

Cambridgeshire ACRE

# A Demographic & Socio-Economic Review of Old Weston Parish

April 2020



cc-by-sa/2.0 - The Swan by Alex McGregor - [geograph.org.uk/p/5576133](http://geograph.org.uk/p/5576133)

The Swan, Old Weston © Copyright Alex McGregor and licensed for reuse under this Creative Commons Licence

## About Cambridgeshire ACRE



Cambridgeshire ACRE is an independent charity established in 1924. We are part of a network of 38 Rural Community Councils across England and are a member of ACRE (the national umbrella for RCCs). We are proud to support local communities in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, and nearby where appropriate. We put a lot of effort into getting to know our customers so we can understand what they need from us. This ensures we focus on providing products and services that really make a difference to local people as they work in their own communities.

As part of our work we provide a Neighbourhood Planning service for local communities. We have developed this service by building on our skills, knowledge and competencies gained in other project areas such as rural affordable housing and community-led planning and by working with local planning consultants to broaden our capacity.

Our current partners are:



You can find out more about our team and our work from our Neighbourhood Planning Information Leaflet at <https://wordpress.com/view/camsacrenpservice.wordpress.com>

## CONTENTS

## PAGE

<b>A DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC REVIEW OF OLD WESTON PARISH .....</b>	<b>4</b>
Key points .....	5
Introduction .....	6
Old Weston .....	6
A Note on Data Sources .....	7
Demography.....	8
Housing Stock.....	12
House Prices & Affordability .....	14
Economic Activity.....	20
Deprivation .....	23
Appendix - Maps .....	27



## A DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC REVIEW OF OLD WESTON PARISH

### Key Points

- Old Weston is a small village with a population of a little over 200 people. The population has been declining in recent years.
- The village forms part of a network of small villages in western Huntingdonshire along the A14.
- Old Weston's population profile is typical of a Cambridgeshire rural community. A lower proportion of people aged 25-39 is counter-balanced by a higher proportion of people aged 45-74.
- Health issues are strongly correlated to age and are relatively scarce in Old Weston.
- Owner occupation is the dominant tenure but slightly less so than in Huntingdonshire as a whole. Old Weston retains a significant stock of social and private rented properties.
- However, the housing stock is also dominated by large detached houses. 32% of dwellings had 5 or more bedrooms in 2011 compared with just 5% in Huntingdonshire. The consequential shortage of smaller market houses has implications for those on low incomes.
- House prices are well above the Huntingdonshire average and, less significantly, above the prices in adjacent wards. The lower quartile price for a 3 bed house in Kimbolton ward (including Old Weston) is £315,000. A household would need an income of £76,500 to afford this.
- However, the challenge is about availability as well as affordability. Only one property has been sold in Old Weston for less than £400,000 in the last five years. (A 5 bedroom property sold for £375,000 in 2015).
- The rental market is limited and, again, prices are high. There is little, if anything, available for low income households. Even the social rented sector only provides about one home per year.
- There is limited evidence of need for affordable housing but this may be hidden or suppressed by the realities of the market.
- Economic activity rates are high in Old Weston. Self employment levels are particularly high and there are well above average levels of people employed in managerial, professional and associate professional roles. However, most people manage to find work locally with about two thirds based in Huntingdonshire and many much closer still.
- The low levels of people employed in elementary roles is consistent with the high house prices in the area.
- Locally, employment opportunities are dominated by 'defence activities' (presumably connected to RAF Molesworth). Other smaller sectors include professional, scientific & technical services (such as management consultancy) and accommodation & food services activities (largely pubs).
- Deprivation is limited in Old Weston. Where it is identifiable it is in relation to the limited access to services and the general living environment. This latter factor is probably influenced by road traffic accidents on the A14 in the locality.
- There are relatively few working age benefit claimants. Most of those seeking work are constrained by health issues. Some claimants also have caring responsibilities. About half are aged over 50.

## Introduction

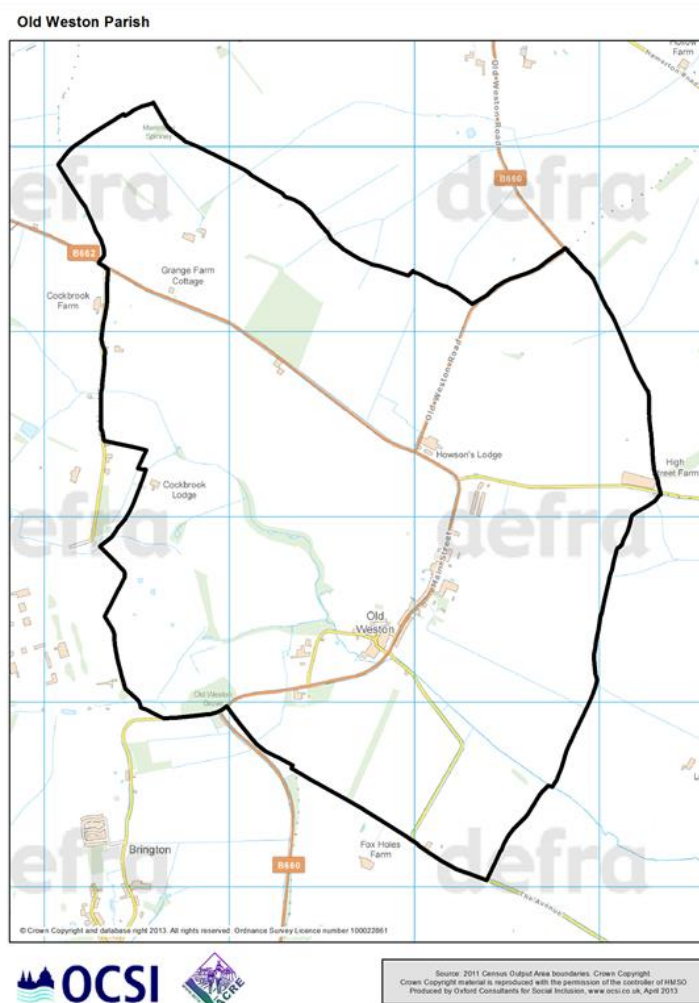
This report has been produced to support the development of the Old Weston Neighbourhood Plan. It pulls together a range of published data to paint a picture of the parish in terms of its demography and housing, local labour market and socio-economic characteristics.

The report starts with a Key Points section. A brief description of the parish in terms of its geography and facilities is followed by a note on the geographical boundaries used for data analysis together with a short commentary on the available data sources and their limitations. The analysis is set out under five themes:

1. Demography
2. Housing Stock
3. House Prices & Affordability
4. Economic activity
5. Deprivation

## Old Weston

*Map of Old Weston parish boundary*



Old Weston is a small village situated on the western perimeter of Huntingdonshire district. It is about two miles north of the A14 and connects via the B660 which runs north/ southwards through the centre of the village. The parish boundary extends well beyond the village and includes part of RAF Molesworth.

Old Weston's nearest neighbours are similar small villages such as Brington, Molesworth and Leighton Bromswold. The nearest larger towns are Huntingdon to the east and Thrapston to the west.

Services are limited although the village does still retain a church, pub and village hall.

*Community facilities in Old Weston include a church and village hall*



St Swithin's Church, Old Weston © Copyright Ben and licensed for reuse under this Creative Commons Licence



Old Weston Village Hall © Copyright <http://oldwestonvillagehall.btck.co.uk/>

## **A Note on Data Sources**

A range of published data sources have been used to compile this report. Parish level data is obviously ideal as it matches the Neighbourhood Plan area. However, not all data is published at this geography. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) uses 'Output Areas' (OAs) as the building block for its local area data and publishes a range of data at this scale and aggregations of it (known as 'Super Output Areas'). The average population of an OA is about 300 people.

Fortuitously, Old Weston parish is contiguous with a single Output Area. Therefore, any data (principally the 2011 Census of Population) published for OAs can be used to collect data for the Neighbourhood Plan area.

Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) are an aggregation of OAs. Old Weston lies with LSOA E01018126 which includes six OAs and the villages of Brington, Bythorn, Catworth, Keyston, Leighton Bromswold, Molesworth, Old Weston and Stow Longa. This is the geography used for the English Indices of Deprivation and is also the best available fit for the Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) which provides the most up to date source of local employment data.

