**Life expectancy overview report for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, March 2020 (finalised August 2020)**

**Introduction**

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) released the 2016-2018 pooled period updated life expectancy (LE) data in December 2019. The 2016-2018 data release also included historic data. The principal datasets covered are:

* Life expectancy at birth (included in this overview)
* Health life expectancy at birth (included in this overview)
* Life expectancy at age 65 years (not included in this overview)
* Health life expectancy at age 65 years (not included in this overview)
* Disability-free life expectancy (not included in this overview)

Most of the data here are taken from this ONS data release. For more details please see:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/healthandlifeexpectancies>.

Public Health England (PHE) regularly present the ONS LE data on their Fingertips platform at <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/> and some data used here are derived from the Public Health Outcomes Framework (PHOF) on Fingertips at <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/public-health-outcomes-framework>.

**Important note – statistical significance/importance and RAG ratings**: this local analysis uses the lower and upper confidence interval values of the benchmark (in this case England) to assess statistical significance and the associated red-amber-green (RAG) rating shown. Conversely, Public Health England just uses the data point value of the benchmark and hence there may be some variation to the statistical significance shown here and the materials on Fingertips (<https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/>). Where Public Health England charts and data tables are included directly they will be unchanged from the source and will not use the confidence interval values of the benchmark to ascribe statistical importance.

1. **Life expectancy at birth, healthy life expectancy at birth and inequalities in life expectancy, 2016-2018**

**1.1 Male life expectancy, 2016-2018**

The statistical comparison is with England – ‘higher is good’



**Note**: Health state life expectancy data are not available for city/district councils

**Source**: leatbirthandatage65byukla201618.xlsx, from https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/health-state-life-expectancies-uk-2016-to-2018 (downloaded 24/12/2019)

**Source**: hsleatbirthandatage65byukla201618.xlsx, from https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/health-state-life-expectancies-uk-2016-to-2018 (downloaded 24/12/2019)

**Secondary source (inequality in LE)**: PHE, Fingertips, PHOF, downloaded 14/2/20

**1.2 Female life expectancy, 2016-2018**

The statistical comparison is with England – ‘higher is good’



**Note**: Health state life expectancy data are not available for city/district councils.

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**Source**: hsleatbirthandatage65byukla201618.xlsx, from https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/health-state-life-expectancies-uk-2016-to-2018 (downloaded 24/12/2019)

**Secondary source (inequality in LE)**: PHE, Fingertips, PHOF, downloaded 14/2/20

**Key points** – male and female life expectancy at birth, healthy life expectancy at birth and healthy life expectancy at birth, 2016-2018

* Life expectancy at birth for males and females is statistically significantly lower (worse) than England in Peterborough and Fenland.
* Male life expectancy at birth is statistically significantly higher (better) than England in all areas other than Peterborough and Fenland.
* Female life expectancy at birth is statistically significantly higher (better) in all areas other than Peterborough and Fenland and Cambridge City. In Cambridge City it is assessed as being the same as England.
* Compared with 2015-2017, male life expectancy has fallen slightly in 2016-2018 in England, Peterborough and East Cambridgeshire. It has increased slightly in all other areas, with Fenland and South Cambridgeshire having the largest increases.
* Compared with 2015-2017, female life expectancy has fallen slightly in England, Peterborough, Huntingdonshire and Fenland. It has increased very slightly or remained the same in most areas, with the largest increase seen in South Cambridgeshire.
* Inequalities in life expectancy vary across the patch, but only Cambridge City’s are in the highest (worst) fifth of unitary and district councils, for both males and females.
* Male healthy life expectancy at birth is statistically similar to England in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.
* Female healthy life expectancy at birth is statistically significantly lower (worse) than England in Peterborough and higher (better) in Cambridgeshire.
1. **Trends in life expectancy at birth and healthy life expectancy at birth, 2010-2012 to 2016-2018**

Life expectancy is a measure of overall population health status and is the result of a complex and large set of factors through life. As such, overall, it appears to be relatively stable and changes tend to be quite small year on year. Therefore, it is important to note the general themes and the more recent direction of travel when assessing trends over time.

Locally and nationally, male life expectancy at birth is lower than for females and there has been a general slowing down of the historical increases in life expectancy, with some recent small declines in some areas. However, some local areas show small recent LE increases and have maintained gradually increasing trends. Local LE inequality gaps tend to be increasing.

