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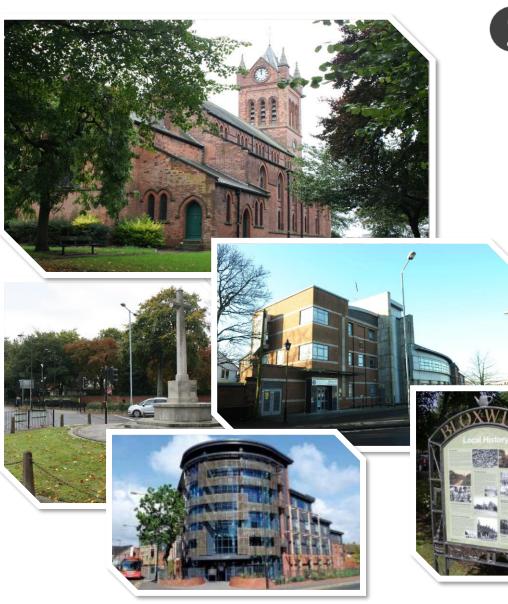
# **Bloxwich West**

### Ward Profile

Produced by Walsall Business Insights February 2024



### Welcome to Bloxwich West





#### Did you know?

- Famous Residents Phil Drabble OBE, A BBC television presenter and countryman, was best known for long running series 'One Man and His Dog' in which he commentated on sheepdog trials for over 17 years, attracting over 8 million viewers, the queen was even a fan! He was made 'Midlander of the year' in 1992 and made OBE before retiring in 1993. A pub in Bloxwich West's Turnberry housing estate was named 'One Man and his Dog' in his honour.
- **Meera Syal MBE –** Well known British Asian Actress, writer and Comedian born in Wolverhampton but grew up in Essington and moved to Bloxwich when she was young. The landscape and status of being the only Asian family in Essington formed the backdrop of her novel and later film, Anita and Me, which she described as semi auto-biographical.
- Transport Bloxwich West is well served by public transport and has 2 x railway stations.
   Regular bus routes link with Walsall and towns and cities such as Cannock, Wolverhampton and Birmingham and the A34 Southampton/Manchester runs straight through the High Street.
- **King George V playing fields –** Opened in 1937 the site was for Bloxwich residents to play sports. Today, it has football pitches ,outdoor gym, Skatepark, Splash Pads and Childrens play area. Sunday mornings host a Junior Park Run event, aimed at children aged 4-14yrs.



- Covers 3.5 sq km (353.2 ha)
- Makes up 3.4% of the total area of Walsall
- Has a population density of 3,772 people per Square Kilometer (This is *Higher* than borough average of 3,159)

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## Councillors

Councillor	Elected	Party	Sand
Bradley Allen	05 May 2016	Conservatives	
Matthew Follows	07 May 2015	Conservatives	
Louise Harrison	10 June 2004	Conservatives	

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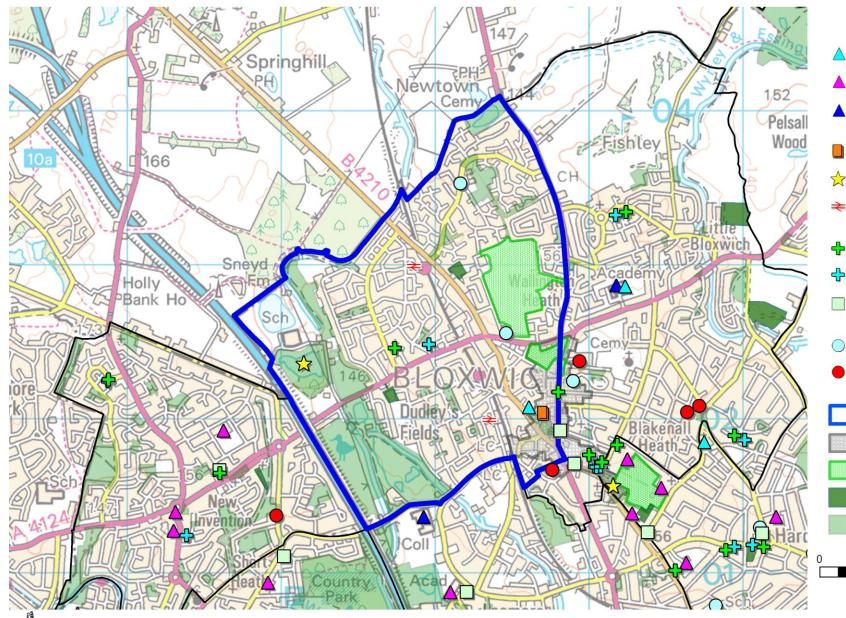
Source: Walsall Council's Committee Management & Information System (CMIS)



# Place

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

### Assets



Primary Schools **Bloxwich West** Secondary School **Assets Map** Walsall Council

Nursery School

Library

Leisure Centre

Railway Station

Pharmacy

Dentist (NHS)

Care Home

Nursing Home

Current Ward

District Centre

Allotments Open Space

kilometres Scale 1:22,250

Park

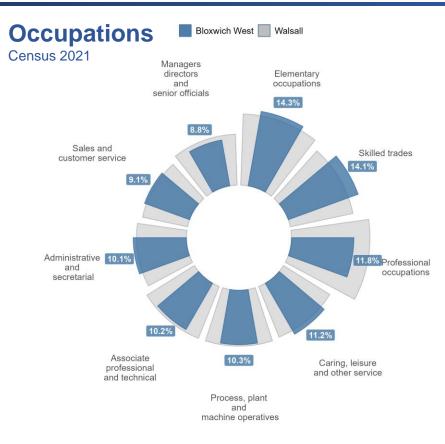
GP

**Illustrates Bloxwich West's** geography and highlights key local assets.



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## Economy and Workforce



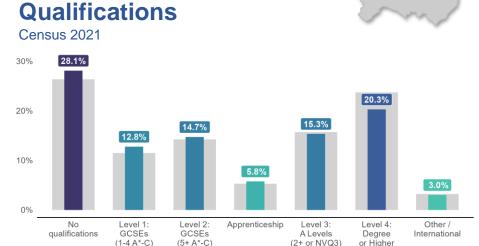
#### **Economic Status**

Census	2021	Inactive	Active
Pheasy	36.9%	63.1%	
Will S	39.8%	60.2%	
Brown	40.2%	59.8%	
Rush Sh	40.5%	59.5%	
Streetly	40.6%	59.4%	
Will N	40.6%	59.4%	
Darl S	40.9%	59.1%	
Ald NWW	41.3%	58.7%	
Paddock	41.8%	58.2%	
Blox W	42.0%	58.0%	
Bent DN	42.6%	57.4%	
Pelsall	43.0%	57.0%	
Ald CS	43.1%	56.9%	
Blake	43.3%	56.7%	
Birc Lea	43.3%	56.7%	
St Mattew	43.8%	56.2%	
Short H	44.1%	55.9%	
Pleck	45.8%	54.2%	
Blox E	46.2%	53.8%	
Palfrey	47.0%	53.0%	

### 58%

#### **Are Economically Active**

10<sup>th</sup> highest of Walsall's 20 Wards. Inactivity includes retirees, students, longterm sick/disabled, homemaking and other.

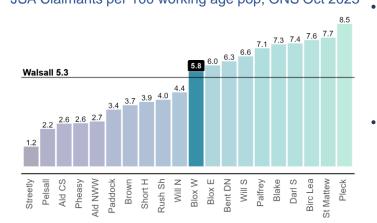


Grey bars = Walsall

Bloxwich West's gualifications profile closely resembled Walsall's profile, with a slightly larger number of adults with no formal qualifications (28.1%, Walsall 26.3%) and fewer with a degree or higher (20.3%, Walsall 23.7%).

### **Claimant Count**

JSA Claimants per 100 working age pop, ONS Oct 2023



- Bloxwich West's Claimant Count (Jobseekers Allowance) is approximately 5.8 per 100 working age adults.
- · This is essentially similar to Walsall's 5.3, ranking as the 10<sup>th</sup> highest claimant rate of the 20 wards.

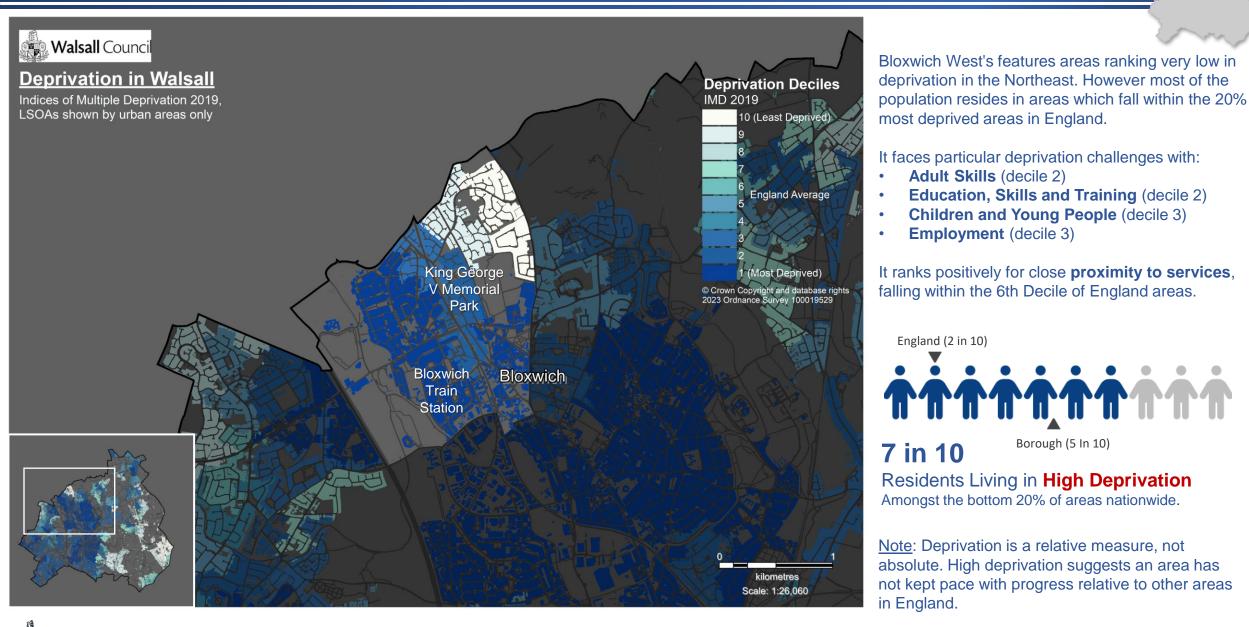
- Bloxwich West's occupational profile resembles Walsall's but does differ in substantially fewer employed within professional occupations (11.8% contrasted to Walsall's 14.9%). The difference in share is largely in greater skilled trades (14.1%, Walsall 12.2%) and slightly more elementary (manual) occupations (14.3%).
- This indicates the labour force of Bloxwich West is distributed more towards manual. unskilled occupations and skilled trades relatively fewer office-based professionals and directors than might be seen across the wider borough.