The next aggregation is the Middle Super Output Area (MSOA). However, the relevant MSOA extends as far south as Hail Weston and is considered to be of limited value in analysing Old Weston parish. It is not used in this report.

The 2011 census frozen ward boundary ('Ellington') is a slightly better fit. It includes LSOA E01018126 but also a number of villages to the east including Barham, Buckworth, Easton, Ellington, Spaldwick and Woolley. Again, it is not used in this report. The 2018 ward boundary introduced significant changes. Old Weston and the rest of LSOA E01018126 is aggregated with an area to the south including the villages of Covington, Kimbolton, Stonely and Tilbrook to form the Kimbolton ward. Although far from perfect this is the smallest geography available house price data from Hometrack.

A set of maps showing these various boundaries is included as an appendix.

## Demography

Old Weston's population has changed little in recent years. In fact, between 2011 and 2018 it is estimated that the population actually fell from 250 to 224 people which is consistent with falling household sizes occurring in a village where there has been virtually no housing development.<sup>1</sup> There were only five (net) new dwellings completed in the parish between 2011/12 and 2018/19.<sup>2</sup>

In historical terms, Old Weston's current population is actually lower than it was in 1881. The population fluctuated but in general declined from this point over the next 100 years or so reaching a low point of 164 people in 1991. Growth over the following 20 years had come to a halt by 2011.

Old Weston's age profile is typical of a Cambridgeshire rural community. A lower than average proportion of people aged 25-39 is counter-balanced by a higher than average proportion of people aged 45-74. Old Weston has retained a significant level of school age children although the low numbers aged 0-9 suggests this may diminish in future years. There is a significant tailing off in the population aged 75+ which is consistent with many smaller rural communities which lack readily accessible local health facilities.

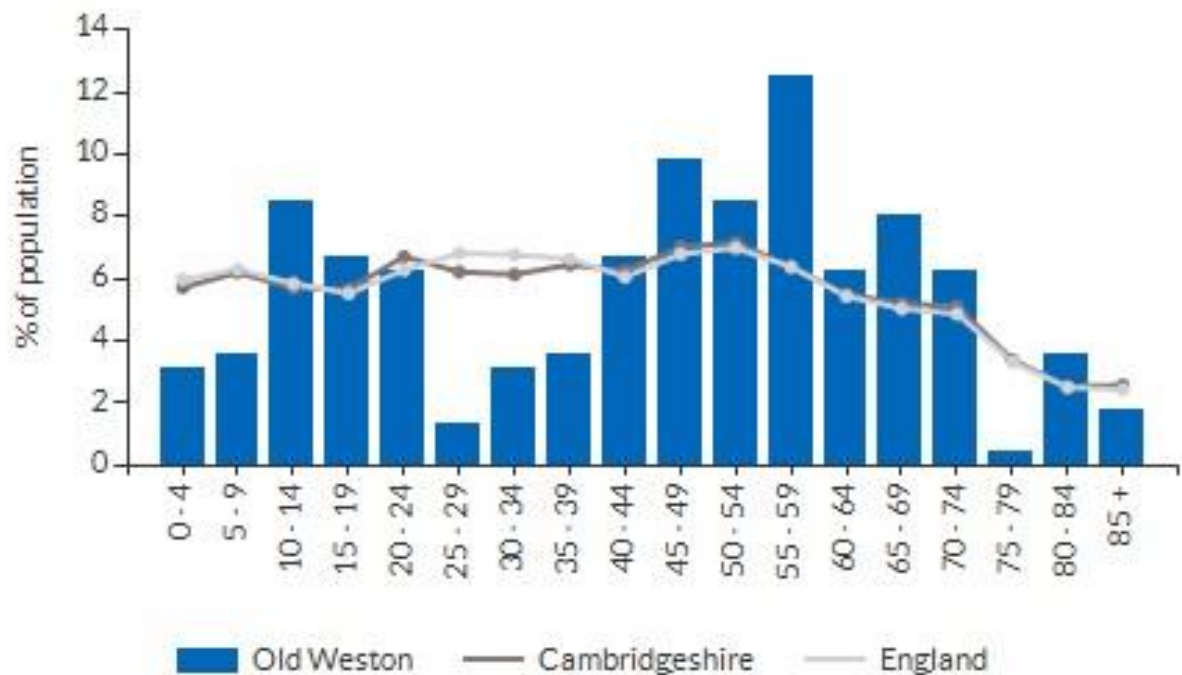
---

<sup>1</sup> <https://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/parish-profile/?geographyId=7f94ea12b8914d3cb0c0c29bc9ad1767&featureId=E04001726> and 'Population and Dwelling Stock Estimates, Mid 2011 to Mid 2015', Cambridgeshire CC

<sup>2</sup> 'Annual Monitoring Report Part 1 (Housing)', Huntingdonshire DC (October 2019)



Figure1: Old Weston population by age, 2018



Date: 2018 Source: ONS

Source: <https://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/parish-profile>

The lack of elderly people is reflected in the household composition of Old Weston. The number of households (both single person and couples) where all residents are aged 65+ is well below the average in both Huntingdonshire and Cambridgeshire. There is also a low proportion of other one person households.

In contrast, Old Weston is dominated by family households. Couples with dependent children account for almost four in ten of all households. There are also a significant number of couples with no children.

The proportion of lone parent families (2.3%) is well below the Huntingdonshire (8.1%) and Cambridgeshire (7.5%) averages.

Table 1: Household composition

	Old Weston	Huntingdonshire	Cambridgeshire
<b>All categories: Household composition</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>One person household</b>	<b>14.8</b>	<b>25.5</b>	<b>27.4</b>
One person household: Aged 65 and over	8.0	10.7	11.7
One person household: Other	6.8	14.9	15.7
<b>One family household</b>	<b>80.7</b>	<b>68.7</b>	<b>65.2</b>
One family only: All aged 65 and over	6.8	9.2	9.0
One family only: Married or same-sex civil partnership couple	60.2	40.2	37.8
<i>One family only: Married or same-sex civil partnership couple: No children</i>	20.5	15.9	14.9
<i>One family only: Married or same-sex civil partnership couple: Dependent children</i>	33.0	18.4	17.6
<i>One family only: Married or same-sex civil partnership couple: All children non-dependent</i>	6.8	5.9	5.3
One family only: Cohabiting couple	11.4	11.2	10.9
<i>One family only: Cohabiting couple: No children</i>	6.8	6.2	6.2
<i>One family only: Cohabiting couple: Dependent children</i>	4.5	4.5	4.2
<i>One family only: Cohabiting couple: All children non-dependent</i>	0.0	0.5	0.5
One family only: Lone parent	2.3	8.1	7.5
<i>One family only: Lone parent: Dependent children</i>	2.3	5.3	4.9
<i>One family only: Lone parent: All children non-dependent</i>	0.0	2.8	2.7
<b>Other household types</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>7.4</b>
Other household types: With dependent children	1.1	2.0	2.1
Other household types: All full-time students	0.0	0.0	0.5
Other household types: All aged 65 and over	1.1	0.2	0.3
Other household types: Other	2.3	3.5	4.6

Source: Table KS105EW, Census of Population, 2011 (via NOMIS)

Four per cent of Old Weston's population consider themselves to have health issues that restrict their day-to-day activities a lot and eight per cent have health issues that restrict their day-to-day activities a little. Health issues are slightly more prevalent among women

(13%) than men (11%). These levels are slightly lower than in Huntingdonshire and Cambridgeshire.

