Willenhall North

Ward Profile

Produced by Walsall Business Insights January 2024



## Welcome to Willenhall North







#### Did you know?

- **History -** The area has rich coal deposits and a significant mining past, with the Sneyd Colliery mines (located in the area in 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century) using the Wyrley and Essington Canal for transportation. There are strong links to the areas lock making history, with two factories previously located here: Yale factory closed in 1980's and Squires factory in the mid 2000's, due to the age of the building, and relocated to Essington.
- New Invention A large estate in the ward got its name when its first tenant became annoyed by a smokey chimney and he contrived an ingenious apparatus to remedy that evil...he invited every visitor to see his 'new invention' as he called it. It is referenced the 'invention' was a hawthorn bush, pushed out the top of the chimney.
- Reverend John Wesley, leader of Methodism, once stayed in the New Invention area after being stoned and forced out of busier Willenhall area. According to Wesley: "I proceeded thence to New invention, where I met with civility and kindness". Part of the present day A462 is named Wesley Road...perhaps in recognition to the reverend.
- Covers 2.34 sq km (234.1.3 ha), the smallest ward in Walsall (approximately 1/6 of the size of the largest ward, Aldridge Central and South 13.7 sq km).
- Willenhall North makes up 2.3% of the total area of Walsall.
- Has a population density of 5,429 people per square kilometer, compared to the ward average of 3,159. Large residential areas, coupled its relatively small size, make Willenhall North the most densely populated ward in Walsall.



## Councillors





Stacie Elson

11 May 2021





Adam Hicken

07 May 2015





Rob Larden

09 May 2022

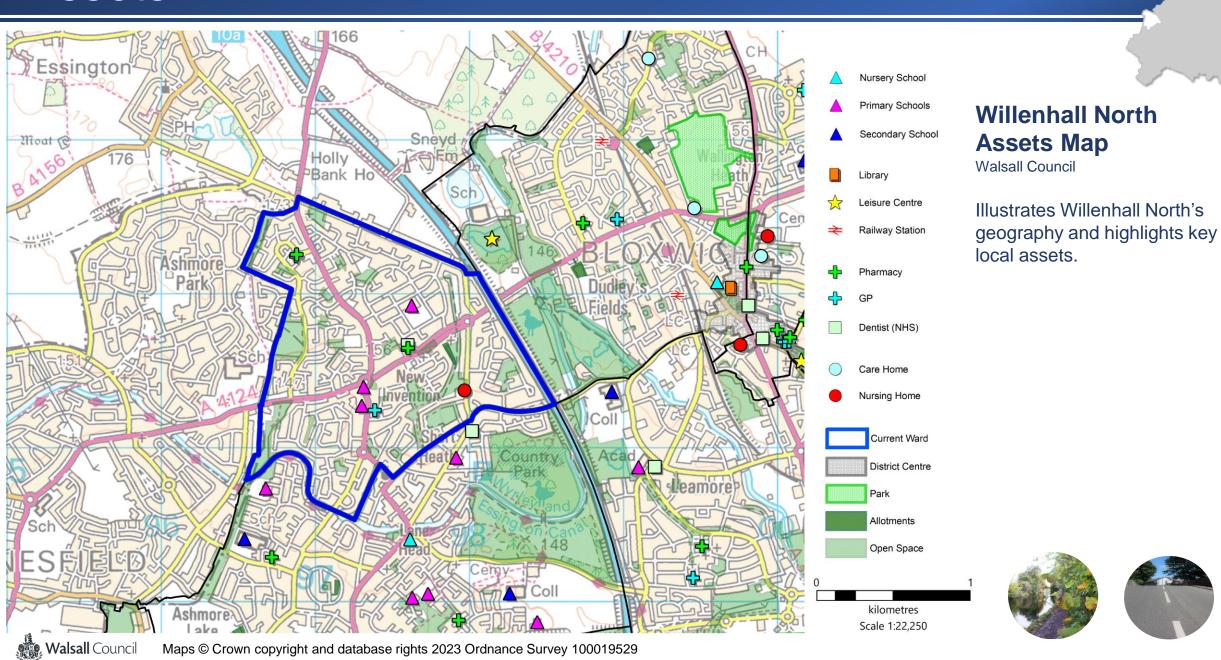
Conservatives



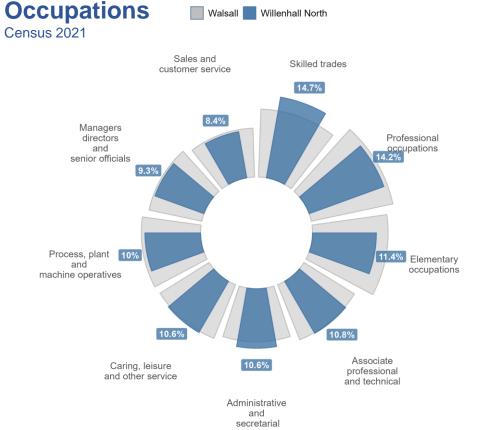
# Place

What are the attributes and assets of the local area, and how can we characterise it compared to the rest of Walsall?

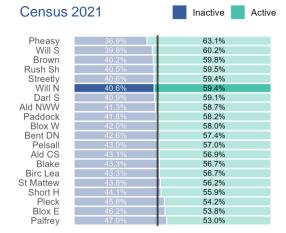
## Assets



# **Economy and Workforce**



#### **Economic Status**

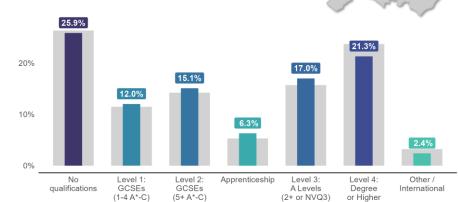


# **59.4%** Are Economically Active

6<sup>th</sup> highest of the Walsall Wards. Inactivity includes retirees, students, longterm sick/disabled, homemaking and other.





