

5. Socio-economics and Health

5.1. Introduction

- 5.1.1. This Chapter determines the baseline socio-economic, and health conditions and considers the likely socio-economic and health effects of the Proposed Development. The considerations of this Chapter are mostly related to the effects of the Proposed Development on the human population who will live in the vicinity of the Site.
- 5.1.2. The assessment presented in this chapter is made by studying the potential effects arising from the Proposed Development and assessing the impact this could have on relevant economic and social baseline, services and facilities. It identifies the socio-economic baseline in relation to key economic and social variables. It then examines the potential effects that could occur, both direct and indirect, resulting from the Proposed Development during construction (temporary effects) and operation (permanent effects).
- 5.1.3. This chapter is intended to be read as part of the wider Environmental Statement (ES) with particular reference to the introductory chapters (Chapter 1 to Chapter 4), as well as to Chapter 6: Landscape and Visual Amenity, Chapter 9: Transport and Access, Chapter 10: Air Quality and Chapter 11: Noise.

5.2. Assessment Approach

Methodology

- 5.2.1. There is no specific guidance available which establishes a methodology for undertaking socio-economic effects of a Proposed Development in the context of an EIA. Accordingly, the approach adopted for this assessment is based on professional experience and best practice, and in consideration of the policy requirements/tests set out within the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF December 2024, amended February 2025), and the development plan framework.
- 5.2.2. The range of data sources used in the assessment include:
- Office for National Statistics.
 - Indices of Multiple Deprivation (2019).
 - Get Information About Schools (22/23).
 - NHS General Practice Workforce Survey.
 - Sport England
 - Information obtained from the Applicant.

Study Area

- 5.2.3. The spatial scales that are considered relevant and make up the study area for this assessment are presented in **Table 5.1**.

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Table 5.1: Study area for the socio-economic and health assessment

Spatial Scale	Title
Lower Super Output Area (2011)	Knowsley 005E & Knowsley 005F
Ward	Prescot North
District	Knowsley
Regional	North West
National	England

Surveys

- 5.2.4. No primary surveys have been conducted in relation to the socio-economic and health assessment.

Modelling

- 5.2.5. No modelling has been undertaken in relation to the socio-economic and health assessment.

Assessment of SignificanceCriteria for Receptor Sensitivity

- 5.2.6. The first step in the assessment is to identify the sensitivity of the receptors. In socio-economic assessments, receptors are not sensitive to changing environmental conditions in the same way as many environmental receptors are. To address this, the assessment draws on a combination of measurable indicators (jobs, population, etc.) and a consideration of the importance of the receptor in policy terms to gauge the receptor's sensitivity. The sensitivity criteria proposed to be used in the Socio-economics and Health ES chapter is presented in **Table 5.2**.

Table 5.2: Criteria for Receptor Sensitivity

Sensitivity	Evidence for Sensitivity Assessment
High	Evidence of direct and significant socio-economic challenges relating to receptor. Accorded a high priority in local, regional or national economic regeneration policy. Evidence of direct and significant socio-economic challenges including: • Areas of population increase / decrease well in excess of / below regional / national averages. • Areas of employment increase / decrease well in excess of / below regional / national averages. • Areas with levels of unemployment well in excess of / below regional / national averages and high levels of relative deprivation (i.e. top 10%). • Areas with claimant count well in excess of / below regional / national averages. • Areas with economic activity rate well in excess of / below regional / national averages. • Areas with GVA increase / decrease well above / below regional / national averages. • Areas with a significant undersupply of housing against the housing target. • Deficit in terms of existing education provision. • Ratio of GP: patient considerably higher than national average and / or no capacity to accept new patients. • Considerable undersupply of open space and / or provision beyond 20 minutes walking distance.

Sensitivity	Evidence for Sensitivity Assessment
Medium	Some evidence of socio-economic challenges linked to receptor, which may be indirect. Change relating to receptor has medium priority in local, regional and national economic and regeneration policy. Some evidence of socio-economic challenges, including: • Areas of population increase / decrease in excess of / below regional / national averages. • Areas with housing supply below target. • Areas of employment increase / decrease in excess of / below regional / national averages. • Areas with levels of unemployment above / below regional / national averages and levels of relative deprivation (i.e. top 50%). • Areas with claimant count well above / below regional / national averages. • Areas with economic activity rate above / below regional / national averages. • Areas with GVA increase / decrease above / below regional / national averages. • Limited capacity in terms of existing education provision • Ratio of GP: patient higher than national average and / or no capacity to accept new patients. • Undersupply of open space, but provision within 20-minute walking distance. • Areas with a moderate oversupply / undersupply of housing against the housing target.
Low	Little evidence of socio-economic challenges relating to receptor. Receptor is accorded a low priority in local, regional and national economic and regeneration policy. Little evidence of socio-economic challenges, including: • Areas of population increase / decrease in line with regional / national averages. • Areas of employment increase / decrease in line with regional / national averages. • Areas with levels of unemployment in line with regional / national averages and levels of relative deprivation (i.e. bottom 50%). • Areas with claimant count in line with regional / national averages. • Areas with economic activity rate in line with regional / national averages. • Areas with GVA increase / decrease in line with regional / national averages. • Areas with levels of crime in line with regional / national averages. • Healthcare facilities accepting new patients. • Available capacity in existing education provision. • Ratio of GP: patient similar to national average and accepting new patients • Availability of open space and provision within 20-minute walking distance. • Areas with an oversupply of housing against the housing target.
Negligible	No socio-economic issues relating to receptor. Receptor is not considered a priority in local, regional and national economic development and regeneration policy. No socio-economic issues relating to a receptor, including: • No or little change in population. • No change to employment levels. • Areas with levels of unemployment less than regional / national averages and low levels of relative deprivation (i.e. bottom 10%). • Areas with claimant count higher than average regional / national averages. • Areas with economic activity rate higher than average regional / national averages. • Healthcare facilities accepting new patients. • Surplus capacity in existing education provision • Ratio of GP: patient below national average and accepting new patients.

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Sensitivity	Evidence for Sensitivity Assessment
	- Considerable availability of open space within 20-minute walking distance. - Areas with a considerable oversupply of housing against the housing target.

Criteria for Magnitude of Change

5.2.7. The magnitude of change upon each receptor is then determined by considering the predicted deviation from baseline conditions, both before and, if required, after mitigation. The magnitude of effect criteria proposed to be used in the Socio-Economics and Health ES chapter is presented in **Table 5.3**.

5.2.8. Wherever possible the magnitude of change will be quantified. Where this is not possible, for example in relation to the number of the social and health related considerations, consideration of magnitude of change will be on a qualitative basis and justified through baseline research, a review of relevant policy, and consultations undertaken.

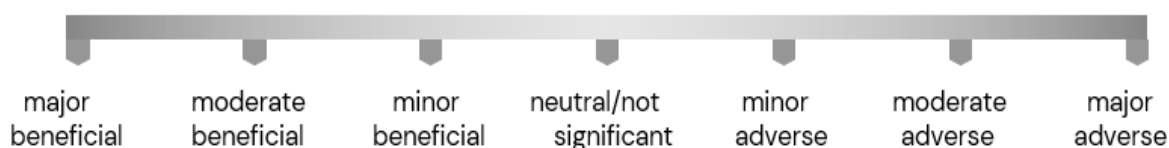
Table 5.3: Criteria for Magnitude of Change

Magnitude of Impact	Description / Criteria
High	Proposed Development would cause a large change to existing socio-economic conditions in terms of absolute and/or percentage change. - Greater than 5% increase / decrease on existing baseline levels of employment. - Greater than 5% increase / decrease in GVA from baseline. - Greater than 5% increase / decrease in Council Tax revenue. - Considerable increase / decrease in economy factors. - Greater than 10% of minimum annual housing target. - Considerable increase / decrease in provision quality of open and recreational space generated. - Considerable increase in demand on social and community infrastructure with no capacity / decrease in demand on social and community infrastructure with ample surplus capacity.
Medium	Proposed Development would cause a moderate change to existing socio-economic conditions in terms of absolute and/or percentage change. 1% – 5% increase / decrease on existing baseline levels of employment. 1% – 5% increase / decrease in GVA from baseline. - Greater than 5% of minimum annual housing target. 1% – 5% increase / decrease in Council Tax revenue. - Moderate increase / decrease in economy factors. - Moderate increase / decrease in provision/quality of open and recreational space generated. - Moderate increase / decrease in demand on social and community infrastructure with limited capacity.
Low	Proposed Development would cause a minor change to existing socio-economic conditions in terms of absolute and/or percentage change. - Limited increase / decrease on existing baseline levels of 0.1% – 0.99% increase / decrease on existing baseline levels of employment. 0.1% – 0.99% increase / decrease in GVA from baseline. 1% – 5% of minimum annual housing target. 0.1% – 0.99% increase/decrease in Council Tax revenue. - Limited increase / decrease in economy factors.

Magnitude of Impact	Description / Criteria
	- Limited increase / decrease in provision/quality of open and recreational space generated. - Limited increase /decrease in demand on social and community infrastructure with limited capacity.
Negligible	No discernible change in baseline socio-economic conditions.

Significance Scale of Effect Criteria

5.2.9. The below image shows the scale of effect ranging from major beneficial to major adverse.



5.2.10. There are no industry standard significance criteria for the assessment of socio-economic effects. The assessment is quantitative where possible. In circumstances where this is not possible, the assessment is qualitative in nature and based on professional judgement. The significance of effect is identified by combining the sensitivity of the receptor against the magnitude of impact using the matrix in **Table 5.4**.

Table 5.4: Significance Matrix

Magnitude of Change	Sensitivity of Receptor				
		High	Medium	Low	Negligible
	High	Major	Major	Moderate	Negligible
	Medium	Major	Moderate	Minor to Moderate	Negligible
	Low	Moderate	Minor to Moderate	Minor	Negligible
	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible

5.2.11. Using this scale, effects identified as major or moderate are regarded as being significant. Effects of minor or lesser significance are also identified but regarded as not significant.

Legislative and Policy Framework

National Planning Policy

5.2.12. The most recent National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was published in December 2024 and updated in February 2025. A key focus of the NPPF is to achieve sustainable development which requires three interdependent objectives that need to be pursued in a mutually supportive way:

- Economic Objective: Ensure that the economy is strong, responsive, and competitive to support growth;

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- Social Objective: Ensure there is a sufficient supply and range of homes available to meet present and future demand; and
- Environmental Objective: Ensure the natural, built, and historic environment is protected including mitigating and adapting to climate change.

5.2.13. Other relevant points to note from the revised NPPF include:

- Paragraph 61 states that the government have set the objective of significantly increasing the supply of homes, to achieve this there needs to be sufficient land available where it is needed, specific housing requirements need to be met and land with permission needs to be developed without unnecessary delay; and
- Paragraph 77 of the NPPF states that to achieve the supply of a large number of homes it is often best done through planning for larger scale development, such as settlements or significant extensions to existing villages and towns, provided they are well located and designed, and supported by the necessary infrastructure.

5.2.14. The NPPF places significant weight on the need to support economic growth and productivity with chapter 6 setting out the objective of building a strong and competitive economy. Paragraph 86 states that the planning policies should:

- Set out a clear economic vision and strategy which positively and proactively encourages sustainable economic growth, having regard to Local Industrial Strategies and other local policies for economic development and regeneration;
- Set criteria, or identify strategic sites, for local and inward investment to match the strategy and to meet anticipated needs over the plan period;
- Seek to address potential barriers to investment, such as inadequate infrastructure, services or housing, or a poor environment; and
- Be flexible enough to accommodate needs not anticipated in the plan, allow for new and flexible working practices (such as live-work accommodation), and to enable a rapid response to changes in economic circumstances.

5.2.15. Paragraph 87 finds that alongside this, planning policies and decisions should recognise and address the specific locational requirements of different sectors.

Local Planning Policy

Knowsley Local Plan: Core Strategy

5.2.16. The Local Plan Core Strategy provides the strategic framework for Knowsley's growth and development up to 2028 and beyond. It guides where and how new development and regeneration should occur, shaping future land use and informing investment decisions by the Council and its public, private, and voluntary sector partners. Some of the key strategic objectives outlined in the Local Plan are detailed below:

5.2.17. **Strategic Objective 1: Sustainable Economic and Employment Growth** aims to support long-term economic development in Knowsley, aligned with the wider Liverpool City Region. It focuses on attracting employment-related development, enhancing workforce skills and

promoting enterprise and innovation. The objective seeks to raise skill levels and economic participation to ensure Knowsley contributes meaningfully to the regional economy.

5.2.18. **Strategic Objective 2: Well-Balanced Housing Market** seeks to deliver a diverse and sustainable mix of high-quality housing across Knowsley. This includes market, affordable, and supported housing to meet current and future needs. The goal is to address housing shortages—particularly for affordable homes, larger family properties, and older residents—while attracting new households, supporting community vitality, and sustaining local services.

5.2.19. **Strategic Objective 6: Sustainable Transport** aims to reduce the need to travel by ensuring new development supports walking, cycling, and public transport. It promotes better connectivity within Knowsley and to the wider Liverpool City Region, linking homes with jobs, services, and green spaces. Development will be planned to minimise travel demand and ensure transport is accessible to all.

5.2.20. **Strategic Objective 9: Promoting Health and Wellbeing** addresses existing health inequalities and encourages enhancements to the health and wellbeing of Knowsley's residents. It targets development that enhances access to quality housing, employment, open spaces, and active travel. It also supports opportunities for physical activity, cultural engagement, and community cohesion, making health and wellbeing a cross-cutting priority across all strategic goals.

Knowsley 2030¹

5.2.21. The Council has worked closely with local strategic partners, residents, businesses and other stakeholders to co-produce the Knowsley 2030 strategy. The strategy focuses on five strategic outcomes which set out that, by 2030, Knowsley will be a place:

- Where strong and safe communities can shape their future;
- Where people are active and healthy and have access to the support they need;
- Where people of all ages are confident and can achieve their full potential;
- With a thriving, inclusive economy with opportunities for people and business; and,
- With welcoming, vibrant, well-connected neighbourhoods and town centres.

5.2.22. Health and wellbeing are central to the vision as the strategy recognises the need to close the gap in life expectancy and health outcomes across communities. It promotes a shift towards prevention and early intervention, with personalised care and support services that empower people to live healthier lives. Green spaces and active lifestyles are outlined as essential to both physical and mental wellbeing and the borough's natural assets will be better utilised to support this.

5.2.23. The strategy also commits to improving early years support, raising school attainment, and expanding post-16 and adult learning opportunities. It envisions a future where residents of all ages are confident, skilled, and able to pursue their ambitions, supported by high-quality advice and tailored employment support.

¹ Knowsley 2030 Strategy: Knowsley Council, August 2020. Available at: <https://www.knowsley.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2024-09/Knowsley%202030.pdf>

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- 5.2.24. By 2030, Knowsley aims to be a vibrant, well-connected borough with attractive neighbourhoods and regenerated town centres. Residents are proud of their communities and excited about new developments that bring housing, jobs, and cultural opportunities. Over 4,000 new homes will be built and town centres such as Huyton, Kirkby, and Prescot will be revitalised with new retail, leisure, and cultural venues. Community spaces and sustainable transport, including new cycle routes, will help reduce isolation and improve quality of life. Knowsley Council has also declared a climate emergency and is committed to creating a clean, sustainable environment for future generations.

Knowsley Council Plan (2025–2030)²

- 5.2.25. The Knowsley Council Plan 2025–2030 has a clear vision of ‘Supporting Knowsley’s People and Communities to Thrive’ and is focused on three key priorities:
1. Effective support for those in need
 2. Encourage growth that benefits everyone
 3. Deliver targeted support to encourage fairness and opportunity

- 5.2.26. The Knowsley Council Plan considers the future opportunities and ambitions for local people whilst dealing with the long-standing challenges facing Knowsley residents and communities. The Council’s ability to deliver impactful change to date has been underpinned by its continued focus on the aims set out in its long-term strategy for the Borough – “Knowsley 2030”.

