



ISLAND POVERTY

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 32/22

11 APRIL 2022

The purpose of this Report is to ask Members to consider a staff team proposal for the Town Council to stimulate and lead a response to the Island's areas of poverty based on collaborative working with the other Town and Parish Councils with Lower Super Output Areas in the 20% most deprived nationally.

NO. DETAILS.

1) BACKGROUND

- Poverty and the deprivation that comes with it is not new on the Island, but it has increased steadily over the last 10 years and from Friday 1 April 2022 will increase sharply with changes that will be too much for too many Island residents.
- This Report sets out the evidence and identifies the Island areas under threat that normally remain out-of-sight as inconsistent with the Island's public image and too challenging to 'level up'.
- This Town Council has faced the fact of deprivation within the town it serves as demonstrated in its support for the Foodbank, Baby Box, its Wellbeing Café and Youth service and constructive connections with regeneration programmes, Island-wide service providers and external funding sources.
- But the 1 April 54% increase in energy costs, the anticipated 8% inflation rate (over 10% for the poorest) and increased food, housing and transport costs with only a 3.1 % increase in Benefits and downward pressure on wages in both the public and private sectors will make anything like normal life impossible for many residents of Ventnor and the other Island areas of similar deprivation.

2) THE AREAS OF DEPRIVATION

- In its Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019 (IMD2019) the government divided England into 32,844 small areas of around 1,500 population each that it named Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) and ranked them on their levels of income, employment, education, health, crime, barriers to housing and services and living environment.
- Putting those measures together provided an overall score and a listing in order from 1 (the most deprived) to 32,844 (the least deprived).
- The Island is divided into 89 LSOAs, 12 of which are in the most deprived 10% and 20% nationally (deciles 1 and 2).
- This table lists those 12 showing the decile they are in and their actual ranking within the range 1 - 32,844 on the latest Index.
- They are within the areas of four of the Island's 33 Town and Parish Councils with four in Ryde, four in Newport, two in Ventnor and one in each of East Cowes and Shanklin.
- Maps of each of the 12 areas are attached to this Report.
- The total population of these 12 areas is 139,385 or 13.8% of the Island's population.

Code	Area	Council	Decile	Rank
008D	Pan B	Newport	1	1,904
008C	Pan A	Newport	1	2,807
004B	Ryde North East B	Ryde	1	3,071
018A	Ventnor Central	Ventnor	2	3,423
003E	Osborne North	E Cowes	2	3,942
007C	St Johns East A	Ryde	2	4,192
011E	Mount Joy B	Newport	2	4,476
009D	Newport South B	Newport	2	4,525
007E	St Johns West A	Ryde	2	4,678
007B	Ryde South East B	Ryde	2	5,397
018D	Upper Ventnor	Ventnor	2	6,174
016C	Shanklin Central	Shanklin	2	6,506

3) RESPONSE

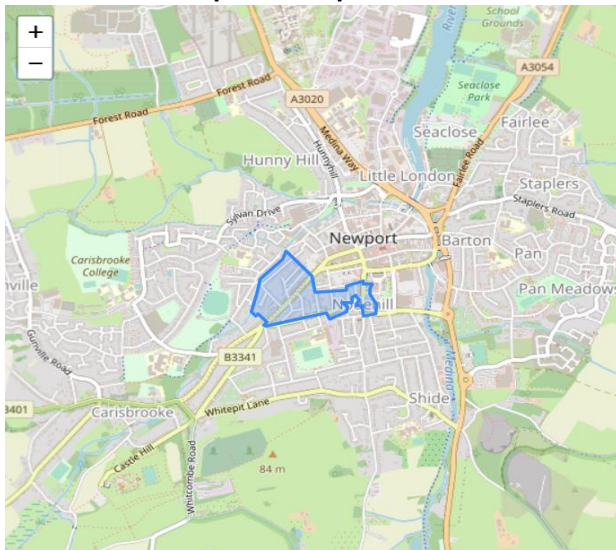
- a) Although the Isle of Wight Council's Regeneration projects in East Cowes, Newport and Ryde will benefit all Island areas and some of its teams are providing quality support for residents with a range of support needs, there needs to be a sharper focus on poverty and deprivation and related project development.
- b) Town and Parish Councils are well placed to lead in this area with their detailed knowledge of the areas they serve and the wide range of their already existing connections with their residents and organisations.
- c) Working together, the four Town and Parish Councils with the Island's most deprived areas in their centres could begin the necessary profile raising and agree how to encourage the necessary re-focusing of resources.
- d) The sharp increases in the cost of living now arriving, in addition to the unequal damage from the pandemic, will have drastic consequences for those at the sharp end of the Island's poverty.

