

Report to the Warwickshire Public Service Board

22nd September 2008

Child Poverty Strategy for Warwickshire

**Report of Strategic Directors:
Children Young People and Families
Adult Health and Community Services
Environment & Economy**

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Board:

- a) Note the recommendations made by the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee in respect of child poverty.
- b) Note the recommendation by Cabinet that the Board consider the issues raised in the report.
- c) Note the work of WCC and partners on the development of a Child Poverty Strategy and LAA Delivery Plan to deliver a reduction and eventual elimination of children living in poverty (N1 116)
- d) Consider the issues and support the LAA Delivery Plan.

1. Introduction & Context

- 1.1 On 3rd April 2008 Cabinet considered a report from the Chair of the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee had held a single issue meeting on 5th December 2007 to consider the issue of Child Poverty. The report contained a number of recommendations (see Appendix One). Cabinet resolved to note the recommendations and asked specifically that the PSB consider the issues raised in the report.

2. The National Picture and Government Commitment to Child Poverty

- 2.1 Central Government is committed to reducing child poverty through the national Public Service Agreement (PSA9). The government has committed to halve child poverty by 2010 and eradicate it by 2020.
- 2.2 In March 2008 the government created the Child Poverty Unit to develop the strategy for the next decade.
- 2.3 The latest child poverty figures (2005/06) show that child poverty now stands at 2.8 million before housing costs (and 3.8 million measured after housing costs). This means that over a fifth (22 per cent) of children in the UK live in poverty.

- 2.4 Between 2004/05 and 2005/06 child poverty increased by 100,000 measured before housing costs and 200,000 measured after housing costs.
- 2.5 Despite the small rise since 2004/05, child poverty has fallen substantially under the present Government. Since 1996/97, child poverty has fallen by 600,000 before housing costs (and by 500,000 after housing costs).
- 2.6 To meet the (before housing cost) official target to halve child poverty based on relative low income from the 1998/99 position (3.4 million children), child poverty needs to fall by more than a million children (to 1.7 million) by 2010/11.
- 2.7 'Ending Child Poverty: Everybody's Business', published alongside Budget 2008, set out details of nine pilots, providing £125 million between 2008-2011 to enable local authorities, working with their partners, to develop innovative approaches to tackle the causes and consequences of child poverty and improve outcomes for children, young people and their families living in poverty. Warwickshire is submitting 3 partnership bids.
- 2.8 The Government acknowledges that it can not tackle child poverty alone. Indeed local authorities and their partners have a crucial role to play by leading local action to narrow the gap in outcomes between children in low income families and their peers, including helping parents into work and raising the skill and income levels of those in work, tackling material deprivation and working with local communities to create innovative approaches to tackling child poverty.
- 2.9 Local authorities can and do make significant contributions to the national child poverty targets. In the discussion paper, "*Local Government and Child Poverty: Making a Shared Commitment to a Shared Reality*", the LGA outlined how Local Authorities can contribute to the child poverty agenda:
- Integrating children's services;
 - Community leadership;
 - Whole family approaches;
 - Income maximisation;
 - Removing barriers to work;
 - Life skills; and
 - Participation and engagement of young people.
- 2.10 It is around these areas that Warwickshire's commitment to eradicating child poverty is shaped and will be taken forward.

A multi agency group has now been established to identify how the recommendations can be implemented and integrated into the LAA Delivery Plan.

3. Indicator NI 116 Proportion of Children in Poverty and LAA Delivery Plan:

3.1 NI 116 is the indicator, which relates to child poverty based on the proportion of dependent children living in households where income is below 60% of the national median.

However, there is currently no data available at a local level to be able to measure this indicator. As a result an interim measure, based on the proportion of children living in households where out of work benefits are received, has been established. (See Appendix 2 for Warwickshire figures.) This interim measure will form the base line and targets for improvement within the LAA Delivery Plan for NI 116.

