

## Midlands Engine Claimant Count – January 2023 Release<sup>1</sup>

### Key Points:

- There were 268,385 claimants aged 16 years and over in the Midlands Engine area in December 2022, an increase of 5,215 claimants since the previous month. This equates to an increase of 2.0% for the Midlands Engine area, the UK increased by 1.9%. Since March 2020, the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has increased by 46,845 (+21.1% compared to +20.8% 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 December 2022.
- There were 48,895 youth claimants (16 – 24 years old) in the Midlands Engine area in December 2022, an increase of 630 youth claimants since the previous month. This equates to an increase of 1.3% with the UK also increasing by 1.3%. Since March 2020, the number of youth claimants has increased by 4,700 (+10.6% 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 December 2022.

### In Detail:

#### Claimants Aged 16 Years and Over

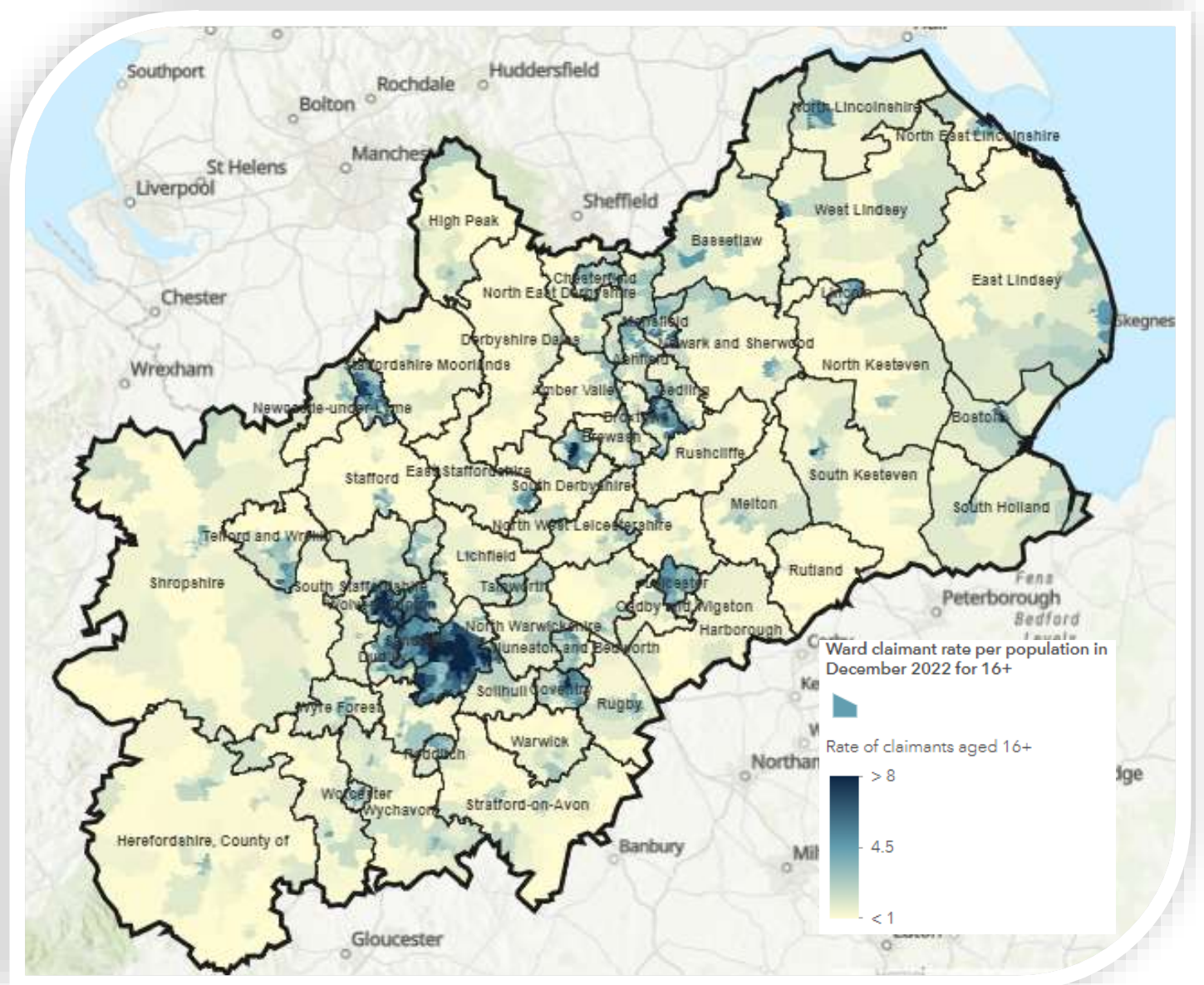
- There were 268,385 claimants aged 16 years and over in the Midlands Engine area in December 2022, an increase of 5,215 claimants since the previous month. This equates to an increase of 2.0% for the Midlands Engine area, the UK increased by 1.9%. Within the Midlands Engine, 52 local authorities increased and 1 remained at the same level (Rutland) and 12 decreased since November 2022.
- Since December 2021, the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has decreased by 34,140 (-11.3% compared to a decrease of 15.6% for the UK).
- Since March 2020, the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has increased by 46,845 (+21.1% compared to +20.8% for the UK). Notably, East Lindsey and North East Lincolnshire had lower levels of claimants than March 2020 (-600, and -395 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 December 2022.

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

- Out of the 1,511 wards within the Midlands Engine, 447 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 December 2022.
- The wards with the highest number of claimants as a percentage of the population aged 16 years and over were based in Birmingham, with Lozells the highest at 14.3%. This was followed by Aston (14.0%) and Birchfield (13.8%).
- 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%, Ashby Castle (North West Leicestershire) at 0.2%, and Normanton (Rutland) and Biddulph Moor (Staffordshire Moorlands) both at 0.3%.

<sup>1</sup> Office for National Statistics (ONS)/Department for Work and Pensions (DWP): Claimant Count – released January 2023

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



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

- There were 48,895 youth claimants (16 – 24 years old) in the Midlands Engine area in December 2022, an increase of 630 youth claimants since the previous month. This equates to an increase of 1.3% with the UK also increasing by 1.3%. Within the Midlands Engine, 13 local authorities decreased, 16 local authorities remained the same and 36 increased.
- Since December 2021, the number of youth claimants has decreased by 3,035 (-5.8% compared to -10.3% for the UK).
- Since March 2020, the number of youth claimants has increased by 4,700 (+10.6% compared to +8.9% for the UK). Notably, 16 local authorities are lower than March 2020 levels and a further 2 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 December 2022.



### Ward Analysis – Youth Claimants

- Out of the 1,511 wards within the Midlands Engine, 519 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 December 2022.
- The ward with the highest the number of claimants as a percentage of the population was Joiner’s Square (Stoke-on-Trent) at 13.8%. This is by followed Portland (Mansfield) at 13.1%, and East Park (Wolverhampton) at 12.4%.
- In contrast, within the Midlands Engine there were 109 wards with no youth claimants in December 2022.

The following map shows youth claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 – 24 years old in December 2022 across the Midlands Engine:

