

Deprivation in Havering: Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2025

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Summary

- The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) is the official measure used by the UK government to assess relative deprivation across small geographic areas in England. The most recent IMD update was published on 30 October 2025
- IMD ranks are used to compare level of deprivation across lower super output areas (LSOAs). Over time, an area can improve locally yet slip nationally if other areas in the country improve faster. Furthermore, residents within an area will not uniformly experience the same levels of deprivation.
- Overall, **Havering's deprivation rank has not changed** since 2019 compared to other local authorities in England
- Havering's ranking nationally from 2019 to 2025 has **improved in Education and Crime domains** of the index
- Havering's ranking nationally from 2019 to 2025 has **slightly worsened in Income, Employment and Health domains** of the index
- The number of 10% **least deprived LSOAs has almost doubled in Havering** from 11 in 2019 to 21 in 2025 compared to England
- The distribution of LSOAs where children affected by income deprivation has positively changed implying **childhood deprivation in Havering is decreasing** relative to the rest of the nation
- Distribution of LSOA by deciles suggests **a widening gap of income deprivation affecting older people**, with increased number of LSOAs in the most deprived deciles and reductions in moderately deprived groups.

1. Introduction: Purpose of the IMD

The English Indices of Deprivation (IoD) are the Government's official measure of relative deprivation for small areas across England. The most widely used element is the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD), which ranks Lower-layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs), small neighbourhoods of around 1,500 residents, against each other nationally. IMD is a relative measure that shows how one area compares to others at a single point in time; it does not track absolute changes or guarantee uniform experience for all residents.

IMD combines seven domains with different weights: income (22.5%), employment (22.5%), education (13.5%), health (13.5%), crime (9.3%), barriers to housing & services (9.3%) and living environment (9.3%) into a single composite score. Each LSOA receives a rank and decile, which can be aggregated to higher geographies such as local authorities or constituencies. For this briefing, ranks are used rather than raw scores because scores are not directly comparable over time. However, it is important to note that changes between deciles do not always represent equal shifts in deprivation levels due to the distribution of underlying scores.

The last IMD was published in 2019 using data from 2015 to 2018. Since then, major social and economic changes including the pandemic and cost-of-living crisis have reshaped deprivation patterns, making this update essential. The 2025 release also refreshes two supplementary indices: IDACI (income deprivation affecting children) and IDAOP (income deprivation affecting older people), providing age-specific insights. Published on 30 October 2025 by MHCLG, the update maintains continuity with previous editions while improving data quality and methodology. Because the 2025 update includes methodological refinements, changes in rank may reflect both real-world shifts and adjustments in measurement. Further detailed analysis would be needed to assess the extent to which methodology has influenced Havering's results.

2. Deprivation in Havering: comparing Havering to other local authorities (UTLA)

This chapter will rank Havering against other authorities nationally and across London in the IMD as well as its constituent dimensions alongside the two supplementary indices that evaluate income affecting children and older people.



2.1 Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)

The IMD combines seven domains (income, employment, education, health, crime, housing barriers, and living environment) into a single measure of relative deprivation. Havering is ranked **110 out of 153** upper tier local authorities (UTLA) in the IMD (where 1 is most deprived, 153 least deprived). **This is similar to 2019 when Havering was ranked 111 out of 151 local authorities.** Havering is ranked 25 out of 33 local authorities in London with Newham, Barking & Dagenham and Hackney amongst the top 10 most deprived authorities nationally.



2.2 Income

The income dimension measures the proportion of the population experiencing deprivation relating to low income. Havering is ranked **93 out of 153** upper tier local authorities (UTLA) in the income dimension (where 1 is most deprived, 153 least deprived). **This is slightly worse compared to 2019 when Havering was ranked 101 out of 151 local authorities.** Havering is ranked 24 out of 33 local authorities in London with Barking & Dagenham, Newham, Tower Hamlets, Hackney, Brent and Enfield amongst the top 10 most income deprived authorities nationally.



2.3 Employment

The employment measures the proportion of working age population involuntarily excluded from the labour market. **Havering is ranked 101 out of 153** upper tier local authorities (UTLA) in the employment dimension (where 1 is most deprived, 153 least deprived). **This is slightly worse compared to 2019 when Havering was ranked 108 out of 151 local authorities.** Havering is ranked 23 out of 33 local authorities in London which is an improvement on 20 rank in 2019.