The LAA Delivery Plan for the indicator NI 116 involves a number of activities based on partners working with, the DWP and with voluntary sector partners. These partners will deliver the key activities of the LAA Delivery plan and thus take forward the Child poverty Strategy for Warwickshire. The key themes and activities of the LAA Delivery plan are explained below:

3.2 Income Maximisation

This proposed project for a Financial Inclusion Partnership would centre on a number of initiatives:

- Financial Capability Awareness through money matters courses targeted at those most at risk of financial exclusion. These would be run in partnership with Surestart and children's centres.
- Development of financial education packs centred around key information about household budgeting, banking, savings and credit.
- Debt Management: promotion of services offered by CAB.
- Income Maximisation: ensuring those on low incomes are aware of their entitlements to welfare benefits, tax credits and grants.
- Access to financial services: Working in partnership with local Credit Unions, banks and other financial institutions to raise awareness of Credit Union savings accounts and loans and basic bank accounts.
- Training to front line workers to raise awareness of the financial difficulties faced by some groups of people, helping them to be more aware of the issues and able to sign post people to appropriate sources of help.

3.3 Whole Family Approaches and Integrating Children's Services

Disadvantage Subsidy Pathfinder-Extended Services

A pilot project to ensure that children and young people from disadvantaged backgrounds are financially supported to take part in extended schools activities centring on two Extended Services Clusters: Hartshill and Leamington Whitnash will commence in September 2008.

Support For Families and Costs of Schooling:

Through the Area Schools and Community Officers consultation with parents and schools regarding costs of schooling: uniform costs and school trips are taking place. The findings from this consultation will inform recommendations and guidance to schools in regards of good practice in identifying and supporting families experiencing poverty.

A bid to support this work is being made to the DCSF Child Poverty Pilots that will enable it to be sustained over three years and rolled out across the county.

This piece of work will also consider the current range of provision from voluntary organisations that currently provide schools with support, to identify gaps and consider actions that will address the gaps through both charitable and public sector support.

Children's Centres

Close partnerships exist between Job Centre Plus and Children's Centres, with Job Centre plus advisors being available to all children's centres in Warwickshire. The Family and Community Division is bidding with Job Centre plus to the child poverty pilots to develop and strengthen work focused services in targeted children's centres. If successful it will mean that Job centre plus staff and children's centres will be able to work more closely and provide: work focused skills training, confidence building, basic skills and access to volunteering opportunities. Crèche facilities would also be made available whilst parents are training.

Support for Families to access work and childcare

Take up of Childcare element of Working Tax Credits .Job centre plus promotes the take up of this through its work to ensure families are supported to take up work opportunities and access childcare.

The Family Information Service and Job Centre plus work closely to ensure that parents returning to work have access to appropriate childcare information.

Support to Lessen Impact of Disability on Children and Young People

Children who live in a family with a disabled parent or who are themselves disabled are at a high risk of poverty. Initiatives to support these children centre on improved access to disability benefits, improved access to short breaks and improved support at transition to adult services.

3.4 Economic Development and Enterprise – Removing Barriers to Work

A cluster of recommendations has been converged into a sub-group of the Child Poverty Strategy Group. This new multi-agency group links strongly to the Economic Development and Enterprise block of the LAA and, with the specific agreement of WCC Corporate HR, is currently being led by the Environment and Economy Directorate. The focus is about Warwickshire County Council's role as employer- the largest by far in the county with over 18,000 members of staff. The sub group recognises that whilst many of them are doing really useful work with partners to set up support mechanisms to help other, largely private sector employers adopt good practice in recruitment, retention and training policies, we also need to look inwards at our own council's employment and skills agenda, especially in relation to supporting the hard-to-reach, vulnerable and most disaffected of Warwickshire's community.

The group is looking to develop an initial action plan to enable the council to commit to become an 'Employer of Choice', for both young people and adults and sign up to the Public sector Challenge – embracing principles set out under the Skills Pledge, the Local Employment Partnership (around jobs, recruitment and work placement) and apprenticeships and a range of quality work experience placements for young people.

The idea will be to plan for progression, be realistic and start with examples of (piecemeal) good practice, building on resources (training partners for instance) we already have 'in house'. This will be a multifaceted programme, closely linked with many other current and planned initiatives and strategies and will rely on very close partnership working across WCC Directorates and with external partners such as the LSC, Job Centre Plus and Connexions.

