



**Childcare Sufficiency Assessment  
Shropshire**

**Analysis Report  
2017**

## Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2017

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## **1. Executive Summary**

### **1.2 Background**

The Childcare Act 2006 requires local authorities to:

Secure sufficient childcare provision for the needs of working parents in their area for children up to the age of 14 (or 17 for disabled children).<sup>1</sup>

Shropshire's Childcare Sufficiency Assessment has considered the likely impact on demand for childcare and the sustainability of childcare settings across all areas of the county. The local authority recognises the significant role that the availability of childcare can potentially play in local economic regeneration. It has therefore been important to consider this in context, by looking at the current childcare market alongside parental demand, local employment trends, and the diverse nature of parental needs including the existing two year old funding known locally as 24U (available for some eligible parents), and the introduction of the Extended Free Entitlement (30 Hours) from September 2017.

### **1.3 What did we ask?**

We asked people to comment on their experiences of childcare and whether they think there are any gaps.

### **1.4 Who did we consult with?**

We consulted parents, schools, early years and childcare providers, out of school providers, local employers, other stakeholders and partners. We also considered local statistics and national research.

### **1.5 What are the gaps?**

- **Number of childcare places**

Overall, there are sufficient early years places in Shropshire that take into account where people live and work. There are 369 registered childcare providers comprising of Childminders, Day Nurseries and Out of School provision, Infant and Primary Nursery Classes and Independent Schools. However, places available do not necessarily meet demand with 78% of childcare providers reporting vacancies, at the same time as 10% of those parents surveyed saying that they are not always able to access the childcare they would like, when they need it.

- **Range of childcare**

Although Shropshire does have sufficient childcare places overall, it does not always meet the particular needs of families regarding a child's age (ref to adult/child ratios); location; space-availability. Whilst full day care, sessional childcare, childminding, and out of school provision is available countywide, recent surveys indicate that some parents need more holiday provision.

Since 2012 the childcare sector has seen many changes especially with the amount of childminding provision. National statistics indicate that there were 43,500 childminders registered with Ofsted as at 31 March 2017, 1,400 had left the sector since 31 December 2016; an overall reduction of 24% since 31 August 2012. However, in Shropshire the reduction at 42% was even greater with 288 childminders registered in 2011/12, compared to only 166 as at March 2017. The overall range of childcare places in Shropshire is gradually changing. Whilst there remains a strong reliance on the private and voluntary sector, an increasing number of schools are now providing and adopting early years provision. At March 2017, Shropshire's range of childcare can be broadly divided into the following three categories: childminders (45%), Group settings (36%) and School's (19%).

- **Quality**

In line with local authority statutory guidance<sup>2</sup>, Shropshire Council relies solely on the Ofsted inspection judgement of the childcare provider as the benchmark of quality. Nationally<sup>3</sup> more than 9 in 10 providers on the Early Years Register were judged to be good or outstanding and as at 31 March 2017, the proportion of childcare providers on the Early Years Register (EYR), judged to be good or outstanding was 93% (similar to 31 December 2016, and up from 74% as at 31 August 2012). In Shropshire at March 2017, the total number of EYR registered childcare providers was 304, providing 6,441 EYR places. Of the 261 providers inspected 55 (21%) were Outstanding, 193 (74%) Good, 11 (4%) Requires Improvement, and 2 (0.7%) Inadequate.

- **Flexibility**

Whilst the provision of out of school childcare has increased in recent years, there is still insufficient (mainly in rural areas), to cater for the needs of working parents. Of those parents surveyed 27% said that they needed longer sessions and 26% needed greater flexibility. With the introduction of the Extended Free Entitlement for eligible 3-4 year olds from September 2017, the demand for more flexible provision and out of school and holiday provision is likely to increase.

- **Affordability**

When considering whether childcare is sufficiently affordable, 46% of those parents surveyed identified cost as the main barrier to accessing childcare.

- **Sustainability**

Data from childcare providers suggests that, 46% of all children aged nought to four years use formal childcare. With 78% of those providers surveyed reporting vacancies, whilst there is some concern over the sustainability of some rural provision, however as referred to previously the introduction of the Extended Free Entitlement from September 2017 may lead to increased demand for childcare from eligible working parents.

- **Accessibility**

Sparsely populated rural areas have the least childcare provision and does not always meet parents' needs regarding accessibility and out of hours, however only 7% of parents who responded to the survey said that there was not enough childcare provision in their area.

- **Inclusion**

Most early years and childcare providers in Shropshire feel equipped to offer inclusive provision. Of the total number of parents that responded to the survey, only 8% said that they did not feel their child's special educational needs could be met in local provision. The majority of these responses were within the Borders Children's Centre Area, which also has the highest number of children accessing childcare who have special educational needs or a disability, and is where the Severdale Specialist Academy is located.

- **Knowledge and Information**

When parents were asked whether they feel there is sufficient knowledge and information about childcare provision, only 6% of parent-survey responses indicated that a lack of childcare information was a barrier to accessing childcare in Shropshire.

<sup>1</sup>The Childcare Act 2006 (Childcare Assessments Regulations 2007) No. 463, points 1-5

<sup>2</sup>Early Education and Childcare – Statutory guidance for local authorities (March 2017), A3.8, p.1

<sup>3</sup>[www.gov.uk/government/statistics/childcare-providers-and-inspections-as-at-31-march-2017](http://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/childcare-providers-and-inspections-as-at-31-march-2017)

## 1.6 What are we going to do?

This Assessment has identified the following priorities and an Action Plan to address gaps has been developed (a copy of which can be seen at [www.shropshire.gov.uk/](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/))

1. Establish a process for the Termly collection of 0-5 provision data to ensure knowledge of places vs demand, vacancies and gaps is current and available at a sub-locality level.
2. Develop a clear strategy for the provision of funded-places to ensure sufficiency of places.
3. Work with existing and new providers to help reduce vacancies by encouraging opening times and effective place planning at time when parents need them.
4. Increase partnership working to improve prospects for childminder recruitment and training.
5. Extend and support opportunities to advance special educational needs in local provision and improve parents' perception and raise confidence.
6. Work with the Family Information Service to support the collection of annual sector data.
7. Target opportunities to help raise awareness within the local business community to the needs of working parents eligible for the extended free entitlement of 30 hours.

## **2. Definitions**

For the purposes of this Childcare Sufficiency Assessment, we have used the following to define what we mean by childcare:

### **a) Childcare<sup>3</sup>**

Childcare allows parents or carers to undertake education, work or other regular commitments. Formal, regulated<sup>4</sup> childcare is any care, early learning or other supervised activity, carried out by someone, with no parental responsibility for that child, at a registered setting. Unregulated or Informal childcare is that carried out by a friend or relative for convenience purposes and without reward.

### **b) Sufficient Childcare**

According to Section 6 Children Act (2006) Sufficient childcare means meeting the requirements of parents in the Local Authority's area who require childcare in order to enable them to take up, or remain in work or to undertake education or training which could reasonably be expected to assist them to obtain work.

### **c) Reasonably Practicable**

Local Authorities will never be able to guarantee a childcare place to every child exactly in accordance with their parent's wishes, be that location, cost, timing and, in a diverse market quality. However where gaps have been identified actions have been agreed to work towards closing them in the longer term if the expectations identified are realistic.

Where a parent is unable to access (for whatever reason) a childcare place, the range of options available to the family will be fully explored. The authority's availability to deliver sufficient childcare will be limited by the resources available and will build on existing practice; aiming to protect, not compromise the sustainability of the local childcare market. The authority will take into account the effect on the local market of supporting any setting financially which may impact other businesses (whether private, voluntary or maintained) or the facilities available for other children in prevailing local conditions.

### **d) 24U funding<sup>5</sup>**

24U is the name given locally to funding that enables some eligible two year olds to receive 570 hours of free early education or childcare per year. Parents must meet certain eligibility criteria based on the total amount of household income and benefits received.

### **e) Universal Free Entitlement (15 hours) and the Extended Free Entitlement (30 hours)<sup>5</sup>**

All 3 to 4-year-olds in England can access the universal free entitlement of 570 hours of free early education or childcare per year; usually taken as 15 hours a week for 38 weeks of the year. From September 2017, this free entitlement for children aged 3-4 years is increasing to 1140 hours per year where both parents are working (or a single parent), and able to meet certain criteria.

### **f) Out of School provision (OOS)**

This term applies to childcare that wraps around, and extends the school day and includes breakfast and after-school childcare and holiday provision. It does not include the provision of after school activity-clubs, which are not childcare, but instead offer activities related to specific interests such as sport, art and crafts, etc. These activity-based clubs generally run for an hour or so at the end of the school day during term time only and may be restricted to certain age groups and therefore not seen as childcare.

<sup>3</sup> see Childcare Act 2006 part 1, point 18 for a full legal definition

<sup>4</sup> as defined by Ofsted

<sup>5</sup> see Department for Education publication (March 2017): DFE-00084-2017

### 3. Methodology

Shropshire’s 2017 Childcare Sufficiency Assessment is a collation of local data collected from within the Council and nationally available data.

Geographical areas used in the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment are Local Authority, Electoral Division and Children’s Centre Area level.

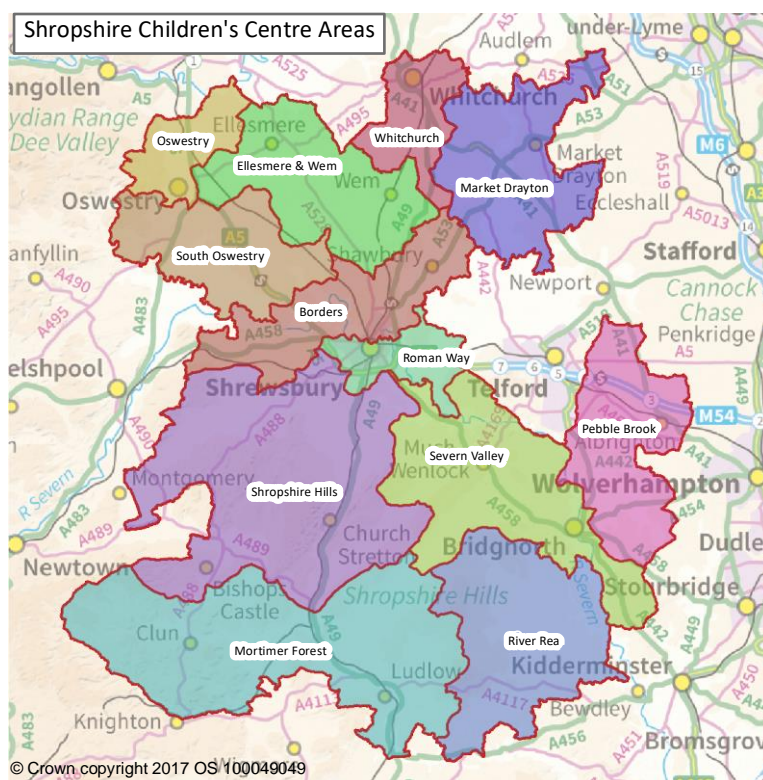
Local data has been assigned to Electoral Divisions and Children’s Centre Areas by postcode mapping.

National data is generally published at the Office for National Statistics (ONS) geographic area of Lower Layer Super Output Area (LLSOA). When using LLSOA data a “best fit” has been applied to match the data to Shropshire Divisions and Shropshire Children’s Centre Areas. This “best fit” is based on the ONS methodology of using a population weighted centroid.

There are 63 Electoral Divisions in Shropshire and 12 Children’s Centre Areas.

The age ranges of children used in the assessment are 0-14 and 0-4 years for the majority of the data, 0-15 has been used for the Income Deprivation Affecting Children data from the Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2015 and some benefits data.

Figure 1: Children’s Centre Areas



### 4. Population

Shropshire has a population of 311,400 (2015 ONS Mid Year Population Estimates). The County is sparsely populated with just under one person per hectare (0.97) compared with 4.1 in England. Around 35%<sup>1</sup> of the population live in villages, hamlets or dwellings dispersed throughout the countryside. The remainder live in either the county town of Shrewsbury or one of the other 17 market towns/key service centres.

<sup>1</sup> ONS Rural/Urban Classification © Crown Copyright, 2017



Mid 2015 Population Estimates suggest that there were some 48,159<sup>2</sup> children aged nought to fourteen years of age living in Shropshire. This represents a fall of 2% across the County from the 2009 Mid Year Estimate.

Figure 2: Percentage of Total Population of CCA Aged 0 to 14 years<sup>2</sup>

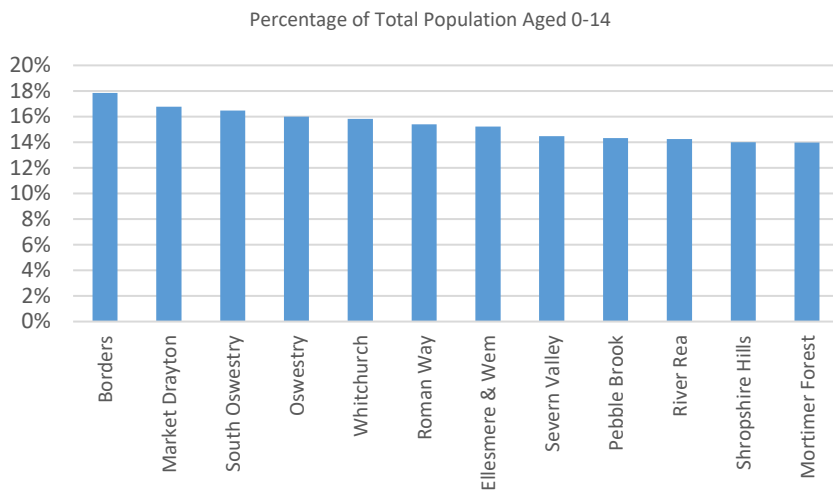


Figure 2 shows the percentage of the population of each Children's Centre Area who are between 0-14 years of age.

The highest percentage is found in Borders CCA (18%).

Figure 3: Proportion of the Population Aged 0-14 by Electoral Division

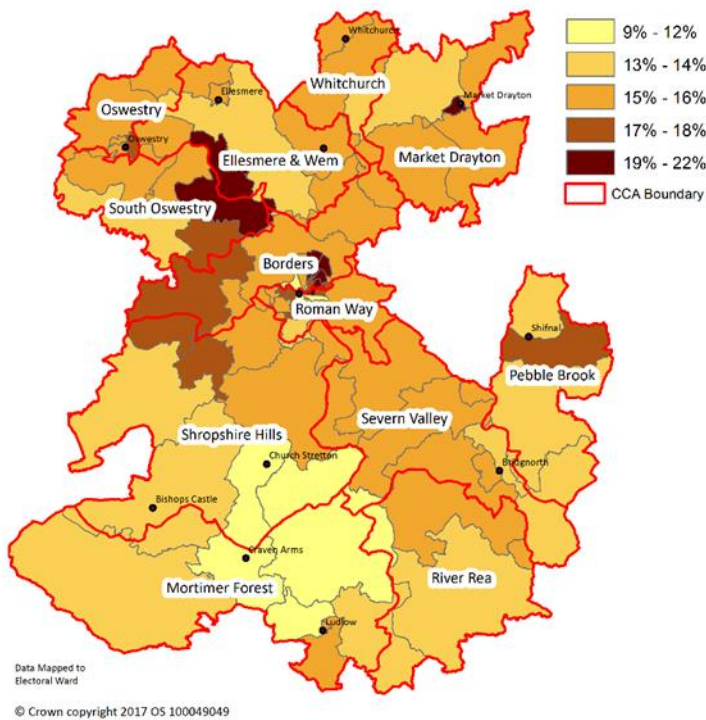


Figure 3 to the left shows the number of children aged between 0-14 years of age as a percentage of the total population by Electoral Division. Darker areas indicate higher numbers of children as a percentage of the total population of an Electoral Division.

