

Poverty in Sheffield – an assessment of need

Lots of people in Sheffield are really struggling for money. We need to do something about it.

Four years ago, we investigated what was happening for people in poverty in Sheffield, we looked at facts and figures and talked and listened to people. Lots of people worked together to come up with an action plan to try to make things better. That plan finishes this year and we need a new one. We know that a lot of things have changed since then and we need to make sure our new plan recognises and responds to the challenges people are facing now.

We've started collecting information about what the picture looks like and what is already being done to make things better. We want to share what we have found out so far and to ask other people to help us understand more. We know there are some things missing and we hope that by working together we can fill in some of the gaps.

Please tell us what you think

We are interested in both stories and statistics.

We know that stories – people's experiences – are what really matter and we want to hear them.

Statistics are important too because they help us to understand how things are for everyone living in Sheffield and compare with other places.

We'd like to know what you think. We've written some questions here to get you started but you don't have to answer them all. What we'd like you to do, please, is to tell us what you think it is important for people to understand when developing a plan to tackle poverty in Sheffield.

- In addition to what we have already found out (shown in this document), what else is important?
- Does the picture in this document reflect your experience?
- Is anything missing?
- Is there anything that needs to be changed?
- If not, what do we need to stress / emphasise?
- What should this tell us about our priorities for the future?

We would like to use the information you give us to help us to decide what to do for the next three years to help people move out of poverty and to make things better for people who are living in poverty.

Can you help us fill in the gaps?

We know there are some areas where we definitely don't we have enough information – some of it is not available as city-wide data but if you have anything you think would be useful, we'd still like to hear from you. We've listed these below and if you can help us with any of this, please get in touch:

- Real experiences to bring the statistics to life throughout this document
- How long have people been living in poverty – we only have a partial picture of this in Sheffield so any additional data would be useful
- Measures of social mobility - how many people / how easy or difficult is it for people in Sheffield to earn / learn more than their parents

- More information on the changes that are happening at a city level, such as food prices, that affect how much money people in Sheffield have available
- Any additional information or analysis of acquisitive crime figures or other criminal activity with potential relationship with poverty
- Information about how difficult / easy it is to progress within work, how many people manage to and how long it takes them
- We want to explore issues around benefit take-up further at a local level, any help with this would be appreciated
- More information about households without children and any different issues that have not been explored fully here
- More information about communities that are at risk of poverty

Finding your way around this document

This is a big document and it's likely to grow. If you are particularly interested in a couple of sections or you only have time to look at some of it, you can use the table of contents below to find the bits you want.

Contents

Please tell us what you think	1
Can you help us fill in the gaps?.....	1
Finding your way around this document	3
Summary – life spiral.....	4
Definitions – what do we mean by poverty?	6
What do people in Sheffield say?	6
What are the official definitions?	6
Which other measures are important?	7
How many people are in poverty?.....	8
Relative poverty and variations in levels of household income	8
Levels of pay.....	11
Council tax benefit / support	13
People living in areas of deprivation.....	15
How long people have been living in poverty.....	15
How much people are struggling and what sorts of things they are struggling with	17
People hitting crisis point.....	18
Benefit changes, delays and sanctions	24
Access to services.....	27
Cost of living.....	28
How many people are affected by the most negative impacts of poverty	35
Health conditions associated with poverty.....	35
Poverty and the criminal justice system	41
Which people are more likely to experience poverty than others	43
Breakdown by age and size and type of family.....	43
Ethnicity	44
Disability.....	45
Those with caring responsibilities.....	46
People in work and in poverty and people who are out of work	47
Which communities are more likely to experience poverty than others	48
What helps people to escape poverty and reduce its negative effects.....	48
Employment.....	48
Childcare	52
Education, learning and skills.....	53

Summary – life spiral

Last time we did this piece of work, we drew a diagram plotting the lives of people in poverty against the rest. Several people found this helpful and so we've updated it. This might be a good place to start if you don't have much time.

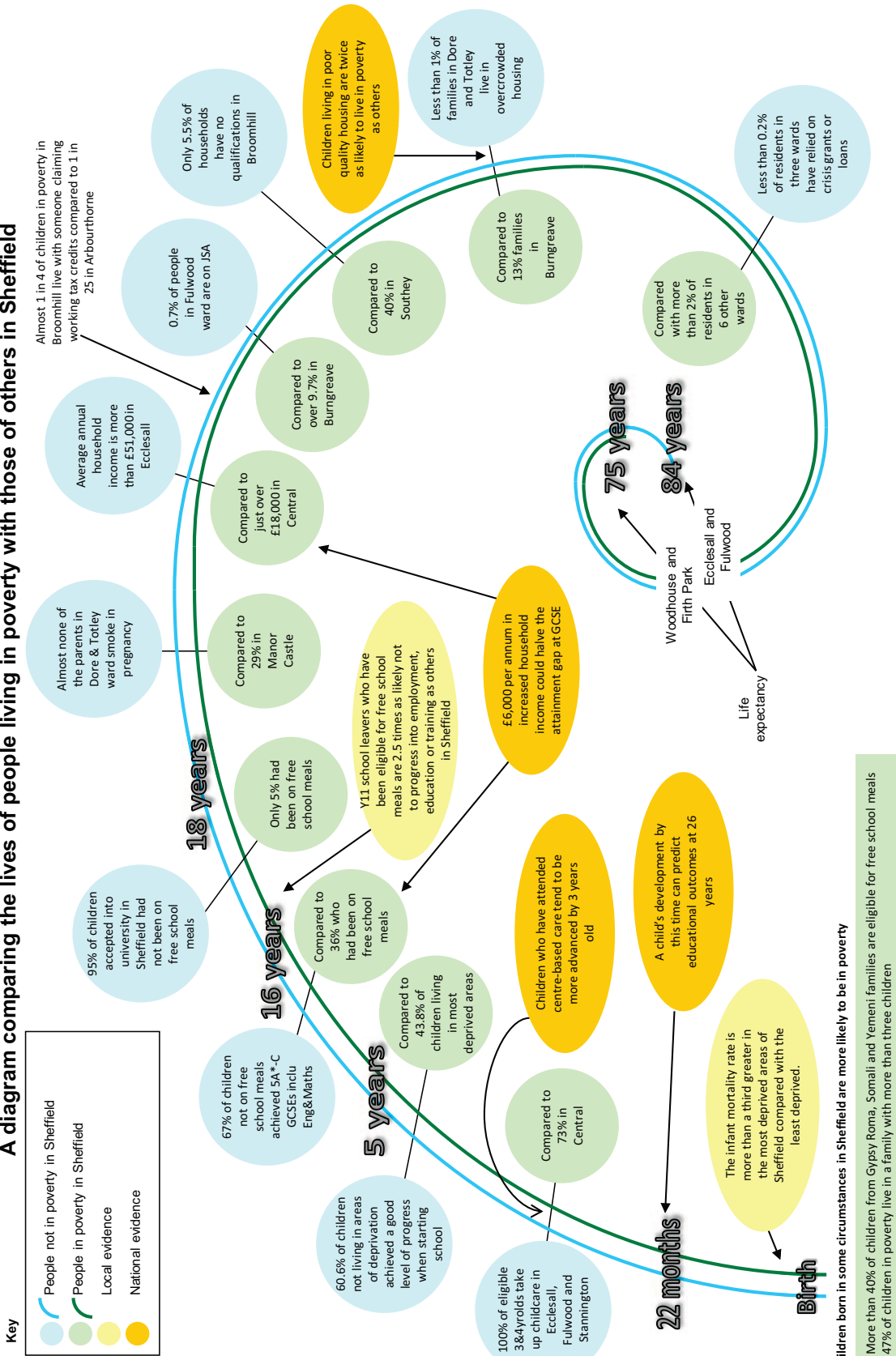
Just a few quick notes about it.

We wanted to give people a relatively simple and short explanation of poverty in Sheffield. In simplifying what is a very complicated issue, we've made some compromises.

We've sometimes used parts of Sheffield where most people are better or worse off to compare people's experiences and outcomes. We know that people who are in poverty can live anywhere in the city. Sometimes we can't get better data so we use areas as a bit of a short-hand. However, we know this is just an indication that people are more likely to be living in poverty, it's not the whole story and we need to be careful not to make assumptions about people based on where they live.

We are clear that the life chances of any individual or group are not pre-determined. It is possible, as many people's life histories demonstrate, for an individual or group to break free from the circumstances that they inherit, to overcome obstacles and to achieve their potential. This spiral does not show those examples where people have broken the trend, but it is important that we remember them and do not allow this to become deterministic. Partners working across Sheffield and individuals themselves help break the cycle of inequality and disadvantage at any number of points over an individual's life time and our strategy will be aimed at giving us the best chance of doing just that.

A diagram comparing the lives of people living in poverty with those of others in Sheffield



Definitions – what do we mean by poverty?

In Sheffield, we are concerned about everyone who is struggling to make ends meet, whether or not they meet the official definitions of poverty. However, the definitions are also useful because we can use them to get a sense of how we compare to other cities and other countries.

What do people in Sheffield say?

“You don’t live...you survive.”

“It is a constant battle trying to keep everything going, it’s like spinning plates and some days I don’t do a good job.”

“They can still call it poverty behind closed doors but you’re not going to get people’s attention if it’s called that because it’s like ‘I’m not going to admit that I’m in poverty, I’m struggling but I’m not in poverty’. It’s less of a label too: most people have struggled with something at some time. Poverty is something people can judge you on but, if you say struggling, people need to get to know you to find out what you’re struggling with and how they can help.”

What are the official definitions?

In the UK, there are five measures used to assess whether a child is considered to live in poverty:

- **relative low income:** this measures whether the poorest families are keeping pace with the growth of incomes in the economy as a whole. This indicator measures the number of children living in households below 60 per cent of contemporary median equivalised household income. Equivalisation means adjusting a household's income for size and composition so that we can look at the incomes of all households on a comparable basis. This reflects the common-sense notion that a couple with dependent children will need a higher income than a single person with no children to achieve the same standard of living.
- **absolute low income:** this indicator measures whether the poorest families are seeing their income rise in real terms. The level is fixed as equal to the relative low-income threshold for the baseline year of 1998-99 expressed in today’s prices;
- **material deprivation and low income combined:** this indicator provides a wider measure of people’s living standards. This indicator measures the number of children living in households that are both materially deprived and have an income below 70 per cent of contemporary median equivalised household income;
- **persistent poverty:** this means that his or her family has had its equavalised net income for the year at less than 60% of median equivalised net household income for the past 3 years.
- **Severe poverty:** this measures the depth of poverty that people experience. . This indicator measures the number of children living in households below 50 per cent of contemporary median equivalised household income.

Most of these measures are only available at regional or national level. At a city level, we have the revised local child poverty measure (formerly NI 116 and now known as Children in Low-Income Families Local Measure)which is defined as the proportion of children living in families in receipt of tax credits where their reported income is less than 60 per cent of median income or in receipt of out of work (means-tested) benefits. This data is published annually on the HM Revenue and Customs website and the latest data is for 2011.

However the Campaign to End Child Poverty produced an estimate for 2012. Their figures use tax credit data to give the percentage of children on low incomes in local authorities, parliamentary constituencies and wards across the UK. They also use regional trends in worklessness to estimate recent changes in the number of children who are in poverty because their parents have lost their jobs, to update the local tax credit data which is more than two years old. In their figures, children are classified as being in poverty if they live in families in receipt of out of work benefits

or in receipt of in-work tax credits where their reported income is less than 60 per cent of median income. Survey data reported only at a national and regional level show trends in the number of children in out of work families (who comprise the great majority of children in poverty on this indicator), through to the second quarter of 2012. These regional changes have been combined with the 2010 local data to estimate how many more children were in poverty locally by mid 2012.

Which other measures are important?

We think all of the following things are important in helping us to understand:

- How many people are in poverty
- How long people have been living in poverty
- How much people are struggling and what sorts of things they are struggling with
- How many people are affected by the most negative impacts of poverty
- Which people are more likely to experience poverty than others
- What helps people to escape poverty and reduce its negative effects

In each section, we have tried to get a balance between considering the things that affect everyone in the city or even in the country (structural measures) and those that are more to do with individual households.

What are we trying to understand?	What are the measures?
How many people are in poverty	% of households living below 60% of the median income level 20th Percentile hourly pay – gross Average incomes Number in receipt of Council Tax Benefit % of population within the 20% most deprived areas of England and Wales
How long people have been living in poverty	Proportion of children on FSM who have been on FSM for 3 or more years Benefit claimant persistence
How much people are struggling and what sorts of things they are struggling with	Financial distress: number of claims into the local assistance scheme, People applying for discretionary / crisis support Number of food banks operating Accounts in arrears for Council Tax payments Rent arrears Number of people without a bank account Number of advice centre queries relating to debt and affordable credit Number of refugees and asylum seekers receiving food vouchers (section 4) and cash support (section 95) as a proportion of the population Number of homelessness acceptances per thousand households Proportion of people who have never used the Internet (by Geographical location) Tenancy sustainment Overcrowding Indices of Multiple Deprivation - element relating to access to services Affordability measures including: Fuel prices, House prices - all tenures, Travel prices Things that impact on household budgets and living standards such as people's ability to save / manage money, pay day loans the impact of benefit changes
How many people are affected by the most negative impacts of poverty	Smoking in pregnancy Low birth weight babies How much of obesity rates variation can be explained by deprivation Health inequalities life expectancy

	<p>Infant mortality slope inequality index</p> <p>Poor health, drug & alcohol issues</p> <p>Teen pregnancy by ward</p> <p>Average age of mother at birth of first child</p> <p>domestic violence</p> <p>young people in the criminal justice system</p> <p>Excess winter deaths</p>
Which people are more likely to experience poverty than others	<p>The percentage of the population who live in the 10% most and 10% least deprived areas of the city</p> <p>Which children are more likely to be eligible for free school meals</p> <p>% of children in poverty living in households of 3+ children (HMRC relative poverty data release) compared to % of children in Sheffield living in households with 3+ children (child benefit data)</p> <p>Of children in poverty in Sheffield what proportion are claiming working tax credits by ward.</p> <p>young carers</p> <p>parent carers</p>
What helps people to escape poverty and reduce its negative effects / what are the drivers that make people more likely to experience poverty	<p>% of population in receipt of key out-of-work benefits aged 16-64</p> <p>Availability of work</p> <p>Numbers of people on zero-hours contracts</p> <p>% of 16-18 year olds who are NEET – not in education, employment or training (and comparing those who have been eligible for FSM with the rest)</p> <p>% of 16-64 year olds with no qualifications</p> <p>Narrowing the gap between the lowest achieving 20% and the 20% most deprived in Foundation Stage profile and the rest</p> <p>Take up of formal childcare (and free entitlement to early learning) by low income working families</p> <p>Proportion of residents who cannot speak English well or at all</p> <p>The gap attainment gap at GCSE between children eligible for free school meals and the rest</p> <p>How good are our schools?</p> <p>Acceptance to universities by ward</p>

Each of these areas is taken in turn in the following sections of this report.

How many people are in poverty?

In this section, we consider:

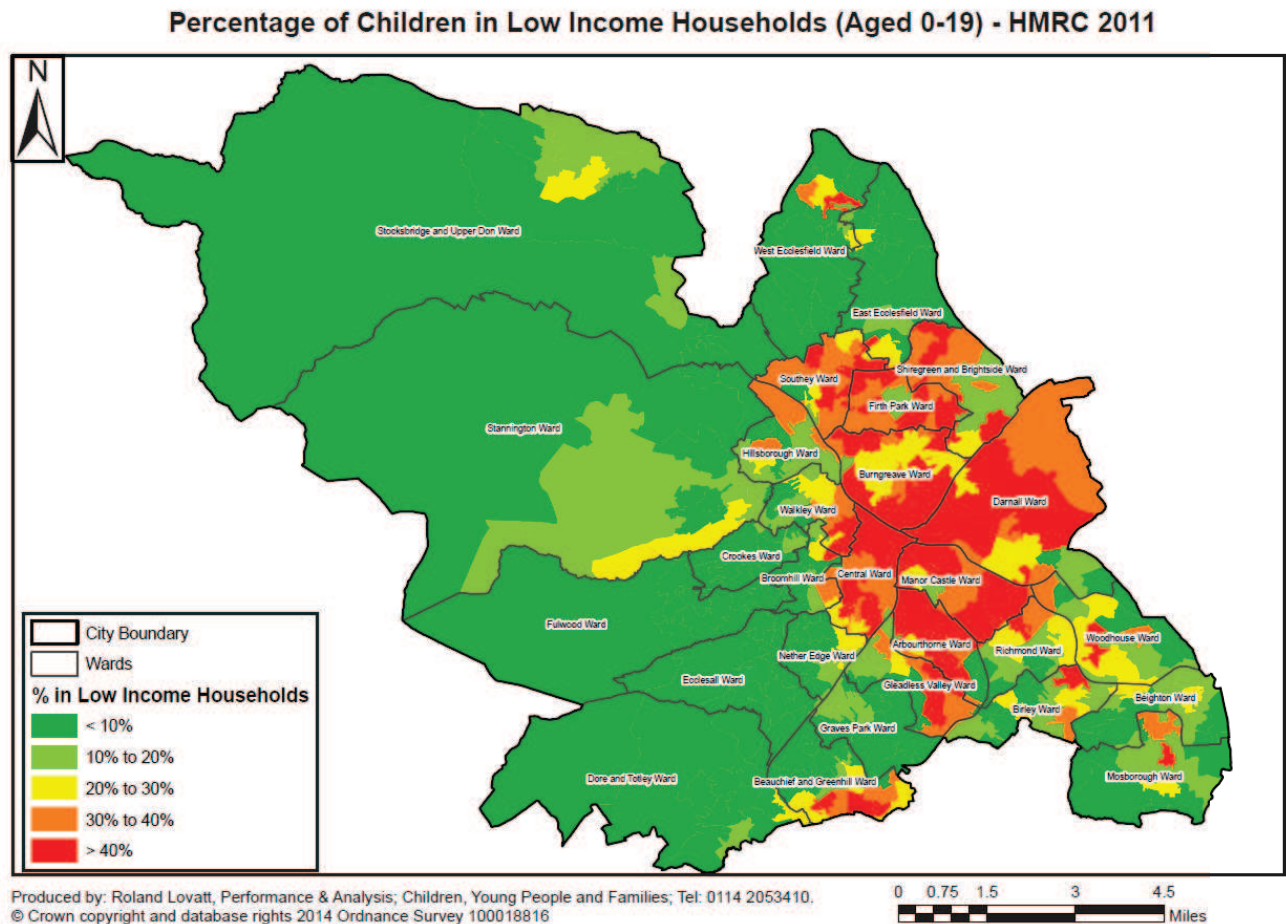
- The percentage of households living below 60% of the median income level (relative poverty measure)
- Levels of pay for the lowest fifth of earners and the median
- The number of people in receipt of Council Tax Benefit / Support
- The percentage of people in Sheffield who live within the 20% most deprived areas of England and Wales

Relative poverty and variations in levels of household income

35.62% of households in Sheffield were living below 60% of the median income level (relative poverty measure), compared with UK Mean rate of 28.83% (Experian Mosaic data 2012).

23% of children in Sheffield were living in relative poverty in 2011. This is the latest available data (data for 2012 should be released later in 2014). Based on this measure, there were 26,480 children living in relative poverty in Sheffield in 2011 or 23,125 for children under 16 (HMRC 2013 using data from 2011).

We have a breakdown of where children who are in households in relative poverty are living. This is shown below.



Sheffield compared to the national, regional and core cities averages

	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/9	2009/10	2010/11
Sheffield	23.6%	25%	24.3%	24.40%	24.20%	23.9%
Y&H	21.2%	22.2%	21.4%	21.90%	21.40%	21.1%
England	20.8%	21.6%	20.9%	21.30%	20.70%	20.1%
Core Cities	31.1%	32.7%	31.7%	31.30%	30.10%	29.3%

(HMRC 2013 using data from 2011)

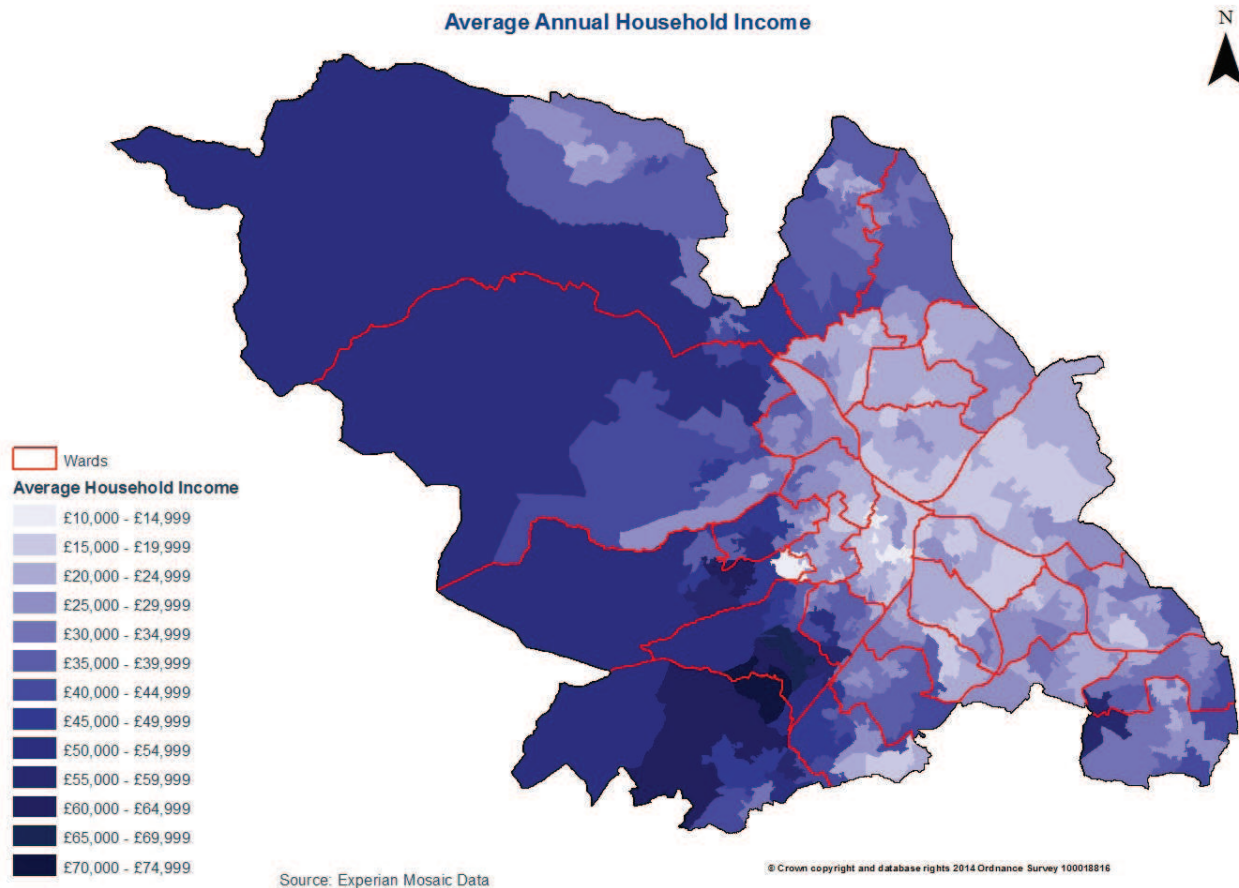
Ward breakdowns

Ward	Percentage of children in ward living in relative poverty 2011	Percentage of all children in poverty in Sheffield who live in that ward 2011
Arbourthorne	36.6%	5.49%
Beauchief and Greenhill	25.2%	3.79%
Beighton	11.5%	1.49%
Birley	16.5%	2.23%
Broomhill	9.4%	0.40%
Burngreave	41.1%	12.48%
Central	42.1%	4.78%
Crookes	5.6%	0.55%
Darnall	33.7%	8.40%
Dore and Totley	4.8%	0.60%
East Ecclesfield	11.1%	1.47%
Ecclesall	3.3%	0.55%
Firth Park	43.5%	9.74%
Fulwood	2.9%	0.32%
Gleadless Valley	30.4%	5.27%
Graves Park	8.8%	1.11%
Hillsborough	17.2%	2.55%
Manor Castle	44.0%	7.59%
Mosborough	13.9%	1.89%
Nether Edge	13.4%	1.77%
Richmond	23.5%	3.23%
Shiregreen and Brightside	34.2%	6.93%
Southey	35.8%	6.38%
Stannington	10.3%	1.36%
Stocksbridge and Upper Don	12.5%	1.79%
Walkley	27.7%	3.08%
West Ecclesfield	14.1%	1.87%
Woodhouse	20.9%	2.91%

(HMRC 2013 using data from 2011)

The figures in the table above show two percentages for each ward. The first shows the proportion of all children in that ward who are living in poverty. The second shows the proportion of all the children living in poverty in Sheffield who are based in that ward. Both these figures are important because, taken together; they give a picture of the depth of deprivation in that ward as well as the amount.

The map and chart below show the variations in annual household income within Sheffield. It is worth noting that some of this variation may be driven in part by population characteristics such as prevalence of student or pensioner households. Nonetheless, in some parts of the city average household incomes are more than 2.5 times as high as in others. This holds even when we count household income per number of adults in the household.



