



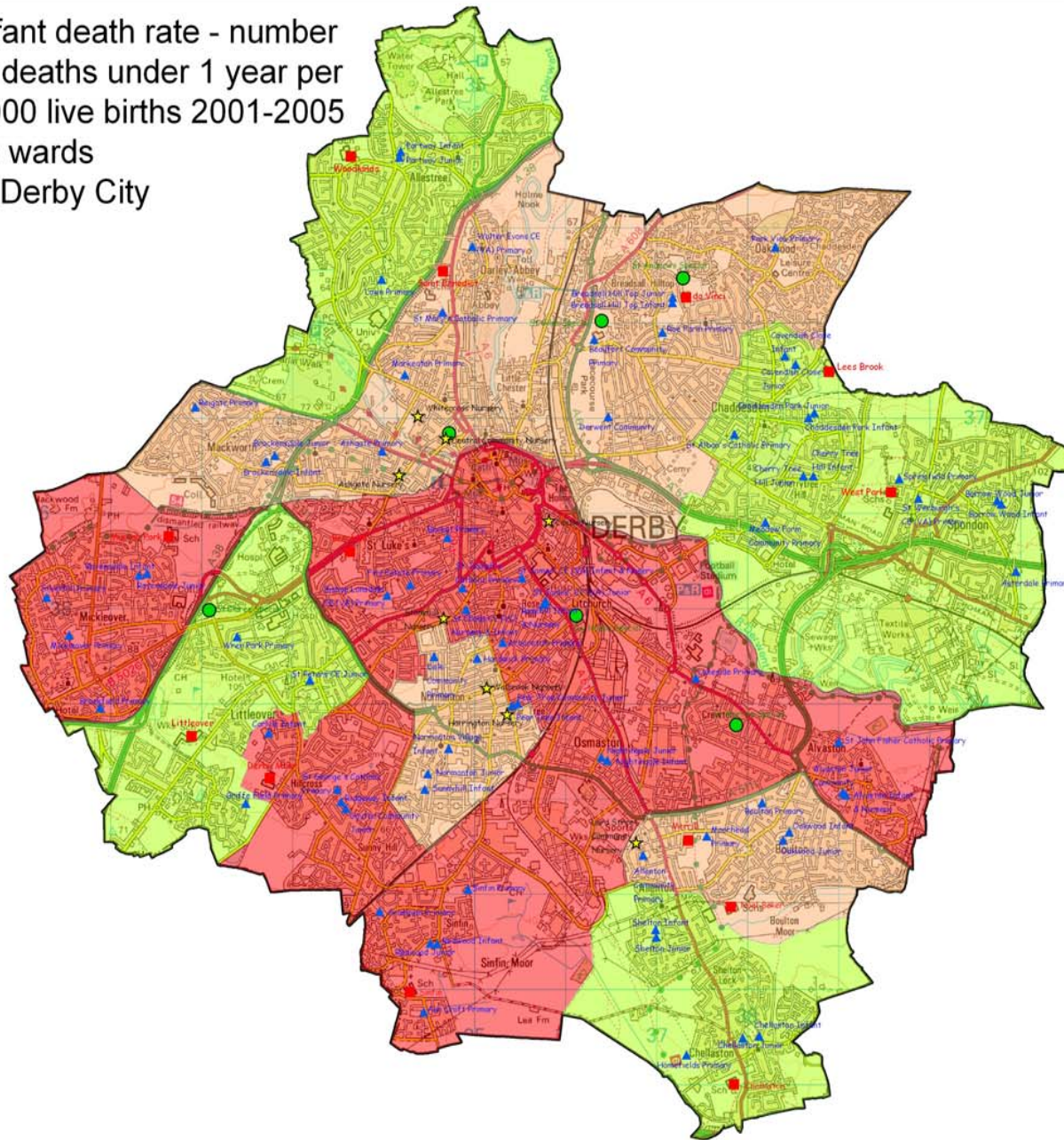
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**Regional Child Poverty Conference
31 October 2008**

A local perspective on tackling child poverty

**Andrew Flack
Corporate Director for Children and Young People
Derby**

Infant death rate - number of deaths under 1 year per 1000 live births 2001-2005 by wards in Derby City



Key

Derby City Ward (17 Wards)

