

# Appendices

## Appendices

1. Baseline Conditions and Analysis
2. Statement of Community Involvement
3. Core Strategy Compliance
4. Crime Prevention through Design Statement
5. History of Social Housing in Limerick
6. Existing Services Infrastructure
7. Existing Situation
8. Cost and Cash Flow Information



# Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

## 1.1 Overview of the Socio-Economic Context

Limerick City, the fourth largest city in the State, has a population of 57,106 persons.<sup>1</sup> The statutorily defined regeneration areas occupy almost 3% of the land area of Limerick City<sup>2</sup> and accommodate 11% of the total population of the city. The Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan (LRFIP) aims to eliminate the poor physical and, in particular, housing conditions currently prevalent in many parts of the regeneration areas. However, a suite of social and economic interventions is also needed to address the deeply embedded socio-economic problems of the areas. Such interventions will continue to be required long after the completion of physical regeneration.

### 1.1.1 Objectives and Approach

The specific objectives of this chapter are to:

- Present baseline data on the socio-economic conditions of the regeneration areas in the wider context of the city, the city and suburbs/city metropolitan area;
- Present a framework which will support the ongoing statistical analysis of the physical, economic and social regeneration interventions;
- Contextualise the data obtained from the Census of Population (CSO) by comparisons with the characteristics of the wider Irish population and the wider population in Limerick City.

This chapter seeks to establish an appropriate range of performance indicators against which the impact of the physical, economic and social regeneration measures can be assessed. Comparison of the indicators has been carried out, where possible and relevant, against county, regional and national, comparators and also with other cities / urban areas in the State.

### 1.1.2 Approach

Data are drawn from analysis of the census data, official statistics, Limerick City Council housing databases and other sources including recent research on social / socio-economic conditions in the city, with a specific emphasis on the city's regeneration areas.

A detailed analysis of data within the regeneration areas was undertaken at two levels including Electoral Division (ED) and Small Area Population Statistics (SAPS) – the latter being the lowest spatial level of data aggregation. Analysis at ED level permitted consideration of indicators across a slightly wider area

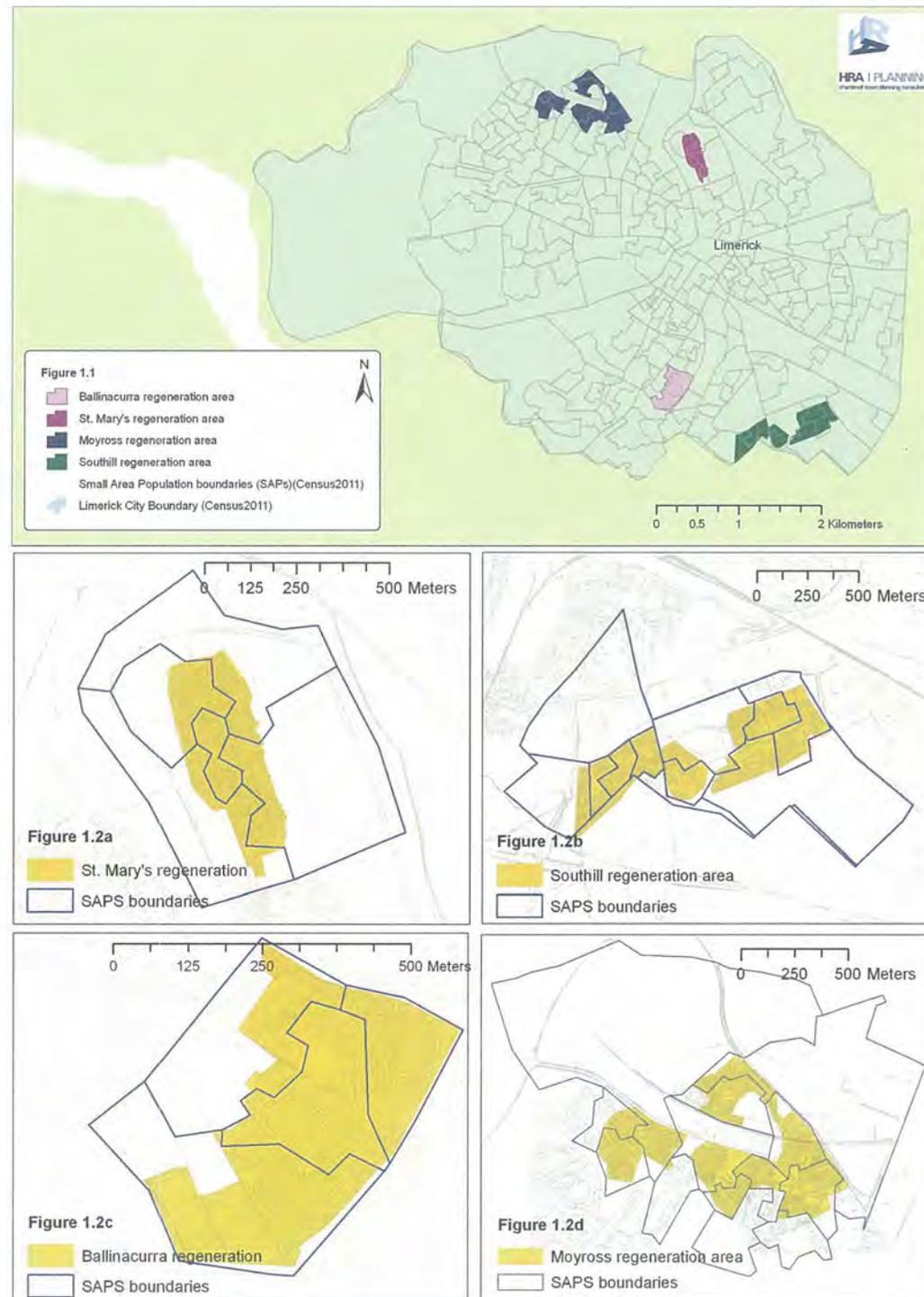


Figure 1.1: Defined Regeneration Areas in the Context of SAPs Boundaries

<sup>1</sup> This relates to the administrative area of Limerick City. In other parts of this analysis, different units of territory are used where relevant, namely Limerick City and suburbs / Limerick metropolitan area.

<sup>2</sup> Limerick City is defined as per the area (28.4sqkm) provided in the Census of Population 2011.

## Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

(outside / adjacent to the regeneration areas) and allowed an analysis of trends over time. Analysis at SAPS level was undertaken to provide clear indicators within the defined regeneration areas themselves, presenting specific baseline data on the socio-economic conditions of the regeneration areas, which can be utilised to inform monitoring over time.

### Consolidating Data from the SAPS

Whilst the legal boundaries for the regeneration areas were established in 2007 and then amended in 2008, the boundaries for the purpose of the SAPS analysis encompass the immediate housing areas only within the defined regeneration areas as detailed in Figure 1.1.

Whilst the regeneration area boundaries of Southill and St. Mary's Park & King's Island generally correlate with the boundaries defined for the SAPS, the regeneration boundaries of Moyross and Ballinacurra Weston do not. Figure 1.1 provides a spatial representation of the regeneration areas in the context of the CSO SAPS boundaries.

Southill encompasses eleven SAPS in total and whilst some SAPS boundaries extend beyond the regeneration boundary, they encompass only industrial, commercial and agricultural area. Therefore for the purposes of this analysis the nine SAPS areas were considered in their totality. The St. Mary's Park & King's Island area encompasses five SAPS in total with some SAPS boundaries extending into the river and across undeveloped land. Thus the five SAPS areas were considered in their totality for the purpose of this analysis and therefore the data presented for these two regeneration areas is reflective of the CSO data and representative of the situation within the regeneration area.

The other two regeneration areas of Ballinacurra Weston and Moyross are complicated due to the fact that some of the SAPS areas fall within the study boundary and some, comprising substantial housing, are located outside of the regeneration areas. Therefore inclusion of the entire SAPS areas including those houses located outside of the regeneration boundary has the potential to substantially distort the results for the specific regeneration area under consideration. For example, in the case of Ballinacurra Weston, it covers four SAPS areas. Two of the SAPS are wholly located within the regeneration area with the other two straddling the boundary to the effect that 84 houses within the SAPS lie outside of the regeneration area including houses fronting onto Rosbrien Road and Prospect Hill and houses in Punches Close. In the case of Moyross, the thirteen SAPS areas include one SAPS with 39 houses located outside the regeneration area at Monabraher Road and Clonconnane Road and one large SAPS area that only has 6 houses at the top of Moylish avenue (out of a total of 102 houses.) which fall within the regeneration area.

The inclusion of houses located outside of the regeneration areas has the potential to significantly distort data. Therefore, having regard to the SAPS for each area, the number of houses located outside of the regeneration area boundary was calculated as a percentage of the total number of houses/people within that SAPS and deducted from the total SAPS figures appropriately.

### 1.1.3 Format

An analysis of the existing situation in terms of deprivation based on the revised Haase Pratschke Deprivation Index for 2006 and 2011<sup>3</sup>, constructed

from census variables, is presented with reference to the national context, the situation of the five cities in the State and spatial deprivation in the local Limerick context. Thereafter an analysis of the variables are undertaken at ED level and then at SAPs level where appropriate.

### 1.2 Deprivation Index and Change 2006-2011

The HP Deprivation Index<sup>4</sup> is constructed from census variables based on the unit of Small Areas (the most disaggregated spatial unit comprising 18,488 Small Areas in the State). The index is constructed based on three dimensions of affluence / deprivation, namely: Demographic Profile, Social Class Composition and Labour Market Situation utilising a range of census variables.

Table 1.1 presents the HP Absolute Deprivation Scores and HP Relative Deprivation Scores for 2006 and 2011 and change in the scores in this period.

	Limerick City	Dublin City	Cork City	Galway City	Waterford City	State
HP Absolute Deprivation Score 2006	-7.42	-1.11	-4.08	3.02	-5.69	-0.23
HP Absolute Deprivation Score 2011	-13.66	-4.86	-8.98	-1.9	-11.5	-6.78
Change in Absolute HP Deprivation Score 2006-2011	-6.24	-3.75	-4.9	-4.92	-5.8	-6.55
HP Relative Deprivation Score 2006	-7.42	-1.11	-4.08	3.02	-5.69	-0.23
HP Relative Deprivation Score 2011	-6.66	2.22	-1.9	5.09	-4.51	0.24
Change in Relative HP Deprivation Score 2006-2011	0.76	3.32	2.18	2.07	1.18	0.47

Table 1.1: Absolute and Relative HP Index Scores<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Scores range from -40 (extreme disadvantage) to +40 (extreme affluence). The explanation of the various categories of the scores are as follows: above +30, extremely affluent; 20 to 30 very affluent; 10 to 20 affluent; 0 to 10 marginally above average; 0 to -10 marginally below average; -10 to -20 disadvantaged; -20 to -30 very disadvantaged; below -30 extremely disadvantaged.

<sup>4</sup> The HP Deprivation Index was constructed based on a lower level of disaggregation, namely Small Areas and is aggregated up to higher level spatial units of analysis such as EDs, city etc. The most disaggregated level of analysis (SAs) is likely to show some variation from this pattern – for instance, picking up on smaller pockets of relative affluence and deprivation in the city.

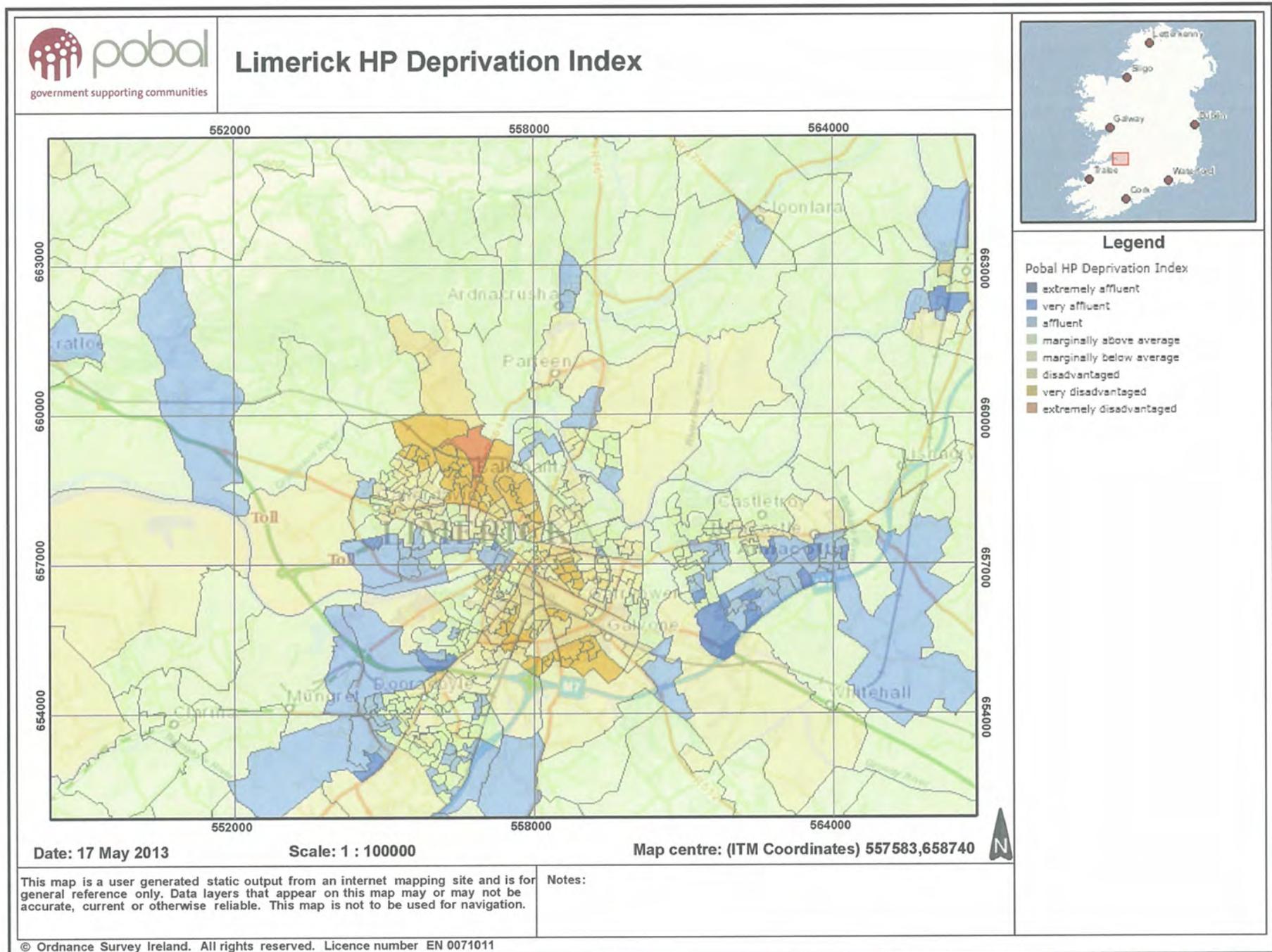
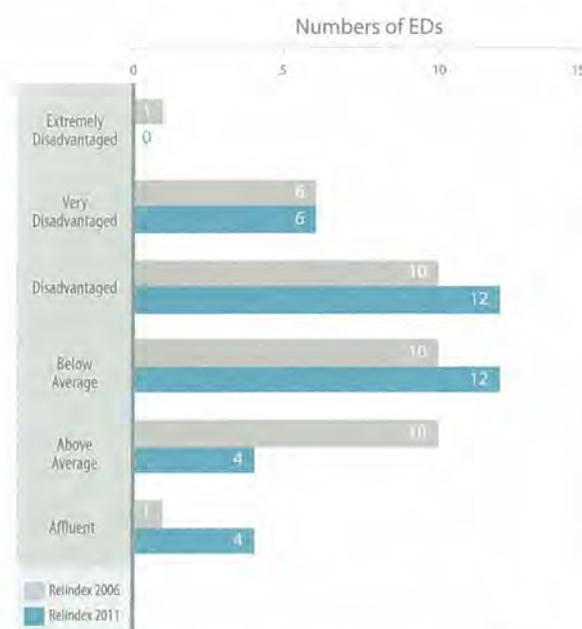


Figure 1.2: Pobal HP Relative Affluence / Deprivation Index Map: Limerick

## Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis



**Figure 1.3 : Absolute and Relative HP Index Scores**

Focusing on the Absolute Deprivation Scores in the State as a whole (based on all the Small Areas), these shifted negatively by just under 7 points (-6.55) indicating that the sharp economic downturn has negatively affected all areas of the country.

Comparing relative change - the HP Relative Index Scores - between 2006 and 2011, the analysis highlights the continued importance of the main urban centres to the distribution of relative affluence. In terms of the differential impact of the economic downturn, the analysis showed that “the previous growth belts, particularly those located at the outer periphery of the Greater Dublin Region have seen their fortunes most strongly reversed, whilst the five city areas have withstood the economic downturn comparatively well” (Haase and Pratschke 2012). For instance, while the Absolute HP Index Score for Ireland as a whole declined by 6.55 points, the Absolute Index Scores for the five cities were all less than this. Dublin City fared the best (declining by 3.8 points) followed by Cork City (-4.1 points), Galway City (-4.9), Waterford City (-5.8 points) and Limerick City (-6.2 points). However, in the baseline year (2006), Limerick City was, and in 2011 remains, more disadvantaged based on the absolute and relative deprivation scales than

the other cities.

Figure 1.3 shows the change in the relative position of areas in the city (i.e., the position relative to all other areas in the State) in 2006 and 2011 based on the spatial unit of the 38 Electoral Divisions.<sup>4</sup> The analysis of change in the HP Relative Deprivation Scores between 2006 and 2011 shows some movement towards the centre of the distribution with more of the EDs falling into the categories “just below the average” and “disadvantaged” in 2011 compared with 2006. There are fewer EDs “above average” and “affluent” combined in 2011 and more falling into the category “affluent” compared with 2006. At the other end of the spectrum, none of the EDs fall into the “extremely disadvantaged” category in 2011.

However, the number of EDs falling in the “very disadvantaged”, “disadvantaged” and “below average” categories have increased compared to the situation in 2006.