Levels of pay

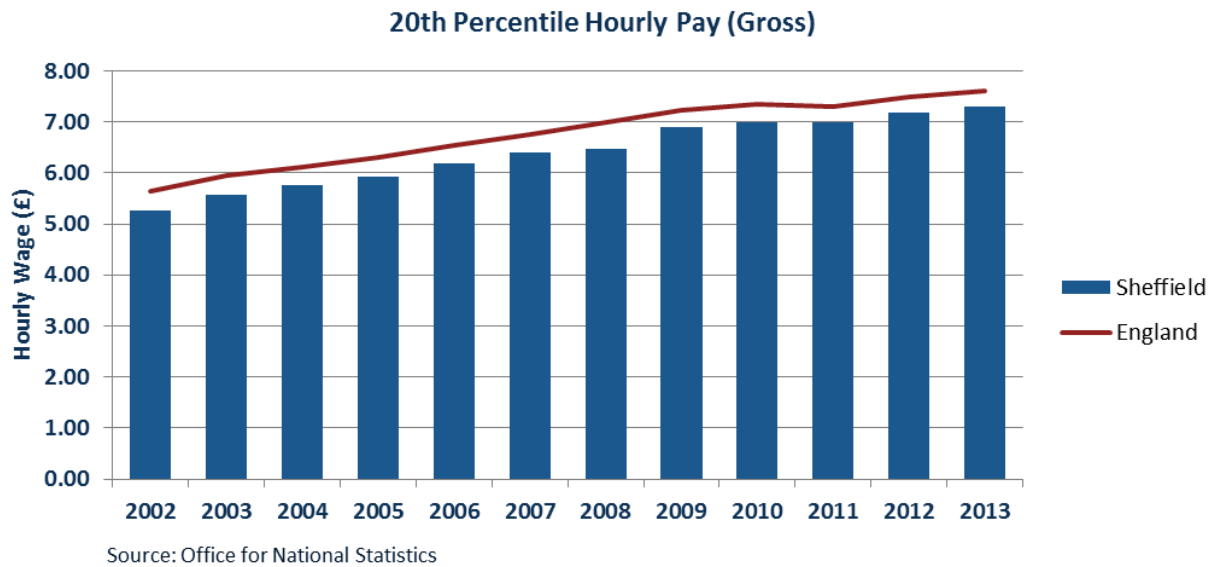
We consider here the 20th Percentile hourly pay (gross), in other words, the amount of money that a fifth of employees are paid less than and four-fifths are paid more than. This is important because it shows how much people earning at the lower end of the population are earning and how this changes over time. It is important to consider this in the context of both hourly pay for all workers (not just those earning at the lower end) and also policy such as national minimum wage and living wage campaigns.

The chart below shows us that those people whose earnings are in the bottom fifth of the population have seen their average earnings increase by 5% between 2011 and 2013, this was a slightly larger increase than the average for England (4%). For comparison, in 2013 the 20th Percentile hourly rate was 68% of the median.

To put this in context, the average hourly rate of pay of those people in Sheffield earning in the bottom fifth of the population in 2013 (£7.31) was lower than the living wage (£7.45 in 2013). The national minimum wage rate in 2013 was £6.31 for those aged 21 and over.

There is a variation in hourly pay between those working full-time and part-time. In Sheffield in 2013, people working part-time earning in the bottom fifth of the population had an average hourly wage of £6.39, for those earning full-time this was £8.36. This reflects a national trend. It is of particular relevance to consideration of people at high risk of poverty because of the high proportion of women, and particularly mothers, who work part-time. According to Census 2011 data, women in Sheffield are more than three times as likely as men to be employed part-time. Nationally, whilst men and women make up similar proportions of the employee workforce (men 51%, women

49%), 86 per cent of men work full time compared to only 57 per cent of women. The national pay gap in 2013 was 19.7 which means that on average, women will earn 19.7% less per hour than men (analysis from Secondary Analysis of the Gender Pay Gap, DCMS, March 2014, using data from Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings).



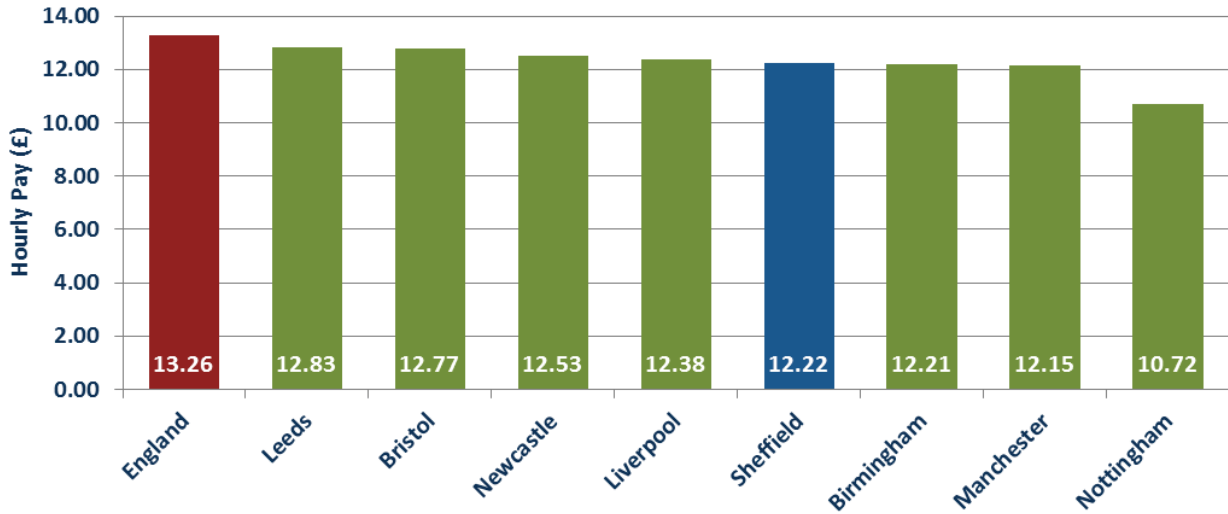
Notes:

Results for 2003 and earlier exclude supplementary surveys. In 2006 there were a number of methodological changes made. For further details go to : <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/articles/341.aspx>

Estimates for 2011 and subsequent years use a weighting scheme based on occupations which have been coded according to Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) 2010 that replaced SOC 2000. Therefore care should be taken when making comparisons with earlier years.

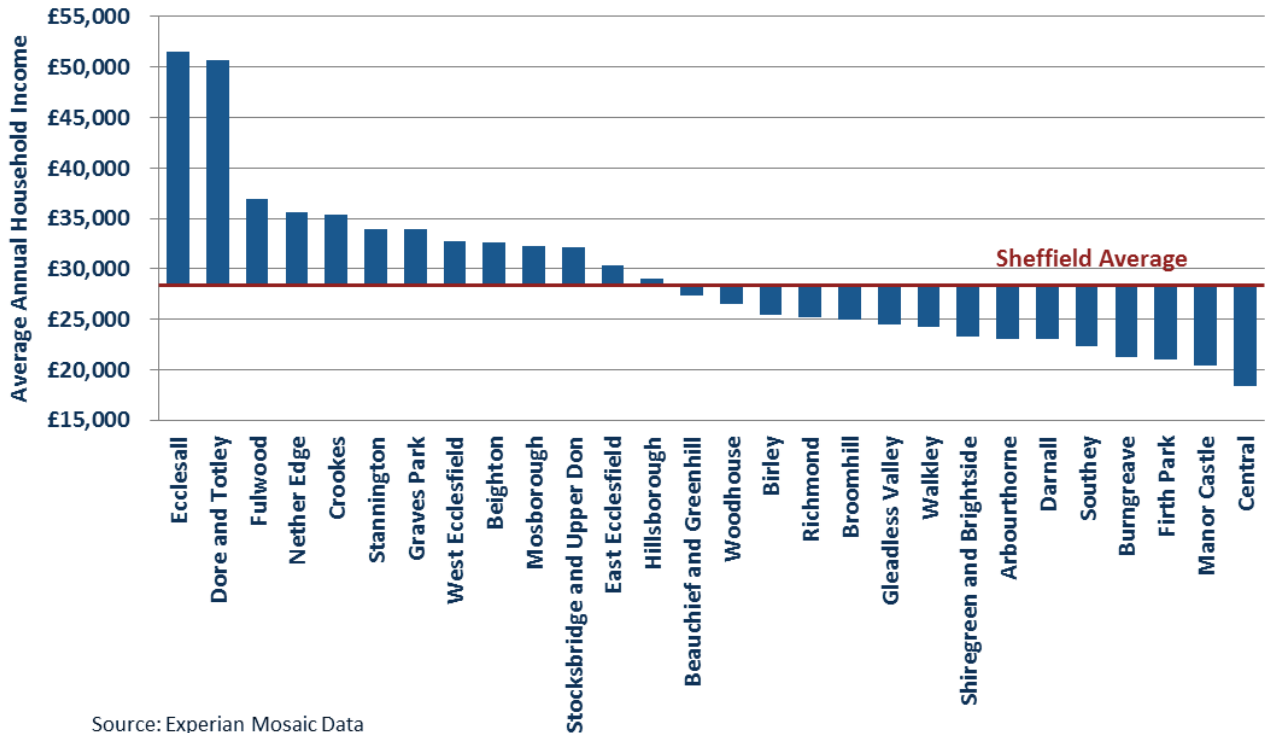
Average income of full-time workers for Sheffield, England and the Core Cities is shown below.

Median Hourly Pay (Gross) Full Time Workers - 2013



Source: Office for National Statistics

Average Annual Household Income by Ward, 2012



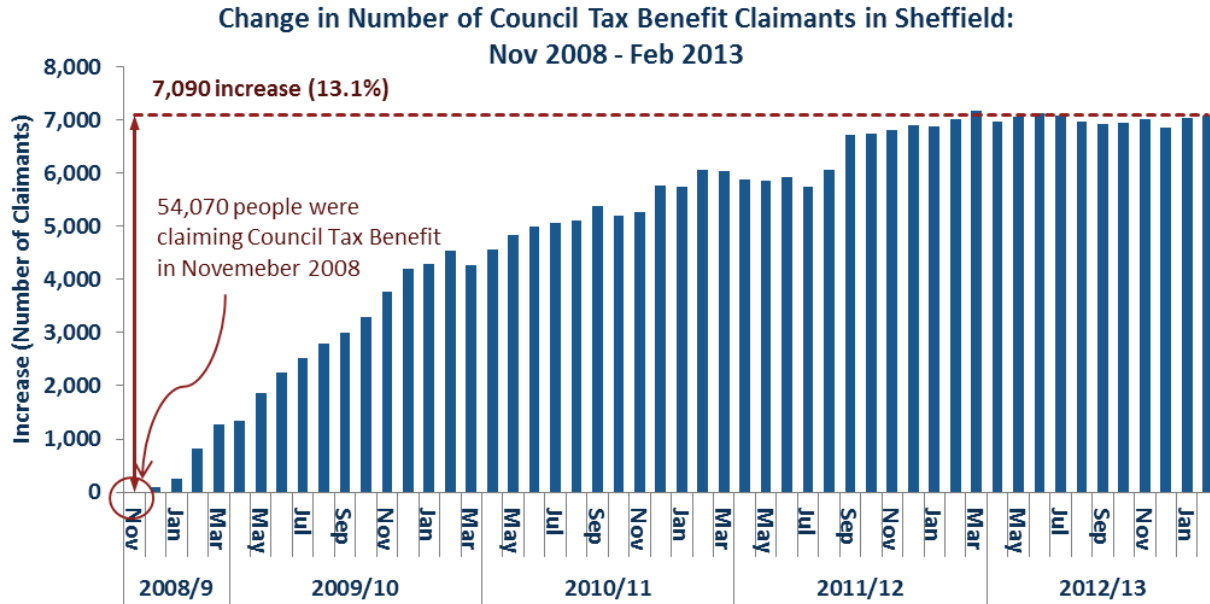
Source: Experian Mosaic Data

Council tax benefit / support

The number of people in receipt of Council Tax Benefit / Support has increased significantly since 2008. As the graph below shows, the most significant increases were in 2009-10. 3,770 more people were claiming in November 2010

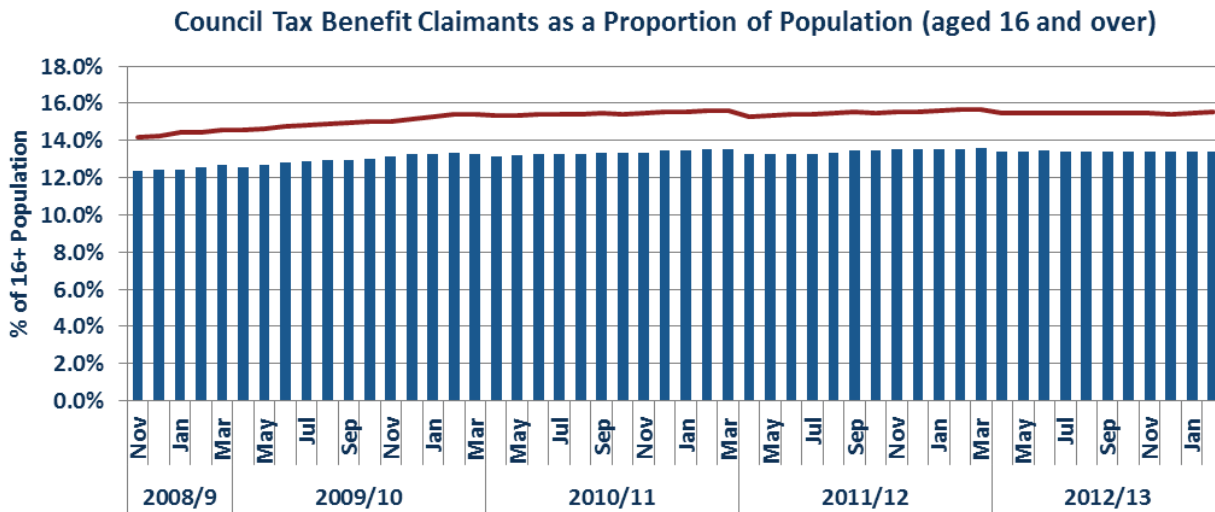
than in November 2009. A further 1,500 were claiming by November 2011 and an additional 1,500 were claiming by November 2012. The rate of increase has slowed over the past year with an increase of 200 people between November 2012 and November 2013.

The number of people claiming council tax support in Sheffield in March 2014 was 57,575.



Source: Office for National Statistics

As well as looking at how many people are claiming council tax support, we can also consider what proportion of the population is claiming. This is shown in the next graph. This has also been increasing, (from 12.4% in November 2008 to 13.3% in Feb 2013), but Sheffield's rate remains below the average for the core cities.

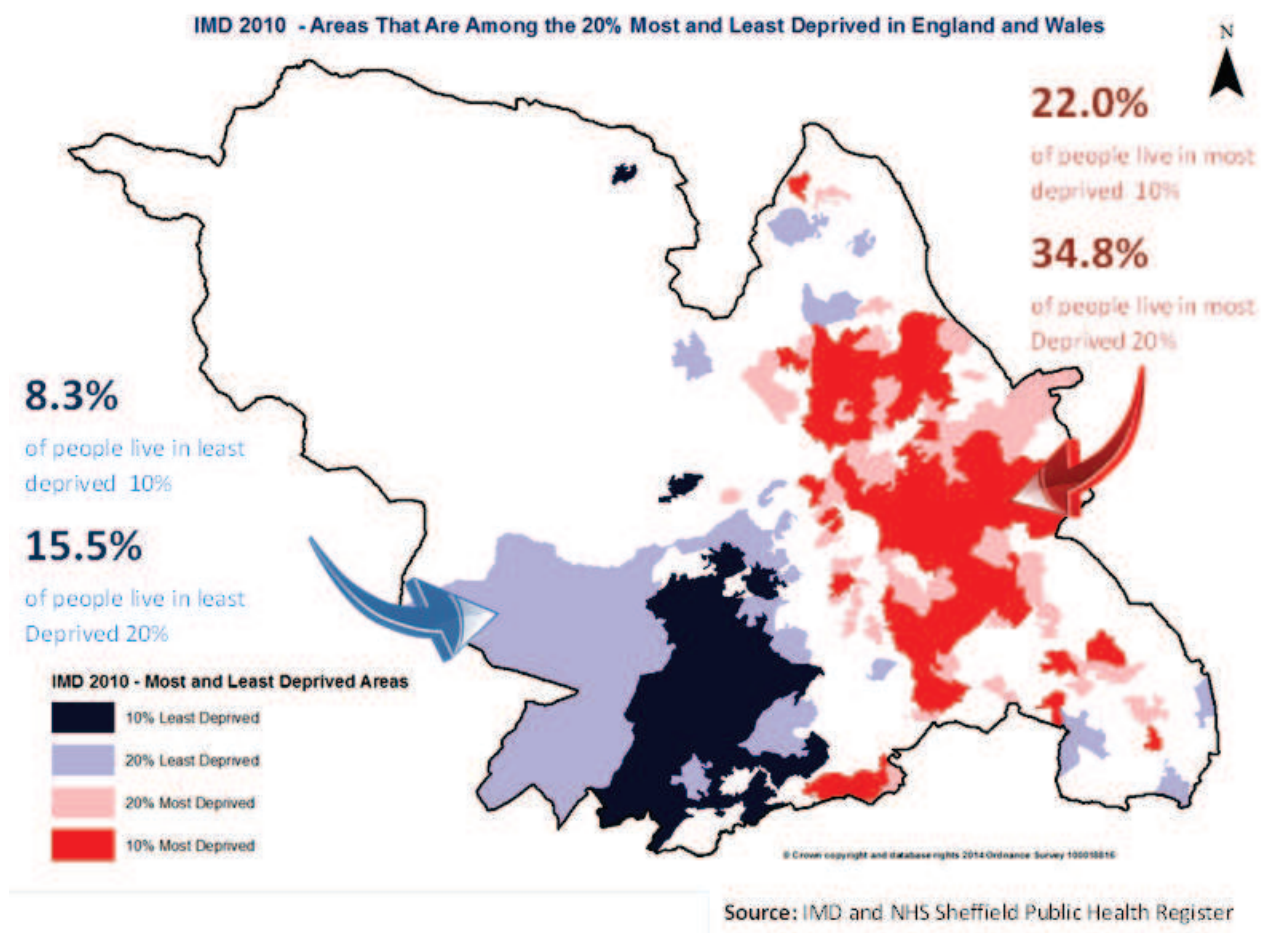


Source: Office for National Statistics

In addition to showing the proportion of the population eligible for Council Tax Benefit / Support, we can also consider how many people are in arrears – we look at this at the end of the section on people hitting crisis point below.

People living in areas of deprivation

The percentage of people in Sheffield who live within the 10% and 20% most and least deprived areas of England and Wales is shown below, along with the areas of Sheffield that are included within the 10 and 20% most and least deprived areas.



How long people have been living in poverty

In this section, we consider:

- The proportion of children on free school meals who have been eligible for 3 consecutive years
- Benefit claimant persistence

Joseph Rowntree Foundation commissioned a review of ‘poverty dynamics’ (Smith & Middleton, 2007), which looks at the same individuals or households over time and so is able to record stories of change. Most data is ‘point-in-time’ which means that it just shows a snap-shot of the population. As this review (and others) demonstrates, many more people dip in and out of poverty than are captured by the majority of statistics used. Using findings from the British Household Panel Survey, they show that over the seven-year period analysed, between a quarter and a third

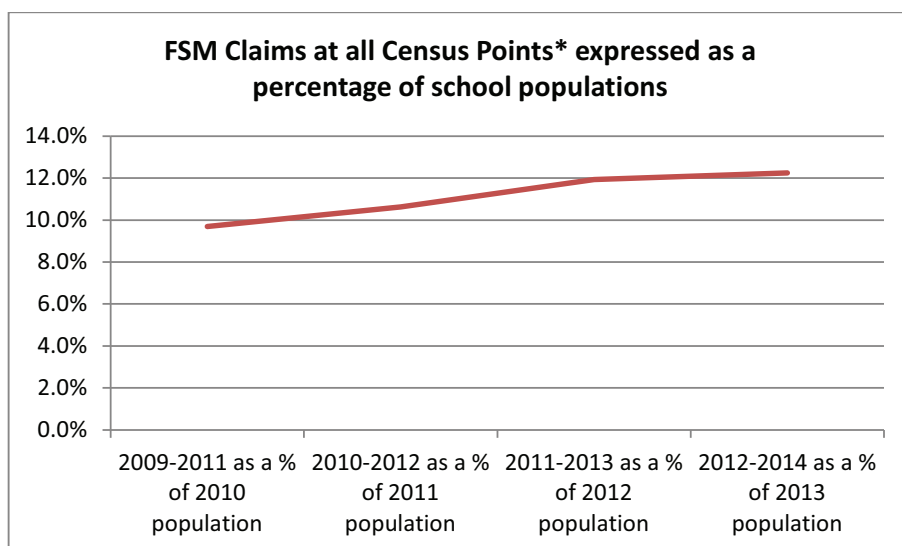
of the population experienced income poverty at least once– about twice the average poverty rate for any fixed moment in time.

Other research has looked at the experiences of people who are poor over a period of time.

Dickerson & Popli, using evidence from the Millennium Cohort Study, find that children born into poverty have significantly lower test scores at 3, 5 and 7 and that continuous poverty in the early years has a cumulative negative impact on cognitive functioning. 'For children who are persistently in poverty throughout their early years, their cognitive development test scores at age 7 are more than 10 percentile ranks lower than children who have never experienced poverty, even after controlling for a wide range of background characteristics and parenting investment.' (Dickerson & Popli, 2011)

Nationally, there is a measure of persistence of poverty but this is not available at a local level. Even nationally, because the method used to measure this has changed, the latest available data is 2005-2008 over which time 12% of children had been in relative poverty for three out of the four years (measure of persistent poverty).

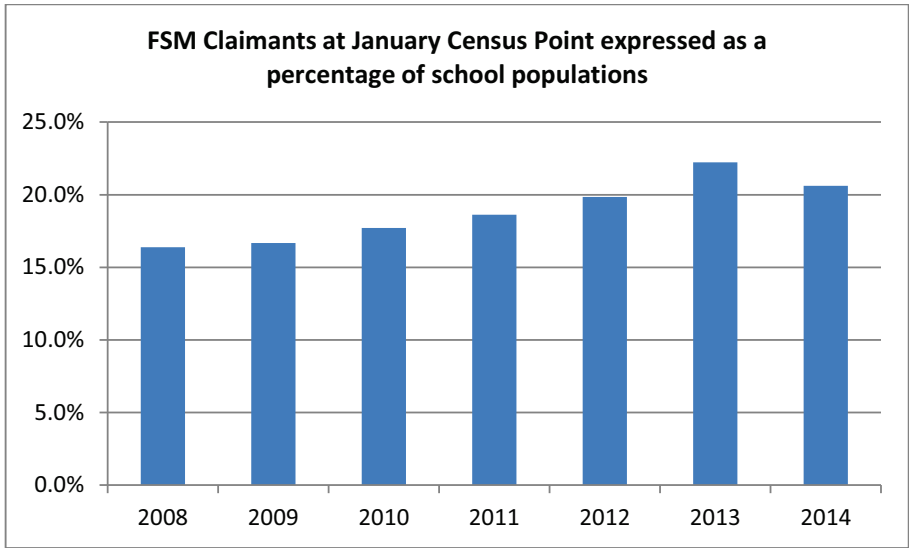
We have attempted to explore how many children in Sheffield experience poverty over time by using free school meals data. There are many ways in which this could be done but for the purposes of this initial assessment of need, we have compared numbers and proportions of children who were eligible and claiming free school meals at three consecutive January School Census points. Note that the pupil premium was introduced in 2011, and many schools have worked hard to increase free school meals registrations to support access to this additional funding support.



School Census Data - Performance and Analysis Service (2014)

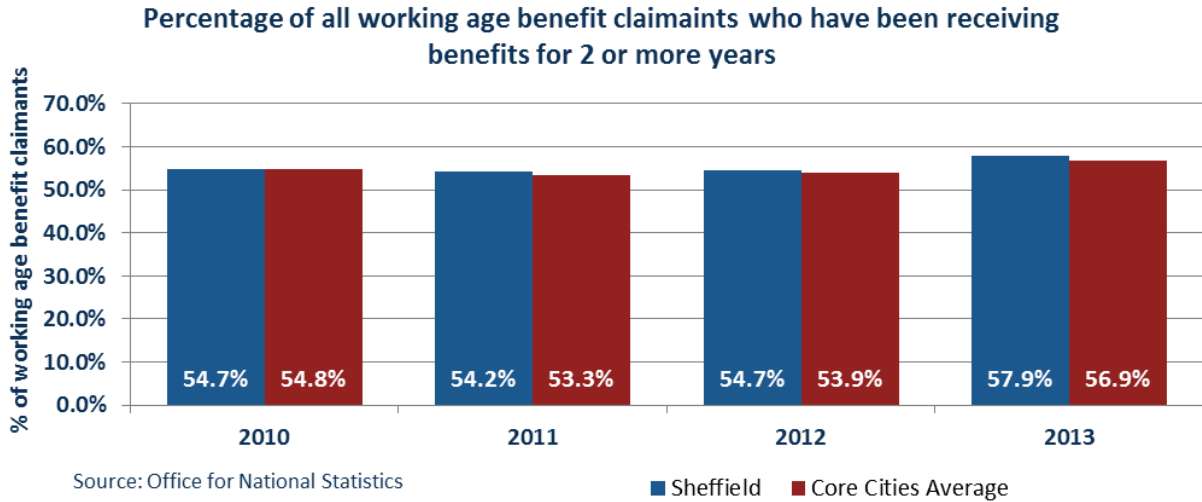
*FSM Claims at all Census points count total pupils who were eligible and claiming FSM at 3 consecutive January School Census points, for the 3 year periods quoted.

We also show free school meals eligibility at each January School Census point for the same time period below for comparison.



School Census Data - Performance and Analysis Service (2014)

For adults, we have used the measure of working age people in Sheffield (compared with core cities) who have been receiving benefits for two or more years. The benefits that are included are Carers' Allowance, Disability Living Allowance, Incapacity Benefit or Employment Support Allowance, Income Support, Pension Credit, Jobseekers' Allowance, Severe disablement Allowance and Widows benefit. The rate was relatively static between 2010 and 2012 before rising in 2013. This matches the trend for the core cities.



How much people are struggling and what sorts of things they are struggling with

We know that income is not the only thing that affects how hard up people are. It is obviously very important but we also need to understand how much people have to spend on their homes (rent, heat, other bills), to feed themselves and their families, to get around to work, school, shopping and other places, how much debt people are in and what it costs to pay it back, whether benefit payments are on time (including when people are subject to sanctions) and whether people have additional needs that result in additional costs.

People hitting crisis point

The data and qualitative evidence that follows, taken together, indicates that increasing numbers of people in Sheffield are hitting crisis point in terms of their money.

Hunger

“I missed my bus and arrived 5 minutes late – the advisor said you have missed your slot and I got sanctioned for 12 weeks”

Sheffield foodbank user, quoted in the Rapid Review of Food Banks, 2013

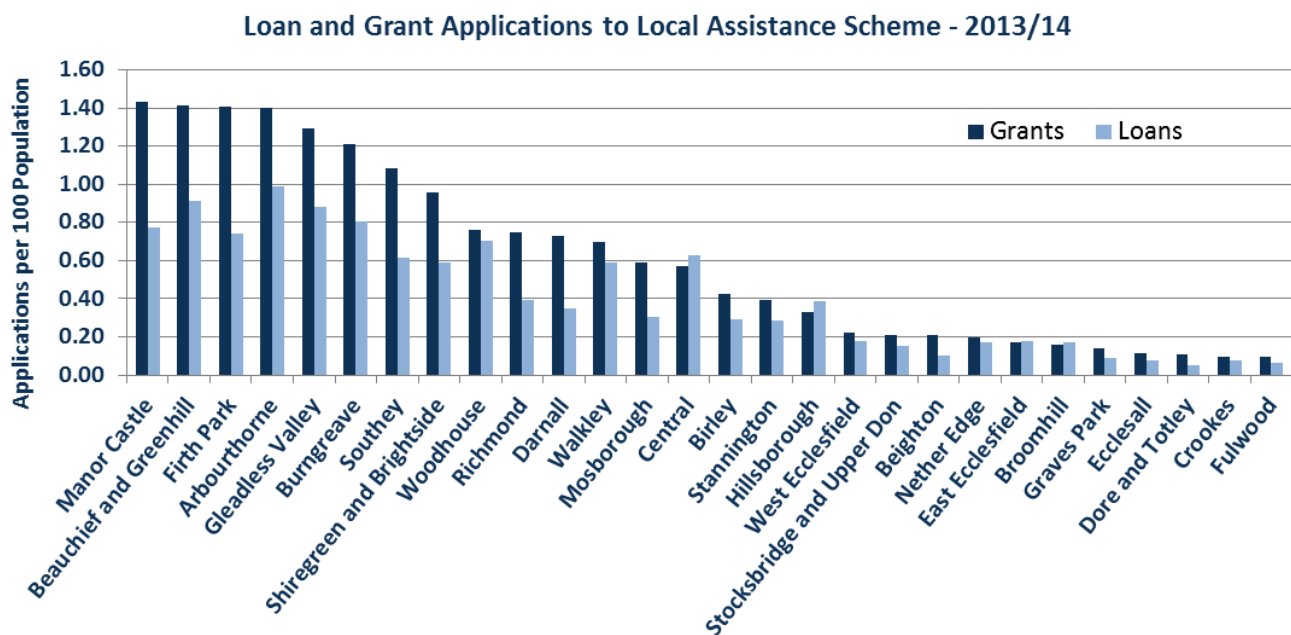
The Involve Yorkshire & Humber Rapid Review of Food Banks in Sheffield (2013) identified that:

- Use of food banks in Sheffield is growing and the rate of use has increased since April 2013
- Lack of income is driving use of food banks (including low wages, unemployment, changes to benefits and delays and sanctions)
- There were 16 food banks operating in Sheffield

The initial report from the early community engagement work undertaken recently as part of the development work for the Best Start Sheffield lottery bid identified food as the most frequently cited issue for people.

Urgent financial distress

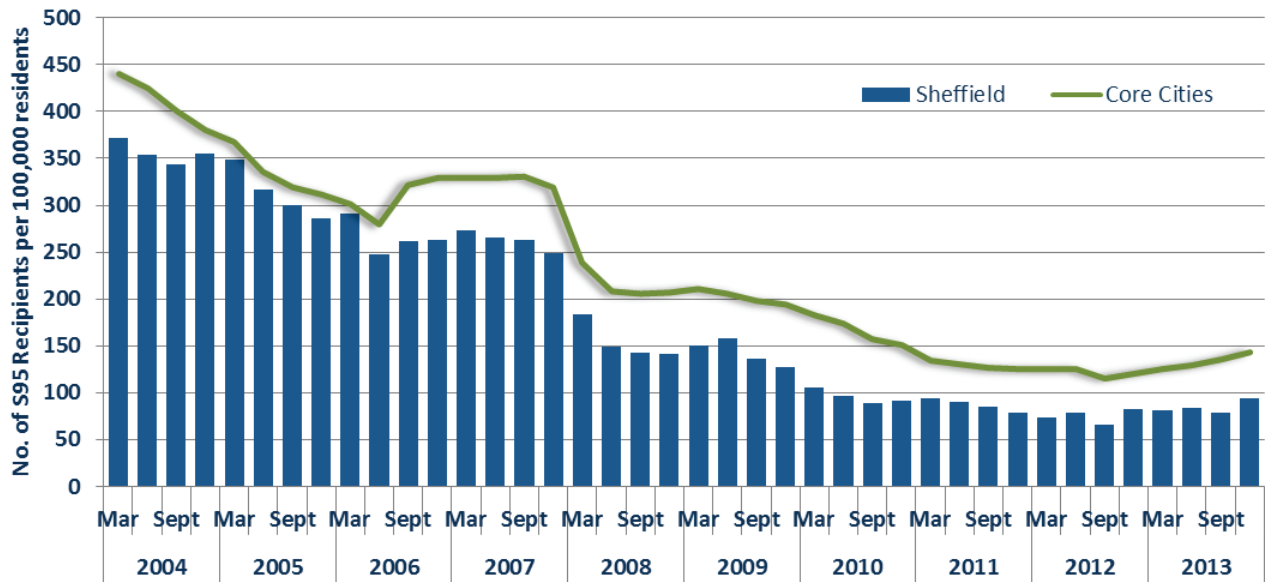
The chart below shows the percentage of people in each ward who have had to apply to the Local Assistance scheme (which began in 2013) for support. Over time, this will give us an indication of how many people experience urgent financial distress during each year. Because the scheme is quite different from the scheme it replaced we cannot draw comparisons yet.



Source: Sheffield City Council, Local Assistance Scheme

This next chart shows how many asylum seekers were in receipt of section 95 support.

Asylum Seekers in Receipt of Section 95 Support



Source: Home Office

Debt, access to affordable credit and bank accounts

The two Advocacy Workers in the Southey area who are funded through HCP are now spending all their time dealing with debt advice and associated problems. They are reporting a “dramatic deterioration” in the mental health of clients and an increase in suicides. There is evidence of individuals having to make the choice between eating or heating. There are reported cases of people looking in skips for wood to burn and if unable to find anything, resorting to burning their own furniture. The advocacy workers are liaising with utility providers and other organisations to which clients owe money and are signposting on to the relevant agencies. They are working with the people who are “falling through the cracks” in terms of receiving insufficient income to cover their basic needs. Wherever possible in these cases the staff providing support look at what went wrong and what can be done to prevent reoccurrence.

Mini case-study as part of Scrutiny report on welfare reform 2014

We know that debts, high cost credit and lack of access to a bank account all cause additional financial strain for people, which in turn often impacts on their wellbeing.

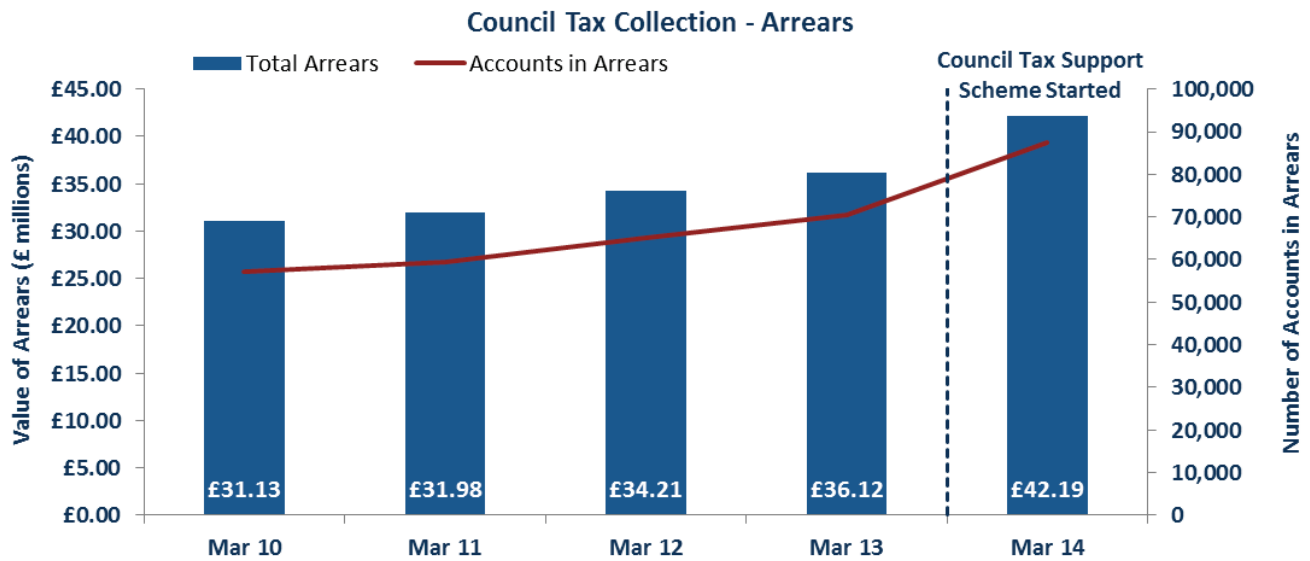


7.3%

17,392 households in Sheffield don't have access to a direct payment account

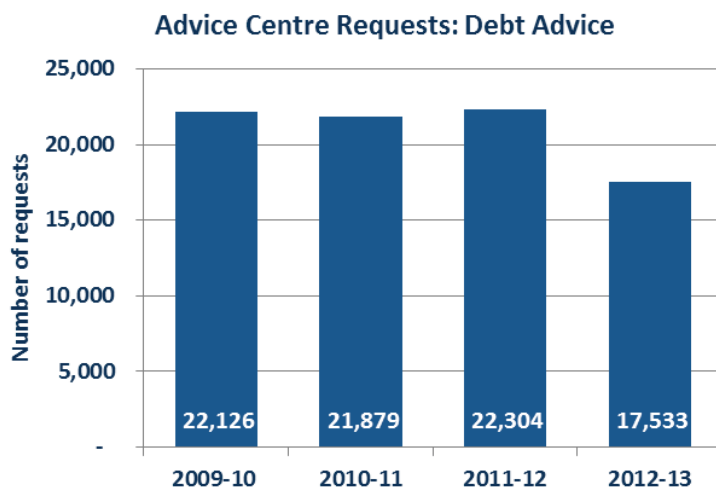
Source: Experian 2012

The chart below shows the significant increase in council tax arrears following the implementation of the Council Tax Support Scheme which coincided with the commencement of charging all working age people in Sheffield at least 23% of their Council Tax (where before they may have been eligible for full support).



Source: CAPITA Local Government Services

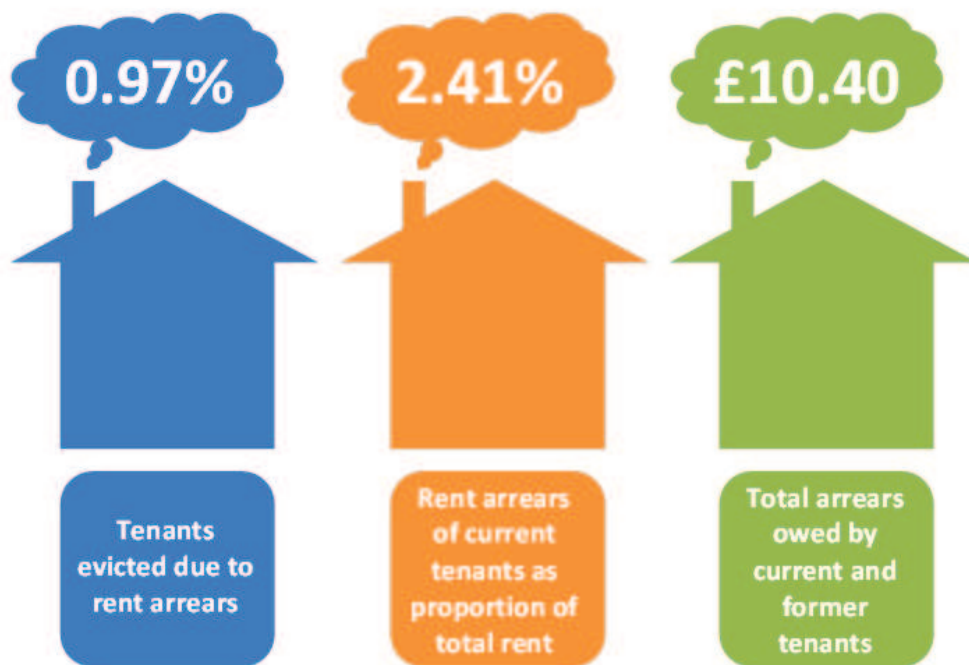
This next chart shows the number of requests processed by advice centres marked as debt advice. The drop-off in requests in 2012-13 reflects reduced capacity in the advice sector along with reduced information monitoring (due to reductions in funding) rather than a reduced demand for services.



Source: Sheffield City Council, Voluntary Sector Liaison Team

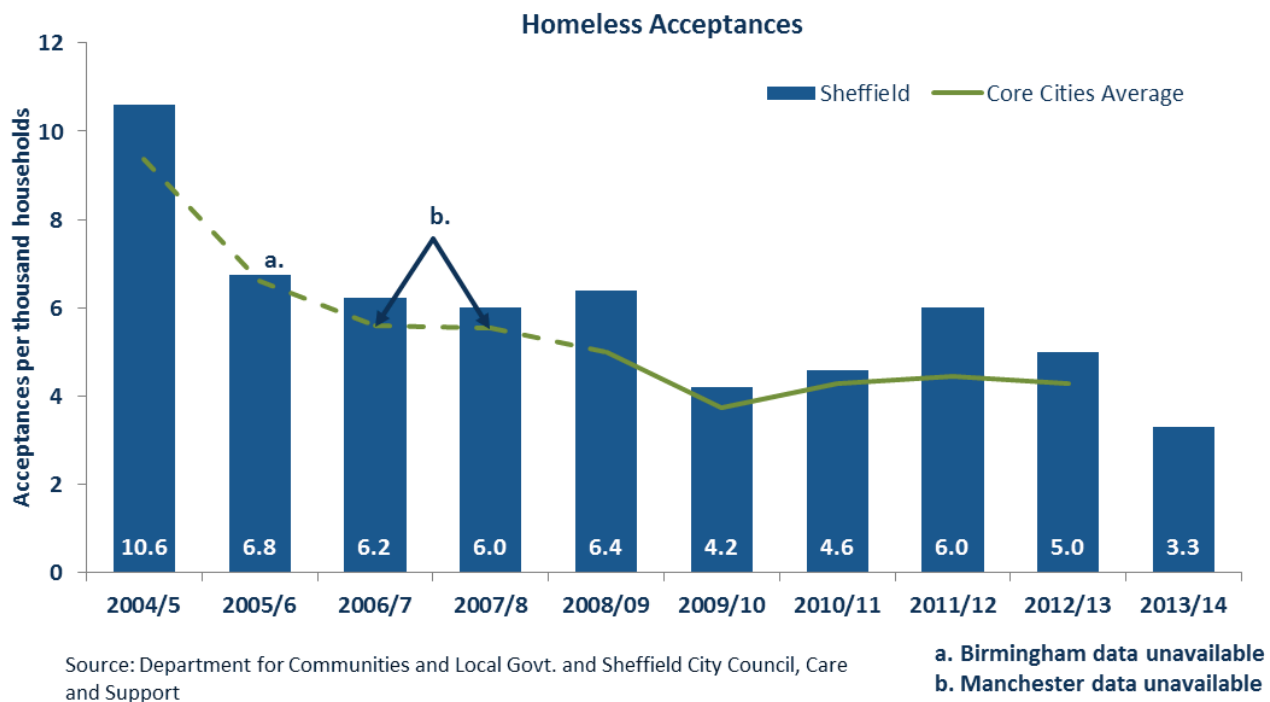
The Council's Revenues and Benefits line had a 30% increase in calls in April-July 2013 compared with same period in 2012. There was an 86% increase in the amount of money spent on Children with Additional Needs in the period July to Sept 2013 compared with the same time period in 2012.

RENT ARREARS



Homelessness and housing issues

The first graph below shows homeless acceptances per thousand households in Sheffield compared with the core cities average over time (note that for two years as shown data is unavailable for both Birmingham and Manchester so the average is of core cities minus these two).



It is also important to look at some of the other housing problems people face. Below we have shown the percentage of council housing properties that were quit within two years for the calendar year 2013 broken down by area. We don't yet have an area breakdown for more recent data but in 2013-14 fiscal year, the Sheffield figure was 30% and to end of May 2014, the figure is running at 25.4%. There has been focused effort on reducing this to below 30%.

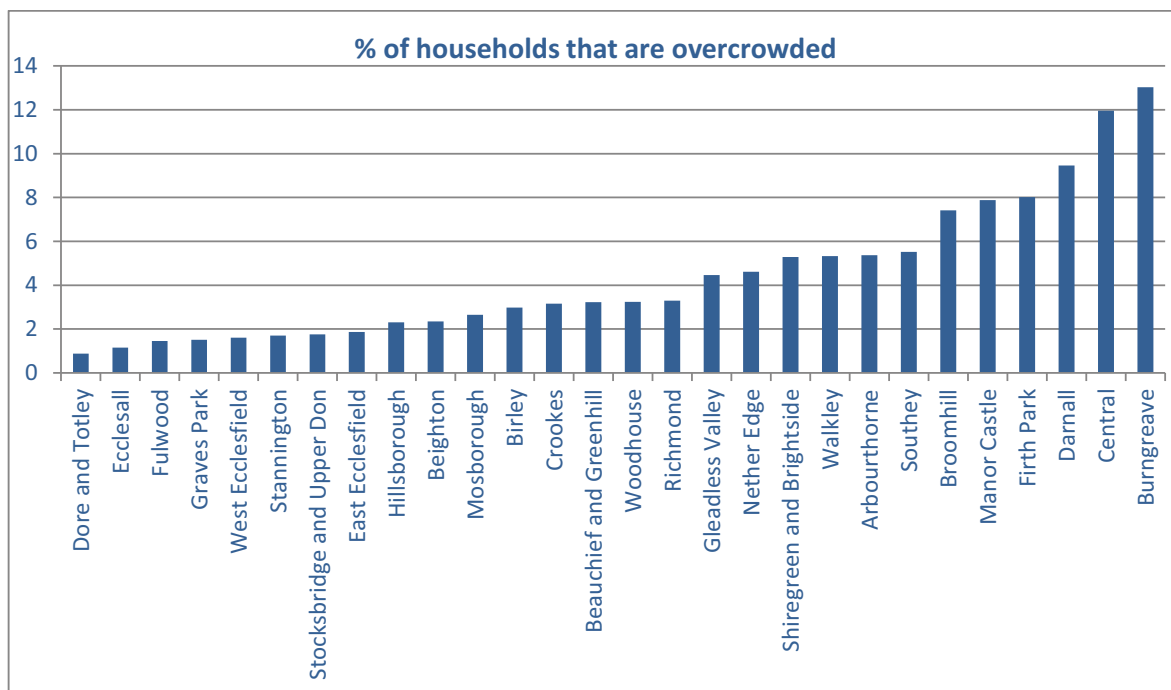


Next we have looked at overcrowding within homes by ward in Sheffield. 'Overcrowded' is defined here as those dwellings having a bedroom occupancy rating of -1 or less.

The Occupancy Rating provides a measure of under-occupancy and over-crowding. For example a value of -1 implies that there is one room too few and that there is overcrowding in the household. It relates the actual number of rooms to the number of rooms 'required' by the members of the household (based on an assessment of the relationship between household members, their ages and gender).

More from ONS on occupancy calculation can be found here:

<http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/LeadMetadataDownloadPDF.do?downloadId=188>



Source: Census 2011

Fuel poverty

At a national level, the latest fuel poverty statistics show that the following groups are more likely to experience fuel poverty:

- Those in the private rented sector (Around twice the proportion of private rented households are in fuel poverty, compared with owner occupiers and social renters).
- Lone parents are the group most likely to be fuel poor, with approximately one in five being so in 2012. However, they tend to have smaller fuel poverty gaps, on average, than most other household types.
- Households containing children and young people - where the youngest person in the household was under 24 are much more likely to be fuel poor than those containing only older people, also where the oldest person in the household was aged 16-24 they were more likely to be fuel poor
- Older households - where the youngest person in the household was aged 75 or over tend to have the highest average fuel poverty gaps, also as the age of the oldest person increases so does the fuel poverty gap.
- Larger households (5 or more) tend to both be more likely to be fuel poor, and in deeper fuel poverty (with larger fuel poverty gaps)

- Households where the HRP is unemployed tend to be much more likely to be fuel poor (nearly a third are) than those where the HRP is working, but have smaller average fuel poverty gaps.
- Vulnerable households tend to be more likely to be fuel poor than non-vulnerable ones, and have larger fuel poverty gaps on average.
- Households paying for their electricity or gas by pre-payment meter are more likely to be fuel poor than those paying by other methods, with direct debit customers being least likely to be fuel poor.
- Households living in purpose-built flats are much less likely to be fuel poor (only 3% are) than those in other types of dwelling, and have the smallest average fuel poverty gaps.

The estimated number of households who were living in fuel poverty (using the new definition) in Sheffield in 2012 was 26,604 or 11.3% of households (DECC 2012 sub-regional fuel poverty data: low income high costs indicator). This represents a slight increase from 2011 using the same measure (25,899 households or 11% households).

Under the new definition of fuel poverty (Low Income High Cost definition), a household is considered to be fuel poor where they have required fuel costs that are above average (the national median level), and were they to spend that amount, they would be left with a residual income below the official poverty line. Under the 10 per cent definition, a household is said to be fuel poor if it needs to spend more than 10 per cent of its income on fuel to maintain an adequate level of warmth.

Using the old methodology and definition, the figures for the same year were 41,591 or 17.7% (DECC 2012 sub-regional fuel poverty data: 10% indicator). Using the old measure, this is a slight increase from 2011 (17.6%) and a decrease from 2010 (18.3%).

DECC recently undertook a review of the methodology used to produce sub-regional estimates of fuel poverty, in conjunction with the ONS Methodology Advisory Service. This work found that estimates of fuel poverty were robust at local authority level, but were not robust at very low level geographies.

Benefit changes, delays and sanctions

Benefit changes are being monitored and the following page represents some of the key changes and impacts.

Welfare Reform in Numbers - March 2014

4,076

Sheffield council tenants are affected by under-occupancy rules ('bedroom tax')



44 less than two months ago

25%

have paid in full the shortfall in their benefit resulting from under-occupancy without receiving a DHP* payment



down from 30% two months ago

5%

have paid nothing towards the shortfall in their benefit resulting from under-occupancy

compared with 6% two months ago

33,000

working age tax payers in Sheffield receive council tax support



All of whom must now pay 23% of their Council Tax

19,836

summonses have been issued to Council Tax Support customers since April 2013 for non payment of Council Tax



£5.28m

= value of summonsed debt for Council Tax Support customers



Average amount of debt = £266**

1,772

Local Assistance Scheme grants have been awarded since 1st April 2013

7,857

Council Tax Hardship Scheme awards have been made since 1st April 2013

1,225

Local Assistance Scheme loans have been awarded since 1st April 2013

6,617



Discretionary Housing Payment awards have been made since 1st April 2013

155 households in Sheffield are subject to the Benefit Cap



837 children



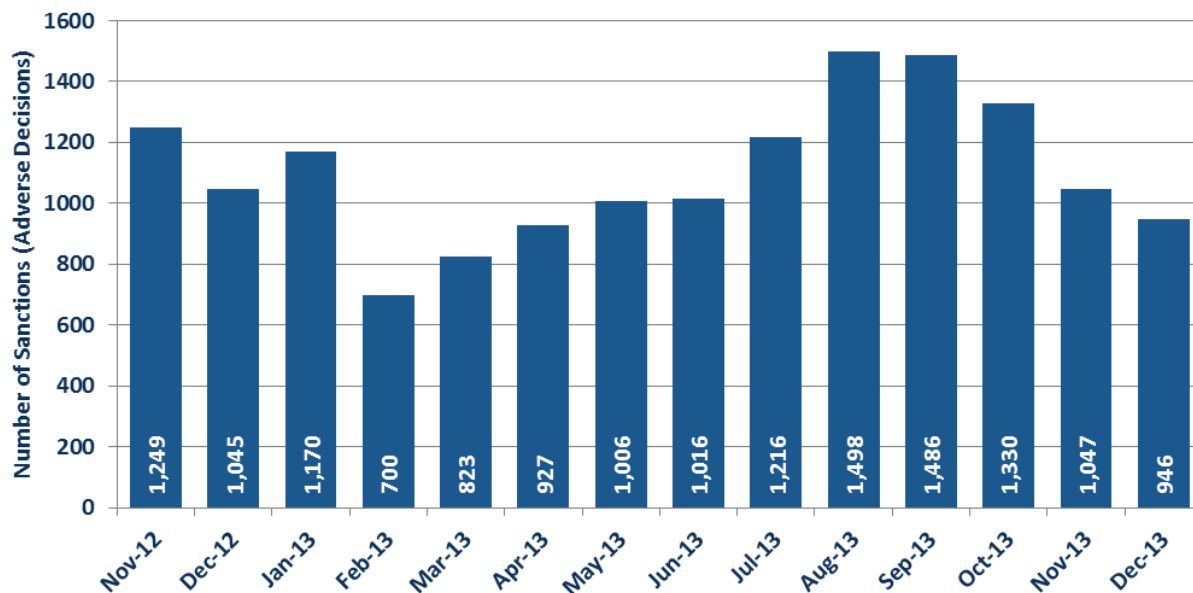
All figures are to 28 February 2014

* DHP = Discretionary housing payment

** At this stage the full annual outstanding debt is summonsed, not the unpaid debt to that date

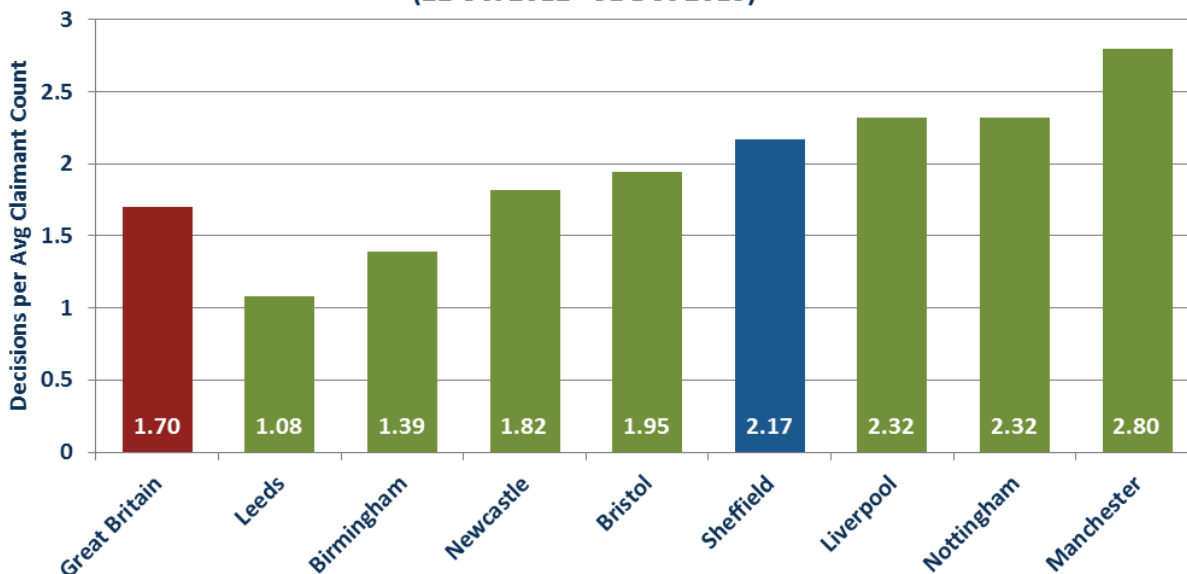
Nationally, statistics are compiled to show the number of people whose benefits are sanctioned. The first graph shows the number of sanctions for people on JSA over time. The second graph compares the proportions of people being sanctioned in Sheffield with other core cities. (Note: re the Manchester figures in the second graph - it isn't clear whether the same boundaries are being used for the claimant count and the sanctions).

