



West Central neighbourhood area profile

Data & Intelligence

West Central

To support Integrated Neighbourhood health and care delivery and other neighbourhood working models, Southampton has been split into six areas. They are (mostly) made up of three existing electoral wards and range from around 30,000 to 50,000 residents.

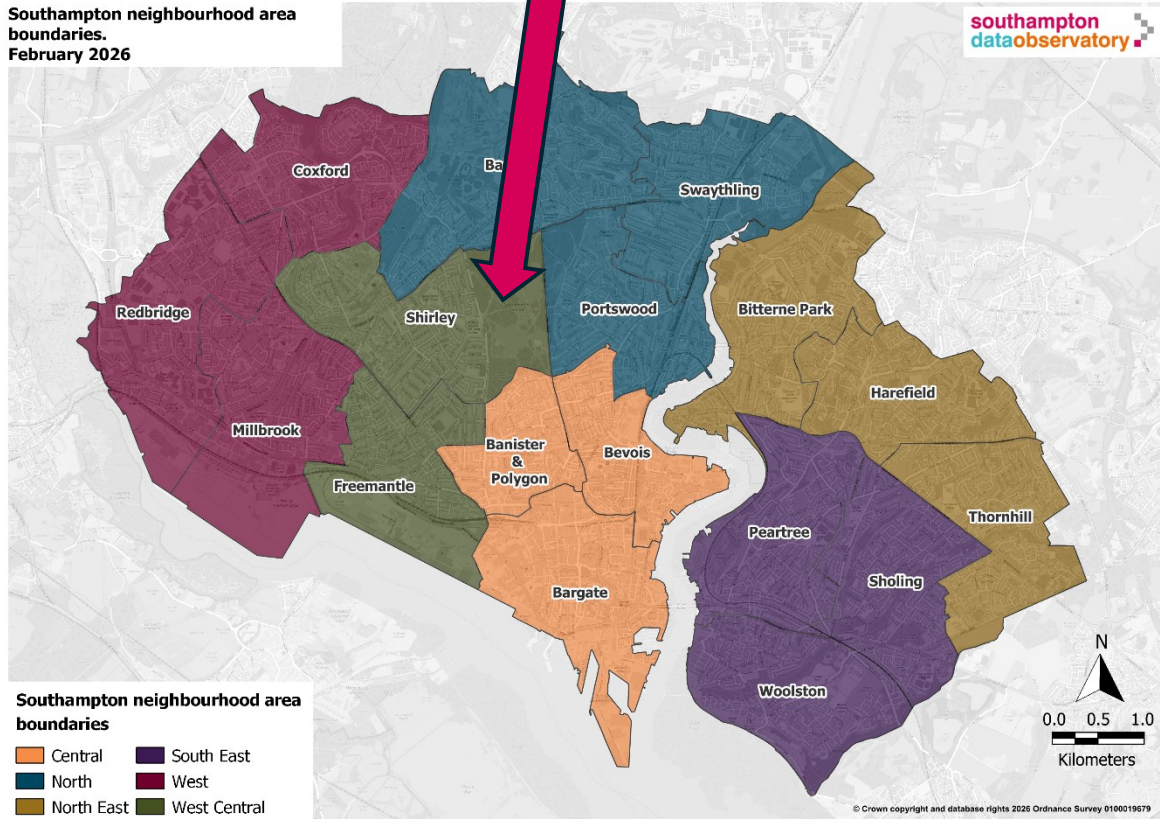
Each neighbourhood area profile has been profiled based on its unique composition and need*. These needs will be used to prioritise and inform service delivery at a local level in Southampton.

**Broad generalisations have been made about what makes each neighbourhood area profile different. There are many individual residents in each neighbourhood area profile who do not fit the profile.*

West Central neighbourhood area profile

Pop: 29,404

Southampton neighbourhood area boundaries. February 2026



Good health and education



Inequality within the neighbourhood area profile



Green space and active travel

Health & care summary

Mostly good outcomes, ASC need in Shirley, high drug admissions in Freemantle

West Central neighbourhood area profile

Pop: 29,404

Southampton's smallest neighbourhood area profile by population, West Central is the only one made up of just two wards. There are 16 LSOAs here, 11 are more deprived than the England average however only one is in IMD1 (England's most deprived 20% LSOAs). This is E01017250 next to Shirley High Street.

Almost sharing a border, E01017248 (on the western side of Southampton Common) is one of the least deprived areas in England, showing the close geography of inequality in the city.

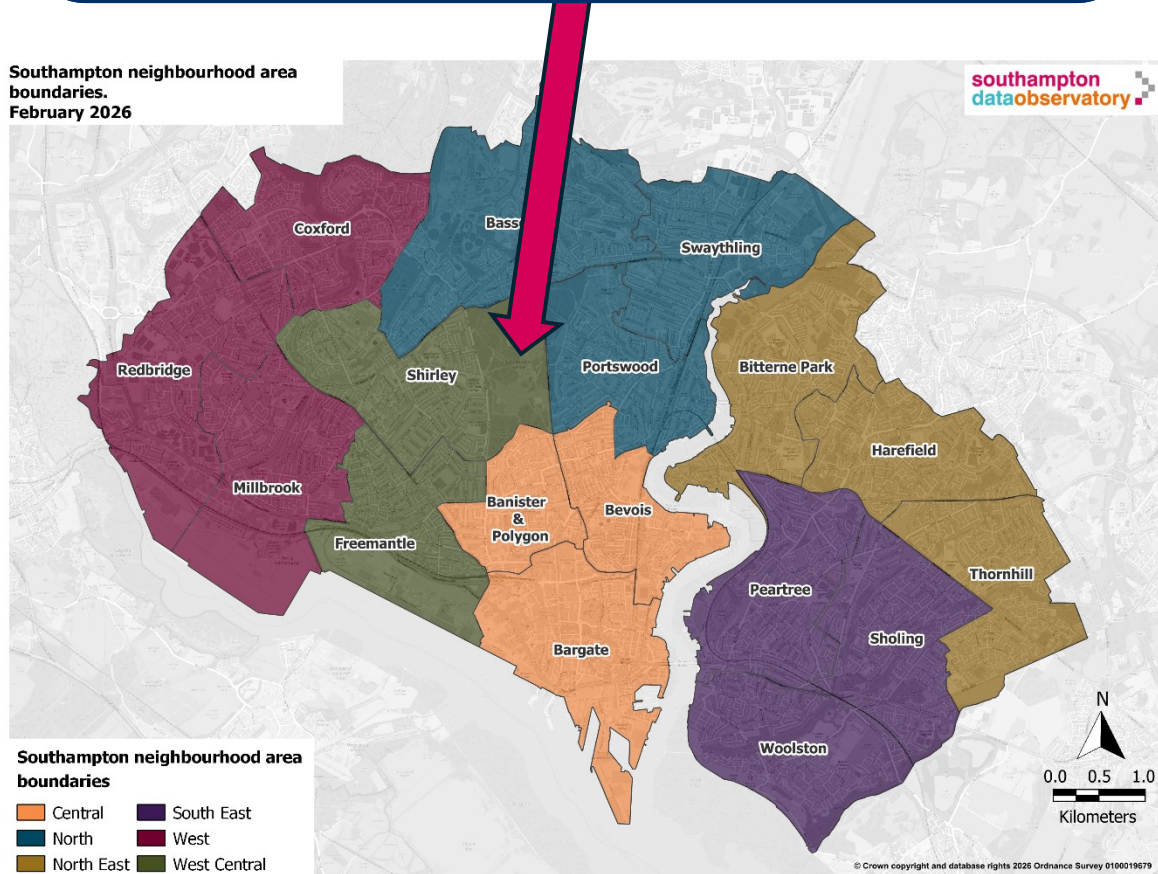
Average life expectancy and most measures of health are around the city average or better in this neighbourhood area profile. However, Shirley has some acute ASC needs and Freemantle has some of the highest drug related admission rates in the city.

Education attainment and attendance is significantly better here than the rest of Southampton. Nearly a third of Shirley is taken up by Southampton Common. It has the best active travel rates and the highest percent of greenspace of all wards in Southampton.

The population is growing slowly, forecast to increase by around 400 (1.4%) by 2030.

Southampton neighbourhood area boundaries.
February 2026

southampton
dataobservatory



Discussion points

How do these insights impact priorities?