<sup>2</sup> ONS 2015 Mid-Year Population Estimates for England & Wales, © Crown Copyright, 2017

Figure 4: Children Aged 0-14

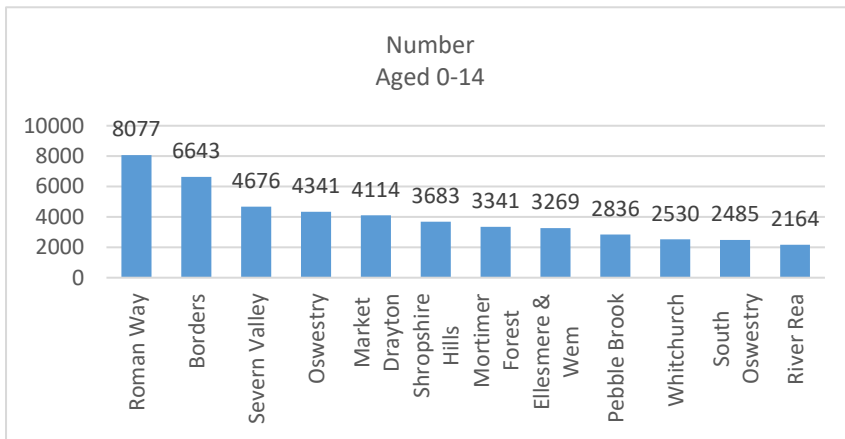
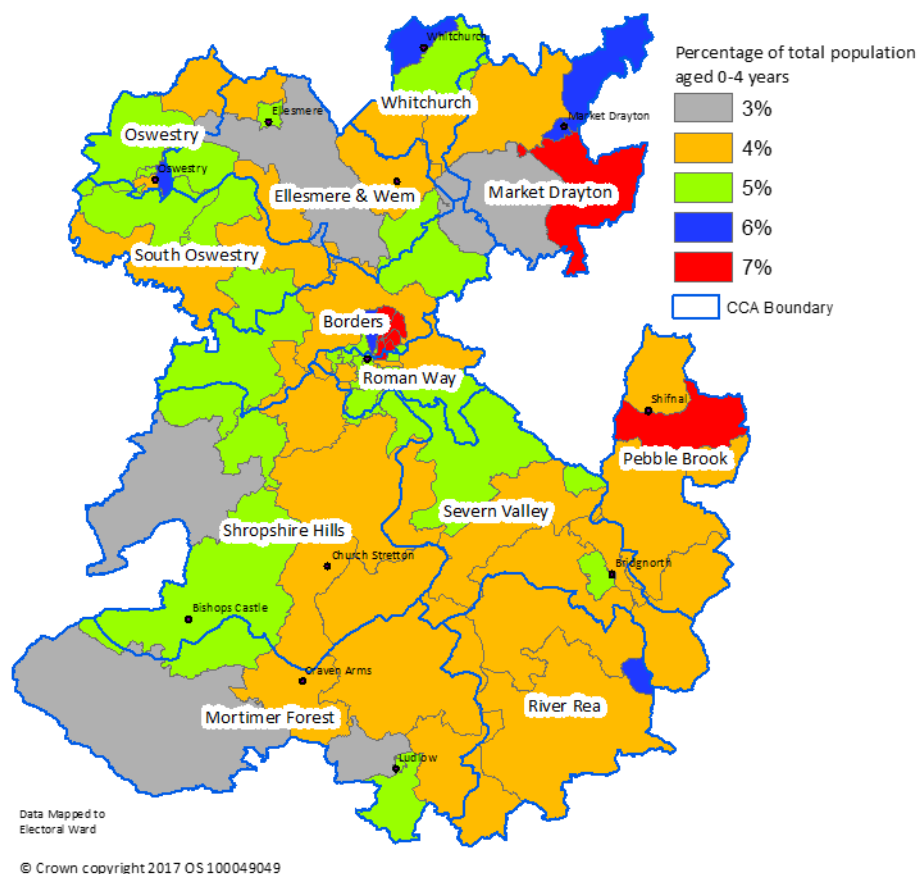


Figure 4 to the left shows the total number of children aged 0-14 within each Children's Centre Area.

#### 4.1 Population Aged 0-4

The map below shows the percentage of the total population between 0 – 4 years of age (Mid Year Estimates 2015) by electoral division.

Figure 5: Percentage of Total Population Aged 0-4 years<sup>3</sup>



Data from the Mid-Year Estimates 2015 shows that the number of 0-4 year olds has fallen very slightly since 2009 by 0.3% for Shropshire as a whole.

<sup>3</sup> ONS 2015 Mid-Year Population Estimates for England & Wales, © Crown Copyright, 2017

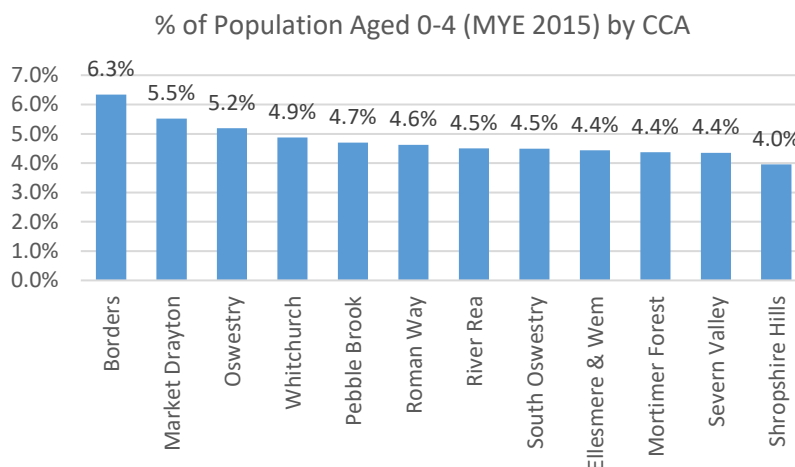
However there are electoral divisions where there has been growth. The 0-4 year old population, for the electoral divisions of Market Drayton East, Sundorne, Battlefield and Bridgnorth West & Tasley, is estimated to have grown more than 20%, with the highest growth in Shifnal South & Cosford electoral division (+38%).

The following table shows the number of children aged 0-4 by Children’s Centre Area and the chart shows 0-4 year olds as a percentage of the total population<sup>4</sup>.

Figure 6: Number of 0-4 Year Olds

CCA	Number of 0-4 year olds (MYE 2015)
Roman Way	2425
Borders	2359
Oswestry	1409
Severn Valley	1407
Market Drayton	1353
Mortimer Forest	1046
Shropshire Hills	1041
Ellesmere & Wem	954
Pebble Brook	931
Whitchurch	780
River Rea	684
South Oswestry	678

Figure 7: % of Total Population Aged 0-4 Years



## 4.2 Population Projections

Figure 3 compares the projected population of Shropshire over 5 and 10 years with that of England as a whole. Whilst England shows a growth in population in all age groups the figures for Shropshire project that there will be a fall in the population aged 5-9 years of 4% and only a 1% increase in the population aged between 0 to 4 years.

Figure 8: 2014 Sub National Population Projections<sup>5</sup>

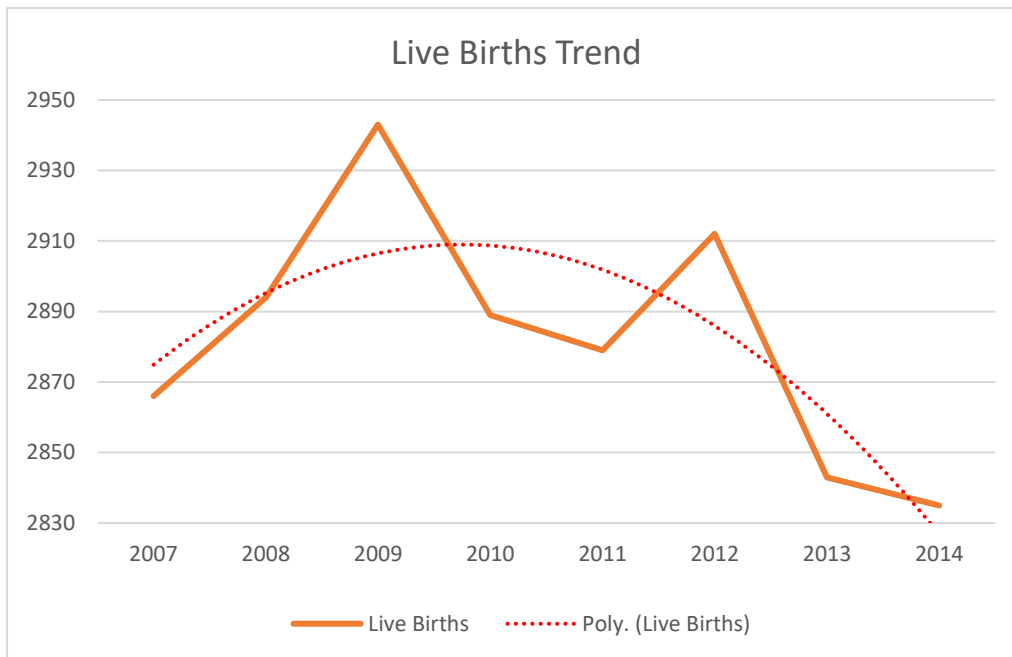
AREA	AGE GROUP	2016	2021	2026	Difference over 5 Years	Difference over 10 Years	% Change 5 Years	% Change 10 Years
England	0-4	3,412,100	3,453,900	3,492,000	41,800	79,900	1%	2%
Shropshire	0-4	14,900	14,900	15,000	0	100	0%	1%
England	5-9	3,416,700	3,476,900	3,513,300	60,200	96,600	2%	3%
Shropshire	5-9	16,800	16,100	16,100	-700	-700	-4%	-4%
England	10-14	3,058,000	3,466,600	3,523,000	408,600	465,000	13%	15%
Shropshire	10-14	16,600	17,900	17,300	1,300	700	8%	4%
<b>England</b>	<b>All age population</b>	<b>55,218,700</b>	<b>57,248,400</b>	<b>59,135,200</b>	<b>2,029,700</b>	<b>3,916,500</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>7%</b>
<b>Shropshire</b>	<b>All age population</b>	<b>312,400</b>	<b>319,400</b>	<b>326,200</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>13,800</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>4%</b>

<sup>4</sup> ONS 2015 Mid-Year Population Estimates for England & Wales, © Crown Copyright, 2017

<sup>5</sup> 2014 Sub National Population Projections, Office for National Statistics, © Crown Copyright, 2017

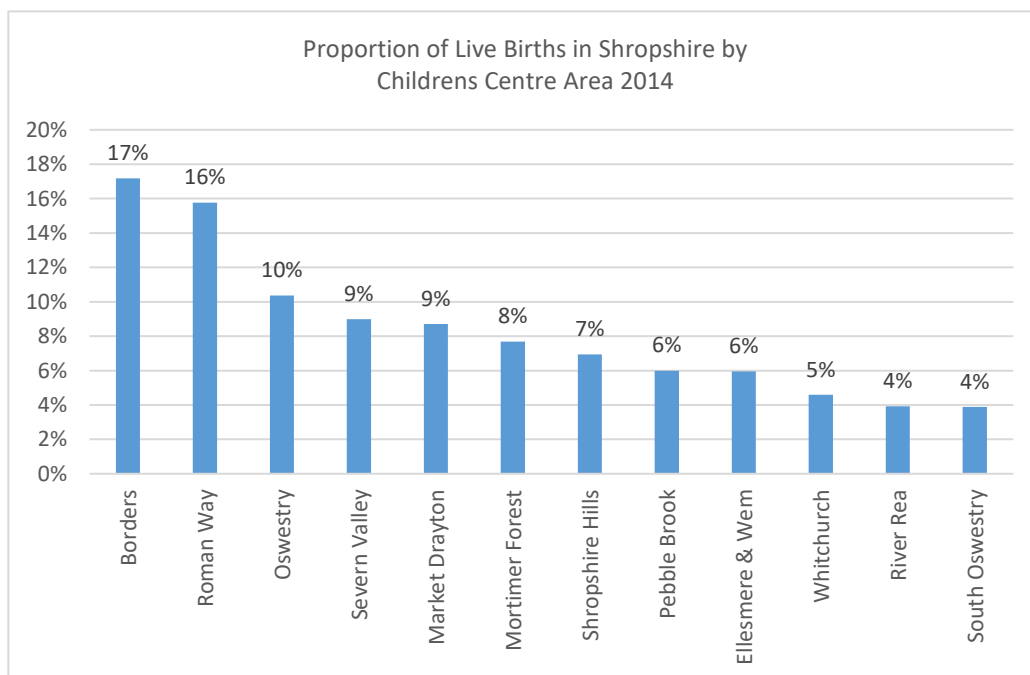
The three years 2007 to 2009 show an increase in the number of births within Shropshire, however with the exception of 2012 the numbers have declined year on year since 2009.

Figure 9: Live Births Trend<sup>6</sup>



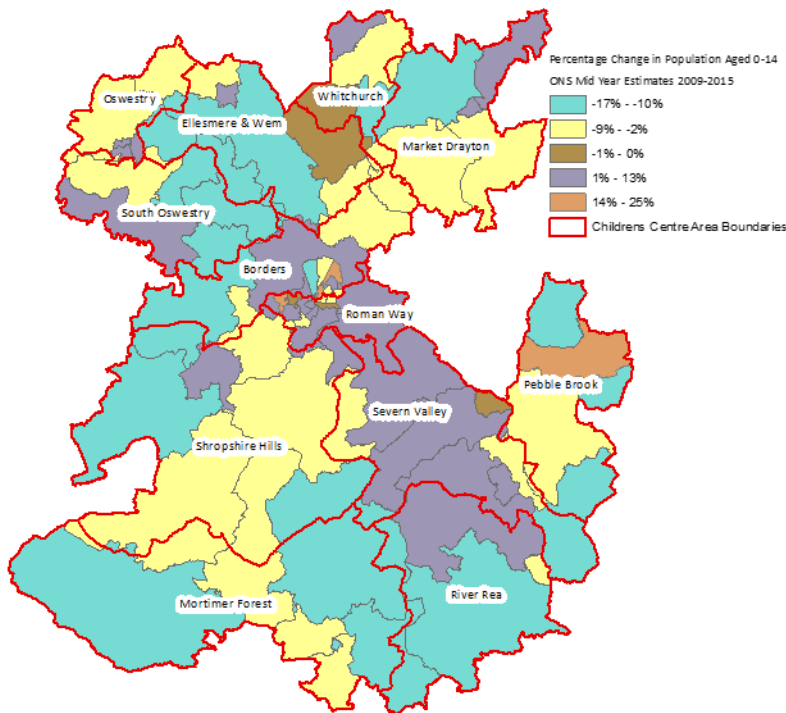
The proportion of births across the county by Children’s Centre Area in 2014 varies from 17% to 4%. The highest numbers are within Borders, Roman Way and Oswestry Children’s Centre Areas.

Figure 10: Proportion of Live Births by Children’s Centre Area<sup>6</sup>



<sup>6</sup> Live Births 2009-2014, Office for National Statistics, © Crown Copyright, 2017

Figure 11: Changes in population aged 0 to 14 years between 2009 and 2015 by Electoral Division across the local authority<sup>7</sup>.

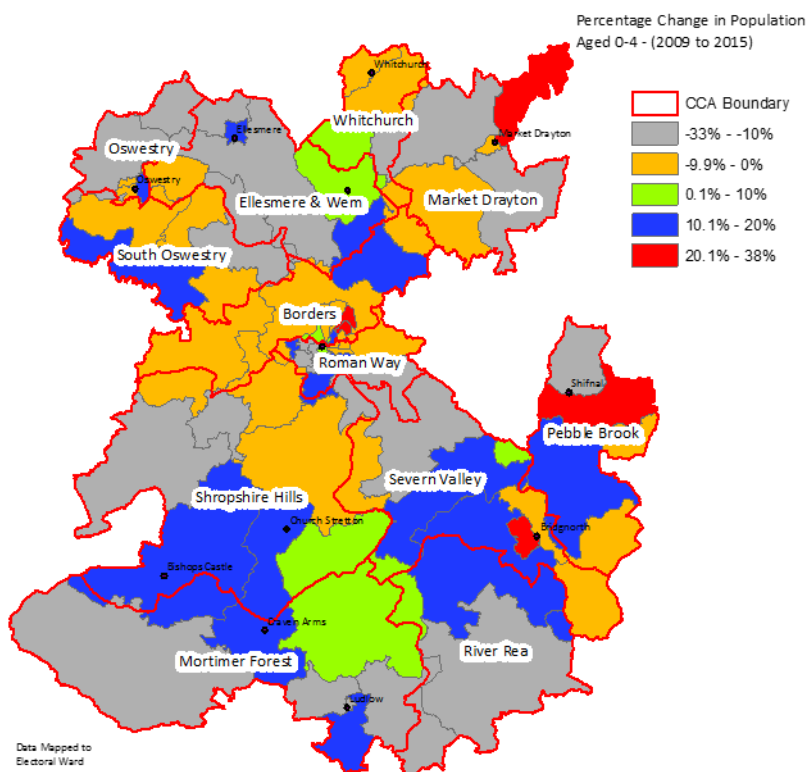


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Whilst over half of all Electoral Divisions in Shropshire saw a decline in the population of children aged 0-14 (ranging from -1% to -17%) there was growth ranging from 1% to 25% in the remainder.

The Electoral Divisions with the highest percentage change (growth) were Shifnal South & Cosford (+25%) which falls within Pebble Brook CCA and Battlefield (+21%) which falls within Borders CCA.

Figure 12: Changes in population aged 0 to 4 years between 2009 and 2015 by Electoral Division across the local authority<sup>7</sup>.



Data Mapped to Electoral Ward

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The Electoral Divisions where the 0-4 year old population has increased by over 20% between 2009 and 2015 are:

- Shifnal South & Cosford within Pebble Brook CCA (+38%),
- Battlefield (+32%) and Sundorne (21%) within Borders CCA
- Bridgnorth West & Tasley (+20%) within Severn Valley CCA.
- Market Drayton East (+31%) within Market Drayton CCA.

Areas shaded green, red or blue show where the 0-4 year old population has increased between 2009 and 2015.