2.4 Education

The education dimension measures the lack of attainment and skills in the local population. **Havering is ranked 82 out of 153** upper tier local authorities (UTLA) in the education dimension (where 1 is most deprived, 153 least deprived). **This is an improvement compared to 2019 when Havering was ranked 45 out of 151 local authorities.** Havering is ranked 8 out of 33 local authorities in London which is an improvement from 2019 when Havering was ranked 2.



2.5 Health

The health dimension measures the risk of premature death and impairment of life quality through poor physical/mental health. **Havering is ranked 118 out of 153** upper tier local authorities (UTLA) in the health dimension (where 1 is most deprived, 153 least deprived). **This is slightly worse compared to 2019 when Havering was ranked 124 out of 151 local authorities.** Havering is ranked 21 out of 33 local authorities in London, the same as 2019.



2.6 Crime

The crime dimension measures the risk of personal and material victimisation at local level. **Havering is ranked 107 out of 153** upper tier local authorities (UTLA) in the crime dimension (where 1 is most deprived, 153 least deprived). **This is an improvement compared to 2019 when Havering was ranked 74 out of 151 local authorities.** However, Havering is ranked 26 out of 33 local authorities in London which is an improvement compared to 2019 when Havering ranked 22.



2.7 Barriers to housing and services

The barriers to housing and services dimension measures the physical and financial accessibility of housing and local services. **Havering is ranked 50 out of 153** upper tier local authorities (UTLA) in the barriers dimension (where 1 is most deprived, 153 least deprived) **compared to 2019 when Havering was ranked 55 out of 151 local authorities.** Havering is ranked 23 out of 33 local authorities in London with Brent, Newham, Ealing, Hounslow, Barking & Dagenham, Haringey and Tower Hamlets amongst the top 10 most deprived authorities in the barriers dimensions nationally.



2.8 Living environment

The living environment dimension measures the quality of both the 'indoor' and 'outdoor' local environment. **Havering is ranked 90 out of 153** upper tier local authorities (UTLA) in the living dimension (where 1 is most deprived, 153 least deprived) **compared to 2019 when Havering was ranked 95 out of 151 local authorities.** Havering is ranked least deprived in this dimension compared to all local authorities in London. 9 other local authorities in London were in the top 10 most deprived authorities nationally for their living environment.



2.9 Income deprivation affecting children

Income deprivation affecting children index measures the proportion of all children aged 0 to 15 living in income deprived families. **Havering is ranked 93 out of 153** upper tier local authorities (UTLA) when income deprivation affects children (where 1 is most deprived, 153 least deprived). **This is a slight improvement to 2019 when Havering was ranked 82 out of 151 local authorities.** Havering is ranked 24 out of 33 local authorities in London with Tower Hamlets, Newham, Hackney, Brent and Barking & Dagenham amongst the top 10 most deprived authorities for children impacted by income in England.



2.10 Income deprivation affecting older people

Income deprivation affecting older people index measures the proportion of those aged 60+ who experience income deprivation. **Havering is ranked 100 out of 153** upper tier local authorities (UTLA) when income deprivation affects older people (where 1 is most deprived, 153 least deprived) **compared to 2019 when Havering was ranked 102 out of 151 local authorities.** Havering is ranked 29 out of 33 local authorities in London when 15 other local authorities in London are amongst the top 20 most deprived authorities for older people impacted by income in England.

