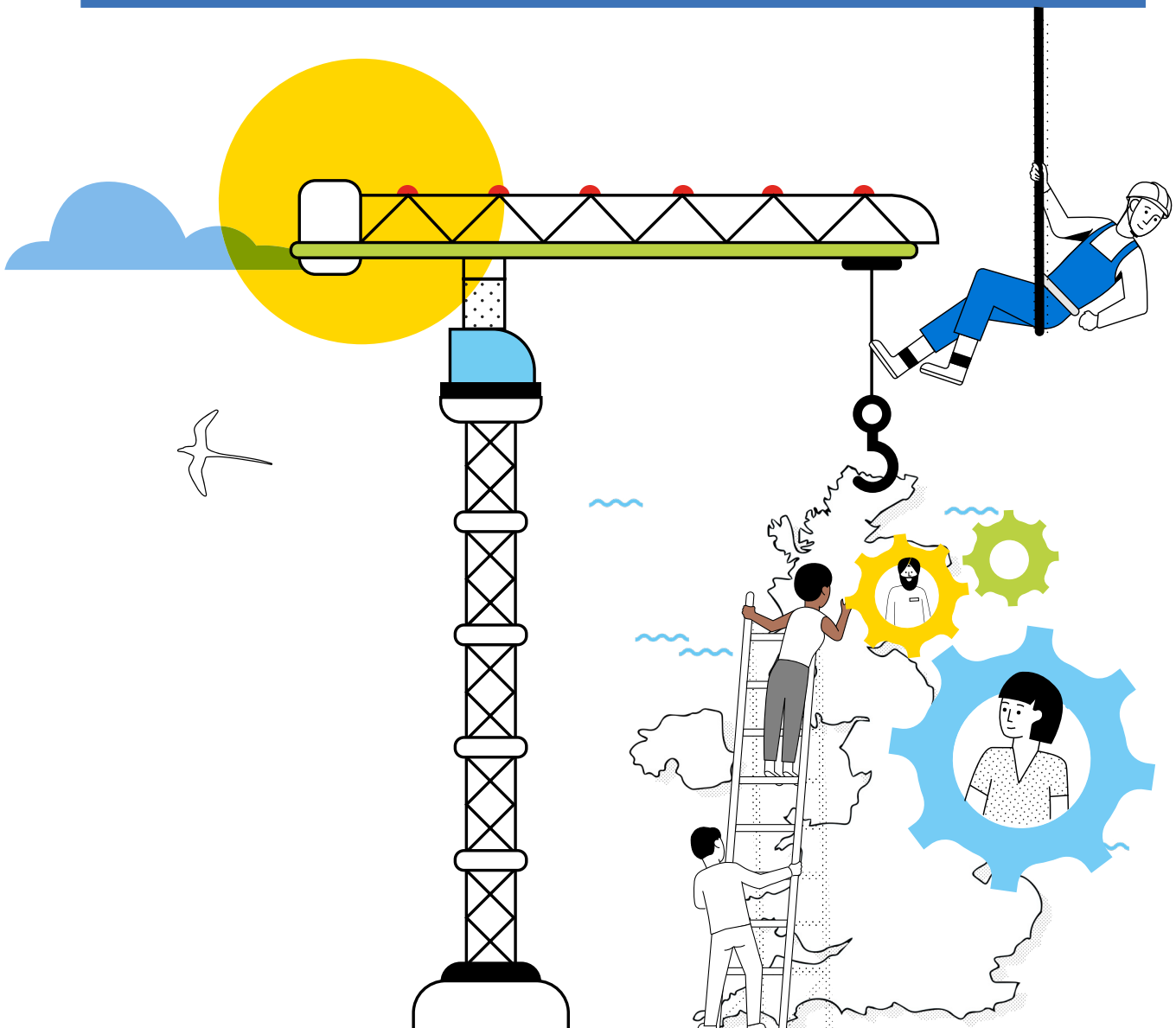# The Rebuilding Britain Index
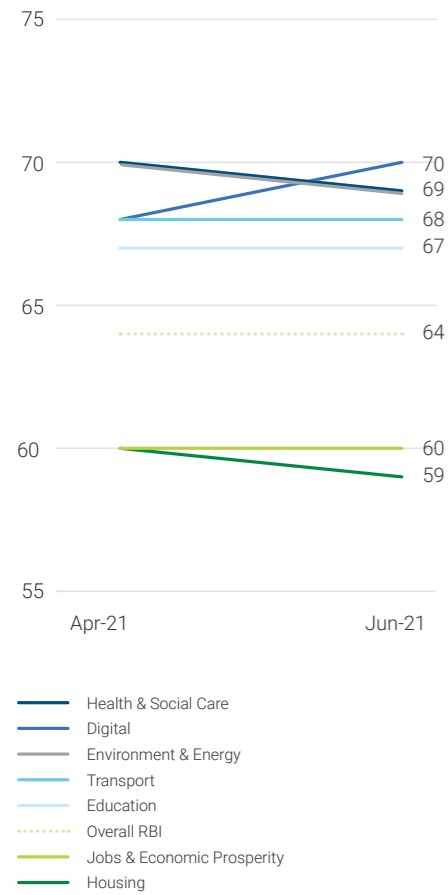
Levelling up our local communities

