

	PAGE NO.
1. <b><u>Waste Management and Recycling:</u></b>	M2
a) <a href="#">Residual Household Waste per Household</a>	M2
b) <a href="#">Kent Comparison: Residual Household Waste per Household</a>	M2
c) <a href="#">Household Waste Sent for Reuse, Recycling or Composting</a>	M3
d) <a href="#">Kent Comparison: Household Waste Sent for Reuse, Recycling or Composting</a>	M3
2. <b><u>Air quality:</u></b>	M4
a) <a href="#">Local Carbon Dioxide Emissions</a>	M4
b) <a href="#">Kent Air Quality Partnership</a>	M5
c) <a href="#">Fraction of mortality attributable to particulate air pollution in Kent and Medway</a>	M6
3. <b><u>Noise</u></b>	M6
4. <b><u>Food Hygiene</u></b>	M7
5. <b><u>Environmental Crime</u></b>	M7
6. <b><u>Licensing</u></b>	M8
7. <b><u>Water Quality</u></b>	M9
8. <b><u>Tourism</u></b>	M9
9. <b><u>Heritage</u></b>	M10
a) <a href="#">Heritage Strategy</a>	M10
b) <a href="#">Dover Museum</a>	M10
c) <a href="#">Heritage Lottery Fund: Parks for People</a>	M10
d) <a href="#">Landscape and Military Heritage</a>	M11
10. <b><u>Sport and Recreation</u></b>	M11
a) <a href="#">Number and access types of sporting facilities</a>	M12
b) <a href="#">Clubmark Clubs</a>	M13
c) <a href="#">White Cliffs Countryside Partnership</a>	M13
d) <a href="#">Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Heritage Coast</a>	M13
e) <a href="#">England Coast Path: Folkestone to Ramsgate</a>	M14
f) <a href="#">Parks and Open Spaces</a>	M14
g) <a href="#">Play Facilities</a>	M14
h) <a href="#">Strategies</a>	M15
i) <a href="#">Community Assets</a>	M15
j) <a href="#">Community Events</a>	M15

The Dover district has a lot to offer to our residents and visitors alike, with the world-famous White Cliffs of Dover, castles, chalk downs, bays and beaches, boating, horse-riding, coastal and country walks, cycle routes and trails, woodlands, wildlife watching, nature reserves, rural hamlets and villages, gardens and country parks. The natural and cultural heritage of the district are an asset for quality of life and for tourism.

The council is committed to making the district a cleaner, greener, healthier and more environmentally attractive place to live. Although the legal responsibility for public health now sits with unitary and upper tier local authorities, lower-tier (district councils) have a vital role to play as many of our services contribute directly or indirectly to improving health and wellbeing or the 'wider determinants of health'.

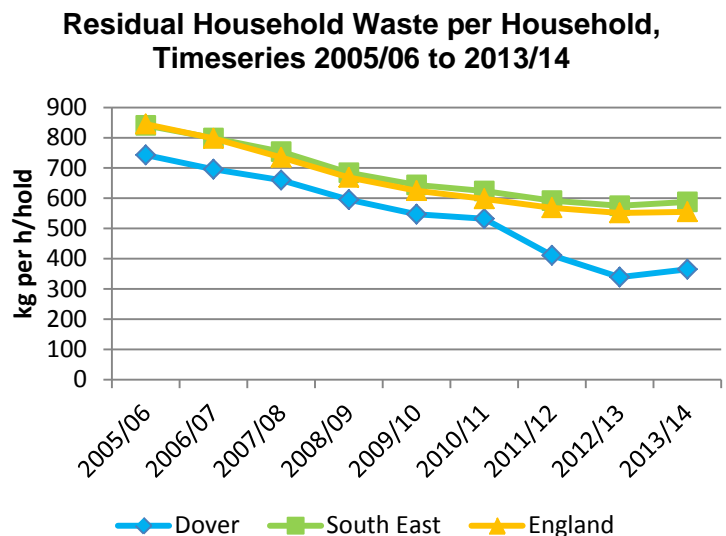
Our services include waste and recycling, street cleansing, supporting economic growth and planning (including development control, enforcement and conservation), housing, parks and leisure, landscape and nature conservation, flood risk management, climate change and energy efficiency, environmental health, community safety and community development.

## 1. WASTE MANAGEMENT AND RECYCLING

### a) Residual Household Waste per Household (kg per household)

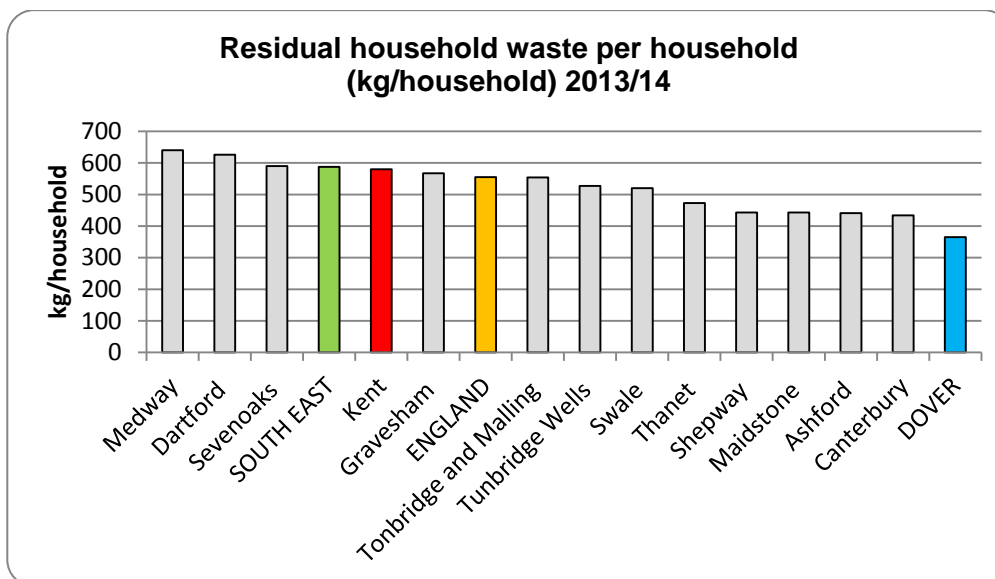
	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
<b>Dover</b>	411	339	365
<b>South East</b>	592	575	588
<b>England</b>	568	551	555

- In the Dover district, 365kg of residual (non-recyclable) waste was recorded per household in 2013/14 (the latest data available from Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs).
- Although this is up 7.7% from 2012/13 it is still below the average residual waste per household figures for the South East and England and represents a decrease of nearly 51% on figures for the district for 2005/06 (when it stood at 743kg per household).



