



Darlington Children and Young People's Plan

Needs Analysis 2010 - 2011

CYPP Review Needs Analysis Glossary:

The **Tellus Survey** is an annual survey of children and young people conducted by the Department for Education and undertaken by the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER). It is open to all schools in England and surveys a cross-section of pupils from Years 6, 8 and 10. The Tellus4 survey involved 14 Darlington Schools and 895 pupils completed the survey during October and November 2009. The Tellus survey will not be repeated in future

Young People's focus Groups – a series of deeper dive events to explore the issues arising from the Tellus and other feedback channels in greater detail. 130 young people participated in 14 sessions in February/March 2010.

Talking Together is an annual programme of 24 meetings which provides an opportunity for Darlington residents to 'have their say' about issues that affects them. The events also provide an opportunity for the Council, the Police and PCT to find out what people think about changes to/improvements for service delivery. The Police, the Fire Brigade and staff from the Primary Care Trust also attend.

Sustainable Community Strategy - Six enquiry groups established to address key quality of life issues. They considered outcomes from forty two consultation events. The events ranged from detailed focus groups to public meetings to market stall activities and road show events in different localities. Over a thousand people gave suggestions and views on how to make Darlington better. All of these views together with the findings from the Enquiry groups have informed the Sustainable Community Strategy for Darlington, *One Darlington: Perfectly Placed*.

Community Survey - 1036 face-to-face interviews were conducted during August 2009 with residents aged 18 years and over.

Place survey is a national survey which took place in 2008 and will not be repeated in future

T3 – is a group of young people which brings together representatives from existing groups of young people within the statutory and voluntary sector and the Member and Deputy Member of the Youth Parliament in Darlington.

Social Norms Study – survey carried out by DAAT to inform the young people’s substance misuse treatment plan

Positive Activities Census – a one off survey carried out by Department for Education to establish what positive activities area available in each local authority area

Investing In Children - an organisation concerned with the human rights of children and young people. Investing in Children works to support children and young people themselves, and adults, to challenge and change situations. They have carried out consultation and engagement work with children and young people in Darlington.

What makes me Happy artwork- 145 children aged 0-11 years submitted artwork between July-October 2010 from Children Centres, Schools, Art Clubs, play schemes and libraries to advise Darlington Children’s Trust what it is that makes them happy.

APPENDIX 1

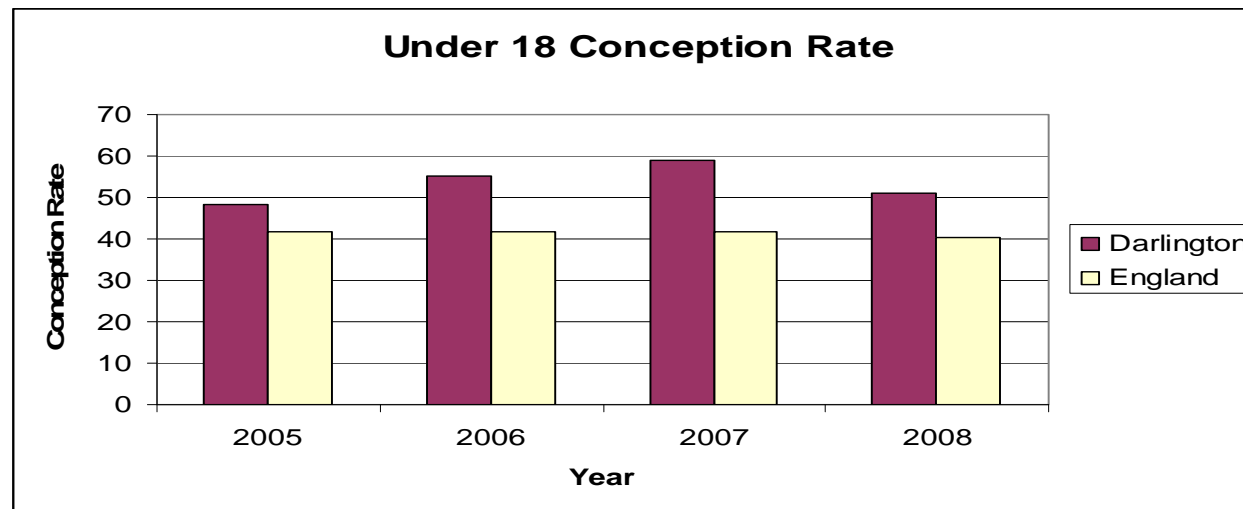
Needs Analysis – Be Healthy

Overarching Priority- Promote positive health and wellbeing

What the Data tells us

Under 18 conception rate and General Fertility

- The under-18 conception rate per 1000 girls aged 15 to 17 years in Darlington is high.



- Between 1998 and 2008 there has been a 20.1% reduction in the under 18 conception rate in Darlington this compares to an all England reduction rate of 13.3%. There has been a considerable improvement in performance in the last reported year; however Darlington, like the majority of authorities, has not hit its target and performs significantly below the England average.

- General fertility rate is higher in Darlington, at 2.19 in 2008, than in the North East, at 1.85 in 2008, as shown below and England & Wales at 1.97 in 2008 causing continuing pressure on school places

	2005	2006	2007	2008
Darlington UA	2.00	2.11	2.06	2.19
Northeast	1.71	1.79	1.82	1.85

Life Expectancy

- Darlington males live on average 76.3 years (2008) 2.6 years less than English males at 77.9 years (2008); this figure has remained static over the previous year
- Darlington Females live on average 80.5 years (2008) 1.7 years less than English females at 82.02 years (2007) an increase of 0.1 years from 2007
- There is a large variation in life expectancies between wards in Darlington. For males, the difference between the worst and best wards is 13 years; for females, it is 11.8 years in 2006, compared to 14.4 years for males and 10.1 years for females in 2005. The situation has deteriorated for females and improved for males.

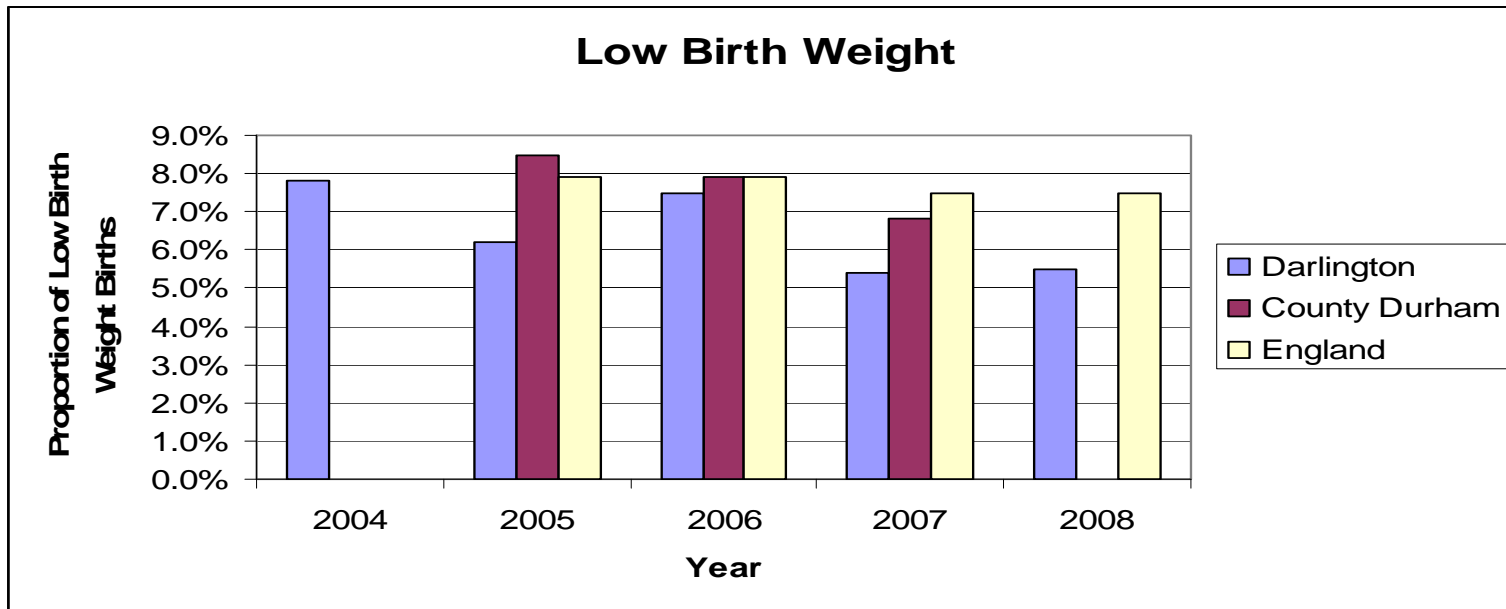
Infant Mortality

- Infant mortality (from 0-1 year) was the same or slightly lower in Darlington than the national average (measured over a 3 year trend up to 2007). However the latest figures now show it is rising. The England national average in 2008 was 4.6, significantly below the rate for Darlington which is 7.2%.

	2003-05	2005-06	2006-07	2006-08
Darlington UA	4.9	6.9	6.9	7.2
Northeast	4.7	4.9	4.9	4.8

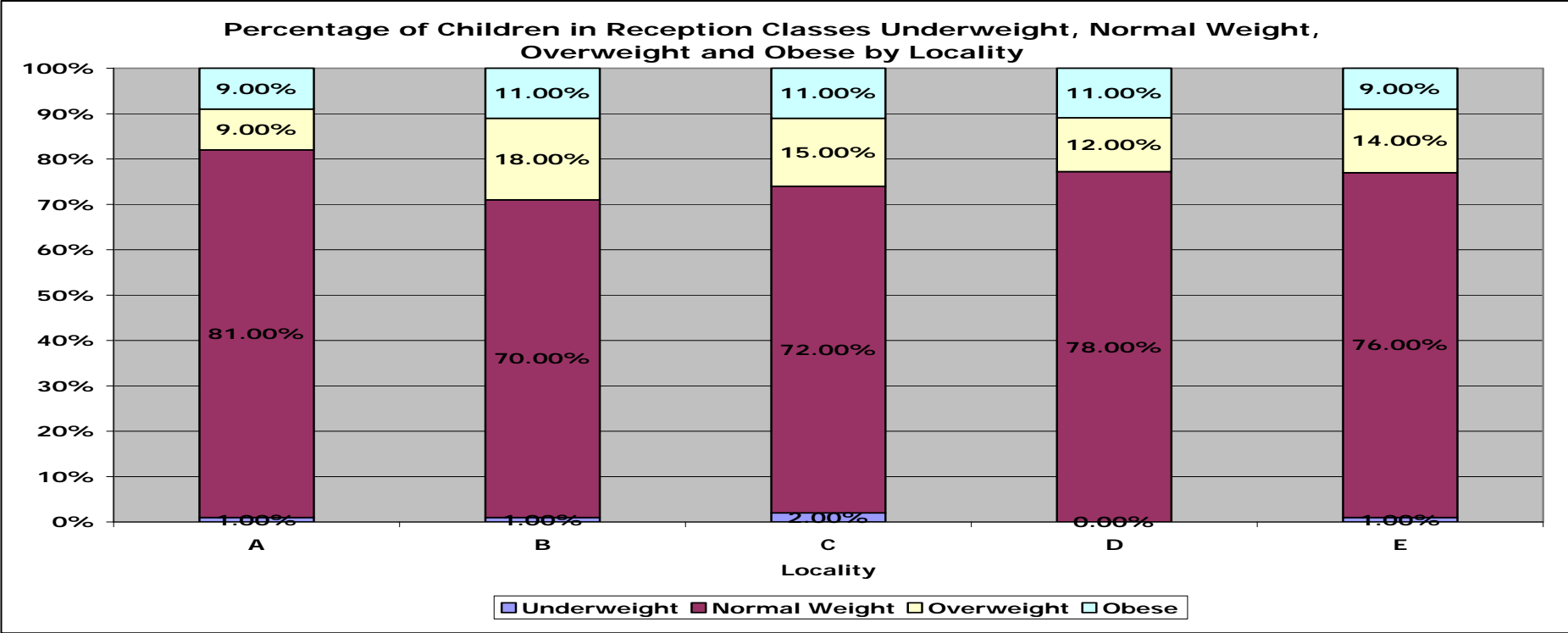
Birth weight

- The proportion of low birth weight babies has continued to decline from 7.5% in 2006, although there has been a slight increase in 2008, and is 2.0% below the national rate of 7.5% at 5.5% in 2008



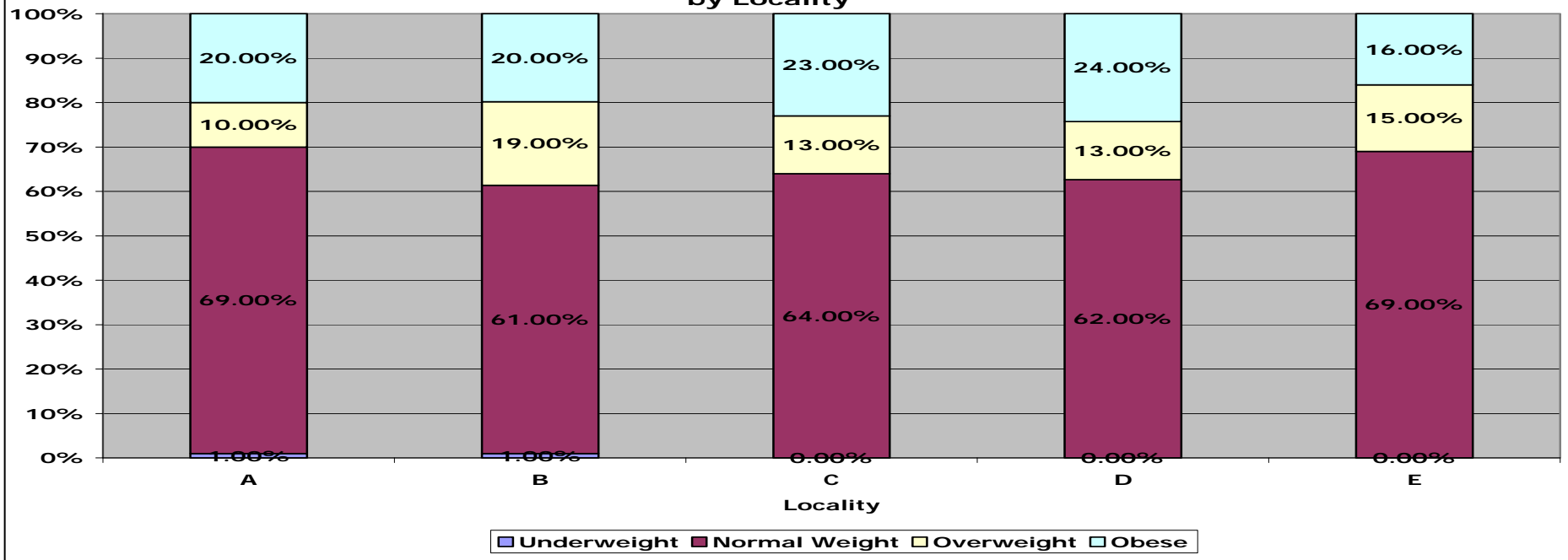
Obesity

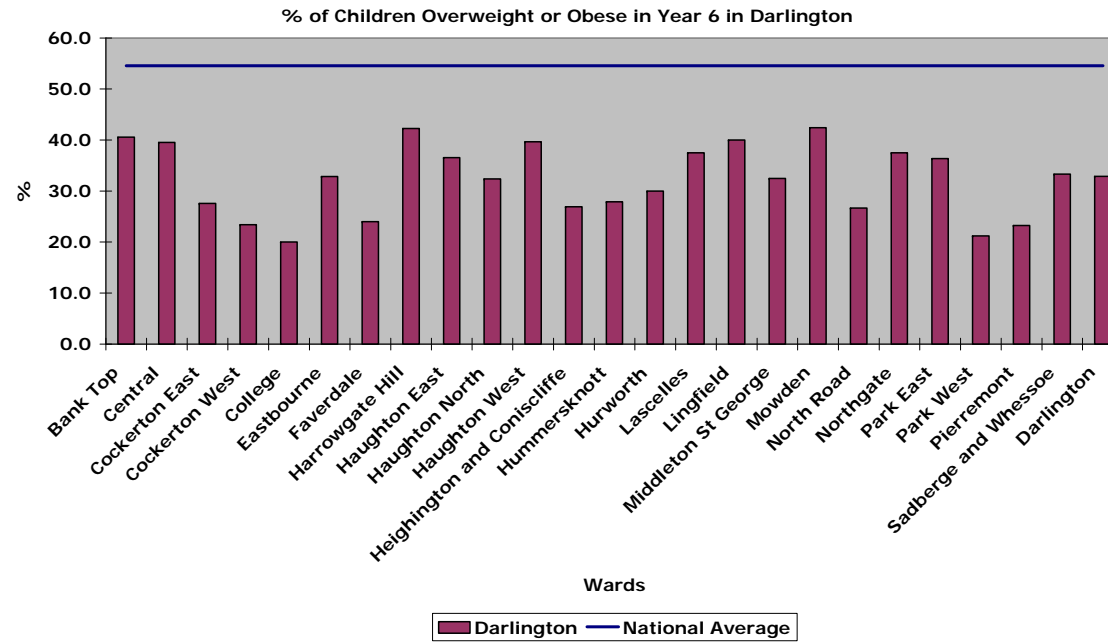
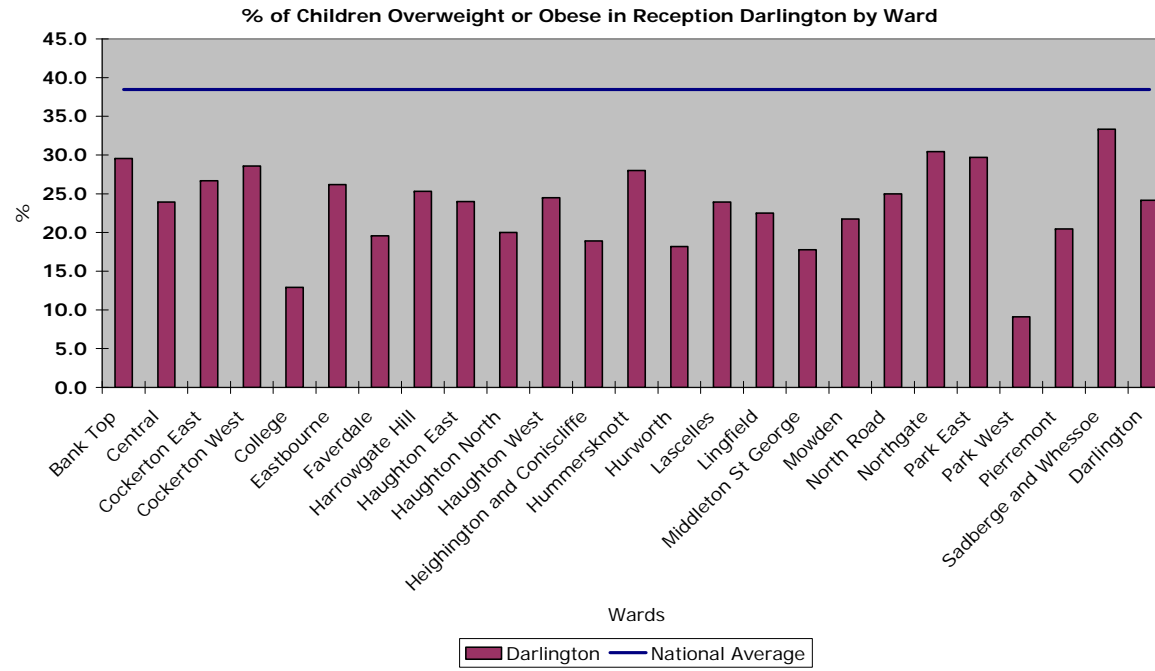
- In 2009/10 8.9% of reception year children in Darlington are obese a reduction of 1.1%. A further 15.1% are overweight, an increase of 1.6% making a total of 24% reception children overweight (including obese children) which is above the England average of 22.8%



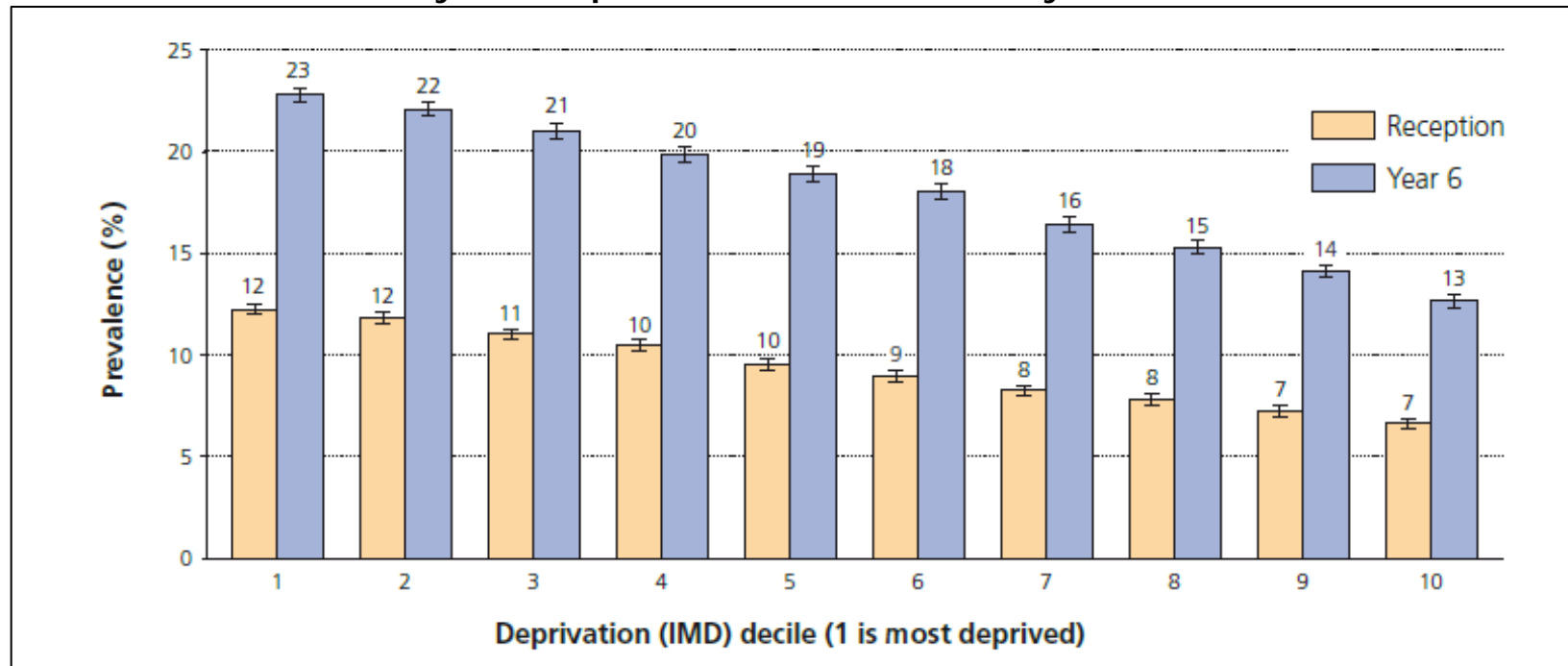
- By Year 6, 19.9% of children are obese a reduction of 0.5% and a further 12.8% are overweight a reduction of 1.1%. Overall a total of 32.7% of children in Darlington are overweight (including obese children) which is similar to the England rate of 32.6%

Percentage of Year 6 Children Underweight, Normal Weight, Overweight and Obese by Locality





Obesity in Reception and Year 6 classes by IMD decile.



