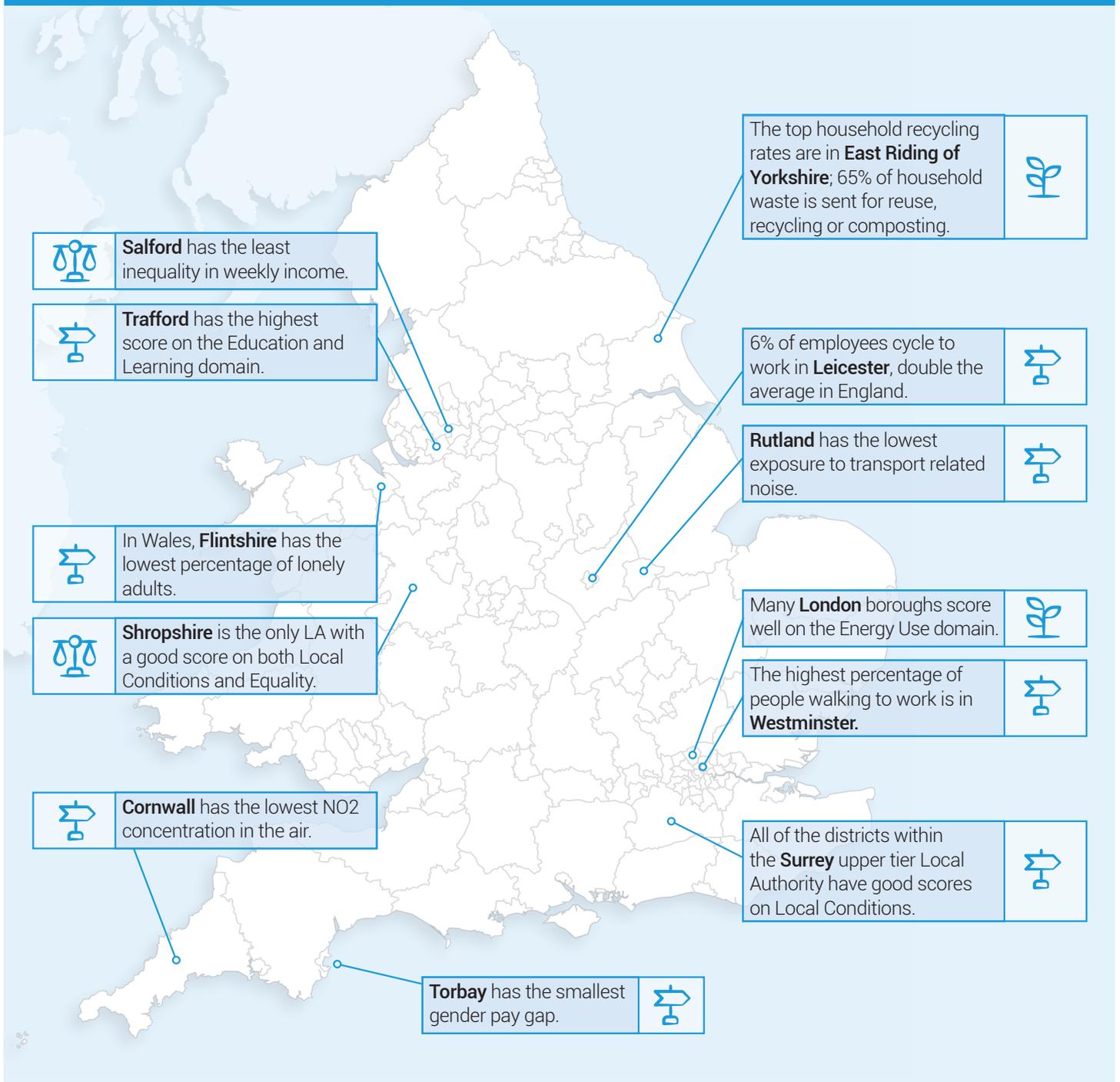


HIGHLIGHTS IN LOCAL CONDITIONS, EQUALITY AND SUSTAINABILITY

The Thriving Places Index (TPI) consists of a set of indicators that measure the local conditions for wellbeing and whether they are being delivered fairly and sustainably. The indicators measure factors, or proxies of factors, that influence wellbeing.

