



Cluster contextual data: Indices of deprivation – cluster comparisons to national norms

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Background

This report is intended to be read in conjunction with the evaluation of ICT Test Bed final report (2006/2007). It provides contextual information regarding the relative positions of the three Test Bed local authorities in comparison to national norms on several key measures of deprivation, population mobility and ethnicity. Three data sources have been used to collate the information presented here. For each of the measures reported below, the source of the data is indicated in brackets after the title.

The first source was the English indices of deprivation 2004 (revised) (*EID-R*) report prepared on behalf of the office of the deputy prime minister, commissioned to update previous indices of deprivation reported in 2000 and which provides detailed information on a range of measures of deprivation for each local authority (report available online: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1128440> accessed on 05.12.2006).

The second data source was the 2001 census data reported by the office for national statistics (*ONS*). These data draw on a survey of all people and households in England and Wales and provide information such as ethnicity and population mobility from national to neighbourhood level (report available online: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/census/default.asp> accessed on 05.12.2006).

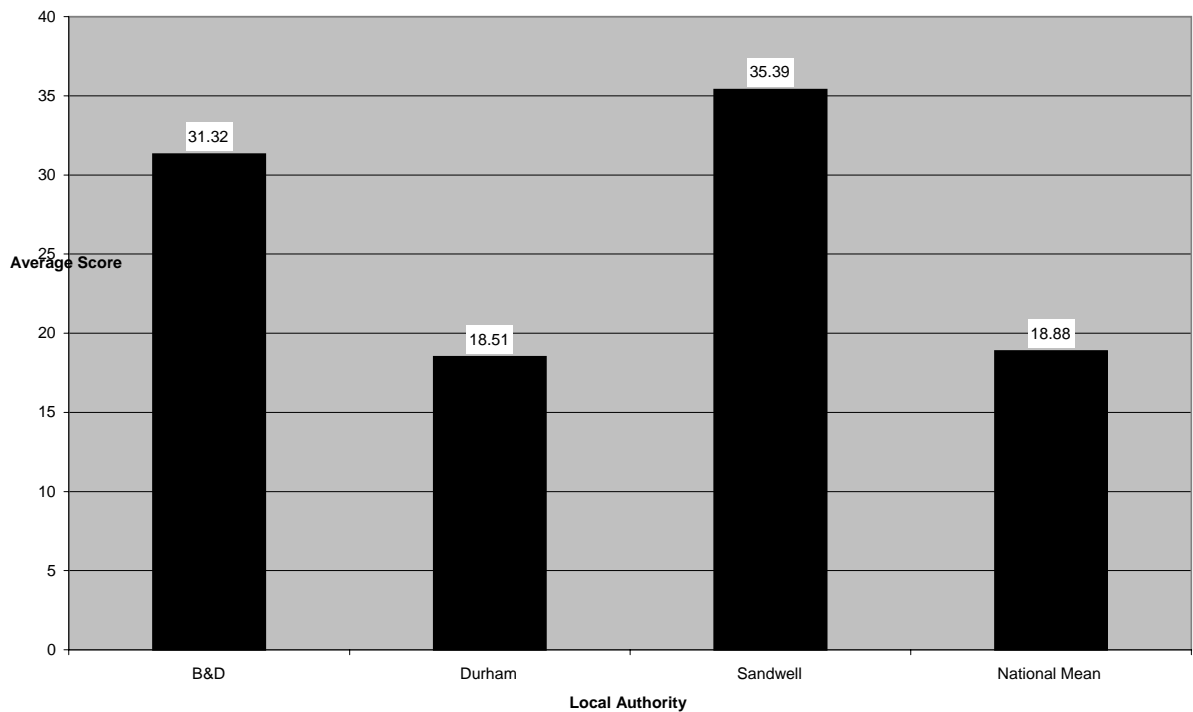
The third data source was the department for education and skills (*DfES*) truancy sweep reports for each government region (report available online <http://www.dfes.gov.uk/schoolattendance/truancysweeps/index.cfm> accessed on 05.12.2006) and the Key Stage 2 performance data for 2006 (available online <http://www.dfes.gov.uk>).

Measures

Average score (EID-R)

This score depicts the average level of overall deprivation across each of the Test Bed local authorities. Graph 1, which shows the Test Bed local authorities and a national average of deprivation, indicates that Sandwell and Barking & Dagenham have high levels of deprivation, whereas Durham is comparable to the national average.