4) RECOMMENDATION

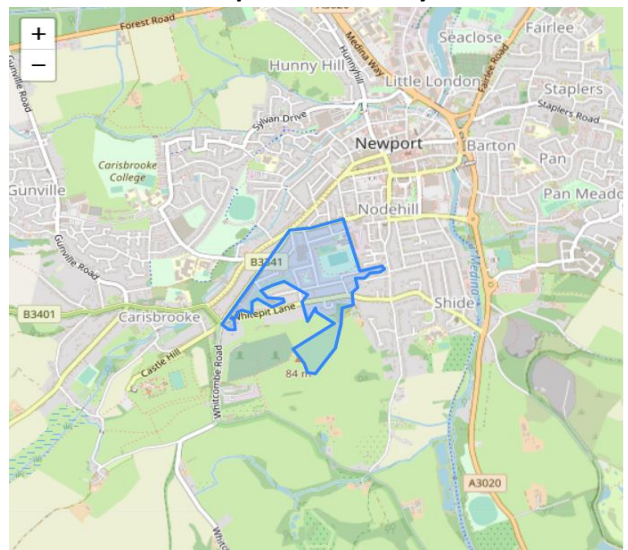
The Town Council is recommended to explore the potential for collaborative working with the other Town and Parish Councils that have significantly deprived areas within their remit.

Island Areas in the 20% most deprived nationally

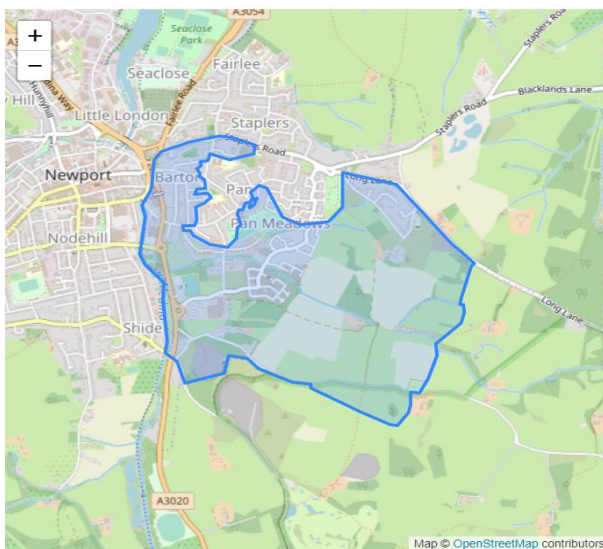
Newport: Newport South



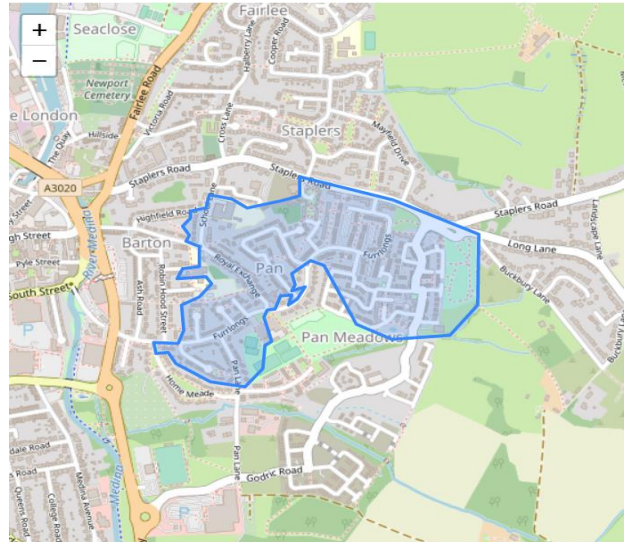
Newport: Mount Joy B



Newport: Pan A



Newport: Pan B



Ventnor Central



Upper Ventnor



Ryde: Ryde North



Ryde: Ryde South



Ryde; St Johns A



Ryde: St Johns B



East Cowes: Osborne North



Shanklin: Shanklin Central