### 1.3 Population and Population Change

The population of Limerick City and suburbs, 2011, is just under 91,454, the city 57,106 and the county, 134,703. The age structure of the population for these different spatial units is shown in Table 1.2 below. The city has a slightly older age structure than the city and suburbs along with Limerick County. For instance, 21% of the population of the county and 19% of the population of city and suburbs is aged under 15 years compared with 18% in this age group in the city. Almost 30% of the population of the city is aged 50

Age Group	Limerick City & Suburbs		Limerick City		Limerick County	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
0-4 years	6547	7.2	3719	6.5	10475	7.8
5-14 years	10630	11.6	6512	11.4	18358	13.6
25-49 years	35183	38.5	20959	36.7	49400	36.7
50-64 years	13519	14.8	9338	16.4	22683	16.8
65-79 years	7853	8.6	5865	10.3	12128	9.0
80 years+	2226	2.4	1656	2.9	3664	2.7
Total	91454	100.0	57106	100.0	134703	100.0

**Table 1.2 : Population by Age Groups: Limerick City & Suburbs, Limerick City and Limerick County, 2011**  
Source: CSO Census of Ireland 2011, Small Area Population Statistics

<sup>4</sup> The HP Deprivation Index was constructed based on a lower level of disaggregation, namely Small Areas and is aggregated up to higher level spatial units of analysis such as EDs, city etc. The most disaggregated level of analysis (SAs) is likely to show some variation from this pattern – for instance, picking up on smaller pockets of relative affluence and deprivation in the city.

years and over, compared with 29% in the county and 27% in the city and suburbs, while over 13% in the city, 12% in the county and 11% in the city and suburbs are in the older age groups, 65 years and over.

Limerick is the third of the five cities in the State (after Dublin and Cork) in terms of population size of the city and suburbs. However, its population has grown only marginally (less than 1%) compared with the other cities in the State especially, Dublin (+6.2%) and Galway (+5.6%). See Table 1.3.

City	Pop. 2006	Pop. 2011	Change 2006-2011
	Number	Number	%
Limerick City & Suburbs	90757	91454	0.8
Dublin City & Suburbs	1045769	1110627	6.2
Cork City & Suburbs	190384	198582	4.3
Galway City & Suburbs	72729	76778	5.6
Waterford City & Suburbs	49213	51519	4.7

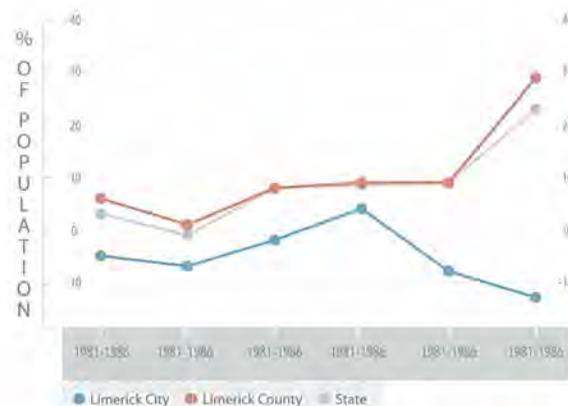
**Table 1.3: Population Size and Change 2006-2011, Five Cities and Suburbs in the State**  
Source: CSO Census of Ireland 2011, Small Area Population Statistics

The trend in population change in Limerick City (not including the suburbs) since the mid-1990s has been one of population loss. The population of the city decreased by almost 4.5% in the preceding five year period and nationally this decline was the most significant amongst the five major urban centres<sup>5</sup>. Cork was the only other city to experience a decline in population of just -0.2% between 2006 and 2011. Whilst the decline in population places Limerick City fourth among the country's five major urban centres, the population in the county grew significantly at 8.4%, which was above the national average of 8.2% - see Figure 1.3.

Over the 30 year period 1981-2011, the population of the city declined (-13.4%) while there was a substantial increase in population in Limerick County (+40%) and the state (+33 %).

Currently Limerick City dominates the settlement system of the Mid-West region with a population over

eleven times that of the next largest urban centre, Ennis<sup>6</sup>. The region in fact is relatively rural in character, with 54% of its population living in rural areas compared to just 38% for the State as a whole. Limerick City accounts for just over 15% of the region's population a figure that has been decreasing since 2002 when it accounted for just under 16% of the total population, of the region. Whilst the dominance of the city in the region may be falling, population density in the region increased from 44 people per km<sup>2</sup> (2006) to 46 people per km<sup>2</sup> (2011), but yet remains markedly lower than the national average of 67 people per km<sup>2</sup> (2011).



**Figure 1.4: Percentage Population Change 1981-2011**

Source: CSO Census of Ireland 1981-2011, Small Area Population Statistics

### 1.3.1 Population & Age Structure

Limerick City and the metropolitan area<sup>7</sup> has a high proportion (17%) of the population aged between 15 and 24 years, well above the national average of 13%, pointing to a growing workforce over the next ten years. The average age of the person living in the city has grown from the national average of 35.6 years in 1996 to an average age of 37 years in 2011.

This trend carries forward into the regeneration areas with just over 16% of the total population in the four regeneration areas aged between 15 and 24 years. Examining the population structure and dependency ratios of the four regeneration housing areas at the level of the SAPs, Moyross has the highest percentage of the population (18%) in the 15 to 24 years age group,

followed by Ballinacurra (16%) and Southill and St. Mary's Park at 15%. This demonstrates the significant potential to direct a large proportion of the population into gainful employment over the next ten years.

The Youth Dependency rate in the city and the metropolitan area is broadly similar at 26% and 27% respectively and are well below the regional rate of 30.2% and the national rate of 32%. In contrast the regeneration areas have a higher than average Youth Dependency rate (St. Mary's Park 39%; Southill 35%; Moyross 39%) with the exception of Ballinacurra Weston which has a rate of 29%. However the Elderly Dependency rate is somewhat different and is particularly varied across the regeneration areas. Whilst the Elderly Dependency rate in Southill and Ballinacurra Weston (18%) is slightly below that for the city (19%) it is only slightly above the national figure of 17%. In contrast St. Mary's Park has a high Elderly Dependency rate of 21% and when examined in conjunction with the Youth Dependency ratio, the overall dependency ratio in that regeneration area is highest overall at 60%. Moyross, in contrast to the other three regeneration areas and in marked contrast to the city and national rates, has an extremely low Elderly Dependency ratio of only 8.4%. This rate is even lower than the metropolitan area rate of 15% and clearly demonstrates the presence of a strong working age population.

It should be noted that certain areas adjacent to the regeneration areas have both significant proportions of children under 15 years and adults 65 years and over (e.g., Killeely A with 22% under 15 years and 13% over 65 years; Singland A, covering parts of Garryowen with 21% under 15 years and 14% over 65 years; Galvone A, Kennedy Park and Old Cork Road with 20% under 15 years and 14% over 65 years). Other adjacent areas have an older population structure including parts of Garryowen (Abbey D, 20% over 65 years), Hyde Avenue / Hyde Road / Carey's Road (Glentworth B, 18% over 65 years) and Lee Estate / Assumpta Park (St. John's B) - see table at the end of this appendix for details.

This analysis of population structure, however, must take into account that the populations of the regeneration areas have declined significantly over the years. Some of these areas are now relatively small in terms of absolute numbers of population.

Data on actual population change in the regeneration areas of the city over the most recent census period

<sup>5</sup> Dublin, Cork, Limerick, Galway, Waterford.

<sup>6</sup> Ennis urban area has a population of 4,965 in 2011.

<sup>7</sup> Refers to Limerick City and suburbs.

## Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

(2006-2011) and the 30 year period (1981- 2011) are presented below. This analysis is based on ED level data.

The decline in population on the local authority estates in Limerick is a long-term trend. Population loss from the local authority estates is explained by various factors including incentives provided in housing and regeneration policy at different stages to encourage residents to leave, the growth in private rental accommodation and state assistance for private rental to those in housing need, and residents deciding to move from the estates, enabled by the greater opportunities for mobility from the estates during the economic boom.

The population of Limerick North Rural (which includes part of Moyross namely, Craeval, Pineview and Delmege) is the only ED where the population increased over the 30 year period. However, this area includes the middle class suburb of Caherdavin as well as part of the Moyross estate. The large population loss from the regeneration areas in the period 2006-2011 (e.g., almost 50% in the case of Galvone B, O'Malley / Keyes Park) is linked to the regeneration process, in particular, the local authority policy on housing demolition and re-locations but also an ongoing pattern of residents choosing to leave when there were opportunities to do so (see table 1.5). The percentage population change for the regeneration areas and for Limerick City, Limerick County and the State as a whole over the period 1981-2011 is shown in Figure 1.5. The largest drop in population (%) was in O'Malley Park / Keyes Park which has lost almost 70% of its population over this 30 year period.

Age Group	St. Mary's Park	Southill	Ballinacurra Weston	Moyross
Under 15	212	573	110	622
15 – 24 years	130	372	88	419
25 – 64 years	408	1213	293	1193
65+ years	113	283	70	137

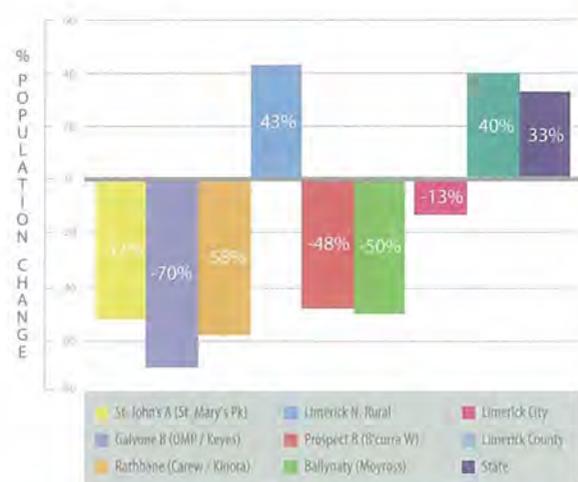
**Table 1.2: Age Structure in Regeneration Areas at Small Area Population Statistics (SAPS) level**

Electoral Division (Area)	1981	2006	2011	Change 2011-2006	Change 2011-1981
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
John's A (St. Mary's Park)	1823	1211	874	-337	-949
Ballynanty ED (pt. Moyross / Ballynanty)	5814	3468	2916	-552	-2898
Limerick North Rural (pt. Moyross, Caherdavin)	4857	7251	6454	-797	1597
Rathbane (Carew & Kincora)	3704	1702	1566	-136	-2138
Galvone B (O'Malley, Keyes)	2895	1574	883	-691	-2012
Prospect B (pt. Ballinacurra Weston)	1429	1026	748	-278	-681

**Table 1.5: Actual Population Change in Limerick Regeneration Areas (EDs with Closest Boundaries to Regeneration Areas) 1981-2011**



## Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis



**Figure 1.5: Percentage Population Change 1981-2011: Limerick Regeneration Area Electoral Divisions (EDs), Limerick City, Limerick County and the State**

Source: CSO Census of Ireland, 1981-2011

### 1.3.2 Population Projection

Using the latest population projections, produced by Eurostat and based on the 2011 Census data, it is possible to obtain a broad indication of the level of change anticipated in Ireland's population in each cohort to the year 2020. The age profile of the population is as important as the total population size in considering policy.

Ireland is experiencing an ageing population, with the 70-74 age bracket set to increase by more than 40% by 2020. An ageing population is one with an increasing average age, where the proportion of older people is increasing and the proportion of younger people is decreasing. Like the majority of other EU countries, Ireland's population is ageing as a result of an increasing life expectancy.

Similarly, the 0-19 age bracket is set to increase by 10% by 2020. Current Youth Dependency rates within the regeneration areas suggest that this age cohort is above national average rates. The trends has both current and future implications for providing support and suitable housing that meet the needs of older people and dependants in Limerick City and within the regeneration areas. A key objective for the regeneration programme is to understand and

Cumulative Figures for Each Age Cohort for Ireland	Age Group	CSO Data 2011		Eurostat Data % Increase from 2011-2020 based on Eurostat Percentage Projection	
		2011	2015	2020	% Increase/Decrease
	0-19	1262609	1331452	1397083	10%
	20-24	297231	228482	273082	-8%
	25-29	361122	273867	246059	-32%
	30-34	393945	391803	285241	-27%
	35-39	364261	363881	389125	7%
	40-44	330812	337156	358581	8%
	45-49	305185	305889	332474	9%
Entering Old Age	50-54	274386	290499	301638	10%
	55-59	244522	258640	285516	16%
	60-64	218786	230156	252010	15%
Transitional Old Age	65-69	173638	201061	220553	27%
	70-74	131190	147543	186829	42%
	75-79	102036	107973	129637	27%
	80-84	70113	72996	83956	19%
Frailty	85 years and over	58416	64092	72818	24%

**Table 1.6: Population Projections for Ireland**

respond to the needs of the existing population and plan appropriately.

### 1.3.3 Population Diversity

Linked to population change and movement is the issue of diversity and heterogeneity of population in the urban realm, which is expressed in terms of attributes such as nationality and ethnicity. In terms of ethnicity there is a high percentage (13%) of non-Irish persons living in Limerick City comprising Black / Asian or White Non-Irish and this demonstrates that perhaps the population in the city is quite transient. This is somewhat higher than the percentage within the State at 12.4% and well above the 9.6% of the county.

These figures are, however, in marked contrast to the regeneration areas where the dominant population is of Irish origin. Ballinacorra Weston was the only area

to demonstrate any level of population diversity, with 3.5% of the population of non-Irish descent followed by Moyross at 2%. Whilst Southill comprises primarily an Irish population (98.5%) it has the largest Traveller population of all of the regeneration areas (2.8%) followed by Moyross (1%). This demonstrates the 'closed nature' of the population type in the regeneration areas in contrast to the structure of the wider metropolitan area where non-Irish residents account for over 15% of the total population.

## 1.4 Economic Structure and Change

### 1.4.1 Employment Rates

Whilst the number of people at work is one measure of the participation of an area's labour supply in economic activity, it does not capture those individuals who are unemployed, or not in the labour force (e.g. students and retired persons), but who may actually be working on a part-time or occasional basis. Thus, in-depth analyses of labour market performance need to go beyond simple measures of economic activity such as the activity or employment rates.

In terms of industrial structure, Limerick is an old industrial city. Manufacturing has been an important part of the economic structure of the city over a long period of time. The local economy experienced a process of restructuring out of old industrial sectors such as textiles, food and beverages and footwear, from the 1970s, into new sectors in manufacturing appliances, engineering and computing. This was linked to successes in attracting foreign direct investment in the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s. The city now has a mixed economic base including a substantial proportion of employment in public and private services (e.g., wholesale and retail, hotels and restaurants, real estate and business services).

With the on-set of the economic recession, the Mid-West region and Limerick have been particularly exposed to economic shocks primarily due to their above average reliance on low-skilled employment in manufacturing and construction. This stood at 28%<sup>8</sup> of total employment in 2006. In 2011, the proportion of the Mid-West workforce employed in vulnerable sectors (manufacturing and construction) totalled 19% which is above the national average of 16%. The city, in contrast to the region, has an employment structure more similar to the State. In 2011, only 16% of employment in the city was in vulnerable sectors compared to 28% at regional level and 16% nationally.

Table 1.7 shows that in Limerick City and suburbs, wholesale / retail (17%) is now (2011 data) the most important industrial group in terms of the numbers of people in employment, followed by manufacturing (13%), education (11%) and health and social work (10%). From a comparative perspective across the five cities in the State, Limerick, Cork and Galway cities and suburbs have roughly the same proportion in manufacturing employment. Waterford City and suburbs has a higher proportion (17%) and Dublin city

Broad Industrial Group	Limerick	Dublin	Cork	Galway	Waterford
	%	%	%	%	%
Agric / Mining	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.7	0.5
Manufacturing	13.0	6.0	13.7	13.2	16.9
Electricity / Gas / Water Supply	0.9	1.1	1.2	0.7	0.7
Construction	3.4	3.3	4.0	2.9	3.1
Wholesale / Retail	16.7	13.4	15.5	13.3	16.5
Accommodation / Food / Entertainment	7.8	5.5	6.4	9.8	7.0
Transport & Communications	8.3	11.7	8.4	7.7	7.7
Financial Services & Insurance	3.3	9.1	3.4	3.8	3.3
Real Estate & Professional Business Services	9.8	12.4	10.3	8.6	8.1
Public Admin & Defence	5.0	6.4	5.2	4.6	4.4
Education	10.7	9.1	9.6	11.0	8.9
Health & Social Work	10.4	11.1	11.9	12.3	11.9
Other Services / Activities	4.1	4.5	4.0	4.0	3.8
Not Stated	6.2	6.2	5.9	7.3	7.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total Number at Work	32112	469913	78247	32084	18768

**Table 1.7: Persons 15 years and Over at Work by Broad Industrial Group: Five Cities in the State, 2011**

Source: CSO Census of Ireland 2011

and suburbs (6%) a much lower proportion in manufacturing employment. Focusing on change in the numbers at work by broad industrial group in Limerick City and suburbs, a key change has been the substantial loss of employment (-6,667) overall.

This large decline in people at work is linked to the impact of closure of Dell Computers' manufacturing operation in Raheen (in 2009 with 1,900 job losses), the negative multipliers arising from this scale of job loss in the city as well as the wider impact of the economic recession.

Focusing specifically on the regeneration areas, the trend is quite different and is possibly reflective of the actual low numbers of people in employment. Based on analysis of SAPS level data, only 10.5% of the workforce is engaged in vulnerable sectors, well below

the national figure (16%). Of note is that 30% of people classify themselves as being employed and working in the professional services sector. This figure, however, is in direct contrast to the available social class data (see Table 1.14) where less than 1% of the population classifies themselves in higher professional and technical occupational classes. In addition, the educational attainment of residents within the regeneration areas is very low, as discussed further in Section 1.5, and does not support that profile of worker. The proportion in the professional services sector category thus reflects how people classify their work / occupation and could reflect significant workers engaged in community services / community development.

<sup>8</sup> 17% in manufacturing and 11.3% in construction.

## Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

Broad Industrial Group	2011		2006		Change 2006-2011	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Agric / Mining	158	0.5	192	0.5	-34	-17.7
Manufacturing	4189	13.0	8076	20.8	-3887	-48.1
Electricity / Gas / Water Supply	299	0.9	175	0.5	124	70.9
Construction	1080	3.4	2701	7.0	-1621	-60.0
Wholesale / Retail	5248	16.7	5728	14.8	-380	-6.6
Accommodation / Food / Entertainment	2503	7.8	2440	6.3	63	2.6
Transport & Communications	2658	8.3	2620	6.8	38	1.5
Financial Services & Insurance	1064	3.3	1110	2.9	-46	-4.1
Real Estate & Professional Business Services	3131	9.8	4158	10.7	-1027	-24.7
Public Admin & Defence	1607	5.0	1580	4.1	27	1.7
Education	3446	10.7	3016	7.8	430	14.3
Health & Social Work	3330	10.4	3653	9.4	-323	-8.8
Other Services / Activities	1317	4.1	1519	3.9	-202	-13.3
Not Stated	1982	6.2	1811	4.7	171	9.4
Total Number at Work	32112	100.0	38779	100.0	-6667	-17.2

**Table 1.8: Persons Aged 15+ At Work by Industrial Group in 2011 and 2006 and Change 2006-2011: Limerick City & Suburbs**

Source: CSO Census of Ireland 2006 & 2011

Sector	St Marys Park	Southill	Ballinacurra Weston	Moyross	City
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	0	0.20%	0.60%	0	0.20%
Building and Construction	2%	2%	1%	2%	3%
Manufacturing Industries	7%	12%	8%	5.80%	13%
Commerce and Trade	16%	24%	13%	19%	26%
Transport and Communications	5%	8%	6%	5%	8%
Public Administration	4%	3%	1%	2%	5%
Professional Services	25%	32%	34%	28%	24%
Other	40%	23%	35%	34%	21%

**Table 1.9: Employment Structure in Regeneration Areas (based on Small Area Population Statistics, SAPS) and Limerick City, 2011**

Source: CSO 2011

### 1.4.2 Employment and Unemployment: Current Position and Change

Unemployment, if it is prolonged, and low work intensity of households, are key risk factors of poverty and social exclusion. Unemployment and poverty, in turn, are associated with a wide range of poor outcomes in other areas including health and well-being for individuals and families. The loss of jobs in Limerick City and suburbs and across the five cities in the State are reflected in key labour market statistics, particularly unemployment rates (Table 1.10). The data are drawn from Census 2011 (rather than Live Register data) and are based on how persons over 15 years classified their Principle Economic Status in the census. It shows the number of persons over 15 years in the labour force, at work, not in the labour force, and students / pupils – i.e., in full-time education.

Of the five cities and suburbs, Limerick has the lowest labour market participation rate (56.7%) while Dublin City and suburbs has the highest (63%), followed by Galway City and suburbs (61.6%). All cities have high rates of unemployment, ranging from 17.4% (Dublin City and suburbs) up to almost one-quarter of the labour force in Limerick and Waterford Cities and suburbs (23.8%, Limerick and 24.6% Waterford City and suburbs). Limerick City and suburbs, however, has a high proportion of all persons aged 15 years or over in full-time education (17%), second highest of the cities after Galway City and suburbs (18%).

Table 1.11 presents further details on the situation in terms of labour force participation rates and unemployment rates, broken down by gender and age group. The data here relate to Limerick City, with comparative data provided for the state as a whole.

The labour force participation rate for both males and females and all age groups in Limerick City are lower than those for the State as a whole (55% compared with 62% respectively) and are lower for both males (62% for Limerick compared with 69% for the State) and females (48% for Limerick compared with 55% for the State). Apart from the age group 15-19 years, where the labour force participation rate is 16% for Limerick compared with 12% for the State as a whole, labour force participation rates are lower in Limerick for all other age groups.

Principle Economic Status / Labour Market	Limerick City & Suburbs	Dublin City & Suburbs	Cork City & Suburbs	Galway City & Suburbs	Waterford City & Suburbs
1. All persons aged 15 years and over (Number)	74277	904092	162674	64012	40984
2. All persons aged 15 years and over in labour force (Number)	42143	569139	95472	39409	24883
3. Persons at work (Number)	32112	469913	78247	32084	18768
4. Unemployed (Number)	10031	99226	17225	7325	6115
5. All persons aged 15 years and over not in labour force (Number)	32134	334953	67202	24603	16101
6. Student or pupil (classified as not in the LF) (Number)	12471	112133	22347	11384	4815
7. Students / pupil as % of all persons 15 years and over	16.8	12.4	13.7	17.8	11.7
8. Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	23.8	17.4	18.0	18.6	24.6
9. Unemployment Rate (%)	23.8	17.4	18.0	18.6	24.6

**Table 1.10: Principle Economic Status/Labour Market Indicators for Population Aged 15 Years and Over: Five Cities and Suburbs 2011**

Source: CSO 2012, Census 2011.

Drawing on analysis of SAPS data, the proportion of people over 15 years of age at work in the regeneration areas is significantly lower than the proportion of the population over 15 years of age at work in the city (39%) and the State (58%). In terms of actual numbers at work, across all regeneration areas, 1,265 people are in employment and 1,383 are unemployed, giving an overall unemployment rate of 52% across all regeneration areas. Unemployment rates are highest in St. Mary's Park (58%) and Moyross (57%), followed by Southill (47%) and Ballinacurra Weston (43%). The number of people over 15 years studying in the regeneration areas (between 8% and 11%) is quite interesting and generally reflective of the number of people over 15 years of age that are studying nationwide (11%). Overall, however, this is lower than the city-wide figure of 14% of people over 15 years classifying themselves as a student. Of course, the high student population figure in the city is influenced by the number of third level institutions in the city and environs which had full-time student enrolment figures of 17,841<sup>9</sup> in 2010/2011. The other significant statistic that stands out in contrast to the State figure of just 4% and the city-wide figure of 7% is the significant number of people over 15 years in the regeneration areas that cannot work due to sickness/disability. The percentage of people that cannot work in Southill due to sickness / disability (13%) is over three times that of the State figure, followed by Ballinacurra Weston (12%), Moyross (11%) and St. Mary's Park (10%).

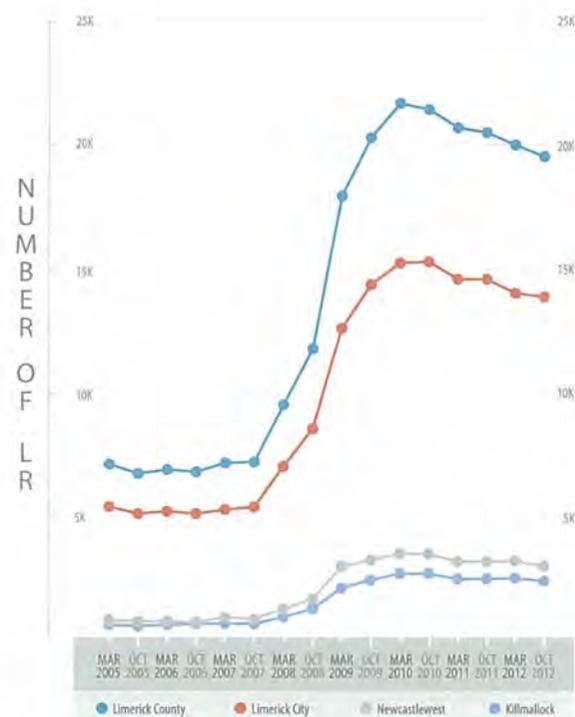
Gender	Age Groups	Limerick City		The State	
		LFPR (%)	Unempl (%)	LFPR (%)	Unempl (%)
Males & Females	All Ages	55.1	28.6	61.9	19
	15-19 years	16.3	67.9	12.2	58.8
	20-24 years	52.2	45.1	59.8	34.7
	25-34 years	80.1	27.9	86.4	18.8
	35-44 years	78.2	26	83.2	16.2
	45-54 years	73.7	23.8	80	15.8
Males	All Ages	62.2	32.7	69.4	22.3
	15-19 years	17.6	66.1	14.2	61
	20-24 years	58.4	53.3	63.1	41.1
	25-34 years	83.3	33.3	91.2	23.3
	35-44 years	87	30.1	93.1	19.1
	45-54 years	83.1	27.2	89.6	18.8
Females	All Ages	48.4	23.7	54.6	15
	15-19 years	15.2	69.8	10.2	55.8
	20-24 years	46.8	36.3	56.6	27.9
	25-34 years	76.9	21.9	81.9	14
	35-44 years	68.7	20.4	73.3	12.5
	45-54 years	64.3	19.4	70.5	12.1

**Table 1.11: Labour Force Participation Rates and Unemployment Rates: Limerick City and the State, 2011**

Source: CSO 2012, Census 2011.

<sup>9</sup> Higher Education Authority (HEA) Website 2010/2011; <http://www.hea.ie/en/node/1374>

## Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis



**Figure 1.6: Numbers on the Live Register 2005-2012: Limerick County (aggregate of all Limerick Offices), City and County Social Welfare Offices**  
Source: CSO Live Register Data

Figure 1.6 presents data on the numbers on the Live Register in Limerick Social Welfare Offices from 2005 (reporting for months 3 and 10 in each year) to 2012. It includes the county data (combined Limerick City and County offices) and data by specific offices. This is appropriate in view of the open labour market structure in the city / suburbs / county and into other parts of the region.

There has been an increase in the numbers on the Live Register from the start of the recession in 2008, rising fast during 2009 and reaching its highest point early 2010. While the numbers have decreased slightly for Limerick City and County since 2010, the numbers registered as unemployed remain at a very high level. In October 2010, 19,571 people were on the Live Register for Limerick City and County Social Welfare Offices, of which 13,926 were registered at the Limerick City Social Welfare Office. Since October 2007, there has been an increase in of 12,285 (+168%)

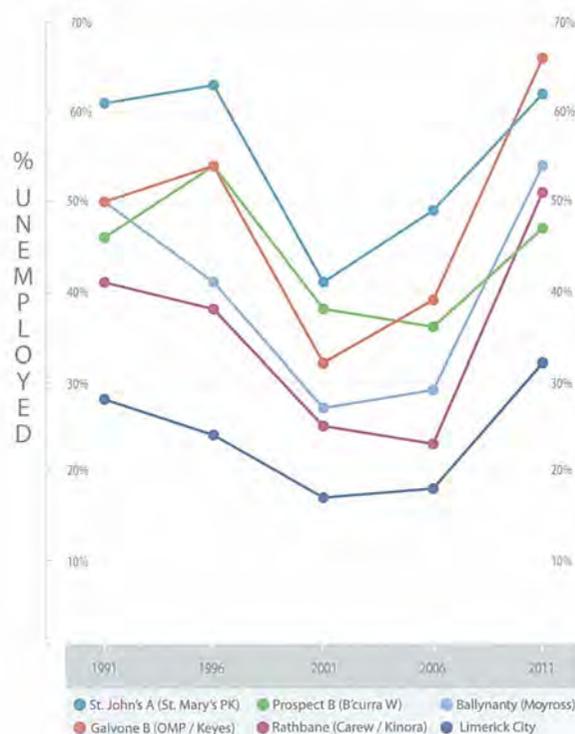
Sector	St. Mary's Park	Southill	Ballinacurra Weston	Moyross	City	State
At work	24%	27%	32%	26%	39%	51%
Looking for first regular job	0.6%	1.4%	2%	2.3%	1.20%	0.9%
Unemployed	31%	24%	22%	32%	14%	11%
Student	8%	10%	11%	10%	14%	11%
Looking after home/family	9.80%	12%	8%	12%	7%	14%
Retired	16%	12%	12%	7%	14%	12%
Unable to work due to permanent sickness or disability	10%	13%	12%	11%	7%	4%
Other	0.7%	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.80%	0.2%

**Table 1.12: Labour Force Structure: Limerick Regeneration Areas (based on Small Area Population Statistics, SAPS), 2011**

registered unemployed in Limerick County and City combined and 8,458 (+155%) registered at Limerick City Social Welfare Office.

In terms of unemployment rates in the most disadvantaged areas of the city – the regeneration areas - data over different census periods 1991-2011 show very high rates of unemployment in these areas and rates well above the average for the city. Figure 2.6 shows male unemployment rates from 1991-2011 for Electoral Divisions (EDs) closest to the boundaries of the regeneration areas and the rates for Limerick City. While male unemployment rates declined at the height of the boom (early 2000s), they remained extremely high, especially in St. Mary's Park, O'Malley and Keyes Park, Southill and Ballinacurra Weston, compared with those in the city. They have now reached extremely high levels, almost twice the city rates in St. Mary's Park and O'Malley and Keyes Park, Southill.

Recent research to map baseline conditions in types of neighbourhoods in the city included a focus on the income base of households (2010 data). The findings



**Figure 1.7: Male Unemployment Rates Limerick Regeneration Areas and Limerick City 1991-2011**  
Source: CSO Census of Ireland Small Area Population Statistics 1991-2011; HP Deprivation Index [www.pobal.ie](http://www.pobal.ie)

Area	Largest Source of Income = Salaries / Wages (%)	Largest Source of Income = Social Welfare Payments (%)
Northside Regeneration Areas	28	77
Southside Regeneration Areas	17	83
Disadvantaged Areas (Garryowen, Kennedy Park, Old Cork Road)	51	47
Average Areas (Corbally, Rhebogoe)	88	13

**Table 1.13: Largest Source of Income into Households in Limerick City (data 2010)**

Data source: Humphreys, E., D. McCafferty and A. Higgins (2011) "How are our Kids?": Experiences and Needs of Children and Families in Limerick City with a Particular Emphasis on Limerick's Regeneration Areas (Limerick City Children's Services Committee)

provide an estimate of the portion of households dependent on welfare (not working) and those where the largest source of income is from salaries / wages in various parts of the city (Table 1.13). Social Welfare payments, by far, are the largest source of household income in the regeneration areas. The picture here is in contrast to the average areas of the city (Corbally, Rhebogoe) where the largest source of household income for the large majority was wages / salaries, at the height of the unemployment crisis in the city (2010).

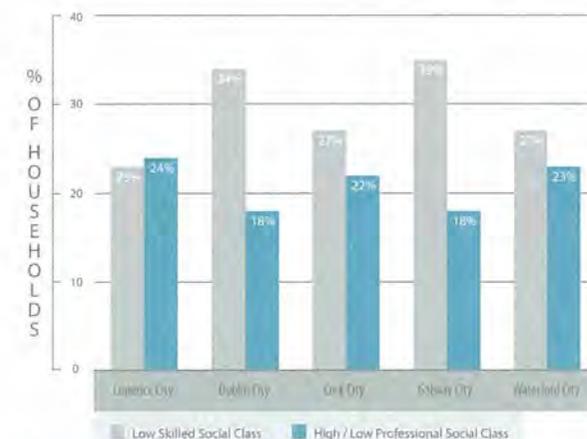
#### 1.4.3 Social Class Composition

Social class background has "a considerable impact in many areas of life, including educational achievements, health, housing, crime and economic status. Furthermore, social class .... constitutes a key factor in the inter- generational transmission of economic, cultural and social assets. Areas with a weak social class profile tend to have higher unemployment rates, are more vulnerable to the effects of economic restructuring and recession and are more likely to experience low pay, poor working conditions as well as poor housing and social environments" (Haase Pratschke 2012).

Figure 1.8 presents an analysis of the social class base of the five cities<sup>10</sup> in the State in 2011 (local authority areas and not cities and suburbs) in terms of the proportion of households: (i) in the higher and lower professional classes and (ii) in lowest skills social classes (semi-skilled and unskilled occupations). Limerick City has the lowest proportion in the higher social classes (23%) and the highest proportion in the lowest social classes (24%) compared with the other

cities. Galway City has the highest social class profile – with a slightly higher proportion in the higher and lower professional social classes (35%) compared with Dublin City and the same proportion (18%) in the lower (semi-skilled and unskilled) social classes.

Focusing on the social class base of the most disadvantaged neighbourhoods within Limerick City, drawing on ED level data, the regeneration areas have significantly higher proportions of households in the lowest social classes (semi-skilled / unskilled) and



**Figure 1.8: Social Class: Percentage of Households in Highest (Higher and Lower Professional Classes) and Lowest (Semi- and Unskilled) Social Classes: Five Cities in the State (Local Authority areas), 2011**  
Source: Haas Pratschke Index, 2012 drawn from Census 2011

<sup>10</sup> The unit of analysis here is the more restricted cities boundaries rather than city and suburbs – i.e., the former local authority area of Limerick City and the administrative boundaries of local authority areas of the cities in the other four cities.

## Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

lower proportions in the two highest social classes (higher and lower professionals) compared with the averages for Limerick City as a whole. St. Mary's Park and O'Malley / Keyes Park, Southill have the lowest proportions in the higher and lower professional social classes (4% each). These two areas and Ballinacurra Weston have the highest and approximately the same proportion of households in the lowest (semi-skilled / unskilled) social classes, at over half of households in these categories (51%). See Figure 1.9.

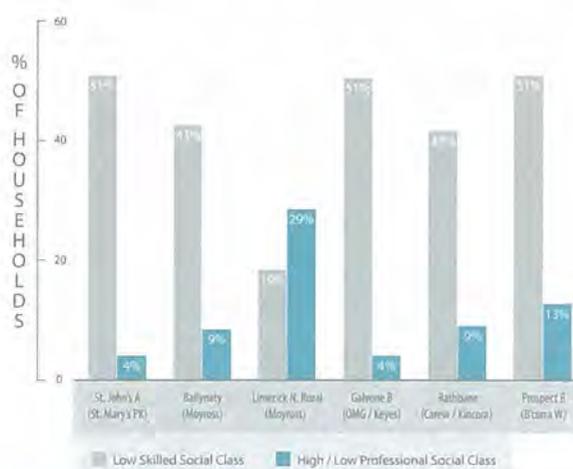
Drawing on SAPS level data (2011), in the regeneration areas most describe themselves as skilled/semi-skilled with 35% of the population in Ballinacurra Weston falling into this category followed by Southill (23%), Moyross (20%) and St. Mary's Park (18%). The level of unskilled workers was relatively similar across the four areas with St. Mary's slightly higher than the other areas at 12% (Southill & Ballinacurra Weston 9% and Moyross 7%). Notable was the relatively high level of managerial and technical staff in Ballinacurra Weston (11%) compared with the other three regeneration areas, which ranged between 4% and 6% but still remains substantially lower than the city-wide figure of 18%. This profile of Ballinacurra Weston, however, could reflect the mis-matches in the SAPS boundaries

Social class	St. Mary's Park	Southill	Ballinacurra Weston	Moyross	City
Professional workers	0.2%	0.6%	2%	0.4%	0.4%
Managerial and technical	4%	6.60%	11%	5%	18%
Non-manual	7%	14%	5%	12%	17%
Skilled / semi-skilled manual	18%	23%	35%	20%	27%
Unskilled	12%	9%	9%	7%	5%
All others gainfully occupied and unknown	59%	41%	45%	51%	28%

**Table 1.14: Population by Social Class: Limerick Regeneration Areas (Based on Small Area Population Statistics, SAPS), 2011**

Source: CSO 2011

(drawing in parts of a more affluent population) and the actual regeneration area. A further issue is the very high proportion in the "unknown" category (e.g. as high as 59% for St. Mary's Park). In very disadvantaged areas, such high levels in the "unknown" category can reflect a large proportion of the population who never worked.



**Figure 1.9: Social Class – Percentage of Households in Highest (Higher and Lower Professional Classes) and Lowest (Semi- and Unskilled) Social Classes in Limerick Regeneration Areas, 2011**

Source: Haas Pratschke Index, 2012 drawn from Census 2011<sup>11</sup>

<sup>11</sup> The Haase Pratschke Index uses the skills base to work out the social class base, by excluding "unknown" from the classification of the higher / technical category (SC 1 and 2) but put in some weighting for "unknown" in the lowest SC categories based on the assumption that many people in most disadvantaged areas classify themselves as "unknown" or other because they have no any occupational grouping and they are actually in the unskilled category. Thus the ED analysis differs slightly to the SAPS analysis as the SAPS data is drawn directly from census information and does not apply an indicator.

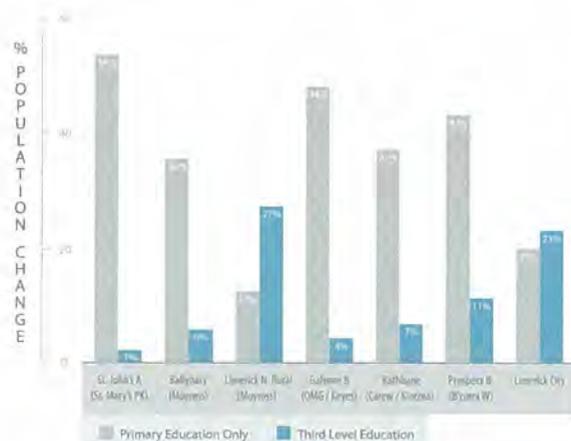


## Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

### 1.5 Educational Attainment

#### 1.5.1 Education Levels of the Adult Population

The level of education of the adult population is an important factor in labour market capacity and for the prospects for individuals and families across a wide range of outcomes (including health and well-being). Most recent data show the persistence of a large “education gap” between the population of the regeneration areas, the city and the State as a whole. For instance, in St. Mary’s Park, over half the adult population (55%) has primary level education as their highest level of qualification while this is just under 50% in O’Malley / Keyes Park, Southill. In all regeneration areas, rates of low education (primary education only) in the adult population are well above the rate for the city (20%). In the State as a whole, 16% of the adult population has primary education only as the highest level of qualification. At the other end of the spectrum, the proportion of the adult population with third level education in the regeneration areas is extremely low – lowest in St. Mary’s Park (1%) followed by O’Malley / Keyes Park Southill (4%) - and much lower than the average for the city.<sup>12</sup> The level of education of the adult population of the city, however, is well below the State average with 31% of the adult population of the State having a third level educational qualification.



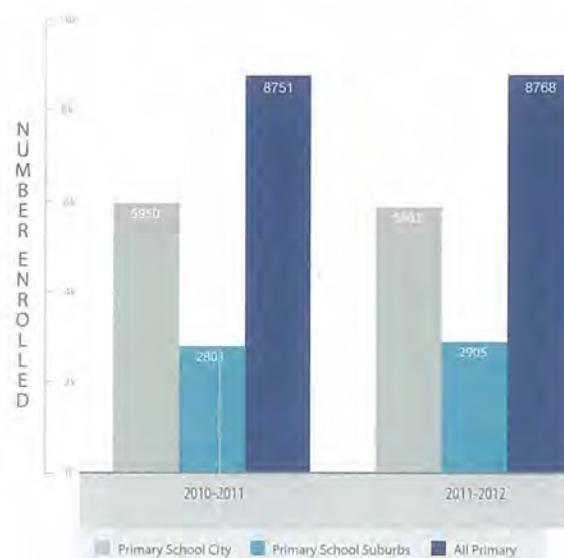
**Figure 1.10: Adult Population with Primary Level Only Education and with Third Level Education: Regeneration Areas, Limerick City and the State 2011**

Source: Haas Pratschke Index, 2012 drawn from Census 2011

Recent research (2010) which profiled parents in regeneration areas and included comparison with other areas of the city (disadvantaged and average areas) indicate that low education is not confined to the older residents of these areas (Humphreys, McCafferty et al, 2011). Education levels in the regeneration areas were found to be extremely low. Some 70% of parents in the northside regeneration areas and 68% in the southside regeneration areas had not proceeded beyond lower secondary education while zero% (northside) or less than 1% (southside) had a third level degree or postgraduate qualification. This contrasts with parents / carers in Corbally / Rhebogoe where just 12% have not attained beyond lower secondary education while 29% have a third level degree or postgraduate qualification.

#### 1.5.2 Education: Schools, Children and Young People

This section provides further data on education addressed to children / young people and schools in the city and suburbs. This includes a profile of schools and the school population in the city, selected data on absenteeism / suspension / expulsion rates, rates of retention of school pupils in education up to Junior Cert and Leaving Cert / Leaving Cert Applied and progression rates into third level education. The



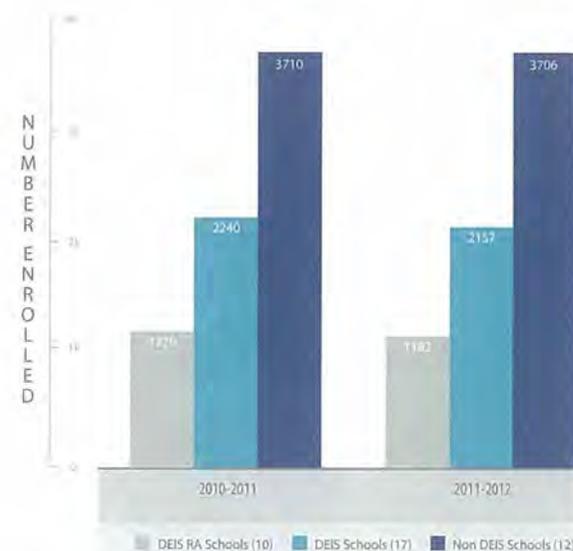
**Figure 1.11: Primary School Enrolment: Limerick City and Suburban Schools**

Source: www schooldays.ie

analysis differentiates between schools in disadvantaged areas of the city / largely servicing a disadvantaged population (DEIS Schools) and schools which are not designated as disadvantaged (non DEIS).

Enrolment in the primary school sector in the 29 Limerick City and 8 sub-urban primary schools for the school years 2010-11 and 2011-12 are presented below, Figure 1.11. In 2011-12, 8,768 pupils are enrolled in all primary schools<sup>13</sup> (city and suburbs) with the total numbers increasing slightly in 2011-2012 compared with the previous year. While the number enrolled in the city schools decreased slightly between 2010-2011 (5,950) and 2011-2012 (5,863), they increased slightly in the suburban schools.

Focusing only on the Limerick City primary schools, Figure 1.12 presents the breakdown of the primary school population by attendance at non-DEIS, DEIS<sup>14</sup> and DEIS primary schools located in regeneration areas. In the school year 2011-2012, 63% of the primary school population attended non-DEIS schools and 37% attended DEIS primary schools. Approximately 20% of the primary school population is enrolled in DEIS



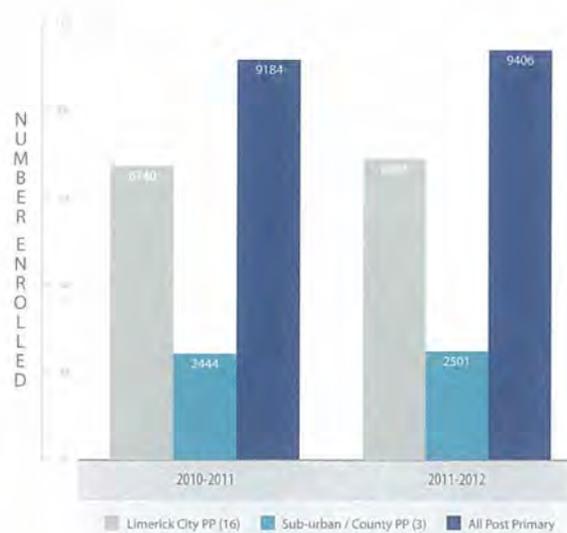
**Figure 1.12: Primary School Enrolment: Limerick City and Suburban schools by DEIS, non-DEIS and DEIS Schools Based in Regeneration Areas, 2010- 2011 and 2011-2012**

Source: www schooldays.ie

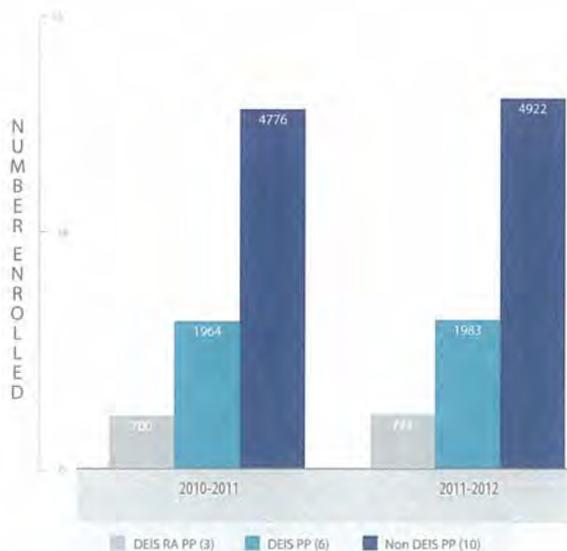
<sup>12</sup> The high proportion of adults with a third level educational qualification in Limerick North Rural is linked to the large proportion of this Electoral Division comprised by the middle class area of Caherdivin and the comparatively small part of Moyross (Pineview, Delmege and Craeval Parks, a large part of which has now been demolished and depopulated with the regeneration process) included in the ED.

<sup>13</sup> This analysis excludes five special schools in the city.

<sup>14</sup> DEIS (Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools) are schools designated as disadvantaged.



**Figure 1.13: Enrolment in Post Primary Schools in Limerick City and Suburbs / County Schools in Limerick Common Application System for the School Years 2010-2011 and 2011-2012**  
Source: [www.schoolsdays.ie](http://www.schoolsdays.ie)



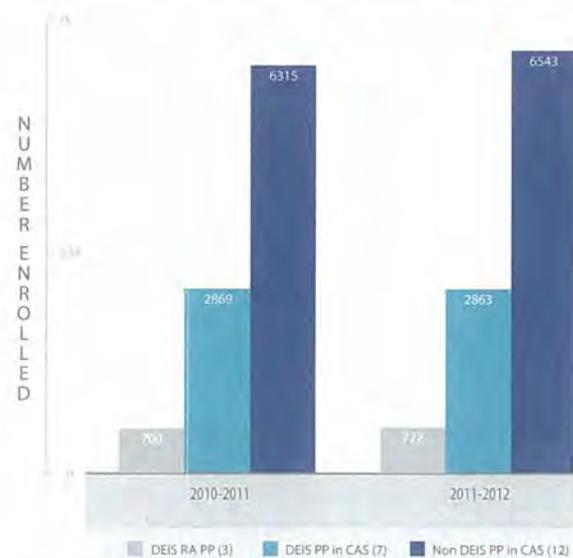
**Figure 1.14: Breakdown of Post-Primary School Population in Limerick City by DEIS, Non-DEIS and DEIS Schools Based in Regeneration Areas, 2010-2011 and 2011-2012**  
Source: [www.schoolsdays.ie](http://www.schoolsdays.ie)

schools in / or adjacent to the regeneration areas.

For the school year 2011-2012, just over 9,400 pupils were enrolled in the post-primary schools in Limerick City<sup>15</sup> (16 schools, 6,905 pupils), suburbs (1) and county (2) which are in the Common Application System for post primary school entry. There was an increase in the numbers enrolled compared with the previous year. See Figure 1.13.

While there are some large schools in the city (6 with over 500 pupils and 2 with over 700 pupils), city post-primary schools, on average, have smaller numbers of pupils compared with the schools in the suburbs and county (the average for the city is 432 versus 834 in the three suburban / county schools in 2011-2012).

The breakdown of the post-primary school population in Limerick City only (excluding the three suburban / county schools in the Common Application System) by attendance at non-DEIS, DEIS and schools in regeneration areas (all DEIS) is shown in Figure 1.14. The large majority (71%) attend non-DEIS schools, 29% attend DEIS schools and just over 10% attended DEIS schools located in regeneration areas. The number of pupils in schools located in regeneration areas is



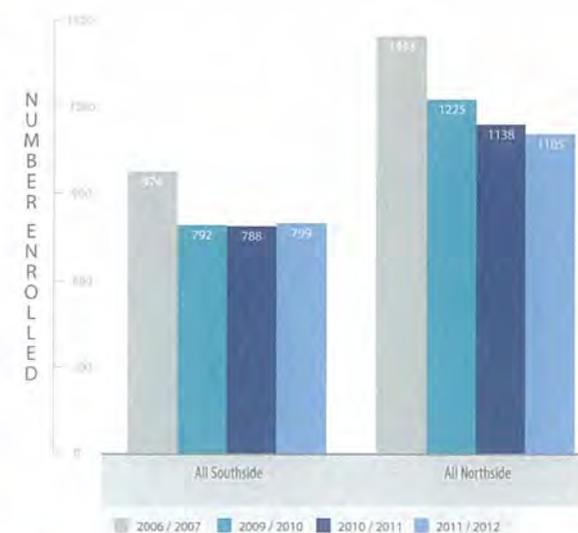
**Figure 1.15: Enrolment in Post Primary Schools in Limerick City and Suburbs / County Schools in Limerick Common Application System for the School Years 2010-2011 and 2011-2012**  
Source: [www.schoolsdays.ie](http://www.schoolsdays.ie)

small (722 in 2011-2012).<sup>16</sup>

The breakdown of the post-primary school population by DEIS regeneration area schools, all DEIS schools and non-DEIS schools, including the sub-urban and county schools included in the Common Application System is shown in Figure 1.15. Approximately 70% attend non-DEIS schools, 30% attending DEIS schools and just under 8% attend DEIS schools in regeneration areas.

Focusing on the primary and post primary schools in the regeneration areas, there are 10 primary schools – five, northside and five, in southside regeneration areas – and three post-primary schools – two northside, one adjacent to Moyross and one adjacent to St. Mary's Park, and one, southside (Southill). It was agreed in 2012 that the southside post primary school, St. Enda's Community School, will close from 2014-15 and pupils will transfer to other schools as secondary education is phased out of St. Enda's from 2015. Figure 2.15 presents the position on enrolments in these schools in aggregate for the school years from 2006-2007 to 2011-2012.

The trend shows declining enrolment in schools located in the regeneration areas. In 2011-2012, school

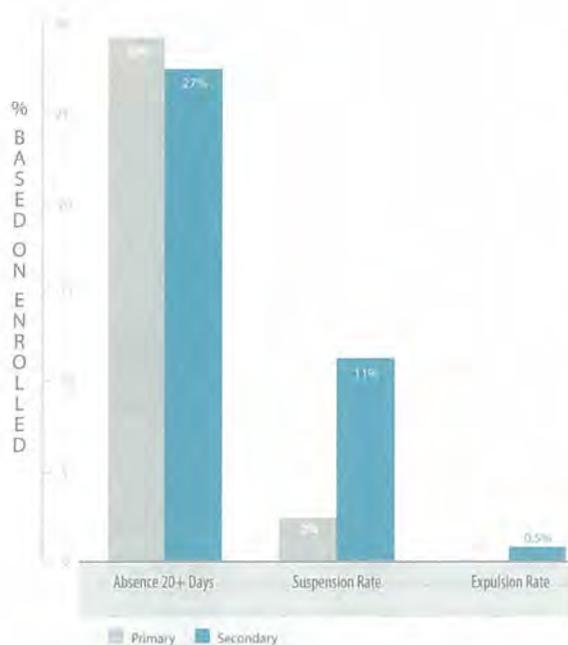


**Figure 1.16: School Enrolments in Primary and Post-Primary Schools in Re-generation Areas, Northside and Southside, 2006-2007 and 2011-2012**  
Source: [www.schoolsdays.ie](http://www.schoolsdays.ie)

<sup>15</sup> This extends beyond the local authority boundaries of the city into parts of the suburbs, for instance, including Crescent College in Dooradoyle.

<sup>16</sup> It should be noted that not all children resident in regeneration areas attend the primary and post primary schools located in those areas. Some children resident in regeneration areas attend schools in other parts of the city (particularly in the DEIS category schools). This is especially true in relation to post-primary schools. For instance, one post-primary school in the county attracts high numbers of pupils from the city school population.

## Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis



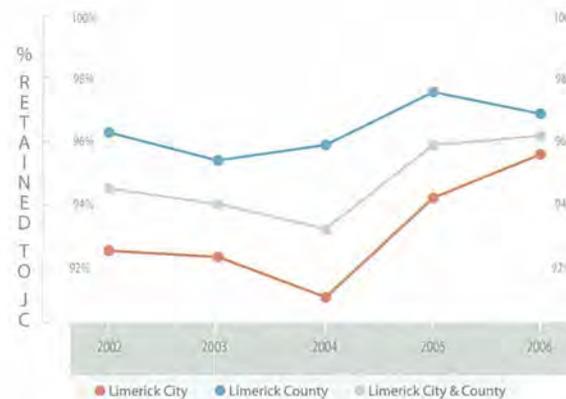
**Figure 1.17: School Absence >20 days, Suspension and Expulsion Rates 2006-2007: DEIS Schools Limerick City by Primary and Post-Primary Sector**

Source: DES Local Limerick Office

enrolment in the primary and post primary schools in / adjacent to the city's regeneration areas northside and southside was approximately 1,900. The reasons for declining enrolments include demographic change, addition to the school infrastructure in the suburbs but also some parents exercising choice as to the school in which they enrol their children.

Based on data for 2006/07, non-attendance rates are high with some 29% absent for more than 20 days in the primary school sector and 27% absent for more than 20 days in the secondary school sector. The suspension rate was 11% in secondary schools and 2% in primary schools, in aggregate. Very low numbers of expulsions are recorded (8 or 0.4%) and only apply in the post-primary sector.

Young people who leave school early / without qualification are at much greater risk of social exclusion, are particularly disadvantaged in the labour market and most likely to be unemployed and enter long-term unemployment at a young age. Drawing on most recent data from DES (2011 and

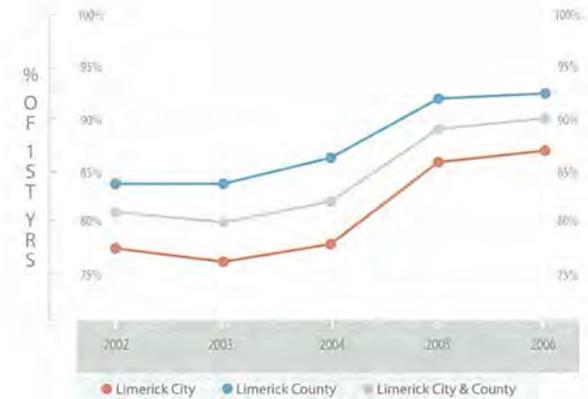


**Figure 1.18: Retention Rates of Pupils in Second Level Schools to Junior Cert (2002-2006 Entry Cohort) for Limerick (County and City), Limerick County and Limerick City<sup>17</sup>**

Source: Department of Education and Skills (2011, 2012)

2012), Limerick City has the second lowest retention rates to Junior Cert and Leaving Cert of all administrative areas in the State (after Dublin City). Retention rates for pupils in second level schools to Junior Cert are presented for Limerick (City and County), Limerick City and Limerick County in Figure 1.18. The year refers to first year entrants who went on to sit the Junior Cert (starting from the cohort of first year pupils in 2002). The rate of retention to Junior Cert is lower for Limerick City compared with the county and declined between 2002 and 2004. For the 2004 cohort of first year pupils in the city, just under 91% were retained to Junior Cert compared with a rate of just under 96% for the county. The situation improved markedly in the 2005 and 2006 cohorts, reaching a rate of retention to Junior Cert of 95.4% for the city for the 2006 cohort, compared with 96.8% for the county.

Data on differences in retention rates to Leaving Cert between Limerick City and county are presented below. Limerick county schools show retention rates to Leaving Cert for all entry cohorts from 2002-2006 above the overall Limerick average (city and county combined) while the performance of the city is well below that of the county. Retention rates in Limerick City to Leaving Cert for the 2004 entry cohort to secondary school were 77.6% compared with 85.4% in Limerick County. This means that of those entering the Junior Cert cycle in 2004 (and sitting the Leaving



**Figure 1.19: Retention Rates of Pupils in Second Level Schools to Leaving Cert (2002-2006 Entry Cohort) for Limerick County, Limerick City and County and City Combined<sup>19</sup>**

Source: Department of Education and Skills (2012)



**Figure 1.20: Numbers Sitting Leaving Cert in All Post Primary Schools, DEIS, Non-DEIS and DEIS Schools in Regeneration Areas in Limerick City 2006-2012**

Source: [www.schooldays.ie](http://www schooldays.ie)

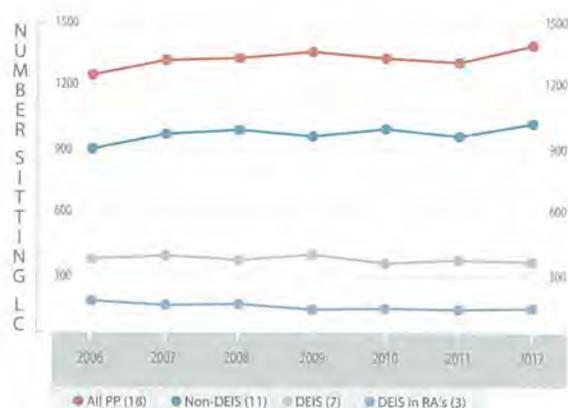
Cert in 2009 or 2010), over 22% of young people left the system without achieving the Leaving Cert / Leaving Cert Applied qualification. The situation improved markedly with the 2005 and 2006 entry cohorts, with 86.6% of the 2006 entry cohort retained to Leaving Cert in the city compared with 92.7% in the county. Unless young people leaving school early

<sup>17</sup> Note that there were some changes in the technical methodology for calculation of retention rates from 2005 onwards such that the 2005 and 2006 cohorts are not directly comparable with the earlier entry cohorts. Based on the methodology used prior to 2012, retention rates for all years from 1999-2004 were lower than those now reported based on adjustments applied in the new methodology.

<sup>18</sup> See 17



## Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis



**Figure 1.21: Numbers Sitting Leaving Cert in All Post Primary Schools, DEIS, Non-DEIS and DEIS Schools in Regeneration Areas in Limerick City / Suburbs / County (in the Common Application System) 2006-2012**

Source: [www.schooldays.ie](http://www.schooldays.ie)

transfer to alternative education and training options, these young people are most at risk of social exclusion.

In terms of educational attainment, data are not available on levels of attainment at primary school level. At post-primary level, an important indicator of attainment is transfer to third level education after Leaving Cert. Data are presented below which show the trend in numbers sitting the Leaving Cert over recent years and the rate of transfer to third level education. These data are presented with reference to Non-DEIS, DEIS and DEIS schools located in regeneration areas.

The numbers sitting the Leaving Cert in Post Primary Schools in the city remained relatively stable at just over 1,000 pupils each year from 2006-2009, dropping slightly below 1,000 in 2010-2011 and increasing again in 2012. Focusing on DEIS schools, the numbers sitting the Leaving Cert have been decreasing over time from 335 in 2006 to 235 in 2012. This same pattern is in evidence in the DEIS schools in regeneration areas where the numbers sitting the Leaving Cert have declined from 142 in 2006 to 74 in 2012. The numbers sitting the Leaving Cert in Non-DEIS schools have been increasing slightly – from 685 in 2006 to 773 in 2012.

In terms of the percentage sitting the Leaving Cert



**Figure 1.22: Progression Rates to Third Level from Limerick City Post Primary Schools (All, Non-DEIS, DEIS and DEIS in Regeneration Areas) from Leaving Cert 2006-2012**

Source: [www.schooldays.ie](http://www.schooldays.ie)

from the different school sectors, 77% of Leaving Cert students are in the non-DEIS sector and 23% in DEIS sector schools in the city. However, as noted above, some 30% of the post primary school population attend DEIS schools. The lower proportion sitting the Leaving Cert in the DEIS sector (23%) compared to the proportion attending DEIS schools could be an indicator of drop-out prior to reaching this level of qualification in the senior cycle of the secondary school programme. The position on numbers sitting the Leaving Certificate in the post primary schools in the Common Application System (all city schools and 3 suburban / county schools) is shown in Figure 1.21.

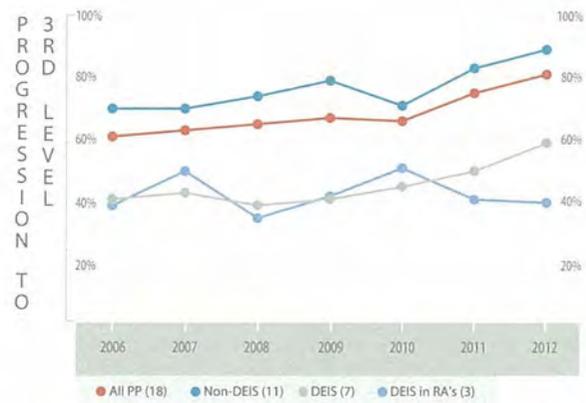
The numbers sitting the Leaving Cert in schools in the Common Application System (including post primary schools in the city and three in the suburbs and county) have increased between 2011 and 2012, with the number in 2012 just under 1,400. The numbers sitting the Leaving Cert in the non-DEIS sector have increased by almost 100 students between 2011 and 2012. The number sitting the Leaving Cert in the DEIS sector schools has remained more or less the same between 2010 and 2012. The growth in the numbers here in the county have off-set the declining numbers sitting the Leaving Cert in the city DEIS schools. The corresponding percentages sitting the Leaving Cert from the different school sectors are 74% non-DEIS and 26% from the DEIS sector schools.

Considering progression rates to third level education

from Leaving Certificate, for all post primary schools in the city, this showed very slight declines in the years 2006-2008 but has increased particularly in 2011 and 2012. In 2012, the rate of progression to third level education from Leaving Cert was 78%. There are significant differences in progression rates between DEIS and non-DEIS schools. In non-DEIS schools, the rate of transfer into college has fluctuated between 2006-2010 but has been above 70% for all those years. In 2011 and 2012, the rate has increased to 84% in 2011 and 87% in 2012. Focusing on DEIS schools, progression rates to third level education is well below the rate in the non-DEIS sector. It has fluctuated over time at a rate slightly above and below 40% and is at its highest rate in 2012, at 50%. Progression rates from DEIS schools in regeneration areas have also fluctuated and were at their highest level of progression in 2010 (52%). In 2012, the progression rate from Leaving Cert to third level education from DEIS schools in regeneration areas was 40%. See Figure 1.22.

Overall, while progression rates from DEIS schools to third level education is showing some improvement in the rates over time, they have remained between 30 and 40% below the progression rates of schools in the non-DEIS sector in the city. The gap has widened from closer to 30% to 40% in the most recent years. Drawing on evidence from the wider literature on inequalities in education, the better performance in the non-DEIS sector is influenced by the social class of individual students and the implications of that (e.g., differences in terms of parental support and educational aspirations) and the social mix of the schools (Webber and Butler, 2007). For those that do not progress to third level education in the university or Institute of Technology sector, there are opportunities for further education and training in the developed further education sector in the city and county.

Focusing on the situation if all schools in the Common Application System are considered, the rate of transfer to third level from the non-DEIS sector in 2012 is just under 90% and in the DEIS sector, 60%, representing a gap of 30% (Figure 1.23).



**Figure 1.23: Progression Rates to Third Level from Limerick City Post Primary Schools (All, Non-DEIS, DEIS and DEIS in Regeneration Areas) from Leaving Cert 2006-2012**  
 Source: [www.schooldays.ie](http://www schooldays.ie)

## Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

### 1.6 Health & Well-Being

Available data indicate poorer health and more health problems (higher rates of illness) including poorer mental health, for all sections of the population in the regeneration areas of Limerick City compared with health status of the average population of the city. A cross-section of the evidence showing such health inequalities in the population is presented below. This draws on statistical data from secondary sources and recent primary research in the city.

A recent neighbourhood-based study of older people (65 years and older) resident in different types of neighbourhoods on the northside of the city (2007-08) showed significant variations in health status by social class and neighbourhood of residence (Humphreys and deBurca, 2008). Based on self-reported health status, a higher proportion of older people in lower social classes (semi-skilled and unskilled social classes) is in poor or fair health compared with older people in the higher social classes (higher and lower professional social classes). Older people living in more disadvantaged

neighbourhoods<sup>19</sup> including Moyross reported worse health status compared with those living in the middle class suburb (Caherdavin), while older people living in the most prosperous neighbourhoods of the city (Ennis Road / North Circular Road) reported the best health status. This population, in the most affluent neighbourhoods, is older on average compared with the population in most disadvantaged areas (see Table 1.15 below).

Focusing on a younger population cohort of parents, findings of a more recent study (2010) indicate that parents in the regeneration areas have poorer health compared with the mainstream population of the city (i.e., parents living in average areas) based on a number of health indicators (see below).

Rates of long-standing illness and psychological or emotional conditions are considerably higher in regeneration areas compared with average areas of the city. The proportion of parents assessed as at risk of depression (based on a standardised and widely-used instrument, SF-12) is considerably higher in the

regeneration areas (29% northside and 24% southside) compared with the proportion for parents in the average neighbourhoods of the city (10%). The proportion assessed as “at risk of depression” in the northside regeneration areas is approximately three times that of parents in other areas of the city. It should be noted that most of the respondents in this survey of parents were mothers. Poor maternal mental health is also associated with poor outcomes for children (emotional difficulties in children, poorer performance / levels of attainment at school). Based on data available from the National Suicide Research Foundation 2000-2005 for the southside regeneration areas (Rathbane ED, closest to Carew / Kincora Park and Galvone B, closest to O’Malley and Keyes Park, Southill), the incidence of deliberate self-harm (annual number of cases) is significantly higher here compared with the city and the State as a whole – i.e., nearly three times the national rate. See Table 1.17.

Focusing on child health, a pattern of poorer health in children in regeneration areas compared with an

Area	In Excellent / Very Good Health	In Fair / Poor Health
Moyross (Extremely disadvantaged)	22	32
Ballynanty / Kileely, Thomondgate (Extremely disadvantaged / Disadvantaged)	18	37
Caherdavin (Average)	33	33
Ennis Rd. / North Circular Rd. and environs (Affluent)	42	26

**Table 1.15: Self-Assessed Health of Older People in Northside Limerick neighbourhoods (2007 data)**

Source: Humphreys, E. and S. De Burca (2009) *Health inequalities and ageing in the Community: A social study of four Limerick City Parishes*.

Area	Self-reported In Poor / Fair Health (%)	With diagnosed long-standing illness (%)	Psychological / emotional conditions (%)	“At risk” of depression (%)
Northside Regeneration Areas	17	43	12	29
Southside Regeneration Areas	18	36	13	24
	14	32	6	18
Average Areas (Corbally / Rhebogue)	11	25	3	10

**Table 1.16: Parental health in Limerick City Neighbourhoods (data collected in 2010)**

Data source: Humphreys, E., D. McCafferty and A. Higgins (2012) *“How are our Kids?”: Experiences and Needs of Children and Families in Limerick City with a Particular Emphasis on Limerick’s Regeneration Areas (Limerick City Children’s Services Committee)*

<sup>19</sup> The number of older people living in Moyross at the time was small (approximately 60) and included two communities of sisters, of whom many were very elderly. The more typical population of older residents of Moyross were not “oldest old” (80 years and over), were in lower social class grouping compared with the sisters and had poorer physical and mental health. There is some bias as such in the overall findings reported above because of the large number of respondents here who were religious sisters.

Area	Incidence of self-harm per 1,000 population
Rathbane ED (Carew / Kincora Park)	580
Galvone ED (O'Malley / Keyes Park)	593
Limerick City	390
State	204

**Table 1.17: Deliberate Self-Harm 2002-2005 for Southside Regeneration Areas, Limerick City and the State (National Suicide Research Foundation)**

Source: *Community Profile of Southside Regeneration Areas, HSE West, sourced from Limerick Regeneration Agencies*

average child population in the city is in evidence from the recent study. Child health is poorer in the southside regeneration areas where some 18% of parents rate their child's health as poor or fair. There are higher rates of diagnosed behavioural / learning and emotional difficulties in children, particularly in the southside regeneration areas. Based on parent

assessment of strengths and difficulties in their children (one sample child) using the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ), there are much higher rates of child difficulties in the child population in regeneration areas compared with those in the average areas of the city and with a normal child population. Rates of difficulty reach a high of 47% with emotional / behavioural / attention difficulties in the southside regeneration areas (33% abnormal and 14% in borderline ranges) compared with 14% in the average areas of the city and 15% with such difficulties based on the average population of nine-year olds in Ireland (Growing Up in Ireland study, www.growingup.ie) – see Table 1.18

The same study of experiences and needs of children and families in Limerick City found stronger prevalence of child trauma (e.g. linked to bereavement, separation from parents etc.), and family difficulties (e.g. addictions, family members in prison, financial difficulties) as well as deficits in parenting practices amongst families living in regeneration areas compared with other areas of the city.

The regeneration areas also exhibit higher levels of disability amongst its population particularly when compared to the national figure of 13% and even the metropolitan area figure of 15% and the city-wide

figure of 18%. Southill has the highest disability figure at just over 23% of its population followed by Moyross and Ballinacurra Weston at 21% and St. Mary's Park at 20%. Whilst generally the level of disability within a given population is proportional to an ageing population, the extent of disability in the regeneration areas cannot be justified on this basis. Whilst the Elderly Dependency rate in Southill and Ballinacurra Weston (18%) and St. Mary's Park (21%) may somehow justify the levels of disability in those areas, the low Elderly Dependency ratio of only 8.4% in Moyross is completely at odds with its disability figure of 21%.

Area	Parent report child in Poor/Fair Health (%)	Diagnosed with physical long standing illness (%)	Diagnosed with Behavioral/Learning / Emotional Difficulties (%)	Total Difficulties* assessed as in "abnormal" range SDQ(%)	Total Difficulties* - assessed as in "borderline" range SDQ (%)
Northside Regeneration Areas	7	31	15	29.1	5.8
Southside Regeneration Areas	18	29	18	33.3	14.1
Disadvantaged Areas (Garryowen, Kennedy Park, Old Cork Road)	7	31	14	14.8	9.1
Average Areas (Corbally / Rhebogue)	5	30	9	7.0	7.0
Nine year olds in the State, based on data from "Growing up in Ireland"				7.0	8.0

**Table 1.18: Child Health in Limerick City Neighbourhoods: Various Indicators (2010)**

Source: Data source: Humphreys, E., D. McCafferty and A. Higgins (2011) "How are our Kids?": Experiences and Needs of Children and Families in Limerick City with a Particular Emphasis on Limerick's Regeneration Areas (Limerick City Children's Services Committee. Note: Based on one sample child in the household.

\*The Total Difficulties assessment using the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (assessment instrument) applied to sample children in the survey aged from 3 years to 17 years.

## Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

### 1.7 Housing and Households

This section presents key data on housing, presenting data on the current position regarding home tenure in the city focused on the regeneration areas, the housing stock in regeneration areas and in the city overall.

One of the main axes of differentiation between households in any city relates to the nature of the housing that they occupy. Three of the key dimensions of housing differentiation that need to be examined are age, type of construction and tenure status. Limerick City is known to have strong concentrations of social housing constructed as large housing estates in certain parts of the city. This has produced the strong concentrations of poverty and social disadvantage which has proved to be a particularly difficult problem for the city. Over time, the proportion of housing in local authority ownership has decreased but the problems of the larger local authority estates did not reduce over time.

In terms of age of the housing stock, some 27% of all private households in the city are accommodated in housing that has been constructed since 1990 and whilst this may appear high, it is actually substantially lower than the suburbs, which has 38% of all of its housing stock constructed since 1990. Of course, a restricted land supply in the city may account for the differential between the city and the suburbs but it is difficult to justify that argument in the context of the State figure of 41%. Thus, in comparison to housing nationwide, Limerick City has an ageing house stock and this is particularly evident in the regeneration areas where just under 4% of all housing has been constructed since 1990 and 25% of the housing stock was constructed prior to 1960.

St. Mary's Park has the oldest housing stock with 69% of the housing constructed before 1945. In Southill, the largest quantity of housing was constructed in the 1960s when 51% of all housing in that area was constructed between 1961 and 1970. Ballinacurra Weston also has an ageing housing stock with 80% of all housing in that area constructed prior to 1960. Moyross in contrast has a relatively new housing stock with 65% of its houses constructed between 1971 and 1990. However it is important to note that the CSO information does not necessarily correlate with the actual data on house construction retained by Limerick City Council which confirms that St. Mary's

Age Category	St. Marys Park	Southill	Ballinacurra Weston	Moyross
Pre 1919	4%	0.1%	5%	0.1%
1919 to 1945	65%	2%	27%	1%
1946 to 1960	13%	10%	48%	7%
1961 to 1970	1%	51%	5%	11%
1971 to 1980	0	21%	0.9%	45%
1981 to 1990	0.3%	5%	1%	20%
1991 to 2000	0.6%	2%	3%	3%
2001 to 2005	1%	0.8%	0.4%	2%
2006 or later	0%	2%	0.4%	0.1%

**Table 1.19: Age of House Construction: Limerick Regeneration Areas (based on Small Area Population Statistics, SAPS), 2011**

Source: CSO 2011

House Ownership	St. Marys	Southill	Ballinacurra	Moyross	City	State
Owner Occupied	55%	64%	59%	33%	59%	69%
Renting from Private Landlord	5.1%	7.5%	10%	5%	24%	8%
Renting from Housing Body	0.6%	0.5%	0.4%	3%	1.3%	0.9%
Local Authority	35%	35%	24%	64%	12%	8%

**Table 1.20: House Ownership in Regeneration Areas (based on Small Area Population Statistics, SAPS), 2011**

Source: CSO 2011

Park was constructed between 1935 and 1937 with two additions in 1998 and 2002, and with all development occurring in Moyross between 1975 and 1986. Thus housing within the regeneration areas is in fact a lot older than the figures presented in Census 2011.

#### 1.7.1 Tenure Mix

Currently, in Limerick City, some 60% of households are owner-occupied, 13% are local authority rented and 25% private rented accommodation.

The age of housing within the regeneration areas has a bearing on the ownership status of the properties. Owner-occupied houses within the four regeneration areas are generally comparable with the city-wide

figure of 60%, but well below the State figure of 69%, with almost 55% of the houses in St. Mary's Park owner-occupied, 64% in Southill owner-occupied and 59% in Ballinacurra Weston. The only area where owner-occupied houses is substantially below the norm at half the national rate is in Moyross (33%) which is a relatively new estate in terms of age of the housing stock. The areas with the highest rates of home ownership, however, are also amongst the most deprived. As such, tenure mix is not always a good indicator of social mix.

Private landlord rentals within the regeneration areas are more on a par with the State figure of just over 8%, compared to the exceptionally high figure in the city

Moyross	Number of Units	%
Local Authority Occupied	445	64
Private Occupied	231	36
Moyross consists of 676 occupied residential units. This figure excludes 8 units at Shanabooley, 34 units at Respond and 15 community use buildings		
St Mary's Park	Number of Units	%
Local Authority Occupied	111	35
Private Occupied	204	65
St Mary's Park consists of 315 occupied residential units.		
Ballinacurra Weston	Number of Units	%
Local Authority Occupied	56	28
Private Occupied	142	72
Ballinacurra Weston consists of 198 occupied residential units. This figure excludes 2 community use buildings.		
Southill	Number of Units	%
Local Authority Occupied	285	43
Private Occupied	370	57
Southill consists of 655 occupied residential units. This figure excludes 5 community use buildings.		

**Table 1.21 Existing Tenure Mix in Regeneration Areas (as at December 31, 2012)**

Source: Limerick City Council

Size of family	St. Mary's Park	Southill	Ballinacurra Weston	Moyross
1 person	26%	21%	29%	26%
2 persons	25%	27%	25%	26%
3 persons	19%	23%	21%	24%
4 persons	12%	15%	11%	13%
5 persons	8%	7%	7%	6%
6 persons or more	9%	7%	6%	7%

**Table 1.22: Family Size in Regeneration Areas (Based on Small Area Population Statistics, SAPS), 2011**

Source: CSO 2011

of 24% and the metropolitan area figure of 26%. With rentals from housing bodies low across the regeneration areas, the other dominant form is local authority-rented housing which is well above the State figure of almost 8% and the city-wide figure of just over 12%. Moyross has the highest number of local authority rented houses within the four regeneration areas at 64% and is almost double that of St. Mary's Park and Southill, at 35% in each area. Ballinacurra Weston has significantly lower rate of local authority rented housing at 24% but this figure still stands at three times above the State figure of 8%.

### 1.7.2 Current Tenure Mix in the Regeneration Areas

The following data outlined in Table 1.21 is extracted from the Limerick City Council housing database (as at 31 December 2012) and reinforces the general 2011 CSO trends described in Table 1.20. Please refer to the Appendices for more detailed maps of the existing tenure mix within the regeneration areas.

### 1.7.3 House Type

Generally, the most significant contrast between a city centre and the suburban areas in housing terms relates to the type or style of accommodation provided where the predominant form of new construction in the city centre has been apartment blocks. This contrast between city and suburbs is of course driven in the first instance by the economics of property development, and specifically the higher price of land in the centre, which necessitates more intensive use. However, this is not necessarily the situation in the regeneration areas, where houses dominate the housing type. Southill is the only area with any level of alternative tenure type with just over 5% of the housing stock in the area comprising of apartment/flat type units.

House type is generally one of the main factors underpinning household and family structure although this is not always the case within the regeneration areas as the analysis below indicates. With the dominant type of construction in the regeneration areas of house format one would expect the family size to comprise three to four people. However, almost 50% of the total households comprises two persons or under with almost 24% in single occupancy. Whilst the average household size within the regeneration areas (2.4) is slightly below the national figure of 2.7, these figures suggest under occupancy of houses within the regeneration area and

## Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

as a result under-utilisation of valuable and scarce urban land.

### 1.7.4 Household Structure

Another significant contrast in the social geography of urban areas relates to household structure. Across the regeneration areas the single parent family dominates the household type with the exception of Ballinacurra Weston where there is a significant proportion of one person households (29%) compared with lone parent families, at 23%. In the other three areas, single parent households as a percentage of all private households stands at almost 27% in St. Mary's Park, 25% in Southill and almost 31% in Moyross. These figures are well above the State figure of 13% and the 14% of population in Limerick City. If the indicator, single parent families with any dependent children under 15 years as a proportion of all households with any dependent children under 15 years is examined, rates of lone parenthood in the regeneration areas are particularly high and are all above 60% compared with 37.5% for the city as a whole. The highest rates of lone parenthood, based on this indicator, are in St. Mary's Park and O'Malley and Keyes Park, Southill (70%). This reflects weak family / demographic structure while lone parenthood affects other aspects of social and economic life including employment prospects. Certain additional characteristics of such families, if they are present (e.g., unemployment, low income, low education), negatively affect outcomes for children and families including parents themselves.

Reflecting the ageing of the population in general, some 10% of the total number of families in the cities

are "empty nest" families and a further 10% "retired" families. In terms of the regeneration areas of the city, Southill (covering the various parks) is approximately at the city average in terms of the proportion of "empty nest" and "retired" families while the other areas are below the average (lowest in St. Mary's Park with 7% and 8% of "empty nest" and "retired families" respectively). Data on the housing stock in Limerick City, County and the State, as well as the number of vacant dwellings and vacancy rates in 2006 and 2011 are presented in Table 1.23.

At the levels of city, county and the State, there has been an increase in the housing stock from 2006 to 2011 – see Table 1.23. In 2011, 3,433 houses were vacant in Limerick City and just under 7,000 in the county giving a vacancy rate of 13% for Limerick City and 12% for the county. This is less than the State average (15%). The trend in the numbers in housing needs in Limerick City and County in 2011 is presented in Figure 1.24. The absolute numbers in housing need are higher in Limerick City (2,669 in 2011) compared with the county (1,622 in 2011). In the 1990s, net housing need in the city and county was at a very similar level increasing moreso in the city in 1999 compared with the county. From 2005 onwards, there was a sharp increase in net housing need in both the city and county but it is significantly higher now in the city.

Table 1.25 shows key increases in household formations in Limerick City between 2002-2011 is concentrated to three main households types:

- One person households;
- Co-habiting couple with children;

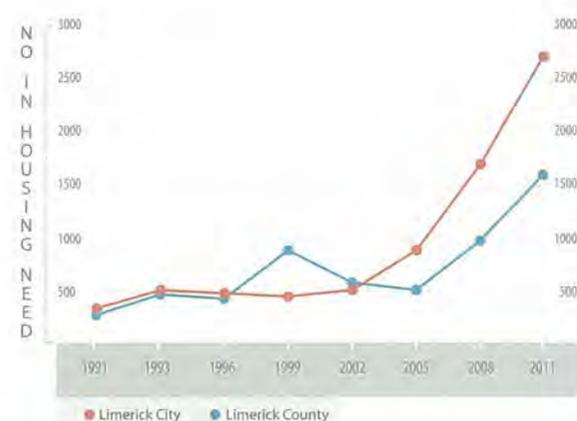


Figure 1.24: Net housing need in Limerick City and County 1991-2011

Source: DoECLG 2011 (Housing Agency data)

- Lone parent and children

### 1.7.5 Household Need in the Regeneration Areas

The purpose of this section is to:

- identify existing housing need in the regeneration areas
- identify future internally generated housing need based on demographic and household formation change

#### 1.7.5.1 Existing Housing Need

The first stage in calculating the present housing demand within the regeneration areas is to quantify the number of households that

- require replacement homes (based on strategic demolitions etc)
- require homes within the regeneration areas based on existing over-crowded households

The table below highlights the key numbers of replacement housing required in each of the regeneration areas based on strategic demolitions to make way for better connections, functional public open spaces and urban structure. Further detail on replacement housing is provided in the Housing Strategies of the Physical Framework Plans in Volume 2 of this document.

Analysis of the Limerick City Council housing database (for data as at July 2013) provides a useful insight into the profile of overcrowded households in the regeneration areas. For the purposes of this analysis a

Area	Dwelling/Housing Stock		Vacant Dwellings		Vacancy Rate	
	2006 (No.)	2011 (No.)	2006 (No.)	2011 (No.)	2006 (%)	2011 (%)
Limerick City	23065	26849	2921	3433	12.7	12.8
Limerick County	52677	55784	6639	6932	12.6	12.4
Limerick City & County	75742	82633	9560	10365	12.6	12.5
State	1769613	2004175	266322	294202	15	14.7

Table 1.23: Housing Stock and Vacant Dwellings Limerick City and Limerick County and the State 2006-2011

Source: CSO Census of Ireland 2006 and 2011

Limerick City	Household Change from 2006-2011	2011	Approx % increase /decrease	2006	Approx % increase /decrease	2002
One person	23%	6479	23%	5240	11	4710
Husband and wife	25	3090	25	2475	6	2330
Co-habiting couple	-0.6	851	-0.6	857	9	781
Husband, wife and children	11	4824	11	4341	-10	4852
Co-habiting couple and children	31	699	31	534	23	435
Father and children	19	406	19	340	7	318
Mother and children	11	2653	11	2383	9	2192
Couple and others	-15	314	15	370	36%	272
Couple, children and others	-0.2	344	-0.2	345	-46	639
Father, children and others	-11	48	-11	54	-23	71
Mother, children and others	13	333	13	294	-17	356
Two or more family units	0	350	0	350	455	63
Non family households and relations	-4.5	654	-4.5	685	5.7	648
Two or more non related persons	3	1322	3	1282	0.3	1278

**Table 1.25 Key Changes in Household Formations in Limerick City Between 2002-2011**

Source: CSO Census of Ireland 2002, 2006 and 2011

household is considered overcrowded if a person with an existing address within a regeneration areas applies to the housing waiting list with a specific request for housing in that particular regeneration area.

Table 1.27 gives a synopsis of the overall existing need and responses required due to overcrowding in the regeneration areas (as at July 2013) and the type of unit composition preferred by the applicant.

#### 1.7.5.2 Future Household Need

Future housing need required over the regeneration programme will be intrinsically related to the population change (as discussed in Section 1.3.2 population projection and Section 1.7.4 Household Structure) and the types of households forming within Limerick City over the next twenty years. As identified in Table 1.6 population projections for Ireland suggest that trends for Limerick City will experience a growing population, with increasing numbers of children (0-19

years) and elderly people (+55 years) over the next ten years. Combined with social changes, with trends leading to shifting patterns of household composition (e.g. increasing numbers of lone parents), as identified in Section 1.7.4 Household Structure, these factors will shape the types of housing required in the future within Limerick City and the regeneration areas. Table 1.25 shows key increases in household formations in Limerick City between 2002-2011 is concentrated to three main households types:

- One person households;
- Co-habiting couple with children;
- Lone parent and children

Table 1.25 highlights that the vast majority of need arising from the population and household formation estimates would be for smaller dwelling types (one bed/two person houses/apartments). Furthermore, as described in Table 1.6 need is emerging from elderly households, whose housing requirements may range from standard dwellings but more than likely housing options more typically associated with elderly

sheltered housing schemes (1-2 bed houses/apartments). Larger family households are also set to increase, with such households likely to require family homes.

This trend in emerging national household formations will undoubtedly influence the projected housing need within the regeneration areas. The projections in these household formations will need to be carefully planned for throughout the regeneration programme to ensure that the internal need arising is accommodated sufficiently. As such a detailed local housing needs assessment will need to be carried out for the regeneration areas.

## Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

Regeneration Area	Replacement Housing Need
Moyross	295
St Marys Park	49
Ballinacurra Weston	40
Southill	209

**Table 1.26: Replacement Housing Need: Limerick Regeneration Areas**

Source: Limerick City Council

Regeneration Area	Overall Number of Houses Requested within Regeneration Area (as at July 2013)	Type of Unit Preferred
Moyross	48	25 one bed 14 two bed 9 three bed
St Marys Park	32	16 one bed 14 two bed 2 three bed
Ballinacurra Weston	34	19 one bed 9 two bed 6 three bed
Southill	48	25 one bed 13 two bed 10 three bed

**Table 1.27: Housing Need Arising from Overcrowding: Limerick Regeneration Areas**

Source: Limerick City Council

### 1.8 Social Capital

The level of social capital in local neighbourhoods is an important indicator of the civic “health” of community. There is evidence that cities or regions with high social capital are more prosperous, have lower rates of crime, better population health and generally have better quality of life.<sup>20</sup> Social capital concerns attitudes of trust in people in general, the extent that people look out for each other and the existence of social networks providing mutual support in times of need, opportunities to pursue common interests (sports clubs, cultural activities) and to engage in collective action in the interest of the wider community (e.g., residents’ associations). The density of voluntary associations in a community, bringing people together from different backgrounds, is considered a measure of the health of the civil society.

Levels of social capital in various types of local Limerick neighbourhoods, including those that are most disadvantaged, have been explored in various

studies over the last ten years. These studies show that people living in all types of neighbourhood in the city (affluent, poor, mixed, middle class) have strong “bonding” social capital – i.e., almost all people have networks of friends, neighbours and extended family to provide support in times of need. This type of social capital is highly valued. Generally, people living in relatively more affluent communities have larger social support networks compared with those living in relatively disadvantaged communities.

Focusing on community spirit, the studies show a strong sense of belonging to community across the different types of neighbourhood. In the 2003 study, the strongest sense of belonging to community (85% stating yes) was recorded in the disadvantaged, older inner city community of King’s Island which includes St. Mary’s Park. In the later study of older people in four northside Limerick parishes (2007/08), sense of belonging to community was strongest in the middle class suburb of Caherdavin (Christ the King Parish)

where over 93% indicated they feel a strong sense of belonging to community, followed by the affluent neighbourhood of Ennis Road / North Circular Road (91%). Sense of belonging to community was lowest in Moyross (Corpus Christi parish) in the 2007/08 study but was slightly above the level recorded for the adult population in 2003 (69%).

In the 2003 study, residents were asked whether they would stay or leave (the area), given the choice. At that time, despite very high levels of deprivation and great difficulties (e.g., criminality) on the estates, some 70% of residents of King’s Island compared with 32% of residents of Moyross stated they would stay while 30% and 68% would chose to leave King’s Island and Moyross respectively.

In the various studies, findings related to knowing neighbours and trust in people in general in the neighbourhood indicate more favourable conditions in average and more affluent compared with

Area	Characteristics	2003/05 Adult Residents %	2007/08 Older People %
King’s Island including St. Mary’s Park	Extremely disadvantaged / disadvantaged; traditionally low mobility	84.6	
Moyross (Corpus Christi Parish)	Extremely disadvantaged	68.5	70
Inner City / Dock area (O’Connell Ave; S Circular Rd., Mount Kenneth, Henry St.)	Above average / affluent; high mobility including apartment blocks in part and high proportion of non-Irish nationalities	25.3	
Castletroy / Monaleen	Affluent / high mobility / professional	73.3	
Ballynanty / Thomondgate / Kileely (St Munchin’s Parish)	Mixed, overall profile of relatively disadvantaged; older age profile		81
Ennis Road / North Circular Road (Holy Rosary Parish)	Very affluent / older age profile		91
Caherdavin (Christ the King Parish)	Average / middle class suburb		93

**Table 1.28: Sense of Belonging to Community: Selected Limerick Neighbourhoods (% stating yes), 2003/05 and 2007/08**

Sources: Humphreys, E. and D. Dineen (2006) *Evaluation of Social Capital in Limerick City and Environs*, HSE West and Limerick City Development Board and Humphreys, E. and S. De Burca (2009) *Health inequalities and ageing in the community: A social study of four Limerick City Parishes*.

<sup>20</sup> It should be noted that some research contests this, arguing that other factors are at play here and not just the social capital.

## Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

disadvantaged neighbourhoods. Focusing on trust, drawing on the various studies, it is not the absolute level of trust that seems to matter most as an indicator of the health of civic community but rather the gap (positive / negative) between “knowing most people in the neighbourhood” and “trusting most”. In more disadvantaged communities, residents tend to know people to a greater extent than they trust them (i.e., there are deficits of trust). In more affluent neighbourhoods, the opposite is the case - they trust

people to a greater extent than they know them. This is illustrated below with reference to three studies in Limerick City including the recent study of children and families (2010 data).

The largest negative gaps – an indicator of weak community social capital - are in the southside and northside regeneration areas of the city. In the 2010 study of children and families in Limerick City, parents / carers in regeneration areas know their neighbours

to a much greater extent (90% northside and 92% southside know most) than they trust them (45% northside and 30% southside trust most). In the more advantaged areas of the city, Corbally / Rhebogue, a larger proportion of parents trust most (60%) compared with the proportion who know most people in the neighbourhood (49%).

Involvement in voluntary organisations is an important indicator of social capital. The 2007/08

Area	2003/05 Adult Residents Characteristics	2007/08 Older People		2010 Parents		Know most	Trust most
		Know most	Trust Most	Know most	Trust most		
King's Island including St. Mary's Park	Extremely disadvantaged/ disadvantaged; traditionally low mobility	77.6	43.3			89.9	45.4
Moyross (Corpus Christi Parish)	Extremely disadvantaged	66.3	36	59.3	44.4	combined with above (northside regeneration area)	
Inner City/Dock area (O'Connell Ave; S Circular Rd Mount Kenneth, Henry St.)	Above average/affluent; high mobility including apartment blocks in part and high proportion of non Irish nationalities	10	19.8				
Castletroy/Monaleen	Affluent/high mobility/professional	27.3	44.7				
Ballynanty/Thomondgate/Kileely (St Munchin's Parish)	Mixed, overall profile of relatively disadvantaged; older age profile			65.6	72.5		
Ennis Road / North Circular Road (Holy Rosary Parish)	Very affluent / older age profile			63.8	84.9		
Caherdavin (Christ the King Parish)	Average / middle class suburb			52.1	82.8		
Southside regeneration areas (Southill & Ballinacurra Weston)	Extremely disadvantaged					92.2	30
Garryowen/Kennedy Park /Old Cork Road	Disadvantaged					68.3	51
Corbally/Rhebogue	Average/above average					48.6	60

**Table 1.29 Extent of Knowing and Trusting People in the Neighbourhood: Various Studies 2003-2010**

Sources: Humphreys, E. and D. Dineen (2006) *Evaluation of Social Capital in Limerick City and Environs*, HSE West and Limerick City Development Board ;

Humphreys, E. and S. De Burca (2009) *Health inequalities and ageing in the community: A social study of four Limerick City Parishes*.

Humphreys, E., D. McCafferty and A. Higgins (2011) *"How are our Kids?": Experiences and Needs of Children and Families in Limerick City with a Particular Emphasis on Limerick's Regeneration Areas* (Limerick City Children's Services Committee)

study showed a high level of involvement of older people in voluntary associations, highest in the Holy Rosary parish (67%), followed by Christ the King (60%), St. Munchin's (40%) and lowest in Corpus Christi parish (38%). The earlier study (2003/05) of the adult population showed a lower level of involvement in voluntary associations generally – highest in Castletroy / Monaleen (42%), almost one-third in King's Island (32%) and relatively low in Moyross (25%).

Drawing some conclusions from these various studies, neighbourhoods in Limerick City have aspects of strong social capital. There is a strong sense of belonging to community and networks of social support from extended family, friends and neighbours. The most disadvantaged communities in the city, however, show weaknesses in social capital in terms of deficits of trust in people in general. This affects the social cohesion of community and is likely to spill over into the city with negative outcomes. For instance, population loss could be an indicator of poor community cohesion in the city and especially, of the most disadvantaged estates. The social capital in local communities has strong interdependencies with many aspects of community life including community safety and outcomes for individuals and families (e.g., health and well-being). Building social "bridges" or connections across people and neighbourhoods which

are different from each other is an extremely important dimension of social capital – to break down the social and physical barriers between people and communities across the city.

Area	2003/05 Adult Residents %	2007/08 Older People %
King's Island including St. Mary's Park	32	
Moyross (Corpus Christi Parish)	25	25
Inner City / Dock area (O'Connell Ave; S Circular Rd., Mount Kenneth, Henry St.)		14
Castletroy (affluent)	41	
Ballynanty / Thomondgate / Kileely (St Munchin's Parish)		41
Ennis Road / North Circular Road (Holy Rosary Parish)		67
Caherdavin (Christ the King Parish)		60

**Table 1.30: Involvement in Voluntary Organisations (%): Selected Limerick neighbourhoods**

Sources: Humphreys, E. and D. Dineen (2006) *Evaluation of Social Capital in Limerick City and Environs*, HSE West and Limerick City Development Board ;  
Humphreys, E. and S. De Burca (2009) *Health inequalities and ageing in the community: A social study of four Limerick City Parishes*.



### 1.9 Transport

The decentralisation of manufacturing and services employment from the city centre to suburban and ex-urban areas has been a feature of the changing geography of Limerick over the past thirty years. As employment opportunities have decentralised, commuting distances for the public at large have generally increased. In this context, access to reliable and economic means of transportation has become increasingly important for individuals and households.

Some indication of the variation in travel distance within the city and regeneration areas can be obtained by focusing on the percentage travelling under two miles to work, school or college. Two miles is often considered critical in commuting studies, as it is the distance above which employment locations and other destinations for travel cannot be accessed easily on foot. Almost 73% of the population within the regeneration areas travelling less than two miles (30 minutes) to work/school/college highlights the availability of employment and educational establishments in proximity to the regeneration areas. As the regeneration areas have relatively low labour force participation rates, a high proportion of travel is not work-related, but rather involves school children. With ten primary schools (five in the northside and five in the southside regeneration areas) and three post-primary schools (two northside adjacent to Moyross and St. Mary's Park, and one southside adjacent to Southill) the short commuting distance is in line with expectations.

Breaking the overall regeneration area down into its four individual areas further highlights the proximity of services available as 63% of the population over five years of age in St. Mary's Park travel less than 30 minutes to work/school/college, 78% of the population in Southill, 72% in Ballinacurra Weston, and 70% in Moyross. The relatively low figure in St. Mary's Park is likely attributable to the fact that it is situated on an island and is less well-serviced as a result.

The relatively short distance travelled to work / school each day is reflected in the high percentage of the population that travels on foot or by bicycle. At 43% in St. Mary's Park, 30% in Southill, 44% in Ballinacurra Weston and 42% in Moyross, the figures are generally well above the city-wide figure of 33% and more than double the national figure of 17%. The use of public transport is generally higher in the regeneration areas

(St. Mary's Park, 6%, Ballinacurra Weston, 9% and Moyross, 11%) than the city-wide figure of almost 7% but generally falls below the national figure of 13% with the exception of Southill (14%). The high level of public transport usage (bus) in Southill may be explained by the regular bus service operating in the area and may provide some evidence to suggest that supply side improvements in the bus service may help to induce a greater level of usage.

Households with no cars are relatively more numerous in the city centre, accounting for just under one-third of all households (32%), well above the national figure of under 16%. The four regeneration areas also have a high number of households with no cars including 57% in St. Mary's Park, 43% in Southill, 58% in Ballinacurra Weston and 50% in Moyross. These figures support the short commuting distance experienced by residents in the regeneration areas to work / school each day.

## Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

### 1.10 Justice / Criminality

The situation of extreme social disorder in the most deprived local authority estates in the city was the key factor which led to the setting up of the Limerick Regeneration programme in 2007. Dealing with the issue of criminality was considered fundamental to creating the conditions for other interventions to work and to restore the confidence of the communities (Fitzgerald Report, 2007). A specific recommendation of the Fitzgerald Report was to provide 100 extra Gardaí to the city. This additional resource was delivered and largely sustained (up to 2010, most recent data available). In June 2007, the total Garda personnel in Limerick Division was 559 Gardaí and in June 2010, 650 Gardaí (an additional 91 personnel)<sup>21</sup>. The additional Garda resources were put into the city through community policing and other Gardaí. The Emergency Response Unit (ERU) was set up, to operate out of Limerick, and a Regional Response Unit (the first in the State) was also put in place.

The focus of the police effort in the period 2007-2010 was to address the problem of serious criminality in an effort to bring the city to a level of “normal”



Figure 1.25: Allocations of Community Policing Personnel in Limerick City: Northside, Southside, All Regeneration Areas and City 2007 and 2010  
Source: An Garda Síochána, Southern Region

policing. This strategy yielded positive results in the levels of investigation, arrest and sentencing in that most of the serious criminals in the city were in prison or awaiting sentencing by mid-2010. An important factor in achieving convictions was the ability of the Director of Public Prosecutions to bring cases involving serious criminals to the Special Criminal Court, where cases are heard by three-person judges rather than use of jury trials, thus eliminating the potential for intimidation of juries, which was a problem in achieving convictions in Limerick.<sup>22</sup>

The removal of this level of criminal activity has had a positive impact on reducing crime levels in Limerick City, evidenced by data on crime statistics. There has been a drop in all incidents of recorded crime in the regeneration areas. Based on data for regeneration areas, taking most serious crime, there were no murders in 2009/10 (2 in 2006/07), there was a

considerable drop in “discharging a firearm” from 71 incidents in 2006/07 to 4 in 2009/10; possession of a firearm dropped from 33 incidents in 2006/07 to 22 in 2009/10; incidents of criminal damage by fire dropped from 348 incidents in 2006/07 to 195 in 2009/10. In the city (Limerick Division) as a whole, incidents of discharge of a firearm dropped from 103 in 2007 to 15 in 2011 (data supplied by Limerick Division).

The breakdown of crime incidents for the northside and southside regeneration areas is presented below. For all specific incidents, the number of reported incidents of crime was lower on the southside compared with the northside.

There has been increased effort on search and charges for drug-related crime. Between 2006/07 and 2009/10, there has been a very large increase in the number of incidents of search under the Misuse of

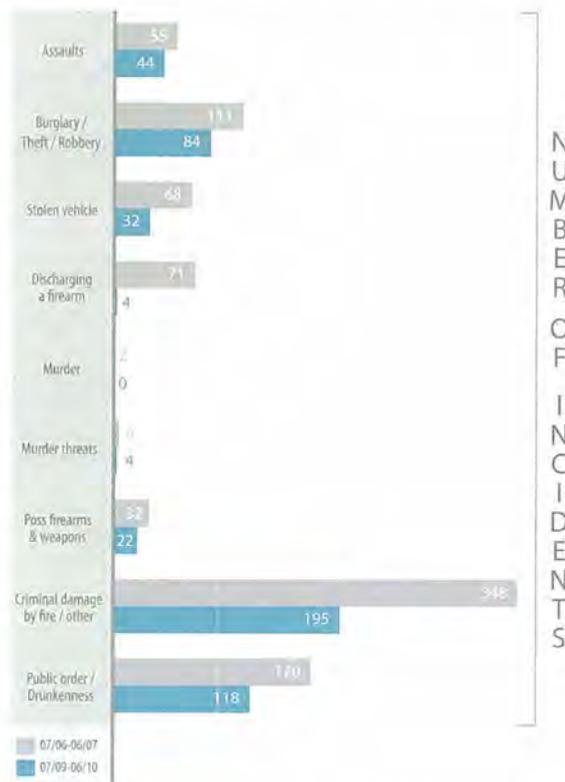


Figure 1.26: Selected Incidents of Crime 2006/07 and 2009/10: All Regeneration Areas  
Source: An Garda Síochána, Southern Region

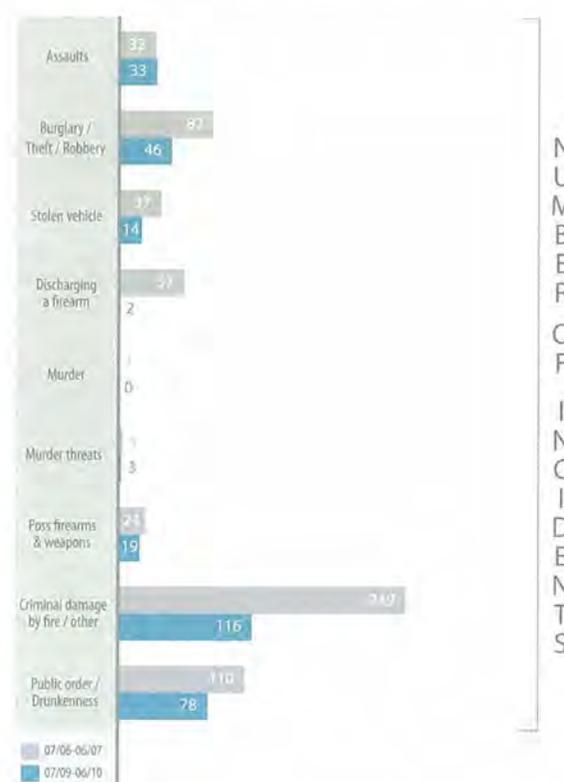


Figure 1.27: Selected Incidents of Crime 2006/07 and 2009/10: Northside Regeneration Area  
Source: An Garda Síochána, Southern Region

<sup>21</sup> The discrepancy with the 100 additional personnel could be associated with attrition over the years.

<sup>22</sup> By mid-2010, this facility, the Special Criminal Court, was used only three times in Limerick (and used effectively in all cases).

Drugs Act (1977, 1984) (an increase of over 9 times in the number of searches) and a small increase in charges of simple possession. There has been a drop in search of premises / vehicles.

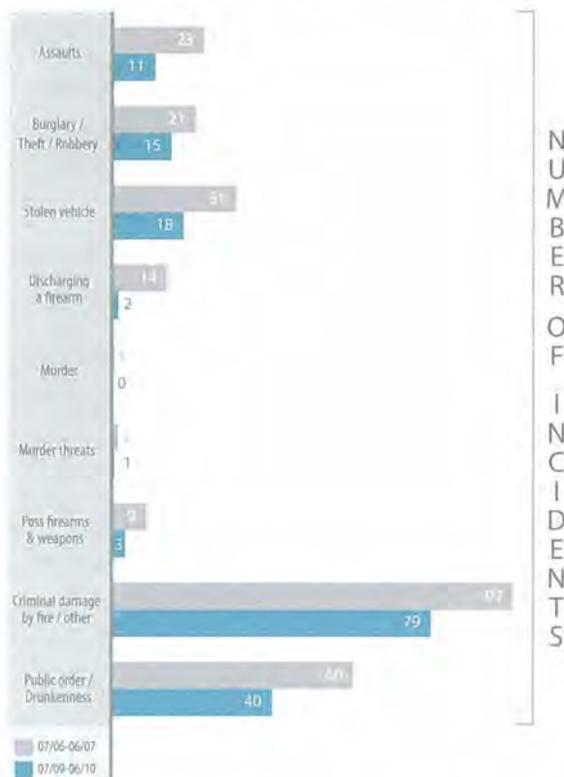
Breakdown of this data by northside and southside regeneration areas is shown below. The pattern is similar in terms of search incidents between 2006/07 and 2009/10 (e.g., very large increase in the number of search incidents under the Misuse of Drugs Act (1977, 1984)). Possession charges decreased slightly in the southside while they increased in the northside regeneration areas. The number of reported incidents across all types of incidents and charges are higher on the northside compared with the southside.

Anti-social behaviour is a serious problem on the regeneration estates. While this has been reported in many recent studies and there are findings giving an indication of the scale of the problem in regeneration

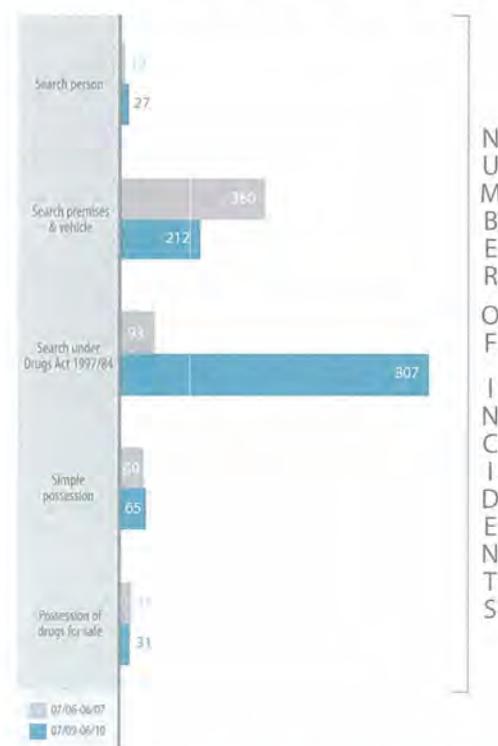
areas, a precise quantification of the problem in the regeneration areas is not available. Focusing on responses to the problem, between 2006/07 and 2009/10, a larger number of anti-social behavioural orders were issued in 2009/10 compared with 2009/10. In 2009/10, more anti-social behavioural orders were issued on the northside compared with the southside regeneration areas.

The impact of the additional resources for policing and the policing approach (targeting the serious criminals, more policing, community policing) have been positive in terms of reducing crime. The serious criminality was one dimension of the problem and, for the present, a major impact has been made on solving this. The incident statistics, however, are based on reported crime and, as such, do not cover the full extent the problem of crime and fear of crime in the regeneration areas. Because of fear, harassment, intimidation etc., crimes may not be reported.

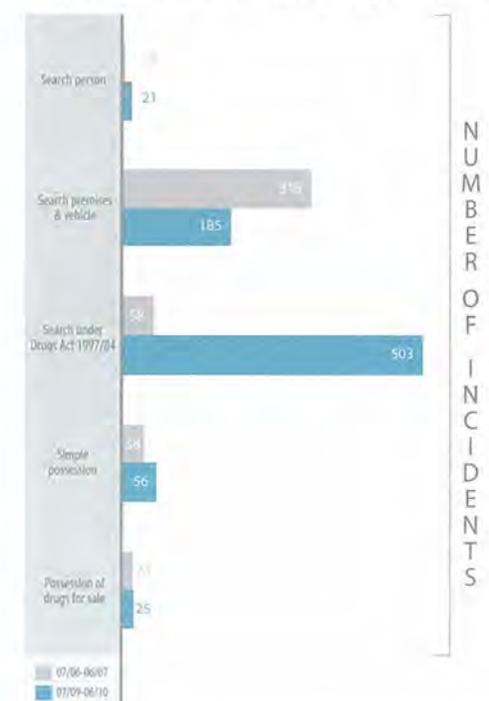
Drawing on evidence of recent studies,<sup>23</sup> community safety, anti-social behaviour, harassment, intimidation etc. remain as serious problems. Based on the views of residents, such neighbourhood problems are more serious in the southside compared with the northside regeneration areas. Drawing on survey data from 2010, more than one-quarter (26%) of parents surveyed in the northside and just under half of those surveyed in the southside regeneration areas (46%) indicated that violent crime is a very big / big problem in the area; 60% in the southside and just over 30% in the northside regeneration areas indicated that crimes against property are a very big / big problem; availability of drugs / open drug dealing was considered a very big / big problem by 75% of parents surveyed on the southside and 60% of parents surveyed on the northside; approximately 37% of parents on the southside and over 20% on the northside identified harassment / abuse as very big / big problem; 65% in the southside and 30% in the northside regeneration areas identified "young kids hanging around" as a very big / big problem while 72%



**Figure 1.28: Selected Incidents of Crime 2006/07 and 2009/10: Southside Regeneration Area**  
Source: An Garda Síochána, Southern Region



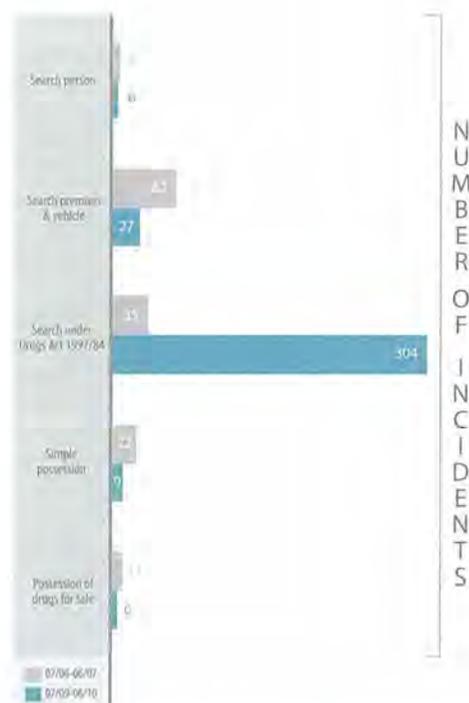
**Figure 1.29: Data on Search and Drug-Related Charges 2006/07 to 2009/10: All Regeneration Areas**  
Source: An Garda Síochána, Southern Region



**Figure 1.30: Data on Search and Drug-Related Charges 2006/07 to 2009/10: Northside Regeneration Area**  
Source: An Garda Síochána, Southern Region

<sup>23</sup> Humphreys, E., D. McCafferty and A. Higgins (2012). "How are our Kids?": Experiences and Needs of Children and Families in Limerick City with a Particular Emphasis on Limerick's Regeneration Areas. Limerick: Limerick City Children's Services Committee; Hourigan, N. (2010) Understanding Social Exclusion in Limerick. Cork: Cork University Press; Power, M.J. and C. Barnes (2011) Feeling Safe in Our Community. Limerick: Department of Sociology, University of Limerick

## Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis



**Figure 1.31: Data on Search and Drug-Related Charges 2006/07 to 2009/10: Southside Regeneration Area**

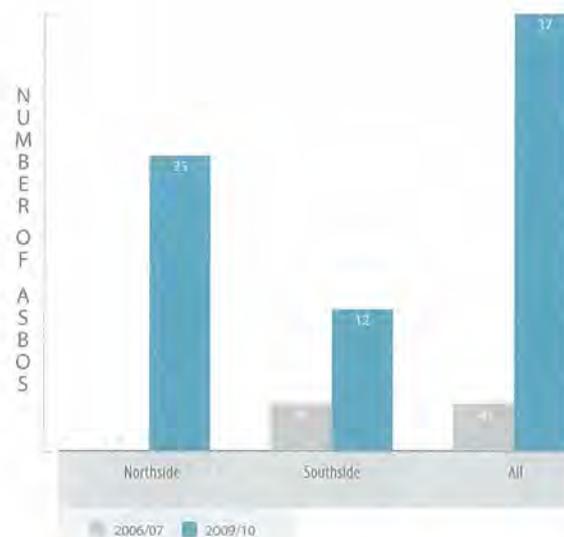
Source: An Garda Síochána, Southern Region

on the southside and 28% on the northside identified car crime / joyriding as a very big / big problem. Other issues identified in recent research include money-lending as a serious problem often leading people into criminality (Hourigan, 2009), anti-social behaviour by very young children and poor parental control (Barnes and Power, 2012).

The installation and improvements to CCTV on the regeneration estates are considered to have had a positive impact. At the same time, some residents consider that monitoring of CCTV needs to be improved and while CCTV acts as a deterrent for some, others “don’t care”.

### 1.11 Conclusion

This section presented an overview of the socio-economic context of the plan. It provides baseline data of the current situation in Limerick City and recent trends across a range of themes relevant to the social plan. The analysis includes comparison of conditions in Limerick City with those in the State



**Figure 1.32: Number of Anti-Social Behavioural Orders Issued 2006/07 and 2009/10: Limerick Regeneration Areas**

Source: An Garda Síochána, Southern Region

overall. It also provides an analysis of the context of the most disadvantaged areas of the city, particularly focused on the regeneration areas.

Limerick City is facing serious economic challenges, linked to the deep economic crisis. All areas of the state have been affected negatively by the economic crisis. The analysis of the spatial distribution of affluence and deprivation in the State shows that the main urban centres – the five cities – have fared better than other areas of the country, showing resilience in the face of deep crisis. While Limerick City has fared better than the average for the state in terms of absolute change in affluence / deprivation, it has fared the worst of the five cities.

The economic crisis has impacted in terms of change in the structure of the local economy and loss of jobs in sectors that, traditionally, have been very important in the city (e.g., manufacturing). The impact of the crisis is especially reflected in the large numbers out of the work and the high unemployment rates in the city for both males and females. Job losses have affected various sectors of the economy especially manufacturing, construction, technical / scientific and business services and, based on analysis of the overall national situation, have occurred at higher and lower occupational skill levels. Young people have been

particularly badly affected by unemployment with those in the youngest age cohorts in the labour force showing extremely high rates of unemployment. Youth unemployment rates in Limerick City are higher than the national average. The profile of the local economy and its history indicates the need to focus on creating new sources of jobs generally in the city and to focus this effort at various levels of qualification and skill in order to create new opportunities for those people out of work. This includes the creation of entry level jobs for young people, to enable their transition into the world of work.

The economic problems of the city have an important impact on the social context. Unemployment, especially long-term unemployment, is one of the highest risk factors of poverty and social exclusion. The analysis of the current situation and trends in the most disadvantaged areas of the city, especially the regeneration areas, is indicative of deeply structural economic and social problems. Analysis of trends shows that these problems have been in evidence for a long time. In the most disadvantaged areas of the city, a very high proportion of the population has no recent history of work. The most disadvantaged estates currently are characterised by an extremely high level of dependence on social welfare rather than salaries / wages from work as the main source of income.

The low level of educational qualification of the adult population in the most disadvantaged estates is a serious structural problem, affecting access to opportunities in many areas of social, civic and economic life including employment. Low education of parents also negatively impacts on aspirations and children’s educational attainment as well as other outcomes including health. This profile of low education of adults on the most disadvantaged estates contrasts strongly with the education profile of the adult population of the city as a whole, and with average areas of the city.

There are specific problems in evidence in the school population and education of children and young people. Declining enrolments, for instance, is a characteristic of schools in the most disadvantaged areas of the city (DEIS schools). Rates of absenteeism are high in schools in the most disadvantaged areas of the city. Retention rates in school for young people to Junior Cert and Leaving Cert qualification are significantly lower in schools in Limerick City

compared with Limerick County and all counties in the State. Progression rates to third level education post Leaving Cert from schools in the disadvantaged areas (DEIS schools) are significantly lower than those from schools in average and more affluent areas of the city (non-DEIS schools).

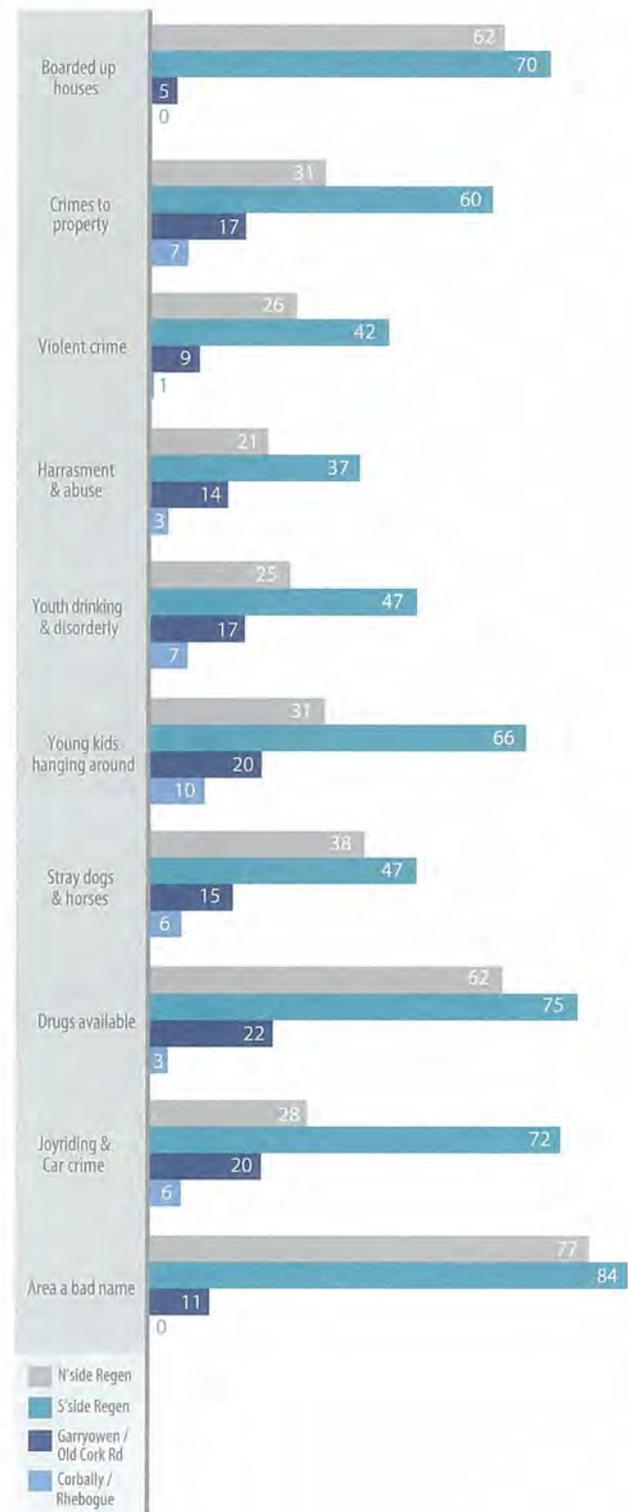
In terms of population health, residents of areas that are relatively more disadvantaged show a profile of poorer physical and mental health compared with residents of average and more affluent areas. This applies across all age groups in the population – children and young people, adults (parents) and older people. The difference or gap in mental health status between residents of the most disadvantaged areas and the average population is particularly large. Poor mental health is associated with wide-reaching negative impacts on individuals and families – for instance, on physical health and well-being but also on capacity to engage in social, civic and economic life. The direction of causality can work both ways and there are strong inter-dependencies. Poor parental (maternal) mental health is associated with negative outcomes for children including poorer level of educational attainment as well as emotional and behavioural problems in children.

Children living in the most disadvantaged areas of the city have a profile of significantly higher rates of emotional / behavioural and attention difficulties compared with an average population of children. While the detailed analysis was not presented here, children from these areas have more exposure to childhood traumas, the families have a greater intensity of problems (including financial difficulties, addictions, etc.) and there are greater deficits in parenting practices compared with children living in average areas of the city. The families also live in less safe and poorer quality social and physical environments including more exposure to anti-social behaviour.

Reflecting the ageing of the population in the State in general, Limerick City has a significant population of older people with some parts of the city having a profile of an older age structure compared with the average for the city. The city has a significant proportion of households comprising adults – living alone or otherwise. Their needs into old age, to support independent living for as long as possible and good quality of life in old age, need to be addressed in

**Figure 1.33: Issues Identified as Very Big / Big Problems: Selected Neighbourhoods Limerick City (2010 data)**

Data source: Humphreys, E., D. McCafferty and A. Higgins (2011) "How are our Kids?": Experiences and Needs of Children and Families in Limerick City with a Particular Emphasis on Limerick's Regeneration Areas (Limerick City Children's Services Committee)



## Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

the social plan for the city.

In terms of social capital, neighbourhoods in Limerick City, including those that are most socially disadvantaged, show many positive aspects including a strong sense of belonging to community and networks of social support from extended family, friends and neighbours. The most disadvantaged communities in the city, however, show weaknesses in certain aspects of social capital reflected in deficits of trust in people in general, negatively affecting cohesion of the communities and the city in general.

In relation to justice, crime and criminality, with the additional Garda resources allocated to the city (100) under the regeneration programme, there has been a positive impact on addressing the problem of serious criminality in the city, bringing the city to a level of "normal" policing. The data on incident statistics across a range of incidents of crime with reference to the regeneration areas show a reduction in reported crime, while other relevant statistics (e.g., search of premises, person) show higher levels of policing particularly drug-related policing. There has been a drop in all incidents of recorded crime in the regeneration areas, especially in the most serious crimes. Gardai issued more anti-social behavioural orders in 2009/10 compared with 2007/08. Lower level criminality and especially anti-social behaviour, harassment / abuse, intimidation, joy riding and crimes to property remain as serious problems on the regeneration estates. From the perspectives of residents, these issues are more serious problems in the southside regeneration areas compared with the northside regeneration areas. Community safety is a key issue.

### 1.12 Key Emerging Issues

The foregoing analysis has highlighted a number of key issues in terms of structural economic deficiencies, extensive social problems, and physical planning across the regeneration areas which are exacerbating an already challenging economic situation. Key emerging issues to consider with specific reference to the regeneration areas include:

- With above average rates of population in the 15 to 24 age category there is significant potential to direct a large proportion of the population into gainful employment over the next ten years.
- The number of people at work (over 15 years of age) in the regeneration areas is significantly

lower than the number of those at work in the city (39%) and the State (58%). Unemployment rates in the regeneration areas are well above (more than double) those of the city, on average.

- The percentage of people that cannot work in Southill due to sickness / disability (13%) is over three times that of the State figure, followed closely by Ballinacurra Weston (12%), Moyross (11%) and St. Mary's Park (10%).
- Only 10.5% of the workforce is engaged in vulnerable sectors (manufacturing and construction), well below the national figure (16%).
- The regeneration areas with only 3% of the population over the age of 15 with a higher certificate, degree or postgraduate degree qualification has a very low educational qualification base. This will present serious challenges in the "tight" and competitive local labour market and in the modern economy in general.
- The regeneration areas have an ageing house stock with just under 4% of all housing constructed since 1990 and 25% of the housing stock constructed prior to 1960.
- Private landlord rentals within the regeneration areas are more on a par with the State figure of just over 8%, compared to the exceptionally high figure in the city of 24% and the metropolitan area figure of 26%. This could indicate potential for an increase in this type of house ownership in the regeneration areas.
- Almost 50% of the total households in the regeneration areas comprises two persons or under with almost 24% in single occupancy which suggests under occupancy of houses within the regeneration areas and as a result under-utilisation of valuable and scarce urban land.
- In contrast to the previous statistics, the Limerick City Council Housing Waiting List confirms that as of May 2013 there is a need for an additional 162 houses within the regeneration areas arising from existing overcrowding.
- The single parent family dominates the household type at 26% of all households in the regeneration areas, well above the State figure of 13% and the 14% of population in Limerick City. Over 60% of any households with children under 15 years in the regeneration areas are lone parent households.
- Future housing need required over the regeneration programme will be intrinsically related to the population change and the types of households forming within Limerick City over the

next ten years. Limerick City will experience a growing population, with increasing numbers of children (0-19 years) and elderly people (+55 years). Combined with trends leading to shifting patterns of household composition (e.g. increasing numbers of lone parents, co-habiting couples with children, one person households) will create an additional internally generated housing need.

- + Almost 73% of the population within the regeneration areas travels less than two miles (30 minutes) to work/school/college thereby highlighting the availability of employment and educational establishments in proximity to the regeneration areas.
- The relatively short distance travelled to work / school each day is reflected in the high percentage of the population that travels on foot or by bicycle which is more than double the national figure of 17%.

## Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

Indicator	John's A	John's B	Ballynanty	Lm North	Killeely A	Galvone B	Rathbane	Prospect A	Prospect B
Total Population 2006	1,211	1,053	3,468	7,251	1,579	1,558	1,702	1,031	1,010
Total Population 2011	863	976	2,918	6,485	1,445	878	1,567	751	1,039
Population Change 2006-11	-348	-77	-550	-766	-134	-680	-135	-280	29
Population 0-4 years 2011, %	6.1	5.3	7.7	6.4	7.0	7.3	6.7	6.0	4.1
Population 5-14 years 2011, %	18.4	11.3	15.4	12.2	14.7	16.1	14.7	13.0	7.7
Population 15-24 years 2011, %	15.1	12.5	17.1	18.6	14.9	17.1	13.5	14.6	37.5
Population 25-49 years 2011, %	29.5	30.8	30.4	34.4	31.4	29.3	31.3	32.1	22.6
Population 50-64 years 2011, %	17.7	18.9	20.5	17.1	19.2	16.3	19.7	19.7	15.3
Population 65-79 years 2011, %	10.9	14.4	7.3	9.9	11.2	12.8	12.1	11.6	9.3
Population 80 years+, 2011, %	2.2	6.8	1.6	1.4	1.6	1.3	2.0	2.9	3.4
Age Dependency Ratio 2011	37.7	37.8	32.0	29.9	34.5	37.4	35.5	33.6	24.5
Lone Parent Families as % families with children under 15 years, 2011	73.5	57.3	63.9	33.6	58.2	72.6	61.2	65.3	61.2
% Primary School Education 2011	53.6	32.9	35.6	12.4	43.0	48.1	37.3	43.2	39.2
% Third Level Education 2011	1.4	15.8	5.8	27.3	4.3	4.3	6.8	11.3	7.4
% Higher & Lower Profs, SC, 2011	4.1	13.7	8.5	28.7	7.8	4.1	9.1	12.8	6.0
% Semi & Unskilled SC, 2011	51.0	38.5	42.6	18.5	43.6	50.6	41.7	51.0	37.0
Unemployment Rate Male %, 2011	61.7	49.1	53.8	26.5	52.4	65.7	51.2	46.6	57.9
Unemployment Rate Female %, 2011	50.6	35.8	39.9	19.0	30.5	44.2	41.3	34.0	31.6
Number Permanent Private Households	308	414	1,081	2,446	571	332	592	296	441
Living alone as % of all households	26.0	40.1	24.1	23.2	29.5	26.0	28.0	31.4	33.8
LA Rented households %	36.5	27.0	42.1	9.7	31.9	42.2	29.7	21.3	17.8
Privately rented households %	6.0	21.2	9.3	20.0	11.0	10.7	5.9	11.1	31.8
Owner Occupied Households %	56.5	49.4	48.1	69.4	55.9	45.9	62.8	63.8	47.6
HP Relative Deprivation Index 2006	-30.9	-17.5	-22.1	-3.8	-21.3	-26.3	-21.7	-23.3	-15.3
HP Relative Deprivation Index 2011	-28.5	-16.9	-21.2	-3.2	-21.6	-26.6	-20.6	-18.1	-18.9
Change in Relative HP Deprivation Index 2006-2011	2.4	.5	.9	.6	-.3	-.4	1.1	5.3	-3.6

## Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

ED	Areas:
St. John's A	St. Mary's Park
St. John's B	Lee Estate, Assumpta Park
Ballynanty	Part Moyross, Ballynanty, Woodview
Limerick North Rural	Part Moyross (Pineview, Delmege, Craeval) and Caherdavin
Kileely A	Kileely
Galvone B	O'Malley Park, Keyes Park, Southill
Rathbane	Carew, Kincora Park, Southill, parts of Janesboro
Prospect B	Part Ballinacurra Weston (Crecora, Beechgrove, Weston, Clarina)
Prospect A	Lord Edward St., Talbot Ave., Lenihan Ave., Bourke Ave.
Galvone A	Kennedy Park, Old Cork Road
Singland A	Singland, Claughan, Pike Ave., Lawrence Ave, Fairgreen., St. Patrick's Rd
Abbey D	Downey St., Flood St., Keane St., Kilalee, Kilmurray, Pennywell, Roxtown
Glentworth C	Garryglass Ave., Hyde Ave, Hyde Villas, Ballinacurra Weston
Glentworth B	Casement, Colbert, Connelly, McDonagh, McDermott, Pearse, Janesboro, Roxboro Road