

Levelling Up White Paper – Missions and Measures for Norfolk

Key findings

This report sets out the Government's levelling up objectives along with the twelve national missions, and the headline metrics selected through which Government will monitor progress.¹ Norfolk's position against each headline metric is included, with comparator data where it is available.

This report provides a position statement of the relevant data that is detailed in the Government's Levelling Up White Paper Technical Annex.² As such, this report does not provide any explanatory analysis of why a particular dataset for Norfolk may or may not be better or worse than the comparator data.

Data contained in this report comes from a range of national sources and are the most recent figures available. Sources and dates of data have been acknowledged throughout the report.

Mission 1 - Pay, employment and productivity

- There is a material gap between Norfolk's gross median weekly pay and the national average. In 2021, Norfolk's gross median weekly pay stood at £568, compared with the UK's £611. South Norfolk is the only Norfolk district to have an average weekly wage above that of the UK average.
- Norfolk's employment rate for 16–64-year-olds (currently 76.4%) has been higher than the UK's rate (currently 74.5%) in recent years. At district level, only Great Yarmouth has had a consistently lower employment rate than the national average since 2015.
- GVA per hour worked rose across all of Norfolk's districts between 2008 and 2019.
- Norwich, King's Lynn & West Norfolk and Broadland's GVA per hour outputs have grown faster than the UK average since 2008. Breckland, Great Yarmouth and North Norfolk's growth rate was lower than the UK growth rate, while South Norfolk's has only grown slightly (although South Norfolk has the highest wage in Norfolk).

Mission 2 - R&D

- Data is mostly available to regional level, with the East of England considered part of the Greater South East (GSE), together with London and the South East, for this Levelling Up Mission which includes an objective on "focusing R&D spend outside this [GSE] area".

¹ Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities - Levelling Up the United Kingdom (2022) - [Levelling Up the United Kingdom - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/levelling-up-the-united-kingdom)

² Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities - Levelling Up the United Kingdom (2022)

- Where data is available at county level, such as Innovate UK's grant awards data³, Norfolk's share of government R&D investment is shown to be small.
- Innovate UK has awarded £12.24bn of funding between 2004 and 2021, of which:
 - £5.47bn, **44.7%** of all funding, was awarded to projects in the Greater South East
 - £949m, **7.8%** of all funding, has been awarded to projects East of England
 - £43.7m, **0.4%** of all funding, was awarded to projects in Norfolk⁴.

Mission 3 - Transport & Connectivity

- According to the 2011 census, the primary commuting mode, across all employment areas of Norfolk, is driving a car or van.

Mission 4 - Digital Connectivity

- In the past five months, the percentage of premises in Norfolk covered by gigabit capable broadband has grown by approximately 27%. However, when contrasted with the rest of the UK, Norfolk is still underperforming in terms of its gigabit broadband coverage with only 41% of premises covered compared with 66% nationally.
- Within Norfolk there are vast disparities in gigabit coverage between districts. Norwich demonstrates the highest percentage of premises covered (84.5%) and North Norfolk the lowest (7.4%).
- 4G coverage from all Mobile Network Operators (MNOs) across Norfolk is reasonably high, standing at approximately 90%. However, Norfolk still falls short of the UK-wide figure of approximately 98% coverage.
- Within Norfolk, disparities in 4G coverage persist with rural parts of the county experiencing reduced coverage.

Mission 5 - Education

- Over the last four years, on average Norfolk Key Stage 2 pupils have consistently performed below both the East of England region and England, despite Norfolk improving attainment by ten percentage points over the same period.

Mission 6 - Skills

- Norfolk has seen an 18% decline of funded further education and skills achievements over five academic years from 2016/17 to 2020/21. This compares with a national decline of 25% and a regional decline of 18%.

³ Innovation activity is an area of analysis which can prove challenging to secure quantitative data around, especially at county-level. Innovate UK funding award data facilitates benchmarking, allowing us to compare the level of funding Norfolk companies receive from this important government source.

⁴ Innovate UK Funding 2004-2021 - [Innovate UK funded projects since 2004 – UKRI](#)

Mission 7 - Health

- In Norfolk, average healthy life expectancy is below the UK average, with Norfolk males and females living for less time in good health than a decade ago, and the decline being more marked for females.

Mission 8 - Wellbeing

- Overall, Norfolk people rate more highly than the UK average on questions about their life satisfaction, the extent to which they feel things in life are worthwhile and feelings of happiness.
- Overall, Norfolk people rate their anxiety level as lower than the UK average.
- In terms of the districts, Great Yarmouth, Norwich, and South Norfolk ratings are not as good as the UK averages on one or more of the four well-being domains.

Mission 9 - Pride in Place

- There is as yet no government defined metric in place for this Levelling Up Mission.
- The Levelling Up White Paper Technical Annex states that survey-based measures of pride in place are still in their infancy. In Norfolk, we are exploring the use of existing surveys to serve as proxy measures but are not yet in a position to report data.

Mission 10 - Housing

- Currently, data pertaining to housing quality at the county level are not available.
- There are no official UK Government statistics that provide first-time buyer data at a regional, county or district level.
- ONS housing affordability ratios reveal that while on average housing in Norfolk may be less affordable than the rest of England, within the East of England region Norfolk housing may be more affordable.

Mission 11 - Crime

- Over the past six years, Norfolk's crime rates, and sharp object hospital admissions for under 25s, have remained consistently below the averages for England and Wales, with Norfolk rates decreasing since 2019, in line with nationally.

Mission 12 - Local Leadership

- As a local authority, we are currently not able to provide data to support this mission.

Context

The Government has published the Levelling Up White Paper,⁵ which sets out the plan to transform the UK by spreading opportunity and prosperity to all parts of the country. At the heart of the policy are twelve national missions that support the key levelling up objectives and outline the medium-term ambition for the Government.

This report sets out the levelling up objectives along with the twelve national missions, and the headline metrics selected by Government through which progress will be monitored. We have included Norfolk's position against each headline metric, with comparator data where it is available. This report provides a position statement of the relevant data that is detailed in the Government's Levelling Up White Paper Technical Annex.⁶ As such, this report does not provide any explanatory analysis of why a particular dataset for Norfolk may or may not be better or worse than the comparator data.

Statement on data

Data is collected at a national level that allows analysis against the twelve levelling up missions, but data at the sub-national level is often limited in scope and published less frequently. This means that at the local authority level, we often face challenges around outdated or incomparable data.

The data contained in this report comes from a range of national sources and are the most recent figures available. Sources and dates of data have been acknowledged throughout the report.

⁵ Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities - Levelling Up the United Kingdom (2022)

⁶ Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities - Levelling Up the United Kingdom (2022)

Objectives, Missions and Measures

Mission 1 - Pay, employment and productivity

Objective: Boost productivity, pay, jobs and living standards by growing the private sector, especially in those places where they are lagging.

Mission: By 2030, pay, employment and productivity will have risen in every area of the UK, with each containing a globally competitive city, and the gap between the top performing and other areas closing.

Headline metrics:

- Gross GVA per hour worked.
- Gross median weekly pay £.
- Employment rate 16-64.

Headline Metric: Gross Value Added (GVA) per hour worked.

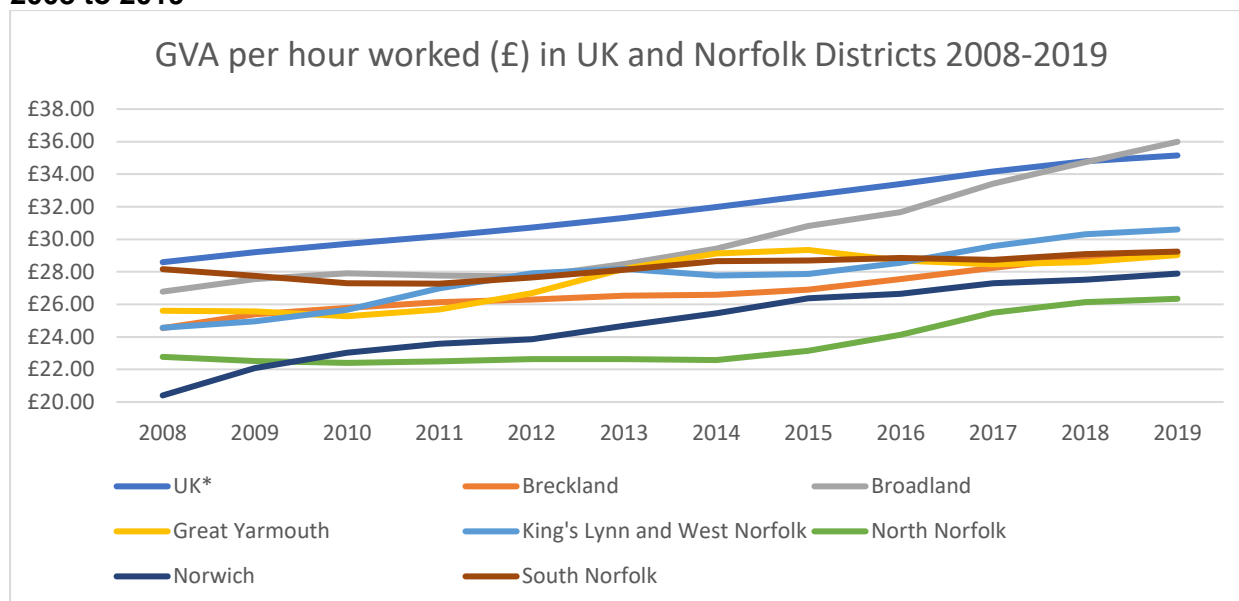
It should be noted for this metric that GVA measurements will be lower in more residential areas and higher in areas where businesses are located. ONS published data shows GVA per hour worked rose across all of Norfolk's districts between 2008 and 2019 (Figure 1.1).

Norfolk's best performing district, Broadland, overtook the UK average GVA per hour worked in 2018.

The average output in Great Yarmouth, Breckland and South Norfolk has converged in recent years, with each achieving about 83% of the average national output per hour worked. North Norfolk has the lowest GVA per hour worked and currently produces just under 75% of the national average GVA per hour.

Norwich, King's Lynn & West Norfolk and Broadland's GVA per hour outputs have grown faster than the UK average since 2008. Breckland, Great Yarmouth and North Norfolk's growth rate was lower than the UK growth rate, while South Norfolk's has barely grown. (Indeed, South Norfolk's GVA per hour worked has fallen from 98.5% of the UK average in 2008 to 83.2% in 2019. However, it should be noted that South Norfolk is also the only Norfolk district with a residential wage higher than the UK average and that sluggish GVA per hour figures may reflect other factors, such as new development being primarily residential rather than commercial).

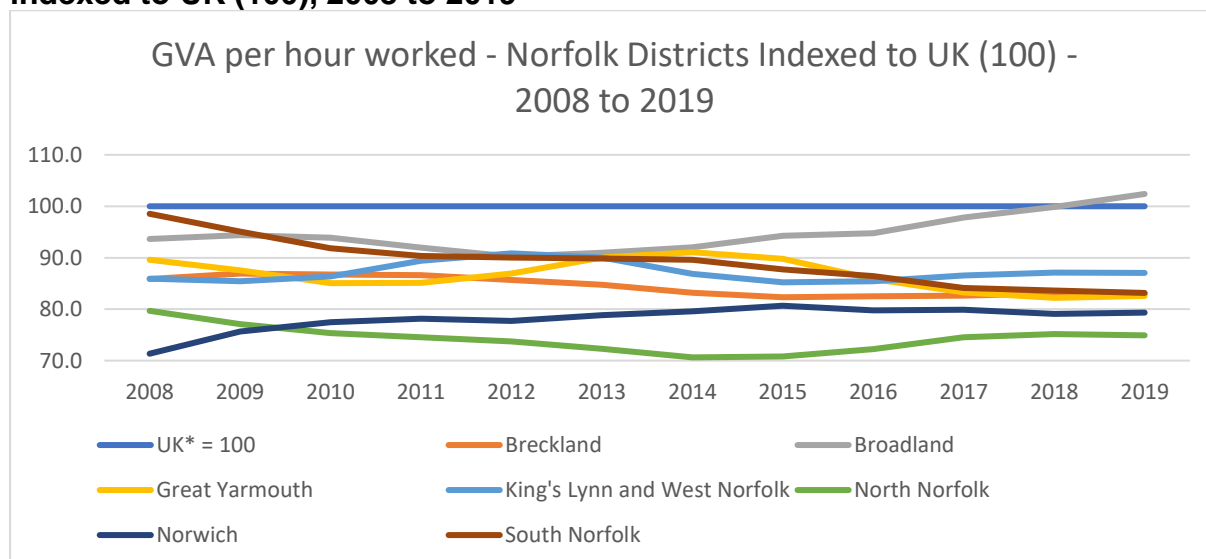
Figure 1.1: Gross Value Added (GVA) per hour worked (£) in UK and Norfolk districts, 2008 to 2019



Source: ONS Subregional productivity: labour productivity indices by local authority district. *UK = UK less extra-region⁷ - [Subregional productivity: labour productivity indices by local authority district](https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/productivity/labourproductivity/articles/subregionalproductivitylabourproductivityindicesbylocalauthoritydistrict) - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk)

When Indexed against the UK GVA per hour worked, the relative performance of Norfolk's districts over time is shown more clearly (Figure 1.2).