Sanctions Applied to Job Seekers Allowance Claimants



Source: Dept. Work and Pensions

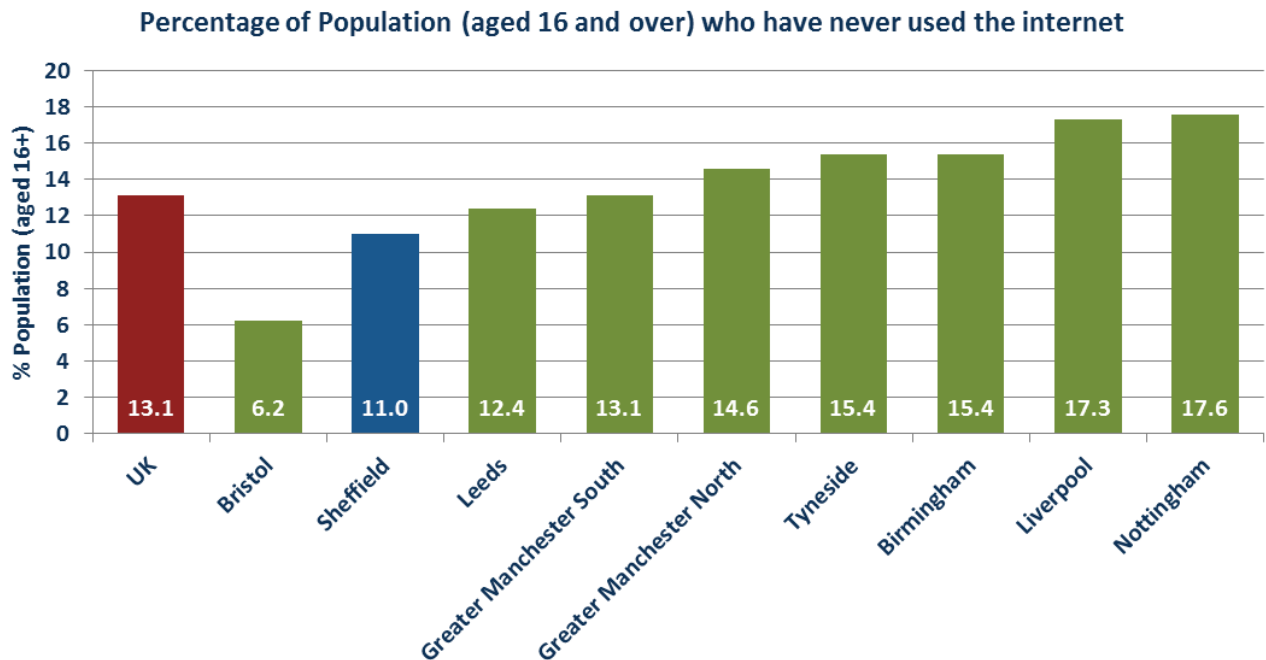
**JSA Sanction Decisions taken per Average Claimant Count
(22 Oct 2012 - 31 Dec 2013)**



Source: Dept. Work and Pensions & Office for National Statistics

Access to services

Increasingly, jobs, services and discounted rates are available online. The following chart shows how many people in Sheffield have never used the internet. We do not have a good measure to suggest how many people do not have regular access to the internet.

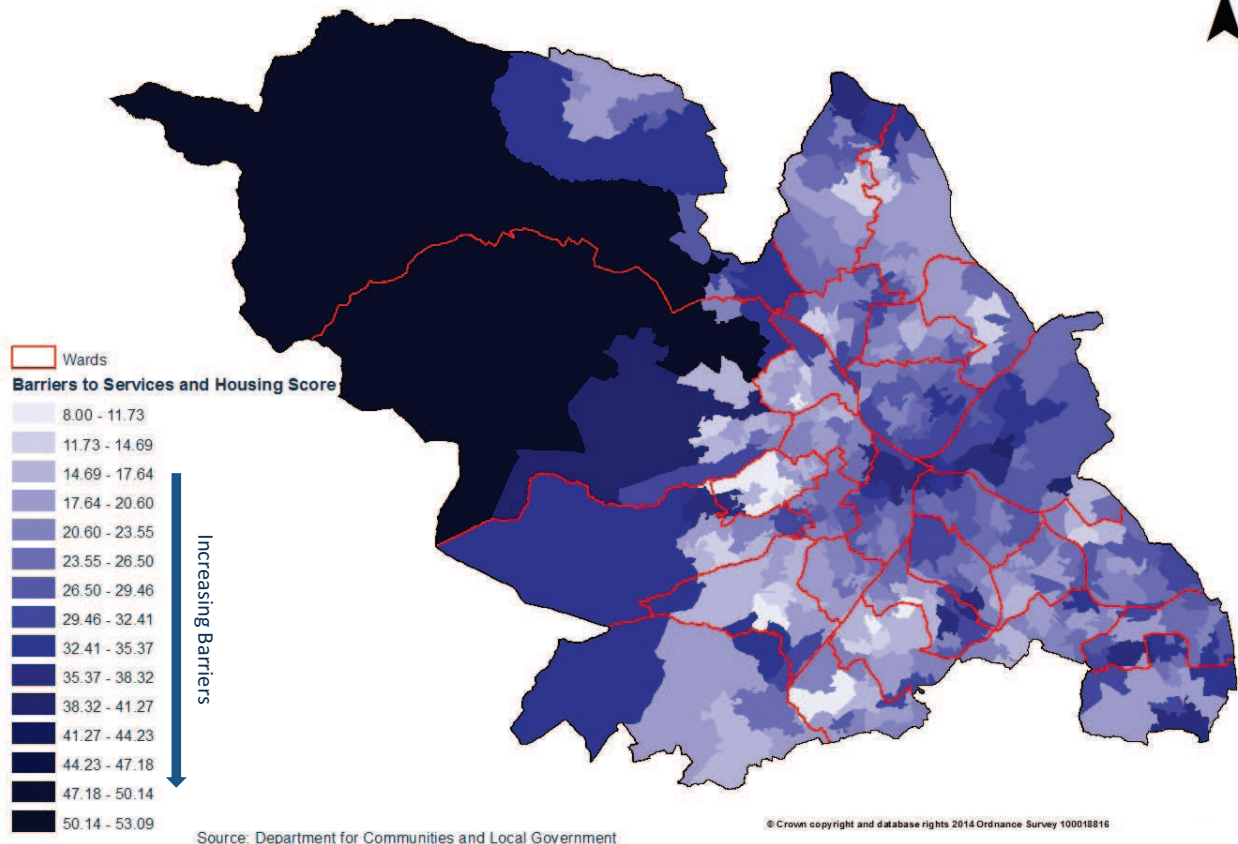


The Barriers to Housing and Services domain makes up 9.3% of the Indices of Multiple Deprivation score. The domain is comprised of the following indicators:

- **Household overcrowding:** The proportion of all households in an LSOA which are judged to have insufficient space to meet the household's needs.
- **Homelessness:** The rate of acceptances for housing assistance under the homelessness provisions of housing legislation.
- **Housing affordability:** The difficulty of access to owner-occupation, expressed as a proportion of households aged under 35 whose income means that they are unable to afford to enter owner occupation.
- **Road distance to a GP surgery:** A measure of the mean distance to the closest GP surgery for people living in the LSOA.
- **Road distance to a food shop:** A measure of the mean distance to the closest supermarket or general store for people living in the LSOA.
- **Road distance to a primary school:** A measure of the mean distance to the closest primary school for people living in the LSOA.
- **Road distance to a Post Office:** A measure of the mean distance to the closest Post Office for people living in the LSOA.

The map below shows the proportions of people who are identified as having greater or lower barriers to services.

Indices of Multiple Deprivation: Barriers to Housing and Services

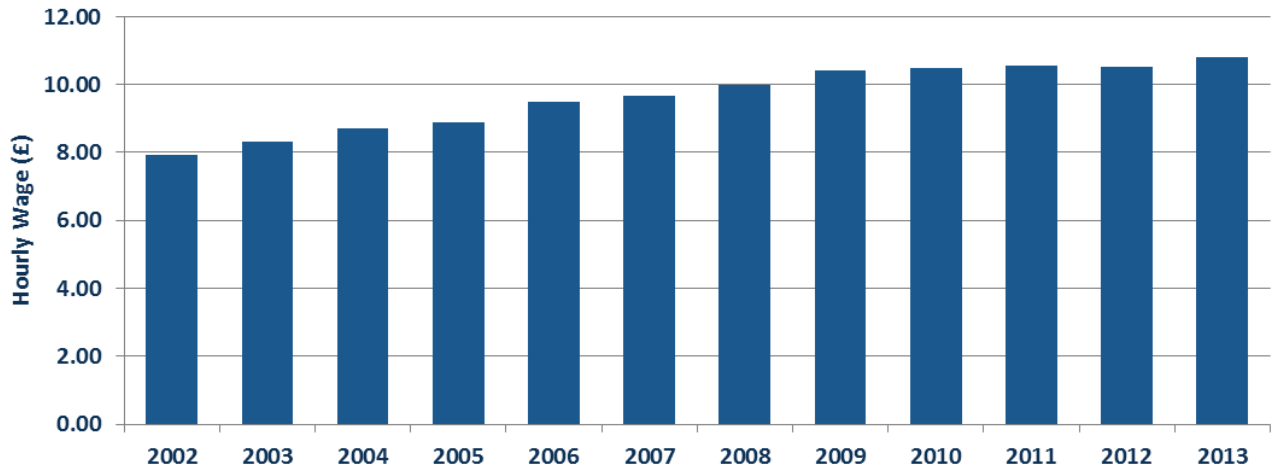


Cost of living

We need to make sure we understand how much things cost in Sheffield because increasing costs also cause people financial hardship. We have included data on the main basic costs of living where it is available. The following sections show that costs have been increasing with sharper increases in recent years – each element has a slightly different pattern as shown below.

We have started by showing the average (median) gross hourly pay in Sheffield over time so that we can set the increasing cost of living in the context of changes in levels of average earned income. Although average income has increased, as the graph below shows, the rate of increase has slowed since 2009.

Median Gross Hourly Pay in Sheffield

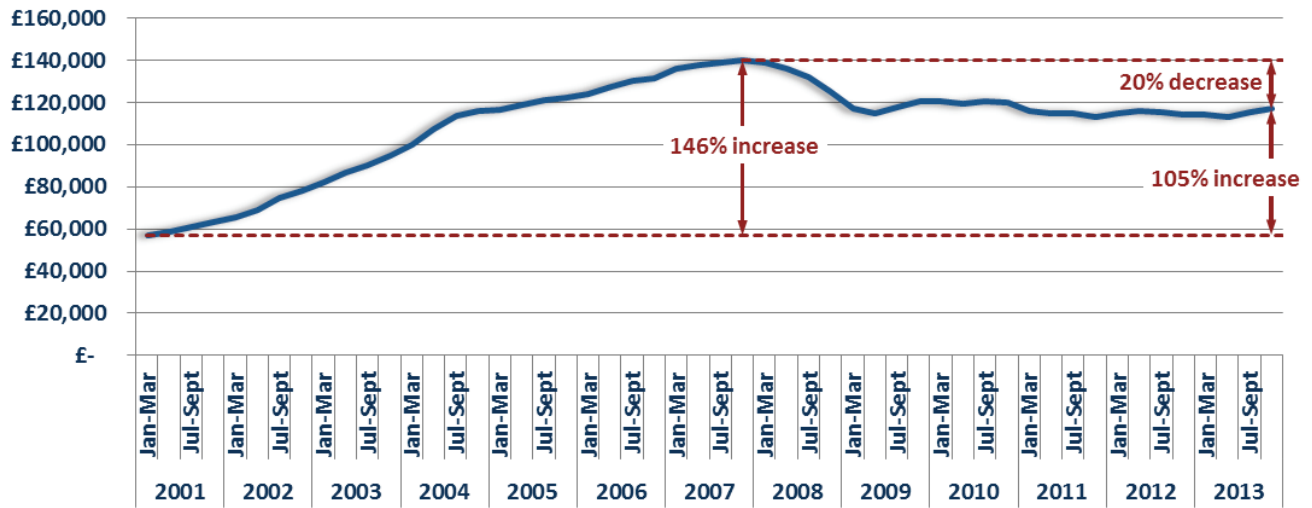


Source: Office for National Statistics

Housing

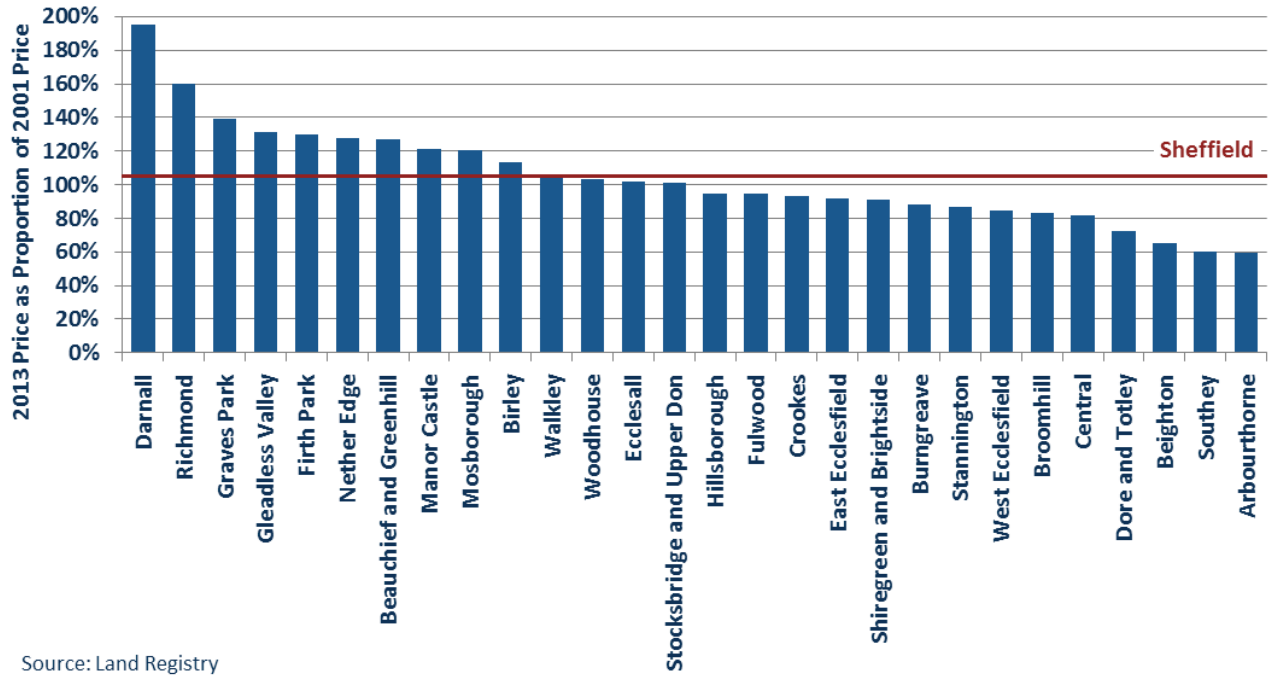
The charts below show the costs of housing (both home ownership and rental), transport, fuel and food. We have been able to look at ownership and rental prices by ward and there does not appear to be an association with deprivation or affluence.

Average House Prices in Sheffield



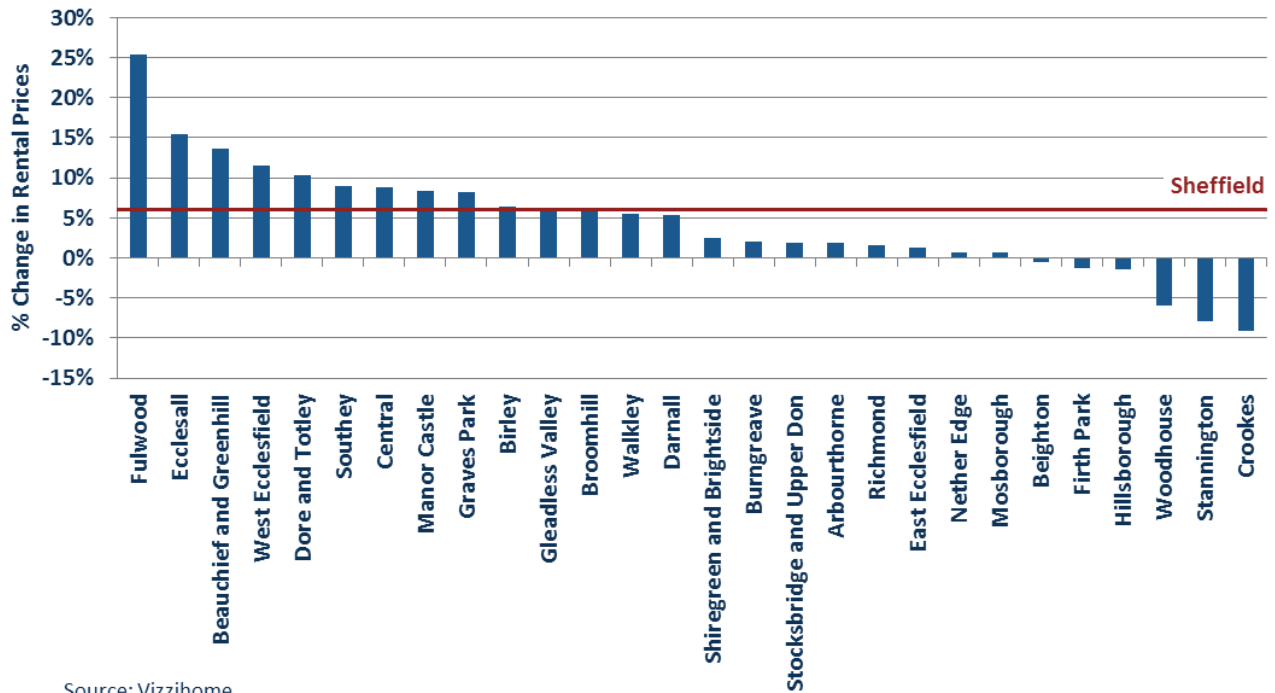
Source: Land Registry

Increase in Average House Prices by Ward from 2001 to 2013



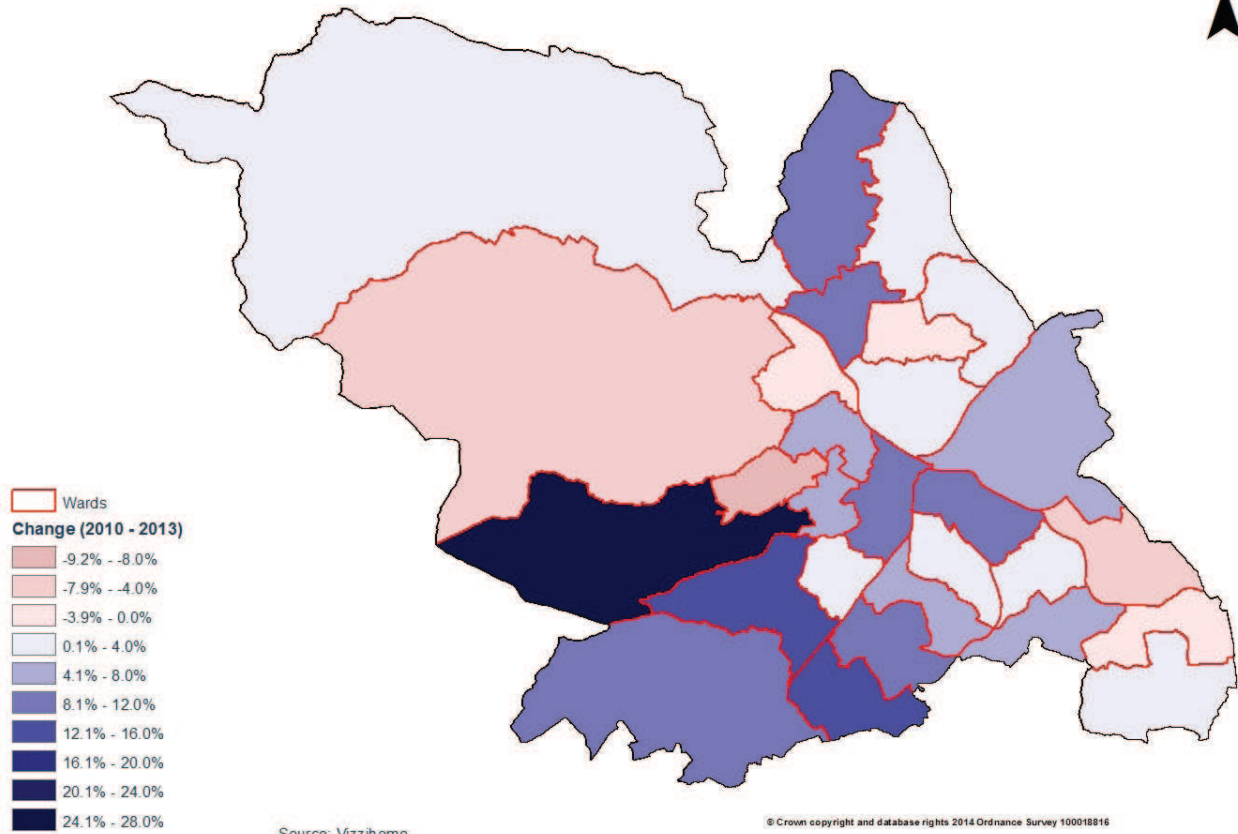
Source: Land Registry

Change in Average House Rental Prices between 2010 and 2013

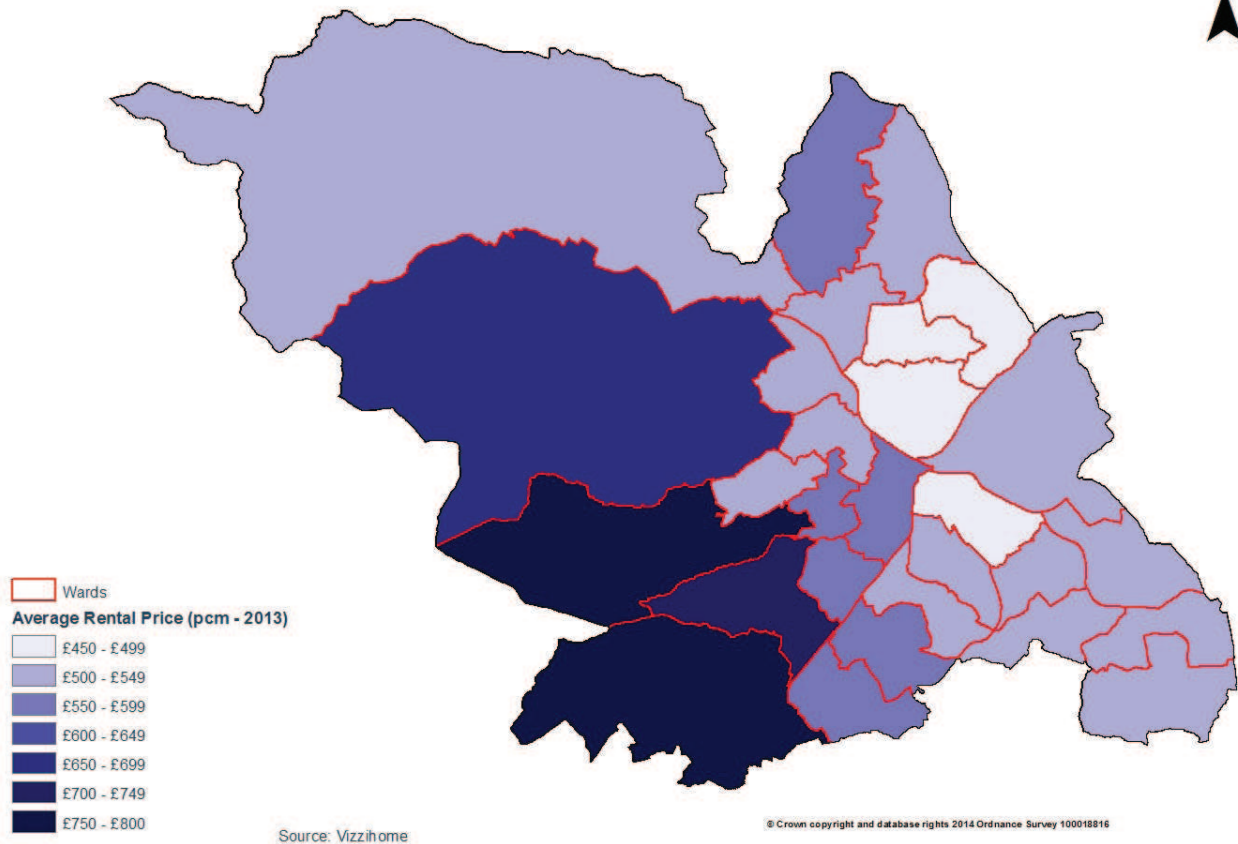


Source: Vizzihome

Change in Average Property Rental Price Between 2010 and 2013



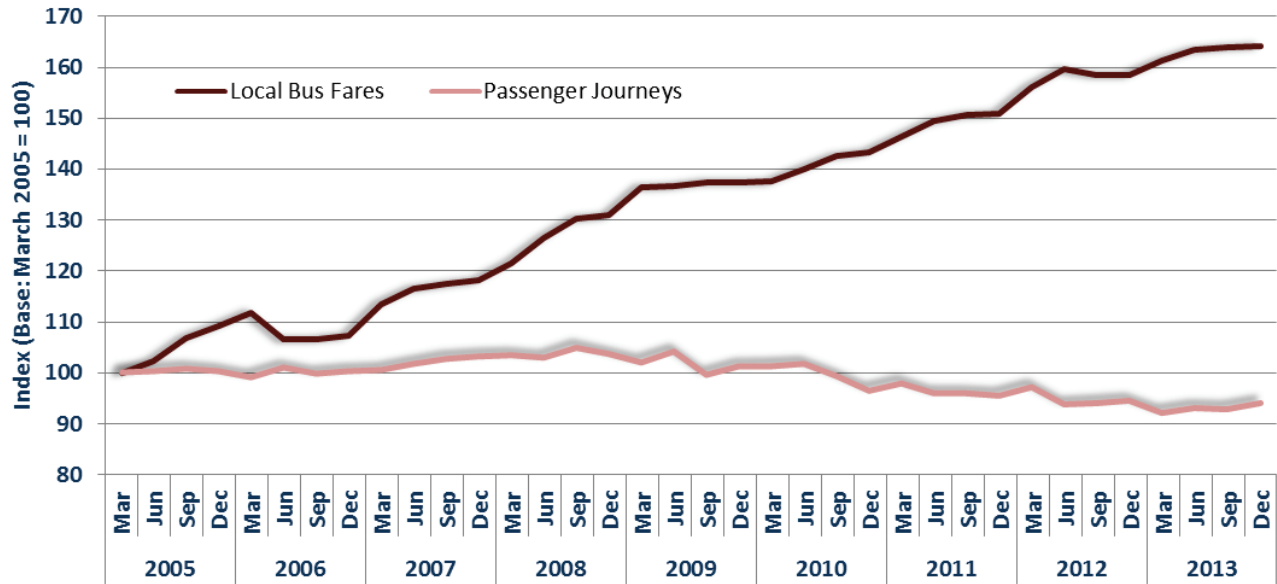
Average Property Rental Price by Ward in 2013



