1.0 Creating a map

To create a map using the Active Lives Small Area Estimates Mapping Tool:

1) Click on either **Middle SOA** or **Lower SOA** depending on the geographical level at which you wish to see the data.

   Middle Layer Super Output Areas (MSOAs) average around 8,200 people per area, while Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs) typically have populations of between 1,000 and 3,000 people.

2) Select whether you wish to create a map based on **Adult** OR **Children and Young People** populations in the areas you have selected.

3) Select the **population group** for which you wish to create a map.
If you wish to create a map for ALL adults or ALL children and young people in the areas you have selected, click **All**. If you wish to create a map for a specific population group defined by, for instance, their age or gender, then click **Age & Gender** or the relevant button. Please note that the demographic groupings available in the tool differ between adult and children and young people populations.

4) Select the **Active Partnership** area and/or the **Local Authority** area for which you wish to see the data.

Here you can select:

a. To include all Active Partnership areas (i.e., the whole of England)
b. A single Active Partnership area
c. One or more local authority areas.
Please note that your map may take a while to load if you select to include all Active Partnership areas.

Once an Active Partnership area has been selected, the local authority dropdown will present a filtered set of local authorities that are located within that area.

5) If you have selected to create a map for a **specific population group**, you will also need to select the relevant group at this stage.

Once you have completed your selections, click the **View Map** button to generate your map.
2.0 Viewing, navigating and editing a map

1) Once your map has loaded, you will be presented with a choropleth map layer showing the proportion of your chosen population in your chosen area who are physically active.

You will also see a legend for the map in the right-hand menu bar which explains the colour scale used for the map.

Using your mouse or equivalent, you can left click and hold to scroll around your map, right click and hold to change the orientation and scroll to zoom in and out. You can also zoom in and out using the +/- buttons in the top left corner of the map.

2) To see more information about an individual MSOA or LSOA on the map, you can click on it. This will reveal a pop-up information box.
Here you will see:

   a. The LSOA or MSOA code you are viewing
   b. The local authority and Active Partnership area in which the MSOA or LSOA is located
   c. The group/population you are viewing
   d. The percentage of people in the area who are physically active, physically inactive and – if you are viewing data relating to adults – participate in sport.

3) When your map first loads, it will do so with a menu bar on its right-hand side. This can be hidden and revealed again by using the arrow button located towards the middle of the bar.

4) You can perform a series of actions via the map menu bar. Under the Layers & Legend heading, you can access several options which allow you
to add or remove additional map layers. The first of these – **Boundaries** – enables you to add Active Partnership boundaries to the map, while the second (the title of which will vary depending on the data set you are viewing) helps you to change the map layer to show the proportion of people who are inactive (rather than active) or – in the case of adults – participate in sport.

To switch between these layers, simply click the down arrow next to the menu item and then select **Active**, **Inactive** or **Sports Participation**.

5) You can also add additional layers to your map via the **Census 2021** or **Additional Layer** menus.

The data sets available vary depending on whether you are viewing an MSOA or an LSOA map. In both cases, though, they have been selected to help users view information that can add useful additional context to the population distributions that are seen in the Small Area Estimates data.

To add Census 2021 or other additional layers to your map, select the relevant **data set** from the menu (e.g., Gender: Female) and then click to add a tick next to the relevant to the **data category header** (e.g., Census 2021 (Middle SOA)).
6) Elsewhere in the menu bar, you can click on:
   a. **Metadata and Acknowledgements** to see information and acknowledgements relating to the data sources and maps used in the tool
   b. **Help** to access this document
   c. **About Us** to see additional information about the Small Area Estimates data and how it is produced
   d. **Add Full Screen Map** which will open the mapping tool in full screen mode in a new browser window
   e. **Change Filter** to take you back to the map creation page so you can reset or alter the selections originally set

You can also use the **Search** bar to take you to a specific place or address on the map.

6) Elsewhere in the map, you can **print** an image by clicking on the print icon towards the top right corner of the map image.

Once you have clicked on this, you can select whether you wish to print an A4 portrait image, or one in landscape.
Once you have made your selection, click **Print** and after a short delay a link will appear which will take you to a new page that can be saved and printed.