

Wyre and Preston North 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 Wyre and Preston North, 69.7% of working aged people were working full-time and 30.3% 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), 19.1% of all employee jobs paid below the Living Wage in 2014 (£7.65ph), a decrease from 22.1% in 2013. This compares to 23.6% regionally and 21.7% nationally.

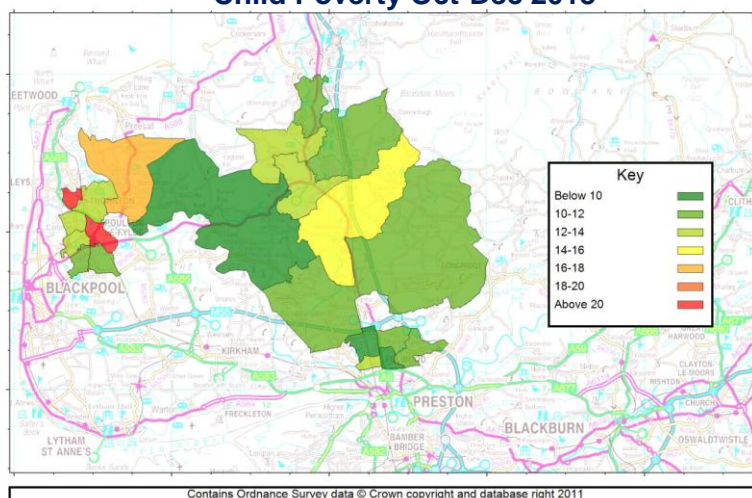


In the constituency, between September 2013 and September 2014, total Benefit sanctions fell by 67.9%. There have been no Employment and Support Allowance sanctions in this time. Meanwhile, Job Seekers Allowance sanctions fell from 53 to 17 (-67.9%).



In a previous edition of the Constituency Profiles, we reported that in Wyre and Preston North, 7% of children live in poverty. One year on, we can report that figure, before housing costs, stands at 7.7%. However, when housing costs are taken into account, 12.4% of children live in poverty (End Child Poverty) and the map below shows that Breck (21.6%) 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

Wyre and Preston North Parliamentary Constituency

Housing Market



After being on a general downward trend between Q1 2013 to Q2 2014, social landlord possession claims increased by 128.6% between Q2 2014 and Q4 2014 in Wyre (from 7 to 16). Over the same period, there were no actual social landlord possessions. Meanwhile, mortgage claims fell by 41.7% and actual possessions fell by 25% over the same period.



In the final quarter of 2014, Wyre Council made no homelessness decisions and so accepted no households as being homeless and in priority need. At the end of 2014, no households were housed in temporary accommodation.



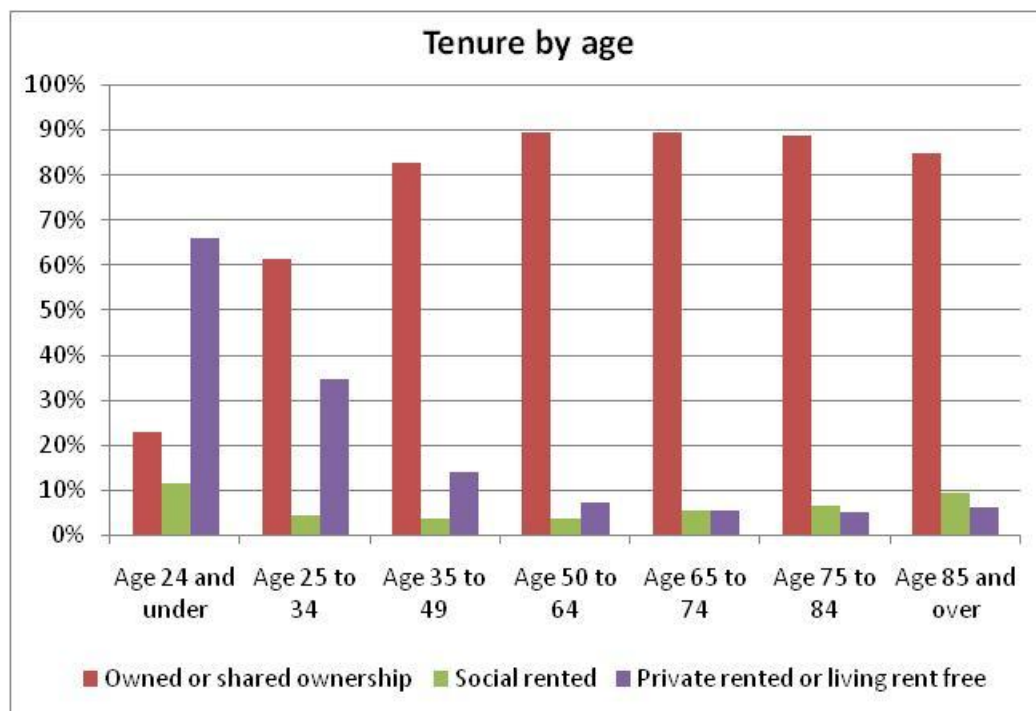
Some have pointed to a lack of new affordable homes being built as the reason behind the increase in homelessness in other parts of the country. The latest annual figures show that in Wyre, while the number of new homes started and completions have increased, (2012/13 to 2013/14) there has been no change in the proportion of social sector homes (0%).



Looking at quarterly building statistics, in the final quarter of 2014, there were 30 dwellings started and 80 completed in Wyre – all privately built.



Nomis data (2011) shows that in the constituency, 84% are owner-occupiers, 5% rent from a social landlord and 11% 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 (23%) and 50 to 64 year age bracket (89%) before falling to 85% for those aged 85 and over. Conversely, renting is more popular for those aged 24 and below (77%) 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