

Mapping Poverty 2017



Prepared: September 2017

Mapping Poverty Report 2017

1. Summary

- 13,698 people are living in households claiming benefit in the city, which is a decrease of 509 people since the last extract was examined in 2013.
- The majority of wards in the city saw a decrease in their benefit populations between 2017 and 2013, apart from Trumpington ward, which saw an increase. This could be said to be partly attributable to an increase in socially rented households in the area.
- The make-up of the total benefit population in 2017 has changed since 2013 with 6% fewer pensioners in 2017, 4% more children and 2% more adults living in benefit households.

1. Background

The purpose of this paper is to show the geographical distribution of people living on low incomes and to make comparisons between our administrative records from February 2017 and October 2013, to show changes over the intervening period. The findings of this paper will feed into the review of the Council's Anti-Poverty Strategy and contribute towards its evidence base.

Cambridge City Council has been using its housing benefit/council tax benefit administrative records to produce near bi-annual mapping poverty reports since 2002. Over this period of time the number of claimants has been fairly consistent at around 8,000, however the population base has changed markedly with an estimated increase in the population of the city at about 25,000 people.

This stable total number of benefit claimants implies there is a structural element to housing benefit with vulnerable people predominantly living in socially rented housing that has been constrained in its supply. It also implies that benefits, especially in-work benefits, have been more difficult to obtain. The stable total number of benefit claimants viewed at any given time masks a substantial "churning" taking place with a large number of people experiencing a change of circumstances over a year moving "in and out" of the benefit – about 30,000 changes in a year.

The building block in terms of place, for this report, is the Output Area (OA). Its geography covers around 125 households. Looking at OAs allows "pockets" of low income to be identified, which might otherwise be lost when looking at larger geographies. Please note that where there is a high density of households in an urban area the OA will be smaller than a more rural OA, which will tend to be much larger. Where there has been development in a larger OA it is likely that the number of households will be considerably more than the standard, so the concentration of low income households is likely to appear much larger – the geography simply hasn't caught up with the development.

Other geography has been used in the report, such as city-wide, ward and Lower Super Output Areas. The LSOA is used in the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015. For this report the 2017 administrative data was based on the 2015 mid-year estimate and the 2013 administrative data was re-based on the 2013 mid-year estimate for the calculation of population rates.

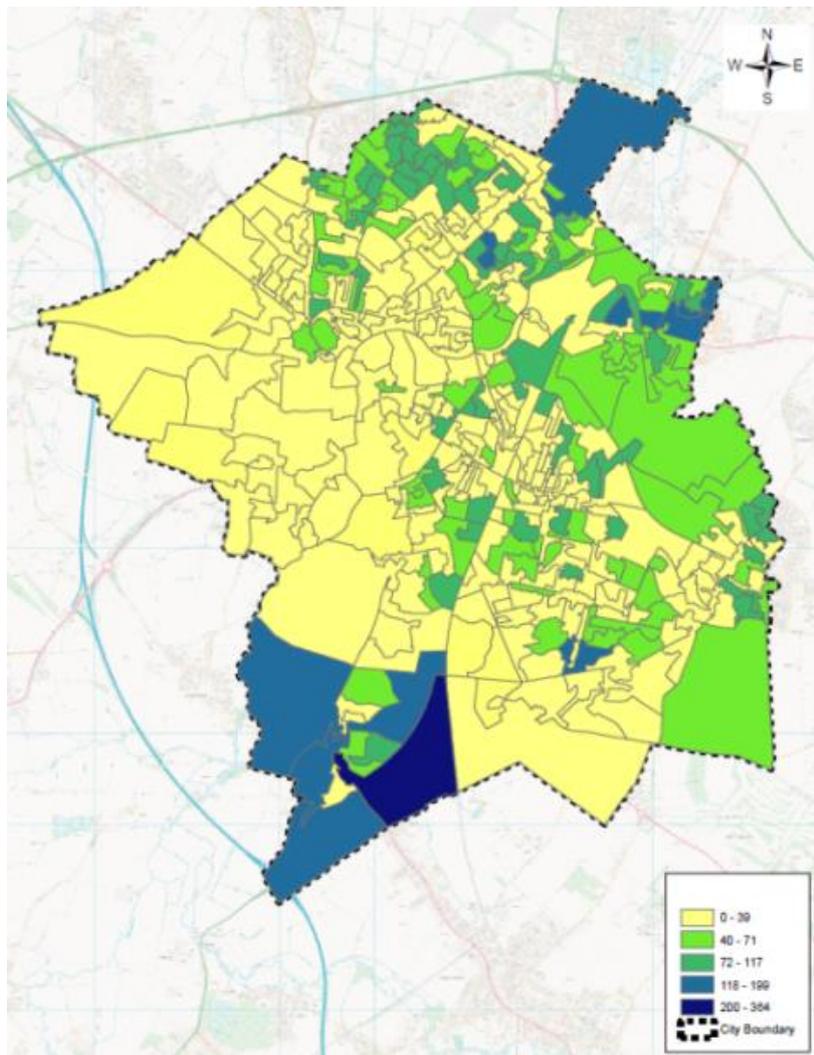
The report comprises sections showing:

- The total housing benefit population and its make-up
- Ranked OAs and changes in the total housing benefit population
- Comparisons with IMD 2015 Income Score
- Children living in benefit households
- Single non-pensioner benefit households
- Pensioners living in benefit households