* 1. **Annual rolling 3 year aggregate data for life expectancy at birth, 2010-2012 to 2016-2018**

**Males – annual rolling 3 year aggregate data**

The statistical comparison is with England for 2016-2018 – ‘higher is good’



**Source**: leatbirthandatage65byukla201618.xlsx, from https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/health-state-life-expectancies-uk-2016-to-2018 (downloaded 24/12/2019)

**Females - annual rolling 3 year aggregate data**

The statistical comparison is with England for 2016-2018 – ‘higher is good’



**Source**: leatbirthandatage65byukla201618.xlsx, from https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/health-state-life-expectancies-uk-2016-to-2018 (downloaded 24/12/2019)

**2.2 Trends in life expectancy at birth for males and females – Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, 2010-2012 to 2016-2018**

**Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council**



**Source**: leatbirthandatage65byukla201618.xlsx, from https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/health-state-life-expectancies-uk-2016-to-2018 (downloaded 24/12/2019) and PHE Fingertips

**Key points:**

* Male life expectancy is persistently below female life expectancy.
* Female and male life expectancy in Cambridgeshire is persistently higher than in Peterborough.
* Over the period shown, life expectancy has remained relatively stable across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Male life expectancy has slightly increased in Peterborough over the entire period, but latterly has fallen slightly; Peterborough’s female life expectancy is relatively stable, as is male and female life expectancy in Cambridgeshire.
* Compared to England, Peterborough’s male and female life expectancy has been statistically significantly lower for each time point in the entire period 2010-2012 to 2016-2018. Cambridgeshire’s male and female life expectancies have remained statistically significantly higher than England for each time point 2010-2012 to 2016-2018 (Source: Public Health England, PHOF, Fingertips, downloaded 17/2/20 – data not shown).
* Although the overall trend is relatively stable, male inequalities in LE have increased more recently in Peterborough – female inequalities are generally stable. In Cambridgeshire, male inequalities in LE appear to be increasing in the most recent periods; Cambridgeshire female inequalities in LE have been generally stable but increased quite markedly in the most recent 2016-2018 period.
* Historically male inequality LE gaps have tended to be larger than female gaps, and this remains the case for Peterborough; however, the latest data indicate that the gap is narrowing in Cambridgeshire (Source: Public Health England, PHOF, Fingertips, downloaded 17/2/20 – data not shown).

**Cambridge City Council**



**Source**: leatbirthandatage65byukla201618.xlsx, from https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/health-state-life-expectancies-uk-2016-to-2018 (downloaded 24/12/2019)

**Key points:**

* Male life expectancy is persistently below female life expectancy, but the gap has been narrowing over time with male life expectancy in Cambridge City rising and female LE falling.
* Over the period 2010-2012 to 2016-2018 male LE in Cambridge City has been similar or better than LE in England; historically female LE in Cambridge City has been higher than in England, but over the latest two periods has become similar (Source: Public Health England, PHOF, Fingertips, downloaded 17/2/20 – data not shown).
* Cambridge City’s male inequalities in LE at birth have generally been relatively stable, but increased in the latest period 2016-2018; female inequalities in LE in Cambridge City increased quite markedly in 2016-2018; the male and female inequality gaps in Cambridge are now identical and both are relatively large in national terms (Source: Public Health England, PHOF, Fingertips, downloaded 17/2/20 – data not shown).
* It is important to emphasise that Cambridge City’s inequality gaps for males and females have generally remained in the worst fifth of English district and unitary authorities over time (Source: Public Health England, PHOF, Fingertips, downloaded 17/2/20 – data not shown).

**East Cambridgeshire District Council**



**Source**: leatbirthandatage65byukla201618.xlsx, from https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/health-state-life-expectancies-uk-2016-to-2018 (downloaded 24/12/2019)

**Key points:**

* Male life expectancy is persistently below female life expectancy; the gap has been increasing more recently with female life expectancy in East Cambridgeshire rising and male LE falling.
* Over the whole period shown, female LE in East Cambridgeshire is stable; male LE is relatively stable, but with more recent small declines.
* East Cambridgeshire’s male and female life expectancies are statistically significantly higher than in England for each time period 2010-2012 to 2016-2018 (Source: Public Health England, PHOF, Fingertips, downloaded 17/2/20 – data not shown).
* Inequalities in LE in East Cambridgeshire appear to be increasing for males and females and male gaps have tended to be larger than in females (Source: Public Health England, PHOF, Fingertips, downloaded 17/2/20 – data not shown).

**Fenland District Council**



**Source**: leatbirthandatage65byukla201618.xlsx, from https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/health-state-life-expectancies-uk-2016-to-2018 (downloaded 24/12/2019)

**Key points:**

* Male life expectancy is persistently below female life expectancy; in general, the gap has been relatively uniform with a small overall increase over the period shown; both male and female LE at birth in Fenland show slight declines over the entire period.
* In the most recent period, Fenland’s male LE has slightly increased, after a few periods of decline; female LE has remained stable in the most recent periods, but, in general, has slightly declined from the previous levels shown.
* Fenland’s male LE has been similar or lower than England at each time point from 2010-2012 to 2016-2018; however, the most recent four periods all have statistically significantly lower male LE than England; the same pattern is broadly true for females (Source: Public Health England, PHOF, Fingertips, downloaded 17/2/20 – data not shown).
* Fenland’s male inequalities in LE appear to be increasing, with the most recent periods increasing quite markedly; female inequalities in LE are smaller but still appear to be increasing; male LE gaps are larger than female gaps (Source: Public Health England, PHOF, Fingertips, downloaded 17/2/20 – data not shown).