The TPI framework is arranged into three headline elements: Local Conditions for wellbeing, Equality and Sustainability. Within each headline element are domains and subdomains, providing greater detail.

Each Local Authority (LA) has an individual, colour coded scorecard - see yours at www.thrivingplacesindex.org



LOCAL CONDITIONS

ARE LOCAL AUTHORITIES CREATING THE RIGHT CONDITIONS FOR WELLBEING?

What do we mean by Local Conditions?

The Local Conditions headline score is made up of five domains known to impact wellbeing: Place and Environment, Mental and Physical Health, Education and Learning, Work and Local Economy, and People and Community. These are the key drivers of wellbeing in a Local Authority (LA) area. Each domain contains several sub-domains. For example, the 'Place and Environment' domain has four sub-domains - local environment, transport, safety and housing. Each sub-domain is made up of a number of indicators which capture data on various aspects of that sub-domain. For more information on the structure and content of the TPI, visit www.thrivingplacesindex.org.

Places doing well

Richmond upon Thames has the highest Local Conditions score of the 149 upper tier LAs, scoring 6.80/10. It is also the fourth least deprived area according to the Index of Multiple Deprivation in 2019.

Regions

The South West is the only region in which all LAs have average to high Local Conditions scores, as can be seen on the treemap of the South West.

Local Conditions across England

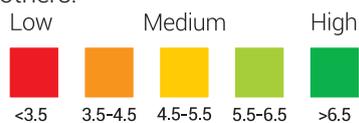
Maps showing geographical boundaries rather than population size don't give a sense of how many people are affected by the conditions in each LA (as population levels vary a lot between LAs), so treemaps like the ones below help to show the scale of impact on people at a regional or national level. The small rectangles within the treemaps represent the LAs in the region, and the size of the rectangles corresponds to the population size. The rectangles are colour coded according to the LA's Local Conditions score.



To see interactive maps of the TPI results, try out our Power BI map tool at www.thrivingplacesindex.org

Scoring

All Thriving Places Index scores range from 0-10. The TPI uses intuitive colour coding to show how an LA scores compared to others:



Medium scores (yellow) indicate that an LA scores similarly to England on average.

Scores somewhat above or below average are coloured in pale green and orange respectively.

Very high or low scores are coloured in dark green and dark red. These scores are furthest from the England average.

A high score does not necessarily mean a place is doing as well as it possibly could on what is being captured by that element, domain, or subdomain, but it is doing better than other places.

The methodology used to standardise and combine the indicators means that higher scores are always better.

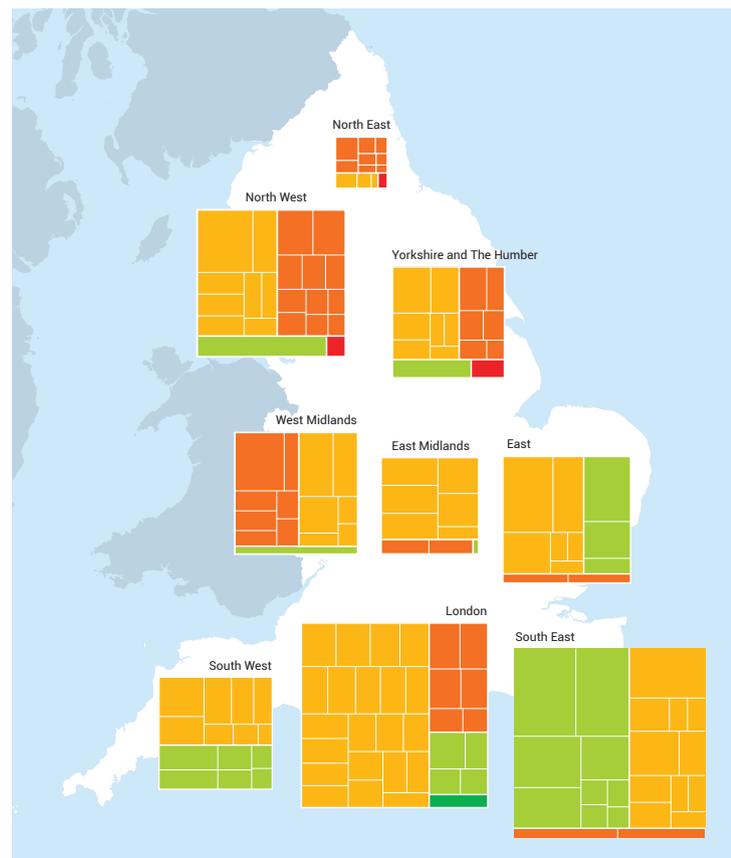


Figure 1. Regional treemaps of Local Conditions scores in upper tier LAs across England.