Healthy Lifestyle

- 100% of schools are now participating in healthy schools programme. 86.8% of schools have achieved National Healthy school status by October 2010. The local target of 100% to be reached by 2009-10 was not met. However Darlington has now met the national figure of 75% of schools achieving National Healthy School status.
- Consumption of five fruits/vegetables per day amongst children in Darlington at 22% in 2009 has improved from 19% (2008) compared to the latest England figures of 19%. This represents a 3% increase.
- The Tellus4 4 survey results which measures NI 115; substance misuse by young people: % of young people reporting either a frequent misuse of drugs/volatile substances or alcohol or both has shown a significant decrease in the 2009/10 survey to 9.2%, an improvement on the 2008/09 survey of 3.8%. The latest national

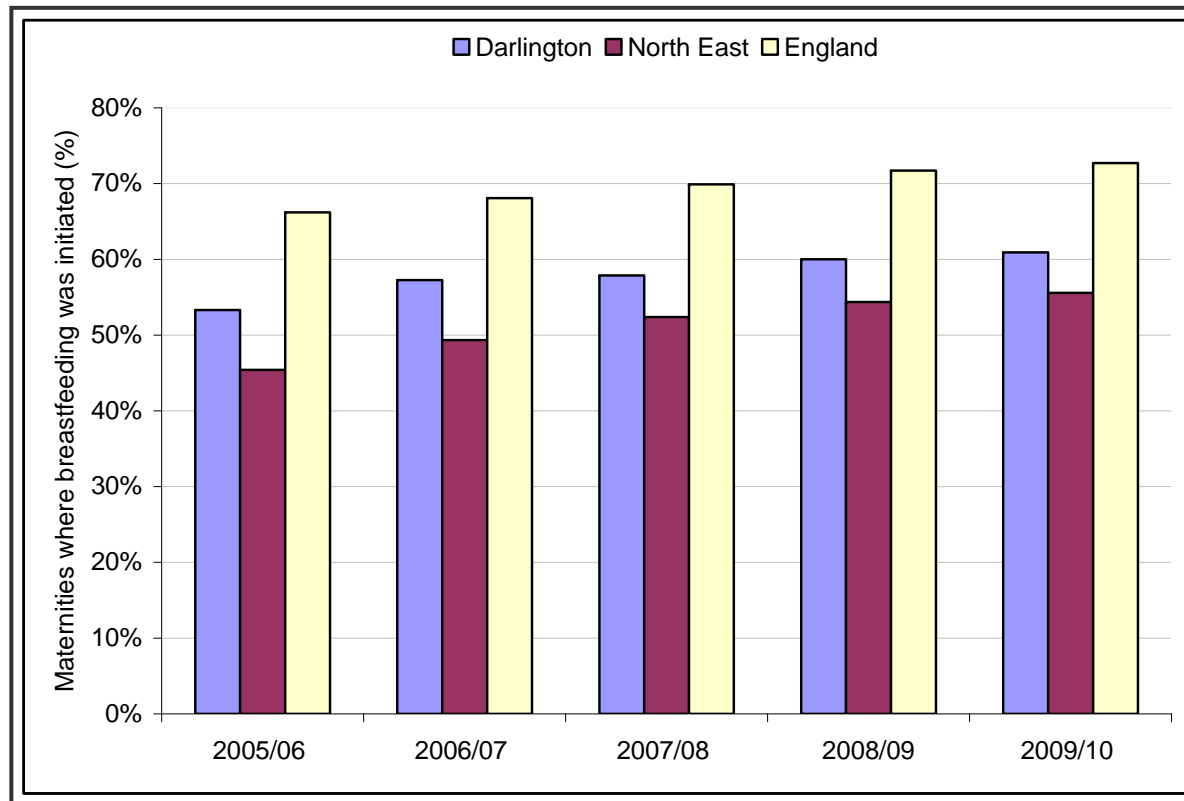
figure is 9.8% and the figure for the North East is 12.5%, so Darlington is performing well both regionally and nationally.

- The TellUs 4 survey has indicated that 45% of young people reported they had never had an alcoholic drink which is above the national average of 42%. The TellUs 4 survey also reported that 5% of young people had taken drugs, which is below the national average of 9% and a reduction from the 2008 figure of 9% but back to the 2007 figure of 5%. TellUs 4 survey has also indicated 4% children and young people have been drunk in the last four weeks. This is a slight increase of 1% from 2008 as in the TellUs 3 survey only 3% children and young people in Darlington had been drunk in the last four weeks. However Darlington has illustrated a reduction of the amount children and young people who have been drunk three or more times in the last four weeks. In 2008 this was 9% of children and young people and in 2009 this has reduced to 4%.
- In 2009/10 there were 153 young people aged under-18 years receiving substance misuse treatment, an increase from 96 in 2006/07, 116 in 2007/08 and 142 in 2008/09. This demonstrates improvements in increasing referrals from a wide range of sources and addressing substance misuse related needs. It does not signify an increase in the number of young people misusing substances.
- Based on synthetic estimates, binge drinking in Darlington is predicted to be significantly higher than in England. Hospital admissions for alcohol-related conditions peak at age 15-19 for women in Darlington compared to 50-54 for men.
- The North West of England Public Health Observatory published a report in 2010 which places Darlington as 322nd out of 326 local authorities for Alcohol-specific admissions for under-18s. This shows an improvement in performance from the report in 2009 which placed Darlington 325th out of 326 local authorities. It is important to note that although the rate per 100,000 of alcohol-specific hospital admissions is high; this represents 154 admissions over three years. The data in the 2010 report covers admissions from 2006/07 – 2008/09.
- In 2008/09 there were 26 admissions for Under 18s and 92 admissions for 18-29 year olds due to mental health and behavioural disorders as a result of substance misuse.
- % of children who enjoy good relationships with their friends and family was 61% in the Tellus3 survey.
- Children and young people mainly worry about school work/exams (50%); friendships (32%) and their parents/family(29%); which is in line with the national averages.[Tellus4]

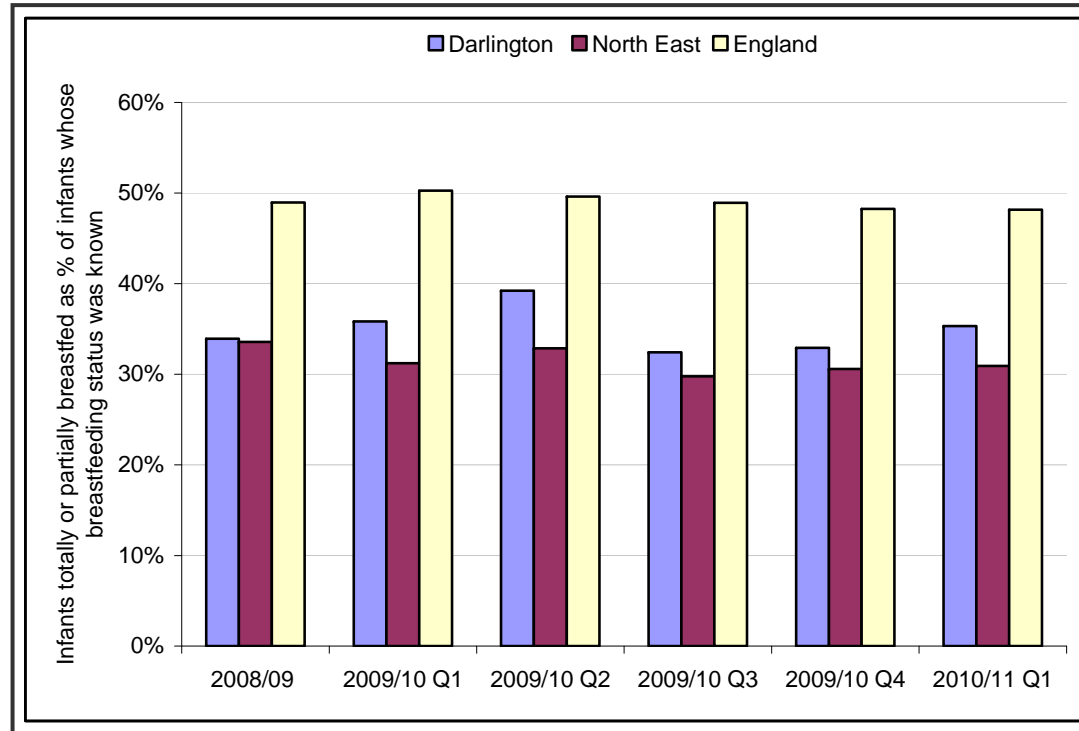
- The percentage of children and young people who feel happy at the moment is 69% which is slightly higher than the national average of 67%. [Tellus4]

Breast feeding initiation

- The proportion of mothers initiating breastfeeding in Darlington is increasing year on year. However, it is still almost 10% below the National rate.



- The proportion of mother breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks is also well below the national level and has fallen since quarter 2 of 2009/10.



Smoking during Pregnancy

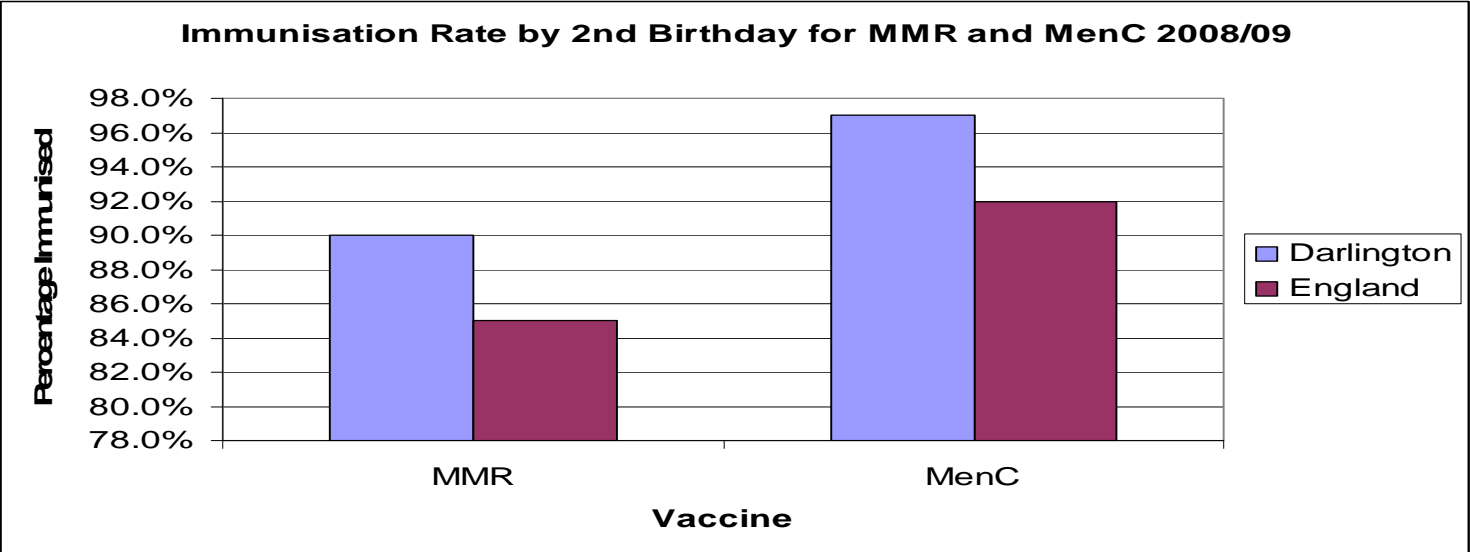
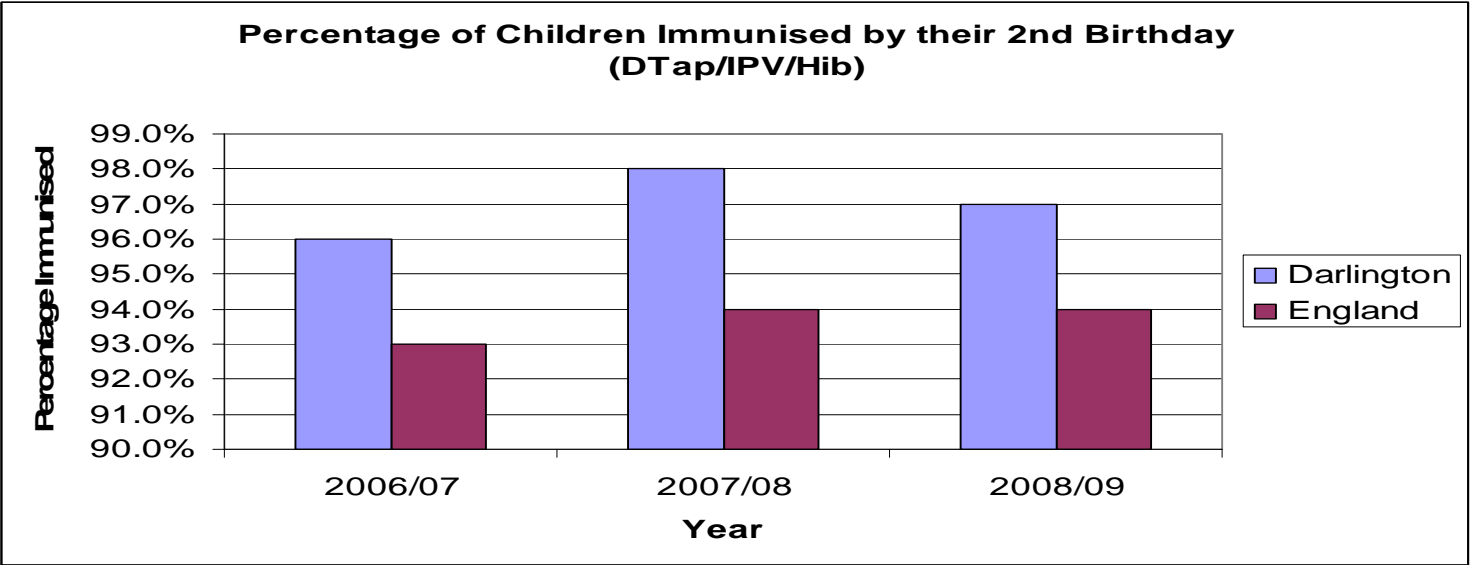
- The proportion of expectant mothers smoking during pregnancy, although showing a decrease, (20.4% 2008/09) is significantly higher than the England average of 14.4% (2008/09).

	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Darlington	25.0	25.0	21.0	20.4

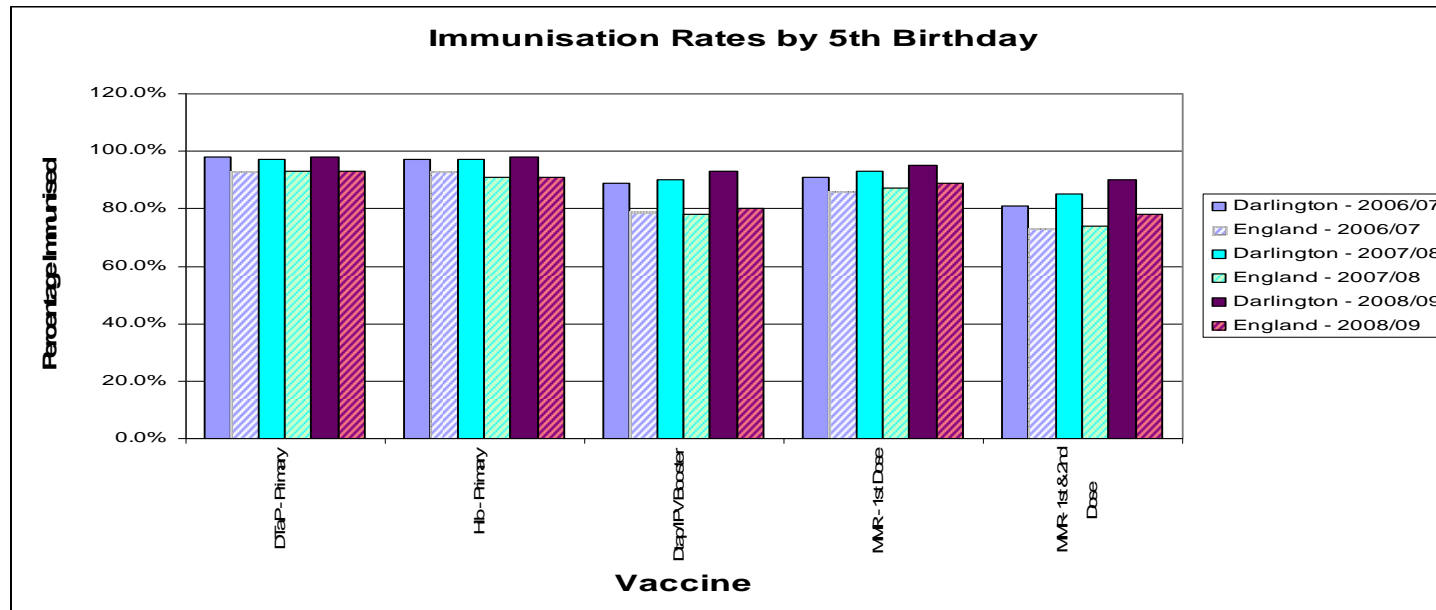
Immunisation

- Immunisation rates for children by their 2nd and 5th birthdays are higher in Darlington when compared with England averages.

Percentage immunised by their 2nd birthday



Percentage immunised by their 5th birthday



Hospital Admissions

- Hospital Admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries to children and young people (NI70) are high and are rising in Darlington.

	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Hospital Admissions in Darlington	171.4	178.8	185

The Table below shows our performance in relation to local and regional comparators. With the exception of Middlesbrough, Darlington is the worst performing area.

Authority	2008/09
Darlington	185
Hartlepool UA	154.3
Middlesbrough UA	198.1
Redcar & Cleveland UA	180.5
Stockton on Tees UA	148.9
Durham CC	173.3
Newcastle upon Tyne MD	156
North Yorkshire CC	101.7

* (per 10,000 population)

- Emergency admissions to hospital for children aged 0-19 years are significantly higher in Darlington than the England average at 180.6 per 1000 population 2006/07.
- The average number of decayed/missing/filled teeth for children aged 5 years has improved to 1.63 in (2007/08) from 1.80 (2003/04) but is higher than the England average (1.11). [NB unvalidated data]
- The average number of decayed/missing/filled teeth for children aged 12 is 1.13 (2008/09, latest data available) which is higher than the England average (0.74). The percentage of children with decay experience in Darlington (45.6%) is also higher than the English figure (33.4%). Similarly the percentage of children with active/current decay in Darlington (33.4%) is much higher than the English level (17.5%).
- The average number of decayed/missing/filled teeth for children aged 14 years at 1.69 (2003/04 latest data available) is higher than the England average (1.43).
- Diagnosis of Chlamydia amongst 16-19 year olds and the under 16s is lower than the England average (County Durham & Tees Valley Strategic Health Authority area) but in line with the national picture is increasing over time. The 2007/08 rate in Darlington was 5.3 compared to a Northeast rate of 6.4. There was an increase in 2008-09 to 8%, but a significant decrease in the last year, 2009-10 to 3.7%. The table below shows a very large increase in the number of Chlamydia screens which have been carried out.

