Core Document Ref CD4.6

Thanet Leadership Group

Out of Area - Vulnerable Placements

Thanet District Briefing Pack

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1. Introduction

The purpose of this briefing is to provide out of area placing authorities with a data overview of the Thanet District, which Kent County Council would consider to have an increased risk for CSE and Gang activity

In December 2016, there were 548 looked after children in Thanet, 244 of those children being out of area LAC placements.

Thanet is an area in East Kent that includes the coastal towns of Margate, Ramsgate and Broadstairs and surrounding village areas. Deprivation, crime and unemployment are all statistically higher than the England average. There are a higher proportion of some vulnerable populations in Thanet such as children in care, ex-offenders and people with a mental health condition. There are limited skilled employment opportunities in the area, although there are relatively good transport links that include a high speed train link to London.

According to the 2015 mid-year population estimates from the Office of National Statistics (ONS), Thanet has a population of approximately 138,410. According to the 2011 Census there are a total of 14,151 households living in the private rented sector in Thanet.

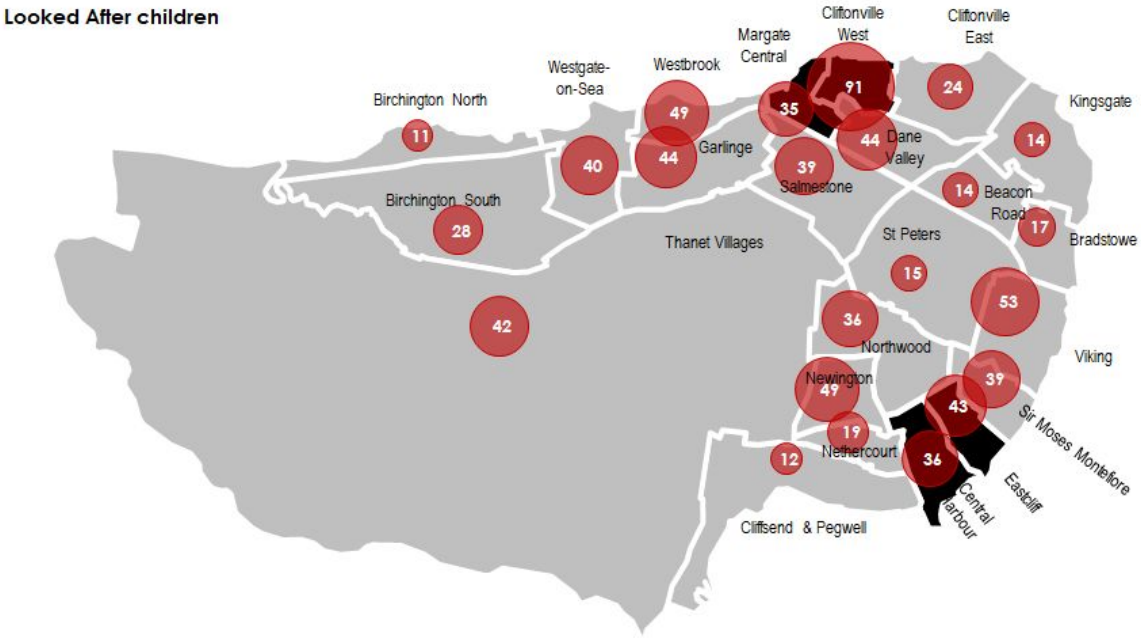
The Statutory Guidance is very clear on the process which needs to be followed when considering placing a child in another authority. Every out of area placement requires effective planning, engagement and information sharing with all services responsible for meeting the child's needs. Each placing authority needs to be assured that the child will be effectively safeguarded and that there is sufficient capacity to meet all the child's needs prior to the placement being made.

2. Thanet District - Headline Facts

Unemployment	Deprivation	Gangs	
Highest unemployment rates in Kent.	18 LSOA's ranked in the 10% most deprived in England.	14 Known metropolitan gangs operating in the District.	32 Known cuckooing addresses in the District
Child Sexual Exploitation			**Adult Sex Offenders**
1 of 3 CSE Intelligence Officers in Kent dedicated to Thanet.	25% Of Kent Police CSE 'Safeguarding' Kent Intelligence reports are specific to Thanet.	No. 10 Thanet flagged at number 10 Downing street CSE summit in 2016	70% Of offenders with markers for 'Child Protection' based in Margate Task force wards .
Young Offenders under 18		**Missing Children**	
9.6% Of males were Out of Area LAC	8.1% Of females were Out of Area LAC.	23% Of Kent's missing children from Thanet.	315 Missing episodes of young people in district between Jan & March 2016.
Looked After Children		**Prison Releases**	**Crime**
548 LAC in Thanet as at December 2016	244 Of the 548 LAC are out of area placements.	30 Placements a month on average - highest in Kent.	Highest victim based crime rate in Kent.
Health			**Education**
6.87 Persons per 1,000 population aged under 25 accessing specialist substance misuse services – which is significantly higher than Kent	30.6 Teenage conceptions per 1,000 15 to 17 years olds in 2014 significantly higher than Kent	2.7 Drug specific admissions per 1,000 10 to 24 year olds, significantly higher admission rate to Kent for 2011/12 to 2015/16 (pooled)	5.4% 16 to 24 year olds classified as NEET higher than Kent
Health			
5,800 People in Thanet with two or more psychiatric disorders	1% Prevalence rate of people with serious mental illness	4.7 Self-harm admissions per 1,000 10 to 24 year olds. Significantly higher rate that Kent for 2011/12 to 2015/16 (pooled)	1463 Chlamydia diagnoses per 100,000 15 to 24 years olds in 2015, significantly higher than Kent

