

**COMMUNITY  
WEALTH  
FUND**

**UNDERSTANDING 'LEFT BEHIND'  
NEIGHBOURHOODS  
A VISUAL GUIDE**



### **About this visual guide**

This visual guide compares the characteristics of 'left behind' neighbourhoods to deprived areas and England as a whole.

All data is taken from research carried out by OCSI and Local Trust and can be accessed [here](#) and [here](#).

The paper also references [polling research](#) commissioned by Local Trust from Survation.

### **About the Community Wealth Fund Alliance**

This visual guide was produced by the Community Wealth Fund Alliance (CWFA). The CWFA seeks to secure investment in social infrastructure in those 'left behind' neighbourhoods across the country that need it most.

It is a cross-sectoral campaign to persuade government that the next wave of dormant assets should be invested for this purpose. Local Trust provides the secretariat to the Alliance and is one of its founders.

### **Find out more**

To learn more about the proposal for a Community Wealth Fund and to find out which organisations are supporting it, please visit: [communitywealthfund.org.uk](https://communitywealthfund.org.uk) or contact: [CWF@localtrust.org.uk](mailto:CWF@localtrust.org.uk).

# INTRODUCTION

## What are 'left behind' neighbourhoods?

Research by Local Trust and Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion (OCSI) identifies 225 'left behind' wards across England. These neighbourhoods are not only severely deprived – they rank among the 10 per cent most deprived on the Index of Multiple Deprivation – they also have the highest levels of community needs. They are in the 10 per cent of areas with the weakest community provision based on a new Community Needs Index.

Compared with other similarly deprived areas, these wards have: worse socio-economic outcomes across all metrics; worse educational attainment; lower participation in higher education; fewer job opportunities; and significantly worse health outcomes.

### Why we use the term 'left behind'

We recognise that the term 'left behind' can be controversial. It can imply a lack of rich and diverse heritage as well as local pride in communities. When used to describe a set of places, it can suggest that each place faces and reacts to challenges in the same way, instead of highlighting the uniqueness of every area.

We do not use the term to reinforce these stereotypes. Instead, we use the term to signal that these areas have not received a fair share of investment and therefore lack the services and facilities needed to bring communities together.

Research suggests that some people living in areas that have experienced low levels of investment identify with the term 'left behind', as it is instinctively understandable and has political, social and cultural resonance.

### What is the Community Needs Index (CNI)?

OCSI developed the CNI in 2019 to assess levels of social infrastructure in all the wards in England. It is based on the following three domains:

**Civic assets:** access or proximity to key community assets such as pubs, libraries and green space.

**Connectedness:** access to key services, such as health services, transport, digital infrastructure and local jobs.

**Engaged community:** activity of charities in the area and residents' engagement in civic life and community.

These communities are also suffering disproportionately from the impact of COVID-19; their challenges, particularly those associated with unemployment and poor health, are likely to be exacerbated by the pandemic over the medium to long term.

'Left behind' neighbourhoods are largely concentrated in housing estates on the edges of our post-industrial towns and cities primarily in the Midlands and the north of England and in coastal communities in the South and East of England.

The Community Wealth Fund Alliance is proposing a multi-billion-pound Fund to invest in social infrastructure in 'left behind' neighbourhoods. It is asking government to create an endowment from the next wave of dormant assets (from stocks, shares, bonds and insurance policies) initially worth £880m.

The goal is to secure further funding over the long-term to make the Community Wealth Fund a self-sustaining endowment capable of delivering funding in perpetuity. We are also asking government to release the £500m in the National Debt Fund to provide early stage investment for the Community Wealth Fund.

Funding would be provided to 'left behind' communities over the long term (10-15 years). Spending decisions would be made by residents, with appropriate support, building their confidence and capacity to transform their area, increasing prosperity and improving quality of life into the future.

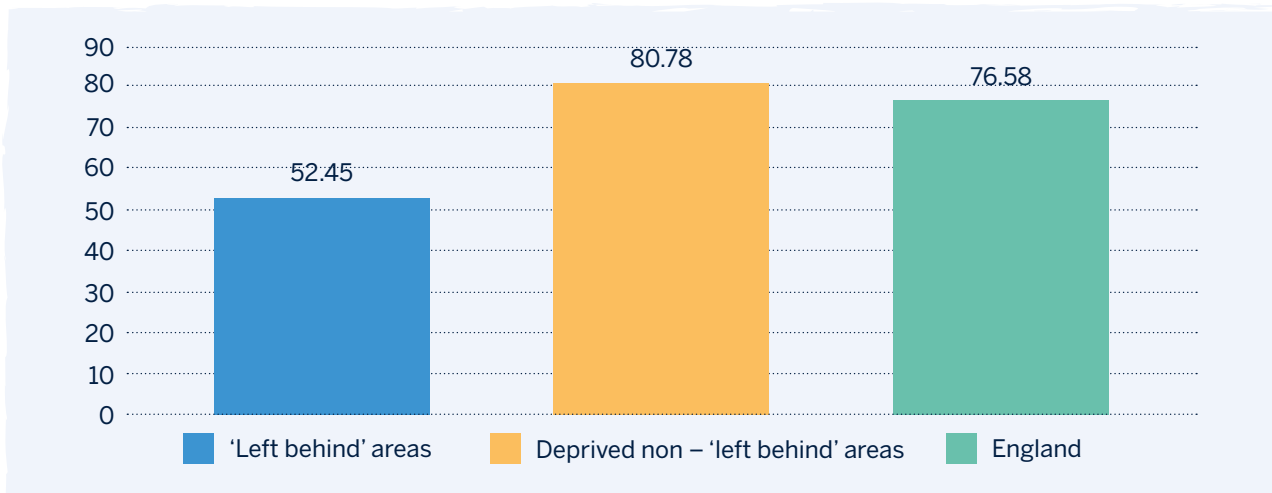
**This visual guide outlines some of the key socio-economic characteristics of 'left behind' neighbourhoods, including employment, health and Covid-19 vulnerability; summarises research that surveyed local residents' aspirations for their local area; and provides the full list of the 225 wards.**

# Part 1: The impact of being 'left behind'

## Employment, economy and poverty

'Left behind' areas have considerably fewer local jobs compared to other poor areas (Figure 1). The below graph depicts the 'jobs density' - which measures the number of jobs found nearby as a percentage of the working age population. It shows there is a sizeable jobs deficit in 'left behind' areas, with only 52.5 jobs available locally per 100 people. In other deprived areas, the figure is 80.8.