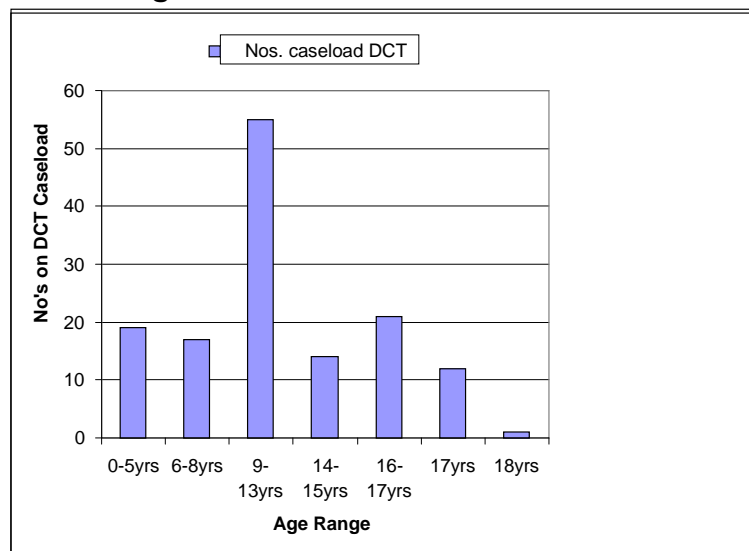
	Under 16 No of screens	Positivity rate	16-19 No of screens	Positivity rate
2008-09	15	0.0%	472	8.0%
2009-10	215	0.9%	1792	3.7%

- The proportion of LAC and care leavers who had their teeth looked at by a dentist in the previous 12 months and had an annual health assessment during the previous 12 months is 89.9% in March 2010; an increase of 1.3% from 88.6% in 2009 but this is a reduction from 2007 when this figure was 97%.

Disabled Children:

Data suggests that there are 700 disabled children aged 0-19; 300 children with disabilities which significantly impact on their lives, and 50-90 children with severe disabilities which restrict both the children and their family's opportunity to live an ordinary life. In Darlington there are 14 families known to the disabled children's team who have more than one disabled child.

Number of children registered with Disabled Children's Team by specific age band



What the wider community tell us:

- Improve access to sport and leisure activities (*Sustainable Community Strategy Feedback*)

- Tackle inequalities which creates the 13-year life expectancy gap (*Sustainable Community Strategy Feedback*)
- Tackle obesity epidemic amongst young people (*Sustainable Community Strategy Feedback*)
- Reduce binge drinking with particular emphasis on 16-30-year-old women (*Sustainable Community Strategy Feedback*)
- Reduce number of emergency admissions for alcohol poisoning to nil for 10-19 year old girls from the most deprived wards (*Sustainable Community Strategy Feedback*)
- Reduce smoking in unhealthiest ward, particularly aimed at smokers under 25 (*Sustainable Community Strategy Feedback*).
- C-Card, young people aware it exists; publicity in schools/college improved (T3)

What children and young people tell us:

The Tellus4 Survey for 2009 provides a picture of life for children and young people in Darlington. It must be noted that the survey was carried out at a different time in the academic year; October/November rather than April/May.

Tellus Q: How Healthy are you most of the time? This question was not asked as part of Tellus4 2009.

Response	Tellus2 2007	Tellus3 2008	Change
Very healthy	37% [31%]	28% [28%]	Worse
Quite Healthy	47% [55%]	58% [58%]	Better
Not very healthy	11% [9%]	11% [11%]	No change

- Leisure facilities too expensive, more publicity for LIVE card (T3)

Tellus3: *In the last seven days, how many days have you spent at least 30 minutes doing sport or other active things?*

Tellus4: The question changed; therefore year on year comparison cannot be made.

Q29: Did you take part in any organised sport or keep fit activities last weekend?

Response	Tellus2 2007	Tellus3 2008	Tellus4 2009	Change
spent at least 6 days+	41% [38%]	40%[36%]		Worse
spent at least 3-5 days	35% [35%]	30%[35%]		Worse
spent at least 1-2 days	16% [18%]	22%[21%]		Better
spent 0 days	4% [4%]	5%[4%]		Worse
Yes			42% [46%]	N/A
No			58% [54%]	N/A

- 42% of Darlington children take part in fewer organised sport and keep fit activities than the national average of 46%.

Tellus4 Q28: Thinking back to last week, how often did you do something active?

	Response	Tellus4 2009	Change
I did something active before school	Everyday	24% [27%]	NA
	Most days	16% [16%]	
	Some days	21% [25%]	
	Never	35% [35%]	
I did something active during lesson time including PE lessons	Everyday	21% [21%]	NA
	Most days	34% [34%]	
	Some days	40% [40%]	
	Never	6% [5%]	
I did something active during lunchtime/ break times	Everyday	36% [37%]	NA
	Most days	21% [20%]	
	Some days	22% [23%]	
	Never	21% [20%]	
I did something active after school	Everyday	36% [36%]	NA
	Most days	28% [27%]	
	Some days	22% [25%]	
	Never	15% [12%]	

- Most responses are in line with England average although more children in Darlington said 'they never did anything after school' - 15% compared to 12% England.

Tellus3 Q : What do you think of the information and advice you get on the following things?[The responses for 2008 related to needing better information].

Tellus4 Q26: How helpful is the information and support to help you plan your future? The response options were **Helpful, Not helpful, Don't know and Haven't received any**. The responses for 2009 are contextually adjusted and relate to the **NOT HELPFUL** response as the best comparator.

Response	Tellus2 2007	Tellus3 2008	Tellus4 2009	Change
Eating healthy food	15% [20%]	21% [20%]	17% [15%]	Better
Alcohol	16% [27%]	29% [37%]	17% [20%]	Better
Smoking	24% [26%]	29% [23%]	17% [19%]	Better
Drugs	32% [31%]	30% [25%]	15% [18%]	Better
Sex & relationships	29% [37%]	39% [37%]	17% [19%]	Better

Darlington is performing below the England average on most aspects of information and advice but has improved dramatically from 2008.

- Help to give up smoking information and advice on alcohol and substance misuse not available in all schools – need to target younger people (T3)
- Overall standard of hygiene in schools (T3)

Tellus Q: How many portions of fruit and vegetables do you usually eat each day?

Response	Tellus2 2007	Tellus3 2008	Tellus4 2009	Change
None	2% [4%]	4% [4%]	9% [9%]	Worse
1 – 2	26% [26%]	28% [27%]	32% [29%]	Better
3 – 4	41% [40%]	45% [42%]	33% [35%]	Worse
Five or more	21% [23%]	19% [23%]	22% [19%]	Better
Don't know	10% [6%]	4% [5%]	5% [7%]	Worse

The percentage of children in Darlington responding 'none' or 'don't know' is 14%, higher than the national average of 8%, but for 5 or more is 3% above national performance.

School Norms Study – Analysis of data in 08-09, which was based on returns from two schools, showed that 30% had a drink in the last week. Alco-pops were the most popular drink of choice. 13% reported being drunk in the preceding week. In the 2009-10 survey, which was based on returns from seven schools, 29% had a drink in the last week. Spirits were the most popular drink of choice. 10% reported being drunk in the preceding week

Tellus3 Q: *Have you ever had an alcoholic drink?*

Response	Tellus2 2007	Tellus3 2008	Change
Never had an alcoholic drink	34% [42]	20% [25%]	Worse
I have never been drunk	24% [23%]	35% [35%]	Better
I have been drunk but only once or twice and not recently	17% [12%]	6% [6%]	Better
I have been drunk twice within the last four weeks	N/A	3% [4%]	N/A
I have been drunk three or more times in the last four weeks	N/A	9% [6%]	N/A

Tellus4: change to the question structure and response options

Q30a: Have you ever had an alcoholic drink?

Response	Your LA	National	Statistical neighbours	Contextually adjusted figures
Yes	46%	42%	48%	45%
No	46%	51%	45%	47%
I don't want to say	8%	7%	7%	8%

Q30b: In the last four weeks how many times have you been drunk?

	Your LA	National	Statistical Neighbours	Contextually adjusted figures
None/never had an alcoholic drink	68%	68%	61%	70%
Once	6%	6%	8%	7%
Twice	4%	4%	5%	4%
Three or more times	4%	5%	6%	4%
Don't want to say	10%	8%	9%	10%
Don't know/can't remember	2%	2%	3%	2%
I have never been drunk	5%	6%	6%	4%

- Young people in Darlington who state 'they have ever had an alcoholic drink' is slightly higher than the national average but lower than statistical neighbours.
- Darlington performs better than its statistical neighbours and the national average on the percentage of young people drinking in the past four weeks.

School Norms Study showed in 2008-09 (based on 2 schools returns) that 13% of young people have tried cannabis and 10% had tried solvents. In 2009-10 (based on 7 schools returns) the position improved with 10% of young people having tried cannabis and 5% having tried solvents

Tellus Q32a: Have you ever taken drugs?

Response	Tellus2 2007	Tellus3 2008	Tellus4 2009	Change
Yes	5% [14%]	9%[11%]	5% [9%]	Better
No	91% [80%]	86% [86%]	91% [88%]	Better
Prefer not to say	4% [6%]	5% [4%]	4% [3%]	Better

- The proportion of children who say they have taken drugs is lower in Darlington than the national average and statistical neighbours.

Tellus4 Q32b: Which of these drugs, if any, have you taken in the last four weeks? This question was asked differently in 2007 and a comparison is not appropriate. In 2009 this question was asked slightly differently-

In the last 4 weeks, how often have you taken any of the following drugs? However the responses are comparable.

Substance and response	Darlington		England		Substance and response	Darlington		England	
	2008	2009	2008	2009		2008	2009	2008	2009
Cannabis or Skunk:					Other drugs (LSD, Cocaine)				
Never in the last four weeks	88%	93%	89%	91%	Never in the last four weeks	90%	94%	92%	93%
Once	1%	1%	2%	1%	Once	2%	0%	1%	1%
Twice	3%	0%	1%	1%	Twice	1%	0%	1%	0%
Three or more times	5%	1%	3%	2%	Three or more times	1%	1%	1%	1%
Prefer not to say	1%	4%	4%	4%	Prefer not to say	5%	4%	4%	4%
Don't know/can't remember	-	0%	1%	1%	Don't know/can't remember	1%	0%	1%	1%
Solvents, glue or gas (to inhale or sniff)	2008	2009	2008	2009					
Never in the last four weeks	90%	95%	92%	94%					
Once	0%	1%	1%	1%					
Twice	1%	0%	1%	0%					
Three or more times	2%	0%	1%	0%					
Prefer not to say	5%	4%	4%	5%					
Don't know/can't remember	1%	0%	1%	0%					

Tellus Q: Which of the following things, if any, do you worry about the most?

Tellus4 Q15: Which of these things do you often worry about? Question revised and changes to response options in 2009.

Response	Tellus2 2007	Tellus3 2008	Tellus4 2009	Change
Being bullied	30% [25%]	29% [27%]	27% [25%]	Better
School Work	34% [35%]	36% [31%]		N/A
Exams	47% [29%]	62% [57%]		N/A
School work and exams			53% [51%]	NEW response
Girlfriends/Boyfriends/Sex	19% [18%]	21% [36%]	26% [25%]	NEW response
Sex			10% [15%]	NEW response
Being healthy	30% [32%]	25% [30%]	27% [26%]	Worse
Money	28% [29%]	27% [28%]	27% [26%]	No change
Friendships	39% [39%]	32% [34%]	31% [31%]	Better
My future What to do after year 11	30% [30%]	50% [49%]	40% [43%]	Better
Getting into trouble	26% [27%]	26% [27%]	Not asked in 2009	N/A
My parents or family	28% [29%]	32% [30%]	28% [29%]	Better
Crime: Being a victim of crime		30% [27%]	13% [16%]	Better
My body: The way I look		31% [32%]	28% [30%]	Better
Something else		11% [11%]	9% [11%]	Better
Don't know		4% [3%]	7% [6%]	Comparable
Nothing		3% [5%]	11% [12%]	Better

Investing In Children focus Group (2009)

- There has been no follow-up to work done on sexual health issues. Agreed this would be a link into the Darlington Sexual Health Team to move forward the teen health work.

Young People's Focus Groups (2009)

Be Healthy

On the question of how healthy, there was a mixed response. Some young people felt they were despite a lack of exercise and healthy eating; whereas others referenced regular exercise, a balanced diet, good awareness of what was positive (diet and exercise) and what was negative (drugs, solvents), where they could get help and advice and a direct reference to '5 a day'.

Group discussions seemed to centre of a number of key areas – drugs and alcohol, mental and emotional health, and ideas for improvement. A recurring theme was that young people have choices and have information but do and need to make their own decisions (although they may need more education to make better choices).

On drugs and alcohol, there was mixed evidence of smoking and alcohol use (do, have tried, stopped, enjoy, don't do to excess, do at home with parents consent). Drugs weren't seen as of much a problem in Darlington as cigarettes and alcohol.

There were some very particular (and intriguing) comments about alcohol including:

- That young people think it's a big problem
- That young people should be encouraged not to drink
- That there should be education at a young age
- That if young people want to drink and smoke then they will and adults and leaflets won't stop them
- That it was ok to drink responsibly
- That it was easy to get alcohol from local shops
- That young people knew of units and limits but not clear on what exactly a unit represented
- That young people smoked and drank because of peer pressure, to rebel, at parties, because there was nothing to do, to fit in

There were very specific views and opinions on mental and emotional health:

- That it was still a taboo subject
- That young people needed more information on this
- That exams should be less stressful
- That girls tend to talk to parents but boys don't
- That young people were concerned about the societal focus on how they look and not their personality

On ideas for improvement, these included:

- Stronger penalties on drugs
- Cheaper fruit and healthy food
- Reduce the cost of facilities and activities
- Have girls only/boys only sessions
- Be encouraged from a younger age not to drink
- More information on mental health
- Make information more interesting
- Increase the price of cigarettes
- More information from youth workers and other professionals
- Make exams less stressful
- Have under 18 sessions – gyms etc
- Have healthy eating classes
- Introduce more things to keep young people active
- Doing exercise can depend on your upbringing so encourage parents to encourage young people
- Have ID cards
- Have more places for young people to go

Sex and relationships

Responses from young people indicated that this is important for them with a cautionary comment that 'we're sick of hearing about it'!

Young people flagged a range of sources of information and advice (so broadened out the whole discussion from just being focused on what was delivered through schools and colleges, reinforcing that services need to be able to engage and respond to young people in a range of settings.

These included:

- Parents (seen as the best source for some but not for others)
- Documentaries
- Internet
- Leaflets
- Youth Service/youth workers
- Friends
- School
- CASH clinic at college
- TV
- Board games
- Sexual health professionals
- School counsellor
- Qualified peer mentors

Young people didn't specifically identify the content, or potential content, of sex/relationship lessons but rather raised a range of much wider but pertinent issues:

- A recognition that there was and should be a key role for schools and for parents
- That there should be a 'legal duty' on parents to teach young people and that they should be able to talk to their children/young people about sex and relationships
- That there should be parenting classes – to facilitate better relationships and strengthen a family bond
- Of the correlation between alcohol and sex (especially first experiences!)
- That young people often have sex for the wrong reasons and that sex/relationships education should cover this and discuss the 'downsides' of sex – unplanned pregnancies or STIs
- That more info was needed on STIs, contraception should be promoted, and education on celibacy and positive relationships should be promoted
- GUM clinics needed to be more flexible, accessible and able to produce quicker results – and there should be more clinics in young people's settings
- There should be a sexual health telephone line
- There were recurrent comments on age and mixed opinions on how early to start and what the content of sex/relationships education should be
- A feeling that sex education was poor
- That it should be taught by people other than teachers
- That it should be fun
- That there should be single gender groups
- Youth Service should go out with information to young people

What did come through was that young people very much wanted detail and information on the 'science of it', alongside a stronger focus on emotional aspects and personal relationships, with clear information on consequences although there were mixed opinions on when sex/relationships education should start.

Recurring themes were of educated choice and a recognition of the ability of have 'high quality' relationships without sex; and a need to have relationships education as a bad experience in one relationship could carry on into the next – suggestions including more 'life skills' classes, a GCSE in relationships, and that sex is not just only about sex it's about relationships too.

There were some specific comments about experiences at school which included:

- That it makes you aware
- That it wasn't very helpful and came too late
- That there needs to be a balance of information about genders
- That information was watered down

There was knowledge of TV campaigns and ads although mixed opinions on effectiveness – although young people referenced ads on Chlamydia and on violence and aggression towards young women by 'boyfriends'.

Young people were able to evidence personal experience of the C card and Chlamydia tests (and pants!).

The feedback from some of the vulnerable groups of young people suggested that they find it harder, because of their wider experiences and circumstances, to trust or get close to people – both peers and professionals.

Needs Analysis – Stay Safe

Overarching Priority – Ensure the safety of children and young people

What the data tells us

Domestic Violence

- Although there has been an overall increase in incidents of domestic violence reported, there has been a reduction in the percentage of repeat victims of domestic violence. Of the 2116 incidents reported between April-December 2009, an increase of 552 incidents (1564 incidents from April-Dec 2008), 24.7% were repeat victims (524) which is an improvement on the same period in 2008 in which there were 39.1% were repeat victims (566).

Child protection

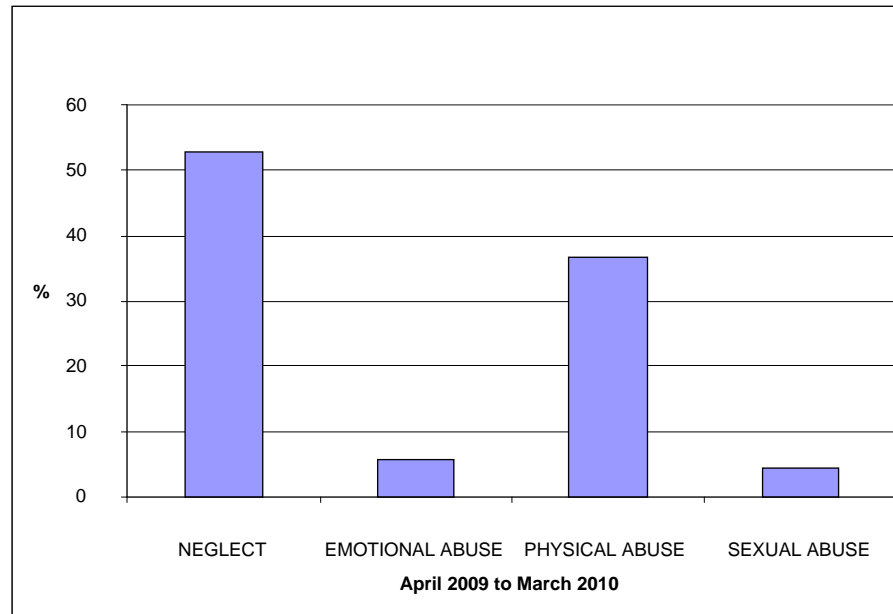
- The number of referrals of children in need in Darlington is 653 per 10,000 for the year 2009-10; a decrease of 758 from 1411 in 2008-09. The national average was 497 in 2008-09. This decrease is partly due to a change in the way in which referrals are recorded
- The proportion of initial assessments completed within 7 working days is 53% at March 2010, which is a reduction of 7% from 2008-09 (60%). However in 07/08 the proportion of initial assessments completed within 7 working was 68.5%.
- In Darlington the percentage of Section 47 enquiries which led to initial child protection conference and were held within 15 working days is 54.8% compared to the national average 66% (2007/08).
- 56% of referrals of children in need (March 2010) led to an initial assessment which is an increase from the previous years figure of 22% and this is now comparable to the national average of 56% (2009/10)
- In 2007/2008 Darlington achieved 85.3% of core assessments that were completed within 35 working days of their commencement. Performance has deteriorated and in 2008/2009 it was 74%, it is currently 72% at the end of March 2010. Darlington's performance is below the National figure of 78% in 2008/09.

- The percentage of Children in Darlington who are the subject of a child protection plan because of neglect is higher than both the national and regional average, see table below

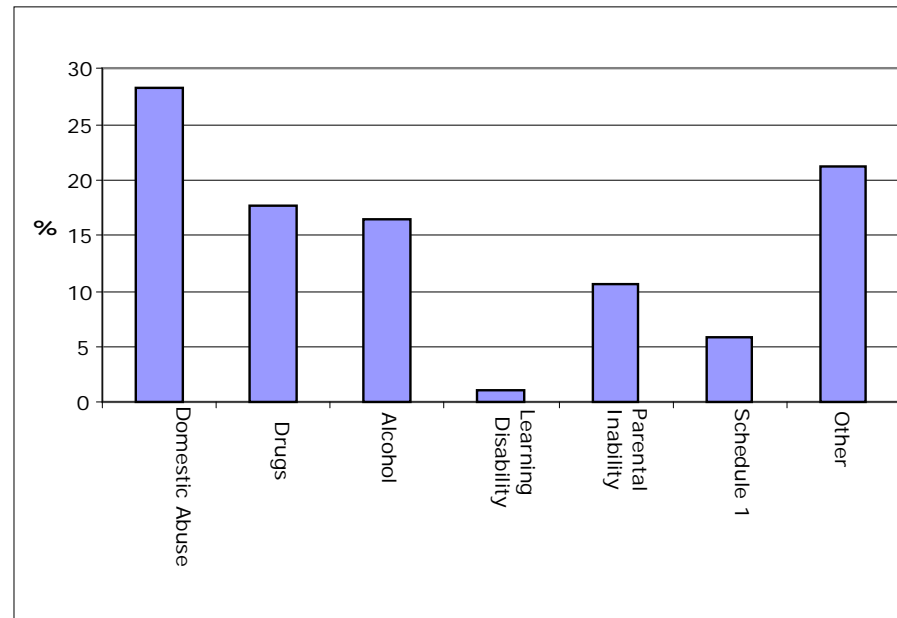
Children with a child protection plan protection – category of abuse Neglect

	% year end March 2009	Number year end March 09	% at 17 Dec 09	No at 17 Dec 09	% @ 10 Feb 10	No @ 10 Feb 10	%@ March 10	No @ March 10
Darlington	55	35	53.9%	41	59.5%	47	51.8%	43
North East	52	1,185						
England	46	15,800						

Category of abuse of children subject to a child protection plan



Risk factors associated with children subject to a Child Protection Plan, Darlington, 2009/10.



