

# Black & Minority Ethnic (BME) Mapping Report Cheshire West & Chester October 2014

Commissioned by
Cheshire Halton & Warrington
Race & Equality Centre



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#### **About CHAWREC and The Unity Centre**

#### **Cheshire, Halton and Warrington Race and Equality Centre (CHAWREC)**

CHAWREC is a charitable organisation that aims to eliminate discrimination, promote equality of opportunity and good relations. It works under 4 key areas:



- Policy development providing advice to all sectors on good practice in equality
- 2. Discrimination casework giving advice and representation to people who have experienced discrimination
- 3. Community development providing capacity building support to BME groups and individuals
- 4. Public awareness raising awareness of the issues affecting marginalised groups and equality generally.

#### **The Unity Centre**

CHAWREC is based at The Unity Centre, which is West Cheshire's first and only multicultural hub, from where the organisation delivers its services. Being based at The Unity Centre has enabled CHAWREC to expand its



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service delivery, offering new activities such as Conversational English classes that fit in with the core aims of the organisation. The Unity Centre acts as a focal point for BME communities in Chester.

#### **Background to the Report**

CHAWREC is keen to extend the range of services offered at The Unity Centre, but first wanted to understand more about the current BME communities in Cheshire West and Chester, in particular Chester Urban Area; their needs, aspirations and the issues they face, in order to deliver the most appropriate services.

This report was therefore commissioned in order to provide this picture and it is hoped that other service providers will also use it to inform the services they deliver.

#### **Research Methods**

The research was carried out via two main methods. The first was desktop research, which gathered statistical data from sources such as the 2011 Census, schools, GPs and National Insurance Registrations. This data has been used to give a broad brush picture of the BME population in Cheshire West and Chester and more specifically within the Chester Urban Area.

The second method used was the gathering of intelligence about the BME communities within Chester by speaking to service users at The Unity Centre, other voluntary organisations, statutory service providers and local businesses that primarily serve BME communities.

#### **Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) Communities**

The BME population is growing across the UK, including in Cheshire. It is also changing. Previously 'new' populations to the UK are now and established settled. although continue to grow not only as a result of natural population growth but also continued migration. from New emerging BME and groups are also constantly created through migration from the EU and as a result of conflicts around the world.



The term 'BME communities' is used to denote groups of individuals who do not identify themselves as white British. However, the term 'community' can be misleading as it suggests that BME populations are made up of homogenous groupings. For example, the 'Bangladeshi community' may be referred to as though it is a homogenous group and 'community leaders' are encouraged to speak for this group as a whole. However, like any population, there are similarities and differences between the members of such a group and, consequently, differences in their needs and aspirations. Bangladeshi women, for example, may have very different expectations, priorities and life experiences than Bangladeshi men.

These communities can also be relatively small and dispersed in mainly white, largely rural areas such as Cheshire. The bulk of research on race and racism in the UK has concentrated on urban areas where large numbers of BME people reside. This sometimes leads to the assumption that not only is racism something that exists mainly in multi-ethnic urban settings, but also that it is the presence of large numbers of BME people that 'cause' the 'problem'.

However, research reports on rural and mainly white areas challenge these understandings and present evidence that racism is very much alive and well in these areas, as are the more subtle but no less pernicious forms of inequality for people from BME backgrounds (eg housing, unemployment) and institutional racism etc. This is often compounded by the fact that BME people in mainly white areas can be at greater risk of social exclusion than those in areas with larger BME populations.

In addition, relatively small numbers of BME residents can sometimes mean that statutory and third sector providers are less mindful of their needs when commissioning and delivering services than they may be in areas with larger BME populations.

If racism and social exclusion are to be tackled, it is important for the BME population in mainly white areas such as Cheshire to be understood and taken account of in future service provision.

# **Section 1: Statistical Data**

The data in this section have been gathered from the 2011 Census, from National Insurance registrations data, school admissions information and GP registrations. There are limitations with all of these sources of data, including their age (in the case of the 2011 Census) and inconsistencies in the recording of data on ethnicity. In addition, some of the data was only available for Cheshire West and Chester as a whole and not for the Chester Urban Area specifically.

Despite this, they do provide a useful broad based understanding of the BME community across the local authority area and in its major urban centre.

#### 1.1 Population

#### 1.1.1 Total Population: Cheshire West and Chester

Table 1 shows the total population in Cheshire West and Chester, by ethnic group, at the time of the 2011 Census. A more complete breakdown can be found in Table A1 in the appendix.

The BME population was 17,595 individuals, or 5.3% of the total population. This compares to an average BME population across England and Wales of 19.5% at the time the census was taken.

At the time of the 2001 census, the BME population in Cheshire West and Chester was 11,423 individuals or 3.5% of the total population. Therefore there has been an increase of 6,172 individuals, or 1.8% of the total population between 2001 and 2011.

| Cheshire<br>West & | White<br>British | Irish | Gypsy<br>and Irish | Other<br>White | Mixed<br>Heritage | Asian | Black | Other<br>Groups | Total   |
|--------------------|------------------|-------|--------------------|----------------|-------------------|-------|-------|-----------------|---------|
| Chester            |                  |       | Traveller          |                |                   |       |       |                 |         |
| Number             | 312,013          | 2,337 | 213                | 6,462          | 3050              | 4,097 | 908   | 528             | 329,608 |
| % of               | 94.7%            | 0.7%  | 0.1%               | 2.0%           | 0.9%              | 1.2%  | 0.3%  | 0.2%            | 100.0%  |
| Population         |                  |       |                    |                |                   |       |       |                 |         |

Table 1: Cheshire West and Chester Total Population 2011. Source: ONS, Census 2011

#### 1.1.2 BME Population: Cheshire West and Chester

Figure 1 and Table 2 show a breakdown of the BME population in Cheshire West and Chester, by ethnic group, from the 2011 Census.

The largest BME population was 'Other White' (36.7%) perhaps reflecting the numbers of migrants from within the EU, although it is unclear how many of these are European migrants and how many are from elsewhere.

The next most significant population were the group made up of 'Asian' ethnic groups (23.3%). Within this group, those who identify themselves as Indian make up the largest sub group at 1,242 residents (see Table A1) followed by 'Other Asian' with 1,008 residents. As with 'Other White' it is unclear how the 'Other Asian' category is comprised, but may include people who identify as Japanese, Malay or Thai for example.

People who identified as 'Mixed Heritage' also made up a substantial group (17.3%).

The minority group with fewest residents was 'Gypsy and Irish Traveller' (1.2%), although encouraging members of these groups to self identify can be problematic. Furthermore, this is a largely mobile population meaning that numbers are less stable across time than with other communities.

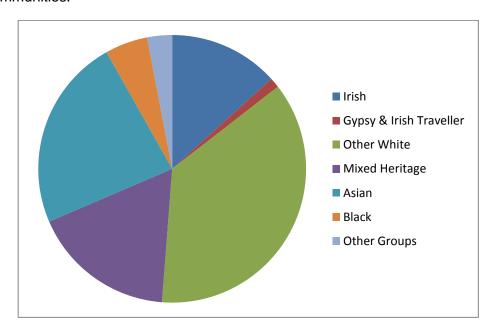


Figure 1: Cheshire West and Chester BME Populations 2011 (%) Source: ONS, Census 2011

| Cheshire   | Irish | Gypsy     | Other | Mixed    | Asian | Black | Other  | Total  |
|------------|-------|-----------|-------|----------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| West &     |       | and Irish | White | Heritage |       |       | Groups | BME    |
| Chester    |       | Traveller |       |          |       |       |        |        |
| Number     | 2,337 | 213       | 6,462 | 3,050    | 4,097 | 908   | 528    | 17,595 |
| % of BME   | 13.3% | 1.2%      | 36.7% | 17.3%    | 23.3% | 5.2%  | 3.0%   | 100.0% |
| Population |       |           |       |          |       |       |        |        |

Table 2: Cheshire West and Chester BME Populations 2011. Source: ONS, Census 2011

#### 1.1.3 Total Population: Chester Urban Area

Table 3 shows the total population within the Chester Urban Area, by ethnic group, from the 2011 Census. A more complete breakdown can be found in Table A2 in the appendix.

The BME population was 7281 individuals, representing 9.1% of the total Chester population. This is 3.8% higher than the average across Cheshire West and Chester as a whole, which follows a UK-wide trend for BME populations to be larger in urban than rural areas.

| Chester<br>Urban<br>Area | White<br>British | Irish | Gypsy<br>and Irish<br>Traveller | Other<br>White | Mixed<br>Heritage | Asian | Black | Other<br>Groups | Total  |
|--------------------------|------------------|-------|---------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|-------|-------|-----------------|--------|
| Number                   | 72,364           | 829   | 49                              | 2,879          | 1,059             | 1,782 | 452   | 231             | 79,645 |
| % of total               | 90.9%            | 1.0%  | 0.1%                            | 3.6%           | 1.3%              | 2.2%  | 0.6%  | 0.3%            | 100.0% |
| Population               |                  |       |                                 |                |                   |       |       |                 |        |

Table 3: Chester Urban Area Total Population 2011. Source: ONS, Census 2011

#### 1.1.4 BME Population: Chester Urban Area

Figure 2 and Table 4 show a breakdown of the BME population in the Chester Urban Area from the 2011 Census.

The percentage of residents belonging to each ethnic group closely matched that of Cheshire West and Chester as a whole, with 'Other White' (39.5%) again being the largest group, followed by 'Asian' (24.5%) and 'Mixed Heritage' (14.5%).

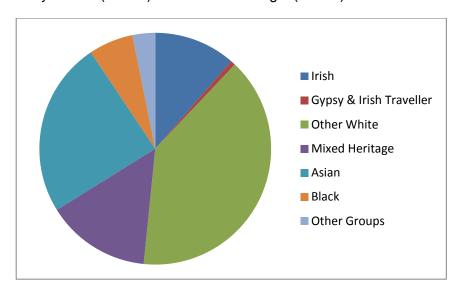


Figure 2: Chester Urban Area BME Populations 2011. Source: ONS, Census 2011

| Chester<br>Urban<br>Area | Irish | Gypsy<br>and Irish<br>Traveller | Other<br>White | Mixed<br>Heritage | Asian | Black | Other<br>Groups | Total<br>BME |
|--------------------------|-------|---------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|-------|-------|-----------------|--------------|
| Number                   | 829   | 49                              | 2,879          | 1059              | 1782  | 452   | 231             | 7,281        |
| % of BME                 | 11.4% | 0.7%                            | 39.5%          | 14.5%             | 24.5% | 6.2%  | 3.2%            | 100%         |
| Population               |       |                                 |                |                   |       |       |                 |              |

Table 4: Chester Urban Area BME Populations 2011. Source: ONS, Census 2011

Figures 3 and 4 and Tables 5 and 6 again show a breakdown of the BME population in the Chester Urban Area in 2011, but this time by ward.