Figure 1.2: Gross Value Added (GVA) per hour worked, Norfolk districts indexed to UK (100), 2008 to 2019



Source: ONS Subregional productivity: labour productivity indices by local authority district. *UK = UK less extra-region - [Subregional productivity: labour productivity indices by local authority district](https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/productivity/labourproductivity/articles/subregionalproductivitylabourproductivityindicesbylocalauthoritydistrict) - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk)

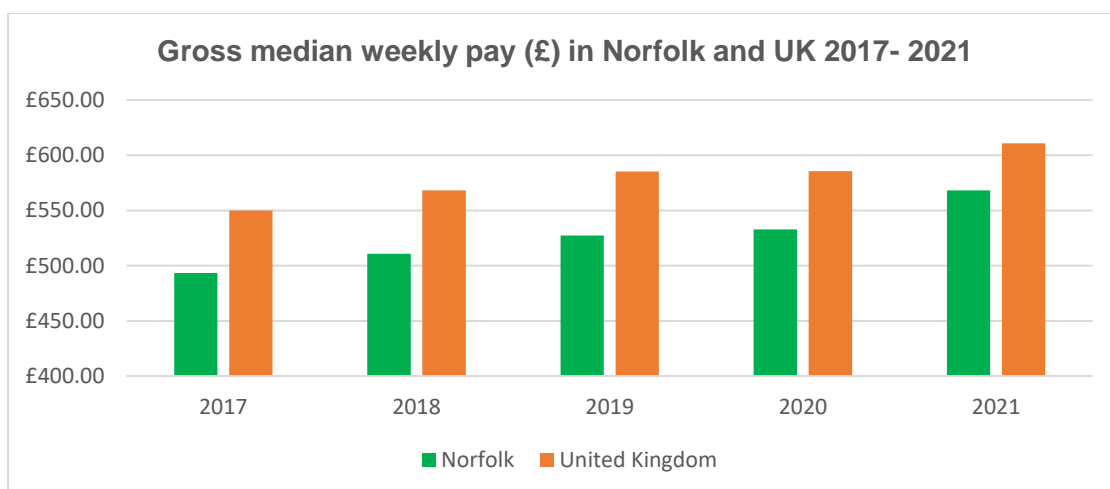
⁷ UK figures are "UK less Extra-Region", i.e. without certain offshore inputs such as North Sea hydrocarbon extraction

Headline Metric: Gross median weekly pay (£).

ONS published data shows that there is a material gap between Norfolk's gross median weekly pay and the national average (Figure 1.3). In 2021, Norfolk's gross median weekly pay stood at £568, compared with the UK's £611. The gap between Norfolk's gross median weekly pay and the national average has closed slightly in recent years, with the median weekly pay in Norfolk being about 10% smaller than the UK's in 2017, which narrowed to 7% smaller in 2021.

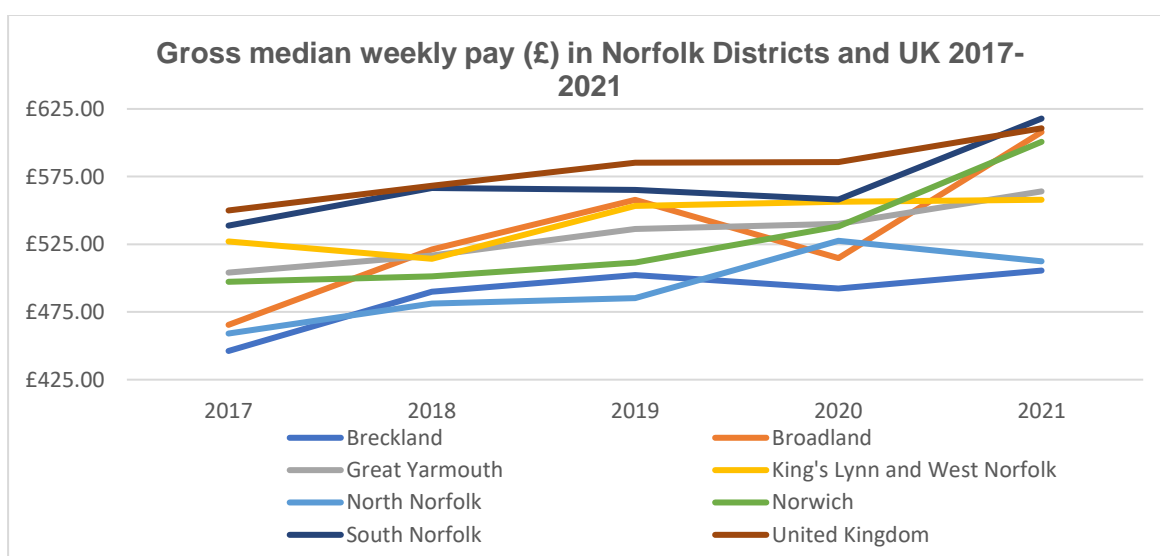
At district level, only South Norfolk has an average weekly wage above that of the UK average (Figure 1.4).

Figure 1.3: Gross median weekly pay (£), Norfolk compared with UK, 2017 to 2021



Source: NOMIS, Annual Survey of hours and Earnings

Figure 1.4: Gross median weekly pay (£), Norfolk districts compared with UK, 2017 to 2021

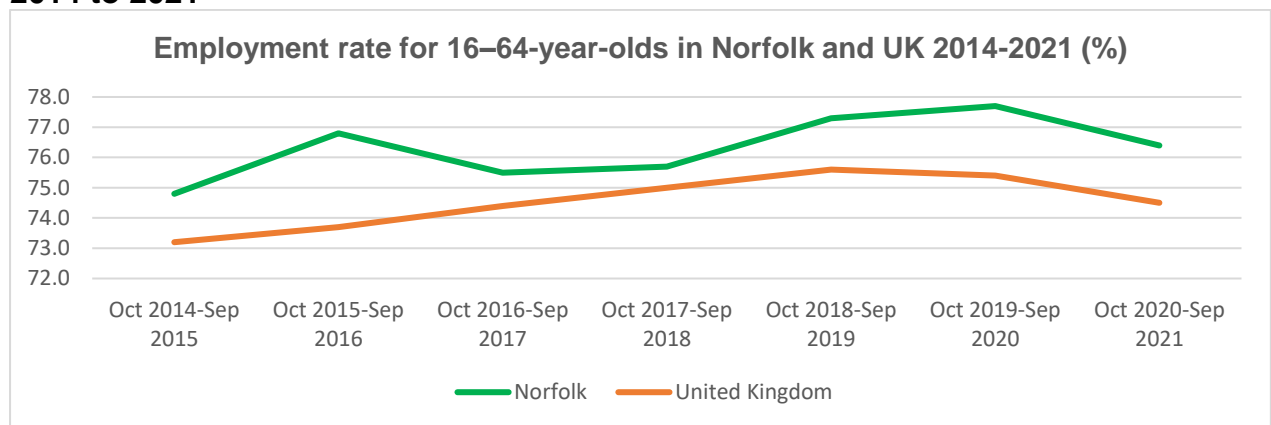


Source: NOMIS, Annual Survey of hours and Earnings

Headline Metric: Employment rate for 16–64-year-olds.

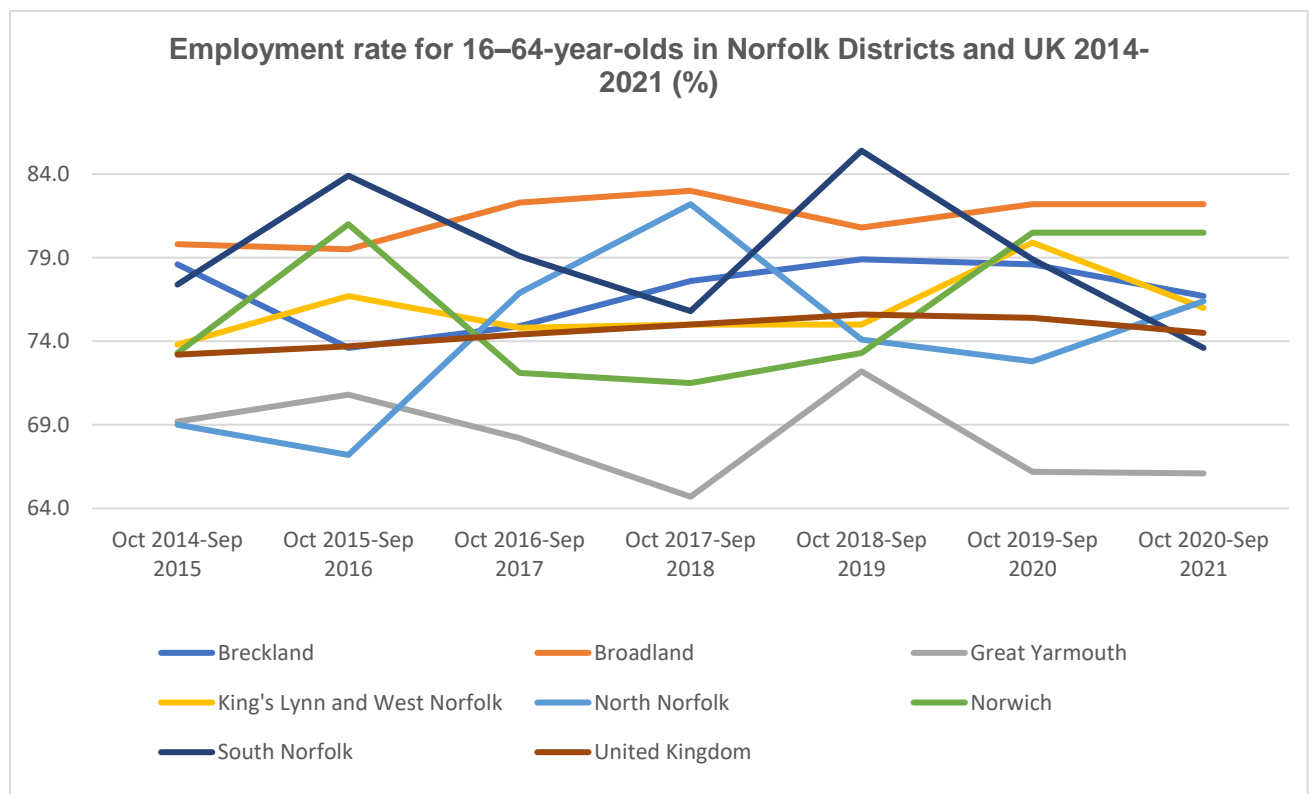
ONS published data shows Norfolk’s employment rate for 16–64-year-olds has been higher than the UK’s rate in recent years (Figure 1.5). At district level, only Great Yarmouth has had a consistently lower employment rate than the national average (Figure 1.6).

Figure 1.5: Employment rate (%) for 16-64-yr-olds, Norfolk compared with UK, 2014 to 2021



Source: NOMIS, Annual population survey

Figure 1.6: Employment rate (%) for 16-64-yr-olds, Norfolk districts compared with UK, 2014 to 2021



Source: NOMIS, Annual population survey

Mission 2 - R&D

Objective: Boost productivity, pay, jobs and living standards by growing the private sector, especially in those places where they are lagging.

Mission: By 2030, domestic public investment in R&D outside the Greater South East will increase by at least 40%, and over the Spending Review period by at least one third. This additional government funding will seek to leverage at least twice as much private sector investment over the long term to stimulate innovation and productivity growth.

Headline Metrics:

- Business expenditure R&D.
- Govt funding R&D.

Data is mostly available to regional level, with the East of England considered part of the Greater South East (GSE), together with London and the South East (Figure 2.1 and Figure 2.2):

- Recent trends show Business R&D Spending in the East of England as a proportion of all UK business R&D spending rose by about 8.5% between 2014 and 2019 (growing from 20% to 21.7%).
- Total Government R&D Spending in the East of England as a proportion of all UK Government R&D spending rose from 9.6% in 2014 to 11.4% in 2019.
- We cannot currently say whether this trend is true for Norfolk, with the primary sources of data only describing the regional picture.

It should be noted that Norfolk is designated part of the wider Greater South East (GSE) region, because it is part of the East of England region. This Levelling Up Mission includes a focus on moving “R&D spend outside this [GSE] area”, which therefore could mean Norfolk receiving less funding from government sources.

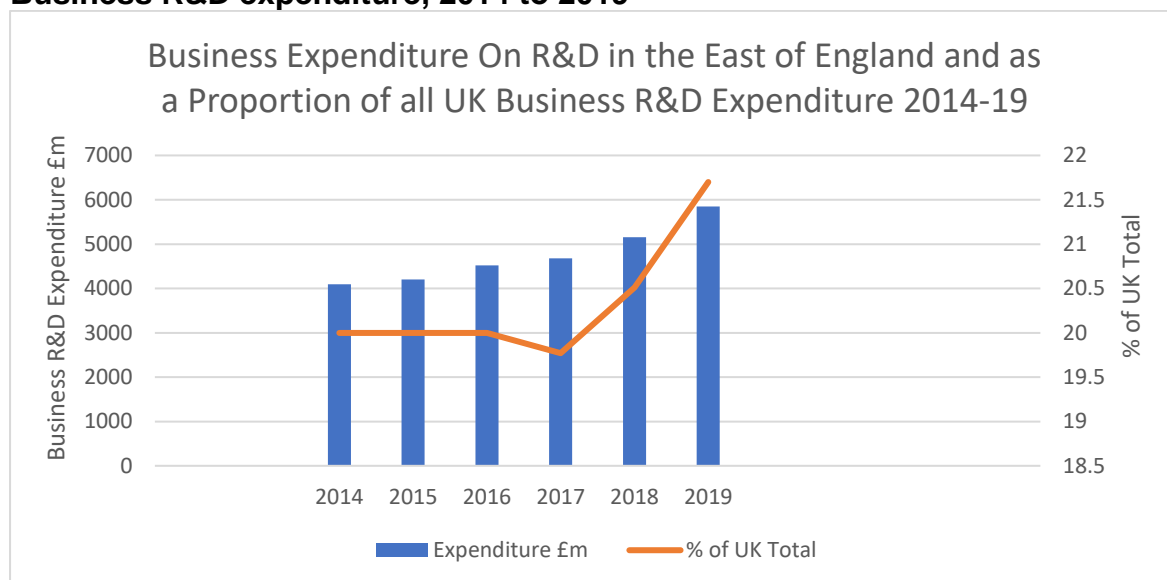
Where data is available at county level, such as Innovate UK’s grant awards data⁸, Norfolk’s historical share of government R&D investment is shown to be small:

- Innovate UK has awarded £12.24bn of funding between 2004 and 2021, of which:
 - £5.47bn, **44.7%** of all funding, was awarded to projects in the Greater South East.
 - £949m, **7.8%** of all funding, has been awarded to projects East of England.
 - £43.7m, **0.4%** of all funding, was awarded to projects in Norfolk⁹.

⁸ Innovation activity is an area of analysis which can prove challenging to secure quantitative data around, especially at county-level. Innovate UK funding award data facilitates benchmarking, allowing us to compare the level of funding Norfolk companies receive from this important government source.