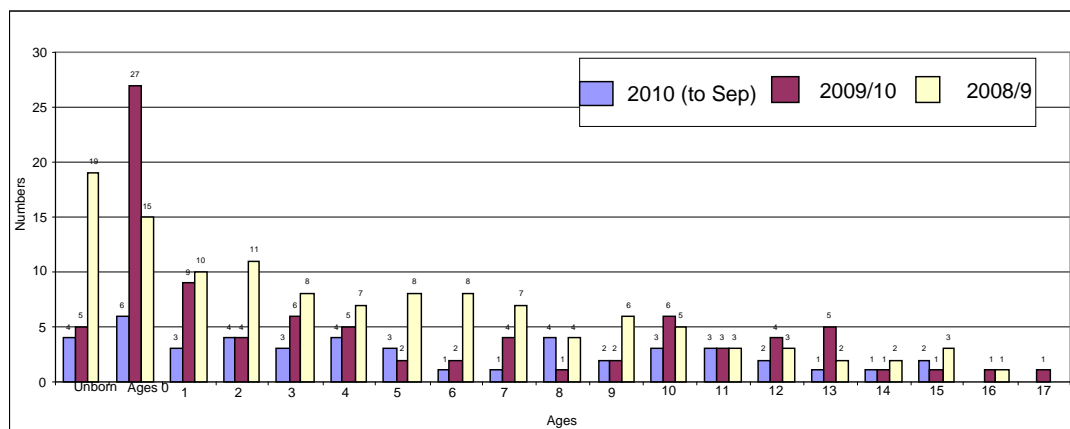
28% of children made subject to a Child Protection Plan reported that domestic abuse was a contributing factor (figure 2). A further 18% showed that drug use was a risk factor, 16% showed that alcohol was a factor. 11 % of cases showed risk factors in relation to inability to parent, and 7% were as a result of a parent/ carer being classified as a 'risk to children' previously known as Schedule 1. 21% of cases described other risk factors as contributing to children being at significant risk, these included, parental mental health problems, parents risk taking sexualised behaviour, poor home conditions, and chaotic parental lifestyles.

It must be noted that these would not necessarily be single risk factors, as there are often combinations of risks, as detailed above, that caused significant harm, or a risk of significant harm to children in Darlington.

3. Which groups are most vulnerable?

When comparing information from 2008/09 and 2009/10 this shows a significant increase in children aged 0 – 12 months old being made subject to a Child Protection Plan (figure 3). This again is in line with the findings from *The Safeguarding Pressures Research Report 2010*.

Child Protection Plans, Darlington, 2008/09 – 2010 (to September)



Looked After Children

- Number of LAC per 10,000 population has fluctuated from 63 in (2007/08), to 59 (2008/09) to 67(2009/10) and is above the national average of 55 (2008/09)
- % LAC cases which should have been reviewed during the year that were reviewed on time in Darlington has reduced from 99.2% in 2008/09 to 87% in 2009/10.
- LAC aged between 10-17 have seen a significant rise in numbers from 75 -110 from 2008/09 to 2009/10, but these are not all new entrants to the looked after system, as the 5-9 age group numbers have seen a corresponding fall. Within the 10-17 age bracket, the 10-14 year olds numbers have risen the most, nearly doubling within the same period.
- % LAC with more than three placements during the year is 18% (2009/10) which remains significantly higher than the national average of 10.7% and is above both the 2008/09 figure of 12.4% and 2007/08 figure of 11.1%.
- The long term stability of LAC has further improved to 70% (2009/10) in Darlington and is above the national average of 67%; an improvement on the 2008/09 Darlington figure of 67% and the 2007/08 figure of 55.5%.

- The provision of foster placements with relatives and friends has improved to 9% (2009/2010) and is now above the national average of 7%. The figures for 2008/09 were 6%, in 2007/08 these were much higher at 13.3%.

Common Assessment Framework

- Total number CAFs completed for year ended March 2010 is 150 an increase of 13 on the same period the previous year (137).
- Over 419 CAFs have been received to date. These have been analysed according to postcode and assigned to locality and ward.

Date\Locality	A	B	C	D	E	Total
01/04/2007 to 31/03/2008	2	3	3	13	12	33
01/04/2008 to 31/03/2009	19	19	37	31	31	137
01/04/2009 to 31/03/2010	31	24	30	45	31	161
01/04/2010 to 31/03/2011	9	23	21	18	17	88

- Total numbers of staff receiving training to end of December 2010 is 2483 which includes 588 who have received the full CAF training.

Killed or seriously injured

- The number of children aged 0 -15 killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents in 2009/10 is one, which is the same as the previous year. However, this is a significant reduction from 2007/08 when seven children or young people were killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents.
- By March 2009, 80% of schools had schools travel plans in place which brought the total number of plans to 36. All local authority schools have now developed a School Travel Plan. However, four independent schools have not completed school travel plans.

Community Safety

- Hospital Emergency Admissions for children and young people aged 0-19 were 11,996 in 05/06, which is significantly higher than the England average of 6,627. 2008/09 Admissions were 1324
- The percentage of people who feel safe walking outside in their area in the dark continues to increase to 51.1% in 2009; up from 48.7% in 2007 and 46.6% 2004/05.

What the wider community tells us:

- Continue Safer Schools initiative at Eastbourne School and extend into other schools (Sustainable Community Strategy Enquiry Group)
- In the 2007 community survey when asked which things most need improving - activities for teenagers scored the highest at 44.3% and low level of crime/antisocial behaviour scored third at 36.9%. In 2008 and 2009 when asked which two services should be given the greatest priority for improvement, Youth clubs and other facilities for young people came second.
- In the 2009 community survey the service most mentioned as being 'first priority' in need of improvement was that of 'road maintenance and repairs', with 11.8% of all respondents opting for this as their first priority: 'youth clubs and other facilities for young people', (8.9%), and 'pavement maintenance', (6%), were second and third most mentioned. This is a similar pattern of response as in the 2008 Community Survey.
- In the 2007 community survey, 38.1% of people thought teenagers hanging round was a problem. (not asked 2008)
- 35.75% thought parents not taking responsibility for their children, was a problem in the 2007 community survey. In the 2008 community survey the question was the "extent to which you agree that in your local area, parents take enough responsibility for the behaviour of their children" 48.41% disagreed. In the 2009 community survey 29% of people thought Teenagers hanging around the streets was a very big or fairly big problem and was ranked the second highest problem.
- 2007 community survey top priority for improvement was youth clubs and facilities for young people

- In the 2009 community survey dissatisfaction was greatest amongst all respondents (over 25%) for the following four services: 'road maintenance and repairs' (48.2%); 'pavement maintenance' (42.3%); 'youth clubs/ other facilities for young people' (28.7%); and 'car parking in the town centre' (27.9%). These four services also achieved the highest dissatisfaction ratings in the 2008 Community Survey.

What children & young people tell us (*figures in brackets show the comparative national %*)

- 9% of Darlington's children and young people said they felt a bit/very unsafe at home (4%) (*Tellus2)
- Tellus3 and Tellus4 Surveys provide children and young people's views on a variety of bullying matters.

Tellus3 Q: How often, if at all, have you been bullied? **Tellus4** – the questions relating to bullying have been revised for 2009.

Response	Tellus2 2007	Tellus3 2008	Tellus4 2009	Change
Q19a: Have you ever been bullied at school?				
Yes			52% [46%]	
No			48% [54%]	
Q19b: Have you been bullied at school?				
In the last year			25% [26%]	
In the last six months			8% [9%]	
In the last four weeks			20% [18%]	
I was bullied more than a year ago			47% [48%]	
At school				
Never	67 [70%]	53% [56%]		N/A
Once or more in the last year	-	24% [25%]		Better
Once or more in the last four weeks	15 [17%]	7% [5%]		No change
About once a week	5 [4%]	5% [3%]		N/A
Most days	-	5% [6%]		N/A
Don't know	-	5% [4%]		

Somewhere else			
Never		70% [75%]	
Once or more in the last year		16% [13%]	
Once or more in the last four weeks		4% [3%]	
About once a week		3% [2%]	
Most days		4% [3%]	
Don't know		3% [4%]	

The Tellus4 Survey 2009 altered questions and responses for the questions relating to bullying; giving only Yes/No options to two questions:

Have you ever been bullied in school? and Have you ever been bullied when you are not in school (including on your journey to school)?

The responses relating to frequency are based only on those pupils who have ever been bullied at school or out of school.

- 52% of pupils said they had been bullied at school which is considerably higher than the national average of 46%
- 73% of Darlington's children and young people said they had never been bullied **out of school** which although an improvement on the comparable question in 2008 (70%) remains worse than the national figure of 79% (Tellus4)
- 48% of pupils have never been bullied at school (Tellus4 contextually adjusted) against the national average of 54%.
- 25% of pupils have been bullied in the last which is comparable to the national average of 26%.
- 4% of children in Darlington said they had been bullied most days compared to 3% nationally (*Tellus 3).

This question was not asked in Tellus4 in a comparable manner.

It is important to note that other questions within Tellus4 asked for young people's views about how safe they feel. Those pupils answering very safe or quite safe are reflected in the table below.

Q8: How safe do you feel	LA	National	Statistical Neighbours
In the area where you live	83%	81%	81%
Going to and from school	89%	88%	90%
In school	91%	90%	91%

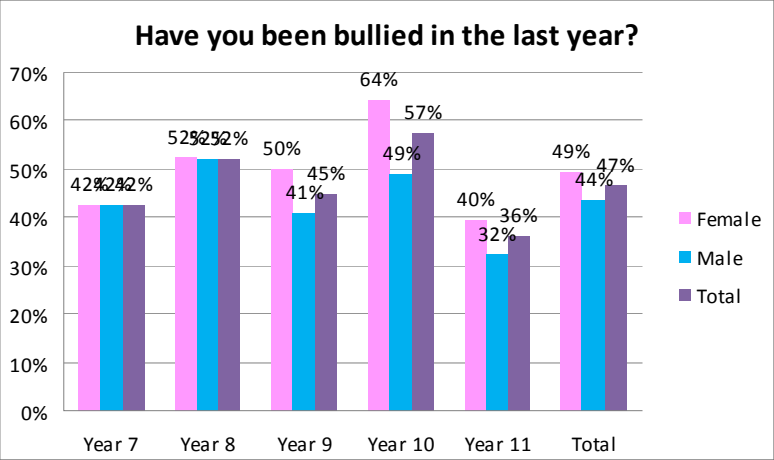
Tellus 3 Q: How well does your school deal with bullying?

Response	Tellus2 2007	Tellus3 2008	Tellus4 2009	Change
Very well	45% [57%]	16% [14%]	23% [25%]	Better
Quite well	N/A	20%[21%]	31% [33%]	Better
Not very well	35% [30%]	28%[28%]	16% [15%]	Better
Badly	8% [4%]	15%[16%]	15% [11%]	No change
Bullying is not a problem in my school	12% [9%]	10%[11%]	4% [4%]	Worse
Don't know	N/A	11%[10%]	10% [12%]	N/A

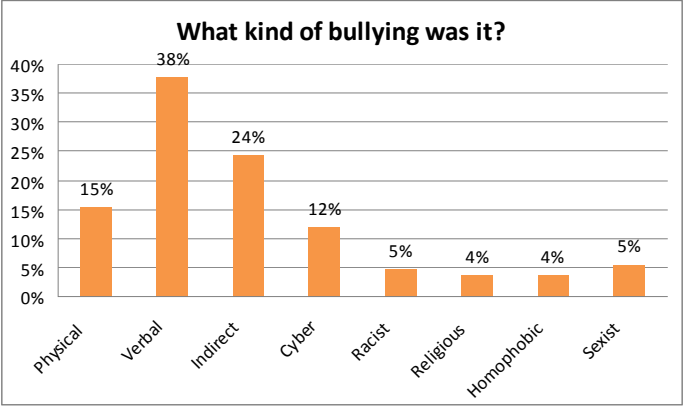
There has been a continued improvement in pupils' perception of how well schools deal with bullying – only 16% of children thought schools didn't deal with bullying very well in 2009 which is a significant improvement from 2008 Tellus3 survey results (28%).

- Parks generally felt to be unsafe for YP (T3)
- Need to increase CCTV in parks and bus stops (T3)
- Feel cycling is unsafe due to large amount of traffic on roads(T3)
- Young people felt police officers are better than PCSO's – need more police on the streets (T3)

Social Norms Survey:



The Social Norms Survey shows that female pupils in Year 10 are more likely to be bullied than pupils from any other year group. In terms of male pupils, they are much more likely to be bullied in year 8 than in any other year group.



Children were much more likely to be a victim of verbal bullying than any other kind. The Social Norms Survey also found that bullying was most likely to take place in school and that pupils had a more accurate perception of bullying than they do for drugs, alcohol and tobacco use.

The following issues were raised by young people during local democracy week 2008

- Issues raised re bus timetable and access
- Existing cycle routes unsafe and incomplete
- Lack of cycle storages in town centre
- Issues re bullying and varying types of bullying
- Rivalry between youth groups
- Safety concerns due to poor street lighting
- No safe places to hang out
- General issues with regards to road safety

Investing In Children, Looked After Children focus Group (2009)

- Develop a leaflet of pledge for every social worker
- Expectation meetings to include what young people can expect
- Flexibility with choice of social worker
- Limited choice about where young people can be placed
- There is a lack of foster carers

The main theme that has been coming out of the work with LAC is the importance of good relationships between young people and their social workers. This issue has been addressed via the Darlo Care Crew Pledge. It is important to ensure that the promises in the pledge are implemented.

Young People's Focus Groups (2009)

Stay Safe

Crime and Disorder

Young People participating in the focus groups identified the following issues:

- Of being frightened by big groups who were different to themselves
- Of rivalry between schools
- That they weren't reassured by CCTV
- That although young people have a bad reputation its only a minority who are
- Concerns about other young people who cause trouble
- The negative perceptions by adults, for example, that all young people cause trouble after dark
- That they felt quite safe in their village but not in town unless they were with friends.

Young people had ideas around what would make them feel safer:

- Better street lighting
- More events for young people
- More police/patrols on the streets
- Less litter and glass
- And more CCTV cameras (although some young people flagged that they didn't like cameras and the feeling of being watched all the time.

Despite it not being a scripted question many groups fed back on the police. Views were mixed and quite polarised: on a positive note – young people commented about the police's visibility and physical presence, that they prevent trouble, that they follow-up on things, that they should do school assemblies, that some are supportive, that there aren't enough; but also on a negative note – that young people feel harassed and get moved on, that they are control freaks, that they attract trouble, they don't react to calls, they're only keen to engage with young people when young people are getting into trouble, they don't like teenagers, and young people wouldn't go to the Police if they had a problem.

Some final points – young people didn't really know about PACTs, that they were able to give specific and real examples and incidents of crime that they were aware of, that more work needs to be done with victims of crime to re-build confidence, and that knives were mentioned only twice.

Whilst there were no specific references to gangs or gang culture, there were very precise definitions of various groups of young people ('EMOs', 'boggers', 'chavs') and clear animosity between these groups with very stereotypical views, albeit often based on personal experience.

Information Advice and Guidance

Looking after yourself

Despite specific questions, the bulk of feedback and responses from young people focused on where and from whom they access information and advice and whom they would discuss issues/worries with. These included:

- Parents – in the main more young people saying they would use ('the first port of call for everything') than wouldn't ('they just lecture')
- Keeping things within a community
- Schools, teachers and tutors
- Youth workers and other professionals
- School mentor scheme (although it could be better)
- Child Line
- Safe Zone booklets
- Information on the internet but that they needed to be careful as it wasn't always true
- Resolve problems themselves ('too scared to speak to others')
- 'don't know where to get help and support'

Young people flagged that they felt safe at home and in school but less outside, and highlighted particular locations they felt were unsafe, e.g. Black path.

There was some evidence of caring responsibilities – siblings, parent, cousin, grandparent but no clear indication if young people needed or knew where to access relevant information if necessary.

Needs Analysis – Enjoy and Achieve

Priority – Enable Children and Young People to have fun and maximise their full potential through learning

What the data tells us:

Foundation Stage:

14 Ofsted Inspections took place in Darlington during the period April to December 2010 in the early years sector. This includes childminders, PVI settings, afterschool clubs and holiday clubs. This resulted in 1 outstanding, 6 good, 6 satisfactory and 1 inadequate judgements from Ofsted about the quality of provision in Darlington.

59 Ofsted Inspections took place in Darlington during 2009-2010 in the early years sector. This includes childminders, PVI settings, after school clubs and holiday clubs. These resulted in 2 outstanding, 30 good, 25 satisfactory and 2 inadequate judgements from Ofsted about the quality of provision in Darlington. Between April 2008 and March 2009 55 inspections of childcare providers took place. This includes 3 non inspections where 2 providers were met and 1 wasn't. Of these 2 were Outstanding, 26 were Good, 24 were Satisfactory and none were Inadequate.

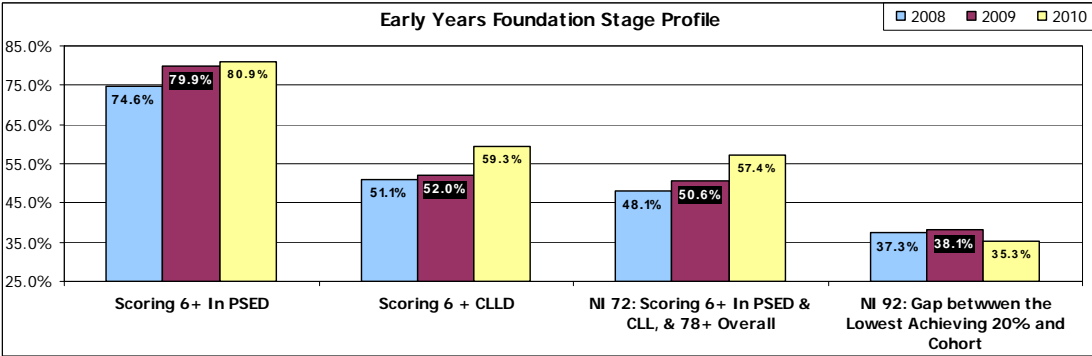
Between April 2007 and March 2008 29 inspections of childcare providers took place. Of these 0 were Outstanding, 15 were Good, 14 were Satisfactory and 0 were Inadequate.

In 2010 57.4% of children in Darlington achieved 78 points or more across the Early Years Foundation Stage with at least 6 points in each of the Personal, Social and Emotional (PSE) and Communication, Language and Literacy (CLL) Scales compared to a National rate of 52%. The outturn for 2009 was 50.6%, 2008 was 48% and for 2007 this was 52.6%.

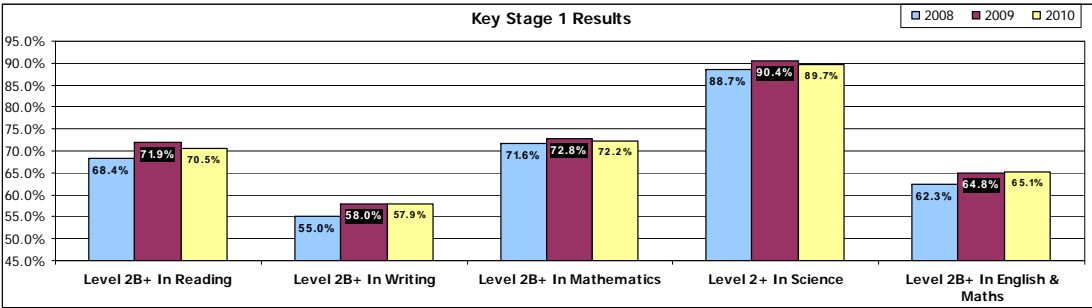
The percentage inequality gap between the mean score of the lowest achieving 20% children and the median for the cohort widened in Darlington from 37.3% in 2008 to 38.1% in 2009 and reduced to 35.3% in 2010. The 2008 national rate is at 35.6%. The gap in Darlington had widened in 2009 but reduced in 2010.

Over recent years education attainment in Darlington has shown continuing improvement at all levels. In 2008 Darlington was the most improved local authority in England with regard to GCSE attainment. This improvement in performance has been sustained.

The Early Years Foundation Stage profile shows an increase in the proportion of children scoring 78+ overall, and a narrowing of the gap between the lowest achieving 20% and the rest, although the gap widened in 2009 before dropping back to below the 2008 level in 2010 (figure 1).

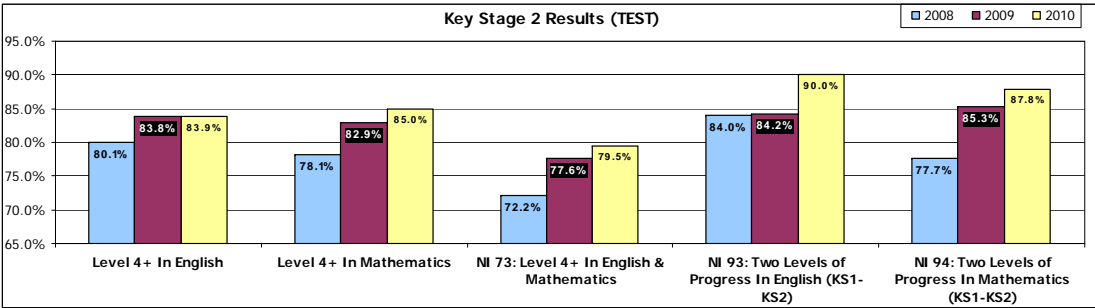


Key Stage 1 performance has risen over a three year period (figure 2) although in all areas other than Level 2B+ in English and Maths there has been a fall in 2010 from the 2009 position.

