

Rural Deprivation – national trends and implications for rural communities

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Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015

Deprivation is measured by IMD, but this suffers from urban bias:

-Access and distance excluded, unlike in Scotland's SIMD.

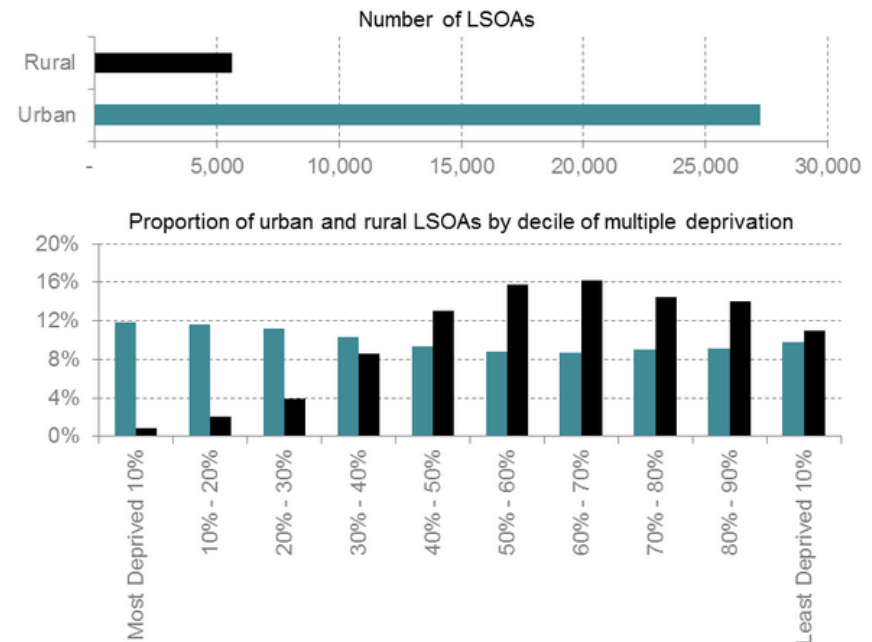
-And picks up concentrations in 'deprived areas'

-Domains include: Income, Employment, Health, Education, Housing & Services, Crime, Environment.

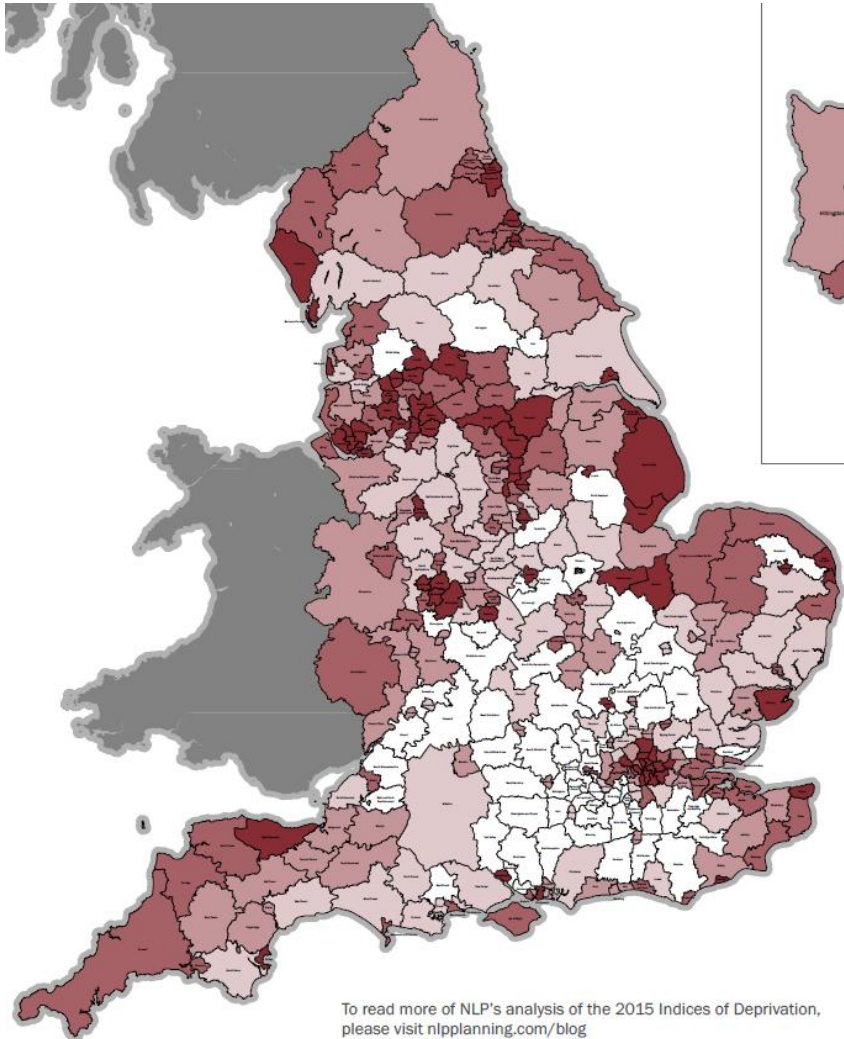
As a result most "deprivation" is found to be urban, as shown in these two diagrams.....

and on these maps....