Liverpool City Region Corporate Plan (2024–2028)³

- 5.2.27. The Corporate Plan sets out a vision for the Liverpool City Region to be the best place to grow up, grow a family, and grow a business—ensuring no one is left behind. Central to this vision is growing the regional economy by investing in people, place, transport, and digital infrastructure. Since the establishment of the Mayoral Combined Authority in 2017, the economy has expanded by nearly £3billion, with 60,000 more residents now in employment. The Plan is structured around five key priority areas:
1. Economy: Driving growth by investing in start-ups and high-growth businesses, attracting new companies to the region, and delivering the transport, digital infrastructure, and skilled workforce needed to create local jobs.
 2. People: Equipping residents with the skills and opportunities to succeed in the regional economy, while improving health and reducing inequalities will help boost productivity and prosperity.
 3. Place: Addressing place-based challenges to improve quality of life—tackling homelessness, expanding access to quality housing, improving air quality, and responding to the climate emergency through a coordinated, place-based approach.

² Knowsley Council Plan (2025–30): Knowsley Council, April 2025. Available at: https://www.knowsley.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2025-06/Knowsley%20Council%20Plan%202025-2030_FINAL2.pdf

³ Corporate Plan (2024–2028): Liverpool City Region Combined Authority, July 2024. Available at: <https://api.liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/Corporate-Plan-2024-28.pdf>

4. Transport: Building a modern, integrated, and publicly controlled transport system that supports communities and businesses, while delivering the economic and climate benefits that a low carbon transport system brings.
5. Digital Infrastructure: By leveraging regional digital assets of the City Region to lead in smart technologies and responsible AI, aiming to become the most digitally connected city region.

5.2.28. The Plan also focuses on housing, aiming to improve design, accessibility, and affordability across the Liverpool City Region. By 2027, the Combined Authority will 'champion a refreshed approach to strategic housing planning', ensuring that 20% of homes in any new funding programme are affordable, in line with local planning policy. It will explore solutions to regional housing challenges, including council house building and expanding affordable housing options. The plan commits to decarbonising over 1,000 homes and public buildings annually through retrofitting and heat networks. Additionally, 200 homes per year will be delivered through Brownfield Land Funding.

EIA Scoping Process

- 5.2.29. As discussed in Chapter 2, a request for a Scoping Opinion was submitted on behalf of the Applicant to Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council (KMBC) on 26th March 2025, which set out the proposed scope of assessment for the project (see **Appendix 2.1**). KMBC issued their Scoping Opinion on 21st May 2025 and is summarised in Chapter 2 and included in full at **Appendix 2.2**.
- 5.2.30. With regards to socio-economic and health matters, relevant response was received from KMBC – Public Health and comments have been addressed accordingly, as follows in **Table 5.5** below.

Table 5.5: Relevant EIA Scoping Consultation Comments

Consultee	Summary of Comment	Response or location within the ES where comments are addressed
KMBC – Public Health (24/04/2025)	Note if considerations which are usually put into a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) are to be embedded within the ES this needs to be made explicit, with reference to the impact on the existing communities near to the site development as well as the new community this will create.	A health profile of the local area is provided in the chapter, along with consideration of the impacts on GP provision and open space.

Limitations to the Assessment

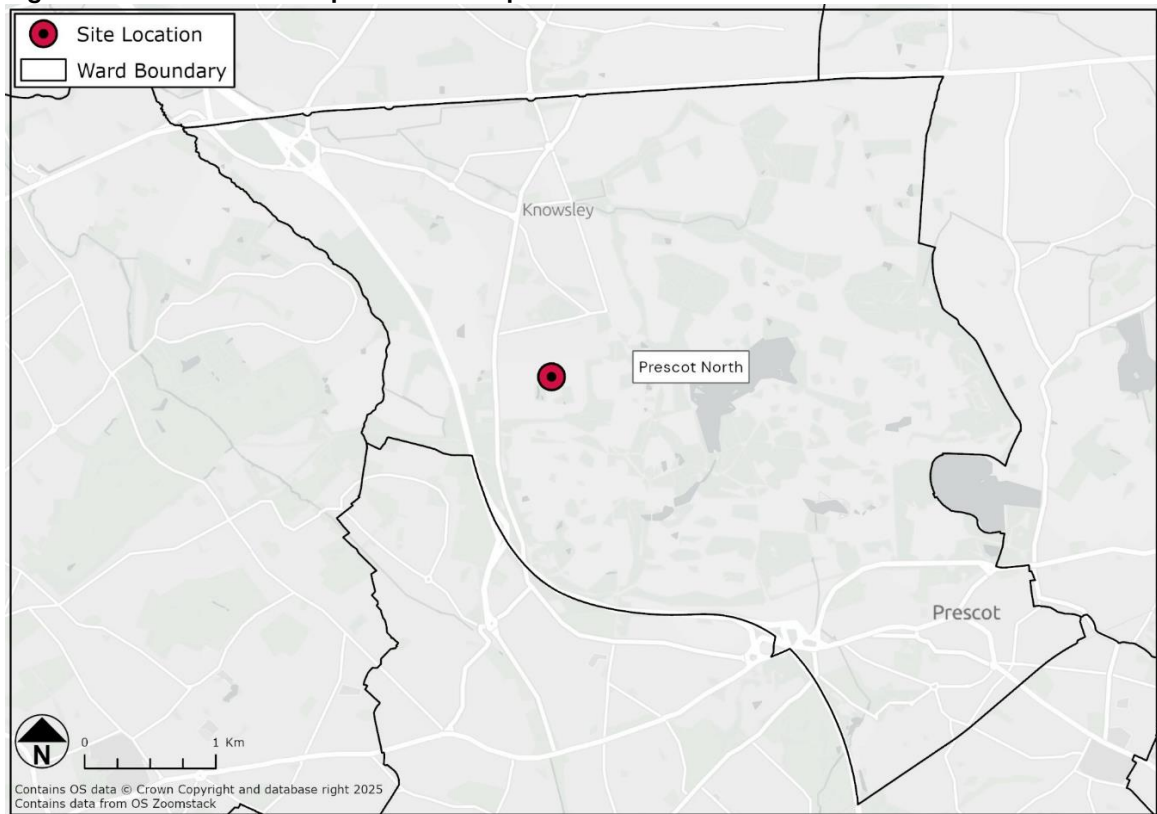
- 5.2.31. Baseline information is derived from the latest available statistics, however there is often a time-lag associated with the publication of this data. As such, a process of triangulation is utilised wherever possible and relevant whereby baseline data is collated and presented from a range of sources to ensure that as full and up to date picture as possible is presented.

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5.3. Baseline Conditions

Site Description and Context

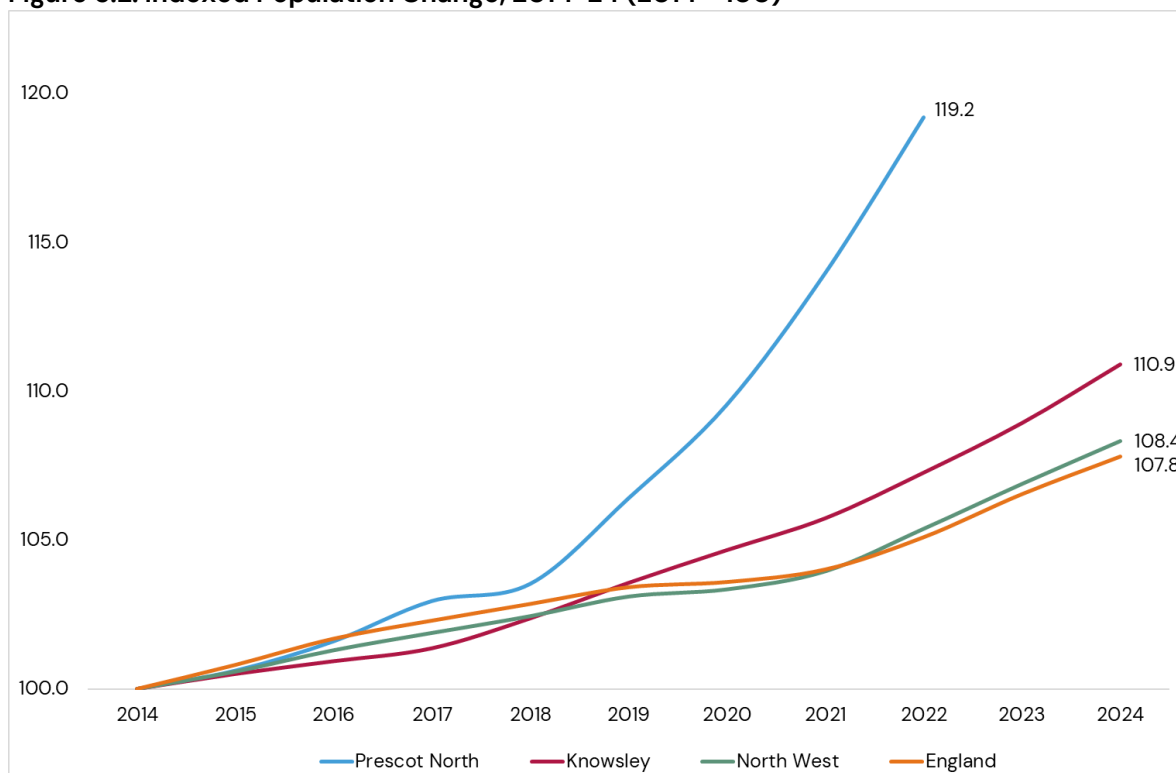
- 5.3.1. The Site is part of the safeguarded land under Policy SUE1 in the Knowsley Local Plan Core Strategy, which covers 58.9ha and is primarily proposed for residential use, with a capacity of 1,093 dwellings. Located near Knowsley and 9km from Liverpool City Centre, the Site includes 33.6ha of arable land, two wooded areas, ponds, drainage ditches, and an overhead telecom line. No Public Rights of Way (PRoW) are within, but a bridleway runs adjacent to the western boundary.
- 5.3.2. The Site falls across two LSOAs; Knowsley 005E and Knowsley 005F. **Figure 5.1** shows the Site location of the Proposed Development in relation to the ward of Prescott North. Where possible, socio-economic and health data are provided at LSOA and ward level. Data are also provided for Knowsley LPA, the North West and England.

Figure 5.1: Location of Proposed Development**Baseline Survey Information****Population**Past Change

- 5.3.3. As of 2024, the population of Knowsley was around 162,565. **Figure 5.2** shows population change between 2014 and 2024 in Knowsley, the North West and England. Between 2014 and 2024, the population of Knowsley grew by 10.9%, an absolute increase of 16,003. The growth rate of the population in Knowsley was above the rate seen in the North West and England which saw increases of 8.4% and 7.8% respectively.

- 5.3.4. Ward data are only available up to 2022. The population of Prescott North ward grew by 19.2% between 2014 and 2022 – an absolute increase of 1,789.

Figure 5.2: Indexed Population Change, 2014–24 (2014 = 100)



Source: ONS, Population Estimates

- 5.3.5. **Table 5.6** shows population change by age in Prescott North between 2014 and 2022. The fastest growing age group was those aged 16–64, growing by 26.2% (1,524 people). The over 65 cohort decreased by 5.0% (97 people) whereas the population ages 0–15 grew by 23.4% (362 people).

Table 5.6: Population Change by Age in Prescott North, 2014–2022

	2014	2022	Absolute Change	% Change
Aged 0 to 15	1,547	1,909	362	23.4%
Aged 16 to 64	5,818	7,342	1,524	26.2%
Aged 65+	1,947	1,850	-97	-5.0%
Total	9,312	11,101	1,789	19.2%

Source: ONS, Population Estimates

- 5.3.6. **Tables 5.7 to 5.9** show the population change by age in Knowsley, the North West and England between 2013 and 2024 respectively. In Knowsley, the fastest growing age group were those aged 65+, growing by 16.2% (3,936 people). This was higher than the growth rates of this age group in the North West (13.9%) and England (15.5%). In Knowsley, those aged 16–64 saw an increase of 8.5% (8,039) since 2014 and those aged 0–15 increased by 14.3% (4,028).

Table 5.7: Population Change by Age in Knowsley, 2014–24

	2014	2024	Absolute Change	% Change
Aged 0 to 15	28,239	32,267	4,028	14.3%
Aged 16 to 64	94,099	102,138	8,039	8.5%
Aged 65+	24,224	28,160	3,936	16.2%
Total	146,562	162,565	16,003	10.9%

Source: ONS, Population Estimates

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Table 5.8: Population Change by Age in the North West, 2014–24

	2014	2024	Absolute Change	% Change
Aged 0 to 15	1,343,816	1,440,242	96,426	7.2%
Aged 16 to 64	4,518,731	4,840,994	322,263	7.1%
Aged 65+	1,278,549	1,456,178	177,629	13.9%
Total	7,141,096	7,737,414	596,318	8.4%

Source: ONS, Population Estimates

Table 5.9: Population Change by Age in England, 2014–24

	2014	2024	Absolute Change	% Change
Aged 0 to 15	10,255,533	10,768,248	512,715	5.0%
Aged 16 to 64	34,610,320	36,870,761	2,260,441	6.5%
Aged 65+	9,504,466	10,981,092	1,476,626	15.5%
Total	54,370,319	58,620,101	4,249,782	7.8%

Source: ONS, Population Estimates

Population Projections⁴

- 5.3.7. Data from the ONS 2022–based population projections show that between 2022 and 2042 the population of Knowsley is projected to increase by 17.4% – an increase of 27,370 people. Most of the population growth is projected to be people aged 65 and over, with this cohort projected to grow by 29.2% (7,855) in this time period. The number of people aged 0–14 is projected to increase by 5.1% (1,583) between 2022 and 2042 and the working age population (those aged 15–64) is projected to rise by 17.8% (17,953). **Tables 5.9 to 5.11** show the population projections in Knowsley, the North West and England in more detail.

Table 5.9: Population Projections by Age in Knowsley, 2022–2042

	2022	2042	Absolute Change	% Change
Aged 0 to 14	31,277	32,860	1,583	5.1%
Aged 15 to 64	100,927	118,880	17,953	17.8%
Aged 65+	26,925	34,780	7,855	29.2%
Total	157,107	184,477	27,370	17.4%

Source: ONS, 2022–based Population Projections

Table 5.10: Population Projections by Age in the North West, 2022–2042

	2022	2042	Absolute Change	% Change
Aged 0 to 14	1,317,026	1,219,672	-97,354	-7.4%
Aged 15 to 64	4,784,297	5,307,743	523,446	10.9%
Aged 65+	1,414,395	1,814,506	400,111	28.3%
Total	7,515,718	8,341,921	826,203	11.0%

Source: ONS, 2022–based Population Projections

Table 5.11: Population Projections by Age in England, 2022–2042

	2022	2042	Absolute Change	% Change
Aged 0 to 14	9,896,653	9,032,937	-863,716	-8.7%
Aged 15 to 64	36,586,134	40,022,815	3,436,681	9.4%
Aged 65+	10,629,755	14,205,827	3,576,072	33.6%
Total	57,112,542	63,261,579	6,149,037	10.8%

⁴ The age ranges for the population projections analysis do not align exactly with the ranges used for past change. For past change, the youngest age group is 0–15 and for population projections it is 0–14. In addition, for past change the working age cohort is 16–64 and for projected change it is 15–64. The 65+ age group is the same for both datasets.