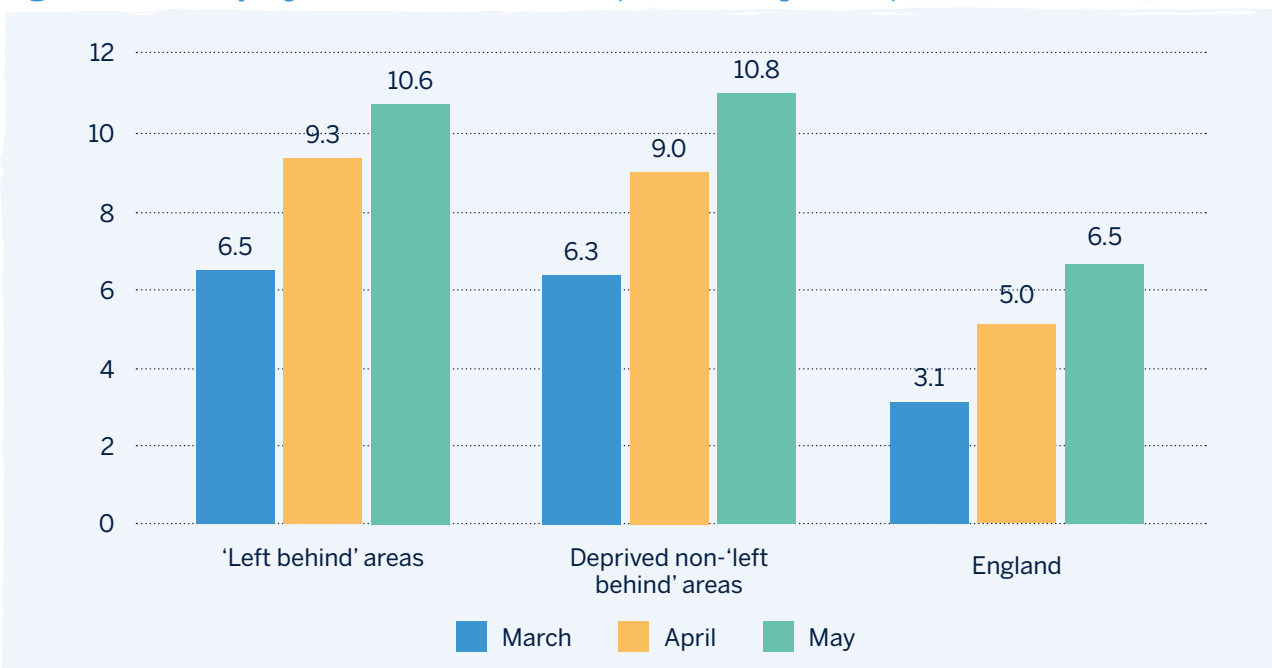
**Figure 1: Jobs density (jobs as a percentage of the working age population)**



Source: [Business Register and Employment Survey \(BRES\), 2018](#).

COVID-19 has created a spike in unemployment in both 'left behind' neighbourhoods and other equally deprived communities (Figure 2). However, with fewer employment opportunities available in 'left behind' communities prior to the crisis, their unemployed residents are likely to find it harder to secure jobs post pandemic.

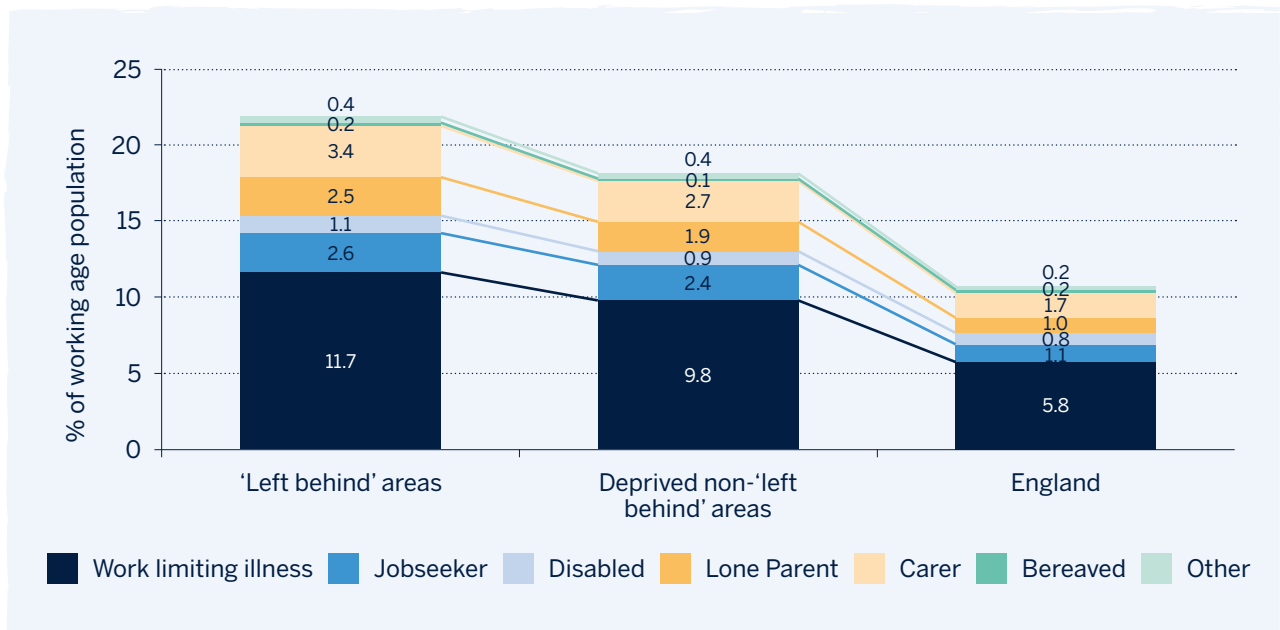
**Figure 2: Unemployment claimant rate (March-May 2020)**



