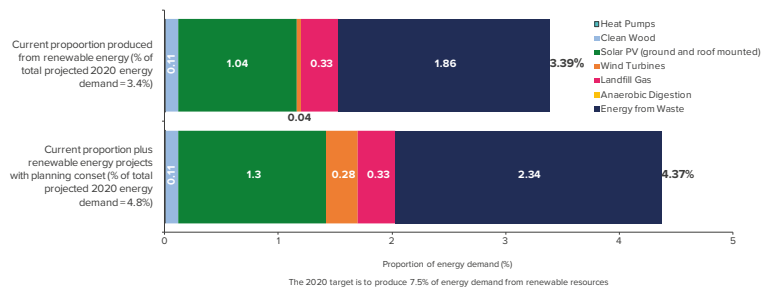
The climate change strategy includes a target for 7.5% of South Gloucestershire's total energy demand (i.e. electricity, heat and transport) to be met from renewable sources by 2020.

Renewable energy currently generated in South Gloucestershire is equal to 3.4% of projected 2020 energy demand. This compares with 1.2% the previous year (2015/16). The increase is primarily a result of the commencement of operations at the Severnside Energy Recovery Centre, where electricity generated from the biodegradable fraction of waste (which is classed as renewable energy) is equal to 1.9% of projected 2020 energy demand. A number of additional solar projects have also come online during 2016/17.

There has been a lack of new consented renewable energy generation capacity during 2016/17, which reflects the situation nationally. If all the consented renewable energy schemes were to be developed (with the exception of the Anaerobic Digestion project in Severnside which has now been abandoned), the amount of renewable energy being generated would be equal to 4.37% of projected 2020 total energy demand.

The renewable energy target is currently being reviewed as part of the refresh of the South Gloucestershire Climate Change Strategy. Feasibility studies into the potential for strategic district heat networks are also currently underway.

Proportion of energy from renewable resources

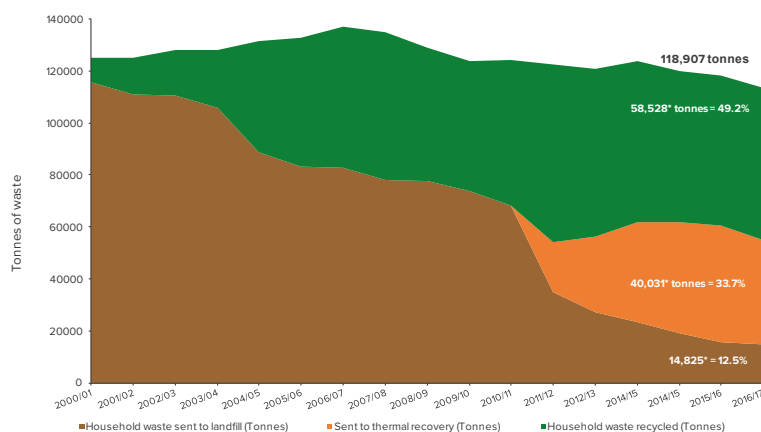


Source: Regen South West Regional Survey 2016 and South Gloucestershire Council

Quantity of household waste collected and method of disposal

In 2016/17, 118,907 tonnes* of waste was produced by households in South Gloucestershire, which is a 1.4% decrease when compared to the previous year. The decrease in overall household waste is the result of an operational review and subsequent implementation of changes to the Sort It Centre service. These involved the restriction of non-resident access to the sites and policing of trader abuse through the use of a vehicle registration system and van permit scheme.

Quantity of household waste and method of disposal



Source: South Gloucestershire Council, Environment and Community Services

* Data still subject to external validation

Please note: Numbers will not add up to 100% due to process losses e.g. moisture loss from evaporation during the composting process and some material still being treated which therefore cannot be placed in any of the above categories.



In 2016/17, 49.2%* of household waste was recycled which is an increase when compared to the previous year (47.7%). This increase is the result of increased recycling tonnage and the reduction in overall household waste which is collected.

As the graph on the previous page shows, since the start of the contract with SUEZ (previously SITA) in 2000, the total amount of waste sent to landfill is for another year in succession at its lowest point. In 2016/17, only 12.5% of household waste was sent to landfill compared to around 13% in 2015/16. More material has been diverted from landfill to recycling during this period.

Throughout 2017, changes are being made to further improve recycling rates, including weekly recycling collections which commenced in June 2017 and reducing the size of the black wheeled bins later in the year.

Biodiversity in South Gloucestershire (priority habitats and species)

Biodiversity is evaluated against the priority habitats and species identified in the updated South Gloucestershire Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP).



Species:

The State of Nature 2016 report, published three years on from the first State of Nature report, reveals that 56% of UK species studied have declined over the past 50 years. Of almost 8,000 species assessed by the report, one in ten are at risk of disappearing from our shores altogether.

Habitats:

The West of England Nature Partnership has produced a map of key local habitats (available from www.wenp.org.uk/maps). As well as showing our fragmented habitats (woodlands, grasslands and wetlands), it shows opportunity for creating new areas of these habitats. The next step is to promote the maps to landowners and planners, demonstrating the value of ecosystem services.



During Autumn 2016 and Spring 2017, grants allowed several new wildflower meadows to be sown on council land. BugLife, alongside South Gloucestershire Council, created meadows on sites at Frampton Cottrell, Thornbury, Hanham, Chipping Sodbury, Yate and Conham River Park which all contribute to the B-lines project. B-lines*, which stands for Biodiversity-lines, is a BugLife project which identifies the best areas for species rich grassland creation, enhancement and restoration; and works with landowners to create swathes of wildflowers. Local residents, school children and volunteers, many from Britain In Bloom groups, got involved with sowing seed and planting plug plants to boost wildflower numbers.



Species rich grassland is a valuable habitat and provides nectar and pollen for insects, yet has declined a staggering 98% in 50 years. South Gloucestershire Council now manages 124,523 ha/m² as conservation grassland and we're investigating how to further enhance this.

During 2016, wildflower sites (2,000 m²) on three road verges in the Olveston parish were protected and restored; allowing rare flowers to flourish once again and allowing pollinating insects and rare reptiles to make their homes there. These three bring the total number of protected road verges to sixteen, all of which are in good management and highly species rich.