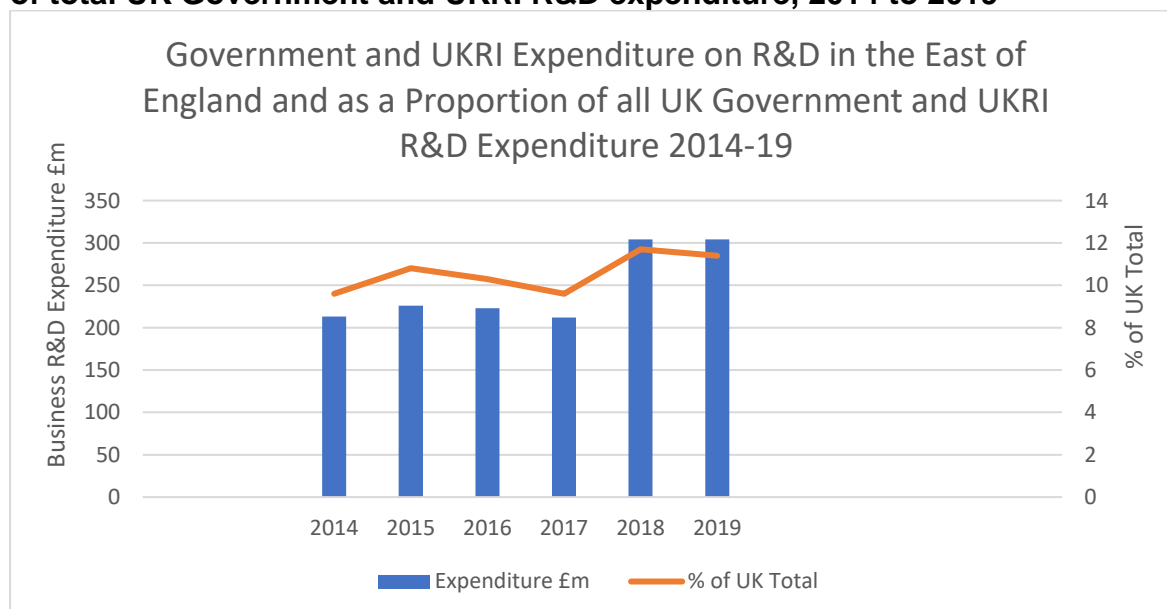
⁹ Innovate UK Funding 2004-2021 - [Innovate UK funded projects since 2004 – UKRI](#)

Figure 2.1: Business Expenditure on R&D in East of England as % of total UK Business R&D expenditure, 2014 to 2019



Source: ONS Business enterprise research and development ('BERD'), 2019 - [Gross domestic expenditure on research and development, by region, UK - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/grossdomesticproductgdp/articles/grossdomesticexpenditureonresearchanddevelopmentbyregionuk/2019)

Figure 2.2: Government and UKRI expenditure on R&D in East of England as % of total UK Government and UKRI R&D expenditure, 2014 to 2019



Source: ONS, Country And Regional Breakdown Of Expenditure On R&D In The UK By Sector Of Performance: 2001-2019¹⁰

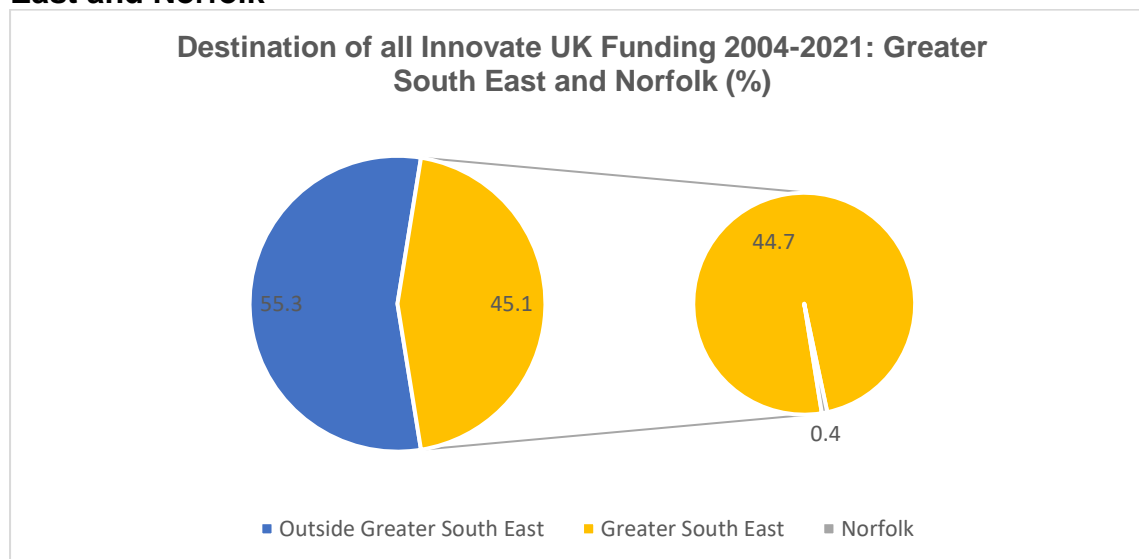
¹⁰ Government estimates include UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) and those areas of government not available from the GovERD survey, such as NHS trusts or local authorities.

Using Innovate UK's funding data (Figure 2.3), we can see how much funding is awarded to Norfolk projects. This data shows that funding for Norfolk projects is only a very small fraction of overall funding awarded in the East of England and wider Greater South East region.

Innovate UK awarded £12.24bn of funding to projects between 2004 and 2021, of which:

- £5.47bn, **44.7%** of all funding, was awarded to projects in the Greater South East.
- £949m, **7.8%** of all funding, has been awarded to projects East of England.
- £43.7m, **0.4%** of all funding, was awarded to projects in Norfolk.¹¹

Figure 2.3: Destination of Innovate UK funding 2004 to 2021, Greater South East and Norfolk



Innovate UK Funding 2004-2021 - [Innovate UK funded projects since 2004 – UKRI](#)

¹¹ Innovate UK Funding 2004-2021

Mission 3 - Transport & Connectivity

Objective: Boost productivity, pay, jobs and living standards by growing the private sector, especially in those places where they are lagging.

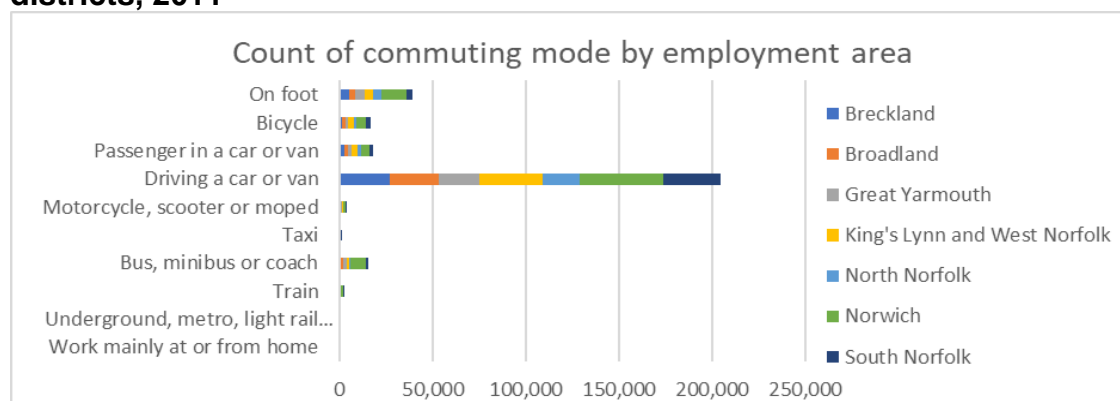
Mission: By 2030, local public transport connectivity across the country will be significantly closer to the standards of London, with improved services, simpler fares and integrated ticketing.

Headline metrics:

- Usual method of travel to work by region of workplace.
- Average travel time in mins to reach nearest large employment centre (5,000+ employees).

The only available data that records the usual commuting mode by employment area is the 2011 census¹². Though this is outdated, Figure 3.1 shows that driving a car or van was the most popular mode for all districts in Norfolk. The second most popular mode for commuting was on foot. However, for all employment areas except Norwich, driving a car or van was at least five times more popular than commuting on foot. This difference in popularity is indicative of how prevalent commuting by driving a car or van is among Norfolk's employees.

Figure 3.1: Count of commuting mode by area of employment, Norfolk's districts, 2011



Source: ONS, 2011 Census

Regarding the average travel times to the largest employment centres, the Levelling Up White Paper Technical Annex¹³ states that new approaches to measuring connectivity are being developed, such as a National Infrastructure Commission metric that accounts for population density and distance travelled. Building on these innovations, DfT is also developing a new measure to estimate connectivity between regions and places, that will support the measurement of this mission.

¹² [ONS, 2011 Census.](#)

¹³ Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities - Levelling Up the United Kingdom (2022)

While there may already be data available to us, it is not yet clear if that data is sufficient to provide evidence for headline metric above. For that reason, any further investigation into this metric requires the support of colleagues in Highways.

Mission 4 - Digital Connectivity

Objective: Boost productivity, pay, jobs and living standards by growing the private sector, especially in those places where they are lagging.

Mission: By 2030, the UK will have nationwide gigabit-capable broadband and 4G coverage, with 5G coverage for most of the population.

Headline Metrics:

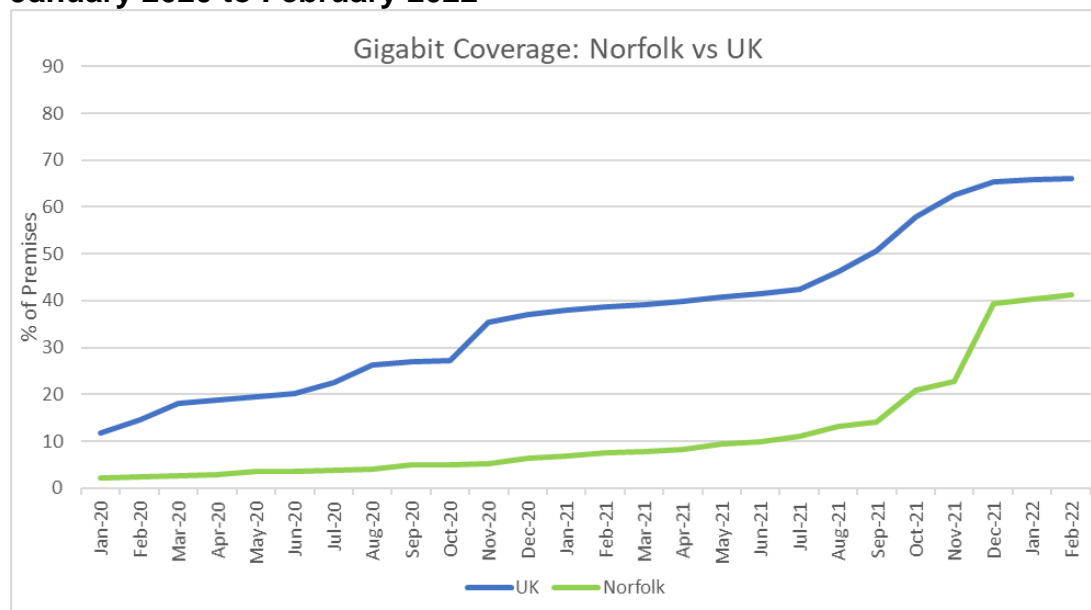
- % of premises with gigabit broadband.
- % of 4G and 5G coverage by at least one network operator.

Headline Metric: % of premises with gigabit broadband.

Concerning broadband coverage, data provided by Thinkbroadband¹⁴, provides insight into the percentage of premises able to achieve certain broadband speeds, including gigabit capable broadband (download speeds of at least 1 gigabit-per-second). Data for this metric are available at the national, county and district levels.

Figure 4.1 shows the growth of gigabit coverage overtime throughout Norfolk and the UK and is expressed in terms of percentage of premises covered by gigabit capable broadband. Coverage percentages include both residential and business premises and is based around postcode level data.

Figure 4.1: Gigabit coverage (% of premises), Norfolk compared with UK, January 2020 to February 2022



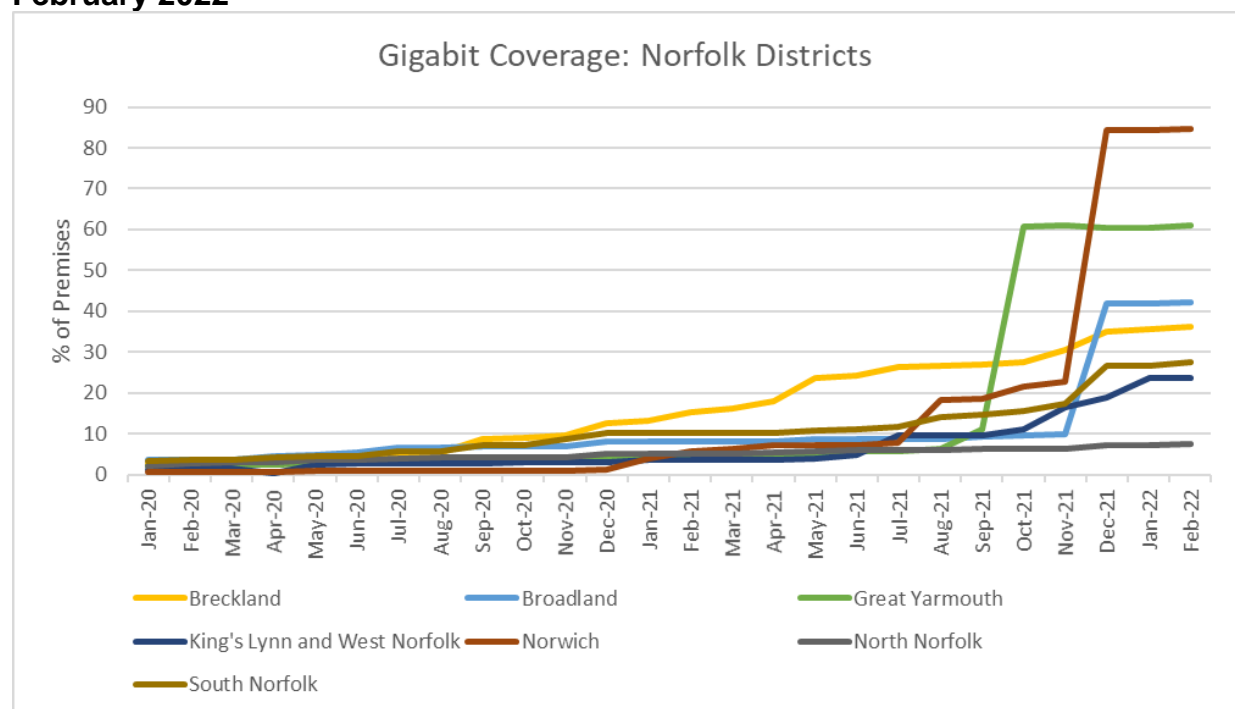
Source: Thinkbroadband

¹⁴ [Broadband Coverage and Speed Test Statistics for Norfolk \(thinkbroadband.com\)](https://www.thinkbroadband.com/broadband-coverage) – retrieved Feb 2022

At the county level, Norfolk appears to be performing less optimally than the rest of the UK in terms of coverage. For instance, as of February 2022 the percentage of premises in Norfolk covered by gigabit broadband is 41.2% compared with 66% nationally. While gigabit coverage in Norfolk may not currently be as widespread as in the rest of the UK, September 2021 appears to mark the beginning of a period of rapid expansion with percentage of premises covered by gigabit growing by approximately 27.1% in 5 months.

While all districts appear to be improving in terms of coverage (Figure 4.2), some appear to be improving at a faster rate than others. For example, while initially demonstrating the lowest percentage of coverage in Norfolk, throughout 2021, Norwich has become the district with the highest percentage of coverage with 84.5% of premises covered by gigabit capable broadband. In contrast, North Norfolk appears to be underperforming with coverage standing at 7.4% of premises as of February 2022. This also highlights the disparities in coverage between more rural and urban parts of the county.

Figure 4.2: Gigabit coverage (% of premises), Norfolk districts, January 2020 to February 2022

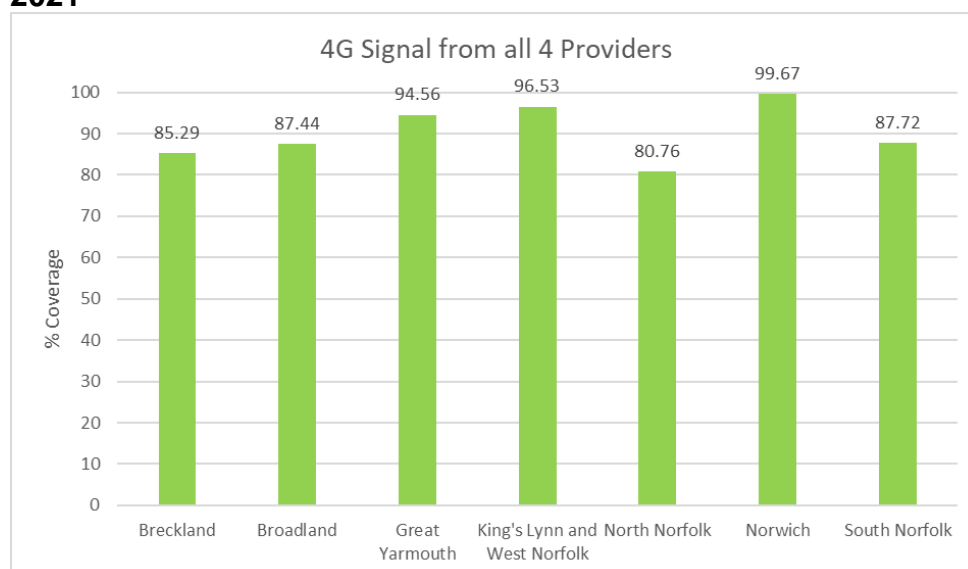


Source: Thinkbroadband

Headline Metric: % of 4G and 5G coverage by at least one network operator.

The second headline metric for this mission refers to geographical coverage of 4G networks. Data provided by Ofcom as part of their annual Connected Nations¹⁵ report provides insight into the percentage of areas covered by the four Mobile Network Operators (MNOs) – EE, O2, Three and Vodafone. This data is available at the district level. Figure 4.3 illustrates the percentage coverage by all MNOs for each of Norfolk's districts.

Figure 4.3: 4G Signal (% coverage) from all four providers, for the districts, 2021



Source: Ofcom, Connected Nations Report, 2021

As of December 2021, while all of Norfolk's districts appear to have a reasonably high percentage of 4G coverage, there are still some noticeable disparities between districts. For example, more rural parts of the county such as North Norfolk appear to suffer in terms of coverage when contrasted with more urban areas such as Norwich.

By creating an average of these coverage percentages, an approximate figure for Norfolk can be established. Based on the above percentages the average 4G coverage in Norfolk is 90.3%. According to Ofcom's Connected Nations report for 2021, National 4G coverage stands at approximately 98%¹⁶ in turn suggesting that Norfolk is underperforming compared to the UK in terms of its 4G infrastructure and coverage.

Ambitions for 5G, including measurement, are pending further research and consultation, therefore data pertaining to 5G coverage within Norfolk and its districts may not be publicly available at this stage.

¹⁵ <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/research-and-data/multi-sector-research/infrastructure-research/connected-nations-2021>

¹⁶ https://www.ofcom.org.uk/data/assets/pdf_file/0035/229688/connected-nations-2021-uk.pdf

Mission 5 – Education

Objective: Spread opportunities and improve public services, especially in those places where they are weakest.

Mission: By 2030, the number of primary school children achieving the expected standard in reading, writing and maths will have significantly increased. In England, this will mean 90% of children will achieve the expected standard, and the percentage of children meeting the expected standard in the worst performing areas will have increased by over a third.

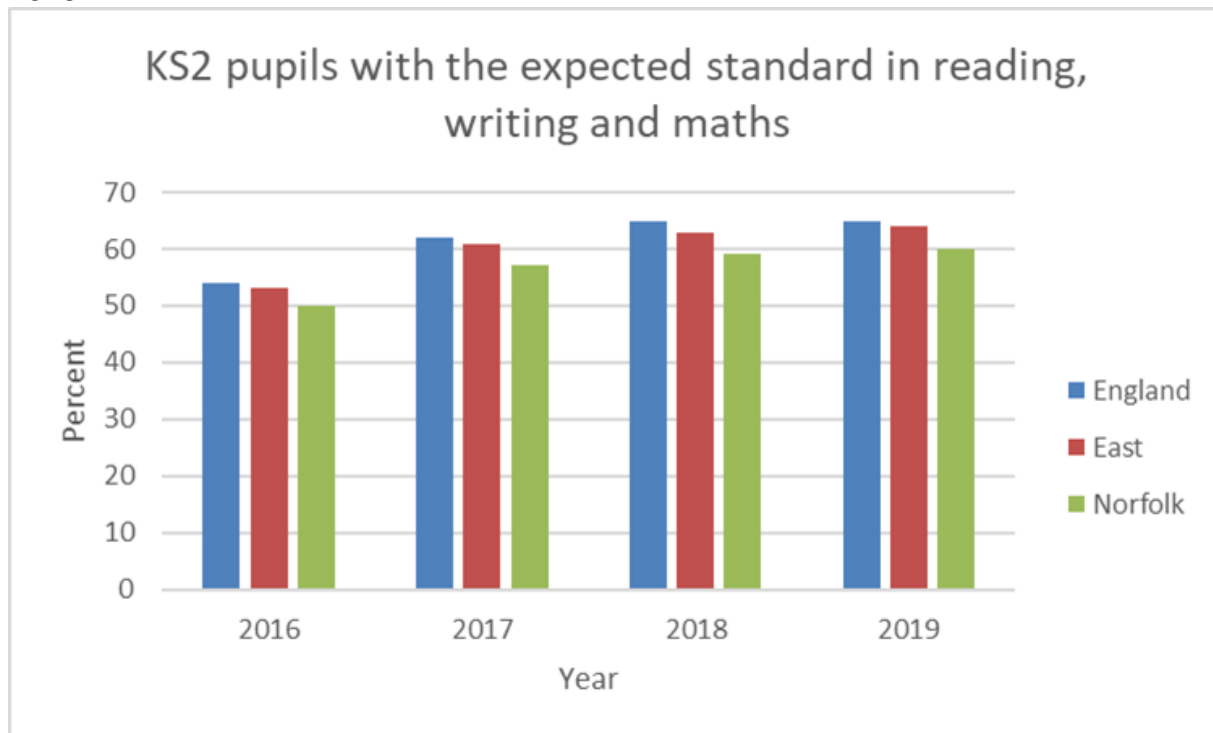
Headline Metric: % students meeting expected standards reading, writing, maths by end of primary school.

Department for Education published data shows the percentage of Key Stage 2 (KS2) pupils that meet the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics has been recorded consistently since 2016, for England and counties¹⁷. However, no figures have been published since 2019, due to disruption from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Figure 5.1 shows the percentage of KS2 pupils that have attained the expected standard in those core subject areas, while demonstrating that, on average, a lower proportion of Norfolk primary school students have met the expected standard compared with the East of England region and England. This trend has remained consistent over the past four years recorded, with a constant average difference of four percentage points and five percentage points when compared with the region and England, respectively. This consistent difference has remained over the recorded period, despite a steady increase of 10 percentage points in attainment for Norfolk from 2016 to 2019. This continual disparity comes as a result of both the East of England region and England averages having also increased by eleven percentage points over the same period.

¹⁷ Department for Education - [DFE National curriculum assessments: key stage 2](#)

Figure 5.1: Key Stage 2 pupils attaining the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics (%) for England, East of England and Norfolk, 2016 to 2019



Source: Department for Education - [DFE National curriculum assessments: key stage 2](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/dfes-national-curriculum-assessments-key-stage-2)

Mission 6 – Skills

Objective: Spread opportunities and improve public services, especially in those places where they are weakest.

Mission: By 2030, the number of people successfully completing high-quality skills training will have significantly increased in every area of the UK. In England, this will lead to 200,000 more people successfully completing high-quality skills training annually, driven by 80,000 more people completing courses in the lowest skilled areas.

Headline Metric: 19+ FE and skills achievement (qualifications) excluding community learning.

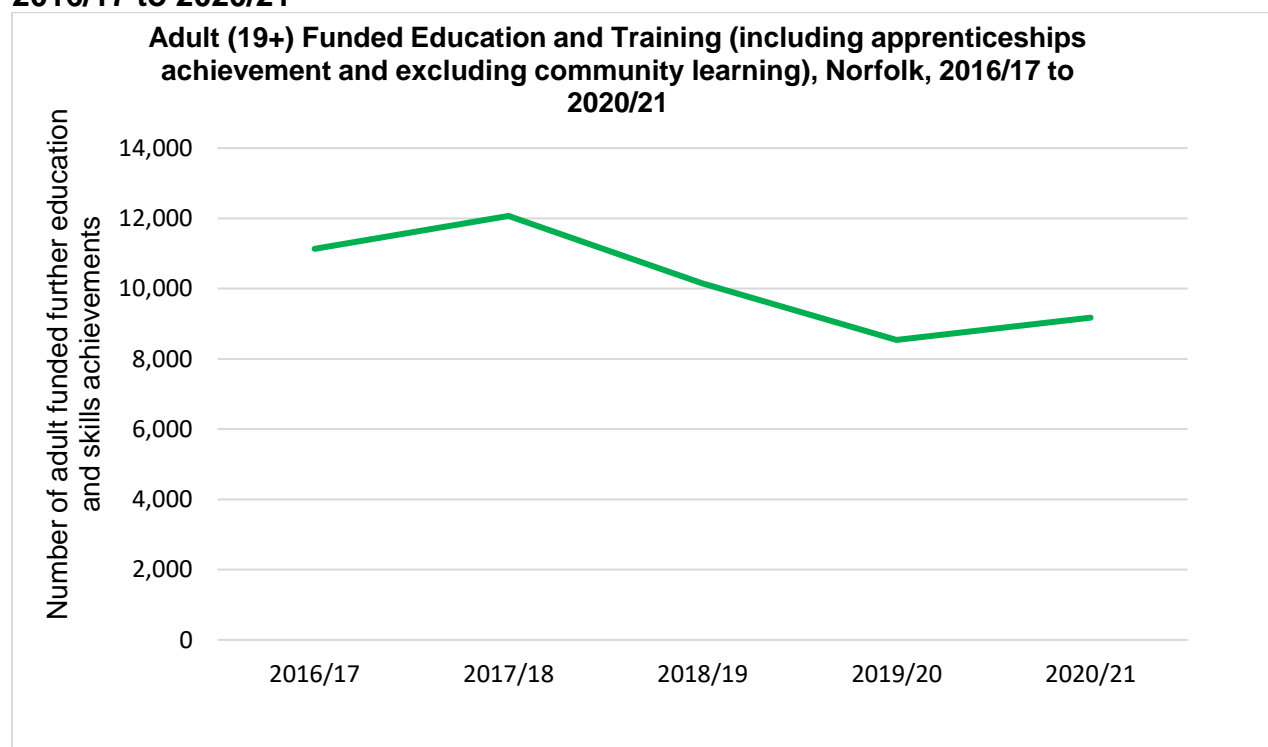
Department for Education published data¹⁸ shows Norfolk has seen an 18% decline of funded further education and skills achievements over five academic years from 2016/17 to 2020/21 (Figure 6.1 and Figure 6.2). This compares with a national decline of 25% (Figure 6.3) and a regional decline also at 18%.

The greatest decline was in the academic year 2019/20 where England had the largest year on year drop of around 23%. Norfolk and regional figures also reflect this trend, but with slightly smaller declines of 15% for Norfolk and 16% regionally. This is likely to be a result of the disruption caused by covid-19 and the impact on learning.

Academic year 2020/21 has seen a slight improvement on the previous year and reflects an increase of 7% for Norfolk and the region. This compares with a 2% increase nationally.

