

‘Safeguarding Leaders’ Assembly

Thursday 28th April 2022

This Morning's Agenda



- 09:00 Independent Chair's Introduction
- 09:30 Independent Chair's Accountability Report 2021/22
- 09:50 Business Improvement Plan 2021-23 – Progress Year 1
- 10:00 Keynote: *'What will it take to achieve 2023 – Year of the Child'*
- 10:30 Comfort Break & Networking
- 10:50 Strategic Leaders Workshop – *'What can we do as partners to achieve 2023 – Year of the Child'*
- 11:40 Plenary Session: Agreeing the way forward
- 11:50 Urgent - Any Other Business
- 12:00 Close

Independent Chair's Introduction and Update

**Penny Thompson CBE
BSCP Independent Chair
28th April 2022**

Safeguarding Update



Urgent - Any Other Business?

Safeguarding Update:

1. National Review - Arthur Labinjo-Hughes
2. Regional & Local Overview on going Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews
3. Learning from Joint Targeted Area Inspection of Solihull - Published 21.02.2022
4. Launch of 'Don't Shake a Baby' Campaign - 6th June 2022: National Child Safety Week
5. Birmingham 2022 - Commonwealth Games: Strategic Safeguarding Advisory Group
6. Tackling Neglect in Birmingham: A Strategy for Children and Young People 2022-2026
7. Practitioners' Safeguarding Conference - 26th September 2022

Chair's Accountability Report



1. Purpose of the Report
2. Introduction;
3. Organisational Arrangements
4. Progress against our 4 Key Priorities 2021-23
5. Strong Leadership and Strong Partnership Demonstrating Effective Accountability;
6. Continuously improve Child Safeguarding Practice across the system and in all agencies
7. Developing an effective multi-agency response to Child and Adolescent Neglect
8. Evaluating and addressing the consequences of Covid-19 on Safeguarding Children;
9. Conclusions.

Business Improvement Plan 2021-23

**Penny Thompson CBE, Independent Chair &
Simon Cross, Business Manager
Birmingham Safeguarding Children Partnership
28th April 2022**

Birmingham Safeguarding Children Partnership



Strategic Priorities for 2021-23:

Priority 1: Strong Leadership and Strong Partnership demonstrating effective Accountability;

Priority 2: Continuously Improve Child Safeguarding Practice across the system and in all agencies;

Priority 3: Developing an effective multi-agency response to Child and Adolescent Neglect

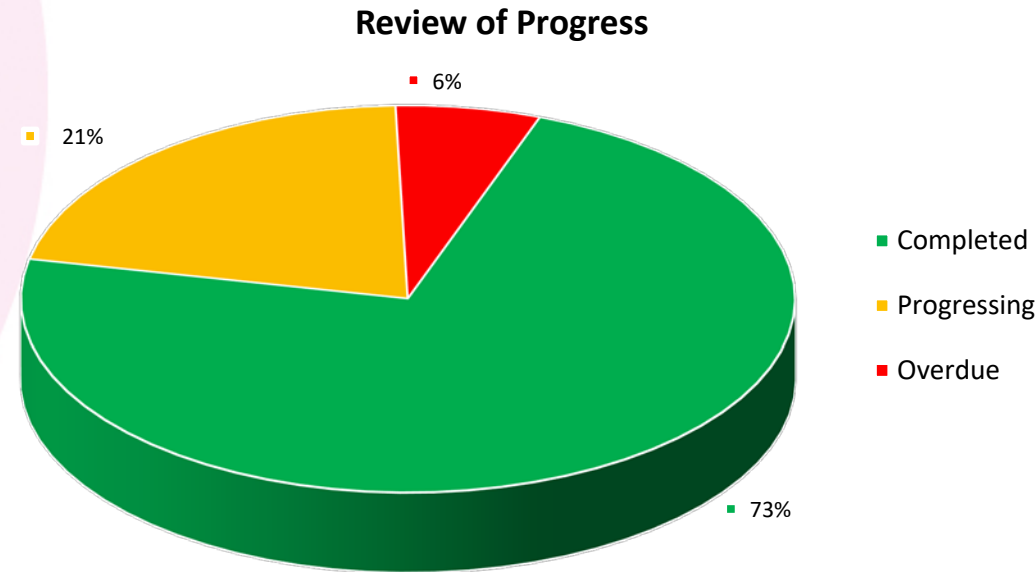
Priority 4: Evaluating and addressing the consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic on safeguarding children;



Business Improvement Plan 2021-23



- The Plan has four Strategic Priorities and thirty three actions.
- At the end of Year 1 (31st March 2022), 73% of the actions have been completed.
- Remaining actions which will be completed Year 2 of the plan.



Priority 1 - Strong Leadership and Strong Partnership demonstrating effective Accountability



Planned Action (2021-23)	31 st March 2022 – Update	
1. The BSCP Independent Chair to present an Annual Accountability Report to the Safeguarding Leaders Assembly 22nd April 2021;	Independent Chair's Accountability Report presented on 22 nd April 2021 and latest version on 28 th April 2022..	😊
2. BSCP Independent Chair to attend the City Board and Children's Partnership to provide support and challenge on behalf of children and young people;	Independent Chair is a City Board member, representing the Birmingham Safeguarding Children Partnership.	😊
3. Safeguarding Leaders Assembly to be convened twice yearly for accountability, learning and system development;	Safeguarding Leaders Assembly in October 2021 had to be cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic, the next meeting is scheduled for 28 th April 2022.	😊
4. The Chairs of the BSCP and Community Safety Partnership to oversee the development of the Serious Youth Violence Strategy – Spring 2021;	Chairs' of Community Safety and Safeguarding Children Partnerships hosted a strategic summit to commence development of Serious Violence Strategy.	😊
5. The BSCP Executive Board to oversee a comprehensive quality assurance and audit programme aimed at evaluating safeguarding practice – Executive Board to endorse Quality Assurance Programme 2021-23 by May 2021;	Scrutiny and Quality Assurance Programme endorsed in March 2021. The new programme was approved on 30 th March 2022.	😊

Priority 1 - Strong Leadership and Strong Partnership demonstrating effective Accountability (continued)



Planned Action (2021-23)	31 st March 2022 – Update	
6. The BSCP to redesign its website and improve its communications and social media capacity by November 2021 to improve engagement with children, families and practitioners;	Communications and Social Media Officer appointed who is overseeing the redesign and development of the partnership Website during 2022/23.	😊
7. BSCP to contribute to the continued development of the Regional Safeguarding Procedures Group consortium to deliver on-line safeguarding policies, procedures and guidance by March 2022;	Birmingham are key members of the Regional Safeguarding Procedures Group consortium, providing up to date on-line multi-agency policy, procedure and guidance.	😊
8. BSCP to Co-Chair the West Midlands MASA Network to develop, share and disseminate regional good practice from April 2021;	BSCP Co-Chair the West Midlands MASA Network, sharing and developing regional good practice.	😊
9. BSCP to assist in the development of a regional on-line Safeguarding Self- Assessment tool to enhance, synchronise and simplify the regional Section 11 audit programme by 1st April 2022;	Regional Section 11 – Self Assessment Programme in place.	😊
10. BSCP to participate in a peer review of the 'Prevent Duty' and children and young people at risk of radicalisation - Publication of findings by September 2021.	Completion of Prevent Duty Peer review delayed due to Covid-19 pandemic.	😞

Priority 2 - Continuously Improve Child Safeguarding Practice across the system and in all agencies



Planned Action (2021-23)	31 st March 2022 – Update	
1. The BSCP Executive Board to publish on its website an Annual Report for 2020/21 providing evidence of impact on the priorities set out in the Business Improvement Plan by July 2021. The findings to be presented to the Birmingham Children's Partnership, Health and Wellbeing Board and Children Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee by December 2021.	Chairs Accountability Report presented to Education and CSC Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 16 th February 2022. A two-year report on the effectiveness of the safeguarding arrangements during the pandemic is scheduled for publication in July 2022.	😊
2. The BSCP Executive Board to maximise the opportunity to learn and improve partnership practice through workforce development, Conference, Seminar and Training programme –Training Offer 2021/22 to be published by May 2021;	Learning and Development Training Offer endorsed in March 2021.	😊
3. Quality, Impact & Outcomes Sub-Group to host a seminar focusing on the importance of agency engagement in the implementation of multi-agency plans from Early Help, Children in Need to Child Protection by December 2021;	This work has been rescheduled for 2022/23, date for seminar to be announced.	😞
4. Quality, Impact & Outcomes Sub-Group to refine 'near miss policy' to provide assurance, highlight areas for improvement in practice and maximise the opportunity for multi-agency learning by November 2021;	'Near Miss' Policy and Audit updated.	😊
5. Learning & Development Sub-Group in conjunction with Birmingham Children's Partnership to develop and deliver bespoke training for the 'Lead Practitioners' role in supporting 'Our Family Plans' by May 2022;	Lead Practitioner Training in development as part of Multi-Agency Safeguarding Training Offer 2022/23.	😊

Priority 2 - Continuously Improve Child Safeguarding Practice across the system and in all agencies (continued)



Planned Action (2021-23)	31 st March 2022 – Update	
6. BSCP to publish and oversee the dissemination of learning from Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review of a 'County Lines' case focusing on 'Reachable Moments' by July 2021;	'Reachable Moments' LCSPR focusing on 'County Lines' published September 2021. BSCP overseeing implementation of learning from this case.	😊
7. The Community Safety Partnership to share with Executive Board regular updates on Implementation of learning from the benchmarking exercise on progress of the key recommendations in relation to 'It was hard to Escape' a National Review of Child Criminal Exploitation by November 2021:	BSCP oversee effective implementation of learning, next update due in April 2022.	😊
8. The BSCP to host a virtual 'Contextual Safeguarding Conference and Practitioners workshops in June 2021.	Virtual conference hosted in June 2021.	😊
9. BSCP to undertake a self-assessment of Child Exploitation practice using the Joint Target Area Inspection approach by November 2021;	Self-Assessment deferred until 2022/23. The QI&O Sub-Group have undertaken an audit of the effectiveness of Disruption Planning Meetings.	😐
10. BSCP to work in close collaboration with NSPCC and Ofsted in responding to the emerging issues raised through the 'Everyone's Invited' movement, with specific focus on the understanding and application of 'peer on peer' safeguarding guidance in schools, by September 2021.	BSCP participated in national learning event in December 2021. The National findings are to be published in the spring 2022. Respect and Consent Strategy is being develop and scheduled for consultation and publication in 2022/23..	😊

Priority 3 - Developing an effective multi-agency response to Child and Adolescent Neglect



