



# **Government Office for the East of England**

**Gary Gant**

**Team Leader**

**Early Years and Childhood Team**



department for  
children, schools and families

# What we are going to cover



- **Government Office for the East of England regional context**
- **Government Office role**
- **What we know about outcomes for children in Early Years in the East of England**

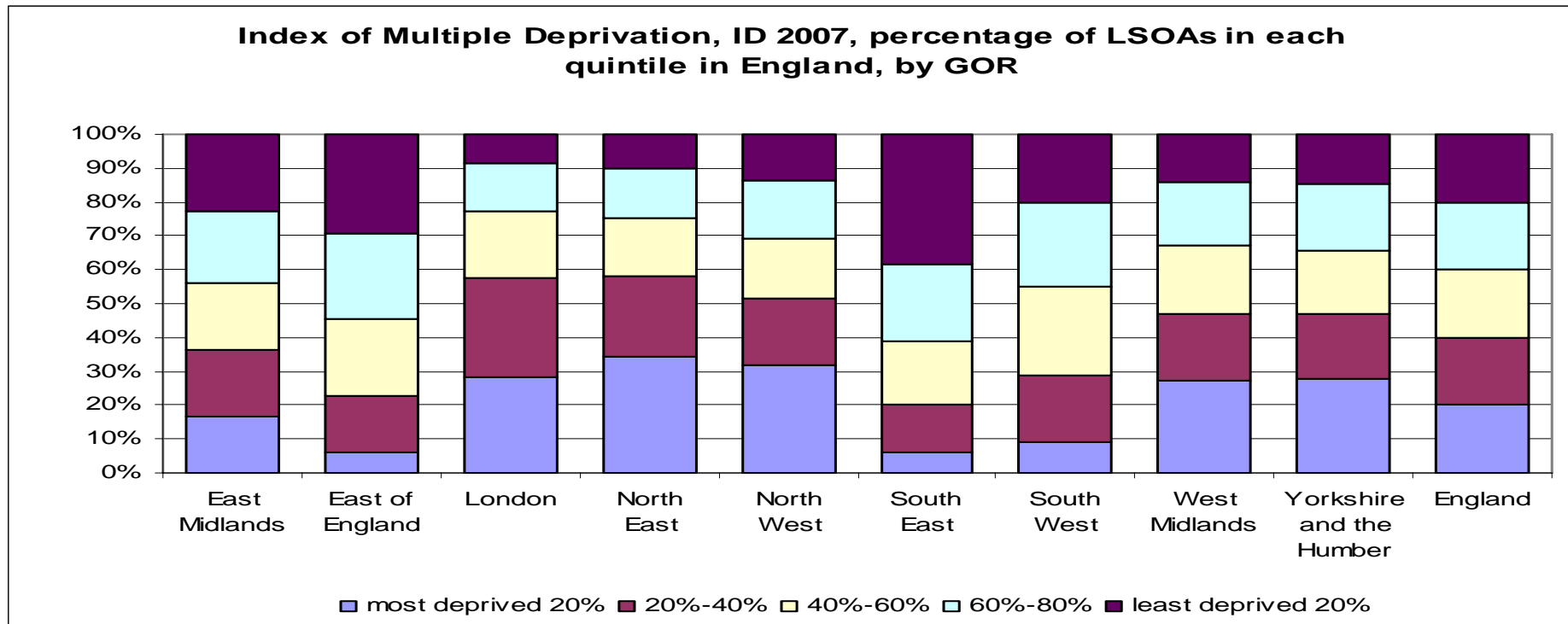


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# East of England Context



The region is home to around 5.5 million people



# Government Office Role



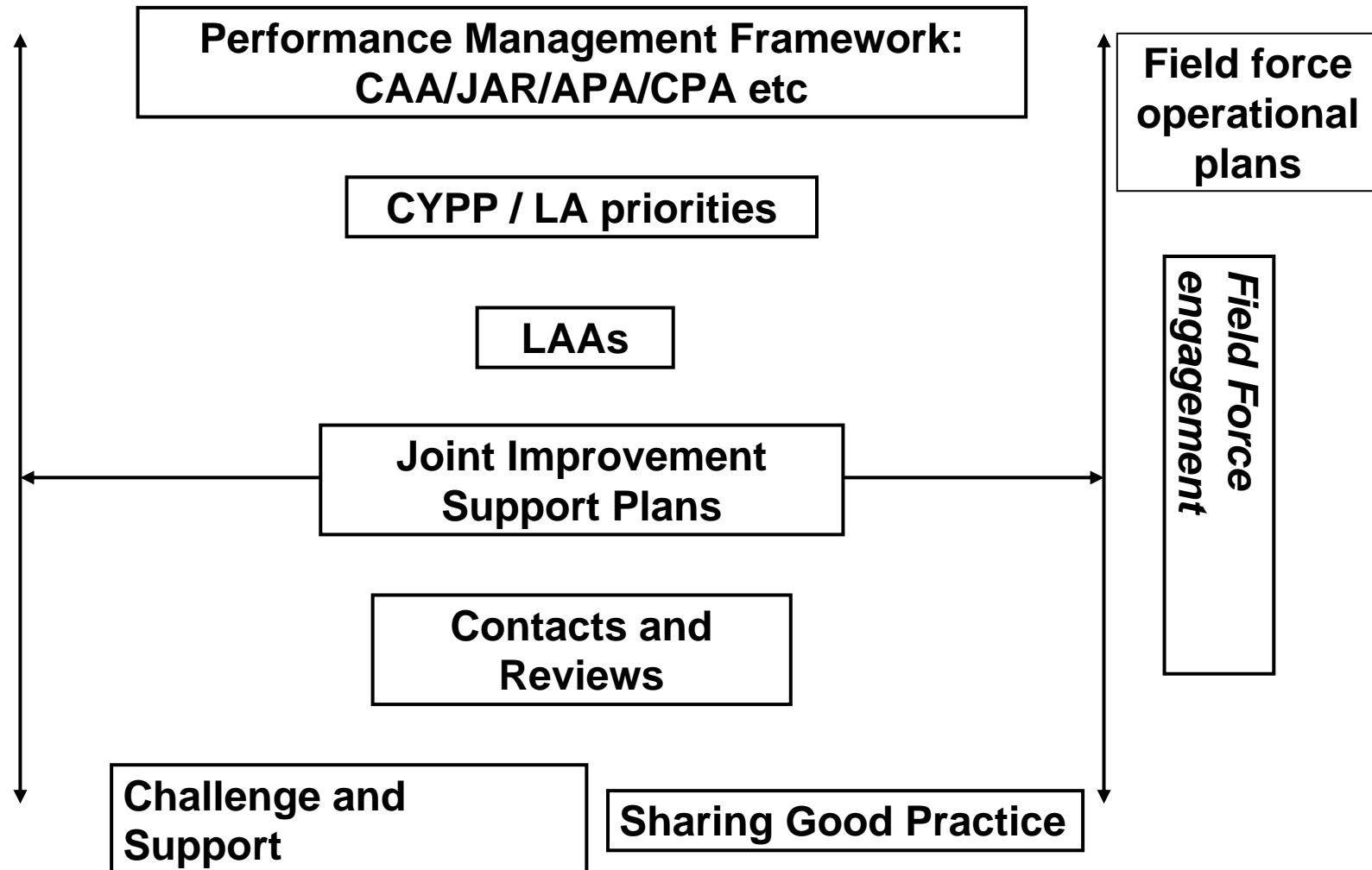
- **Provide “central government in the regions”**
- **Challenge and support LA’s on the delivery of the ECM agenda**
- **Children’s Services Advisers - strategic co-ordination of engagement plan with each LA and JISP (Joint Improvement Support Plan)**
- **LAA - Targets and Improvement support**
- **Policy Teams focus on specific themes and have place based knowledge**



# Strategic Engagement Cycle/JISP process



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# Annual Performance Assessment



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- **Be Healthy**
- **Staying Safe**
- **Enjoy and Achieve**
- **Making a positive contribution**
- **Achieve Economic well being**