2. Total Housing Benefit Population

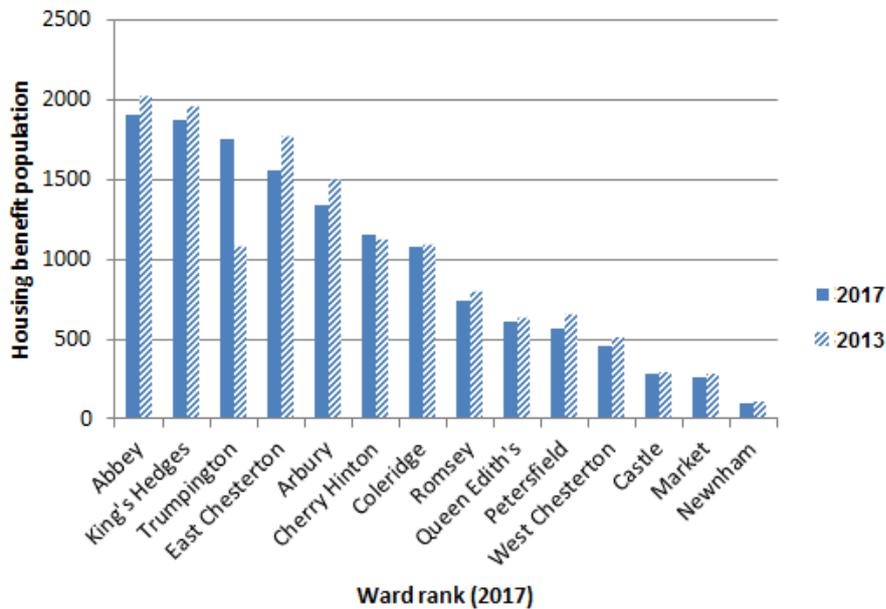
- In the 2017 extract there were **13,698** people living in households claiming benefits, which was a decrease of 509 people since 2013.
- In 2017 **one person in ten** living in the city is living in a household claiming benefit.
- Map 1, below, shows concentrations of total benefit households, with the darker households having a greater concentration.

Map 1: Total Benefit Population by Output Area



- Chart 2, below, shows that the majority of **wards in the city saw a slight decrease** in their benefit populations between 2017 and 2013, a part from Trumpington ward, which saw an increase of 677 people.
- Abbey ward continues to have the highest benefit population, closely followed by Kings Hedges ward. Trumpington ward moved to the third highest ranking position for 2017 from seventh in 2013.

Chart 2: Total Housing Benefit population by ward



3. Make-up of the total benefit population

- The make-up of the benefit population between 2017 and 2013 has changed with **6% fewer pensioners** in 2017, 4% more children and 2% more adults living in benefit households. The proportions of these groups are shown in Chart 3 for 2017 and Chart 4 for 2013.

Chart 3: 2017 Make-up of total HB population

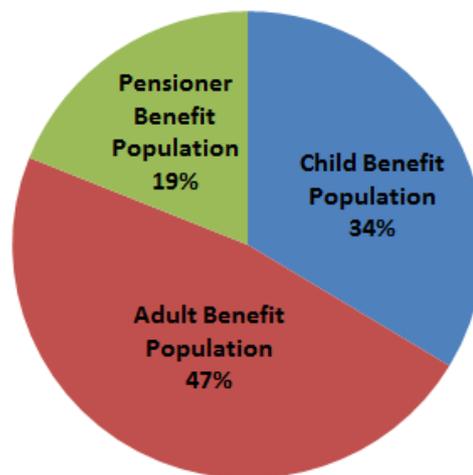
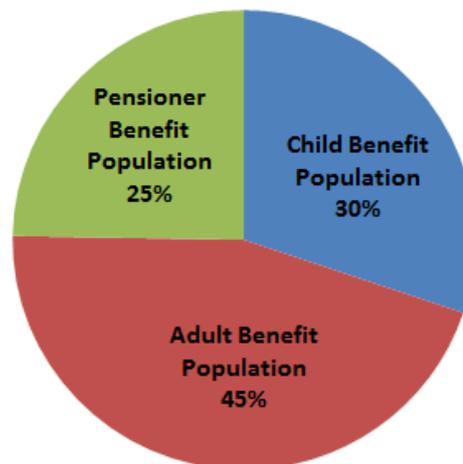
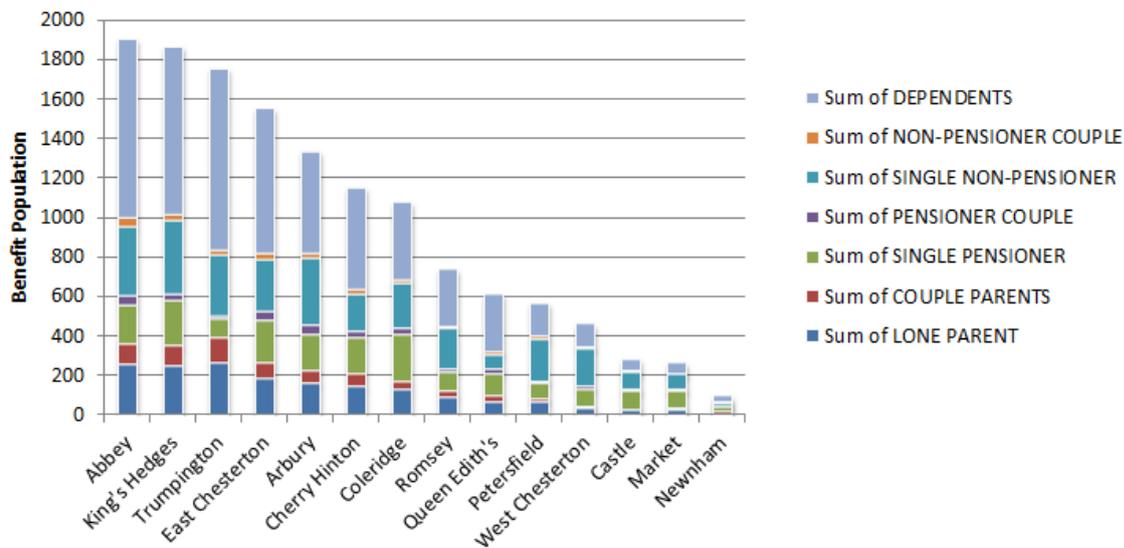


Chart 4: 2013 Make-up total HB population



- Chart 5, below, shows that the groups of people making up the 2017 total benefit population for each ward in more detail. It shows a steady proportion of pensioners across the wards and a decreasing proportion of dependents as the total benefit population decreases.

Chart 5: Make-up of benefit population per ward for 2017



- Charts 6 & 7, on the next page, show that in the 2017 extract the make-up of **benefit claimants continued to be dominated by single people at 84%** of all claimants, compared to 83% of all claimants in 2013.
- Within the benefit claimant profile for 2017 there is a reduction in the proportion of pensioner claimants whilst there was **an increase in the proportion of lone parents**, compared to 2013.

