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Analytics Report Site Appraisal Report

29 Jul 2021



Analytics Report

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	Page
Executive Summary	4
Section 1 - The new development market	6
Section 2 - Pricing levels and transaction volumes	13
Section 3 - Demographics, affordability and key services	17

Executive Summary

This desktop report provides the latest information on new housing supply, the profile and drivers of demand and detailed pricing data for the market around the Analytics Report site. The report draws on unique data held by Hometrack and NHBC in order to provide the market context to inform land acquisition, land strategy and planning related decisions.

A summary of the key findings is set out below:

The new development market

- 10 competitor schemes were selected for this report, located within an 5.4 mile radius of the site. These schemes average 61 units and contain a total of 606 units.
- 67% of the units on these schemes are completed¹ and 31% (188) are currently under construction.
- Construction has started on 104 units in the last 6 months (of which 88% are houses and 12% flats). There are a further 14 units yet to be started.
- The average price of units under construction is £264,000.
- The most common type of property under construction are houses (95%) followed by flats (5%).

Pricing of housing across the local market area

- Across the local market area median £psf values are £157 for flats and £172 for houses.
- Upper quartile prices are £173psf for flats and £199psf for houses.
- Average prices across the local market area range from £127,000 for 2 bed flats to £197,000 for 3 bed houses and £319,000 for 4 bed houses.

Demand, affordability and rental market

- There are 33,281 households within the local market area. 14,914 of these households are categorised as Comfortable Communities with a further 8,665 categorised as Affluent Achievers. The most common groups in these two categories are Countryside Communities (20% of total) and Executive Wealth (15% of total) respectively.
- Average household incomes in the catchment are £38,000. A household buying with a 3.5x income mortgage at 70% LTV could afford to pay £190,000.
- The unemployment rate (claimant count) in Sir y Fflint Flintshire is 0.4% compared to 0.6% six months ago.
- The average weekly rental is £138 per week and the cost of a buying with an 85% mortgage £125 per week. The average gross yield is 5.6% for a two bed property.

¹Refers to construction complete only, they may or may not have been sold.

1.1 Overview of selected developments

This analysis of the new development market is based upon the schemes shown in Figure 1. These schemes were selected at the time the report was ordered from a list of the nearest active developments registered with NHBC. NHBC register approximately 85% of all new build schemes. Active schemes are defined as having 5 or more units, with ongoing new development activity taking place in the last 12 months i.e. starts or completions.



Figure 1. Map of selected schemes

Source: NHBC; Crown Copyright. All Rights Reserved. License number 10035977

Table 1. Selected developments	(ordered by distance from site)
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Maes Gwern	WATES CONSTRUCTION LTD
Former Broncoed Works Site	F G WHITLEY & SONS CO LTD
Llys Gwynant	CASTLE GREEN HOMES LIMITED
Padeswood Road South	F G WHITLEY & SONS CO LTD
Broad Oak Holding	EDWARDS HOMES LTD
_/O Fairoaks Drive	DAVIES DEVELOPMENTS
Phase 5 Land off Chester Road	T ANWYL & SON LTD
and Adjacent to Hawarden Road	CASTLE GREEN HOMES LIMITED
Jpper Aston Hall Lane	ECCLESTON HOMES LIMITED
and Off Chester Road	REDROW HOMES LTD
	Former Broncoed Works Site Ilys Gwynant Padeswood Road South Broad Oak Holding /O Fairoaks Drive Phase 5 Land off Chester Road and Adjacent to Hawarden Road Upper Aston Hall Lane

