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## Appendix D Baseline Analysis

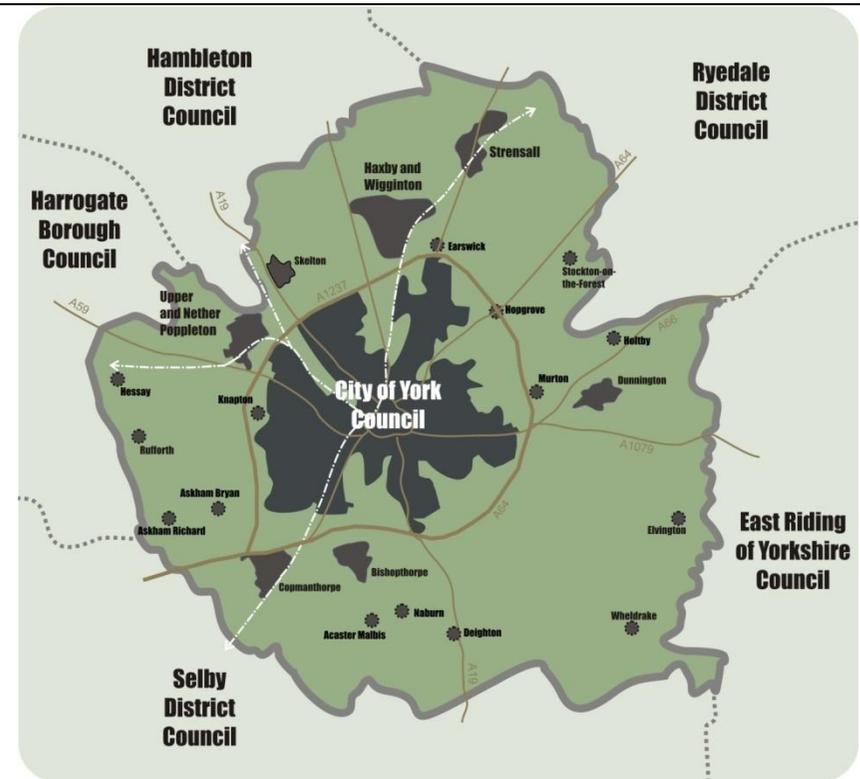
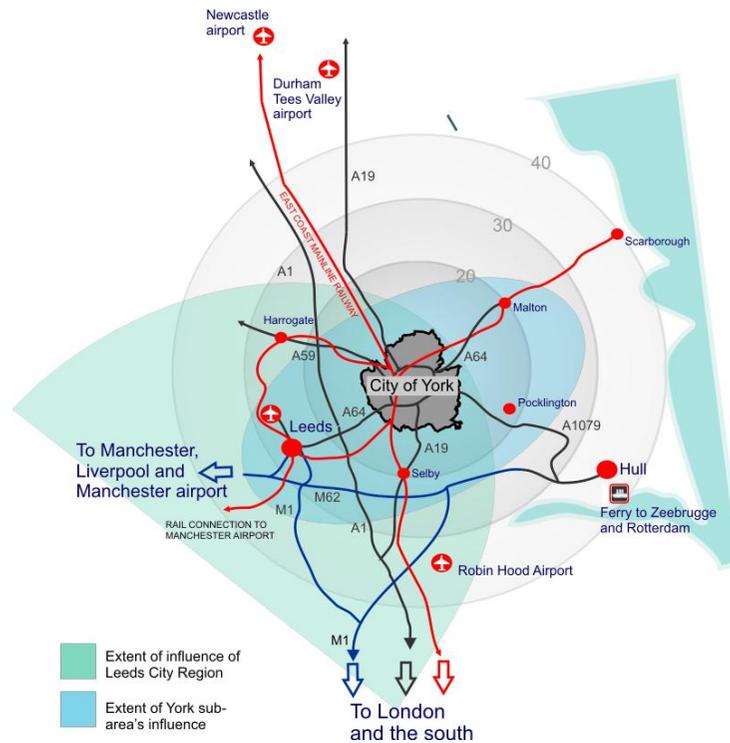
<b>Appendix 3: Baseline and Characterisation of the City of York</b>
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## PLACE

The York Unitary Authority (UA) covers a total of 272 square kilometres. York is renowned for its historic centre but is also characterised by its compact centre and many small rural and semi-rural settlements.

The compactness of the main urban area is a key feature of the city and the close relationship of the city to its surrounding villages is a key element of York's character. This relationship is not just about the distance between the settlements but also their size. Other key environmental features include the river, nature conservations areas and the types of openspace available within the urban area. These topics will be explored in more detail further in subsequent sections.



York is a nationally and internationally prominent city in the North of England. An important feature of the York area is its close proximity to the economic generator of Leeds and connectivity to other major UK cities both in the North and South. There are wider strategic links at the city region and sub regional levels and the City of York Council is a constituent member of the Leeds City Region and Local Government North Yorkshire and York. In accordance with the Localism Act 2011 the Council must continue to co-operate with our neighbouring authorities to maximise the effectiveness with which the Local Plan is prepared.

## POPULATION AND HOUSEHOLDS

### Population:

The 2011 Census states York's population is 198,051. This is an increase of 9.4% since the 2001 Census when York's population was 181,094. The Census reveals that York's male population for 2011 was 96,254, 10.5% more than in 2001. York's female population was 101,797 which was 8.3% more than in 2001.

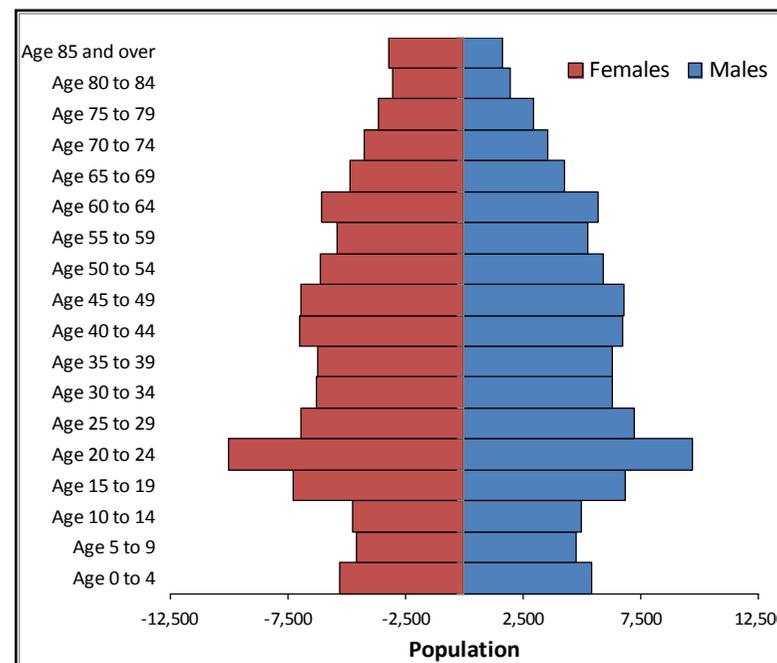
Between 2001 and 2011 the population of the district can also be seen to have aged; with a greater proportion of people aged 65 and over. The number of people aged 65 and over has increased by more than other age categories in the city and reflects national trends in line with increasing life expectancy. There have also been significant increases in the proportion of 15-19 year olds (17.8% increase) and 20-24 year olds (39.1% increase) since 2001. This is likely to reflect that there are two successful universities located in the city. Since 2001 the proportion of working age population (16-64 year olds) has increased by 11.9%.

The most recent population projections<sup>1</sup> state that York's population in 2012 was 200,018. In 2014 the projections show York's population to be 203,000. York's population is anticipated to grow by 11.2% (22,000 people) by 2030 and 14.5% (29,000 people) between 2012 and 2037. The population cohorts expected to increase the most between 2012 and 2030 are for people aged over 65 (40%), particularly for the age groups 80-84 (68% increase), 85-89 (53% increase) and 90 plus (106% increase).

The percentage growth in population in York is shown to be double that of North Yorkshire over the same time period (see overleaf).

	2014 - York % <sup>1</sup>	2030 – York % <sup>1</sup>	2014 - Yorkshire and Humber % <sup>1</sup>	2030 - Yorkshire and Humber % <sup>1</sup>
Age 0 to 14	15	15	18	17
Age 15 to 29	24	23	20	19
Age 30 to 44	20	19	19	19
Age 45 to 65	24	22	26	23
Age 65+	17	22	17	22

Population pyramid using Census 2011



Percentage Population by age group

<sup>1</sup> 2012-based Subnational Population Projections, ONS (2014). These projections published on 29 May 2014 are based on the indicative 2012 mid-year population estimates published on 17 November 2011.

## Population projections for York and neighbouring authorities

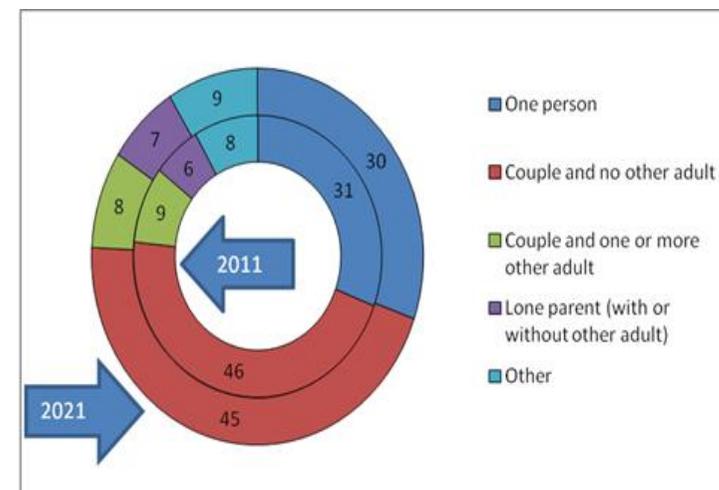
	2012	2014	2020	2025	2030	2037	% increase 2012 -2037	% increase 2014 - 2030
City of York Council	200,000	202,900	210,400	216,300	222,400	229,000	14.5%	9.6%
Selby District Council	84,100	85,500	90,000	93,500	96,200	99,200	18%	12.5%
Ryedale District Council	52,100	52,200	53,000	53,900	54,500	55,100	5.8%	4.4%
Harrogate District Council	158,600	159,400	162,200	164,700	166,700	169,100	6.6%	4.6%
Hambleton District Council	89,700	90,000	91,100	92,100	92,800	93,200	3.9%	3.1%
East Riding of Yorkshire	335,900	338,700	348,200	356,000	363,300	368,000	9.6%	7.3%
North Yorkshire	602,600	605,200	616,000	625,800	633,800	642,100	6.6%	4.7%
Yorkshire and Humber	5,316,700	5,368,800	5,530,200	5,656,700	5,774,100	5,912,100	11.2%	7.6%

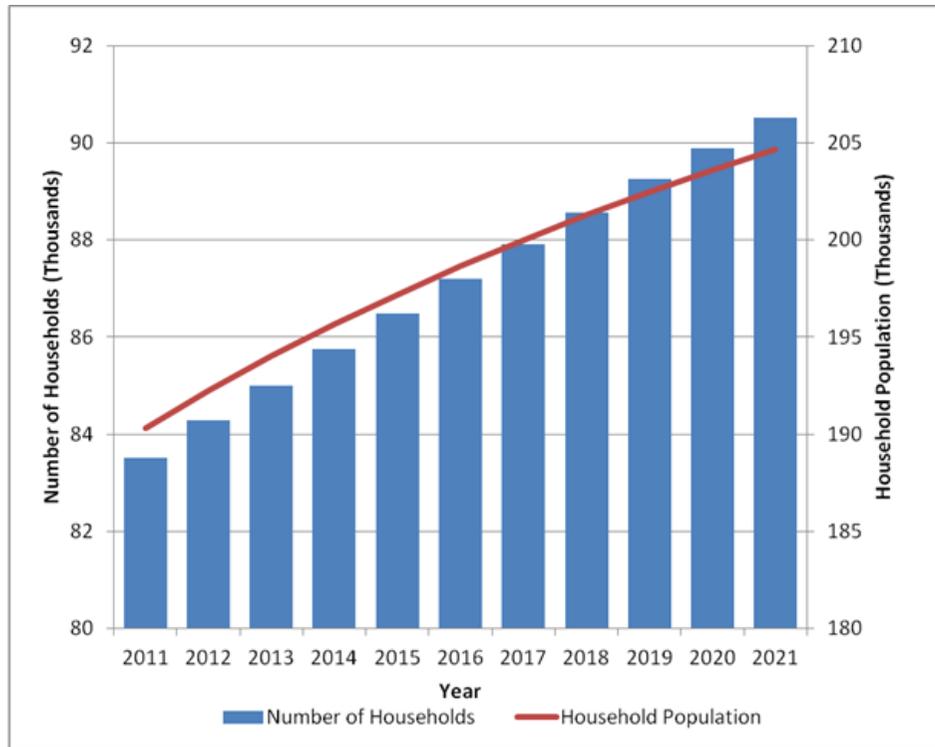
The 2011 Census stated that the predominant ethnic group in York is white British. The highest non white group is Chinese which accounts for 1.2% of the population.

**Households:**

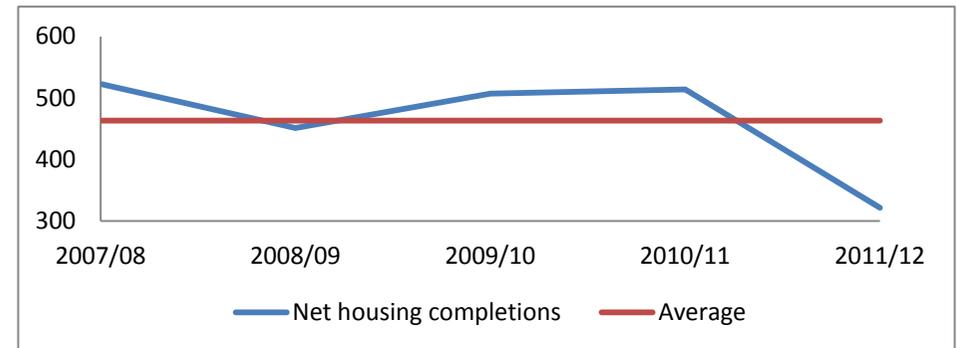
The results of the 2011 Census state that York has 83,552 households. This is an increase of 8.6% between 2001-2011. The average household size remains the same as in 2001 at 2.3.

At the time of the 2011 Census 30.2% of the households in York consisted of a single person, compared to a national average of 30.22%. Of these single person households 42.8% are households of ages 65+. York has a high number of cohabiting couples and a high proportion of couples with no children at 6.9%, which is the highest figure in the region. 24% of all households in York contain at least one child which is lower than the national average of 27%. York also has a low level of lone parent families with dependant children at 5.9%, compared to 7.1% regionally.





The latest Households Projections<sup>2</sup> predict that York will have an increase of 37% between 2008 to 2033. The data shows that there is a significant trend for cohabiting couples in the future. Cohabiting couples are set to increase by 125% between 2004 and 2031 compared to a 9% increase in married couples. There is also a growing trend for multiple person households, which is also set to increase by 65% and set to be the largest household type from 2026. This will take into account changing lifestyle trends, such as homes of multiple occupation inhabited by young professionals as well as communal establishments. There is also a large rise in single person households, reflected by the decrease in household size, 50% of which are anticipated to be pensioners.

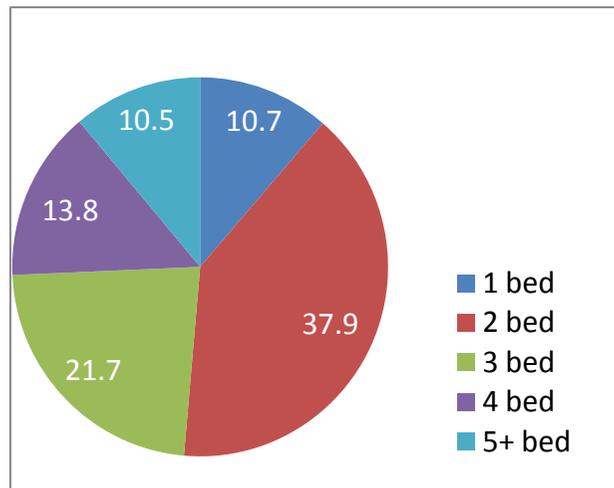


**Housing Development**

The Council’s Annual Monitoring Report shows that there have been 6007 (net) dwellings built between 2004-2013. In 2011/12 there were 354 gross housing completions and 321 net completions which is the lowest completion figure over the nine years. It is recognised that the economic downturn has influenced this reduced figure due to its impact on house builders.

<sup>2</sup> Interim 2012-based Subnational Population Projections, Department for Communities and Local Government (2010)

### Percentage of development by no. of bedrooms (2011/12)



An analysis of housing mix achieved in York for the years 2003 to 2012 (based on all housing completions) shows that overall 59.7% of all completions have been flats/apartments and 21.5% town houses/terraced houses. Only 6.5% of completions have been semi detached houses and 8.7% detached homes. The size of houses which are being built also follow a distinct trend with the majority of properties built over the last monitoring year (2011/12) being 2 bed dwellings. Past trend data for the last 10 years reveals that almost half of the dwellings developed have been 2 bed with the fewest being of 5 bed plus. The 2007 Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) looks to redress the balance to family homes with more bedrooms and the number of 3 bed homes in recent years has increased.

During 2011/12, 151 affordable homes were built in York. 142 of the properties were approved through the planning process and the rest have been acquired by Registered Social Landlords and Housing Associations. The latest SHMA (2011) outlined a need of 790 affordable dwellings per annum over the next five years in order to clear the existing waiting list backlog and meet future arising household need. The report also concluded that the highest levels of demand/need was for medium and larger property sizes ranging from 2-4+bedrooms. It is considered that the

shortage of these property sizes is having a disproportionate effect on the City of York's capability to address its backlog of housing need and to meet the needs of new households in the future.

### Housing Requirements

Arup were commissioned to consider the requirements for objectively assessed housing requirements in light of upon up-to-date population and household evidence. This concluded that the recently released 2012 base population projections show more projected growth than the 2010 based projections but less than the 2008 and interim 2011 figures. The household projections show a lower rate of household growth to 2021 which is corroborated by the labour force survey and links this to the economic downturn. As a result, they recommend that the baseline housing requirement should be 850 dwellings per annum.

### Key messages from the Baseline

- York's population and household numbers is projected to increase;
- York has a high need for housing which it needs to address;
- Housing delivery has decreased;
- There is a need to plan for a mix and type of accommodation to suit all household types.

## Indicators

Indicator	Area	Period	Value	Previous Value	Trend	National	Data Source	Indicator Source
Total resident population	City of York	2011 Census	198,051	202,400 (2010 - MYE) 198,800 (2009 - MYE) 195,400 (2006 - MYE) 181,300 (2001- Census)		53,012,456 (England)	Office for National Statistics (ONS)	Local Quality of Life Indicators, CLG
Projected population change: 2010 to 2035	City of York	-2012-2037	200,,000 - 229,000				2012 Sub-national population projections (ONS)	
Total Number of Households	City of York	2011 Census	83,552	77,000 (2001- Census)		22,063,368 (England)	Office for National Statistics (ONS)	Local Quality of Life Indicators, CLG
Projected % change in households between 2008 to 2031	City of York	2008-2031	29000 (34.5%)				2008 based Household Projections (ONS, 2010)	Local Quality of Life Indicators, CLG
Life expectancy at birth (male and female)	York	2008-2010	Males – 79.9 Females - 83	Males - 78.6 Females - 83.4 (2005-2007) Males - 79.4 Females -83.2 (2006-2008)		Males – 78.2 .Females – 82.3 (2008-2010) Males -77.4 Females - 81.6 (2006-2008)	Office for National Statistics (ONS) Vital Statistics	Sustainable Communities, Egan Review; Local Quality of Life Indicators, CLG;
The total number of new housing completions (net)	York	2011/12	321	451 (2008/09) 507 (2009/10) 514 (2010/11)			City of York Council, National Performance Indicator 154	Local Quality of Life Indicator, CLG
Affordable dwellings completed (through all sources)	York	2011/12	151	151 (2008/09) 130 (2009/10) 252 (2010/11)			City of York Council, National Performance Indicator (NPI 155)	The total number of new housing completions (net)
Affordable dwellings completed (through planning process)	York	2011/12	142					
Mix of dwellings	York			(2003-2012) 59.7% -Flats; 21.5% town houses/terraced; 6.5% semi detached; 8.7% detached houses			Local Indicator	

## ECONOMY AND EMPLOYMENT

### Economy

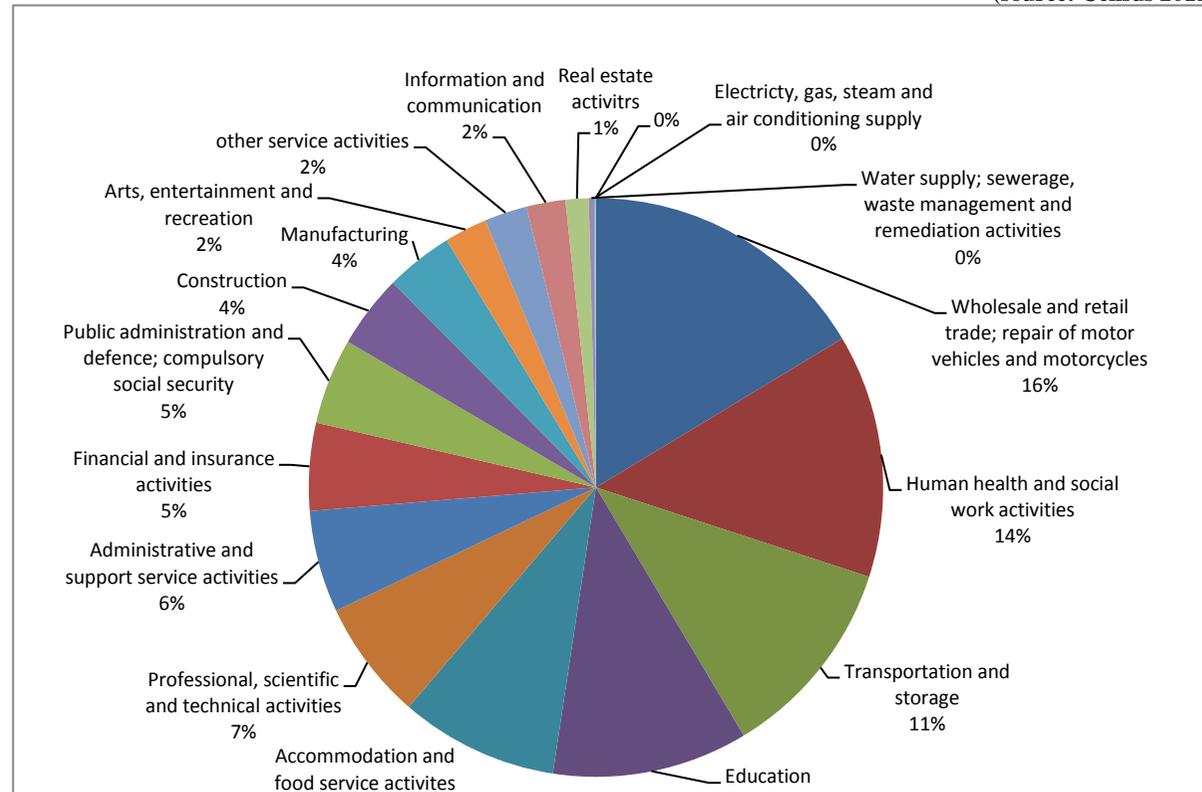
The recent global recession and associated credit crisis, the international economy has become increasingly competitive for all. Economic growth has slowed and there is less money available. The result of this is an uncertain and volatile economic climate with increasing competition between cities around the UK and globally for investment, talent and jobs.

York has seen a number of structural changes to the economy over the past 20 years which has meant it has had to diversify from a predominantly manufacturing base and re-invent itself. The city is now a hub for competitive industry and research expertise in biosciences, healthcare and medical research, biorenewables, environmental research, IT and digital and creative technologies. Recently York was recognised as being one of the most resilient economies in the North and one of the fastest growing in the country (Eskogen, 2011<sup>3</sup>). Over a number of years York has successfully re-invented itself from a railway and

confectionary manufacturing city into an international destination and hub for science and technology and a national centre for financial and business services. Today, the city is home to internationally competitive industry and research expertise in the biosciences, healthcare and medical research, biorenewables, environmental research, IT and digital and creative technologies. The city now contributes £4bn of value to the national economy.

### Total employment by sector 2011

(source: Census 2011)



<sup>3</sup> Economic and Retail Growth Analysis and Visioning Work Economic Baseline Report (June 2013). [http://www.york.gov.uk/downloads/200396/planning\\_policy](http://www.york.gov.uk/downloads/200396/planning_policy)

As a modern commercial city internationally renowned for its unique heritage, a The City Region Agenda highlights York as a gateway to the region. York attracts 7 million visitors per year, over a quarter of whom then go on to visit other areas in the region. There is therefore a need to invest in the city's heritage and tourist industries, its cultural sector, its green space, its transport infrastructure and the city centre economy and a need to make opportunities and increased income levels accessible to local people as well as visitors to the city.

York is recognised to be the third fastest growing city in England with great ambition to grow further. Eskogen (2011) have voted York as being one of the most resilient economies in the North of England. It has been recently voted Britain's most beautiful city (Bing, 2011) and one of the top 200 places to live (Lonely Planet, 2011).

The aim York Economic Strategy (YES)(2012) is one which unlocks the full potential of the city. The economic vision is *"to become an international and enterprising city, and in time, the most competitive city of its size, not only in the UK but globally, leading to increased sustainable and inclusive growth in the overall economy and jobs. On the way to achieving this vision, by 2015, the city will aim to become a top 5 UK city economy that sustainably delivers both Gross Value Added (GVA) and jobs growth, and a top 10 European city, as measured against comparator cities"*.

Further to this, the City of York will be working in partnership with neighbouring authorities in the Leeds City Region Local Economic Partnership (LEP) and/or York, North Yorkshire and East Riding LEP. The council also support 'Science City York' for building up knowledge based industries.

The 2013 statistics show that the number of businesses in York is the highest on record. In addition to this, the number of people who are self-employed is correspondingly high at 7.8% of the working age population. This figure peaked in 2012 at 9.9% of the working age population, which was above the regional and national figure. York's figures for 2013 were lower than the regional and national figure of the same date. The increases in private business mean that the city's relative dependence on public sector employment is decreasing.

Work commissioned from Deloitte regarding the economic visioning of the city has identified that the biggest growth areas in the future are likely to be professional services, food and catering services and retail and wholesale services. Economic forecasting by Oxford Econometrics has also identified that York supports nearly 113,000 jobs and is forecast to gain 13,500 until 2030.

### **Employment**

Statistics from the Annual Population Survey show that the number of people economically active in York remains consistently around 77% or above, which is equal to that of the Yorkshire and Humber region. In addition, York has a higher than average number of people in employment (73.3%) which is above both the regional and national figure. The total number of people in employment peaked in 2012.

The Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE) shows that the mean annual income in York in 2013 is 32,593, which is above the equivalent regional figure but below the national average.

The 2011 Census states that 66.9% of the population in York are of working age (16-64). This is split fairly evenly between males and females.

In 2014<sup>4</sup>, 80.8% of the working age population is economically active with 75.9% of the total population in employment and 6.3% unemployed. The number of economically active people and those whom are in employment is higher than the national figures, which shows York positively against the national employment picture.

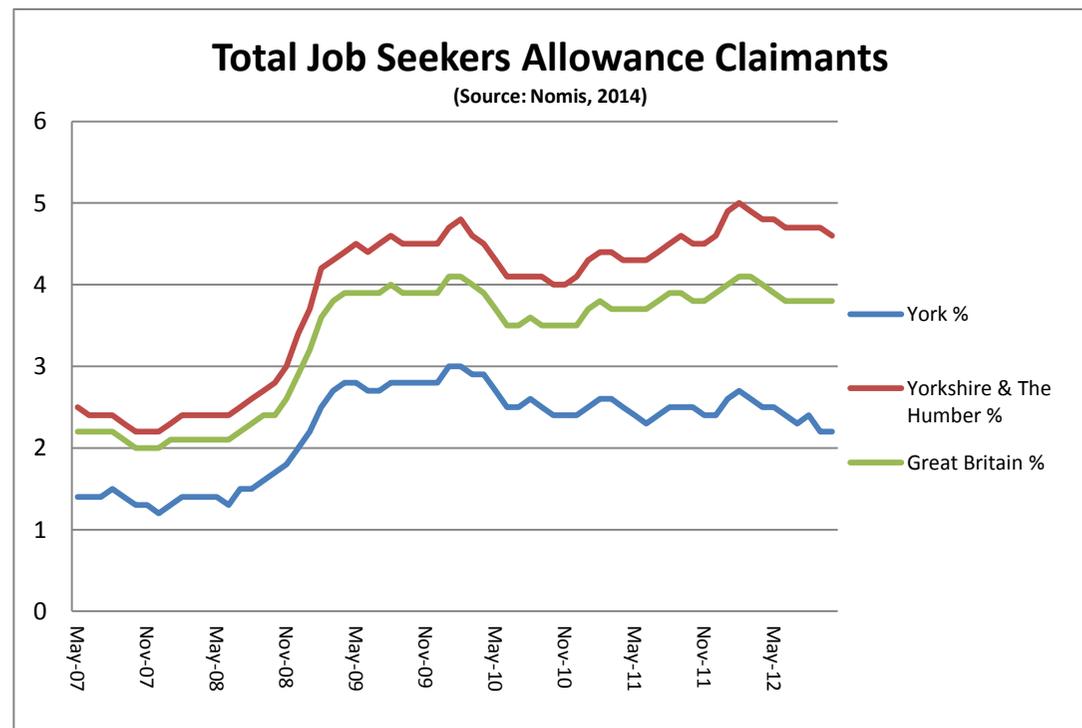
Job density in York has remains similar to previous years at 0.88 (2012<sup>4</sup>). A low in job density was recorded in 2010 at 0.83, in alignment with the economic downturn.

The total number of claimants of Job Seeker Allowance (JSA) reached a peak in 2010 compared to the last 10 years. The majority of people claiming the allowance claimed for up to 6 months. The number of claimants claiming JSA between 6 months to one year has remained fairly consistent across the years but since 2008 has increased in line with the economic downturn.

York is acknowledged to have a consistently low JSA claimant rate however. In 2012, York had the third lowest youth JSA rate after Oxford and Cambridge in September 2012 (Centre for Cities). York has a high number of skilled workers with just over 45% of the working age population possessing NVQ Level 4 or above. This has contributed to York's resilience through the economic downturn, which

**Figure 6: Full-time earnings in pounds (£) (ASHE 2013)**

	York	Yorkshire and Humber	England and Wales
<b>25% earn less than</b>	18,715	18,075	19,218
<b>40% earn less than</b>	23,149	21,799	23,775
<b>60% earn less than</b>	30,378	28,341	31,000
<b>70% earn less than</b>	33,758	32,150	35,648
<b>Mean income</b>	32,593	29,218	33,660
<b>Median income</b>	27,503	24,982	27,193



<sup>4</sup> York's Labour Market Profile (Nomis, June 2014) [www.nomisweb.co.uk](http://www.nomisweb.co.uk)

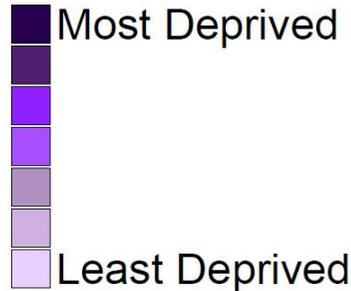
was acknowledged through comparative work by the Centre for Cities (2012). This report also suggests that the cities hit the hardest by the recession are those which are still recovering from industrial decline. Although York has had a declining manufacturing and industrial base over the last 20 years, the move into the knowledge sector in-combination with the high skills base has contributed to York performing better than other cities around the country.

The relationship between Leeds and York has also been recognised as complementary and York is identified as being economically independent to Leeds with fewer commuting trips between York and Leeds and vice versa.

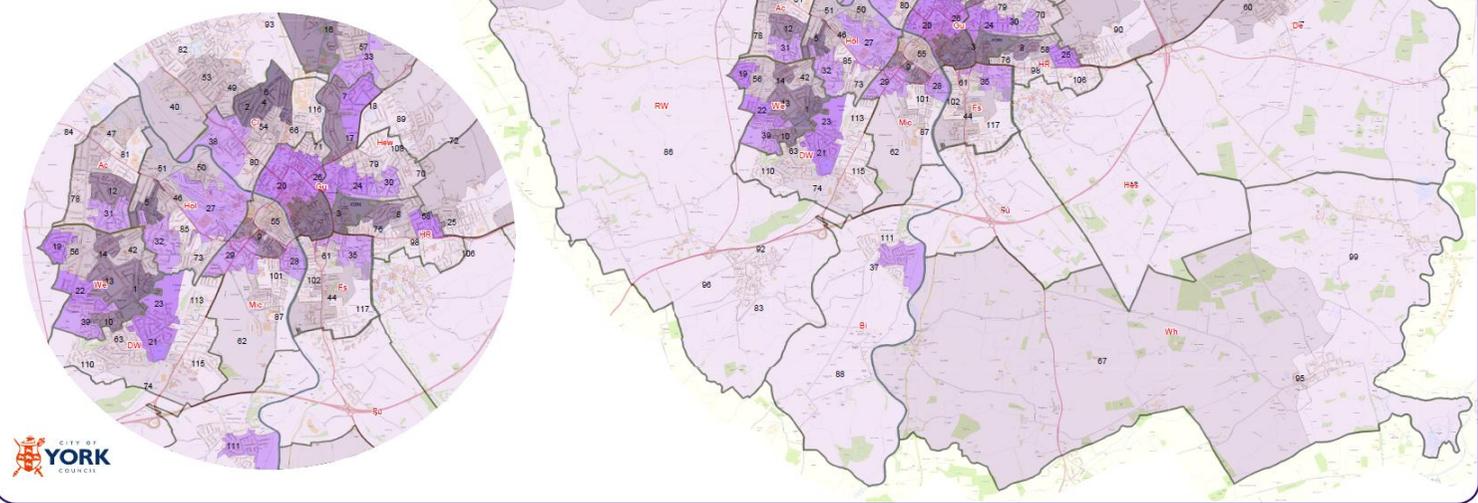
**Access to Employment**

The IMD 2010 shows that York has seen improvement in the number of SOAs within top 20% most deprived areas of the country since 2004 with now 6 instead of 10 SOAs and none within the top 10% within country<sup>5</sup>.

**Employment Domain - IMD 2010**



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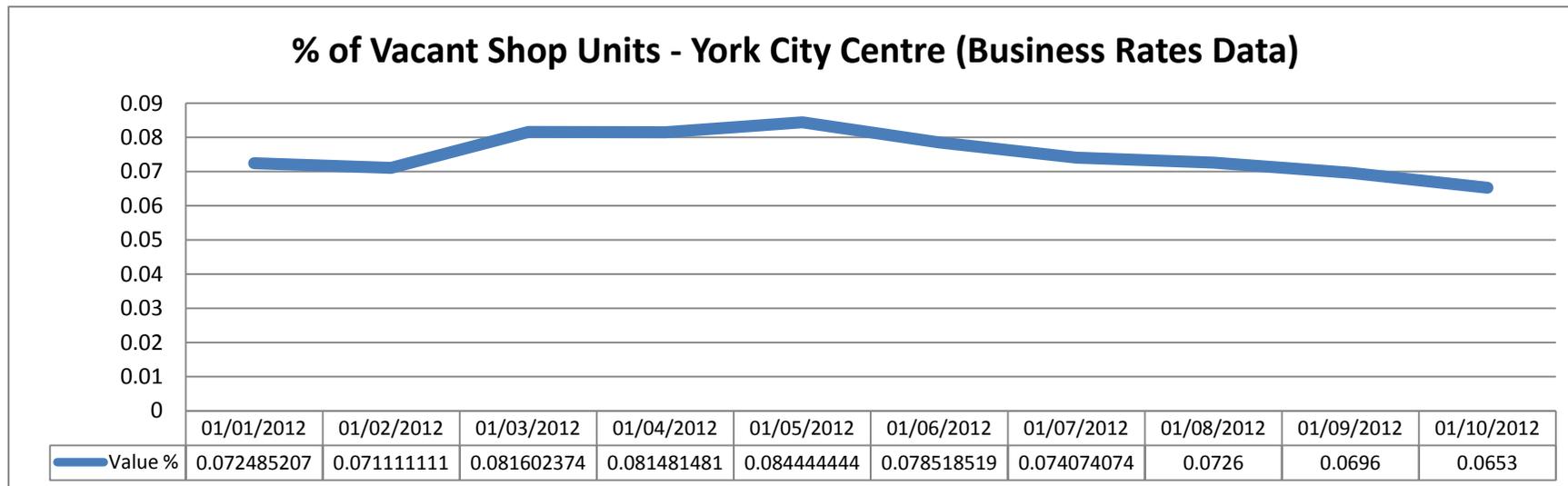


<sup>5</sup> Indices of Multiple Deprivation, DCLG, March 2011

## Retail

The British retail consortium/KPMG sales monitor reveals the worst sales growth for 11 months. Retail sales values across both food and non-food were down by 0.1% on a like-for-like basis from October 2011.

Footfall through the summer and into October has seen a decrease from the same period last year. The wettest summer on record and a combination of the web, higher shop price inflation and the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review resulted in weak footfall across the country. York is however performing better than other cities of comparable nature. Coney Street in York City Centre is proving particularly resilient.



### Key Messages from the Baseline:

- Key challenge is to achieve this economic success in a sustainable manner that protects the environment whilst allowing social and economic progress that recognises the needs of all people.
- Unemployment rate is decreasing in line with a reduction in JSA claimants;
- York a highly skilled labour force, which has had a positive influence on the city's economic stability and employment rates;
- The relative dependence on public sector employment is decreasing with the increase in private sector business and employment;

- The number of city centre vacant shops is decreasing<sup>6</sup>;
- Footfall has been negatively effected by external factors effecting spend in the city;

### Indicators

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Previous Value</i>	<i>Trend</i>	<i>National</i>	<i>Data Source</i>	<i>Indicator Source</i>
Mean annual pay (full-time employees)	York	2012	29,904	2011 - £30,909		£32,022	Annual Survey of hours and earnings - resident analysis	Annual Survey of hours and earnings - resident analysis
Average earnings of residents - Gross Weekly	York	2011	£492.30	£474.70 (2008) £479.10 (2009) £481.70 (2010)			Annual Survey of hours and earnings - resident analysis	Annual Survey of hours and earnings - resident analysis
The percentage of the working age population that is in employment	York	2011/2012	75.9%	71.5% (2009/10)		70.3	National Performance Indicator NPI 151	National Quality of Life, CLG, Without Walls Success Measure - Thriving City
The number of Job Seekers Allowance claimants as a percentage of the resident working age population	York	Mar 13	2.3%	1.4% (Apr 08) 2.7% (Apr 09) 2.9% (Apr 10) 2.5% (Apr 11) 2.5% (Apr 12)		3.8%	NOMIS, Claimant Count	Local Quality of Life Indicators, CLG
The percentage of Job Seekers Allowance claimants who have been out of work for more than a year	York	Apr-13	16.2%	8.9% (Apr 08) 5.5% (Apr 09) 14.7%(Apr 10) 14.7% (Apr 11) 20.9% (Apr 12)		22.3%	NOMIS, Claimant Count	Local Quality of Life Indicators, CLG
The percentage of Job Seekers Allowance claimants who have been out of work for between 6-12 months	York	Apr-13	18.8%	24.8% (Apr 08) 19.9% (Apr 09) 24.5% (Apr-10) 31.8% (Apr 11) 22.1% (Apr 12)		28%	NOMIS, Claimant Count	Local Quality of Life Indicators, CLG

<sup>6</sup> Business Rates Data, Nomis

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Previous Value</i>	<i>Trend</i>	<i>National</i>	<i>Data Source</i>	<i>Indicator Source</i>
York's unemployment rate below the national rate	York	2011/12	1.7%	1.6% (2010/11) 1.5% (2009/10) 1.0% (2008/09)				City of York Council Plan
Economically Active (All People)	York	Apr-Mar 12	80%	76.5% (April-Mar 10) 76.9% (April-Mar 11)		76.5	NOMIS, Claimant Count	Local Quality of Life Indicators, CLG
Count of Active Enterprises	York	2011	6470	6530 (2010) 6385 (2009)		N/A	ONS Business Demography 2010	ONS Business Demography 2010
Count of births of new Enterprises	York	2011	655	665 (2010) 570 (2009)		N/A	ONS Business Demography 2010	ONS Business Demography 2010
Job density (number of jobs filled to working age population)	York	2010	0.83	0.87 (2008) 0.84 (2009)		0.78 (2011)	NOMIS, Job Density	Local Quality of Life Indicators, CLG
The rank of the average Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) scores relative to all district, unitary and metropolitan areas (1 = most deprived and 354 = least deprived)	York	2010	244	242 (2007)		177.5	Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2007 and 2010, CLG	Local Quality of Life Indicators, CLG
Rank of income deprivation relative to all district, unitary and metropolitan areas ( 1 = most deprived and 354 = most deprived)	York	2010	136	127 (2007)		177.5	Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2007 and 2010, CLG	Local Quality of Life Indicators, CLG
Rank of employment deprivation relative to all district, unitary and metropolitan areas ( 1 = most deprived and 354 = most deprived)	York	2010	131	120 (2007)		177.5	Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2007 and 2010, CLG	Local Quality of Life Indicators, CLG
The percentage of the population of working age that is claiming total benefits	York	Mar-13	8.8%	8.9% (May -2010) 8.6% (May-2011)		14.3% (Mar-13)	Nomis: Benefit Claimant Counts working age client group	Local Quality of Life Indicators, CLG, Without Walls Success Measure - Thriving City

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Previous Value</i>	<i>Trend</i>	<i>National</i>	<i>Data Source</i>	<i>Indicator Source</i>
<i>% of young people not in education, employment or training.</i>	York	2012	4.9%	5.6% (2011/12) 3.7% (2010/11) 4.3% (2009/10) 4.2% (2008/09) 3.8% (2007/08)			Nomis.	York Council Plan
<i>Number and (%) of vacant city centre shops</i>	York	July 2012	52 (7.4%)	55 (8.2) (April 12) 53 (7.8) (April 11) 54 (7.8) (April 10)			Business Rates	City of York Council Plan; Town Centre Health Check (former PPS4)
<i>Completed A1 (Food and non-food) floorspace (gross and net) by location</i>								
<i>completed A2-A5 floorspace (gross and net) by location</i>								
<i>Diversity of main town centre uses (by number, type and amount of floorspace);</i>								Town Centre Health Check (former PPS4)
<i>Shopping rents (pattern of movement in Zone A rents within primary shopping areas);</i>								Town Centre Health Check (former PPS4)
<i>Proportion of vacant street level property and length of time properties have been vacant;</i>								Town Centre Health Check (former PPS4)
<i>Pedestrian flows (footfall);</i>								Town Centre Health Check (former PPS4)

## DEPRIVATION AND EQUALITY

### Deprivation

The Index of Multiple Deprivation<sup>7</sup> (ODPM, 2010) is a measure of multiple deprivation and is made up of seven Super Output Area (SOA)<sup>8</sup> level domain indices as set out in the table. There are also two supplementary indices – Income deprivation affecting children (IDACI) and Income deprivation affecting older people (IDAOPI). Each domain contains a number of indicators totalling 37 overall.

When looking at the overall rank of each Local Authority (district, unitary and metropolitan) in the country, the

City of York is ranked 244<sup>th</sup> out of 354 areas where a rank of 1 is the most deprived in the country and a rank of 354 is the least deprived<sup>9</sup>. Deprivation in York has reduced over time from when it was ranked 219<sup>th</sup> in 2004 and 242<sup>nd</sup> in 2007 out of the 354 authorities. Looking at income specifically, the City of York is ranked 136<sup>th</sup> out of 354 Local Authorities, which is also an improvement from the rank of 127 in 2007 and 120 in 2004. There has also been a marked improvement in the amount of SOAs which rank within the top 20% most deprived areas nationally. The number has decreased from 11 SOAs in 2004 to 8 SOAs in 2010. Only one SOA within the Ward of Westfield remains in the top 10% most deprived areas.

Indices Of Deprivation Domains	Within the 20% Most Deprived			2007 - 2010 change	Within the 10% Most Deprived			2007 - 2010 change
	2004 IMD	2007 IMD	2010 IMD		2004 IMD	2007 IMD	2010 IMD	
Overall IMD	11	8	8		1	1	1	
Income	10	9	7		3	1	0	
Employment	10	7	6		3	1	0	
Health Deprivation & Disability	3	2	4		0	0	1	
Education Skills & Training	14	13	15		7	7	9	
Barriers to Housing & Services	5	12	8		1	1	1	
Crime	35	26	30		18	14	6	
Living Environment	15	12	12		1	3	3	
IDACI	11	8	8		6	4	1	
IDAOPI	4	6	9		2	1	2	

<sup>7</sup> Indices of Multiple Deprivation, DCLG, March 2011

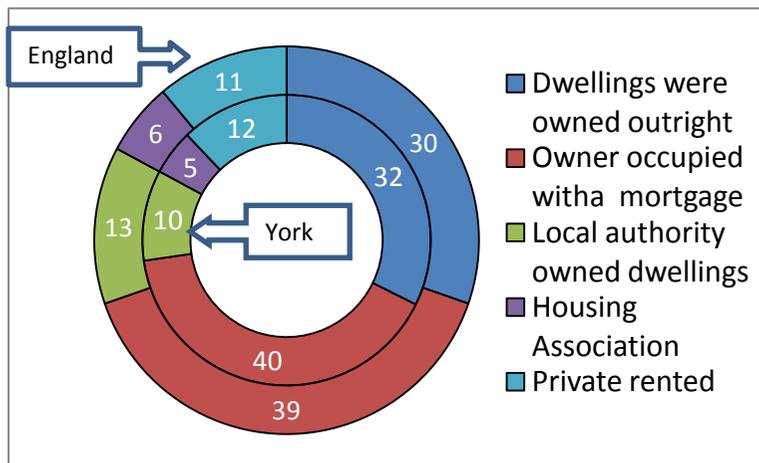
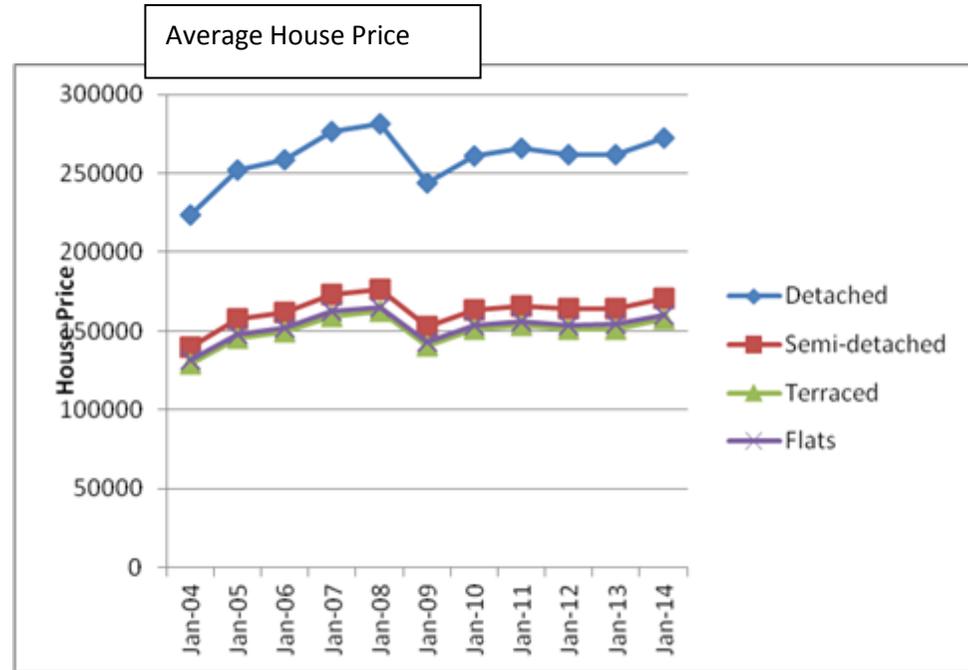
<sup>8</sup> A Super Output Area is an aggregate of Census Output Areas produced at three levels. The lowest level is used in the Index of Multiple Deprivation and each SOA contains an average of 1,500 people.

<sup>9</sup> Indices of Multiple Deprivation, DCLG, March 2011



**Access to Housing and Suitable Accommodation**

The average house price in York is high and has remained just below £180,000 on average for the last 5 years with a peak average house price in September 2007 of £193,248. House prices in York remain consistently above the regional average. The high demand for homes, particularly affordable homes within York is linked to a disparity between wages and house prices. The average house price is now nearly 6 times the annual average salary of a York resident and exemplifies why the need for affordable housing within the city is great because people earn less than the average needed to own a home. This has led to problems of income deprivation, a high demand for rented accommodation and an acknowledged affordable housing issue. The issues facing first time buyers and other parts of the market looking to buy has meant that York’s private rental sector is buoyant. Evidence suggests that this tenure has increased by 50% between 2001-2008<sup>10</sup>.



The Index of Multiple Deprivation shows that between 2007 and 2010, barriers to housing improved within York with the number of SOAs registering within the 20% most deprived areas decreasing from 12 to 8.

At the time of the 2011 Census, the majority of the population owned their property outright followed by those who owned their property with a mortgage. Compared nationally, York had a higher percentage of owner occupiers (63.4% in England) and fewer households in the social rented sector (17.7% in England).

The Housing Strategy Statistical Appendix (HSSA) data returns for 2013<sup>11</sup> as of 1<sup>st</sup> April

<sup>10</sup> North Yorkshire Strategic Housing market assessment (GVA, 2011)

2013 there were 3,379 live applications on the City of York Council housing register. The demand is mainly for one or two bedroom properties but there is also a demand for more family housing. The HSSA also stated that there were 1,422 vacant homes of which 510 had been vacant for over 6 months.

The Strategic Housing Market Assessment (2011) stated that the level of housing needed in the future based upon the number of households was 850 dwellings per annum. In terms of the affordable housing needed to both clear the existing waiting list backlog and meet future housing need arising, the report estimates that approximately 790 dwellings per annum are needed. The affordable housing results emerged from the housing needs assessment undertaken in a survey sent to households in York. This survey also suggested that 33% of households are classified as under-occupying their property, according to the bedroom standard calculation, suggesting a significant latent capacity within the stock. The survey also reveals a high rate of household retention with 64% of those people planning to move in the next 2 years planning to remain in York. Despite owner affordability issues, owner occupation remains an aspiration for almost 50% of households planning to move expected to move into this tenure.

The housing profile for York differs lightly from the North Yorkshire average. The authority includes a significant proportion of semi-detached properties and a lower proportion of detached properties than many of the more rural parts of North Yorkshire. York does however, have a higher proportion of flatted properties which has increased over recent years as a result of development activity within and on the edge of the city centre. The previous SHMA (2007) suggested that to redress the balance of family accommodation to flatted development, a split of 70:30 houses to flats was needed.

There is demand for more sites for the Gypsy and Traveller community within York as it is known that the existing sites are at capacity and some people from this community live in conventional dwellings, which does not necessarily suit their lifestyle. In terms of Showpersons, York has been identified as a location which would be good to provide permanent and stopover sites given its central location within the region and transport network access for travelling to showgrounds as part of their job.

The demand for older person housings is also set to increase due to the aging population of York. The Older Persons Housing Needs Survey states that there are about 30,000 older person only households in York. There is a higher proportion in rural areas as compared with urban parts of the City council area and over 75% of older households are owner-occupiers. In order for people to be able to remain in their homes for longer, older persons find that they need to make adaptations to their properties to cater for changing physical demands and disabilities. The provision of other types of homes for the elderly, including nursing homes, residential care homes and warden assisted living as well as support services will also need to be developed to take care of the current demand identified for the future.

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<sup>11</sup> <http://www.communities.gov.uk/housing/housingresearch/housingstatistics/housingstatisticsby/localauthorityhousing/dataforms/hssabpsa1011/hssadatareturns1011/>

### Access to Services, Leisure and Community Facilities

York has over 300 sports clubs and a great variety of physical activity programmed all year round in various locations across the city. The city has 2 council run swimming pools and gyms as well as other private gym and swimming facilities. There is support for the “just 30” campaign to get people undertaking an activity for 30 minutes of moderate exercise a day and targeted campaigns for different age groups to take up a leisure activity. Further to this, the council have 9 formal parks and gardens as well as numerous informal openspaces (see the section on Green Infrastructure for more information).

Aside from the sports and openspace facilities in York, there are a number of social facilities as community halls, venues for clubs and societies to meet, libraries, youth facilities and public houses. All social facilities are vital in creating inclusive and sustainable communities and help to create a sense of community identity. It is important that existing facilities are protected and that new facilities are developed in locations which are accessible to all. It will also be important that new developments take consideration for the provision of community facilities.

Access to key services such as food shops, primary schools and health facilities within a short distance is important to serve local residents. Creating local access creates not only social benefits but also is positive for the environment by encouraging walking and cycling to services which are in proximity. Currently, a neighbourhood parades study is being undertaken to establish a clear view of where neighbourhoods are served by facilities and where there are deficits. In addition to this, it will also provide a base for which to monitor change and assess if new development will need to provide further services.

### Key Messages from the Access and Equality Baseline

- York has become less deprived but still has pockets of high deprivation which need to be addressed.
- Demand for Affordable Homes is high.
- York has areas which feature within the top 20% most deprived in the country in terms of barriers to housing although the number has decreased between 2007-2010.
- A major barrier to housing is the disparity between the cost of housing and how much people earn as well as access to funding such as mortgages.
- The provision of other types of homes for the elderly, including nursing homes, residential care homes and warden assisted living as well as support services will also need to be developed to take care of the current demand identified for the future.
- There is a recognised need for Gypsy and Traveller and Showpeople sites.
- Continued access to facilities and services is paramount for local provision and needs to be factored in for the future..

### Indicators

Indicator	Area	Period	Value	Previous Value	Trend	National Average	Data Source	Indicator Source
Number of SOAs within the top 20% most deprived in the Country	York	2010	8	12 (2007)			Index of Multiple Deprivation 2010	Quality of Life Counts; City of York Council Plan

Indicator	Area	Period	Value	Previous Value	Trend	National Average	Data Source	Indicator Source
H5: Gross Affordable Housing Completions by: 1) Social rent units 2) Low cost ownership units 3) Intermediate rent units 4) Total units	York	2011/12	1) 77 2) 44 3) 30 4) 151	2010/11: 1) 153 2) 55 3) 74 4) 282			Annual Monitoring Report	Annual Monitoring Report Core Indicators (H5)
Percentage of schemes delivering affordable housing that meets the target set in the Dynamic Viability Model	York	Tbc	Tbc	Tbc	Tbc	Tbc	Local Plan Monitoring	Annual Monitoring Report Core Indicators (H5)
Proportion of new homes meeting Lifetime Homes Standard on sites with 15 or more dwelling	York	Tbc	Tbc	Tbc	Tbc	Tbc	Local Plan Monitoring	Annual Monitoring Report Core Indicators (H5)
% of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport time of: 1) GP surgery 2) York Hospital 3) Primary School 4) Secondary school 5) Area of employment 6) Major retail centre	York	2011/12	1) 98.9 2) 93.2 3) 98.3 4) 98.0 5) 99.2 6) 98.9	2010/11: 1) 99.0 2) 94.9 3) 99.0 4) 98.8 5) 99.0 6) 98.4		N/a	Local Plan Monitoring – local indicator	Annual Monitoring Report Core Indicators
% of new community facilities that are within 400m of a bus route with a 15 min frequency	York	Tbc	Tbc	Tbc	Tbc	Tbc	Local Plan Monitoring – local Indicator	Annual Monitoring Report Core Indicators
Percentage of people who feel they can influence decision making in their locality.	York	2012	29%	N/a	N/a	N/a	Big York Survey 2012	Big York Survey 2012

## EDUCATION

Educational attainment in York is high; GCSE/GNVQ and GCE/VCE A/AS level achievements are significantly higher than both the Yorkshire and Humber region and the England average. In York in 2010/11 62% of pupils achieved 5 or more A\*-C grades at GCSE. This is an increase from both the 2008/09 and 2009/10 figures.

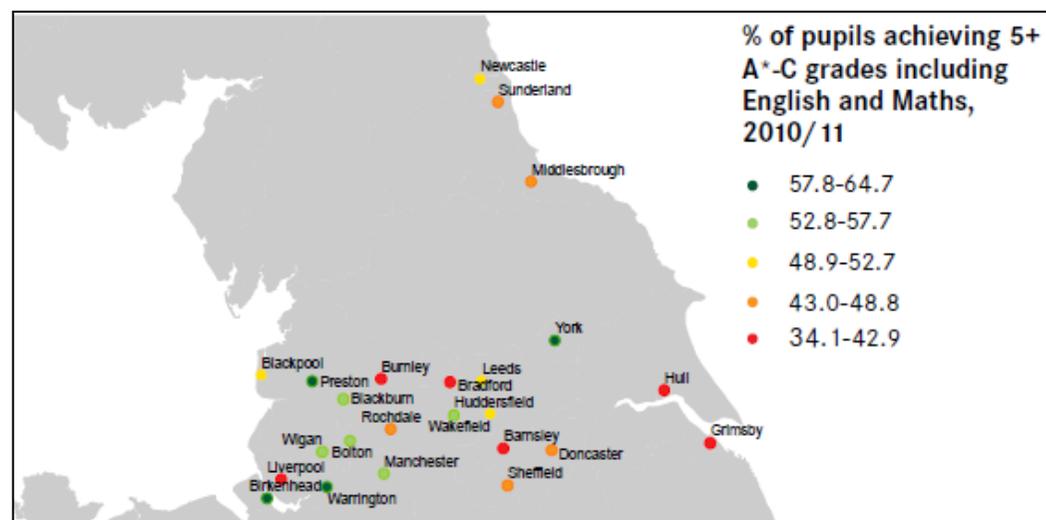
Since 2005 central government has been engaged in a far reaching programme of reforms to the 14-19 phase of education in England. The reforms are founded in the widely accepted recognition that the skills and qualification levels of young people must be significantly raised if they are to achieve economic well being, make a positive contribution and provide the flexible, high quality workforce required by our fast changing world. In simple terms, the reform programme has three strands:

- Raising Attainment
- Raising Participation
- Provision of a 14-19 entitlement curriculum

In York, the local authority has sought to progress the reform agenda through a city wide strategy involving all relevant stakeholders under the umbrella of Learning City York.

Through detailed analysis from a variety of sources, and building strongly on previous work, the Local Area Statement of need for the Provision of Learning for Young People aged 16-19 (October 2010) sets out the key findings and conclusions for learning provision for 16–19 year olds and those subject to a learning difficulty assessment aged up to 25 in the York LA. It aligns with “Achieving Excellence” the York 16-19 Plan in is guided by the key principles in our “Vision York 2013”, which underpin the 14–19 Plan:

- *Providing the highest quality education and training for all York learners;*
- *Meeting the needs of all learners in York, but with a key focus on groups which are currently less well served, including NEETs and learners with learning disabilities and/or difficulties;*
- *Putting the needs of the learner first and above the needs of individual institutions;*
- *Understanding that each institution has its own contribution to make, but that no school or college is bigger than the whole;*



- *Moving away from competition to co-dependency of a high quality;*
- *Driving change with shared and collective leadership.*

At the time of the 2011 Census 18% of York's population had no or low formal qualifications which is lower than both the national average of 22.5% of the population and the Yorkshire and Humber region figure of 25.8%. The city also had 32.4% of the population with level 4 qualifications or higher, which is nearly 10% above the Yorkshire and

Qualifications	York		England and Wales		Yorkshire and The Humber		
	(Number relates to all aged over 16)	number	%	number	%	number	%
All categories: Highest level of qualification		166,275	100.0	45,496,780	100.0	4,285,941	100.0
No qualifications		29,863	18.0	10,307,327	22.7	1,104,692	25.8
Highest level of qualification: Level 1 qualifications		17,636	10.6	6,047,384	13.3	581,029	13.6
Highest level of qualification: Level 2 qualifications		23,070	13.9	6,938,433	15.3	662,318	15.5
Highest level of qualification: Apprenticeship		7,429	4.5	1,631,777	3.6	181,690	4.2
Highest level of qualification: Level 3 qualifications		27,590	16.6	5,617,802	12.3	547,480	12.8
Highest level of qualification: Level 4 qualifications and above		53,875	32.4	12,383,477	27.2	998,718	23.3
Highest level of qualification: Other qualifications		6,812	4.1	2,570,580	5.7	210,014	4.9

Source: 2011 census, ONS

Humber average. York also had a comparatively high Apprenticeship rate compared to the national figures.

The city has two universities (York St John University and the University of York), a Sixth Form College (York College), Askham Bryan Agricultural College and York College of Law. The links between the higher educational establishments and the business sector, such as the science park located adjacent to the University campus also have a high impact and relate well to York's provision of a highly skilled workforce.

#### Key messages from the baseline

- The authority has a duty to provide and support education for all for the development of skills and learning.
- The results attained at primary and secondary level are good.
- York has a high proportion of people over 16 with high level of qualifications/ skills.

## Indicators

Indicator	Area	Period	Value	Previous Value	Trend	National Average	Data Source	Indicator Source
The percentage of the population qualified to NVQ2 level and above (working age: 16-64)	York	2013	80.2%	77.8% (2009) 77.7% (2010) 79.8% (2012)	↔	72.4%	ONS, Annual Population Survey Dec (Jan– Dec)	ONS, Annual Population Survey (Jan– Dec)
The percentage of the population qualified to NVQ4 and above (working age: 16-64)	York	2013	40.6%	40.8% (2009) 39.9% (2010) 41.3% (2012)	↔	34.9%	ONS, Annual Population Survey Dec (Jan– Dec)	ONS, Annual Population Survey Dec (Jan– Dec)
The percentage of the population with no qualifications	York	2013	6.9%	8.0% (2009) 7.2% (2010) 6.4% (2012)	↔	9.2%	ONS, Annual Population Survey Dec (Jan– Dec)	ONS, Annual Population Survey Dec (Jan– Dec)
% of pupils achieving 5+ A*-C at GCSE (or equivalent) incl English & Maths	York	2011/12	63%	53.8 (2008/09) 59.2 (2009/10) 59.1 (2010/11)	↑	58.6%	National Performance Indicator 75	National Quality of Life Indicators, Sustainable Communities, Egan Review
% of pupils achieving level 4 or above in both english and maths at KS2	York	2011/12	80%	75% (2008/09) 74% (2009/10) 78% (2010/11)	↑	79%	National Performance Indicator 73	
Numbers of schools not achieving the floor target of 60% for Level 4+ in both English & Maths at KS2	York	2011/12	3	9 (2008/09) 2 (2009/10)	↓		National Performance Indicator 76	City of York Council Plan

## CLIMATE CHANGE

### Climate Change

The Earth's surface has warmed by more than 0.75°C since around 1900, with much of this warming occurring in the past 50 years (source DECC). The 2007 Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) concluded it is very likely that most of the observed global warming since the mid-20th century is due to the observed increase in human-caused greenhouse gas (GHG) concentrations.

Under the Sustainable Development Strategy 2005, tackling climate change is one of 4 priorities. Through the Climate Change Act 2008, the Government passed legislation that introduces the world's first long-term legally binding framework to tackle the dangers of climate change. Key provision of the Act is a legally binding target of at least an 80% cut in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, and a reduction in emissions of at least 34% by 2020.

In 2011, the new NPPF has at the heart of it a presumption in favour of sustainable development and includes paragraphs 93 – 108 on specific climate change policy issues to be delivered through the planning system. The NPPF states that planning plays a key role in helping shape places to secure radical reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, minimising vulnerability and providing resilience to the impacts of climate change, and supporting the delivery of renewable and low carbon energy and associated infrastructure. In addition, the duty in section 19 of the 2004 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act requires local authorities to ensure that, taken as a whole, plan policy contributes to the mitigation and adaptation to climate change and good design standards. Therefore planning for climate change and sustainable development should be embedded in each decision made for the future, including the Local Plan.

A number of drivers exist at a variety of levels with the specific aim of tackling different sources which contribute to climate change. The most important of which is the Climate Change Act (CCA). The CCA is groundbreaking legislation put into statute by the Government committing the UK to cutting greenhouse gas emissions by 80% by 2050. The CA also put in place the mechanism for judging progress towards the 2050 target; carbon budgets. The first 3 carbon budgets have been set and require a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions of 34% below 1990 levels by 2020. The "Low Carbon Transition Plan" was also published by the UK government and complements the CCA by setting out the roadmap of how the 2050 targets and carbon budgets can be achieved. The plan aims to transform the energy used in place of work, homes and by transport as well as making the country think and act more sustainably. To ensure resilience from a changing climate, the Government is developing a National Adaptation Programme to address the risks set out in the first UK Climate Change Risk Assessment. The first National Adaptation Programme will be published in 2013 and will focus on helping UK businesses, local authorities and civil society to become more resilient or 'Climate Ready' to climate change impacts.

At the Regional level, there is a Yorkshire and Humber Climate Change Partnership which aims to bring together and drive forward work to tackle climate change in the region. The Yorkshire and Humber Climate Change Adaptation Study has also helped to understand the future of the region with climate change and has predicted that the city of York area will see a summer mean daily temperature increase of 2.2 degrees, an average annual temperature increase of 3 degrees and a reduction in the average annual rainfall by 36mm although winter rainfall is expected to increase.

At a local level, City of York Council and the Local Strategic Partnership (Without Walls) are committed to tackling climate change through the Climate Change Framework and Action Plan (2010 – 2015). This will form the foundation for a coordinated response to climate change across the city and aims to:

- reduce carbon emissions and other greenhouse gas emissions in line with national targets
- better prepare the city to adapt to likely future changes in climate.

Between 2005 and 2010 city-wide emissions have begun to fall, and have reduced by 13% from just over 1.3 million to 1.1 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> (Source DECC). In 2010 the city generated approximately just under 10MW of renewable energy, and since the introduction of the government's Feed-in – Tariff (which offers financial cash back for generating renewable electricity) an additional 4.5 MW of installed capacity have been installed across York (Source: Ofgem).

Living within our environmental limits is a core underpinning principle within The Strategy for York (2011 – 2025) and creating a sustainable city including tackling climate change is a major objective of the strategy. Since 2011, the Council has to submit a greenhouse gas inventory illustrating the GHG emissions that originate from its stock. For 2010/2011 across the Council stock just over 34,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalents were emitted. As a Council we have a carbon management plan to reduce carbon emissions by 25% by 2013 and have tackling change as a corporate risk and priority action. The Council has also carried out a high-level risk assessment on key services against predicted future changes in climate. Where appropriate, this work is now being embedded into services or shared with partners to reduce any future significant risks.

To understand the potential impacts of climate change on York a Local Climate Impact Profile (2010) was produced which is a risk based assessment of significant vulnerabilities to weather and climate now and in the future was carried out in 2010. The study shows that with changes in the climatic parameters, York can expect to experience the following effects:

- Increased frequency of extreme rainfall events
- Changes in seasonal rainfall distribution causing drier summers and wetter winters
- Increased average daily temperatures (2.5°C)
- Increase frequency of heat waves

Further to this, the study concludes that the main direct impacts on the City of York area are likely to be:

- Increased flooding (pluvial and fluvial)
- Overheating
- Changes to biodiversity and ecosystem health
- Pressures on water resources
- Increased risk of disease and pests (non human)
- Increased physical stress on cultural heritage

As well as the direct impacts of these climatic events, there are also indirect impacts that may occur in combination and which will increase the overall impact on York. For example, climate change will have a great effect on flooding, which is already a key issue in York. Climate change is likely to increase the amount of rainfall and therefore the prevalence for flooding. An indirect consequence of more rainfall would be more frequent damage to properties, infrastructure, transport networks and potentially an adverse effect on public health and well-being leading to further stress on emergency and health services. Furthermore, there are great implications for biodiversity given that the change in temperatures may not support certain habitats or species leading to a potential loss of ecosystem health.

In concluding the study, it is apparent that there is also a financial cost to climate change which would need to be funded should action not be taken. The present research estimates this to be at £95 to £158 million per annum by 2050. Key to limiting the damage, physically, socially and financially in York, is adaptation and mitigation of climate change. The Stern Review: The Economic of Climate Change highlighted that that a 'business as usual' scenario would reduce welfare by an amount equivalent to a reduction in global capita consumption per head of between 5%-20%. The strong message from the economic modelling was that when taking account of the risks and uncertainties, the costs look very large. With regards to this the report concludes that: *"much (but not all) of the risk can be reduced through a strong mitigation policy and...(that this) can be achieved at a far lower cost than those calculated for the impacts. In this case mitigation is a highly productive investment"*<sup>13</sup>. In this sense the approach to mitigate climate change at a local level will work towards reducing the larger overarching financial costs.

The Council have also set ambitious targets to reduce carbon emissions across the city by 40% by 2020<sup>14</sup> in line with the Mayor of Covenants and Friends of the Earth targets. This is being delivered through a Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP) adopted in 2011.

The Council is also a signatory of other schemes such as the Covenant of Mayors and the Friend's of the Earth Get Serious Campaign. The First is a European Standard that signs the Council up to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 20% across the local authority area. This is delivered through a Sustainable Energy Action Plans (SEAPs) which sets out the projects that will help to achieve the target . York's SEAP was approved in 2011 and also adheres to the Get Serious Campaign. This is a campaign to get local government to lead the way in terms of action on climate change and reach a 40% reduction in total emissions of greenhouse gases by 2020. To ensure the city can meet it challenging carbon reduction targets, modelling was carried out to inform the climate change action plan and SEAP. This modelling illustrated that government intervention alone would not achieve the targets locally, and illustrated that over the coming years York could plausible achieve the 2020 target through a mix of large-scale renewable energy projects such as combined heat and power with district heat networks, and through retro-fit city-wide energy efficiency schemes. Based on the modelling, the city is committed to accelerating in particular the following:

- to undertake several research and feasibility projects to identify sites, partners and funding for;
- possible low carbon/zero carbon Combined Heat and Power schemes (with district heat networks) across appropriate sites in York;

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<sup>13</sup> Stern Review: The Economics of Climate Change (2006) HM Treasury

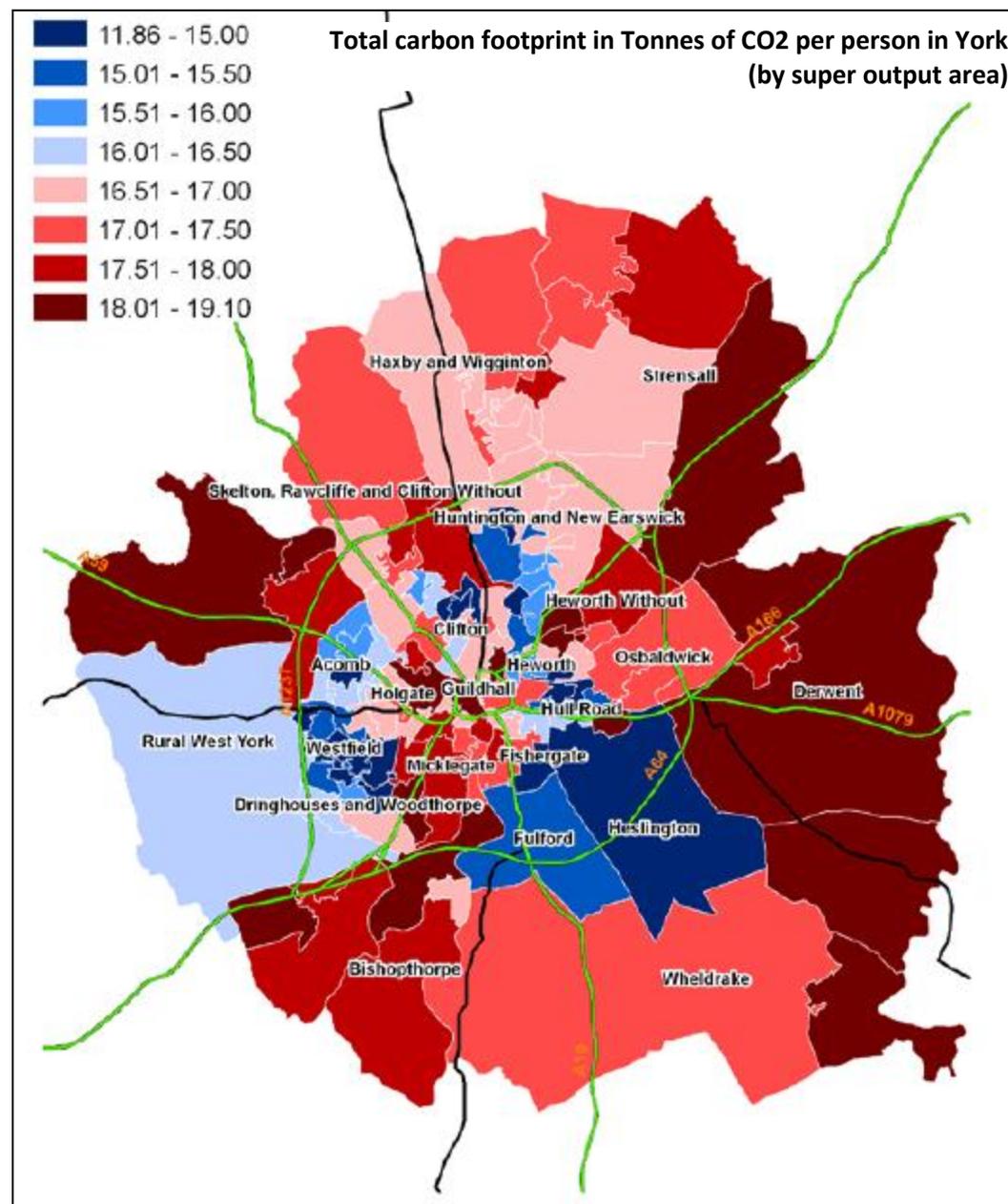
<sup>14</sup> Climate Change Action Plan 2011

- other low carbon/renewable schemes such as large-scale and medium-scale wind generation;
- citywide/area based domestic energy efficiency and renewable energy installation programmes (including maximising opportunities from the forthcoming Green Deal); and
- citywide roll out of replacement transport fuels such as electricity.

(Please note – such schemes would only be installed where it is feasible, appropriate and in line with local planning policy)

In 2010 York used targeted marketing to raise awareness of reducing people's carbon footprint in the "York Green Neighbourhood Challenge". Participants were recruited for a period of 12 months and challenged to make changes to their lifestyle which would reduce their footprint. The 49 participants who completed the challenge have an estimated average carbon footprint reduction of 2.0 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e/year which is a total reduction of 11.3%. This Overall, the Green Neighbourhood challenge was effective in reducing the carbon footprint of the participants and achieved an estimated total emission reduction of 98 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e/ year. The t-tests showed that these reductions in residents' footprints by the end of the project were statistically significant although not every aspect of the participants lifestyle changed.

The study concluded that there is now a need for a new, re-energised, concerted and joined-up approach that places environmental issues in a wider context that appeals to a broader section of the community. The future vision should be positive and



appealing and one that wins hearts and minds. This approach should improve the quality of life for all members of the community.

#### Key issues from the baseline:

- Climate change will have an impact in York at a variety of levels;
- Targeted campaigns can work including those aimed at design and sustainability as well as lifestyle changes.

#### Indicators

Indicator	Area	Period	Value	Previous Value	Trend	National Average	Data Source	Indicator Source
Reduction in Ecological Footprint	York	2006	4.72	5.3 (2001)		4.64	Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)	Local Indicator
Reduction in York's Carbon Footprint	York	2006	12.61	n/a		12.1	Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)	Local Indicator
National Indicator 185: CO <sub>2</sub> reduction from local authority operations	York	2010/11	-13.64%	-7.50% (2010/11)		n/a	City of York Council Plan	Former National Indicator 185; Annual Monitoring Report Local Indicator
Per capita reduction in CO <sub>2</sub> emissions in the LA area (tonnes)	York	2010	5.6	5.5 (2009) 6.1 (2008) 6.3 (2007)		n/a	Department of Energy and Climate Change, 2012.	Former National Indicator 186; Annual Monitoring Report Local Indicator
Planning to adapt to climate change	York	2011/12	Level 1	Level 1 (2010/11)		n/a	City of York Council Plan	Former National Indicator 186; Annual Monitoring Report Local Indicator

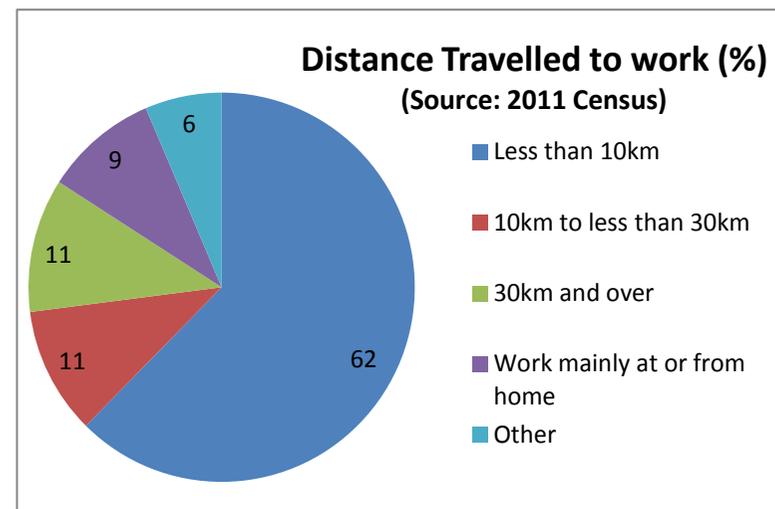
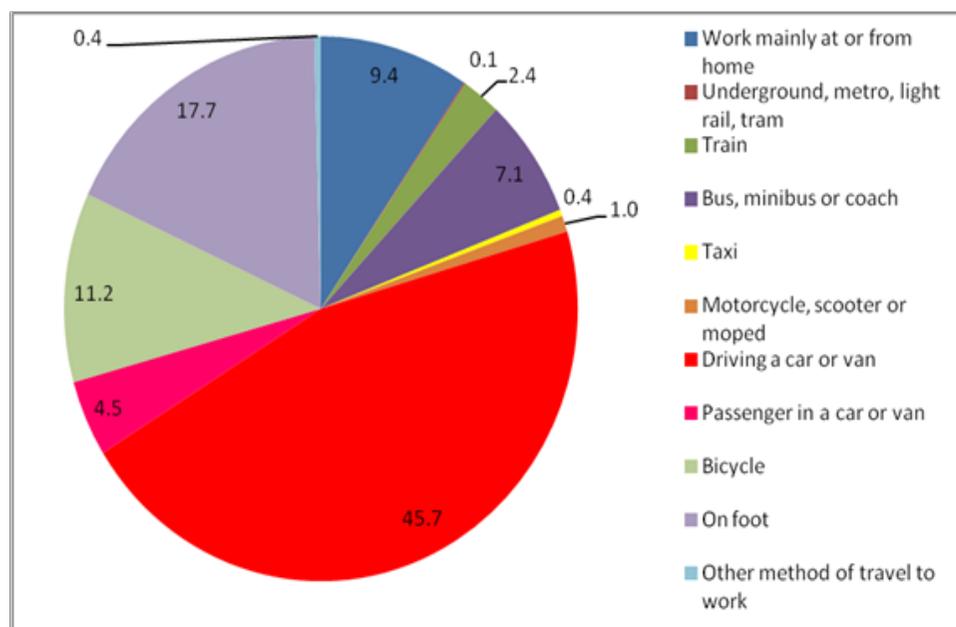
**TRANSPORT**

In York it is recognised that transport and access to jobs, education, shopping, leisure facilities and services have a direct impact on people’s quality of life. A safe, efficient and integrated transport system is important in supporting a strong and prosperous economy within York and can contribute towards the Council’s overall vision of ensuring the city is thriving, inclusive, healthy and sustainable. But, travel can also have negative impacts on the environment in terms of noise, pollution, severance and visual intrusion.

**Travel to work**

The most recent comprehensive source, which contains available journey to work data for York, is the 2001 Census. It shows that York is one of five local authorities in the Yorkshire and Humber region that experiences a net daily in-flow of trips to work, with 22,803 and 18,204 journeys to and from the York area respectively (Census, 2011). It also has nearly 71,000 internal travel to work trips daily, as shown below. The majority of the inward commute trips originate in East Riding of Yorkshire and Selby, and the main outward commute is to Leeds, as shown in Figure 5.2. Around 9% of trips to York originate from outside the region, whilst 14% of trips from York are to destinations outside the region.

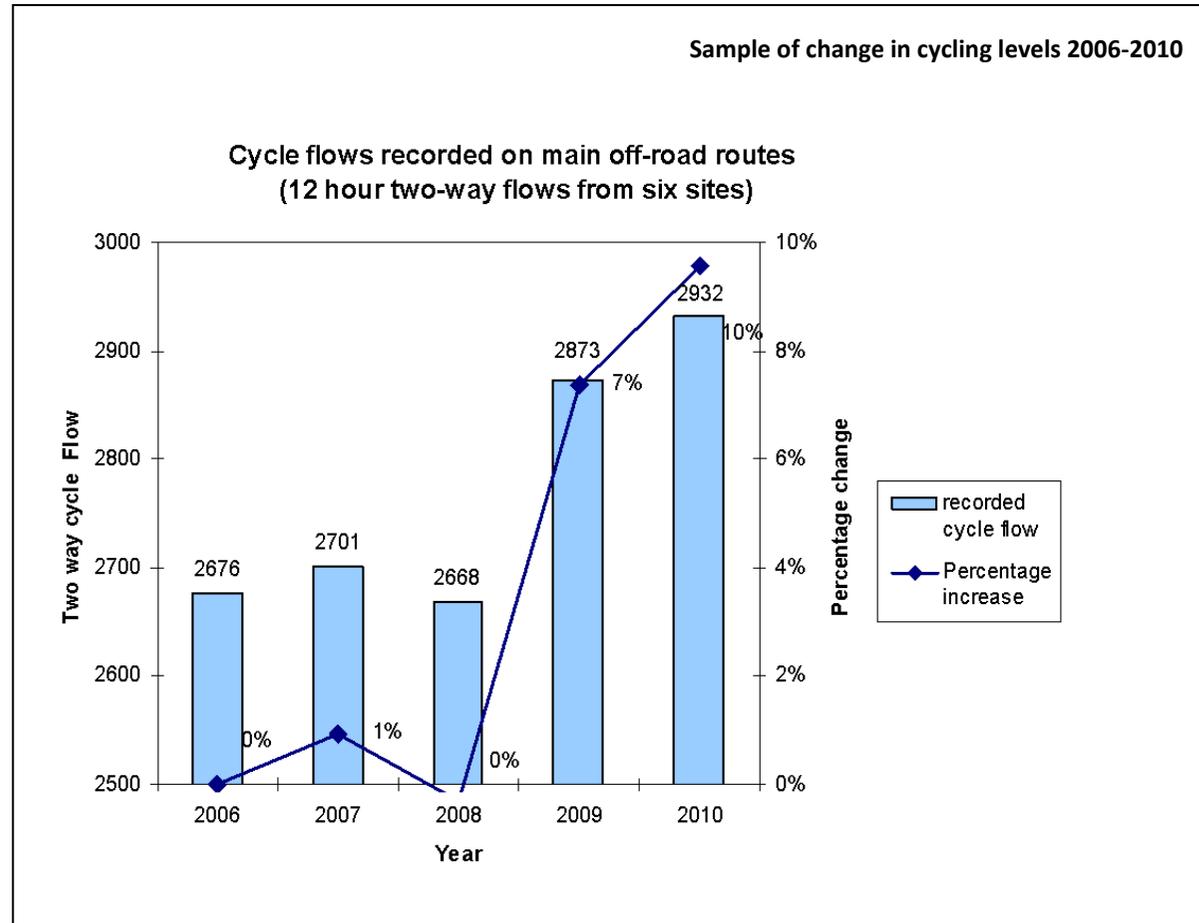
The majority of people in York commute less than 10km to work indicating that they live within or close to the City of York.



The largest proportion of people commute to work by car (30.1%) followed by those travelling on foot (11.7%). The number of people cycling to work is also high at 7.4%.