Source: DEFRA ENV18 - Local authority collected waste tables

### b) Kent Comparison: Residual Household Waste per Household



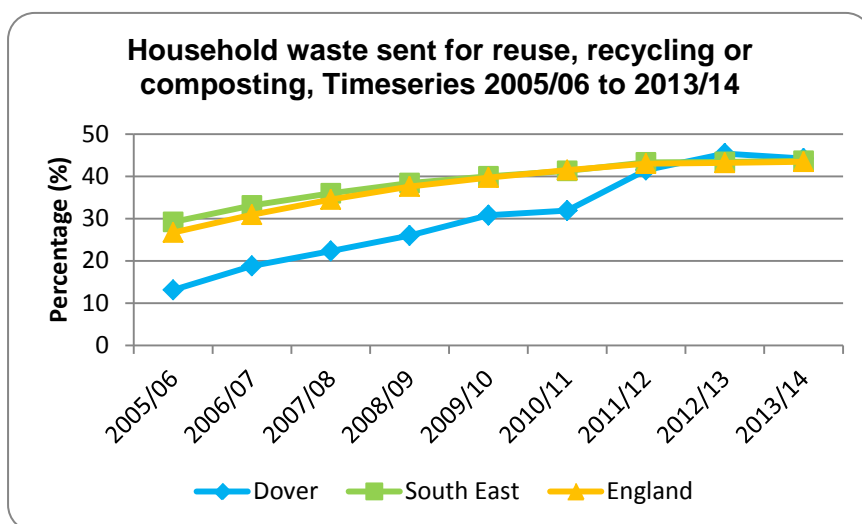
Source: DEFRA ENV18 - Local authority collected waste tables

- In 2013/14, the Dover district had the lowest residual household waste figure in Kent and Medway.
- Performance figures for the Dover district for 2014/15 show that residual waste per household has risen to 374kg per household.
- DEFRA has not yet published 2014/15 figures for comparison purposes

### c) Household Waste Sent for Reuse, Recycling or Composting

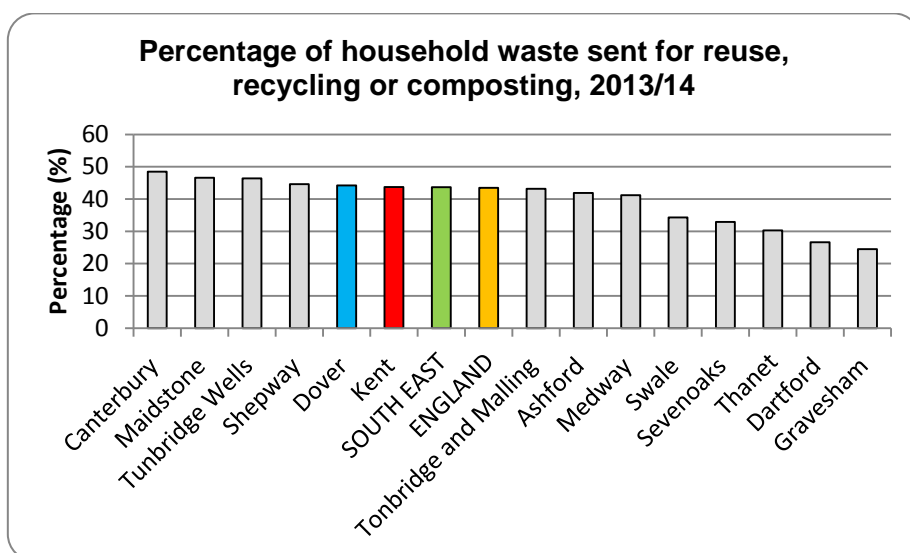
	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
<b>Dover</b>	41.5	45.4	44.2
<b>South East</b>	43.3	43.4	43.7
<b>England</b>	43.0	43.2	43.5

- In the Dover district, 44.2% of household waste was sent for reuse, recycling or composting in 2013/14 (the latest data available from Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs).
- Although this is down from 2012/13, it is still above the average figures for the South East (43.7%) and England (43.5%) and represents a percentage point increase of 31.1% on the district's recycling rate for 2005/06, when it stood at 13.1%.



Source: DEFRA ENV18 - Local authority collected waste tables

### d) Kent Comparison: Household Waste Sent for Reuse, Recycling or Composting



Source: DEFRA ENV18 - Local authority collected waste tables

- In 2013/14, the Dover district had the fifth highest percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting in Kent and Medway.
- Performance figures for the Dover district for 2014/15 show that recycling figures have fallen to 42.4%.
- DEFRA has not yet published 2014/15 figures for comparison purposes.

### Recycling, Waste & Street Cleansing

- During 2014, the Council carried out a promotional campaign, using funding provided by the Kent Resource Partnership, with a team of door-steppers working across the District to encourage greater participation with the Council's recycling services and address continued high contamination rates within the mixed recycle waste stream. A total of 28,600 properties were covered with a contact rate of 42%.

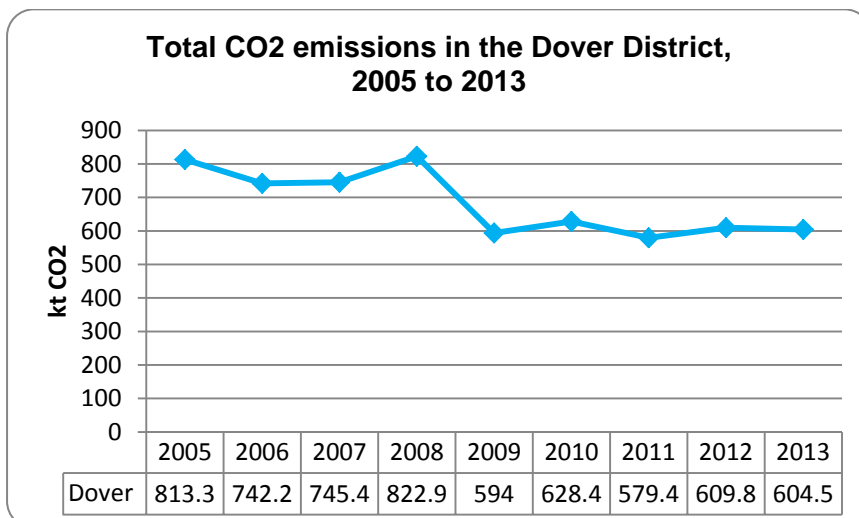
## 2. AIR QUALITY

Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) is the main greenhouse gas, accounting for about 82% of the UK greenhouse gas emissions in 2013. In recent years, increasing emphasis has been placed on the role of regional bodies and local government in contributing to energy efficiency improvements, and hence reductions in carbon dioxide emissions.