■ Significantly worse than city
■ Similar to city
■ Significantly better than city

■ Significantly higher than city
■ Similar to city
■ Significantly lower than city

Adult Social Care	Freemantle	Shirley	Southampton average
Rate of contacts with Information, Advice and Guidance outcome	31.7 per 1k	34.7 per 1k	27.9 per 1k
Ward ranking (1= highest)	6th	4th	
Rate of safeguarding concerns	3.3 per 1k	6.7 per 1k	4.9 per 1k
Ward ranking (1= highest)	15th	3rd	

Shirley has some of the highest ASC needs in the city, Freemantle is also in the top 6 for total ASC contacts.

Despite the positive overall health statistics, Freemantle is one of the worst wards in the city for drug related hospital admissions. By contrast the other half of West Central neighbourhood area profile (Shirley) is one of the best for this measure.

Admissions	Freemantle	Shirley	Southampton average
Drug use poisoning admissions (primary diagnosis) 5 yrs	64.8 per 100k	30.8 per 100k	40.9 per 100k
Ward ranking (1= highest)	2nd	15th	
Drug related mental/behavioural admissions (primary/secondary diagnosis) 3yrs	534.1 per 100k	126.4 per 100k	272.6 per 100k
Ward ranking (1= highest)	2nd	15th	
Drug related mental/behavioural admissions (primary/secondary diagnosis) 5 yrs	470.3 per 100k	155.1 per 100k	256.0 per 100k
Ward ranking (1= highest)	2nd	15th	

Crime	Freemantle	Shirley	Southampton average
Domestic Abuse crime rate	22.2 per 1k	18.9 per 1k	18.7 per 1k
Ward ranking (1= highest)	5th	8th	
Violent crime rate	55.9 per 1k	56.5 per 1k	48.2 per 1k
Ward ranking (1= highest)	7th	6th	

Freemantle and Shirley also have significant challenges with crime. Domestic abuse and violent crime are higher in this neighbourhood area profile compared to the city average. Violent crime is significantly higher in both wards.

Discussion points

How do these insights impact priorities?

■ Significantly worse than city	■ Significantly higher than city
■ Similar to city	■ Similar to city
■ Significantly better than city	■ Significantly lower than city

Education attainment and absence is significantly better across the board in the West Central neighbourhood area profile. Shirley has the best Key Stage 4 attainment in the city and Freemantle has the best suspension rate.

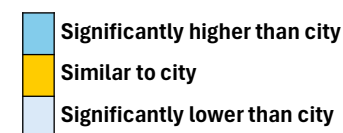
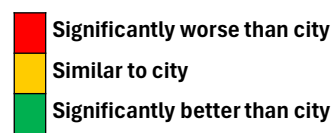
Education	Freemantle	Shirley	Southampton average
Overall absence	7.1%	7%	8.1%
Ward ranking (1= highest)	12th	13th	
Persistent absence	19.4%	18.6%	22.6%
Ward ranking (1= highest)	12th	14th	
Key Stage 4 (Attainment 8)	45.6%	49%	42.8
Ward ranking (1= lowest)	11th	17th	
Suspensions rate	2.7 per 100	6.3 per 100	10.3 per 100
Ward ranking (1= highest)	17th	12th	

Other Health	Freemantle	Shirley	Southampton average
Walk or cycle to work if employed	17.4%	23.8%	15.1%
Ward ranking (1= lowest)	12th	17th	
Percentage of Greenspace	1.1%	36.5%	7.1%
Ward ranking (1= highest)	17th	1st	

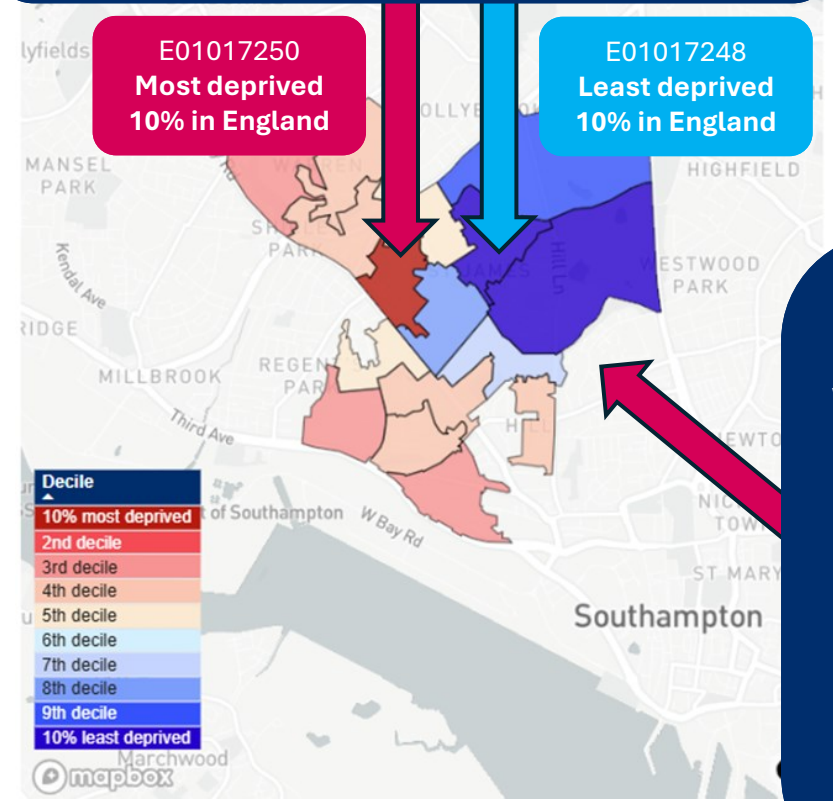
Shirley has the most greenspace in the city (with its proximity to Southampton Common) this is reflected in the number of people walking or cycling to work. In stark comparison the other half of this neighbourhood area profile has the least greenspace in the city, despite this Freemantle has significantly better active travel rates than the city average.

Discussion points

How do these insights impact priorities?



LSOAs in England's most and least deprived deciles can be found in this neighbourhood area profile, separated by a few hundred meters.



Economy	Freemantle	Shirley	Southampton average
Percentage of residents age 16+ with no qualifications	16.1%	15.7%	17.3%
Ward ranking (1= highest)	10th	12th	
Percentage of residents age 16+ with level 4+ qualifications	37.8%	40.4%	31.6%
Ward ranking (1= lowest)	12th	14th	
Percentage of unemployed residents (aged 16+ economically)	3.7%	2.5%	3.0%
Ward ranking (1= highest)	3rd	14th	

This neighbourhood area profile has significantly better qualified residents aged 16+, Shirley has one of the lowest unemployment figures in the city while Freemantle has one of the worst.

IMD 2025:

West Central neighbourhood area profile

- 16 LSOAs
- 1 LSOA in 20% most deprived
- 6.3% (1,723) of residents within West Central neighbourhood area profile in 20% most deprived (significantly lower than Southampton average (24.3%))

West Central neighbourhood area profile has the third highest rate of home ownership in the city, more than half of homes here are owned (51%). It has the lowest rate of social rented homes in Southampton (15%).