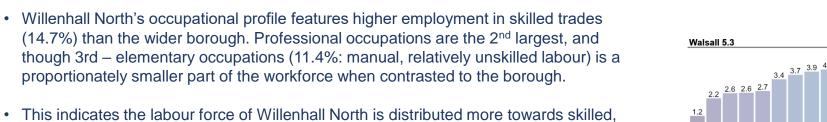


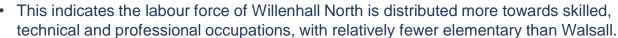
Grey bars = Walsall

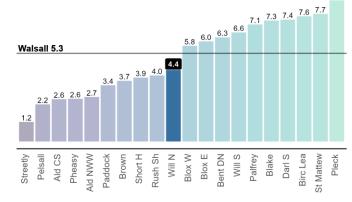
 Almost 1 in 4 (25.9%) Willenhall North adults have no formal qualifications (Walsall, 26.3%), and fewer have a degree or higher (21.3%). The proportion of those with GCSEs, apprenticeships or A Levels are all relatively higher than the wider borough.

#### **Claimant Count**

JSA Claimants per 100 working age pop, ONS Oct 2023







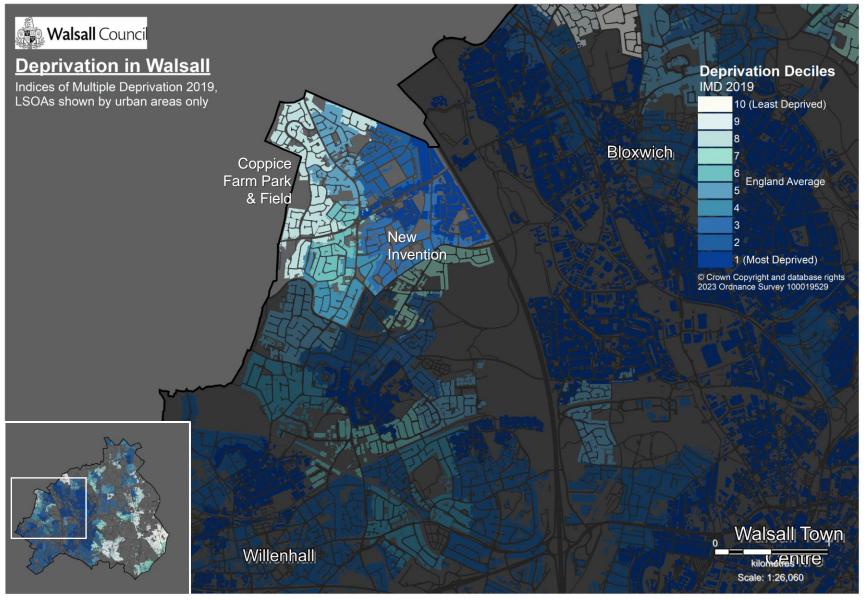
- Willenhall North's Claimant Count (Jobseekers Allowance) is 4.4 per 100 working age adults.
- This is just below average when compared to the wider borough (5.3 per 100 working age adults), and 10<sup>th</sup> lowest of Walsall's wards.



Source: Census 2021

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# Deprivation



Willenhall North is an area of mixed deprivation, split between east (most deprived) and west (less deprived).

It faces particularly high deprivation in:

- Adult Skills
- Outdoors i.e. Air Quality and Road Accidents Which are within the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> decile, relative to England.

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It ranks positively for lack of deprivation in:

Barriers to Housing

Within the 7<sup>th</sup> decile compared to England.

England (2 in 10)



3 in 10

Borough (5 In 10)

Residents Living in **High Deprivation**Amongst the bottom 20% of areas nationwide.

Note: Deprivation is a relative measure, not absolute. High deprivation suggests an area has not kept pace with progress relative to other areas in England.



# Housing & Households



5,000 Households 1

Increased since 2011, Ward makes up 4.5% of all Walsall Households



**432** (8.6%) Households are Lone Parents of Dependent children



**19.6%** School Children & Full- time Students (aged 5yrs & over) Approximately 1:5

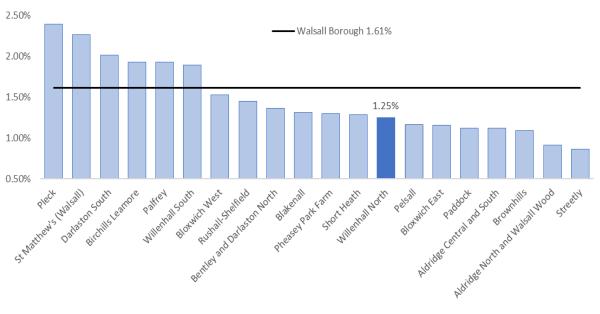


### **68% Homeowners**

19.2% Households are Socially Rented (Borough 23.7%)

- Willenhall North's household population of full-time students and school children, aged over 5yrs, is 19.6% - below the Walsall figure of 22.1% and very similar to Bloxwich West.
- Single-family households, consisting of a lone parent with dependent children, make up 8.6% of households with similar percentages to Brownhills & St. Matthews wards. The number of lone parent households in Willenhall North is almost double that of Paddock Ward which has 223.
- Willenhall North ranks 8<sup>th</sup> Highest of number of homeowners **68% are owned**. Of those, 55% are owned outright, without a mortgage or shared ownership.
- 12% of households rent privately or live rent free.
- 19% of homes in Willenhall North are socially rented, with similar numbers to Rushall-Shelfield Ward (20.5%) This is lower than Walsall (23.7%) and half that of Birchills Leamore ward, where over 40% of homes are rented socially.
- Willenhall North has very similar number of households living with no central heating, as Pheasey Park Farm & Bloxwich East, equating to 1.25% of the ward's total households. This is better compared with 2.39% in Pleck and the Walsall Borough figure of 1.61% households living with *no* central heating.

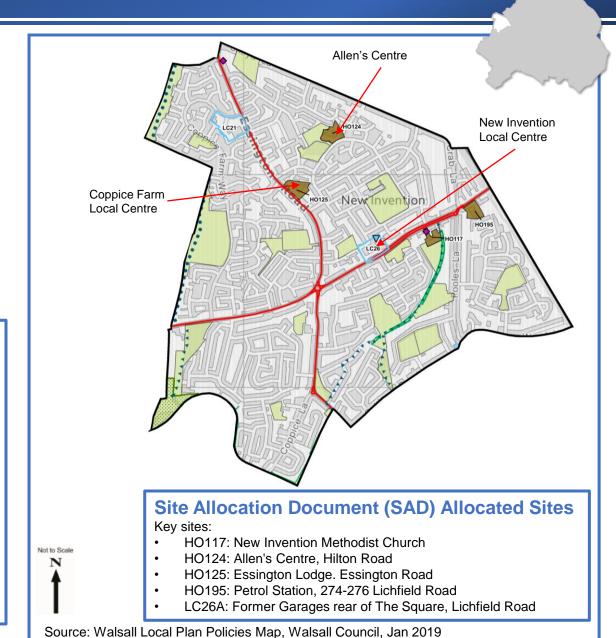
% Households in Ward with no Central heating





# Development / Regeneration

- Primarily residential ward with good access to open space including Short Heath Park.
- Access to two local centres: Coppice Farm and New Invention –
  providing day-to-day needs primarily for convenience shopping and
  community facilities.
- Allens Centre delegated approval in place to grant outline planning permission (subject to conditions and s 106 agreement) for a residential scheme that also includes the former playing fields (up to 59 dwellings). The council is also marketing the site for disposal. Bids are due back on 16 February 2024.
- Opportunities for residential development with sites allocated for housing in the SAD (subject to sites becoming vacant) such as: Lichfield Road (currently an active petrol station) and New Invention Methodist Church (locally listed building).
- Four on-street EV charge points to be delivered through the ORCS (on-street charge point scheme) programme:
  - Hilton Road
  - Lichfield Road
  - Dorchester Road
  - Brereton Road



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# People

What are the characteristics of the local population, and how do they compare to the wider Walsall Borough?

# Demography



12,700

**Population** 



**52%** Female **48%** Male



**20%** Aged 0-15 Approximately 1 in 5 people (2,600)



**61%** Aged 16-64 Approximately 3 in 5 people (7,700)



**19%** Aged 65+ Approximately 1 in 5 people (2,400)



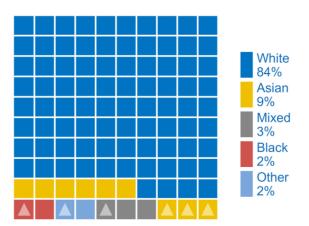
**40 Years**Median Age (Walsall 39)