#### Source: Census 2021

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Walsall Council

# Deprivation



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## Housing & Households



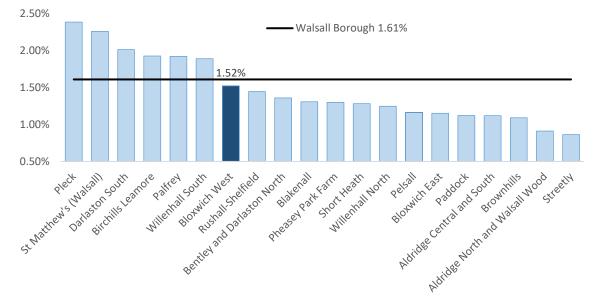
Increased since 2011, Ward makes up **5.0%** of all Walsall Households

**470** (8.3%) Households are Lone Parents of Dependent children

**19.7%** School Children & Full- time Students (aged 5yrs & over) Approximately 1:5

### **56% Homeowners** 30.5% homes are Socially Rented (Borough 23.7%)

- Bloxwich West's household population of full-time students and school children, aged over 5yrs, is 19.7%, below the Walsall figure of 22.1% and very similar proportion to Willenhall North (19.6%).
- Single-family households consisting of a lone parent with dependent children make up 8.3% of households, very similar to Brownhills (8.5%) and Willenhall North (8.6%). The number of lone parent households in Bloxwich West is double that of Paddock (223).
- **55.6% of** Bloxwich West's **homes are owned**. Of those, 57% are owned outright, without a mortgage or shared ownership. 14% of households rent privately or live rent free. 1 in 3 homes in Bloxwich West are socially rented, compared 1 in 4 in Brownhills which has the same number of households. At 30.5%, this ranks 7<sup>th</sup> highest in Walsall.
- The number of households living with **no** central heating across the borough has positively decreased by about half since 2011.Bloxwich West has 7<sup>th</sup> highest number of households living without central heating, at 1.52%. This is poor when compared to 1.15% homes in Bloxwich East ward, but better than Walsall Borough figure of 1.61%.



#### % Households in Ward with no Central heating

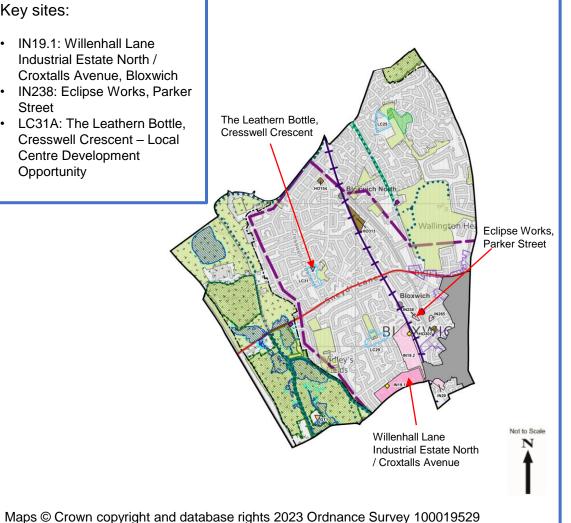
# **Development / Regeneration**

- Bloxwich District Centre with national retailers / occupiers and multiple independents.
- District centre improvements works led by Highways completed and included paving works following the demolition of the former public conveniences.
- Former Eagle Public House site derelict for a period of time but flats now under construction.
- Sneyd School site Planning application being prepared for re-development. Council in discussions with the Community Association regarding relocation before proposed development.
- Bloxwich to benefit from £21.3m Town Deal Funding to deliver significant investment over the coming years. This will include benefits for Bloxwich West Ward. Examples include:
  - Elmore Green Road and Croxdene Avenue Walking and Cycling Improvements (part of the Bloxwich Active Travel and Connectivity project) - already delivered (2023).
  - Planning application submitted to use the former Bloxwich Post Office as a digital support and training facility - Bloxwich Launchpad. The facility will also include space for entrepreneurs to form and grow their businesses.
- Bloxwich Town Deal to continue to deliver significant investment. Projects include the Promotion of Construction Skills Through Regeneration, further schemes within the Bloxwich Active Travel & Connectivity scheme which includes canal towpath improvements between Walsall and Bloxwich. Further details can be found on the council's website: https://go.walsall.gov.uk/business/regeneration-andinvestment/bloxwich-and-walsall-town-deal/town-deal-funded-projects

#### **Site Allocation Document (SAD) Allocated Sites**

#### Key sites:

- IN19.1: Willenhall Lane Industrial Estate North / Croxtalls Avenue, Bloxwich
- IN238: Eclipse Works, Parker Street
- LC31A: The Leathern Bottle. Cresswell Crescent - Local Centre Development Opportunity







# People

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

# Demography

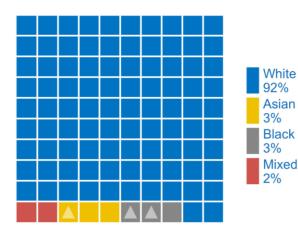
### 13,300 **Population**



41 Years Median Age (Walsall 39)

### Ethnicity

Census 2021, resident population



White

**20%** Aged 0-15 Approximately 1 in 5 people (2,700)

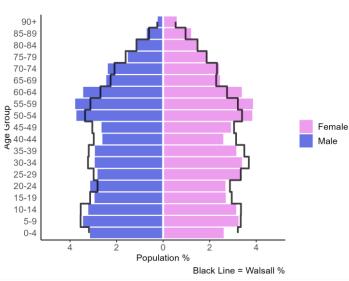
**62%** Aged 16-64 Approximately 5 in 8 people (8,200)

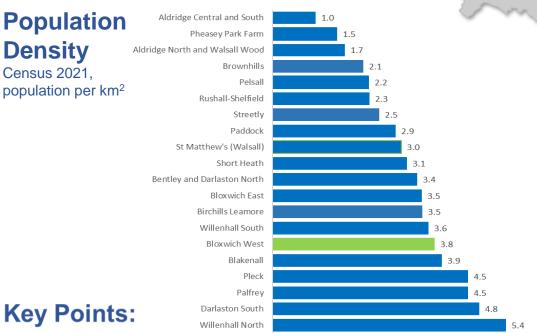
**18%** Aged 65+ Approximately 1 in 5 people (2,500)

+ 0.7% Population since 2011 + 90 people. Walsall increased by 5.5%

### **Population Pyramid**

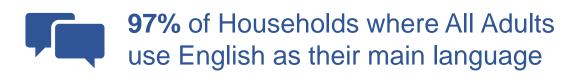
Census 2021, population age and sex

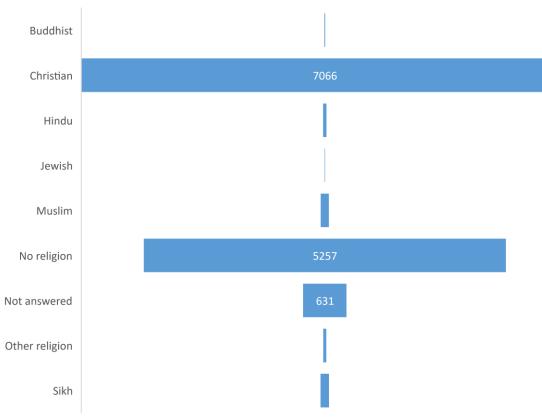




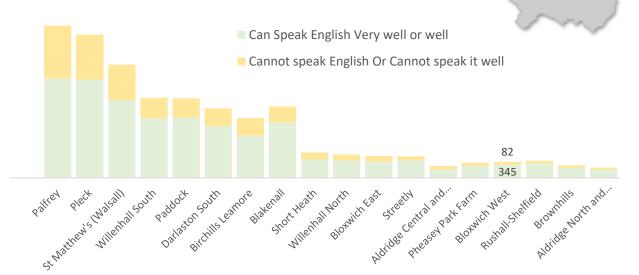
- Bloxwich West has the 6<sup>th</sup> highest proportion of people of working age 16-64yrs. and a median age of 41 years old, approximately 2 years above the Borough average (39 years) and 3 years above Bloxwich East. It's age distribution has a higher number of 50-64yr olds than Walsall's Borough population overall.
- In terms of Population Density, Bloxwich West is the 6<sup>th</sup> most populated ward, with areas of Parks and greenspace, equating to 3,772 people per sq. km, a similar density to that of Blakenall (3,938 per sq. km). Walsall's density is 2,733.
- Due to the narrow population increase since 2011, ethnically, the ward remains largely White British (92%), with small populations of Asian (3%), Black (3%), Mixed (2%). However, both the Asian and Black group have increased, with the Black group showing biggest increase in percentage from 1% to 3%.