Source: ONS, 2022-based Population Projections

Deprivation

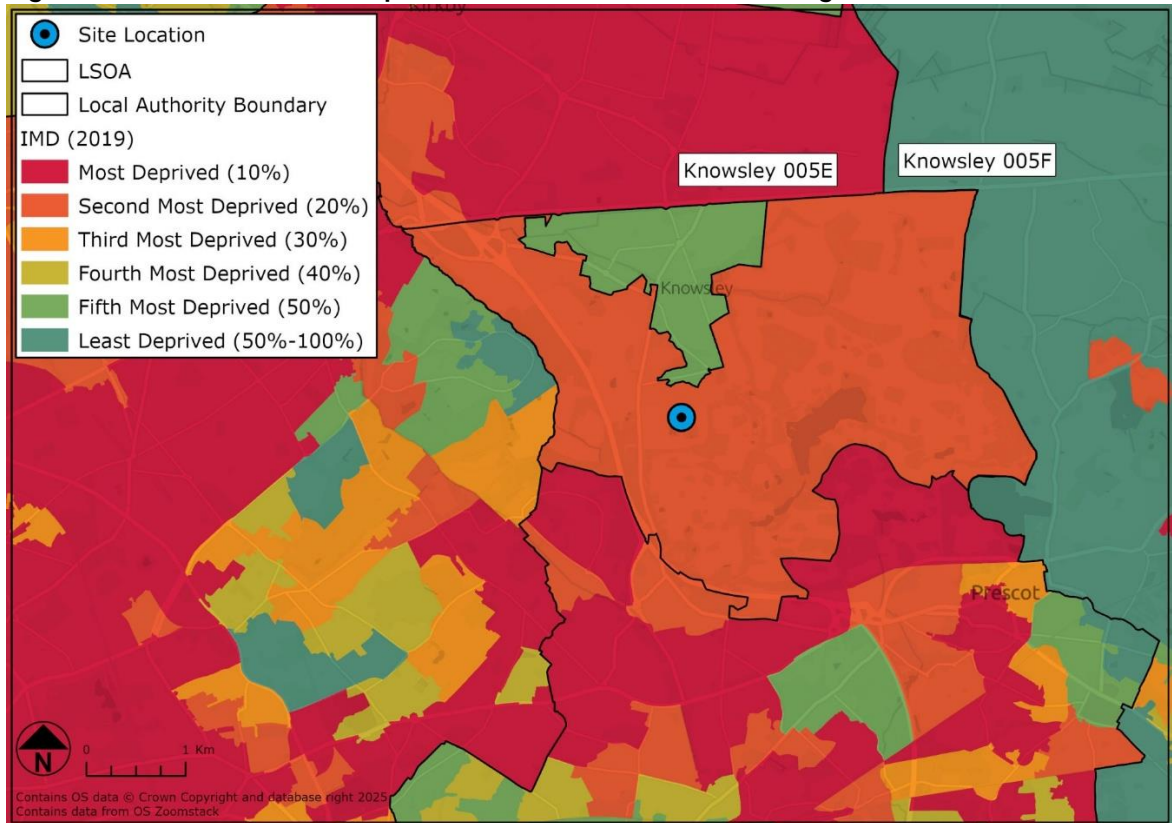
- 5.3.8. The 2019 Index of Multiple Deprivation provides an indication of the average levels of deprivation for Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs) across England. The index provides an overall assessment of the average levels of deprivation as well as an assessment against domains of deprivation. In total, England has 32,844 LSOAs. The Site lies within Knowsley 005E and Knowsley 005F.
- 5.3.9. Knowsley 005E is ranked 15,982, placing it in the 50% most deprived LSOAs in England. Looking at the individual domains of deprivation, Knowsley 005E has its highest level of deprivation in the health & disability domain where it has a rank of 5,395, placing it in the 20% most deprived LSOAs for this indicator. The LSOA has its lowest rank in the crime domain with a rank of 30,948, putting it in the top 10% least deprived LSOAs for this domain.
- 5.3.10. Knowsley 005F is ranked 4,755, placing it in the 20% most deprived LSOAs in England. Looking at the individual domains of deprivation, Knowsley 005F also has its highest level of deprivation in the health & disability domain where it has a rank of 1,956, placing it in the top 10% most deprived LSOAs for this indicator. The LSOA has its lowest rank in the barriers to housing and services domain with a rank of 27,114, putting it in the top 20% least deprived LSOAs for this domain.

Table 5.12: Index of Multiple Deprivation for relevant LSOAs

IMD 2019 Domain	Knowsley 005E		Knowsley 005F	
	Rank	Decile	Rank	Decile
Overall IMD	15,982	Top 50% (most)	4,755	Top 20% (most)
Income	16,519	Top 50% (least)	5,508	Top 20% (most)
Employment	10,490	Top 40% (most)	3,850	Top 20% (most)
Education & Training	17,016	Top 50% (least)	7,470	Top 30% (most)
Health & Disability	5,396	Top 20% (most)	1,956	Top 10% (most)
Crime	30,948	Top 10% (least)	19,777	Top 40% (least)
Barriers to Housing and Services	27,801	Top 20% (least)	27,114	Top 20% (least)
Living Environment	20,151	Top 40% (least)	3,135	Top 10% (most)

Source: Ministry for Housing, Communities & Local Government

- 5.3.11. **Figure 5.3** shows the levels of deprivation at an LSOA level. Most of the surrounding LSOAs are within the top 10% and 20% most deprived LSOAs across the country. However, surrounding the Site there are also some pockets of lower deprivation with some LSOAs falling into the 50% least deprived areas in the country.

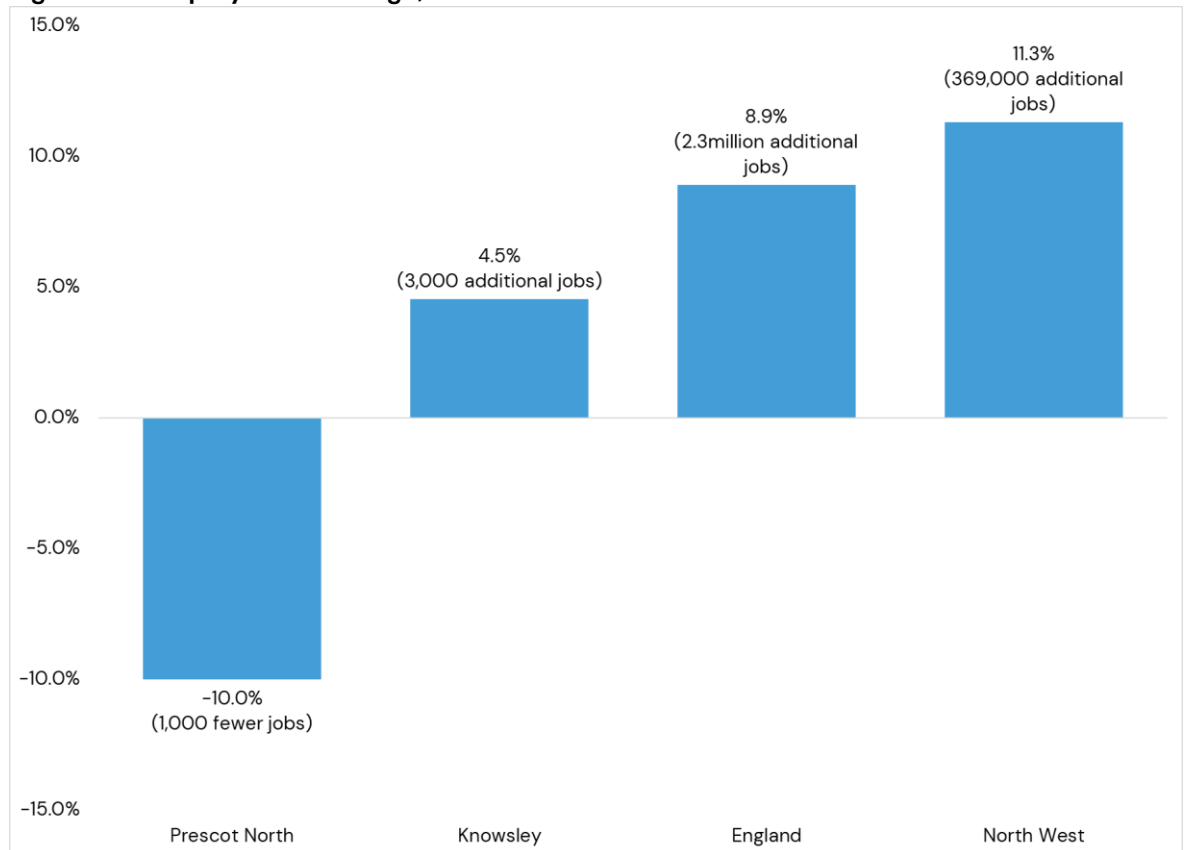
Figure 5.3: Level of Overall Deprivation in the LSOAs Surrounding the Site

Source: Department for Communities and Local Government: English Indices of Deprivation, 2019.

Employment

- 5.3.12. Based on the most recent ONS data from the Business Register & Employment Survey (BRES), in 2023 there were around 69,000 jobs – including self-employment – in Knowsley. The ward of Prescott North accounted for 9,000 of these jobs.
- 5.3.13. Between 2015 and 2023, Prescott North experienced a decrease in employment of 1,000 jobs (10.0%), whereas Knowsley experienced employment growth of 3,000 jobs (4.5%). The North West and England experienced larger employment growth at rates of 11.3% and 8.9% respectively – see **Figure 5.4**.

Figure 5.4: Employment Change, 2015–23



Source: ONS, Business Register & Employment Survey

5.3.14. **Table 5.13** provides a detailed breakdown of employment by sector in 2023 across Prescott North, Knowsley, the North West and England. In Prescott North, the manufacturing sector is the largest, representing 20.4% of employment and providing 1,750 jobs. Conversely, the public administration, education, and health sector is the largest employment sector in Knowsley (35.0%), the North West (27.6%) and England (25.9%). This sector accounts for a lower 15.7% of employment in Prescott North.

5.3.15. Prescott North has a higher proportion of construction workers (8.1%) than Knowsley (5.7%), the North West (5.0%), and England (4.8%).

Table 5.13: Employment by Sector, 2023

	Prescot North	Knowsley	North West	England
Agriculture, mining, utilities etc.	1.7%	1.2%	2.1%	2.3%
Manufacturing	20.4%	14.3%	8.8%	7.3%
Construction	8.1%	5.7%	5.0%	4.8%
Wholesale & retail	17.5%	14.2%	14.4%	13.7%
Transport & storage	5.8%	6.4%	4.5%	5.1%
Accommodation & food services	7.0%	4.3%	7.4%	7.8%
Information & communication	4.7%	0.9%	3.1%	4.7%
Business, financial & professional services	13.3%	13.8%	22.8%	23.9%
Public admin, education & health	15.7%	35.0%	27.6%	25.9%
Arts, entertainment, recreation & other services	5.8%	4.3%	4.3%	4.6%

Source: ONS, Business Register and Employment Survey

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Business Base

- 5.3.16. **Table 5.14** shows the change in the number of businesses in Knowsley between 2014 and 2024, alongside regional and national comparator areas. The number of businesses in Knowsley grew by 37.7% over this period, equating to 920 new businesses. This was above the growth rate seen in the North West (22.8%) and England (21.5%).

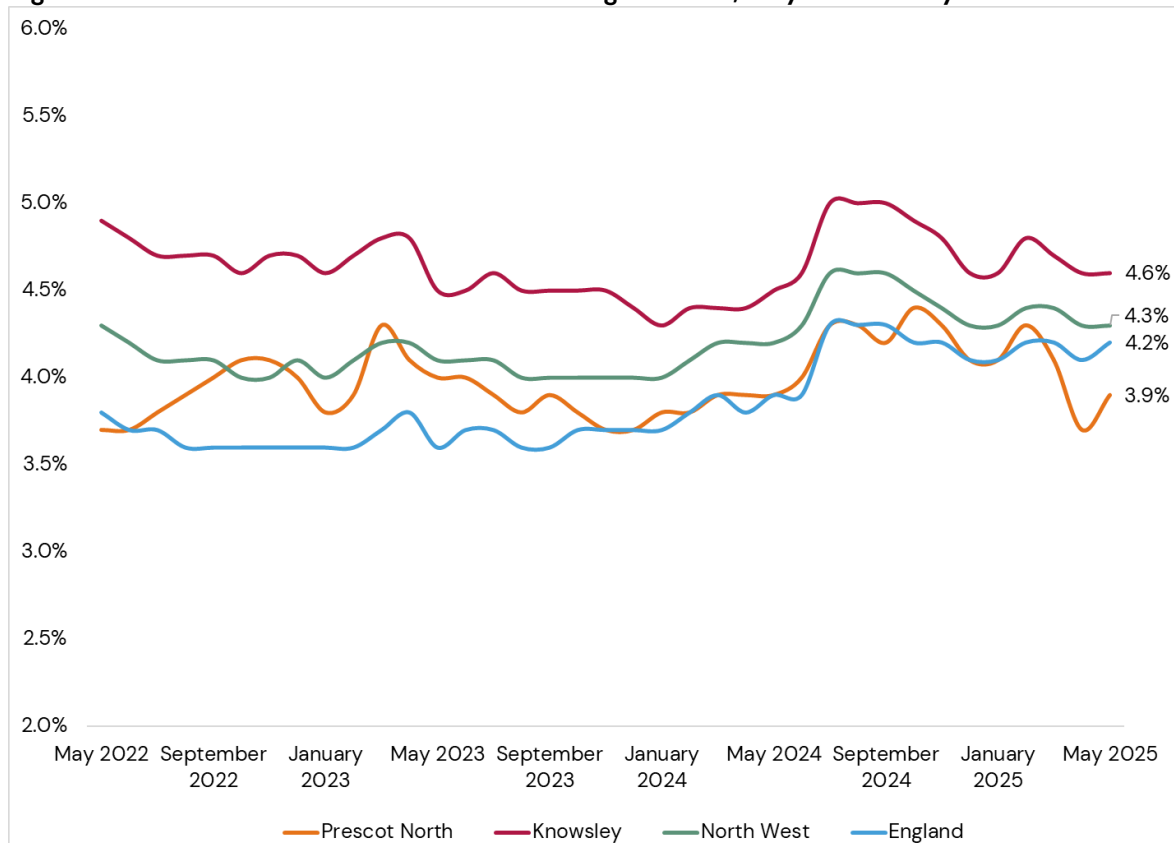
Table 5.14: Change in Business Numbers, 2014–24

	2014	2024	Absolute Change	% Change
Knowsley	2,440	3,360	920	37.7%
North West	216,665	266,135	49,470	22.8%
England	1,950,030	2,368,350	418,320	21.5%

Source: ONS, UK Business Count

Unemployment

- 5.3.17. The claimant count records the number of people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance plus those who claim Universal Credit and are required to seek work and be available for work. **Figure 5.5** shows the claimant count for Prescot North, Knowsley, the North West and England for every month from May 2022 – May 2025, expressed as a proportion of residents aged 16–64.
- 5.3.18. As of May 2025, the claimant count in Prescot North stands at 3.9%, which is lower than Knowsley (4.6%), the North West (4.3%) and England (4.2%). Over the past three years, the claimant count for the ward has fluctuated in line with the regional and national figures, however Knowsley has remained higher than all comparator areas over this period.

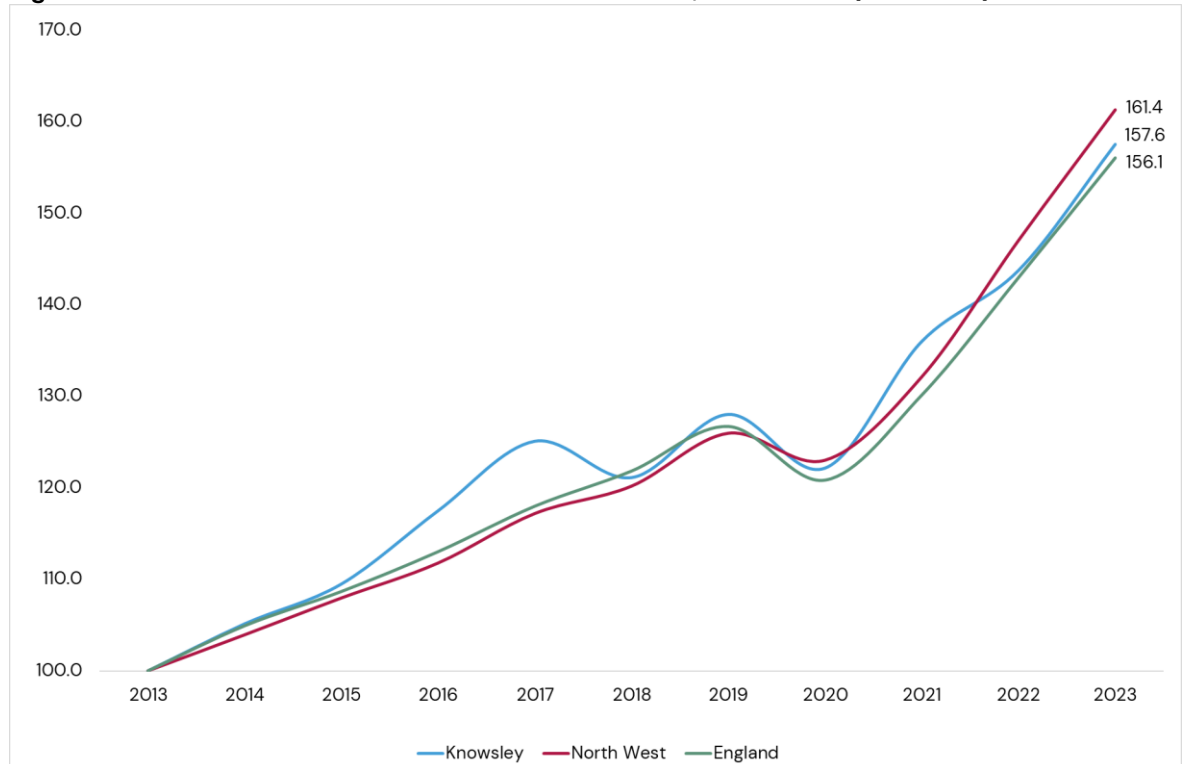
Figure 5.5: Claimant Count as % of Residents aged 16–64, May 2022 – May 2025

Source: ONS, Claimant Count

Economic Contribution

5.3.19. Economic output can be measured by looking at gross value added (GVA), which for Knowsley totalled £4.6billion across all industries in 2023. Between 2013 and 2023 this figure increased by 57.6% in Knowsley, which is in line with the regional and national changes (61.4% and 56.1% respectively). **Figure 5.6** shows this data in more detail.