**0%** Population change since 2011 Walsall increased by 5.5%

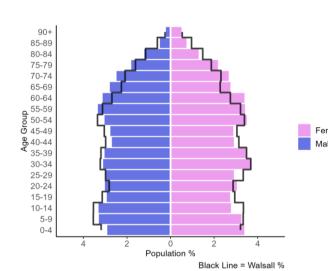
#### **Ethnicity**

Census 2021, resident population



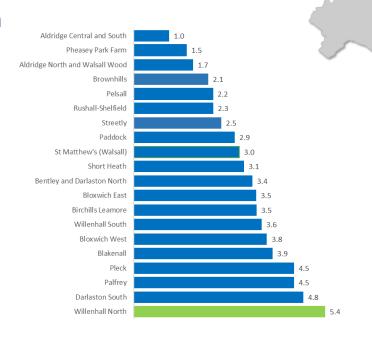
#### **Population Pyramid**

Census 2021, population age and sex



# Population Density

Census 2021, population per km²



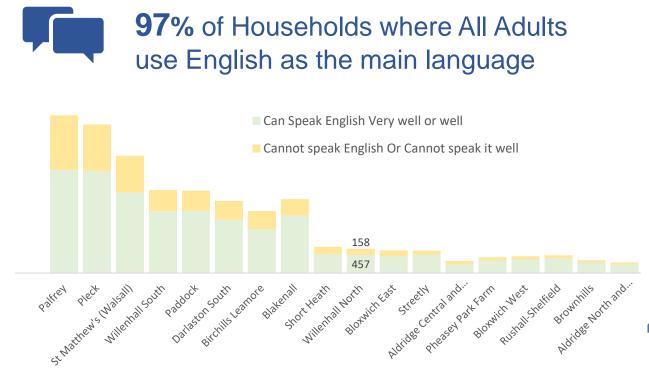
#### **Key Points:**

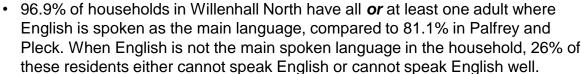
- Willenhall North has a similar age distribution pattern to the borough, with around 1 in 5 people over 65yrs, matching Rushall-Shelfield Ward population % of over 65 year olds (19.1%). Willenhall North has a median age of 40 years old compared to 36 years old in Willenhall South and ranks midway in Walsall's Wards sitting 8 years above the youngest wards, Blakenall and Pleck, at 32 years and 8 years below the oldest ward Aldridge Central and South which has a median age of 48 years old.
- Willenhall North is Walsall's most densely populated ward, with around 5 times as many people per sq. km (5,429) as Aldridge Central and South,(1000 people per sq. km) It is the *only ward with static population* in the last decade with 0% change since 2011.
- Ethnically, the ward is predominantly White British (84%), with smaller populations of Asian (9%), Black (2%), Mixed (3%) and Other (2%). These populations have increased since 2011, with the Asian group increasing the most, from 6% to 9%.

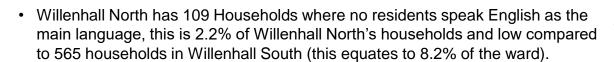
Data Source: Census 2021

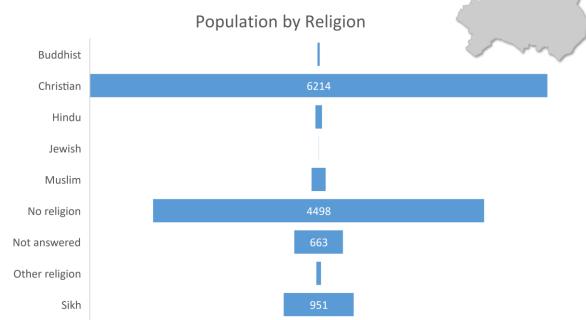


# Language and Religion









49% Household residents identified as Christian

(Walsall Borough Christian - 45%)

- Willenhall North ward has approximately half (48.9%) residents of Christian religion.
   This is higher the Walsall borough percentage of 45%. It also has a higher proportion of residents from Sikh community (7.5%) compared to Walsall's 6% of Sikh residents.
- 35.4% of Willenhall North residents reported in 2021 Census as having No Religion, matching Blakenall ward. This is high compared to Palfrey ward with just 11.1%.

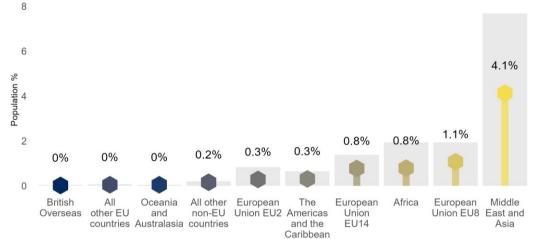


## Non-UK Country of Birth



#### Willenhall North versus Borough Comparison

Country of Origin by % Resident Population, Census 2021



#### **Key Points:**

- With 92.4% of residents being UK born, Willenhall North has the 9<sup>th</sup> largest proportion of UK born residents of the 20 Walsall wards.
- 7.6% of Willenhall North's residents were born outside of the UK, contrasted with the borough's 14.7%.
- The largest area of non-UK birth is the Middle East and Asia, at around 525 residents or approximately 4.1% (Borough 7.7%). There are also fewer from Africa, 0.8%, and EU8 (2004 EU enlargement nations such as Poland, Hungary, Lithuania, Slovenia and Slovakia) at approximately at 1.1%.
- The fourth largest area of non-UK are EU14 born residents: founding EU states such as Germany, France, Italy and Spain, accounting for 0.8% of the ward's population (98 residents).



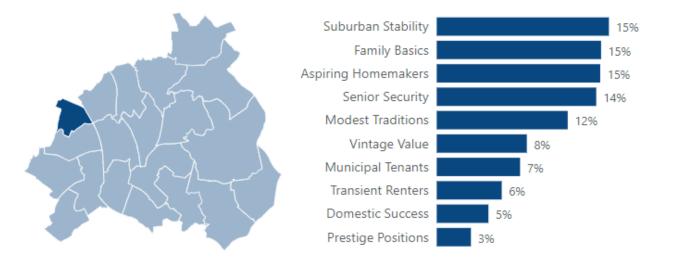
# Social Segmentation

#### Social Segment Composition of Willenhall North (% Households)

Financial Resilience

Aspiring Homemakers

Senior Security



#### **Key Points:**

Resilienc

Social Segmentation is a means of categorising residential populations by shared socio-economic traits and similar behaviours.



- These segments cover a wide spread of life-stages and economic circumstances, from young families to mid-life and older couples: split between a minority low income (Family Basics), and majority of more comfortable households (Suburban Stability Aspiring Homemakers, Senior Security).
- As the largest segment, Suburban Stability (15% of households) are older families whose children have moved out, are settled, with disposable income and assets: they are less susceptible to economic shock. They make use of the internet for their news and media.