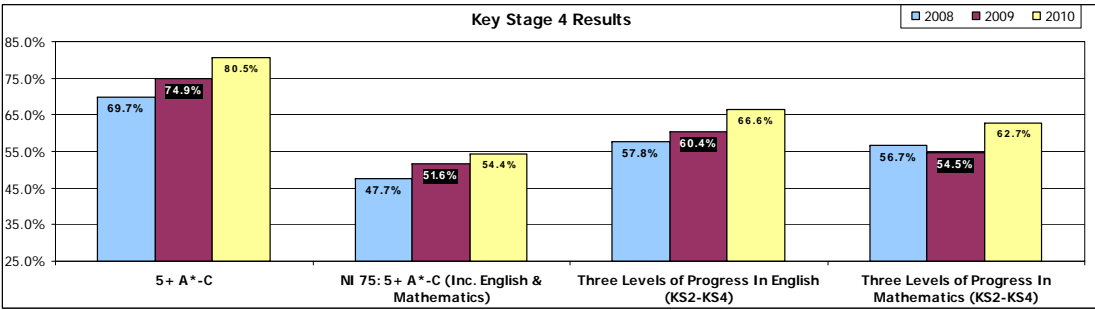


Key Stage 2 results can be interpreted in a number of ways in 2010. Thirteen primary schools did not take part in SATs testing so we do not have a truly representative figure as to borough wide test performance. Comparison of test

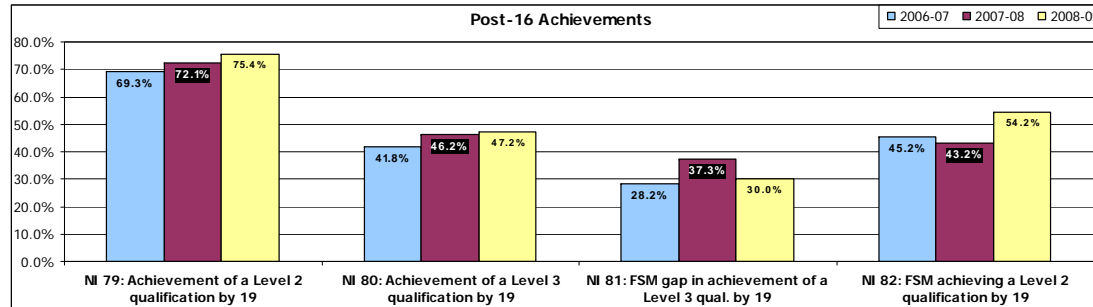
data year on year is therefore possible but we are not comparing like with like and eventual comparison to national figures will be difficult. However over a three year period performance at level 4+ has shown a steady increase with progression by two levels between KS1 and KS2 in both English and Maths also improving (figure 3).



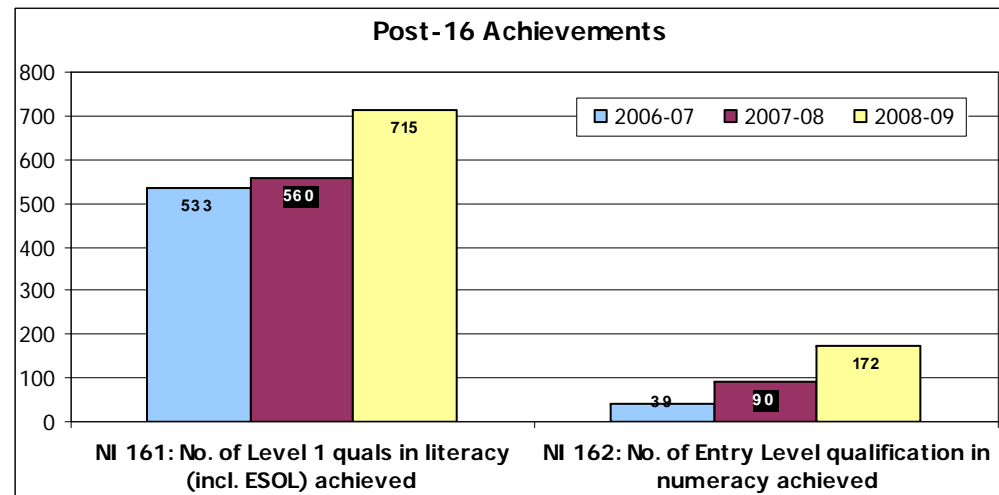
The proportion of Darlington pupils achieving five or more A* to C grades at Key Stage 4 rose from 52.9% in 2009 to 56.4% in 2010 (figure 4). A three year trend analysis of data supplied by schools shows a continuing rise in performance over this period.



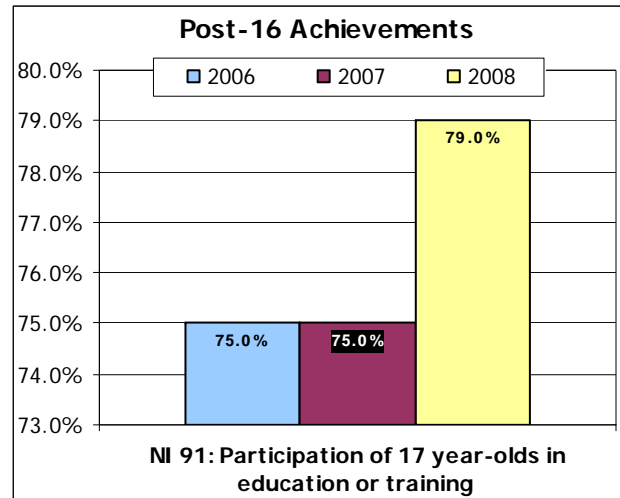
Between 2006/07 and 2008/09 achievement of level 2 and level 3 qualifications for post 16 year olds rose steadily in Darlington (figure 5).



The numbers achieving level 1 qualification in literacy have increased significantly over the last three years with a rise in 2008-09 of 27.7% over the previous year (figure 6). There has also been improved performance in the numbers achieving an entry level qualification in numeracy with over a four fold increase in a three year period.



The number of 17 year olds in education and training rose by 4% to 79% in 2008 (figure 7). There was no change between 2006 and 2007.



Key Stage 1 (2010)

By the end of Key Stage 1, attainment fell in reading and slightly above the national average, there has also been a slight fall in writing, which is now in line with the national average and maths has a shown a slight decrease and is comparable to the national average.

Level	2010	Nat	2008	2007	2009
Level 2+ Reading		83%	81.8%	81.8%	83.7%
Level 2+ Writing		80%	78.4%	77.3%	80%
Level 2+		89%	88.7%	88.2%	88.9%
Level 2B+ Reading	70.5%	71%	68.4%	68.5%	71.9%
Level 2B+ Writing	57.9%	58%	55%	55.4%	58%
Level 2B+ Mathematics	72.2%	72%	71.6%	70.2%	72.8%

Key Stage 2 (2010) At Key Stage 2 a number of schools (13 out of 27) did not take part in the SATS examinations in 2010. Standards have risen across all areas compared to the previous year and Darlington is performing significantly better than the national average across all subject areas

Level	2010	Nat	2008	2007	2009
Level 4+ English	83.9%	80%	80.1%	79.4%	83.8%
Level 4+ Maths	85%	79%	78.1%	79.4%	82.9%
Level 4+ English and Maths	79.5%	72%	72.2%	72.7%	77.6%
Level 4+ Science		88%	88.6%	90.2%	91.1%
KS1-KS2 Contextual Value Added		100.1			100.3

Key Stage 3 (2009) Now teacher assessment (T/A)

SAT tests were abolished and do not take place; however Key Stage 3 progress continues to be monitored through teacher assessment. Darlington appears to be performing well in all areas and is above the national average where data is available

Level	2010	Nat	2008	2007	2009
Level 5+ English	83.4%	77%	80.5%	73.6%	78.8%
Level 5+ Maths	82.7%	79%	81.9%	76%	80.9%
Level 5+ English and Maths	77.0%	Not released	74.1%	-	72.9%
Level 5+ Science	85.3%	78%	81.8%	70.3%	82.6%
KS1-KS2 Contextual Value Added		100.1			100.3

Key Stage 4 (2009)

At Key Stage 4 the proportion of pupils achieving 5 or more A* to C grades was above the national average by 5% and above that of similar authorities. Also, across all Key Stage 4 performance has improved on previous years.

The variation in performance between the highest and lowest performing schools at Key Stage 4 has narrowed from 65% in 2007 to 47% in 2008 and **32% in 2009** for 5+ A*-C grades performance, and from 59% in 2007 to 54% in 2008 to **45% in 2009** for 5+ A*-C (including English and Maths) performance.

Darlington's 2009 5+ A*-C performance ranks 39th when compared to the other 151 Local Authorities (LAs).

Level	2010	Nat	2009	2008	2007
% 5 A*-C	80.5	75.4	73.9	69.2	60.0
%5 A*-C inc Eng/Maths	54.7	53.4	51.6	47.7	46.0
% 1+ passes	99.5	99.0	99.2	98.1	97.1
KS2-KS4 Contextual Value Added			1010.8	1011.9	

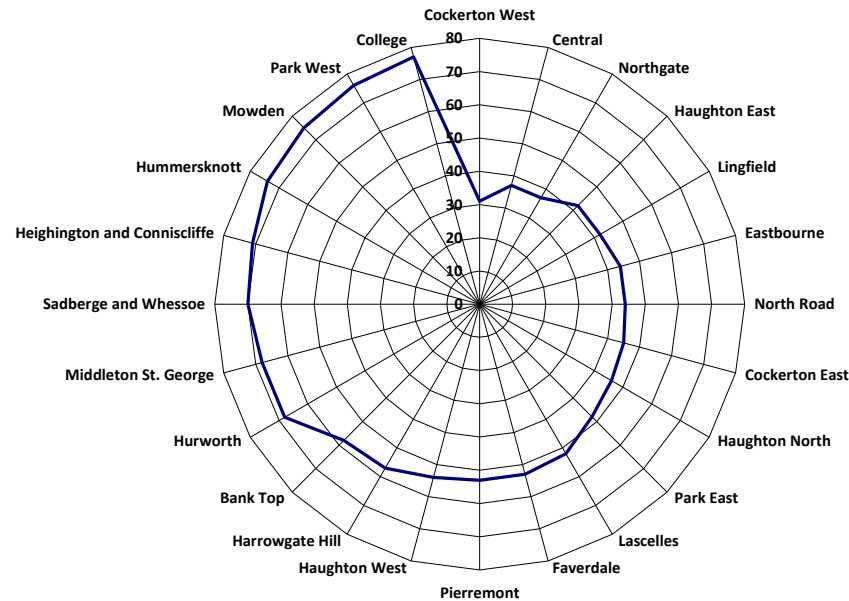
English Baccalaureate

Introduced in 2010, the English Baccalaureate is a certificate to acknowledge the attainment of A*-C GCSEs in English, maths, the sciences, a modern or ancient foreign language, and a humanity, such as geography or history.

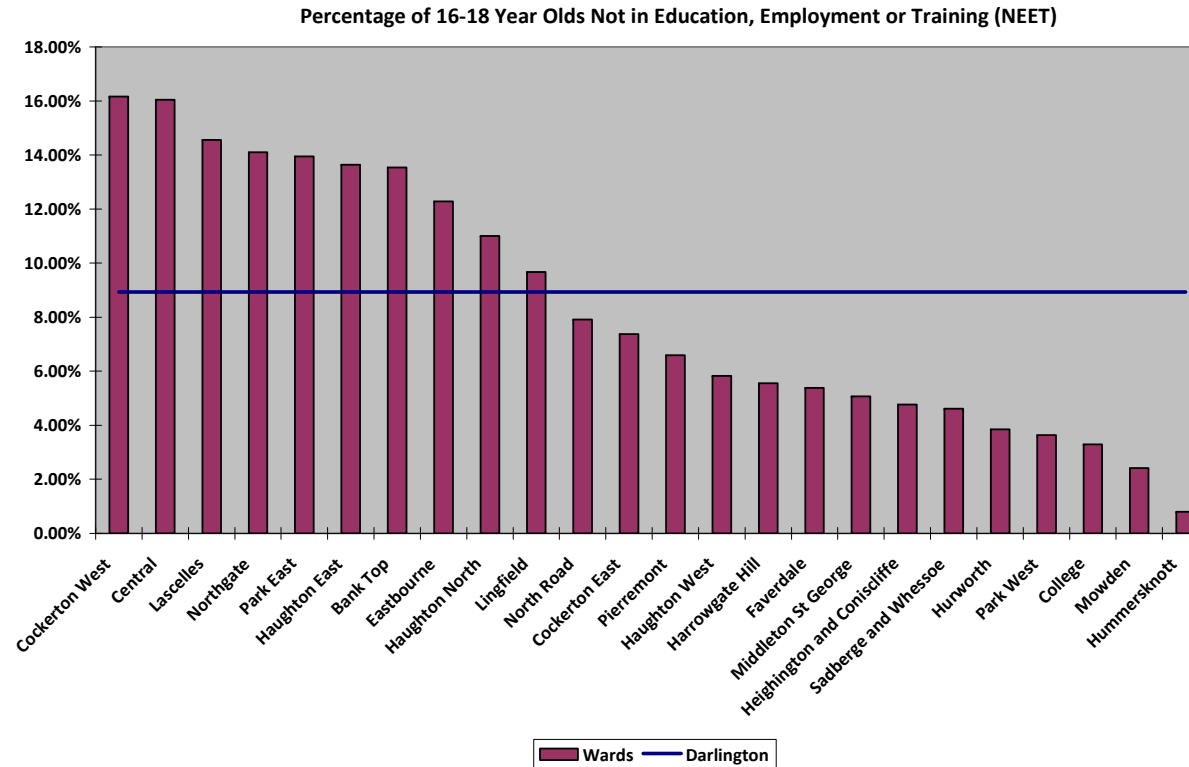
The 2010 results show that Darlington has a much lower level of students receiving an English Baccalaureate

	Local Authority Average	National (state funded schools)	National (all schools)
English Baccalaureate	10.6%	15.1%	15.6%

% of Children Achieving 5+ A*-C Grade GCSEs (Including English and Maths)



In terms of GCSE attainment by ward there are clear differences within Darlington. Cockerton West had the lowest percentage of children achieving 5+ A*-C GCSEs (31%) whereas College had the highest percentage (77%), indicating that there are clear differences in attainment within Darlington.



When looking at the number of NEETs within Darlington it is clear to see that there are, again, great differences across wards. Cockerton West has a NEET rate of 16.17% whereas Hummersknott has a NEET rate of 0.80%. This is a gap of 15.37% between the ward with the highest level of NEETs and the ward with the lowest number.

Behaviour & Attendance

Absence rates have improved since 2006. In 2006 primary total absence was 5.87% compared to a national rate of 5.3%, whilst in secondary schools the figure stood at 7.69% compared to the national rate of 6.72%. In 2009 primary absence was at 5.27% compared to a national rate of 5.3 %, whilst secondary absence was 7.1%(including St Aiden's); 6.8% (excl. St Aiden's) compared to the national rate of 7.2% which excludes academies.

Darlington's Persistent absentee (pupils missing more than 63 sessions during the academic years – 20% absence) performance has improved since 2007. In 2009 1.6% of primary pupils were persistent absentees compared to 2.1% in 2007 and the national rate of 1.5%. 4.4% of secondary pupils were persistent absentees in 2009 compared to 8.7% in 2007 and the national rate of 4.9%.

Exclusions

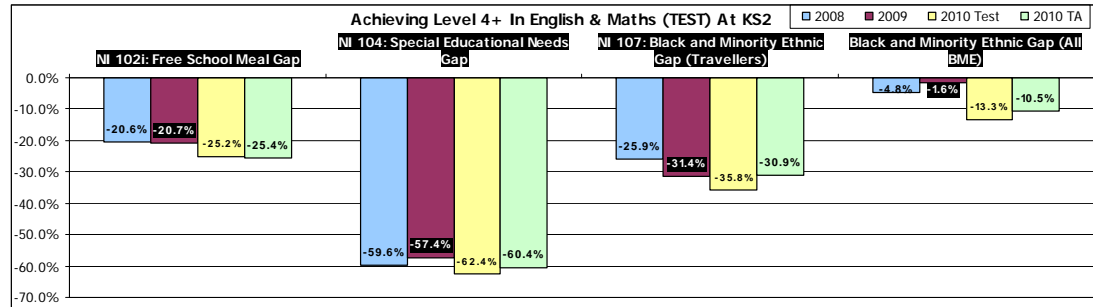
The number of exclusions has fallen significantly in both primary and secondary phases since 2006-07. In 2006-07 there were 47 secondary permanent exclusions, 2,124 fixed term exclusions, and 5,870 days lost due to fixed term exclusions. In 2007/08 these figures reduced dramatically to 19 permanent exclusions, 1,280 fixed term exclusions and 2,964.5 days lost due to fixed term exclusions. Some of these figures increased in 2008-09 with 30 permanent exclusions, an increase of 7 on the previous year, however fixed term exclusions have continued to fall to 1,180 a reduction of 100, as have days lost which are currently 2,543, a reduction from 2,956.5 days lost due to fixed term exclusions in the previous year. In 2009/10 permanent exclusions fell by 9 to 21, with fixed term exclusion reducing by 407 to 773. 1856 days were lost to fixed term exclusion, a reduction of 687 days on the previous year.

Vulnerable groups

The achievement of vulnerable children and young people continues to be at least satisfactory. Although their numbers are small, young people in care continue to do well in GCSE examinations.

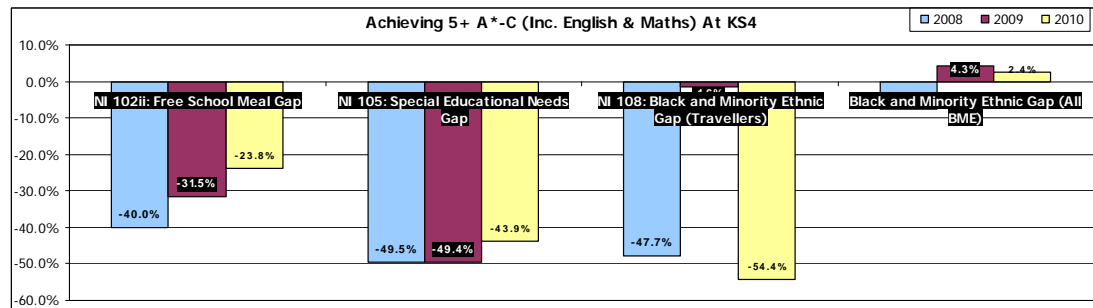
Recorded vulnerable group Performance at Key stage 4

Although the data shows that children and young people in Darlington have improved their educational attainment over the last three years, there are some groups which continue to achieve at levels significantly below their peers.

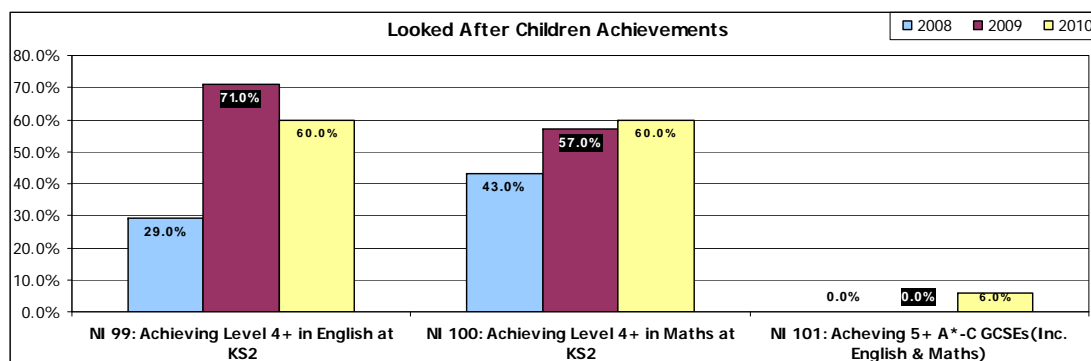


The results for children achieving Level 4+ in both English and Maths at key stage 2 show that for children in receipt of Free School Meals the attainment gap has widened over the past three years (figure 8). This group saw a drop of almost 5% in performance between 2009 and 2010. For children with Special Educational Needs this gap is wider than any other of the vulnerable groups with SEN children achieving over 60% below their peers in 2010.

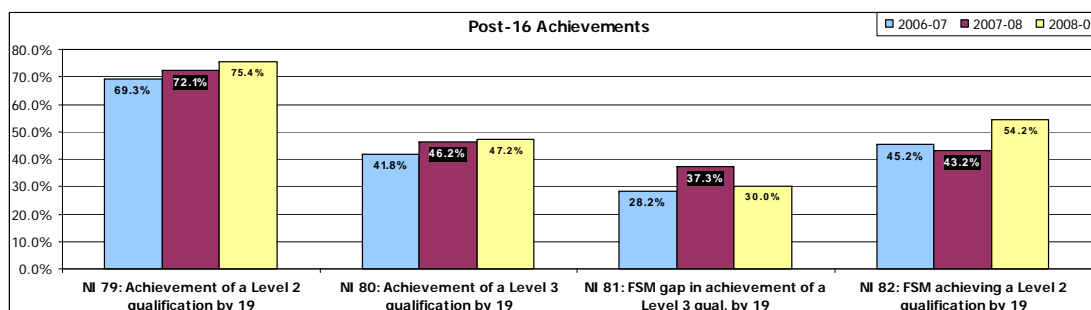
Darlington has a disproportionately high Traveller population. Children of Travellers at key stage 2 perform significantly worse than their peer group with their test result showing a steady widening of the gap between travellers and their peers over the past three years. The vulnerable group with the smallest gap at key stage 2 is the BME group. There does not seem to be any evident trend in these results with the gap in 2008 being 4.8% falling to -1.6% in 2009 but rising to -13.3% in 2010.



At Key stage 4 the Free School Meal achievement gap has improved significantly over the past three years and was smaller than the gap at Key stage 2 in 2010 (figure 9). The gap for children with Special Educational Needs in 2010 reduced from the previous two years and is 18.5% less than the gap at Key stage 2. For Travellers the positions seems to have deteriorated although it should be noted that the numbers of children in each cohort was extremely small 5,4,4. These small numbers cause a disproportionate effect in percentage terms and it is therefore difficult to see trends. For BME groups the educational attainment gap has been reversed in the past two years with BME children performing better than their peers at key stage 4.



