

Poverty Needs Assessment

Update 2020/21

Produced by the Business Improvement and Intelligence Team
March 2021 – Last Updated 28/05/2021

Change Log

What's new?

Updated 27/05/2021

- New claimant count data and furlough rates to March 2021 added to [Slide 23](#) to [Slide 25](#). Also changes to labour market data and fuel poverty data on [Slide 13](#)

Updated 17/05/2021

- Fuel Poverty data updated on Slides [41](#) and [42](#) – following release of data for new Low Income, Low Energy Efficiency (LILEE) measure. Geographical distribution map also updated.

Updated 21/04/2021

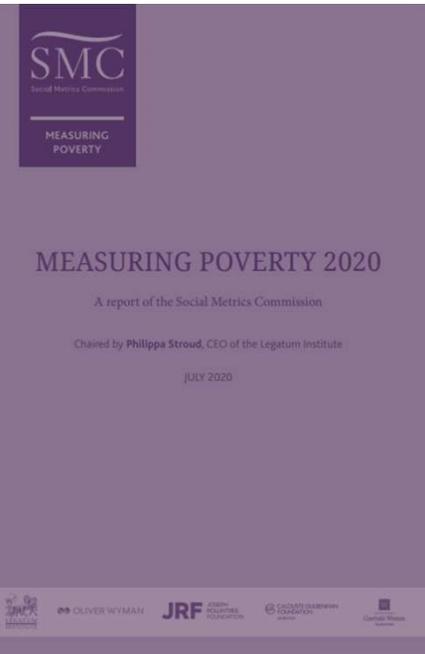
- New data on Children in Low Income Families added to [Slide 16](#) following annual release of data from DfE (25/03/2021)

Updated 08/04/2021

- Mortality rates for 2020 and inequality slope index by deprivation decile added to [Slide 39](#) following publication on PHE Wider Impacts of Covid (WICH) [tool](#).

Key Messages

- **Poverty has risen as a result of the Covid-19 crisis.** Compared to the situation where the Covid-19 pandemic had not hit the country, 440,000 more people were in poverty in Summer 2020 and 690,000 more in Winter 2020.
- **Many of those already in poverty** could move deeper into poverty as a result of losing their jobs or having lower earnings because of reduced hours or pay.
- **Those previously close to, but above, the poverty line** could move into poverty because of their changing employment status. This could result in a significant increase in poverty.
- **Poverty has reduced amongst some groups.** The increases to benefits have also meant that some groups have seen a fall in poverty. Many non-working families have seen their benefits increase, meaning that they are less likely to be in poverty than would have been the case in the absence of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- **Some impacts have not yet been seen** and there may be further financial hardship that becomes apparent over the next six months as various support packages are reduced/cease including:
 - Impact of the furlough scheme coming to an end
 - Cessation of the temporary increase of £20 a week to Universal Credit and Working Tax Credits (from April 2021) and the suspension the Minimum Income Floor (that applies to self-employed people claiming Universal Credit). It is estimated that these policies alone have protected some 690,000 people from poverty in Winter 2020.



National Context – UK Poverty 2020/21

Poverty in the UK



UK POVERTY

2020/21

The leading independent report



JRF JOSEPH
ROWNTREE
FOUNDATION

Joseph Rowntree Report - January 2021

- **Pre-Coronavirus, 14.5 million people in the UK caught up in poverty**
- **Many of these groups already struggling have borne the brunt of the economic and health impacts of Covid-19 including:**
 - Part-time workers, low paid workers and sectors with higher rates of in-work poverty (e.g. accommodation and food services)
 - Black, Asian and minority ethnic households
 - Lone parents - mostly women, many of whom work in hard-hit sectors
 - Private renters, who have higher housing costs and social renters, who tend to have lower incomes
 - Areas of the UK where there were already higher levels of unemployment, poverty and deprivation.

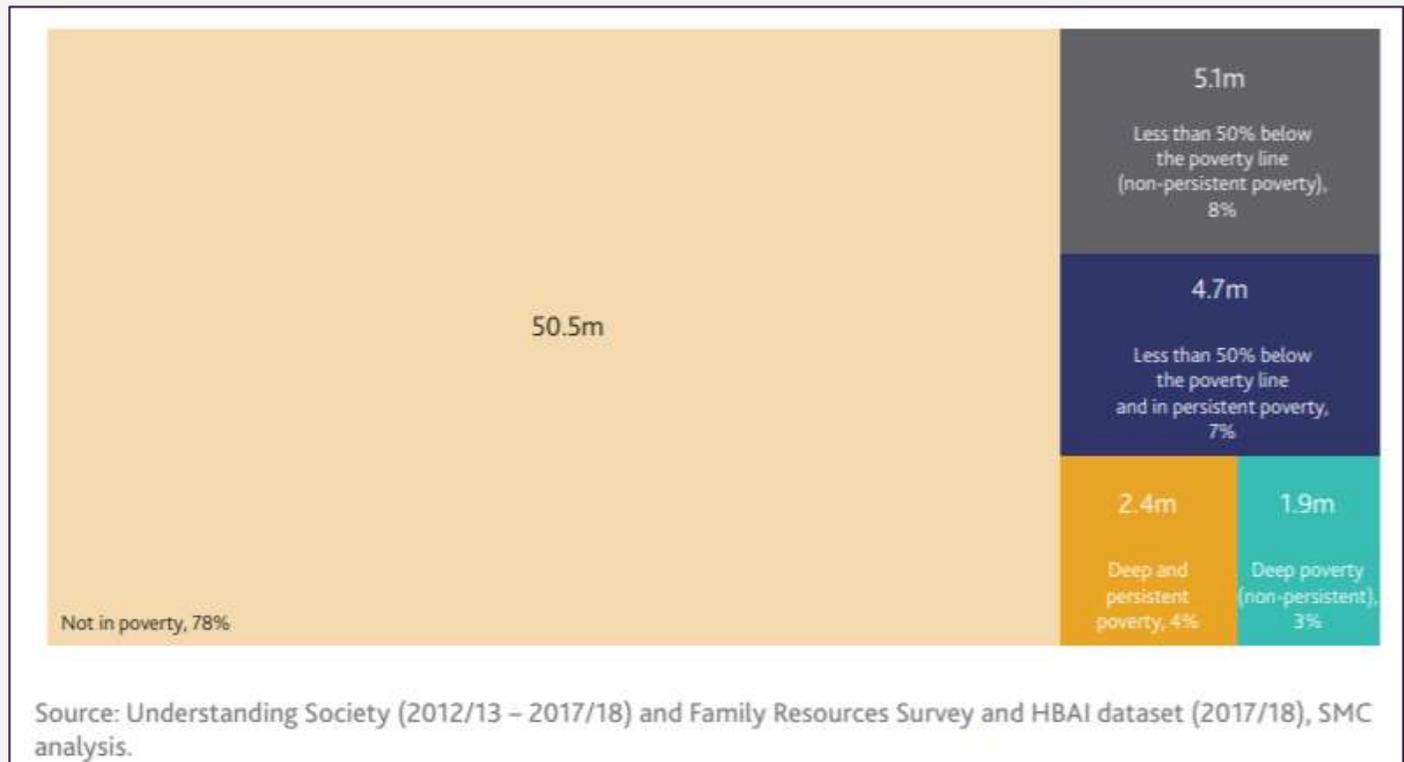
Poverty in the UK



- The incidence of **deep poverty** (those living more than 50% below the poverty line) has **increased** over the last two decades.
- Some 4.5 million people (7% of the population) in the UK now live in this deepest form of poverty, compared to 2.8 million people (5% of the population) in 2000/01.

Social Metrics Commission Report - August 2020

UK population by poverty status 2017/18:



Marmot Review 2020



HEALTH EQUITY IN ENGLAND:
THE MARMOT REVIEW 10 YEARS ON
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

“Since 2010 there have been worrying deteriorations in health and widening health inequalities in England.”

Since 2010...

- Life expectancy in England has stalled for the first time since 1900
- Inequalities in life expectancy have **increased**. Among women in the most deprived 10 per cent of areas, life expectancy fell between 2010-12 and 2016-18
- The gradient in healthy life expectancy is steeper than that of life expectancy. **It means that people in more deprived areas spend more of their shorter lives in ill-health than those in less deprived areas**
- The amount of time people spend in poor health has **increased** across England since 2010
- Large funding cuts have affected the social determinants across the whole of England, but **deprived areas** and areas outside London and the South East experienced larger cuts.

Child Poverty

- Disadvantaged children are **4.5 times** more likely to develop severe mental health problems by age 11 than their well-off peers, a Millennium Cohort study showed.
- In 2019, **25%** of children receiving free school meals achieved grades 9-5 in GCSE English and Maths, compared with **50%** of other children.

- Of the **700,000** people calculated by the [Legatum Institute](#) to have been pushed into UK poverty during the pandemic, **120,000** were children.
- More than **two in five** families told the Child Poverty Action Group they fell into poverty in 2020, meaning hundreds of thousands were struggling to pay bills and cover costs for their child in lockdown.
- More than 70 per cent of children facing hardship have at least one parent who works, [according to the Joseph Rowntree Foundation](#).
- Childcare and housing are two of the costs that take the biggest toll on families' budgets.
- Living in poverty can have a serious impact on a child's wellbeing. Some report feeling ashamed and unhappy and worry about their parents.



[Source CPAG](#)

Food Poverty

September 2020: Marcus Rashford formed the Child Food Poverty Task Force, a coalition of charities and food businesses calling on Government to implement 3 recommendations from the National Food Strategy.



Centre for Social Justice Survey

- 37% of people in the poorest households have occasionally struggled to pay for everyday food.
- A third are also worried about losing their jobs in the near future.

#Endchildfoodpoverty

- Before Covid-19, 4.2 million children were living in poverty in the UK (9 in every classroom of 30).
- **2.3 million children experienced food insecurity** between March and August 2020.
- **Two in five children** in the UK living under the poverty line (1.3 million) are not eligible for Free School Meals.

November 2020: Following a major public campaign, Government announced a funding package to help alleviate child food poverty. The support package is significant progress against the 3 National Food Strategy recommendations.

 SUPPORTED Extend the Holiday Activity and Food Programme to all areas in England, to all children who get Free School Meals
 SUPPORTED Increase the value of Healthy Start vouchers to £4.25
 NO PROGRESS MADE Expand Free School Meals to all under-16s where a parent or guardian is in receipt of Universal Credit or equivalent benefit

Digital Poverty

A significant proportion of the population is digitally excluded because they lack internet access and/or have low levels of digital literacy.

The [Lloyds' Consumer Digital Index 2020](#) found that nine million people in the UK are “digitally excluded”, with no or limited access to the internet. Of that figure, **40 per cent** are based in northern England, in the cities and regions hit hardest by Tier restrictions and lockdowns.

Cambridge Centre for Housing and Planning [Research](#)

- Coronavirus has intensified the UK’s digital divide. It has also thrown into focus the issue of digital exclusion, which has been a reality for the **22%** of the UK’s population who lack basic digital skills since long before the Covid-19 outbreak.
- The likelihood of having access to the internet from home increases along with income, such that only **51%** of households earning between £6000-10,000 had home internet access compared with **99%** of households with an income of over £40,001 ([ONS data](#)).
- People who are digitally excluded are likely to be disproportionately heavy users of government services. Nearly half of those seeking help on tax and tax credit issues do not have access to a computer.

Centre for Cities Report

- Levelling up was already a huge task – 80% of the challenge was within cities and large towns.
- The economic impact of the Covid pandemic has made that task at least **4 times harder**.
- Assuming a worst-case scenario, in which all those people still on the Covid Job Retention Scheme at the end of October lost their job, levelling-up would be **10 times** more challenging than in March 2020.

Cities Outlook 2021

Figure 17

Different places need different policy responses

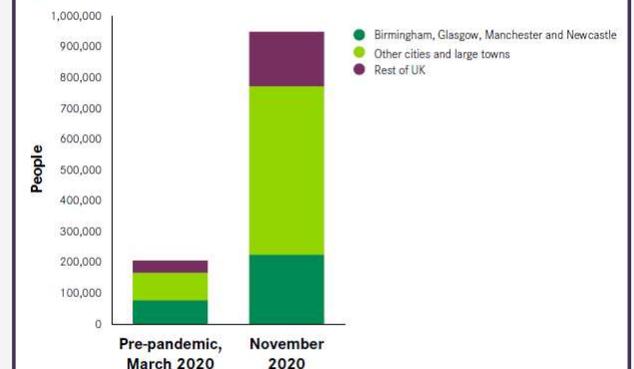
Summary table of the challenges affecting different groups of cities and large towns

	Details of challenge	Cities and large towns
Levelling-up + Covid challenges	In need of levelling up pre-pandemic and export base further affected by Covid.	Basildon, Birmingham, Blackburn, Blackpool, Bradford, Burnley, Cardiff, Dundee, Glasgow, Huddersfield, Liverpool, Luton, Newport, Sheffield and Swansea.
Levelling-up challenge	In need of levelling up pre-pandemic but export base relatively sheltered from Covid.	Barnsley, Birkenhead, Chatham, Coventry, Derby, Doncaster, Hull, Ipswich, Leeds, Manchester, Mansfield, Middlesbrough, Newcastle, Nottingham, Peterborough, Plymouth, Stoke, Sunderland, Telford, Wakefield and Wigan.
Covid challenge	Strong economies hard hit by Covid.	Aberdeen, Bournemouth, Brighton, Crawley, Edinburgh, Leicester, London, Slough and Southend.
Strong economies	Strong economies who have only been marginally affected by Covid.	Aldershot, Bristol, Cambridge, Exeter, Gloucester, Milton Keynes, Northampton, Norwich, Oxford, Portsmouth, Preston, Reading, Southampton, Swindon, Warrington, Worthing and York.

“Data suggests that Barnsley might be better placed to come back, but there is a longer-term challenge in that even a full recovery to pre-pandemic levels will only return the borough to a position of relatively weak economic performance – something which **levelling up** policies will need to tackle.”