3.5 Partnership Working and Community Leadership: Local Strategic Partnerships

Local Strategic Partnerships are integral to the successful delivery of the LAA and Child Poverty Strategy, a number have developed local priorities regarding eradicating child poverty:

Rugby Borough and Warwick District are focusing on the development of strong children's centres to improve accessibility and develop parent friendly environments that will increase their self-esteem and self-confidence and ultimately their employment opportunities. In particular in Warwick anti poverty strategies focus on raising aspirations, managing debt, maximising income and reducing household costs.

Sustainable Community Strategies:

The Sustainable Community Strategies developed and delivered through Local Strategic Partnerships are an important delivery mechanism for eradicating child poverty.

Nuneaton and Bedworth through its Stronger Borough Theme is concentrating on developing a learning culture across all age groups. Priorities are focused on reducing the number of young people not in education, employment and training and work towards improving basic skills amongst adults.

A priority in Warwick District is reduction of poverty in its most deprived areas and is focusing on maximising income by helping to increase benefits take up and improving access to debt advice. In addition it is focusing on provision of lifelong learning and skills development.

3.6 Conclusion:

Child Poverty is a complex issue and therefore tackling it and eradicating it requires a partnership response that takes in to account the varied nature of Warwickshire. The success of a Child Poverty Strategy and the LAA Delivery Plan for eradication of child poverty in Warwickshire requires commitment from a range of partners. Child Poverty needs to be tackled at a district and borough level and where necessary at a ward and locality level to ensure that those experiencing poverty are reached both within the most deprived areas and within those pockets that exist amongst some of the more affluent areas of the county.

Consultation with and participation of service users will be integral to the success of the strategy and interventions. Therefore it will be imperative that the strategy reflects the views and needs of service users at a local level.

It is within this context and most importantly within the context of 'narrowing the gap' that the Child Poverty Strategy and the LAA delivery plan will take forward and in doing so will work closely with Local Strategic Partnerships in each area.

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Appendix 1

Recommendations From Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

A Where possible on receipt of the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2007, Warwickshire Observatory undertake a detailed analysis at Super Output Area level, to give a clear picture of child poverty across the 5 district / borough areas in the County.

B The Strategic Director of Children, Young People and Families use the information obtained from recommendation A to undertake a mapping exercise of the services available within the areas identified as having significant proportions of child poverty. Services relating to youth homelessness should also be included in this exercise. This exercise will enable priority areas to be identified and support the Council and partners in taking decisions and choices regarding service provision to address child poverty. A report outlining the findings from this exercise should be presented to the Children, Young People and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

C Departments in conjunction with Corporate Human Resources consider how employees who have joined the County Council from being long-term unemployed can be fully supported to remain in sustainable employment.

D The Strategic Director of Adult, Health and Community Services initiate discussions with the District and Borough Councils, Colleges and the Learning and Skills Council to establish how basic financial training can be offered to those families experiencing financial difficulties.

E Cabinet explore with Corporate Human Resources and Legal Services whether there is a possibility of offering a guaranteed interview scheme to lone parents.

F The Resources, Performance and Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee undertake a scrutiny review looking at the County Council's policies in relation to flexible working and ascertain how these can be improved, particularly for those with childcare responsibility.

G The Strategic Director for Children, Young People and Families submits a report to the Children, Young People and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee outlining the hidden costs of education in Warwickshire – including a picture of uniform costs and school trips and also outlining the support options available to families to assist with these costs. This report should include details of the changes in school uniform rules and guidance introduced by the Education and Inspections Act 2006.

H Cabinet undertakes a mapping exercise of the Charities, Community and Voluntary Organisations across the County who provide schools with support in relation to the costs of schooling. This exercise be used to identify gaps in

such provision.

I Cabinet gives consideration to the long term sustainable funding of Children Centres in Warwickshire.

J Warwickshire County Council works with key partners to develop a Public Sector Apprenticeship Scheme, similar to that run by Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council. Cabinet be requested to nominate a lead officer to develop this project and allocate £30,000 to support the initial start up costs.

K Warwickshire County Council develop a consistent policy regarding work experience placements for young people.

L Warwickshire County Council encouraged key partners to develop work experience placement schemes.

M Warwickshire County Council works with local businesses to develop a work placement scheme for young people classified as NEET.

N The Strategic Director for Environment and Economy develop a scheme with local businesses that offers work placements for those attending opportunity centres and other skill based learning projects.

