Purpose of this Paper

This paper has been designed to help inform service and policy planning. It is part of a series of seven guides to available research and statistical evidence relating to the varying needs, experiences and outcomes of different equality characteristics in Bournemouth protected under the **Equality Act 2010** provides a top-level view of this specific subject area and identifies contacts and resources for people who would like more detailed information.

Structure of this Paper

Each **protected characteristic** has 10 domains which focus directly on the most important aspects of life that people identify with, in terms of who they are and what they do. They are central to the **Equality Measurement Framework** which provides a baseline of evidence that enables the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) to evaluate progress and decide priorities.

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The Local Population of Interest

Although age is a concept that encompasses everyone, equality issues tend to arise from perceived and actual variations between age groups.

Most often, this affects people at the extreme ends of the life cycle – children, young people, and older people, whose needs and capabilities may differ from those of the much larger ‘adult’ population.
The population of the UK is ageing – over the last 25 years the population aged 65 and over increased by 1.7 million people to 17% (2011), and is predicted to rise to 23% by 2035. Over the same period the number of younger people (aged 16 and under) decreased from 21% to 19%. The fastest population increase has been in the number of people aged 85 and over, the ‘oldest old’. In the last 25 years, the number of people aged 85 and over doubled from nearly 0.7 million to reach over 1.4 million by 2010. It is projected that by 2035, this age group will be 2.5 times larger than in 2010, representing 5% of the total UK population (*Population Ageing in the United Kingdom, its Constituent Countries and the European Union – Office for National Statistics, 2011*).

Of the 183,491 residents in Bournemouth, 20.5% are under 19, 19.9% are aged between 60–84 years of age and 3.4% are over 85 years of age, as the chart above shows (*Bournemouth Age Structure, 2011 Census - Nomisweb*).

Recent population projections predict that the number of children under the age of 16 in the UK will rise by approximately 14% from 11.6 million in 2010 to 13 million in 2035 (*2010-based National Population Projections, ONS*). In Bournemouth, the number of children under the age of 19 is predicted to rise to 21.6% of the population by 2020 (*Bournemouth Child Health Profile 2013, ChiMat*).

Population projections show that until 2017, Bournemouth is predicted to have a rising number of 65-74 year olds and a steadily increasing 85+ population. By 2021, all older age groups will have increased with a total of 4,500 additional over 65’s, apart from the 80-84 age group which will see an 18% fall in numbers compared to the 2011 figures (*Interim 2011-based sub-national population projections, ONS*).

**Students in Bournemouth**

Bournemouth continues to have a high number of 20-24 year olds living in the area, making up 11% of the population in 2011. In the 2011 census, there were just over 18,000 full-time students in Bournemouth aged between 16 and 74, representing a significant increase since 2001 (7,815 – 19 and over). 31.9% were also in employment while carrying out their studies compared to 29% in England and Wales. However, the majority of the student population (59.4%) were unemployed compared to 62% in England and Wales (*2011 Census: Economic activity - Full-time students, local authorities in England and Wales*).

**Key Domains for this Protected Characteristic – Older People (50+)**

**Legend:**

- National data
- Bournemouth data

**Health and Longevity**

In 2010, males and females in the UK aged 65 or over could expect to spend more than 80% of their lives in very good or good health from birth (*Health Expectancies at Birth and at Age 65 in the United Kingdom, 2008-2010, ONS*).

‘Healthy’ life expectancy, as well as overall satisfaction with health, in the UK has steadily increased. Increases in a lifetime spent in very good, or good, health or free from a limiting
persistent illness may ultimately reduce the healthcare burden associated with an ageing population and has important implications for fitness for work beyond retirement age (Measuring National Well-being: Life in the UK, 2012, ONS).

While older people (65 and over) represented 17% of the UK population, they also accounted for two-thirds of hospital admissions in 2012 (Hospitals on the Edge? The time for action, Royal College of Physicians, 2012).

In 2012, people aged 60-79 said they were satisfied with their life and that they had been happy the previous day. They also felt that the things they did in their lives were worthwhile, while those aged 60+ had low levels of anxiety the previous day. In contrast, those aged 45-54 felt much more negative about life, had lower levels of happiness and satisfaction with life, and higher levels of anxiety the previous day than the 60-79 age group (Annual Population Survey 2012/13, ONS).

Research commissioned in 2009 found that some key groups in Bournemouth did not view giving up smoking as realistic, particularly older people living alone. Hip fracture was a common and serious consequence of a fall in older people, often leading to long-term dependency and sometimes early death. In 2008/9, the rate of hip fractures in Bournemouth overtook regional and national averages. The location and climate of Bournemouth and Poole is ideal for regular exercise but 90% of older residents did not do enough to stay fit (JSNA, 2010-2015).

Bournemouth and Poole is only second to Dorset in NHS South West for the proportion of older (70+) people admitted for hospital elective care (42%). This rate is rising faster than any other PCT in the region; up from 36% in the last 3 years (JSNA, 2010-2015).