Covid has made the levelling-up challenge much bigger

People claiming unemployment related benefits that would need to find or improve their job opportunities to level up the economically weaker parts of the UK



Source: ONS, claimant count March 2020 and November 2020, population estimates 2019. Data is not seasonally adjusted

Overall Poverty Barnsley

Recent Trend



Improving



Worsening

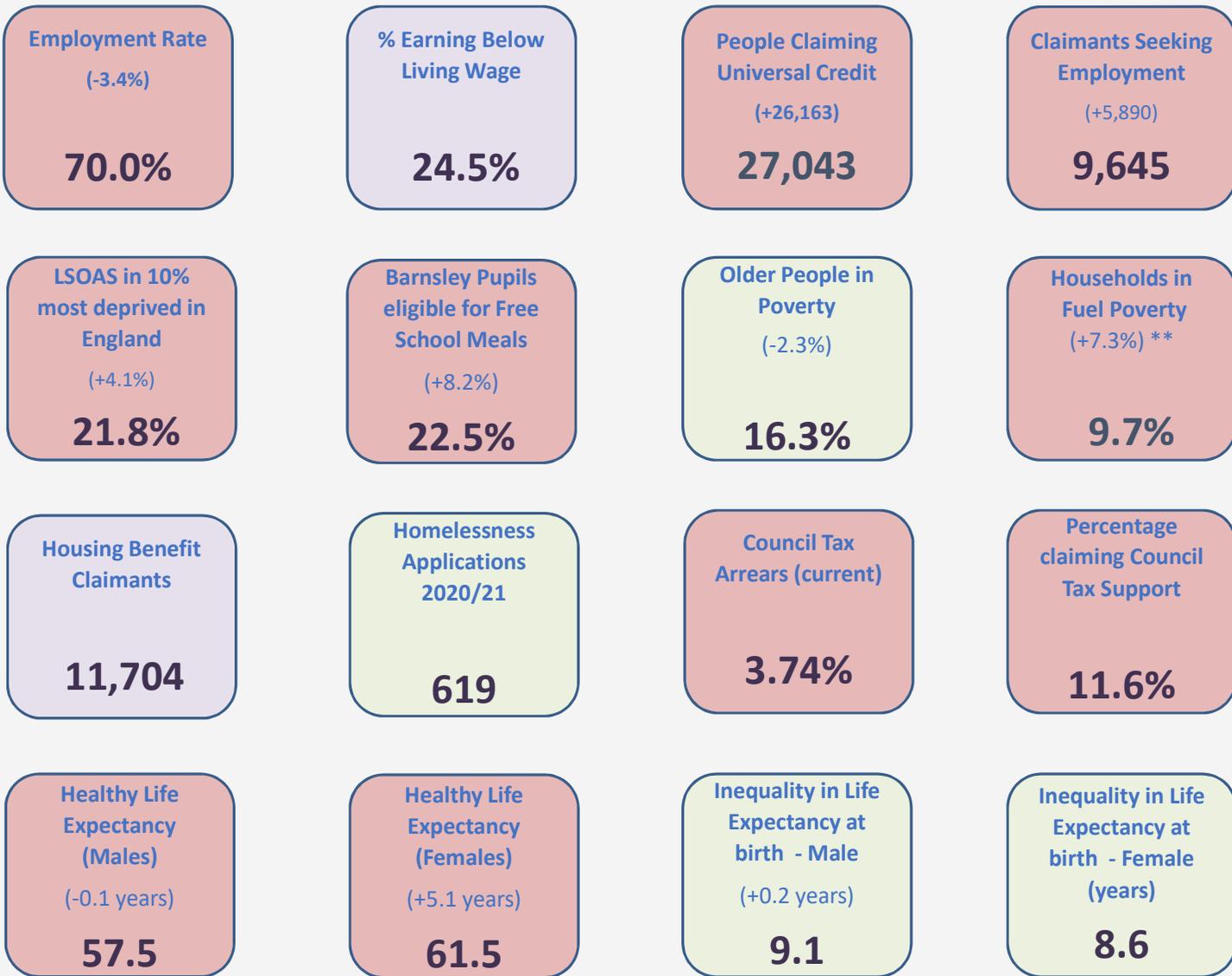
Labour Market

Deprivation

Housing

Health

Figure in brackets indicates increase/decrease since last needs assessment in 2014. Colour denotes recent trend (where trend data available)



**note impacted by new measure (see [Slide 43](#))

Poverty in Barnsley

- Barnsley ranks 38 out of 317 local authorities on the average rank score of deprivation.
- Relative position has improved by 1 since 2015

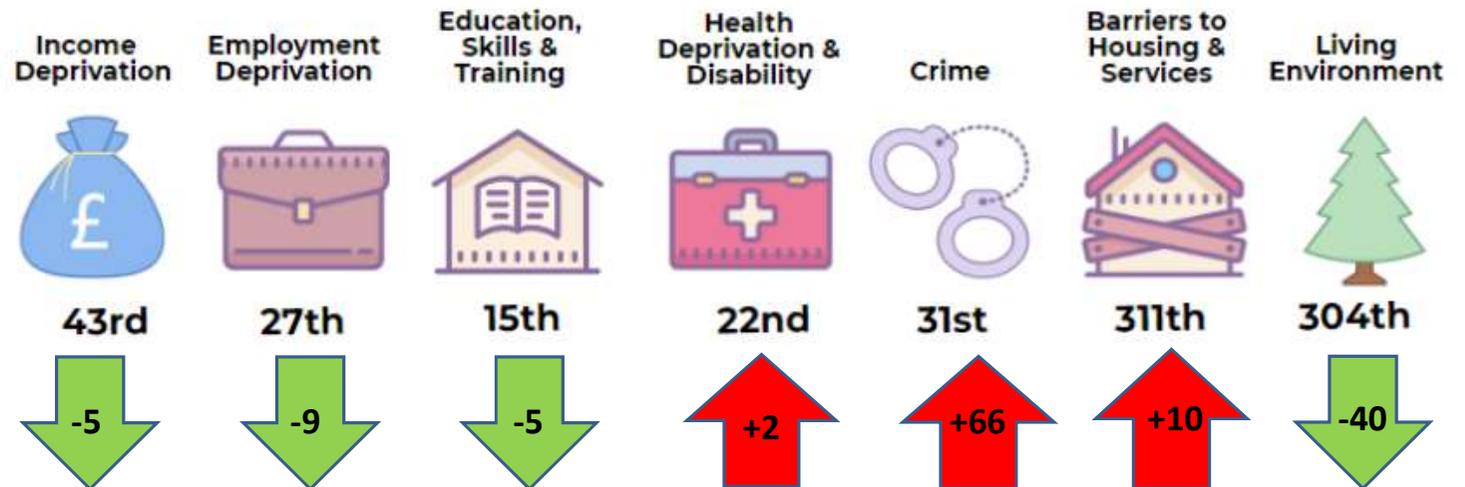


Indices of Deprivation 2019

(arrows show trend from IMD 2015)

How does Barnsley perform on the seven domains?

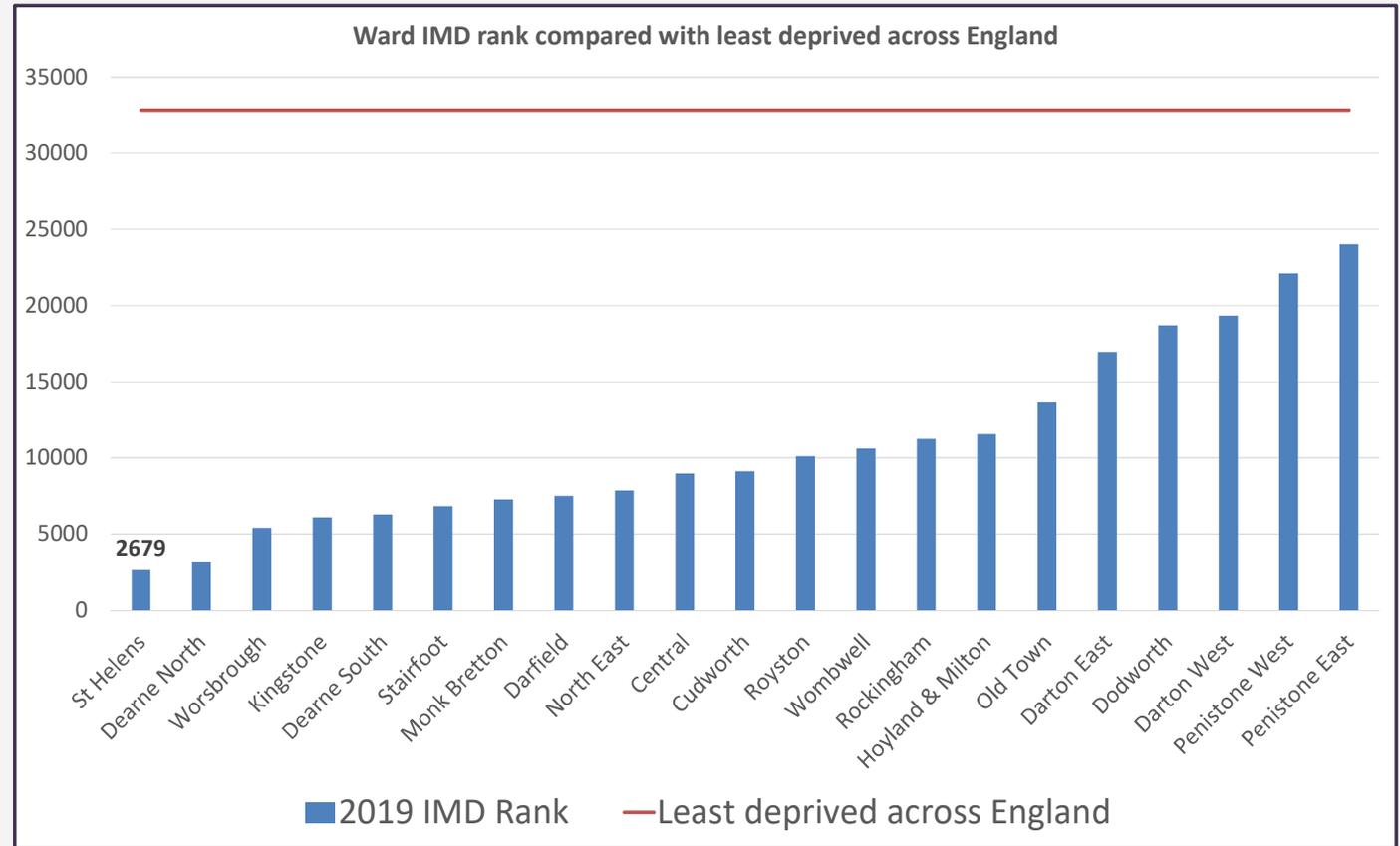
Below are the rankings for Barnsley relative to the other 316 Local Authorities using the 'rank of average score' by domain (where 1=most deprived, 317=least deprived).



Poverty in Barnsley

- Most deprived wards in Barnsley on 2019 IMD are St Helens and Dearne North.
- Least deprived wards are Penistone West and Penistone East.

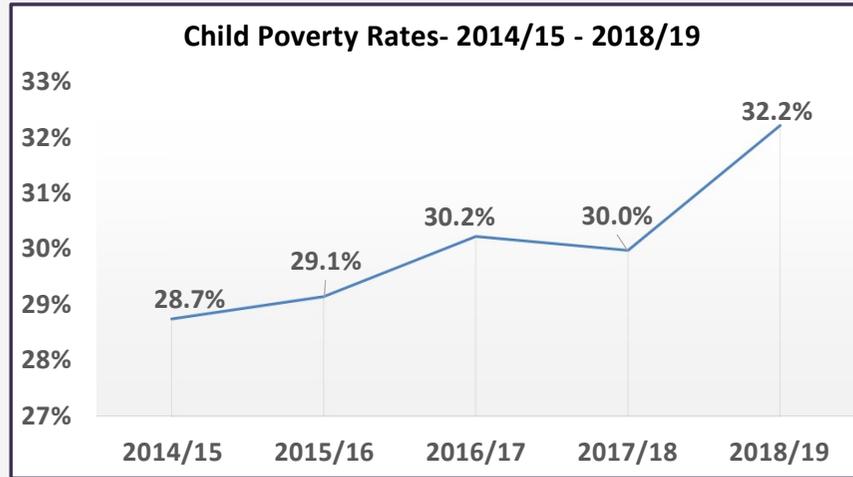
Indices of Deprivation 2019 – Ward level



Poverty in Barnsley

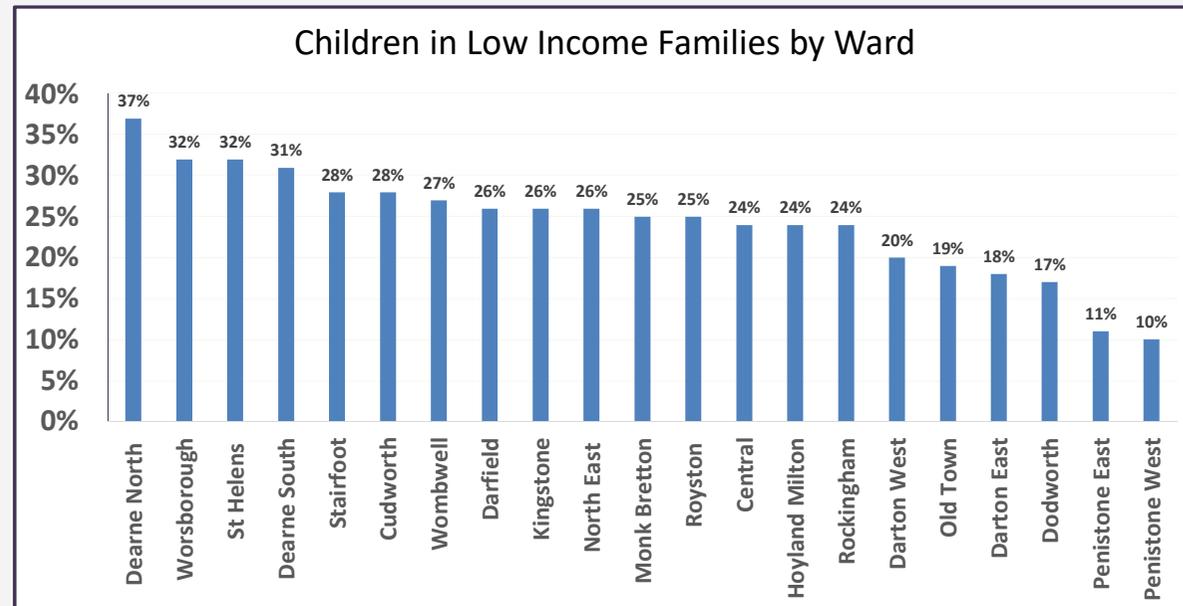
- 3.5% increase in the Child Poverty rate since 2014/15 to **32.2%**. This compares to a UK average of 30%.
- Children in low income families - Dearne North ward above the Borough average at 37%.
- Largest growth since 2014/15 in Darfield (+7%), Cudworth (+6%) and Worsborough (+6%).

Child Poverty



Local child poverty rates after housing costs.

Source: [End Child Poverty Coalition](#)



Source: DWP

Poverty in Barnsley

- A series of practice focused workshops with children's services staff (managers and frontline staff).
- A result of senior management engagement with the CWIP which established link between rates of poverty and the chances of children entering the care and protection system.

Child Inequalities Welfare Project (CWIP)

Reflections from the workshops...

- Poverty reported to be **endemic** amongst the families worked with who experienced degrees of economic hardship, often over many decades and generations, including in-work poverty.
- While there was recognition of the endemic nature of poverty and a high level of understanding of the particular issues, practitioners sometimes did not make links between these wider issues of poverty and the harms faced by, and within, families.
- Child protection practice is focused at the level of the individual family and the risks within that family; it is not always sighted on the poverty in which the family is living.



