

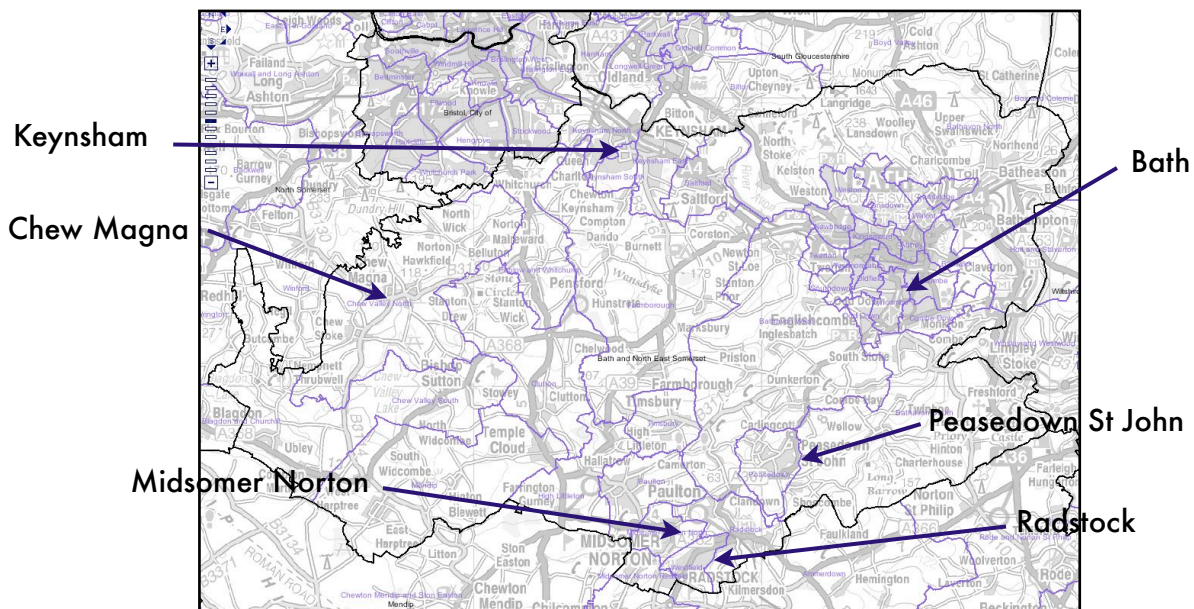
# BATH & NORTH EAST SOMERSET SOMERSET: AREA PROFILE

Bath and North East Somerset (B&NES) is a unitary authority with the historic city of Bath at its core joined to North East Somerset (formerly Wansdyke District). Bath is a cultural heritage centre and is wealthy, although South Bath is largely sprawling council housing estates with high levels of deprivation. North East Somerset has many towns that depended on mining industries, the last of these closed in the 1970s and some of the smaller towns and villages still struggle with high unemployment and low paid jobs. The voluntary sector is much weaker in this area. There is no dedicated Council for Voluntary Service and until 2012 this was provided through a service level agreement with CVS North Wiltshire. A new approach is currently being tried through Connecting Capacity. The voluntary sector is characterised by a few larger more established agencies such the Citizens Advice Bureau and Age Concern and numerous much smaller, less well funded organisations. B&NES is part of the West of England Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) area.

## Headlines:

- Overall B&NES is not a deprived area, but there are some pockets of persistent relative deprivation which are extreme when seen against the wealth of much of the area
- B&NES is the smallest of the West of England local authority areas by population, and is likely to remain so, and the city of Bath accounts for just over half the population of the whole area
- The proportion of older people is increasing, whilst the proportion of children is unusually low and likely to remain so
- Local health & social care policy highlights domestic violence, dementia, and young people and alcohol harm as key issues
- The most deprived areas of B&NES are parts of south-west Bath, Radstock, and Keynsham. Although only 4.3% of people live in deprived areas, 13% of children live in poverty
- The most prevalent issue within the overall Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) is education and skills
- Access to facilities and services is a key problem in the rural parts of the area
- There is currently little infrastructure to support the voluntary and community sector
- Over two thirds of grants made support very local activities and services

July 2014



# Population: Demographics

B&NES is the smallest unitary authority in the West of England by population and is likely to remain so according to population forecasts. The rate of population increase and household formation is slower than its West of England neighbours: 4.1% between 2001 & 2011, compared to over 7% for North Somerset, South Gloucestershire and over 12% for Bristol. The majority of the increase is due to inward migration rather than natural change.

