

## ITEM 3.1 Adult Education Budget

### APPENDIX D - Cambridgeshire and Peterborough AEB cold spot analysis

#### 1. Introduction and Purpose

This analysis uses geographical mapping to visualise areas across the Combined Authority which have lower levels of Adult Education Budget (AEB) funded provision relative to the resident population (defined as a 'cold spot'). The purpose is to provide an evidence-based approach to inform future commissioning and planning of provision with Colleges, Adult Learning Institutes, and training providers.

#### 2. Key Findings

From the 2019/20 resident participation data in the Combined Authority's devolved AEB, **South Cambridgeshire** and **Huntingdonshire** have lower levels of participation in comparison to the overall Combined Authority population. This analysis identified the Huntingdonshire parish of **St Neots** as the area with the lowest provision relative to resident population across the Combined Authority. There is greater participation in Peterborough in relation to the overall CPCA population, which is in alignment with the Combined Authority's commissioning strategy during 2019/20.

#### 3. Methodology

This analysis was completed by comparing proportions of 2019/20 AEB funded learners by location of residence and proportions of Combined Authority residents for geographies at different levels including:

- Local Authority
- Local Authority Ward
- Parish

Learner resident location numbers were extracted from the Individualised Learner Record (ILR) for the 2019/20 academic year with population data using the ONS mid-year 2020 population estimates.

The number of learners and the number of residents for each area was calculated as a proportion of the total number of learners and total resident population. The proportion of residents was then deducted from the proportion of learners for each district, ward, or parish. This gave a resultant figure which was less or greater than 0 depending on which proportion was greater. In the maps and tables this is referred to as 'Percentage Difference'.

The lowest 10 per cent of wards and parishes with the greatest negative percentage difference between the proportion of learners and proportion of population is defined as a cold spot. In the heat maps, darker areas are 'colder'.

#### 4. Cold spots by Local Authority

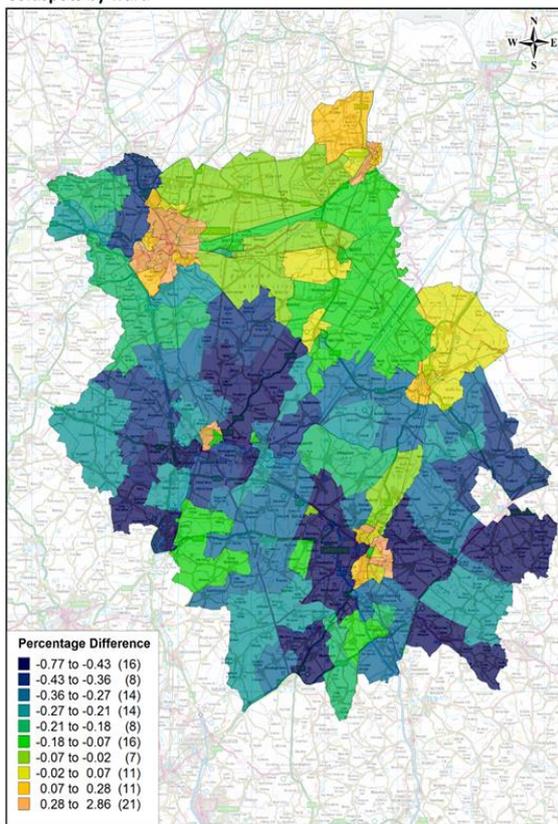
The following table shows how adult education provision relative to population varies across the six local authorities.

Percentage Difference by Local Authority	
Local Authority	Percentage Change
South Cambridgeshire	-7.6
Huntingdonshire	-7.2
East Cambridgeshire	-2.8
Cambridge	0.1
Fenland	0.4
Peterborough	17.3

