



Research Note

August 2008

Briefing Note 3

INDICES OF DEPRIVATION: SANDWELL 2007

The Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) updated the English Indices of Deprivation and published the latest figures in December 2007. They offer a direct comparison to the deprivation figures published in 2004. This briefing paper aims to raise awareness of the new data source and give an overview of the data for Sandwell Borough.

The most commonly used of the Indices of Deprivation is the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2007 (IMD 2007), this collates a total of seven different domains, each relating to a specific socio-economic factor, allowing for an overall representation of deprivation in a particular area. Two other indices are included specifically relating to children and older people (Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index and Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index) known as the IDACI and IDAOPI. There are also sub domains and a section devoted to local authority and county summaries. All of these combined form the Indices of Deprivation (ID 2007).

ID 2007 is an updated version of the ID 2004; the two datasets are therefore directly comparable. The seven domains that make up the IMD 2007 relate to *income, employment, health and disability, education, skills and training, barriers to housing and services, crime and disorder, and the living environment*. Scores are provided for each of these individual domains for every *lower-level super output area* (also known as LSOAs) in England ([click here to access technical note 1 - area definitions in Sandwell](#)). To put this geography into context each LSOA is made up of around 1500 people. These scores are then ranked, with 1 being the most deprived. The rankings make it easier to discover where Sandwell is placed on a national scale.

The ID 2007 is an extremely useful data series, it offers the reader information about a variety of types of deprivation that exist across England. It allows us to discover how small areas fit into the national picture and how they compare with other areas across the country. Changes in deprivation can also be monitored because of previous deprivation reports. This briefing note hopes to inform the reader about what it means for Sandwell.

Local Authority Summaries

Each local authority has been assigned a score based on deprivation levels, and a rank based on scores that each local authority has been attributed with. Scores and ranks are provided for the following: extent, local concentration, income scale and employment scale. This report will concentrate on the average score and average rank for the most deprived twenty local authorities. There is no single summary that is preferred over another and the best way to compare the local authorities requires consideration of all the six measures.

Local Authority	Rank of Average Score 2007	Rank of Average Score 2004
Liverpool	1	1
Hackney	2	5
Tower Hamlets	3	4
Manchester	4	2
Knowsley	5	3
Newham	6	11
Easington	7	8
Islington	8	6
Middlesbrough	9	10
Birmingham	10	15
Kingston upon Hull, City of	11	9
Blackpool	12	24
Nottingham	13	7
Sandwell	14	16
Salford	15	12
Stoke-on-Trent	16	18
Blackburn with Darwen	17	34
Haringey	18	13
Lambeth	19	23
Leicester	20	31

Table 1. Twenty most deprived English local authorities by rank of average score. (DCLG, 2007).

Local Authority	Rank of Average Rank 2007	Rank of Average Rank 2004
Hackney	1	1
Newham	2	6
Tower Hamlets	3	2
Manchester	4	3
Liverpool	5	5
Islington	6	4
Easington	7	7
Knowsley	8	8
Lambeth	9	13
Sandwell	10	14
Barking and Dagenham	11	21
Nottingham	12	9
Haringey	13	10
Birmingham	14	16
Waltham Forest	15	25
Kingston upon Hull, City of	16	11
Greenwich	17	23
Blackpool	18	26
Southwark	19	12
Stoke-on-Trent	20	20

Table 2. Twenty most deprived English local authorities by rank of average rank. (DCLG, 2007).

Sandwell's average deprivation score has worsened since the ID 2004, climbing two places to become the 14th most deprived local authority out of a total of 354. Sandwell's regional neighbour Birmingham is also in the most 20 deprived Local Authorities by average score (ranked 10th).

When deprivation amongst local authorities is judged by average rank Sandwell is ranked 10th most deprived, a poorer display than the position reached in 2004. By this measure Sandwell is the worst performing local authority in the West Midlands region.



Sandwell in the West Midlands Conurbation

Local Authority 2007	Rank of Average Score	Rank of Average Rank	Rank of Extent	Rank of Local Concentration	Rank of Income Scale	Rank of Employment Scale
Birmingham	10	14	12	15	1	1
Coventry	61	71	61	40	23	21
Dudley	100	111	87	81	35	33
Sandwell	14	10	10	47	11	14
Solihull	199	231	124	111	97	95
Walsall	45	48	32	55	27	34
Wolverhampton	28	28	22	44	29	30

Table 3. Sandwell and the West Midlands Conurbation, local authority summaries. (DCLG, 2007)

Since the previous ID in 2004, Sandwell has replaced Birmingham in a few indicators to become the most deprived local authority in the conurbation. Two of the above indicators may require some explanation, *extent* refers to the proportion of the boroughs population living in the most deprived LSOAs, while *local concentration* attempts to discover if a borough's deprivation is concentrated in particular hot spots. Rank of *extent/ local concentration* therefore reveals Sandwell's deprivation is spread across the borough rather than concentrated in certain hotspots. Sandwell remains the most deprived local authority within the Black Country.

Sandwell in a National Context

England is made up of 32,482 LSOAs, 187 of these belonging in the Sandwell borough. Each Sandwell LSOA has been positioned on the national deciles framework (where 1 = 10% most deprived LSOAs in England and 10 = 10% least deprived LSOAs in England). An analysis by national deciles allows us to clearly discover how Sandwell fits into the national picture.

Table 4 shows percentages of Sandwell LSOAs in each of the deciles for all domains.

National Decile	IMD	Income	Employment	Health	Education	Housing	Crime	Environment	IDACI	IDAOPi
(most deprived)1	29.4	27.8	18.7	20.3	39.0	2.1	4.3	32.1	19.3	30.5
2	29.9	28.9	34.8	35.3	27.3	7.5	14.4	25.7	25.7	32.6
3	16.6	13.4	16.6	19.3	12.8	19.3	24.6	19.8	17.6	11.2
4	5.9	7.5	9.1	9.1	10.7	29.4	24.1	13.4	9.1	4.3
5	8.0	4.3	8.0	13.9	2.7	29.4	13.9	5.3	9.6	10.2
6	8.0	9.6	7.5	1.6	3.7	9.1	12.3	2.1	8.0	4.8
7	1.6	5.3	4.3	0.5	2.1	3.2	5.9	1.6	5.3	4.3
8	0.5	1.6	1.1	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.5	0.0	2.1	1.6
9	0.0	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.2	0.5
(least deprived)10	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Table 4. Sandwell LSOAs (%) in national deciles for the deprivation domains 2007. (DCLG, 2007)

Clearly many of Sandwell's LSOAs are in the more deprived national deciles; there are few cases when the boroughs LSOAs are in the least deprived deciles. In the seven domains that make up the IMD 2007 Sandwell LSOAs tend to belong in the most deprived national deciles. In the *income, employment, health, education, and environment* domains over half of Sandwell's LSOAs belong in the 20% most deprived nationally. The combined IMD domain also shows that over half of Sandwell's LSOAs fall into the most deprived 20% nationally.

The combined IMD offers an overall picture of Sandwell's deprivation profile and will now be the subject of greater focus. Looking at changes that have occurred since 2004 and displaying the

2007 data in a map of the borough. This analysis will be conducted with the use of national deciles.

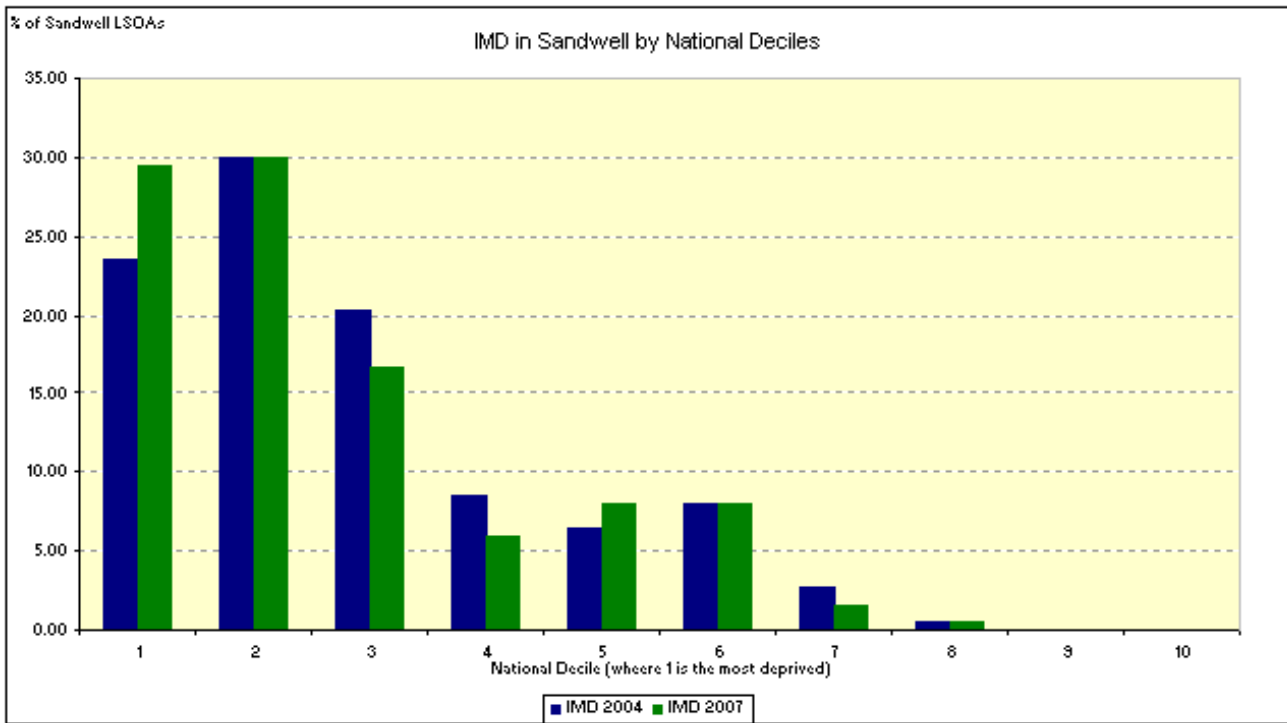
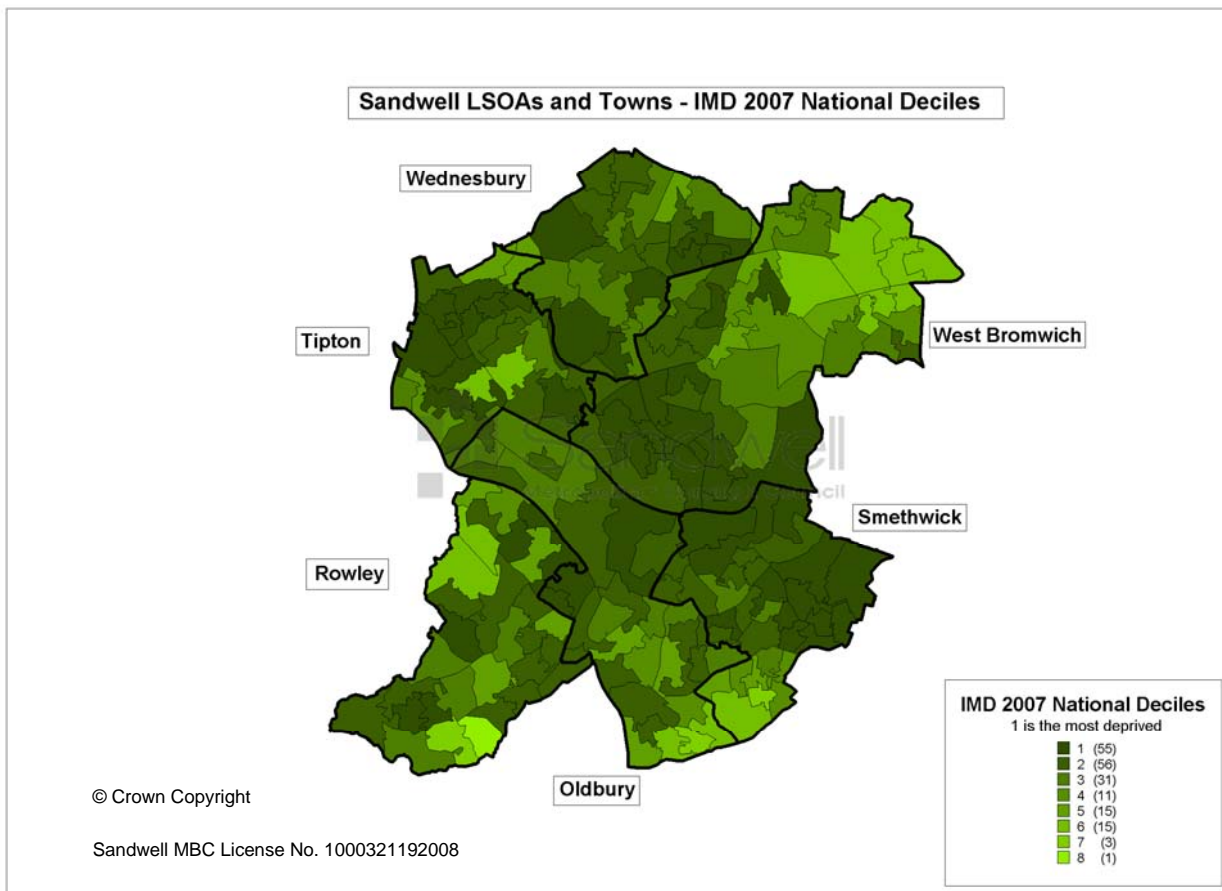