In 2010, 28% of people aged 60 and over in Bournemouth said they did not suffer from a disability, which was an increase from 2007/08 (21%). Three quarters of people in the same age group said they suffered from at least one disability with ‘physical impairment’ being the most common (43%). However, this figure represented a drop of 17 percentage points compared to 2007/08. The largest increase of 16 percentage points was seen in the number of people aged 60 and over who suffered from a long standing illness or health condition such as cancer, HIV/AIDS or Diabetes. There was also an increase of 4 percentage points in those suffering from a hearing impairment compared to 2007/08 (17%) (Quality of Life Survey Among Older Residents in Bournemouth 2010 (n=448), Bournemouth Local Strategic Partnership).

The same survey showed that 48% of people aged 60 and over in Bournemouth felt either ‘very good’ or ‘extremely good’. This proportion is considerably higher than in 2007/08, while only 16% said they felt ‘poor’ or ‘extremely poor’, a considerable reduction from 29% in 2007/08. In addition, three quarters said they felt the services they used had a positive impact on the way they felt about their health and wellbeing. This represents a significant positive increase since 2007/08. (Quality of Life Survey Among Older Residents in Bournemouth 2010 (n=448), Bournemouth Local Strategic Partnership).

Forecasted population changes over the next 5 years, amongst the 65 and over age group in Bournemouth and Poole, will have a direct impact on the incidences of particular diseases in the region. There will be a 6.8% increase to 5,400 in cases of dementia; a 7.9% increase to 1,800 people with a long standing health condition caused by a stroke; an 11.4% increase to 1,500 people with a long standing respiratory condition; and lastly, there will be an 8.5% increase to 16,100 in the number of people who are obese (Bournemouth and Poole Carers Joint Commissioning Strategy 2010-2013).
Physical and Legal Security

There is no statutory definition of a crime against an older person and no general statutory offence (Hate crime and crimes against older people 2011-12, Crown Prosecution Service).

A study commissioned in 2007 discovered that 2.6% of people aged 66 and over and living in private accommodation in the UK had experienced mistreatment involving a family member, close friend or care worker in the past year. This equated to 227,000 people nationally, and when incidents involving neighbours and acquaintances were taken into account, prevalence of abuse rose to 342,400 people nationally. The mistreatments with the highest prevalence rates were ‘neglect’ (1.1%) and ‘financial’ (0.7%), while men aged 85 and over were more likely to have experienced financial abuse than younger men. Women aged 85 and over were more likely to have been neglected (UK Study of Abuse and Neglect of Older People 2007 (n=2,111), Kings College London).

Since 2007/08, nearly 3,000 cases of crimes against older people in the UK have been reported to the Crown Prosecution Service by the police. 75.1% of these have resulted in a charge, while guilty pleas accounted for 73.9% of all prosecutions in 2011/12 (Hate crime and crimes against older people 2011-12, Crown Prosecution Service).

In 2010, the majority of people over 60 living in Bournemouth said that they felt safe at home all the time, with 98% feeling safe during the day and 92% feeling safe at night. 86% felt safe walking in their neighbourhood during the day but only 19% felt safe doing this after dark. 75% said they don’t go out in their neighbourhood after dark but it wasn’t clear whether this was due to concerns over personal safety or something else. The proportion who felt safe in central Bournemouth was lower than the proportion who felt safe locally (65%) but again it wasn’t clear why they this was the case. A heightened sense of vulnerability was detected amongst respondents who lived alone, were older and were female (Quality of Life Survey Among Older Residents in Bournemouth 2010 (n=448), Bournemouth Local Strategic Partnership).

The same survey found that 35% of people over 60 in Bournemouth felt that attending, joining or using the services they have has made them feel more positive about their personal safety and less vulnerable, compared to 25% in 2007/08 (Quality of Life Survey Among Older Residents in Bournemouth 2010 (n=448), Bournemouth Local Strategic Partnership).

There were a total of 2,500 crimes in Dorset in 2011, where victims were aged 70 and over, out of a total of 44,200 crimes. This represents just less than 6% of all crime in the county. For almost every crime type, incidences in Bournemouth were lower than in Poole or Dorset County, with 103 crimes against over 70s occurring in Bournemouth in 2011. However, 71.4% of all distraction burglaries committed in Bournemouth were against victims aged 70 and over (Vulnerable Adults Profile, Bournemouth Borough Council, 2012).

In 2011/12, the South West had an 84.7% conviction rate for crimes against older people (Hate crime and crimes against older people 2011-12, Crown Prosecution Service).