#### Suburban Stability



Mature suburban owners living settled lives in mid-range housing

Older families, no children

Own mid-value semis

3 bedrooms

Established in community

News and media sites

Solar panels

37,300

Household Income

56-65 Age Band

Semi-detached

Property Type

#### **Family Basics**



Families with limited resources who budget to make ends meet

Families with lots of children Council/HA tenants

Low discretionary income

Low affluence

Internet via smartphone Games consoles

Age Band Terraced

25,500

Household Income

36–45

Property Type

#### **Aspiring Homemakers**



Younger households settling down in housing priced within their means Families with young children

3 bedrooms

High outstanding mortgages

Internet via smartphone

Texts and photos on smartphone

Order from takeaways

45,800

Household Income



Age Band

Semi-detached

Property Type

#### Senior Security



Elderly people with assets who are enjoying a comfortable retirement

Retired singles and couples

Pre-war generation

Established in community

Low internet use

Have wills

Solar panels



66+ Age Band

21,900

Household Income







Vintage Value

Low

Resilience

Risk

Low

Risk

mpact of Change

Family Basics

Modest Traditions

Municipal Tenants Suburban Stability

### Education

Beacon Primary

New Invention Infant

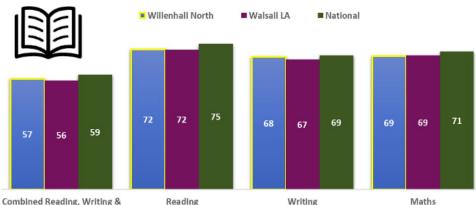
New Invention Junior



Primary

There are 3 Primary schools in the ward:

100% % Good or Outstanding % Children who achieved the expected standard at KS2 in 2022



**Key Points:** 

Attainment data by ward is matched based on children resident in the ward who attended any Walsall school within the local authority. Any children who attended an out of borough school are excluded from the analysis.

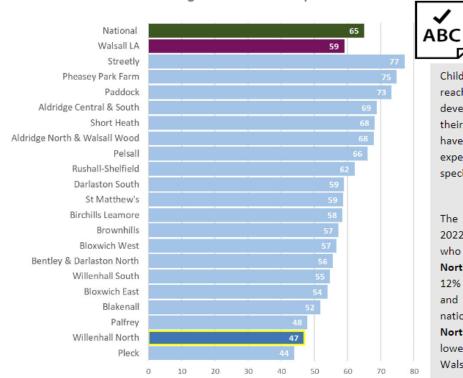
Pupils take national curriculum assessments in year 6 at the end of KS2, when most will reach the age of 11. Pupils take tests commonly referred to as SATs. The achievement of children who reside in the Willenhall North ward is broadly in line with the overall Walsall performance.

At the end of KS4 (Year 11) pupils sit examinations in a range of GCSE and other vocational qualifications.

The percentage of pupils in Walsall who have achieved at least a grade 4 or above in English and maths GCSE is slightly below national at 63%. The proportion of students' resident in the Willenhall North ward who achieve a standard pass is lower than this.

32% of students who live in the ward achieve a good pass in English and maths GCSE- 12% lower than the Walsall LA figure and 15% below the National average.

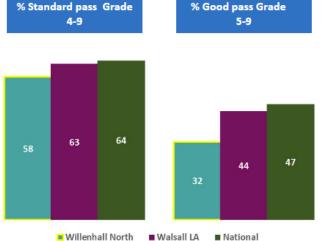
#### % Children who reached a good level of development in 2022



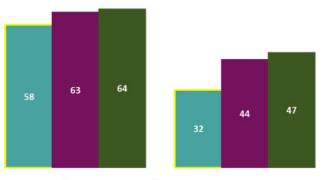
Children are defined as having reached a good level of development at the end of their Reception year if they have achieved at least the expected level in prime and specific areas of learning.

Maths

The overall GLD for Walsall in 2022 was 59%, 47% of children who reside in the Willenhall North ward achieved a GLD. 12% lower than the LA average and 18% lower than the national average. Willenhall North ward are ranked second lowest achieving ward in Walsall.



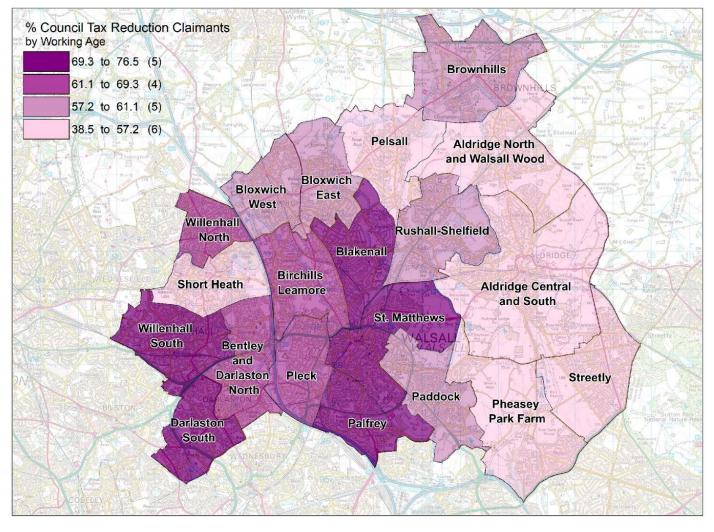
Achieving GCSE English and maths in 2022



Attainment data for 2022 matched to January school census pupil address/postcode information. Includes only those whose address is located within a ward and who achieved assessments in a Walsall LA school