IS WELLBEING DELIVERED FAIRLY ACROSS THE LOCAL AREA?

What do we mean by Equality?

The Equality headline element score combines the indicators related to equality across the domains of Health, Income, Gender, Social and Ethnicity. Higher scores mean good outcomes towards a more equal place, relative to how England is doing on average. When working to improve Local Conditions for wellbeing, including everyone is essential for a fair society and to realise the greatest wellbeing benefits.

Places doing well

Brent has the highest score on Equality of all upper tier Local Authorities. It has very high (above 6.5) scores on all domains other than income, on which it has an average score.

Regions

The upper tier LAs that have very high (above 6.5) scores on Equality are in London and the South West. None of the LAs in these two regions have very low scores (below 3.5). Many London boroughs have very high scores on the Health and Social domains. The majority of regions have a wide range of scores, falling into all of the scoring brackets.

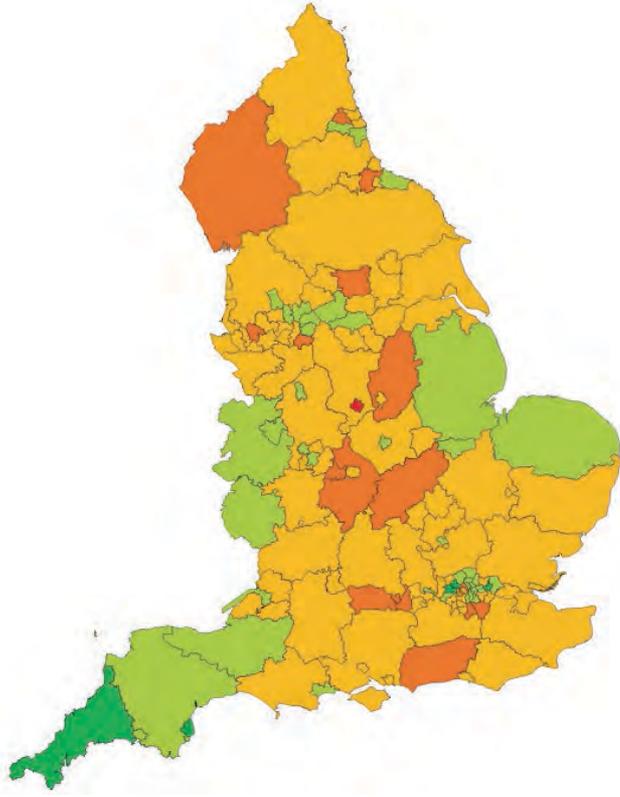


Figure 2. Equality scores in upper tier LAs across England.

IS WELLBEING DELIVERED SUSTAINABLY?

What do we mean by Sustainability?

This Sustainability headline element score is a combined score composed of the domains of Energy Use, Waste, and Green Infrastructure. These domains indicate whether Local Conditions are delivered without negatively impacting the environment. Higher scores indicate better Sustainability, relative to how England is doing on average.

Places doing well

Tower Hamlets and Salford are the only LAs with a very high score (above 6.5) on Sustainability this year.

Regions

LAs in the East of England all have average scores on Sustainability. The LAs in the West Midlands, East Midlands, Yorkshire and the Humber and the North East have average or below average scores. In contrast, the majority of LAs in London have good Sustainability scores (above 5.5).