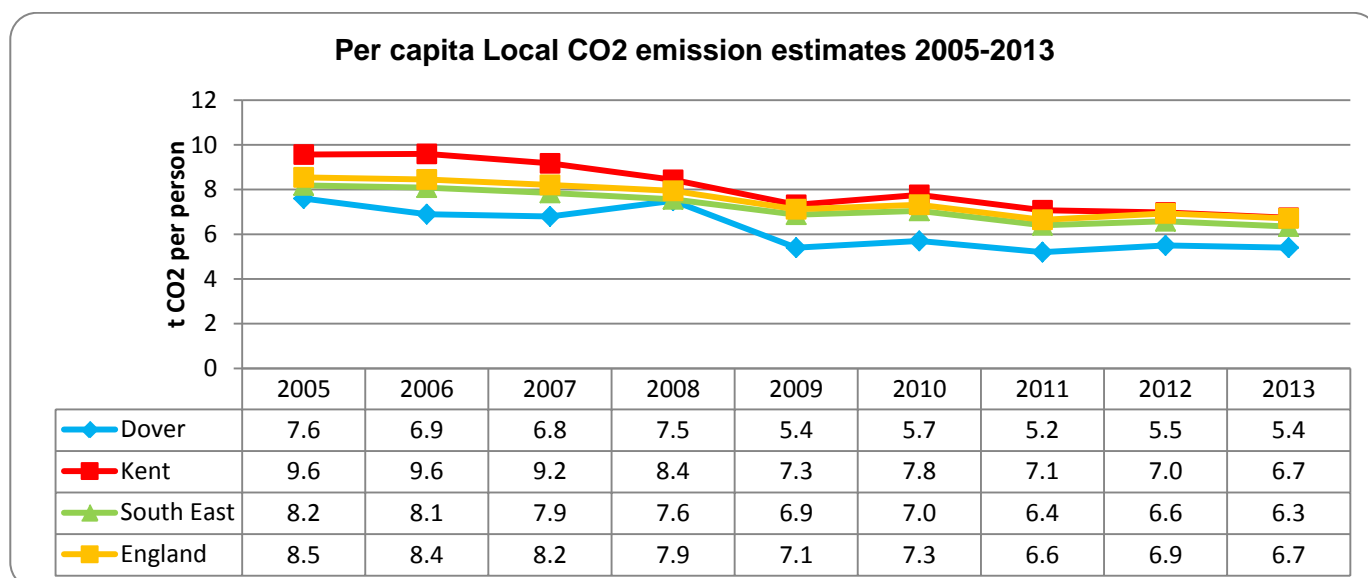
It is important to note that local Authorities are not mandated to have greenhouse gas emissions reductions targets and have relatively little influence over some types of emissions.

### a) Local Carbon Dioxide Emissions

- Estimated total carbon dioxide emissions decreased by around 26% between 2005 (the earliest year for which data is available at a local authority level) and 2013 – falling from 813.3 kilotonnes to 604.5 kilotonnes. This has not been a steady downward trend, reflecting the national picture.
- Nationally, estimated total carbon dioxide emissions have decreased by around 16% during the same period. Emissions increased between 2009 and 2010 (largely due to relatively low emissions in 2009 as a consequence of economic factors) and between 2011 and 2012 (largely due to variations in temperature).



Source: [Department for Energy and Climate Change Local authority carbon dioxide emission estimates 2013](#) – published 25 June 2015. 2005 to 2012 estimates have been recalculated to reflect methodological changes used in calculating the 2013 estimates.



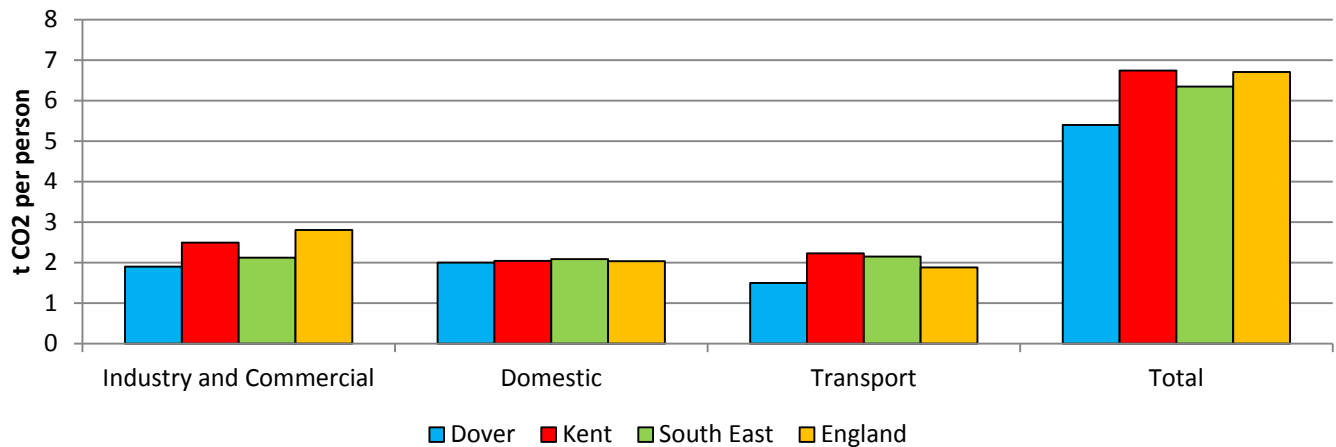
Source: [Department for Energy and Climate Change Local authority carbon dioxide emission estimates 2013](#) – published 25 June 2015. 2005 to 2012 estimates have been recalculated to reflect methodological changes used in calculating the 2013 estimates.

- In 2013 the estimate of carbon dioxide emissions for the Dover district was 5.4 tonnes per person. Since 2005 there has been a reduction in carbon dioxide emissions of 2.2 tonnes per person for the district. Industry and commercial emissions have fallen by 1.5 tonnes per person, domestic emissions by 0.4 tonnes per person and transport by 0.3 tonnes per person.
- In the Dover district, in 2013, 37% of end-user emissions were attributed to the domestic sector, 35% to the industry and commercial sector and 28% to road transport. Nationally, 43% of end-user emissions

were attributed to the industry and commercial sector, 30% to the domestic sector and 27% to transport. There is wide local variation mainly because of the economy and geography of different local areas.

- In 2013, domestic end-user emissions were the largest sectoral source of end-user emissions (i.e. greater than the industrial and commercial, and transport sectors) in 30% of all Local Authorities. This sector can be influenced by the fuel types used, the type and condition of the housing (including its insulation), the average temperature (urban areas can be much warmer and therefore easier to heat than rural areas), average household size, type of household and the income and preferences of the occupiers.

**Per capita Local CO2 emission estimates: industry, domestic and transport sectors, 2013**



Source: [Department for Energy and Climate Change Local authority carbon dioxide emission estimates 2013](#) – published 25 June 2015

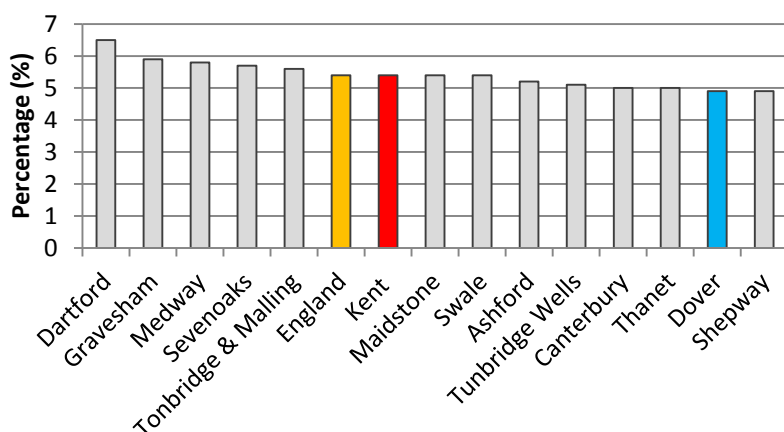
- The busy Port of Dover with regular cross-channel ships and large volumes of road traffic from the A2 and A20 entering and leaving the town predominately represents the main source of air pollution in the district.
- However, improved air quality at the Port has led to the revocation of the Air Quality Management Area at the Eastern Docks – with the Port continuously meeting the sulphur dioxide level objective following introduction of the low sulphur fuel in 2006.