Newton ward had the largest BME population in terms of numbers, but as a percentage of the total ward population, then Chester City ward had the highest percentage of BME residents at 13.2% (see Table 6).

Blacon ward and Lache ward are neighbourhoods of deprivation, according to the Indices of Deprivation 2010. Both had amongst the lowest number of BME residents as a percentage of their overall population. This is in contrast to the rest of the UK and the Northwest as a region, where statistically there are links between areas classed as having multiple deprivation and high concentrations of BME populations (See 'Unlocking the Potential of the BME population', Northwest Regional Development Agency, May 2010).

It is worth noting, though, that 20% of the total population of White and Black Caribbean mixed heritage and 18% of White and Black African mixed heritage residents lived in Blacon (see Table A2), a larger percentage of these groups than were resident in any other ward.

These figures reflect a national trend for mixed heritage groups to be among the BME groups more likely to live in areas of deprivation.

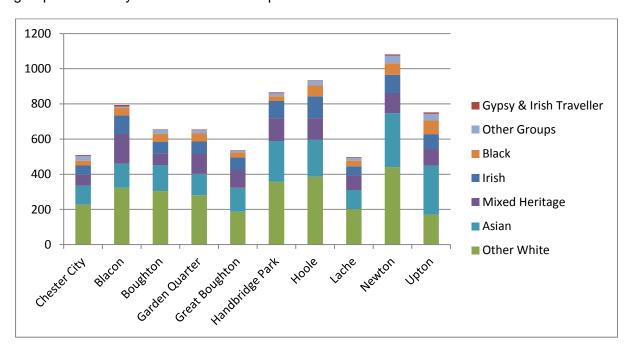


Figure 3: Breakdown of BME populations in Chester Urban Area 2011 by ward and ethnicity (%). Source: ONS, Census 2011

| Ward            | Irish | Gypsy<br>and Irish<br>Traveller | Other<br>White | Mixed<br>Heritage | Asian | Black | Other<br>Groups |
|-----------------|-------|---------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|-------|-------|-----------------|
| Chester City    | 53    | 6                               | 229            | 62                | 106   | 27    | 26              |
| Blacon          | 105   | 9                               | 323            | 169               | 137   | 42    | 9               |
| Boughton        | 66    | 2                               | 304            | 68                | 147   | 46    | 22              |
| Garden Quarter  | 71    | 3                               | 280            | 113               | 122   | 46    | 19              |
| Great Boughton  | 72    | 2                               | 187            | 101               | 136   | 28    | 11              |
| Handbridge Park | 97    | 6                               | 357            | 130               | 232   | 27    | 17              |
| Hoole           | 124   | 3                               | 386            | 124               | 209   | 62    | 27              |
| Lache           | 52    | 3                               | 202            | 83                | 108   | 32    | 18              |
| Newton          | 104   | 7                               | 441            | 115               | 306   | 65    | 43              |
| Upton           | 85    | 8                               | 170            | 94                | 279   | 77    | 39              |
| Total           | 829   | 49                              | 2,879          | 1,059             | 1,782 | 452   | 231             |

Table 5: Breakdown of BME populations in Chester Urban Area 2011 by ward and ethnicity. Source: ONS, Census 2011



Members of Sanjhi Indian Association (SIA) celebrating Diwali



Young girl meeting the Chinese Dragon as part of Chinese New Year

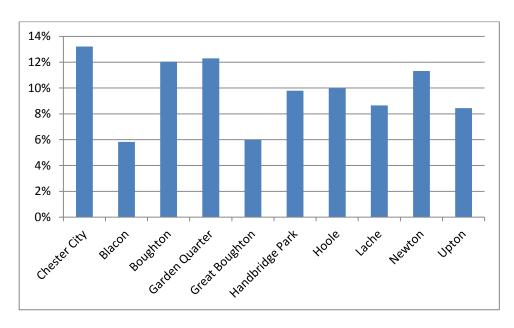


Figure 4: BME populations in Chester Urban Area 2011 as a percentage of total population by ward (%). Source: ONS, Census 2011

| Ward            | Total<br>population | BME<br>population | BME population as % of total population |
|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------|---|
| Chester City    | 3,853               | 509               | 13.2%                                   |
| Blacon          | 13,626              | 794               | 5.8%                                    |
| Boughton        | 5,444               | 655               | 12.0%                                   |
| Garden Quarter  | 5,318               | 654               | 12.3%                                   |
| Great Boughton  | 8,984               | 537               | 6.0%                                    |
| Handbridge Park | 8,840               | 866               | 9.8%                                    |
| Hoole           | 9,359               | 935               | 10.0%                                   |
| Lache           | 5,760               | 498               | 8.7%                                    |
| Newton          | 9,556               | 1,081             | 11.3%                                   |
| Upton           | 8,905               | 752               | 8.4%                                    |
| Total           | 79,645              | 7,281             | 100%                                    |

Table 6: BME populations in Chester Urban Area 2011 as a percentage of total population by ward. Source: ONS, Census 2011

### 1.1.5 Total Population by Age: Cheshire West and Chester

Figure 5 and Table 7 show the total population of Cheshire West and Chester, broken down by ethnic group and age. A more complete breakdown can be found in Table A3 in the appendix.

The White British population was spread relatively evenly across the age ranges, whilst this was not the case for the BME populations. Of people within the 'Other White', 'Asian', 'Black' and 'Other Groups' categories, either close to half or over half of these populations fell within the working age bracket of 25-49.

Whilst it is not clear how many of these were from settled populations and how many were recent migrants either from outside the UK or other places within the UK, this could be as a result of migration to the area specifically for the purposes of employment.

Within the 'Mixed Heritage' group the majority of residents (61.0%) fell within the 0 - 24 age bracket, making this a group comprised predominantly of young people.

Similarly, a large percentage (43.2%) of the 'Gypsy or Traveller' group was made up of young people in the 0-24 age bracket.

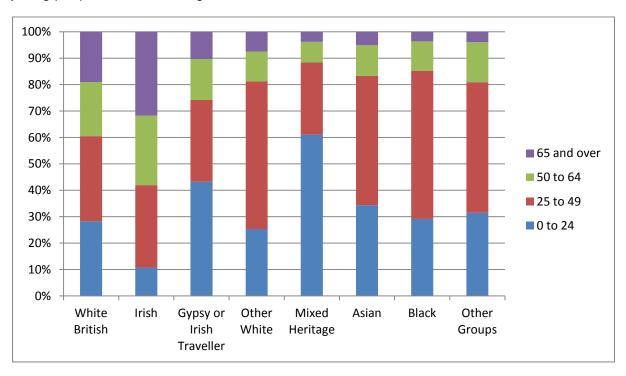


Figure 5: Breakdown of BME population in Cheshire West and Chester 2011 by ethnicity and age. Source: ONS, Census 2011

|          |                   | White   | Irish  | Gypsy or  | Other  | Mixed    | Asian  | Black  | Other  |
|----------|-------------------|---------|--------|-----------|--------|----------|--------|--------|--------|
|          |                   | British |        | Traveller | White  | Heritage |        |        | Groups |
| 0 to 24  | Number            | 88,165  | 251    | 92        | 1,638  | 1,861    | 1,408  | 265    | 166    |
|          | % of ethnic group | 28.3%   | 10.7%  | 43.2%     | 25.4%  | 61.0%    | 34.4%  | 29.2%  | 31.4%  |
| 25 to 49 | Number            | 100,541 | 729    | 66        | 3,608  | 834      | 2,005  | 508    | 261    |
|          | % of ethnic group | 32.2%   | 31.2%  | 31.0%     | 55.8%  | 27.3%    | 48.9%  | 56.0%  | 49.4%  |
| 50 to 64 | Number            | 63,839  | 614    | 33        | 731    | 237      | 474    | 102    | 80     |
|          | % of ethnic group | 20.5%   | 26.3%  | 15.5%     | 11.3%  | 7.8%     | 11.6%  | 11.2%  | 15.2%  |
| 65 +     | Number            | 59,468  | 743    | 22        | 485    | 118      | 210    | 33     | 21     |
|          | % of ethnic group | 19.6%   | 31.8%  | 10.3%     | 7.5%   | 3.9%     | 5.1%   | 3.6%   | 4.0%   |
| Total    | Number            | 312,013 | 2,337  | 213       | 6,462  | 3,050    | 4,097  | 908    | 528    |
|          | % of ethnic group | 100.0%  | 100.0% | 100.0%    | 100.0% | 100.0%   | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% |

Table 7: Breakdown of BME population in Cheshire West and Chester 2011 by ethnicity and age.

Source: ONS, Census 2011



Team Wah Lei ready for the Dragon Boat Race



Chinese Lanterns with messages to friends and family

#### 1.2 Country of Birth and Language

#### 1.2.1 Country of Birth: Cheshire West and Chester

Figure 6 and Table 8 show the country of birth for those residents of Cheshire West and Chester who were not born in the UK, at the time of the 2011 Census. A more complete breakdown can be found in Table A4 in the appendix.

Nearly half (48.4%) reported their country of birth as being Europe, the majority of these being fairly evenly split between EU and EU Accession States.

The next largest group came from Asia and the Middle East, with the majority coming from Southern Asia and South East Asia (42% and 29% respectively of the total number from Asia and the Middle East) (see Table A4).

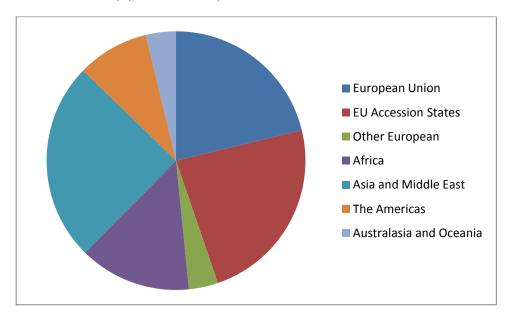


Figure 6: Country of birth for non-UK born residents of Cheshire West and Chester 2011. Source: ONS, Census 2011

| Country<br>of Birth | European<br>Union | EU<br>Accession<br>States | Other<br>European | Africa | Asia<br>and<br>Middle | The<br>Americas | Australasia<br>and<br>Oceania | Total  |
|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|--------|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|--------|
| Number              | 2,931             | 3,249                     | 505               | 1,932  | <b>East</b> 3,431     | 1243            | 518                           | 13,809 |
| %                   | 21.2%             | 23.5%                     | 3.7%              | 14.0%  | 24.8%                 | 9.0%            | 3.8%                          | 100%   |

Table 8: Country of birth for non-UK born residents of Cheshire West and Chester 2011.