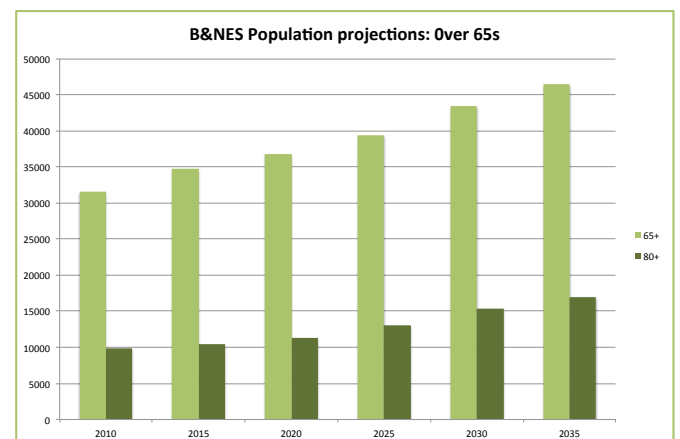
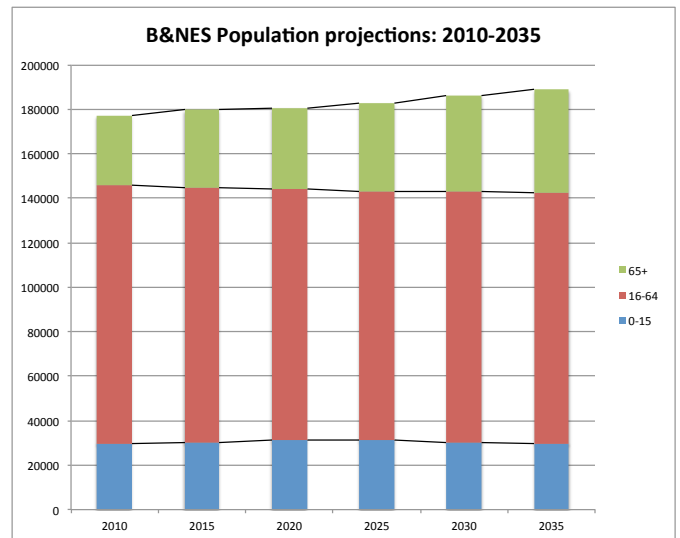
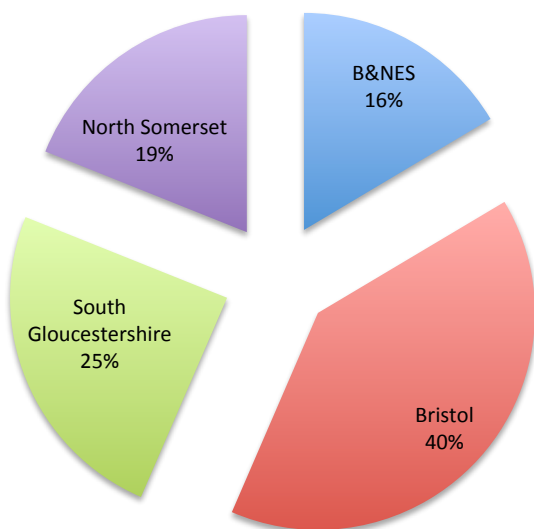
In common with the other Local Authority areas outside Bristol, B&NES has an increasingly aging population. The proportion of over 65s is likely to rise to 25% by 2035 from 17% in 2010, with people over 80 becoming an increasing proportion of that: rising from 31% of the over 65s in 2010 to over 36% in 2035. There is a high proportion of communal establishment residents, and this includes a high proportion of older people in residential care.

The population of B&NES of working age is a significantly higher proportion than other parts of the West of England, this is likely to be because at least 17% is made up of young people

between 15 & 25. The area saw a major increase in the student population over the previous ten years with the expansion of both universities in Bath. However the proportion of working age adults is projected to decline over time and in relation to the increase in older people in the area. According to 2011 census data just under 10% population are students (term time addresses). It is reasonable to assume that if the student population were excluded from the overall population figures then the over 65s would account for a higher proportion in line with the other West of England Local Authority areas outside Bristol.

Whilst the population of young adults is high, the population of children below the age of 16 is relatively small and is not projected to rise beyond 17-18% as a proportion of the population over the next 25 years.

## Population of the West of England



# Population Characteristics

B&NES has a greater proportion of black & minority ethnic (BME) people than either of its more rural West of England neighbours, and this has virtually doubled in the 10 years between the 2001 and 2011 Censuses from 2.8% to 5.4%. Approximately 3% of the population comes from the European Union. Of the non-white BME population, the largest groups represented are Asian, Chinese and Indian.

Housing availability and affordability are key issues in B&NES. The affordability gap in B&NES has widened again after the economic downturn 2008/9 and is almost back to its 2007 peak. The numbers in affordable/social housing are low but this reflects more a lack of supply rather than demand.

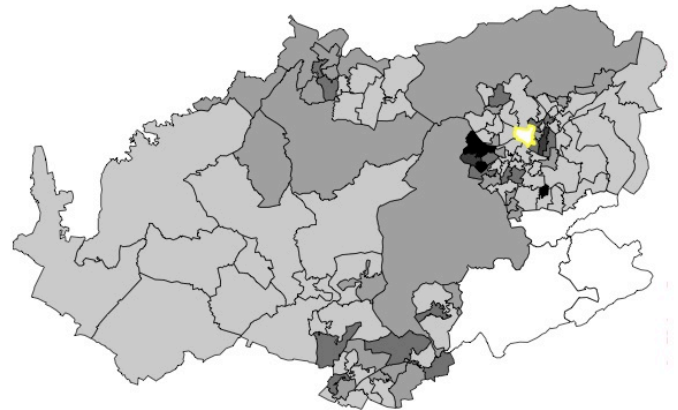
Unemployment is low compared to the national average. However there are pockets of relatively high numbers of Job Seekers Allowance claimants in Twerton and Radstock wards.

The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) is based on the rank of each area against each other and is therefore relative. It is however possible to see how areas improve or decline relatively over time (2004-2007-2010). Bath & North East Somerset is not a deprived area but it is an area of extremes. Whilst no part of the county is within the most deprived areas nationally, when viewed locally some areas are significantly more deprived when viewed in contrast to B&NES' more affluent areas. In 2010 some areas ranked amongst the 10% least deprived and some amongst the 20% most deprived. Multiple deprivation is focused on two concentrated areas: south-west Bath (Twerton, Whiteway & Fox Hill) and Radstock. The most deprived area overall is part of Twerton Ward.

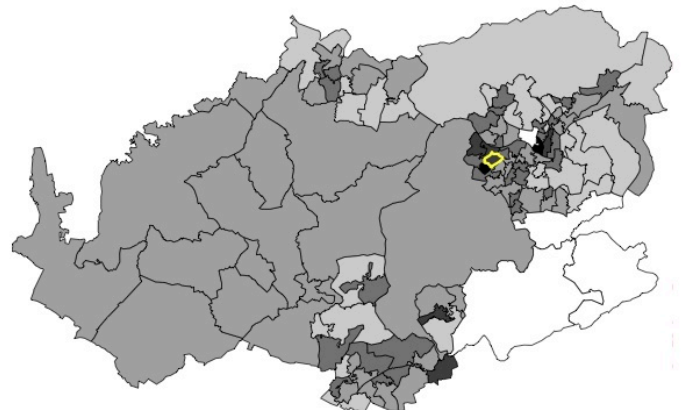
Deprivation as it affects children more closely follows the geography of overall deprivation, whereas the geography of older peoples issues is more widespread across the county.

The most significant issues are poor education and a lack of skills. Some "super output areas" are in the bottom 10%. This is common to all the more deprived parts of B&NES.

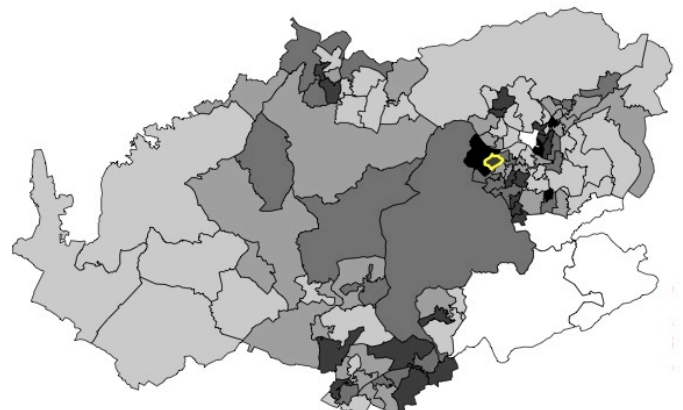
Index of Multiple Deprivation 2010: Overall



Index of Multiple Deprivation 2010: As it affects older people



Index of Multiple Deprivation 2010: As it affects children



# Rural Issues

Just over half the population of B&NES lives in Bath, and that city is the 9th largest in the south-west of England.

