

Excess winter deaths

Measured as the ratio of extra deaths from all causes that occur in the winter months compared with the expected number of deaths, based on the average of the number of non-winter deaths

Performance:

2014/15
(PHOF): 25.2

Introduction

Most excess winter deaths are due to circulatory and respiratory diseases, and the majority occur amongst the elderly population. Research carried out by the Eurowinter Group and Curwen found that mortality during winter increases more in England and Wales compared to other European countries with colder climates, suggesting that many more deaths could be preventable in England and Wales.

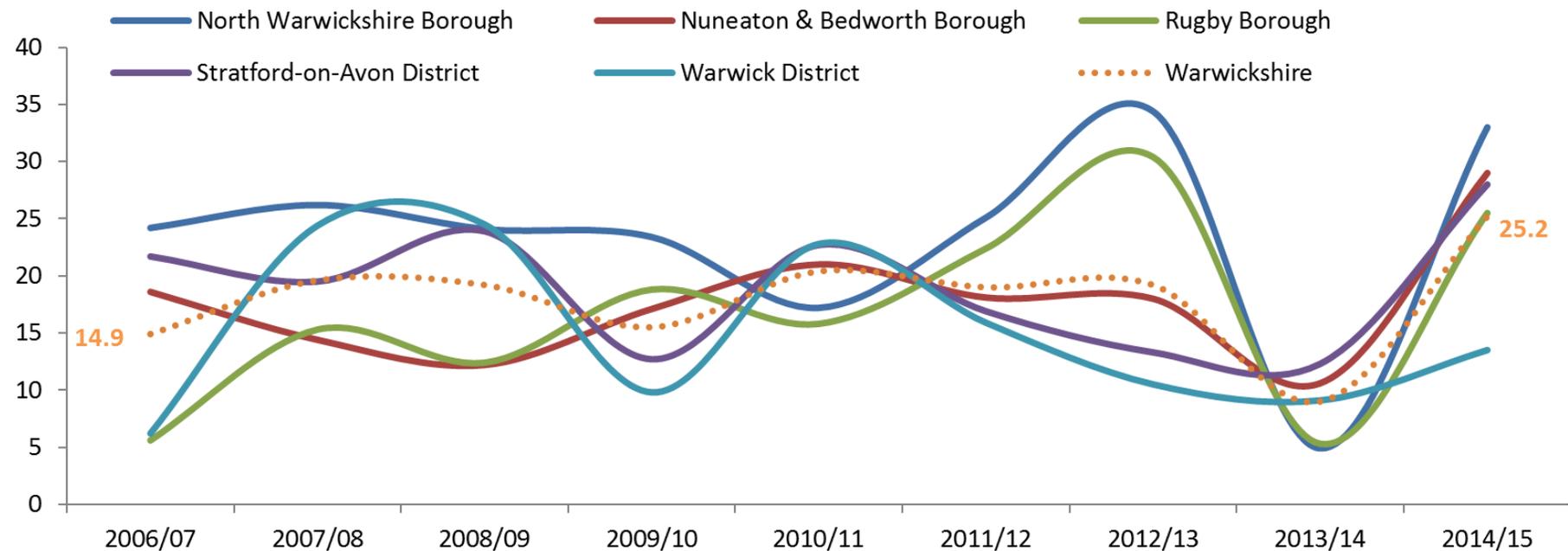
Current position

Excess winter deaths trends from 2006/07 to 2014/15 indicate peaks and troughs in Warwickshire but this may be largely due to the temperature and the level of diseases prevalent during that particular year. Importantly though, throughout the years, when figures are benchmarked against England, the values are statistically similar.

Locally produced analysis using provisional data, for 2015/16, shows most excess deaths occurring in Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough (78) and fewest in Stratford District (38). A total of 272 excess winter deaths occurred in Warwickshire.

Excess winter deaths index, 2006/07 to 2014/15

Source: Public Health England



Current activity

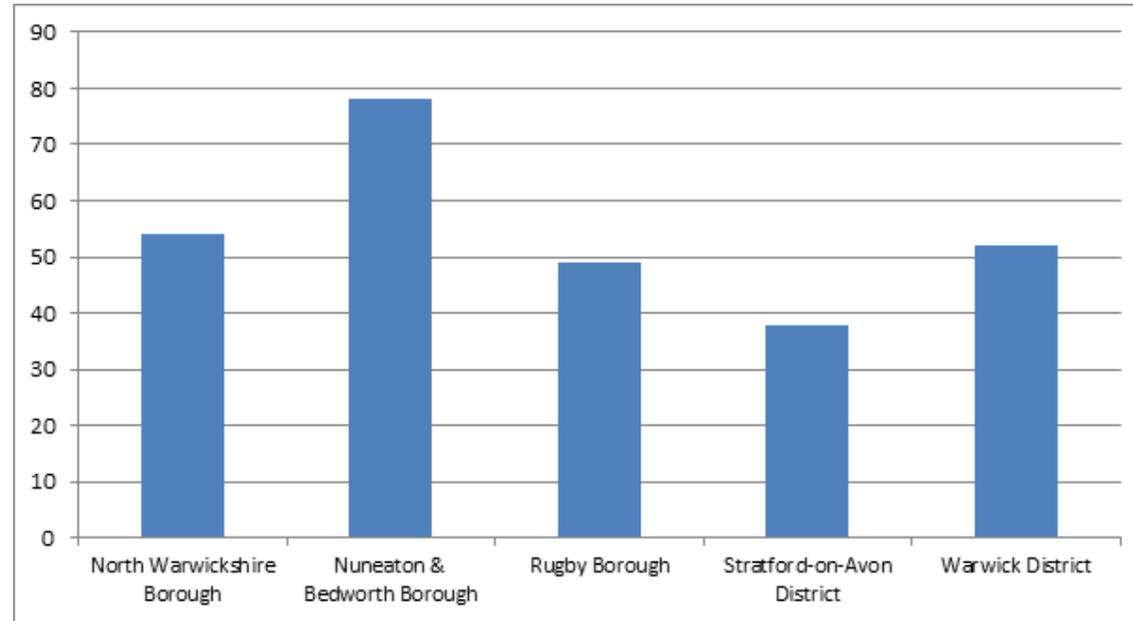
Public Health Warwickshire leads the Warm and Well Steering Group. Warm and Well services for 2015/16, have delivered:

- Support and advice line for provision of information, advice and guidance related to fuel switching, home energy management and benefit/payment entitlements.
- Support in rural and hard to reach communities.
- Direct to door community support.
- Support for boiler replacements/repairs and loft and cavity wall insulation.
- Emergency Heating.
- Benefit Uptake Project.
- Training and talks to the community and professionals.
- Promotion of seasonal flu vaccinations.

Future activity

- £100,000 allocated to support the Warm and Well agenda in 2016/17. The funding will be used to support the provision of information, advice and guidance services and physical energy efficiency interventions which will contribute to reducing fuel poverty and excess winter deaths.
- The 'boiler on prescription' pilot is ongoing and its impact will be evaluated and reported.

Warwickshire number of excess winter deaths by district/ borough (2015/16*)



Source: Primary Care Mortality Database

* Time period from 01.08.2015 to 31.07.2016

There
were

270

excess winter
deaths in
Warwickshire
during 2015/16