

## Midlands Engine Claimant Count – April 2023 Release<sup>1</sup>

### Key Points:

- There were 278,570 claimants aged 16 years and over in the Midlands Engine area in March 2023, an increase of 9,920 claimants since the previous month. This equates to an increase of 3.7% for the Midlands Engine area, the UK increased by 3.3%. Since March 2020, the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has increased by 57,030 (+25.7% compared to +24.3% for the UK).
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 years and over was 3.3% compared to 2.9% for the UK in March 2023.
- There were 51,605 youth claimants (16 – 24 years old) in the Midlands Engine area in March 2023, an increase of 1,680 youth claimants since the previous month. This equates to an increase of 3.4% with the UK increasing by 3.3%. Since March 2020, the number of youth claimants has increased by 7,410 (+16.8% compared to +13.6% for the UK).
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of youth claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 – 24 years old was 4.5% compared to 3.9% for the UK in March 2023.

### In Detail:

#### Claimants Aged 16 Years and Over

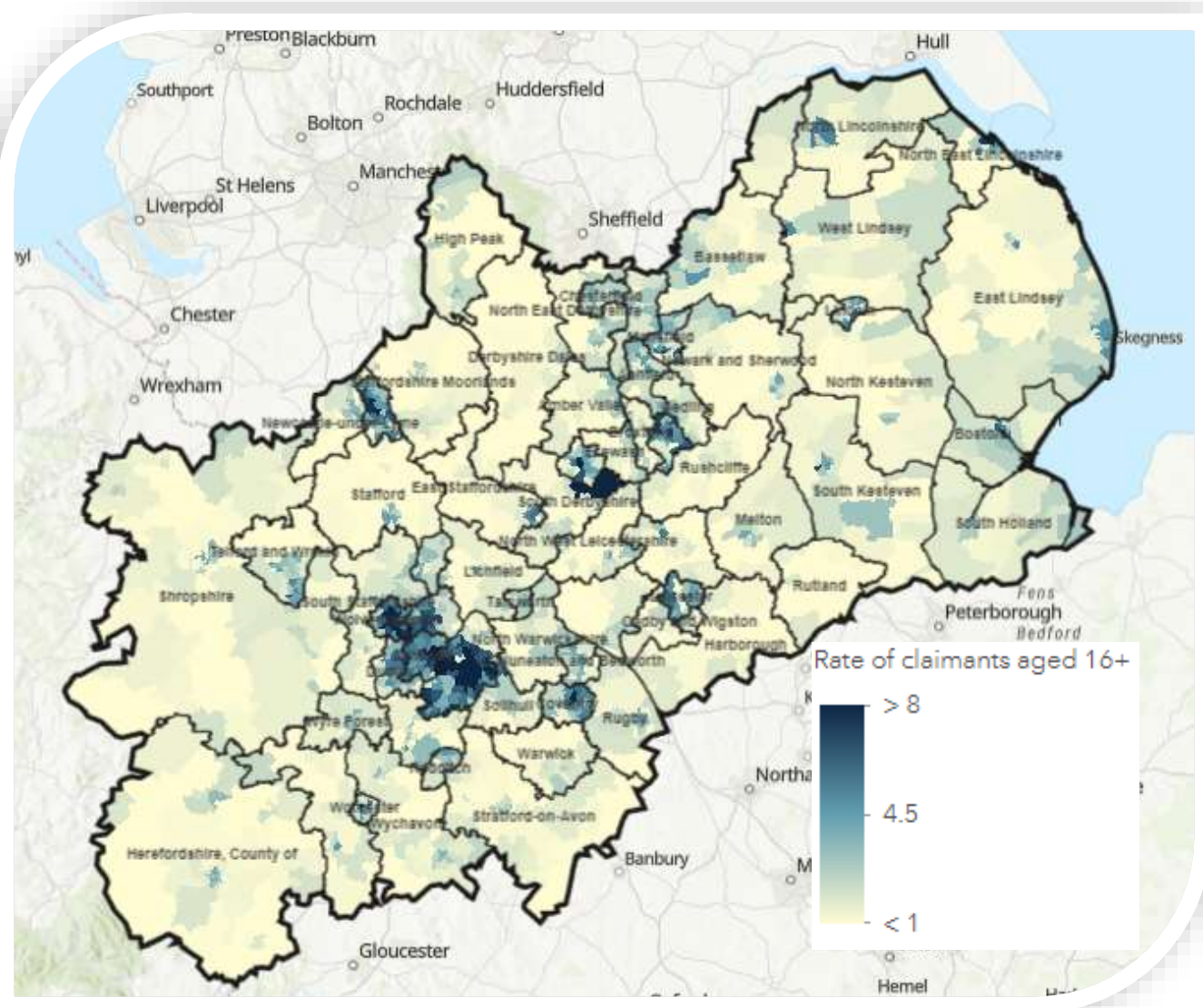
- There were 278,570 claimants aged 16 years and over in the Midlands Engine area in March 2023, an increase of 9,920 claimants since the previous month. This equates to an increase of 3.7% for the Midlands Engine area, the UK increased by 3.3%. Within the Midlands Engine, 57 local authorities increased, 7 decreased and 1 remained at the same level (West Lindsey).
- Since March 2022, the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has decreased by 13,980 (-4.8% compared to a decrease of 8.2% for the UK).
- Since March 2020, the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has increased by 57,030 (+25.7% compared to +24.3% for the UK). Notably, East Lindsey and North East Lincolnshire had lower levels of claimants than March 2020 (-545, and -70 respectively).
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 years and over was 3.3% compared to 2.9% for the UK in March 2023.