Transport

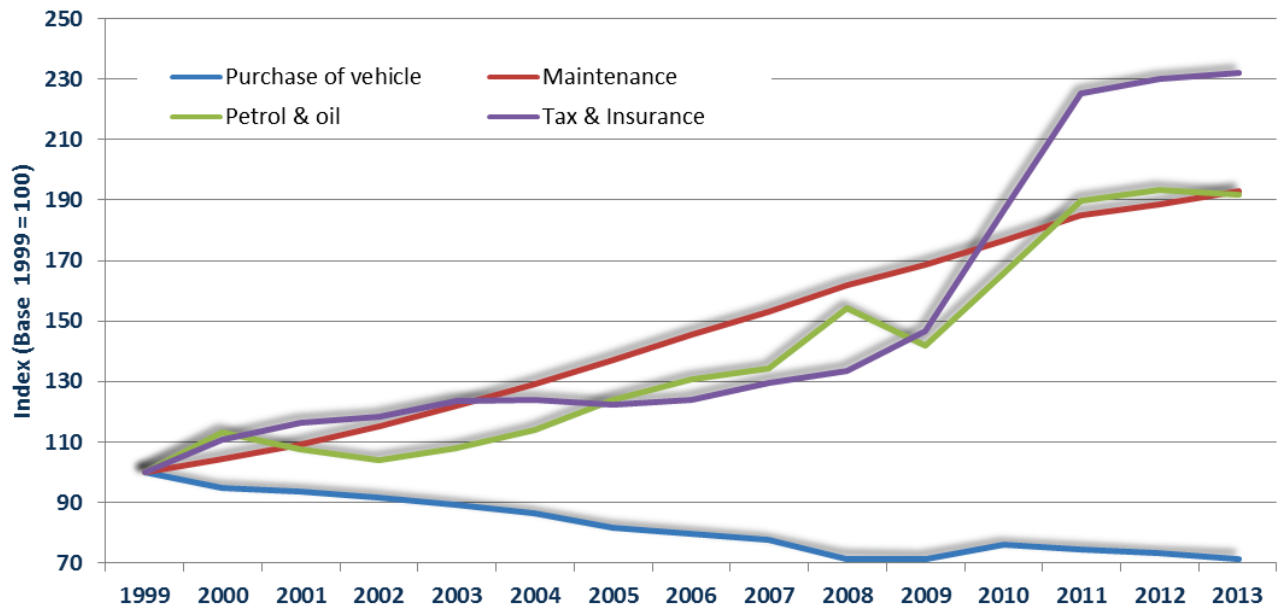
We don't have local data on transport costs. This is something we would like to explore further. What we can see from the national figures is that there has been an increase in transport costs of all types, although motor vehicle costs have flattened in the last couple of years for which we have data. Just about all households with above-average incomes have a car but half of low-income households do not (National Travel Survey July 2010 using data from 2009). Access to public transport is therefore even more critical for those with low incomes, in terms of access to essential services and for getting to work.

Changes in Fares and Number of Passenger Journeys on Local Buses in English Metropolitan Areas



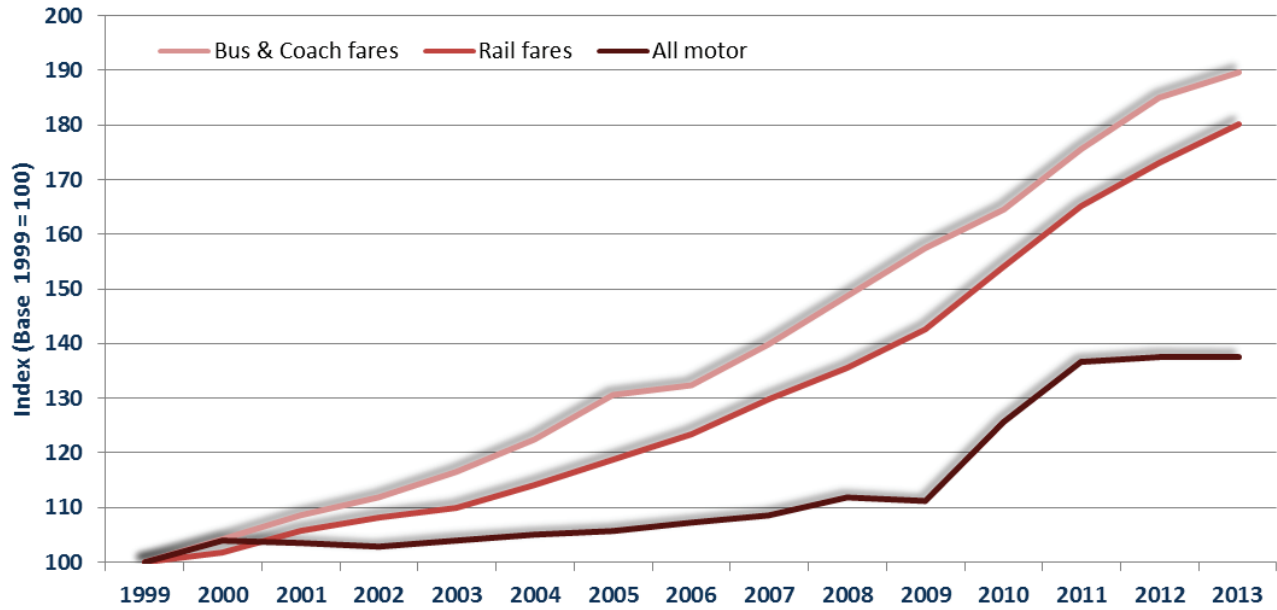
Source: Department for Transport

Retail Prices Index: Motor Vehicles Components: 1999-2013



Source: Office for National Statistics, Consumer Prices and Inflation Division

Retail Prices Index: Transport Components: 1999-2013

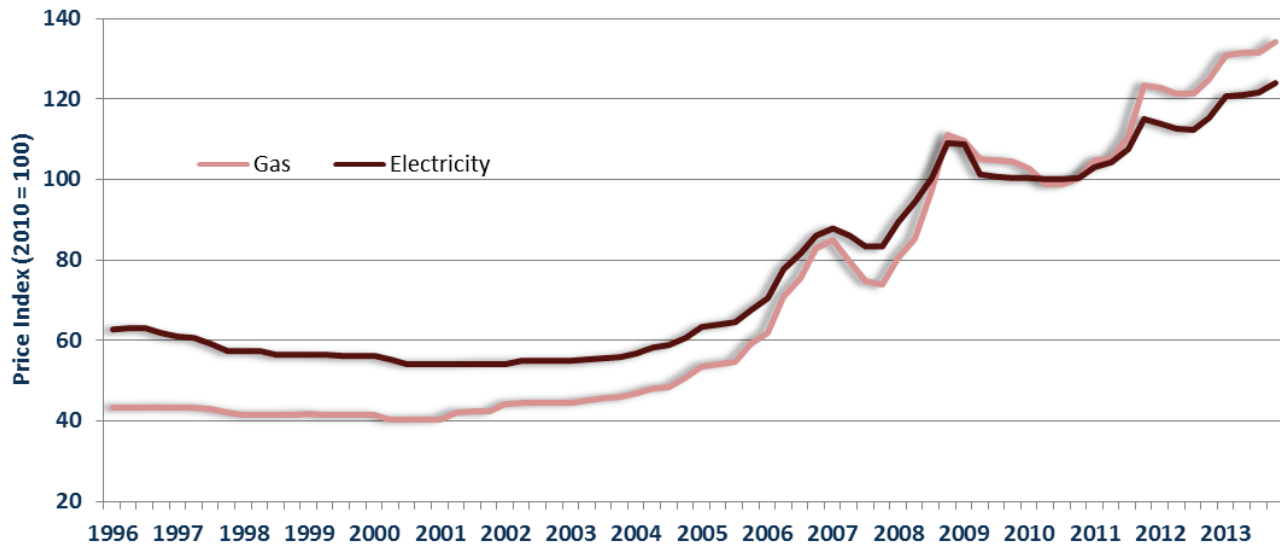


Source: Office for National Statistics, Consumer Prices and Inflation Division

Fuel costs

The chart below shows the significant overall increase in fuel costs over the past 6-7 years.

Retail Price Index: Gas and Electricity - Base Year = 2010

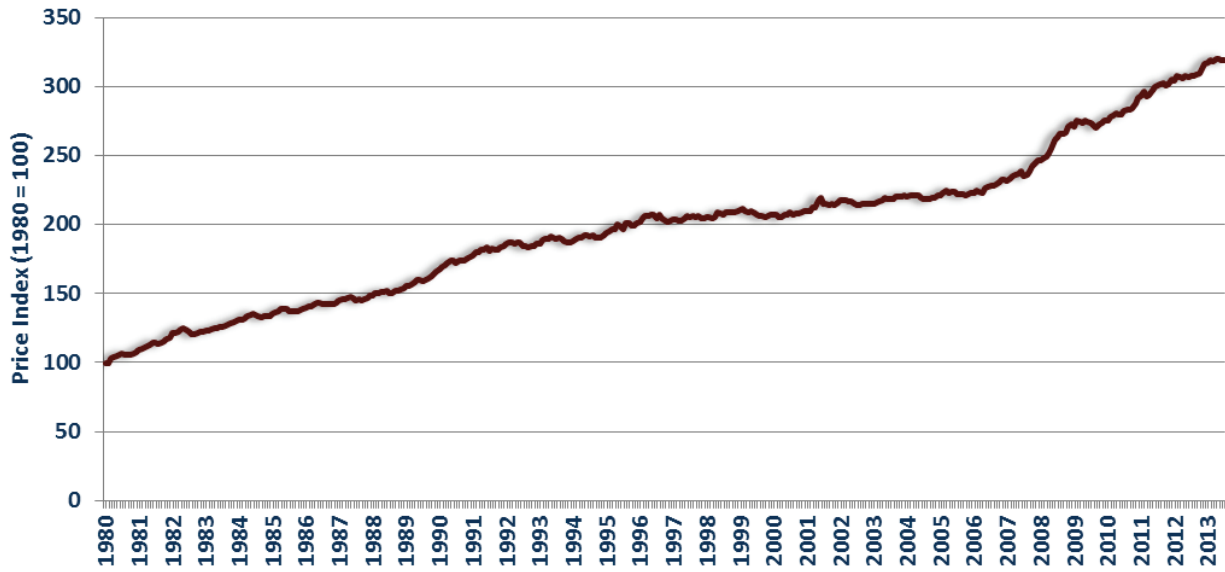


Source: Office for National Statistics, Consumer Prices and Inflation Division

Food costs

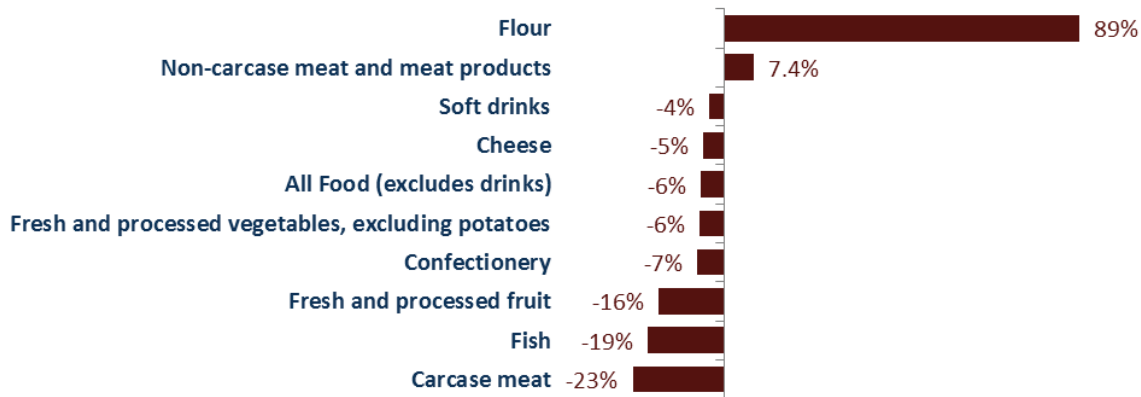
The two charts below show national information about food costs and spending patterns. The first chart shows the increase in cost of food over time, rising more steeply in recent years. The second chart shows the percentage change in spending on different food types by low income households between 2007 and 2012.

Consumer Price Index: Food - Base Year = 1980



Source: Office for National Statistics, Consumer Price Index

Percentage Change in Food Purchases 2007-2012, in Low Income Households (UK)



Source: Family Food in 2012, Defra, December 2013

How many people are affected by the most negative impacts of poverty

In this section we consider:

- some health conditions associated with poverty
- links between poverty and the criminal justice system

Health conditions associated with poverty

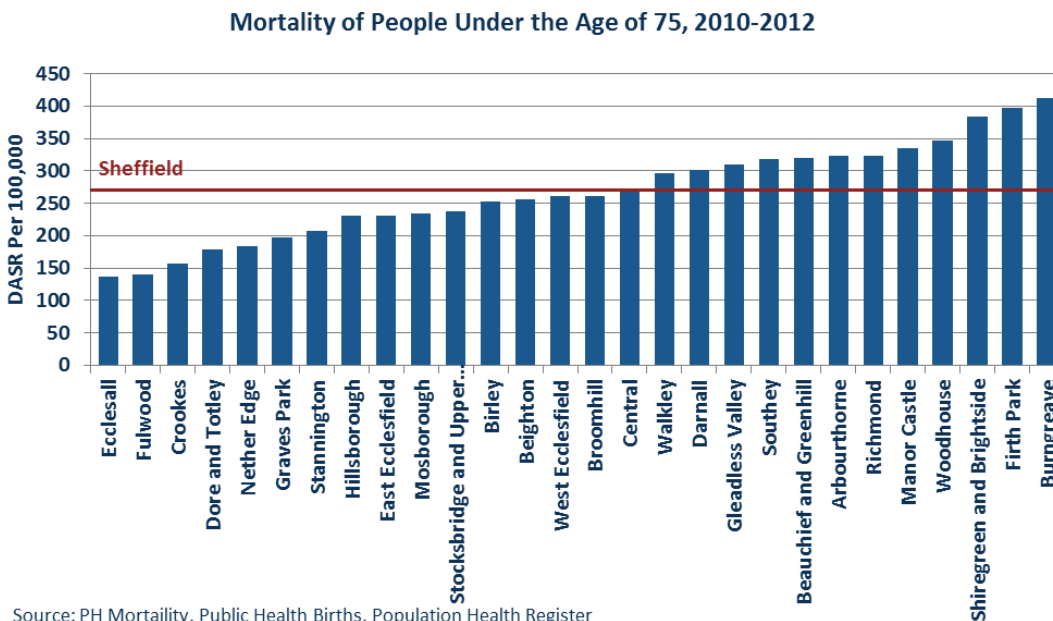
Health trainers are reporting an increase in clients seeking support for mental health problems – e.g. depression and anxiety, connected with financial worries. There are also reports that the anticipation of future changes to income is causing increased stress and anxiety for many people – i.e. for those people

whose income has not yet been affected, stress and anxiety levels are still increasing as they are living with the worry of how they will cope in the future if their income decreases.

Evidence given as part of Scrutiny report on welfare reform 2014

Despite huge improvements in health over the years, the burden of ill health, disability and early death remains greater among the most deprived in our society. Indeed the gap in health and wellbeing between the most and least deprived has, in some cases, widened.

For example, if we consider the pattern of deprivation and premature mortality (deaths in people under the age of 75 years) across Sheffield's wards it can be seen that those areas that experience most deprivation continue to experience a greater level of premature mortality than the less deprived.



Premature mortality includes infant mortality and this is also greater among more deprived communities. Specifically, the infant mortality rate is more than a third greater in the most deprived areas of Sheffield compared with the least deprived.

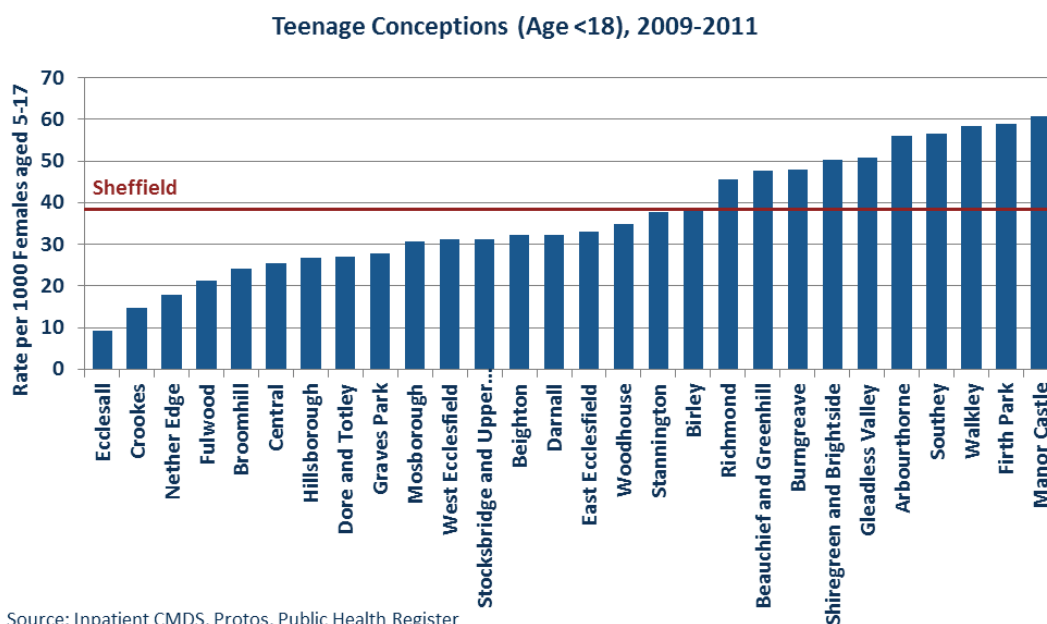
The graph shows that the rate of premature mortality from all causes of death is almost three times greater in Burngreave than it is in Ecclesall. We are sadly, all too familiar with this variation in health across the different communities in the City, but differences in *disability free life expectancy* are significantly greater.

Disability free life expectancy at age 16 is the number of years that a person of that age can expect to live without disability (which for this purpose is defined as living without illness or disability that limits their daily activity, as self-reported). In Sheffield, the disability free life expectancy for young men at age 16 is 45.8 years, indicating that on average they can expect to live free of disability until approximately age 62. Overall life expectancy at this age is, however, a further 62.4 years, indicating that they can expect to live until age 78. The difference of 16 years between life expectancy (78 years) and disability free life expectancy (62 years) indicates that the last 16 years of life are spent with disability. For young women at age 16 in Sheffield the figures are 45.4 years for disability free life expectancy, and 66 years for life expectancy overall. This means that they can expect to become disabled at approximately the same age as men, but because overall life expectancy is longer, they can expect to live the last 20 years of their lives disabled.

Whereas the gap in life expectancy between the most and least deprived men in Sheffield is 8.7 years and 7.4 years for women, the gap in disability free life expectancy between the most and least deprived is nearly twice as much. This means that not only do people from disadvantaged communities die earlier than those from better off backgrounds, but they live for a longer period with disability before dying.

Some health issues, such as the health benefits of breastfeeding or the damaging effects of smoking in pregnancy, remain as important today as they always did; more so in the context of a rising birth trend. Child and maternal health is a key indicator of the overall health of a population not least because a good start in life provides the foundation for a healthy adult life.

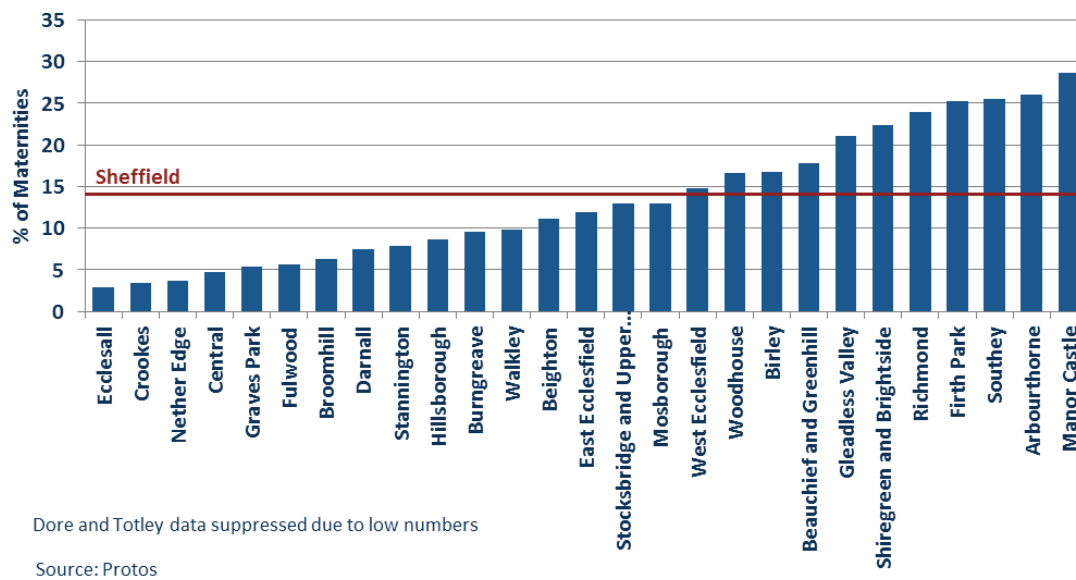
When we consider child and maternal health in the context of poverty however, it becomes clear that early experiences of deprivation, disadvantage and poor health can have significant and long-lasting adverse consequences for people’s longer term health and their life chances more broadly. As the following graphs show, the variation in maternal and child health across Sheffield’s wards reflects the variation in deprivation that we have previously charted.



Although teenage conceptions are falling in Sheffield (in all wards) the graph shows that there are still significant differences between Sheffield’s communities with the teenage conception rate being around 6 times greater in Manor Castle than it is in Ecclesall. Teenage pregnancy is strongly associated with low birth weight, poor neonatal outcomes and reduced life chances for the mother.

When we consider the difference in the proportion of mothers recorded as being smokers at the birth of their baby, we see that the gap is even greater with the proportion in Manor Castle being around 10 times greater than that in Ecclesall.

Mothers Recorded as Smokers at Delivery, 2013

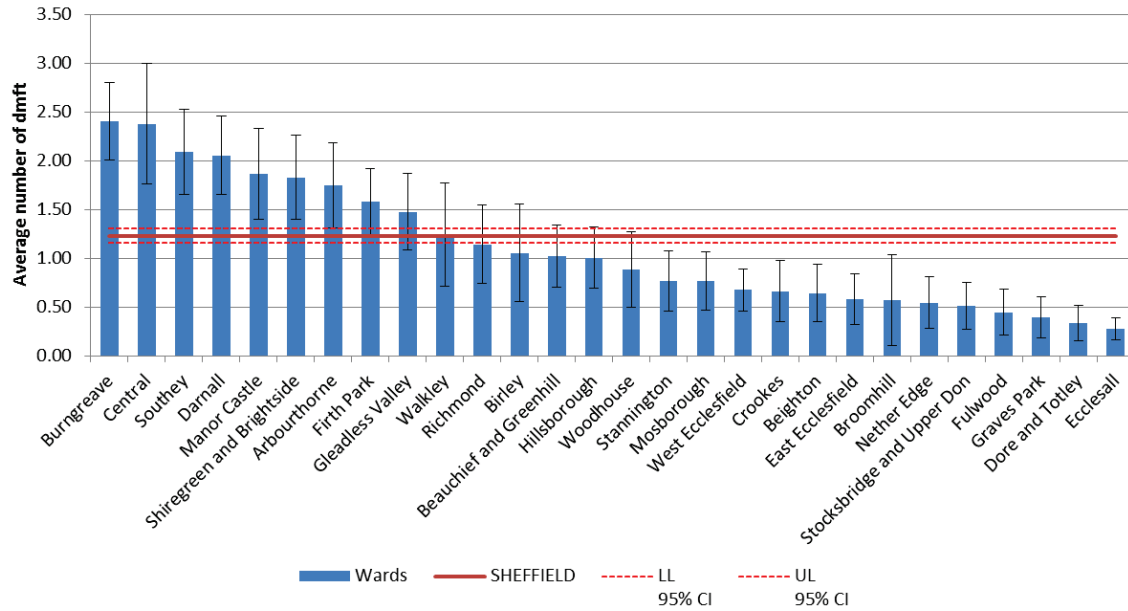


Pregnant women who smoke are more likely to have a premature baby, or a baby with a low or very low birth weight. Such babies are at higher risk of asthma and bronchitis and other diseases. Passive smoking is also harmful to the foetus and the newborn. Smoking in pregnancy is strongly related to socio-economic status and is a major driver of health inequality in the City. At any one time, there are approximately 600 pregnant women in Sheffield who smoke.