Education

In 2010/11, 17.3% of students in the UK were aged 36 and over at the time of entry into a higher education institution. This was 1% lower than the previous year, continuing the decline for this age group since 2003/04. Combined studies (45.9%) and education (33.9%) had the highest proportions of students aged 36 and over. There was a higher proportion of first year students studying SET subjects (ie. medicine and science-related), aged 36 and over (39.5%) than the proportion of all students studying these subjects at this level (35.3%) (Equality in Higher Education: statistical report 2012, Equality Challenge Unit).
In 2012, only 1,940 undergraduates starting courses were older than 60, out of a total of 552,240 students in Britain. Some 6,455 were aged between 50 and 60 (Higher Education Statistics Agency, 2011-12).

At the time of writing, detailed statistics were not available on the education levels, or educational activities, of people aged 50 and over in Bournemouth. However, we do know from the 2011 Census that 9.7% of the population in Bournemouth and in full-time education were aged 18 and over.

**Standard of Living**

In 2010/11, 20% of pensioners cut back on their heating over the winter months in order to make ends meet (TNS Benefits Omnibus Study: March 2011 (n=1,200) – Age UK).

There are 1.8 million pensioners who live in poverty in the UK (Age UK) and, in 2012, one in five people aged 60 and over owed money on a mortgage, credit card or bank loan. Also, 72% of people aged 60 and over and who claimed benefits said that receiving the extra money had made a difference to their lives (TNS Finance Omnibus Study: May 2012 – Age UK).

In 2012, 19% of people who were aged 60 and over, and in debt, said they were concerned about the amount of money they owed (TNS Benefits Omnibus Study: May 2012 (n=1,036) – Age UK).

Nearly two-thirds (60%) of the projected increase in the number of households from 2008-2033 will be headed by someone aged 65 or over (Laying the Foundations: A Housing Strategy for England, Nov 2011).

In 2008, the occupiers of an estimated 5,540 (7.2%) dwellings were in fuel poverty in Bournemouth, a considerable reduction since 2003 (11.2%). The highest proportion of fuel poverty was found in the Neighbourhood Management (NM) area at 11.8%, followed by the Central and South West sub areas at 8.8%. Within age groups, the highest rate of decent accommodation was for households where the age of head of household was 75-84 years (41.5%), with the next highest being those aged 60-74 years (36%) old (Private Sector House Condition Survey Bournemouth, 2008).

In 2010, 43% of people aged over 60 in Bournemouth said that physical health was the main barrier to living the kind of life they wanted. However, this was much lower than the number of people who said this in 2007/08 (78%). Over 50% said that using services had a positive impact on their ability to live the kind of life they wanted. 24% said that services had a very positive impact compared to 5% in 2007/08, with the main reason for this positive impact being to ‘socialise/meet people and make friends’ (27%) (Quality of Life Survey Among Older Residents in Bournemouth 2010 (n=448), Bournemouth Local Strategic Partnership).

The same survey revealed that a significant minority (29%) of people aged 60 and over in Bournemouth found it difficult to shop for food, while 19% said it was very difficult (Quality of Life Survey Among Older Residents in Bournemouth 2010 (n=448), Bournemouth Local Strategic Partnership).
Productive and Valued Activities

In 2011, the number of carers over the age of 65 was increasing more rapidly than the general carer population. Whilst the number of carers overall increased by 9% from 2001 to 2011, the number of carers over 65 increased by 15% in this period (Valuing Carers, Carers UK, 2011).

In 2012, 5.8 million grandparents in the UK spent around 10 hours a week looking after their grandchildren, with only 3% receiving any formal payment. This equated to a £10.7 billion unofficial ‘child benefit’, with 49% of grandparents contributing £1.071 per year towards their grandchild’s upbringing, a 58% increase compared to 2011 (RIAS, 2012).

Between December 2012 and February 2013, the employment rate of people aged 50-64 in the UK was 70.5%, an increase of 2 percentage points compared to the same period in 2011. During this period, the employment rate of men (77%) was higher than that of women (64.1%) for this age group. By contrast, the employment rate of the 65+ age group had increased only slightly (0.3%) compared to the same period in 2011, however, men continued to have a higher employment rate than their female counterparts (Labour Force Survey 2012/13, ONS).

In 2011, around 25% of people of working age in Bournemouth were over 50 and projections predict that this figure will remain roughly the same up until 2030. However, there will be a 3% drop in the number of 50-59 year olds working in 2030 compared to 2020 and a 1% increase in the 60-65 age group (Employment and Skills Analysis: Bournemouth, Dorset & Poole, SWO, 2011).

Over 15,000 (9.5%) of Bournemouth’s residents consider themselves to be carers and 25% of these people provide unpaid care for more than 50 hours per week (Bournemouth and Poole Carers Joint Commissioning Strategy 2010-2013).

Individual, Family and Social Life

In 2012, it was estimated that among those aged over 65 in the UK, 10% were lonely all or most of the time. 17% of older people were in contact with family, friends and neighbours less than once a week, and 11% were in contact less than once a month (Loneliness – the state we’re in, Age UK Oxfordshire, 2012).

