MIDLANDS ENGINE OBSERVATORY ACADEMIC INSIGHTS
Homelessness in the West Midlands Prediction Tool

MIDLANDS ENGINE OBSERVATORY

This summary is from [this blog](#) from the City-REDI website. The *Homelessness Prediction Tool* can be found [here.](#)

Theme: Population and Labour Market and Skills

Area of Focus:

The homelessness prediction tool is developed to foresee how a rise in homelessness will hit areas across the West Midlands. The prediction tool relies on what has been known about the likelihood of people to experience homelessness and is based on data from multiple data sources.

Key Findings:

The analysis calculates an overall score to measure risks of homelessness in each Parliamentary constituency area in the West Midlands. This is done by estimating the number of privately renting households with rent arrears and depicts demographic profiles of the residents in lower geographies of postcode districts across the West Midlands.
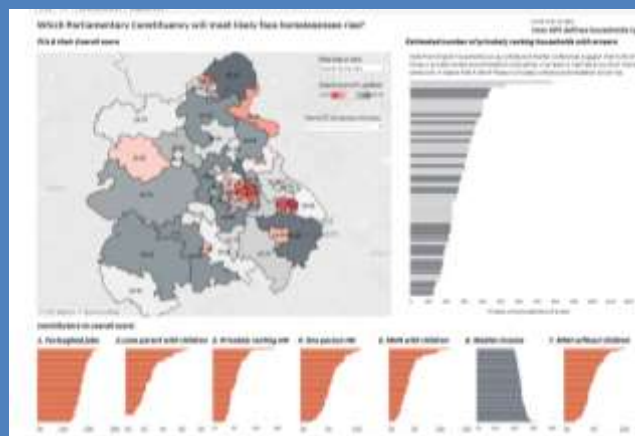
Based on calculated overall score for each Parliamentary Constituency in the West Midlands, the tool identifies high risk of homelessness rises in Coventry North East, Birmingham Ladywood, Birmingham Yardley, Birmingham Erdington, and Birmingham Perry Bar Parliamentary Constituencies.

The lower geography breakdown depicts categories of residents who are most likely to face housing difficulties in each area.

The highest risks of a rise in homelessness are in Coventry North East and Birmingham Ladywood Parliamentary Constituencies.

In Coventry postcode CV6, the risk of homelessness is for families on low income and individuals renting rooms live on tight budgets, as well as lots of families with school-age children, who have bought the best house they can afford within popular neighborhoods.

While in Birmingham Ladywood PC the highest risk of homelessness is imposed on people who reside in B8 and B11 postcode districts where large families living in traditional terraces in neighborhoods with a strong community identity.

Midlands Engine Impact:

The predictive tool provides up to date insights on the places within the West Midlands that are most vulnerable to rising levels of homelessness.

This tool has been embedded in WMCA's Homeless Strategy as part of the Devolution Deal. The tool informs the Homelessness Taskforce on how it commissions its Rough Sleeping Initiative allocations and shapes its asks for the Trailblazer Devolution Deal.

Households and areas are most risk of an increase in homelessness have a larger proportion of:

- Furloughed jobs
- Single parents
- Private renting
- Single person households
- Mixed households with unemployed adults
- Low incomes

By identifying the areas and types of people who are more likely to be homeless, the homelessness prevention teams across the Midlands are able to identify and put in place actions to reduce and mitigate the impacts of homelessness.

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