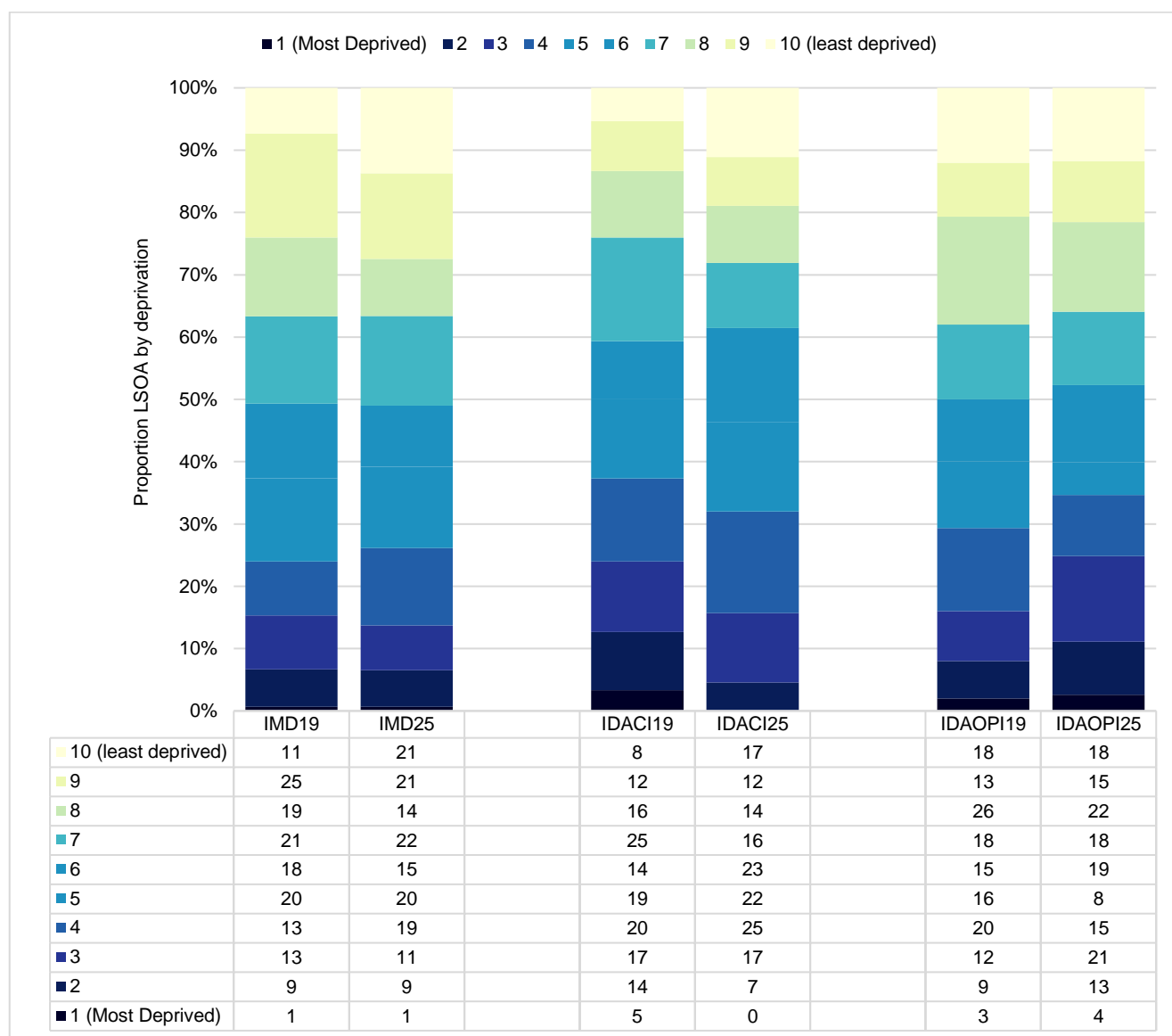
3. Deprivation within Havering: comparing Havering's LSOAs nationally

The distribution of deprivation across Havering's LSOAs is broadly similar between 2019 and 2025. The number of LSOAs in the top 20% most deprived nationally remains at 10, while those in the top 20% least deprived have increased by six (from 36 in 2019 to 42 in 2025). Havering now contains 153 LSOAs compared to 150 in 2019, and percentages in Figure 1 reflect their share of the total.

The distribution of LSOAs across income deprivation affecting children (IDACI) deciles indicates a positive shift in child income deprivation between 2019 and 2025. The most deprived decile (Decile 1) fell from 5 LSOAs to none whilst at the same time, significant increases in middle deciles (particularly 4-6). The least deprived decile (Decile 10) grew from 8 to 17 LSOAs.

Meanwhile, income deprivation affecting older people (IDAOPI) has worsened overall slightly. The number of LSOAs in the most deprived groups (deciles 1-3, representing the top 30% nationally) has increased by 14, indicating that more areas now fall into higher deprivation categories for older populations. In contrast, deciles 4-5 have decreased by 13, suggesting that some moderately deprived areas have moved into more deprived positions.