Chart 6: Make-up of HB Claimants 2017

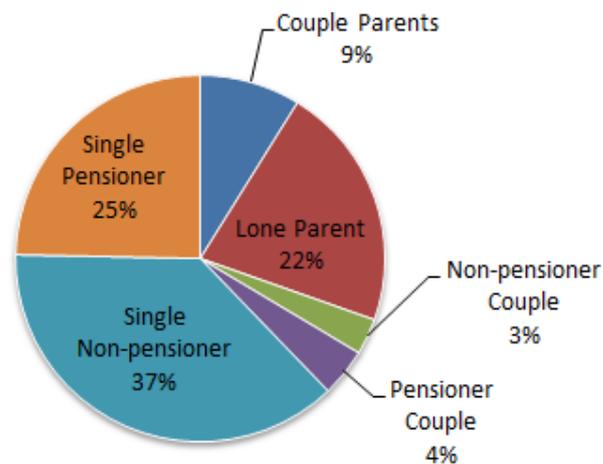
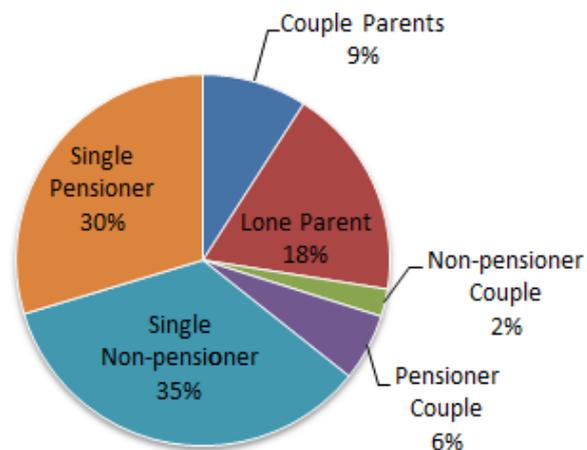
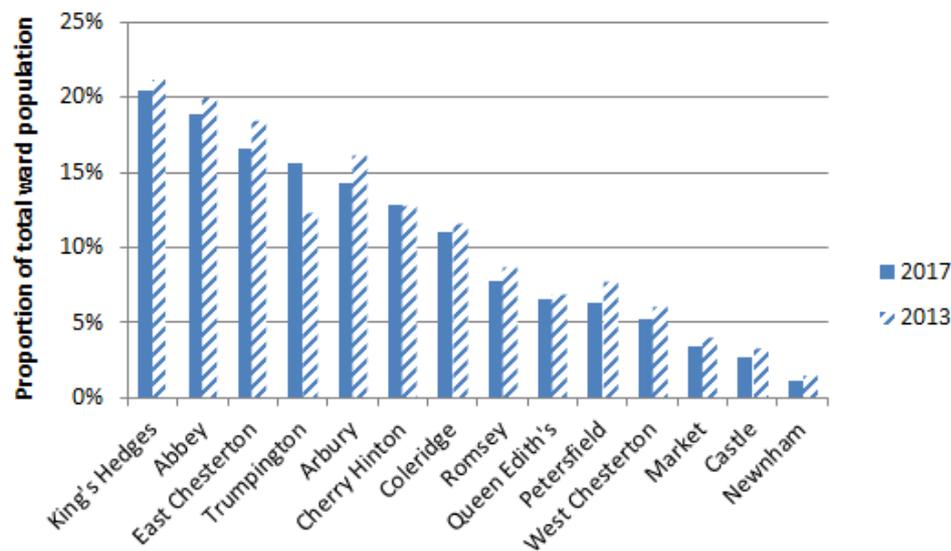


Chart 7: Make-up of HB Claimants 2013



- Chart 8 on the following page shows that **Kings Hedges had the largest proportion of its population living in a household claiming benefit.**
- The 2017 benefit population was based on the 2015 ONS MYE and the 2013 benefit population based on the 2013 MYE. Between the 2014 MYE and 2015 MYE the total population in Trumpington ward grew by nearly 1,800 people or 18%. The population in the other wards remained relatively stable.

Chart 8: Benefit population as a proportion of total ward population

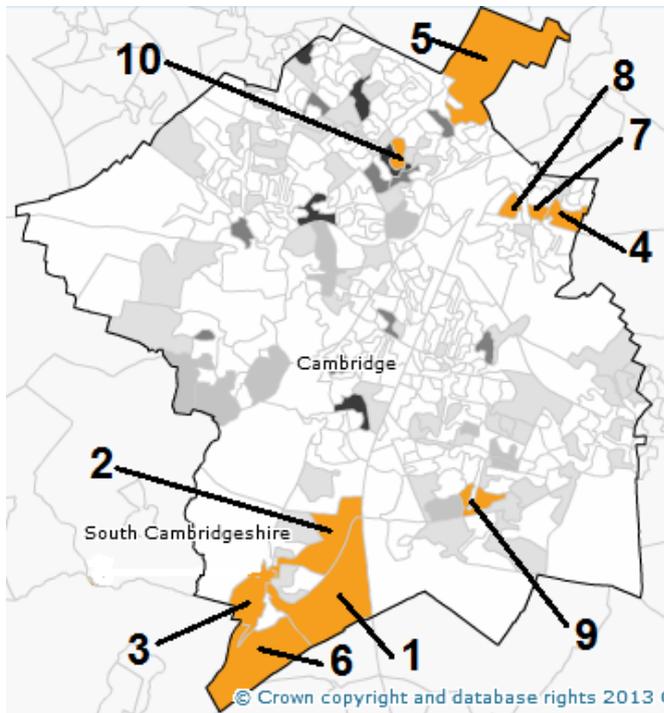


4. Concentrations of the total benefit population

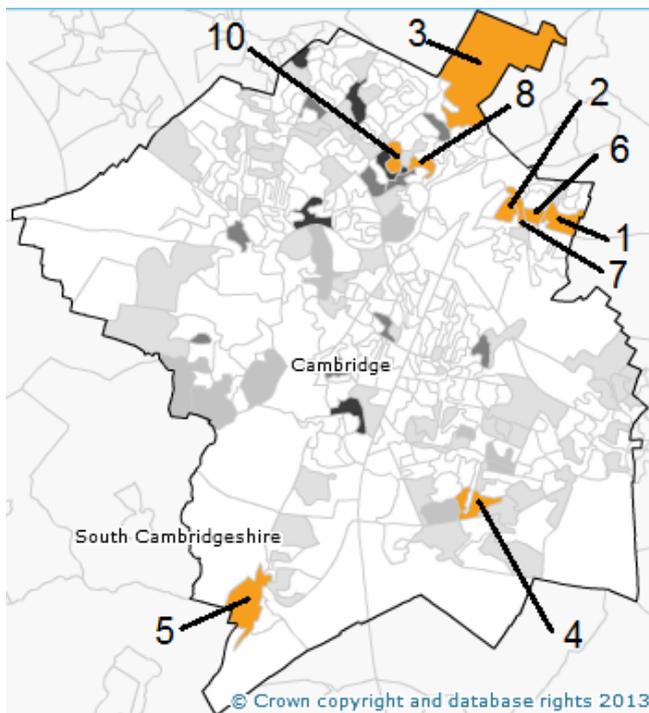
- Maps 2 and 3 on the following page show a **shift to the south of the city** in the highest ranked Output Areas (OAs) for concentrations of people living in benefit households, between 2013 and 2017. This may be associated with people moving into new social housing in the southern fringe.
- The OAs identified in 2013 as having the highest concentrations are still present at a broadly similar level, albeit ranked lower now with arrival of claimant households in the southern OAs.