There is a very strong correlation between health and age. Health problems are relatively scarce for all cohorts aged under 50. Health problems escalate from 50+ but are particularly significant among those aged 75+. Some care has to be taken in interpreting the data for Old Weston due the small populations involved but the trends described can be seen more clearly for larger areas such as Huntingdonshire.<sup>3</sup>

*Table 2: Long term limiting health by age in Old Weston*

<b>Age</b>	<b>Day-to-day activities limited a lot (%)</b>	<b>Day-to-day activities limited a little (%)</b>	<b>Day-to-day activities not limited (%)</b>
All categories: Age	4.4	7.6	88.0
Age 0 to 15	1.7	0.0	98.3
Age 16 to 24	8.7	4.3	87.0
Age 25 to 34	0.0	6.3	93.8
Age 35 to 49	1.6	3.1	95.3
Age 50 to 64	4.9	8.2	86.9
Age 65 to 74	0.0	18.8	81.3
Age 75 to 84	20.0	80.0	0.0
Age 85 and over	50.0	50.0	0.0

*Source: Table LC3302EW, Census of Population, 2011 (via NOMIS)*

<sup>3</sup> Table LC3302EW, 2011 Census of Population (via NOMIS)

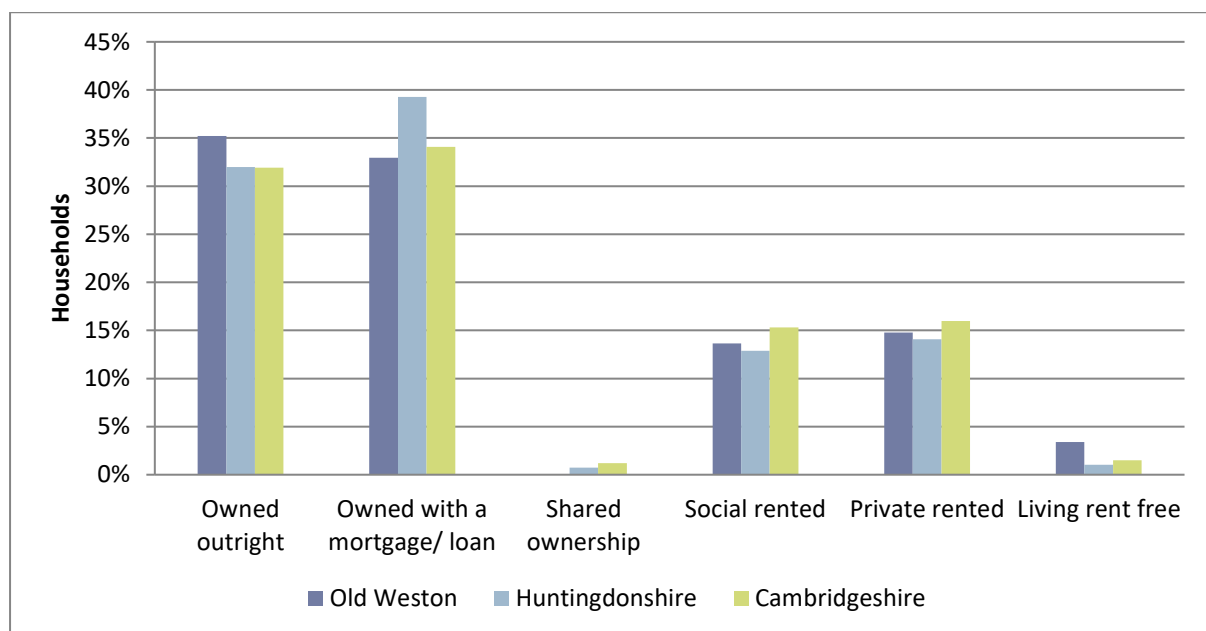
The population of Old Weston parish is predominantly 'White British'. This category accounted for 88.0 per cent of the population in 2011 compared with 89.5 per cent in Huntingdonshire and 84.5 per cent in Cambridgeshire. The more distinguishing characteristic is that the vast majority of the remainder of the population are accounted for by a single group. The 'Other white' group accounted for a further 9.2 per cent of the population leaving only very small numbers across all the remaining categories. The non-White British population is far more diverse across the rest of Huntingdonshire and Cambridgeshire.<sup>4</sup>

## Housing Stock

Owner occupation is the dominant tenure in Old Weston accounting for 68 per cent of all households in 2011. However, this is slightly lower than in Huntingdonshire (71%) and only slightly higher than in Cambridgeshire (66%).

Old Weston still retains a significant level of social rented accommodation (14%) and private rented accommodation (15%), both marginally higher than Huntingdonshire in 2011. The parish has no shared ownership accommodation.

Figure 2: Old Weston housing tenure, 2011

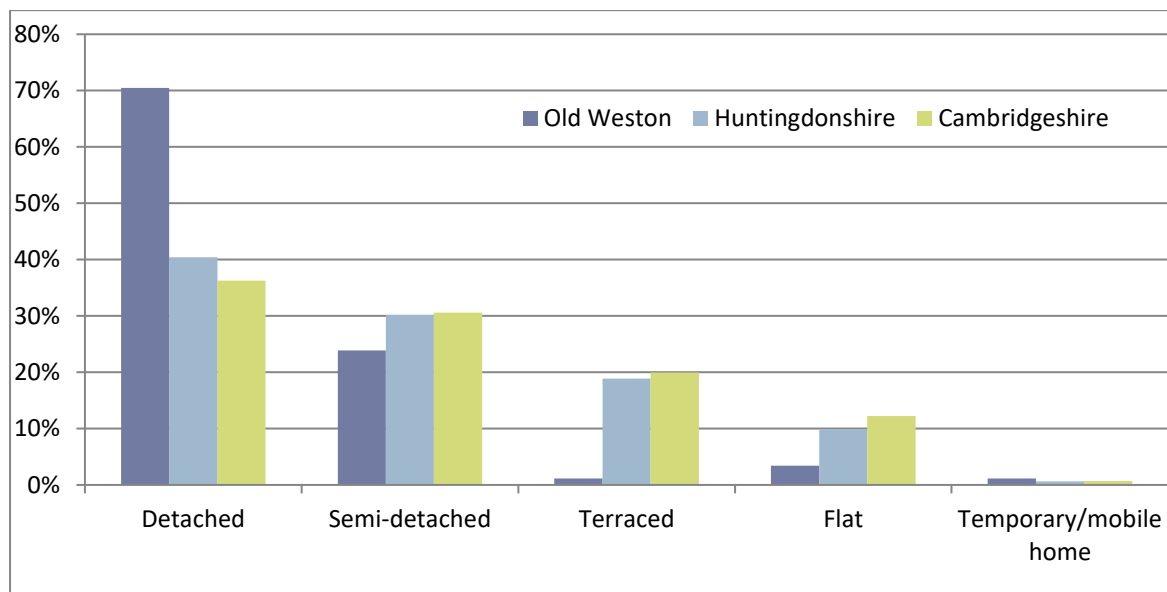


Source: 'Old Weston Grey Parish Profile', Cambridgeshire County Council (October 2014)

Old Weston's housing stock is dominated by large detached houses. In 2011, 70 per cent were detached properties compared with 40 per cent in Huntingdonshire. In contrast, semi-detached houses and, particularly, terraced houses and flats were under-represented in the parish.

<sup>4</sup> Table KS201EW, 2011 Census of Population (via NOMIS)

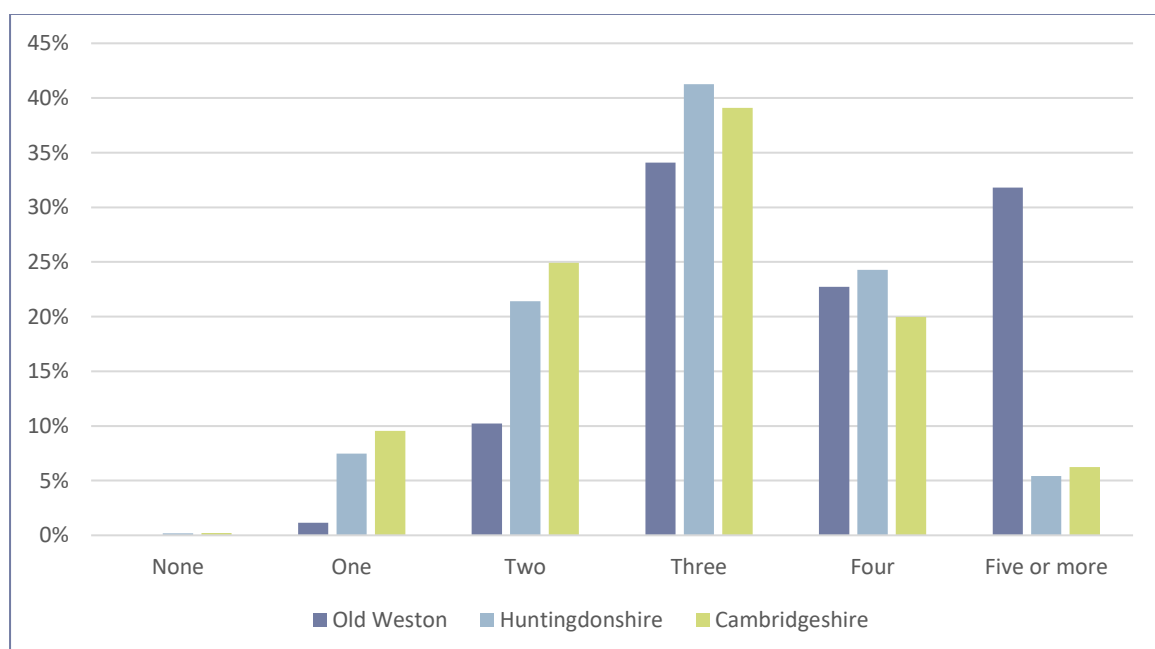
Figure 3: Old Weston housing type, 2011



Source: 'Old Weston Parish Profile', Cambridgeshire County Council (October 2014)