Figure 1: Proportion (%) Havering LSOA by deprivation 2019 to 2025 (with number of LSOAs within the table)



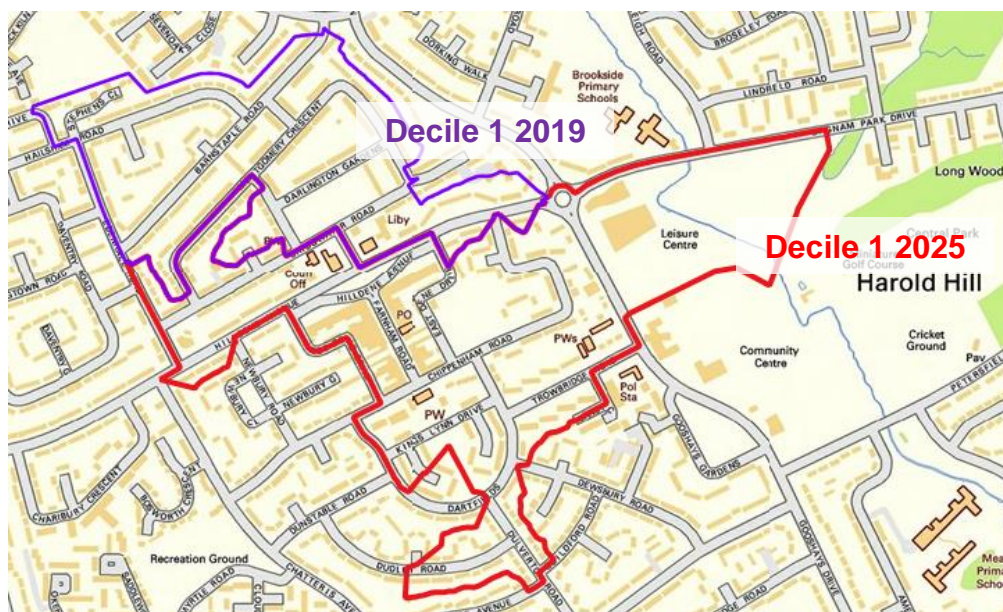
Source: Department of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), IMD 2019 & 2025; Produced by: Havering PHI

4. Geographical distribution of deprivation with Havering

4.1 IMD LSOA changes

In Havering, no LSOA has shifted by more than two IMD deciles (for example, from 3 to 5). One area remains notable: there is still an LSOA within the 10% most deprived nationally (decile 1). In 2019, there was also one LSOA in this category, although it was in a different area. Both LSOAs are situated in Harold Hill (map 1). Areas of deprivation remain broadly the same from 2019 to 2025 (map 2) with deprivation highest in the north east of the borough around Harold Hill, south of Romford, and south of the borough around South Hornchurch & Rainham.

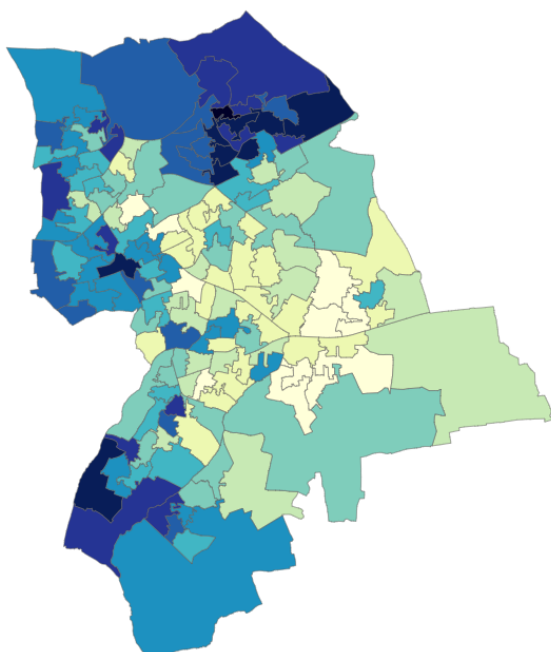
Map 1: 10% highest deprived LSOA nationally within Havering



Source: Department of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), IMD 2019 & 2025; Produced by: Havering PHI