Chart 1. Index of multiple deprivation in Sandwell by national deciles, 2004 and 2007. (DCLG, 2004/07).

It can be seen that the percentage of Sandwell’s LSOAs in the most deprived 10% has grown since 2004. Nearly 30% of Sandwell’s LSOAs fall into this bracket. A further 30% fall into the most deprived 10-20% clearly displaying the high levels of deprivation prevalent in large parts of Sandwell. About 90% of Sandwell LSOAs are in the most deprived half of England’s LSOAs.

These deciles results for Sandwell are best viewed pictorially; the following map shows the overall deprivation levels within Sandwell.



Map1. IMD 2007 National Deciles in Sandwell LSOAs. (DCLG, 2007).

Map 1 of Sandwell displays many of the boroughs LSOAs in dark shades indicating that these are amongst England's most deprived. Large areas of Smethwick, Tipton and West Bromwich are heavily deprived. The less deprived Sandwell areas are represented by lighter shades and can be seen in the north east of West Bromwich, and the peripheries of Smethwick, Oldbury and Rowley. An interactive map that allows for greater analysis can be accessed here ([Index of Multiple Deprivation 2007: Double Map](#)).

Many of the domains have experienced an increase in the number of LSOAs in the most deprived 10% nationally. All but *education*, *crime* and *environment* have experienced a growth of LSOAs in the most deprived 10% nationally. It is in the *health deprivation and disability* domain that Sandwell has experienced a major shift of LSOAs falling into the most deprived 10% nationally, this change requires some attention, especially given the long term nature of these issues.

We can now turn our attention to chart 2 that depicts the changes that have occurred in the *health deprivation and disability* domain since 2004.