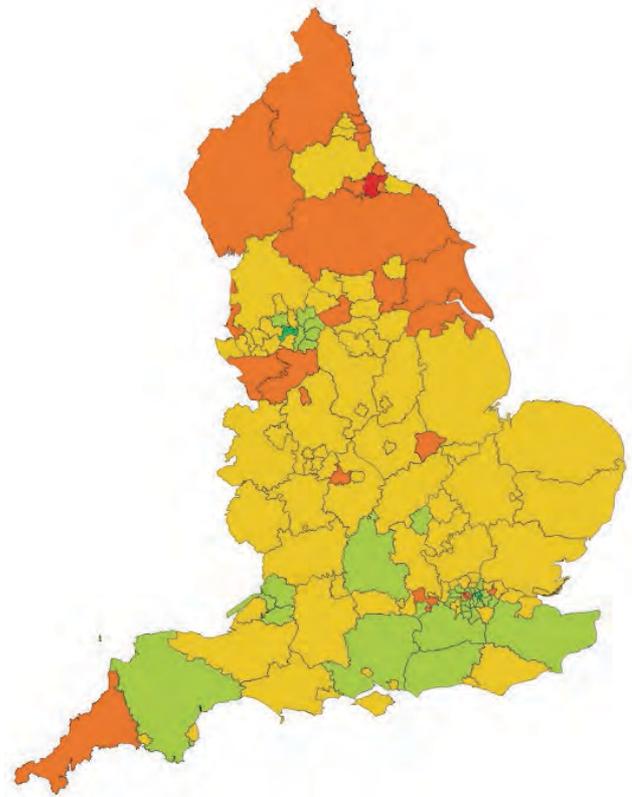


Figure 3. Sustainability scores in upper tier LAs in England.

PERSONAL WELLBEING

While the Thriving Places Index shows what is important for wellbeing at the local level, other measures capture the personal wellbeing of individuals. This year our website includes annual average personal wellbeing scores¹ at Local Authority level, which are National Statistics. These are measured by four questions known as the ONS4, which are asked in a national survey. The TPI website presents the ONS4 averages alongside the TPI scorecard for ease of reference.



Figure 5. Summary scores for Wokingham LA.

Wokingham has the best average personal wellbeing overall of the 149 upper tier local authorities. It also has the highest average life satisfaction score of 8.04 out of 10; over two standard deviations above the average for England. It is also the least deprived area according to the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019².

1 <https://www.ons.gov.uk/datasets/wellbeing-local-authority>

2 <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/english-indices-of-deprivation-2019>

TWO TIER LOCAL AUTHORITIES

As the Thriving Places Index includes scores for both upper tier and district Local Authorities, it can be used to compare the conditions for wellbeing between neighbouring districts.

Cumbria is a two tier Local Authority in the North West of England. It contains six district Local Authorities. Cumbria has an average Local Conditions score and below average Sustainability and Equality. However, using the district scores, we can delve deeper and see how scores differ across Cumbria.

	Local Conditions	Sustainability	Equality
Cumbria	5.17	3.92	3.90
Carlisle	4.85	4.48	6.24
Copeland	4.97	4.37	2.02
Barrow-in-Furness	4.56	3.80	3.85
South Lakeland	6.14	3.80	4.83
Allerdale	4.99	3.72	4.68
Eden	5.83	2.86	6.88

Figure 4. TPI summary scores for Cumbria and its district LAs.

Most districts in Cumbria have average Local Conditions scores, but South Lakeland and Eden have high scores. Equality scores vary a lot across the districts. Whilst not all indicators are available at district level or other lower geographies, it is worthwhile looking at this data to gain further insight. Centre for Thriving Places can help you assess what data are available for your area if you are not a Local Authority and would like to use the Thriving Places Index framework.



Centre for Thriving Places (the new name for Happy City) was founded in 2010, with the aim to change the economic compass from pointing to consumption and growth toward wellbeing for people, place and planet. We bring this vision to life through place-based strategic consulting, training and our evidence-based measurement tools the Thriving Places Index and Happiness Pulse. We work with local authorities, organisations and individuals to provide practical pathways to measure, understand and improve wellbeing.

Contact us at hello@centreforthrivingplaces.org
www.centreforthrivingplaces.org

WORK WITH US

The TPI is a new compass for the 21st century. It supports decision makers across sectors to assess and prioritise policy, based on the impact it has on the wellbeing and sustainability of people and communities.

It can be used to provide a:

- Shared set of goals for cross-sector, multi-disciplinary working.
- Framework for designing holistic approaches to budgeting, planning, procurement, commissioning and collaborative placemaking.
- Powerful communication tool to engage citizens and diverse stakeholders in a sustainable wellbeing approach to change.