

## Penistone and Stockbridge Parliamentary Constituency

This is the second 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



ONS figures show that in the year ending in June 2015, there were 52,000 people aged over 16 years old in employment (81.6%) in Penistone and Stockbridge. There are 29,000 jobs in the constituency which equates to 0.53 jobs per 16-64 year old compared to 0.74 across Yorkshire and the Humber.



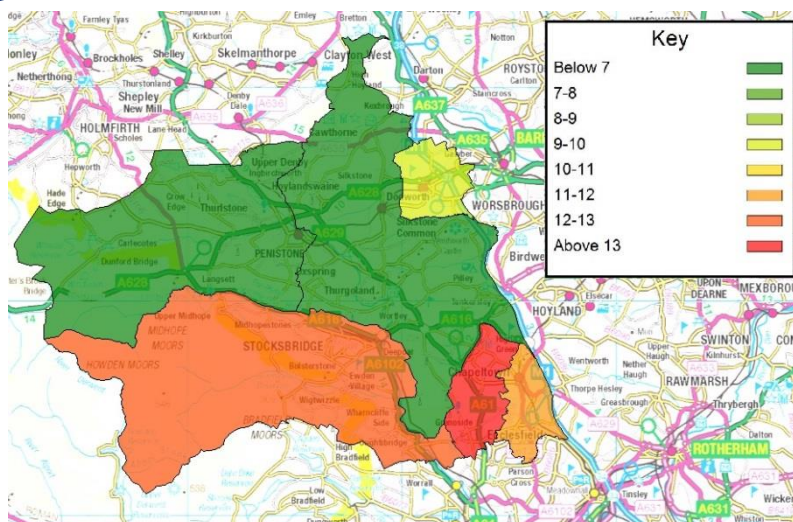
Experimental Jobseekers Allowance and out of work Universal Credit statistics produced by Jobcentre Plus shows that there were 770 such claimants in November 2015 (1.4% of 16-64 year olds), which is a 0.1% fall on the previous year. This compares to 2.2% of people in the region (a 0.5% decrease).



The latest Government data shows that there were 17,170 children in low income families in the constituency in August 2013 (10.4% of all children). Over four-fifths were in families in receipt of Income Support or Jobseekers Allowance while 15.4%, in families in receipt of Council Tax Credit and with less than 60% of median income.



West Ecclesfield ward (13.6%) had the greatest concentration of such children followed by Stocksbridge and Upper Don (12.1%). West Ecclesfield also has a higher than average proportion of children living in a family in receipt of Income Support or JSA (85.3%).



**Figure 1: Percentage of children in low income families**

## Housing Market



In 2014/15, there were 363 homeless acceptances by Sheffield Council. This is a 61.6% decrease on the 946 acceptances in 2009/10. Of these, 110 households were found temporary accommodation and there were 91 cases of a duty being owed but no accommodation found.

In October 2014, the total number of vacant homes was 5,583. This is a 31.8% fall from 8,188 in 2009 compared with the 25.1% fall in South Yorkshire. Long-term vacants fell by almost a third (32.3%) over the same period. There was a total of 832 social housing vacants and 57 were classed as long-term vacant (6.9%) which is a fall from 89 in the previous year.

As at April 2014, there were 20,123 households on the housing waiting list in Sheffield LA. This is a 67.1% decrease on the previous year of 61,204. Furthermore, the long-term trend is also downwards with a fall of 79.4% on 2009 figures.

There are clear signs of a recovery in housing market in the constituency with an overall increase in sales between 2009 and 2014 (48.6%) with greatest increase in sales of detached properties (ONS). Furthermore, house prices grew between 2013 and 2014 and reached their highest level since 2007.

As figure 2 shows, median house prices and pay (ASHE) have not grown at the same rate. After recovering from a fall in 2011, house price growth outstripped median pay in 2014. As a result, the affordability ratio grew to 6.5 from 6.2 between 2013 and 2014.

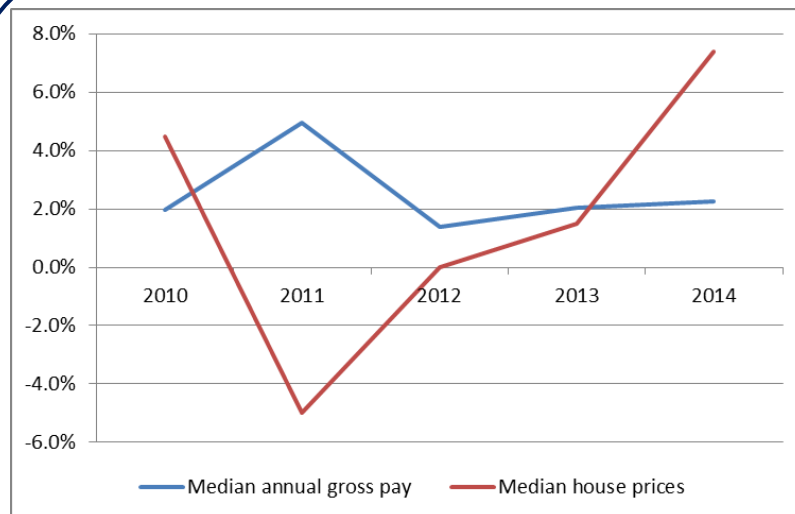


Figure 2: Annual % change in house prices and pay

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