<sup>1</sup> Office for National Statistics (ONS)/Department for Work and Pensions (DWP): Claimant Count – released April 2023

### Ward Analysis – Claimants Aged 16 Years and Over

- Out of the 1,511 wards within the Midlands Engine, 453 were at or above the UK average of 2.9% for the number of claimants as a percentage of the population aged 16 years and over in March 2023.
- The wards with the highest number of claimants as a percentage of the population were based in Birmingham, with Lozells the highest at 15.2%. This was followed by Handsworth and Birchfield (both at 14.5%).
- In contrast, there were no claimants in Keele (Newcastle-Under-Lyme) in March 2023.

The following map shows claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 years and over in March 2023 across the Midlands Engine:



### Youth Claimants (Aged 16 – 24 Years Old)

- There were 51,605 youth claimants (16 – 24 years old) in the Midlands Engine area in March 2023, an increase of 1,680 youth claimants since the previous month. This equates to an increase of 3.4% with the UK increasing by 3.3%. Within the Midlands Engine, 16 local authorities decreased, 4 local authorities remained the same and 45 increased.

- Since March 2022, the number of youth claimants has increased by 1,885 (+3.8% compared to +0.1% for the UK).
- Since March 2020, the number of youth claimants has increased by 7,410 (+16.8% compared to +13.6% for the UK). Notably, 10 local authorities are lower than March 2020 levels.
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of youth claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 – 24 years old was 4.5% compared to 3.9% for the UK in March 2023.

**Ward Analysis – Youth Claimants**

- Out of the 1,511 wards within the Midlands Engine, 646 were at or above the UK average of 3.9% for the number of claimants as a percentage of the population aged 16 – 24 years and over in March 2023.
- The ward with the highest the number of claimants as a percentage of the population was Joiner’s Square (Stoke-on-Trent) at 14.8%. This is followed by Portland (Mansfield) at 13.1% and Oak Tree (Mansfield) at 12.8%.
- In contrast, within the Midlands Engine there were 101 wards with no youth claimants in March 2023.

The following map shows youth claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 – 24 years old in March 2023 across the Midlands Engine:

