Biscot Ward is situated in the middle of Luton near the town centre. Within the ward there are three Middle Super Output Areas (MSOAs). A MSOA is a geographical boundary that has an average population of 7,200 people. The main MSOA (Luton 017) that covers the majority of the ward sits mainly within the south of Biscot ward boundary and overlaps into Dallow Ward. The two other MSOAs overlap in the north of the ward. For more information on geographical boundaries please visit http://www.statistics.gov.uk/geography/ons_geog.asp

Key Biscot Ward Summary Points:

- **The population is estimated to be younger than Luton as a whole.**
- Census data showed a much higher proportion than the Luton average of non-white ethnic groups (65% compared to 28%).
- High General Fertility Rate (GFR) - 130 births per 1000 women aged 15-44 compared to 84 in Luton as a whole.
- Significantly lower male life expectancy compared to the Luton average.
- Respiratory diseases and ‘other’ causes make up a higher proportion of all deaths in Biscot compared to the proportion of all deaths in Luton as a whole.
- High premature circulatory disease mortality (highest 20% of areas in Luton).
- Second highest deprivation in all Luton wards.
- High smoking attributable mortality (highest 40% of areas in Luton).
- Low estimated prevalence of obesity (lowest 25% of areas in Luton).
- High estimated prevalence of diabetes (highest 20% of areas in Luton).
Demography

Population:
The national source for population figures come from the Office for National Statistics (ONS). The 2001 census population for Biscot was 12,982. The population estimate by ONS shows Biscot ward is estimated to have increased by 5.8% from 2001 to 13,729 in 2007.

Luton Borough Council (LBC) has also estimated the local population and based on their calculations the population was estimated to be 14,350 in 2007 - 4.5% higher than the ONS estimate. The Council believes the influencing factor in this is migration which they suggest is underestimated by ONS. They have projected that Biscot’s population will decrease by 1.2% from 2007 to 2012.

The population in Biscot is younger than Luton as whole with a much higher proportion of the population aged 0-9 years and 20-34 years (shown in Figure 1).

Figure 1: Age breakdown in Biscot Ward

![Age breakdown of Biscot ward (mid 2007 estimate) compared to Luton, East of England and England](image)

Source: Mid-2007 estimate, ONS

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2 Standardised mortality rates show the number of deaths of a particular disease per 100,000 population.
Ethnic Group:

Table 1: Ethnic group (2001 census)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ethnic Group</th>
<th>Biscot %</th>
<th>Luton %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White: British</td>
<td>30.17</td>
<td>64.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White: Irish</td>
<td>2.42</td>
<td>4.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White: Other White</td>
<td>2.37</td>
<td>2.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed: White and Black Caribbean</td>
<td>0.72</td>
<td>1.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed: White and Black African</td>
<td>0.39</td>
<td>0.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed: White and Asian</td>
<td>0.67</td>
<td>0.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed: Other Mixed</td>
<td>0.32</td>
<td>0.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian or Asian British: Indian</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>4.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian or Asian British: Pakistani</td>
<td>29.72</td>
<td>9.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian or Asian British: Bangladeshi</td>
<td>19.25</td>
<td>4.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian or Asian British: Other Asian</td>
<td>1.59</td>
<td>0.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or Black British: Caribbean</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or Black British: African</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>1.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or Black British: Other Black</td>
<td>0.46</td>
<td>0.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese or other ethnic group: Chinese</td>
<td>1.04</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese or other ethnic group: Other ethnic group</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>0.34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: ONS 2001 census

Please note census data is still the only comprehensive source of data for ward level ethnic group data, however bear in mind this is now out of date (2001) and should be used as an indication only. The 2011 census information should be available in 2012. The 2001 census data shows Biscot had a higher proportion than the Luton average of non-white ethnic groups (65% compared to 28%). This is likely to have changed as ONS estimates for 2007 suggest Luton’s non-white population has grown to 35% overall.

Births

The number of live births registered to Biscot residents has risen from 305 in 1998 to 421 in 2008. The 2007 General Fertility Rate (GFR) for Biscot was 130 births per 1000 women aged 15-44 compared to 84 per 1000 for Luton and 62 per 1000 in England.

Mortality and Life Expectancy

The main causes of death in Biscot, Luton and England are circulatory diseases. These make up 30.7% of all deaths in Biscot compared with 31.4% in Luton as a whole in 2006-08. Biscot has a lower than Luton average, proportion of all deaths from cancer but a higher proportion from respiratory disease and ‘other’ (Figure 2). In Biscot, this category mainly comprises of diseases of the nervous system, mental and behavioural disorders and genitourinary diseases.

Biscot has a higher rate of mortality\(^2\) compared to Luton. Premature circulatory disease mortality falls within the highest 20% of areas within Luton and premature cancer mortality falls within the highest 40% of areas.

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\(^2\) Standardised mortality rates show the number of deaths of a particular disease per 100,000 population. They take into account population size, age and gender differences that exist between areas. Therefore
Figure 2: Main causes of death in Biscot and Luton as a whole (2006-08)

![Bar chart showing causes of death in Biscot and Luton](image)

Source: ONS Annual District Death files

Life expectancy for both males and females in the main MSOA in Biscot (017) is in the lowest 20% in Luton, the male life expectancy is significantly lower than the Luton average. Figure 3 also shows the female life expectancy is significantly higher than males within this MSOA.