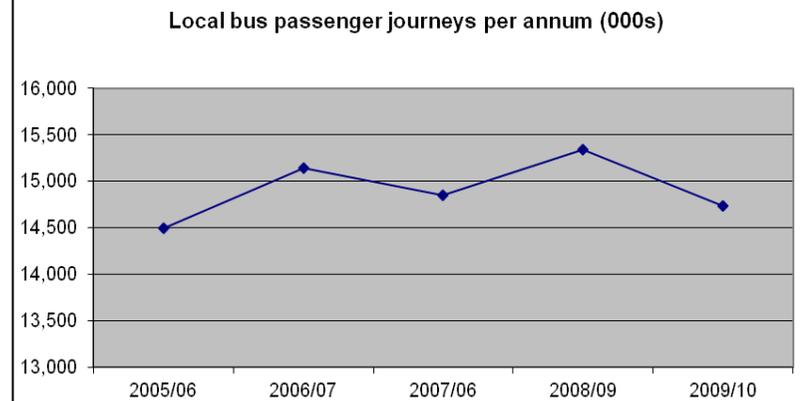
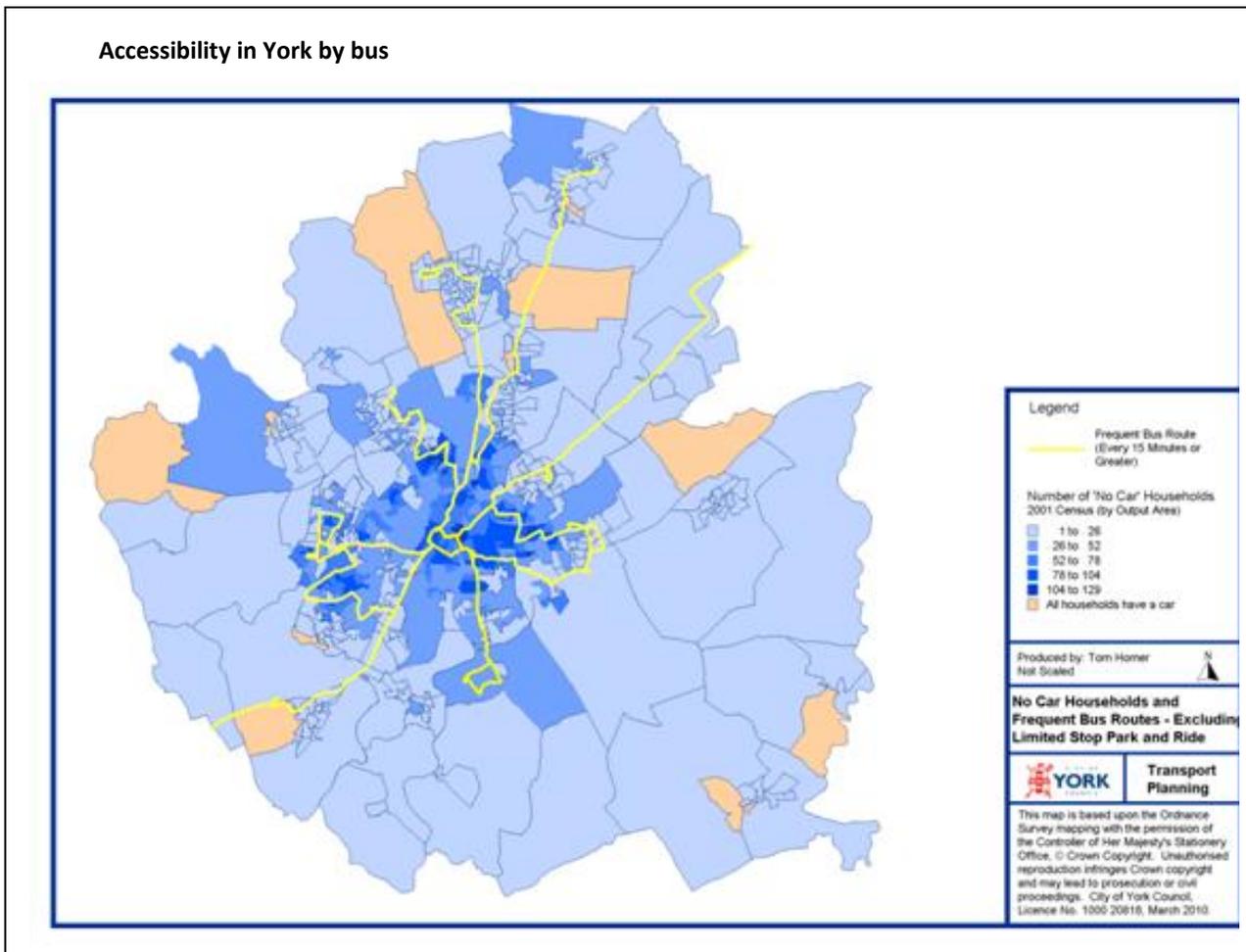
### Sustainable Travel Modes: Cycling

York has a higher proportion of people who cycle or walk to work compared to England and Wales and the Yorkshire and the Humber region (Census 2011). In addition, cycling levels have increased significantly since the Cycling City York programme commenced in 2008, as shown in the Sample of change in cycling levels 2006-2010 graph.

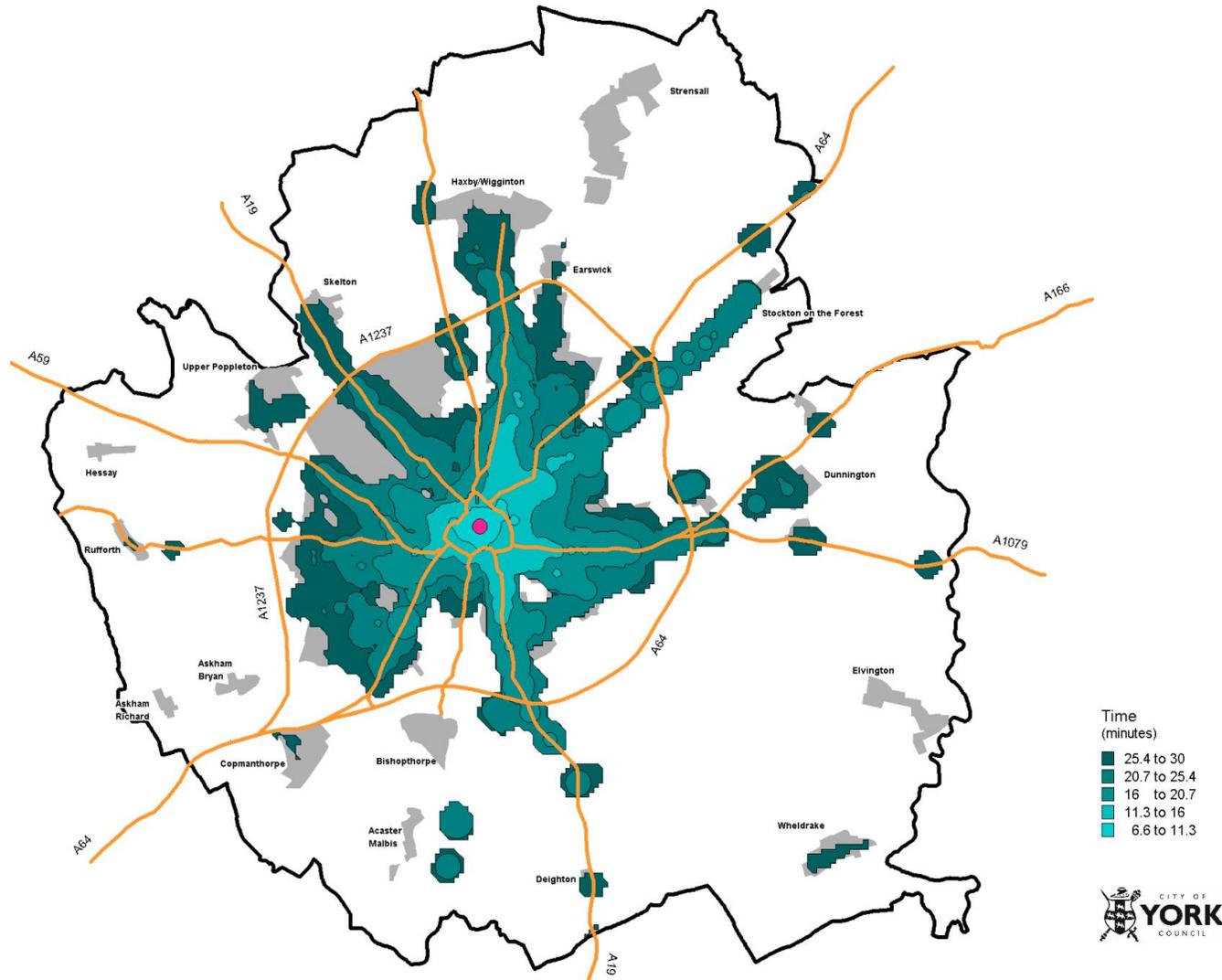


**Sustainable Travel Modes: Bus Travel**

Although travel by bus in York (as a percentage of overall trips) is slightly lower compared to the areas previously mentioned, patronage has remained roughly static around approximately 15m passenger trips per year (of which approximately 2.8 million are Park & Ride passengers), and is slightly above the level it was at in 2005/06. Furthermore, bus services that are more frequent than every 15 minutes match well to the areas in York with the highest number of households without a car, indicating that there are accessible frequent services to the city centre from at least these areas. However, it would also appear that services from these areas to other parts of the York, such as out-of-town developments, are not so well provided.



Accessibility (to the city centre) by public transport varies significantly. Access is generally good in along the urban corridors, with services, comprising a mixture of high-frequency local bus services and Park & Ride services, serving seven Park & Ride sites on the perimeter of the city, that can reach the city centre within 30 minutes. The particular ‘accessibility gaps’ are principally in the outlying smaller villages, Strensall (which has a high-frequency service but a journey time to the city centre of more than 30 minutes) and parts of the north western sector of the York urban area. Villages on the main inter-urban bus routes have better access to the city centre than those not on these routes. Vehicle ownership levels are significantly higher in rural areas of the York area, in some cases more than double that for urban wards. The key reasons for higher car ownership in rural areas include: a lack of local facilities, such as shops and services, and less access to frequent public transport, leading to people being more likely to travel by private car.

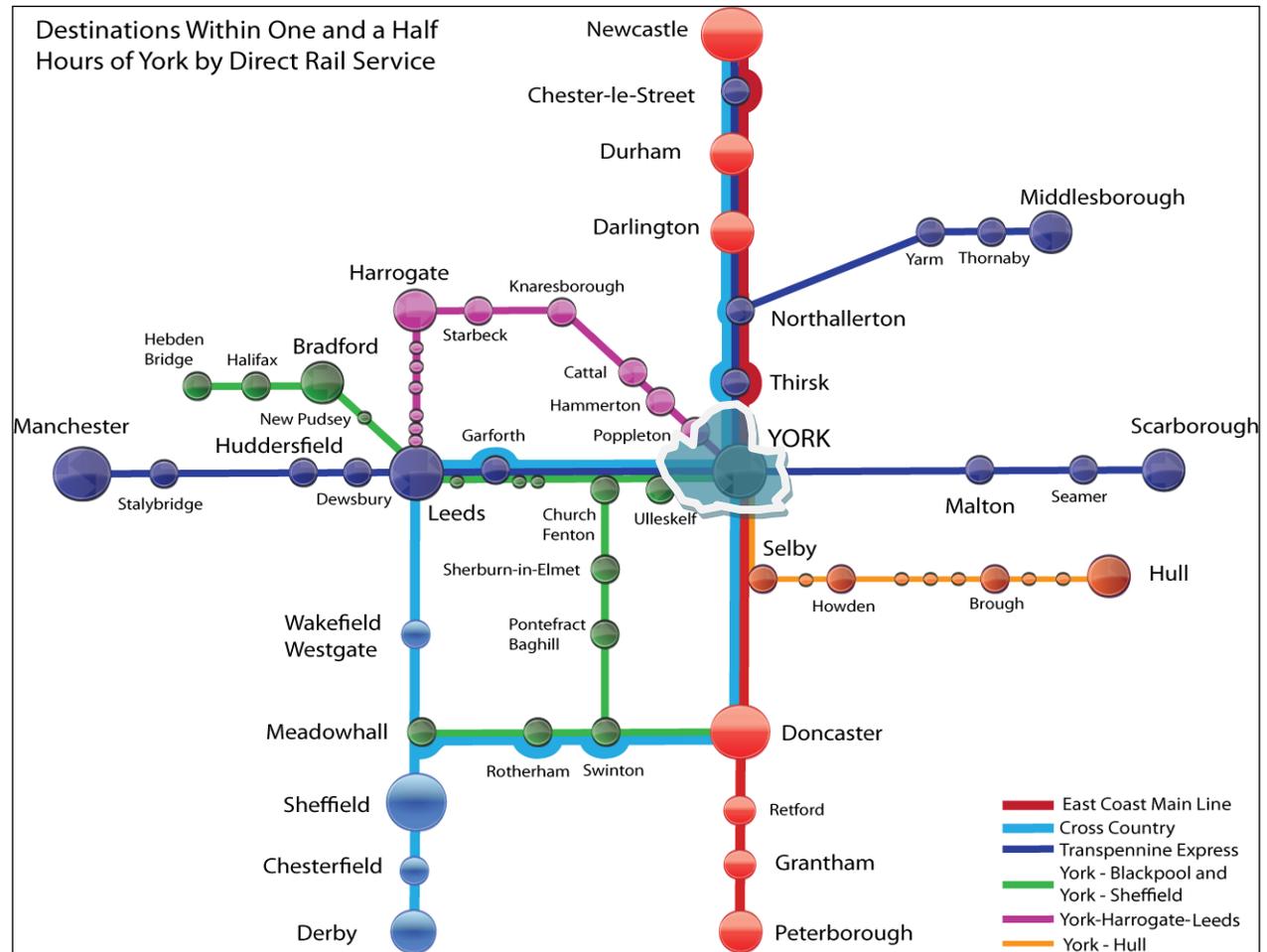


30 Minutes Public Transport Access to the City Centre  
Tuesday 7am - 9am

York is well connected by rail to many other areas of the country. London and Edinburgh are about two hours away and direct trains are available to many cities in the north of England e.g. Leeds, Manchester, Liverpool, Sheffield, Birmingham. The diagram below illustrates good accessibility to other rail stations within 90 minutes journey time of the York. Services to Harrogate are of a low frequency and rail links to the south east of the city including Hull are relatively poor.

York is the second busiest station in Yorkshire and Humber (after Leeds). Network Rail's 'Yorkshire and Humber Route Utilisation Strategy, 2009' predicts that the total number of passengers travelling to York will increase by 41% (3.4% per year) over the next 12 years

School travel plans have been put in place with the aim of decreasing car use on the journey to school and increasing awareness of healthier and more sustainable forms of transport. By 2010 95% of York's schools had a travel plan in place. Modal Split data from the 2009 (annual) school survey shows that large proportion of pupils walk to primary and secondary schools at 61% and 48% consecutively. However, cycling levels for primary schools are quite low (but not compared to the rest of the region) at only 5% and travel by car is still quite high at nearly 30% (equating to over 3,500 pupils).



The 1994/98 five-year average for killed and seriously injured road casualties was 137<sup>16</sup>. By 2009 this had reduced, by more than the council's 45% reduction target, to 60 and had fallen again by 2013 to 58<sup>17</sup>. Over the same period the number of children killed and seriously injured road casualties fell by 57% and slight road casualties have fallen by 22%.

In June 2010, the coalition government set out its 'Programme for Government', which acknowledged that modern transport infrastructure is essential for a dynamic and entrepreneurial economy. It also recognised that the transport sector needs to be greener and more sustainable with tougher emission standards and new transport technologies. Distilling this further, it can be argued that the coalition government's transport priorities are to:

- Implement more sustainable transport (including reducing CO2 emissions).
- Support economic growth.
- Contribute to the localism agenda.

In January 2011, the national coalition government published its transport White Paper 'Creating Growth, Cutting Carbon: Making Sustainable Local Transport Happen'. The White Paper states that alongside technological change to address carbon output, measures will need to be taken to tackle the problem of congestion, stressing the importance of sustainable travel to tackle congestion, as it is short-distance, local trips where the biggest opportunities for people to make more sustainable transport choices exist. Furthermore, it expresses the national government's belief that it is at the local level that most can be done to enable people to make more sustainable transport choices.

In March 2011, the 'City of York Local Transport Plan 2011-2031 (LTP3)' was published. It sets out the transport policies and measures that will contribute to the city's economic prosperity over the next 20 years, whilst meeting challenging national and local targets for reducing emissions, building on the successes of the city's two previous LTPs (LTP1 2001-2006 and LTP2 2006-2011), which include:

- Peak period traffic levels stable since 2006;
- improvements to the main southern radial route into York with better facilities for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users;
- bus patronage remaining stable, despite falling patronage elsewhere in the country;
- around 3 million Park & Ride passengers carried annually;
- a 45% reduction in killed and seriously injured road casualties;
- 95% of schools in York having a travel plan in place, and
- a significant increase in the numbers of people cycling in the city (following the implementation of the 'Cycling City York' programme).



<sup>16</sup> LPT3 Monitoring, CYC

<sup>17</sup> LPT3 Monitoring, CYC

The LTP3 vision for transport over the next 20 years is to enable everyone to undertake their activities in the most sustainable way and to have a transport system that:

- Has people walking, cycling and using public transport more;
- Makes York easier to get around with reliable and sustainable links within its own area, to adjacent areas and cities and the rest of the UK;
- Enables people to travel in safety, comfort and security, whatever form of transport they use;
- Provides equal access to opportunities for employment, education, training, good health and leisure for all, and
- Addresses the transport-related climate change and local air quality issues in York.

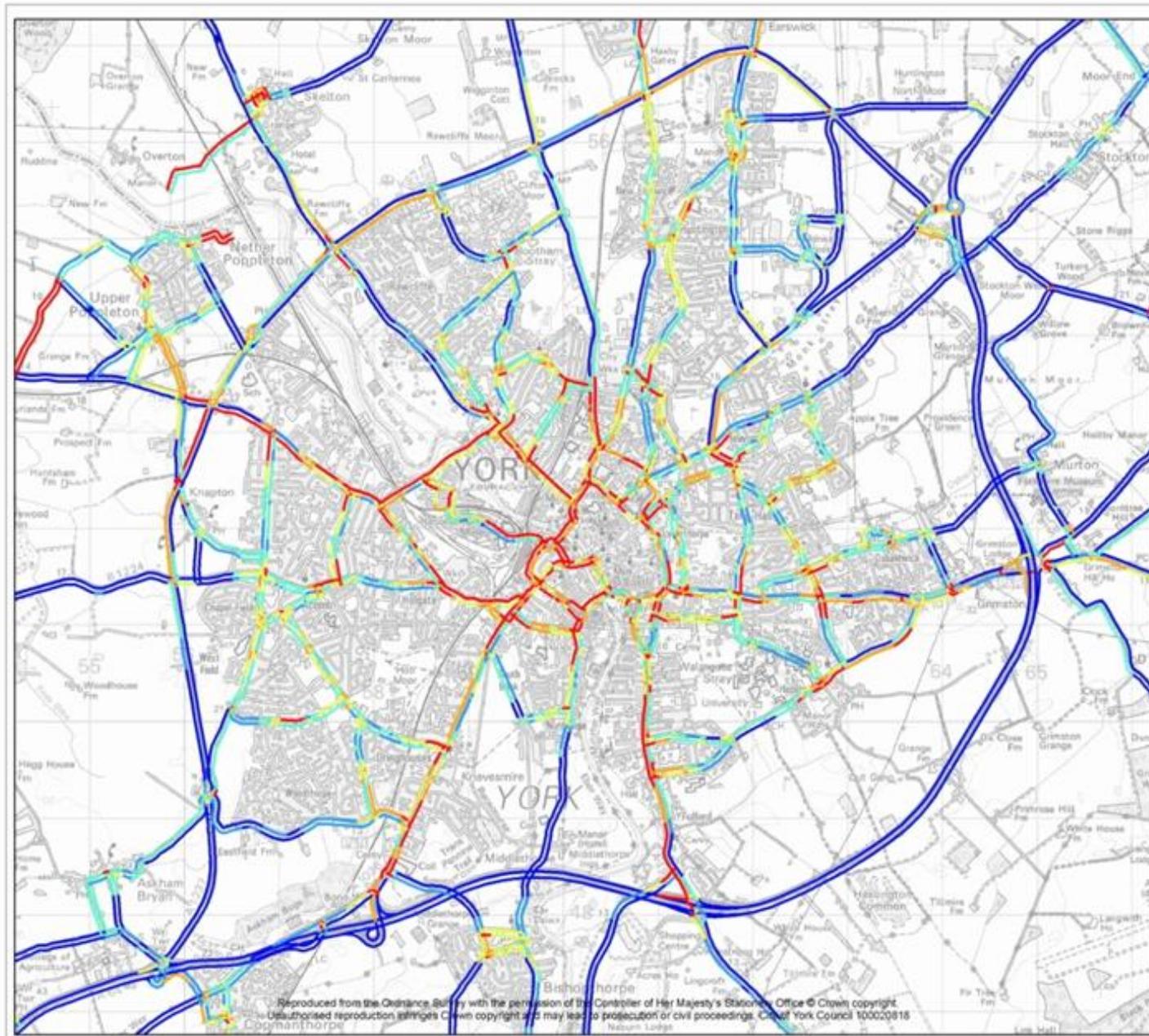
Since publication of LTP3, City of York Council has made successful bids to the national government's Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) and Better Bus Area Fund to implement various packages of sustainable transport measures to help realise this vision. The LSTF funded 'i-Travel York' programme consisting of a package of city-wide measures and measures more focused on the north-east sector of York, seeks to build upon the success of the Cycling City York programme (see Para. 5.40) to influence travel behaviour in favour of more sustainable and active forms of travel and thereby reduce the dependency on the private car.

The diagram on the following page show the average traffic speeds for 2009/10. The slowest speeds on certain sections of road are displayed in red. This is where, between 08:00 and 09:00 in the morning, cars are travelling on average at less than 10mph, therefore indicating congestion. Most of these sections are in the city centre, to the west and on the main arterials coming into the city centre. The largest variation relative to the speed limit is on the northern outer ring road where there are significant delays on the section between Wetherby Road and Strensall Road.

Traffic modelling work undertaken in September 2011, to support the Submission version of the Local Development Framework Core Strategy predicted that:

- If there is insufficient future investment in transport infrastructure and other transport measures, congestion delay time across the network could almost triple by 2026.
- Investment in transport infrastructure alone will not be sufficient to adequately mitigate the increased congestion delay by 2026. Consequently, other sustainable transport measures will also need to be put into place.
- Even with all the reasonably practicable and deliverable transport investment in place, congestion delay across the network could double by 2026.

A refresh of this modelling, in 2012, following an extensive major rebuild and upgrade of the council's strategic transport model reduced the delays shown in the first and third bullet points above to approximately double and one-and-three-quarters respectively.



**Average Traffic Speeds**  
**Academic Year 2009/10**  
**School Weekdays**  
**AM peak 8:00 to 9:00**  
 Source: Traffic master GPS data

- York speeds
- Less than 10 mph
  - 10-15 mph
  - 15-20 mph
  - 20-25 mph
  - 25-30 mph
  - More than 30 mph

**LTP3**  
 Transport Planning Unit  
 City Strategy  
 S Parrett 16/3/2011

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## Key messages from the baseline:

- Traffic levels in York have remained largely unchanged since 1998, despite continued development over this period<sup>18</sup>.
- York experiences a net daily in-commute of approximately 4599 trips from the Yorkshire and Humber region (Census, 2011).
- The number of people cycling has increased since the introduction of the Cycling City York programme<sup>19</sup>. High frequency bus services match well to the areas in York with the highest number of households without a car (Census, 2011).
- Vehicle ownership levels are significantly higher in rural areas of the York area (Census, 2011).
- York is well connected by rail to many other areas of the country, but services to Harrogate are of a low frequency and rail links to the south east of the city including Hull are relatively poor<sup>20</sup>.
- Killed and seriously injured road casualties have reduced by at least 45% (from the 1994/98 average).
- In the past two years City of York Council has made successful bids to Government for funding programmes to improve public transport and encourage travel behaviour change to reduce dependency on the private car for travel.

## Indicators

Indicator	Area	Period	Value	Previous Value	Trend	National Average	Data Source	Indicator Source
Passenger journeys per year originating within the local authority	York	2009/10	14,774,800	n/a	n/a	n/a	CYC LTP3 (LI3)	City of York Council Plan
Total Park and Ride passengers	York	2011/12	4.06m	3.76m (2010/11) 3.67m (2009/10) 3.69m (2008/09)		n/a	CYC LTP3 (LI3)	City of York Council Plan
% of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport time of: 1) GP surgery 2) York Hospital 3) Primary School 4) Secondary school 5) Area of employment 6) Major retail centre	York	2011/12	1) 98.9 2) 93.2 3) 98.3 4) 98.0 5) 99.2 6) 98.9	2010/11: 1) 99.0 2) 94.9 3) 99.0 4) 98.8 5) 99.0 6) 98.4		N/a	Local Plan Monitoring – local indicator	Annual Monitoring Report Core Indicators

<sup>18</sup> LPT3 Monitoring, CYC<sup>19</sup> CYC Monitoring<sup>20</sup> National Rail Timetables

Indicator	Area	Period	Value	Previous Value	Trend	National Average	Data Source	Indicator Source
Children travelling to school by car aged 5-10	York		31%	TBC	TBC	n/a	Annual School Census, LTP3 (LI5)	City of York Council LTP3 Monitoring Indicators
Children travelling to school by car aged 11-16	York		9%	TBC	TBC	N/a	Annual School Census, LTP3 (LI5)	City of York Council LTP3 Monitoring Indicators
16-19 year olds within 30 mins of York College by public transport	York	2009/10	63%	TBC	TBC	n/a	CYC LTP3 (LI9b)	City of York Council LTP3 Monitoring Indicators
Change in area-wide traffic volumes: AM peak, inter-peak, PM peak, 12-house total, hourly average	York	2009/10	90300 – am 85600 – inter 98000 – pm 1080000 – 12 hour 90000 – hourly ave	TBC	TBC	n/a	CYC LTP3 (LI10)	City of York Council LTP3 Monitoring Indicators
Number using off street car parks	York	2011/12	1.62m	1.60m (2010/11) 1.60m (2009/10) 1.68m (2008/09)		n/a	City of York Council Priority scorecard	
Congestion – average time taken to travel 1 mile in the AM peak	York	2010/11	3 min 17 secs	3 mins 19 secs (09/10) 3 mins 24 secs (08/09)	TBC	n/a	CYC LTP3 (LI12))	City of York Council LTP3 Monitoring Indicators
Index of cycling numbers (AM peak) Calendar baseline:2009)	York	2011/12	105%	100% (2009/10)		n/a	City of York Council Priority scorecard	
Index of cycling numbers (PM peak) Calendar baseline:2009)	York	2011/12	105%	100% (2009/10)		n/a	City of York Council Priority scorecard	
People killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents	York	2009/10	60	TBC	TBC	n/a	CYC LTP3 (LI13a)	City of York Council LTP3 Monitoring Indicators
Children killed or seriously injured in road traffic accident	York	2009/10	6	TBC	TBC	n/a	CYC LTP3 (LI13b)	City of York Council LTP3 Monitoring Indicators
People slightly injured in road traffic accidents	York	2009/10	557	TBC	TBC	n/a	CYC LTP3 (LI13c)	City of York Council LTP3 Monitoring Indicators
Nitrogen dioxide levels	York	2009/10	45 ug/m <sup>3</sup>	TBC	TBC	n/a	CYC LTP3 (LI14)	City of York Council

Indicator	Area	Period	Value	Previous Value	Trend	National Average	Data Source	Indicator Source
								LTP3 Monitoring Indicators
Bus fleet meeting euro III or better standards	York	2009/10	68%	TBC	TBC	n/a	CYC LTP3 (LI15)	City of York Council LTP3 Monitoring Indicators
Levels of cycle theft in York	York	2009/10	1,100	TBC	TBC	n/a	Safe York Partnership, CYC LTP3 (LI19)	City of York Council LTP3 Monitoring Indicators
Total Membership of York car Club	York	2009/10	424	TBC	TBC	n/a	CYC LTP3 (LI21)	City of York Council LTP3 Monitoring Indicators

## HEALTH

### General health

The 2011 Census reveals that nearly 50% of the population is in very good health with a further 34% in good health. The number of people in bad or very bad health is shown to be below the regional and national average. Furthermore, the results from York's 2012 'Big Survey' shows that 87% of people say their health is good/very good.

The census also reveals that the majority of the populations does not have long-term limiting illness which effects their day-to-day activities. However 6.6% of the population is identified to have a health problem which limits their activities a lot.

All Usual Residents	York	Yorkshire and Humber	England
Very Good Health	49.7	45.6	47.2
Good Health	34.2	34.4	34.2
Fair Health	12.0	14.0	13.1
Bad Health	3.2	4.7	4.2
Very Bad Health	0.9	1.3	1.2
Day-to-Day Activities Limited a Lot	6.6	9.1	8.3
Day-to-Day Activities Limited a Little	8.8	9.8	9.3
Day-to-Day Activities Not Limited	84.7	81.2	82.4

Source: 2011 Census – General Health and Long-term health problem / Disability

### Life Expectancy

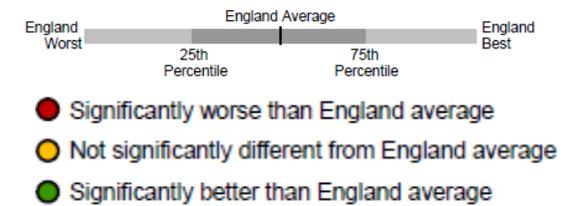
The national trend for life expectancy is increasing in line with the known aging population in York. Average life expectancy in York is now 81.4 years. There is a slight difference in life expectancy between males and females at 79.6 and 83.2 years<sup>21</sup> respectively. These figures remain consistently above the national average, particularly for males and are consistently with the region.

	2000-2002	2001-2003	2002-2004	2003-2005	2004-2006	2005-2007	2006-2008	2007-2009	2008-2010	2009-2011	2010-2012
Females	81.5	81.9	82.1	82.7	83.1	83.3	83.1	83.1	82.9	83.2	83.2
Male	76.9	76.8	77.3	77.2	77.8	78.5	79.2	79.5	79.6	79.4	79.6

Source: ONS (2014) Life Expectancy at Birth

<sup>21</sup> ONS (2014) Life expectancy at birth

Domain	Indicator	Local No. Per Year	Local Value	Eng Avg	Eng Worst	England Range	Eng Best
Our communities	1 Deprivation	13854	7.0	20.3	83.7		0.0
	2 Proportion of children in poverty	4085	13.5	21.1	45.9		6.2
	3 Statutory homelessness	151	1.8	2.3	9.7		0.0
	4 GCSE achieved (5A*-C inc. Eng & Maths)	1079	62.7	59.0	31.9		81.0
	5 Violent crime	2384	11.8	13.6	32.7		4.2
	6 Long term unemployment	733	5.5	9.5	31.3		1.2
Children's and young people's health	7 Smoking in pregnancy ‡	305	14.1	13.3	30.0		2.9
	8 Starting breast feeding ‡	1602	73.6	74.8	41.8		96.0
	9 Obese Children (Year 6) ‡	267	16.1	19.2	28.5		10.3
	10 Alcohol-specific hospital stays (under 18)	23	65.1	61.8	154.9		12.5
	11 Teenage pregnancy (under 18) ‡	80	26.6	34.0	58.5		11.7
Adults' health and lifestyle	12 Adults smoking	n/a	17.1	20.0	29.4		8.2
	13 Increasing and higher risk drinking	n/a	24.5	22.3	25.1		15.7
	14 Healthy eating adults	n/a	28.3	28.7	19.3		47.8
	15 Physically active adults	n/a	61.5	56.0	43.8		68.5
	16 Obese adults ‡	n/a	23.0	24.2	30.7		13.9
	Disease and poor health	17 Incidence of malignant melanoma	26	13.8	14.5	28.8	
18 Hospital stays for self-harm		420	210.8	207.9	542.4		51.2
19 Hospital stays for alcohol related harm ‡		3433	1413	1895	3276		910
20 Drug misuse		915	6.9	8.6	26.3		0.8
21 People diagnosed with diabetes		8019	4.5	5.8	8.4		3.4
22 New cases of tuberculosis		7	3.3	15.4	137.0		0.0
23 Acute sexually transmitted infections		1185	599	804	3210		162
24 Hip fracture in 65s and over		228	468	457	621		327
Life expectancy and causes of death	25 Excess winter deaths ‡	132	24.8	19.1	35.3		-0.4
	26 Life expectancy – male	n/a	79.4	78.9	73.8		83.0
	27 Life expectancy – female	n/a	83.2	82.9	79.3		86.4
	28 Infant deaths	10	4.7	4.3	8.0		1.1
	29 Smoking related deaths	290	185	201	356		122
	30 Early deaths: heart disease and stroke	116	53.8	60.9	113.3		29.2
	31 Early deaths: cancer	227	107.8	108.1	153.2		77.7
	32 Road injuries and deaths	62	31.6	41.9	125.1		13.1



The Health Profile for York<sup>23</sup> summarises the key health statistics for York under various themes. From these indicators, it can be deduced that the key priorities for York include physical activity, childhood obesity and alcohol.

Source: Public Health England (2014) Health Profile for York 2013

There is no comprehensive source for disability statistics. However, proxy's can be used such as the Disabled Living Allowance (DLA), which is available for people aged under 65 who are disabled and need help with personal care or mobility. In August 2012 6350 people in York received DLA , of which the majority had claimed for 5 years or over. In May 2012 2800 people in York between the claimed Incapacity Benefit and Severe Disablement Allowance because they had been unable to work for at least 28 weeks (consecutive) because of illness or disability.

#### Key messages from the baseline

- The general health of citizens in York is good
- Life expectancy is increasing
- The main priorities to address are obesity, particularly in children, alcohol and physical activity

#### Indicators

Indicator	Area	Period	Value	Previous Value	Trend	National Average	Data Source	Indicator Source
Life expectancy at birth (male and female)	York	2010-2012	Males- 79.6; Females – 83.2	Males - 78.6; Females - 83.4 (2005-2007)  Males - 79.4; Females - 83.2 (2006-2008)  Males – 79.9 Females – 83 (2008-2010)		Males – 78.2 .Females – 82.3 (2008-2010)  Males -77.4 Females - 81.6 (2006-2008)	Office for National Statistics (ONS) Vital Statistics	Sustainable Communities, Egan Review; Local Quality of Life Indicators, CLG; Without Walls Success Measure - Healthy City
% who say they are healthy / their health is good or very good	York	2012	87%	78.7 (Place survey 2008/09)	N/a	N/a	Big York Survey 2012; Place survey 2008/09	Big York Survey 2012; CYC National Performance Indicators (NI 119)

## GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE & BIODIVERSITY

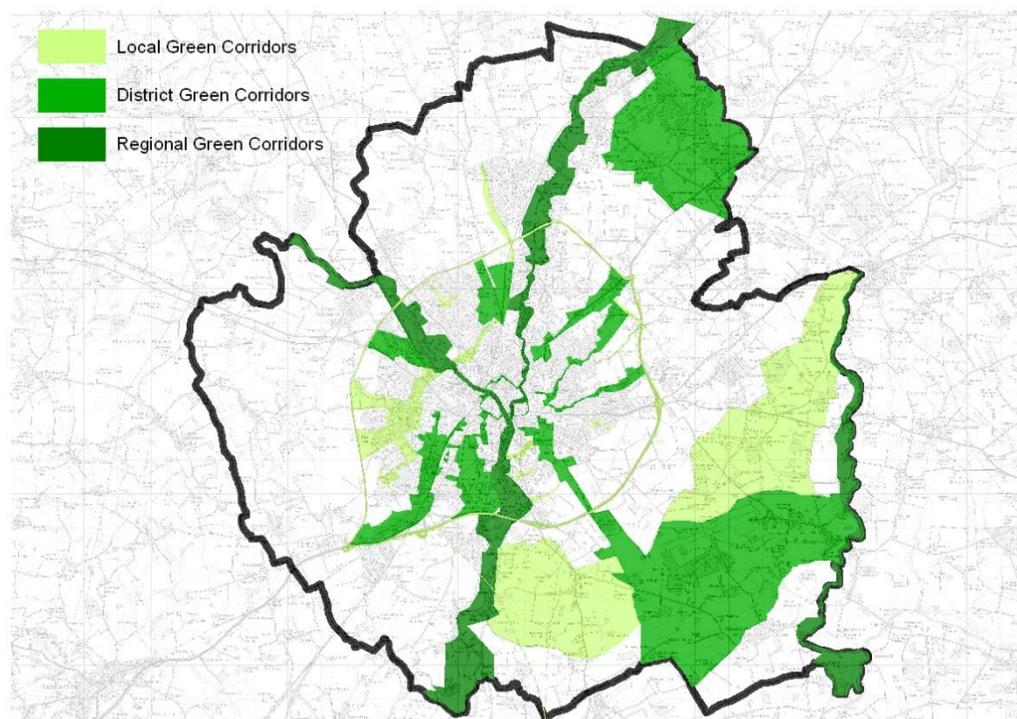
Green Infrastructure (GI) encompasses all “green” assets in the authority, including individual components from parks, the river corridors, street trees and managed and unmanaged sites to designed and planted openspaces. A number of these are also recognised heritage assets within the city. For example, the greenspaces upon which the City Walls site, the historic Strays and the designated Registered parks and Gardens such as Museum Gardens all contribute to openspace and recreational areas. Together, all of these assets make a green infrastructure network cross the city with a variety of uses including: nature conservation, openspace and green corridors and linkages. This network of sites helps to link together different spaces across York for access to the sites as well as across the city as a whole.

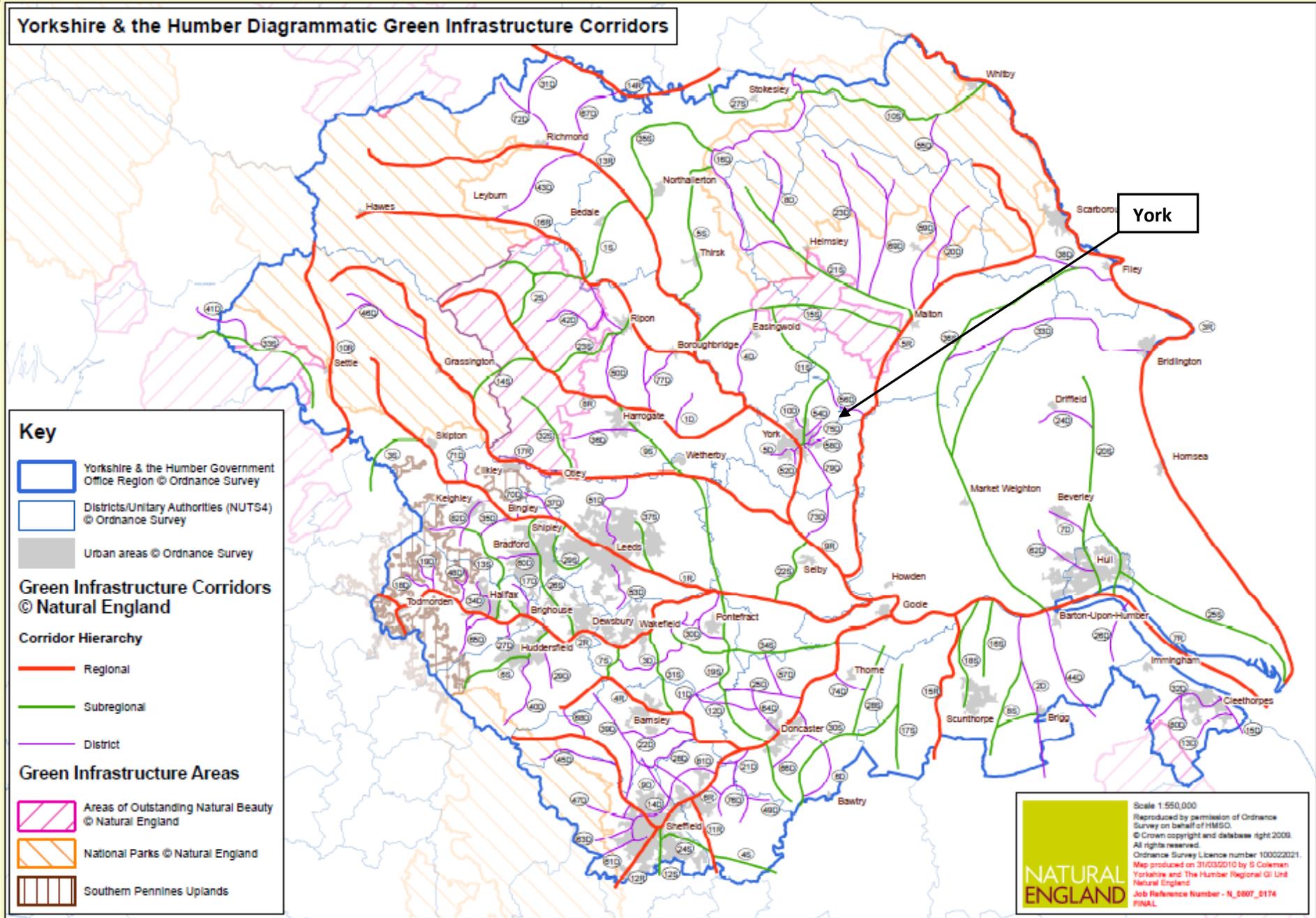
### Green Infrastructure Corridors

Natural England has worked in partnership with authorities within Yorkshire and Humber to record and map the nationally, regionally and locally important infrastructure within the region. The aim of this was to:

- protect green infrastructure;
- be a starting point for more detailed or localised green infrastructure work;
- increase awareness of where green infrastructure functions exist and how they complement each other;
- establish a baseline of green infrastructure from which change can be measured;
- inform planning decisions and development proposals;
- provide evidence for policy and strategy creation;
- form the basis of subregional delivery projects;
- focus green infrastructure enhancement where gains can be maximised.

As part of this project York was identified as having green corridors which are of regional, sub-regional and district level importance. The following map shows the extent of green corridors identified in the region.



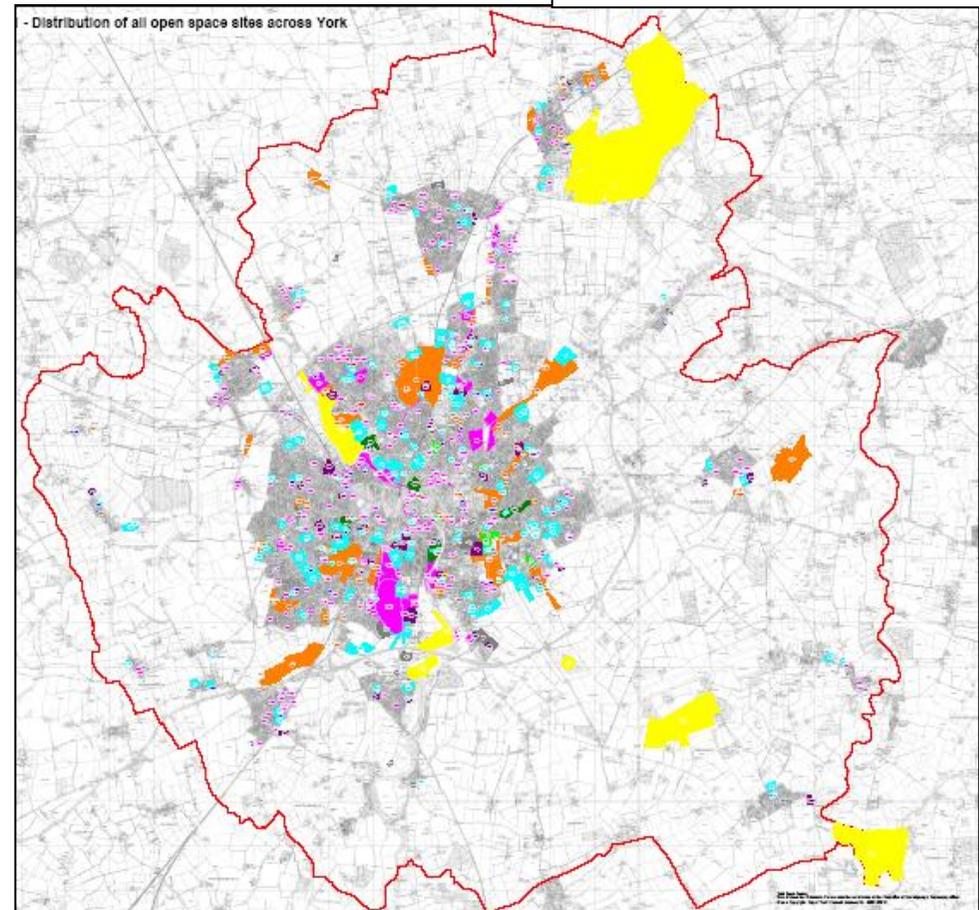


## Openspace

Openspace, sport, and recreation facilities provide essential services for the residents of York, contributing to residents quality of life and social well being and health. Furthermore, openspace and recreational space also promote a series of significant environmental benefits including mitigating climate change, providing habitats and promoting biodiversity. For this reason, it is now categorised under “Green Infrastructure” (GI).

Open space in York includes approximately 480 hectares of parks and open spaces. Existing open space, however, is not distributed in a uniform manner across the city. The Openspace Study (2008), produced as an evidence base for the LDF, set out the local context for openspace within York. The study splits the openspace into the different categories with an emphasis on quantity and quality for scoring each category. An update to this work is in progress and the results of this will feed into the baseline in due course. The previous study states:

- *Park and Gardens*: On the whole there is a good level of access to parks within the urban area but there are issues of provision for residents in out lying areas. Access should be maximised via sustainable transport routes and where there is a deficiency, large amenity space could be upgraded to provide quality spaces.
- *Natural and Semi-natural*: Access to natural and semi-natural openspace is high across the urban and rural settlements as well as other large sites such as the strays. There is a need to maximise access whilst also managing biodiversity and balancing recreation. Whilst not part of this category, it is considered that the general countryside is also accessible due to the greenbelt ensuring countryside adjacent to the urban area
- *Amenity space*: The distribution of amenity space is uneven across the city although there is access to other types of openspace in most locations. Quality of the space could be upgraded in most cases and there should be the potential to use them for “pocket parks” where residents are outside of a 5 minute walk to the amenity space or park.
- *Children’s Openspace*: The distribution of childrens sites is fairly even across the city although some deficiencies were identified in Heworth Without, Huntington, Westfield and Acomb wards.
- *Young persons*: A limited number of residents were in the catchment for the young peoples facilities and the provision of more facilities



will be a challenge if residents are to be within a reasonable distance to this openspace type across the city.

- *Outdoor Sports Facilities:* Access to sports facilities could be enhanced with the use of school's facilities for community use. Also need to maximise opportunities to incorporate pitches where demand has been expressed.
- *Allotments:* The distribution of allotments is sporadic and there are waiting lists for many of the sites. Provision of new facilities would be welcomed particularly in wards where there are deficiencies such as Osbaldwick, Acomb and Westfield.
- The city centre has recreational importance for visitors and are valued by tourists and workers. It should be ensured that they remain of good quality.
- If additional development takes place, there would need to be a robust assessment of the provision of openspace and how much / what type should be provided.

Recently the provision of children's play areas has been given a boost through the Playbuilder programme. This is a national campaign investing £235 million nationally as part of the Government's commitment to the play agenda, along with the launch of the recent national Play Strategy and Children's Plan. City of York Council was allocated around £1 million from the Government Playbuilder Project, for the development approximately 22 play areas across the city. York has had a growing focus on the importance of play for a number of years and this new funding will provide greater access to higher quality outdoor play areas. This will directly link into York's play strategy 'Taking Play Forward', and assist in the authority's aim to raise the standard of play provision. Currently 2 new sites have been opened in York under this scheme in Elvington and Naburn. A further 9 sites have been proposed and will be pursued by the Council.

Five of York's Park and Gardens have also achieved Green Flag Award Status based upon the quality and provision of facilities within the park. These parks are Rawcliffe Country park, Clarence Gardens, Glen Gardens, Rowntree Park and Westbank Park. Two places in York have also received a Green Flag Community Award for their Gardens: The Nose, St Clement's Church who grows edible plants for local people deprived of growing space and St Nicholas Field which is a former rubbish tip transformed in an urban nature park and designated local nature reserve.

Natural England advocate the use of Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards (ANGSt). This recommends that everyone, wherever they live, should have accessible natural greenspace:

- of at least 2 hectares in size, no more than 300 metres (5 minutes walk) from home;
- at least one accessible 20 hectare site within two kilometre of home;
- one accessible 100 hectare site within five kilometres of home; and
- one accessible 500 hectare site within ten kilometres of home; plus
- a minimum of one hectare of statutory Local Nature Reserves per thousand population.

ANGSt is a powerful tool in assessing current levels of accessible natural greenspace, and planning for better provision. The three underlying principles of ANGSt are:

- a) Improving access to greenspaces
- b) Improving naturalness of greenspaces
- c) Improving connectivity with greenspaces

Ensuring that people have accessible openspace is a key social theme for the city to ensure health and well-being.

### Nature Conservation

In terms of Nature Conservation, York contains special areas which are nationally and internationally significant. Using the North Yorkshire system of a more regionally based assessment of sites, City of York Council has undertaken an audit of sites to provide an understanding of the nature conservation and biodiversity value within the authority. The audit identified that currently there is 886 hectares of wildlife habitats, which represents only 3.2% of the total authority area. It also identified SINC sites which are sites which of local importance to York. The original Biodiversity audit (1996) found 42 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) within the authority boundaries, 9 sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) of national importance, three of which were also of international significance as Ramsars, Special Protection Areas (SPAs for birds) and Special areas of Conservation (SACs for habitats). The most recent audit (2009) has found that 5 of these sites no longer meet the requirements but that a further 49 new sites which fulfil this criteria. Furthermore, 87 additional sites have been recorded for their wildlife value but do not formally make the criteria to be a SINC site. The following table summarises the main nature conservation sites:

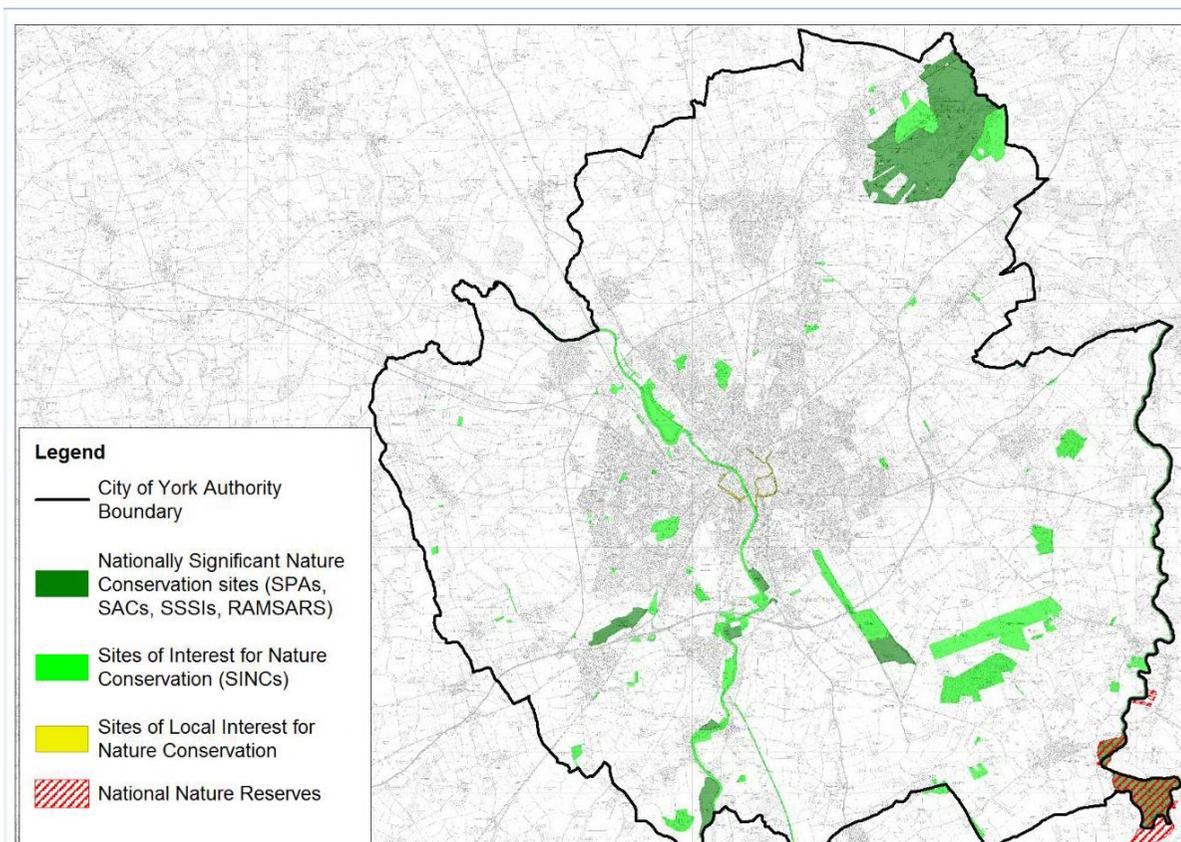
Contained within these sites are a range of known protected species including different types of bats and birds, badgers, great crested newts, water vole and barn owls. It is important therefore to take consideration of these species in planning for the future to make sure their habitats are maintained and not disturbed by development. More information on the sensitivities of the national and international sites will be contained within the Habitat Regulation Assessment accompanying the Core Strategy

In addition to openspace and nature conservation sites, York has 3 main rivers – the Ouse, Foss and Derwent along with associated becks and tributaries, within its

Title	Total No	Total Area	Total Length*
<b>SSSI's:</b> Strensall Common, Heslington Tilmire, Askham Bog, Fulford Ings, Naburn Marsh, Church Ings, Acaster South Ings, Derwent Ings and the River Derwent.	9	895.08	18000
<b>SAC's:</b> Strensall Common, Askham Bog and Derwent Ings	3	714.75	18000
<b>SPA's:</b> Lower Derwent Valley	1	136 ha (682 ha)	
<b>NNR's:</b> Lower Derwent Valley	1	136 ha (682 ha)	
<b>Total No. Sites of Statutory Protection</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>895.08</b>	<b>18000</b>
Existing SINC's (retained)	37	426.40	7855
New Sinc's	49	154.53	24260
Sinc Hedges	41		11896
Total no. of Sinc's (excl. hedges)	86	580.93	
Total no. of Sinc's (incl. Hedges)	127		32115
SINC – Local Nature Reserves	3	54.65	
Non Sinc LNR's (1 part SINC)	2	12.30	
<b>Total LNR's</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>66.95</b>	
Non SINC Sites with Social Value	2	5.70	0
New Sinc's - Possible	15	173.61	1900
Sincs to be De-notified	5	5.75	950
Sites of Interest (Not Sinc Quality)	87	330.51	18710
Created Sites	<b>11</b>	<b>22.70</b>	<b>550</b>
<b>Total Sites of Interest (Not SINC value)</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>371.26</b>	
<b>Other sites(Unknown value)</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>155.50</b>	<b>750</b>

\*Where appropriate

boundaries. The River Ouse is ecologically important for several reasons. It acts as a conduit for the movement and migration of species to and from the Humber Estuary and, in its own right, it supports protected species, including otters and depressed river mussels. It provides a route for migratory fish as well as a natural flightline for migratory birds and bats. The Ouse also provides a suitable habitat for water voles and otters, a European Protected species, while the wider Ouse catchment supports the only confirmed British population of the rare tansy beetle. There are numerous important sites of environmental interest along the Ouse and its tributaries as well. For example the Ouse connects with the Lower Derwent Valley and Humber Estuary Special Protection Areas, which are designated under the European Union (EU) Birds Directive 1979. It also links with the River Derwent, Lower Derwent Valley and Humber Estuary Special Areas of Conservation.



York also has a total woodland cover of 998 hectares<sup>24</sup>, which is 3.7% of the total land area and approximately 5.5 hectares per 1,000 population. This is lower than the regional coverage (Yorkshire and the Humber) of 5.8% of the total land area and 18.2 hectares per 1,000 population. As well as being aesthetically pleasing, trees have other environmental benefits associated within mitigating pollution and climate change. In total, there are around 20000 trees within the City of York in parks, strays, nature reserves, pockets of public open spaces and woodlands. The diversity of types of trees and their habitats mean that they are managed in different ways but for every tree felled, 2 are planted in order to maintain and increase their prevalence. This practice should be encouraged for its benefits to the city's image, managing climate change and promoting a healthy city.

Treemendous York is a new initiative being promoted by the community and City of York

<sup>24</sup> All Biodiversity Action Plan data (BAP), 2013

Council. A national survey undertaken by the Guardian and New City Beautiful identified that York has less tree cover than the national average of 12% (the European average tree cover is around 27%). The 'York New City Beautiful: Toward and Economic Vision' report (2011) recommended that 50,000 new trees should be planted in York to bring tree cover in the city to around the national average. The initiative aims to promote a healthier, greener, more environmentally friendly, successful and beautiful city. Almost a thousand trees have been planted in York since Treemendous was launched in October 2011. The main focus of the group over the past few months has been to identify and assess sites so that a plan of action can be put into place to start planting large numbers of trees as soon as the next planting season begins this autumn. In addition to Treemendous, York University have planted 50,000 trees in the last 3-4 years and Earswick Council have planted 700 this planting season alone.

### Key messages from the baseline

- Whilst open space in York includes approximately 480 hectares of parks and open spaces it is not distributed in a uniform manner across the city and therefore some areas are deficient in certain types of openspace;
- Quality of large parks and gardens in York is good with 5 designated as green flag award status;
- York has an abundance of important site for nature conservation at international, national, regional and local levels;
- The city's nature conservation sites support a diverse range of flora and fauna;
- Initiatives are ongoing to support nature conservation/openspace around the city to make a more environmentally friendly and healthy city.