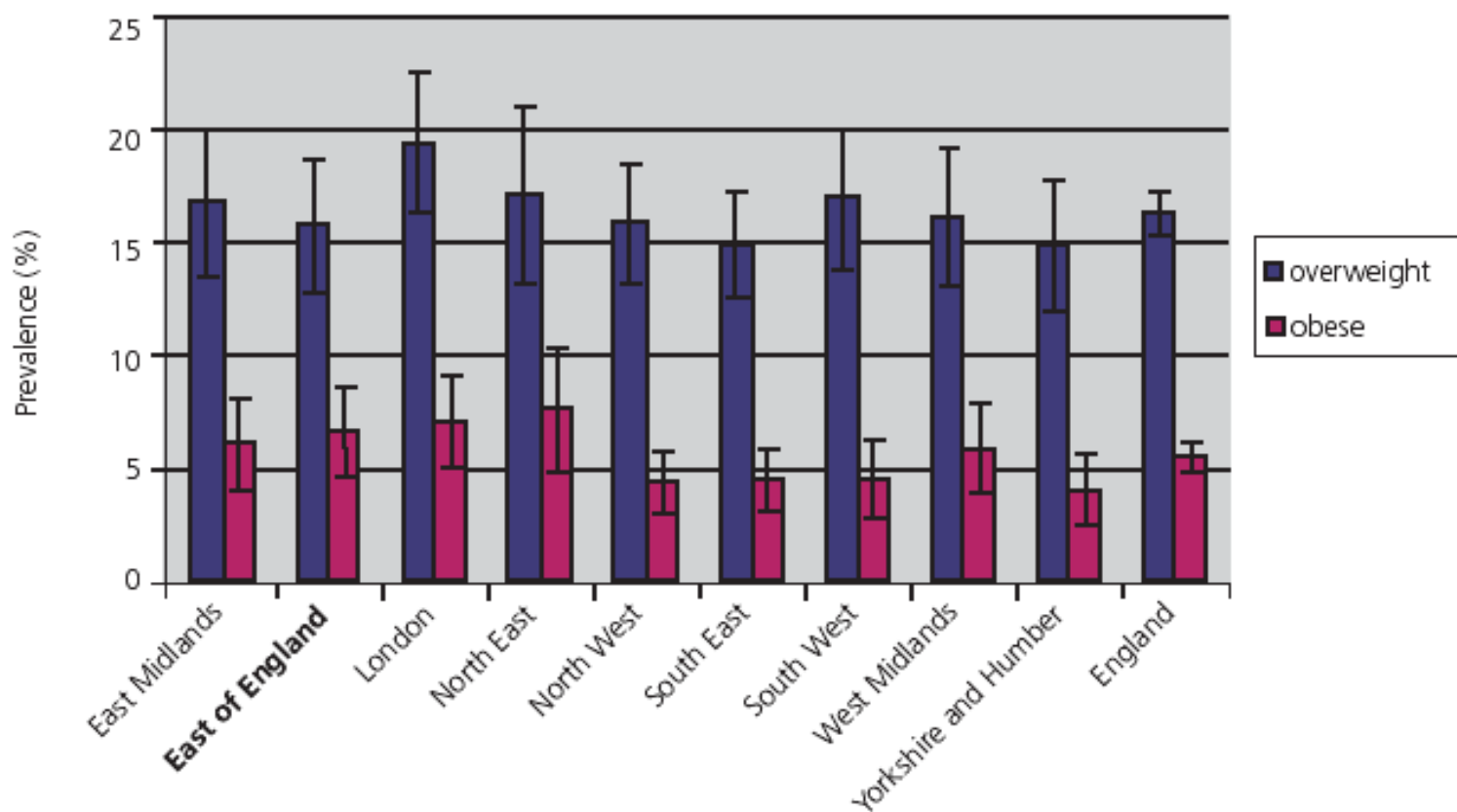


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# What we know about Early Years in the East of England