1.2 New development market overview

Data	Nearest schemes	Furthest schemes	All schemes
No of schemes selected	5	5	10
Distance (miles)	1.2 - 4.4	4.4 - 5.4	1.2 - 5.4
Size range (units)	24 - 151	15 - 113	15 - 151
Average size	65	55	60
Total units (all tenures)	328	278	606
Affordable Housing Units	26	0	26
Private Housing Units	302	278	580
Composition			
% flats - % houses	9% - 91%	0% - 100%	5% - 95%
% affordable housing	8%	0%	4%
Progress (private units)			
Completions to date (% total)	32%	38%	35%
Completions last 6 months	29	30	59
Being built or yet to start	206	173	379
Starts in the last 6 months	45	59	104
Mix of starts (% flats / % houses)	27% - 73%	0% - 100%	12% - 88%
Proposed Pricing			
Median price	£255,000	£277,000	£262,000
Median house price	£285,000	£277,000	£277,000
Median flat price	£147,000	n/a	£147,000

1.3 Status of new development schemes

The selected schemes are at different stages of the sales and development process. Figure 2 below provides an overview of all the selected schemes according to:

- The overall size of the site the larger the circle the larger the scheme.
- The proportion of units that have been completed the y axis.
- The distance from the target site the x axis.

This analysis enables a clear understanding of the local schemes that have established pricing levels from a period of development as well as the identification of schemes that present new starts and potential competition for any development in the near future.

The schemes with the greatest volume of units completed will provide the best evidence of established pricing for new build housing in the local area. The schemes with a smaller proportion of completions are likely to present future competition.



Figure 2. Size, distance and % completion rate for selected developments

1.4 Mix of housing being developed

This section sets out a more detailed analysis of the composition of the private housing on the selected schemes focusing on units currently under construction or completed in the last 12 months. Figure 3 shows the mix of private housing being developed, scheme by scheme.

In summary, the analysis shows:

- The most common type of property under construction are houses (95%) followed by flats (5%).
- Across the 5 schemes closest to the site houses are the most common property type, accounting for 91% of all units.
- Across the 5 schemes furthest away from the site houses are the most common property type, accounting for 100% of all units.
- The two schemes with the most houses (127 and 113 respectively) are:
 - Site 1 Maes Gwern WATES CONSTRUCTION LTD
 - Site 10 Land Off Chester Road REDROW HOMES LTD
- The two schemes with the most flats (24 and 6 respectively) are:
 - Site 1 Maes Gwern WATES CONSTRUCTION LTD
 - o Site 2 Former Broncoed Works Site F G WHITLEY & SONS CO LTD

Figure 3. Mix of housing being developed



1.5 Scheme by scheme analysis

The tables in this section set out detailed information on the profile and current status of the selected developments shown in figure 1.

When reading these tables please note:

- The scheme start date reflects the date the scheme was registered with NHBC.
- On phased schemes the information may be for an individual phase rather than the whole scheme not all phases will include affordable housing, which may be separate.
- The price ranges are those that were proposed at the time of registration although the proposed pricing shown is for units currently under construction.
- If pricing information is older than 12 months it is labelled as "Out of Date". This is to avoid comparing historic pricing with the current pricing considered elsewhere in this report.
- Complete refers to units that are built. These units may or may not have been sold.

Scheme 1 - Maes Gwern - WATES CONSTRUCTION LTD	
Distance to Site	1.2 miles
Number of units (% started)	151 (99%)
% houses / % flats	84% / 16%
Scheme start date	21 November 2018
% affordable housing	17%
Price range (proposed at registration)	£147,000 - £300,000
Total number of units completed (% completed)	15 (10%)
Number of private units completed	15
Number of private units completed in last 6 months	6
Number of private units yet to start (last plot started)	1 (Jun 2021)

Scheme 2 - Former Broncoed Works Site - F G WHITLEY & SONS CO	LTD
Distance to Site	1.5 miles
Number of units (% started)	73 (100%)
% houses / % flats	92% / 8%
Scheme start date	20 June 2014
% affordable housing	0%
Price range (proposed at registration)	£285,000 - £320,000
Total number of units completed (% completed)	40 (55%)
Number of private units completed	40
Number of private units completed in last 6 months	3
Number of private units yet to start (last plot started)	None (Feb 2021)

Scheme 3 - Llys Gwynant - CASTLE GREEN HOMES LIMITED	
Distance to Site	2.3 miles
Number of units (% started)	47 (100%)
% houses / % flats	100% / 0%
Scheme start date	22 October 2019
% affordable housing	0%
Price range (proposed at registration)	£115,000 - £355,000
Total number of units completed (% completed)	20 (43%)
Number of private units completed	20
Number of private units completed in last 6 months	12
Number of private units yet to start (last plot started)	None (Mar 2021)

Scheme 4 - Padeswood Road South - F G WHITLEY & SONS CO LTD	
Distance to Site	3.7 miles
Number of units (% started)	24 (100%)
% houses / % flats	100% / 0%
Scheme start date	2 August 2018
% affordable housing	0%
Price range (proposed at registration)	£250,000 - £365,000
Total number of units completed (% completed)	10 (42%)
Number of private units completed	10
Number of private units completed in last 6 months	2
Number of private units yet to start (last plot started)	None (May 2021)

Scheme 5 - Broad Oak Holding - EDWARDS HOMES LTD	
Distance to Site	4.4 miles
Number of units (% started)	33 (97%)
% houses / % flats	100% / 0%
Scheme start date	28 January 2020
% affordable housing	0%
Price range (proposed at registration)	£180,000 - £289,000
Total number of units completed (% completed)	11 (33%)
Number of private units completed	11
Number of private units completed in last 6 months	6
Number of private units yet to start (last plot started)	1 (Jan 2021)

Scheme 6 - L/O Fairoaks Drive - DAVIES DEVELOPMENTS	
Distance to Site	4.4 miles
Number of units (% started)	37 (100%)
% houses / % flats	100% / 0%
Scheme start date	16 December 2016
% affordable housing	0%
Price range (proposed at registration)	£200,000 - £200,000
Total number of units completed (% completed)	21 (57%)
Number of units completed	21
Number of units completed in last 6 months	0
Number of units yet to start (last plot started)	None (Nov 2020)

Scheme 7 - Phase 5 Land off Chester Road - T ANWYL & SON LTE)
Distance to Site	4.6 miles
Number of units (% started)	83 (94%)
% houses / % flats	100% / 0%
Scheme start date	20 June 2019
% affordable housing	0%
Price range (proposed at registration)	£148,000 - £295,000
Total number of units completed (% completed)	29 (35%)
Number of units completed	29
Number of units completed in last 6 months	7
Number of units yet to start (last plot started)	5 (Jun 2021)

Scheme 8 - Land Adjacent to Hawarden Road - CASTLE GREEN HOMES LIMITED)
Distance to Site	5.2 miles
Number of units (% started)	30 (100%)
% houses / % flats	100% / 0%
Scheme start date	10 March 2020
% affordable housing	0%
Price range (proposed at registration)	£111,000 - £305,000
Total number of units completed (% completed)	16 (53%)
Number of units completed	16
Number of units completed in last 6 months	13
Number of units yet to start (last plot started)	None (Nov 2020)

Scheme 9 - Upper Aston Hall Lane - ECCLESTON HOMES LIMITED	
Distance to Site	5.4 miles
Number of units (% started)	15 (80%)
% houses / % flats	100% / 0%
Scheme start date	1 December 2020
% affordable housing	0%
Price range (proposed at registration)	£310,000 - £525,000
Total number of units completed (% completed)	0 (0%)
Number of units completed	0
Number of units completed in last 6 months	0
Number of units yet to start (last plot started)	3 (May 2021)

Scheme 10 - Land Off Chester Road - REDROW HOMES LTD	
Distance to Site	5.4 miles
Number of units (% started)	113 (96%)
% houses / % flats	100% / 0%
Scheme start date	26 October 2018
% affordable housing	0%
Price range (proposed at registration)	£248,000 - £367,000
Total number of units completed (% completed)	39 (35%)
Number of units completed	39
Number of units completed in last 6 months	10
Number of units yet to start (last plot started)	4 (Jun 2021)

2.1 Overview of pricing across local market area

This section sets out an analysis of pricing levels and transaction volumes across the local market area, encompassing the selected developments. This is based on a combination of achieved prices from the land registry and valuation data

The data and analysis on pricing levels within this catchment is presented in two ways:

- 1. The profile and distribution of £psf values
- 2. Absolute prices achieved by property type and size over the last 12 months.