Not surprisingly, given the dominance of detached houses, there is also a predominance of larger homes. In 2011, 32 per cent of dwellings had five or more bedrooms. This compared with just five per cent in Huntingdonshire. In contrast, smaller properties were less prevalent. The proportion of one and two-bed properties was low (11%) in comparison with Huntingdonshire (28%). The shortage of smaller market housing and social housing in general has implications for low income families seeking to stay in Old Weston.

Figure 4: Old Weston dwellings by number of bedrooms, 2011



Source: 'Old Weston Parish Profile', Cambridgeshire County Council (October 2014)

Information on the age of the housing stock in Old Weston is not readily available. However, historical population trends provide some indications. The growth in population between 1991 and 2011 suggests there was some new development during this period. However, there were no other significant periods of growth post 1951. The last major period of population growth in the parish was the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century which suggests that the village has a significant proportion of housing stock of considerable age. Despite this, there is no Conservation Area in the parish.

### House Prices and Affordability

A review of estate agent websites was undertaken to assess the affordability and availability of properties in the area.<sup>5</sup> The review identified only one property currently available for sale. This was a 4 bedroom detached house priced at £550,000.<sup>6</sup>

*The only property currently on the market in Old Weston*



4 bed detached house, Brington Road, Old Weston for sale at £550,000 [www.rightmove.co.uk](http://www.rightmove.co.uk)

The net was cast wider by reviewing sales in the parish over the last year. This identified a further five properties. Sales prices ranged from £437,500 to £500,000. These did include two 3 bedroom properties but they attracted prices of £460,000 and £500,000 respectively. Both potentially attracted a premium as they were bungalows.

Looking back over five years only identified a total of 12 sales. Only one property sold for less than £400,000. This was a 5 bedroom detached house sold for £375,000 in October 2015. There do not appear to have been any 1 and 2 bedroom properties sold in the parish in this period.

---

<sup>5</sup>[www.rightmove.co.uk](http://www.rightmove.co.uk), [www.onthemarket.com](http://www.onthemarket.com) and [www.zoopla.co.uk](http://www.zoopla.co.uk) (as at 20 April 2020)

<sup>6</sup> The review was undertaken when strict social distancing measures were in place due to Covid-19. The impact of this is unclear. Very few properties are currently being added to the market but conversely very few sales are proceeding.

*Examples of lower priced house sales in Old Weston in the last year*



4 bed detached house, Main Street, Old Weston, sold @ £437,500 (Dec 2019) [www.rightmove.co.uk](http://www.rightmove.co.uk)



3 bed bungalow, Brington Road, Old Weston, sold @ £460,000 (Jun 2019) [www.rightmove.co.uk](http://www.rightmove.co.uk)

The reliability of these prices can be further corroborated by considering them alongside published house price data by Hometrack (see Table 3) to provide an indication of entry level prices in the Old Weston housing market. Hometrack data covers the larger area of Kimbolton ward (see map below). This includes the parishes of Brington & Molesworth, Byworth & Keyston, Catworth, Covington, Kimbolton, Leighton Bromswold, Old Weston, Stow Longa and Tilbrook.

*Kimbolton ward and constituent parishes*



Source: <https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/media/3418/huntingdonshire-district-wards-map.pdf>

By widening the sample size to the ward there were 37 sales and valuations of 2, 3 and 4 bedroom houses undertaken over a recent six month period. Data is not published for 5 bedroom houses and the samples are too small for prices on flats to be published for this ward. The lower quartile price for a 2 bedroom house should also be treated with some caution as it is only based on a sample of three. However, the prices for 3 and 4 bedroom houses are more robust and suggest that entry level prices (at least for larger homes) are well above Huntingdonshire prices and also significantly higher than in neighbouring wards within Huntingdonshire.

*Table 3: Lower Quartile Property Prices by ward, September 2019 – February 2020<sup>7</sup>*

	2-bed house	3-bed house	4-bed house
Kimbolton	£205,000	£315,000	£456,875
Alconbury	£230,000	£239,000	£322,500
Great Staughton	£180,000	£269,000	£379,000
Huntingdonshire	£180,000	£222,000	£312,500

*Note: Data are an average of house price sales and valuations over a six month period. Prices can fluctuate from one period to another due to the low level of sales involved. Nevertheless, the prices do reflect actual sales and valuations.*

Table 4 has been constructed to assess affordability. It is based on the lower quartile prices for Kimbolton ward (as set out in table 3). It should be noted that only one property sold in the last five years in Old Weston was sold at below these prices. This suggests that Old Weston prices may be even higher than the Kimbolton ward averages. Affordability is assessed in the context of the lower quartile prices for 2, 3 and 4 bedroom houses by applying standard assumptions about deposits and mortgages to calculate the minimum salary needed to purchase these properties.

Even at an entry level price of £205,000 an annual income of about £50,000 would be required on the assumptions used. To put this in context, a household with two people working full-time and earning the ‘national living wage’ will earn about £30-£35,000 per

<sup>7</sup> Hometrack Housing Intelligence System (Kimbolton ward includes the parishes of Brington & Molesworth, Byworth & Keyston, Catworth, Covington, Kimbolton, Leighton Bromswold, Old Weston, Stow Longa and Tilbrook)



annum (depending in the number of hours worked).<sup>8</sup> Again, it should be noted that there has been no 2 bedroom houses sold in Old Weston in the last five years. An income of £76,500 would be required to purchase a three bedroom house priced at £315,000.

*Table 4: Annual Income requirements for open market properties*

House Price	Deposit required (assume 15% required)	Annual income required (based on mortgage lending principle of 3.5 x income)	Monthly mortgage payment <sup>9</sup>
£205,000	£30,750	£49,786	£826
£315,000	£47,250	£76,500	£1,270
£457,875	£68,681	£111,198	£1,846

A household's ability to buy is also dependent on them having saved an appropriate deposit. The calculations presented here assume a mortgage to house value of 85 per cent. In other words, the purchaser can raise a deposit of 15 per cent. It may be possible to secure a mortgage with a lower deposit but this will require even higher income levels. Clearly, many existing owner occupiers in Old Weston will have significant housing equity. However, young people seeking to leave the parental home or those in the rented sector may not.

Every household has its own set of unique circumstances. Therefore, the assumptions set out above are just that; working assumptions. Nevertheless, it seems reasonable to conclude that many low income households with a connection to Old Weston have little chance of being able to set up home in their own community without some kind of support.

Shared ownership or other forms of low cost home ownership may be a more affordable option for some. However, as of 2011 there were no shared ownership properties in the parish. It is not believed that there have been any built since.

The alternative to buying is to rent. Table 5 shows the typical cost for renting privately and compares this with the typical rental cost of a new Housing Association property. The Government has taken steps to bring social housing rents closer to private sector ones, with

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.livingwage.org.uk/>. The national living wage currently pays £8.72 per hour but only applies to those aged 25 and older

<sup>9</sup> Source: [www.moneyadvice.org.uk/](http://www.moneyadvice.org.uk/) – mortgage calculator based on 3% repayment mortgage repaid over 25 years

rents for new tenants set at up to 80 per cent of the amount you would have to pay in the private sector.