In 2010, 95% of people aged 60 and over in Bournemouth were satisfied with the amount of contact they had with people other than the people they lived with. This was higher than in 2007/08, where it was 81%. People aged 65-74 (87%) in particular were ‘very satisfied’ with this aspect of their lives. Women (51%) were more likely to experience a positive impact than men (41%). Overall, there was a significant increase in satisfaction with this aspect of their lives, rising from 59% in 2007/08 to 87% in 2010 (Quality of Life Survey Among Older Residents in Bournemouth 2010 (n=448), Bournemouth Local Strategic Partnership).

The same survey demonstrated that the majority of people (79%) aged 60 and over felt that using, joining or attending a preventative service resulted in them feeling more positive about the amount of contact they had with people. The key reasons for this were ‘enjoying meeting people/socialising/the company’ and ‘making new friends/friendship in general’ (both (23%))
However, in 2011, isolation and loneliness were highlighted as major concerns by older people in Bournemouth (Bournemouth’s Older People Forum, 2011).

**Participation, Influence and Voice**

Election turnout is much higher amongst older people than amongst the rest of the adult population. For example, over 70% of people aged over 55 years voted in the last General Election, compared to 44% of 18-24 year olds (MORI, 2010).

A recent study found that the proportion of people who volunteered in the UK more than once in the last 12 months increased with age. The highest proportion of older people who had volunteered more than once in the last 12 months were those aged 65 and 69 (23%). There was a correlation between volunteering once in the last 12 months and life satisfaction. 84% of older people who had volunteered said they were satisfied with their lives overall, compared to 75% of those who did not volunteer (Older People’s Leisure Time and Volunteering, ONS 2013).

At the time of writing, local data was unavailable for this dimension for the 50 and over age group.

**Identity, Expression and Self-Respect**

In 2011, 76.1% of people in Bournemouth aged 50 and over classified themselves as religious which was below the national average for this age group (78.9%). 15.4% said they were non-religious which was higher than the national average for this age group (13.3%) (Religion in England and Wales: Detailed Characteristics Census 2011, Nomisweb).

**Marriage and Civil Partnership**

The provisional number of UK marriages in 2010 was 277,740, a 4% rise compared with 2009. The long-term picture for UK marriages is one of decline. 56% of the UK married population in 2010 were aged 50 and over, and 10% of people who got married in 2010 were aged 50 and over (Marriages in England and Wales, ONS, 2010). The number of divorces in England and Wales in 2011 fell by 1.7% compared to the previous year. Divorces amongst the 50 and over age group represented 24% of all divorces in England and Wales in 2011 (Divorces in England and Wales, ONS, 2011).

The provisional number of civil partnerships in the UK in 2011 was 6,795. The mean age of men forming civil partnerships in the UK in 2011 was 40.1 years compared to 38.3 years for women. The provisional number of civil partnership dissolutions granted in the UK in 2011 increased by 28.7% compared to 2010. Of the 13,590 civil partners in the UK in 2011, just under 400 (3%) were aged 65 and over (Civil Partnerships in the UK, ONS, 2011).

The Government does not envisage an adverse impact on any marital or civil partnership groups in the UK following the introduction of benefit caps in 2013. However, it is not possible to give any accurate assessment of the impact as the DWP does not collect information on the marital or civil partnership status of claimants (Benefit Cap: Equality Impact Assessment 2012, DWP).
In 2011, just under 60,000 people (32.6%) were married and 613 (0.3%) were in a registered same-sex civil partnership in Bournemouth (2011 Census: Marital and Civil Partnership Status, ONS).

Between April 2012 and March 2013, 900 weddings took place in Bournemouth while there were 32 civil partnership ceremonies (Marriage Statistics, Bournemouth Borough Council).

Pregnancy and Maternity

Conceptions have been generally rising since 2001, despite falling in 2008 and 2011. The proportion of all conceptions resulting in a maternity in 2011 was 79%. Compared to 2010, the number of conceptions to women aged 40 and over increased by 3%. The rate of conceptions for every one thousand women in this age group, who were married or in a civil partnership, increased to 12.3 (Conceptions in England and Wales, ONS, 2011), reasons for this included increased participation in higher education; delayed marriage and partnership formation; the desire to establish a career, getting on the housing ladder and ensuring financial stability before starting a family (Jeffries, 2008; Ni Brolchain, 2012).

At the time of writing, local data was unavailable for this dimension for the 50 and over age group.

Key Domains for this Protected Characteristic – Children and Young People 0-19

Health and Longevity

In 2009, 16% of boys aged 2 to 15, and 15% of girls, were classed as obese. Whilst there has been a marked increase in the prevalence of obesity since 1995, the prevalence of overweight children aged 2 to 15 has remained largely unchanged (Statistics on obesity, physical activity and diet: England, The Health and Social Care Information Centre, 2011).

In 2011, 17% of school pupils in England reported that they had ever taken drugs, compared to 29% in 2001. Most pupils were likely to have taken cannabis (7.6%). Less than half (45%) of pupils said they had at least one alcoholic drink in their lifetime (Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England in 2011, NatCen, 2012).

