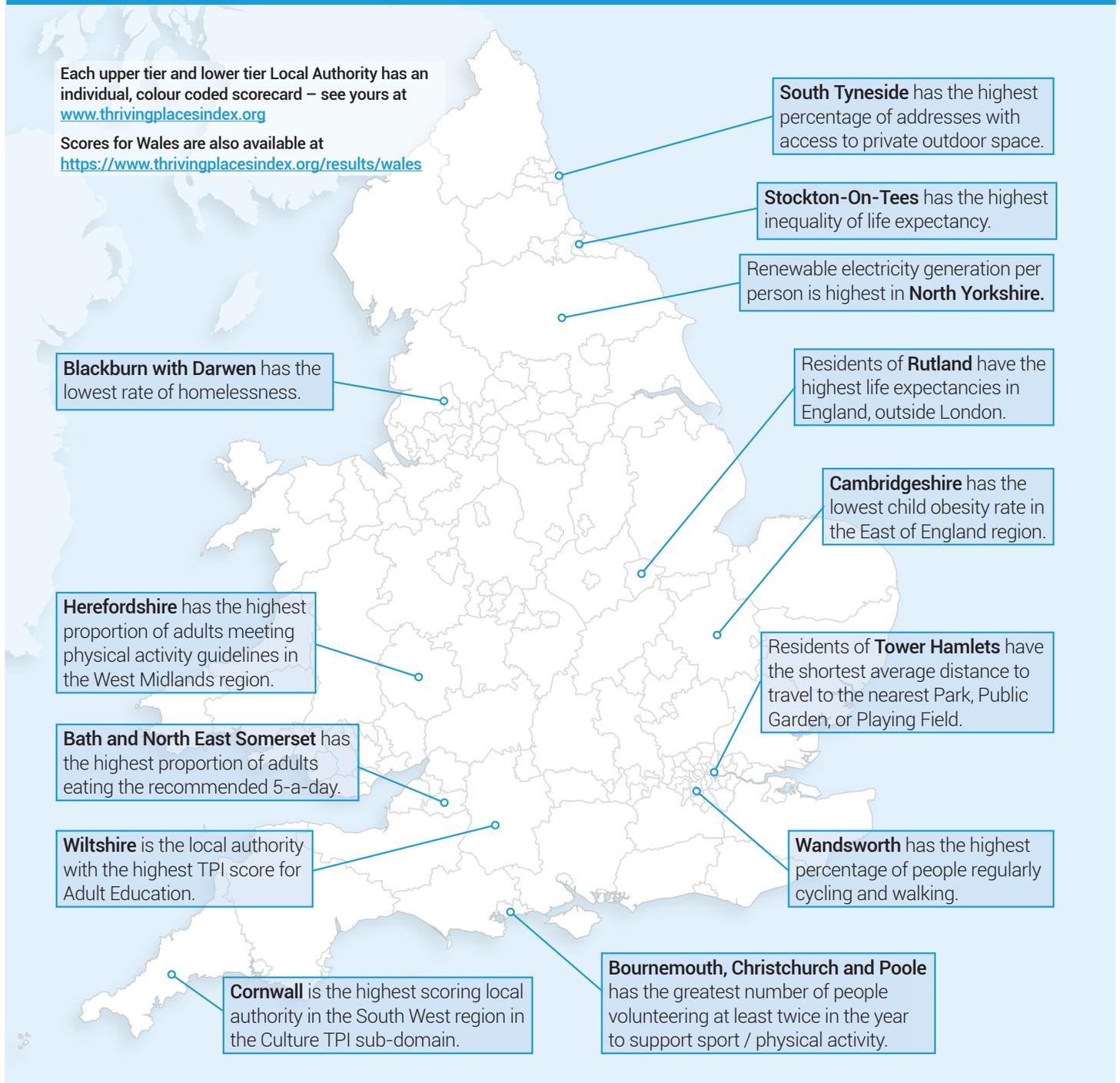


HIGHLIGHTS IN LOCAL CONDITIONS, EQUALITY AND SUSTAINABILITY

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.

SPOTLIGHT: UPPER TIER LOCAL AUTHORITIES



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 (scoring 6.73) is again the highest scoring local authority for overall Local Conditions.

Warrington, Leicestershire, Medway and Northamptonshire have all seen improvements in their 2021 TPI scores for all the domains within Local Conditions.

Regions

The majority of the local authorities with the highest scores for the Local Conditions domain are in the South of England, where there are also no areas with very low scores (below 3.5). Both East and West Midlands, and the East of England, have no local authorities with either very high (above 6.5) or very low scores.

The majority of local authorities in every region have average or above scores (above 4.5) for the Local Environment subdomain (which includes Green Space and Pollution indicators), except in London.

London also has several very low scores (below 3.5) in the People and Community subdomain, (which measures levels of participation, culture and cohesion).

Over 80% of the local authorities in the North East region have very low scores for the Work and Local Economy subdomain.

More than a quarter of local authorities in the West Midlands have very low scores (below 3.5) for the Mental and Physical Health and/or Education and Learning subdomains.

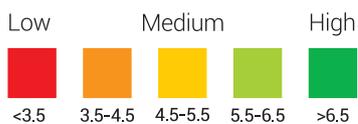
Nearly half of local authorities in the North West have very low scores for the Mental and Physical Health subdomains.



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.



LOCAL CONDITIONS

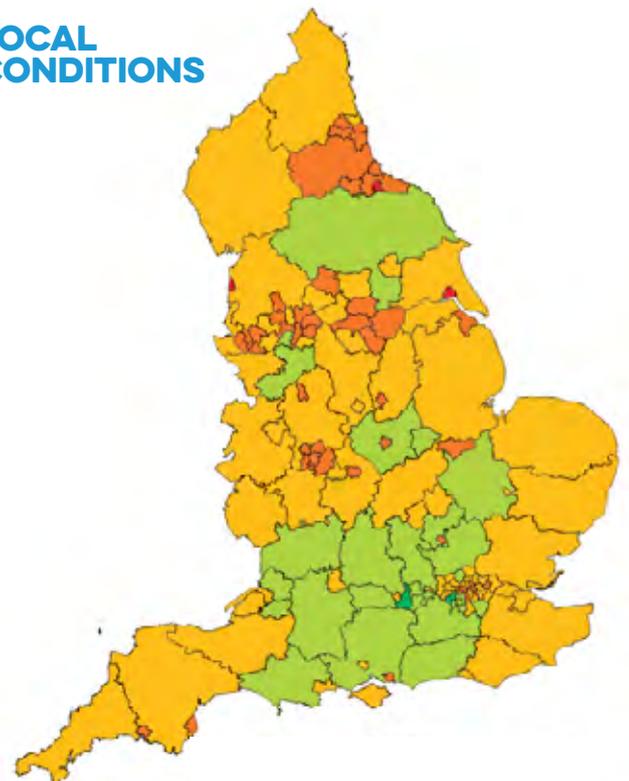


Figure 1. Local Conditions scores for upper-tier local authorities in England

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

The highest scoring local authority for the equality domain is the London Borough of Haringey. Outside of London, the highest scoring local authority is Herefordshire.

Regions

Local authorities in the South West score well on the Equality domain, with nearly three-quarters of them scoring above average (above 5.5) and none of them below average (below 4.5).

None of the local authorities in the East of England scored below average (below 4.5).

Local authorities in London had the largest range of Equality scores within the same region, and no local authorities scored very low (below 3.5).

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

Salford is the only local authority in England that scores above 5.5 (above England average) on all the sustainability subdomains.

Hackney in London has the lowest CO2 emissions per capita in England.

North Somerset has the highest percentage of household waste sent for recycling, composting or reuse at 59%.

Regions

Most of the highest scoring local authorities for the Sustainability domain are either in London or the North West.

The North West has a broad range of scores for the Sustainability domain, including the second lowest scoring local authority.

Comparatively, local authorities in the West Midlands, North East and Yorkshire and the Humber all have scores near or below average (between 3.5 and 5.5).

EQUALITY

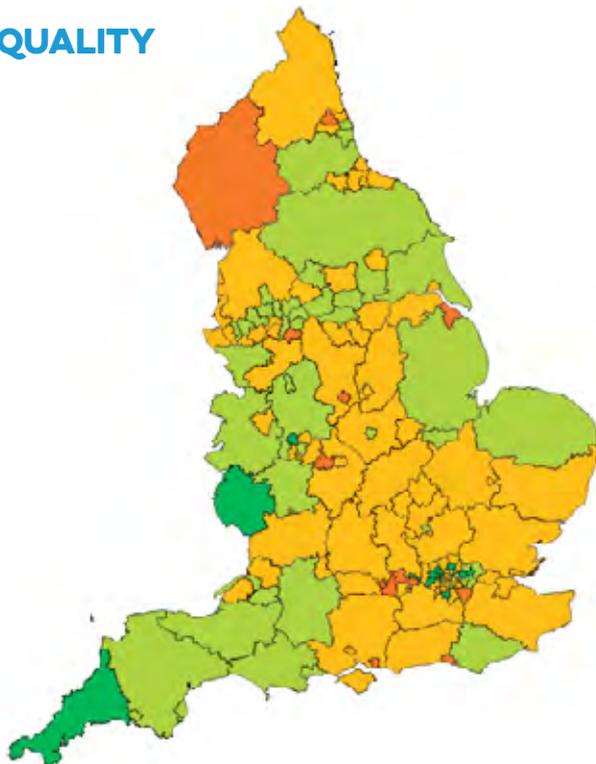


Figure 2. Equality scores in upper tier LAs across England.

