

11. Community Infrastructure



11. COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

Key Facts	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The quality and range of community facilities in the North Beach area is generally poor • There are no schools within the area (although they are within a reasonable distance) • There are no open/amenity space or play areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no purpose built community or leisure centres within the area although there are several religious buildings which provide space for community groups • Public Houses are the main form of leisure offer in the area • Many community Services are not accessible within the area

Introduction

- 11.1 The level and quality of physical and social amenities within an area contribute significantly to the quality of place of the area and therefore its attractiveness to both the resident population and the wider market.
- 11.2 The key community facilities within and immediately surrounding the North Beach study area are outlined in Table 34 and illustrated in Figure 55.

- 11.3 Community facilities located within the North Beach are scattered throughout the neighbourhood. The main hub of activity is Dickson Road, where there is a parade of local retailers. Other facilities include a number of public houses, a community centre, a nursery school, and a GP practice. Although there are accessible open areas located along the seafront, a lack of public space within the North Beach study area is notable.
- 11.4 The majority of community facilities accessible to the residents of North Beach are located just south of the study area. Within a short walking distance are the central library and an art gallery, plus the main job centre and numerous bars, public houses and nightclubs. North of the study area on Dickson Road is a significant parade of independent retailers, plus a medical centre.
- 11.5 North Beach benefits from its close proximity to Blackpool North train station and the main hub of bus routes, making it a highly accessible area. It is also served by the tram service, which runs along the Promenade.
- 11.6 North Beach is located adjacent to the Talbot Gateway, one of the largest regeneration projects in Blackpool. Construction work is due to commence on the site in 2010 to provide a new civic and cultural quarter, which will include a new library, police station, law courts, a large supermarket and leisure facilities.

Table 34: Community Facilities Within and Around North Beach

Map Number	Type	Located within North Beach Area	Name	Comment	Location
	Health Care Facilities				
	Doctors/Medical Surgeries				
1	Doctors Surgery	Yes	N/A		91 Lord Street, Blackpool, Lancs Fy1 2dj
2	Medical Centre	Yes	St Pauls Medical Centre		Dickson Road, Blackpool, Lancs Fy1 2hh
3	Doctors Surgery	Yes	Yates Street Surgery		4 Yates Street, Blackpool, FY1 2DE
4	Osteopathy Clinic	Yes	Blackpool Osteopathy Clinic		47 Springfield Road, Blackpool, FY1 1PZ
5	Medical Centre	No	The Medical Centre	Three doctors within the medical centre. Located just outside North Beach study area.	25 South King Street, Blackpool, FY1 4NF
6	Family Practice	No	Adelaide Street Family Practice		118 Adelaide Street, Blackpool, FY1 4LN
7	Family Practice	No	Life Pregnancy Care Service		Talbot Road, Blackpool, Lancashire, FY1 1LB
8	Family Practice	No	Blackpool Pregnancy Advisory Service		93 Abingdon Street, Blackpool, FY1 1PP
	Dentists				
9	Dental Practice	No	Abingdon Denture Care	Within half a mile of North Beach Study Area	Abingdon Chambers, 23 Abingdon Street, Blackpool, FY1 1DG
10	Dental Practice	No	K J Graham & Co	Within half a mile of North Beach Study Area	104 Counce Street, Blackpool, FY1 3NE
11	Dental Practice	No	J Sutcliffe	Within half a mile of North Beach Study Area	13 Alfred Street, Blackpool, FY1 4LH
12	Dental Practice	No	M Wolohan	Within half a mile of North Beach Study Area	79 Adelaide Street, Blackpool, FY1 4LN
13	Dental Practice	No	S Woodhouse	Within half a mile of North Beach Study Area	28A Whitegate Drive, Blackpool, FY3 9AL

	Type	Located within North Beach Area	Name	Comment	Location
	Opticians				
14	Optician	Yes	Barry Stott Optometrists Ltd		49 Springfield Road, Blackpool, Lancashire, FY1 1PZ
515	Optician	No	D & A		14 Hounds Hill Centre, Victoria Street, Blackpool, FY1 4HU
16	Optician	No	Crown Optical Centre Ltd		116 Talbot Road, Blackpool, FY1 3AY
17	Optician		Vision Express		73-75 Church Street, Blackpool, FY1 1HU
	Community & Religious Buildings				
	Church				
18	Church	Yes	North Shore Methodist Church		Dickson Rd, Blackpool, Lancashire, FY1 2AP
19	Church	Yes	Methodist New Connexion church		Springfield Rd, Blackpool, Lancashire
20	Church	No	Sacred Heart Church	Within half a mile of North Beach Study Area	17 Talbot Road, Blackpool, FY1 1LB
21	Church	No	St Johns C O E	Within half a mile of North Beach Study Area	Cedar Square, Blackpool, FY1 1BP
22	Church	No	Blackpool Reform Jewish Congregation	Within half a mile of North Beach Study Area	40 Raikes Parade, Blackpool, FY1 4EX
23	Church	No	St Thomas C O E	Within half a mile of North Beach Study Area	80 Devonshire Road, Blackpool, FY3 8AE
24	Church	No	New Central Methodist Church	Within half a mile of North Beach Study Area	18 Adelaide Street West, Blackpool, FY1 4SR
25	Church	No	Jehovah's Witnesses	Within half a mile of North Beach Study Area	Fleet Street, Blackpool, FY1 4PJ
26	Church	No	Kings Christian Centre	Within half a mile of North Beach Study Area	Warley Road, Blackpool, FY1 2JU
	Community Centres				
27	Community Centre	Yes	Claremont First Step Community Centre		Dickson Road, Blackpool, FY1 2AP

	Type	Located within North Beach Area	Name	Comment	Location
28	Community Centre	No	Claremont West Family Centre	Within half a mile of North Beach Study Area	Egerton Road, Blackpool, FY1 2NP
	Leisure/Recreation				
29	Leisure Centre	No	Palatine Sports Centre	Within a mile and a half of North Beach Study Area	207 St. Annes Rd, Blackpool, FY4 2AP
30	Leisure Centre	No	Stanley Park Sports Centre	Within a mile and a half of North Beach Study Area	West Park Drive, Blackpool, FY3 9HQ
31	Swimming Pool	No	Sandcastle	Within a mile of North Beach Study Area	South Beach Promenade
	Open Space	No		There is no meaningful open space within the study area.	
	Other				
23	Chemist	Yes	Imperial Drug Store		220 Promenade, Blackpool, FY1 1RU
33	Chemist	No	Lloyds Pharmacy Ltd	Within half a mile of North Beach Study Area	110 Talbot Road, Blackpool, FY1 1LR
34	Chemist	No	Lloyds Pharmacy Ltd	Within half a mile of North Beach Study Area	22-24 Abingdon Street, Blackpool, FY1 1DA
	Shops	Yes		Small number of local shops along Dickson Road, but these are predominantly low quality.	
35	Library	No	Blackpool Central Library	Just outside the boundary of the North Beach Study Area	Queen Street, Blackpool, FY1 1PX
36	Police Station	No	Lancashire Constabulary	Within a mile of North Beach Study Area	Bonny Street, Blackpool, FY1 5RL
37	Police Station	No	Blackpool South Police Station	Within a mile of North Beach Study Area	Montague Street, Blackpool, F4 1AT
38	Post Office	Yes	North Shore Post Office	Within half a mile of North Beach Study Area	61 Dickson Road, Blackpool, Lancashire, FY1 2AP
39	Post Office	No	Blackpool	Within half a mile of North Beach Study Area	12 - 16 Bank Hey Street, Blackpool, Lancashire, FY1 4RT
40	Post Office	No	Blackpool	Within half a mile of North Beach Study Area	28 Whitegate Drive, Lancashire, Blackpool, FY1 4RT

Education

11.7 North Beach is notable for its lack of educational facilities, which perhaps goes some way towards accounting for its significantly lower than average population of children. Claremont First Step Community Centre on Dickson Road is the only educational facility within the study area. A maximum of 40 children aged from two to five years may attend the Little Steps Playground Pre-School at any one time. In May 2007, there were 35 children on roll, of whom 14 were in receipt of funding for nursery education.

