Garston and Halewood Parliamentary Constituency

NORTHERN Housing Consortium
THE VOICE OF HOUSING IN THE NORTH

This is the first bulletin of 2015 produced by Northern Housing Consortium (NHC) providing analysis of housing-related data for the Parliamentary Constituencies in the North of England. The report provides analysis of the impacts of welfare reform and the housing market in the constituency.

We have used the following symbols to indicate your performance against the relevant regional or national statistics.

Above average | Reference point | Below average

Financial Distress

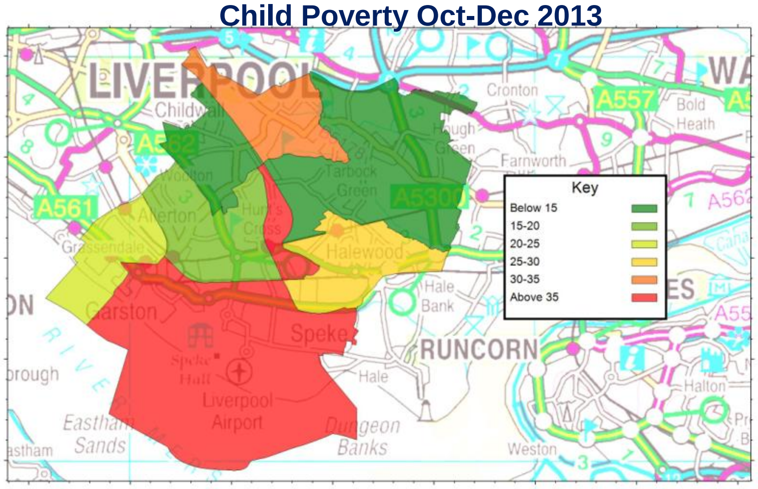
Census data shows that in Garston and Halewood, 70% of working aged people were working full-time and 30% worked part-time. The corresponding figures for the region are 70.3% and 29.7%.

The Annual Survey of Salaries and Hours (ASHE) shows that in the constituency (as a place of work), 26.1% of all employee jobs paid below the Living Wage in 2014 (£7.65ph), an increase from 25.7% in 2013. This compares to 23.6% regionally and 21.7% nationally.

In the constituency, between September 2013 and September 2014, total Benefit sanctions fell by 37.8%. Employment and Support Allowance sanctions rose from none to 8. Meanwhile, Job Seekers Allowance sanctions fell from 148 to 84 (-43.2%).

In a previous edition of the Constituency Profiles, we reported that in Garston and Halewood, 27% of children live in poverty. One year on, we can report that figure, before housing costs, stands at 16.9%. However, when housing costs are taken into account, 27.1% of children live in poverty (End Child Poverty) and the map below shows that Speke-Garston (37.8%) is the worst affected ward.

Child Poverty Oct-Dec 2013



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If you have any queries regarding the content of the APPG briefings, please contact:
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Housing Market

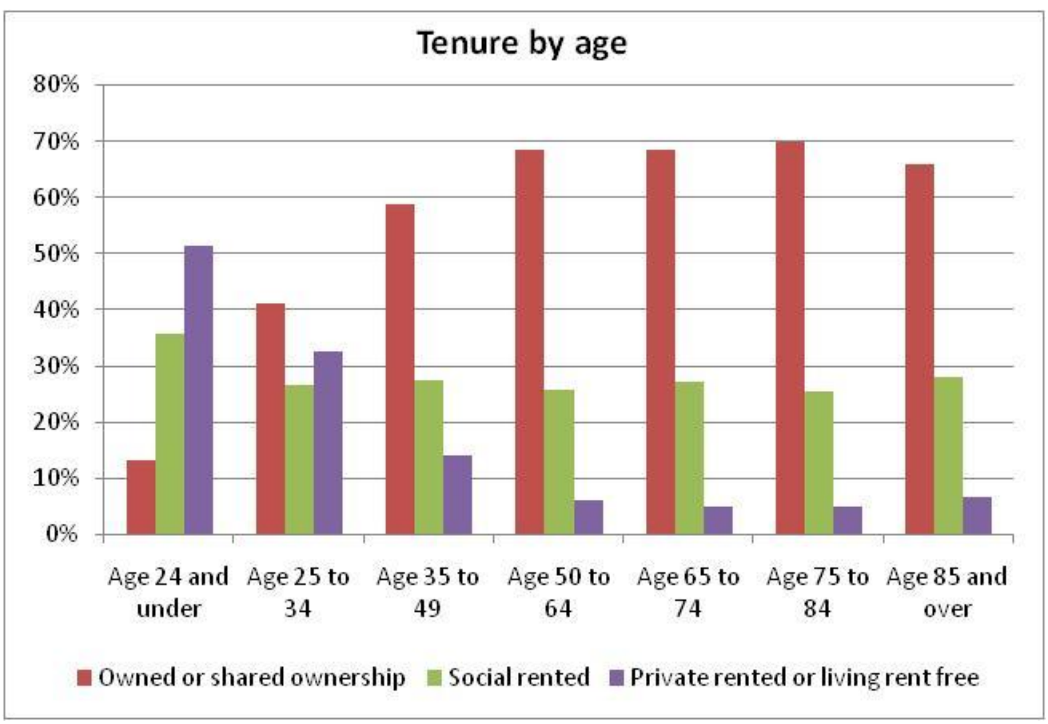
After being on a general downward trend between Q1 2013 to Q2 2014, social landlord possession claims increased by 4.8% between Q2 2014 and Q4 2014 in Liverpool (from 355 to 372). Over the same period, actual possessions fell by 1.5% to 64. Meanwhile, mortgage claims also fell by 34.9% and actual possessions fell by 32.4% over the same period.

In the final quarter of 2014, Liverpool Council made 53 homelessness decisions and accepted 37 households as being homeless and in priority need (69.8%). At the end of 2014, 46 households were housed in temporary accommodation, an increase of 9.5% on the quarter ending in June.

Some have pointed to a lack of new affordable homes being built as the reason behind the increase in homelessness. The latest annual figures show that in Liverpool, while the number of new homes started and completions have increased, (2012/13 to 2013/14) the proportion in the social sector has increased for both.

Looking at quarterly building statistics, in the final quarter of 2014, there were 60 dwellings started and 150 completed in Liverpool. While half of started dwellings were in the social sector, 33.3% of completed dwellings were social. In the corresponding quarter of 2013, 47.1% of dwellings started and 38.5% of completions were in the social sector.

Nomis data (2011) shows that in the constituency, 61% are owner-occupiers, 27% rent from a social landlord and 13% are private renters. However, looking at tenure by the age of the household reference person shows changes by age. There is a steep increase in owner-occupation between the ages of 24 and under (13%) and 75 to 84 year age bracket (70%) before falling to 66% for those aged 85 and over. Conversely, renting is more popular for those aged 24 and below (87%) before falling and then increasing slightly in later years.



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