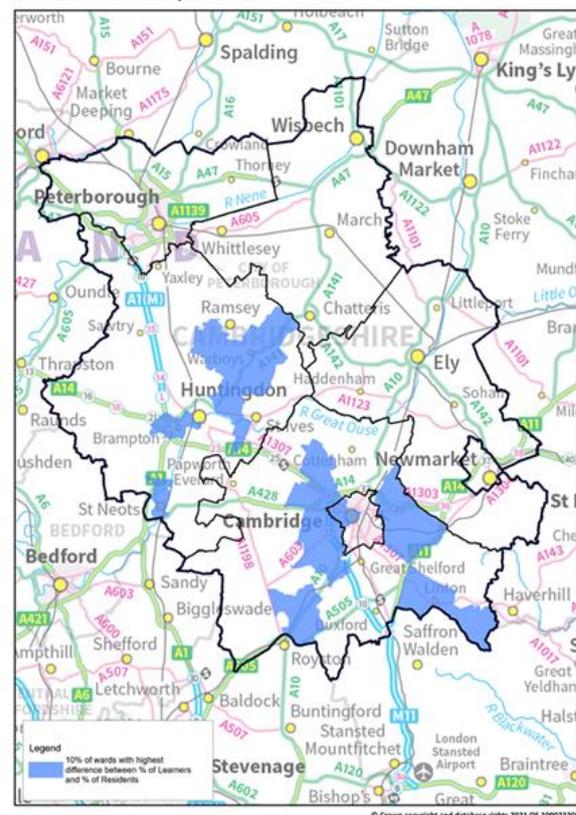
**South Cambridgeshire** and **Huntingdonshire** are the coldest spots for adult education provision at a local authority level with the greatest negative percentage difference between the proportion of total learners and the proportion of total residents (-7.6 and -7.2 respectively).

The map on the left shows the percentage difference across all areas with darker

Coldspots by ward



Potential CPCA Coldspots - Ward



colours representing wards with a higher negative disparity between the total proportion of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough's population against the number of learners. The map on the right highlights ten per cent of wards with the highest

negative disparity between the proportion of the total population and the number of learners.

AEB participation data shows a defined north/south divide between Cambridge, Huntingdonshire and South Cambridgeshire and East Cambridgeshire, Fenland and Peterborough.

## 5. Wards classed as cold spots

There is also a rural/urban divide with rural areas being colder than urban areas. The urban areas in the east of Cambridge City, Wisbech in Fenland and Peterborough city centre are notable potential hotspots. This could be influenced by access to learning in these areas.

The following tables show the percentage of wards in each local authority which fall into the ten per cent of wards with the highest negative disparity between the proportion of the population and proportion of learners and the 10 wards with the highest negative percentage differences.

Top 10 wards with the greatest negative disparity between proportion of total CPCA population and total number of learners			
Ward Name	Local Authority	Percentage Difference	Average Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) Decile 2019 (where 1 is most relatively deprived 10%)
Newnham	Cambridge	-0.77	9
Castle	Cambridge	-0.68	9
Harston & Comberton	South Cambridgeshire	-0.60	9
St Neots Priory Park & Little Paxton	Huntingdonshire	-0.58	5
St Neots Eynesbury	Huntingdonshire	-0.55	6
Linton	South Cambridgeshire	-0.52	9
Market	Cambridge	-0.52	7
Girton	South Cambridgeshire	-0.52	10
Melbourn	South Cambridgeshire	-0.50	7
Warboys	Huntingdonshire	-0.50	4

\*Note that as the IMD is calculated at an LSOA level a ward level average has been calculated. LSOA and Wards are not coterminous.  
\*This table uses 2018 Ward boundaries. Boundary changes have taken place since 2018.

Percentage share of wards classed as coldspots by local authority			
Local Authority	% of Wards in Local Authority in 10% of wards with highest negative disparity between population and learners	% of Total Wards in 10% of wards with highest negative disparity between population and learners in CPCA	
Cambridge	21%	23%	
Huntingdonshire	20%	38%	
South Cambridgeshire	19%	38%	
East Cambridgeshire	0%	0%	
Fenland	0%	0%	
Peterborough	0%	0%	

In South Cambridgeshire only 19 per cent of wards were in the bottom ten per cent but they made up 38 per cent of all the wards in the bottom ten per cent overall.

Newnham stands out as the ward with the greatest negative percentage difference (-0.77) between the proportion of learners and the proportion of the population. Castle (-0.68) and Harton and Comberton (-0.61) also stand out as notable cold spots.