## b) Kent Air Quality Partnership

- Dover District Council remains part of the Kent Air Quality Partnership (K&MAQP), which was established in 1992 to work towards improving the quality of Kent's air. The Partnership is composed of representatives from each district's transport, planning and environment departments, Kent County Council, the Environment Agency, National Power and other stakeholders related to air quality issues.
- During 2014 and 15 closer ties have been made with Kent Health Authorities and NHS agencies to pursue avenues of improving raising the profile of air pollution and the resulting health effects. K&MAQP were represented at the Kent's Health and Sustainability conference 2014.
- Following a grant of £30k from Public Health England, the KMAQP are working with Ricardo-AEA to develop an Air Quality Information Toolkit, following the example of other local authorities and Devolved Administrations in the United Kingdom. Proposals include new 'Kentair' webpages, which will consist of a learning repository, providing a range of background information on air pollution – pollutants, sources, impacts and actions that could reduce emissions.
- Air quality throughout the county is monitored and results published on the [Kent & Medway AQ Network Site](#). The Network is funded by the district and borough councils within the county, with an additional contribution from Kent County Council. The aims of the network are to promote the improvement of air quality within the region
- The information gathered can also be used to look into early mortality as a result of poor air quality which is an issue nationwide. [Estimating Local Mortality Burdens associated with Particulate Air Pollution](#) is a report published by Public Health England in which individual figures are provided for each local authority in the UK.
- Whilst some deaths in Dover are attributable to this, the figures are amongst the lowest in Kent.

### c) Fraction of mortality attributable to particulate air pollution in Kent and Medway

**Fraction of mortality attributable to particulate air pollution in Kent and Medway, 2011**



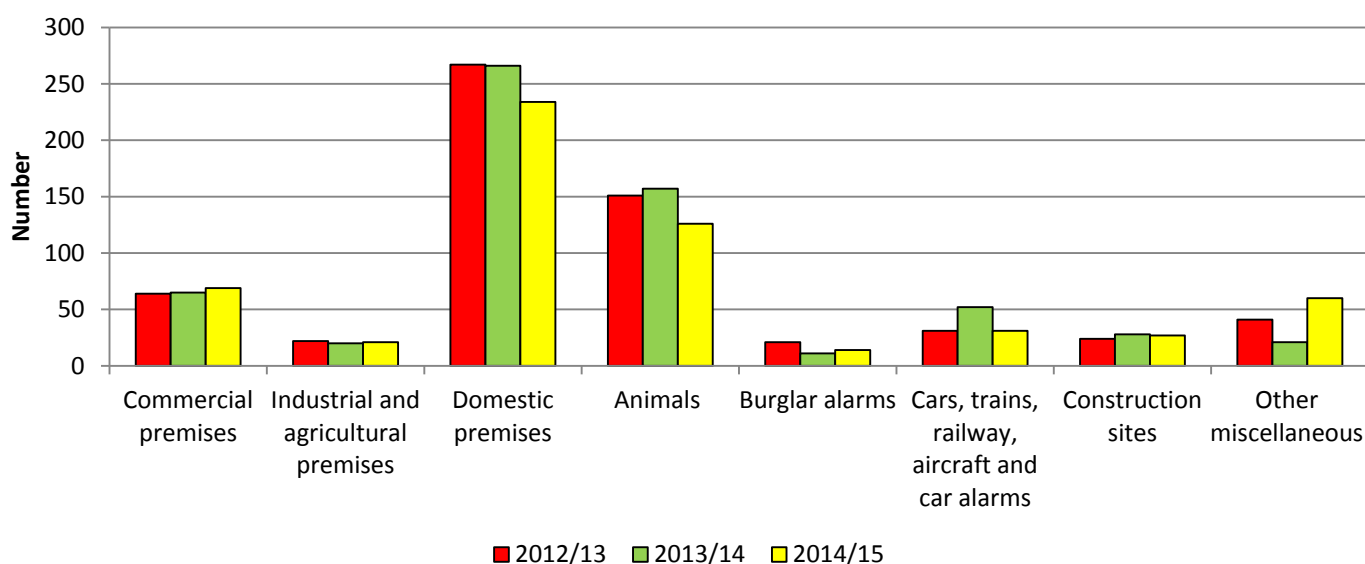
- Dartford (6.5%) has the highest fraction of mortality attributable to particulate air pollution in Kent and Medway.
- Dover is joint lowest, with Shepway, on 4.9%. This is below the England and Kent average of 5.4%.

Source: PHE, Public Health Outcomes Framework (3.01)

### 3. NOISE

- Noise is an often overlooked problem which may cause a number of short and long term health problems. The most common is annoyance but it can also cause sleep disturbance, interruption of speech and social interaction, disturbance of concentration - and hence learning & long-term memory, hormonal and cardiovascular effects.
- To combat this, the Environmental Protection Team act both reactively and proactively to improve the quality of life in the district. In 2014/15 a total of 582 noise complaints were investigated, down from 620 complaints in 2013/14. These complaints are broken down as follows:

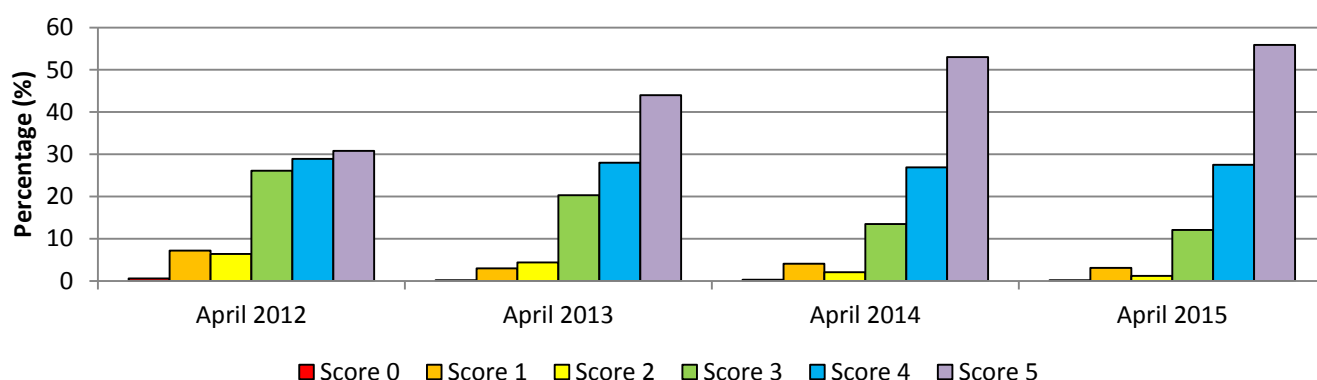
**Noise Complaints in the Dover District, 2012/13 to 2014/15**



## 4. FOOD HYGIENE

- Since April 2012 the Council, in partnership with the Food Standards Agency (FSA), has been operating the National Food Hygiene Rating Scheme. The scheme aims to improve the health and safety of consumers in the district by allowing consumers to make an informed decision on where they eat or shop for food based on the hygiene standards found at premises at the time of their inspection by DDC's Environmental Health Officers. Businesses are rated on a scale from 0 (Urgent Improvement Necessary) to a top rating of 5 (Very Good). The scheme also acts as an incentive for businesses to ensure they are compliant with food hygiene legislation.
- In the time that the scheme has been running it has already significantly impacted on the food hygiene standards found in the district; with a notable increase in the percentage of 5 rated (top rated) premises and a decrease in 0-2 rated premises.
- Nearly 84% of rated businesses within the district have a rating of 4 or 5, an increase of just under 24% within the last three years. Only 0.2% of businesses inspected had a rating of 0.