3. Local Authority Risk Assessment

Young people in Thanet face a variety of well-established population and environmental risks which significantly increases their vulnerability to harm. The profile of risk in Thanet is stark and uncompromising. It is more extreme in nature than surrounding districts and is comparable to inner London Boroughs and established areas of deprivation in the North. Many young people in Thanet suffer multiple vulnerabilities and multiple risks. It is not unusual for a large number of services to work with young people with numerous complex needs. The main wards where vulnerability is highest are: Cliftonville West, Margate Central, Central Harbour and Eastcliff. The map below illustrate where looked after children have been placed. Snap shot as at December 2016



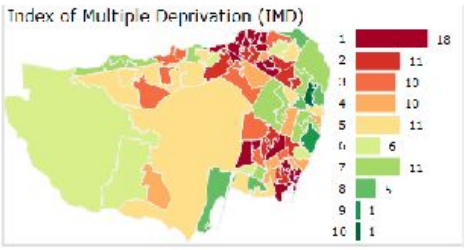
In 2013, Thanet was at the centre of one of the biggest child-sexual exploitation rings in England extending across Kent and into Yorkshire and the West Midlands. The Margate Taskforce with a number of partners exposed the exploitation which was operating within the Czech-Slovak Roma population and had links throughout England. One of the early indicators which alerted agencies to the crime-ring was the proportion of missing episodes of vulnerable children. After the layering of the data and intelligence, Operation Lakeland was launched.

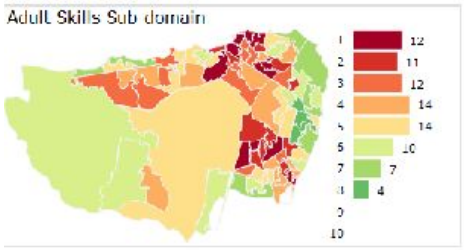
Since then, the number of missing children within the Czech-Slovak Roma population has reduced, however, the number of white vulnerable missing children overall remains significantly high. This is of serious concern to all agencies in Thanet as it indicates that Thanet not only has the highest number of missing children at risk in Kent, but also may have the highest number of unreported missing children at risk.

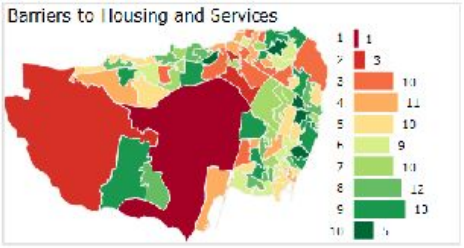
The APPG for Runaway and Missing Children and Adults and the APPG for Looked After Children and Care Leavers report 2012 . The report noted that: Evidence submitted to the Inquiry suggests that being placed a long way from family and friends is often a factor in causing them to run away and cross-boundary placements often have a detrimental impact on the young person. The report noted that particular risks that out of area placements created for children: “When local authorities place children and young people in residential care in another local authority, they often have no way of knowing the safety or suitability of the local area around the home in the way that the ‘host’ local authority would. Cross-boundary placements may also put a huge physical distance between the social worker responsible for a child and the child themselves. In many cases this results in reduced involvement in a young person’s life.

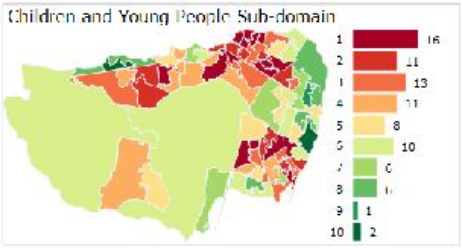
4. Indices of Multiple Deprivation

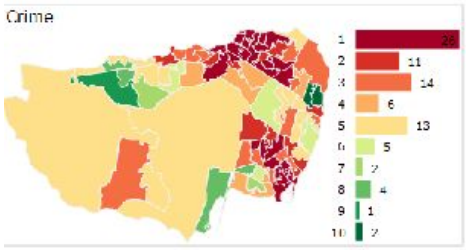
The maps below plot all the IMD domains for each of the 84 LSOAs with 1 being the most deprived, 5 being the English average and 10 being the least deprived.