In 2012, young people in the UK reported the lowest levels of anxiety for the previous day compared with the average for all other age groups (Measuring young people’s well-being, ONS, 2012).

Poor physical or mental health may be a contributing factor to young people continuing to live in the parental home. According to the 2012 Labour Force Survey, there were 900,000 young people aged 16-24 who were living with their parents and reported a health problem. Chest and breathing problems were the most common health problem reported (Measuring Young People’s Wellbeing ONS, 2012).

Obesity affects about a third of school children aged 10 in Bournemouth and Poole, while levels in 5 year olds have stabilised at just under a quarter (JSNA, 2010-2015). In 2009/10, 10.1% of children in reception year in Bournemouth were obese which was just above the national average. By year 6, the Bournemouth obesity figure was 15.9% which was slightly lower than the national average (Bournemouth Children and Young People’s Plan 2011-2012).
30% of young people in Bournemouth being treated mainly for cannabis and/or alcohol problems were 17 years old. 40% of young people were treated for between 13 and 26 weeks. Many young people in Bournemouth who are receiving an intervention for substance abuse have a range of vulnerabilities. They are likely to ‘Not be in Employment, Education or Training’ (NEET), half as likely to be in full-time employment, more likely to have contracted a sexually transmitted disease, have a child, be in contact with the youth justice system and be receiving benefits by the time they are 18 (JSNA: The Data for Young People: Bournemouth, NHS).

In the period 2008-2011, the rate of young people under the age of 18 admitted with alcohol specific conditions was just under 90 per 100,000 people, which was higher than the England average of just under 60 per 100,000 people (Bournemouth Child Health Profile 2013, ChiMat).

Between 2009 and 2012, the number of young people under the age of 18 in Bournemouth who were admitted to hospital as a result of self-harm was just under 125 per 100,000 people, which was similar to the average in England (Bournemouth Child Health Profile 2013, ChiMat).

In 2011/12, 83.4% of children in Bournemouth had received their first dose of immunisation for Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) by the age of 2, which was lower than the England average (85%). By the age of 5, the percentage of children who had received their second dose of MMR immunisation had dropped to 70%. There have been 72 laboratory confirmed cases of Measles amongst young people aged 19 and under in the South West in the past year (Bournemouth Child Health Profile 2013, ChiMat).

**Physical and Legal Security**

Since 2008/09, there have been 54% fewer young people going into the Youth Justice System, 32% fewer people under 18 in custody and 14% fewer re-offences by young people. 21% of offences committed by young people in 2011/12 were violence against a person, 19% was for theft and handling, and 10% was for criminal damage. The majority of proven offences (77%) were committed by young people aged 15 and over, while only 23% were committed by 10-14 year olds (Youth Justice Statistics 2011/12: England and Wales, 2013).

Although some young people experienced bullying in school in 2010, which is often at least weekly for those that do, most felt their school dealt well with bullying (TellUS4 National Report, DCSF, 2010).

Young people in the criminal justice system are currently most at risk of self-harm and are disproportionately likely to self-harm compared to their adult counterparts. In 2010, 5,783 incidents of self-harm were recorded amongst the 15-20 age group in the UK (Human Rights Review 2012: How Fair is Britain?, EHRC).

A study by NatCen in 2011 found that 16% of 16-17 year olds had emotional health concerns, 8% had substance misuse problems, 8% took part in risky behaviours including crime, 8% had low educational attainment, and 6% were NEET. 15% suffered from two or more disadvantages (Understanding vulnerable young people in England, NatCen, 2011).

In 2011/2012, 10% of all counselling carried out by ChildLine was for bullying, while there was a 68% increase in counselling sessions for self-harm (5% in total) compared to 2010/11. In addition to these, family relationships (13%), physical abuse (6%), and sexual abuse (5%) are considered the main concerns for young people in the UK (Saying the Unsayable: What’s affecting children in 2012, ChildLine, 2012).
600 criminal offences resulted in disposal (ie. were completed) in Bournemouth and Poole in 2011/12. 190 (31.6%) were committed by young people aged 17 and over, while 168 (28%) were committed by those aged 16, and 128 (21.3%) were committed by 10-14 year olds. The most common crime committed was ‘theft and handling stolen goods’ (21.8%), which was committed mostly by 16 year olds. This was followed by ‘violence against a person’ (18.2%) which was committed mostly by 10-14 year olds. These were also the two most committed crimes by young people on a national level (Offences resulting in disposal: Bournemouth and Poole, ONS, 2012).

In 2012, people under the age of 35 (45%) were more likely to consider drug use or drug dealing a problem than those in other age groups (Bournemouth Opinion Survey 2012, Bournemouth Borough Council).