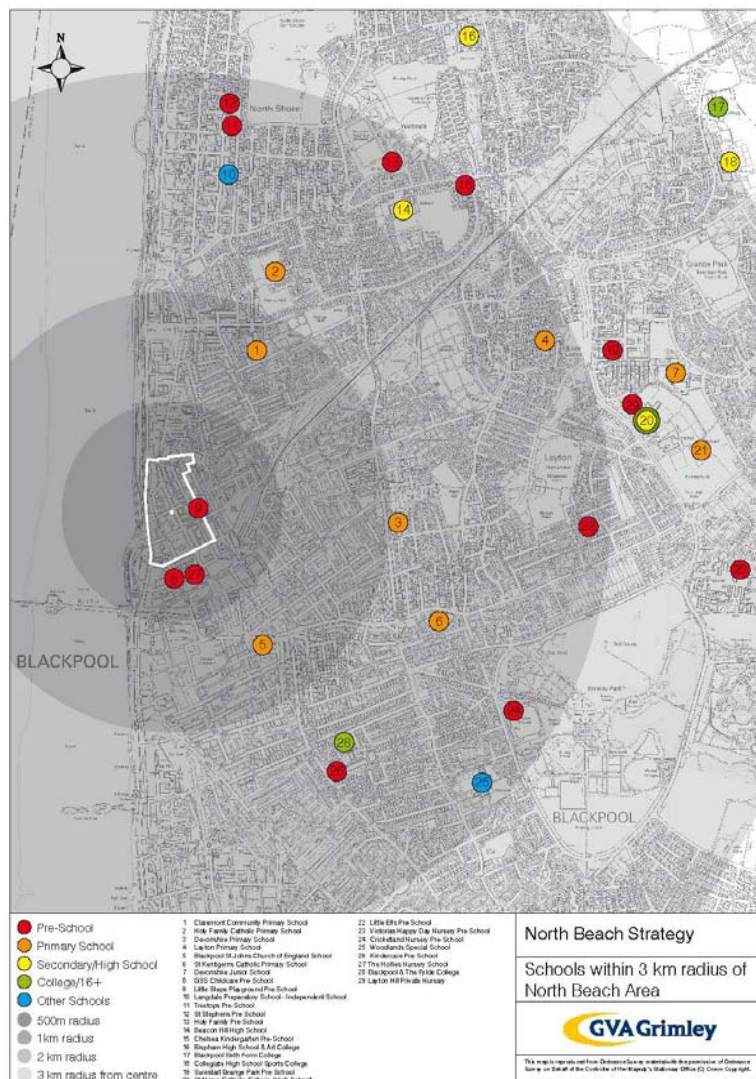
Proximity to Educational Facilities

11.8 Figure 54 shows the location of pre-schools, primary schools, high schools and colleges between 500 metres (approx 7 minutes walk) and 3km (approx 28 minutes walk) from the North Beach neighbourhood. The map shows that:

- The residents of North Beach have three pre-schools within a 500 metre radius – Little Steps Playground Pre-School, GSS Childcare and The Hollies Nursery School.
- Two primary schools are located within 14 minutes walking distance of the North Beach area – Claremont Community Primary School and Blackpool St John's Church of England Primary School.
- The nearest high school is Beacon Hill (2km), which according to Ofsted is the smallest and worst performing of all schools in the local authority

area. In terms of further education, the nearby St Mary's Catholic College (3km) is a successful sixth form that achieves above average results for the area.