### Indicators

Indicator	Area	Period	Value	Previous Value	Trend	National Average	Data Source	Indicator Source
Amount of openspaces managed to Green Flag Award Status	York	2011/12	5	4 (2010/11) 3 (2009/10)		n/a	CYC Monitoring; Green Flag Award website	Development Plan Monitoring Local Indicators
Amount of new accessible openspace provided as part of new development	York	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	CYC Monitoring	
Change in areas and population of biodiversity importance, including: i.Change in priority habitats and species (by type); and ii.Change in areas designated for their intrinsic environmental value including sites of	York	2011/12	Area of biodiversity:  Loss: 5.75  Addition: 223  Total change: 217.25	Same as previous	n/a	n/a	CYC Monitoring	Development Plan Monitoring Core Indicators (E2)

Indicator	Area	Period	Value	Previous Value	Trend	National Average	Data Source	Indicator Source
international, national, regional, sub-regional or local significance.								
Total amount of RAMSAR, SPA, SAC, SSSI and Local Nature Reserves	York	York	Total: 895.08 714.75ha SAC 36ha SPA 895.08ha SSSI's 36ha NNRs  637.1ha SINC's 66.95ha LNR 486.5 Local Interest	Same as previous	n/a	n/a	CYC Monitoring	Development Plan Monitoring Core Indicators (E2)
Loss of RAMSAR, SPA, SAC, SSSI, Local Nature Reserves (LNRs), Sites of Local Interest	York	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	CYC Monitoring / Biodiversity Audit	
Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management has been or is being implemented.	York	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	CYC Monitoring / Biodiversity Audit	

## WATER, FLOODING AND FLOOD RISK

### Flood risk

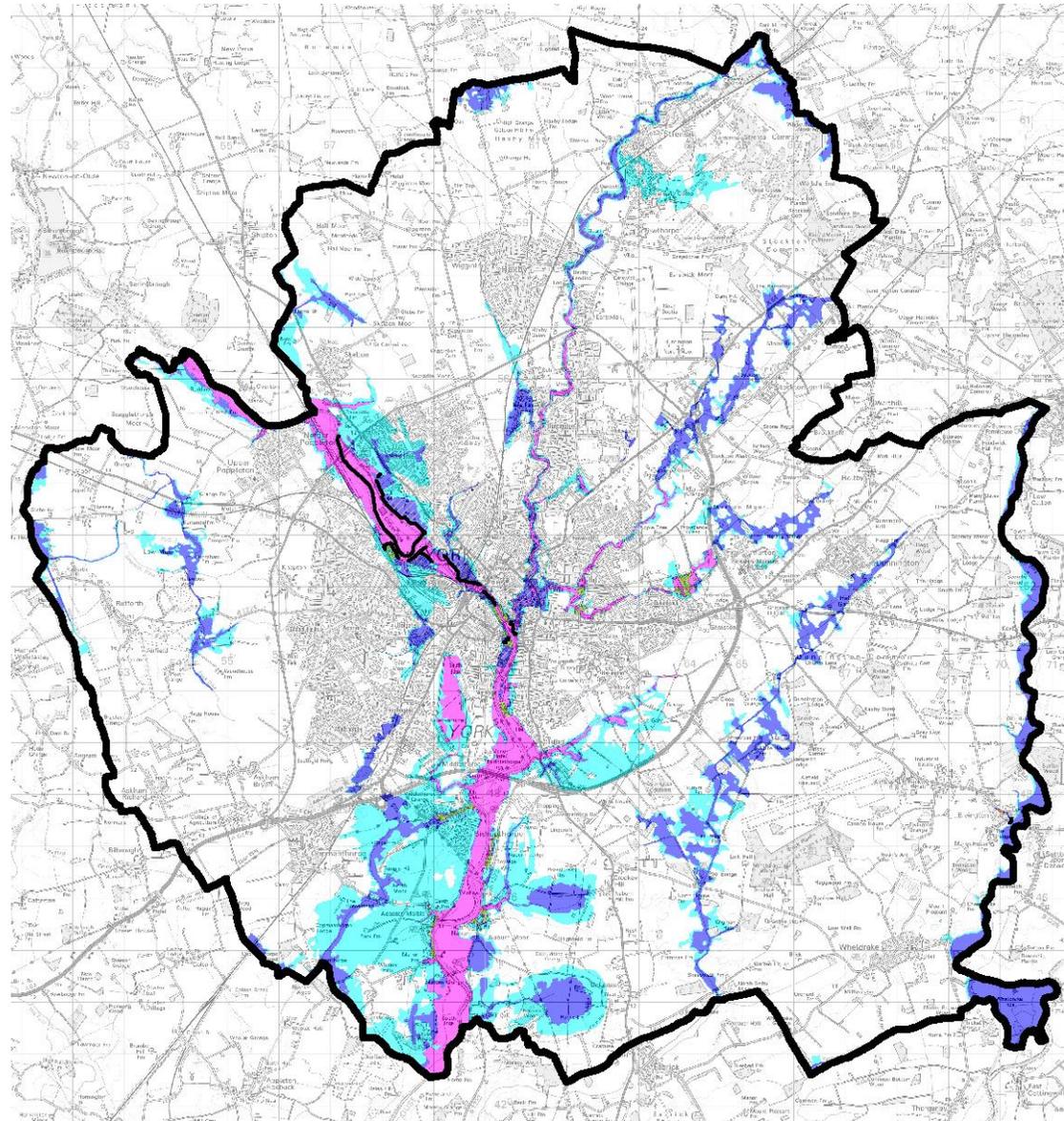
There is a well documented history of flooding from the River Ouse, with the records for York dating back to 1263. More recently, the Ouse hit the local and national media headlines as a result of widespread flooding in autumn 2000 and high river levels in September 2012. The City of York Council has completed a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA), which will assist the Council in the process of sequentially testing the suitability of sites at flood risk in line with the NPPF. The sequential test will be used to demonstrate that there are no 'reasonably available alternative sites' in a lower flood risk area in which to locate the proposed development. In addition to this the exceptions test will need to be applied, depending on the flood risk vulnerability and the flood zone. In line with the NPPF, the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment seeks to ensure that the potential risk of flooding off site, as a result of the redevelopment of land, is a key consideration when establishing appropriate land uses for a site.

The map shows the areas within York that are categorised as being in Flood Risk zones 2 and 3. Flood risk 2 is a low to medium risk with an annual probability of flooding from rivers of 0.1% to 1% and 0.1 to 0.5% from the sea. Zone 3 is a high risk with an annual probability of flooding from rivers of 1% or greater and 0.5% or greater from the sea. On this basis there are some 86km of defences on the River Ouse. The standard of protection provided by these defences ranges from greater than 20% to less than 0.5%.

**SFRA 2011 Flood Risk Zones Legend:**

All Uncoloured Areas	Zone 1: Less than 1 in 1000 annual probability of flooding in any year (<0.1Percent)
	Zone 2: Between 1 in 100 and 1 in 1000 annual probability of flooding in any year (1Percent to 0.1Percent)
	Zone 3a: Areas between 1 in a 100 and 1 in 25 annual probability of flooding in any year (1 to 4 Percent)
	3a - Defended up to 1 in 50, Flood Risk between 1 in 50 and 1 in 100 (2 to 1 Percent)
	3a - Defended up to 1 in 100 (1Percent)
	Zone 3a(i): Developed areas with up to a 1 in 25 or greater annual probability of flooding in any year (4 Percent or greater)
	Zone 3b: Areas with up to a 1 in 25 or greater annual probability of flooding in any year (4 Percent or greater)
	Flood Defences

Flood risk is predicted to alter in the future due to climate change and sea level rise. Climate changes may result in different rainfall patterns, which could increase the flood risk and as a result of sea level rise the flood risk in the tidal parts of the Ouse catchment area will increase. Given the anticipated frequency of extreme weather events in the future another issue to consider for flooding is surface water runoff and drainage. Development can increase surface runoff through the use of non porous surfacing materials in development. Heavy rain events can therefore pose an increased flood risk unless there are areas which include openspace and permeable surfaces to let water filtrate into the ground. For more information on the impacts of climate change see page 25.



### Water Quality

In York, in 2006 75.32% of the river length was assessed as to have good biological quality which is an increase from 2003's percentage of 72.4 and above the national average of 53.6%. 50.33% of the river length in York has been assessed as having good chemical quality in 2006. This is a decrease from the 2003 figure of 62.4% but is near to the national average of 51.3%. The level of biological quality has stayed roughly the same since the previous survey date of 2000 however the chemical quality has declined from 72.4% of the river length being defined as good chemical quality in 2000. In the profile for the Vale of York from Natural England, the groundwater quality is stated as good in the east but poor in the west. All the rivers that have been assessed are of good chemical quality, including the rivers Ure and Ouse in the west. The ecological quality of the rivers in the area is classed as good or moderate, although a small stretch of river in the south-western corner associated with tributaries of the River Wharfe is classed as poor, as is the River Foss. Much of the central and northern parts of the NCA fall within the Yorkshire Ouse, Nidd and Swale catchment sensitive farming priority catchment, while parts of the south-east fall within the Yorkshire Derwent catchment sensitive farming priority catchment. (The catchment sensitive farming project offers advice and training to farmers and land managers in priority catchment areas to enable them to take voluntary action to reduce their high diffuse water pollution from agriculture to protect waterbodies and the environment.)

Humber River Basin Management Plan<sup>25</sup>, and Swale, Ure, Nidd and Upper Ouse Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy<sup>26</sup> states that in terms of surface water chemical status, the River Ouse is 'failing to achieve good' chemical status. Along the River Ouse, water quality improvements have been made in the past decade with the biological water quality of the Ouse classified as excellent to good in 2000. Furthermore, the chemical status of groundwater aquifers is 'good' in the west and 'poor' in the east of the NCA with the groundwater status in the Vale of York (in the Yorkshire Ouse, Nidd and Swale' priority catchment) identified as suffering from groundwater failures in 2001-2005 at certain locations due to a need for action on pesticide. High levels of pesticides, nutrients (nitrates and phosphate) and sediment loads within the watercourses of the east of the NCA are a result of diffuse agricultural pollution associated with intensive arable production and a large area under root crops, which also contributes to increased soil erosion. In the west of the NCA high phosphate and pesticide levels are associated with the dominance of arable farming and the high proportion of pig and poultry farms. The River Foss flows are dominated by wastewater treatment work discharges and land drainage, and there has been evidence of reduced water quality and nutrient enrichment.

### Key messages from the baseline

- York has a history of flooding which needs to be taken into consideration in the planning for the future of the city.
- Flooding is still likely and will effect people and businesses in York;
- There is a need to minimise future flood risk arising from the impacts of climate change;
- Flood risk in York arises from both river and surface water in York;
- Water quality is generally good with the main reasons for poor quality linked with agricultural farming practices.

<sup>25</sup> A: Current state of waters, Environment Agency (December 2009)

<sup>26</sup> Environment Agency (March 2004)

**Indicators**

Indicator	Area	Period	Value	National Average	Previous Value	Trend	Data Source	Indicator Source
Number of flooding events	York	2012	Tbc	Tbc	Tbc	Tbc	CYC	
Magnitude of flooding events	York	2012	Tbc	Tbc	Tbc	Tbc		
No. of applications referred to Environment Agency	York	2012	Tbc	Tbc	Tbc	Tbc		

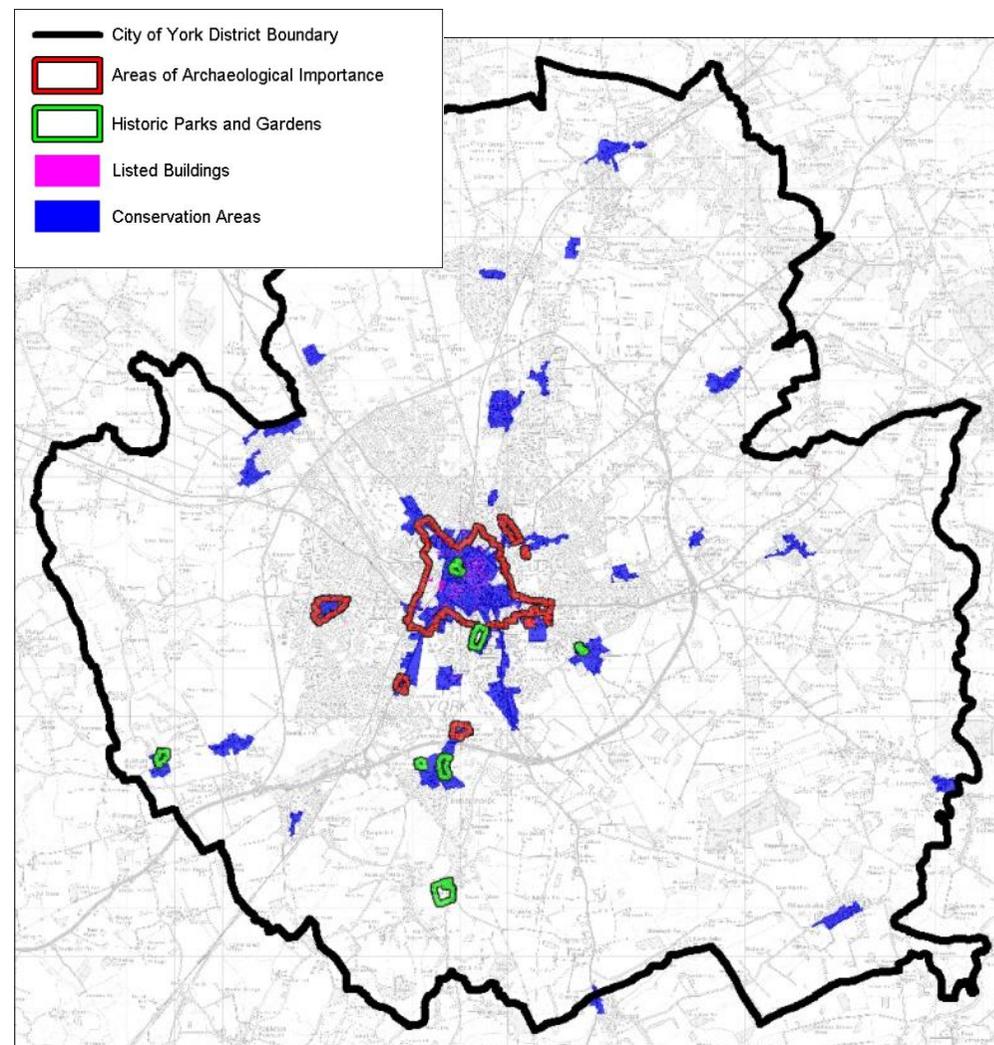
## HERITAGE ASSETS AND CONSERVATION

### Heritage Assets

The historic environment of the City of York is of international, national, regional and local significance. This is recognised through the existing national statutory designations that apply to heritage assets in the City of York. Much of the unique attractiveness of the city as a place to live, work and visit arises from its historical and cultural assets.

The City of York is one of only five historic centres in England that has been designated as an Area of Archaeological Importance as the Archaeology is of national and international significance. It is widely acknowledged that many of the deposits are as yet undiscovered and will only become apparent in the urban area through redevelopment of sites and in rural areas through agricultural practice and any new development. Key to maintaining this resource in the future is understanding that there are areas which have high archaeological value and which may need full excavation as well as the sensitivities between development and its impact on archaeological deposits in close proximity to make sure that they are preserved for the future.

York's wealth of historic buildings include: York Minster, England's largest (surviving) medieval church and the largest Gothic Cathedral in Northern Europe as well as 2,228 listed buildings of which 242 (15%) are Grade 1 and 2\*. There are 22 scheduled monuments in the city including the city walls, York Castle, Clifford's Tower and St Mary's Abbey. The City also has 4 registered historic parks and gardens, which include the Museum Gardens and Rowntree Park. In addition to this the city has 35 designated Conservation Areas, each of which is covered by Conservation Area Appraisal and have extra controls applied to them so that the character of the area can be preserved and enhanced. At the local level there is a



community-driven desire to adopt a list of locally significant buildings structures and spaces.

### Heritage at Risk

English Heritage's Heritage at Risk Register includes 3 sites within York. Two conservation areas are identified as at risk: Strensall and Towthorpe and The Racecourse and Terrys Factory. Both of these areas have been identified as being in a poor state. The racecourse and Terrys Factory are also considered to have a high vulnerability. Whilst the vulnerability of Strensall and Towthorpe is identified as medium, the trend in this conservation area is documented to be deteriorating. The this site is the Church of St May, Askham Richard. This grade II\* listed building is in poor condition with slow decay but has received grant with a solution agreed yet to be implemented.

### The Heritage Topic Paper

The Heritage Topic Paper (2014) draws together the evidence relating to the historic environment and translates this into an understanding of the city's special qualities and its complex 2000 year history. The evidence and understanding is then translated into the key influential factors, themes and six principle characteristics of the historic environment that helps define the

Key considerations in Heritage Topic Paper (2011)		
Factors	Themes	Characteristics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geology</li> <li>• Climate</li> <li>• Topography</li> <li>• Landscape</li> <li>• Resources/Materials</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Economy (Farming, Trade, Industry, tourism)</li> <li>• Administration (government, education, health)</li> <li>• Ecclesiastical / Belief</li> <li>• Military / Defence</li> <li>• Communication</li> <li>• Residential</li> <li>• Leisure / performance</li> <li>• Landscape and setting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strong Urban Form</li> <li>• Compactness</li> <li>• Landmark monuments</li> <li>• Architectural character</li> <li>• Archaeological complexity</li> <li>• Landscape and setting</li> </ul>

special qualities. The factors are large-scale, almost deterministic environmental elements with which humans have interacted and produced the historic environment. The themes provide a high level categorisations which allows the narrative of human action to develop across chronological divisions. The characteristics provide both a means of describing this special historic character and of testing to potential impacts of policy.

### York's Historic Core

York Central Historic Core was only the second conservation area to be created under the Civic Amenities Act, which introduced the concept as a means to help local authorities protect and manage whole historic areas; the existing control, listing, was only intended for individual buildings. The Act – and the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act of 1990 which superseded it – defines conservation areas as *'areas of special architectural or historic interest, the character of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance.'*

A study of the Central Historic Core was undertaken in two parts to enable an understanding of the character of the historic Core and how to manage it in the future. The first part sets out the Conservation Area's history and character at the city level and then divides the area into two dozen character areas.

The purpose of this first is to understand the history, form and functions of the city in order to identify, first, the Conservation Area's special interest, second, those issues which threaten to damage what is special about it and, third, opportunities for enhancing its appearance and character. The second part focuses on the management strategy for the area and recommendations for further work, including changing the conservation area boundary. The study recognises some of the key assets including the character areas identified, heritage assets of importance and why as well as key views analysis from around the authority and city centre.

- Medieval and Tudor shops and houses
- Medieval and Tudor civic and religious

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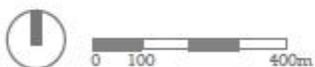
- Georgian shops and houses
- Georgian civic and religious

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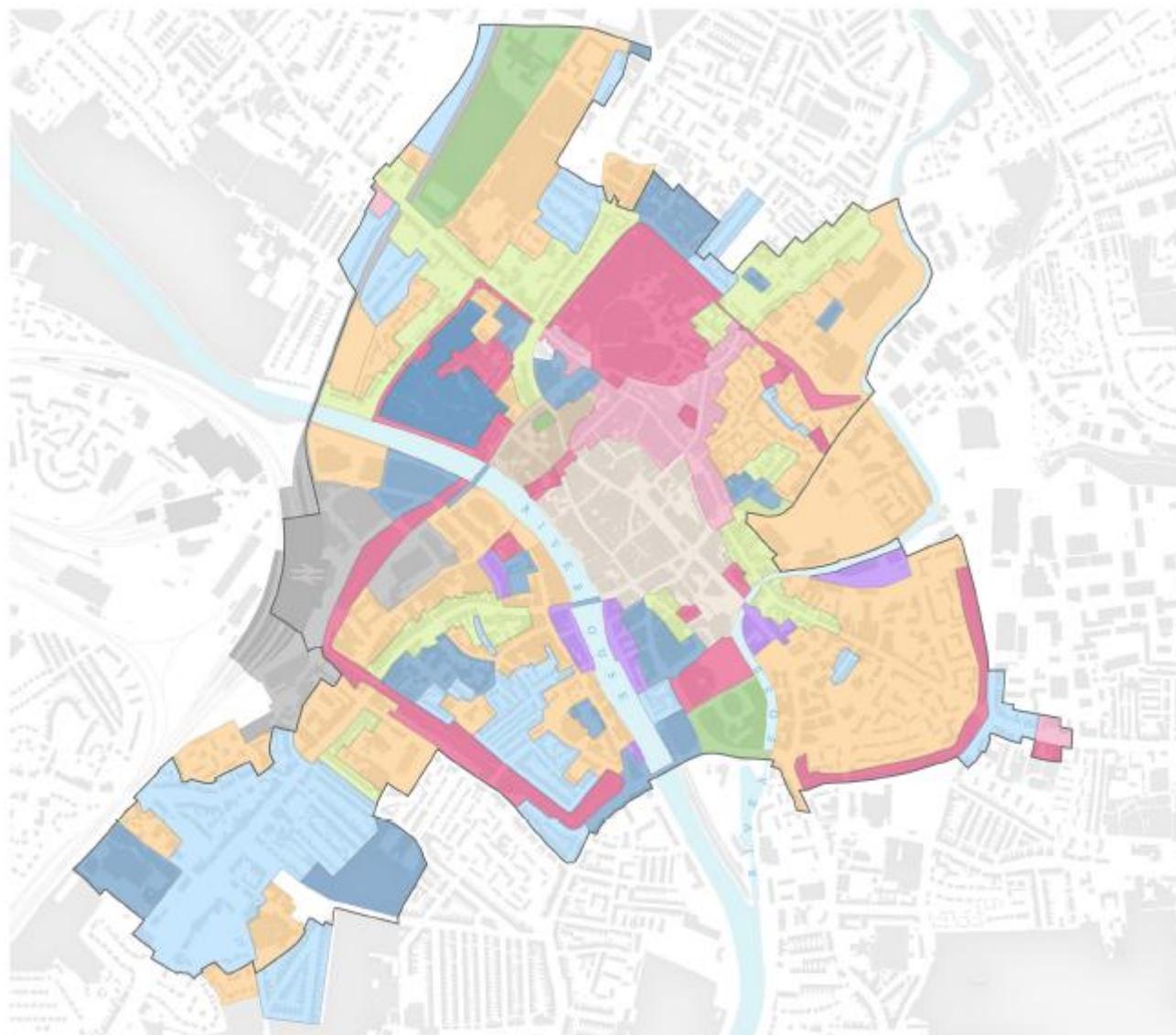
- Victorian and Edwardian housing
- Victorian and Edwardian civic and religious

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- 18th/19th century quayside and commercial
- 19th century railway development
- 19th / 20th century shopping area
- 20th / 21st century development
- Existing Conservation Area boundary



Source: Central Historic Core Conservation Area Appraisal (2012)



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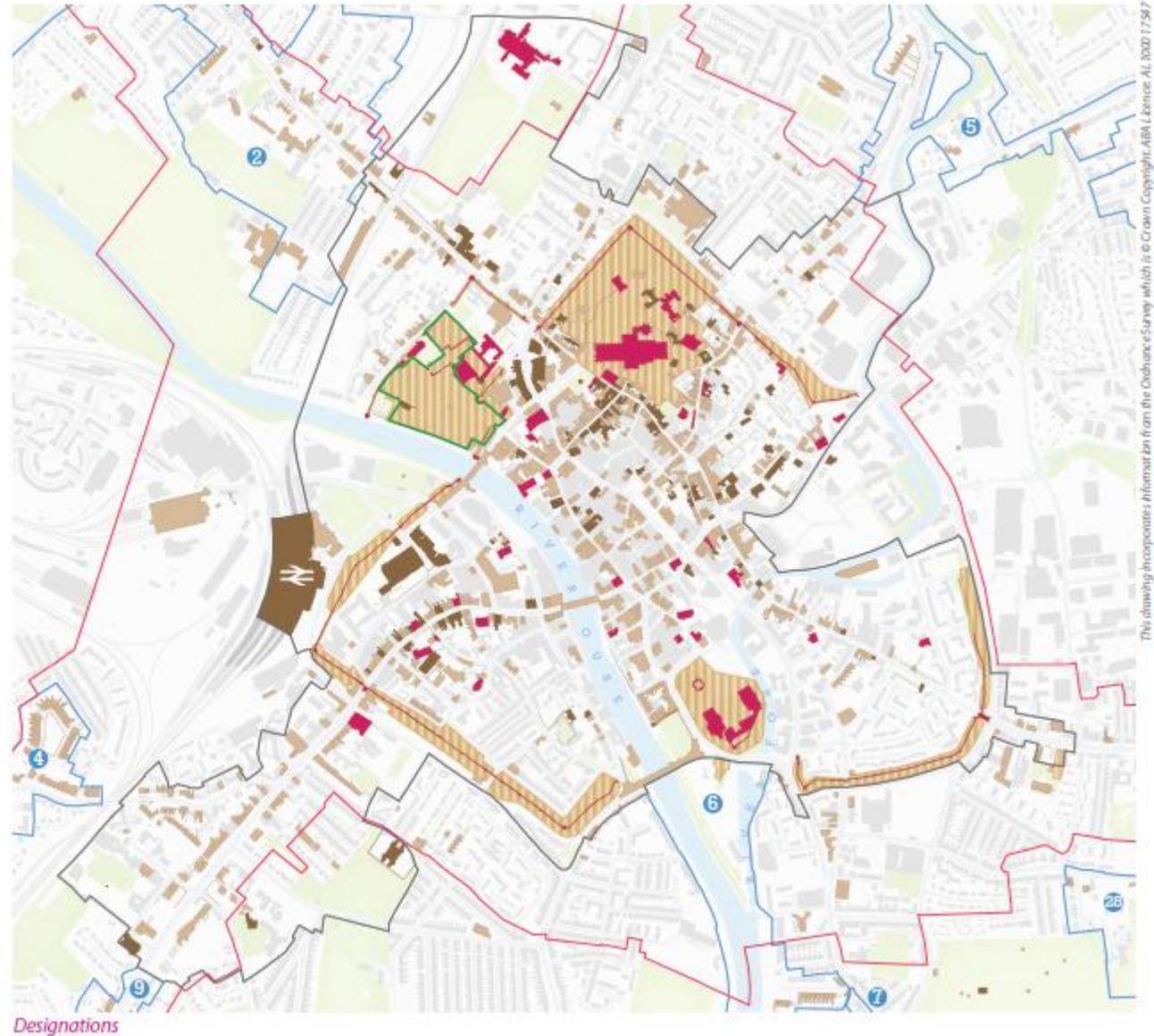
*Prevailing townscape and building character*

- Grade I listed building
- Grade II\* listed building
- Grade II listed building
- Scheduled Ancient Monument
- Registered Park and Garden
- Area of Archaeological Importance
- Central Historic Core Conservation Area boundary
- Adjacent Conservation Area boundaries

- Adjacent Conservation Areas*
- 4 No. 4 St Paul's Square/Holgate Rd
  - 9 No. 9 Tadcaster Road
  - 6 No. 6 New Walk/Terry Avenue
  - 7 No. 7 Fulford Road
  - 28 No. 28 Heslington
  - 5 No. 5 Heworth
  - 2 No. 2 Clifton



Source: Central Historic Core Conservation Area Appraisal (2012)



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Designations

**Key messages from the baseline**

- Historic character and setting is an integral part of the city's past and future;
- The attractive and unique historic environment contributes to/influences the economy, social and environmental functioning of the city of York;
- Appreciating the value of heritage assets is key to preservation and enhancement as well understanding any future impacts.
- Consideration needs to be given to the key views and assets which are identified to have a positive experience for the city.