¹⁸ Source: Gov.uk Statistics: further education and skills: January 2022, DFE - [Explore our statistics and data – Explore education statistics – GOV.UK \(explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk\)](https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk)

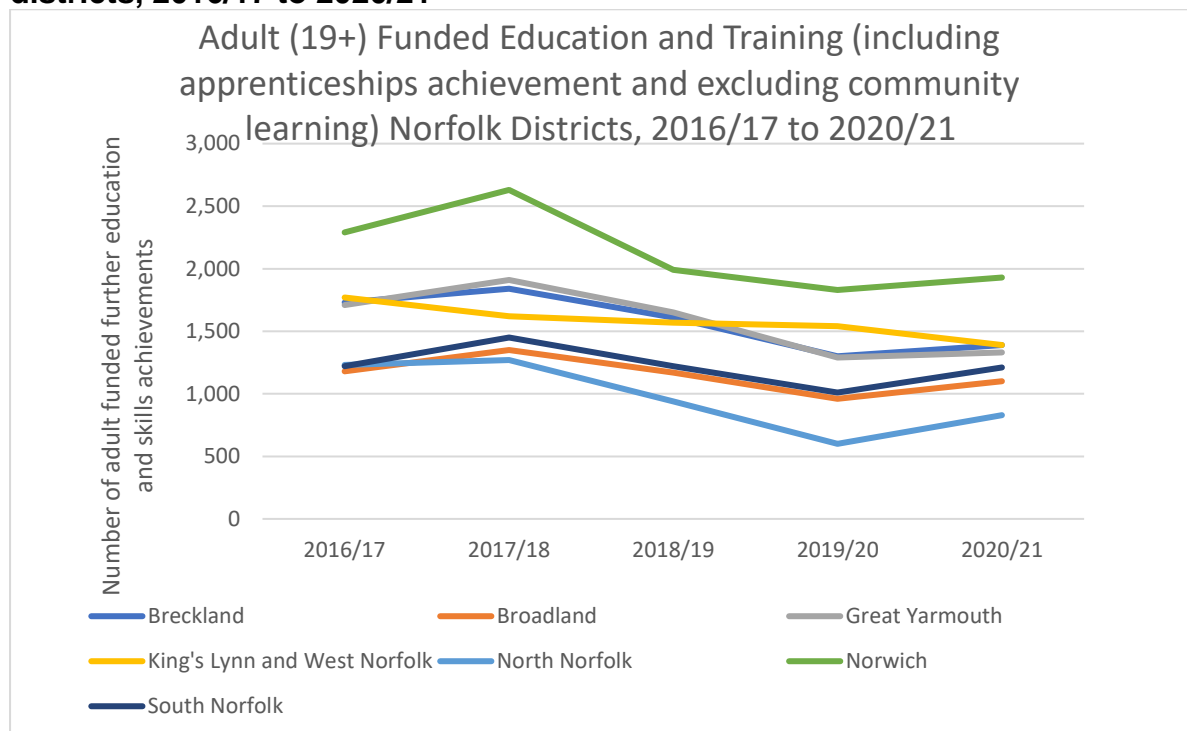
Figure 6.1: Numbers of adult (19+) funded education and training, Norfolk, 2016/17 to 2020/21



Source: Gov.uk Statistics: further education and skills: January 2022, DFE¹⁹ - [Explore our statistics and data – Explore education statistics – GOV.UK \(explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk\)](#)

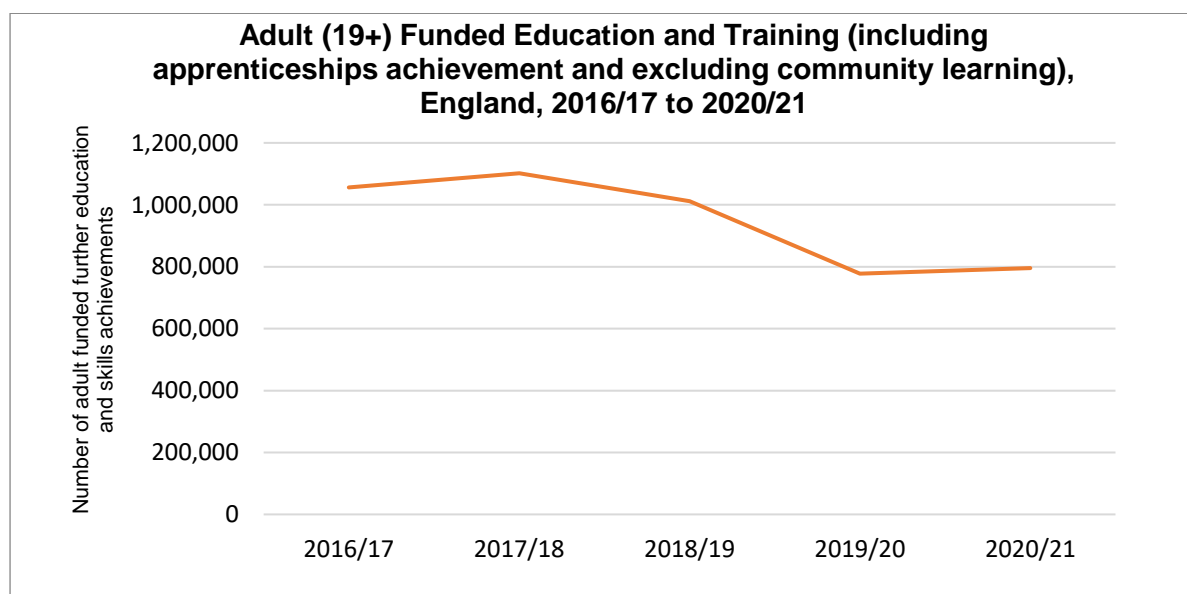
¹⁹ Achievements for 'Further education and skills geography - detailed summary' for Apprenticeships: Total, Community learning: Total, Education and training: Total, Further education and skills: Total and Under 19 in East of England, England and Norfolk between 2016/17 and 2020/21

Figure 6.2: Numbers of adult (19+) funded education and training, Norfolk districts, 2016/17 to 2020/21



Source: Gov.uk Statistics: further education and skills: January 2022, DFE - [Explore our statistics and data – Explore education statistics – GOV.UK \(explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk\)](https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk)

Figure 6.3: Numbers of adult (19+) funded education and training, England, 2016/17 to 2020/21



Source: Gov.uk Statistics: further education and skills: January 2022, DFE - [Explore our statistics and data – Explore education statistics – GOV.UK \(explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk\)](https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk)

Mission 7 – Health

Objective: Spread opportunities and improve public services, especially in those places where they are weakest.

Mission: By 2030, the gap in Healthy Life Expectancy (HLE) between local areas where it is highest and lowest will have narrowed, and by 2035 HLE will rise by five years.

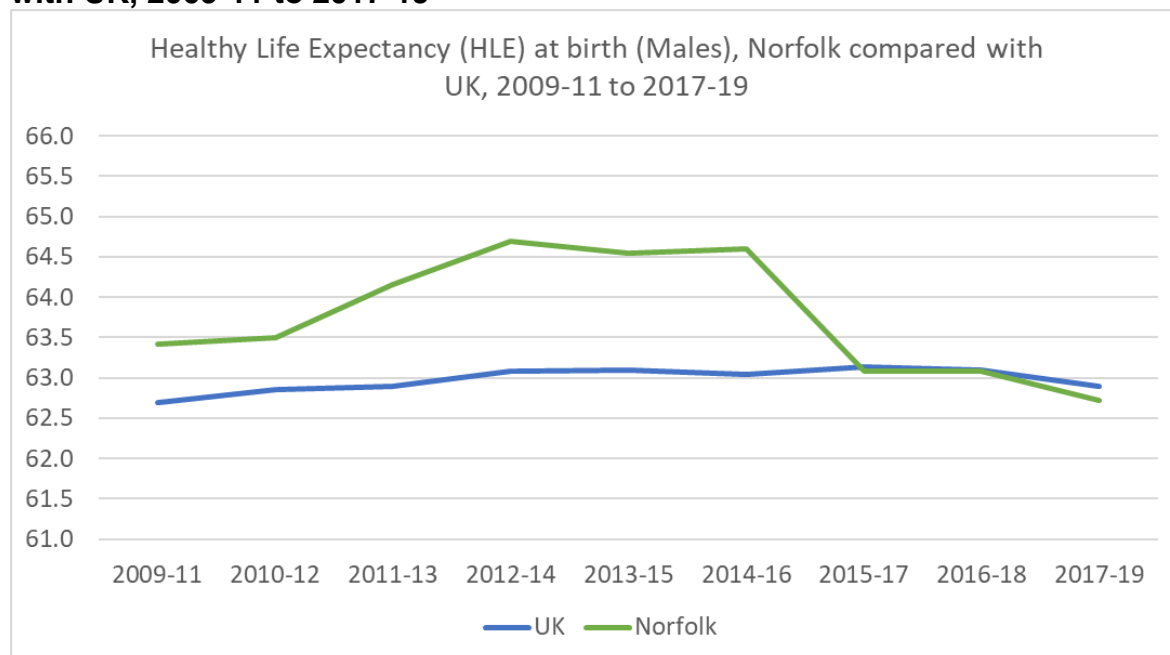
Headline Metric: Healthy life expectancy.

This indicator is an important summary measure of mortality and morbidity in itself. Healthy life expectancy shows the years a person can expect to live in good health (rather than with a disability or in poor health). For a particular area and time period, it is an estimate of the average number of years a newborn baby would live in good general health if he or she experienced the age-specific mortality rates and prevalence of good health for that area and time period throughout his or her life. If life expectancy is increasing while healthy life expectancy is decreasing, then the number of years that somebody is living in poor health increases. This might put extra demand on services in that more people might require services sooner and for longer.

ONS data²⁰ shows that in Norfolk, healthy life expectancy is 62.7 years on average for males (Figure 7.1) which continues a recent declining trend, compared with the UK average of 62.9 years. For females in Norfolk the average is 62.4 years (Figure 7.2) which continues a recent declining trend, compared with the UK average of 63.3 years. This shows that in Norfolk, males and females are living for less time in good health than a decade ago, and this is more marked for females.

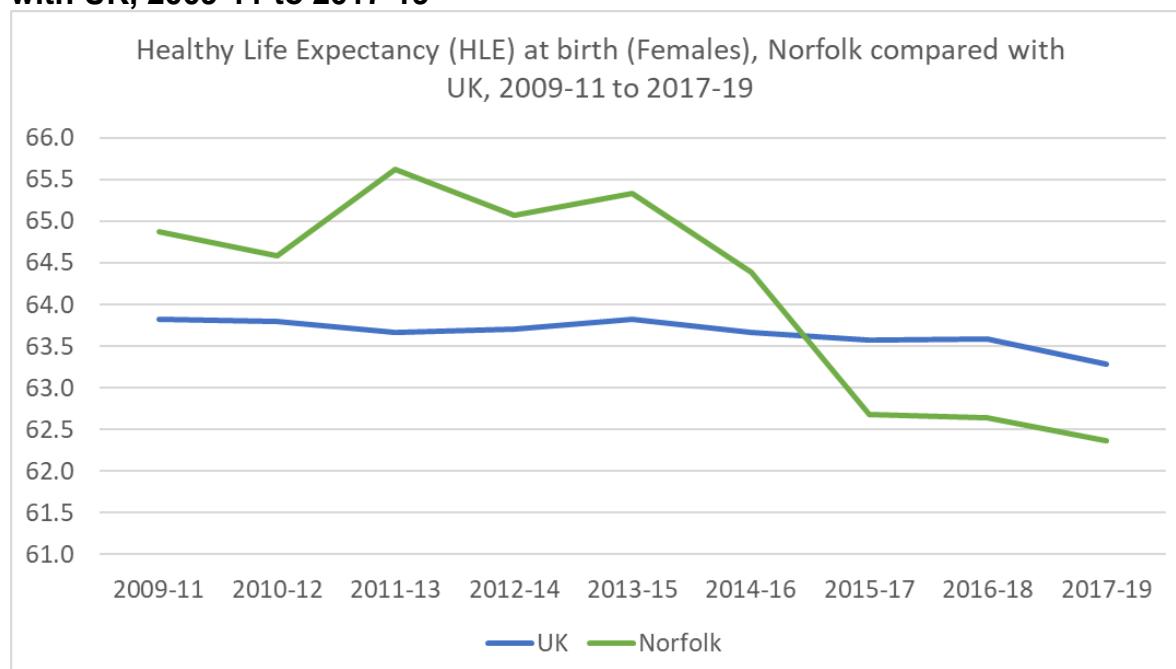
²⁰ ONS Health state life expectancy, all ages, UK (2021) - [Health state life expectancy, all ages, UK - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk/health/lifeexpectancy/articles/healthstatelifeexpectancyallagesuk/2021)

Figure 7.1: Healthy Life Expectancy (HLE) at birth (Males), Norfolk compared with UK, 2009-11 to 2017-19



Source: ONS Health state life expectancy, all ages, UK (2021)

Figure 7.2: Healthy Life Expectancy (HLE) at birth (Females), Norfolk compared with UK, 2009-11 to 2017-19



Source: ONS Health state life expectancy, all ages, UK (2021)

Mission 8 – Wellbeing

Objective: Spread opportunities and improve public services, especially in those places where they are weakest.

Mission: By 2030 well-being will be improved in every area of the UK with the gap between top performing and other areas closing.