By contrast the majority of the rest of the area is predominantly rural interspersed with small towns and villages. In public policy terms B&NES is defined as being less rural than its neighbour North Somerset but, as with the IMD, the area is one of extremes.

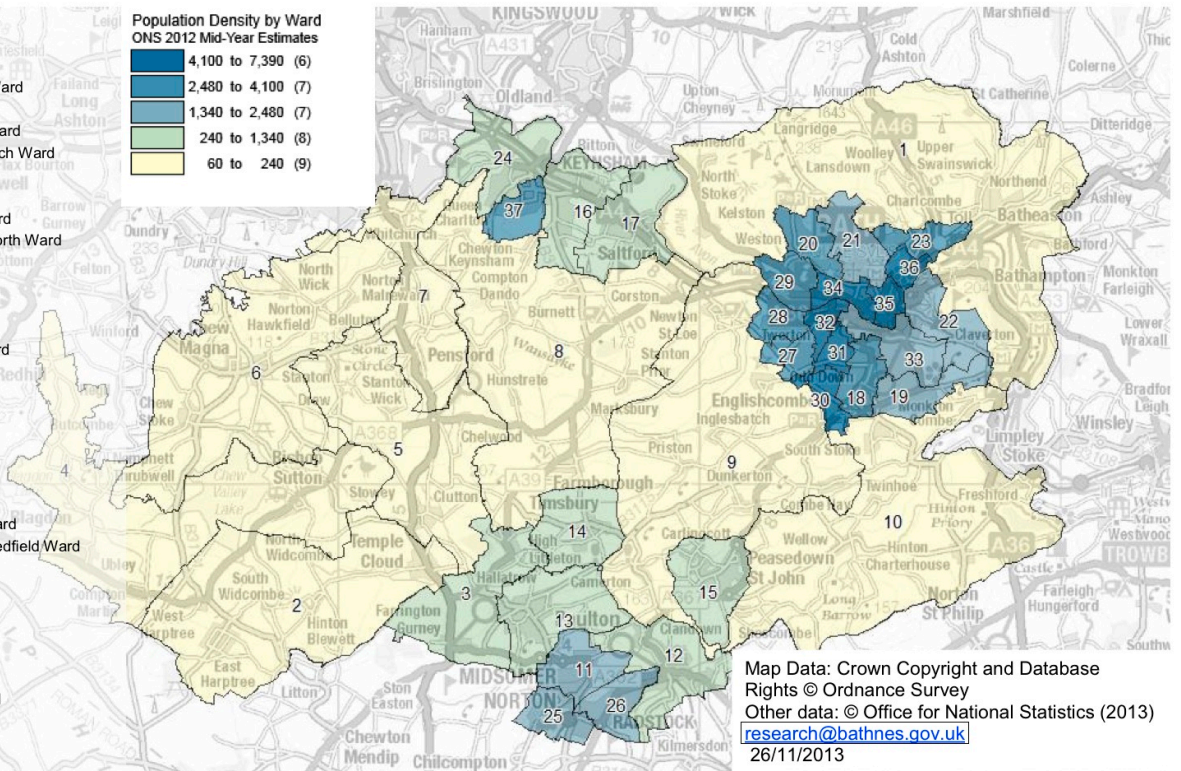
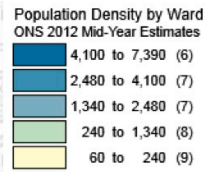
The one stand out domain of the IMD for B&NES is that of access to housing and services, and within that access rather than affordability is the

major issue. Long distances to services such as GPs and food shops are significant for many communities in central and western parts of the county. Some communities of rural North East Somerset are aging faster than the more urban areas.

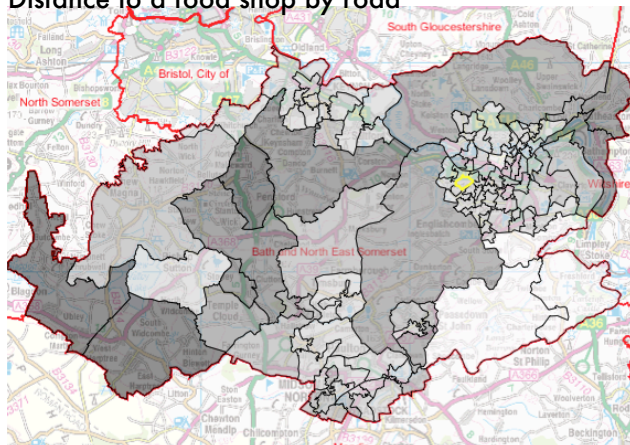
Analysis of some of the lowest-income households in B&NES suggests that between 8% (Chew Valley South) and 18% (Bathavon West) of residents in wards outside the city of Bath and the market towns are in receipt of income related support or tax credits.