Education

In 2010/11, 58.9% of pupils in England achieved 5 or more GCSEs at grade A* to C or equivalent including English and Mathematics, an increase of 5.4% from 2009/10 (DfE: GCSE and Equivalent Results in England, 2010/11 (Revised)). At the end of 2011, 9.9% of 16 to 18 year olds in the UK were NEET, however rates vary with age. For most young people, being NEET is a temporary outcome and they move between education and training options (Department for Education, 2013).

In the same period, 49.3% of students in higher education in the UK were aged 21 and under on entry into a higher education institution, which is a 1% increase from the year before. 48.3% of postgraduate research students in SET subjects (ie. medicine and science-related) were aged 25 and under, compared with 24.7% of those in non-SET subjects (Equality in Higher Education: statistical report2012, Equality Challenge Unit).

In 2011, the national benchmark for schools to achieve 5 A* to C grades was 30%, no school in Bournemouth performed below this level. Bournemouth made significant reductions in the number of NEETs aged 16-18 though it remained a considerable challenge to maintain this in the current economic climate. The highest levels of NEETS were in Kinson South, Kinson North, Queen’s Park and East Cliff and Springbourne (Bournemouth Children and Young People’s Plan 2011-2012).

Standard of Living

In 2008, child poverty cost at least £25 billion a year, including £17 billion that could have been accrued to the Exchequer if child poverty were eradicated (Estimating the costs of child poverty, Joseph Rowntree Foundation, 2008).

There were 3.6 million (27%) children living in poverty in the UK in 2012. Child poverty dropped significantly between 1998/9 and 2010/12 when 1.1 million children were lifted out of poverty due to measures that increased the levels of lone parents working and increased significantly the levels of benefits paid to families with children (Households below average income 1994/5-2010/11, DWP, 2012).

In 2012, young people aged 16-24 in the UK rated their satisfaction with their lives at a higher level than the average for all ages. Highest ratings for life satisfaction were in the 16-19 age group. In the same year, an estimated 4.6 million (63%) of all those aged 16-24 were living in the parental home. (Measuring young people’s well-being, ONS, 2012).

The number of working-age adults without children in poverty in the UK has risen by a third. (Monitoring Poverty and Social Exclusion 2012, Joseph Rowntree Foundation).
Around 80% of people in the UK who are likely to have their benefit reduced (when caps are introduced in 2013) will be aged between 25 and 44. As people under the age of 25 claim less benefits and are less likely to have children, most of the remaining 20% affected will be 45 and over. The benefit cap will only apply to working-age benefits and will not have an impact on single people or couples who have both reached the qualifying age for Pension Credit (Benefit Cap: Equality Impact Assessment 2012, DWP).

In 2012, 19% of children in Bournemouth lived in poverty compared to the national average of 20%. Kinson South (33%) and Boscombe West (32%) had the highest rates of child poverty in Bournemouth, while the lowest levels were seen in Ilford and Littledown (8%) (Children in Poverty mid-2012 estimates, ONS).

In April 2012, the number of people of working age in Bournemouth who were receiving Council Tax Benefits and under the age of 60 totalled 10,899 claimants (Welfare Reform – Implications for Health and Wellbeing: Annex 3, Bournemouth and Poole 2013).

Geographical analysis shows that young people under the age of 25, and people under the age of 35, in Bournemouth will be particularly and disproportionately affected by the Council Tax Benefit reforms implemented in April 2013 (Welfare Reform – Implications for Health and Wellbeing, Bournemouth and Poole 2013).

Productive and Valued Activities

In 2010, a BBC News survey of 4,029 pupils from 10 UK secondary schools found that 337 (8%) had over the preceding month carried out personal care of someone in their home either “a lot of the time” or “some of the time”. Translated across the UK as a whole, this meant that around 700,000 children under 18 were regularly caring intimately for a close relative. The previous estimate in the 2001 Census was 175,000 (BBC Press Release, 16.11.2010).

Between 2005/06 and 2011/12 in England, the number of 16-24 year olds who had volunteered in the last 12 months increased by 3.6%. A higher percentage of young people were volunteering compared with any other age group in both 2010/11 and 2011/12 (Measuring Young People’s Wellbeing, ONS, 2012).

Between February 2011 and February 2013, the employment rate amongst 16-17 year olds was 34.5%, almost a 4 percentage point drop since the same period in 2011. Girls (37.3%) had a higher employment rate than boys (31.7%) in this age group. In the 18-24 age group, there was an employment rate of 71.6% overall, which represented a slight increase of 0.5% compared to two years previously. In contrast to the 16-17 age group, the employment rate for men (74.7%) was higher than seen for women (68.5%) (Labour Force Survey 2012/13 – Estimates, ONS).

Between February 2011 and February 2013, the employment rate for 16-17 year olds in the South West of England dropped from 34.1% to 30%, with girls (36.7%) having a higher rate of employment than boys (24.1%) in 2013. By contrast, the employment rate for 18-24 year olds between February 2011 and February 2013 has only seen a slight drop of less than 1%. However, the employment rate amongst women (63.7%) is still higher than men (60.6%) (Labour Force Survey 2012/13 – Estimates, ONS).