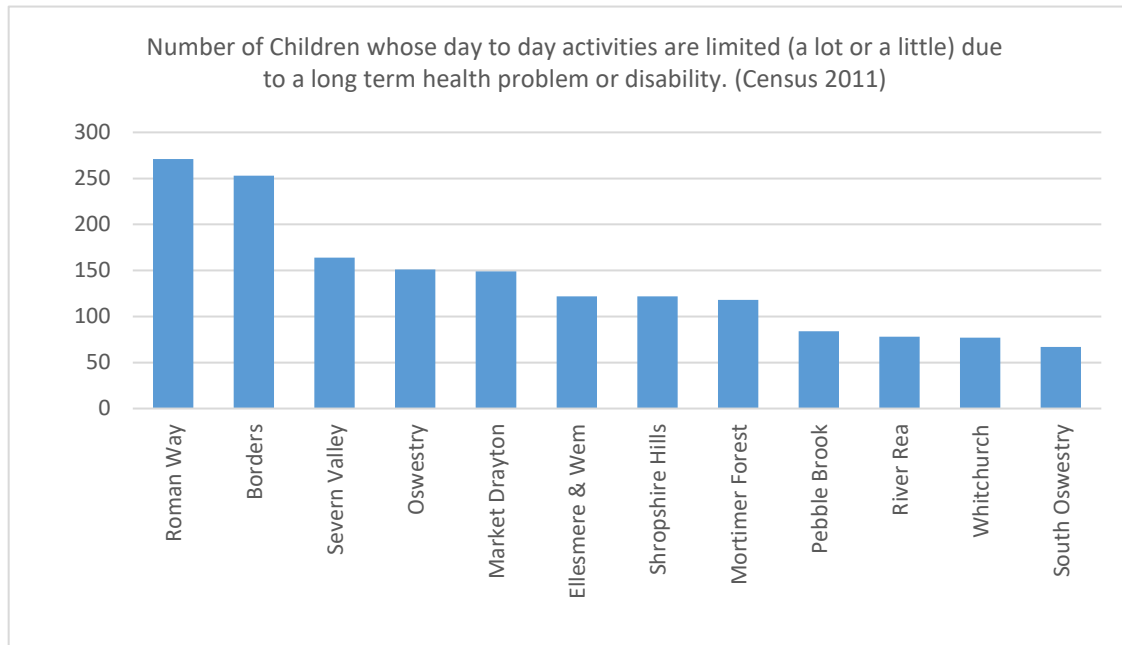
There has been some growth in the number of 0-4 year olds in 23 of the 63 electoral divisions.

<sup>7</sup> Mid-Year Estimates 2009-2015, Office for National Statistics, © Crown Copyright, 2017

### 4.3. Disabled Children/Additional Needs

Data from the 2011 Census reports that there are around 1,700 children living in Shropshire aged 0-14 whose day to day activities are limited due to a long term health problem or disability.

Figure 13: Number of Children whose day to day activities are limited (a lot or a little) due to a long term health problem or disability (Census 2011).<sup>8</sup>



## 5. Vulnerable Groups

### 5.1 Looked After Children

As at September 2016 there were a total of 280 Looked After Children in Shropshire<sup>9</sup>.

Figure 14: Looked After Children in Shropshire – Placement Type

Placement Type	% at September 2016
Foster placements	69.3
Placed for adoption	2.9
Placements with parents	5.7
Other placement in the community	6.4
Secure units, children's homes and hostels	13.9
Other residential settings	1.8

There were 139 foster caring households in Shropshire.

<sup>8</sup> Children aged 0-14 whose day to day activities are limited due to a long term health problem or disability, Census 2011, Office for National Statistics. © Crown Copyright, 2017

<sup>9</sup> Shropshire Council data, September 2016

## **5.2 Referrals to Social Care**

There were 1,848 referrals received in 2015/16 by Children's Social Care, 85% of which went on to Social Work Assessment. This is lower than statistical neighbours (94.19%) and the England average (90.1%).

## **5.3 Child Protection**

At the end of September 2016 there were 262 children in the county with Child Protection Plans. This is equivalent to a rate of 44.1 CPPs per every 10,000 0-17 year olds in Shropshire. This is a higher rate than statistical neighbours (40.91) and the England average (43.1) as reported at the end March 2016.

## **5.4 Children in Need**

A child in need is one who has been assessed by children's social care to be in need of services. These services can include, for example, leaving care support, adoption support or disabled children's services. This also includes all children with an open assessment, child protection plan or those currently looked after by the local authority.

In Shropshire there was a rate of 272.7 Children in Need per 10,000 0-17 year olds. This is lower than comparator groups such as statistical neighbour average (342.6), and the England average (337.7).

## **5.5 Early Help**

In 2015-16 2418 contacts to COMPASS (Shropshire's multi agency front door) had an outcome of Early Help support, representing 39% of total contacts.

## **5.6 Teenage Parents**

The under 18 conception rate in Shropshire is lower than the national average. In 2014, the rate stood at 15.1 conceptions per 1000 girls, compared to a rate of 22.8 in all England.

## **5.7 Special Educational Needs**

In the January 2017 School Census covering Maintained and Academy Schools there were 1,382 Children (aged 4-18 as at 31/08/2016) with either an Education, health & care plan (EHCP) or a Statement of Special Educational Need (SEN).

The following table shows the number of children with an EHCP or SEN within each Children's Centre Area and the number as a percentage of all pupils within the CCA.

In Shropshire County 3% of pupils have either an Education, Health & Care Plan or Statement of Special Educational Need.

Borders CCA has a higher percentage of pupils with an Education, Health & Care Plan or Statement of Special Educational Need 6% (Primary & Secondary Schools) and the percentage is slightly higher when looking at Secondary pupils only (9%), this is due to Severndale Specialist School being situated within its boundary.

Further analysis of where the pupils attending Severndale Specialist School live shows that:

- 22% live within Borders CCA
- 20% live within Roman Way CCA
- 13% live within Oswestry CCA

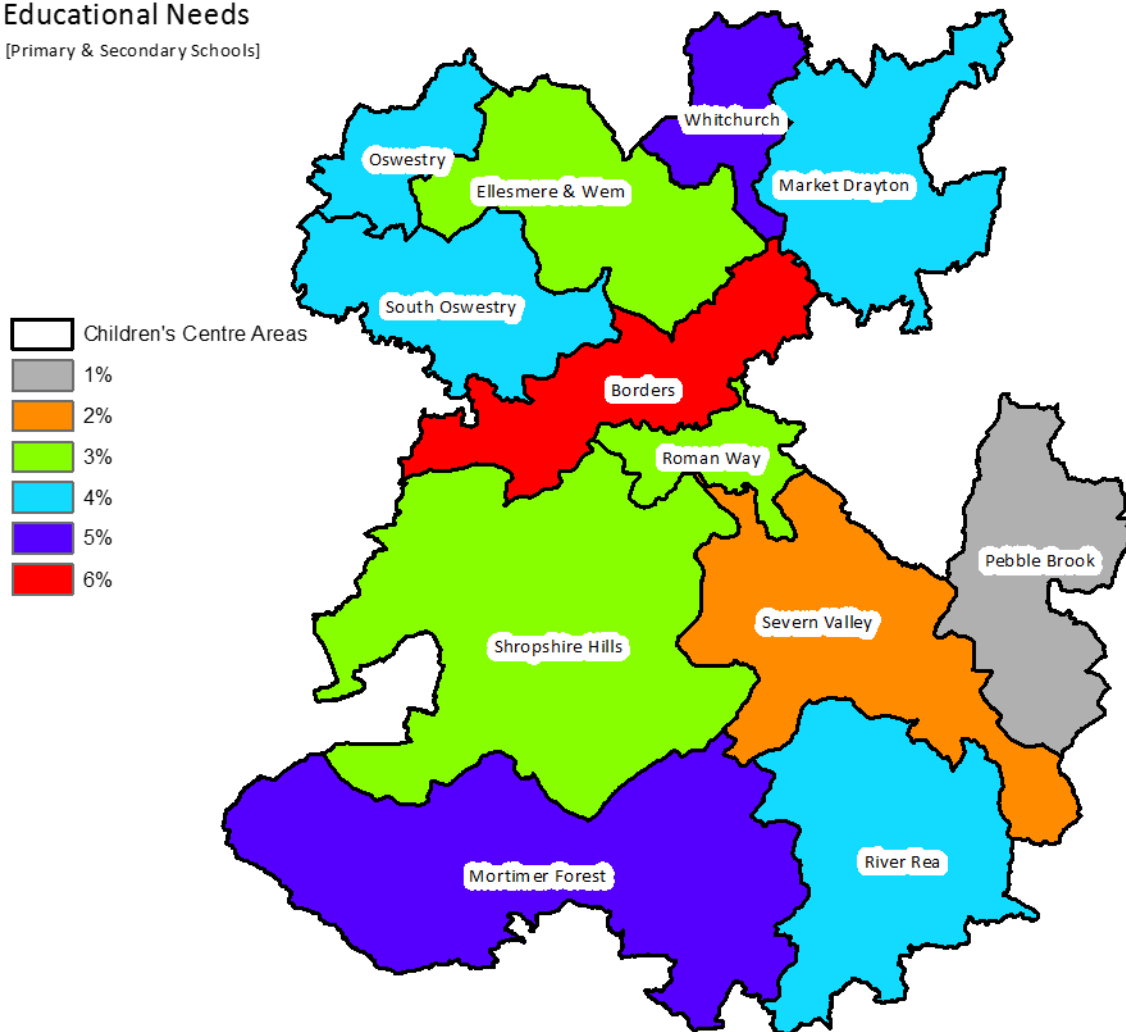
Just over half (55%) of all the pupils attending Severndale live within these three CCAs.

The map below shows the percentage of pupils in schools in each Children's Centre Area who have either an Education, Health & Care Plan or a Statement.

Figure 15: Percentage of Primary & Secondary School Pupils in Shropshire with Special Educational Needs

### Percentage of Pupils with Special Educational Needs

[Primary & Secondary Schools]



Children aged 4-18 as at 31/08/2016  
with Education, Health & Care Plan or Statement  
School Census, January 2017

Data Source: Shropshire School Census, January 2017  
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Figure 16: Number and Percentage of Primary School Pupils with EHC Plan or Statement<sup>10</sup>

CCA	Total Number of Primary School Pupils in CCA	Number of Primary School Pupils with EHC Plan in CCA	Percentage of Primary School Pupils with EHC Plan in CCA	Number Primary School Pupils with Statement in CCA	Percentage Primary School Pupils with Statement in CCA	Total number of Pupils with either EHC Plan or Statement in CCA	Percentage of Pupils with either EHC Plan or Statement in CCA
Borders	3046	71	2%	45	1%	116	4%
Ellesmere & Wem	1523	25	2%	19	1%	44	3%
Market Drayton	1681	22	1%	21	1%	43	3%
Mortimer Forest	1271	20	2%	17	1%	37	3%
Oswestry	1621	36	2%	21	1%	57	4%
Pebble Brook	1369	5	0.4%	2	0.1%	7	1%
River Rea	978	23	2%	8	1%	31	3%
Roman Way	3566	54	2%	34	1%	88	2%
Severn Valley	1937	25	1%	11	1%	36	2%
Shropshire Hills	1623	20	1%	13	1%	33	2%
South Oswestry	935	20	2%	11	1%	31	3%
Whitchurch	892	25	3%	8	1%	33	4%

Figure 17: Number and Percentage of Secondary School Pupils with EHC Plan or Statement<sup>10</sup>

CCA	Total Number of Secondary School Pupils in CCA	Number of Secondary School Pupils with EHC Plan in CCA	Percentage of Secondary School Pupils with EHC Plan in CCA	Number of Secondary School Pupils with Statement in CCA	Percentage of Secondary School Pupils with EHC Plan in CCA	Total number of Pupils with either EHC Plan or Statement in CCA	Percentage of Pupils with either EHC Plan or Statement in CCA
Borders	1846	68	4%	90	5%	158	9%
Ellesmere & Wem	1855	25	1%	31	2%	56	3%
Market Drayton	899	21	2%	33	4%	54	6%
Mortimer Forest	630	25	4%	26	4%	51	8%
Oswestry	1891	30	2%	47	2%	77	4%
Pebble Brook	1309	6	0.5%	13	1%	19	1%
River Rea	510	16	3%	18	4%	34	7%
Roman Way	2876	48	2%	59	2%	107	4%
Severn Valley	2511	23	1%	28	1%	51	2%
Shropshire Hills	1506	32	2%	23	2%	55	4%
South Oswestry	673	12	2%	19	3%	31	5%
Whitchurch	495	12	2%	24	5%	36	7%

<sup>10</sup> Shropshire School Census, January 2017

A breakdown of Special Educational Need for the county is shown in the table below.

Figure 18: Number of Pupils with Special Educational Needs by SEN Type<sup>11</sup>:

Pupil SEN Type (Education, Health & Care Plan, Statement of Need)	Number of Children in Shropshire School Census (January 2017)
Severe learning difficulty	270
Moderate learning difficulty	231
Social, emotional and mental health	221
Speech, language and communication needs	200
Autistic spectrum disorder	168
Specific learning difficulty	113
Physical disability	60
Other difficulty/disorder	48
Profound & multiple learning difficulty	27
Hearing impairment	24
SEN Support - no specialist assessment	9
Visual impairments	9
Multi-sensory impairment	2

## 6. **Families with Multiple Disadvantage**

### 6.1 **Deprivation**

The Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) is published by the Department for Communities & Local Government and provides a comprehensive analysis in order to measure deprivation. The indices take into account a range of social and economic factors including employment, income, education, housing, crime etc and give each neighbourhood a score and a national ranking.

An area is generally thought to be deprived when it has an index score that falls within the top 20% of all areas in England.

There are a number of sub-domains within the IMD one of which is Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index is the proportion of all children aged 0 to 15 living in income deprived families. Income deprived families are defined as families that either receive Income Support or income-based Jobseekers Allowance or income-based Employment and Support Allowance or Pension Credit (Guarantee) or families not in receipt of these benefits but in receipt of Working Tax Credit or Child Tax Credit with an equivalised income (excluding housing benefit) below 60 per cent of the national median before housing costs. Shrinkage was applied to construct the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index score.

According to the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015, 11% of Shropshire's population live in income deprivation (low income households).

<sup>11</sup> Shropshire School Census, January 2017

The sub-domain Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index 2015 [IDACI] shows that Shropshire had approximately 12.9% of children (aged 0-15 years old) considered to be living in income deprived families, low compared to other Upper Tier Local Authority figures (Shropshire's average score is ranked 131st out of 152, where 152 is the least deprived Upper Tier Local Authority).

However, this statistic masks pockets of deprivation where 9 Lower Super Output Areas [LSOAs] are amongst the 20% most deprived nationally in terms of the IDACI. Two of the LSOAs, one located within Harlescott Electoral Division in Shrewsbury and one located within Ludlow East Electoral Division, are within the 5% most deprived LSOAs nationally.

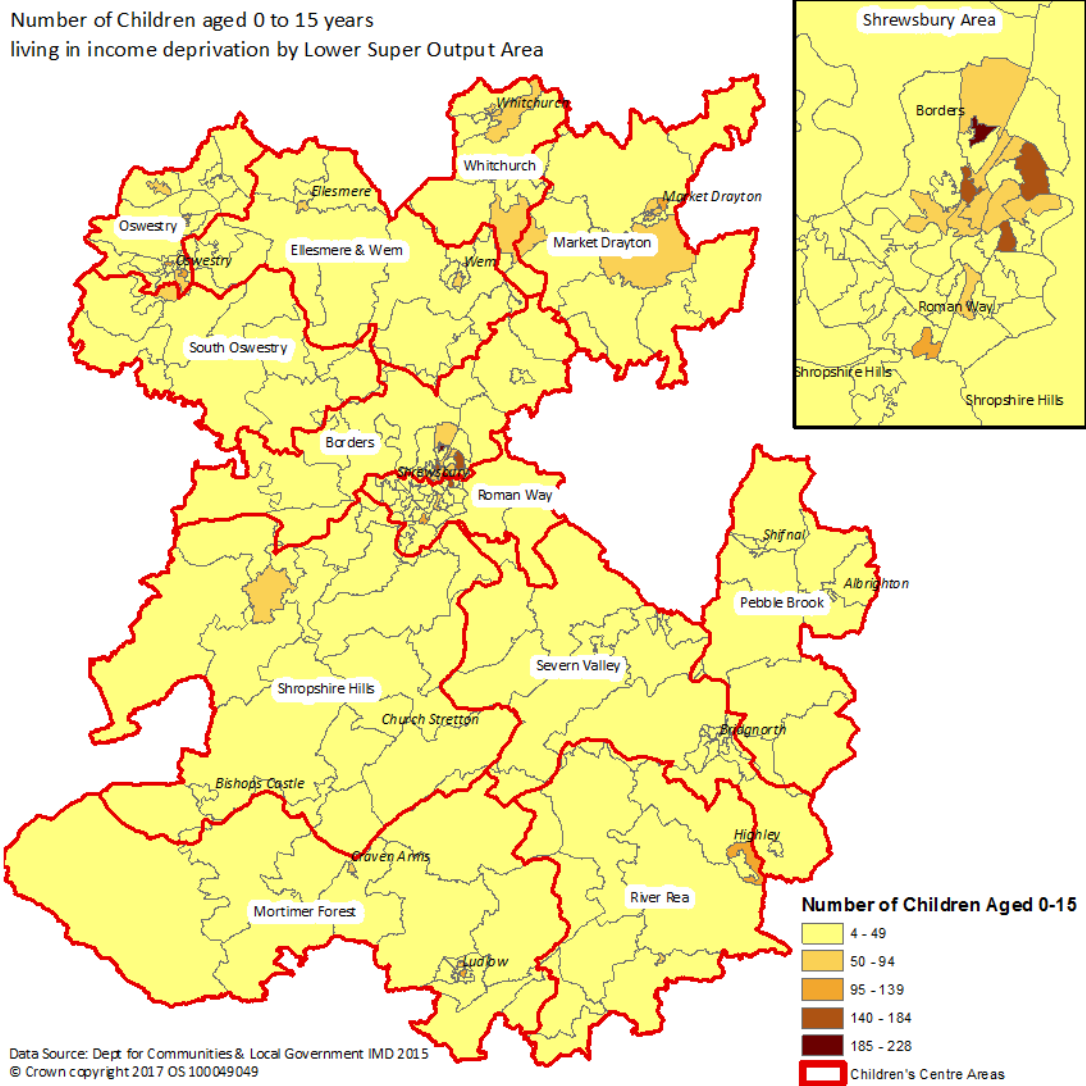
It is estimated that there are 1,177 children living within these 9 LSOAs, around 37% of dependent children aged 0-15 within the 9 LSOAs are classed as living in families which are income deprived.

Figure 19: Estimated Number of Children Aged 0-15 living in income deprivation by Children's Centre Area<sup>12</sup>

CCA	Estimated number of children aged 0-15 (MYE 2015) living in income deprivation
Borders	1406
Ellesmere & Wem	459
Market Drayton	600
Mortimer Forest	508
Oswestry	757
Pebble Brook	284
River Rea	297
Roman Way	873
Severn Valley	475
Shropshire Hills	364
South Oswestry	247
Whitchurch	403

<sup>12</sup> ONS Mid Year Population Estimates 2015, Index of Multiple Deprivation, Income Deprivation Affecting Children Sub-Domain (2015), Department for Communities & Local Government, © Crown Copyright, 2017

Figure 20: Percentage of 0 to 15 year olds estimated to be living in income deprivation<sup>12</sup> by lower super output area.



Higher percentages are found in the Shrewsbury area and Oswestry, Craven Arms, Highley and Ludlow.

## 6.2 Household Composition

Data relating to household composition is taken from the 2011 Census. The make up of households in Shropshire where dependent children live is as follows;

- 61% of dependent children lived in a household headed by a married couple (53% in England)
- 16% of dependent children lived in a household headed by a cohabiting couple (14% in England)
- 14% of dependent children lived in a household headed by a lone parent (24% in England).

Figure 21: Percentage of Dependent Children living in Lone Parent Households

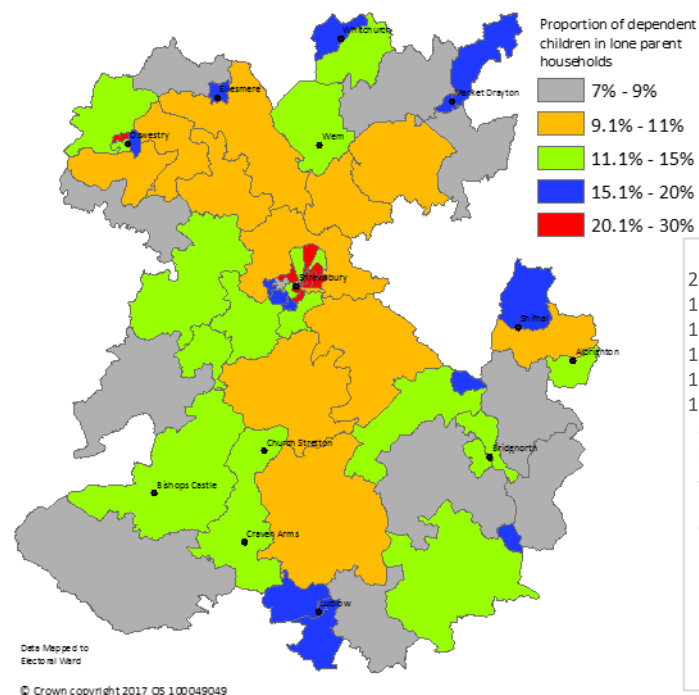


Figure 22: % of Dependent Children Living in Lone Parent Households by Children's Centre Area

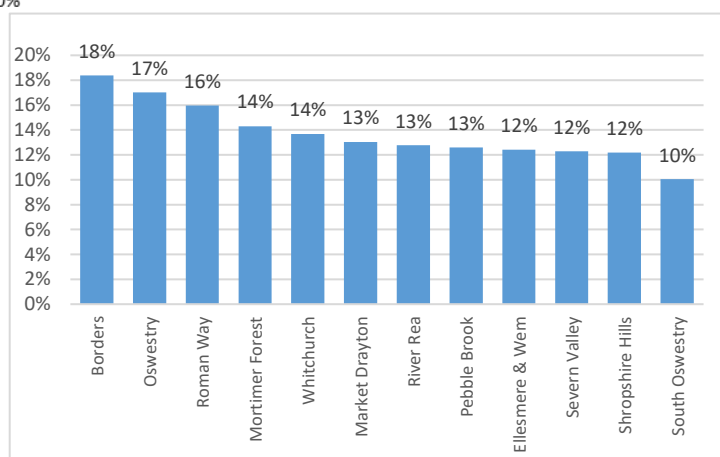


Figure 21 shows the proportion of dependent children living in Lone Parent households by Electoral Division<sup>13</sup> and ranges from 7% to 30% across Shropshire. The highest proportions fall around the main market town areas. Electoral divisions in Oswestry, Shrewsbury and Ludlow have electoral divisions where the proportion of dependent children living in lone parent households is higher than 20%.

Data at Children's Centre Area (Figure 22) shows that Borders has the highest proportion of dependent children living in lone parent households (18%).

It is important to consider Lone Parent Households as part of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment as it may indicate a greater need for childcare, however it may also be the case that lone parents are less likely to work resulting in less demand for childcare.

The following tables show the total number of families in Shropshire who have dependent children by Children's Centre Area<sup>14</sup>

<sup>13</sup> Lone parent households, Census 2011, Office for National Statistics, © Crown Copyright, 2017

<sup>14</sup> 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics, © Crown Copyright, 2017

Figure 23: Number of Families in CCA with Dependent Children

Children's Centre Area	Number of Families with Dependent Children
Roman Way	6155
Borders	4688
Oswestry	3266
Severn Valley	3264
Ellesmere & Wem	2455
Mortimer Forest	2415
Pebble Brook	2406
Market Drayton	2238
Shropshire Hills	1982
Whitchurch	1961
River Rea	1947
South Oswestry	1342

The following table breaks the data down further by showing numbers of families with more than one dependent child and the age of the youngest child within that family<sup>14</sup>

Figure 24: Number of Families in CCA with One or More Dependent Children

Children's Centre Area	One Dependent Child in Family				Two Dependent Children in Family				Three or more Dependent Children in Family			
	Aged 0 to 4	Aged 5 to 9	Aged 10 to 15	Aged 16 to 18	Youngest aged 0 to 4	Youngest aged 5 to 9	Youngest aged 10 to 15	Youngest aged 16 to 18	Youngest aged 0 to 4	Youngest aged 5 to 9	Youngest aged 10 to 15	Youngest aged 16 to 18
Borders	775	354	582	457	674	492	592	41	407	207	107	0
Ellesmere & Wem	303	155	330	283	309	281	380	29	185	129	71	0
Market Drayton	352	150	262	223	371	216	273	15	209	103	62	2
Mortimer Forest	316	173	315	249	314	257	321	17	226	167	59	1
Oswestry	524	246	423	336	496	381	391	19	246	143	60	1
Pebble Brook	325	165	320	269	345	265	352	27	149	119	70	0
River Rea	253	146	288	161	243	239	300	18	133	90	75	1
Roman Way	892	462	817	628	897	688	785	71	435	307	169	4
Severn Valley	435	224	437	371	441	408	448	41	191	177	88	3
Shropshire Hills	237	119	252	196	266	222	327	26	150	111	75	1
South Oswestry	136	103	172	143	213	169	195	14	85	73	39	0
Whitchurch	293	121	252	200	265	232	242	22	171	110	53	0

Roman Way, Borders and Oswestry have the highest number of families with one dependent child aged 0-4 years.

Roman Way, Borders and Oswestry also have the highest number of families with **two** dependent children where the youngest is aged 0-4 years.

Roman Way, Borders and Oswestry CCA also have the highest number of families with **three or more** dependent children where the youngest is aged 0-4 years.

## **7. Economy**

### **7.1 Economy and Employment**

Since the last Childcare Sufficiency Assessment, the UK has emerged from recession and has sustained a period of economic growth. This has been characterised by low levels of inflation, exceptionally low interest rates, reduced levels of unemployment, a reduction in public sector employment and an increasing trend towards zero hours contracts. The country now faces considerable economic uncertainty following the referendum results relating to the UK's membership of the European Union.

Below is a consideration of the economic factors that may influence demand for childcare in Shropshire in the future. These include the nature of employment, unemployment statistics, household earnings and take up of the childcare element of Working Tax Credit.

### **7.2 Employment Structure**

Shropshire has a high economic activity rate amongst the 16-64 population and employment levels are likewise high for this age group. In the year ending June 2016, 81.2% of those aged 16-64 were in employment, which equates with 149,200 people (*Annual Population Survey*). As is typical for a rural area, Shropshire supports a high level of self-employment. In 2016, there were 24,100 self-employed people, which equates with 13.1% of those in employment; this compares with 8.8% in the West Midlands and 10.3% nationally.

The Shropshire labour force is comparatively well qualified, at least compared to the West Midlands, with 35.7% holding qualifications at the NVQ 4 level or above. However there are fewer SOC 1-3 professions (managers, directors and senior officials; professional occupations; associate professional and technical occupations) and more working in elementary occupations or as process, plant and machine operatives than is the case nationally. Shropshire also supports an above average number of people working in skilled trades occupations.

### **7.3 Unemployment**

The Annual Population Survey suggests that 4.2% of the Shropshire population aged 16-64 was unemployed<sup>15</sup> in 2016 (year ending June). This equates with approximately 6,600 people. The unemployment rate for the 16+ population was 4% over the same period. Shropshire has a lower unemployment rate than Great Britain (5.2%) or the West Midlands (6%).

6.2% of the Shropshire 16-64 population, or 11,650 people, claimed out-of-work benefits in May 2016<sup>16</sup>. This compares favourably with 8.7% in Great Britain and 9.7% in the West Midlands. The claimant rate peaked in Shropshire (and regionally and nationally as well) at 9% in 2009. It has fallen in each subsequent year. The types of benefits being claimed has changed significantly over the last decade. While the number claiming all main out-of-work benefits has fallen, this has been much less acute for ESA (Employment and Support Allowance) and incapacity benefit than it has for JSA (Job Seekers' Allowance) or lone parents (-10.6% between May 2006 and May 2016 compared with -35.8% for lone parents and -52.9% for JSA) and as a result, ESA/incapacity benefit claimants now accounts for more than three-quarters of all claims.

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<sup>15</sup> The ILO defines the unemployment rate as the percentage of the population who are not in employment but who are seeking work and are available to work. They do not necessarily claim benefits.

<sup>16</sup> Out-of-work benefit claimants are not necessarily available for work, and as such are not necessarily classified as unemployed according to the ILO definition

The dataset combining Jobseeker's Allowance claimants and those who claim Universal Credit (and who are available for and seeking work) has replaced the number of people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance as the headline indicator of the number of people claiming benefits principally for the reason of being unemployed. The number of claimants was in steady decline between 2013 and mid-2015, but has since stabilised at just under 2,000 people (1,990 in October 2016), or 1.1% of the population. This proportion is notably lower than in the West Midlands (2.3%) or Great Britain (1.8%). A relatively high proportion of claimants in Shropshire are attributable to younger and older age bands. In October 2016, 25.6% of the total were aged below 25 (23.3% nationally) while 26.4% were 50 and above (22.4% nationally).

#### **7.4 Earnings**

Shropshire supports a relatively low wage economy, with workplace earnings significantly lower than national or regional averages. This arises from Shropshire's traditional reliance on jobs in comparatively unproductive and low paid sectors, including agriculture, tourism and food and drink.

According to the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE), gross median weekly workplace full-time earnings were £475.60 (£529.40 for men and £383.50 for women) in 2016 compared to £540.20 nationally (£580.80 for men and £480.80 for women). Female wages are 81% of male wages compared with 89% nationally. Workplace earnings are lower in Shropshire than they are anywhere else in the West Midlands except Herefordshire and Sandwell.

Although workplace earnings are below the average for Great Britain, resident earnings are more closely aligned to the national average (£517.70 gross per week). The differential between workplace and resident earnings is influenced by the high level of out-commuting amongst the top earners.

#### **7.5 Businesses**

Shropshire supports a primarily small business economy, with more than nine out of 10 enterprises employing less than 10. Significant numbers work from home/run businesses from home. There are comparatively few large employers, and employment is largely concentrated in the county town of Shrewsbury and the main market towns of Oswestry, Market Drayton, Whitchurch, Bridgnorth and Ludlow.

Key sectors include health, education, retail and manufacturing. Shropshire is under-represented in private sector services such as professional, scientific and technical and finance and insurance. The mix of sectors in Shropshire contributes to comparatively low workplace wages and to low levels of productivity (GVA generation).

Shropshire's business base is relatively stable and experiences less churn than many other localities. This means that survival rates are good, but also reflects relatively low levels of start-ups.

#### **7.6 Shropshire Household Annual Income**

The average salary of a full-time worker doing 35 hours a week is £13,104 under the national living wage which is £455 more than the annual salary under the maximum national minimum wage rate.

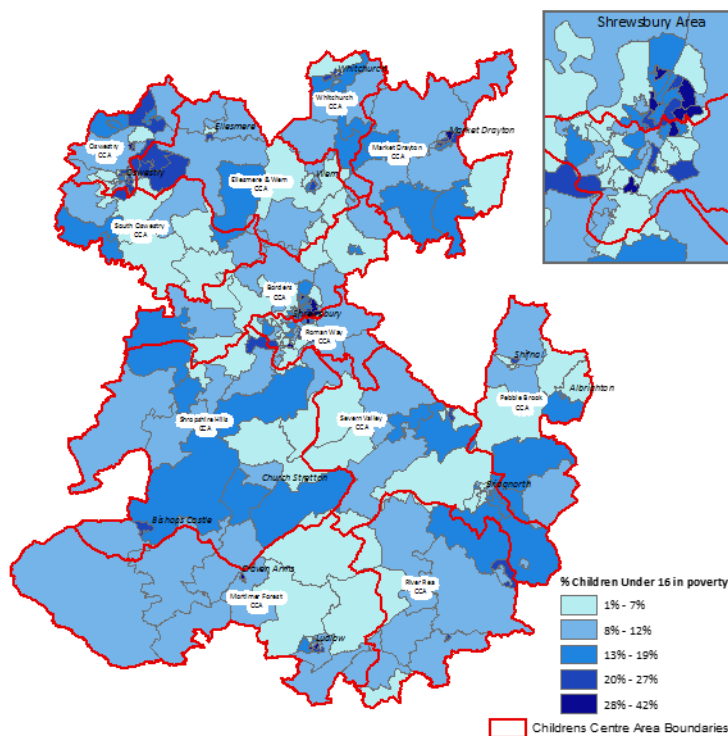
Household Income Data shows that 21% of all households in Shropshire have a household income of £15,000 or less per annum. The table below shows the numbers and percentage by Children's Centre Area.



Figure 25: Number and Percentage of Households with Income of £15,000 or less (PA)<sup>17</sup>

CCA	Total Households	Households with income 15 k or less	% of total households where household income is 15K or less
Oswestry	11,922	3,225	27%
Borders	15,785	3,927	25%
Mortimer Forest	11,297	2,719	24%
Whitchurch	6,897	1,637	24%
Ellesmere & Wem	8,939	1,907	21%
Market Drayton	9,962	2,060	21%
Roman Way	23,719	4,855	20%
River Rea	6,509	1,290	20%
Shropshire Hills	11,622	2,182	19%
Severn Valley	14,493	2,694	19%
Pebble Brook	8,367	1,505	18%
South Oswestry	6,065	951	16%

Figure 26: Children in families in receipt of Child Tax Credit (Age 0-15)<sup>18</sup>



Data from HMRC estimates that around 14% of children aged under 16 are likely to be living in poverty.

Figure 26 shows the data mapped to lower super output are and indicates that there are areas in Shropshire where the percentage is higher.

<sup>17</sup> Paycheck © CACI Limited 1996 - 2016

<sup>18</sup> Number of children living in families in receipt of CTC whose reported income is less than 60% of the median income or in receipt of IS or (income based) JSA divided by the total number of children in the area (determined by Child Benefit data) 2013/14

## 7.7 Out of Work Benefit Households

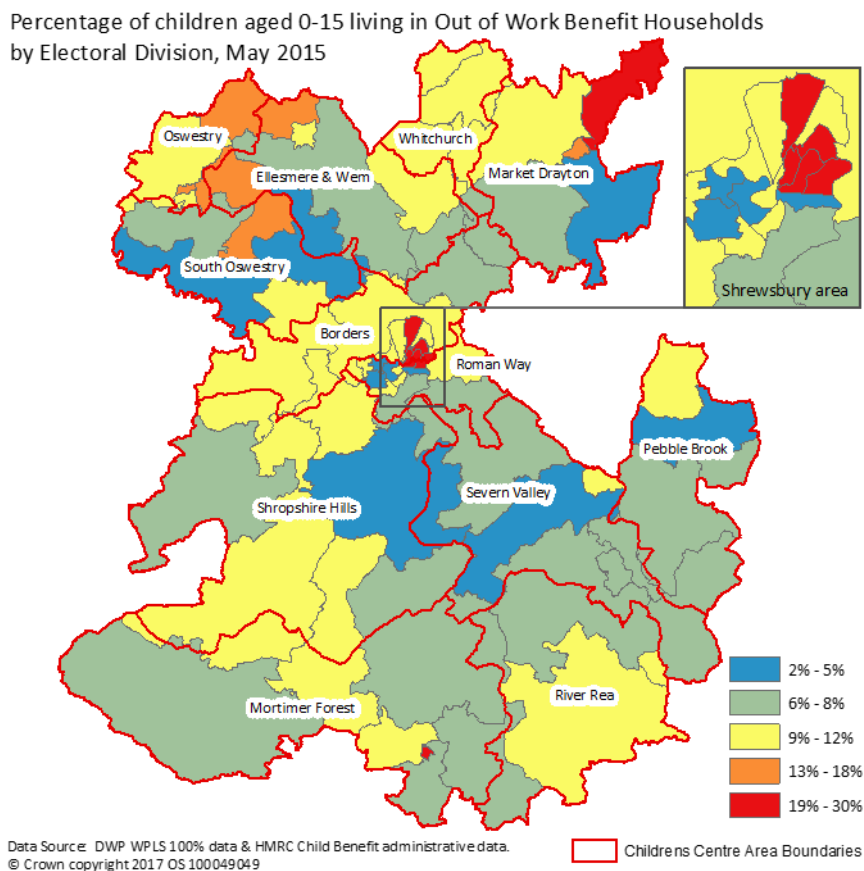
The table below shows the number of children living in out of work benefit households in May 2015. There are a total of 5,420<sup>19</sup> children aged 0 to 15 years in Shropshire living in households where parents are claiming benefits because they are not in work. This represents approximately 10% of children in this age group compared to 15% in England.