*For more information about B-lines please visit:
<https://www.buglife.org.uk/b-lines-hub/west-of-england-b-lines>

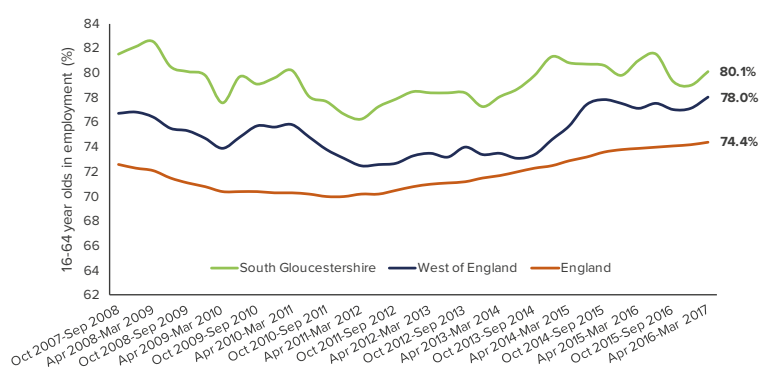
Our economy

Proportion of working age population in employment

In the year from April 2016 to March 2017 (the most recently available data), 80.1% of South Gloucestershire's 'working age' population (those aged 16-64) were in employment, which is consistent with the figure recorded at the same time last year (81%). The graph shows that the employment rate locally is considerably higher than the national and regional averages.

The employment rate in South Gloucestershire compares favourably to the 151 other unitary and county authorities in England (being ranked 18th after North Somerset, Gloucestershire and Swindon).

Proportion of working age population in employment



Source: Annual Population Survey (Office for National Statistics - via NOMIS)

Please note: This data is derived from a sample survey conducted at the national level. At local authority level a smaller number of people will be surveyed so the statistical reliability of the data (measured by confidence intervals) will be lower. For example, the 95% confidence interval for South Gloucestershire for the latest time period is 2.8%, – meaning there is a 95% probability that the true value falls between 77.3% and 82.9%.

Data is presented as a rolling average of four quarters to account for seasonal variation.

Average annual earnings

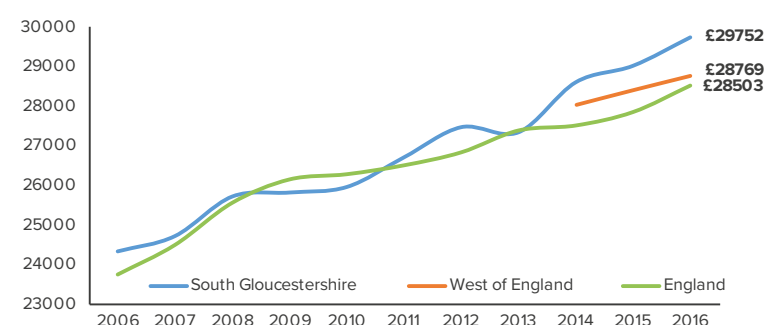
In 2016, the average annual earnings for a full time worker living in South Gloucestershire was £29,752*; representing a 2.5% increase on the 2015 figure (£29,031).

The figures for England and the West of England increased by 1.3% and 2.4% respectively.

The graph shows that South Gloucestershire's average earnings are above the national average (£28,503) and West of England average (£28,769).

Comparatively, in 2016, the average annual earnings for a full time worker working in South Gloucestershire (regardless of where they live) was £28,867**.

Average annual earnings (residents)



Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (Office of National Statistics)

Please note: data is not available at West of England level prior to 2014.

* Median gross annual pay (residents) for a full time worker.
 **Median gross annual pay (work place) for a full time worker.

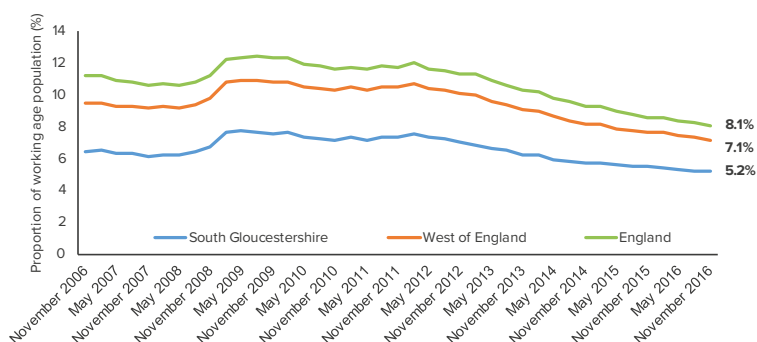
Proportion of working age population claiming out of work benefits

This indicator measures the percentage of the working age population (those aged 16-64 years) who are claiming key out-of-work benefits*.

The graph shows that 5.2% of South Gloucestershire's working age population (about 8,920 people) were claiming key out-of-work benefits in November 2016 (the most recently available data). Of these claimants, 1,030 claim Job Seeker's Allowance (JSA) and 6,590 were in receipt of Employment Support Allowance (ESA) and incapacity benefits. A further 1,140** claimants were lone parents who were in receipt of income support with a child under 16 years old and no partner.

The graph shows that South Gloucestershire has a notably lower proportion of claimants when compared to England (8.1%) and the West of England (7.1%).

Proportion of working age population claiming key out of work benefits



Source: Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) Working age Client Group analysis – (Office of National Statistics - via NOMIS)

*Key out-of-work benefits are: Jobseeker's Allowance; Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits; lone parents and other income related benefits.

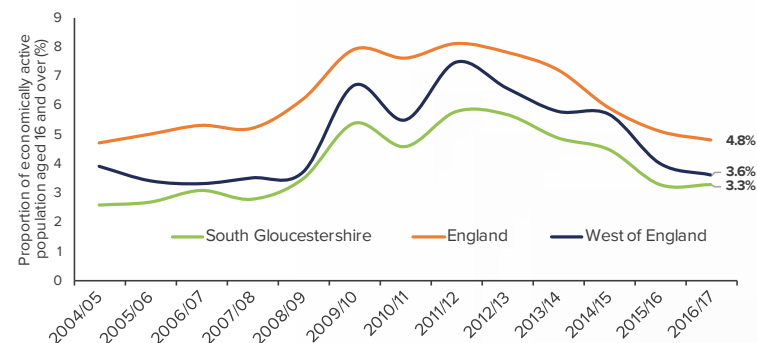
**Benefits are arranged hierarchically and claimants are assigned to the top benefit which they receive. Therefore a person who is a lone parent and receives Incapacity Benefit would be classified as ESA and incapacity benefits, whereas someone receiving both Bereavement Benefit and Disability Living Allowance would be classified as disabled. For this reason the group lone parent, for example, will not contain all lone parents claiming Income Support. Some will be included in the incapacity benefits group instead.

Unemployment

From April 2016-March 2017, the official unemployment rate in South Gloucestershire was 3.3% of the economically active population, which is considerably lower than the corresponding rates for both England (4.8%) and the West of England (3.6%).

The graph shows how the economic situation has affected the claimant rate figures at national, regional and local levels over the last decade with all three areas experiencing similar trends. It suggests that the unemployment rate in South Gloucestershire is now at its lowest level since before the recession of 2008.