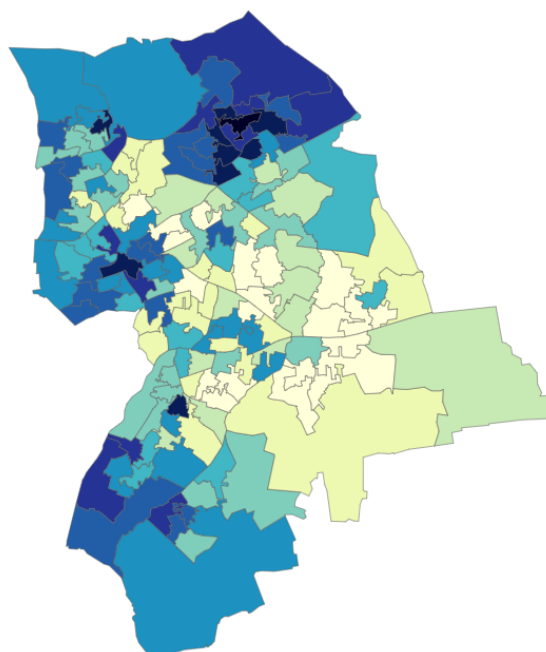
Map 2: LSOA by IMD (darker areas have higher deprivation)
IMD 2019