Table 5 includes data for Kimbolton ward. This suggests the likely 'affordable rent' charged by a Housing Association could be higher than the Local Housing Allowance (LHA) rate for 3 bedroom properties and about equal for 2 bedroom properties. The LHA is used to cap Housing Benefit for those in the private rented sector.

*Table 5: Comparison of property rental costs in Kimbolton ward, March 2019 - February 2020<sup>10</sup>*

No. of Beds	Typical market rent per week (median rent)	Entry level rent per week (30 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	Housing Association Maximum affordable rent per week (80% of median market rent)	Local Housing Allowance (Northants BMRA) <sup>11</sup> 2020-21 (applicable from 1 April 2020)
1	£150	£150	£120	£109.32
2	£172	£160	£138	£138.08
3	£213	£196	£170	£159.95
4	n/a	n/a	n/a	£205.97

Our review found two properties currently available to rent in the private rental market within Old Weston. Both were 3 bedroom semi-detached houses. One was seeking a rental of £219 per week and one was seeking £265 per week. Both are above the median rent for Kimbolton ward.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>10</sup> Hometrack Intelligence Service (Kimbolton ward includes the parishes of Brington & Molesworth, Byworth & Keyston, Catworth, Covington, Kimbolton, Leighton Bromswold, Old Weston, Stow Longa and Tilbrook)

<sup>11</sup> Old Weston falls within the Northants Broad Market Rental Area (BMRA) rather than the Huntingdon BMRA

<sup>12</sup> [www.onthemarket.com](http://www.onthemarket.com), [www.zoopla.co.uk](http://www.zoopla.co.uk) and [www.rightmove.co.uk](http://www.rightmove.co.uk) (as at 21 April 2020)

*The only properties on the private rental market in Old Weston at the time of this report*



3 bed semi-detached house, Main Street, Old Weston, for rent @ £219 per week [www.rightmove.co.uk](http://www.rightmove.co.uk)



3 bed semi-detached house, West bank, Main Street, Old Weston, for rent @ £265 per week [www.rightmove.co.uk](http://www.rightmove.co.uk)

Social rented properties become available only occasionally. Between March 2008 and December 2013 there were five properties became available in Old Weston (about one per year). They attracted an average of 29 bids each (compared with 41 per property across Huntingdonshire as a whole).<sup>13</sup>

There are currently no households on the Housing Register with a local connection to Old Weston.<sup>14</sup> This does not mean that there is no need for affordable housing in the parish. Many potential candidates do not join the Register because they either don't understand the system or don't believe they have a chance of being allocated a property. There is also a separate Register for those interested in low cost home ownership (such as shared ownership) rather than rented accommodation. Housing Needs Surveys are usually undertaken to build a more complete picture of housing need. However, it does seem likely that any need will be low.

---

<sup>13</sup> 'Parish Profiles', Cambridgeshire County Council Research Group, October 2014

<sup>14</sup> Data supplied by Huntingdonshire DC on 22.04.20. Although there was one applicant on the Register they were 'under offer' and were therefore in the process of being re-housed

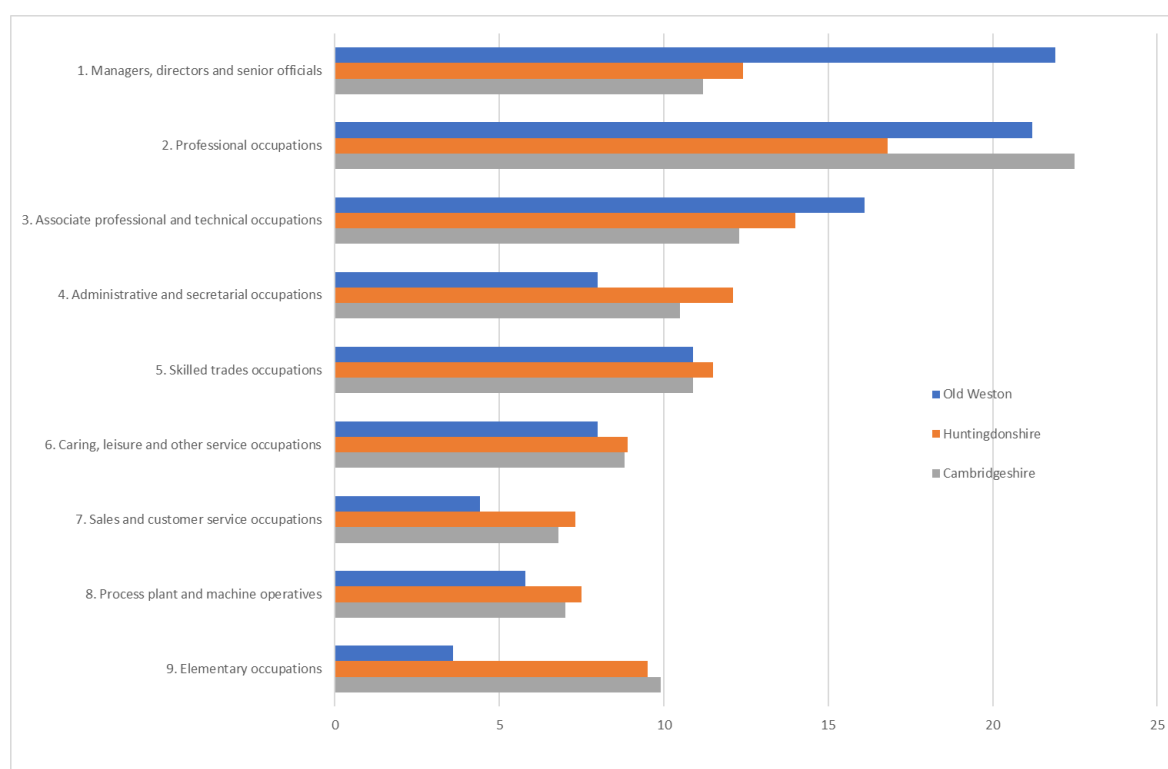
## Economic Activity

Labour market data for Old Weston is limited. The 2011 Census of Population provides the most up to date comprehensive picture. It showed that economic activity rates were relatively high in Old Weston in 2011.<sup>15</sup> 78.3 per cent of all people aged 16-74 were economically active. This was above Huntingdonshire (74.6 per cent) and Cambridgeshire (72.0 per cent). Rates were higher for men and the gap between Old Weston and the district and county averages was also higher for men.

The majority of the economically active were in full-time employment and self employment (17.8% of all aged 16-74) was almost double the Huntingdonshire (9.5%) and Cambridgeshire (9.8%) averages. Unemployment was virtually non-existent, accounting for only 1.1 per cent of all people aged 16-74.

The economically inactive were largely divided between the retired, students and those looking after a home or family. There were very few people economically inactive due to ill health which is consistent with the data in Table 2 which showed that relatively few people of working age are significantly restricted by health issues.

Figure 5: Employment by occupation, 2011 (per cent)



Source: 2011 Census of Population (Tables KS608-610EW), via NOMIS

<sup>15</sup> Table KS601-603EW, 2011 Census of Population (via NOMIS)

The employment profile of employed residents in Old Weston is heavily skewed towards managerial, professional and associate professional roles in comparison with Huntingdonshire and Cambridgeshire. In contrast, there are significantly lower proportions employed in what could be termed intermediate or lower skilled roles such as administrative & secretarial, sales & customer services and elementary occupations. The particularly low representation of people employed in elementary occupations is consistent with the challengingly high house prices in the parish.

The most common sectors of employment for Old Weston residents were education, wholesale & retail, and professional, scientific and technical activities.<sup>16</sup>

Most employed residents in Old Weston work locally with the majority travelling within Huntingdonshire. In fact, approaching half of all workers either work from home, have no fixed workplace or work within MSOA E02003767 (a large rural hinterland covering western Huntingdonshire and including Old Weston).