At the time of writing, local data was unavailable for this dimension for the 19 and under age group.
Individual, Family and Social Life

In 2012, 59% of 16-24 year olds said looking after their family was the most important moral issue for them (Re:Think 2012 Poll, BBC Religion and Ethics, 2012).

In 2012, the types of families that dependent children lived in had changed significantly. 62% of dependent children lived in a married couple family, an 11% decrease from 1996. Over the same period, dependent children living in opposite sex cohabiting couple families increased by 7% and those living in lone parent families increased by 3% to 24%. (Families and Households 2012, ONS).

In 2011, there were 4,678 lone parent families in Bournemouth with dependent children (2011 Census: Lone Parent Households with Dependent Children).

In 2012, 19,960 families in Bournemouth were receiving child benefit with the majority of claiming families having one child, while all claims related to 32,730 children (Child Benefit Statistics: Geographical Analysis, HMRC, 2012).

Participation, Influence and Voice

Evidence in 2011 suggested that the turnout of young voters was generally lower than the average for the UK population. Even though there was a 7% increase in the number of 18-24 year olds voting in the 2010 general election (44%), it was still less than half of all eligible young people compared with the overall turnout of 65%. By contrast, the British Youth Council reported that one million young people and children voted in youth council elections in 224 localities in 2008 (Re-engaging Young People in Voting, Local Government Group, 2011).

More than 14,400 young people voted in the 2013 Dorset elections for the UK Youth Parliament (dorsetforyou.com).

Identity, Expression and Self Respect

In 2011, 24% of White British 16-25 year olds were religious compared to 97% of Bangladeshis, 95%of Pakistanis, 89% of Black Africans and 87% of Indians. 68% of Muslims said that religion made a difference to their lives compared to 12% of Catholics. Increasingly, younger generations were being brought up without a religious affiliation. (British Social Attitudes Survey 28, NatCen, 2011).

In a 2012 BBC poll, almost a third of 16-24 year olds said religious faith or belief was the least important issue in their lives. 12% said putting others first was most important, while 5% said caring for the environment was the highest priority. Finally, 51% said people their own age were less concerned by morals than their parents (Re:Think 2012 Poll, BBC Religion and Ethics, 2012).

At the time of writing, local data was unavailable for this dimension for the 19 and under age group.

Marriage and Civil Partnership

The age at which civil partnerships were formed changed considerably between 2006 and 2010. In 2006, 38% of all men and 27% of all women were aged 50 and over at the time of formation. In 2010, the most common age groups for men to form a civil partnership were 35 to 39 and 40 to 44, while for women it was 35 to 39. The mean age at formation for male civil
partners has continually been higher than female civil partners for all years, although it has fallen for both sexes year on year (Population Trends Autumn 2011, ONS).

In 2011, 3% of 16-24 year olds were married in the UK (General Lifestyle Survey, ONS, 2011). In the same year, 7% of males and 8% of females under 25 entered into a civil partnership (Civil Partnerships in the UK, ONS, 2011).

In 2012, where the age of victims of forced marriage in the UK were known, 13% were under the age of 15, 22% were aged 16-17, 30% were between 18 and 21 years old, and 19% were aged 22-25. The majority of cases of forced marriage handled by the UK Border Agency in 2012 involved Pakistan (47.1%), followed by Bangladesh (11%) and India (8%) (Forced Marriage Statistics Jan-Dec 2012, UK Border Agency). Based on the 2012 figures above, young people aged 16-25 are most at risk of being forced into marriage. Many forced marriages go unreported (Forced Marriage Unit, UK Border Agency, 2013).

The Government does not envisage an adverse impact on any marital or civil partnership groups in the UK following the introduction of benefit caps in 2013. However, it is not possible to give any accurate assessment of the impact as the DWP does not collect information on the marital or civil partnership status of claimants (Benefit Cap: Equality Impact Assessment 2012, DWP).

In 2012, 2% of all reported forced marriages in the UK took place in the South West region of the country. This equates to approximately 30 cases (Forced Marriage Statistics Jan-Dec 2012, UK Border Agency).

**Pregnancy and Maternity**

In 2009, young parents and their babies had poorer access to maternity services and experienced worse outcomes than older parents (Getting Maternity Services Right for Pregnant Teenagers and Young Fathers, DCSF and DH, 2009).

In 2011, there was a 10% decrease in the conception rate for women aged 18 and under compared to 2010. This was the lowest number of conceptions in this age group since 1969. Nearly half (49%) of all conceptions to women aged 18 and under in 2011 led to an abortion (Conceptions in England and Wales, ONS, 2011).

In 2012, the number of lone parents aged 16-24 varied between 2004 and 2012 but has always been above 200,000 in the UK. In 2012, 75% of lone parents aged 16-24 had one child, while 25% reported having two children or more (Measuring Young People’s Wellbeing 2012, ONS).