Population aged 0 to 15 for
West Central neighbourhood
area: 2024

5,711

Population aged 16 to 64 for
West Central neighbourhood
area: 2024

19,733

Population aged 18+ for West
Central neighbourhood area:
2024

23,027

Population aged 65+ for West
Central neighbourhood area:
2024

3,960

Total population for West Central
neighbourhood area: 2024

29,404

Population by age and sex for West
Central neighbourhood area: 2024

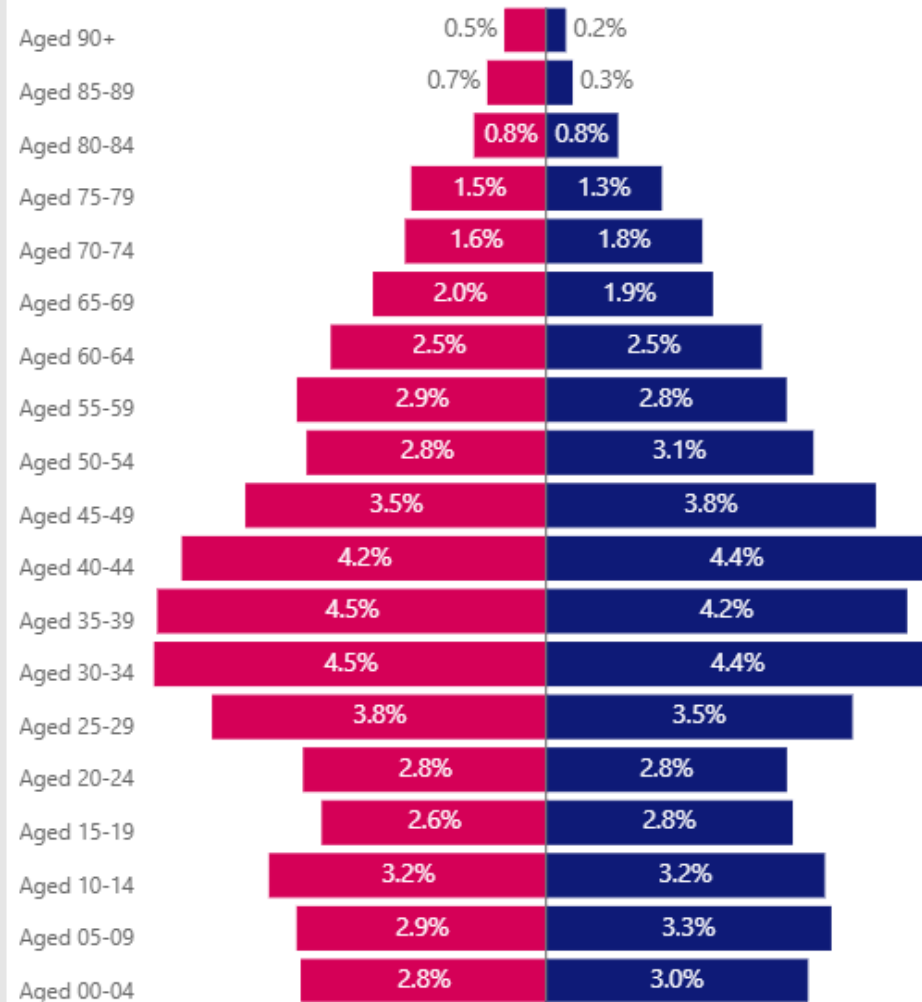
Source: ONS MYE

Ward age groups	Female	Male	Total
Aged 00-04	829	886	1,715
Aged 05-09	843	965	1,808
Aged 10-14	937	943	1,880
Aged 15-19	758	834	1,592
Aged 20-24	821	814	1,635
Aged 25-29	1,130	1,037	2,167
Aged 30-34	1,327	1,300	2,627
Aged 35-39	1,316	1,222	2,538
Aged 40-44	1,233	1,292	2,525
Aged 45-49	1,017	1,116	2,133
Aged 50-54	809	904	1,713
Aged 55-59	842	813	1,655
Aged 60-64	727	729	1,456
Aged 65-69	584	563	1,147
Aged 70-74	475	527	1,002
Aged 75-79	454	390	844
Aged 80-84	241	241	482
Aged 85-89	196	87	283
Aged 90+	138	64	202
Total	14,677	14,727	29,404

Population by age and sex for West Central
neighbourhood area: 2024

Source: ONS MYE

● Female ● Male



Aged 0 to 15 change between 2024 and 2031: West Central neighbourhood area

-10.8% (-548)

Aged 16 to 64 change between 2024 and 2031: West Central neighbourhood area

3.2% (584)

Aged 18+ change between 2024 and 2031: West Central neighbourhood area

5.5% (1,179)

Aged 65+ change between 2024 and 2031: West Central neighbourhood area

15.4% (602)

Population change between 2024 and 2031: West Central neighbourhood area

2.3% (638)

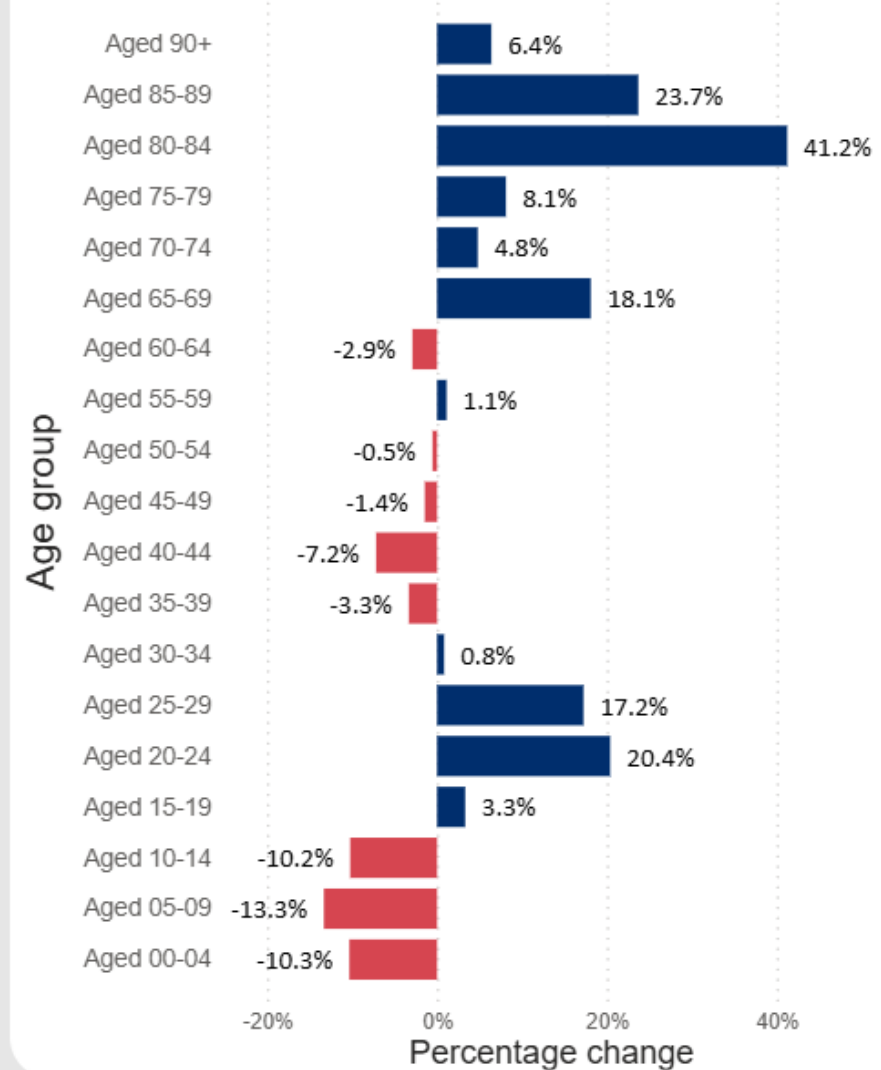
Population change between 2024 and 2031: West Central neighbourhood area

Source: HCC SAPF

Age group	Female	Male	Total
Aged 00-04	-47	-111	-158
Aged 05-09	-110	-101	-211
Aged 10-14	-76	-94	-170
Aged 15-19	29	22	51
Aged 20-24	193	233	426
Aged 25-29	108	249	357
Aged 30-34	-70	88	18
Aged 35-39	-125	55	-70
Aged 40-44	-122	-24	-146
Aged 45-49	-27	1	-26
Aged 50-54	10	-19	-9
Aged 55-59	-20	37	17
Aged 60-64	-46	3	-43
Aged 65-69	148	56	204
Aged 70-74	55	-6	49
Aged 75-79	-19	84	65
Aged 80-84	113	87	200
Aged 85-89	25	48	73
Aged 90+	-7	18	11
Total	12	626	638

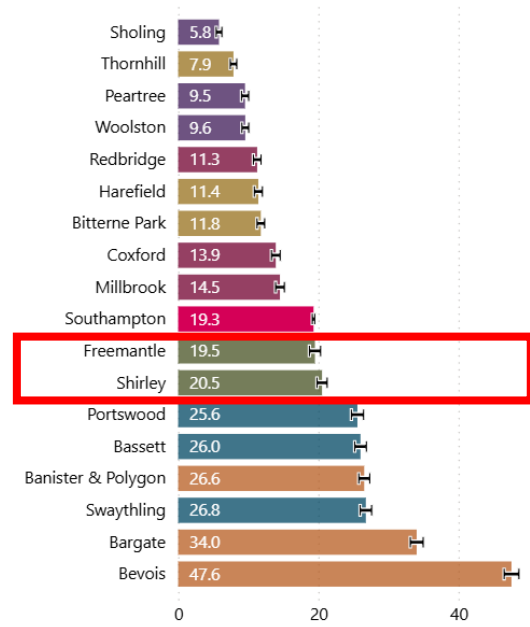
Percentage of population change between 2024 and 2031: West Central neighbourhood area