Planned Action (2021-23)	31 st March 2022 – Update	
1. BSCP to provide seed funding for initial NSPCC Graded Care Profile 2 Training and the appointment of a Neglect Lead Manager to assist with implementation of the Childhood Neglect Strategy 2019/23;	Funding in place and extended for 2022/23.	😊
2. BSCP and Neglect Operations Group to commission and deliver Graded Care Profile 2 training and produce neglect eLearning models and practice guidance by April 2022;	GCP2 Training Programme in place.	😊
3. Neglect Operations Group to establish two Neglect Pilot Projects in the north and south of the city, by September 2021 to test and develop exemplars of good inter-agency practice and models of working using NSPCCC Graded Care Profile 2.	Both Pilot Projects are progressing, update to be presented to the Executive Board on 30 th March 2022.	😊
4. Evaluation of Neglect Pilot Projects to be completed by 31st March 2022, to inform the rollout of a new Multi-Agency practice model through the Early Help and Support Localities in Spring 2022;	BSCP have commissioned independent evaluation of the Neglect Pilots, the findings to published summer 2022/23.	😊
5. The BSCP to host an Annual Safeguarding Practitioners conference on 'Childhood Neglect' in June 2022, to share good practice and cascade learning from the pilot projects.	Conference planning in progress, date to be determined in summer 2022.	😊

Priority 4 – Evaluating and addressing the consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic on safeguarding children



Planned Action (2021-23)	31 st March 2022 – Update	
1. The BSCP Executive Board to oversee the effective implementation of the Business Improvement Plan and to publish its Annual Report evaluating progress and the impact of Covid-19 on safeguarding children by July 2021;	A two-year report on safeguarding during the pandemic is scheduled for publication in July 2022.	☹️
2. BSCP, Birmingham Council of Faiths and Public Health to work in close collaboration on a Department of Education funded project to enhance safeguarding within faith-based settings. To build upon, expand and adapt the ' <i>every conversation counts</i> ' model which has been adopted to promote the importance of social distancing and encourage vaccine take up from April 2021;	DfE funded Project is progressing lead by BSCP and Birmingham Council of Faiths. Project update to be presented to Executive Board 28 th September 2022.	😊
3. The Safeguarding Leaders Assembly on 22nd April 2021 to focus on Covid-19 ' <i>Response to Recovery</i> ' with Safeguarding Leaders workshop to identify exemplars of good practice developed during the pandemic;	Safeguarding Leaders Assembly in April 2021 focused on City's response to the pandemic.	😊
4. The Quality, Impact & Outcomes Sub-Group quality assurance and audit programme to incorporate comparative analysis of the impact of 'lockdown' on safeguarding practice by December 2021;	This aspect of the Quality Assurance programme has been deferred until 2022/23. A literature review of emerging learning of safeguarding practice during the pandemic has been commissioned. The findings to be presented to Executive Board.	☹️
5. Launch public awareness campaign ' <i>Who's in Charge</i> ' highlighting the consequences of drinking alcohol whilst caring for children, to take account of easing of Covid-19 pandemic restriction in April 2021;	The ' <i>Who's in Charge</i> ' Campaign, the films had over a million views on social media and won the NHS National Patient Award 2021.	😊

Priority 4 – Evaluating and addressing the consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic on safeguarding children (continued)



Planned Action (2021-23)	31 st March 2022 – Update	
6. Learning and Development Sub-Group to incorporate within its annual evaluation of the multi-agency safeguarding training, the impact of virtual training, webinars and eLearning for inclusion with the BSCP Annual Report scheduled for publication in July 2021;	During the pandemic multi-agency safeguarding training programme has successfully converted into on-line webinars and virtual training to enable practitioners to access training and guidance remotely whilst working from home.	😊
7. Serious Cases Sub-Group to undertake a thematic review of learning from the National Panel Review ' <i>Out of Routine</i> ' as part of a Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review examining support for vulnerable families with newborn babies. The learning to inform the Neglect Pilot Projects;	LCSPR remains ongoing, emerging learning has informed the Neglect Pilots and the work of the partnership Neglect Operational Group.	😐
8. Serious Cases Sub-Group to ensure that Rapid Reviews continue to incorporate analysis of the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on service delivery and partnership intervention to inform Local and National Learning.	Rapid Reviews specifically focuses on the impact of Covid-19 on partnership intervention.	😊

Year 2 – Refresh of Key Actions



Strengthen performance measures and desired outcomes for second year;
Key new elements:

- Consultation Childhood Neglect Strategy
- Six Steps to Independent Scrutiny Model
- Self-Assessment - JATI Solihull
- Strategic Safeguarding Leaders Group – Future development and agenda planning
- Collaboration Birmingham Council of Faiths – Safeguarding in Faith Communities Project
- Hosting of regional workshop – Embedding Learning from National Review (AL-H)
- Respect and Consent Strategy

‘What will it take to achieve 2023 – Year of the Child’

**Deborah Cadman OBE, Chief Executive, Birmingham City Council,
Richard Brooks, Director of Strategy, Equality & Partnership,
Sue Harrison, Director Children’s Services Birmingham City Council,
Andy Couldrick, Chief Executive, Birmingham Childrens Trust**

28th April 2022

Plan for session

- Introduction and context (Deborah Cadman)
- Children in Birmingham: an evidence review (Richard Brooks, Sue Harrison & Andy Couldrick)
- Facilitated Group Work
 - A. Objectives and priorities: what should we try to achieve, and how does safeguarding fit into the wider picture?
 - B. How should the Safeguarding Children Partnership relate to the Year of the Child work?
- Feedback and discussion leading to some agreed areas of joint work

INTRODUCTION AND CONTEXT



Making a positive difference every day to people's lives



Context

- Some deep historical strengths and truly outstanding institutions.
- Recent history of service failure and intervention, now turning the corner organisationally but still fragile and low trust environment.
- City is transforming, huge economic opportunities for young people, Commonwealth Games this year.
- Danger of many young people missing out and feeling excluded.
- Deep inequalities and long-tail of poor outcomes.
- **Strong need to put children more at the centre of our discussions, decisions and the life of the city.**

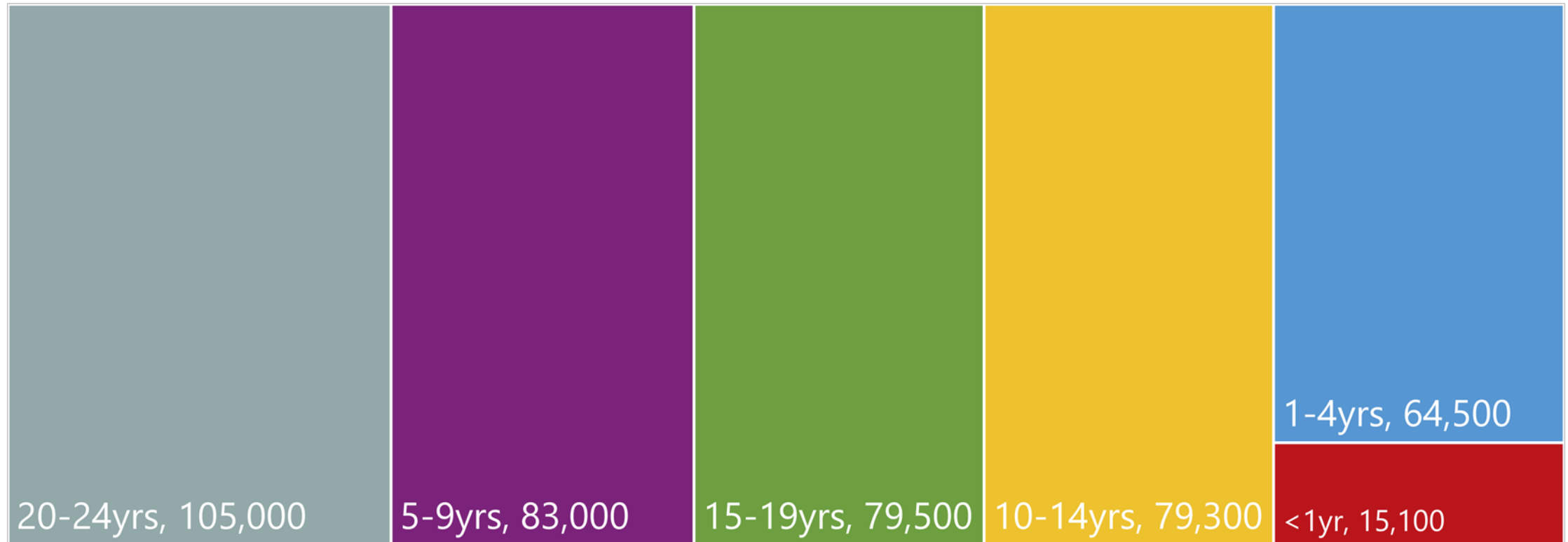
CHILDREN IN BHAM: INITIAL EVIDENCE



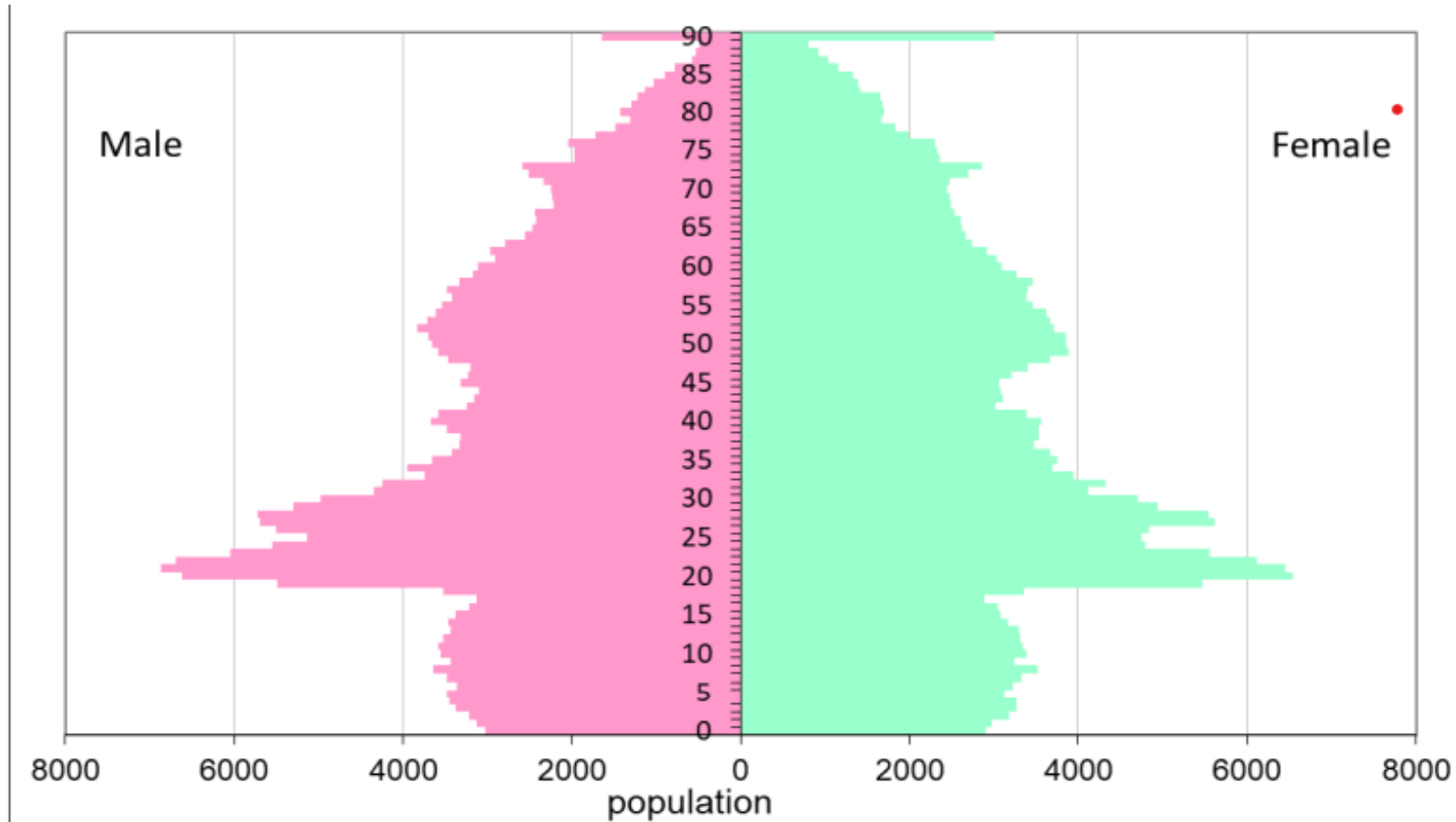
Making a positive difference every day to people's lives