Figure 27: Children Aged 0-15 Living in Out of Work Benefit Claimant Households – Shropshire and England

Number of children aged 0-15 living in Out of Work Benefit Claimant Households (DWP, May 2015)								
Area	Age 0-4	% of Population Aged 0-15	Age 5-10	% of Population Aged 5-10	Age 11-15	% of Population Aged 11-15	Total Aged 0-15	% of Population Aged 0-15
England	578,955	17%	558,750	14%	396,505	13%	<b>1,534,210</b>	<b>15%</b>
Shropshire	2,055	14%	1,925	10%	1,440	9%	<b>5,420</b>	<b>10%</b>

In May 2015 10% of children in Shropshire (aged 0-15) lived in out of work benefit households. This compares with 15% for England. Electoral Division data shows that the highest percentages of children aged 0-15 living in out of work benefit households are in three areas of Shropshire; North Shrewsbury, electoral divisions Harlescott (30%), Castlefields & Ditherington (23%), Monkmoor (21%), Sundorne (21%) and Underdale (21%). The other two areas of Shropshire which stand out are the electoral division of Market Drayton East (20%) and Ludlow East (22%).

Figure 28: Percentage of children aged 0-15 living in out of work benefit households in Shropshire



<sup>19</sup> Number of Children living in Out-of-work Benefit Claimant Households by English Lower Layer Super Output Area and Age at May 2015, Department for Work & Pensions

## 7.8 Property Developments

Future property developments enable us to estimate where there may be potential increases in population and therefore potential demand for early years and childcare facilities.

The Shropshire Development Plan Consists of the Core Strategy (March 2011) and Site Allocation and Management of Development Plan (SAMDev Plan) (December 2015). The Core Strategy sets out the Council's vision, strategic objectives and broad spatial strategy to guide future development and growth in Shropshire to 2026. A key aspect of this spatial strategy, as outlined within Policy CS1 (Strategic Approach), is the identification of an ambitious housing target for Shropshire within Policy CS1 of 27,500 dwellings between 2006 and 2026, which is divided into phasing bands within the supporting text of Policy CS10. The SAM Dev Plan seeks to deliver the housing requirement identified within the Core Strategy (as recognised in Policy MD1), through the identification of deliverable sites for housing development and policies to appraise development proposals.

Shropshire Council's Five Year Housing Land Supply Statement (August 2016), monitors housing supply and completions against the Development Plan housing requirement. The Five Year Housing Land Supply Statement indicates that 10,902 new homes were completed between April 1<sup>st</sup> 2006 to March 31<sup>st</sup> 2016 (Table 4 of the Shropshire Council Five Year Housing Land Supply Statement). The Five Year Housing Land Supply Statement also indicates that as at 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016, there were 11,309 outstanding permissions for new dwellings, and capacity for a further 5,800 new dwellings on allocations without planning permission (Appendices A-C of the Shropshire Five Year Housing Land Supply Statement).

However, to support the ongoing partial review of the Shropshire Development Plan, a technical document known as the 'Full Objectively Assessed Housing Need for Shropshire' (FOAHN) has been published to assess the future level of housing need in Shropshire between 2016 and 2036. The 2012 Sub-national Population / Household Projections (ONS / DCLG) are used as a starting point for this assessment. This FOAHN estimates that 25,178 new dwellings are required to meet future housing need (around 1,259 dwellings per annum). The first ten years of this FOAHN coincide with the next ten years of the period addressed within the Development Plan housing requirement (2016-2026). Over this period the housing need identified within the FOAHN is comparable, but less than the current housing requirement. Within the Plan Period (2016-2026), the population of Shropshire is forecast to increase by 34,200 people (2016-2036). (Shropshire Council FOAHN, July 2016, pp. 62-63).

Figure 29 gives details of the housing completions for the period 2006/07 to 2015/16 and sites with planning permission or prior approval as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 and allocations without planning permission as at the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

Figure 29: Housing Commitments and Completions in Shropshire Market Towns<sup>20</sup>

Settlement	Completions (2006/07 - 2015/16)	Sites with Planning Permission or Prior Approval as at 31st March 2016	Allocations without Planning Permission as at the 31st March 2016
Albrighton	42	93	151
Bishops Castle	76	34	40
Bridgnorth	705	68	500
Broseley	85	161	0
Church Stretton	196	63	47
Cleobury Mortimer	278	43	7
Craven Arms	77	68	325
Ellesmere	283	385	250
Highley	109	104	0
Ludlow	374	333	280
Market Drayton	417	291	250
Minsterley & Pontesbury	119	124	89
Much Wenlock	95	23	0
Oswestry	684	294	1,273
Shifnal	501	1,175	0
Shrewsbury	2,628	3,009	1,648
Wem	297	200	100
Whitchurch	310	976	60
<b>Total:</b>	<b>7,276</b>	<b>7,444</b>	<b>5,020</b>

<sup>20</sup> Planning Policy Team, Shropshire Council, 2016

## 7.9. Factors affecting Demand & Ability to Pay

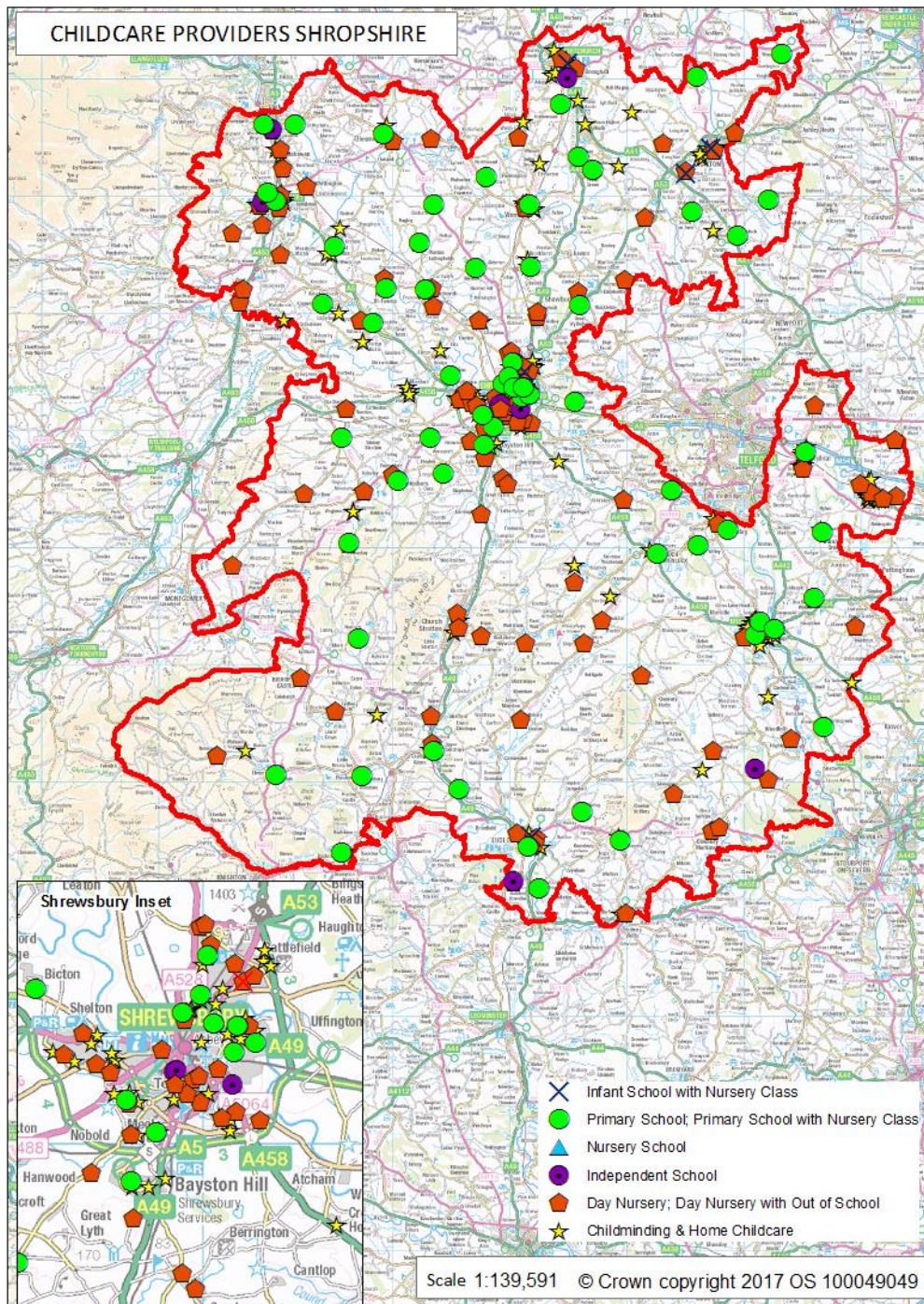
- Mid Year Population Estimates 2015 show that there are an estimated 15,067 children aged between 0-4 years living in Shropshire, making up 5% of the entire population. 32% of 0-4 year olds in Shropshire live in either Borders or Roman Way Children's Centre Areas.
- According to Mid-Year Population Estimates the population of children aged 0-4 in Shropshire has fallen slightly by 0.3% since 2009. Areas where the decline is greater than the County figure are:
  - South Oswestry CCA (-10%)
  - Whitchurch CCA (-7%)
  - Shropshire Hills CCA (-7%)
  - Roman Way CCA (-6%)
  - Mortimer Forest CCA (-4%)
  - Oswestry CCA (-2%)
- There are areas where the 0-4 population has increased and these are, Pebble Brook CCA (11%), Borders (9%) and Ellesmere & Wem (6%).
- There are three Children's Centre Areas where the proportion of the total population aged nought to four is greater than the Shropshire 5% - Borders CCA, Market Drayton CCA and Oswestry CCA.
- Lone parent households in Shropshire are in line with figures for England but vary across the County. Employment data at Electoral Division level shows that there is only one electoral division where less than half of lone parents are in work (full/part-time) and this is in Ludlow. For the remainder of the County all electoral divisions show that at least 50% of lone parents are in either full or part-time employment. The highest percentages in employment are to be found in the areas of Shrewsbury, Bridgnorth and Shifnal. High numbers of lone parent households in work may indicate higher demand for childcare provision.
- 14% of Shropshire's dependent children live in lone parent households. These numbers are fairly evenly spread across the 12 Children's Centre Areas ranging from 10% in South Oswestry CCA to 18% in Borders CCA. However the data at electoral division level shows that there are electoral divisions where the percentages are higher than the Shropshire figure. Electoral Divisions where more than 20% of dependent children live in lone parent households are found in the market towns of Shrewsbury, Oswestry and Ludlow. Castlefields and Ditherington electoral division has the highest proportion followed by Oswestry West, Sundorne & Harlescott.
- Employment levels for 16-64 year olds are high in Shropshire, however Shropshire supports a relatively low wage economy, with workplace earnings significantly lower than national or regional averages. Although workplace earnings are below the average for Great Britain, resident earnings are more closely aligned to the national average, this is due to the fact that resident earnings are influenced by the high level of out-commuting amongst the top earners. Higher earnings can mean that there is a greater demand for childcare provision and coupled with the fact that there is a high level of "out-commuting" amongst higher earners this could also affect demand.
- Unemployment, child poverty and overall deprivation are all greater in a small number of areas of Shropshire. Areas of Shrewsbury and Ludlow are amongst the 5% most deprived in terms of income deprivation affecting children.



## 8 Childcare Settings

In January 2017 there were 369 different childcare providers<sup>21</sup> recorded by Shropshire Council. A Parent to Provider Childcare needs survey commenced on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2017 concluding with providers collating parent responses and returning their CSA and 30 Hours Provider Survey (2016) by 27<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

Figure 30: Shropshire Childcare Providers, January 2017



A response rate of 46% was achieved (171 childcare providers). Data from the registered providers list and the survey has been used to provide a representation of childcare provision across the 12 Children’s Centre Areas within Shropshire.

<sup>21</sup> Shropshire Council list of Childcare Providers 2017

## 8.1 Pre-School Childcare Provision in Shropshire (January 2017)

### 8.1.1 Places

There are 369 registered childcare providers in Shropshire providing 8,384 pre-school childcare places.

Figure 31: Pre-School Childcare Places by Children's Centre Area.<sup>22</sup>

Children's Centre Area	Number of Registered Places
Roman Way	1449
Borders	1306
Oswestry	772
Mortimer Forest	710
Pebble Brook	670
Severn Valley	670
Shropshire Hills	609
South Oswestry	527
Market Drayton	512
Ellesmere & Wem	442
Whitchurch	396
River Rea	321
<b>Shropshire Council Area</b>	<b>8384</b>

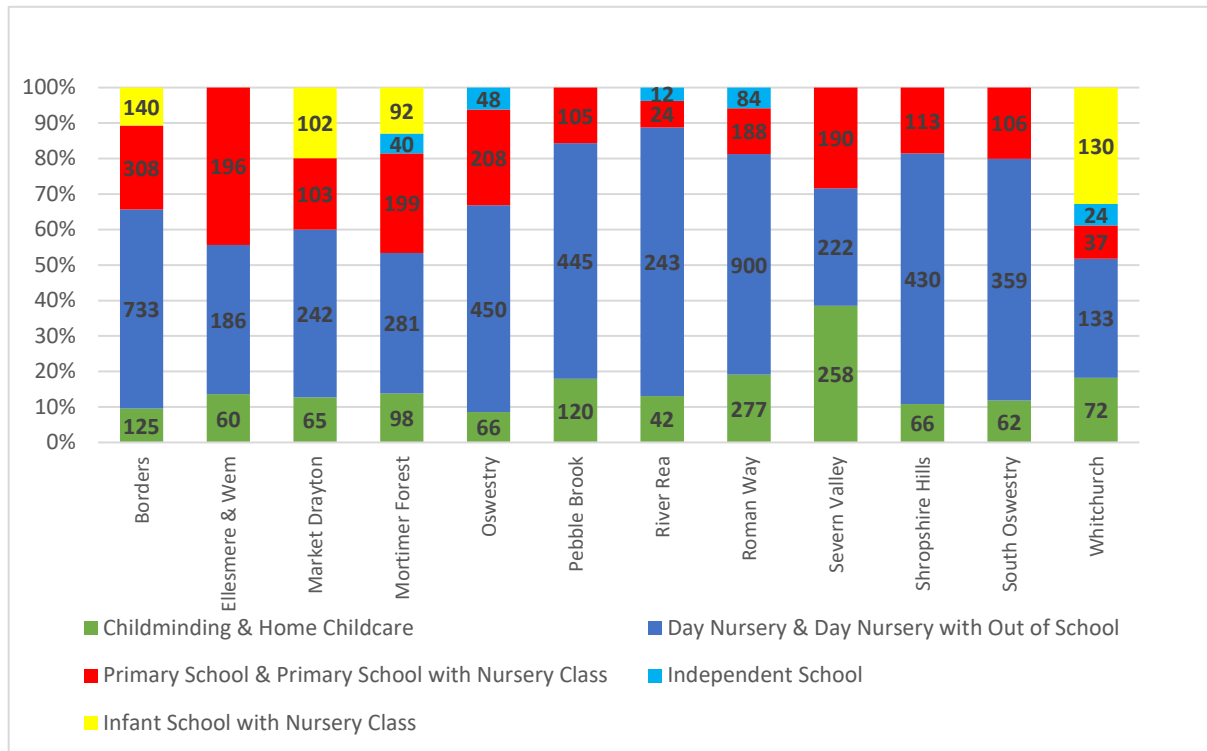
The highest number of providers and childcare places fall within Roman Way Children's Centre Area. Population data shows that Roman Way also records the highest numbers of children aged 0-4 years.

Figure 32: Number of Registered Providers by Children's Centre Area<sup>22</sup>

Children's Centre Area	Number of Registered Providers
Roman Way	53
Severn Valley	51
Borders	47
Mortimer Forest	31
Pebble Brook	31
Shropshire Hills	28
Oswestry	27
Ellesmere & Wem	23
South Oswestry	23
Market Drayton	21
Whitchurch	19
River Rea	15
<b>Shropshire Council Area</b>	<b>369</b>

<sup>22</sup> Registered Childcare Providers, Shropshire Council, January 2017

Figure 33: Registered Number and Type of Childcare Places<sup>23</sup>



The highest number of places, across all 12 Children's Centre Areas are in the category "Day Nursery & Day Nursery with Out of School"

### 8.1.2 Vacancies

Vacancies across the Children's Centre Areas varied from 39 to 340 as the table below shows:

Figure 34: Number of Pre-School Childcare Vacancies

Children's Centre Area	Total Pre-School Childcare Vacancies
Roman Way	340
Borders	201
Shropshire Hills	180
Pebble Brook	162
Oswestry	155
Mortimer Forest	125
Severn Valley	99
Whitchurch	97
Ellesmere & Wem	91
South Oswestry	67
Market Drayton	54
River Rea	39
Shropshire Council Area	1610

79% of childcare providers reported that they currently had vacancies.