The map below provides an overview of £psf pricing across the local market area. The scheme is marked with a cross.



Figure 4. Average £psf values for residential property across the local market

Source: Hometrack

2.2 Profile of pricing on a £psf/£psm basis

Figure 5 showed the spatial distribution of average £psf values around the scheme. The analysis in this section provides information on the distribution of £psf values across the local market area for flats and houses, which is summarised in table 4. Together the map and chart provide the basis to inform initial price setting assessments.

This analysis is drawn from Hometrack's unique database of comparable evidence. All comparable market evidence from the last 5 years is indexed to current levels and then expressed on a £psf basis.

In summary £psf (£psm) prices across the catchment area are as follows:

- Median: Flats £157psf (£1,694psm), Houses £172psf (£1,854psm)
- Upper quartile: Flats £173psf (£1,866psm), Houses £199psf (£2,147psm)
- Upper decile: Flats £196psf (£2,108psm), Houses £226psf (£2,432psm)

Table 4. Current £psm/£psf prices across the catchment area

Price point	Flats		Houses	
	£psm	£psf	£psm	£psf
Lower Quartile	£1,464	£136	£1,559	£145
Median	£1,694	£157	£1,854	£172
Upper Quartile	£1,866	£173	£2,147	£199
Upper Decile	£2,108	£196	£2,432	£226





Source: Hometrack

2.3 Absolute pricing levels

The table and chart below show the level of absolute prices within the local market area over the last 12 months. This is split by type and size for all property at the average, upper quartile and upper decile levels.

 Table 5. Pricing in the local market by property size and type over the last 12 months

Property type / size	Average	Upper quartile	Upper decile
1 bed flat	£83,000	£79,000	£93,000
2 bed flat	£127,000	£136,000	£139,000
2 bed house	£156,000	£163,000	£223,000
3 bed house	£197,000	£234,000	£278,000
4 bed house	£319,000	£378,000	£441,000



Figure 6. Price point by property type over last 12 months

Source: Hometrack

2.4 Transaction volumes by type and price

This section sets out an overview of transaction volumes across the local market area. Total turnover over the past 12 months has been 653 sales.

Figure 7 plots transactions by property type and price band over the last 12 months, showing where in the market there is liquidity. This is important when considering housing mix and proposed pricing levels as it identifies potential gaps in the market or areas of competition for new schemes.

The key points are:

- The turnover rate of housing is 2.0%.
- 20 (3%) of these sales were new build.1
- The remaining 633 transactions were re-sales.
- Most sales (111) took place in the £125k £150k price band.
- Most new build sales (5) took place in the £350k £375k price band.

Figure 7. Sales volume by price band and property type last 12 months



Source: HM Land Registry / Register of Scotland

¹Please note that the number of new build sales will undercount for areas in Scotland because the Register of Scotland does not flag new build transactions

3.1 Demographic profile of households

Within the local market area there are 33,281 households. Figure 8 provides an overview of the demographic profile of these households based upon the ACORN classification system segmented by Category and further segmented by Group.