**National Food Hygiene Scores in the Dover District,  
April 2012 to 2015**



National Food Hygiene Score	Number of Rated Food Businesses April 2012		Number of Rated Food Businesses April 2013		Number of Rated Food Businesses April 2014		Number of Rated Food Businesses April 2015	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
0	4	0.6	2	0.2	3	0.3	2	0.2
1	47	7.2	27	3	40	4.1	31	3.1
2	42	6.4	39	4.4	21	2.1	12	1.2
3	171	26.1	180	20.3	133	13.5	122	12.1
4	189	28.9	248	28	265	26.9	277	27.5
5	202	30.8	390	44	522	53	562	55.9
Total	655	100	886	99.9	984	99.9	1006	100

## 5. ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME

- Littering and dog fouling are criminal offences and are key concerns from residents in the Dover district.
- Ongoing enforcement and educational activities are carried out on a regular basis to improve the street environment in the Dover district. In 2014/15 this included routine patrolling by enforcement officers, educational school talks, targeted domestic waste and commercial waste campaign, attending local events and holding dog micro chipping days.
- During 2014/15 Dover District Council in conjunction with Dover Town Council introduced of an educational campaign to reward those caught doing the right thing by putting their rubbish in the bin and clearing up after their dogs. The scheme is in addition to DDC's robust approach to enforcement. People seen disposing of litter responsibly, or picking up after their pets in the Dover Town area are being rewarded with a post card, which allows that person to enter a monthly prize draw, and gives them the chance to win a £25 'Love to Shop' voucher.



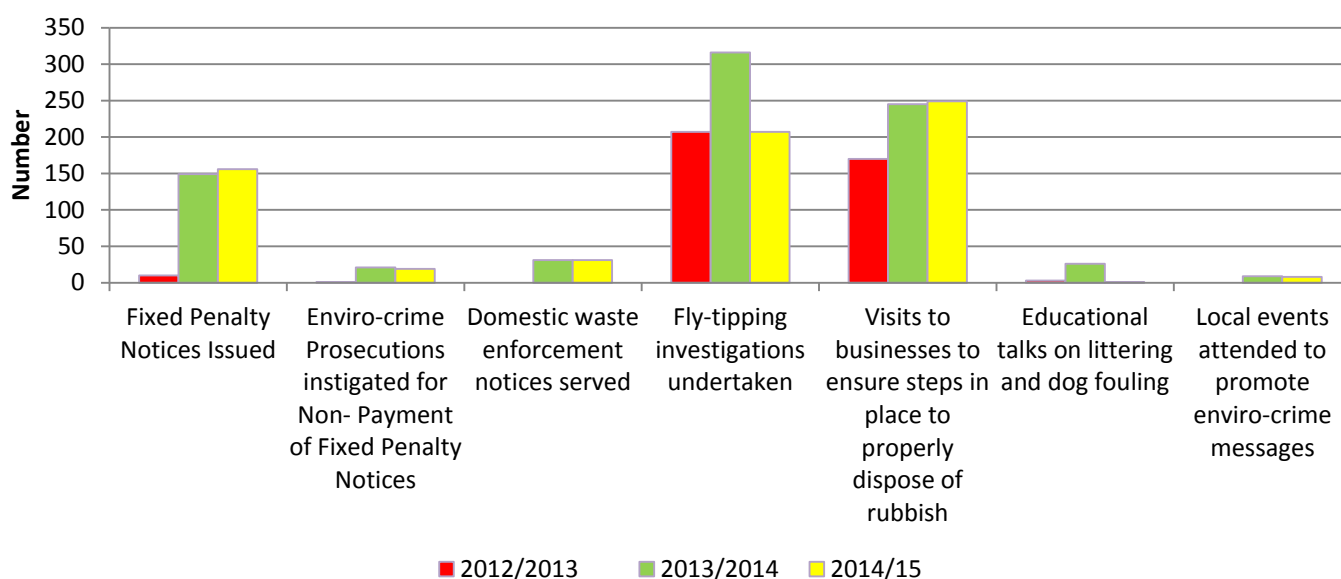
- Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs), for environmental crime, have increased year on year from 10 in 2012/13 to 158 in 2014/15. The number of enviro-crime prosecutions for non-payment of FPNs has fallen over the past year from 21 to 19. However 8 cases are being reviewed with a view to prosecution
- The list below provides some detail on activities undertaken in 2014/15:

Environmental Crime: Enforcement and Educational Activities	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/15
Fixed Penalty Notices Issued	10	149	158
Enviro-crime Prosecutions instigated for Non- Payment of Fixed Penalty Notices	1	21	19*
Domestic waste enforcement notices served		31	31
Fly-tipping investigations undertaken	207	316	207
Visits to businesses to ensure steps in place to properly dispose of rubbish	170	245	249
Educational talks/school assemblies on littering and dog fouling	03	26	1
Local events attended to promote enviro-crime messages		9	8

Source: DDC Flycapture and Northgate M3

\* 8 cases are being reviewed with a view to prosecution

**Environmental Crime: Enforcement and Educational Activities in the Dover District, 2012/13 to 2014/15**



## 6. LICENSING

In 2014/15, the Council granted 2,957 licenses, which is an increase of 5.5% from 2013/14.

Licenses granted	2012/13	2013/14*	2014/15	
Personal licence holders	1339	1463	1528	↑
Premises licences	429	389	407	↑
Licensed drivers	293	315	315	↔
Private Hire vehicles	122	136	141	↑
Clubs and pubs with permits for 2 or fewer low stake gaming machines	97	111	113	↑
Promoters registered to hold "small society lotteries" i.e. raffles etc	102	76	110	↑
Persons registered to conduct skin piercing procedures	72	58	72	↑
Licensed Hackney Carriage vehicles	69	69	69	↔
Club Premises Certificates	45	42	43	↑
Private Hire operators	31	31	32	↑
Premises registered offering "body piercing"	15	23	28	↑
Animal Boarding Establishments	12	15	18	↑
Amusement centres needing a permit for machines for under 18s	9	12	12	↔
Betting Shops	12	13	12	↓



Licenses granted	2012/13	2013/14*	2014/15	
Adult Gaming Centres	10	10	11	↑
Registered scrap metal dealers	11	9	9	↔
Riding Establishments	8	8	8	↔
Pet Shops	4	5	6	↑
Street Traders	5	3	5	↑
Family Entertainment Centres	3	3	4	↑
People licensed to keep Dangerous Wild Animals	2	3	4	↑
Pleasure boats	3	3	4	↑
Bingo Halls	2	2	2	↔
Dog Breeders	2	2	2	↔
Zoos	2	2	2	↔
TOTAL	2,699	2,803	2,957	

\*The 2013/14 figures have been revised from those reported in State of the District 2014

## 7. WATER QUALITY

- The quality of sea water at our beaches is measured between May and September by the Environment Agency. Water quality results are compared with standards laid down by the European Union (EU).
- Where water quality consistently fails to meet EU standards there may be an increased risk of contracting a minor infection.