Graph 1: Average level of deprivation across Test Bed local authorities in comparison to the national average.

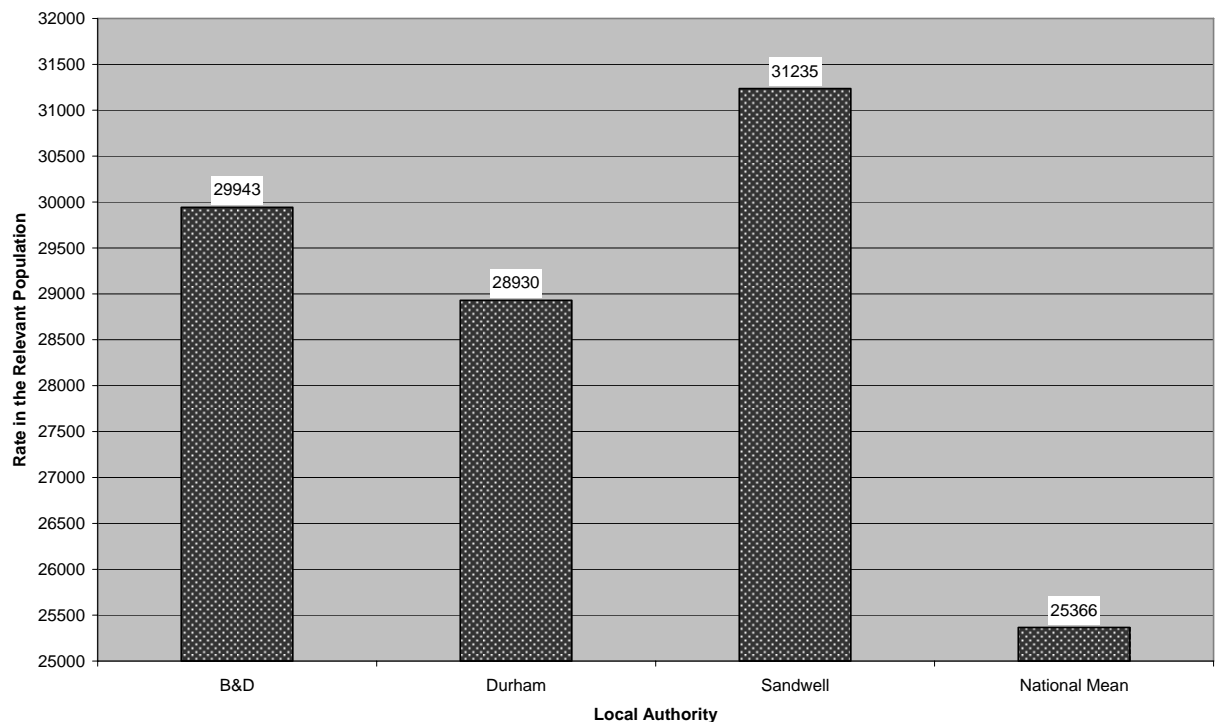


Local concentration (EID-R)

The local concentration measure shows the severity of multiple deprivation in each authority, measuring what are termed 'hot spots' of deprivation (Graph 2). All three Test Bed local authorities have high concentrations of deprivation compared to the national average, that is areas of severe deprivation.

Sandwell emerges as the most severely deprived authority. The picture in Durham is more complex, with great variability across the authority. While comparable to the national average on overall deprivation (Graph 1) it has pockets of impoverishment which lie alongside areas of affluence. Authorities exhibiting high ranges of wealth and poverty present different but equally challenging problems to authorities, such as Sandwell, which show wholesale deprivation.

