

# Research Report

## Economic Indicators to Support Alcan Response Group Strategic Economic Impact Work Stream

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**Prepared by:** Julie Dowson (Senior Research Officer)  
Tel. 01670 534831  
E-mail. [julie.dowson@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:julie.dowson@northumberland.gov.uk)

Iain Rowe (Research Officer)  
Tel. 01670 534147  
E-mail. [iain.rowe@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:iain.rowe@northumberland.gov.uk)

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## **1.0 Introduction**

This report pulls together a number of indicators to illustrate the current economic situation in the areas of Northumberland that are most likely to be affected by the closure of the Rio Tinto Alcan aluminium smelter and the possible closure of the power station. The report has been produced for the Alcan Response Group Strategic Economic Impact Work Stream, a short summary that identifies what the key impacts of the Alcan closure are likely to be will be produced from this information.

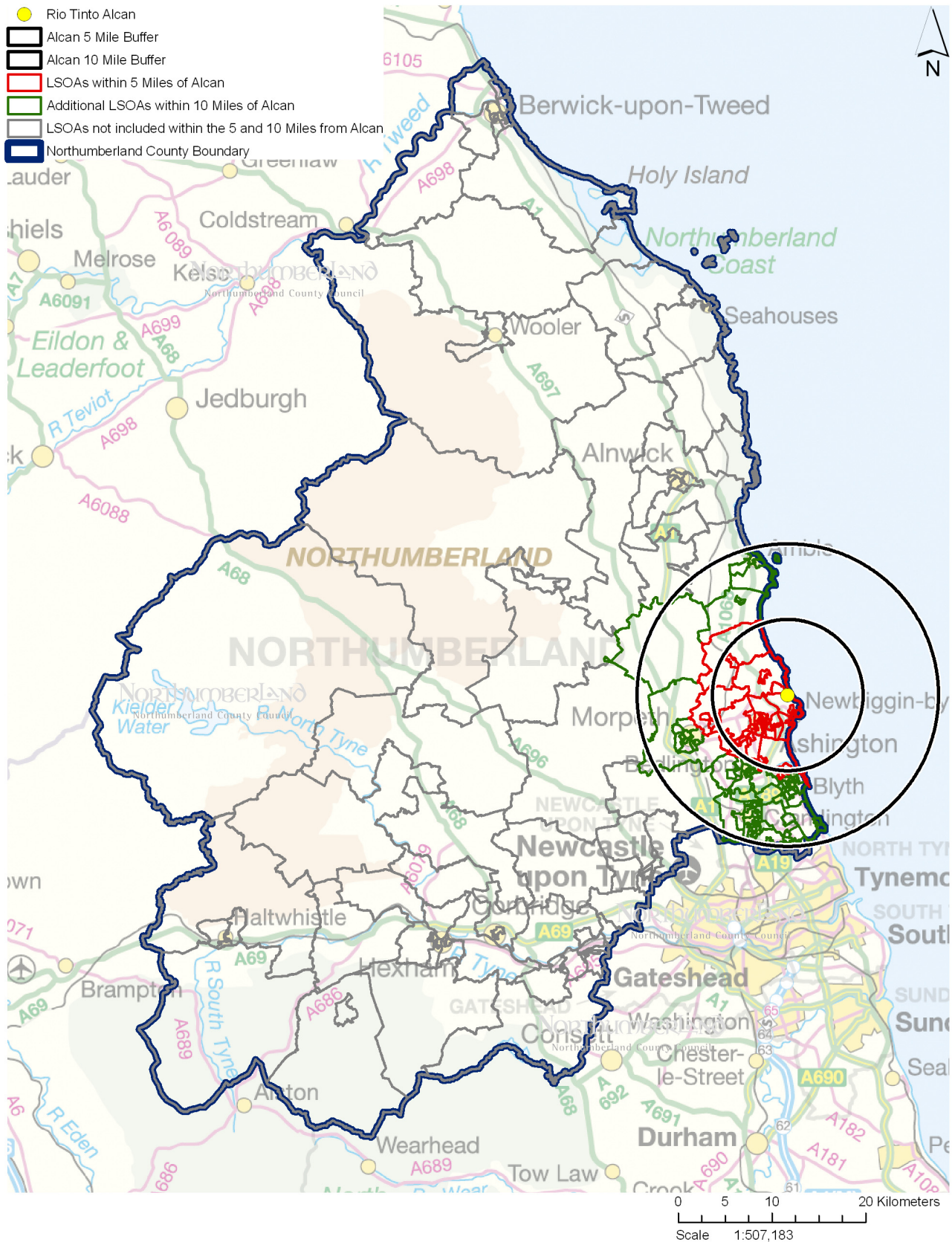
Alcan currently employs 626 people at the aluminium smelter; 115 of these employees work at the power station. Alcan state that 44% of the workforce lives within five miles of the Alcan site and 80% lives within 10 miles. It can therefore be assumed that these areas will be affected most significantly by the closures.

The following indicators are available at different geographic levels. For example Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) Claimant data and CACI Paycheck Household Income are published at small area levels and may be aggregated to areas within five and ten miles of Alcan. Other data sets are not available at small area level and are therefore shown at the smallest area possible (e.g. Former Northumberland Districts or Northumberland County level). Where possible, comparator figures are presented for England, the North East region and North Eastern Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP).

Figures 1 and 2 below show the areas of Northumberland (County, Former Districts and LSOAs) that fall into the five and ten mile distances from Alcan.



**Figure 2: Map of Northumberland LSOAs in relation to the five and ten mile distances from Alcan**





## 2.0 Economic Growth (GVA)

Economic growth can be measured using Gross Value Added (GVA). GVA provides a value for the amount of goods and services that have been produced, less the cost of all inputs and raw materials that are directly attributable to that production. It is used to monitor the performance of the national economy and is now the measure preferred by the Office for National Statistics.

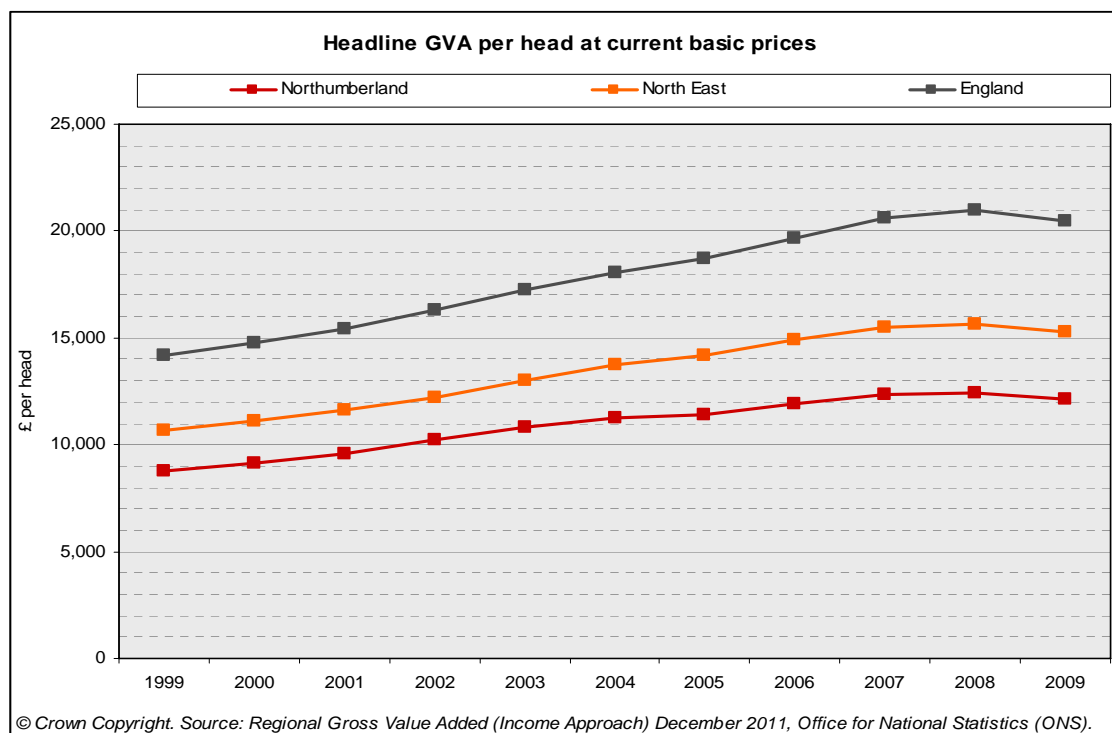
Figures X and X show the GVA per head of population in Northumberland in comparison to the North East region and England. The GVA per head for Northumberland, the North East and England has increased every year between 1999 and 2008, 2009 was the first year that the GVA per head had fallen (in all areas). Northumberland has a much lower GVA per head than England and the North East region. The 2009 GVA per head for Northumberland is £3,150 lower than the North East and £8,344 lower than England.

**Figure 3: Headline<sup>1</sup> GVA<sup>2</sup> per head at current basic prices (£ per head)**

Area	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Northumberland	11,437	11,935	12,368	12,433	12,154
North East	14,214	14,901	15,530	15,673	15,304
England	18,678	19,642	20,649	20,962	20,498

© Crown copyright. Source: Regional Gross Value Added (Income Approach) December 2011, Office for National Statistics (ONS).

**Figure 4: Chart Showing Headline<sup>1</sup> GVA<sup>2</sup> per head at current basic prices**



<sup>1</sup> The headline GVA series in this report have been calculated using a five-period moving average.

<sup>2</sup> Estimates of workplace based GVA allocate income to the region in which the economic activity takes place.

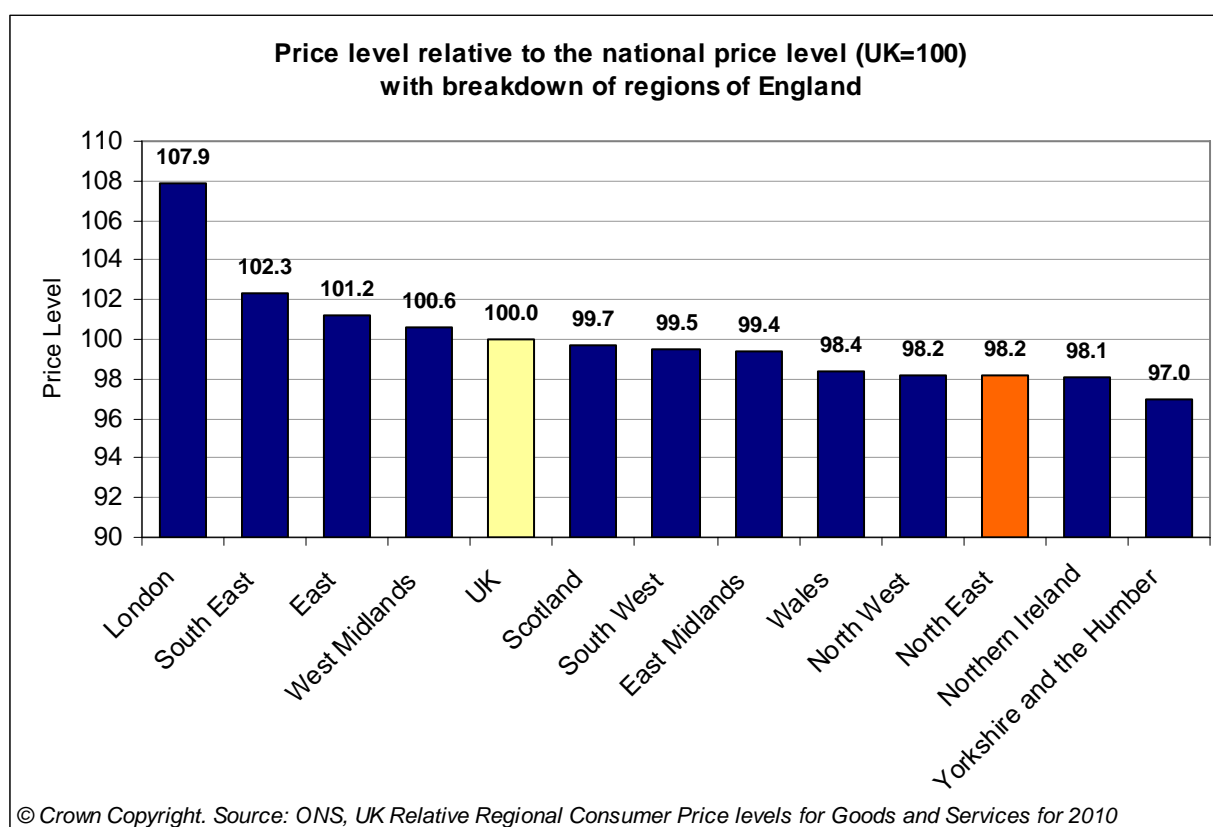
© Crown copyright. Source: Regional Gross Value Added (Income Approach) December 2011, Office for National Statistics (ONS).

### 3.0 UK Relative Regional Consumer Price Levels for Goods and Services

Relative Regional Consumers Price Levels (RRCPLs) provide a comparison of a region's price level relative to the national price level where the UK=100. Those regions with a RRCPL above 100 are relatively more expensive than the UK average, while the converse is true for those regions with a RRCPL of less than 100.

The North East has price levels 1.8 per cent below the UK average, and Yorkshire and Humberside is the only English Region with lower RRCPLs than the North East.

**Figure 5: Relative Regional Consumers Price Levels**



ONS provides further information on RRCPLs, this is available on the [ONS website](#).

## 4.0 Migration

The table below shows movements within the region by Local Authority and the regional outflow to the rest of England and Wales, registered in the year ending June 2010.

**Figure 6: Migration Inflows and Outflows by Sex**

AREA	Persons			Male			Female		
	Inflow	Outflow	Balance	Inflow	Outflow	Balance	Inflow	Outflow	Balance
<b>North East Region</b>	<b>42,900</b>	<b>44,700</b>	<b>-1,800</b>	<b>21,400</b>	<b>22,300</b>	<b>-900</b>	<b>21,500</b>	<b>22,400</b>	<b>-900</b>
<b>N'land</b>	<b>8,800</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>4,200</b>	<b>3,900</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>4,500</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>500</b>
Darlington	3,500	3,500	-100	1,700	1,800	-100	1,800	1,800	0
Hartlepool	2,000	2,100	-100	1,000	1,100	0	1,000	1,100	0
Middlesbrough	5,500	6,300	-800	2,900	3,200	-300	2,600	3,100	-500
Redcar and Cleveland	3,500	3,900	-500	1,700	1,900	-300	1,800	2,000	-200
Stockton-on-Tees	6,100	6,100	-100	3,000	3,100	-100	3,000	3,000	0
County Durham	16,200	15,100	1,100	8,100	7,400	600	8,100	7,700	500
Gateshead	6,500	6,800	-300	3,400	3,300	0	3,200	3,500	-300
Newcastle upon Tyne	17,300	18,900	-1,600	8,700	9,600	-800	8,600	9,400	-800
North Tyneside	7,000	6,500	500	3,400	3,200	200	3,600	3,300	300
South Tyneside	3,300	3,300	0	1,700	1,700	0	1,600	1,600	0
Sunderland	6,300	7,100	-800	3,200	3,700	-500	3,100	3,400	-400

© Crown Copyright. Source: ONS (Internal Migration by local authorities in England and Wales, Mid-2010)

A breakdown of Northumberland migration, by age group is provided below.

**Figure 7: Northumberland Migration by Age**

	Inflow/Outflow	All ages	0-15	16-24	25-44	45-64	65+
<b>Persons</b>	Inflow	8,800	1,500	1,900	3,000	1,700	600
	Outflow	8,000	1,100	2,400	2,700	1200	500
	<b>Balance</b>	800	400	-500	400	400	100

© Crown Copyright. Source: ONS (Internal Migration by local authorities in England and Wales, Mid-2010)

## **5.0 Deprivation**

The English Indices of Deprivation 2010 is a relative measure of deprivation at a small area level (LSOA) for a number of separate domains. To highlight the current economic situation in the areas surrounding Alcan this document looks at the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD), and the Income and Employment Domains.

The IMD is an overall measure of deprivation across seven different domains. The Income Domain measures the proportion of the population in an area experiencing deprivation related to low income. In addition to this domain, two supplementary indices are also produced: an Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) and Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index (IDAOPI). These two indices represent the proportion of children aged 0-15 and the proportion of older people aged 60 and over living in income deprived households respectively. The Employment Domain measures employment deprivation in an area conceptualised as involuntary exclusion of the working age population from the labour market.

In each domain of the Indices of Deprivation 2010 and the IMD every LSOA in England is given a rank from 1 to 32,482, the lower the rank the more deprived the LSOA is. The deciles used below are ten groups of equal size for all LSOAs in England and indicate how deprived an LSOA is in comparison to all of the LSOAs in England. It is important to consider when looking at the English Indices of Deprivation 2010 that it was constructed in 2010 but the majority of the datasets used relate to 2008.

Figure 8 shows that in comparison to the whole of Northumberland the area within five miles of Alcan has a much higher proportion of LSOAs within the most deprived deciles of the IMD and has no LSOAs in the least deprived decile. The area within ten miles of Alcan has a lower proportion of LSOAs in the most deprived deciles in comparison to the area within five miles but still has considerably more than in Northumberland. The North East Region has a higher proportion of LSOAs in the most deprived deciles of the IMD than Northumberland however the area within five miles of Alcan has a proportionately greater number of LSOAs in the most deprived deciles of the IMD than the North East Region indicating higher levels of deprivation.

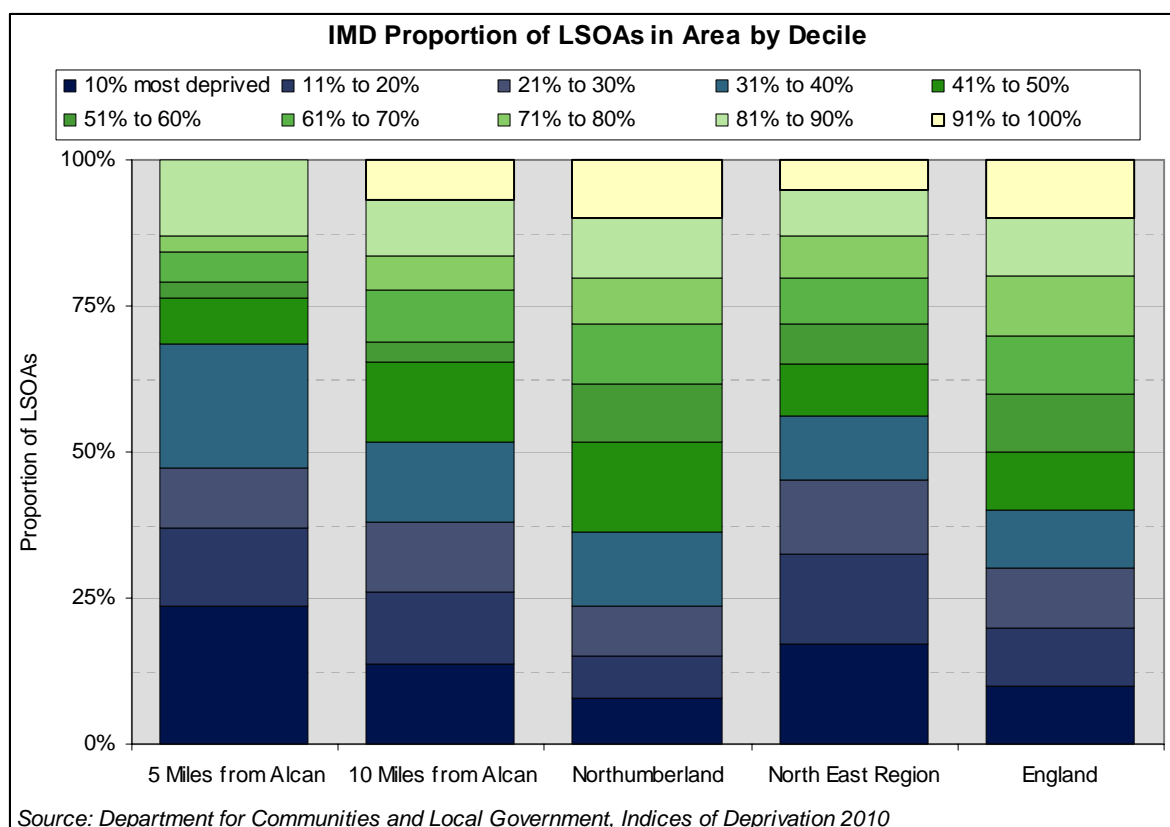
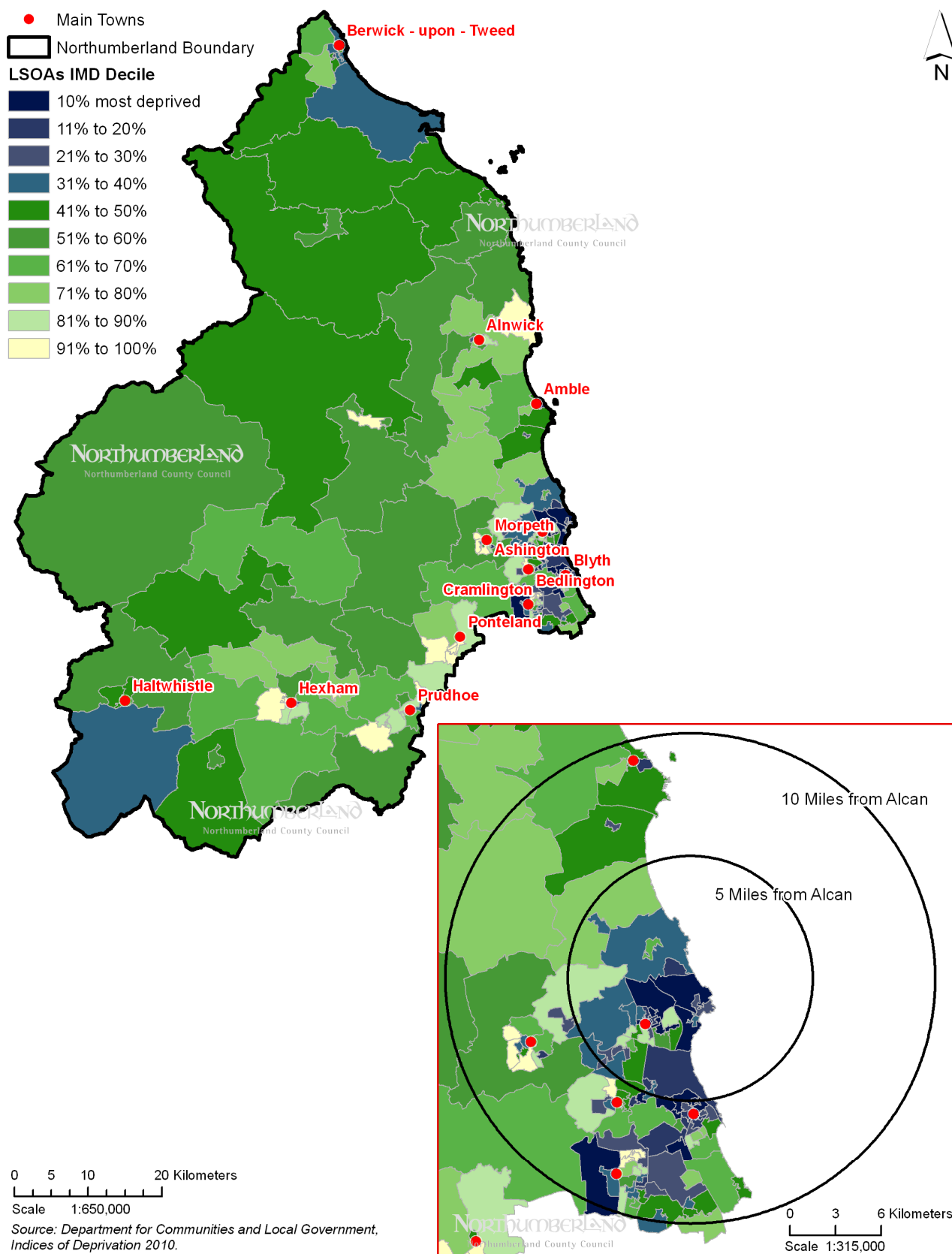
**Figure 8: The Proportion of LSOAs by IMD 2010 Decile**

Figure 9 shows that in terms of overall deprivation LSOAs falling into the most deprived deciles are concentrated around the South East of Northumberland within the areas surrounding Alcan. The more rural areas of Northumberland in the North and West of the county generally have lower levels of deprivation.

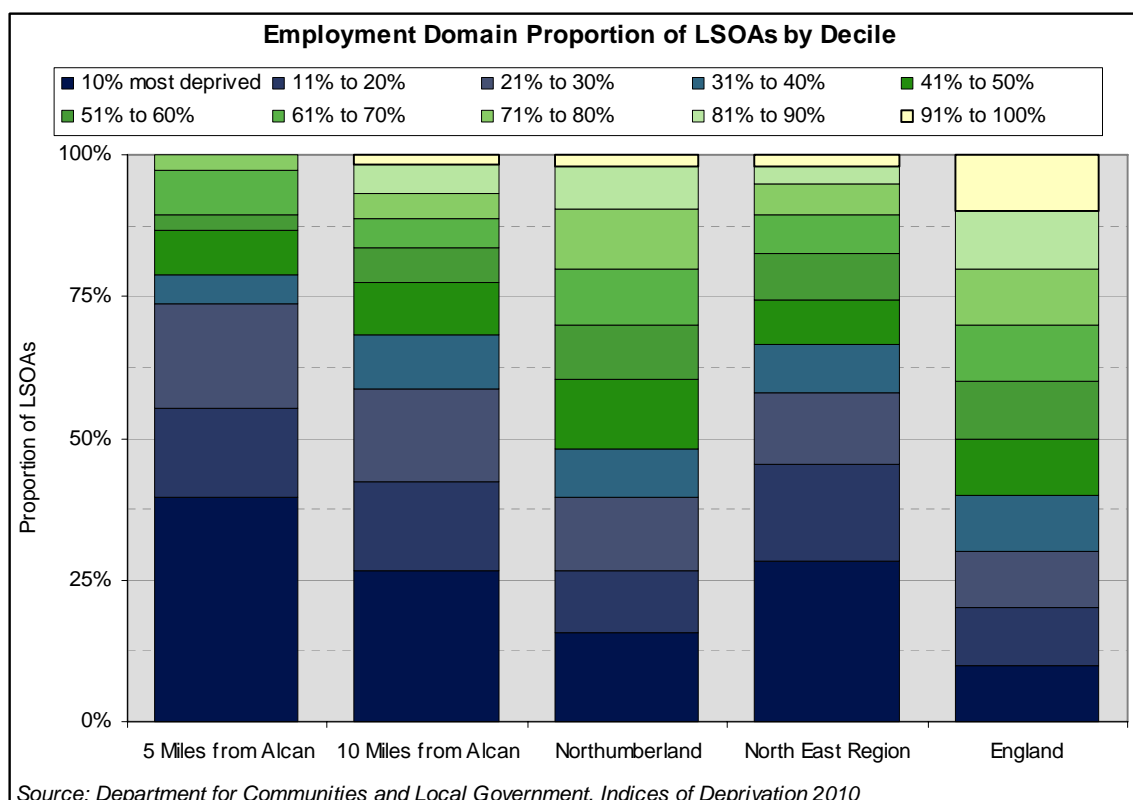
The charts in Figures 10 to 13 show the levels of deprivation for the Employment and Income domains of the IMD and also for the Income Deprivation Affecting Children and Older People supplementary Indices for the areas surrounding Alcan in comparison to the whole of Northumberland and the North East Region. The maps in Figures 14 to 17 show the location of and levels of deprivation across Northumberland.



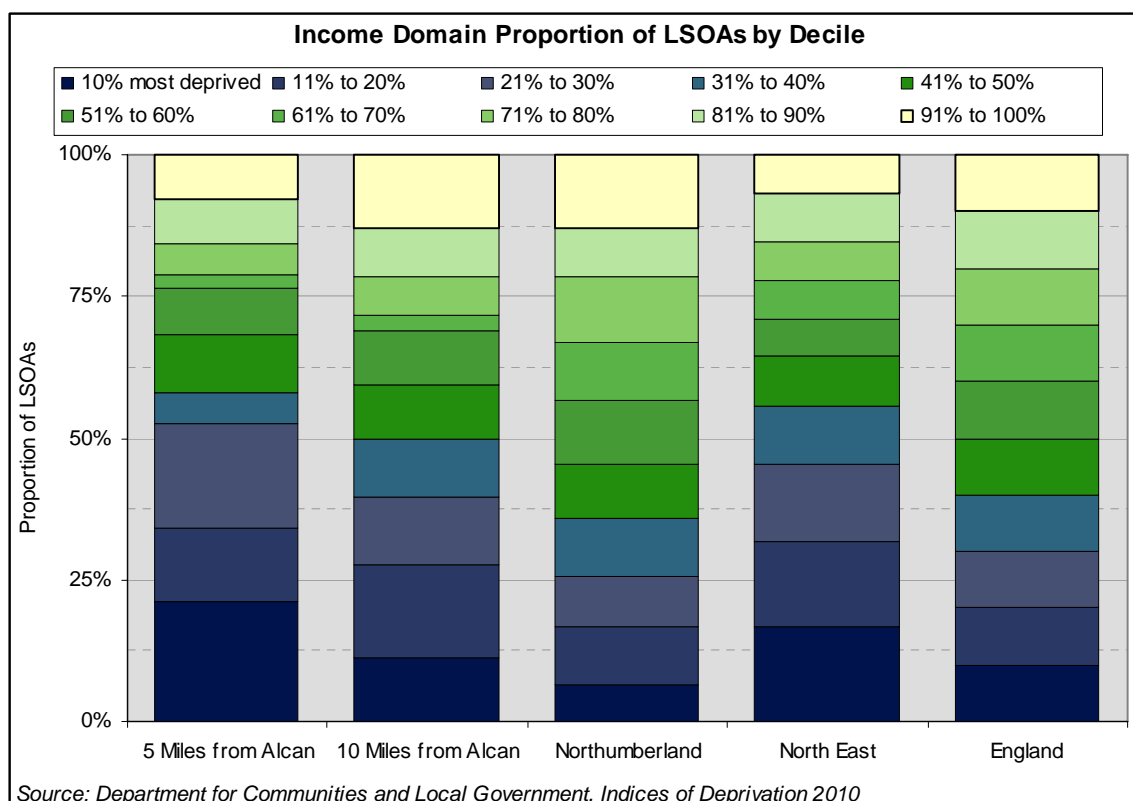
**Figure 9: Map of the IMD 2010**



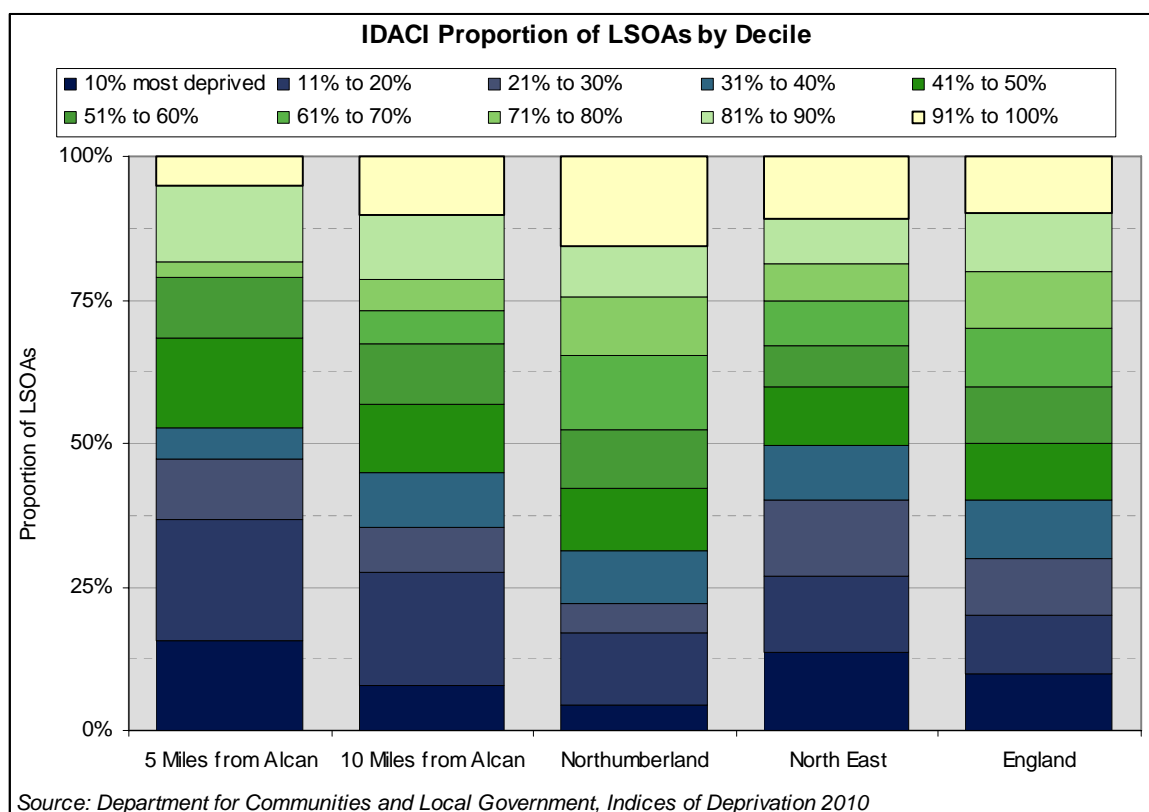
**Figure 10: The Proportion of LSOAs by Employment Domain Decile**



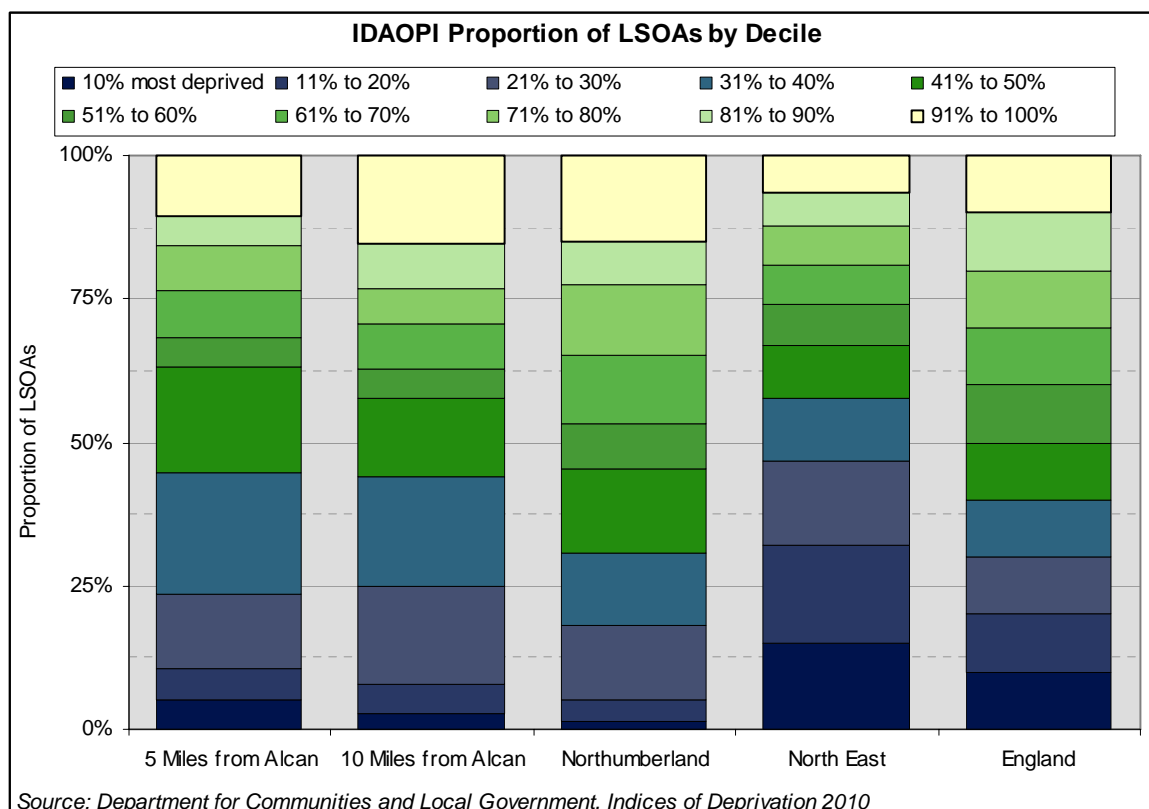
**Figure 11: The Proportion of LSOAs by Income Domain Decile**



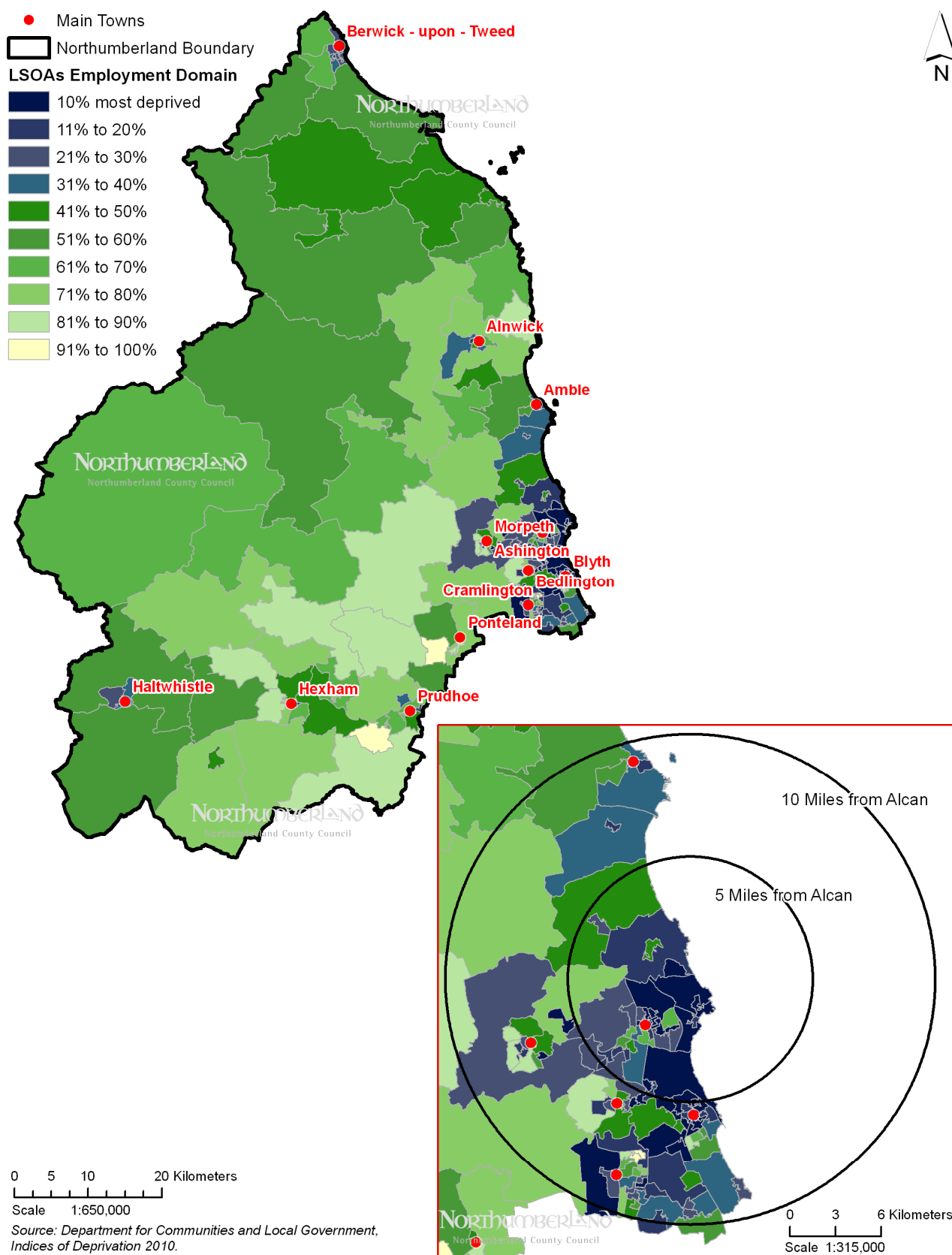
**Figure 12: The Proportion of LSOAs by IDACI Decile**



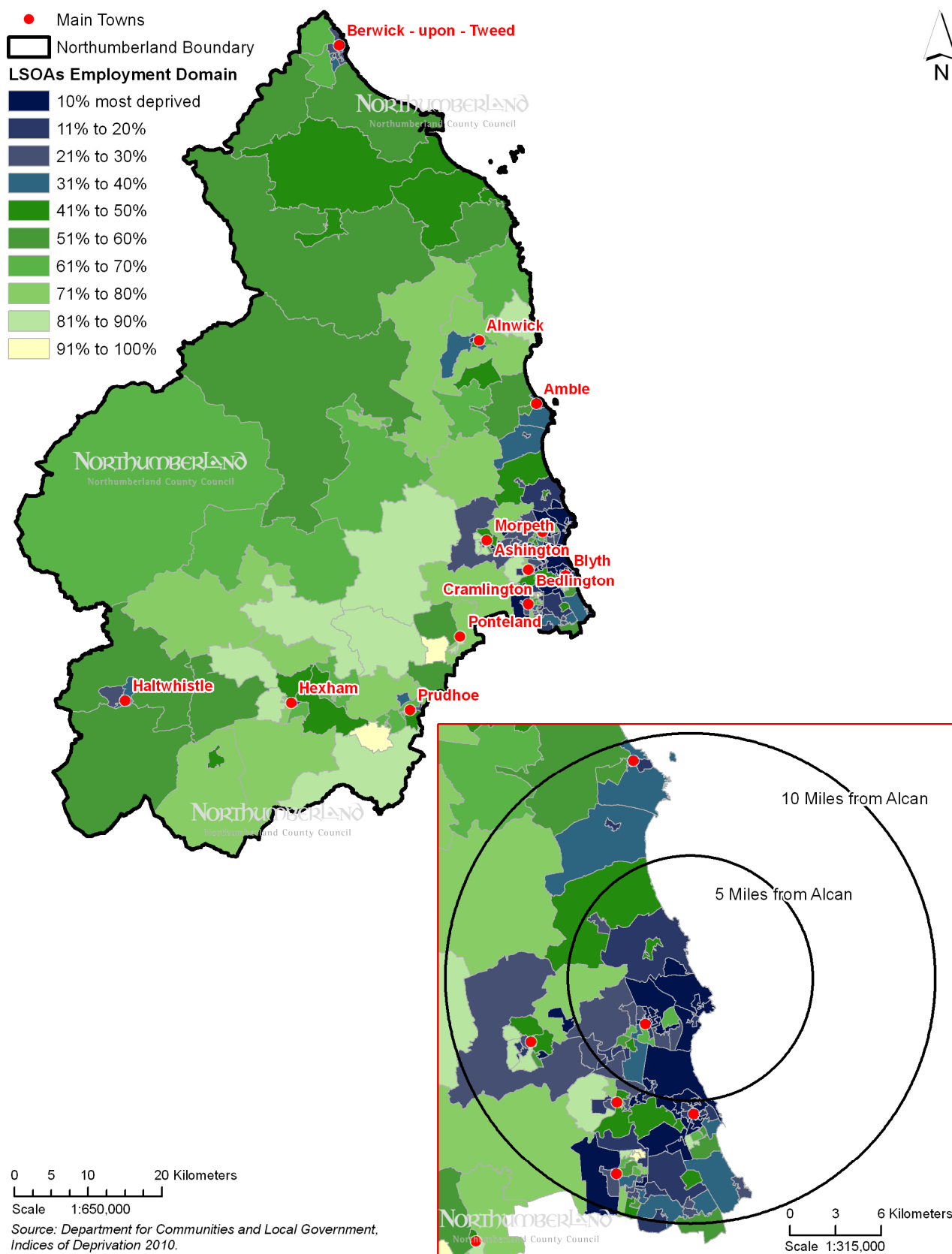
**Figure 13: The Proportion of LSOAs by IDAOPI Decile**



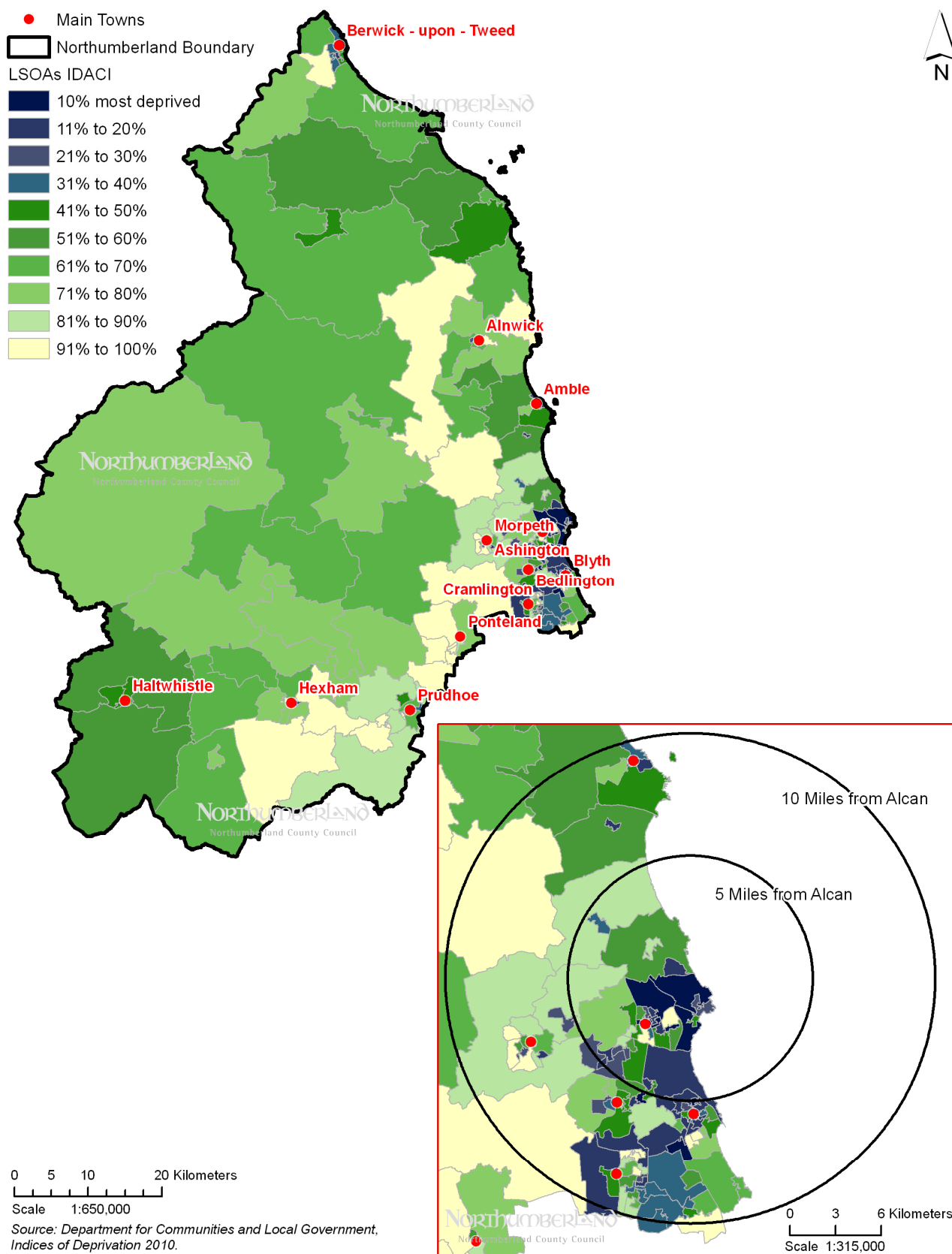
**Figure 14: Map of the ID 2010 Employment Domain**



**Figure 15: Map of the ID 2010 Income Domain**



**Figure 16: Map of the ID 2010 IDACI**



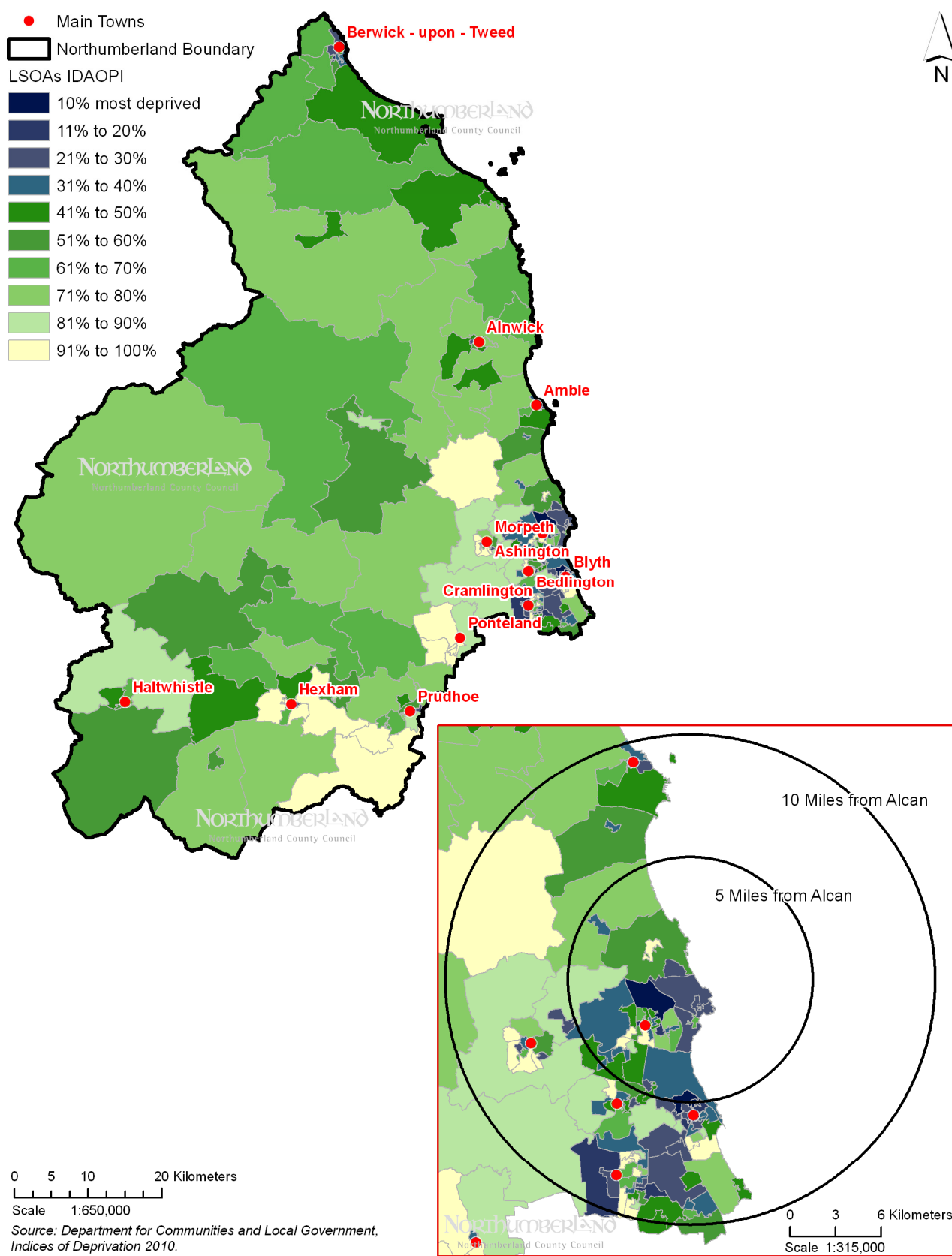
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**Figure 17: Map of the ID 2010 IDAOPI**



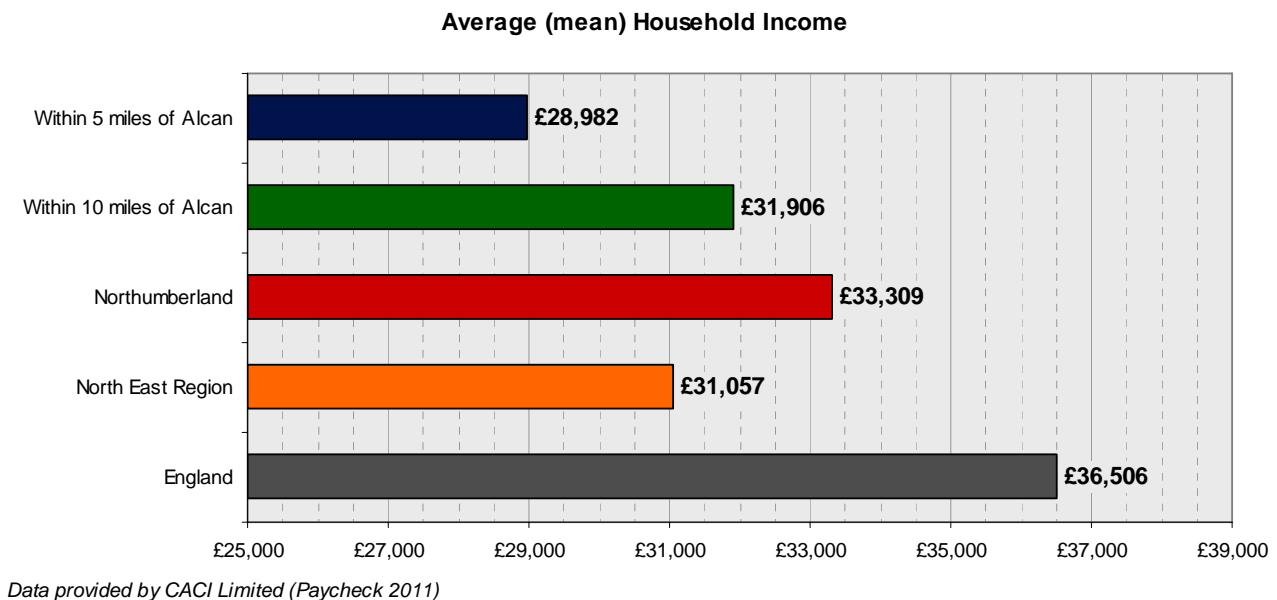
## 6.0 Poverty

### 6.1 Household Income

The annual household income data used in this briefing is supplied by CACI Information Solutions (Paycheck dataset). This data makes it possible to analyse up to date (2011) household income levels across Northumberland at a small area level. The data is provided at postcode level and then amalgamated up into larger areas; in this analysis postcodes were selected if their centre point falls within the areas below.

Figure 18 shows the average annual income level of Northumberland households within a 5 and 10 mile radius from Alcan in comparison to Northumberland, the North East Region and England. Households within five and ten miles of Alcan have a lower average income level than households across Northumberland. The North East Region has a lower average household income than Northumberland and households within 5 miles of Alcan have an average annual income which is £4,327 less than Northumberland, £2,075 less than the North East region and £7,524 less than England.

**Figure 18: Graph of Average (Mean) Household Income**





## 6.2 Child Poverty

There are currently two local child poverty measures which estimate the number and proportion of children in low income poverty in each local authority. In order to analyse data relevant to the Alcan 5 and 10 mile boundaries, data was extracted on the proportion of children living in families in receipt of out of work (means-tested) benefits or in receipt of tax credits where their reported income is less than 60 per cent of median income. The latest data available at this level is for 2009. The following table shows how these particular areas compare with the County, the region and England.

**Figure 19: Local Child Poverty Measure**

Area	Proportion of Children In Poverty
England	21%
North East	24%
Northumberland	18%
Alcan 10 miles	21%
Alcan 5 miles	25%

© Crown Copyright. Source: HMRC.

These figures show that the proportion of children in poverty in the areas immediately around Alcan are higher than the County average, and at a 10 mile radius the same as the national average. The aggregated figures hide extreme variations however. Within a 5 mile radius of Alcan the proportion of children living in poverty range from approximately 2.2% of all children in the Haydon area of Ashington to 54.1% of all children in the Seaton area of Ashington. Within a 10 mile radius of Alcan the range is from 1.5% in the North Morpeth area to 57.6% in the Croft area of Blyth.

## 7.0 Benefit Claimants

### 7.1 All Benefit Claimants

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) provide a quarterly snapshot of benefit claimants at particular points in time, broken down into small areas, the source of which is the Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study (WPLS). The following table shows the most recently available count of people in the 5 and 10 mile Alcan boundaries who were claiming DWP working-age benefits (May 2011).

**Figure 20: DWP Working-Age Benefit Claimants**

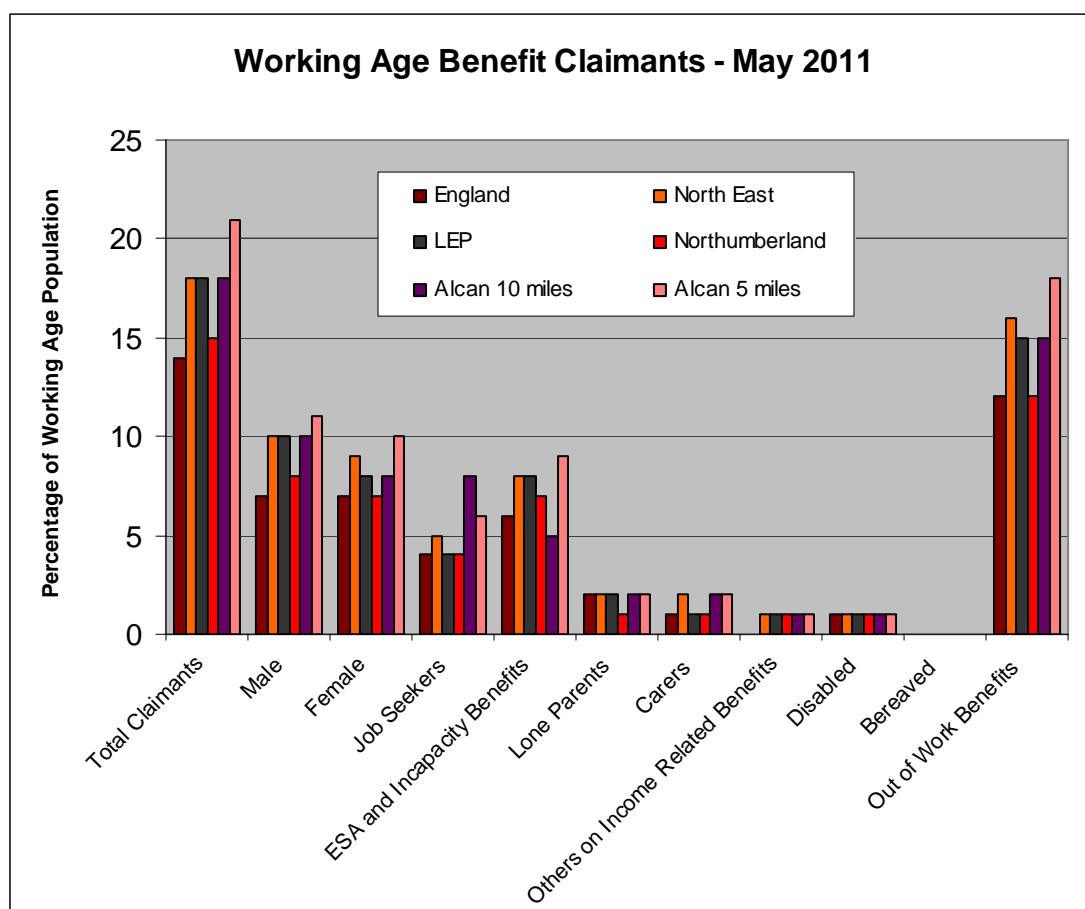
May 2011	Alcan 5 miles	Alcan 10 miles
Total Claimants	7,865	20,685
Male	4,275	11,235
Female	3,590	9,450
Aged 16-24	1,415	3,480
Aged 25-49	3,735	9,915
Aged 50+	2,715	7,285
Out of Work Benefits <sup>1</sup>	6,655	17,220
Job Seekers	2,085	5,340
ESA and Incapacity Benefits	3,505	9,220
Lone Parents	775	1,860
Carers	645	1,820
Others on Income Related Benefits	290	800
Disabled	495	1,370
Bereaved	70	275

© Crown Copyright. Source: ONS via Nomis (WPLS).

<sup>1</sup> Main Out of Work Benefits client group categories are: Unemployed people on Job Seekers Allowance, Lone Parents on Income Support, Incapacity Benefit customers and Others on Income-related benefits. The Carer, Disabled and Bereaved client groups are excluded.

The dataset provides counts of benefit claimants categorised by their statistical group (their main reason for interacting with the benefit system), gender and age. ESA (Employment and Support Allowance) and Incapacity Benefits have the highest levels of claimants in both areas, and more males are claiming than females.

Claimants may be claiming more than one benefit and are therefore categorised according to a benefit hierarchy, further details of which can be found on the Nomis website ([www.nomisweb.co.uk](http://www.nomisweb.co.uk)). The following chart shows the percentage of the working age population (based on 2010 mid year estimates) claiming benefits in the Alcan defined areas and compares them to County, LEP, regional and national figures.

**Figure 21: Percentage of Working Age Population claiming benefits**

© Crown Copyright. Source: ONS via Nomis (WPLS).

The area within 5 miles of Alcan, which is estimated to contain 44% of the Alcan workforce, has higher proportions of benefit claimants, than Northumberland as a whole, across the LEP area, the region, and England.

## 7.2 Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) Claimants

JSA claimant count figures are not an official measure of unemployment but are widely used as an indicator of trends and levels of unemployment. The figures are released on a monthly basis at geographic levels below local authority, giving a local picture of unemployment.

Figure 22 shows that in November 2011 the claimant count rate for Northumberland was 4.0%, 0.2 percentage points higher than the England rate but lower than the North Eastern LEP and the North East Region. The area within five miles of Alcan had a JSA claimant rate of 6.6%, 2.6 percentage points higher than the whole of Northumberland, and is also higher than the North Eastern LEP, the North East Region and England rates. The area within ten miles of Alcan has a claimant rate of 5.2%, 1.2

percentage points higher than Northumberland and is also higher than the North Eastern LEP, the North East Region and England rates.

**Figure 22: November 2011 JSA Claimant Count with Rates**

Area	Count	rate
Within 5 Miles of Alcan	2,472	6.6
Within 10 Miles of Alcan	6,061	5.2
Northumberland	7,922	4.0
North Eastern LEP	61,177	4.8
North East Region	87,826	5.2
England	1,285,145	3.8

© Crown Copyright. Source: ONS via Nomis (Claimant count with rates and proportions). Rates calculated using ONS mid year resident population estimates aged 16 to 64.

Figure 23 shows the November 2011 JSA Claimant rates by LSOA, identifying differences in the rate by small areas across Northumberland. The red areas show where the highest proportion of the population aged 16 to 64 are claiming JSA and the green areas show the lowest claimant rates. The map shows that the areas with the highest claimant rates in Northumberland are concentrated mainly in and around the areas within five and ten miles of Alcan.

**Figure 23: November 2011 JSA Claimant rates by LSOA**

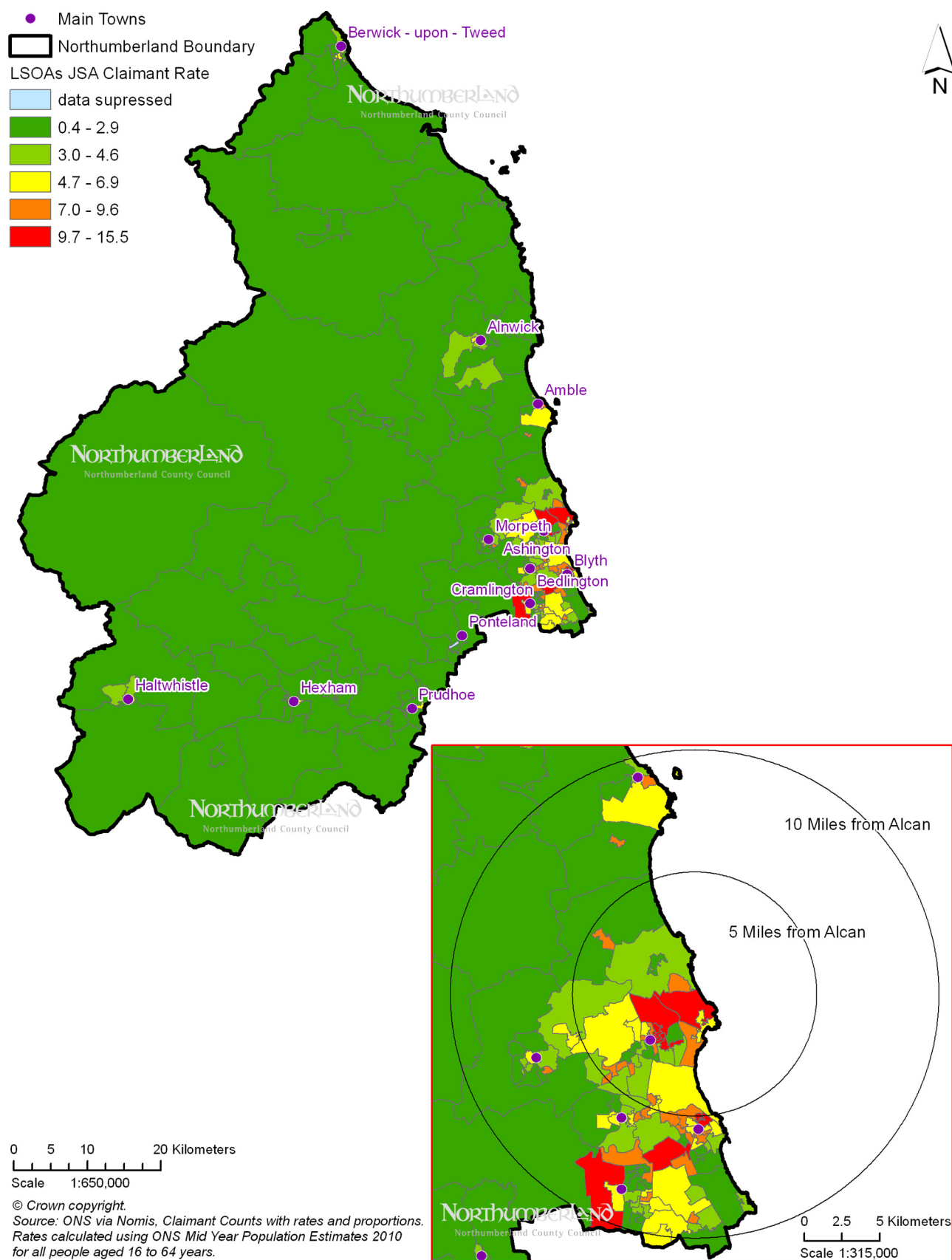
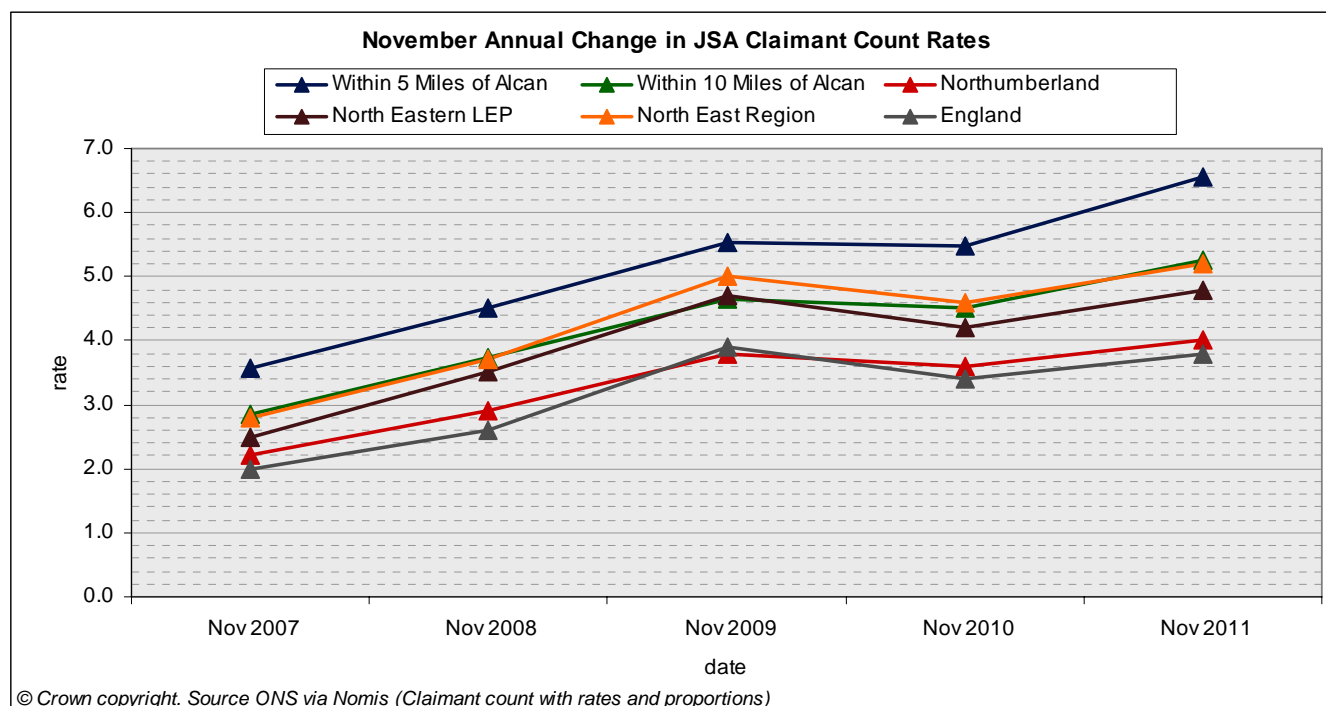


Figure 24 shows the annual (November) change in the JSA claimant rate since 2007. The trend for Northumberland, the North Eastern LEP, the North East Region and the areas within five and ten miles of Alcan is similar with a steady annual increase between November 2007 and 2009 before a dip between November 2009 and 2010 and an increase between November 2010 and 2011.

**Figure 24: November Annual Change in JSA Claimant Count Rates**



Rates calculated using ONS mid year resident population estimates aged 16 to 64.

Figure 25 shows the percentage change (change in the number) of JSA claimants between November 2007 and 2011 and November 2010 and 2011. The percentage change in the number of people claiming JSA over the past five years in the areas within five and ten miles of Alcan was lower than the change for the North Eastern LEP, the North East Region and England and similar to the percentage change in Northumberland. However the increase in claimants between November 2010 and 2011 for the area within five miles of Alcan has increased by almost one fifth (19.7%) and the area within ten miles of Alcan has increased by 16.3%. The increase in the number of claimants in both areas is much more than in Northumberland, the North Eastern LEP, the North East Region and England between November 2010 and 2011.

**Figure 25: Percentage Change in the Number of JSA Claimants**

Area	Claimants			Percentage Change	
	Nov '07	Nov '10	Nov '11	Nov '07 to Nov '11	Nov '10 to Nov '11
Within 5 Miles of Alcan	1,347	2,065	2,472	83.5%	19.7%
Within 10 Miles of Alcan	3,293	5,211	6,061	84.1%	16.3%
Northumberland	4,303	7,026	7,922	84.1%	12.8%
NE LEP	31,535	53,987	61,177	94.0%	13.3%
North East Region	45,829	78,485	87,826	91.6%	11.9%
England	657,270	1,156,394	1,285,145	95.5%	11.1%

© Crown Copyright. Source: ONS via Nomis (Claimant count with rates and proportions).

Figure 26 illustrates that the proportion of male JSA claimants in the area within five miles of Alcan is considerably higher than in Northumberland, the North Eastern LEP, the North East Region and England.

**Figure 26: November 2011 JSA Claimant Count with Rates by Gender**

Area	Male		Female	
	Count	rate	Count	Rate
Within 5 Miles of Alcan	1,694	9.1	778	4.1
Within 10 Miles of Alcan	4,122	7.2	1,939	3.3
Northumberland	5,351	5.5	2,571	2.6
North Eastern LEP	41,905	6.6	19,272	3.0
North East Region	60,464	7.1	27,362	3.2
England	849,126	5.0	436,019	2.6

© Crown Copyright. Source: ONS via Nomis (Claimant count with rates and proportions). Rates calculated for males are calculated using the male ONS mid year resident population estimates aged 16 to 64 and female rates are calculated using the female ONS mid year resident population estimates aged 16 to 64.

The number of JSA claimants by age is not available at LSOA level; Figure 27 shows the November 2011 rates and numbers by age groups down to Northumberland former District area level. The age range for all areas with the highest rate of claimants is 16 to 24 years. The proportion of claimants between the ages of 16 to 24 years in the former Wansbeck District (where Alcan is located) is higher than any of the other former Northumberland Districts and is 5.2 percentage points higher than the rate for the whole of Northumberland. Blyth Valley former District (also close to Alcan) has the next highest JSA claimant rate (for 16 to 24 year olds) behind Wansbeck and both of these former districts have a considerably higher claimant count than Northumberland overall, the North Eastern LEP, the North East Region and England.

**Figure 27: November 2011 JSA Claimant Rates by Age**

Area	16 to 24		25 to 49		50 to 64	
	count	rate	Count	rate	Count	rate
Alnwick	180	6.4	285	3.0	115	1.4
Berwick-upon-Tweed	120	5.1	205	2.9	80	1.2
Blyth Valley	895	10.0	1,365	5.2	385	2.2
Castle Morpeth	295	6.3	475	3.2	160	1.3
Tynedale	260	5.0	400	2.3	165	1.2
Wansbeck	930	13.9	1,285	6.3	310	2.4
Northumberland	2,685	8.7	4,010	4.2	1,210	1.7
North Eastern LEP	20,615	8.1	31,380	4.9	9,005	2.4
North East Region	29,515	8.7	45,500	5.3	12,535	2.5
England	388,555	6.2	698,010	3.8	195,930	2.1

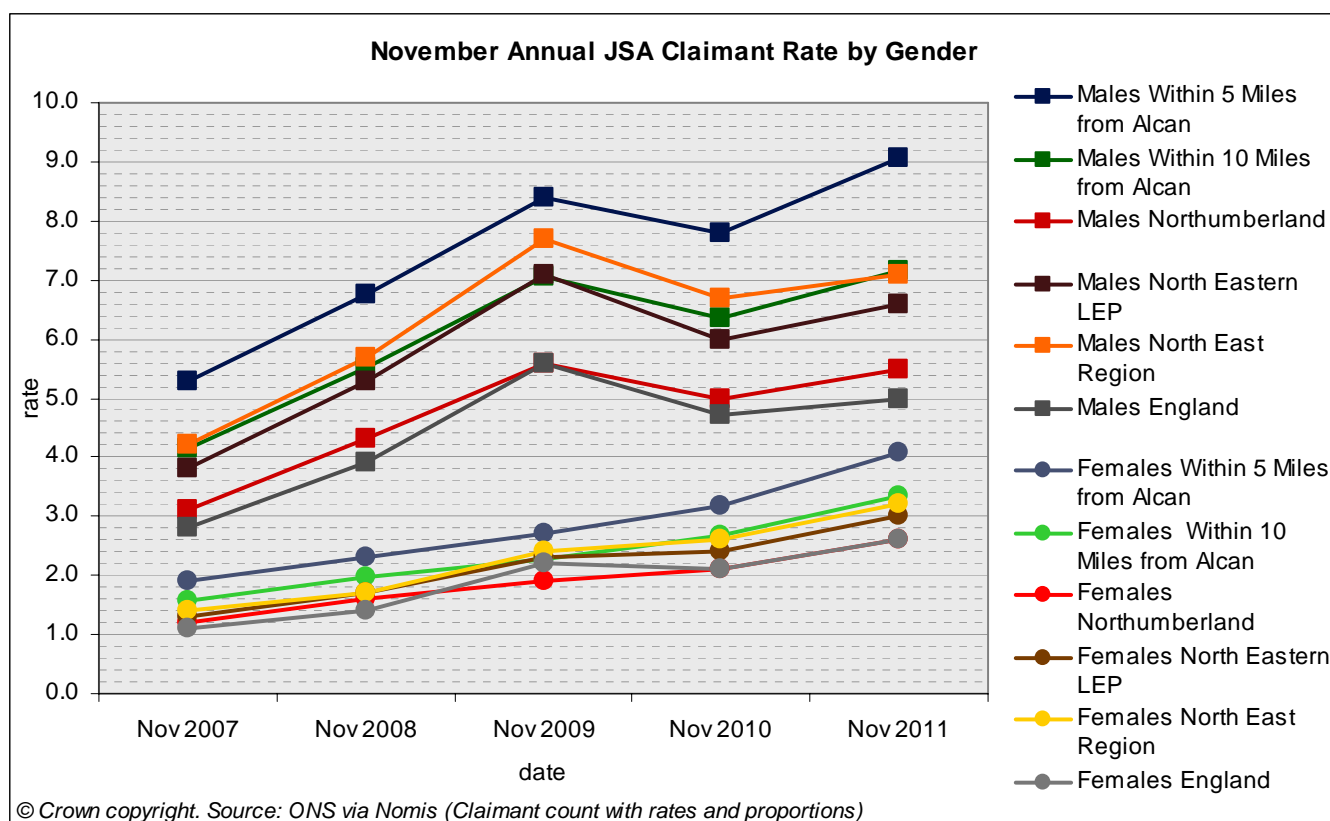
© Crown Copyright. Source: ONS via Nomis (Claimant count – age duration with proportions). Rates calculated using ONS mid year resident population estimates for the appropriate age group.

The JSA claimant rate for males is considerably higher than for females across all areas shown in Figure 28.

The male rate increased annually between November 2007 and 2009 before decreasing in November 2010 and increased again in 2011. The claimant rate for the area within five miles of Alcan increased more between November 2010 and 2011 than in Northumberland the North Eastern LEP, the North East Region and England. The area within five miles of Alcan has had a higher rate of male claimants than Northumberland, the North Easter LEP, the North East Region and England in November each year between 2007 and 2011.

The female JSA claimant rate has had a more steady annual increase between 2007 and 2011 than the male rate for all areas shown in Figure 28. The area within five miles of Alcan has had a higher rate of female claimants than Northumberland, the North Easter LEP, the North East Region and England in November each year between 2007 and 2011.



**Figure 28: November 2011 Annual JSA Claimant Rates by Gender**

© Crown Copyright. Source: ONS via Nomis (Claimant count with rates and proportions). Rates calculated for males are calculated using the male ONS mid year resident population estimates aged 16 to 64 and female rates are calculated using the female ONS mid year resident population estimates aged 16 to 64.

### 7.2.1 The Potential Effect of the Alcan Closure on JSA Claimant Count

The figures below attempt to show the possible effect the Alcan closure would have on the JSA claimant count figures. It is not possible to predict what the claimant count will be at the time if Alcan closes, therefore calculations have been carried out using the November 2011 JSA claimant count.

The figures have been calculated using the information provided by Alcan that 44% of the workforce live within five miles and 80% live within ten miles of Alcan and that 100% of the workforce live in Northumberland and therefore the North Eastern LEP, the North East region and England. The figures assume that all of the workforce would be eligible and would choose to claim JSA. Two sets of figures are shown. One figure shows the effect if the workforce at the aluminium plant were to lose their jobs (515 people), and the other if the workforce from the aluminium plant and the power station (626 people) were to lose their jobs.

The potential impact of the closure of Alcan on the JSA claimant rate is shown in Figure 29. If Alcan closed the JSA claimant rate for the area within five miles of Alcan would increase by 0.7 percentage points if 626 jobs were lost and by 0.6 percentage points if 515 jobs were lost. The effect of the closure

on the whole of Northumberland would be an increase in the claimant rate of 0.4 percentage points if 626 jobs were lost and 0.3 percentage points if 515 jobs were lost, there would be no change in the claimant rate for the North Eastern LEP if 515 jobs were lost but the rate would increase by 0.1 percentage points if 626 jobs were lost. The closure of Alcan would not affect the North East Region or England JSA claimant rates.

**Figure 29: Potential Change in JSA Claimant Rate if Alcan Closes**

Area	Actual	Loss of 515 Alcan Jobs	Loss of 626 Alcan Jobs
Within 5 Miles of Alcan (44% of workforce)	6.6	7.2	7.3
Within 10 Miles of Alcan (80% of workforce)	5.2	5.6	5.7
Northumberland (100% of workforce)	4.0	4.3	4.4
North Eastern LEP (100% of workforce)	4.8	4.8	4.9
North East Region (100% of workforce)	5.2	5.2	5.2
England (100% of workforce)	3.8	3.8	3.8

© Crown Copyright. Source: ONS via Nomis (Claimant count with rates and proportions). Rates calculated using ONS mid year resident population estimates aged 16 to 64.

The percentage increase in the number of people claiming JSA if Alcan closes is shown in Figure 30. The area within five miles of Alcan would see an extra 275 people claiming JSA if 626 jobs were lost and an extra 227 people if 515 jobs were lost which is a percentage increase of 11.1 percent and 9.2 percent respectively. The area within ten miles of Alcan would see an extra 501 people claiming JSA if 626 jobs were lost and an extra 412 people if 515 jobs were lost which is a percentage increase of 8.3 percent and 6.8 percent respectively.

**Figure 30: Potential Increase in the number of People Claiming JSA if Alcan Closes**

Area	Actual Claimant Count	Addition of 515 Alcan Workforce		Addition of 626 Alcan Workforce	
		Count	% Change	count	% Change
Within 5 Miles of Alcan (44% of workforce)	2,472	2,699	9.2	2,747	11.1
Within 10 Miles of Alcan (80% of workforce)	6,061	6,473	6.8	6,562	8.3
Northumberland (100% of workforce)	7,922	8,437	6.5	8,548	7.9
North Eastern LEP (100% of workforce)	61,177	61,692	0.8	61,803	1.0
North East Region (100% of workforce)	87,826	88,341	0.6	88,452	0.7
England (100% of workforce)	1,285,145	1,285,660	0.0	1,285,771	0.0

© Crown Copyright. Source: ONS via Nomis (Claimant count with rates and proportions).

## 8.0 Employment

### 8.1 Jobs Density

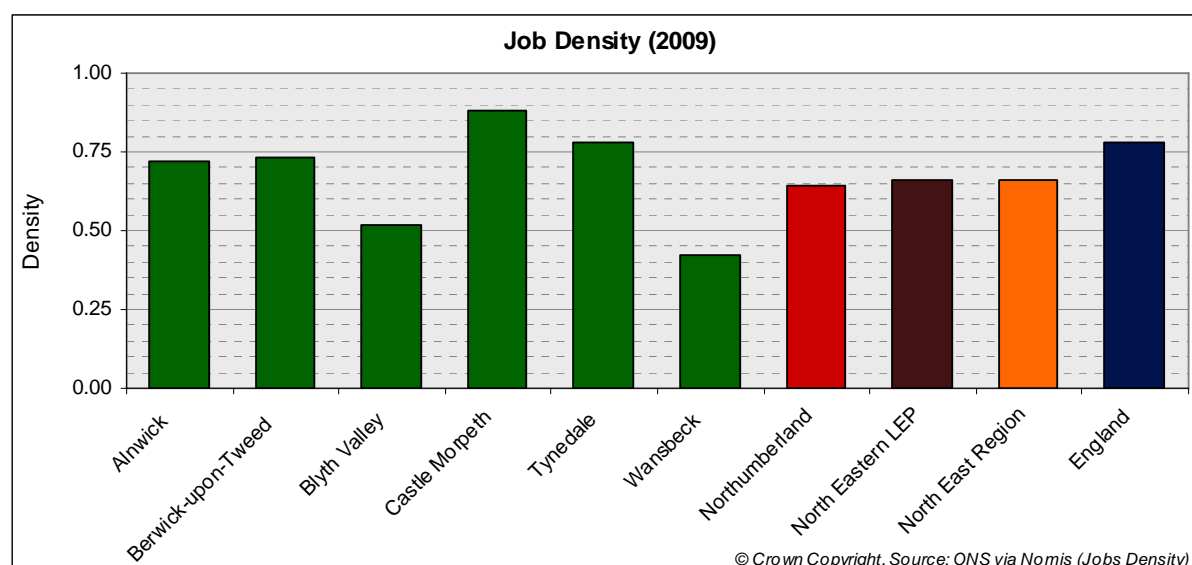
Jobs Density is the number of jobs per resident aged 16 to 64. For example, a job density of 1.0 would mean that there is one job for every resident of working age. Total Number of Jobs is a workplace-based measure and comprises employees, self-employed, government-supported trainees and HM Forces.

**Figure 31 Jobs Density and Total Number of Jobs**

Area	2007		2008		2009	
	Density	Total Num. Jobs	Density	Total Num. Jobs	Density	Total Num. Jobs
Alnwick	0.69	14,000	0.64	13,000	0.72	14,000
Berwick-upon-Tweed	0.82	13,000	0.83	13,000	0.73	12,000
Blyth Valley	0.49	26,000	0.52	28,000	0.52	27,000
Castle Morpeth	0.81	25,000	0.87	27,000	0.88	27,000
Tynedale	0.73	27,000	0.75	28,000	0.78	29,000
Wansbeck	0.44	17,000	0.46	18,000	0.42	17,000
Northumberland	0.62	123,000	0.64	127,000	0.64	127,000
North Eastern LEP	0.69	854,000	0.69	867,000	0.66	836,000
North East Region	0.69	1,149,000	0.69	1,156,000	0.66	1,117,000
England	0.80	26,606,000	0.79	26,611,000	0.78	26,246,000

Figure 31 shows that in 2009 Northumberland had a lower jobs density than the North East LEP Area, the North East Region and England. Figure 32 also shows that Wansbeck (the district Alcan is situated in) has the lowest jobs density of all of Northumberland's former districts, Blyth Valley district has the next lowest jobs density.

**Figure 32: Jobs Density (2009)**



## **8.2 Vacancies**

A monthly count of vacancies is notified to job centres and is published by National Statistics via the Nomis web site ([www.nomisweb.co.uk](http://www.nomisweb.co.uk)). These figures are published at small area levels and can therefore be aggregated to the Alcan 5 and 10 mile boundaries. The following table displays figures published in December 2011 for the Alcan boundaries and neighbouring employment areas.

Interpretation of these data need to take account of changes in recent years to Jobcentre Plus procedures for taking and handling vacancies. These figures are not fully comparable over time, may not indicate developments in the labour market and do not provide comprehensive measures relating to all vacancies in the economy. The proportion of vacancies which are notified by employers varies over time, according to the occupation and industry of the vacancies and also by geographical area. A more detailed explanation is available on the nomis web site ([www.nomisweb.co.uk](http://www.nomisweb.co.uk)).

**Figure 33: Jobcentre Plus Vacancy Analysis**

December 2011	Alcan 5 miles	Alcan 10 miles	Northumberland	North Tyneside	South Tyneside	Newcastle upon Tyne	Gateshead	Sunderland
Total Notified Vacancies	89	377	853	789	569	2,278	1,172	1,832
Full-Time Vacancies	58	263	480	532	465	1,696	848	1,550
Part-Time Vacancies	31	114	373	257	104	582	324	282
<b>Industry Breakdown</b>								
Agriculture & Fishing	0	0	3	1	0	1	0	0
Energy & Water	0	1	2	0	0	7	45	0
Manufacturing	3	19	29	28	25	55	19	24
Construction	4	10	24	7	14	80	11	8
Distribution, hotels & restaurants <sup>1</sup>	8	35	149	79	33	497	222	78
Transport & Communications	2	7	16	3	16	60	39	23
Banking, Finance & Insurance, etc. <sup>2</sup>	53	240	406	558	350	1,287	693	1,489
Public Administration & Health	16	56	206	77	115	239	104	176
Other Services	3	9	18	36	16	52	39	34
<b>Occupation Breakdown</b>								
Managers & Senior Officials	3	15	36	25	31	66	38	30
Professional Occupations	2	9	13	34	10	68	18	17
Associate Professional & Technical Occupations	8	52	83	89	21	408	142	180
Administrative & Secretarial Occupations	2	15	37	107	32	79	62	56
Skilled Trades Occupations	12	74	108	75	88	297	112	169
Personal Service Occupations	9	39	193	103	46	239	89	58
Sales & Customer Service Occupations	9	31	50	214	159	435	283	620
Process, Plant & Machine Operatives	8	43	75	68	74	107	236	513
Elementary Occupations	36	99	258	74	108	579	192	189

<sup>1</sup> Includes Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles, personal and household goods. <sup>2</sup> Includes Financial intermediation, real estate, renting and business activities

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Banking, Finance and Insurance, etc dominate the vacancies, with most opportunities being in Elementary Occupations. This pattern is also reflected at a County-wide, LEP, regional and national level.

## **8.3 Accessibility Statistics**

Department for Transport accessibility statistics provide a local-level measure of the availability of transport to key services (covering food stores, education, health care, town centres and employment centres) for the populations who use them. Northumberland has the lowest overall proportion of users able to access employment centres by public transport/walking compared with the rest of the North East and England as a whole. In 2010, 76.9% of Northumberland's working age population had access compared with 81.2% for the North East and 81.6% for England. Within the 5 and 10 mile boundaries around Alcan, accessibility to employment centres by public transport/walking is between 81-82%, however this aggregated figure masks areas of much lower accessibility. For example, parts of Ellington, Lynemouth & Linton are at 65% and parts of Chevington with Longhorsley have less than 60%.

## **9.0 Businesses**

The following table provides an overview of business activity, size and location for 2011 at the lowest geographical level available, relevant to this study. This provides a context for data taken from the Business Register and Employment Survey (see 9.1) which indicates the level and type of employment in the Alcan boundary areas.

For Northumberland, Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing is the most dominant in terms of number of enterprises, followed by Construction, Professional, Scientific and Technical. Enterprises of up to 4 employees are the most prolific as are those with a turnover between £100,000-249,000.

**Figure 34: Analysis of UK VAT and/or PAYE Based Enterprises 2011.**

Number of Enterprises 2011	England	North East	Northumberland	Alnwick	Berwick upon Tweed	Blyth Valley	Castle Morpeth	Tynedale	Wansbeck
<b>Broad Industry Group</b>									
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	91,975	3,650	1755 (18%)	340 (26%)	325 (26%)	25 (2%)	310 (17%)	745 (26%)	30 (3%)
Production (Mining, quarrying, utilities & manufacturing)	112,480	3,920	565 (6%)	65 (5%)	45(4%)	165 (12%)	70 (4%)	135 (5%)	85 (8%)
Construction	223,355	6,830	1130 (12%)	140 (11%)	140 (11%)	225 (16%)	225 (12%)	255 (9%)	145 (14%)
Motor trades	56,570	2,110	320 (3%)	40 (3%)	30 (2%)	60 (4%)	50 (3%)	80 (3%)	60 (6%)
Wholesale	91,535	2,230	355 (4%)	35 (3%)	40 (3%)	70 (5%)	85 (5%)	95 (3%)	30 (3%)
Retail	158,520	5,990	910 (9%)	130 (10%)	120(10%)	160 (11%)	150 (8%)	220 (8%)	130 (13%)
Transport & storage (inc postal)	55,965	2,075	335 (3%)	40 (3%)	40 (3%)	70 (5%)	40 (2%)	110 (4%)	35 (3%)
Accommodation & food services	104,355	4,625	820 (8%)	125 (9%)	155 (13%)	130 (9%)	100 (5%)	205 (7%)	105 (10%)
Information & communication	135,915	2,205	320 (3%)	35 (3%)	25 (2%)	50 (4%)	70 (4%)	105 (4%)	35 (3%)
Financial & insurance	38,765	820	100 (1%)	10 (1%)	5 (0%)	20 (1%)	25 (1%)	25 (1%)	15 (1%)
Property	65,775	1,600	270 (3%)	30 (2%)	45 (4%)	30 (2%)	70 (4%)	75 (3%)	20 (2%)
Professional, scientific & technical	294,200	8,195	1120 (12%)	125 (9%)	75 (6%)	175 (12%)	280 (15%)	365 (13%)	100 (10%)
Business admin. & support services	124,130	3,260	560 (6%)	65 (5%)	60 (5%)	90 (6%)	130 (7%)	155 (5%)	60 (6%)
Public admin. & defence	2,590	75	20 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	5 (0%)	10 (0%)	5 (0%)
Education	28,075	880	115 (1%)	15 (1%)	10 (1%)	15 (1%)	20 (1%)	35 (1%)	20 (2%)
Health	70,840	2,605	385 (4%)	50 (4%)	40 (3%)	55 (4%)	80 (4%)	110 (4%)	50 (5%)
Arts, ent, recreation & other services	125,780	3,700	605 (6%)	75 (6%)	85 (7%)	85 (6%)	120 (7%)	160 (6%)	80 (8%)
<b>Total Enterprises</b>	<b>1,780,825</b>	<b>54,770</b>	<b>9,685</b>	<b>1320</b>	<b>1240</b>	<b>1425</b>	<b>1830</b>	<b>2885</b>	<b>1005</b>
<b>Employment Size</b>									
0-4	1,356,445	39,155	7,280	990	880	955	1,445	2,265	745
5-9	226,370	8,090	1,395	210	230	225	225	355	150
10-19	104,890	3,915	635	75	85	135	115	170	55
20-49	56,855	2,235	280	35	40	70	30	70	35
50-99	18,480	710	70	10	5	20	10	15	10
100-249	10,270	385	35	0	5	15	5	5	5
250+	7,515	285	15	0	0	5	0	5	5
<b>Turnover (£ thousand)</b>									
0-49	334,845	8,725	1,815	255	195	225	360	645	135
50-99	411,565	12,845	2,225	285	265	320	420	670	265
100-249	509,210	16,365	3,010	415	390	405	580	880	340
250-499	217,895	7,115	1,280	200	195	185	225	340	135
500-999	137,370	4,500	740	105	120	120	145	185	65
1,000-4,999	129,640	4,000	505	50	65	125	80	140	55
5,000+	40,295	1,220	125	10	15	45	20	25	10

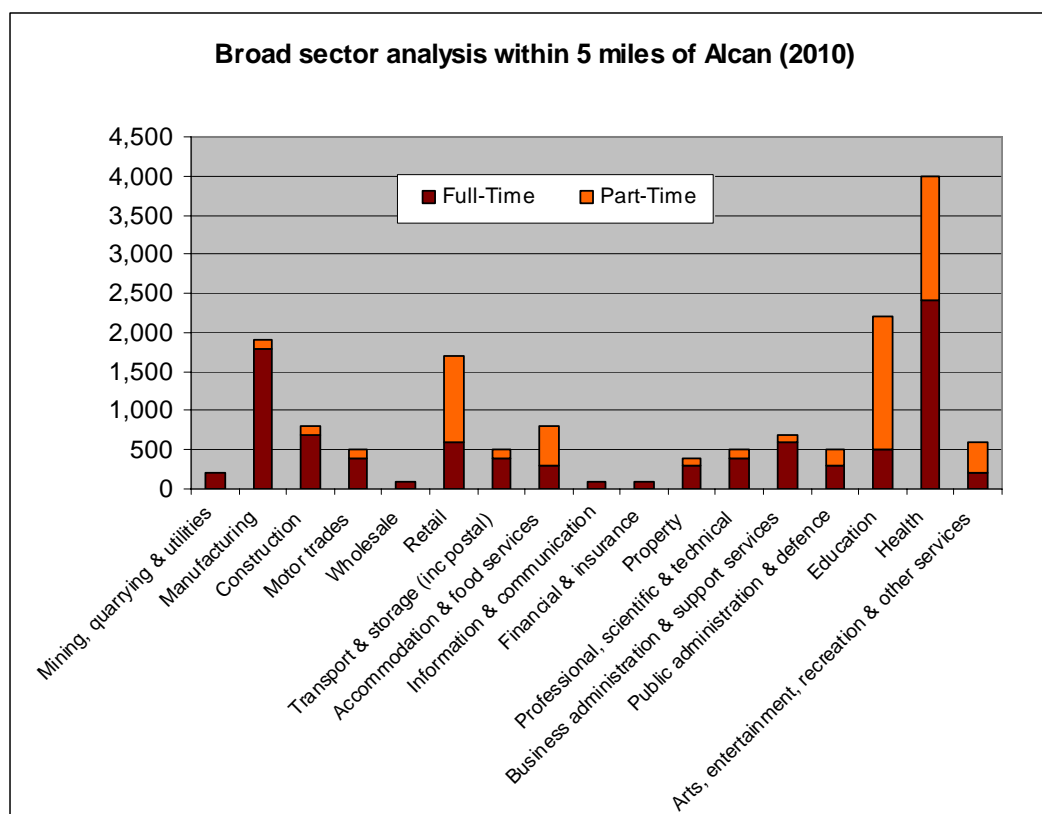
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## **9.1 Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES)**

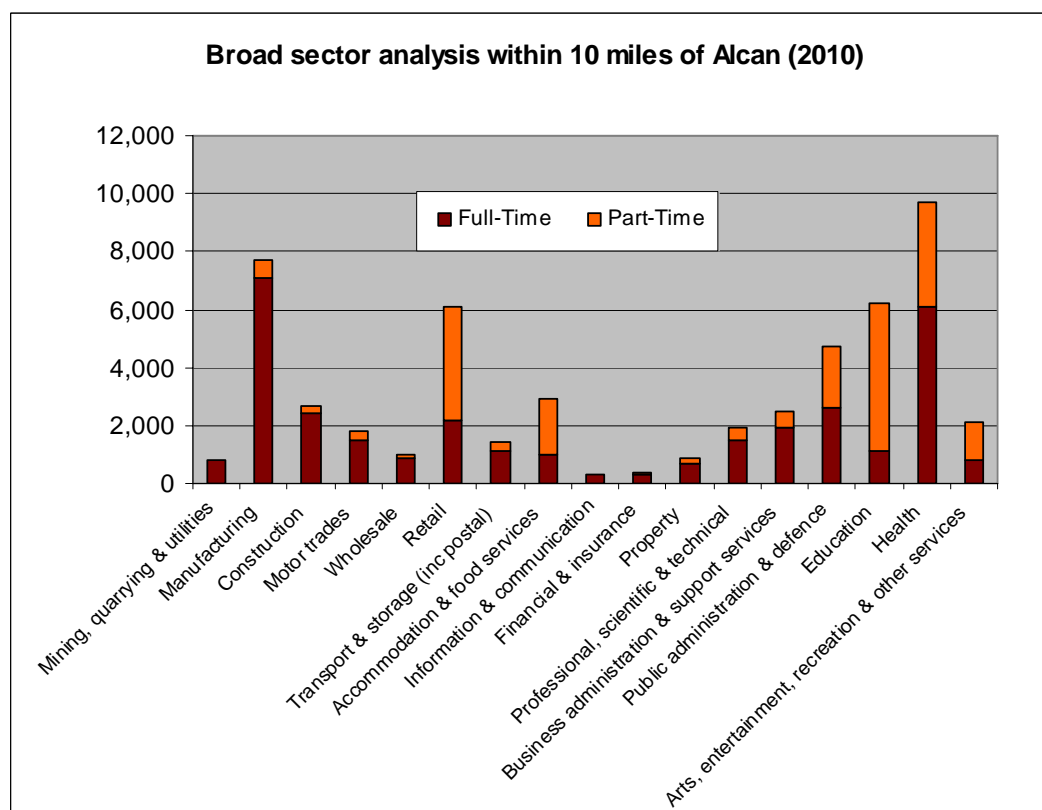
BRES is conducted under the Statistics of Trade Act (STA) 1947. It is an employer survey of the number of jobs held by full/part-time and detailed industry. The survey records a job at the location of an employees workplace and is available at relatively small geographical levels, thus giving an indication of the business sector split of a particular area. For the purposes of this study, figures were analysed at the 5 and 10 mile Alcan boundaries, however due to the potentially disclosive nature of the statistics, only suppressed and rounded statistics can be published here. Farm agriculture figures are not available at low geographical levels, therefore the broad industrial group of Agriculture, forestry and fishing cannot be included here.

**Figure 35: BRES 2010 Analysis within 5 miles of Alcan**



© Crown Copyright. Source: ONS via Nomis (BRES 2010).

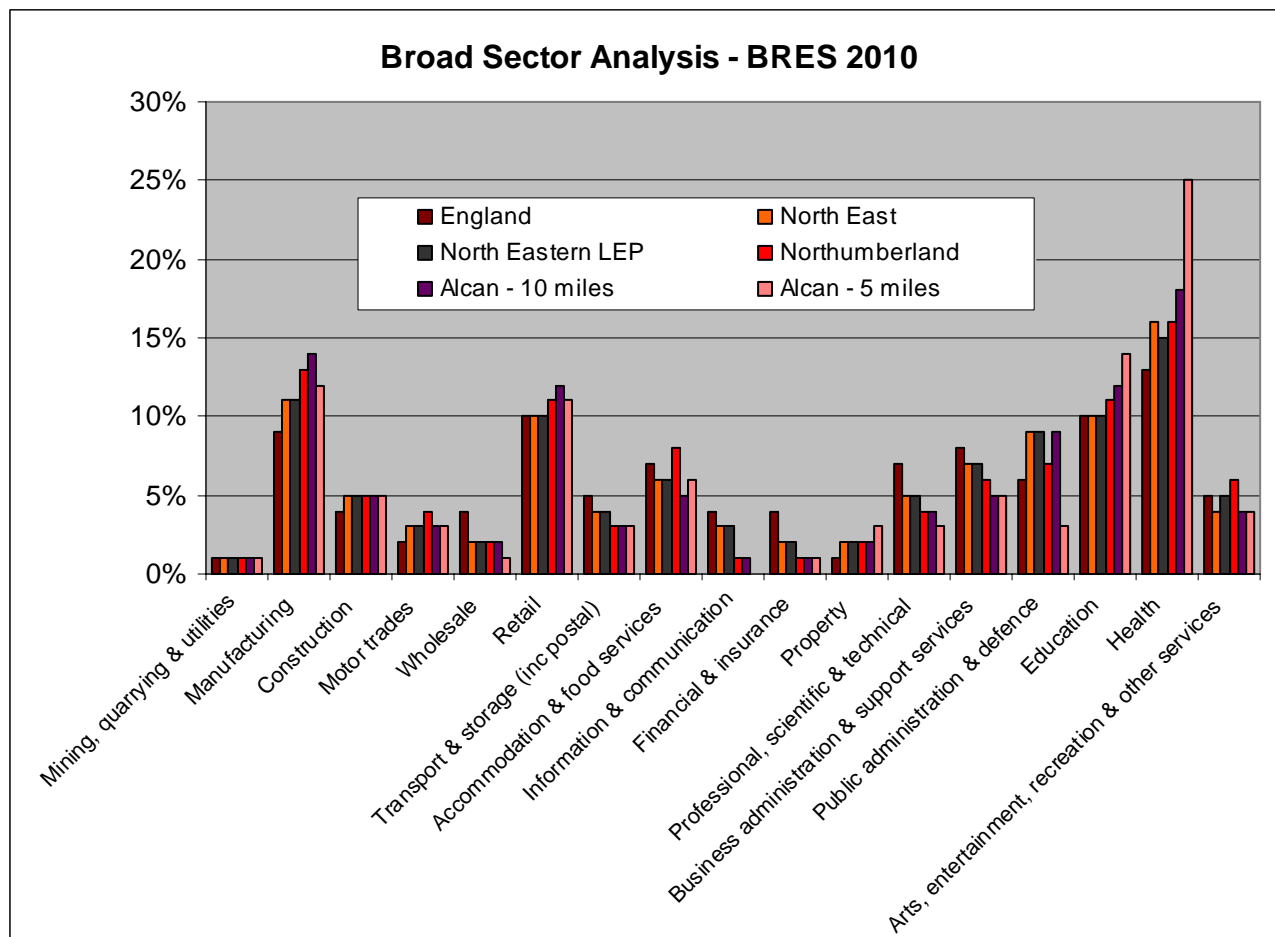
**Figure 36: BRES 2010 Analysis within 10 miles of Alcan**



© Crown Copyright. Source: ONS via Nomis (BRES 2010).

The following chart provides a proportional comparison between the Alcan boundaries and County, LEP, regional and national level.

**Figure 37: BRES 2010 Broad Sector Analysis**



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Proportionately, the health sector is shown to be the most dominant sector across all geographical boundaries and is particularly significant within 5 miles of Alcan, however, if sectors are considered in terms of a public-private sector split, given the increasing emphasis on the level of public sector employment in the UK economy over recent years, the Alcan boundary areas currently display a higher reliance on the private sector. The figures in the following table were derived from BRES 2010 and the Annual Population Survey, in accordance with the methodologies outlined in the ONS publication: Subregional analysis of public and private sector employment (Prothero, R. November 2011).

**Figure 38: Analysis of Public and Private Sector Employment**

BRES 2010	Public Sector		Private Sector		All Sectors	
	Number of Employees	% of WA Population	Number of Employees	% of WA Population	Number of Employees	% of WA Population
England	6,373,496	19%	16,098,206	48%	22,471,702	66%
North East	342,599	20%	653,441	38%	996,040	59%
North Eastern LEP	255,031	20%	484,146	38%	739,177	58%
Northumberland	34,194	17%	66,183	34%	100,377	51%
<b>Alcan 5 miles</b>	6,598	17%	9,047	24%	15,645	41%
<b>Alcan 10 miles</b>	20,593	18%	32,619	28%	53,212	46%
Alnwick	3,057	15%	6,909	34%	9,966	50%
Berwick-upon-Tweed	2,219	14%	7,210	46%	9,429	60%
Blyth Valley	5,835	11%	18,278	35%	24,113	46%
Castle Morpeth	9,581	31%	9,621	31%	19,202	61%
Tynedale	5,896	16%	16,081	44%	21,977	60%
Wansbeck	7,602	19%	8,216	21%	15,818	40%

Proportionately, as a percentage of the working age population in each area (ONS Mid Year Population Estimates 2010), the private sector dominates across all geographies except when analysed at former district level where Castle Morpeth shows an even split between both public and private sector employment (31% each) and the Wansbeck area shows only a 2% difference.

## 9.2 Current Business Stock, Start-ups and Closures

This section provides statistics from the ONS Business Demography release which includes numbers of currently active businesses, new business start-ups and business closures. These statistics allow you to compare start-ups, closures and current stocks of businesses and they are provided at Northumberland former district, Northumberland, North East Region and England levels. The figures do not include the majority of Sole Traders and Not for Profit firms that are not VAT registered and some Limited Companies and Partnerships that are not VAT registered so business start ups from BankSearch are also provided. These figures include many of the businesses listed above that are missing from the ONS Business Demography dataset (which is the reason for the large differences in numbers between the two datasets) and is broken down to Ward level.

### 9.2.1 Business Start-ups (BankSearch) 2010

Figure 39 shows that Northumberland had more business start-ups in 2010 per 1000 population aged 16 to 64 than the North East Region. These figures can be compared with the Ward business Start-up figures in Figure 40.

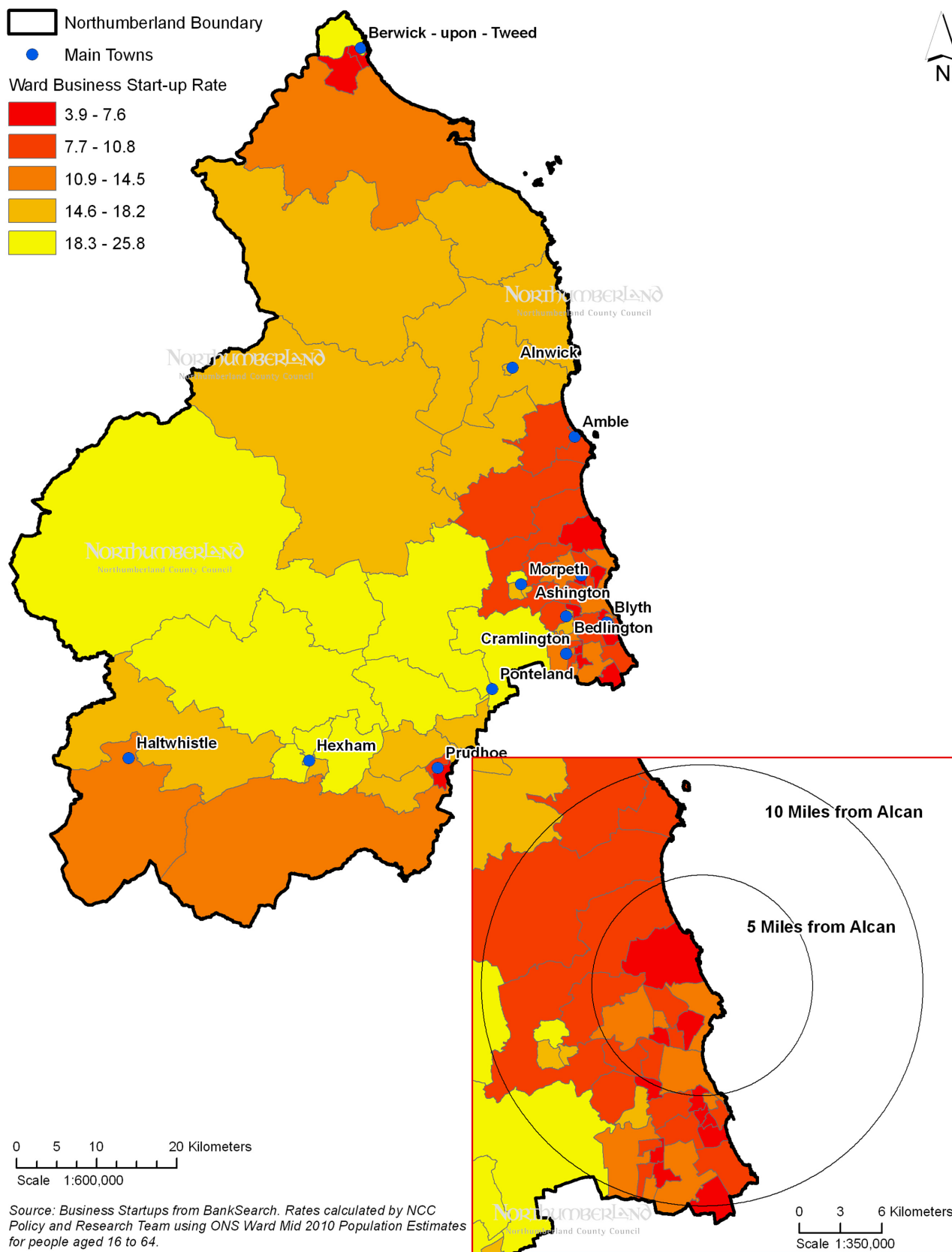
**Figure 39: Business Start-ups**

Area	Business Start-ups (2010)	
	Number	Number per 1000 Population aged 16 to 64
Northumberland	2,410	12.3
North East	13,202	7.8

Source: Number of Business Start-ups from BankSearch. Rates calculated by NCC Policy and Research Team using ONS Mid 2010 Population Estimates for people aged 16 to 64.

Figure 40 shows business start-up rates across Northumberland at Ward level, the dark red areas show where there is the lowest number of start-ups per 1,000 population and the yellow areas the highest. The map shows that the areas with the lowest business start-up rates are concentrated in the South East of the County and predominantly around the areas within five and ten miles of Alcan.

**Figure 40: Business Start-ups per 1,000 Population (aged 16 to 64) by Northumberland Ward**



## 9.2.2 Business Demography (ONS)

The starting point for demography is the concept of a population of active businesses in a reference year (**t**). These are defined as businesses that had either turnover or employment at any time during the reference period. Births and deaths are then identified by comparing active populations for different years.

The number of active enterprises in Northumberland shown in Figure 41 has decreased by 1.9% between 2009 and 2010 which is in line with the percentage decrease in numbers nationally but the North East Region has seen a decrease of 2.7 percent over the same period. The number of enterprises in the former Wansbeck District decreased less (-0.4%) than in Northumberland, the North East Region and England between 2009 and 2010.

**Figure 41: Number and Percentage Change of Active Enterprises**

Area	2004	2009	2010	% Change 2004 to 2010	% Change 2009 to 2010
Alnwick	1,110	1,190	1,180	6.3%	-0.8%
Berwick-upon-Tweed	1,090	1,110	1,085	-0.5%	-2.3%
Blyth Valley	1,570	1,775	1,710	8.9%	-3.7%
Castle Morpeth	1,575	1,785	1,760	11.7%	-1.4%
Tynedale	2,385	2,560	2,510	5.2%	-2.0%
Wansbeck	1,035	1,170	1,165	12.6%	-0.4%
Northumberland	8,765	9,590	9,410	7.4%	-1.9%
North East Region	56,855	63,660	61,955	9.0%	-2.7%
England	1,885,265	2,040,150	2,001,885	6.2%	-1.9%

© Crown Copyright. Source ONS (Business Demography)

The Number of Active Enterprises per 1000 working age population (shown in Figure 42) in Northumberland (2010) is lower than the number in England but higher than the North East Region. Wansbeck has the lowest number of enterprises per 1000 population out of all of the former districts and is considerably lower than the Northumberland, North East and England figures.

**Figure 42: Number of Active Enterprises per 1000 working age Population (2010)**

Area	Active Enterprises per 1000 population aged 16 to 64
Alnwick	58.7
Berwick-upon-Tweed	68.7
Blyth Valley	32.5
Castle Morpeth	56.0
Tynedale	68.1
Wansbeck	29.3
Northumberland	47.9
North East Region	36.5
England	59.1

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### 9.2.3 Births of New Enterprises

A birth is identified as a business that was present in year **t**, but did not exist in year **t-1** or **t-2**.

The number of births of New Enterprises in Northumberland has decreased (-5.6%) between 2009 and 2010 this is more than the change across England (-0.7%) but less than the North East Region (-9.8%).

**Figure 43: Number and Percentage Change of Births of New Enterprises**

Area	2004	2009	2010	% Change 2004 to 2010	% Change 2009 to 2010
Alnwick	150	135	135	-10.0%	0.0%
Berwick-upon-Tweed	120	210	205	70.8%	-2.4%
Blyth Valley	185	165	180	-2.7%	9.1%
Castle Morpeth	170	185	140	-17.6%	-24.3%
Tynedale	270	95	80	-70.4%	-15.8%
Wansbeck	155	100	100	-35.5%	0.0%
Northumberland	1,050	890	840	-20.0%	-5.6%
North East Region	7,645	6,625	5,975	-21.8%	-9.8%
England	248,450	209,035	207,520	-16.5%	-0.7%

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Figure 44 shows that Northumberland has a lower number of births of new enterprises per 1000 working age population than England but more than the North East Region in 2010.



**Figure 44: Number of Births of New Enterprises per 1000 working age population (2010)**

Area	Active Enterprises per 1000 population aged 16 to 64
Alnwick	6.7
Berwick-upon-Tweed	13.0
Blyth Valley	3.4
Castle Morpeth	4.5
Tynedale	2.2
Wansbeck	2.5
Northumberland	4.3
North East Region	3.5
England	6.1

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### 9.2.4 Deaths of Enterprises

A death is defined as a business that was on the active file in year  $t$ , but was no longer present in the active file in  $t+1$  and  $t+2$ . In order to provide an early estimate of deaths, an adjustment has been made to the 2009 and 2010 deaths to allow for reactivations. These figures are provisional and subject to revision.

The number of deaths of enterprises in Northumberland increased more than in the North East and England between 2009 and 2010.

**Figure 45: Number and Percentage Change of Deaths of Enterprises**

Area	2004	2009	2010	% Change 2004 to 2010	% Change 2009 to 2010
Alnwick	105	105	120	14.3%	14.3%
Berwick-upon-Tweed	105	85	110	4.8%	29.4%
Blyth Valley	160	195	220	37.5%	12.8%
Castle Morpeth	190	190	190	0.0%	0.0%
Tynedale	240	230	245	2.1%	6.5%
Wansbeck	120	135	145	20.8%	7.4%
Northumberland	920	940	1,030	12.0%	9.6%
North East Region	6,420	7,445	8,125	26.6%	9.1%
England	215,995	246,630	261,880	21.2%	6.2%

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Figure 46 shows that Northumberland has a higher number of deaths of enterprises per 1000 working age population than the North East Region but lower than England.

**Figure 46: Number of Deaths of Enterprises per 1000 working age population (2010)**

Area	Active Enterprises per 1000 population aged 16 to 64
Alnwick	6.0
Berwick-upon-Tweed	7.0
Blyth Valley	4.2
Castle Morpeth	6.1
Tynedale	6.6
Wansbeck	3.7
Northumberland	5.2
North East Region	4.8
England	7.7

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## 10.0 Education

### 10.1 GCSE Results

Figure 47 shows that Northumberland has a lower proportion of pupils at the end of Key Stage 4 (KS4) gaining five or more GCSEs including English and Maths (2009/10) than England but a slightly higher proportion than the North East Region.

**Figure 47: Pupils Gaining Five or more A\* to C GCSE Grades including English and Maths**

	All Pupils at the End of KS4	All Pupils at the End of KS4 Achieving 5+ A* to C Including English and Maths
<b>Northumberland</b>	3,460	53.5
<b>North East</b>	29,487	52.9
<b>England</b>	577,810	55.1

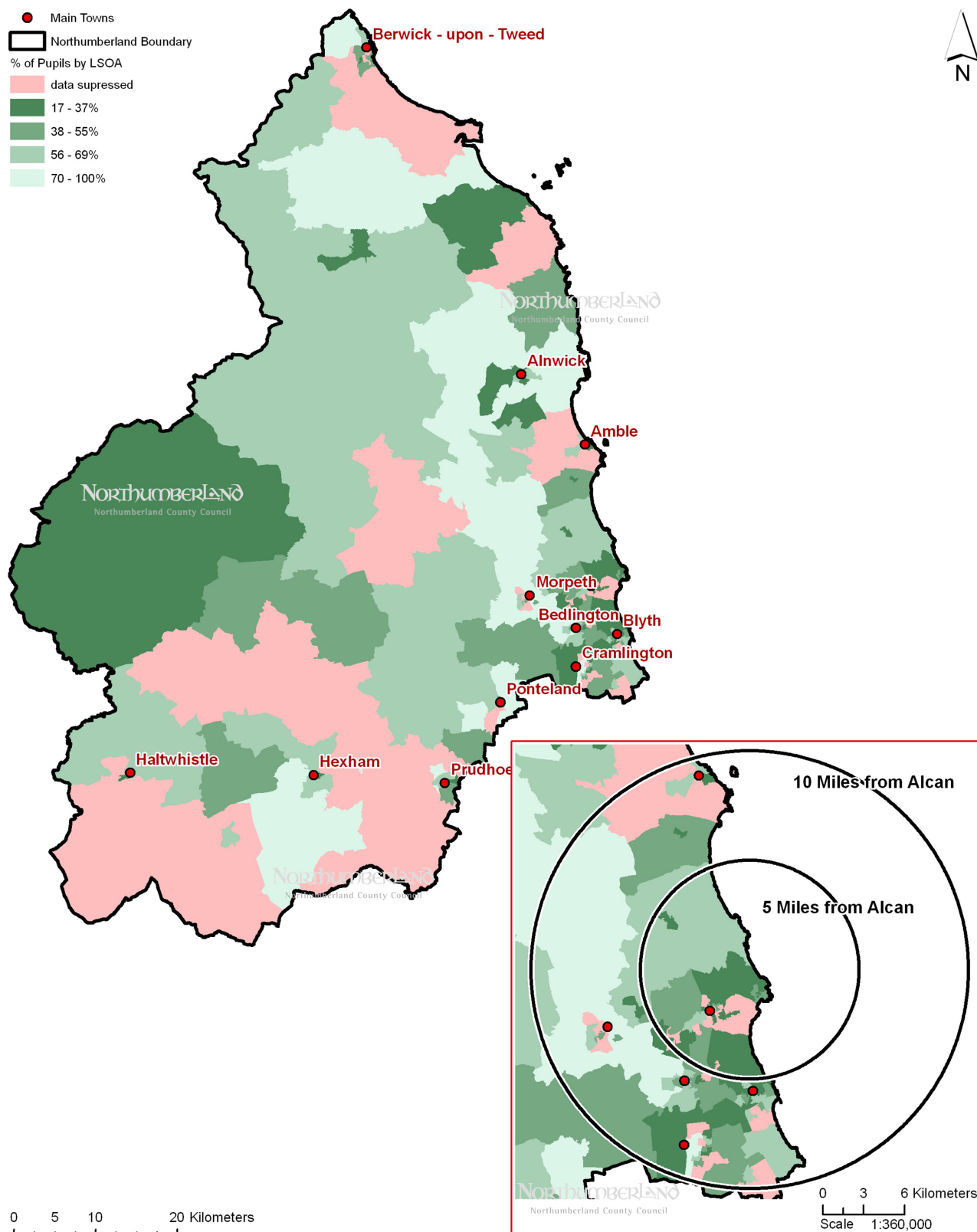
Figure 48 maps the location of the same statistics at LSOA level. The light red areas on the map show areas where rates could not be calculated because figures were not published in order to protect the identity of pupils (rates for areas within five and ten miles of Alcan could not be produced for this reason). The darker green colours show areas where a lower proportion of pupils gained five or more GCSEs including English and Maths and the lighter green areas show areas where a higher proportion of students gained five or more GCSEs including English and Maths.

57 out of the 199 LSOAs in Northumberland do not have a rate because the data has been suppressed. Of the 142 LSOAs that data is available for almost half (70 or 49.3%) are below the Northumberland average, a slightly smaller number (67 or 47.2% are below the North East average).

11 of the 38 LSOAs within five miles of Alcan do not have a rate because the data has been suppressed. Almost three quarters (74.1%) of the LSOAs within five miles of Alcan that data is available for have a lower proportion of students with five GCSEs including English and Maths than the Northumberland, North East and England Averages.

There are 116 LSOAs within ten miles of Alcan and data is available for 87 of them. Of the 87 LSOAs data is available for more than half (57.1%) have a lower proportion of students with five GCSEs including English and Maths than Northumberland and the North East Region.

**Figure 48: Map of Pupils Gaining Five or More A\* to C GCSE Grades including English and Maths**



Source: DfE Research and Statistics Gateway.

## 10.2 Young People aged 16-18 Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)

In 2010 7.0% (630) of 16 to 18 year olds in Northumberland were NEET, this is lower than the North East figure of 7.9% (6,940). In 2009 7.3% of 16 to 18 year olds in Northumberland were NEET, this is a decrease of 0.3 percentage points between 2009 and 2010.

*Source: Connexions- The Client Case Load Information System (CCIS)/Labour Force Survey (LFS)*

*The number and % of 16-18 year olds NEET has been adjusted to assume a proportion of those whose current activity is not known are NEET.*

*In Northumberland there is a high proportion of people whose current activity is not known, [a Connexions Northumberland analysis of the unadjusted figures can be found here](#).*

**Northumberland**

Northumberland County Council

**Policy and Research Team**

Transformation Group  
Northumberland County Council  
County Hall  
Morpeth  
Northumberland  
NE61 2EF

[infonet@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:infonet@northumberland.gov.uk)  
[www.northumberlandinfonet.org.uk](http://www.northumberlandinfonet.org.uk)