Intelligence Briefing: Indices of Deprivation

October 2015
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INTRODUCTION

This is the tenth in a series of briefings from the Intelligence Hub, which provide updates on the team’s work and a range of local intelligence analysis. This is a special edition of the briefing, focusing on the new Indices of Deprivation which were released on 30 September 2015, updating the earlier 2010 Indices. The Indices of Deprivation are a set of statistics used to measure deprivation across England. “Deprivation” here refers to a situation where people’s needs go unmet due to a lack of resources, and is not synonymous with poverty; poverty is an important category of deprivation, but not the only one. There are a total of seven separate domain indices of deprivation measured by the Department for Communities and Local Government. Each area is assigned a score for each of these domains, and these scores are then weighted and combined together to create the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD), as follows:

- Income deprivation (22.5%)
- Employment deprivation (22.5%)
- Health deprivation and disability (13.5%)
- Education, skills and training deprivation (13.5%)
- Barriers to housing and services (9.3%)
- Crime (9.3%)
- Living environment deprivation (9.3%)

In addition to the main IMD, there are two supplementary indices, the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) and the Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index (IDAOP). This briefing will cover all three.

Deprivation scores and rankings are provided at Lower Super Output Area (LSOA) level. LSOS are small areas (containing on average around 1,500 residents or 650 households, a fraction of the size of a Council ward in Hounslow) used for statistical analysis. The fact that deprivation data is available at this level makes it possible to conduct very fine-grained analysis and to effectively target resources at those areas where need is highest.

The Indices measure relative, rather than absolute, deprivation. This means that they show how deprived a given area is compared to other areas in England. An improvement in an area’s
deprivation ranking does not necessarily mean that absolute deprivation has fallen in that area (and vice versa). Furthermore, even if an area’s deprivation ranking has changed substantially, this does not necessarily mean that levels of absolute deprivation have greatly changed in that area (though they may have done).

If you have any questions, feedback, or suggestions for future editions of this briefing, please contact owen.kennedy@hounslow.gov.uk.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Overall severe relative deprivation in Hounslow seems to have increased slightly; the borough has 16 LSOAs in the most deprived 20% nationally in the 2015 IMD (including two in the top 10%), compared to 12 (of which one was in the top 10%) in the 2010 IMD
- Relative deprivation seems to have increased in the centre of the borough, particularly in Hounslow Central and Osterley & Spring Grove. There are also many LSOAs in Hounslow where relative deprivation has diminished, but these are not concentrated in any particular area of the borough
- Using the “extent” deprivation score (which ranks local authorities according to the proportion of their population living in deprived LSOAs), Hounslow’s deprivation ranking has got slightly worse, rising to 151st from 156th in 2010 (out of 326 local authorities)
- Outer London boroughs were more likely than those in inner London to see their deprivation rankings get worse between 2010 and 2015. This may partly be explained by the impact of welfare reform, as people in more deprived circumstances move to more affordable areas in response to reductions in benefits
- Severe income deprivation affecting children is relatively lower in Hounslow in 2015 than it was in 2010. Overall Hounslow has 24 LSOAs in the 20% most deprived in England in the 2015 IDACI (including eight in the top 10%), compared to 47 in 2010 (of which 21 were in the top 10%)
- The extent of relatively severe income deprivation affecting older people has changed little between 2010 and 2015. There were 35 LSOAs in the 20% most deprived in the country in 2010 (of which 13 were in the top 10%), and there are 34 as of 2015 (once again with 13 in the top 10%). However, the geographical distribution of heavily deprived LSOAs has changed somewhat
FOCUS: INDICES OF DEPRIVATION

Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)

Deprivation within Hounslow

Figures 1 and 2 show levels of deprivation across the borough in 2010 and 2015 respectively. LSOAs on the map are shaded according to how they rank nationally – those which are among the least deprived 20% in England are shaded the lightest, those in the next 20% are a darker colour and so on (bandings of 20% like this are known as quintiles). LSOAs which are ranked in the most deprived 10% in the country are shaded red for emphasis.

Overall severe relative deprivation in Hounslow seems to have increased slightly; the borough has 16 LSOAs in the most deprived 20% nationally in the 2015 IMD (including two in the top 10%), compared to 12 (of which one was in the top 10%) in the 2010 IMD.

The geographic distribution of deprivation has not changed greatly between the publication of the 2010 and 2015 Indices, but there are some notable differences: an LSOA in Hanworth has dropped out of the 20% most deprived LSOAs, while two LSOAs in the north of Heston West have done the opposite. In addition, one LSOA in Cranford (roughly covering the Meadows Estate) has moved into the 10% most deprived LSOAs in the country, joining the LSOA in Isleworth (covering part of the Ivybridge Estate) which was already in the top 10%. (All these areas are circled in blue on the two maps.) In total there are 16 LSOAs in the most deprived 20% nationally, compared to 12 in the 2010 IMD.