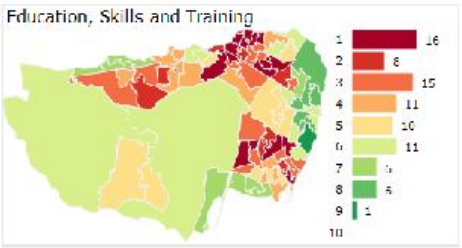


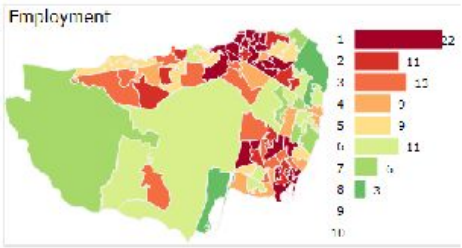


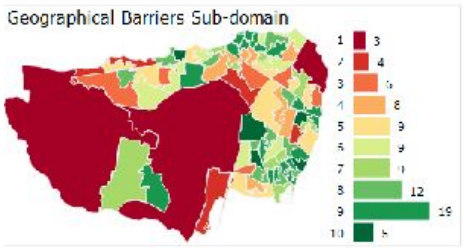


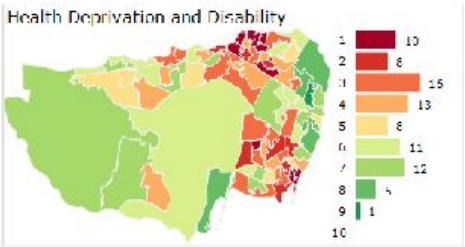


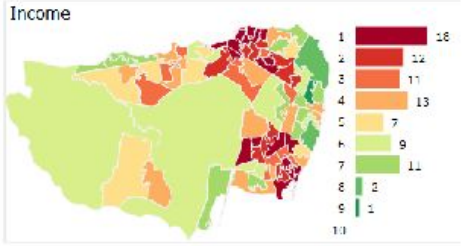


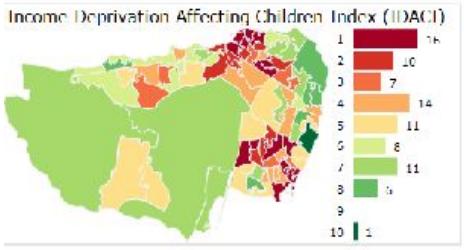


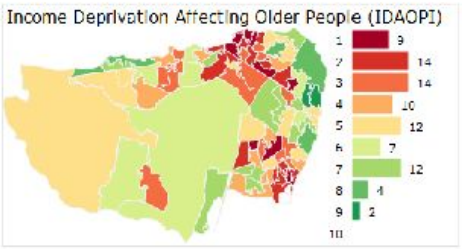


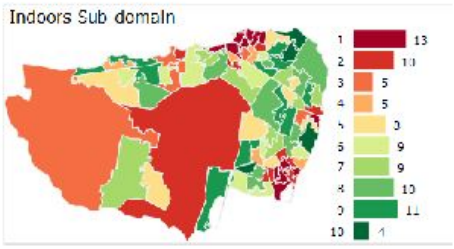


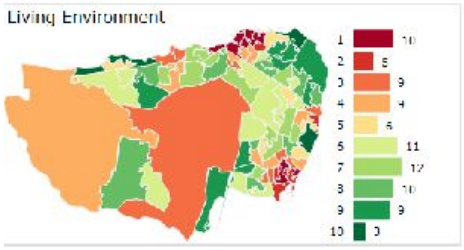


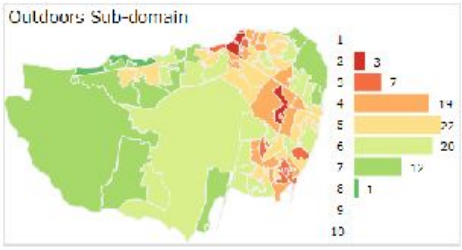


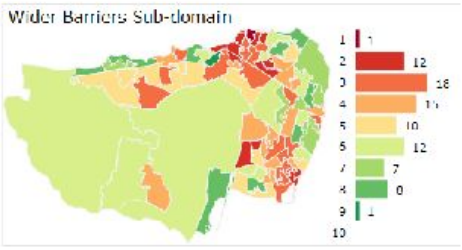












5. Thanet Data Sets

a) Looked After Children Data

Thanet has the highest concentration of LAC of any district in Kent. Of the 548 LAC in Thanet, 244 are placed by other local authority areas (OLA LAC).

OLA LAC are regularly placed with no notification of local services and often these young people are placed in accommodation which significantly increase their vulnerability to risk (including in streets where there are known instances of drug dealing, sex offenders, gang activity, exploitation and violence).

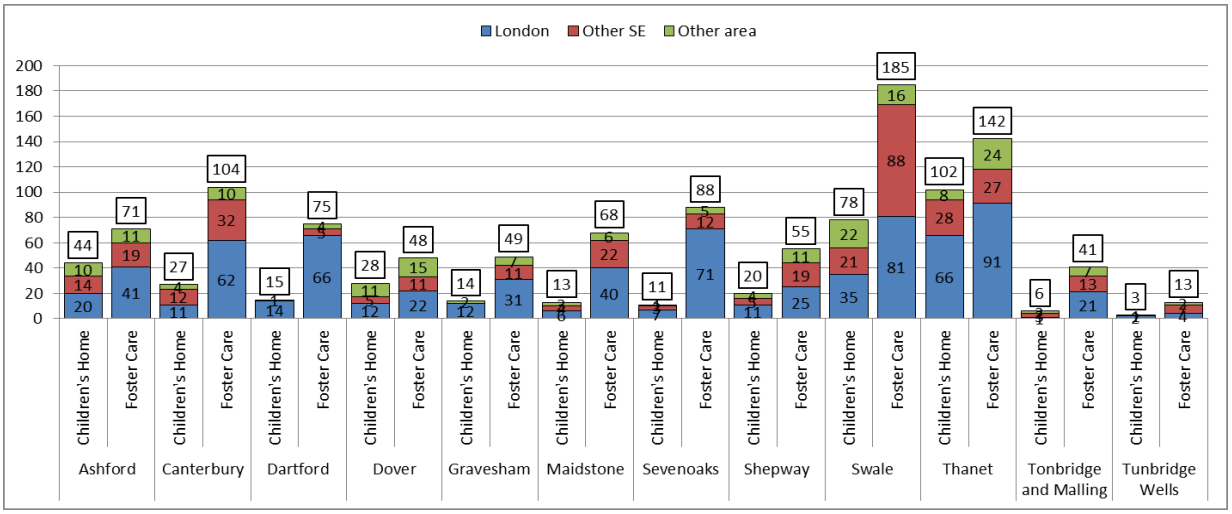
Total Number of Looked After Children (31st December 2016)

	Kent LAC			OLA LAC Placed in Kent				
District Placed In	Citizen LAC	UASC LAC	Total Kent LAC	London LAC	Other SE Region LAC	Other Area LAC	Total OLA LAC	Total LAC
Ashford	78	54	**132**	61	33	21	**115**	**247**
Canterbury	156	92	**248**	73	44	14	**131**	**379**
Dartford	38	13	**51**	80	6	4	**90**	**141**
Dover	89	33	**122**	34	16	26	**76**	**198**
Gravesham	83	60	**143**	43	11	9	**63**	**206**
Maidstone	89	34	**123**	46	26	9	**81**	**204**
Sevenoaks	54		**54**	78	15	6	**99**	**153**
Shepway	132	60	**192**	36	24	15	**75**	**267**
Swale	156	46	**202**	116	109	38	**263**	**465**
Thanet	269	35	**304**	157	55	32	**244**	**548**
Tonbridge and Malling	57	14	**71**	22	16	9	**47**	**118**
Tunbridge Wells	26	18	**44**	6	8	2	**16**	**60**
NTBD	49		**49**	-	-	-	-	**49**
OLA	72	99	**171**	-	-	-	-	**171**
Medway	68	102	**170**	-	-	-	-	**170**
Grand Total	**1416**	**660**	**2076**	**752**	**363**	**185**	**1300**	**3376**

As at 31/12/2016 there were 115 Care Leavers whose last known address was in Thanet. Of the 115, 11 were UASC

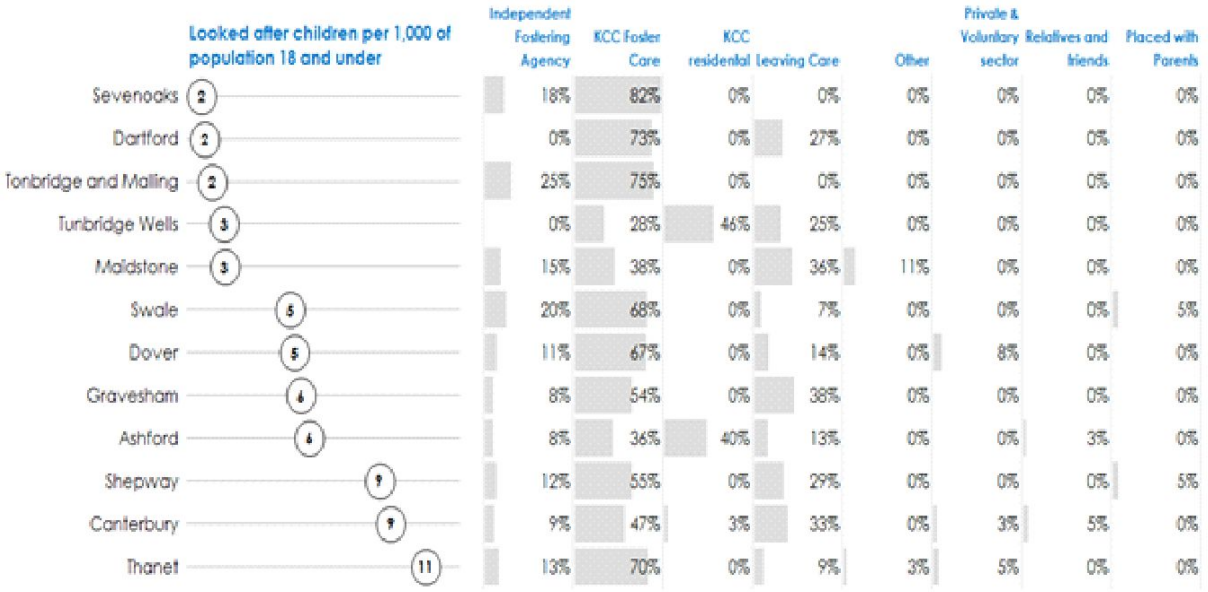
Source KCC MIU

Other Local Authority LAC placed in Kent by Placement Type: Children's Home or Foster Placement *Data Notes: Data as at 31st December 2016 Based on information received from placing authorities*



Looked after children placement types: by placement district

Source: Management Information, Specialist Children's Services, prepared by KPHO (ZC) February 2016



b) Missing Children Data

As well as the significant individual impact attached to going missing, there is also a broader societal impact. When a child runs away there are substantial financial and social costs. Young people in Thanet account for over half of the missing children cases in Kent. High proportions of the missing cases are LAC and are an indicator of more sinister activity associated with gangs and exploitation. The following table highlights Thanet has the highest number of missing children reports in Kent and Medway.

District	No of reports	Population 17 and under rounded to nearst 100	number of reports of missing children (1-17yrs) reported to Kent Police during the last financial year 01/04/2015 – 31/03/2016: (per 1,000 of the population 17 and under)	Population 17 and under 1,000
Tunbridge Wells	144	26,600	5	26.6
Tonbridge and Malling	200	28,900	7	28.9
Sevenoaks	197	26,000	8	26.0
Dartford	181	23,700	8	23.7
Maidstone	397	35,000	11	35.0
Gravesham	343	24,400	14	24.4
Swale	504	31,800	16	31.8
Ashford	461	28,600	16	28.6
Medway	1106	62,500	18	62.5
Canterbury	535	29,100	18	29.1
Shepway	496	21,400	23	21.4
Dover	592	22,900	26	22.9
Thanet	1568	29,700	53	29.7
Grand Total	**6724**	**390,600**	**17**	