**There are 320,000 children & young people under 20 in Bham,
on average 16,000 per one-year cohort,
or around 200-250 per ward for each year group**

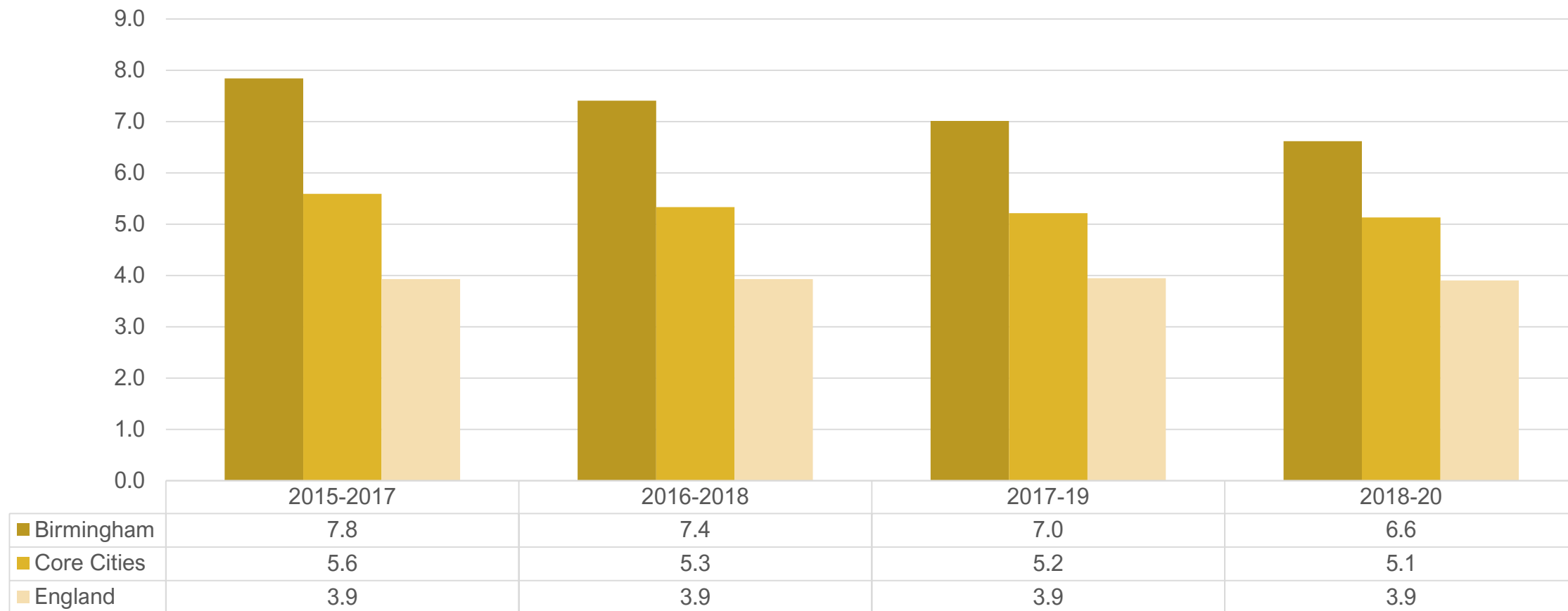


We have a relatively high fertility rate, but it has slowed recently, creating a bulge in primary and early secondary ages. Bham sees a huge influx of students and working age adults.

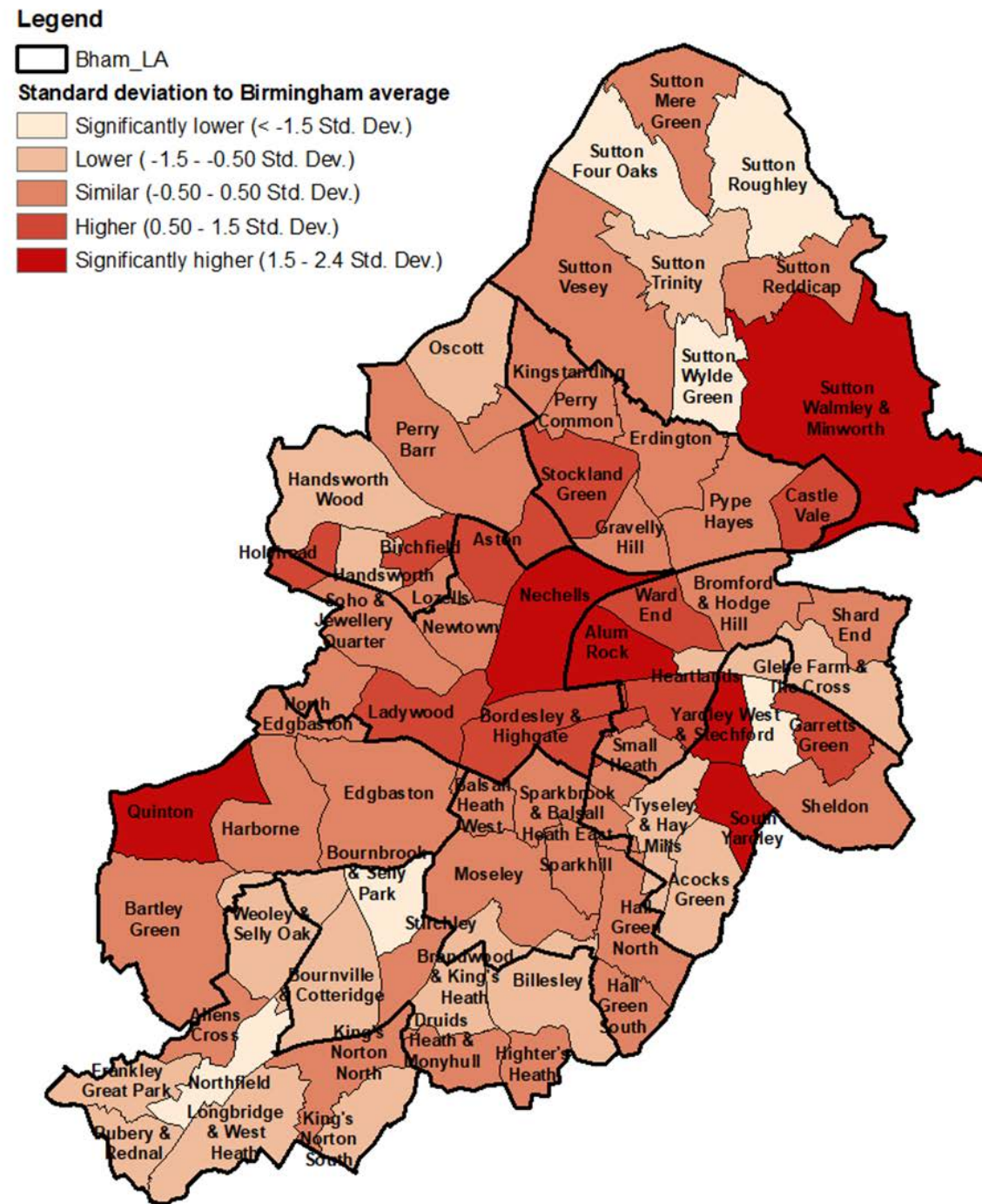


Infant mortality in Bham is falling, but still much higher than other core cities and England (and so is stillbirth)