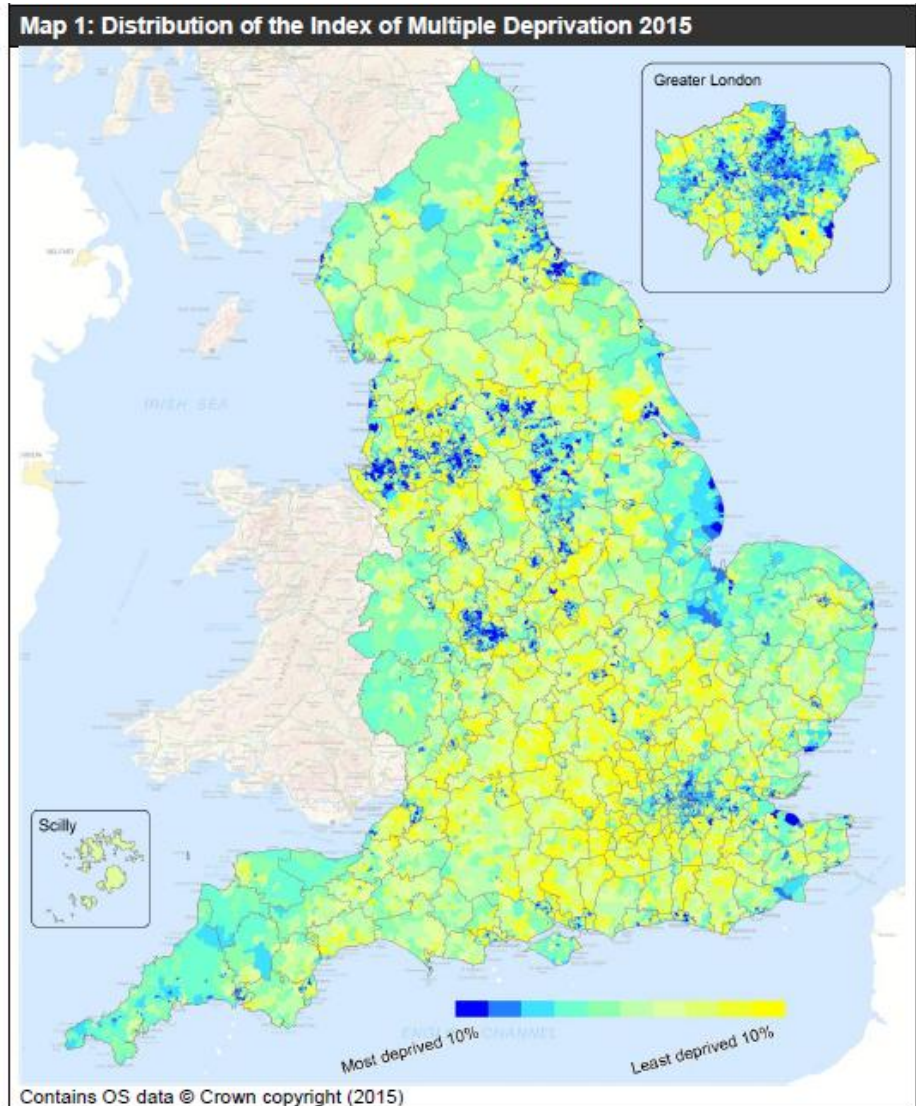
Figure 1: Number of Lower Super Output Areas by rural/urban classification and proportion decile of multiple deprivation (Source: DCLG, NLP analysis)



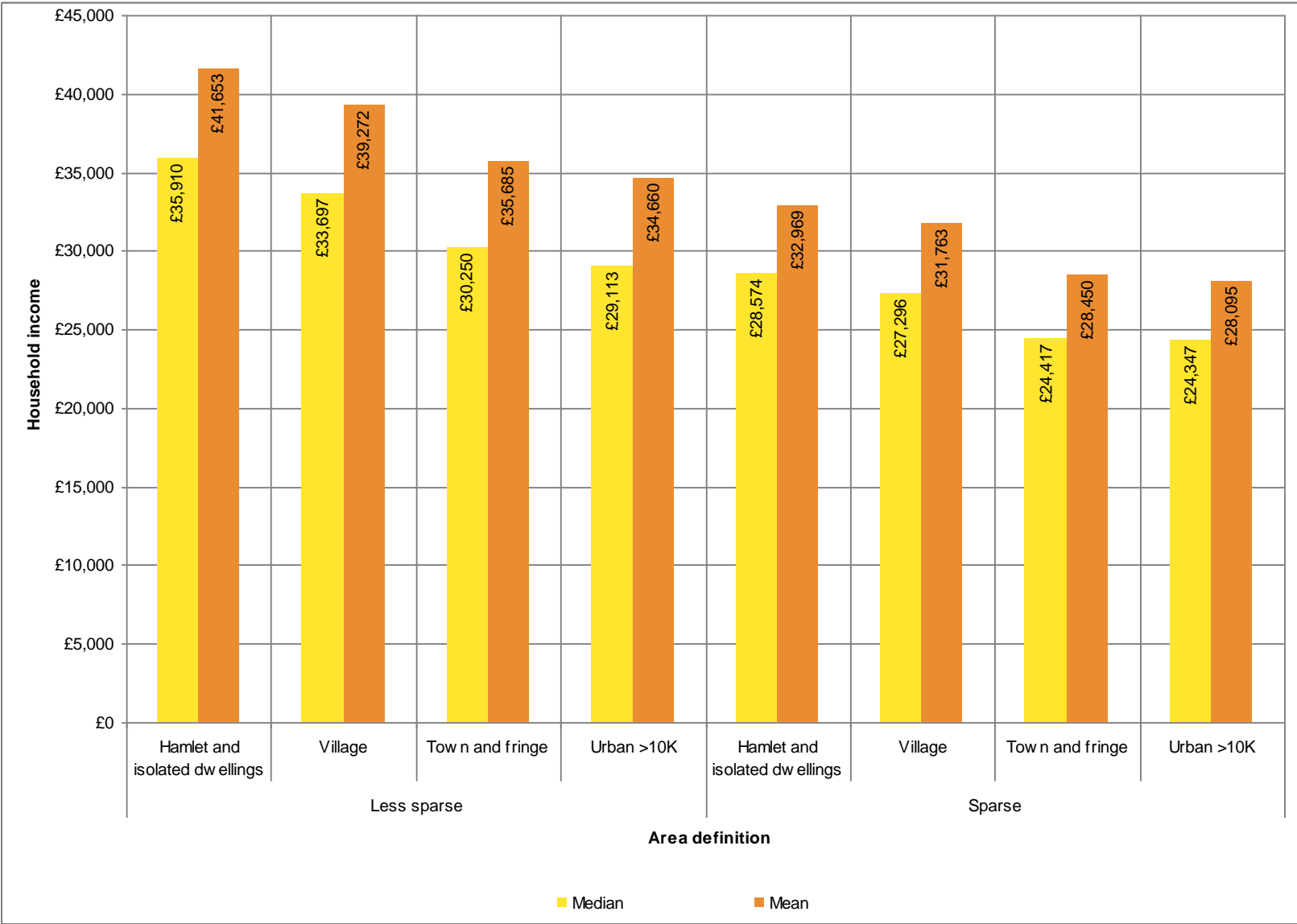
Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015



To read more of NLP's analysis of the 2015 Indices of Deprivation, please visit nlplanning.com/blog



Average Household Income 2010 (before housing costs)



JRF Action in Rural Areas 2000

- Hidden and dispersed poverty in rural areas.
- Lower take-up of benefits.
- Low pay, especially in small workplaces.
- Detachment from labour markets.
- Poverty among self employed (incl. farmers).
- Lack of affordable housing.
- Lack of transport, childcare, advice and info.
- Broadband and mobile signal infrastructure.
- Out-migration of young people.