### Council Tax Reduction (CTR) household claimants – working age

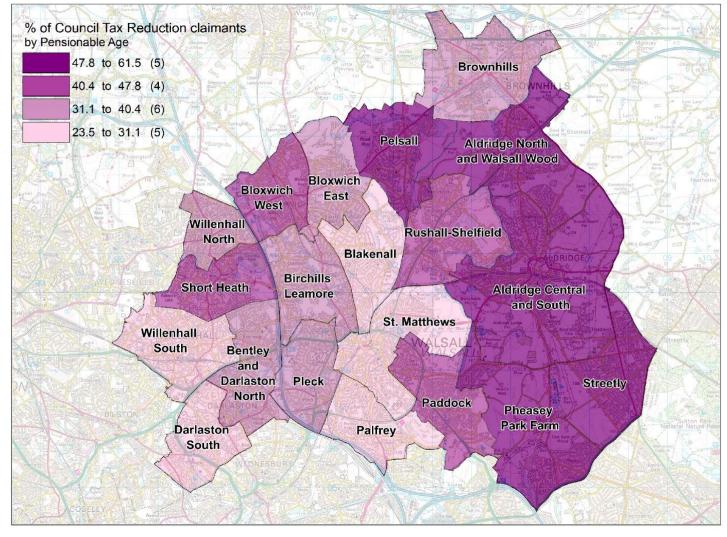


63.2% of households in Willenhall North claim CTR by working age (ranking 9th highest of Walsall's wards) and similar to the Borough average of 64.1%.

Ward	Total Number of Households in Receipt of Council Tax Reduction	% that are of Pensionable Age	% that are of Working Age	
Aldridge Central and South	924	49.68	50.32	
Aldridge North and Walsall Wood	949	47.84	52.16	
Bentley and Darlaston North	1,773	33.62	66.38	
Birchills Leamore	2,323	31.12	68.88	
Blakenall	1,995	29.77	70.23	
Bloxwich East	1,788	38.93	61.07	
Bloxwich West	1,690	40.41	59.59	
Brownhills	1,352	40.38	59.62	
Darlaston South	2,165	29.84	70.16	
Paddock	556	41.01	58.99	
Palfrey	1,771	30.66	69.34	
Pelsall	824	52.55	47.45	
Pheasey Park Farm	444	55.18	44.82	
Pleck	1,829	32.59	67.41	
Rushall-Shelfield	1,138	41.74	58.26	
Short Heath	1,009	42.81	57.19	
St. Matthews	2,035	23.54	76.46	
Streetly	309	61.49	38.51	
Willenhall North	1,078	36.83	63.17	
Willenhall South	1,835	30.08	69.92	
WALSALL	27,787	35.87	64.13	



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Total Number of

36.8% of households in Willenhall North claim CTR by pensionable age (ranking 12th highest out of Walsall's wards) and is similar to the Borough average of 35.9%.





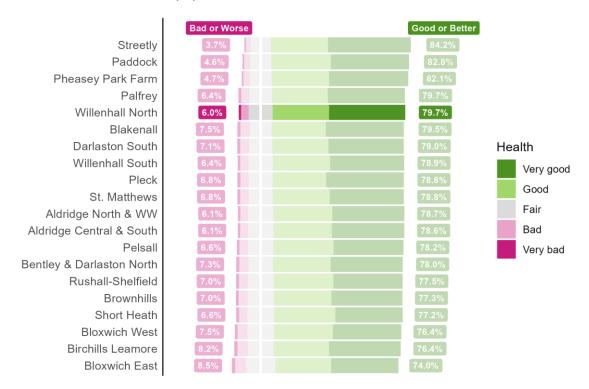
# Health & Social Care

What are the health and social care needs of the Ward?

### General Health

#### What is the General Health of Willenhall North?

Census 2021, % of resident population



- Willenhall North residents report their general level of health as relatively high, with 79.7% rating their general health as Good or Better - albeit lower than the England average of 82.1%.
- Approximately 1 in 17 residents in Willenhall North reported living in poor health or worse compared to approximately 1 in 27 in Streetly ward (the highest self-reported health ward).

### Walsall Council

#### **Disability**

Census 2021, resident population



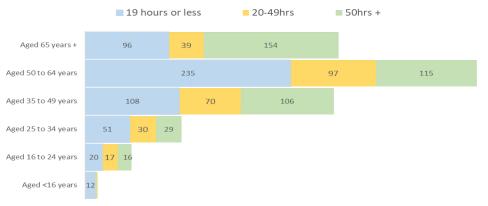
### 17.9% Reported as Disabled

Where day-to-day activities are limited (approximately 1 in 6 residents).

- This is below the Walsall figure (19.1%) and ranks 6th lowest out of Walsall's 20 wards.
- However, 5.9% have a long term physical or mental Health condition but where daily activities are not limited, this is slightly above that of Walsall overall (5.9%).

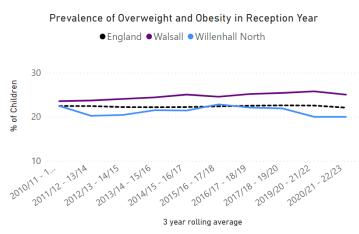
#### **Unpaid Care**

Census 2021, resident population (aged 5yrs +)

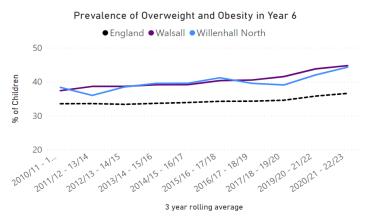


- **3rd Least** number of unpaid carers in Walsall, 1,197 compared to Pheasey with fewest (1,044) and Aldridge Central & South with most (1,471).
- 1 in 10 residents provide weekly unpaid care. Over half of carers aged over 65yrs themselves are providing more than 50hrs care per week.