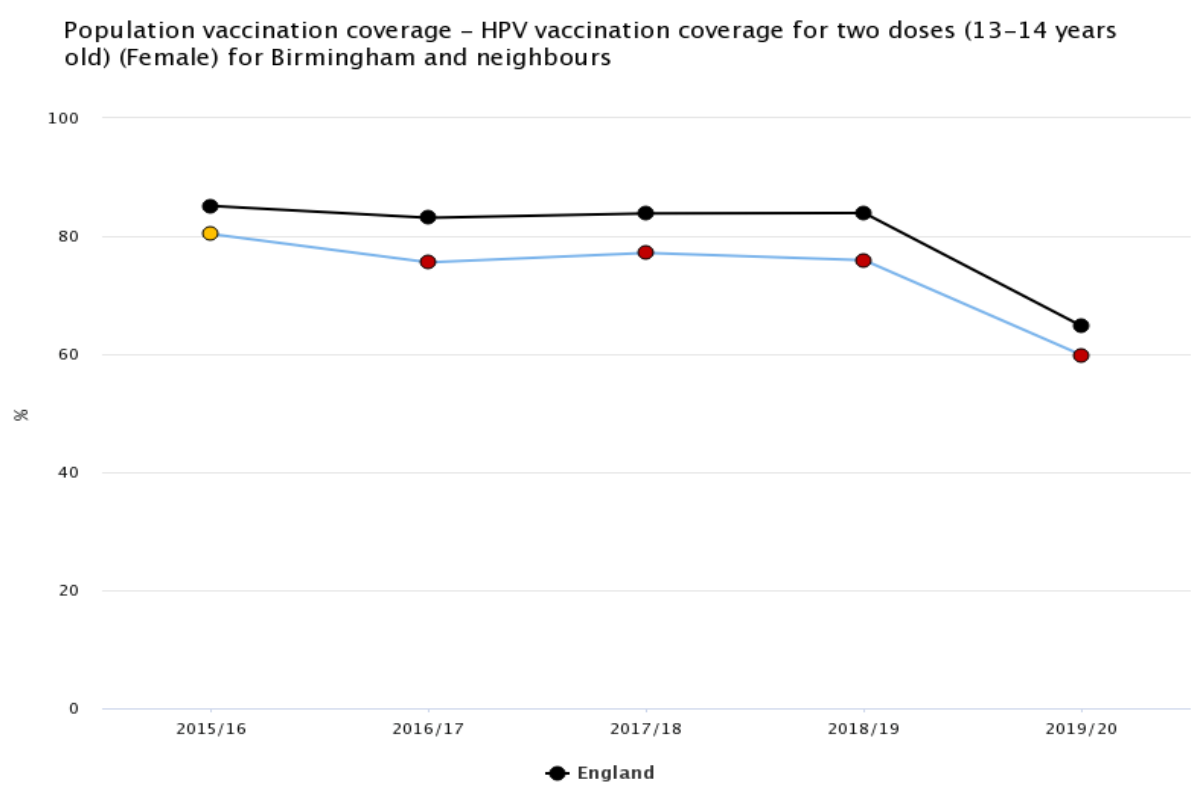
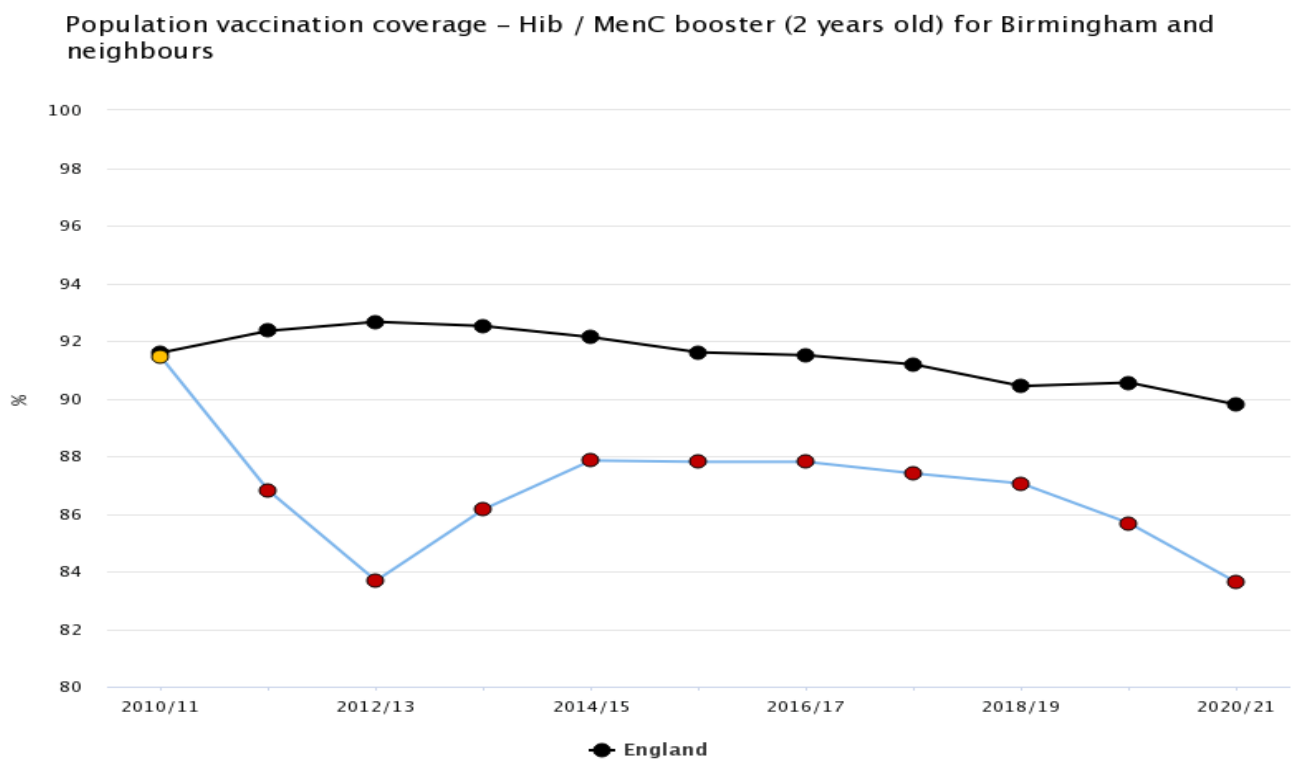
INFANT MORTALITY RATE (PER 1,000)



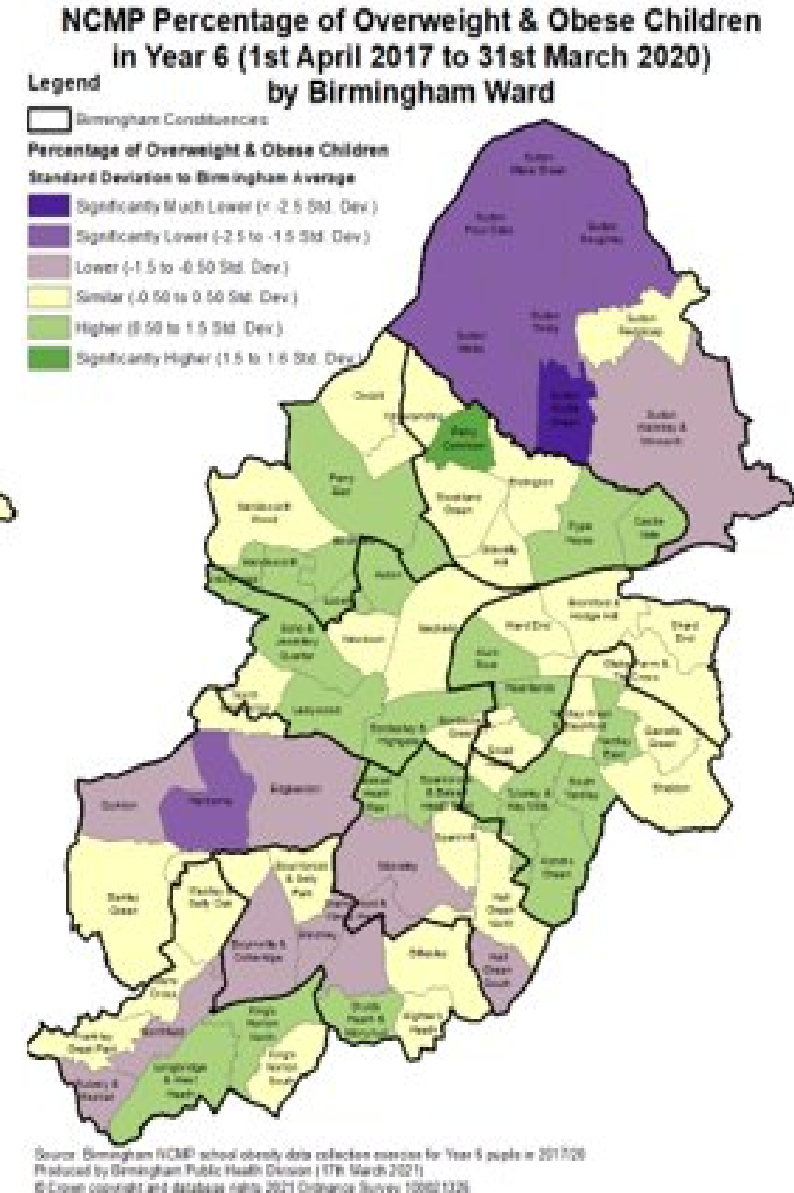
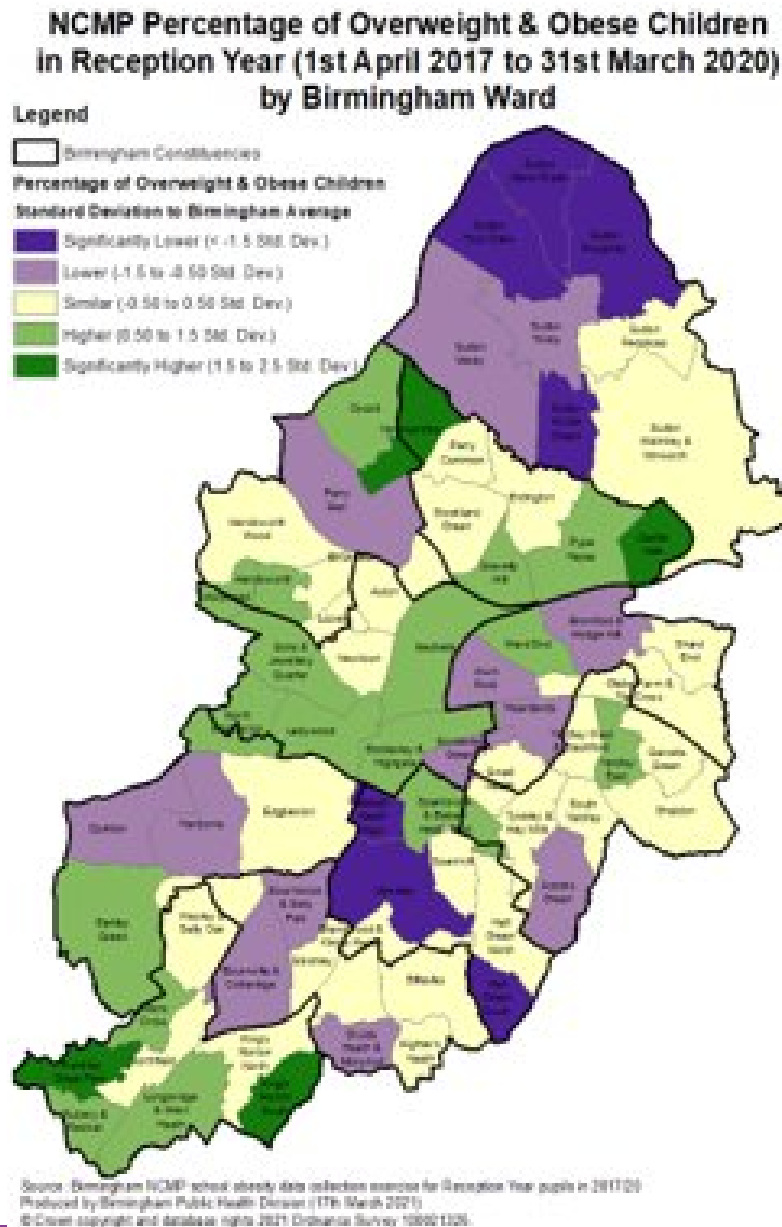
Infant mortality is concentrated by ward, but it is not just an East Bham issue.



