

UNDERSTANDING THE COASTAL COMMUNITIES OF THE NORTH WEST

**LOCAL AUTHORITY
DISTRICT SUMMARY:**

LIVERPOOL

JUNE 2009



Liverpool City is one of the 47 communities considered within the regional study of coastal communities across the North West¹. This summary offers a high level extract of analysis into this community.

- Liverpool** remains the largest coastal community in the region hosting more than 57% of the region's coastal population². It has been major provincial British port since the 17th Century and historically its docks and docklands have been central to the city's economic health. The advent of containerisation in the mid-1970s meant the large dockland area was effectively obsolete which made a significant contribution to the city's long term economic decline. Liverpool is the most deprived coastal community in the region and is in fact the most deprived local authority in the country³. There have been significant levels of public investment to regenerate Liverpool's coast in recent times. Mersey Waterfront is a programme of development, regeneration and marketing activity designed to capitalise on the economic potential offered by Liverpool's coast. This programme, which also encompasses Wirral, Sefton and Halton, has been implemented over a number of phases and has received public and private funding to the tune of £91 million⁴.

Data relating to the socio-economic and environmental characteristics of each settlement can be found in the 'Understanding the Coastal Communities of the North West'. Data Workbook+. This data can be brought together to provide a detailed picture for the coastal communities within Liverpool. The table below records the relative performance of each settlement against a set of summary indicators. It defines the performance of each community with reference to the sub-regional average for each indicator⁵.

Community	Population	Aged Pop.	Pop Growth	Low Income	Car Ownership	Deprivation	Unemployment	Retail & Hospitality	Access to Services	Employment Centre	House Ownership	Private Rented Housing
Liverpool	705,336	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+

= about average, + more than average, - less than average
gaps indicate where Lower Super Output Area analysis was not possible for some settlements

¹ Understanding the Coastal Communities of the North West; Rural Innovation; June 2009

² See Understanding the Coastal Communities of the North West . Data Workbook; 2001 . 2007 Population Change

³ www.communities.gov.uk

⁴ www.merseywaterfront.com

⁵ A sub-regional rather than regional average has been used because of the significant impact of communities within Merseyside on the overall regional data. See main report, Geographic Analysis (page 6)

Typology

Within the main report four typologies of coastal communities have been identified; large urban areas, working towns by the sea, maritime towns and settlements of choice⁶.

Liverpool has been categorised as a Large Urban Area. These places share negative socio-economic characteristics including depopulation, low household incomes, high levels of benefits claimants, higher levels of deprivation, lower levels of home ownership and higher levels of lone parents with dependant children. The influence of the coast is important for these places, but there are also (arguably larger) issues characteristic of post-industrial conurbations and their regeneration. Therefore the coastal element of this community is important but will not be the only thing that defines its future. The principal issue is to ensure that the overall regeneration effort does not overlook the coast.

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⁶ See main report, Functional Typology of Coastal Settlements (page 82)