Headline Metrics:

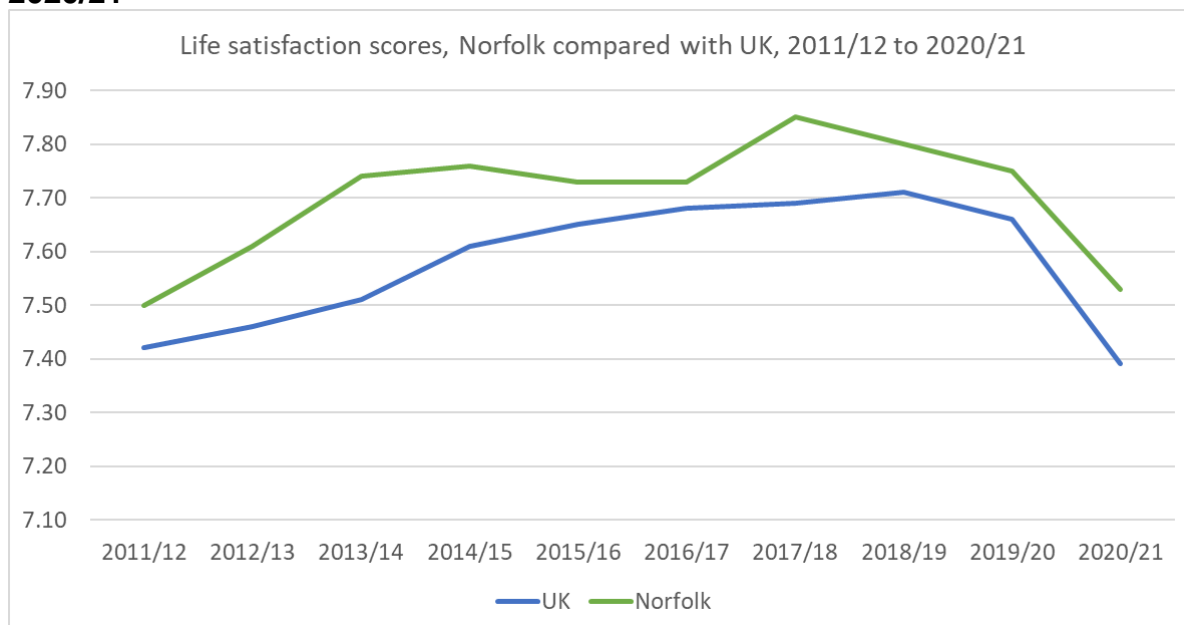
- Average life satisfaction ratings.
- Average feeling that things done in life are worthwhile.
- Average happiness ratings.
- Average anxiety ratings.

Personal well-being is part of the wider Measuring National Well-being Programme at the ONS, which aims to provide accepted and trusted measures of the nation's well-being. The ONS measures of personal well-being will be used to help monitor the progress of this mission. There are four well-being metrics: life satisfaction, whether we feel the things we do in life are worthwhile, happiness, and anxiety²¹.

Although there has been some variation of well-being scores over recent years compared with UK averages, for 2020/21 Norfolk people rate more highly than the UK average on questions about their life satisfaction (Figure 8.1), the extent to which they feel things in life are worthwhile (Figure 8.2) and feelings of happiness (Figure 8.3). Similarly, there have been variations over recent years on scores about people's level of anxiety (Figure 8.4), and for 2020/21 Norfolk people rate their anxiety level as lower than the UK average.

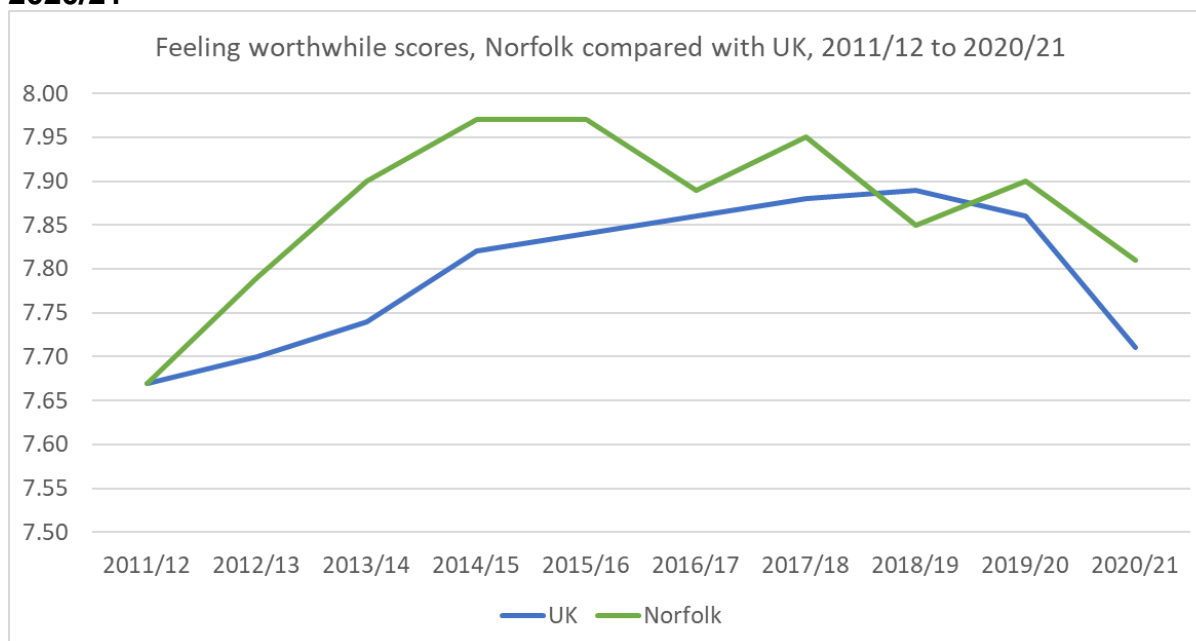
²¹ ONS Annual personal well-being estimates (2021) - [Annual personal well-being estimates - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk/people-and-work/well-being/articles/annual-personal-well-being-estimates-2021)

Figure 8.1: Life satisfaction scores, Norfolk compared with UK, 2011/12 to 2020/21



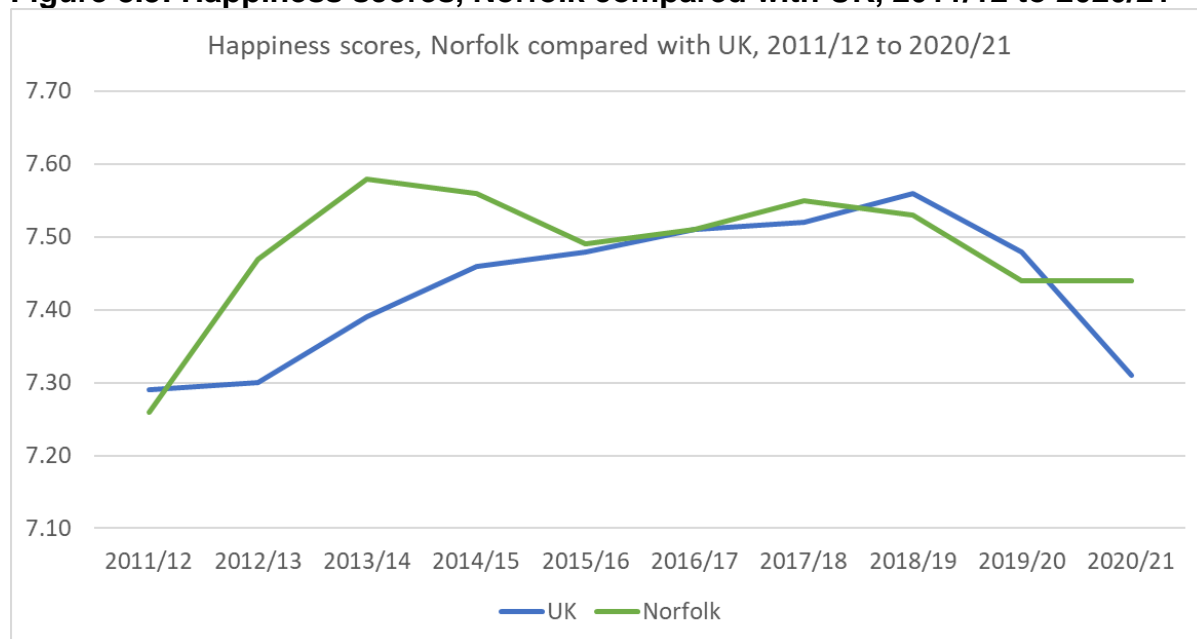
Source: ONS Annual Population Survey (2021)

Figure 8.2: Feeling worthwhile scores, Norfolk compared with UK, 2011/12 to 2020/21



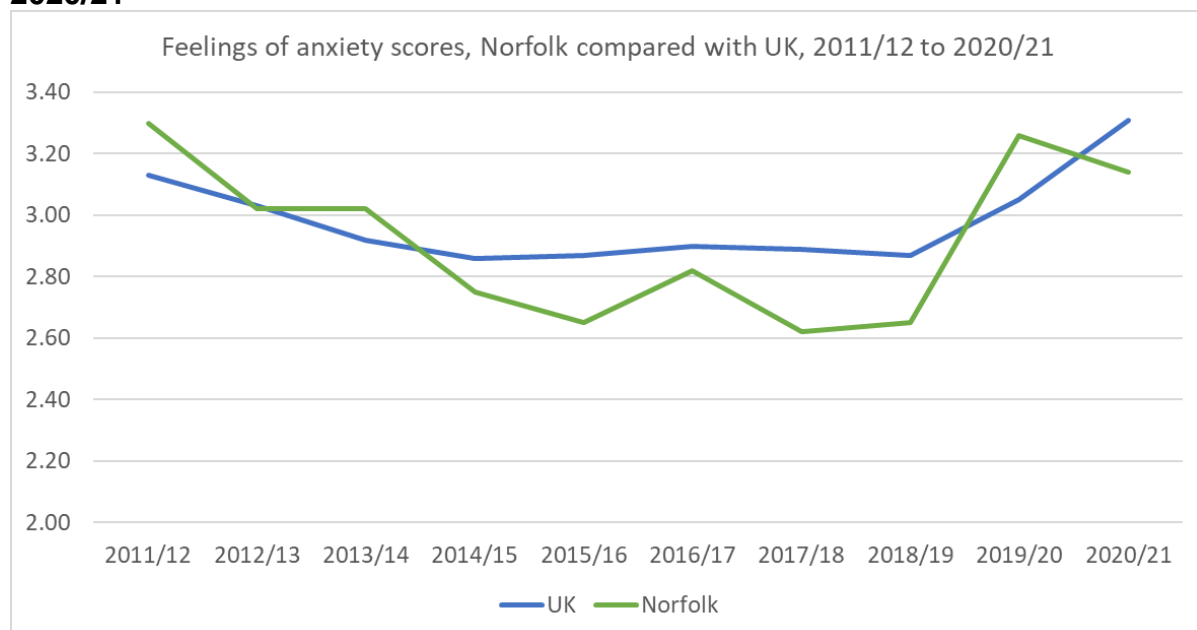
Source: ONS Annual Population Survey (2021)

Figure 8.3: Happiness scores, Norfolk compared with UK, 2011/12 to 2020/21



Source: ONS Annual Population Survey (2021)

Figure 8.4: Feelings of anxiety scores, Norfolk compared with UK, 2011/12 to 2020/21

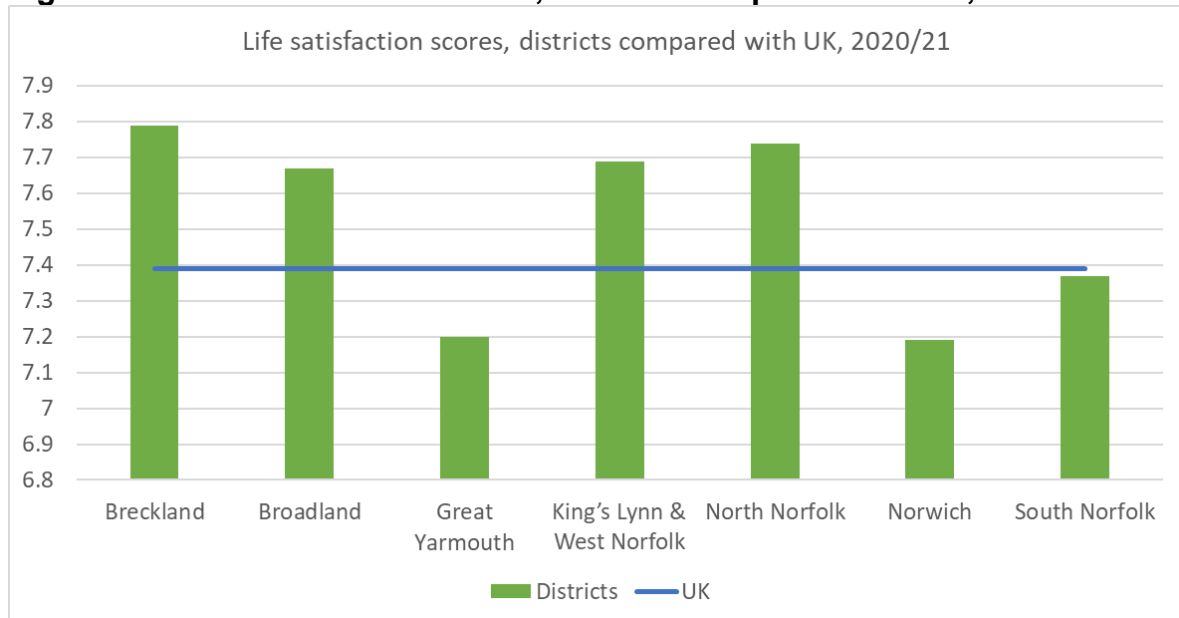


Source: ONS Annual Population Survey (2021)

In terms of the districts, for 2020/21, Great Yarmouth, Norwich, and South Norfolk ratings are not as good as the UK averages on one or more of the four well-being domains. Levels of life satisfaction (Figure 8.5) are below the UK average for Great Yarmouth, Norwich, and South Norfolk. Levels of feeling worthwhile (Figure 8.6) are below the UK average for Great Yarmouth and Norwich. Levels of happiness (Figure

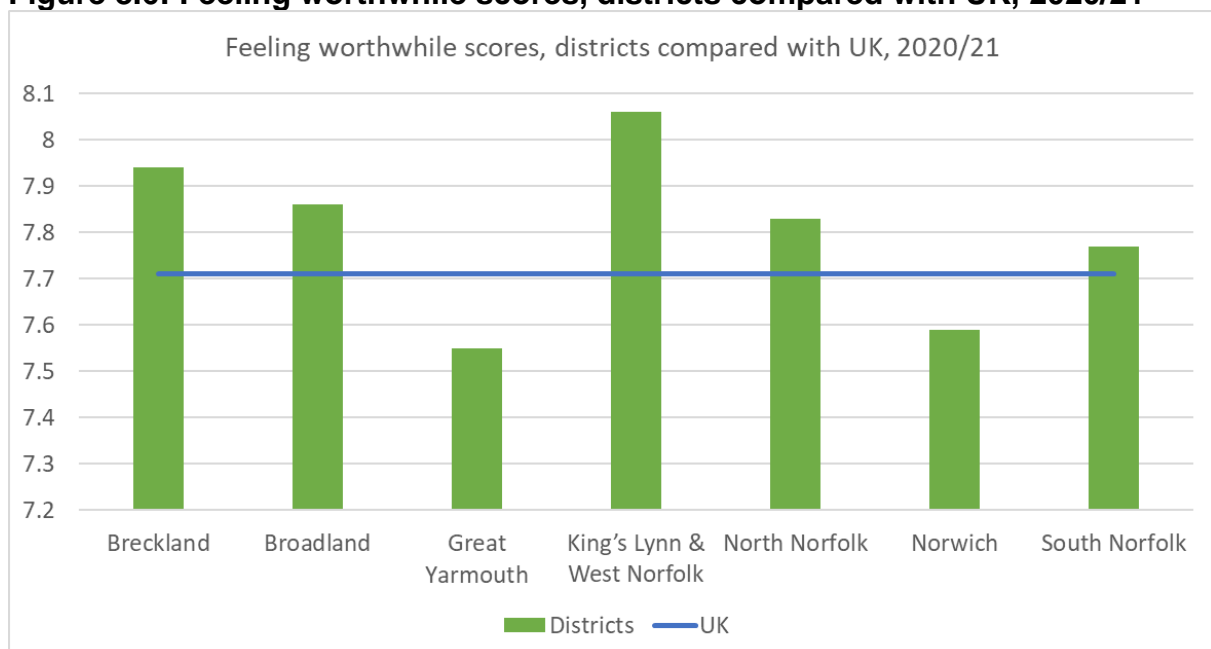
8.7) are below the UK average for Norwich and South Norfolk. Levels of anxiety (Figure 8.8) are higher than the UK average for Norwich and South Norfolk.