The rates of conceptions in Bournemouth for under 18s dropped between March and December 2011 from 41.3 per thousand women aged 15-17 to 21.7 (Quarterly Conceptions to Women aged under 18, ONS, 2011). Also, incidences of under-18 conceptions in Bournemouth tend to predominate in areas of mainly social housing (JSNA, 2010-2015).

In 2011/12, 0.8% of women giving birth in Bournemouth were aged under 18, which was similar to the England average (Bournemouth Child Health Profile 2013, ChiMat).

**Sources of Information Regarding Age:**

The following section provides links to local reports and datasets that offer further insight into the diverse nature of the varying age groups in Bournemouth. However, it should be noted that due to population sizes and inconsistent data monitoring, the information available at local level is often limited. For more robust, national sources of equality information, please refer to...
the Local Government Association ‘Equality Evidence Base’, and the Equality and Human Rights Commission ‘Review of Equality Statistics. If you are aware of any further local information please contact statistics@bournemouth.gov.uk.

Please note that a more detailed analysis of all subject areas will be possible once relevant 2011 Census cross tabulation data is made available by the Office for National Statistics.

Reports Providing Specific Information on Age Groups

Age friendly Bournemouth: The Quality of Life strategy for all older people 2008-2011 – Older people’s strategy for Bournemouth. Available [here](#).

Census 2011: Students in Bournemouth – Factsheet of census information relating to the student population in Bournemouth. Available [here](#).

Children & Young People’s Plan, 2006 – 2011 - Children and Young People’s plan for Bournemouth. Available [here](#).

Bournemouth Children and Young People’s Plan 2011-2012 – describes how local services are working together with children, young people, their parents and carers to bring about fundamental changes in the way services are delivered. Available [here](#).

Reports Which Contain Analysis of Information By Age Group

Bournemouth and Poole Carers Joint Commissioning Strategy 2010-2013 – outlines the commitment of NHS Bournemouth and Poole, Borough of Poole and Bournemouth Borough Council to the development and delivery of health and social care services for Carers between 2010 and 2013. Available [here](#).

Employment and Skills Analysis: Bournemouth, Dorset & Poole 2011 – provides an analysis of employment and skills in Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole. Available [here](#).

Getting the Balance Right, 2008-2011 – Alcohol Harm reduction strategy for Bournemouth. Available [here](#).

Health & Wellbeing: Joint Strategic Needs Assessment – Provides a rich picture of the current and future needs of the local population. Available [here](#).

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) 2010-2015 – demonstrates how NHS Bournemouth and Poole works in partnership with the Borough of Poole and Bournemouth Borough Council to understand the current and future health and wellbeing needs of the local population and identify priorities. This document gives an overview of the original findings from the 2008 JSNA and further analysis and narrative following the updated structure and content. The full document is available [here](#).

Population Trends in Bournemouth – explains past and future population trends using various sources of population data and provides details of the drivers of population trend locally. Available [here](#).

Vulnerable Adults Profile 2012 – gives a profile of victimisation of the elderly in Dorset. Available [here](#).
Reports on Age Related Services


Older People’s Quality of Life Survey 2010 – a follow survey to the 2007/08 Older People’s Quality of Life Survey looking into the extent to which older people in Bournemouth think that services impact positively on the quality of their lives. Available here.

Local Age Relevant Datasets and Indicators

HM Revenue and Customs – allows you to access statistics on a variety of income-related subjects such as benefits and taxes. http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/statistics/.

Higher Education Statistics Agency - is the central source for the collection and dissemination of statistics about publicly funded UK higher education. http://www.hesa.ac.uk/.

Joseph Rowntree Foundation - Independent development and social research charity, supporting a wide programme of research and development projects in housing, social care and social issues. http://www.jrf.org.uk/

Knowledge Base, Equality South West Data Tool - collates and disaggregates (where possible), by local area and by equality characteristic and socio-economic status, existing data from a wide range of reliable and widely used national data sets, and is capable of detailed interrogation and analysis for a range of local equality purposes. Available here.

Neighbourhood Statistics – Allows you to find detailed statistics within specific geographic areas e.g. Local Authority, Ward, Super Output Area. http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/

Nomisweb – service provided by the Office for National Statistics providing detailed and up-to-date UK labour market statistics. https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/


This paper is one in a series of seven profiling the protected Equality Characteristics produced by the Corporate Research Team, Borough of Poole, in co-operation with the Research & Information Team, Bournemouth. These reports have been produced in line with LGA guidance (2012) on measuring equality at a local level. To view the papers on Gender, Ethnicity, Disability, Religion/Belief, Sexual Orientation and Social Inequality [insert link for profiles].

For more information on research and consultation reports for Bournemouth please contact the Research & Information team on (01202) 454684 or email statistics@bournemouth.gov.uk.