

HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL

Committee Meeting Policy, Resources & Communications

Report of: Community Engagement Officer

Date: 21 July 2026

Subject: Hassocks Demographics (Agenda Item 5)

1. Recommendations

Members are asked to take note of this report. No actions are required.

2. Background

We reviewed publicly available data, to put together this report on Hassock's demographics. Having an accurate understanding of the Parish's demographics, how these have changed, or may differ from preconceptions, and knowledge on obtaining updated demographics, can be useful for:

- **Service delivery, community engagement and policy formation**
 - i. Better understanding of local population,
 - ii. Providing data for consultation responses or funding bids,
 - iii. Identifying groups the Council could work with to increase engagement.
 - iv. Celebrating diversity and cultural events.

3. What do demographics tell us about Hassocks?

Full data tables and additional sources are included as an appendix at the end of this report. The [NOMIS Parish Profiles](#) from the Office for National Statistics¹, provide the following highlights:

- **Disability** – 15% are Disabled under the Equality Act, with 5% having day-to-day activities limited a lot. A further 5% are not disabled under the Equality Act as they have a long-term physical or mental health condition which does not impact their day-to-day activities.
- **Economic activity** – 60% of 16–74-year-olds are economically active.
- **Ethnic group** – 95% of residents are white.
- **General health** – 53% are in 'very good health', but 14% describe their health as less than good.
- **Household composition** – 68% of households are single family, 28% are single people, and 4% are other household types.
- **Tenure** - 81% of residents own, with 11% renting privately or living rent free and 9% social renting.
- **Industry** – The largest industrial group is those working in "Public administration, education and health" (33%). The smallest (2%) is those working in "Agriculture, energy and water".
- **Car or van availability** – 87% of households have at least one car or van.
- **Occupation** – Of those in work, the largest occupation group is "Professional occupations" (28%) and the smallest group (2%) is "Process, plant and machine operatives".

¹ https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/census_2011_ks/report?compare=E04010002

- **Age** – 56% of residents are aged 16-64, with 20% under 16 and 24% over 64.
- **Travel to work** – 22% of residents (46% of those in employment) work mainly at or from home.
- **Population density** – 781 residents per square kilometre.
- **Country of Birth** – 92% born in the UK.
- **Length of residence** – 2% have been in the UK less than 10 years.
- **National identity – UK** – Largest group (61%) is those only identifying as British.
- **Religion** – Largest group is No religion (49%) followed by Christian (43%).
- **Household language** – 97% of households have all adults speaking English, 1% have no members of the household speaking English.
- **Accommodation type** – The most common type is Detached Houses (41%).
- **Sexual orientation and Gender identity** - Information is only available at Mid Sussex level and is broadly in line with national averages.
- **Highest level of qualification** – 44% (of those over 16) have Level 4 qualifications or above. 11% have no qualifications.
- **Schoolchildren and full-time students** – 11%
- **Provision of unpaid care** – 5% of residents over 5 provide up to 19 hours of unpaid care a week, 2% provide 50 or more.

4. How is Hassocks changing?

- **Getting bigger** - 11% increase in residents.
- **Getting less economically active** - 40% increase in economically inactive rate.
- **Getting more ethnically diverse** - 2% decrease in proportion of white ethnic, 71% increase in proportion of other ethnic groups.
- **Changing significantly in terms of industrial mix** - largest changes are a 17% decrease in proportion working in “Distribution, hotels and restaurants” and a 14% decrease in proportion working in “Agriculture, energy and water”.
- **Becoming more car focussed**: 17% decrease in proportion of those with no cars or vans in household, 11% fewer total households with no cars or vans.
- **Changing significantly in terms of occupation mix** - biggest change is a 44% increase in proportion of “Managers, directors and senior officials”.
- **Getting younger** - 11% increase in proportion of residents aged 15 and under (23% increase in total number). 6% decrease in proportion of residents aged 65 and over (5% increase in total number).