Figure 5.6: Total Gross Value Added at Current Prices, 2013–2023 (2013=100)

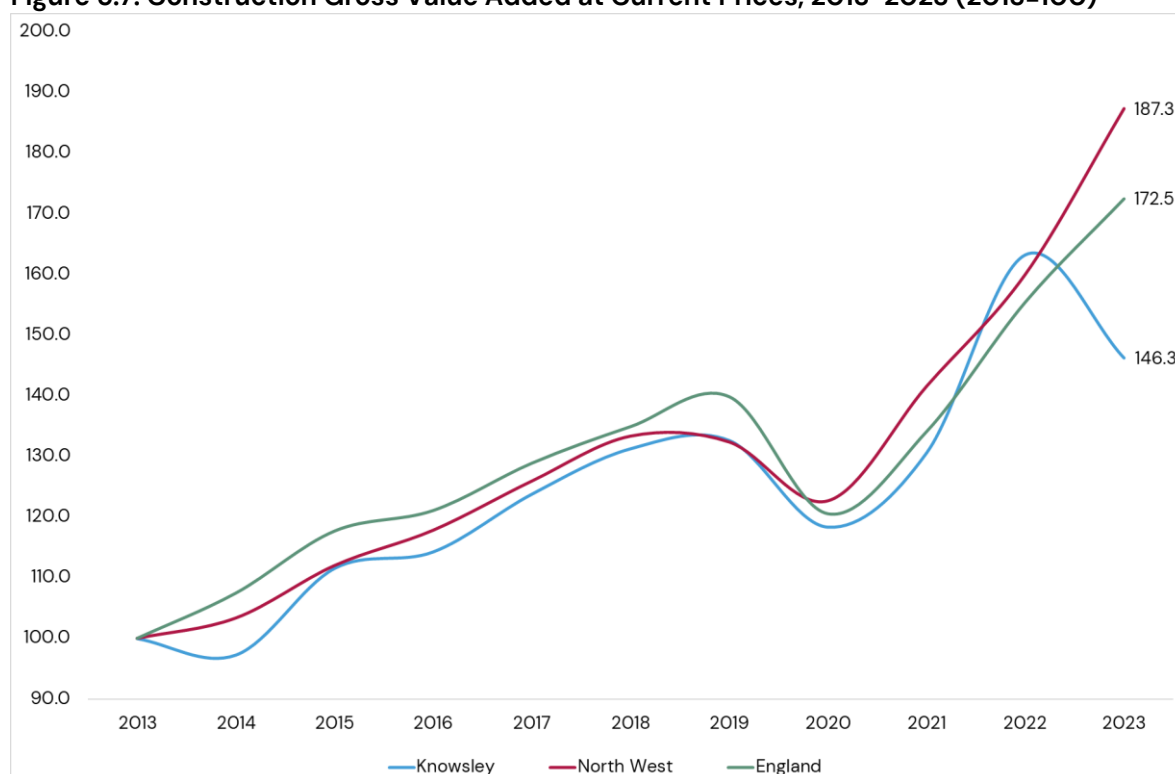


Source: ONS

5.3.20. **Figure 5.7** shows the construction GVA for Knowsley, the North West and England between 2013 and 2023. Construction GVA in current prices rose from £147million in 2013 to a high of £240million in 2022, before falling to £215million in 2023. Over this period, Knowsley saw a total construction GVA increase of 46.3% since 2013. This is lower than the increase seen in the North West (87.3%) and England (72.5%).

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Figure 5.7: Construction Gross Value Added at Current Prices, 2013–2023 (2013=100)



Source: ONS

Tenure

- 5.3.21. The home ownership rate in Prescott North is 60.1%, similar to Knowsley's 60.3%, but slightly lower than the North West's 63.0% and England's 62.3%. Social or private renting is higher in Prescott North (39.7%) and Knowsley (39.6%) compared to the regional (36.9%) and national (37.6%) averages. See **Table 5.15** for more detail.

Table 5.15: Home Ownership, 2021

	Owned: Outright or with a mortgage/or shared ownership	Social or Private rented	Living rent free
Prescot North	60.1%	39.7%	0.2%
Knowsley	60.3%	39.6%	0.1%
North West	63.0%	36.9%	0.1%
England	62.3%	37.6%	0.1%

Source: 2021 Census

Occupancy

- 5.3.22. **Table 5.16** presents the occupancy rating (the proportion of houses with extra bedrooms or not enough bedrooms). Knowsley has a slightly higher proportion of households with an occupancy rating of +2 or more (37.6%) compared to Prescott North (34.8%), the North West (36.0%) and England (35.6%). Knowsley also has a lower percentage of households with an occupancy rating of 0 (23.2%) than the national average (26.8%) and the proportion of overcrowded households (ratings of -1 and -2 or less) in Knowsley is below the regional and national averages.

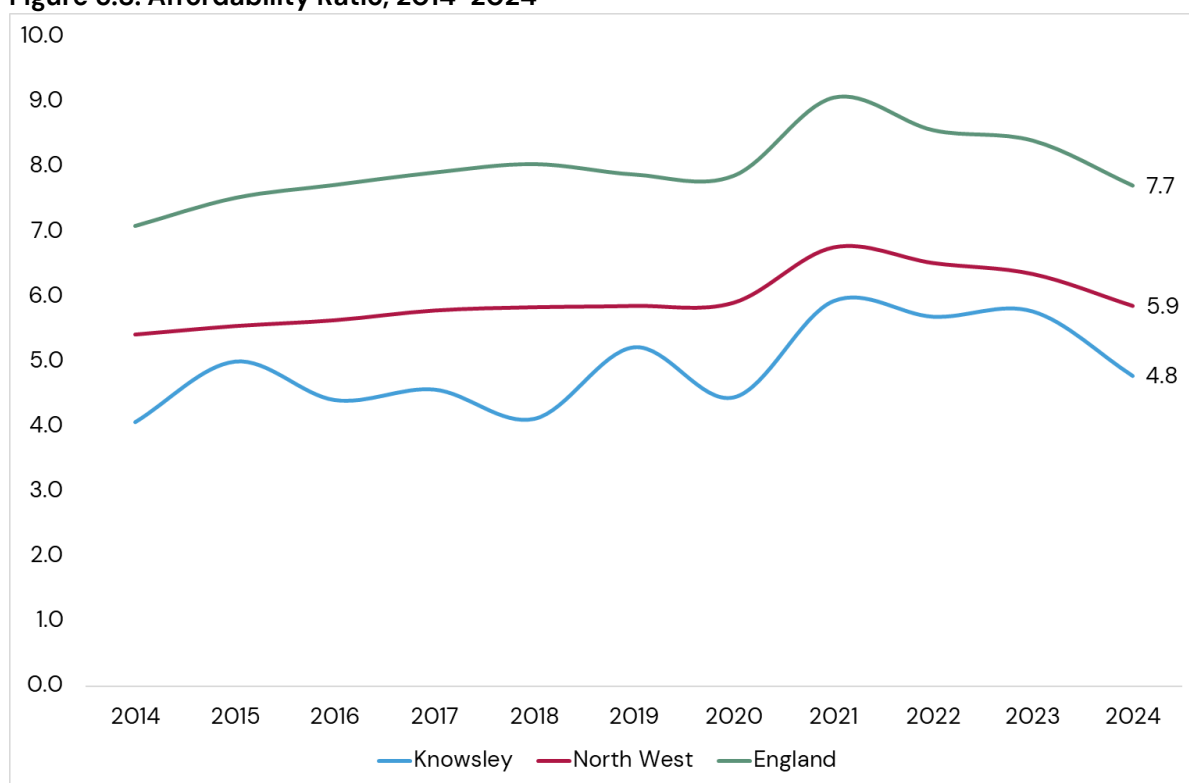
Table 5.16: Occupancy rating (bedrooms), 2021

	Prescot North	Knowsley	North West	England
Occupancy rating of +2 or more	34.8%	37.6%	36.0%	35.6%
Occupancy rating of +1	40.1%	36.4%	36.0%	33.2%
Occupancy rating of 0	23.1%	23.2%	24.6%	26.8%
Occupancy rating of -1	1.9%	2.6%	2.8%	3.6%
Occupancy rating of -2 or less	0.1%	0.3%	0.5%	0.7%

Source: 2021 Census

Affordability

- 5.3.23. Affordability can be assessed by analysing the trend affordability ratios, which involves dividing the median house price by the median salary for an area. **Figure 5.8** shows the affordability ratios of Knowsley, the North West and England from 2014 to 2024. In 2014, the affordability ratio in Knowsley was 4.1 and increased to 4.8 by 2024, which is below the figures for the North West (5.9) and England (7.7).

Figure 5.8: Affordability Ratio, 2014–2024

Source: ONS

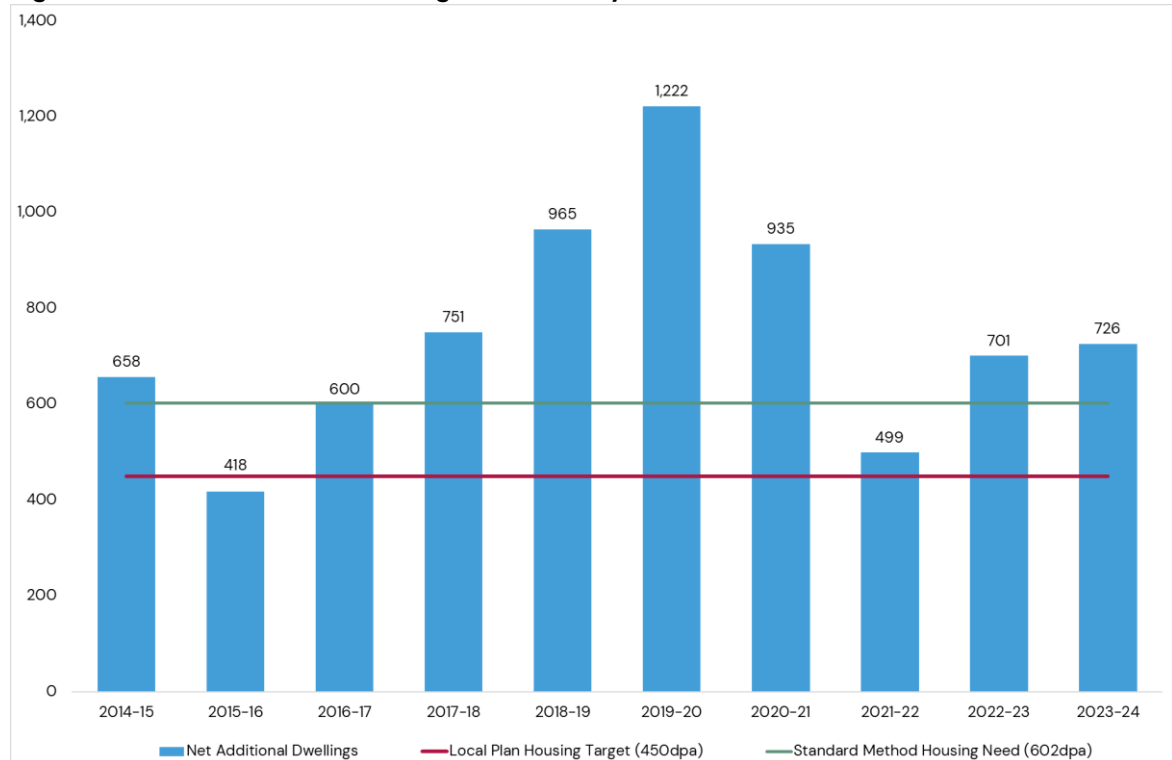
Housing Delivery

- 5.3.24. **Figure 5.9** shows housing delivery in Knowsley over the past 10 years, comparing annual performance against the housing target set in the Knowsley Local Plan Core Strategy, adopted in 2016. The average housing delivery in Knowsley over the past decade is 747 dwellings per annum (dpa).
- 5.3.25. Policy CS3 of the Core Strategy sets a target of 8,100 net additional dwellings between 2010 and 2028—equivalent to an average of 450 dpa. Over the past decade, Knowsley has exceeded this annual target in nine out of ten years.

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- 5.3.26. The NPPF, updated in December 2024 (as amended in February 2025), provides a standard method housing need figure for Knowsley of 602 dpa, which will form the evidence base of the future Knowsley Local Plan housing target. As seen in **Figure 5.9**, the net additional dwellings in Knowsley has exceeded this target seven times over the past decade.

Figure 5.9: Net Additional Dwellings in Knowsley, 2014/15 – 2023/24



Source: Live Table 122, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

Crime

- 5.3.27. According to data from LG Inform⁵, Knowsley saw a rate of total recorded offences of 82.9 per 1,000 population in the 12-months ending Q4 2024. This is below the regional average of 93.2 per 1,000 population and represents a decrease of 13.3% since Q4 2023, a larger decline than the regional decrease of 5.9%.
- 5.3.28. In Knowsley, the rate of victim-based crime was 62.3 per 1,000 in Q4 2024, a decrease of 12.7% since Q4 2023. This was below the rate of victim-based crime in the North West of 75.1 per 1,000 population.