Source: HCC SAPF

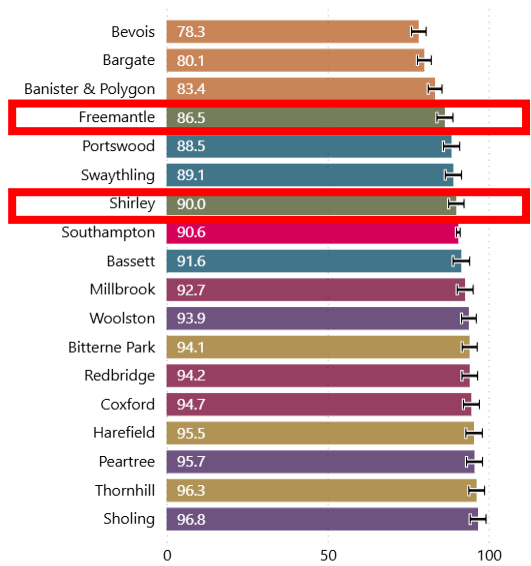


Key messages: Population and Demography

Percentage of population that are minority ethnic groups by Ward: 2021



Percentage of households that have one or more persons with English as a main language by Ward: 2021



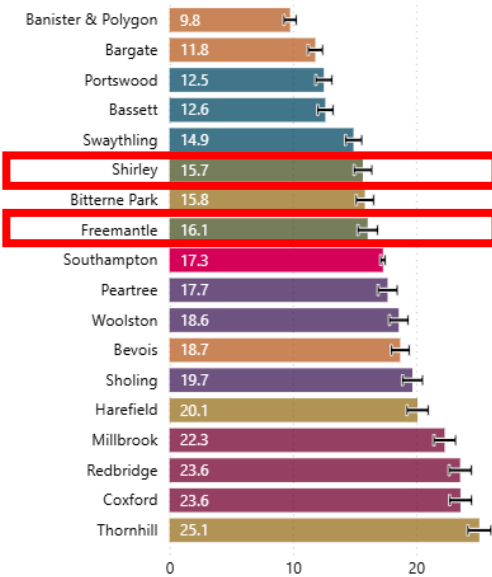
Area	Forecast percentage change in resident population aged 16-64 years	Forecast percentage change in resident population aged 65 and over	Forecast percentage change in resident population aged under 16 years	Percentage of households that have one or more persons with English as a main language	Percentage of lone parent families with dependent children	Percentage of population that are minority ethnic groups	Percentage of resident population aged 16-64 years	Percentage of resident population aged 65 and over	Percentage of resident population aged under 16 years
Southampton	7.5	18.7	-1.8	90.6	7.2	19.3	68.3	14.3	17.3
Banister & Polygon	5.9	30.8	17.0	83.4	4.2	26.6	80.0	8.3	11.7
Bargate	47.8	113.4	63.3	80.1	5.4	34.0	76.4	9.6	13.9
Bassett	2.9	4.0	-8.1	91.6	3.6	26.0	72.4	15.0	12.6
Bevois	13.7	39.1	-1.3	78.3	6.0	47.6	73.9	7.3	18.8
Bitterne Park	4.6	21.0	-5.3	94.1	6.7	11.8	64.4	18.0	17.6
Coxford	1.2	6.5	-1.3	94.7	7.0	13.9	62.4	19.2	18.4
Freemantle	4.5	24.8	-0.3	86.5	5.3	19.5	68.2	13.2	18.6
Harefield	0.9	7.8	-8.8	95.5	8.4	11.4	61.9	19.6	18.6
Millbrook	2.1	10.8	-12.8	92.7	9.8	14.5	63.7	15.5	20.8
Peartree	3.0	14.2	-7.4	95.7	7.8	9.5	66.3	14.7	18.9
Portswood	1.9	4.8	-10.3	88.5	4.0	25.6	72.3	14.2	13.5
Redbridge	5.7	12.6	-8.9	94.2	11.1	11.3	62.6	15.3	22.1
Shirley	5.6	10.3	-8.9	90.0	7.6	20.5	64.8	15.7	19.5
Sholing	-0.3	11.0	-3.6	96.8	5.2	5.8	62.6	20.2	17.2
Swaythling	1.2	13.3	-10.6	89.1	6.8	26.8	76.3	10.4	13.3
Thornhill	3.0	10.6	-13.9	96.3	13.3	7.9	62.5	16.0	21.5
Woolston	5.7	21.9	-3.0	93.9	9.4	9.6	64.7	15.3	20.0

Ageing population with mixed cultural and ethnic diversity

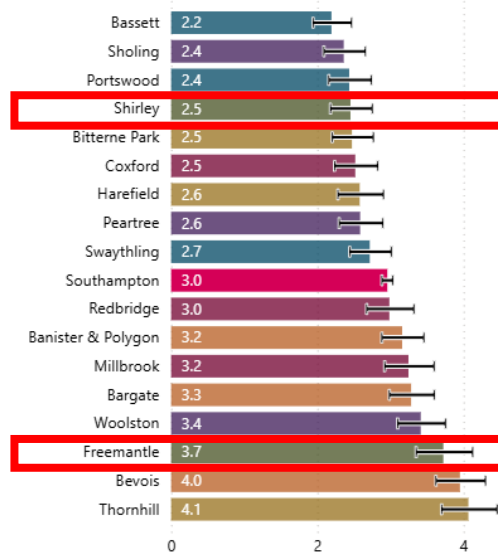
- Shirley has a significantly higher proportion of minority ethnic residents than the Southampton average, while its proportion of households with English as a main language is similar to the city average.
- Freemantle has a lower proportion of minority ethnic residents than the Southampton average, with English-language households also similar to the city average.
- Shirley has a lower percentage of lone-parent families with dependent children, Freemantle is similar to the Southampton average.
- Both wards are forecast to experience growth in their older (65+) populations, with Freemantle showing a bigger increase, while Shirley is forecast a steeper decline in residents aged under 16 compared with Freemantle.

Key messages: Unemployment levels and Qualifications

Percentage of residents aged 16 and over with no qualifications by Ward: 2021



Percentage of unemployed residents (aged 16+ years that are economically active, excludes full-time students) by Ward: 2021



Area	Percentage of economically active residents aged 16 years and over (excluding full-time students)	Percentage of residents aged 16 and over with no qualifications	Percentage of residents aged 16 years and over with level 4 qualifications or above	Percentage of unemployed residents (aged 16+ years that are economically active, excludes full-time students)
Southampton	57.9	17.3	31.6	3.0
Banister & Polygon	54.9	9.8	43.7	3.2
Bargate	55.8	11.8	42.8	3.3
Bassett	48.7	12.6	40.0	2.2
Bevois	50.0	18.7	31.6	4.0
Bitterne Park	65.1	15.8	32.7	2.5
Coxford	59.9	23.6	24.7	2.5
Freemantle	68.4	16.1	37.8	3.7
Harefield	59.9	20.1	24.1	2.6
Millbrook	62.5	22.3	25.4	3.2
Pear tree	64.6	17.7	27.1	2.6
Portswood	46.5	12.5	42.3	2.4
Redbridge	62.5	23.6	21.6	3.0
Shirley	64.0	15.7	40.4	2.5
Sholing	62.9	19.7	22.8	2.4
Swaythling	42.0	14.9	28.8	2.7
Thornhill	57.9	25.1	18.3	4.1
Woolston	63.9	18.6	27.3	3.4

Educated area with employment gaps

- **Both Shirley and Freemantle have significantly better economic activity** compared to the Southampton average, with Freemantle the highest ward in the city.
- **Freemantle and Shirley both have significantly better outcomes on qualifications** than the Southampton average, with fewer residents holding no qualifications and a higher proportion educated to Level 4 and above, indicating a stronger skills profile in the neighbourhood.
- **Freemantle's unemployment rate is significantly worse than the city average**, while Shirley has a significantly better unemployment rate.