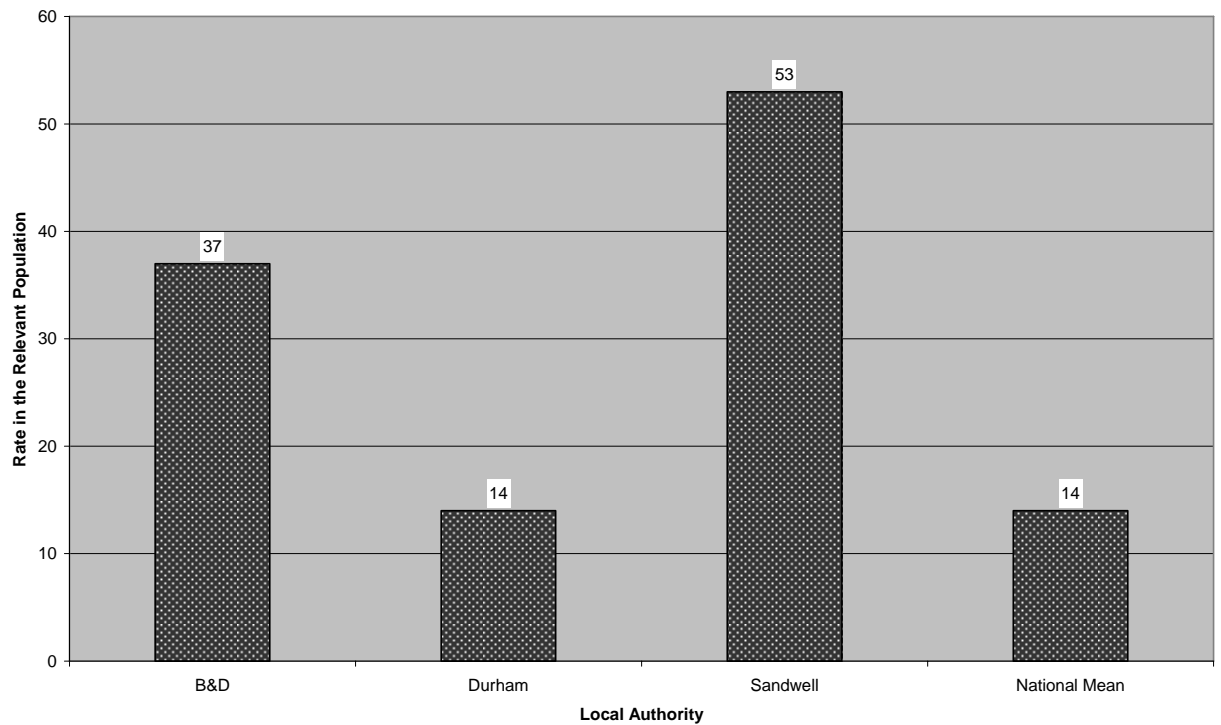
Graph 2: The local concentration measure of severity of deprivation in each authority in comparison to the national average.



Extent (EID-R)

The extent of deprivation measure (Graph 3) shows Sandwell has 53 per cent and Barking & Dagenham 37 per cent of the population classified as deprived but this applies to only 14 per cent of the population in Durham. In the latter case these are the islands of need among a sea of plenty.

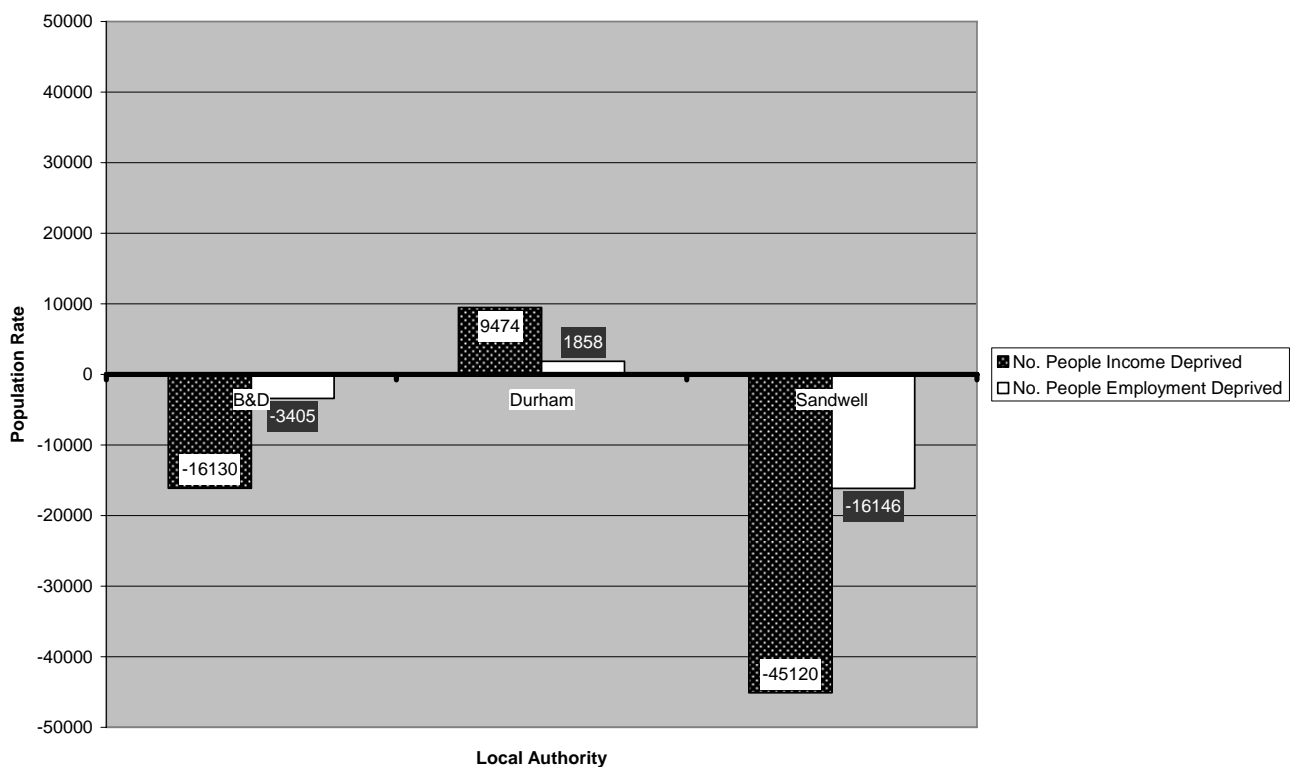
Graph 3: The percentage of each local authority's population that are deprived.