Figure 54: Proximity of schools to the North Beach Neighbourhood



Primary schools

11.9 There are seven primary schools and one special school located within 3km of the North Beach area. The data in Table 35 shows that the schools within 3km of North Beach are providing a below average standard of education, with the exception of the Holy Family Catholic Primary and Layton Primary Schools. A national average of 80% of pupils achieved Level 4 in English, compared to 78% of pupils within the Blackpool and an average of 71% for the North Beach area. Furthermore, the difference is wider at Level 5 (exceeding expected performance) with the schools near the North Beach area averaging 15% less than the national comparisons. This pattern of underperformance is also reflected in Maths and Science results.

Table 35: Key Stage 2 Performance

2007 Results from the Department of Children, Schools and Families	English			Mathematics			Science		
	L4+	L5	A/T	L4+	L5	A/T	L4+	L5	A/T
Blackpool Average	78 %	29 %		76 %	30 %		87 %	43 %	
England Average	80 %	34 %		77 %	32 %		88 %	46 %	
Claremont Community Primary School	48 %	7%	0%	49 %	22 %	0%	61 %	17 %	0%
Holy Family Catholic Primary School	86 %	21 %	0%	86 %	14 %	0%	90 %	21 %	0%

(Source: Blackpool Borough Council & GVA Grimley)

Devonshire Primary School	72 %	20 %	0%	66 %	18 %	0%	82 %	38 %	1%
Layton Primary School	91 %	39 %	0%	87 %	44 %	0%	94 %	52 %	0%
Blackpool St John's Church of England Primary School	71 %	23 %	3%	80 %	37 %	3%	89 %	57 %	0%
St Kentigern's Catholic Primary School	69 %	19 %	3%	69 %	22 %	3%	69 %	22 %	3%
Christ The King Catholic Primary School	59 %	6%	3%	59 %	13 %	3%	72 %	16 %	3%

(Source: Department for Children, Schools and Families, 2007)

High Schools

- 11.10 A comparative analysis of the performance of high schools within 3km of the North Beach area, benchmarked against the national and local authority comparisons, is provided in Table 36. In 2007, 5,058 pupils were enrolled within schools that provided secondary education.
- 11.11 The latest data set reflecting results from 2007 indicates that high schools within proximity of the North Beach had below average percentages of students attaining 5 GCSE's at grades A-C including English and Maths. The figure of 31.8% is 2.8% below the local authority average and 14.9% below the national average.

Table 36: Comparative analysis of performance at GCSE I Level

Establishment Name	Number of Pupils on School Roll	Average no. of GCSE + equivalent taken	% of pupils achieving 5 or more grades A*-C including English and Maths GCSEs
Blackpool Average	N/A	N/A	34.60%
England Average	N/A	N/A	46.70%
Beacon Hill High School	692	9.8	25%
Bispham High School	985	9.4	33%
Collegiate High School	1184	11.5	33%
St George's Church of England High School	890	9.2	28%
St Mary's Catholic College	1227	10	40%
Special School: Woodlands School	80	Not entered	Not entered
TOTAL	5058	9.98	31.80%

(Source: Department for Children, Schools and Families, 2007)

Further Education

- 11.12 Post-16 attainment is considered in Table 37, which identifies the two key further education establishments in Blackpool, St Mary's Catholic College and The Blackpool Sixth Form College. In 2007, St Mary's College achieved average point entry scores just over 4 points higher than the Blackpool average and nearly 10 points higher than the average for Blackpool Sixth Form College. However, Blackpool's average was more than 15 points below the national average.