**Indicators**

Indicator	Area	Period	Value	Previous Value	National Average	Trend	Data Source
Number of Listed Buildings	York	2012	2,228	n/a	n/a	n/a	CYC Listed buildings register
No. of Conservation Areas	York	2012	35	33 (2005)	n/a	n/a	CYC register of conservation areas
No. of buildings on the English Heritage Building at risk register	York	2014	1	0 (2012)	n/a		English Heritage Buildings at Risk Register (2012)
No. of conservation areas on the English Heritage Building at risk register	York	2014	2	2 (2012)	n/a		English Heritage Buildings at Risk Register (2012)

## LANDSCAPE

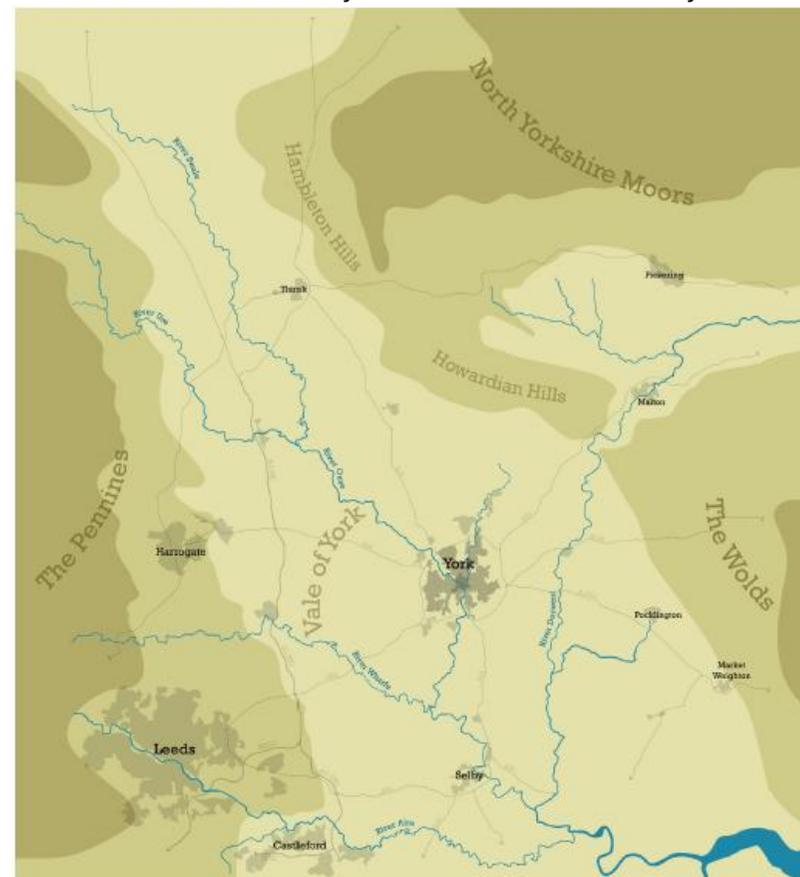
The European Landscape Convention defines Landscape as *“An area as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors”* (Council of Europe 2000).

Natural England’s National Character Area for the Vale of York<sup>27</sup> describes how York sits astride the River Ouse in the centre of the Vale of York, where the Ouse meets its tributary the River Foss. The Vale is a large low-lying basin stretching over 30 miles from Northallerton in the north to the Humber estuary in the south. This bowl is enclosed on three sides by higher ground: the Pennines rising to the west and the North York Moors to the north, with the Howardian Hills at their foot, sweeping east and south to become the Yorkshire Wolds on the other side of the River Derwent.

The setting of York is characterised by open approaches leading towards the city. Long views are achieved across the relatively flat landscape with only occasional woods to interrupt extensive views. The series of green wedges in the city enable long views to be experienced from the outskirts of the city towards important city landmarks such as York Minster. The ring-road around York also allows an appreciation for the size and scale of the city as the flat approaches make possible long-distance views across the landscape towards York Minster. York Minster is a dominant feature within the City and views of this building are widely held to be very important in defining the special character of York and its setting. The open approaches enable the city to be experienced within its wider setting establishing a close relationship between the urban area, green wedges, surrounding countryside and the villages. The landscape of York is broadly characterised as relatively flat and low lying agricultural land dominated by the wide flood plain of the River Ouse, rising slightly to the east and surrounded by a relatively evenly spaced pattern of villages.

Specifically, the historic central city of York is recognised as important in the NCA as follows:

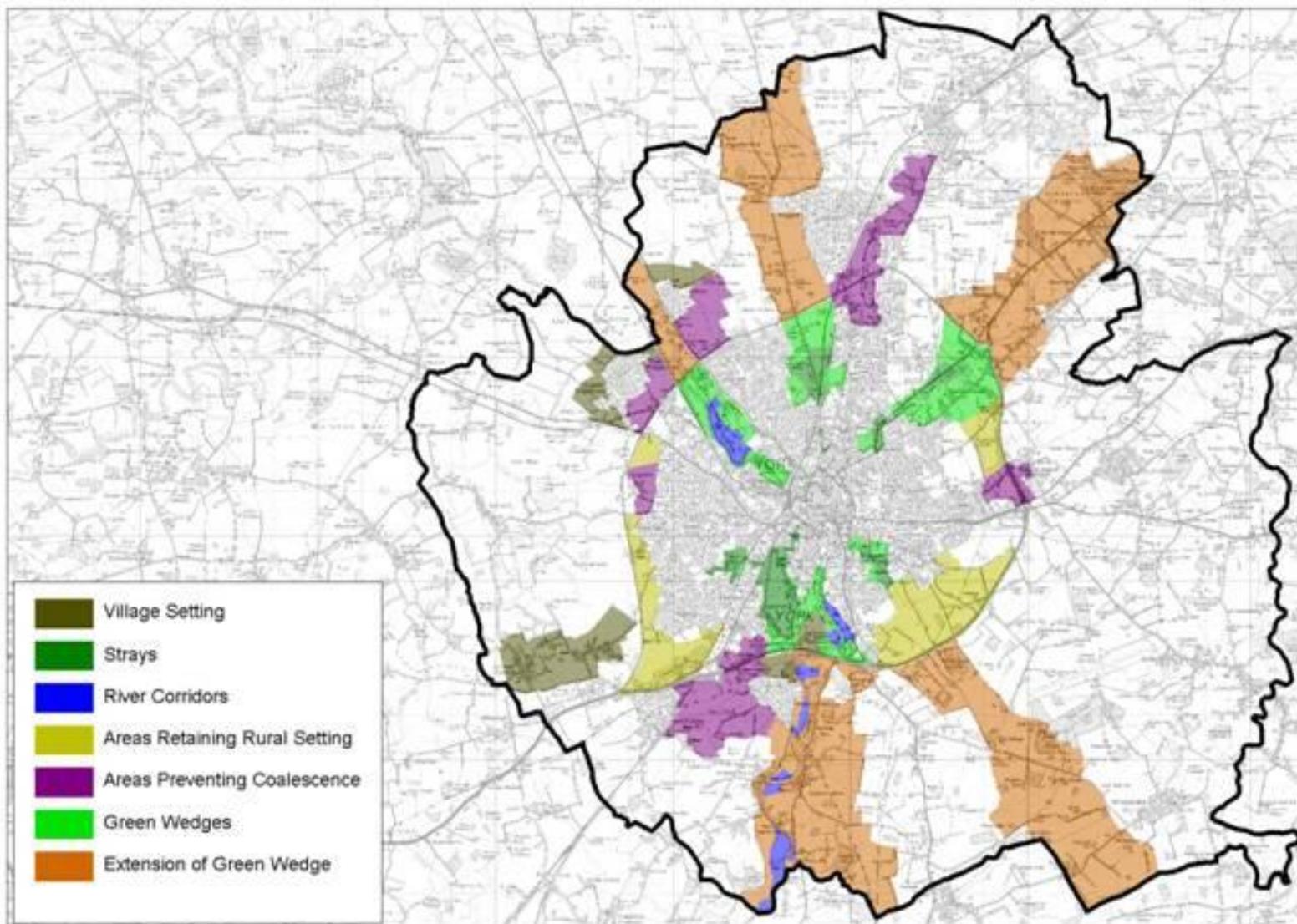
- The City of York sits at the centre of the NCA with roads radiating out from it as spokes on a wheel.
- York Minster forms a prominent landmark and focal point for the Vale and visitors to the area.
- There is pressure around the city that could lead to development sprawl that takes away from the enclosed dominance of the town centre.



<sup>27</sup> National Character Area 28: Vale of York (Natural England, 2012)

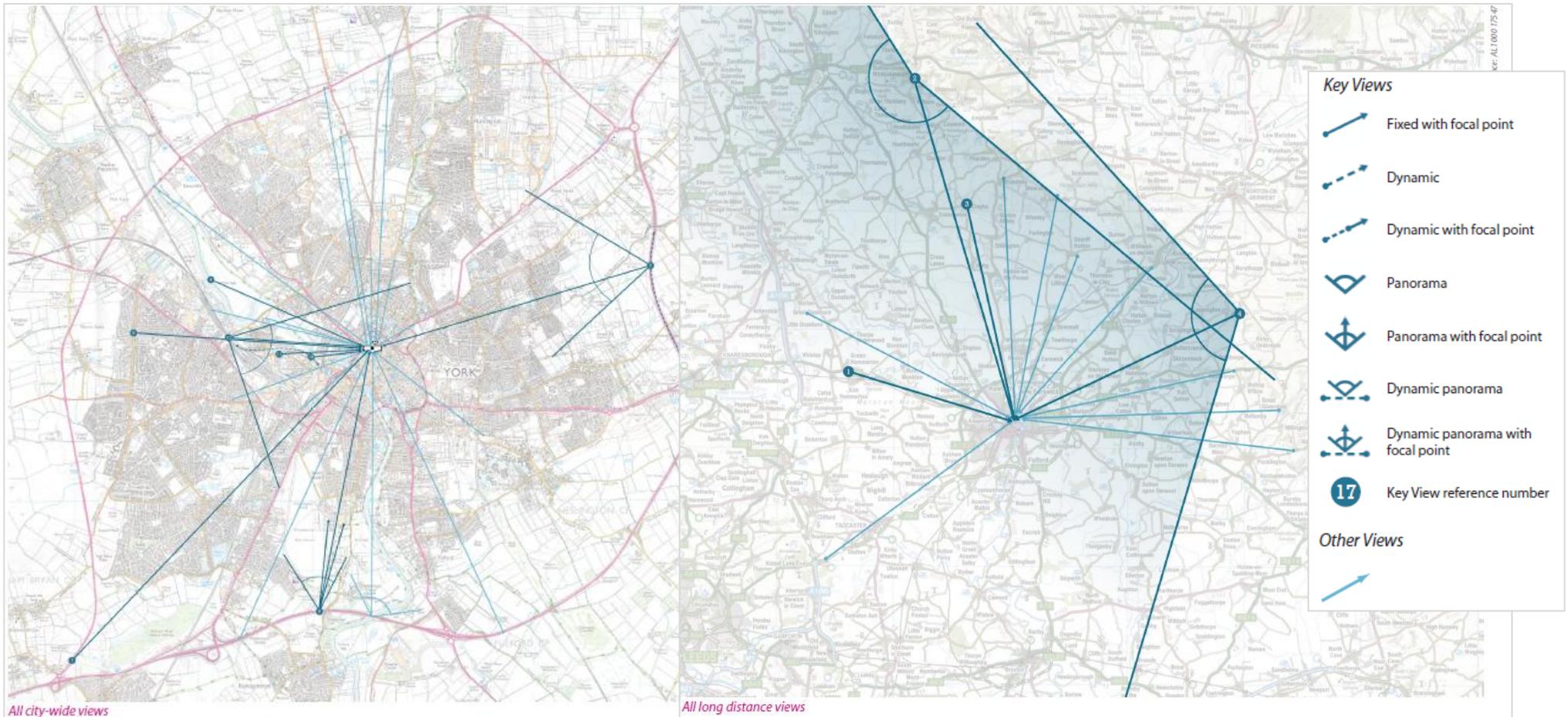
### Historic Character and Setting of York

In 2003, a Greenbelt Appraisal was undertaken to establish the areas which predominantly support the character and setting of the city. This work was updated in 2011 and again in 2014. The map on this page shows the different areas identified.



### Significant Landscape Views in York

The views of York were captured in the Central Historic Core Conservation Area Appraisal (2011). The maps illustrate that there are significant views from both within and outside if the York District boundary.



### Ecosystem Services

The Vale of York NCA <sup>28</sup> provides a wide range of benefits to society. Each is derived from the attributes and processes (both natural and cultural features) within with the area. These benefits are known collectively as ‘ecosystem services’. The predominant services can be summarised as:

- Provisioning service (food, fibre and water supply)
  - Food Provision: The Vale of York is part of a large swathe of agricultural land to the north and south. Glacial lake deposits have helped to produce high grade soils (54 per cent Grade 3 and 28 per cent Grade 2), and historic drainage has helped to make the area ideal for arable farming, with 82 per cent of the total area in cultivation.  
Water Supply: It also provides a large amount of water for local communities and for those as far away as Sheffield, both from underground aquifers and from abstraction from the rivers running through the NCA. The western part of the NCA overlies a Permo-Triassic sandstone aquifer (the Sherwood Sandstone aquifer, which is a major source of drinking water for the region). Rainfall is low in the NCA, and due to existing high levels of demand on these aquifers they currently have no water available for additional abstraction (except for a small area in the south-eastern corner)
- Regulating services (water purification, air quality maintenance and climate regulation)
  - *Regulating climate change:* A low proportion of carbon is stored within the first soil horizon (0–5 per cent) across most of the NCA, although there are pockets of higher soil carbon content which coincide with the heaths at Allerthorpe and Strensall as well as some areas underlying the south-western part of York.
  - *Regulating soil erosion:* Regulation of soil erosion is currently low, although almost half the soils in the NCA are not susceptible to erosion. The light, sandy soils across much of the Vale are prone to soil erosion, with wind erosion an increasing concern in this area. Intensive agricultural practices increase the risk of erosion, especially after heavy rains or in areas of poorly draining soil. The risks are also enhanced on the steeper slopes where bare or cultivated soil is exposed and where continuous cultivation of crops such as potatoes has reduced organic levels in the soil.
  - *Regulating soil quality:* Soil quality in its current state and management enables highly productive agriculture to prevail across the NCA. The value of slowly permeable, seasonally wet, slightly acidic but base-rich loamy and clayey soils (which cover 37 per cent of the NCA) could decrease, as such soils are susceptible to compaction and can be easily damaged when wet.
  - *Regulating water quality:* Groundwater quality in this NCA is good in the east but poor in the west. All the rivers that have been assessed are of good chemical quality, including the rivers Ure and Ouse in the west. The ecological quality of the rivers in the area is classed as good or moderate, although a small stretch of river in the south-western corner associated with tributaries of the River Wharfe is classed as poor, as is the River Foss. Much of the central and northern parts of the NCA fall within the Yorkshire Ouse, Nidd and Swale catchment sensitive farming priority catchment, while parts of the south-east fall within the Yorkshire Derwent catchment sensitive farming priority catchment. (The

<sup>28</sup> National Character Areas 28: Vale of York (Natural England 2012)

catchment sensitive farming project offers advice and training to farmers and land managers in priority catchment areas to enable them to take voluntary action to reduce their high diffuse water pollution from agriculture to protect waterbodies and the environment.)

- *Regulating water flow (flooding)*: The NCA includes a large number of rivers that drain surrounding areas; high levels of drainage within the natural flood plains have increased the pressure on the river system, leading to a long history of flooding. The amount and speed of water arriving in the NCA are dependent on the condition of surrounding upland areas where the river headlands are located; land within the NCA is heavily drained, so more water arriving more quickly from surrounding areas increases flood risk locally. There is potential for a more naturalised regulation of flood waters in this NCA, although the system currently runs at capacity, especially along the River Ouse. Many sections of river have been canalised, disengaging them from their flood plains. These rivers cannot naturally deposit silt within flood plains, and build-up in the channels can exacerbate flooding problems by limiting the storage capacity of the waterbody. Restoration of washlands has helped to alleviate some of the flooding pressures in the lower parts of the Vale, for example to the north of the City of York.
- Cultural services (Inspiration, education and wellbeing)
  - *Sense of place/Inspiration*: Sense of place and cultural heritage services are dominated by the arable landscape and the major rivers that dissect the flat, open landscape. Semi-natural features such as remnant heathlands, ponds, wetlands, grasslands, hedges, hedgerow trees, copses, shelterbelts, remnants of ancient semi-natural woodlands and commons are scattered through the area, as are historic features such as irregular fields, Romano-British settlements, parkland associated with country houses, distinctive linear villages, isolated farmsteads, masonry bridges and vernacular buildings of traditional materials of mottled brick and pantile roofs. Within the walls of the City of York the historic buildings and minster provide a strong sense of place.
  - *Sense of history*: There is a great sense of history throughout the NCA and the landscape is littered with evidence of settlements from Roman times. History within the Vale has been dominated by the continuous mixed land use of lush river meadow pasture and productive, versatile soils. Villages within this landscape have a structure relating to post-Norman settlement and planning but also reveal subsequent medieval redevelopment and modification. The history of enclosure, management and cultivation of the land is evident in the landscape but is being eroded due to imbalance in activity (for example there is more arable land and less pasture now). The City of York provides a central focus for historic character and entertainment, education and recreation in the Vale, attracting local, national and international visitors. The development of the city through different periods can be experienced within the city walls.
  - *Recreation*: Recreation and access are supported by the Yorkshire Wolds Way and Ebor Way long-distance routes, the network of footpaths (816 km at a density of 0.8 km per km<sup>2</sup>) and small areas of open access land (0.28 per cent of the area is open access land). The relatively little open access land in this NCA reflects the high levels of private land ownership; areas and old estates that are open to the public provide good opportunities for recreation. Within the City of York itself opportunities exist for recreation focused around historically important sites and themes. New developments provide opportunities to improve access to and recreation in a wider number of sites and areas and to ensure that the public realm remains accessible and does not become privatised.
  - *Biodiversity*: The remaining heathland sites at Strensall Common and Allerthorpe Common and the river flood plain of the Lower Derwent Valley are designated as Sites of Special Scientific Interest for their nature conservation value. The Lower Derwent Valley Special Protection

Area/Special Area of Conservation/Ramsar site is one of the most important traditionally managed, species-rich alluvial flood meadow habitats remaining in the UK. All the rivers and their corridors that flow through the Vale are important features for biodiversity, and reconnecting the rivers with the flood plain along these corridors and decreasing external pressures on them will have benefits for biodiversity.

Strensall Common and Allerthorpe Common feature the best remaining examples of heathland habitat in the NCA, supporting a number of rare invertebrates and birds.

Patches of semi-natural habitat and small features such as ponds, ditches, hedgerows and trees provide permeability to the wider landscape for biodiversity and act as important stepping stones through the agricultural areas. The NCA is a priority area for action to support farmland birds, species of which are declining.

### Key issues from the baseline

- York's Landscape is a primary feature of York's historic character and setting;
- There are specific elements of the landscape that need to be preserved in order to appreciate the whole of York's context;
- The City of York sites within the Vale of York which has key ecosystem services which need to be preserved or enhanced.
- Views from and to the landscape and built environment features are an important feature of York's character.

### Indicators

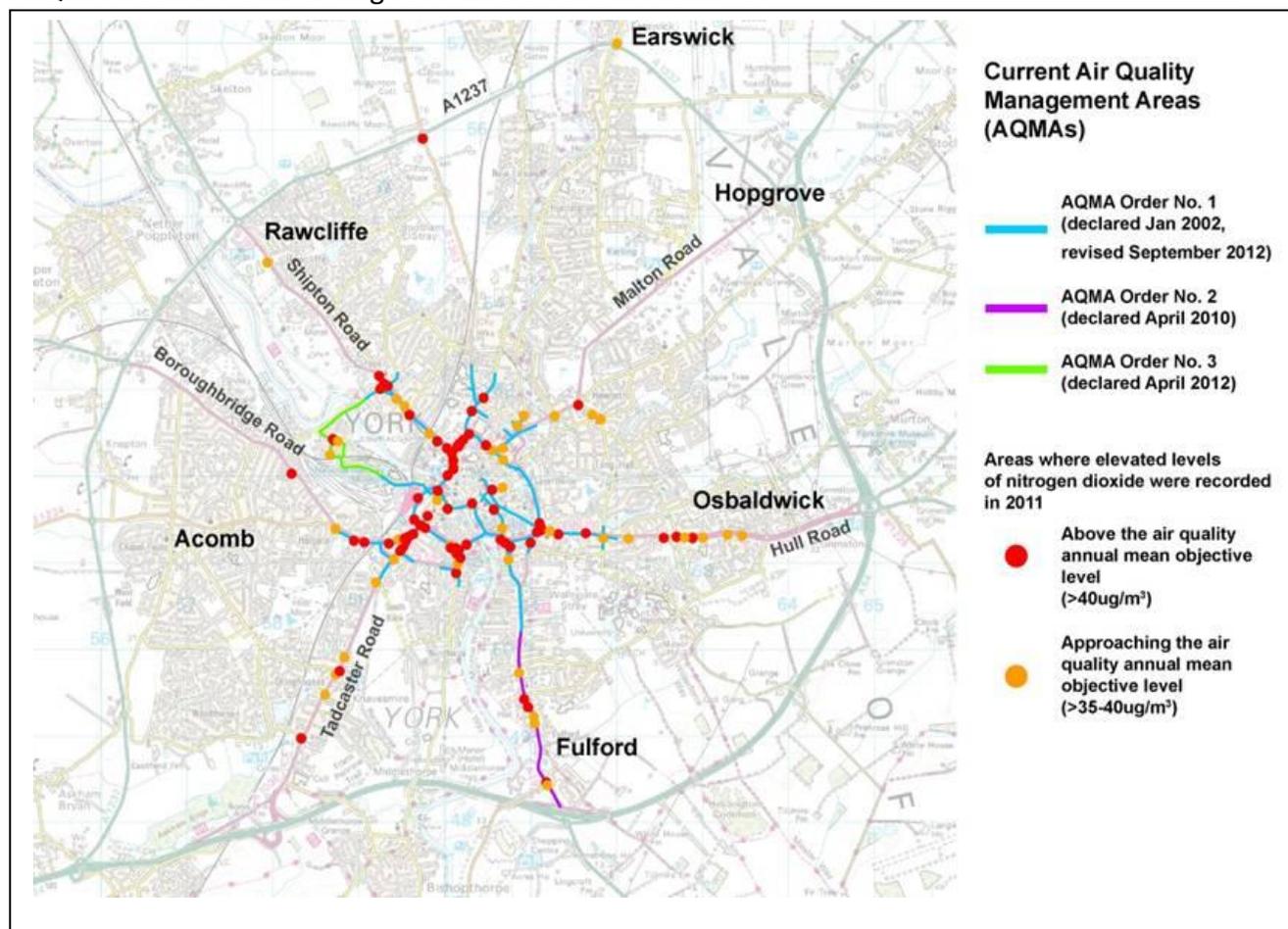
Indicator	Area	Period	Value	Previous Value	Trend	Data Source
Extent of local historic parks and gardens at risk/lost	York	2014	0	0 (2012)		English Heritage Buildings at Risk Register (2012)

## AIR QUALITY

The Environment Act 1995 requires all local authorities to Review and Assess air quality in their areas and to declare Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) where health based air quality objectives are not being met. In 2002 City of York Council (CYC) declared an AQMA around the inner ring road where concentrations of nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) were above the objective levels. Nitrogen dioxide is formed during all combustion processes (primary NO<sub>2</sub>), and can also be formed in the atmosphere from other pollutants (secondary NO<sub>2</sub>). The main source of nitrogen dioxide in York is traffic.

Concentrations of NO<sub>2</sub> within the city centre AQMA have continued to increase year on year since 2006 despite the introduction of two Air Quality Action Plans (AQAPs<sup>29</sup>). The health based annual average NO<sub>2</sub> objective continues to be exceeded at many locations around the inner ring road and more recently further air quality issues have been identified in suburban locations. A second AQMA was declared in Fulford in April 2010 (see next page) and, a third on Salisbury Terrace in April 2012 (see next page). In addition, the city centre AQMA has recently been

### Air Quality Management Areas



<sup>29</sup> Air Quality Monitoring/Low Emission Strategy Evidence Base

amended. The revised order reflects the wider area of the city centre now known to be affected by breaches of the annual average NO<sub>2</sub> objective and includes some additional areas where breaches of the hourly objective for NO<sub>2</sub> have also recently been detected (George Hudson St / Rougier St).

Following the declaration of the first AQMA in 2002, two Air quality Action Plans (AQAPs) were drawn up. These AQAPs have focused primarily on encouraging 'modal shift' with an emphasis on encouraging walking, cycling and public transport use. Whilst reducing the number of journeys undertaken by car remains an important aspect of air quality management in York, modal shift alone is not delivering a great enough improvement in air quality.

To improve York's air quality, emissions from the remaining vehicle fleet (including buses, HGVs and taxis) need to be reduced and further measures need to be put in place to minimise traffic emissions from development. This can be achieved by incentivising the uptake of low emission technologies (such as electric, hybrid and bio-methane vehicles) within the general vehicle fleet and by requiring developers to mitigate more effectively against transport emissions from their developments (by providing incentives for low emission vehicle use and contributing towards the cost of low emission infrastructure).

There also needs to be a more holistic approach to carbon and local air quality management to ensure all emissions to air are minimised as far as possible. An overarching Low Emission Strategy (LES) is now in place to address this issue. York has a vision to become the UK's first low emission city and the Local Plan has an important role to play in helping to deliver this. The planning elements of the Low Emission Strategy will be incorporated in a Low Emission Strategy Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). The SPD will set out standards and requirements for improving local air quality and provide detailed information on how applicants should approach planning applications where an air quality impact is anticipated.

Clear guidance in the form of a comprehensive schedule of the development triggers for each assessment type will be set out in the SPD, to ensure a clear and consistent approach. Information will also be provided on recommended low emission vehicle technologies and fuels that should be implemented to mitigate emissions. Mitigation measures are likely to include priority and parking incentives for low emission vehicles, the provision of electric charging points in new developments and car free developments. The potential of using developer contributions to fund low emission infrastructure and mitigate against emissions will also be explored.

Emissions to air will be a key consideration through the emerging Local Plan process. This will ensure that any air quality implications are identified at the outset, making sure that developments do not have a detrimental impact on air quality. In line with the National Planning

Policy Framework (NPPF), the cumulative air quality impact from individual sites in local areas will also be an important consideration for planning applications that are brought forward.

#### Key Issues from the baseline

- York's air quality continues to get worse in the city centre.
- A combination of measures is needed in order to tackle improving air quality including a model shift in Transport and moving to low emission technologies with supporting infrastructure.
- York's ambition is to become the first low emission city.

#### Indicators

Indicator	Area	Period	Value	National Average	Previous Value	Trend	Data Source	Indicator Source
NI185: Council CO <sup>2</sup>								
NI186: CO <sup>2</sup> Emissions								
NI188: Planning to Adapt to Climate Change								
Amount of reduction in Annual Mean Nitrogen Dioxide (NO <sub>2</sub> ) concentrations								
Amount of reduction in Annual Mean Particulate (PM <sub>10</sub> ) concentrations								
% above or below legal requirements for NO <sub>2</sub> and PM <sub>10</sub>								
Reduction in emissions to air to be determined through emerging Council's Low Emissions Strategy								

Indicator	Area	Period	Value	National Average	Previous Value	Trend	Data Source	Indicator Source
Number of electric vehicle charging points								
Number of new developments which incorporate low emissions technologies								

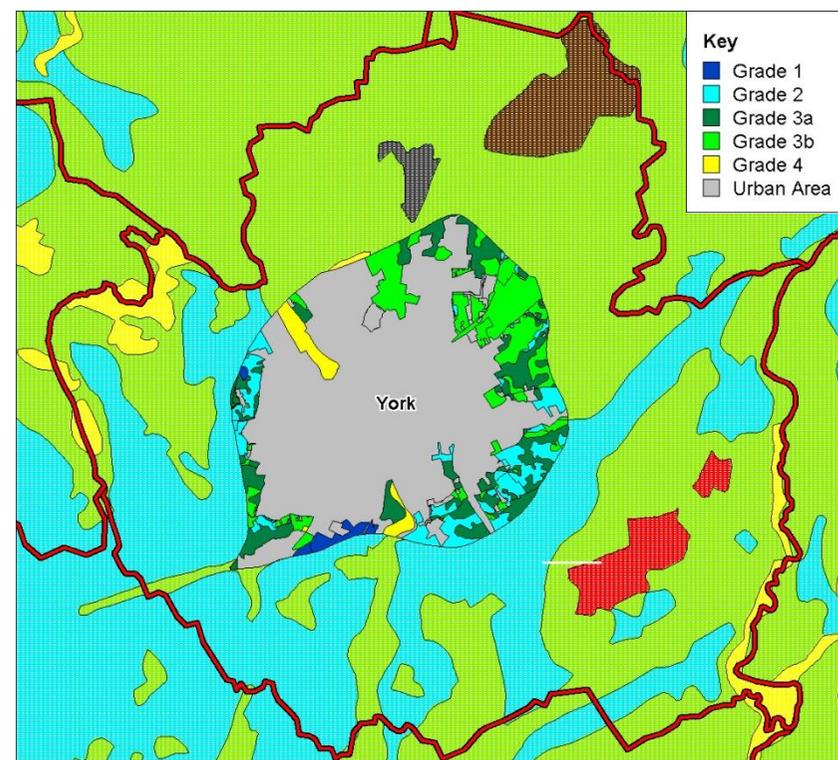
## SOILS

### Agricultural Land

Natural England's character appraisal of 'The Vale of York'<sup>30</sup> is an "area of relatively flat, low-lying land surrounded by higher land to the north, east and west. High-quality soils across most of the National Character Area (NCA) mean that arable cultivation is the predominant land use, although some pig and dairy farming takes place in the western parts of the NCA. A key feature of the NCA is the rivers that drain surrounding higher land and run southwards through the Vale on towards the Humber basin."