# Child Healthy Weight

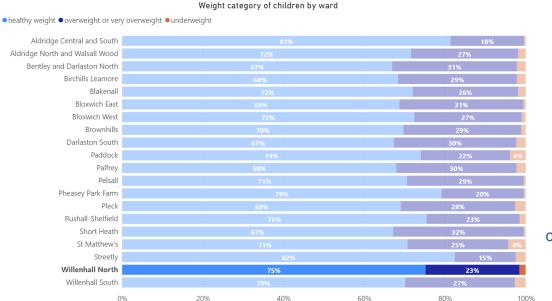


The prevalence of Reception-aged children who are overweight or obese in Willenhall North has slightly decreased trend in recent years, and is significantly lower than the Walsall average and the national rate.

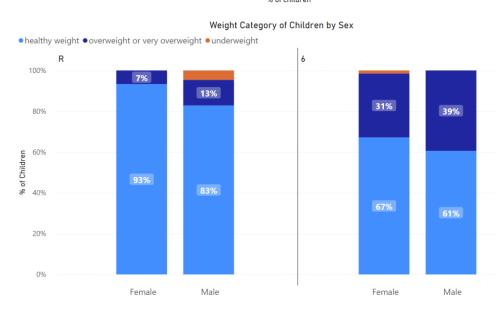


The prevalence of Year 6 children who are overweight or obese in Willenhall North has however has increased in trend in recent years and is now similar to the average for Walsall, and is significantly higher than the national rate.

**Walsall** Council







In Reception aged children in this ward, a significantly higher proportion of girls are a *healthy weight* than boys.

Similarly, in Year 6, the rate of overweight and obesity is higher in boys than in girls, with 4 in 10 boys and around 3 in 10 girls being overweight or obese.