<sup>23</sup> Registered Childcare Providers, Shropshire Council, January 2017

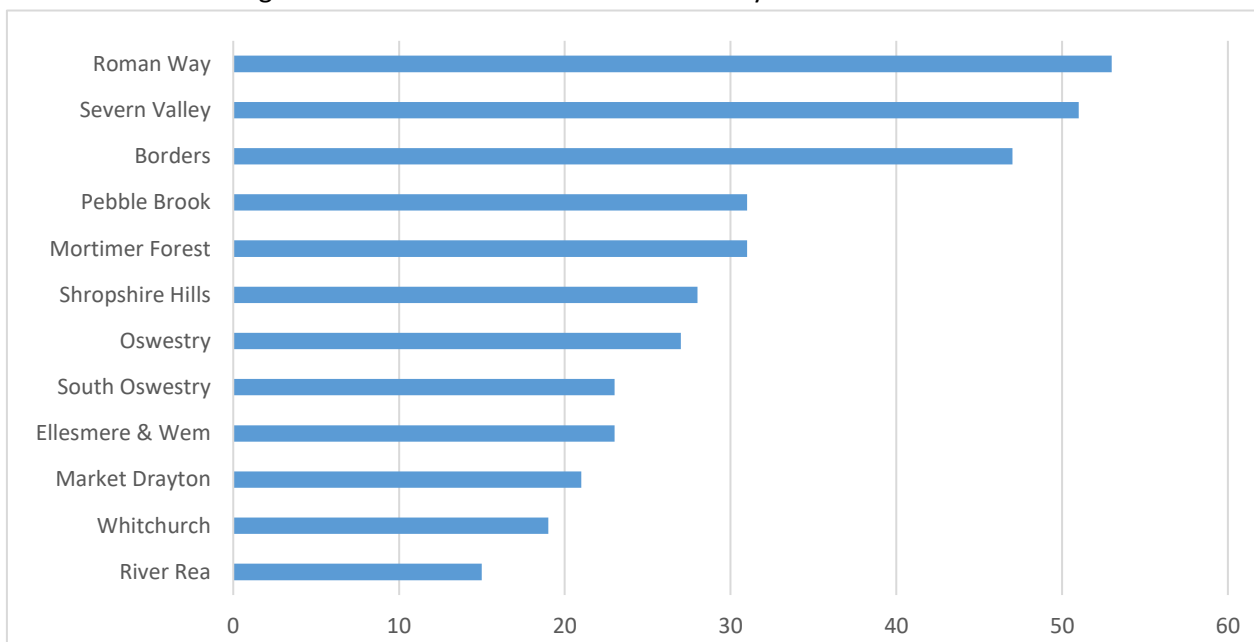


Figure 35: Provider Survey Response Rate by Children’s Centre Area, January 2017<sup>24</sup>

Children's Centre Area	Response Rate
Shropshire Hills	64%
Mortimer Forest	58%
Roman Way	57%
Oswestry	48%
Whitchurch	47%
South Oswestry	43%
Market Drayton	43%
Borders	43%
Pebble Brook	39%
Ellesmere & Wem	35%
River Rea	33%
Severn Valley	33%

The highest number of childcare providers are within Roman Way Children’s Centre Area and this is in line with the higher numbers of children (both 0-4 and 0-14) which are found in Roman Way CCA.

Figure 36: Number of Childcare Providers by Children’s Centre Area<sup>24</sup>



<sup>24</sup> Registered Childcare Providers, Shropshire Council, January 2017

### 8.1.3 Type of childcare

The registered provider list shows that Day Nursery & Day Nursery with Out of School provision provides the largest proportion of childcare places in Shropshire.

Figure 37: Type of Childcare Provision available in Shropshire<sup>25</sup>

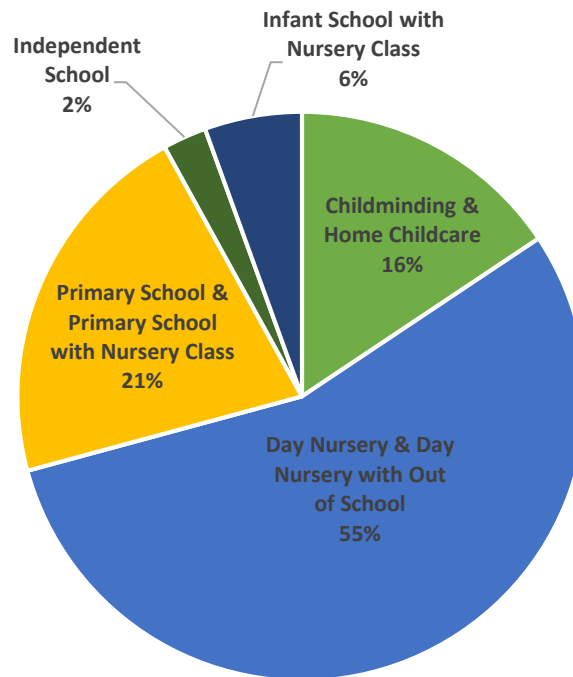


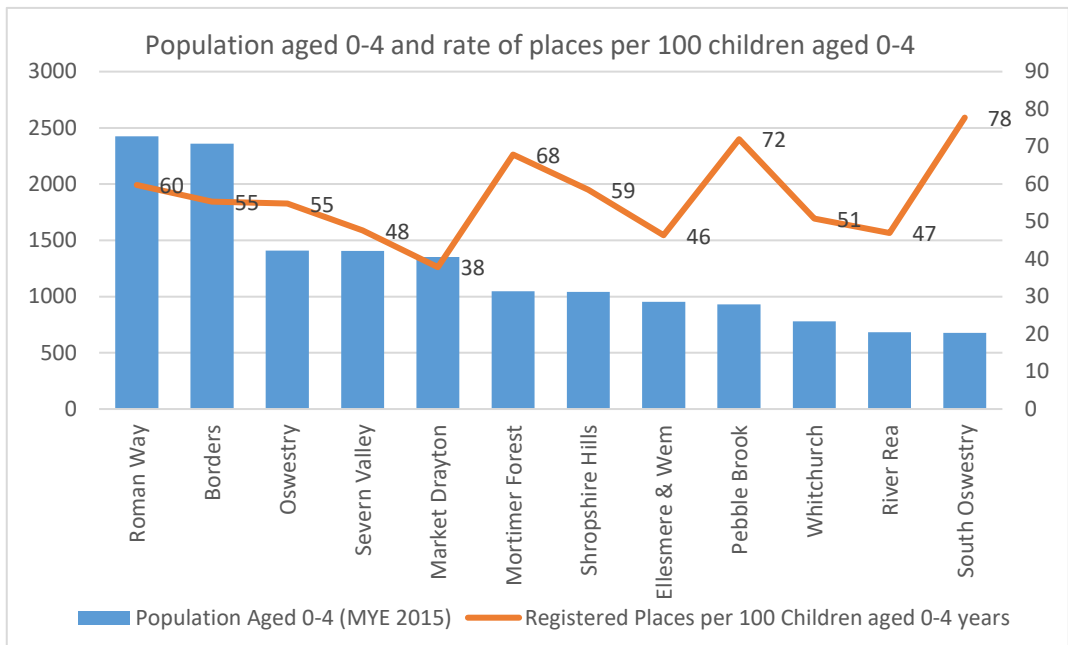
Figure 38: Number and type of childcare settings in each of the 12 Children's Centre Areas<sup>25</sup>

CCA	Childminding & Home Childcare	Day Nursery & Day Nursery with Out of School	Primary School & Primary School with Nursery Class	Independent School	Infant School with Nursery Class
Borders	125	733	308		140
Ellesmere & Wem	60	186	196		
Market Drayton	65	242	103		102
Mortimer Forest	98	281	199	40	92
Oswestry	66	450	208	48	
Pebble Brook	120	445	105		
River Rea	42	243	24	12	
Roman Way	277	900	188	84	
Severn Valley	258	222	190		
Shropshire Hills	66	430	113		
South Oswestry	62	359	106		
Whitchurch	72	133	37	24	130
<b>Shropshire Council Area</b>	<b>1311</b>	<b>4624</b>	<b>1777</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>464</b>

<sup>25</sup> Registered Childcare Providers, Shropshire Council, January 2017

Data from Shropshire’s list of registered providers and 0-4 population data from the Mid-Year Estimates, 2015 shows that the rate of childcare places available varies from 38 per 100 children in Market Drayton to 78 per 100 children in South Oswestry. The overall County rate is 56 per 100 children aged 0-4 years.

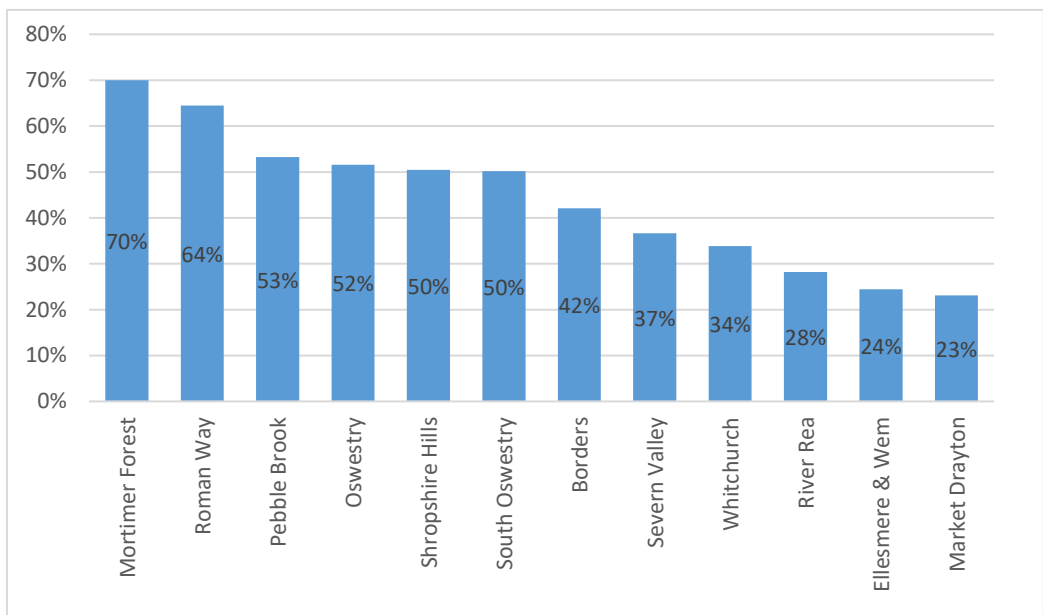
Figure 39: Comparison of Number of Children Aged 0-4 Years Places per 100 children aged 0-4<sup>26</sup>



### 8.1.4 Children receiving childcare

Survey data shows that County wide 46% of children between the ages of 0-4 years are receiving childcare.

Figure 40: Percentage of Children aged 0-4 in receipt of childcare<sup>26</sup>



<sup>26</sup> Parent to Provider Childcare Needs Survey, January 2017

The highest percentage of children aged 0-4 receiving childcare is in Mortimer Forest CCA (70%) and the lowest is found in Market Drayton (23%).

Survey data shows that county wide 70.6% of children aged 0-4 receive childcare in a Day Nursery or Day Nursery with Out of School setting and 22.6% receive childcare within a Primary School or Primary School with Nursery Class setting.

Information regarding the average number of hours parents said their children normally spend in a childcare setting per week shows that almost half of the children recorded in the survey spent between 15-20 hours per week in a childcare setting.

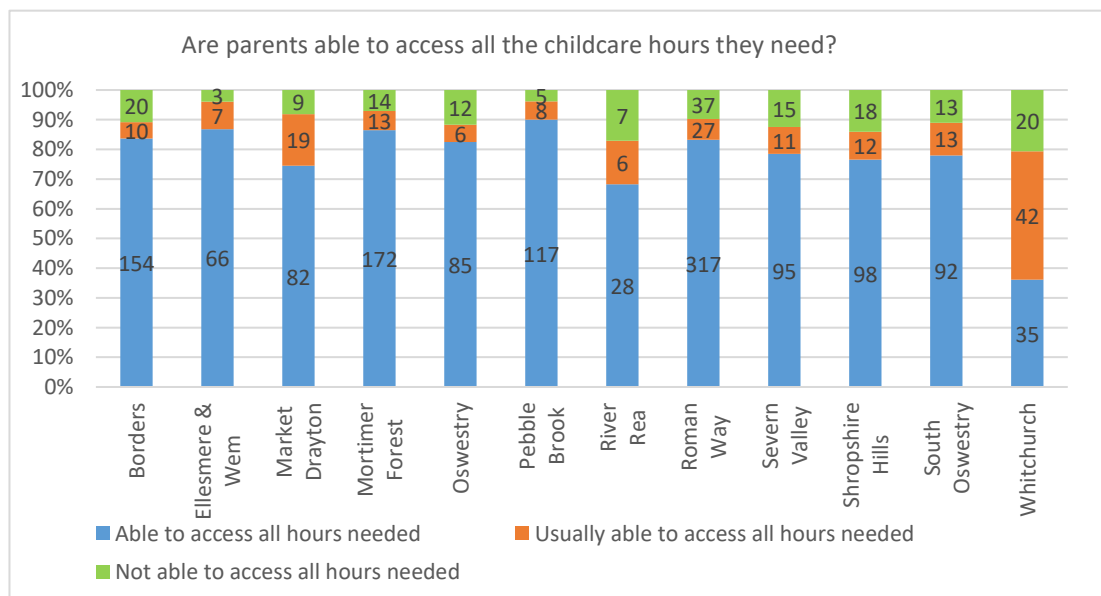
Figure 41: Hours spent in Childcare Setting<sup>27</sup>

Average number of hours parents said that children normally spend in childcare setting					
7 or fewer hours per week	8-14 hours per week	15-20 hours per week	21-25 hours per week	26-30 hours per week	31 hours or more per week
164	306	859	211	246	115

### 8.1.5 Accessibility

Providers also asked parents whether they were able to access all the hours they needed - 79% said yes they could, 10% said usually and 10% said no. The highest percentage who responded that they were not able to access all the hours needed were in Roman Way CCA (21%) followed by Whitchurch and Borders CCA's (12%).

Figure 42: Access to childcare hours<sup>27</sup>



<sup>27</sup> Parent to Provider Childcare Needs Survey, January 2017

Of those parents who responded that they were “not able to access all the hours needed” 27% said that they needed longer sessions and 26% needed greater flexibility. Figure 43 below shows the breakdown by Children’s Centre Area<sup>28</sup>.

Figure 43: What did parents say they needed?<sup>28</sup>

Children's Centre Area	Longer sessions	Weekend/ev ening sessions	Holiday scheme	Before and/or after school provision	Greater flexibility	Shorter sessions
Borders	17%	19%	26%	24%	14%	0.0%
Ellesmere & Wem	20%	7%	50%	10%	10%	3.3%
Market Drayton	24%	10%	29%	14%	24%	0.0%
Mortimer Forest	30%	10%	14%	28%	18%	0.0%
Oswestry	48%	4%	17%	17%	13%	0.0%
Pebble Brook	22%	0%	8%	11%	56%	2.8%
River Rea	32%	0%	3%	16%	48%	0.0%
Roman Way	14%	8%	26%	18%	34%	0.0%
Severn Valley	35%	7%	21%	19%	19%	0.0%
Shropshire Hills	35%	3%	22%	19%	22%	0.0%
South Oswestry	32%	3%	37%	16%	13%	0.0%
Whitchurch	41%	9%	5%	0%	45%	0.0%
<b>Shropshire</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>0.4%</b>

Data across the Children’s Centre areas shows that 50% of parents in Ellesmere & Wem said they needed more “Holiday Scheme” provision and 45% in Whitchurch CCA said they needed “Greater Flexibility”.

<sup>28</sup> Parent to Provider Childcare Needs Survey, January 2017

### 8.1.6 Current use of childcare provision across the county

The survey asked how many parents said their children regularly (i.e at least once a week) receive formal childcare in the past 6 months.

Figure 44: Use of Childcare Provision<sup>29</sup>

Children's Centre Area	Nursery (Primary or Infant School)	Special day school, nursery or unit for children with SEN	Day Nursery (Full day care)	Playgroup or Pre-School	Childminder	Breakfast club	After School Club/Activities	Holiday Scheme	Nanny or au pair
Borders	64	9	96	40	9	7	13	7	1
Ellesmere & Wem	41	0	18	31	5	18	12	0	2
Market Drayton	58	0	23	8	7	1	15	0	1
Mortimer Forest	97	1	82	33	36	11	16	12	0
Oswestry	30	1	58	24	4	6	6	5	0
Pebble Brook	18	0	38	61	12	1	1	1	1
River Rea	3	0	21	15	13	1	0	3	6
Roman Way	109	6	250	54	67	38	61	21	6
Severn Valley	48	4	43	30	41	7	12	7	1
Shropshire Hills	32	0	49	42	19	5	3	2	2
South Oswestry	29	0	43	72	2	15	13	5	0
Whitchurch	40	1	18	16	25	8	6	2	1
<b>Shropshire</b>	<b>569</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>739</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>21</b>

The highest percentage of respondents (31%) said their children regularly attended Day Nursery (full day care) and 24% said their children regularly attended Nursery (Primary or Infant School).