Key messages: Health outcomes

Area	Directly age standardised mortality rate from cancer, per 100,000 population, in those aged under 75 years (5 year pooled)	Directly age standardised mortality rate from respiratory disease, per 100,000 population, in those aged under 75 years (5 years)	Female life expectancy at birth (5 year pooled)	General fertility rate, live births per 1,000 women aged 15 to 44 years (5 year pooled)	Male life expectancy at birth (5 year pooled)	Mortality rate from all causes, all ages (persons) DSR per 100,00 persons (5 year pooled)	Percentage of population reporting bad or very bad health	Percentage of residents limited a lot by disability	Percentage of Year 6 children that are a healthy weight (5 year pooled)	Percentage of Year R children that are a healthy weight (5 year pooled)	Under 75 mortality rate from all cardiovascular diseases (persons) DSR per 100,000 aged under 75 (5 year pooled)	Under 75 mortality rate from all causes (persons) DSR per 100,000 people aged under 75 (5 year pooled)
Southampton	146.5	39.9	83.1	42.1	78.8	960.6	5.0	7.1	59.7	75.0	80.6	386.8
Banister & Polygon	123.8	42.5	80.6	26.7	77.1	1,229.3	3.9	5.1	63.4	80.7	67.1	405.9
Bargate	98.6	40.8	97.0	26.3	84.9	572.5	3.7	4.6	55.6	76.2	58.9	311.8
Bassett	134.7	21.2	84.0	24.4	81.1	888.6	3.9	5.4	65.1	81.8	51.4	312.2
Bevois	162.7	32.8	82.3	38.0	75.3	1,234.5	4.4	5.9	53.4	73.5	138.1	560.4
Bitterne Park	117.6	22.6	87.0	54.7	81.9	748.7	4.3	6.5	67.8	77.6	68.6	309.8
Coxford	169.3	60.7	81.5	52.8	77.2	1,084.0	6.5	8.8	60.2	72.8	67.1	433.0
Freemantle	167.4	41.9	86.3	54.7	80.3	835.4	4.7	6.2	59.9	78.5	115.3	422.3
Harefield	148.3	35.8	85.0	58.3	79.5	860.4	5.7	8.2	59.2	73.8	69.9	320.3
Millbrook	128.3	34.1	84.3	53.6	80.4	817.5	5.7	7.9	58.0	71.2	73.1	349.2
Peartree	148.9	54.1	81.1	51.4	77.0	1,220.1	5.3	7.4	57.5	76.7	96.5	389.6
Portswood	119.2	32.3	82.5	30.1	78.2	959.8	4.4	6.4	60.5	74.0	117.3	363.7
Redbridge	165.7	44.7	84.1	65.2	78.6	916.8	5.9	8.6	56.3	72.2	62.2	411.8
Shirley	149.5	34.1	84.4	50.8	80.7	858.5	4.5	6.7	64.1	74.9	69.6	347.3
Sholing	153.4	38.2	84.4	51.9	79.8	872.6	5.0	7.6	62.0	76.7	61.9	336.1
Swaythling	156.3	62.4	83.9	22.6	78.6	938.6	4.6	6.5	59.2	77.8	96.8	432.1
Thornhill	189.3	47.2	81.4	58.6	76.8	1,102.3	6.8	10.1	55.2	71.2	104.1	495.1
Woolston	147.0	29.6	81.6	62.7	76.5	1,337.4	5.6	8.7	59.1	72.9	95.6	436.5

Good outcomes with some health pressures

- **Both Freemantle and Shirley have better overall mortality rates than the Southampton average, and female life expectancy is significantly higher in Freemantle, indicating stronger general health outcomes in the neighbourhood.**
- **Freemantle shows specific areas of elevated premature mortality, ranking 3rd highest in the city for under-75 mortality from both cardiovascular disease and cancer.**
- **Healthy-weight outcomes in children vary, with Shirley among the top three wards for healthy weight in Year 6, while Freemantle ranks 3rd highest for healthy weight in Year R.**

Key messages: Hospital admissions

Area	Admission episodes with a primary diagnosis of poisoning by drug misuse, DSR per 100,000 population, all ages (3 years)	Admission episodes with a primary diagnosis of poisoning by drug misuse, DSR per 100,000 population, all ages (5 years)	Emergency hospital admissions due to falls in people aged 65 and over DSR per 100,000 (3 year pooled)	Emergency hospital admissions due to falls in people aged 65 and over DSR per 100,000 (5 year pooled)	Hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries in children (aged 0 to 14 years) crude rate per 10,000 (3 year pooled)	Hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries in children (aged 0 to 14 years) crude rate per 10,000 (5 year pooled)	Hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries in children and young people (aged 15 to 24 years) crude rate per 10,000 (3 year pooled)	Hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries in children and young people (aged 15 to 24 years) crude rate per 10,000 (5 year pooled)	Inpatient admission rate for mental health disorders crude rate per 100,000 population aged 0-17 years (3 years)	Inpatient admission rate for mental health disorders crude rate per 100,000 population aged 0-17 years (5 years)
Southampton	34.2	40.9	2,738.1	2,886.0	81.0	94.9	126.8	131.1	151.5	144.0
Banister & Polygon	45.5	48.6	3,002.0	3,018.2	59.4	54.6	117.2	109.1		92.8
Bargate	36.6	40.3	1,493.9	1,673.6	68.4	83.1	58.3	63.7		63.6
Bassett		19.4	2,847.5	3,080.8	67.4	82.0	77.3	88.2	272.7	199.9
Bevois	36.5	67.3	3,364.4	3,682.8	58.4	70.7	152.1	160.1	128.3	125.4
Bitterne Park	24.4	34.2	2,563.4	2,702.3	85.3	85.7	96.5	108.7	161.4	128.8
Coxford	31.5	42.9	2,818.9	2,971.9	105.7	116.5	198.0	187.3	160.8	150.4
Freemantle	59.3	64.8	2,265.8	2,587.7	69.0	76.9	193.9	195.1	106.0	135.0
Harefield	28.1	33.4	2,675.7	2,832.8	122.6	129.4	145.6	166.1		154.0
Millbrook	34.4	41.4	2,706.8	2,955.9	86.4	102.9	183.4	198.9	156.4	122.5
Pear tree	31.5	39.0	3,397.4	3,610.9	75.1	98.8	148.6	172.3	229.5	175.3
Portswood		18.2	2,496.1	2,877.7	58.4	64.5	101.4	96.6	133.2	130.7
Redbridge	40.2	59.7	2,901.8	3,094.5	126.6	120.3	156.9	174.7	264.3	198.4
Shirley	26.5	30.8	3,039.3	3,006.6	71.9	96.1	150.3	147.7	206.2	205.1
Sholing	35.5	34.6	2,566.4	2,574.5	63.8	88.1	181.9	169.5		116.0
Swaythling	36.1	36.0	2,608.7	2,574.3	81.9	89.4	91.4	95.4	278.6	221.8
Thornhill	49.3	58.5	3,028.6	2,871.6	89.1	127.4	312.6	288.2	122.9	146.2
Woolston	39.0	39.1	3,007.3	3,278.8	68.9	92.2	140.7	154.4		82.2

Different levels of vulnerability for hospital admissions

- **Freemantle has high levels of need, with the 2nd highest drug-misuse admission rate in the city, while Shirley ranks among the lowest, indicating very different substance-related pressures across the neighbourhood.**
- **Falls admissions in people aged 65+ are higher in Shirley, though both wards sit close to the Southampton average.**
- **Freemantle shows contrasting patterns in childhood and young-people injuries—it is the 4th lowest ward for admissions among 0–14s, yet the 3rd highest for 15–24s, significantly worse than the Southampton average; Shirley is similar to the city average for both groups.**

