

## Midlands Engine Claimant Count – December 2022 Release<sup>1</sup>

### Key Points:

- There were 266,580 claimants aged 16 years and over in the Midlands Engine area in November 2022, an increase of 7,060 claimants since the previous month. This equates to an increase of 2.7% for the Midlands Engine area, the UK increased by 2.4%. Since March 2020, the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has increased by 45,040 (+20.3% compared to +20.2% for the UK).
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 years and over was 3.2% compared to 2.8% for the UK in November 2022.
- There were 48,855 youth claimants (16 – 24 years old) in the Midlands Engine area in November 2022, an increase of 1,545 youth claimants since the previous month. This equates to an increase of 3.3% with the UK increasing by 2.9%. Since March 2020, the number of youth claimants has increased by 4,660 (+10.5% compared to +8.9% for the UK).
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of youth claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 – 24 years old was 4.2% compared to 3.7% for the UK in November 2022.

### In Detail:

#### Claimants Aged 16 Years and Over

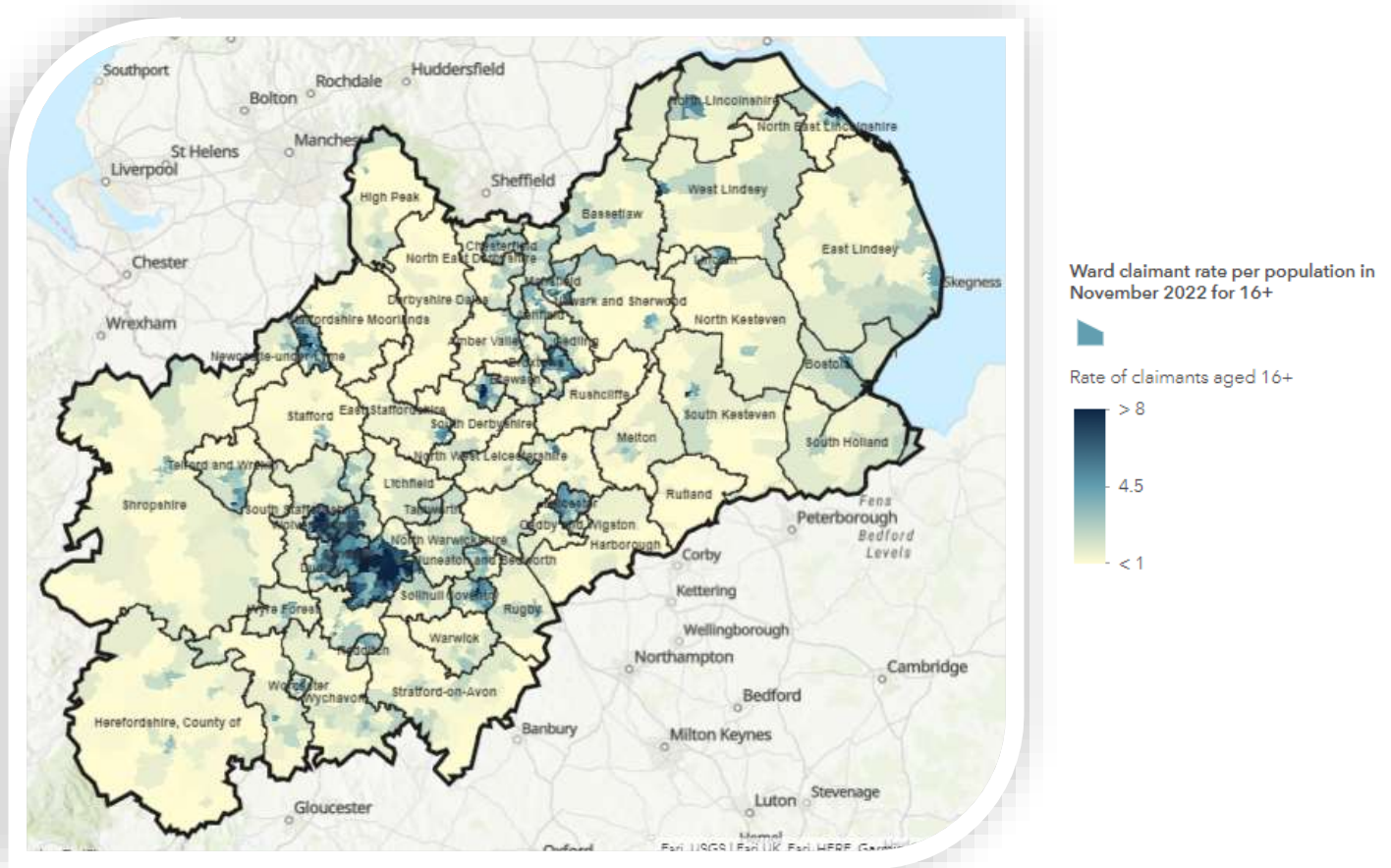
- There were 266,580 claimants aged 16 years and over in the Midlands Engine area in November 2022, an increase of 7,060 claimants since the previous month. This equates to an increase of 2.7% for the Midlands Engine area, the UK increased by 2.4%. Within the Midlands Engine, 57 local authorities increased, 1 remained at the same level and 7 decreased since October 2022.
- Since November 2021, the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has decreased by 46,590 (-14.9% compared to a decrease of 19.0% for the UK).
- Since March 2020, the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has increased by 45,040 (+20.3% compared to +20.2% for the UK). Notably, East Lindsey, North East Lincolnshire and North Lincolnshire had lower levels of claimants than March 2020 (-700, -275, and -30 respectively).
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 years and over was 3.2% compared to 2.8% for the UK in November 2022.