The demographic profile for the local market area shows:

- The Groups with the highest concentrations in the catchment are Countryside Communities (6,570 or 20%), followed by Executive Wealth (4,969 or 15%), Steady Neighbourhoods (3,889 or 12%) and Mature Money (3,647 or 11%).
- The two largests Categories representing the target market are Comfortable Communities (14,914 or 45%) and Affluent Achievers (8,665 or 26%).
- The two most numerous Groups in the Comfortable Communities Category are
 - 1. Countryside Communities 6,570 or 20% of all households
 - 2. Steady Neighbourhoods 3,889 or 12% of all households
- · The two most numerous Groups in the Affluent Achievers Category are
 - 1. Executive Wealth 4,969 or 15% of all households
 - 2. Mature Money 3,647 or 11% of all households

Figure 8. Households in catchment by lifestyle and wealth bracket



Source: CACI ACORN

ACORN is a powerful consumer classification that segments the UK population. By analysing demographic data, social factors, population and consumer behaviour, it provides precise information and an understanding of different types of people. Acorn provides valuable consumer insight helping you target, acquire and develop profitable customer relationships and improve service delivery.

3.2 Employment, incomes and rental levels

Employment overview

The unemployment rate (claimant count) in Sir y Fflint - Flintshire is 0.4% compared to 0.6% six months ago. The most common socio-economic classification in the local area is 'Lower managerial and professional' representing 20% of households.

Household incomes and buying power in local market

Average household incomes in the catchment area are £38,000 with an upper quartile of £51,000. Table 6 below shows what price of property could be considered affordable at different loan to values assuming a mortgage income multiple of 3x and 3.5x. Thus a household on an average income buying with a 70% mortgage could afford to pay £162,857 assuming a 3x income multiple and £190,000 at a 3.5x multiple.

Table 6. Incomes and buying power

LTV	Average 3x	Average 3.5x	Upper quartile 3x	Upper quartile 3.5x
50%	£228,000	£266,000	£306,000	£357,000
60%	£190,000	£222,000	£255,000	£298,000
70%	£163,000	£190,000	£219,000	£255,000
80%	£142,000	£166,000	£191,000	£223,000
90%	£127,000	£148,000	£170,000	£198,000

Source: Hometrack / CACI

Local rental market overview and the cost of renting versus buying

Generally the strongest rental demand comes from the 20-39 year old age group, it follows that areas with a high proportion of the population falling into this age group experience stronger rental demand than other areas. In the local area there are 36,000 people aged 20-39 years according to the latest population data. This group accounts for 23.4% of the local population – a proportion which is 3.5% below the average for the region.

For a typical 2 bed flat in the local authority, it is more expensive to rent than to buy outright with a standard 85% mortgage. The average weekly rental is £138 per week compared to the cost of a buying with an 85% mortgage of £125 per week.

Based on an average price of \pounds 127,000 for a 2 bed property, the gross yield is 5.6% on the basis that average rents are currently \pounds 138 per week.

The supply of rented housing in the local area accounts for 9.3% of overall housing supply. This is 6.0% below the average for the region (Source: Census 2011).

3.3 Proximity to local services

This section sets out a summary of the proximity of the site to local communication points and schools.

Table 7. Proximity to local communications

Туре	Name	Distance ¹
Motorway Junction	M53 J5	12.4
Railway Stations, Junctions and Halts	Buckley Station	4.6
Underground Network Stations	Not Available	
Bus Stops	Not Available	
Tram, Metro and Light Railway Stations and Stops	Not Available	
Airports and Landing Strips	Chester Aerospace Park	7.1

Source: Ordnance Survey

Table 8. Nearest primary schools

Туре	Name	Distance ¹
First, Primary and Infant Schools	Ysgol Bryn Gwalia C.P.	0.8
	Ysgol Y Waun	1.1
	Ysgol Glanrafon	1.1

Source: Department for Children, Schools and Families

Table 9. Nearest secondary schools

Туре	Name	Distance ¹
Broad Age Range and Secondary State Schools	Ysgol Maes Garmon	1.3
	Mold Alun School	1.3
	Argoed High School	2.6

Source: Department for Children, Schools and Families

'All distances are given as the crow flies'

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