A new map layer showing the IMD 2015 data for Hounslow is available for local authority intranet users on Earthlight, the Council’s GIS tool. The layer can be found on the Census 2011 map under “Deprivation”. For assistance with using Earthlight, or to arrange a training session, please contact Vinesh Govind, Spatial Information Manager, on vinesh.govind@houmslow.gov.uk.
Figure 1: IMD 2010: Hounslow. The areas circled in blue are the areas discussed on page 4 where the level of relative deprivation has changed. Source: DCLG
Figure 2: IMD 2015: Hounslow. The areas circled in blue are the areas discussed on page 4 where the level of relative deprivation has changed. 
Source: DCLG
Figure 3 shows broadly how relative deprivation has changed across Hounslow between 2010 and 2015. Areas shaded red have shifted from a less deprived to a more deprived quintile, while those shaded green have done the opposite. Those shaded yellow have remained in the same quintile. Areas where relative deprivation has increased seem to largely be clustered in the centre of the borough, particularly in Hounslow Central and Osterley & Spring Grove, while LSOAs where relative deprivation has reduced are not concentrated in any particular area of the borough.

Figure 3: Change in relative deprivation in Hounslow based on the 2010 and 2015 IMDs. Areas shaded red have moved to a higher deprivation quintile ranking, while areas shaded green have moved to a lower one. Source: DCLG

How Hounslow compares to other local authorities in London

The LSOA-level deprivation data can be combined to give an overall deprivation score and ranking at local authority level, but because the IMD primarily measures deprivation at LSOA level, local authority rankings can be calculated in a number of different ways. For the sake of simplicity, this briefing will focus solely on the “extent” score. This ranks local authorities according to the proportion of their population living in the most deprived LSOAs in England. On this score, Hounslow is ranked 151st out of 326 local authorities, slightly worse than in 2010 when Hounslow was ranked 156th. This is in contrast to other boroughs in west London, which generally saw at least slight improvements in their rankings. Some, such as Brent and Hammersmith & Fulham, saw their rankings improve substantially.

Figure 4 shows how every London borough’s extent of deprivation ranking changed between 2010 and 2015. The majority of boroughs saw their rankings improve, but outer London boroughs were more likely than inner London boroughs to see their deprivation rankings get worse between 2010 and 2015. 11 out of 19 outer London boroughs were ranked higher for deprivation in 2015,
compared to just three out of 14 of those in inner London. This may partly be explained by the impact of welfare reform, as people in more deprived circumstances move to more affordable areas in response to reductions in benefits.

Figure 4: Change in London boroughs’ extent of deprivation IMD score 2010-15. Hounslow is circled in blue.
Source: DCLG

Supplementary indices: IDACI and IDAOPI

The IDACI and IDAOPI are much simpler indices than the IMD. Both are based on the Income Deprivation domain of the IMD, with the IDACI measuring the proportion of children aged 0-15 in a given LSOA living in income-deprived families, and the IDAOPI measuring the proportion of adults over 60 in an LSOA who are income-deprived.

IDACI

Severe income deprivation affecting children is relatively less prevalent in Hounslow in 2015 than it was in 2010. Figures 5 and 6 show the IDACI 2010 and 2015 findings for Hounslow respectively (the colour scheme is along the same lines as that used in figures 1 and 2, with LSOAs in the 10% most deprived in England shown in a different colour for emphasis). Clusters of LSOAs which were among the 10% most deprived in the country in 2010 – in Hanworth/Hanworth Park, Heston West and Brentford – have all become relatively less deprived, in some cases substantially so. Overall Hounslow has 24 LSOAs in the 20% most deprived in England in the 2015 IDACI (including eight in the top 10%), compared to 47 in 2010 (of which 21 were in the top 10%).

As with the IMD data, a map layer showing the IDACI findings for Hounslow can be found on Earthlight, on the Children and Young People map under “Income Deprivation Affecting Children”.

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Figure 5: IDACI 2010: Hounslow
Source: DCLG
Figure 6: IDACI 2015: Hounslow
Source: DCLG
**IDAPOI**

The extent of relatively severe income deprivation affecting older people has changed little between 2010 and 2015. There were 35 LSOAs in the 20% most deprived in the country in 2010 (of which 13 were in the top 10%), and there are 34 as of 2015 (once again with 13 in the top 10%). However, as figures 7 and 8 show, the geographical distribution of heavily deprived LSOAs has changed somewhat, with fewer severely deprived LSOAs in the centre and east of the borough, and more in the west, notably in Feltham West and Hanworth Park.

The IDACI and IDAPOI rankings of LSOAs across Hounslow seem to have changed much more than the overall IMD rankings – that is, a given LSOA is much more likely to have a 2015 IDACI or IDAPOI ranking which is very different to its 2010 ranking than it is to see its IMD ranking substantially change. This may be because the IDACI and IDAPOI are much narrower in scope than the IMD, (focusing only on income deprivation). As a result, the scores and rankings are more sensitive to changes in the values of a small number of variables and therefore more volatile.

A map layer of Hounslow’s IDAPOI data is available on Earthlight on the Health and Social Care map under “Income Deprivation Affecting Older People”.

Figure 7: IDAOP 2010: Hounslow
Source: DCLG
Figure 8: IDAOPI 2015: Hounslow
Source: DCLG