Table 37: Further Education Attainment

2007 Results from the Department of Children, Schools and Families	Number of students aged 16-18	Average point score per examination entry
England Average	N/A	207.5
Blackpool Average	N/A	192.2
The Blackpool Sixth Form College	1441	187.9
St Mary's Catholic College	128	196.5

(Source: Department for Children, Schools and Families, 2007)

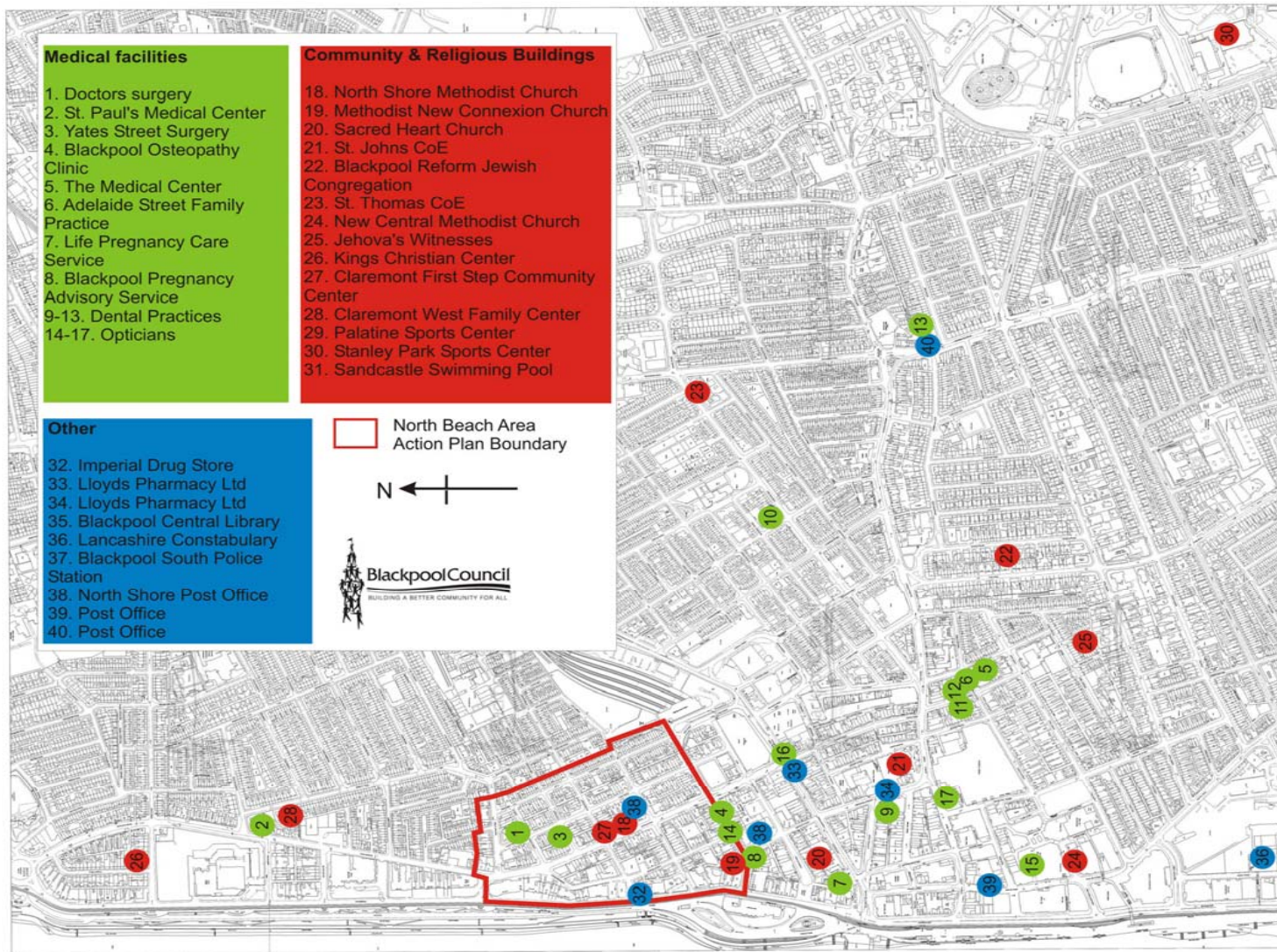
Health

Information from Health Department required

Key Evidence Sources

- Upmystreet website
- Department for Children, Schools and Families

Figure 55: Community Infrastructure - North Beach



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