4th edition

Produced by
The Insight & Intelligence Team - West Sussex County Council
October 2016
Updated November 2016

insight.team@westsussex.gov.uk
Designed and edited by Ellen Gayler and Neil Thomas

Contributors: Martin Farrell, Phil Gray, Sue Cooper, Joseph Crook, Hazel Aldington, Ben Sawkins, Matt Gover and Harriet Shelley

The information available in this document can be shared and reproduced.
Foreword

Welcome to the fourth edition of West Sussex Life

Welcome to this new edition of West Sussex Life – a statistical snapshot of life in our wonderful county for all who live, work and visit here.

In an age where we all have access to more information and data than we have ever had before, this document brings together the very best of it and shines a light on what life is like for our communities now – and what it will be like for our county in the future based on current trends and predictions.

Created by our WSCC Insight & Intelligence Team, West Sussex Life covers everything from the health of our population to the economic growth of our county, educational attainment among our young residents, how our use of technology has changed and also looks at issues like the levels of deprivation and poverty faced by some of our towns and villages.

We use West Sussex Life to help shape the council services that we deliver for our residents. It ensures we are focussing our efforts, staff and investments in the areas where they can have the biggest impact.

And it’s also a vital resource for our businesses and communities who are all also working to improve the areas where they live and work. Whether that’s finding out about how well our children are doing at school, how many local people work at Gatwick Airport, or how much our older population is expected to rise, we’ve had really good feedback from lots of people and organisations who have found it useful.

It’s a real time analysis of the social, economic and demographic characteristics of our county because it uses a combination of our own County Council information as well as data from external sources such as the Office for National Statistics.

In many cases we have been able to compare that local information with regional and national trends to set the context for understanding how West Sussex is performing.

We have approached this edition a little differently by making sure that we apply the information and analysis to our key priority areas as a council:

• Giving children the best start in life
• Championing the West Sussex economy
• Promoting independence in later life

I hope you will find this edition of West Sussex Life useful and informative - I certainly do.

As always, we value your feedback on what you have used the information in the report for, as well as ideas and suggestions for improvements in future editions.

You can contact the Insight and Intelligence Team at West Sussex County Council by emailing insight.team@westsussex.gov.uk to provide feedback and suggestions.

Louise Goldsmith, Leader
West Sussex County Council