**Census Data and Analysis**

In May 2013, the Office for National statistics (ONS) released further data from the 2011 census about economic activity, including self-employment that can be broken down by Local Authority areas and according to whether people have no, a lot or little limitations. (For the purposes of this paper, people declaring either a lot or little limitations are considered to be disabled people within the definition of the Equality Act 2010)

1. **Population.** The data in this paper is based on the census (except where stated otherwise) and relates to the population aged 16 and over: 62,200 BDC; 85,600 CBC; 43m England.

2. **People with limitations/disabilities.**

* Of the England population, people with some limitations represented just over one fifth with a fairly even split between those with a lot of or little limitation.
* People in BDC and CBC were much more likely to have limitations than in England as a whole and there was a higher proportion in BDC who were limited a lot.
	+ Of the population aged 16 and over, percentages of those with some limitations were: 29% BDC; 27% CBC; 21% England.
	+ Of the 326 local Council areas in England, Bolsover District had the fourth highest percentage of disabled people in the population and Chesterfield Borough was not far behind.

3. **Economic activity.**

* Local levels of economic activity were somewhat lower than for England.
	+ Of the population aged 16 and over, percentages who were economically active were: about 61% each BDC and CBC; about 64% England (27.3m).
* Local levels of people with some limitations amongst the economically active population were somewhat higher than for England (probably reflecting the overall higher levels of disabled people locally).
	+ Of those who were economically active, the percentages that had some limitations were: around 10% each BDC and CBC; about 8% England.
* People with limitations are less likely to be economically active than their non-disabled peers.
	+ Of people with some limitations, the percentages that were economically active were: about 21% each BDC and CBC; some 23% England compared with some 74% of their non-disabled peers.
	+ This was echoed by the 2012 Labour Force Survey that compared the percentages of working age people in employment according to whether they had a disability (46.3% (or not (76.4%): showing a 30.1 % gap between disabled and non-disabled people, representing over 2 million people. The gap had reduced by 10 percentage points over the last 14 years and had remained stable over the previous two years despite the economic climate. This indicated that disabled people were more likely to be employed than they were in 2002, but disabled people remain significantly less likely to be in employment than non-disabled people.

4. **Self-employment.**

* Self-employment has increased since the economic downturn especially in taxi driving, construction trades and farming.
	+ In February 2013, ONS reported that the number of workers who were self-employed in their main job rose 367,000 between 2008, the start of the economic downturn, and 2012. This rise had mainly been since 2011: of the 367,000 increase in self-employment, 219,000, or 60%, were between 2011 and 2012. The four most common occupations for self-employment were taxi or cab drivers (166,000), ‘other construction trades’ (161,000), carpenters and joiners (140,000) and farmers (123,000).
* The ability to work from home (including social housing) is important for the majority of self-employedpeople.
	+ The February 2013 ONS report showed that 58 % of self-employed people used their home for work purposes to some extent, either working there (15%), using it as a base (38%) or working on the same grounds or building as their home (5%).
* General levels of self-employment are lower in BDC and CBC than in England.
	+ Of all economically active people, the percentages that were self-employed were: about 11% each BDC and CBC; 14% England.
* Working people with limitations/disabilities were more likely to be self-employed than their non-disabled peers.
	+ Of economically active people with some limitations, percentages that were self-employed were: about 14% each BDC and CBC; 17% England (and higher for those with a lot of limitations).
	+ Of economically active people with no limitations, percentages that were self-employed were: about 11% each BDC and CBC; 14% England.

5. **Self-employed working hours per week.**

* Not surprisingly, self-employed people with some limitations are more likely to work part-time (1-30 hours per week – and even more likely for those with a lot of limitations) with probable impact on their earning capacity. The proportion working as self-employed for under 16 hours per week is likely to include some doing “permitted work) which allows them to continue claiming benefits (often up to a limit of 52 weeks) and earning a limited income.
	+ Of self-employed people with some limitations, the percentages working part-time (1-30 hours per week) were: about 39% BDC and 41% CBC; some 42% England.
	+ Of self-employed people with no limitations, the percentages working part-time (1-30 hours per week) were: about 25% BDC and 29% CBC; about 29% England.
* Self-employed disabled people in BDC are more likely to work longer hours.
* Of self-employed people with some limitations, the percentages working full-time (31+hours per week) were: some 61% BDC and about 59% CBC; about 58 % England. These percentages include those working 49+ hours per week: 22% BDC and about 18% CBC; some 21% England.
* Of self-employed people with no limitations, the percentages working full-time (31+hours per week) were: about 75% BDC and 71% CBC; about 71% England.

**Caveat: The above data is drawn from information released by the Office for National Statistics. It is accurate to the best of our knowledge and can be checked on the ONS website.**