CRC's Rural Disadvantage 2006



- **Financial Poverty**
 - No wages, low wages, or small pensions
 - Importance of benefit entitlements and NMW.
- **Access Poverty**
 - Access to transport and services
 - Providing services in accessible ways
- **Network Poverty**
 - Lack of informal contact with, and help from, friends and neighbours. Public space being lost.
 - Family moving away as housing unaffordable
- **Attitudes and Perceptions**
 - Belief in rural idyll prevents recognition of others' disadvantage. Residents critical of welfare state.

Rural Productivity Plan

Rural areas fully connected to the wider economy

1. Extensive, fast, reliable broadband service
2. High quality, widely available mobile communications
3. Modern transport connections

A highly skilled rural workforce

4. Access to high quality education and training
5. Expanded apprenticeships in rural areas

Strong conditions for rural business growth

6. Enterprise zones in rural areas
7. Better regulation and improved planning for rural businesses

Easier to live and work in rural areas

8. More housing
9. Increased availability of affordable childcare

Greater local control

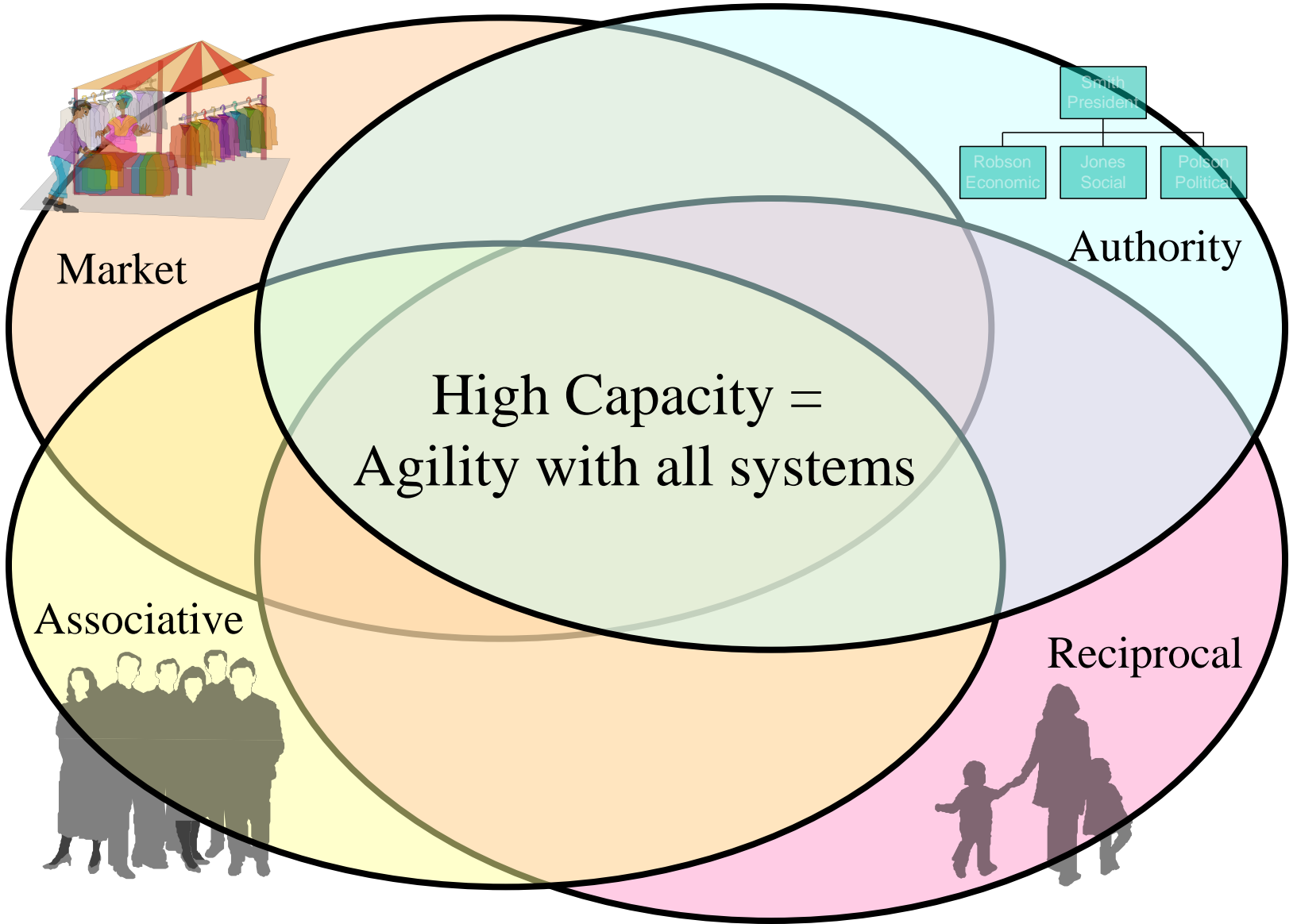
10. Devolution of power

Processes behind Rural Deprivation

Rural deprivation may be understood in terms of 4 systems by which resources are allocated:

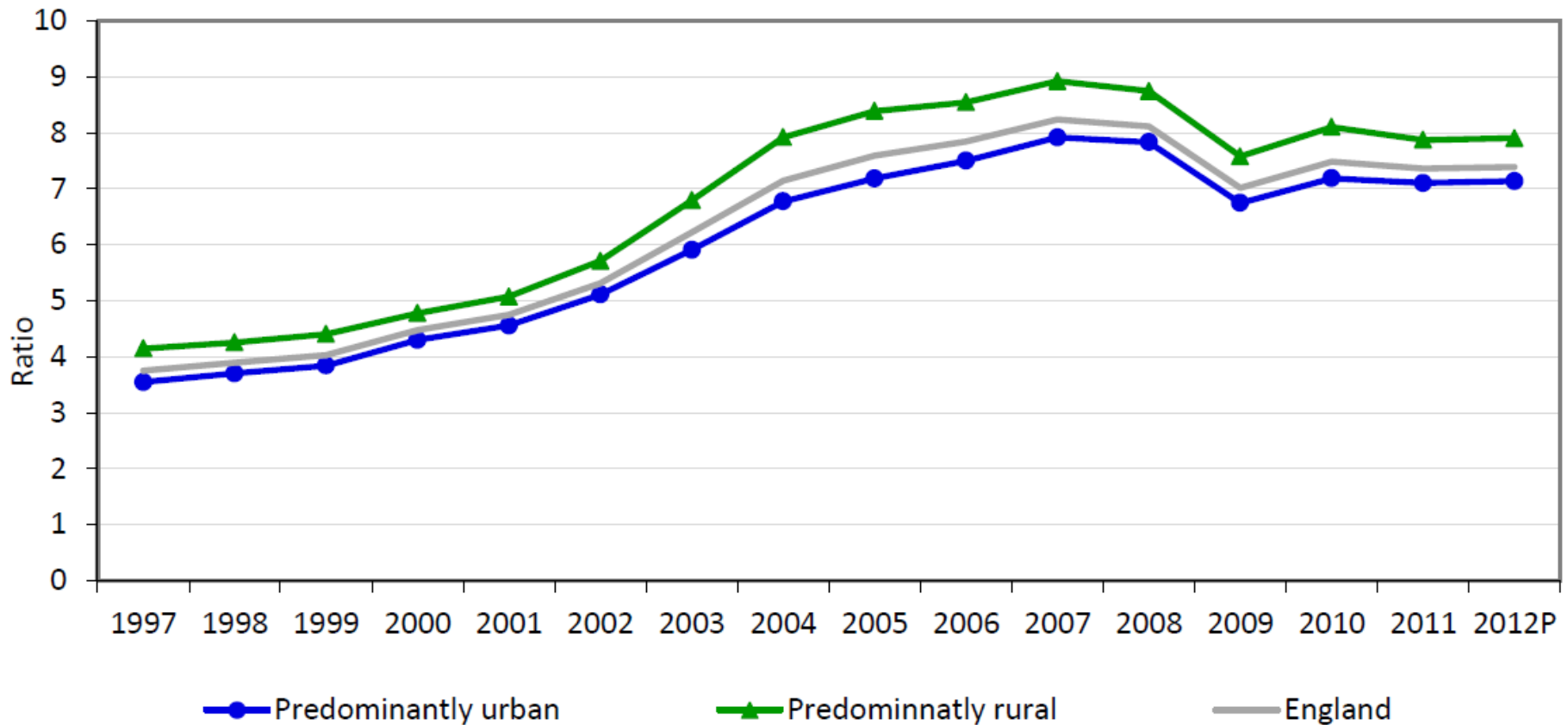
- Market Processes
- Bureaucratic (State) Processes
- Associative Processes (Voluntary)
- Reciprocal Processes (Family & Friends)

How do people become excluded/included?



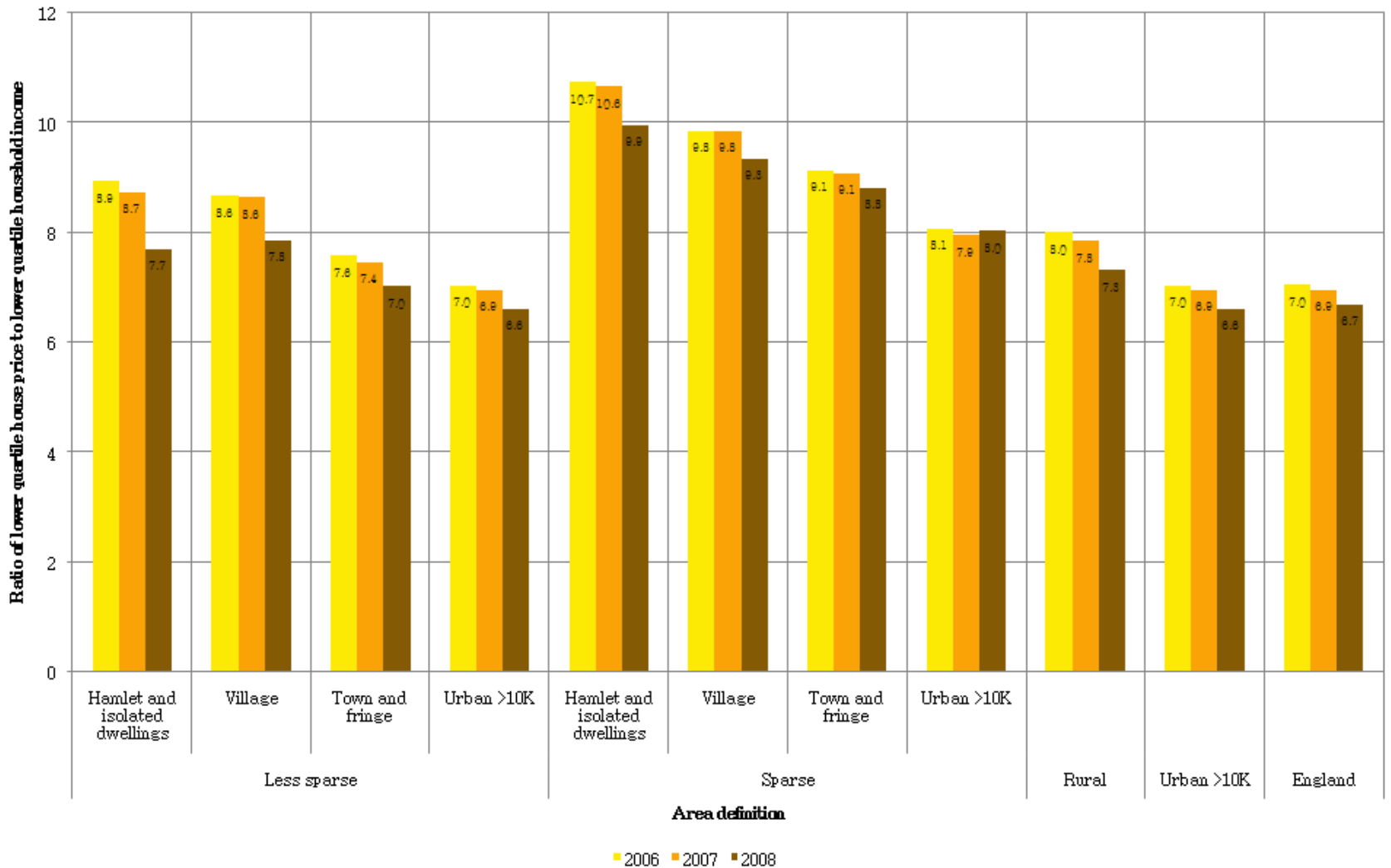
Housing Affordability

Ratio of lower quartile house prices to lower quartile earnings, by Local Authority Classification, in England, 1997 to 2012