*Table 6: Commuting from Old Weston, 2011<sup>17</sup>*

Workplace	
Work from home/ no fixed workplace	41
<i>MSOA E02003767 (Incl Old Weston)</i>	<i>18</i>
Huntingdonshire	48
Rest of Cambridgeshire & Peterborough	17
Eastern Northamptonshire	12
Bedford	10
London	7

*Source: Table WF02EW, Census of Population, 2011 (via NOMIS)*

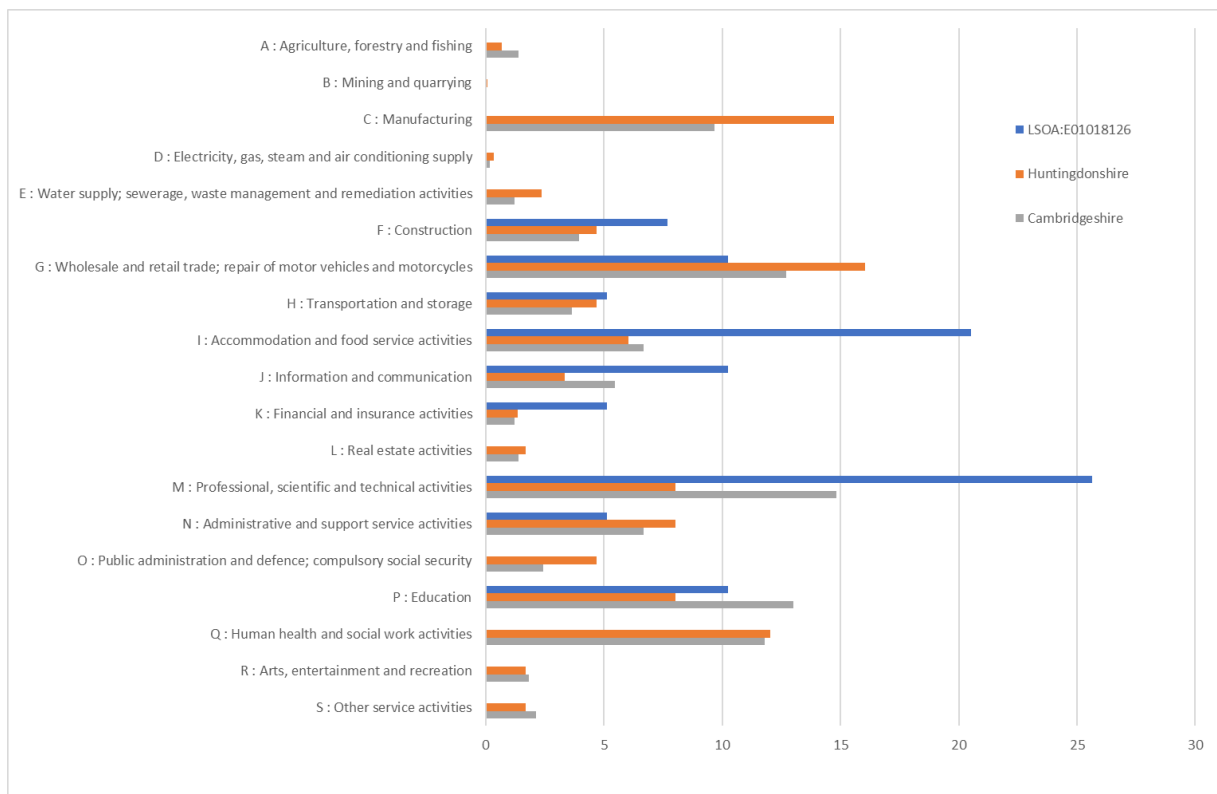
<sup>16</sup> Table KS605-607EW, 2011 Census of Population (via NOMIS)

<sup>17</sup> WF02EW is a very large and complex dataset. The data presented in this table is simplified and excludes locations where numbers commuting from Old Weston are minimal. Therefore, the figures do not cover all commuting from the parish but do cover the vast majority.

About two-thirds work within the district boundary of Huntingdonshire. The little commuting that does occur beyond the district boundary is focused on the rest of Cambridgeshire & Peterborough (mainly the cities of Cambridge and Peterborough), Bedford and eastern Northamptonshire. There is very little commuting to London.

The Business Register & Employment Survey provides a more up to date analysis of employment by industry at a local level. (This dataset records people where they work rather than where they live) However, the smallest geography for which data is published is the LSOA. Old Weston falls within LSOA E01018126 which includes the villages of Brington, Bythorn, Catworth, Keyston, Leighton Bromswold, Molesworth, Old Weston and Stow Longa. Therefore, the data is not an accurate reflection of employment within Old Weston but it does provide a useful snapshot of the employment structure of the broader rural economy within which Old Weston sits.

Figure 6: Employment by industry in Old Weston, 2018<sup>18</sup>



Source: BRES, 2018 (via NOMIS)

By far the largest employment sector in the LSOA is 'defence activities' which is presumably related to RAF Molesworth. This accounts for about 80 per cent of employment in the area and significantly distorts the employment profile. Therefore, figure 6 provides a breakdown

<sup>18</sup> BRES only includes employees in employment and excludes most of the agricultural sector

of employment excluding this sector. This helps to highlight the other sectors that are significant employers in the local economy.

The Business Register & Employment Survey is a survey of employers and therefore excludes the self employed. It also excludes most of the agricultural sector. After these sectors, and defence activities, were discounted there were less than 200 jobs in the area in 2018. The largest sectors were professional, scientific & technical services (such as management consultancy) and accommodation & food services activities (largely pubs). There were smaller levels of employment in IT services, wholesale & retail, primary education and construction.<sup>19</sup>

## Deprivation

Deprivation data is published for LSOAs and Old Weston falls within a largely rural LSOA covering the villages of Brington, Bythorn, Catworth, Keyston, Leighton Bromswold, Molesworth, Old Weston and Stow Longa. Therefore, the following analysis is really an analysis of deprivation in the larger rural area within which Old Weston sits. It is a matter of judgement to what extent these general conclusions apply specifically to Old Weston.

*Map of Lower Super Output Areas covering Old Weston*



Source: NOMIS

<sup>19</sup> Many construction workers will have been excluded because they are self employed.

LSOA E01018126 experiences little relative deprivation in comparison with much of England. Overall, it is ranked as the 17,621<sup>st</sup> least deprived LSOA out of 32,884 LSOAs across the country. However, the LSOA ranks much more positively on most of the sub-domains of deprivation.

The LSOA scores particularly well in terms of education, skills & training, health & disability, and crime. There is also relatively little deprivation in terms of income or employment. The main concerns are barriers to housing & services and the living environment.

*Table 7: Relative deprivation in Old Weston (LSOA E01018126), 2019<sup>20</sup>*

Domain	LSOA E01018126	
	Rank	Decile
Income	22,050	7
Employment	23,172	8
Education, Skills & Training	30,911	10
Health & Disability	28,569	9
Crime	29,282	9
Barriers to Housing & Services	98	1
Sub domain: Geographical barriers	25	1
Sub domain: Wider barriers	23,310	8
Living Environment	8,558	3
Sub domain: Indoors	8,090	3
Sub domain: Outdoors	9,151	3
Index of Multiple Deprivation	17,621	6

Source: English Indices of Deprivation 2019 (Department for Communities and Local Government)

The key issue regarding access to housing & services is the geographical rather than wider barriers. This is based on the average geographical distance from a range of services including a primary school, general store or supermarket, GP surgery and post office. None of these services are available in Old Weston.

LSOA E01018126 scores relatively poorly on both sub domains of the Living Environment domain. The indoors sub-domain uses measures of poor house conditions including homes without central heating (which are likely to be expensive to heat). The outdoors sub-domain

<sup>20</sup> The rank is out of 32,844 Lower Super Output Areas where 1 is the most deprived. Likewise, decile 1 is the most deprived decile.



uses air quality and road traffic accident indicators. The LSOA score is likely to be affected by the A14 running through it.

An alternative measure of deprivation is the number of working age people claiming benefits from the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP).<sup>21</sup> This is also available at the LSOA level. In November 2016 there were 60 people claiming DWP benefits in LSOA E01018126. This was unchanged compared to claimant levels in November 2011.

