

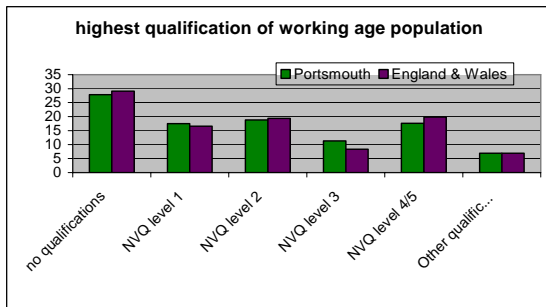
## QUALIFICATIONS

This is a **social and economic** issue.

It relates mainly to the sustainability objective

- **Education & Lifelong Learning**  
but also to
- **Employment & Economy**

Education and training levels have a bearing on the employability of the working age population and give an indication of the types of jobs that would suit local people. This factsheet examines the qualifications of the working age population in Portsmouth, along with current levels of educational attainment.



Data Source: Census 2001

The graph above shows the relative proportion of the working age population with each level of qualification, broken down into:

- **No qualification**
- **NVQ 1:** equivalent to fewer than 5 GCSEs grades A\*-C
- **NVQ 2:** equivalent to 5 or more GCSEs grades A\*-C
- **NVQ 3:** equivalent to 2 or more A levels
- **NVQ 4 and above:** equivalent to HND or degree

The graph shows that the pattern of qualifications in Portsmouth roughly follows the national picture in terms of the relative proportion of each. However, it is noticeable that Portsmouth has a **higher proportion of people with level 3 qualifications (A-levels)** than the national average. This is perhaps explained by the presence of 18,000 students at the University of Portsmouth. It is also noticeable that Portsmouth has a **below average proportion of working age people with level 4 and above qualifications (HNDs and degrees)**, possibly indicating that many students leave the city again after they have graduated. The percentage of 20 year olds with **below level 2 qualifications (below GCSE level)**

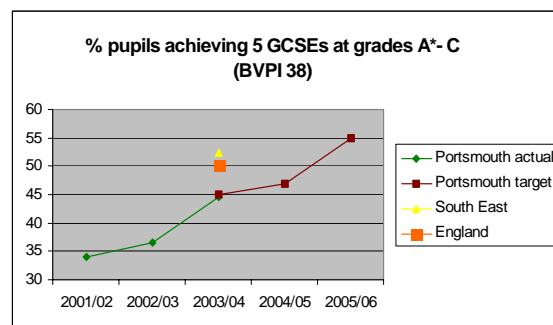
is similar to the national picture at around 45%. However, a recent study of education needs in the city shows levels as high as around 60% in Paulsgrove and Charles Dickens. This measure is used as a **proxy for basic skills levels** (Draft Adult Learning Ward Profiles, PCC, Feb 2005).

While the above figures show the qualifications of the working age population, they say little about current educational attainment. BVPI 38 measures



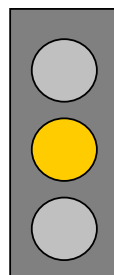
**the number of pupils that attained five or more GCSEs at grades A\*-C.** The graph below shows current performance. The Portsmouth City

Council Corporate Plan and the Community Strategy share the target of reaching 55% by the end of the academic year 2004/05 (financial year 2005/06). Performance in 2003 lay at just under 45%, well below the average for England and the South East (50.2 and 52.5 respectively). The longer term target is to bring Portsmouth's performance in line with the national average.



Data Source: BVPI

Educational levels of the working age population in Portsmouth roughly follow the national pattern, but the level of qualifications and basic skills are a concern in some wards. While educational attainment at GCSE level has improved in recent years and the city reached its target in the financial year 2003/04, it is a cause for concern that Portsmouth is still lagging behind the country and the region.



## EDUCATION, SKILLS & TRAINING (IMD)

This is a **social and economic** issue.

It relates mainly to the sustainability objective:

- **Education & Lifelong Learning**  
but also to
- **Employment & Economy**
- **Social Inclusion**

This factsheet contains information on education, skills and training. This information originates from the English Index of Multiple Deprivation (2004). The IMD is a measure of multiple deprivation at the small area level. It comprises 7 separate areas of deprivation, known as 'domains', each of which are formed from a number of separate indicators. People may be counted in one or more 'domains', depending on the number of types of deprivation that they experience. The other 6 domains are:

- Income Deprivation
- Employment Deprivation
- Health Deprivation & Disability
- Barriers to Housing & Services
- Living Environment Deprivation
- Crime

The data contained within the index relates where possible to 2001. It is published at 'Super Output Area' (SOA) level. There are 123 SOAs in Portsmouth, each made up of a number of 2001 census output areas, which together comprise 500 households or 1,500 people.