IMD: ● 1 ● 2 ● 3 ● 4 ● 5 ● 6 ● 7 ● 8 ● 9 ● 10



IMD 2025

IMD: ● 1 ● 2 ● 3 ● 4 ● 5 ● 6 ● 7 ● 8 ● 9 ● 10

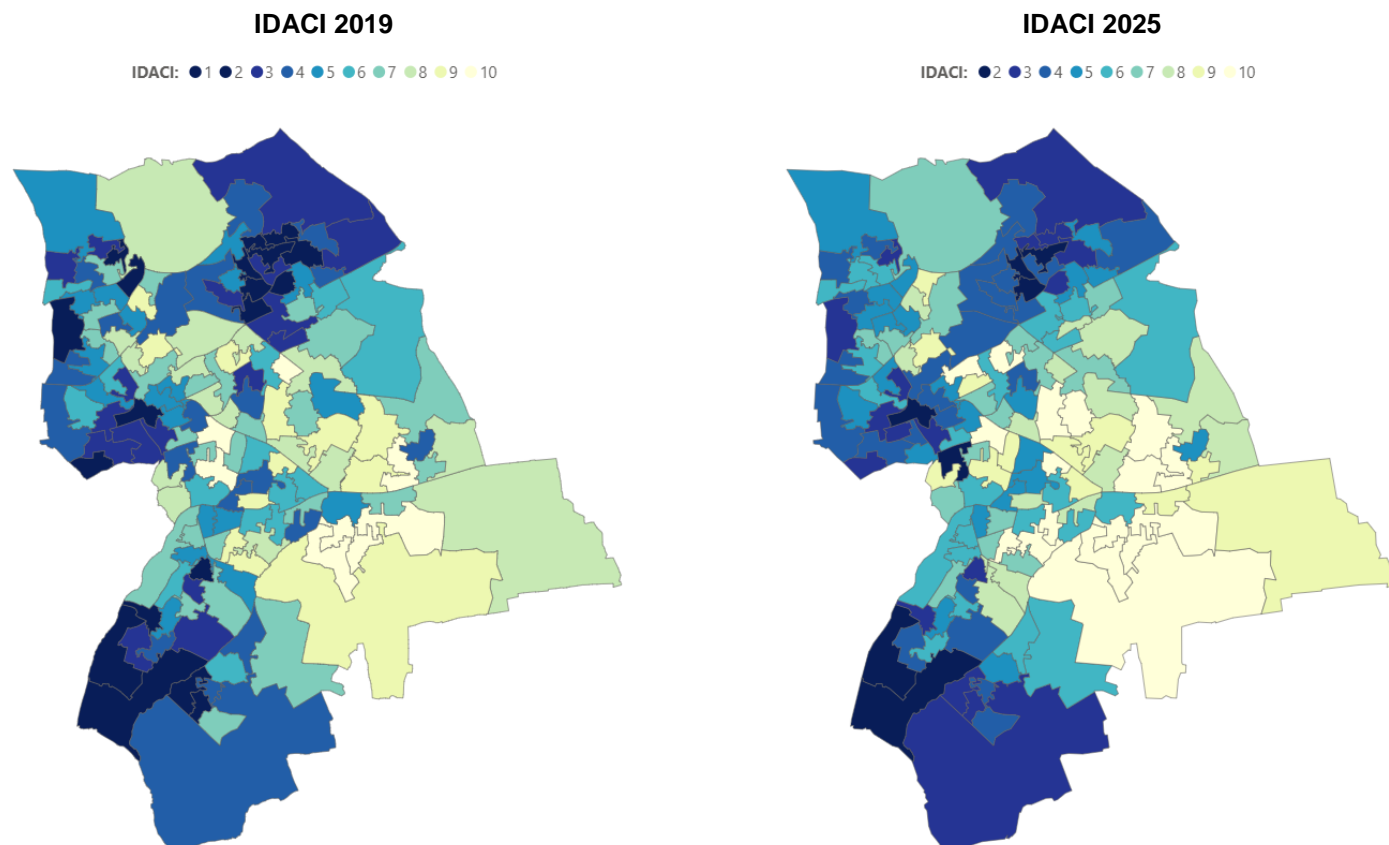


Source: Department of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), IMD 2019 & 2025; Produced by: Havering PHI

4.2 IDACI LSOA changes

There are no LSOAs within Havering where IDACI is in the 10% most deprived nationally (decile 1). There has been 26 LSOAs (out of 153 in Havering) where the decile has improved by 2 or more. These are distributed across the borough with pockets in and around Harold Wood hospital site development, Chasecross and near Hornchurch station.


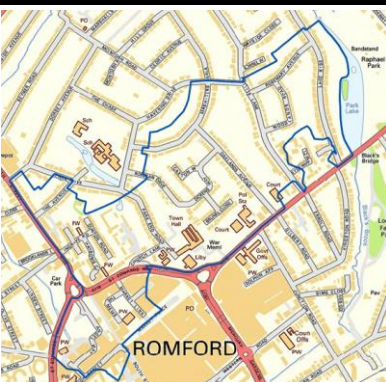




Map 3: LSOA by IDACI (darker areas have higher deprivation)



Source: Department of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), IMD 2019 & 2025; Produced by: Havering PHI

There are 7 LSOA in Havering where IDACI has worsened by 2 deciles or more. The table below lists the LSOAs that have had their IDACI rank worsen by 3 deciles or more.

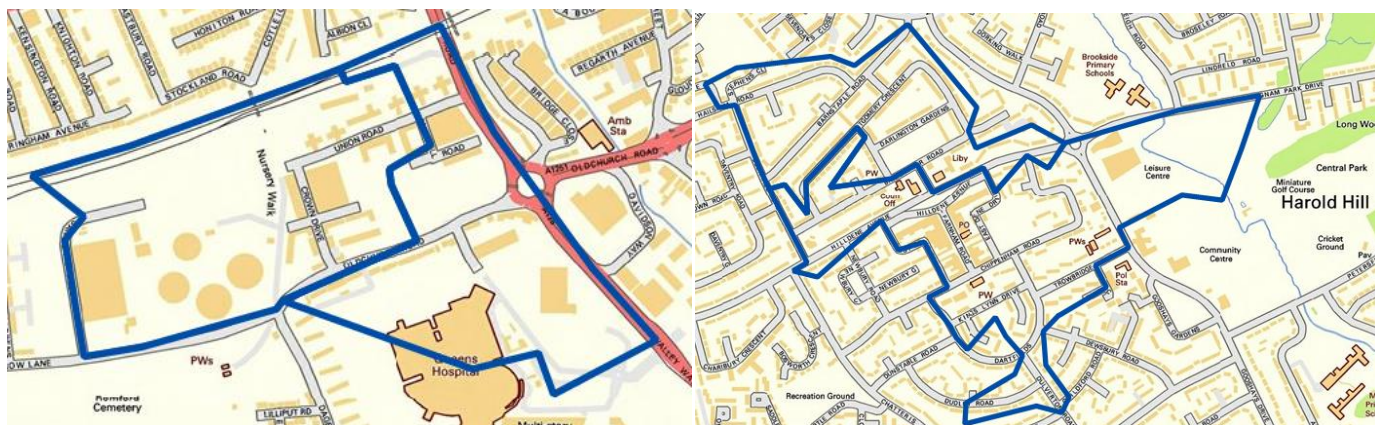
Table 1: LSOA within Havering where IDACI decile has worsened by 3 or more