### **Adult Social Care**



#### Key facts and figures about Ward residents receiving support in 2022-23

475

New requests for support, received from

**291** individuals

11 people aged 18-24, 53 aged 25-64 and 227 aged 65+

142

People received an assessment

6 people aged 18-24, 27 aged 25-64 and 109 aged 65+

**5 1** assessments resulted in a long term service

17

Carers were assessed and supported during the year



0 people aged 18-24, 8 aged 25-64 and 9 aged 65+

159

People received a long term service such as domiciliary care, etc



8 people aged 18-24, 21 aged 25-64 and 130 aged 65+

133

Safeguarding concerns were received, relating to

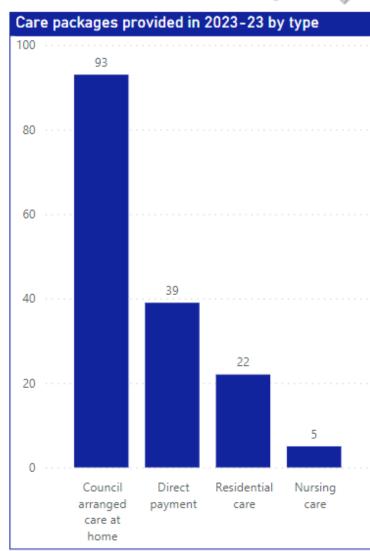
92 individuals

6 people aged 18-24, 15 aged 25-64 and 71 aged 65+

19.55%

Of safeguarding concerns received progressed to a formal investigation





# Adult Social Care Adult User Survey 2022-23

#### Responses from Ward residents

107 People surveyed

28 Responses 26.17%

Response rate

Responses were received from

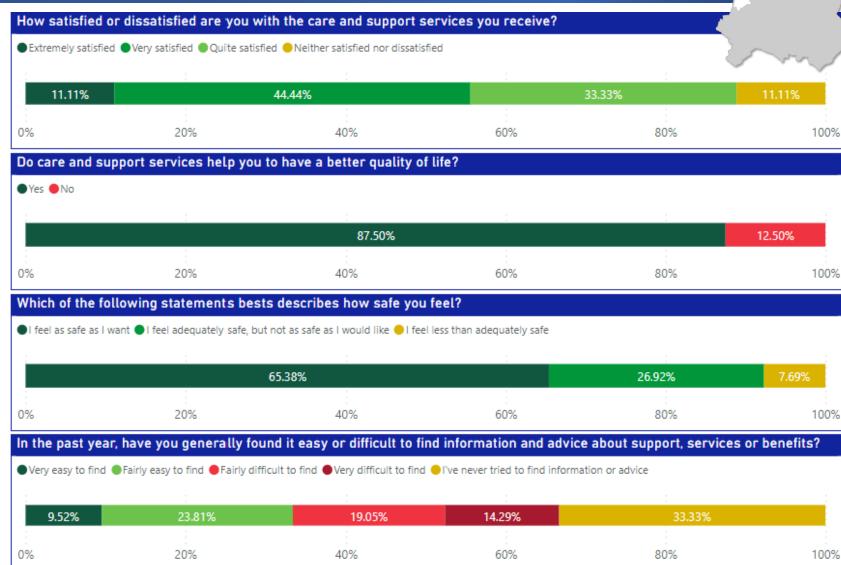
People residing in their own home

23

People residing in nursing care

People residing in residential care







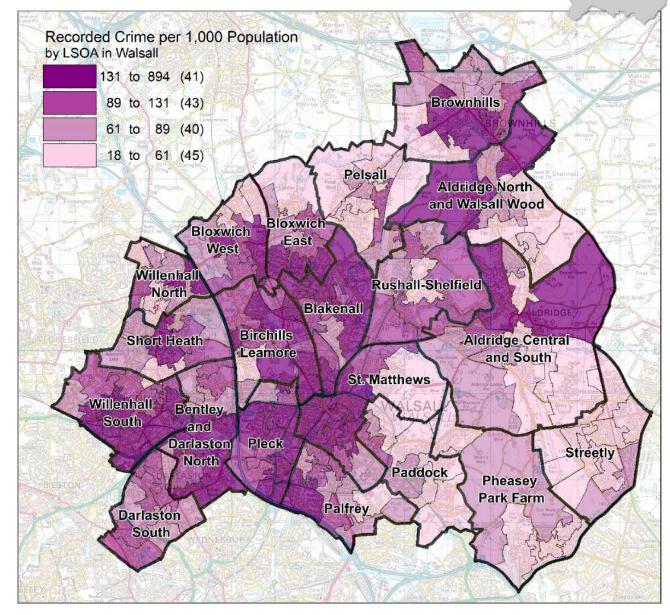
# Crime

What do we know about local crime levels and how do they compare to the wider Borough?

## Recorded Crime

Ward	Count	Popn	Rate p	er 1,000 Popn
Aldridge Central and South	1203	14695		81.86
Aldridge North and Walsall Wood	1226	13167		93.11
Bentley and Darlaston North	1887	13994		134.84
Birchills Leamore	2655	16523		160.69
Blakenall	2375	16003		148.41
Bloxwich East	1584	13655		116.00
Bloxwich West	1487	13680		108.70
Brownhills	1607	13437		119.60
Darlaston South	1693	17596		96.22
Paddock	765	13206		57.93
Palfrey	1604	16692		96.09
Pelsall	695	11350		61.23
Pheasey Park Farm	594	11428		51.98
Pleck	2596	16534		157.01
Rushall-Shelfield	1125	12434		90.48
Short Heath	1227	11662		105.21
St. Matthews	4655	15564		299.09
Streetly	582	12578		46.27
Willenhall North	1147	12717		90.19
Willenhall South	2939	17242		170.46
Walsall Borough	33646	284157		118.41

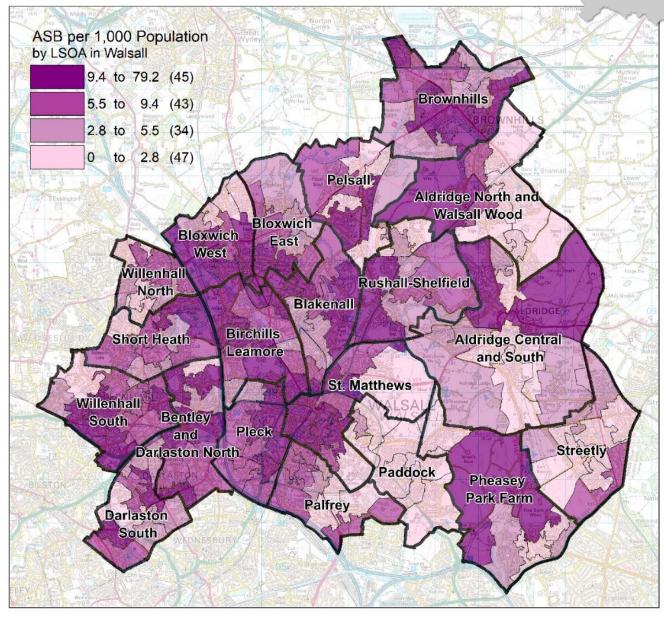
Willenhall North ward ranks as 6th lowest for recorded crime, at a rate of 90.2, lower than the Borough average but with variations at a LSOA level.



### **Anti-social Behaviour**

Ward	Count	Popn	Rate	per :	1,000 Popn
Aldridge Central and South	58	14695			3.95
Aldridge North and Walsall Wood	74	13167			5.62
Bentley and Darlaston North	135	13994			9.65
Birchills Leamore	287	16523			17.37
Blakenall	195	16003			12.19
Bloxwich East	119	13655			8.71
Bloxwich West	183	13680			13.38
Brownhills	131	13437			9.75
Darlaston South	104	17596			5.91
Paddock	21	13206			1.59
Palfrey	76	16692			4.55
Pelsall	64	11350			5.64
Pheasey Park Farm	43	11428			3.76
Pleck	126	16534			7.62
Rushall-Shelfield	85	12434			6.84
Short Heath	73	11662			6.26
St. Matthews	328	15564			21.07
Streetly	32	12578			2.54
Willenhall North	60	12717			4.72
Willenhall South	143	17242			8.29
Walsall Borough	2337	284157			8.22

Willenhall North ward ranks as 6th lowest for recorded anti-social behaviour, with a rate of 4.7. It is lower than the Borough average but with variations at a LSOA level.



### **Useful Links**

- Walsall Insight Trends & data covering the Walsall Borough <a href="https://www.walsallintelligence.org.uk">https://www.walsallintelligence.org.uk</a>
- Walsall Council Homepage | Walsall Council
- Economic Intelligence Unit (EIU) <a href="https://www.theeiu.org">https://www.theeiu.org</a>
- Office for National Statistics (ONS) -
  - Census 2021 Ward data, England and Wales
     <a href="https://www.ons.gov.uk/releases/warddataenglandandwalescensus2021">https://www.ons.gov.uk/releases/warddataenglandandwalescensus2021</a>
  - Census 2021 Walsall Population Summary
     <a href="https://www.ons.gov.uk/visualisations/censuspopulationchange/E08000030">https://www.ons.gov.uk/visualisations/censuspopulationchange/E08000030</a>
- NOMIS Official Census and Labour Market Statistics <a href="https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/">https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/</a>



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