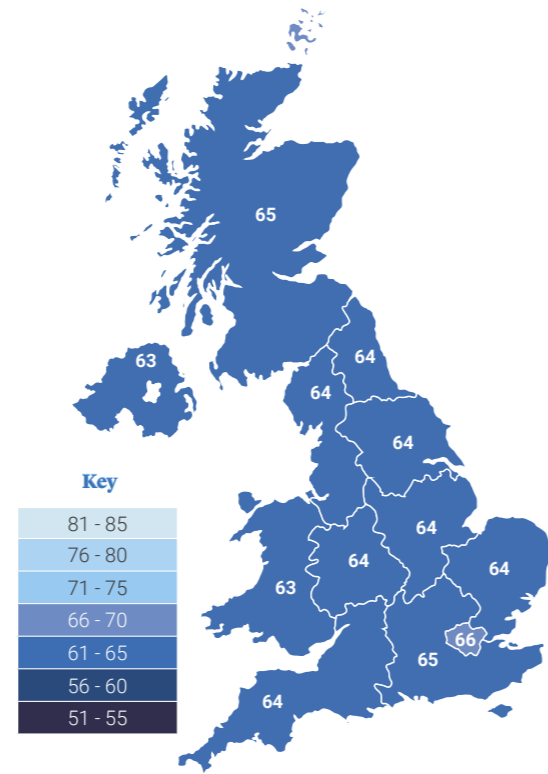July 2021

Key Findings

RBI performance over time

- Health & Social Care
- Digital
- Environment & Energy
- Transport
- Education
- Overall RBI
- Jobs & Economic Prosperity
- Housing

Overall RBI score by region

Key

Range
81 - 85
76 - 80
71 - 75
66 - 70
61 - 65
56 - 60
51 - 55

Key regional strengths

Key

- Housing
- Education
- Digital
- Environment & energy
- Health & social care
- Jobs & economic prosperity
- Transport
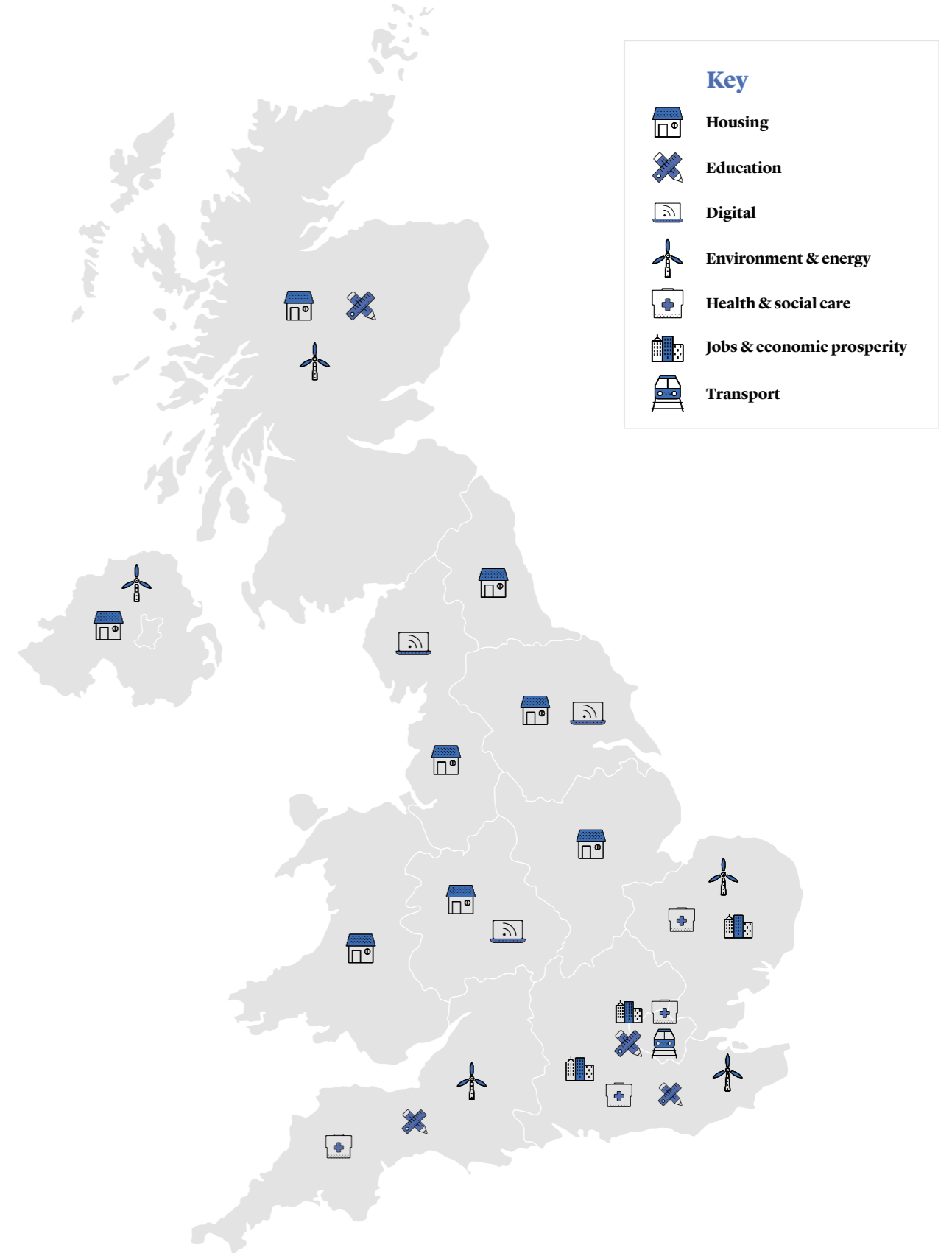
Top 10 Performing RBI measures	👍	Bottom 10 performing RBI measures	👎
Availability of public green spaces	79/100	Life expectancy	48/100
Access to high quality primary education	76/100	Availability of EV charging points	48/100
Access to gyms / other sports facilities	76/100	% with no NVQ equivalent qualification	48/100
Reliability of mobile internet data at home	76/100	Unemployment claimant count	50/100
Air quality	75/100	Average earnings	54/100
Recycling services	75/100	% households with access to 4G signal at home	56/100
Connectivity to major roads & motorways	75/100	Local roads	56/100
Access to high quality secondary care	75/100	Average house prices as a % of income	56/100
Reliability of mobile telephone network at home	75/100	Availability of affordable starter homes	58/100
Home internet speed	75/100	Availability of affordable social housing	58/100