Maps 2 & 3: OAs with greatest concentrations of the total benefit population (ranked) for 2017 and 2013

2017



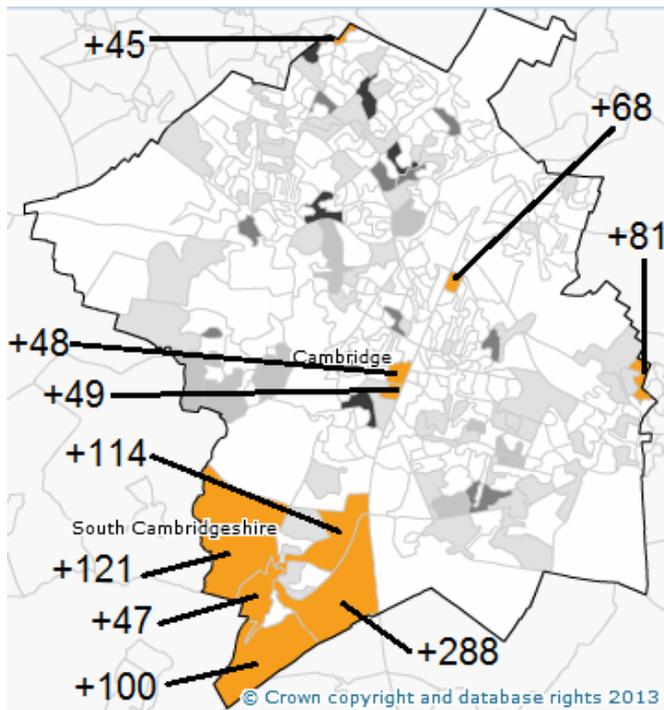
2013



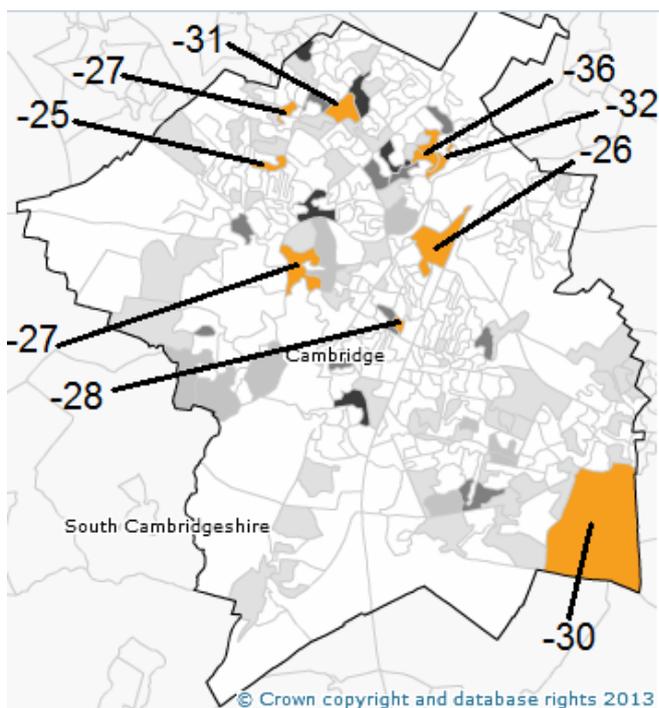
- Maps 4 & 5, below, quantify the changes in terms of additional and fewer benefit households.

Maps 4 & 5: Changes to HB OAs between 2017 and 2013

+ = Increase in benefit population



- = Decrease in benefit population



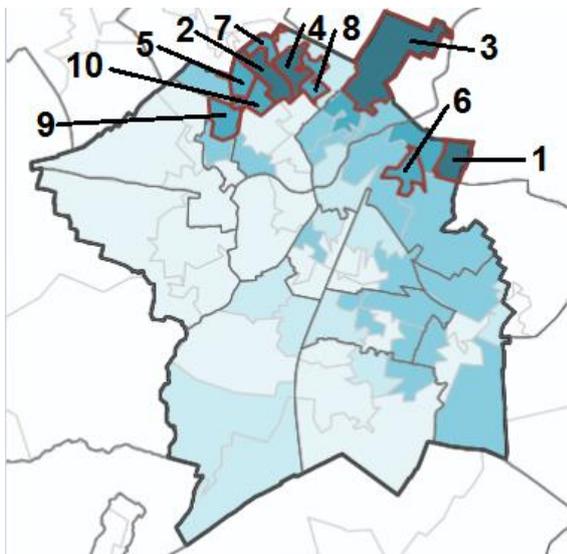
5. Comparison with IMD 2015 Income Score

- Looking at a different level of geography, the Lower Super Output Area (LSOAs), which is supposed to cover around 600 households, it can be seen from Maps 6 & 7 that there is a fairly close correlation between the IMD Income Score 2015, ranked for Cambridge, and the ranked total benefit population count 2017, apart from the emergence of the two southern LSOAs.
- It is likely, given the growth in the area, that the two LSOAs, ranked 1 and 6 for housing benefit population, contain considerably more than 600 households each. It can be seen that the LSOAs in Kings Hedges are much smaller, reflecting the greater concentration of households.