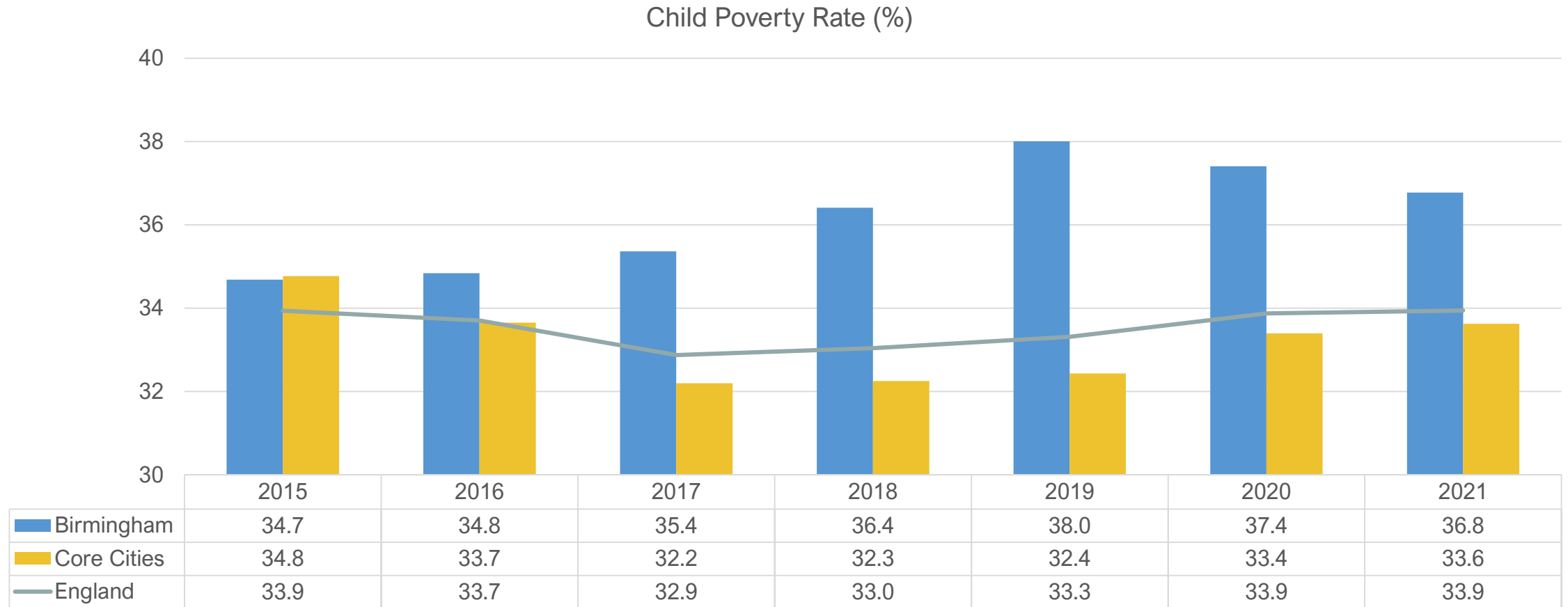
Not a single childhood vaccination programme in Bham is achieving the recommended 90% coverage or even obtaining the national average, and the direction of travel is down (as is the national trend)



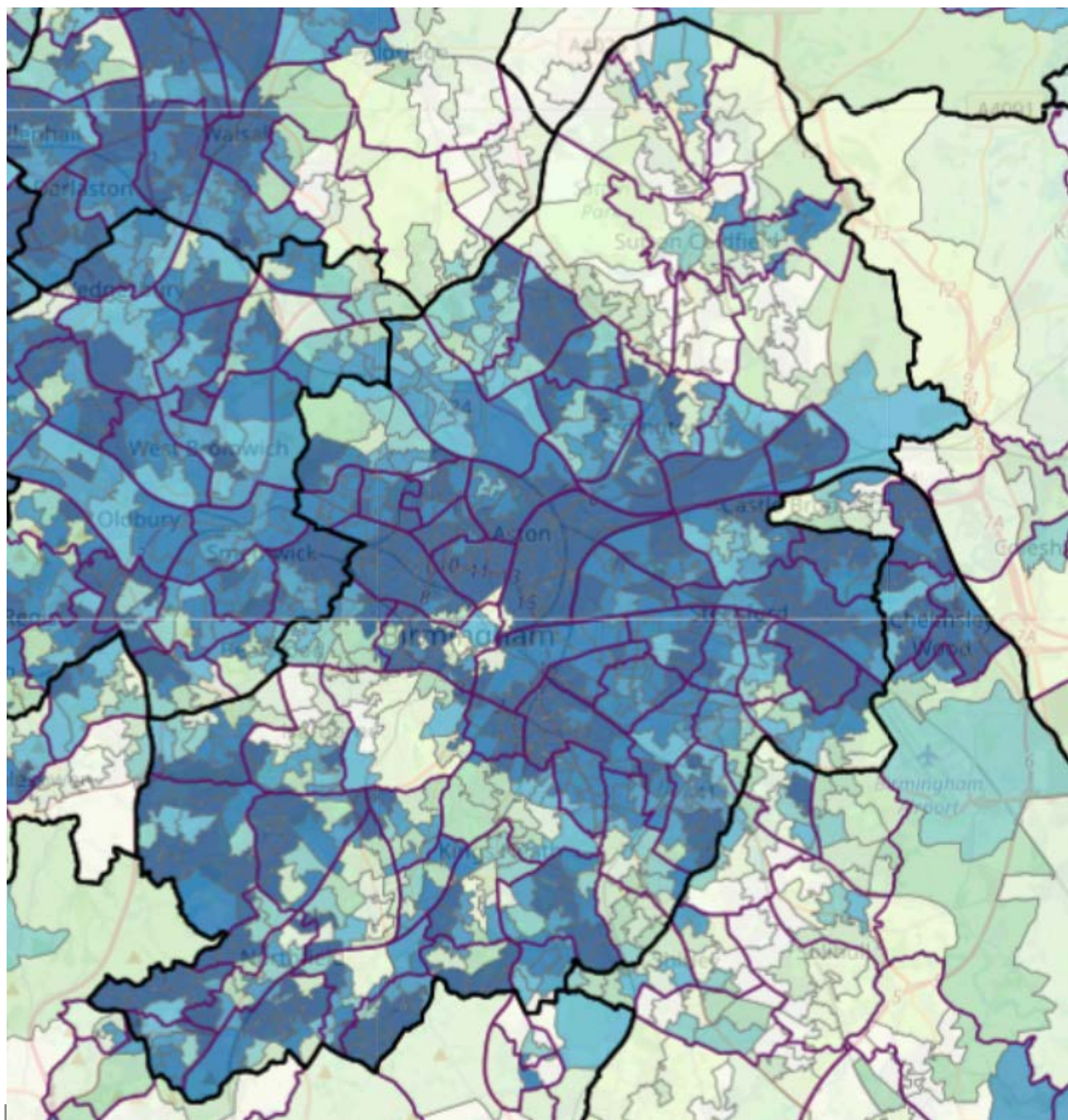
- **1 in 10 children in Reception are obese, 1 in 5 are overweight or obese.**
- **In Year 6 children 1 in 4 are obese, 2 in 5 are overweight or obese.**
- Rates are consistently higher than England but the gap has closed slightly in recent years, especially for Reception age children.
- Children in our deprived areas get relatively more overweight during their primary school years.



Child poverty in Bham increased from 2015-19 while it fell in other core cities. Since then it has fallen slightly. Why?