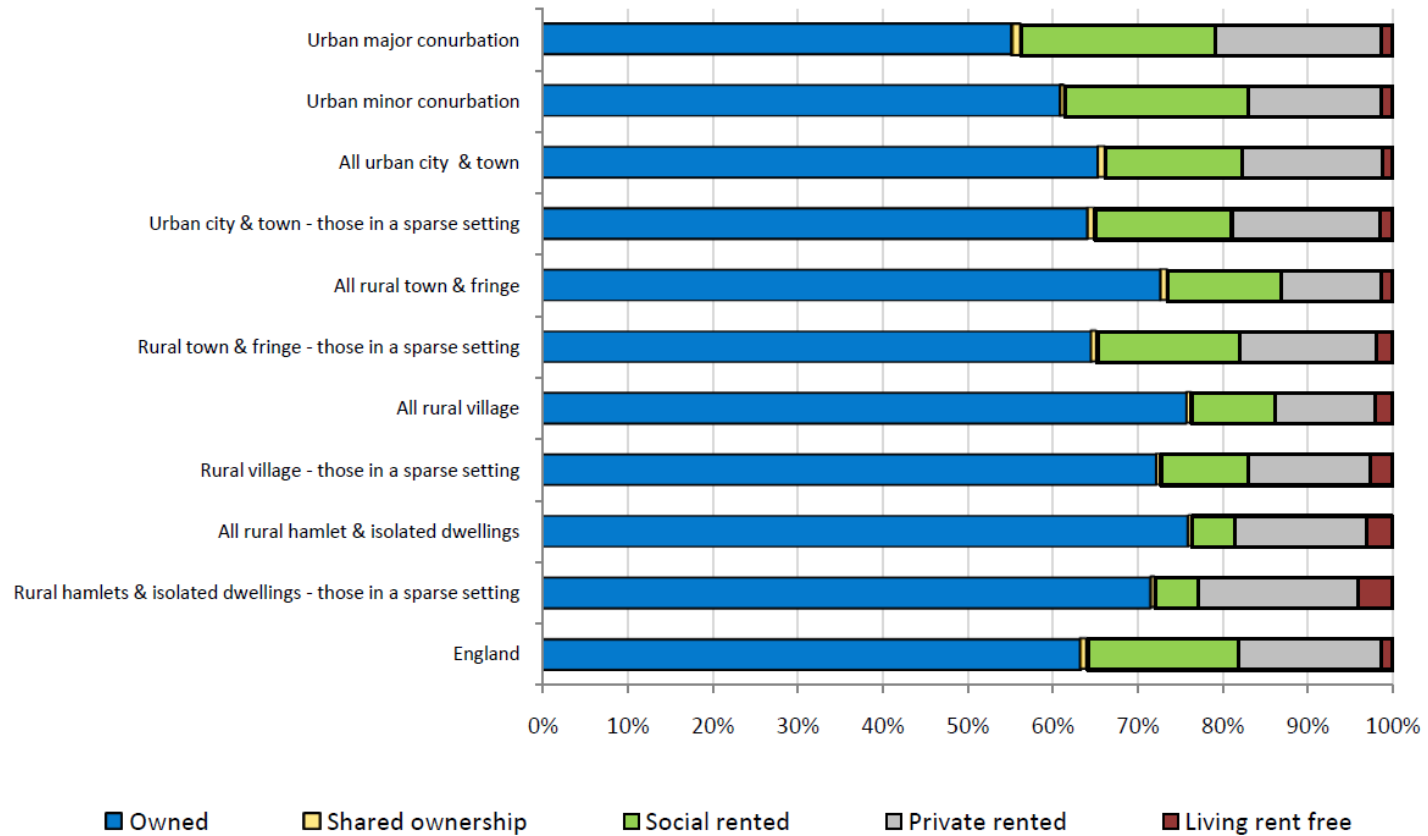
Housing Affordability, 2006-08

Ratio of lower quartile house price to lower quartile household income by area definition, 2006 to 2008 (National)

