

Fast food outlets and obesity– Mansfield Briefing – Feb 2018

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National evidence and recommendation

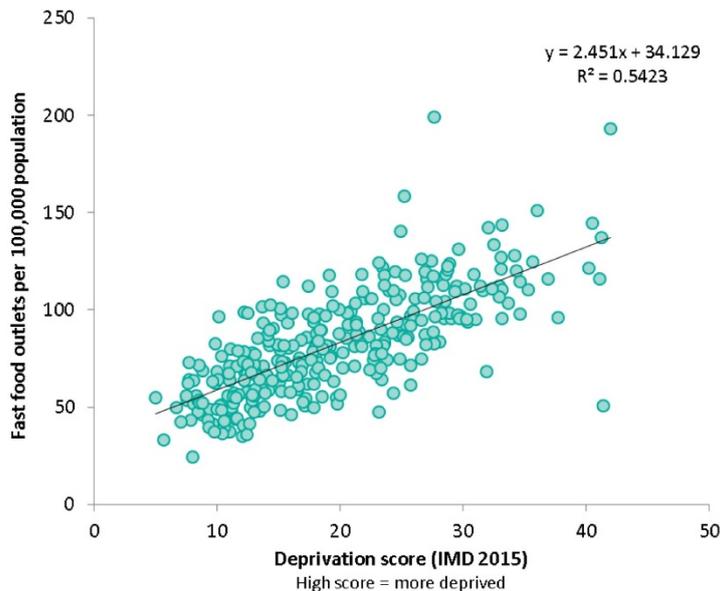
There is strong evidence showing that fast food outlets are more prevalent in areas which are more deprived and have higher levels of obesity¹.

The National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE) Public Health guidance on Cardiovascular disease² recommends that local authorities should take action to limit the planning permission for of fast food outlets in specific areas (e.g. near schools) (figure 1).

Figure 1 Public Health England Chart on Fast Food Outlets & Deprivation

Relationship between density of fast food outlets and deprivation

by local authority



Research evidence

There is growing evidence that children who live in areas with greater access to fast food outlets are more likely to gain excess weight. A recent study published in 2017 using national child measurement data from South Gloucestershire showed that primary school aged children who lived closer to fast food outlets were more likely than those with lower access to gain excess weight during primary school age, even when deprivation and gender were controlled for.³

¹ Public Health England Density of fast food outlets in relation to deprivation in England (2016) https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/578041/Fast_food_map_2016.pdf

² NICE (2010) Cardiovascular Disease Prevention. Public Health Guidance (PH25) <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ph25>

³ Pearce et al (2017). Weight gain in mid childhood and its relationship with the fast food environment. Journal of Public Health.

Local evidence - obesity

Mansfield District has a child obesity prevalence at Year 6 of 19.7% vs 20.0% in England in 2016/17. Child obesity prevalence has been similar to England in this District since 2007/8 and has one of the highest prevalence in Nottinghamshire (similar with Ashfield District)⁴.

67.3% of adults are classified as overweight or obese in Mansfield (2015/16) vs 61.3 % in England⁵. In Nottinghamshire 25.7% of adults are obese.

Local evidence - fast food outlets and schools

Mansfield District had a fast food outlet density of 96.3 per 100,000 residents in 2015 compared to 88 per 100,000 residents in England^{6 7}.

Figure 2 shows the location of schools in Mansfield in relation to the background density of fast food outlets at ward level. This shows that the areas that several primary schools and 4 secondary schools are located within, already have a density of fast food outlets higher than the national average.

⁴ Public Health England (2017). Year 6 Child Obesity in Nottinghamshire (2016/17). <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/national-child-measurement-programme/data#page/0/gid/8000011/pat/6/par/E12000004/ati/101/are/E07000174>

⁵ Public Health England (2017) Prevalence of underweight, healthy weight, overweight, obesity, and excess weight among adults (18+) at local authority level for England <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/search/adult%20obesity#page/3/gid/1/pat/102/par/E10000024/ati/101/are/E07000174/iid/93088/age/168/sex/4>

⁶ Public Health England (2015) Density of fast food outlets by local authority in England: map and area deprivation chart https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/578041/Fast_food_map_2016.pdf

⁷ Public Health England (2015) Density of fast food outlets in England: data by local authority and ward https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/578044/Fast_food_metadata_and_summary_local_authority_data.xlsx

Figure 2 Location of Schools and Fast Food Outlet density in Mansfield

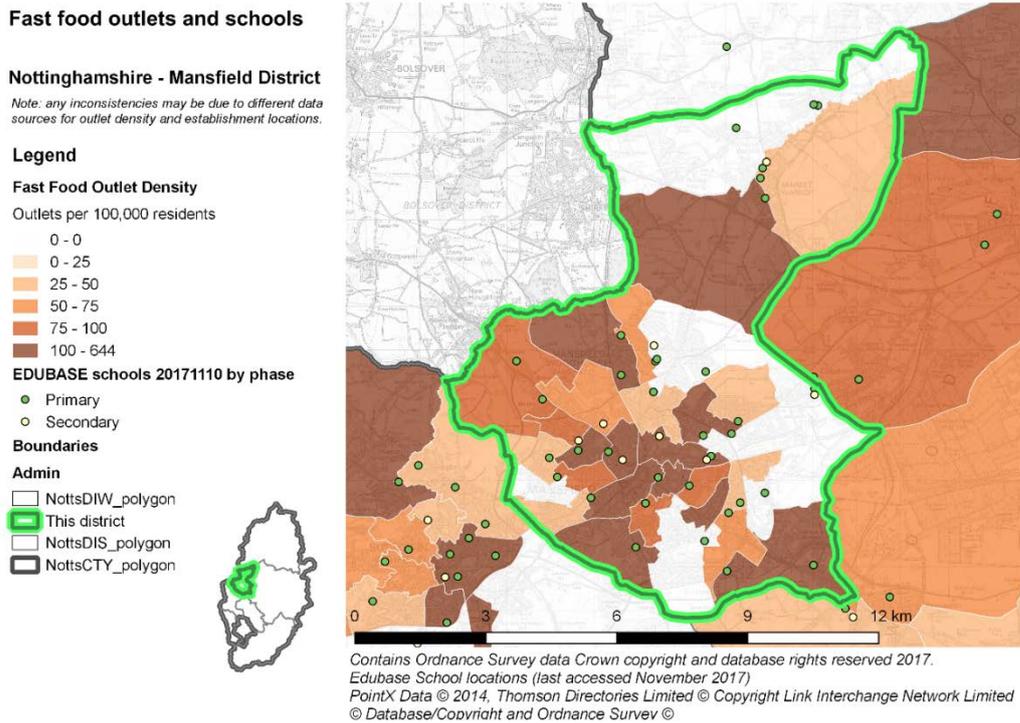


Figure 3 shows that several schools are located in areas with a clustering of fast food outlets and that most of these areas have year 6 child obesity levels in a range as high as, or higher than the England average (20.0%).

