

Warrington South Parliamentary Constituency

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 Warrington South, 72.9% of working aged people were working full-time and 27.1% 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), 29.8% of all employee jobs paid below the Living Wage in 2014 (£7.65ph), an increase from 20.1% in 2013. This compares to 23.6% regionally and 21.7% nationally.

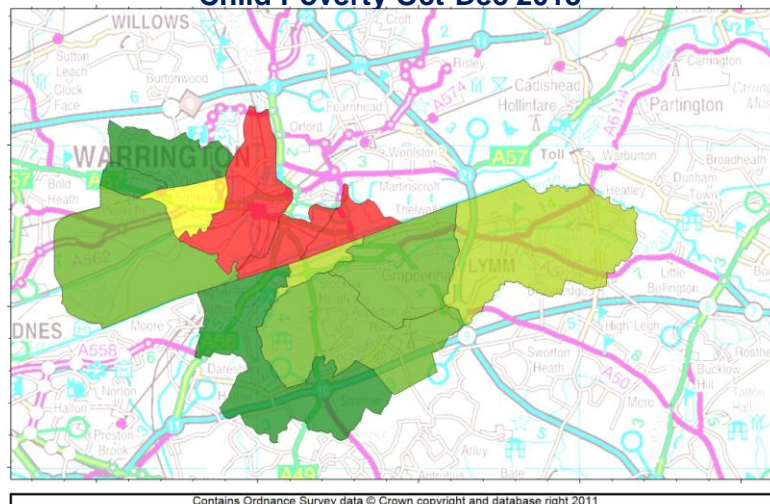


In the constituency, between September 2013 and September 2014, total Benefit sanctions fell by 17.9%. Employment and Support Allowance sanctions have grown from none to 10 over this period. Meanwhile, Job Seekers Allowance sanctions fell from 78 to 54 (-30.8%).



In a previous edition of the Constituency Profiles, we reported that in Warrington South, 11% of children live in poverty. One year on, we can report that figure, before housing costs, stands at 10.3%. However, when housing costs are taken into account, 16.4% of children live in poverty (End Child Poverty) and the map below shows that Bewsey and Whitecross (30.9%) is the worst affected ward.

Child Poverty Oct-Dec 2013



If you have any queries regarding the content of the APPG briefings, please contact:
Barry Turnbull, Policy Services Officer, 0191 5661030 or barry.turnbull@northern-consortium.org.uk

Housing Market



After a general downward trend between Q1 2013 to Q2 2014, social landlord possession claims fell further between Q2 2014 and Q4 2014 in Warrington by 33.3% (from 96 to 64). Social landlord possessions fell from 28 to 20 (-28.6%) and mortgage claims and possessions also fell over this period.



In the final quarter of 2014, Warrington Council made 26 homelessness decisions and accepted 10 households as being homeless and in priority need. At the end of 2014, there were 16 households housed in temporary accommodation, a 40.7% reduction on the quarter ending in June.



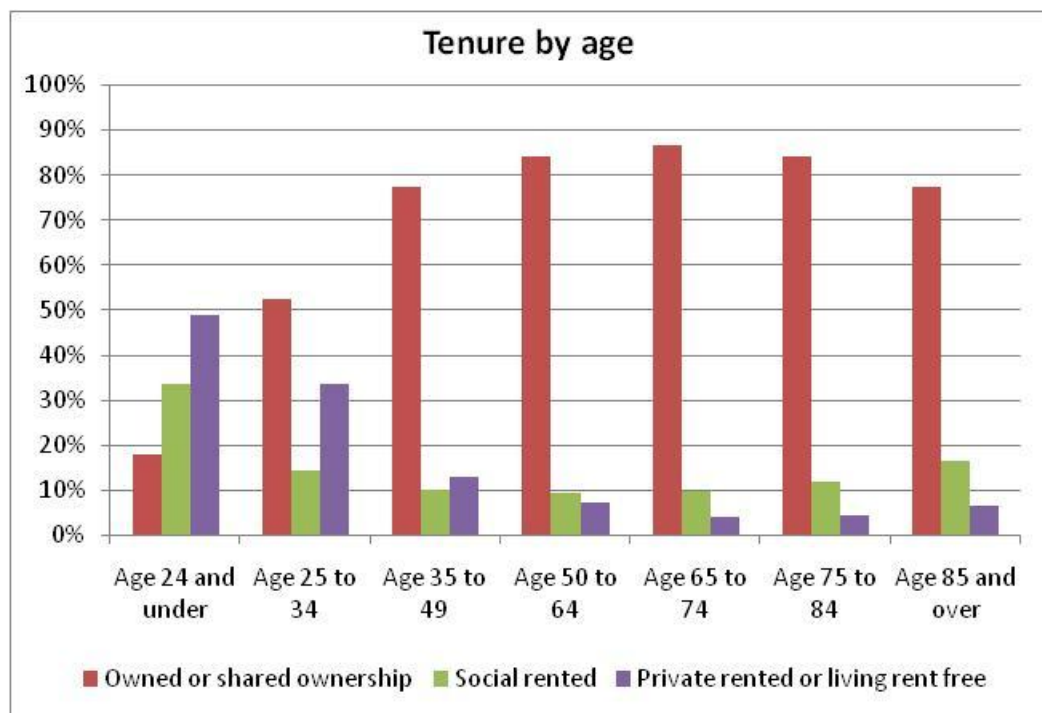
Some have pointed to a lack of new affordable homes being built as the reason behind the increase in homelessness. The latest annual figures show that in Warrington, while the number of new homes started increased, completed dwellings have fallen (2012/13 to 2013/14), the proportion of homes started in the social sector fell over the same period but social completions grew.



Looking at quarterly building statistics, in the final quarter of 2014, there were 100 dwellings started and 110 completed in Warrington. There were no social dwellings started or completed, a similar picture in the corresponding quarter of 2013.



Nomis data (2011) shows that in the constituency, 76% are owner-occupiers, 11% 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 (18%) and 64 to 74 year age bracket (86%) before falling to 77% for those aged 85 and over. Conversely, renting is more popular for those aged 24 and below (82%) before falling and then increasing slightly in later years.



If you have any queries regarding the content of the APPG briefings, please contact:
Barry Turnbull, Policy Services Officer, 0191 5661030 or barry.turnbull@northern-consortium.org.uk