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

- Out of the 1,511 wards within the Midlands Engine, 443 were at or above the UK average of 2.8% for the number of claimants as a percentage of the population aged 16 years and over in November 2022.
- The wards with the highest number of claimants as a percentage of the population were based in Birmingham, Lozells was the highest at 14.4%. This was followed by Birchfield, Handsworth and Aston all at 13.7% each.
- In contrast, within the Midlands Engine the wards with the lowest number of claimants as a percentage of the population were in Keele (Newcastle-under-Lyme) at 0.1%, Biddulph Moor (Staffordshire Moorlands) and Normanton (Rutland) both at 0.3%.

<sup>1</sup> Office for National Statistics (ONS)/Department for Work and Pensions (DWP): Claimant Count – released December 2022

The following map shows claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 years and over in November 2022 across the Midlands Engine:



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

- There were 48,855 youth claimants (16 – 24 years old) in the Midlands Engine area in November 2022, an increase of 1,545 youth claimants since the previous month. This equates to an increase of 3.3% with the UK increasing by 2.9%. Within the Midlands Engine, 6 local authorities decreased, 8 local authorities remained the same and 51 increased.
- Since November 2021, the number of youth claimants has decreased by 6,475 (-11.7% compared to -16.0% for the UK).
- Since March 2020, the number of youth claimants has increased by 4,660 (+10.5% compared to +8.9% for the UK). Notably, 19 local authorities are lower than March 2020 levels and a further 4 were at the same level.
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of youth claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 – 24 years old was 4.2% compared to 3.7% for the UK in November 2022.

### Ward Analysis – Youth Claimants

- Out of the 1,511 wards within the Midlands Engine, 628 were at or above the UK average of 3.7% for the number of claimants as a percentage of the population aged 16 – 24 years and over in November 2022.
- The ward with the highest the number of claimants as a percentage of the population was Joiner’s Square (Stoke-on-Trent) at 14.4%. This is by followed Oak Tree (Mansfield) at 12.8% and East Marsh (North East Lincolnshire) at 12.5%.
- In contrast, within the Midlands Engine there were 104 wards with no youth claimants in November 2022.