Source: ONS, Census 2011

#### 1.2.2 Main languages: Cheshire West and Chester

Figure 7 and Table 9 show the main language spoken by those residents of Cheshire West and Chester for whom English is not their first language, at the time of the 2011 Census.

European languages made up the majority of main languages spoken (70.2% in total). The next largest groups were those who spoke East Asian (12.6%) and South Asian (11.9%) languages.

These figures tally with the previous data on country of birth for those who have migrated to the area.

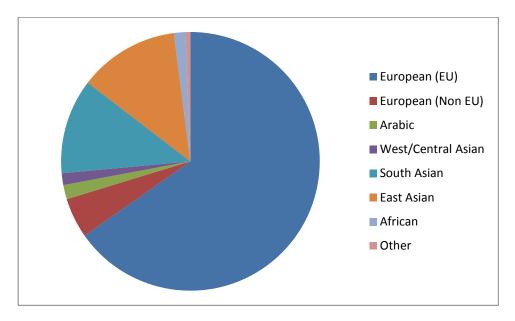


Figure 7: Main languages spoken by second language English speakers, Cheshire West and Chester 2011. Source: ONS, Census 2011

| European<br>(EU) | European<br>(Non EU) | Arabic | West/<br>Central<br>Asian | South<br>Asian | East<br>Asian | African | Other | Total |
|------------------|----------------------|--------|---------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------|-------|-------|
| 4,429            | 341                  | 121    | 100                       | 806            | 852           | 97      | 42    | 6,805 |
| 65.2%            | 5.0%                 | 1.8%   | 1.5%                      | 11.9%          | 12.6%         | 1.4%    | 0.6%  | 100%  |

Table 9: Main languages spoken by second language English speakers, Cheshire West and Chester 2011. Source: ONS, Census 2011

#### 1.2.3 Main languages: Chester Urban Area

Figure 8 and Table 10 show the main language spoken by those residents of the Chester Urban Area for whom English is not their first language.

These closely match the figures for Cheshire West and Chester as a whole, with European languages making up the largest group (69.6% in total), followed by South Asian (13.8%) and East Asian (10.6%) languages.

Although country of birth data is not available for the Chester urban area, the main language data suggest that it may closely match that of Cheshire West and Chester as a whole.

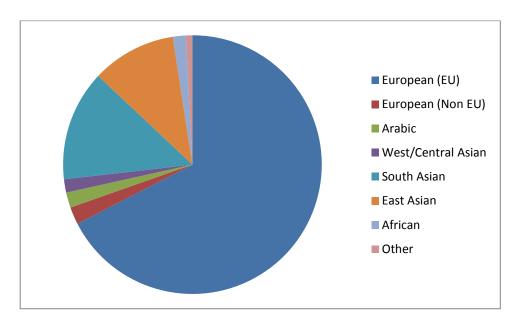


Figure 8: Main languages spoken by second language English speakers, Chester Urban Area 2011. Source: ONS, Census 2011

| European<br>(EU) | European<br>(Non EU) | Arabic | West/<br>Central<br>Asian | South<br>Asian | East<br>Asian | African | Other | Total |
|------------------|----------------------|--------|---------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------|-------|-------|
| 1,833            | 59                   | 52     | 45                        | 376            | 287           | 44      | 22    | 2,718 |
| 67.4%            | 2.2%                 | 1.9%   | 1.7%                      | 13.8%          | 10.6%         | 1.6%    | 0.8%  | 100%  |

Table 10: Main languages spoken by second language English speakers, Chester Urban Area 2011. Source: ONS, Census 2011

#### 1.2.4 Main languages by age: Cheshire West and Chester

Figure 9 and Table 11 show the main languages spoken by those residents of Cheshire

West and Chester for whom English is not their first language, broken down by age.

The vast majority of residents who do not speak English as a first language were of working age (between 16 and 64). Of these, the majority are between 16 and 46 years old (73.5% of the total number who didn't speak English as a first language).



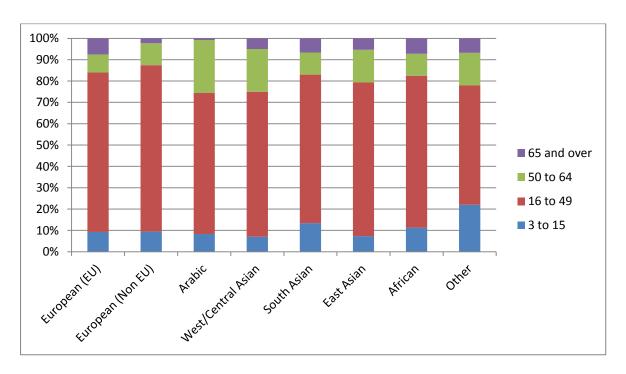


Figure 9: Main languages spoken by second language English speakers by age, Cheshire West and Chester 2011. Source: ONS, Census 2011

| Age     |                   | European<br>(EU) | Europea<br>n (Non<br>EU) | Arabic | West/<br>Central<br>Asian | South<br>Asian | East<br>Asian | African | Other | Total |
|---------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------------|--------|---------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------|-------|-------|
| 3 - 15  | Number            | 413              | 32                       | 10     | 7                         | 108            | 62            | 11      | 13    | 656   |
|         | % within language | 9.3%             | 9.4%                     | 8.3%   | 7.0%                      | 13.4%          | 7.3%          | 11.3%   | 22.0% | 9.6%  |
| 16 - 49 | Number            | 3,310            | 266                      | 80     | 68                        | 561            | 614           | 69      | 33    | 5,001 |
|         | % within language | 74.7%            | 78.0%                    | 66.1%  | 68.0%                     | 69.6%          | 72.1%         | 71.1%   | 55.9% | 73.5% |
| 50 - 64 | Number            | 375              | 35                       | 30     | 20                        | 84             | 130           | 10      | 9     | 693   |
|         | % within language | 8.5%             | 10.3%                    | 24.8%  | 20.0%                     | 10.4%          | 15.3%         | 10.3%   | 15.3% | 10.2% |
| 65 +    | Number            | 331              | 8                        | 1      | 5                         | 53             | 46            | 7       | 4     | 455   |
|         | % within language | 7.5%             | 2.3%                     | 0.8%   | 5.0%                      | 6.6%           | 5.4%          | 7.2%    | 6.8%  | 6.7%  |
| Total   |                   | 4,429            | 341                      | 121    | 100                       | 806            | 852           | 97      | 59    | 6,805 |

Table 11: Main languages spoken by second language English speakers by age, Cheshire West and Chester 2011. Source: ONS, Census 2011

#### 1.2.5 Proficiency in English by age of arrival to UK: Cheshire West and Chester

Figure 10 and Table 12 show the proficiency in English for migrants Cheshire West and Chester for whom English is not a first language, broken down by their age at arrival to the UK.

The figures show a correlation between age of arrival and proficiency in English. The likelihood of being able to speak English well or very well decreases as age at arrival increases.

The data also show that the vast majority of second language English speakers (82.8%) spoke English well or very well.

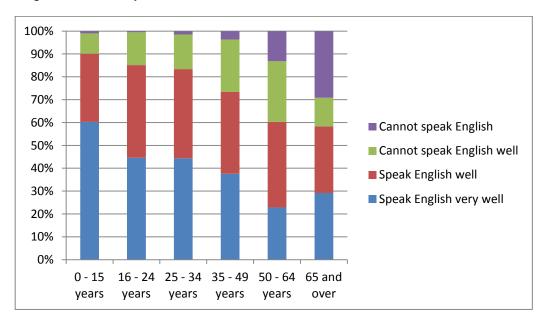


Figure 10: Proficiency in English by Age at Arrival for non-UK born residents of Cheshire West and Chester 2011. Source: ONS, Census 2011

|               | Speak English | Speak English | Cannot speak | Cannot speak | Total |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|-------|
|               | very well     | well          | English Well | English      |       |
| 0 – 15 years  | 472           | 233           | 70           | 8            | 783   |
|               | 60.3%         | 29.8%         | 8.9%         | 1.0%         | 100%  |
| 16 – 24 years | 920           | 835           | 298          | 11           | 2,064 |
|               | 44.6%         | 40.5%         | 14.4%        | 0.5%         | 100%  |
| 25 – 34 years | 966           | 849           | 328          | 32           | 2,175 |
|               | 44.4%         | 39.0%         | 15.1%        | 1.5%         | 100%  |
| 35 – 49 years | 326           | 310           | 199          | 32           | 867   |
|               | 37.6%         | 35.8%         | 23.0%        | 3.7%         | 100%  |
| 50 – 64 years | 31            | 51            | 36           | 18           | 136   |
|               | 22.8%         | 37.5%         | 26.5%        | 13.2%        | 100%  |
| 65 and over   | 7             | 7             | 3            | 7            | 24    |
|               | 29.2%         | 29.2%         | 12.5%        | 29.2%        | 100%  |
| Total         | 2,724         | 2,287         | 935          | 108          | 6,054 |
| % of total    | 45.0%         | 37.8%         | 15.4%        | 1.8%         | 100%  |

Table 12: Proficiency in English by Age at Arrival for non-UK born residents of Cheshire West and Chester 2011. Source: ONS, Census 2011

#### 1.3 Qualifications and Work

#### 1.3.1 Highest Level of Qualification by ethnic group: Cheshire West and Chester

Figure 11 and Table 13 show the highest level of qualification obtained by residents in Cheshire West and Chester. This is broken down to show the figures for the White British population, the BME population as a whole and the BME population by each major ethnic group.

The data indicates that the BME population as a whole was less likely than the White British population to have no qualifications at all and were more likely to have qualifications at Level 4 and above (University degree, Masters degree and PhD).

Residents in the 'Other White' group were more likely to report having apprenticeships or 'other' qualifications than any other ethnic group. This might in part because recent migrants in this category had ticked 'Foreign qualifications' on the Census questionnaire. This category of qualification has been included in 'Other' when analysis was carried out on answers to this question.

Those from Asian, Black and Irish backgrounds had the highest percentage of qualifications at Level 4 and above.