In 2010 almost 84% of children in Darlington achieved level 4+ in English at Key Stage 2. The LAC group's performance was considerably below this achieving only 60%, a gap of 23.9% (figure 10). The position with Maths was very similar with the borough figure being 85% and the LAC group achieving 60%, a gap of 25%. However the gap is most evident at key stage 4 where over the past three years the proportion of students in Darlington achieving 5+A*-C including English and Maths has increased steadily and in 2010 stood at 54.4%. In 2008 and 2009 no LAC achieved this level and in 2010 only 6% which equates to one student achieved this.



Comparing the performance of Free School Meals students and their peers achieving level 2 by age 19 the gap has narrowed slightly over the three year period and currently stands at 22.2% (figure 11). The gap for Free School Meals students achieving level 3 has widened slightly over the three year period with 2007-2008 showing a large widening of the gap before reducing in 2008-09.

What the wider community tells us

- Net satisfaction with nursery and primary schools improved during 2007-2008 by 4.3% from 34.6% to 38.9%. In 2009 this rose further to 40.6% (Community Survey)
- Improve transition from primary to secondary education (Sustainable Community Strategy)
- Improve parenting and communication with parents (Sustainable Community Strategy)
- Reduce the disparity in the performance between schools (Sustainable Community Strategy)
- Improving the engagement between schools and employers ensuring better careers guidance and work related learning (Sustainable Community Strategy)
- Feedback from Talking Together events highlighted the following areas of concern:
 - Need for more children's play areas and youth activities
 - Need for more activities for younger children 5-7 years old
 - Need for supervised play/kick about areas
 - Young people's anti-social behaviour

The Community Survey has shown a continued increase in net satisfaction with play areas and community sports between 2007 and 2008 to 29.9% with a further increase to 38.4% in 2009 with play areas whilst satisfaction with community sports increased a further 3% in 2009.

In the 2008 Community Survey, Youth clubs and facilities for young people and facilities for younger children continue to be identified as high priorities for improvement. Out of 40 areas suggested as high priorities for improvement, youth clubs and other facilities for young people ranked second

Teenagers hanging around on the streets is seen as a big problem by respondents in the 2007 and was still viewed as a problem in 2009

Net satisfaction with secondary schools has risen significantly between 2007 and 2008 by 6% to 32.8% this fell in 2009 to 28% (Community Survey 2008)

What children & young people tell us:

Tellus 3 Q: For each of the sections below please tick the option that best describes you? Not asked in Tellus4 2009

Response	Tellus2 2007	Tellus3 2008	Tellus 4 2009	Change
I enjoy school:				
Always [always/most of the time]	45% [58%]	4% [8%]	N/A	Worse
Most of the time	N/A	35%[42%]		N/A
Sometimes	43% [34%]	5% [43%]		Worse
Never	12% [9%]	9%[7%]		Better
Don't know	N/A	1%[1%]		N/A
I try my best at school				
Always [always/most of the time]	74% [81%]	33% [33%]	N/A	Better
Most of the time	N/A	49% [48%]		N/A
Sometimes	23% [17%]	16% [17%]		N/A
Never	3% [3%]	1% [1%]		Better
Don't know	N/A	0% [0%]		N/A

- In 2008 significantly fewer young people say that they enjoy school in Darlington – always or most of the time (39%) compared to 2007 results (45%).
- In 2008 fewer young people in Darlington report that they never enjoy school (9%) compared to 2007 results (12%).
- In 2008 more young people in Darlington report that they try their best in school (always/most of the time) (82%) compared to 2007 results (74%).

T3 felt that an increase in the number of open days and allowing secondary students to visit primary schools to talk about their experiences would support transition from primary to secondary school

The Tellus 3 Survey in 2008 revealed that young people in Darlington felt the following might help them to do better in school:

Tellus 3 Q: Which of the things below might help you do better in school? Not asked in Tellus4

Response	Tellus2 2007	Tellus3 2008	Change
More help from teachers	37% [40%]	38% [39%]	Worse
More fun/interesting lessons	73%[79%]	81% [81%]	Worse
A quieter/better behaved class or group	39%[39%]	36% [38%]	Better
Smaller classes/groups	35%[36%]	36% [34%]	Worse
Fewer bullies	33%[31%]	24% [25%]	Better
More help from family and friends	23% [22%]	18% [16%]	Better
Somewhere quiet at home to do homework	18% [23%]	17% [16%]	Better
Something else	-	13% [13%]	N/A
None of these	12% [8%]	1% [2%]	Better

Tellus 3 Q: Which of these, if any, would you like to go to that you don't at the moment? Not asked in Tellus4

The following table highlights the most popular choices of activity for young people from 2007/2008

Response	Tellus2 2007	Tellus3 2008	Change
Cinema or theatre	42% [42%]	40%[37%]	Better
Music concert or gig	42%[38%]	33%[39%]	Better
Swimming pool (not school lessons)	38%[27%]	30%[29%]	Better
Sports club or class	31%[41%]	24%[20%]	Better
Gym	45%[15%]	40%[38%]	Better
Art, craft, dance, drama, film/video making group or class (not in school lessons)	26%[15%]	28%[26%]	Worse

- The main reasons for not participating were lack of time, location and cost.
- The number of year 8 and year 10 young people in Darlington who know enough about activities in their area is currently 32% compared to a national rate of 36%.
- There has been increase in the number of young people who are *very or fairly satisfied* with the range of activities and things to do in Darlington at 48% which is line with the national response (49%)
- The Place Survey for 2008 identified that *most important in making somewhere a good place to live* is education provision (23.35%) and facilities for young children (14.55%)

The following issues were raised by young people during local democracy week 2008

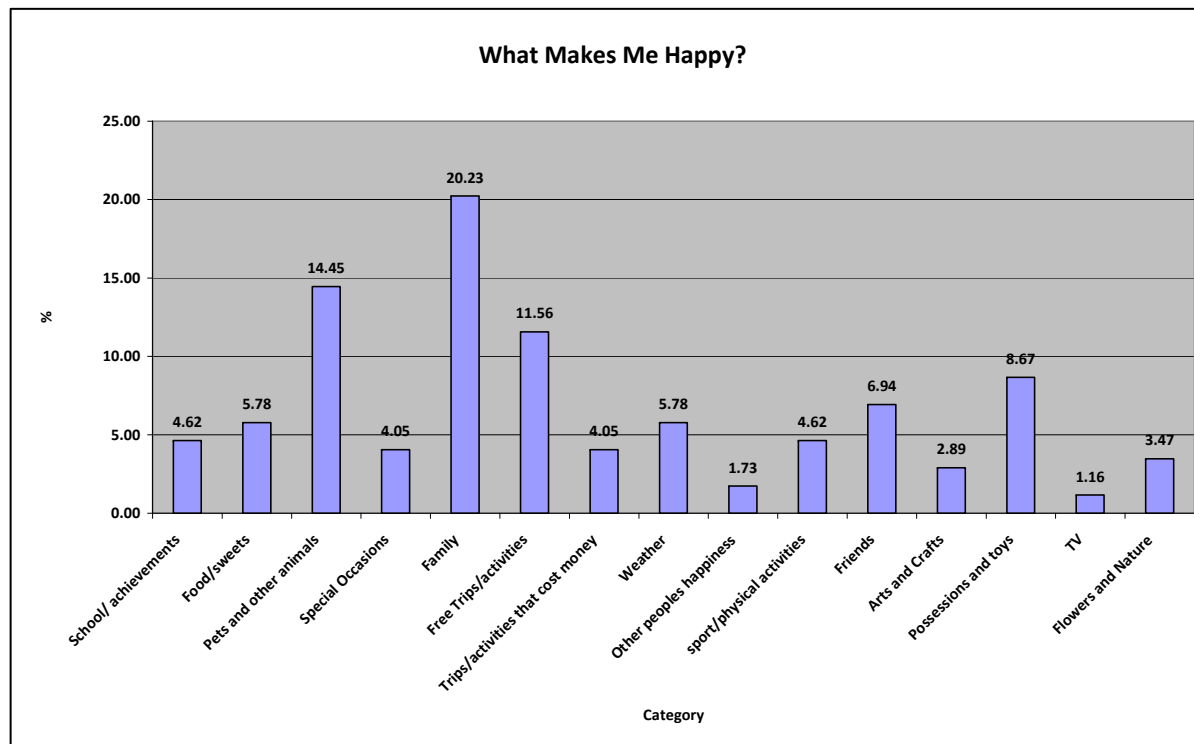
- Lack of provision to listen to live music with peers
- Not enough leisure centres
- Lack of activities in rural areas
- Lack of publicity/awareness of events/ activities
- Lack of activities for young people e.g. ice rink
- Services too expensive e.g. Taxis, cinema, dolphin centre, the Forum, civic Theatre and Arts Centre, Darlington F.C.

Investing In Children Focus Group (2009)

Young people are really keen to move forward a young people's befriending scheme for disabled children and young people so that they can access services e.g. Leisure and health, without having to be accompanied by parents.

What Makes me Happy? Children's Trust Consultation (2010)

145 children from play schemes, art clubs, Schools and Children's Centres within Darlington were asked to draw a picture and write down what made them happy. The majority of responses indicated that 'free' things and activities were more likely to make children happy (68.8%). Overall 20.2% of the respondents indicated that family made them happy; 14.5% indicated that pets and other animals made them happy, and 11.7% indicated that free trips and activities made them happy. Conversely only 1.2% said that TV made them happy and 1.7% said that other people's happiness made them happy.



Young People's Focus Groups (2009)

Enjoy and Achieve

In terms of what they'd like to do young people identified:

- That there wasn't enough to do
- No gigs or venues – Forums/Newblood was seen as being for 'EMOs'
- A bowling alley
- Volunteering – one young person noted that they had applied to be a volunteer but the process was so long that they gave up
- And a direct quote – 'Would be great to have a centre where we could come and chill out, meet friends in the warmth and feel welcome. Would be great if we could use the Dolphin Centre this way'.
- The question also generated additional opinions and issues including:
- The cost of activities and facilities and that there should be free provision

- Different charging policies were identified – different places seeing (and charging) young people as adults at different ages
- There was a lack of confidence and security and so an unwillingness to go out and try new things
- There was nothing to do at night
- Young people get kicked out of parks and moved on by police even if they're doing nothing
- Lights are needed in parks
- Young people were aware of and used youth clubs but felt they couldn't do what they wanted, they had to do 'work'

Positive Activities for young people

A survey was carried out in England during the week commencing 1st February 2010 to measure the provision of positive activities for young people aged 13-19 and for young people with learning difficulties up to the age of 24. The Darlington results were as follows:

Provision of Activity Sessions across the Week			
	Morning (ending between 9 am and 12.30pm)	Afternoon (ending between 12.30pm and 6pm)	Evening (ending after 6pm)
Monday			
Number of sessions	13	54	76
Tuesday			
Number of sessions	8	52	73
Wednesday			
Number of sessions	6	58	86
Thursday			
Number of sessions	9	49	70
Friday			
Number of sessions	9	32	62
Saturday			
Number of sessions	30	23	4
Sunday			
Number of sessions	11	7	5

Type of Activities Provided (information for the whole week)	
Category	Number of sessions
Sports and active leisure	314
Arts (including performing arts and crafts)	121
Media (including including DJing, IT, video editing, journalism)	23
Youth Club/Centre open for organised activities	76
Youth Club/Centre open for drop-in	44
Mobile Provision	16
Education/Learning related activities	141
Other	2

Type of Provider (information for the whole week)	
Category	Number of sessions
Local authority	434
Private Sector	161
Third Sector	139
Local authority/Private Sector	3
Local authority/Third Sector	0

Needs Analysis – Make a positive contribution

Priority – Enable children and Young People to contribute to their local communities

What the data tells us:

- % of young people reached by Local Authority funded youth service in Darlington was 33.8% in 2007 better than the national of 27.6%, in 2008 the figure was 36.9% an increase of 3.1%. There was a further increase of 1.5% in March 2010 to 38.4%
- % of Young People's participation in positive activities is measured through the Tellus survey. In 08/09 68.4% of young people participated in positive activities this has reduced to 66% in 09/10. Darlington is comparable to the national average in 09/10 which was 66% and above our statistical neighbours of 65%.
- Number of young people involved in T3 exceeded the target of 30, reaching 93 in 06/07, in 2007/08 this reached 223.
- % of young people in tiers 2&3 who feel that their participation has made a difference was 94.4% in 2008/09.
- Number of successful DOSH fund applications over the three years it has been operating is 144 at 2007/08 an increase of 69 from the previous year.

Over the past year, there has been an increase in the number of young people actively volunteering. The volunteering centre has recruited a further 297 young people. The YMCA through their V project in 2008-09 recruited 231 young people. In 2009-10 the YMCA have worked with 263 young volunteers aged 14 – 25 years.

The Volunteer Centre has matched approximately 826 volunteer placements across the board to a range of 401 various volunteering opportunities. The volunteering centre has also increased organisations registering vacancies from 137 to 172.

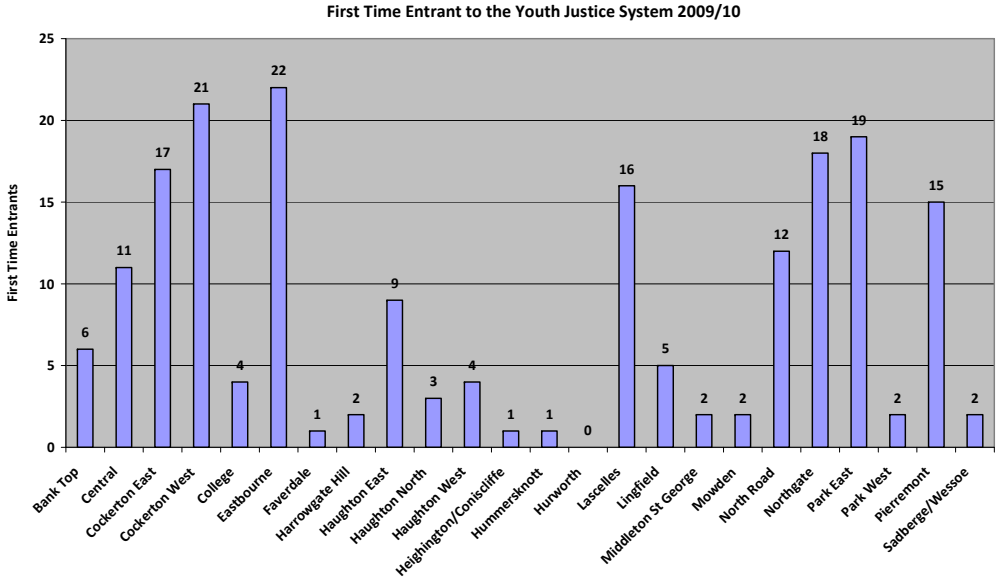
The Youth service has a central role delivering targeted responses to antisocial behaviour, for example through the use of detached youth work and by encouraging high levels of participation in available universal and targeted activities. Local data show the following: reach is at 36.9%, above the national target of 25%; participation is at 16.6%, above the national target of 15%; and recorded and accredited outcomes are in line with the national targets.

Volunteering opportunities are promoted very well. High levels of young people are in volunteering programmes, such as Citizens in Action and Millennium Volunteers.

Darlington YOS is a very strong performer. For example, the number of first-time offenders is improving and is now better than similar areas; the numbers who re-offend have fallen in a year from 60 to 54, representing very good performance on a small population; and the number of looked after children offending has significantly improved over the last two years from a high position to slightly better than similar areas and the national average.

Recidivism – the rate of re-offending is comparatively high in Darlington at 48.1% compared to a national average of 35.7%. Updated figures available from July 2009 were calculated using a new definition and are not comparable to previous data. The 2008/09 figure calculated using the new methodology shows Darlington performance at 0.93 which compares favourably both Nationally 1.05 and with the North East 1.23.

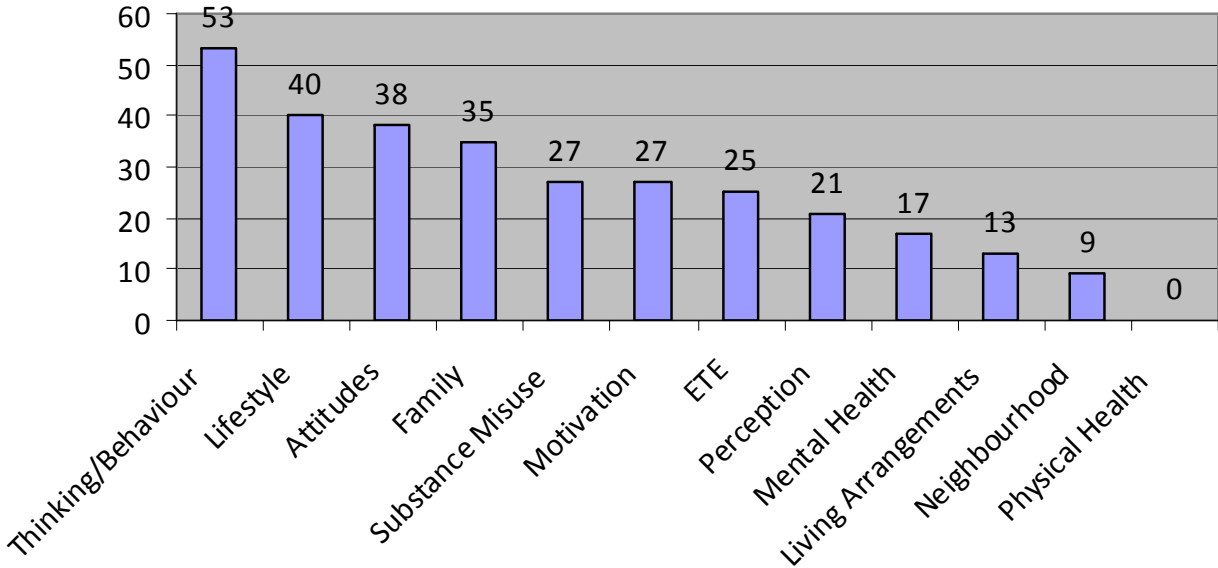
The number of first time entrants to the Youth Justice system was 251 in 06-07, an improvement on 280 in 05-06. This has decreased further to 234 in 2008/09 with a further drop in 2009/10 to 197.



When looking at ward level data, it is clear to see that wards such as Eastbourne, Cockerton West and Park East have the highest numbers of first time entrants to the youth justice system.

YOS Officers undertake an assessment of young people around a number of areas of influence, scoring them from 0-4. Scores of above 2 require an intervention from the officer and signposting to relevant services. When looking at the areas of influence with scores of 3 and above it is clear that the thinking/behaviour of a young person has the greatest effect on a young person's life and propensity to offend.

Asset Scores of 3 and above analysis of risk factors

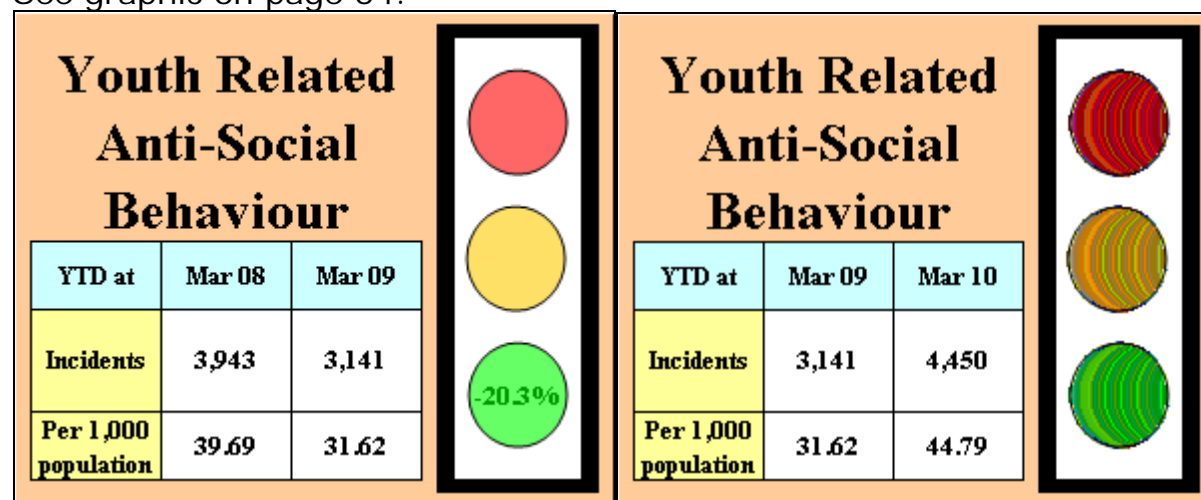


% of LAC given a final warning/reprimand or convicted has shown continuing improvement at 1.1% in Sept 2007 to 0.9% at March 2009. There has been a very slight further improvement in March 2010 at 0.8%

The number of LAC/Care Leavers who communicated their views for each of their statutory reviews in Darlington performs well at 98% (2007/08) above the national average of 87%. This figure increased to 99% by March 2009.

The number of incidents of anti-social behaviour by young people in Darlington was 4,323 in 2006/07 above the target of 3,225. This decreased again in March 2009 to 3141. For the year ending March 2010 the number of incidents had increased again to 4,450 an increase of 1319 (41.7%)

See graphic on page 54.



What the wider community tells us:

- Ensure the design of all new building developments encourage positive community activity and do not contribute to crime or anti-social behaviour (Enquiry group)
- The Place Survey 2009 continues to identify the importance of activities for young people; out of the 40 areas suggested as high priorities for improvement youth clubs and other facilities for young people ranked second
- 29% of people thought teenagers hanging round was a problem down from 38.1% in 2008

- 48.4% thought parents not taking responsibility for their children is a problem (Place Survey 2008)

What children & young people tell us:

The Tellus survey outlined some key areas of the involvement of young people in local decision making and democracy. Tellus4 did not ask the same questions as Tellus3 in all areas, therefore direct comparisons are not possible.