Work and Poverty

National Context

- There is **significant uncertainty** as to what will happen when the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme comes to an end.
- Between February, immediately prior to the crisis, and November 2020, the latest month for which figures are available, **the number of claimant unemployed across Great Britain more than doubled.**

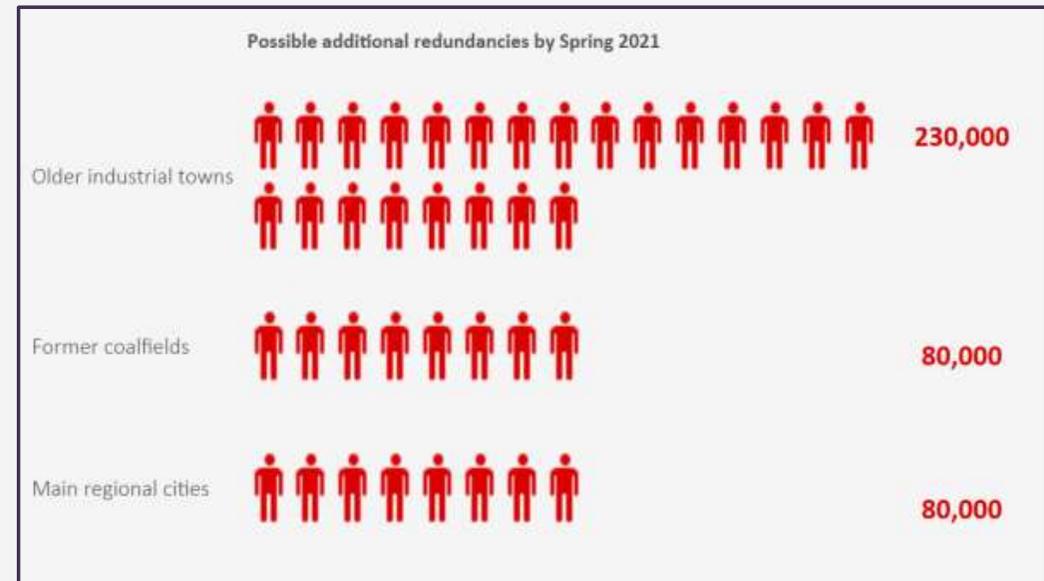
Unemployment (Sheffield University Research - Jan 2021)

[The impact of the Coronavirus Crisis on older industrial Britain](#)

Older industrial Britain has been hit hard by this surge in claimant unemployment – **between February and November the numbers rose by 310,000 in older industrial towns, 100,000 in the former coalfields.**

Increase in claimant unemployment, February-November 2020			
	no.	% point*	Rate (%*) Nov 2020
London	310,000	6.5	10.4
Main regional cities	140,000	5.1	11.1
GB average	1,350,000	4.2	8.1
Older industrial towns	310,000	3.9	9.1
South East England	170,000	3.8	6.4
Former coalfields	100,000	3.6	8.3

Some of the jobs presently supported by the Job Retention Scheme may disappear when the scheme comes to an end - some firms may conclude that the jobs are simply no longer viable.

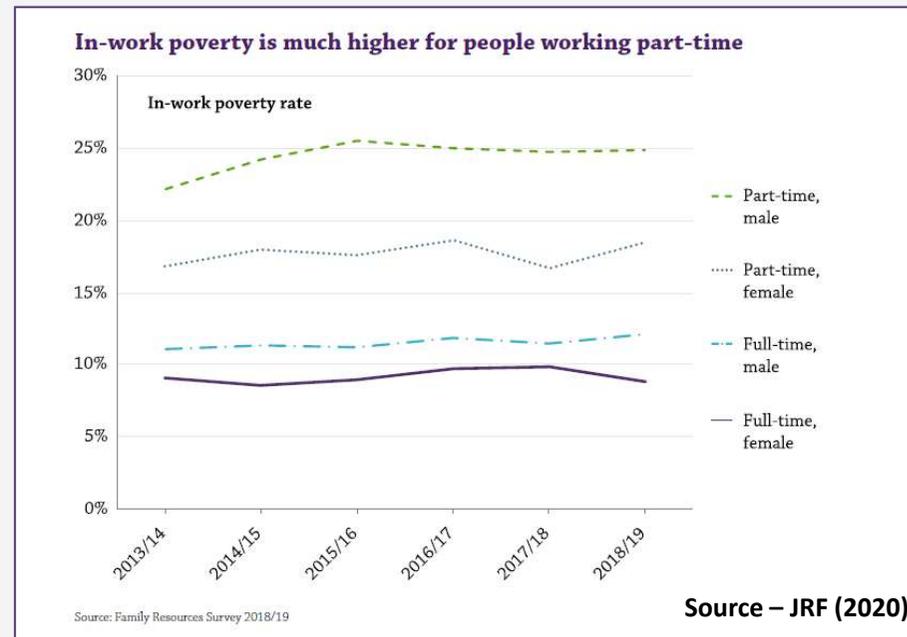


National Context

- **Women** are more likely to be low paid and face more barriers to progressing out of low paid work.
- **Childcare** is a significant issue for many workers – 56% of councils in England report having enough childcare for parents working full-time.

In-work poverty

Those employed before the Covid-19 pandemic and **already in poverty** have been the most heavily affected by economic changes (SMC, 2020).



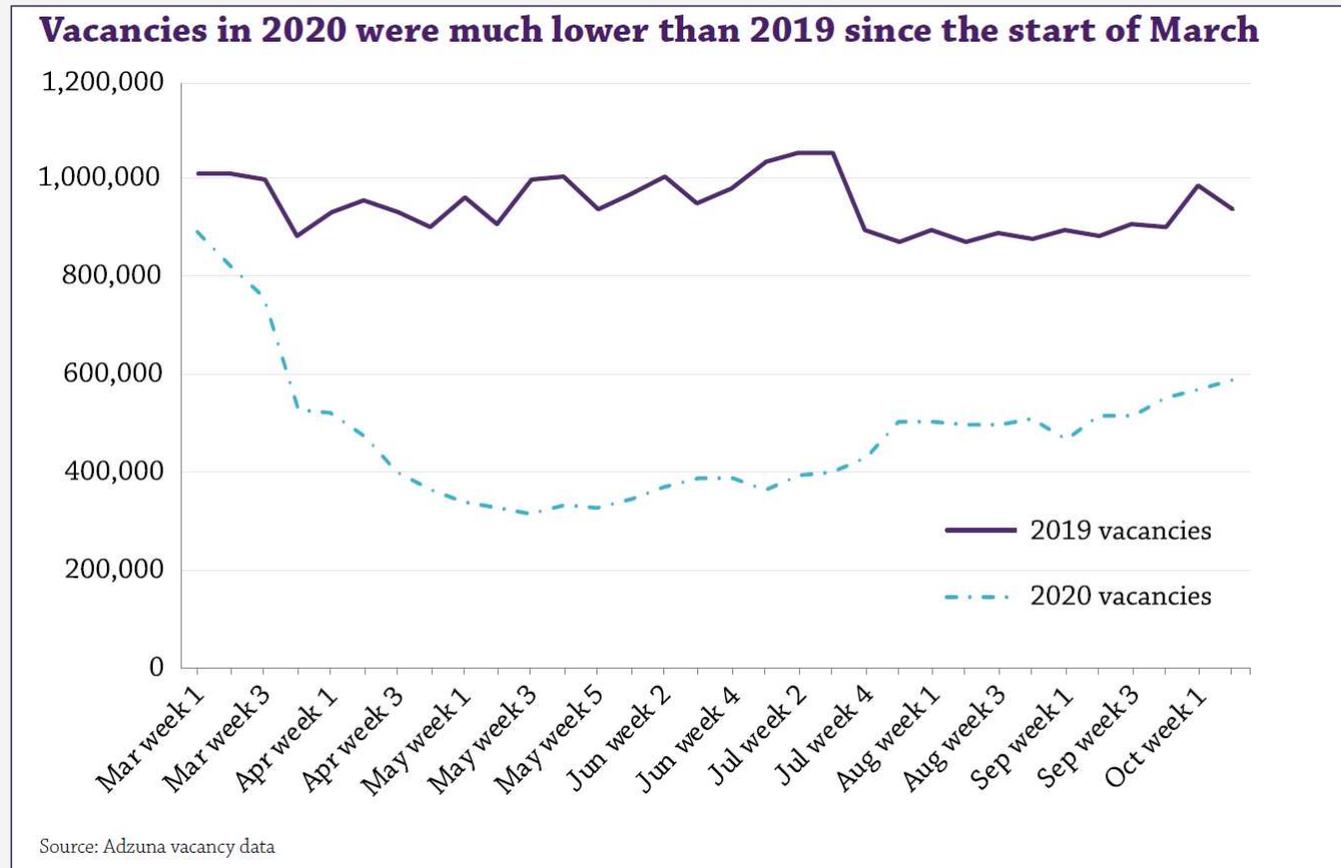
Those in working poverty prior to the crisis have been more likely to experience negative employment impacts (reduced hours or earnings and / or been furloughed or lost their job). Nearly **two in three (65%)** of those employed prior to the Covid-19 crisis who were in deep poverty have experienced some kind of negative labour change compared to **one in three (35%)** of those who were employed and more than 20% above the poverty line prior to the Covid-19 crisis.

National Context

- Oncoming wave of unemployment expected but uncertainty as to how many people will lose their jobs – forecasts from the Bank of England **predict a peak in early 2021 of between 7.5% and 11.9%**
- Workers who were at greatest risk of poverty before the pandemic are **most at risk of losing their jobs now.**

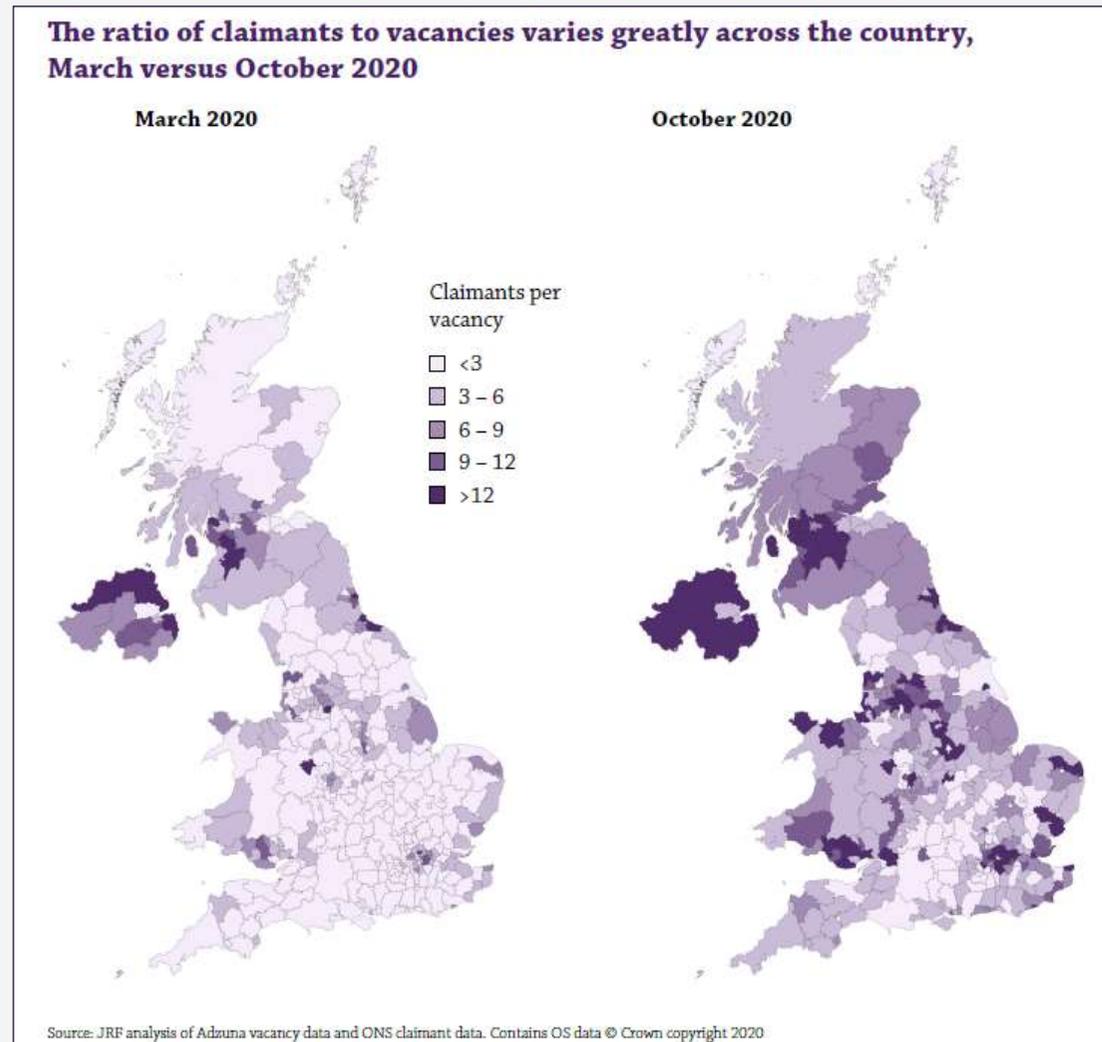
Unemployment

Those that lose their jobs are facing a difficult challenge in getting back to work...



Local Picture

- Currently, claimant count data provides the best comparison of unemployment across different places.
- Maps show ratio of claimants to vacancies by local authority.
- The ratio for Barnsley has increased from **3-6 claimants in March 2020** to **>12 claimants in October**.



Local Picture

- Covid-19 has had a substantial impact on the working age population. Within the first month of the pandemic, the claimant count doubled.
- **Since the lockdown in January claimant figures have again increased. At the end of March there were 9820 claimants. This is up 0.1% on February and by 0.4% on the January.**
- The local rate of 6.4% **remains lower** than regional and national rates, which are 6.7% and 6.5% respectively.

The Impact in BMBC by March 2021



Universal Credit Claimant and Month on Month Direction of Travel – Source NOMIS Local Authority Profile – 20 April 2021

- Nationally and regionally **male claimants** rates were stable but in Barnsley it increased by 0.1% in March to match the national level at 7.7%
- The number of **female claimants** have also increased and it is now 5.2%, above the high point during the first lockdown. The national and regional rate is 5.3%.
- *After a slight dip in December and January, the claimant rate for young people 18 – 24 increased to its highest point since September 2020. Youth unemployment remains higher than national and regional levels and is increasing faster; up by 0.3% to 11.9% in March, whereas nationally and regionally the rate only increased by 0.1%.*
- The local rate of **25-49 year-olds** claiming benefits is 7%, an 0.1% increase. This is the same increased as that nationally where the rate in 7.1%. Regionally the rate was the same as in February.
- Although the **50+ group** increased by 0.1%, this still remains lower than regional and national rate of 4.9% and 5.1% respectively.