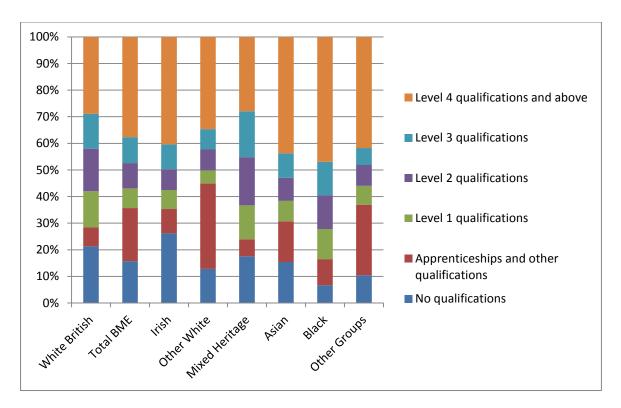
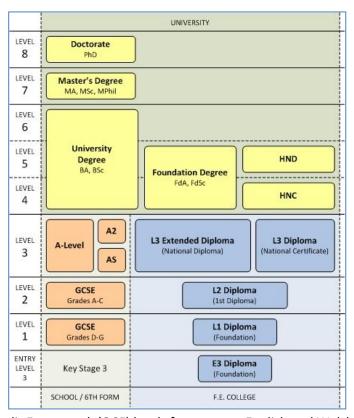


Figure 11: Highest level of qualification by ethnic group, Cheshire West and Chester 2011.

Source: ONS, Census 2011

| Highest Level of Qualification           |                 | White<br>British | Total<br>BME | Irish | Other<br>White | Mixed<br>Heritage | Asian | Black  | Other<br>Groups |
|--|-----------------|------------------|--------------|-------|----------------|-------------------|-------|--------|-----------------|
| No qualifications                        | Number          | 54,760           | 2180         | 578   | 714            | 309               | 484   | 51     | 44              |
|  |                 |                  |              |       |                |                   |       |        |                 |
|  | % of ethnic     | 21.3%            | 15.7%        | 26.2% | 12.8%          | 17.6%             | 15.4% | 6.7%   | 10.4%           |
| Apprenticeships                          | group<br>Number | 18,341           | 2773         | 201   | 1,792          | 112               | 481   | 75     | 112             |
| and other                                | Number          | 10,5 11          | 2,73         | 201   | 1,732          | 112               | 101   | ,3     | 112             |
|  | % of ethnic     | 7.1%             | 20.0%        | 9.1%  | 32.1%          | 6.4%              | 15.3% | 9.8%   | 26.5%           |
|  | group           |                  |              |       |                |                   |       |        |                 |
| Level 1                                  | Number          | 34,989           | 1021         | 160   | 279            | 224               | 242   | 86     | 30              |
| (eg. GCSE Grades                         |                 |                  |              |       |                |                   |       |        |                 |
| D-G/L1 Diploma)                          | % of ethnic     | 13.6%            | 7.4%         | 7.2%  | 5.0%           | 12.8%             | 7.7%  | 11.3%  | 7.1%            |
|  | group           | 44.000           | 4005         | 470   | 400            | 247               | 272   | 07     | 22              |
| Level 2<br>(eg. GCSE Grades              | Number          | 41,330           | 1325         | 172   | 433            | 317               | 273   | 97     | 33              |
| A-C/L2 Diploma)                          | % of ethnic     | 16.0%            | 9.5%         | 7.8%  | 7.8%           | 18.1%             | 8.7%  | 12.7%  | 7.8%            |
| 71 <b>6, 11</b> 2 1 <b>1</b> 10 11 11 11 | group           | 10.070           | 3.370        | 7.070 | 7.070          | 10.170            | 0.770 | 12.770 | 71070           |
| Level 3                                  | Number          | 33,694           | 1348         | 205   | 426            | 303               | 291   | 96     | 27              |
| (eg. A-Level/L3                          |                 |                  |              |       |                |                   |       |        |                 |
| Diploma)                                 | % of ethnic     | 13.1%            | 9.7%         | 9.3%  | 7.6%           | 17.3%             | 9.2%  | 12.6%  | 6.4%            |
|  | group           |                  |              |       |                |                   |       |        |                 |
| Level 4 and                              | Number          | 74,475           | 5,237        | 891   | 1940           | 491               | 1,380 | 359    | 176             |
| above                                    |                 |                  |              |       |                |                   |       |        |                 |
| (eg. BA/MA/PhD)                          | % of ethnic     | 28.9%            | 37.7%        | 40.4% | 34.7%          | 28.0%             | 43.8% | 47.0%  | 41.7%           |
| <b>7.1.1</b>                             | group           | 25 7500          | 42.004       | 2 207 | F F0.4         | 4 750             | 2.454 | 764    | 422             |
| Total                                    |                 | 25,7589          | 13,884       | 2,207 | 5,584          | 1,756             | 3,151 | 764    | 422             |

Table 13: Highest level of qualification by ethnic group, Cheshire West and Chester 2011.



Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) levels for common English and Welsh qualifications.

#### 1.3.2 Main Occupation by ethnic group: Cheshire West and Chester

Figure 12 and Table 14 show the main occupations of residents in Cheshire West and Chester, by ethnic group.

The largest percentage of the BME population as a whole were employed in professional occupations (23.3%). Those from Asian, Black and Irish backgrounds were the most likely to be employed in these jobs.

Ecc Missy Schmidt on Flickr

The second largest percentage were those employed in elementary

occupations, with those in the 'Other White' category being more likely to be found in these roles than members of the other main ethnic groups.

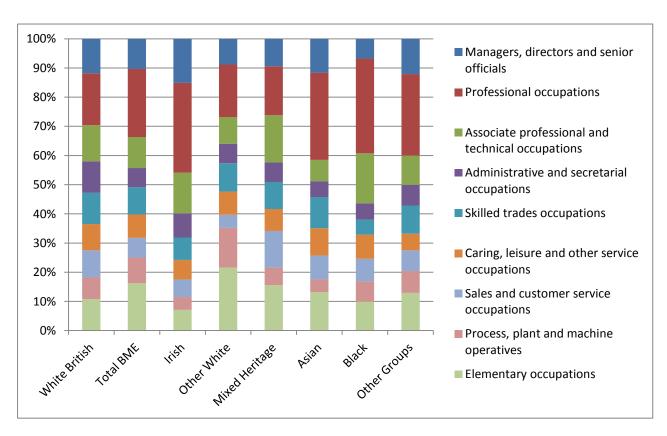


Figure 12: Occupation by ethnic group, Cheshire West and Chester 2011. Source: ONS, Census 2011

|  |                         | White<br>British | BME<br>Total | Irish | Other<br>White | Mixed<br>Heritage | Asian | Black | Other<br>Groups |
|--|-------------------------|------------------|--------------|-------|----------------|-------------------|-------|-------|-----------------|
| Managers, directors and senior officials   | Number                  | 17,856           | 963          | 173   | 365            | 103               | 250   | 38    | 34              |
|  | % of<br>ethnic<br>group | 11.8%            | 10.3%        | 15.1% | 8.8%           | 9.4%              | 11.6% | 6.8%  | 12.1%           |
| Professional occupations                   | Number                  | 26,981           | 2,187        | 354   | 744            | 184               | 646   | 181   | 78              |
|  | % of<br>ethnic<br>group | 17.8%            | 23.3%        | 30.8% | 18.0%          | 16.8%             | 29.9% | 32.5% | 27.9%           |
| Associate professional and technical       | Number                  | 18,817           | 996          | 160   | 378            | 178               | 157   | 95    | 28              |
| occupations                                | % of<br>ethnic<br>group | 12.4%            | 10.6%        | 13.9% | 9.2%           | 16.2%             | 7.3%  | 17.1% | 10.0%           |
| Administrative and secretarial occupations | Number                  | 16,340           | 613          | 95    | 276            | 74                | 117   | 31    | 20              |
|  | % of<br>ethnic<br>group | 10.8%            | 6.5%         | 8.3%  | 6.7%           | 6.7%              | 5.4%  | 5.6%  | 7.1%            |
| Skilled trades occupations                 | Number                  | 16,302           | 877          | 88    | 399            | 102               | 232   | 29    | 27              |
|  | % of<br>ethnic<br>group | 10.7%            | 9.4%         | 7.7%  | 9.7%           | 9.3%              | 10.7% | 5.2%  | 9.6%            |
| Caring, leisure and other service          | Number                  | 13,616           | 754          | 77    | 330            | 82                | 203   | 46    | 16              |
| occupations                                | % of<br>ethnic<br>group | 9.0%             | 8.0%         | 6.7%  | 8.0%           | 7.5%              | 9.4%  | 8.3%  | 5.7%            |
| Sales and customer service occupations     | Number                  | 14,160           | 632          | 69    | 186            | 138               | 176   | 43    | 20              |
|  | % of<br>ethnic<br>group | 9.3%             | 6.7%         | 6.0%  | 4.5%           | 12.6%             | 8.2%  | 7.7%  | 7.1%            |
| Process, plant and machine operatives      | Number                  | 11,152           | 829          | 51    | 560            | 66                | 92    | 39    | 21              |
|  | % of<br>ethnic<br>group | 7.4%             | 8.8%         | 4.4%  | 13.6%          | 6.0%              | 4.3%  | 7.0%  | 7.5%            |
| Elementary occupations                     | Number                  | 16,439           | 1,523        | 82    | 893            | 171               | 286   | 55    | 36              |
|  | % of<br>ethnic<br>group | 10.8%            | 16.2%        | 7.1%  | 21.6%          | 15.6%             | 13.2% | 9.9%  | 12.9%           |

Table 14: Occupation by ethnic group, Cheshire West and Chester 2011. Source: ONS, Census 2011

#### 1.3.3 Industry sector by ethnic group: Cheshire West and Chester

Figure 13 and Table 15 show the industry sectors in which residents of Cheshire West and Chester were employed in 2011, broken down by ethnic group.

The BME population as a whole was most likely to be employed in distribution, hotels and restaurants, or in public administration, education and health. This was also the case for the White British population and the figures for these two overall populations closely match.

However, there are variations between the main BME groups. Whilst most match the trends for the BME population overall, 'Other White' residents are more likely than other BME groups to be employed in manufacturing industries and those who identify as 'Asian' are more likely than other groups to be employed in distribution, hotels and restaurants.