O Warwickshire County Council makes explicit its commitment to tackling child poverty in Warwickshire.

P Warwickshire County Council leads in developing a Warwickshire Child Poverty Strategy, with clear objectives, targets and milestones outlined in an action plan. The Strategic Director for Children, Young People and Families be given the responsibility for developing this Strategy.

Q To ensure a consistent evaluation of how Council policies impact upon child poverty, it is recommended that the Agenda Management Sheet for Committee reports be amended to include a section to detail how the report impacts upon social inclusions and child poverty.

Appendix 2

Using the interim measure of children living in households in receipt of workless benefits the picture of child poverty in Warwickshire is as follows:

Children dependent on workless benefits (Income Support, Job Seekers Allowance, Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance, Pension Credits) (April 2007)

	Total Children dependent on Workless benefits	% Children dependent on Workless benefits
Warwickshire	12,750	13.3%
North Warwickshire	1,545	13.9%
Nuneaton & Bedworth	4,455	18.5%
Rugby	2,330	13.1%
Stratford-on-Avon	1,860	9.0%
Warwick	2,560	11.5%

Source: Department for Work & Pensions Information Directorate

Indices of Deprivation 2007 – Warwickshire Analysis

On the whole, Warwickshire is a typically affluent and prosperous area. However, a number of localised pockets of notable deprivation do exist within the County. The most extensive and commonly used analysis of deprivation and disadvantage is the English Indices of Deprivation 2007 (ID2007).

Based on findings from the ID2007¹, Warwickshire is ranked 123rd out of the 149 County Councils and Unitary Authorities in England, according to the rank of average score measure of deprivation, where a rank of 1 indicates the most deprived authority. This compares with a ranking of 120th on the same measure from the Indices of Deprivation 2004.

Out of the 34 County Councils, Warwickshire is now ranked 22nd compared with 20th on the 2004 Indices.

Whilst, at a County level, it appears that Warwickshire is not particularly deprived, there is considerable variation across the Districts and Boroughs, and at a more localised level various distinct pockets of severe deprivation exist within the County.

Nuneaton & Bedworth has the highest levels of deprivation in the County, indicated by the highest average Super-Output Area² (SOA) score. The Borough ranks as the 112th most deprived Local Authority District (out of the 354 Local Authorities in England). In comparison, Stratford-on-Avon District is the least deprived in Warwickshire with a national rank of 307th. More importantly, Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough now falls within the top third most deprived local authorities in England and is ranked as being relatively more deprived on the 2007 Index of Multiple Deprivation than the 2004 Index. In addition, there are now more SOAs of Nuneaton & Bedworth ranked within the top 10% most deprived SOAs nationally than in 2004, and the most deprived SOAs are now ranked as being more deprived relative to other areas of England.

¹ Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2007: Key Findings, Source: Warwickshire Observatory

² Super-Output Areas (SOAs) have a minimum population of 1,000 and a mean population of 1,500.

Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index

An Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) – has been produced alongside the ID 2007. This covers only children aged 0–15 living in income deprived households – defined as either households claiming Income Support/Job Seekers Allowance/Incapacity Benefit/Pension Credits, or those not in receipt of these benefits but in receipt of Working Tax Credits/Child Tax Credits with an equivalised income below 60 per cent of the national median before housing costs. The IDACI score represents the proportion of children 0–15 living in such households as a proportion of all children 0–15.

Forty two Super-Output Areas (SOAs) in Warwickshire are ranked within the 30% most deprived SOAs in England experiencing income deprivation affecting children, compared to 41 in the 2004 IDACI. Of these 42 SOAs, 19 are in Nuneaton & Bedworth, ten in Warwick, seven in Rugby, four in North Warwickshire and two are in Stratford-on-Avon.

Three areas feature within the top 10% most deprived SOAs, compared to four on this measure in the Indices of Deprivation 2004, all of which are located in Nuneaton & Bedworth.

The top ranking area in Warwickshire is the Middlemarch and Swimming Pool locality in the Wem Brook ward located in Nuneaton & Bedworth, with 59% of children aged 0-15 living in income deprived households, followed by 58% in the area Bar Pool North & Crescents, and 57% in Camp Hill Village Centre.