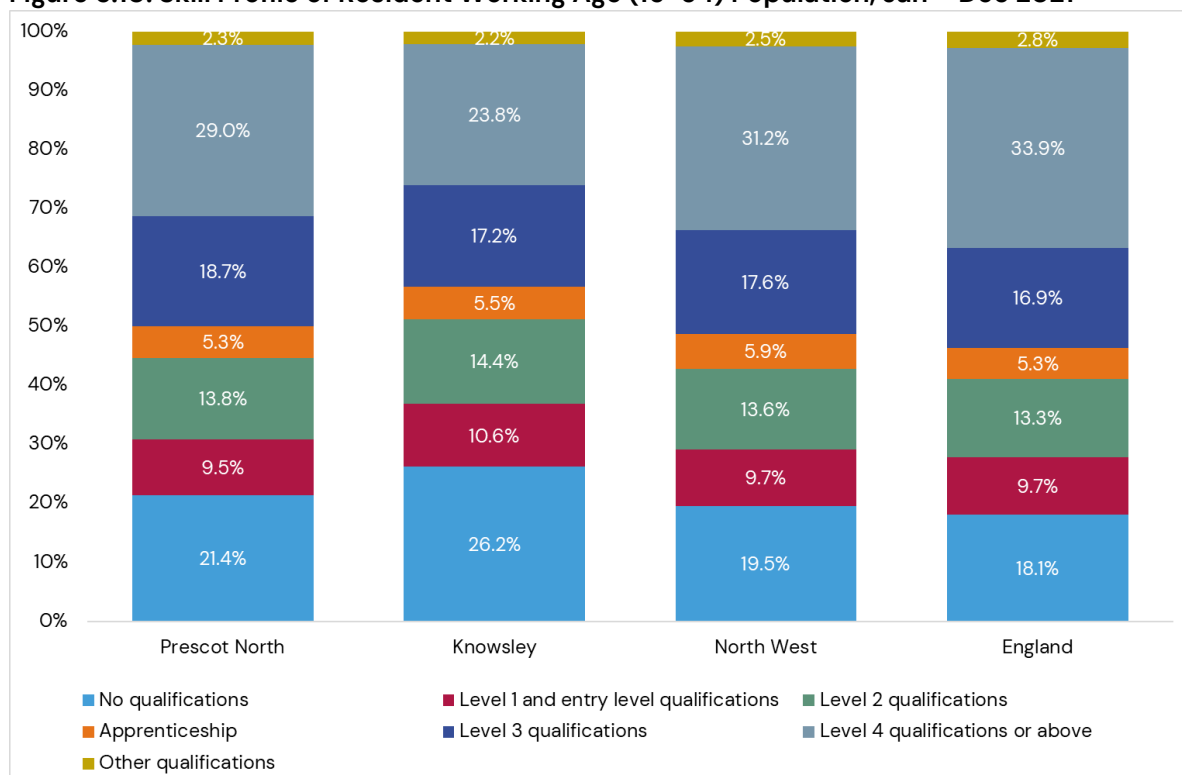
Skills and qualifications

- 5.3.29. **Figure 5.10** illustrates the highest qualifications attained by individuals aged 16–64 in Prescot North, Knowsley, the North West and England. In Prescot North, 29.0% of individuals aged 16–64 have a degree-level or higher qualification (NVQ4+), compared to 23.8% in Knowsley. These figures are lower than the North West (31.2%) and England (33.9%) levels. Prescot North and

⁵ LG Inform. Available at: <https://lginform.local.gov.uk/reports/view/lga-research/lga-research-report-police-recorded-crime?mod-area=E08000011&mod-group=E12000002&mod-type=area> (Accessed: 16/06/2025).

Knowsley have higher proportions of residents with no qualifications at 21.4% and 26.2% respectively, relative to the regional (19.5%) and national (18.1%) averages.

Figure 5.10: Skill Profile of Resident Working Age (16–64) Population, Jan – Dec 2021



Source: 2021 Census

Education Provision

- 5.3.30. Local Education Authorities (LEA) have a statutory duty to secure sufficient school places within their area. The school that any particular child attends is a matter of parental choice subject to availability of capacity at the selected school. It is always subject to the overriding requirements of any published admission criteria that the school has, as well as the appeals procedure for individual pupils.
- 5.3.31. For school provision, capacity data has been provided by the Education Improvement and Inclusion Team at Knowsley Council.
- 5.3.32. Within primary education, the Knowsley Village Primary Planning Area includes two schools: Knowsley Village School and St John Fisher Catholic Primary School. Together, these schools have a net capacity of 417 places, with the January 2024 School Census recording 376 pupils on roll. This equates to a current surplus of 41 primary school places.
- 5.3.33. Regarding secondary education, the Central Secondary Planning Area comprises three schools: The Prescot School, Lord Derby Academy and Saint Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic Academy. Collectively, these schools have a net capacity of 3,245 places. According to the January 2024 School Census, there are 2,701 pupils on roll at these schools. This equates to a current surplus of 544 secondary school places.

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Healthcare provision

- 5.3.34. **Table 5.21** shows the general practitioner (GP) surgeries that cover the Proposed Development. There are 11 GP surgeries that have the Proposed Development within their catchment area and are located within 6.2 miles of the Site, all of which are accepting new patients⁶. Where data is not available through the General Practice Workforce database, these surgeries are part of the wider group Aston Healthcare Limited. There are 7 GPs within this group, working across multiple surgeries within the group⁷.
- 5.3.35. The closest GP surgery to the Site is Knowsley Medical Centre located 0.2 miles away. This GP currently has 4,545 patients and 2 full-time equivalent (FTE) GPs, giving a patient-to-GP ratio of 2,272.5. Within the 11 surgeries there are a total of 40,625 patients and 21 FTE GPs. This gives a patient-to-GP ratio of 2,174.3.
- 5.3.36. The British Medical Association⁸ states that, as of April 2025, the average number of patients per FTE GP stands at 2,257 across England. This is above the current patient-to-GP ratio seen in the catchment area.

Table 5.21: GP Services within catchment of the Site

GP	Distance from Site	Number of Patients	Number of GPs	Patient-to-GP Ratio
Knowsley Medical Centre	0.2	4,545	2	2,272.5
North Huyton Primary Care Resource Centre (Aston Healthcare)	1.7	-	-	-
Colby Medical Centre	2.0	2,322	1	2,322.0
Prescot Medical Centre	2.3	7,348	9	816.4
Gresford Medical Centre	2.5	-	-	-
Cedar Cross Medical Centre	3.0	4,726	2	2,363.0
Whiston Health Centre	3.0	-	-	-
Aston Healthcare Limited	3.1	21,684	7	3,097.7
Aston Healthcare Limited	5.5	-	-	-
Leathers Lane Surgery	6.2	-	-	-
The Halewood Centre (Aston Healthcare)	6.2	-	-	-
Total	-	40,625	21	2,174.3

Source: Find a GP, General Practice Workforce

- 5.3.37. The closest pharmacy to the Proposed Development is Care Pharmacy Ltd, located 0.3 miles from the Site. The closest dentist is Bupa Dental Care Stockbridge, which is a 1.7 mile walk or a 2.5 mile drive from the Site.

Health Profile of Local Population

- 5.3.38. **Table 5.22** presents the general health of the Prescot North population compared to Knowsley, the North West and England averages. Overall, Prescot North and Knowsley have a general health profile in line with the North West and England. In Prescot North, 48.1% of residents reported

⁶ PDS Medical Ltd has the Proposed Development within its catchment area but is located 25.2 miles from the Site, therefore has been excluded from the analysis to ensure consistency of study area with other social infrastructure.

⁷ Source: <https://www.astonhealth.nhs.uk/practice-information/meet-the-team/>

⁸ Pressures in general practice data analysis, British Medical Association, February 2025. Available at: <https://www.bma.org.uk/advice-and-support/nhs-delivery-and-workforce/pressures/pressures-in-general-practice-data-analysis>.

being in very good health which is slightly above Knowsley (47.3%) and the North West (47.7%), but below England (48.5%). Prescott North shows a higher proportion of bad (5.9%) and very bad health (2.0%) compared to the North West and England, however these figures are slightly better than Knowsley (6.5% and 2.1%).

Table 5.22: General Health, 2021

	Prescot North	Knowsley	North West	England
Very good health	48.1%	47.3%	47.7%	48.5%
Good health	30.5%	30.1%	32.7%	33.7%
Fair health	13.6%	14.0%	13.4%	12.7%
Bad health	5.9%	6.5%	4.8%	4.0%
Very bad health	2.0%	2.1%	1.4%	1.2%

Source: ONS, 2021 Census.

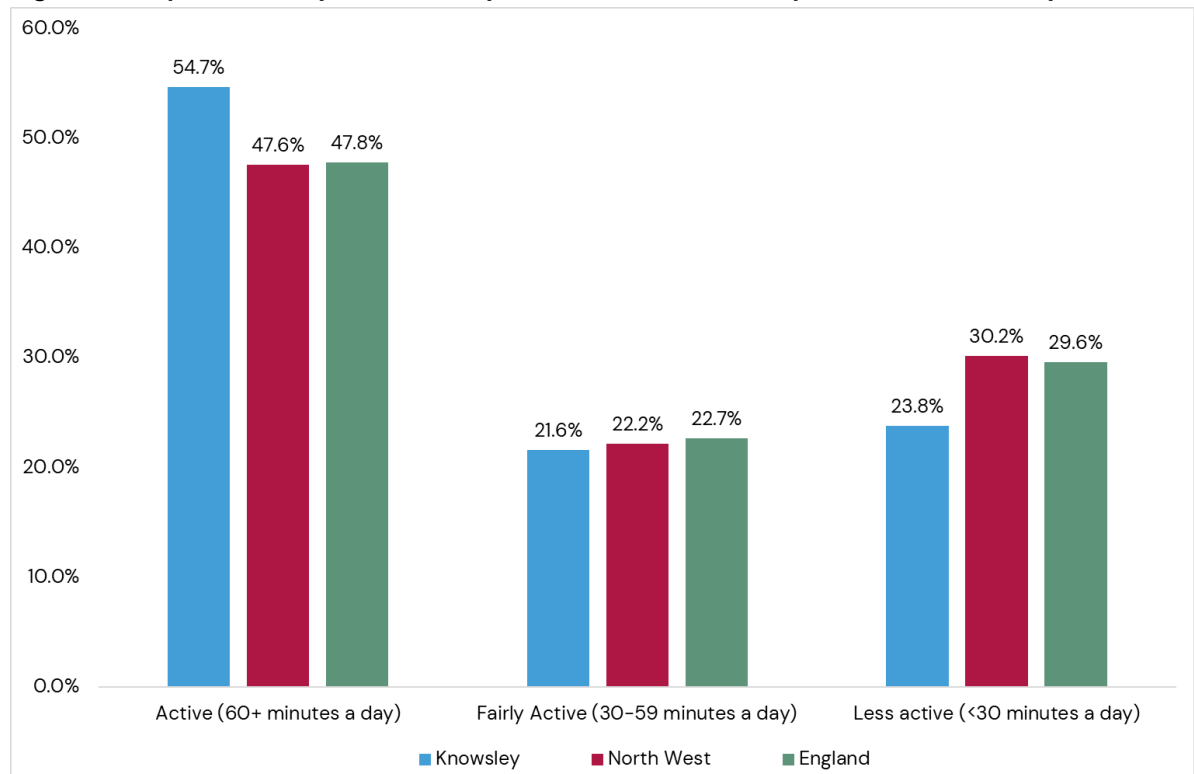
- 5.3.39. Looking at health in more detail, Knowsley's health profile⁹ shows disparities compared to regional and national averages. Life expectancy is lower in Knowsley (76.8 for males, 79.5 for females) than in the North West (77.7 and 81.7) and England (79.3 and 83.2). Mortality rates under 75 for all causes are higher in Knowsley at 483.5 per 100,000, compared to 408.1 in the North West and 341.6 nationally. Similarly, mortality rates under 75 from cardiovascular diseases are 114.5 per 100,000 in Knowsley, 93.8 in the North West and 77.4 in England.
- 5.3.40. Knowsley also has higher suicide rates (15.2 per 100,000) and intentional self-harm rates (202.1 per 100,000) than the North West and England. In Knowsley, 71.1% of adults are overweight or obese and only 55.7% are physically active—both worse than regional and national averages. Additionally, the violent crime rate in Knowsley (72.2 per 1,000 population) is double the rate in England (34.2 per 1,000) and also above the North West (43.2 per 1,000).
- 5.3.41. Knowsley has a suicide rate of 15.2 per 100,000, which is higher than the regional (13.3 per 100,000) and national (10.7 per 100,000) rates. The intentional self-harm rate in Knowsley of 202.1 per 100,000 is also substantially higher than the North West (126.2) and England (117.0).
- 5.3.42. In Knowsley, 71.1% of adults are overweight or obese, compared to 66.7% in the North West and 64.0% in England. Finally, Knowsley experiences a violent crime rate of 72.2 per 100,000, which exceeds the North West's 43.2 per 100,000 and England's 34.2.

Physical Activity

- 5.3.43. Data published by Sport England in its Active Lives Survey¹⁰ for levels of physical activities at a local authority, regional and national scale is available for children ages 5–16 and for adults aged 16+. The most recent dataset for children is for the academic year 2023 – 24 (**Figure 5.11**) and for adults the most recent is for November 2022 – November 2023 (**Figure 5.12**).
- 5.3.44. The data indicates that the proportion of active children in Knowsley (54.7%) is above the rate in both the North West (47.6%) and England (47.8%). Knowsley also has a smaller proportion of less active children at 23.8%, compared to regional (30.2%) and national (29.6%) levels. Further detail can be seen in **Figure 5.11**.

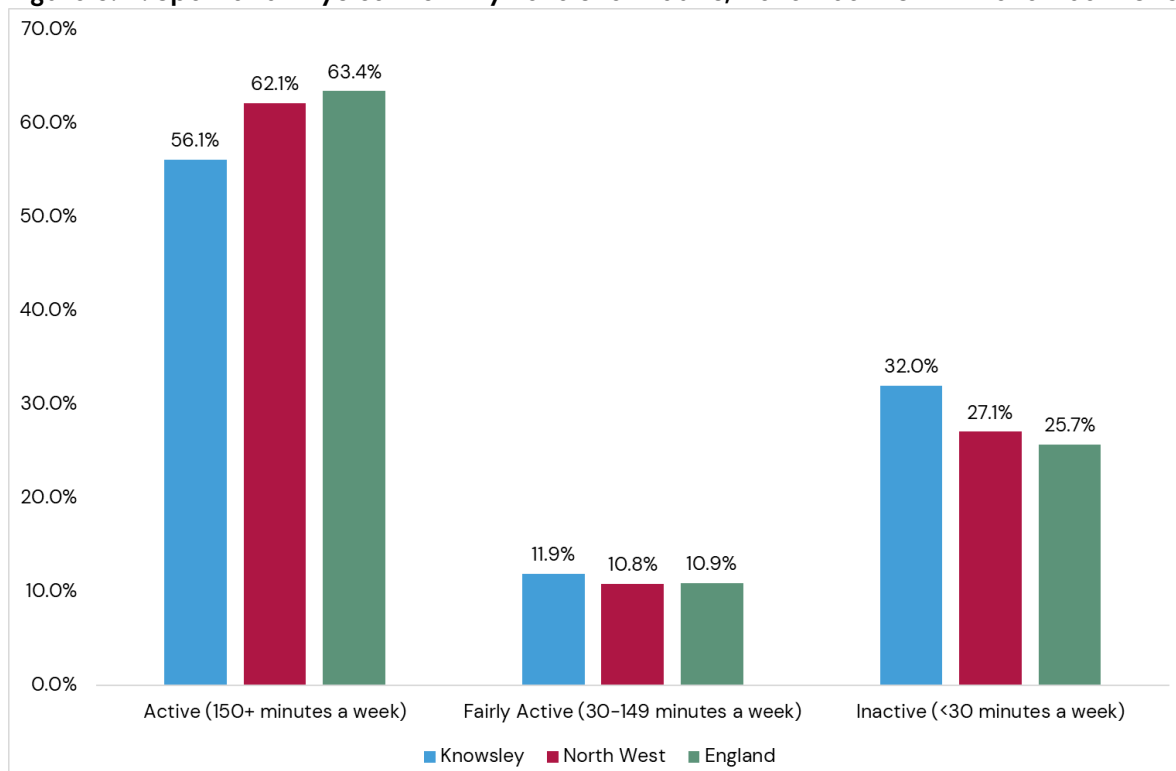
⁹ Local Authority Health Profiles, Office for Health improvement & disparities. Available at: <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/health-profiles/data#page/1/gid/1938132701/pat/6/ati/501/are/E08000011/iid/90366/age/1/sex/1/cat/-1/ctf/-1/yr/3/cid/4/tbm/1>

¹⁰ Sport England: Active Lives Survey. Available at: https://www.sportengland.org/research-and-data/data/active-lives/active-lives-data-tables?section=adult_surveys

Figure 5.11: Sport and Physical Activity Levels for Children, September 2023 – July 2024

Source: Sport England, Active Lives Survey

5.3.45. By contrast, adults in Knowsley are overall less active than regional and national averages. The data shows that 56.1% of adults in Knowsley were classed as active, meaning they engaged in an average of 150 minutes or more a week of physical activity. This was lower than the proportion of active adults in the North West (62.1%) and England (63.4%). In Knowsley, there were 32.0% of adults classed as inactive, meaning they engaged in less than 30 minutes of physical activity a week. This was above the rate of inactive adults in the North West (27.1%) and England (25.7%). See **Figure 5.12** for further detail.