Unemployment rate



Source: Annual Population Survey (Office of National Statistics – via NOMIS)



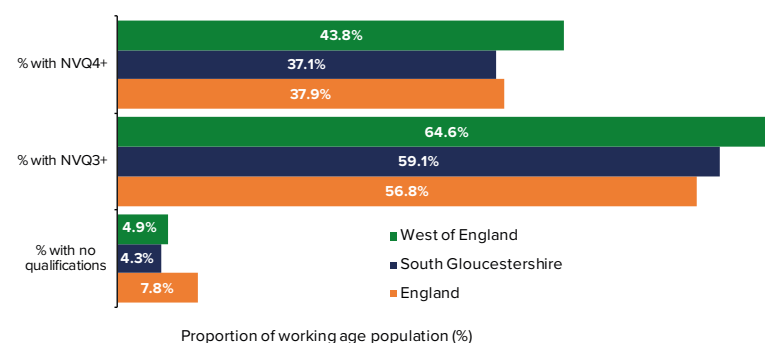
Qualifications of working age residents

In 2016, over a third (37.1%) of people aged 16 - 64 living in South Gloucestershire were educated to NVQ Level 4 or above (HND, Degree and Higher Degree level qualifications or equivalent), which is a marginal decrease on the 2015 figure (37.7%). This is in line with the national average (37.9%) and lower than the West of England average (43.8%).

In South Gloucestershire, 59.1% of working age residents are educated to NVQ level 3 (2 or more A levels, advanced GNVQ, NVQ level 3). This is above the national average (56.8%) and lower than the West of England figure (64.6%)

There are approximately 7,400 people aged 16 – 64 years in South Gloucestershire with no qualifications (4.3% of the age group) which is considerably lower than the national figure (7.8%).

Qualifications of working age residents



Source: Annual Population Survey (Office of National Statistics – via NOMIS)

Please note: This data is derived from a sample survey conducted at the national level. At local authority level, a smaller number of people will be surveyed so the statistical reliability of the data (measured by confidence intervals) will be lower. For example, the 95% confidence interval for South Gloucestershire for NVQ level 4 for this time period is 3.5% - meaning that there is a 95% probability that the true value falls between 33.6% and 40.6%.

Attainment 8 score of children at the end of their secondary education

In 2016, the Department for Education's new secondary school accountability system was implemented*. Attainment 8 has been introduced to measure the achievement of a pupil across eight qualifications including English and mathematics.

In 2016, the Attainment 8 score for pupils in South Gloucestershire was 47.9 and the national figure was 48.5 (all schools).

*The education system is currently undergoing various reforms which are taking place gradually until 2019. For further information visit the Department for Education pages which outline the reforms taking place:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/your-qualification-our-regulation-gcse-as-and-a-level-reforms>

Proportion of children achieving the expected level in English and mathematics at the end of their primary education

The Department for Education implemented changes to primary assessment in 2016 including a new 'expected standard' (a higher standard than in 2015), along with new national curriculum tests in English reading and mathematics where outcomes are reported as scaled scores rather than levels.

In 2016, 53% of pupils in South Gloucestershire achieved the expected level at the end of their primary education (key stage 2), which is in line with the national figure of 53%.



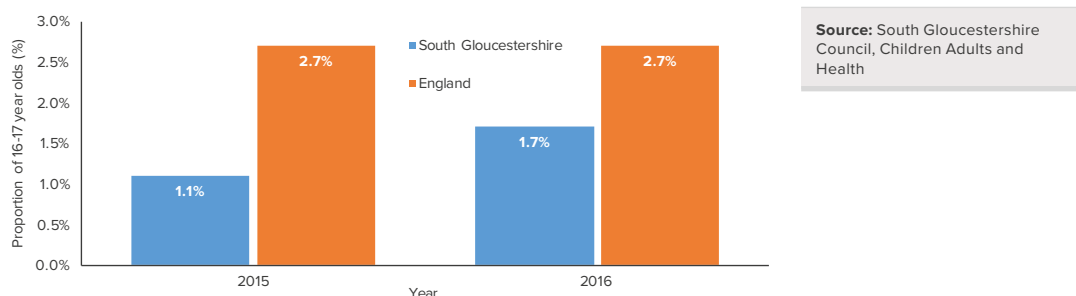
Proportion of 16-18 year olds not in education, employment or training (NEET)

In 2016, the proportion of 16 and 17 year olds who are known to be not in education, employment or training (NEET) was 1.7% which is lower than the national average of 2.7%.

Where young people are found to be NEET, and are assessed as having additional needs or more complex problems, support is offered to help them into education, employment or training.

A small number of young people are either not available to education, employment or training or have destinations being tracked by the council.

Proportion of 16-17 year olds not in education, employment or training (NEET)

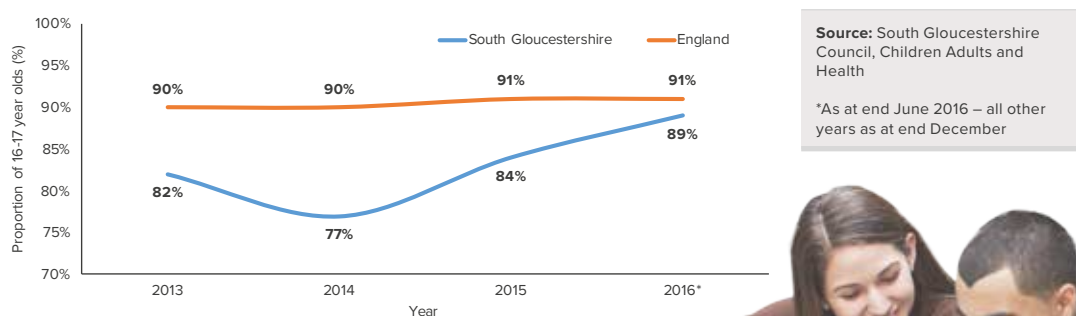


Proportion of 16-18 year olds in education or training

The proportion of 16 and 17 year olds in education and training has continued to improve, reflecting a five percentage point improvement from 2015. At the last reporting point (June 2016) the proportion of 16 and 17 year olds in education and training was 89%, which is two percentage points below the national figure.

The Council and all partners are continuing to work together to increase the breadth and range of opportunities for young people across academic qualifications, vocational training and apprenticeship programmes. The key focus has been to meet the skills and workforce needs of employers through ensuring appropriate opportunities, especially the development of the apprenticeship pathway for young people.

Proportion of 16-17 year olds in education or training



Growth in business rate income

Until 2012/13, all business rates collected by the council were passed to the government as our contribution to the national pool. Government would then pay each authority a grant based on a share of the national pool. In 2012/13, £126.333 million was collected and was all paid to government under this agency style arrangement.

From 2013/14, under the new national retained business rates system, the council pays 1% to the Fire Authority, 50% to government and retains 49% of the net sum collected, but no longer receives any share from the national pool. From the retained 49%, the council must pay government a £31 million tariff payment and a 47% levy on any 'real terms growth'* achieved in business rate income.

In 2016/17 £152.960 million was collected – a 0.7% decrease on the total business rates collected in the previous year.

This net decrease in business rate income is due in part to the impact of successful valuation appeals by businesses and subsequent retrospective refunds that the council has to pay, as the VOA starts to clear its backlog of cases.