		
 <p>An LSOA (E01002337) in Gidea Park IDACI decile has changed from 8 in 2019 to 4 in 2025.</p>	 <p>An LSOA (E01002353) bordering Romford and Gidea Park IDACI decile has changed from 7 in 2019 to 4 in 2025.</p>	 <p>An LSOA (E01002347) in Gidea Park IDACI decile has changed from 8 in 2019 to 4 in 2025.</p>

4.3 IDAOPI LSOA changes

There are 4 LSOAs within Havering where IDAOPI is in the 10% most deprived nationally (decile 1). These are located in Harold Hill and Oldchurch near Romford. There has been 9 LSOAs (out of 153 in Havering) where the decile has improved by 2 or more. The pockets of IDAOPI in 2019 has spread increasing these area (see map 5). These areas are in the North East (Harold Hill and now spreading into Gidea Park) and South Romford (spreading South-West to Oldchurch). The third area is in South Hornchurch and Rainham.

Map 4: 10% highest LSOA that are income deprived for older people within Havering



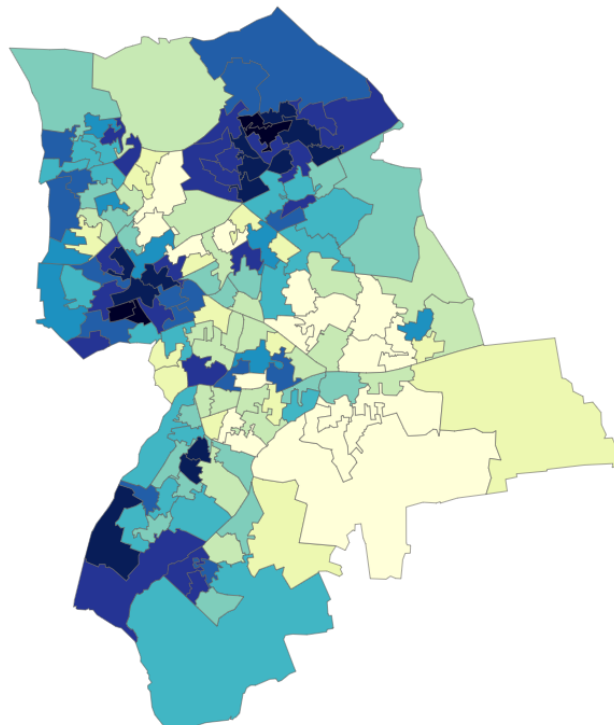
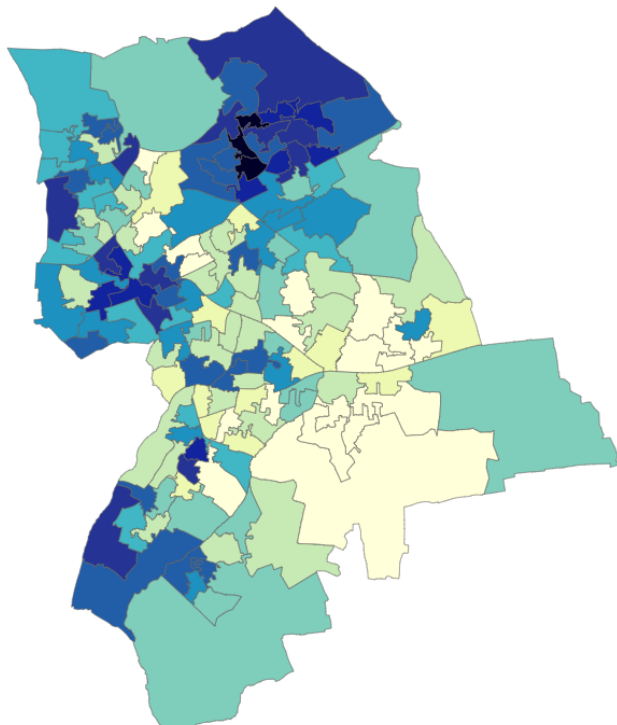
Map 5: LSOA by IDAOPI (darker areas have higher deprivation)