Source: Kent Police – Missing Persons

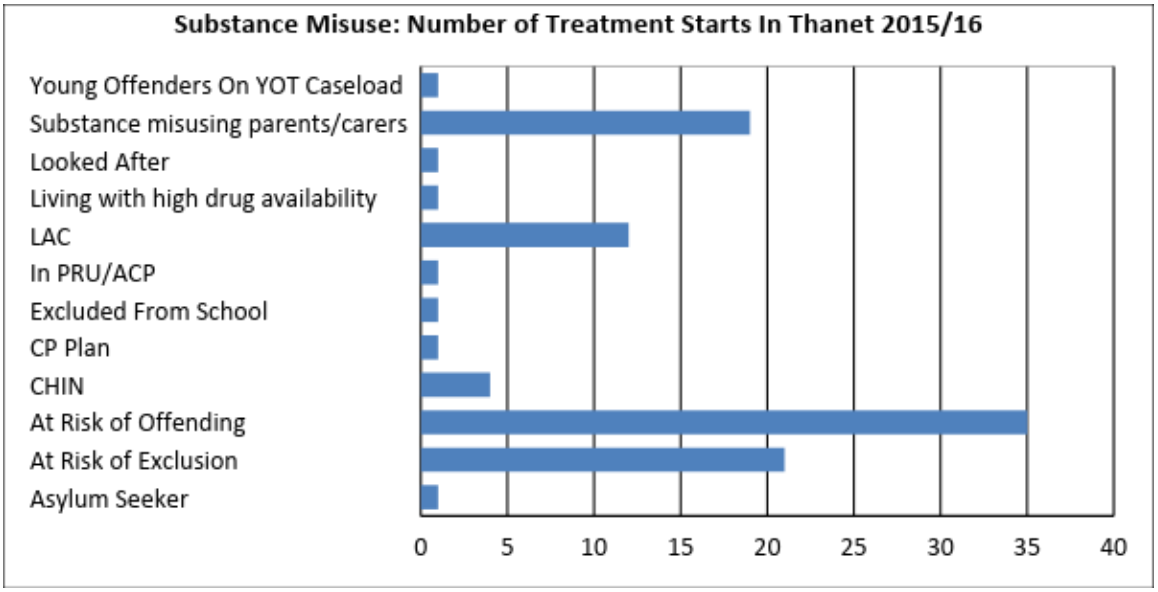
c) Health Data

Most indicators relating to healthy lifestyles show that Thanet has statistically worse outcomes compared to the England average.

There are considerable variations in population health within Thanet and inequalities are wider than in any other district in Kent. Around one third of the Thanet population are in the most deprived quintile nationally with less than one in twenty in the least deprived quintile. Difference in life expectancy between the highest and lowest wards is 17.1 years, based on 2011-2015 pooled data and the teenage conception rate for Thanet was 30.6 conceptions per 1,000 women aged between 15-17 years old in 2014, compared to 22.2 in Kent. The death rate (adjusted to account for age) for under 75 circulatory disease was five times higher in Margate Central ward in comparison to the Cliftonville East ward, based on 2011-2015 pooled data. Mental health contact rates were around four times higher between the highest and lowest wards in 2015 and the achievement of five GCSEs at grade C or above varied by three and a half times in 2015.

Mental Health: The recent CAMHS needs assessment undertaken by KCC Public Health clearly demonstrates that Thanet has some of the highest rates for self-harm admissions for the 16 to 24 age group. It is estimated that over 1,200 young people within this age category self-harmed between 2011/12 to 2013/14. The mental health comorbidity associated with young people who have been traumatised, abused or witnessed violence is noted within Thanet and further exacerbated by the intergenerational poverty and deprivation in key wards within the districts.

Substance Misuse: The youth offenders health needs assessment established that that there are high levels of problematic substance misuse amongst young offenders with substance misuse by young people in custodial settings is higher still. The research shows that over 80 per cent of young offenders had used an illegal drug once a month and 25% considered their drinking to have been out of control before entering custody. The table below shows the number of treatment starts within the Addaction service for 2015/16 in Thanet.



Health summary for Thanet

The chart below shows how the health of people in this area compares with the rest of England. This area's result for each indicator is shown as a circle. The average rate for England is shown by the black line, which is always at the centre of the chart. The range of results for all local areas in England is shown as a grey bar. A red circle means that this area is significantly worse than England for that indicator; however, a green circle may still indicate an important public health problem.

- Significantly worse than England average
- Not significantly different from England average
- Significantly better than England average
- Not compared

Domain		Indicator	Period	Local No total count	Local value	Eng value	Eng worst	England Range	Eng best
Our communities	1	Deprivation score (IMD 2015) #	2015	n/a	31.6	21.8	42.0		5.0
	2	Children in low income families (under 16s)	2013	6,725	26.2	18.6	34.4		5.9
	3	Statutory homelessness†	2014/15	70	1.1	0.9	7.5		0.1
	4	GCSEs achieved†	2014/15	628	41.8	57.3	41.5		76.4
	5	Violent crime (violence offences)	2014/15	3,244	23.7	13.5	31.7		3.4
	6	Long term unemployment	2015	800	9.9	4.6	15.7		0.5
Children's and young people's health	7	Smoking status at time of delivery	2014/15	268	17.0	11.4	27.2		2.1
	8	Breastfeeding initiation	2014/15	1,044	66.7	74.3	47.2		92.9
	9	Obese children (Year 6)	2014/15	301	21.1	19.1	27.8		9.2
	10	Alcohol-specific hospital stays (under 18)	2012/13 - 14/15	46	51.8	36.6	104.4		10.2
	11	Under 18 conceptions	2014	80	30.6	22.8	43.0		5.2

Source: Public Health England – Thanet District Health Profile 2016

https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/health-profiles

d) Housing Data

According to the 2011 Census, there were 14,151 households privately renting in Thanet. Census 2011 data also supports the assessment that the population of the selective licensing area is less stable than other areas. The Middle Layer Super Output Area (MLSOA), Thanet 001, covers the area, and other parts of Cliftonville West and Margate Central (but not the whole wards). In 2011, 72% of households in the MLSOA lived at the same address one year ago. This compares to 85% in Thanet as a whole and 86% in the South East and England.

