

Barnsley Central 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 Barnsley Central, 70.8% of working aged people were working full-time and 29.2% worked part-time. The corresponding figures for the region are 69.3% and 30.7%.



The Annual Survey of Salaries and Hours (ASHE) shows that in the constituency (as a place of work), 19.6% of all employee jobs paid below the Living Wage in 2014 (£7.65ph), an increase from 17.2% in 2013. This compares to 24.3% regionally and 21.7% nationally.

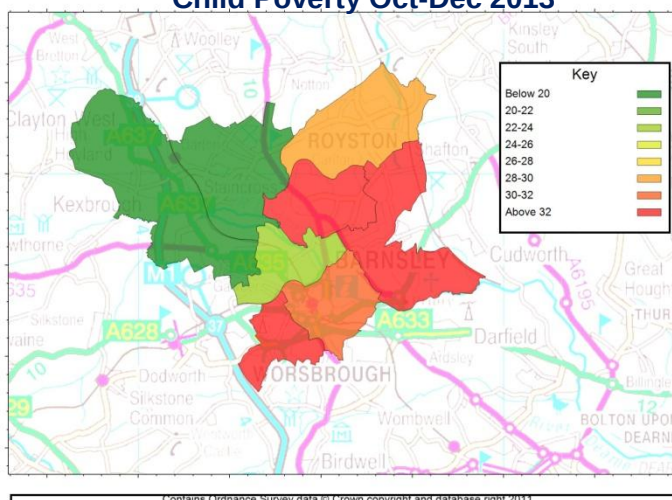


In the constituency, between September 2013 and September 2014, total Benefit sanctions fell by 38.4%. Employment and Support Allowance sanctions began and ended this period on zero. Meanwhile, Job Seekers Allowance sanctions fell from 177 to 109 (-38.4%).



In a previous edition of the Constituency Profiles, we reported that in Barnsley Central, 22% of children live in poverty. One year on, we can report that figure, before housing costs, stands at 17.6%. However, when housing costs are taken into account, 27.96% of children live in poverty (End Child Poverty) and the map below shows that Monk Bretton (35.3%) is the worst affected ward.

Child Poverty Oct-Dec 2013



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



After a general downward trend between Q1 2013 to Q2 2014, social landlord possession claims grew by 13.7% between Q2 2014 and Q4 2014 in Barnsley LA (from 117 to 133). Over the same period, actual possessions fell by 1% to 21. Meanwhile, mortgage claims and possessions fell over the same period.



In the final quarter of 2014, Barnsley Council made 107 homelessness decisions and accepted 5 households as being homeless and in priority need (4.7%). At the end of 2014, no households were housed in temporary accommodation, a similar picture as in the quarter ending in June.



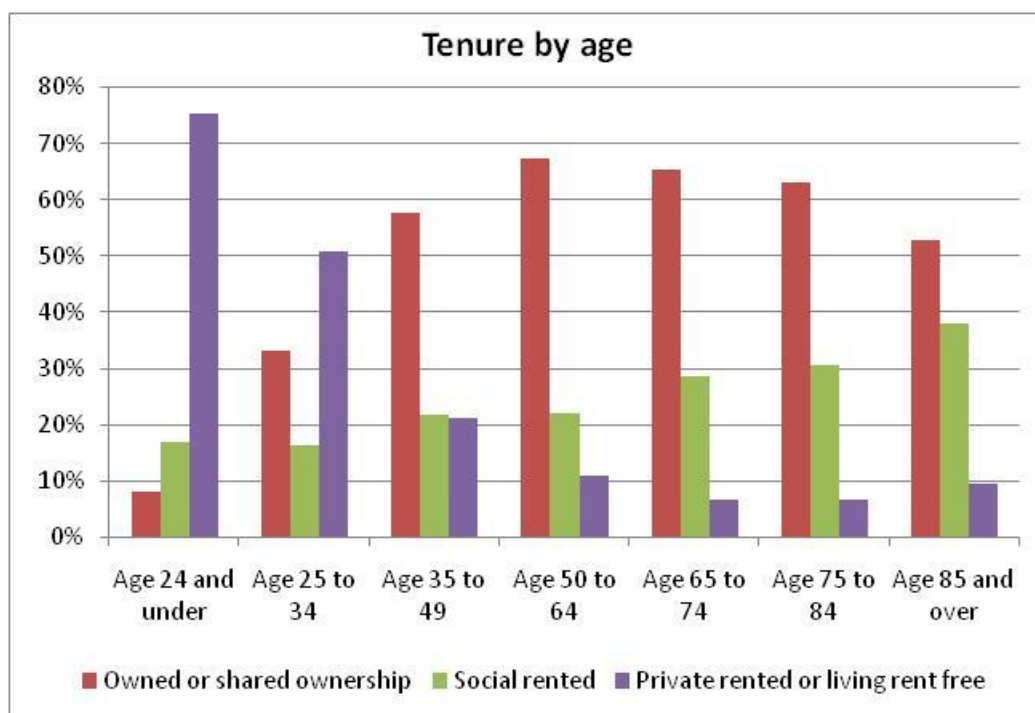
Some have pointed to a lack of new affordable homes being built as a reason behind the increase in homelessness. The latest annual figures show that in Barnsley LA, while the number of new homes started and completed has increased (2012/13 to 2013/14), the proportion of social sector dwellings starts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



Looking at quarterly building statistics, in the final quarter of 2014, there were 60 dwellings started and 230 completed in Barnsley LA. One-third of starts and 13% of completions were in the social sector. In the corresponding quarter of 2013, 9.1% of dwellings started but no of completions were in the social sector.



Nomis data (2011) shows that in the constituency, 51% are owner-occupiers, 22% rent from a social landlord and 27% 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 (8%) and 50 to 64 year age bracket (67%) before falling to 53% for those aged 85 and over. Conversely, renting is more popular for those aged 24 and below (92%) before falling and then increasing slightly in later years.



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