

## ABOUT US

The Observatory aims to provide a single, flexible research service, where specialist research skills and expertise are brought together, to facilitate high-quality research that provides *evidence* in support of policies, decisions and practice.

The Observatory aims to provide information and intelligence that:

- **Informs** the development and review of social, economic and environmental policies and plans across Warwickshire
- **Increases understanding** of local needs and helps improve the quality of services provided to Warwickshire's residents
- **Improves** the sharing of research, data and intelligence among partners and minimises duplication
- Contributes to a better **quality of life** for the people of Warwickshire

## RESEARCH SERVICES & CAPABILITIES

We undertake work for, and in partnership with, a wide range of customers across the County Council and other partner organisations.

The Observatory offers an extensive range of specialist research advice and services.

**Analysis of information** – data and information on the population, economy and other aspects of Warwickshire can be analysed and reported to meet individual requirements.

**Commissioning research** – we are able to provide support and advice to organisations wishing to commission research.

**Consultation & focus groups** – we can provide advice and support for organisations and individuals wishing to carry out consultation, including all aspects of survey work and the use of focus groups.

**Forecasting and projections** – for population, households, labour market etc.

**Mapping and GIS** – specialist software can be used to reference data geographically and produce thematic maps.

**Needs Analysis** – research is crucial to the process of assessing need; the Observatory can assist with evaluating the needs of service users and client groups.

**Population estimates** – we have access to the most up-to-date population figures and can produce small area population estimates.

**Policy monitoring & evaluation** – assistance with target setting, and performance evaluation.

**Presentations** – on all aspects of our work.

**Support for funding bids** – we have considerable experience in providing tailored information and intelligence in support of funding bids.

**Survey design and analysis** – advice and assistance is available on sampling, questionnaire design, analysis of data and other aspects of survey work, including the use of specialist survey software for the design of surveys and data capture.

[www.warwickshireobservatory.org](http://www.warwickshireobservatory.org) – key datasets, research reports, profiles, and maps are all available from our website.

## QUALITY OF LIFE

The Observatory leads on monitoring quality of life in Warwickshire. We use a wide range of economic, social and environmental indicators to identify issues and assess changes affecting the quality of life of Warwickshire's residents.

Our annual *Quality of Life* report is a readily accessible reference tool for how quality of life in Warwickshire and its five districts is changing and how Warwickshire compares with elsewhere in the UK.

## ECONOMY & LABOUR MARKET

The Observatory undertakes research to provide information and intelligence on the local economy in support of the Council's and partner organisations' economic development and inward investment activities.

Commonly requested datasets include: unemployment figures, household incomes, employment data and forecasts, wage levels, house prices, and benefit claimants.

## CONSULTATION & SURVEYS

The Council has a duty to *inform, consult and involve* local residents and communities; the Observatory leads on the Council's consultation work, managing the annual Best Value User Satisfaction Survey and Citizens Panel.

We also provide advice and support for other organisations and individuals wanting to carry out consultation, including all aspects of survey work and the use of specialist survey software.

## CRIME & COMMUNITY SAFETY

The Observatory provides a research and intelligence facility for partner agencies involved in crime and disorder reduction activity.

We collect, analyse and disseminate data related to crime and disorder, so that other agencies can target their community safety work more effectively and help keep Warwickshire a safe place to live.

## SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC RESEARCH & THE CENSUS

The Observatory undertakes research into the demographic and social makeup of Warwickshire. Demographic and social research includes population/household estimates and projections, information on births, deaths and migration, investigating deprivation & disadvantage, health and lifestyles.

The Observatory has conducted an extensive research programme in support of analysis and dissemination of the results of the **2001 Census** and preparations for the **2011 Census**. A range of Census outputs are available from the Observatory's website, including Area Profiles, Theme reports and a Census Atlas.

## STRATEGIC PLANNING MONITORING

The Observatory supports the work of the Council's strategic planning function by monitoring progress in the implementation and review of spatial plans and economic strategies.

## CONTACT US

For general enquiries and requests for specific information please email us at:

[research@warwickshireobservatory.org](mailto:research@warwickshireobservatory.org)

To speak with a member of the Observatory team please call us on one of the numbers listed below.

**General enquiries/publication requests**,  
01926 418645 or 01926 418066

**Consultation & surveys**, 01926 418049

**Crime and community safety**, 01926 418645

**Socio-demographic research & the Census**,  
01926 412775

**Economy and labour market**, 01926 418066

**Quality of life in Warwickshire**, 01926 418066

**Strategic planning monitoring**, 01926 412358

**Observatory manager**, 01926 412511

Write to us at:

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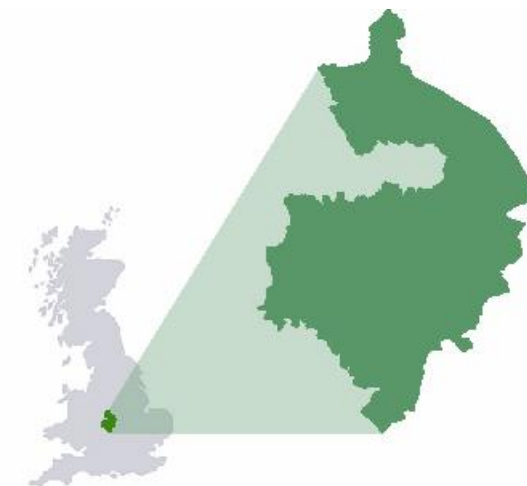
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If you find this document difficult to read we can provide the text in a format better suited to your needs. Please telephone 01926 418633 or email, [format@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:format@warwickshire.gov.uk)



...providing a centre of excellence in  
research, data collection and analysis  
for Warwickshire



[www.warwickshireobservatory.org](http://www.warwickshireobservatory.org)



*Working for  
Warwickshire*