This domain captures the extent of deprivation in terms of **education, skills and training** in a local area. It is formed of two 'sub-domains' relating to children / young people and skills shortages.

### Children / young people:

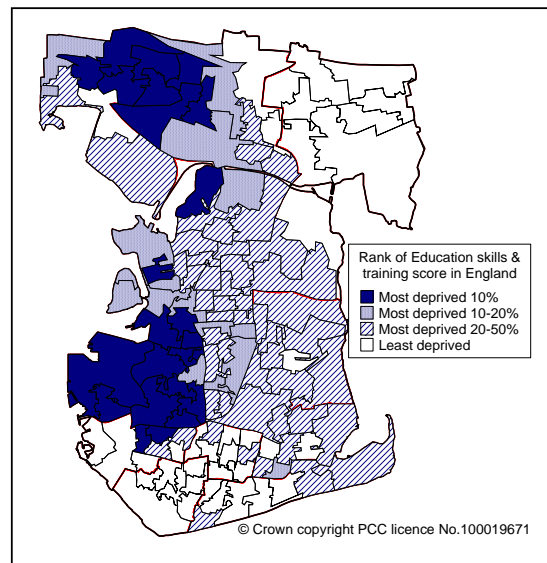
- Average points score of children at key stage 2
- Average points score of children at key stage 3
- Average points score of children at key stage 4
- Proportion of young people not staying on in school or further education after 16

- Proportion of those aged under 21 not entering higher education
- Secondary school absence rate

### Skills / Qualifications in people of working age:

- Proportion of adults (aged 25-54) with no or low qualifications.

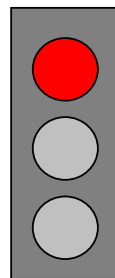
### Education - deprived SOAs in Portsmouth



23 of Portsmouth's SOAs are in the 10% most education-deprived in England, while 36 SOAs are in the 10% most deprived in the South East.

5 of the 10 most deprived SOAs for education, skills and training are in Charles Dickens ward, with 3 in Paulsgrove and the remaining 2 in Cosham and St. Thomas.

Two of the city's SOAs are in the worst 10 in the South East for education-deprivation (in Paulsgrove and Charles Dickens).



The problem of education-deprivation is far more widespread within the city than many other indices of deprivation, for example employment or income deprivation. Portsmouth performs poorly compared with both England and the South East region in respect of this domain. Next to the living environment, this is the poorest performing domain in the whole index of deprivation, as far as Portsmouth is concerned.

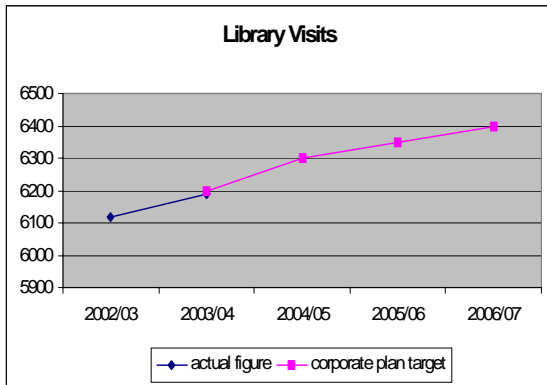
## VISITS TO LIBRARIES

This is a social issue.

It relates mainly to the sustainability objective:

- Education & Lifelong Learning  
but also to:
- Leisure & Recreation

This factsheet describes how well used the city's libraries are, and how satisfied residents are with the library service.



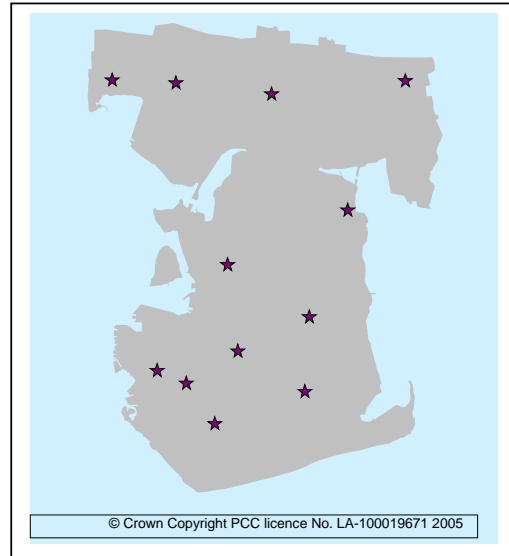
Data Source: BVPI 117

Number of visits to libraries increased slightly from 6,119 in 2002/3 to 6,187 in 2003/4. This figure almost meets the BVPI target of 6,200 set for that year. The Corporate Plan envisages an increase of 50 visits per year. The 2003/04 figure compares favourably with the regional average of 5,555 and is close to the national average of 6,379.