Source: OCSI, based on [Department for Work and Pensions \(DWP\), May 2020](#).

A higher proportion of the working-age population receives some form of state-benefit in 'left behind' areas (Figure 3).

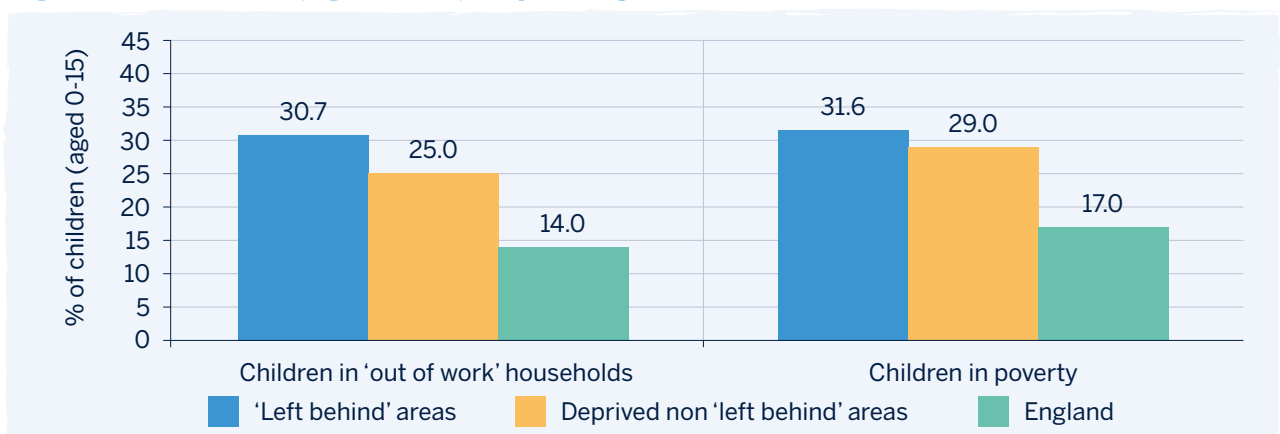
**Figure 3: Proportion of people receiving state benefits**



Source: OCSI based on [Department for Work and Pensions, May 2018](#).

More children face poverty and live in 'out of work' households in 'left behind' neighbourhoods than in similarly deprived areas (Figure 4).

**Figure 4: Children (aged 0-15) in poverty and 'out of work' households**

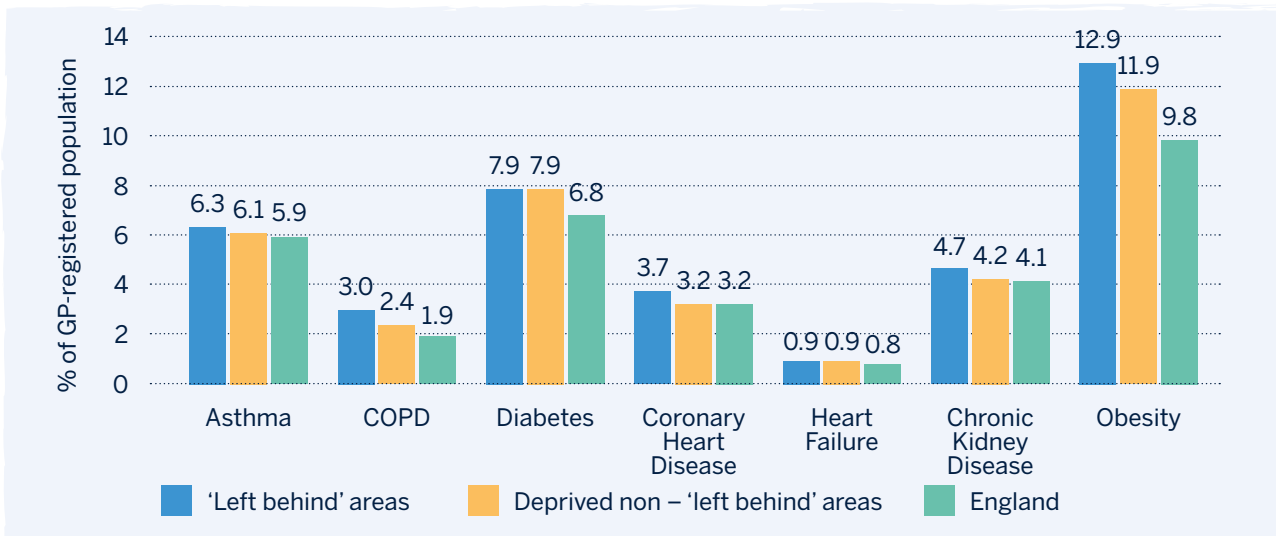


Source: OCSI based on [HM Revenue and Customs/Department for Work and Pensions, 2015](#).

## Health

Residents in 'left behind' neighbourhoods suffer from significantly worse health outcomes than those in other equally deprived communities and England as a whole (Figure 5).