As shown in the graph, growth in business rate income has been steadily increasing and between 2010/11 and 2015/16, it rose by 41.2%.

Business rate income in South Gloucestershire



Source: South Gloucestershire Council, Chief Executive & Corporate Resources: Statutory Accounts

* any growth achieved which is above the rate of inflation (Retail Price Index)

Our communities



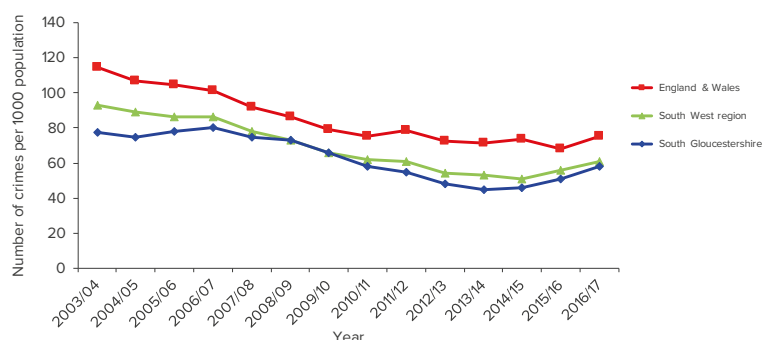
Our communities

Recorded crime rate in South Gloucestershire

In 2016/17 the total rate of recorded crime in South Gloucestershire was 58.0 crimes per 1,000 residents, which represents 15,930 crimes throughout the year. This is a notable increase of 15.4% (2,121 offences) compared to 2015/16 but is a trend which has been mirrored both regionally and nationally. The level of crime in Avon and Somerset increased by 14.1% in the past 12 months and the level of crime in England & Wales increased by 10.8% over the same time period.

Looking at our rate of crime per 1,000 population compared to other areas, our rate of 58.0 per 1,000 is still lower than the rate of 80.1 per 1,000 in Avon and Somerset, 61.4 per 1,000 in the South West region and 74.6 per 1,000 across England & Wales. It is likely that changes in recording practice have had an impact on these figures, however it cannot be discounted that levels of offending may have increased in real terms. This is the third year in a row that we have recorded an increase in offending. Seven years ago the level of crime in South Gloucestershire matched the South West average, but we have remained below that average in the years since.

Total recorded crime rate per 1,000 population

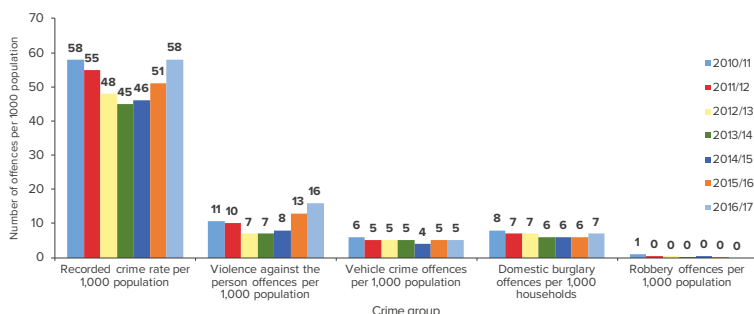


Recorded crime rates for various crimes

Our crime reduction efforts remain focussed on the crimes that have the most impact on our communities. Violence against the person has risen to a rate of 16 offences per 1,000 population from 13 offences per 1,000 in the previous year. It is likely that changes in recording practice may have contributed to this rise, and levels have also risen nationally by 17%. A 2015 HMIC* inspection led to an increase in the recording of low-level violent offences and our rate of recorded violent offences has since doubled. Our continued efforts to promote the reporting of domestic abuse and serious sexual offences is also likely to have had an impact.

Levels of vehicle crime and dwelling burglary have remained relatively static over the past few years, and robbery remains low with a 2015/16 rate of 0.4 offences per 1,000 population. Efforts to reduce these offences of most concern to our residents will continue over the next 12 months.

Crime rates South Gloucestershire





The level of all of these crimes in South Gloucestershire remains below the regional and national averages, and the increases we have seen in crime levels have been mirrored elsewhere. Our rate of 17 violent offences per 1,000 residents compares to 20 per 1,000 across England & Wales, and our rate of 5 per 1,000 vehicle crimes per 1,000 compares to 7 per 1,000 across England & Wales. Our rate of 7 domestic burglaries per 1,000 households is slightly higher than the Avon & Somerset average but is lower than the rates in the South West and England.

Perceptions of anti-social behaviour

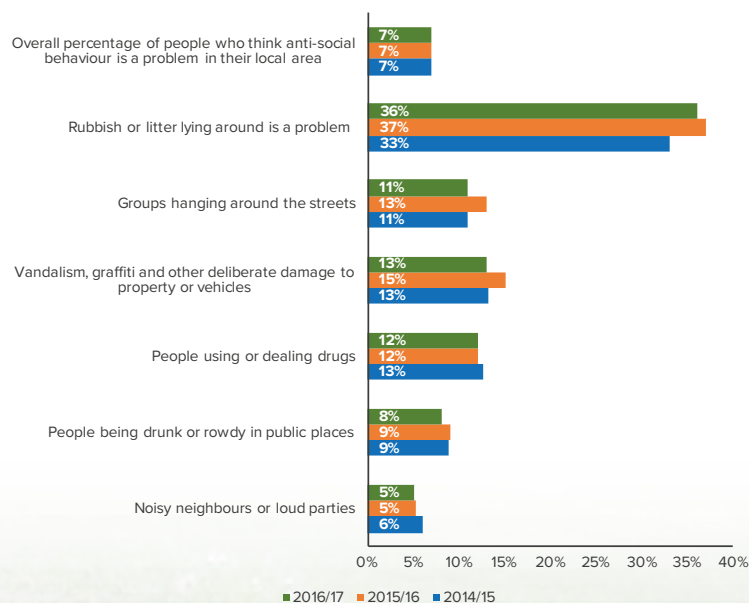
The council measures perceptions of anti-social behaviour through the Viewpoint survey*. In the 2016/17 survey, 7% of respondents felt anti-social behaviour was a problem in their local area. This suggests that 93% of our residents do not consider that anti-social behaviour is a big issue where they live.

Of the six types of anti-social behaviour which they were asked about, people were most concerned about rubbish or litter lying around. The amount of litter and detritus recorded by council inspectors during 2016/17 increased slightly (see page 21).

Despite yearly fluctuations, the proportion of people who view each type of anti-social behaviour as an issue has remained fairly consistent over the past three years.

Vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property or vehicles received the next highest concern level of 13%. The council's commitment to removing graffiti as quickly as possible continues, with 88% of offensive or hate-related graffiti removed from council property within three working days of being reported in 2016/17.