Key messages: Education

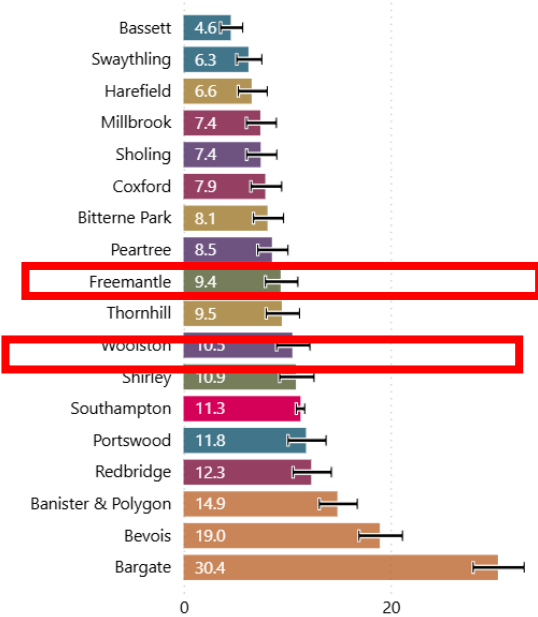
Area	% Overall Absence	% Overall Absence Primary	% Overall Absence Secondary	% Persistent Absence	% Persistent Absence Primary	% Persistent Absence Secondary	Key Stage 4 - Attainment 8	Key Stage 4 - Percentage achieving 5+ in English & Maths (Basics)	Percentage of children achieving a good level of development at the end of Reception	Percentage of key stage 2 pupils meeting the expected standard in reading, writing and maths	Percentage of pupils eligible for Free School Meals (FSM)	Percentage of pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN)	Suspensions Rate (per 100 pupils)	Suspensions Rate (per 100 pupils) Primary	Suspensions Rate (per 100 pupils) Secondary
Southampton	8.1	6.3	10.3	22.6	18.2	28.4	42.8	37.9	66.9	55.3	34.4	20.3	10.3	2.9	21.5
Banister & Polygon	7.0	6.0	8.9	18.4	15.4	23.7	48.4	49.1	66.3	64.0	30.2	18.7	4.0		7.3
Bargate	8.6	7.4	10.4	26.9	24.5	30.4	41.9	35.9	62.5	53.3	38.4	15.7	10.4	2.9	24.8
Bassett	6.5	5.7	7.4	17.0	14.9	18.5	47.8	48.8	75.0	63.0	23.7	14.8	4.3	1.9	5.5
Bevois	8.0	7.1	8.9	24.6	20.6	28.7	46.7	43.7	62.8	46.1	38.2	17.3	10.9	1.5	25.2
Bitterne Park	6.3	5.0	8.4	15.3	11.1	21.5	46.5	43.6	78.7	67.0	22.7	19.7	7.4	2.6	14.3
Coxford	8.0	6.6	10.5	22.9	17.8	29.7	42.7	36.8	63.1	62.2	34.4	22.7	6.0	1.6	11.9
Freemantle	7.1	6.0	8.9	19.4	16.2	24.1	45.6	42.7	70.6	60.8	26.8	20.5	2.7	2.1	3.5
Harefield	8.8	6.9	11.3	23.7	19.5	28.8	41.1	28.1	57.2	47.1	36.9	21.7	17.0	6.1	32.2
Millbrook	8.2	6.6	10.2	23.7	19.3	29.2	40.6	35.8	65.6	55.7	36.5	23.3	6.3	4.3	8.2
Peartree	7.8	5.8	10.7	20.1	13.5	28.9	42.3	40.8	71.0	54.1	29.0	20.5	12.1	2.1	25.5
Portswood	6.9	5.5	9.3	18.9	13.7	26.6	48.0	50.7	67.0	63.2	22.1	17.5	7.8		19.9
Redbridge	9.0	7.1	11.9	24.9	20.5	31.2	39.2	29.4	68.2	64.1	44.3	26.5	6.5	3.1	12.2
Shirley	7.0	5.9	8.6	18.6	15.5	21.9	49.0	50.3	66.7	54.4	27.2	15.8	6.3	3.7	10.1
Sholing	7.6	5.7	10.3	19.4	14.5	25.9	39.1	32.1	69.9	43.7	23.1	18.1	10.1	1.9	22.2
Swaythling	8.7	7.2	10.3	25.3	21.8	27.9	42.0	34.3	61.8	52.3	35.5	21.8	9.2	2.2	18.4
Thornhill	10.7	7.5	15.3	30.2	22.0	41.4	30.3	19.6	60.3	33.0	55.6	24.9	19.4	6.4	39.0
Woolston	9.1	7.1	12.8	25.9	20.4	35.0	39.0	30.7	67.2	52.7	43.4	19.4	28.6	2.6	75.6

Positive education outcomes overall

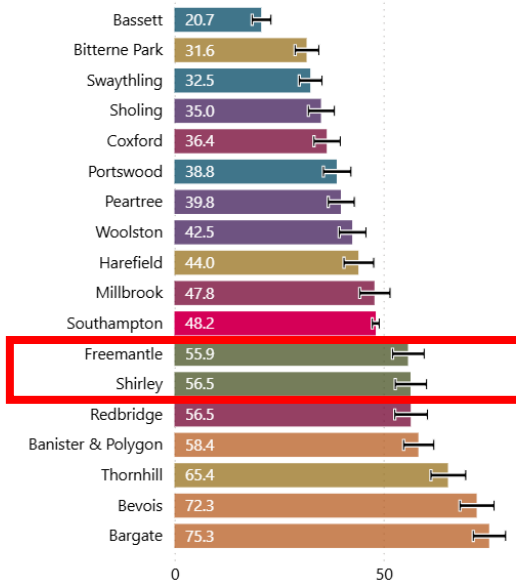
- **West Central has significantly better overall and persistent absence rates and lower suspension rates than the Southampton average, indicating stronger attendance and behaviour outcomes.**
- **Freemantle has a higher proportion of children achieving a good level of development at the end of Reception, placing it among the top four wards citywide, while Shirley sits just below the Southampton average.**
- **Both wards have significantly lower percentages of pupils eligible for Free School Meals, suggesting lower levels of deprivation in this neighbourhood.**
- **Shirley has significantly lower levels of pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN), while Freemantle is closer to the Southampton average.**

Key messages: Crime

Rate of anti-social behaviour incidents per 1k population by Ward: January 2023 - December 2023



Rate of violent crime per 1k population by Ward: January 2023 - December 2023



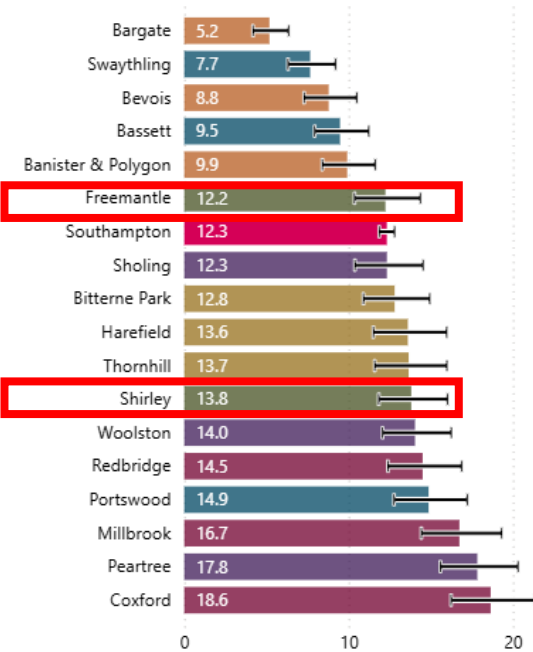
Area	Rate of alcohol affected crimes per 1k population	Rate of anti-social behaviour incidents per 1k population	Rate of domestic abuse related crimes per 1k population	Rate of theft offences per 1k population	Rate of total crime per 1k population	Rate of violent crime per 1k population
Southampton	9.4	11.3	18.7	37.2	123.4	48.2
Banister & Polygon	20.7	14.9	15.6	42.8	152.6	58.4
Bargate	24.4	30.4	18.1	118.7	280.2	75.3
Bassett	2.7	4.6	7.8	19.4	59.3	20.7
Bevois	10.1	19.0	23.7	40.1	163.5	72.3
Bitterne Park	5.3	8.1	14.1	23.2	75.4	31.6
Coxford	5.5	7.9	19.5	18.6	79.6	36.4
Freemantle	16.9	9.4	22.2	46.0	151.8	55.9
Harefield	5.5	6.6	18.1	31.3	103.9	44.0
Millbrook	6.2	7.4	22.6	50.6	133.1	47.8
Peartree	6.7	8.5	17.1	27.0	96.4	39.8
Portswood	8.6	11.8	13.8	41.0	115.1	38.8
Redbridge	6.0	12.3	24.2	26.3	126.9	56.5
Shirley	9.2	10.9	18.9	30.8	127.7	56.5
Sholing	4.1	7.4	15.0	20.8	78.2	35.0
Swaythling	5.3	6.3	13.9	18.5	73.1	32.5
Thornhill	11.3	9.5	34.6	32.4	142.2	65.4
Woolston	6.0	10.5	20.6	24.0	93.0	42.5

Freemantle drives crime pressure

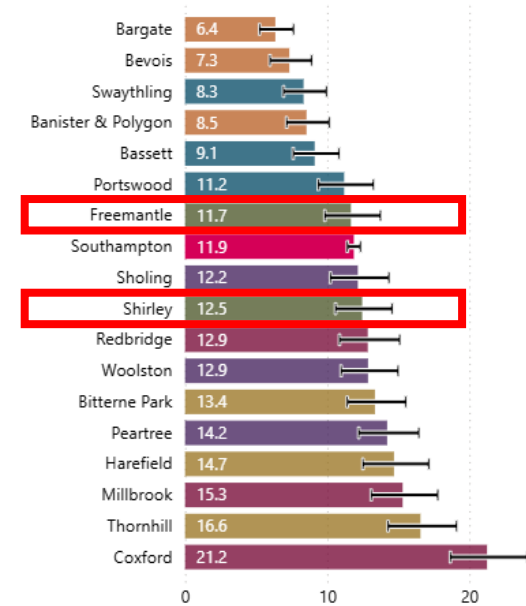
- **Freemantle has significantly higher total crime than the Southampton average**, driven by **significantly worse rates of theft, domestic abuse related crime and alcohol affected crime**.
- **Both Freemantle and Shirley have significantly worse violent crime rates** compared with the Southampton average.
- **Shirley has significantly better theft rates** and is **broadly similar to Southampton** across most other crime categories.