## Population density by ward

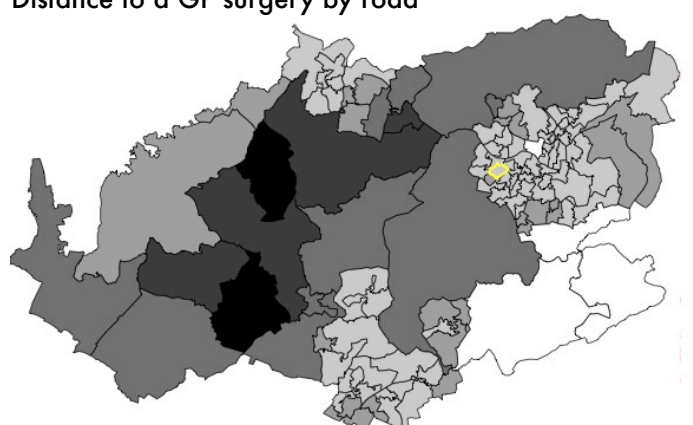
1. Bathavon North Ward
2. Mendip Ward
3. High Littleton Ward
4. Chew Valley South Ward
5. Clutton Ward
6. Chew Valley North Ward
7. Publow and Whitchurch Ward
8. Farmborough Ward
9. Bathavon West Ward
10. Bathavon South Ward
11. Midsomer Norton North Ward
12. Radstock Ward
13. Paulton Ward
14. Timsbury Ward
15. Peasedown Ward
16. Keynsham East Ward
17. Saltford Ward
18. Lyncombe Ward
19. Combe Down Ward
20. Weston Ward
21. Lansdown Ward
22. Bathwick Ward
23. Lambridge Ward
24. Keynsham North Ward
25. Midsomer Norton Redfield Ward
26. Westfield Ward
27. Southdown Ward
28. Twerton Ward
29. Newbridge Ward
30. Odd Down Ward
31. Oldfield Ward
32. Westmoreland Ward
33. Widcombe Ward
34. Kingsmead Ward
35. Abbey Ward
36. Walcot Ward
37. Keynsham South Ward



## Distance to a food shop by road



## Distance to a GP surgery by road



# Voluntary Sector in Bath & North East Somerset

There is little up-to-date information about the state of the voluntary sector in Bath & North East Somerset. The National Surveys of Charities and Social Enterprises, which took place in 2008 and 2010, are the last data sets to be produced for the B&NES area. It found 728 registered organisations slightly fewer than in 2008 (780 organisations). The response rate to the survey was 43%.