SUSTAINABILITY

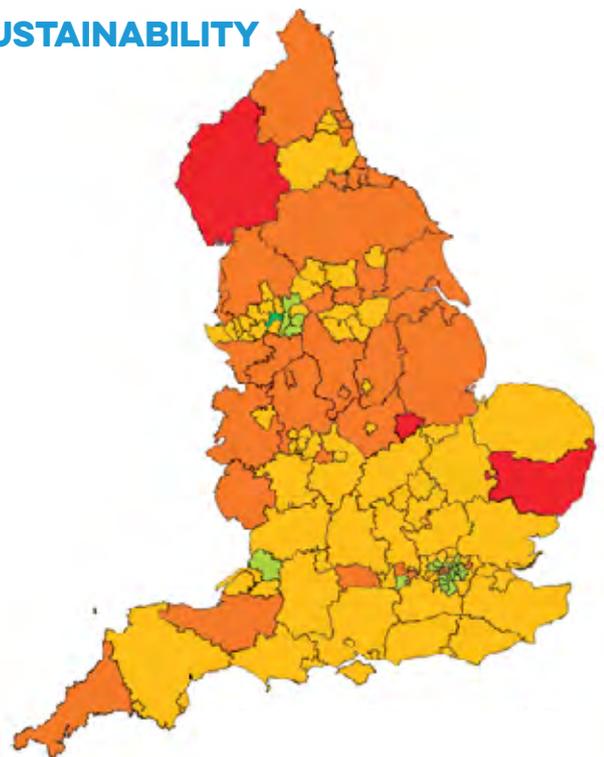
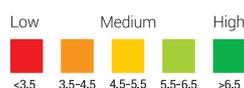


Figure 3. Sustainability scores in upper tier LAs in England.



CORE CITIES SPOTLIGHT 2021

This year we are spotlighting the 8 'Core Cities' (outside of London), and how they are doing compared to each other and to other Local Authorities in their wider regions.



Local Conditions

- Core cities don't tend to be the top scoring local authorities in their regions for Local Conditions. Apart from Leeds and Sheffield, all core cities are among the three lowest scorers for Local Conditions in their respective regions.
- Bristol is the highest scoring core city for Local Conditions, followed by Sheffield; both scores have reduced slightly compared to TPI 2020. Nottingham is the only core city to have improved on its Local Conditions score from last year.

Core city	Local Conditions	Sustainability	Equality	Their region
Birmingham	3.74	4.71	5.02	West Midlands
Bristol	4.87	5.50	5.62	South West
Leeds	4.65	4.76	4.99	Yorks and The Humber
Liverpool	3.76	4.79	4.65	North West
Manchester	3.55	6.19	5.66	North West
Newcastle	3.99	5.08	4.17	North East
Nottingham	3.52	5.01	5.44	East Midlands
Sheffield	4.59	5.45	4.88	Yorks and The Humber

Sustainability

- In general, all core cities outperform most other local authorities in their respective regions on Sustainability (apart from Leeds and Liverpool).
- Manchester scores above the other core cities for Sustainability for the second year running.
- Newcastle has improved its sustainability score from last year.

Equality

- Nottingham and Manchester outperform most of the local authorities in their regions on Equality scores.
- Manchester, Leeds, Nottingham and Newcastle have all improved their equality score from last year.

USING THE TPI

The TPI is increasingly used by places large and small - from towns to whole UK regions. Both the framework and the data behind it have been used to support better policy, funding, commissioning, academic and on-the-ground delivery work.

See our [website](#) for more information about Wellbeing Economy Roadmaps, frameworks and data for towns, use in rural contexts and more.

For more information about COVID impacts on wellbeing inequalities and anxiety, wellbeing and housing and employment and sense of purpose, see our work with ONS and the What Works Centre for Wellbeing also featured on the [website](#).



Founded in 2010, Centre for Thriving Places helps put the wellbeing of people and planet at the heart of decision making in towns, cities and regions across the UK. Our key strength is in helping **show what's possible and provide practical pathways to getting there**. We do this through place-based strategic consulting, research and data and evidence-based measurement tools and frameworks including the Thriving Places Index and the Happiness Pulse.

TPI 2021 CONTRIBUTING TEAM: Liz Zeidler, Mel Cairns, Lisa Muller, Soraya Safazadeh, Saamah Abdallah, Laura Steele, Wren Aigaki-Lander, Cristiana Veloso, Dave Forman, Marc George and with additional support from ONS and Data Cymru

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.

Contact us at hello@centreforthrivingplaces.org
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