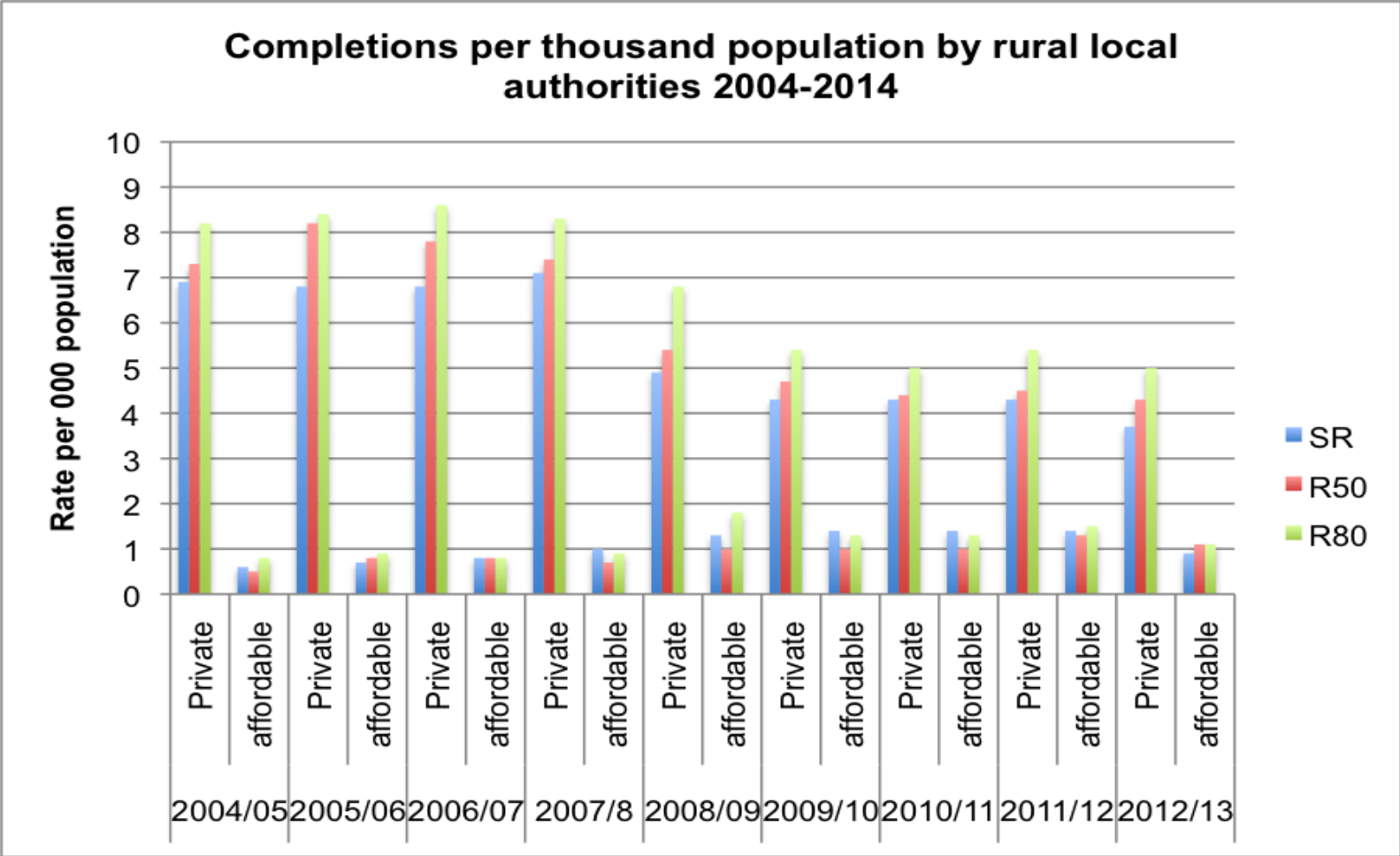


Housing Tenure, 2011

Percentage of households in 2011, by tenure and settlement type, England

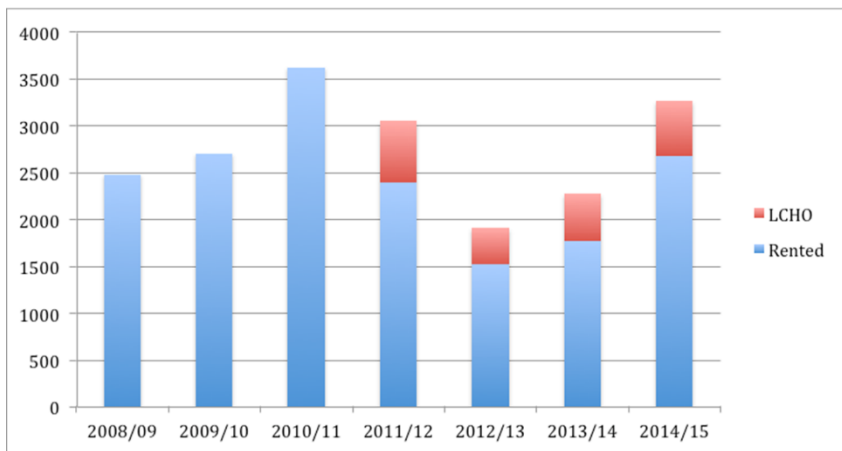


Rural completions per 1,000 popn



Rural housing policy?

Rural Completions HCA AHP



How will anyone but the most wealthy be able to afford to live in an ever more 'exclusive countryside'?

Demise of affordable rented housing in rural areas?

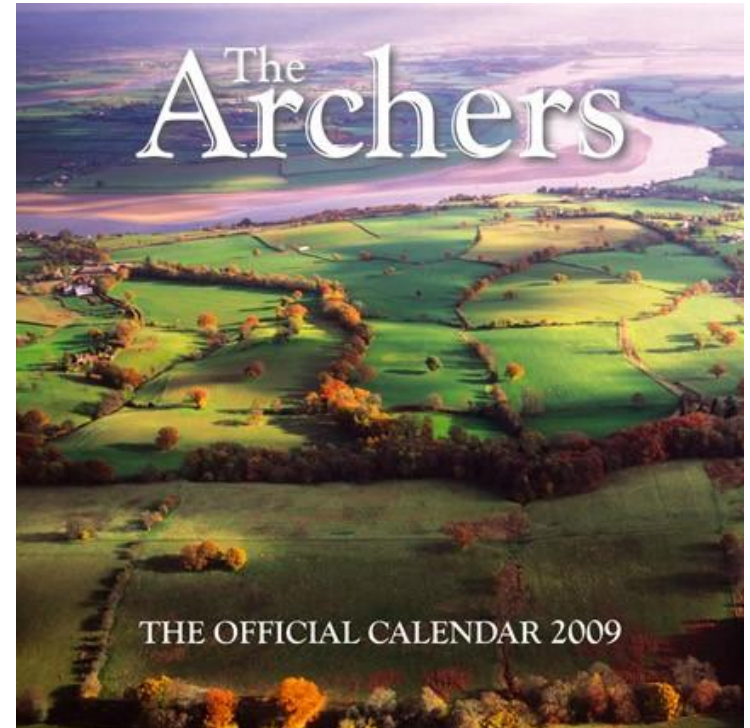
- No affordable housing quotas for schemes of fewer than 10 homes.
- Extension of Right To Buy to housing associations:
 - Land supply; planning policy; community support; financial risk
 - How effective will rural exemptions be?
- Exception sites not to be used for starter homes after all, but will these sites still be available?
- Private rents similar in rural and urban areas.

Unaffordable rural housing

'Only 22 of the 52 characters in the Archers could now afford to live in Ambridge.'

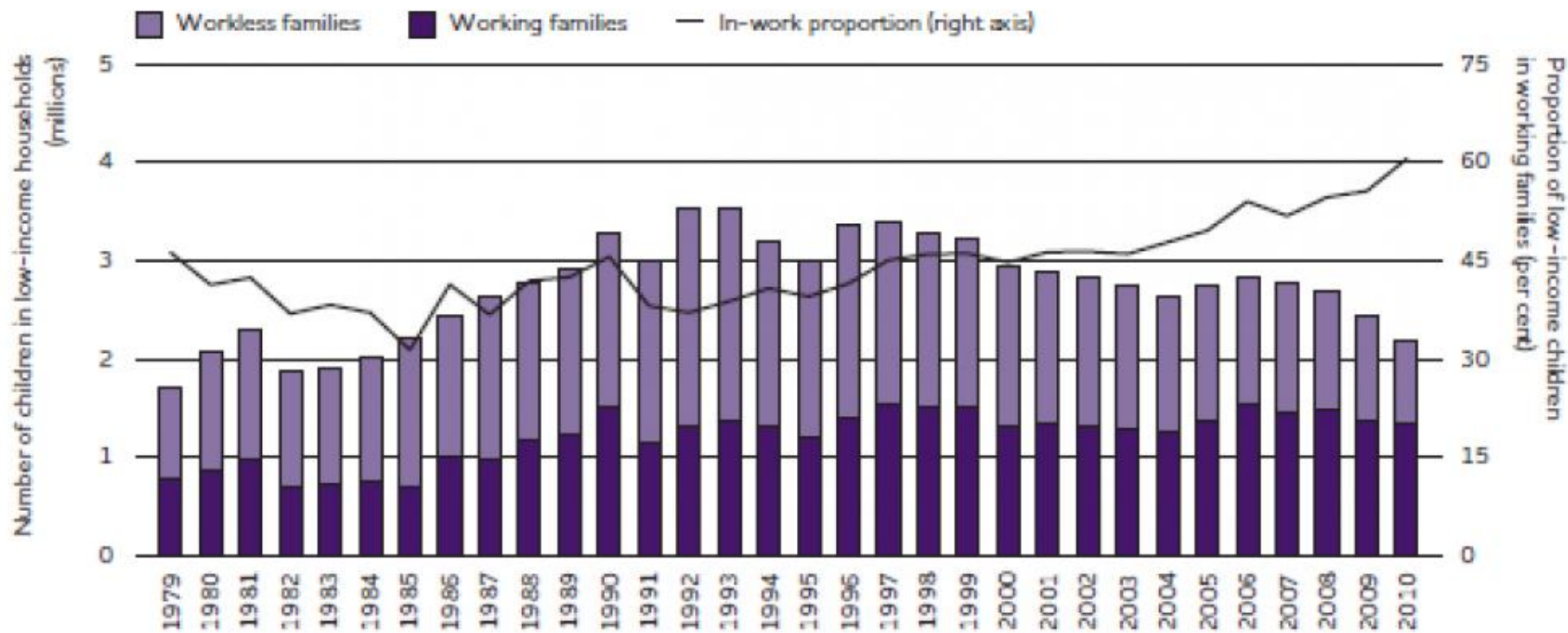
'Only 1/3 of the characters in ITV's Emmerdale Farm could live in Emmerdale.'