How has the Index Performed?

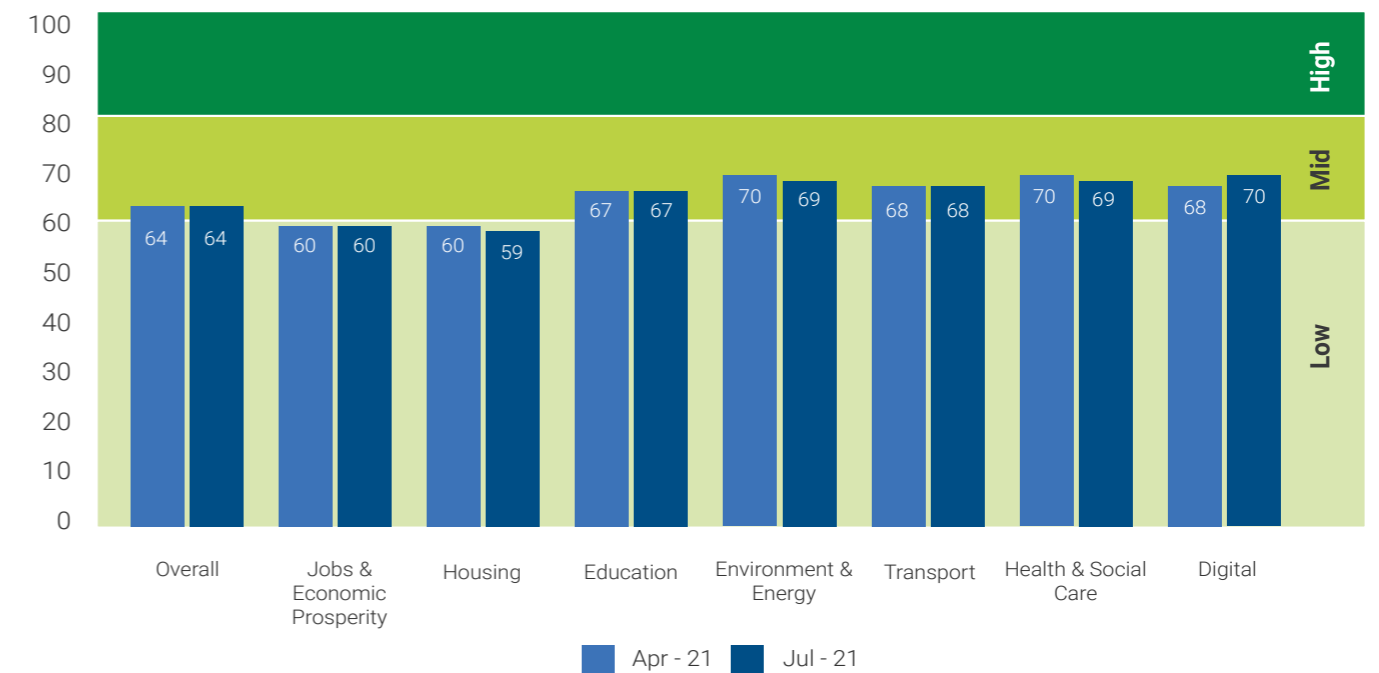## Building Back Better Has Been Slow Off The Line

The Rebuilding Britain Index (RBI) score recorded for Q2 2021 is a medium-low score of 64/100 – consistent with the score recorded during Q1.

The two key measures of the index – Jobs & Economic Prosperity and Housing (refer to appendix one) – remain the poorest performing elements of the index, achieving scores of 60/100 and 59/100 respectively. The score of 59/100 recorded for Housing during Q2 2021 is the lowest recorded score for any infrastructure type since the inception of the RBI.

A slight improvement of two points across the digital measure now sees it as the highest performing element of the index.

Figure 2. Little progress across key RBI indicators

	Apr - 21	Jul - 21
Overall	64	64
Jobs & Economic Prosperity	60	60
Housing	60	59
Education	67	67
Environment & Energy	70	69
Transport	68	68
Health & Social Care	70	69
Digital	68	70

Regional variations

Using the first two waves of the RBI, we can already see how our quantitative and sentiment index measures come together at the regional level, to describe where strengths and weaknesses are typically found. London (50/100), the South East of England (52/100) and the South West of England (52/100) fall significantly behind the rest of the UK on the Housing measure, whereas it is Wales (52/100) and the North East of England (54/100) that fall behind on the measure of Jobs and Economic Prosperity.

However, what we continue to see is that there are different priorities in different regions.