Maps 6 & 7: IMD 2015 Income Score and HB 2017 Count

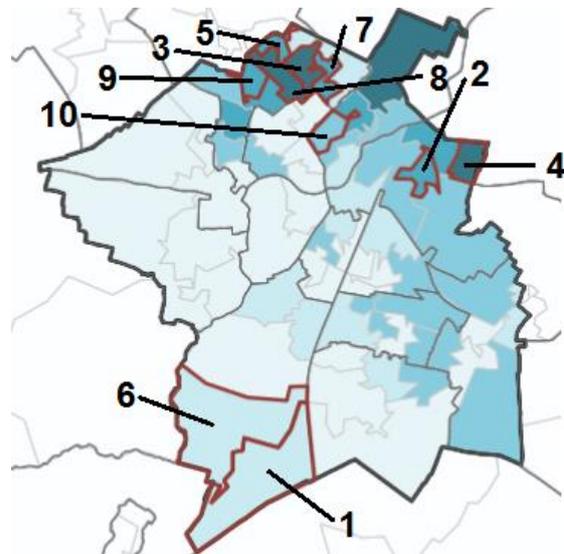
IMD 2015 Income Score

Ten highest scoring SLOAs



Housing Benefit 2017 Count

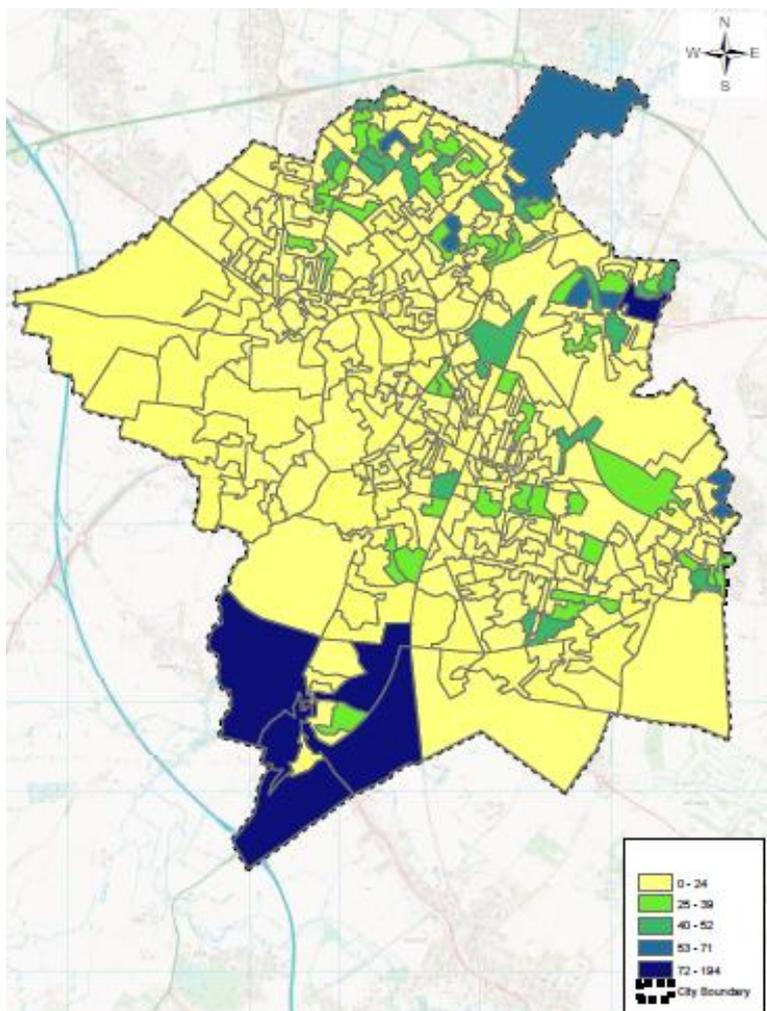
Ten SLOAs with highest HB count



6. Children (0 to 15 years of age) living in Housing Benefit households

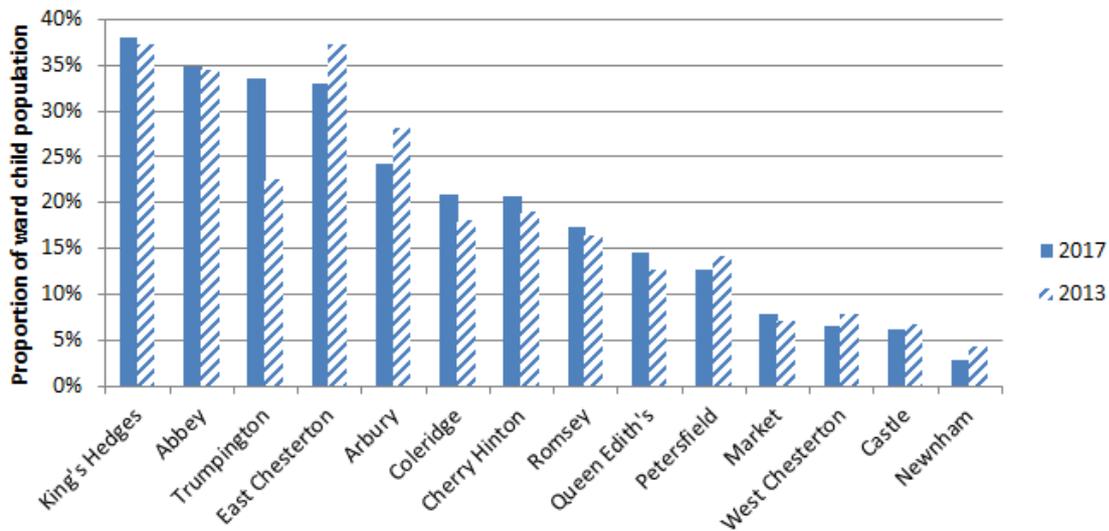
- In 2017 there were **4,609 children living in benefit households**, an increase of 431 children over the count for 2013.
- **One child in five (22%)** living in the city lives in a household claiming benefit.
- These children were living in 2,379 families, giving an average of 1.9 children per family claiming benefits.
- Just over two thirds of families claiming benefits were lone parent families
- Map 8, below, shows the concentrations of the total number of children living in benefit households across the city.