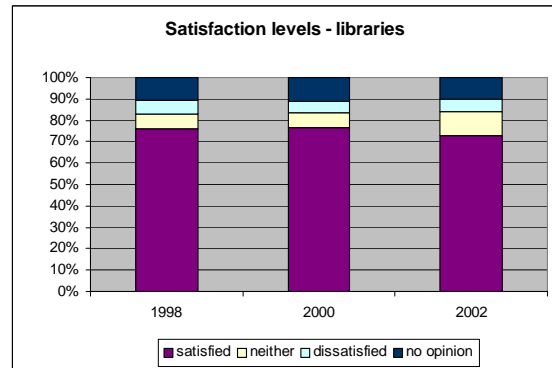


The map in the adjacent column shows that libraries are fairly evenly distributed across the city, making it easy to for residents across the city to access library services

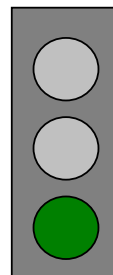
## Distribution of libraries in Portsmouth



MORI surveys undertaken on behalf of the city's leisure service show that there is a high level of satisfaction with the library service. Around three quarters of residents are very satisfied or fairly satisfied with the libraries, while only around 5% are fairly or very dissatisfied. Levels of satisfaction have remained stable over the past years.



Data Source: Leisure Service MORI Survey



Visitor numbers to libraries have increased and are in line with targets; Libraries are well distributed across the city and satisfaction levels are high. There is therefore no particular issue currently identifiable in connection with the city's libraries.

## UNIVERSITY OF PORTSMOUTH

This is a **social** and **economic** issue.

It relates mainly to the sustainability objective

- **Education & Lifelong Learning**

but also to:

- **Employment & Economy**

The University of Portsmouth, founded in 1896, has grown rapidly over the past few years and now has a major impact on the city's population and economy. This factsheet provides information about student numbers, university facilities and the impacts which this important establishment has upon the city as a whole.

Since Portsmouth Polytechnic became a University in 1992, it has expanded rapidly, both in terms of student numbers and land and facilities. **Student numbers have risen from 11,000 in 1992 to now almost 18,000 in 2005** (a 63% increase) and it now employs around 2,000 staff. The university community amounts to around one tenth of the city's population. Provided that sufficient funding is available, the university's strategic plan envisages **a continued increase in student numbers to 20,000 by 2010.**

One fifth of students originally come from the area.



The University also attracts a substantial number of international students. 35% of students stay in Portsmouth after graduation.

This expansion in student numbers has led to a need for additional buildings and facilities. The University has added three halls of residence since 2001 (Margaret Rule Hall; Trafalgar Hall and James Watson House), housing 13,556 students in the city centre. Overall, around 3,000 of the 18,000

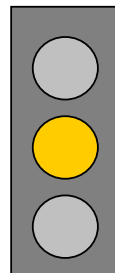
students live in university-owned halls of residence. While some students from the local area live in their parental homes, it is assumed that the remaining number find homes on the open market. There are currently no plans to further expand the halls of residences.



Since 2001, the university has invested £31.5 m in upgrading departmental and leisure facilities, including the relocation of its business school from Milton to a more central location near the city centre, and a new dentistry school in Ravelin Park. A purpose-built student union opened in 2002. This is now the city's second largest entertainment venue after the Guildhall.

This huge investment programme aside, it is estimated that the University adds around £50m a year to the city's economy through rents, staff wages and student spending on study material and leisure activities.

Students have an undeniable impact on the city's evening and night-time economy, and areas such as Guildhall Walk, close to many of the halls of residence, are dominated by pubs and bars. Students account for a considerable proportion of the overall patronage of these facilities in the evening.



The University has an undeniably positive impact on the city's economy, including investment, job creation and student spending. On the other hand, the increasing student numbers also add pressures upon the city's housing market, and can at times create tensions with local residents.