

Area Profile: Alport

Spatial Outline

The Alport area is located to the west of Amber Valley Borough, 10 miles north of Derby and 14 miles west of Nottingham. Alport is primarily a rural area with several small and large villages dispersed across its geographical boundary. It has evolved from an active industrial area for manufacturing and mining in the 18th and 19th century to a relatively rural vicinity with an expanding agricultural base. It has a very attractive and sensitive natural and physical landscape, which is protected as part of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage site and national and local designations to protect several sites of high environmental quality. In the past decade there has been very limited new housing and/or employment development in the Alport area as there are significant constraints that limit their coming forward.

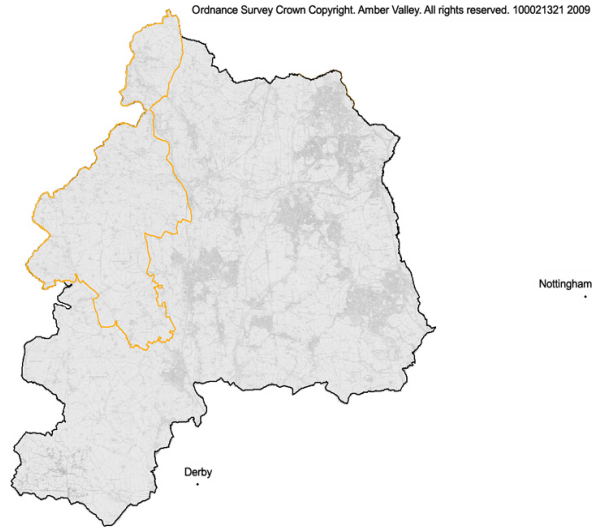


Figure 1. Inset Map Showing the Area of Alport

The Place and Its People

- Land Area:** Alport covers 5323 hectares of land to the west of the borough. It is the largest administrative area in the amber valley, occupying 20% of the borough's land area.
- Population Profile:** The population of Alport at the 2001 census was 2,477. People 50 years and over account for 49% of its population. The population based on 2006 Mid-year is estimated at 2,472; practically unchanged.
- Population Density:** The population density of the area is 0.5 people/hectare, is the lowest in the borough- significantly lower than the borough average of 4.5 people/hectare. Most of its population is concentrated in the village of Holloway and to a lesser extent in the smaller villages/settlements of Lea, Hazelwood, Idridgehay and Alderwasley.
- Households:** There are 1,032 households in the area. Adult households (households without dependent children) make up 77% of total households, the highest rate in the Borough. This may be due to the area's rural nature.
- Ethnicity:** The people living in Alport are predominantly White (98.8%) with a small but diverse proportion of ethnic minorities residing in the area.

The Local Economy

Economic Activity: The 2001 census showed that economic activity in the area was 65.5%, lower than the Borough average of 68% and Derbyshire average of 67.5%.

Employment Grade: In 2001, the proportion of people that were employed in Higher and Intermediate managerial/administrative/professional positions was 29.4% compared with the Borough average of 20%. The proportion of semi-skilled and unskilled manual workers was 8.7% compared with the borough average of 19.2% and the percentage of people on state benefit was 15.6% the same as the borough average.

Unemployment: In June 2007² the average rate of unemployment in the area was 0.2% which was lower than the Borough average of 1.7%. The rate of unemployment has however increased to 1.1% in June 2009 but it is still much lower than the Borough average of 3.7%.

Household Income: The average household income for Alport is as follows:
MEAN £35,012; MEDIAN £30K-35K; MODE 20-25k Sources: CACI 2008

Data indicates that 59.3% of all households have an income that is on or below 35k. In 2004 this was 65.9%, in 2006 this was 57.2%. This can be broken down further – see table below

0-5k	5-10k	10-15k	15-20k	20-25k	25-30k	30-35k
2%	5%	8.9%	11.1%	11.6%	11%	9.7%

Table 1 Detailed Breakdown of Average Household Income in Alport

Employment Areas: There are no designated or proposed employment areas in Alport.

Retail Offer: There is a low provision of retail offer in Alport. There are no superstores but there are a few local shops that provide convenience and comparison shopping opportunities for local people in the various settlements in the area.

Local Industries: The manufacturing industry is the major employer in this area, accounting for 15.8% of persons employed. The retail industry is the second most important employer in the area accounting for 13.7% of persons employed. The Agriculture sector is also a major employer (10%)

Housing Market

Housing Tenure: According to the 2001 census, 80.8% of residents are owner-occupiers, 9.8% are renting privately and 6.4% are living in socially rented properties.

Household size: The size of households in Alport is predominantly 2 persons per household (44.2%). One-person households are also reasonably high in Alport accounting for 24.8% of Households, although lower than the Borough average of 27.5%.

One Person	All Pensioner	Married Couple family	Co-habiting Couple Family	Lone Parent	Other households
24.8%	16.7%	44.7%	5.9%	4.7%	3.2%

Table 2. Household Composition in Alport

Alport has the highest rate of pensioner households and the lowest rate of lone parents households in the Borough.

Housing Supply:

In 2001 there were 1022 dwellings in the area, this has grown marginally by 1.96% as at March 2009 to 1042 dwellings.

Housing Stock Condition:

Amber Valley Stock Condition Survey (2004) outlines the physical state of dwellings in the area.

% of non-decent homes	% of households lacking modern facilities	% of households lacking thermal comfort	% of households vulnerable households in non-decent homes	% of total dwellings in disrepair
39	3.5	33	5.4	11

Table 3. Housing Stock Condition in Alport

The percentage of dwellings in disrepair in the Alport area is the highest in the Borough, whilst the percentages of non-decent homes, households lacking modern facilities and those lacking thermal comfort are all second highest in the Borough.

House Prices:

House prices in two settlements in the Alport area are:

Area	Detached	Semi-detached	Terraced	Flat/maisonette	Average
Holloway & Lea (area of few sales)	£450,363 (particularly high figure)	£133,343	£117,700	-	£275,385
Hazelwood	£213,611	£144,287	£127,900	-	£171,596
Amber Valley	£227,121	£137,038	£106,467	£190,635	£157,116

Table 4. House Prices in Alport

Source: <http://www.upmystreet.com> based on sales during the quarter April to June 2008 for Alport

Affordable Housing:

No affordable housing has been built in Alport in the last 5 years.

Homelessness:

Homelessness applications per 1000 population in the past 6 years

	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
Alport	0	0	0	0	0	0.4%
Amber Valley	4.8	3	2.4	1.97	1.7	0.8

Table 5. Homelessness Applications in Alport

Housing Land:

No dwellings were allocated in the Alport area in the adopted Amber Valley Local Plan (2006). A couple of potential sites have been identified in the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment of Amber Valley.

Quality of Built and Natural Environment

Designated Areas / Buildings: There are 3 conservation area in the Alport area, covering the settlements of Dethick, Lea & Holloway, Idridgehay and Alderwasley and 106 historic listings within the area (accounting for 13.9% of listings in Amber Valley), statutorily designated because of their special architectural and historic significance.

Landscape Character Areas: The Alport area falls within the Derbyshire Peak Fringe and Lower Derwent Landscape Character area. The area consists of a number of character types namely, Wooded Slopes & Valleys, Wooded Farmlands, Enclosed Moors & Heaths, Gritstone Heaths and Commons and Riverside Meadows.

Green Belt / Designated Sites: Approximately 79% of the area lies in the Amber Valley Borough Green Belt and there are 3 SSSI's, there are several biodiversity assets including 2912 hectares of land in the designated Special Landscape Area (66% of the total SLA designation), 1 local nature reserve and 44 wildlife sites all of which are of significant local importance.

Water and Flood Risk: The Rivers Derwent and Ecclesbourne are the two major rivers that run through the area and there are numerous tributaries of these rivers (ordinary watercourses) that can also be found in the Alport area. According to the Amber Valley Level 1 SFRA, most areas in Alport fall within the flood zone 1 and 2 (low and medium risk zone). However, a small area around the river Derwent lie within the flood zone 3a and 3b (High risk zone), there are also several areas around River Ecclesbourne and ordinary water courses in close proximity to outlying villages in the area, which lie within flood zone 3a (High risk zone)
- see map

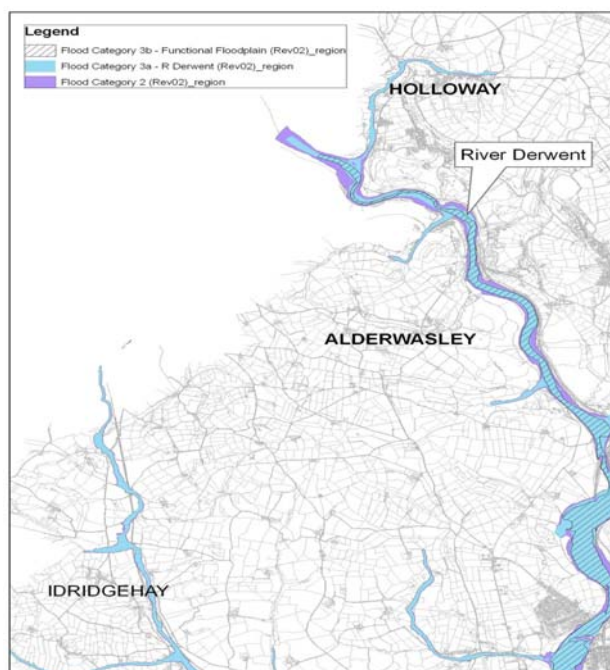


Figure 2. Flood Risk Map of Alport

Transport and Access

Transport Infrastructure: The area is sparsely linked to other communication corridors via the A6 running across the eastern edge of the area, linking Derby with Matlock, Peak District, Manchester and the northwest. The A615 also runs East-West along its far northern boundary and A517 in its southern boundary. The area is partly served by the B5023 road and several minor roads.

Other Infrastructure: The infrastructure to support sustainable modes of transport such as cycling, walking and other non-motorised transport has not been extensively developed in Alport. There is however a proposed multi user route that will introduce such infrastructure and help improve connections with other places in the borough.

Mode of Transport: 62.1% of residents that are of working age (16-74 years) and in employment travel to work by driving a car/van/motorcycle and only 7.7% use more sustainable means of transport (foot, cycle, train, bus). However, 24.6% of working age people work from home, the highest rate in Amber Valley.

Distance Travel to Work: According to the 2001 census, only 21.6% of people that work in Alport travel more than 10km to and within the area to work.

Car Ownership: Car/van ownership in the area is high (88.2% own one car or more). This could be attributed to the fact that Alport is a fairly rural area.

Public Transport: Public transport services within the Alport area are poor with 2 once hourly services to Derby and 1 hourly service to Nottingham and Manchester. The route serving Derby, Nottingham and Manchester only serves the far northeasterly part of the area, along the A6.

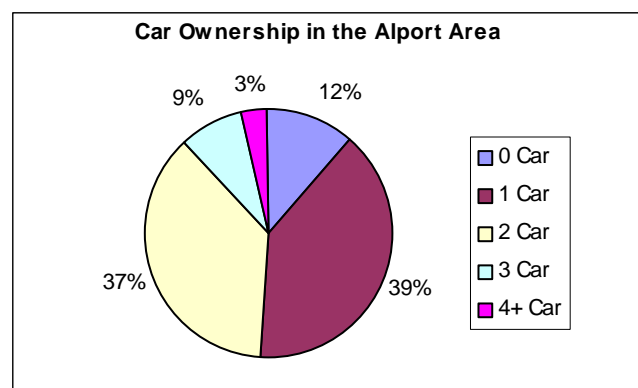


Figure 3. Car Ownership in Alport

Health and Social Well-being of Local People

The people of Alport experience reasonably good health but enjoy a limited range of opportunities and facilities for leisure and exercise. Available data show that people living in the area achieve above average scores on key health indicators.

Life Expectancy: Local people in the Alport area have an above borough and national average life expectancy.

Life Expectancy: 2000-2004	Males	Females
Alport	80	84.7
Amber Valley	76.5	80.7
England	76.3	80.8

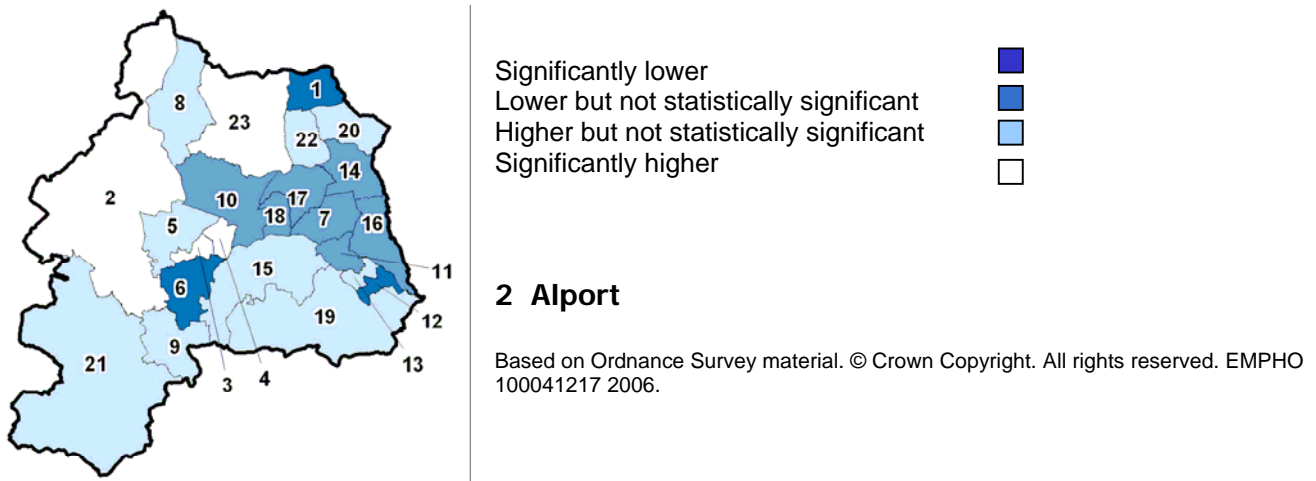


Figure 4. Life Expectancy Significantly higher Comparison to England average (78.5 years) 2000-04

General Health: The proportion of people who consider their health to be good (70%) is more than the Borough average of 66%, while the proportion of people with limiting long term illness (20.2%) is slightly higher than the borough average of 19.7% (2001 census).

Health Inequalities: The Governments Indices of Health Deprivation and disability ranks settlements in the area within the least deprived 33% in the Borough and with the second least deprived 25% in England

Most deprived 25%
Second most deprived 25%
Second least deprived 25%
Least deprived 25%

1 Alport

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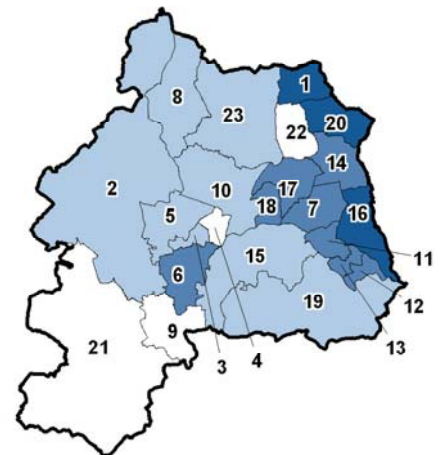


Figure 5 Health Deprivation & Disability

Health Services: There are very few providers of health services in the area (see Table 7) and these raise potential challenges in terms of provision and access to services.

GP Surgery	Dentists	Hospitals	Clinics	Pharmacies
1	0	0	0	0

Table 7

Sport and Recreation: There are limited sports and recreational facilities and spaces in Alport, with the settlement of Holloway having a recreation ground and a play area, but little provision elsewhere.

Multiple deprivation: The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) published by the government in 2007 indicates that Alport is one of the least deprived in Amber Valley and is ranked within the least deprived 33% in the Borough.

Cultural Amenity:

The Alport area consists of several small settlements that in some cases share a similar history and culture, primarily in relation to the industrial revolution. These settlements include:

Dethick, Lea and Holloway, a civil parish to the north of Alport noted for its historic links with Florence Nightingale. Important cultural assets include The Coach House at Lea, famous for its home-made ice creams, Lea Gardens, renowned for its collection of plants and Lea Green, an 18th century stone building set in 25 acres of parkland.

Alderwasley is another settlement in Alport; it has historic links with the medieval region of Duffield Frith. The most notable cultural asset in this area is the Shining Cliff Woods, a royal park in ancient times and now a site of special scientific importance.

Ildridgehay and Alton is a small residential community in Alport; cultural assets include the South Sitch, a two-storey cottage built in the 1600s, Alton Manor, The Black Swan and St James Church are other important physical structures built in the 1800s and listed for their cultural and architectural importance.

Leisure and Recreation: There are no local libraries in the Alport area but the area is served by 3 mobile library visits.

The main leisure facility in the area is Lea Green Development & Conference Centre at Lea in the north of the area. Apart from this there are very limited areas designated as spaces and/or facilities that offer leisure and recreational opportunities in Alport, except for the Birchwood Farm Caravan Park in Whatstandwell, 2 Children's play areas in the settlement of Lea to the very north of the area and a number of footpaths throughout the area that are good for walking and jogging.

Parks & Gardens	Natural green spaces	Green Corridors	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Amenity Green space	Children/ Young People
1	0	9	1	0	2

Table 8. Open and Green Spaces in Alport

Community Safety:

The incidence of crime in Alport is very low as with most rural settlements in Amber Valley. The Alport area has one of the lowest crime rates in the Borough.

Crime Rates:

The level of crime in Alport is well below average. Within a 12 month period (August 08- July 09) the number of crimes committed per 1000 people was 25.2 compared to the borough average of 65.2 / 1000 population. It is ranked the joint lowest crime area in the Borough with the Crich area.

	Alport Area	Amber Valley	Area Rank
Anti Social Behaviour	20	56	22 nd
Serious Acquisitive Crime	3.2	11.6	23 rd
Assault with Injury	1.6	7.2	23 rd
Serious Violent Crime	0	0.5	0
Criminal Damage	4.8	15.2	21 st
Other Crime	15.6	30.7	17 th

Table 9. Key Crime figures for Alport (Rate per '000 population)

Fire and Accidents: The fire and rescue services attended 18 incidences of fire in the area between 2002-2006 accounting for 2.1% of the Borough's total within the same period.

Education and Skills:

School Provision: There is only 1 primary schools in the Alport area, at Lea, catering for approximately 110 pupils aged between 5-11year old. There are no Secondary Schools. There is 1 special school but no provision for adult education.

Attainment: According to the 2001 census, 26.9% of the +16 population had achieved a Level 4/5 qualification, compared to the borough's average of 15.1%; also the proportion of people with no qualification (26%) was lower than the borough average of 34.1%.

Summary:

The above baseline information sketches out the socio-economic and environmental profile of the Alport area in Amber Valley. It represents a preliminary collation of datasets and indicators that would be useful for identifying potentially significant issues. This profile document is however still in its draft stage and would evolve based on the receipt of new pieces of evidence and the outcome of consultation. If you would like to comment on the content of this document kindly use the questions below as a guide to your representations.

Consultation Questions:

- ✓ Is the profile information sufficiently accurate to facilitate the identification of key issues in the Alport Area?
- ✓ Is there any other information or indicator of relevance that should be included in the profile information for the Alport Area?
- ✓ Is there any socio-economic and/or environmental issue specific to the Alport Area that you would like to highlight?

Please send your comments to the Sustainability Officer, Community Planning Department, Amber Valley Borough Council DE5 3XE