

Knowing our Community

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The following publication highlights the sources of information which the Council gathers and analyses on a regular basis to ensure that it knows and understands the constantly changing community within Hertsmere. It is also used when implementing and making decisions on new policies and procedures across the Council's functions.

2 Herts Insight

- 2.1 The [Herts Insight](#) website enables access to a wide range of data, information and intelligence relating to the county of Hertfordshire. Content includes economic development, community safety strategies, community and corporate plans, area profiles, socio-economic data, demographic data, crime and policing statistics and much more.

3 Community Profiles

- 3.1 The purpose of the [Community Summary Profiles](#), which are available via [Herts Insight](#), provide headline information on a range of topics for a variety of geographical areas including district, ward, electoral division and large settlement.

4 Indices of Multiple Deprivation

- 4.2 The [Indices of Multiple Deprivation](#) are compiled by the Office for National Statistics. The most recent update was published in September 2015.
- 4.3 Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) are designed to identify the characteristics of small areas, which is particularly useful in an area such as Hertsmere where small pockets of deprivation are often hidden by overall levels of affluence. They therefore assist in the development of more targeted policies and more informed funding allocations. Indices of Multiple Deprivation are assessed and published every three years.

5 Other Sources

- 5.1 [Office for National Statistics](#) – the ONS is the UK's largest independent producers of official statistics and the recognised national statistical institute of the UK. It contains information on a broad range of statistics including census data.
- 4.5 [Nomis](#) – this service is provided by the ONS and gives free access to the most detailed and up-to-date labour market statistics.

5 Health Profiles

- 5.1 This [profile](#), produced by Public Health England, gives a picture of health in the area. It is designed to help local government and health services understand their community's needs, so that they can work to improve people's health and reduce health inequalities.
- 5.2 The [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment](#), which is produced by Hertfordshire County Council, also provides valuable information on Health and wellbeing and the wider Community through the production of a range of needs assessments. Each focusses on a health and wellbeing problem, including causes and risk factors. It also proposes solutions and makes recommendations for local commissioning.

6 Citizen Advice Bureau

- 6.1 The Client Profiles collected by the Citizen Advice Bureau are particularly useful in understanding who is seeking advice on various issues including debt, housing and employment. These are collected quarterly by the CAB in Hertsmere and shared with Hertsmere Borough Council at monitoring meetings helping to shape services and understand the changing community.