Outcome: All people in Newry Mourne and Down enjoy good health and wellbeing

Indicator - Level of Life Expectancy

Life-expectancy is the standard measure of the length of people’s life. Life-expectancy measures how long on average people could expect to live based on the age specific mortality rates currently prevailing. Life –expectancy can be computed at birth and at various ages.

Life expectancy at birth is based on mortality records. The length of life is however not necessarily informative of the quality of health conditions, and thus well-being of individuals.

Measuring morbidity is challenging as morbidity encompasses a variety of conditions (physical and mental) of varying severity (e.g. disability, chronic conditions).

Measure – Life Expectancy
Life Expectancy – Life Expectancy by Sex and Age Group (2001-2013)

We can see from the graph that male life expectancy has been increasing steadily from 2001 to 2013. A person aged <1 and born between 2001 and 2003 has a life expectancy of 75.6 years while a person aged <1 between 2011-2013 will have a life expectancy of 78.5 years.

While the figures above are reflective of the population as a whole we are aware that levels of life expectancy are much lower in the more deprived areas of our district. A sub-regional report (2015) from the Health Inequalities – NI Health and Social Care Inequalities Monitoring System states that males in the 20% most deprived areas of NMDDC could expect to live 2.1 fewer years than in the LGD overall. Females in the 20% most deprived areas could also expect to live 2.1 fewer years than those in the district as a whole. On a slightly more positive note however between 2006-2008 and 2010-2012 the life expectancy inequality gap narrowed by 0.7 years for males while remaining similar for females.
As expected (and as shown in the graph below) females in the district have a higher level of life expectancy than their male counterparts.

A female aged <1 and born between 2001 and 2003 has a life expectancy of 80.4 years while a person aged <1 and born between 2011 and 2013 has a life expectancy of 82.7 years.

While females have a longer life expectancy within our district the rate at which a male’s life expectancy has been extended is far greater than that of a females over the period being analysed.