Research for NHF, October 2010



Our countryside is changing and becoming more exclusive.

Nationally, 'poverty in work' is growing...

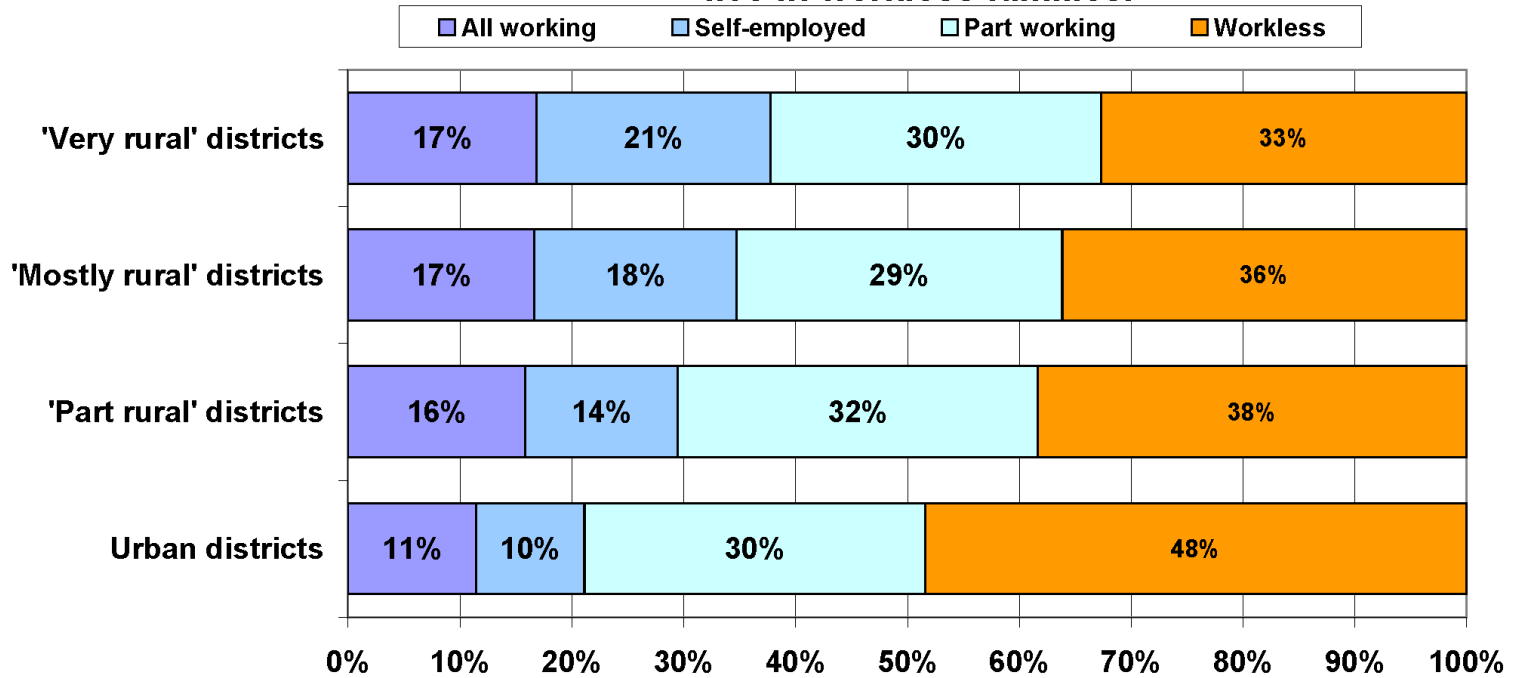


Source: DWP Family Resources Survey and Households Below Average Income, via IFS analysis; the figures are for Great Britain

Associated with rise of the “precarariat”: low pay, flexible hours, insecurity.

Rural 'Poverty in work'

In the more rural districts, around two-third of working-age people with low incomes live in families where someone works. Only a third live in workless families.



Share of working-age adults living in households with less than 60% of median income after deducting housing costs

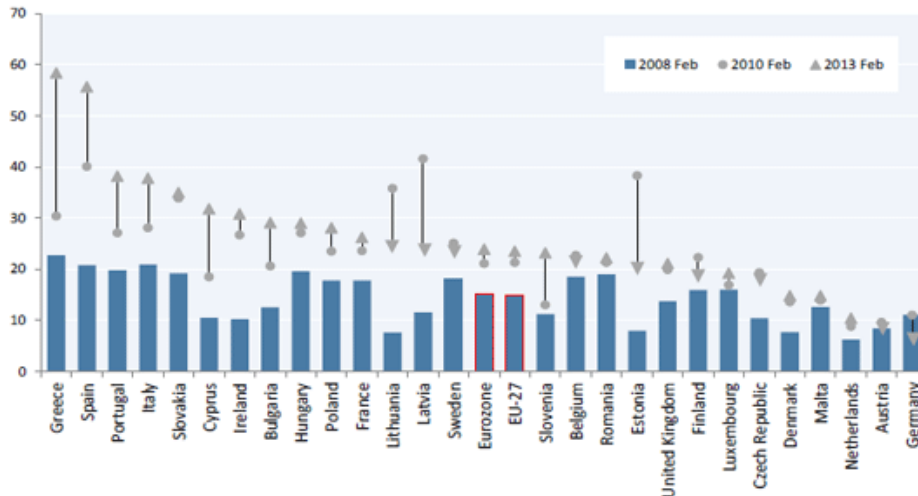
Source: Household Below Average Income, DWP; the data is the average for 2006/07 to 2008/09; England; updated Sep 2010

How will rural poverty be affected by cuts to tax credits offset by national living wage?