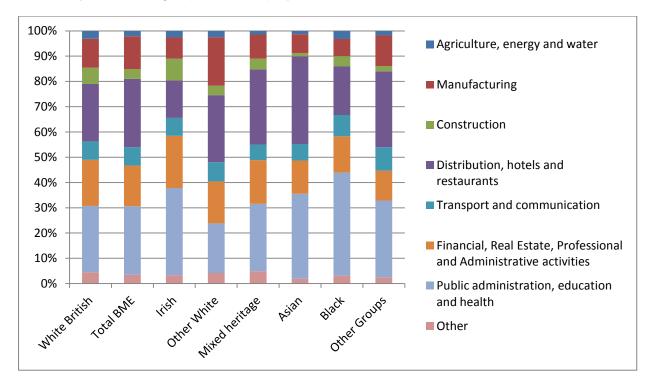


Figure 13: Industrial sector by ethnic group, Cheshire West and Chester 2011.

Source: ONS, Census 2011



Cllr Mike Jones joining in with the Diwali celebrations

|                                      |                      | White<br>British | BME<br>Total | Irish | Other<br>White | Mixed<br>Heritage | Asian | Black | Other<br>Groups |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|--------------|-------|----------------|-------------------|-------|-------|-----------------|
| Agriculture, energy and water        | Number               | 4,628            | 201          | 30    | 104            | 15                | 29    | 18    | 5               |
|                                      | % of ethnic group    | 3.1%             | 2.1%         | 2.6%  | 2.5%           | 1.4%              | 1.3%  | 3.2%  | 1.8%            |
| Manufacturing                        | Number               | 17,363           | 1,230        | 97    | 793            | 105               | 163   | 38    | 34              |
|                                      | % of ethnic group    | 11.4%            | 13.1%        | 8.4%  | 19.2%          | 9.6%              | 7.5%  | 6.8%  | 12.1%           |
| Construction                         | Number               | 9,929            | 355          | 99    | 152            | 47                | 28    | 23    | 6               |
|                                      | % of ethnic group    | 6.5%             | 3.8%         | 8.6%  | 3.7%           | 4.3%              | 1.3%  | 4.1%  | 2.1%            |
| Distribution, hotels and restaurants | Number               | 34,467           | 2,530        | 170   | 1,096          | 326               | 747   | 107   | 84              |
|                                      | % of ethnic group    | 22.7%            | 27.0%        | 14.8% | 26.5%          | 29.7%             | 34.6% | 19.2% | 30.0%           |
| Transport and communication          | Number               | 11,147           | 680          | 82    | 316            | 68                | 141   | 47    | 26              |
|                                      | % of ethnic group    | 7.3%             | 7.3%         | 7.1%  | 7.6%           | 6.2%              | 6.5%  | 8.4%  | 9.3%            |
| Financial, real estate, professional | Number               | 27,580           | 1,511        | 237   | 687            | 190               | 284   | 80    | 33              |
| and administrative activities        | % of ethnic<br>group | 18.2%            | 16.1%        | 20.6% | 16.6%          | 17.3%             | 13.2% | 14.4% | 11.8%           |
| Public administration,               | Number               | 39,783           | 2,537        | 396   | 811            | 293               | 725   | 227   | 85              |
| education and<br>health              | % of ethnic group    | 26.2%            | 27.1%        | 34.5% | 19.6%          | 26.7%             | 33.6% | 40.8% | 30.4%           |
| Other                                | Number               | 6,766            | 330          | 38    | 172            | 54                | 42    | 17    | 7               |
|                                      | % of ethnic group    | 4.5%             | 3.5%         | 3.3%  | 4.2%           | 4.9%              | 1.9%  | 3.1%  | 2.5%            |

Table 15: Industrial sector by ethnic group, Cheshire West and Chester 2011.

Source: ONS, Census 2011

#### 1.3.4 National Insurance Registrations: Cheshire West and Chester

Figure 14 and Table 16 show National Insurance Registration figures for the past five years by migrants to Cheshire West and Chester.

The vast majority of applicants were from within the EU and EU Accession States. This is in line with the 2011 Census information, which showed the majority of 'Other White' residents (55.8%) as being of working age and supports the inference that migration to the area from within these groups is taking place mainly for the purposes of work.



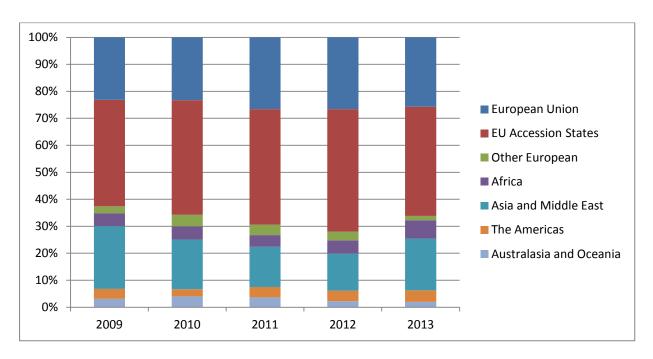


Figure 14: National Insurance Number registrations in Cheshire West and Chester 2009 - 2013, by world region (%). Source: GOV.UK

|       |        | European<br>Union | EU<br>Accession<br>States | Other<br>European | Africa | Asia<br>and<br>Middle<br>East | The<br>Americas | Australasia<br>and<br>Oceania | Total  |
|-------|--------|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|--------|-------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|--------|
| 2009  | Number | 251               | 428                       | 28                | 52     | 252                           | 40              | 34                            | 1,085  |
|       | %      | 23.1%             | 39.4%                     | 2.6%              | 4.8%   | 23.2%                         | 3.7%            | 3.1%                          | 100.0% |
| 2010  | Number | 233               | 425                       | 43                | 49     | 184                           | 27              | 40                            | 1,001  |
|       | %      | 23.3%             | 42.5%                     | 4.3%              | 4.9%   | 18.4%                         | 2.7%            | 4.0%                          | 100.0% |
| 2011  | Number | 291               | 468                       | 42                | 47     | 163                           | 42              | 40                            | 1,093  |
|       | %      | 26.6%             | 42.8%                     | 3.8%              | 4.3%   | 14.9%                         | 3.8%            | 3.7%                          | 100.0% |
| 2012  | Number | 264               | 450                       | 32                | 49     | 136                           | 39              | 22                            | 992    |
|       | %      | 26.6%             | 45.4%                     | 3.2%              | 4.9%   | 13.7%                         | 3.9%            | 2.2%                          | 100.0% |
| 2013  | Number | 320               | 503                       | 20                | 85     | 238                           | 53              | 25                            | 1,244  |
|       | %      | 25.7%             | 40.4%                     | 1.6%              | 6.8%   | 19.1%                         | 4.3%            | 2.0%                          | 100.0% |
| Total |        | 1359              | 2274                      | 165               | 282    | 973                           | 201             | 161                           | 5,415  |

Table 16: National Insurance Number registrations in Cheshire West and Chester 2009 - 2013, by world region. Source: GOV.UK

Figure 15 shows the number of National Insurance registrations made by migrants to Cheshire West and Chester between 2004 and 2012.

The data show a significant increase in registrations between 2005 and 2007, followed by a decline in 2008. Between 2008 and 2012, the number of registrations remained relatively stable.

Figure 15 also shows the number of new GP registrations made by people from BME backgrounds for the same period. These figures are often indicative of the number of migrants to an area.

The GP registration data closely match the trends seen in the National Insurance registration data, suggesting that we can be confident that the overall trend in migration has remained stable since 2008 at around 1000 new migrants each year.

What this data does not show, however, is the number of migrants who have left the area over the same period.

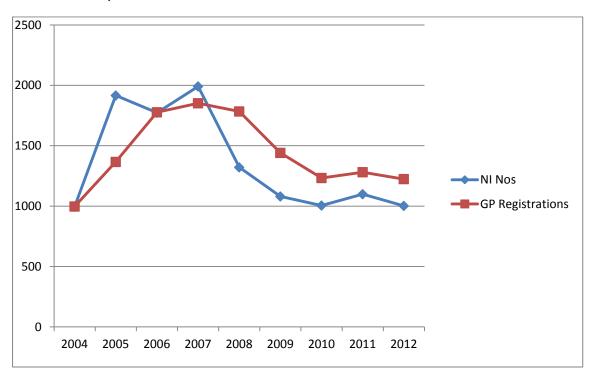


Figure 15: National Insurance Number registrations and GP registrations from BME groups in Cheshire West and Chester between 2004 and 2012.

Sources: GOV.UK and NHS West Cheshire Clinical Commissioning Group



Fire eaters in Chester as part of the Chinese Moon Festival

# 1.4 Disability

#### 1.4.1 Disability by ethnic group: Cheshire West and Chester

Figure 16 and Table 17 show data on disability for residents of Cheshire West and Chester, taken from the 2011 Census. This is broken down to show data for the White British population, the BME population as a whole and the BME population by each major ethnic group.

The majority of residents in all groups stated that their day to day activities were not limited by any type of disability.

Of those who did report having a disability, the BME population as a whole experienced fewer disabilities than the White British population.



This was true of all major BME groups, with the exception of the 'Irish' ethnic group, who reported more experience of disability than any other BME group and more than the 'White British' group.

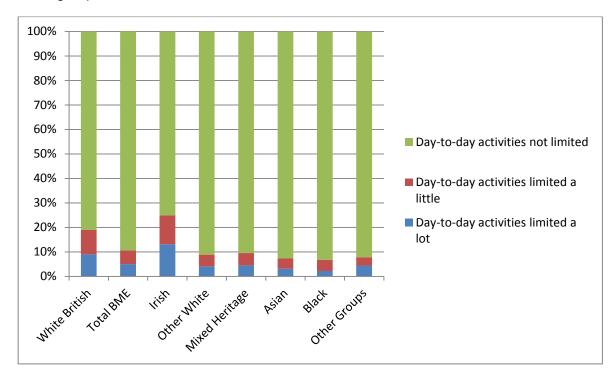


Figure 16: Long term health problem or disability by ethnic group, Cheshire West and Chester 2011. Source: ONS, Census 2011

| Day to day activities |                   | White<br>British | Total<br>BME | Irish | Other<br>White | Mixed<br>Heritage | Asian | Black | Other<br>Groups |
|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------|-------|----------------|-------------------|-------|-------|-----------------|
| Limited a lot         | Number            | 28,211           | 887          | 306   | 275            | 136               | 127   | 20    | 23              |
|                       | % of ethnic group | 9.0%             | 5.0%         | 13.1% | 4.1%           | 4.5%              | 3.1%  | 2.2%  | 4.4%            |
| Limited a little      | Number            | 30,915           | 982          | 276   | 321            | 151               | 174   | 42    | 18              |
|                       | % of ethnic group | 9.9%             | 5.6%         | 11.8% | 4.8%           | 5.0%              | 4.2%  | 4.6%  | 3.4%            |
| Not<br>limited        | Number            | 252,887          | 15,726       | 1,755 | 6,079          | 2,763             | 3,796 | 846   | 487             |
|                       | % of ethnic group | 81.1%            | 89.4%        | 75.1% | 91.1%          | 90.6%             | 92.7% | 93.2% | 92.2%           |

Table 17: Long term health problem or disability by ethnic group, Cheshire West and Chester 2011.