Key regional nuances include (compared to national average):

Scotland:

Under Performance	Over Performance
Jobs & economic prosperity	Housing
Health & social care	Education
	Environment & energy

Northern Ireland:

Under Performance	Over Performance
Jobs & economic prosperity	Housing
Health & social care	Environment & energy
Education	
Transport	
Digital	

North West of England:

Under Performance	Over Performance
Jobs & economic prosperity	Housing
Health & social care	Digital
Education	
Environment & energy	
Transport	

Wales

Under Performance	Over Performance
Jobs & economic prosperity	Housing
Health & social care	
Education	
Transport	

West Midlands:

Under Performance	Over Performance
Jobs & economic prosperity	Housing
Health & social care	Digital
Education	
Environment & energy	

South West of England:

Under Performance	Over Performance
Jobs & economic prosperity	Health & social care
Housing	Education
Transport	Environment & energy

North East of England:

Under Performance	Over Performance
Jobs & economic prosperity	Housing
Health & social care	
Education	
Environment & energy	

Yorkshire & Humber:

Under Performance	Over Performance
Jobs & economic prosperity	Housing
Health & social care	Digital
Education	
Transport	

East Midlands:

Under Performance	Over Performance
Jobs & economic prosperity	Housing
Health & social care	
Education	
Transport	

East of England:

Under Performance	Over Performance
Housing	Jobs & economic prosperity
Education	Health & social care
Transport	Environment & energy
Digital	

London:

Under Performance	Over Performance
Housing	Jobs & economic prosperity
Environment & energy	Health & social care
	Education
	Transport

South East of England:

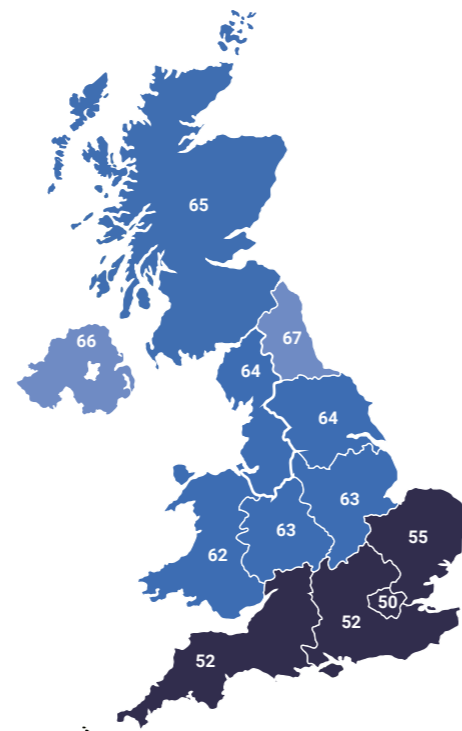| Under Performance	Over Performance
Housing	Jobs & economic prosperity
	Health & social care
	Education
	Environment & energy

Figure 2. Component Index scores by UK country and region
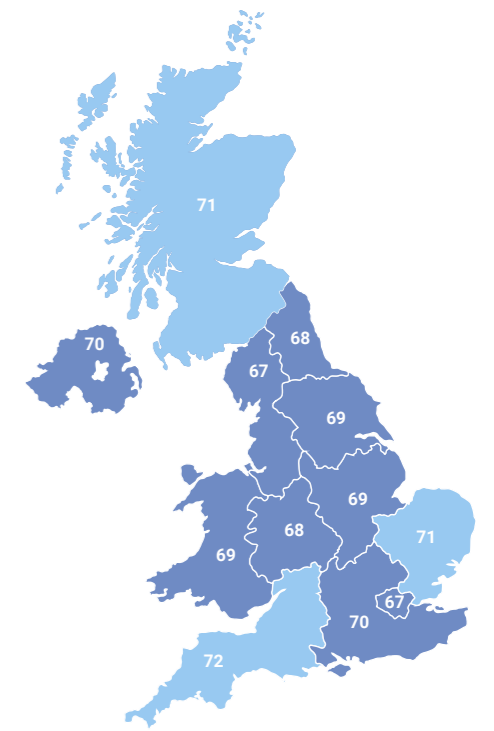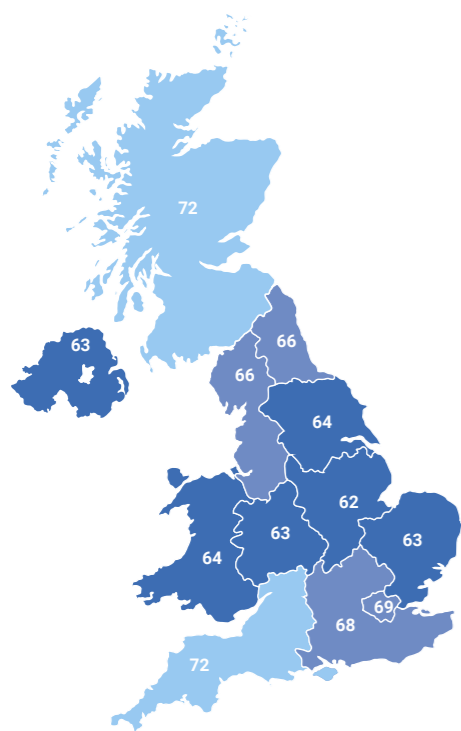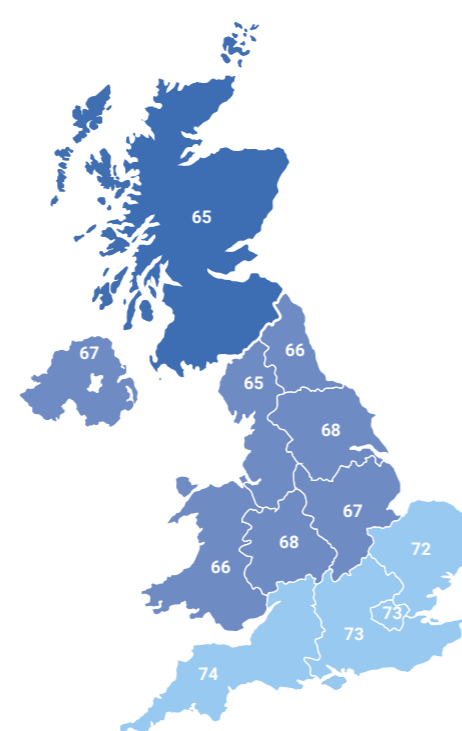