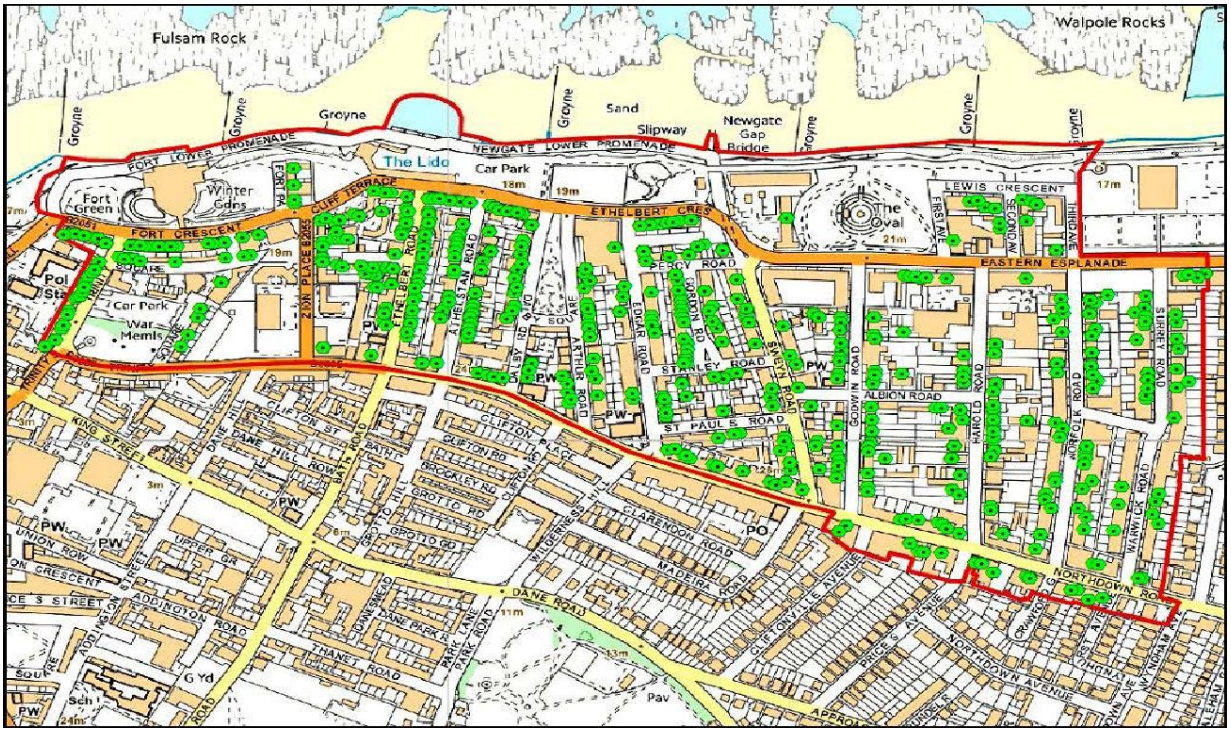
On 12 January 2011, Thanet District Council (the council) designated parts of the electoral wards of Margate Central and Cliftonville West as a selective licensing area under section 80 of the Housing Act 2004. The five year designation came into force on 21 April 2011 and expired on 20 April 2016. While much has been achieved through selective licensing, it is clear that the initial five-year designation will not provide enough time in which to effect long-lasting change in the area. As such, a proposal to make a further selective licensing designation was subject to public consultation between 17 August 2015 and 26 October 2015.

Parts of Cliftonville suffer from a wide range of entrenched problems that arose out of many years of socio-economic change; a situation that is not uncommon in other coastal communities. Indeed, the 2015 English Indices of Deprivation reveal that all but one of the top ten most deprived areas (LSOAs) are in seaside towns, and unfortunately, for the first time, an area in Cliftonville is in this top ten (out of 32,844).

As one of the most deprived areas in England, it suffers from high levels of crime and anti-social behaviour, low housing demand, and poor housing conditions. Around 70% of the accommodation is in the private rented sector (national average 19%).

The 2016 data sets for 'Homelessness total decisions Applications received for housing assistance (Including accepted and in priority need)' shows that Thanet as the highest district in Kent with 216 'accepted' decisions (of which 78 were eligible but not in priority need) and, excluding London Boroughs, placing Thanet as one of the highest local authorities in South East England.

The following map shows the locations of licensed premises as at 31 March 2015. It highlights the density and spread of privately rented accommodation. Markers are multi-layered and only one marker is shown per building plan. As such, many of the markers represent more than one licensed dwelling.



e) Deprivation

There are 84 LSOAs in Thanet 18 of which according to the IMD are ranked in the bottom 10% in England.

The deprivation rankings have deteriorated significantly in five LSOAs between the comparable indices. The four LSOAs currently ranked 4, 21, 117 and 233 are all within the 1% most deprived areas in England. The LSOA ranked 4, which concerns an area around Ethelbert Road, Athelstan Road and Dalby Square, is substantially located in the heart of the council's new Selective Licensing Designation. Only an area of Jaywick, near Clacton-on-Sea, and two areas adjacent to the seafront in Blackpool are more deprived.