Tellus 3 Q: How much are children and young people's views listened to in decisions about the local area?

Tellus 4: question not asked in 2009

Response	Tellus2 2007	Tellus3 2008	Change
A great deal	26%[26%]	3% [4%]	Slightly Worse
great deal/fair amount	-	22%[22%]	N/A
A fair amount	57%[60%]	39%[37%]	Better
Not very much at all	-	-	
Not very much at all/Not at all	-	21%[20%]	N/A
Not at all	16%[185]	15%[17%]	Better
Don't know			

Tellus 3 Q: In the last year, have you ever given your views about the local area in any of these ways?

Tellus 4: question not asked in 2009

Response	Tellus2 2007	Tellus3 2008	Change
Filled in a questionnaire	23%[20%]	30%[29%]	Better
Given your views to a school council	-	15%[19%]	N/A
Given your views to a youth council or youth parliament	3%[3%]	11%[7%]	Better
Been to a meeting outside school about making things better in your local area	8%[5%]	6%[6%]	Worse
Something else	-	5%[7%]	N/A
Don't know	-	18%[17%]	N/A
None of these	68%[76%]	37%[36%]	Better

- In 2007 fewer young people voted in school, class or year group election 39% in Darlington (43%).
- In 2008, 55% of students feel their views are listened to at school *a great deal/fair amount* which although is less than the national response of 59% is significantly improved over 2007
- T3 feel that there is more scope for schools to hold more meetings to involve young people in decision making

Tellus 3 Q: In the last year have you given your time to help a charity, local voluntary group, a neighbour or someone else in the local area?

Tellus 4: Change in question format: Which of these have you been to in your free time in the last four weeks?

Response	Tellus2 2007	Tellus3 2008	Tellus 4 2009	Change
Given your time to help a charity, a local voluntary group or done some organised volunteering?			17% [17%]	
Yes		59% [61%]		
No		29% [28%]		
Don't know		12% [11%]		

- Tellus 3 survey 2008 found that 31% [27%] of young people identified 'fewer young people hanging around' as something which would do most to make the area a better place to live.
- 17% of children and young people contribute their own time on a voluntary basis to charities, local organisations or other activities. (Tellus4)

The following issues were raised by young people during local democracy week 2008

- Schemes needed to promote positive things young people have undertaken in their communities and schools.
- Youth projects introduced

Investing In Children Focus Group (2009)

- Add young peoples views on the website to recruit carers

Young People's Focus Groups (2009)

Make a Positive Contribution

Community

Young people were asked if they felt part of their local community, or not, and why. Views and opinions were divided.

For those young people who said they did feel a part of the community they flagged:

- That they were surrounded by older people and known by everyone in their street
- That they liked where they lived as it was quiet
- Sessions like this were good for connecting with people
- That they respected their grandparents
- That they've done voluntary work
- And that there was a good sense of community in the YMCA with lots of different types of young people

For those young people who said they did not feel a part of the community they flagged:

- A direct, and worrying, quote 'What community? There is none, not among younger generations'
- That they didn't like the reputation of where they lived
- That rural areas were isolated
- They didn't feel part of it
- Heavy traffic
- No respect from adults
- That they're regarded as hooligans as they hang out in large groups – and always get moved on even if they're not causing trouble
- There's nothing to do

- That young people feel judged
- Most people living there are older
- Shopkeepers and their 'only two children at a time; signs
- That the label of ASB is put on everything young people do
- A recurring theme that adults see and perceive young people as bad/trouble and believe that they are going to do something bad

Young people did have ideas on how they could be helped to be part of their community including:

- More CCTV
- Help older people – with a recognition that this needs trust
- More places could be open late for young people to go to, and more things to do/places to go
- Street parties
- New activities

Participation, Consultation, Engagement and Communication

Having a say

Young people evidenced knowledge and experience of a range of modes for getting their views across or heard. These included:

- Surveys
- Evaluation forms (although there was a perceived pressure to just log positive comments!)
- Schools councils (although there was added comment of scope and room for improvement)
- Attend council meetings
- Young Inspectors project
- Reviews
- Vote and claim your vote
- See your local councillor
- Participation in Local Democracy Week events
- T3 Participation group
- The local MYP
- Mentors in schools
- Learning to lead groups at Longfield school – an alternative to school councils
- And that they were doing it now

In terms of additional ways to give views, opinions and suggestions young people gave some interesting views and perceptions:

- That they would like to give views
- That often they are told that they can voice opinions but not necessarily how they can do this
- That they don't feel their voice is heard and that they don't fit conventional models
- That no-one listens
- That they want a fair say
- That not all young people do want to give views and that it's difficult to get some to engage

They added some specific ideas:

- A Teen Council/Youth Forum
- Student voice/ reps
- Schools newsletters to include a school council page
- Suggestion boxes
- A young people's magazine
- Make sure adults turn up
- More notice of when things are on
- More people into schools to talk to young people

On the questions on councillors despite some councillors having been into schools there was a consensus that there was a limited knowledge of who their local councillor was and what their role was; that they needed more information; but that a number of young people had met the Mayor who had listened to young people at a Q and A session.

Specific suggestions and opinions included:

- That they wouldn't expect anything to change if they spoke to a Councillor
- That councillors should come into schools
- And why not run I'm a Councillor democratically and actually allow young people to vote (presumably in local elections!)

Therefore despite the initial answers and seeming interest and willingness to engage there remains a lack of detailed political knowledge of actual councillors and their role.

Being and staying informed

Generally young people fed back feelings of having limited knowledge and not being informed (or being informed about some things and not all)

Young people flagged a wide range of ways in which they got information including:

- word of mouth
- family
- TV ads
- QETV
- Youth workers
- Website (Click)
- snail mail
- radio
- newspaper
- emails
- Facebook (with a direct reference to the council Facebook site)
- leaflets
- posters
- teachers and tutors
- Town Crier

The best ways were seen as:

- Email, text or internet
- Adverts
- Word of mouth
- And not handouts!

And there were a range of ideas including:

- Community notice-boards in schools
- Monthly updates to teachers
- A teen version of the Town crier/a Teen Magazine

Young people had heard of and used **Click, rEview** and the **www bus** although this wasn't consistent across all groups.

Young people had heard of **Ashleigh's Rules** and there were comments that girls didn't feel safe online.

Groups flagged that they didn't feel listened to and that the council ignores their views – but that they liked events like the focus groups where they could have a say and express opinions.

Disabled Children

Since February 2009 a local group of parents have formed a group called Carers for Disabled Children in Darlington (CDCD). In February 2009 parents mentioned that:

- There is a lack of clarity and information about what services, activities and opportunities are available;
- Access to services is restricted by lack of understanding about eligibility and thresholds;
- Parents want a single point of contact and not to be passed from service to service;
- Parents are unsure what short breaks mean for them and their children;
- Many parents find it difficult to access universal services for their children and are unsure about the quality and training of staff;
- Parents are fearful that their child will be left out or bullied in universal services;
- Parents have experienced poor attitudes and reluctance to include their children in leisure, childcare and youth services.

In March 2010 parents mentioned that:

- Information had improved;
- Universal services through taster sessions and some targeted sessions had widened the inclusion of disabled children;
- Ten new commissioned services had increased short break opportunities for children within the specialist service;
- Children with the most complex needs had experienced more short breaks and some had tried newer services.

In June 2009 disabled children indicated that they:

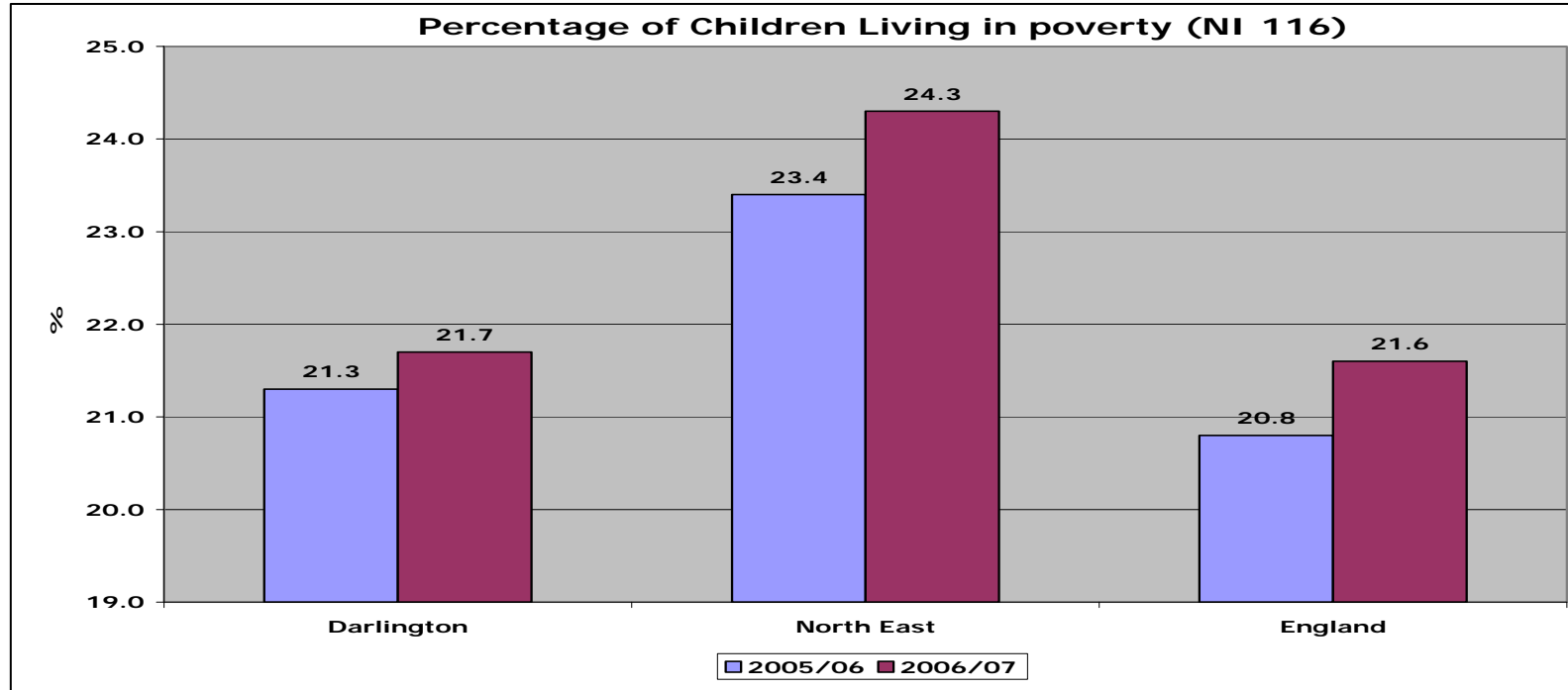
- Wanted to feel safe and play more in parks;
- Wanted to use the Dolphin Centre more and have accessible changing places;
- Wanted to go to the local cinema more and see newly released films;

- Wanted to have access to computer gaming and have something the centre of town for swapping games.

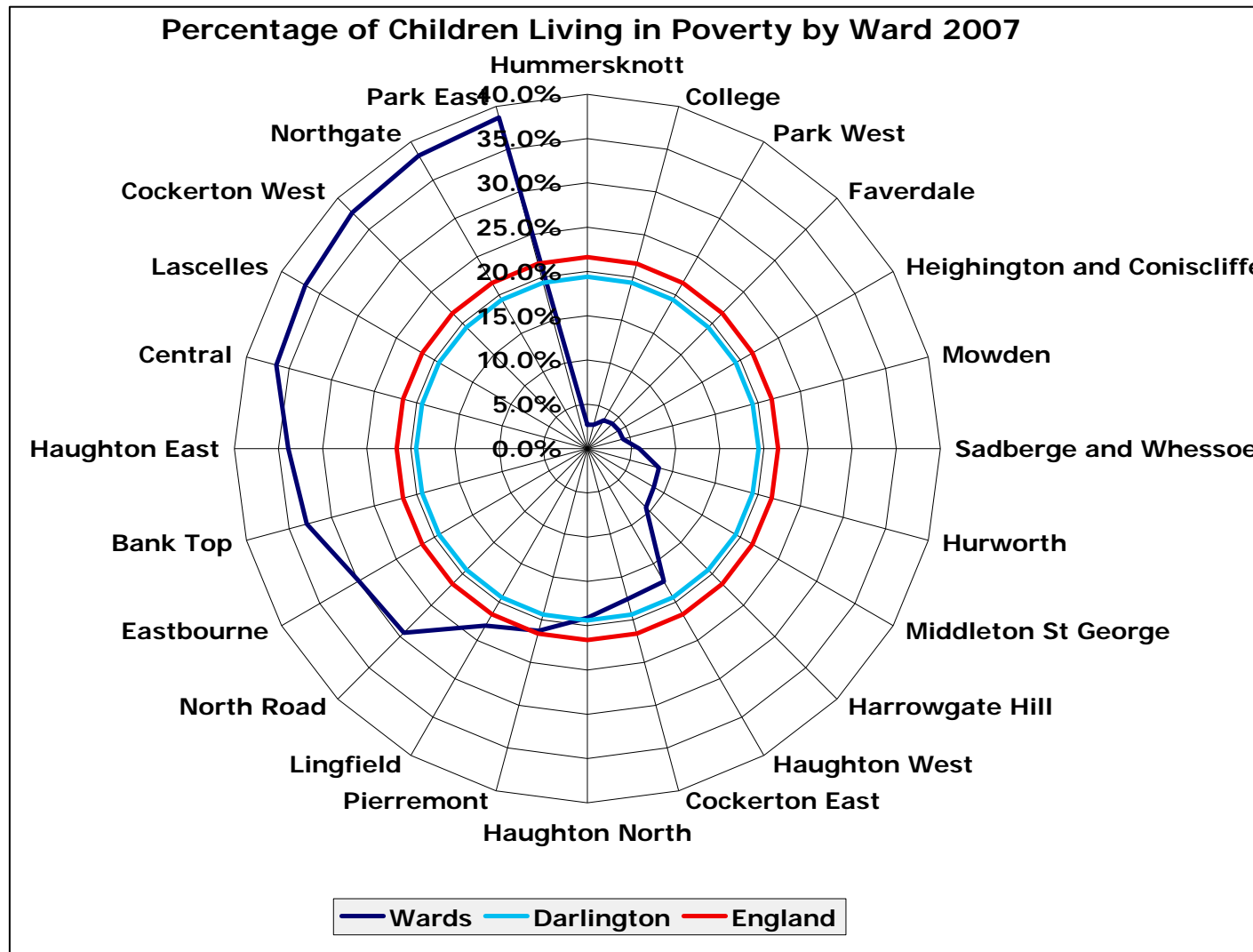
Needs Analysis – Achieve economic well being

Priority – Ensure Children and Young People are prepared for adult life

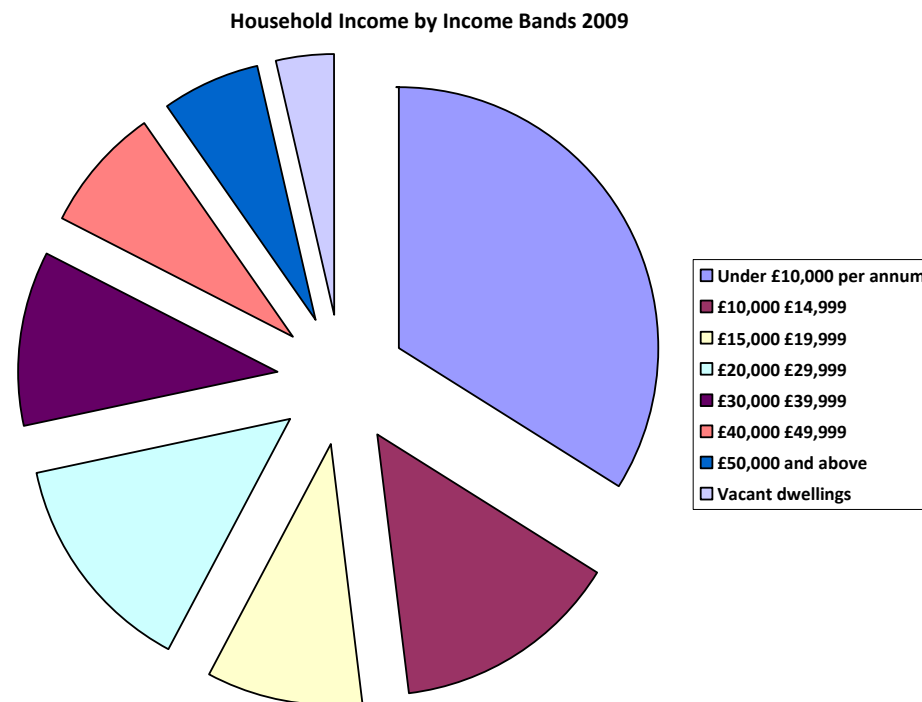
What the data tells us:



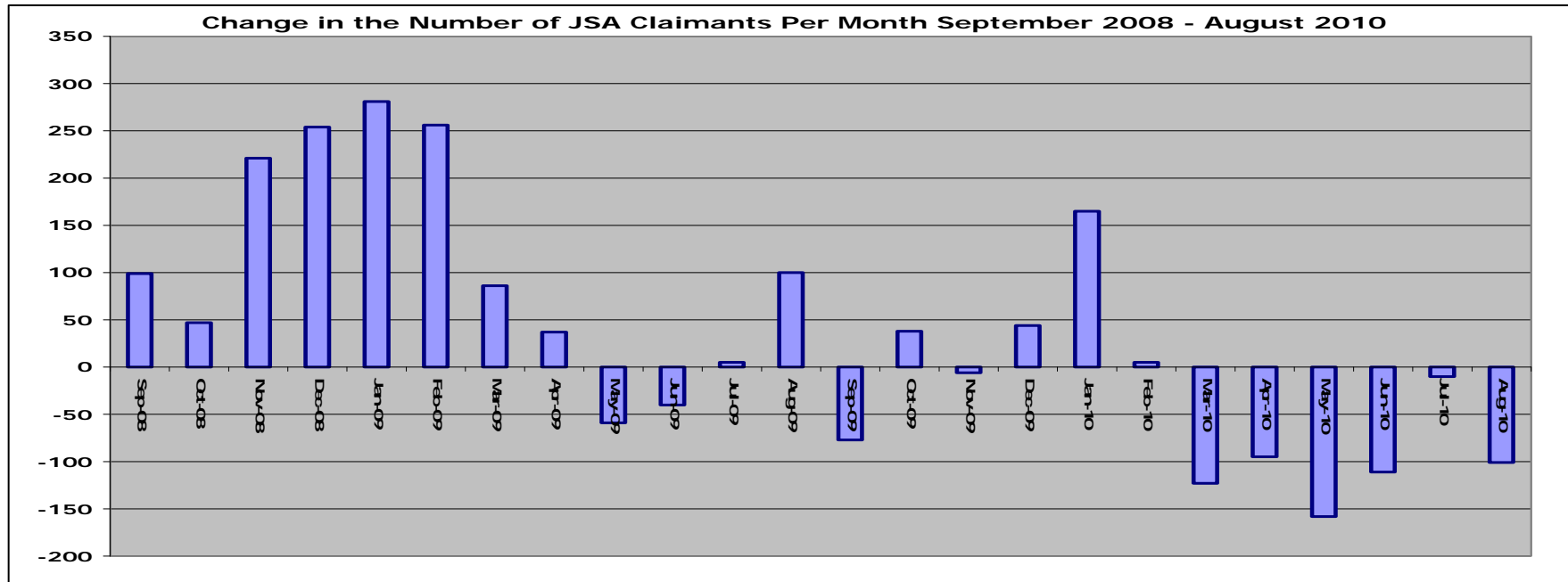
- The percentage of children living in poverty in Darlington increased by 0.4% between 2005/06 and 2006/07 meaning that it is still above the National average of 21.6, however it is significantly lower than the regional average.
- % of children that live in households that are income deprived in Darlington was 21.8% and has fallen to 20.8% which is higher than Nat Av of 19.2%



- Within Darlington there are pockets of severe deprivation. The above figure shows that 10 wards within Darlington have levels of children living in poverty that are higher than both the national and local levels. So, although Darlington's average is below the national average, there are still pockets where large numbers of children are living in poverty.



- The majority of households within Darlington have an annual income of less than £20,000 (57.6%), with a large proportion having a household income of less than £10,000 per annum (33.8%).