Jobs & Economic Prosperity
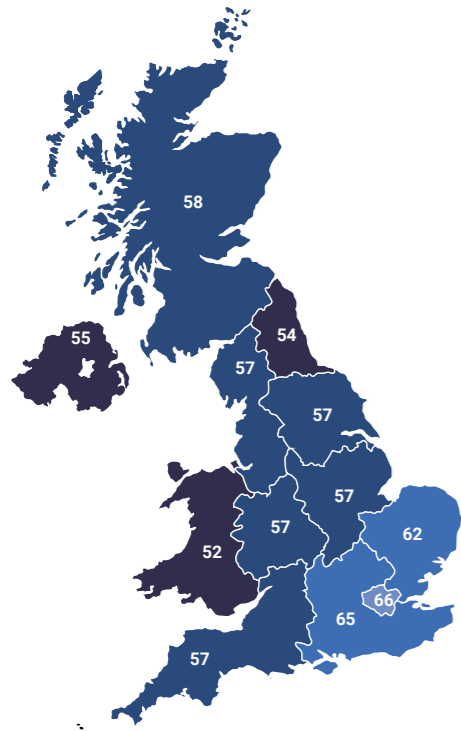
Housing

Transport
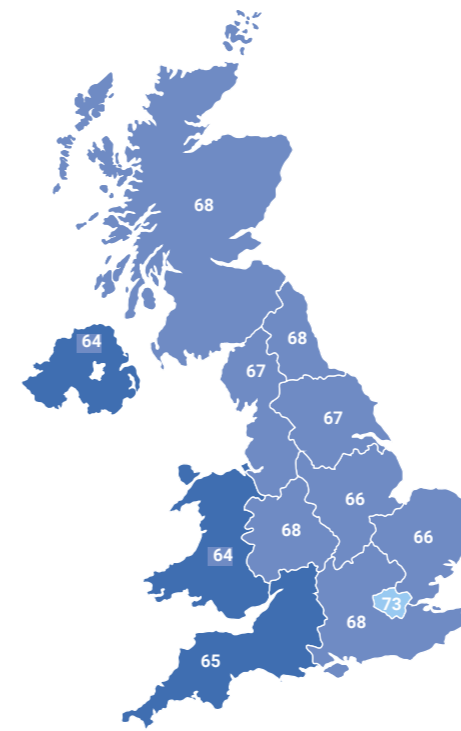
Environment & Energy

Education

Health & Social Care

Digital

Key

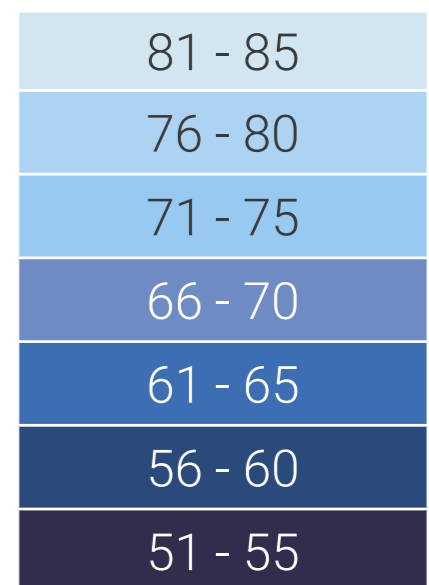| |
|---|
| 81 - 85 |
| 76 - 80 |
| 71 - 75 |
| 66 - 70 |
| 61 - 65 |
| 56 - 60 |
| 51 - 55 |
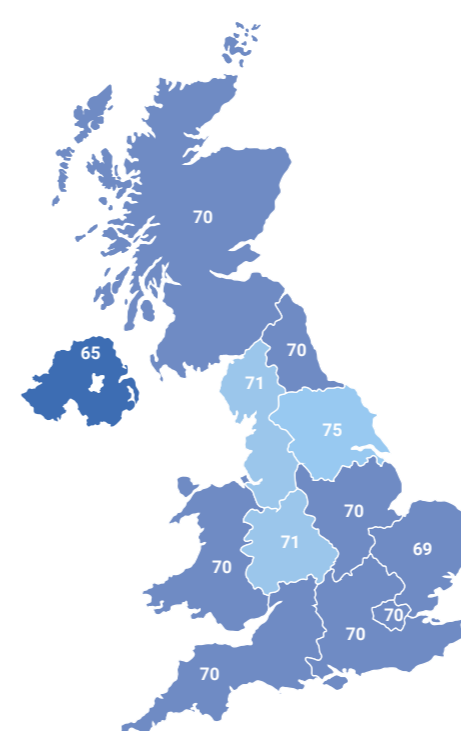
When these seven measures are combined into one overall regional RBI score, there is little difference between the best and poorest performing regions. London, as the capital, slightly outperforms the rest of the UK with an overall RBI score of 66/100, while Wales and Northern Ireland (63/100 respectively) are the lowest scoring.