*Table 8: Working age population receiving DWP benefits, November 2016*

	LSOA E01018126	Change since Nov 2011
total claimants	60	0
statistical group - job seekers	0	-15
statistical group - ESA and incapacity benefits	30	10
statistical group - lone parents	5	0
statistical group - carers	15	5
statistical group - others on income related benefits	0	0
statistical group - disabled	5	-5
statistical group - bereaved	5	5
statistical group - unknown	0	0
gender - male	25	0
gender - female	35	0
age - 16 to 24	10	0
age - 25 to 49	20	-5
age - 50 and over	30	5
out-of-work benefits	35	-5

Source: DWP administrative data (from NOMIS)

The largest benefit group were those claiming Employment Support Allowance or other disability benefits. There were no claimants receiving Job Seekers' Allowance. However,

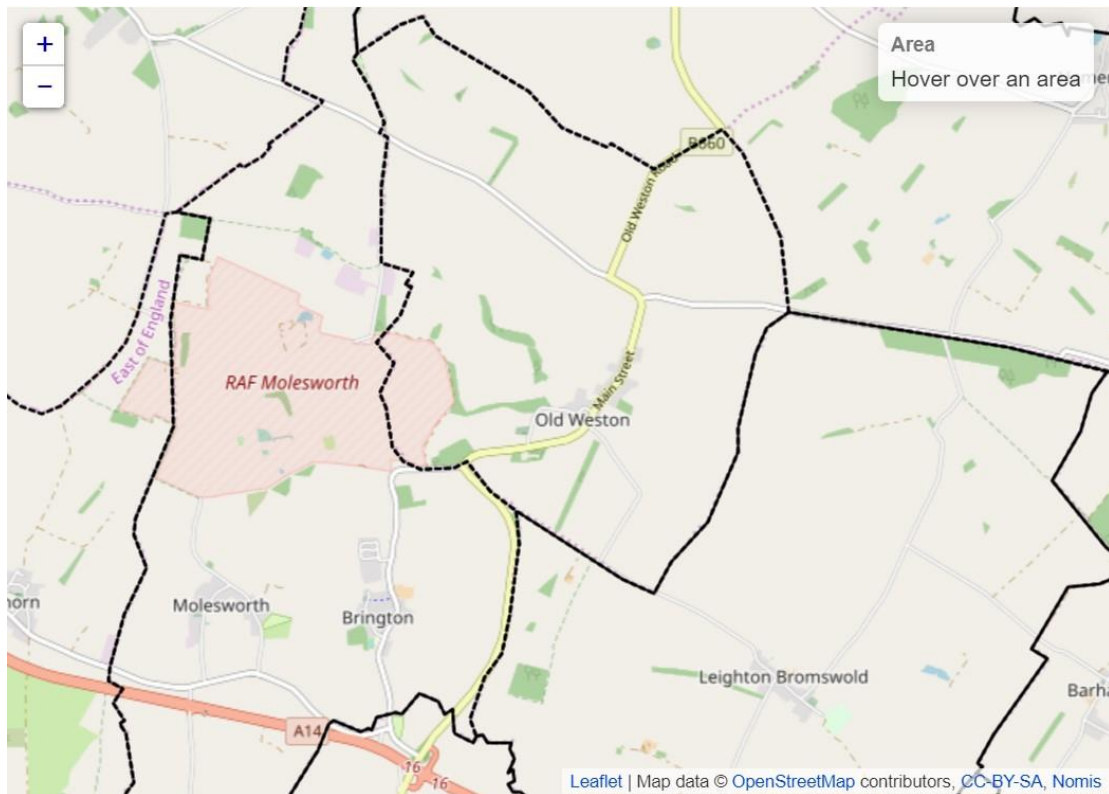
<sup>21</sup> 'benefit claimants – working age clients for small area' DWP (extracted from NOMIS). This dataset has been discontinued on NOMIS and the last data published was for November 2016.

over half of benefit claimants were claiming benefits related to being out of work (ESA, incapacity benefits and lone parents). The largest group that were receiving benefits not directly related to work were receiving benefits related to caring responsibilities.

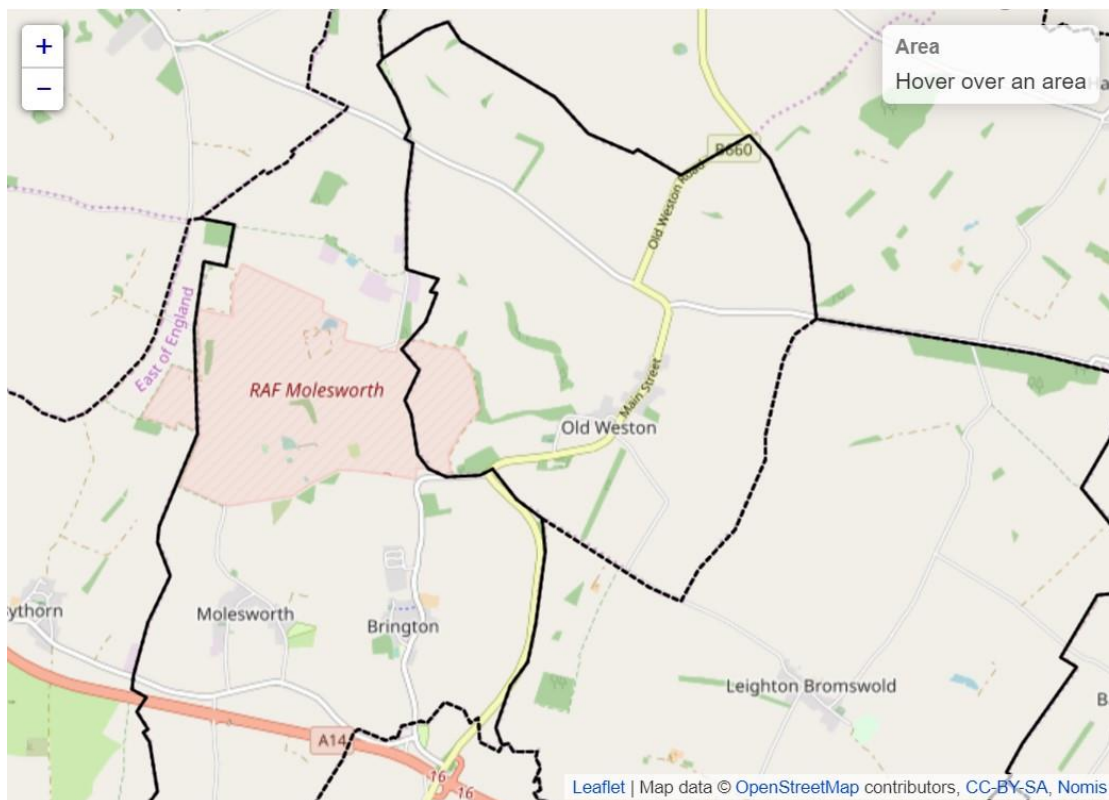
More than half of claimants were female and half of all claimants were aged 50 and over.