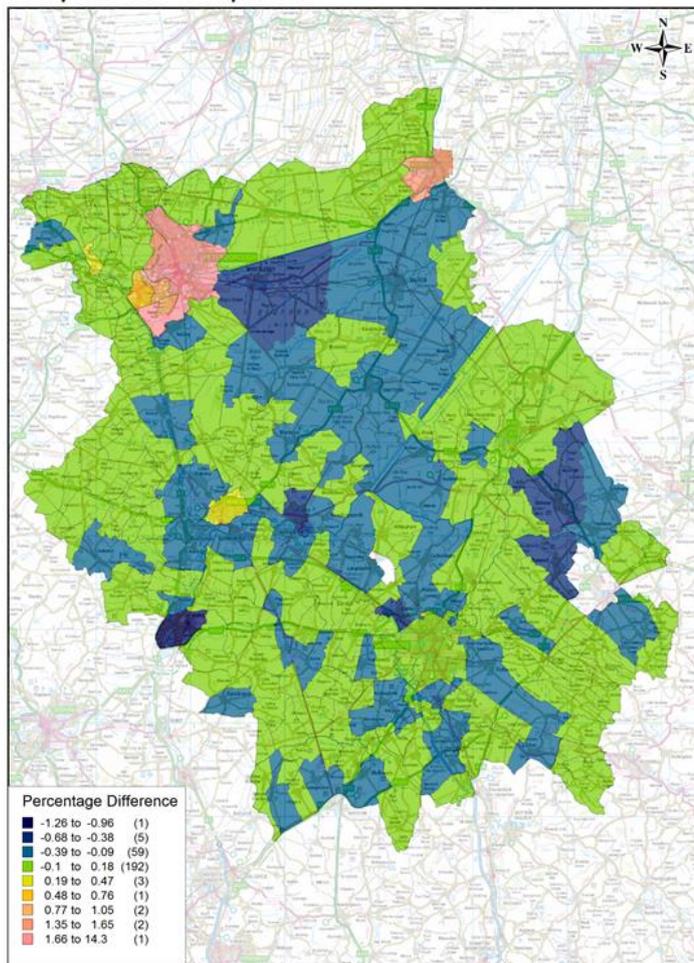
The IMD scores show that overall, the wards identified fall into the least relatively deprived areas, with five out of ten having average deciles of either 9 or 10. Only two wards fall into the 50 per cent most relatively deprived, St Neots Priory Park & Little Paxton (5) and Warboys (4) which are both in Huntingdonshire.

## 6. Cold spots by Parish

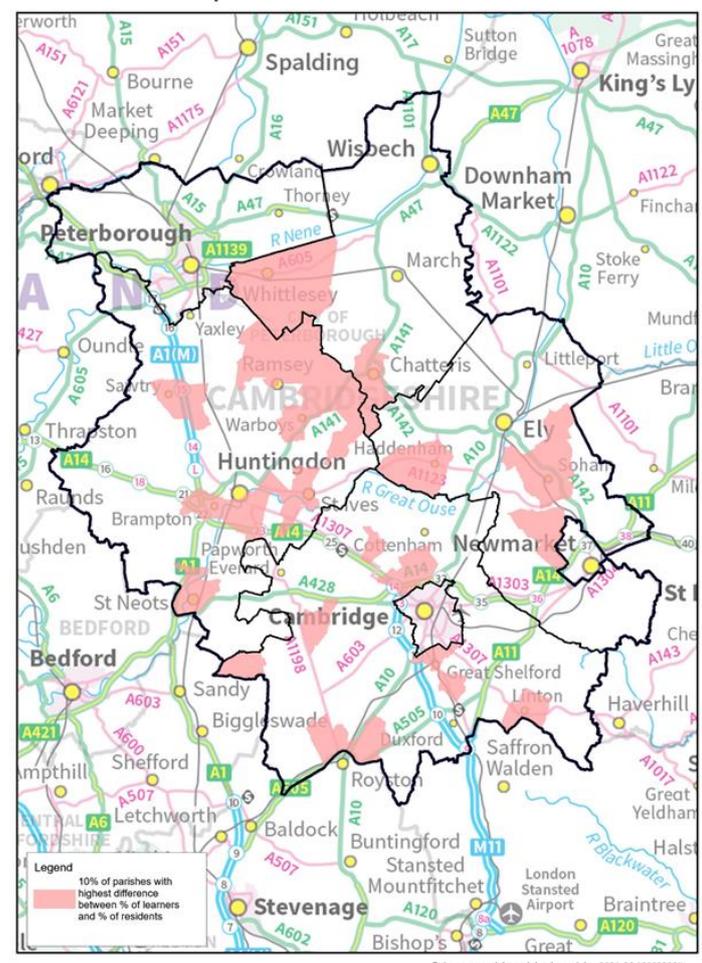
The following maps shows percentage differences between CPCA Learners and residents at a parish level, including the unparished area of Cambridge city and the centre of Peterborough.