Perceptions of anti-social behaviour



Source: South Gloucestershire Viewpoint Survey, 2014/15-2016/17





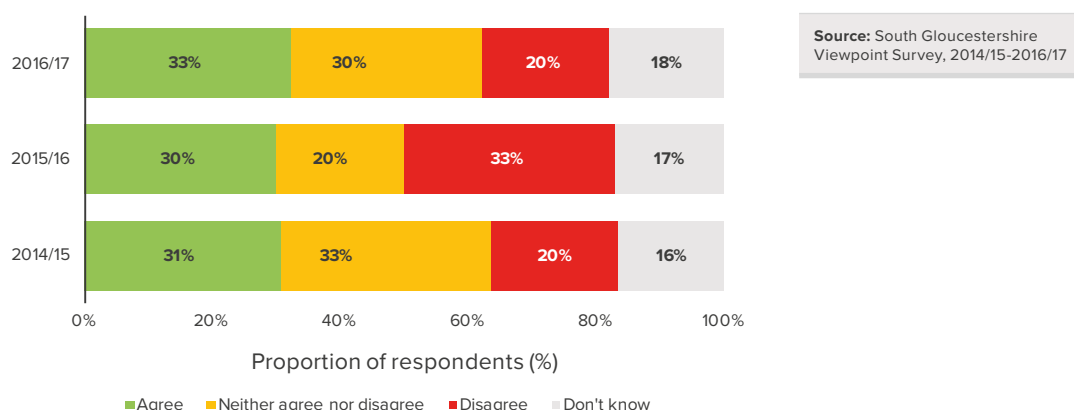
Percentage of residents who agree the police and other public agencies are successfully dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime in their area

The council also uses the Viewpoint survey* to measure the extent to which residents agree that the police and other public services are successfully dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime in their area. The graph shows the results for the last three years.

In 2016/17, one third of respondents agreed that the police and other public agencies are successfully dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime in their local area (33%), which is slightly higher than the figure of 30% in 2015/16.

Levels of offending have risen over the same period, however other factors such as the media can also affect people's perceptions of crime and offending both nationally and locally. Almost one third of respondents (30%) neither agreed nor disagreed with this statement, which is an increase when compared to the previous year, while one fifth (20%) disagreed and the remainder did not know (18%).

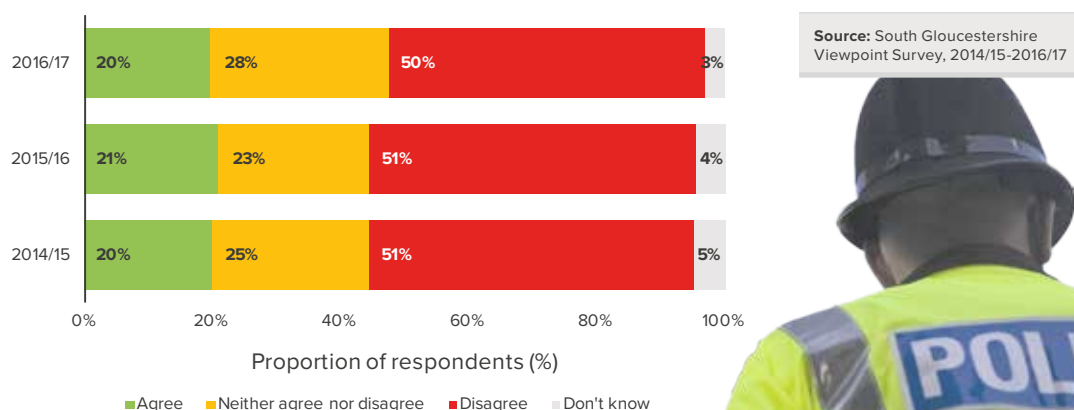
Proportion of residents who agree police and other public services are successfully dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime in their area



Percentage of residents who believe they can influence decisions

The extent to which respondents agree they can influence decisions affecting their local area is also measured by the Viewpoint survey*. Respondents were asked whether they believe they can influence decisions affecting their local area. One fifth of respondents agreed that they can influence decisions (20%), while half of respondents disagreed with this statement (50%). These results are consistent with the figures for the previous two years.

Proportion of residents who believe they can influence decisions



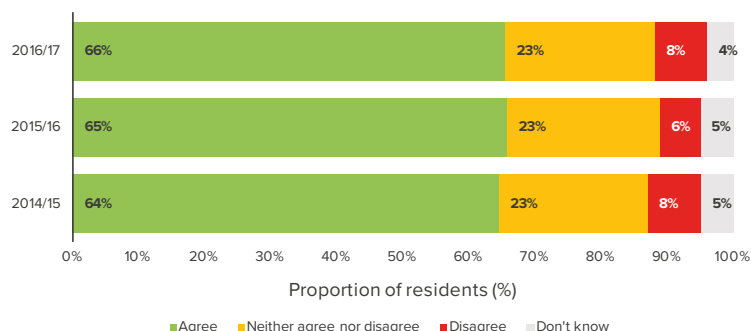


Our communities

Percentage of residents who feel people from different backgrounds get on well together

The extent to which respondents agree that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together is also measured in the Viewpoint survey*. Two thirds of those who responded agreed that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together (66%), while 8% disagreed with this statement. Almost a quarter of respondents chose a neutral position answering 'neither agree nor disagree' (23%). These results are consistent with the figures for the previous two years.

Percentage of residents who feel people from different backgrounds get on well together

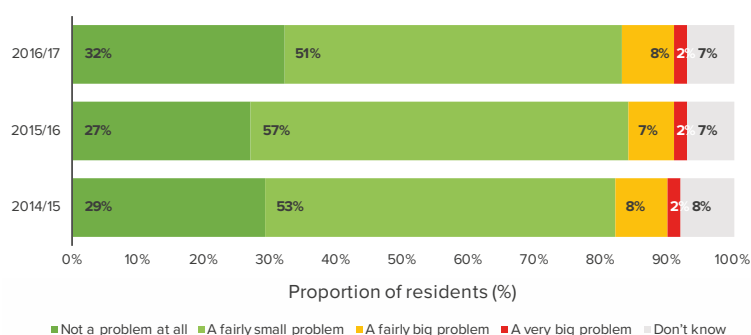


Source: South Gloucestershire Viewpoint Survey, 2014/15-2016/17

Percentage of residents who feel there is a problem with people not treating each other with respect and consideration

The Viewpoint survey is also used to measure whether respondents feel there is a problem with people not treating each other with respect and consideration in their local area. Respondents were asked how strongly they agree or disagree with the statement. Almost one third of respondents felt there was not a problem at all (32%) and slightly over half of respondents (51%) felt there was a fairly small problem with people not treating each other with respect and consideration. The remainder either felt there was a fairly big problem (8%), very big problem (2%) or didn't know (7%). These results are consistent with the figures for the previous two years.