Whilst the majority of the most income deprived households are in Nuneaton and Bedworth, Warwickshire has pockets of deprivation within the more affluent areas.

Appendix 3

Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index

Table 1: Warwickshire Super-Output Areas (SOAs) in Top 30% most deprived SOAs nationally in terms of income deprivation affecting children

LOCALITY	WARD	LA NAME	IDACI score (Proportion of children living in income deprived households)	IDACI RANK	Most Deprived X% Nationally
Middlemarch & Swimming Pool	Wem Brook	Nuneaton & Bedworth	59%	1,353	4%
Bar Pool North & Crescents	Bar Pool	Nuneaton & Bedworth	58%	1,449	4%
Camp Hill Village Centre	Camp Hill	Nuneaton & Bedworth	57%	1,523	5%
Brunswick South East	Brunswick	Warwick	46%	3,731	11%
Kingswood Grove Farm & Rural	Kingswood	Nuneaton & Bedworth	43%	4,327	13%
Brownsover South Lake District North	Brownsover South	Rugby	43%	4,424	14%
Camp Hill South West & Brook	Camp Hill	Nuneaton & Bedworth	42%	4,728	15%
Camp Hill West & Quarry	Camp Hill	Nuneaton & Bedworth	41%	4,834	15%
Atherstone Central - Centre	Atherstone Central	North Warwickshire	41%	4,866	15%
Bede East	Bede	Nuneaton & Bedworth	41%	4,988	15%
Mancetter South and Ridge Lane	Atherstone South & Mancetter	North Warwickshire	40%	5,136	16%
Hill Top	Wem Brook	Nuneaton & Bedworth	38%	5,591	17%
Bede North	Bede	Nuneaton & Bedworth	37%	6,181	19%
Brunswick South & Cemetary	Brunswick	Warwick	36%	6,405	20%
Overslade North	Overslade	Rugby	36%	6,419	20%
Town Centre	Newbold	Rugby	36%	6,523	20%
Attleborough Central	Attleborough	Nuneaton & Bedworth	34%	6,922	21%
Packmores West & The Cape	Warwick West	Warwick	34%	6,936	21%
Lillington South	Crown	Warwick	34%	6,997	22%
Kingswood Stockingford Schools	Kingswood	Nuneaton & Bedworth	34%	7,081	22%
Keresley North and Newlands	Exhall	Nuneaton & Bedworth	34%	7,201	22%
Brunswick South West & Kingsway	Brunswick	Warwick	33%	7,361	23%
Lillington East	Crown	Warwick	33%	7,401	23%
Warwick West East	Warwick West	Warwick	33%	7,544	23%
Abbey Priory	Abbey	Nuneaton & Bedworth	32%	7,698	24%
Poplar Nicholas Chamberlain	Poplar	Nuneaton & Bedworth	31%	8,000	25%
Admirals East	Admirals	Rugby	31%	8,026	25%
Hurley	Hurley & Wood End	North Warwickshire	31%	8,184	25%
Wem Brook East	Wem Brook	Nuneaton & Bedworth	31%	8,270	25%
Overslade North West	Overslade	Rugby	30%	8,487	26%
Brunswick North West & Foundry	Brunswick	Warwick	30%	8,625	27%

LOCALITY	WARD	LA NAME	IDACI score	IDACI RANK	Most Deprived X% Nationally
Caldecott Rokeby	Caldecott	Rugby	29%	8,739	27%
Lillington West	Crown	Warwick	29%	8,786	27%
Attleborough South East	Attleborough	Nuneaton & Bedworth	29%	8,842	27%
Sydenham West	Willes	Warwick	29%	8,847	27%
Dordon Village	Dordon	North Warwickshire	29%	8,862	27%
Heath Sports	Heath	Nuneaton & Bedworth	28%	9,272	29%
Bar Pool West & Recreation Ground	Bar Pool	Nuneaton & Bedworth	28%	9,363	29%
Newbold on Avon	Newbold	Rugby	28%	9,373	29%
Riversley	Wem Brook	Nuneaton & Bedworth	28%	9,460	29%
Stratford Mount Pleasant East	Stratford Mount Pleasant	Stratford-on-Avon	27%	9,489	29%
Alcester North & Conway	Alcester	Stratford-on-Avon	27%	9,625	30%

N.B. A ranking of 1 represents the most deprived SOA nationally and a ranking of 32,482 represents the least deprived SOA nationally.