Youth Transitions in a 'Risk Society'

The world into which children and young people grow is changing in many ways.

- Globalisation and other processes of restructuring
- Individual choices in 'risk society'
- Protracted and complex 'youth transitions':
 - 'Extended transitions'; 'fractured transitions'; yo-yoing; precariat.
 - Individuals held accountable for their own fates, even though these continue to be structured by class, race and gender.
 - Social exclusion "collectively individualised".



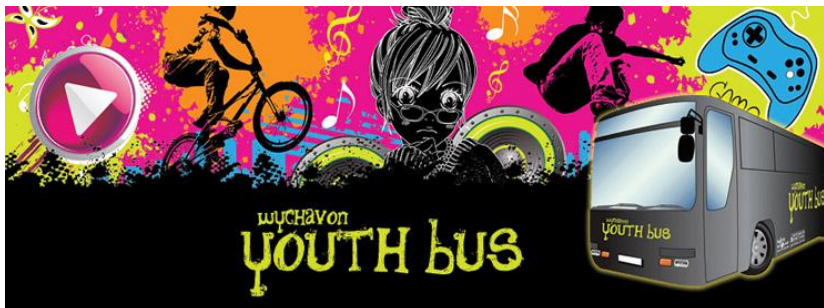
Young People in Rural Areas

(Shucksmith 2004; Jentsch and Shucksmith 2003)

- Young people from rural areas integrated through educational attainment into one of two quite separate labour markets:
 - national : well-paid, distant, career opportunities.
 - local : poorly paid, insecure, fewer prospects.

For the latter, FE and training are much less available in rural contexts.

- The interplay between transport, employment and affordable housing is crucial.
- Important class and gender dimensions in access to transport: eg. age when young people gained access to a vehicle, and when gained a driving licence.



Young People in Rural Areas

- Young people under surveillance and rarely allowed a voice: young people are ‘very visible, yet find their needs invisible and unmet’.
 - Denied space for social interaction, not just because of distance but as a result of power-laden interactions.
- Nevertheless, young people actively negotiate their transitions.
- Sources of help: the ‘Welfare Mix’:
 - Markets (notably the labour market)
 - State (growing conditionality of welfare; withdrawal of services)
 - Family (transmission of intergenerational inequalities)
- Place: how does place mediate these relationships?

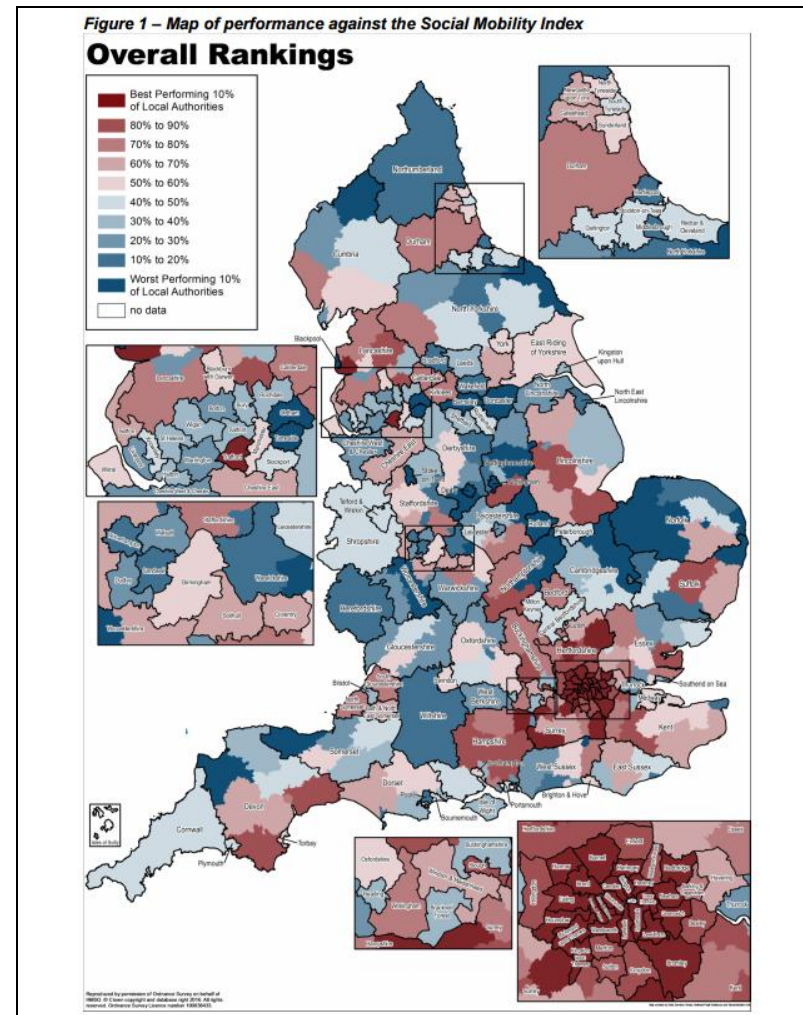


Young people in rural England

Young people face processes of *individualisation* and precarity:

- Lack of 'voice'.
- Poor access to transport
 - Lack of public transport, and the high cost of private transport is a major barrier to finding work.
- Inadequate careers advice
- Employment and training
 - Low wage, low skill economy
- Lack of affordable housing
 - Home ownership unaffordable and very little non-profit housing to rent.
- Support disappearing
 - Public services are being withdrawn (especially in more remote areas) and voluntary services losing funding.
 - Welfare withdrawn from young people

Rural areas of England have worse upward social mobility:



Conclusion:

- Deprivation appears worse in urban areas, but rural deprivation exists too.
- Financial deprivation, access deprivation, network deprivation – less visible because hidden and dispersed.
- Most issues identified in 2000 and 2006 remain, but cuts in public spending since 2008 crisis threaten not only public services but also voluntary provision.
- Rural economies have proved resilient through and beyond the crisis.
- There is evidence of widening inequality in both urban and rural areas.
- Housing opportunities appear to be diminishing.
- Poverty in work is growing (low pay, insecure contracts, precarity).
- Youth transitions are increasingly protracted, fragmented and uncertain.
- Older people less affected by cuts but impending challenge of social care.