Percentage of residents who feel there is a problem with people not treating each other with respect and consideration



Source: South Gloucestershire Viewpoint Survey, 2014/15-2016/17

* South Gloucestershire Viewpoint is the council's citizens panel. It is a panel of residents who are randomly selected to broadly represent the population of the district. It is made up of those who wish to regularly take part in research and members will have a greater exposure to council activities and communications than the general public. The 2016 Autumn Viewpoint survey received 872 responses.





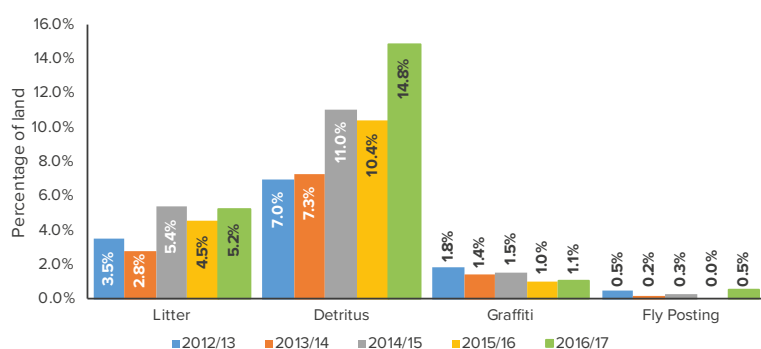
Percentage of land and highways with unacceptable levels of litter, detritus, graffiti and fly posting

This indicator measures the percentage of areas with unacceptable levels of litter, detritus*, graffiti or fly posting. The aim is to achieve the lowest score as possible. Between April 2016 and 2017, 438 inspections for cleanliness standards were carried out on a range of different land use types including shopping areas, main roads, residential streets and recreation areas. Graffiti and fly posting is also assessed on private land which is visible from the highway.

The StreetCare Team has started using a new inspection system which has changed the way detritus levels are recorded. The new system has fewer grades for site assessments to be allocated to; for example sites previously graded "B-" have to be now graded "C" resulting in what appears to be a higher percentage of streets with unsatisfactory cleansing standards.

The areas where the highest levels of litter and detritus were recorded were high density housing, industrial areas, main roads and other highways**. For safety reasons many of our main roads cannot be litter picked or swept without traffic management in place which affects how often they can be cleaned. The unsatisfactory levels of detritus in high density housing areas are due to parked cars obstructing the mechanical sweepers.

Percentage of land and highways with unacceptable levels of litter, detritus, graffiti and fly posting



Source: South Gloucestershire Council

*Detritus consists of dust, mud, soil, grit, gravel, stones, rotted leaf and vegetation residue

**The land use class "other highways" includes pathways through housing estates, rear access lanes and other areas which would not be on set routes that are cleansed frequently.





Our health

Our Health

South Gloucestershire is generally a healthy place to live with life expectancy higher than the national average. A similar picture is reflected in South Gloucestershire's rate of mortality considered preventable which has been reducing and is lower than the regional and national averages.

Health data

Health data has been obtained from the Public Health Outcomes Framework, this allows for comparison with regional and national rates across all indicators. Where other data sources were required, care has been taken to replicate Public Health England methodologies where possible.

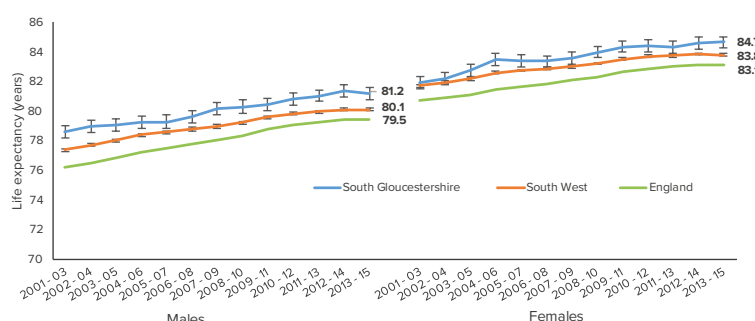
It is important to note that some indicators in this section have been retrospectively updated to account for Office for National Statistics (ONS) coding software changes and to disease coding that occurred in 2014. Rates of disease specific deaths may therefore not be consistent with previously published versions. Further information can be found on the PHE PHOF webpages (<http://www.phoutcomes.info/public-health-outcomes-framework>).

Life expectancy in South Gloucestershire

Overall there is an upward trend in life expectancy for both males and females in South Gloucestershire. The graph shows that there has been a steady increase in life expectancy for both males and females.

In 2013-15 (latest available data), the rolling average of female life expectancy was 84.7 years, which is an increase of 1.9 years over the last 10 years (82.8 years in 2003-05). Male life expectancy was 81.2 years, which is an increase of 2.1 years over the past 10 years (79.1 years in 2003-05). Life expectancy in South Gloucestershire remains significantly higher than the national average for both males and females.

Life expectancy in South Gloucestershire



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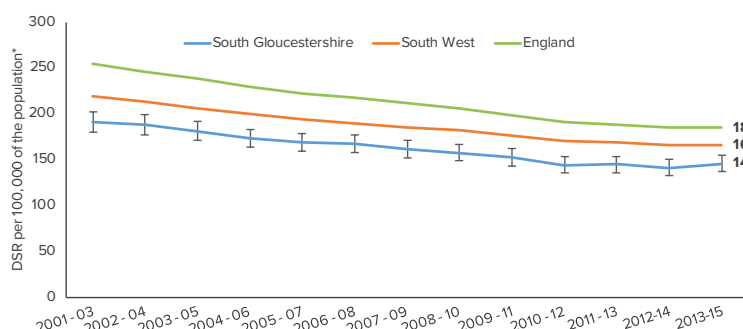
Rate of mortality considered preventable

The concept behind preventable mortality is that deaths are considered preventable if, in the light of the understanding of the determinants of health at the time of death, all or most deaths from the underlying cause (subject to age limits if appropriate) could potentially be avoided by public health interventions in the broadest sense.



The rate of deaths considered preventable is also an important indicator of the overall health of the population. Between 2013 and 2015, the mortality rate in South Gloucestershire was approximately 145 per 100,000 of the population. This is slightly, but not significantly, higher than the rate for the period of 2012-14. Since 2001-03, the rate of preventable death in South Gloucestershire has shown declines in line with national trends and has been consistently and significantly lower than both the South West and the national average.

Mortality rate from causes considered preventable



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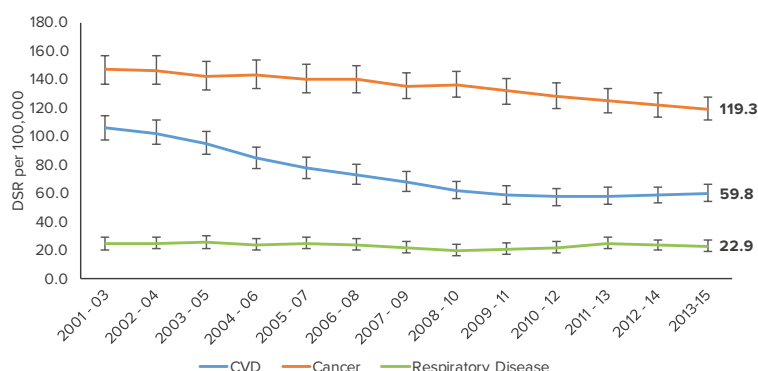
*** Directly Standardised Mortality Rate (DSR):** Age standardisation is a technique used to better allow populations to be compared when the age profiles of the populations are quite different. It applies the number of deaths in any given area to a standard population structure and enables different areas, which normally have different population structures, to be directly compared against each other. It also enables the comparison of rates over time.

