

Benefit Recipient List and ECO Eligibility in Amber Valley

Data Context

The benefits recipient list for Amber Valley, as of September 2013, held a record for 10,212 residents. This is around 8.3% of Amber Valley's population which stood at 122,309 in 2011.

Of the benefits recipient list 4,771 individuals (46.7%) were RSL tenants, 3,088 residents (30.2%) were owner occupiers and 2,353 residents (23.0%) were private rental tenants. For the purposes of this report RSL tenants are excluded as they, by default, are not eligible for ECO financial support.

Of all the owner occupiers and private rental tenants 3,322 residents were eligible for ECO financial support based on their receipt of benefits. Of those eligible 2,042 residents (61.5%) were owner occupiers and 1,280 residents (38.5%) were private rental tenants.

Outline Analysis

The following analysis focuses on Amber Valley's four key towns. The data for ECO eligible residents was filtered by the postcode area for each of the four towns. In all 2,789 eligible residents (84%) live in the four town postcode areas and 533 eligible residents (16%) live outside of these areas. Therefore less than one in five eligible residents live in Amber Valley's smaller settlements. Figure 1 below highlights the distribution of these residents across the borough.

Figure 1: Distribution of ECO eligible residents by tenure type across Amber Valley

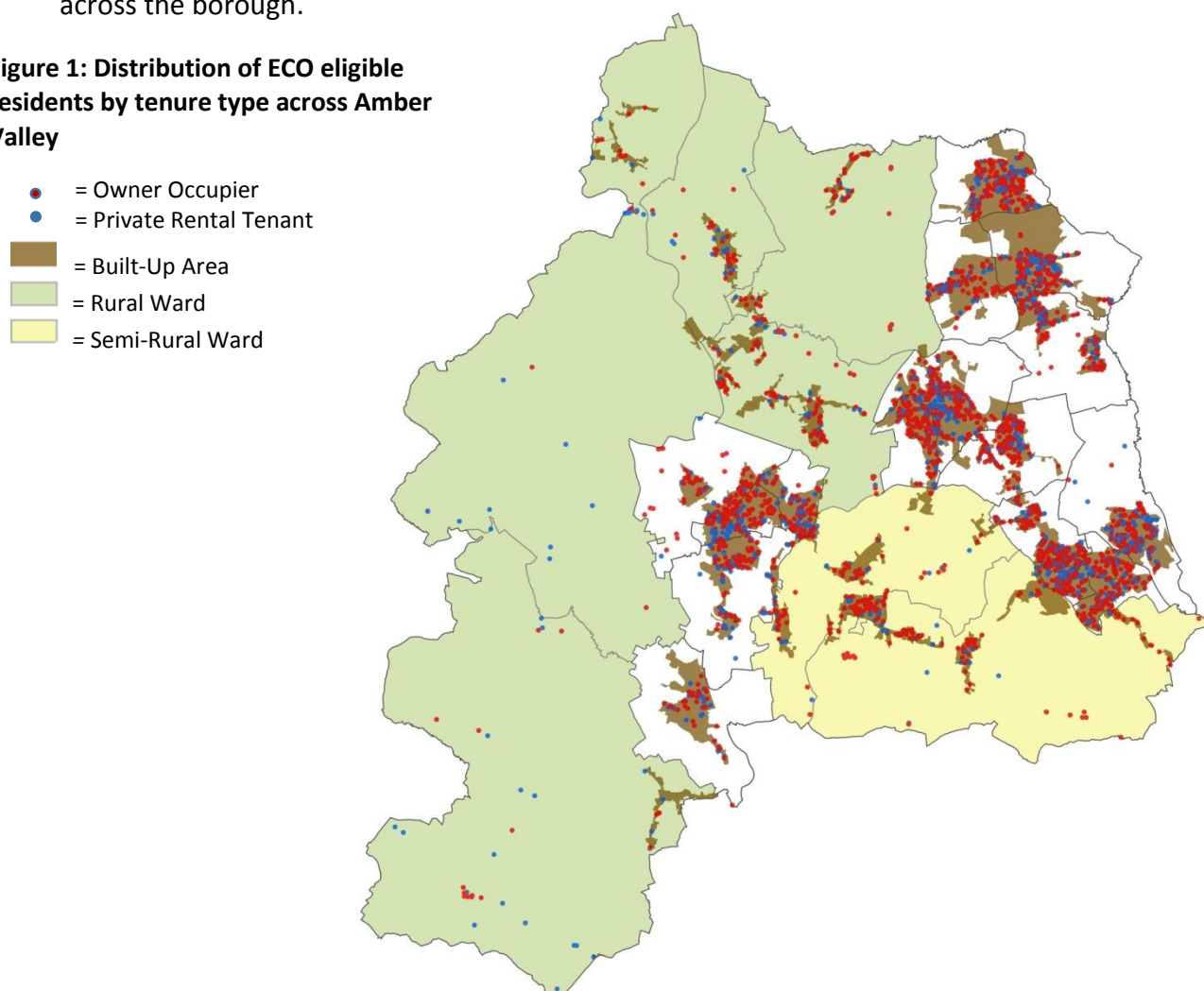


Figure 1 underlines the high density of eligible residents in each of Amber Valley’s four towns. It is worth underlining that a high number of eligible residents living in rural areas are private rental tenants. Suggesting perhaps a number of ‘hidden’ rental tenants that are eligible for ECO financial support. Across the four towns the distribution of owner occupiers and private rental tenants is relatively even. However slight clusters of private rental tenants are evident. The table below breaks down the distribution of tenure types across the four key towns.

Table 1: Proportion of ECO eligible residents by tenure across Amber Valley’s four towns

Town	ECO Eligible	Owner Occupiers		Private Rented	
	Number	Number	%	Number	%
D55 - Alferton	703	413	58.7	290	41.3
D56 - Belper	750	473	63.1	277	36.9
DE75 - Heanor	562	303	53.9	259	46.1
DE5 - Ripley	774	531	68.6	243	31.4

Table 1 highlights the relatively consistent proportion of tenure types with the proportion of eligible owner occupiers being higher across Amber Valley’s four towns. The ratio of owner occupiers to private rental tenants is highest in Ripley and lowest in Heanor.

Table 2: Proportion of ECO eligible residents by disability across Amber Valley’s four towns

Town	ECO Eligible	Disability		No Disability	
	Number	Number	%	Number	%
D55 - Alferton	703	153	21.8	550	78.2
D56 - Belper	750	193	25.7	557	74.3
DE75 - Heanor	562	112	19.9	450	80.1
DE5 - Ripley	774	207	26.7	567	73.3

Table 2 reports that around a quarter to one fifth of eligible residents have a disability. This proportion is relatively consistent across the four towns. The highest rate of disability is in Ripley and the lowest in Heanor.

Table 3: Proportion of ECO eligible residents by older age band across Amber Valley’s four towns

Town	ECO Eligible	60 +		70 +	
	Number	Number	%	Number	%
D55 - Alferton	703	453	64.4	292	41.5
D56 - Belper	750	525	70.0	359	47.9
DE75 - Heanor	562	298	53.0	188	33.5
DE5 - Ripley	774	549	70.9	394	50.9

Table 3 focuses on older ECO eligible residents in retirement age bands. The proportion of eligible residents over the age of 60 is high, more than a half across all four towns, with the highest proportion in Ripley and the lowest in Heanor. When the over 70 age band is considered (inclusive of those over 60) the proportion of eligible residents remains high. Between a third and a half of all eligible residents across Amber Valley's four towns are over 70.