Figure 3: Life expectancy for male and females in Luton MSOAs

![Graph showing life expectancy](image)

Source: ERPHO 2009 Inequalities Profile

an area may have a lower than average proportion of all deaths from a particular disease however the actual number of deaths could still be high in relation to that areas population and demographics.
Deprivation

The Index of Multiple Deprivation\(^3\) combines a number of indicators, chosen to cover a range of economic, social and housing issues into a single deprivation score for each small area in England. This allows each area to be ranked relative to one another according to their level of deprivation.

The national average deprivation score for local authorities’ ranges from 4.13 to 46.97 (the higher the average deprivation score the more deprived an area). Overall Biscot Ward has the second highest deprivation in Luton with an average score of 37.18 compared to 24.73 in Luton. Figure 4 shows the majority of the ward falls in the 40% most deprived areas in Luton, however the north eastern area of the ward is in the 40% least deprived areas in Luton.

The Child Well-Being Index (CWI) is made up of seven domain indices. These are material well-being, health and disability, education, crime, housing, environment and children (at risk of being) in need. The CWI is a small area index for children. Each area is scored across these seven domains with one representing the highest well-being\(^4\).

Figure 5 shows a similar picture when looking at the child well-being index compared to deprivation overall. It shows children in the north eastern part of Biscot Ward fall within the 40% highest well-being within Luton compared to the south and north west areas that fall within the 40% lowest well-being in Luton.

Additional information shows that when compared nationally, all areas within Biscot Ward fall within the 50% lowest well-being with an area in the western part of the ward falling within the 10% lowest well-being.

Figure 4: Deprivation in Biscot Ward

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\(^4\) Luton Borough Council have produced a more detailed local analysis of the CWI which can be found at http://www.luton.gov.uk/media\%20library/pdf/environment\%20&\%20regeneration/planning/observatory/lo cal\%20index\%20of\%20child-wellbeing\%202009.pdf
The data used in this section comes mainly from the model-based estimates of healthy lifestyle behaviours produced by The National Centre for Social Research (NatCen) and commissioned by The NHS Information Centre for Health and Social Care. These estimates use the most recent Health Survey for England (HSfE) data and are published as experimental statistics. They are calculated based on the local characteristics of the area and do not take account of
any additional local factors that may impact on the true prevalence rate. Therefore they cannot be used to monitor performance or changes over time.

This data is presented at a MSOA level but due to the smaller geography (and therefore smaller numbers) there may not be any significant differences with the Luton average, the data is indicative only of the areas estimated prevalence.

**Smoking:**

Figure 6: Smoking prevalence in MSOAs in Luton

Based on the characteristics of the local population, smoking prevalence in the main MSOA in Biscot is estimated to be in the lower 50% of areas in Luton and similar to the Luton average (Figure 6).

Figure 7: Smoking attributable mortality in Luton MSOAs
Smoking attributable mortality in the main MSOA of Biscot is estimated to be in the lowest 20% of areas in Luton (Figure 7).

**Obesity:**

Figure 8: Adult obesity prevalence in Luton MSOAs

Based on the characteristics of the local population, adult obesity in the main MSOA of Biscot is estimated to be in the lowest 25% of areas in Luton (Figure 8).

Figure 9: Reception Year risk of overweight or obesity
Figures 9 and 10 show the proportion of children in Year 6 and Reception year who are at risk of being overweight or obese. They show the proportion of children at risk in Biscot ward falls within the highest 40% for Reception year (28%) and lowest 40% for Year 6 (35%) children in Luton wards. Neither is dissimilar to the Luton (26%, 36%) and England (23%, 33%) averages.

Binge Drinking:
Based on the characteristics of the local population, binge drinking (16 years and over) in the main MSOA of Biscot is estimated to be in the lowest 25% of areas in Luton (Figure 11).

**Healthy Eating:**

Based on the characteristics of the local population, healthy eating (16 years and over) in the main MSOA of Biscot is estimated to be in the highest 40% of areas in Luton (Figure 12).

**Teenage Conceptions**
The teenage conception rate in Biscot Ward is in the lower 25% of wards in Luton, significantly lower than the England (40.9) average.

**Disease Prevalence**

**Diabetes**

Figure 14: Estimated diabetes prevalence in Luton by ward
Figure 14 shows diabetes prevalence taken from the Association of Public Health Observatories (APHO) Diabetes Prevalence Model 2010. Diabetes prevalence in Biscot is estimated to be in the highest 20% in Luton.

APHO has developed other disease prevalence models\(^5\). These give estimated and projected prevalence for Luton as a whole on a range of diseases including coronary heart disease, hypertension and stroke. Apart from the diabetes model there are currently no ward estimates. However, APHO have developed estimates by GP practice\(^5\). The Quality Outcomes Framework (QOF) also has recorded prevalence at a GP level published annually\(^6\).


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