Income and employment deprivation (EID-R)

The next two scales measure the number of people experiencing income and employment deprivation respectively. Graph 4 takes the national average as the baseline and plots the distance from that average on the two measures for each of the Test Bed cluster authorities. Sandwell and Barking & Dagenham both have high levels of income and employment deprivation and are performing below the national average. Durham once again is at or around the national average. In all cases, income deprivation is more severe than levels of employment deprivation, suggesting that whilst jobs are available, the overall income generated from those jobs is not high.

Graph 4: The variation from the national average of income and employment deprivation across the three Test Bed local authorities.

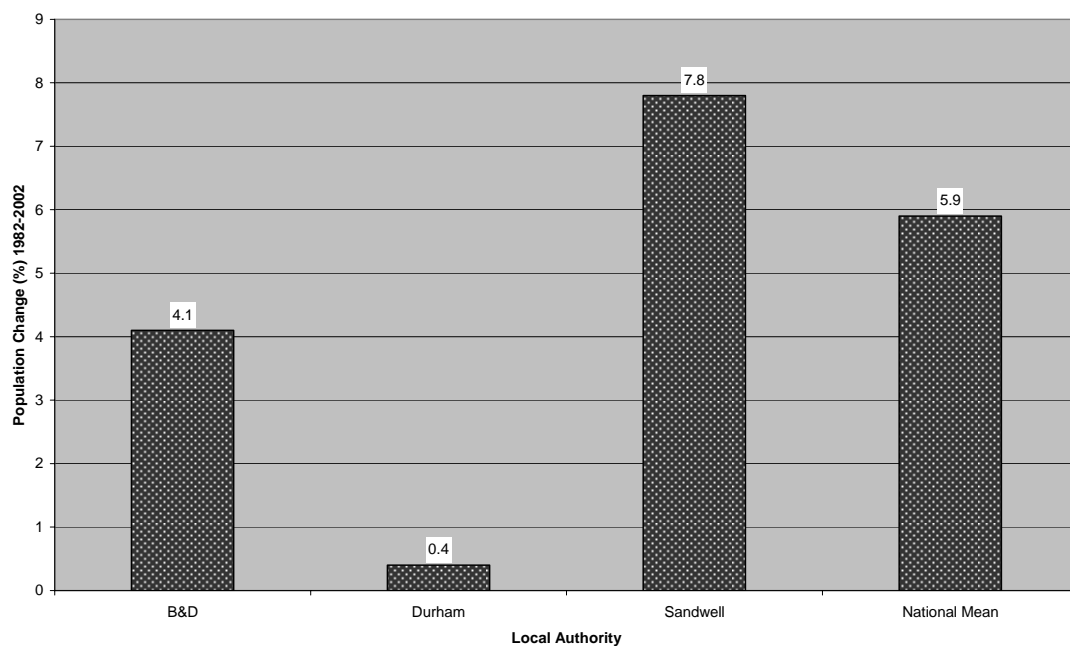


N.B: Zero on the x-axis represents the national average

Population change/mobility (ONS)