Figure 5.12: Sport and Physical Activity Levels for Adults, November 2022 – November 2023

Source: Sport England, Active Lives Survey

Open Space and Recreation

- 5.3.46. **Figure 5.13** shows the open space provision within a 2-mile radius of the Site. There is a total of 467.6ha of open space across various typologies including playing fields, public parks or gardens, play spaces, and other sports facilities. The largest open space area is Croxteth Hall and Country Park, which offers 223.6ha of public park/garden and is situated 0.6 miles from the Site. There is one allotment within this radius, Cuper Crescent Allotments, located 1.8 miles from the Site. **Table 5.23** presents the quantity of each open space typology in more detail.

Table 5.23: Open Space Provision within 2 miles of the Site

Open space typology	Quantity (ha)
Allotments Or Community Growing Spaces	0.2
Bowling Green	1.8
Cemetery	14.2
Golf Course	75.7
Other Sports Facility	23.5
Play Space	2.1
Playing Field	69.1
Public Park or Garden	274.2
Religious Grounds	6.8
Tennis Court	0.2
Total	467.6

Source: OS mapping

- 5.3.59. **Figure 5.14** presents the recreational facilities within 2 miles of the Site, such as gyms, sports halls and community centres. A summary of the number of recreational facilities identified within this radius are presented in **Table 5.24**. Within 2 miles of the Site there are 7 community centres, with the closest being the Bob Whitley Community Centre, located 0.5 miles north of the Site

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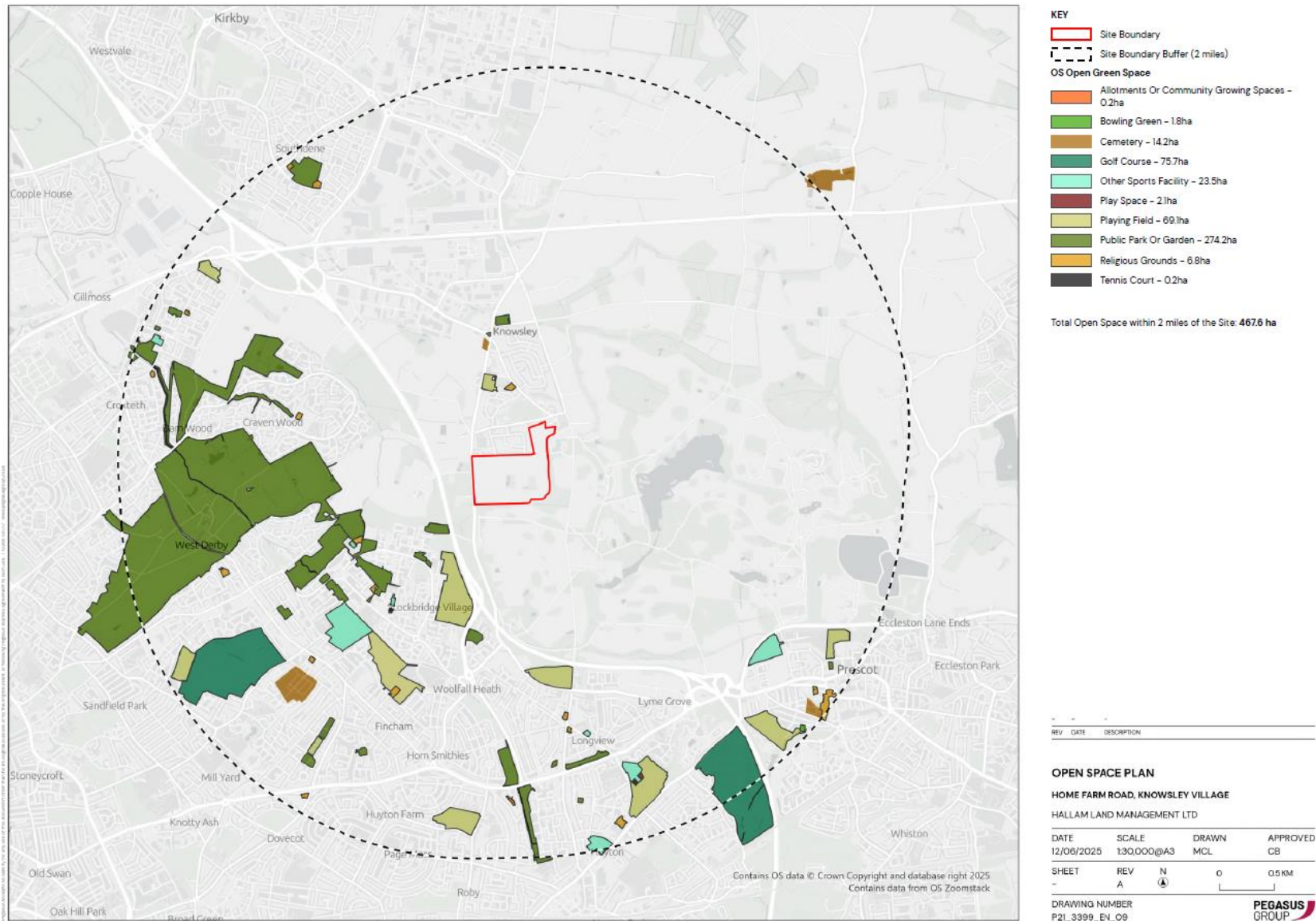
and adjacent to Knowsley Lane Recreation Ground. There are a total of 125 publicly accessible Sport England facilities within this radius. Other community facilities within 2 miles include 6 post offices, 3 libraries and a scout hut.

Table 5.24: Key Recreational Facilities within 2 miles of the Site

Facility Type	Number of facilities
Squash Courts	1
Athletics	1
Golf Course	2
Outdoor Tennis Courts	3
Swimming Pool	6
Community Centre	7
Artificial Grass Pitch	8
Studio	9
Health and Fitness Gym	11
Sports Hall	24
Grass Pitches	60

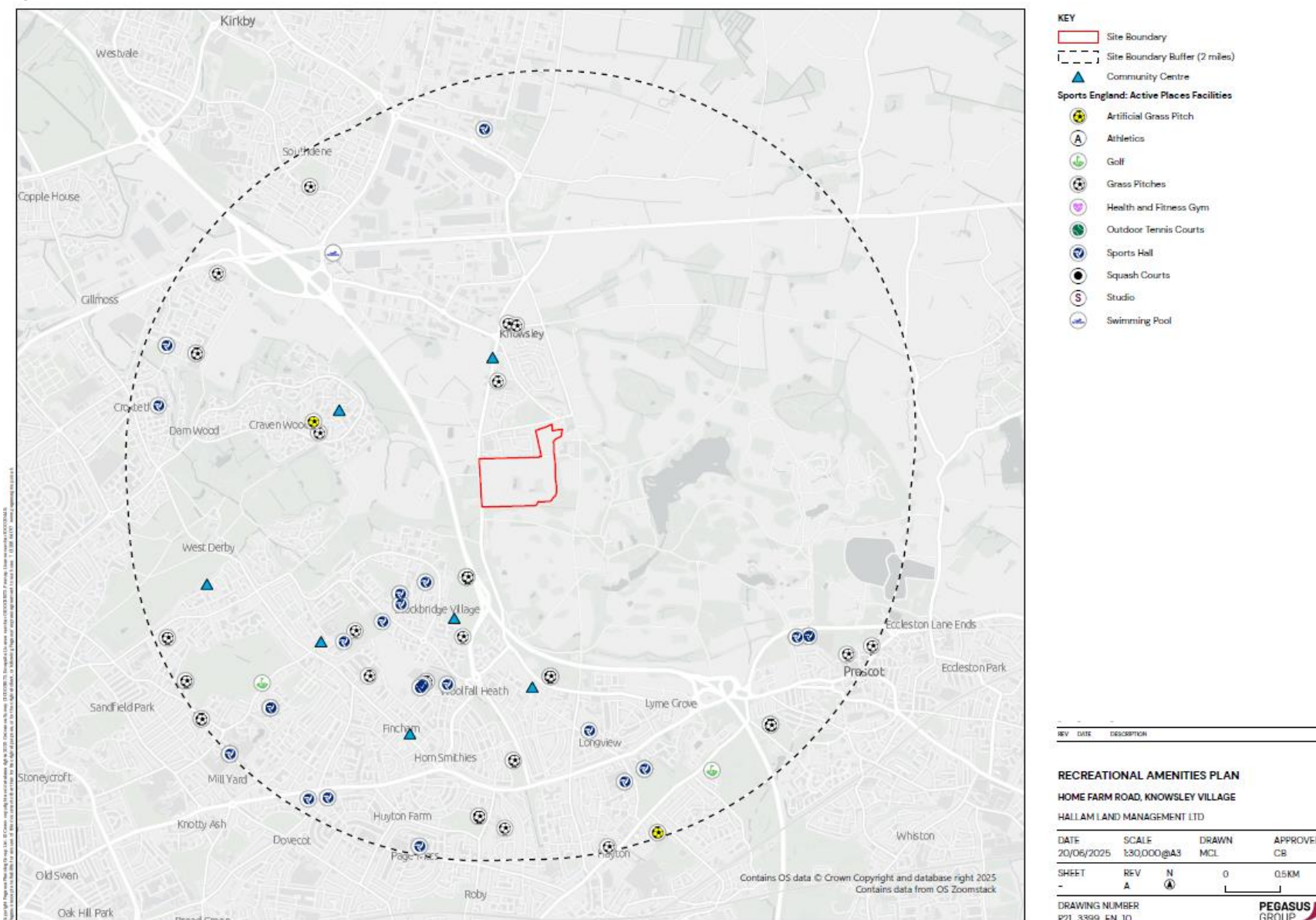
Source: OS mapping

Figure 5.13: Open Space Provision within 2 miles of the Site



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Figure 5.14: Recreational Facilities within 2 miles of the Site



5.4. Assessment of Likely Significant Effects

Construction

Employment

- 5.4.1. Economic benefits will arise through the provision of temporary jobs during the construction phase at the Application Site, which is estimated to be 11 years. The construction cost of the 700 dwellings is estimated at approximately £160.0million over the build programme (current prices) and has been calculated using the BCIS Online tool¹¹, exclusive of external works, contingencies, supporting infrastructure fees, VAT, finance charges etc.
- 5.4.2. To estimate construction employment supported during the build phase, the total construction cost has been divided by the average turnover per construction employee in the North West region of £178,880 in 2024. During the build phase, up to 81 direct construction jobs could be supported on-site per annum during the estimated 11-year build phase.
- 5.4.3. It is widely recognised that housebuilding has knock-on effects for other sectors, which leads to increased demand for building materials and equipment at the construction phase, as well as domestic furniture and carpets etc. following completion. This generates and sustains employment in other sectors. The July 2018 'Economic Footprint of House Building in England and Wales' report by the Home Builders Federation found that for every 1 job in housing construction, the scale of employment supported is equivalent to between 2.4 and 3.1 direct, indirect and induced jobs per new dwelling built. Taking an average of these figures, a multiplier of 2.75 has been used – i.e. for every 1 job in house building, a further 1.75 jobs are supported in the wider economy. Therefore, as well as the 81 on-site jobs supported per annum during the build phase, an estimated 142 additional jobs could be supported per annum in the wider economy over the construction phase.
- 5.4.4. In total, around 224 temporary jobs could be supported per annum during the build phase.
- 5.4.5. The significance of effect in relation to employment during the construction phase of the Proposed Development is identified as follows:
- The sensitivity of the receptor (employment in construction and other sectors of the economy) is assessed as being **high**, in line with criteria set out previously above within Table 5.3. Jobs growth since 2023 in Knowsley and the ward of Prescott North are below regional and national levels. The construction sector accounts for a larger share of jobs in Knowsley and the ward of Prescott North when compared to the North West and England. As of May 2025, the claimant count rate in Knowsley remains above the North West and England, whereas the ward of Prescott North is below both regional and national averages.
 - The magnitude of effect is considered to be **medium**, in line with criteria set out previously above within Table 5.4, given the generation of around 81 on-site construction jobs per annum would represent a 2.0% increase in construction employment in Knowsley.
- 5.4.6. The significance of the temporary effect of employment in the construction phase is considered to be **major beneficial** at the LPA scale which is **significant**.

¹¹ Accessed 09/06/2025.

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Economic Contribution

- 5.4.7. Another way of looking at the economic impact of the construction phase is to calculate the contribution a development makes to wealth creation, as measured by the increase in the value of goods and services generated within an area. This can be done by looking at the increase in gross value added (GVA), a common proxy for economic output. Using ONS data, it is possible to calculate GVA per employee by sector at a regional level. In the North West, GVA per construction employee is around £87,122 per annum. Total annual GVA per employee for all sectors in the region is estimated at £67,012.
- 5.4.8. Applying these GVA figures to the employment estimates outlined above, the Proposed Development could generate £16.6million of GVA per annum or £182.8million during the 11-year construction period (current prices). This is comprised of £77.9million of GVA (£7.1million per annum) associated with the on-site construction jobs and £104.9million of GVA (£9.5million per annum) associated with supply chain impacts.
- 5.4.9. The significance of effect in relation to economic contribution during the construction phase of the Proposed Development is identified as follows:
- The sensitivity of the receptor (economic output from the construction sector in Knowsley) is assessed as being **high**, in line with criteria set out in Table 5.3. Economic output from the construction sector increased by 46.3% between 2013 and 2023. This was below regional and national increases in construction GVA. Also, as of May 2025, the claimant count rate in Knowsley was above both regional and national averages. Employment growth in Knowsley is also below regional and national levels.
 - The magnitude of effect is considered to be **medium**, in line with criteria set out in Table 5.4, given the generation of £7.1million in construction economic output per annum would translate to an annual increase in construction GVA in Knowsley of 3.3% over the 11-year build timeframe.
- 5.4.10. The significance of the temporary effect of employment in the construction phase is considered to be **major beneficial** at the LPA scale which is **significant**.

Disturbance to neighbourhood amenity

- 5.4.11. The sensitivity of the receptors (disturbance to neighbourhood amenity from construction activities) is assessed as **medium**, in line with criteria set out in Table 5.3, given that:
- Existing residents are located in existing housing immediately to the north of the Site.
 - Pupils of Knowsley Village Primary School are located to the north of the Site.
 - Users of Bridleway KN5/1 are located adjacent to the western boundary of the Site.
 - Employment in Prescott North fell by 10.0%, whereas Knowsley saw a 4.5% increase, both of which were below regional and national employment growth levels.
 - As of May 2025, unemployment in Knowsley (4.6%) is above regional and national comparators.
 - Knowsley 005F, where the majority of the Site falls, ranks within the top 20% most deprived LSOAs in the country.

- Since 2013, construction GVA growth in Knowsley has remained in line with regional and national figures, however in 2023 construction GVA in Knowsley has fallen substantially compared to the growth rates in the North West and England.
- Knowsley had a lower rate of total recorded offences (82.9 per 1,000 population) in the 12-months ending Q4 2024 when compared to the regional average of 93.2 per 1,000 population. The total recorded offences in Knowsley fell by 13.3% since Q4 2023, a larger decrease than the regional decrease of 5.9%.
- The local health profile of Knowsley shows worse health outcomes in most indicators when compared to regional and national figures.

5.4.12. The assessment of the potential impacts on health and wellbeing is informed by other assessments undertaken and presented in this ES, including the Landscape & Visual Impact Assessment, Transport Assessment, Air Quality Assessment, and Noise Assessment. The residual effects identified as a result of the construction phase are used as the basis of this assessment. A summary of the key effects are as follows:

- Visual amenity effects – The Proposed Development will cause landscape and visual effects during construction, identified in **Chapter 6: Landscape and Visual Amenity**. These will impact residents, pupils and bridleway users. Landscape and visual mitigation measures have been integrated into the design of the Proposed Development through an iterative design process – embedded primary mitigation. This includes measures such as the retention and enhancement of greenspaces around the Site.
- Transport effects – A Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) will be secured by planning condition to effectively manage and mitigate the effect of the construction process. **Chapter 9: Transport and Access** identifies that with the introduction of the CEMP, the effect of the construction process will not be significant. An on-site Travel Plan Coordinator will be appointed to manage the Travel Plan, focusing on promoting sustainable transport and managing travel demand as the development is occupied, including measures such as marketing, monitoring and review.
- Air quality effects – The construction phase operations have the potential to create dust and it will therefore be necessary to apply a package of mitigation measures to minimise dust emissions. Appropriate measures have been recommended within **Chapter 10: Air Quality** and associated appendices and, with these measures in place, it is expected that any residual effects will not be significant.
- Noise and vibration effects – During construction, there is potential for short-term adverse impacts during certain operations, including a moderate adverse effect expected to be generated from construction noise. **Chapter 11: Noise** outlines that no specific mitigation measures are proposed, however the submission of a CEMP is recommended to ensure construction noise is suitably controlled.