## Appendix - Maps

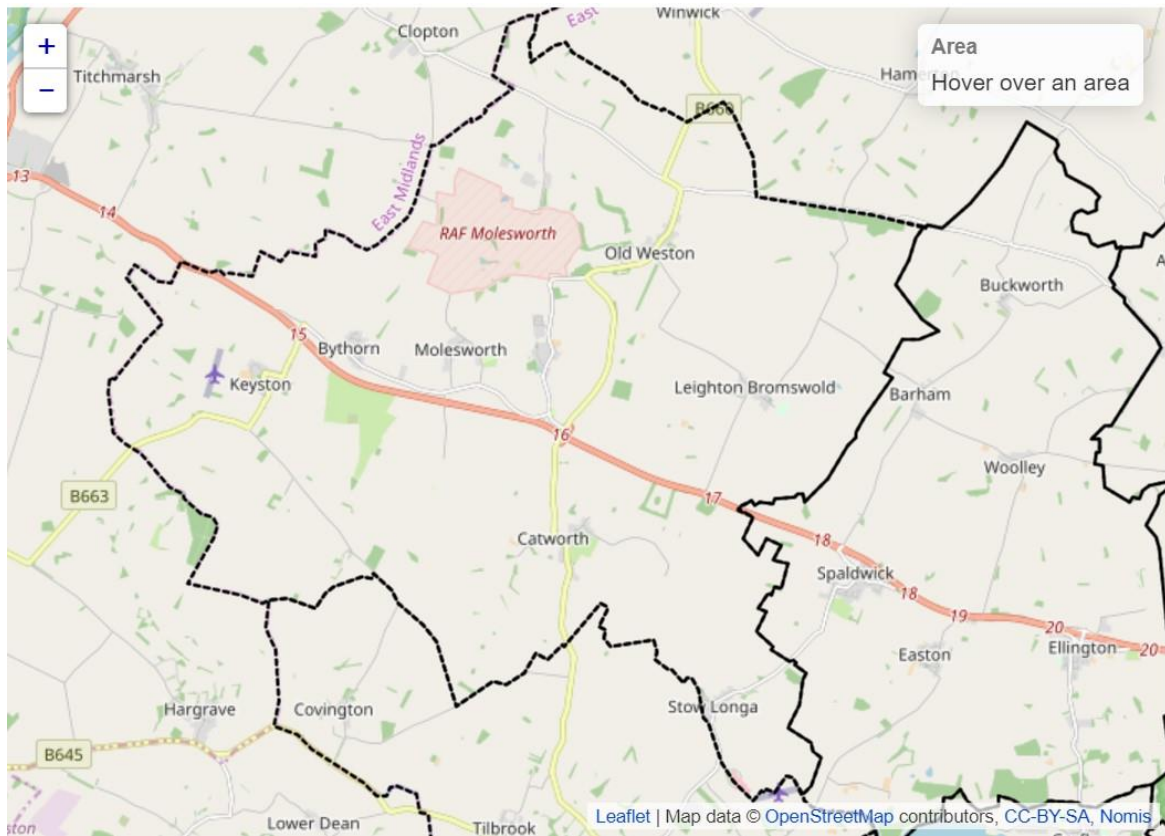
### Old Weston parish



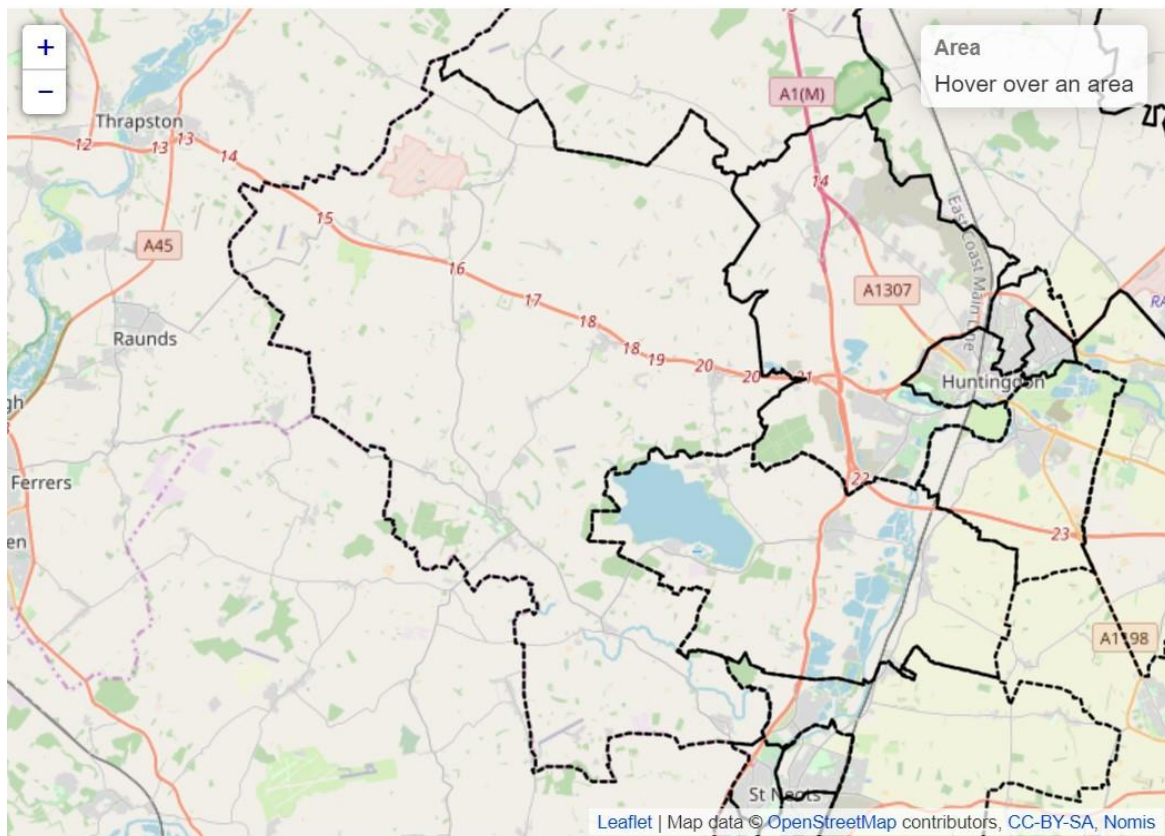
### Old Weston: Output Area



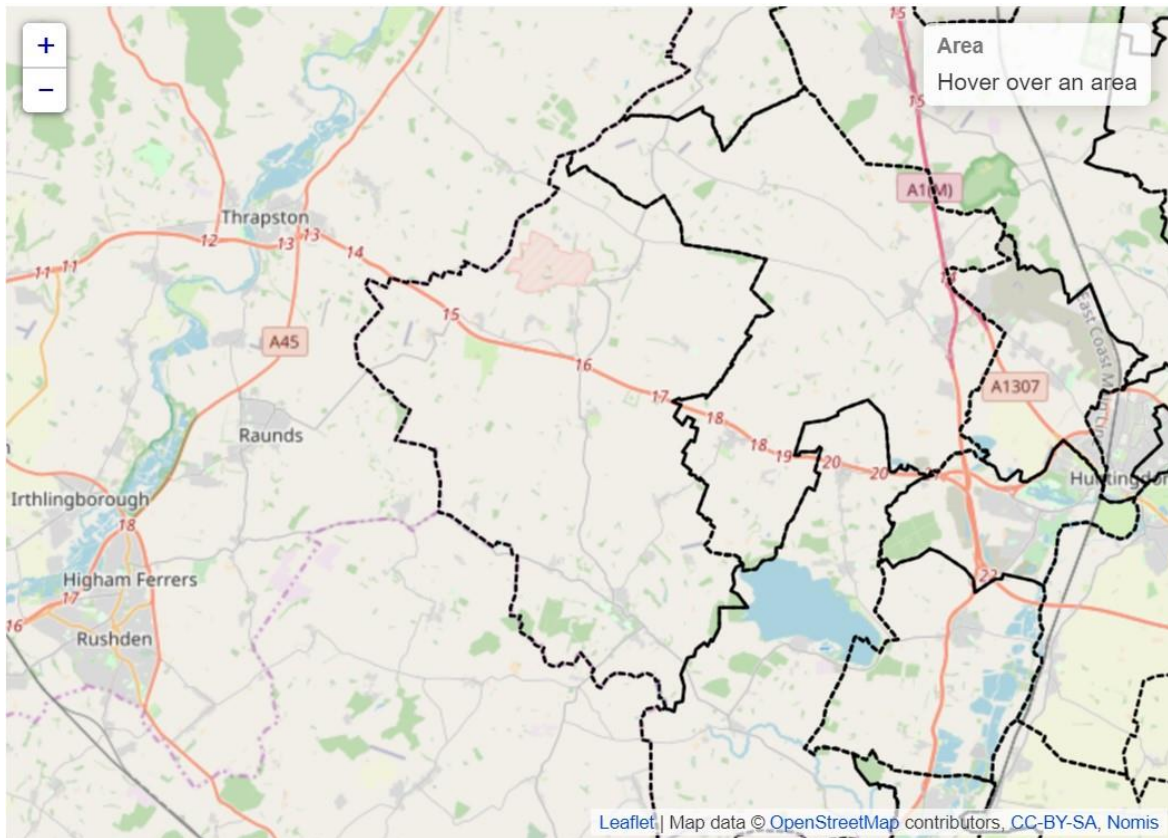
Old Weston: Lower Super Output Areas (Best fit)



Old Weston: Middle Super Output Areas (Best fit)



Kimbolton ward: 2018 ward



Ellington ward (2011 Census frozen ward)