Map 8: Children living in benefit households



- Chart 9, below, shows that **Kings Hedges ward had the highest proportion of children (0-15 years of age) living in benefit households at 38% in 2017, closely followed by Abbey ward at 35%.**

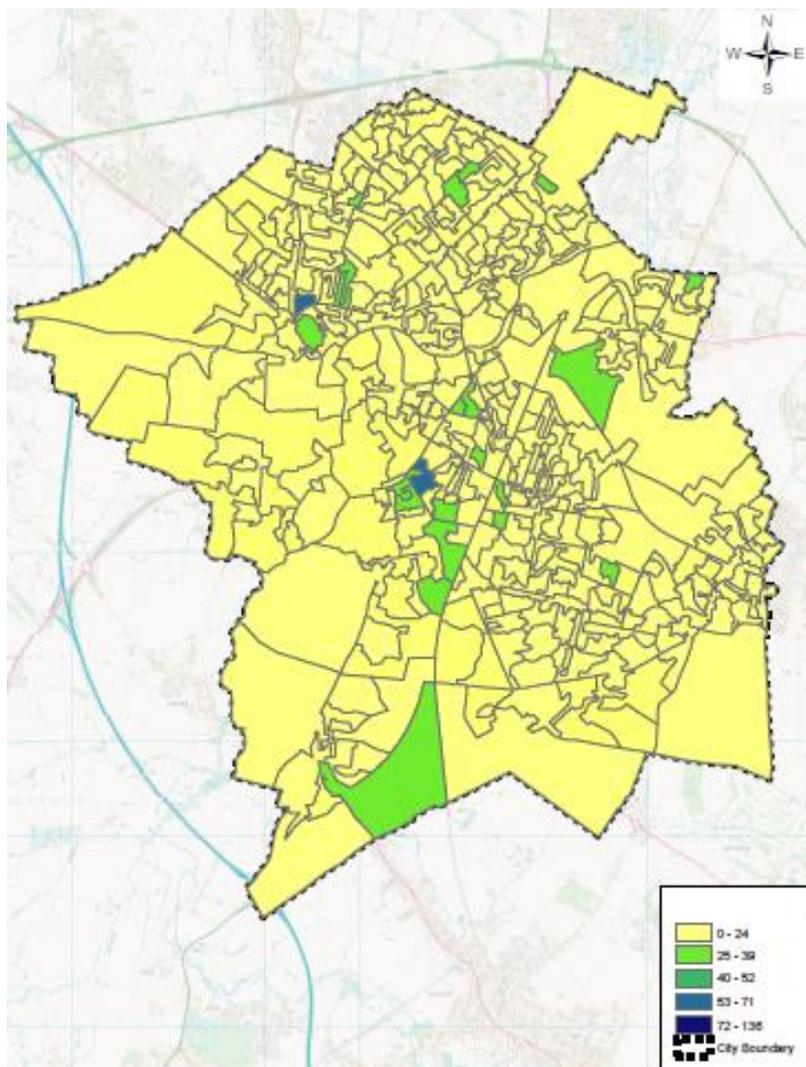
Chart 9: Proportion of children living in benefit households by ward



7. Single, non-pensioner claimants (16 to 64 years)

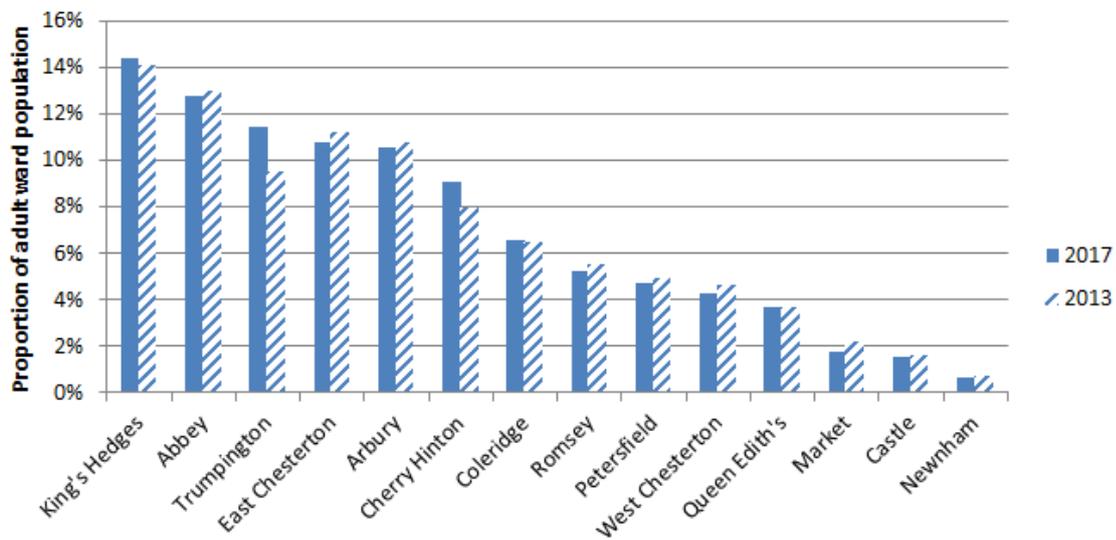
- In 2017 **6,493 non-pensioner adults** were living in benefit households in the city, a rise of 238 people since 2013
- 37% or 2,931 of non-pensioner adults in the city were living as non-pensioner **single adult benefit households**, which is a slight increase of 32 people since 2013
- **Nearly one adult in ten** living in the city lives in a benefit household
- Map 9, below, shows the concentrations by OA across the city. The darker colours show the greater concentrations of people.

Map 9: Total single non-pensioner benefit population



- Chart 7, below, shows that Kings Hedges ward had the highest proportion of single non-pensioner adults (16 to 64 years of age) living in benefit households at 14% in 2017 closely followed by Abbey at 13%.