Parents currently accessing childcare provision were asked how childcare helped them as a family, they were given a number of options to choose from:

- Enables them to work
- Enables them to attend training
- Enables them to use the free nursery entitlement (3-4 year olds)
- Allows their child/children to access a free 24U place (eligible 2 year olds)
- Supports their child's/children's socialisation and development
- Provides opportunities for their children to meet and play with other children
- Helps with out of school hours
- Helps with school holidays
- Helps prepare their child/children for school
- Helps give themselves a break
- Supports their child's special education or disability needs
- Provides access to parenting support
- Provides opportunities to meet other parents.

Of those asked

<sup>29</sup> Parent to Provider Childcare Needs Survey, January 2017

- 15% said it enabled them to work,
- 15% said it supported their child’s/children’s socialisation and development
- 15% said it provided opportunities for their children to meet and play with other children.
- 14% said it helped prepare their child/children for school and
- 13% said it enabled them to use the free nursery entitlement (3-4 year olds)

All other categories had responses of between 1% and 5%.

### 8.1.7 Barriers to Accessing Childcare in Shropshire

Providers asked parents if they felt there were any barriers to accessing the childcare they need. Figure 38 gives a breakdown of the barriers identified.

Figure 45: Barriers to Accessing Childcare<sup>30</sup>

Not enough childcare provision in their area	No before and/or after school childcare	No holiday childcare scheme	No evening childcare provision	No weekend childcare provision	Inflexible session times	Cost	Unable to use funded hours with their preferred childcare provider	Felt their child's special educational needs could not be met in local provision	Lack of childcare information
132	194	270	124	110	192	956	26	8	6

- ❖ More parents identified “cost” as a barrier than any other reason – 46%.
- ❖ Only 7% of parents who responded said that there was not enough childcare provision in their area and of these 35% were from Whitchurch Children’s Centre area.
- ❖ No weekend childcare provision was identified as a barrier by 31% of parents who responded from Roman Way Children’s Centre area.
- ❖ Mortimer Forest Children’s Centre area returned the highest number of parents who reported that they were “unable to use funded hours with their preferred childcare provider”, however it should be noted that these numbers were small when considering all responses.
- ❖ Similarly of the small number of parents who stated that they “did not feel their child’s special educational needs could be met in local provision” the majority were within Borders Children’s Centre Area.

<sup>30</sup> Parent to Provider Childcare Needs Survey, January 2017

## 9. Government Funded Childcare Places

### 9.1 Two year-old funding (24U)

24U is Shropshire’s branding of the government’s scheme to provide 15 hours of free early years education to eligible two year olds living in low-income households where either one or both parents are in receipt of specific benefits. In March 2017, 782 children were accessing 24U-places (79.2% take-up), with 151 childcare providers (40% of total registered provision).

### 9.2 Universal Free Entitlement for 3-4 year olds

The government funds free nursery provision for every child from the term after their third birthday until the child starts in a reception class at an infant or primary school, or until the term in which they turn five, whichever is sooner. In March 2017, 4366 children were accessing universal Nursery Education Funded places with 236 childcare providers (64% of total registered provision).

### 9.3 Extended Free Entitlement of 30 hours for eligible 3-4 year olds

The government has committed to doubling the amount of free childcare from September 2017 from the current 15 to 30 hours a week for working parents with three and four year old children. From the beginning of the summer-term 2017, working parents were able to apply through a Digital Childcare Service as unlike the existing universal 15 hours. The introduction of the Extended Free Entitlement means that working parents must apply and be eligible and during the summer term 2017 eligible parents will be able to apply to receive their Unique Reference Number and prepare to register their child’s extended entitlement hours with a childcare provider from September 2017.

### 9.4 Parents Paying for Childcare

The survey asked parents how many free hours of childcare provision they accessed and whether they paid for any additional hours.

Figure 46: Number of Parents who access free hours and the number who pay for additional hours<sup>31</sup>.

Number of Parents who Access Free Hours	Number of Parents who also pay for additional childcare hours
1290	919

<sup>31</sup> Parent to Provider Childcare Needs Survey, January 2017



Figure 47: Average number of hours childcare parents said they paid for per week.<sup>32</sup>

Children's Centre Area	7 or fewer hours per week	8-14 hours per week	15-20 hours per week	21-25 hours per week	26 or more hours per week
Borders	48	36	8	4	9
Ellesmere & Wem	19	10	3	3	0
Market Drayton	30	9	5	1	123
Mortimer Forest	46	29	25	7	7
Oswestry	33	15	15	2	3
Pebble Brook	15	18	5	32	7
River Rea	25	8	3	1	1
Roman Way	66	51	75	20	21
Severn Valley	26	18	15	7	9
Shropshire Hills	46	25	11	2	1
South Oswestry	34	31	9	0	4
Whitchurch	18	16	20	2	1
<b>Shropshire</b>	<b>406</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>186</b>

The figures for Shropshire show that the highest category is 7 or fewer hours per week (36% of responses).

However there is some variation when looking at the levels by Children's Centre Area.

In Market Drayton CCA 73% of parents who responded said they paid for 26 or more hours per week.

Roman Way CCA and Whitchurch CCA both reported higher numbers in the 15-20 hours per week than any other category.

### 9.5 Working Patterns of parents accessing childcare<sup>32</sup>

Of the parents asked 48% were in full time employment and 36% were in part-time employment. 8% were not working.

Figure 48 shows a breakdown of working patterns (for those parents surveyed) by Children's Centre Area.

Results are mainly in line with those for Shropshire as a whole.

There are just 3 Children's Centre Areas where there is a higher percentage of parents working part-time accessing childcare than working full-time, these are Ellesmere & Wem CCA, Market Drayton CCA and South Oswestry CCA.

<sup>32</sup> Parent to Provider Childcare Needs Survey, January 2017

Figure 48: Working Patterns of Parents accessing childcare<sup>33</sup>

Children's Centre Area	Full Time	Zero hours contract	Shift/ flexible hours	Part time	Not working
Borders	109	2	10	75	27
Ellesmere & Wem	36	2	2	42	7
Market Drayton	52	5	7	55	16
Mortimer Forest	114	8	11	90	21
Oswestry	71	3	9	50	15
Pebble Brook	77	0	10	61	14
River Rea	40	1	8	21	2
Roman Way	246	2	35	162	32
Severn Valley	108	0	8	61	11
Shropshire Hills	81	2	10	58	12
South Oswestry	52	2	8	64	17
Whitchurch	31	3	5	28	4
<b>Shropshire</b>	<b>1017</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>767</b>	<b>178</b>

## 9.6 Extended Free Entitlement (30 Hours)

To be eligible for extended free childcare entitlement both parents must be working a minimum of 16 hours per week (or a single parent in a single parent household) with a total income less than £100,000.

Providers reported that 325 parents had already asked them about the Government's 30 hour proposal.

- ❖ 47% of parents said that they felt confident that there will be enough places available.
- ❖ 57% of parents said they might use 11-15 additional hours
- ❖ 26% of parents said they might use 6-10 additional hours
- ❖ 17% of parents said they might use 1-5 additional hours
- ❖ 40% of parents who responded said that if their current provider could only deliver 15 hours they would continue to use them, but may decide not to use the additional hours.
- ❖ 33% said that if their current provider could only deliver 15 hours they would continue to use them, and also use another childcare provider in order to get the full 30 hours.

<sup>33</sup> Parent to Provider Childcare Needs Survey, January 2017

Figure 49: Access to extra hours<sup>34</sup>

When asked how did parents say they may access extra hours?	Number
If my current provider could only deliver 15 hours, I would continue to use them, and also use another childcare provider in order to get the full 30 hours	586
If my current provider could only deliver 15 hours, I would switch to another provider in order to get the full 30 hours	160
If my current provider could only deliver 15 hours, I would continue to use them, but may decide not to use the additional 15 hours	706
For parents who both currently work at least 16 hours per week, but do not currently use any formal childcare I/we would consider using formal childcare for my/our child/ren, once it becomes available	113
For parents who both currently work less than 16 hours each per week: I/we would consider increasing my/our hours or look for another job in order to get the additional 15 hours of free childcare per week for my/our child/ren, once it becomes available.	102
For parents who are not currently in work: I/we would look for a secure job that fits in with our childcare needs in order to become eligible for the additional 15 hours of free childcare for our child/ren, once it becomes available	90

Parents were asked how the new entitlement would affect the way they choose to access their childcare hours. 64% of parents who responded reported that they were currently paying for hours which could be converted.

Currently paying for hours which could be converted	1187
Might consider accessing part or all of the additional hours	428
No change	139
Not applicable	97

## 9.7 The Extended Free Entitlement 30 hours (EFE) – sector preparation and support

### 9.7.1 Supporting childcare providers

Throughout 2016-2017, the local authority provided extensive information and worked closely with all childcare providers to help them consider their position regarding the Extended Free Entitlement. Ahead of delivery in September 2017, 189 funded providers were asked to confirm their EFE delivery intention. With a response rate of 78%, of these 94% confirmed that they would be offering EFE places to eligible children from September 2017.

### 9.7.2 Employer engagement

The council also engaged with local employers in order to gauge the level of awareness within the business community to the Extended Free Entitlement and Tax Free Childcare, and in particular how both might affect the needs of employees with young families.

<sup>34</sup> Parent to Provider Childcare Needs Survey, January 2017

### 9.7.3 Employer 30 Hour Extended Free Entitlement Survey <sup>35</sup>

- ❖ 100 employers in Shropshire were contacted by telephone to ask if they would be willing to participate in a short survey regarding extended free childcare.
- ❖ 33 employers expressed interest in participating and questionnaires were emailed to them.
- ❖ 8 employers returned a completed survey form, a response rate of 24%.
- ❖ The 8 employers who responded employ a total of 11,952 people in Shropshire. Five of the employers said they did not know what percentage of their staff accessed formal (paid for) childcare to enable them to work.
- ❖ Two employers responded that 20% and 30% of their staff accessed formal childcare.
- ❖ None of the employers who responded said that they had any established childcare links with childcare providers in the area.
- ❖ 75% (6 employers) said that they offered staff with parental responsibilities a Childcare Voucher Scheme.
- ❖ Seven out of the eight employers who responded said they were aware of the Government's plans to extend the current free childcare entitlement for working parents and 63% said they were aware of changes with the Tax Free Childcare.
- ❖ 75% said they would be prepared to promote both the 30 Hours & Tax Free Childcare when advertising job vacancies and also display publicising materials for both.

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<sup>35</sup> Employer 30 Hour Extended Free Entitlement for eligible 3 & 4 year olds & Tax Free Childcare Survey, March 2017

## 10. Special Educational Need Provision

Providers were asked how many children with special educational needs, or a disability they were caring for.

Figure 50: Number of Children Accessing Childcare who have special educational needs or a disability<sup>36</sup>

Children's Centre Area	Children with Special Educational Needs receiving Childcare						
	Number of children aged 0-3years	Number of children aged 4-5 years	Number of children aged 6-7 years	Number of children aged 8-11 years	Number of children aged 12-14 years	Number of children aged 15-18 years	Total Number of children Aged 6-18 Years
Borders	28	79	66	130	69	60	432
Ellesmere & Wem	1	5	0	0	0	0	6
Market Drayton	7	3	0	1	0	0	11
Mortimer Forest	19	9	10	18	0	0	56
Oswestry	24	19	12	32	0	0	87
Pebble Brook	11	2	0	0	0	0	13
River Rea	5	2	0	0	0	0	7
Roman Way	27	17	16	31	0	1	92
Severn Valley	10	11	2	3	0	1	27
Shropshire Hills	9	6	0	1	0	0	16
South Oswestry	2	5	0	1	0	0	8
Whitchurch	6	4	0	1	0	0	11
<b>Shropshire Council Area</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>766</b>

The highest numbers are in Borders Children's Centre Area which is where Severdale Specialist academy is located, this accounted for 56% of all childcare for children with special educational needs.

There are also higher numbers reported within Roman Way CCA and Oswestry CCA this is line with data from the School Census January 2016 which shows that over 52% of the children who attend Severdale Specialist School live within Borders, Roman Way or Oswestry CCA.

When asked if it had been easy to find suitable childcare for Special Educational Needs or Disability 53% of parents who responded said it had been easy.

The range of professional diagnosis of children with additional needs in the childcare settings surveyed was identified through parent responses and is set out in the Figure 51.

<sup>36</sup> Parent to Provider Childcare Needs Survey, January 2017

Figure 51: Professional Diagnosis - Special Educational Needs or Disability<sup>37</sup>

Professional diagnosis of children's additional needs Speech and language	Professional diagnosis of children's additional needs Learning difficulties	Professional diagnosis of children's additional needs Sensory impairment	Professional diagnosis of children's additional needs Physical impairment
115	48	31	34

Childcare providers reported that 9% of children with special educational needs in receipt of childcare have an Education, Health & Care Plan in place.

Whilst all childcare provision in the county is required to be fully inclusive it is recognised that some providers are more experienced and confident in meeting the particular needs of children with disabilities than others.

There is one Special School in Shropshire, Severndale Specialist Academy, who provide care and education for the majority of those children with the most significant needs. The school is based in Shrewsbury (Central Area) and, as such, it is not easily accessible for all children and families across the whole of the county.

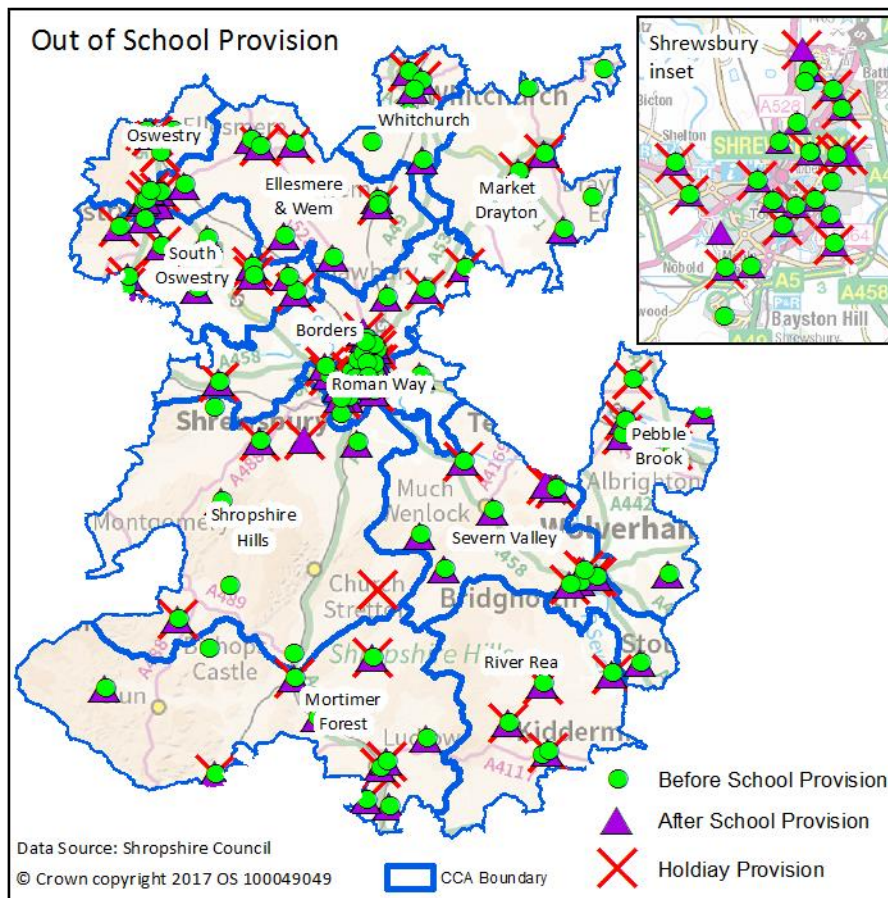
Recently the local authority has been working closely with a range of private and voluntary childcare providers to enhance the provision available across the county for children with additional needs and, as such, reduce the need for as many children to travel in to Severndale.

Through this work Shropshire has increased further the quality and availability of childcare provision for children with disabilities and/or additional needs across the county as a whole. As a result the local authority is more confident than before that families will be able to access provision in or near to their local community.

<sup>37</sup> Parent to Provider Childcare Need Survey, January 2017

## 11. Out of School Childcare Provision

Figure 52: Providers offering out of school childcare<sup>38</sup>

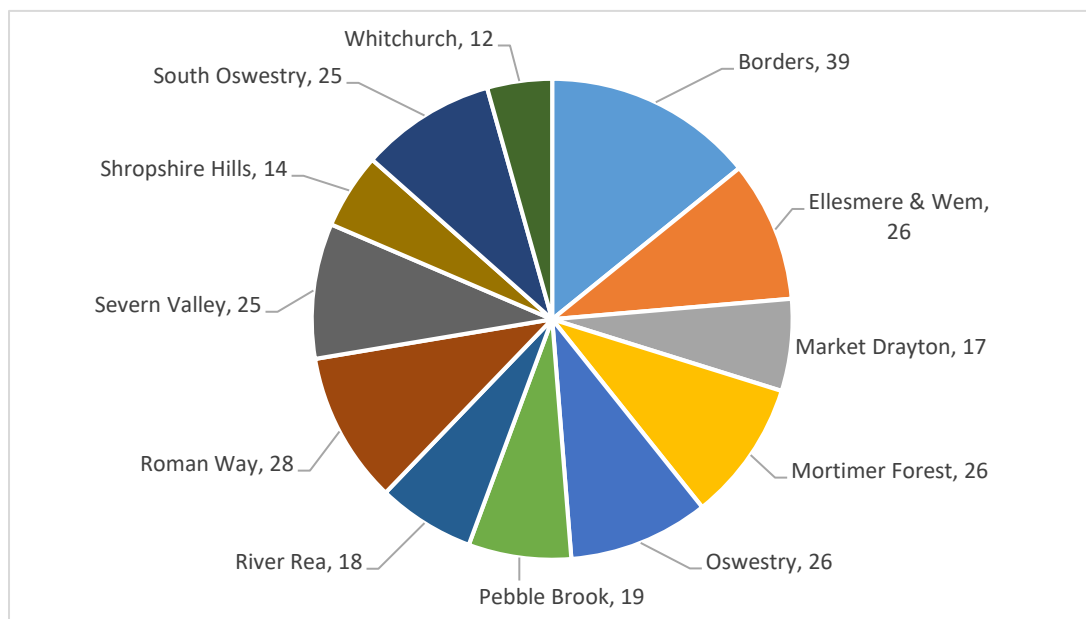


The map to the left shows where providers offer out of school childcare.