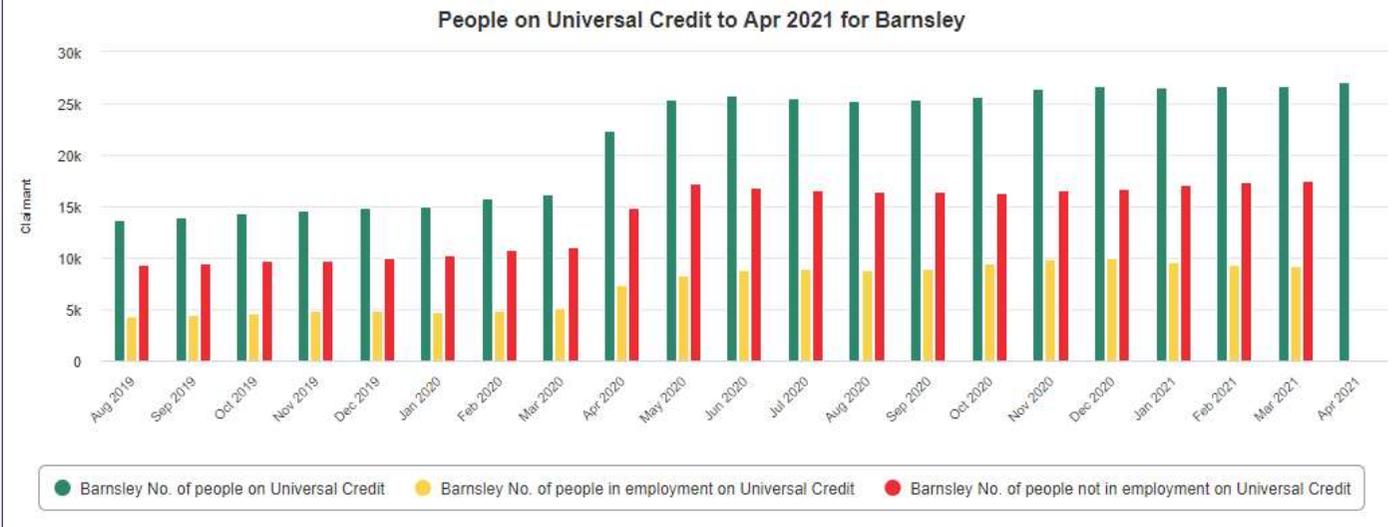
Local Picture

April 2021 data shows a total of **27,043** people on Universal Credit in Barnsley. This is a 42% increase from the figure of 15,571 at the start of the pandemic.

Contributing factors – claimant increase

- **Universal Credit claimants** can be employed but with a reduced household income, notably:
 - Across April 2021 many **furloughed workers** made claims for support
 - JobCentre Plus reported significant numbers of new **self-employed claimants** in advance of the Covid-19 self-employment support from Government
- **A collapse in job vacancies** from around 800 thousand nationally before the crisis to just 320 thousand in the single-month (April) – now witnessing steady increase.
- Over **1000 redundancies** have been notified locally

This data set highlights the total number of people claiming Universal Credit, including the numbers of those in and out of employment. The number of claimants in/out of employment are released month later than the overall total. The latest month's total for overall number of people claiming is provisional.



Local Picture

Nationally the proportion of the workforce on full furlough increased from early December to January.

Furlough Rates

- The latest HMRC furlough statistics are up to March this year
- The latest rate is 11% of the local workforce, 11,700 people

Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme			
Area	Total number of eligible employments under the CJRS	Total number of furloughed employments under the CJRS	% take-up rate of the CJRS claims
	Mar 2021		
	People		%
Barnsley ↑↓	105,800	11,700 ↑↓	11 ↑↓
Mean for Barnsley CIPFA nearest neighbours	107,967	13,313	12

- The rates vary between men and women. There are slightly more women on furlough than men.
- In May 2020 the number of people on furlough was **27,400**

Social Security and Poverty

National Context

Immediately before the coronavirus outbreak, households in receipt of income related benefits were:

- **more than twice** as likely to have been in arrears on a household bill in the last 12 months than those not receiving these benefits.
- **one-and-a-half times** more likely to be behind with their rent (or three times more likely to be behind with mortgage payments).

Poverty is particularly high among those in receipt of Universal Credit

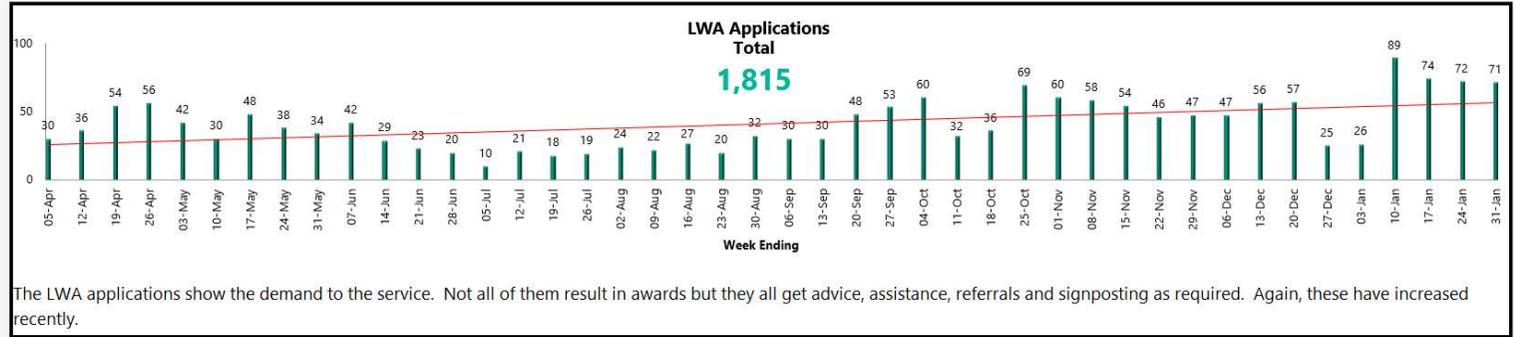
Benefit	Poverty rate (%)	Number in poverty (to the nearest 100,000)
Universal Credit	58	800,000
ESA, IS or JSA	53	2,200,000
Housing Benefit	56	3,900,000
Tax credits (WTC and/or CTC)	47	4,200,000
Pension Credit	23	300,000

Families in receipt of income-related benefits are also much more likely to be suffering from some form of material deprivation. They are **twice as likely** to be unable to afford the ingredients for a healthy diet and **three times** as likely to be unable to afford to keep their homes warm.

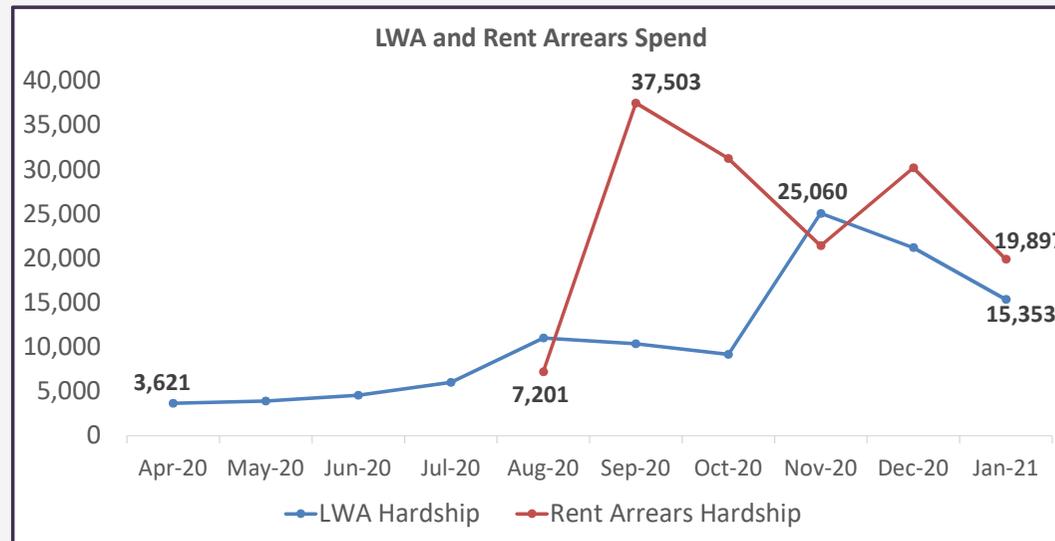
Local Picture

- LWA applications have been increasing since July just after the hardship fund/ rent arrears fund was launched.
- These applications are a mixture of normal hardship and COVID-19 related hardship.
- LWA hardship - this is the grant provided (as a result of Covid) for utilities and goods.

Barnsley Local Welfare Assistance Applications



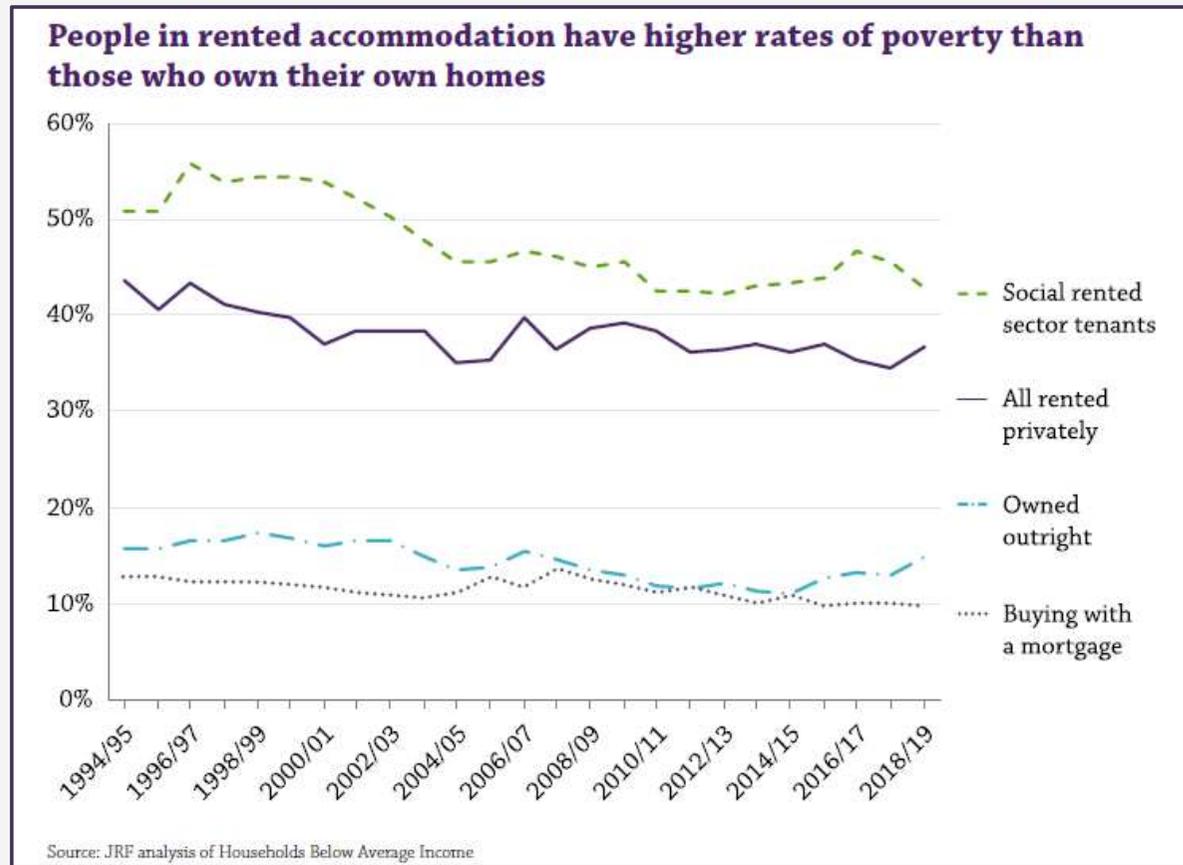
Housing Options Team Data – LWA and Rent Arrears Spend



Housing and Poverty

National Context

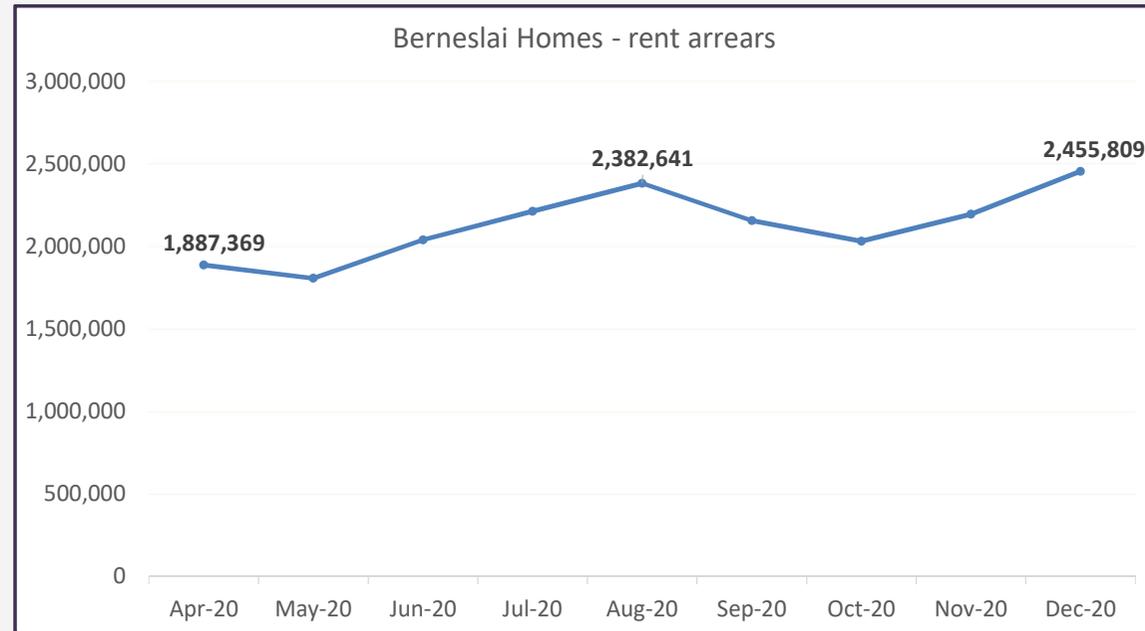
- Housing is a major factor in determining whether people are pulled into poverty or whether they stay afloat.
- As of October, social renters have been most likely to **fall behind on rent and household bills**. Private renters have been most likely to **use savings and borrow to make ends meet**.



Local Picture



The impact of the pandemic on people's lives and livelihood, along with the legal constraints imposed by government, made 2020 a very challenging period for maintaining rent collection and managing arrears levels.



