

Blaby District Community Profile 2005

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This report was produced by the Research and Information Team at Leicestershire County Council during August 2005 using a range of available data sets.

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the data contained in this report, the County Council can accept no responsibility for any errors or omissions.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- ◆ The population of Blaby is 91,519
- ◆ 19.6% of the population are aged under 16 years and 18.5% are of pension age
- ◆ There are 35,908 households in the District, with an average household size of 2.48 persons
- ◆ 7.6% of the population (6,874 persons) are of Black and Minority Ethnic origin. The largest BME groups are Indian (3,043 people), Other White (1,052 people) and Irish (683 people)
- ◆ In Blaby, 14.7% of the population have a Limiting Long Term Illness
- ◆ 10.6% of the population provide unpaid care to a relative or neighbour
- ◆ Overall levels of deprivation are low, but there are small pockets of deprivation in parts of Winstanley and Blaby South wards
- ◆ There are 1,341 children (under 16 years) and 1,745 older people (over 60 years) living in income deprived households
- ◆ 10,991 pupils attend an LEA school in Blaby
- ◆ 85.4% of the working age population in the District are economically active
- ◆ In May 2005, 621 people were claiming Job Seekers Allowance in Blaby
- ◆ 81.5% of businesses employ less than 10 people
- ◆ Average household income in the District is £34,166
- ◆ Offences recorded by the police in 2004/05 show falling vehicle crime and burglary but increases in assault and criminal damage
- ◆ There are 49,709 cars and vans in Blaby, and this is the most common method of travel to work (72.4%). 7.8% of the population travel to work by public transport.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

Blaby District Council is in the process of reviewing the Blaby Community Plan and the Blaby Local Plan, the latter eventually being replaced by a Local Development Framework (LDF). It is therefore important that the District Council and the Local Strategic Partnership review the information available about the District to inform this process. This profile has been prepared to ensure the preparation of, and consultation on these documents are well informed and based upon existing knowledge about the District. It will also support the development of an evidence base for the Local Area Agreements and future regional and sub-regional planning.

Data

A range of data from a variety of sources has been used in compiling this report. In all cases, the most up-to-date information has been included. Where relevant, historic data or projected information has also been included.

Geography

This report will include data at different geographical levels:

- District
- Ward – There are 18 wards in the District. Ward boundaries were changed in the District in 2001. Wherever possible, the new ward boundaries have been used in this report.
- Super Output Areas - lower level (SOA) – There are 60 lower level SOAs in the District, shown in appendix 1. This is a relatively new geography created by the Office for National Statistics. They are created by combining a number of Output Areas which were created for the 2001 Census. They are small areas of broadly consistent population size across the country, each containing approximately 1,500 people.
- Output Areas – There are 289 Output Areas in the District. These are small areas created for the 2001 Census which each contain approximately 120 households.

Where possible, the data will be compared with the district (and the group of 'most similar' local authorities*), the county, the region and the country.

* The Office for National Statistics has produced an Area Classification which groups most similar local authorities together using demographic, household composition, socio-economic, employment and industry sector indicators from the 2001 census - more information on the classification is available from www.statistics.gov.uk/about/methodology_by_theme/area_classification.