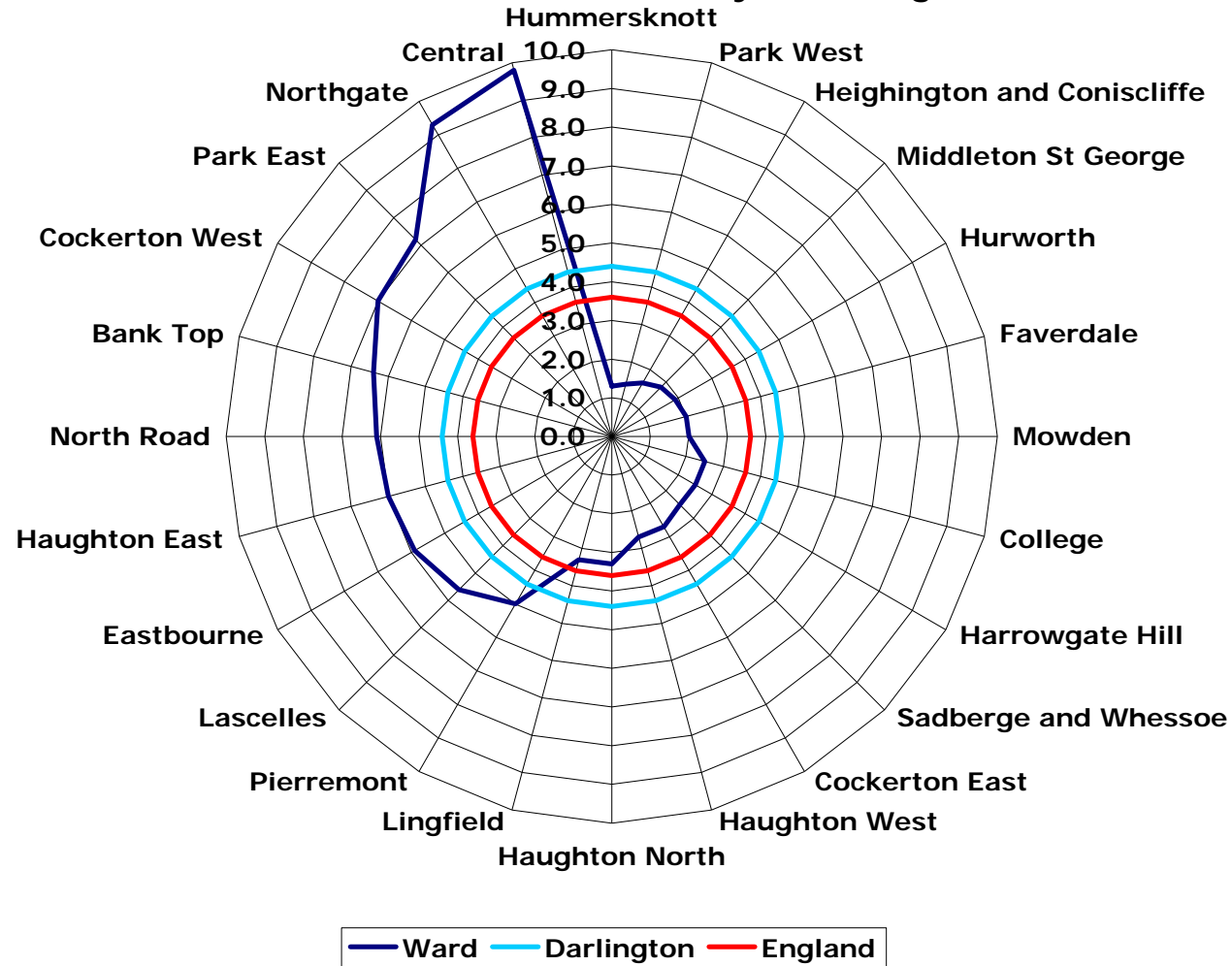


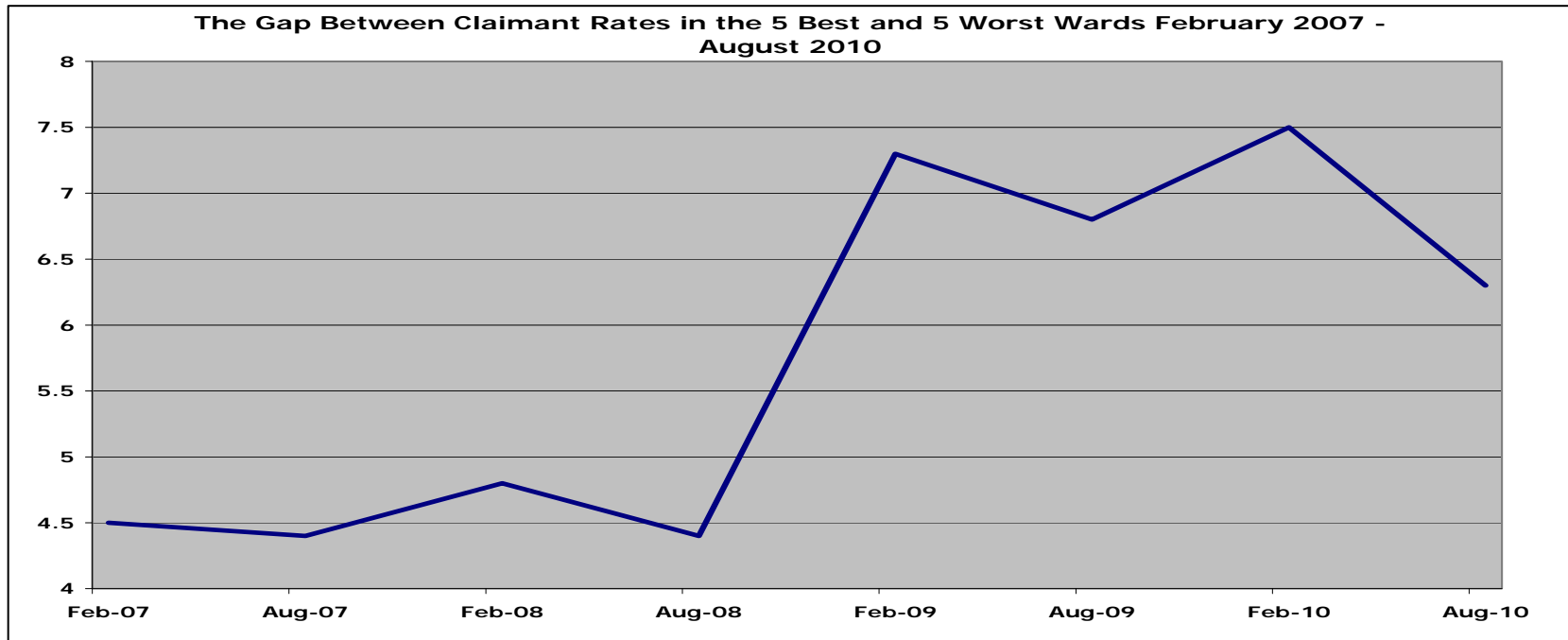
- JSA claimant numbers increased continuously between September 2008 and April 2009, before experiencing a decline in May and June. The number of JSA claimants reached a peak in February 2010 of 3,394 (an increase of 1,357 when compared to September 2008). As of March 2010, these figures have decreased each month, leaving the current number of JSA claimants at 2,796.

	Nov 2009	Dec 2009	Jan 2010	Feb 2010	Mar 2010	Apr 2010	May 2010	Jun 2010	Jul 2010	Aug 2010
No. unfilled vacancies	714	352	342	443	603	721	715	776	661	748
Number unemployed	3,180	3,224	3,389	3,394	3,271	3,176	3,018	2,907	2,897	2,796
Ratio claimants to vacancies	4.5	9.2	9.9	7.7	5.4	4.4	4.2	3.7	4.4	3.7

- The unemployment position has worsened over recent years with the JSA claimant rate now at 4.4%. This is an increase of 1.5% since July 2008, representing a net increase of 940. Proportionately, this is an increase of 51%. During 2009-2010 the unemployment position has begun to improve, hitting its lowest level in August 2010 since December 2008.

Jobseekers Allowance Claimants by Ward August 2010





- The gap between the "best" and "worst" wards has widened dramatically from 4.5% to 6.3% between February 2007 and August 2010 indicating that the downturn is impacting most on our disadvantaged areas. This gap is, however, beginning to decrease, falling by 1.2% between February 2010 and August 2010.
- The number of new housing and council tax benefit claims received April 2009 to Jan 2010 (5139) compared to the same period the previous year (6050) shows a decrease of 15%.
- There has been a 38% increase in all housing options enquiries (including homelessness applications) in January 2010 compared to the same period last year.
- The difference between the unemployment rate in the worst/best Darlington wards at 4.80% is an improvement on the previous year (05/06 5.04%). At January 2010 the gap between the worst/best Darlington wards in pupils attaining 5+ A*-C GCSE grades including English and Maths stood at 7.7%

- The difference between the number of unemployed people in the 18-24 age group in the worst/best Darlington wards is getting greater 10% Dec 06 (8.9% Dec 05)
- The proportion of children, aged 0-4 and 5-14, living in households where no one is working is higher than the national average for both age groups 0-4 yrs 25.8% Nat 21.4%, 5-14 yrs 19.6% Nat 18.8%
- In Darlington % of young people achieving level 2 & 3 by age 19 is better than the national average at level 2 and in line with the national average at level 3 and has improved in 2007/08 and again in 2008/09 for both of these indicators.

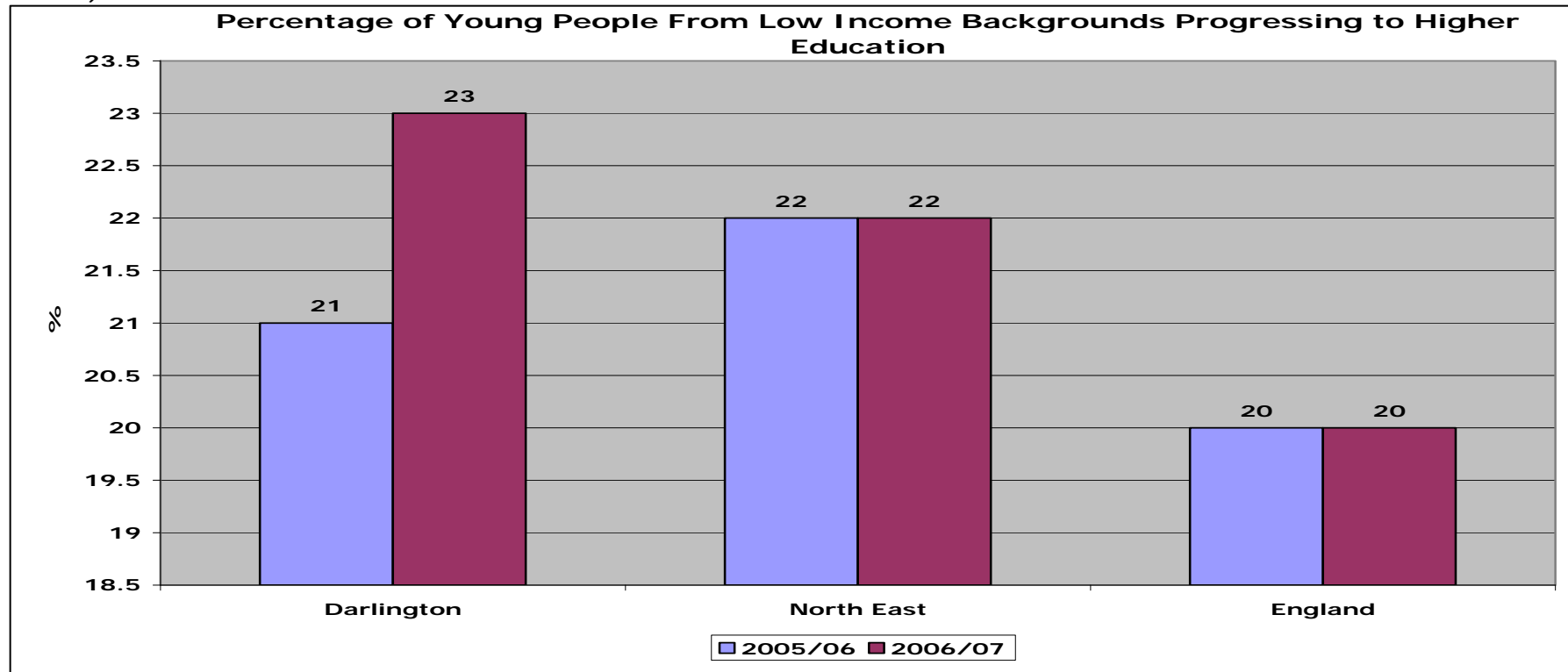
	2006/07	Nat	2007/08	2008/09
L2	69.3%	67.5%	72.2%	75.4%
L3	41.9%	41.9%	46.2%	47.2%

The inequality gap measured by the percentage of Free School Meals eligible 19 years olds with level 2 decreased (bigger is better). Performance was also better at Level 3; the definition differs from level 2 and smaller is better, see below

	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
L2	50%	43.2%	54.2%
L3	28.3%	37.3%	30.0%

- The number of young people completing an apprenticeship (22.8%) is below the national average of 47.7%
- NVQ success for all work based learners living in the area Darlington at 48.8% is below the national average of 56.7%

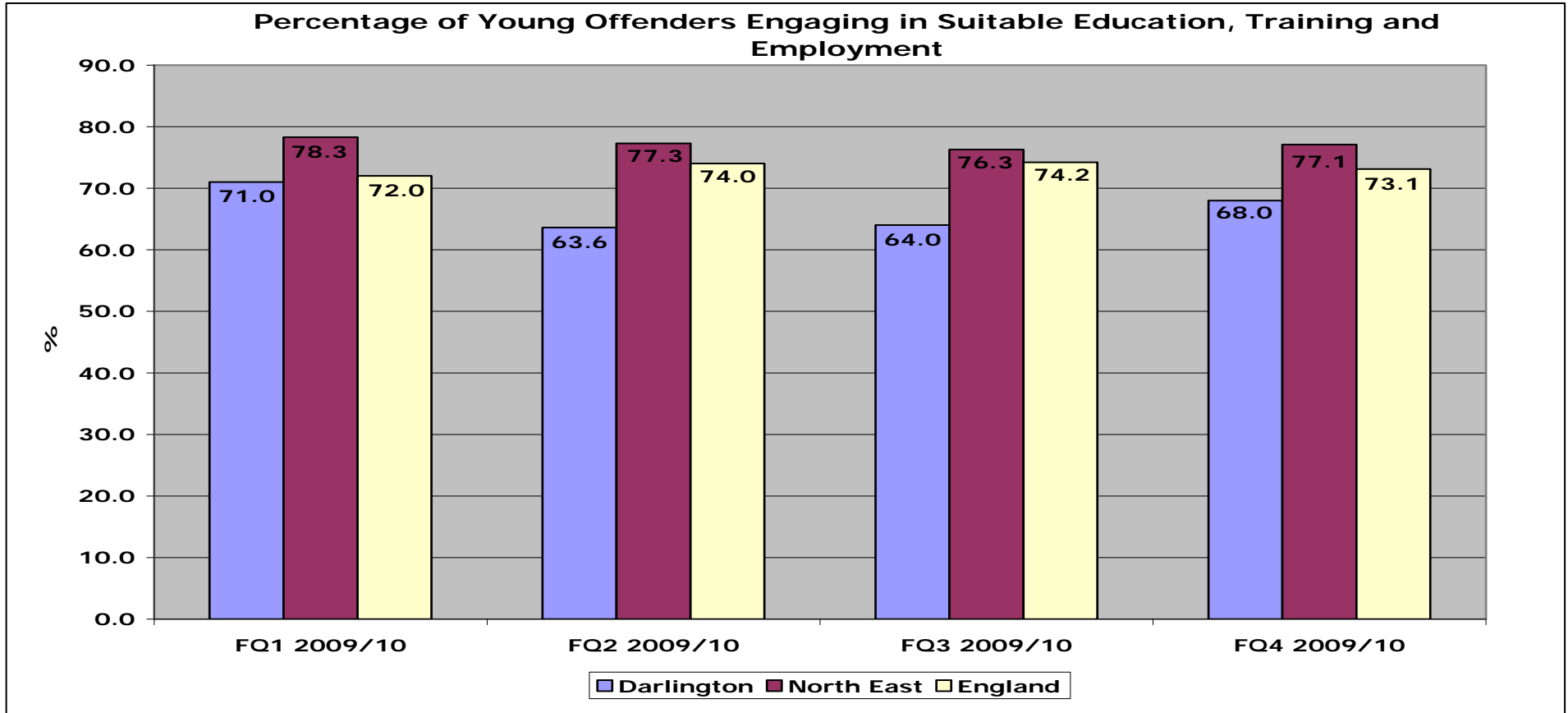
- Proportion of young people in Darlington completing Year 11 in 2009 who continue in learning increased to 93.2% which is now above the National average of 92.8% and an improvement from 2008 which at 83.8% was below the national average 87.2%.
- % of 18/19 year olds progressing to higher education appears to be static in Darlington 25%05-06 (25% 04-05)



- There was a 2% increase in the number of young people from low income backgrounds progressing to higher education between 2005/06 and 2006/07, putting Darlington's figures above both the National and Regional averages.
- In 2009/10 there was a slight drop in performance of the % of 16-18 NEET in Darlington with 7.1% of 16-18 being NEET. This figure was 6.9% in 2008-2009 better than National average of 7.7% and was also an improvement on the 2007/08 figure of 7.5%.

Young Offenders

- In 2009-2010 there has been a reduction in the number of young offenders participating in education, training and employment (the cohort for this group in 09-10 was 125 young people, 83 were in full time ETE but 42 were not in 09/10). This has reduced from 70.5% in 08/09 to 66.4% in 09/10 but is still an increase on 06/07 figures of 64.7%.



Within the Child Poverty Needs Assessment a number of issues for mitigation and maximisation were identified:

Issues to Mitigate	Issues to Maximise
Poor Health, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower Life Expectancy; • Low Levels of Breastfeeding; • Higher Incidence of Childhood Obesity, and • Higher Incidence of Teenage Conceptions. 	Early Intervention and Prevention to assist target families and groups.
High Number of Families on Benefits	Employment Opportunities
High Levels of Debt	Access to Debt Advice
Poor Family Friendly Working Practices	Benefit Take Up
Low Levels of Skills	Childcare Opportunities
Households in Fuel Poverty	Training Opportunities
Poor Housing Condition	Household Income
The Number of First Time Entrants to the Youth Justice System	Narrowing the Gap Between the Attainment of Vulnerable Groups

What the wider community tells us:

- Develop systematic and comprehensive links between schools, employers and employer forums (Sustainable Community Strategy Enquiry Groups)
- Encourage greater and more systematic contributions from the public sector to work-related learning in schools (Sustainable Community Strategy Enquiry Groups)
- Review and radically overhaul work-related learning arrangements in secondary schools (Enquiry Groups)
- Need to make work experience more useful for both employer and student alike spread over several years rather than limited to year ten
- Connect local schools with local employers. (Aspire and Esh Group Fit For Employment Model)

- Ex pupil returning to schools - akin to Army's 'satisfied soldier scheme'
- Focus on Pupil Referral unit (Enquiry Group)
- Significantly improve universal careers education and guidance (Sustainable community strategy enquiry Groups)

What children & young people tell us:

Children and young people in Darlington completing the Tellus4 survey in 2009 are aiming to study or train after leaving school:

- 65% of pupils have indicated they will go on to study at Sixth Form, FE College or undertake an advanced apprenticeship/apprenticeship when they leave school.
- 60% of Darlington's young people are considering study at university or other higher education establishment
- 17% of children and young people contribute their own time on a voluntary basis to charities, local organisations or other activities. (Tellus4)
- Young people were asked if they felt they received enough information to plan their future. In Darlington 48% stated 'yes' which is higher than the national picture (43%)
- Transport not cheap, reliable or clean, it is however accessible (T3)
- Parks unclean and unsafe (T3)

The Tellus4 survey altered the way in which children and young people were questioned about their plans for the future. The following tables reflect the responses to the 2009 survey in its new format.

***Tellus 3 Q: What do you hope to do when you leave school?
Question changed in Tellus4 for Y6, and Y8 and 10***

Response	Tellus2 2007	Tellus3 2008	Change
Get a job at 16	19 [16]	14 [13]	Better
Study then get a job at 18	14 [17]	19 [19]	Better
Study to go to university	52 [50]	52 [54]	No Change
Something else	4 [7]	7 [6]	
Don't know yet	11 [10]	8 [9]	Better

Y6: What do you think you will do when you finish Year 11?

Response	TellUs4 2008	Change
Do some more studying at college or sixth form	48% [49%]	N/A
Be an apprentice	4%[2%]	
Get a job with training	17%[21%]	
Don't know yet	31%[28%]	

Y8-10: What do you want to do when you finish Year 11?

Response	TellUs4 2008	Change
Do a course at sixth form	14% [23%]	N/A
Do a course at college or sixth form college	45%[40%]	
Do an apprenticeship/advanced apprenticeship	10%[5%]	
Get a job with training (full time or part time)	11%[11%]	
Get a full time job without training	1% [2%]	
Not sure yet	18% [22%]	

Tellus 3 Q: What do you think of the information and help you get to plan your future? Question format changed in Tellus4 2009

Response	Tellus2 2007	Tellus3 2008	Change
Its good enough	40[36]	26[28]	Worse
Need a little more	36[39]	41[42]	Worse
Need a lot more	15[16]	23[20]	Worse
Don't know what there is	10[9]	11[10]	Worse

Do you feel you have enough information and support to help you plan your future? E.g. help from a teacher or careers adviser to choose subject options and think about jobs or careers.

Response	Tellus 4 2009	Change
Yes	48% [44%]	N/A
No	20% [21%]	N/A
Don't know what there is	16% [17%]	N/A
Not sure	16% [17%]	N/A

Young people's views on how prepared they feel for life after school in terms of the information they have received whilst at school highlights some issues for the future.

- 36% of young people feel that they do not receive enough information or support **or** don't know where to get information, to help them plan their future
- 10% of Darlington's young people have indicated that they wish to undertake an apprenticeship or advanced apprenticeship compared to a national average of 5%.
- 45% of pupils indicated that they wish to attend a college course compared to a national average of 40%.
- 18% felt unsure about what they wanted to do when they finished Year 11 against 22% nationally.

Young People's Focus Groups (2009)

Achieve Economic Well Being

Plans for the future

There was an overall awareness that young people were aware of their options and clear evidence of ideas and ambitions for the future.

On advice and guidance they receive:

- Mixed experience of Connexions – knowledge and usage of, positive (like neutrality and helpful with CVs and jobs against not helpful and not that good.
- College careers advisors perceived as excellent
- Parents flagged as sources of advice and guidance

On how it could be improved:

- More Connexions workers
- That it needed to be different for each individual
- More people to come into school to talk to young people
- More awareness of options from an earlier age
- More advice
- More options at school
- School to be better at informing students

The group at the YMCA focused on where they lived (the Foyer) and stressed the importance of their support workers (help with appointments, information and advice, enabling access to services) with one young person saying that they had more help there in two weeks than they ever had.