The map on the left shows the % difference across all areas with darker colours representing parishes with a higher negative disparity between the total proportion of

Coldspots across CPCA parishes



Potential CPCA Coldspots - Parishes



Cambridgeshire and Peterborough's population against the number of learners. The map on the right highlights the 10% of parishes with the highest negative disparity between the proportion of the total population and the number of learners.

NOTE: \*The white area to the north of Cambridge is the parish of Northstowe which had no population estimate in the data source used for analysis.

The non-parished area of Peterborough (+14.3) and the parish of Wisbech (+1.64) stand out as notable potential hotspots with higher proportions of learners compared to the proportion of the total population.

The following tables show the percentage of parishes in each local authority which fall into the ten per cent of parishes with the highest negative disparity between the proportion of the population and proportion of learners and the ten parishes with the highest negative percentage differences.

Percentage share of parishes classed as coldspots by local authority			
District	% of Parishes in Local Authority in 10% of parishes with highest negative disparity between population and learners		% of Total Parishes in 10% of parishes with highest negative disparity between population and learners in CPCA
South Cambridgeshire		11%	41%
Huntingdonshire		14%	41%
East Cambridgeshire		8%	11%
Fenland		13%	7%
Peterborough		0%	0%
Cambridge		0%	0%

Top 10 parishes with the greatest negative disparity between proportion of total CPCA population and total number of learners			
Parish	Local Authority	% Difference	
St Neots	Huntingdonshire		-1.26
St Ives	Huntingdonshire		-0.67
Whittlesey	Fenland		-0.54
Girton	South Cambridgeshire		-0.46
Soham	East Cambridgeshire		-0.45
Burwell	East Cambridgeshire		-0.40
Melbourn	South Cambridgeshire		-0.38
Longstanton	South Cambridgeshire		-0.37
Chatteris	Fenland		-0.36
Bourn	South Cambridgeshire		-0.35

When looking at cold spots by parish, St Neots stands out as the parish with the greatest negative percentage difference (-1.26) between the proportion of learners and the population.

## 7. Next steps

This analysis is the first step in identifying areas of low participation in AEB only, since the Combined Authority took control of the budget. It does not include participation of adults aged 19+ in other skills provision such as apprenticeships, Advanced Learner Loans, European Social Fund or any other funding.

Further research and investigation is required to:

- look at the demographic profiles of these areas, particularly with reference to labour-market, prior-attainment, travel-to-learn, skills levels, age and deprivation to help prioritise the Combined Authority's investment
- refresh the analysis with the 2020/21 data-set to see if there have been any changes
- build-in other funding streams to look at participation across all skills programmes and the impact of an expanded online learning offer in 2020/21
- triangulate with Cambridgeshire County Council for 16-18 sufficiency requirements, gaps in the provision of technical education, and places for 16-25 year-olds with SEND
- frame in the context of wider infrastructure changes such as travel, major housing schemes, sustainability, net-zero carbon and demographic factors
- disseminate the refreshed analysis to districts to gather local intelligence and views from citizens and local business

There will be a further paper to Skills Committee, to look at the specific need in **St Neots** and potential options.

**Source:** Data analysis undertaken by Cambridgeshire Insights