#### Population by Religion



- 97.8% of households have all *or* at least one adult where English is the main language, compared to 81.1% in Palfrey and Pleck. Where English is not the main spoken language, 19% of these residents cannot speak English or cannot speak it well.
- Bloxwich West has a lower number of Households where no residents speak English as main language (86) equating to only 1.5% of the ward, compared to 14.2% of Pleck (788) and St. Matthew's 11.1% (806).

### **53%** Household residents identified as Christian (Borough 45%)

- Bloxwich West ward has over half (53.0%) of residents following a Christian religion, higher than the Walsall percentage of 45%. It has the highest number of Jewish residents in Walsall and the third highest proportion of residents with no identified religion.
- 39.5% of Bloxwich West residents reported in 2021 Census as having No Religion, much higher compared to Palfrey ward with just 11.1%.



Data Source: www.ons.gov.uk/releases/warddataenglandandwalescensus2021

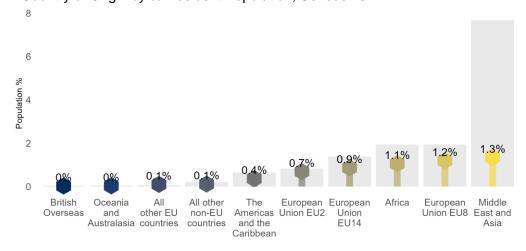
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## Non-UK Country of Birth



**Key Points:** 

#### Bloxwich West versus Borough Comparison Country of Origin by % Resident Population, Census 2021



#### n

- With 94.2% of residents being UK born, Bloxwich West has the 5<sup>th</sup> largest proportion of UK born residents of the 20 Walsall wards.
- 5.8% of Bloxwich West's population originates from non-UK nations, contrasted with the borough's 14.7%.
- There are substantially fewer residents whom were born in the Middle East and Asia, at around 179 residents or approximately 1.3% (Borough 8%), but this remains the largest origin for non-UK born residents. There are also fewer from Africa and EU8 (2004 EU enlargement nations such as Poland, Hungary, Lithuania, Slovenia and Slovakia).
- There are relatively fewer levels of EU14 born residents as the rest of the borough: founding EU states such as Germany, France, Italy and Spain, accounting for 0.9% of the ward's population.



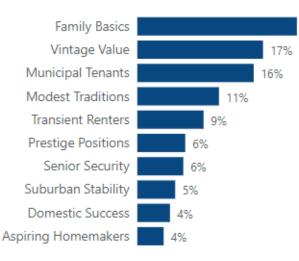
#### Grey bars = Borough %

Global map sourced from thematicmapping.org, World Borders, Data source Census 2021

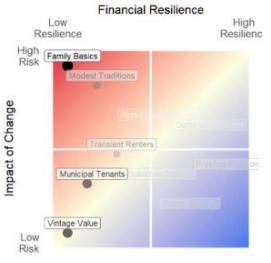
# **Social Segmentation**

#### Social Segment Composition of Walsall Wards (% Households)





#### **Key Points:**



- Social Segmentation is a means of categorising residential populations by shared socio-economic traits and similar behaviours.
- Bloxwich West features a wide range of segments, with the largest three being **Family Basics**, **Vintage Value** and **Municipal Tenants**. These are defined on the right of this page.

22%

- **Family Basics** accounts for 22% of households: low earning families with limited education, multiple children, poorer quality housing, and little disposable income. It is a segment highly vulnerable to economic shock/crises i.e. fuel/energy, high inflation
- Typical traits the majority of households in this ward share are low income, limited discretionary income and potential for fuel poverty.