Parental mental health and emotional wellbeing are also significant factors for children’s outcomes and there appears to be a two-way relationship between poverty and stress. Increased stress can be caused by poverty and this in turn can have an impact on parenting capacity. The Joseph Rowntree Foundation commissioned systematic review in October 2013 entitled ‘Does money affect children’s outcomes?’ (Cooper & Stewart, 2013) demonstrates how lack of money can act through stress and impaired parenting capacity to result in worse cognitive, social-behavioural and health outcomes for children and the Sutton Trust’s Baby Bonds report (Moullin, Waldfoegel, & Washbrook, 2014) finds that ‘insecurely attached children are less resilient to poverty, family instability, and parental stress and depression.’

We have also included figures for decayed, missing or filled teeth in children aged 5.

Average dmft (decayed, missing, or filled teeth) in Children aged 5, 2012, by Sheffield Wards

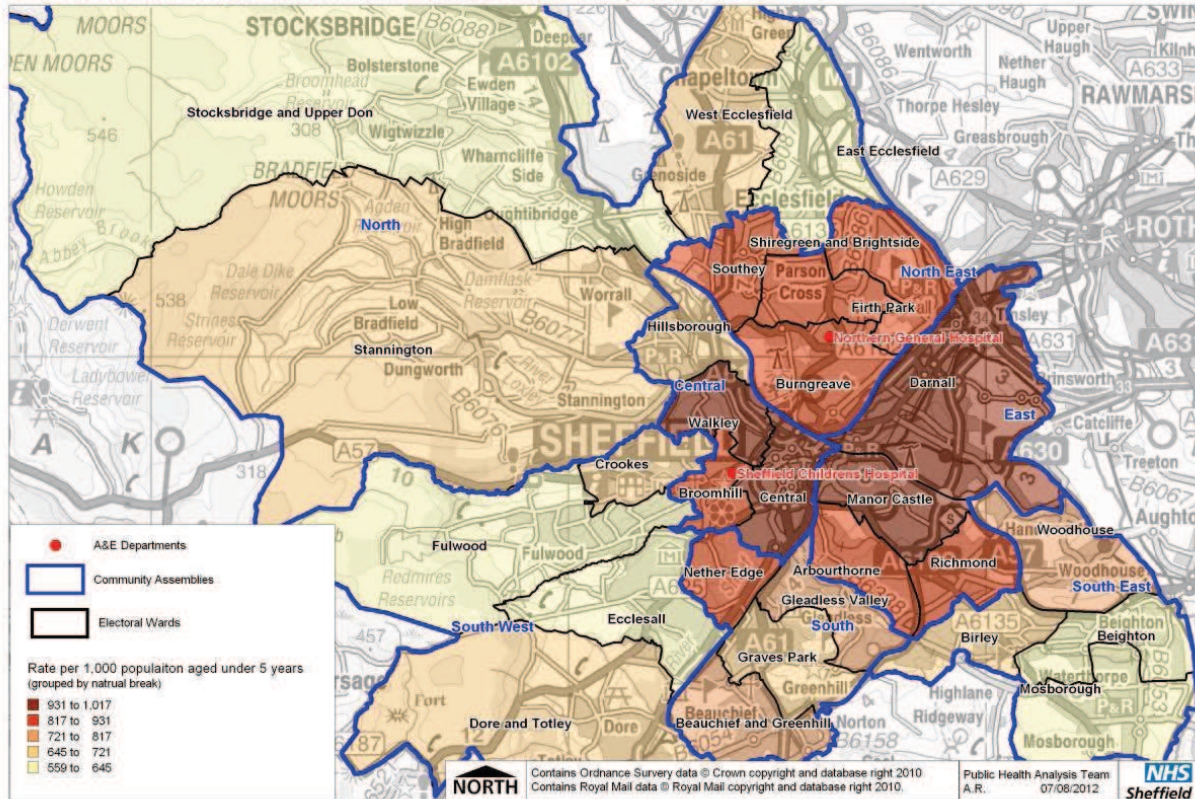


Public Health Intelligence Team, SCC, 9/6/14

Data Source: Public Health England

Accident and Emergency (A&E) usage by under 5 year olds across Sheffield also varies by ward. The highest rates of A&E attendances by 5 year olds are in Darnall and Manor/Castle as well as in wards close to the Children’s Hospital (i.e. Wadsley and Central).

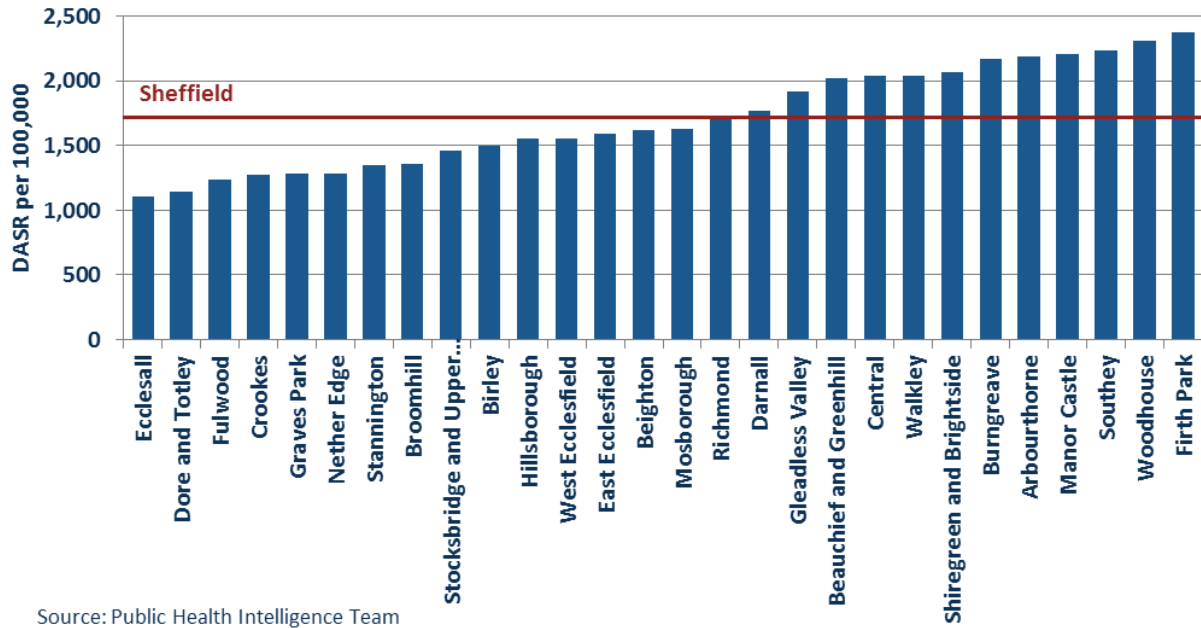
A&E Attendance Rates for Under 5 Years olds. Electoral Wards, 2011/12



By and large, whichever measure of health we choose to use, be it mortality (e.g. premature deaths), morbidity (e.g. level of ill health) or behaviours that can damage health (e.g. smoking or alcohol abuse), we will see the same pattern whereby areas that experience greater levels of deprivation also experience worse health. Moreover, this cycle of disadvantage, poor health and further disadvantage is reinforced from one generation to the next.

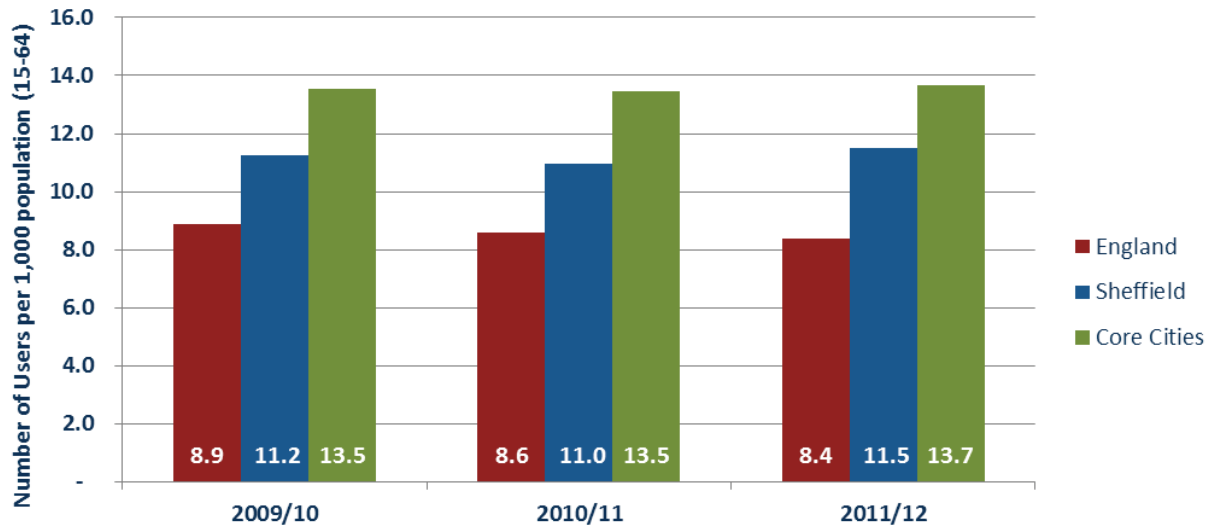
Alcohol and substance misuse

Admissions for Alcohol-Attributable Conditions (All Ages), 2010/11-2012/13



Source: Public Health Intelligence Team

Estimated Number of Opiate and/or Crack Users per 1,000 Populated (aged 15-64), 2011/12

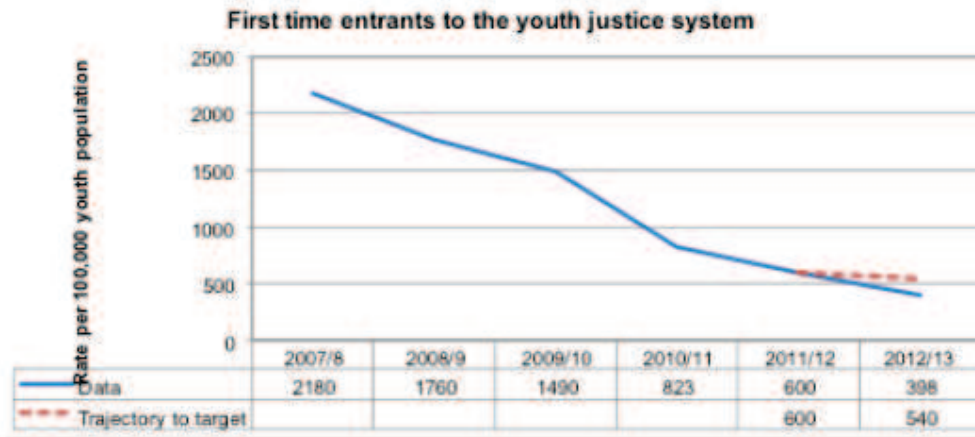


Source: Liverpool John Moores University

Poverty and the criminal justice system

Young offenders

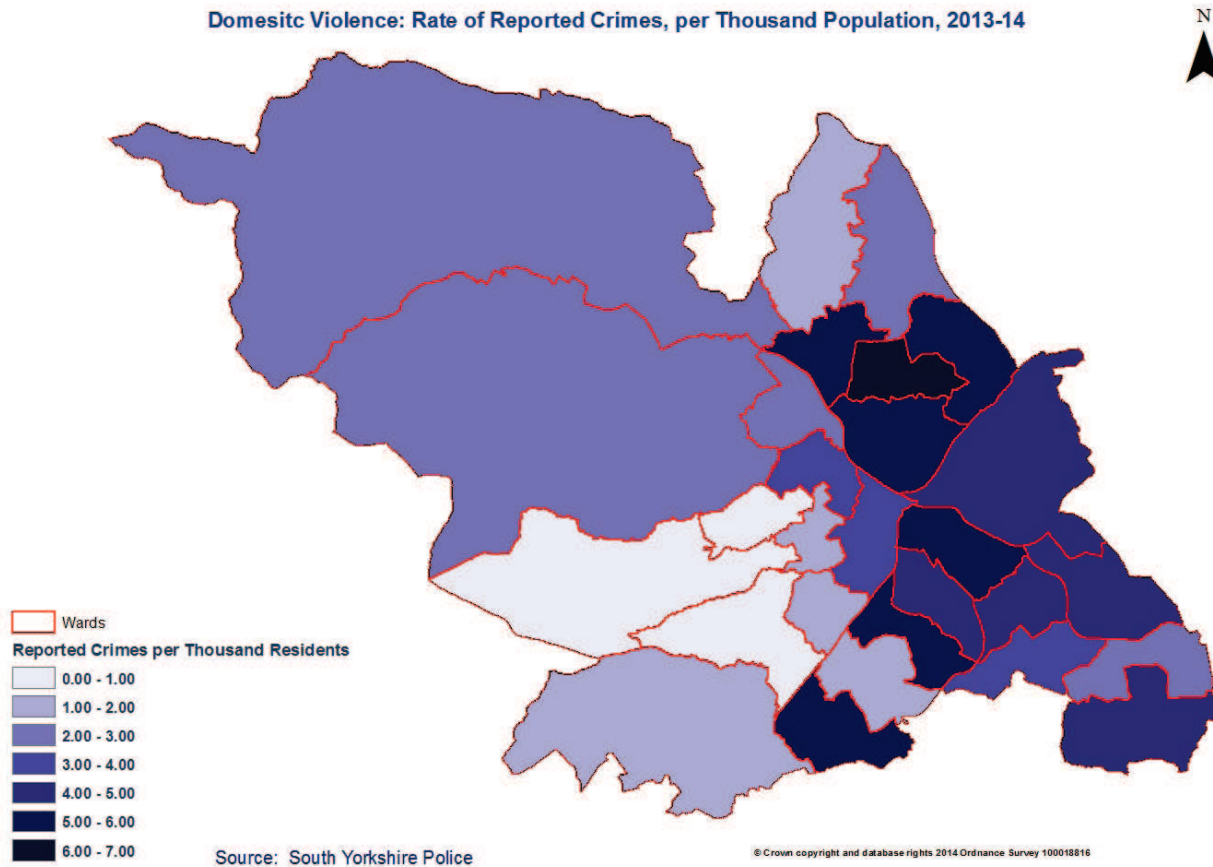
Youth offending can create a risk of future poverty due to the negative impacts that a criminal record can have on job prospects. Poverty may also be a reason behind some offending. In Sheffield, we have seen the rate drop significantly over time and we had a lower rate than any of the core cities in 11-12.



The above graph indicates what the number of FTEs to the youth justice system would be if there were 100,000 young people aged 10-17 in Sheffield.

Domestic Violence

Economic dependency has been linked to domestic violence, which is in itself linked to an increased likelihood of poverty for example (Walby, 2004). The map below shows the rate of reported domestic abuse by ward in Sheffield.



Which people are more likely to experience poverty than others

In this section, we consider which groups nationally and in Sheffield are at greater risk of poverty including data on:

- Family size and type
- Ethnicity
- Disability
- Those with caring responsibilities
- People in work and in poverty
- People who are out of work

Breakdown by age and size and type of family

The tables below show that Sheffield mirrors the national picture whereby younger children, larger families and lone parents are more at risk of poverty. This makes sense: families with younger children often cut back on work or are less likely to take on higher paid work when children are young. This is compounded by increased costs such as paying for childcare. Larger families have increased costs and lone parents are often unable to work as many hours as couple families (also see section on Underemployment and 'zero-hours contracts' below regarding earning potential for women and part-time workers).

Breakdown by age	0-4	5-10	11-15	16-19
Percentage of children in poverty in Sheffield in age range	31.63%	32.01%	23.70%	12.67%
Percentage of families for whom child benefit is claimed in Sheffield in age range (same time period)	28.45%	30.95%	26.20%	14.41%

Source: HMRC 2013 using data from 2011.

Breakdown by family size	1 child	2 children	3 children	4+ children
Percentage of children in poverty in Sheffield in a family with this number of children	23.23%	30.27%	23.00%	23.51%

Source: HMRC 2013 using data from 2011.

We cannot do a direct comparison with all children in Sheffield for this measure. The child benefit data shows us the proportions of families with different numbers of children, but child poverty figures are based on the proportions of children living in families of different sizes. These are shown below.

Breakdown by family size	1 child	2 children	3 children	4+ children
Percentage of <i>families</i> for whom child benefit is claimed in Sheffield with this number of children (same time period)	47.54%	36.64%	11.04%	4.79%

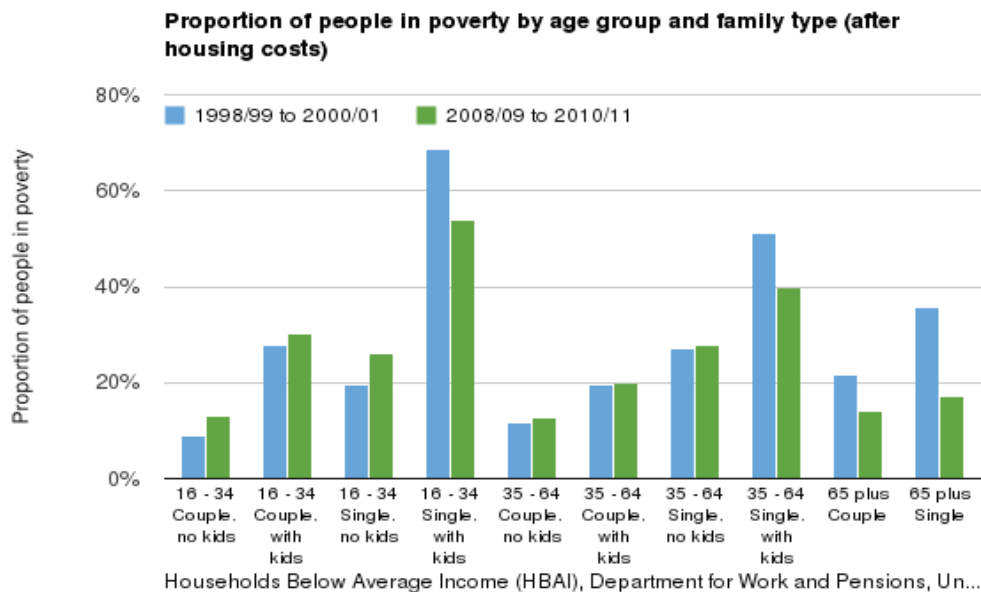
National breakdowns for family size are shown below, which shows that, as expected, that the proportions of children living in larger families is higher than the proportions of families.

Number of Dependent Children	Proportion of Families	Proportion of Children
One child	47%	30%
Two children	39%	45%
Three or more children	14%	25%

Source: HBAI 2011/12 and LFS 2013

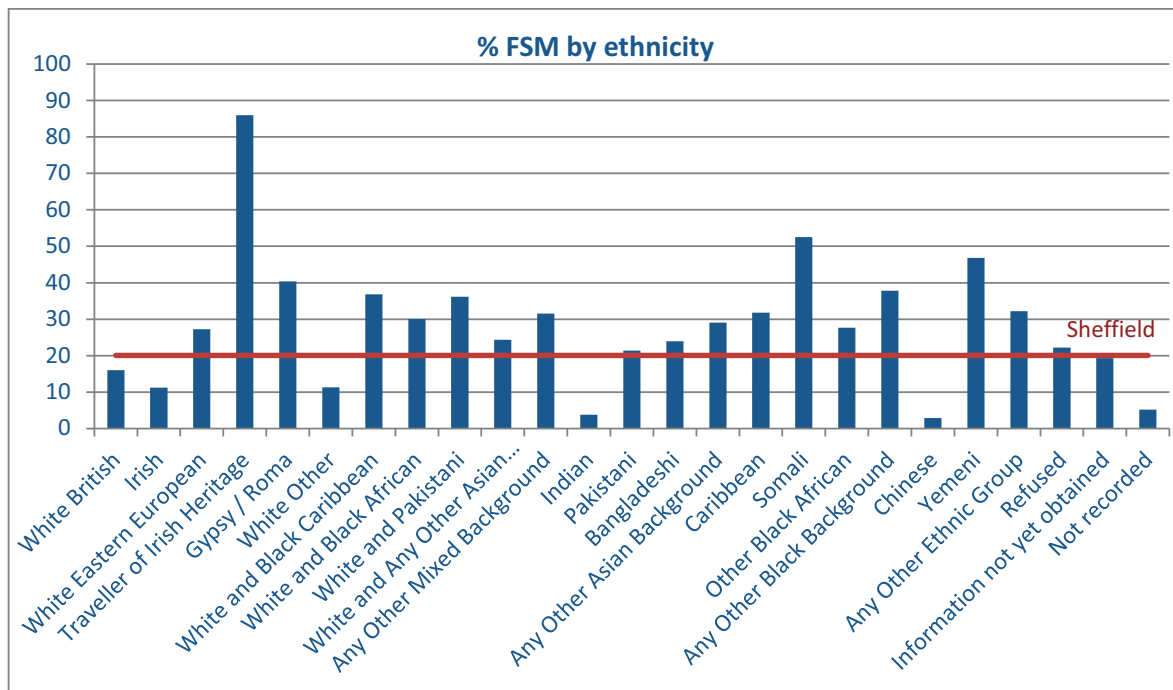
We also know that 63% of children in Sheffield meeting the local low-income measure were in lone parent families (HMRC 2013 using data from 2011).

For households without children, although we do not have local data on poverty breakdowns by family type and age, we have included information from Joseph Rowntree Foundation's data site about national changes over time for adults below:



Ethnicity

We cannot get a breakdown of ethnicity within people in Sheffield who are in poverty. We have used free school meals data to explore this issue further. This chart shows the proportion of children with of each ethnic group who were eligible for free school meals in January 2014. The actual number of children identified as Traveller of Irish Heritage is small and so the percentage should be treated with caution.



Source: January Schools Census 2014

We have also included a chart below, which shows how these figures have changed over time

Percentage of pupils claiming free school meals (FSM) in Sheffield schools by ethnicity (2009/10 to current) - for children in Reception to year 11

Ethnicity	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	Trend	2013 to 2014 trend
Any Other Asian Background	29.4	29.3	31.1	33.6	30.8		-2.8
Any Other Black Background	32	35.6	38.5	42.5	37.6		-4.9
Any Other Ethnic Background	31.3	29.1	32	38.2	35.1		-3.1
Any Other Mixed Background	28.6	30.3	29.6	32.6	33		0.4
Any Other White Background	11.5	10.7	12.1	13.4	12.3		-1.1
Bangladeshi	31.8	32.1	29.1	30.9	25.9		-5
Caribbean	27.8	29.4	30.5	35.7	34		-1.7
Chinese	9.8	6.6	4.5	4.7	3.9		-0.8
Indian	2.6	3.2	3	3.2	3.6		0.4
Information Not Yet Obtained	18.1	24.2	29.9	32.2	19.3		-12.9
Other Black African	24.2	24.5	25.8	32.2	32		-0.2
Pakistani	25	24.6	23.5	25.1	22.2		-2.9
Refused	22.4	21.8	21.2	28.6	22.2		-6.4
Somali	77.1	75.9	73.7	67.3	55.2		-12.1
White and Any Other Asian	24	24.3	25	26.4	25.4		-1
White and Asian Pakistani	32.4	34.9	35.8	39.9	38		-1.9
White and Black African	29.8	35.5	33	35.8	29.2		-6.6
White and Black Caribbean	33.9	37.3	37.8	40.7	39.3		-1.4
White British	14.7	15.7	16.5	18.3	16.8		-1.5
White East European	9.7	8.4	27.4	38.3	26.8		-11.5
White Gypsy/Roma	15	10.3	52.5	64.6	35.4		-29.2
White Irish	7.4	13.9	12.9	12.6	10.9		-1.7
White Traveller of Irish Heritage	84.6	93.9	81.4	84	87.2		3.2
Yemeni	61	59.8	55.4	59.9	50.2		-9.7
All pupils	18.7	19.7	20.7	23.2	20.9		-2.3

* 2009/10 - 2012/13 data from School census. 2013/14 data based on current claim rate (08/04/2014)

Over the last few years, the percentage of pupils claiming FSM rose steadily (from 18.7% in 2009/10 to 23.2% in 2012/13). However, this appears to have been reversed sharply in the current academic year with the Sheffield rate now standing at just 20.9%.

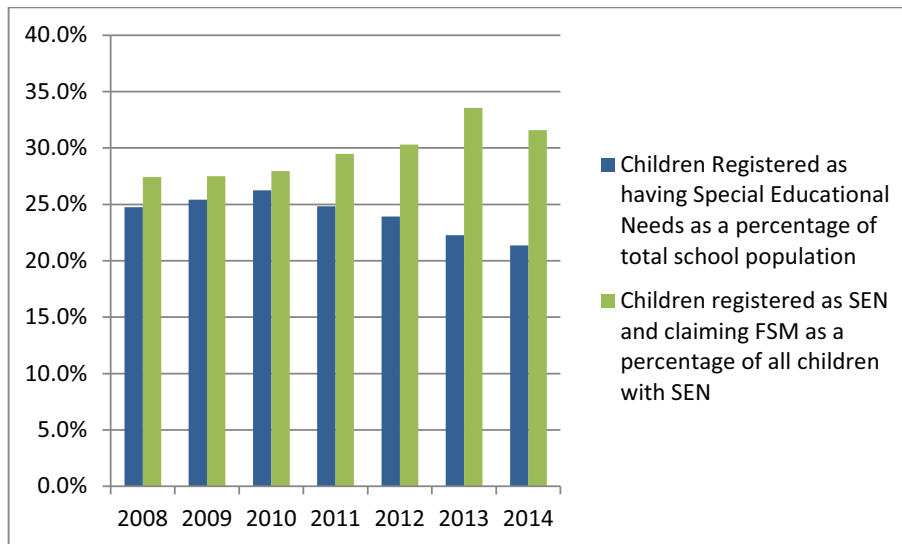
In the school spring census of 2012/13, 15696 children were claiming FSM. This figure now stands at 14387 meaning that 1309 fewer children are entitled to FSM than in the previous year.