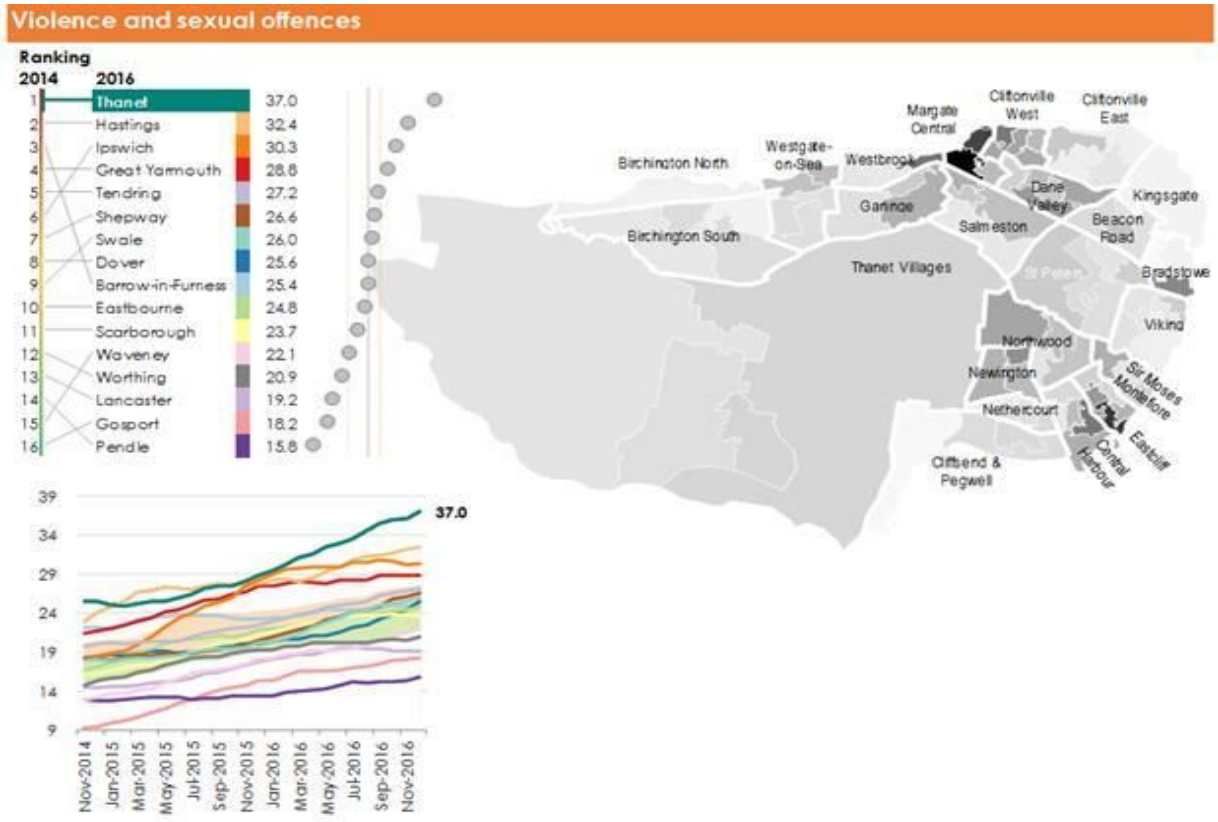
Thanet has a total of 84 LSOAs	
Domain Title	Number of Thanet LSOAs that appear in the bottom 10% per IMD domain in England
Index of Multiple Deprivation	18
Crime	26
Employment	22
Adults Skills Sub-domain	12
Income	18
Education, Skills and training	16
Children & Young People Sub Domain	16
Income Deprivation Affecting Older People	9
Income Deprivation Affecting Children	16
Wider Barriers Sub-domain	1
Health Deprivation and Disability	10
Outdoors Sub-domain	0
Indoors Subdomain	13
Living Environment	10
Barriers to Housing and Services	1
Geographical Barriers	3

f) Crime data

Thanet has the highest rates for Victim Based Crime in Kent, at 79.5, much higher than the Kent rate of 56.0. The Margate Central ward has the highest victim based crime rate at 248.6 crimes per 1,000 population (2014/15). A third of the recorded crimes in Margate Central were violence against the person.

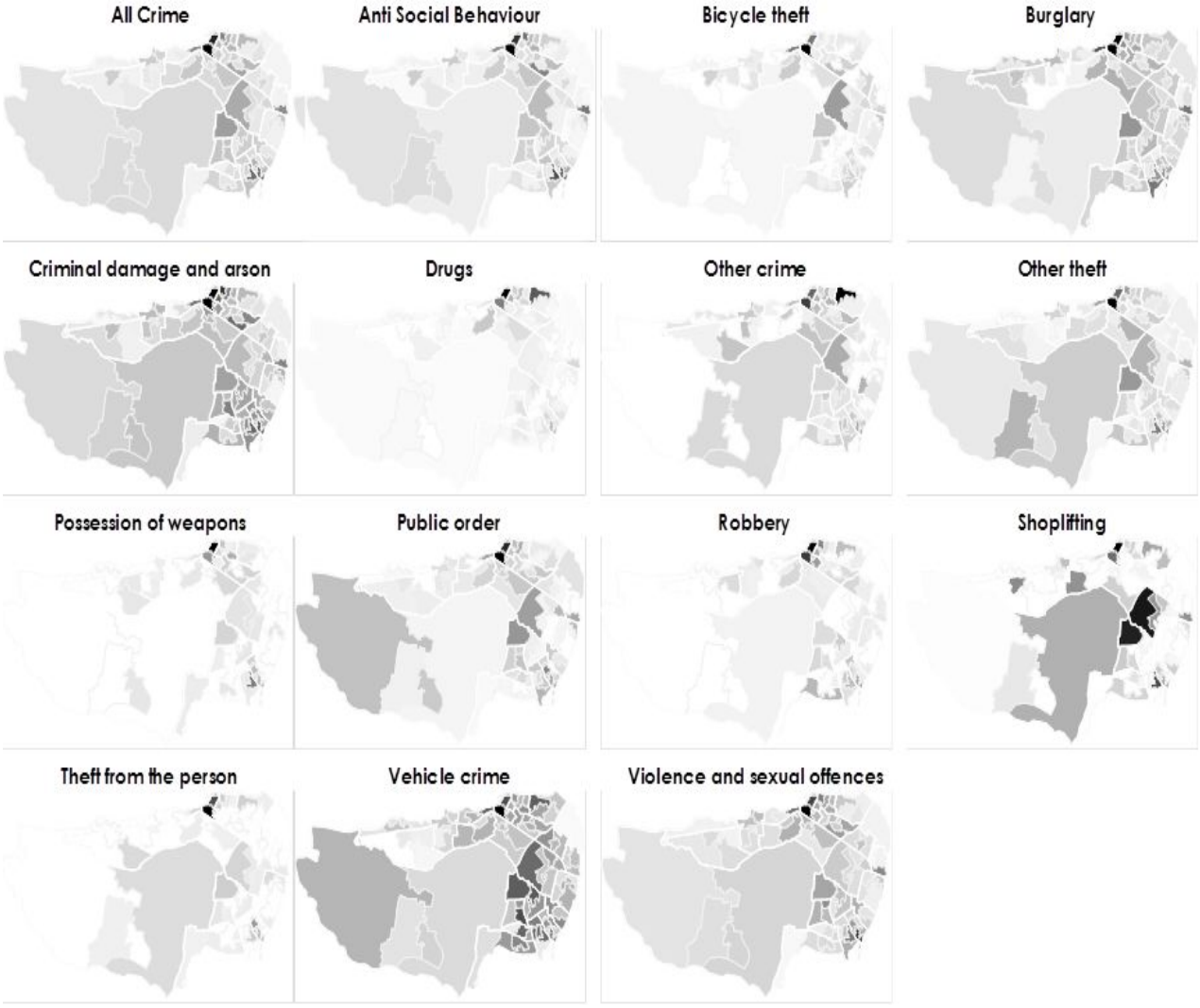
Gang affected young people: Thanet is an area of considerable gang activity. In recent years, there is clear evidence that London gangs are proactively operating within the district, to the extent that Thanet is part of the Ending Gang and Youth Violence programme. There are 120 known cases of gang affected young people in Margate and work is underway to establish the extent in Ramsgate. A conservative figure would suggest that in excess of 190 young people across Thanet are vulnerable to or engaged in gang activity. It would be reasonable to suggest that all these young people have complex and co-morbid needs.