**Figure 5: People with 'at risk' health conditions**

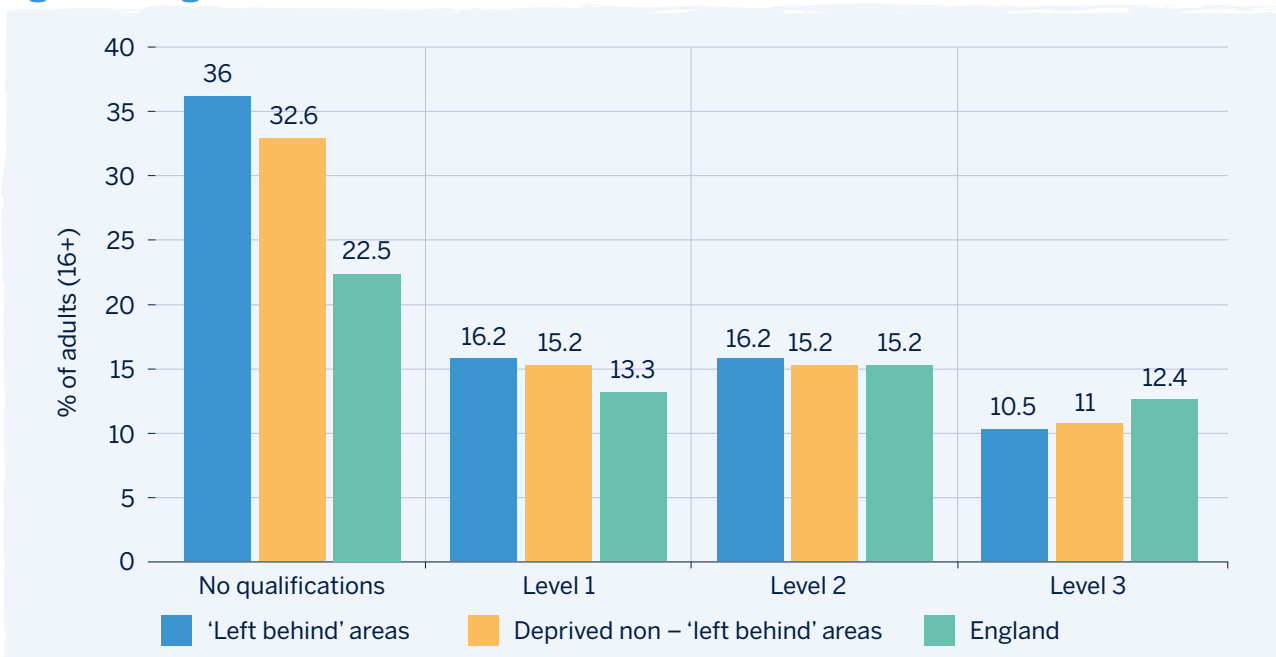


Source: OCSI based on [NHS Digital – from GP registers, 2017-2018](#).

## Education

Residents of 'left behind' neighbourhoods leave school with lower grades, and the proportion with no qualifications at all is markedly higher than other equally deprived areas (Figure 6). This is likely to make it harder for people to gain employment, particularly employment that pays a decent wage.

**Figure 6: Highest level of educational attainment**

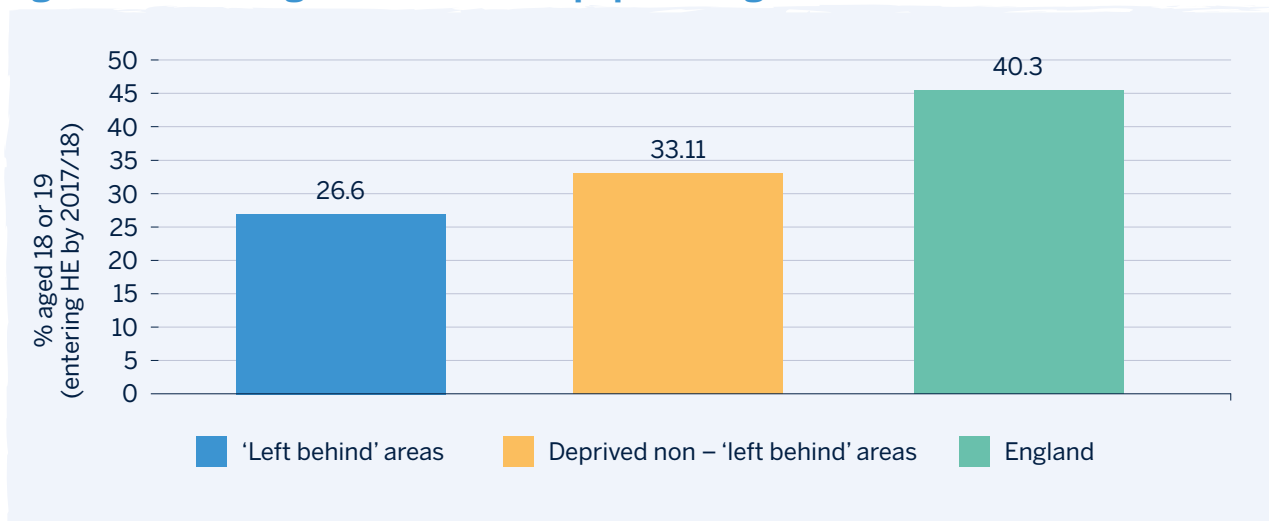


Source: OCSI based on [Department for Education \(DfE\), 2013-2014](#).

Note: Level 1 (1x GCSE or equivalent) Level 2 (5+GCSE passes or equivalent) Level 3 (A-levels or equivalent).

Participation in higher education is also markedly lower in 'left behind' neighbourhoods compared to other equally deprived areas (Figure 7).