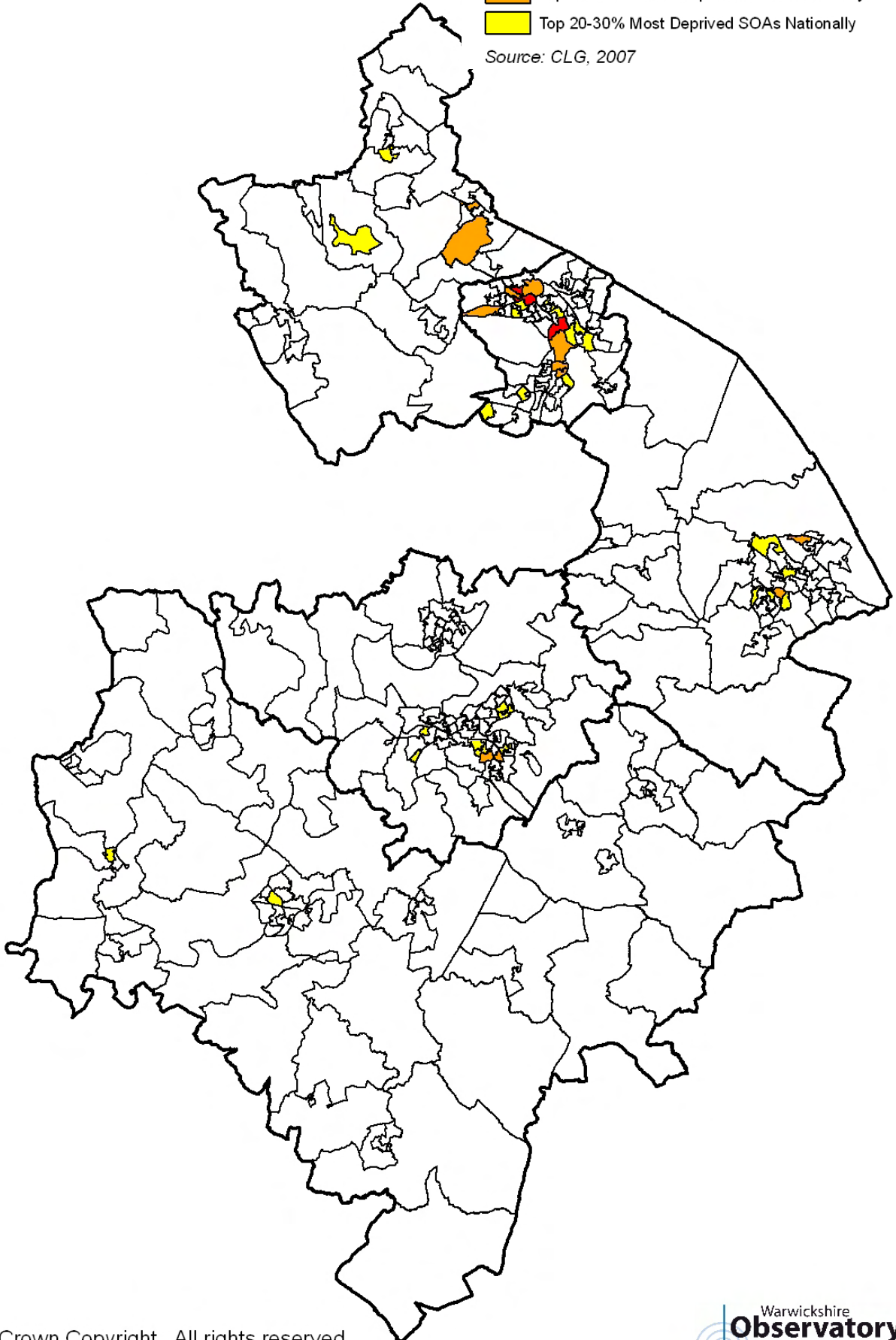
Source: CLG, 2007

Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index 2007

National Ranks

- Top 10% Most Deprived SOAs Nationally
- Top 10-20% Most Deprived SOAs Nationally
- Top 20-30% Most Deprived SOAs Nationally