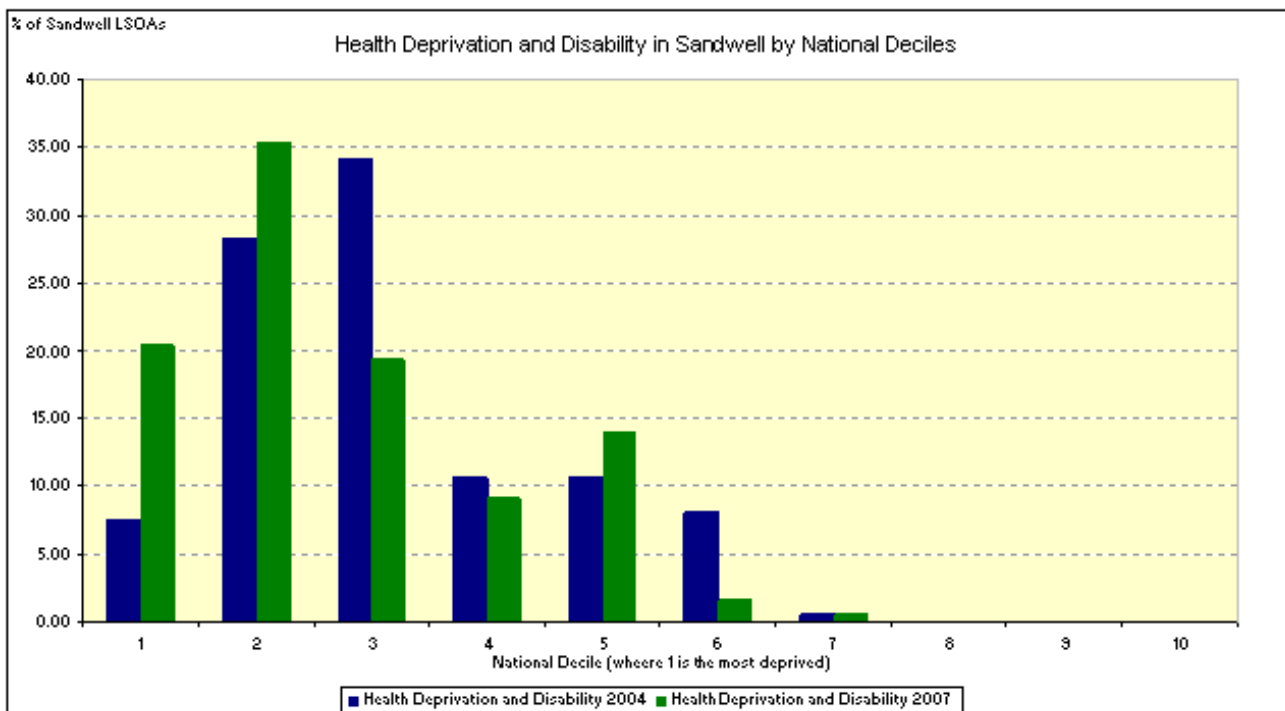


Chart 2. Health Deprivation and Disability in Sandwell by national deciles 2004 and 2007. (DCLG, 2004/07).

This domain measures poor health, early mortality, and disability for all age groups in an area. Since 2004 the proportion of Sandwell LSOAs forming part of the most deprived 10% nationally has significantly increased from 7.5% in 2004 to just over 20% in 2007. The amount of Sandwell LSOAs belonging to the 10-20% most deprived nationally has also witnessed an increase. The vast majority (about 75%) of Sandwell LSOAs are in the most deprived 30% LSOAs in England. Chart 2 shows the clear shift that has taken place in this domain since 2004. Many Sandwell LSOAs have fallen into the more deprived national deciles.

Little has changed for the *income deprivation affecting older people index*, however there is a slight shift to a more deprived position for Sandwell. Over 60% of the boroughs LSOAs are in the two most deprived deciles. An interactive map can be accessed here ([Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index 2007: Double Map](#)). With the growing importance placed on tackling child poverty it is also beneficial to have a greater understanding of the *income deprivation affecting children index* for Sandwell. You can access the interactive map here ([Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index 2007: Double Map](#)).

Below is a chart for the IDACI showing changes in national deciles since 2004.

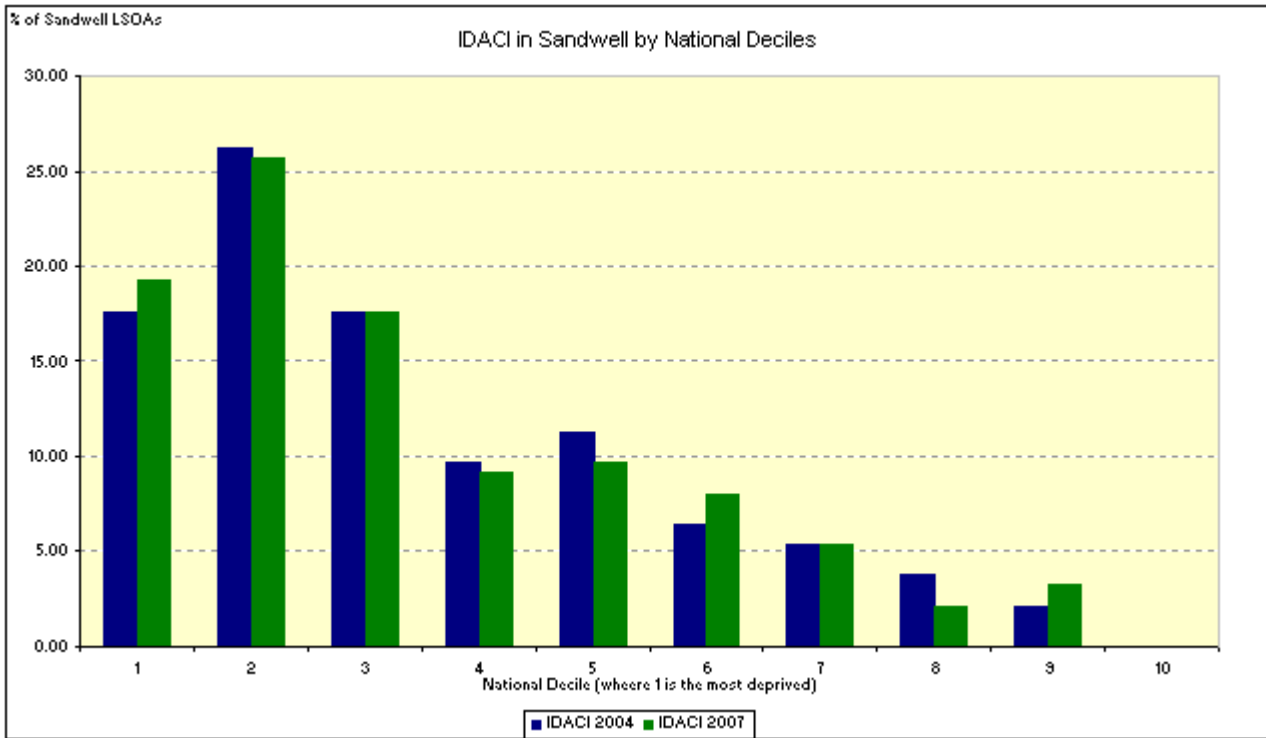


Chart 3. Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index in Sandwell by national deciles 2004 and 2007. (DCLG 2004/07).

The percentage of Sandwell LSOAs belonging in the most deprived 10% nationally has increased slightly since 2004, nearly reaching 20%. Income deprivation affecting children is a significant problem in a large amount of Sandwell’s LSOAs. Generally the proportion of Sandwell LSOAs in each of the national deciles remains very similar. Chart 3 illustrates this clearly.

Deprivation in Sandwell Towns

There are some common deprivation themes that affect all towns in a similar manner. For instance all of the towns have a significantly high proportion of LSOAs in the most deprived 10% for the *education, skills and training* domain. Also there is little extreme deprivation in the *barriers to housing and services*, and *crime and disorder* domains. The different levels of overall deprivation in the towns can be seen more clearly in chart 4.

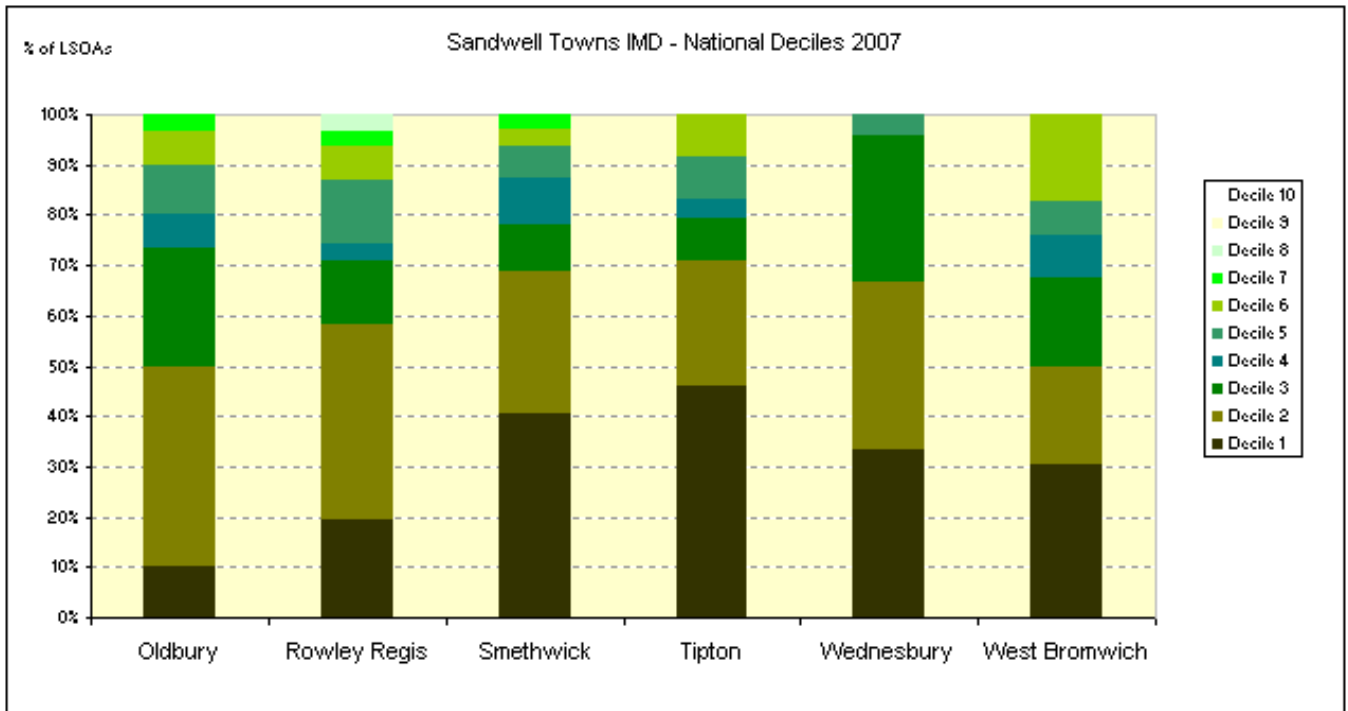


Chart 4. Sandwell towns IMD by National Deciles 2007. (DCLG, 2007)

Chart 4 shows the percentages of LSOAs in each national decile for the IMD domain. It can be seen that Tipton holds the highest proportion of its LSOAs in the most deprived decile for the IMD 2007. Smethwick, Wednesbury and West Bromwich also have high proportions of LSOAs in the most deprived national decile. Wednesbury has the highest proportion of LSOAs, well over 90% of its LSOAs, in the most deprived 30% nationally.

Further Analysis

There are a number of instant atlas reports on the Research Sandwell website addressing other areas of the IMD ([Deprivation and Ethnicity 2007: Double Map](#) and [Index of Multiple Deprivation Subdomains 2007: Double Map](#)). A full report is also in the making looking at all of the above in more detail. In addition to this an analysis will also be conducted upon deprivation in a local context and a focus upon regeneration areas in Sandwell borough.

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