Provision is mainly located in the main market towns.

The following chart shows the number of providers offering out of school childcare by Children's Centre Area. Borders CCA has the highest number of providers (39) offering out of school childcare and Shropshire Hills CCA has the lowest (14).

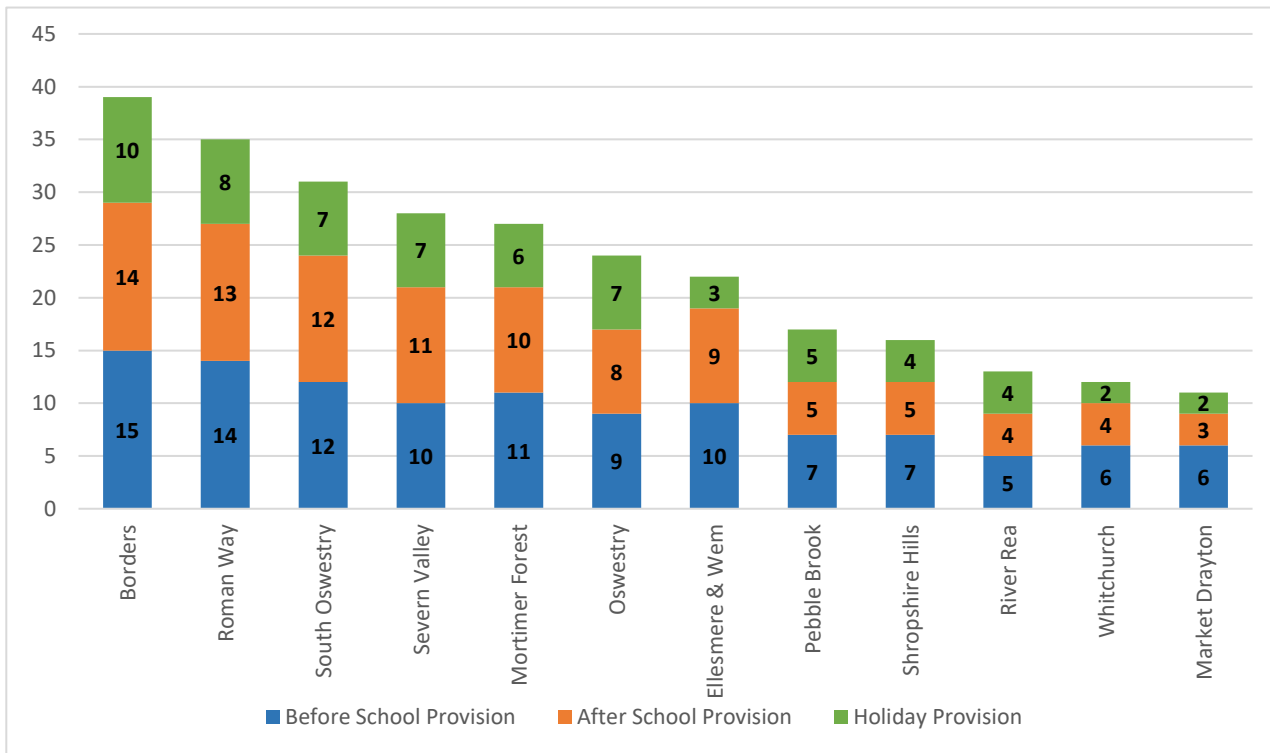
Figure 53: Number of providers offering out of school childcare in each Children's Centre Area



<sup>38</sup> Parent Provider Childcare Needs Survey, January 2017

The numbers of providers offering before and after school childcare are higher in each CCA than those offering holiday childcare.

Figure 54: Number of providers offering out of school childcare and type<sup>39</sup>



Both Whitchurch CCA and Market Drayton CCA have only two childcare providers who offer holiday provision.

<sup>39</sup> Parent Provider Childcare Needs Survey, January 2017



## 12. The Supply of Childcare

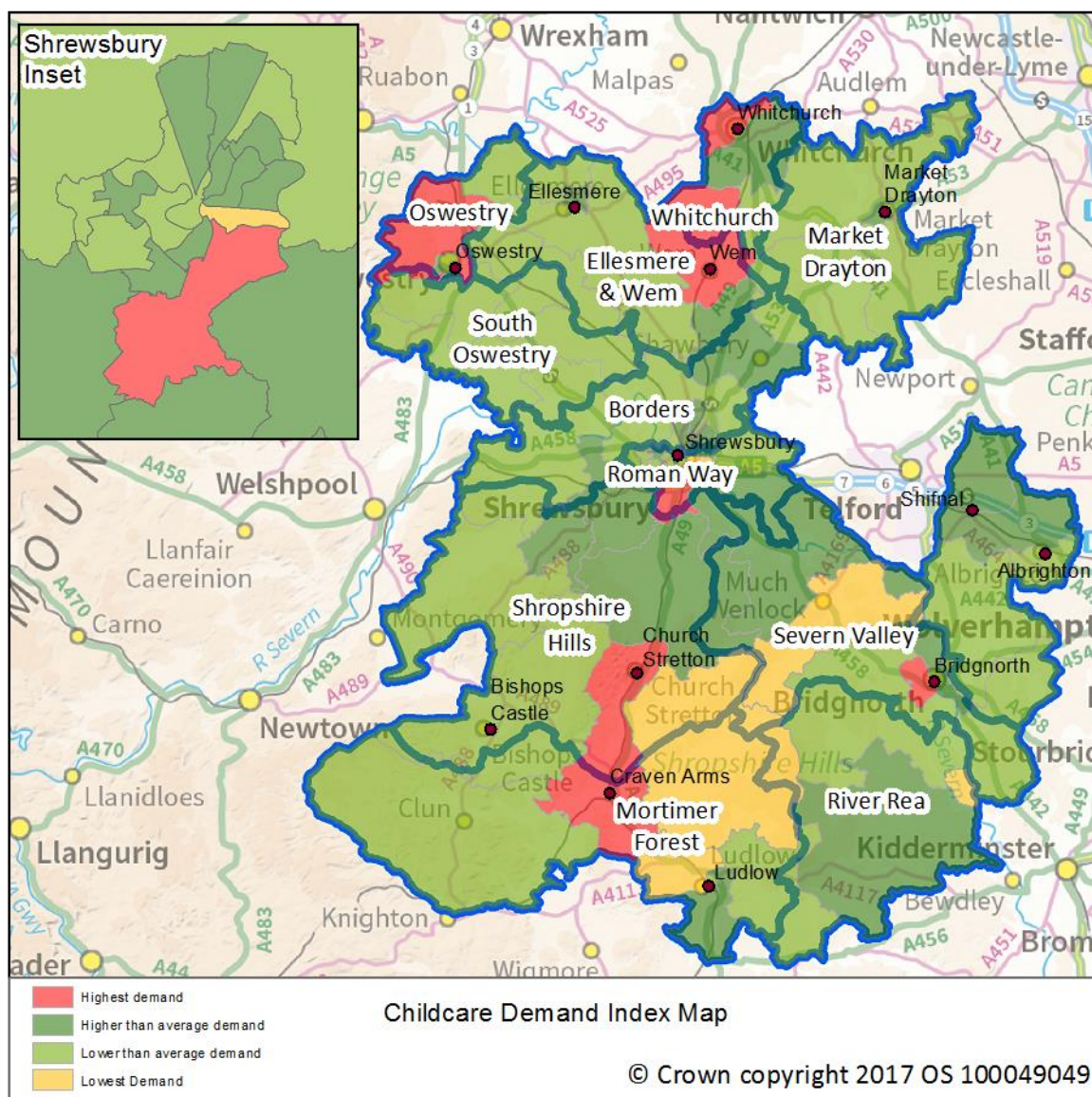
- In January 2017 there were 369 different childcare providers recorded by Shropshire.
- The 369 providers were made up as follows:
  - 168 Childminders (including Home Childcare),
  - 123 day nurseries and day nurseries with out of school clubs,
  - 65 primary & primary schools with nursery classes
  - 5 infant schools with nursery classes
  - 8 independent schools.
- Most childcare provision is centred around the county and market towns.
- Comparing the number of childcare places in Shropshire with the most recent estimates of the population of children aged 0-4 suggests that there are an estimated 56 places for every 100 children aged nought to four.
- By locality there is some variation across the Children’s Centre Areas and in some areas the estimated rate of places is lower than the county rate of 56 – these are Market Drayton CCA, Whitchurch CCA, Ellesmere & Wem CCA and River Rea CCA.
- Data from childcare providers suggests that 46% of all children aged nought to four years use formal childcare on a regular basis in Shropshire.
- Mortimer Forest CCA has the highest percentage of 0-4 year olds in receipt of childcare (70%).
- Overall 79% of registered childcare providers reported that they had some vacancies.
- Higher numbers of vacancies were found in Roman Way, Borders and Shropshire Hills Children’s Centre Areas. Roman Way and Borders CCAs also have the highest numbers of places registered.

### 13. Demand for Childcare

Using six data sets a picture of the potential demand for childcare across ages 0-14 in each Electoral Division in Shropshire has been built up. Set against the averages for each data an index score was calculated to indicate where demand for childcare might be high or low by Electoral Division as illustrated in the following map.

Demand is relatively high around all the main market towns of Shropshire. The areas where demand is highest relate to those areas with higher numbers of 0-14 year olds and where more parents are in work.

Figure 55: Map illustrating potential demand for childcare



The six data sets used are:

- The number of children aged between 0-14, the higher the number may indicate a greater need for childcare provision. Assumption is that high numbers of children aged 0-14 = higher demand for childcare.
- The number of lone parents in employment – if there are a high number of lone parent families who are working the demand for childcare provision could also be higher. Assumption is that high number of working lone parent households = higher demand for childcare.
- The number of childcare providers in an area. Assumption is that high numbers of providers = higher demand for childcare.
- The percentage of providers in each CCA who reported that they had vacancies at the time of the survey. Assumption is that higher occupancy = higher demand for childcare.
- Children NOT affected by Income Deprivation (Indices of Deprivation, 2015). Assumption is that higher incomes = higher demand for childcare.
- Households where both parents are working. Assumption is that high numbers of working parents = higher demand for childcare

### 13.1 Demand Index Data

The higher the demand index score the higher the demand for childcare in the electoral division. (NB if printing this page is A3)

Figure 55: Data included in Demand Index

Shropshire Electoral Division	Children Aged 0-14 <sup>40</sup>	Lone Parent in Work <sup>41</sup>	Number of Providers in Electoral Division <sup>42</sup>	Providers Who have Vacancies <sup>42</sup>	Household Both Parents Working <sup>41</sup>	Children NOT living in income deprivation <sup>43</sup>	Demand Index Score
Bayston Hill, Column and Sutton ED	1.00	0.98	1.00	0.51	1.00	1.00	5.49
Oswestry East ED	0.97	1.00	0.95	0.49	0.98	0.98	5.38
Wem ED	0.95	0.92	0.98	0.59	0.97	0.95	5.37
Bridgnorth West and Tasley ED	0.90	0.84	0.75	0.92	0.94	0.94	5.29
Church Stretton and Craven Arms ED	0.92	0.86	0.97	0.52	0.92	0.92	5.11
Whitchurch North ED	0.94	0.89	0.48	0.98	0.87	0.90	5.06
Gobowen, Selattyn and Weston Rhyn ED	0.89	0.67	0.92	0.83	0.84	0.89	5.03
Market Drayton West ED	0.98	0.97	0.16	0.89	0.95	0.97	4.92
Cleobury Mortimer ED	0.84	0.75	0.90	0.40	0.89	0.81	4.59
Underdale ED	0.83	0.94	0.70	0.48	0.73	0.76	4.43
Castlefields and Ditherington ED	0.76	0.95	0.51	1.00	0.40	0.71	4.33
Bridgnorth East and Astley Abbots ED	0.81	0.65	0.89	0.37	0.83	0.68	4.22
Sundorne ED	0.78	0.90	0.43	0.46	0.71	0.79	4.08
Meole ED	0.70	0.83	0.35	0.67	0.75	0.78	4.06
Broseley ED	0.56	0.78	0.25	0.87	0.78	0.73	3.97
Shifnal South and Cosford ED	0.86	0.59	0.68	0.32	0.65	0.84	3.94
Copthorne ED	0.67	0.44	0.29	0.78	0.90	0.86	3.94
Bagley ED	0.62	0.73	0.22	0.86	0.81	0.57	3.81
Ellesmere Urban ED	0.38	0.70	0.56	0.84	0.63	0.60	3.71
Burnell ED	0.59	0.43	0.76	0.24	0.86	0.83	3.70
Longden ED	0.30	0.46	0.79	0.54	0.79	0.75	3.63
Whitchurch South ED	0.52	0.51	0.71	0.63	0.51	0.65	3.54
Ludlow South ED	0.51	0.62	0.62	0.56	0.57	0.67	3.54
Belle Vue ED	0.54	0.87	0.49	0.44	0.52	0.56	3.43
Shawbury ED	0.65	0.48	0.87	0.25	0.54	0.62	3.41
Monkmoor ED	0.68	0.71	0.81	0.38	0.38	0.38	3.35
Shifnal North ED	0.32	0.79	0.67	0.65	0.49	0.43	3.35
Oswestry South ED	0.33	0.68	0.83	0.57	0.41	0.48	3.30
Severn Valley ED	0.43	0.40	0.40	0.76	0.59	0.70	3.27
Harlescott ED	0.87	0.76	0.94	0.41	0.10	0.13	3.21
Rea Valley ED	0.49	0.38	0.84	0.75	0.32	0.32	3.10
Battlefield ED	0.75	0.22	0.11	0.97	0.43	0.49	2.97
St. Oswald ED	0.63	0.41	0.41	0.22	0.68	0.59	2.95
Hodnet ED	0.22	0.49	0.32	0.27	0.76	0.87	2.94
Ruyton and Baschurch ED	0.60	0.24	0.86	0.11	0.46	0.51	2.78
Clee ED	0.37	0.30	0.27	0.73	0.60	0.46	2.73
Cheswardine ED	0.79	0.05	0.78	0.60	0.21	0.21	2.63
Market Drayton East ED	0.73	0.56	0.14	0.30	0.33	0.52	2.59
Albrighton ED	0.29	0.63	0.08	0.35	0.62	0.44	2.41
Alveley and Claverley ED	0.11	0.21	0.10	0.95	0.70	0.35	2.41
Radbrook ED	0.40	0.52	0.19	0.79	0.25	0.24	2.40
The Meres ED	0.57	0.17	0.46	0.08	0.56	0.54	2.38
Bowbrook ED	0.19	0.81	0.13	0.43	0.29	0.37	2.21
Porthill ED	0.71	0.35	0.17	0.19	0.11	0.63	2.17
Llanymynech ED	0.21	0.08	0.57	0.62	0.37	0.30	2.14
Ludlow East ED	0.24	0.54	0.59	0.29	0.27	0.19	2.11
Oswestry West ED	0.27	0.57	0.37	0.81	0.03	0.03	2.08
Whittington ED	0.46	0.33	0.21	0.17	0.48	0.40	2.05
St. Martin's ED	0.41	0.32	0.06	0.16	0.67	0.41	2.03
Prees ED	0.35	0.16	0.65	0.06	0.44	0.33	2.00
Worfield ED	0.08	0.03	0.73	0.90	0.14	0.06	1.95
Bishop's Castle ED	0.10	0.29	0.24	0.71	0.30	0.27	1.90
Clun ED	0.14	0.11	0.54	0.70	0.17	0.16	1.83
Brown Clee ED	0.17	0.13	0.03	0.94	0.22	0.29	1.78
Tern ED	0.44	0.19	0.44	0.10	0.35	0.22	1.75
Loton ED	0.48	0.27	0.33	0.14	0.24	0.25	1.71
Quarry and Coton Hill ED	0.13	0.60	0.38	0.33	0.05	0.11	1.60
Chirbury and Worthen ED	0.03	0.06	0.52	0.68	0.16	0.10	1.56
Much Wenlock ED	0.25	0.25	0.63	0.13	0.06	0.17	1.51
Highley ED	0.16	0.37	0.05	0.21	0.13	0.14	1.05
Ludlow North ED	0.02	0.10	0.60	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.78
Corvedale ED	0.06	0.02	0.30	0.02	0.19	0.08	0.67
Abbey ED	0.05	0.14	0.02	0.05	0.08	0.05	0.38

<sup>40</sup> ONS Mid Year Population Estimates 2015, © Crown Copyright, 2017

<sup>41</sup> Census 2011, © Crown Copyright, 2017

<sup>42</sup> Parent to Provider Childcare Needs Survey, January 2017

<sup>43</sup> Index of Multiple Deprivation, Income Deprivation Affecting Children (2015)