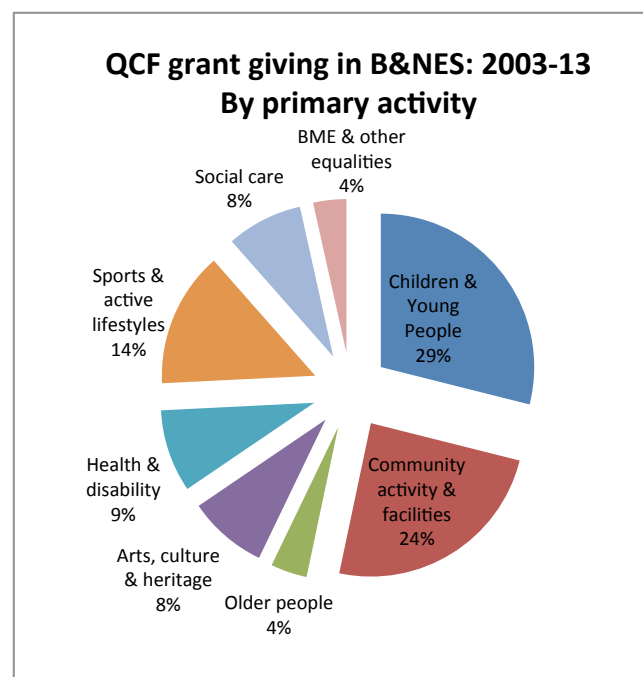
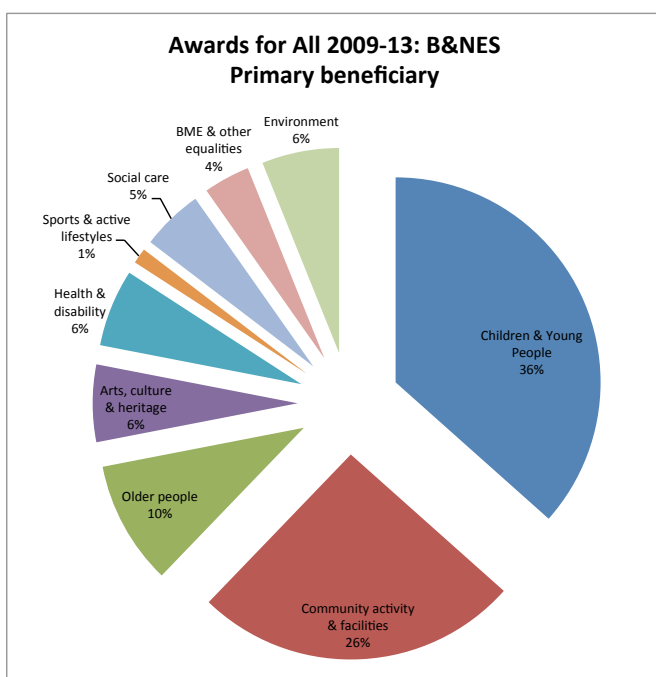
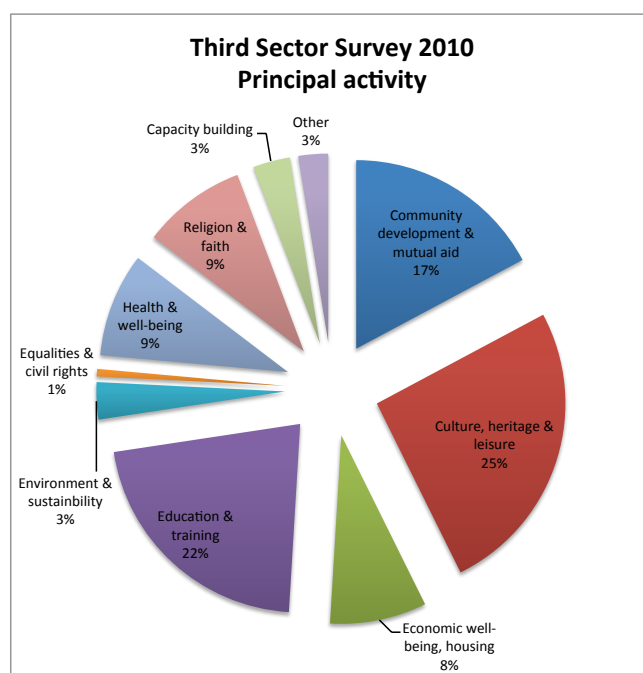
The 2010 survey shows that a quarter of organisations work with children and young people, and a quarter provide leisure, culture & heritage activities. Nearly 40% of organisations work mainly within their neighbourhood, and another third work within B&NES only.

The 2010 survey noted that more VCSE sector organisations were managing contracts than in the previous survey, but this may have dropped back due to public sector cuts. However substantially more organisations in 2010 reported delivering public services in some form or other.

As with the other West of England local authority areas outside Bristol, the VCSE sector is more heavily weighted towards lower income, lower (paid) staffed and mainly volunteer-led organisations. 32% of organisations have an

annual income of £10,000 or less, compared to Bristol at 23%. Grants and contracts form a small proportion of their sources of income (20%), B&NES groups rely heavily on donations, self-fundraising, memberships and subscriptions (48%)

In 2010 only 20% of organisations reported accessing support from local infrastructure organisations (compared to 30% in Bristol).