This appears to have impacted on certain ethnic groups more than others with White Gypsy/Roma, White Eastern European, Somali and Yemeni pupils have larger reductions in terms of the proportions eligible.

Disability

Families in which an adult or child has a disability (including learning difficulties) are more likely to be in poverty nationally. Disability rights groups are campaigning for equalisation to recognise the increased financial requirements that come with increased needs in a similar manner to family size. This has not been done and we have not found a way of doing this locally, but we want to acknowledge this. So when considering data about families with disabilities experiencing poverty we should keep this in mind.

We have used free school meals data to explore this issue in Sheffield. The chart below shows the proportion of the school population children registered as having SEN (blue bars, going down over time), compared with the proportion of all children who are registered with SEN who are also eligible for free school meals (green bars, going up over time).

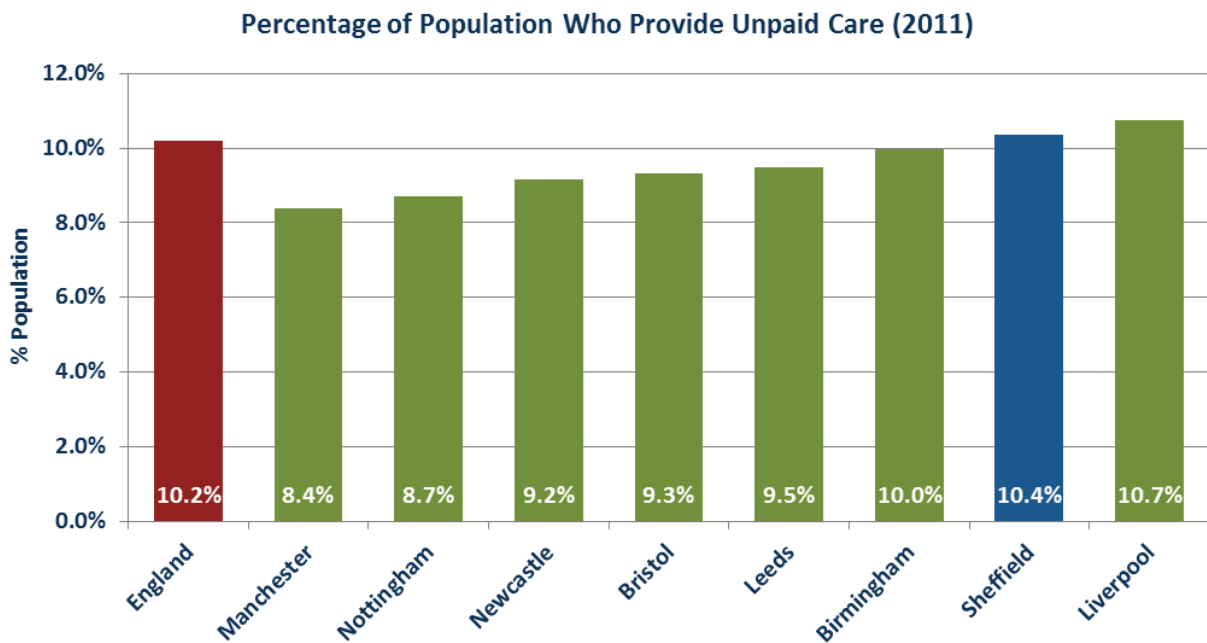
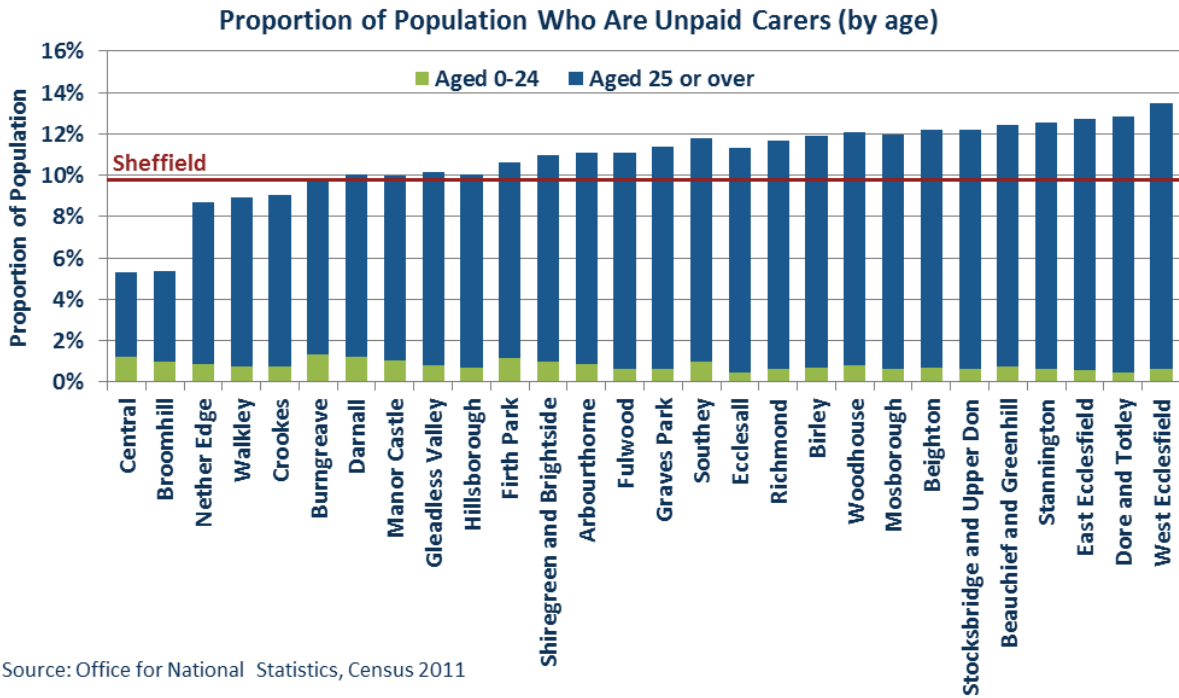


School Census Data - Performance and Analysis Service (2014)

Nationally, the poverty rate for adults with a disability (30.01% to 24.41%) has fallen over the decade to 2012 by more than the poverty rate for adults without a disability (from 20.87% to 20.47%) (analysis by JRF using Households Below Average Income (HBAI), Great Britain for 2001/02 and the United Kingdom thereafter, Department for Work and Pensions 2013).

Those with caring responsibilities

People undertaking unpaid caring roles have a decreased ability to earn income and potentially higher outgoings. We have not been able to compare data on caring with poverty data. Sheffield had a higher proportion of its population undertaking unpaid care than England or most of the core cities.



People in work and in poverty and people who are out of work

People who are out of work or in low pay / low hours work are more likely to experience poverty than those who are in work. More of the children in poverty in the UK are in a family where someone works – there are also more people in the UK are in work than out of it. More local data is given on both of these elements in the next section.

Which communities are more likely to experience poverty than others

Things have changed substantially in Sheffield since we wrote our last action plan and strategy. There have been significant budget cuts already for many public sector organisations and there are more to come. This has made it more difficult for those organisations (and organisations dependant on public sector funding, such as the voluntary and community sector) to provide support to the most vulnerable people in the city. In this context, we think it is important that we highlight reducing capacity and infrastructure as an area of need.

The Sheffield Cubed team leading on the Best Start Sheffield lottery bid engaged with communities in three wards in Sheffield to map and understand the assets and gaps in those areas. The common themes emerging from this consultation included concerns around the environment (places and spaces) and groups for people to attend (for example toddler groups and parent support groups).

Research last year by Sheffield Hallam University (Platts-Fowler & Robinson, 2013) considered the concept of community and neighbourhood resilience:

‘Neighbourhood resilience was defined as the existence, development and engagement of local resources by community members to thrive in an environment characterised by change, uncertainty, unpredictability, and surprise. Different places have different bundles of resources that inform how resilient they are in the face of different stresses and pressures. Different bundles of resources are likely to promote resilience to different stresses. A community might therefore be more resilient to certain forms of change and less resilient to others.’

This report identified some areas in the city that were ‘outliers’ which were ‘doing better than might be expected given the level of stress being endured.’ It will be important to consider the features of these areas as identified in the report and follow-up work in terms of developing responses to the needs identified.

We need to consider this area further and would be grateful for any additional information that can be shared.

What helps people to escape poverty and reduce its negative effects

In this section, we look at some of the things that we know can help people to escape poverty:

- Employment
- Childcare
- Education, learning and skills
- Take-up of benefits

There are other protective factors that can help people to escape poverty, and we will consider these in more detail in our evidence review and action plan. In this document we are focusing on the deficit of these things – the level of need. We have used data about gaps at both an individual level and at a city level - for example as well as looking at how many people are out of work, we also consider how many jobs are available.

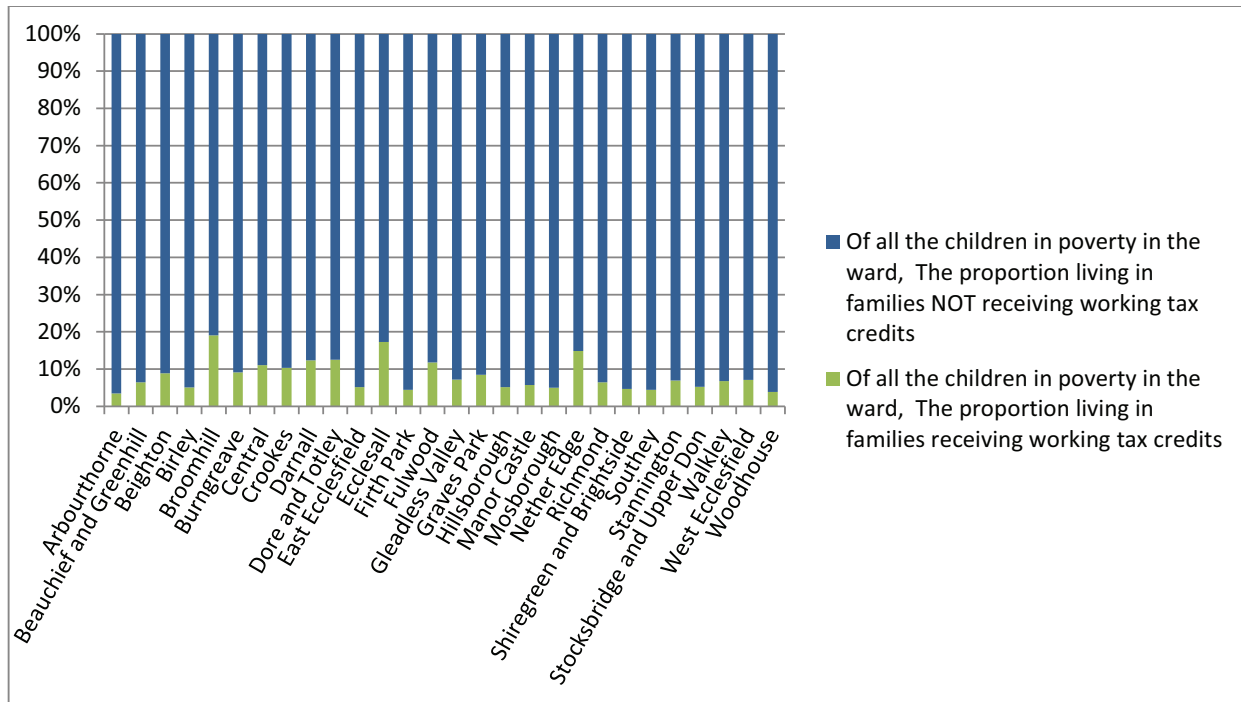
Employment

Adult employment and unemployment have a direct effect on household income for working-age adults and any children living with them. People who are out of work are more likely to be in poverty than those who are working. However, employment, although a very significant factor, is not sufficient to help people to escape poverty. Too often, work is low paid, low skilled, fragile, casual and/or part-time.

In-work poverty

We don't have good statistics about how many people in Sheffield are working and still in poverty. However, nationally, we know that almost two-thirds of children in (both relative and absolute low income) poverty were living in a household where someone works at least some of the time in 2011-12. For combined low income and material deprivation, almost half of the children were living in families where at least one adult was in work (DWP, 2013). Recent analysis commissioned by the Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission (Reed & Portes, June 2014) demonstrates that increasing employment alone will not achieve the targets set out in the Child Poverty Act. There is more detailed information about children in poverty because of the statutory duty to tackle it. As far as we are aware similar analysis has not been conducted for people of other age groups / family types.

The data that we do have locally allows us to see how many children in poverty are living in families claiming working tax credits. This leaves out families who are not eligible, for example due to the number of hours they are working.

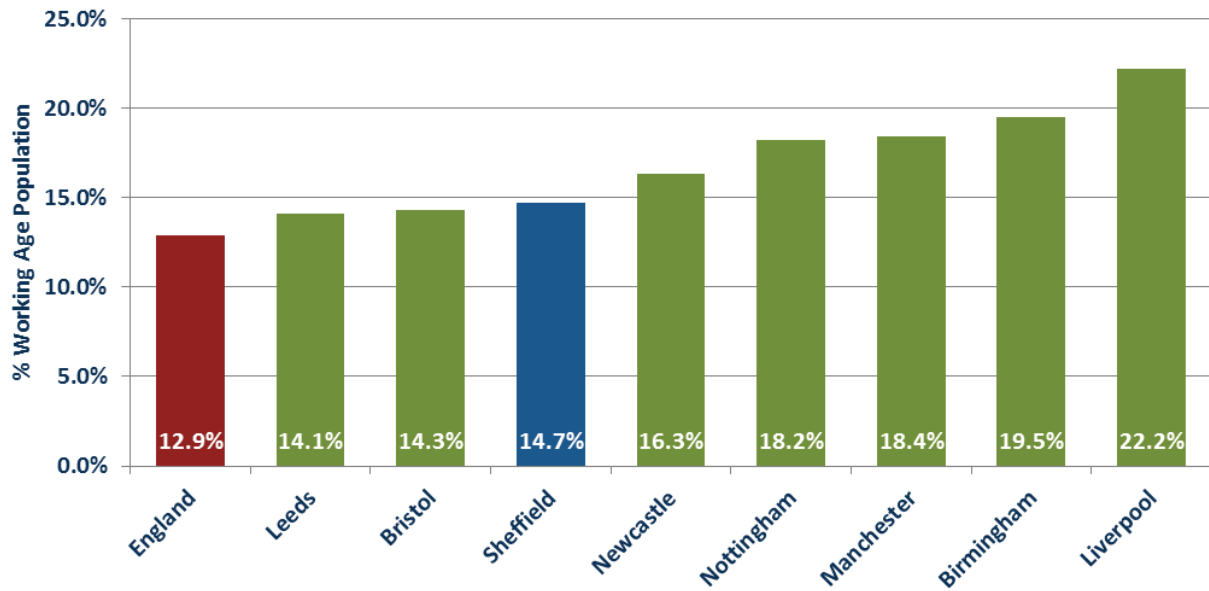


Source: HMRC 2013 using data from 2011.

Out of work benefits

The graph below show us that a higher proportion of people in Sheffield were on out of work benefits in 2013 than for England as a whole but it was lower than most of the core cities.

Proportion of Working Age Population in Receipt of Key Out of Work Benefits



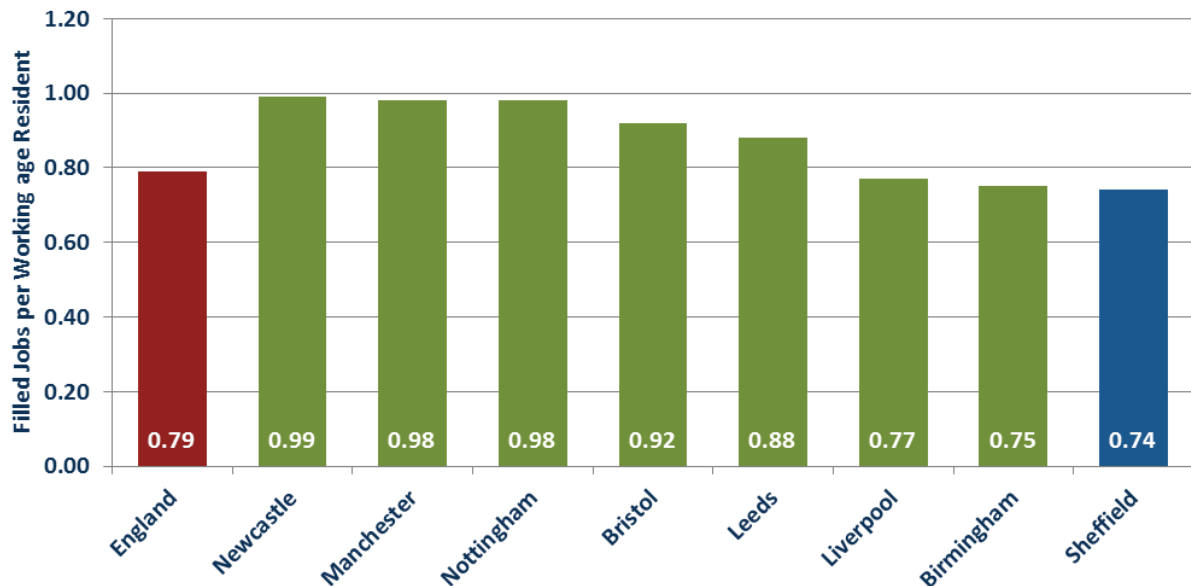
Source: Office for National Statistics, Nomis, Nov 2013

Job availability

The next two graphs use older data (from 2012) and it is important to note that employment statistics fluctuate a lot more than some other statistics we've used.

The first graph (job density) shows how many jobs are filled for every working age resident. Sheffield has a lower job density than England or any of the core cities.

Job Density in the Core Cities in 2012



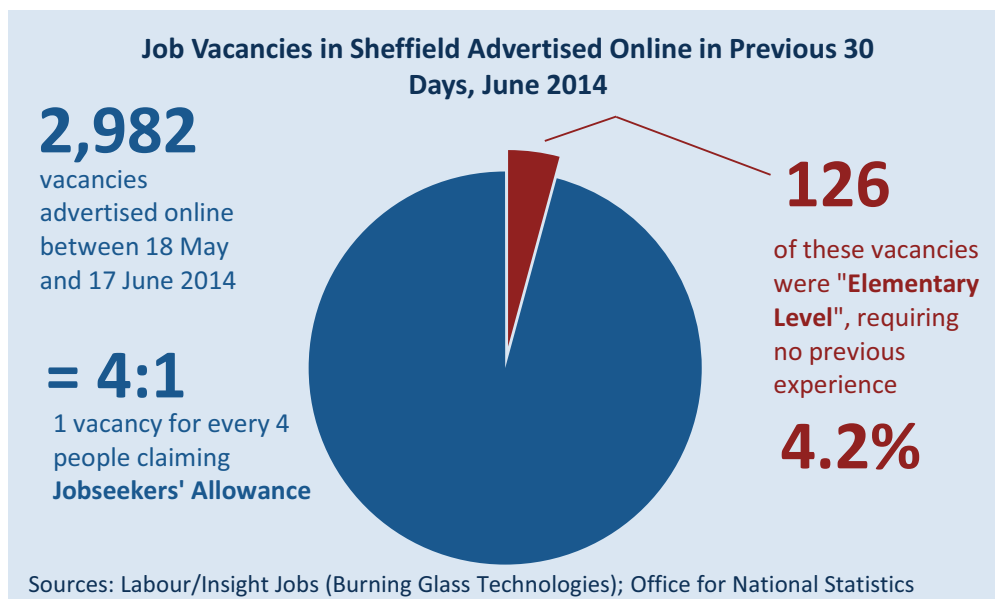
Source: Office for National Statistics

This second graph shows how many vacancies there are for every working-age resident. We can see that Sheffield had fewer vacancies per resident than other core cities or the England average. This is clearly an important area for consideration.



Source: Office for National Statistics

We have included more up to date figures below.



Underemployment and 'zero-hours contracts'

We don't have information about how many people in Sheffield are 'underemployed', but the latest Poverty & Social Exclusion Monitoring bulletin from Joseph Rowntree Foundation shows that although underemployment fell slightly in 2013, 'it remains above 2008 levels. The number in part-time work wanting full-time work continues to increase.'

We also don't have local data about how many people are on 'zero-hours contracts'. However, recent national research (Office for National Statistics, April 2014) looks for the first time at employers' perceptions of numbers of contracts without guaranteed hours of work as well as at employees' perspectives.

Estimates based on employer feedback suggest that there were around 1.4 million employee contracts that do not guarantee a minimum number of hours (January to February 2014).

Estimates based on employee feedback suggests that there were 583,000 individuals employed on 'zero-hours contracts' in their primary employment for the period October to December 2013.

The employee section of this research also gives us some information about which types of people are more likely to be employed in this way:

- **women** make up a bigger proportion of those reporting working on zero-hours contracts (55%) compared with those employed who are not on zero-hours contracts (46%)
- 18% of people on zero-hours contracts are in **full-time education** compared to 3% of those employed who are not on zero-hours contracts
- 64% of people on zero-hours contracts reported that they worked **part time**, compared with a quarter (27%) of those employed who are not on zero-hours contracts
- people who report being on a zero-hours contract are more likely to be younger or older. 36% of people on zero-hours contracts are **aged 16 to 24** and 7% are **aged 65 and over** (compared with 12% and 4% respectively for those employed who are not on zero-hours contracts).

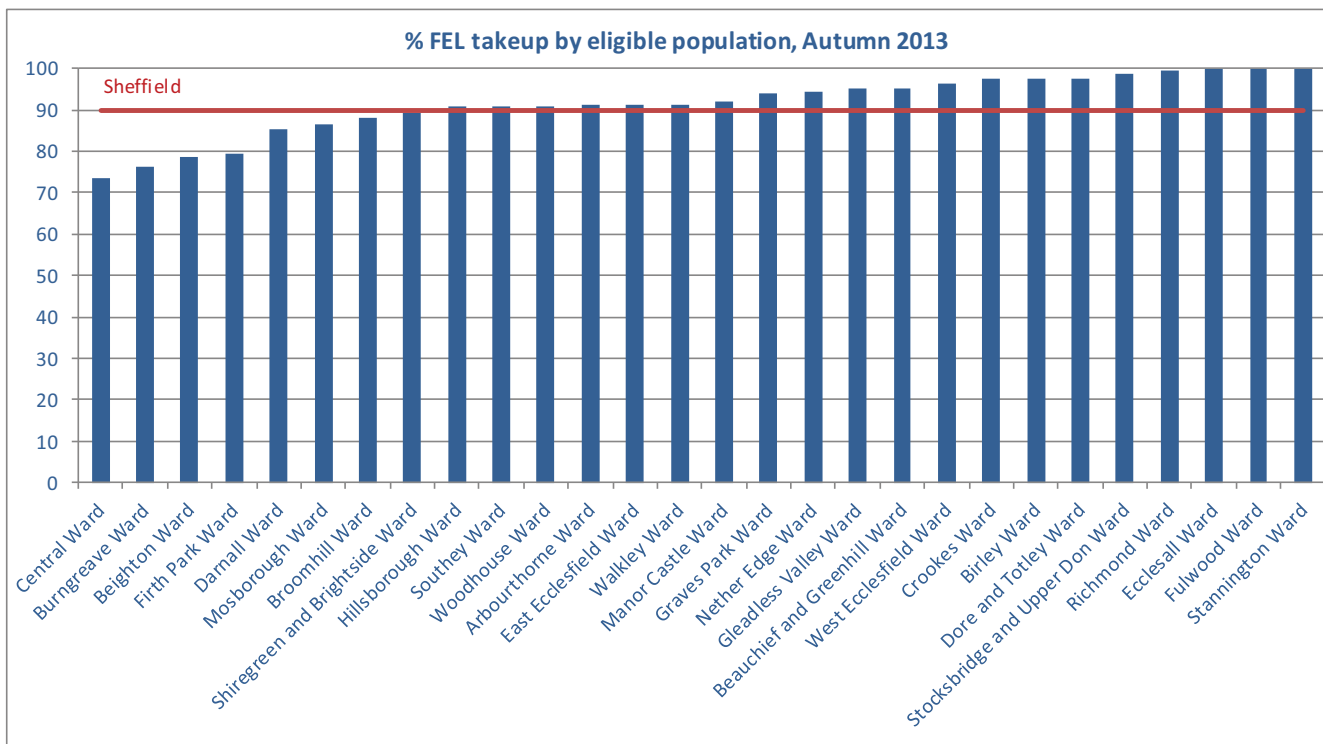
These patterns may partly reflect the groups most likely to find the flexibility an advantage. For example, young people who combine flexible working with their studies or people working beyond state pension age. However, about a third (35%) of people on zero-hours contracts want more hours compared to 12% of those not on zero-hours contracts.

Childcare

Affordable, flexible childcare can support reductions in poverty for families with children by enabling parents and carers to work and improve their skills. High-quality childcare can also play a role in breaking the intergenerational cycle of poverty through a link to improved educational outcomes.

Take-up

The chart below shows the proportion of eligible children in each ward who are taking up some of their free entitlement at 3 and 4 years old.



Early Years Census, SCC 2014

Quality

Sheffield’s Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2013 states that, at the time of writing, almost three quarters (71%) of childcare provision in Sheffield was rated by Ofsted as Good (65%) or Outstanding (6%). Providers rated Satisfactory made up 24% of the market. Less than 1% of all providers were rated as Inadequate.

Affordability

The Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2013 also considers cost. Almost 1200 parents responded to the childcare section of the Sheffield Parent’s Survey in 2012. Of the 45% of parents that did not use childcare, 20% of them said this was due to the cost of childcare.