Deprivation is often concentrated below ward level

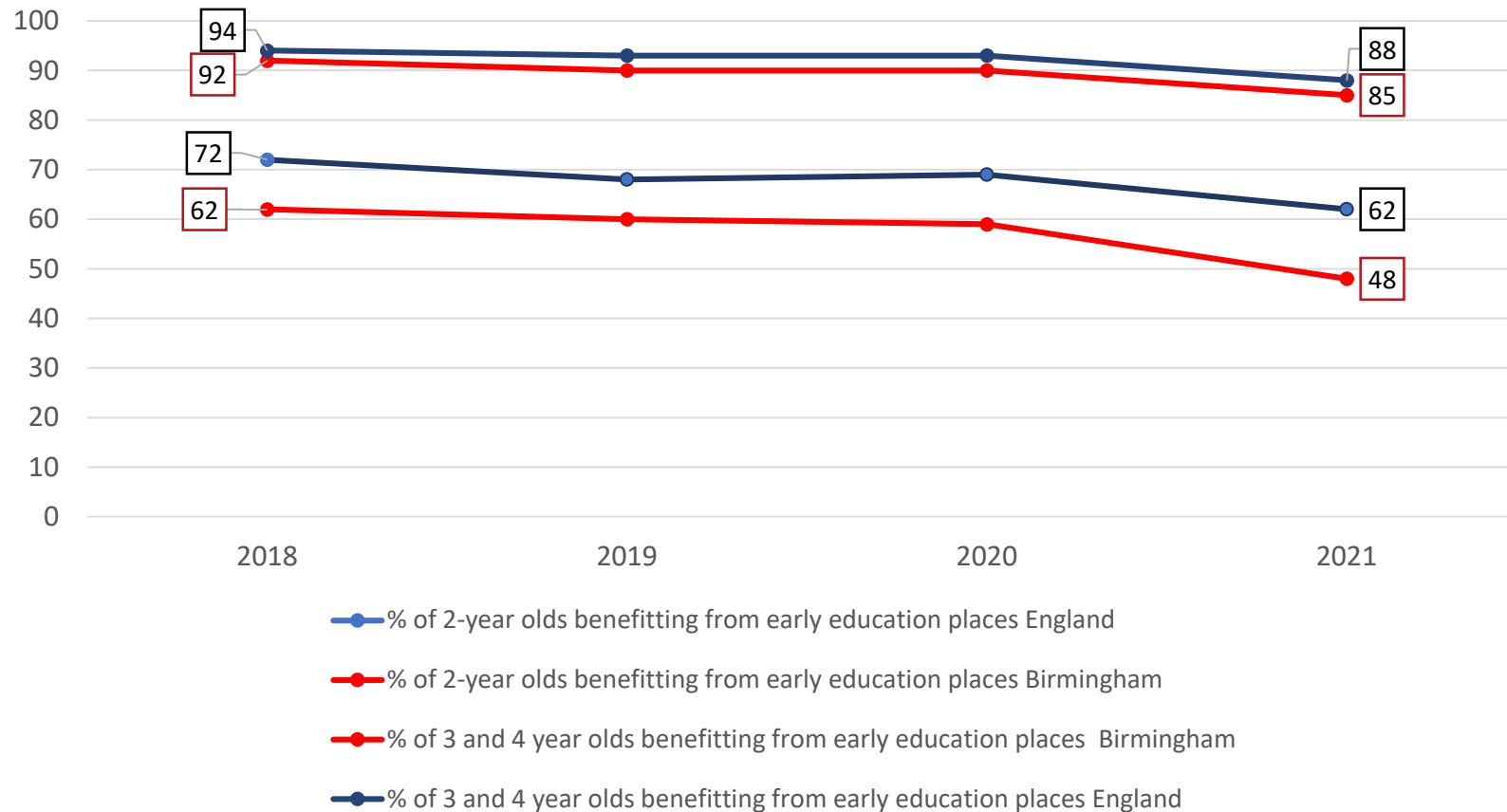


Source: IDACI 2019, Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index

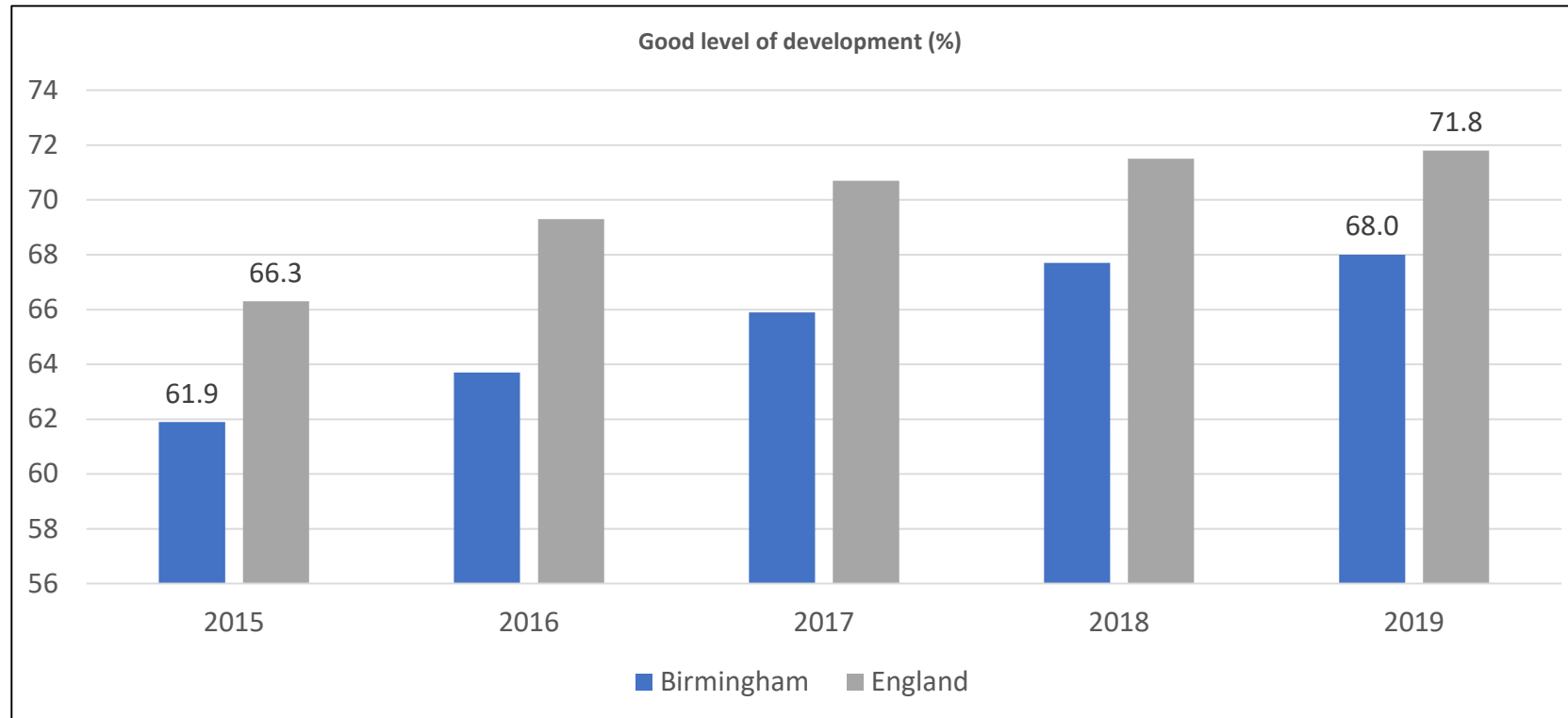
Children's Social Care Facts and Figures for Birmingham Children's Trust. How much hidden need is out there?

- 4000 contacts per month; 1200 referrals (comparable)
- 2000 children in care, 900 care leavers (low rate c/w SN, core cities, region)
- 1300 children with Child Protection plans (low rate)
- 8500 children in need (low rate)
- Supporting c 15,000 families across the city – Early Help & Social Care
- Early Help offer: very recent. Evidence of impact already
- Hidden need
- Effective 'pre-social care' interventions
- Too many social care interventions a consequence of failure elsewhere: Housing; Education; SEND

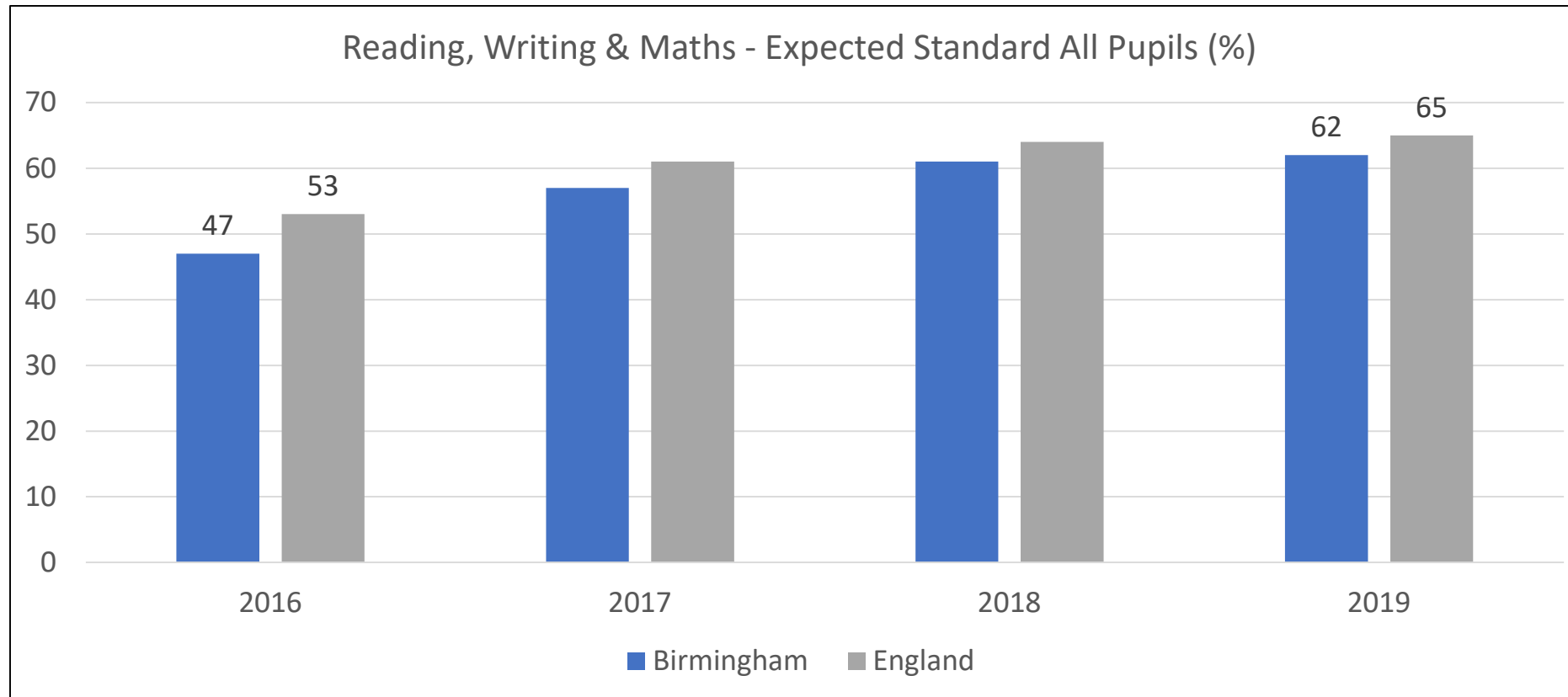
Early education is vital for development, particularly for disadvantaged children. Fewer than half our 2 year olds take up the free offer, compared to 85% of 3 & 4 year olds.



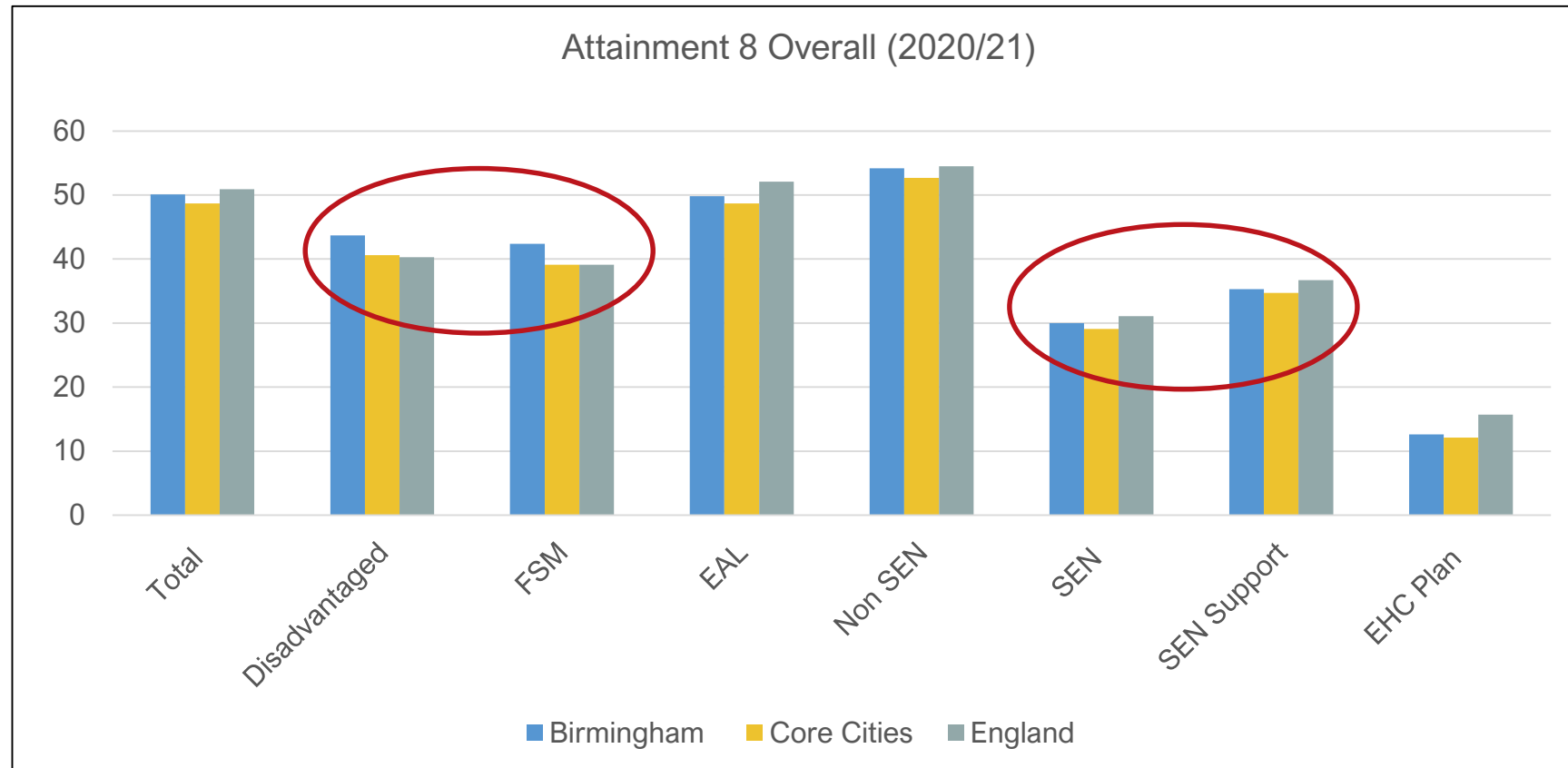
One third of our children are 'not ready for school', but note the positive trend and narrowing gap vs England



At the end of primary school, our pupils are in the bottom quartile for standards in combined reading, writing & maths, but note recent improvement and narrowing of the gap.