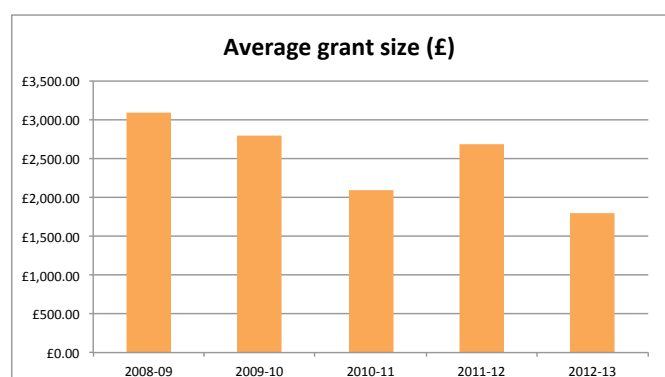
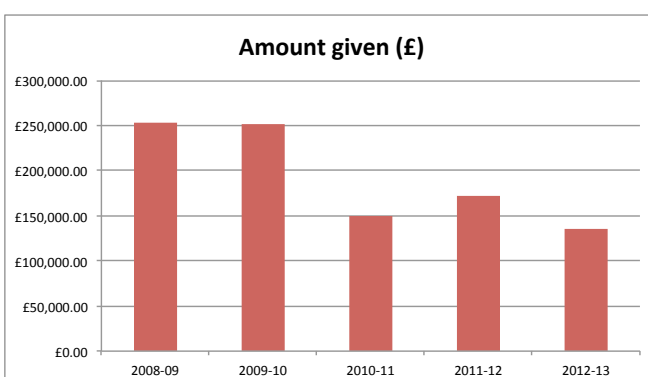
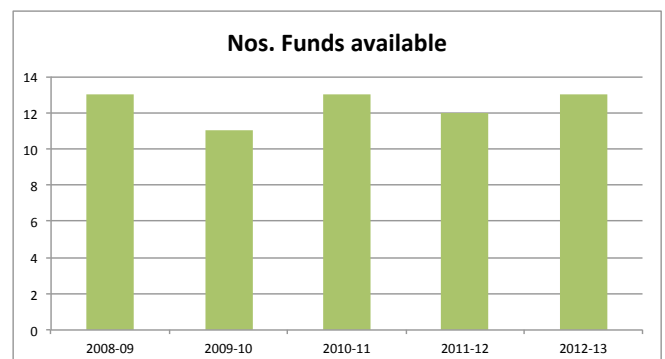
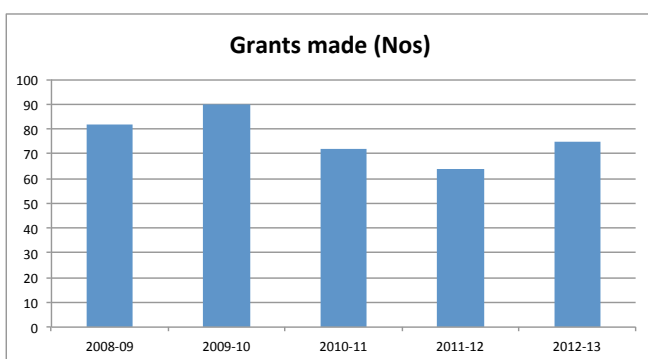
# Quartet Community Foundation in Bath & North East Somerset

Quartet Community Foundation has been working in B&NES in an organised and strategic way since 2003. Relationships with private philanthropists and statutory agencies have been built up successfully so that the area now has the most dedicated revenue funds available after Bristol: Bath Half Marathon Fund, B&NES Healthy Lives, Healthy People, and B&NES Supporting Communities. The number of grants given over the last three years average between 75-100. Average grant size in 2013 was just under £2,000.

Over two thirds of Quartet Community Foundation's grant-making in B&NES goes to support local causes, services and activities, and a further 27% supports organisations with a county-wide reach. In contrast a greater proportion of Awards for All grants went to organisations with a regional or national scope. Awards for All and Quartet Community Foundation grant-making give similar proportions of grants to local projects (67% and 70% respectively)

When compared with Awards for All, Quartet Community Foundation gives grants to a broader range of activities. Awards for All gives the majority (60%) of its grants to general community activities and services and to children and young peoples groups, whereas Quartet Community Foundation gives 53% to these causes. Given the direction of dedicated funds in B&NES Quartet Community Foundation gives a greater proportion of grants to projects promoting community sport and healthy lifestyles.

Despite the lack of infrastructure supporting the voluntary sector, B&NES based organisations have been more successful in accessing Quartet Community Foundation's larger funds when they have been available. This may be because the city of Bath hosts a number of established larger organisations as would be characteristic of a larger urban centre.



# Initiatives in Bath & North East Somerset

B&NES overall is not a deprived area but it has communities of need and areas that face significant barriers to accessing the opportunities available to the majority. There are some areas - particularly those in the older industrial parts of the district - that are persistently more deprived than the average. At the same time, the proportion of elderly people is increasing rapidly, whilst the proportion of younger people to support them is declining relatively.