5.4.13. It is noted that the potential for construction effects is minimised when best practice and mitigation measures are accounted for. As such, the magnitude of effect on disturbance to neighbourhood amenity is considered to be **low**, in line with criteria set out in Table 5.4.

5.4.14. The significance of the temporary construction effect on disturbance to neighbourhood amenity is considered to be **minor to moderate adverse** which is **not significant**.

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Operation

Economy

- 5.4.15. It is estimated that the 700 residential dwellings at the Proposed Development will provide a resident population of 1,628 residents, including 783 economically active residents. Data from the April 2024 – March 2025 Annual Population Survey, published by ONS show that 96% of the economically active population in Knowsley are employed. Assuming this figure remains broadly the same, applying it to the population living in the Proposed Development, it could result in 750 economically active and employed residents living there once the Proposed Development is fully built and occupied. This is likely to be a mixture of people from outside the area, as well as existing residents who move from other parts of the local area.
- 5.4.16. If residents show a similar employment profile to the existing working age population of Knowsley, 42% (311) of the economically active and employed people could be working in higher value occupations, which includes: managers, directors, senior officials, professional and associate professional & technical roles.
- 5.4.17. Additional household expenditure will be supported by the new dwellings. While not all of this spend will be in the local area, it is reasonable to assume that a substantial proportion will be retained within Knowsley. Figures produced by the ONS at a regional level can be used to provide an estimate of what this spend could be worth on an annual basis. For the North West, the region in which the Site is located, average household spend is estimated by the ONS to be around £504.20 per week. This covers spend on commodities/ services such as food & drink, clothing, transport, and recreation. Applying the average weekly spend figure to the 700 dwellings and translating this into an annual figure, the Proposed Development could generate an annual household expenditure of approximately £18.4million once it is complete and fully occupied.
- 5.4.18. Assuming the new dwellings fall within Band D, once fully occupied the 700 homes are estimated to generate over £1.7million in additional Council Tax on an annual basis, or £16.9million over 10-years (current prices). This is based on the 2025/26 Council Tax band D figure of £2,411.52 for Prescot, Knowsley Council.
- 5.4.19. The significance of effect in relation to the wider economy once the Proposed Development is complete and operational is identified as follows:
- The sensitivity of the receptors of the Proposed Development is **high**, in line with criteria set out in Table 5.3, given Knowsley saw jobs growth of 4.5% since 2015, which is below the regional and national rates. Also, at ward level, job numbers decreased by 10.0% from 2015 to 2023. Between 2014 and 2024, Knowsley has experienced population growth of 10.9%, which is above regional and national levels for the same period. Looking at the Claimant Count (a proxy for unemployment), as of May 2025 the rate in Knowsley (4.6%) was above regional and national comparators.
 - The magnitude of effect is considered to be **medium**, in line with criteria set out in Table 5.4, taking into account the significant levels of household spend, economically active residents and council tax revenue generated.
- 5.4.20. The significance of the permanent effect on economy in the operational phase is considered to be **major beneficial** at the district scale, which is **significant**.

Housing

- 5.4.21. The Proposed Development will provide 700 dwellings over an 11-year period, with an average delivery rate of 64 dpa. The Knowsley Local Plan Core Strategy has established a housing target of 450 dpa, meaning this development will contribute approximately 14.1% of the annual housing delivery target. Additionally, the NPPF standard method indicates that Knowsley's standard method housing need figure is 602 dpa and the Proposed Development would therefore meet 10.6% of this annual housing need.
- 5.4.22. The significance of the effect on housing delivery has been assessed as follows:
- The sensitivity of the receptor is assessed as being **medium**, in line with criteria set out in Table 5.3. Housing in Knowsley is more affordable than in the North West and England, whilst home ownership is slightly below regional and national housing tenures. The baseline also indicates that the average housing delivery since 2014/15 in Knowsley is 747 dpa, which is higher than the Local Plan housing target of 450 dpa and the current standard method housing need of 602 dpa. Additionally, Knowsley and Prescot North have experienced population growth above regional and national levels since 2014.
 - The magnitude of effect is considered to be **high**, in line with criteria set out in Table 5.4, given the Proposed Development will deliver around 10.6% of the annual housing need in Knowsley and 14.1% of the proposed housing target in the Local Plan.
- 5.4.23. The significance of the permanent effect of housing in the operational phase is considered to be **major beneficial** at the district scale which is **significant**.

Educational Capacity

- 5.4.24. The Proposed Development will generate additional school aged children and will therefore have implications for local education provision. It is difficult to accurately estimate the number of children that will occupy these dwellings. This is because some children will arrive as migrants to the area, whilst others will simply be part of families moving to the Application Site from other existing residential areas within Knowsley.
- 5.4.25. In terms of the number of school aged children expected to be living at the Proposed Development, the analysis presented in this ES chapter is based on information provided by the Education Improvement and Inclusion Team at Knowsley Council in January 2025.

Primary Schools

- 5.4.26. Within the Knowsley Village Primary Planning Area, the pupil projections based on the January 2024 School Census project show that by 2028/29, there will be 289 pupils on roll at these schools. Assuming that the existing schools have a capacity of 417, there are projected to be 128 unfilled places in January 2029.
- 5.4.27. It is estimated that the Proposed Development will generate a pupil yield of 147 additional pupils, increasing the total number of enrolled pupils in this planning area to 436. This would lead to a deficit of 19 places.
- 5.4.28. The significance of the effect on primary school provision has been assessed as follows:

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- The sensitivity of the receptor is assessed as being **low**, on the basis that there is estimated to be surplus primary school capacity within the planning area in January 2029, in line with criteria set out in Table 5.3.
- The magnitude of the impact is assessed as **high**, in line with criteria set out in Table 5.4, given the increase in primary pupils living on site will lead to a deficit of 19 primary places.

5.4.29. The significance of the permanent effect is therefore considered to have a **moderate adverse** impact, which is **significant**.

Secondary Schools

5.4.30. Within the Central Secondary Planning Area, the pupil projections based on the January 2024 School Census project show that by 2028/29, there will be 3,163 pupils on roll at these schools. Assuming that the existing schools have a capacity of 3,245, there are projected to be 82 unfilled places in January 2029.

5.4.31. It is estimated that the Proposed Development will generate a pupil yield of 119 additional pupils, increasing the total number of enrolled pupils in this planning area to 3,282. This would lead to a deficit of 37 places.

5.4.32. The significance of the effect on secondary school provision has been assessed as follows:

- The sensitivity of the receptor is assessed as being **low**, in line with criteria set out in Table 5.3, on the basis that by January 2029 there will be surplus secondary school capacity of 82 unfilled places.
- The magnitude of the impact is assessed as **high**, in line with criteria set out in Table 5.4, given the increase in pupils living at the Proposed Development will lead to a deficit of 37 secondary school places.

5.4.33. The significance of the permanent effect is therefore considered to have a **moderate adverse** impact, which is **significant**.

Healthcare Provision

5.4.34. Using data from the 2021 Census, the average household size in Knowsley is 2.3 people – giving an estimated resident population of 1,628 in the 700 residential dwellings. Some, but not all, of the population growth will be new to the area as some households will move from within the area. Many of these will release their previous homes to the market which in turn will be occupied by new households and so generate additional population within the area, albeit not on the Application Site. However, it is also recognised that some people moving within the area will not release a previous property to the market and so will not have any implications on the population within the area (for example, first-time buyers). Overall, the assumptions used enable a worst case scenario to be assessed at this stage.

5.4.35. As shown in Table 5.21, there are 11 doctors' surgeries in the catchment area and within 6.2 miles of the Application Site. These surgeries have a total of 40,625 patients and 21 GPs, giving the catchment area an average patient-to-GP ratio of 1,935 patients per GP. The additional 1,628 residents would increase the patient-to-GP ratio at these 11 surgeries to 2,012 patients per GP, which is an increase of 4.0%. This is still below the average patient to GP ratio of 2,257 for the whole of England as of June 2025.

5.4.36. The significance of the effect on healthcare provision has been assessed as follows:

- The sensitivity of the receptor is assessed as being **low**, in line with criteria set out in Table 5.3, on the basis that the existing primary healthcare provision has existing capacity and a patient-to-GP ratio below national average.
- The magnitude of the impact is assessed as **medium**, in line with criteria set out in Table 5.4, on the basis that there will be a moderate increase in demand for healthcare of 4.0%, as a result of new residents from the Proposed Development.

5.4.37. The significance of the permanent effect on primary healthcare is therefore considered to have a **minor to moderate adverse impact**, which is **not significant**.

Open Space

5.4.38. Based on the open space requirements set out in the Planning Statement for the application, there is a requirement of 4.10ha public open space for the population of 1,628 at the Proposed Development. This is split by open space typology, as shown in **Table 5.25**.

5.4.39. As shown in **Figure 5.13**, there is 467.6ha of existing open space within 2 miles of the Proposed Development. Overall, there is sufficient open space to meet the requirements of the Proposed Development.

Table 5.25: Knowsley Quantity and Accessibility Standards

Type of Provision	Accessibility Standard	Quality standard (ha per 1,000 people)	Site requirement (ha)
Park and Gardens	1.2km	0.8	2.26
Amenity green space	800m	0.5	1.41
Children and young people	800m	0.1	0.28
Allotments	1.6km	0.05	0.14
Total	-	-	4.10

Source: Developer Contributions SPD, 2016

6.1. The Proposed Development includes a total of 4.52ha fully usable public open space (based on the Illustrative Landscape Masterplan) included in 10.20ha total green infrastructure. This exceeds the policy requirement of 4.10ha¹² by 10%.

6.2. The majority of this is proposed as amenity greenspace with a formal parkland at the centre of the Site, including a Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play (NEAP) and kickabout area which will be accessible to both future residents and the existing community. This is supplemented by areas of community orchard, footpaths and general amenity space.

5.4.40. The significance of the effect on open space provision has been assessed as follows:

- The sensitivity of the receptor is assessed as being **low**, given there is open space availability within 2 miles of the Site.

¹² Based on the standards set out within Figure 5.25.

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- The magnitude of effect is considered to be **high**, given the public open space provision will exceed policy requirements by 10%.

5.4.41. The significance of the permanent effect on open space in the operational phase is considered to be **moderate beneficial** which is **significant**.

Health and Wellbeing

5.4.42. The sensitivity of the receptors of the Proposed Development is **medium**, in line with criteria set out in Table 5.3, overall, given that:

- Existing residents are located in existing housing immediately to the north of the Site.
- Pupils of Knowsley Village Primary School are located to the north of the Site.
- Users of Bridleway KN5/1 are located adjacent to the western boundary of the Site.
- The number of jobs in Prescot North fell by 10.0%, whereas Knowsley saw growth of 4.5%, both of which were below regional and national employment growth levels.
- As of May 2025, unemployment in Knowsley (4.6%) is above regional and national comparators.
- Knowsley 005F, where the majority of the Site falls, ranks within the top 20% most deprived LSOAs in the country. The Site also falls within 005E, which is in the top 50% most deprived.
- As of 2023, total GVA growth since 2013 in Knowsley is in line with the North West and England.
- Knowsley had a lower rate of total recorded offences (82.9 per 1,000 population) in the 12-months ending Q4 2024 when compared to the regional average of 93.2 per 1,000 population. The total recorded offences in Knowsley fell by 13.3% since Q4 2023, a larger decrease than the regional decrease of 5.9%.
- The local health profile of Knowsley shows worse health outcomes in most indicators when compared to regional and national figures.
- In terms of healthcare provision, within the 11 surgeries in the catchment area of the Site, and less than 6.2 miles away, there are a total of 40,625 patients and 21 FTE GPs, giving a patient-to-GP ratio of 2,174.3, which is below the average ratio for the whole of England.
- Within 2 miles of the Site there is a total of 467.6ha of open space across all open space typologies.

5.4.43. The assessment of the potential operational impacts on health and wellbeing is informed by other assessments undertaken and presented in this ES including Landscape and Visual, Transport, Air Quality, Noise and Vibration and also a range of other documents submitted with the planning application.

5.4.44. The residual effects identified as a result of the operational phase are used as the basis of this assessment. Full detail is presented in other chapters of this ES, however, in summary, the key

residual effects as a result of the completed and operational Proposed Development are as follows:

- Significant economic benefits once operational – homes for 1.628 residents, of which 783 are economically active and employed residents, £1.7million Council Tax per annum and annual household spend of around £18.4million.
- Provision of 4.52 ha of open space.
- The Application Site is a highly accessible location so facilitates access to existing public transport, and facilitates active travel improvements, meaning a high modal shift away from single occupied private cars is possible.

5.4.45. Considering the above, the magnitude of the effect is considered to be **medium**, in line with criteria set out in Table 5.3, as there are considerable economic, environmental, and social benefits resulting from the scheme, which all combine to contribute to a positive change in health and wellbeing and will ultimately contribute to improving identified health and deprivation inequalities of future and existing residents.

5.4.46. The potential permanent operational effect on health and wellbeing is considered to be **moderate beneficial** which is **significant** in EIA terms.

5.5. Mitigation, Enhancement and Residual Effects

Mitigation by Design

5.5.1. The design includes 4.52 ha of public open space.

Additional Mitigation.

5.5.2. Taking into account the lack of primary and secondary school provision, a financial contribution may be required to address this.

Table 5.27: Mitigation

Ref	Measure to avoid, reduce or manage any adverse effects and/or to deliver beneficial effects	How measure would be secured		
		By Design	By S.106	By Condition
1	Financial contribution towards primary and secondary school provision		X	

Enhancements

5.5.3. No enhancements are expected to be proposed specific to socio-economic and health beyond those already referred to in the impacts section relevant to other topics.

Residual Effects

5.5.4. Overall, the Proposed Development is considered to provide **significant beneficial effects** during the construction phase in relation to its employment and economic contribution. Once operational, **beneficial effects** are expected in relation to economic wider economic effects, open space and health and wellbeing. **Adverse effects** are predicted in respect of primary and secondary education once operational, however this will be mitigated by financial contributions

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to create a negligible residual effect. Adverse effects may also arise for healthcare provision although a review of current GP practices indicates there is capacity in local provision capacity.

Table 5.28: Residual Significance of Effects (with Mitigation)

Environmental Effect	Sensitivity of Receptor	Impact Magnitude	Nature of Impact	Residual Effect and Significance
CONSTRUCTION				
Employment	High	Medium	Temporary	Major beneficial (Significant)
Economic contribution	High	Medium	Temporary	Major beneficial (Significant)
Disturbance to neighbourhood amenity	Medium	Low	Temporary	Minor to moderate adverse (Not significant)
OPERATION				
Economy	High	Medium	Permanent	Major beneficial (Significant)
Housing	Medium	High	Permanent	Major beneficial (Significant)
Educational capacity (Primary)	Low	High	Permanent	Negligible (Not significant)
Educational capacity (Secondary)	Low	High	Permanent	Negligible (Not significant)
Healthcare provision	Low	Medium	Permanent	Minor to moderate adverse (Not significant)
Open space	Low	High	Permanent	Moderate beneficial (Significant)
Health & wellbeing	Medium	Medium	Permanent	Moderate beneficial (Significant)

5.6. Cumulative and In-Combination Effects

Approach

- 5.6.1. With regard to socio-economics and health, a review of the cumulative impacts associated with the Proposed Developments within the immediate vicinity of the Application Site has been undertaken. The cumulative sites considered for the assessment are presented in **Table 5.29** and whether they have been scoped in or out of the assessment. The one scheme scoped into the assessment is providing 154 residential dwellings, which gives a total of 904 dwellings at the Proposed Development and the cumulative site.
- 5.6.2. A review of the applications has been undertaken and where details were available on socio-economic and health effects during the construction and operational phases of the scheme, these have been combined with the Proposed Development.
- 5.6.3. The construction effects are presented in terms of construction employment, economic contribution and disturbance to neighbourhood amenity. For the operational phase, effects have been presented for the economy, healthcare provision, open space and health and wellbeing. Criteria regarding sensitivity of receptor, magnitude of effect and significance in respect of cumulative effects will align with the criteria used for the Proposed Development (see Tables 5.3, 4.4 and 5.5 respectively). The cumulative impact on education provision has not been

considered, on the basis that the one cumulative site that is delivering residential dwellings will need to address its own specific impact on education provision.