### Bathing water sites in Dover District

	Annual Compliance				Latest Weekly Measurement 20 July 2015
	2011	2012	2013	2014	
<a href="#">Deal Castle</a>	★★★★ns	★★★★ns	★★★★ns	★★★★ns	
<a href="#">Sandwich Bay</a>	★★★★ns	★★★★ns	★★★★ns	★★★★ns	
<a href="#">St Margaret's Bay</a>	★★★★ns	★★★★ns	★★★★ns	★★★★ns	

Source: Environment Agency



Excellent  
Good  
Sufficient  
Poor



Acceptable water quality  
Unacceptable water quality

A classification for each bathing water is calculated annually, based on all of the samples from the previous four years. These classifications, from best to worst, are "excellent", "good", "sufficient" or "poor".

### ns new standards

From 2015 there are new, tighter standards. A classification tagged with this symbol indicates the class that the bathing water would have achieved if the new bathing water quality standards had been in force. The first official classification under these new standards will be published towards the end of 2015, when there is a full four-year dataset.

## 8. TOURISM

- Dover District Council manages the tourism and visitor marketing element for the district under the established brand of White Cliffs Country. It produces a successful annual tourism guide and website and associated marketing campaign, in partnership with the White Cliffs Country Tourism Alliance. The strategic aim is to develop and progress tourism, whilst promoting good practice in sustainability and contributing to the economic well-being within the district.
- The tourism website [www.whitecliffscountry.org.uk](http://www.whitecliffscountry.org.uk) is the main resource for people interested in visiting the district. The website is also the main way to find all event information about the district for visitors and residents alike.
- According to recent tourism research, commissioned by Visit Kent, the total economic impact of tourism in the Dover District in 2013 was £248,314,000. This is an increase of £4,718,000 compared to

the last survey for 2011. Although the number of staying trips fell by 29,000 to 385,000 in 2013, the number of tourism day trips rose by 184,000 to 3,650,000. The total number of actual jobs income supported rose by 581 to 5,140<sup>1</sup>.

- The Dover Visitor Information Centre attracts around 130,000 visitors annually and is the 'shop window' to the district. The centre has a high overseas footfall of which account for around 50% of the total number. Cruise calls impact greatly on the service, particularly on Port of Call days. The service successfully runs as a result of partnership working with Dover Town Council.
- The council works in partnership with Visit Kent, Leeds Castle, Port of Dover, English Heritage and Canterbury Cathedral to attract cruise business to Dover. Part of the activity is an information service on Port of Call days, cruise brochure/website and attendance at exhibitions.
- The council continues to work with Tourism South East (TSE) and Visit Kent on a number of requests and key opportunities to promote the district through a range of newspapers and magazine publications.

## **9. HERITAGE**

The Dover district is one of the most historic areas of the UK, with 50 scheduled ancient monuments, 2,800 listed buildings, 57 conservation areas and 9 historic parks and gardens. About 6,900 hectares (22%) of the District is designated as part of the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and of this 876 hectares (3% of the District) is designated as Heritage Coast, centred on the white cliffs either side of Dover.

### **a) Heritage Strategy**

- The [Dover District Heritage Strategy](#)<sup>2</sup> seeks to identify and understand the many historic assets in Dover district and how their special character could contribute to the future of the area and key objectives in the Local Plan. The strategy will also provide advice and guidance for the management of historic assets, and will help to support future funding bids.
- In March 2014, Dover District Council secured £100,000 in consultancy and professional advice from the Government's 'Delivering Differently Challenge' to explore options for transforming the delivery of its museum and tourism service. The project will explore options for the creation of a heritage co-operative, mutual or trust, to bring together heritage assets managed by a range of local authority, business and community partners.
- Following work with external consultants a feasibility study is being carried out to determine the business model and structure of an overarching heritage body and this work will be completed during early 2016.

### **b) Dover Museum**

- Dover Museum is one of the oldest museums in the UK, founded in 1836. Its three floors of exhibitions on the history of Dover and its award winning Bronze Age Boat Gallery attract over 35,000 visitors a year. It operates a successful schools programme attracting some 13,000 school children annually.

### **c) Heritage Lottery Fund: Parks for People**

- Following a successful round one application to the Heritage Lottery Fund for a major restoration of both Kearsney Abbey and Russell Gardens in 2014, development funding of £274,100 was awarded to the Council to develop the plans in detail. This includes a conservation plan, activity plan, along with planning permissions. The final round two submission will be made in February 2016 with a decision expected in June 2016. The Heritage Lottery Fund has ring-fenced £3.1 million for the project, which is expected to start in autumn 2016.
- The project aims to unlock the heritage, tourism and community value of the most popular parks in the Dover district by:
  - restoring a rare example of garden design in Russell Gardens by the renowned Edwardian landscape architect, Thomas Mawson, and promoting it as a major attraction
  - restoring the Festival of Britain open air theatre in Kearsney Abbey to bring new audiences to the parks and to host community events

<sup>1</sup> Research undertaken by Tourism South East and report compiled by The South West Research Company (TSWRC) as part of the 'COOL' Interreg programme. Figures derived using the Cambridge Economic Impact Model.

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.dover.gov.uk/Planning/Conservation/Heritage-Strategy.aspx>  
Leadership Support Team: State of the District 2015: Quality of Life

- interpreting the parks' heritage and celebrating links with Dover's industrial past and the mills of the River Dour
- extending the café in Kearsney Abbey to create a multi-use venue with facilities to support new volunteering, training, and education programmes, and for events hire
- providing opportunities for people to get involved through volunteering, and for the community to take greater ownership by creating a 'Friends of Kearsney' group
- improving sustainable travel and access to, between, and within the parks, and
- raising standards to achieve 'Green Flag' status
- A new website ([www.kearnseyparks.co.uk](http://www.kearnseyparks.co.uk)) has been developed, along with a Twitter feed (@Kearsneyparks) to increase the level of marketing activity to support the project's development. Regular newsletters are also produced to keep people informed.

#### d) Landscape and Military Heritage

- The Up on the Downs Landscape Partnership is a £2.5 million Heritage Lottery Funded project hosted by Dover District Council. The five year scheme aims to conserve and enhance the local countryside and heritage of Dover and Folkestone, as well as providing ways for local people to enjoy their local landscape.
- The aims and objectives of Up on the Downs are contained in the [Landscape Conservation Action Plan](#), which is effectively a management plan for the scheme area.
- Up on the Downs consists of a series of projects delivered by partners and team staff helping Up on the Downs to meet its aims and objectives. A fundamental part of the work of the partnership is restoring and reverting areas of unimproved chalk downland. Landscape projects include Langdon Cliffs, Old Park Hill, High Meadow, Nemo Down and Western Heights
- The heritage projects include Frontline Britain, Going for Bronze and To the Lighthouse.
- People projects include: A Special Sense of Place, Be Part of It, Outreach Van and White Cliffs for All.
- All of the projects are designed to improve the skills of those carrying them out making them more sustainable after the Up on the Downs scheme has been completed. Education and training projects include Apprenticeships and Schools Out.
- Up on the Downs also administers two grant schemes to support community projects that conserve and enhance landscape heritage and help people learn about and enjoy heritage. All projects need to take place in the scheme area, which includes Dover, Lydden, Kingsdown, St. Margaret's, Alkham and Wooton. Successful grant schemes in the district include Alkham Valley Green Wood Project, Mini Beast Safari and St Margaret's Bay Guided Walk.

