

Ribble Valley Parliamentary Constituency

This is the first bulletin of 2016 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

Economic Activity



Neighbourhood Statistics shows that there are 70,920 residents in Ribble Valley aged between 16 and 74. Of these, 72.7% are economically active (this includes unemployed and actively looking for work) which compares to 67.5% in Lancashire and 67.8% for the region as a whole.



The latest economically active figures are an increase on those from the 2001 Census. In 2001, there were 70.3% of residents aged 16 to 74 classed as economically active. This coincides with an increase in the number of people aged 16 to 74.



Figure 1 below shows economically active are concentrated in Alston and Hothersall (76.6%) and Walton-le-Dale (76.1%) wards having highest proportions of economically active 16 to 74 year olds.



Of the economically active total, 57.1% are full-time employees, while 20.2% work part-time employees. A further 15.4% are self-employed and 3.3% are unemployed (and looking for work). The proportion of those in employment has fallen by 1.8% since 2001.

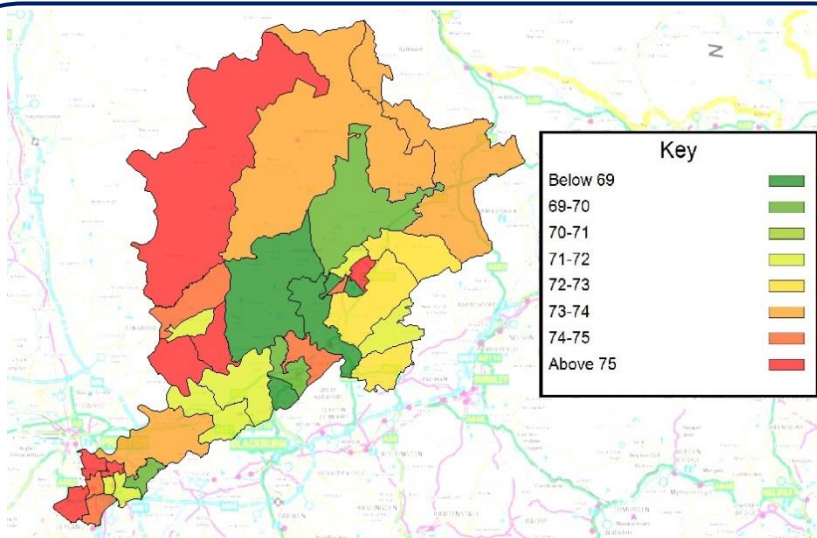


Figure 1: Economically Active by ward

Benefits and affordability



Nomis data showed that in June, there were 515 Universal Credit and Job Seekers Allowance claimants in the constituency, a rise from 470 at the same point in 2015. This represents 0.9% of people aged over 16 in the constituency with 35-44 year olds making up 21.4% of claimants.



Using these indicators, it would appear that the Government's aim of a lower welfare country is not being achieved. However, annual survey of hours and earnings data shows that hourly pay for full-time workers grew from 2014 to 2015 from £13.23 to 13.43 – delivering on the higher wage 'settlement'.



Ministry of Justice figures show that there had been no change in total housing possession claims and possessions in the first quarter of 2016 compared to the same period of 2015 in the local authority area.



As Figure 2 shows the only possession action taken in the district was social landlord claims. There were 6 such actions. This is a similar level as the corresponding quarter of 2015.



There were no other actions taken in any tenure. Indeed the last time there was any action taken other than social landlord claims was in mortgage claims in the first quarter of 2013 (13).

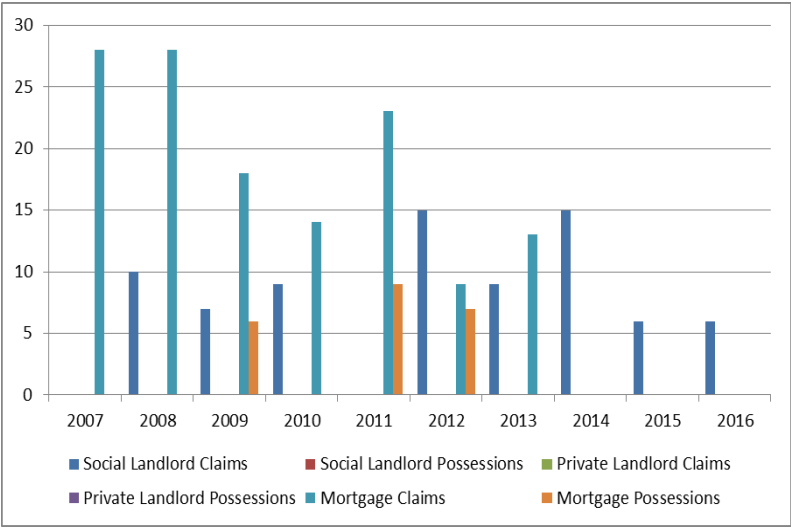


Figure 2: Possession claims and possessions

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