Figure 3. **Overall RBI score by region**

Key

81 - 85
76 - 80
71 - 75
66 - 70
61 - 65
56 - 60
51 - 55

Change (Apr-21 to Jul-21)

North East England	**+0**
North West England	**-1**
Yorkshire & Humber	**+0**
East Midlands	**+1**
West Midlands	**+0**
East of England	**+0**
South East England	**-1**
South West England	**+1**
London	**+0**
Wales	**+1**
Scotland	**-1**
Northern Ireland	**+0**
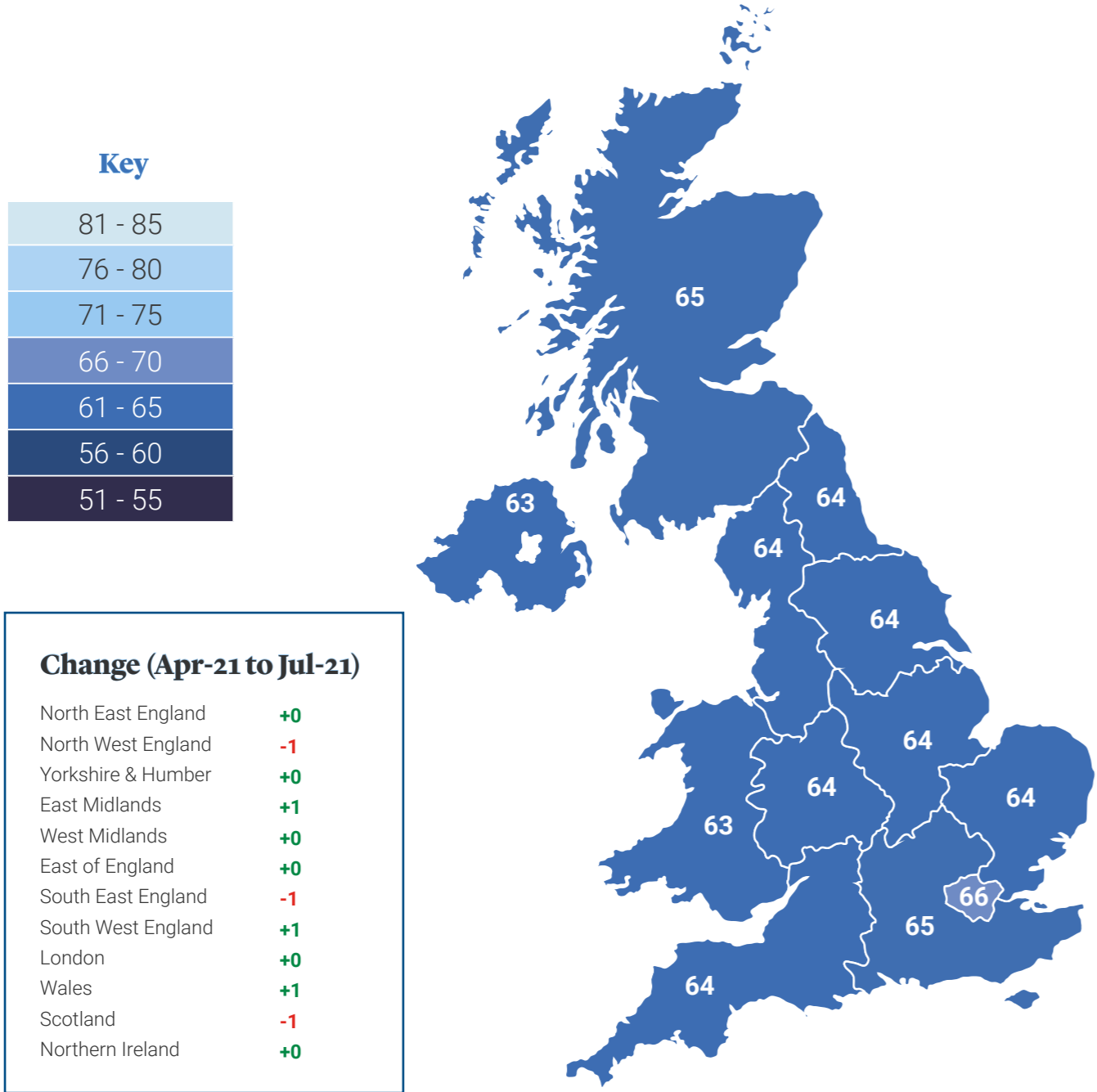
Towards the end of 2021 we will have built a sufficiently robust data-set to allow us assess how the UK performs down to a local authority level – providing greater granularity on where specifically within regions investment is most required.