5. Demographic data accuracy

2. The primary source of local demographic information is the Census. However, the 2021 Census was conducted under unusual circumstances and may not accurately reflect the current Hassocks community. There have also been increases in population with the Ockley Park (90% houses sold) and Friars Oak (85% of Phase 1 houses sold) developments. Residents here may have different demographics with different service and community needs.²

² For example, between the 2021 Census and 2024 mid-year estimate, the population of Hassocks, Keymer & East Hurstpierpoint increased by 7.4% or 747 residents. In many cases data is only available for the Middle Layer Super Output Area (MSOA) E02006620 for Hassocks, Keymer & East Hurstpierpoint. In the 2021 Census this included had a population of 10,039, compared to 8,499 in the Hassocks Parish. [Source](#).

Appendix – demographic data

NOMIS Parish Profile data

PP001 - Number of Households						
	2021 # - Hassocks					
Number of households	3,579					
PP002 – Sex						
	2021 # - Hassocks	2021 % - Hassocks	2011 # - Hassocks	2011 % - Hassocks	% change (of #) 2011>21	% change (of %) 2011>21
All persons	8,499	100.0%	7,667	100.0%	11%	0%
Female	4,463	52.5%	4,042	52.7%	10%	0%
Male	4,036	47.5%	3,625	47.3%	11%	0%
PP003 - Disability						
	2021 # - Hassocks	2021 % - Hassocks				
Total	8,515					
Disabled under the Equality Act	1,319	15%				
Disabled under the Equality Act: Day-to-day activities limited a lot	459	5%				
Disabled under the Equality Act: Day-to-day activities limited a little	860	10%				
Not disabled under the Equality Act	7,196	85%				
Not disabled under the Equality Act: Has long-term physical or mental health condition but day-to-day activities are not limited	760	9%				
Not disabled under the Equality Act: No long-term physical or mental health conditions	6,436	76%				
PP004 - Economic activity						
	2021 # - Hassocks	2021 % - Hassocks	2011 # - Hassocks	2011 % - Hassocks	% change (of #) 2011>21	% change (of %) 2011>21
Total (of 16-74)	6,833		5,229		31%	
Economically active	4,104	60.1%	3,737	71.5%	10%	-16%

Economically active: In employment (including full-time students)	3,951	57.8%	3,501	67.0%	13%	-14%
Economically active: Unemployed (including full-time students)	153	2.2%	112	2.1%	37%	5%
Economically inactive	2,729	39.9%	1,492	28.5%	83%	40%
PP005 - Ethnic group	2021 # - Hassocks	2021 % - Hassocks	2011 # - Hassocks	2011 % - Hassocks	% change (of #) 2011>21	% change (of %) 2011>21
Total	8,515		7,667		11%	
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh	97	1.1%	74	1.0%	31%	18%
Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African	33	0.4%	13	0.2%	154%	129%
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	216	2.5%	109	1.4%	98%	78%
White	8,128	95.5%	7,463	97.3%	9%	-2%
Other ethnic group	41	0.5%	8	0.1%	413%	361%
All non-white ethnic groups	387	4.5%	204	2.7%	90%	71%
PP006 - General health	2021 # - Hassocks	2021 % - Hassocks				
Total	8,517					
Very good health	4,505	52.9%				
Good health	2,797	32.8%				
Fair health	888	10.4%				
Bad health	269	3.2%				
Very bad health	58	0.7%				
PP007 - Household composition	2021 # - Hassocks	2021 % - Hassocks				
Total	3,586					
Other household types	150	4.2%				
One-person household	991	27.6%				

Single family household	2,445	68.2%				
PP008 - Tenure	2021 # - Hassocks	2021 % - Hassocks				
Total	3,586					
Owned or shared ownership	2,887	81%				
Social rented	315	9%				
Private rented or lives rent free	384	11%				
PP009 - Industry	2021 # - Hassocks	2021 % - Hassocks	2011 # - Hassocks	2011 % - Hassocks	% change (of #) 2011>21	% change (of %) 2011>21
Total	3,951		3,614		9%	
A, B, D, E Agriculture, energy and water	62	1.6%	66	1.8%	-6%	-14%
C Manufacturing	176	4.5%	182	5.0%	-3%	-12%
F Construction	288	7.3%	263	7.3%	10%	0%
G, I Distribution, hotels and restaurants	567	14.4%	623	17.2%	-9%	-17%
H, J Transport and communication	386	9.8%	339	9.4%	14%	4%
K, L, M, N Financial, real estate, professional and administrative activities	944	23.9%	831	23.0%	14%	4%
O, P, Q Public administration, education and health	1,308	33.1%	1,116	30.9%	17%	7%
R, S, T, U Other	220	5.6%	194	5.4%	13%	4%
PP010 - Car or van availability	2021 # - Hassocks	2021 % - Hassocks	2011 # - Hassocks	2011 % - Hassocks	% change (of #) 2011>21	% change (of %) 2011>21
Total	3,586		3,341		7%	
No cars or vans in household	484	13.5%	546	16.3%	-11%	-17%
1 or more cars or vans in household	3,102	86.5%	2,795	83.7%	11%	3%

