

BARCOMBE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Draft Community Profile

Overview. Barcombe is one of the larger parishes in the Lewes District located on the north east flank of its area. A population of under 1500 lives within the parish boundaries, the majority being located in Barcombe Cross Village and the remainder in a number of smaller settlements or hamlets, e.g. Barcombe Mills, Spithurst, Town Littleworth.

This population is found to form an above average number* of family households, few of which have no personal transport. Thus, Barcombe is predominately a car owning community with a higher than average number of households having 2 or more vehicles. Barcombe shows an above average level of residents with degrees and a corresponding lower level of those without qualifications. A very substantial proportion of residents are in professional and managerial occupations and there is an above average level of self-employment. The main areas of employment are in health/social work, retail activities and education. As in the rest of East Sussex the majority of those not in employment are retired. At the other end of the scale, Barcombe shows a below average level of unemployment and in turn a low number of residents seeking benefits. Limited numbers of those in work do so in the parish or travel long distances, the majority travelling intermediary distances to work presumably in towns such as Lewes, Uckfield, Haywards Heath and Brighton & Hove. Households in Barcombe show high incomes, even after housing costs are deducted. The large number of family households could be a factor in the observed high household incomes and car ownership.

While the parish does possess a number of services (shop/PO, pub, school etc.) other important facilities are located outside Barcombe. Together with limited opportunities for local employment and a basic local public transport system, the need for personal transport is understandable.

Supporting data are given in the following pages.

* in this Overview “average” refers to data from District or County areas or from England as a whole.

Sources.

East Sussex in Figures (www.eastsussexinfigures.org.uk)

Rural Community Profile for Barcombe; ACRE 2013

Rural Settlement Study; Lewes DC and South Downs National Park; 2013

BARCOMBE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

1. Demographics

The dataset for the Parish of Barcombe shows the 1473 residents identified in the 2011 Census having the age profile given in Table 1.

Table 1

Geography	Total Population	AGE				
		0-14(%)	15-29(%)	30-44(%)	45-64(%)	65+(%)
<i>E. Sussex</i>	526,671	16	16	17	28	23
<i>Lewes D.</i>	97,502	16	15	17	29	23
<i>Barcombe</i>	1,473	21	12	19	29	19

The majority of Barcombe residents were found in the 45-64 age range, a situation identical to that found at District and County levels*. However, compared with District and County the Parish had more residents in the 0-14 and 30-44 bands and fewer in the 15-19 and 60+ year olds groupings. A population density of 0.8 persons per hectare reflects the rural nature of the Parish (cf. the urban biased densities of District and County at 3.3 and 3.1 persons per hectare respectively.)

* Note: in contrast the 2012 Lewes District Rural Settlements Study states that 34% of the population lie in the 45-64 age group and suggests future demands for housing and other facilities for the elderly.

2. Change in Total Population

During the period 2001-2011 the net flux of people in and out of Barcombe Parish peaked at 8.5% in 2006/7 and again at 9% in 2010. After 2010 the percentage change fell dramatically to 4%. In contrast, the County and National figures showed a near linear increase to reach 6-7% change by 2011.

3. Households

In 2011 the 1473 residents of the Parish were found to form 589 households. (A household means one person living alone, or a group of people living at the same address who share a kitchen and a living room). The distribution among the various sub-types of households is shown in Table 2.

Table 2

Geography	HOUSEHOLD SUB-TYPE			
	Number of households	One person households (%)	Family households (%)	Other households (%)
<i>East Sussex</i>	231,905	33	61	6
<i>Lewes D.</i>	42,181	30	64	6
<i>Barcombe</i>	589	20	75	5

These data indicate that in all three geographical areas the majority of residents formed family households. Barcombe Parish has significantly more family and fewer one person households than District or County.

4. Economic Status of Residents.

In 2011 the 16-74 age range for Barcombe consisted of 1018 persons and of these 719 were economically active. Their employment category is given in Table 3a.

Table 3a

		EMPLOYMENT CATEGORY (%)				
Geography	% 16-74 year olds	Full-time	Part-time	Self-employed	Home workers	Public sector
England	70	39	14	10	13	34
Lewes D.	70	34	15	14		
Barcombe	71	32	14	20	9	28

These data indicate the same trends at Parish, District and national levels with full time and public sector employment dominant. Barcombe showed the highest level of self-employment.