Mortality rates

Previous reports have highlighted that, despite a consistent decrease in the mortality rate, two of the largest causes of premature deaths (nationally and locally) are cancer and cardiovascular diseases (CVD) - this remains the case in South Gloucestershire.

Although there have been improvements in treatment and lifestyle, especially in terms of cardiovascular diseases over recent decades, to ensure that there continues to be a reduction in the rate of premature mortality from cancer and cardiovascular diseases, there needs to be concerted action in both prevention and treatment.

Mortality rates



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Cancer

Cancer remains the greatest cause of premature death in South Gloucestershire. Since 2001-03, there has been a significant downward trend in the death rate due to cancer.

Between 2013 and 2015, cancer was responsible for 830 deaths among those aged under 75, 475 (57%) of which were considered to be preventable. This equates to 43% of all premature deaths considered preventable in South Gloucestershire.



Cardiovascular diseases

Cardiovascular diseases (CVD), which include coronary heart disease and stroke, are the second greatest cause of premature deaths in South Gloucestershire. The premature death rate due to cardiovascular diseases, in South Gloucestershire, has significantly decreased between 2001-03 and 2013-15, falling from 106 per 100,000 population to a rate of 59.8 per 100,000 population in 2013-15. Between 2013 and 2015, cardiovascular diseases were responsible for 415 deaths among those aged under 75 years old, 263 (63%) of which were considered preventable. This equates to 24% of all premature deaths considered preventable in South Gloucestershire.

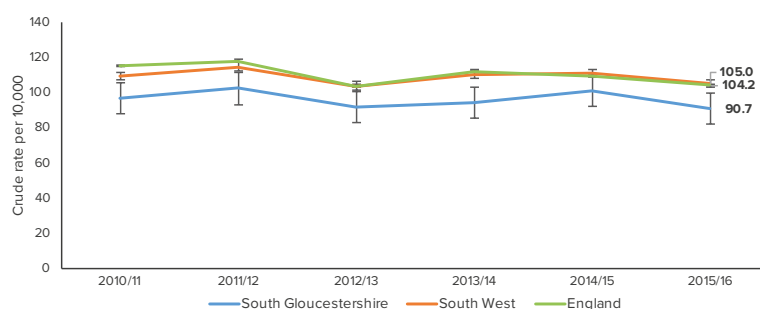
Respiratory disease

Respiratory disease is one of the top causes of death in England among those aged under 75 years old. Smoking is the major cause of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), which is one of the major respiratory diseases. Premature death rates due to respiratory disease have remained relatively consistent since 2001-03 in South Gloucestershire. The latest available data shows that rates in South Gloucestershire are marginally lower than rates across the South West and significantly lower than rates observed nationally. Between 2013 and 2015, 82 (52%) of the 158 premature deaths due to respiratory disease were considered preventable.

Childhood Injuries

Injuries are a leading cause of hospitalisation and represent a major cause of premature mortality for children and young people. They are also a source of long-term health issues, including mental health related to experience(s). Rates of hospital admission for young people (under 15 years) in South Gloucestershire, due to injury, are significantly lower than rates at both the South West and England level, with no notable changes over the last 5 years.

Rate of Hospital Admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries in children aged under 15



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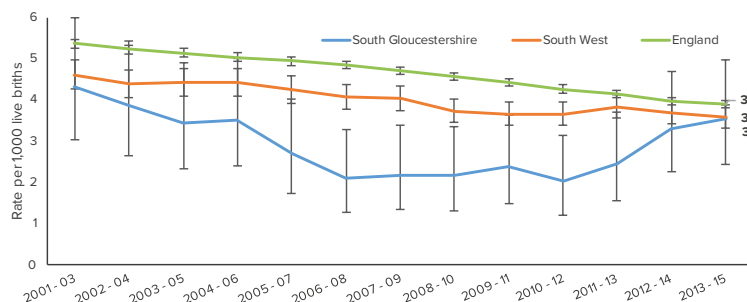


Infant mortality

Infant mortality is an indicator of the general health of an entire population. It reflects the relationship between causes of infant mortality and upstream determinants of population health such as economic, social and environmental conditions.

In any one year, the numbers of infant deaths are very small therefore a more reliable picture can be obtained from data pooled over several years. In South Gloucestershire in 2013-15, there were 33 deaths amongst infants, equating to 3.5 per 1,000 live births. This rate is consistent with the regional (3.5 per 1,000 live births) and national (3.9 per 1,000 live births) rates.

Infant mortality



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Alcohol related hospital admissions

Alcohol specific admissions are an indicator of the level of alcohol misuse and the effectiveness of alcohol services to prevent admissions and readmission to hospital. These figures include both emergency and planned admissions so show the total burden on the hospital system that alcohol specific conditions cause.

The graph shows that following a few years of relatively stable admission rates, since 2012/13 to the latest reporting period, there has been a significant rise in the rate of admissions. The rate of admissions closely follows the same upward trend exhibited in Public Health England's Local Alcohol Profiles over the same time period. This shows a significant increase in persons admitted to hospital for an alcohol specific condition (excludes repeat admissions), suggesting that the increase in alcohol specific hospital admissions is not due to repeat admissions.

Alcohol specific hospital admissions



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* Directly Standardised Mortality Rate (DSR): Age standardisation is a technique used to better allow populations to be compared when the age profiles of the populations are quite different. It applies the number of deaths in any given area to a standard population structure and enables different areas, which normally have different population structures, to be directly compared against each other. It also enables the comparison of rates over time.

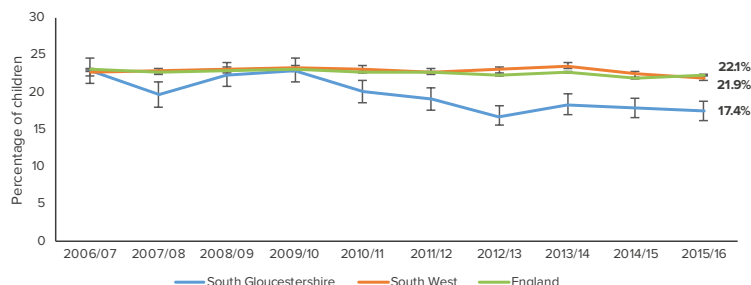
The percentage of children classified as overweight or obese

The National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) measures the weight and height of children in reception class (aged 4 to 5 years) and year 6 (aged 10 to 11 years) to assess overweight and obesity levels. This data is used at a national level to support local public health initiatives and inform the local planning and delivery of services for children.

