1.3 Life expectancy

Life expectancy at birth is a way of expressing the all-cause mortality for an area. It gives an estimate of how long someone is expected to live based on current mortality rates. Life expectancy varies by social class, gender and the life choices people make. In order to increase life expectancy, a number of key areas need to be addressed, including: reducing mortality rates from the major diseases, promotion of healthier lifestyles, improving access to services and working to improve social determinants of health such as housing.

Life Expectancy in Men

The latest Life Expectancy information (2012 to 2014) shows that Male Walsall residents live for 78 years, compared to 78.9 years for the West Midlands and 79.5 years for England. Therefore, Walsall is still performing poorly in comparison to the rest of the country.



Figure 1 Trends in Male Life Expectancy – 1991 to 2014 (Source = ONS)

The latest information has shown some positive news for Male Life Expectancy. The graph shows that the Walsall Male Life Expectancy gap with England has started to narrow since 2006 to 2008. For example the gap with England has narrowed from 1.97 years in 2006 / 08 to 1.3 years in 2011 / 13. However, in 2012 / 14 there has been an increase in the gap from 1.3 to 1.6.



Figure 2 Male Life Expectancy Benchmarking – 2012-14 (Source = ONS)

The graph above also shows that Walsall is performing well compared to similar deprived areas. The graph shows that the Male Life Expectancy is ranked 4th out of 14 similar local authority areas.

Life Expectancy in Women

The latest (2012 to 2014) Life Expectancy information shows that Female Walsall residents live for 82.5 years, compared to 82.9 years for the West Midlands and 83.2 years for England. The information shows that Walsall is performing well in comparison to the rest of the country.

The graph on the next page shows that the Walsall Female Life Expectancy gap with England has widened slightly in the latest period, reducing from 82.8 years (in 2011-13) to 82.5 years (in 2012-14).



Figure 3 Trends in Female Life Expectancy - 1991 to 2014 (Source = ONS)

The graph below also shows that Walsall is performing well compared to similar deprived areas. The graph shows that the Female Life Expectancy is ranked 4th out of 14 similar local authority areas.



Figure 4- Female Life Expectancy Benchmarking – 2012-2014 (Source = ONS)

Further Information

Further information on the Public Health Outcomes Framework can be found at the following link.

http://www.phoutcomes.info/public-health-outcomes-framework

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