The reasons for unemployment are given in Table 3b.

Table 3b

		REASONS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT (%)				
Geography	% 16-74 year olds	Sick or disabled	Caring for home or family	Retired	Student	Other
E. Sussex	32	13	13	56	12	6
Lewes D.	30	11	13	58	12	6
Barcombe	29	13	18	55	11	4

Again similar trends are shown for all geographical areas with the majority category being retired people. Barcombe in 2011 did show a greater percentage in the Caring for Home/Family category.

5. Occupations

In the years prior to 2012 the proportion of working age Barcombe residents claiming benefits was consistently lower than the corresponding County and National levels, e.g. in August 2012, 8%; cf. 14% (County and National). Taking the working population of the Parish as some 700 people, the majority (16%) were employed in health and social work, followed by employment in retail (13%) and education (13%). The type of occupations involved is given in Table 4.

Table 4

OCCUPATION (%)				
Professional	Managerial	Admin/Secr	Skilled Trade	Elementary
39	14	9	13	7

The total Professional/Managerial component (53%) is significantly higher than that at County and national levels (30-40%).

6. Qualifications and Skills

Of the 1473 residents aged 16 and above in 2011:

- 15% had no qualifications (cf. 23% nationally and in East Sussex)
- 45% had degree level qualifications (cf. 26-27% nationally and in East Sussex)

7. Household incomes

At the time of the 2011 Census the average weekly household income for Barcombe adjusted for variations in household size was estimated as £950, compared with £667 (East Sussex) and £673 (nationally). After housing costs were taken into account the Barcombe average was still substantially higher, viz. £580 compared to £452 and £423 respectively.

8. Out of Work

The criteria used to determine the number of people out of work are those seeking Jobseekers Allowance (those who are unemployed) and Employment Support Allowance (those who are out of work due to sickness). In 2011 the data for working age adults in Barcombe were as follows:

- Jobseekers Allowance 2% (cf. 4% nationally)
- Employment Support Allowance 4% (cf. 6% nationally)

The Unemployment to Available Jobs Ratio showed that in November 2012 there were 83 claimants per job in Barcombe compared with 343 nationally.

In the decade prior to the 2011 Census the proportion of working age Barcombe residents claiming all DWP benefits was consistently lower than the County or National levels, e.g. in August 2011 8% (Barcombe) compared with 14% (East Sussex, England)

9. Access to Private Transport

Data on the access to a car by the 580 households in Barcombe in 2011 are given in Table 5.

Table 5

	NUMBER OF CARS PER HOUSEHOLD (%)				
Geography	None	1	2	3	4+
England	26	42	24	6	2
E. Sussex	22	47	26	6	3
Barcombe	8	36	41	13	3

In contrast to County and nationally, Barcombe was predominantly (90%) a car-owning community including significantly higher proportions of 2 and 3 car households.

10. Distance travelled to work

Table 6

Geography	Distance travelled to work (km.)		
	% Homeworking	% Less than 2 km.	% 40+ km.
England	4	20	9
East Sussex	5	23	9
Barcombe	9	6	5

With a higher proportion of homeworkers than County or nationally Barcombe had a lower proportion of workers travelling short or long distances to their employment. Consequently, most workers travelled intermediate distances presumably to such as the local towns.

11. Distance and Travel Time to Services

a. Table 7 shows the distances local residents had to travel in 2011 to key services compared with the situation found nationally.

Table 7

Geography	Distance (km.)				
	Post Office	Pub	GP	Sec. School	Job Centre
England	1	0.5	1.2	2.1	4.6
Barcombe	0.8	0.7	5.6	6	8.4

These data indicate that a number of services are found in the village (Post Office and Pub) but on the whole key services are found outside the parish.

b. Table 8 shows the average travel times taken by Barcombe residents in 2011 to reach nearest key services by public transport or walking compared with County and National averages.

Table 8

Geography	Average Time (mins.)							
	Job centre	Further Education	GP	Hospital	Primary School	Sec. School	Super-market	Town centre
England	10	17	10	30	9	15	9	17
E. Sussex	11	22	11	35	10	16	10	17
Barcombe	18	42	14	18	9	25	15	14

With the exception of the local Primary School, these times again reflect that most services are located outside the parish.