Table 5.29: Cumulative Sites

Site	Application No.	Distance & Direction	Proposal	Scoped in or out	Justification
1.	22/00348/FUL	c. 1.5km north of the Site	Erection of 3 no. commercial units (use class B2 or B8) including mezzanine floor, ancillary office and welfare floorspace together with service yard, loading bays, car and cycle parking, electric vehicle charging points, drainage infrastructure and landscaping together with improvements to public rights of way linking Ormskirk Road and Knowsley Lane including the diversion of the public right of way and other pedestrian accessibility works.	Scope out	No residential dwellings
2.	22/00163/FUL	c. 1.6km north of the Site	Erection of an industrial/commercial building (use classes B2/B8 and E (g) (iii)) including mezzanine ancillary office space together with the construction of 2 no. new vehicular accesses to Villiers Road, service yards, car/cycle parking, landscaping and other associated works.	Scope out	No residential dwellings
3.	18/00062/HYB	c. 1.6km south of the Site	Detailed application for 4,180 sqm of employment floor space (use class B1), 3,275 sqm ancillary floor space (use classes A1/A4/C1/SUI generis), 154 residential dwellings, improvement to Lord Derby Playing Fields/Oak Plantation and associated landscaping and infrastructure including a dedicated 500kVA substation for the residential neighbourhood and a 1000kVA substation for the eastern employment area and the demolition of Knowsley Lane Farm. Outline application for up to 26,350 sqm of employment floor space (use classes B1) and associated landscaping and infrastructure.	Scope in	

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Site	Application No.	Distance & Direction	Proposal	Scoped in or out	Justification
4.	19/00243/OUT	c. 2km northwest of the Site	Outline application for the erection of petrol filling station of up to 476 sqm, a drive thru unit of up to 225 sqm and erection of 3 No. industrial units up to 3,827 sqm	Scope out	No residential dwellings

Likely Residual Cumulative Effects and their Significance

Construction Phase

Employment

5.6.4. The construction employment impact of the Proposed Development and cumulative sites is estimated as follows:

- Using the BCIS Online tool¹³, building the 854 cumulative residential dwellings will support an estimated 1,091 temporary construction jobs in person years, which equates to 99 construction jobs supported on the Proposed Development and cumulative site per annum over an 11-year build timeframe.

5.6.5. Cumulatively, the sensitivity of the receptor is assessed as being **high**, while the magnitude of the change is **medium**, given the generation of around 99 on-site construction jobs per annum would represent a 2.5% increase in construction employment in Knowsley. The significance of the effect on construction employment is therefore considered to be **major beneficial** which is **significant** in EIA terms.

Economic Contribution

5.6.6. The construction GVA impact of the Proposed Development and cumulative sites is estimated as follows:

- An estimated £95.1million of construction GVA could be generated during the build phase of the Proposed Development and cumulative scheme, equating to £8.6million per annum over an 11-year build programme.

5.6.7. Cumulatively, the sensitivity of the receptor is assessed as being **high**, while the magnitude of the change is **medium**, given the generation of £8.6million in construction economic output per annum would translate to an annual increase in construction GVA in Knowsley of 4.0% over the 11-year build timeframe. The significance of the effect on construction GVA is therefore considered to be **major beneficial** which is **significant** in EIA terms.

Disturbance to neighbourhood amenity

5.6.8. The Proposed Development will implement best practice construction measure during the estimated build phase. It is assumed that the same controls and best practice methods will be

¹³ Accessed 15/01/2025.

applied to the cumulative scheme and the overall residual effect on the sensitive receptors will remain the same as for the Proposed Development in isolation.

- 5.6.9. Cumulatively, the sensitivity of the receptor is assessed as being **medium**, while the magnitude of the change is **low**. The significance of the cumulative effect on disturbance to neighbourhood amenity is therefore considered to be **minor to moderate adverse** which is **not significant** in EIA terms.

Completed and Operational Development

Economy

- 5.6.10. The economy impact of the Proposed Development and cumulative site is estimated as follows:
- An estimated resident population of 1,986, additional household expenditure of £22.4million per annum, £2.1million in additional council tax revenue and 955 economically active residents.

- 5.6.11. Cumulatively, the sensitivity of the receptor is assessed as being **high**, while the magnitude of the change is **medium**, taking into account the significant levels of household spend, economically active residents and council tax revenue generated by the operation of the Proposed Development and cumulative site. The significance of the cumulative effect on the economy is therefore considered to be **major beneficial** which is **significant**.

Housing

- 5.6.12. Cumulatively, the Proposed Development and cumulative scheme will provide 854 houses, equating to an average of 78dpa over an 11 year period. The sensitivity of the receptor is assessed as being **medium**, while the magnitude of the change is **high**, given the Proposed Development and cumulative site is estimated to deliver around 12.9% of the annual housing need in Knowsley and 17.3% of the proposed housing target in the Local Plan. The significance of the cumulative effect on the economy is therefore considered to be **major beneficial** which is **significant**.

Healthcare

- 5.6.13. Cumulatively, there is estimated to be 1,986 residents at the cumulative sites, leading to a 4.9% rise in patient numbers within the catchment area. The sensitivity of the receptor is assessed as being **low**, while the magnitude of the change is **medium**. The significance of the cumulative effect on healthcare provision is considered to be **minor to moderate adverse** which is **not significant**.

Open Space

- 5.6.14. Within the Planning Statement for application 18/00062/HYB, the cumulative site will provide 0.92ha (9,180sq.m.) of public open space. Combining this with the 4.52ha of public open space provided by the Proposed Development, an estimated 5.44ha of open space will be delivered on-site at the Proposed Development and cumulative site.
- 5.6.15. Cumulatively, the sensitivity of the receptor is assessed as being **low**, while the magnitude of the change is **high**. The significance of the cumulative effect on open space is therefore considered to be **moderate beneficial** which is **significant**.

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Health and Wellbeing

- 5.6.16. The sensitivity of the receptors, local residents and/or users of the Proposed Development, is **medium**, as identified in the assessment related to the Proposed Development in isolation. Baseline characteristics identified consider district level spatial scale and therefore the sensitivity is considered applicable when considered against the receptors of relevance to the Proposed Development and the Cumulative Scheme.
- 5.6.17. The magnitude of the effect is considered to be **medium** as there are socio-economic benefits resulting from the Proposed Development and the Cumulative Scheme, increase in housing supply and quality in the local area, proposals designed to minimise risk of crime and optimise community interaction and safety, increase public accessibility to and quality of open space, and opportunity for increased physical activity area and social cohesion and activities.
- 5.6.18. As such, the significance of the permanent cumulative effect on health and wellbeing is assessed as being **moderate beneficial** at the district level, which is **significant**.

5.7. Summary

- 5.7.1. This chapter has assessed the socio-economic and health impacts arising from the Proposed Development that will deliver up to 700 residential dwellings.

Baseline Conditions

- 5.7.2. A baseline review of Knowsley and the local area socio-economic context reveals the following:
- Between 2014 and 2024, Knowsley population has grown at a higher rate than regional and national comparators. The increase in population is largely due to growth in people aged 65+ and this trend is projected to continue between 2022 and 2042.
 - Employment in Prescot North fell by 10.0%, whereas Knowsley saw a 4.5% increase, both of which were below regional and national employment growth levels.
 - As of May 2025, unemployment in Knowsley (4.6%) is above regional and national comparators.
 - Knowsley O05F, where the majority of the Site falls, ranks within the top 20% most deprived LSOAs in the country. The Site also falls within O05E, which is in the top 50% most deprived.
 - Since 2013, construction GVA growth in Knowsley has remained in line with regional and national figures, however in 2023 construction GVA in Knowsley has fallen substantially compared to the growth rates in the North West and England.
 - As of 2023, total GVA growth since 2013 in Knowsley is in line with the North West and England.
 - Knowsley had a lower rate of total recorded offences (82.9 per 1,000 population) in the 12-months ending Q4 2024 when compared to the regional average of 93.2 per 1,000 population. The total recorded offences in Knowsley fell by 13.3% since Q4 2023, a larger decrease than the regional decrease of 5.9%.
 - The local health profile of Knowsley shows worse health outcomes in most indicators when compared to regional and national figures.

- In terms of current education provision, Knowsley Village Primary Planning Area has a current surplus of 41 places and Central Secondary Planning Area has a current surplus of 544 places.
- In terms of healthcare provision, within the 11 surgeries in the catchment area of the Site, and less than 6.2 miles away, there are a total of 40,625 patients and 21 FTE GPs, giving a patient-to-GP ratio of 2,174.3.
- Within 2 miles of the Site there is a total of 467.6ha of open space across all open space typologies.
- Sensitive receptors identified include; Existing residents located in existing housing immediately to the north of the Site, pupils of Knowsley Village Primary School to the north of the Site, users of Bridleway KN5/1, located adjacent to the western boundary of the Site.

Likely Significant Effects

- 5.7.3. In respect of the construction phase, the assessment indicates that the Proposed Development will have the following temporary effects:
- During the construction phase, 224 temporary jobs could be supported per annum on-site and in the wider economy over the build period (estimated to be 11 years).
 - Around £16.6million of gross value added per annum is estimated to be generated over the 11-year build period.
- 5.7.4. In EIA terms, these impacts are considered to have a **major beneficial** effect which is **significant**.
- 5.7.5. There is potential for **minor to moderate adverse** effect in relation to neighbourhood amenity as a result of construction activities, but this will not be significant and only temporary in nature and minimised as far as possible through the implementation of best practice measures managed via a CEMP.
- 5.7.6. In respect of the operational phase, the assessment indicates that the Proposed Development will have the following permanent effects on the economy:
- An estimated 783 economically active and employed residents are estimated to live in the Proposed Development.
 - The Proposed Development could generate an additional household expenditure of £18.4million per annum once the scheme is complete and fully occupied.
 - The dwellings could generate an additional £1.7million per annum in Council Tax payments.
- 5.7.7. In EIA terms, these impacts are considered to have a **significant beneficial effect**.
- 5.7.8. There is potential for major beneficial effect in relation to housing given that the Proposed Development will deliver around 14.1% of the annual housing need in Knowsley. This will be a permanent **significant beneficial effect**.
- 5.7.9. In terms of education provision, the permanent effect of the Proposed Development is expected to have a **negligible impact** on primary and secondary schools, once the impact is mitigated against by financial contributions.

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- 5.7.10. In terms of healthcare provision, given the additional 1,628 residents would increase the patient-to-GP ratio at the 11 surgeries to 2,012, which is an increase of 4.0%, the permanent effect of the Proposed Development is considered to have a **minor to moderate adverse impact** on healthcare provision, therefore is **not significant** in EIA terms.
- 5.7.11. The effect on open space is considered to be **moderate beneficial**, given that the Proposed Development plans to provide an estimated 4.52ha of public open space on-site.
- 5.7.12. There are considerable economic, environmental, and social benefits resulting from the scheme, which all combine to contribute to a positive change in health and wellbeing. The permanent effect is considered to be **moderate beneficial** which is **significant** in EIA terms.

Mitigation and Enhancement

- 5.7.13. Provision for open space will be made as part of the design of the Proposed Development. A financial contribution to primary and secondary school provision may be required.

Conclusion

- 5.7.14. Overall, the Proposed Development is considered to provide **significant beneficial effects** during the construction phase in relation to employment and its economic contribution. Once operational, **significant beneficial effects** are expected in relation to wider economic effects, housing, open space provision and health and wellbeing. All other effects are deemed 'not significant'.
- 5.7.15. **Table 5.30** provides a summary of effects, mitigation and residual effects.

Table 5.30: Summary of Effects, Mitigation and Residual Effects

Receptor / Receiving Environment	Description of Effect	Nature of Effect	Sensitivity Value	Magnitude of Effect	Geographical Importance	Significance of Effects	Mitigation / Enhancement Measures	Residual Effects
Construction								
Employment	Construction employment on-site	Temporary	High	Medium	District	Major beneficial	N/A	Major beneficial (Significant)
Economic contribution	economic output generated by construction	Temporary	High	Medium	District	Major beneficial	N/A	Major beneficial (Significant)
Disturbance to neighbourhood amenity	Potential for disturbance to local people as a result of construction activities	Temporary	Medium	Low	Local	Minor to moderate adverse	CEMP	Minor to moderate adverse (Not significant)
Operation								
Economy	Operational jobs on-site	Permanent	High	Medium	District	Major beneficial	N/A	Major beneficial (Significant)
Housing	Increase in number of household spend, council Tax revenue etc.	Permanent	Medium	High	District	Major beneficial	N/A	Major beneficial (Significant)

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Receptor / Receiving Environment	Description of Effect	Nature of Effect	Sensitivity Value	Magnitude of Effect	Geographical Importance	Significance of Effects	Mitigation / Enhancement Measures	Residual Effects
Educational capacity (Primary)	Increase in number of pupils living at Proposed Development	Permanent	High	Low	Local	Moderate adverse	Financial contribution towards primary provision	Negligible (Not significant)
Educational capacity (Secondary)	Increase in number of pupils living at Proposed Development	Permanent	High	Low	Local	Moderate adverse	Financial contribution towards secondary provision	Negligible (Not significant)
Healthcare provision	Increase in demand for healthcare services	Permanent	Low	Medium	Local	Minor to moderate adverse	N/A	Minor to moderate adverse (Not significant)
Open space	Increase in demand for open space	Permanent	Low	High	District	Moderate beneficial	N/A	Moderate beneficial (Significant)
Health & wellbeing	Potential positive effects that health and wellbeing of existing and future residents	Permanent	Medium	Medium	District	Moderate beneficial	N/A	Moderate beneficial (Significant)

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Receptor / Receiving Environment	Description of Effect	Nature of Effect	Sensitivity Value	Magnitude of Effect	Geographical Importance	Significance of Effects	Mitigation / Enhancement Measures	Residual Effects
Cumulative and In-Combination								
Construction								
Employment	Construction employment on-site	Temporary	High	Medium	District	Major beneficial	N/A	Major beneficial (Significant)
Economic contribution	economic output generated by construction	Temporary	High	Medium	District	Major beneficial	N/A	Major beneficial (Significant)
Disturbance to neighbourhood amenity	Potential for disturbance to local people as a result of construction activities	Temporary	Medium	Low	Local	Minor to moderate adverse	CEMP	Minor to moderate adverse (Not significant)
Operation								
Economy	Operational jobs on-site	Permanent	High	Medium	District	Major beneficial	N/A	Major beneficial (Significant)
Housing	Increase in number of household	Permanent	Medium	High	District	Major beneficial	N/A	Major beneficial (Significant)

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Receptor / Receiving Environment	Description of Effect	Nature of Effect	Sensitivity Value	Magnitude of Effect	Geographical Importance	Significance of Effects	Mitigation / Enhancement Measures	Residual Effects
	spend, council Tax revenue etc.							
Healthcare provision	Increase in demand for healthcare services	Permanent	Low	Medium	Local	Minor to moderate adverse	N/A	Minor to moderate adverse (Not significant)
Open space	Increase in demand for open space	Permanent	Low	High	District	Moderate beneficial	N/A	Moderate beneficial (Significant)
Health & wellbeing	Potential positive effects that health and wellbeing of existing and future residents	Permanent	Medium	Medium	District	Moderate beneficial	N/A	Moderate beneficial (Significant)