### **Family Basics**



Families with limited resources who budget to make ends meet





**36–45** Age Band

Terraced Property Type

### Vintage Value



Elderly people with limited pension income, mostly living alone



### **Municipal Tenants**

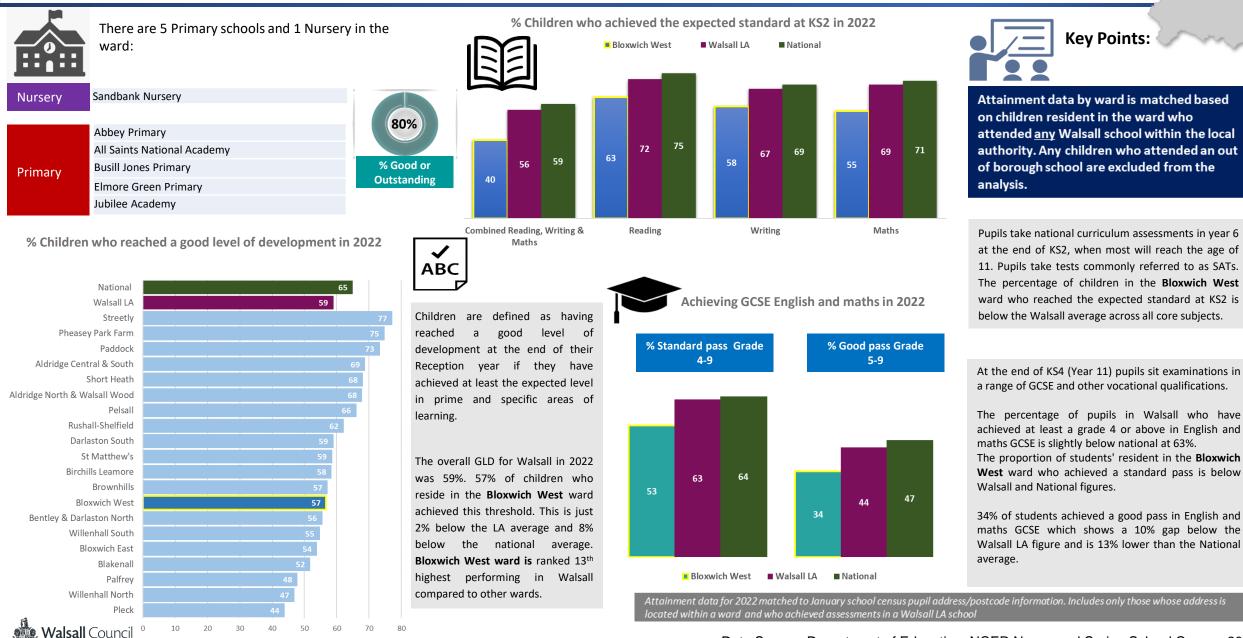


Urban residents renting high density housing from social landlords

Council/HA flats	<b>f</b> 14,800
Densely populated	Household Income
No qualifications	56–65
Low discretionary income	Age Band
Low environmental impact gap	Kara 🖌 🖌
Fuel poverty	Property Type

Data sourced from MOSAIC social segmentation 2022, Experian Ltd.

# Education

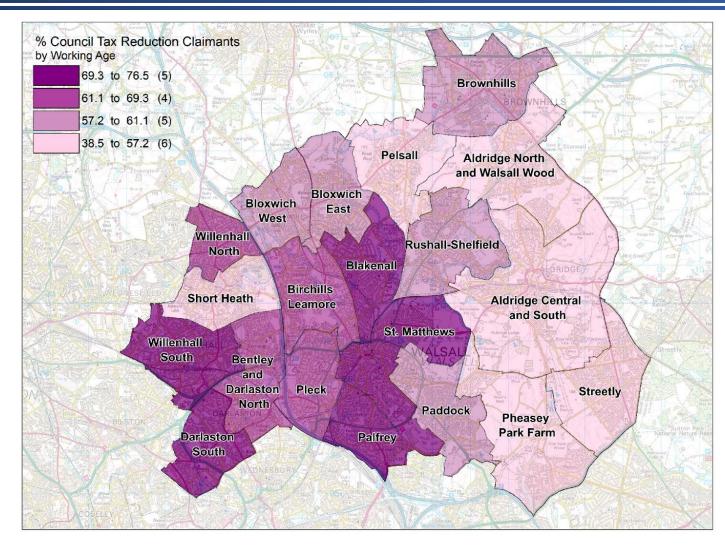


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#### Data Source: Department of Education, NCER Nexus and Spring School Census 2022

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





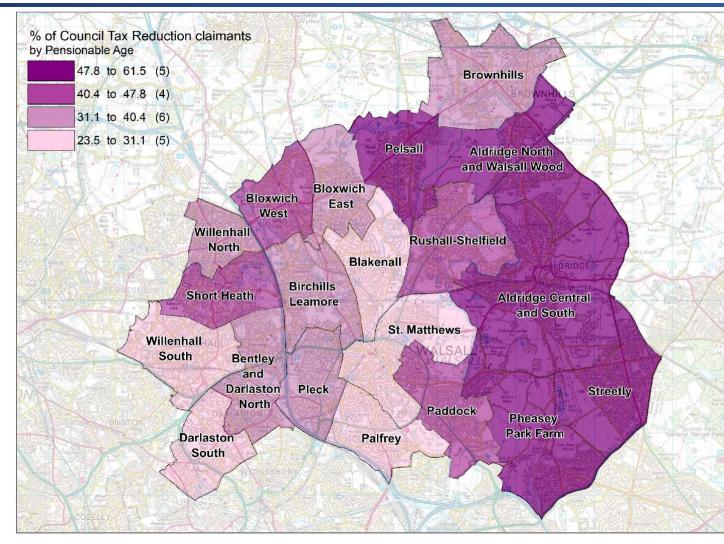
59.6% of households in Bloxwich West ward claim CTR by working age (ninth highest of Walsall's wards) and is lower than the Borough average of 64.1%.

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

Walsall Council

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





40.4% of households in Bloxwich West ward claim CTR by pensionable age, (9th highest out of Walsall's wards) and is higher than the Borough average of 35.9%.