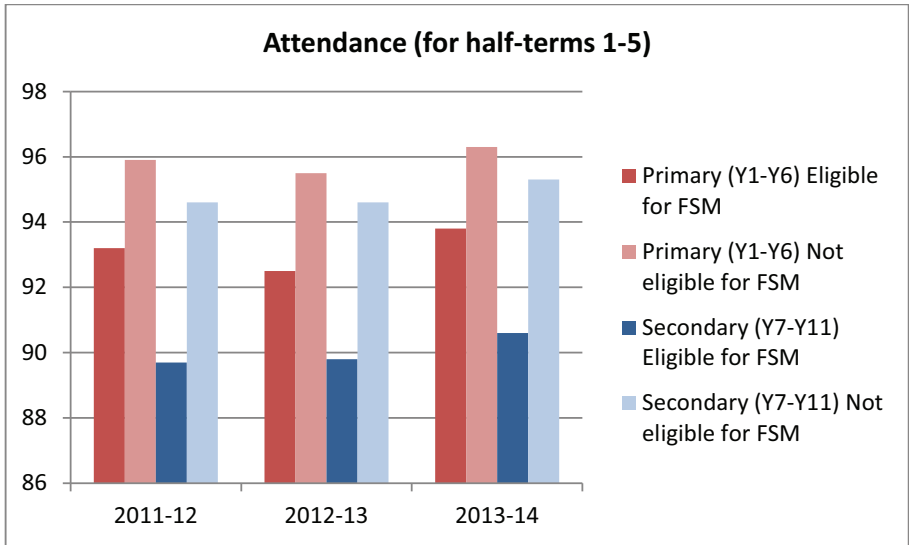
The way that the government provides financial support for childcare is changing and more families will be eligible for financial assistance for children aged two from September this year.

Education, learning and skills

Education, learning and skills help people to escape poverty through improved access to jobs and better wages. Adult learning and skills benefit both the adults themselves and any children they care for. Children’s education and both cognitive and non-cognitive skills improve their future job prospects.

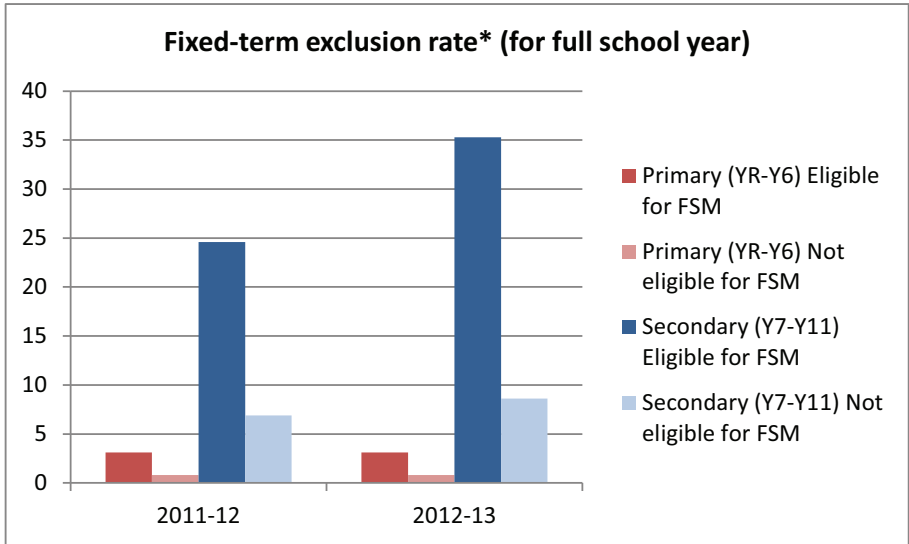
School attendance and exclusions

In the chart below we have compared attendance rates for children eligible for free school meals (FSM) with those who are not eligible over time. We have shown rates for primary (from Y1 when compulsory education starts) and secondary. In both primary (red bars) and secondary (blue bars), the rate of attendance is worse for children eligible for free school meals (darker shaded bars in each case). Attendance for all children at secondary is lower than primary and the gap at secondary is wider as well. However, attendance for both groups has improved at secondary over time and the gap has narrowed slightly with the improvement in attendance.



SCC 2014

We have also looked at fixed-term exclusions for children eligible for free school meals (FSM) with those who are not eligible over time. The fixed-term exclusion rate is the number of incidents of fixed-term exclusions expressed as a percentage of the school population. This is shown below using the same colour scheme as the previous chart. The fixed-term exclusion rate is between 3.5 and 4 times higher for children eligible for free school meals than for those who are not and it was worse in 2012-13 than in 2011-12.

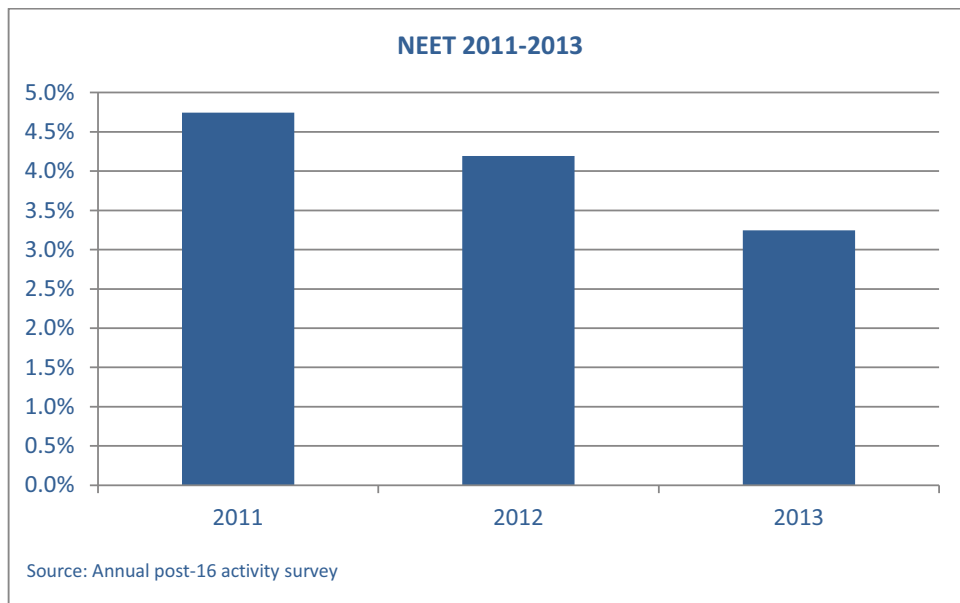


SCC 2014

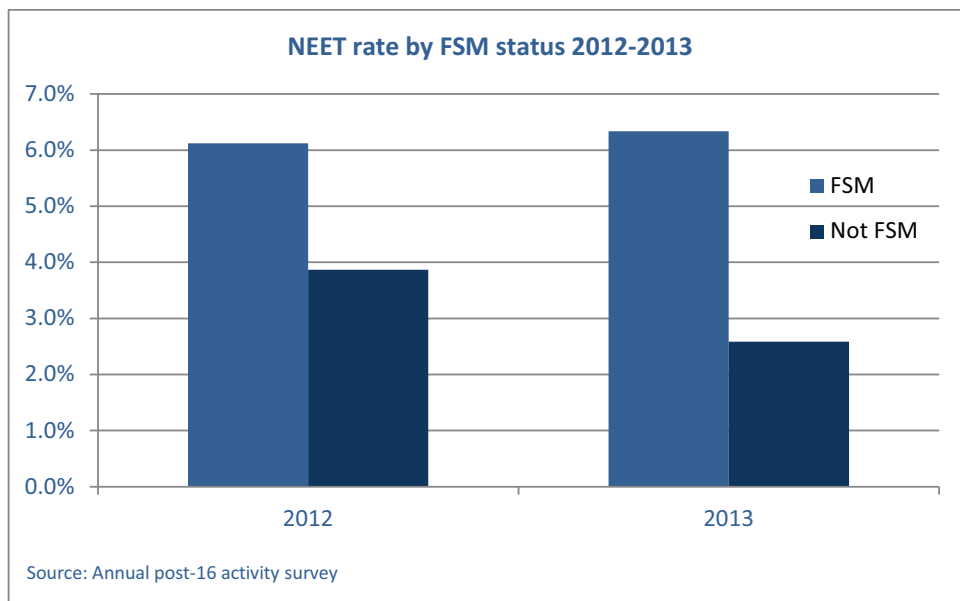
Young people or not in employment, education or training

In Sheffield, we have managed to reduce the proportion of our young people aged 16-18 who are not in employment, education or training to 6.6% in 2013-14. It is a lower rate than for core cities (7.33%), but still higher than the England average (5.3%). However, the gap between our percentage and that for England has narrowed from just over 2 percentage points in 2011-12 to 1.3 percentage points in 2013-14.

In addition to the measure which considers 16-18 year-olds, we also have an annual survey of learning destinations, which tells us where Y11 school leavers are progressing to (so a different group of young people). Although the rate is different (as might be expected from a different cohort), the trend is also going down.



We are able to break this second measure down to look at which children have been eligible for free school meals. The percentages shown are of the whole cohort, i.e. of all children who are eligible for free school meals (FSM), the proportion that were NEET when leaving school at Y11. This shows that although the overall NEET rate is reducing, the rate for children eligible for free school meals has increased slightly.

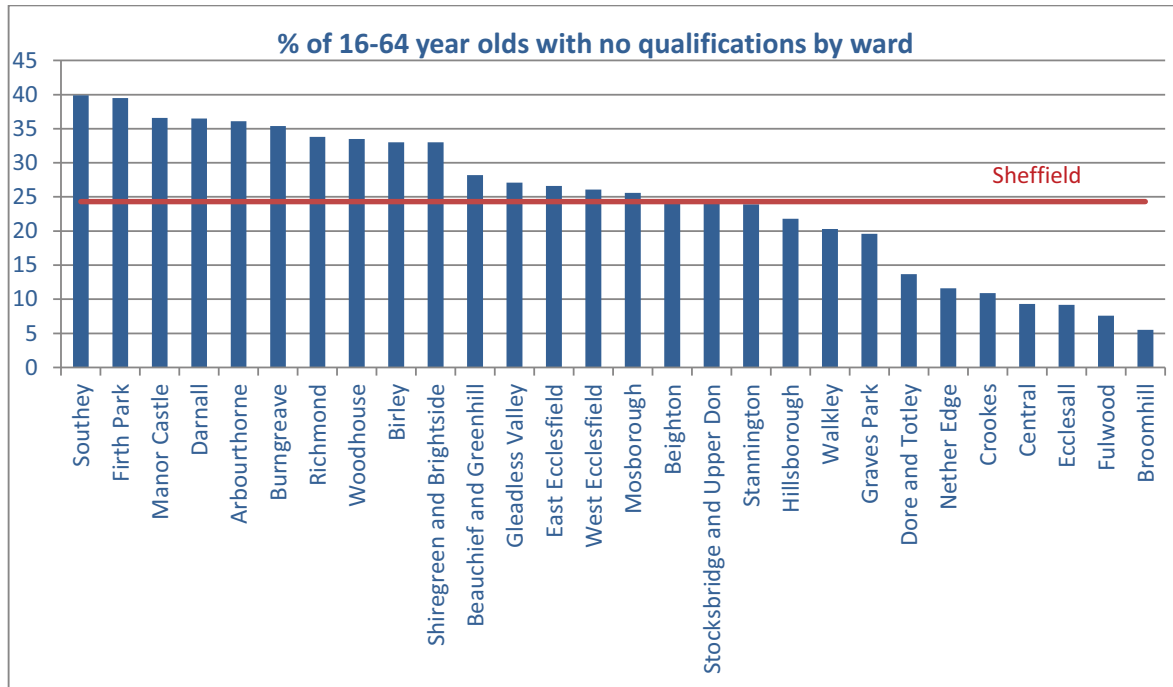


Adult skill levels

The proportion of people in Sheffield with no qualifications has dropped. Using Census data, the estimated population in Sheffield aged 16-64 with no qualifications was 15.9% in 2011, compared to 33.8% in 2001. Because the Census is updated infrequently, we also use a measure from the Annual Population Survey to track change over time. The figures from this survey are different from those in the census. Latest figure using this measure is 10.6%

for the year to December 2013. The figure for 2011 was 10%. There are fluctuations in this measure over the time period for which this data is available (from 2004 at which it was 14.3%), but the highest point in 2008 was 16% and there looks to be a general downward trend over longer-term. The reasons for the difference in figures are likely to be to do with differences in expression of the question and samples for Census and APS. The important point is that the trend, whichever source is used, shows that the proportion of working age population with no qualifications has reduced over the long-term.

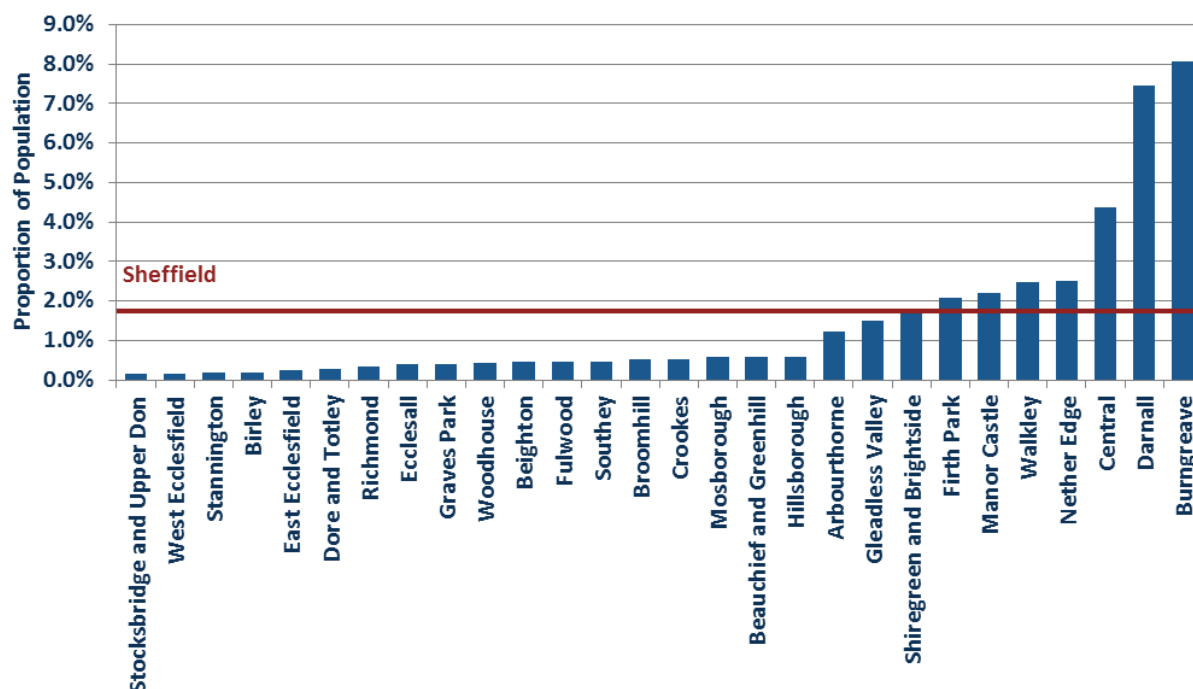
We have used the Census data (as more reliable at small area level than the APS) to show how the numbers of people with no qualifications varies across the city in the graph below.



2011 Census

This next graph compares the percentage of the population who cannot speak English well or at all in different wards and against the Sheffield average.

Percentage of Population who Cannot Speak English Well or At All



Source: Office for National Statistics, Census 2011

Children's attainment

We have chosen to consider three key points in children's attainment: how well they do at the end of their first year at school, at GCSE and progression to university. University progression has been chosen as an indicator of social mobility.

The absolute attainment for children eligible for free school meals (FSM) has improved over the past 5 years, but the gap between children eligible for FSM and the city average (at Key Stage 4 on the measure of 5 or more A*-C including English & Maths) was 26.8 percentage points in 2013. This was wider than in previous years. On this measure, Sheffield was ranked 113th nationally. Rankings are influenced by the cohort on entry and it is important to look at their progress from their starting points. The progress that all children eligible for free school meals made based on their ability rankings placed between 62nd and 68th nationally, which is higher than our deprivation ranking (using IDACI). The progress which all FSM6 students made in English between KS2-KS4 ranks Sheffield at 66th nationally and 108th for mathematics. This suggests that the progress of children eligible for FSM in Sheffield is better than we would expect for a city with our levels of disadvantage, but despite this progress, their attainment is still not as good as it should be.

Our analysis of this situation is that we need to maintain the rate of progress happening within school years whilst simultaneously concentrating efforts on improving the starting point from which children can progress. This has led us to focus on early years and has been a driving force behind our recent Best Start lottery bid. The key methods for giving children the best start in life that we have focused on, driven by evidence, are improving the sensitivity of parental interactions with their children (attunement structure and regulation), access to high quality early years education, home learning environment and reducing the stress associated with poverty through strategies to reduce household outgoings and increase income. For the avoidance of doubt, this focus on the early years includes important action to support adults to access lifelong learning including community and family learning, and our work on whole household support for families, in recognition of the importance of parents as their children's first and

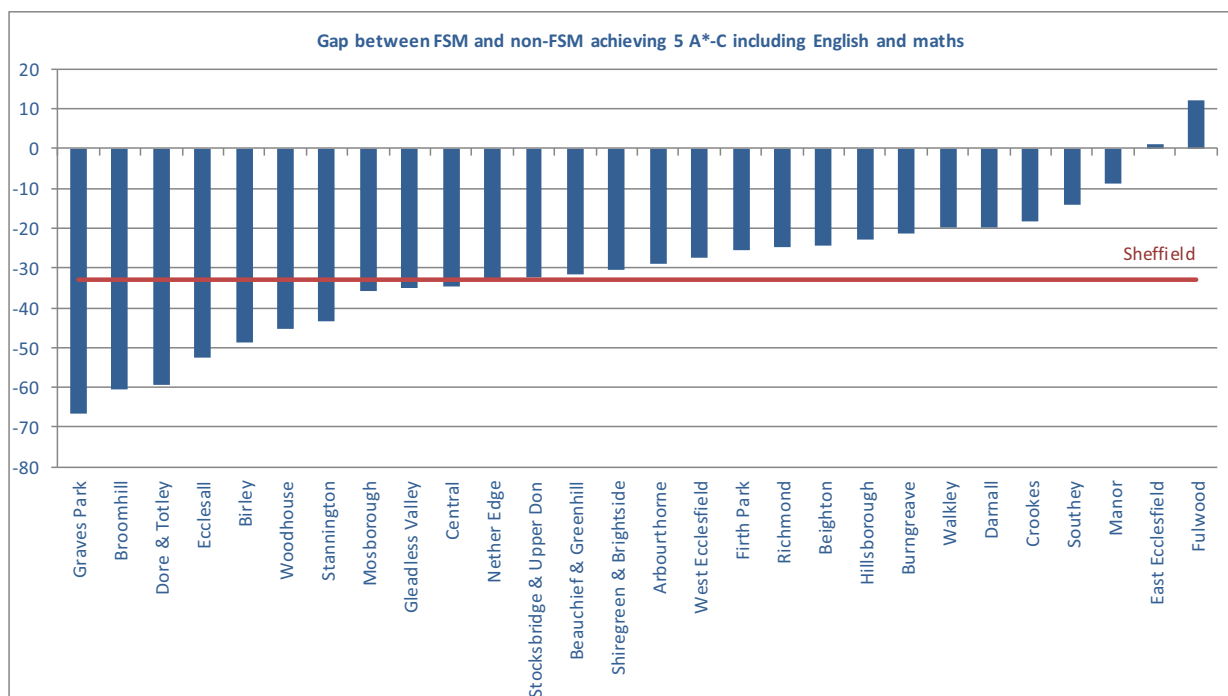
most important influencers. Whilst investing increased energy on this point early in children’s lives, we will also maintain a focus on improving activities within schools via for example School to School Training and Development.

At Foundation Stage, a lower proportion of children in more deprived areas of the city achieved a ‘good’ level of development than those in less deprived areas. The figures for 2013 (Performance & Analysis Service, SCC 2014) are:

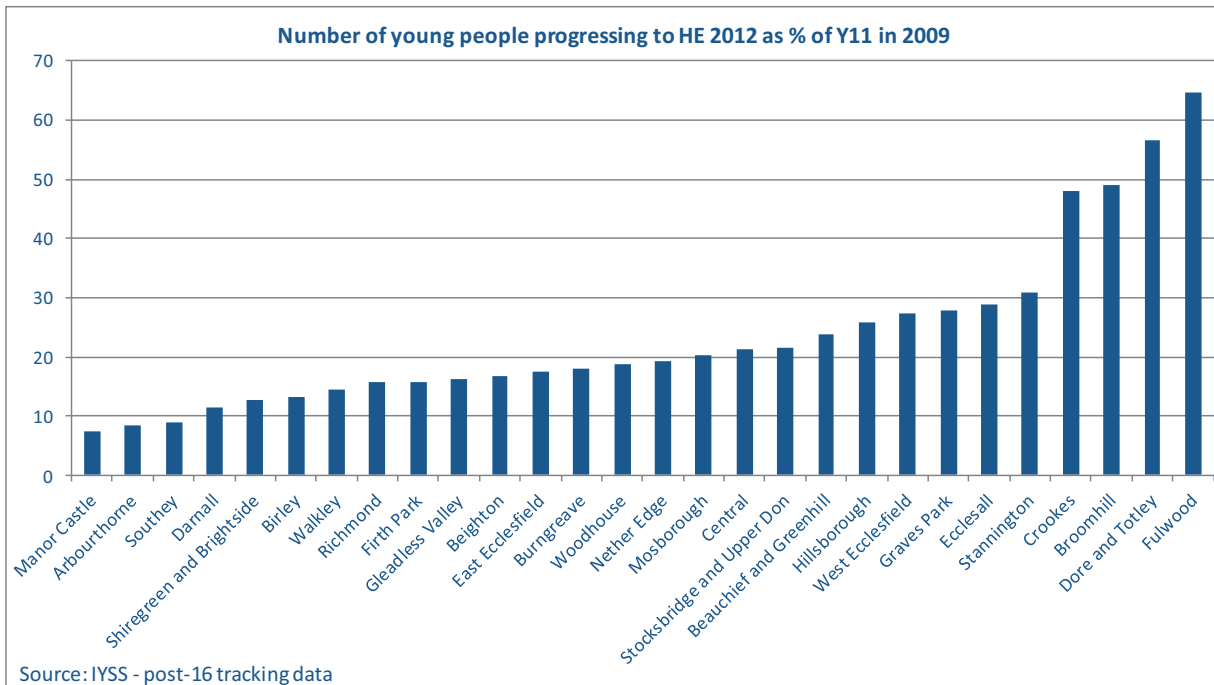
- Sheffield average = 51.8%
- 30% most deprived areas (by IMD 2010) = 43.8%
- Children living outside the 30% most deprived areas = 60.6%

Because of the changes to the Foundation Stage Profile, we cannot provide useful comparators over time.

At GCSE, we have shown the ward breakdown of the gaps between children eligible for free school meals achieving 5A*-C GCSEs including English & Maths and those not eligible. This is not a straightforward picture and perhaps warrants some further exploration.

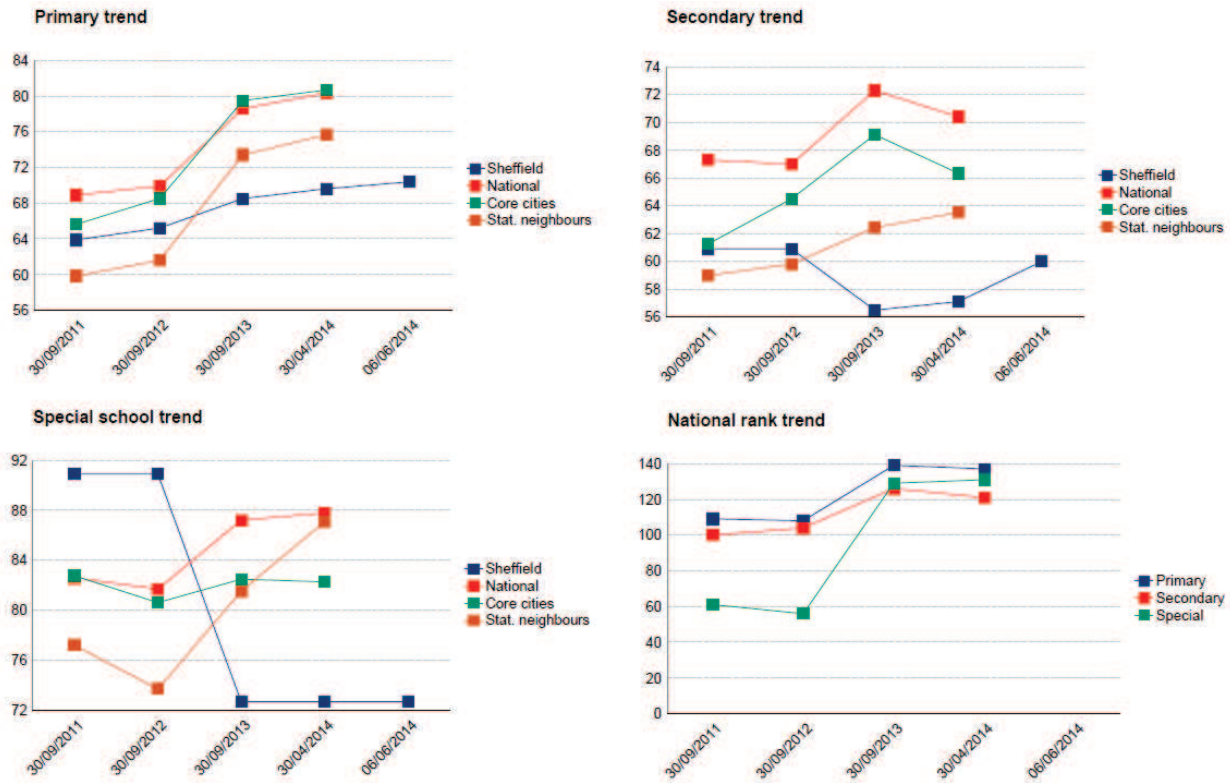


Finally in this section, we have included a breakdown of the proportions of young people progressing to university.



Quality of schools

As well as looking at how well children are doing at school, we also need to consider how good our schools are. The first three charts show percentage of schools that are good or outstanding, the fourth shows how our national ranking for each type of school has changed over time.



Source: Ofsted monthly management information June 2014

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