Graph 5 shows the change in population estimates over a twenty year period between 1982 and 2002. There has been a relative decline in population in Barking & Dagenham and Durham. Although these areas do exhibit population growth, it is slower than the national average. However, Sandwell's rate of population growth has outpaced the national average. While limited growth in Durham might suggest stability, the data can also be interpreted as one in relative decline. Sandwell's growth can equally be interpreted as a sign of vibrancy but this is accompanied by increasing pressures on infrastructure and services.

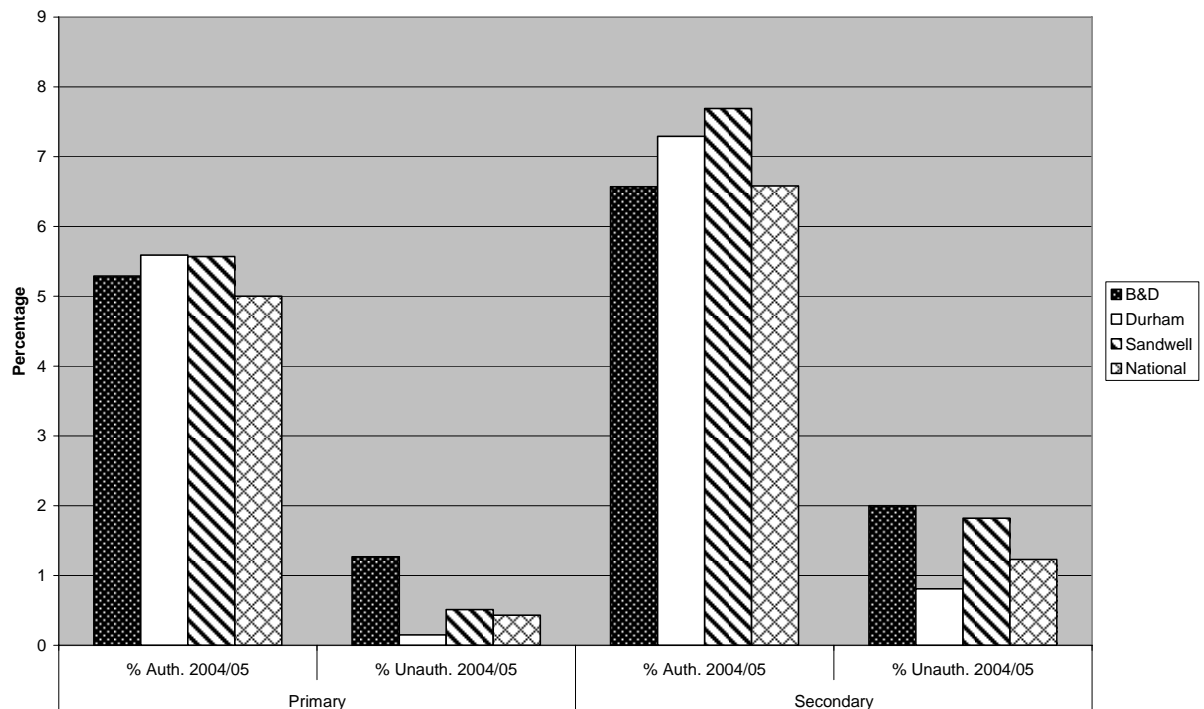
Graph 5: The change in population estimates between 1982 and 2002 for each Test Bed local authority (percentage population growth).



Absence (DfES)

Graph 6 displays the percentage of authorised and unauthorised absences for each authority split by phase of education (primary and secondary) in the academic year 2004/2005. Authorised absences account for the majority of absences in both primary and secondary sectors, and these are higher in the secondary than in the primary sector. The pattern of absences across the clusters is complex. Whilst little variation is seen in authorised primary absences, Sandwell and to a lesser extent Durham, have high levels of secondary absences compared to the national figures. In terms of unauthorised absences Barking & Dagenham’s primary and secondary pupils and Sandwell’s secondary pupils have higher than average levels of such absenteeism.