Reception year children

The graph shows that the percentage of 4 and 5 year old children (in reception year) who are overweight or obese generally declined between 2006/07 and 2015/16. The latest reporting period shows a further decrease, though not significant. The current rate is significantly lower than figures for 2006/07 and is significantly lower than the regional and national figures.

Reception year children (4-5 year olds)

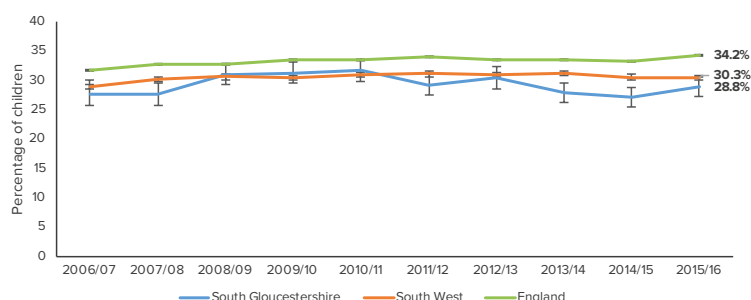


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Year six children

The percentage of 10 and 11 year olds who are overweight or obese has remained relatively constant between 2006/07 and 2015/16. There was a slight increase between 2014/15 and 2015/16, resulting in South Gloucestershire only showing a marginal difference to regional levels but remaining significantly lower than levels of excess weight observed in 10-11 year olds nationally.

Year six children (10-11 year olds)

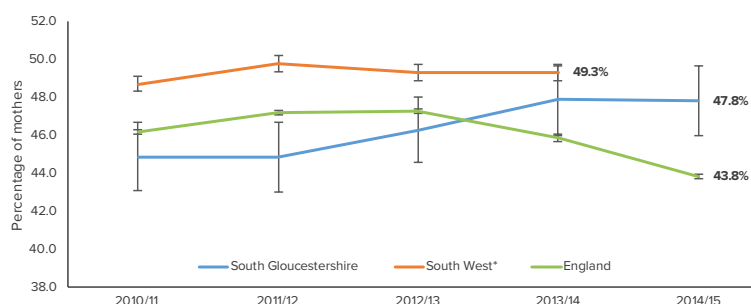


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Breastfeeding prevalence at 6-8 weeks after birth

Breastfeeding is important for short and long term health. For babies breastfeeding reduces the risk of infections, allergies, sudden infant death syndrome, insulin dependant diabetes and childhood leukaemia. Mothers benefit from a reduction in the risk of breast cancer, ovarian cancer and osteoporosis. In both mother and baby, in the longer term, breastfeeding reduces the risk of cardiovascular disease and obesity.

Breastfeeding prevalence at 6-8 weeks after birth



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*2014/15 South West data not published for reasons of data quality



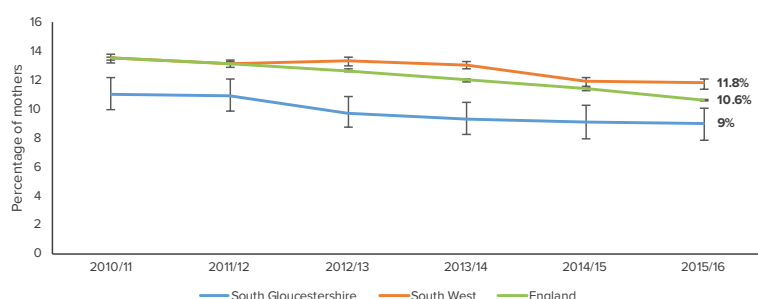
The graph shows that the number of mothers breastfeeding in South Gloucestershire, at the time of the 6-8 week GP review, has increased between 2010/11 and 2014/15. South West data for 2014/15 is not available for comparison, however rates in South Gloucestershire are significantly higher than the national level, which has seen a significant decline since 2012/13.

Smoking status of mothers at time of delivery

Smoking during pregnancy is detrimental to both mother and child. It can cause premature birth, miscarriage or perinatal death. Further, it has been linked with an increased chance of developing respiratory conditions, problems with the ear, nose and throat, attention and hyperactivity disorders, learning difficulties, obesity and asthma.

The graph shows that there continues to be a significantly lower percentage of mothers who are smokers at the time of delivery in South Gloucestershire in comparison to the South West and national average. Between 2011/12 and 2015/16, the percentage of mothers who are smokers at the time of delivery decreased from 11% to 9%.

Smoking status of mothers at time of delivery



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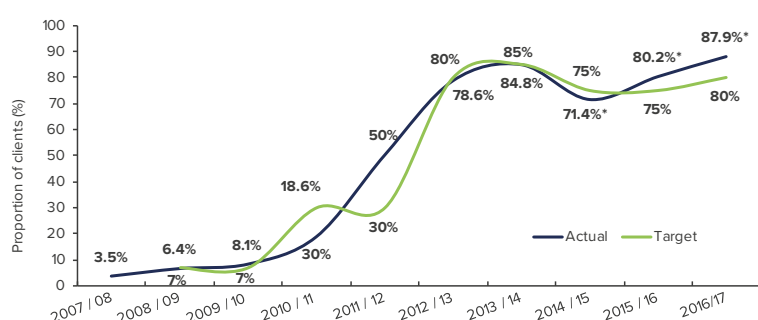
The number of people receiving self-directed support

Residents in South Gloucestershire are continuing to take advantage of being able to receive self-directed support and choose individually tailored, social care services.

Self-directed support offers an increased level of choice and control for people who receive adult social care. A person is provided with a budget and is able to decide how they would like to use their money to meet their support needs. Over the last year, 87.9% of those receiving adult social care were also receiving self-directed support (100% of carers received self-directed support).

In 2016/17, 27.4% of people who receive self-directed support also chose to receive direct payments (100% of carers received direct payments). The council can provide people with a direct payment to buy support or services they need. Direct payments are designed to give people who have been assessed as requiring social care, and their carers, choice and control over how services are provided. Direct payments can be made on an ongoing basis or for one-off items or services, for example to pay for personal care, such as help with washing and dressing; for support with daily living activities e.g. cooking, shopping, getting out and about and meeting people; and for short breaks (respite care).

Proportion of clients receiving self-directed support



Source: South Gloucestershire Council, Children, Adults and Health

*Please note: The percentage of people receiving Self Directed Support now includes eligible service users in Extra Care Housing so figures are not directly comparable to previously published data.

South Gloucestershire Council
Department for Environment & Community Services
Corporate Strategy and Partnerships
PO Box 1954
Bristol
BS37 0DD

Tel **01454 863865**
Email strategy&partnerships@southglos.gov.uk

Developed by the South Gloucestershire Partnership

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