The analysis below benchmarks Thanet against other similar authorities



Thanet District Crime Rate Prevalence (adjusted for the population at Lower Super Output Area)

The maps below show the hotspots for each crime type, the darker the shading the higher the rate of recorded crime. The maps are relative to the crime types not all crimes.



Managed Offenders fall under the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) programme which targets the most prolific and problematic offenders; within this programme they are identified and managed jointly by partner agencies working together – the vast majority of these would be prison releases

Thanet is the highest in take in Kent for prison releases and many gravitate towards low cost accommodation where we have the greatest concentrations of LAC – Margate Central, Cliftonville West, Central Harbour and Eastcliff.

The table below demonstrates that Thanet has the highest 'Managed offenders (including prison releases)' in Kent and Medway.

District	May-2015	Jun-2015	Jul-2015	Aug-2015	Sep-2015	Oct-2015	Nov-2015	Dec-2015	Jan-2016	Feb-2016	Mar-2016	Apr-2016	Total	Population 18 and over rounded to nearst 100	Managed offenders (including prison releases) Per 1,000 of the population over 18
Tonbridge and Malling	13	14	14	11	10	10	9	8	7	7	9	10	122	95,500	1.3
Shepway	10	7	7	10	8	11	8	11	12	13	9	8	114	88,000	1.3
Dover	7	9	9	11	14	12	10	9	9	10	9	8	117	90,200	1.3
Canterbury	15	17	17	13	10	14	14	15	15	14	14	11	169	128,600	1.3
Dartford	11	11	12	12	10	8	8	8	9	8	9	9	115	78,600	1.5
Ashford	10	11	13	15	15	14	14	14	14	11	10	7	148	94,600	1.6
Tunbridge Wells	9	8	10	11	12	11	11	12	18	19	19	20	160	89,500	1.8
Sevenoaks	14	14	17	16	13	13	13	13	14	13	12	13	165	91,800	1.8
Medway	37	36	38	43	39	38	40	42	41	36	38	34	462	211,500	2.2
Swale	26	26	24	27	22	20	18	19	16	16	16	16	246	109,000	2.3
Gravesham	20	20	21	20	19	17	16	16	16	18	18	17	218	80,800	2.7
Maidstone	31	31	24	25	27	30	30	33	36	36	35	35	373	126,800	2.9
Thanet	32	33	32	32	30	34	34	30	30	27	27	22	363	108,700	3.3
Grand Total	**235**	**237**	**238**	**246**	**229**	**232**	**225**	**230**	**237**	**228**	**225**	**210**	**2772**	**1,393,600**	**2.0**

Source: Kent Police

6. Legislation and Agreements

Looked After Children

Amendments to the Care Planning, Placement and Case Review (England) Regulations 2010 (the "Care Planning Regulations") came into force on 27 January 2014. These created new requirements for local authorities making distant placements to consult with children's services in the area of placement, and for the Director of Children's Services of the responsible authority to approve these placements. Every out of authority placement must evidence effective planning, engagement and information sharing with services likely to be responsible for meeting the child's needs.

Out of Area Housing Placements

There is no statutory requirement for information being provided, however there is an Advice Note for officers produced by the London Councils Housing Directors and Chief Executives which sets outs that the placing authority should provide the following to the receiving authority:

(a) date of the placement
(b) name of the household
(c) number of people in the household (including the names and dates of birth of all children in the household)
(d) property address (including postcode)
(e) number of bedrooms in the property
(f) name of the landlord or housing supplier
(g) nightly / weekly rent payable
(h) details of any financial incentive paid to the landlord or supplier
(i) tenure of the accommodation – either temporary accommodation or Assured Shorthold Tenancy (AST).

However, the London authority advice note is very clear:

(a) notification arrangements - the placing authority should, as far as is reasonably possible, advise the receiving authority of all accommodation placements
(b) paying a fair rent – the placing borough should, as far as is practical, ensure that the rent paid on accommodation takes reasonable account of what the receiving authority could pay and is not at a level that is likely to encourage unduly the inflation of local rent levels
(c) treatment of vulnerable families – the placing borough will, as far as practically possible, avoid placing families containing vulnerable children outside of London.

UK Supreme Court – Judgement against City of Westminster – April 2015

A landmark court judgement last year emphasised that while out-of-area placements are not in themselves unlawful, councils have a legal duty to ensure that they ensure the relocation is suitable and appropriate for the family's circumstances, taking into account any potential disruption to education, medical needs, caring responsibilities and employment.

Source: http://www.bailii.org/uk/cases/UKSC/2015/22.html

7. Glossary of Terms

LAC	Looked After Children
OALAC	Out of Area Looked After Children
CSE	Child Sexual Exploitation
KCC	Kent County Council
LA	Local Authority
LSOA	For the purposes of the IMD, England has been broken down into 32,844 relatively similar areas known as Lower-layer Super Output Areas.
IMD	Index of Multiple Deprivation - The seven distinct domains are combined, using appropriate weights, to calculate the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD). This is an overall measure of multiple deprivation experienced by people living in a certain area.
MTF	Margate Task Force