Overall, the Vale of York has good quality agricultural soils with just over half of the area has soils classified as Grade 2 and almost a quarter is classified as Grade 3<sup>31</sup>. Most of the highest quality agricultural soils (Grade 2 soils) are found in the south west and scattered across the northern half of the NCA. The map showing the Agricultural Land Classification (2002) shows this in the context of the authority boundary.

The high agricultural grade soils in the NCA are important for food production. The slowly permeable seasonally wet slightly acid but base-rich loamy and clayey soils (37% of the NCA) may suffer compaction and/ or capping as they are easily damaged when wet. In turn, this may lead to increasingly poor water infiltration and diffuse pollution as a result of surface water run-off. In areas with slightly acid loamy and clayey soils with impeded drainage (11%) the soils are easily poached by livestock and compacted by machinery when the soil is wet and the weak topsoil structures can easily be damaged.



<sup>30</sup> NCA Profile 28: The Value of York, Natural England (2012) <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/3488888>

<sup>31</sup> Agricultural Land Classification (ALC), 2012

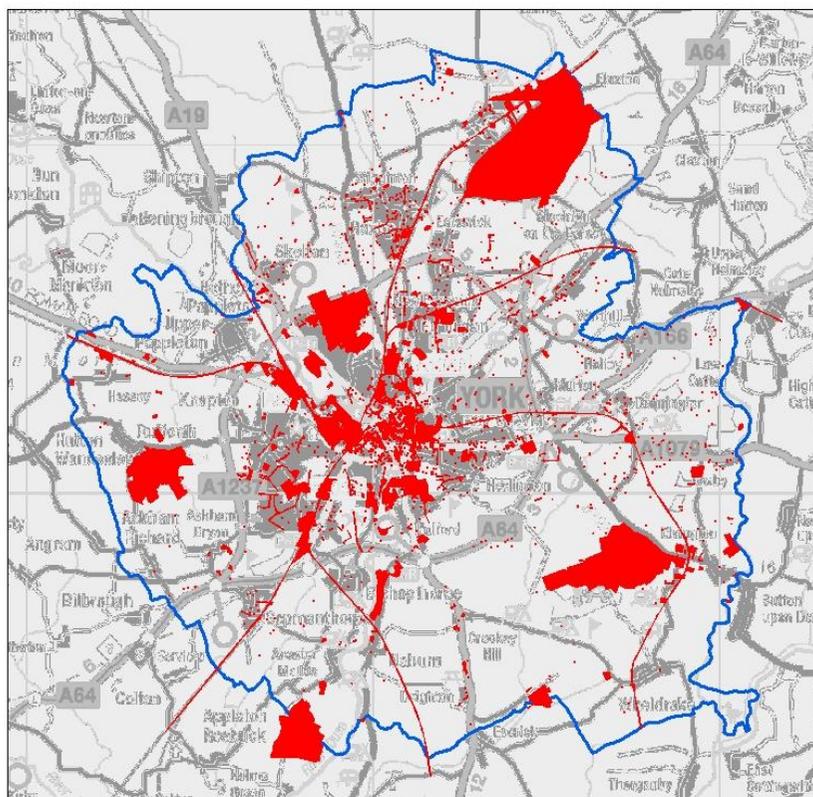
## Contamination

The UK has a considerable legacy of historical land contamination involving a wide range of substances. On all land there are background levels of substances, including substances that are naturally present as a result of our varied and complex geology and substances resulting from diffuse human pollution. On some land there are greater concentrations of contaminants, often associated with industrial use and waste disposal. In a minority of cases there may be sufficient risk to health or the environment for such land to be considered contaminated.

Part 2A of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, which was created by Section 57 of the Environment Act 1995, establishes a legal framework for dealing with land contamination in England. In addition, land contamination is a material planning consideration under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and is also addressed in the National Planning Policy Framework.

The overarching objectives of the Government's policy on land contamination are to identify and remove unacceptable risks to human health and the environment, and to ensure that land is suitable for its current/proposed use.

The council published its first Contaminated Land Strategy in July 2001, to outline its strategic approach for carrying out its statutory inspection duties and for securing remedial action. The strategy was reviewed and updated in 2005 and 2010, and is next due to be reviewed in 2013. The council has currently identified 3,669 potentially contaminated sites within the city. All of the potentially contaminated sites have a past industrial use or have been used for waste disposal activities.



Topographic Map: Ordnance Survey © Crown Copyright. All rights reserved City of York Council Licence No. LA 10020818

**Potentially Contaminated Sites in York**

■ Potentially Contaminated Sites  
 Council Boundary

The council will consider the potential implications of land contamination, both when it is developing plans and when it is considering individual applications for planning permission. Developers must submit appropriate contamination assessments with planning applications. If there is potential for contamination to influence the site, planning conditions will be imposed to ensure that the site will be safe and suitable for the proposed use. It is the responsibility of the developer to investigate and cleanup land contamination as necessary.

#### Key messages from the baseline

- There are contaminated land sites across the city which would require remediation should it be taken forward for development.
- There are crossovers between land contamination with natural resources and people's health and well-being;
- Agricultural Land in York is predominantly of good quality and therefore valuable for farming.

#### Indicators

Indicator	Area	Period	Value	National Average	Previous Value	Trend	Data Source	Indicator Source
The number of planning applications that investigate and remediate land contamination prior to redevelopment.								
Amount of development on Previously Developed Land								

## RESOURCE CONSUMPTION, ENERGY AND WASTE

### Eco Footprint

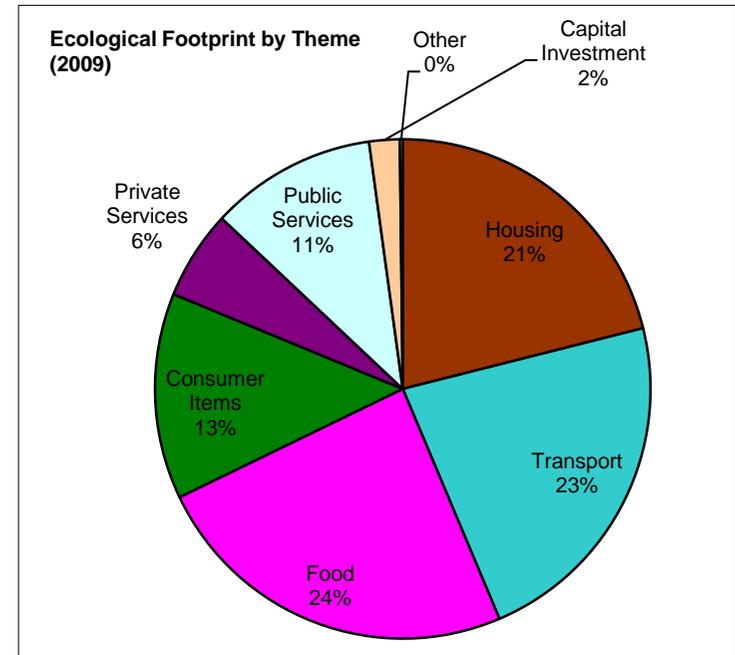
Reducing our ecological footprint is a key aim of 'One Planet Living'<sup>32</sup>. The vision of One Planet Living is: A world in which people everywhere can lead happy, healthy lives within their fair share of the Earth's resources. The available footprint is 1.8 global hectares (gha) per person. Currently, York's ecological footprint is 4.72 global hectares (gha) per person<sup>33</sup>, which is just over the UK average of 4.64 gha per person (SEI, 2009). York's footprint has decreased since 2001 and 2006 a footprint of 6.3 and 5.38 global hectares per person respectively. The City of York Community Strategy (Without Walls) sets a target for the progressive reduction of York's ecological footprint to 3.5ha per person by 2033. To achieve the goal of 'One Planet Living' this would need to reduce further to the 1.8 ha per person figure. York's carbon footprint agenda is set out in the Climate Change section of this annex.

Another measure in understanding York's global impact is the Carbon Footprint. The average carbon footprint for a York resident is 16.74 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>. For more information see the Climate Change section of this annex.

### Water Resources and Consumption

Yorkshire Water state that the reservoirs are 98% full currently (Nov 2012) but still promote water efficiency to safeguard the resources. The average person uses 65,000 litres per year or 180 litres per day<sup>34</sup>. As people own more appliances which use water, water efficiency is paramount to ensuring that water resources are available in the future.

Water for York is abstracted from the River Ouse and River Derwent. Increase in development and population will lead to further water resource abstraction, which may impact on the two rivers. The depletion of the Sherwood aquifer is a priority consideration for development in the York sub zone.



<sup>32</sup> One Planet Living (OPL) is a joint initiative of BioRegional and the World Wildlife Fund (WWF). It aims to make sustainable living easy, attractive and affordable throughout the world.

<sup>33</sup> Taken from the results released in October 2009 by the Stockholm Environment Institute

<sup>34</sup> Yorkshire water (2012)

Yorkshire Water's Water Resources Management Plan (2014) has weighed up the demand and supply of water for the forthcoming 25 years until 2039/40. The document forecasts demand and the measures which will help to ease any deficit in the future. The demand model has inbuilt assumptions regarding the projected population and households as well as the projected effects of climate change, leakage, implemented water efficiency measures and assumed new homes in accordance with the Code for Sustainable Homes. The new housing forecast detailed within the report has been based on information from the National House-Building Council, Cambridge Econometric and current Yorkshire Water data and assumes an uptake of 120 litres/head/day in new properties. This data was used to amend the initial forecasts provided by Experian to take account of Yorkshire specific development plans at that time.

York lies within the Grid SWZ zone within Yorkshire Water's area, which identifies a deficit between supply and demand from 2018/19 is 2.67MI/d, increasing to 108.65MI/d by 2039/40. Climate change is the predominant factor considered to lead to a deficit in supply. The solutions proposed to meet the forecast supply demand deficit in the Grid SWZ is a balance of demand reduction options and the development of existing or new assets. The options selected include leakage reduction, use of an existing river abstraction licence, three groundwater schemes and customer water efficiency. As the plan period stretches out, there is less certainty with regard to the mix of measures to be used and they are also likely to be revised in the next WRMP, to be adopted in 2019.

#### Energy Consumption and resources

The average domestic consumption of electricity and gas has been decreasing since 2006 with York consistently below the national average (DECC). Similarly, the consumption for commercial and industrial gas and electricity show a decrease in consumption.

The council is committed to reducing fuel poverty and improving housing standards as well as reducing the carbon footprint of housing in the city. To this end the Council works with Yorkshire Energy Partnership to run free insulation programmes, areas based insulation schemes and also social schemes including the installation of electricity generating solar PV panels on over 400 council homes. Between 2010 – 2012 over 4000 residents also received impartial advice on energy efficiency and renewable energy generation.

Consumptions Statistics	2012		2010	
	Average gas consumption	Average electricity consumption (kWh)	Average gas consumption	Average electricity consumption (kWh)
<b>Average household in York</b>	14,968	3,730	15,575	3,819
<b>Average UK household</b>	14,080	4,014	15,087	4,150
<b>Average commercial in York</b>	538,322	66,159	565,557	73,856
<b>Average UK commercial</b>	688,941	75,372	670,316	76,863

Source: DECC, 2014

New figures for CO<sub>2</sub> across the city show the impact of the bad winter in 2010 across York with a similar impact across the rest of the country. Domestic, Industry and Commercial CO<sub>2</sub> all went up in 2010 increasing overall CO<sub>2</sub> by 6% with Industry going up 9.1% and domestic up 8.5%<sup>35</sup>. Estimates (based on DECC estimate of 8% energy consumption reduction between 2010 and 2011) show a more positive picture for 2011 with emissions falling again. However, total emissions have fallen by 13% from 1.3 million tonnes ( or 1,302 kilo tonnes) in 2005 to just over 1.13 million tonnes (or 1,131 kilo tonnes) of CO<sub>2</sub> in 2010. This is a reduction of just over 170,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>.

The issue of renewable energy production has become prominent based upon the national drive to reduce carbon emissions and produce more sustainable fuel. The UK Renewable Energy Strategy sets out aspiration for 30% of electricity and 12% of heat to be supplied from renewable energy. A Renewable Energy Viability Study for York has been commissioned to look at the energy profile of York and its potential to generate renewable energy as well as demands for energy in the future. This report states that the demand for electricity is expected to reach 820,819 MWh and 1,785,076 MWh of heat per year by 2020. In order to achieve the aspirations set out by the UK Strategy, York will need to produce 246,246 MWh of electricity and 214,209 MWh of heat from renewable sources by 2020. At the moment the expected renewable energy development will only account for 2% of demand and therefore it needs to be promoted in development more. Recommendations regarding the most appropriate renewable energy to implement in the city will inform the Sustainability Appraisal.

Through the Renewable Energy Viability Study for York it estimated that in 2010 York had just under 10 MW of installed generating capacity from renewable / low carbon technologies. In addition to this, between April 2010 and October 2012, 1327 renewable energy installations have been registered under the Feed-In-Tariff. This equates to an additional installed capacity of 4.5MW of energy.

### Waste

The City of York has a positive decreasing trend for decreasing the tonnes of waste produced. The amount of waste that was landfilled has reduced to 55.1% (2011/12) from a 2004/05 baseline figure of 82.2%. Similarly, there has been a significant increase in the amount of recycling that has occurred with the vast majority of residents having a kerbside recycling collection service. Recycling and waste management is high on the council agenda to promote sustainable living and has been presented in campaigns to the public heavily over the past couples of year. It is expected that improvements will be made each year hence forth.



CO <sub>2</sub> emissions for York				
Year	Industry and Commercial (kilo tonnes)	Domestic (kilo tonnes)	Road Transport (kilo tonnes)	Grand Total (kilo tonnes)
2005	535.9	460.9	305.2	1,302.0
2006	531.5	457.6	305.6	1,294.6
2007	441.9	440.2	307.0	1,189.1
2008	429.7	438.4	294.6	1,162.7
2009	381.4	397.4	284.9	1,063.7
2010	417.0	431.0	283.5	1,131.5
2011	371.0	382.0	275.0	1,028.9

(source: DECC)

<sup>35</sup> DECC, 2013

In order to process waste effectively in the future, City of York and North Yorkshire County Council form the North Yorkshire Waste Partnership. As part of this the partnership are working to find a sustainable solution to the sub-regions waste in the future and are now looking to finalise a contract using the Private Finance Initiative (PFI). Ameycespa, who the partnership are working with, propose to build a new facility in the site of an existing quarry and landfill site at Allerton, a site adjacent to the A1 between York and Knaresborough. The site proposes a number of methods which will aim to recover value from almost every aspect of the waste through generating energy. This will take place through:

- Mechanical treatment : to screen out organic matter and recover metal, paper and plastic
- Anaerobic digestion: to treat organic waste and generate 1.1MW of renewable 'green' electrical power
- An energy from waste plant treating remaining waste after separation of recyclables and generate around 24MW of power.
- An Incinerator Bottom Ash plant to process residual ash into an aggregate which can be used in construction.

#### Key Issues from the Baseline

- York has reduced its overall consumption of energy resources over the past few years and this trend is likely to continue<sup>36</sup>;
- A key consumer of resources is transport<sup>37</sup>;
- External factors such as the weather is likely to continue to impact on consumption;
- The Council is committed to resource and carbon reduction through energy efficiency<sup>38</sup>;
- Water resources are not likely to have a significant effect on York as the household consumption has been built into Yorkshire water's model. Water efficiency however is still required<sup>39</sup>;
- The amount of waste produced in York is reducing whilst the levels of recycling and composting has increased in line with a decrease in landfill<sup>40</sup>.

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<sup>36</sup> DECC

<sup>37</sup> DECC

<sup>38</sup> CYC, Climate Change Action Plan

<sup>39</sup> Yorkshire Water, 2014

<sup>40</sup> CYC

## Indicators

Indicator	Area	Period	Value	Previous Value	Trend	National Average	Data Source	Indicator Source
Average annual domestic consumption of gas (kwh) in York	York	2010	15,575	18,266 (2006) 17,563 (2007) 16,938 (2008) 15,505 (2009)		England & Wales - 15,087	DECC: Statistics & high level indicators	National Quality of Life
Average annual commercial and industrial consumption of gas (kwh) in York	York	2010	565,557	833,706 (2006) 607,144 (2007) 592,327 (2008) 549,192 (2009)		England & Wales - 670,316	DECC: Statistics & high level indicators	
Average annual domestic consumption of electricity (kwh) in York	York	2010	3,819	3977 (2007) 3817 (2008) 3,820 (2009)		England & Wales - 4,150	DECC: Statistics & high level indicators	
Average annual industrial consumption of electricity (kwh) in York	York	2010	73,856	72,212 (2006) 67,598 (2007) 67,631 (2008) 70,215 (2009)		England & Wales - 76,863	DECC: Statistics & high level indicators	
Estimated number of households in fuel poverty	York	2010	13404	13,100 (2009)		North Yorkshire - 90,407	DECC, Fuel Poverty statistics	
% of households fuel poor	York	2010	16.1%	15.7% (2009)		North Yorkshire - 19.8%	DECC, Fuel Poverty Statistics	
Number of kg of household waste collected per head of population	York	2011/12	tbc	629 (2008/09) 614 (2009/10) 582 (2010/11)		n/a	City of York Council Plan NPI 191	National Quality of Life Indicators, CLG; Sustainable Communities, Egan Review;
% of household waste which has been recycled and composted	York	2011/12	tbc	45.1% (2008/09) 43.26% (2009/10) 45.1% (2010/11)		12.4	City of York Council NPI 192	National Quality of Life Indicators, CLG; Sustainable Communities, Egan

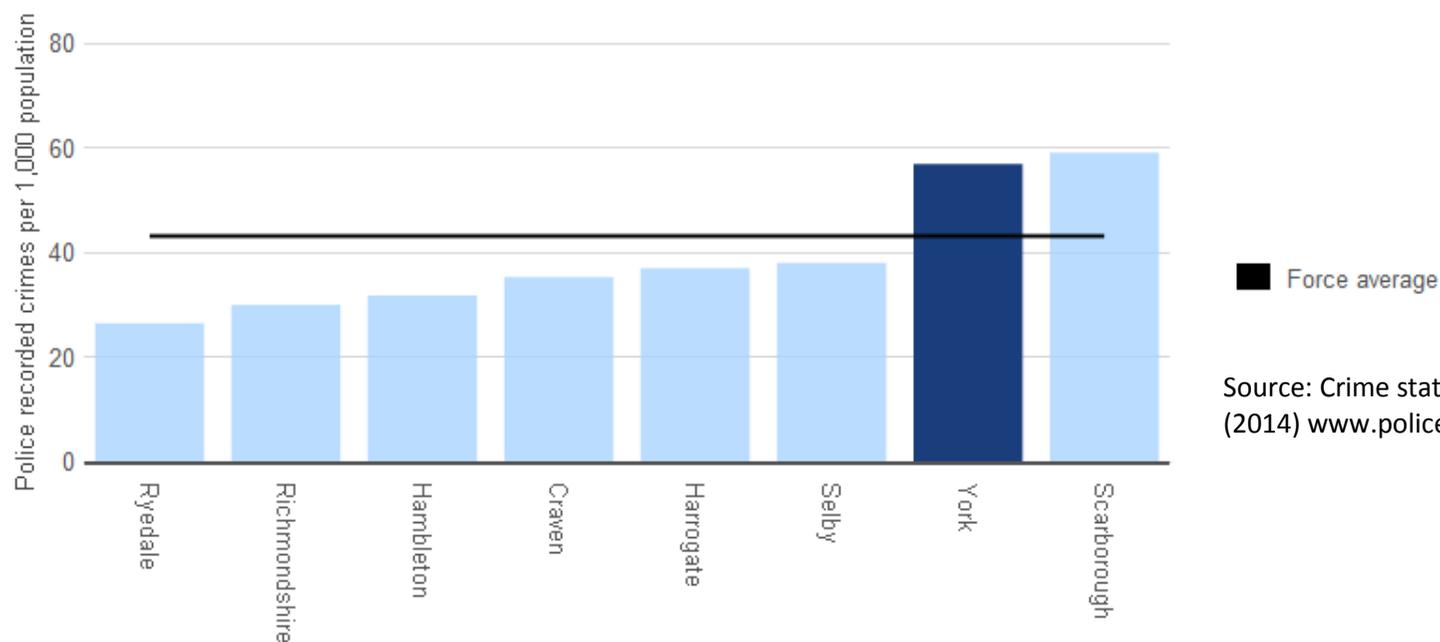
								Review;
% of household waste which has been landfilled	York	2011/12	tbc	55.1% (2008/09) 56.7%(2009/10) 54.5% (2010/11)		n/a	City of York Council Plan NPI 193	National Quality of Life Indicators, CLG; Egan Review;
% of households resident in the authority's area served by kerbside collection of at least two recyclables	York	2011/12	tbc	86.7% (2006/07) 86.98% (2007/08) 87% (2008/09) 92.3 (2009/10) 99.4% (2010/11)		n/a	City of York Council Plan local indicator	National Quality of Life Indicators, CLG; Sustainable Communities, Egan Review;

## COMMUNITY SAFETY

The City of York Community Safety Plans have been produced by the Safer York Partnership (a multi-agency partnership with City of York Council, North Yorkshire Police, North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue and others). Following a full audit of multi-agency data on crime and disorder and a public consultation exercise, the 2011-14 strategy identified the top issues to be address within York were: dwelling (house) burglary, violent crime, anti-social behaviour and vehicle crime. The community consultation also identified drugs and alcohol and speeding traffic as causing most concern to the community.

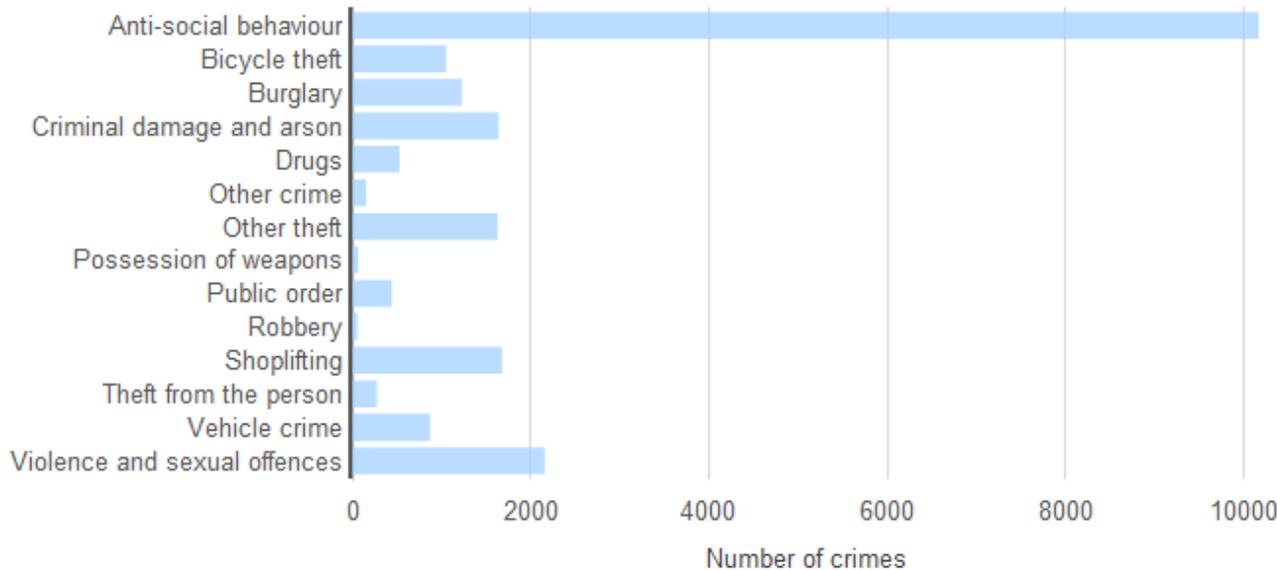
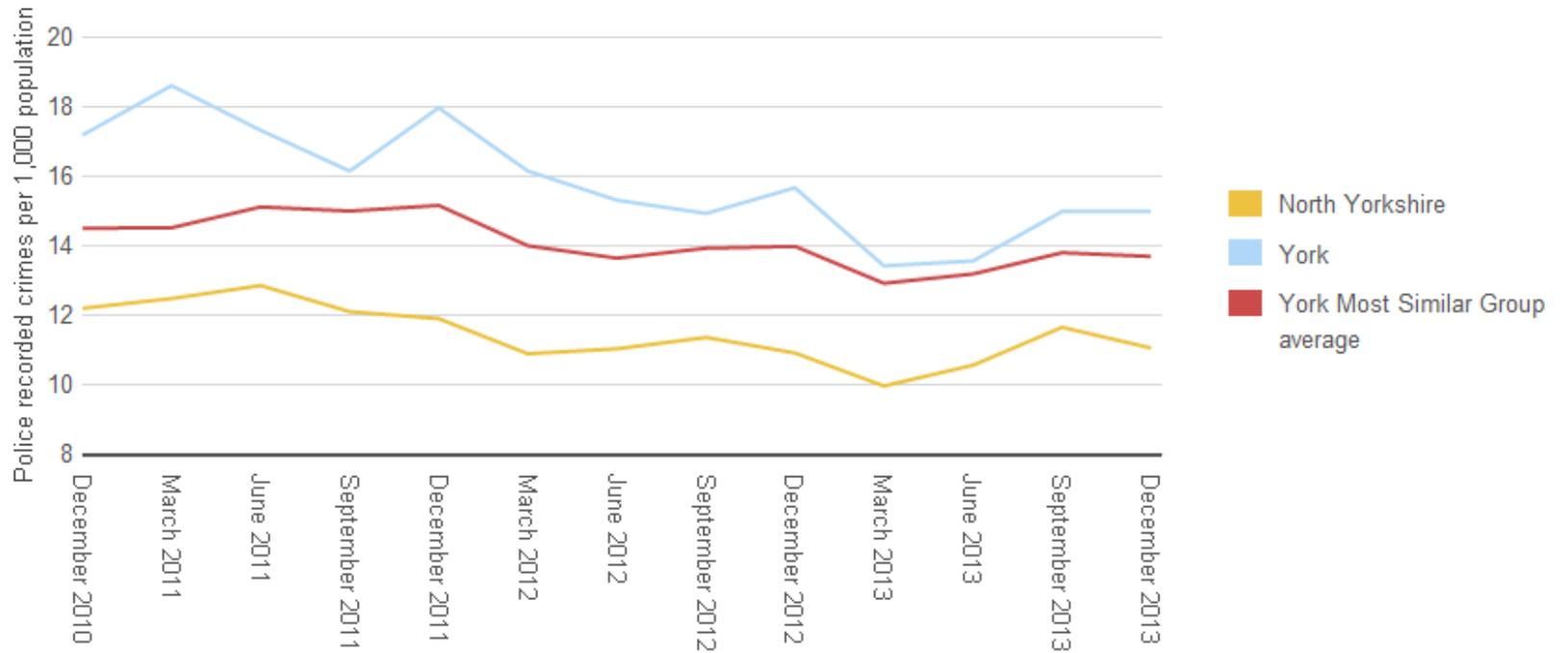
In York's 'Big Survey' of the population, 80% of the people surveyed agreed that they felt York was a safe city to live in, relatively free from crime. 79% of people also agreed that their local area was a safe place to in live in, relatively free from crime and violence. 63% of people agreed with the statement that "In general, I am not worried about crime/anti-social behaviour in my area".

In the year ending December 2013, the average crime rate in York is higher than the current regional average for North Yorkshire.



Source: Crime statistics (2014) [www.police.uk](http://www.police.uk)

Total crime in York dropped by 10% (1623 crimes) in 2011-12 compared to 2010-11 (North Yorkshire Crime Report, 2013). The first five months of data available for 2013/14 suggest that crime continues to reduce and at present is predicted to be between 5 and 10%



Statistics collected by the Police in York show that between May 2013 and April 2014, the highest number of reported crimes was anti-social behaviour.

**Key messages from the baseline**

- People generally think York is a safe place to live;
- Crime rates are decreasing;
- Support for the future should be aimed at helping to meet the objectives and identified priorities set out in the Community Safety Plan.

**Indicators**

Indicator	Area	Period	Value	Previous Value	Trend	Data Source
How much do you agree that York is a safe city to live in, relatively free from crime and violence?	York	2013	80% agree	74.4% agree (2012)		Big York Survey
How much do you agree that your local area is a safe place to live in, relatively free from crime and violence?	York	2013	79% agree	78.5% agree (2012)		Big York Survey
Agree/Disagree with the statement "I am not worried about crime or anti-social behaviour that happens in my local area"	York	2013	63% agree 23% disagree	65.1% agree, 21.6 disagree (2012)		Big York Survey