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
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WALSALL	27,787	35.87	64.13

Walsall Council





# Health & Social Care

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

### What is the General Health of Bloxwich West?

Census 2021, % of resident population



- Bloxwich West has a lower self-reported level of general health than many other Walsall wards (ranking 17<sup>th</sup> of 20), with 76.4% of residents rating their health as good or better, below the England average of 82.1%.
- At 7.5%, approximately 1 in 13 residents rated their general level of health to be bad or worse.

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**Disability** Census 2021, resident population

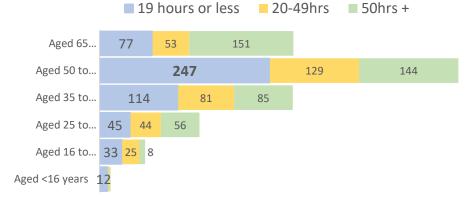


**21.6%** Reported as Disabled Where day-to-day activities are limited (approximately 2 in 9 residents).

- This is more than Walsall figure (**19.1%**) and ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> highest out of Walsall's 20 wards.
- 5.7% have a long term physical or mental Health condition but daily activities are not limited.

### **Unpaid Care**

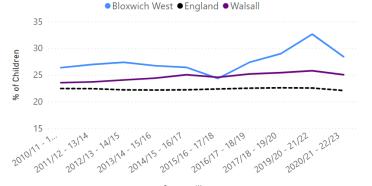
Census 2021, resident population (aged 5yrs +)



- **11th Highest** number of Unpaid carers in Walsall, 1,308 compared to Pheasey with fewest (1,044) & Aldridge Central & South with most (1,471)
- **10.4%** of Bloxwich West residents provide unpaid care. Most carers are aged 50 64yrs caring for 19 x hours or less per week

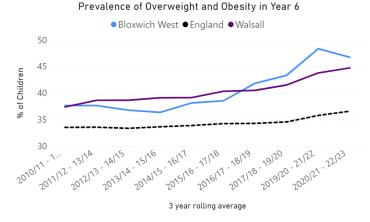
# Child Healthy Weight

#### Prevalence of Overweight and Obesity in Reception Year



3 year rolling average

The prevalence of Reception-aged children who are overweight or obese in Bloxwich West has shown a decrease in trend since 2020. However, the prevalence is still significantly higher than the Walsall average and the national rate.

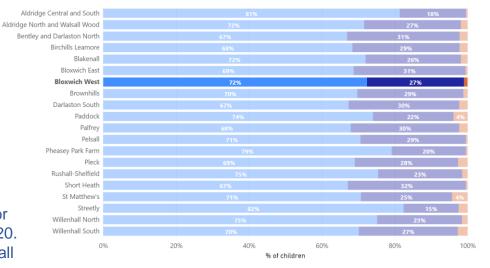


The prevalence of Year 6 children who are overweight or obese in Bloxwich West has also decreased slightly since 2020, but is still higher than both the Walsall average and the national rate.

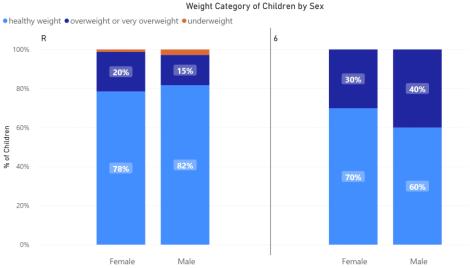
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#### Weight category of children by ward

#### healthy weight • overweight or very overweight • underweight



Overall, in Bloxwich West just over 7 in 10 children are a *healthy weight*.



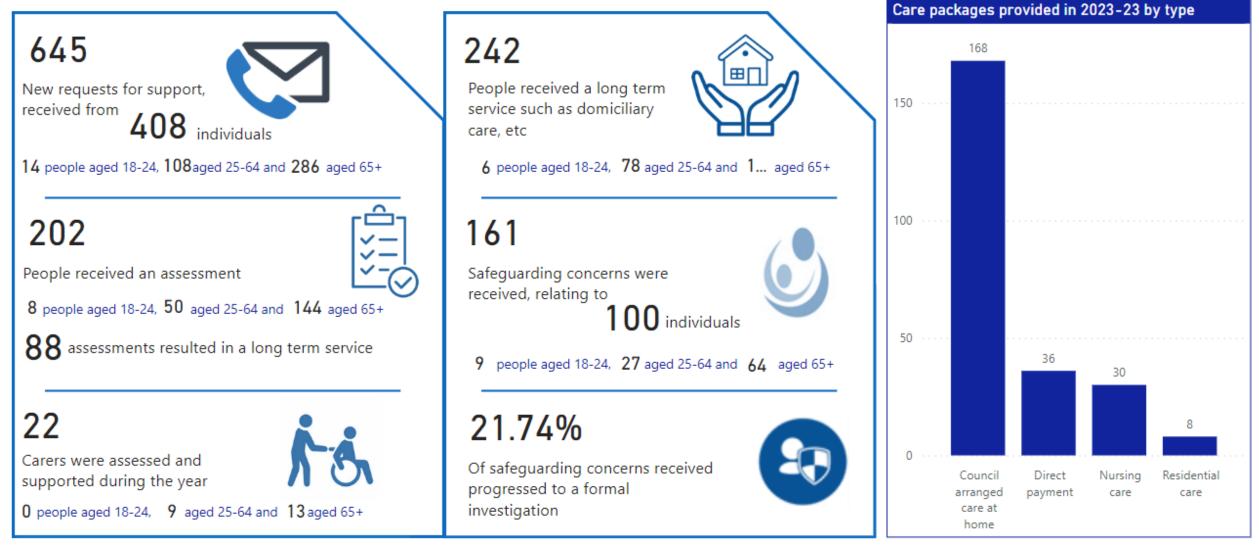
In Reception aged children in this ward, the proportion of children that are a healthy weight is higher in boys than girls.

