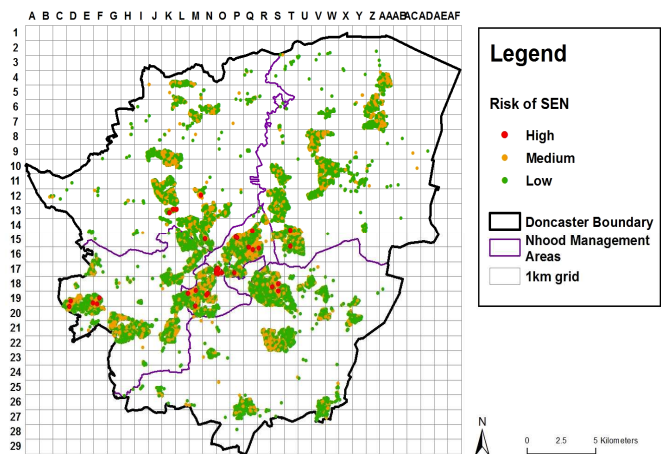


Special Educational Needs in Doncaster

Aims

Doncaster MBC and Doncaster PCT, using neighbourhood renewal funding, commissioned Mayhew Associates (MA) to undertake a detailed assessment of population and deprivation in Doncaster. Based on administrative data sources, MA *nkm* techniques were used to estimate the Doncaster population. The resulting database was used to study pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN). SEN is typically an indicator of circumstances in the pupil's life that may be associated with deprivation, the use of other services including mental health, but also English as a foreign language. We analysed pupils at Doncaster schools at January 2007 to assess the risk profile of SEN pupils.



Map showing distribution of SEN risk for school pupils in Doncaster

What we did

In partnership with the PCT and local authority, we obtained and linked data from each agency to the Local Property Gazetteer. We then risk assessed all Doncaster pupils in 2007 using the following risk factors: local authority housing tenure, single-parent household, of a non-white ethnic group and English as a second language. We dot mapped the location of pupils according to their level of risk so as to identify patterns and potential problem areas (see map).

Row	number in category	living in local authority housing	single parent household	non-white	english as a second language	SEN	lower confidence limit	upper confidence limit
1	15	Y	Y		Y	33.3	11.8	61.6
2	3598	Y				32.6	31.0	34.1
3	2842	Y	Y			29.5	27.8	31.2
4	80	Y	Y	Y		23.8	14.9	34.6
5	115	Y		Y	Y	21.7	14.6	30.4
6	715			Y	Y	20.6	17.7	23.7
7	144		Y	Y	Y	20.1	13.9	27.6
8	5917		Y			19.4	18.4	20.4
9	72	Y		Y		18.1	10.0	28.9
10	22755					16.3	15.8	16.8
11	233				Y	15.5	11.1	20.7
12	46	Y			Y	15.2	6.3	28.9
13	41	Y	Y	Y	Y	14.6	5.6	29.2
14	185		Y	Y		14.1	9.4	19.9
15	63		Y		Y	12.7	5.6	23.5
16	590			Y		10.3	8.0	13.1
total	37411	6809	9287	1942	1372	19.4	19.0	19.8

Risk ladder segmenting Doncaster pupils by selected SEN risk factors

Outputs

Our logistic regression model showed that living in local authority housing is the largest predictive factor, increasing the odds of SEN 2.1 times. We found that pupils with English as a second language were more likely to have SEN, but otherwise, those of non-white ethnicity are less likely. Children in single-parent families are more likely. The table shows the average occurrence of SEN at 19.4% increases to one third of pupils that live in LA housing, single-parent households and have English as a second language but the level of exposure is small (only 15 pupils, row one). The largest exposure occurs when only the first two risk factors apply (3,598 pupils, row two).

Tailoring services to local needs