PP011 - Occupation	2021 # - Hassocks	2021 % - Hassocks	2011 # - Hassocks	2011 % - Hassocks	% change (of #) 2011>21	% change (of %) 2011>21
Total: All usual residents aged 16 years and over in employment the week before the census	3,951		3,614		9%	
1. Managers, directors and senior officials	732	18.5%	464	12.8%	58%	44%
2. Professional occupations	1,105	28.0%	845	23.4%	31%	20%
3. Associate professional and technical occupations	593	15.0%	563	15.6%	5%	-4%
4. Administrative and secretarial occupations	365	9.2%	447	12.4%	-18%	-25%
5. Skilled trades occupations	305	7.7%	341	9.4%	-11%	-18%
6. Caring, leisure and other service occupations	314	7.9%	330	9.1%	-5%	-13%
7. Sales and customer service occupations	212	5.4%	226	6.3%	-6%	-14%
8. Process, plant and machine operatives	90	2.3%	147	4.1%	-39%	-44%
9. Elementary occupations	235	5.9%	251	6.9%	-6%	-14%
PP012 - Age	2021 # - Hassocks	2021 % - Hassocks	2011 # - Hassocks	2011 % - Hassocks	% change (of #) 2011>21	% change (of %) 2011>21
Total	8,515		7,667		11%	
Aged 15 years and under	1,682	20%	1,364	17.8%	23%	11%
Aged 16 to 64 years	4,768	56%	4,330	56.5%	10%	-1%
Aged 65 years and over	2,065	24%	1,973	25.7%	5%	-6%
PP013 - Travel to work	2021 # - Hassocks	2021 % - Hassocks	2021 % - Hassocks (Excluding not in work)			

Total	8,514					
Work mainly at or from home	1,832	22%	46%			
Underground, metro, light rail, tram	4	0%	0%			
Train	189	2%	5%			
Bus, minibus or coach	35	0%	1%			
Taxi	3	0%	0%			
Motorcycle, scooter or moped	14	0%	0%			
Driving a car or van	1,505	18%	38%			
Passenger in a car or van	90	1%	2%			
Bicycle	41	0%	1%			
On foot	211	2%	5%			
Other method of travel to work	26	0%	1%			
Not in employment or aged 15 years and under	4,564	54%				
TS006 - Population density	2021 # - Hassocks	2021 # -Mid Sussex	2021 # - England			
Usual residents per square kilometre	781.3	456.8	433.5			
TS007B - Age by broad age bands	2021 # - Hassocks	2021 % - Hassocks	2021 # -Mid Sussex	2021 % -Mid Sussex	2021 # - England	2021 % - England
Total	8,498	100%	152,566	100%	56,490,047	100%
Aged 4 years and under	436	5%	8,315	5%	3,076,950	5%
Aged 5 to 9 years	569	7%	9,382	6%	3,348,700	6%
Aged 10 to 15 years	673	8%	11,553	8%	4,057,441	7%
Aged 16 to 19 years	329	4%	6,202	4%	2,574,781	5%
Aged 20 to 24 years	296	3%	6,373	4%	3,414,452	6%
Aged 25 to 34 years	678	8%	16,848	11%	7,667,865	14%
Aged 35 to 49 years	1,750	21%	31,449	21%	10,978,438	19%
Aged 50 to 64 years	1,711	20%	30,953	20%	10,970,119	19%
Aged 65 to 74 years	924	11%	16,105	11%	5,564,143	10%
Aged 75 to 84 years	744	9%	10,689	7%	3,464,857	6%
Aged 85 years and over	388	5%	4,697	3%	1,372,301	2%

TS004A - Country of Birth	2021 # - Hassocks	2021 % - Hassocks	2021 # -Mid Sussex	2021 % -Mid Sussex	2021 # - England	2021 % - England
All usual residents	8,498	100%	152,566	100%	56,490,048	100%
Europe	8,159	96%	142,364	93%	50,730,043	90%
United Kingdom	7,848	92%	134,395	88%	46,687,506	83%
Ireland	46	1%	927	1%	314,674	1%
Other	265	3%	7,042	5%	3,727,863	7%
Africa	75	1%	2,976	2%	1,558,199	3%
Middle East and Asia	123	1%	4,767	3%	3,241,701	6%
The Americas and the Caribbean	105	1%	1,754	1%	789,999	1%
Antarctica and Oceania (including Australasia) and Other	36	0%	705	0%	170,106	0%
TS016 - Length of residence	2021 # - Hassocks	2021 % - Hassocks	2021 # -Mid Sussex	2021 % -Mid Sussex	2021 # - England	2021 % - England
Total: All usual residents	8,497	100%	152,566	100%	56,490,048	100%
Born in the UK	7,848	92%	134,395	88%	46,687,506	83%
10 years or more	491	6%	11,629	8%	5,708,760	10%
5 years or more, but less than 10 years	74	1%	2,752	2%	1,699,938	3%
2 years or more, but less than 5 years	60	1%	1,999	1%	1,295,390	2%
Less than 2 years	24	0%	1,791	1%	1,098,454	2%
TS027 - National identity - UK	2021 # - Hassocks	2021 % - Hassocks	2021 # -Mid Sussex	2021 % -Mid Sussex	2021 # - England	2021 % - England
Total: All usual residents	8,500	100%	152,567	100%	56,490,048	100%
British only identity	5,174	61%	89,130	58%	32,103,291	57%
English only identity	1,373	16%	24,757	16%	8,615,437	15%
English and British only identity	1,295	15%	23,506	15%	8,057,675	14%
Welsh only identity	23	0%	450	0%	192,668	0%

Welsh and British only identity	20	0%	198	0%	86,966	0%
Any other combination of only UK identities	99	1%	1,716	1%	648,235	1%
Non-UK identity only	343	4%	9,625	6%	5,629,752	10%
UK identity and non-UK identity	173	2%	3,185	2%	1,156,024	2%
TS030 - Religion	2021 # - Hassocks	2021 % - Hassocks	2021 # -Mid Sussex	2021 % -Mid Sussex	2021 # - England	2021 % - England
Total: All usual residents	8,502	100%	152,569	100%	56,490,048	100%
No religion	4,158	49%	64,207	42%	20,715,664	37%
Christian	3,656	43%	73,108	48%	26,167,899	46%
Buddhist	31	0%	577	0%	262,433	0%
Hindu	18	0%	1,573	1%	1,020,533	2%
Jewish	28	0%	328	0%	269,283	0%
Muslim	61	1%	1,841	1%	3,801,186	7%
Sikh	4	0%	148	0%	520,092	1%
Other religion	70	1%	1,121	1%	332,410	1%
Not answered	476	6%	9,666	6%	3,400,548	6%
TS025 - Household language	2021 # - Hassocks	2021 % - Hassocks	2021 # -Mid Sussex	2021 % -Mid Sussex	2021 # - England	2021 % - England
Total: All households	3,579	100%	63,349	100%	23,436,085	100%
All adults in household have English in England, or English or Welsh in Wales as a main language	3,466	97%	59,907	95%	20,920,337	89%
At least one but not all adults in household have English in England, or English or Welsh in Wales as a main language	80	2%	1,735	3%	1,016,273	4%
No adults in household, but at least one person aged 3 to 15 years, has English in England or English	12	0%	404	1%	323,408	1%