**Figure 7: Percentage of state school pupils in higher education**



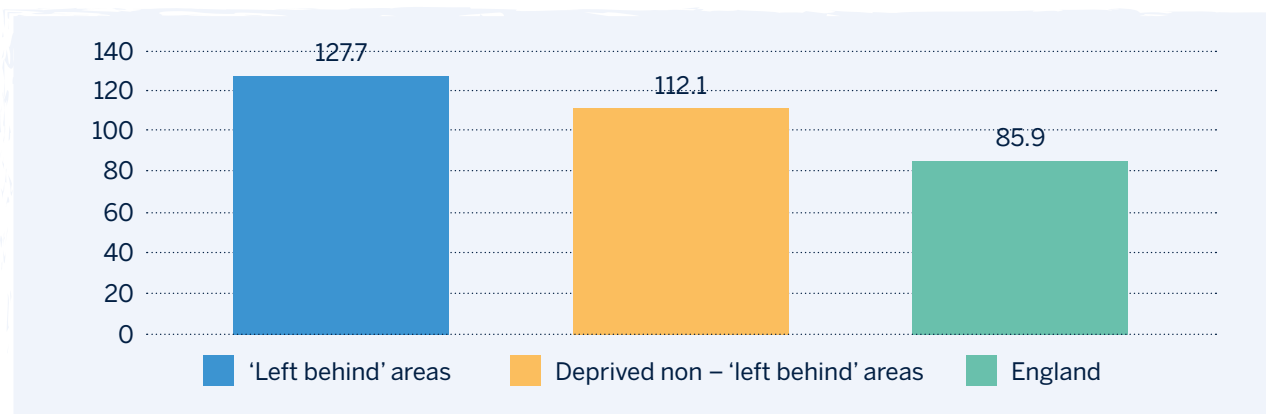
Source: OCSI based on [Office for Students \(ONS\), September 2019](#).

Note: This chart tracks cohorts of 16 year old school pupils in England who completed their GCSEs between 2010 and 2014. It matches them to higher education records for academic years 2012-2013 to 2017-2018.

## COVID-19 vulnerability

The British Red Cross COVID-19 Vulnerability Index brings together data on clinical vulnerability, demographic vulnerability, social vulnerability and health inequalities to identify neighbourhoods 'at risk' from the effects of COVID-19. It shows that 'left behind' neighbourhoods are much more vulnerable to the virus (Figure 8).

**Figure 8: COVID-19 Vulnerability Index**

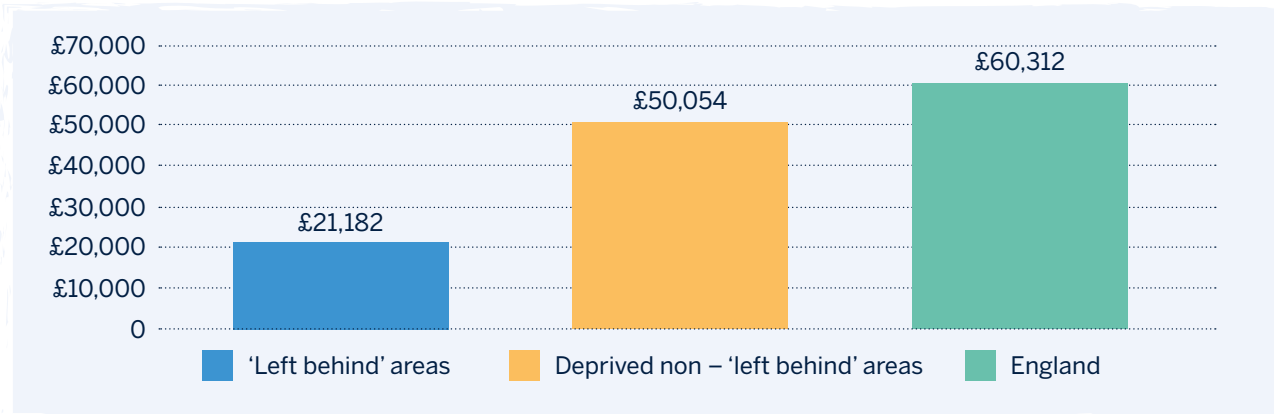


Source: OCSI based on [British Red Cross, 2020](#).



These neighbourhoods, despite being at greater risk from the pandemic, have not had the same support to deal with it (Figure 9). It would appear that they have not accessed the same levels of emergency funding as elsewhere. Early data from 360 Giving on 97 funders who have used the words 'COVID' or 'Coronavirus' in grant descriptions indicates that they have received less than half the funding per head.

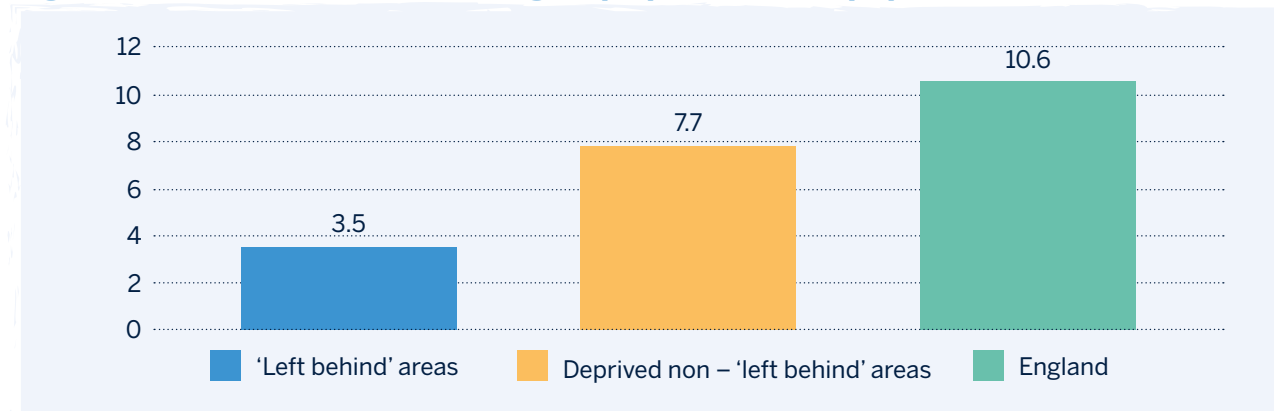
**Figure 9: COVID-19 charitable grants per 100,000 population**



Source: OCSI based on [360 Giving, 2020](#).