23% of tenants are claiming the housing element of Universal Credit and the arrears of this group represent **62%** of the gross arrears.

Of those in arrears, 19% owe more than 8 weeks rent and the average debt is £471.

[Source: Berneslai Homes](#)

Local Picture

- The scale of the affordable housing requirements has been assessed using household survey evidence and further evidence from the Council’s housing register.
- There is currently an annual flow of 1,672 households in affordable need which is referred to as ‘gross’ need. Once annual supply through shared ownership sales, social and affordable relets of 1,482 is taken into account, there is a ‘net’ shortfall of affordable housing of **190 households each year.**

Affordable Housing

Table E51 Affordable dwelling type and number of bedrooms required as a proportion (%) of GROSS affordable need

Dwelling type/size	Sub-area								BARNSELY TOTAL
	Bolton, Goldthorpe and Thurnscoe	Darton and Barugh	Hoyland, Wombwell and Darfield	North Barnsley and Royston	Penistone and Dodworth	Rural East	Rural West	South Barnsley and Worsbrough	
1 and 2-bedroom house	0.0	30.4	16.6	23.0	72.9	20.9	50.1	71.1	38.3
3-bedroom house	90.2	12.8	54.3	48.0	2.9	0.0	0.0	14.7	29.5
4 or more-bedroom house	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	46.8	0.0	0.8
1-bedroom flat	0.0	41.9	0.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	3.1	9.0	7.6
2 and 3-bedroom flat	0.0	1.4	12.7	0.0	13.6	43.3	0.0	1.5	10.0
1 or 2-bedroom bungalow	9.8	9.2	14.3	29.0	6.0	18.7	0.0	3.7	11.4
3 or more-bedroom bungalow	0.0	4.4	2.1	0.0	0.5	17.1	0.0	0.0	2.5
Other ¹²	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total gross need	213	147	586	187	153	152	65	170	1,672
Total net need	66	8	314	-48	62	10	-29	-194	190

Source: 2020 household survey

There is an overall imbalance between the scale of affordable housing that is needed and the scale of supply on an annual basis. This imbalance justifies the need for a robust affordable housing policy to deliver suitable housing to meet this annual level of unmet need.

A mapping exercise is underway to highlight our areas of highest demand for a social housing stock basis.

Local Picture

- Approaches to the service have been very similar to last year. However the way of working with cases who present is different.
- Individuals cannot present at the office; it is done over the phone and due to the eviction ban and stalled asylum decisions and move on, these cases have not been coming through.
- These made up a substantial proportion of approaches to the service last year, so once this changes we can **expect an increase in approaches**

Homelessness

Approaches, Applications and Full Duty by Year

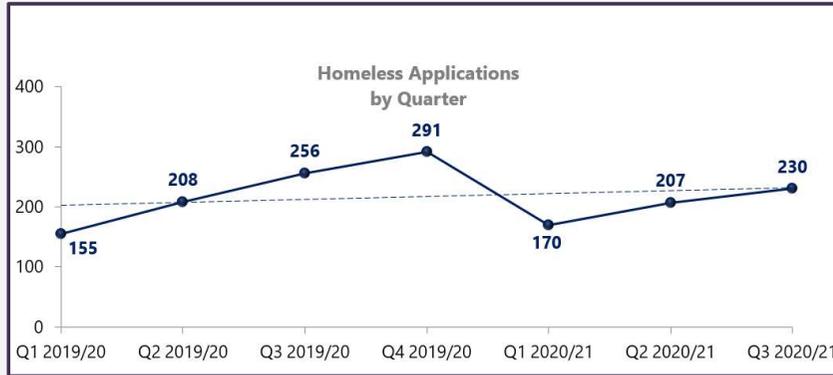
Period	Approaches/ Housing Advice	Homeless Applications	Full Duty
2014/15	2,065	319	11
2015/16	1,703	201	14
2016/17	2,065	185	16
2017/18	1,295	253	41
2018/19	1,565	488	12
2019/20	1,982	910	37
2020/21 ¹	1,427	607	72

Caveats:
¹ Q1, Q2 and Q3 data only.



Approaches, Applications and Full Duty by Quarter

Period	Approaches/ Housing Advice	Homeless Applications	Full Duty
Q1 2019/20	439	155	3
Q2 2019/20	522	208	3
Q3 2019/20	508	256	9
Q4 2019/20	513	291	22
Q1 2020/21	397	170	17
Q2 2020/21	536	207	24
Q3 2020/21	494	230	31



Full duty cases have increased significantly over this year, this reflects the limited options and time to work with people to prevent homelessness, so more are going on to be owed a full housing duty.

Health and Poverty

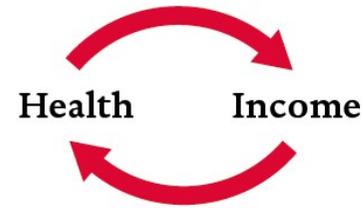
National Context

- Income is associated with health: **people in the bottom 40% of the income distribution are almost twice as likely to report poor health than those in the top 20%.** Poverty in particular is associated with worse health outcomes.
- The pattern of employment loss and furloughing by income suggests that the future economic consequences of COVID-19 may be borne by those on lower incomes. **This in turn risks an additional long-run burden on health.**

The relationship between health and income

Better health

- allows people to gain and sustain employment
- can reduce the costs people face from ill-health
- allows people to have more options, such as a more active life.

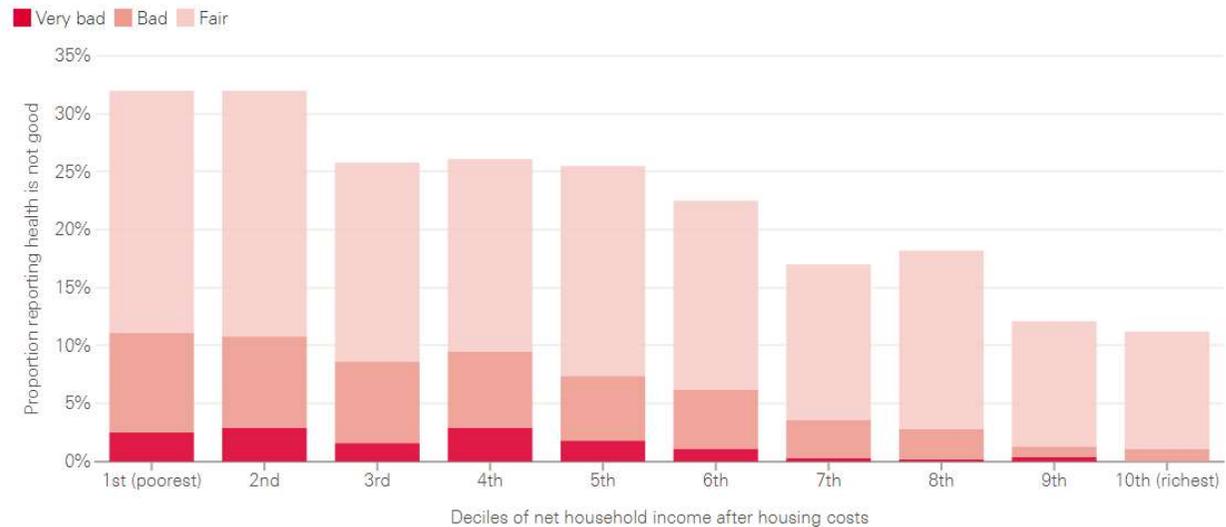


Higher income

- means people face fewer stresses
- allows people to meet more of their needs
- can be spent on health-promoting assets, such as better-quality housing or food.

People with lower incomes are more likely to report their health as 'bad' or 'very bad'

Self-rated health and employment rate by household income, adults aged 55 and under: UK, 2018/19



Source: The Health Foundation

National Context

- People's experiences of the pandemic have been shaped by their health and existing inequalities. The Health Foundation's COVID-19 impact inquiry has been gathering evidence from a range of sources to better understand this.

Measures to control the virus have fallen unevenly across society

- Impact on women and key workers- financial insecurity, domestic violence
- Wider implications for people's mental health- social isolation; pre-existing illness; access to services; suicide.
- Young people – stress, sleep, isolation
- Workplace support- BAME communities; key workers

<https://www.health.org.uk/news-and-comment/blogs/emerging-evidence-on-health-inequalities-and-covid-19-march-2021>

Parents, especially mothers, paying heavy price for lockdown

Many young people are admitting to anxiety and depression, exacerbated now by the pandemic. Some mention self-harming. Issues around doing the best by their parents are also exacerbated by the pandemic now.

Samaritans listening volunteer

Women doing more home schooling during Covid lockdown than men

Schooling children at home is having a worsening impact on wellbeing, ONS data shows

The survey, *Over Exposed and Under-Protected - The Devastating Impact of COVID-19 on Black and Minority Ethnic Communities in Great Britain* (conducted by the Runnymede Trust and ICM in June 2020), illuminates why BME groups are at greater risk from Covid-19: they are more likely to be working outside their home, more likely to be using public transport, more likely to be working in key worker roles, less likely to be protected with PPE and more likely to live in multigenerational, overcrowded housing, so much less able to self-isolate and shield.

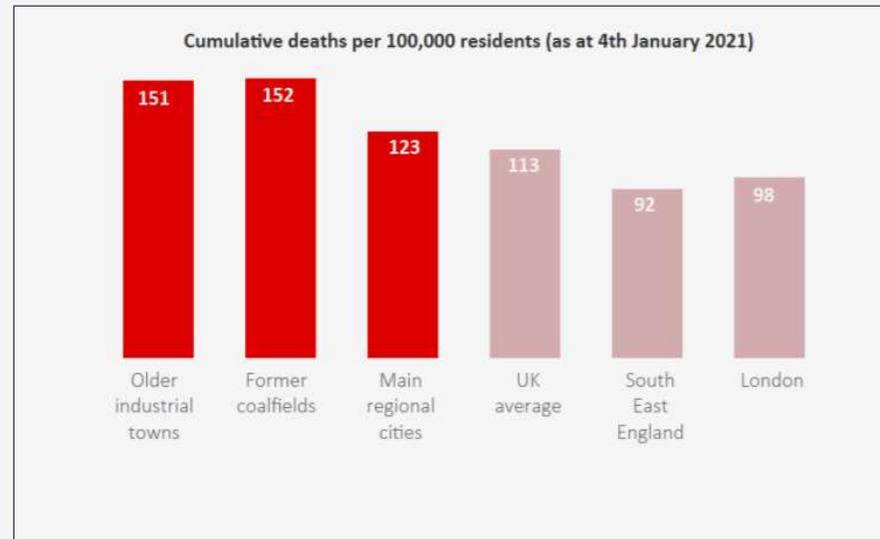
Local Picture

- Older industrial towns and the former coalfields entered the pandemic with an older and less healthy population, at higher risk from the virus
- Barnsley was in the top 5** of UK local authorities with the highest death rate from Covid-19 in January 2021

Sheffield University Research (January 2021)

The impact of the Coronavirus Crisis on older industrial Britain

The death rate in older industrial towns and the former coalfields has exceeded the national average by a bigger margin than the confirmed infection rate.



In Barnsley, we have an older population, a higher number of care homes and greater levels of chronic disease and deprivation compared with the rest of the country. This means the population of Barnsley are susceptible to infection, serious illness and death during the pandemic.

Life Expectancy (data updated Jan 2021)

- After a period of remaining static, the most recent data available shows that life expectancy for males and females in Barnsley has lowered, and is **significantly lower** than both national and regional rates, both of which have increased slightly in this most recent time period (2017-19)
- However, the data does show that the **life expectancy gap** for men and women between the most and least deprived Barnsley communities is **improving**.

Male



77.8 Years (-0.3 years)

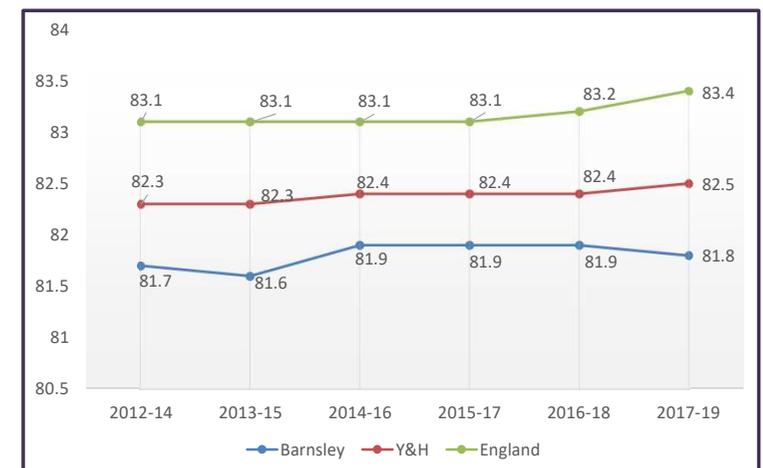
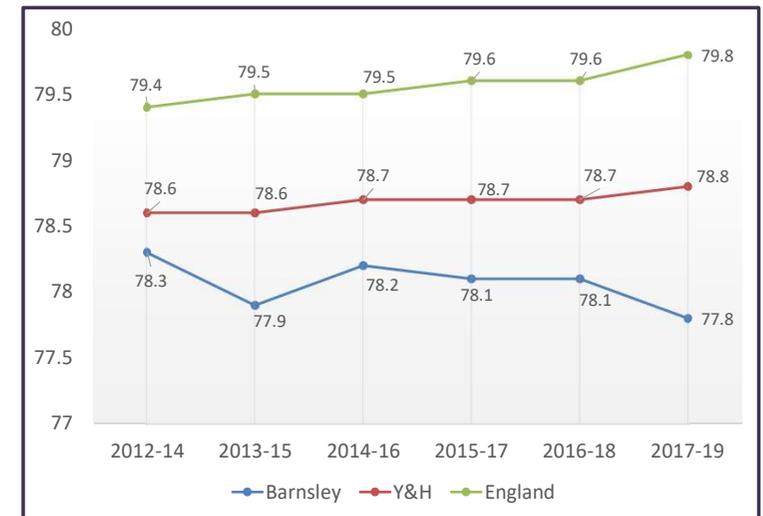
2 years lower than England average

Female



81.8 Years (-0.1 years)

1.6 years lower than England average



Local Picture

- Despite seeing improvements in recent years, the latest published data shows healthy life expectancy **has decreased for both women and men** in Barnsley. A similar picture can be seen nationally; data for the UK illustrates that healthy life expectancy for men has shown no significant change and healthy life expectancy for women has shown a significant decrease.