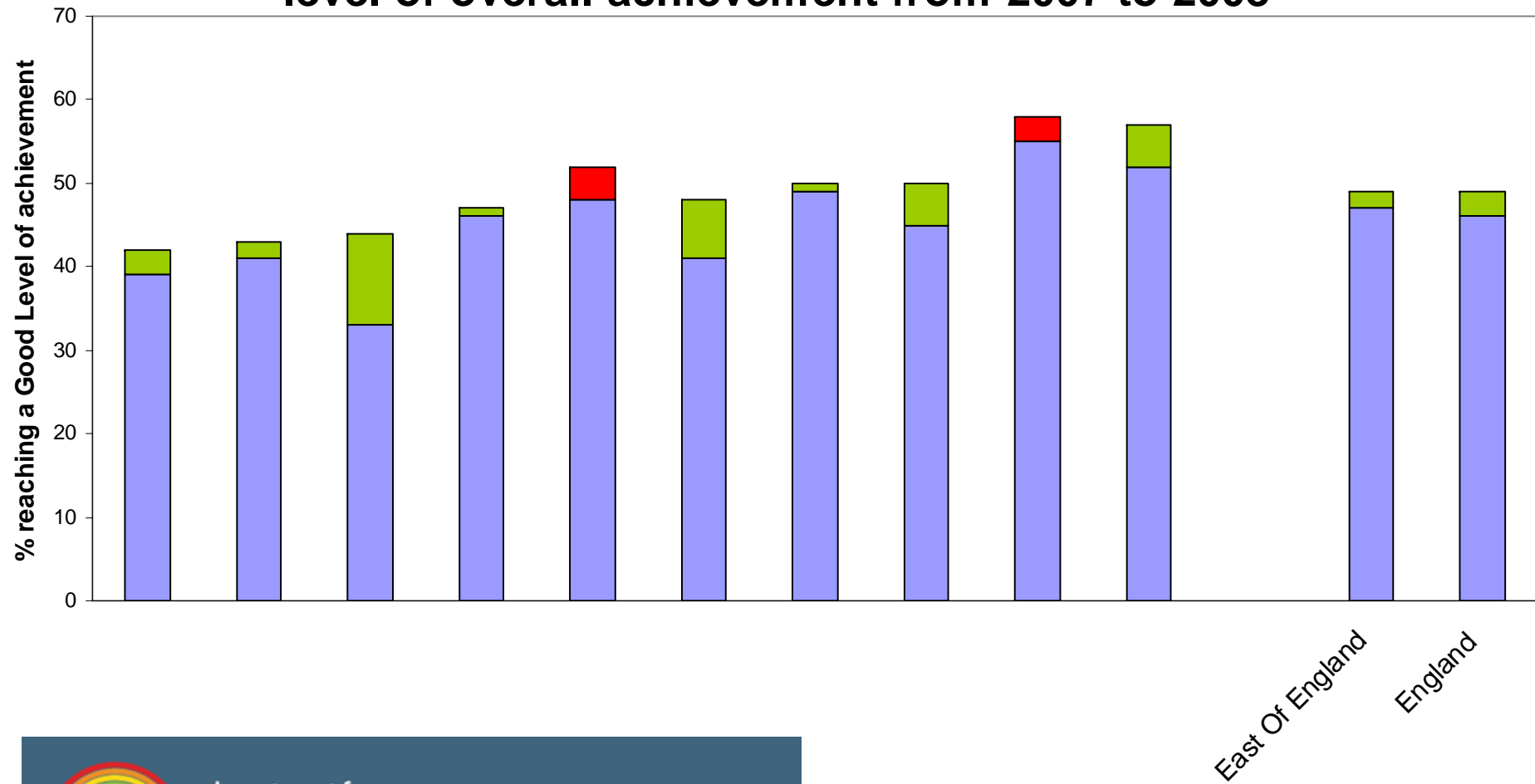
Male children aged 2–15





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## East of England - Change in % children reaching a good level of overall achievement from 2007 to 2008





# Children's Centres



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Local Authority	Total Number of Centres
Bedfordshire	38
Cambridgeshire	40
Essex	85
Hertfordshire	80
Luton	22
Norfolk	33 (+2)
Peterborough	15
Southend	14
Suffolk	48
Thurrock	15



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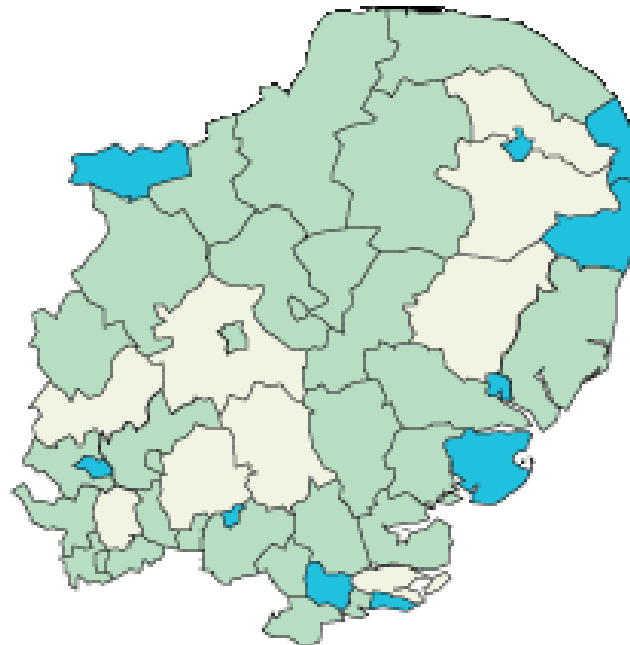
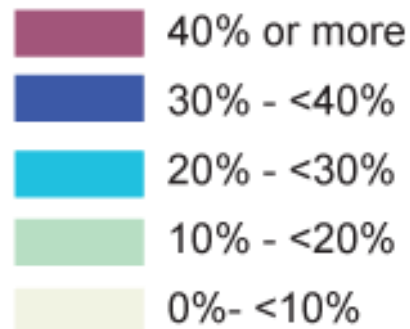
# Child Poverty Hot Spots in the East of England



## % of children in families on out of work benefits by Local Authority

Source: Joseph Rowntree Foundation calculations based on Department of Work and Pensions data

### Colour key:



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# Health and the Early Years Agenda



- **Child Health Promotion Programme – (CHPP) Health led but multi-agency delivery**
- **Family Nurse Partnership – Joint DH DCSF-intensive nurse led home visiting for vulnerable families of children 0-2**
- **Breastfeeding – increase the proportion of mothers who breastfeed at 6weeks**
- **Parenting – major emphasis on parenting support**



# Pilots and Pathfinders



- **Disabled Children's Access to Childcare**
- **0-7 Partnership Pilots**
- **2 Year Old Free Entitlement**
- **Family Nurse Partnerships**
- **3 & 4 Year Old Free and Flexible Pathfinders**
- **Play Pathfinders**



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**With everyone playing their part, we can  
make this the best place in the world to  
grow up**

**Rt Hon Ed Balls MP  
Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families Jan 2009**



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