Early data from COVID-19 Mutual Aid UK (Figure 10) suggests that many fewer mutual aid groups have been set up in 'left behind' neighbourhoods.

**Figure 10: Number of mutual aid groups per 100,000 population**



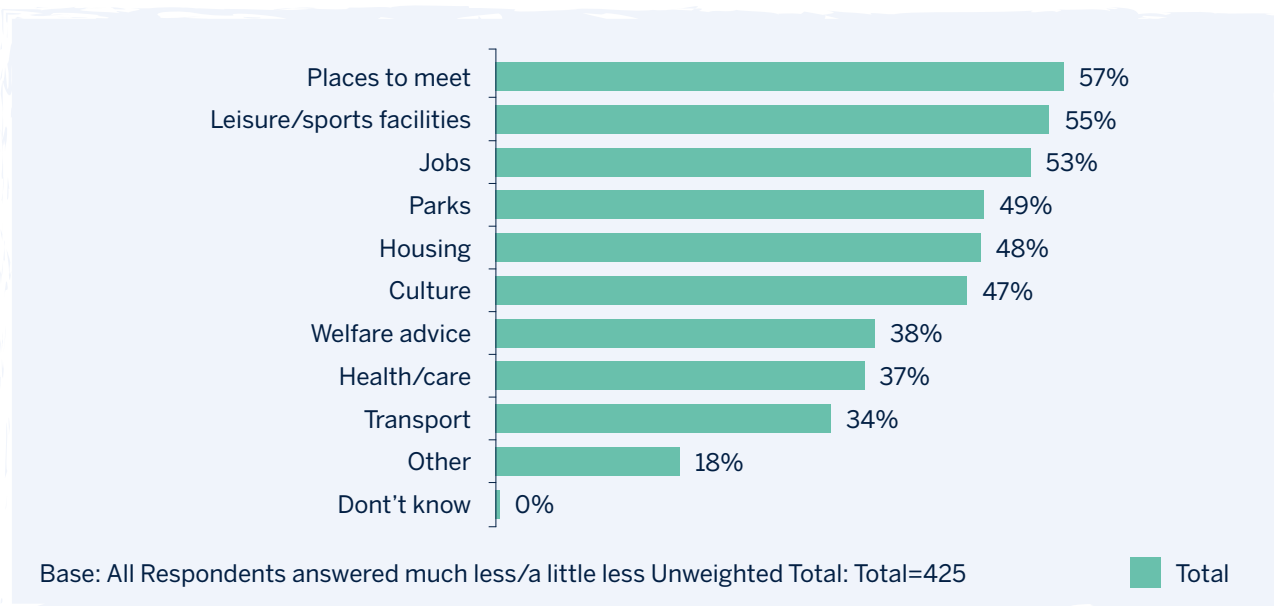
Source: OCSI based on [Covid-19 Mutual Aid UK, 2020](#).

## Part 2: What ‘left behind’ communities want

### Resources for communities

Polling in ‘left behind’ neighbourhoods (Figure 11) found that 57% of people saying their area got less investment cited places to meet as most missing out on funding. This was closely followed by community facilities such as leisure and sports facilities (55 per cent). This highlights the importance that residents in ‘left behind’ communities place on local social infrastructure – places to meet and other community facilities which bring people together.

**Figure 11: You said that your area gets less resources, which areas do you feel are missing out?**



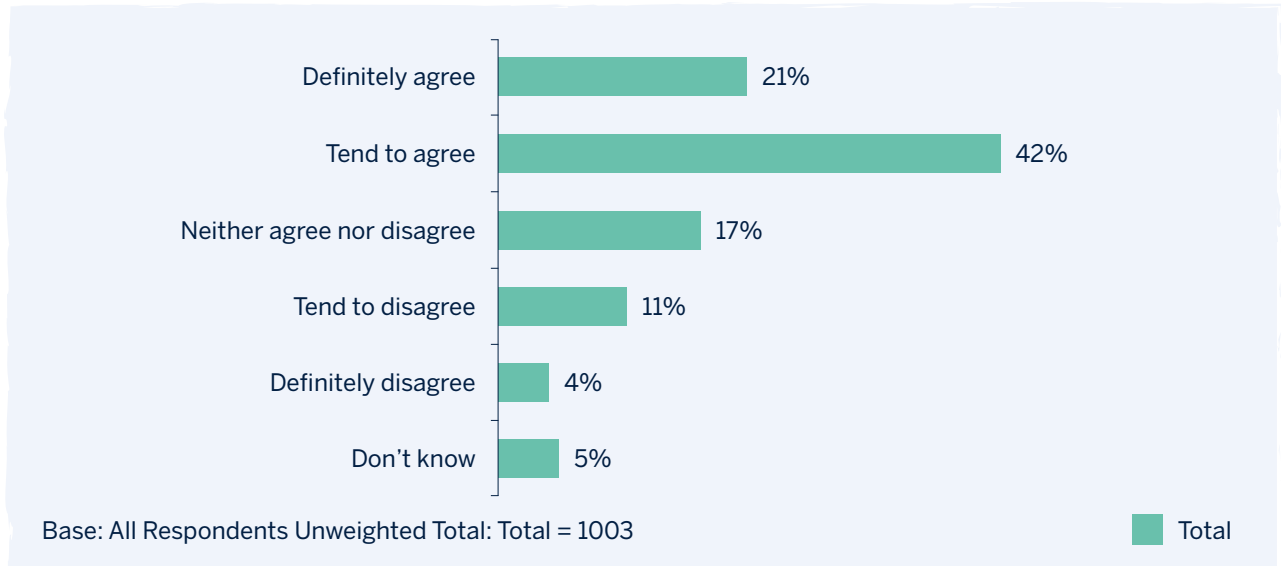
Source: [Survation/Local Trust polling, 2020](#).