Appendix

		UK	Scot	Wal	N.Ire	NE	NW	Y&H	EM	WM	EE	Lon	SE	SW
Jobs & Economic Prosperity	Overall economic prospects of my local area	62	61	58	57	59	60	61	61	63	63	65	64	60
	Availability of well-paid employment	61	59	55	57	58	59	59	60	61	61	64	64	60
	Access to entry level jobs	63	61	59	59	61	62	62	63	64	63	67	64	63
	Access to skills and training	66	64	63	64	64	65	65	65	67	65	68	67	66
	Extent to which the Local High Street meets local needs	64	61	60	63	61	63	65	63	65	64	71	64	62
	GDP per capita	59	57	44	45	57	62	62	60	52	63	61	64	52
	Average earnings	54	54	36	41	39	50	44	45	46	61	77	68	45
	Unemployment claimant count	50	50	44	54	34	38	41	44	38	59	59	66	53
Housing	Extent to which housing market meets local community needs	62	63	60	61	63	62	64	64	64	60	61	60	57
	Availability of affordable social housing	58	60	57	58	62	59	60	59	60	56	58	55	55
	Availability of affordable starter homes	58	59	57	58	61	59	59	59	60	56	58	54	54
	Availability of affordable rental properties	59	61	58	58	62	61	60	60	61	57	58	56	54
	Average house prices as a % of income	56	81	72	89	85	76	75	70	67	44	17	34	39
Education	Access to high quality early years education	73	73	74	75	75	71	73	71	73	74	71	74	74
	Access to high quality primary education	76	76	76	78	77	75	76	74	75	76	75	76	77
	Access to high quality secondary education	74	75	73	77	74	73	74	73	74	74	72	74	75
	Access to high quality further education	74	74	73	75	75	74	75	73	74	74	73	74	73
	Pupil/Teacher ratio	66	100	61	76	74	74	55	54	66	48	70	57	68
	% with no NVQ equivalent qualification	48	38	42	10	34	39	44	46	31	53	61	63	71
Environment & Energy	Availability of public green spaces	79	82	79	78	79	77	78	78	77	80	77	80	82
	Air quality	75	80	77	76	77	73	74	75	73	77	67	75	80
	Availability of public recreational spaces	73	74	73	73	72	71	72	72	72	75	72	76	76
	Effective use of public land	68	70	68	67	66	66	67	67	68	70	70	69	69
	Security in public spaces	70	73	69	71	68	69	70	69	70	70	71	71	73
	Waste disposal and waste management	74	73	74	76	74	74	74	74	74	76	72	74	76
	Recycling services	75	74	76	78	75	75	75	74	76	77	73	75	78
	Flood preparedness	64	66	62	65	65	61	64	62	64	63	63	63	67
	Energy efficiency of home	74	74	73	72	75	74	75	74	75	74	73	74	75
	EV charging points	48	48	44	43	47	47	48	46	51	46	60	47	45
	CO2 per capita	66	64	64	74	55	59	63	67	61	71	60	74	78
	Renewable energy generation per household	64	73	70	73	64	63	68	68	59	68	50	64	72

Cont. Appendix 1: Index Measure Scores By Region

		UK	Scot	Wal	N.Ire	NE	NW	Y&H	EM	WM	EE	Lon	SE	SW
Transport	Local roads	56	55	57	56	58	54	57	55	57	55	61	54	56
	Connectivity to major roads and motorways	75	76	74	73	77	77	75	76	77	73	76	76	73
	Affordability of local public transport	66	68	64	66	66	66	67	65	68	63	73	64	64
	Frequency of local public transport	68	70	63	66	69	68	69	66	68	64	77	68	65
	Quality and suitability of pedestrian access / pavements	71	72	68	71	70	70	72	70	70	69	74	70	70
	Quality and suitability of cycle lanes	65	65	64	60	64	63	65	64	64	64	70	65	66
	Connectivity to an airport	70	71	61	71	72	70	68	67	70	71	74	73	65
	Availability of car hailing services	66	65	58	57	66	67	66	64	70	63	76	67	60
	Connectivity to national rail services	69	69	66	56	68	70	69	67	71	68	76	72	66
Health & Social Care	Access to high quality primary care	74	77	74	75	77	73	74	74	75	73	73	74	77
	Access to high quality secondary care	75	76	75	74	75	75	76	75	74	74	74	75	76
	Access to high quality tertiary care	73	73	72	69	74	73	74	72	72	73	73	73	75
	Access to high quality residential social care	71	72	70	70	70	70	71	70	72	71	71	71	72
	Access to high quality community social care	70	71	70	69	69	69	69	69	71	70	70	70	71
	Access to gyms or other exercise and sports facilities	76	75	74	77	76	76	76	75	77	75	76	77	75
	Life expectancy	48	20	34	41	25	28	36	39	41	64	75	69	68
Digital	Reliability of mobile telephone network	75	77	73	75	77	75	76	75	75	76	75	75	75
	Reliability of mobile internet data	76	79	75	77	77	76	77	76	77	77	76	76	75
	Home internet speed	75	77	75	77	75	76	76	75	76	75	75	75	75
	% of households with access to 4G signal in their home	56	54	67	53	54	54	67	56	56	54	47	54	63
	% of households without access to 30MBITS home broadband	68	54	61	39	66	73	78	70	71	61	79	65	61

Appendix 3: Detailed Methodology

L&G is working in partnership with research specialists Cicero/AMO, to develop an index that combines key indicators of social and economic progress. The index – called the Rebuilding Britain Index (RBI) - Is designed to provide a benchmark of the UK's success in 'levelling up' the economy across the left behind communities and households in the wake of the global pandemic.

In developing the Index, we have identified seven key areas covering all aspects of the UK's economic and social infrastructure. For each of these seven areas we built out a series of quantitative and attitudinal statistical measures. In total, the RBI combines 52 different measures to provide a comprehensive assessment of how the UK's economic and social infrastructure is helping the UK to build back better. These measures are based on:

- A nationally representative survey (by age, gender and region) of 10,000 UK adults. Survey data collected across two waves – initially in February 2021 and subsequently in May 2021.

