

Washwood Heath Ward

Introduction

Washwood Heath Ward is situated approximately 5 kilometres east of the city centre. Washwood Heath Ward is part of the Hodge Hill Constituency which also includes: Bordesley Green, Shard End and Hodge Hill Wards.

Washwood Heath is an inner city ward consisting mainly of older terraced housing. Approximately 27,822 people live in the area according to the 2001 population census. There is a relatively small amount of Council Housing compared to other areas. The majority of homes are privately owned or rented. Overall, the level of deprivations is higher than the city average.

Washwood Heath has a relatively young population with 30.7% aged under 16, 53.7% were aged between 16 and 59, while 15.6% were aged over 60 according to the 2001 census. The average was 31.8 compared with 36 years for Birmingham. The minority ethnic population is made up of 57% (15,863) of the wards population compared with 29.9% for Birmingham. The most common spoken language is English, but the community languages are also strong Punjabi, Urdu, Mirpuri, Bengali and Pashto. With the arrival of the newly arrived communities the languages and population of the ward now include Arabic, Somali and Kurdish.

Washwood Heath principle shopping areas are Alum Rock Road and Washwood Heath Road. Saltley Leisure Centre is situated on the other side of the ward boundary; however Parkview Community Leisure Centre is in the middle of the ward. Other open spaces in the ward include Ward End Park and Adderley Park.

(www.birmingham.gov.uk)

Personnel

Birmingham City Council

Birmingham city Council Constituency Director: **Rob James**

Birmingham City Council Ward Support Officer: **Vacant**

A Ward Support Officer (WSO) is a Birmingham City Council employee working in one ward within a Constituency, in the Hodge Hill Constituency there are four wards therefore there are four WSO's.

They are responsible for maintaining the records and monitoring regeneration funds for example the Working Neighbourhoods Fund within a particular ward. They are one of the main contacts supporting the constituency offices and working towards improving the ward and constituency in relation to health, crime, education, employment, housing and environment. They also organise constituency meetings.

All Birmingham City Council personnel are based at:

White House
Ward End Park
Washwood Heath Road
Washwood Heath
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0121- 303 9282

Councillors

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Birmingham East and North Primary Care Trust (BEN PCT)

BEN PCT Neighbourhood Health Development Officer (NHDO): **Vacant**

A Neighbourhood Health Development Officer (NHDO) works by constituency, The NHDO covers the Hodge Hill Constituency, which is overlapped by two localities (please refer to localities map on the web site) NHDO's aim to support and drive forward the Public, Patient Involvement (PPI) and reduce Health inequalities within BEN PCT.

NHDO's objectives are to:

- Promote BEN PCT's activities within the Hodge Hill Constituency.
- Responsible for communicating and establishing links between Hodge Hill Constituency organisations, local community and BEN PCT.
- To encourage and support financial bids from local organisations to attract new funds for health activities in the Yardley Constituency. (One of the prime examples of this is the constituency health panels jointly established by the NHDO's and Birmingham City Council (for further details, please refer to the PPI section on BEN PCT web site and Birmingham City Council web site)

Guide local people on their greatest health needs and priorities in the Hodge Hill Constituency

Based at:

Waterlinks House,
4th Floor,
Richard Street,
Birmingham
B74AA,
Telephone No: (0121) 333 4113
Website: www.benpct.nhs.uk

Locality Director: **Waheed Saleem**

Locality Manger: **Tahir Moghal**

Based at:
BENPCT Waterloo Road,
Yardley,
Birmingham.
B25 8LH
0121 765 5186

Key Points

Washwood Heath Ward

1. Washwood Heath ward is identified as one of the most deprived wards within the country. The child poverty within the Washwood heath ward has the highest score in Birmingham. The diet of the local people is very traditional their home country style cooking using fat oils. Also the addition of fast food outlets every two steps within the ward has had a detrimental effect on the population's health and has led to an increase in two chronic conditions, Diabetes and Coronary Heart Disease.

(BEN PCT Annual Public Health Report 2006-07, P. 5)

2. Washwood Heath ward has a comparative low prevalence of 'Coronary Heart Disease' (CHD), even though it has high 'Standardised Mortality ratio' (SMR) for the disease.

(BEN PCT Annual Public Health Report 2006-07, P. 11)

3. Lung cancer is also key health concern for the ward and is highlighted as the hot spot in public health report 2006.

(BEN PCT Annual Public Health Report 2006-07, P. 11)

4. Washwood Heath has the highest rate of peri natal and infant mortality rate within the BENPCT. The peri natal death rate in Washwood Heath is over three times as high as Sutton Vesey ward.

(BEN PCT Annual Public Health Report 2006-07, P. 21)

5. Washwood Heath ward has highest score for IMD (Index of Multiple deprivation) and 'Child poverty'.

(BEN PCT Annual Public Health Report 2006-07, P. 15)

6. Washwood Heath ward has considerably higher birth rate than constituency and more than double rate of Birmingham; 140 births per year per 1000 women aged 15-44.

*(Birmingham Public Health Network (BPHN),
Washwood Health Profile, 2001, P. 15)*

7. More than one in nine births to women living in Washwood Heath ward, were of low birth weight; higher than constituency & Birmingham.

(BPHN Washwood Health Profile, 2001, P. 17)

8. There are 60% more deaths from CHD in Washwood Heath ward than expected, compared to 30% fewer in Sutton Vesey.

(BEN PCT Annual Public Health Report 2006-07, P. 11)

9. Washwood Heath ward has 73% of total population from non-white background and persons from 'Pakistani' origin represent the largest non-white ethnic group.

(BPHN Washwood Health Profile, 2001, P.3)

10. SMR's of Washwood Heath are 50% higher than national SMR.

(BEN PCT Annual Public Health Report 2006-07, P. 9)

11. Washwood Heath ward's limiting long term illness rates are higher than constituency and Birmingham i.e. 10% higher than Constituency & 27% higher than Birmingham).

(BPHN Washwood Health Profile, 2001, P.13)

12. One in nine of all ward residents considered their general health status to be 'not good', with women reporting particularly higher than men.

(BPHN Washwood Health Profile, 2001, P.14)

13. Taking the highest life expectancy of all the wards in Birmingham as the benchmark, Sutton New Hall life expectancy is 81.2 years; therefore individuals in Washwood Heath ward are therefore estimated to live 6.6 fewer years.

(BPHN Washwood Health Profile, 2001, P.16)