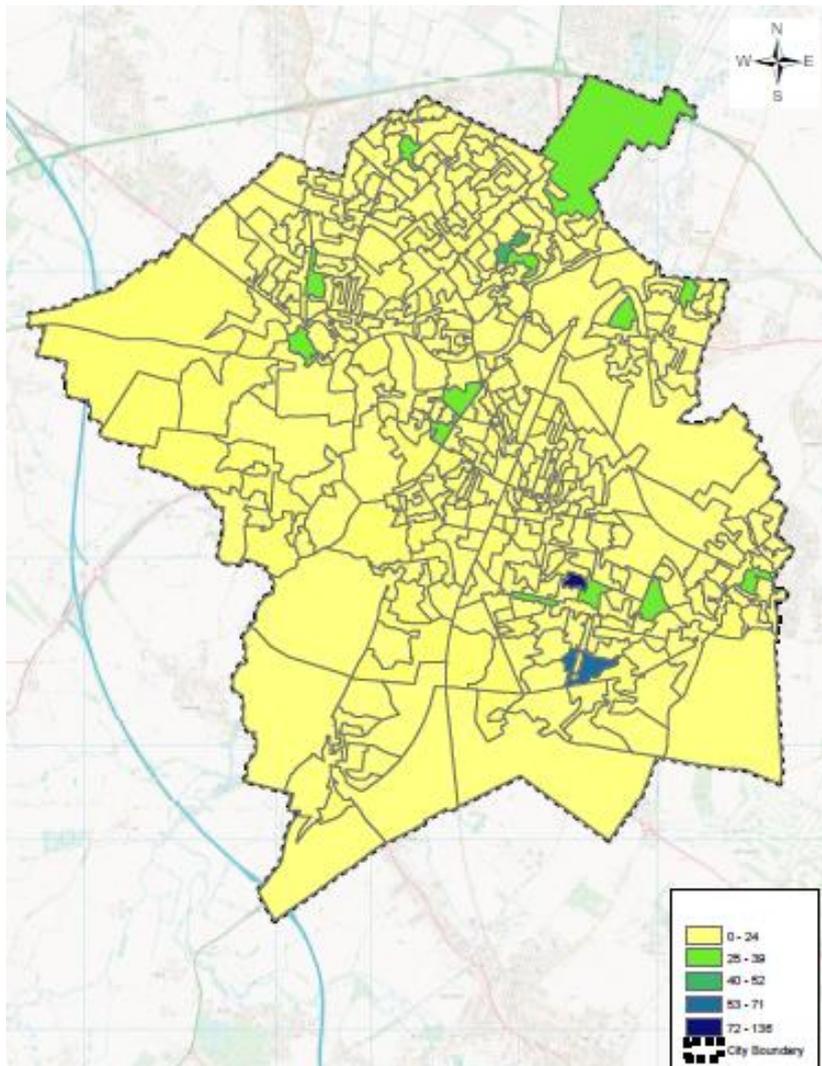
Chart 10: Proportion of single non-pensioner adults living in benefit households by ward



8. Pensioners living in benefit households

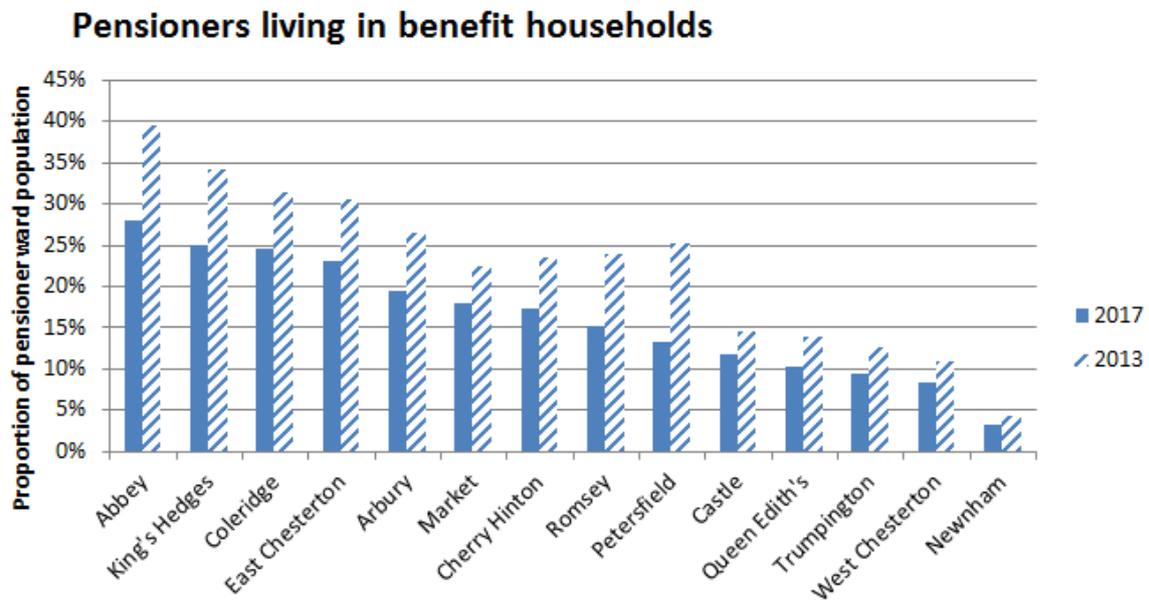
- In 2017 2,590 **pensioners** were living in benefit households in the city, a decrease of 837 people since 2013.
- Contributing to the decrease in pensioner claimants can be said to be the move to equalise the state pension age between men and women, so approximately 2,100 women (MYE 2015) between 60 and 63 years of age (the current retirement age) have lost their eligibility to claim housing benefit as a pensioner.
- Nearly one pensioner in six living in the city lives in a benefit household.
- Map 10, below, shows the concentrations by OA across the city. The darker colours show the greater concentrations of people.

Map 10: Total pensioners living in benefit households



- Abbey ward had the highest proportion of pensioners (65 plus years of age) living in benefit households at 28% in 2017 closely followed by Kings Hedges ward at 25%. These are reductions of just over 10% from 2013.

Chart 11: Proportion of pensioners living in benefit households by ward



9. Data Tables

Table 1: Benefit population by ward and year

Ward	2017	2013
Abbey	1908	2018
King's Hedges	1871	1960
Trumpington	1759	1082
East Chesterton	1557	1765
Arbury	1340	1496
Cherry Hinton	1154	1129
Coleridge	1079	1093
Romsey	740	800
Queen Edith's	612	632
Petersfield	566	663
West Chesterton	460	522
Castle	283	304
Market	266	285
Newnham	97	111

Table 2: Make-up of benefit population

Year	Child Benefit Population	Adult Benefit Population	Pensioner Benefit Population
2017	4609	6493	2590
2013	4178	6255	3427

Table 3: Ward benefit population as a proportion of ward population

Ward	2017	2013
King's Hedges	20%	21%
Abbey	19%	20%
East Chesterton	17%	18%
Trumpington	16%	12%
Arbury	14%	16%
Cherry Hinton	13%	13%
Coleridge	11%	11%
Romsey	8%	9%
Queen Edith's	7%	7%
Petersfield	6%	8%
West Chesterton	5%	6%
Market	3%	4%
Castle	3%	3%
Newnham	1%	1%