## 10. SPORT AND RECREATION

- Sport and recreational facilities and opportunities bring many benefits to a community – including health and well-being, quality of life, social cohesion, raising aspirations and pride in the area and regeneration.
- There are a range of playing pitches, play facilities and other sport facilities in the Dover district<sup>3</sup> including:
  - **Aylesham Welfare Leisure Centre** is one of the district's newest facilities and offers a state of the art fitness suit, a Multi-Use Floodlit Games Area (suitable for netball, basketball, tennis, and football), a floodlit artificial turf pitch (suitable for football and rugby with shock absorption padding built in) and grass pitches for hire (football, rugby & American football). There is also a social bar, cafe, and changing rooms within the facility. The leisure centre is operated by Freedom Leisure in partnership with Aylesham & Snowdown Social Welfare Scheme.
  - **Fowlmead Country Park** is situated between Deal and Sandwich. The former coalfield site has been transformed into both a nature reserve and a leisure/sporting venue and offers a range of activities including cycling, walking, running, orienteering, confidence course and play area. The site is home to numerous sporting weekly/monthly sporting events and clubs, and well as a site for 'Healthy Walking Groups'.
- The Council's leisure centres, Dover Leisure Centre, Tides and the Deal Indoor Tennis Centre provide a wide range of facilities. The leisure centres are have been leased to and managed by Vista Leisure,

<sup>3</sup> For more information, please see the DDC website [www.dover.gov.uk/leisure](http://www.dover.gov.uk/leisure)  
 Leadership Support Team: State of the District 2015: Quality of Life

which also manages the children's Paddling Pool in Walmer. The Council continues to work with Your Leisure to ensure the Leisure Centres it owns are run effectively.

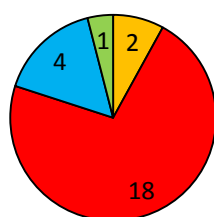
**a) Number and access types of sporting facilities in the Dover district**

Facilities	Count	Private Access	Public Access
Athletics Tracks	1	1	0
Golf	7	0	7
Grass Pitches	113	32	81
Health and Fitness Suite	15	4	11
Indoor Bowls	1	0	1
Sports Halls	25	6	19
Squash Courts	6	2	4
Studio	8	2	6
Swimming Pool	9	2	7
Artificial Grass Pitch	9	3	6
Tennis Courts	11	2	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>54</b>

Source: Sport England – Dover Sporting Facilities Profile

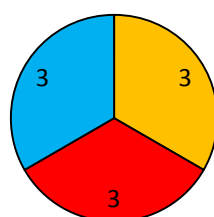
- Of the 205 sporting facilities identified by Sport England in the district, 151 (74%) are for private use and 54 (26%) public access. This compares to an 80% / 20% split in the South East and 83% / 17% split in England.
- 32 of the facilities are in commercial ownership, 100 education, 59 local authority and 14 other.

**Ownership: Sports Halls in the Dover District, January 2014**



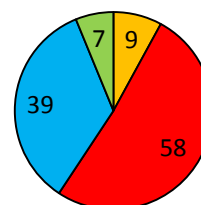
Commercial Education  
Local Authority Others

**Ownership: Swimming Pools in the Dover District, January 2014**



Commercial Education  
Local Authority

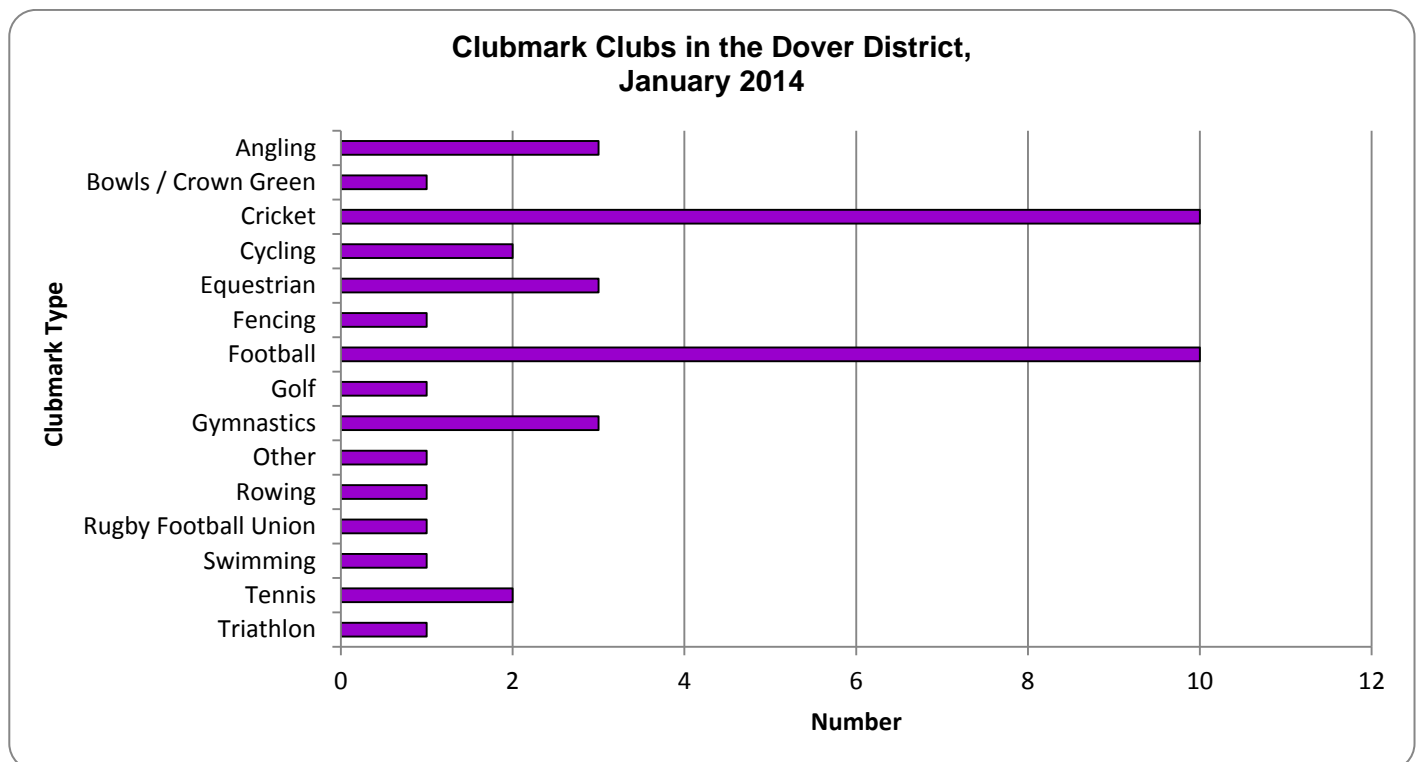
**Ownership: Grass Pitches in the Dover District, January 2014**



Commercial Education  
Local Authority Others

Source: Sport England – Dover Sporting Facilities Profile

## b) Clubmark Clubs



Source: Sport England – Dover Sporting Facilities Profile

- There are 41 Clubmark Clubs in the Dover district, with cricket and football being the most popular sporting activity types.
- Clubmark is the universally acknowledged cross sport accreditation scheme for community sports clubs. It shows that a club provides the right environment that ensures the welfare of members and encourages everyone to enjoy sport and stay involved throughout their lives.