There are a number of initiatives from a variety of sources already underway to tackle some of the structural deprivation issues:

- *Big Local in Radstock & Westfield*  
£1m to be spent over 10 years starting in 2012/13 with a focus on local community solutions to local problems. A start up grant of £20,000 focused on Getting People Involved is being spent but the main £1m is dependent on the development of a local partnership being established. This is expected by July 2014. An additional £50,000 has been allocated to the Radstock Town Council area by Bath & North East Somerset Council for improving community facilities
- *Community First Southdown*  
Three year programme 2012-14 with £17,000 available for local projects matched by volunteer time and support in kind. This is managed completely separately from Quartet Community Foundation's endowment building Community First programme, but is part of an overall Government initiative. Support given to the local steering groups by B&NES Council and Community Organisers
- *Empower communities to help deliver public services better - partnership between B&NES Council & Re:generate*  
Initial phase in 2008 focused on Whiteway, South Bath, and targeting projects to improve the environment and reduce youth anti-social behaviour. The programme was rolled out in 2011 to London Road and Snow Hill area of Bath and focusing on business property improvements, and Keynsham where the focus is on health
- *Community Organisers (Re:generate)*  
Part of a national programme aimed at facilitating greater engagement in community life. Now in Southdown, Foxhill & Odd Down, Keynsham, Radstock, and Timsbury, Farmborough & Camerton. Each project needs to be self-funding after a one-year bursary and the programme shifts to a legacy structure from 2015
- *Quartet Community Foundation-managed flow-through funds*
  - Healthy Lives Healthy People (approx. £25,000 per year) and Supporting Communities (approx. £25,000 per year) both jointly funded by B&NES Council and NHS B&NES
  - Bath Half Marathon Fund - supported by this annual eventThese funds and associated projects focus primarily on health and active lifestyles
- *St John's Hospital Community Grants*  
programme distributes over £200,000 per year to small organisations within the City of Bath which focus on supporting and developing people to achieve their aspirations and potential. In 2012-13 the theme was supporting young people through life transitions
- *Quartet Community Foundation funds*  
12 Community First, 20 endowment funds, and 9 revenue funds, and some 23 donors. Yields from Quartet Community Foundation endowment funds support discretionary grant-making through the Express and Catalyst Funds across the West of England and distribute approximately £20,000 per year to B&NES groups

# Quartet Community Foundation in Bath & North East Somerset

Quartet Community Foundation aims to use the funds it has at its discretion in a proactive way. It is looking to focus resources to those communities and groups most in need and at disadvantage and where the funds available can make the most difference.

In B&NES the following topics have been identified:

## Children & Young People

Issues highlighted by the multi-agency Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) & Children & Young People's Plan Review include rising childhood obesity, activities for children and young people with Learning Difficulties/ Disabilities, minimising the number of young people not going onto further/higher education, training or work, reducing alcohol harm, and reducing health inequalities. As stated earlier one of the most prevalent indicators of deprivation in B&NES is poor educational achievement and lack of skills.

Priorities for further investigation:

- Inequalities of health
- Inequalities of educational achievement & skills development
- Youth & play services

## Older People

Particular issues of concern locally as reported by the JSNA are: rising rates of very old people (over 75s) and the challenge for these people of staying safe and healthy; rising rates of dementia in an aging population; accommodation choices - independence and affordability; carers - 11% adults self-define as a care giver; health inequalities between least and most deprived areas which mean that on average people die younger in more deprived areas.

Priorities for further investigation:

- Inequalities of health

- Dementia and the challenge of care
- Health & safety for older people

## Specific geographies of deprivation

As we have seen overall Bath & North East Somerset is not a deprived area. There are, however, specific areas where relative deprivation is persistent whilst other areas (Kingsmead) have improved.

Priorities for further investigation:

- Twerton, Southdown & Whiteway
- Keynsham

## Rural isolation

Almost half of Bath & North East Somerset's population lives in its more rural areas, and in these areas access to services can be a challenge. There are a number of intersecting issues: low pay in rural industries and dependence on in-work benefits, older people's health and access to activities and services, young people's access to activities, information, advice & guidance, dependence of car travel.

Priorities for further investigation:

- Older people's services in rural areas
- Children's services in rural areas
- Community transport
- Rural enterprise
- Community capacity/resilience building

## Domestic violence

Domestic violence cuts across socio-economic status, culture and geography, and remains an issue that is consistently under-reported. Equally, services for victims are often sparse and inadequate.



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