*2017 based on 2015 MYE population, 2013 based on 2013 MYE population

Table 4: Benefit Claimant Groups for 2017 and 2013

Benefit Group	2017	2013
Couple Parents	689	759
Lone Parent	1690	1546
Non-pensioner Couple	249	200
Pensioner Couple	332	490
Single Non-pensioner	2931	2899
Single Pensioner	1928	2487
Unknown	0	84
Grand Total	7819	8465

Table 5: Proportions of benefit population for 2017 using 2015 MYE base

Ward	Child benefit population	Child population	Proportion of child benefit population	Adult benefit population	Adult population	Proportion of adult benefit population	Pensioner benefit population	Pensioner population	Proportion of pensioner benefit population
Abbey	719	2065	35%	899	7018	13%	290	1033	28%
Arbury	390	1613	24%	669	6341	11%	281	1449	19%
Castle	46	740	6%	134	8684	2%	103	870	12%
Cherry Hinton	394	1905	21%	511	5617	9%	249	1438	17%
Coleridge	308	1481	21%	462	7036	7%	309	1262	24%
East Chesterton	561	1699	33%	681	6320	11%	315	1368	23%
King's Hedges	682	1795	38%	886	6148	14%	303	1207	25%
Market	47	595	8%	119	6667	2%	100	560	18%
Newnham	25	869	3%	46	6635	1%	26	800	3%
Petersfield	135	1067	13%	333	7103	5%	98	737	13%
Queen Edith's	228	1569	15%	233	6301	4%	151	1474	10%
Romsey	233	1340	17%	382	7282	5%	125	828	15%
Trumpington	754	2249	34%	877	7649	11%	128	1348	9%
West Chesterton	87	1313	7%	261	6099	4%	112	1333	8%
Totals	4609	20300	22%	6493	94900	8%	2590	15707	17%

Table 6: Proportions of benefit population for 2013 using 2013 MYE base

Ward	Child benefit population	Child population	Proportion of child benefit population	Adult benefit population	Adult population	Proportion of adult benefit population	Pensioner benefit population	Pensioner population	Proportion of pensioner benefit population
Abbey	707	2049	35%	911	7035	13%	400	1014	39%
Arbury	443	1575	28%	681	6344	11%	372	1406	26%
Castle	48	723	7%	133	8218	2%	123	847	15%
Cherry Hinton	347	1823	19%	452	5699	8%	330	1409	23%
Coleridge	266	1469	18%	444	6856	6%	383	1221	31%
East Chesterton	628	1692	37%	734	6567	11%	403	1326	30%
King's Hedges	664	1781	37%	894	6335	14%	402	1177	34%
Market	34	481	7%	139	6283	2%	112	502	22%
Newnham	35	809	4%	43	6369	1%	33	786	4%
Petersfield	153	1077	14%	338	6884	5%	172	682	25%
Queen Edith's	198	1564	13%	230	6273	4%	204	1476	14%
Romsey	207	1270	16%	404	7303	6%	189	791	24%
Trumpington	348	1552	22%	565	5937	10%	169	1343	13%
West Chesterton	100	1281	8%	287	6178	5%	135	1256	11%
Totals	4178	19146	22%	6255	92281	7%	3427	15236	23%

Table 7: Ten highest OAs for Total Benefit Population Count 2017

Ward/Output Area	Benefit Population 2017	Cambridge Rank 2017	Benefit Population 2013	Cambridge Rank 2013
Trumpington / E00090815	364	1	76	67
Trumpington / E00090819	199	2	85	45
Trumpington / E00090818	184	3	137	5
Abbey / E00090525	162	4	185	1
East Chesterton / E00090647	158	5	159	3
Trumpington / E00090823	152	6	52	110
Abbey / E00090527	144	7	135	6
Abbey / E00090522	138	8	160	2
Queen Ediths / E00090771	135	9	159	4
East Chesterton / E00090667	132	10	121	10

Table 8: Ten highest ranked SLOAs for Benefit Population Count 2017

SLOAs	Total Benefit Population Count
Trumpington 018003	643
Abbey 017946	500
King's Hedges 017975	440
Abbey 017948	438
King's Hedges 017979	419
Trumpington 018002	407
King's Hedges 017977	398
King's Hedges 017978	396
Arbury 017952	385
East Chesterton 017973	382

Table 9: Ten highest ranked OAs for children living in benefit households 2017

Ward / OA Label	Total Child Count 2017	Cambridge Rank 2017	Total Child Count 2013	Cambridge Rank 2013
Trumpington / E00090815	194	1	41	22
Trumpington / E00090818	102	2	56	6
Trumpington / E00090819	94	3	32	41
Trumpington / E00090823	78	4	25	62
Abbey / E00090525	77	5	94	1
Trumpington / E00090813	73	6	1	278
East Chesterton / E00090667	68	7	59	5
Abbey / E00090527	61	8	52	8
East Chesterton / E00090647	60	9	61	3
Abbey / E00090522	55	10	67	2

Table 10: Ten highest ranked OAs for single non-pensioner claimants 2017

Ward / OA Label	Total Single NP Count 2017	Cambridge Rank 2017	Total Single NP Count 2013	Cambridge Rank 2013
Arbury / E00090547	66	1	43	2
Trumpington / E00090802	58	2	71	1
Arbury / E00090832	38	3	34	3
Arbury / E00090558	37	4	32	5
Coleridge / E00167065	35	5	33	4
Romsey / E00090788	32	6	30	12
Petersfield / E00090737	31	7	30	11
Trumpington / E00090806	31	8	31	9
West Chesterton / E00090836	31	9	31	10
Castle / E00090580	30	10	29	13

Table 11: Ten highest OAs for total pensioner benefit population 2017

OA Label	Total Pensioner Count 2017	Cambridge Rank 2017	Total Pensioner Count 2013	Cambridge Rank 2013
Queen Ediths / E00090623	79	1	92	1
Queen Ediths / E00090771	69	2	84	2
East Chesterton / E00090664	43	3	56	3
East Chesterton / E00090668	39	4	50	4
Castle / E00090574	37	5	40	7
Market / E00090701	37	6	39	8
Arbury / E00090546	34	7	43	5
Cherry Hinton / E00090590	31	8	42	6
Cherry Hinton / E00090591	30	9	33	13
Colleridge / E00090628	29	10	33	14