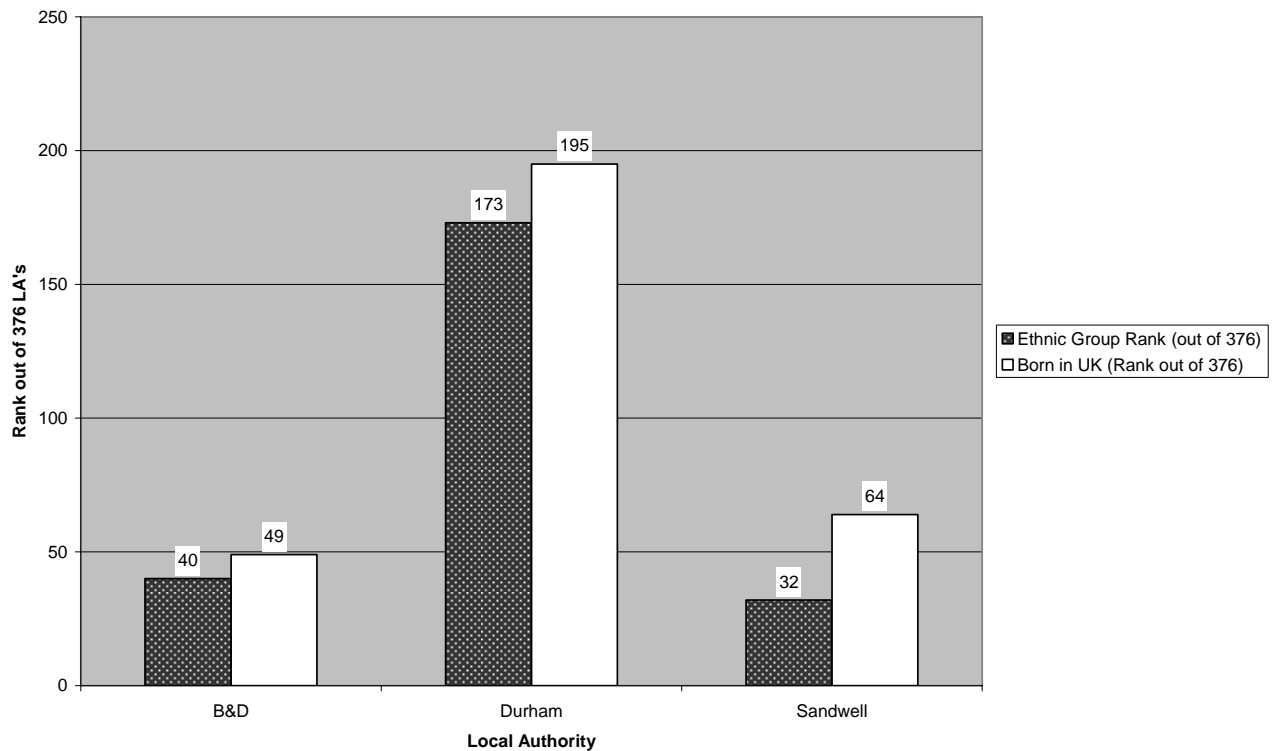
Graph 6: The percentages of half days missed due to authorised and unauthorised absences in schools in England for academic year 2004/2005



Ethnicity (ONS)

Two measures of ethnicity are shown in Graph 7; a rank score depicting the percentage of the population classed as 'white' and the rank position for each authority in relation to the number of residents who were born outside of the UK. The graph indicates that the Durham population is largely 'white' and born in the UK. These data underscore the low mobility figures presented in Graph 5. Both the Barking & Dagenham and Sandwell local authorities are ranked in the top quartile of authorities on ethnicity, indicating that their populations are made up by diverse ethnic groups and who are not necessarily born in the UK.

Graph 7: The rank position of each authority for ethnic group and those born in the UK.



N.B: For both measures, the area's ranking out of the 376 English and Welsh local authorities is shown. The authority with the **highest diversity is ranked '1'**.

Special educational needs - SEN (DfES – Key Stage 2, 2006)

All three Test Bed authorities have above the national average of SEN children without a statement of special educational provision. However, only Durham has an above average number of children provisioned with a statement of need; both Sandwell and Barking & Dagenham report lower than average numbers of statemented children.

Graph 8: The percentage of Key Stage 2 children with special educational needs with and without statements in Test Bed local authorities.