However, in Year 6, the proportion of children that are overweight or obese is higher in boys with **4 in 10** boys being overweight or obese.

#### Source: National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) 2023

# **Adult Social Care**

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



# Adult Social Care Adult User Survey 2022-23



163

18-24

25-34

35-44

45-54

55-64

65-74

75-84

85-94

95+



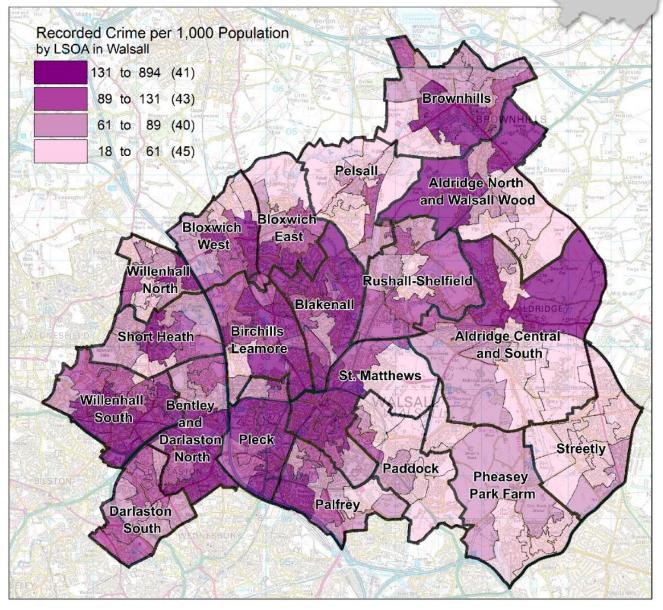
# Crime

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

# **Recorded Crime**

Ward	Count	Popn	Rate p	per 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

Bloxwich West ward ranks 9th highest for recorded crime, with a rate of 108.7. This is lower than the borough average, but with variations at a LSOA level.

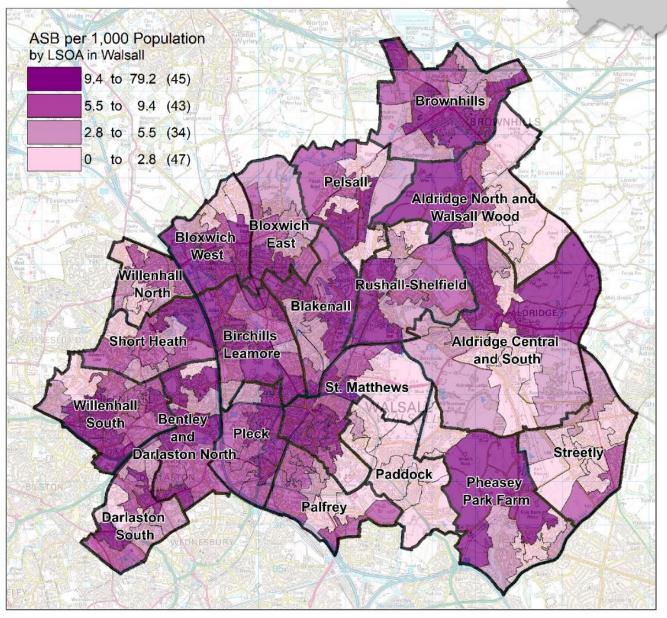


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# **Anti-social Behaviour**

Ward	Count	Popn	Rate per	<sup>-</sup> 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

Bloxwich West ward ranks, 3rd highest for recorded antisocial behaviour, with a rate of 13.4. This is higher than the borough average, but with variations at a LSOA level.



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Source: West Midlands Police – Jan to Dec 2022

## **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 <u>Homepage | Walsall Council</u>
- 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 <u>https://www.ons.gov.uk/releases/warddataenglandandwalescensus2021</u>
  - Census 2021 Walsall Population Summary <u>https://www.ons.gov.uk/visualisations/censuspopulationchange/E08000030</u>
- NOMIS Official Census and Labour Market Statistics <u>https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/</u>



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