Note: All respondents unweighted total: 1003.

## Decision-making power

63% of residents in 'left behind' neighbourhoods agree that local residents have the capacity to really change the way their area is run (Figure 12).

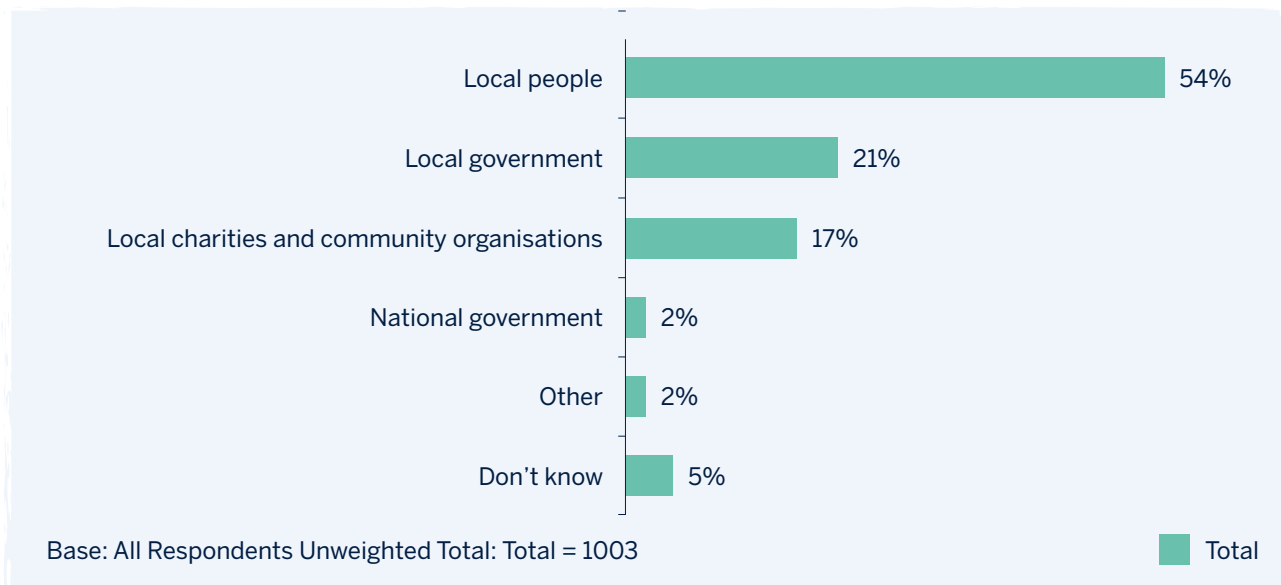
**Figure 12: To what extent do you agree with the following statement: When people in this area get involved in their local community, they really can change the way that their area is run?**



Source: [Survation/Local Trust polling, 2020](#).  
Note: All respondents unweighted total: 1003.

When asked if a fund was set up to help their community, who should lead decisions about how the money was spent, a clear majority (54%) said local people, with a further 17% saying it should be local charities and community organisations (Figure 13). This indicates strong support for community led funding, on the model of the proposed Community Wealth Fund, in these areas.

**Figure 13: 'If a fund was set up to help provide more support to your community, who should lead decisions about how the money is spent?'**



Source: [Survation/Local Trust polling, 2020](#).  
Note: All respondents unweighted total: 1003.

## Part 3: 'Left behind' neighbourhoods

Ward Name	Local Authority
Becontree	Barking and Dagenham
Fieldway	Croydon
Breightmet	Bolton
Farnworth	Bolton
Harper Green	Bolton
Charlestown	Manchester
Harpurhey	Manchester
Miles Platting and Newton Heath	Manchester
Woodhouse Park	Manchester
Balderstone and Kirkholt	Rochdale
Smallbridge and Firgrove	Rochdale
West Heywood	Rochdale
West Middleton	Rochdale
Little Hulton	Salford
Hyde Godley	Tameside
Longdendale	Tameside
Atherton	Wigan
Leigh West	Wigan
Pemberton	Wigan
Belle Vale	Liverpool
Norris Green	Liverpool
Speke-Garston	Liverpool
Yew Tree	Liverpool
Parr	St. Helens
St Oswald	Sefton
Bidston and St James	Wirral
Rock Ferry	Wirral
Seacombe	Wirral
Dearne North	Barnsley
Dearne South	Barnsley
Monk Bretton	Barnsley
St Helens	Barnsley
Maltby	Rotherham
Valley	Rotherham
Wingfield	Rotherham
Windy Nook and Whitehills	Gateshead
Byker	Newcastle upon Tyne
Walker	Newcastle upon Tyne
Woolsington	Newcastle upon Tyne
Bede	South Tyneside

Ward Name	Local Authority
Biddick and All Saints	South Tyneside
Simonside and Rekendyke	South Tyneside
Whiteleas	South Tyneside
Castle	Sunderland
Hendon	Sunderland
Hetton	Sunderland
Redhill	Sunderland
St Anne's	Sunderland
Sandhill	Sunderland
Southwick	Sunderland
Washington North	Sunderland
Bartley Green	Birmingham
Hodge Hill	Birmingham
Kings Norton	Birmingham
Kingstanding	Birmingham
Longbridge	Birmingham
Shard End	Birmingham
Stechford and Yardley North	Birmingham
Stockland Green	Birmingham
Weoley	Birmingham
Binley and Willenhall	Coventry
Henley	Coventry
Longford	Coventry
Hateley Heath	Sandwell
Langley	Sandwell
Princes End	Sandwell
Kingshurst and Fordbridge	Solihull
Smith's Wood	Solihull
Bloxwich West	Walsall
Darlaston South	Walsall
Bilston East	Wolverhampton
East Park	Wolverhampton
Tong	Bradford
Middleton Park	Leeds
Airedale and Ferry Fryston	Wakefield
Hemsworth	Wakefield
Knottingley	Wakefield
South Elmsall and South Kirkby	Wakefield
Wakefield East	Wakefield
Eston	Redcar and Cleveland

Ward Name	Local Authority
Grangetown	Redcar and Cleveland
Kirkleatham	Redcar and Cleveland
Hardwick and Salters Lane	Stockton-on-Tees
Mandale and Victoria	Stockton-on-Tees
Norton South	Stockton-on-Tees
Roseworth	Stockton-on-Tees
Stainsby Hill	Stockton-on-Tees
Stockton Town Centre	Stockton-on-Tees
Appleton	Halton
Halton Castle	Halton
Grange	Halton
Halton Brook	Halton
Halton Lea	Halton
Hough Green	Halton
Mersey	Halton
Norton South	Halton
Bloomfield	Blackpool
Bransholme East	Kingston upon Hull, City of
Bransholme West	Kingston upon Hull, City of
Longhill	Kingston upon Hull, City of
Marfleet	Kingston upon Hull, City of
Orchard Park and Greenwood	Kingston upon Hull, City of
St Andrew's	Kingston upon Hull, City of
Southcoates East	Kingston upon Hull, City of
Southcoates West	Kingston upon Hull, City of
Bestwood	Nottingham
Clifton South	Nottingham
Boscombe West	Bournemouth
Paulsgrove	Portsmouth
Bitterne	Southampton
Moorclose	Allerdale
Moss Bay	Allerdale
Barrow Island	Barrow-in-Furness
Sandwith	Copeland
Shirebrook North West	Bolsover
Loundsley Green	Chesterfield
Rother	Chesterfield
Littlemoor	Weymouth and Portland
Sidley	Rother
Lee Chapel North	Basildon
Pitsea North West	Basildon
Pitsea South East	Basildon

Ward Name	Local Authority
Vange	Basildon
Alton Park	Tendring
Golf Green	Tendring
Harwich East	Tendring
Pier	Tendring
Rush Green	Tendring
St Marys	Tendring
St Osyth and Point Clear	Tendring
Walton	Tendring
Grange	Gosport
Bondfields	Havant
Warren Park	Havant
Town and Pier	Dover
Shepway South	Maidstone
Cliftonville West	Thanet
Dane Valley	Thanet
Eastcliff	Thanet
Newington	Thanet
Northwood	Thanet
Brunshaw	Burnley
Gawthorpe	Burnley
Clover Hill	Pendle
Irwell	Rossendale
Stacksteads	Rossendale
Moorside	West Lancashire
Magdalen	Great Yarmouth
Nelson	Great Yarmouth
Yarmouth North	Great Yarmouth
Avondale Grange	Kettering
Camp Hill	Nuneaton and Bedworth
Gorse Hill	Worcester
Warndon	Worcester
Crewe St Barnabas	Cheshire East
Abbey Hulton and Townsend	Stoke-on-Trent
Bentilee and Ubbertley	Stoke-on-Trent
Blurton West and Newstead	Stoke-on-Trent
Meir North	Stoke-on-Trent
Meir South	Stoke-on-Trent
Tunstall	Stoke-on-Trent
Kings Heath	Northampton
Talavera	Northampton
Newgate	Mansfield

Ward Name	Local Authority
Oak Tree	Mansfield
De Bruce	Hartlepool
Headland and Harbour	Hartlepool
Jesmond	Hartlepool
Manor House	Hartlepool
Annfield Plain	County Durham
Aycliffe West	County Durham
Blackhalls	County Durham
Coundon	County Durham
Craghead and South Moor	County Durham
Deneside	County Durham
Easington	County Durham
Ferryhill	County Durham
Hornden	County Durham
Peterlee East	County Durham
Peterlee West	County Durham
Sildon and Dene Valley	County Durham
Shotton and South Hetton	County Durham
Stanley	County Durham
Trimdon and Thornley	County Durham
Woodhouse Close	County Durham
Choppington	Northumberland
College	Northumberland
Cowpen	Northumberland
Isabella	Northumberland
Kitty Brewster	Northumberland
Newbiggin Central and East	Northumberland
Clarkson	Fenland
Staithe	Fenland
Waterlees Village	Fenland
Sheerness	Swale

Ward Name	Local Authority
Sheppey East	Swale
Fenside	Boston
Gainsborough East	West Lindsey
Berwick Hills & Pallister	Middlesbrough
Brambles & Thorntree	Middlesbrough
Hemlington	Middlesbrough
North Ormesby	Middlesbrough
Park End & Beckfield	Middlesbrough
Brookside	Telford and Wrekin
Folkestone Central	Shepway
Queensway	Wellingborough
Greenhill	North West Leicestershire
Kingswood & Hazel Leys	Corby
Gamesley	High Peak
Central & New Cross	Ashfield
Adwick le Street & Carcroft	Doncaster
Balby South	Doncaster
Bentley	Doncaster
Mexborough	Doncaster
Stainforth & Barnby Dun	Doncaster
Southey	Sheffield
Hartcliffe and Withywood	Bristol, City of
Cherryfield	Knowsley
Halewood South	Knowsley
Northwood	Knowsley
Page Moss	Knowsley
Shevington	Knowsley
St Michaels	Knowsley
Stockbridge	Knowsley
Poplars and Hulme	Warrington