Healthy Life Expectancy

(data updated Jan 2021)

Male



57.5 Years (-1.3 years)

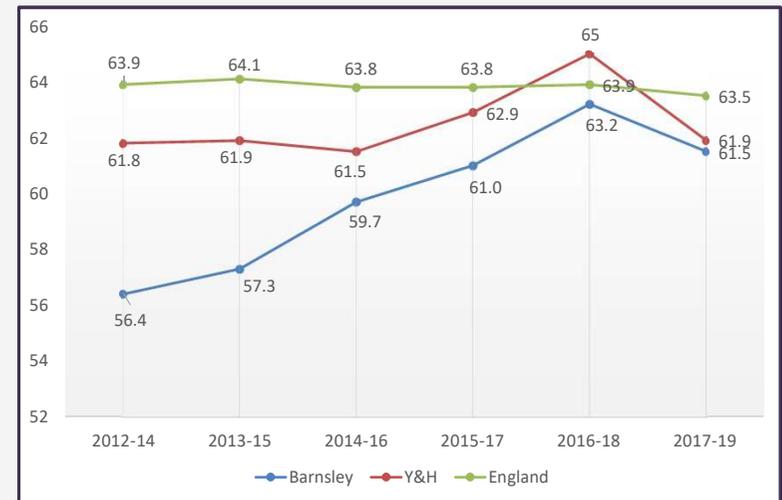
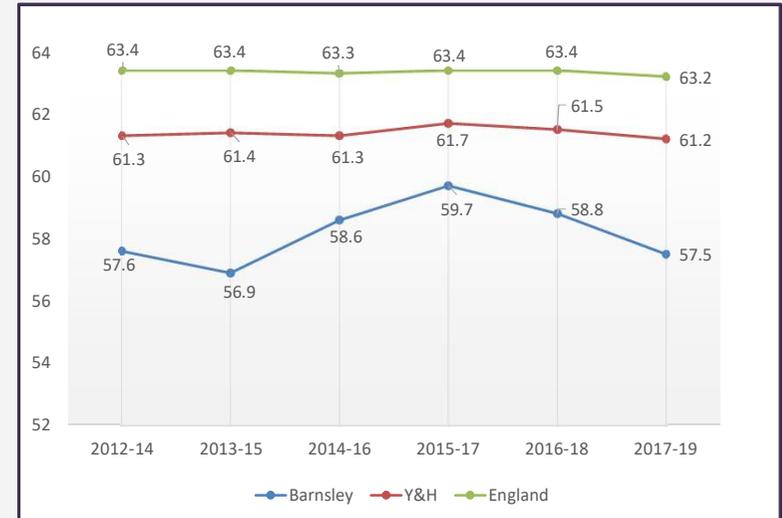
5.7 years lower than England average

Female



61.5 Years (-1.7 years)

2 years lower than England average

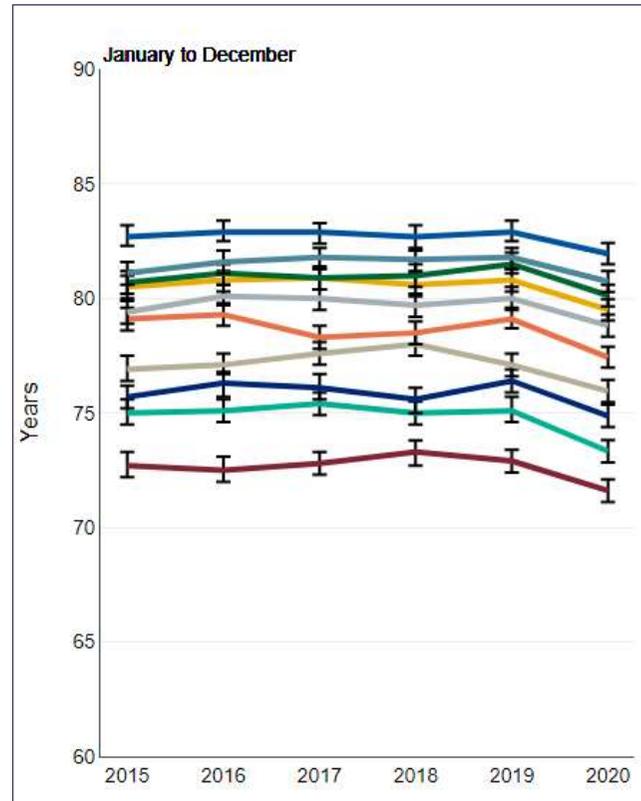


Mortality Rates 2020

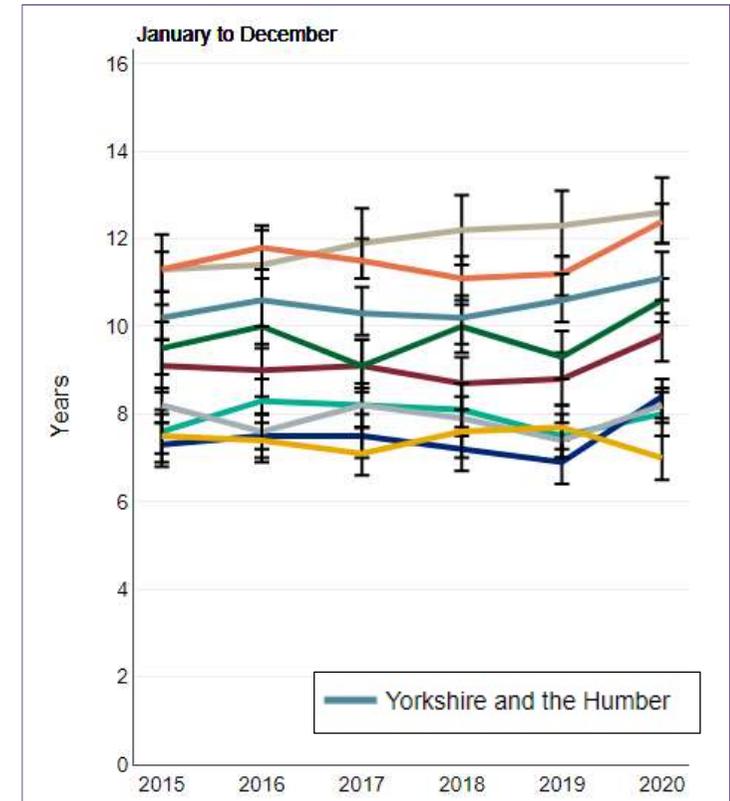
- Provisional data shows falls in life expectancy across all deprivation deciles in Y&H in 2020, compared with the same period in 2019.
- Inequality in life expectancy has increased for both males and females.

[Source PHE WICH Tool](#)

Mortality Rate Y&H



Slope index of inequality



1 = most deprived 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 = least deprived

Data Note: The figures reflect current mortality rates and are not the number of years a baby born in 2020 could actually expect to live, because mortality rates will change in the future. The life expectancy estimates are therefore an alternative way of presenting mortality rates, in order to show the impact of COVID-19 on levels of mortality in 2020.

Local Picture

[British Medical Association: "Health at a Price"](#)

Poverty can affect the health of people at all ages:

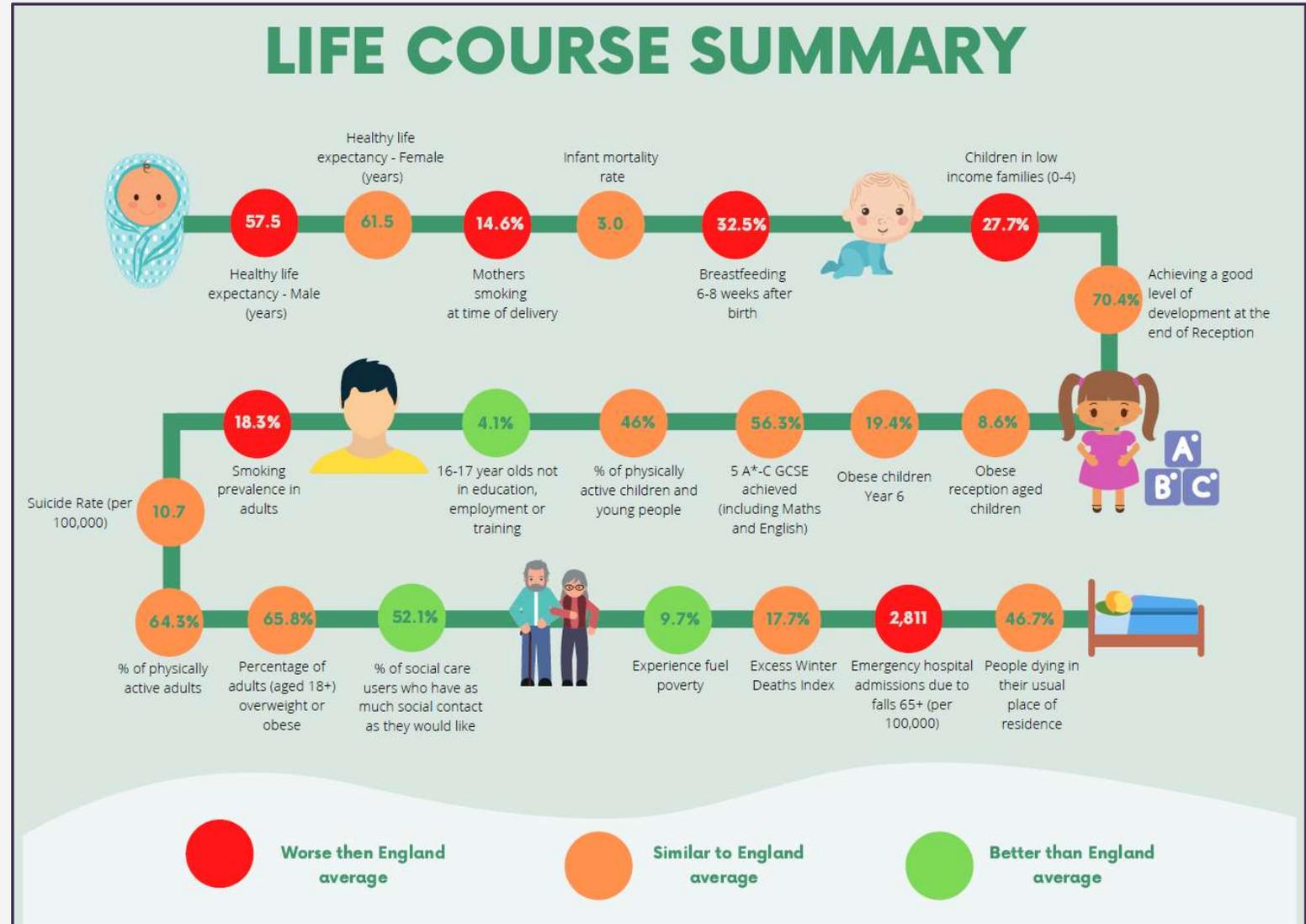
In **INFANCY** it is associated with low birth weight, shorter life expectancy and a higher risk of death in the first year of life

CHILDREN living in poverty are more likely to suffer from chronic diseases and diet related problems

Poverty has long-term implications on children's 'life chances' and health in **ADULTHOOD**

OLDER PEOPLE who have experienced disadvantage throughout their adult lives are at greater risk of reporting ill-health and long-term illness.

Barnsley Health and Wellbeing Life Course Summary



Fuel Poverty

- Barnsley has a **significantly higher** proportion of households that are considered fuel poor under the LILEE measure.
- In 2018, under the LIHC measure Barnsley was performing well in comparison to regional and national averages. However, the LILEE data shows that Barnsley has moved away from both the regional average (Barnsley +1.8% higher) and the national average (+5.2% higher).

Fuel Poverty

The Low Income, High Cost metric has been replaced with a new indicator – **Low Income Low Energy Efficiency (LILEE)**

This ‘counts’ a household as fuel poor if:

- The household has a residual income below the poverty line (after accounting for required fuel costs)

AND

- Lives in a home that has an energy efficiency rating below BAND C

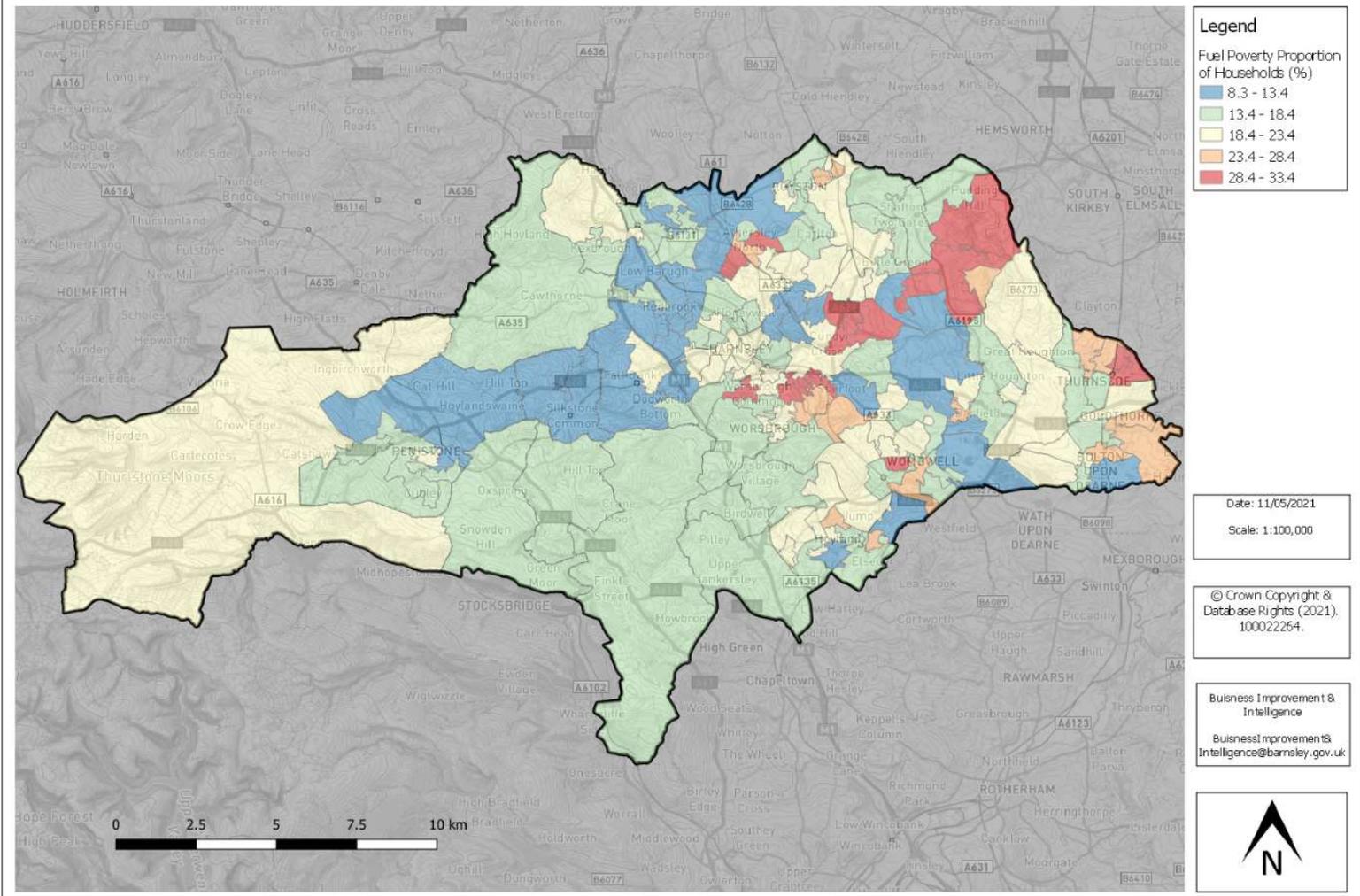
		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	
Low Income High Cost (LIHC) Measure	ENGLAND	10.9%	10.4%	10.4%	10.6%	11.0%	11.1%	10.9%	10.3%	13.4%	Low Income Low Energy Efficiency (LILEE) Measure
	YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER	11.0%	10.8%	10.6%	11.8%	12.4%	12.1%	10.6%	10.1%	16.8%	
	BARNSLEY	10.9%	9.7%	9.2%	11.3%	11.3%	12.2%	10.7%	9.7%	18.6%	