Key messages: Adult Social Care

Rate of people with a current Adult Social Care service per 1k population aged 18+ by Ward: February 2024



Rate of new care request contacts where one of the three outcomes was Care Act Assessment Required per 1k population aged 18+ by Ward: March 2023 - February 2024



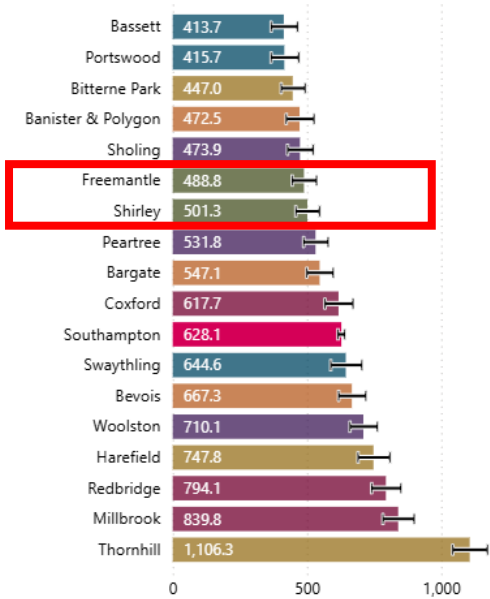
Area	Rate of contacts with an outcome of Information, Advice and Guidance per 1k population aged 18+	Rate of new care request contacts where one of the three outcomes was Care Act Assessment Required per 1k population aged 18+	Rate of people with a current Adult Social Care service per 1k population aged 18+	Rate of Safeguarding concerns per 1k population aged 18+	Rate of Section 42 enquiries per 1k population aged 18+
Southampton	27.9	11.9	12.3	4.9	2.2
Banister & Polygon	19.1	8.5	9.9	2.8	1.4
Bargate	18.5	6.4	5.2	3.2	1.3
Bassett	22.8	9.1	9.5	4.9	2.0
Bevois	24.9	7.3	8.8	4.4	1.5
Bitterne Park	28.1	13.4	12.8	4.1	1.7
Coxford	36.4	21.2	18.6	5.9	2.9
Freemantle	31.7	11.7	12.2	3.3	1.1
Harefield	34.4	14.7	13.6	6.0	2.9
Millbrook	31.4	15.3	16.7	4.5	2.1
Pear tree	36.9	14.2	17.8	8.4	4.3
Portswood	29.9	11.2	14.9	6.0	2.3
Redbridge	26.1	12.9	14.5	4.9	2.3
Shirley	34.7	12.5	13.8	6.7	2.6
Sholing	23.0	12.2	12.3	3.6	1.3
Swaythling	23.6	8.3	7.7	3.5	1.8
Thornhill	36.1	16.6	13.7	7.0	3.3
Woolston	26.1	12.9	14.0	5.8	3.5

Diverging Adult Social Care (ASC) needs

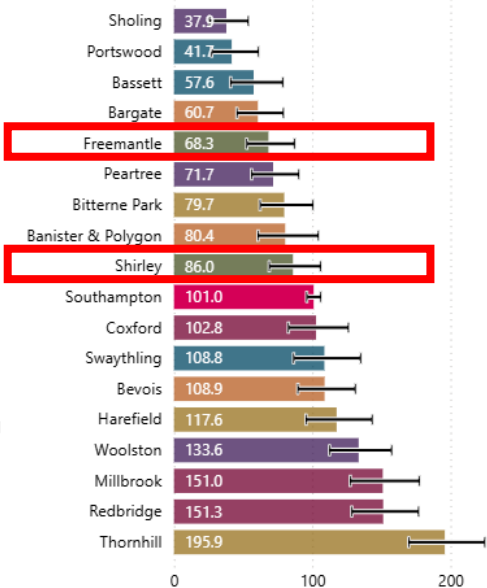
- Both wards have significantly higher rates of contacts resulting in Information, Advice and Guidance, suggesting strong demand for early-stage adult social care support in the neighbourhood.
- Shirley has a higher rate of current adult social care involvement, above the Southampton average, while Freemantle sits just below the city average.
- Freemantle has significantly lower safeguarding concerns and Section 42 enquiries than the Southampton average, while Shirley has significantly higher safeguarding concerns, highlighting contrasting safeguarding pressures across the neighbourhood.

Key messages: Children Social Care

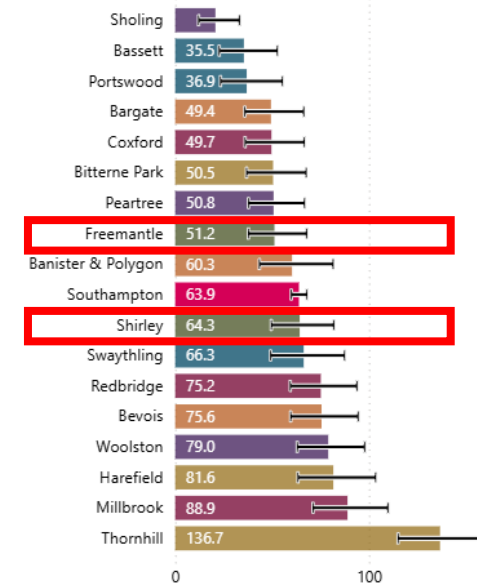
Rate of Children In Need per 10k 0-17 population by Ward: 2020/21 - 2022/23



Rate of Children on Child Protection Plans per 10k 0-17 population by Ward: 2020/21 - 2022/23



Rate of Children Looked After per 10k 0-17 population by Ward: 2020/21 - 2022/23



Area	Rate of Children In Need per 10k 0-17 population	Rate of Children Looked After per 10k 0-17 population	Rate of Children on Child Protection Plans per 10k 0-17 population
Southampton	628.1	63.9	101.0
Banister & Polygon	472.5	60.3	80.4
Bargate	547.1	49.4	60.7
Bassett	413.7	35.5	57.6
Bevois	667.3	75.6	108.9
Bitterne Park	447.0	50.5	79.7
Coxford	617.7	49.7	102.8
Freemantle	488.8	51.2	68.3
Harefield	747.8	81.6	117.6
Millbrook	839.8	88.9	151.0
Pear tree	531.8	50.8	71.7
Portswood	415.7	36.9	41.7
Redbridge	794.1	75.2	151.3
Shirley	501.3	64.3	86.0
Sholing	473.9	20.8	37.9
Swaythling	644.6	66.3	108.8
Thornhill	1,106.3	136.7	195.9
Woolston	710.1	79.0	133.6