IDAOPi 2019

IDAOPi: ● 1 ● 2 ● 3 ● 4 ● 5 ● 6 ● 7 ● 8 ● 9 ● 10

IDAOPi 2025

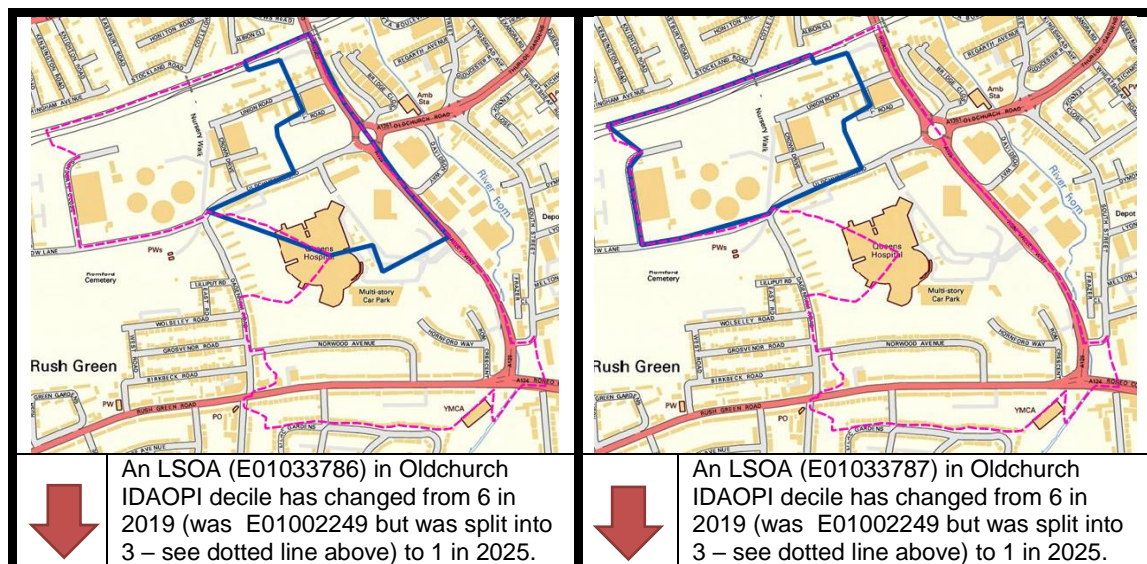
IDAOPi: ● 1 ● 2 ● 3 ● 4 ● 5 ● 6 ● 7 ● 8 ● 9 ● 10



Source: Department of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), IMD 2019 & 2025; Produced by: Havering PHI

There are 12 LSOA in Havering where IDAOPI has worsened by 2 deciles or more. The table overleaf lists the LSOAs that have had their IDAOPI rank worsen by 3 deciles or more.

Table 2: LSOA within Havering where IDAOPI decile has worsened by 3 or more



5. Conclusion

The 2025 update to the Index of Multiple Deprivation confirms that Havering's overall position relative to other local authorities has remained broadly stable, with improvements in education and crime but outcomes slightly worse in income, employment and health. The deprived neighbourhoods of Havering are in the north east of the borough around the Harold Hill area, to the south west and west of Romford (around the areas of Oldchurch, Rush Green and towards Chadwell Heath), and to the south of the borough around Rainham and South Hornchurch. Income deprivation among older people shows a concerning trend, with more areas moving into the most deprived deciles. These findings highlight the need for continued focus on reducing inequalities, particularly for older residents, while sustaining gains in education and child poverty.

6. Further reading and analysis

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government has published the [full suite of data](#) for the English Indices of Deprivation 2025 (IoD25). This includes the updated Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD), domain-level data, and supplementary indices such as IDACI and IDAOPI. Summary measures for higher geographies such as Local Authorities, and Integrated Care Boards are also provided.

A [Local Deprivation Explorer](#) has also been developed and allows users to look up deprivation data for their area, explore comparisons across England using an interactive map, and download data for their area.

The Havering Local Insight tool also shows IMD data and can be found [here](#) (select the 'Data' box on the left hand side and then choose which deprivation indicator to view. Results are displayed on the map).