- Secondary data collected on eleven outcomes measures. The measures were chosen based on the following criteria: being updated quarterly, data being reported to a Local Authority level and consistency and comparability of data across the devolved nations. Data was sourced from:

  - ONS
  - Gov.Wales
  - Gov.Scot
  - Education NI
  - Gov.UK
  - OFGEM

Using the data collected, the index was created based on the following approach:

- A standardisation of all 52 measures onto a 1-10 scale – where ten would equal the highest positive score and one the lowest score.

- Undertaking analysis in order to identify the extent to which each measure correlates with perceived quality of life in the local community.

- We have assigned a relative weight of importance for each of the seven key areas. This is based on a statistical analysis to assess the strength of correlation between a given measure and the extent to which households feel quality of life locally is improving or worsening. Ultimately, this ensures that our index has been built with our communities in mind and with what matters most to them front and centre
-

How the RBI is weighted across the seven key measures
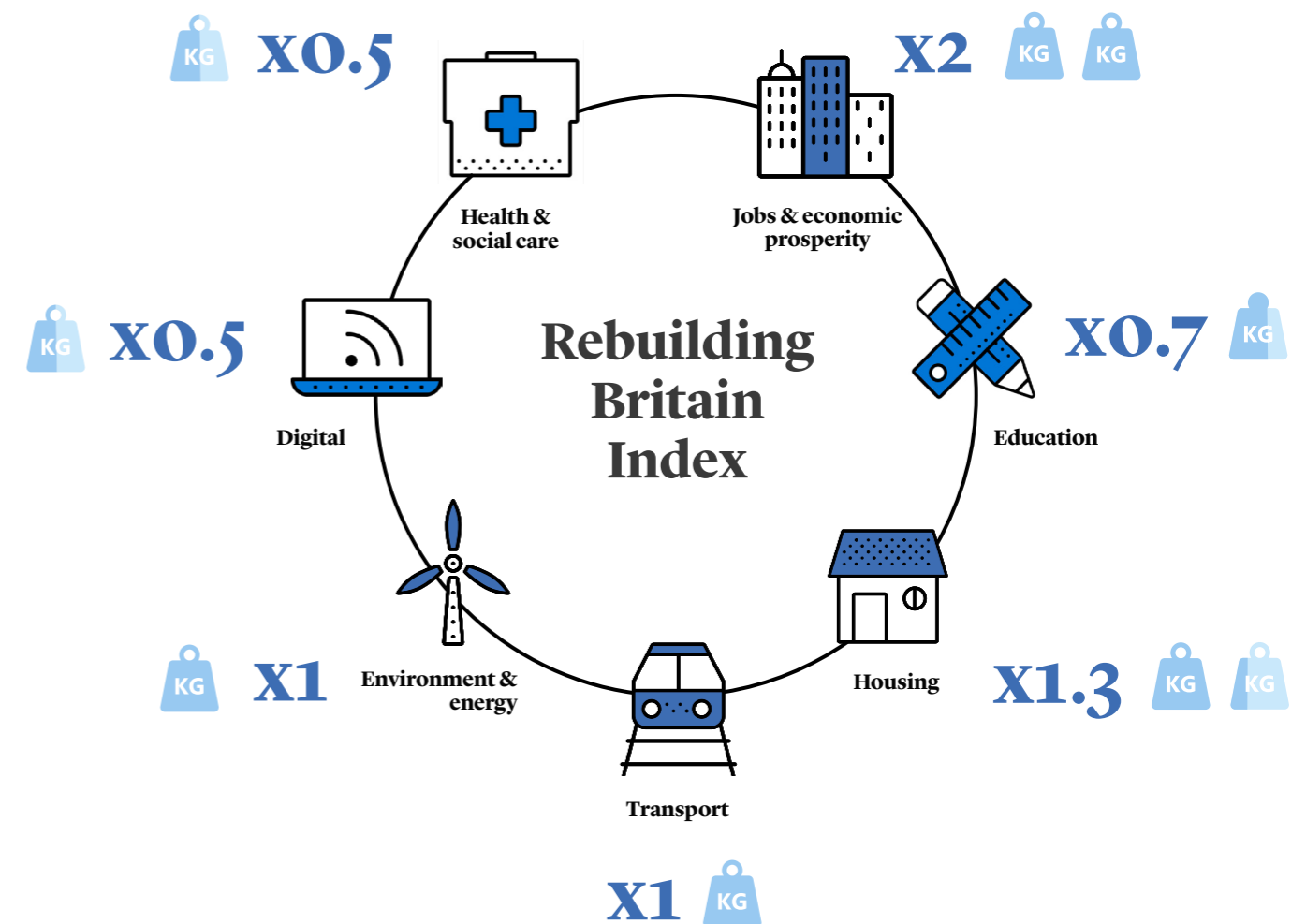
'Up-weighted' factors

Our research analysis reveals that access to jobs, economic prosperity and housing are the key drivers in boosting a household's perceived quality of life and economic wellbeing. To reflect this, we have upweighted the jobs and economic prosperity and housing measures accordingly – meaning they have a greater influence on the overall RBI score.

'Down-weighted' factors

Other factors, such as health, social care, and education, are clearly important. But they have less of a daily touch point on most people's lives, and therefore have a weaker influence in determining a person's sense of quality of life and economic wellbeing. The overall index score has been weighted to reflect this.