or Welsh in Wales as a main language						
No people in household have English in England, or English or Welsh in Wales as a main language	21	1%	1,303	2%	1,176,067	5%
TS044 - Accommodation type	2021 # - Hassocks	2021 % - Hassocks	2021 # -Mid Sussex	2021 % -Mid Sussex	2021 # - England	2021 % - England
Total	3,579	100%	63,351	100%	23,436,085	100%
Detached	1,476	41%	21,657	34%	5,368,859	23%
Semi-detached	1,255	35%	18,994	30%	7,378,304	31%
Terraced	324	9%	9,960	16%	5,381,432	23%
In a purpose-built block of flats or tenement	401	11%	9,829	16%	3,999,771	17%
Part of a converted or shared house, including bedsits	56	2%	1,364	2%	821,153	4%
Part of another converted building, for example, former school, church or warehouse	16	0%	661	1%	188,705	1%
In a commercial building, for example, in an office building, hotel or over a shop	44	1%	607	1%	197,967	1%
A caravan or other mobile or temporary structure	7	0%	279	0%	99,894	0%
TS079 - Sexual orientation (detailed)	2021 # -Mid Sussex	2021 % -Mid Sussex	2021 # - England	2021 % - England		
Total: All usual residents aged 16 years and over	123,314	100%	46,006,957	100%		
Straight or Heterosexual	112,276	91%	41,114,478	89%		
Gay or Lesbian	1,642	1%	709,704	2%		
Bisexual	1,303	1%	591,690	1%		
Pansexual	120	0%	45,435	0%		

Asexual	68	0%	26,614	0%		
Queer	23	0%	13,928	0%		
All other sexual orientations	90	0%	72,380	0%		
Not answered	7,792	6%	3,432,728	7%		
TS070 - Gender identity (detailed)	2021 # -Mid Sussex	2021 % -Mid Sussex	2021 # - England	2021 % - England		
Total: All usual residents aged 16 years and over	123,319	100%	46,006,958	100%		
Gender identity the same as sex registered at birth	117,150	95%	43,002,331	93%		
Gender identity different from sex registered at birth but no specific identity given	147	0%	113,760	0%		
Trans woman	89	0%	45,684	0%		
Trans man	69	0%	46,513	0%		
Non-binary	58	0%	28,710	0%		
All other gender identities	32	0%	17,177	0%		
Not answered	5,774	5%	2,752,783	6%		
TS067 - Highest level of qualification	2021 # - Hassocks	2021 % - Hassocks	2021 # -Mid Sussex	2021 % -Mid Sussex	2021 # - England	2021 % - England
Total: All usual residents aged 16 years and over	6,820	100%	123,316	100%	46,006,955	100%
No qualifications	735	11%	14,457	12%	8,317,789	18%
Level 1 and entry level qualifications	564	8%	11,498	9%	4,456,198	10%
Level 2 qualifications	923	14%	18,511	15%	6,126,130	13%
Apprenticeship	306	4%	5,769	5%	2,446,935	5%
Level 3 qualifications	1,089	16%	22,257	18%	7,784,977	17%
Level 4 qualifications or above	3,033	44%	47,689	39%	15,606,458	34%
Other qualifications	170	2%	3,135	3%	1,268,468	3%
TS068 - Schoolchildren and full-time students	2021 # - Hassocks	2021 % - Hassocks	2021 # -Mid Sussex	2021 % -Mid Sussex	2021 # - England	2021 % - England

Total	8,063	100%	144,251	100%	53,413,097	100%
Student	1,564	19%	27,018	19%	10,920,505	20%
Not a student	6,499	81%	117,233	81%	42,492,592	80%
TS039 - Provision of unpaid care	2021 # - Hassocks	2021 % - Hassocks	2021 # -Mid Sussex	2021 % -Mid Sussex	2021 # - England	2021 % - England
Total: All usual residents aged 5 and over	8,063	100%	144,249	100%	53,413,098	100%
Provides no unpaid care	7,348	91%	132,667	92%	48,734,833	91%
Provides 19 hours or less unpaid care a week	415	5%	6,867	5%	2,303,725	4%
Provides 20 to 49 hours unpaid care a week	108	1%	1,836	1%	969,769	2%
Provides 50 or more hours unpaid care a week	192	2%	2,879	2%	1,404,771	3%

Alternative data sources

The Census Data UK website is useful source.

<https://censusdata.uk/e02006620-hassocks-keymer--east-hurstpierpoint/>

The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) from the West Sussex Public Health and Social Research Unit is designed to provide a summary of the current and future health, care and wellbeing needs of the local population.

<https://jsna.westsussex.gov.uk/>

Census Maps from the Office for national Statistics can provide a range of demographic data based on a geographical area

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/census/maps/>