#### 1.5 Faith

#### 1.5.1 Faith by ethnic group: Cheshire West and Chester

Figure 17 and Table 18 show the reported faiths for members of BME groups in Cheshire West and Chester from the 2011 Census.

The vast majority of BME residents (58%) reported being Christian, whilst the second biggest group stated that they had no religion (18.2%).

Those who reported being Muslim made up the largest non-Christian religious group (8.8%).

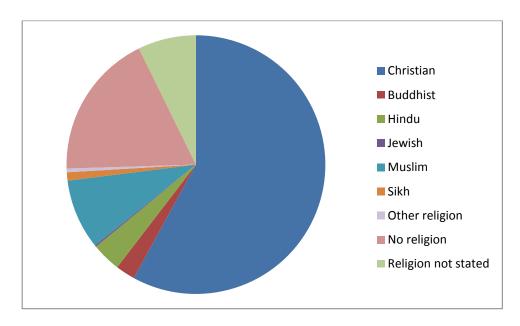


Figure 17: Faith within the BME population, Cheshire West and Chester 2011.

Source: ONS, Census 2011

|                | Irish | Other<br>White | Mixed<br>Heritage | Asian | Black | Other | Total  | % of total<br>BME<br>population |
|----------------|-------|----------------|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|--------|---------------------------------|
| Christian      | 1,986 | 4,872          | 1,548             | 950   | 708   | 137   | 10,201 | 58.0%                           |
|                | 19.5% | 47.8%          | 15.2%             | 9.3%  | 6.9%  | 1.3%  | 100%   |                                 |
| Buddhist       | 3     | 22             | 37                | 349   | 6     | 12    | 429    | 2.4%                            |
|                | 0.7%  | 5.1%           | 8.6%              | 81.4% | 1.4%  | 2.8%  | 100%   |                                 |
| Hindu          | 0     | 5              | 17                | 613   | 4     | 2     | 641    | 3.6%                            |
|                | 0.0%  | 0.8%           | 2.7%              | 95.6% | 0.6%  | 0.3%  | 100%   |                                 |
| Jewish         | 2     | 31             | 1                 | 0     | 0     | 2     | 36     | 0.2%                            |
|                | 5.6%  | 86.1%          | 2.8%              | 0.0%  | 0.0%  | 5.6%  | 100%   |                                 |
| Muslim         | 2     | 152            | 139               | 949   | 47    | 251   | 1,540  | 8.8%                            |
|                | 0.1%  | 9.9%           | 9.0%              | 61.6% | 3.1%  | 16.3% | 100%   |                                 |
| Sikh           | 0     | 1              | 5                 | 152   | 0     | 24    | 182    | 1.0%                            |
|                | 0.0%  | 0.5%           | 2.7%              | 83.5% | 0.0%  | 13.2% | 100%   |                                 |
| Other religion | 6     | 25             | 15                | 26    | 5     | 5     | 82     | 0.5%                            |
|                | 7.3%  | 30.5%          | 18.3%             | 31.7% | 6.1%  | 6.1%  | 100%   |                                 |
| No religion    | 187   | 1,048          | 1,033             | 789   | 91    | 58    | 3,206  | 18.2%                           |
|                | 5.8%  | 32.7%          | 32.2%             | 24.6% | 2.8%  | 1.8%  | 100%   |                                 |
| Not stated     | 151   | 519            | 255               | 269   | 47    | 37    | 1,278  | 7.3%                            |
|                | 11.8% | 40.6%          | 20.0%             | 21.0% | 3.7%  | 2.9%  | 100%   |                                 |
| Total          | 2,337 | 6,675          | 3050              | 4,037 | 908   | 528   | 17,595 | 100.0%                          |

Table 18: Faith within the BME population, Cheshire West and Chester 2011.

# 1.6 Children and Young People

#### 1.6.1 Dependent children by ethnic group: Cheshire West and Chester

Figure 18 and Table 19 show the number of dependent children in Cheshire West and Chester, taken from the 2011 Census. This is broken down to show data for the White British population, the BME population as a whole and the BME population by each major ethnic group.

The BME population as a whole were more likely to have dependent children aged 0 to 4 than the White British population were. This is also true of each major BME group individually, with the exception of the 'Irish' group, whose data closely match that of the White British population.



Indian candle (Deeyas) workshop at The Unity Centre



Diwali celebrations outside Chester Town Hall

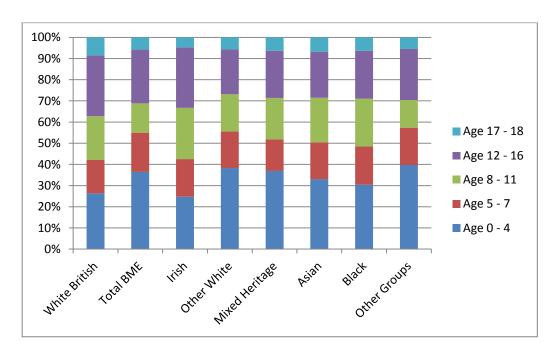


Figure 18: Dependent Children by age and ethnic group, Cheshire West and Chester 2011.

| Age of children |                   | White<br>British | Total<br>BME | Irish | Other<br>White | Mixed<br>Heritage | Asian | Black | Other<br>Groups |
|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------|-------|----------------|-------------------|-------|-------|-----------------|
| Age<br>0 - 4    | Number            | 16,591           | 1,448        | 115   | 599            | 164               | 409   | 82    | 79              |
|                 | % of ethnic group | 26.3%            | 34.6%        | 24.7% | 38.3%          | 36.9%             | 33.1% | 30.4% | 39.7%           |
| Age<br>5 - 7    | Number            | 10,023           | 717          | 83    | 270            | 66                | 214   | 49    | 35              |
|                 | % of ethnic group | 15.9%            | 17.2%        | 17.8% | 17.3%          | 14.9%             | 17.3% | 18.1% | 17.6%           |
| Age<br>8 – 11   | Number            | 12,955           | 822          | 112   | 275            | 87                | 261   | 61    | 26              |
|                 | % of ethnic group | 20.5%            | 19.7%        | 24.1% | 17.6%          | 19.6%             | 21.1% | 22.6% | 13.1%           |
| Age<br>12 – 16  | Number            | 18,091           | 942          | 133   | 332            | 99                | 269   | 61    | 48              |
|                 | % of ethnic group | 28.7%            | 22.5%        | 28.6% | 21.2%          | 22.3%             | 21.7% | 22.6% | 24.1%           |
| Age<br>17 - 18  | Number            | 5,385            | 251          | 22    | 89             | 28                | 84    | 17    | 11              |
|                 | % of ethnic group | 8.5%             | 6.0%         | 4.7%  | 5.7%           | 6.3%              | 6.8%  | 6.3%  | 5.5%            |

Table 19: Dependent Children by age and ethnic group, Cheshire West and Chester 2011.

Source: ONS, Census 2011

#### 1.6.2 School Children by ethnic group: Cheshire West and Chester

Figures 19 and 20 and Table 20 show the number of children from BME backgrounds in Cheshire West and Chester primary and secondary schools in 2013.

There were 25% more children of BME backgrounds in primary schools than in secondary schools, supporting the data that showed the BME population in general has a larger percentage of children of a younger age.

The profile of the backgrounds of the children at primary and secondary school were very similar, with the largest group in both cases coming from 'Other White' backgrounds, closely followed by those from 'Mixed Heritage' and 'Asian' backgrounds.

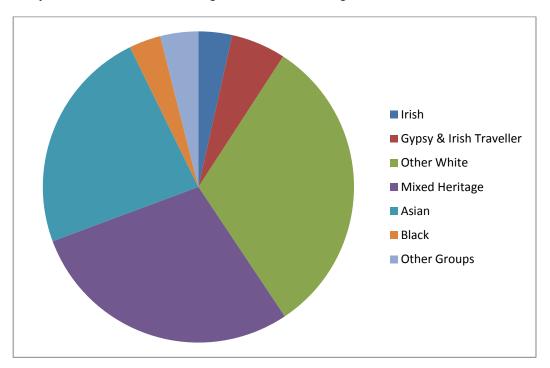


Figure 19: Children from BME backgrounds in Cheshire West and Chester Primary Schools 2013. Source: Cheshire West and Chester Local Authority

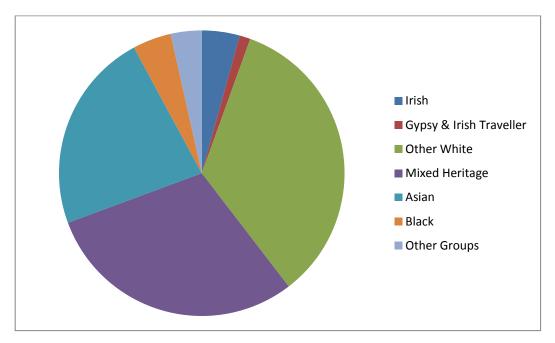


Figure 20: Children from BME backgrounds in Cheshire West and Chester Secondary Schools 2013. Source: Cheshire West and Chester Local Authority

| Cheshire West<br>& Chester<br>Schools |                    | Irish | Gypsy<br>and Irish<br>Traveller | Other<br>White | Mixed<br>Heritage | Asian | Black | Other<br>Groups | Total  |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|-------|---------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|-------|-------|-----------------|--------|
| Primary                               | Number             | 53    | 86                              | 477            | 435               | 355   | 50    | 60              | 1,516  |
|                                       | % of BME<br>Pupils | 3.5%  | 5.7%                            | 31.5%          | 28.7%             | 23.4% | 3.3%  | 4.0%            | 100.0% |
| Secondary                             | Number             | 49    | 14                              | 389            | 340               | 260   | 50    | 40              | 1,142  |
|                                       | % of BME<br>Pupils | 4.3%  | 1.2%                            | 34.1%          | 29.8%             | 22.8% | 4.4%  | 3.5%            | 100.0% |
| All Schools                           | Number             | 102   | 100                             | 866            | 775               | 615   | 100   | 100             | 2,658  |
|                                       | % of BME<br>Pupils | 3.8%  | 3.8%                            | 32.6%          | 29.2%             | 23.1% | 3.8%  | 3.8%            | 100.0% |

Table 20: Children from BME backgrounds in Cheshire West and Chester Schools 2013. Source: Cheshire West and Chester Local Authority



Selection of Indian food prepared by Sanjhi Indian Association (SIA)



Children taking part in an BME Art workshop at the Town Hall



Xin Hua Chinese Association delivering a workshop with a group of children with learning disabilities



African drummers at the launch of The Unity Centre.