Fuel Poverty

Fuel Poverty – Geographical spread (new LILEE measure)

Area Name	%	% Change from LIHC to LILEE(+)
New Lodge	30%	16
Thurnscoe East	33%	14
Lundwood	32%	14
Athersley North East	32%	14
Thurnscoe North East	29%	14
Cudworth	29%	14
Darfield Road	29%	14
Worsbrough Common West	31%	13
Wombwell	28%	13
Copeland Road	28%	13
Burton Grange	29%	13
Kendray West	29%	13

Barnsley Fuel Poverty Ratings (2021 Data)



Local Picture

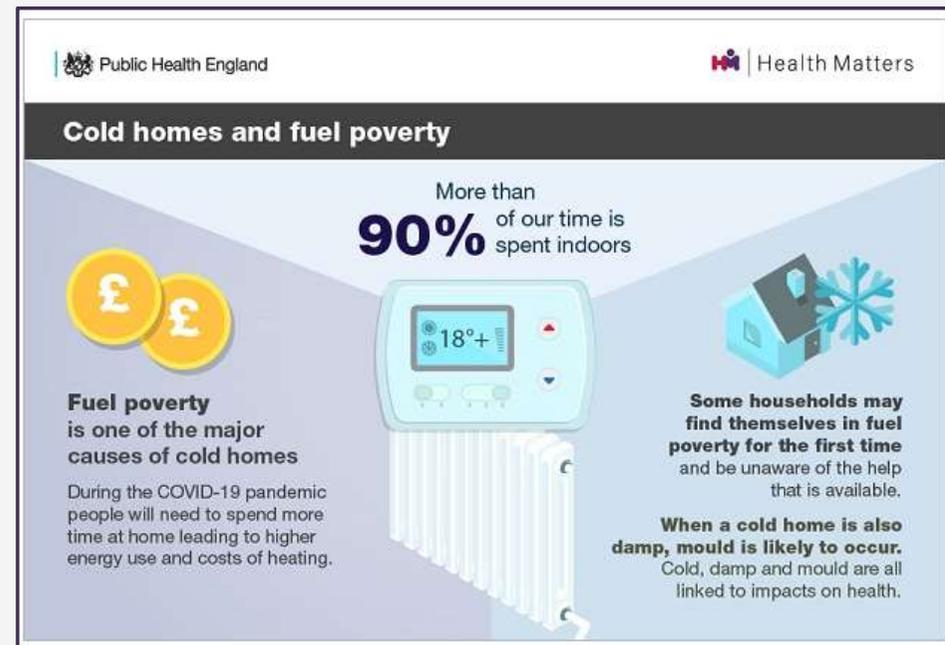
Vulnerable groups:

- 65 + and 0-5 year olds
- Pregnant woman
- Those with respiratory conditions (especially COPD and childhood asthma)
- Cardiovascular disease
- Mental health conditions
- Disabilities
- **Low income**

Impact of Cold homes

Risk of death and ill health associated with living in a cold home - impact when outdoor temperatures drop below 6°C.

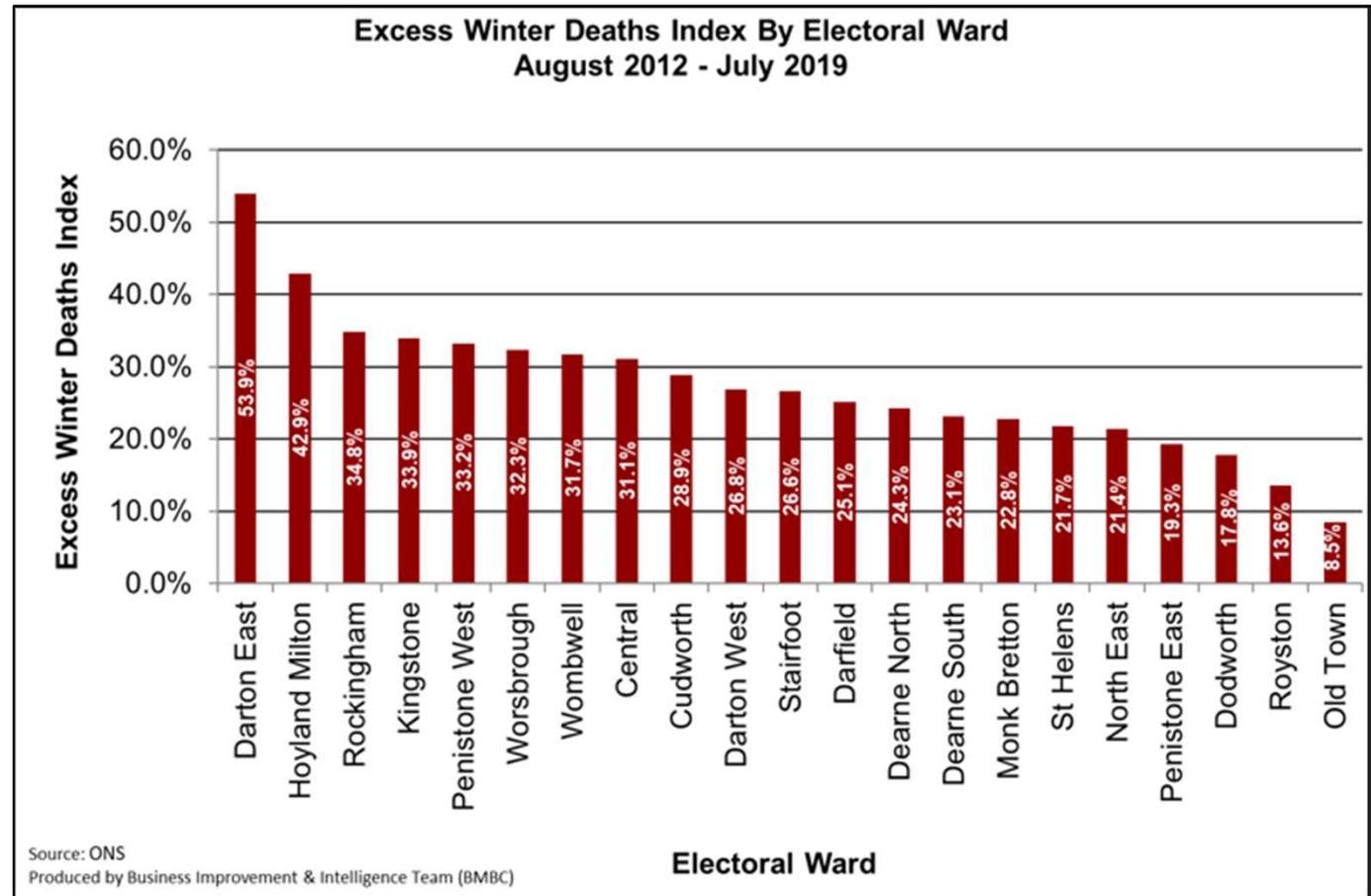
- **Children and young people** - increased risk of childhood asthma, poor attainment, lower body weight
- **Social isolation** (across the age range)
- **Physical health conditions** (especially cardiovascular and respiratory conditions)
- **Mental health conditions** (especially depression and anxiety)
- **Dietary opportunities and choices** - heating vs eating
- Mould and damp
- **Reduces strength and dexterity**, increasing the risk of accidents and injuries particularly falls



Local Picture

- Fuel Poverty is a **contributing factor** to Excess Winter Deaths (EWDs).
- Under-heating of a property can contribute to poor health outcomes, both in terms of **mortality** (including EWDs) and **morbidity** (particularly in terms of cardiovascular and respiratory conditions).
- **Improving trend in Barnsley overall** – reduction from 39.4% to 17.7% in the most recent time point. However geographical differences across the Borough persist.

Excess Winter Deaths



Excess Winter Deaths Index ranges from 53.9% in Darton East to 8.5% in Old Town

Food Poverty

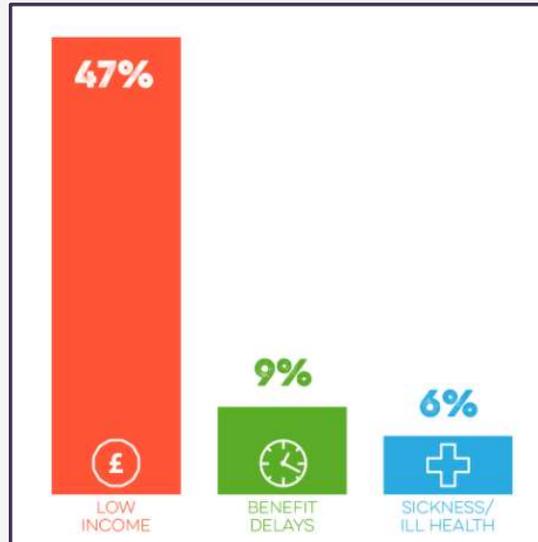
National Picture

- **14% of UK families** experienced food insecurity between April-September 2020 compared to pre-Covid levels of 11.4%.
- Overall, food banks in the Trussell Trust’s network saw a **47 per cent increase** in the number of emergency food parcels needed across the UK (April – Sep 2020) when compared to the same period last year.
- Children have been disproportionately affected by the crisis, with the number of parcels given to children rising by 52 per cent, compared to an increase for adults of 44 per cent.

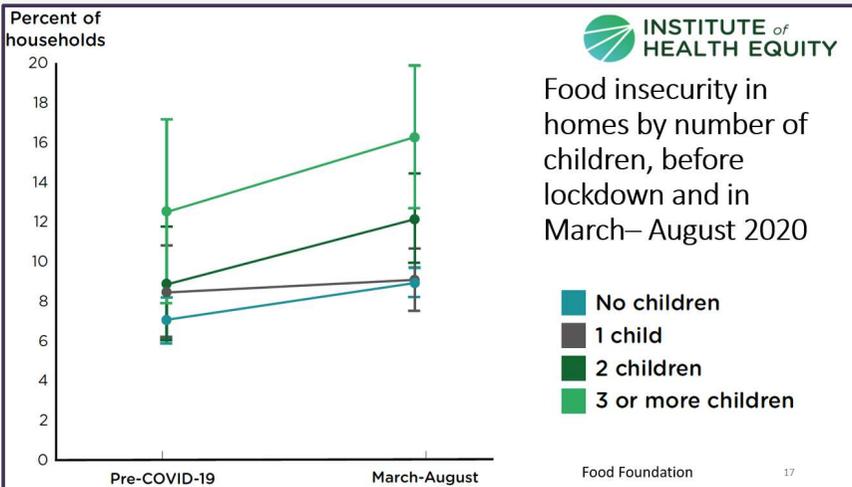
Number of emergency food parcels distributed by food banks in the Trussell Trust network (Annual)



Reasons for needing to use a foodbank

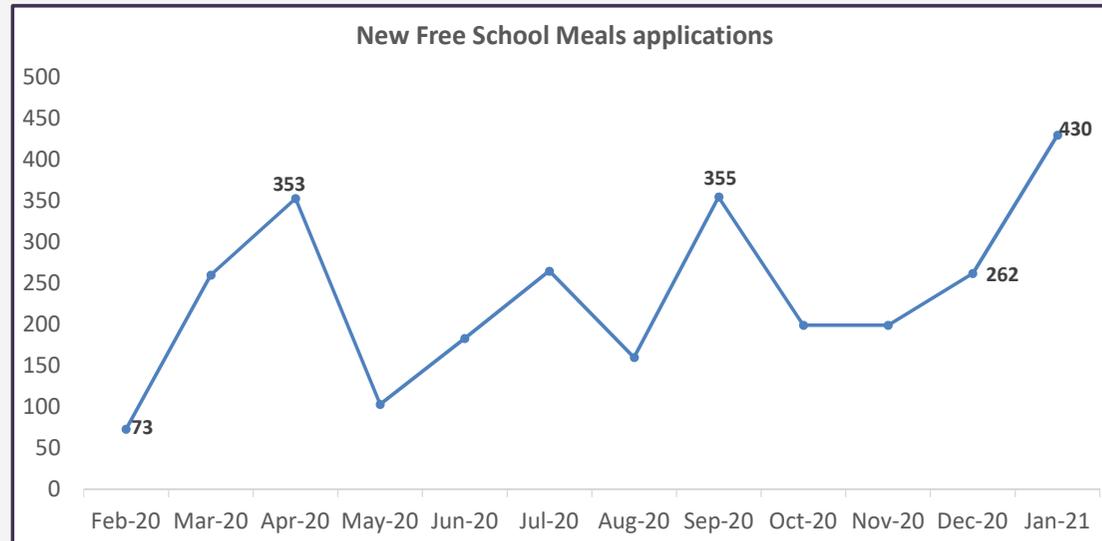
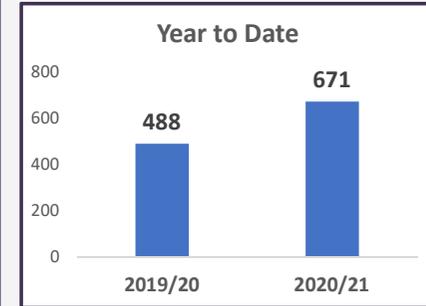
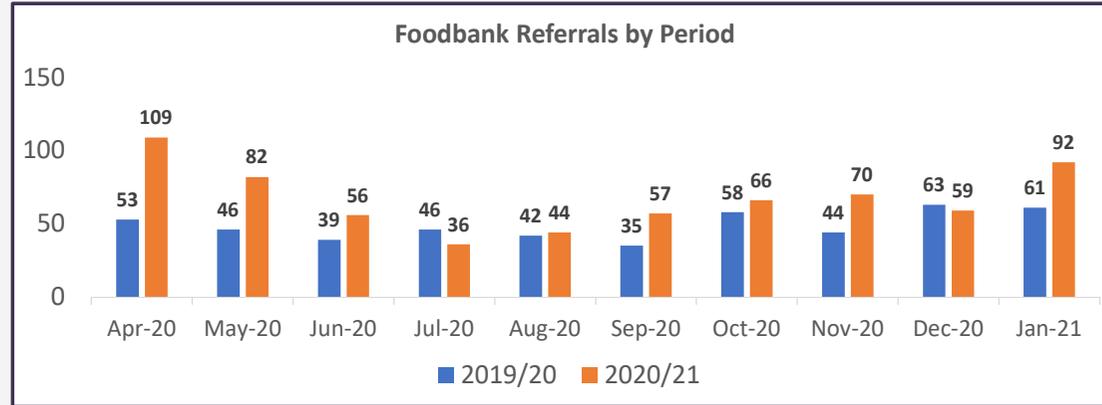


Source: The Trussell Trust



Local Picture

- Foodbank referrals have increased across the board for those impacted by COVID-19 and general hardship.
- The number of **new** FSM applications has increased by 64% to 450 in January. This is the highest we have seen in new applications for FSM. The impact of school closures since January 2021, along with the census run in January (used for schools funding is potentially, and most likely to be the reason for the increase).