- Ranked highest with >5per 1000
- Ranked the lowest <3per 1000
- Nursery schools
- Primary phase schools
- Special schools
- Secondary schools
- Election ward boundaries (2001)

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Child Poverty Background

- **Almost half the children living in poverty are in households where someone is in work**
- **Better qualified have higher pay and likely to receive further training – the upward spiral**
- **Infant death more common**
- **Low birth weight more likely**
- **Teenage pregnancy**
- **By age 3, being in poverty makes a difference equivalent to 9 months development in school readiness**
- **Children who do badly at primary school are less likely to improve at secondary school if they are poor**



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Panther Modern Society- The Home and the School

In contrast, the parents who seldom visit the schools and seem to the teachers to be uninterested in their children's progress, make little use of the available medical services, often fail to take their children to the welfare centres...often neglect their homes and give their children low standards of care. There is a greater amount of illness and school absence...(and their) work suffers to some extent from this as well as from their parents' lack of interest in their educational progress.

Tackling Child Poverty

Rowntree Study

- poverty as “the keystone to other social problems” and general unease about growing inequality.

The Extra Mile

- “the educational benefits that money can buy”
- ‘It is the cultural barrier of low aspirations and scepticism about education, the feeling that education is by and for other people, and likely to let one down’.

NSPCC

- “more vulnerable to some forms of maltreatment, particularly neglect and abuse”



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Children in Families Dependent on out of work benefits

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Derby	25.2%	24.3%	23.3%	22.0%
EM	18.6%	18.1%	17.5%	17.5%
Engl	21.5%	20.6%	20.2%	19.7%

Range in Derby's wards: 4.8% - 40.3%



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Derby targets

Baseline 2007:

22% children in families dependent on out of work benefits = in poverty

Targets:

08/09: 19.4%

09/10: 18.1%

10/11: 16.8%



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So Far in Derby

- **Aspiration - Inspiration**
- **LAA**
- **Cross-cutting Focus**
- **Audit Commission Seminar**
- **'Innovations' Event**
- **Heads of Service**
- **GOEM/Field Forces**
- **Heads' Conference**
- **Local Strategic Partnership**



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Indicators Informing Actions

- **Direct causes of poverty (e.g. employment and income)**
- **Indicators/results of poverty (e.g. housing, benefits take-up)**
- **Outcomes that give resilience to avoid/get out of poverty (e.g. achievement, childcare)**
- **Factors affecting outcomes (e.g. parental learning, LAC)**



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Tackling Child Poverty

Indicator	Direct Causes	Results	Resilience	Factors
School Performance			✓	
Pupils on FSM		✓		
School Attendance			✓	✓
NEET	✓		✓	✓
Exclusions			✓	✓
Ofsted Outcomes				✓
Disadvantaged Areas		✓		✓
Housing Quality		✓		✓
Crime		✓		
Neighbourhood Amenities				✓
Cultural Opportunities				✓
Employment	✓	✓	✓	
Income	✓			
Benefit Take-up	✓	✓		
LAC				✓
Numbers with a CP Plan		✓		✓
Families using Children's Centre and Extended Schools Services				✓
Take-up of Childcare			✓	✓
Adults in Learning/Qualifications			✓	✓
Parental Involvement in School				✓
Home Learning Environment				✓



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Suggested Indicators for cp work

- **NEET**
- **Exclusions**
- **Housing Quality/Availability**
- **Income and Benefit Take-Up**
- **Adult Learning and Skills**



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GOEM workshop outcomes

- **Unifying theme to a range of actions**
- **Indicators that have good communication power, that are understandable and naturally ‘carried with’ those addressing the issue.**
- **Staff who need to be able to provide earlier alerts of families in poverty**
- **Service access is important, along with the attitude demonstrated by service providers.**
- **Parenting programmes**
- **Parental qualifications - Children’s Centres work.**
- **Vital to keep businesses involved**
- **Mentoring or the availability of a ‘significant other’ adult**

The 'narrative'

- **The connection to community engagement.**
- **A theme that gives everyone something in the local area agreement.**
- **Encouraging growth and tackling deprivation are shared priorities across the region**
- **The importance of jobs for local people and retaining wealth locally**
- **What would make Derby a better place to live?**
- **The approach of Marketing Derby is to create, retain and spread wealth.**
- **Many of our actions are widening the gap, because the 'haves' take up the services that are offered.**
- **Build resilience and protect future generations**