#### **Section 2: Qualitative Data**

The data in this section was gathered in a number of ways including: from BME Community Groups; Unity Centre users; students and volunteer teachers at our English Conversation Classes; shopkeepers and customers in Brook Street (a centre for international shops and restaurants); other Chester based community centres such as The Wesley Centre and Quaker Meeting House and the Shah Jalal Mosque in Blacon.

The data was gathered mainly through informal conversations and unstructured interviews. It was intended to complement the statistical data and give a more complete picture of the BME population in Chester, their needs, aspirations and issues.

#### 2.1 Employment

Speaking to Unity Centre users confirmed the statistical data that suggested many of the migrants to Chester come for the purposes of work. This was the case with the vast majority of migrants from Europe that we spoke to. Most of these were from Western Europe and told us they had come looking for work as a result of financial crises within their own countries that made work difficult to find. Most had moved to Chester because they had friends or family already here.

Most of these migrants were attendees at the English Conversation classes who came in order to improve their chances of either getting a job or getting a better paid job than the one they currently had. Many were working in retail or in restaurants.

One of the main issues they faced was finding a reliable source of information on what to do in order to be eligible for work, or finding out what jobs were available. This was despite visiting Job Centre Plus.

One particular difficulty they reported was obtaining a National Insurance Number. They said there is little available advice on how to go about this and what exists can be confusing and contradictory. For example, some people had been advised to go online to apply and had received theirs in a fairly straightforward manner. Most, though, had received little or no useful advice, with some having had to go in person to Liverpool before they were given their NI number.

CHAWREC had been able to secure short-term funding to provide employment advice sessions during the 2013/14 academic year and these proved very popular. The story of a migrant worker called Ivan who attended these sessions was typical of the issues faced by many.



## Case Study - Ivan

Ivan came to the UK with his wife from an Eastern European country, hoping to find work. He is highly skilled within a specialised area of manufacturing, with extensive experience and associated qualifications. He began his career on the shop floor and had worked his way up to become a production manager, but was prepared to start from scratch again if that would secure him work.

Ivan began applying for jobs as soon as he arrived in the UK, but did not receive responses to any of his applications. He also tried approaching companies directly with his CV, but again did not hear from any of them. He had tried Job Centre Plus but had not found them to be very helpful.

Ivan spoke English well, but hoped by improving he might have a better chance in the job market. He therefore began to attend the English Conversation Classes at the Unity Centre and, through these, heard about some Employability sessions also being run at the centre.

Ivan enrolled and began attending regular sessions with an employment mentor. His mentor recognised that Ivan needed help to improve his CV and to convert his qualifications into their UK equivalents. As well as this, Ivan's mentor was able to help him negotiate the sometimes confusing terminology used in job descriptions within the manufacturing industry and identify the roles that were right for him.

Before working with his mentor, Ivan had applied for a job with a new manufacturing company. He had done this via an agency, but hadn't heard back from either the agency or the company themselves. With his mentor's help, Ivan identified the company and sent them his new CV and a covering letter that he and his mentor drafted together. The company quickly replied and offered Ivan an interview for a management role. Ivan went along to the interview and was offered the job.

Ivan's skills, experience and qualifications are now being put to use effectively in helping this new UK company to set up their manufacturing business.

Ivan's story is not unique among those people who have attended the English Conversation Classes and the Employability sessions. There are many highly skilled, ambitious and talented people who are keen to work, but who often fail to find it due to a lack of support from job centres or agencies.

None of the migrants we spoke to had been directed to any other organisations by Job Centre Plus. Job Centre Plus had also been unable to help them with understanding issues such as how their qualifications relate to the UK qualifications structure. They felt Job Centre Plus would benefit from having a member of staff who specialises in helping migrant workers, or that Job Centre staff should at least be aware of The Unity Centre and refer migrants there.

A few had been referred to The Unity Centre's classes by members of staff at the Library, who also run informal classes, but none had been referred by any other agency or organisation. Most had heard about the classes via word of mouth from friends or colleagues.

The overriding aspiration in common for all of these people was the desire to work, but they often felt hampered in achieving this. Suggestions they made for improving their ability to find work were:

- Drop-in employment advice sessions at The Unity Centre
- Structured learning programmes at The Unity Centre on improving employment prospects (including how to map foreign qualifications to their UK equivalents)
- Better partnership working between Job Centre Plus and The Unity Centre in order to facilitate referrals from one to the other
- Training for Job Centre Plus staff on issues including how best to assist migrant workers, current and changing legislation, improving confidence in communicating across language barriers, when and how to signpost to other services (including The Unity Centre) and myth-busting about migrant workers

#### 2.2 Communities and Social Inclusion

The existing BME Community groups based at The Unity Centre continue to flourish and provide regular social activities for their members. Members of these groups felt that they were now well established and able to run with minimal support from CHAWREC.

Attendees at the English Conversation Classes were asked whether they would be interested in setting up their own community groups. There was not much interest in the existing model, whereby groups tend to be set up on the basis of a



Representatives from the diverse community groups at the launch of The Unity Centre

particular ethnic or cultural background. Instead, the younger more recent migrants were more interested in setting up or joining groups that were thematically based.

So, for example, the English Conversation Classes bring together people from different ethnic backgrounds with a common purpose, as would something like a parents and toddlers group. Many people said they would like to mix with people from countries, ethnicities and cultures that were different from their own and therefore would not be interested in groups that were based on these aspects of identity.

At the Wesley Centre in Chester, an informal 'International Mums and Tots' group has begun. It began as a general parents and toddlers group, but it quickly became apparent that there was a particular need for parents from migrant communities to have somewhere to meet and socialise during the day. Social isolation is a big risk for parents who are at home with small children, as was illustrated by the story of Hani, an attendee at the English Conversation Classes.

# Case Study - Hani

Hani attends the English Conversation Classes at The Unity Centre. She came to Chester from East Africa several years ago when her husband was offered a job here. She and her husband have two young children. Hani had only recently begun attending the classes and came for two reasons: to learn English and to meet people.

Since arriving in Chester, Hani had felt very isolated, as while her husband was at work she stayed at home looking after the children. Hani and her husband did not know anyone else in Chester who came from their home country and since her English was poor, Hani did not feel confident about trying to make friends with people from other communities. Her isolation meant that her English did not improve and the situation therefore became compounded.

Once her children began attending school, Hani was able to be more independent during the day and found out about the English Conversation Classes. She began attending and is enjoying both improving her English and socialising during the day.

Hani's story is just one example of how BME individuals can be isolated in Cheshire West and Chester. This is due to a number of factors including the relatively small and dispersed migrant communities, but also a lack of provision for members of these communities to meet and socialise.

It highlights the need for services such as the English Conversation Classes and also for the development of other initiatives such as parent and child sessions where parents from migrant communities who otherwise may feel isolated at home can meet, share experiences and make friends. It also highlights that although the English Conversation Classes are available, there is no associated childcare, meaning that parents may be prevented from coming.

Speaking to the retailers and customers in the shops on Brook Street there were accounts of how migrants working in North Wales visit the shops in Brook Street not only to buy goods that they cannot get where they live, but also because there is little provision in terms of support and social inclusion for migrants living and working in North Wales. It is therefore important that the Brook Street retailers are included in the promotion of existing and future initiatives in order for all migrants to become aware of them.

Some migrant groups within Chester have set up their own informal self-help networks via social media. For example, Espanoles en Chester is an active Facebook group for Spanish migrants and is used as a source of information by a number of those who attend the English Conversation Classes. Social media will have a big role to play as provision for BME communities progresses.

#### 2.3 Racism and Hate Crime

There were accounts of racism and xenophobia among the people we spoke to. In its more overt and violent forms, racism tended to be directed at those who were 'visibly' from a BME background, i.e. as a result of their appearance, of where they live in the case of Gypsies and Travellers, or of the wearing of particular clothes for religious reasons.

However, less obvious forms of racism and xenophobia, particularly institutional racism, had been experienced by people from all BME backgrounds. This took the form of less favourable treatment when looking for a job for example.

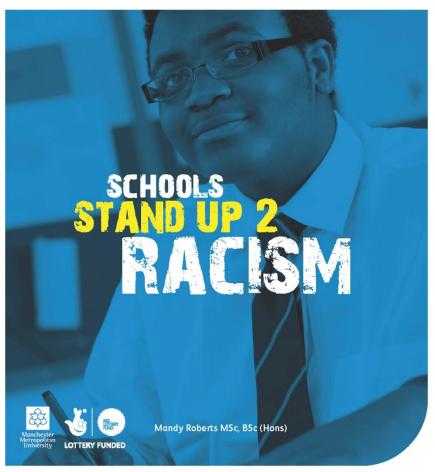
The Schools Stand Up 2 Racism project (<a href="www.standup2racism.org">www.standup2racism.org</a>), a recent piece of research looking at racism in Cheshire secondary schools, found that both everyday and institutional racism continue to exist in schools and are experienced by young people from a variety of backgrounds. However, mixed heritage children were especially vulnerable to institutional racism, sometimes being positioned by their teachers as being 'problematic' and underachieving due to assumed identity issues as a result of being mixed heritage. Since the statistics make it clear we have a large population of young mixed heritage people within Cheshire, these attitudes must be addressed.

Hate crime figures produced by Cheshire Constabulary consistently show that race hate crime is by far the most prevalent in Cheshire. In 2013, it accounted for 74% of all reported hate crimes. Despite this, there are no reporting centres whose key service users are from BME communities, whereas there are several disability and LGBT focused reporting centres.





# Research on racism and anti-racism in Cheshire, Halton and Warrington Secondary Schools



Schools Stand up 2 Racism Report, this and more resources including e-learning package available at <a href="https://www.standup2racism.org.uk">www.standup2racism.org.uk</a>

# **Section 3: Summary of Findings**

Cheshire West and Chester, and the Chester Urban Area in particular, have a growing and diverse BME population. The number of migrants coming to the area has remained relatively stable since 2009, with around 1,000 people arriving each year.

It is a relatively young population, mainly made up of people of working age who have moved to the area specifically for the purposes of employment. The exception to this is amongst those from a 'Mixed Heritage' background, who are much more likely to be of school age than members other groups.

Statistics for the Cheshire West and Chester local authority area as a whole are closely mirrored within the Chester Urban Area. However, Chester has a larger percentage of BME residents than does the local authority area as a whole.

The majority of the BME population come from 'Other White' or 'Asian' backgrounds, although there are also significant 'Mixed Heritage' and 'Irish' populations. The 'Black', 'Gypsy and Traveller' and 'Other' ethnic groups have smaller populations, increasing the potential for social isolation amongst people from these populations.

The BME population in the Chester urban area was reasonably evenly spread across all wards. Chester City ward had the largest percentage of BME residents. Residents from White and Black Caribbean and White and Black African backgrounds were more likely to live in Blacon, an area of deprivation, than elsewhere in Chester.

Migrants to the area come mainly from Europe, The Middle East and Asia and this is reflected in the main languages spoken by those for whom English is not a first language. The majority of those for whom English is not a first language are of working age. Those who came to the UK as children or young adults generally have better proficiency in English than those who came when they were older adults.

The population as a whole is well qualified and successful in finding work, although this can be hindered by a lack of support initially and sometimes the work they are employed in is not congruent with the qualifications and experience held by the individual. Support in mapping foreign qualifications to their UK equivalents and supporting in applying for work can help to overcome these issues.

A large percentage of workers from BME backgrounds are employed in the public sector, or in distribution, hotels and restaurants and are employed in professional occupations. However, there are significant variations between different ethnic groups with 'Other White' groups being more likely to be employed in elementary occupations and manufacturing.

The BME population as a whole is more likely than the White British population to have very young children. Parents who choose to remain at home with these children are at increased risk of social isolation, particularly if they come from one of the less well represented communities or speak English as a second language.

Members of the BME population as a whole are less likely to have a disability than those in the White British population, with the exception of those who identify as 'Irish'.

The vast majority of BME residents reported being Christian. The largest non-Christian faith group was those who identified as Muslim.

# **Appendix**

|      |         | WI    | hite                          |                | Mi                              | xed Hei                          | itage                 |       |        | Asia      | n/Asian Bri | tish    |       | Blac    | k/Black Br | itish | Eth  | her<br>inic<br>oups | Total   |
|------|---------|-------|-------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-------|--------|-----------|-------------|---------|-------|---------|------------|-------|------|---------------------|---------|
|      | British | Irish | Gypsy &<br>Irish<br>Traveller | Other<br>White | White and<br>Black<br>Caribbean | White<br>and<br>Black<br>African | White<br>and<br>Asian | Other | Indian | Pakistani | Bangladeshi | Chinese | Other | African | Caribbean  | Other | Arab | Any<br>Other        |         |
| CW&C | 31,2013 | 2,337 | 213                           | 6462           | 889                             | 411                              | 1,059                 | 691   | 1242   | 336       | 576         | 935     | 1,008 | 586     | 196        | 126   | 199  | 329                 | 329,608 |
| %    | 94.7%   | 0.7%  | 0.1%                          | 2.0%           | 0.3%                            | 0.1%                             | 0.3%                  | 0.2%  | 0.4%   | 0.1%      | 0.2%        | 0.3%    | 0.3%  | 0.2%    | 0.1%       | 0.04% | 0.1% | 0.1%                | 100%    |

Table A1: Total population, Cheshire West and Chester 2011. Source: ONS, Census 2011

|                   |         | W     | hite                          |                | Mi                              | xed He                           | ritage                |       |        | Asia      | n/Asian Bri | tish    |       | Black   | k/Black Br | itish | Ot<br>Eth<br>Gro | Total        |        |
|-------------------|---------|-------|-------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-------|--------|-----------|-------------|---------|-------|---------|------------|-------|------------------|--------------|--------|
|                   | British | Irish | Gypsy &<br>Irish<br>Traveller | Other<br>White | White and<br>Black<br>Caribbean | White<br>and<br>Black<br>African | White<br>and<br>Asian | Other | Indian | Pakistani | Bangladeshi | Chinese | Other | African | Caribbean  | Other | Arab             | Any<br>Other |        |
| Chester<br>City   | 3,344   | 53    | 6                             | 229            | 25                              | 10                               | 13                    | 14    | 42     | 4         | 14          | 20      | 26    | 20      | 5          | 2     | 10               | 16           | 3,853  |
| Blacon            | 12,832  | 105   | 9                             | 323            | 64                              | 26                               | 40                    | 39    | 51     | 6         | 22          | 17      | 41    | 38      | 2          | 2     | 6                | 3            | 13,626 |
| Boughton          | 4,789   | 66    | 2                             | 304            | 28                              | 8                                | 17                    | 15    | 56     | 11        | 21          | 21      | 38    | 29      | 8          | 9     | 5                | 17           | 5,444  |
| Garden<br>Quarter | 4,664   | 71    | 3                             | 280            | 34                              | 13                               | 41                    | 25    | 42     | 11        | 12          | 18      | 39    | 31      | 14         | 1     | 5                | 14           | 5,318  |
| Great<br>Boughton | 8,447   | 72    | 2                             | 187            | 22                              | 19                               | 34                    | 26    | 39     | 9         | 11          | 50      | 27    | 17      | 7          | 4     | 3                | 8            | 8,984  |

| Handbridge<br>Park | 7,974  | 97   | 6    | 357   | 41   | 5    | 48   | 36   | 84   | 26   | 28   | 53   | 41   | 21   | 4    | 2    | 4    | 13   | 8,840  |
|--------------------|--------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|--------|
| Hoole              | 8,424  | 124  | 3    | 386   | 29   | 14   | 51   | 30   | 57   | 7    | 72   | 21   | 52   | 45   | 15   | 2    | 10   | 17   | 9,359  |
| Lache              | 5,262  | 52   | 3    | 202   | 25   | 15   | 23   | 20   | 22   | 13   | 15   | 40   | 18   | 19   | 9    | 4    | 11   | 7    | 5,760  |
| Newton             | 8,475  | 104  | 7    | 441   | 25   | 20   | 47   | 23   | 72   | 48   | 95   | 36   | 55   | 50   | 13   | 2    | 10   | 33   | 9,556  |
| Upton              | 8,153  | 85   | 8    | 170   | 32   | 13   | 30   | 19   | 89   | 39   | 64   | 35   | 52   | 39   | 22   | 16   | 21   | 18   | 8,905  |
| Total              | 72,364 | 829  | 49   | 2,879 | 325  | 143  | 344  | 247  | 554  | 174  | 354  | 311  | 389  | 309  | 99   | 44   | 85   | 146  | 79,645 |
| %                  | 90.9%  | 1.0% | 0.1% | 3.6%  | 0.4% | 0.2% | 0.4% | 0.3% | 0.7% | 0.2% | 0.4% | 0.4% | 0.5% | 0.4% | 0.1% | 0.1% | 0.1% | 0.2% | 100%   |

Table A2: Total population, Chester Urban Area 2011. Source: ONS, Census 2011

|            |         | Wł    | nite                          |                | Mi                              | Mixed Heritage Asian/Asian British Black/Black British |                       |       |        |           |             | itish   | Ot<br>Eth<br>Gro |         |           |       |      |              |         |
|------------|---------|-------|-------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|--|-----------------------|-------|--------|-----------|-------------|---------|------------------|---------|-----------|-------|------|--------------|---------|
| Age        | British | Irish | Gypsy &<br>Irish<br>Traveller | Other<br>White | White and<br>Black<br>Caribbean | White<br>and<br>Black<br>African                       | White<br>and<br>Asian | Other | Indian | Pakistani | Bangladeshi | Chinese | Other            | African | Caribbean | Other | Arab | Any<br>Other | Total   |
| 0 - 24     | 88,165  | 251   | 92                            | 1,638          | 484                             | 282  | 698                   | 397   | 383    | 145       | 260         | 311     | 309              | 180     | 46        | 39    | 70   | 96           | 93,846  |
| 25 -<br>49 | 100,541 | 729   | 66                            | 3,608          | 267                             | 89   | 273                   | 205   | 648    | 154       | 259         | 400     | 544              | 343     | 97        | 68    | 89   | 172          | 108,552 |
| 50 -<br>64 | 63,839  | 614   | 33                            | 731            | 75                              | 29   | 69                    | 64    | 131    | 21        | 44          | 162     | 116              | 52      | 40        | 10    | 33   | 47           | 66,110  |
| 65 +       | 59,468  | 743   | 22                            | 485            | 63                              | 11   | 19                    | 25    | 80     | 16        | 13          | 62      | 39               | 11      | 13        | 9     | 7    | 14           | 61,100  |
| Total      | 312013  | 2,337 | 213                           | 6,462          | 889                             | 411  | 1,059                 | 691   | 1,242  | 339       | 576         | 935     | 1,008            | 586     | 196       | 126   | 199  | 329          | 329,608 |

Table A3: Total population by age, Cheshire West and Chester 2011. Source: ONS, Census 2011

| Main<br>Ethnic<br>Group    |       | European        |       |       | Afri             | са             |       |                | Middl        | e East ar     | d Asia                |                 | T                | he Americ                     | Australas<br>-ia and<br>Oceania | Total |        |
|----------------------------|-------|-----------------|-------|-------|------------------|----------------|-------|----------------|--------------|---------------|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------|--------|
|                            | EU    | EU<br>Accession | Other | North | Central/<br>West | South/<br>East | Other | Middle<br>East | East<br>Asia | South<br>Asia | South<br>East<br>Asia | Central<br>Asia | North<br>America | Central &<br>South<br>America | Caribbean                       |       |        |
| CW&C                       | 2,931 | 3,249           | 505   | 202   | 263              | 1,441          | 26    | 314            | 667          | 1,446         | 989                   | 49              | 224              | 273                           | 224                             | 651   | 13,809 |
| % within main ethnic group | 43.8% | 48.6%           | 7.6%  | 10.5% | 13.6%            | 74.6%          | 1.3%  | 9.1%           | 19.2<br>%    | 41.7%         | 28.5%                 | 1.4%            | 31.1%            | 37.9%                         | 31.1%                           | 100%  |        |
| % within total             | 21.2% | 23.5%           | 3.7%  | 1.5%  | 1.9%             | 10.4%          | 0.2%  | 2.3%           | 4.8%         | 10.5%         | 7.2%                  | 0.1%            | 5.9%             | 2.0%                          | 1.2%                            | 4.7%  | 100%   |

Table A4: Country of birth for non-UK born residents, Cheshire West and Chester 2011. Source: ONS, Census 2011