Figure 8.5: Life satisfaction scores, districts compared with UK, 2020/21



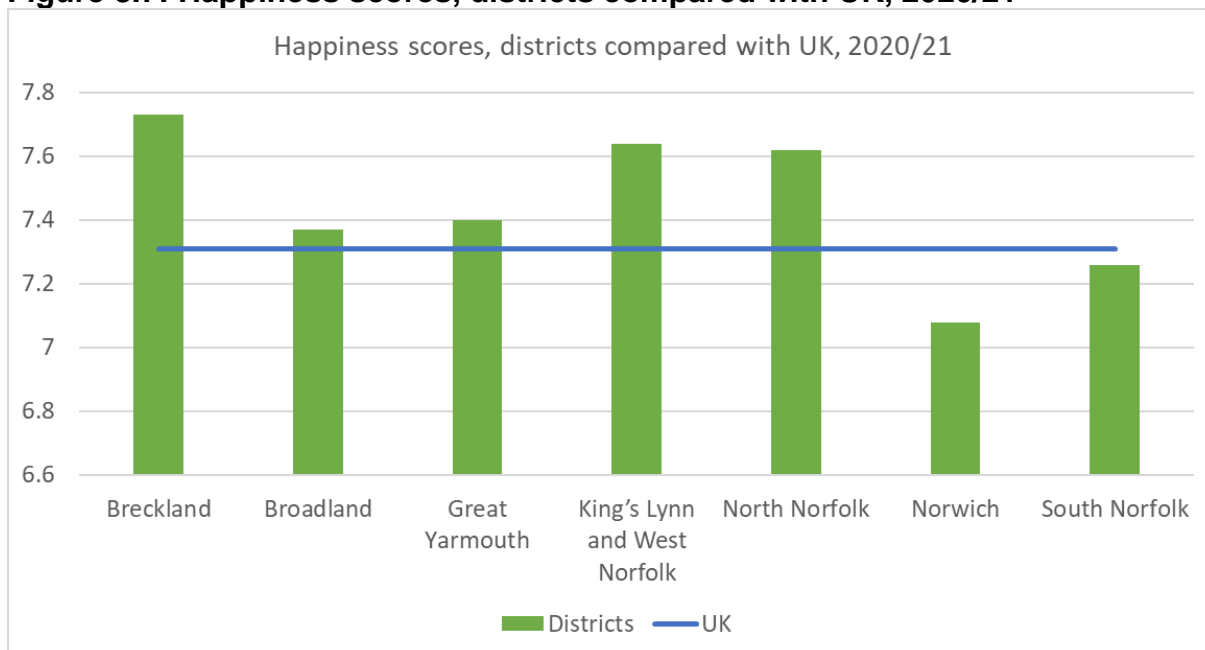
Source: ONS Annual Population Survey (2021)

Figure 8.6: Feeling worthwhile scores, districts compared with UK, 2020/21



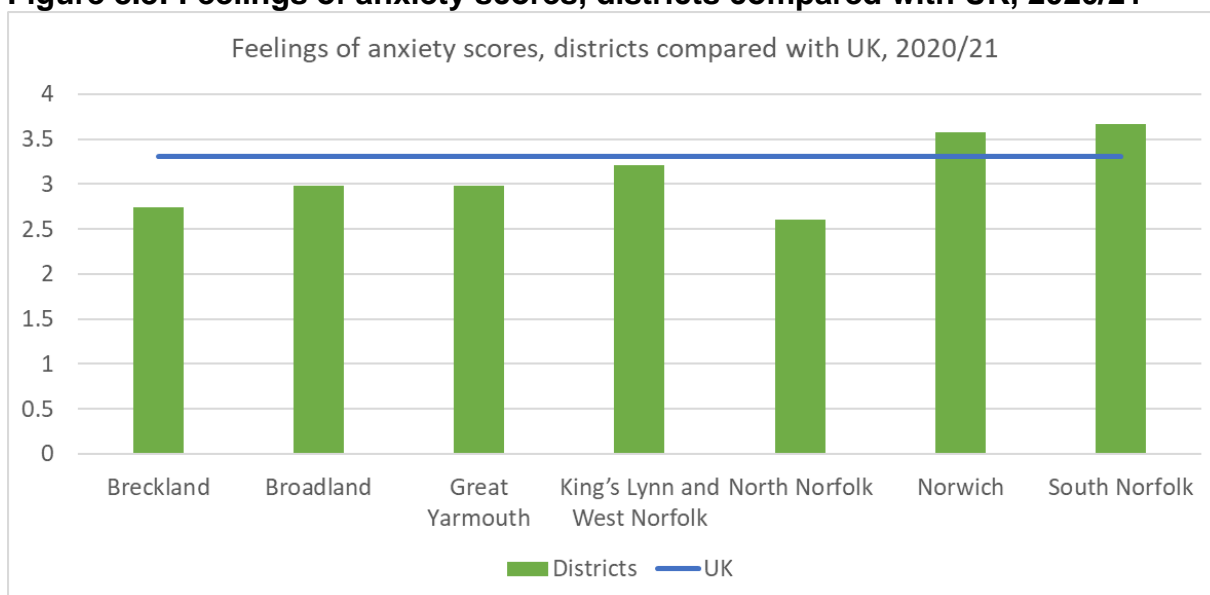
Source: ONS Annual Population Survey (2021)

Figure 8.7: Happiness scores, districts compared with UK, 2020/21



Source: ONS Annual Population Survey (2021)

Figure 8.8: Feelings of anxiety scores, districts compared with UK, 2020/21



Source: ONS Annual Population Survey (2021)

Mission 9 - Pride in Place

Objective: Restore a sense of community, local pride and belonging, especially in those places where they have been lost.

Mission: By 2030, pride in place, such as people's satisfaction with their town centre and engagement in local culture and community, will have risen in every area of the UK, with the gap between top performing and other areas closing.

Headline metrics:

- None.
- Additional satisfaction sub measures include % satisfied with local area as place to live and % who have engaged in civic participation.

There is, as yet, no government defined metric in place for this Levelling Up Mission.

The Levelling Up White Paper Technical Annex²² states that Survey-based measures of pride in place are still in their infancy. These measures are subjective and, in some cases, not yet developed or designed to enable analysis at a spatial level. The Technical Annex goes on to add that it will take time to expand existing surveys and collect enough data to identify trends and disparities.

In Norfolk, we are exploring the use of existing surveys to serve as proxy measures but are not yet in a position to report data.

²² Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities - Levelling Up the United Kingdom (2022)

Mission 10 - Housing

Objective: Restore a sense of community, local pride and belonging, especially in those places where they have been lost.

Mission: By 2030, renters will have a secure path to ownership with the number of first-time buyers increasing in all areas; and the government's ambition is for the number of non-decent rented homes to have fallen by 50%, with the biggest improvements in the lowest performing areas.

Headline Metrics:

- Proportion of non-decent rented homes.
- Number 1st time buyers.

Headline Metric: Proportion of non-decent rented homes.

Concerning the headline metric for housing quality (i.e. the proportion of renters living in housing that does not meet the decent homes standard) currently, housing quality can only be measured at the ITL1 level in England by the Decent Homes Standard. Given the inclusion of Norfolk with the rest of the East of England region within this framework, its use would not provide meaningful insight into housing quality in Norfolk alone. The Levelling Up White Paper Technical Annex states that the Decent Homes Standard is under review at present and further guidance will be issued upon its conclusion.²³

Headline Metric: Number 1st time buyers.

In terms of the numbers of first-time buyers, currently, there are no official UK Government statistics that provide this data at a regional, county or district level. The Levelling Up White Paper Technical Annex also states that the UK Government is committed to developing a public metric for annual first-time buyer numbers at the sub-national level within the next year.

However, given that one of the main drivers behind this particular mission is to address the deterioration of housing affordability, other measures may be able to provide a little context into housing affordability in Norfolk until more appropriate measures that are more in-keeping with the headline metrics are established.

For instance, the ONS has created a Housing Affordability Ratio²⁴ based on house prices and earnings. By dividing the house price for a given area by its earnings, a ratio is produced which serves as an indicator of relative affordability. A higher ratio indicates that on average, it is less affordable for a resident to purchase a house in their local authority district. Conversely, a lower ratio indicates higher affordability in

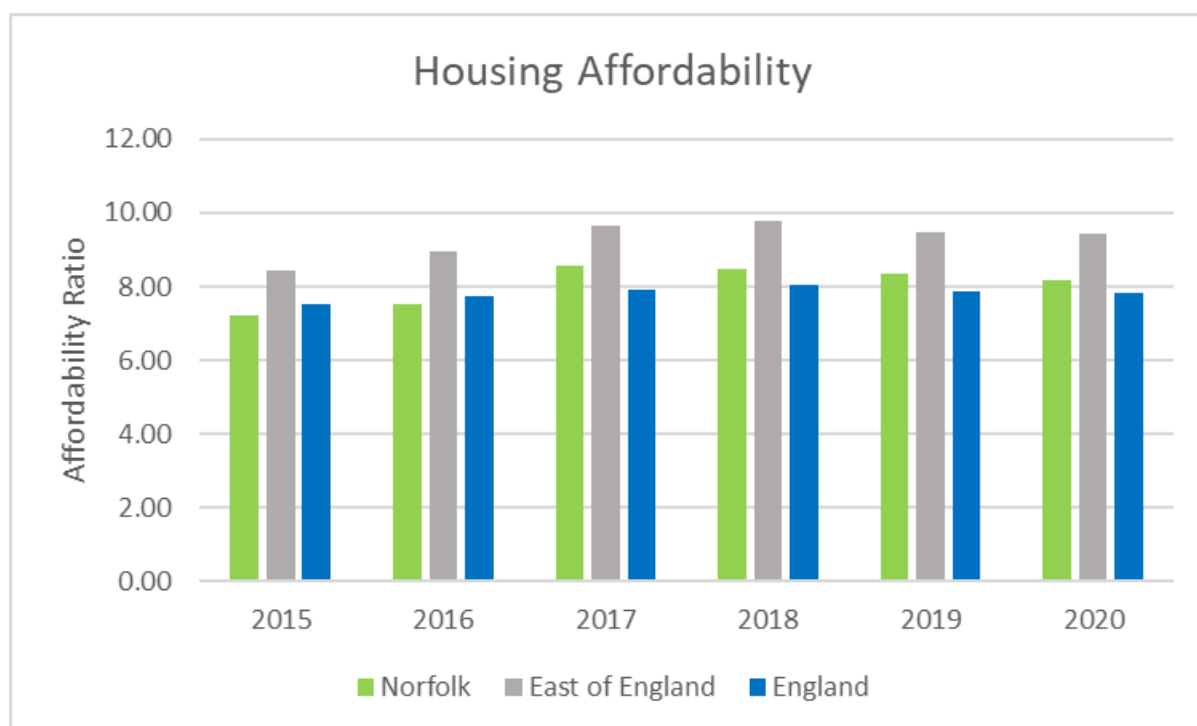
²³ Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities - Levelling Up the United Kingdom (2022)

²⁴ ONS, [House price to workplace-based earnings ratio](#)

a local authority. While there are many more factors that influence affordability, the simple ratio provides an overview of geographic differences.

Figure 10.1 illustrates affordability ratios based on median house price and median gross annual workplace-based earnings for Norfolk, the East of England and the whole of England from the last five available years.

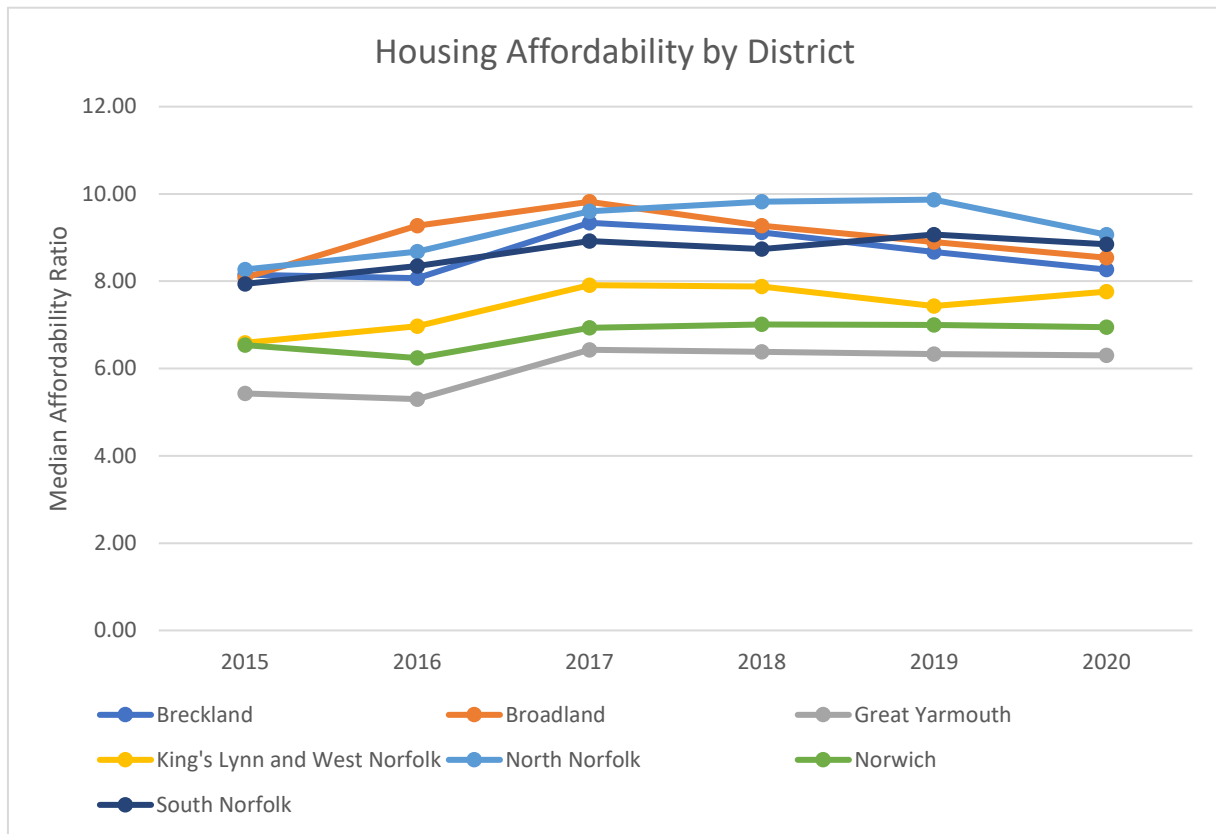
Figure 10.1: Housing affordability ratio, 2015 to 2020



Source: ONS, House Price to Workplace-based Earnings Ratio

Since 2015, there appear to have been increases in the median affordability ratios across all areas, therefore suggesting a decrease in housing affordability on average. It would also appear that while housing in Norfolk may be less affordable within the context of the whole of England, within the East of England region, Norfolk housing may be more affordable on average. Figure 10.2 outlines the affordability ratios for each of Norfolk's districts. Within Norfolk, the districts with the highest affordability ratios (and are therefore potentially less affordable on average) are Broadland and North Norfolk. In contrast, Great Yarmouth and Norwich present the lowest affordability ratios, indicating a higher degree of affordability on average based on median house prices and median gross annual earnings alone.

Figure 10.2: Housing affordability ratio, for Norfolk's districts, 2015 to 2020



Source: ONS

Mission 11 – Crime

Objective: Restore a sense of community, local pride and belonging, especially in those places where they have been lost.

Mission: By 2030, homicide, serious violence and neighbourhood crime will have fallen, focused on the worst affected areas.

Headline Metrics:

- Neighbourhood crime.
- Homicide.
- Hospital admissions for assault with sharp object for under 25-year-olds.

Data for neighbourhood crime rates, homicide rates and hospital admissions for assault with a sharp object have various publication schedules throughout the year. To ensure our analysis is consistent, we have used the annual March data for these headline metrics. These datasets provide comparator data for England and Wales, by region and by police force area, and are available for 2016 to 2021.^{25 26}

Headline Metric: Neighbourhood crime.

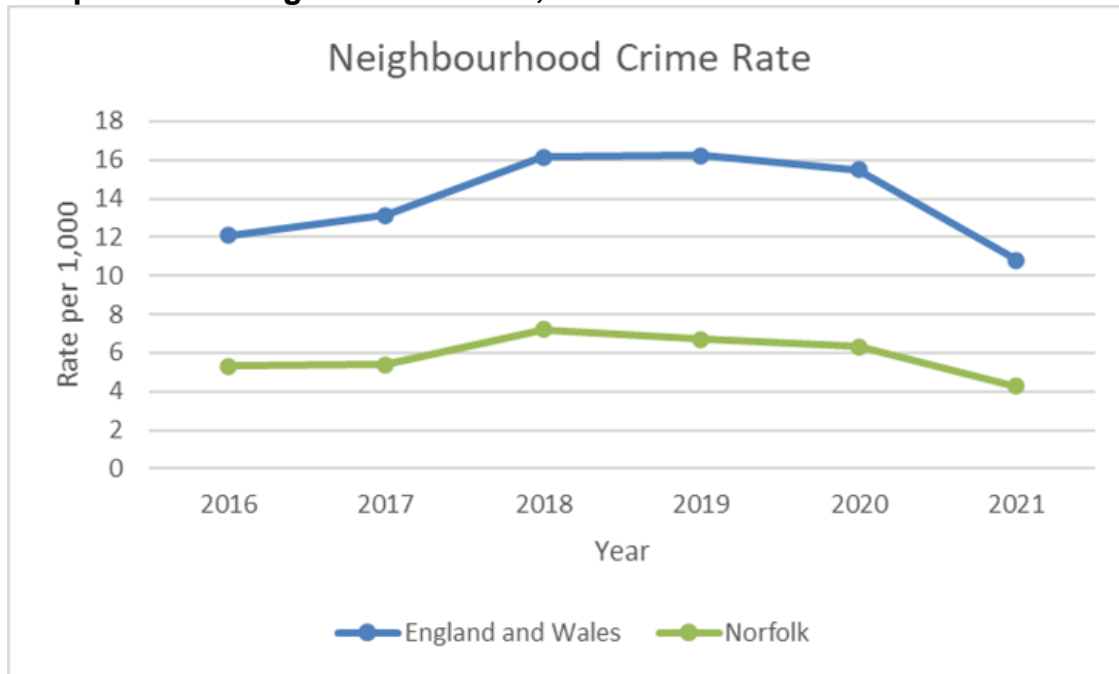
Neighbourhood crime is published by ONS and is defined as domestic burglary, theft from the person, robbery and vehicle offences. Using the recommended data source in the Levelling Up White Paper Technical Annex,²⁷ Figure 11.1 compares the neighbourhood crime rate for Norfolk with that of England and Wales. Over the past six years Norfolk has recorded a neighbourhood crime rate that sits consistently below the average for England and Wales. Although Norfolk has generally followed the trend in neighbourhood crime, set by England and Wales, the most recent figures suggest less of a decline in the year to March 2021 for Norfolk when compared against England and Wales. Nevertheless, Norfolk's neighbourhood crime rate has decreased year on year since 2018.

²⁵ [ONS, Crime in England and Wales: Police Force Area data tables.](#)

²⁶ [NHS, Monthly hospital admissions for assault by sharp object.](#)

²⁷ Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities - Levelling Up the United Kingdom (2022)

Figure 11.1: Neighbourhood Crime rate per 1,000 population, Norfolk compared with England and Wales, 2016 to 2021

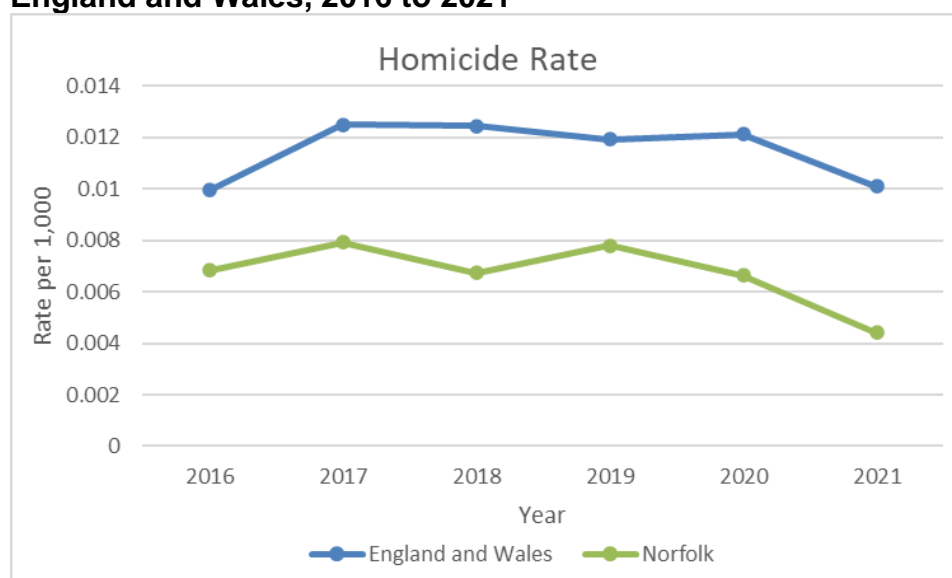


Source: [ONS, Crime in England and Wales: Police Force Area data tables.](#)

Headline Metric: Homicide.

ONS publishes homicide data and Figure 11.2 shows Norfolk's homicide rate compared against the England and Wales average for the past six years. As with the neighbourhood crime rate, Norfolk's homicide rate also closely follows the broader trend of England and Wales, while consistently remaining below the England and Wales average. Additionally, and similarly to the neighbourhood crime rate, there is also a decrease in the homicide rate in recent years; the decrease in the Norfolk rate has been almost double the decrease seen across England and Wales since 2019.

Figure 11.2: Homicide rate per 1,000 population, Norfolk compared with England and Wales, 2016 to 2021



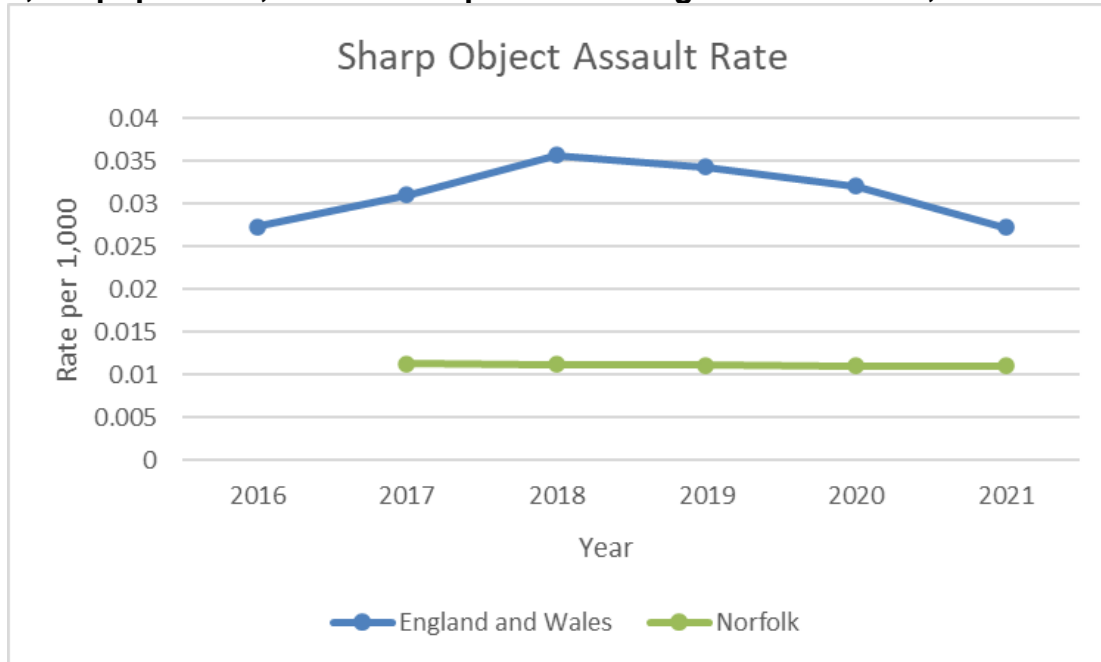
Source: [ONS, Crime in England and Wales: Police Force Area data tables.](#)

Headline Metric: Hospital admissions for assault with sharp object for under 25-year-olds.

Hospitalisations due to sharp object assault data is published by the NHS, and to ensure patient confidentiality small numbers have been suppressed and all other numbers are presented as a multiple of five. Norfolk has recorded ten hospitalisations for every year over the past six-year period, with the exception of 2016 where there is no data available (due to suppression). As a result, the corresponding rate of hospital admissions from sharp object assault, as shown in Figure 11.3, only varies because of variations in the population estimates.

Nevertheless, Figure 11.3 still demonstrates that Norfolk's hospitalisation rate has stayed consistently below the England and Wales average for the past six years. While the England and Wales average has been decreasing since 2018, the Norfolk rate has only decreased very slightly over the same period, and only as a consequence of increased population estimates according to the restrictions of the current dataset.

Figure 11.3: Hospitalisation due to sharp object assault for under 25s rate per 1,000 population, Norfolk compared with England and Wales, 2016 to 2021



Source: [NHS, Monthly hospital admissions for assault by sharp object.](#)

Mission 12 - Local Leadership

Objective: Empower local leaders and communities, especially in those places lacking local agency.

Mission: By 2030, every part of England that wants one will have a devolution deal with powers at or approaching the highest level of devolution and a simplified, long-term funding settlement.

Headline Metric: % population living in an area covered by the highest level of devolution.

This mission will be measured using a basket of objective and subjective metrics, including the proportion of the population living in an area with the highest level of local devolution in England. It will also consider a range of options for supplementary metrics such as survey measures of people feeling involved in decision-making and expenditure-based measures used to proxy the degree of decentralisation of decision-making. Consequently, as a local authority, we are currently not able to provide data to support this mission.

Concluding remarks

This report sets out the Government's levelling up objectives, the twelve national missions, and the headline metrics through which Government intends to monitor progress.²⁸

We have set out Norfolk's position against each headline metric, with comparator data where it is available. This report provides a position statement of the relevant data and as such, does not provide any explanatory analysis of why a particular dataset for Norfolk may or may not be better or worse than the comparator data.

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²⁸ Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities - Levelling Up the United Kingdom (2022)