

Summary description of our East Sussex population

There are approximately 560,000 people living in East Sussex and in summary our population has the following health and care needs and characteristics:

- The number of young people (aged 0-17) will increase by 3% in the next three years.
- The proportion of people over 65 in East Sussex is considerably higher than nationally – 26% in East Sussex compared to 18% in England. By 2023 this will have risen to 27% (19% in England).
- The proportion of those aged over 85 is already significantly higher in East Sussex than nationally and will continue to rise sharply. It is this group that are the most likely to need our services.
- Health and its determinants are not distributed evenly across the county with a strong link between poverty and poor outcomes; rurality can also impact access to services.
- The number of children in need of help and protection is rising locally and nationally, linked to the increase in families experiencing financial difficulties.
- There is a growth in the numbers of children with statements of SEND or Education Health and Care Plans some of whom will have complex medical and care needs.
- Demand for Adult Social Care will continue to increase, both as a result of the growth in the proportion of older people in the population and the complexity of their needs with increasing longevity, frailty and multi-morbidity: on average men spend the last 15.5 years of life in poorer health, while women spend 20.2 years in poorer health.
- There is a clear gap in life expectancy between people who live in the most and least deprived areas of the county - this gap is 7 years for men and 4.3 years for women with ward level differences even greater.