Poverty Partners

- 37% of problems dealt with by Citizens Advice in 19/20 related to debt
- Most common debt issue was Council Tax arrears (19%)

Citizens Advice Barnsley Statistics	19/20	18/19
Unique clients advised	8150	8054
Problems dealt with	33342	33660
Main Problem Areas:		
Debt	12326	15486
Benefits Universal Credit	6597	2740
Benefits & Tax Credits	6276	6534
Financial Services & Capability	1357	1854
Housing	1094	1166
Top 5 Debt Issues:		
Council Tax Arrears	2355	3433
Debt Relief Order	1356	2249
Credit, Store and Charge Card Debt	800	902
Unsecured Personal Loan Debts	756	898
Rent Arrears - LA's or ALMO's	525	669

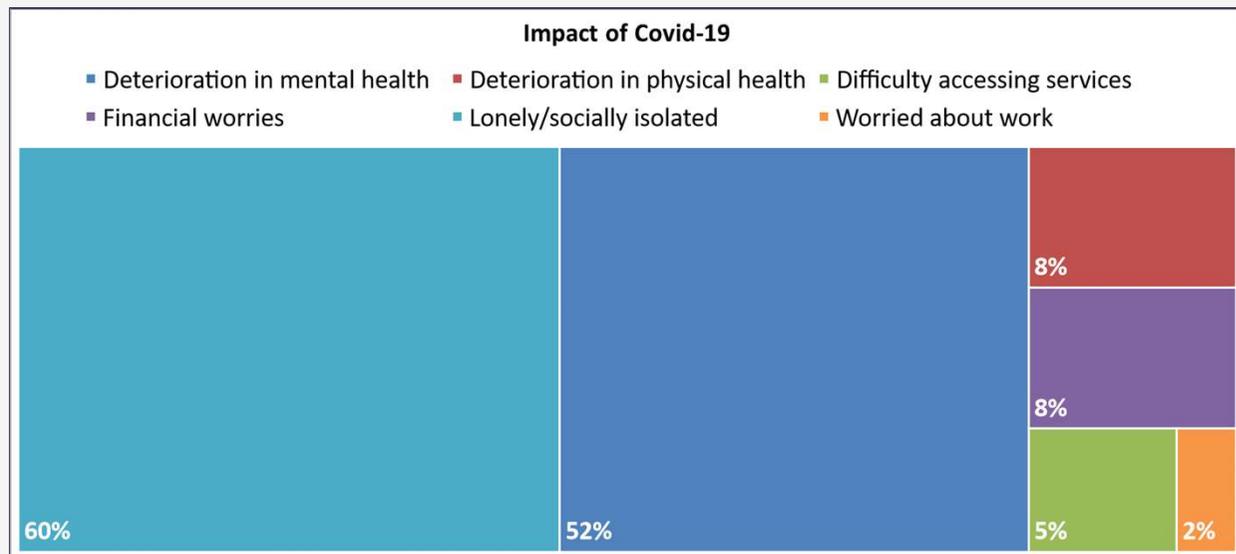
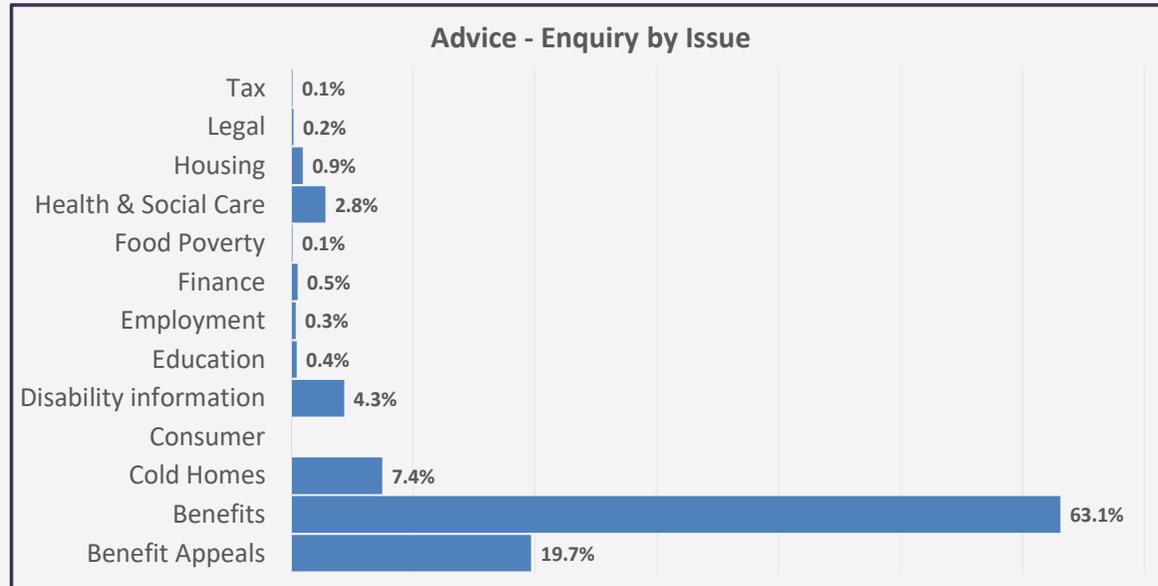
Debt Managed

During 2019/20 we helped people manage **£11,585,576** of problem debt, of which **£542,512** was local council tax arrears.

When 2020/21 data is available, we may be able to assess the impact of increase to the Local Council Tax support Scheme (LCTS) and the government grant of £150 to all working age LCTS claimants, both introduced in 2020.

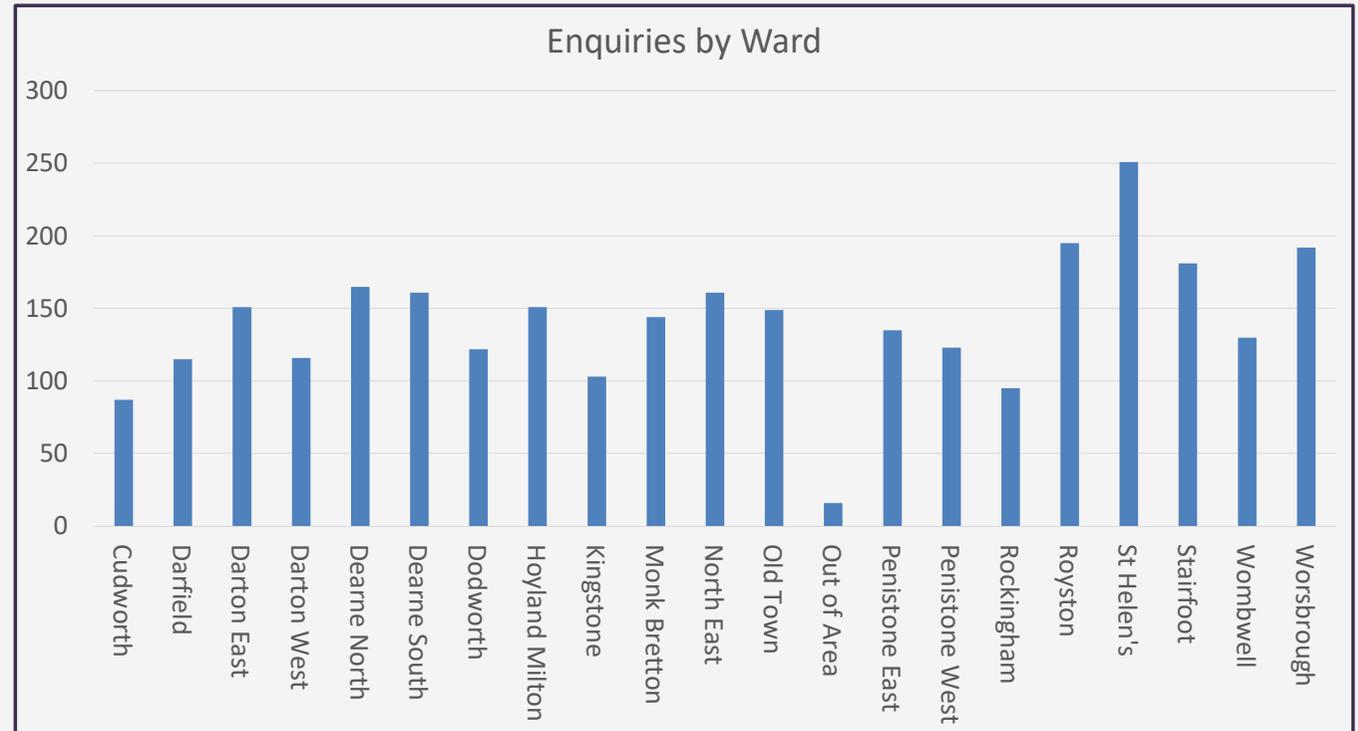


- Majority of advice provided in 2020/21 concerns benefits (63%), followed by benefit appeals (20%).
- However, recent consultation with service users regarding Covid-19 impact shows the biggest issues are: social isolation (60% - but up to 80% in Dodworth), and deterioration in mental health (52%).





- An emerging issue is around energy debt – impact of being locked down in the winter and increasing fuel costs.
- There are also some concerns around other impacts yet to be felt – for instance when benefits assessments are re-instated.



Highest number of enquires to DIAL come from St Helens Ward, followed by Royston and Worsborough.

Resident Stories

Day in the Life of..

“

”

Being offered a grant £1334 that only covers the business building lease and the essential bills for the business that go out monthly. Where are we supposed to find the 5% top up for our contribution to staff NI and pension? The worry of paying that from fresh air with no income is daunting. **After having a business 17 years this is by far the worst storm of my life. It's so unclear and uncertain with nowhere to turn.**

Thinking about pretty much anything nowadays is taxing. I only spent £40 but I'm worried about money, two weeks off work unpaid and then a new freezer to pay for. . . not the best timing. I'm surprised by how little SSP is. **Being off sick is unplanned, but the payment isn't enough to live on.**

I've been struggling for so long, but trying to push through. I work in entertainment and advertising, and our industry has been hit by Covid hard too. I want to be there for the team and I can't take anything for granted. I feel like I need more time off, but I also need to make money whilst I can. **I'm not sure for how much longer I will have a job and getting a new one is harder then ever. I worry that even if I get a job, that minimum wage won't be enough.** I have a mortgage and a house to fix up on my own and my future won't be terribly secure with the pay cut. I don't earn enough now as is to put a lot aside in savings.

Day in the Life of..

“

”

Nipped in a shop and had my card declined. **We were having money problems before Covid but since it's even worse as little income my husband earned had gone.”**

I'm scared - for us as a family, and what the new lockdown may mean financially if our workplaces have to close or furlough again. **Brexit is already a huge threat as we both work in different manufacturing businesses, and I worry that Covid on top will just be too much.**

My partner has had to suspend his studies and **has been unable to find a job, my income and his savings will keep us afloat, but things will be tighter and I will be able to save less, which is stressful, and I don't know how it's going to affect our future.**

Source: BMBC – Day in the Life of Consultation

Other intelligence work

Regional (SY) work

Future Plans:

- Local Authority analysts and NHS England to be identified to work with the University of Sheffield.
- Local Authorities to share a list of meta-data from their individual vulnerability indices.
- University of Sheffield to share the development of the bid and identify to the group where more support is required.

South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum

University of Sheffield looking to secure additional funding through a bid to increase the scope of their research, following an initial piece of work focusing on the [“Zoomshock”](#) impact.

“Zoomshock” – Shift of economic activity across geographical areas due to the increase in the extent of working-from-home.

At the most recent meeting (February 2021) it was agreed that an interactive tool covering three broad areas of **People, Places, and Businesses** would be highly beneficial, should the funding be secured. Data sets have been categorised into these three themes as follows:

- **People:** Ethnicity, gender, younger people, energy risk, access to services, health, household indebtedness.
- **Place:** Zoomshock, growth, supply chains, opportunities.
- **Business:** Brexit and integration into international supply chains, sectoral vulnerability, business indebtedness, job postings, move to automation, sectors with opportunities for growth

Developing a 'Poverty Index' (BMBC)

BI Tech team to start to map the “top hitters” in early 2021 at LSOA level (IMD, Acorn and some of the other directly attributable data sources).

This to be a starting point before progressing onto the more powerful work around a “poverty index”.

Data on 'poverty' and financial hardship can be split into two categories:

1) Directly attributable/household level - for example:

- Benefits data (out of work, universal credit) - Benefits and Taxation data
- Rent arrears data from Berneslai homes - enforcement data
- Academy module (probability of people falling into recovery proceedings)
- Information from Local Welfare Assistance Service
- Households in fuel poverty
- Free School Meals data

2) Proxy/derived indicators from aggregated level data - for example:

- IMD Data – income decile, children in poverty, older people in poverty
- Acorn Paycheck data
- Labour Market data (e.g. employment, people earning below real living wage, etc)
- Homelessness data

Recommendations

- 1) Develop a household level 'Poverty Index' for the Borough** using similar methodology to the vulnerability model, focusing on financial hardship and poverty 'flags', to inform targeting of preventative work.
- 2) Better capturing of data at an area level** in our 'business as usual' work. Making sure we asking the right questions at the start of our contact with residents to collect data on the situation of people in the Borough.
- 3) Wider boards to receive the findings** and consider key actions/outcome proposals for reducing poverty in the Borough. Findings from the needs assessment suggest that tackling poverty and inequalities will need a co-ordinated partnership response with place-based initiatives to support and promote employment, educational achievement, better health and improved social mobility.
- 4) Undertake a mapping exercise in terms of our resources to tackle poverty** to help us identify the opportunities and gaps. This would also act as a "sense check" of current funding streams against the intelligence in the needs assessment (e.g., are we spending the money in the right areas?).
- 5) Incorporate the findings/intelligence from this needs assessment** into the development of the Council plan and Barnsley 2030 vision.