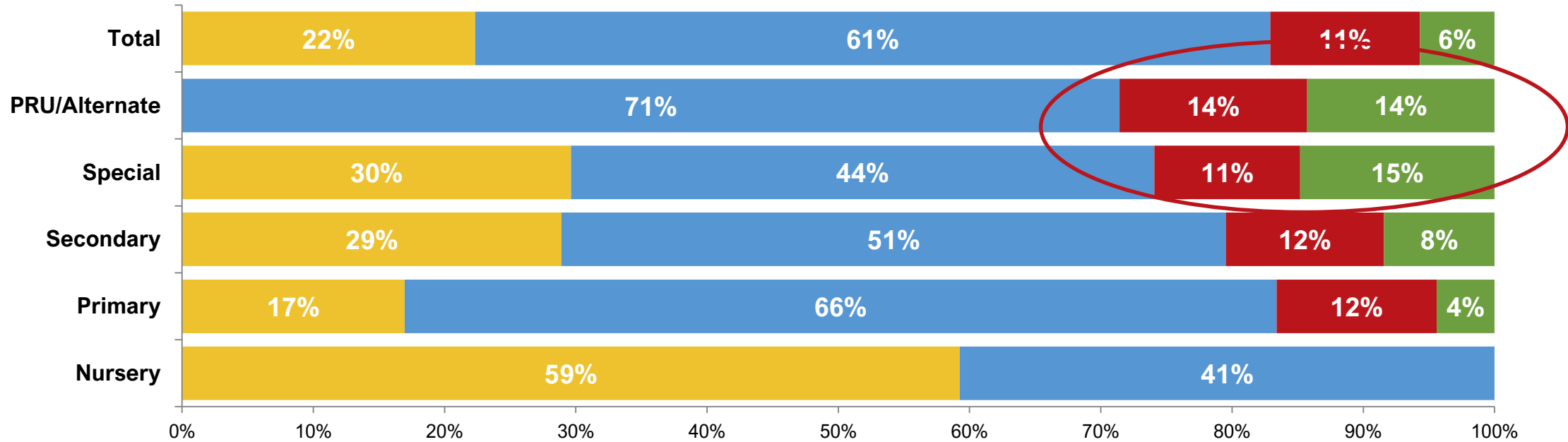
At the end of secondary, attainment is ahead of the other core cities and within 1% of England average. Also ahead for disadvantaged children, but not for those with special needs.



Key Stage 4 dashboard compared to Core Cities looks relatively good, except for children with SEN

	Pupil group		Birmingham		Core Cities	Rank of 8 LAs
Attainment 8 Overall	Total	●	50.1 (+0.9)	▲	48.7 (+0.7)	1st (no chg)
	Disadvantaged	●	43.7 (+0.5)	▲	40.6 (+0.4)	1st (no chg)
	FSM	●	42.4 (+0.8)	▲	39.1 (+0.8)	1st (no chg)
	EAL	●	49.8 (+1.1)	▲	48.7 (+1)	1st (up 2)
	Non SEN	●	54.2 (+1.1)	▲	52.7 (+0.9)	1st (no chg)
	SEN	●	30 (+0.4)	▲	29.1 (-0.1)	3rd (up 1)
	SEN Support	●	35.3 (+0.4)	▲	34.7 (-0.1)	3rd (up 1)
	EHC Plan	●	12.6 (-0.1)	▼	12.1 (+0.2)	3rd (no chg)
English and Maths % 9-5 (Strong)	Total	●	49.7 (+2.2)	▲	47.6 (+1.9)	2nd (down 1)
	Disadvantaged	●	37.2 (+1.7)	▲	32.6 (+2.2)	1st (no chg)
	FSM	●	35.1 (+2.1)	▲	30.3 (+3)	1st (no chg)
	EAL	●	48.3 (+3.3)	▲	46.4 (+3.4)	2nd (up 1)
	Non SEN	●	56.2 (+2.4)	▲	53.8 (+2.2)	2nd (down 1)
	SEN	●	16.6 (+1.6)	▲	16.5 (+0.6)	3rd (up 3)
	SEN Support	●	19.8 (+1.9)	▲	20 (+0.7)	3rd (up 4)
	EHC Plan	●	5.8 (+0.2)	▲	5.5 (+0.2)	3rd (up 1)
English and Maths % 9-4 (Standard)	Total	●	69.4 (+2.3)	▲	67.7 (+1.4)	2nd (up 2)
	Disadvantaged	●	58.9 (+2.5)	▲	53.5 (+2)	1st (no chg)
	FSM	●	56.4 (+3.3)	▲	50.5 (+2.9)	1st (no chg)
	EAL	●	68.2 (+2.9)	▲	65.7 (+1.8)	1st (up 1)
	Non SEN	●	76.7 (+2.2)	▲	74.8 (+1.3)	2nd (no chg)
	SEN	●	32.7 (+3.5)	▲	31.8 (+1.6)	3rd (up 3)
	SEN Support	●	39.1 (+4.5)	▲	38 (+2)	3rd (up 4)
	EHC Plan	●	11.3 (-0.9)	▼	12.7 (+0.4)	7th (down 2)

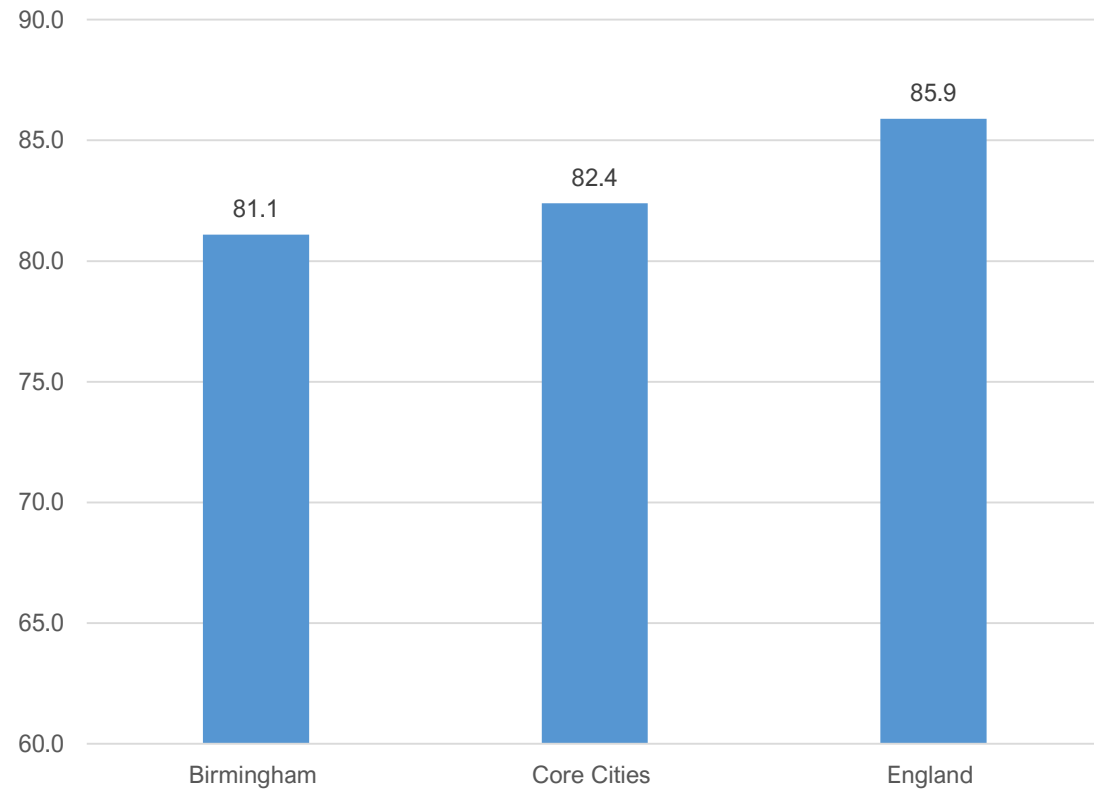
Ofsted results: 295 primary schools of which 49 require improvement or inadequate; 86 secondary of which 17 RI / Inad. Worst categories of provision are for most vulnerable children.



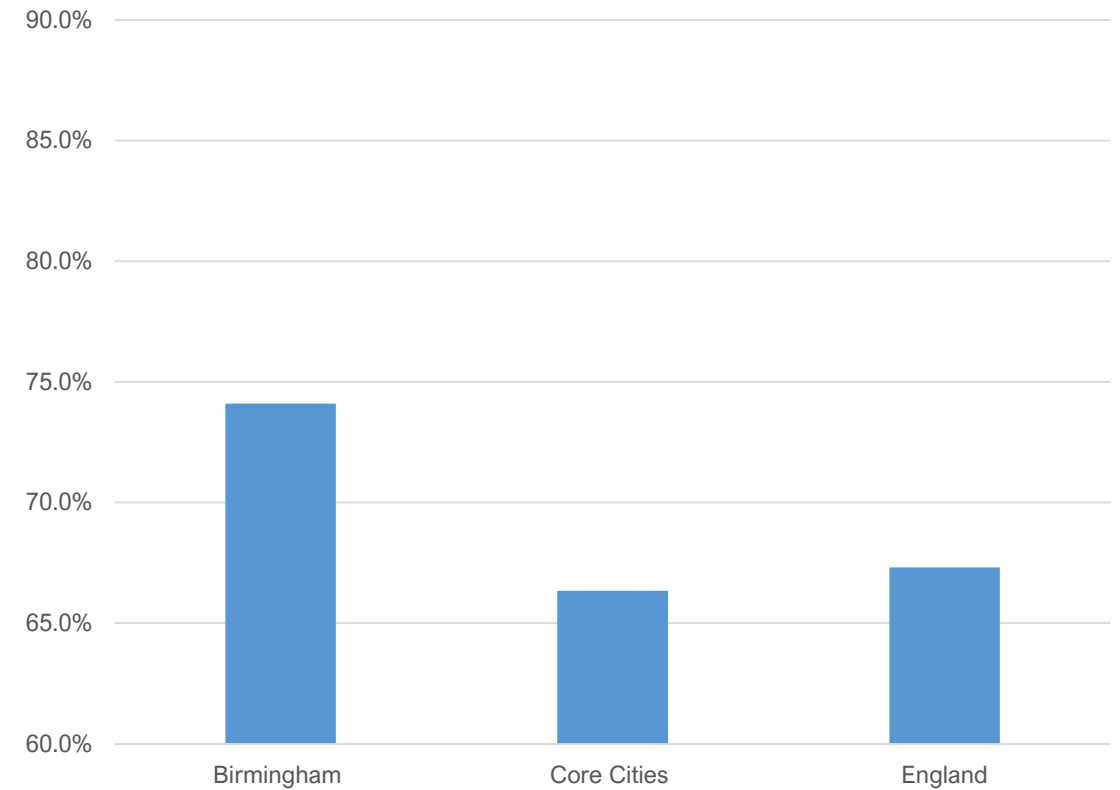
Outstanding (yellow) / Good (blue) / Requires Improvement / Inadequate

Fewer young people in Bham achieve the equivalent of two A levels, but more go on to university & training. Suggests a long tail of underachievement.

PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ACHIEVING AT LEAST 2
SUBSTANTIAL LEVEL 3 QUALIFICATIONS

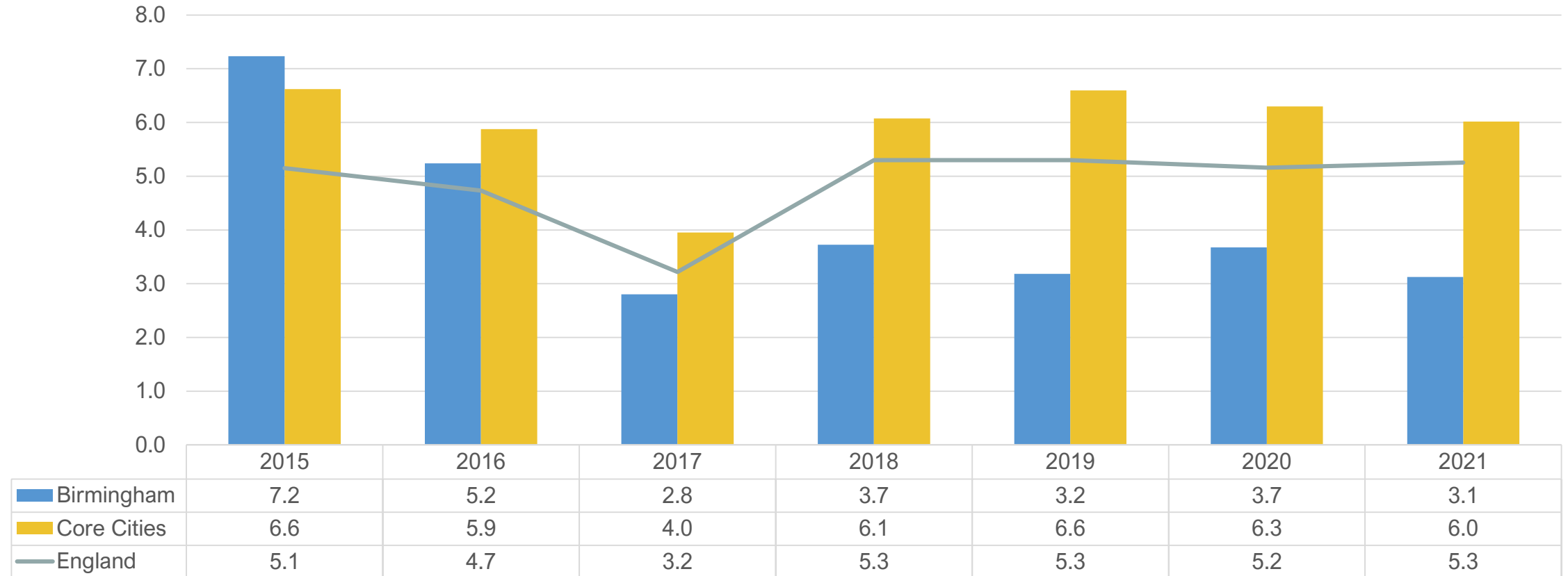


PROGRESSION TO HIGHER EDUCATION AND
TRAINING FROM MAINSTREAM EDUCATION



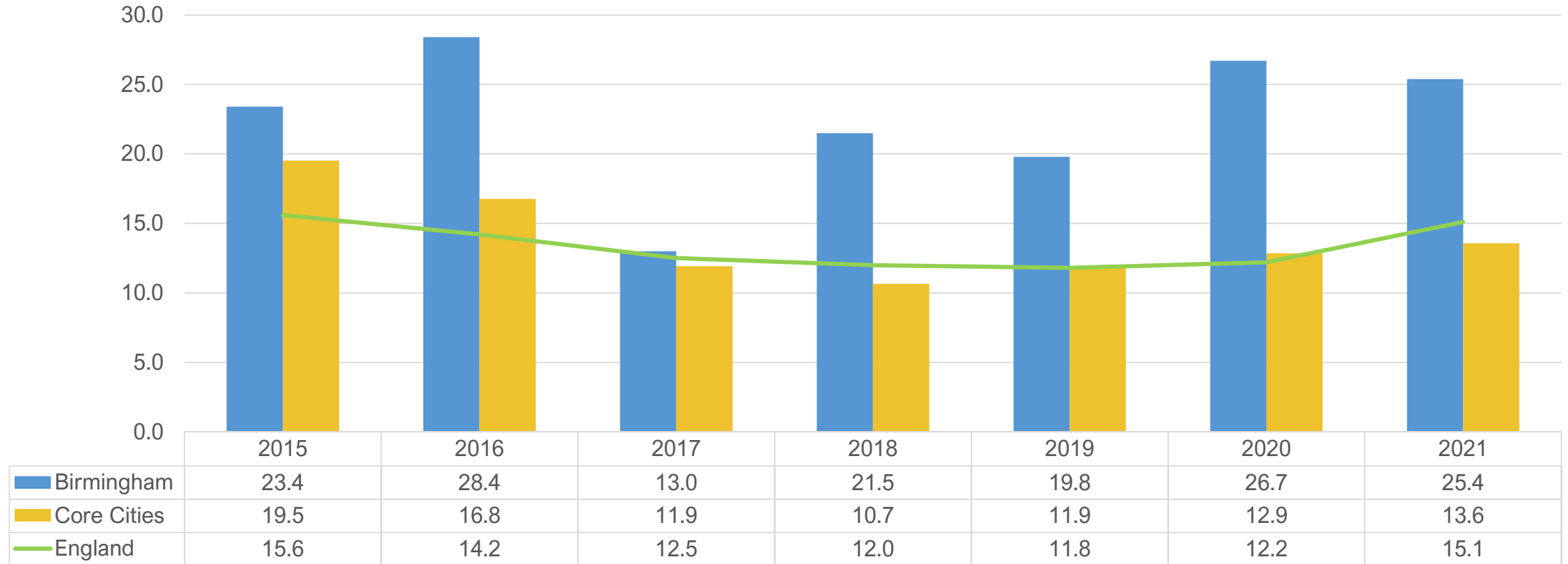
Fewer young people (16-18) in Bham are recorded as not in employment, education or training, but the rate of 'unknowns' is high in Bham (4.5% vs 2.0% for England).

NEET rate

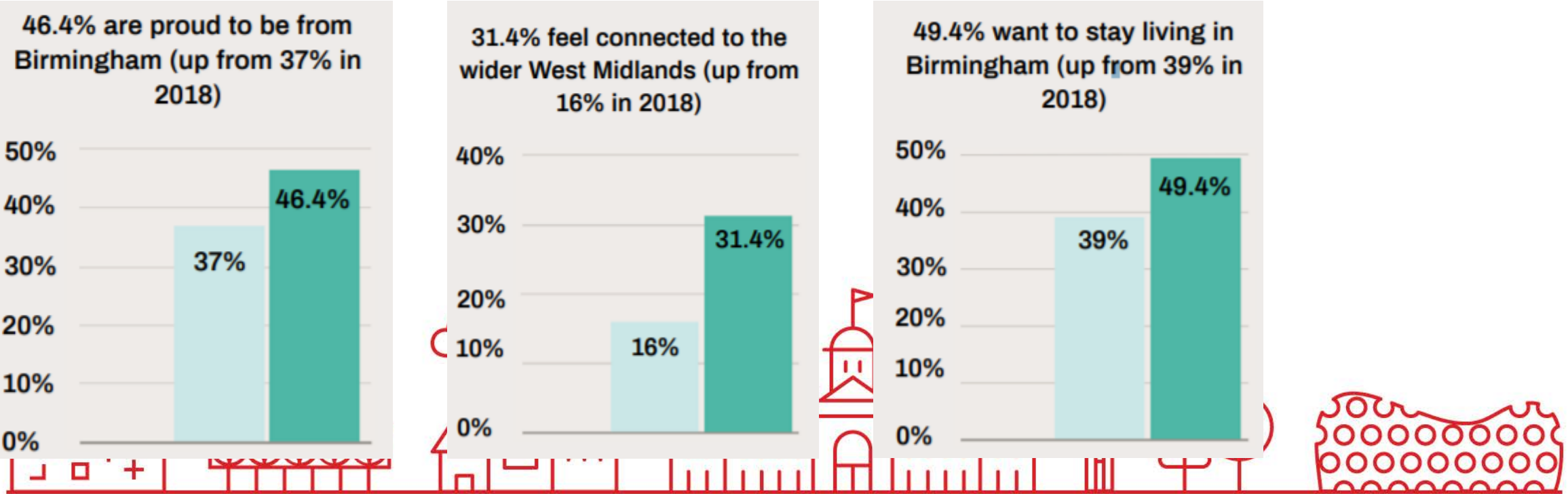


...many more young adults are unemployed than in other core cities. This is at the heart of the cycle of deprivation.

Unemployment rate - aged 16-24



What do young people think about their city and region? Fewer than half are proud to come from here, but that number rose 2018 > 2019



DISCUSSION



Making a positive difference every day to people's lives



Discussion questions for groups

- What should we try to achieve this year and next?
 - How does safeguarding fit into the wider picture?
- How can each partner contribute actively to 2023 Year of the Child?
 - *How should the Children's Partnership relate to the Year of the Child work?*
- What can we each do to make this work?
- Prepare to feedback to the whole group afterward – with a view to identifying some specific joint activities for the year ahead

All

DISCUSSION: TOWARDS 2023



Making a positive difference every day to people's lives



Next Steps

- Share feedback with our organisations, bring ideas back
- Agree a mechanism to co produce 2023 Year of the Child – what role should Birmingham Children’s Partnership play?
- Role of Birmingham City Board?
- Engaging young people?
- Governance?

Comfort Break & Preview of 'Don't Shake a Baby' Campaign



Strategic Leaders Workshop



Facilitated Workshop:

'What can we do as partners to achieve 2023 – Year of the Child'

Plenary Session:

Summary of key actions and agreeing next steps.

Plenary Session

- Feedback from Breakout sessions;
- Summary of the key issues;
- Agreeing the next steps;

Final Thoughts

Please put the date in your diary!

**Next Safeguarding Leaders' Assembly
9:00am to 12:00pm - Thursday 3rd November 2022**