## c) White Cliffs Countryside Partnership

- The White Cliffs Countryside Partnership was created to help conserve and enhance the special coast and countryside of Dover and Shepway districts, and make it accessible to all.
- It is a partnership between Dover District Council, Shepway District Council, Kent County Council, Eurotunnel, Natural England and many other local organisations with financial contributions from the Heritage Lottery Fund.
- There are lots of places to visit and lots to do to enjoy the countryside such as seeing wildlife, walking, cycling or joining with local people helping care for the local environment. Please see the [White Cliffs Countryside Partnership](#) web site for information on exploring the coast and countryside of Dover and Shepway.

## d) Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Heritage Coast

- The Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) stretches from the White Cliffs at Dover and Folkestone all the way to the Surrey border. The Kent Downs AONB occupies about one quarter of the county of Kent.
- Dover and Shepway contain about 20% of the Kent Downs AONB, including the White Cliffs and some of the most important wildlife sites including [South Foreland Valley](#) at St. Margaret's.
- The Kent Downs AONB is one of 35 AONBs in England & Wales, which are of similar importance to the [national parks](#).
- There are two stretches of Heritage Coast within the Kent Downs AONB, the South Foreland Heritage Coast and Dover-Folkestone Heritage Coast. Heritage Coasts have been designated for their unspoilt natural beauty, and form an important part of the AONB. These are the only stretches of Heritage Coast

within Kent, and are two of only five Heritage Coasts in South East England. There are 45 Heritage Coasts in England & Wales.

#### **e) England Coast Path: Folkestone to Ramsgate**

- The England Coast Path is a new National Trail around all of England's coast. For the first time people will have the right of access around all our open coast. This includes – where appropriate – any land, other than the trail itself, which forms part of the coastal margin and which has public rights of access along the way.
- In March 2015, the Secretary of State approved a stretch of the England Coast Path in Kent between Folkestone and Ramsgate. The Secretary of State modified the original proposals, with changes including the provision of an alternative route near Richborough Port, Sandwich. The proposed alignment of the coast path will follow Natural England's original proposals along Richborough Wharf, with an alternative route used during periods when the Wharf and an area north of Kingfisher Sluice are being used for commercial purposes incompatible with public access.
- Work is now underway to prepare the new stretch of coast path for public use. The first step is to contact owners and occupiers of the affected land to discuss the design and location of any new infrastructure which is needed, such as signs and gates. When preparations are complete, new access rights will come into force along the route and adjoining spreading room. This is expected to be ready in 2016<sup>4</sup>.

#### **f) Parks and Open Spaces**

- The council maintains more than 200 parks, open spaces, sports grounds, play areas, allotments, commons and woodlands, which attract millions of visitors every year.
- The areas provide for both active and passive leisure and include facilities such as skateboard parks, multi-use games areas, play areas, sports pitches, bowling greens and tennis courts in addition to areas for walking and quiet reflection. Grounds maintenance of the sites in recent years has been carried out by English Landscapes and the company has been awarded a 10-year contract that expires 31 March 2016.
- Our main sites include [Connaught Park](#); [Crabble Athletic Ground](#); [Danes Recreation Ground](#); [Elms Vale Recreation Ground](#); [Kearsney Abbey](#); [Marke Wood](#); [North Deal Playing Fields](#); [Pencester Gardens](#); [River Recreation Ground](#); [Russell Gardens](#); [Sandwich Recreation Grounds](#); [Victoria Park](#); and [Walmer Seafront](#).
- Details can be found on the Council's website: [Parks and Open Spaces](#)<sup>5</sup>.

#### **g) Play Facilities**

- Following adoption of the document 'Review of Play Area Provision 2012-2026' by the Council in March 2012, several projects to improve play facilities have been delivered in the district over the past year:
- New play area in Aycliffe and new-look play areas in Colton Crescent, Dover and The Butts in Sandwich following a £89.5k investment in new facilities at the sites completed in May 2015. Funding has been through Dover District Council from the Special Project reserve, Housing Revenue Account and money from planning agreements.
- The work is part of Dover District Councils commitments to develop strategic play areas and upgrade some existing facilities to strategic status. Consultation is also currently underway for the play area refurbishment at the William Pitt & Wilson Avenue Play Areas in Deal (consultation ending August 2015). A new play area at North Deal Recreational Field is also being developed. Improvements to surfacing at Pencester Gardens play area in Dover are also planned for 2015/16 and the Council is working with Triangles Community Centre to provide a new children's play space in St Radigund's.
- Further details on Play Areas, Multi-Use Games Areas and Skate Parks in the district can be found on the Council's website: [Play Areas, MUGAs and Skate Parks](#)<sup>6</sup>

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/444388/ECP-south-east-map.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/444388/ECP-south-east-map.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.dover.gov.uk/Leisure-Culture-Tourism/Leisure-Facilities/Parks--Open-Spaces/Home.aspx>

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.dover.gov.uk/Leisure-Culture-Tourism/Leisure-Facilities/Play-Areas-MUGAs-Skate-Parks/Play-Areas,-MUGAs--Skate-Parks.aspx>



## **h) Strategies**

The Council has four strategies for sport and recreation:

- [Dover District Sport & Recreation Strategy 2008-2018](#), which aims to work towards a number of key outcomes including increasing access and opportunities; increasing participation and ensuring that the district has a range of appropriately located quality leisure facilities to meet local need.
- [Parks and Amenity Open Space Strategy](#), which aims to focus on the requirements of local people, ensure the value of capital investment can be maximised, and implement improvements to local neighbourhoods.
- [Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Facility Strategy](#), which is the Council's plan for the district's playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities.
- [Review of Play Area Provision 2012-2026](#), setting out the strategic direction for future investment in at Dover District Council owned play areas, arrangements for managing play areas and provides an evidence base for both determining appropriate development contributions and supporting applications to funding bodies.

## **i) Community Assets**

- A community asset or resource is anything that improves the quality of community life. Assets include:
  - A physical structure or place, for example, a school, church, library, recreation centre or social club.
  - A business that provides jobs and supports the local economy.
  - Associations of residents, for example, a Neighbourhood Watch or Parent Teacher Association.
  - Local private, voluntary and community groups.
  - The capacities and abilities of community members.
- Each community has different resources at its disposal, which can help to boost that community's level of wellbeing.
- The district has great assets, from the natural environment and physical geography, through to the people and communities that live and work here. A mapping of all these assets in the Dover district is planned. This work will help people to identify what activities and facilities are available in their area and will also helps the planning of services with better decisions based on the way people live.

## **j) Community Events**

- It is recognised that a large number of people in the district take part in events / cultural activities, although as such there is no central recording system to analyse if this is increasing.
- The Council has support community projects and events across the district, such as the Royal Marines Band Concert on Walmer Green and the Christmas in Dover community event through advice and guidance and with grants available from the Neighbourhood Forums ('You Decide') and Coalfield Regeneration Trust funding, the Council also continues to support voluntary and community groups to access funding not available to local authorities and remains a financial supporter of the Citizens Advice Bureau in the district.
- Working with other Kent councils, Dover District Council has launched a new online events package in January 2014. The package includes a simple notification form and an event toolkit to help organisers. The Dover District Event Safety Advisory Group is a 'one-stop-shop' to assist and guide event organisers through the process bringing together relevant DDC departments, Kent Highways and Kent Police.