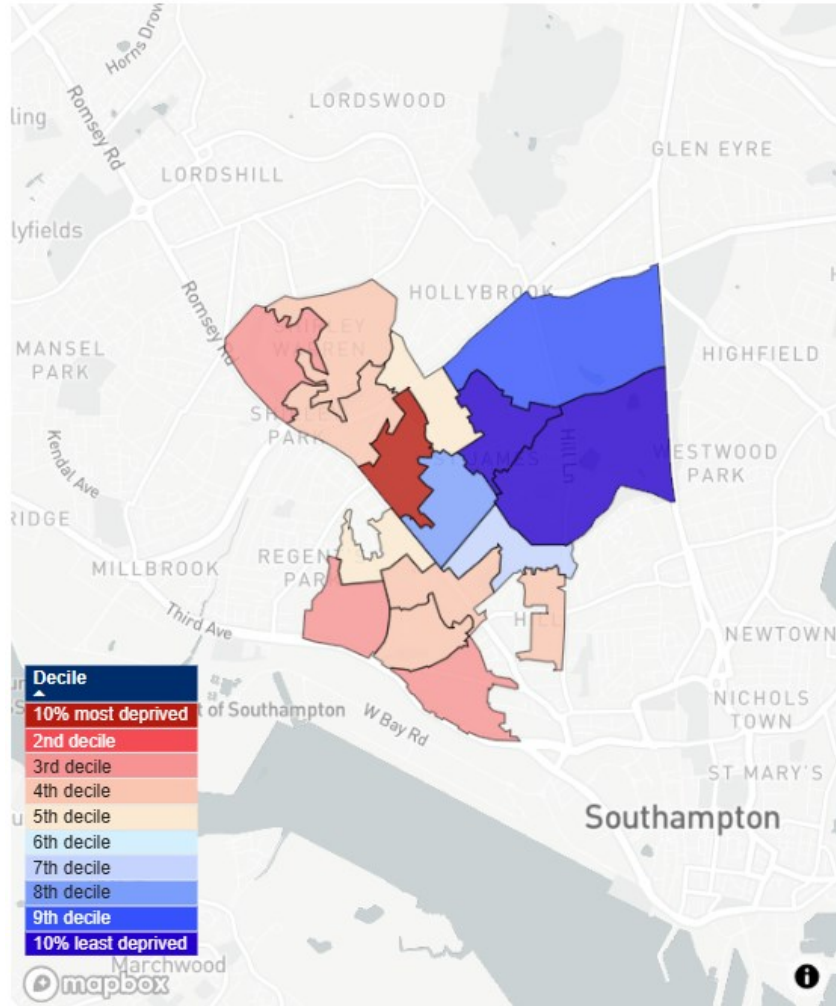
Lower Children’s Social Care (CSC) need overall

- Both Freeman and Shirley have significantly lower rates of Children in Need than the Southampton average
- Rates of Children Looked After are similar to the Southampton average in both wards.
- Freeman has significantly lower rates of Child Protection Plans, while Shirley is similar to the city average.

West Central - Deprivation

2025 IMD - Overall IMD: West Central Locality LSOAs

Source: MHCLG 2025

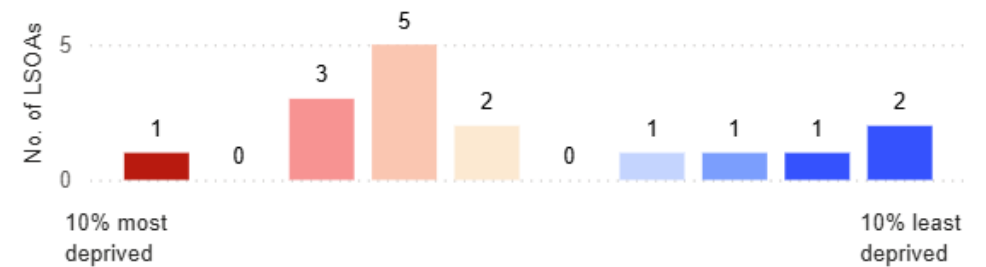


The map shows deprivation deciles by LSOA within the West Central neighbourhood area profile. Most LSOAs cluster around the 4th decile, with noticeably more areas in the less deprived deciles than in the most deprived.

1 LSOA in the West Central neighbourhood area profile is among the 20% most deprived nationally and 3 are within the 20% least deprived.

Number of LSOAs by decile - West Central Locality: Overall IMD (2025)

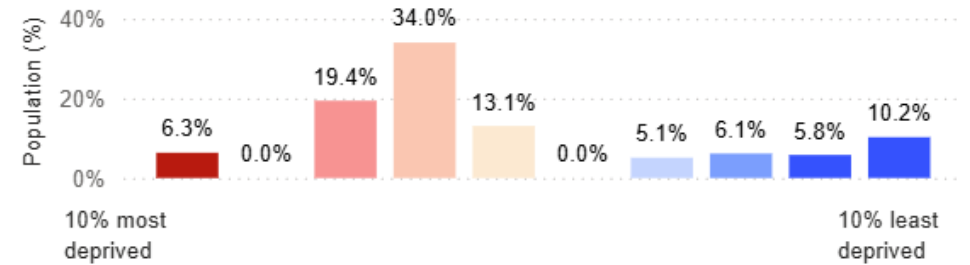
Source: MHCLG 2025



6.3% (1,723) of residents within this neighbourhood area profile live within the 20% most deprived LSOAs nationally, which is significantly lower than the Southampton average (24.3%).

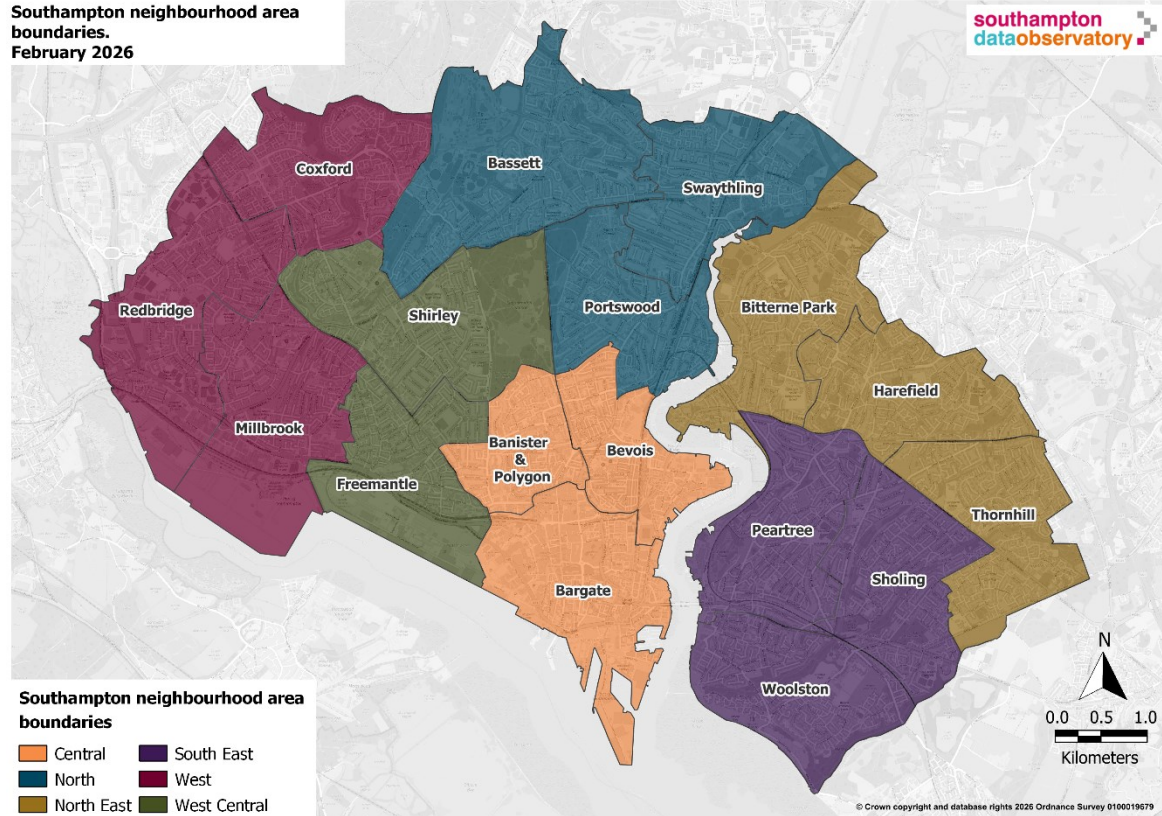
Percentage of population by decile - West Central Locality: Overall IMD (2025)

Source: MHCLG 2025, ONS MYE 2024



West Central – Housing tenure

Southampton neighbourhood area boundaries.
February 2026



West Central neighbourhood area profile has the second highest rate of home ownership in the city, more than half of homes here are owned (51%). It has the lowest rate of social rented homes in Southampton (15%).

Housing tenure by locality

Source: Census 2021 - ONS

Tenure: Owned (Blue), Private rented (Dark Blue), Social rented (Orange), Shared ow... (Purple), Lives rent f... (Pink)