**Huntingdonshire District Council**



**Source**: leatbirthandatage65byukla201618.xlsx, from https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/health-state-life-expectancies-uk-2016-to-2018 (downloaded 24/12/2019)

**Key points:**

* Huntingdonshire’s male life expectancy is persistently below female life expectancy; the gap has been relatively uniform with a small overall increase over time for males and a small decline for females.
* The overall LE trends for males and females in Huntingdonshire show slightly increasing life expectancy between 2010-2012 and 2016-2018; female LE shows slightly increasing trends until 2014-2016 and there is a small decline in the life expectancy over the latest two time periods.
* Huntingdonshire’s male and female life expectancies are statistically significantly higher than in England for each time period 2010-2012 to 2016-2018 (Source: Public Health England, PHOF, Fingertips, downloaded 17/2/20 – data not shown).
* Huntingdonshire’s male and female inequality gaps in LE tend to be relatively similar, with both increasing, but the male gap increasing by a larger amount more recently (Source: Public Health England, PHOF, Fingertips, downloaded 17/2/20 – data not shown).

**South Cambridgeshire District Council**



**Source**: leatbirthandatage65byukla201618.xlsx, from https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/health-state-life-expectancies-uk-2016-to-2018 (downloaded 24/12/2019)

**Key points:**

* South Cambridgeshire’s male life expectancy is persistently below female life expectancy; the gap has been relatively stable over the period shown and both are increasing more recently, male life expectancy at a slightly faster rate than female.
* South Cambridgeshire’s male and female life expectancies are statistically significantly higher than in England for each time period 2010-2012 to 2016-2018 (Source: Public Health England, PHOF, Fingertips, downloaded 17/2/20 – data not shown).
* South Cambridgeshire’s male inequality gap in LE had been increasing to 2015-2017, but has fallen markedly in the last period (2016-2018); the female inequality gap in LE is increasing (Source: Public Health England, PHOF, Fingertips, downloaded 17/2/20 – data not shown).

**2.3 Trends in healthy life expectancy at birth for males and females – Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, 2010-2012 to 2016-2018**

**NB:** healthy life expectancy data are not available for district authorities and so are presented for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough only.

**Healthy life expectancy at birth**

**Males and females – annual rolling 3 year aggregate data**

The statistical comparison is with England for 2016-2018 – ‘higher is good’



**Source**: heestimates.xlsx, from https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/health-state-life-expectancies-uk-2016-to-2018 (downloaded 24/12/2019) - worksheet HE - Country level estimates & HE - local area estimates)



**Source**: heestimates.xlsx, from https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/health-state-life-expectancies-uk-2016-to-2018 (downloaded 24/12/2019) - worksheet HE - Country level estimates & HE - local area estimates)

**Key points:**

* In 2016-2018, healthy life expectancy (HLE) at birth is statistically similar to England for males in Peterborough and Cambridgeshire; female HLE at birth in 2016-2018 is higher than England in Cambridgeshire females, but significantly lower for Peterborough females.
* Peterborough’s male and female HLE is lower than Cambridgeshire’s over a sustained period.
* Cambridgeshire HLE at birth for males is declining slightly and is stable in females, despite a small decline in the most recent period; male and female HLE at birth in Peterborough is stable over the period shown, but has declined in the most recent periods.

**Healthy life expectancy at birth – proportion of life spent in ‘good’ health**

**Males and females – annual rolling 3 year aggregate data**



**Source**: heestimates.xlsx, from https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/health-state-life-expectancies-uk-2016-to-2018 (downloaded 24/12/2019) - worksheet HE - Country level estimates & HE - local area estimates)



**Source**: heestimates.xlsx, from https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/health-state-life-expectancies-uk-2016-to-2018 (downloaded 24/12/2019) - worksheet HE - Country level estimates & HE - local area estimates)

**Key points:**

* In Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, there have been small declines in the proportion of life spent in ‘good’ health in 2016-2018 compared with 2015-2017.
* The proportion of life spent in good health does appear to be lower for Peterborough females and is declining in the most recent periods, though the overall trend shows slight improvement; the male proportion indicates an improving trend.
* Cambridgeshire’s female proportion of life spent in good health is relatively stable over the entire period, whereas the male proportion appears to be declining.

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