Source: CLG, 2007



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Appendix 4 Child Poverty Focus Across Warwickshire

A number of projects across Warwickshire aim to enhance the opportunities for young people to access employment , education and training:

- Wheels2Work - a programme run by connexions that lends mopeds to anyone aged between 16-65 having difficulty accessing employment or training for 6 months.
- On Your Bike – a joint project between Connexions and the Youth Offending Team, whereby unclaimed bikes are passed on by the police and repaired. Young people can obtain the bikes for a donation of £25 (where possible) and are used for journeys of less than 4 miles.
- Workwise- a Connexions project that was launched in February 2007 and will run until March 2009. The project aims to assist anyone 16-65 with access to interviews and employment in the form of part payment of travel costs for an interview or for the first two months after starting employment.
- Pride in Camphill project successfully engages with young people in a traditionally deprived area of the county.
- The Flare Project jointly run by Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service and Connexions offers young people who are disengaged and disaffected to take part in a learning experience that encourages them to develop a sense of pride and diligence in their approach to work and develop life skills. The aim of the project is to reengage young people and prevent them from falling into the NEET category.
- Opportunities Centres – the Environment & Economy Directorate manage 3 partnership based Opportunities Centres in the heart of some of our most deprived communities. The centres provide an alternative venue for disaffected young people who are in danger of dropping out of formal education . The aim is for them to re-engage in learning and to acquire new vocational skills to enhance future employment prospects. The centres deliver accredited and un-accredited training in construction and related trades as well as ICT: motorcycle maintenance and tuition. The latest to open is a new motor vehicle maintenance centre in Rugby.

Appendix 5 Effects of poverty on children and young people:

The effects of living in poverty can be far reaching upon children and last in to their adulthood when they themselves become parents, thus continuing the cycle of poverty. Some of the effects on children's educational attainment are listed below:³

- By age three, being in poverty makes a difference equivalent to nine months' development in school readiness.
- During their years at school, children in receipt of free school meals (a key indicator of poverty) do progressively worse on average at school than their peers.
- Children who do badly at primary school are less likely to improve at secondary school if they are poor.
- Children from poor families are more likely to have poor qualifications.
- Young people with parents in manual occupations are far less likely than others to go to university and only 1 in 6 of students at top universities come from lower socio-economic back-grounds.
- Children and families who would most benefit from high quality early childhood services are the least likely to access them.
- Among primary school children, the gap in attainment between children from poor backgrounds and their peers has narrowed only slightly .
- 32.7% of children entitled to free school meals got five or more GCSEs at grades A*-C, just half the level of those not entitled to free school meals 60.7%.⁴
- There has however been good progress made in achievement at 19, with more than 70 per cent of people aged 19 in 2006 qualified to at least Level 2 (5 A-C GCSE equivalent).⁵

It is well established that children from disadvantaged groups are more likely to have poorer health and die earlier than the rest of the population. The reasons for this are complex and multifarious but two strongly associated factors are poverty and inequality.⁶

³ Figures are from CPAG's recent publication, D Hirsch, Chicken and Egg: child poverty and educational inequalities, CPAG (2007).

⁴ Department for Education and Skills, National Curriculum Assessment, GCSE and Equivalent Attainment and Post-16 Attainment by Pupil characteristics, in England, 2005/06, November 2006 at www.dfes.gov.uk, table 8.

⁵ Opportunity for All, Department for Work and Pensions indicator 7 (children and young people). Data is for 2006.

⁶ Source: Child Poverty Toolkit: Policy Brief: Child Poverty and Health: Inclusion and Child Poverty Action Group.

- Infant deaths are 50 per cent more common among those from manual backgrounds than among those from non-manual backgrounds.
- Babies from manual backgrounds are more likely to have a low birth-weight than those from non-manual backgrounds – low birth-weight babies are at greater risk of mortality and morbidity during childhood.
- Studies have found a close association between mental disorder in children and economic disadvantage.
- Children from the lowest income groups are more likely to be obese than those from top income groups.
- Children from manual backgrounds are significantly more likely to die in accidents than other children.
- Research has found a very close association between teenage pregnancy and social and economic disadvantage.